

AGAIN THOSE TUBES.

Editor the Ranch:

I note the difficulty Mr. Auldon, of Zillah, finds in handling water, and would suggest the following, namely: Where the lateral leaves the main ditch make a basin wider and deeper than the ditch. This would check the current and catch most of the sediment. Then where the ditch leaves the basin stretch a fine wire screen across to catch the floating scum, moss, etc. This could be cleaned out occasionally, and when the small tubes were not in use the screen could be entirely removed.

C. L. Smith.

Pullman, Wn.

December 4, 1901.

Editor The Ranch:

Am just in receipt of your favor of 1st inst, inclosing article by Mr. C. L. Smith, regarding the "Irrigation Problem."

The suggestion of Mr. Smith concerning the basin at the head of the lateral (where it leaves the main canal) is good; and would doubtless obviate much of the trouble arising from muddy water; that is the sediment would settle in the basin (if deep enough) and one would then have a body of dead water to feed the lateral, instead of a rolling, roily stream. The suggestion of the screen "to catch the flowing scum, moss, etc." is evidently based on the assumption that the green scum comes from the same source as the sediment. This, of course, is erroneous.

The floating scum doesn't begin to appear until after the water has become practically clear. It is the hot weather and the clear water that form the scum—and this over every foot of its course. For instance, my water is supplied by a lateral that is flumed across the land, being run on a grade of one inch to the hundred feet. On one side of this lateral it is turned into a head-ditch, consisting of six-inch flume with a fall in places of over 12 inches to the rod. On the opposite side of this lateral water is taken out in a head-ditch (built of earth) that has two hundred foot section on a dead level. During the hottest weather of July and August the green scum forms on every foot of these different ditches. It forms in the flume head-ditch (with a fall of 12 inches to the rod) just the same as it does in the lateral with a grade of an inch to the hundred feet, or in the head-ditch on a level.

The idea of a screen has occurred to me, but the only way I see of using it would be to screen each tube. This could not be done in some places, and in others I doubt whether it would be practicable.

A. C. Auldon.

Zillah, Wn.

Livestock in the Palouse.

No section of the Northwest is making more satisfactory progress toward diversified farming than that in the immediate vicinity of Pullman. Beets and other root crops, and all kinds of fruits, apples especially, are now looked upon as staple crops along with wheat, and the day when the Palouse farmer will watch the wheat market alone is past.

But it is in the stock industry that the greatest advancement is being made. The recent importations of stock by our enterprising citizens will have a great influence on not only the quantity of the stock, but will have

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even greater influence on its quality. Nearly 500 head of high grade breeding stock have been brought to Pullman from Eastern states this fall, and are now found on the farms near this city.

Albert Reaney started the ball rolling with 80 head of full-blood and grade shorthorns, which he purchased and brought in from Missouri points. J. R. Rupy was next, continuing the good work by bringing in 120 head of the handsomest kind of young stock from Iowa, the cattle being purchased only after Mr. Rupy's personal inspection, which means that they were the best to be found on Iowa farms.

Then Mr. Reaney, accompanied by W. E. Jaberg, again went east, Mr. Reaney bringing back 136 head, and Mr. Jaberg 56 head of the kind of stock that make the fancier's eyes brighten. These purchases are in addition to the shipments made by the college, and the high-grade breeding stock purchased in western markets by Metsker & Klemgard and others.

While the most of the shipments made from the east by Messrs. Reaney, Repley and Jaberg are to stock the individual farms of these gentlemen, still they are selling a few head to neighboring farms, and now the sale advertised by Mr. Reaney, to take place today, will give every farmer the opportunity to improve his stock by getting a few head. The outcome is going to be that the influence of this fresh blood will be seen in the general improvement of the herd on every ranch, and the low price of wheat and the exorbitant rates of the railroads, will be felt less and less. And in speaking of the stock interests, and the energy being put into the up-building of the industry, the chicken fanciers of this vicinity should not be overlooked, for the chicken show to be held in this city in January is going to show quite an advancement over last season's many fine birds having been received from outside points during the year, both in the feather and in the egg.—Pullman Herald.

A girl named plain "Mary" at her birth dropped the "r" when she grew up and became "Miss May." As she began to shine in a social way she changed the "y" to "e" and signed her letters "Mae." About a year ago she was married, and now she has dropped the "e" and it's just plain "Ma." That's evolution.—Tid-Bits.

Winter is a good time to clean up the farm, clear out the fence rows, and make the farm neater and cleaner.

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