

Hot Weather Plays Havoc With Valley Fruit Harvest

Sun and burning temperatures have raised havoc with the fruit harvest in most areas of Oregon, according to a Wednesday check. Last winter fruit growers were asking for more sunshine and higher temperatures to pull many of Oregon's fruit crops through that winter. Now most everyone is hollering "turn it down a bit," meaning, of course, the high temperatures of the past 10 days.

Farm Income Down, Land Values Up

Contrary to the usual scheme of things, farm land values and farm income are continuing to get farther apart, according to farm economists.

Ordinarily, farm land values go down as farm income goes down. But there seems to be a different situation now. While Oregon farm income has been on the downturn since 1915, Oregon farm land values edged higher this spring and are now at the highest point on record.

Economists give several factors as the reason behind this unusual situation. Among these is the belief that land will be good security in case of inflation or depression. Then, there's the demand of large farmers for more land. A farmer who already owns considerable equipment may make more efficient use of his machinery and lower his unit costs by owning more acres.

Cities and industries are buying up farm land as they expand, which tends to hold up farm land prices. And in many areas close to cities, people are looking for part-time farms and rural residences. Some farm land is in demand for the timber growing on it. Other lands are in demand for future timber plantings.

52 New Tree Farms Listed

Six new West Coast tree farms in six western Oregon counties, totaling 64,137 acres were certified this past week by the Industrial Forestry Association, Nils B. Hult, president, reports.

According to Hult the new tree farms are situated in Jackson, Linn, Lane, Douglas, Yamhill and Tillamook Counties. In addition to the new certifications, the Association cancelled the certificate of Mary and Herbert Sawyer Tree Farm consisting of 160 acres in Jackson County.

VISITS NATO BASE

NAPLES, Italy (AP) — Charles S. Thomas, U. S. Secretary of the Navy, Wednesday visited NATO Southern Europe Headquarters. Thomas is touring Europe.

The USDA has announced that it will buy canned peaches for school lunches under appropriations of the National School Lunch Act. Processors in this area wanting to sell canned peaches in this manner, should contact the Fruit and Vegetable Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, by Aug. 7 for acceptance by Aug. 10 of this year.

Reports from processors during the past week indicate that most of the berry crops are finished for 1956. Only a dribble of boysenberries was received during the past week. The sweet and sour cherry harvest has finished and the only small fruit crop left to go is blackberries. Blackberries will probably continue into August when the harvest of wild evergreens will get underway.

Prices Not Settled
Although most of the sour cherries in Oregon have been harvested, the grower price is still up in the air. Some have been bought from growers and other processors at 9 cents a pound, but some of the heavy handlers of this commodity are still trying to figure the eastern markets. As late as Tuesday sour cherry prices had not been established by some Oregon processors.

Michigan, New York and Wisconsin are the heaviest producers of this crop and because most of Oregon's sour cherries are marketed in the East, western processors have to be in line with prices established in these leading states, less the transportation costs.

Oregon Free Of Oriental Fruit Moth

Fruits from The Dalles will be accepted in British Columbia now without fumigation, reports the state department of agriculture.

These fruits, such as apples, peaches and cherries, formerly were refused entry to British Columbia unless fumigated due to Oriental fruit moth infestation. An effective eradication program removed this insect pest from Oregon. Periodic department insect surveys throughout the state, and particularly in The Dalles area, have found no infestation in over three years. As a result, the department can certify the entire state as free of the Oriental fruit moth. Such certification must accompany all host fruits shipped to British Columbia.

Douglas Plans Alaska Trek

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas, receiving treatment here for bursitis in the hip, said Wednesday he expected to be off next week-end to join an exploration party in Alaska.

The traveling jurist and his wife are staying at the country home of attorney Frank Funkhouser on the Little Spokane River just north of here. Douglas is being treated for the hip inflammation by a former classmate at Whitman College, Dr. David W. Gaiser. Douglas plans to leave here Friday for Seattle. From there he will fly north to join a biological exploration party in the Brooks range in Northern Alaska.

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Ex-Portland Man to Head Catholic Order

PORTLAND (AP) — The Rev. Theodore J. Mehling, president of the University of Portland from 1946 to 1950, has been re-elected provincial superior of the Western Province of the Holy Cross order at a chapter meeting in Rome.

Guardsman's Body Found

DOVER, Del. (AP) — Two fishermen Wednesday recovered the body of an Air National Guard officer from Spokane, Wash., missing since the crash of a T-33 training jet plane in Delaware Bay last Saturday night.

Documents Tell of Russian Persecution

NEW YORK (AP) — Two documents purportedly smuggled out of Russian slave labor camps and telling of persecution of Ukrainian political prisoners are being displayed by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

Herring Serves In Double Role

WEDGEPORT, N. S. (AP) — A look out a whole herring and Lingley used it as bait. A herring struck. An hour later Lingley hooked it, the second caught on Wedgier's Rip this year.

State's Dairy Folk Ahead In Records

Oregon dairymen have the jump on farmers in most other states when it comes to simple, low-cost milk production records, Don Anderson, dairy specialist at Oregon State College said Wednesday.

A national program aimed at providing simple, low-cost dairy production records has just been launched, Anderson explains. And this system is similar to the Oregon Weigh-a-Day Monthly Record and Breeding Guide which has been available to Oregon Dairy men for over a year.

The Oregon Weigh-a-Day plan is a simple record of monthly and yearly milk production, calving, and breeding information on each cow and for the herd. These records help farmers feed more economically, cull low producers, and raise replacements from their best cows.

In the past, farmers with smaller herds haven't been able to afford expensive testing and record-keeping systems.

In the Weigh-a-Day program, a dairyman simply weighs both milkings from each cow in his herd for one day each month. This is then recorded on the monthly record page. A computing table that comes with the guide figures the monthly total, and this is also recorded for each cow.

By adding the various columns, the dairyman gets monthly production totals for his herd, the total production to date for each cow, and yearly herd totals to date.

Anderson points out, however, that the Weigh-a-Day system merely supplements the present Standard and Owner-Sampler programs now carried on by the Dairy Herd Improvement associations in 30 counties.

The Oregon Weigh-a-Day kit provides record space for 32 cows, 12 monthly records, and a yearly summary. Copies, which cost 50 cents each, are available at county extension agent offices.

Star Awaits Fourth Child

HOLLYWOOD (AP) — TV star Gale Storm announced Wednesday she is expecting her fourth child in December. She and insurance broker Lee Bonnell have three sons: Philip, 13, Peter, 10, and Paul, 9.

The star of "My Little Margie" is now filming a new series, "The Gale Storm Show," which will debut on CBS Sept. 29. Production will be accelerated to provide her a leave of absence.

DULLES IN ECUADOR
QUITO, Ecuador (AP) — Secretary of State John Foster Dulles arrived Wednesday from Bogota, Colombia, for an over-night visit before continuing to Lima, Peru, for the inauguration Saturday of Manuel Prado as Peruvian President.

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