

About The Farm - - -

By John J. Inskeep, County Agent

Clackamas County gross farm marketings totaled \$25,151,755 in 1956 down from \$25,830,300 in 1955. Substantially there is little difference in these figures. Many farmers had a better return in 1956 - many had less. The price cost squeeze is still on with costs increasing each year.

A study of the many commodities produced in this county indicate that some enjoyed a higher income this year. Others were discouraged with substantial lower sales. In certain instances, increased income came from higher production accompanied by lower unit prices. This is true of turkeys procured for market this year. These situations result in lower consumer prices and lesser profits, if any, for the producer. Last winter's freeze adversely affected the yield of many commodities. A good summer increased production of grain and forage crops.

Of greater significance, however, are the rapid social and economic changes taking place down on the farm. From a social

standpoint the old family or smaller family unit farm may be desirable. From an economic standpoint the smaller general farm can no longer meet the competition brought about by larger specialized units. The smaller, so called family farm is fading from the picture. This trend is going on at a rapid pace. These changes will be treated separately under various commodity headings.

There have also been significant changes in operation pattern of the three thousand part-time farms in the county. The present trend is for the part-time operator to obtain a full time job in industry. Many part-time operators have found that necessary investments in minimum items of farm machinery cannot be justified on a cost return basis. Some operate their places as a hobby. Others try to make their operations pay but few are successful in this attempt. Many of these places are rented to larger operators who have their equipment on hand. Some expect to subdi-

vide. Some are contemplating reforestation but they are handicapped because of a shortage of planting stock.

It is a likely guess that 25 per cent of our farms are producing 75 per cent of our farm income.

Now let's have a look at a few of the farm enterprises in Clackamas County.

DAIRY PRODUCTS - 1955 dairy income at \$3,293,000. In 1956 \$3,100,000 reports County Extension Agent Hugh Caton. This decrease is due largely to decrease in the number of Grade B or market milk dairies whose product was formerly used for butter. Most of these represent smaller herds, the kind which used to keep the farm family in groceries. They are becoming fewer and fewer each year. They are largely un-profitable.

Grace A dairies producing fluid milk for the bottle trade are adding to the numbers of cows in the herd but not rapidly enough, Caton believes, to offset the loss in income occasioned by the smaller herds fading from sight. There is need for a greater percentage of higher producing cows in many large herds.

LIVESTOCK - \$2,160,700 compared to \$2,082,000 in 1955. This increase is largely due to the fact that we now have a more accurate basis for estimating sheep numbers. The sheep population has made significant gains in Clackamas County. Prices have been little, if any better, but we have more sheep. This county can use them. We now have approximately 30,000 ewes according to estimates made by Extension Agent Hugh Caton. Beef cattle numbers and income remain about the same as in 1955.

CHICKENS AND EGGS - \$3,196,500 up from \$2,770,000 in 1955 reports County Extension Agent Claron Mace. Twenty years ago, one person if he worked hard enough, could maintain a flock of 2,000 laying hens. This year there are five units under construction in Clackamas County housing 6,000 to 16,000 birds. These layers live in cages of 20 to 25 birds. Feed is delivered from the manufacturer in bulk. Feeding in the laying house is automatic and so is watering. Houses are maintained in sanitary condition by cleaning once a year. Eggs are laid on an incline. They roll to the front where gathering is easy.

The small hatchery is finding the going tougher in favor of larger franchise outfits producing high laying strain crosses. New crosses must be produced each season. Using cross bred birds for breeding stock is disastrous. And so we find the hen factory ready to displace the smaller commercial flock. This is a long cry from Grandmother's time when she carried eggs in a bucket to the corner grocery to trade for sugar and coffee.

Egg prices were down 2 cents a dozen last year. Production is

up. There are more hens and they produce more per hen. The price cost squeeze is forcing the less efficient from business.

COMMERCIAL BROILERS - \$500,000. More commercial broilers were produced during the year but the price was low, often below the cost of production. Independent growers had tough sledding and most birds were procured through a financing arrangement with feed companies.

TURKEYS - \$2,575,000 up slightly over \$2,508,000 in 1955. This was mainly due to an exceptionally good egg and poult year of which a large volume was exported to other states. Market prices of breeders and early flocks was good until the break in September. Thanksgiving and Christmas prices were down. Less turkeys were raised in Oregon but this trend is not holding true in Clackamas County because of the proximity to terminal markets. A slight upturn was noticed in turkey numbers. Market turkey prices for the year averaged about 2 cents a pound less than 1955. Heavy tom prices were higher all the year.

FORAGE SEED CROPS - Grass and legume seeds 1956 farm sales \$38,410 up from \$776,000 in 1955 reports Extension Agent Clive Cook. Certain prices were better and overall production up but there were total failures on many farms this past season. Chewings fescue seeds, one of our major items brought 33 cents a pound - last year the average was 16 cents. Fine fescue seeds are in competition with Canadian producers. This year the Canadian crop was a failure and eastern blue-grass production was down. Eastern or Kentucky blue-grass competes with our fine fescues for the lawn grass market. There were many chewings fescue failures in the county due to silver top disease, so not every grower benefited by higher prices. Researchers have found how to control silver top but not in time to save many producers in 1956. Production of vetches and peas was under normal due to last winter's freeze.

GRAIN CROPS - Gross farm sales 1956 - \$2,188,400 up from \$1,752,000 in 1955. This year's estimate may be on the low side. We had a fine spring and summer for grain. Production was up and prices a little better. The same is true of hay and ensilage crops - 1956 sales \$820,400 up from \$775,000 in 1955. These forage crops are becoming more important to the economy of the county each year.

Potato production was up with more potato acreage under irrigation. Cook reports. Prices were a little better. 1956 farm sales \$284,063; 1955 sales \$191,250. This county produced 40,000 sacks of seed potatoes mostly certified in 1956.

TREE FRUITS AND NUTS - County Extension Agent Bob Smith reports farm marketings in

1956 - \$388,696 down from \$682,600 in 1955. Filbert and walnut growers were hard hit by last winter's freeze. Many orchards will not recover.

FARM TIMBER PRODUCTS - 1956 marketings totaled \$1,900,000 up from \$1,703,000 in 1955, according to Project Forester Alvin L. Parker. Prices were up. These marketings could total 5 million or better were our farm forest in top condition. Many are marketing timber before trees have reached the optimum age for cutting. Reforestation has been hampered from scarcity of planting stock.

TRUCK CROPS - Farm marketings totaled \$2,538,898 this year, up some 6% from \$2,367,400 in 1955. Potatoes are not included in these estimates. Acreage of truck crops in increasing each season. Green snap beans, cauliflower and broccoli and cucumbers are the leading crops in this field. Increased use of irrigation plays a large part in the production of truck crops.

SMALL FRUITS - Total farm cash receipts, as reported by Extension Agent Bob Smith, totaled \$3,181,000 in 1956, down from \$3,900,575 in 1955. Much of this decrease can be attributed to the heavy freeze which occurred in November 1955. Satisfactory blackcap yields and prices saved a more substantial loss.

SPECIALTY HORTICULTURAL CROPS - Nursery crops, flower bulbs, flower seeds, holly, greenhouse products, cut flowers - \$1,271,000 down from \$1,500,000 in 1955. A large portion of this drop is due to the freeze of November 1955. Specialty horticultural crops are becoming more important each year. We look for large increases in production. Nursery outfits are moving here from other areas. Some have been crowded out by subdivisions.

This report does not include smaller marketings of miscellaneous specialty crops and miscellaneous animal products. Their total was \$375,000.

Mill Production Said Way Down

Extremely low production characterizes the lumber market this week, according to Random Lengths, Eugene weekly lumber market letter.

In many cases the usual holiday shutdowns have been extended, and a number of mills have indicated they will not resume production until the market shows signs of price strength. Green mill prices have jumped slightly in the past ten days, but it is not indicative of a definite market pattern as demand in the consuming areas, now being confronted with a predicted reduction in housing starts, is limited to urgent requirements.

Whether the buyers will absorb the recent freight increases remains to be seen. The bulk of transit shipments made just prior to the December 28 effective date will not hit the market for at least another week, after which buyers will be faced with new shipments at higher prices. Retail yard buying from mixed car fir mills has been reasonably active, but mills feel that any recent acceleration in buying reflects buyer opinion that prices will go no lower. Those mills experiencing a slight market pickup report that most of the activity centers in the Midwest.

The pine market remains unchanged and it will probably be another week before a trend definitely develops. Selects are in fairly good demand for mixed car shipment, but a surplus in low grade is developing. Shop grades are the weakest of the Pine items, but a few signs of strength in a dormant market are noted. Pine Commons are remaining the strongest with a pickup in demand for paneling.

A jump in Plywood basing price from \$67 to \$72 started by several large mills a week ago, now seems to be industry-wide but presumably this is a move to test the market, and buying volume will determine whether this price can hold.

Clipping Service Opens Office

PORTLAND - Northwest Press Clipping Service has announced the opening of its offices at 619 Henry Building, Portland, Oregon. The stockholders, officers, and employees are all Oregonians and the company will furnish service to businesses and government agencies in the Northwest.

Press clipping serves those interested in public relations. Individuals in public offices who are anxious for public opinion and editorial comment; businesses who desire publicity articles concerning their own business as well as their competitors' businesses; both are service customers. Willard Dodds, President; Robert Mackey, Vice-President and Treasurer; and Mrs. Marion Malston, Production Manager, head the organization.

Farm Families To Be Guests At Hessel Color Film Program

GRESHAM - "Heavens to Betsy", a full length, full color picture, built around the mother of a typical rural family will highlight the John Deere Day Program which is being held at the Gresham Armory on January 23 at 7:30 p.m. The program, at which all area farmers and their families are to be special guests, will be sponsored by Hessel Implement Company of Gresham.

The story of a modern farm family, "Heavens to Betsy" relates all the comedy, anxiety and turmoil they encounter when the mother of the household is nominated a candidate for the title of "Mother of the Year."

Jack Hessel of Hessel Implement says, "Heavens to Betsy" is a lifelike story in which folks seem as real as the people next door. "While the mom in the picture is the featured figure, the film furnishes a sort of personal hero or heroine for every age group," Hessel continued. "The Roper's five youngsters contribute their full shares of the entertainment." In addition to the feature picture, five other full-color films will be shown among them a new Gordon Family hit, "Please Pass the Pasture." One of a series, the film features Tom Gordon, his comic stubbornness and his habit of only reluctantly surrendering to the more logical pleas of other members of his family. The story, this year, is woven around the practice of green feeding of livestock and its ability to promote bigger profits from animal products.

Other short subjects include "Making Tractor History," in which are unveiled all the new models of John Deere tractors along with detailed explanations. In "What's New for 1957," the entire audience will be introduced to other new John Deere equipment and see each machine at work under actual field conditions. Among the new machines to be shown are new integral and semi-integral side-delivery rakes and new plows, planting and fertilizing equipment.

"The entire program," Hessel said, "is free to farmers. However, admission is by ticket only so any farmer not having received his is welcome to pick up whatever quantity he needs at our store on his next trip to town."

Special Services Set By Church

In conjunction with the regular Sunday worship services of the Assembly of God church there will be a water baptismal service at 2:30 p.m. January 13, according to pastor Melvin Grams.

The local congregation will go to Gresham for the baptismal service in the Gresham Assembly of God church. Reverend Grams will officiate and the public has been invited.

On Sunday evening there will be a special divine healing service at 7:45 p.m. in the Sandy church, open to the public.

DAIRY WONDER ICE CREAM STORE

The Cone With the Curl on Top
Specializing in
Broiled Hamburgers - Delicious Fresh Ice Cream
Gals. - Half Gals. - Bricks
Loop Highway Sandy MU 7-2731

Report of Condition

Of Clackamas County Bank of Sandy in the State of Oregon at the close of business on December 31, 1956

ASSETS	
Cash, balances with other banks, including reserve balances, and cash items in process of collection	\$ 879,040.72
United States Government obligations, direct and guaranteed	1,497,255.25
Obligation of States and political subdivisions	277,118.93
Other bonds, notes, and debentures	39,632.00
Loans and discounts (including \$54.65 overdrafts)	1,381,769.36
Bank premises owned \$32,191.80, furniture and fixtures \$18,038.13	50,229.93
Real estate owned other than bank premises	4,692.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$4,129,738.19
LIABILITIES	
Demand deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations	2,029,084.31
Time deposits of individuals, partnerships and corporations	1,623,089.28
Deposits of United States Government (including postal savings)	15,098.22
Deposits of States and political subdivisions	218,655.64
Other deposits (certified and officers' checks, etc.)	40,578.38
TOTAL DEPOSITS	\$3,926,505.83
Other liabilities	13,044.84
TOTAL LIABILITIES	3,939,550.67
CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	
Capital	75,000.00
Surplus	85,000.00
Undivided profits	7,187.52
Reserves	23,000.00
TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	190,187.52
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	4,129,738.19

MEMORANDA

Assets pledged or assigned to secure liabilities and for other purposes 398,000.00

(a) Loans as shown above are after deduction of reserves of 13,210.43

I, Fred L. Proctor, Cashier, of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true, and that it fully and correctly represents the true state of the several matters herein contained and set forth, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

FRED L. PROCTOR, Cashier

Correct—Attest:
E. Alt, Cecil, O. Duke, W. A. Proctor, Directors
State of Oregon, County of Clackamas, ss:

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5th day of January, 1957.

EUGENIA H. ALT, Notary Public for Oregon
My commission expires January 19, 1959.

Clackamas County Bank



AN INDEPENDENT BANK



MU 7-2271

Sandy, Oregon

Now FOR A SINGLE ROOM OR AN ENTIRE HOME

radiant—electric

CRYSTALHEAT INTRODUCES

A NEW PERIMETER BASEBOARD HEATER

THIS PERIMETER HEATER STAYS ALMOST OUT OF SIGHT, GIVES YOU THE ENTIRE ROOM FOR IDEAL FURNITURE ARRANGEMENT!

1. Even, no draft heat from floor to ceiling.
2. Silent, clean, healthful — perfect combination of radiant-convection heat.
3. Safe, no flames—controlled by thermostats.
4. The heat spreads—no cold corners.
5. It's easily installed—warranted fully.
6. Electrical unit built to last a lifetime.

CRYSTALVECTOR Perimeter BASEBOARD HEATER

COSTS VERY LITTLE, TOO!

DRYER AND SONS

Residential and Commercial Wiring

Contracting and Repairing MO 7-4245

Free Estimates MU 7-3691

Sandy, Oregon

This sweet, smooth and sassy new Chevy has its own built-in "dollar-saver"—America's favorite six!

Hard to believe it, but this big beauty is a bottom-priced Chevrolet "One-Fifty." It's got Body by Fisher quality written all over it. And it has a peppery, sweet-running "Blue-Flame" six under the hood to

make your gas stops few and far between.

Like all new Chevies, it brings you a very special sureness of control. This is a quality that just can't be measured in dollars and cents. Lots of cars that cost lots more just don't have it. Come in and see how much pleasure we're passing out these days at Chevrolet prices!



Big beauty with small-budget ways!

It's powered by Chevy's famous six



The "One-Fifty" 2-Door Sedan with Body by Fisher—one of 20 beautiful new Chevrolets for '57!

Only franchised Chevrolet dealers display this famous trademark

RICHARDSON CHEVROLET

MU 7-2681

Loop Hiway at Main

Sandy, Oregon