



# NEWS OF FARM LIFE

GRANGES COUNTY AGENT'S REPORTS CROP NEWS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEWS



## Further Development of Dairying Urged on Douglas County

### PROVIDES 15 PCT. OF FARM INCOME

#### Demand for Products Keeps Ahead of Supply, Local Conference Advised.

Dairying is a sound enterprise for Douglas county and its further development should be encouraged, according to the report of the county agricultural economic conference. Expansion of the committee points out, should be based upon sound practices of dairy cattle management and every effort must be made to keep production costs as low as possible. The report of the committee is as follows:

Sale of dairy products provides fifteen per cent of the agricultural income for Douglas county. A gradual increase has been noted in the number of dairy cows in the county since 1916, there being 6,666 cows two years old or over. On January 1, 1935, it was estimated that there were 11,400 dairy cows two years old or older. The increase in the number of dairy cows in Douglas county has been somewhat more rapid than the increase in the number of cows in the United States and this condition is to be expected with the population in the western states increasing more rapidly than in the entire country.

**POPULATION FOR THE UNITED STATES, 11 WESTERN STATES, AND THE STATE OF OREGON**

Year	United States	11 Western States	Oregon
1899	62,947,714	3,192,259	317,704
1909	75,594,575	4,951,349	417,239
1919	91,972,286	6,825,821	672,765
1929	105,719,629	8,902,572	782,383
1925*	113,493,720	10,182,261	846,061
1934	122,775,046	11,896,222	952,786
1934	125,693,990	12,539,606	882,000

\*Estimated, 1899-1929. 1929—Statistical Abstract, 1925—World Almanac for 1926, 1934—World Almanac for 1935. (Tabulated by the Oregon Agricultural Extension Service.)

**No Early Change Looms**

According to the Agricultural Outlook Report for 1936, no great change in dairy cattle likely will come during the next two-year period. There is some indication, however, that throughout the country there may be a definite increase after the end of two years. At the present time, the price of veal, pork and feeds, is still relatively high as compared with the prices for dairy products. If there should be an unusually large supply of feed grains available at a reduced price, there may be a tendency for dairymen to feed more heavily, increasing production from the same number of cows. This might be offset by increased consumer demand brought about through greater industrial payrolls as there seems to be a direct correlation between payrolls and the price of butter, the price of dairy products usually being controlled by butter.

**NUMBER OF MILK COWS ON HAND**

Year	United States	11 Western States	Douglas County
1916	29,625,000 (2)	1,241,000 (2)	6,666
1926	19,675,000 (3)	1,541,000 (3)	6,452
1925	17,645,000 (3)	1,623,000 (3)	5,573
1929	22,910,000 (2)	1,811,000 (2)	7,220
1925 (1)	25,100,000 (3)	2,177,000 (3)	11,400*

\*Estimated. (1) June 1; (2) April 15; (3) January 1; (4) Estimates by B. A. E. Source: U. S. C. Census Reports, 11 Western Oregon, 1929-1929, Livestock, Meat & Wood Market Statistics. (Tabulated by the Oregon Agricultural Extension Service.)

The demands of the population in the United States kept ahead of the supply of dairy products until 1932 and 1933, when, due to increased numbers of cows, increased production, and a lowered consumer demand, a definite and clear surplus of dairy products was accumulated. Because of the rapid increase in the number of cows in the nation from the period beginning in 1929, it is probable that even if normal consumer demand had prevailed, there would have been a definite drop in the prices of dairy products.

The 11 western states market their dairy products at home. This has meant that the price level for dairy products has been at least the freight differential between Chicago and west coast points higher than the Chicago market. Average Wholesale Price of Butter Score 92—(Cents per Pound)

Year	Portland	Fran.	Chicago
1935	29.2	30.12	28.78
1934	21.3	25.5	24.78
1933	20.4*	21.11	20.79
1932	23.5**	21.98	20.67
1931	26.1**	26.13	27.05
1929	35.5**	36.31	35.28

\* 10-month average (no prices for July and August).

There also has been marked interest in the improvement of the quality of hay and in the development of better pastures both through irrigation and otherwise. The manufacturing facilities located in the county are more than adequate to take care of all the production for years to come. The price paid by local manufacturing plants has been correlated closely with the Portland market quotations.

**Dairying is a sound enterprise for Douglas county and its further development should be encouraged, expansion being based, however, upon sound practices of dairy cattle management. Every effort must be made to keep production costs as low as possible.**

**Herd Improvement Essential**

The dairymen who desire to develop a herd of high producing cows must constantly call the low producers on the basis of production records. This either may be done through a herd improvement association or by individual effort, a dairy herd improvement association being advised. Special cooperation with the county agent on this program will bring profitable results.

Undue emphasis may have been placed upon high production per cow without sufficient emphasis allowed for economical production. While it is a general rule that low cost of production goes with high production per cow, higher production among cows with low inheritance may be attained at excessive costs. All dairymen should pay close attention to the cost of producing a pound of butterfat or 100 pounds of milk in connection with their herd improvement program. Each farm presents some what of a different problem and the successful dairymen must study his own dairy herd operation.

High producing purebred sires should be developed in the proposed herd improvement association. A program which will result in proving at least five sires each year should be adopted by the association.

Many small dairymen find it difficult to own a good sire because of relative high cost per cow. Joint ownership of sires is suggested by small groups, or an exchange program between two or three, each owning a good sire could be arranged, every two years. The second suggestion also permits the proving of sires.

The organization of a limited number of 4H calf clubs every year is encouraged. The result should be the development of youngsters who later will assume leadership in Douglas county dairying and as a result, substantial improvement in dairying may be expected.

**Pastures Are Problem**

Douglas county, except the coast area, has been raising an adequate supply of hay, most of which is suitable for dairy purposes. By proper management the yields and total production of hay in the coast region can be increased, this being desirable because coast dairymen must pay out annual expenses for hay purchased from outside sources. The rest of the county already is supplied with hay of good quality for milk production. Alfalfa may be increased in some areas, taking the place of less desirable hays. The alfalfa acreage should be increased where it can meet a real need for dairy production.

There are two different pasture problems in Douglas county, irrigated and non-irrigated areas. There already are some satisfactory examples of irrigated Ladino clover pastures. Many farms are favorable for development of irrigated pastures and every dairymen who can provide irrigated pastures should provide Ladino clover to take care of the requirements of his dairy herd.

Where water is not available on a profitable basis, attention is directed to the possibility of Sudan grass, or root resistant sweet clover. Dairymen cooperating with the county agent concerning trial pastures, will learn what possibilities exist for adequate non-irrigated pastures.

Part of alfalfa acreage may be used for pasture if all the crop is not needed for hay.

In the coast region during the late summer, pastures dry up to such an extent that milk production is greatly decreased. Feeding green corn during this period is suggested as a means to maintain a steady milk flow.

**Management Vital**

In the herds of larger size the cost of production ordinarily will be lower than in the smaller herds. This point is emphasized for the benefit of those who may not appreciate fully the significance of this important factor in production costs. There is no desire to suggest to anyone how large to develop his business, but at the same time those who desire to engage in dairying as an important part of their farm business should not overlook this point.

Many dairymen have a tendency to raise surplus animals for sale to out-of-state buyers. There is no reason to believe there will be heavy demand for surplus stock, during the next few years. Raising too many animals for replacements may result in too-rapid an expansion in the dairy industry.

The cost of raising heifers as revealed by the study of the Oregon agricultural experiment station indicates that at no time during the four years of the study, did the average price received meet the average cost of raising the heifers. Present prices create an average cost of \$65.00 to bring a heifer into milk production. Those who desire to raise heifers for the mar-

## Family Living Problems Will Be Discussed by O. S. C. Experts at Conference in Roseburg April 15

At the second annual county conference on family living, which will be held at the K. of P. hall in Roseburg on Wednesday, April 15, beginning at 9:45 a. m., Mrs. Azalea Sager, extension specialist in clothing and textiles, will discuss "When the Family Buys Shoes." Mrs. Sager says: "I find that few parents know how much larger the shoes should be than the feet. Many parents tell me they spend more money on shoes than on any other item of clothing, and some times they wear well and again they are a 'poor buy.'" The cost, comfort and wearing qualities are the problems in shoes Mrs. Sager emphasizes.

Mrs. Sager will discuss the types of shoes for the various members of the family, men as well as for women. State County Agent J. Roland Parker and both men and women interested in the program are welcome to attend. The first shoe necessary for the very small child will not be forgotten, and the correct type for growing boys and girls will be explained.

Mrs. Maud M. Morse, extension specialist in child development and parent education, will talk on "Our Family Talks It Over." The problems common to all families will be discussed and it is hoped many of the younger married women and others will be present to hear the talk given by Mrs. Morse.

Mrs. Morse has had unusual training for teaching parent education and child development, which includes both practical and theoretical knowledge. In June, 1933, she received her master's degree in child development at Oregon State college.

The conference on family living is sponsored by the county home economics committee and the extension service through the local county agent's office. The conference will start at 9:45 a. m. and will close at 4:00 p. m. with a pot luck luncheon at noon.



MRS. MAUD MORSE



Mrs. Azalea Sager

cream of various grades. Operation of the Oregon milk control act has been beneficial to the producers, maintaining a fair price for milk to the consumer.

Douglas county is on the modified tuberculosis accredited list. It has made rapid progress in testing for Bang's disease under the federal disease control program, under which the testing is free to the owner and a bonus is paid for reacting animals. At the conclusion of the federal program this disease should be largely eliminated from the county. At the conclusion of the federal program the dairymen of this county should take advantage of the recently enacted state law. The operation of the Oregon law will aid the county to become practically free from the disease.

Many dairy herds are affected with sterility or shy breeding, causing much inconvenience in the operation of dairy herds and large financial losses. The Oregon agricultural experiment station is asked to investigate this problem.

Many producers of dairy products purchase butter substitutes for use in their own homes. It is inconsistent for the producers of dairy products to urge the general public to consume no butter substitutes when they follow the practice of using the substitutes. All producers of dairy products are urged to consume only dairy products in their homes.

## HUNTING LICENSES NEAR SIX MILLION

Almost 6 million hunting licenses for which sportsmen paid a total of more than \$9,000,000 were issued by the states and Alaska in 1934, the latest year for which records are available, says the bureau of biological survey in summarizing reports of state conservation departments. Pennsylvania, New York, Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana together sold more than a third of the licenses.

## "FAMILY" INCLUDES WIFE, MULE, COW

DALLAS, Tex. — (AP) — "This family consists of wife, and 1, one milk cow, one 1,250-pound mule about 12 years; one mule 1,175 pounds; one iron wheel wagon."

This did a Rockwell county farmer start his inventory in applying to the U. S. resettlement administration for aid.

## MOTHBALLS PUT ODOR INTO EGGS

WESLACO, Texas—(AP)—Fred Rivers, dairy and poultry farmer, had the idea that mothballs scattered through his corn bins would keep away insects. As a result the milk and eggs began smelling like they had been in an attic trunk.

## CANNING INDUSTRY FACES FAIR YEAR

**Lower Prices, But Bigger Output and Volume of Sales Foreseen.**

SAN FRANCISCO, April 12.—(AP)—The Pacific coast fruit and vegetable canning industry faces prospects of a "better-than-average" year, in spite of the recent freeze, the "Coast Banker" says in a forecast for this huge industry. "It is 'yet too early' to predict definite yields for any crop, the survey nevertheless, dismissed recent unfavorable reports as of minor consequence.

Indications pointed to somewhat lower prices, but heavier output and greater volume of sales. "Development of new products may turn predicted surpluses into actual shortages," the report said.

Considerable emphasis went to production of fruit and vegetable juices. Production of tomato juice "has jumped from 185,000 cases in 1929 to over 8,000,000 cases in 1935, and similar increases may be expected in the case of other products," the survey stated.

The ability of coast canners to take control of larger and larger shares of the national pack also drew attention.

"It appears obvious," the report

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