Farm Department.

—EDITED BY A FARMER.—

SUGAR BEETS IN CALIFORNIA.

An article in the North American Review, a summary of facts given by Mr. E. Sower in regard to the sugar beet industry in California will be of interest: "The yield of sugar beets varies from twelve to forty tons per acre. The best land, with good cultivation and a favorable season, will yield from twenty to thirty-five tons per acre, but the crop would be hardly profitable at a yield of less than twelve tons per acre. In California the greatest production from a single acre of land was a little more than forty tons of beets; but this is an unusual yield. The estimated cost of production per acre is about $50. In the present condition of the methods of manufacture, from eight to twelve pounds of beets are required in the making of one pound of sugar; the quantity varies according to the greater or lesser richness of the beets in sugar. The price changes with the conditions of the markets. About four years ago beet sugar from Germany was landed on the wharves of New York at the cost of $3.81 per 100 pounds."

During the last six years such improvements have been made in the progress of manufacture that instead of converting from 4 to 5 per cent of the beet into sugar, 12 to 16 per cent are converted now, and the cost of production per pound which was once from 8 to 12 cents, is now only 2 to 4.

The average cost here in 1893 was 3 cents, and 24,000 acres are used for growing sugar beets, which brought to the farmer an average price of $4.50 a ton.

Wild Lettuce.

Following is a description of wild lettuce, as given out by the state agricultural college: "It is closely related to and very much resembles garden lettuce. The similarity is especially striking if we compare the two after the flower stalks have begun to appear. The plant grows from seed each year and is thus an annul. It blooms from July to October. The height of the plant is from six inches in poor soil to as many feet in rich soil, growing, generally, a central straight stalk branching at the top into spreading, bare branches, much subdivided, and bearing inconspicuous, yellow flowers. The seeds are small and bear white filmy down which serves to waft them a long distance on currents of air. The leaves are from four to six inches long and half as wide. Along the edge of the leaf and the midrib and scattered over the lower portion of the stem are soft prickles which give the plant the name of prickly lettuce.

Goat Breeders' Association.

At the goat breeders' meeting, at Independence, the following officers were elected: J. H. Hawley, of Monmouth, president; John Stump, of Monmouth, vice president; L. G. Burnett, of Portland, secretary and treasurer The organization was named the Oregon Angora Goat Breeders' Association. The Oregon Agriculturist, of Portland, was adopted as the official organ of the Association.

A Campas Plant.

Wild lettuce, so common throughout Oregon is in one respect a most curious and interesting plant. Instead of its leaves being horizontal to the earth they are vertical, at right angles to the customary position. But even more strange is the fact that the leaves always present their edges north and south, making the plant a most perfect compass. Only one or two other species of plants have this peculiarity, but none in so marked a degree.

Notes.

The exports of cotton up to date this year are 1,503,798 bales

See that your hogs have clean, dry warm sleeping quarters for the winter.

The farmers of California are being treated to Farmer's institute under the auspices of the University of California.

The 20th state convention of Fruit Growers of California will convene at Sacramento on December 1, and will continue in session four days.

Preparation for the sowing of the greatest acerage of wheat ever sown in California is being made. The present indications are very favorable.

Rinderpest is worse than ever in South Africa, and is described as having a firm hold in Damaraland, Delagoo Bay, the Orange Free State, and in Cape Colony north of the Orange River. The Cape Times estimates that of the two million cattle in Cape Colony, not many will be alive a year from now. It seems almost certain that the disease attacks sheep and goats. It is therefore a bad lookout for the mohair industry at the cave. The malady is greatly spread by dogs, vultures and flies; also by natives who have been in contact with sick cattle.

Farmers' Institute.

A Farmers Institute will be held under the auspices of the Oregon Agricultural college, at Turner, on December 9 and 10. The Agricultural college will be assisted by Surprize Grange, No. 223. Following is the program:

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 9, 10 A. M.
Music.
Organization of Institute.
Opening Address..Prof. H. T. French
Music.
Paper....Increasing the Fertility of the soil...Hon. Jacob Voorhees
Discussion.
Music
1:30 P. M.
The Best All-purpose Cow for Farmers'.....Warren Cranston
Discussion.
Music.
Construction and Benefits of a Silo.....George Weeks
Discussion.
Music.
Recitation.....Miss Jennie Griffith
Music.
7:30 P. M., MUSIC.
Address of Welcome .....Rev. E. H. Belknap
Response and Address on Oregon Agricultural College and Its Purposes President H. B. Miller.
MUSIC.
Lantern views of College and Station Work
MUSIC.
Thursday, 10 a. m
MUSIC.
Paper.....Mrs I. L. Hilleary
Horticulture....Hon. Chas. L. Dailey
Discussion.
MUSIC.
Organization of Farmers.....Hon. R. P. Boise
MUSIC.
Recitation .....Miss Lizzie Cornelius
MUSIC.
1:30 P. M.
MUSIC.
Farm Drainage.....Prof. H. T. French
Discussion.
MUSIC.
Flax Culture.....Mrs. W. P. Lord
Discussion.
MUSIC.
7:30 p. m.
MUSIC.
Recitation.....Miss Hattie Thomas
Road Building, William B. Chase, Supt. of Streets, Portland, Or.
Discussion.
MUSIC.
Corn raising in Oregon.....N. Morris
Discussion.
QUESTION BOX.
MUSIC.
Recitation.....Miss Clara Watson
Closing Remarks.
MUSIC.

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LUCAS COUNTY

FRANK J. CHENEY makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. CHENEY & Co., doing business in the city of Toledo, county and state aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of CATARRH that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A D. 1896.

{Seal.} A. W. GLEASON, Notary Public.

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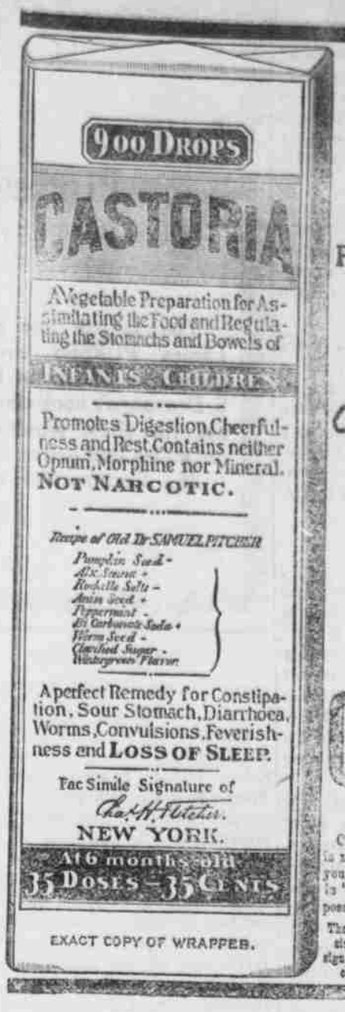
I am not a philanthropist, nor do I pose as an enthusiast, but there are thousands of men suffering the tortures of weakened manhood who would be cured at once could they but get such a remedy as the one that cured me. Do not try to study out how I can afford to pay the few postage stamps necessary to mail the information, but send for it and learn that there are a few things on earth that although they cost nothing to get they are worth a fortune to some men and mean a lifetime of happiness to most of us. Write to Thomas Slater, Box 390, Kalamazoo, Mich., and the information will be mailed in a plain sealed envelope. 11-23 3 mo



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6:15 p.m.	ar. Salem lv.	8:00 a.m.

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