

The Valley Agriculturist and His Work

Markets -- Crops -- Farm Home -- Livestock

The Diversified Interests of Willamette Valley Farmers

Editor's Note
Mrs. Madeline Callin, Valley News editor of The Oregon Statesman, is also in charge of the market news of this paper. Much Sunday she writes concerning the agricultural news of interest to valley farmers. Contributions of merit are invited.

WHEAT MEN AT ANNUAL PARLEY

Menace of Russian is Told In Address; Pinkerton New President

A very interesting and successful meeting of the Eastern Oregon Wheat League was held at Heppner December 11, 12 and 13, when 250 grain growers from 11 counties of the wheat belt came together to discuss the problems faced by their industry. These were practical, industrial and substantial citizens, imbued with a belief that they are not getting an even break in the economic struggle and seeking ways and means for a fair adjustment whereby their crippled condition may be relieved and a policy may be formulated that will brighten the horizon of the future.

The meeting was presided over by John Withycombe, an extensive wheat grower near Arden, and the program was arranged by C. W. Smith, Morrow county agricultural agent, secretary. Many valuable papers were read and discussed.

Dr. E. N. Bressman, Oregon expert on wheat, told of wheat smut and its control; D. B. Hill of same station treated the future of wheat production; H. C. Lindgren of O. S. C. told about feeding wheat to livestock, and Dr. Wilson of Montana State college handled "Reasons and International Adjustment in Wheat Supply." He also gave an able and entertaining address on "Russia and the Future World Supply of Wheat," illustrated by 100 lantern slides. He showed various phases of Russian life and the effect which the introduction of modern American machinery is producing. He thinks Russia, with its vast area of productive land and its immense natural resources, is destined, with the adoption of modern methods and facilities, to become a powerful factor in the world's economic life.

Grain Inspection Praised
"Country Point Handling and Inspection" was covered by E. W. Whitlock, U. S. grain supervisor, and Charles W. Wright, grain inspector of state grain inspection department and George R. Hayslop of O. S. C., and U. S. department took occasion to supplement those talks with a strong commendation of the efficient service rendered by the Oregon Grain Inspection department. L. M. Jeffers, supervisor of Grain Futures administration, Sacramento, explained the workings and influence of the Futures Markets and argued that without such agencies there would be no competition and the grain market would be dead.

Barge transportation and development of Columbia river; grain freight rates, and the results of dry-land wheat experiments were presented. The grain freight rates brought on a heated discussion between Arthur M. Geary, rate attorney, and representatives of the railroads, which the growers enjoyed. Resolutions were presented by the committee covering all phases of the growing and marketing situation—including a demand for the Debenure plan, endorsement of the Steiwer bill for improving Columbia river; the Unatilla Rapids project, etc. A resolution by the grain handling committee urged Governor-elect Meler to follow the policy of the last three governors in "maintaining the present efficient grain inspection staff."

Officers for ensuing year are: president, Harry Pinkerton, Morrow; vice president, James Hill, Pendleton; secretary treasurer, C. W. Smith, Heppner; county representatives: Morrow, George Peck; Gilliam, John Withycombe; Sherman, Dewey Thompson; Wal-lows, A. C. Barnstedt; Wasco, Frank Emerson; Baker, A. V. Swift; Union, Gilbert Courtwright; Unatilla, Fens Teegerson; Jefferson, Wm. Farrell. The 1931 meeting will probably go to The Dalles.

HARVEY RANSOM IMPROVED
LYONS, Dec. 20—Word has been received that Harvey Ransom, who was injured Monday when his car was struck by a train, is somewhat improved and hopes are held for his satisfactory recovery if nothing unforeseen arises. He is at his brother's home in Shelburn.

TANFORAN RACE HORSES "DOPED"



Photo shows Dr. David Matzke, leading San Francisco peninsula physician, who confessed to Justice Ray Brough of Carmel, Cal., to using names of patients on narcotic prescriptions to obtain opium with which to "dope" horses he entered in the races at Tanforan track, near San Francisco. Dr. Matzke pleaded guilty, and received six months' suspended sentence. He was fined \$100.

WINTER WHEAT IS CUT DOWN A BIT

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20. (AP)—A reduction of 1.1 per cent in the acreage seeded to winter wheat as compared with a year ago was reported today by the department of agriculture together with an estimate of world wheat production for 1930 larger than in 1929.

Winter wheat acreage was estimated at 42,042,000 acres, 1.4 per cent below the average seedings during the previous five years, and "substantially above" the intended acreage reported in August.

Exclusive of production in Russia and China, the 1930 world wheat crop was estimated at 3,784,000,000 bushels as against 3,495,000,000 in 1929. The 1930 production in Russia, however, was reported at 1,157,400,000 bushels compared with 1929 production of 702,851,000 bushels.

DROP IN RATES ON FRUIT EAST, ASKED

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20.—A reduction in freight rates was urged upon the interstate commerce commission this week as a means of averting what was termed an otherwise inevitable and far-reaching curtailment of the northwestern fruit industry. The public utilities commission of Idaho and the Washington department of public works filed a joint brief in a rehearing of ac-

HOP FIRES PUT PRICES STRONGER

Stalemate Holds With No Sales Reported; Holiday Lull on

The hop market is in a stalemate which perhaps will not be broken until after the turn of the year. Following the Larmer fire which destroyed 8500 bales of hops, about a third of the available supply, came the bad fire in London in which a warehouse, containing 15,500 bales, was destroyed or damaged. These fires have stiffened the resistance of sellers while buyers are hesitant about raising the tenders in the face of general commodity price weakness and uncertainty about demand. Current prices are 16 1/2c.

Few sales are reported the past week. Dealers who lost hops under contract in the Larmer fire scurried to cover their commitments since then. Little dealing has been noted.

According to computations made by Durbin and Cornoyer growers are holding in the three coast states 49,128 bales including carry-overs from former years. The holdings of 1930 crop are estimated at: Oregon, 11,474; California, 12,000; Washington, 5,000. Old hops are estimated at 29,744 bales, Oregon holding 18,628 bales of these, of which 3,557 are fuggles.

McKenzie to Have Bigger Fish Plant

EUGENE, Dec. 21.—Plans to make the trout hatchery on the McKenzie above Leeburg one of the finest in the United States by spending \$2000 to \$5000 a year in new construction are included in the development program of the Oregon game commission.

Plans for the improvement have been brought about largely through the efforts of Game Commissioner David B. Evans of Eugene and Matt Ryckman, superintendent of hatcheries for the commission, and are a goal toward which the Lane county Game Protective association has long been working.

The real turning point in the improvement of the hatchery has been the utilization of the cold water of the McKenzie to feed the fish ponds. Heretofore Little Pinn creek on the north side of the river was the only source of fish pond water. In the summer months the water was so warm that the number of fish that have to be kept in the ponds.

Across from the fish hatchery 15 or 20 new ponds will be constructed, fed from the McKenzie. Plans for the completed project have already been drafted by the game commission, Mr. Evans said.

Miss Hrubetz is Home to Enjoy Holiday Respite

LIBERTY, Dec. 20.—Miss Floriana Hrubetz arrived home on Friday from Corvallis, where she is attending O. S. A. C., to be the guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hrubetz for the local holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Stacey returned the first of the week from a brief visit at Vale, Oregon. On their return trip they were accompanied home by Charles Stacey, Mr. Stacey's youngest brother, who expects to make his home with them and attend Salem high school.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Olden and son, W. H. Olden and family, spent Wednesday in Portland. They took Mrs. W. H. Olden and children there to take their train east. She is returning to her home in New York City where she expects to begin a nurse's training course shortly after the first of the year.

Turner Mill Company is Soon to Rebuild; Grain Now is Being Reclaimed

Rebuilding of the Oregon Feed and Flour company's mill at Turner is expected to begin within the next few weeks according to plans announced by Manager Whisenand of the company. He has said that the new mill will be thoroughly modern and steps will be taken to make it as nearly a fireproof building as possible.

The building destroyed by fire December 13 was built 52 years ago by Mr. Cokerline of Aumsville. It had housed the principal source of business for Turner during the last few years. Annual moneys handled averaged \$125,000 with an annual yearly payroll of \$12,000.

Grain in the old warehouse, part of which was burned, is now being salvaged by the C. A. Babcock company of Portland. A crew of 25 men is at work on this job.

The mill contained 44,000 bushels of grain, 9000 bushels of which belonged to farmers who stored it there, the rest belonging to the company. Some of the grain was insured but most of it was not.

A large quantity of baled hay stored in an adjoining shed suffered a like loss.

Farmers who had grain stored in the mill were J. V. Bosch, Hall Bros., Dave Burnett, Mrs. Caroline Drager, A. DeQuire, Fred Elser, Fred Fellers, A. E. Hines, Tom Little, Walt Miller, Albert Mader, Jack Miller; G. L. Morris, Ed Powers, Merle Pearson, John Schifferer, A. C. Stringer, A. M. Starovant and Leonard Walker.

Other 9000 bushels in all; the other 85,000 bushels belonged to the company.

LOWER YIELD FOR POTATOES FOUND

A shrinkage of 7,254,000 bushels under the November 1 estimate is indicated by the December 1 potato crop estimate of the department of agriculture, which was released Thursday. From conditions on December 1, the department estimates total U. S. potato crop at 361,030,000 bushels. Although this figure is less by 7,254,000 bushels than the November forecast, it indicates a greater crop by 2,539,000 bushels than was produced a year ago.

Practically all of the shrinkage as revealed in the report released today, was experienced in the eastern states, particularly New York and New Jersey.

In the west and northwest, the December estimate shows crops to be practically the same as indicated by the November forecast. The current estimate shows crops in Idaho, Colorado, Oregon, California, Utah and Montana to be practically the same as was estimated on November 1. The Washington crop, however, is greater by 498,000 bushels, which increases the December forecast to 9,944,000 bushels, compared with 8,680,000 bushels last year.

DECEMBER 23 SET FOR HOLIDAY FETE

SPRING VALLEY, Dec. 20.—The Christmas program at Spring Valley will be the evening of December 23.

Emma Hoelzer has gone to Portland for several days where she will visit with her daughters.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Elliott, Mrs. Audrey Eitinger, Mrs. Emmaline Hanson, all of Portland were recent dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Childers.

Sunday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ben McKinney were: Mrs. M. J. Wilkinson, Mr. and Mrs. Fred McKinney, Miss Ethel, Ida, Vera and Pearl McKinney, Mr. and Mrs. John Childers, Dortha Wilkinson and Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Wilkinson.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Ebbert and children Rette, Richard and Robert and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith and children Eula, Ed, Edgar and James, attended the Christmas program given by the pupils of the Lincoln school and their teacher, Mrs. Irene Castle, Friday evening.

Wheat Proves to Be Reasonable As Fuel Supply

NEZ PERCE, Idaho, Dec. 20.—A wheat surplus has little chance for survival in this region, where residents are burning the grain in their cookstoves and furnaces. Following the lead of a garage man, much of the populace has decided that burning wheat

SLUMP CONTINUES IN PRODUCE PRICES

Wheat, Eggs, Butter Sell at Lower Prices at end of Week

PORTLAND, Dec. 20 (AP)—Hog prices sagged, wheat was off 1 1/2 cents, but other livestock and commodities held steady at the turn of the market week here. Hogs were off generally about 50 cents.

Heavy hogs, 250-299 lbs., were 7.00-8.25; medium, 200-239 lbs., were 7.75-9.00, and lightweights, 150-199 lbs., were 8.75-9.00, all off 50c from last week's close. Feeder and stocker stuff was unchanged at 8.50-9.50 for good 70-130 lb. animals.

There was no change in the cattle list, good steers going at 15.00-16.00 for 600-800 lb. stock. Good cows were 6.00-6.50, and vealers were unchanged at 10.00-11.00.

There was no quotable change in sheep prices, 30 lb. lambs selling at 6.50-7.00, a price maintained for several weeks. Big Bend bluestem dropped 1 1/2 cents to 75, and soft white and western white were 67 cents. Hard winter, northern spring and western red were 65.

Oats was unchanged at 24.50 for No. 2, 23-lb. white, and 25.00 for No. 2, gray.

The hay list was unchanged from last week. Quotations, based on buying prices f.o.b. Portland, were: alfalfa, 17.50-18; valley timothy, 17.50; eastern Oregon timothy, 19-20; clover, 14; oat hay, 14; and vetch, 18.50-14; straw was \$7.50 a ton.

Egg and butter prices slumped. Fresh extra eggs were 20c, down a nickel from last week. Butter extras were 32 cents, off two cents.

Hops advanced .30 cent, and were quoted at 16-17 cents for 1930 Oregon crop.

Prune prices held unchanged at 6 1/2 and 8 cents for Italians, and 5 1/2 and 6 cents for peaches. Wool prices held the same. Willamette valley grade going at 12c for coarse and 16 cents for medium.

Strawberries to Bring Hard Cash

SILVERTON, Dec. 20.—The Silverton Food products company has made arrangements whereby it will pay cash for strawberries from growers who are not members of the co-operative concern and who have not yet contracted their crop. Most of the Marshalls it is said, will go into cold pack process.

Turkey Show At Oakland is Large Affair

The second annual Northwest Turkey show, which opened Friday for two days at Oakland under the auspices of the Northwest Turkey Breeders' association, was the second largest turkey show in the United States as a result of the number of entries reported Friday. There were 361 turkeys on exhibition, with 53 exhibitors from Oregon, California and Idaho represented. Six varieties of birds were on display; bronze Narragansett, Bourbon Red, White Hollands, black and slate.

Last year's show, which was the first to be held, had 283 entries and it was fourth in size in the country, and ranked very close in all except the show at Grand Forks, North Dakota, where 500 birds were on display, with 261 fowls this year, the local show is expected to be larger than all except the North Dakota event. Last year the Madison garden's show in New York was second in size with 312 birds.

Quality this year is far superior to that of last year, and the show was given high praise by E. C. Branch of Lee's Summit, Missouri, official judge of the show, who has been engaged in turkey judging for the past 25 years. He stated that it was one of the finest showings he has ever seen, for the size and condition of the turkeys on exhibition.

Early warm rains, sheepmen say, have made home ranges such that sheep are getting fine grazing since coming down from the highland range pastures in the national forest. It has not been necessary to feed any hay to the sheep this season. The animals are in excellent condition.

Orchards and grain fields are also reported in fine condition, and the set of fruit buds is one of the best in years. With normal winter weather orchards of every variety here should produce record yields the coming spring and summer. The stand of winter wheat is reported good in all sections and the wheat is growing rapidly.

CROP CONDITIONS HELD TO BE FINE

THE DALLES, Dec. 21.—Wheat ranchers, sheepmen and orchardists of the mid-Columbia and the eastern Oregon country are agreed that weather and soil conditions now are better and give promise of better crop production the coming season than for many years.

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