



NEWS OF FARM LIFE

GRANGES

COUNTY AGENT'S REPORTS

CROP NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEWS



Turkey Hatchery Industry Hit By Day Train Discontinuance

PROMPT DELIVERY OF POULTS HALTED

New Shipping Arrangement Needed for Growth of Watzig's Business.

Discontinuance of daytime train service, which eliminates availability of timely express service, is seriously affecting a rapidly growing local industry that of hatching turkey eggs, according to Mrs. O. H. Watzig of the Watzig hatchery, north of Roseburg.

Lacking facilities for satisfactory delivery of newly hatched turkeys to growers at distant points, the hatchery, Mrs. Watzig states, faces a serious condition.

The local hatchery last year handled shipments amounting to more than \$2,000 per week during the hatching season, and already has orders which will provide a considerable increase this year. However, a new shipping arrangement must be provided, it is reported, if the industry is to continue to grow.

Early Record Created

The hatching season this year has been started far ahead of any previous schedule. One of the state's largest turkey growers, who has for several years been working to produce extra strong liveability in early-hatched poult, has already received shipments of birds hatched at Roseburg. The first setting of eggs was January 1, the second January 18, and the third February 1. The three settings had a total of 6,000 eggs.

This is earliest, Mrs. Watzig states, that such a large number of turkeys has been hatched in Oregon.

The eggs were furnished by the grower from trapped and pedigreed stock. Each poult has a sealed wing band, carrying a number signifying its ancestry. The hatching of these eggs requires a great deal of record keeping work, Mrs. Watzig states, as the hatching record of eggs from each of the several hundred trapped hens must be kept and each bird marked with its identifying number. The work is being done for a grower residing 200 miles from Roseburg, and who has used the facilities of the hatchery for several years.

Utmost Care Required

Mrs. Watzig also is handling several thousand eggs for an out-of-state breeder in Utah.

"Shipment of these poult to owners at a distance of several hundred miles is a task which requires the very best of facilities," Mrs. Watzig said in discussing her problem resulting from the change in train schedule.

"The newly hatched birds are extremely delicate. They must be kept away from drafts and at a fairly constant temperature. At the same time they must have sufficient ventilation. It is necessary to transfer them from one express car to another, the transfer must be handled very carefully as the birds cannot be allowed to become chilled and cannot withstand severe changes in temperature.

"Heretofore the schedules have permitted shipment of poult by railway express. Special arrangements have assisted in transfers, and there has been a remarkably low percentage of loss.

"Now, however, there is no schedule which will permit fast shipments and it is going to be necessary to work out some completely new arrangement. It is possible that heated trucks will enter the picture. If some satisfactory arrangement cannot be made, it may be necessary to move the industry elsewhere."

Delivery Orders Heavy

Hatching for growers outside of Douglas county has been increasing rapidly, and necessitated installation this year of a new incubator. Mrs. Watzig reports that last year the local hatchery shipped more than 21,000 poult to distant growers, and this season has contracts for more than 50,000. All of these poult must be shipped by rail or truck. Shipments will be made at the rate of 40 to 50 boxes of 72 birds each per week, valued at approximately \$3,000, and the season will extend for 15 or more weeks.

The unusually early hatchings this year give indication, Mrs. Watzig said, that the season may be still further expanded in the future, giving added gravity to the shipment problem because of the unfavorable condition of the weather for transportation of poult in mid-winter.

STONE FRUIT SPRAY PROGRAM PREPARED

The annual illustrated booklet containing a recommended spray program for Oregon stone fruits has just been issued by the extension service at Oregon State college. Only minor changes have been made from last year, hence those who have a 1937 bulletin will not find it necessary to obtain a new one. This and a similar bulletin for apples and pears may be obtained free at extension offices or direct from the college.

First Man to Purchase Farm Through New Federal Plan of Aid to Tenants



Program for Improvement of Douglas County's Livestock Industry Offered At Recent Conference Held In Roseburg

Editor's Note: The following report was submitted by the livestock committee at the recent agricultural outlook conference held in this city:

Livestock has played an important role in the growth and development of Douglas county. Early settlers found the land and climate ideal for livestock. Range lands were unlimited and the mild climate provided an abundance of good forage the year round. Conditions once so favorable to the production of livestock have gradually changed. Nature and man-made laws have restricted the acreage of land available for grazing and disease and other problems are making it more difficult for the livestock owner to make a profit.

Present Livestock Problems

The deterioration of the range lands, overgrazing of existing pastures, the lack of necessary supplemental feeds of good quality, parasites, and the indiscriminate use of inferior breeding stock are all major problems facing the livestock industry in Douglas county today.

Encroachment of brush on large areas of land formerly used for the grazing of sheep and beef cattle has forced many livestock men to reduce the number of animals in their flocks and herds while others have been forced to quit entirely. Overgrazing and poor management of remaining pasture lands is fast forcing a reduction in the number of livestock that can be kept. Severe losses have been encountered by many operators during the past few years for a lack of supplemental feeds, especially alfalfa and clover hay, to carry their sheep and cattle through periods of unfavorable weather conditions which killed the grass or covered it with snow.

Parasites have caused heavy losses in many flocks of sheep and little has been done to most cases to eliminate the source of infestation or to treat the animals in time to save their lives. Few are the well bred flocks of sheep and cattle to be found throughout the county. Late maturing ewe lambs or those that were unable to be marketed as fat lambs have been kept to replace old ewes lost from the breeding flock. Cheap rams are in common use and have reflected their value in poor lamb crops and inferior offspring.

Failure to provide green summer pasture for the fattening of lambs after the native grasses have dried up has cost sheep men thousands of dollars, the difference in price between fat lambs and feeder lambs.

The number of beef cattle and sheep in the county has been declining for several years. The sheep population, according to the census of January 1, 1930, was 140,293 head, and in 1935, 106,557 head, a decrease of 33,000 head in a period of five years.

Conditions which have brought about a decline in the numbers of livestock can be and should be changed without delay. The support and cooperation of all livestock growers will be necessary, but should be willingly given.

A Suggested Livestock Program. An abundance of good pasture, hay and other feeds is essential to

A neighbor of Senator John H. Bankhead, Wiley J. Langley, pictured here with an armful of kindling wood, has been selected as the first tenant to buy a farm with government money provided under the Bankhead-Jones farm tenant bill. The Farm Security Administration, which will administer the tenant act, announced that Senator Lester Hill of Alabama would present Langley, who has a family of nine, with a check for \$3800 at a ceremony on the Bankhead farm Feb. 12. Under the act it is planned to aid 15,000 farmers annually in purchasing farms.

The number of sheep cash and should be increased to approximately 150,000 head if all available land adapted to grazing is developed and put to its best use. Large areas of land formerly set for grazing and now covered with brush should be burned and reseeded. Woodland pastures and farm timber lands from which the timber has been removed for lumber, piling or wood should be burned and seeded to grass to increase the acreage of pasture. On open pasture land where grass has deteriorated due to encroachment of moss or overgrazing, the land should be plowed or burned to enable new seedlings to be made each year, thus making good pasture available at all times.

Supplemental pasture on crop land to provide green feed for fattening lambs not finished on other pasture should be provided. Large sums of money are lost each year by sheep men by not getting all their lambs off to market as fat lambs. Normally, at least 40 per cent of the lambs produced in the county are sold as feeders at a price from a third to a half less than that paid for fat lambs.

Control of parasites should be given more attention. Losses have been severe in many cases and slaughtering records show most of the fat lambs shipped from the county are infested with liver fluke is known to be, should be tested lambs do not develop rapidly or profitably. Sources of infestation for liver fluke should be removed by draining seeps, springs and marshy areas and by treating such areas with lime stone. Sheep on areas where liver fluke is known to be, should be treated regularly, and treatment of animals for intestinal parasites should not be delayed until losses occur.

The breeding stock should be improved, only the best and most vigorous ewe lambs being retained in the flocks to replace old ewes which have died or been sold. Good rams will improve the flock faster and require less capital outlay than any one thing.

The production of hogs should be increased to provide the family's need for meat and for production for outside markets is not justified on most farms. The cost of grain for finishing does not enable the producer to make a profit and any grains available could be used for the production of poultry with greater returns.

Poultry

An increase in poultry is advisable where beginners grow into the business and expand as they become efficient in the handling and production problems. Commercial egg production fits in well with small and part time farm enterprises. If all members of the family will cooperate until experience has been gained and expansion is possible for full time employment. Marketing outlets are well established and expansion of the industry is limited only by the ability of operators to produce eggs at a profit.

Turkey raising has long been a well established industry in the county. Few growers depend entirely upon returns from their birds for a living, turkeys generally being considered as one of the farm crops, with flocks relatively small in comparison to commercial flocks in other parts of the state. Production has been on a sound basis and there should be no reason for recommending a change at this time.

Feeds used by the poultry industry are largely imported as local production of small grains, corn, is not adequate to meet requirements of the industry, but insofar as possible, producers should grow their green feeds and as much of the remaining feed requirements as possible.

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near the present number, 18,000, for a number of years. Beef cattle will continue to decline and the number of dairy cattle is expected to increase.

The number of dairy cows should not necessarily be increased but increased production is needed. There are too many low producing cows now being milked which do not return a profit above feed and labor costs. Breeding for higher production and the feeding of more and better quality hay, supplemented with good pasture, will increase returns and lower production costs. Producing dairy cows may be expected to reach 9,000 head with increased production of alfalfa and clover hay and with the development of better pastures through irrigation, and good management.

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NO TENANT LOANS IN DOUGLAS COUNTY

Linn County Selected for First Oregon Trial of Purchase Program.

Many Douglas county farmers are inquiring at the farm security administration offices regarding tenant farm purchase loans under the Bankhead-Jones act, even though no loans of this type will be available in the county this year, reports P. H. Helweg, county supervisor, Roseburg.

"As only \$37,186 has been made available for tenant purchase loans in Oregon for the fiscal year ending July 1, Secretary Wallace has named Linn county for initiation of the program this year on the basis of the state farm security advisory committee's recommendations," said Helweg.

"Only tenant farmers who are bona fide residents of Linn county will be eligible to apply for farm purchase loans. Farmers in this county will not be eligible to apply for farm purchase loans unless Douglas county is officially designated for the program during the next two fiscal years.

"If funds authorized by the act for the next two years are approved by congress, allotments for Oregon are expected to provide for two additional counties being added next year and probably five additional counties in the third year of operation."

Funds are available for standard rehabilitation loans to any farmer in the county unable to secure adequate production credit and live on a farm that will permit repayment on the basis of a practical farm plan. Applications for rehabilitation loans should be made at the farm security administration office, courthouse, Roseburg.

BEEF FEEDERS' DAY AT OSC ARRANGED

The fourth annual beef feeders' day, conducted by the animal husbandry department at Oregon State college, is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 19, announces H. A. Lindgren, extension livestock field man, and B. W. Rodenwald, in charge of the feeding tests, both of whom will be on the program.

The program will be held at the campus, starting at 10 o'clock. Reports will be made on costs and results of using silage and grain compared with hay and grain in beef feeding. Two lots of yearling steers have been fed these two rations this winter.

Beef feeding in western Oregon has been on the increase in recent years with some seasons showing excellent profit from the feeding operations while others are not so favorable. From the price standpoint, this year's operations are not expected to show much profit, although the new information gained is expected to be of value in future years.

GRANGERS LISTEN TO FIRE ASSN. MEN

CAMAS VALLEY, Feb. 14.—Fred Southwick, supervising warden of the Douglas Fire Protective association, and Hamilton K. Johnson, also of that organization, were speakers at the regular meeting of Camas Valley grange last week. The talks, given after the regular business session, covered the cooperation of the forestry association with the agricultural industry, particularly stock raising and range problems.

The lecturer's hour featured interesting entertainment, arranged

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by Mrs. Josephine Chirch. A meeting of all grange officers was announced for Monday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Wheeler, at which time a program for the year will be discussed.

KELLOGG GRANGERS HOSTS AT BANQUET

KELLOGG, Feb. 14.—One of the most interesting social events recently was the turkey banquet given by the Kellogg grange in its hall the evening of Feb. 9. The guests of honor were the members of Fred Weatherly grange, winners in the past hunt contest between the two organizations. Other guests present were Mr. and Mrs. Fred A. Goff, Melrose grange; Mr. and Mrs. Moore, Glendale grange; Master Carl Huebner and Mrs. Huebner and daughter, Lita; Clem Huckins from the newly organized Sunnyside grange, near Drain; and Mr. Yarbrough of lower Umpqua grange. Covers were placed for one hundred and thirty at the lovely appointed tables. Arrangements were in charge of the Kellogg H. E. C. chairman, Martha Bullock, with Virginia Gates, Evelyn Hudson, Dorothy Smith, Virginia Anderson, Elizabeth Bullock, Thelma and Mae Madison serving.

Immediately following the banquet, the regular meeting of the Kellogg grange was held with Master Cornelius Miller in the chair. An interesting lecturer's program in charge of Eldon Fisher was enjoyed, and included: Orchestra selections—Kellogg grange orchestra. Skit—"Saved"—Cecil Denny, Virginia Anderson and Homer Ladd. Tap dance—Lita Huebner. Group singing. Skit—"Parson's Deliberation"—Cornelius Miller. Intelligence test—(Pencil game). Recreation.

GRUBSTAKE LOANS TO BE EYED HERE

J. E. Morrison, state mining geologist, will be in Roseburg Feb. 16 for the purpose of interviewing persons interested in securing grubstake loans, according to a notice from the state department of geology and mineral industries. All persons interested in securing such loans from the state department are advised to see Mr. Morrison at the courthouse. Two letters of reference from local merchants or other responsible parties must accompany each application.

BERNADA ONION plants are in stock at Wharton Bros.—Adv.

FEW HENS, PLENTY OF EGGS REPORTED

Flocks Smallest Recorded for Season Start; Prices May Be Lowered.

Poultrymen are starting off the year with the smallest flocks of laying hens ever reported at this season. This is cited by the bureau of agricultural economics as an item of first importance in the current poultry and egg situation. Although flocks are small, the hens are laying very well for this time of year. Ordinarily the number of eggs laid around the first of January averages a little over 16 eggs per hundred hens. This year, however, the flocks are turning out eggs at the rate of about 23 per hundred hens.

The high rate of egg production coupled with large holdings of frozen eggs and the fact that consumer buying power is lower than a year ago have offset the effect of small laying flocks upon the prices of eggs. The outlook until mid-spring is for egg prices below those of 1937. The bureau indicated, however, that later in the year egg production will be reduced as a result of the small size of flocks.

GIANT SPUD GROWN BY CCC ENROLLEE

SALEM, Feb. 14.—(AP)—Fannie Cooper, member of the Mill City CCC camp, has produced what is believed to be the biggest potato ever grown in these parts. The tuber, exhibited here, weighs over four pounds. It is a fraction over one foot long, four and a half inches wide and three and a half inches thick. The agricultural class, of which Cooper is a member, will propagate the potato.

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Absolutely all LEGHORN CHICKS are hatched from old hens' eggs. Flocks carefully culled for vitality and liveability.

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Sales representatives for outstanding Turkey Breeders.

OUR EXPERIENCE has taught us how to conserve all of the energy in the egg and transmit it into the baby chick or poult, thereby assuring better liveability.

RESERVE SPACE FOR INCUBATION OF YOUR EGGS

Free Feed Troughs with Chick Orders.

Phone or send card for pamphlet and price list.

The Feed Bag

VOL. 1 NO. IV Published Weekly by the Douglas County Flour Mill. FEB. 14 1938
Mfrs. of Umpqua and Sunrise Poultry and Dairy Feed

Competition (Continued)

A chick or poult from parent stock fed Umpqua Breeder's Mash, well hatched, and supplied with good equipment, needs next, a good starting ration. In fact, to meet present day competition, it needs the best feed obtainable. Umpqua Milk Starter has always filled the bill. Everybody nowadays is having a tough time, but our customers tell us that their Umpqua started and reared birds are certainly doing their share. Proving that a good start in life is more than half the battle.

But now that good hens must be even better, and science has found some new wrinkles in nutrition, we are improving our Milk Chick Starter and making it better than ever before. For instance, all starting mashes will include sunshine minerals, containing iodine and manganese. As you all know, manganese is the element that prevents one type of leg weakness to which heavy chicks and turkeys are subject. While our customers have never been bothered with this trouble to any extent when both breeders and young stock were fed on our feeds, we are eliminating the chance that trouble might develop.

Another improvement this year is the addition of liver meal to Breeder's mash and Starter mashes. Liver meal is very rich in Vitamin G, which makes for good hatchability and rapid growth. This explains why our customers are raising fryers