

Valley Farmers Hold Four Annual Meetings

By LILLIE L. MADSEN
Farm Editor, The Statesman

While the weather is still misty, and ploughing isn't good, farmers are tucking away their annual meetings in preparedness for sunny weather and field business.

Four such meetings were held Thursday: A Willamette Valley turkey meeting at McMinnville; an agricultural meeting for Blue Lake Packers' producers in West Salem, a cereal meeting for Marion County Farmers at Keizer and the annual meeting of Polk County Livestock Association at Dallas City Hall. (Story page 2, section 1.) With the exception of the Dallas meeting, all were 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. events. Polk County's livestock men met Thursday night.

Turkey Growers

McMINNVILLE — Ninety Willamette Valley turkey growers met at the Yamhill Fair Building here Thursday and heard that the market was running strong for poult, indicating that there might be some increase in turkey growing this coming year. Some expression of hopes that this increase would not be too great was expressed by Don Smith, who served as chairman for the meeting.

Louie Gross, county agent, reported that the number of turkeys in the valley was running about the same as it had the past two or three years.

Price, and not number of turkeys, is the prime factor in turkey income these days, Louie Gross said. He reported approximately the same number had been grown in the Willamette Valley the past three years. The difference in income was from the lower price.

W. T. Guerts, manager of the Oregon Turkey Growers Association, painted a brighter picture as he reported that turkey consumption had increased 115 percent in the last 15 years, taking it away from a "holiday treat" to an "everyday meal."

Cereal Grain Growers

KEIZER — Onl. 25 Marion County cereal grain growers attended the Thursday meeting here over which Hollis Ottaway, Marion County agent, presided.

Here malting barley formed the chief topic of discussion with farmers warned to grow, harvest and prepare their barley with "extra" care this year as barley is going to be more plentiful than in some years past. Oren Kellet, head maltster of Great Western Malt plant in Vancouver, Wash., urged growers to keep a "pure" product this year eliminating all other grain from the barley.

Pahlen Kasselerry and William Enschede urged Willamette Valley wheat growers to attend wheat league meetings, too, instead of leaving them all to Eastern Oregon growers, whose problems were somewhat different.

Ottaway indicated that he expected corn would replace much of the diverted wheat acres.

Blue Lake Meeting

WEST SALEM — More than 300 growers attended the Blue Lake meeting where speakers indicated that the bean acreage might be increased a little over last year's. John E. Johnson, fieldman, was chairman of the day. O. E. Snider, manager, who has

Hospital Shut, Medicine Men Revival Feared

WARM SPRINGS, Ore. — Indians might go back to relying on medicine men and midwives as a result of the federal government's economy program, a tribal leader said Wednesday night.

That is perhaps the biggest danger in plans to close a 22-bed hospital here, Frank Supah, member of the Warm Springs tribal council, warned.

Charles Jackson, council chairman, will head a three-man delegation leaving Monday for Washington, D.C., to make suggestions.

The government considers the local reservation hospital too costly to operate, and will close it by June 30. Indians needing care will be sent to one of several Central Oregon hospitals.

But Jackson said these hospitals make a financial responsibility study of Indians who appear for non-emergency care, and turn away those who can't prove ability to pay.

Jackson said Indians want the government to assure the hospitals that Indians' bills will be paid. If it doesn't, Supah added, Indians in their resentment and embarrassment over the money investigations will return to their old customs and the medicine man and midwives will come back into their own.

Atom Reactor in Operation Again

OTTAWA — Canada's powerful atomic energy reactor at Chalk River, Ont., went back in operation Wednesday after a breakdown of more than a year.

Acting Prime Minister C. D. Howe said the big reactor began functioning at 10:30 a.m. The pile broke down Dec. 12, 1952, when aluminum tubes, holding water used to cool the energy-producing uranium rods, sprang leaks. This allowed radio-active materials, including deadly gamma rays, to escape.

recently returned from the East, indicated there would be a little tendency to over-plant vegetables these next two years. California, he added, was particularly turning grain land into vegetables.

Sam Medaris, who came a week ago from Indianapolis, Ind., to serve as sales manager, was introduced.

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