

NEWS OF FARM LIFE

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



FALL LAMB TRADE MAY BE VERY BIG

WASHINGTON, June 21.—(AP)—The agriculture department announced that delayed marketings of early lambs combined with movement of late crop lambs may result in unusually large offerings in the late summer and early fall. It predicted the seasonal decline in lamb prices would occur later than usual and may be greater than average. Prices on spring lambs rose sharply during the first three weeks of May, reaching the highest level of the current season. The average price of \$12.65 per 100 pounds for good and choice spring lambs at Kansas City was the highest since 1929, and more than \$1 higher than the comparable price last year. The increase resulted chiefly from higher wool and pellet values. Slaughter of sheep and lambs under federal inspection in May was 3 per cent larger than in April and 13 per cent larger than in May, 1936.

PRUNE MARKETING BENEFIT FORESEEN

Reports Made on Federal Legislation at Grange Meeting at Melrose

Federal legislation now under consideration is expected to materially benefit prune marketing, according to a report made before the Melrose grange at its regular meeting Saturday. The report was made by the agricultural committee, Fred A. Goff, W. M. Bonebrake and D. N. Busenbark, who gave excerpts from the state grange agricultural committee report, which particularly outlined progress made in cooperative marketing.

Mrs. Alice Busenbark gave reports on meetings of the home economics club, which will hold its next session July 10. R. A. Busenbark of the legislative committee reported on the Wagner labor act and on the status of legislation of particular interest to farmers.

Mrs. Crystal Conn, chairman of the grange sales committee, reported a prize had been won for Melrose grange and urged grange members to secure and turn in their slips in an effort to win other cash awards.

Mrs. Mabel Busenbark, master of Melrose grange, gave an interesting report of the state grange meetings, her report being supplemented by talks by D. N. Busenbark, Mrs. Alice Goff, T. H. Busenbark, Mrs. Ethel Busenbark, Fred A. Goff and other members who attended the state convention.

All officers and committee chairmen are to meet Thursday evening at the home of Mrs. Mabel Busenbark to plan for summer activities. Program Presented.

The following program was presented by Mrs. Grace Fenn, lecturer: song, "In the Garden," grange reading, "The Church Spider," Amy Seely guitar and harp music, Crystal Conn; minstrel skit, Edna Matthews, Mabel Busenbark, Katie Conn, Ethel Busenbark, Nellie Myers, Kathryn Patreque, Amy Kruse; banjo solo, Walter Kruse; contest, "Current Questions," Crystal Conn; banjo and piano duet, Walter Kruse; Edythe Kelley; stunt, "Grange Banquet," Fred A. Goff.

Refreshments were served by a committee composed of Katie Conn, Grace Fenn and Crystal Conn. The next regular meeting of the grange will be held July 3.

FOUR-H CLUB ACTIVITIES

With the exception of Betty Michaels, the entire group of Douglas county 4-H club members who attended summer school, returned home Friday afternoon. Betty Michaels remained over to visit with relatives at Corvallis.

Every one of the delegation is most enthusiastic about the summer school program and those who went this year and also attended other years stated that this is truly the best summer school ever. It was very fortunate that all the girls of Douglas county could be housed together, in that they had a chance to become well acquainted. Then, too, being right in the edge of the campus they did not have far to go to classes.

There were 66 members at summer school from Douglas county and four leaders along as chaperons. Several of the members had already started earning money for money in going to summer school next year.

Yesterday Oregon County Club Agent E. A. Britton and Heskett Baker, leader of the Douglas county 4-H China pheasant club, visited several projects.

In some cases "sourness" of pens and feed around the under boards were found. This is detrimental to the success in raising China pheasants and should be done away with at once. During this wet weather, it will be necessary to move the pens every three or four days instead of every two weeks as is done in summer weather.

Because of the lack of sunshine the birds should be sprayed with curd at all times. It is not necessary to have any water on hand whatever so long as this curd is supplied. Then too, there should be some dry chick starter mash on hand all the time. This, in addition to the regular feedings four times each day.

All club livestock members are taking a keen interest in the annual fall lamb and wool show which is sponsored by the Douglas county livestock association and which is being held next Saturday. Those who have already sent in entries include Mary Hollinger, Clara Meredith, George Marsh, Everett Hunt, Leslie Hunt, James Nichols, Raymond Hunt and Dor Harmon. It is expected that several others will send in entries not only of fat lambs but also of fleeces. Any 4-H club member is also permitted to bring in a pen of five lambs to compete in the open class.

Scientists at Iowa State college have discovered a toxin that retards the fungus and mold growth on corn, barley, fruits and vegetables.

Commemorating First Steel Plow



This plow will dig deeply into history June 25 when residents of the little village of Grand Detour, Ill., will celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the making of the first steel plow, by Leonard Andrus. At the handles of the plow, a replica of the daddy of all steel plows, are Mrs. Ferde Parks Stouffer in a dress worn by her grandmother, first white woman to settle in Grand Detour, and Amos H. Bosworth III, of Dixon, Ill., descendant of one of Andrus' original partners. A memorial will be dedicated on the site of the first factory.

NORTHWEST CROPS BELOW AVERAGE

PORTLAND, June 21.—(AP)—An unusually backward spring has kept growing conditions throughout the northwest below average and the June 1 condition of all crops is "considerably below" the 10-year average, the U. S. department of agriculture said.

Conditions were so slow in some sections west of the Cascades that June 1 some grain crops had not been seeded, and in other sections, where ample rains occurred, cold weather also prevailed, preventing crop development. East of the Cascades conditions were somewhat more favorable as a whole.

Egg and milk production reached a high level, 61 per cent of the hens and pullets laying in Oregon and milk production per cow averaging 29.8 pounds.

The incident weather injured fruit prospects, the department's averages showing that the apple crop was 74 per cent of normal, compared to the 1923-32 average of 78 per cent, the peach crop 51 per cent against 59 per cent for the 1923-32 average, the pear crop 78 per cent, or five per cent above the 10-year average, the plum crop 45 per cent, or 29 per cent below the 10-year average, while the cherry crop at 54 per cent was 3 per cent below last year. A 10-year average was unavailable.

Farmer Profits From Efforts To Cure Hay Fever

LYONS, Nev. (AP)—His attempt to cure hay fever made J. J. Lydyk prosperous. Twenty-seven years ago doctors advised him to go to the mountain to his ailments and out in the trees, they said, get some air. But Lydyk couldn't go. Instead, he planted a wide shelter belt of trees around his 240-acre farm. Friends called him the "wasting land."

But in 1926, the trees and bushes caught on and produced nice trees. The potatoes yielded 300 bushels to the acre and his corn as high as 40 bushels, while neighboring farms were stricken by drought.

Now, because of what he did for his hay fever, Lydyk's farm is worth double that of nearby tracts.

MASONS OF OREGON ELECT OFFICERS

PORTLAND, June 19.—(AP)—Carl G. Peterson of Baker was named grand lodge master of the Grand Masonic lodge of Oregon at the close of the three-day session here. He succeeds R. Frank Peters of Hillsboro.

Other officers elected were Franklin C. Howell, Portland, deputy grand master; S. J. Finest, Hillsboro, senior grand warden; Earl Snell, Salem, junior grand warden; R. E. Plumes, Portland, grand treasurer; D. R. Cheney, Portland,

IMPORTING PERILS OREGON HOP TRADE

PORTLAND, June 21.—(AP)—J. W. Seavey, Portland, widely known grower, buyer and broker, said hop growers were facing a serious situation which threatened the future of the hop industry because brewers had turned to the import trade.

He said only five bales of hops were sold in the past week. Imports of hops in the United States this year have already passed the 50,000-bale mark, amounting to approximately 10,000,000 pounds of hops.

For these imports, Seavey said, 21 cents a pound was collected, amounting to \$2,100,000.

OREGON SEED CROPS YIELD \$3,000,000

CORVALLIS, June 21.—(AP)—Oregon's seed crops were worth \$3,000,000 to the state's growers in 1936, a survey compiled by E. R. Jackson, extension specialist of Oregon State college, said.

The report showed that the state produced 100 per cent of the common and Hungarian vetch seed, chewing fescue seed and English and Italian rye grass seed used in this country, 95 per cent of the nation's bent grass seed and hairy vetch, and 90 per cent of the Australian winter peas and ladino clover seed.

Josephine county leads in ladino seed production. Lane in English rye grass, Gilliam in crested wheat grass, Malheur in irrigated clovers, central Oregon in alfalfa clover, and the Willamette valley in hairy vetch, crimson clover and vegetable seeds.

About 100,000 acres of the state's farm area is devoted to seed production. Among the seed crops that Jackson says Oregon could well produce more of he lists alfalfa, crested wheat, ladino alfalfa, hairy vetch, crimson clover, English rye grass, chewing fescue, ladino clover, vegetable seeds, cowpea, couch meadow grass and white clover. All of these except ladino alfalfa are now being imported into the United States.

MESSANGER BOYS' STRIKE SETTLED

SEATTLE, June 18.—(AP)—The Western Union messenger boys' strike for wage increases and union recognition, ended today through mediation efforts of Charles W. Hope, national labor relations board regional director.

The union agreed to withdraw pickets and the management agreed to resume business today, paying the 110 striking messengers their old rate of pay retroactive to June 9, the day the boys walked out.

This return to the former status will remain pending a decision by the board on the messenger union's charges filed with the board.

FULL LOSS OF HAY NOT NECESSARY

Wet Alfalfa and Clover May Be Used for Mulch Under Soil Program.

"A complete loss of alfalfa and clover hay spoiled by recent rains is not necessary," states County Agent Roland Parker. "Inasmuch as the spoiled hay may be used as a mulch in orchards under that full benefits may be earned as a soil building practice. Mulching orchards with two tons of leguminous hay or straw, dry weight, in 1937 will allow benefits at the rate of \$1.00 per acre, subject to the soil building allowance for the farm. Hay or straw as a mulch in an orchard should be placed on areas where a cover crop was not sown in under as a soil building practice, in order that full benefits may be earned. Orchards are classified under the soil conservation program as lands devoted on January 1, 1937, to fruit trees, nut trees, vineyards, hops, or bush fruits.

"Farmers should remember," states County Agent Parker, "that no benefits under the soil conservation program can be earned unless the operator filed a work sheet either in 1936 or in 1937. In case the operator did not sign a work sheet for the soil conservation program and has alfalfa or clover hay spoiled by rains, the spoiled hay may be spread upon crop land and used as manure to advantage. A chemical analysis of alfalfa and clover hay shows that the available nitrogen, phosphate and potash is worth, in terms of commercial fertilizer, at a rate of \$6.99 to \$8.00 a ton. A ton of alfalfa hay contains approximately 48 pounds of nitrogen, while clover hay contains about 40 pounds of nitrogen. Both contain smaller amounts of phosphorus and potash. The plant food elements contained in the hay are of value in applying the spoiled hay to the soil, inasmuch as the hay adds considerable humus and increases the bacteria activity, which results in improved conditions in the soil and in more favorable plant growth."

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Common slaughter grades continued upward in May, however, so that the average price paid at Chicago for all grades, \$13.21 a hundred pounds, was 46 cents above April and 8 cents above May last year.

Cattle prices usually decline in the late summer and early fall but the bureau said conditions now indicate this decline in 1937 will be less than average.

MOTHER-SLAYER RECEIVES 13 YEARS

RIVERHEAD, N. Y., June 18.—(AP)—Mrs. Helen Thorman sat in the county jail cell today, sometimes laughing, sometimes tearful, doomed to spend at least 13 years in prison for the brutal slaying of her seven-year-old daughter. She brought her trial to an abrupt end last night when she pleaded guilty to murder in the second degree.

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BUTTER GRADING CHANGES LITTLE

PORTLAND, June 21.—(AP)—Federal standards of butter grading will not be materially changed in a proposed revision, C. W. Kitcher, of the bureau of agricultural economics said at a hearing here.

Among the proposed changes he listed the elimination of the package as a factor in grading and substitution of a more direct method for the present score-card plan of evaluating grading factors.

The new code, he said, would provide a range of from 75 to 95 instead of from 81 to 95 as at present.

He pointed out that under the commodities exchange act deliveries of butter on future contracts shall conform to standards set up by the secretary of agriculture.

GRANGE ENDORSES PROTECTIVE CO-OP

SALEM, June 21.—(AP)—A resolution favoring the farmers' crop protective co-operative met the unanimous endorsement of the Marion county Pomona grange.

The organization was described as a collective bargaining agency to protect farmers' interests in any emergency which may affect or jeopardize the harvesting, transportation, packing, canning, storing or marketing of farm products.

SALEM, June 18.—(AP)—The American Animal Health Foundation says its nationwide study shows America is the healthiest country in the world for livestock and farm animals.

The foundation said foot and

mouth disease, a grave problem for cattle raisers a few years ago, has been eradicated entirely and that tuberculosis is being brought under control.

"Hog cholera still remains the American farmer's most deadly enemy with an annual loss estimated in the neighborhood of \$20,000,000," the foundation reported. "Most of this loss could be prevented if farmers would have their herds vaccinated each spring."

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MOUNTAIN RANGE BUILDING APPROVED

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CORVALLIS, June 21.—(AP)—Two range-building practices applying to mountain meadows and a provision for including mountain meadows in computing the range-building allowance have been approved by the agricultural adjustment administration, N. C. Donaldson, in charge of the AA programs in Oregon, said.

The mountain meadow practices will apply only in specifically designated counties. No counties have yet been approved for Oregon, but recommendations will be made when the state committee meets July 1.

The new practices will be available for ranchers who have mountain meadows in counties which have been recommended by the county and state committees and approved by the director of the western division as counties in which such practices are necessary and will be effective in promoting land conservation.

The approved practices are as follows: Re seeding of mountain meadows to approved varieties of grass seed at the rate of 20 cents per pound of seed sown, up to \$2 an acre; and construction of earthen dams for control of erosion on mountain meadows, with payment at the rate of 15 cents per cubic yard of fill, and with the payment for each dam constructed limited to \$50. Both of these practices require approval before being put into effect.

In computing the range building allowance mountain meadows will be counted at the rate of 40 cents an acre, when the hay from such meadows is fed entirely to livestock on the ranch and owned by the ranch. This amount will be added to the range-building allowance established for the ranch on the basis of grazing capacity.

FARM BREVITIES

The inclusion of the mountain meadow provisions in the 1937 program will make it possible for ranchers who have a relatively large proportion of their ranches in mountain meadows to cooperate in the program, while otherwise they could not readily do so," Donaldson says.

Ranchers may also use rail and pole fences in addition to wire fences as a practice in the range program, for which the payment rate is 30 cents a rod.

Commercial mustard and turnips have been added to the list of approved green manure crops for which a soil-building payment may be made, and the list of approved emergency forage crops has been increased by the addition of winter seeded peas and vetch when seeded with small grains as a support crop.

Kansas, largest wheat producer in the United States, uses more wheat for seed each year than is harvested in 28 other states.

Farmers of Afton, Tex., killed 3,000 crows with one charge of high explosive planted in the birds' roost.

It is said that hens are unable to distinguish between their own eggs and lumps of coal, sitting impartially on either.

Normal goats are able to produce 500 gallons of milk annually, the average production of the average dairy cow.

Approximately 80 per cent of the annual corn crop of the United States is used as fodder for beef, pork, and poultry.

De Kol Plus Legis Dixie, a Holstein-Friesian cow, produced 32,464 pounds of milk and 1349.3 pounds of butterfat in one year.

A Massachusetts grange that has had a continuous existence for almost 64 years still has two of the original charter members living; one of these, 83 years old, still active and attending all the meetings.

The University of Wisconsin experiment station has developed a new technique for preserving alfalfa silage by spraying it with molasses—60 pounds per ton—as it passes through the ensilage cutter.

Iowa leads all states of the Union in egg production, having produced 147,122,438 dozens in the calendar year of 1934.

A huge cone, attached to the front of a car is being used by a scientist to collect insects. This enables him to tell farmers the right time to spray crops.

Agricultural authorities estimate the annual damage to alfalfa crops by pocket gophers in Kansas at about \$5,000,000.

Fifty per cent of the potato crop of the United States is claimed by trade channels, 20 per cent is reserved for the farmer's own use, 12 per cent is used for seed, and 18 per cent is fed to livestock or discarded as worthless.

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