

A Matter of a Dollar.

Subscribing for a class publication is a business investment—BUSINESS pure and simple. The rancher who for the first time scans the pages of this number does so with a critical eye and a view to noting whether the service it gives is WORTH one dollar a year or not. While you are reflecting on the matter, let us respectfully call your attention to the following facts:

Ranch and Range is published WEEKLY; comes to you 52 times a year. You get it EVERY SATURDAY at your own postoffice.

It is the ONLY weekly farm journal in the state of Washington, and we claim that it is the BEST in the Northwest. However, this you may decide for yourself.

We do not deal in POLITICS.

Nor in side issues.

We have no prejudices.

We attend STRICTLY to BUSINESS.

The matter contributed to all departments of Ranch and Range is by the MOST SUCCESSFUL farmers, dairymen, fruitgrowers, stockmen, poultrymen and producers in all lines.

We live up to our claims.

We expose fraud.

WE WILL NOT PERMIT a QUACK or IMMORAL advertisement to appear in our columns. We endeavor to allow only advertising of the most RESPONSIBLE and RELIABLE houses.

We DO NOT attempt to serve the interests of the people of the entire Union. We devote ourselves to issuing a first-class journal EXCLUSIVELY for the ranchers of the NORTHWEST STATES. Where are you? we ask.

If you were in New England, you would take the

me. A few evenings ago I feelingly said:

"Old woman, this Ranch and Range is growing to usefulness like a healthy babe."

"It seems so," said she. "I have called you twice to supper, but I am sure you did not hear me. The boys are half through and the food is getting cold."

"Well, editor, there is no use in making a long story of it—go right on; you are doing lots of good. Yours for success. WM. J. WATKINS."

The Orchard's Profits.

The accompanying engraving illustrates the handsome residence of Hon. L. A. Porter, of Lewiston valley, one of the most prominent and successful citizens of Idaho. It is a beautiful home and built by the profits of fruit-growing in Lewiston district, by a man who started in with \$1,000 capital and no experience or knowledge of fruit culture. It is a great testimonial to Lewiston valley—and speaks volumes for the man.

A Bartered Birthright.

A bartered birthright is hard to regain. Mr. Stevens' forecastings and advice will appeal to the thinking class, but as the average mind requires logic and legislation to change its way of thinking, the masses will probably have to evolve through several generations of discordant conditions before gaining knowledge with power to change them. The forecasting mind can change its environment and need not wait for acts of congress and state legislation to develop ways and means for an assured home, but the "Human Drift" will barter their birthright for the poor privilege of remaining in the same narrow orbit of ceaseless toil and de-

the hemp requires rich soil and plenty of water during the growing season. If these requisites are complied with, our natural moderate warmth added, such as we witness in Oregon and Washington during the months of June, July, August and September, this growth will doubtless become a staple article in both these states ere many years have gone down into eternity.

There is at present no better-paying crop on this coast than hemp except the orange.

I answer your questions:

First—About how much is the value of an acre of hemp?

If planted close, so as to produce 10 to 12 stems per square foot, 12 to 14 feet in height, an acre will produce from 2,400 to 2,600 pounds of fibres it treated in the old Kentucky manner, that is to say: To cut the stems about middle or end of September and to dry them in the field) for about a fortnight. They are then stored in big stoops in the field. As soon as the rainy season sets in the stems are spread over the field and rain or dew-retted for about four to six weeks, or the stems are water-retted in running or stagnant water for about three weeks after they have been cut; in both cases the retted stems are dried in the most convenient manner and in winter they are broken and hackled, yielding about 50 per cent long fibres, called dressed hemp, and about 50 per cent of tow. The price of the long fibres is from 5 to 6 cents per pound and that of the tow from 2 to 3 cents.

If the stems are cut at the same time and immediately decorticated and the ribbons, water or steam retted without delay, which in the former case takes from five to ten days according to the temperature of the water, in the latter case from four to five hours, an acre yields 2,000 pounds of cream white, strong, glossy fibres, commanding the highest market price for Italian (Bologna) water-retted hemp in New York, which averages 8 cents per pound.

Second—Where has hemp been grown?

At Gridley, Butte county, California, hemp of this species has been grown since 1895 and each year adds several hundred acres to this culture. Mr. John Heaney, at Gridley, will give you the needed information. He handles his crops in the old fashion and gets 5½ cents per pound. This is the highest price, as the epidermis is not entirely eliminated and the chlorophyl has discolored the fibres, making them unfit for the manufacture of high-graded fabrics.

Third—How could farmers in this valley dispose of a crop of hemp?

The Portland Cordage Company and Banker Charles E. Ladd, of this city, are the chief promoters of this new industry in Washington and Oregon and there cannot be the slightest doubt but that their great pecuniary sacrifice of this and last year will bring lasting profits of the highest order to both the farmers and manufacturers of these states, as there are thousands and thousands of acres of bottom lands all along the Willamette and Columbia rivers and as many acres of low and of tide land on the several bays of this coast suitable for growing hemp.

The Portland Cordage Company, at Portland, will be disposed to contract for any quantity to be produced in Washington and Oregon for next and following years at the regular New York market prices, so I understand. But the demand in the east, England, France and Germany is practically unlimited, and considering the high profits of this growth, farmers can well afford to surround themselves with trustworthy and reliable brokers in New York, or London, or Hamburg, or Bremen, the chief markets for this kind of hemp.

The costs of culture, rent of land, plowing, harrowing, seeds, sowing, harvesting, decortivating, retting, drying, baling, etc., amount to \$32.50 at most per acre.

A decortivating machine of 24 knives has a decortivating capacity of about 400,000 stems or the produce of one acre in 10 hours, a work which it would take 1,500 Chinamen to perform in the same time.

One of my big decorticators will be in operation in the field during September and I tender you my kind invitation to witness the harvest, decortivating and retting business.

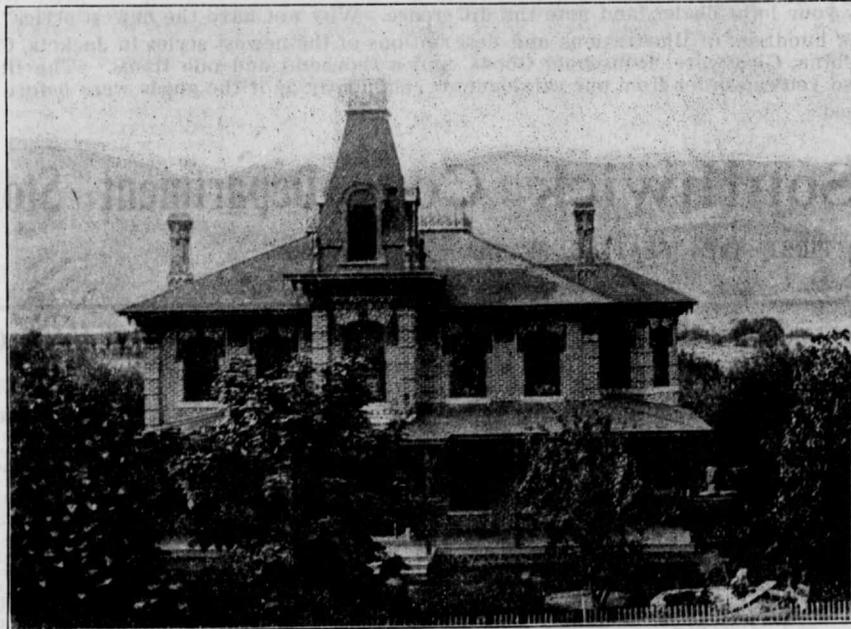
Fourth—Is hemp seed a profitable crop?

In California it is, yielding as much as 25 bushels of clean matured seed to the acre, which sells at the rate of from \$4 to \$5 per bushel of 44 pounds. We are not through yet with our experiments in this regard in Washington and Oregon, but at the end of the season when all reports of the several hundred patches in both these states are received, I can tell you with more correctness what to expect.

I gladly will assist you in any way as regards this much promising new field of human activity.

FELIX FREMERY.

Note.—Mr. Fremery will exhibit his decortivating machine at the Yakima state fair.



Home of Hon. L. A. Porter, Lewiston, Idaho.

best farm paper published in THAT region. You catch the point we are sure, when we say that you should ARAPT YOURSELF to western conditions. To get the LATEST and BEST there is of western farm methods invest in a subscription to Ranch and Range.

We conduct this publication on business lines. We ARE NOT losing money, but give as good a journal as the increasing support will possibly permit.

You do not buy the most improved farm implement because you want to see the INVENTOR made independently rich, but because it is PROFITABLE to YOU to be progressive and up with the times.

Ranch and Range fills the bill.

One dollar a year is the subscription price—52 issues at less than 2 cents each. The market review each week alone is worth the price of a postage stamp.

The QUICKER you enroll your name, the SOONER it becomes a WEEKLY visitor to your home.

Hold—one word more! We REFUND YOUR DOLLAR if at the end of THREE MONTHS you find that Ranch and Range is not worth the money.

Supper's Ready Mr. Watkins.

Every day we get testimonials from our patrons as to how they appreciate the paper, generally doubly cheering, because accompanied by that little dollar. Here's one that's not at all bad, from across in the queen's country at Peachland, B. C.:

"I will say to you go right on; you are doing good work. Your paper is becoming quite interesting to

moralizing privations. Retain possession of nature's supplies, resist the attacks of capital to the extent of not mortgaging our homes, use our creative energy to develop our resources and we will attain all needed success.

"The vine and fig tree"—symbol of the assured home the natural mind so earnestly craves—will supplant the "demnition grind" now existing as a common inheritance. A few lessons in economics applied to human endeavor ought to teach an easy way out of bondage and bring speedy release from human suffering.

MRS. SABRA S. KIESTER.

Hemp a Great Crop.

Mr. F. B. Leckenby, who has personal charge of the Northern Pacific experiment station at Yakima, is well pleased with the experiments made this season with Japanese hemp. It has done remarkably well, growing about 12 feet high, and takes possession of the land with a growth that is exceedingly rank. "All it needs," writes Mr. Leckenby to the Ranch and Range, "is fertilizer and water. No need of cultivation. In pursuance with a desire to obtain more complete information regarding this promising crop, he recently directed a letter of inquiry to the Hon. Felix Fremery, who has made exhaustive experiments with hemp on the Pacific coast, and who is now employed as an expert by the Portland Cordage Company. His reply is interesting and valuable, showing what great possibilities it possesses for our country:

Mr. F. B. Leckenby, North Yakima, Wash.: My Dear Sir—Thankfully I take notice of the contents of your kind letter, which once more confirms that