

# Deschutes County Agent Surveys Crop Outlook

## History Records Deschutes Fair As Non-Profit Event

By MARTHA STRANAHAN  
Bulletin Correspondent

"It's been a lot of fun — and a lot of work each year," agreed two of Deschutes county's fair association directors, Carl Galloway and Roy Newell, as they reminisced over past fairs. Though some of the other directors have served longer on the association, Galloway and Newell have lived around here since Redmond's founding — coming in 1904 and 1905 respectively.

Oldest member of the association in point of service is Max Canning who was appointed in May, 1927, to fill the vacancy of Guy E. Dobson. Roy Carpenter started in 1940, Howard Mayfield has been arena director since 1933, Galloway and Newell began in the early 30s. Galloway was fair manager from 1946-1951.

Younger directors include George McKinnon, co-manager with Newell since 1952; secretary Norman Swanson, serving in the place of his brother-in-law, Darrell Smith, since 1954; and Wade West, appointed in 1952 but inactive this season owing to illness. Ben Smith, new director in 1955, is in charge of the racing.

All these men serve without compensation, devoting many hours to the details of planning and conducting a county fair. They all have their own businesses to tend as well. For Galloway it is ranching; Newell, ranching and real estate; Carpenter, banking; Canning, though not active in the association the past couple years, the law; McKinnon, automobiles; Smith, livestock and auction; Swanson, insurance; West, diatomaceous earth (Dicalite); Mayfield, feeder cattle.

Also listed with the directors, unofficially, are Phil Dahl, lumberman who sponsors the Indian races and has donated lumber and given other assistance, and Parade Manager Jack Morris, automobile dealer.

**Receipts Highest in '52**  
Andy Ward, Redmond accountant, handles finances for the association. Receipts from state racing (pari-mutuel) funds, county and state tax millage support, rodeo dates, exhibit space rental, food booth, carnival concessions and miscellaneous sources have averaged around \$23,000 per year since 1949. Receipts for 1949 were \$19,501; in 1950 they dropped to \$17,611, climbed to \$31,262.28 in 1952 — the biggest year ever — were \$28,280 in 1954, \$23,362 in 1955 and dropped to \$19,617 in 1956.

Some years the fair itself has operated at a loss, but cash carry-overs from other years have kept the association just on the black side of the ledger. Redmond pursues this year will be somewhat reduced, but with more general exhibits it is expected the premiums paid out will be greater.

Expenses include premiums, insurance, grounds improvements and maintenance, rodeo stock contract, advertising, judges, parade, special police, lodging and other expenses for special acts, hay, straw, supplies, power, light, and miscellaneous other costs. The fair is a non-profit organization. Books are audited each year by Bowers, Davis and Hoffman of Salem, municipal auditors.

### Began As Tent Show

The 1957 fair, to be August 23 to 25, with a week of preliminary 4-H and FFA activities, is listed as the 38th annual one. Prior to the incorporation of Deschutes county fair association in 1918, a potato show was held here for several years. It was first held in a tent, then in the Elliott building (Sixth and Cascade) with displays of potatoes, produce and other exhibits, later in Roberts and Lynch building (Sixth and Deschutes).

Many pioneer settlers had come because of the promise of productive land and water, and though they had to grub their farms out of sagebrush and junipers, they were not disappointed in promises or results.

Along with those early potato shows there were horse races on the dusty main street of Redmond, dances and other festivities.

Minutes of the Deschutes County Fair Association have been kept since its incorporation. Original signers were R. H. Parsons, B. A. Kendall and C. H. Irvin. The articles were filed and granted April 3, 1918 by corporate commissioner H. J. Schulerman. Capital stock was to be \$5,000, divided into 500 shares at \$25 per share.

### Perpetual Enterprise

The articles of incorporation stated the association was formed as a perpetual enterprise to "maintain and operate an industrial fair; to collect and disseminate such information as is calculated to educate and benefit the agricultural classes; to develop the agricultural resources and advance the material interests of Deschutes Valley; to encourage the improvement of the livestock industry and all other industries that go to the development of better farm products; to hold fairs, offer and, and premiums, and to collect and distribute such reliable information as will encourage immigration; to buy, own, sell, rent or lease real estate and erect buildings thereon; to mortgage any and all property acquired by this corporation, and to do any

and all other business, acts and things which may be necessary, proper and convenient for the purpose of carrying out the aforementioned objects."

In 1925 Article VI, Section five, was amended to read "No dividends shall be declared or paid by the Board of Directors out of net profits arising from the conduct of the Association, it being a strictly non-profit organization, any and all such net profits to be used exclusively for improvements of fair facilities."

Did early directors hope or fear the fairs might prove quite profitable?

### Directors Advance Money

Talking to the old-timers, and reading back over old minutes, you realize what a chore it has been each year, meeting premiums, expenses, adding new buildings, making repairs and improvements, keeping the fair going. Many times directors signed for notes at the bank to finance premiums or improvements to the grounds, each time managing to get all debts paid off and add a little to succeeding fairs.

Any profits, per Section five, have been plowed back into fair improvements. The assistance of pari-mutuel money, starting about 15 years ago, gave a needed boost to the financing of Deschutes county fair.

Supplemental articles of incorporation were filed August 11, 1920, by William M. Wilson, M. A. Lynch and Guy Dobson (three of the five directors at that time) to increase capital stock to \$15,000. (N. A. Burdick and Kendall were the other two directors). No shareholder could own more than 12 shares of stock, and each shareholder had only one vote in the association, regardless of shares owned.

Wilson (uncle of William Wilson of Redmond who operates the Redmond hotel), was president, and the first secretary was W. E. VanAllen, uncle of Bill VanAllen of Bend.

Through the years one of the staunchest fair directors, who furnished lots of the encouragement and enthusiasm — and some financial assistance — in keeping the fair going was M. A. "Mike" Lynch, Lynch, who came here in 1910 to enter business with another pioneer, J. R. Roberts, died August 11, 1956.

Fairs in early years were held in October, then in September. The August dates are fairly recent, and were set in order to precede the state fair which was moved about several years ago. Canning recalls the grounds, originally 150 acres, were bought from the county about 1919. The Deschutes county court authorized the fair to be held in Redmond, there being no land available in Bend, the county seat. The land here was bought from the county at a comparatively small price, and from time to time the association has sold off portions of it to the benefit of its treasury for the operation of the fair.

The Redmond grange hall, Redmond Saddle Club, Richfield Oil Co., Kromer and Preston station, and other businesses are on land which was in the original fair-grounds site. The fair association still owns Rogers field which lies east of the railroad tracks.

Canning has record of an old note dated March 8, 1921 which members signed so they could obtain money for construction of buildings.

The women's building, grandstands and bleachers, entrance arch, pens and stalls, and other structures were added through the years, as noted in the minutes.

### Improvements Take Profits

A new restroom was built in 1955 at a cost of \$5,000 — "things like that eat up the profits fast," Newell remarked.

A study of the old minutes reveals such interesting notations as: "It was carried — that 'where a person had livestock on the ground for exhibition and demanded a pass, he was to have one'"; "that the fair dates for 1923 be the 11th, 12th and 13th of October"; "motion made that the secretary call for bids for the construction of a 32 foot bleacher on the north end of the grandstands; also for 20 new stalls for stock shed and an automobile exhibit shed 30 by 40 feet — carried"; (1923); agreement with Claude Butler to furnish 10 head of wild horses for the wild horse races, for \$115, (1923); — the board accepted the offer of R. L. Schaefer of the sum of \$300 for street concessions"; (1924); "on motion it was ordered that for the 1925 fair, no charge be made for stalls for livestock exhibited"; "Following a general discussion of the prospects for the 1926 fair, on motion September 30 and October 1 and 2 were designated, the secretary



ONCE A SAGEBRUSH WILDERNESS — Here is a view of the City of Redmond of today taken by Vernon Giles from his plane. Fifty years ago it was beginning to emerge from tent colony to village. The top of the picture is the northern section of the city.

## Sagebrush Colony Becomes Thriving City of Redmond

By MARTHA STRANAHAN  
Bulletin Correspondent

Redmond was named for its first resident, Frank Redmond, who homesteaded with his family in a tent in 1904, on a site just east of the present Pilot Butte canal and approximately between the east extensions of Birch and Greenwood Streets.

The Deschutes Irrigation and Power Company had bought thousands of acres of land in this area, part of the whole program of westward expansion, and were digging the canals of what is now the Central Oregon Irrigation district. C. M. Redfield was manager, J. G. McGuffie and Claude McCauley, both now of Bend, were engineer and ditch foreman.

The company, Frank Glass handling real estate, sold off the land in homesteads of various sizes. People came here, according to Mrs. Frank McCaffery (who shared honors with Mr. and Mrs. Joe McClay as royalty for Redmond's 50th anniversary in 1955), to "get in on the ground floor." Midwest-erners were attracted by advertisements put out by the DIP (Deschutes Irrigation and Power Co.).

### City Is Farmland Hub

The promise of good potato, alfalfa, general crop and pasture land has been fulfilled, Redmond is hub of an agricultural area. Though early settlers hauled water from the Deschutes river five miles distant, the new town in the sagebrush and junipers soon had a couple of years Redmond was a tent city, with freights from Shaniko and employees of the DIP rooming and boarding with early settlers.

Redmond was platted in May, 1905, within five years it had re-elected directors. R. J. Connarn was elected treasurer in September, 1936 to replace VanArsdale who resigned.

Rice resigned as director in September, 1937 and Howard Mayfield was appointed replacement. M. H. Barbour was authorized to furnish bucking horses and Brahma bulls, bull fighter and bulldogging. Clare Colgrove was appointed treasurer September 10, 1937.

Annual meeting January 17, 1938: Directors elected, Wilson, Canning, Mayfield, Wells, Smith and J. R. Roberts. February 5, 1938: Colgrove was offered position of secretary-treasurer-manager of Fair-Association.

### Court Appoints Three

Election of directors January 23, 1939: Mayfield, Wilson, Dr. Hal Rogers, Smith, Wells, J. F. Short. Short resigned, Canning was re-appointed. Funds were short during the "depression years", and directors carried a \$4,000 note. The association considered selling some real estate to retire it, but they renewed the note in February, 1940.

Jack Hardison and Roy Carpenter became directors early in 1940. Hardison was fair manager from 1940 to 1946. During those war years community exhibits felt off considerably as adults were too busy to take as much part in the fairs. The younger folks and 4-H members, therefore, were main participants.

The county court each year appoints an official fair board of three members, who, in effect, oversee the association directors. This year Newell is president of the board, Ellis Edgington vice-president and Galloway is secretary. Carpenter is chairman of the directors, Newell and McKinnon are co-managers.

grown rapidly — a hotel, bank, school, stores, businesses, frame houses were built, churches established. Travel was difficult, but many of the early pioneers stayed to build the town and develop the farms, and they interspersed their labors with dances, picnics, socials.

A partial list of names of early comers includes Tetherow, Eby, Kendall, Roberts, Lynch, Weigand, Canning, Galloway, McCall, Kissler, Wilson, Smith, Hall, Buckley, McCallin. There were many others.

### Modern Municipality Now

In the more than half century since its founding Redmond has acquired good schools attractive homes, paved streets, lumber mills, a modern airport, county fairgrounds, park and swimming pool, fine water system, golf course, hospital, dial telephones, radio station and television. An electric co-operative and a BPA sub-station located in and near Redmond provide abundant power for the region. Implement and agricultural firms and a co-op, private businesses and stores, headquarters of county and state agencies operate in Redmond.

Modern, main highways go through Redmond from north, south, east and west. The population is more than 2000, elevation 3000. From many points in town are visible the beautiful snow-capped Cascade mountains along the western horizon, while to the northeast are spectacular Smith Rocks and farther east Grizzly mountain.

## PGE Calls Bids On Park System

Portland General Electric company has called for bids on the installation of an irrigation and drinking water system in the 16-acre park area of the Pelton hydro-electric project on the Deschutes river 35 miles by highway from Bend.

The camp, on which considerable clearing and landscaping work already has been completed, will open a year from this spring. Grading and clearing has been accomplished with an eye to retaining a natural appearance. Native juniper will stand with pines and aspen, which PGE is planting. Much of the grounds will be seeded to grass.

Two types of native stone fireplaces will be built. But also available to the public will be free electric range cooking elements under shelter. The area will be illuminated for night use. Sanitary facilities will include flush toilets.

Plans call for a total expenditure of some \$85,000. Included in the facilities will be boating accommodations, the boat launch and moorage facilities, plus boat trailer parking space, will be located at the upstream end of the camping area. A small store will make available fishing tackle, some foodstuffs and other camping and boating supplies, including gas and oil.

One of the first steps after the installation of irrigation will be the seeding of grass. This will insure a good cover when the camp opens to the public in 1958. Bids for the irrigation work and the system to provide drinking and cooking water will be opened Tuesday, April 16 in PGE's Portland offices, according to Fred G. Hodge, company purchasing agent.

## Livestock Ranchers Happier As Long Price Decline Ends

By JAMES J. McALISTER  
Deschutes County Agent

The average Deschutes County farmer will be a happier man this year as he strolls among the exhibits at the Fair than he was in 1956. Indications point toward an increase in farm income after several years of declining prices, particularly for livestock raisers.

Livestock specialists look for feeder cattle prices in Oregon to stay about \$2 above a year earlier during most of the next six months. This prediction is encouraging "feeding-on-shares." Several local farmers have found this a way to utilize feed grown on the farm with a small capital investment in a feeding operation. Such deals require some careful figuring to see that risks and returned are shared as equitably as possible.

The cattle market outlook for all grades of beef is good, with prices equal or a bit better than they were this winter and spring.

Only a small number of swine is marketed from Deschutes County but with hog production also down nationally, the price is up.

Sheep producers have been obtaining top prices for breeding stock and are doing well with feeder lambs. There has been no difficulty in marketing wool at profitable levels.

### Milk Prices Start Up

Dairy farming is a very important source of farm income for Deschutes County and faces profitable expansion. At present the Grade "A" milk price received by local producers is among the highest in Oregon. Factory milk price is increasing steadily.

Poultry is another bright spot in the field of agriculture in Deschutes County. With low egg prices in 1956 the national trend was toward fewer laying hens. Locally, however, the hen population is up from last year and poultry farmers should receive a substantial profit from their enterprises.

This increase in laying hens is due chiefly to the promotion program of the Nichols Hatchery of New Hampshire. Early in the spring of 1956 a representative of the company met with 45 local poultrymen. He explained the Nichols hatching egg plan and proclaimed this area ideal for the enterprise. This hatchery sells its own high-quality chicks to the farmer and, in turn, agrees to market all eggs produced.

Hatching eggs are purchased by the Nichols Company itself at premium prices. All eggs not meeting hatching egg requirements are marketed through commercial channels in metropolitan centers. Transportation is provided from Central Oregon for all eggs produced.

### Ready Market Is Advantage

Approximately 10,000 laying hens are producing for Nichols at present and another 2000 young pullets have been placed in the county. The main advantage of the Nichols plan is a ready market. The chief drawback to egg production in Deschutes County previously has been the lack of a market after local demand had been met.

The outlook for turkey production in 1957 is gloomy due to 50 million pounds of last year's crop in cold storage as this year's marketing began. Deschutes County turkey numbers are up over the past few years but still far below that of 10 to 15 years ago.

Livestock and livestock products habitually provide greater cash income for Deschutes County farm-

ers than crops. This year the spread will be even wider.

### More Hay, Lower Price

Hay yields have continued to climb with favorable weather and increased seedings of improved alfalfa and grass varieties. A hold-over of about 20 per cent of last year's crop, however, has depressed the present hay market. Prices now are \$6 to \$10 per ton less than last year. Another factor in lower prices is the good hay crop in the Willamette Valley. Deschutes county hay producers depend principally upon dairymen and sheep raisers in the Valley as buyers. Available hay there has lowered the demand for hay here.

Local farmers should take advantage of an excellent selling point regarding Central Oregon hay. Analyses made at Oregon State College on alfalfa samples from this area reveal as much as 4.5 per cent more protein content than standard. This testing is available to individual farmers through the Extension Service at a nominal charge.

### Farmers Advised to Feed Hay

This year with hay prices down, it is strongly recommended that farmers feed their hay to livestock on their farms as the best way to make a profit. Doing this also will be the most economical means of improving the fertility of local sandy soil by keeping crop residues on the farm.

Wheat has always been a good cash crop in Deschutes County and has been selling slightly higher than support prices. The Soil Bank has had very little effect locally. Oats and barley are grown primarily as companion crops for farm use. Extensive production of either grain is not profitable in an irrigated area unless the barley is of maturing quality. Here it does not meet that standard.

Dryland rye, the other grain most generally produced in this area, usually is cut for hay because it frosts when the heads are forming making the grain yield small. This year, however, the rye looks good as a grain crop.

### Potato Outlook Still Dark

Potatoes are Deschutes County's longtime principal rotation crop, but this year it appears that the farmer with 15 acres of wheat is better off than the one with 15 acres of commercial potatoes. The Central Oregon potato price has been down for two years and at digging time the price still is expected to be low. Farmers with storage facilities have a more optimistic outlook for prices may pick up during the year.

Raising commercial potatoes profitably in Deschutes County will become increasingly more difficult as newly reclaimed land in southern Washington, such as the Moses Lake area, is put into potato production. This should result in a greater swing toward certified potato seed production here where several natural factors favor this enterprise.

The normally low insect infestation and the isolation of potato fields in the county are advantageous for the production of disease-free potato seed. This industry has been growing steadily and received a boost last year from Oregon State College with the assignment of Dr. Bill Raymer to study potato problems.

### Disease Control Means Work

Producers of certified and foundation seed have come to realize that only through rigid disease control can they establish solid reputations and sell their crops. Records show that this control means 16 hours additional labor per acre during the growing season over production of a commercial crop.

The immediate and voluntary cooperation early this spring of the three growers of potato seed in which ring rot was discovered halted the spread of this disease. They also are not growing potato seed for certification this year and will thoroughly sterilize all equipment and storage facilities before again growing seed potatoes.

A preliminary summary of a potato production cost study made by Deschutes County extension agents indicates that it costs \$257.50 to produce an acre of commercial potatoes. If the potato price was \$2 per hundred for U.S. 1-A and grade-out 70 per cent, the farmer needs 20,800 lbs. per acre to break even. Yields of 10 to 12 tons per acre are average for Deschutes County.

C. M. Barnum of Tumalo kept accurate records of costs for certified seed potato production. His average cash cost per acre was \$178 and his average yield was 18,200 lbs. per acre.

### Chip Potatoes Are Planted

Until this year the entire crop of Deschutes County seed potatoes has been purchased by local growers, except for an occasional truck load to Malheur and Klamath counties.

For the first time in the County, Kennebec potatoes have been planted for seed. This variety is favored by potato chip manufacturers because it produces the light, golden chip the public prefers. The Deschutes Gem, generally grown locally, excels as a baking potato but is inferior to the Kennebec for chips.



CROP PROSPECT — County agent James McAlister, right, inspects potato plants with Jack Waud, Oregon State College certification specialist (standing), and Dr. William Haymer, OSC plant pathologist.