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## VALLEY MUST FIND RIGHT CROPS

There is no disguising the fact that for the past two or three years the Willamette Valley has not been, nor is it now as prosperous as it should be. There are some reasons for this we know, and others we do not take the trouble to discover. There is no more fertile land anywhere, and the climate is such that almost anything possible to be grown in the temperate zone can be grown here. With this wide range of products to choose from we have confined our farming to a few.

Heretofore hops and prunes have been relied on principally and are so to a great, too great, an extent yet. They are good standbys, but they are not enough. It is strongly hoped that flax will add another crop of considerable magnitude, and it promises to become one of the leaders. If results are all that are hoped for when this year's crop has been handled, its future, and that of the valley is assured. In the meanwhile we should everlastingly keep experimenting. Out of the wide range of products surely some one or more can be found that will prove to be the money makers for the valley. The Imperial Valley in California a few years ago was a desert, but today it is supplying the coast with melons, grape fruit, oranges and other citrus fruits; and is one of the most prosperous sections of the whole country. The middle west found corn its great crop, and its three billions of bushels turned into meat products yearly, have made it a farmers' paradise. Eastern Oregon and Washington are prosperous because the world's great staple, wheat, can be grown there successfully. It can be grown here of course, and at one time wheat was the crop of the entire valley. But with land at the prices valley land has reached, wheat is not a sufficiently valuable crop. It will not give sufficient returns on \$200 an acre soil. With thirty bushels to the acre and the price around eighty cents, an acre will only give a money return of \$24, and the interest on the investment is fourteen dollars at seven per cent. This leaves but ten dollars an acre for the labor, seed and all expenses of growing, harvesting and marketing. It is not enough. Some other crop must be found that will yield greater returns. To find this will require experimenting, and every farmer should take a hand in it. There will necessarily be many experiments that will not prove profitable, but until they are made this cannot be discovered. If out of hundreds of experiments one or two products that will pay well can be found the reward will be great. As an example of this, what Roseburg has done is worthy of study and imitation. For years that section has grown the turkeys for the state, and found it profitable. Not long ago after experimenting with broccoli, that has suddenly become one of the best yielding crops of that section. Roseburg broccoli has made a name for itself, just as Hood River's apples have brought renown to that little gem of a valley.

Surely there is something that the great Willamette valley can grow to better advantage and greater profit than the things she is growing now. Hops and prunes are all right, but for the former the market is limited and within the last few years has become much more so. Prunes are profitable enough but the whole valley is not suited to their growth. The same might be said of hops. Our rich beaver dam lands have found one of the products for which they are especially adapted, the growing of onions, and there will be others, though all this kind of land can find market for its onion crop without flooding it. Last year the growing of corn proved profitable, but it was an unusually favorable year for it, and how dependable it will prove remains for time to show.

If, as is hoped, it proves as successful as last year indicated, it will add to the incomes of the valley farmers in great shape, for it will make possible the growing and turning off of double the number of beef cattle, hogs and other stock. This, in all countries has proved one of the most valuable features of farming, for to a certain extent the farmer becomes a manufacturer, turning his raw material, corn, into the finished product so far as the farm is concerned, fat stock.

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## NOTHING TO BE SCARED ABOUT

The Medford Sun remarks that "the only way to explain the fury of the non-partisan press against Hughes is that they are scared to death." It is not at all evident that the non-partisan press is furious against Mr. Hughes, and, therefore, the reason does not exist. As a matter of fact most papers speak respectfully of Mr. Hughes, and there is no reason why they should do otherwise. Mr. Hughes is a clean man, both in public and private life, and if he is elected will no doubt give the country a clean administration. He will give the best there is in him and that is all anyone can do. This country is going to wag along all right no matter who is elected. It will not go to the everlasting bow-wows no matter what is the result of the election. So far as the democratic press is concerned it has little to say about Mr. Hughes one way or the other. Naturally it is not going out of its way to sound his praises, but there is nothing it can say truthfully about Mr. Hughes that would or should reflect in anyway upon his standing in public or private life. If Mr. Hughes is elected he will be the president of the democrats as well as the republicans, and as such, will be given the respect due his position, and the support due from every citizen in every case where the honor or interests of the country are in issue. So far as being scared is concerned they have nothing to be scared about. Unless some unforeseen matter comes up, the chances of President Wilson being defeated are almost nil. If the election was tomorrow he would sweep the country. It is not the non-partisans or the democrats that are scared but the republicans and this accounts for their continuous attacks on President Wilson.

The allies are making a tremendous drive along the western front and have made some important gains. In spite of this the Germans are not alarmed, and consider their lines impregnable. In the light of the way the French have held at Verdun it looks as though the Germans had abundant reason for their belief. It does not seem possible that the allies could make any attacks more strenuous than those made by the Germans at Verdun, and it would seem that the defenses the Germans have provided are as strong as those at which they have for four months so fiercely, so persistently and so uselessly hurled their armies. They claim that if one line of defenses is taken another equally strong will be to take, and that one after another these defenses can be made, and faster than the allies can hope to capture them. It is much like the situation at Verdun, and the hopelessness of attacking that stronghold has been pretty well demonstrated. The allies are much farther from Berlin than they are from Tipperary.

German enterprise and daring is reflected in the successful voyage of the submarine boat across the ocean with a full cargo of dyes. On her return she will take a load of copper and rubber which the Germans badly need—and doubtless deliver it safely in a home port. This blockade-running exploit has never before been equalled in the annals of war, but in a measure this is explained by the fact that the submarine type of vessel has only in recent years reached the practical stage as a factor in war, and also in commerce, as the successful voyage of the Deutschland would indicate.

The sudden activities of the Villistas may give our friend Carranza enough fighting to make him real anxious for peace with Uncle Samuel. Villa has generally managed to keep his whiskerettes busy.

Victor Murdock refuses to talk politics. This shows that he is a bigger and brainier man than he was supposed to be.

All things come to him who waits. The Orpet trial will perhaps end this week.



### OBEDIENCE

I heard the bonehead parent say, "Now, Clarence, put your toy away, and toddle off to bed!" And Clarence, pampered little boy, proceeded to dissect the toy, to amputate its head. In half an hour the parent said, "Now, Clarence, you must go to bed—I told you once before!" But little Clarence paid no heed; his hobbyhorse he ran with speed, around the parlor floor. Ten minutes later Father cried, "Now son, I will not be denied—it's time you were asleep." But Clarence hearkened not to that; he pushed some pins into the cat, and made the critter weep. And then I thought of other days, of other parents and their ways, and of my father's stick; he never gave an order twice; and if I balked I paid the price, which made me sore and sick. Perhaps my father was too prone to lam my person till each bone felt like an aching tooth; but since that parent made me scream, we've reached the opposite extreme, the boss is giddy youth. And how I yearn to have a club when some precocious little dud ignores his dad's commands; how I would like to comb his hair, and groom his person with a chair, and pat him with my hands!



## CUTS OFF EARS

(Continued from Page One.)

### May Upset Some Plans

By Webb C. Miller.  
(United Press staff correspondent.)  
Columbus, N. M., July 16.—A possibly delicate situation for the American expedition in Mexico may result from the renewed Villista activity in southern Chihuahua, according to army officers here today.

This and the discovery of a quantity of dynamite in the Mexican quarter of Columbus were generally discussed in the base camp. After a week's search started on a tip by a Mexican member of the state militia, secret service men dug up the dynamite during the night. Three Mexicans were arrested. The hiding place of the dynamite was twice changed as the search became hot, investigation developed. The three prisoners are suspected of taking part in the Villista raid of March 9.

That Villa personally is directing, if not actually leading the present rebellion devastating southern Chihuahua is undoubted in authoritative circles here. "Saviour of Mexico," Villa was called by recruiting agents and agitators who for weeks have been arousing the people in Villa's name.

### May Prevent Withdrawal

"The object of the American punitive expedition was the extermination of Villa and his bandits," said a high officer whose name the censorship forbids mentioning. "Now Villa is again beginning operations. Carranza admitted his helplessness and inability to hold the bandits in check when he notified Washington to be on guard against raids in the Big Bend country. But Carranza's order preventing us to move south, east or west against the bandits is still in force.

"Now, either the United States or Carranza must back down. If we are not to be allowed to carry out the original intention of the expedition, our only consistent course is withdrawal. While Villa was believed dead and his hands scattered, talk of withdrawal was natural. But now a new army of bandits has begun operations at a moment when the relations between the two governments are fraught with grave possibilities. It looks like a typical Villa move and I believe Villa is still alive and is directing it. In my opinion, it will lead to a turning point in the present situation."

### 70,000 Troops on Border

San Antonio, Texas, July 16.—The United States now has more than 70,000 troops on the Mexican border. This army is being constantly increased by the arrival of additional militiamen.

The recent bandit raids in the Big Bend country and the report that a large band of Villistas is headed that way, has caused General Funston to plan the disposition of most of the national guardsmen in that region. The Big Bend country presents great difficulties to the maintenance of an army, as each town must be reached by motor trucks from the railroad, necessitating the use of hundreds of trucks.

Captain Abbott reported to Funston from Boquillas, Texas, that Austin and Roy Swasey, and N. O. McKnight, the International Mining company employees who escaped into the brush when their truck train was attacked by bandits near Boquillas, Mexico, had telephoned from the Mexican side that they were safe and would make their way back to the mines as soon as possible.

Funston remained at one of the railroad stations until late last night to greet some of the officers of the First Kansas, who were en route to Laredo. They were men who had served under him in the Twentieth Kansas during the Philippine campaigns.

### Big Battle Expected

El Paso, Texas, July 16.—A battle between 3,000 Villistas under Calixto Contreras and an equal number of Carranzista soldiers is imminent at Las Nuevas, Durango. General Gonzales announced this afternoon to Juarez. Contreras withdrew from Barru to Las Nuevas, pursued by the Carranza column under Generals Domingo Arrieta and Mateos Romos, Gonzales stated.

The Villistas are entrenched and a sanguinary battle is expected.

He was Scotch all right, was Sandy MacGregor, and had mislaid his wallet containing \$500 at the railway station. He telegraphed his loss to the railway station agent and the wallet was kept until his return a month later.

The finder, a young clerk, handed MacGregor the missing wallet and stood in an attitude of eager expectation. The Scot unheedingly counted his money and then looked long and suspiciously at the young clerk.

"Isn't it right?" stammered the latter in bewilderment.  
"Right! Right! It's right enough," said MacGregor. "But what's the month's interest?"—Ex.



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