

State Market Agent News

By C. E. Spence

August 1 the new Co-operative prune exchange will commence operation in Oregon and southern Washington with ten local organizations. Other units will be and are being organized, and the expectations are that a large majority of the orchards of the two states will soon be signed up. Over twenty million pounds are already under contract. The organization is well planned, has able officers and leaders and if the growers will stand by solidly and loyally, the organization should be a power for the producers.

And therein lies the success or failure of most co-operative movements—backing and loyalty of the growers. Without it, organizations will continue to fail—as too many have failed. There may be the ablest leaders, organizers and officers, but the success of the movements gets back to the producers, to what extent they will get behind the organization and stick.

It is going to require mass-character and mass-intelligence behind any organization to make it powerful enough to influence markets and get for producers what is theirs. An organization of producers which has no further interest in the movement than what each individual gets out of it in dollars and cents, doesn't usually last long or get very far. It needs co-operative religion to put them over; needs members who read and study; who attend meetings; who will get out and hustle; who support the organization every week in the year with trade, capital and good will, and who everlastingly urge others to do likewise. When enough of these kind of farmers bunch up, then co-operation will get the same kind of results that business combinations get, but so long as they play the entirely selfish game; so long as they fall for the bait of temporary higher outside prices and desert their union so long as they let the interests that prey on them break them up and keep them blindly competing with each other, just so long will co-operation fail.

The Northwest Wheat Growers' Association has recently suspended operation in Oregon and Washington. The growers would not stand by—not enough of them. One hundred per cent benefit cannot be had with 10 per cent support. So the organization lets go, while the same kind of an organization in Oklahoma goes ahead. Oklahoma started with three and a quarter million bushels signed up. The second year this was doubled and this year association will control ten million bushels. This is co-operative progress. Three Kansas associations have combined and they will be a big factor in the marketing of the state's wheat crop.

Labor is becoming a very strong co-operative organization in the nation, because laborers are thinking together and acting as they think. They are able to a very large extent to set the scale for days' work and get it.

Manufacturers and other big dealers own and control their own selling agencies and handle their goods all the way through to the retailer. They no longer permit middle interests to make two dollars off of one that they get. They reap the middle profits themselves. They are organized, and they stick, almost to the last man. The last man doesn't last long unless he does stick.

In all industries except farming the owners of the commodity have a hand in the selling end and the price. When the farmer sells a commodity, the buyer names the price. The farmer is not a party to the deal. He produces and takes what is offered as the price, and the buyer are strongly organized. They can to a large extent regulate both demand and supply.

Burns Round-Up To Be Held September 25, 26, 27—Railroad Celebration Day Before.

From the Burns Times-Herald comes the news that the fourth annual Roundup is to be held in that city September 25, 26, 27 this year. It is reported as quite likely the railroad celebration will be held on the day preceding the Roundup. The new grounds are being put in first class shape with modern conveniences in evidence. A novel method of advertising is to be used, as dodgers will be scattered from an air plane all over the eastern part of the state and also in Idaho. There will be \$5,000 in prizes and purses for the different events to be put on during the Roundup which will include speed contests, bucking contests, bull riding, bare back stunts, airplane exhibitions, etc. Cow boy parades, Indian war dances, carnivals, band music, dancing and other diversions will be furnished for the big day.

FACTS OF INTEREST

No less than 4,000 varieties of rice are produced in Japan.

In Northern Idaho and Montana the Forest Service has established a special forecast of lightning storms for the benefit of the fire fighters. These forecasts are proving eighty-five per cent accurate.

Greenland is the second largest island in the world, Australia being the largest. Greenland is nearly seven times larger than the British Isles.

Ninety-six out of every thousand babies born in the United States die during their first year, according to an authority. He states that by attainable methods this could be cut down to thirty-eight a thousand, a total annual saving of more than ninety-nine thousand American born babies.

The average annual damage to livestock and game is estimated to be \$50 for each coyote and bobcat and \$1,000 for each wolf and mountain lion.

There are 2,700,000 employees on the pay rolls of the Federal and local governments in the United States, and 700,000 former employees drawing pensions. Every group of twelve citizens having jobs is supporting one citizen in government capacity.

Australia is constructing irrigation works in the Murray River Valley that are expected to render two million acres available for irrigation and close settlement. Dried and canned fruits, oranges, long-staple cotton, and wine are at present the principal products.

Since the war Germany has become a large exporter of felt hats instead of an importer.

A peculiar fish has been caught off the coast of Iceland. It is three feet long, jet black, and has a peculiar rod-like process protruding from the center of the black. The skin is covered with very sharp conical spines.

The postal authorities at Moscow announce that the official name of what was formerly called Russia is now "Union of Socialistic Soviet Republics," which is abbreviated "U.S.S.R." They also say that they will not deliver any letter addressed to "Petrograd" as the new name of the former capital is now "Leningrad."

Experiments carried on with artificial and colored lights have completely confirmed the theory that the seasonal blossoming and fruiting of plants is not due to temperature but to the length of day.

CRESTON

Haying is finished in Creston Valley and thrashing is progressing nicely.

A well 265 feet deep was drilled on the E. Rogers ranch in record breaking time of less than 3 days drilling. No rock was encountered and a good flow of water struck. The drilling was done by F. E. Kelsey of Payette.

Mr. Edwards had the misfortune of having his foot badly hurt while climbing off a hay stack, missing the ladder and sliding onto the ground.

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Stoute have rented their ranch to C. Edwards of Payette and have moved to the Charlie Peterson ranch.

Frank Shumway, Jr., is spending a few days in Ontario.

Miss Jennie May Beers and Mrs. A. V. Clark were shopping in Riverside Thursday.

George Rader has been visiting his sister, Mrs. C. A. Stoute.

Ralph and John Shumway were guests at the Rogers home Monday.

Mrs. E. Rogers has disposed of a band of eleven pet lambs.

Mrs. Edwards and Carl, Jr., were passengers on the stage to Riverside Tuesday.

PARENT TEACHER EXECUTIVES

(Continued from first page)

by the Ontario ladies, Mrs. Bruce Kester speaking on "Qualifications of a Voter;" Mrs. Will J. Roberts "Some Ways P. T. A. Can Help;" Mrs. Wm. Laxon "Juvenile Protection;" Mrs. A. G. Moore, "Select Reading;" and Mrs. C. P. Skow, "Program Work in Local Circles."

The regular monthly meeting of the Ontario Circle was postponed until the third Friday in August. However, the circle is a line organization and the various committees are actively at work.

The Owyhee P. T. A. met Friday, July 11, at the home of Mrs. B. F. Kerr. After a thorough discussion of the proposed free text book measure the circle voted against its adoption. At the close of the meeting dainty refreshments were served by the hostess. The Owyhee Circle has the distinction of numbering among its members parents, Mrs. and Mr. Kerr, whose daughter, Mrs. Philson, and granddaughter, Miss Philson, will both be graduated from Cheney Normal school at

the close of the summer term.

In the Round Table department of the Child-Welfare Magazine for July there appears an interesting defense of the P. T. A. in dealing with the "human" side of the school question which, she says, "until the rise of the parent-teacher movement had been entirely neglected for many, many years, to the great detriment of the child. Where this human element does not enter in, and enable the child to be studied as an individual, teaching can easily degenerate into machine work, a daily grind. Nothing will so quickly restore this human element as bridging the chasm between home and school, getting acquainted with Johnny's mother and learning Johnny's home environment and reaction to his teacher's influence." The article closes by giving one of the fundamental aims of the P. T. A., "to appreciate the efforts of teachers, principals, and school directors, and to support them in their work."

Not only members of the P. T. A. but all parents should be interested in the report of the National Conference on Social Work which together with the delegates from the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations met in Washington, D. C., in May. One day was devoted to the "School" and the keynote of the discussion on this day was relationship between the home and school; the school being the means of approach to the real source of reform—the home. "The school, and especially the school equipped with a well-organized Parent-Teacher Association, offers the best channel through which the home may be supplied with a constant stream of fresh inspiration."

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