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WHEAT SILAGE.

(By J. R. Shinn, Agriculturalist, Spokane County.)
Oroville, Wash. March 21, 1916.
Editor, Oroville Gazette.

Dear Sir:—Your editorial, "A Suggestion," in last week's issue of the Gazette will no doubt awaken our merchants and farmers to the fact that an organized endeavor must be made to develop the dairy industry in this part of the county in a systematic manner. No one can doubt the wisdom of making a study of the possibilities, and proceeding to active work at once. However, the minds of the people must come together on this matter, and while the process of concentrating public opinion goes on, there are a few things we may do to increase our store of knowledge in regard to the complexities of dairying.

I do not intend to write a long article but wish to point out that the prime requisites to successful dairying here are better cows, better stables and better feed. All these are matters of study and require concentration of effort. No one can keep cows and have success with the average equipment that prevails here. There must be a general improvement all along the line.

There is no need to keep cows if they cannot be comfortably stabled and properly fed, for milk and butter fat. Conversely it is useless to put a scrub cow, or one that is built especially for beef, and hope to get a full flow of rich milk. The first class dairy animal demands first class care and they will yield a return in proportion. The question of feed is always raised when the dairy question is broached and this is especially interesting to the man on the highlands who may not be able to grow hay or other succulent forage, and feels that dairying is entirely out of his reach. He knows that all good dairymen have silos and that they grow corn to fill them; and as corn is beyond him, he shies at the proposition.

But there is no need to be discouraged, for silage can be grown by the "hill billies" as well as by the valley folks. Wheat silage presents a solution of the problem and I am sending you herewith a copy of Popular Bulletin No. 88 issued by the Washington Agricultural experiment station at Pullman, Washington. Mr. Shinn, the author is county agriculturalist of Spokane county and has done an immense amount for the development of dairying in that county. He is a thorough and patient investigator and his conclusions are well worthy of our careful study.

You will notice that this bulletin covers investigations for the year of 1914, so that results may be regarded

YIELD OF WINTER WHEAT FOR SILAGE PURPOSES.

Location	Kind of Land	Condition of wheat kernel	Lbs. per acre
Little Spokane	Sub-irrigated	Milk	40,510
Foot hills	Upland	Milk	24,175
Poone Prairie	Level Prairie	Milk and soft dough	25,254
Espanola	Low swale	Milk and soft dough	40,510
Spangle	Upland	Milk and soft dough	17,424
Spangle	Upland	Milk and soft dough	22,176
Sunset Prairie	Thin land	Soft dough	11,325
Deep Creek	Very thin land	Soft dough	8,316
West Deep Creek	Thin land swale	Soft dough	19,384
West Deep Creek	Low land	Milk and soft dough	38,748
West Deep Creek	Low land	Milk and soft dough	27,225
West Deep Creek	Low land	Soft dough	11,785
Espanola	Level land	Milk and soft dough	42,588
Cheney	Crest of hill	Hard dough	18,292
Pleasant Prairie	Crest of hill	Hard dough	14,810
Belair	Low swale	Soft dough	19,908
Freeman	Upland	Hard dough	18,730

*This yield consists of wheat and vetch grown together.
**These fields were used to grow corn for silage in 1913.

From these figures it will be seen that there is considerable variation in the yields secured in various parts of the county. The yields secured depends a great deal upon the character of the soil and the ripeness of the wheat. When wheat has reached the hard dough stage much moisture is lost. This accounts for the low yield in such cases as shown above.

Jones' Life wheat has been used most for silage purposes, because it is one of the finest stemmed and sweetest wheats grown in the country. In the low places this wheat often attains a height of six feet, and if cut at the proper time, averages 20 tons to the acre. If allowed to mature on such ground it usually lodges before the grain is ripe. For this reason the cutting of these rank grown patches of wheat prior to the harvesting of the remainder of the field would be economical farm practice. Furthermore, where the wheat grows so rank comparatively low yields of grain are usually found.

In a great many instances farmers, on whose places the above mentioned estimates of yields of wheat silage were secured, were asked to estimate the yield of hay. Quite uniformly their estimates of hay were one-fourth the yield of green forage. To further test out this factor a bundle of green wheat and vetch was taken from the Glen Tana farm and cured. When green it weighed 20 pounds and when cured as hay it weighed five pounds. In other words winter wheat will make four times as much silage as hay.

According to our present knowledge wheat should be cut for silage while the entire plant is green and the ker-

ns fairly average, 1915 being an unusual year. The average yield per acre of the 17 plots is 11.77 tons, while for the hill and upland plots, of which there were six, the average yield per acre is 9.65 tons. The lowest yield of "hill top" land was 7.4 tons.

It is my impression that any of our upland ranches will average 7-12 tons of "green wheat silage" per acre. Now presuming that the average cow would need to be fed 40 pounds of silage per day for eight months, or 240 days, six and one half acres would provide the roughage for ten cows, which would require a silo 10 feet in diameter and 30 feet high.

Here is a basis for the study of the forage question, which can profitably be extended to the "legumes," including vetch and Banaglia peas. There is no need to say that we can produce forage—we can produce it, and when we get headed towards dairying, we will produce it. I ask the people to consider what the cream check every 30 days will mean to them.

THOMAS NEILL O'NEILL, A. E.

Cheat silage is a prime essential for profitable feeding of dairy cows, beef cattle or sheep. This is especially true during the winter months. When the pasture dries up, as it does in Spokane county, silage is even more essential for summer feeding. To obtain this kind of feed the middle west farmers have learned to rely upon corn. Naturally most of the dairymen and stockmen of Spokane county have also considered corn as the best and cheapest silage crop in this section. An investigation made by the author during the winter of 1913 showed that the yield of corn silage on Spokane county farms, not having irrigation, was very low compared to the middle west yield. Incidentally a visit to the Glen Tana dairy farm revealed the fact that very satisfactory yields of excellent silage were being secured from wheat and vetch. These crops are seeded together in the fall and harvested for silage while green the following year. The foreman of this farm claimed a yield of 13 tons on a measured acre of ground and an average yield of 13 tons to the acre for a 12-acre field.

Furthermore it is claimed that corn silage gives better results than corn silage when fed to dairy cows and that its keeping quality is very satisfactory. During the early summer of 1914 an investigation was undertaken in various parts of Spokane county to ascertain what yields could be expected from winter wheat when cut for silage purposes. Small areas of wheat are accurately measured, harvested and weighed. The following figures show the results of this investigation which began June 23rd and continued until July 10th:

When winter wheat is grown alone for silage, it may be cut and banded the same as when grown for grain. If wheat is grown with vetch a mower must be employed since the vetch tangles the crop. In this latter combination, extra men also are necessary to open the mower swath to allow of the free passage of the team and mower. Wheat should be cut in 1-2 inch lengths or less before being placed in the silo. It should be pressed evenly in the silo and tramped thoroughly. As an extra precaution to exclude the air, parties using wheat silage have resorted to the wetting down of the ensilage with water during the time of filling or soon afterwards.

The distinct advantages of wheat silage over corn silage in Spokane county are:
Wheat in Spokane county has given much larger silage yields on non-irrigated lands than corn.
Dairymen who have tried wheat silage claim better results in keeping up the milk flow and producing flesh than were secured with corn silage.
Every wheat farmer is provided with his own machine for harvesting wheat silage—the grain binder.
The harvest season for wheat silage comes at a time when labor is easily obtained and at about half the wage asked during the corn silage harvest.
The services of engines used for threshing, can readily be secured for the cutting of wheat silage, while at the time for corn silage cutting the engines are busy threshing grain.
If wheat is cut for silage when the kernels are in the milk, the wild oats in the crop are removed from the field

before sufficient ripe to shatter their seed. This assists materially in keeping the land clean.

Winter wheat in Spokane county is ready for silage late in June or early in July, the season when the natural pastures dry up. When put into the silo, wheat furnishes succulent feed during the dry summer months. Corn, on the other hand, is not ready for silage until the middle of September.

The filling of stave silos (the most common of all silos in Spokane county) with wheat silage at the beginning of the summer drought prevents them from drying out and falling to pieces. When corn silage is used and the silos stand empty all summer they are generally badly warped and in poor condition at siloing time in the fall.

DIED.

Tuesday morning, March 28, 1916, after a very brief illness, Venerable Mother Mary Scholastica, of the Order of St. Benedict, superioress of St. Joseph's hospital, Oroville, aged 62 years, 8 months and 3 days.

The deceased was born Ellen Philomene Murphy, at Covington, Ky., July 25, 1853. She gave up the pomps and vanities of this world and entered upon her religious life twenty-seven years ago. Besides her consecration to the order of which she was a shining light prior to taking her vows, Mother Scholastica took a thorough course as a trained nurse at the Sacred Heart Hospital of Orange N. J., thus perfecting herself in the duties that would fall to her lot as a Sister of St. Benedict. She has followed the work to which her life was devoted in Europe, Canada and the United States, carrying cheer and comfort to the unfortunate and all those requiring her ministrations.

The death of Mother Superior Scholastica was sudden and unexpected. She was taken Sunday morning with paralysis of the respiratory organs. Everything known to medical science was employed for her relief and she was tenderly cared for by loving hands. She rallied for a time, but owing to her exhausted condition, brought about by sleepless vigils and constant attendance upon the sick for a long period, she did not have the vitality necessary to regain strength, passing away at an early hour Tuesday morning. No death has occurred in Oroville that created such universal sorrow, and as the unexpected announcement was circulated among the people on every hand was expressed keen and genuine words of regret.

Mother Superior Scholastica took charge of St. Joseph's hospital, in this place on the first day of June, 1915, and speedily won the love and respect of all classes and all denominations by her Christian charity, her self-sacrificing devotion to the care of the afflicted, by her kind, amiable, cheerful and charming personality. She was an angel of mercy in the sick room, her very smile was like a ray of sunshine, her beneficent ministrations were as soothing as a benediction and her pure, gentle, benign life worthy of emulation. The closing of this unselfish life is a serious loss to the Order with which she was so long connected, and to those associated with her in that sisterhood.

The remains were taken to Spokane Friday morning in charge of Father M. J. Kasper, O. M. J., and Miss Minnie Schulte, head nurse at St. Joseph's hospital. The funeral will take place from Sacred Heart hospital Saturday.

M. E. CHURCH SERVICES.

Sunday school at 10 a. m. Preaching service at 11 a. m. Subject of sermon, "The Great Commission." Epworth League at 7 p. m. Miss May Potter, leader. Preaching service at 8 p. m. Subject of sermon, "Courageous Optimism." Everybody welcome; everybody come. The homelike church and the stranger's friend.

W. W. STRITE, Pastor.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Good music and gospel preaching both morning and evening. Morning service at 11 o'clock, subject of communion service, "Remembering Christ." Evening service at 8 o'clock. "The Death of Abel, or the First Religious Quarrel."

Sunday school at 10. Our Sunday school continues to grow in numbers, in spirit and in efficiency. We invite you to come and join in all our services.

A. W. BOND, Pastor.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Rubert have been in Oroville since their son, Leonard, was brought to the hospital so seriously injured. The sympathy of friends and neighbors go out to the stricken parents. Young Rupert is the eldest of a large family, a steady, industrious young man, an aid and comfort to his parents and a favorite with his associates. His terrible condition as a result of the accident is deeply deplored by all who know the family.

SHOCKING ACCIDENT.

Last Wednesday Leonard Rubert, the 17 year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Rubert, living in Aeneas valley, met with a shocking accident in which he suffered the fracture of the vertebra near the juncture of the last ribs. Just how the accident occurred is not known, and as the victim was rendered temporarily unconscious he is unable to give a clear account of how it happened. Mr. Rupert senior owns a small saw mill and Leonard was hauling logs on a bob sled to a skid way at the mill. From the victim's statement it appears that he had unloaded all the logs except one. The end of the last log had rolled from the rear bobs when young Rupert was standing on the running gear of the sled. The weight of the log tipped the bobs over, throwing the driver off toward the logs already unloaded, and the log on the sled becoming loosened rolled down, catching the unfortunate youth in such a manner that he was doubled up until his face and feet came together. He was found jammed between the logs by his father and younger brother about fifteen minutes after the accident occurred. Dr. Clough, of Tonasket, was summoned, and the sufferer was brought to St. Joseph's hospital as soon as possible. Young Rupert is paralyzed from his waist down and is in a very precarious condition. He has been placed in a plaster cast and his physicians express hope that if the spinal chord is not too greatly injured that the young man may regain his normal health.

PERMANENT LOCATION.

The directors of the irrigation district have for some time been looking for a site for the location of a permanent office. Lots in different sections of the town have been considered, but the offer made to the board at its session Wednesday was accepted and the office of the board and the official headquarters of the district will be located on Spokane street, facing east. Mr. A. P. Murray, of the First National Bank and Mr. J. A. Blackler for the Oroville town-site company donated lots 18 and 19 of block 24, a fifty foot front, in a very desirable location, and there an office will be built for the district.

Not a bit behind in generosity, and in their characteristic liberal spirit the business men of the town through the Commercial club made a liberal donation toward the erection of the office building, and \$200 was appropriated for that purpose. The subject of the erection of a suitable office building for the headquarters of the district has been before the board but a short time, and the very liberal assistance given by the business men, and the quick response and the liberal co-operative spirit shown is exceedingly gratifying. The officers of the district and the people of the entire project certainly appreciate the generous spirit of the business men of Oroville.

PLEASING ENTERTAINMENT.

It was probably owing to the threatening condition of the weather last Friday evening that there was not as many in attendance at the entertainment given in the Orpheum, under the auspices of the Commercial Club as were expected, but those present were glad they braved the elements as they were treated to one of the best musical programs that has been presented in Oroville for many a day. Owing to illness neither Mrs. Lewis nor Mrs. Major could take part and other numbers were substituted. The orchestra music was of a high order, and the members were generous in responding to recalls. The trombone solo by Mr. Mallory, the violin solo by Mr. Steiner and the xylophone solo by Mr. Ingram were rare musical treats. Mrs. C. C. Hedger and Mrs. E. S. Taylor gave two delightful piano duets, and vocal solos by Miss Eliza Grathwohl and Mr. Starrett were admirably rendered. After the entertainment a number of the audience remained and took part in a social dance. The receipts did not set the club exchequer very far forward.

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

Minutes of th meeting of the town council of the town of Oroville, March 27th, 1916.

Present, Mayor Samson, Councilmen Beale, Frilis, Peterson and Smith.

Minutes of the previous meeting read and approved as read.

The light committee reported that a light was needed in the center of the block on Fourth street between Young and Sutton streets and the clerk was instructed to have the light installed. Ordinance No. 72 entitled "An Ordinance Amending Section 6 of Ordinance No. 29 of the town of Oroville" the same being an ordinance amending section 1, section 8, section 4 and section 10 of ordinance No. 2 of the town

of Oroville, the same being an ordinance establishing the offices of town clerk, town marshal, street commissioner and town attorney, providing for the manner of their election and prescribing their duties and fixing their compensation, was read and motion was made that the ordinance pass its third and final reading. Yeas, Beale, Frilis, Smith and Peterson. Nones, none.

Ordinance No. 23, entitled "an ordinance amending section 3 of ordinance No. 59 of the town of Oroville, the same being an ordinance creating the office of health officer for the town of Oroville, prescribing his duties and fixing his compensation, was read and motion was made that it pass its third and final reading. Yeas, Beale, Frilis, Smith and Peterson. Nones, none.

The water committee report that the town pump needed overhauling and recommended that the town clerk be instructed to write Fairbanks, Morse & Co., asking that a man be sent to do this work. The clerk was so instructed.

The matter of amending the water ordinance was then discussed and the committee were instructed to have an amendment drafted as soon as possible. Council adjourned.

E. R. HOOSE, Clerk.

GETTING EXPERIENCE.

The domestic science girls at the high school are getting actual training in their line. Every Friday one of them fills the place of hostess and another that of host at a dinner party of ten. Recently Lorraine Bartell was hostess and Bernice Harding host at a luncheon given for the basket ball boys. The guests were: Prof. Nance, Aubrey Mc Mahan, Charlie Cole, Frank Ford, Winfred Bair, Harlan Fuller, Lawrence Dallam, Theodore Johnson, Joe Ashby, Warren Mallory and Steve Nagy. The menu was as follows: Celery soup; steak and gravy; mashed potatoes, creamed cauliflower, Parker house rolls; tea; fruit salad; frozen sustard and cake. The cost was slightly under 25 cents per plate.

MINERAL FLOTATION PRICES.

At the mining convention recently held at Spokane a test of this process was made on the ores of the Gold King Mining company which is located about six miles west of Oroville. While the ore was undoubtedly not the average of the 10 foot vein, the results were very encouraging and show that the flotation method of recovery of values of this sort of ore is the correct one. The following values are shown by an assay certificate from Richard Marsh, on the concentrates recovered from the ore. Gold, \$1.65, silver, \$7.02, copper, \$11.88, lead, \$52.12, total \$82.68. Tailings, \$8.07.

HARD TIMES DANCE.

The band will give a hard times dance in the Orpheum next Friday evening, April 7, to which the public is cordially invited. This is going to be another of those joy producers that can always be expected when the local band has charge of a social event of this character, and a crowded house can be promised in advance. A hard times dance is appropriate just at this time, and there will be much emulation among participants outvying each other in rigging up raiment indicative of a condition of dead brokenness.

ATTENTION DEMOCRATS.

This paper has been requested to announce that there will be a meeting of the democrats at Ed. Davis' office next Tuesday evening for the purpose of organizing a democratic club. All members of the party in the precinct are requested to be present.

Geo. Bartell has purchased two vacant lots on the west side of Main street, between A. J. Wickersham's building and C. Schassbrger's tailor shop. It is Mr. Bartell's intention to put up a modern brick moving picture house on this property this summer. The property embraces two of the most desirable inside lots on Main street, and a better location for an opera house could not very well be selected. The new building, on the plans that he proposes to follow, will be a great improvement to the business center of the town. The lots were purchased from W. J. Frank & Son.

J. A. Criswell, of Monson, who has had much experience on an irrigation project on Lake Chelan, has been engaged by the board of directors to take charge of the West Okanogan Valley Irrigation flumes and ditches as manager after completion of construction. It will be necessary when the system is completed and ready for use to have a force of men employed to constantly watch and care for the flumes and ditches, with one man of experience in charge as manager, and Mr. Criswell was the gentleman selected for that purpose.

INDIAN LANDS TO PAY.

Through the Okanogan valley, within the boundaries of the West Okanogan Valley Irrigation district, are a number of Indian allotments, embracing quite a large acreage and including some of the best tracts that come under the irrigation system. When the district was organized and bonded these lands had to be eliminated in the calculation of the acreage to be assessed to meet the payment for construction, as no provisions in the Indian department existed for Indian lands paying their pro rata to meet the expense of such public improvement. This was unfair and unjust, because the installation of an irrigation system adds value to the Indian lands in the same proportion that it does to adjacent lands, and that enhanced value was coming without the land contributing its proportional share toward the heavy expense of securing water. An appeal was made to the Washington congressional delegation for aid in securing government assistance to such extent as would result in the Indian lands paying an equal amount to that assessed against adjoining property.

Senator Poindexter introduced a bill in the senate appropriating \$95,000 for this purpose. The bill was reported upon favorably by the committee to which it was assigned and Wednesday it passed the senate. This large sum is a very material and timely aid to the district, as it will help to meet the cost of construction, besides relieving private ownership from considerable burden. The news of the passage of the bill was received here by wire and was a cause of happy congratulations among the citizens.

The library was crowded last Thursday afternoon on the occasion of the musical recital given by Mrs. C. C. Hedger's young pupils, and the audience was delighted with the excellent performance of the young people. All of those taking part did remarkably well, considering their age and the time they have been taking lessons, showing the effect of thorough instruction and careful training, but Miss Pauline Schassbrger excelled at the instrument. This little miss is really a remarkable performer for one of her age, and if she continues to improve she will make her mark as a pianist.

Harry R. Shafer, who proved up on his homestead before U. S. Commissioner Fred Neal, Monday, is much interested in the progress of the expedition that has broken into Mexico on the trail of Villa. Mr. Shafer spent twelve years on the Mexican border, about the country that is the center of trouble, and he says the American people have no idea of the antagonism felt by Mexicans toward the United States, and in what contempt they look upon the people of the states. He feels that it will be little short of a miracle if war between the United States and Mexico does not grow out of the present situation.

E. N. Grubb is to lay a sewer line from the hotel to the river. Some opposition has developed to running the sewerage into the river below the swimming hole. If the discharge is placed in the river below the creamery where there is swift water, probably there would be no protest. The fact is Mr. Grubb must have a means of securing drainage for the hotel, as the present method of hauling sewerage is both expensive and very much a public nuisance, and the people who are benefited by having such a large and popular hotel in the town should not place any unnecessary impediment in the way of the owner securing an outlet for drainage. The time cannot be postponed much longer, by the way, when some provision must be made to care for the sewage of the town. The necessity for a sewerage system will become more pronounced as the town grows, and the sooner our citizens take some action the better it will be.

Harry Russell, of Iowa, who has had much and successful experience in the colonization game, and who is working to bring settlers to northern Okanogan county, was in town Tuesday making arrangements for the first contingent of home seekers that is expected here in April. After his visit to Oroville last fall Mr. Russell was elected to serve a term in the hospital and his illness greatly disarranged his plans. However he is himself again and very optimistic as to the future of this country. He feels satisfied that a large number of people will come into the valley to locate this summer. Personally, he is very favorably impressed with the lands under the West Okanogan Valley Irrigation project, and considers that the climatic conditions are a great asset in conjunction with the incomparable lands. Mr. Russell is a hustler with a big H, and he is enlisted for the war in the campaign inaugurated to people the lands under the ditch.