



NEWS OF FARM LIFE

GRANGES

COUNTY AGENT'S REPORTS

CROP NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEWS



Release of Prune Marketing Contracts in Escrow Voted

DOUGLAS GROWERS O. K. CODE PRICES

Waiver of Total Acreage Agreement is Voted at Meeting Here.

By unanimous vote of a representative group of Douglas county prune growers, marketing contracts with the state prune control board were ordered released from escrow to become immediately effective. At the same time the growers approved the code price fixed by the state board.

Douglas county growers have for several months been signing marketing contracts, the agreements being held in escrow with the understanding that they would not be released or become effective until 75 per cent of the county's prune acreage had been brought under the proposed marketing plan.

At a meeting held at the Roseburg city hall Friday night, A. C. Marsters and R. E. Clarke, representatives from Douglas county to the prune control board, said that signatures of Umpqua Valley growers fell slightly short of the expected slump.

In voting unanimously to release the agreements, despite the shortage in acreage percentage, the meeting took into consideration the fact that many growers are affiliated with the Douglas County Prune Growers association and the Myrtle Creek prune pool. These associations while not entering into agreements under the control of the state prune board, are working in cooperation, thus bringing up the percentage of the prune growers of the county engaging in cooperative marketing.

MILK "STRIPPING" HELD UNNECESSARY

"Stripping" is one chore that the dairymen short of help may omit, says the bureau of dairy industry. It has been a common belief that lack of proper "stripping" would cause the cows to go dry more rapidly, lower the butterfat percentage of the milk, and possibly affect the health of the cow.

A complete lactation test was conducted by scientists of the bureau in which an average of 1.2 pounds of milk was left in the udder after each milking. Not only were all of the old beliefs disproved but about half the milk left in the udder was recovered at the next milking.

If all of the 1.2 pounds left in the udder had been lost for each of the 488 milkings during the lactation period, there would have been a difference of 576 pounds in favor of the cows "stripped" completely. The test showed, however, only 306 pounds more per cow. Thus, the scientists concluded that 270 pounds, or 47 per cent of the total left in the udder, was recovered.

For every hour spent in stripping 59 pounds of milk was obtained. As a result of the test the dairymen may conclude for himself whether or not the extra time required for stripping will pay. If he has plenty of time and is short of milk then he should get the "last drop." But if he is short of help he may omit stripping without harm to the cow. Ordinarily, enough additional milk will be obtained to pay for the labor of stripping.

MORE STEEL GAINED FROM FARM PRICES

CHICAGO, Oct. 12. — (AP) — T. M. Girdler, chairman of the board and president of Republic Steel corporation, told the farm equipment institute the American farmer gets more steel products in 1936 for his farm products than he did in 1929.

Girdler asserted, however, "class legislation on behalf of the farmer may discourage markets because it discourages consumption."

"The money from 100 pounds of beef or ten bushels of wheat at current prices will buy from six per cent to 20 per cent more than in 1929 of such steel products as barbed wire, galvanized sheets, or nails."

"This means a saving to American farmers on the amount of steel they will use this year over \$25,000,000," Girdler continued. "The saving for all steel consumers in the country this year will be at least \$300,000,000."

BALLOT MEASURES TO BE DISCUSSED

The Roseburg University club will meet at 8 p. m. in the banquet room at Carls Tavern. The meeting will be addressed by Harris Ellsworth, editor of the Roseburg News-Review, who will discuss measures coming before Oregon voters at the general election November 3.

"America's Champ Farm Girl"



Meet Miss Gertie Ter Maaten, 15-year-old American-born Dutch girl from Norwalk, Cal., who recently won the title of "America's Champ Farm Girl" in a contest at Pomona. Hay pitching and milking ability were considered by the judges as a basis for their decision.

Wall-Cleaning Problems Eased by New Methods, Specialist Points Out

Washington and dusting walls and woodwork are among the most troublesome of routine household tasks in the opinion of many housewives, but like others they are made easier by the use of proper methods and materials.

Almost any painted wood surface may be washed safely, but the success of the undertaking will depend somewhat on the quality of the finish, says Miss Joan Patterson, extension specialist in home furnishings at Oregon State college. In a recently issued leaflet on "Woodwork Finishes," she recommends the following method of preparing a cleaning jelly for use on painted surfaces:

Shave a cake of neutral soap in thin pieces and cook in one quart of water until thoroughly dissolved. Dissolve 2 1/2 ounces granulated glue in 1 1/2 quarts boiling water. Mix the two liquids and cool to a jelly. Enough of this jelly should be added to a pint of warm water to make a soda. It can then be applied with a sponge to the walls. The strokes should be made upward from the baseboard to prevent streaks. Follow these strokes with a chamomile or soft clean cloth.

Another liquid for washing cane-walled walls is made by mixing one quart of bran with one-half pint of warm water, Miss Patterson says.

OFFERS OF PRUNES FOR RELIEF SET

CORVALLIS, Oct. 12. — (AP) — Offers of standard prunes for sale to the commodities purchase section of the agricultural adjustment administration will be received by the office at 112 Market street, San Francisco, according to word received by the Oregon State college extension service from the AAA branch office at Berkeley.

The purchases will be made under the plan recently announced for buying up 1,000 tons of standard prunes to be distributed to families on relief rolls and thus removed from the normal channels of trade. Six hundred tons of this amount will be bought in Oregon and Washington from packers according to buy an equal quantity of unprocessed 1936 crop prunes from growers at prices on a basis not less than 34 cents a pound, price for prunes grading 89 to the pound.

WEST YIELDS MOST OF U. S. PEAR CROP

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12. — (AP) — Pacific coast states will produce 78 per cent of the nation's pear crop, the department of agriculture estimates.

The total production will be 27,956,000 bushels, compared with the 1935 production of 22,035,000 bushels and the 1929-32 average of 25,146,000 bushels.

Of the total, the coast states production will be 18,717,000 bushels. Production by states included: Washington, 5,135,000 bushels; Oregon, 2,769,000; California, 9,813,000.

"STRAW FARMING" FOUND PROFITABLE

Erosion Factor Calls For Protection of Soil by Stable Material.

Grain growers, both east and west of the Cascade mountains, are becoming very much interested in "straw farming," as it has been more or less derisively termed in the past. The increasing seriousness of wind and water erosion and steadily decreasing yields as land becomes older has brought many to the realization that plant residues cannot be wasted by burning without resultant soil depletion, according to observation of extension service men.

In the soil erosion demonstration areas east of the Cascades definite methods of incorporating both straw and stubble in the ground have been worked out. West of the Cascades many farmers have expressed the hope that the agricultural conservation program for 1937 will encourage this same practice.

The extent to which "straw farming" has paid in some sections is illustrated by the case of George R. Miller, wheat grower of Belmont, Wash., whose record in this respect was examined recently by the soil conservation service. Seven years ago, Miller started working in both straw and stubble with a disk tiller and found to his own satisfaction at least that the practice increased his yield from 5 to 10 bushels to the acre. He continued this practice with some variations until last year when his sons were still unconvinced that the idea was a good one.

In 1935 and 1936 he allowed his boys to prepare and grow 80 acres on clean summer fallow, directly beside 80 acres on straw, straw-fertilized fallow. The yield was almost 50 per cent higher on the latter tract.

Erosion must be off-limits. Careful experiments made under eastern Oregon conditions where the rainfall is probably considerably less than at Belmont have shown the marked yield advantage in favor of straw fallow. In fact in some years actual yield has been in favor of the clean fallow on a short time basis. Instances where farmers have followed the practice of turning under stubble and straw for a considerable number of years, however, show the way to better condition and more productive than where straw and stubble burning has been practiced. Regardless of slight fluctuations in yield, however, it is the opinion of soil men that the erosion factor alone is going to compel the incorporation of straw and stubble into the soil.

NO CHANGE SEEN IN WOOL SUPPLY

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12. — (AP) — The agriculture department estimates that the world wool supply for 1936-37 would be about the same as for the past season.

Its bureau of agricultural economics said preliminary estimates of wool production in 1936 for 15 countries showed an increase of two per cent over 1935. However, it said part of the increase in production, amounting to about 50,000,000 pounds, was offset by a reduction of about 25,000,000 pounds in stocks of the five principal southern hemisphere countries.

The survey said the new wool season in the United States and Europe also opened with raw wool stocks considerably lower than at the same time last year.

The preliminary estimate of wool production in this country showed a decrease of one per cent under last year.

POMONA GRANGE TO MEET OCTOBER 31

Douglas county Pomona grange will meet Saturday, October 31, in the I. O. O. F. hall at Roseburg in an all-day session, starting with a business meeting at 11 a. m. Election of officers will feature the morning session, which will be followed by a banquet dinner at noon.

A lecturer's program in the afternoon, starting at 2 p. m. will be open to the public and will be given over to a discussion of measures to be voted upon at the election Nov. 3. A speaker from state grange headquarters is expected to lead the discussion.

POULTRY CO-OPS SHOW BIG GAIN

Oregon poultry cooperatives made a sharp gain in both membership and sales volume during the 1935-36 marketing period as compared with the year before, according to figures announced this week by A. C. Adams, president of the bank of cooperatives at Spokane which finances cooperative business organizations in the four northwest states.

The five cooperative poultry groups operating in Oregon increased their combined membership from 769 to 2,254 and built up their volume from \$1,930,000 to \$2,700,000.

700,000. Mr. Adams' tabulation shows.

More than half the total volume of poultry products marketed co-operatively throughout the country originates from the Pacific coast states, with California ranking first, Washington second and Oregon third. Utah, Missouri and New Jersey also stand well toward the top in volume of poultry products marketed co-operatively.

Cooperative marketing as a whole has substantial gains during the past year, Mr. Adams pointed out, and the movement seems destined for continued growth. The bank for cooperatives makes facility, working capital and commodity loans on a sound basis to groups which are properly established and well managed.

CHANGES DESIRED IN AAA PROGRAM

Simplified Figuring System Chief Thing Oregon Growers Want.

With the series of 32 county AAA discussion meetings completed in this state, Oregon leaders of the agricultural conservation program are preparing to propose a greatly simplified method of computing possible benefits under the 1937 program, according to officials of the U. S. extension service who cooperated in holding the meetings.

County committeemen and other interested farmers took part in all of the meetings held and much information on the strong points and weaknesses of the 1936 program was obtained from the discussion. As requested by the national officials who are now working on details of the 1937 set-up.

A summary of Oregon recommendations made by producers in these meetings is now being prepared by the state committee and representatives of the extension service who will present it at the forthcoming district conference at Pocatello, Idaho, October 14. Representatives from Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Utah will take part in that meeting.

Simple Figuring Needed

The most significant change to be proposed by the Oregon delegation is one to simplify the method of figuring the total possible cash benefits which may be earned on any given farm by following approved soil conservation practices. Under the 1936 plan there were two or three ways of arriving at this, which caused considerable confusion among growers not entirely familiar with the methods. At the same time the total amount of benefits available were approximately \$1 an acre for every tilled acre in farms in the United States.

The Oregon proposal is that a limit of \$1 an acre for all crop land be set as the maximum benefits that can be earned by following such approved practices as may be decided upon. This figure, of course, would be adjusted according to the productivity index which is now established for each farm. Under such a plan a farmer would know at all times without difficult calculation exactly how much he would be able to earn by cooperating with the agricultural conservation program in carrying out specific soil building practices. All he would have then to decide is whether he would care to carry out any of these practices applicable to his farm.

ICE CREAM PROFITS PAY STUDENTS' FARE

CORVALLIS. — Financed by money earned through sale of ice cream bars at college events last year, a team of Oregon State college dairy students will make a trip to the national dairy show starting October 13 in Dallas, Tex. This is the first time since 1929 that an Oregon team has attended this national show, which is being held this year in connection with the Texas Centennial exposition.

Teams from about 30 of the leading land grant colleges of the country are expected to be present to compete for the many trophies and prizes being offered. The last time Oregon State was represented the team won third place.

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Some Corn, Eh!



Nature may have played havoc with many sections of the corn belt, but the size of these giant stalks near Traverse City, Mich., is indicated by a comparison to the combined height of a Maestran and Doreen, Tyron, dancers vacationing at the Michigan resort.

MEETINGS TO BE HELD AT ELGAROSE

The district meeting of Eden Lutheran church at Elgarose will be held Thursday, October 15, and will be conducted by the Rev. J. A. Edlund.

Services will be held at 11 a. m. with a sermon in the Swedish language by the Rev. E. J. Sallén. At 2 p. m. Rev. Carl J. Renhard will lead in a discussion on the topic, "The Just Shall Live by Faith." The discussion will be in the Swedish and English languages. At 8 p. m. services in English will be conducted by both pastors.

The general public is invited to attend any or all of the meetings.

"HORT" SHOW DATED BY OSC STUDENTS

CORVALLIS, Oct. 12. — (AP) — Students in horticulture at Oregon State college have selected October 29-31 as the dates for the annual "hort" show, when displays of the finest fruits, vegetables, nuts, flowers and preserved foods are prepared and arranged for the public to view free of charge.

LENNY RAPOSE and 12 great artists at Oriental Gardens next Wednesday night. — Adv.

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PRODUCTS HOLD TO INCREASED LEVELS

Index of Farm Prices as of Mid-September 17 Points Above One Year Ago.

Average prices received by farmers for their products as of September 15 held steady at the relatively high level established under drought conditions in mid-August, the bureau of agricultural economics reported. The price index in mid-September stood at 124. This was 17 points higher than a year ago.

A sharp increase during the month was registered in prices of truck crops, but these advances, together with a moderate rise in grains, cotton, dairy and poultry products, were sufficient only to offset seasonal declines in the prices of fruits and miscellaneous farm commodities. Truck crop prices were up 19 points in the month, chickens and eggs 7, dairy products 3, cotton and cottonseed 3, and grains 1 point. Prices of meat animals showed no change during the month. Fruit prices were down 3 points, however, and prices of miscellaneous products down 11 points.

As compared with a year ago, truck crops in mid-September were 52 points higher, likewise miscellaneous items up 45 points, grains up 33, dairy products up 36, fruit up 23, cotton and cottonseed up 16, whereas chickens and eggs were down 7 and meat animals down 8 points.

Among the prices paid by farmers for commodities, purchased feed had advanced 2 points in mid-September to an index of 136, which represented a total advance of 42 points from the June level. Prices of seeds also advanced sharply. Fertilizer prices remained relatively stable.

Noting changes in individual farm products, the bureau said that by mid-September wheat prices had regained most of their August losses. Corn rose another

cent during the month and on September 15 averaged \$1.05 a bushel, which was 27 cents higher than a year ago and was above wheat. Potato prices declined slightly, averaging \$1.14 a bushel in mid-September, which was about 60 cents higher than a year ago.

Hog prices declined 31 cents a hundred pounds in the month, averaging in mid-September \$9.58 per hundred pounds, as compared with \$10.29 a year ago. Butterfat prices dropped slightly also, farmers receiving an average of 35.5 cents a pound in mid-September. Ordinarily, butterfat prices increase during the month. Egg prices also failed to make their usual seasonal rise behind mid-August and mid-September, and at an average of 21.5 cents a dozen, eggs are about 2 cents under the price a year ago.

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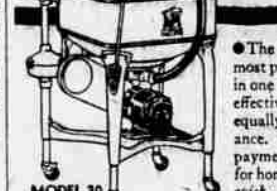
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Yours very truly,

JAMES BEAMER.

Farm Bureau Cooperative Exchange