

Agriculture on the Yukon

The Yukon Midnight Sun published at Dawson, N. T. says:—"Mr. Frank Barb of Douglas Alaska has obtained a grant of land at Fort Selkirk from the government and will start vegetable gardens there on a large scale".

The Sun also says:—"There has been a number of patches of ground cleared in Dawson and on the hillsides in the neighborhood and planted with lettuce, radishes, turnips and other vegetables. Of course the yield from them will be but trifling, but there should be no reason why a large quantity of vegetables should not be grown here, and, in fact all along the Yukon. Jack McQuesten in 1889, raised fourteen tons of rutabaga turnips at Forty Mile. They grew well and with very little trouble. At that point, potatoes, cabbage, turnips, beets, oats and barley can be grown and have been grown. McQuesten a number of years ago had a team of moose with which he plowed his field on Forty Mile. Perhaps the best point for growing vegetables, where the best ground can be found, is about Fort Selkirk and Circle City, where good beets, cabbage and turnips were raised last year. Agriculture on the Yukon will in future play an important part when roads are built, and there is need of provender for horses and cattle.

Success With Alkali Land.

Mr P. Tjossem, a pioneer of Kittitas county, who operates a large flouring mill and owns a fine farm, was on the sound last week. Mr. Tjossem has succeeded in converting alkali land that was practically worthless into good, productive soil by thoroughly draining. He has been so successful that some of his neighbors are imitating his method with equally good results.—Ranch and Range,

Cabbage Disease.

There is complaint of a disease of the cabbage in portions of Idaho. The head will appear sound, but when opened will be found decayed. The leaves are frequently dried and discolored. D. B. Levan has had some

trouble with it. We understand that it is quite prevalent in many parts of the country and as a preventive measure, it is recommended that ground be used for the planting that is entirely free from decayed leaves and stumps of cabbage.

Bands for Codling Moth.

The value of the band system for catching the codling moth has been fully demonstrated this season. Many orchardists have used the bands and nearly all report good catches. They are put on early in the season and kept in use until fall so as to catch the successive hatches of worms. Every six or seven days the bands are removed and the worms found there in destroyed. Tim Driscoll of Payette says he caught in a week by this means, 165 worms from three apple trees. Others have reported excellent results. These bands afford an easy hiding place for the worms as soon as they hatch, and in this way many of them can be trapped if systematically attended to before they change into the moth stage of existence.

The bands are more effective where the trunks of the trees are kept free from rough bark and other hiding places for the insect.

Its a simple remedy too and can be applied by any one. In connection with promptly destroying all wormy fruit as soon as it is discovered, it will go far towards ridding the orchard of this troublesome pest.

Dry Farming of Boise Valley.

Albert Saxton tells that he raised one year ago upwards of 10,000 bushels of rye on about 60 acres of ground that was never irrigated. It was sown in the fall on high, dry land above irrigating canals and never received any attention until home steaded.

Charles Saxton informs us that plowing is in progress at his home in upper Boise valley on land that is intended for fall seeding, especially where it is not to be irrigated. He says that they plow to the depth of about four inches, and seeding will be done probably this month.

The Dawson Prunes.

THE RURAL has heretofore called attention to the Dawson prune, a seedling produced by Mr. Dawson, who lives on the Snake river bottom, between Payette and Weiser. We are just in receipt of a sample of these prunes at the hands of Mr. Ruddock. They are considerable larger than the State and of blue bloom and resemble somewhat the true German prune in general appearances but are also somewhat larger than that variety, last year six of them weighed a pound. They are a milder acid than either of the varieties mentioned and very pleasant to eat from the hand. Referring to their origin Mr. Dawson says he planted in the fall of 1883 a lot of Italian prune pits and among the seedlings was this one which he named the Dawson. This tree has now been in bearing six years and has usually born good crops of exceptionally large fruit. In the same lot was a seedling of yellow color similar to the blue prune in size and shape but a little longer, which Mr. Dawson calls the Golden Gem Prune. It is specked or mottled with lightish dots and is very good quality. Mr. Dawson says these varieties usually ripen the latter part of August.

The Dawson is pronounced by drying experts, so Mr. Dawson says, as an exceptionally good drier.

Referring to the vitality of the tree, he mentions the fact that in 1894 the Snake river overflowed the land where these trees are growing and water stood to the depth of 4 feet around them for 10 days and did not entirely recede for 17 days. He feared they would be ruined, but although it caused the trees to shed their leaves and fruit, no other injury was noticable and they are in fine, thrifty shape today.

How to Make Money.

It was P. T. Barnum who said: "If you only have \$10 capital to begin your business, and want to make money, be sure to spend \$5 in advertising in the newspapers." In other words, if you would have the best success, brace up and patronize the press.

Typographical Wags.

Some amusing examples are given in Macmillan of the humor of printers' composing-rooms. A theatrical critic in a notice of a charming young actress, whose treatment of Portia had afforded him much pleasure, wrote, "Her love for Portia made acting easy." That was right enough, but what the types made him say was, "Her love for Porter," etc. In the earlier half of the present century it was announced in a London news paper that, "Sir Robert Peel, with a party of fiends, was shooting peasants in Ireland," whereas the minister and his friends were only indulging in the comparatively harmless sport of shooting pheasants. Shortly after the battle of Inkerman, one of the morning papers informed its readers that, "after a desperate struggle the enemy werer epulsed with great laughter." What the bridesmaids at a recent wedding must have thought when they read that they had all worn "handsome breeches, the gift of the bridegroom," one can only guess. But, whatever their thoughts may have been at seeing their pretty brooches thus transformed, their language at any rate cannot, we may assume have matched that of the politician who read the following comment on one of his speeches; "Them asses believed him." Possibly he was not much consoled by being assured that the reporter had merely wished to signify that "The masses believed him." On another occasion a reporter wrote, "At these words the entire audience arose and rent the air with their snouts."

How to Keep Eggs.

The following is recommended as an excellent receipt for keeping eggs. They should be fresh when laid down, for if fresh when laid down they will keep many months.

To four quarts of air-slacked lime add two tablespoons of cream tartar, two of salt and four quarts of cold water. Put fresh eggs in to a stone jar, pour the mixture over them. This will be sufficient to keep eight dozen. If the water settles away so as to leave the upper layer uncovered add more water. Cover close and keep in a cool place.