NEWS OF FARM LIFE

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

WOOL CHECKS SENT TO ASSN. MEMBERS

Payments Reveal Superior Benefit of Marketing On Co-Op System.

Just in time for Christmas, Pacific Wool Growers members in western and southern Oregon and western Washington last week received final settlement statements and checks on farm flock wools shipped to the association during the late spring and summer. These growers received from 20c to 22c as cash advances at the time of delivery and are receiving the balance at this time.

In the settlement of this pool, medium combing wools brought members of the cooperative 37 1-8c per pound in Portland. The producers of combing wools of all grades, from fine to coarse, are netting 35½c. The producers of clothing wools, from fine to coarse inclusive, are netting 33 1-3c. Fifty-nine per cent of the pool is medium wool and is netting nearly 35c at Portland.

"The association's pool prices this year again show conclusively that the grower of good wool receives more for his clip when marketed cooperatively through the association than when disposed of in any other way," says R. A. Ward, general manager. "A check of government figures, and data gathered by our association on the sale of some 537,000 pounds of similar wool from this territory to dealers by growers who were not members of the association indicates that the average outside price for western Oregon and western Washington wools was slightly over 30½c per pound. We estimate that if all the wool in these two sections had been marketed through the association this year it would have brought non-member producers $100,000 more than they received."

This pool just closed contained some 350,000 pounds of wool and is only one of several graded pools and a large number of range clips handled by the Pacific Wool Growers totalling nearly 4,000,000 pounds. This graded pool on which members are now receiving settlement is made up of farm flock and ranch wools which were graded into mill-sized lines and the prices received by members are based on the average prices received for the various grades of wool of similar quality and shrinkage, delivered by the individual member.

FOUR-H CLUB ACTIVITIES

Three Douglas county 4-H club members have received gold pins in national 4-H club contests. Maxine Bartley was judged county champion in the national girls' record contest, which is sponsored by Montgomery Ward & Company. County Club Agent E. A. Britton presented the pin to her during the high school assembly last week.

Margaret Blakely was selected as county canning champion and received the pin awarded by the Kerr Canning company. This was presented by Mr. Britton at the P. T. A. meeting at Glide Thursday evening.

The Nelson Knitting company of Illinois, sponsor of the national corn growing contest, sent a beautiful gold pin to be presented to Walter Marks, Douglas county corn champion this year.

The Green school sent in a health club enrollment of 16 members. Mrs. Eileen Smith, teacher, is leading the club. Bert Bohme was elected president, Veda Mae Betts vice president, and Lois Mae Blake secretary.

Boys of the Dillard school have organized a group to be enrolled as a community livestock club. They have enrolled in the following projects: Jimmie Spackman, turkeys; Lamont Davison, chickens; Ray McAlpine, goats; Dale Doty, chickens and dairy; Terry Herscher, rabbits; Jimmie McAlpine, goats; Francis Daniels, chickens; Danny Laurance, chickens.

The 4-H Local Leaders club will hold its first 1937 meeting on Tuesday evening, January 12. This is set for 7:45 in the music room of Roseburg junior high school. Each leader of a clothing club is requested to bring a pair of scissors, thread and needle and a small piece of scrap cloth. Miss Jessie Palmiter, home demonstration agent, will be present to give assistance to those leaders. Miss Palmiter has also promised to assist in each monthly meeting. She will give instruction to the cooking club leaders at the February meeting.

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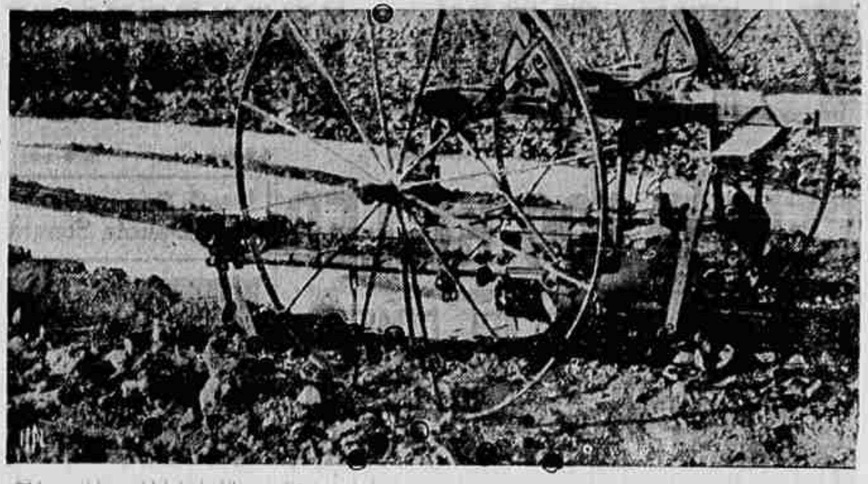
SHEEPMEN FEEDING LARGER LAMB CROP

PORTLAND, Dec. 21—(AP)—Far western sheepmen, taking advantage of drought conditions in the midwest and favorable pasturage in western states, are feeding a lamb crop which may be 8 per cent larger than the feeding operations of a year ago, the U. S. department of agriculture indicated today.

A survey showed that Oregon sheepmen are feeding 90,000 lambs, compared to 85,000 a year ago, with more than half of the crop centered in the Klamath Falls area.

Putting Paper Overcoats on Tender Plants



This machine, which looks like a cultivator, is the invention of Alfred Pfeiffer, San Antonio, Tex., shoe salesman, and is expected to save truck farmers thousands of dollars yearly. It puts paper overcoats on garden produce to protect it from frost. Hitherto the farmer had to cover the produce with earth at the cost of twenty to thirty dollars an acre. Pfeiffer claims paper, which will serve the purpose better, will cost less than ten dollars an acre.

DOUGLAS GRANGES INSTALL OFFICERS

Officers of Douglas County Pomona, Melrose, Sutherlin and Riverdale granges were installed at a joint ceremonial at Riversdale grange hall Friday night.

Mrs. Alice Goff served as installing officer, assisted by Mrs. Ethel Busenbark, marshal; Miss Carmel Newland, emblem bearer; Mrs. Amy Kruse, regalia bearer; Mrs. Katie Conn, chaplain; A. E. Dorman, custodian; Mrs. Lucia Cloake, musician, and Fred A. Goff, presiding officer.

Following the installation, refreshments were served by the home economics committee.

Officers installed were:

Pomona grange — T. B. Busenbark, master; M. H. McCord, overseer; Mrs. Paula Anderson, lecturer; Cecil Harris, steward; Eldon Fisher, assistant steward; Mrs. Cora Collison, chaplain; Pearl Jones, treasurer; Mrs. Ruth Casebeer, secretary; Clyde Henderson, gatekeeper; Esther Denn, Ceres; Clorinda Rhoads, Pomona; Olivia Lander, Flora; Mrs. Alice Goff, lady assistant steward; Dr. C. H. Bailey, Charles Hartley, R. A. Calhoun, executive committee.

Melrose grange — Mrs. Mable Busenbark, master; Crystal Conn, overseer; Grace Fenn, lecturer; Clifford Mabley, steward; Weldon Bradford, assistant steward; Mrs. Gladys Mabley, chaplain; Mrs. Amy Kruse, treasurer; Mrs. Alice Goff, secretary; Vaclaw Barsik, gatekeeper; Mrs. Eunice Wicklund, Ceres; Mrs. Amy Seeley, Pomona; Mrs. Kathryn Petrequin, Flora; Mrs. Lucille Conn, lady assistant steward; Ray Petrequin, T. B. Busenbark, Otto Matthews, executive committee.

Sutherlin grange — C. W. Hartley, master; Reba M. Hartley, lecturer; Clyde Henderson, secretary; W. D. Duke, treasurer; E. F. Simpson, overseer; Alice Simpson, chaplain; Martin Lloyd, steward; George Sharp, assistant steward; Mrs. H. H. Clemens, lady assistant steward; Charlotte Parker, Pomona; June Shamp, Ceres; Kathryn Graham, Flora; W. O. Gildersleeve, gatekeeper; E. F. Simpson, C. A. Goff, W. L. Cain, executive committee.

Riversdale grange — Harlan Moore, master; Darley E. Ware, overseer; Elsie Irving, lecturer; H. H. Kruse, steward; J. L. Potvin, assistant steward; Pearl Jones, chaplain; E. G. Cloake, treasurer; Eva H. Marks, secretary; Harry Marks, gatekeeper; Vera Dominico, Ceres; Vivian Dominico, Pomona; Helen E. Ogle, Flora; Jennie Potvin, lady assistant steward; C. T. Tipton, R. R. Harding, R. A. Calhoun, executive committee; Lucia Cloake, musician.

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OREGON TAX TREND SHOWN BY STUDY

The most comprehensive study on record of public expenditure in Oregon based on property tax collections for the various spending units has just been completed by Dr. W. H. Dreesen, agricultural economist of the O. S. C. experiment station, and has been published as a 114-page station bulletin, No. 316.

Dr. Dreesen has worked for several years in his "spare moments" gathering and compiling the information from county and state sources. It covers the 25-year period 1910 to 1934, inclusive, and as completed, it lists the tax levies for both rural and urban properties in every county for all purposes, including state, county, school, roads, debt service and miscellaneous.

Although the study is intended primarily to afford a permanent source of reference for tax bodies and lawmakers, Dr. Dreesen has drawn some general conclusions from his findings. He reports that rural taxes reached their peak in 1928 and urban taxes in 1930, but that in terms of actual purchasing power the peak of payments was reached in 1932 for both classes.

Three major trends during the period pointed out by Dr. Dreesen are a steady rise in "public standard of living," increased centralization in the administration of public functions, and a narrowing of the property tax base through the removal of certain classes of property or its classification of special taxes.

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SURPLUS WALNUT PAYMENTS MADE

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 21 — (AP) — The 13,000 walnut growers of the Pacific coast states who participated in the industry's surplus pool for the 1935-1936 season are getting $717,000 out of it this week.

The regional office of the agricultural adjustment administration announced today final payments on the export and diversion program were mailed Saturday. Payments are going to growers in Washington, Oregon and California.

With a previous payment, the diversion program brought growers a return of $1,225,000, amounting to 4.83 cents a pound on the average for the surplus nuts.

GRANGE ACTIVITIES

KELLOGG GRANGE

Joint installation of officers of Fred Weatherly and Kellogg granges was held Wednesday, Dec. 16, with a large crowd present. Refreshments were served at the close of the meeting.

The home economics committee met at the grange hall Dec. 17. Preparations for a holiday party were made at the short business session. Mrs. Arthur Hutchinson and Mrs. Roy Fisher served refreshments to the members and visitors present.

Kellogg grange will hold its second meeting in December the night of the 30th. A Christmas party will be enjoyed and each person attending is asked to bring a small gift.

Miss Jessie Palmiter, home extension supervisor, met with the Kellogg unit on Dec. 9th at the grange hall. Twenty-six members were present for the demonstration. The next meeting will be held January 8 at the home of Marian Fisher. It was voted to send one delegate to the home conference at Corvallis in February, the delegate to be chosen at the January meeting.

The Kellogg grade school will present a program in the grange hall Wednesday, Dec. 23.

SERVE Bisceglia's FINE DINNER WINES for holiday meals. Ask your dealer for the above brands.

YULE PARTIES GIVEN KIDDIES AT THEATRE

More than one thousand boys and girls of Roseburg and vicinity were entertained at a Christmas party Saturday by the Elks lodge and the management of Hunt's Indian theater. Following a free matinee at the theater, the lodge, with Santa Claus present as master of ceremonies, distributed gifts of candy, fruit and nuts, to all the youngsters present.

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Visits Family—Oscar Hagg, Southern Pacific employee at Eugene, spent the week-end in this city with his family.

FEATURES ADDED TO 1937 SOIL PROGRAM

Corn Crop Control Listed in Outline; More Stress Put on Payments.

With the framework of the 1937 agricultural conservation program officially announced at Washington, D. C., farm operators in Oregon are now awaiting detailed interpretation of the plan in the light of Oregon conditions which will be available as soon as official representatives from this state return from the national conference.

Meanwhile the state soil depleting crop base for the 1936 program has been definitely approved at Washington, and state and county officials have supplied each county with its final base figures. From these individual applications can now go forward with little delay.

Significant among the changes in the 1937 program is provision for some crop control to be applied to corn. This is to be accomplished by setting an acreage quota for each farm which comes under the soil conservation provisions of the new program. National AAA officials announced that this is needed to prevent the corn acreage getting far out of line under the stimulus of high prices which followed last year's extremely short crop.

Payments Stressed

The new crop will include both diversion and soil building payments again, but with the latter given more emphasis. An average of $9 an acre for diversion instead of $10 has been set and it will be handled on a somewhat different basis. Of the $9, $6 will be applied directly to diverted acreage up to 15 per cent, while $3 will be paid for definite additions to the soil conserving acreage above the 15 per cent. This, in efect, serves to add the $3 to total soil building practice payments.

The range improvement program is continued, but with payments lowered from $2 to $1.50 per animal unit of carrying capacity. Producers of sizeable acreages of permanent pasture, as well as others whose farms are now largely in soil conserving crops, will have opportunity for additional participation. The minimum allowance per farm, regardless of size, has been raised from $10 to $20 this year, and provision has been made for more benefits for vegetable and fruit growers who carry out soil building practices. It is believed that last year's base acreage determinations may be used again, thus eliminating much of the detailed work necessary in carrying out the present program.

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STATE FAIR WILL OPEN LABOR DAY

PORTLAND, Dec. 21 — (AP)— Solon T. White, director of agriculture, said today the 1937 state fair will be held at Salem beginning Labor day, Sept. 6. The fair will run a week.

The director's announcement followed a debate in which representatives of 25 county fairs asked that the date be shifted to the latter part of September or the first part of October to avoid conflict with county fairs.

White pointed out that it was impossible to do this under present conditions with no appropriation from the legislature and the question of meeting any deficit being up to the state fair board members themselves. He said almost a third of the fair receipts came from the Labor day attendance.

The director told the county fair organization that if it would sponsor legislation restoring a state appropriation for the state fair as has been done in other years it was likely the date could be delayed.

RIVERSDALE GRANGE REPORTS GOOD YEAR

Riversdale grange has had a most successful year in all departments, according to annual reports submitted at the last regular meeting.

R. A. Calhoun, agricultural committee chairman, reported the grange had been kept informed upon actions of the federal government on the AAA soil conservation program, agricultural work sheets, etc., and that timely information on spray programs and materials had been distributed. He reported work done in the pest control project totalled more than 252,000 points.

The legislative committee chairman, A. N. Schneider, reported handling the circulation of initiative measures in which the grange was interested. The committee also provided information in support of these measures, and took active steps toward registration of voters and urging a large turnout of voters at the polls.

The home economics committee chairman, Mrs. Dessie Tipton, reported the club had sponsored improvements to the hall by making and hanging curtains and providing kitchen equipment, dishes and silverware. The committee turned over $182.51 to the treasurer of the grange, the principal portion of the money being applied to the building fund.

The fire insurance report announced one fire loss, eight policy renewals and 17 policies in force among Riversdale grange members.

Mrs. Frances Holaboldt, relief committee chairman, announced $14.78 collected in penny drills, the money being used for flowers and cards for sick members of the grange.

From the report of Secretary W. D. Love, the grange was informed that $53.75 had been collected in prizes during the year. In the "Know Your Oregon" contest, sponsored by the Oregon Grange Bulletin, Riversdale grange won a cash prize every month. Other cash prizes were won in drill team and attendance contests.

The grange supplied two 4-H club summer school scholarships for outstanding club work in the communities making up the grange membership. Scholarships will be given again this year.

The organization started the year with 89 members and has made a gain of 30 during the year.

Attendance of grange officers for the year was above 90 per cent and the average attendance of members at meetings for the year was 44 per cent.

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POTATO CROPS OF WEST COAST MOUNT

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 19—(AP) — Federal-state market service reports indicate a potato production of about 28,305,000 bushels for the three Pacific coast states this year.

This is up about 12 per cent above the 25,350,000 bushels produced in the 1935 season.

California, with 12,985,000 bushels, was 9th in national standing among the states, and showed a good increase over the 1935 output of 11,760,000 bushels.

Oregon's 1936 output was placed at 7,310,000 bushels compared with 5,670,000 last year, and Washington's at 8,010,000 against 7,920,000. Maine kept the national lead by a huge margin, with 44,000,000 bushels.

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