

FARM ORCHARD AND GARDEN
BY **FETRIGG**
CENTRAL POINT
ROGUE RIVER
VALLEY
OREGON
CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED



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ABOUT GETTING AHEAD.

In the face of a good deal of criticism leveled at what are alleged as unjust and unequal economic conditions by a large class of folks who sled along on bare ground financially year after year it is well to take account of one or two factors which played an important part in the endeavors of those who do get on in the world in a material way.

In the first place, even in the case of many who have achieved great wealth, there has been a period at the start when they had to count their pennies and exercise prudence and thrift in their expenditures and the management of their affairs.

With a vast majority of those who are today moderately well fixed there has been a similar period in which the saving habit had to be cultivated and when there was a definite purpose to have the receipts exceed the expenditures year after year.

The achievement of a condition of financial independence and competence, therefore, is not a matter of luck or chance, but of definite purpose and design. Often so simple a thing as the disposition of 40 cents a day by an individual or family, whether the saving of it or the spending of it for useless or harmful things, will spell thrift or poverty in the course of a few years.

With many, in fact, the surplus above actual cost of living, wisely or unwisely handled, is no more than 20 or 25 cents per day. Forty cents a day saved means \$125 for the year, counting 311 working days. Flaring interest at 6 per cent on the accumulation of an annual saving of \$125 for a period of ten years and leaving the accumulated interest in the fund gives the sum of \$1,625, the reward of saving four dimes a day.

If 25 cents were saved per day it would mean about \$1,012 for the same period. There is no money so easily earned as that which one's money wisely invested will earn, yet how many of the rank and file fail to profit from this source simply by neglecting the first step—the saving of relatively small sums from day to day.

CERTIFIED MILK.

The term "certified" is properly applied to milk which contains 3 1/2 per cent or more of butter fat and contains less than 10,000 bacteria per cubic centimeter. The milk must be produced under conditions of greatest cleanliness, and the cows producing it must be pronounced in perfect health by an authorized veterinarian.

Milk produced under average farm conditions costs from 4 to 5 cents per quart, while that produced under the conditions existing in a certified plant would probably cost twice as much. One of these certified dairies is located near Duluth, Minn. It is under the direct supervision of the dairy department of the University of Minnesota, and in the management of it every detail laid down is carried out.

The health of the cows is looked after by a competent veterinarian, and any animal not showing the best condition of health are at once removed. The barns are well lighted, well ventilated and kept scrupulously clean. The cows are carefully brushed before each milking, and their udders and under parts are kept clipped short to prevent dirt clinging thereto.

The milkers are dressed in clean white suits, and each carries a damp cloth to wipe off the cow's udder. Covered milk pails are used, and the milk is strained in a separate room. It is then removed to the dairy, where it is aerated and cooled to a temperature of about 40 degrees.

The milk is then bottled and put on ice. The owner of this particular dairy is not taking all of these pains for his health. He gets 14 cents per quart for his product from city customers and cannot begin to supply the demand.

THEY'RE GETTING TIRED.

If northwestern fruit growers had not decided on the move before, the beggary prices which they have been able to realize on their best fruit for the past season, when trash not fit for hog feed has been shipped from 2,000 to 3,000 miles and sold at retail at \$2 per box, will furnish the last argument needed to unite them into an effective organization whose prime object will be the systematic and co-operative marketing of their fruit, which will put out two or three classes of jobbers that have been gouging them with the one hand and robbing the consumer with the other.

The jobbers got soaked in the apple deal they tried to pull off four or five years ago, and they have been taking heavy toll of the producers ever since. The latter are getting wise.

While San Jose scale is more frequently observed on the limbs and trunks of trees which it infests, it often appears on mature fruit. In the case of apples like the yellow Newtown its presence is indicated by small deep red spots slightly raised in the center where the scale is established, and shading to a thinner color in much the same way as would a boil or sore on one's hand.

Filth is the handmaiden of disease, and this is true of the cow stable, the pigpen, the henhouse and the homestead.

A gasoline engine is much like some other things that might be named—a great aid and labor saver if rightly handled and well behaved and an all around bugbear otherwise.

The actual loss in the handling of one "loafer" in the dairy herd in the course of a year will often more than pay for a Babcock milk tester, which can be bought at between \$4 and \$5.

While many folks lay great store by luck, so called, it is always well to reduce the operation of this uncertain factor to a minimum, which can be done by the use of one's wits, good judgment and careful planning.

While there is some conflict in aim in the attempt to secure a type of cattle having beef and dairy capacity in marked degree, there is in the case of sheep no difficulty in the raising of a type which will do well in the line of both wool and mutton. General thriftiness and vigor are the prime essentials in the case of both meat and wool.

Time was not many years ago when cotton seed was considered a virtually useless byproduct of the cotton raising industry. Today, in addition to furnishing enormous quantities of oil used for various commercial purposes, the seed is ground into meal, which contains a considerably larger protein content than flaxseed meal and costs about the same per ton.

Many a street laborer looks with longing at the brownstone front and wishes he were the owner of it, while the owner of the same brownstone front, with health knocked out by the strain and tension of business cares, would probably give a small fortune for the appetite and zest with which the laborer consumes his midday lunch of bread and meat.

Now and then a lawyer may be the instrument of getting a fellow into trouble. As often, if consulted, he may make it possible for one to avoid a good deal of trouble. In the above we have in mind referring to a good lawyer contracts or other legal instruments involving obligations to be assumed. Such advice may cost several dollars, but it may save as many hundred.

During 1910 the federal fish commission distributed 3,233,922.572 fish and fish eggs, which exceeds the record of the previous year by 4 per cent. Of this total 433,177,000 eggs and 7,422 fish were delivered to several state fish commissions, and 500,000 salmon and trout eggs were shipped to France, Japan and Argentina. The report shows that the commercial fisheries of the country represent an investment of about \$95,000,000, while the value of the output for the year is placed at \$62,000,000.

As the result of a law passed by congress last year it will hereafter be unlawful to offer for sale in territory under federal jurisdiction adulterated or misbranded insecticides or to ship such articles from one state to another. The act specifically mentions paris green and arsenate of lead, the two chemicals most widely used by orchardists. The new law will be a real boon to fruit and vegetable growers, as it will compel manufacturers to properly label their products and enable the purchaser to know exactly what he is paying for.

An extensive hog raiser of whom we heard the other day attributes his freedom from loss by cholera to the practice he follows of removing well hogs from any pen or lot in which sick ones have been noticed rather than removing and isolating the ailing ones, a practice quite generally followed. The plan he has adopted seems to be based on sound principle, for it means the removal of uninfected animals to entirely clean and wholesome surroundings, where there could not be any possibility of contamination from disease germs.

Import statistics gathered by the department of commerce and labor show that of the coffee imported into the United States in the year ended July, 1910, 97.2 per cent came from South and Central America and Mexico. Of the small remainder, 0.1 of 1 per cent came from Adea and was sold as Mocha, and 1.3 was Java coffee and came from the East Indies. It is interesting to note that, while the import price of all the coffee shipped in from American countries averaged but a small fraction over 8 cents per pound, it cost the consumer from 20 to 35 cents per pound.

While the raising of horses is attended with greater risk than the raising of cattle or sheep, the fact remains that when properly conducted the horse business is one of the most profitable lines of animal husbandry. With prices continuing at present levels one can count on from 10 to 12 cents per pound at from two to three years old, depending upon individuality and type. In this connection it is well worth remembering that it costs no more to raise a fine, well bred animal than it does a scrub, while the returns may be from one and a half to two times as large, and the satisfaction to be had is many times as great.

That bountiful crop production is very closely associated with what we understand as "good times" and prosperity may be realized in the case of the two leading products of the country—corn and cotton. The value of the first in round numbers for 1910 was \$1,500,000,000, which is said to be sufficient to pay the interest bearing debt of the United States and exceed by a considerable value all the gold and silver dug out of the earth in the year 1909. The value of the cotton crop for the year just past is placed at \$900,000,000, which would be enough to just about wipe out the national debt. When these and numerous other crops presenting values correspondingly large are produced from the soil of the United States annually it is realized the more readily why our country is one of the wealthiest and most prosperous in all the earth.

Shelled corn, grits and water may be all right for the bunch of old birds that are being fattened for pie, but if eggs are wanted something that will furnish a protein element will have to be provided—bran, oilmeal, tankage, bran, clover or alfalfa.

An investigation into the probable cause of rust spots appearing on apples shipped from some Pacific coast points made by Professor D. J. O'Gara, fruit disease expert, leads him to the conclusion that the spots in question are due to impurities contained in the arsenate of lead used in spraying the trees and not to any fungus or scale pest.

While they may not be able to analyze the philosophy of it, it is remarkable at how early an age little children seem to acquire a sense and appreciation of what is right, just and fair. Many a parent ignores this faculty in the early years, only to wake up later to a realization of the fact that both the respect and confidence of the child have been forfeited.

The jungle fowl of India, supposed to be a distant cousin of our modern breeds of domestic fowls, follows out her natural instinct and lays a clutch or two of eggs a year, as many at one time as she can effectively cover and incubate. It is because of this natural habit of their early ancestors that the modern flock of hens incline under average conditions to produce 60 rather than 200 eggs in a year.

Until recently plaster was seldom used in the interior finishing of Pacific slope houses, owing to the fact that it so frequently became loose and fell off during the rainy weather. Instead, the rooms were finished with matched sheathing, heavy building paper or cloth and the paper put on over this. Since the introduction of wood fiber plaster it is being quite generally used in the section mentioned.

In a recent statement published by Chief Forester Graves the estimate is made that \$4 per cent of the loss from forest fires during the year 1909 was directly traceable to carelessness on the part of settlers in burning their timber clearings and similar carelessness on the part of the railroads through failure to use effective spark arresters. Here is a type of conservation of natural resources that can be put into practice without the necessity of legislative deliberation or executive decree to make it effective.

There is no doubt good profit in the poultry business if the same degree of brains and energy is devoted to it as would make success possible in other lines. Many novices launching into the business make the common mistake of taking it up on too large a scale at the start. They naturally argue that if ten hens will net \$20 a year 100 hens will net \$200 and 1,000 hens \$2,000. More money than this has been made out of 1,000 hens, but it was by men of long experience and wide information in the poultry business. If one wishes to go into chicken raising it is far better to work into it gradually, increasing the size of the flock as experience is gained. Such a course would likely avert not only disappointment, but serious loss.

If it were not for the small boy with ferret, trap and gun there would be many localities literally cursed and overrun with the rabbit pest. Like rats, they are prolific breeders, and no amount of extermination during any winter season seems to prevent multiplication of the pest the following season. Notwithstanding the fact that the young trees in the orchard may have been amply protected with this or that trunk covering, it is well to make a trip of inspection through the orchard every few days to see that everything is all right. Often snow will drift higher than the coverings, in which case the upper trunk and branches will be exposed to attack. The writer remembers just such an occurrence in his own orchard following a big storm when there were drifts six feet deep, which enabled the rabbits to go at will among the lower branches. Where such a condition exists about the only safeguard, aside from trapping and shooting, is putting out pieces of apples on the exposed surfaces of which powdered arsenic has been rubbed.

J. E. Trigg

DEPOT FOR HAGERSTOWN.

Low Grade Line from Williamsport to Westminister.

The Western Maryland Railroad Company has permitted to the Mayor and City Council of Hagerstown blueprint plans of the new passenger depot to be erected in that city, with plans for laying two more tracks on Foundry street. The new depot, which will be built on a block bounded by Franklin, Foundry and Washington streets, will be 135 feet long and 35 feet wide and will occupy the center of the block with grass plots on either side. There will be a grass slope 275 feet in length on the east side of the building, and a street will be opened extending from Washington to Franklin streets along the east side of the slope. There will be entrances to the depot from Foundry street facing the tracks and also on the other two streets. Two additional tracks Washington streets. The application of the company for permission to lay additional tracks is taken to mean that the company expects to begin work on the new depot shortly.

The rumor current in the last few days that the Cumberland Valley Railroad had acquired possession of the Western Maryland shops in that city has been revived, and, it is said on unofficial authority, to be correct in so far that the Cumberland Valley has an option on the property. The rumor goes further to the effect that the Western Maryland has an option on valuable property and tract of land at Williamsport. The belief prevails in Williamsport that the Western Maryland Railway Company will shortly establish large shops at the place, especially if the low-grade line from Williamsport to Westminister by way of Boonsboro and Middletown is constructed. Rumors are rife that work on the low-grade line will begin within a year. The plans it is said, call for a tunnel under South Mountain. Williamsport would be at one end of the division. It was stated that the distance between Williamsport and Westminister would be shortened by 13 miles.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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