

# The Columbus Courier

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### Wheat Smut Control

Wheat growers in this country not infrequently experience serious losses caused by preventable diseases. Wheat is preyed upon by a number of parasitic fungi, three of which are classed as smuts. Two of these smuts are common pests in the wheat fields of North America; the other, commonly known as flag smut, is thus far unknown to this continent, though it is fairly common in Australia and certain other parts of the world where wheat culture has been in progress for centuries.

Of the two smuts, bunt or covered smut of wheat, sometimes referred to as stinking smut, is found wherever wheat is grown, sometimes resulting in losses to the farmers of the United States of \$20,000,000 or more annually. Not infrequently fields planted to untreated seed and sown previous to yielding 30 to 40 bushels per acre of good wheat will produce a crop of covered smut amounting, in some cases, to as much as 40 to 60 per cent of the crop.

This smut disease is caused by a parasitic fungus which attacks the growing wheat plant before the first leaf appears above the ground. Once inside the attacked seedling it continues its growth, and by the time the wheat begins to head the diseased plants produce a crop of smut. If we examine the heads of such a plant we find, instead of normal wheat grains, only a lot of smut balls. In other words, the materials produced by the living plant for the purpose of building up sound wheat grains have been consumed by the parasite in forming its masses of smut spores which finally occupy the exact position in the wheat heads that would have been filled by the kernels had they been allowed to develop. These smut balls consist of nothing but millions of spores enclosed in each case by a thin enveloping membrane. When the smut balls are crushed the spores give off an odor not unlike that of herring, brine. The liberated spores become attached to the seed, which, if planted without previous treatment, may produce another crop of smutted wheat.

Bunt or covered smut of wheat is one of the most easily prevented of any of the cereal diseases. The following procedure is recommended: Run all seed wheat through a fanning mill in order to blow out the unbroken smut balls. This being done, the grain should be soaked 10 minutes in a solution consisting of 1 pound of commercial formalin (obtainable at nearly all drug stores) added to 40 gallons of water. The seed thus treated is next allowed to drain and is then piled on the floor and stirred frequently until sufficiently dry to sow. If during this process the kernels have swollen very much, the drill should be set to sow a little thicker, else the quantity sown per acre will be less than was intended.

Recent experiments have shown that in certain sections of the country the soil of a field producing a crop of smutted wheat this year may harbor enough smut spores to cause the appearance of smut in next year's crop if the field be reseeded to wheat. This sometimes occurs where smut is very bad, in spite of planting a treated seed, and shows that in such localities crop rotation should be

### Pleased with the valley

Dr. and Mrs. Dobbs, of Missouri, who had been out on the Pacific coast for the past few months, stopped off at Columbus for a few days. They were old friends of J. A. Moore, also J. W. Blair, having lived in the same town in Kansas. They were very much pleased with the conditions here and expressed a desire to return.

### Bazaar Will Be Held December 3

The Ladies Aid Society have decided on Friday, December 3d as the time to hold the annual bazaar. They will meet with Mrs. Hallenger next Wednesday in all day session. A large attendance is desired.

Lennon & Bourney brought over from Mexico the first of the stock several hundred head of cattle, the major portion of which they will turn out on the range near town. They have disposed of a large number to ranch owners in the valley.

Henry Burton, O. Roese, and Mrs. Jack Wright were driven to Downing Monday by Miss Stauchel in her Ford. Mr. Burton went up on business in connection with the telephone company, Mr. Roese to secure his naturalization papers and Mrs. Wright on legal business.

### Dinner Party at Mooreview

Mr. and Mrs. John J. Moore gave a pleasant dinner party at their home, Mooreview, last Sunday. The table decorations were green and red and gave a very pretty effect. Those present were Dr. and Mrs. Bolbs, of Missouri, Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Pierce, Mrs. Pierce's brother, Mr. Chapman, of Waterloo, Mr. and Mrs. George T. Peters, Miss Floy Moore and Mr. Clint Moore.

### Must Change Name

The new oil development company has received notice that they cannot incorporate under the firm name they had selected, same having been used before. This will not hold back the granting of the charter, and the corporation will soon be ready to begin the work. They are incorporating under the name of the state of Arizona.

Miss Linnie Barron, Kimball Lennon and Frank Hunt are attending the state fair at Albuquerque this week at the expense of the fair commission. Misses Ruth Poff and Edna Ritchie were also appointed to attend but were unable to make the trip. The appointments were made by Miss Goodel and were based on the showing made in school last year.

The "Broken Coin," a new serial story, will appear in the Courier at an early date. The first installment will be shown on the screen at the Crystal the following night after it appears in the Courier. Watch for further announcements.

The Methodist parsonage is almost completed and Mr. and Mrs. Hoddington will soon occupy same.

practiced in addition to seed treatment. Bunt or covered smut of wheat attacks no other cereal crop, but other cereals have their own smut diseases. — Weekly news letter, Dept. of Agriculture.

## FACTS ABOUT THE "SUNSHINE STATE"

☞ New Mexico has more church members according to the population than any state in the Union.

☞ Has a smaller percentage of murders than any other state.

☞ Boasts of the smallest per cent of insanity of any of the states.

☞ The most healthful and delightful climate in the world.

☞ The purest water, the richest and most productive soil, and good markets.

☞ Some government land that can be had for the asking.

☞ The smallest per cent of mortgaged farms of any state in the U. S.

☞ The Lower Miners Valley—the best part of the best State.

☞ The place where you get the most enjoyment out of life.

### News From Camp

Sergeant Michael Grimes, Troop D, has returned from the smutting season at construction at Lawrenceville, Kansas, and has joined his troop.

A league baseball team from Kansas City on their way to the exposition, will stop off here next Thursday for a game with the 4th cavalry.

Cook Edgerman Q. M. Co. 4th U. S. Infantry was on duty Tuesday. The next morning at 10 o'clock he was notified that there was something the matter with the letter, that it wouldn't out. He said he had it a great deal of trouble, and it did not get more than half of it.

Private Robert Bell, Cavalry and Bill have returned from Polva, N. M., where they had been on duty.

Regimental Q. M. Sergeant Oscar F. Lindley has been appointed chief messman and Warrick discharged.

Squadron Sergeant Major Henry A. Hoag has been appointed Regimental Q. M. Sergeant via Lindley.

Sergeant Samuel F. Arroyo has been appointed sergeant major second squadron.

Shilton Nelson, of Texas, was here a few days visiting his brother, Milton Nelson, of Texas, 14th cavalry. Mr. Nelson is chief dispatcher for the R. U. S. R. R. School Huts at Moore & Moore's.

Miss Treva Blair arrived here Wednesday and is residing on her homestead four miles east of town. She has been away on a five-month tour.

Arthur Evans has purchased a new Ford. He said his old car had been found out that he could not do in with it. (Columbian, Moore & Moore)

### Will Develop Property

The Columbus Oil Company has sold the necessary stock to insure the sinking of a deep test well and the work of drilling will probably be started within the next thirty days. The officers of the company consider that in order to make a thorough test a hole must be sunk at least 5,000 feet and they are prepared financially to bore a well to this depth. The work will be rushed and within a few weeks the result of the deep boring will be known. A 12 or 15 inch hole will be drilled. The report that the oil well in which oil was found will be drilled deeper is without foundation. It is a small hole, not cased any, is cased and surface expense would be a waste of funds.

### The Justice's Court

The local justice of the peace assessed fines from several of the citizens this week for different violations of the law. It has been the policy of the Courier in the past to say nothing of the court proceedings when citizens were involved, at least as much as possible. From this date all the proceedings will be published in full and if you don't care to have your name appear you had better obey the laws. We are giving due notice that no one may have reasons to be offended. The writer has read of instances where the adoption of such a policy has caused a reduction in the number of cases brought before the court and we really hope this will apply here. And the citizens of a community deserve to know who the violators are. Society demands it. There will be no doubt, some who appear this way, but, as an occurrence, the all day, etc. will apply to them.

Charles Gibson is installing a large Kelpse windmill at his ranch near Sunnyside.

### Honor Roll of Columbus School

The help and cooperation of all parents is earnestly desired in promoting promptness in getting to school in the mornings. The best results cannot be hoped for where promptness and regular attendance is not insisted upon. Promotion is made at the end of the term only on merit and attainment in the studies, and prompt and faithful attendance is the only way in which same can be obtained.

Following is a list of those who were neither absent or tardy during the first month of school: Room 1, Miss Cannon, Teacher. Fay Evans, Dorothy Smith, Kathie Miller, Jessa Poch, Leoner Terrazas, Ramona Torres, Josephina Fernandez, Maru-cha Galinda, Maria Galinda, Juana Ochoa, Felisa Pacheco, Francisca Rueda, Fremont Terrazas, Ramon Galinda, Ver-nado Orban, Manuel Terrazas, Felipe Cantos.

Room 2, Miss Page, Teacher. Anna Lennon, Rosa Montelongo, Editha Bennett, William McCullough, Lora Fernandez, Josephine Byar, Susie McCullough, Nellie Miller, Blanche Ritchie, Roy Elliott, Ashton Blair, Tomas Montelongo, Ernesto Bennett.

Room 3, Miss Burton, Teacher. Andrea Carrson, Manuela Calderon, Roy Davis, Glen Deas, Evans, Aureliana Hjoy, Minnie Miller, Kenneth Hunt, Bernice Cowgill, Gaspar Estrada, Page Hickey, Edwin Simmons, Elliott Means.

Room 4, Prof. Swanson, Teacher. Betha Henry, Frank Hunt, Arthur Ravel, Jo Jeffries, Nona Johnson, Lingurn Barkhead, Duke Cowgill, Joe Yarbrough, Edna Ritchie, Lincoln Cosmitt.

### Party at the H O P Ranch

Last Tuesday afternoon Mrs. Carl Hope and Mrs. G. H. Guerstman most delightfully entertained a number of their friends at their spacious country home at the H O P ranch. The occasion was for the entertainment of the friends of the hostess who were at Mrs. Guerstman's "shower" given by Mrs. N. J. Yarbrough and Mrs. A. G. Beck, in July.

The afternoon was spent in social amusement and games, at the conclusion of which Mrs. Hope sang "Abide With Me" in German, which was highly enjoyed by all. A most delicious two course luncheon was served, after which the guests departed, vowing their hostesses most delightful entertainers.

### Was it a Dream?

A fellow dropped into the office and ordered the paper and we were pleased. Said it was a good paper and we were glad. Said it was more than worth the money to any man of intelligence and we were tickled. Said it was the main stay of the town and wore super-tickled. Said it was the greatest booster and the most reliable town builder and developer in this whole community and we yelled with joy. Paid for his paper and we did gently to the floor in blissful unconsciousness. Nature had reached its limit. — Swiped.

The walls of the new postoffice building have been laid and the carpenter work is under way and the building will be completed ready for occupancy by the first of November.

### Feddington to Remain

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Hoddington attended the district conference last week at Albuquerque and we are pleased to learn that Mr. Hoddington was appointed pastor of the Columbus Methodist church for another year. A petition to Dr. Bright, signed by practically every citizen of the community, praying that Mr. Hoddington be returned to Columbus for another year, and his desire to remain, in response to the appointment.

Mr. Hoddington now enters upon his third year here. The church has steadily grown under his leadership. He is a young man of ability and integrity and he and Mrs. Hoddington have been of unestimable worth to the community. We speak the sentiment of all when we endorse his appointment for the year ending September, 1916.

### Melon Blight

The Department of Agriculture at Washington sends out the following: "A type of injury to water-melon and cantaloupe, very prevalent this year, takes the form of pitted decayed spots scattered over the fruit. This is the anthracnose, a fungus trouble which originates in the field where it attacks the foliage as well as the fruit. Thorough spraying with Bordeaux mixture is the remedy in this case."

### Strange Bits of News

London Eng.—Frederick Burton, one of London's most pathetic dermats, is dead. When his sweetheart's father forbade their marriage, Burton swore never to inhabit a house, sleep in a bed or shave himself. He lived in a cave for fifty years. The man the girl married, at her father's wish, squandered her fortune, kicked her to death and paid the penalty on the gallows.

Kinston, N. C.—That the present high cost of living is a joke is shown by prices of food stuffs contained in a copy of the American Record, printed at Washington, N. C. in 1915. Flour was priced at that time at \$25 a barrel, mills at 15 cents a pound, sugar at 35 cents a pound, pork \$13 a barrel and whiskey at only 75 cents a gallon.

Brooklyn, N. Y.—The neighborhood of Columbia street was suddenly aroused at midnight by shrill screams of Help! Murder! Police! and Mr. and Mrs. G. Bastie and three small children awoke to find their tenement on fire. The screams came from Bastie's pet parrot.

Cobleskill, N. Y.—Charles W. Karker has two colts which he keeps in a waterless pen. When the colts get dry they ring a bell placed on the fence, and someone brings water to them.

Dothan, Ala.—An Atlantic Coast line train pulled into Jacksonville, Ga. with no hand guiding her and the engineer in a dead faint. R. P. Dickey, the engineer, recently recovered from a serious illness and took out the train. It is believed the engineer ran for miles before the engineer's condition was discovered by the fireman.

There has been an unusually large number of visitors in town during the last few days. Business in all lines seems to be better than it has been for several months.