Purpose of Oregon Dairymen's League Is Fully Explained by President

KATZ TELLS AIMS OF OREGON DAIRY LEAGUE TO HANEY

League Now Has 1843 Members in States; Organization Formed to Prevent Catastrophe.

DAIRYMEN WORK TOGETHER

Plan to Buy at Wholesale, Lobby for Legislation, Improve Condition of General Marketing.

Alma D. Katz, president of the Oregon Dairymen's league, was recently interviewed by United States District Attorney Bert E. Haney regarding the activities of the league. Katz confirmed his interview with Haney in a letter which set forth perfectly the objects of the league and the purpose of its existence. The letter is as follows:

October 5, 1919.—Hon. Bert E. Haney, United States District Attorney, Portland, Or.—Dear Sir: Permit me to respond to your request for information as to the nature and purposes of the Oregon Dairymen's league.

The league is a voluntary, cooperative association of milk producers in Oregon and the extreme southern border of Washington.

It numbers at the present time 1843 members.

Its purposes, briefly stated, are:

1. To make thorough and scientific study into the conditions and costs of milk production.

2. To take steps leading to the betterment of the dairy industry in breeds, feed, and manner and method of conducting dairies.

3. To seek thorough information on legislation, existing and proposed, which affects or would affect the dairy industry.

4. To make use of community buying power in order to obtain wholesale rates on feed and dairy equipment.

5. To conduct cooperative marketing controlled at all times by the league as a whole through which the individual members dispose of milk produced by them. Copy of contract form is herewith attached, together with a list of officers and directors.

The Oregon Dairymen's league was organized during the latter part of the world war period when the dairy industry seemed threatened with destruction by (a) the abnormally high prices of all supplies and of labor, and (b) by the prices for milk and products which were far below the cost of production.

The first meeting of dairymen to consider the emergency was held in Portland on August 10, 1917. At that meeting, the late W. W. Cotton, W. B. Ayer, then federal food administrator for Oregon, and William M. Ladd were among those who presented facts which had the effect of crystalizing the conclusion that measures for preservation were imperative.

The Oregon Dairymen's league, consequently, was organized on September 22, 1917.

In the meantime the official attention of the administration of the city of Portland had been directed to the grave danger threatening the milk supply of the city and Mayor George L. Baker had appointed a special municipal milk commission, composed of Henry E. Reed, William L. Brewster and Mrs. W. B. Ayer.

This commission, after extended inquiry, recommended that the producers receive a price of $3.85 a hundred pounds of milk testing 3.8 per cent butter fat, f. o. b. Portland. This recommendation was adopted and became effective by common consent on October 1, 1918.

On February 1, 1919, the producers voluntarily reduced the price to $3.20 a hundred pounds and on April 1, sequent, to $3.00, the reductions having been rendered possible by the "grass season" and the correspondingly increased flow of milk.

As the demand for milk in any city varies under the influence of many conditions, provisions must be made to meet maximum requirements. Thus, ordinarily, there is a milk surplus which must be disposed of at butterfat prices. The producers met the loss due to surplus by pro-rating among themselves. This has rendered the price actually 20 to 30 cents a hundred pounds under the announced price.

On July 1, 1919, the drought of summer having reduced the pasturage and increased the cost of feed, a price of $3.50 a hundred pounds became effective, this price having been deemed by the body of the league, not only necessary but materially under the cost of production, figures having been produced to show that the actual cost of production was an average of $4 or more a hundred pounds.

At this time so short was the supply of milk that a cheese factory at Ridgefield, Wash., and a condensary at Washougal, Wash., which had been receiving the surplus of the Portland supply were closed in order to maintain the supply for the city and especially to be able to say that no home where there were children had been deprived of its requirements of the most important single item of food in the human diet.

On October 1, 1919, again by common consent, the price of milk agreed upon as $3.90 a hundred pounds to the producers, this figure being 10 cents a hundred pounds less than the amount many dairymen deemed necessary during the winter months in order to remain in business.

The league was at first disposed to recommend that the increase to producers should not be followed by corresponding increase in the amount paid by consumers. But in view of the fact that the plant for handling surplus, organized under the name of Oregon Milk Producers, Inc., had shown substantial losses in all but two months, it was granted that the representations by the dealers that their own increased costs warranted larger revenues, contained the elements of justice.

The Oregon Dairymen's league adheres to the theory that the producer is entitled to the cost of production plus a legitimate profit. Average cost of production has not yet been represented in the prices received by producers, but without the cooperative marketing organization of the league not only such improvements as have been noted been impossible but the dairy industry as a whole would have been, we believe, too much impaired to continue its functions of public service.

We believe that we have acted at all times in a way only to meet the manifest emergency and with full consideration of the rights and interests of the consuming public.

Should you desire further information we will gladly furnish it. All our records and accounts are open to the inspection of yourself or accredited representatives. Yours sincerely,

A. D. KATZ.

President Oregon Dairymen's League. ADK.

SOME OREGON GUERNSEYS AT P. I. L. E.

Mixter Acorn with record of 348 pounds of fat at two years, bred to Mary Rose Yerska Starlight, at right. Mixter Acorn will be sold at the Guernsey auction sale at the Pacific International Livestock exposition.

Association Formed To Promote Testing Of Cowlitz Cattle

Kelso, Wash., Oct. 25.—Organization of the Cowlitz County Cow Testing association has been completed with the election of John Bogart of Woodland as president. Senator Frank G. Barnes of Kelso was chosen vice president and C. H. Huntington of Castlerock secretary-treasurer. These three, with T. D. Duncan of Kelso and Mr. Modrow of the Kalama river, form the board of trustees. County Agent H. C. Burgess and W. S. Murdock of the state department were in attendance at the last meeting to assist with the organization.

About 500 cows are now signed up and additional herds will be signed to bring the number of cows to 600. A charge of $2 a cow will be assessed to each member annually.

It is thought that a tester will be secured within a month when the work will be started.

Umatilla Farmers Waging Campaign Against Rabbits

Umatilla, Oct. 25.—County Agriculturist Fred Benyon reports an interesting and successful meeting in Umatilla at the late organization known as the farm bureau. The farmers are lined up for constructive work in an effort to remedy some existing evils.

One of the biggest problems confronting the farmer is rabbit extermination. Many persons signed up for vast quantities of poison to be used in a drive against the dreaded pest. Each Sunday is set aside as a day for carrying out drives in the vicinity of Umatilla. In this way several thousand rabbits are killed each week.

Fruit problems will come up for consideration in due time. Cheaper dairy feed, better transportation facilities and better dairy herds were discussed by the farmers.

Miss May Harmon, home demonstration agent, also discussed many problems pertaining to rural life.

Nearly every advertiser on the farm pages issues a catalogue containing valuable information to farmers. Answer these advertisements—always mentioning the farm pages of The Journal.

USE LIMESTONE TO SWEETEN SOIL FOR CLOVER OR LEGUME

Oregon Farmer Used 300 Tons From Gold Hill Plant and Recognizes Benefit.

Corvallis, Oct. 25.—"In using limestone we do not expect an increase of the wheat or oat crop that year, but expect to sweeten the soils so that clover or other legumes will thrive, and then we know that the grain crops following will be better."

So says C. F. Gilbert of Shaw, who has recently purchased and used 300 tons of ground limestone from the state owned plant at Gold Hill, in reply to inquiries made by Dr. A. B. Cordley, secretary of the state lime board and director of the agricultural college experiment station.

TRIAL CONVINCES GILBERT

Mr. Gilbert has been using what lime he was able to get for the last six years and thinks that he has confirmed by his results the teaching of the best agricultural authority on the value of lime.

The ground limestone was applied with a spreader which handled the dry product without any trouble. Some allowed to get wet caused trouble in spreading.

"Where lime was used several years ago clover grew, and the succeeding crops were better," says Mr. Gilbert. "Results are also noticeable this year with vetch on soils limed several years ago."

CLAYEY LOAM TREATED

The land limed with benefit was clayey loam, red hill soil, and acid. Lime was used at the rate of 2 to 2½ tons per acre. On lands limed in June, 1919, corn or vetch will be grown in 1920. Asked if he expects to use more lime, he says he intends to use much more in the future if the price is not too high.

Mr. Gilbert has seen a good deal in the newspapers about closing the lime plant, and says that he believes many farmers are now in doubt as to whether orders will be filled promptly. He hopes that the farmers will make such use of the plant as will keep it in operation, but says a good many are waiting to see results.

Sulphur Found to Greatly Increase Yield of Alfalfa

The application of sulphur to alfalfa land has increased the yield so materially in Central Oregon that Umatilla alfalfa growers are going to try it out. In spite of the fact that there has not been an opportunity to present the subject in farm bureau meetings, several farmers in various parts of the county have expressed a desire to act as demonstrators. The county agent has, accordingly, ordered one ton, to be distributed under his direction on acre plots with adjoining acre check plots as a basis for comparison. If good results are obtained it is expected that the attention of all alfalfa growers will be drawn to the results of such demonstrations by auto tours, field meetings and publicity in the press.

In Central Oregon an increase of one ton of hay per acre has been obtained on 3000 acres of alfalfa land as a result of the application of 300,000 pounds of sulphur last spring at the rate of 100 pounds per acre. The sulphur cost about $9000, which gave an increased crop yield the first year of approximately a $50,000 value. As the effect of the application extends over a period of about three years, Central Oregon farmers are enthusiastic about the discovery which was made by the Oregon branch experiment station in Jackson county. In Deschutes county alone, 225 tons of refined flowered sulphur will be used this season.

Of course, soil conditions may be such that the sulphur will have little effect, but J. E. Troxyl of Pendleton, Oliver Dickson of Athena, R. E. Bean of Umapine, Hampton & Gulliford of Echo, and D. B. Walford of Echo and W. F. Smith of Hermiston are willing to try it out. Other demonstrators will be secured at the farm bureau organization meetings.

Learn What Crops Particular Soil Is Good for, Advice

It would pay many farmers to discover what their soil and location is best advocated for. Many farmers work year after year with a given line of crops, when an entirely different line would do better. There is science in farming, and the Oregon Agricultural college authorities will be only too glad to cooperate with any farmer who wishes to have expert advice. The farmer can secure more expert advice free, or nearly free, than any other active producer in the country.

Some soils can be greatly improved by one process and some by another. The professor of agriculture can often give a farmer advice that is worth 10 years' labor. Is the soil heavy, thin, apparently exhausted, too wet, too dry, or tipped away from the sun? Ask for expert advice. It won't cost anything to ask, and very little to be answered.

At one time it was firmly believed by farmers in Eastern Oregon that alfalfa would not grow anywhere in that section. The agricultural department demonstrated that it would. A few farmers followed directions of experts and found that alfalfa could easily adapt itself to the conditions. The rich alfalfa fields of the Butter creek section in Morrow county were among the first to prove that the old "by guess and by gob" farmer didn't know anything about alfalfa raising.

"Corn won't grow in the Willamette valley," was the law and the gospel a generation ago. The wonderfully good corn and heavy yields of it in many places in the Willamette valley prove that what somebody knew 40 and 50 years ago was not so.

SPUD PRODUCTION LARGER IN CANADA

State's Crops Are Smaller Because Character of Seed Is Not Given Attention.

The average production per acre of potatoes in the United States is very much lower than in Canada, Great Britain and European countries outside of Italy.

One of the reasons for the lower production in the United States is that less attention has been given to the character of the seed. Good seed is one of the determining factors in the production of maximum crops of potatoes.

The use of high grade seed would increase the returns from the potato crop of the country by many millions of dollars.

The production of high grade seed should be regarded as a special business.

Good strains of seed may be obtained by the tuber-unit, hill, or mass-selection methods through the process of roguing out the diseased and weak hills.

When tubers from diseased or weak plants are planted, a similar harvest will be reaped.

Only seed from productive plants should be used.

Careful attention should be given to securing seed that is free from varietal mixture and that is true to type.

Good seed can not be produced unless the growing plants are given good cultural attention.

As a rule the quantity of seed used is not sufficient to produce a maximum crop.

From 15 to 18 bushels of seed should be used per acre instead of nine to 11, as at the present time.

All seed stock should be disinfected before planting.

Good storage conditions are essential to insure sound, firm seed at planting time.

These points are discussed in detail in the United States Department of Agriculture's Farmers' Bulletin 533, "Good Seed Potatoes, and How to Produce Them," which was recently revised and will be sent free on request.

Deitsch to Assist Work for Cereals

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oct. 25.—Frank J. Dietsch, a graduate of O. A. C., has been appointed by the federal government to assist G. R. Horner in his work on the black stem rust disease of cereals and grasses. The territory covered by Deitsch will include Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, Montana and the Northwest, with headquarters in the extension department located in the agricultural building of the college. Deitsch has taken a special course at the State college at Ames, Iowa, and served as field agent in the barbary eradication campaign to save wheat from rust last summer.

All Wheat Appeals To Be Handled by Agriculture Dept.

Effective immediately, the United States department of agriculture will handle all wheat appeals from licensed inspectors' grades on intrastate as well as interstate transactions. Formerly, under the grain standards act, wheat was required to be shipped or delivered for shipment across state lines before an appeal could be taken to the government.

The new arrangement has been made by the secretary at the urgent request of Julius H. Barnes, United States wheat director, and is effective under authority and during the continuation of the food control act, the wheat guaranty act, and the executive order of May 14, 1919. Mr. Barnes stated that it was necessary to have the appeal privilege on all wheat whether interstate or intrastate in order to make the guarantee good to the producer of wheat everywhere in the United States.

Pursuant to this agreement federal grain supervisors in all the large markets of the United States have been instructed to entertain all wheat appeals.

Friendly Rivalry in Milk Brings Results

Friendly rivalry among milk producers and dealers is an important feature in the improvement of the milk supplies of cities, say the United States department of agriculture in department circular 53, "Milk and Cream Contests." The two kinds of contests—the one in which the dairymen prepare their own samples of milk or cream especially for the contest and the one in which samples are collected on the street without previous notification to the producers—are discussed in detail. The discussion includes the method of preparing milk and cream for entry in contests, the method of scoring on cards prepared by the dairy division of the bureau of animal industry, shipping and handling at destination, laboratory equipment for conducting contests, methods of analyzing and testing, and publicity methods in connection with milk and cream contests.

Copies of the circular may be had free by interested persons on application to the division of publications, department of agriculture.

Big Reduction in Fertilizer Prices Will Be Made Soon

Announcement has been made at the office of the secretary of agriculture that the department, in order to stabilize the prices of raw fertilizer materials as well as the prices for mixed fertilizers, has under consideration not only the question of fair prices for mixed fertilizers for the spring of 1920 but also of such raw materials as sulphate of ammonia, tankage, dried blood, fish scrap, rock phosphate, bulk acid phosphate, and cottonseed meal. The manufacturers of cottonseed meal were invited to a conference in Washington on October 7 to consider the cost of manufacture and other facts which will enable the department to arrive at a fair price for this commodity, and the producers of other raw materials were invited to present such evidence as they might desire on the cost of production on October 6 at Washington. "It is the belief of the department, after investigation, that there should be a considerable reduction in the prices of all these fertilizer materials," the department said in announcing these conferences. The manufacturers of mixed fertilizers will send in their proposed prices for the spring of 1920 at a later time.

A large acreage was signed during the week, in Lane county, Roseburg, Sheridan, Amity, Salem and Yamhill. One of the interesting features of the week was that Sheridan passed over the 1000 acre mark. Another point of great interest was the fact that large orchards are going in in good numbers. During October one orchard of 350 acres, one of 140 acres and one of 80 acres signed up with the association.

Hog raisers, says the United States department of agriculture, should be well posted as to the nature and prevalence of hog tuberculosis and how to prevent and get rid of it, so that financial losses may be avoided. Farmers' Bulletin 781 is devoted to a discussion of the subject.

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Read These Letters

Our One Man Kirstin is all you recommend—pulls to beat the band. Everyone thinks it a little wonder. S. R. Cromwell, Middleboro, Conn.

My One Man Kirstin is some Puller. Am pulling stumps up to 2 ft. without powder. Pulled tree 150 ft. high and 22 inches at base, in 15 minutes. It takes them all out. A. H. Jeffery, Globe, Oregon.

My One Man Kirstin works fine. It pulled stumps we thought it would not pull. F. A. Buckley, Bay Springs, Miss.

One man with my Kirstin has cleared 7 acres. The largest stump was a 3 ft. Pine. It pulls bigger stumps than I or any one else could expect. I. Erickle, Calumet, Mich.

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"Have had my Heider 3 years. The Friction Drive is the best thing out, it is so simple and easy to handle. The Heider is the best ever." H. H. Grambach, Poy Sippi, Wis.

"We have had a Heider 12-20 for two seasons; the Friction Drive for ease of handling and ease on engine and gears can't be beat." J. J. Murray, Bad Axe, Mich.

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