



**WORKING IN THE GARDEN**

Jean McKenzie spends a lot of her time in her flower and vegetable gardens. Most of the flowers are "just in between." A lot of the early summer flowers have already bloomed and the early Autumn ones have yet to bloom. (Observer Photo)

**Jean McKenzie Active In Farm Community Activities**

"People kid us about using our electric blanket on the cooler nights when we sleep in our back yard but we just never have time to go camping, so we just sleep outdoors," said Jean McKenzie. She and her husband, Glen, have been sleeping in a little tree-covered alcove since the middle of June. The only time they've had to come in was on a few rainy nights.

The McKenzies live on one of the oldest settled places in the valley. Glen's grandparents settled the 800 acre place in the 1880's.

Jean and Glen "live outdoors a lot of the time." They like to explore the mountains, but they haven't had much time this summer because of commitments.

They don't have far to go when they want to fish either. For,

they have a small stream near their house.

Jean was born and raised in La Grande. She said that when she and Glen were married she just "moved from one end of the valley to another."

She attended the University of Oregon and majored in English. Jean taught dramatics and English at La Grande high school for 12 years.

During the war years she was a recreational director in England and France for the Red Cross. Then she was also recreational specialist with the extension service at OSC.

Jean is active in several community projects. She is director of Gamma Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, a member of the Two Rock extension unit, and a past president of the Union county Cow Belles.

She is also active as vice presi-

dent of the board of the Union county TB and Health Association, and is chairman of the Summerville, Imbler, and Alice Cancer Crusade and Educational program. She is also active as college membership chairman for her sorority.

The McKenzies have several cats but "just like a woman never tells her age, we don't tell how many cats we have," Jean said.

In their large back yard Jean and Glen have a small pond, a picnic table and facilities for barbecuing. Jean also enjoys working with her flowers and garden. Beans, peas, lettuce, potatoes, beets, squash, corn, cabbage, and strawberries are part of her garden crop.

The McKenzies "love" to travel but find that they must "steal our time" to get away. They have gone to the Centennial Exposition twice this summer and have visited the air circus in Hillsboro.

Jean's favorite recipe is one for beef which isn't odd since her husband and his father raise registered herefords. Salt and pepper round steak and cut it into serving pieces. Add one cup water and one cup homemade chili sauce. Cover and simmer for about one hour.

**Garden Pest Control Guide Issued By OSC**

A handy guide for home-garden vegetable growers in their summer "battle with bugs" has been published by Oregon State College extension service.

The illustrated, 12-page booklet, "Vegetable Garden Insect Pests," contains drawings and descriptions of insects, describes the damage they do, and lists pest-control measures.

Oregon residents may obtain free copies of the booklet from local county extension offices. Or from the OSC bulletin clerk, Corvallis.

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**Market Costs Up For Farm Goods By 4%**

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Agriculture Department reported today that the nation spent 57.7 billion dollars for farm-grown food last year.

Of this, the marketing costs took 36.9 billion dollars, leaving 20.8 billion dollars as the farm value of the foods.

Marketing costs were 4 per cent higher than in 1957. Marketing costs have climbed each year since 1957 except in 1958 when they continued at the same level.

Year-to-year gains in marketing charges during the last decade averaged about 5 per cent, the department said. The 1953 marketing bill was about 64 per cent higher than the 1947-49 average.

The farm value of foods in 1958 was 14 per cent higher than the 1947-49 average. The department pointed out that the long-term rise in farm value has been erratic.

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The weekly government weather and crop bulletin predicted today that continued hot, dry weather over the Northern great plains and far Northwest would hasten ripening of small grains, maintaining the rapid 1959 harvesting pace.

In California, only a few small grain fields remain unharvested in the main producing sections. Out harvest is under way in New York, one-half finished in Michigan, and starting in North Dakota. Flax harvest is beginning in South Dakota and Southern Minnesota.

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**Farm-Produced Food Prices Drop In Spring**

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Retail prices of farm-produced food were an average of 4 per cent lower in April, May and June than in the same period last year, the Agriculture Department said.

The department said about 90 per cent of the drop was caused by lower prices paid to farmers and the other 10 per cent by cheaper marketing charges.

Prices of pork, frying chickens, eggs, oranges, grapefruit, and many of the fresh vegetables were much lower in the second quarter of this year than a year earlier.

The department said products for marketing farm food prices were relatively stable in the first six months of 1959, but averaged 1 per cent higher than in the first half of last year. Costs of performing marketing operations probably have climbed this year, the department said. Wages, freight rates, and some other costs advanced.

Farmers received 39 cents of each dollar consumers spent for farm foods in April, May and June. This was the same as in the preceding nine months, but 2 cents less than in April, May and June of 1958.

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Senate Agriculture Committee says Agriculture Secretary Ezra T. Benson has torpedoed hopes raised by President Eisenhower for a compromise farm bill this year.

Ellender said Benson has taken an unyielding position despite the "spirit" of conciliation and compromise shown by Eisenhower.

He said Tuesday that Benson is "once again laying the cornerstone for what it feels sure will be a series of nationwide speaking trips endeavoring to lay the blame for no new farm legislation at the doorstep of Congress."

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Eisenhower has continued import quotas on rye, meal and rye flour after ruling that the restrictions are necessary to prevent interference with the domestic price support program for rye.

His proclamation Tuesday limited imports to an average annual level of 126 million pounds, over a two-year period ending June 30, 1961. This is the same quota established by the President in 1954 and continued since then.

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Senate Agriculture Committee meets today to consider a bill which would make clear that co-ops have a legal right to own processing and marketing facilities without violating antitrust laws.

The committee will decide whether to hold public hearings on the measure, which is opposed by the Justice Department. The department feels the legislation might hurt the competitive position of many farmers.

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Agriculture Department said meat production under federal inspection for the week ended Aug. 1 totaled about 288 million pounds, 9 per cent above one year ago.

Total estimated meat production continued above a year ago mainly because of the liberal output of pork, the department said.

Estimated slaughter of 1,195,000 hogs for the week was 19 per cent above the 1,004,000 head slaughtered during the corresponding week a year ago.

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Senate Agriculture Committee begins hearings Aug. 13 on a controversial bill to exempt farm cooperatives from anti-trust law provisions.

The measure, approved earlier, was sent back to the committee by the Senate last week for further study. It would permit farmer cooperatives "to acquire existing processing, marketing and handling facilities."

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Senate has approved a bill to extend for two years the government's authority to make loans to refinance debts for enlarging or improving family size farms.

The bill was passed Wednesday and sent to the House, which has voted a slightly different measure.

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Chairman Allen J. Ellender (D-La.) of TWO MORE WAR DEATHS SALERNO, Italy (UPI) — What is believed to have been a World War II hand grenade exploded among a group of wheat harvesters near here Wednesday, killing two persons and wounding 12.

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**Farm Fish Ponds Add New Chapter To State Growth**

Oregon has long been famous the country over for her fine seafood, but when it comes to pond fish that's a different matter.

The idea of farm fish ponds as a profitable business venture is just beginning to catch on in the state, reports Carl E. Bond, Oregon State College associate professor of fish and game management.

Farmers in some states—Alabama, for instance—go in for raising pond fish in a big way. There, an acre of farm land turned into a fertilized pond can produce 400 pounds of fish. The same acre of land would produce only about half that much meat if in pasture or feed crops for cattle or hogs. Bond hastened to mention these figures wouldn't be true in Oregon, however.

There are about 12,000 artificial ponds in Oregon, but fish are stocked in only about 1,000 of them. Most of the ponds are used for irrigation, fire protection, stock watering, or swimming. Many of these ponds also could raise fish handsly, Bond maintains. They could provide the farmer's family and neighbors with ample fishing. He also might consider selling fish, or even charging to let others fish the pond.

History shows early settlers found only three kinds of fish "worth eating" in the Oregon country: salmon, trout and sturgeon. They longed for pond fishes they used to catch "back home" and went to great lengths to import carp and bass.

In 1883, a carload of young carp was shipped west by train from Washington, D. C. As a special treat, thoughtful hostesses served carp for Thanksgiving dinner that year.

Bass were brought to the West Coast about the same time. However, there seems to be some question about the year bass were first planted in ponds. Apparently

plantings were made stealthily, lacking official sanction, and no records were kept.

There's only one bass farm in Oregon today. It belongs to Gerald Falk, east of Harrisburg, reports Andy Landforce, OSC extension wildlife management specialist.

In contrast to early bass plantings, Falk has official approval of his. In fact, he got help from the Soil Plan and the Soil Conservation Service to build his three ponds. OSC's agricultural extension service coordinated efforts between the State Game Commission and the OSC farm fish pond research team to get 24 adult largemouth bass from another private pond for his brood stock a year ago.

Falk sold his first crop of large-mouth bass fingerlings this spring. He hopes to get a good hatch this summer and have a large number of bass fingerlings to sell for stocking purposes in the fall.

His ponds are among those being watched as part of an OSC eight-year study to find kinds of fish and management practices best for Oregon farm ponds. In addition to studying private ponds, OSC has constructed four fish ponds of its own in which tests are being run for the first time this year.

Studies are being made of crappies, yellow perch, bullhead catfish, rainbow trout and bluegills, as well as bass.

Research isn't far enough along to make many recommendations. However, enough information has been obtained to know that recommendations made in other states do not apply to Oregon, Landforce reports. In fact, conditions vary so much within Oregon that advice for one area doesn't hold true for another.

One revelation turned up to date is that farm fish ponds aren't being fished enough. Too many fish in the pond lead to stunted growth, Landforce explained.

Progress reports are being sent to county extension agents as information is obtained from the study. Persons interested in farm fish pond recommendations can contact county agents for up-to-date suggestions. Likewise, the county agent would like to hear of successful practices employed by pond owners.

**Cattle Price Will Likely Stay High**

Cattle prices are likely to stay relatively high, but hog and lamb prices probably will dip as the year progresses, forecasts Marion D. Thomas, Oregon State College extension agricultural economist.

Pasture and range conditions are not as good as a year ago, but moisture shortage in some parts of the West doesn't seem serious enough to force price-depressing cattle on the market, he reports.

Marketings of cattle off grass will pick up some during the fall, but are likely to remain a smaller-than-usual part of the total beef supply, Thomas believes. Meanwhile, the supply of fed beef is expected to stay relatively large, keeping the price spread narrower than usual between the lower and higher grades of beef.

Strong and rising consumer demand will give firm support to beef prices through the summer, but Thomas says the doubt is whether feeder cattle prices will show the upward trend of the past two years. Higher prices of hay, poorer pastures, and large supply and lower prices of pork and poultry all are against a further rise. Probably the best cow prices of the current cycle already have been seen. Cow slaughter this year as herds are built up.

After a moderate seasonal rise this summer, hog prices are expected to take another dip this fall. Hog-feed price ratios have been favorable enough to cause a further expansion in pig crops. This will boost the supply of pork. This fall and next spring still more.

By next spring, prices probably will be low enough to discourage some producers. Throughout the period, prices on the Pacific Coast should stay among the highest in the nation, but will rise and fall with prices in the Midwest.

Lamb prices probably will work lower much of the time during the second half of the year, Thomas says. Slaughter prices should hold close to last year's level, but feeder buyers may be more cautious after last winter's disappointing market.

**Egg Producers Inquire About New Egg Law**

SALEM (UPI) — The State Agriculture Department said that less than 25 egg producers have inquired about the egg dealer permits needed under a new law effective Thursday.

The department notified 500 known producers and estimated that even more may need the permit.

O. K. Beals, chief of feeds and dairies, said producers were required to have the permits who sell to a retailer, eating house or food manufacturer.

Sell to schools and institutions which serve food to patrons.

Sell to dairies and peddlers who sell eggs at retail.

Sell eggs not of their own flock to consumers.

No producer needs a permit if he sells eggs of his own production to consumers on or off his premises, if he sells eggs to any holder of an egg dealer's permit who grades them or if he sells eggs outside the state.

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11.25-28	10	163.10	5.66	16.15	1.32
11.25-36	10	236.20	7.20	25.50	2.10
13-26	8	163.50	7.76	18.90	1.40
13-26	10	178.10	7.88		
15-32	6	228.90	11.68	24.60	1.90
9-16	8	74.45	2.83	6.45	.43
15-16	8	216.80	6.15	27.65	1.26
15-26	8	233.45	9.19	20.45	1.90
15-26	10	266.60	8.91		
18-26	8	429.30	14.75	34.05	2.98
18-26	10	482.95	14.47		
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