

FARM NEWS

By R. M. Knox, County Agent
Curry County, Oregon

McWHORTER SHOWS LILY PICTURES TO GROWERS

Over 200 lily growers attended a meeting at Gold Beach high school gym last Friday night, at which R. Ralph Clark, extension specialist in horticulture, and Dr. Frank P. McWhorter provided the program. A business meeting of Central Curry County Lily Growers was conducted by Wilbur Ostrander, vice-president, acting in capacity of president Geo. Mateer. Wm. W. Allen, secretary and chairman of the box committee gave a discouraging progress report. Up to the present time the box factories just won't take any orders.

Mr. Clark reported progress in arrangements for certification. Growers who expect to stay in business must put out uniform and high quality product. Roguing out diseased and off-type lilies is very important.

"The Mother Block" as a source of good planting stock is still considered the best method for improvement, according to Mr. Clark, and will be considered essential in certification. The college is in a position to certify a few, probably six plantings in Curry county this year.

The pictures shown by Dr. McWhorter and his talk convinced growers that the discouraging reports from eastern greenhouses are all too true. The market for Easter lilies must be re-established. A higher quality product and a reduced price to the florist comprise major necessary adjustments. Hydranges provide major competition in the greenhouse for the eastern trade. Creole lilies have been making more money for the trade than Crofts.

The Croft Lily Growers, at the request of their secretary, H. T.

James, will have an opportunity to see the pictures and get Dr. McWhorter's report at their next regular meeting in June.

FAMINE RELIEF WHEAT GOAL TOPPED IN STATE

Oregon producers topped the state goal of 750,000 bushels of wheat delivered for export to famine stricken countries during the period, April 19 to May 25. When the 30 per cent bonus plan ended last Saturday, May 25, information available indicated that deliveries were certain to pass the 800,000 bushel mark.

CEILINGS INCREASED ON FARM MACHINERY

An increase of five per cent in the list prices of farm machinery has been authorized by the OPA. Ceiling on farm machinery repair and replacement parts remains unchanged. Therefore, according to OPA, farmers will pay on the average three per cent more for new equipment and repair parts. Manufacturers will receive a net increase of 10 per cent of which about half will be absorbed through the dealer margins of profit.

DAIRY PRODUCTION LAGS

Fluid milk production in the United States gained at a much faster rate during the past week but the problem of moving it into processing and trade channels was complicated by the strike of railway employees, according to the weekly dairy market review, prepared by the OSC extension service from USDA market reports and other data.

Gap between this year's milk flow on farms and that of a year ago was narrowed but total output still lags well behind last year. In California, the seasonal peak has been reached but in the midwest it is still climbing due to warmer weather and improved pastures.

Demands for all kinds of dairy products were broad from coast to coast.

Butter production for the week, ending May 16, showed an increase of six per cent but was 31 per cent below a year earlier.

USDA announced this week that the butter set-aside for June will be 20 per cent, the same as May.

NO QUICK ENDING SEEN TO FAMINE THREAT

Production and sharing of food to help solve the problem of the world food shortage is more than a temporary concern to U. S. farmers and consumers. Latest estimates are that the world food shortage will continue through this year and at least until the 1947 harvest and this estimate does not, of course, take into consideration the effects on the food picture that extensive unfavorable weather conditions can have. It is expected that there will be some temporary relief of the critical famine situation near the end of the summer when the European grain harvest is completed. This relief will be only temporary for most of the nations of Europe do not produce nearly as much grain as they consume in normal times, and the shortage of manpower, farm machinery, fertilizers and tractor horse power resulting from war means that their production this year will be even smaller than in pre-war years.

Shipments of grain during the coming fall, winter and spring

will be needed to avert another famine. Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson points out that: "There simply will not be enough grain produced in the U. S. and other countries that have grain to export, to permit feeding record numbers of livestock and still provide hungry people with the grain they need to maintain life. We must make a choice

between feeding starving people and maintaining our livestock numbers at record levels. Choice, obviously, must be in favor of people."

Everyone is happy over the cent and badly-needed rain. If it did hurt the attendance at the Azalea Festival, little sentiment is shown.

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