



### HIS FIRST 4-H PROJECT

Bruce Weiner, 9, of Route 2, La Grande, listens as County Extension Agent Jim Huber shows him how to hold his sheep. The two yearling Hampshire ewes are the first project in 4-H for Bruce. The ewes were bought from Mike Campbell, a former outstanding 4-H member who is now enrolled in F.F.A. (Observer Photo)

# Union County's 4-H Program Makes Strides In Enrollment; Stresses Good Citizenship

Editor's Note: This is the third in a series of articles in the Observer farm section dealing with the Extension Service of Oregon State College and its role in the development of agriculture in the state.

By BILL BEBOUT  
Observer Staff Writer

Bobby is nine years old. This is his first year in 4-H. And when a year it promises to be. This is the first time that he's had a live-stock project all of his own on the family farm, and he's determined to do his best.

Under the supervision of an adult local 4-H leader, Bobby will learn the points of livestock raising. When fair time rolls around he'll experience the thrill of competition with other 4-H youngsters. With reasonable luck, Bobby may take home a blue ribbon for his efforts.

There are many Bobbys in Union County. Boys who will someday take their place as leaders in the communities in which they will live. Many of them as 4-H leaders, will lead other Bobbys. Some will go on to become teachers, doctors, or skilled craftsmen. And most will be better citizens for their years in 4-H.

More important than the agricultural skills and principles which are taught in 4-H clubs in the county and across the nation, is the development of good citizenship principles among young people.

The 4-H program provides an opportunity for boys and girls of farm, suburban, and urban communities to join together under 4-H goals and standards in developing skills of the mind and hand. Young people in 4-H are taught how to apply the latest scientific knowledge to the farm, home and community by acquiring skills in farming, sciences, creative arts, technology, homemaking and community life.

Leaders in 4-H work believe that the experiences of young people like Bobby will help prepare them for greater usefulness to their communities and nation and will aid them in choosing a way to earn a living.

Even before the establishment of the Extension Service by Oregon State College, some assistance was being given by the college in organizing boys and girls industrial clubs, as they were then called.

As the Extension Service developed, this activity was given increasing attention and now more than 21,000 boys and girls participate annually in Oregon 4-H work.

In addition to the young people engaged in 4-H activities, nearly 3000 adult citizens are serving as leaders for clubs throughout the state. These private citizen leaders receive instruction in methods and procedures from the staff of the college.

For many years Oregon has been regarded as one of the leading states in the nation in the development of the 4-H club program.

Oregon ranks among the top states in percentage of young people completing the work which they undertake and in some years had reached one in five of the available youngsters.

There are now active 4-H clubs in every community in Union County. Since 1947 the 4-H program in this county has grown from 39 clubs to 109 in 1959. These 109 clubs have a total project enrollment of 825 youngsters.

Huber Credited  
State Extension Agent Gene Lear gives much of the credit for 4-H development in Union County to

Jim Huber. Huber joined the staff of the local Extension Service in 1947 as the county's first full time 4-H agent.

Prior to 1947, the 4-H responsibilities were divided among two members of the staff. The home demonstration agent handled activities of girls and an agent supervised livestock projects.

Huber is assisted by 159 volunteer leaders in keeping 4-H growing to meet the increasing needs of the county's young people.

A graduate of Utah State University with a bachelor's degree in vocational agriculture and a master's in animal production, Huber is dedicated to youth work. As a boy in Utah, he was active in his high school Future Farmers of America chapter and showed two steers at the 1939 World's Fair in California in 1939.

Huber and his wife, Margaret, have three boys. Mrs. Huber was a home demonstration agent from Utah and met her husband at the Pacific International Livestock Exhibition in Portland several years ago.

Future Growth Seen  
The Extension agent expects the "satisfaction of watching youngsters develop from their first

year in 4-H until they take their places in adult society," as sufficient reason for his love of youth work.

He is proud of the growth of 4-H in Union County and he points with pride to some of the county's outstanding farmers and homemakers who came up through 4-H.

Huber believes that 4-H in the county will continue to grow as it has in the past. He feels that 4-H work is especially important for the young people in the urban areas and homes to increase the number of clubs.

The 4-H program is open to any Union County boy or girl who will be nine years old but not 21 before Jan. 1 of the current 4-H club year. Each member may enroll for more than one project.

Twenty-four projects, ranging from bookkeeping to woodwork and entomology to forestry and livestock, provide a varied choice for 4-H youngsters.

As the 4-H program continues and develops in the county, it will encourage progress through new and better methods and perhaps more important—it will assure the communities of the Grande Ronde Valley good citizens and leaders for the future.

## Agents Urge Farmers To Make Use Of Planning Meet Report

By TED SIDOR  
And CHARLES GAVIN  
County Extension Agents

We finally have our county planning conference reports completed and they are in the mail. If you did not get one in the mail, like a copy, give us a call and one will be in the mail to you.

Looking through them we see a number of proposals that already have been done. We see, too, many that have been written and forgotten. Most of them were important and you thought they would make Union County a more prosperous and better place to live, or they never would have been written.

I hope that all of you read the committee reports and find ways to enact them. I'm sure that farm organizations such as farm bureau or the extension, can find a number of proposals that would make very good projects. The same would be true of conservation districts and other organized groups.

I'm sure all of you are proud of the fine job you did during the planning conference. It will be of value, however, if you don't take advantage of the results.

Do you like home smoked meat, fowl and fish? Chances are they'll taste even better if you do your own smoking. A new bulletin we have tells how to build a simple home smoker and outlines the basic smoking procedures.

The general methods employed in smoking are so broad and the process so simple that anyone can produce a palatable product with a minimum of experience. The bulletin illustrates an inexpensive smoker, easy to construct and operate and has the added advantage of being completely portable and easy to move or to store when not in use.

Sheep, wool days program is slated for Nov. 13 and 14, at Oregon State College. Production and marketing discussions will highlight the program. Participants will view research being done at Oregon State College on lamb feeding and Hampshire breeding.

Various methods of evaluating grades of wool, staple lengths, shrinkages and grease prices per pound will be demonstrated.

The first day's program will feature a talk by G. Melvin Carpenter, livestock marketing specialist at the University of California, on producer problems in lamb grade and marketing.

Other talks scheduled for Friday include: influence of red clover pasture on reproduction by Dr. F. McKenzie, OSC animal husbandman; lamb feeding studies by Church; lamb marketing in the Northwest by Ross Clark, secretary of the Portland Livestock Exchange; recent results of sheep breeding research by R. L. Blackwell, director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture sheep breeding laboratory at Dubois, Idaho, and a report on lamb taste panel efforts by Lois Sather of the Oregon State College food and dairy technology department.

Foot rot in sheep will be discussed by Dr. J. A. B. McArthur, superintendent of the Union Branch Experiment Station; Dr. Dean Smith, OSC veterinarian; and Dr. J. M. Kovach, veterinarian from La Grande.

Doug Chambers, president of Cascade Meats, Inc., Salem, will speak at the dinner on "Livestock in Color."

Saturday's program, scheduled to end at noon, will feature talks by Dr. J. E. Oldfield, OSC animal husbandman, on the white muscle problem in sheep and Blackwell's discussion on inheritance of wool characteristics.

Ray A. Ward, general manager, Pacific Wool Growers, Portland, will talk on marketing of valley wools; and M. D. Fell, wool buyer for the Pendleton Woolen Mills, Portland, will speak on marketing of range wools.

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Sidors, Draper Will Attend Weed Meeting

Ted Sidor of La Grande, and Ed Draper of Island City will attend the eighth annual Oregon Weed Conference in Medford Nov. 12 and 13.

New ways to wage "all out war" on Oregon weeds will have top billing at this year's conference, Sidor said.

A special session will bring those attending up to date on what to expect from laboratory test tubes in the future.

Vernon Hays is president of the Association which is made up of Hereford breeders of the entire county.

Lunch will be served by the WSCS of the Wallowa Methodist Church.

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## Valley Farm-Ranch-Home

Bill Bebout, Editor



### ENUMERATORS TAKE FIELD HERE

Enumerators for the 1959 census of agriculture are currently calling on farms in Union County. These four census takers were trained in Baker under direction of Crew Leader Fred J. Schuetz to handle a portion of Union County. From left are Lyle Witherritte, Vern A. Berry, Marjorie Miller and Viola D. Fager. Pictures of other area census takers appeared earlier in the Observer.

### 4-H Group Picks New '60 Slate

Allen Courtright, La Grande, was elected president of the Union County 4-H Leaders Association for 1960 at a meeting recently in Island City.

Others named to office by the organization were Mrs. Bruce Hootnagle, Allice, vice president; James Huber, La Grande, secretary; Mrs. L. R. Hone, La Grande, home economics; Henry Dew, Cove, livestock; Walter Oberdorf, Allice, tractor; Mrs. Lawrence Greiner, La Grande, horse clubs.

### California Sets Brucellosis Rule

California agriculture authorities have announced that all female dairy cattle entering that state must be brucellosis vaccinated. The new ruling goes into effect Jan. 2.

Entries 14 months from now must have been vaccinated for brucellosis between four and through 12 months of age. An official health certificate will be required to certify the vaccinations.

William Penckock, La Grande, forestry, and Carol Hadden, La Grande, other clubs.

### Co-Chairman Named For Annual Feeder Sale

Annual livestock sale of the Union County Feeder Association will be held Nov. 7, at La Grande, according to Larry Starr, president of the county organization.

Starr has named R. B. Davis of Union, and Heber Glenn of North Powder, co-chairmen of the sale. Other members of the sale committee are Gene Stockhoff, La Grande; Jack Gregory, La Grande; Billy Hindman and Francis Miller of Elgin, and Tom Craig of Summerville.

The sale will feature 1500 to 2000 head of feeder cattle, the majority of which are weaner calves.

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### Area Farmers Now Eligible For Benefits

La Grande area farmers are now eligible for social security disability protection for the first time.

Vernon A. Welo, manager of the local social security office, has announced that farmers have not been able previously to qualify for disability insurance benefits.

A disabled person has to have social security credit for five years in the 10 years immediately before he became disabled, Welo said. Because farmers were not covered under the law until January, 1955, they could not meet this requirement.

Now, however, most farmers will have earned five years or 20 quarters of coverage under social security, Welo stated.

The local manager pointed out that any farmer who became disabled in October or later can meet the work requirements of the law and become eligible for benefits after six months.

### Farm Events Noted On State Calendar

Events for the next two weeks of special interest to farmers, ranchers and homemakers are given below for the benefit of Observer farm section readers. The Oregon farm calendar is prepared by Oregon State College.

Events for the next two weeks of November are as follows:

9-12 — Oregon Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting, Moore Hotel, Ontario.  
11-13 — Oregon Cattlemen's Association convention, Multnomah Hotel, Portland.  
12-13 — Eighth annual Oregon Weed Conference meeting, YMCA building, Medford.  
13 — Annual fall outlook meeting for Turkey Improvement Association, Armory, McMinnville — 6:30 p.m.

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