

# Importance of the Farmer

Evidence Indicating Prosperous Future in Oregon.

(Written for the Saturday Journal.)

The people of Oregon are looking for big things nowadays in the shape of immigration. They feel that the eyes of the great United States are turned upon them. They are, therefore, very anxious to make a good showing and keep appearances up. Subscriptions to advertising in eastern sections are enormous. Thousands of dollars are being spent in introducing Oregon to the rest of the country. Classified and exhaustive descriptions are reaching out and drawing the attention of many to Oregon's great and unlimited resources.

While the farmer has been said by Puck and Judge to be the laughing stock of the country, he is known in Oregon to be the backbone of the country. In time of war we take the farmer boy from the plow. In time of peace we depend upon the farmer, the greatest of all producers. Oregon farmers are pretty much like a popular beverage dispensary in Salem, they are both a winter and summer resort, and we need them in time of war as well as in times of peace. The waking up of the people at large to the realization of the farmer's great value, insofar as he represents a proportionate share of individual producing power, has resulted in a general inquiry into his occupation. The government has done and is doing much in agricultural experiments in aid of the farmer. The "simple life" will tend to divert attention his way. Indeed, we are safe in saying every act and every departure in farmer life is being watched by a zealous public. Newspapers contain more articles upon the subject of agriculture than ever before. We are showing something of the influence this knowledge of their usefulness has created, by our efforts in their behalf. We have equipped them with a rural mail service. We have introduced the telephone into their midst. Some of our greatest mechanical achievements are found in farming machines.

Without wheat and corn we have no stock markets. Without hay we must eat grass. Without hops we have no

beer, and without beer we have no sociability, so it is said. Upon the farmer's beating pulse the hand of the fashionable city is holding fast. That is, the consumers are becoming aware of their close relationship to the producers. Consumers have great difficulty in consuming. For instance, a genuine consumer is easily distinguished by his peculiar manners and noticeable habits. In the grill-room he uses a pocket rule to show the attendant the exact thickness the steak must be, and produces a chart to designate the exact quarter from which his order must be carved. The potatoes must be cooked on both sides. Water must be served in a glass. He must have all the delicacies known to a "chef." The producer consumes much easier. He hunts a cheap beany. Climbs up on one of those step ladders, commonly called lunch counter stools, and with no sign of a bill of fare, eats either "ham-and" or a pork chop. He wipes his chin on his coat tail, pays his two-bits and gets out, while the consumer, with his hand-painted socks concealed in patent leather boots and tailormade trousers, stops long enough to have his meal charged. Thus the producer is seen to be very much unlike the consumer—in some respects. With such easy means to observe few there are who have entirely failed to distinguish the supposed importance of the one individual when comparing it with the actual importance of the other. To sell this consumer for what he thinks he is worth would be to buy the producer at wholesale prices.

In sparring about for new comers we are very anxious to secure farmers. We need producers worse than consumers. We want fellows with horny hands, with freckles on their necks, with boots and overalls, to settle up the country. We need them to build roads, to grub, to slash, to plow and raise those things which our hand-painted friends eat with so much relish. Because the farmer's life is so near to nature, we find him the very essence of simplicity. The Oregon farmer is the ideal of the "simple life" of Mr. Charles Wagner. Had

Mr. Wagner come to Oregon instead of tearing around in New York, where they don't know what a farm is, hardly, he would have stopped publication of his great book in order that he might draw a favorable comparison between his greatly exploited ideal and the Oregon farmer. Now that the farmer is coming into unusual prominence he finds the city folks are either advising him what to do or else are imitating his simplicity. Papers are filled with suggestions to farmers to diversify, intensify, have more chickens and raise more hogs. While one half of the city kindly advises, the other half is getting up imitation stunts on the life of the happy farmer. Mrs. Fish, Mrs. Rockefeller and Mrs. Vanderbilt have been giving very successful social functions de la simplicité a la farmer. At these events the guests all came with hay sticking in their boots, handana kerchiefs hanging out of their pockets, and other simplicities—the exclusive privileges of the tillers of the soil. All guests brought some suggestive implement, such as hoes, grindstones and seeders. Mrs. Fish had one end of the ballroom fenced off and had it filled in with country dirt and had a harvest scene as a feature of the entertainment.

From people who are so polite that they only eat beans once a day, the farmers are now receiving great attention, and with them are becoming quite popular. Diversity is struggling with its mighty opponent, intensity. Shall the farmer diversify, or shall the farmer intensify, are burning questions among the debating societies. We are forgetting the lay of the minstrel for the more popular lay of the hen. And this is rightfully so, for of all animals and fowls the hen is the only immortal one among them; and she is immortal because her son never sets.

Whatever the general effect may ultimately be, due to this wave of popularizing the farmer and his vocation, we will certainly derive benefit from our acquaintance with him, for many of our city-bred people have no idea what a farmer is. They will find him

a very intelligent man. That he reads, writes, talks and, when the city chaps are not heavy enough to hold down a good job, they forcibly take the plow from him and make him decorate some official chair. The lives of most of our great men begun and were moulded on the farm. The farmer is no longer the butt of the foolish papers. He is the basis of the sound editorials in leading publications. He may get up at four, milk without gloves on, curry and feed, eat panakes and drink black coffee, work all day in the field, come home at night weary, smoke his pipe, have connection with the feathers, and then sleep until the clock buzzes in his ear at four in the morning. Yet this same man will be as interesting a person and as intelligent an individual as those who get up in the afternoon, have a haircut, eat a bowl of frogs legs, and at 9:30 are in the ballroom, however much to the contrary some opinions may have run as to the superior intelligence of the city-dude to the farmer roustabout.

The harmony promised from closer relationship between the city and the country will have a stimulating influence in behalf of the proposed confluence. So much so, we hope, that in a few years to come we may see the united operation of these respective elements and behold the kid gloved hand sailing down the ocean of time in the grasp of a horny-handed homespun, and together presenting Oregon to the world in the cradle of agricultural perfection, rocked by the countryified city and nursed by the cityfied country.

F. R. W.

February 15, 1905.

## SOCIAL EVENTS

### Afternoon Reception.

One of the elaborate social functions of the Capital City was the afternoon reception Wednesday, at which Mrs. C. P. Bishop entertained a large number of ladies in honor of her sister, Mrs. O. P. Coshow, of Roseburg, who is visiting in the city during the legislature.

The Bishop home was beautifully decorated with cut flowers and palms. The amusement of the afternoon was a novel guessing game, consisting of sonnet pictures of the different senators of the present legislature, and Mrs. Charles Gray won the first prize. Mrs. Claud Gatch, Mrs. J. R. Whitney, Mrs. P. H. Raymond and Mrs. Alice Doid assisted the hostess in entertaining. Little Miss Coleman attended the door.

Late in the afternoon dainty refreshments were served. Mrs. T. T. Geer, Mrs. J. Frank Hughes, Mrs. Jos. Evans, Mrs. A. McGill, Miss Bertha Kay, Miss Nina McNary and Miss Hazel Bishop assisted in the serving.

The day was beautiful and the large number of ladies present spent a most enjoyable afternoon.

Many handsome costumes were in evidence. Those present were: Mrs. George Pearce, Mrs. P. H. Sroat, Mrs. Joseph G. Evans, Jr., Mrs. Russel Catlin, Mrs. A. F. Hofer, Mrs. W. C. Hawley, Mrs. A. T. Kelliher, Mrs. J. H. Albert, Mrs. L. R. Traver, Mrs. R. B. Houston, Mrs. S. Jessup, Mrs. I. W. Berry, Mrs. L. W. Starr, Mrs. J. A. Bishop, Hazel Bishop, Mrs. Zedee Biggs, Mrs. T. B. Kay, Mrs. S. C. Dyer, Mrs. A. M. Crawford, Mrs. T. Holverson, Mrs. Frank Waters, Mrs. George Waters, Mrs. W. P. Campbell, Mrs. T. C. Smith, Jr., Mrs. Z. T. Keyes, Mrs. E. C. Small, Mrs. J. A. Martin, Mrs. F. W. Spencer, Mrs. E. M. Croisan, Mrs. J. H. Scott, Mrs. C. A. Park, Mrs. A. M. McGill, Mrs. M. T. Hilsman, Mrs. Louis Hooker, Mrs. W. H. Byrd, Mrs. Frank Smith, Mrs. J. N. Smith, Mrs. F. K. Lovell, Mrs. C. D. Gabrielson, Mrs. L. C. Cavanaugh, Mrs. H. S. Belle, Mrs. Claude Gatch, Mrs. C. E. Wolverson, Mrs. Squire Farmer, Mrs. Joseph Whitney, Mrs. R. H. Coshow, Mrs. J. P. Galbreath, Mrs. George H. Burnett, Mrs. W. D. McNary, Mrs. E. M. LaFaro, Mrs. D. F. Wagner, Mrs. J. H. Coleman, Mrs. J. A. Richardson, Mrs. T. C. Smith, Jr., Mrs. W. E. Sherman, Mrs. Jos. G. Graham, Mrs. R. B. Fleming, Mrs. J. D. Sutherland, Mrs. C. L. McNary, Mrs. R. P. Boise, Jr., Mrs. Eugene Breyman, Mrs. C. A. Gray, Mrs. F. I. Dunbar, Mrs. P. A. Powell, Mrs. E. E. Waters, Mrs. A. E. Strang, Mrs. F. C. Griffith, Mrs. S. W. Thompson, Mrs. T. Geer, Mrs. F. A. Wiggins, Mrs. George P. Rodgers, Mrs. F. A. Moore, Mrs. A. N. Gilbert, Mrs. B. O. Shuckling, Mrs. B. D. Gilbert, Mrs. H. J. Oetzel, Mrs. R. J. Hendricks, Mrs. J. J. Murphy, Mrs. Thomas Sims, Mrs. A. J. Munroe, Mrs. E. C. Patten, Mrs. O. W. Putman, Mrs. George L. Rose, Mrs. T. H. Hubbard, Mrs. E. P. Osburn, Mrs. H. W. Meyers, Mrs. Z. F. Moody, Mrs. E. P. McCracken, Misses Richardson, Lizzie McNary, Harriett Slade, Sallie Shaw, Bertha Kay. The guests from out of town were, Mrs. M. A. Miller, Lebanon; Mrs. C. J. Smith, Mrs. W. M. Pierce, Mrs. W. M. Blakey, Pendleton; Mrs. W. D. Fenton, Mrs. T. H. Crang, Mrs. J. H. Shook, Portland; Mrs. W. L. Vawter, Medford;

Mrs. W. K. Newell, Dilley; Mrs. R. E. L. Steiner, Lakeview; Mrs. Peter McDonald, Alseel; Mrs. G. C. Flavel, Astoria; Mrs. S. W. Settlemer, Woodburn; Mrs. S. B. Herrmann, Myrtle Point; Mrs. Jay Bowerman, Condon; Mrs. George Chamberlain, Portland; Mrs. A. A. Jaynes, Hood River; Mrs. J. A. Laycock, John Day, Mrs. G. S. Wright, McMinnville; Mrs. Ryno, Portland; Misses Bertha Postner, Livesley, Gulliford.

### Card Party.

A charming afternoon card party was given by Mrs. B. O. Shuckling Thursday afternoon to a number of the Salem society ladies, at her pretty home on Chemeketa street. The ladies voted as to what game should be played and finally decided on "63," in which Mrs. Isaac Manning won first prize, Mrs. F. E. Slater second, Miss Kate Carmichael third. About 35 were present.

The girls society of Hoo Doo, of the Salem high school, entertained a number of the young men of the institution Monday evening at the home of Miss Iza Constable. The house was decorated in a profusion of hearts and Chinese lanterns. Games and music were enjoyed to a late hour, after which refreshments were served.

The novel feature of the evening was the "Courtship in Flowers," Miss Alice Maceuley capturing the prize. Those present were: Misses Iza Constable, Ava Shirley, Chrissie Clark, Mildred Perkins, Alta Altman, Edna Savage, Murah Hatch, Alice Maceuley and Grace Byrd; Messrs. Ralph Moores, Curtis Cross, Ralph Cronise, Arthur Lennon, Herbert Nutter, Harry Moyer, Lloyd Leslie, A. J. Graber and Ross Flower.

### House Party.

Miss Mayme Babcock, of this city, is giving a week-end house party her guests being the Misses Dolly Pratt, Ethel Graves, Mabel Powers and Mayme Long, of Oregon City.

## MARKET QUOTATIONS TODAY

"Make Salem a Good Home Market."

**Poultry—at Steiner's Market.**  
Eggs—Per dozen, 20c.  
Ducks—10c.  
Chickens—8c.  
Hens—10c.  
Turkeys—15c.

**Harritt & Lawrence.**  
Eggs—Per dozen, 25c.

**Fruits, Vegetables, Etc.**  
Potatoes—50c.  
Potatoes, sweet, \$1.75.  
Onions—2 1/4.  
Apples—75c@1.00.

**Tropical Fruits.**  
Bananas—5 1/2c lb.  
Oranges—\$1.75@2.00.  
Lemons—\$2.75@3.50.  
Cocoanut, \$1.00 doz.

**Wood, Fence Posts, Etc.**  
Second-growth—\$4.50.  
Big fir—\$5.00.  
Ash—\$5.00.  
Oak posts—15c.  
Cedar posts—10c.

**Hides, Pelts and Fur.**  
Green Hides, No. 1—5c.  
Green Hides, No. 2—4c.  
C H Skins—4@5c.  
Sheep—75c.  
Goat Skins—25c to 31.98

**Grain, Hops and Flour.**  
Oats—Buying, \$1.40@1.50.  
Barley—\$23@23.50.  
Hops—\$7@31 1/2.

**Salem Flouring Mills.**  
Flour—\$4.40.  
Wheat—80c.

**Live Stock Market.**  
Steers—29 1/2c.  
Cows—16 1/2c.  
Sheep—\$1.50@2.00.  
Dressed veal—4@5 1/2c.  
Fat hogs—5@5 1/2c.

**Hay, Feed, Etc.**  
Ruled wheat—\$12.50.  
Ruled clover—\$11@12.  
Ran—\$22.

**Eggs, Butter and Cream.**  
By Commercial Cream Co.  
Butter—27c.  
Butter fat—27 1/2c at station.

**PORTLAND MARKET.**  
Wheat—Walla Walla, 85c.  
Valley—87c.

Flour—Valley, straight, \$4.20@4.45;  
graham, \$4.50.  
Oats—Choice white, \$1.22 1/2@1.35.  
Barley—Feed, \$22 per ton; rolled, \$24.50.

Millet—\$19.  
Hay—Timothy, \$14.00@16.00.  
Potatoes—60@75c.  
Eggs—Oregon ranch, 25c.  
Poultry—Chickens mixed, 11@11 1/2c per pound; turkeys, live, 17@17 1/2c; dressed, 17@18c.

Pork—Dressed, 6 1/2@7c.  
Beef—Dressed, 7 1/2@8c.  
Veal—4@5c.  
Mutton—Dressed, 5@7c.  
Hops—1903 crop, 27@28c.  
Wool—Valley, 15@20c; 1804 crop, 16@17c; Mohair, 25@26c.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 22 1/2@27 1/4.

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Chicago Portland Special 9:15 a. m. via Minn- ington	Salt Lake, Denver, Ft. Worth, Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis, Chicago and East.	5:25 p. m.
Atlantic Express 1:15 p. m. via Hunt ington	Salt Lake, Denver, Ft. Worth, Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis, Chicago and East.	7:15 a. m.
St. Paul Fast Mail 6:17 p. m. via Spokane	Walla Walla, Lewiston, Spokane, Wallace, Pullman, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth, Milwaukee, Chicago, and East.	8: a. a.

**Ocean and River Schedule.**  
For San Francisco—Every five days at 8 p. m. For Astoria, way points and North Beach—Daily (except Sunday) at 8 p. m.; Saturday at 10 p. m. Daily service (water permitting) on Willamette and Yamhill rivers.

For further information ask or write your nearest ticket agent, or  
**A. L. CRAIG,**  
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**TIME CARD NO. 26.**

No. 2 for Yaquina—  
Leaves Albany . . . . . 12:45 P.M.  
Leaves Corvallis . . . . . 1:45 P.M.  
Arrives Yaquina . . . . . 5:40 P.M.

No. 1, Returning—  
Leaves Yaquina . . . . . 7:15 A.M.  
Leaves Corvallis . . . . . 11:30 A.M.  
Arrives Albany . . . . . 12:15 P.M.

No. 3 for Detroit—  
Leave Albany . . . . . 1:00 P.M.  
Arrives Detroit . . . . . 6:00 P.M.

No. 4 from Detroit  
Leave Detroit . . . . . 6:30 A.M.  
Arrives Albany . . . . . 11:15 A.M.  
Train No. 1 arrives in Albany in time to connect with the S. P. south bound train, as well as giving two or three hours in Albany before departure of S. P. north bound train.

Train No. 2 connects with the S. P. trains at Corvallis and Albany giving direct service to Newport and adjacent beaches.

Train No. 3 for Detroit, Breitenhush and other mountain resorts leaves Albany at 1:00 p. m., reaching Detroit about 6:00 p. m.

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