

Farm and Garden

Hillsboro, Oregon, Thursday, November 1, 1945 Page 3

State PMA Office Moves from OSC To Portland Soon

Portland will be headquarters for the state PMA office, the state director of the field services branch, following a meeting of the state AAA committee at which the decision was made to locate the state headquarters in Portland.

The announcement was made by R. B. Taylor, Adams, state director of PMA's field services branch, following a meeting of the state AAA committee at which the decision was made to locate the state headquarters in Portland.

Affected by the move are the state AAA offices, now located in the Oregon State college campus at Corvallis, and the Portland office of the former USDA office of supply. It is expected that the new PMA office will be established before March 1, but the exact time will depend on the availability of office space in Portland.

Taylor said that state and county agricultural conservation (AAA) committees will continue to operate under that name, handling the agricultural conservation, crop insurance, commodity loan and production payment programs. Other duties in the fields of production and marketing probably will be given to the farmer committees, he reported.

C. R. Tulley, formerly head of the Portland office of supply, is assistant state director of PMA's field services branch.

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Markets for Livestock Are Steady, Strong

Livestock markets were steady to strong during the four days ending October 25 and a little more interest has been shown recently in domestic woods at Boston. Mill inventories are getting low and not much foreign wool was available.

The cattle markets were mostly steady to firm except in a few instances when heavy arrivals of cows and heifers were recorded. At North Portland, steers continued at a top of \$17 but heifers sold at a top of \$14.50, down 50 cents from a week previous. San Francisco reported a steady situation while midwest markets were firm, especially on well-finished slaughter classes. Chicago, for example, reported trading on Wednesday as the most active so far this year on steers, yearlings and heifers grading good and better. Fat steers sold up to \$18, the ceiling.

Sheep and lamb markets were unsettled. Yearlings and ewes at North Portland gained around 50 cents and all classes at San Francisco were up 25 cents. Top lambs at North Portland brought \$13 and at San Francisco \$14.75. Midwest markets, especially Chicago, were inclined toward lower prices. Hog markets continued steady at the ceiling.

The records show that fewer cattle, calves and hogs, but more sheep and lambs were received at North Portland in September this year than a year previous. Cattle receipts totaling a little over 14,000 head were 4000 less than in September, 1944; calves at 3000 head were about 500 less, while hog receipts of about 6000 head were less than one-third those of a year earlier.

Receipts at the North Portland stockyards during the first nine months of this year show 8000 fewer cattle, 2000 less calves, and nearly 142,000 less hogs than during the first nine months last year. Receipts of sheep and lambs for the nine-month period, however, show an increase of a little over 43,000 head compared with a year earlier.

County Dairy Market Holds Firm for Week

Firmness prevailed in dairy products markets throughout the country during the week-end October 26, it was reported from the county agent's office.

Market supplies of cheese were below trade needs with no immediate improvement in sight. Butter in trade channels was also at a low level but government offerings were being anticipated in a few days. Production of fluid milk and cream has dropped close to last year's level and considerable cream demand went unsatisfied.

A further strengthening factor in the cheese market was the report of 100 million pounds of cheddar to the British and Belgians for shipment by January 1. Production for the United States as a whole continued to decline but was about the same as a year previous.

The butter market was very firm with prices tightly wedged against ceilings. Market offerings were at a low level generally as production continued its seasonal decline while creameries and dealers restricted deliveries to obtain advantage of the five-cent rollout scheduled for November 1. Receipts at some markets were 30 to 50 per cent less than the previous week.

The bureau of agricultural economics reported creamery butter production for the week ending October 18 at 14 per cent below a year earlier. A heavy demand for fluid milk and cream continues to be a factor in light butter production. Milk production on farms now averages only slightly above a year ago and in some areas it has dropped below. The south and certain Atlantic coast areas were in the least favorable position and forced to draw more than usual from the midwest.

1945 AAA Plan Ends December 31

The 1945 agricultural conservation program year ends December 31, 1945, and practices on Oregon farms and ranches performed under the program must be completed before that date to be eligible for payment, according to a reminder from the state AAA committee.

County Dairymen Meet Next Week To Discuss Breeding Organization

A group of Washington county dairymen, with Henry Hagg of Reedsville as chairman, are in the process of forming a farmer-owned and controlled co-operative for the purpose of artificially inseminating dairy cows, reports Palmer S. Torvend, county agent.

A meeting for the purpose of explaining this association and taking membership will be held in the Hillsboro chamber of commerce rooms Thursday, November 2, at 8 p. m. Hagg, Moore, extension dairyman at OSC, and William J. Lindfoot, attorney, who is preparing the articles of association and by-laws for the Washington county association, will be present to help discuss the program. Representatives from other counties where organizations are being formed also plan to attend.

Membership will be limited to dairymen within a radius of approximately 10 miles distance from the central point, which is planned for Hillsboro. The association is to be operated by technicians under policies developed by a board of directors who are to be elected from the producer members. According to the plan, Torvend said, it is contemplated that the local inseminating unit will join with other similar units in the organization, financing, and operation of a central bull stud and secure semen from this source.

The method of financing the set-up includes a \$10 membership fee per dairyman, plus a capital investment of \$5 for each cow to be bred during the year and to be paid at the time the membership agreement is signed. This fee is paid only once during the life of the membership except that if a dairyman increases the size of his herd additional capital investment must be made. The inseminating service is to be rendered at cost. Deposits for service fees at or prior to the time of service of each year shall be \$7 each year. Three but not more than three, inseminations shall be made if necessary to obtain conception, for the initial deposit.

Other members of the organizing committee are: Waldo Flint, Scholla, vice-chairman; Amos Watkins, Laurel; Robert Teufel, Kinton; and Victor Madson, Hillsboro. Hagg states that anyone interested in the program is invited to attend.

Farmer Cream Price To Remain Stable

Prices farmers receive for their cream will not need to be lowered because of the removal of the five cents per pound government subsidy on butter. OPA will permit creameries and wholesalers to increase their ceiling prices by the amount of the subsidy—five cents a pound. Since this compensating increase is allowed them, creameries will be able to pay the farmer the same prices for cream as before.

Increase in retail prices of butter allowed by OPA will be five to six cents a pound, so it would seem that consumers would be most affected by the removal of the subsidy. However, although families will have to pay more for a pound of butter, their total cost of living will be no higher than it was at the time the war ended.

According to the bureau of labor statistics, consumer prices dropped two-tenths of one point from July 15 to August 15. The effect of the increased butter prices will be balanced by this decline plus lower prices of potatoes and other items of importance in the family budget.

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State AAA Office In Consolidation

Present work of the Washington county AAA committee will not be affected by the recently announced consolidation of the state AAA office and the USDA office of supply into the field services branch of the production and marketing administration, with headquarters to be in Portland.

According to John W. Kamna, chairman of the county AAA committee, the county AAA office will continue to serve local farmers on matters relating to the agricultural conservation practice program, commodity loans, federal crop insurance and production payments on milk and butterfat, sheep and lambs, and beef.

The war of arms decided what nations shall lead the world but the war of ideas decides what idea will lead the nations.

Poultry Show Set at Gresham

Some of the most outstanding poultry and rabbit breeding stock on the Pacific coast will be on display in poultry building of the Multnomah county fair grounds during the 36th annual Oregon Poultry and Pet Stock association show November 9 through 13.

With "red hot" competition scheduled in all divisions for the \$1990 in premium money, the four judges are expecting a real work-out before the hundreds of ribbons are placed on the exhibition's cage. Judges will be J. H. Nichols, Tacoma, Wash.; poultry, Ray E. Luce, Corvallis; bantams, J. Thompson, Vancouver; B. C. rabbits, and Charles Dickens, Portland, pigeons.

West Union Group Sets Meet Friday

West Union local will hold regular meeting Friday night at the Jackson school. Discussion will be on an important topic. Refreshments will be served. Meeting will start at 8 o'clock and all members are urged to attend.

Potato Loans on Throughout State

Oregon farmers need not sell their 1945 late crop potatoes at less than the announced support price, as government loans are available to growers through all county AAA committees, reminds R. B. Taylor, chairman of the state committee.

The support prices for Oregon range from \$1.90 a hundredweight in October to \$2.10 in December in the four eastern counties of Malheur, Baker, Union and Wallowa, and are 20 cents a hundred higher for all other counties. These are basic prices for U. S. No. 1 potatoes, sacked, f. o. b. cars. The support levels for U. S. commercial and U. S. No. 2 are 50 percent of the U. S. No. 1 price.

The closing date for taking out a potato loan is December 15. Full details may be obtained from county AAA committees.

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by AAA committees. The loan program is the only way the government is carrying out these support pledges on late crop potatoes, the AAA chairman emphasized. Loans are offered on bulk potatoes in either warehouse or farm cellar storage. In Eastern Oregon counties, AAA committees may approve loans on potatoes in emergency pit storage if no other storage is available. Loan rates are less than the support prices by amounts reflecting the cost of grading, bagging and other marketing services necessary to prepare field run bulk potatoes for market and load them on cars. Also included are small allowances for error in estimating the

amount and grade of potatoes. Producers who deliver their potatoes to the government in satisfaction of the loan, however, receive credit at the full support prices on all potatoes delivered.

All loans mature on April 1, but may be repaid and the potatoes redeemed by producers any time before that date. After January 1, potatoes may be delivered in satisfaction of loans. Even though loans are repaid, potatoes that once were under loan will continue to receive price support protection, provided producers keep their county AAA committee informed of the number of potatoes still unsold.

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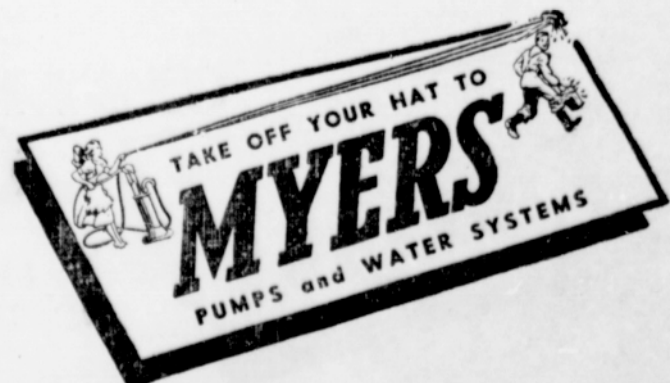
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