

# WILLAMETTE VALLEY FARMER

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

## New Fair Assistant Manager Likes Valley and 'May Stay'

By Lillie L. Madsen  
Farm Editor, The Statesman  
Dick Richards, who came here from eastern Oregon a brief spell ago to help manage the Oregon State fair, may be rather new to the valley, but he isn't new to Oregon agriculture, particularly Oregon livestock.

I managed to corner him and Leo Spitzbart, state fair manager, inspecting a few pens of sheep at Saturday's Marion County Fair Lamb and Wool show at Turner.

"You know, Dick taught me animal husbandry down at Oregon State college in 1918," Leo said by way of introduction. When three former Oregon State students get together...

**Goes to Lake County**  
Anyway, after teaching at Oregon State college, Richards went to Lake county where he served as county agent. From there he moved over to Grant county, also as agent, before going back to his native Montana to serve as livestock specialist in Montana State college.

He returned to Union county to manage the Eastern Oregon Livestock Experiment station from where he went over to Oxbow Ranch as manager of that Aberdeen Angus herd, one of the better known ones west of the Rockies.

"I've moved about a bit getting acquainted with the different angles of farming in the state," Richards said, adding that "but you may not get rid of me so quickly here, I kind of like the valley and may decide to stay."

There are two points which rather indicate that Richards may remain in the Willamette valley. In the first place, he has bought a farm here and is moving out to it this week. This is known as the Gus Schlicker farm, 70 acres, on the Turner road. The entire acreage will be converted to grass seed.

**"Can't Divide Time"**  
"I can't divide my time between an apartment and an office. I got to have my feet on the ground after hours, and Maysel feels the same way," Richards said, explaining that Maysel was Mrs. Richards, a native Oregonian whom he had met while they were both going to school at Oregon State.

Then, the Richards have a daughter, Mrs. Gerald Baltimore, who lives at Corvallis and teaches home economics at Philomath. There is another daughter, Mrs. Edward Griggs at Halfway, too, "which makes it bad; she should be down in the valley, too," the Richards claim.

When asked if there would be any changes in policy this year now that there were two helping put the fair across, Richards replied, "Certainly not by me. Leo's boss, and then we have five very fine commissioners to work with."

**No Major Changes**  
Spitzbart said they were not planning any major changes, just the old effort of trying to put on the best fair one can have. With two of us, this goal should be easier to reach. Dick will have time to go out and contact a lot of the folk I can't get around to. Together we really should make a whopping good fair this year.

Harney county claims the 1951 record in being first to get exhibit space. So far there are seven counties which have asked for exhibit space at the fair, which it is recalled, will be two days longer than fairs in the past. Instead of starting on Labor day, the 1951 Oregon State Fair will open the Saturday before.

Another change this year, too, will be the management back of the management of the fair. For the first time in years, the state fair will again be under a commission. At one time, years ago, a fair commission handled the business of Oregon's big event. Various methods have been tried since, with the fair being under the state department of a agriculture for the past 20 years.

**Commission Arranged**  
The legislature this year created a fair commission in whose hands the success of the event will rest. "We have a mighty fine commission," say both Spitzbart and Richards. "They are taking time to study the matter. They meet regularly and are of great assistance."

Serving on that commission now are Dr. Earle B. Stewart, Roseburg, chairman; Henry Ahrens, Turner, secretary; Robert G. Fowler, Medford; Harold Barnett, Pendleton, and S. B. Hall, Troutdale.

Dr. Stewart, a doctor of medicine, has retired from active practice and will devote much time to the interests of promoting the fair. Ahrens is widely known for his sheep ranch in the Turner area. Fowler, known to the "trade" as Bob, has worked with the Jackson county fair for 20 years. He has served as county agent in Jackson county and is not unknown to the Salem community, having served as manager of Foot Hills farms at one time.

**Heads Holstein Group**  
Hall is at present the national president of the Holstein association. He served for a number of years as county agent in Multnomah county and has raised Holsteins for 40 years both as a hobby and a profession. Twice he went to Argentina to judge at the Holstein show there. He will judge this year at the national Holstein show in Cincinnati.

Barnett, whose interest in civic affairs is well known, is one of the largest pea growers in the United States. He is also a wheat rancher in the Pendleton area.

Oregon agriculture seems to be off to a good start for its big annual show in September.



Dick Richards (left), and Leo Spitzbart, assistant manager and manager, respectively, of the Oregon State Fair, were "caught" at Turner Saturday dinner, plans for this fall's big agricultural event. (Farm photo for The Statesman).

## Special Statewide Committee Boosts Value of Dairy Foods

June is dairy month, the season when milk production reaches its peak.

A statewide committee headed by Antone Larsen, Portland, is reminding consumers this month that there are no foods more versatile, nutritious or good to eat than milk and dairy products. Dairy foods, the committee says, are basic in the diet from infancy to old age.

Oregon producers and manufacturers are cooperating in the 15th annual national June dairy month campaign. It is planned and sponsored by the industry to help consumers become better acquainted with nutritional and economic significance of milk and milk products, Oscar Hagg, Oregon State college extension dairy marketing specialist, claims.

Hagg adds that dairy foods supply three-fourths of all the calcium, approximately one-fourth of all protein, nearly half of the riboflavin, and over 18 per cent of the vitamin A consumed in the diet. All of these provide 17 per cent of the food energy required in a balanced diet.

## Tour of Detroit Dam Planned For Tuesday

Farm folk of Marion county who have not had a recent look at the Detroit dam may do so on Tuesday, June 12. The Willamette Basin project of which Floyd Fox, Silverton, is Marion county chairman, has arranged the tour. Businessmen as well as farm people are invited.

The tour will start at 9:30 a.m. at Detroit dam with a review of the activity underway. At noon, a basket lunch at Marion Forks hatchery, and dedication of the hatchery will be featured.

Returning from the dam area, the caravan will follow the Fern Ridge road, then into the Stayton Canning company to watch strawberry processing and on out to the Bill Towery ranch. Towery is a vegetable grower.

## Vetch Weevil Control Time Close at Hand

Hairy vetch weevil control is due when the first pods appear. The exact timing, county agents report, will have to be determined by each grower as the stage of growth of all fields is not the same.

Recommended dusts are a three per cent DDT applied at the rate of 25 pounds per acre, or a five per cent DDT applied at the rate of 20 pounds per acre. Early morning or late afternoon application is best to reduce possible damage to honey bees.

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## Turkeys Grow On Variety Of New Drugs

You may be getting your penicillin through the turkeys you eat. Or if aureomycin agrees better, choose a turkey of that flavor.

Down at Oregon State college, where facilities for turkey research are considered among the best in the nation, some interesting tests are being carried on. Use of penicillin in turkey feeding experiments are producing some promising results, J. R. Harper, assistant poultry husbandman, reports.

The addition of 2 1/2 grams of procaine penicillin to a ton of feed causes poults to grow faster and more uniformly than those which are not given penicillin. Mortality is also reduced with this feed.

Two of the experimental pens at the college turkey farm show up the effects of penicillin-fortified rations unusually well, says Harper. In one, birds fed the usual ration vary greatly in size, with some even appearing weak and runty. In the other pen, where penicillin has been added, the birds are almost entirely the same size and all are vigorous.

The theory has been advanced, explained Harper, that the antibiotic controls microorganisms in the intestinal tract, and that under ordinary growing conditions some birds are stunted from the beginning because of such organisms.

This is the second year of experiments at Oregon State with antibiotics and vitamin B-12 in turkey feeding. Last year, results show that aureomycin helps but that the vitamin has no apparent effect. Further feeding trials are being made with terramycin and bacitracin.

## Construction Jobs Ended In Soil District

The first construction job using a whirlwind terracer, in the Silver Creek Soil Conservation district, was completed this week on the Vera Savage farm south of Silverton. Farm operators are Wayne Savage and Arlie Martin.

This waterway takes the place of three parallel gullies which have interfered with crop harvest on about eight acres of land. The waterway is 1300 feet long, 20 feet wide and 18 inches deep. It required the complete removal of 1,400 cubic yards of earth and was completed in two days so far as channel construction was concerned.

A wheel tractor was used for power as the whirlwind can be pulled by any three-plow tractor.

To By Dobbins of the Silverton Hills community goes the honor for the first terrace constructed in the Silver Creek Soil Conservation district. This terrace has been built during the past week across new land which is to be planted to strawberries. It is designed to intercept runoff water and lead it to a natural waterway where it cannot cause damage. It is expected to reduce the loss of soil and fertilizer in the berry fields.

Erosion has been a severe problem in the strawberry fields of the hill areas. One of the best methods of reducing this loss of soil and commercial fertilizer is to protect the fields with diversion type terraces, reports Austin Sanford, soil conservationist in the Silver Creek offices at Silverton.

There are 100,000 sweat glands on the soles of the foot.



Karl Wipper (left), president of the Marion County Lamb and Wool show association, is pictured here presenting the trophy to Bob Baniak, 4-H clubber of Brooks, who topped his elders at the show held at Turner Saturday. (Farm photo for The Statesman).



Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hobson of Amity and their grand champion cow of the Willamette Valley Guernsey show held at the state fairgrounds Tuesday. Hobson is also president of the Oregon Guernsey Breeders association. (Farm photo for The Statesman).

## Judges Named For Lamb Show June 9 at Canby

Judges for the 5th annual Spring Lamb and Wool show, scheduled for June 9 at Canby fairgrounds, have been selected, reports Walter Fisher, president of the Clackamas County Livestock association.

Ed Arnold of Armour and Company, Portland, and Leonard Maxwell of Benson commission company, North Portland, will work together in judging all fat lambs in competition as well as 4-H and FFA judging contests.

R. A. Ward, general manager of the Pacific Wool Growers will judge all fleece classes in the wool show, says Fisher. The Pacific Wool Growers have offered a wool blanket to be used as an award.

Competition in the spring Lamb and Wool show is open to all residents of Clackamas county.

## Borers Seek Trees With Little Vitality

Presence of shot-hole borer in fruit trees is an indication that the tree is not in a healthy condition. Since these borers seldom attack healthy trees, the best way to keep from having borer trouble is to keep the trees vigorous, advises Leon Garcia, Jr., Clackamas county extension agent.

When some condition gives a tree a set-back, it develops what is known as "sour-sap" condition. This condition is necessary for the growth of the fungus which is the food of the grubs of the shot-hole beetle.

Seriously infested trees or limbs should be cut and burned immediately. Since beetles may kill trees before they can be brought back to a healthy condition. The infested trees that have not been

Net income of U. S. farmers in 1950 was about \$18 billion — 87 per cent below the postwar peak in 1947.

out and burned should be treated with a wash prepared by dissolving one pound of 50 per cent wettable DDT to 5 gallons of water. The wash may be applied with a whitewash brush or large paint brush.

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