

GRASS SPECIALIST.

A. B. Leckenby, of Petaluma, Cal., who is known all over the United States as a leading authority on grasses and forage plants, arrived in Yakima Monday and has commenced the study of our native grasses and also inspecting the conditions of climate and soil prevalent in Central Washington. Together with E. F. Benson he immediately started on an inspection of the valley, visiting first the alkali districts of Abnatum and Yakima City.

He reported that he was confident that the large tract now lying waste could be brought into cultivation. In Kern county, Cal., where he was employed by a land company to make experiments with alkali land, he had succeeded in finding forage plants that would produce profitable crops. It was through his efforts that the merits of the Australian salt bush were discovered; also another plant which has been found adaptable to alkali soil—the Madiola. He thinks these two plants will do well here. He accounts for the Australian salt bush not germinating where tried in this valley because it had been sown in the spring, whereas the seed only sprouts when put in in the fall.

Mr. Leckenby says that the crops of hay, grain and fruit in the Bakersfield country have been simply burned up by

the intense heat. He finds the people of the farming districts of Washington in a much more prosperous condition than in any other part of the coast.

Mr. Leckenby has been induced by the editor of RANCHE AND RANGE to arrange to attend the Farmers' Institute to be held at Ellensburg. As he has a personal acquaintance with over 3000 varieties of grasses, he will be able, if called upon, to deliver an address that will be highly interesting and exceeding profitable to the Kittitas farmers.

He expects to remain in Central Washington for some months. It has been suggested that a fund be raised and a small experimental farm furnished him in the Yakima valley, where he could make thorough tests of grasses and forage plants. The results of the experiments would be of the greatest value to our farmers and stockraisers. If he were to do nothing more than find a means of reclaiming the alkali lands of the river bottoms, our people would be fully repaid for their investment.

□ The wooley aphid of the apple exists in two forms, one of which attacks the roots, the other the trunk and branches of the apple. The great majority of the individuals are wingless, but winged ones also occur, especially in the latter broods of the year. They are especially

likely to be abundant on suckers from the bases of trees and in the forks of the branches. The cottony covering serves to some extent as a protection, so that this species is rather more difficult to kill than other aphides. The root form is the more injurious, and by its attacks peculiar corky galls are formed on the roots, in the crevices of which the insect may be found. These galls not only interfere seriously with the functions of the roots but also form centers of decay and cause the death of the tree. The branch form weakens the tree by feeding on the sap, and not frequently causes the bark to split in places as the result of its attack. It never forms true galls like the root form. If trees in the orchard are attacked by the root form, the soil should be removed as much as possible from them and the roots thoroughly treated with kerosene emulsion or with water heated nearly to the boiling point. Bisulphide of carbon may also be used with success for the form of the insect. For the branch form, spray with kerosene emulsion, using rather stronger solution than for other aphides.

An industrial fair will be held at Waterville next fall.

Coffin Bros.' Department Store

..The 4th of July..

On the above date, we will have our first prize distribution day. There will be five in all between July 4th and December 31st. **Ten Valuable Gifts Each Time**, so be sure and get what tickets are due you. Every number on your tickets will stand an equal show clear through all the drawings except those that have actually won prizes.

**On July 5th at 10
o'clock a. m.**

**These Ten Gifts
will be
Distributed. Read
the List:**

- 1st-One Elegant Bicycle. Lady's or Gentleman's.
- 2d-One Plow, Good Make.
- 3d-One Ice Cream Freezer.
- 4th-One 5-Gallon Stone Churn.
- 5th-One Elegant Silver Sugar Bowl and Six Spoons.
- 6th-One Silver Cake Dish.
- 7th-One 5-lb Can Price Bak. Powder
- 8th-One Pair Fine Shoes. Lady's or Gentleman's.
- 9th-1 All Wool Suit of Clothes.
- 10th-1 Elegant 65 Piece Decorated Dinner Set.