

THE COLUMBUS COURIER

Vol. IV.

Columbus, Luna County, New Mexico, November 27, 1914.

No. 24.

The Irrigation of New Land

The following, from the Arizona Blade Tribune, is written for Arizona conditions, but applies so well to all the Southwest where irrigation prevails, we believe it valuable to our readers, so give it space.

Many farmers, who are undertaking to cultivate desert land in Arizona, are experiencing considerable difficulty. A number of these have been visited by Professor Stanley E. Morse, superintendent of the agricultural experiment service of the University of Arizona College of Agriculture, who states that there is really no necessity for a great deal of this trouble. He has found in several cases, on digging down into the soil, that where the crops were not doing well, there was moisture in the first 3 to 6 inches of soil. Usually in the same field wherever the crop showed a good growth much more moisture was found. This proves conclusively that not enough irrigating water had been applied to the land.

Indeed, it is a fact (more particularly in the heavier silt, clay and adobe soils) that when put under cultivation for the first time they need two or three times as much water as old irrigated land. In other words, it is necessary to have a reserve of moisture in the soil for success in irrigation farming. New soils are generally very dry and absorb an abnormal quantity of water. Furthermore, these soils are apt to be deficient in organic matter or humus, hence they are "tight" and run together when irrigated. The main problem then is how to get the water into them.

The most common mistake in handling soils of this character is to run the water over the land too rapidly. The water must stand on the land long enough to have time to penetrate. In laying out the lands, they should be given very little fall, should not be too long, and should have high borders. Lands with considerable fall may be cross bordered to check the flow of the water and their borders should all be high. In irrigating the lands should be flooded and the water allowed to stand until absorbed; frequently two or three successive floodings must be given before the soil has taken enough water. Care should be taken that the water does not run over the land too rapidly. When the heads of water are too large, they should be split up into several smaller heads that will flow gently over the land. To find out whether the soil has absorbed sufficient moisture, a hole should be made with a post hole digger or soil auger. There should be three or four feet of moisture in the soil to properly support crop growth for any length of time.

To help the soil take water two things are necessary: (1) Loosen the soil deeply; (2) add organic matter or humus. The soil may be loosened by means of deep plowing, followed by a subsoil plow. In furrow irrigation the furrow should be freshly opened just before irrigation. Organic matter may be added by applying manure or straw or by plowing under green crops. It will probably pay to sacrifice one winter crop each year of barley, Canada field peas, winter vetch, sour clover and the like to be plowed under

8 to 12 inches deep in the spring. These crops may be pastured during the winter. After a year or two of this treatment alfalfa can be successfully established, but should be plowed under after 3 or 4 years. Too much emphasis cannot be laid on the importance of cultivation. The land should be cultivated after every irrigation. Even wheat and alfalfa should be cultivated, using a spike tooth harrow with teeth set backwards or a weeder for the former and a special toothed cultivator for the latter. CULTIVATE!

One very common error is made in sowing alfalfa or wheat. Not enough moisture is put into the soil before seeding. Use the following procedure: Irrigate thoroughly; disk and harrow; sow seed with a drill, placing seed in moist soil beneath the surface mulch, alfalfa 1 1/2 inches deep, wheat and barley 2 to 3 inches deep; follow with smoothing harrow; do not irrigate again until absolutely necessary, then irrigate heavily and cultivate afterwards if possible.

In leveling new land special care should be taken to scrape off all the high spots.

The foregoing methods apply generally to the so-called "slick spots" or "slick land."

Farewell Party

It was a merry dozen who assembled in the social room of the Church Friday night of last week at the farewell party given for Mr. James Robinson by the Amigo Sunday School Class. Games were played with great success and jokes and humorous stories told, each one present taking their turn.

After the games the cakes were "unveiled" and chocolate served. One of the cakes was found to have the word "Amigo" written in green icing on a white background, these being the Class colors. This was given for Mr. Robinson to eat, which he did, giving a generous slice to each. Everyone went home feeling they had seldom had a better time, but sorry to think of Mr. Robinson departing. The Church unites in wishing him all success and happiness.

Mr. Robinson wishes us to say that he is very grateful to those who gave this little party and to all who have made his stay in our little city so pleasant for him.

Church Notes

On Sunday next the Pastor's theme at the morning service will be "The Atonement," in the evening "What it means to be a Christian."

At the meeting of the Epworth League the topic will be "Builders of Methodism." Meeting will be led by Miss Caba Webb.

A Mother's Meeting will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 1st, at the Church under the auspices of the W. C. T. U. Mrs. Rogers, the Superintendent of Mother's Meeting and White Ribbon Recruits will be in charge. There will be a program, with a social hour afterward. All ladies are cordially invited.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Moore celebrated the second anniversary of their marriage, Thanksgiving Day, by entertaining Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Moore and Miss Floy Moore at dinner at the Luna hotel.

For Sale: Household and kitchen furniture, Mrs. Lee Thomas, 27p

Lemmon & Romney's Contest Becomes More Interesting

The voting contest being conducted by Lemmon & Romney is growing more and more interesting. Several have begun to work in real earnest and are going to make the person who wins the \$25.00 cash prize do some good hard work. Following is the standing of the contestants:

Mrs. J. S. Anderson	9,500
Mrs. F. M. Hague	8,500
Miss Bessie Pierce	6,500
Miss Fay Hachey	6,700
Miss Frances Dabney	5,500
Miss Mary Field Page	6,290
Vola Tarwater	4,700
Mrs. Margaret Baron	4,450
Miss Emilia Hijar	14,582
Miss B. Rodriguez	7,790
Miss Nicolasa Guerrero	8,150

Death of J. Fielder Hash

On Thursday morning at 3:00 occurred the death of Mr. J. Fielder Hash, aged 21 years. The cause of this untimely death was tuberculosis, from which disease he had been suffering for about two years. He arrived here about a month ago from Miles City, Montana, having been ordered to this climate by his physician. The deceased was too far gone when he arrived here for anything to be of lasting benefit and Dr. Dabney, who attended him during his stay here, said that it was only a matter of a short time with him.

He had made a homestead filing and was residing near the tract that he had filed on, and intended to go on his own claim in a few weeks. He was living alone though Mr. J. A. Moore visited him daily and when his condition became so serious Dr. Dabney and Mr. Moore asked for some one to stay with him. Albert Weld volunteered to stay with him on the night of the 25th inst. and his death occurred early in the morning, no one but Mr. Weld being present. The remains were brought into town a few hours after death that they could be cared for, until a mes sage could be received from his mother as to the disposition of the body. Interment will be in the cemetery west of town, the funeral services will be held at the church Saturday morning at 10 o'clock, Rev. C. H. Bod dington conducting the same.

Mr. Hash was a native of Grayson County, Va., was a young man of unusual intelligence and was held in high esteem by all who knew him. He was an editor-printer by trade and has edited several different newspapers during the short period of his stay on this earth. He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Sarah Hash and a small brother at Grant, Va., another brother in the state of Washington and a

sister, Mrs. Ed. Pusley at Troutdale, Va.

The people, though Mr. Hash was a stranger to most of them, have in large numbers offered their assistance in any way, for which we are sure the relatives of the deceased are sincerely thankful. Special thanks are due Dr. Dabney, J. A. Moore, Albert Weld and T. L. Shultz, for what they did in preparing the body for burial and for their assistance before death occurred.

Hereafter it will be necessary for all hunters who wish to shoot at jack rabbits, coyotes or other unprotected game, to secure a regular hunting license. The reason is that many hunters go out after jack rabbits and run into other game and cannot resist the temptation of taking a shot.

City Marshall W. T. Ritchie arrested Dan O'Hara here on Thanksgiving, upon advice received from authorities in Oklahoma. O'Hara had been hanging around here for a few days before the telegram was received. The charges against the man are unknown.

The Bachelor Officers of the 13th Cavalry will give a dance at the Bank Hall the evening of November 28th (Saturday) at 8:30 o'clock. All the citizens of Columbus and vicinity are cordially invited to attend.

On Tuesday evening Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Burkhead entertained at dinner Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Greenwood, Herbert Greenwood, Mr. J. L. Walker and Lieutenant John D. Kelly.

Mrs. Adams, operator for the Columbus Telephone Company went down to El Paso, Saturday, for a short visit with her daughters, who are employed at that place.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Mathews of Deming were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Robertson Thanksgiving.

New windmill tower for sale at the Bailey ranch. 2tc

Thanksgiving Was Celebrated

A more beautiful day was not enjoyed on the inhabitable globe, than Thanksgiving day right here in Columbus. Thursday morning the sun's warm rays met a cloudless sky and there was just enough crispness in the air, caused by the gentle showers of the day before, a draught of which would send the red corpuscles chasing through the veins of one which might be compared with the tingling sensations of the effervescent champagne. Thus it is, a country though practically primitive, is bountifully supplied with land, minerals and an unequalled climate, sufficient for every citizen to feel thankful every day in the year that he is a resident of Columbus, the center of an area destined to be a great commonwealth.

Perhaps there is no place in the west that witnessed a list of harmless sport, equal to that of Columbus. This fact is due to the presence of the 13th Regiment, U. S. Cavalry, most every member of which is a specialist in some particular sport. Every one is an athlete and the clean life he leads naturally keeps him so.

The forenoon was given over to a foot ball game between 1st and 2nd Squadrons. The lineup for the event was composed of picked men from the several Troops of the Squadrons, and as a consequence it was the event of the season to all football enthusiasts. The "rooters" were prolific and their cheers when their respective side gained advantage in the play were almost deafening. Their friendly badinage across the field was one of the enjoyable features of the game. The game was hotly contested from start to finish; the many brilliant plays being about equal, prominent among which were made by Ben Chosa, Andrews, Slim Worrel and Williamson. At conclusion the game stood a cypher for each, and all seemed happy over the result. Several ladies graced the occasion with their presence.

If there is any one thing more renowned in war than any other, that thing is a Thanksgiving Feast to the devotees of Mars. Especially is this true of the 13th Cavalry of Columbus. The chefs and cooks for the various Troops vied in friendly rivalry in the preparation of the most elaborate menu. The Courier printed seven menu lists with a Bristol cover in colors—the front page having a big turkey emblazoned thereon in bronze-red ink, with the word, Thanksgiving at the top and the name of the Troop, place and year, printed across the bottom. The folder inside the cover contained the menu and the roster of the officers and privates of each Troop. Being unable for want of space, to print all the menus, one is hereby given as a sample, being selected without prejudice and is not one whit better than the other six: Oyster Soup, Consomme, Arcadian Roast Turkey Cranberry Sauce, Young Roast Pig Apple-Sauce, Francoise Potatoes, Potatoe Souffle, Glazed sweet Potatoes, Petit Pois, Creamed Asparagus on Toast, Cucumber Salad, Lettuce Salad, Mayonaise Dressing, Beet and Onion Salad, Chow Chow, Dill Pickles, Radishes, Grape Fruit, Apples, Oranges, Nuts, Apple Pie, Pumpkin Pie, Chocolate Layer Cake, Coconut

Layer Cake, Ornamental Layer Cake, Crackers, Cheese, Beer, Chocolate, Coffee, Cigarettes, Cigars. If that list of delicacies prepared in the highest state of the culinary art is not fit for the god Mars, he has several sons in the notable 13th who will stand up to contest the question.

How men after partaking of such a banquet, could leave the table and walk into the boxing arena, is hard to explain, unless it is that they are Uncle Sam's boys and are ready at any time, at any place, for a fight or a feast.

Five bouts of four rounds each were staged in the afternoon. Shortly after 2 p. m., Battling Mantell of "H" Troop as referee for all of the events, entered the ring and announced the names of the principals for the first bout. At this time let us say that Mantell is the lightweight champion of Brooklyn, N. Y., and claims championship of the 13th Regiment.

Private Anderson of the Pack Train and Private Clark of "C" Troop were introduced to the audience, after which, they were called to the center of the ring and given instructions by the referee. From the first tap of the gong the fight was given and taken, though Clark proved the safest fighter. Anderson showed no better in the 3d round and both quit even in the last round making the bout a draw.

The referee then introduced Phil Green of Troop "B" and Jimmy Downs of Troop "H" who would give an exhibition four-round "go." Some pretty work was done by both, but Downs showed the most cleverness in boxing and blocking. Green was as light on his feet as a cat, and by his efficient floor work was unjustly "dubbed" the Tango Kid by some one in the audience. Downs is anxious to make a match with any boxer in El Paso of his weight.

The third contest was between Private Haller of Troop "C" and Private Brown of Machine Gun Platoon four rounds, referee decision. In the first round Haller floored Brown with a clean-cut swing to the jaw, but Brown was on his feet in an instant and after his adversary, Haller was there with the goods—a nasty punch and a frightful swing. Haller appeared heavy on his feet which aided Brown very materially. The bout was the best of the day and at its conclusion was decided a draw by the referee.

The fourth event was the same number of rounds as the preceding "mills." Private Deik of the Machine Gun platoon was pitted against Private Tucker of Troop "L," contest to be decided by referee. In the first round it was no trouble to judge the winner. Private Deik showed to be in bad form, suffering no doubt from indigestion from having dined too well. However he stayed the four rounds but lost the decision. Tucker was easy with his opponent and taking a whole, was the most amusing bout of the afternoon.

The final go was between Larry Strouger of Troop "D," lightweight champion and general favorite of the Regiment and Young Lee of Troop "P." In the



B. G. MANTELL.