

Over The Valley

Mabel E. Morton, Valley News Editor

Full Page Today—

Because of the reports from the economic conference which we are publishing in full today, as much of the news from this page as could possibly be used, will be run on Friday's page. Those who so splendidly gave in news items for this page, will therefore, understand the reason for their not appearing today. Valley Editor.

Entertainment Aid—

Sixteen members of the Ladies Aid society of Island City were guests last Thursday of Mrs. John Schroeder at her beautiful home near Island City. The ladies came in the morning and assisted in the arranging of the pot luck dinner which was served at noon. Immediately following this a confertor was tackled until time for the business meeting. During the program Mrs. Ed Kiddle reviewed two chapters of E. Stanley Jones' book, "The Christ of the Indian Road." Visitors during the meeting were Mrs. Moore of Island City, Mrs. Albert Stein of Cave avenue and Mrs. Johnson of La Grande.

Grange Play Tomorrow—

The Pleasant Grove grange home talent play, "The Time of the Life," will be given tomorrow evening, February 29th at the Masonic hall in Summerville. It is stated that the play is to be one of the best these young people have put on. There will be other features during the evening, including a play. Those who are interested in a very large attendance.

Vaudeville Night—

Tomorrow, Wednesday evening, Junior Vaudeville night will be observed at Cave this being the sixth annual event of this nature. The Junior class assisted by the student body will put on their program in the Macomber hall beginning at eight o'clock.

War Officers—

Members of the American Legion and the Legion Auxiliary of Imbler were in La Grande, Thursday afternoon to hear the officials who were there that day.

Sunday Guests—

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wells of Alsea spent Sunday at the home of Mrs. Wells' parents Mr. and Mrs. Barker near Cave. Mr. and Mrs. Wells have been having as their house guests Mr. and Mrs. Ward Miller of Alsea. Mr. and Mrs. Keller Birmingham and son, Bobby were also visitors at the parental Barker home Sunday.

End Season Tonight—

The basketball season is closing for the Imbler basketball girls team, which they meet the Union team this evening. These two are playing the Union girls tonight on the Union floor, the Union girls winning by a score of 23-3.

Co. Association Meeting—

Once more the Summerville I. O. O. F. and Rebekah lodges displayed their ability to play the part of host and hostesses when they entertained the county I. O. O. F. and Rebekah association Saturday evening. Their ability to meet an emergency was never better shown than when they had expected about 150 to be present and there were actually 250 who came. But they were equal to it and all spent a very enjoyable and profitable evening. This men held their meeting in their own hall and the work put on by two candidates. At the same time the ladies met in the Masonic hall. As they were not in their own regular hall it was impossible for them to have regular candidates, but the work was accomplished with two members serving as dummy candidates. Following these sessions, the two groups came together and the Summerville folks served sandwiches, cake, brick ice cream and

coffee. This was followed by a program with these features:

"Why They Joined the Rebekahs" a one-act play by four Imbler ladies, Miss Ruth Vitell, Mrs. Rita Welch, Mrs. Violet Huey and Mrs. Texie Smith.

Piano Solo, Ruth Vitell.

Recitation, Marjorie Woodell.

Double Duet, Mrs. Frank Woodell, Mrs. Wayne Turk, Mrs. Lee Neiderer, Mrs. Irene Conrad.

Reading, Mrs. Perle Wagoner.

Presentation of the "Tragic Opera" by the Summerville team.

The next meeting of the county association will be held at Cave on Saturday, March 24th.

Goes to Portland—

Mrs. Everett Walsinger, of Valeria district, left Friday evening for Portland, where she will be some time with her mother, Mrs. DeLong who is quite ill.

LOWER COVE PERSONALS

LOWER COVE (Special)—Winter rains again with snow and ice. Farmers here still have plenty of hay.

Donna Lindsey, 5-year-old daughter of Mrs. Hazel Lindsey, of Union, is spending a week at the home of her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Gassett.

Mrs. A. L. Becker spent the weekend visiting Mrs. Leah Becker in La Grande, also her sons, Troy and Robert who attend school there.

Warner Beem, of Imbler, spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Beem.

Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Johnson and son Walter, and Mrs. Sarah Thompson spent Sunday in La Grande at the home of L. V. Johnson, where a birthday dinner was held in honor of Mrs. Adolph Peeler's birthday. This was her ninth birthday year, the day being Feb. 29. All enjoyed a splendid birthday dinner and family reunion. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. L. V. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Peeler, Mrs. Sarah Thompson, Charles and Walter Johnson, Gladith, Elma and Lester Johnson Jr., Wayne Peeler and Florence Beem.

T. B. Johnson and J. T. Beem attended a meeting of the cooperative creamery directors recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Nell Knight and daughters, Betty Lane and Marie Allen were guests at the Howard Gassett home for Sunday dinner.

On Feb. 19, Mr. and Mrs. S. Van Schoonhoven entertained at a birthday dinner in honor of Miss Harriet's 49th birthday anniversary. Those present were Mr. Burford and daughter, Miss Letitia, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Gassett and Mr. and Mrs. Simon Van Schoonhoven.

UNION PERSONALS

UNION (Special)—Union schools wound up their basketball games of the season, except for the tournament when the Hob Kittens defeated the Imbler High girls by a decisive score here Saturday evening. The visiting team was somewhat handicapped, as one of the cars which was bringing the players to Union met with an accident landing in a ditch and injuring one of the girls. However, they came on and played the game. Union scored a big lead and Miss Schaper sent in the entire sub squad, which evened matters up and made a good game during the latter quarters.

Preliminary to the girls' game, Jack Cox, who has been training the grade boys, put on a contest between the dozen or more sub-among the grade boys, which furnished much amusement while the

crowd was waiting for the main game to start.

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. John Miller, of South Union, is suffering from an attack of muscular rheumatism, according to a report from Dr. T. M. Gilmore. This makes two cases of the same affliction in the same part of town, as Roy, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. V. Conner has been ill of rheumatism for a couple of weeks.

Mrs. Cleve Tallman and her two children, Max and Jean, have returned to Union and will make this place their home. Mrs. Tallman formerly operated a beauty parlor here, but moved away about two years ago.

The members of the Union High school basketball girls' team, who have been selected to act as umpires for the district tournament, were guests of honor at a banquet last Thursday evening. The banquet was given by girls from the High School Alumni association. After the dinner which was given at the Shanks restaurant, the girls enjoyed a short social time.

One of the chief social functions of the month to be given at the Mormon church was held last Wednesday afternoon when the Junior and Gleezer Girls entertained their mothers at a banquet and program. With the Beehive Girls acting as waitresses, the two other organizations started their banquet and program at the same time. Emma Baxter sang a solo, Irene Lovhagen gave two readings, Maude and Leah Lay rendered a vocal duet, Charles Badger played a piano solo. Mrs. Gladys Baxter gave a talk to the daughters and Blanche Whiting presented a talk to the mothers.

The Union Odd Fellows lodge had initiatory work at their hall Friday night, the candidate being Robert Wakefield. Several members of the Cove lodge were present.

Union Post American Legion will sponsor a dance at the school gym Saturday night following the final game of the basketball tourney.

Lumber from the Oregon Trail mill yards, which was sawed during the past summer, is being shipped out this winter, and the mill is being overhauled and put in order for the spring sawing.

Dr. Jewell, dean of education at the Oregon State college, who was in Eugene, Oregon to attend the economic conference at La Grande, spent part of Thursday visiting the various departments of the Union High school. He gave a talk to the assembly in the high school.

MEDICAL SPRINGS PERSONALS

MEDICAL SPRINGS (Special)—Friday night Medical Springs had another snow fall, but it did not stay on long.

Wilson Hayes is building a house for himself and family. He bought the lumber in Baker. It is being built on his father-in-law's place. A Miss Nelda Harris was taken to the hospital the first of the week, Saturday afternoon when she was brought home. She became worse overnight and was rushed back to the hospital Sunday morning. She is Cy Turner's daughter. Rheumatism seems to be the trouble.

Mrs. Cy Turner's oldest brother is visiting here. Ed Turner is also visiting here.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Vanorder are leaving for Huntington Monday. They have work there.

David Lorry will be gone for several days on business.

WANTS NO DUMB BELLS

NEW YORK (AP)—The beautiful but dumb need not apply to Samuel Goldwyn, who is looking for movie talent. The nine year old son of Goldwyn's, who is looking for movie talent, is not looking for perfection of face and form—intelligence and sense of humor.

LUCKY LINDY?

WASHINGTON (AP)—What do you mean "Lucky Lindy"? Senator Edgar wishes Congress to turn out 13 stamps in honor of the good will flight.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

The Fifth Agricultural Economic conference held last Friday and Saturday has been described by County Agent Harry Avery as "the best one we have ever had." "The conference seems to be an established event in the county, the people are expecting it, they enter into it and it succeeds."

While discussions are held in the smaller groups, the actual work is done by means of the reports mapped out by them but presented and adopted by the conference as a whole. These reports are being published in full by request of Mr. Avery, who believes that every reader of this paper is sufficiently interested in the present status of agricultural affairs in the county and also in the outlook to find much that will be of interest.

The reports are as follows:

Dairy REPORT OF DAIRY COMMITTEE FOR UNION COUNTY

The national outlook for the dairy industry indicates that the dairy industry year may be expected to show a considerable increase in production in the country and a corresponding demand is expected to continue. Conditions on the coast indicate that any probable expansion will be absorbed and that the demand for dairy cattle will probably continue. The trend of demand is for products of the higher grades.

Dairy conditions in the county are such that no appreciable expansion in the industry is not recommended unless proper feeds in adequate amounts can be provided and unless reasonably high producing cows can be obtained. It is essential that the dairy cows receive proper care and on this account the number kept should be large enough to warrant this care and attention.

The experience of the past year would suggest no change in the recommendations of the previous conference, but would only emphasize their truth. Notable progress has been made since those recommendations were made, and attention is called to the following:

1. Organized production records are being kept on 10 herds at Canyon through the Union Cow Testing association.

2. A number of high class pure bred sires have been put in use in the county, replacing scrubs.

3. Tuberculosis testing has continued and practically the entire county has again been covered with no reactors being found.

4. Greater attention has been given to the quality of the dairy products. The efforts made by the dairy to improve the quality of dairy products supplied to these cities.

5. Buying and paying for products on the basis of grade has become an established principle.

In general it may be said that better dairying practices have been put in operation during the past year with the result that the industry is gradually getting on a more satisfactory basis.

It is realized, however, that the average production per cow for the county is still low, and that there should be greater attention given to the possibilities of permanent grass pastures, and such succulent feeds as silage, and roots.

The recommendations here made are intended to serve as a guide to better dairying in the hope that greater profits may be returned to those engaged in the industry.

Feeding Try to provide a permanent grass pasture for summer feeding. This is the natural feed for the dairy cow and better returns are thus obtained and labor costs are considerably lessened. With very high producing cows some grain may be necessary in the winter to pasture. Immediate results may not be noted in some cows but their improved condition brought about by grain feeding in the winter will show satisfactory returns when turned on early pasture. Cows producing less than one pound of fat daily usually do not require grain.

Record Keeping In addition to these roughages, feed grain only to cows that make good milk. In the winter, immediate results may not be noted in some cows but their improved condition brought about by grain feeding in the winter will show satisfactory returns when turned on early pasture. Cows producing less than one pound of fat daily usually do not require grain.

Record Keeping The keeping of production records on the individual cows in the herd is essential to successful dairying. The records may be private ones or those obtained in cow testing organizations. Dairymen of the county who have kept records state that only those cows that produce 300 pounds of butterfat annually can be kept at a profit at present feed and butterfat prices.

The present efforts to organize a cow testing association for the county should be supported.

Dairy Herd Management The shelter shed system of caring for dairy cows in the winter is recommended. Dairymen in the county now using this system state that even if there is only one cow on the farm this system is preferred to turning out in the weather or to keeping them in the barn in stanchions. Grain and succulent feeds may be fed in the milking barn and hay to the shelter shed. Hay consumption is increased by keeping fresh hay before the cows and daily cleaning out that which has been left. Stens and waste hay should be fed other

stock and not forced on milking cows.

Barns and sheds should be so arranged that feeding will require the least possible amount of time. In fact, all work about the dairy should be so arranged and systematized that maximum efficiency from all labor is obtained.

Size of Herd

Cost records show that as far as equipment and labor are concerned 10 cows may be kept as cheaply as six or eight. If then, feed conditions on the farm will warrant, the larger number should be considered the minimum for economical production.

Pure Bred Sires

Dairy cattle of the county will be improved mainly by breeding up those now here rather than the purchase of others. The importance of obtaining high class pure bred sires for this purpose cannot be over-emphasized, and in view of present cheap prices for the very best dairy sires should be no delay in replacing all scrubs with good pure bred sires.

Tuberculosis Eradication

With the splendid showing already made in eradicating tuberculosis from the county no letup in testing should be permitted.

Abandon Disease

Because of the excessive costs occasioned by this disease and since there is as yet no known cure, every dairymen should acquaint himself with the best methods of control and if the disease is suspected in his herd he should by testing determine the extent of the disease present.

Quality of Products

Market reports indicate there is no surplus of high quality dairy products but there is some surplus of inferior goods. These reports further show that the inferior goods are much lower in price and it is also a matter of common knowledge that these inferior goods tend to decrease the possible consumption of dairy products. It is therefore to the advantage of dairymen of the county to make the quality of a product leaving his farm as a matter of pride and to see to it that no goods of poor quality reach the market.

It is also noted that better quality of products is being demanded in the whole milk trade of cities and that there is some discussion favoring better quality of milk products in cities of this county. This condition, therefore, endorses the efforts made by the dairy to improve the quality of dairy products supplied to these cities.

Respectfully submitted,

S. T. BAILEY, Chairman.

Horticulture

Report of the Horticulture Group of the 1928 Union County Agricultural Conference

Berries

The growing of berries should be carried on with the thought in mind that the market for same is limited to the local demand in Baker, Union and Walla Walla counties. During the past three years the limited amount of such fruit offered has caused the prices to stand high enough to give growers good returns for their efforts. The planting of a larger acreage should be approached with care, lest an oversupply be thrown on the market, causing a lowering of prices that will not give satisfactory returns upon the investment. An acreage sufficient to make possible carload shipping or a canning factory would warrant material increases.

Italian Prunes

We find quite adequate, the recommendations made for the years 1926 and 1927 wherein it was stated that the further setting of prune trees is not warranted for the reason that the bearing acreage is now producing all that is necessary to supply the demand of the United States, and in case of heavy bearing years prices often fall below the cost of production. New improved varieties have been found that are worthy of careful investigation.

Apples

The year just passed has proven one of the best years in recent times in the matter of prices paid for apples in the Pacific Northwest. The short tonnage produced in some of the larger growing sections did not help the cause of growers in a material financial way; however in the Grande Ronde valley and adjacent territory quite satisfactory returns were received. The prices received warrant a good earning on well kept apple orchards in Union county.

Since growers of the county have learned that it is necessary to be more careful in their grade and pack, our apples are becoming more popular and the marketing of our apples is more easily accomplished from year to year. It is hoped that growers will not relax in the matter of grade and pack, as it is plainly evident that success in the production and marketing of this fruit at a profit depends almost entirely on the number in which it is offered and the impression created by having clean, uniform grades put out in neat, attractive packages.

It is recommended that growers look well to the care of their orchards in pruning, seeking always to keep their trees open for fresh air and sunshine to bring about higher color, and better flavor. Trees should not be allowed to carry a top of too great dimensions, as this is certain material to cut down size.

A close-up analysis of the apple situation of the Northwest shows that the peak of production has been reached and passed; also that with little or no new setting, a heavy depreciation in bearing may be expected within the next five years. The matter of pest control in the larger producing sections is

threatening to cause much displacement in the west, which will further tend to lessen production.

Since practically the entire world has learned to depend on the Northwest for the finer grades, and since it requires nearly 10 years for new-set orchards to arrive at full bearing stage, and whereas pest control costs heavily in two lower altitude orchards, it is self-evident that the settings of new orchards will be higher up in the foothills.

In view of the foregoing facts it is believed that our present orchards in Union county will become more valuable and that it will not be any mistake for the younger persons interested in horticulture to plant apple orchards on carefully selected lands in this county. We believe there is no doubt about such settings creating good values to the owners within a period of 10 years.

Better spray methods for controlling moth control should be practiced, and it is our recommendation that compulsory spray methods be adopted over the entire county.

Cherries

The following recommendations relative to cherry production are submitted by the horticulture group:

1. A better production program to increase yields per acre, thus decreasing cost per ton, and to increase the size and quality of the crop. This will include building up and maintaining high soil fertility, with emphasis placed upon bulky organic matter such as cover crops, manures, alfalfa hay and nitrogenous commercial fertilizers. Some superphosphate trials should be made. For cover crops in the irrigated orchards alfalfa is recommended and in the dry lands wheat, rye or vetch. Where alfalfa or vetch are not used it is recommended that commercial nitrogen fertilizers be used. To permit proper maturity of the trees it is advisable to avoid late growth by practicing less irrigation or by using cover crops, or both. This should be done after late August.

2. Cherry tree pruning should not be practiced excessively. Pruning should be for the purpose of shaping young trees and cutting out cross limbs or dead wood in older trees. In training young cherry trees the committee urges that trials be made of bracing and tying to replace some of the cutting which is now being done.

3. With high quality an important factor in successful marketing, we recommend that the pressure test be utilized in determining correct picking condition of the fruit. We further recommend that all

cherries be hauled from the orchard to the packing house at least twice daily.

4. It is believed to be very necessary that a committee be appointed by the chairman of this conference to develop grade standards and make recommendations toward improving the quality of pack and do such other things as will tend to elevate the standard of the cherry output.

Compulsory spraying of cherry trees to control the fruit fly must be put into effect if the cherry industry is to be put on a sound basis. The committee supports this attitude.

Resolved: That it is the sense of this meeting that, in the matter of planting new orchards for the purpose of growing more sweet cherries in Union county, it is highly essential to the most profitable development of the industry that more acreage of such cherries be planted, and to that end we recommend an increase of the cherry acreage in Union County, Oregon.

We further recommend that a copy of this resolution be furnished to the secretary of the Union county chamber of commerce.

H. L. WEATHERSPOON,

Chairman Horticulture Group.

Economics

GENERAL ECONOMICS COMMITTEE

The general economics committee of the Union county economics conference notes with satisfaction that the general index of prices in the United States advanced 10 points during 1927 and that the gross income from agriculture production appears to have become stabilized during the past three years at 12 to 13 billion dollars. Taking into account the trend of agricultural production in this country, foreign competition and demand, and the trend in the general commodity price level, forces are not yet in evidence that would make the situation as a whole in the next few years materially different from the situation of the past three years. However, forward looking farmers can continue to improve their situation by adopting more efficient methods and making adjustments in line with the information in this report. Expansion, especially in cash crops, is to be guarded against.

In place of marked expansion and marked decreases annually in crops on the individual farm, it is the opinion of this committee that a well organized system of production should be carried out over a long term period on the Union county ranch.

The general agricultural situa-

tion in Oregon at this time is improved. Except for seasonal fluctuations the annual return from farm products has increased since the low point of 1921-22. The gross farm cash income for Oregon for the year July 1, 1927 to June 30, 1928 is estimated at 149 million dollars, as compared with 105 million dollars the year before, and 115.7 million the year before that. The low point in recent years was reached in 1921-22, being 90.1 million dollars. The high point was 139.4 million in 1919-20. The average annual cash income for the five years ending June 30, 1924 was 104.4 million. There is being experienced at this time in the state increased activity in farm lands, and the number of farms in the state continue to increase. With increased efficiency in farming, and more intensive cultivation of many of the state's areas and improved adjustments to market demands, there seems to be adequate grounds for belief that the annual gross cash farm income will continue its gradual increase for some time.

It is the opinion of the economics committee that the number of farms in Union county is not increasing and that a decrease has been the case, owing to some consolidations and some abandonment of marginal lands. On the other hand in Union county, as elsewhere in the state, there has been a resumption in the activity of the demand for improved land, both for purchase and for rental.

The economics committee calls attention to the fact that the federal outlook announces that "Foreign demand for our agricultural products of 1928 will be no better than it was for those of 1927," whereas "Foreign competition in many lines is likely to be as great or greater in 1928 than in 1927."

The committee also calls the attention of the conference to the fact that farm labor wage rates are now over 70 per cent greater than for the pre-war period, 1914 to 1916. Farm labor rates will doubtless continue relatively high for another year or two because of the increased cost of living, higher standards of living required for labor, and because of the fact that labor rates decrease less rapidly than other prices. When all prices are falling, labor rates fall slower than other prices.

The committee also calls attention to the outlook of the farm population movement which is the following: Farm population in the United States which steadily increased from 1720 to 1910, started to decline in 1910. The decrease

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OUT OUR WAY

By Williams



SKAGGS SAFETYWAY STORES

Distribution Without Waste

Wednesday, February 29th,
BREAD and BUTTER DAY

We appreciate the way the public has responded to this mid-week feature. It is evident to us that the people of La Grande and vicinity appreciate the opportunity to buy local made and raised products and we wish to assure you that we are using every commodity "home made," that we can.

The bread and butter we are featuring to you on our Wednesday features are both made in La Grande.

Scratch Feed

This is a high grade scratch.

100 lb. Bag 2.79

Beans

Red Mexican.

5 lbs. 35c

Salt Pork

For seasoning.

PER LB. 19c

Soap

Crystal White.

5 Bars 19c

Oranges

Sunkist fruit. Large size.

D oz. 69c

Bread

Large 1 1/2-lb. loaves. White or health.

EACH 9c

Butter

Safeway Brand. Pure and wholesome.

2 Lb. Roll 93c

Oleomaragrine

Crux. Our own brand.

2 Lbs. 39c

Fruits and Vegetables

Bananas

Golden, ripe, firm fruit.