

Among Valley Farmers

By County Agents Ted Sidor and Charles Gavin

Hay prices for hay under cover are rising all over the Northwest. With all of the wet weather, hay in good condition is going to bring a premium this year — more so than others.

Winter wheat pastures in the Midwest are greatly improved over previous estimates due to favorable moisture and central and northern California are in good shape and with the biggest crop in the history on tap. Feeder demand should strengthen the latter part of this month and next.

Leading economists think markets already have hit the bottom for hogs this fall.

The Co-Ral dipping demonstration in Elgin, has some 334 head dipped and we should have some good data on this by spring as we will be checking those cattle this winter and till grubs emerge next spring.

In a herd of cows tested this fall for pregnancy—in just 19 cows, 4 were open so it pays the little herds to pregnancy test as look at the saving of moving these free boarders before having to winter them. Remember if a cow loses one calf or misses, she will break even the rest of her life. If she loses two she won't pay the interest on her investment.

The time for farmers to stand up and be counted is close at hand. The 1959 census of agriculture is scheduled to start in eastern Oregon counties on October 20.

The census results will be used to "true up" the county, state and national estimates developed during the past five years. The results also will be used as a benchmark for figures for the next five years. When compared with 1954 and earlier census years, they will bring into public view the great achievements and adjustments farmers have made. And most important of all, they will be used as a partial basis for decisions about further changes and courses of action by individuals and groups.

So that we may know exactly what your farmers are faced with as their part of this important count-taking, the Bureau of Census, through the Federal Extension Office, has supplied us with a copy of the census questionnaire or report form used in Oregon. It is long—a bit overwhelming at first glance. There is a total of 315 questions, enough to cause a

little pencil-chewing and head scratching, to say the least. It is longer and more complicated in Oregon than some places because of the great variety of crops and conditions in the state; but most farmers will be able to complete the report for their operations by answering only part of the questions. Only a few—such as those on land owned, expenses, age, and the like—will need to be answered by all farmers. In a county like Harney, perhaps less than 50 questions apply; in Union, the total would go up considerably on some farms.

This report form will be left in every mail box in rural areas scheduled to start. With it will be a letter asking farmers to go as far as they can toward answering the questions before the enumerator (census-taker) arrives. Bud Jones, Alico, is Crew Chief for this area.

The nation's processed vegetable industry has expanded by leaps and bounds in the past 20 years. Total amount of vegetables for processing has doubled. Enormous growth in acreage, yields and production has occurred in the last decade. Nearly half of the nation's processed vegetables are now produced in the West.

California upped its position as the leading producer of vegetables for commercial processing in the West by a wide margin. Much of the increase in California is due to sharply higher yields.

Oregon and Washington rate more important positions than ever before in total output. Oregon increased its acreage for harvest nearly three times from 1938 to 1958. Processing tonnage increased five times. Among the western states the Beaver state ranks second to California in production of vegetables for processing. Oregon still leads the nation in snap bean production with a record 91,500 ton crop expected this year.

Americans are not top meat eaters—in the total amount of meat eaten, Americans are fifth on the list of worldwide meat eaters.

Argentina ranks first with 242 pounds per person per year. Australians with 223 pounds are followed by New Zealanders and Uruguayans with 220 and 188 pounds respectively. In America we ate about 159 pounds of meat in 1957 per person.

Types of meat eaten in different nations vary widely. Argentinians, although eating the most meat, average only 19 pounds of pork per

DREW PEARSON SAYS:

Big Steel Execs Ganged Up On Kaiser In 'Peace Talks'

WASHINGTON — The most revealing part of the backstage story of the steel strike negotiations is how big steel beat the brains of one smaller steel company, Kaiser Industries, to keep it from writing a separate contract with the United Steelworkers.

The Kaiser company had built a steel plant at Fontana, Calif., during the war when other steel executives claimed it was uneconomical to produce steel on the West Coast. When the giant U.S. Steel corporation refused to invest money in a western operation, Uncle Sam had to put the taxpayers' money into a steel plant at Geneva, Utah, which incidentally was sold to U.S. Steel afterward for only 30 cents on the dollar.

But the bulging population growth of California fully justified Henry J. Kaiser's foresight in risking a steel plant in southern California, and this year during the strike negotiations, the Kaiser company was admitted into the Big Twelve.

The Big Twelve has tried to keep a united front, though some of them, especially Kaiser, Jones and Laughlin of Pittsburgh, and Pittsburgh steel, have not been too happy. One factor contributing to their unhappiness is the fact that only three steel companies — U.S. Steel, Bethlehem, and Republic — have handled the labor negotiations.

Furthermore, the actual talks with the union have been conducted by R. Conrad Cooper, executive vice president of U.S. Steel, who, some other executives suspect, is out to make a record for himself.

The presidency of U.S. Steel has been open since Walter Mumford died after slashing his abdomen with a kitchen knife on Cape Cod last month.

Unhappy with these negotiations, Edgar Kaiser, who has taken over command of Kaiser In-

person. In Denmark the average for pork is 87 pounds and in the U.S. about 62 pounds.

New Zealand leads the world in lamb and mutton eating with a yearly average of 76 pounds. The United States average is only 4 pounds.

The world champion beef eaters are the Argentinians. They average 210 pounds of beef per person per year. That's 53 more pounds of beef than we ate last year of all meats in the United States.

dustry from his father, Henry J., began talks some weeks ago with David McDonald, head of the steelworkers, and reached a contract agreement for a total package of 21 cents during the second year of the contract, plus a public board to prevent strikes in the future.

Private Waldorf Huddle
Edgar Kaiser had kept other steel executives informed of these separate talks and met with them on Sunday evening, Oct. 11, in the Waldorf-Astoria suite of Arthur Homer, president of Bethlehem Steel, to report that he had reached complete agreement with the union.

Seldom have business executives put so much pressure on one man. Some of the most powerful figures in the business world, including Roger Blough, chairman of U.S. Steel, and Charley White, head of Republic, told Edgar bluntly what they thought of him. However, he stuck to his guns.

Calling Washington afterward, he learned that McDonald of the Steelworkers wanted to meet him at 10:30 Monday morning. Kaiser immediately called Blough of U.S. Steel and told him of the proposed conference. Blough replied: "I think you'd better meet with him. Maybe it will do some good."

Kaiser then called Homer of Bethlehem, and White of Republic. Each advised that he might do some good for the industry by talking to McDonald.

Kaiser met with McDonald at 10:30 Monday morning, then reported to Conrad Cooper at the Carlton Hotel. The big, balding U.S. Steel executive seemed quite unhappy. He told Kaiser there wasn't a chance of a settlement with labor. With Kaiser present, Cooper put through a phone call to Blough in New York to report deprecatingly on the McDonald-Kaiser talk. Edgar Kaiser then got on the phone and told Blough in a half-kidding voice: "Coop would just as soon see me dead."

Blough then asked to speak to Cooper and talked to him at some length. Cooper listened, had no reply. After he hung up he turned and said: "Edgar, I think you can be of real service in this matter."

Final Deadlock
For the next couple of days Cooper was much more cooperative. Finally on Thursday, Oct. 15, it looked as if there might be a steel settlement. On that day Cooper had his first meeting with

REMEMBER WHEN

... 25 years ago, La Grande was drenched by almost two inches of rainfall in a 24-hour period. It was the heaviest single rainfall of the year, but valley farmers said much more was needed.

Miss Mildred Hawksworth gave an entertaining talk on her trip to Europe at Eastern Oregon Normal here. Following the talk she showed slides of scenes in England and France. Entertaining on the piano was Miss Grace Scully. Miss Hawksworth was EON librarian.

Mrs. Alpha Victor hosted the meeting of Daughters of the Union Veterans. Her daughters, Yvonne and Beverly Victor, served refreshments. Mrs. Eliza Neukirchner, DUV president here, presented a cake to Mrs. Marietta Yeck on the occasion of her birthday.

... 15 years ago, special tribute was paid PFC Roy Craig, 26, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Craig, Summerville. He was serving overseas. Engaged in farming before he went into the service, he attended school at Dry Creek. His wife was the former Mary Genzale.

Jan McIntyre, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. A. McIntyre, La Grande, was pledged to the Phi Mu Gamma national drama honorary society at the University of Washington.

labor leaders over a cup of coffee. During the long months of negotiation beginning last May, not one cup of coffee had been drunk between them.

On Saturday, Oct. 17, the Big Twelve executives met at the Waldorf in New York. Cooper reported unfavorably on the Kaiser agreement. It was rejected.

The steel executives then proceeded to lecture Edgar Kaiser for disrupting the solid front. "As long as McDonald thinks he can play you off against us," admonished Blough, "he won't sign with us. I told you last week to go ahead and talk to McDonald. I now feel that I made a mistake."

Kaiser orders a lot of steel from eastern companies for its Willys Jeep plant in Toledo, has orders for nearly \$200,000,000 worth of furnaces for installation of a new oxygen steel process in various mills, also supplies brick to a lot of steel companies. Its business is interwoven with that of big steel.

There were no threats by other executives to Edgar Kaiser, but he was made to feel very much on his own.

WALLOWA COUNTY VIEWPOINTS

Farmers Are Asked To Fill Out Census Questionnaires

(Editor's Note: In order to keep Grande Ronde Valley farmers and ranchers informed of agricultural happenings in neighboring Wallowa County, a column by Wallowa County Extension Agents John Kiesow and Elgin Cornett will appear each week in this newspaper.)

By ELGIN CORNETT
And
JOHN KIESOW
Wallowa County Agents

Farm census will start with a sample questionnaire in the rural mailbox. The farm wife should get the gruff old farmer to fill it out to speed the job of the enumerator when he calls.

The county needs a good job on the census to count the kids livestock and other farm facts in these changing times. Like caring for a baby, the only thing we are sure of is change.

Wallowa county Wheat League president is Merton Wade and the county agent is secretary. Plans now are to hold a Wallowa county wheat meeting Nov. 16. Maybe the crop will be harvested by then.

A Wheat League workshop is planned for Pendleton Oct. 22 and a big program on the latest in wheat utilization will be held in Walla Walla Oct. 27 and 28. Wheat is second only to cattle as a farm money producer in Wallowa county and our dusty brother, the wheat farmer, will be impressed by uses made of his product.

Wallowa Hereford Tour will show off good local cattle Thursday, Oct. 29. Mr. and Mrs. Businessman are welcomed like flowers in May on this tour because good cattle are both pride and bread for anyone with Wallowa county understanding.

The tour starts at the Oveson place in Lower Valley at 10 a.m. and moves from ranch to ranch with free lunch by the Cattle Association.

Hunters are a hardy lot if you can overlook some things. Wallowa county is overrun and run over by them every year and the outlook is for more of the same.

We like to have them enjoy life, spend money in the county and all that, but don't care to have gates opened and livestock disturbed. We welcome the herd

chairman Chris Wyckoff is in the hospital but wish him a speedy recovery.

An effort is in motion by the County Extension Staff at present to organize some Great Decision discussion groups. As part of this effort it would be very desirable to organize a county council to coordinate the program.

If you are not acquainted briefly it's a program whereby a small informal group gathers once a week for a few weeks, to discuss topics of national and international concern. At the conclusion each week a ballot is filled out and tallies are made for newspapers and our legislators. If you are interested come in, and we'll tell you more.

FAMILY INCOME UP
WASHINGTON (UPI) — Half of the nation's families had incomes of more than \$5,100 in 1958, an increase of two per cent over the previous year.

No Limit—No Reserve

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OTHER EQUIPMENT: 10 Autos and Pickups, 59, 58 and 57 models; Welders, Concrete and Cement Equipment; Shop Air Compressors; Portable Air Compressors to 315 CFM, all new '58, (245) NEW AUTO AND TRUCK TIRES; Shop equipment, Hand Tools, Cat Parts, Truck Parts, Quantity of Bridge Structural Steel, Modern Office Equipment.

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You Bet, IMPRESSION IS IMPORTANT

WHAT MAKES A NEWSPAPER GREAT?

There is one simple answer — so simple that the average reader rarely thinks about it. It is **IMPRESSION**. Perhaps "average reader" was the wrong words to use because every Observer Reader is the most important person in the world to Observer staff members. And for that reason the impression he gets from reading the paper EVERY day is something to be cultivated constantly.

Small papers have more mechanical and man power limitations than their metropolitan step-sisters but these limitations are more than off-set by their facility to expedience in disseminating the news while it is still news.

You get an entirely NEW newspaper every day — not yesterday's paper with new comics and a new front page and some other naive head-dress designed to woo away unwary readers.

In person-to-person conversation most staffers are anything but humble but the inability to talk to more than a limited number of people gives the impression that they are extremely modest — maybe slightly on the dense side.

A news story is just that, news which YOU created but without the personal impression or interpretation of the writer — that privilege is exercised only on the editorial page. Factual reporting, however, is the only way to get and keep readers. It is the only way of leaving the impression which instills confidence. Without confidence any news medium is a dead fish.

CONFIDENCE, that is the most valuable asset to any business. In order to get it a newspaper must maintain an independence of character as well as professional morals that are, like Portia, "Above reproach." To keep it certain professional standards must be maintained vigilantly. It becomes necessary sometimes to refuse favors to friends and groups who are in position to exert a tremendous economic influence on the paper. Yet, as soon as these groups or individuals do something that is news worthy it will be printed without bias or rancor.

What you're getting for a nickel is something you might not be able to purchase for any price. The news columns are not for sale regardless of the offer. But it is impressive to note that every month Observer readers get enough material to make a regular sized book containing 1356 pages. In these pages would be about 264 local pictures with descriptive cut lines, as well as a comic book of 52 pages.

Your paper is created every day by a staff of 24 steady employees. It is delivered by some 30 carriers to over 4,000 homes where it is read by nearly 15,000 people. The impressions left daily in the minds of this multitude of people is something that must be safeguarded as a sacred trust impervious to pressure from any angle.

So long as the printed word is used in text books and your family Bible . . . that is how long your newspaper will remain the dominating factor in the direction of your everyday thoughts and formation of your daily habits.

An expressive analogy could be drawn in comparing its conservatism in serving the community with a happily compatible wife and some of the more flamboyant media as the "Blond huzzy."

Yes, Impression Is Important.

