

Problems Faced In Cutting AAA Funds for Area

Central Oregon county AAA committees are wrestling with the problem of making \$95,000 in 1945 AAA practice funds cover the \$195,000 in soil and water conservation work for which 1100 farmers and ranchers in Crook, Jefferson and Deschutes counties have requested approval this year, it was learned here today.

John Denny, Corvallis, district AAA fieldman for Central Oregon, is meeting with the county committee this week to assist in working out methods of cutting down each county's conservation program to fit the funds. Greatly increased interest in conservation work on the part of farm operators, a reduced state allocation of funds for the 1945 program, removal of limitations on individual farm earnings, and a congressional stipulation that full payments be made for all practices performed are given by Denny as the reasons for the present situation.

Practices Cut
Since payments cannot be reduced on a pro rata basis, so that partial payment would be made for all of the practices performed, committees are finding it necessary to cut the number of practices for which payment will be made, Denny reported. This is being done by giving first priority to practices contributing most to conservation needs in the county. A priority list of practices is set

up according to the importance of each practice, and approval is given to practices in order of their priority as far down the list as the county allocation of funds will cover.

The Jefferson county committee, of which W. J. Stebbins is chairman, decided at a meeting Tuesday to give top priority to the control and eradication of noxious weeds. Protected summer fallow was given second place, followed by livestock water developments, range fencing and other grazing land improvements, with all other practices grouped together in the No. 5 priority. Of the three counties, Jefferson's quota of funds comes closest to covering intended performance. Farmers have signed up for \$23,000 in practices, compared with a \$20,000 allocation.

Group Meets Tonight
The Deschutes county committee, headed by H. P. Ely of Terrebonne, chairman, is meeting tonight in Redmond. Approximately \$15,000 worth of practices will be pared from this county's 1945 practice program to make it fit the budget. It is expected that reorganization of farm irrigation systems will be near ties will be pared from this county's practices.

The Crook county committee, with C. B. Adams chairman, is confronted with the most difficult problem. Stepped up requests for range and water conservation practices have given this county a total intended 1945 program of \$115,000, more than three times the \$35,000 county quota. The Crook committee meets Friday afternoon in Prineville.

The heavy demand for AAA practice participation being experienced in Central Oregon applies equally to other Oregon

counties, Denny reported. Oregon farmers have indicated on farm plans that they intend to perform over \$4,000,000 in practices this year, while the state allocation is \$2,500,000.

Fits Into Needs
"This increased interest means that we have a practice program that fits our conservation needs, and that farmers have become more conservation-minded," the district fieldman believes. "More farmers are aware of the need for checking soil erosion, conserving water resources, and for building back in the soil some of the fertility lost during the past four years of intensive wartime production."

Officers Named By Health Group

Madras, May 10 (Special) — The Jefferson County Health association elected officers at its monthly meeting at the courthouse Tuesday night. Those named were Mrs. Vance Blanchard, president; Mrs. P. D. Lewis, vice-president; Mrs. W. H. Hall, secretary and Rev. L. N. Otis, treasurer.

Outgoing officers included: Walt McCaulou, president, Mrs. Kenneth W. Sawyer, secretary and Mrs. Lillian Watts, treasurer.

JAP DRIVE COLLAPSES
Chungking, May 10 (AP)—The entire Japanese line in western Hunan province, where an enemy drive threatened the American air base at Chihkiang, crumbled yesterday under a Chinese general counter-offensive, a communique announced today.

Bend Sky Fighter Hits Near Tokyo

A VII Fighter Command Base on Iwo Jima, May 10—Second Lieutenant Louis C. Gelbrich, of Bend, Oregon, flying a P-51 Mustang in the first AAF fighter strike against the main Jap island of Honshu, destroyed an enemy fighter on the ground during the bold, low-level sweep. It has been announced here. The pilot, a few days earlier, had shared credit on a probable "kill" while flying escort for B-29 Superfortresses during a Tokyo bombing strike.

Lieutenant Gelbrich piloted one of a large force of Iwo Jima-based Mustangs which roared in at low levels to strafe the Atsugi airfield, 25 miles southwest of Tokyo. Twenty-one Jap planes were destroyed in the air, 58 were destroyed or damaged on the ground and five additional planes were probably destroyed in the air.

Telling of his aerial victory upon returning to this base, Lieutenant Gelbrich said:

Is Pilot's Dream
"It was a pilot's dream." We came through a hole in the clouds and right below us was this air field... our target. There were from 75 to 100 planes lined up around its strips. "As we came in I poured a burst into a Betty. It started burning and when I let it have a few more rounds, it exploded."

"We raked the planes on the ground, seeing many hits scored as we roared over. After sweeping the air field we continued on strafing factories and other military targets."

Lieutenant Gelbrich's wife Mildred, lives at 154 Underwood, in Bend. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Louis C. Gelbrich, Sr., of Route Two, Canby, Oregon. He was graduated from Bend high school in 1939 and attended Oregon State college, before entering the armed service in September, 1942. He came to the Pacific ocean areas in February, 1944.

of Bend, Jacob Sesock of Philadelphia, who is expected to arrive for the funeral, Michael Sesock of New London, N. Y., and John Sesock, serving with the army in France. Her sister, Rose Bulloch, lives in Pasco, Wash.

Cub Pack No. 25 Organized Here

Cub Pack No. 25, sponsored by the First Presbyterian church and Boy Scout Troop No. 25, was completely organized with 29 members at a well-attended meeting of boys and their parents last night in the Allen school. Installation has been tentatively set for May 31, when the charter is to be presented and the cubs will receive their pack flags.

Officers of the pack are M. D. Neuman, cub master; Ford Hunnell, assistant cubmaster, and the chairmen, all of whom are den dads, are John H. Lutz, M. D. Neuman, P. R. Johnston and H. R. Tucker. Johnston also is acting as treasurer.

Dens Listed
Dens were formed as follows: No. 1, Helen Lutz, den mother; Bill Steidl, den chief, and cubs Lloyd Dunlap, Donald Luckenbill, Arthur Drake, Larry Kribbs, John Kulstad, Elmer Lutz and Lloyd Goodman.

No. 2, Mrs. Perry Johnston, den mother; Dick Rasmussen, den chief, and cubs Miles Hutchings, John Davis, Gordon Moore, Jimmie Roush, Dale Johnston, David Rasmussen, John Wilde and Waldon Simmons.

No. 3, Mrs. N. E. Mowry, den mother; Ted Melvina, den chief, and cubs Charles Chester, Bobby Newman, Paul Reynolds, Glenn Schriver, Thomas Mowry, Ronald Walker and Duane Hansen.

No. 4, Mrs. H. R. Tucker, den mother; Clifford Jeffrey and cubs James Maddox, Charles Tucker, Richard Tucker, Donald Houk, Peter Bue, Patrick Craig and Melvin Loy.

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

NOTICE is hereby given that the Board of Equalization of Deschutes County, Oregon, will meet at the Court House in the City of Bend on Monday, May 14, 1945 and publicly examine the assessment rolls and correct all errors in valuation, description or quality of all property assessed by the County Assessor of said Deschutes County, Oregon. Petitions or applications for the reduction of a particular assessment shall be made in writing, verified by the oath of the applicant or his attorney and filed with the Board within one week from the above date and petition or application not so made, verified and filed shall not be acted upon by the Board.

J. A. FOUNTAIN
Assessor of Deschutes County, Oregon.
121-127-133-c

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Anna C. Firkus, 29, Dies in Bend

Anna Catherine Firkus, a resident of Bend for the last 8 months, died this morning at the St. Charles hospital following a month's illness. She was born in Highwood, Minn., July 13, 1916. Before coming here, the family had lived in Redmond over a year.

Mrs. Firkus is survived by her husband, George Edward Firkus, 1312 Milwaukee, one son, Jerry, one sister and four brothers. Her brothers are Benny Sesock,

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