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and the State Live Stock Breeders' Association.

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1901.

DATES OF EVENTS.

Salem, Oregon, state fair.....Sept. 23-28
Puyallup, Wash., valley fair.....Sept. 24-27
Colfax, Wash.....Sept. 24-28
Walla Walla.....Sept. 23-29
New Westminster, provincial fair.....Oct. 1-5
La Grande, Oregon.....Oct. 1-5
The Dalles, Oregon, district fair.....Oct. 1-5
North Yakima, state fair.....Sept. 30 to Oct. 5
Lewiston, Idaho, inter state fair.....Oct. 7-12
Victoria, B. C.....Oct. 1-5

This week sees a general winding up of the county fairs, and the fair season will practically close in Washington with the big state fair at North Yakima. In Canada there will be two provincial fairs—one at Victoria and the other at Westminster, on the same dates—October 1 to 5.

The King county fair, which was held at Enumclaw last week, was very successful. The display of agricultural products was good, and the attendance large enough to leave the fair association with money in the treasury and in good condition for next year.

Local parties, assisted by outside capital, are now engaged in developing a waterpower on the Wenatchee river about four miles from Wenatchee, Wash. Pumping machinery sufficient to irrigate 1200 acres of land in the upper portion of the valley has been ordered. This means that 1200 acres more of excellent fruit lands will soon be cut into small tracts and sold to actual settlers.

The California Cured Fruit association, after a somewhat checkered career of ups and downs, is likely to go out of the business of trying to control the prune market. A large number of growers are anxious to wind up the affairs of the association, so they will not have to put their prunes in the pool this fall, as they are bound by contract to deliver their fruit. The chief reason assigned for the failure of the prune association to secure the arbitrary prices it fixed for the prune output was that while it secured control of the California crop, the growers in Washington, Oregon and Idaho remained outside and accepted any old price for the boarding house stand-by, which rendered the efforts of the trust futile.

THE MICHIGAN OLEO LAW.

A fearful howl is going up from the grocery dealers in Detroit over the passage of the new oleomargarine law in Michigan last winter, says Hoard's Dairyman. For years the politicians, who are in politics for what there is in it for them (and that constitutes a large proportion), have blocked legislation against this fraud in that state in all sorts of ways. But the farmers became very much aroused last winter, largely through the agitation had in congress on the Grout bill, and they went before the Michigan legislature with a determination and unity of purpose that meant retirement to private life for any legislator that failed of his duty to the men who sent him there.

The new law is a very rigid one and takes effect September 1. The dealers say it will cause a loss in the sale of oleo of 75 per cent.

It is amusing to read the pious ejaculations over the injustice of this law, that prevents dishonest dealers from making a profit in the sale of a fraud. As usual, their pious hands and voice are lifted on high in protest against this terrible infliction on the poor. If the law is vigorously enforced, the poor will get their oleomargarine if they want it, at an oleomargarine, and not a butter price, and there is just where the shoe pinches with these dishonest and avaricious grocers.

A New Sale Center.

As will be noticed by the announcement appearing on the 10th page of this issue, a live stock commission house has been opened in Spokane, by M. N. Knuppenburg & Co. This firm has secured quarters at the Northern Pacific stock yards, and are preparing to handle livestock of all kinds on commission, both pure-bred and grades. They will be in position to handle the sales of stockmen, conduct auction and dispersion sales, etc. Just now Knuppenburg & Co. have on hand nearly two hundred pedigreed Shorthorns, which they have recently imported from the East, and which they are selling at very low prices.

The Whatcom county fair was not a success from a financial point, more attention being given to horse racing than to the agricultural interests of the county. An entry fee was charged by the fair management and the ranchers did not appreciate this and failed to come forward with displays in the agricultural line, which was very small. Farmers making displays of their products at county fairs are subject to enough expense without an additional entry fee, small thought it may be. The amount in premiums won is seldom enough to balance the expense account.

The Wenatchee valley is laying claim to being the banner fruit section of the country and she may well be entitled to the distinction if she does as well at the state fair next week as she did at Spokane. Out of 76 classes at the Inter-State fair Wenatchee carried off 41, in open competition with Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington. H. S. Simmons, of Wenatchee, won the grand prize of \$100.

King county will not have a chance to test the merits of the new road law as passed by the legislature last winter, which was to be submitted to

the people of the county for ratification before becoming operative. Robert W. Summerville brought suit last week, asking the superior court of King county to enjoin the county commissioners from holding the election, and, after hearing the arguments of the attorneys on both sides, the court decided that the law was unconstitutional, as it delegates the power of making laws from the legislature to the people.

CLEAR SYSTEMATIC THINKING.

It is not always the man who works the hardest that prospers the most. We frequently find men who seem to do little hard labor, yet they get along better than their neighbors, who work in season and out of season, and take no time for rest, study or recreation. That these facts exist, no one of an observing turn of mind will deny. The reason for it is not hard to discover. The creator in his all-wise judgment gave man the power to reason and think. The command to work was no more imperative for man than was the idea of improving his thinking powers. Our most successful men are those who think to the best purposes; not those who think the most. Idiots think as much and just as hard as our most learned men. It is the trained thinker who succeeds. It takes time and energy to think and plan to a purpose. No man can wear himself out at hard bodily labor and get the best mental results. The mind is always affected by the condition of the body.

The fact remains also that some men are mentally lazy. Some men are industrious and hard working, but they do not like to think, and plan and scheme. Such men are easy prey for those who do think and plan and scheme, and the results of their labor are often enjoyed by those who work their intellects instead of their bodies. There always has been and always will be a premium on intelligent brain work, and the sooner some men realize this the better it will be for them.—National Stockman.

The story of the HAT ranch as told by the Pecos Valley Argus throws further gleams of light upon the plan to lease the public domain to the great corporations. It says: "A. B. Robertson, a banker, is the controlling owner of the HAT cattle company, a corporation holding range and grazing its cattle in Texas and New Mexico, the range aggregating some 700,000 acres. This range extends directly east from Carlsbad to Texas state line. Of this vast area the HAT company owns in fee simple less than one section. It holds under lease several school sections. In Texas it is estimated that this company enjoys by right of lease from the state 200,000 acres, all under fence. Mr. Robertson is also a member of the committee appointed by President Lusk of the American cattle growers' association to draft a bill to be presented to congress this winter for a national lease law and will go to Denver the 17th inst. to meet with his associate committeemen for that purpose. What interest has banker Robertson in shaping legislation for a national lease law? Not to secure land in the state of which he is a citizen, for the land is already leased from the state, and furthermore, Texas, enjoying the peculiar distinction of exercising the exclusive authority of controlling the unoccupied lands within its borders, would in no way be affected by congressional procla-

mation relative to grazing lands in the western portion of the United States."

BROWN SWISS CATTLE.

F. A. French, Portland, Ore., a subscriber to The Ranch, writes that we did him an injustice in our last issue, when we made the statement that there were no breeders of Brown Swiss cattle nearer than Wisconsin, in answer to an inquiry made by another subscriber. Mr. French raises thoroughbred cattle of this breed, and since he has called our attention to the fact we willingly make the correction. In the first place, we had no intention of doing any one an injustice, but knowing of no breeders in the Northwest, we so stated.

The inquiry by our Tolt subscriber for Brown Swiss cattle simply shows the value to breeders of thoroughbred cattle of keeping their names before the public by advertising, and it would pay Mr. French to place his card in our stock columns. In this connection, the short article on "How Advertising Works," elsewhere in this issue is well worth reading.

There is a great plethora of rot parading through the newspaper columns of late about the exorbitant value of potatoes and in every instance they are classed as luxuries almost unattainable except by millionaires. The fact is that potatoes are ruling at merely living prices for the growers and are not unreasonably high in price as compared with the tax on other things including wages. All this clatter about spuds being as much of a luxury as the banana has a tendency to scare people away from them and there is no truth or justification about the tirade.—Lute Wilcox.

Kansas farmers are using wheat for hog food, to some extent, but many are hesitating, and some of them, we are told, have exchanged wheat for corn with the odds in the exchange against the wheat. Experiments made in 1894, and since, have demonstrated that pound for pound wheat is equal or slightly superior to corn, when properly fed. A bushel of wheat, when fed to thrifty shoats, will produce twelve to fifteen pounds of pork. At the Kansas experiment station it was demonstrated that a bushel of wheat would show a gain in steers of 10.5 pounds.

The difference between a prune and an ordinary plum, as has been decided by some scientific pomologists, is that a prune is a variety of plum having flesh of such character that it will dry with the loss of very little water and make a product which is quite firm and fleshy. Those varieties of the prunus family that are more largely composed of water and will not make a good article of dried fruit, that is, such as is firm and meaty, still retain the name of plums.

J. W. Godwin, the well-known Western avenue commission man, returned last Monday from a trip in the Eastern states. He says Seattle, Alaska and salmon are three topics much discussed among capitalists in the East.

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