

POTATO PROFITS IN IDAHO

The modest potato is not sufficiently taken into account as a producer of profit for the man who tills the soil.

We hear about the romance of wheat, the kingly rule of corn, the commercial dignity of oats and alfalfa, of barley and rye, and we count them as sources of great wealth for those who make the earth their servant.

But, granting to the grains and forages the credit that is due, there are wide stretches of land in Idaho producing cash yields from potatoes that make the average grain production of states farther east appear exceedingly small.

And there are so many more acres, of the same kind, that have not yet been given a chance to show what they can do, that the money-making possibilities of Idaho, so far as potatoes alone are concerned, cannot be estimated.

Idaho won national publicity in 1910 as the result of the awarding of prizes of \$500 and \$250, given by Mr. D. E. Burley of Salt Lake City, Utah, for the best and second best yields of potatoes produced on a single acre of land in territory tributary to the Oregon Short Line, Pacific & Idaho Northern, Idaho Northern, Idaho Southern and Payette Valley railroads.

The Oregon Short Line, together with the affiliated lines mentioned above, traverses the states of Idaho, Utah, Oregon, Washington, Montana and Wyoming, so it will be readily seen that the winning of prizes for which there were competitors from so wide a territory was an accomplishment of great importance to the victorious state and of lasting credit to the successful growers.

The results of this contest, participated in by so many of the most progressive farmers in the prescribed district, were amazing, and the following account of those results, with figures showing what the returns signify in the matter of profits from the land, should prove interesting to everyone concerned in agricultural affairs.

Through Mr. L. A. Snyder, the first prize of \$500 was won by Twin Falls county, Idaho, with the "Dalmatian" variety of potatoes. The second prize of \$250 went to Canyon county, Idaho, through Mr. W. B. Gilmore, with the "Peachblow" variety.

On his winning acre of Idaho land Mr. Snyder raised 645 bushels of potatoes, weighing 38,685 pounds. The culls weighed 4,150 pounds, leaving 34,535 pounds of the finest marketable potatoes, or about 575 bushels.

At 70 cents per 100 pounds, or 42 cents per bushel, the price Mr. Snyder received, the one prize acre produced in money, therefore, the sum of \$241.74, besides the 4,150 pounds, or almost 70 bushels, in culls, which were available for home use.

Mr. Snyder has given to the Commercial Club of Twin Falls some further facts showing the possibilities of potato raising in his section of the country. He reports that from three acres of land he harvested 925 sacks of potatoes, averaging 110 pounds to the sack. He sold 1,500 bushels at 42 cents per bushel, receiving \$630, and had 75 sacks left for seed.

An average gross profit of \$210 per acre, when we consider how much smaller is the average gross profit from an acre of grain, gives the reader a fair idea of what the intensive potato farming opportunities of Idaho really are.

Going a little more extensively into figures, we may safely presume that the average family of, say, five persons consumes about five pounds of potatoes per day. That ought to be a liberal estimate—a pound of potatoes per day for each member of the family, large or small.

The 38,685 pounds of potatoes raised by Mr. Snyder on his prize acre of Idaho land would, therefore, supply the potato needs of more than 22 such families for a year, allowing each family 1,725 pounds, or 25 1/2 bushels.

It is fair to say that a \$30 gross yield from an acre of wheat is a good return. So we see that Mr. Snyder's prize acre of potato land brought forth as much money as would eight acres of wheat land.

If Mr. Snyder were to realize from ten acres of his potato land as well as he did from the three acres which gave him \$630, he would have \$2,100 at the end of the season, besides more than enough spuds for his own use and for the next season's planting.

There's "real money" in Idaho potatoes.

"The combination that won the Burley prize," says Mr. Snyder, "was the most productive soil in the West, climate unexcelled, plenty of water for irrigation at all times, one of the best varieties of spuds, and a man with some experience and not afraid of work."

His words make clear the advantages and possibilities of the Oregon Short Line country. All of the farmers who entered the contest in which Mr. Snyder carried off first honor came out wonderfully well. Mr. Gilmore harvested 27,476 pounds of "Peachblow" potatoes from the acre that won for him the second prize, and many others were close competitors.

Added encouragement for those who have never tried potato growing as a profit-making business is found in the fact that Mr. Snyder's potato experience began only five years ago.

Up to 1905, when he moved to Idaho, he had lived upon cattle and hay ranches, had engaged in dairy, berry and mining work, but had not had experience as a farmer. He took up potato growing in Idaho because he thought it offered an agreeable and profitable occupation, and he has made

the results of each year better than those of the year before.

Speaking a short time ago, Mr. Snyder said: "I have always said that we have the best irrigation country in the United States. Mr. Burley gave us a chance to prove it, and it was as much the opportunity of showing that we could make good, as the money, which induced me to go into this competition."

Notwithstanding his achievement, Mr. Snyder does not believe that his record will stand. He has too great a faith in the potato industry and in Idaho to permit such an opinion.

"I do not think we have reached the limit, by a long way," he remarks, confidently, and there are thousands who are familiar with that country who are ready to echo the assertion.

The fact is that large profits from potato raising in Idaho are the rule, not the exception. H. P. Frodsham, a farmer in the American Falls district, commonly takes 500 bushels from an acre, his yield per acre thus being, at 42 cents per bushel, \$210.

Someone who knows the conditions in and the possibilities of Idaho has said that "it is a maxim in southern Idaho that the new settler, with little or no capital or implements, but with a willingness to work, can plant potatoes on his irrigated farm the first year and make a good living for his family, besides laying aside money to make all necessary payments on his land."

William B. Kelley, who owns a ranch near Gooding, says: "We get so many potatoes to the acre that we don't stop to count the sacks."

Samuel Lewis, also living near Gooding, reports as follows: "Potatoes grow large and thick. Six potatoes from my field weighed 21 pounds. The crop runs 500 to 600 bushels to the acre, and can always be depended upon."

The price received by Mr. Snyder for his prize-winning potatoes does not by any means represent the "top" of the Idaho market. Much higher prices have been commanded at various times, yet at the 42-cent rate received by Mr. Snyder his profits were very large.

Scores of instances may be cited to show what the lands of Idaho hold in store for those who will put forth the effort that must precede success.

Those who have succeeded in this one task of potato raising, trace their accomplishments to industry, of course, and to a study of conditions and needs. But they could not have reaped such harvests if industry and determination had not been fortified by ideal conditions of climate and soil.

Such conditions prevail in the agricultural districts of Idaho. There the ground is rich and eager. There the climate is conducive to the outdoor task. There the scheme of irrigation has been so well prepared and is so unerring in its supply that growing crops have water when they need it.

With water, sunshine and cultivation to bless the crops at proper intervals, the growing of potatoes, or any other agricultural or horticultural industry in Idaho, is as sure of abundant cash returns as any of man's tasks can be.

Breaking a Mobe's Heart. Manager Gus Hartz was standing near the opera house office when one of two panhandlers who had entered the lobby approached him, and holding out an addressed and sealed envelope, begged for the price of a postage stamp.

"It's for me mudder, boss," he snivelled. "You'd wouldn't turn down er guy fer de price er de stamp, would you?"

"Never," said the manager, deftly grasping the envelope and throwing it through the box office window. "Here, Fred," addressing himself to Treasurer Fred Coan, "stamp this and have it mailed."

The velocity of the proceeding fairly took the panhandler's breath away. Then, backing away to where his partner awaited him, he whispered: "Nuthin' doin', be—the guy's wise."—Cleveland Leader.

Hopelessly Outclassed. "Mrs. Caswell, while you were in Venice did you see the Bridge of Sighs?"

"Oh, yes; I saw what they called that. But, my land, I've seen bridges ten times its size without ever going out of Pennsylvania!"

Out of Date. "I am going to ask your father to sign for your hand in marriage."

"How dreadfully old-fashioned you are."

"In what way?"

"Don't ask him; tell him."

Between Women. "How exasperatingly clever she is!"

"Yes, but how consolingly homely!" Puck.

Resinol Ointment Cured When Nothing Else Would. I have had a breaking out on my neck every summer with something like Eczema, and nothing ever cured it until I used Resinol. Barbara Carpenter, Ogden, S. C. For sale at all drug stores.

If thou considerest what thou art in thyself thou wilt not care what men say of thee.—Thomas a Kempis.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children teething; softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic, whooping cough, croup, and all the little ailments.

Humor is a great solvent against snobbishness and vulgarity.—Seaman.

Lewis' Single Rider straight 50 cigars. You pay 10c for cigars not so good.

Heroin is endurance for one moment more.—W. T. Grenfell.

FARM AND ROAD IMPROVEMENT

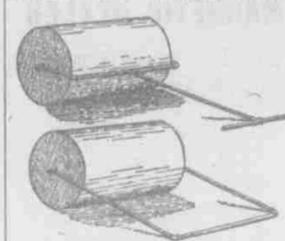


ALWAYS KEEP LAWN ROLLED

Repeated Leveling Tends to Discourage Destructive Moles and Prevents Injury to Grass.

The labyrinth of tunnels constructed by the mole serves as passageways for several species of mice and other small mammals not favored by nature, with the means of digging runways of their own. To these alone is due the credit for most of the damage to seeds, roots, and tubers encountered in the soil, and not to the mole himself.

While the mole seeks out the higher and dryer spots for his home and his highways, he hunts preferably in soil that is shaded, cool and moist. Here worms and grubs abound, and these favored areas soon become traversed by a perfect labyrinth of subsurface paths. This accounts for the persistency with which moles stick to our lawns and parks. In neglected orchards and natural woodlands, where the mole works undisturbed, the ground yields everywhere



Lawn Rollers.

Types of lawn rollers made of cement, with gas pipe axle and frame. The form of setting may be of wood, very narrow slats, or of galvanized iron. In the latter case the form may be left on the roller. The dimensions of the roller should be about 30 inches long, by about 14 inches in diameter.

to the tread, giving evidence of the presence of runways under the leaves or matted grass.

Frequent and thorough rolling of the lawns furrowed by mole ridges, will have a good effect.

Repeated leveling of the mole ridges on a lawn by means of a suitable roller not only tends to discourage the animals from making any further forays on the premises, but prevents that injury to the grass roots which would otherwise have resulted, and makes the lawn always appear slightly. A practical and substantial roller for this purpose may be made of cement, with gas-pipe axle and handles. It should weigh about 200 pounds.

BAD ROADS AND SMALL LOADS

Some Principle Applies to Farmer With His Team as to Railroad With His Locomotive.

(By WALTER B. LEITCH.) The president of a western railroad shows what the difference between good roads and bad mean to the farmer, by some facts relating to his own road.

He says that 12 years ago the railroad was able to handle only 132 tons to a train. It today hauls 257 tons in one train. This was made possible through improvement of track, engines and cars, which additional improvement has cost many millions of dollars.

The same principle applies to the farmer with his team as to the railroad man with his locomotive. Our country has some of the best railroads and some of the worst wagon roads. If the wagon roads were improved so the farmer could have a continuous good road from the farm to the market, he would be able to pay the cost from the increase in cash in a very few years.

Fine roads cost big money. It is true—about a billion dollars for 500,000 miles of macadam—and we cannot expect western farms, when stone material is secured, to stand this expense, but we do maintain that the common dirt road of the south and west can be improved 50 per cent—made possible during the rainy seasons and fit to carry good loads at all times and at very small expense.

Drainage by tile and ditch, the constant use of the log drag, which costs practically nothing, would, in three years, convert thousands of miles of bog into fine highways and add millions to the income of the farmers.

Adulterated Alfalfa Seed. Alfalfa seed is subject to adulteration with cheaper seeds closely resembling it, and the great danger lies in the fact that with the adulterations some noxious weeds may be introduced, which will cause endless trouble and work in the future.

Grow Vegetables Quickly. Vegetables to grow quickly and to tender, require a rich soil, either naturally fertile or made so. If the soil is rather sterile it should receive a coat of well-rotted manure each fall after everything is removed.

VALUE OF SEED CORN TEST

Not Difficult Nor Tedious Task—And Adds Materially to Yield—Simple Tester Shown.

An increased yield of corn can be secured by testing each ear before planting and rejecting those ears that do not germinate or show lack of vigor or vitality. It is not such a tedious and difficult task to test each ear of seed corn as farmers are sometimes led to believe. Fifteen average ears of corn will plant one acre using four kernels to the hill, placing the corn three and one-half feet apart between the rows. When the import-



Simple Box Tester. Upon muslin cloth squares are drawn and numbered, upon which are laid the grains from each ear to be tested. When the tester is filled the sawdust pad, shown at the left, is placed on top to keep the grains moist.

ance of planting ear-tested seed corn is fully realized few farmers will plant corn without first submitting it to the test.

KEEP RATS OUT OF GRANARY

Floor Plastered One and One-Half Inches Thick With Cement Gives Entire Satisfaction.

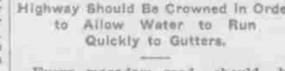
(By H. M. RICE.) I had a bin in my granary that I had been using for corn and oats. The rats cut the floor so full of holes that it would hardly hold corn cobs. I nailed small pieces of boards over the holes and then tacked up some cement one to three and plastered that floor all over 1 1/2 inches thick, first wetting the floor thoroughly. I have had this bin full of grain several times since and it is in perfect condition. The rats have not touched it since. This bin was only four feet wide and of course for a large granary one would have to cut the cement in blocks to keep it from checking.

MAKE GOOD MACADAM ROADS

Highway Should Be Crowned In Order to Allow Water to Run Quickly to Gutters.

Every macadam road should be crowned, in order that the water falling upon it may run quickly to the gutters. It is also necessary that the shoulders should have the same slope as the macadam or perhaps a little greater.

For a road 15 feet or less in width it will be found satisfactory to have



Section of Macadam Road.

the center 5/4 inches higher than the sides, forming a crown of three-quarters of an inch to the foot. On roads of greater width it will be necessary to reduce the crown to one-half inch to the foot, or perhaps even less. The apex should be slightly rounded.

On the Level. "Do you assimilate your food, aunt?"

"No, I doesn't sah. I buys it open an' honest, sah."—Woman's National Daily.

Next! There were a couple of dandy fish lars in the Colonial lobby. We didn't have time to get their names, addresses and photographs, but we lingered long enough to hear the conversation. The poignant part thereof was as follows:

"How much did your fish weigh?"

"I didn't have no hay scales with me, you nut. But when I pulled him out it lowered the lake four inches."

"Some fish," commented the other, without the quiver of an eyelash.

"Reminds me of some good sport I had duck hunting last fall. I fired at a flock of ducks and gathered up four quarts of toes."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

FARM NOTES

Long, straight garden rows make cultivation easier.

Poultry droppings make the fertilizer for the onion bed.

Sweet corn is a very profitable crop. One reason for this is because it is so easily handled.

Do not plow when the ground is wet. When this is done the soil is compacted into hard lumps.

When clover can be grown, profitable crops can be grown and the land kept up by clover and lime.

Beans can be planted any time in June and some of the quick growing varieties as late as July 15.

String beans should be drilled in double rows six inches apart with just enough space between to allow for cultivation.

The onion is akin to the turnip and cabbage, you must see that the roots are well in the ground, but need not be so particular about the bulb.

An authority says that potatoes should not be planted in hills. It is much better to plant them in deep furrows and keep the ground level.

From early spring until August sow a few rows of summer lettuce every two weeks or so, and thus try to provide a continuous supply of good heads.

Potash salts is the general name given to a group of substances rich in potash that are mined in large quantities about the town of Stassfurt, Germany.

Pie plant is a good commercial vegetable. The demand for it on the city markets is good. It is little trouble and can be shipped well, standing almost any distance.

The "Princess" is the name of one of the newest varieties of watermelon. These melons are just right in size to be served whole to one person, just as cantaloupes are.

In general, commence spraying potatoes when the plants are six or eight inches high, and repeat the treatment at intervals of 10 to 14 days in order to keep the plants well covered with Bordeaux throughout the season.

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Even Her Mother. Her Mother—I feel, Mr. Owens, that I can trust my daughter to you. Owens—You can indeed, madam; everybody trusts me.

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Now's the Time. Buy a year from now, when land will be high. The price received from the abundant crops of wheat, oats and barley, as well as cattle raising, etc., is a steady stream of money. Government returns show that the number of acres in Western Canada from the U. S. was 50 per cent larger in 1910 than the previous year.

Many farmers have paid for their land out of the proceeds of one crop. Free Homesteads of 160 acres and pre-emption of 100 acres at \$2.00 an acre. Fine climate, good schools, excellent railway facilities, low freight rates, good water and timber nearly everywhere. "Last Best West" particularly as to suitable location and low cost. Apply to Dept. of Agriculture, U. S. Dept. of the Interior, U. S. Land Office, or to Canadian Gov't Agent. Can. and Am. 125 E. 4th St., Great Falls, Minn. L. J. Langdon, 411 Broadway, L. J. Langdon, Minn. Use address nearest you.

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"Favorite Prescription" banishes the indispositions of the period of expectancy and makes baby's advent easy and almost painless. It quickens and vitalizes the feminine organs, and insures a healthy and robust baby. Thousands of women have testified to its marvelous merits.

It Makes Weak Women Strong. It Makes Sick Women Well. Honest druggists do not offer substitutes, and urge them upon you as "just as good." Accept no secret nostrum in place of this non-secret remedy. It contains not a drop of alcohol and not a grain of habit-forming or injurious drug. Is a pure glyceric extract of healing, native American roots.

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Pierce, Lowell, Mass.

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St. Louis Stadt-Schulden: 67,015.51 60,633.00

St. Louis Stadt-Schulden: 809,700.00 2,198,000.00

Verbindl. und Wechsel: 12,503.57 1,111,526.13 2,253,617.26

Total: \$13,903.57 \$4,457,622.22 \$12,782,650.24

Deposits: \$ 5,000.00 \$ 250,000.00 \$ 500,000.00

Reserves und Profite: 27.57 502,902.34 1,388,198.67

Reserves: 2,576.00 3,704,739.88 10,884,451.57

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