

# NEWS OF FARM LIFE

GRANGES

COUNTY AGENT'S REPORTS

CROP NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEWS



## Sunflowers Help In Turkey Raising

### Shade, Feed and Seed Provided By Plant Comparable to Corn in Yield Per Acre.

By J. C. LEEDY, Secretary, Oregon Turkey Raisers' Assn.

Sunflowers serve a three-fold purpose in turkey production. First, they furnish shade for the birds; second, they furnish green feed; and finally, they furnish seed for the turkeys.

On many of our Oregon turkey farms, shade is at a premium during the warm summer days. Sunflowers fill the requirement just where the shade is needed, and provide the additional advantage of spreading the turkeys out over a greater area, thus lessening the possibility of feather picking or other evil habits.

Large amounts of green feed are provided for the turkeys by the growing sunflowers. Possibly the green feed is not as valuable as the leguminous green feeds, but it beats out green stuff by a considerable margin and appears to be relished by the turkeys.

According to the Oregon State College, the yields of sunflower seed are comparable to corn in bushels per acre. The seed is readily eaten by the turkeys and is highly nutritious, making a much desired gloss on the plumage of the birds.

The two common varieties are the Russian and Manchurian. The first named is very tall and matures late in maturing, but makes excellent shade. The Manchurian is increasing in popularity for at least a part of the planting because of its shorter growth, good yielding qualities and early maturity.

Seedlings can be made earlier than corn, seed is clean and but a few pounds are needed per acre. Sunflowers are a good crop for turkey growers.

Theta Rho Club to Meet—Alpha Zeta Theta Rho Girls club will meet Tuesday night at 7:30 at the I. O. O. F. hall.

## Milk's Bacterial Count Regulated by State Code

Any raw milk of cream, other than Grade "A" sold for retail purposes in Oregon cannot legally have a bacterial count of more than 50,000 per cubic centimeter, under rules and regulations recently promulgated by the foods and dairies division of the state department of agriculture.

## Care in Handling Foods Advisable

With approach of the warm weather season, everyone should give more thought to preservation and care of perishable food products, points out Director J. D. Mielke of the state department of agriculture.

"Warm weather is the foster-mother of fermentation, and fermentation carried to a high degree often means food unfit for human consumption," he says.

Artificial refrigeration has come to be almost a necessity in city homes and use of this means of preserving foodstuffs is fast increasing in the country homes. Use of cold storage lockers and equipment is increasing rapidly over the state.

Where these facilities are lacking, cleanliness and care in preparation of foods adds greatly to their keeping qualities. For the country home, air cooled ventilation that will help materially in preserving fruits, vegetables and other products can be provided.

## Beaver Feast on Forest Service's Model Nursery

ASTORIA, May 6.—(AP)—Mountain beaver are getting good chewing in the Oregon forestry department's model nursery near Hander, Timber Cuts Charles Henry says.

Hundreds of the beaver have swarmed over the 100-acre plot, destroying 80 per cent of the 100,000 young trees there, Henry says.

## FARM ODDITIES

### FAIR EGGS-CHANGE

McMINNVILLE, Tenn.—Thomas J. Barnes, rural letter carrier, found this note, along with an egg, in the box of one of his patrons: "Mr. Barnes, take this egg and leave me a postal card, please."

### POSTS HIS BOOKS

RICHMOND, Va.—(AP)—A farmer applied to the Virginia division of motor vehicles for a refund of tax on gasoline used in a farm tractor.

### LADY OF LITTERS

MEREDITH, Texas.—(AP)—Forty-one pigs in the first three litters is the record of "Lady Rio," a registered Duroc Jersey sow.

### Perfect Garden Spray Announced at O. S. C.

CORVALLIS, May 6.—(AP)—The state department of agriculture said it would standardize the lath-bush pyrethrum garden spray experimentally last year, for shipment of fresh pruned from the Milton-Freewater district.

## Western Oregon's Lime Use Increases

Western Oregon farmers are setting a new record this year in volume of lime applied to their fields to help correct soil conditions, according to the state agricultural conservation office in Corvallis.

Present indications are that they will use around 30,000 tons of lime during 1940, compared to only 25,000 tons in 1939, about 25,000 tons in 1938, and somewhere between 15,000 and 20,000 in 1937.

This does not mean that the lime use goal is anywhere nearly reached, however. R. E. Stephenson and W. L. Powers, soils experts at Oregon State college, said in an experiment station bulletin published last year, "Liming Western Oregon Soils," that about a quarter million tons could be used in western Oregon each year to good advantage.

Practically all western Oregon soils have acid characteristics and crops such as alfalfa and other legumes in general will not do well on them until the acidity is at least partially neutralized.

From one to two tons of lime per acre every four to 12 years, depending on acidity of the soil, is believed a desirable application in western Oregon.

## Oregon Bird Book Gives Many Facts

OREGON STATE COLLEGE—Hawks, eagles and owls serve as a check on the myriads of rodents in Oregon, and thus are of far more value than the occasional barn owl they do in the way of fighting other birds or domestic fowls, say Ira N. Gabelson and Stanley G. Jewett, in their large volume just published here, entitled "Birds of Oregon."

The prairie falcon, the duck hawk, and the goshawk are mentioned by the authors as being universally condemned because they feed upon other birds and poultry. Their numbers are so few, however, that their effect upon bird populations is negligible, the authors point out, and add that it would be a real loss to lovers of wild life if these were entirely missing.

## Experimental Prune Box Will Be Standardized

SALEM, Ore., May 6.—(AP)—A turkey, to take the eye of the average housewife instead of to appeal to a restaurant chef, should weigh not more than 12 pounds, according to the state department of agriculture.

The department's experts said that turkeys held in storage at the present time are 65 per cent above the 16-pound class, and warned that the demand would be for the smaller—and if it is to be assumed, tenderer—birds.

## Perfect Garden Spray Announced at O. S. C.

CORVALLIS, May 6.—(AP)—The spray announced for the card-

## Farm Borrowers' Income Increased

WASHINGTON, May 6.—(AP)—An increase in the annual income and net worth of Oregon farm security administration borrowers is reported by Will W. Alexander, FSA administrator.

They "also are making satisfactory progress in the repayment of their loans," Alexander wrote Senator McNary of Oregon.

Standard rehabilitation borrowers, totaling 3,434 in the state, had an average income of \$987.49 per family last year and increased their net average worth 32 per cent. They added \$2,447,240 to the wealth of their communities.

Borrowers have repaid \$1,384,623 of loans totaling \$3,895,350, the average loan being \$1,134.49.

Alexander said that in a limited number of cases grants averaging \$13.27 per family had been made in addition to the loans to assist families at the start. The FSA also negotiated reductions of \$517,403 on old debts of Oregon borrowers.

Reductions of \$391,715 in debts of irrigation districts also have been made, he reported.

Production valued at \$866,776 was grown by Oregon borrowers last year compared with \$630,070 the year before they obtained FSA loans. They farmed tracts averaging 153.45 acres.

The federal housing administration insured home financing loans totaling \$20,180,814 for 38,364 Oregon families, Stewart McDonald of the FHA informed McNary.

## Grants Pass High Debaters Win State Championship

GRANTS PASS, May 6.—(AP)—Grants Pass and Coquett City collected victories Sunday in Southern Oregon Baseball league games at the expense of Gold Hill and Ashland-Talent. Medford's session with Roseburg was rained out.

## Wool and Mohair Buyer

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## What Every Metropolitan Policyholder Should Know about his Company

Metropolitan presents its Business Report for the year ending December 31, 1939. (In accordance with the Annual Statement filed with the New York State Insurance Department.)

ASSETS WHICH ASSURE FULFILLMENT OF OBLIGATIONS		OBLIGATIONS TO POLICYHOLDERS, BENEFICIARIES, AND OTHERS	
U. S. Government Securities	\$1,015,938,914.60	Policy Reserves required by law	\$4,493,833,205.00
U. S. Government	\$948,082,869.84	Amount which, with interest and future premiums, will assure payment of policy claims	
Canadian Government	67,856,044.76	Dividends to Policyholders	112,999,638.00
Other Bonds	1,852,379,020.85	Set aside for payment during the year 1940	
U. S. State & Municipal	110,055,727.87	Reserve for Future Payments on Supplementary Contracts	112,986,146.83
Canadian Provincial & Municipal	103,823,959.75	Held for Claims	22,931,579.79
Railroad	573,665,903.43	Including claims awaiting completion of proof and estimated amount of unreported claims	
Public Utilities	689,740,113.95	Other Policy Obligations	42,377,943.67
Industrial & Miscellaneous	405,093,316.15	Including reserves for Accident and Health Insurance, dividends left with Company, premiums paid in advance, etc.	
Stocks	86,624,833.01	Miscellaneous Liabilities	47,140,101.00
All but \$22,561.13 are Preferred or Guaranteed.		Liabilities not included above, such as taxes due or accrued, special reserves, etc.	
Mortgage Loans on Real Estate	953,658,650.07	TOTAL OBLIGATIONS	\$4,832,268,614.29
Farms	76,890,988.22	Surplus	309,717,566.80
Other property	876,767,661.85	This serves as a margin of safety, a cushion against contingencies which cannot be foreseen.	
Loans on Policies	515,495,459.26	TOTAL	\$5,141,986,181.09
Real Estate Owned	407,215,594.74		
Includes real estate for Company use, and housing projects.			
Cash	132,667,027.52		
Premiums Outstanding and Deferred	87,666,343.58		
Interest Due and Accrued, etc.	60,340,337.46		
TOTAL	\$5,141,986,181.09		

NOTE—Assets carried at \$221,390,536.99 in the above statement are deposited with various public officials under requirements of law or regulatory authority. Canadian business embraced in this statement is reported on basis of par of exchange.

## TEN YEARS OF PROGRESS

Highlights of Metropolitan's growth and stability over the past decade

After fulfilling all its contractual obligations (including payment of over \$4,260,000,000 to policyholders and beneficiaries) over the 10-year period of adverse economic conditions from 1929 through 1939, Metropolitan

1. . . . . added to its contingency reserve, or surplus, as an extra safety factor, more than	\$132,000,000
2. . . . . strengthened the basis of its policy reserves to the extent of	45,000,000
3. . . . . made expenditures to improve properties acquired through foreclosure, without increasing their valuation	25,000,000
4. . . . . reduced the valuation of securities and real estate as carried on its books, by more than	216,000,000
5. . . . . expended on health and welfare work for policyholders more than	58,000,000
6. YET, over this same 10-year period, and in addition to the above, Metropolitan also paid or credited to its policyholders almost one billion dollars in dividends	\$ 476,000,000
TOTAL	992,000,000
	\$1,468,000,000

## Metropolitan Life Insurance Company

(A MUTUAL COMPANY)  
FREDERICK H. ECKER, Chairman of the Board  
LEROY A. LINCOLN, President  
1 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y.

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When You Sell Your Poultry, Eggs, Wool, Mohair and Turkeys

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## THE SPIRIT OF '36

by JOHN CLINTON

I don't suppose I'll ever own a Union Oil Co. And it doesn't look like I'd ever be president of it. But if I had an oil company, I'd like it to be like Union Oil.

I'm proud of being a westerner. I like western traditions—the spirit of independence and neighborliness. That's why I'm so fond of this Union Oil bunch.

Fifty years ago 2 young fellows named Handerson and Stewart started Union Oil. They were independent—as westerners in their ways as a new party. They were neighborly—ready to help at the drop of a sombrero.

And the men who have risen in Union Oil have been that kind of men; and the company they've built is that kind of a company, independent, neighborly and pioneering.

To you this pioneering has meant a good deal. It was Union who introduced the 1st non-premium anti-knock fuel on the coast. Union also pioneered with Triton, that clean oil carburetor as you drive. Now Union has pioneered again with the first Traffic Clinic ever opened by an oil company.

Your trade has built Union. Today it's the leading independent oil company in the west. But what I like is, that while westerners were helping Union grow, Union was helping western people.

That's why if I ever have an oil company of my own, I'd like to have it be that kind of a company.

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