

Bean Production in West Stayton Territory Huge Industry

Large Acreage In Blue Lakes

Good Profit Made on Last Year's Crop; Many Are Employed, Harvest

By C. GENEVIEVE MORGAN

Planting of beans in the rich Santiam bottom lands at West Stayton is virtually through for the season, and already in some of the yards planned earliest cultivation has started. Well over half the approximate 900 acres in beans this season is planted to the Blue Lake variety, and more than half the total acreage comes under the Blue Lake Producers, a cooperative of which J. L. Goss is president, O. E. Snider, business manager, and Helena L. Perrin, secretary-treasurer.

This crop has 27 growers, who this year have 435 acres planted, or an increase of 45 acres over last year.

Bean growers at West Stayton last year had one of the best seasons in some years, and as a result those growers who are still paying out on their land and irrigation rights are greatly encouraged, and incidentally are looking forward to an even better market condition for the 1937 season.

The Blue Lake pool for 1936, not yet closed, has already paid the growers between \$60 and \$65 per acre, says Helena L. Perrin, secretary of the producers, and with her husband, G. A. Perrin, owner of 15 acres of beans. Some growers estimate the pool for next year will reach \$67 per acre.

Is Above Average

The crop last season beat the usual average of five tons to the acre by nearly two tons, the average production of Blue Lakes running to nearly seven tons, and in some yards up to eight and nine tons per acre, Mrs. Perrin declares.

Besides the Blue Lakes, some Kentucky Wonder are grown in this irrigated valley, and a smaller tonnage of other varieties. Other acreages are controlled by the Stayton Canning company, the Ray Mailing company at Hillsboro and the Silverton cannery.

The Blue Lake producers favor this variety as being firmer, of good flavor, excellent green color and slightly smaller than the runner-up, Kentucky Wonder. The Blue Lake, when the growing season is right, is almost round in shape, and the bean kernel is almost a minus quantity, as the bean is picked before it develops much. Growers claim this variety never becomes soft or mushy, no matter how long it is cooked.

Canning of the Blue Lake co-op beans, by the way, is handled at the Hillman plant in West Salem.

Cultivate Intensively

Production of beans in these commercial fields is a real business, and growers not only fertilize at the rate of 60 pounds of commercial fertilizer to the acre, but also irrigate intensively, beginning early in July and continuing through the picking season.

Fertilizer generally used is 300 pounds ammo-phos and 300 pounds cyanamide to the acre, Mrs. Perrin points out. The usual practice has been to apply the ammo-phos a week to 10 days before the beans are planted and the other fertilizer two or three days before planting. However, many growers are now applying both fertilizers at the same time and a week or so before planting.

Eighteen pounds of seed per acre is figured on the Blue Lakes, and planting is usually finished by mid-May or June 1 at the latest. This operation is generally done with a hand drill or planter, though some few use horse-drawn planters.

Cultivation begins as soon as the beans show through the ground and continues once a week until irrigation is started. Weeds are the eternal bugaboo of the bean grower, and much hand hoeing is done to keep them down, the amount of hoeing depending of course upon the soil and its production of weeds.

Must Be Trained

As everyone who has driven through the West Stayton bean growing section knows, beans are trained on a trellis six or so feet high. Beans are trained—it takes 18 pounds of twine to each acre—as soon as each plant produces a runner, or when four to six weeks old.

A central irrigation system, owned by the Willamette Valley Water company which started development of the Santiam bean fields, supplies water for irrigating the bean acreages, the source being the Santiam river. Before this development set in and beans and tomatoes were produced, starting about 10 years ago, lands there produced grains chiefly.

Preparatory to irrigating, ditches about a foot wide and to a depth dependent upon character of the land, are plowed as a furrow between every other row of beans. Once the water is turned in, irrigation is continued regularly. The water is run in for about 12 hours, or until the ground is well soaked but water not standing on the ground.

Picked Half Daily

During the picking season, which extends four to six weeks—since started into seven weeks—the field is divided into two parts, each half of which is picked on alternate days. Water is turned into each half on the day it is not being picked, thus continuing the irrigation through the harvest season.

Growers with large fields figure five or six pickers to the acre when they are arranging for their season's crew. Some growers take up to 10 pickers to the acre.

Wages for pickers this year, set by the state labor commission, will be a cent a pound, which is a substantial increase over last year when the average was 85 cents per hundred. Growers this year have their choice of paying a cent a pound straight or 90

Tiny Baby Weighs 23 Ounces



Not quite as large as a quart milk bottle, this tiny baby, smallest resident of the baby incubator at Coney Island, N. Y., weighs 23 ounces and is normal in every way. She is shown with her nurse, Hildegard County.

cents a hundred and 10 cents bonus, which in the long run amounts to the same.

Picking Returns Good

Good pickers make good money. Mrs. Perrin recalls that three boys in their yards last year picked 500 pounds each for several days, but this is somewhat above the average picker's 300 to 400 pounds daily.

Many school children earn their fall clothes, school supplies and even a few dollars for savings banks, if any, during the bean harvest. Older folks depend upon the picking for their daily bread, just as is the case with hop or fruit picking. Both local and transient pickers comprise the crew, and each grower offers his own camping accommodations, including water and free wood, for the pickers. Transients include those who follow the fruits from California up and go on to the apple orchards.

Approximately 3000 pickers are employed in the bean fields of the Blue Lake Producers, and in the two largest yards, each 50-acre fields, the crews total nearly 5000 pickers. R. L. Goss and his son J. L. Goss operate one of the 50-acre fields in the Blue Lake co-op and Herman Darley has the other. Several growers have 17 acres, the next highest individual field.

Some Dry Beans Sold

Occasionally a grower makes an additional profit from his beans by letting them pass the regular green bean growing stage and reach a dry bean size. These are then sold, one grower last year realizing 5 or 6 cents a pound at local stores on several hundred pounds.

Other growers, when harvest season is over, rent the pasture for sheep, while still others utilize the dry bean vines for cow feed, using it in place of hay.

Historic Lyle Farm House Has Blaze, but Damage Not Serious

DALLAS, May 29.—The Dallas fire department was called out yesterday about 7 p. m. to the home of Mrs. I. M. Glenn, Lyle farm, in North Dallas. The fire started from a flue burning out and caught in the side of the chimney where a fireplace had been boarded up. Although the fire was soon put out it was hard to control and might have caused serious damage.

"Lyle House" is one of the oldest residences in Dallas having been built in 1858 by John Eakin Lyle. It is a typical New England house of distinguished appearance. There are four fireplaces in the house. All the flooring, moldings, cornice, and balustrades were made by hand.

Almos LeFors Elected President of Teachers At Dallas for Next Year

DALLAS, May 29.—The Dallas Teachers' association met at the senior high school Thursday afternoon for a short business meeting with Mrs. Myrtle Smith presiding. Officers for next year were elected as follows: President, Almos LeFors; vice-president, Miss Mary Beck; secretary, Miss Esther Cleveland.

Supt. R. R. Turner, Principal S. E. Wilcox, and Preston Doughton made short talks in which they presented to the teachers the matter of lighting the LaCroix athletic field.

Charles Wood Purchases Snodgrass Place, Amity

AMITY, May 29.—Charles Wood has purchased the Snodgrass cottage on Minnesota Ave. now occupied by the Harold Jensen family. George Charles has sold his property on East Nursery street to Henry Bills of Hebo, who will take possession June 1.

The library will be closed Monday, May 31, in observance of Memorial day.

Berry Plant Opens Monday

McLaughlin to Start Year's Operations at Albany; Stocker Resigns

ALBANY, May 29.—Starting Monday, the R. I. McLaughlin packing company will open its berry plant at the Ninth and Baker location. Approximately 40 people will be employed at the plant. It is estimated that strawberry growers will receive between \$25,000 and \$30,000 per week for berries. In addition to the strawberry crop, approximately 150 tons of loganberries and raspberries, each, will be handled at the plant. The strawberry crop is estimated at around 400 tons this year for the plant.

More than 1200 sacks of sugar will be used weekly at the plant. Strawberries this year will bring the growers eight cents a pound, and a huge crop is indicated now.

Rev. Stocker Resigns

ALBANY, May 29.—Dr. M. M. Stocker, pastor of the first Presbyterian church of this city and a member of the Albany college faculty for the past eight years, has tendered his resignation, effective August 1. The reason given for resigning, is that he may accept the pastorate of the Woodland Presbyterian church in Seattle, to which he has been called by the membership of that church.

The membership of the church here will hold a meeting immediately following the regular services June 13 to act on the resignation.

Memorial Rites Sunday

ALBANY, May 29.—Memorial services will be held Sunday morning at the Baptist church with veteran organizations attending in a body. Rev. Elmer A. Junker will preach the memorial sermon taking as his topic, "A Three-fold Memorial."

Outside the usual Memorial day program Monday, no special services will be held. Practically all the stores in the city will be closed.

Howells Buy Grocery

ALBANY, May 29.—Announcement has been made of the sale of the D. S. Holloway grocery store to Mr. and Mrs. D. T. Howells, who came to this city from Salem, Mr. and Mrs. Holloway have been in the grocery business in Albany since 1913 with the exception of about two years.

Mr. and Mrs. Holloway are retiring from business life to go on one of their farms. Mr. Howells announces that the store will continue to be operated as an independent Red and White grocery.

Various Classes Offer Program Features for Annual Event, Dayton

DAYTON, May 29.—The senior, junior, sophomore and freshman class of the Dayton Union high school each gave a skit on the "class" night program held Wednesday night at the high school auditorium and largely attended by families and friends of the students. George Abdlil gave the senior class skit on "Hole, the class will; Llewellyn Nuttbrock, a radio news flash, prophecy of the class; Prof. Philip Waxfield, the coach, awarded letters in athletics; Lela Kelly, president of the senior class, presented the key to Vernon Randall, president of the junior class.

The Dayton high school graduating class enjoyed a picnic at "R o a m e r's Rest," amusement park Thursday.

Nevada Woman Arrives To Spend Summer With Parents at Aumsville

WEST STAYTON, May 29.—Mr. and Mrs. T. Y. McClellan were pleasantly surprised Wednesday afternoon by the arrival of their daughter, Mrs. Gilbert Hanson and granddaughter Glena McClellan from Reno, Nevada, who will spend the summer here.

J. M. Officer is completing the buildings started last winter on T. Y. McClellan's lots.

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Community Clubs

WACONDA, May 29.—Mrs. Robert Fromm entertained 13 members of the Wacanda community club and three special guests at her home near Salem Wednesday. This was the last meeting until October.

Members voted to hold the annual picnic at Champeog park June 29.

MIDDLE GROVE, May 29.—Officers for the Middle Grove community club for the coming year are: President, Mrs. Vera Bassett; vice president, Mrs. Lee Clark; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Gladys Cagle.

Edna Van Cleave is the 4-H club member chosen by the school to attend summer session at Corvallis. Her way will be paid by the school and community club.

Two other 4-H club members, Carolyn Snyder and Elaine Harman, may attend also. The girls will be accompanied by their teacher, Miss Elvira Minton.

School closed Wednesday with a picnic which was well attended by parents and friends.

STAYTON, May 29.—The last meeting of the season of the Kingston community club will be held June 4 at the Kingston hall. The program will be furnished by the members of the Riverside community club, winners of first place in the contest held at Albany during Music week. The Kingston club took second place.

Awards Are Made At Silverton High

Student Body Presidency Turned Over to Rue by Lyle Specht

SILVERTON, May 29.—Trophies, awards and honors were given Friday afternoon at the Silverton assembly for the year for the Silverton high school. Lyle Specht, outgoing student body president, introduced the incoming president, who in turn introduced the other new student body officers. These include: President, Norman Rue; vice-president, Don Christensen; secretary, Ruth Nelson; treasurer, Lileth Nea; sergeant-at-arms, Lyle Pettyjohn.

Guy DeLay presented golf certificates and also the champion golf trophy for the Willamette Valley league which was won by the Silverton golfers, Norman Rue, Milo Harman, Everett Dickman and Don Harmon.

Swimming trophies and certificates were presented by Darrel Davis to Weston Smith, Walter Morgan, Jim Busch, Lyle Pettyjohn.

Mr. DeLay also presented the baseball awards. Special mention and honor was accorded to Weldon Hattberg who was presented his fourth baseball letter. Receiving baseball letters were Kneels, Johnson, High, Pettyjohn, Grace, Simmons, Busch, Specht, Kuenzi and Oster.

Herman Kramer, high principal, awarded special pins to a group of students who performed special duties during the year. Of these Paul Spencer was given the senior class pin for baseball, with special comment from both Coach DeLay and Principal Kramer that he had been one of the best athletic managers the high school had had for several years.

Others receiving pins included Ina Wetherill, Sam J. Schuster, Orlo Taylor, Boyd Canoy, Lyle Specht, Margery Hillman, Opal Bolme, Jean Tomlinson and Darrel Davis.

Niles Home Is Sold

SILVERTON, May 29.—Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kuschnick have purchased the house at 1207 Maple street now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Niles. The deal was closed through the J. E. Hosmer real estate agency.

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Graduation Week Begins for I. H. S.

Class Night Program Opens Activities; Diplomas to Come Tuesday

INDEPENDENCE, May 29.—A feature radio program, with Delbert Taylor as master of ceremonies, was the annual class night event of the seniors of Independence high school Friday.

Schirelyn Yaugen is valedictorian of the class of 41 graduates and Robert Ragdale, salutatorian. Both gave their speeches over the "mike" with Clifford Bowler reading the class poem; Vera Trooper, the class prophesy and Constance Gohrs, the class will; Margaret Schirman sang the class song.

The baccalaureate sermon will be given by Reverend G. H. Braun, Baptist pastor at the Presbyterian church. The title of the sermon will be "What Lack I Yet?"

The commencement ceremony will be held in the I.H.S. gymnasium Tuesday night at 8 o'clock. Dr. H. R. Ladd, professor of education at Oregon State college, will deliver the address.

A. W. Foster, chairman of the school board, will present diplomas to the following: Lorena D. Burchfield, Kenneth Birch, Lorene Dorothy Hill, Francis W. Crabtree, Pearl Elaine Sohn, Mildred Elmore Howard, Robert Ardon Ragdale, Clatie La Verne Southern, Bonnie Elleen Barns, Vera Melinda Trooper, Constance June Gohrs, Andrew Wayne Henderson, Hazel Lorraine Weddle, Francis E. Hill, Vance Owen Smith, Virgil Keller, Fred Schroder, Marcella Iris Bush, Harold Eugene Rueh, Margaret Nancy German, Paul Cox, Keith Leroy German, Yoshiko Inouye, William F. Campbell, Raymond V. Housley, Roy Roger Kosanke, Margaret Irene Noble, Evelyn Catherine Yaugen, Pauline F. Noyes, Clifford Halco Bowler, John Arlon Brown, Joel Cox, Lillian E. Thurston, William A. Kazakoff, Julius Pincus, Ruth Elma Rose, Delores G. Madsen, Inabell Cox, James Cobine, Anne B. Kazakoff, and Vernon D. Crabtree.

Grangers' News

RICKREALL, May 29.—Mr. and Mrs. Glen Adams, Pomona master, were special visitors at Rickreall grange Friday night. The first and second degrees were conferred upon Mr. and Mrs. Roy Jenkins, Mr. and Mrs. William Palmer of Rickreall and Mr. Kaster of Dallas grange. Obligations of both degrees were given June Fox.

Mr. Adams announced that the grange council that was to have been held here next Saturday has been postponed until the Pomona grange picnic at Buell.

Melvin Irving was chosen by the agriculture committee for the 4-H club scholarship to summer school at Corvallis.

FAIRFIELD, May 29.—Members of Fairfield Home Economics club have disbanded for the summer. No more meetings will be held until fall. Members met recently at the home of Mrs. B. C. Hall.

Versteeg, Old Graduate, Attends Homecoming at Fairview Grade School

FAIRVIEW, May 29.—John Versteeg, 72-year-old resident of this vicinity, was the oldest graduate of Fairview school attending the homecoming picnic held this week.

Thelma Compton was crowned queen of the May by Rev. Harry Ryan. Eleanor Moddemeier was her attendant, Donald Long, trumpeter, Hazel Compton and Gladys Robinson, flower girls, and Wynone McCutchen, trainbearer.

Donald Long, fourth grade student, was given an award for perfect attendance during four years.

Fairview defeated Hopewell 19 to 10 in a softball game which was part of an afternoon sports program.

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