

Jack Gregory Ranch Tops For Herfords

Purebred Hereford cattle from Union and Wallowa counties are known throughout the west for their quality. At shows and sales throughout the country, Union and Wallowa county Herefords are always near the top.

One of the many Hereford cattlemen in the area is Jack Gregory of La Grande. Gregory operates an 800 acre ranch just four miles southeast of town.

In addition to 200 head of commercial cows, Jack has 30 to 35 head of pure bred Herfords on his ranch. Prize of the herd is Junior Donald.

Junior Donald is a bull. He has never finished out of the money at any Hereford show. At a show in Denver, Junior Donald finished third in his class in competition with bulls from all over the United States.

Farm Bureau Members Are At Conclave

Union County Farm Bureau members are in Bend this week to attend the annual mid-summer resolution conference.

Resolution work is begun at this time preparatory to county action in the fall. The final step on statewide policy is taken at the annual convention which will be held in Ontario in November.

Attending the Bend meeting are Gene Stockhoff, county president, Lester Van Blokland, regional director, Mrs. Grant Henderson, state Citizenship chairman, Mrs. Ralph Robinson, member of the women's nominating committee and county women's chairman, Bill Dobbin, county voting delegate, Mr. and Mrs. Ed McCane and Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Ruckman, sub-committee members on resolutions.

L. B. Martin, President of the Idaho Farm Bureau, will speak to the assembly Friday evening. Leonard Johnson, Western regional director, American Farm Bureau, will also be present to visit with the group.

Activities during the three-day conclave include meetings by the OFBF board of directors, the organization committee, FB women's meeting, sub-committee chairman on resolutions and their vice-chairman, the general assembly, sub-committee meetings, and the Friday evening dinner meeting. Farm Bureau staff members will prepare the barbecue chicken dinner and serve it in the park.

Of special interest to Union county is the expected interest shown in the state tax structure and the North Powder resolution calling for a balk by farmers in paying property taxes.

A year ago Donald was the champion bull at the Oregon Blue Tag sale.

Gregory is a soft spoken, slight man whose hair is greying around the edge. He has blue eyes and the skin around the eyes is crinkled from squinting in the sun.

He talks softly about his cattle and about the American saddle bred horses that he used to show. There are only a few horses in the big white barn now but the trophy room is bulging with ribbons, pictures and trophies of past triumphs.

The war hampered horse shows and the Gregory farm turned to cattle.

Jack settled in La Grande about 12 years ago after coming from Wallowa county. His father is one of the oldest practicing physicians in Oregon.

Jack was busy haying last Tuesday as we stopped and talked to him. The farm is used primarily to raise feed for his cattle.

"We're not trying to expand right now," Jack said. "We are just trying to improve what we have already."

The nine yearling bulls and 14 bull calves that rested in the big pasture in back of the barn look like Jack has already been busy improving.

Farm Bureau Plans To Open Office In Island City

The Union County Farm Bureau will open an office in the near future, Gene Stockhoff, President, said today.

Plans were made at a special meeting Monday evening when an agreement was made between the county group and the La Grande center for constructing the office in the Center building in Island City.

Work will be started immediately on the 16' by 20' area in the southeast corner of the building.

Valley Farm-Ranch-Home

Supplement Of The La Grande Observer



IT'S A LOT OF BULL

Jack Gregory holds his prize Hereford bull Junior Donald. Gregory has between 30 and 35 head of purebred Hereford stock on his ranch southeast of La Grande. Although there are no ribbons on his chest, Donald has never finished out of the money at a show. (Observer Photo)



MOTHER AND SON

The bull calf and his mother are part of the herd that is owned by Jack Gregory. The frisky little fellow is the son of Junior Donald. Mom keeps her eye on the cows in the next field while junior looks for lunch. (Observer Photo)

Farm Assets Reach All-Time U.S. High

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The value of all farm assets in the United States rose 9 per cent last year to an all-time high of \$203,100,000,000, the Federal Reserve System reported today.

Total farm debt also reached a record \$23,300,000,000, up three-billion dollars, or 14 1/2 per cent, from Jan. 1, 1958.

The assets minus the total debt left the equity of farm operators and other owners of farm property at a record \$179,800,000,000, up \$13,600,000,000, or 8.3 per cent, from a year earlier.

About half of the total increase of nearly 17 billion dollars in farm asset values resulted from the rising value of farm real estate. Farm real estate values have risen each year since 1953 and have accounted for about 70 per cent of the increase in the total value of farm assets since Jan. 1, 1954.

Farm assets include the financial assets, automobiles, and household furnishings and equipment owned by farmers as well as all the assets used directly in farm production, such as farm land and buildings, livestock, tractors, motor trucks, farm machinery, and inventories of crops.

All other types of farm assets as well as real estate values increased during 1958. Among them,

livestock on farms showed the greatest increase in value—about four billion dollars.

The increase in farm mortgage debt to \$11,300,000,000 from \$10,300,000,000 was at about the same percentage rate as in other recent years.

An exceptionally large increase occurred in non-real estate farm debt. The sharp increase in Commodity Credit Corp. loans to farmers resulted mainly from the greater quantities of cotton, wheat, soybeans, and grain sorghum that were under price support plan.

Guernsey Breeder Gets Trademark

Robert O. Thompson, Jr., of Ontario, Oregon has reserved the prefix "Hill Vu" for use in naming his purebred Guernsey cattle, according to the American Guernsey Cattle Club.

This new prefix has been placed on file with the Club, and from now on Mr. Thompson, Jr. will have exclusive use of it. "Hill Vu" will be his trademark in the Guernsey world.

The American Guernsey Cattle Club is a nonprofit agricultural registry organization serving some 40,000 Guernsey breeders.

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Water Can Boost Milk Production

Free access to water may increase milk production in dairy cows up to 20 per cent over cows that are watered only once a day.

The summer milk production slump can be overcome by providing plenty of clean, fresh water, according to W. L. Northern, West Virginia University extension dairyman.

Dairy animals require about 300 pounds of water to make 100 pounds of milk. The average dairy cow has a daily water consumption of 12 to 15 gallons. Consequently there is a definite relationship between water intake and milk output, particularly in the summer.

Water needs are more pressing in the summer because body temperatures are higher.

State Fair Premium Books Now Available

SALEM — The 128-page premium book for the Oregon State Fair has been printed and is now available by writing the Fair office in Salem.

All cash premiums, trophies, ribbons and special awards are listed in the free book.

Books are being mailed to those persons already on the mailing lists.

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