

# OVER THE VALLEY

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### Coming Events

Tomorrow, all day meeting Alford Aid.

Thursday, agricultural committee of the subordinate granges of the county will meet in room 222 at the post office with county agricultural agent, H. G. Avery, and state agent leader, Mr. Ballard of Corvallis.

Thursday evening, Blue Mt. grange members are invited to dedication of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Nizer in La Grande.

Sunday, the "What Shall I Read" series will meet in the afternoon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter M. Pierce.

Friday, Feb. 28, annual community dinner at Island City.

Return Home—Mr. and Mrs. Tom Williamson who live at the upper end of Wallawa lake have been in the valley visiting among their numerous relatives. They returned home yesterday.

Bus—Lambing has started at the E. F. Hughes farm beyond the Bowman-Hicks mill near La Grande. There have been no losses so far and the lambs are reported as being very nice. The Hughes band is of the Rambouillet breed.

Has Infected Tooth—Dwight Ploshman of the Grande Hall district has been suffering considerably from an infected wisdom tooth. It has been some better the last few days.

Improves Home—Mr. and Mrs. Luther Hindman are having some extensive remodeling done to the home on their farm in the Hindman district east of Elgin. J. E. Hall of Elgin has been doing the work and was caught in the extremely heavy rain experienced in that section. The roads were flooded, he reported, to the depth of several inches where the water had run down from the neighboring hillsides.

Coming Home—Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. French of the valley who have been visiting at the home of Mr. French's mother, Mrs. M. M. McKennon at Clarksville, Ark., since before Christmas are expected home this week. Reports from Mr. McKennon, who recently survived a stroke, are to the effect that he is much better and he is able to use some of the members which were affected temporarily.

Visits Children—Mrs. A. A. Wilson of near Imbler has been in Union the guest at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Fred Fox. During her absence from home she will also visit at the home of her son, Clayton, in Portland and at the home of her daughter, Mrs. C. B. Wronshaw and family in Walla Walla.

Purchases Farm—According to reports, a deal was consummated the first of last week in which Walter Jones, of North Powder, came into possession by purchase of the 40 acres of irrigated land on Sunny Slope near North Powder. It is reported that Mr. Jones paid approximately \$65 per acre for the improved land, which is known to residents of that section as the W. E. Kester ranch. The buildings on the tract burned some time ago, so there are no improvements of that character. However, the tract is under cultivation with ditch and water right under the Sunny Slope irrigation district.

Miss Case Comes—Miss Lucy Case, home demonstration agent from the state college, who is very well known over this valley comes to eastern Oregon tomorrow to give one of her nutrition lectures at the Hurdman grange hall in Wallawa county. Her subject is to be "Family Feasting," one of a series which was given in this county some time ago.

Does Nicely—Helen Jean Spockhart, young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Spockhart of the town neighborhood is quite recovered from her recent operation for the removal of her tonsils.

Home Burns—An overheated stove started a fire which destroyed the three-room dwelling on the E. W. Mills ranch east of North Powder last Saturday. The fire started about noon while the men of the ranch were having lunch. All contents of the house were destroyed and the loss of both dwelling and contents were total as no insurance was carried.

Meet at Agent's Office—Members of the agriculture committees of the different grange organizations of the county are called to a meeting Thursday, Feb. 28 at the civil service rooms at the post office building. They will meet with Harry G. Avery, county agricultural agent and E. L. Ballard, county agent leader of the state.

Better—Ed Donn, who has been quite ill in relation at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Masterton on Cove avenue was reported as being a little better the last of the week.

Visits Daughter—Mrs. Tod Henderson of the Iowa district has as her guest for a few weeks her mother, Mrs. B. Rosenkrance who came to the valley recently from Passa and Walla, Wash.

### A SEASONABLE RECIPE

**Maple Mousse**  
One and one-half cups maple syrup.  
Three egg yolks.  
Two grains salt.  
One teaspoon vanilla.  
Two tablespoons gelatin.  
One pint whipping cream.  
Cook the syrup and egg yolks and salt in a double boiler stirring constantly. When it coats the spoon, add the gelatin, which has been softened in cold water. Add the vanilla. Chill and when slightly congealed, add the cream whipping stiff. Freeze in a covered mold in equal parts of crushed ice and rock salt, or in an electric refrigerator.

drawn conveyances have been in use in some sections for several days.

**Celebrate Golden Wedding**  
Surrounded by all of their living children, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Mercer of near North Powder, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary a week ago Sunday day having been an exceptionally happy one. Friends and neighbors joining during the day to extend their felicitations. Mr. and Mrs. Mercer were married 45 Browning, Mo., their marriage uniting the families of Dr. M. B. Taylor and Dr. C. F. Mercer of that place. The years have been happy ones, according to Mr. and Mrs. Mercer, with sunshine and some shadows, as is the lot of all. The children who were present for the celebration were: Ray S. Mercer, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Olson, and daughter, Laura, Macine, Mr. and Mrs. John T. McElroy, of North Powder; Frank H. Mercer of Fossil, Ore.; Mrs. Day P. Storey and daughter, Alene, of Nampa, Ida.; Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Mercer, of Clifton, Ore.; and Mrs. Betta M. Allen, Mr. Mercer's sister.

**Had Flu**  
Sam Williamson of Cove avenue, the valley's 87-year-old pioneer, has been confined to his bed with an attack of the flu. He is reported as being very much better now.

**Visit Friends**  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Moore of the Rock Wall district north of Elgin were guests of friends in La Grande Saturday. Mr. Moore is the master of the flourishing Rock Wall grange and he and Mrs. Moore were in La Grande to enjoy the Brothers' Day festivities at the Blue Mountain grange.

**Improves**  
Mrs. Willie Sanderson of Dry creek who was operated two weeks ago at the Grande Ronde hospital was able to be up in a chair for a time yesterday. Mrs. Sanderson is getting anxious to get home, at least to leave the hospital, for members of her connection have arranged for several more weeks of rest and recuperation in their homes before she is tempted to get too busy in the spring work at her own home.

**Sunday Guests**  
Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Hefty and their two sons were guests Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Mills near the Cove.

**Have Electric Outfit**  
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Loening are going into the poultry business on a different scale this year, that is, they have installed some new electrical equipment, including an electric incubator and an electric brooder. The incubator is of a 166-egg capacity and has been going for some time now.

**Up From Baker Co.**  
Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Bailey of Baker spent a few days in the valley last week coming to attend a number of grange meetings. Friday evening in company with other growers they drove to Rock Wall and attended the meeting held there. The meeting is reported to have been full of interest and enthusiasm, with 100 people present. Mr. Bailey, who is a member of the state executive committee, and Mrs. Bailey who is a prominent lecturer of Baker county, both gave addresses during the evening.

**Had Road**  
Roads in the valley outside of the highways and surfaced market are almost invariably reported as being in very poor condition right now and traveling is very far from good. Light trucks, and even horse

drawn, are 48.43 for having to bring her husband's contribution in a farm wagon drawn by two work horses. In all, it amounted to \$175.32 not including the meat and the spuds. The bill was tacked however, as it was brother's day and the women folks were not allowed to talk.

**One Change**  
When asked what he was going to do differently this year, Tom Maccomb who lives on the Ed Reynolds farm in the Grande Ronde neighborhood merely remarked that he was NOT going to raise sheep this year. Sheep operations were rather discouraging last season for Mr. Maccomb and Mr. Reynolds inasmuch as dogs made such serious inroads into their flocks, killing at least 75 animals. The process necessary to secure damage in the first place, and a sum not commensurate with the loss, would seem to be ground for discouragement.

**Bad Road**  
Willie Sanderson of Sanderson Springs drove to La Grande Sunday to see Mrs. Sanderson who is a patient at the Grande Ronde hospital. Mr. Sanderson stated that the roads up north of Summerville are quite up to their reputation, with as much time required to get to Summerville as was required for the balance of the trip. They are practically bottomless in places, it is reported. But talk to folks in that locality about roads! There is always this additional statement, enthusiastically added, "But we will have a road after this year." Much of the preliminary work of the road which runs north from Summerville to Sanderson Springs was done this last season, and one more year of it will give people in that neighborhood an outlet during the winter months.

**Re-elected**  
Eva and Edna Ledbetter of near Alford have been re-elected to their teaching positions in the Weston high school for another year. Eva for her third year and Edna for her second year.

**Brothers' Day**  
When the master of Blue Mt. grange, Ed Bekley, calmly invited the patrons present at the morning session of that organization Saturday, to go to the dining room for a "frugal meal" prepared by the brothers, he started something. It was "Brother's Day" an annual and very important event custom calling for a dinner at noon prepared and served by the men folks and a program in the afternoon. The "frugal meal" was served to more than 150 people, who were seated at four long tables with decorations of red carnations. It consisted of "home" baked ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, baked beans, hot rolls and butter, salads, pickles, cakes, pies, ice cream and coffee. The men proved themselves quite skillful at the "evening" but alas when the meeting was about to close and the hearty thanks of the "wimmen" had been extended, a bill was presented to the brothers for \$175.32, this to cover the food which the sisters had contributed to that "frugal meal." Ordinary pies went all the way from 75 cents to \$1.00 and pie-thick pies, from \$1.00 to \$1.50; cakes were high; dishes of salad went around \$1.00. One sister turned in a bill for \$2 for writing her husband's speech; another

desired \$4.43 for having to bring her husband's contribution in a farm wagon drawn by two work horses. In all, it amounted to \$175.32 not including the meat and the spuds. The bill was tacked however, as it was brother's day and the women folks were not allowed to talk.

The general committee for the dinner was R. A. Masterton Will Taylor and J. H. Lindsey; the serving committee, Tom Maccomb, George Hughes, Bert Grout, Charles Hamman, Joe Sayre, Cecil Sherwood and George Saltburg; assisting in the kitchen were Edith Chenault, Albert Hamann, Mr. Nizer; program committee, Ben Gekeler, Clarence Carter, A. E. Hug and Frank Wright. These committees acknowledged kindnesses shown, the hams baked by the Gwilliams bakery. The ice cream donated by the "Blue Mountain grange," the coffee by the Grande Ronde Meat Co., the flowers for the tables by Mrs. Bohan and the aprons for the waiters by the Mac-Merris.

Ben Gekeler announced the program as follows: Music, the Sand Ridge band; Frank Wright, piano; Clarence Carter, banjo; M. L. Carter, violin; recitation, Harry Herdman; song, L. P. Wright; recitation, Bobby Chenault; song, John Walker; debate, "Should Women's Rights Be Made Longer," affirmative, Ed Kekley, negative, Tom Waldstrom; song, M. L. Carter, accompanied by Clarence Carter; talk, E. A. Sayre; music, Sand Ridge band; address, ex-governor, Walter M. Pierce. It was universally pronounced a successful event.

### Big Reduction Is Seen In The Value Of Stock

Oregon livestock values on January 1, 1929 shows a very marked reduction. A reduction is indicated in every class of livestock although sheep show the greatest slump according to a report released through the federal-state cooperative reporting service by Paul C. Newman, agricultural statistician in charge.

While the total number of sheep in Oregon remains unchanged as compared to January 1929, the average price of all classes is only \$9.00 a head compared to \$13.69 a year ago and the slump in total value is \$6,274,000. With sheep numbers remaining stationary and with the big slump in value it appears that the steady increase of sheep through the past few years has received a definite check.

Dairy cattle in Oregon failed to register any increase and the number of farms is estimated at 220,000 head the same as a year ago. The average value per head slumped \$8.00 a head to \$7.00. The present estimate of total value of all dairy cows and heifers is \$17,500,000 compared to \$19,260,000 a year ago.

Beef cattle are therefore responsible for practically all of the 7000 increase in all cattle number which is placed now at 700,000 compared to 693,000 a year ago. The total value of all cattle is placed at \$28,521,000 compared to \$41,511,000 a year ago representing an average reduction of \$4.90 per head of all classes.

The January 1, 1929 inventory of hogs on farms in Oregon is 15 per cent smaller than a year ago. The average value increased \$1.19 per head to \$11.69, but the total value of all hogs is estimated at \$2,270,000 compared to \$2,462,000 a year ago.

Oregon horses and colts on farms January 1, 1929 is eight per cent less than a year ago and the average value per head all ages is \$62

## McKELVIE, FARM BOARD MEMBER EXPLAINS ACT

Wheat growers of this valley had a representation of about a dozen men at the conference held at Arlington Thursday, with Samuel R. McKelvie, a member of the federal farm board, E. M. Ehrhardt, president of the Federal Intermediate Credit bank of Spokane, and Senator Roy W. Ritter of Bendleton, regional director of the North Pacific cooperative, as the speakers. Mr. McKelvie, naturally, being the most important. In the gathering were 200 men from eastern Oregon, and those who went from this section report the meeting to have been quite beneficial.

The effectiveness of the agricultural marketing act through its various phases of cooperative selling and price stabilization depend entirely upon the attitude of the farmer toward the national cooperative movement," Mr. McKelvie said.

Recalling the history of the agricultural marketing act and the fight which has been going forward to give the agricultural industry in price fixation, Mr. McKelvie outlined the four cardinal points of the National Grain corporation:

- 1.—To eliminate speculation in grain.
- 2.—To eliminate waste in production and marketing.
- 3.—To assist in organization of cooperatives to work in connection with the national grain corporation.
- 4.—To assist in preventing surpluses.

In connection with the speculation in grain, McKelvie pointed out the stabilization effect of the farm board's preferred loan October 28, 1928, after the wheat market had started to follow the downward trend in prices.

He pointed out that under the cooperative marketing plan, the control of the marketing machinery was no less in the hands of the farmer. If a grain grower with wheat in a cooperative warehouse

desired to sell an individual buyer at a price ahead of the market, he may order the warehouse operator to sell. The objective is to assist the farmer to get the highest possible price for his grain, the speaker declared.

McKelvie also pointed out the advantage of organization in selling. He spoke of published reports of an import into America of Russian grain. The actual importation was less than a million bushels, a drop in the bucket, yet the story had a demoralizing effect on the domestic wheat price, because the farmers did not have information as to the importance of the importation.

In reference to waste, the elimination of which is sought by the National Grain corporation, the speaker told of Montana grain stored in coast of Great Lakes terminals, able to move only one way, when it should have been held in Montana warehouses, where it had some bargaining power.

Mr. McKelvie said that while the acts of the National Grain corporation might "take" on the face of some individuals engaged in grain handling, the property of 20,000,000 farmers representing 6,000,000 farms outweighed the consideration for the few individuals.

The speaker said that the ultimate buyer, the baker, would welcome the work of the National Grain corporation, as the constant fluctuation in the price of the raw product is of the utmost concern to the user, who is less concerned over paying an adequate price for his flour than of paying a high price at one time and a low price a month later.

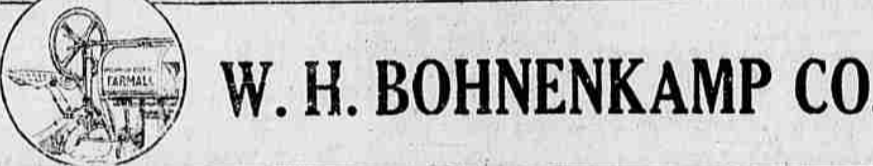
In referring to the plan to keep down grain surpluses, Mr. McKelvie said that the National Grain corporation, through its subsidiary groups, will inform the farmer as to how much grain he should plant to produce a crop which will approximately supply the demand, based on figures of past years.

We know a confirmed crank who says that the ladies nowadays have too many irons in the fire and not enough on the ironing board.



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### ::: ON THE AIR :::

Thursday, Feb. 20  
KOVAC, Corvallis (500ke) 12:45, all-contest program of music; 12:50, 1, 2, 3, 4, farm program; 12:55, news digest; 1:15, market reports and weather forecast; 2:10-2:30, home-makers' hour; 2:45, Aunt Sammy; 3, "Making Every Minute Count"; May Frank; 3:20-4, the "Home Garden"; 4-4:30, music by the masters; 4:30-4:50, market reports; 6:30-7:30, farm program; 6:30, music; 6:45, market reports and weather forecast; 7, news digest; 7:15, with the poultry flock; Prof. A. G. Loun; 7:20-7:45, collegiate sports; Light Art Traffic; 7:45-8, new things in science, James Morris.

Friday, Feb. 21  
12-12:30 p. m., organ music from Whitestone theater; 12:30-1, farm program; 12:30, news digest; 12:45, market reports and weather forecast; 1:20-1:30, home-makers' hour; 1:45, Aunt Sammy; 2, building

ing— "Plumbing and Heating," Prof. J. L. Fairbanks; 2:20, chat with the weatherman; 2:30-4, matinee; 4-4:30, music by the masters; 4:30-4:55, market reports; 6:30-7:30, farm program; 6:30, music; 6:45, market reports and weather forecast; 7, news digest; 7:15, "Winter Injury of Fruit Trees—Cause and Prevention," Prof. W. S. Brown; 7:20-8, a half hour of business people; 7:30, review of business conditions; 7:40, the chain store situation; 7:45, current business events and announcements.

Saturday, Feb. 22  
12-12:30 p. m., new photograph record releases; 12:30-1, farm program; 12:30, news digest; 12:45, market reports and weather forecast; 1:30-1:30, matinee; 6:30-7:15, farm program; 6:30, music; 6:45, market reports and weather forecast; 7, news digest; 7:10, review of week's agricultural lectures; 7:20-7:45, basketball game, O. S. C. vs. U. of Oregon.