

Farm and Garden

Hillsboro, Oregon, Thursday, January 8, 1948

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Starvation Due If Soil Wasted, Official Warns

Good soil is limited. There are only about 400 million acres of real good crop land left in the United States. This includes, in addition to that now in crops, about 100 million acres that need drainage, irrigation, clearing, or other improvements. All but about 70 million of these 400 million acres of good land is subject to erosion if it is not protected by conservation practices.

E. Harvey Miller, chairman of the Oregon State Production and Marketing Administration Committee, uses these facts to emphasize the necessity of soil conservation. He points out that if all the land in the United States from which crops were harvested in 1947 were divided evenly among the people in this country there would be about two and one-half acres of land for each person. Twenty-five years ago there were three and one-fourth acres.

A part of that decrease in the per capita acreage of harvested crop land is due to increases in population, but some is due to a loss of land through erosion and depletion. This per capita decrease emphasizes the vital necessity of doing something to maintain the limited land that is left.

The state chairman illustrates the situation in another way. Since the Pilgrim fathers landed at Plymouth some 327 years ago the average depth of topsoil, upon which life depends, has been reduced from nine inches down to six inches. The loss of another three inches would mean, as in parts of China, the ever present threat of starvation with never enough to eat.

In the world there are only four billion acres of soil from which the food for more than two billion people is being produced. That is less

than two acres per person. The seeds of war sprout and thrive on limited acreages of poor land.

Erosion and muddy water are the immediate signs of wounded land, says the chairman, but the real tragedy is lower and lower yields, depleted stocks and higher prices at the grocery store, hunger and malnutrition in the homes. The topsoil that muddies the rivers and fills up the reservoirs contains the elements that sustain life.

In the light of things which could have been produced, this muddy water and silt is so much bread, meat, potatoes, sugar, milk and eggs. And the supply of this topsoil is unlimited. There is only so much and when that is gone "there ain't no more." You can't dig down and find new deposits or drill a well and pump out an additional amount.

And we have reached the stage, the chairman explains, where we cannot put away what we have and hold it for future use. Production must go on to sustain life—abundant production to maintain and improve civilization. There must be food enough for those who till the soil and enough left over to feed the people who do all the other things which make our civilization. We must continue to produce abundantly and at the same time keep erosion and depletion of the soil at a minimum.

To do that is the purpose of the Agricultural Conservation Program Miller pointed out. Farmers, cooperating with the government, carry out conservation practices on their farms which help to check erosion, build back fertility and protect the land so that coming generations won't be faced with famine because the land gave out.

ODD FACT
In Union Center, Wis., an aged woman died and willed \$100,000 to a 7-year-old neighborhood boy, because he had been kind to her and had run her errands.

Dairymen Await Astoria Meeting

The annual meeting of the Oregon Dairyman's association will be held in Astoria beginning January 12 and continuing through January 14, according to an announcement received by County Agent Palmer S. Torward from President W. O. Christensen of North Powder, Baker county.

Committees which will meet on the afternoon of January 12 are sales promotion, disease control, and resolutions.

Anyone interested in the Oregon dairy industry will be welcome at the Astoria meeting regardless of whether or not he is a member of the association, Roger Morse, OSC association secretary, said.

The general program for the meeting will get under way on the morning of January 13. Various breed associations will meet that afternoon and the general program will continue through the following day. The Oregon Dairy Products commission also will meet in Astoria on the same dates.

Washington county farmers who are interested in attending this meeting and who would like to pool their resources may clear their arrangements through the county agent's office.

Membership in the association is open to all dairymen and to dairy product processors and related activities.

Retirement Law Hits Road Crew

One of the heaviest turn-overs of personnel in the county road department in recent years took place January 1 when seven employees were retired under the state retirement law.

The law makes retirement compulsory at the age of 65. Heading the list of those retiring was George Fisher, district foreman from Buxton, who wound up 32 years of service with the department. Others retired under the law were: Robert Wallace and Herman Gerstens, both of North Plains; Thomas and John Cook, both of Hillsboro; Elmer Sparks, Buxton; and George Harris, Gaston.

Lindow Bull Gold Medal Proven Sire

BATTLEBORO, VI.—Lone Fir Sir Johanna Tony 4th, head cow owned by Lindow brothers (Bethany), has become the 79th Holstein-Friesian sire in the nation to receive the distinguished designation of "Gold Medal Proven Sire." This award is made by the Holstein-Friesian Association of America in recognition of the high production and outstanding type of his daughters.

Of his 17 daughters which have been classified for type 1, seven "excellent" which is the highest score an animal can receive, 4 scored "very good" and the average score for all the classified daughters was 83.4. Seventeen of his daughters have completed official production records in either Advanced Registry or Herd Test and 12 of these have exceeded Advanced Registry butterfat requirements by 50 per cent. Highest among these was the record of 810 pounds of fat made in Advanced Registry by Lone Fir Johanna Lottie at the age of 4 years 10 months, 3 milkings, 365 days.

This bull is sired by Lone Fir Sir Johanna Tony and his dam is Lone Fir Fannie.

Bank Teller Retired After Long Service

The retirement of Miss Edna May Finn, teller for the local branch First National bank of Portland, was announced this week by James C. Say, manager.

Miss Finn was retired under the bank's retirement plan after more than 14 years of service. She was employed by the bank when it first opened in Hillsboro August 14, 1933. Prior to that time she had been employed by the old Shute Savings

Health Club at Hazeldale Gets County Award

By Mrs. R. E. Jensen
HAZELDALE.—Local school received its certificate of achievement in the health clubs of Washington county which had 100 per cent of its members complete their club projects for the year 1946-47. They were awarded the certificate for having completed their work and making final report to the Oregon State college and preparing an exhibit. Winning members of this certificate were Dan Kephart, Bob Pfeiffer, Viola Pierson, Sigrid Kuch, Renate Quakenbush, Berdine Huth, Dwight Jensen, Sammy Simich, Jack Boulden, Jerry Ehler, Duane Stout, Ted Pierson, John Hagg, Janne P. Miller, Leroy Berger, Victor Wright, Ronald Frake, and Bob Rogers. Local club leader was Miss Elva Howey.

Meeting Announced
The next regular meeting of the Hazeldale Parent-Teacher association will be held Wednesday, January 14 at 8 p. m. at the school basement at which time County School Superintendent Austin Scraftford will explain taxes and necessary improvements and changes to bring the local schools to a state standard school for state aid.

This meeting will be of great importance to all taxpayers and school patrons of the Hazeldale district and everyone interested should attend.

Carrier Gets Trip
The son of one of the Oregonian carrier boys who won the free all expense trip with 450 other boys who made the tour to San Francisco and saw the East-West football game last week.

Mr. and Mrs. William P. Brooks entertained on Tuesday, December 30 for Mrs. Brooks' nephew and wife of Detroit, Michigan. Dinner guests included Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Smith, Detroit, Mich. Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Kaiser, Mrs. Edwin McElroy, Mr. P. McElroy, all of Portland and Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Watson of Aloha.

Visit From Idaho
John Laneflet of Emmett, Idaho, has been visiting over the Christmas and New Year holidays at the home of his sister, Mrs. Marian Wright.

Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Burge have both been very ill the past two weeks with the flu. Ed Berger has been assisting them with their work.

Christmas carolers at the W. P. Brooks home were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Snellstrom and Velma and Gerald Snellstrom of Eugene, Mrs. R. C. Benson and Mrs. Vern Smith.

Miss Patty Roher who spent her holiday vacation with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Reher of Portland, returned home Sunday accompanied by her grandmother.

Mr. and Mrs. John Long and two children from Aloha moved into and are renting Marvin Wright's

bank here since 1918.

Miss Finn says her plans are indefinite but she will enjoy a long vacation before taking another position.

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Judging Contest Won by Bellamy

Ivan Bellamy, Hillsboro high school Future Farmer of America, won individual scoring honors at the first annual poultry judging contest sponsored by the Standard Poultry Breeders association at Clark college, Vancouver, Wash., Saturday.

Bellamy, competing with eight other local FFA boys, scored 840 points to win the contest. He was awarded a 100-chick electric brooder. The rotating chapter trophy was awarded the local chapter. Six classes were judged, three in exhibi-

tion and three on production.

Other FFA members participating in the competition, in order of points earned, were Jim Pabok, Carlton Kamao, Dick Skelton, Chuck Krueger, Eugene Benson, Dave Kaudman and Vernon Meyer, tied, and Don Forester.

The three Adam sisters, Laurie, Jackie and Martha, who have been going to school here and making their home with the W. A. Adams, left Monday to live in Portland.

Edwina, Berger Jr., is visiting at the home of his paternal great aunt Mrs. Ed Walsh at St. Helena while his mother is in a Hillsboro hospital with a new daughter, born to Mr. and Mrs. Ed Berger Wednesday morning, December 31. The little child has been named Trudi Rose.

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—Hillsboro Argus.

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