

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 be of interest 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 "Dalmeny Challenge" 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 615 bushels of potatoes, weighing 28,985 pounds. The culls weighed 4,150 pounds, leaving 34,335 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 895 sacks of potatoes, averaging 110 pounds to the sack. He sold 1,500 bushels at 42 cents per bushel, receiving \$630, and he 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 38,655 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 1.75 pounds, or 28½ bushels.

It is fair to say that a \$20 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.

It Mr. Snyder were to realize from ten acres of his potato land as well as he did from the three acres that 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 27,475 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, livery 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 irrigated 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 that 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 climate 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 unflinching 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.

The Most Beautiful Thing. A newspaper recently invited its readers to state in a few words what they considered the most beautiful thing in the world. The first prize was awarded to the sender of the answer: "The eyes of my mother." The dream of that which we know to be impossible," suggested an imaginative person, and this brought him second prize. But the most amusing thing was that which read: "The most beautiful thing in the world is to see a man carrying his mother-in-law across a dangerous river without making any attempt to drop her in."

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Patents Watson E. Coleman, Washington, D.C. Bookstore, High School Building. Best results.

For the Hostess

A Unique Flower Luncheon. The hostess asked ten guests to come to a luncheon, each wearing a flower (either real or artificial) to represent a country. The flowers were all typically springlike, being daffodils, narcissus and hyacinths. The place cards were original rhymes in which the name of the flower was not mentioned, but to be guessed. A few specimens follow:

Your sweet face says: "I think of you," Your colors are of every hue. (Tansy.)
Blue as the loving sky,
Thine emblem constancy. (Forget-me-not.)

"I love you! I love you!" your rich color imports
Oh, how fondly we nestle you close to our hearts. (Red rose.)
Though dangerous pleasures you imply,
Your wax-like petals doth please the eye. (Tuberose.)

The countries represented are: United States, goldenrod; England, rose; Ireland, shamrock; France, fleur de lis; Japan, chrysanthemum; Canada, maple leaf; Holland, tulip; Scotland, thistle; Germany, cornflower; Switzerland, edelweiss; etc.

One of the many flower guessing contests was used as a pastime, the prizes being a copy of "Elizabeth and Her German Garden," and set of flower-decorated place cards. The center of the table represented a formal miniature garden, the tiny flowers and trees being found in the toy and favor department of a large city store. These novelties are within the reach of most of our readers as prices are gladly quoted and orders filled by mail.

Butterfly Dinner. Have butterfly candle shades, butterfly place cards and, if possible, a lovely overhead decoration with a number of delicately made paper butterflies fluttering from the ceiling at the end of fine silk strings. Serve the following menu:

Consomme With Peas.
Oyster Croquettes. Cucumbers.
Braised Sweet Breads. Asparagus Tips.
Veal Fillet With Brain Fritters.
Pineapple and Celery Salad.
Pistachio and Vanilla Ice Cream in
Meringue Shells.
Black Coffee.

Lovely nut holders may be made (or ordered from a firm making a specialty of novelties) by having small butterflies poised on the rims of the cups which hold the nuts. This is a beautiful decorative scheme especially fitting at this season.

An Announcement Party. There was nothing unusual about the invitations to this party, which was an affair for about thirty young people who were in the same social set. When the dancing commenced some one observed that the young hostess seemed especially taken with a young man who had recently come to town. Presently some one noticed that the wedding march was being played by the harp which furnished the music. This was followed by these melodies: "Mendelssohn's Wedding March," the "Bridal Chorus" from "Lohengrin," "Hearts and Flowers," "My Heart at Thy Sweet Voice," "The Voice That Breathed O'er Eden," "The Love Me If All Those Endearing Young Charms," "The Sweetest Story Ever Told," "I Loved It Is Morn," "Oh, Promise Me."

The songs were rendered by a vocalist behind a screen. When the program was finished the host and hostess asked all to come to the dining room, where a large loving cup was passed and all asked to drink to the health of the happy pair who were being offered. Then all went back for a merry, informal dance amid showers of congratulations.

A Baseball Luncheon. A mother who had two sons in a local baseball nine gave this original luncheon, inviting the "nine" as her special guests. The invitations went out on diamond-shaped bits of pink paper and were received with great enthusiasm. The hour was one o'clock, after which there was a practice game for the approaching "big" game which was to decide a championship; so all were told to come in their baseball suits.

The center of the table was laid out for a game with miniature figures on a "diamond" made from green paper; a wire mask held flowers and the place souvenirs all represented names of famous baseball nines. There were the "Cubs," little stuffed "Red Socks," the "Pirates," represented by skull and crossbones, the "Tigers," "Giants" and "Indians." There were also miniature bats and balls and the "mascot," a dog, was not forgotten. A hearty meal of beefsteak, spaghetti with tomato sauce, scalloped potatoes, olives, brown and white bread, salted nuts, fruit salad with hot cheese sandwiches, individual apple pies and generous cups of cocoa delighted the youthful guests. Molasses candy and peppermint sticks were the sweets.

The Ballot Box. The ballot box seems sacred to me, and I never voted without removing my hat. The men in the voting booths are always amused at this attitude, but to me the voting privilege will be always treated with great respect. A man should pray as he votes and vote as he prays.—Rev. R. S. MacArthur, Baptist, New York city.

Do You Use Eye Salve? Apply only from Aseptic Tubes to Prevent Infection. Murine Eye Salve in Tubes. New Size. Murine Eye Liquid 25c-50c. Eye Books in each Pkg.

Indolence strangles talent; genius in a slothful man resembles a beautiful ornament at the top of a very high spire.—Madame de Puyseux.

It is a good thing to know where you are going, and what you are going there for.

For Tweed Cloth



GRAY and black tweed would look exceedingly smart made up in this style. It has the skirt made with a wide box plait down center of front and trimmed below knees by a band of material cut on the cross and edged with black velvet ribbon.

The Russian coat has slight fullness in front, also on basque; a braided band is worn round waist, and tabs to match trim the fronts, while a strap to correspond with skirt is taken down edges of fronts.

Hat of felt is turned up at the sides and trimmed with two quills, kept in position by a buckle. Velvet ribbon encircles the crown. The whole producing a very chic appearance.

Materials required: Six and one-half yards tweed 46 inches wide, nine yards ribbon velvet, four yards braid, twenty buttons, seven yards silk or satin for lining coat.

popular patterns are those which show the use of black in combination with another color, white or a bright shade.

Drinking Vessels. Beakers still survive, but some other drinking vessels of the past have wellnigh disappeared from use. Drinking horns, for instance, although of unbreakable material, seem to have vanished from our inns. In Wiltshire one occasionally hears an old stager order a "harn of yell," and in Worcestershire and Herefordshire cider is drunk out of horns; but they do not appear to be used in any other part of England. Whistle tankards, too, common enough at one time, are obsolete. The corporation of Hull has one of these tankards, in which the whistle comes into play when the tankard is empty, and this is said to be the only one of its kind in England.—London Chronicle.

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"Say, Ras, Eddie Jones sez he's got a real bloodhound and we want to hire you to run ahead of him for about eight miles to see if he's any good."

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The ballot box seems sacred to me, and I never voted without removing my hat. The men in the voting booths are always amused at this attitude, but to me the voting privilege will be always treated with great respect. A man should pray as he votes and vote as he prays.—Rev. R. S. MacArthur, Baptist, New York city.

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Strong Healthy Women

If a woman is strong and healthy in a womanly way, motherhood means to her but little suffering. The trouble lies in the fact that the many women suffer from weakness and disease of the distinctly feminine organs and are unfitted for motherhood. This can be remedied.

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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.

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Bjenks—I should say so. What is a true bohemian doing around a laundry, anyway?

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A few minutes later Johnny handed up his slate on which was written: "Us boys all loves our teacher."—Harper's Bazar.

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Can You Solve This Puzzle? It Can Be Done

SUBSCRIPTIONS—Place any number from 1 to 5, inclusive, in the blank vacant circles on the above or any similarly arranged sheet of paper or other material in such a manner that any way the numbers are added, perpendicularly, horizontally and diagonally (including the number in center circle) the total will be 15. The same number cannot be used more than once. Few will get all 5 columns. Some will possibly get 3 columns. Write your name and address neatly, accurately and plainly on your answer and mail or deliver your solution before 10 p. m., Monday, May 15, 1911, to the Contest Department, Schmolzer & Mueller, 1311-1313 Farnam Street, Omaha, Neb.

Only one solution will be accepted from the same contestant.

No one connected with the music trade, nor first prize winners in previous contests may enter.

Winners, besides the correctness of the reply sent us, will be taken into consideration in awarding the prizes.

Contest closes Monday, May 15, at 6 p. m. Try it now. Send in your replies as early as possible. WINNERS WILL BE NOTIFIED BY MAIL.

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