

# The Valley Agriculturist and His Work

Markets -- Crops -- Farm Home -- Livestock

The Diversified Interests of  
Willamette Valley Farmers

### Editor's Note

Mrs. Madeline Collins, Valley News editor of The Oregon Statesman, is also in charge of the editorial news of this paper. Each Sunday she writes concerning the agricultural news of interest to valley farmers. Contributions of merit are invited.

## MARKETS HOLD STEADY TONE

### Only Fractional Changes in Price Reported During Week

PORTLAND, Ore., May 3 (AP)—The general markets held steady during the week, only fractional changes being registered.

In the cattle division cows were up 25 cents to 9.50-10.00. Heavy steers at 10.75-11.25, and vealers at 12.00-13.00, were unchanged. Heavy and lightweight hogs at 9.50-10.75 and 11.00-11.25, respectively, were unchanged. Feeders and stockers were down 25c from the top at 10.50-12.50.

There was little doing in the sheep class. Good to near-choice spring lambs were quoted at 10.75-11.00 as the week turned.

Grain underwent a reaction. Big Bend bluestem moving up one-half cent over last week's close, but all other varieties declining a cent. Big Bend was quoted at 1.16 1/2, soft white and western white at 1.04, and hard winter, northern spring and western red at 1.02.

Oats took another drop—losing one dollar for the second successive week. It was quoted at \$30 for No. 2 38-lb.

Alfalfa hay moved up a dollar a ton to \$20, based on buying prices, f. o. b. Portland. The other varieties continued unchanged.

Butter and eggs both were unchanged, the top for butter being 38 cents, and for eggs, 26 cents.

Eastern Oregon wool was still quoted at 17-20 cents, and Oregon hogs, 1929 crop, at 5-8 cents.

Italian prunes were 8-11 1/2 cents, and peaches 9 cents.

## CALIFORNIA CHERRY CROP TO BE SHORT

### Price to Be Named May 8 Will Not Be Less Than Eight Cents

A. E. Bonheur, secretary of the Willamette valley cherry growers association, received a telegram on Saturday from the California cherry growers association to the effect that the California growers would not name the cherry price before May 8.

The message stated that the California price would not be less than eight cents. This does not include delivery charge which is always four tenths of a cent additional.

The wire containing the information that the California crop was about the same as last year. Growers of this vicinity had been led to believe that the southern crop this year would be heavy but last year's crop in California was short and there is no prospect of a heavier crop this year.

The Willamette valley growers were advised not to sell until the California price was named.

## JERSEY HERD TO BE SOLD AT AUCTION

Several years ago Mr. and Mrs. Ben C. Hall of Gervais purchased a few registered Jerseys for a herd foundation. While their investment was not large, they selected the cows with great care as to type and blood lines. Most of the blood of St. Mawes Lad, Oxford You'll Do and Rinda Lad. Later on herd sires were selected from some of the best producing families of Oregon Jerseys. The young stock shows the value of this breeding by both type and heavy production. Some have been show winners and all are heavy producers.

In recent years the production of strawberries has taken such a leading part in the farming of the Gervais section and as the Hall's have devoted a large part of their farm to new berry plantings they are planning on disposing of their Jersey herd. They will sell at auction on May 20, which sale will give a number of farmers the opportunity of securing some excellent animals from this abortion and T. B. tested head.

## Ioka Farm Produces Prize Winning Durocs by Unique Methods of Care

By Madeline L. Collins  
"I never expected to see a hog ranch where there is no odor, no mud and no squeal," said a recent visitor to Ioka farm.

Every guest at this very unusual farm in the Waldo hills, owned and managed by A. Doerfler, must be impressed with the absence of those three generally accepted characteristics of a hog ranch and yet it is not the lack of these that first impresses visitors.

The well kept condition of the entire farm is its most striking characteristic. Not a board out of place, not a fence in need of repair, not a gate needing paint, in fact nothing except perfect care and order is evident at Ioka farm.

It is this same intelligent care which has made it possible for Ioka Duroc hogs to win prizes than any other Duroc herd in the Pacific northwest. In a recent sock show in Utah, Ioka Farm Durocs were shown, along with many other herds from the east and west of the Rocky mountains, and were awarded the highest honor and given more prizes than all the other Duroc herds combined.

A visitor to Ioka farm soon realizes that it isn't just good luck that has made this record possible. On the contrary it has been achieved through years of work and study. The selection of the best breeding stock has been foremost in importance in building up the Ioka herd of Durocs.

For four successive years Ioka farm Durocs won grand champion honor at the Oregon state fair and for five years at Pacific International, a feat never equaled by any other herd.

The present herd sire at Ioka farm is Fancy Sitts of Ioka, America's most popular Duroc sire.

Feeding Method Unique  
Next in importance to selecting breeding stock is the care and feeding of the animals and here the Ioka method is unique. There is no wallowing mud, on a diet of sour milk and slop, for Ioka hogs.

They are fed on a scientifically balanced ration of ground grain with a regulated amount of fish meal, charcoal, oak ashes, and green grass in addition.

The feeding troughs are raised off the high may stand straight while eating. This standing more erect while eating helps to keep the hogs' front legs straight which is very important in the show ring.

Modern sows on this farm are only kept near the farm buildings during farrowing time after which they are moved with their colony houses to the lowlands on the headwaters of Pudding river where they are run under most natural conditions.

Exercise Important  
Hogs running under these natural conditions will travel from one to several miles a day which gives them more strength and vitality, which is a great aid in keeping them free from disease.

The owner of this herd believes that because our soils and water in the coast sections are deficient in lime, it is very essential that minerals be kept before the stock at all times.

Under these conditions it is possible to grow a healthy hog to more than a thousand pounds in weight. Well bred Durocs on this farm and handled under these conditions have often topped the market at five months of age. One of these giant Durocs that grew to more than a thousand pounds was made grand champion of the Oregon state fair and Pacific International for three years in succession and later the world-wide Pathe Film News featured this Duroc in motion pictures in many of the principal coast city theatres.

Early in the spring the herd is turned into pasture where running water is always available. Self Feeders Attractive  
Dotted here and there over the pasture are the "self feeders" glowing with their bright red painted sides and green roofs. These feeder houses save much time and effort in the care of the herd. Filled with the ground ration they are so constructed that the animals may get the grain at any time but only in such amounts as will be eaten so that none is wasted.

These feeders are moved here and there about the pasture and the hogs have with the grain an abundance of green feed. Running water is available all summer and the herd is kept in this way until the show animals are taken out in the fall.

The Durocs have won outstanding success in both breeding and market classes and Mr. Doerfler finds a ready market for them both for breeding stock and for meat.

Ioka Durocs have been sold in all the western states and as far east as Florida. Because of their unusually fine record in many stock shows the Ioka Durocs are well known and the Ioka method of care is meeting with the approval of the authorities in hog raising.

Hog Prices Hit Market Decline  
Hog values declined a quarter, closing with an \$11.00 top for light butchers. The little trading done in cattle and sheep was at quotably steady levels. Railroads continue to be common and estimates, including driven-in, were placed at 50 cattle, 10 calves 200 hogs and 20 sheep.

Trading in the hog division was extremely slow to start, due to the reluctance of sellers to let their holdings go at the 25c lower bids, and when operations finally began they were on this basis. The one load of light butchers and practically all the best trucked in offerings in that class stopped at \$11.00. Rough packing sows at \$8.25 with odd head of smooth offerings at \$9.00 looked steady as did a little bunch of 146 pound pigs at \$11.00 with 130 to 140 pound weights at \$10.25. Feeder pigs arrived in very small numbers. Prices ranged from \$11.75 to \$12.50 depending on weight and quality, those at \$11.75 weighing only slightly over 100 pounds.

Nothing but drive-ins were offered in the cattle division with the early estimate calling for 50 cattle and 10 calves. With top values given no test quotations were

continued nominally as of Thursday. Scattered head of cows grading low medium reached \$8.00 with the majority of the offerings in the she stock class grading low to medium and common and selling from \$4.00 to \$7.00. A bull or two in the medium grade reached \$7.00 and calves and vealers all grading medium or lower sold from \$11.00 down to \$8.00 and under.

Quotations for sheep and lambs also were continued as of Thursday but on a purely nominal basis. Estimates were posted as 200 head, all expected in trucks up to this writing. Actual arrivals were still much short of the estimate. One little trucked in lot of choice 58 pound spring lambs cashed at \$11.00. Other sales were confined to 59 to 69 pound cubs to common old crop shorn lambs hitting around the \$6.00 mark.

FLYER FORCED DOWN  
COLTON, Cal., May 3—(AP)—Forced down by darkness here tonight, Frank Goldsborough, 19, trans-continental flyer, was forced to spend the night 70 miles short of Los Angeles where his adventurous trip will end.



Samples of Ioka prize winners, above, Fancy Sitts of Ioka, Junior Champion boar at the 1929 Oregon state fair; below, the mother of the family, Junior Champion gilt at the same fair.

## CHERRY FRUIT FLY WAR ON

### Cornell Entomologist to Direct Control Work Here

OREGON STATE COLLEGE  
Corvallis, May 3—Organized work in control of the cherry fruit fly in western Oregon will commence immediately with the arrival here this week of S. C. Jones from Cornell University, New York, who has been appointed field man for the entomology department by the experiment station to head up the control studies.

Jones is a graduate of this institution who has since taken advanced work in entomology at Iowa State college, and has for the last two years been field entomologist in New York state handling control problems with the cherry fruit fly there.

Provision for carrying on organized control work was made by the state emergency board last month when special funds were appropriated to finance the project. Quick action was deemed necessary in view of the severe losses suffered by growers last year coupled with stringent regulations announced by the federal pure food division condemning for canning any infested cherries or those having ever been infested even though the fly larvae are gone.

The plan of campaign announced by Dr. Don C. Mote, head of the department of entomology, is to have the field man check accurately the time of emergence of the adult flies under varying conditions through the territory known to be infested. Relationship of emergence to time of ripening of various varieties will be checked by means of cages or other methods.

When time to apply the spray is determined the information will be broadcast at once to the growers through county agents, the press and by radio. A successful spray has been known for some time but it is useless unless applied within a few days of the most effective time.

MONMOUTH, May 3 — T. J. Aispig, prominent prune grower of this section who annually operates a commercial prune dryer in Monmouth, left this week by automobile accompanied by his son Russell, for their former home at Brookings, South Dakota, upon a somewhat unique prune selling venture.

Aispig is shipping by freight a carload of Polk county prunes totaling 1400 cartons each containing 25 pounds of prunes; 500 cartons each containing 50 pounds. Each carton is stenciled: Oregon Grown Prunes, T. J. Aispig, Monmouth, Oregon.

Aispig plans to market the prunes among his friends and former neighbors of South Dakota in a direct producer to consumer transaction—probably the first of the sort ever involving prunes. He will be away for several months, and hopes to be able to sell more than the amount shipped at this time, and to create if possible a permanent market.

Letters of endorsement are carried by Aispig from various organizations including the local Farmers' union; from agricultural authorities of Oregon State college; and one from Governor Norblad. He has supplied himself with printed pamphlets containing many tested recipes for cooking and serving prunes; also a table of comparisons in which the iron content of prunes is favorably contrasted with that of raisins, oranges, grapefruit, lemons and many other fruits.

## CROPS GROW WHILE GLOOM CLOUDS HOVER LOW

By the Market Editor  
The usual spring crop failure in the Willamette valley is with us and vast clouds of gloom radiate from those spots on the landscape where growers of a certain type get together.

It has been said that we have three crop failures in Oregon, one in the fall when the season is either too wet or too dry; one in the winter when it is either too cold or too warm; one in the spring when there is either too much or not enough rain and then the harvest time comes and crops are excellent.

Just what is the psychology of the human gloom cloud? The question baffles experts. If Willamette valley farmers could be freed of the crop failure complex half of the problem of farm relief would have been solved.

From a recent survey conducted by the Oregon Journal we read that the cherry crop this year will be so heavy as to break several previous records. Yet when the Willamette valley cherry growers met in Salem Thursday evening the general opinion was that the crop would be only 25 per cent of normal.

And then up spake a grower from the Dallas district and reported an excellent crop. This gave courage to another grower not yet inoculated with the gloom virus and he reported that he expected at least a 40 per cent crop. These were the only glimmers of hope however. A few did admit that the crop would be better than last year but of course last year was a failure.

"The loganberries are all winter killed" came a report a few weeks ago. And yet present indications are that the crop will be normal.

Last fall and during the winter most of us gave up hope of having even a taste of strawberries this spring. The dry fall and cold winter had ruined all chances of a crop. And now every indication is that the strawberry crop will be the heaviest for many years with quality excellent.

Those of us who have lived in the atmosphere for many years do not take these crop failures very seriously. Somehow we can not forget the bountiful harvests but our sympathies go out to the new comers who arrive just when the crop failure cloud hangs heaviest. Well, if they can just stick it out until after harvest it won't bother them any more. Real Oregonians thoroughly enjoy these three crop failures.

## OREGON PRUNE BEING BOOSTED

### T. J. Aispig Takes Carload to North Dakota For Sale

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## PRUNE SURPLUS BEING STUDIED

### Canning of Fresh Fruit Advocated for Northwest Crop

Canned fresh Oregon prunes as a means of using all the surplus crop or even the bulk of the crop is seen as a possibility by those economists who have just completed a study and market survey of this crop at the O. S. C.

The study was made by Dr. Milton N. Nelson, agriculturalist of the experiment station and H. Belden, a former assistant in the department. The investigation covered present and prospective production of prunes in all countries, utilization of the production in the northwest, volume and distribution of the entire canned fruit pack of the country, the production and distribution of canned prunes in the past and the factors for and against this product in production and consumption.

Present Pack Light  
At present the canning industry takes only eight to ten per cent of the northwest prune crop and the total output takes only about 9.2 per cent of the entire northwest fruit pack and but 1.55 per cent of the nation's annual production of canned fruit.

The Oregon prune has undoubted excellence for canning," the report points out. "It being a tart-sweet prune of large size and fine flavor. Many consumers, however, have never heard of the canned fresh prune and large numbers are unfamiliar with its merits. The result is that where retailers carry the product to all, they complain of slow turnover and in consequence feel obliged to charge prices that give prunes no advantage over canned fruit that may cost a great deal more to produce.

Prunes Have Advantage  
"Prunes have an advantage over certain other acid fruits in that they do not pithele or swell in the can," the report continues. "Since the adoption of the enamel-lined can there have been no complaints of spoiling and in addition the color is well preserved.

"The canned prune enjoys certain distinct advantages over most other fruits in cost of producing and processing. The raw product is cheaper, the loss of weight before putting in the can is less, and the labor cost in preparing the prunes for canning is considerably lower than for most other fruits."

Requirements for expanding the market for canned prunes discussed by Dr. Nelson and Mr. Belden are concerted advertising and sales promotion, adoption of more attractive nomenclature, and greater uniformity of pack. To bring these about will require that growers themselves indicate a lively interest in the program and that canneries cooperate in such a unified program, conclude the investigators.

## Straw and Lime Bring Heavy Cherry Crop, Says Staley

"The best cherry crop in the district" is the verdict of those who have visited the orchard owned by W. L. Staley and Frank Meredith seven miles east of Salem near Macleay.

This orchard is entirely of Royal Annes, three acres being old trees and five acres bearing the second crop. Another 10 acres has not yet come into bearing.

Present indications are that there will be a full crop of fine cherries on the orchard.

Mr. Staley credits the method of care of the orchard with the present crop success. Four years ago a thick straw mulch was put around each tree and they have since that time. The straw has been renewed but no plowing done.

Three years ago 200 pounds of crushed rock lime was put around each old tree and 100 pounds around each of the young trees.

This year ammonium sulphate was used around each tree. The trees are sprayed three times during the year, once for brown rot, once for beetle and once for worms.

As a result the quality of cherries has been unusually fine. A few years ago the owners had difficulty in marketing the crop because the fruit was small, running 80 to 100 to the pound. Last year the cherries averaged 55 to the pound.

## CROP OUTLOOK IS STILL ENCOURAGING

An unusually heavy strawberry crop is promised by present conditions. The same condition prevails all along the coast and a record breaking crop is expected.

The northwest peach crop suffered considerable damage from winter cold and a shortage is evident. Prunes are looking much better than they did three weeks ago in some places Italians were hurt but Date and Petite varieties have not suffered so much.

The apricot crop in the Willamette valley will be spotted. Some orchards promise a heavy crop while others will be very light.

A good crop of pears may be expected as reports from the southern district indicate a heavy set. The late rains have not been favorable to polonization of apples but whether or not the damage has been great has not been determined.

Early potatoes and other garden vegetables are doing exceptionally well. The rains have been of great benefit to hay and grain and these crops will be heavy. Pastures also have benefited by the rain and are in excellent condition.

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