

Wheat Growers Schedule Meet

Kenneth Kendrick, president of the National Assn. of Wheat Growers, will be one of the principal speakers at the 27th annual meeting of the Oregon Wheat Growers League, Dec. 2 to 4 at Portland.

Kendrick, wheat farmer at Stratford, Texas, will be heard on Dec. 3. Topic of his speech will be "Facts About Government Subsidies." As a member of the USDA Grain Advisory Committee and an active Farm Bureau member, Kendrick is well qualified to discuss the wheat situation confronting growers.

The three-day program of the annual meeting is jammed with activities, starting with the standing committee meetings Thursday, Dec. 2, to the last item on the program, the election of officers at 11:40 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 4. Questions on national wheat policy will be uppermost in the minds of those attending. The entire meeting will be at the Multnomah Hotel. Registration will begin 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 1.



RANCH ID AND DIRECTIONS—Above is one of the examples of a campaign in the county for ranch identification and directional sign boards (sign boards ON side roads) being conducted by the Extension Farm Home and Rural Life Committee, according to chairman Hugh Ritchie.

Control Of Tansy Ragwort Weed Possible By Controlled 4-D Spray

Tansy ragwort weed, labeled a major weed threat to Western Oregon at the recent annual weed conference in Portland, can be checked with properly-timed 2,4-D spray, say Oregon State College weed authorities.

Rex Warren, extension farm crops specialist, reports early spring spraying two to three weeks before blossoming has given excellent kill when coupled with a follow-up spray program. Tansy ragwort still blooms and matures seeds into August. OSC trials gave best results with one gallon of ester 2,4-D in 100 gallons of water per acre.

Tansy ragwort is poisonous to cattle, although sheep are used to graze the weed to keep it under

control. An estimated 15,000 acres west of the Cascades are heavily infested with the weed and another 150,000 acres are now menaced with light infestations.

Ed Day, Hillsboro, spokesman for the tansy ragwort committee, warned the conference that unless the weed is controlled the area faces serious losses in farm crops and livestock production. He expressed confidence that federal funds would be appropriated to control the weed on public lands when sufficient local action has been aroused.

Other weeds that may be brought under better control as a result of OSC research include Canada thistle, quackgrass, hard-to-kill brush species, and both grasses and broadleaf weeds in alfalfa. Dave Chilcote, farm crops researcher, based the report on one-year trials with four herbicides, not yet released to the public.

The conference recommended 1955 legislative appropriation of funds to control ragweed, the hay fever weed that has a toe-hold in scattered areas of Western Oregon with a heavy infestation in Josephine county.

Dr. Harold Erickson, state health officer, estimates that 10 percent of Oregon's \$150 million annual tourist trade results from persons coming here to escape the hay-fever season in other parts of the nation.

farm forest facts

It's time again to wish you had some Christmas trees.

If you had started farming those natural stands of young Douglas-fir reproductions a couple of years ago, you wouldn't have any trouble locating trees to cut now.

Farmed Douglas fir trees are bringing premium prices all over the state. One operator west of Portland is getting \$1.50 for his farmed trees at roadside. Another Christmas tree farmer at Foster is getting \$1.25 apiece for his cut trees.

FOR A NUMBER of years the trend has been for people to try to retail their Christmas trees on the California market. Some of our Oregon Christmas tree farmers are getting away from this "movement."

What is the reason? It's because they can make almost as much by staying at home and selling their trees at roadside.

Take the Goodman Christmas Tree Farm up near Vida as an example. For the last four or five years Mr. Goodman has been cutting his trees, taking them to Los Angeles and selling them. In Los Angeles Mr. Goodman told he averaged \$1 a foot for his farmed Douglas fir trees.

THIS YEAR Goodman's plans are different. He so impressed the people in Los Angeles with the quality of his trees that one of his nearby competitors offered to buy his trees from him at roadside in Vida. It was such a good deal, Goodman couldn't pass it up.

This is what the two Christmas tree retailers from Los Angeles are paying him for his farmed trees. An unbelievable two dollars and twenty-five cents for trees over eight feet and a dollar and 25 cents for trees under eight feet. It sounds like a fabulous price for a tree, when you stop to consider that last year an average six-foot tree sold for \$1.25 here in Roseburg. It just "goes to show you" that when you have the right market and the right trees you can make money in the Christmas tree business.

These are real fancy prices, and they paint a real rosy picture; but what about trees in Douglas County? It's good to see your interest! The markets I have come in contact with this year can't "hold a candle" to some of the prices that are being paid in other parts of the state. It's interesting to note that offering prices are up some from last year. The best offers I have heard so far is 50 cents a tree for Douglas fir and 15 cents a foot for white fir (we call it Douglas County GRAND fir in Los Angeles).

MY OPINION is that we will never get top prices for our trees until we start thinning, pruning, and shearing (this is called farming) our slow growing stands of natural reproduction. In this way, we can produce the quality trees that the market demands. Slow growing stands of Douglas fir will normally produce more returns from Christmas trees than they will from growing timber.

Keep this "farming" business in mind when you go out on your farm looking for a Christmas tree. If your reproduction land is like most, you will have a tough time finding a tree that you will put up in your living room.

When you get back to the house after looking for "that" tree, drop me a card at the county agent's office in Roseburg, and I will send you the bulletin "Raising Christmas Trees for a Profit." This excellent bulletin will answer a lot of the questions you may have in your mind about Christmas tree farming.

MEMORABLE OPENER—BALTIMORE (AP)—Robert Reid's first day as owner of a liquor store was something less than a rousing success. He reported to police Sunday that two armed bandits held him up and escaped with \$87.



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1954

—The News-Review, Roseburg, Ore. 3

Idaho Power Co. Says Dams Would Harness Snake

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Idaho Power Co., maintains that the three dams it proposed to build in the Hells Canyon area, costing the taxpayers nothing, would more completely harness the Snake River than would a rival multi-million-dollar federal project.

The company made the statements in a 152-page brief submitted to the Federal Power Commission in support of its applications to construct three dams in the Snake River between Idaho and Oregon.

The Hells Canyon area of the Snake, deepest river gorge on the continent, also has been proposed as the site of a gigantic federal hydro-electric development, although Congress has not authorized it. Consequently, one of the nation's hottest private vs. public power fights was sparked when Idaho Power applied to dam the river in the canyon area.

The National Hells Canyon Assn. and other public power proponents opposing Idaho Power were expected to file their written arguments later Wednesday.

No surprises were contained in Idaho Power's brief nor were any foreseen in those of the public

Fruit Growers To Meet In Corvallis Dec. 2-3

Oregon fruit growers can expect answers to some of their major production problems, December 2 and 3, at the 60th annual meeting of the Oregon State Horticultural Society at Oregon State College.

A new disease-resistant strawberry, dwarf apple trees for commercial orchards, control of fire-blight in pears, and weed and insect control in vegetable crops are among highlights of reports scheduled by Oregon State College researchers.

Industry representatives and leading national horticulturists will discuss marketing and production of small fruits, stone fruits, apples and pears, and vegetables.

C. O. Rawlings, OSHS secretary and extension horticulturist at OSC, says meetings are open to the public. General morning meetings feature main speakers. Afternoon sectional meetings will be held in OSC food technology building, Withycombe Hall, and home economics auditorium.

power groups or in one being mailed Wednesday by the state of Washington, which opposes the proposed federal dam. All were expected to point up off-stated arguments brought out in 19,215 pages of testimony and 390 exhibits at the case's year-long hearings.

International Livestock Show Will Be Televised

The Eugene and Medford television stations and KPTV in Portland will carry an hour-long telecast coverage of the International Livestock Exposition Tuesday at 2 p.m.

Judging and selection of the grand champion steer and other highlights of the exposition will be featured in the show.

The selection of the grand champion steer will climax the telecast direct from the arena of the famous International Amphitheater in Chicago.

In addition to this main event, the full hour of television will cover show ring features such as the showing of the champion lamb and barrow of the junior show. Viewers will also see judging of the carlot champion, a meat-cutting and cooking demonstration by experts from the National Livestock and Meat Board, interviews with delegates to the National 4-H Club Congress and a U. S. Dept. of Agriculture feature.

Public Hearing Slated On Columbia Basin Pact

SALEM (AP)—A public hearing on the proposed Columbia River Basin Compact will be held Dec.

OSC's Frank Ballard Honored For Services

A ruby award for distinguished service to agriculture and rural life has been given Frank L. Ballard, associate director of the agricultural extension service at Oregon State College.

The award is presented annually to one member of Epsilon Sigma Phi, national honorary extension organization. Selection is made by vote of the fraternity's 51 local chapters in this country, Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico. Except for a period in 1940-41 when he was president of OSC,

Ballard has been with the Oregon Extension Service since 1917. After graduating from OSC in 1916, he became extension specialist in rural organization and agricultural economics. He was later promoted to assistant county agent leader, then to county agent leader, vice director and to his present position in 1945.

Since 1933 he has served on many state and national committees concerned with bettering agriculture and rural life.

Ballard is also a frequent contributor to many local, regional and national farm publications. He has authored one book, "The Spirit and Philosophy of Extension Work," published in 1952 by the U. S. department of agriculture and Epsilon Sigma Phi.

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