

Milk Production High on Farms But Supplies of Butter Become Shorter

Creameries are still unable to compete with other users of butterfat so that supplies of butter have become increasingly short the first week in December, despite a record high production of milk on farms, according to a report from the OSC extension office. Extremes in farm markets prevailed for all types of dairy products. Sweet cream and plastic cream prices advanced again, ranging now from 70 to 80 cents a pound compared with 50 cents as the limit that creameries can pay.

With current receipts from creameries running 40 to 50 per cent below previous levels, more of the trade became entirely dependent on storage reserves released by the government. This was particularly true on the Pacific coast where butter production is a third below last year and two thirds below the 10-year average. In excess of 5,000,000 pounds of government butter have already been released in civilian trade channels. With storage reserves thus being rapidly reduced the trade anticipates even shorter supplies after everywhere continue firmly at ceiling levels.

Dry milk markets turned stronger under declining current production and sharply reduced storage reserves. The Midwest is now the main producing area as Pacific coast and eastern output have been curtailed by diversion of milk to other purposes. Wheat markets on the Pacific coast continued firm under a strong demand and moderate current offerings in line with national trends. Considerable tendency appeared for growers to wait until after the first of the year before disposing of remaining supplies. This led to an increase of one-half cent in prices offered by buyers. At Portland at the close of the week bids were \$1.64 a bushel for No. 1 soft white, western red, and ordinary hard red winter, delivered.

Puget Sound and Columbia river terminals received 1,000 cars of which Part A-1 had 610 cars. These mostly applied on earlier sales for which cars had been ordered for means light. At San Francisco, trading was light although prices of all qualities were at or near the 1945 level. The 1945 California crop is mostly out of growers' hands and remaining supplies are firm. Buyers reported difficulty in getting supplies from other states because of the lack of box cars. Oregon and Washington No. 1 white and No. 1 red wheat were quoted at San Francisco at \$3 to \$3.02 a hundredweight in bulk.

Farm and Garden

Hillsboro, Oregon, Thursday, December 13, 1945

State Triple A Plans Willamette Vetch Program

The Willamette vetch program for the 1946 harvest season has been worked out with the state triple A officials and includes some of the following provisions, according to Palmer S. Torvold, county agent.

The AAA will purchase seed at a guaranteed price of six cents for cover crop grade without certification tags. Therefore, it will be necessary to field tag all cover crop fields. The sampling or attaching of final tags on cover crop seed will be taken care of by the seed dealer. Because the expense of field tagging will be part of the certification program an additional tagging fee of three cents per bag will be charged to do this work in addition to the regular acreage fee.

Timber Demand Still High from Farms in Valley

Peacetime orders continue to make large demands for raw materials from the farm woodlands throughout the Willamette valley, according to Charles H. Ladd, project forester for the state forestry department.

A recent survey of the valley by the forester, which included contacts with timber buyers and sawmill operators, shows that a very active market exists for saw logs and pulpwood stumpage with wartime prices still prevailing. The Willamette valley woodland owners enjoy the definite advantage of easy logging and nearby markets which are reflected in greater stumpage returns.

A recent innovation in pulp mill methods enables the companies to accept cordwood in the form of eight-foot lengths, unpeeled and in the round. Diameters down to six inches at the top are accepted. This type of pulpwood requires less labor than the conventional four-foot wood and since no peeling is necessary, it can be produced during the winter months at a time when farm work is not pressing. Further details with regard to markets and conditions of sale may be obtained at the county agent's office or the state board of forestry in Salem.

Capacity Increased By Hart's Hatchery

Hart's Hatchery at Beaverton is increasing its capacity from 64,700 to 89,500 eggs, according to W. H. Hart, who is in charge of good, big hatching year for 1946.

"We are trading in our Robbins incubators for their newest type machines with automatic egg turners," stated Hart. "We are still hatching every week and orders are already increasing."

Berry Growers to Meet December 17

Due to storm conditions last Tuesday, the United Berry Growers' meeting was postponed. It will be held at Forest Grove city hall on Monday, December 17, at 7:30 p. m., according to B. L. Sellers, secretary.

Supervisors of the department met with groups representing all phases of the dairy industry. The meetings were held in various parts of the state. The standards and grades which the department now proposes to adopt, subject to any changes to be made as result of the final hearing December 21, have been drawn only after careful consideration of the ideas which have come out of these smaller meetings and the department's experience in the field of grades and standards.

Interested persons unable to attend the hearing are invited to present their views in writing to the state department of agriculture, division of foods and dairies, Salem, on or before the hearing date.

State Vet Returns

Dr. Rodwin C. McCracken has rejoined the veterinary staff of the state department of agriculture after 4½ years of service with the army veterinary corps. He spent 2½ years in New Caledonia and was discharged from Fort Riley, Kansas, where he had been stationed since early this year.

More than 5000 application blanks for licenses for 1946 operations were mailed early this month by the division of foods and dairies of the state department of agriculture. Licenses due by January 1 cover these fields: Commercial feeds, commercial fertilizers, insecticides and fungicides, bakeries, nonalcoholic beverages, egg dealers, dairy graders and gas pumps.

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Farmers' Union Program Told At Meeting

WEST UNION—Meeting of the West Union local of the Farmers Union Friday evening in Johnson hall was well attended.

Six new applications and three reinstatements were admitted to membership in the local.

Mr. Thomas explained the five-point program of the Farmers Union.

1. Land policy (a) Family type farming; (b) Production and prices.
2. Conservation of natural resources (a) Regional development; (b) Soil conservation.
3. Conservation of human resources (a) Health service; (b) Public education.
4. The people's movement (a) Making of people's peace-employment; (b) Postwar economy.
5. Farmers Union movement (a) Farmers Union co-operatives; (b) Organization.

Mr. Thomas stated what the farmers need today more than anything is "Voice." He is spending several days in the county visiting farmers of various localities.

Refreshments were served following election of officers and the business meeting.

Farm Union Conference Stated Here Saturday

County conference meeting of the officers and members of the Farmers Union of Washington county will be held Saturday from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. Pot luck dinner will be served. State officials will be present.

State Flax Plant Hit by Protest

Continued operation of the state prison flax plant in competition with privately-owned plants was protested before the state board of control at Salem Tuesday by a delegation representing the Willamette Valley Fibre Flax association.

R. Glenn Ritchey of Forest Grove, president of the association, said the prison plant had performed a worthwhile service in establishing the flax industry in the vicinity of Salem but should stop out now and leave the field to private industry.

Ritchey charged that "the competition of the state plant is unfair. With its cheap prison labor it is subsidizing a few flax growers in the immediate vicinity of Salem at the expense of all the other growers in the valley." He also complained that state employees connected with the prison flax industry had not co-operated with private industry either in acreage signs or in the marketing of fibre and tow.

Governor Snell told the growers he believed that the state should get out of the flax business at the earliest possible moment but doubted this was the proper time.

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