

# AGRICULTURE NOW IN MECHANIZED ERA

## MACHINERY TAKES PLACE OF ANIMAL AND HUMAN LABOR

Science Has Produced New Tools That Put Speed Into Production and Cut Cost.

That a new engineering epoch is starting in the world, evidenced by the rapidity with which agriculture is becoming mechanized, was the belief set forth by Prof. H. B. Walker, head of the department of agricultural engineering, University of California, before the American Society of Engineers at Tokio recently. Professor Walker's subject was "Engineering as Applied to Agriculture." In part he said:

"Engineering in agriculture has attained great impetus in the United States through the extensive use of mechanical power. This has influenced the urban and rural population ratios. In colonial days more than 90 per cent of the people were directly dependent upon agriculture in contrast to 24 per cent today.

"There have been three distinct power epochs in the agriculture of the nation, viz: human, animal, and mechanical. The first is characterized by hard work and little social progress for the worker. The second marks the beginning of the machinery age in agriculture, resulting in the breaking down of traditions and the beginning of scientific agriculture. The third period, just beginning, is exerting a great influence on production methods as well as on the social environment of the worker. It is distinctly an engineering epoch.

"Animal power reached its peak of application in the United States about 1818. The rate of decrease in such power is rapid, amounting to practically 500,000 animals per year.

"Agriculture is becoming mechanized rapidly. Statistics in the United States show that in 1924, 16,000,000,000 horsepower hours were used by farmers 16 per cent of which was supplied by steam and gas tractors. In 1928, 18,000,000,000 horsepower hours were utilized, 25 per cent of which was supplied by steam and gas tractors. The total number of farm tractors in 1924 was 456,000, increasing to 768,825 in 1928. Similar trends in agricultural power are taking place in Canada, Argentina, Australia and British South Africa.

"Mechanical equipment has reduced the pre-harvest labor requirements for cotton production from 75 man hours to 10 man hours per acre. Similar savings are shown for corn and small grains.

"Engineers experience trouble in getting agricultural machinery requirements expressed in tangible values useful in design. Tillage, which consumes from 25 to 40 per cent of all agricultural power, cannot as yet be effectively measured or expressed in engineering terms or values."—The Implement Record.

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## LIVESTOCK SET-UP REVAMPED; AWAIT VOTE FROM CO-OPS

By FRANK I. WELLER (Associated Press Farm Editor)

WASHINGTON, March 12.—(A. P.)—Farm board intervention is believed to have smoothed out the path toward incorporation of the proposed national commodity marketing association for livestock.

For five months competitive cooperatives were deadlocked over the plan of operation proposed by the national organization committee. The conflict centered around divergent views of the relative advantages to be given interests buying livestock in public yards and those buying direct from the producer.

The issue was taken back to a round table discussion by the cooperatives and members of the farm board. The latter opened the way for constructive action by proposing a central sales agency with which the various cooperatives would affiliate by contract. It would have two subsidiaries—a publishing concern and a feeder's financing corporation.

Cooperatives would come into the national set-up by vote of their boards of directors. When two-thirds of them have signed contracts, plans for incorporation of the \$1,000,000 National Livestock Producers association will go forward.

Cooperatives now handle only about 15 per cent of the nation's livestock and the farm board was eager to leave the door open to the other 82 per cent, which incorporation according to the new plan would do.

## KEYES BEGINS TERM IN PENITENTIARY

(Associated Press Local Wire)

SAN QUENTIN PRISON, Cal., March 4.—Asa Keyes, once powerful prosecutor of Los Angeles county, passed through the gates of San Quentin prison today to start serving a sentence of one to 14 years for alleged bribery conspiracy growing out of the collapse several years ago of the Julian Petroleum corporation.

Commenting informally, Keyes said he believed he had "done more for California than any other man." He pointed to the large number of criminals he had convicted, among them William Edward Hickman. In evidence of the part he had played in helping to "clean up the state."

He reiterated previous statements that the prospect of being thrown among the many men imprisoned by his prosecution caused him little worry.

## Bladder Irregular?

If functional Bladder Irritation disturbs your sleep, or causes Burning or Itching Sensation, Backache, Leg Pains, or muscular aches, making you feel tired, depressed, and discouraged, why not try the Cystex 48 Hour Test? Don't give up. Get Cystex today. Put it to the test. See for yourself how quickly it works and what it does. Money back if it doesn't bring quick improvement, and satisfy you completely. Try Cystex today. Only 60c. Nathan Fullerton, the Rexall store.—Adv.

## HELPING HINTS FROM THE O. S. C.

Where peach blight is very severe in Oregon, the best control in the spring is obtained by spraying with bordeaux 4-4-50 as soon as bloom petals fall and again when the shucks fall, says the experiment station. Where it is not severe one may wait till the shucks fall and give a single spray with non-caustic wettable sulphur.

Spraying with oil emulsion from now until apple bud tips show green will control red spider mite in western Oregon, says the experiment station. An eight per cent oil emulsion is recommended. When commercial miscible oil is used, dilutions are made according to accompanying directions.

Beekeepers find that good hive tools do not mar edges as do chisels and screw drivers.

Butter consumption increased about three million pounds in January in response to low prices and widespread campaigns in favor of dairy products. Some observers believe this trend will be continued, says L. R. Breithaupt in his regular economics situation report issued at the state college. There is also a possibility that production will be temporarily curtailed through less intensive feeding.

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## LEAKE AND BEYERS BUSINESS ENJOYS RAPID EXPANSION

Tillage Equipment, Power Units, Spray Material Build Big Patronage Among Farmers.

Leake and Beyers company, Roseburg, began business early in January of last year and have been steadily expanding their business until they are one of the largest machinery dealers in southwestern Oregon.

They are exclusive agents for a number of leading lines of machinery and farmers' supplies, probably the most important of which is the agency for the Oliver Farm Implement company's line of plows, discs, cultivators and other implements. A large percentage of the tillage tools already in the county were made by Oliver and this makes considerable volume of business in plowshares, disc blades and other repairs.

The Cletrac tractor is also proving very popular and will no doubt make a fine volume of business for the coming year. Leake and Beyers Co. report the sale of six machines of this type since January first of this year.

They are also agents for the L. N. Miller Dehydrator Co. of Eugene, Oregon, for the Miller dehydrator and prune drier equipment. This type of drier has proven very successful in the northwest, and eight large plants were sold in Douglas county last year and in addition to this several thousand dollars' worth of drier equipment was placed by this firm.

Much of their business is made up of the handling of special equipment such as pumping machinery in which Fairbanks, Morse & Co., nationally known for their engines and pumping equipment, play a very important part. No job is too small or too large for them to figure and supply. A large percentage of the present irrigation outfits in the county have been figured by Mr. Leake and furnished by Fairbanks, Morse & Co.

A supply of small water systems, light plants, washing machines, etc., are also carried and considerable volume is brought in from this source.

**Fruit Industry Aided**

The business of Leake & Beyers Co. to a large extent has been built around the fruit industry of this county and much business is derived from their line of Bean sprayers. More than eighty per cent of the spray outfits in Douglas county are Bean outfits and the local dealers have disposed of seven new outfits this season.

Hand in hand with the sprayer business goes the spray material line manufactured by Sherwin Williams Co., who are known the world over for their careful selection of raw materials and are famous for their high grade products. According to reports the Sherwin Williams brand of spray materials is gaining in popularity among the fruit growers throughout the entire western coast.

Large stocks of bulk and package garden seeds are carried in stock during the planting season and this section of Leake & Beyers Co. store is thronged with customers on the first warm days of spring.

Probably no department of their business gives Leake & Beyers Co. as much satisfaction as their shop for repairing tractors, spray out-

fits, gas engines, etc. Three skilled mechanics are employed to take care of the calls for service from their customers and one to two men are kept busy assembling new machinery or rebuilding and painting implements for resale.

Eight persons are employed by Leake & Beyers Co in the following capacities: Walter Leake, manager; Herbert Beyers, assistant manager; J. C. Royle, warehouse foreman; Helen Leake, bookkeeper; George Evans, specialty salesman; Harvey Savage, tractor salesman and service man; Martin Paul, Fred Hoffmeister and Percy Prince, shop mechanics.

With this personnel and their unquestioned leadership in manufactured lines of farm equipment, Leake and Beyers company is in a position to furnish the farmer with excellent articles of equipment and is also equipped to give service on the machinery purchased from them.

Douglas county's outstanding melon raiser, grower of the famous Dillard cantaloupes, and the largest producer in southern Oregon, for the last three years, is a caterpillar farmer, E. M. Dyer, local dealer for caterpillar tractors, combine harvesters and road machinery, says.

In the last three years Wesley Williams, Dillard producer, has shipped large quantities of melons to all parts of the United States. Having decided to increase his production he, after careful consideration, chose caterpillars for all his farming operations. His land is all river-bottom land and very soft and loose, yet the light-treads of the caterpillars do not pack the soil, thereby insuring him good seed beds and record crops.

Mr. Williams has this to say about his caterpillars: "Several times during the early part of the season when it was imperative to get my plowing done in time for early planting, ordinary power plowing was absolutely impossible due to slippery surface and soft ground caused by late spring rains. My caterpillars worked 100 per cent efficient and no loss of time nor slippage occurred. Owing to increasing this year to more than 400 acres I will have four caterpillars of the high-speed type, equipped with electric lights, enabling me to run them 24 hours a day when necessary. As this crop must be planted and cultivated at the right time and can not wait for weather condition in order to put them on the market at the best season and uphold the standard set for Dillard melons."

The ability of the caterpillars to get jobs done in a hurry and yet do the job better gives Mr. Williams time for other outside interests, says Mr. Dyer.

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The present firm of Wharton Bros., as well as the old firm of J. F. Barker & Co. has enjoyed a very good patronage from the farmers in this locality. One of the outstanding things that has contributed to its success is the repair part service maintained for the machines it sells. Right now its repair racks and shelves are lined with parts that go to keep their machines in service. This service is appreciated by many of the farmers in this locality because a farm machine without a good repair service has a very short life. Many such orphan implements can be found in the fence corners all over the county.

Many times the firm is compelled to spend half an hour looking up a part in a repair list for some machine that was sold twenty or thirty years ago on which their profit would not be over a few cents, but they consider that this is the service that goes with the machines they sell.

## HINTS FOR YOUR SPRING GARDEN

Oak or cedar boards at least an inch thick are best for making window boxes as these are most resistant to decay. Even these are best painted or charred inside to keep out decay. To clear a box paint the inside with kerosene and burn for a few minutes.

Lawn weeds such as dandelion when not too numerous may be largely eliminated in early spring by using a caustic soda solution applied to the crowns with a pointed stick. The stick is dipped into the liquid and then shoved down an inch or so into the center of the crown. The weeds turn brown and die in a few days. The formula follows: One quarter ounce of white arsenic boiled in one-half gallon of soft water and one-third ounce caustic soda and boil again. Smaller or larger amounts are in proportion.

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## VEGETABLE OIL DUTY HARD TASK, STEIWER STATES

Senator Frederick Steiwer has wired the Roseburg chamber of commerce that he is doing everything within his power to secure higher duties on vegetable oil as a protection to the dairy industry, in which Oregon is so vitally interested. The matter presents a difficult problem, the senator states, because the main supplies come from the Philippine Islands. With regard to copra, he states that the biggest source is in the Philippines, and he is opposed to duties against Philippine products so long as the islands are under U. S. control. The islands, he states, are one of the best customers for dairy products each year. He states that he is very hopeful that something can be done to minimize the influence which oleostearine is now exerting in the butter market.

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| New Ignition System        | Automatic Lubrication of Rear Wheel Bearings |
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Saturday, March 15, 1930

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