Oregon Farmers Plan Changes

Markets, Federal Programs Reverse '59 Crop Acreages

CORVALLIS (AP) — Oregon farmers are planning changes this spring, an Oregon State College survey shows.

Market conditions and government programs were behind the changes, the farmers told Stephen C. Marks, OSC farm economist.

Oregon farmers indicated a sharp reduction in number of acres planned for oats, and a moderate cut in late potato plantings. These cuts completely offset a sharp increase in acreage planned for corn, spring wheat, and dry field peas, and a moderate increase in barley and sugar beet acreage.

Oregon's wheat growers, for instance, said they will plant nearly a fifth more spring wheat than last year. This, plus a slightly larger acreage of winter wheat planted last fall, adds up to 3 per cent more total land in wheat this year.

The state's farmers also expect to plant 30 per cent more corn this year, 43 per cent more dry field peas, 3 per cent more sugar beets, and 2 per cent more barley.

Spuds, Oats Cuts Due

On the other side of the ledger, Oregon farmers indicated they plan to put 12 per cent less land in oats, and 7 per cent less in late summer and fall potatoes. Hay acreage for harvest may be only slightly smaller than last year. As a whole, the report shows farmers intend to plant practically the same total acreage of spring crops as last year, Marks says.

Nationally, farmers said they plan to put in only slightly more of the 16 major spring-planted crops. Even so, total acreage of crops to be grown in 1959 now looks to be 2 per cent above that of last year, Marks said.

However, the nation's farmers are also planning big changes in some crops. They plan to boost corn acreage 12 per cent over last year, and also plan to put in more barley, rice, and spring wheat. At the same time, substantial cuts in acreage planned for soybeans, sorghum grains, flaxseed, and oats were reported.

Control Changes Noted

Recent changes in the government farm program seem to have influenced both feed and breadgrain growers to decide on large changes in these crops, Marks explained. Discontinuance of the acreage reserve program released about 17 million acres for cultivation this year. And while a large part of land was signed up in the conservation reserve, a sizeable chunk is being planted to crops for harvest.

Whether farmers will actually carry out their present planting plans remains to be seen, Marks added. The whole purpose of the spring questionnaire is to let each farmer know the thinking and tentative plans of other farmers.

PART OF THE MOTORCADE which will service the Cavalcade is shown here. Grouped in front of the pick-up truck are Fred Lockwood, who is donating the use of the 1959 Ford Station Wagon at the left; Dick Carter, Centennial Cavalcade administrative director; Gordon (Tex) Serpa, the wagonmaster; and Jack Adair, who is providing the U-Haul kitchen. The 1958 Chevrolet pick-up truck to haul the trailer is owned by Wagonmaster Serpa. These motorized units, donated from various sources and rounded up by "On To Oregon" Cavalcade officials, will transport necessary facilities for the wagon train. The trek will be between Independence, Mo., and Ore., and will begin on April 19. (Photo Lab)

Farm Migrants Due In Malheur

ONTARIO, Ore. (AP) — About 1,00 migrant farm workers from Texas are expected in the Snake River Valley area early in April.

Farm labor officials who requested the workers say they and their families will total about 2,500 persons.

The first arrivals will be put up at the labor camp in Nyssa. Camps in Adrian, Vale and Ontario will be opened as needed.

The laborers will first thin sugar beets and then work in onion and strawberry fields.

Attack On Wilderness Area Bill Silenced By Senator

SEATTLE (AP) — Compromise appeared the winner Tuesday as more than 100 witnesses concluded testimony regarding a proposed wilderness area bill before a Senate Interior and Insular Affairs subcommittee hearing.

As H. R. Glascock, Portland, forest counsel for the Western Forestry and Conservation Assn., finished presenting his objections to the bill, Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash), heading the hearing, asked:

"What is wrong with giving Congress something to say about establishing wilderness areas?"

Glascock agreed the suggestion should be studied.

The bill, which would establish numerous wilderness areas including eight in Washington State, has been attacked by industry as detrimental to the multiple use theory of developing natural resources.

Supporters have contended wilderness areas will eventually disappear unless some steps are taken to preserve them.

Jackson said he thought all groups recognize the value of adequate wilderness areas, but differ as to how they should be maintained.

Tuesday's session concluded two days of Northwest testimony on the subject and another hearing will start at Phoenix, Ariz., Thursday.

Schools Slate Law Day Events

Widespread school participation in Law Day ceremonies, both on May 1 and in prior events, has been scheduled. Program Chairman Eldon Caley said the Douglas County Bar Assn. is "pleased and gratified" with the response from various schools.

A day will be devoted to lectures by attorneys in various American Problems classes in the Roseburg school system, said Caley. While touching on the central Law Day theme, they won't be that narrow in scope, he added.

Other schools in the Douglas County system will make assemblies available for various aspects of Law Day ceremonies during the month of April, Caley explained.

Two writing contests are also a part of the Law Day events.

One will be an essay competition on Law Day, with students in American Problems and similar-type courses eligible, and a county-wide cash prize offered. Interested students are asked to consult with faculty advisors.

The second, competition at both county and state level, will involve editorial writing, and is open to student editorial writers on school newspapers. Participants should consult with class advisors or with Caley.

A state cash prize is to be given in the editorial writing competition, and Caley hopes for widespread Douglas County participation. He said that winners will otherwise be honored than by their cash awards.

Packers, Rails Give Rate Views

PORTLAND (AP)—Meat packers and railroad interests continue to get their opposing views on the record as the Interstate Commerce Commission resumes a hearing today on railroads' application for lower freight rates from the Midwest.

Meat packers oppose the reduced rates, contending that this would permit Midwest packers to ship dressed meat to the Pacific Northwest at a lower rate than it can be produced here.

The railroads contend that they have lost a large part of their shipping business to truckers and that the only way they can get it back is by reducing freight rates.

Roland Burke Jr., vice president of the James Henry Packing Co., Seattle, said reduced rates would result in large Midwest packers flooding the Pacific Northwest markets with packinghouse products. This, he said, would spell doom to the few remaining independent packers in the Pacific Northwest.

David Foster, executive secretary of the Washington Cattlemen's Assn., also opposed the reduction. He said lower rates would "tend to place West Coast livestock and meat packing industries in a position of economic disadvantage."

The Portland phase of the hearings is expected to end Thursday.

Slides Cover Stevens Pass

EVERETT (AP) — Highways Department crews were up with the dawn Wednesday to begin clearing Stevens Pass Highway of numerous slides which caused havoc on the cross-state route Tuesday.

Three persons in a small car were nearly pushed off a cliff by one of the slides which also covered the trailer of an oil tank rig five miles west of the summit.

The car, tank truck and a bus, carrying 21 passengers, were stalled behind one slide when another rain-loosened mass of snow and earth slid off the mountainside. The debris rolled over the trailer of the truck and pushed the small car to the edge of a 1,500-foot dropoff.

E. Dale Peet, driver of the bus, said he ran to the car and pulled an unidentified woman and two children from the vehicle which carried British Columbia license plates.

The woman was "frozen by fear and in an upended position," Peet said.

Snowplows eventually cleared enough of the debris so the westbound vehicles could proceed.

An eastbound bus also was stalled by the slides and was more than four hours late arriving in Wenatchee.

Highway Department officials originally had hoped to reopen the road during the night, but decided it would be dangerous to work in the dark as small slides continued to break off the mountainsides.

Alaska Governor, Wife Stop Over In Portland

PORTLAND (AP)—Alaska Gov. William Egan and his wife are in Portland today where Mrs. Egan will christen a new tanker, the Alaska Standard.

The vessel was built by the Albina Engine and Machine Works for the Standard Oil Co. of California.

Egan is recovering from abdominal surgery and his wife said he was "progressing satisfactorily."

"He is naturally impatient to return to Alaska, but that will have to depend on the doctor's report," she said.

Truck Driver Escapes As Rig Falls Over Cliff

FLORENCE (AP) — A flatbed freight truck carrying a bulldozer went off Highway 101 about 11 miles north of here Monday afternoon and plunged 300 feet into the Pacific Ocean.

The driver, Del Curtis of Wheeler, jumped from the cab seconds before the rig went over the embankment. He was injured.

Curtis said his air brakes failed on a steep downgrade near the Sea Lion Caves. No salvage attempts will be made. The owner of the truck is Jake Curtis of Bandon.

LOOT VALUABLE REASSESSED

LONDON (AP) — Burglars who ransacked Sir Winston Churchill's town house Monday night made off with nearly $28,000 worth of jewels and furs — more than first estimated.

NLRB Reverses Shop Contract

WASHINGTON (AP) — The National Labor Relations Board has held that an illegal closed shop was created by a contract requiring that the Honolulu Star-Bulletin hire only union printers.

On that basis the NLRB ordered the newspaper to pay back to its former and present composing room employes all dues and assessments collected in the last 2½ years for the International Typographical Union.

The ruling was made espite a showing that the Star-Bulletin, in the face of the contract provision, has regularly employed a number of non-union printers.

It was pointed out, as a matter of some bearing on the case, that printers are scarce in Hawaii.

The requirement for hiring only ITU members was set up by incorporating the union's own rules as part of the contract.

The NLRB held that a requirement that the composing room foreman be a union man was also held illegal under the Taft-Hartley law.

Apparently the decision was unanimous although it was signed by only four of the five board members. No reason was given for the non-participation of the fifth, Stephen Bean.

Attorney George Kaufman said the ruling already has been appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals here.

His firm, Van Arkel & Kaiser, represents both the newspaper and the union in the case. The union, however, was not involved as a party in the NLRB charges.

Plans Approved For Centennial

PORTLAND (AP) — The Centennial Commission Tuesday gave its approval to three phases of the Centennial Exposition here this summer—cake, candies and a set of murals.

Commissioners approved plans for a huge birthday cake that will be cut June 26.

The cake will be 50 feet long, 10 feet wide and 4 feet high.

The commission also approved expenditure of $13,000 for a huge gas-fueled candle and a number of smaller wax candles.

In addition, the commission approved a contract for Portland artist Carl Morris to paint a series of murals on religious subjects. Morris will receive $10,000.

Jap Ship Heads For Alaskan Bay

HAKODATE, Japan (AP) — A Japanese fishing mother ship left here Wednesday for Bristol Bay, Alaska, to engage in crab fishing.

The 5,386-ton Tokei Maru was sent jointly by the Nichiro, Nippon and Taiyo fishery companies.

The Japanese companies dispatched two crab fishing boats late last month to the Bristol Bay fishing grounds.

Their goal this year is 70,000 cases of canned crab each weighing 24 pounds.

Movie Actor Injured In U. S. 99 Collision

MOUNT SHASTA, Calif. (AP)—Movie actor Aldo Ray suffered facial cuts in an automobile collision on U.S. 99 Monday night.

He was riding with John F. Reginatto, Redding, Calif., head of the Shasta Cascade Wonderland Assn., when the car collided with another driven by Charles D. Thorne of Mount Shasta.

All three were treated and released at the hospital here.

Thorne was cited on a reckless driving charge.

Airport Job Contracted

SALEM (AP)—A $37,235 low bid for surfacing a runway, taxiway and service apron at the state-owned Hermiston Airport was accepted Tuesday by the state Board of Aeronautics.

The low bidder is Russell Olson Construction Co., Pendleton.

The federal government will pay 56 per cent of the cost, and the state the rest.

Grocery Spokesman Explains Stamp Bill

SALEM (AP) — A spokesman for the Oregon Independent Grocers Assn. said Tuesday the proposed law regulating trading stamps in Oregon would not deprive merchants of issuing the stamps.

Harold E. Carlson, secretary of the association, said the bill which was introduced in the Legislature Tuesday would apply a $6,000 license fee only on the firms which distribute stamps not redeemable in cash.

He said the measure has the backing of wholesale grocery firms, several large stores and other business firms.

He said the bill, introduced at the request of the group, is patterned after the Washington state trading stamp law. He said an attempt to have the law repealed in the 1959 Washington Legislature failed.

PGE Income Increases

PORTLAND (AP) — Portland General Electric Co. had net income of $6,494,695 last year, Board Chairman Thomas Delzell said Tuesday.

That figure represented a 12 per cent increase over 1957, Delzell told stockholders at their annual meeting.

Salvage Timber Money Returned

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower Tuesday signed a bill to correct a 40-year mistake in time.

The bill authorized payment of $9,593 to Ellis Timber Co. of Portland, Ore.

A congressional committee report said that the firm contracted to buy salvage timber believed killed in a 1936 fire.

After logging began, the report said, it was learned that the timber was killed in an 1896 blaze.

Because of the 40-year difference in time, the trees had more decay than believed originally.

Multnomah Asks Offers On Three-County Sewer

PORTLAND (AP) — Multnomah County Tuesday asked for bids on two big sewage projects.

The county said those projects will be part of a three-county sewage system that eventually will cost 30 million dollars.

Bids were called on a sewage treatment plant near Beaverton, and on the Fanno Creek interceptor line.

The cost of the first project was estimated at $460,000, the other at $745,000.

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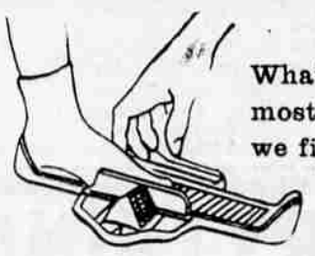
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