

Complete Official Proceedings of Recent Farm Economic Conference at Union, La Grande

The Union County Agricultural Economic Conference was arranged for by a committee representing the various farm and commercial organizations in the county, as follows: Farmers' Union, Hernal Huggins, President; Right Farm Bureau, H. De Long, Secretary; La Grande Orange, Roy Gekeler, Deputy State Master; La Grande Union County Chamber of Commerce, Earl Reynolds, La Grande; Dr. W. T. Phyllis, Director of Agriculture and chairman of conference; and H. G. Avery, County Agent, representing the Extension Service of the Oregon Agricultural College.

Approximately 200 people attended the conference which lasted two days. Farmers met in different groups representing the following agricultural commodities: Grain, alfalfa, dairy, fruit, poultry, livestock and potatoes. The recommendations given herewith were drawn up by each group after discussion of the state program as outlined at the State Agricultural Conference in January. These recommendations represent the best advice of local farm groups. The whole program is an attempt to adjust the production of local agricultural products to the possible market conditions as suggested by the state survey and program.

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Other Hay and Pasture Crops. Sweet Clover—The crop committee recommends that on the alkali and poorly drained soils, sweet clover be given thorough trial for a pasture and hay crop. For pasture purposes, the yellow sweet clover is superior to the white. Pasture—In order to better cope with the labor situation we urge that every dairyman, and farm flock sheep owner with irrigated or non-irrigated land carefully consider the possibility of permanent pastures. A mixture of several grasses and clovers will usually give better results than grass alone. We ask the county agent to gather together all the information available on pasture grasses in order to further the carrying into effect of this recommendation.

FARM CROPS REPORT

Problem of Cereals in Union County Taken up in Complete Detail

The farm income derived from cereals almost equals that derived from all other sources combined in Union County. The income from cereals, hay and forage equals 57% of the total income from all sources.

The production of the small grains in Union County, according to statistics compiled by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, was as follows:

Crop	Acres	Production in bushels	Value per acre	Total Value
Winter Wheat	22,139	681,012	26.0	177,063.12
Spring Wheat	23,925	491,817	18.9	45,223.41
Oats	5,440	296,271	32.4	9,599.17
Barley	5,265	162,391	30.8	5,002.40

The above figures are averages for the five-year period, 1919 to 1923 inclusive. The cost of raising oats at the Union Station in 1923 was as follows:

Acres	\$47.00
Bushels produced	2823.00
Bushels per acre	89.6
Cost per acre	\$26.37
Cost per bushel	.33

The cost of raising barley, was as follows:

Acres	54.0
Bushels produced	2123.00
Cost per acre	\$26.37
Bushels per acre	60.1
Cost per bushel	.44

These costs are based on the following charges:

- 5% interest on \$100.00 land.
- 5% interest on equipment rated at \$100.00.
- \$2.00 per acre taxes.
- Man hours, 200.
- Horse hours, 150.

After follow, winter wheat should be sown in preference to spring wheat in Union County, because of its greater yield. Early sowing of winter wheat also aids in preventing soil blowing.

The variety of winter wheat recommended for general culture is Hybrid 128, with Fortyfold second. The growing of other wheats should be discontinued.

Hard Federation is recommended as the best spring wheat both for yield and milling quality. It should not be fall grown.

We strongly recommend that the Oregon Experiment Stations conduct investigations to control and prevent the spread of the Take All disease in wheat in Union County.

Inasmuch as there are several local mills successfully operating in Union County, the farm crop section recommends that the industry be encouraged in every legitimate way and that preference be given to the products of these mills so long as their quality and price continue satisfactory.

We recommend the practice of local flour in producing farm bread exclusively from Hard Federation spring wheat, a variety which has proven particularly well suited for spring sowing in Union County. We suggest that the commercial organizations of the various towns in the county call to the attention of the homebuyers of their respective communities that a high grade flour is now available ground from Hard Federation spring wheat.

Oats and Barley.—Enough barley and oats should be raised in Union County to meet local feed demands but the extensive growing of these crops to ship out of the county is not deemed an increase in the barley acreage or increase in the barley acreage of about 20% and no increase in the oat acreage.

For most of the drier land of the county the grower of spring barley in to be preferred over that of any spring grown crop. The Silvanus and Swedish Select oats are the best varieties of oats to grow at present.

Trold, Coast and White Winter barleys are recommended as the best varieties.

The White Winter barley may be profitably grown as a spring barley on the heavier soils, and is recommended for trial as a winter variety in localities with ample snow covering during the winter.

New clean seed.

We strongly urge the planting of only clean or certified seed of varieties of all grain crops. The dry copper carbonate treatment is recommended for treating wheat for stubble seed.

"Grow your own feed."

Each farmer should grow as much of his own grain feed as possible.

Flax.—We urge that the Experiment Station in Eastern Oregon conduct varietal and rate and date tests to determine the best varieties and best methods of growing flax.

The growing of small trial acreages of seed flax of from 2 to 10 acres is recommended in order to determine probable yields of this crop, localities, and soil types where it might be best raised. Seed of winter resistant varieties should be sown and flax should not be grown on the same soil often than once in four years.

Corn.—The acreage of adaptable corn varieties in certain sections of the county should be increased.

Enough Corn or Peas and Barley should be grown to furnish all the dairy cows in the county with silage for winter feed.

Attention is directed to the results of the Experiment Station at Union with peas and barley for silage. This crop has certain advantages over corn or sunflowers and is recommended for trial by farmers. Careful observations should be noted on the comparative yields of these crops and the effect of legumes, especially peas, on the fertility of the soil.

Potatoes.

Every farmer should raise enough potatoes for home use and enough potatoes should be raised in the county to supply local market demands. Each farmer should plant the same acreage to potatoes every year.

There may be a possibility in a few locations in the county of the profitable production of certified seed.

The present average yields of potatoes are much too low, only 60 to 65 bushels per acre. This is likely due to the indiscriminate planting of poor seeds. All potatoes planted whether for home use or for the market should be profit to the farmer, yields of at least 100 bushels per acre should be obtained.

Beans.

Beans are not recommended for general planting. In some locations the crop may possibly be profitable. Farmers interested in the crop are urged to plant small acreages until the value of the crop is ascertained for each locality in the county. The crop will likely do best on western soils and in locations where late spring and early fall frosts are not prevalent.

Corn and Peas Fine For Pasture.

The use of corn and peas for pasture for hogs and sheep is strongly recommended for trial by farmers. Hogging down corn and pasturing peas with hogs and sheep will likely prove more profitable than the usual method of handling these crops because of the saving of harvest expense.

HAY AND FORAGE

Economic Conference Group Presents Concrete Recommendations

1. Situations.—The county's hay production is given by the census as follows:

Year	Acres	Tons	Yield per A.
1899	44,817	76,892	1.71
1909	31,147	53,589	1.72
1919	45,544	78,872	1.73

Since the 1919 census it is probable that the average yield of alfalfa hay has been increased. The tonnage of alfalfa compared with other hays in 1919 was:

Alfalfa	39,458 Tons
Other Hay	24,415 Tons

The grain hay in county hay cut along fences, down hills, wild oats and weedy places, etc. It is doubtful if it ever pays to plant a crop of grain intending to cut it for hay.

The freight rates on hay from here and Hermiston to Portland are:

La Grande	\$4.50
Hermiston	\$2.80

We consider it impractical to grow alfalfa hay here and ship it to any outside points.

2. Recommendations:

A. Supplement all other hay with alfalfa as far as possible.

B. We suggest considering the plan of planting alfalfa along the fences to use for hay instead of cutting a hay row every year around the grain.

C. Grimm alfalfa or one of the other hardy alfalfas such as Blue or Coonick, should always be used instead of common, no matter what the difference in price of seed.

D. After the alfalfa seed comes, red clover may be more satisfactory in some cases. We ask the county agent to try some experimental plantings of red clover for seed and hay production. We also ask the Experiment Station at Union to experiment with red clover seed production.

E. Alfalfa seed growing is not recommended except in an experimental way. It is believed that the average yields are so low here that other districts in the state can grow it more economically.

F. When alfalfa is plowed up,

the best crops to follow it are Hard Federation Wheat or corn.

G. We believe that there should be some alfalfa on every farm for home feed, but that no hay should be grown here for export.

H. Land plaster or sulphur has increased the tonnage of alfalfa from 1000 pounds to a ton per acre. We believe that on the average it will increase yields about one third. We strongly recommend the use of one or the other of these fertilizers.

Other Hay and Pasture Crops. Sweet Clover—The crop committee recommends that on the alkali and poorly drained soils, sweet clover be given thorough trial for a pasture and hay crop. For pasture purposes, the yellow sweet clover is superior to the white.

Pasture—In order to better cope with the labor situation we urge that every dairyman, and farm flock sheep owner with irrigated or non-irrigated land carefully consider the possibility of permanent pastures. A mixture of several grasses and clovers will usually give better results than grass alone. We ask the county agent to gather together all the information available on pasture grasses in order to further the carrying into effect of this recommendation.

General Farm Crops Recommendation.

Inasmuch as an attempt is now being made by interests in the state of Washington to lower the test weight and inasmuch as we believe that this would result only in reduced price to the grower of No. 2 wheat, thus penalizing growers of No. 1 wheat and resulting in no benefit at all to growers of No. 2 wheat; therefore, be it resolved, that we, the undersigned, do hereby pledge our support to the present standards.

We further ask that the general conference send a notice of this action to the government representatives soon to hold hearings on this question in Washington and Oregon and send a notice to the local and Portland papers.

We unanimously endorse the McNary-Haugen bill.

Signed: J. D. DOBBIN, A. R. HUNTER, E. D. JARPER, P. McDONALD, W. R. LEDBETTER, L. L. MCKENNON.

DAIRY COMMODITY GROUP

Comprehensive Study Given To Important County Problem.

Realizing that dairying will probably be expanded in the county we wish, therefore, to call attention to certain facts relative to the industry. Interest in dairying is of comparatively recent origin. Conditions are apparently favorable to the industry in that legume hay can be produced in adequate quantities and excellent feeds both as silage or root crops can easily be produced. Permanent pastures in irrigated sections are also satisfactory.

According to the best information available, there are, in the county, 470 cows two years old or older, which have produced approximately 675,000 pounds of butter fat, which is an average of 150 pounds per cow. This average production, while it compares favorably with that of other counties, is too low for the industry as a satisfactory profit. Records in other sections indicate that this average should be at least 240 pounds per cow. The production of legume hay is not now adequate for dairy cows now in the county. The production of sun tons of succulent feeds, in about 15,000 tons above of the amount required for satisfactory dairy feeding.

Efforts have been made to form cow-testing associations but have thus far been unsuccessful, according to information obtained. Very few dairymen are now keeping a record of production or amount of feeds fed.

Tuberculosis testing has been carried on throughout the county and a test is now being made again. The number of reactors found have been comparatively small and it will therefore be difficult to make this a tuberculosis free area.

There are in the county three creameries, the average price of cream the last year was 57.7 cents per pound. The average price paid in Portland for the past year was 45.5 cents per pound, thus indicating that local manufacturing plants are paying fairly satisfactory prices. The amount of butter

fat produced and manufactured into butter in the county is more than adequate for local consumption. There is in addition to what is produced in the county, a large amount shipped in from adjoining counties, thus making it possible for local manufacturing plants to ship the manufactured products in carload lots. There are also quite a number of dairymen shipping by local express to creameries outside of the county.

Whole milk is retailing in La Grande to the amount of 300 gallons daily and in some seasons is as high as 1000 gallons daily. Ice cream is also manufactured, which in the summer time amounts to 250 gallons daily or more. Cheese is not now manufactured in the county.

Efforts have been made to grade cream on quality and pay accordingly; these attempts thus far have never been successful, but the creamery operators have expressed a desire to establish such a system.

According to data obtained in other sections and according to recommendations made in the State Agricultural Economic Conference, it would seem that there are now an adequate number of dairy manufacturing plants in the county.

In view of the statistics above quoted the dairy section makes the following recommendations:

1. That all dairymen keep careful records on the quality of their milk and that we give club work in general, our fullest support.

2. That since there is more than an adequate supply of butter produced and manufactured in the county and since the quality of this product is being improved and even now compares favorably with products of other sections, the stores of the county be urged to use exclusively dairy products produced locally.

DR. W. T. PHYLIS, Chairman. LEE REYNOLDS, E. E. ANDERSON, ROBERT WITTHYCOMBE, H. G. AVERY.

HORTICULTURAL GROUP

APPLES AND PEARS

Further Development Should Fit Supply and Demand Says Two-Part Report.

Horticulture in the State of Oregon has sustained many losses because at the time the orchards of the dairy plantings were made with but little thought or consideration of what would be done with the produce when it was grown. Plantings were guided more by fancy than by reason, with the result that such sound economic axioms as the law of supply and demand were entirely overlooked. Among many was the consensus of opinion that the more fruit, nuts and vegetables would be planted, the greater would be our prosperity. It has been learned since, however, that after all the producer of any commodity is largely a servant of the consumer and he must grow only what the consumer desires, and must produce only so much as the consumer can be induced to buy.

Absentee Ownership.—Experience proves beyond a doubt that absentee ownership of apple orchards and, for that matter, any fruit growing venture, has been unprofitable. Fruit growing as practiced today is a highly specialized business which at best requires one's entire time and attention. Promotion schemes wherein individuals are interested in an exploitation rather than in the profits that may be derived from the fruit business itself, should be condemned. Experience proves that such ventures have been the cause of many failures in the Pacific Northwest.

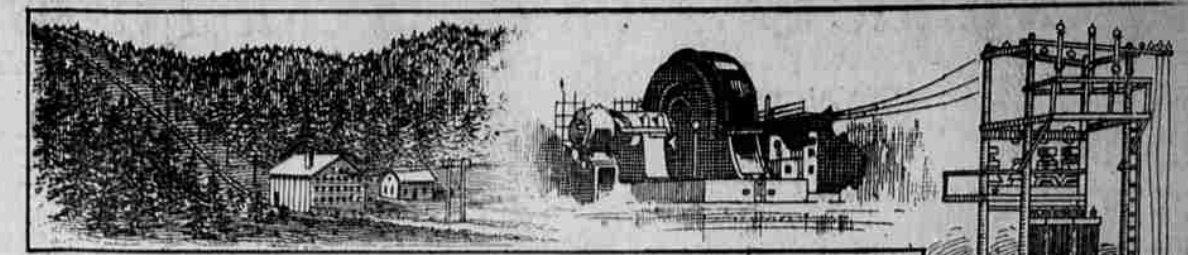
Apple Production.

Commercial apple production in the United States has increased materially during recent years. For example, during 1917 total carlot shipments of apples was 57,043; in 1918, 58,840; 1919, 61,582; 1920, 102,262; 1921, 86,837; 1922, 112,267; 1923, approximately 121,000. Contrary to general opinion the carlot shipment has undergone a material increase during this period. At the same time the total apple crop for this period does not show a material gain. Obviously there has been a substantial increase in the percent of the total crop sent to market; cessation of cider making is doubtless contributing to this condition.

No General Increase Recommended at Present.—An average production of the present acreage of apples in the United States is sufficient to meet the present demand. This is indicated by the fact that during years of heavy production the farm acre production is too low to secure success in the business, even though living prices were obtained. Oregon's average production for the last three years has been 113 boxes per acre. This is in spite of the fact that most of the orchards are of bearing age. In many instances yields can be increased materially through orchard management but orchards

permanently injured by cold, by drought, and diseases and orchards planted in poor locations will never be money makers. It is doubtful whether apple orchards in Union county can ever be expected to pay unless yields of 250 packed boxes or over, per acre are obtained. With good yields of proper varieties, however, it now appears that over a period of years fair profits may be expected.

The apple business in Union (Continued on page 10)



To Home Builders of La Grande

Electric cooking will be practically universally applied in La Grande in less than a score of years.

To you who are building your homes in this city this year and in the years to come, we wish to present an appeal to prepare for electric cooking when you build your home. It will save you money to have your home wired for electric heat service as it is built. You will need no chimney in the kitchen, you will have a modern kitchen and you will not be forced to change your cooking equipment later to conform with the best practice in home economics.

Let us work with you when you are planning your new kitchen. Let us show you how much space you will save. How you will need no space for storing fuel, and how an electric range will save space for you because of the absence of heat radiation. You will have the kitchen of your dreams by installing an electric range.

Eastern Oregon Light & Power Company

Always at your Service

Northwest. Commercial apple production in the United States has increased materially during recent years. For example, during 1917 total carlot shipments of apples was 57,043; in 1918, 58,840; 1919, 61,582; 1920, 102,262; 1921, 86,837; 1922, 112,267; 1923, approximately 121,000. Contrary to general opinion the carlot shipment has undergone a material increase during this period. At the same time the total apple crop for this period does not show a material gain. Obviously there has been a substantial increase in the percent of the total crop sent to market; cessation of cider making is doubtless contributing to this condition.

Easy to Tune the HEACOCK Radiophone

It is the easiest radio to tune on the market today. A slight turn of the dial and the result is startling. Perhaps the second sketch in this advertisement might seem overdrawn but operators of one of our radio sets have heard stations as far away as Havana, Cuba.

The Heacock Radiophone is near perfection as they can be made at the present time. O. M. Heacock, who has over 15 years experimental experience, personally supervises their construction and many features that make it so perfect, are his own design. You must hear one to appreciate its value. Call us for a demonstration today.

We also handle other standard makes of radio. Prices range from \$30 to \$300. Heacock's Radio Service Enterprise, Oregon.

SHERRY'S

SUNDAY - MONDAY - TUESDAY
An Eye For An Eye,
A Tooth For A Tooth!
The relentless law of nature, cruel and contemptuous of the individual
It Was the Law of

"TIGER ROSE"

A child of the woods, as beautiful as the flower whose name she bore, but as dangerous in defense as the queen of the jungles. David Belasco's famous play has been transferred to the silver screen with the utmost fidelity and with LENORE ULRIC Also Showing a Comedy

RED PEPPER FOR COLDS IN CHEST

Close your tight, aching chest. Stop the pain. Break up the congestion. Feed a hot cold broken up just a short time. Red Pepper Rub—the cold remedy that brings quickest relief. It cannot hurt you and it certainly seems to bring the lightness and drive the congestion and soreness right out. Nothing has such concentrated penetrating heat as red peppers, and when heat penetrates right down into colds, congestion, aching muscles and sore, stiff joints relief comes at once. The moment you apply Red Pepper Rub you feel the tingling heat. In three minutes the congested spot is warmed through and through. When you are suffering from a cold, rheumatism, backache, stiff neck or sore muscles, just get a jar of Bowles Red Pepper Rub, made from red peppers, at any drug store. You will have the quickest relief known.

"Mt Emily" Breakfast Bacon 25c lb.
The Grande Ronde Meat Co.