



With which is consolidated
The Washington Farmer,
The Pacific Coast Dairyman,
The Farmer and Dairyman,
The Farmer and Turfman.

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and the State Live Stock Breeders' Association.

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The Optimist.

Were I weather prophet
When the storm began to brew,
I'd keep predicting sunshine
Till it finally came true.
—Washington Star.

It is to be hoped that the effort to pass a national pure food law at the coming session of congress will be successful.

From the way that Portland Centennial fund is growing it looks like they had a few Seattle hustlers on the subscription committee.

The Blade, of Whatcom, in a recent review of the Washington State display at Buffalo, said: "There were several tanks in the exhibit." Which members of the commission were they?

The Trade Register deplors the fact that "Kent is liable to get another of Seattle's factories." We thought Seattle claimed Kent to be in the city limits.

That is a graceful compliment paid by Minister Anderson, of British Columbia, in his communication in this issue, to the Washington State Agricultural College.

Printers' Ink in its last issue prints a picture of a chick just stepping from the shell to illustrate the now commonly-used advertising catch-line "not made by a trust." Probably hatched by one though—the incubator trust.

Our hats off to Portland! She started out to raise \$300,000 for the Lewis and Clarke Centennial exposition, and already \$500,000 has been put in the pot. This makes that \$100,000 raised in Seattle last year for the battleship look like a sack of peanuts.

A. J. Splawn, the popular Hereford breeder, now wears a handsome gold locket, presented by the live stock exhibitors at the recent state fair, as an acknowledgement of royal treatment and courtesies extended by Mr. Splawn, as superintendent of the live stock department. The locket bears on one side an engraving of a Hereford head

and on the other the inscription: "From live stock exhibitors of state fair, 1901, A. J. Splawn."

Wanted—A Job.

We receive nearly every mail letters about like the following from people, who seem to think we are running an employment bureau:

Editor The Ranch: I've been referred to you by my friend, Prof. W. J. Spillman, of Pullman, with a view to securing information leading to a position on your coast. I'm looking for something fair or that will eventually turn into a fair one.

I'm only 27 years old, but have had 10 years' experience in figures, bookkeeping, correspondence, collections and credits.

Do you know of any opening that would suit me? I have many gilded references. W. E. BRAMEL.

St. Louis, Mo.

We would like to be able to tell this young man to come right out, that we have ten or fifteen different jobs of which he can take his choice; but in fact Seattle wants no more bookkeepers. The market here, as every where else, is overstocked with that unambitious class of young fellows whose highest aim seems to be "good at figures." Not that bookkeeping is not as honorable a vocation as any other; but the very nature of the occupation attracts to it such a large portion of individuals who desire some light, genteel employment, requiring little or no exertion, and in which they become, as it were, a mere machine, with a recompense just sufficient to keep them clothed and fed.

But Seattle does want young men of energy, wide-awake, alert, who touch the high places in their hustling; possessed of the sturdy qualities of industry, sobriety, frugality, and who know how to make the best of their opportunities. Seattle needs such young men more than any other town in the country, and will reward them generously. If they have ability and talent so much the better, but they must have good common sense. The young men of Seattle are more democratic in their appearance than in the majority of places of its size. They are too busy to care much about whether they are in style or not. A Seattle money lender the other day stated that one of the invariable rules of the business was that under no circumstances would he loan money to a young "society man," because his expenditures are always up to the limit of his income, and more often in excess.

If our correspondent is willing to dig and hustle and fight his way up he cannot fail to do well in Seattle, and find plenty of support and encouragement, too. But to make his start he will have to depend upon himself and not expect us or anybody else to go out and look up a job for him. He will have to prove himself and show his worth in order to succeed here. Otherwise he would better not come.

It is figured that ten thousand turkeys were devoured by Seattle citizens Thanksgiving day.

Postmaster General Smith will ask for an increase of the appropriation for the rural free delivery service from the present sum of \$3,500,000 to \$6,000,000. He will advocate the extension of the service as far as practicable. He will express the opinion that this branch of the work of the department is of the greatest utility, and will plead for most liberal consideration on the part of congress.

A CREDITABLE INSTITUTION.

Editor The Ranch: At the risk of having quoted to me the oft-repeated advice of *Ne sutor ultra crepidam*, or, in other words, of being told to mind my own business, I feel that perhaps an outside opinion, by a disinterested spectator, except in so far as having the cause of agriculture generally at heart, may be of some use in the controversy which is going on in your excellent paper regarding the Washington State Agricultural College at Pullman.

I had the pleasure during the early part of the present year of visiting the several agricultural colleges in the states of Washington, Oregon and Idaho with the object of ascertaining the terms on which the youth of this province would be admitted at the colleges named, and incidentally of studying their methods and observing the class of education given.

It is needless to say, and I presume many of the readers of your paper have had personal experience of the matter, that I was received with the greatest courtesy by the president and officers of the college, and I was given every opportunity at, I feel certain, great personal inconvenience to the staff, to investigate the methods pursued. Now, whilst I had no knowledge of the provisions of the act of the legislature under which the college was created, I could not help being struck with the thoroughness of the system of education, the interest evinced by the various officers in their work, respect shown by the pupils to their superiors and the deference with which they treated one another; all going to show that the utmost confidence existed between all, a condition which is surely indicative of an efficient and popular management, conducive to the best results, educationally.

As regards the agricultural phase of the question, it cannot be contended, I suppose, that it is unnecessary for the tiller of soil to be able to even read and write, or that reading and writing is a sufficient education. On the contrary, the trend of public opinion both in the older countries and in America, and more particularly in the United States and Canada, is that the agriculturist, if he is to be a master of his profession, must know much more of the sciences, and the other branches which are taught, than those following any other calling, even those known as the learned professions; and therefore, even if it is (as seems to be contended) that other branches of education have precedence over what are generally known as agricultural subjects, it does not appear to me that the college should be condemned and the president and officers under him held up for censure. Far, however, from the agricultural education being relegated to obscurity it appeared to me that it is made the main object aimed at, the other branches being made subservient to it, or at any rate used as accessories, with the object of turning out the young people as finished agriculturists in the highest sense.

I trust I may be pardoned for thus intruding my opinion in a matter with which I have no concern, my only excuse being the wish to see justice done to an institution of which the highest consideration is entertained on this side, and of which I consider the state of Washington may well be proud and which her citizens should be very chary, without very good and sufficient reasons, of criticizing adversely.

J. R. ANDERSON,
Deputy Minister of Agriculture.

Mr. Cass Has the Courage of His Convictions.

Editor The Ranch: We note what Mrs. Keister says in your columns as to the great advantages of the State College at Pullman, and as to the pressing needs of the state in the way of the higher educational facilities; yet we cannot but still maintain, what we believe to be the manifest fact, that this young and practically undeveloped state has gone already too far, and beyond any reasonable proper demand, in its founding and support of two universities, not to mention the three normal schools; when it is remembered that in addition every town worthy the name within its borders has its graded common school, and also high school facilities. This we claim to be the taxpayers' sentiment generally.

We admit that the "needs of citizens" are manifold and always pressing in that and other lines; and the truth would not be strained overmuch were it added that the predatory instincts of a large body of that same class of the genus homo were also at times in the history of this state very much in evidence; too much so, real estate taxation now in many localities being at the confiscation limit. All that we admit and submit without argument.

J. F. CASS.

Skagit, Wash.

Country Educational Facilities.

There are 190 students at the Illinois College of Agriculture and but 40 met the university entrance requirements. This is not strange, but unfortunate and is due to lack of educational facilities in rural districts of the state.

President Draper, of the University of Illinois, who is a champion of the agricultural college, declares that the institution will not stand on the same plane as the other branches of the university until it has a legal right in a high school. He positively affirms the right of the people to secondary education.

He's Down in Old Missouri.

The St. Louis Coleman's Rural World in its issue of Nov. 20, says: Prof. W. J. Spillman of the Washington State Agricultural College and Experiment Station called at the Rural World office, in company with Mrs. Spillman, on Tuesday last, to renew his acquaintance with the editor, the two having been students together at the Missouri Agricultural College. Prof. Spillman was returning from the meeting of Agricultural Experiment Station workers lately held at Washington, D. C., where he read a paper giving the results of his investigations in connection with the cross-fertilization and hybridizing of wheat.

The last issue of the Scientific American contains an excellent article with illustrations by Lieut. A. B. Wyckoff, on the Puget Sound Navy Yard. Lieut. Wyckoff has probably done more to advance this navy yard and bring the navy department to a realization of the importance of Puget Sound than any one other individual.

E. J. Ross, who has met with remarkably good success in dairying and general agriculture at Othello, has just installed a model little creamery plant, from the Merz Dairy Supply Company, as good as can be found in the state, on his place. He is also planning to establish a branch in Seattle, where the dairy products of his section can be distributed direct to the consumer.