

# WILLAMETTE VALLEY FARMER

News and Views of Farm and Garden —By LILLIE L. MADSEN

## State Grange Studies New Apportionment

A new plan for reapportioning the state legislature is reaching newspapers this week from the desk of Eimer McClure, Oregon State Grange master.

McClure hastens to explain that the plan has been "prepared for study purposes only and is not necessarily endorsed by the Oregon State Grange."

He admitted in the outset that its weaknesses are that it will require an amendment to the constitution and that the number of representatives would vary with each apportionment.

Described as an adaptation of the Missouri plan, the grange formula first establishes representative districts, all of the voters in the component counties would vote on all of the representatives from the district. The representative ratio would be reached by dividing 120 (twice the present number of representatives) into 1,511,000, the state's 1950 population. This ratio is 12-591.

**Plan Explained**

In representative districts where the population density is less than 10 per square mile, the grange plan would apportion one representative for each 12,591 persons plus an additional representative for any major fraction.

In districts where the population density is more than 30 per square mile, the plan would allow one representative for each 2 1/2 rations (31,475 people) or major fraction thereof.

Districts envisioned by this plan, and the number of representatives each would have, are:

**Plan Outlined**

Deschutes, 2; Malheur, 2; Grant-Baker, 2; Union-Wallowa, 2; Harney-Lake, 1; Sherman-Gilliam-Morrow-Wheeler, 1; Klamath, 3; Hood River-Wasco, 2; Jefferson-Crook, 1; Lincoln-Tillamook, 2; Umatilla, 2; Coos-Curry, 2; Lane, 5; Josephine, 1; Clatsop-Columbia, 1; Linn, 2; Douglas, 2; Benton-Folk, 2; Clackamas, 3; Jackson, 2; Washington, 2; Multnomah, 15; Yamhill, 1, and Marion, 3.

The senate would be apportioned on a population basis.

Two plans were much discussed, it will be recalled, this past spring. The so-called "balanced" plan was backed by the Oregon Farm Bureau federation and Young Republicans. It was voted down in November.

The second of the two earlier plans was the "population" plan supported by the labor groups, the Farm Union and the Democratic organizations. This failed to make the ballot by petition.

The Farmers Union has withdrawn its endorsement for any of the plans and now stands pat on the constitution as it is. Arthur Bone, editor of the "Farmer Union" organ for the state union, stated this week that "We are standing for straight population, the constitution as it is."

found mainly in Florida, Tennessee, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. The estimated reserves of phosphate rock in the United States exceed 13,000,000,000 long tons (material containing the equivalent of 40 per cent or more of tricalcium phosphate) of which 38 per cent is in Florida and 60 per cent in the western states.

When potash resources in the United States are considered, account must be taken not only of those presently being worked, but also of potential resources. Estimates are made that in the Carlsbad area alone gross reserves of sylvite and other highly soluble potash minerals are up to 86,000,000 short tons.

Recent discoveries in eastern Utah disclose important beds of soluble sylvite and carnallite which appear to be thick, relatively high in potash content and to have a potential equal to those in New Mexico.

Sulfur is found as native sulfates, sulfides of metals and sulfates. The most important sulfur-producing area is in Texas and Louisiana and borders on the gulf of Mexico. USDA surveys show that our available reserves of sulfur include about 82 million long tons in the native form, plus more than 150 million long tons in the form of pyrites.

**Sheep Down Fifty Per Cent In 8 Years**

(Editor's Note: First details of this meeting were published Wednesday morning.)

The pioneer reasons for holding a sheep show still stand. George Cadmus, Philomath, told the more than 75 members of the Oregon Purebred Sheepbreeders association, meeting in annual convention at the American Legion club Tuesday.

The reasons were, he said "to advertise particular breeds and to beat neighbors in the show."

Some sheep breeds have outlived their usefulness and should be discarded, was also his opinion. In addition, he advocated giving more credit to breeds in fleeces. Too frequently, he explained, the breed from which the top fleeces were taken in a show was not mentioned.

Howard Vaughn, retired president of the national association, told of a trip he had made to Europe during the summer to see the Royal Stock show, and showed pictures of the various sheep breeds on display there. Willamette valley folk wouldn't recognize the Shropshires in the open-faced, longer, deeper, wider, animals shown in that breed abroad, he said.

William H. Steiwer, Fossil, national president, and one of the evening banquet speakers, announced that the National Wool Growers association would come to Oregon next autumn for the first time in its 87 years since organization.

Mrs. Floyd Fox, president of the Oregon Wool Growers auxiliary, called upon the wives of Oregon sheep breeders to join the auxiliary and give assistance in the entertainment of the national group.

That the sheep population has declined over 50 per cent in the three western states in the past eight years was the statement of Chester Wing, California ram sale manager, as he urged all sheepmen to increase their flocks as rapidly as possible.

During the banquet Dr. E. R. Derflinger of the state department of agriculture, was presented with a wool blanket for the "great assistance he has been to sheep breeders."

Walter Holt was toastmaster at the evening banquet, having been introduced by President Claude Steusloff. Musical numbers included Ronald Sheetz, Salem, vocal soloist and Margaret Hogg, Salem, piano soloist.

**Grain Market is Termed 'War Market'**

W. A. Berge, manager of the feed department of the Pacific Cooperative Poultry Producers has this to say about the feed and grain markets:

"Present grain markets can almost be termed war markets with considerable nervousness being displayed day by day.

"It seems that any time the word 'peace' comes into the headlines there is an almost immediate reaction downward. When our forces in Korea meet with reserves we have a very quick reaction upward... but there have been more ups than there have been downs and practically every grain now carries a higher price tag than it did a few weeks ago."

**White Leghorn Broilers May Come into Own**

Leghorn cockerels as broilers may be coming into their own again, says Noel Bennion, extension poultryman, Oregon State college.

"Consumers are interested," Bennion quotes Newt Hansen, head poultry buyer for the Fred Meyer company, as saying, "in buying smaller birds and smaller cuts. As a result the spread in price is becoming less between colored and leghorn fowl. With the increased demand for smaller birds and smaller cuts, it looks as if there may be some possibility of increased production with Leghorn broilers."

Bennion goes on to state that "it is estimated that poultry production, with the exception of commercial broilers, will show a slight reduction for the United States in 1951. Laying hens on farms January 1 are expected to be about 430 million which would be a 3 per cent decline from January 1, 1950."

Turkey production is expected to total a decrease of 5 per cent from the all-time record crop produced in 1950, and it looks as if Oregon, Bennion says, will raise at least 10 per cent less market turkeys next year than it did in 1950.

**Farm Calendar**

January 3-5 — Oregon Dairy-men's association annual meeting, Grants Pass.

January 11-13 — Oregon Essential Oil Growers league second annual meeting, OSC.

January 15-17 — Western Oregon Livestock association 15th annual meeting, Grants Pass.

January 18-20 — Oregon Fairs association annual meeting, Multnomah hotel, Portland.

January 23-25 — District 4-H leaders conference, Corvallis.

January 29-31 — State PMA conference, Hotel Gearhart, Gearhart.



Chauncey Hubbard, Junction City, (second from left) is congratulated upon receiving the Oregon Purebred Sheepbreeder's trophy at the Tuesday night meeting by Eugene Hubbard, who made the presentation. Mrs. Chauncey Hubbard is holding the trophy and admiring it are Mr. and Mrs. Chauncey Hubbard, Jr. (Farm photo for The Statesman).



Discussing plans for the 1951 National Wool Growers convention to be held in Portland are from left to right, seated, W. H. Steiwer, national president; Mrs. Floyd Fox, Oregon Wool Growers auxiliary president; Mrs. Steiwer, Mrs. Chester Wing, Standing; Floyd Fox, director of the Oregon Purebred Sheepbreeders association; Claude Steusloff, association president, and Mr. Wing, manager of the California Ram sale. The picture was taken during the recess at the sheepbreeders association meeting at Salem Tuesday. (Farm photo for The Statesman).

**Polled Hereford Sale Dates Are Announced**

The date line for the deadline of the entries to the Oregon Polled Hereford sale has been set for January 1. The sale itself for March 12, 1951. The catalogues will be available about one month before the sale.

The sale will be held at the sale ring at the state fairgrounds and Ellis White of Ontario will cry it.

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## Black Cap Culture Made OSC Study

By Lillie L. Madsen  
Farm Editor, The Statesman

Marion county, which at one time was classed among the four top counties in the state when it came to black raspberry acreage, has dropped out of that picture. There are now only three top counties — Yamhill, Washington and Clackamas counties.

In 1944, the four counties, with a bit in Linn county, produced 93 per cent of all this type of berries raised in Oregon. By 1948, Yamhill, Washington and Clackamas county produced 81 per cent. Since then the three counties have taken even a larger percentage of the state's total blackcap production. Some small plantings were made again in Marion county in 1950. There are some rumors of additional plantings to be made here this coming spring.

Production of the black raspberry — or blackcap as it is called — for the 10-year period 1939 to 1948 averaged about 4 million pounds per year. The big production which brought up the average during these 10 years was in the latter part. In 1945, only 2.5 million pounds were produced.

Gustave W. Kuhlman, agricultural economist, who spoke at the recent nut growers meeting, also has, in recent years, made a detailed study of the blackcap situation in the Willamette valley.

**High Quality Urged**

Rigid adherence to the policy of improving the yield and quality of his product, will enable the grower to compete advantageously with other growers of the same product as well as with other products, Kuhlman states.

He continues, "Berry farming is a fairly long-term undertaking. A raspberry enterprise does not lend itself to any ordinary crop-rotation plan or contribute directly to a livestock-production program even on those farms with sufficient acreage and equipment to justify diversification."

He adds, however, that the farmer who has a diversified production program is able to employ his farm machinery, power equipment and his own and family labor more advantageously over the entire year than the specialized farmer with a one-crop system.

Kuhlman, reporting on a study of 36 bearing fields in the Willamette valley, gave this information:

**Good Drainage Essential**

The best yields are usually produced on land that has depth and good drainage.

Mice were mentioned as especially destructive in new plantings of the black raspberry. Some growers noticed borer (crown, cane and so on) damage. One mentioned slugs and several spoke of finding weevil damage. While a few were willing to venture the statement that they had seen anthracnose or powdery mildew, the more usual terms used in referring

to unthrifty plants were blight, wilt and dieout.

The estimated life plantings, varying from 4 years to 10 years or longer, averaged around 7 crop-years on the farms studied. Avoidance for effective control of diseases and pests, together with adequate provision for soil fertilization may extend the productive life of a raspberry stand beyond the period now obtained.

The width of rows varied from 7 feet in one planting to 10 feet on eight of the 36 plantings studied. On more than one-half of the plantings the rows were spaced 8 feet apart and one one-fourth of the plantings 9 feet apart.

The spacing of plants in the row varied from 3 feet to 9 feet. The largest number of plantings were set 8 by 4 feet. The second largest number were set 9 by 5 feet, and the third largest number, were set, 8 by 8 feet.

There were 11 plantings of the Munger variety. Eight were of the Plum Farmer, and 17 were not identified by the grower.

**STUDY NEW CULT**

ALOR STAR, Malaya —(AP)— A new, strange cult known as the "Seven Houris" (virgins) is being investigated by the government of Perlis state in northern Malaya. A committee of 11 religious leaders is inquiring into what's behind the cult which seems to promise virgins to all who remain faithful to its principles.

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The followers of Malthus are still with us, although scientists have made it possible to grow increasing amounts of food, feed and fiber far beyond man's present needs, and indeed beyond the needs of far greater populations than now exist.

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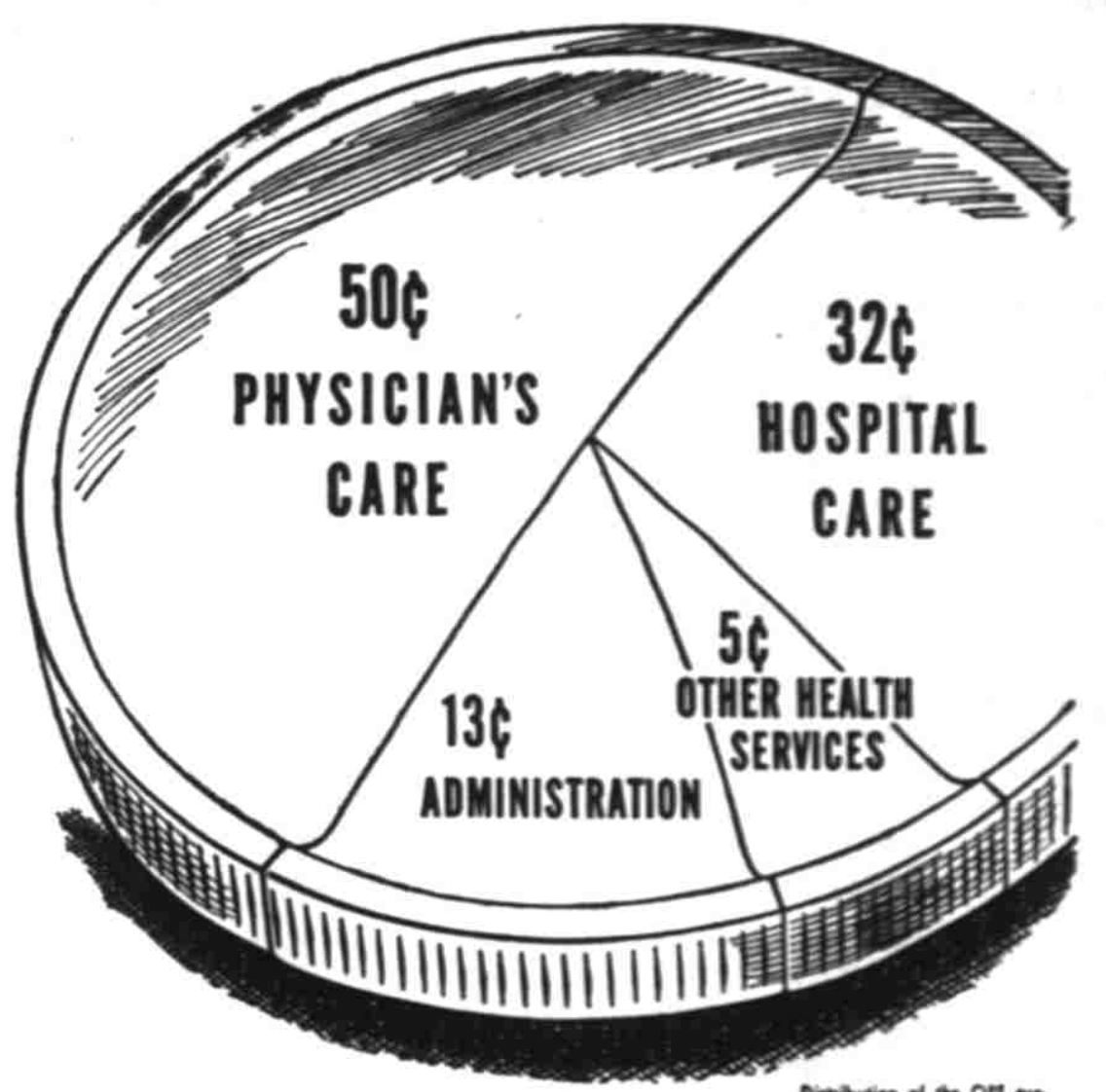
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