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"You'll always find J.B.'s door open—as a matter of fact, it gets on your nerves after a while!"

**NOTES BY THE WAYSIDE . . .**  
 by J. J. Inskeep, Extension Agent

The Clackamas county extension service with assistance from both rural and urban citizens of this county, is conducting a program planning conference during the winter months of the new year. The conference is divided in twelve committees each of which will serve an industry or discuss problems of importance.

This type of thing is not new to Clackamas county. In the past this type of planning was called an economic conference. The rural people have conducted similar conferences each 10 years beginning in 1925. The last one was held in 1946.

Committee members of the past were almost exclusively rural. But because of the rapid growth of urban population 1956 committees will see urban folks well represented.

The following committees have met or will meet for deliberation:

Soils and water conservation - Oliver Buxton, Molalla, chairman - Jan. 4 at Oregon City junior high school.

Public policy - Cecil Snyder, Molalla, chairman - Jan. 5 at Oregon City Junior high school.

Home living - Mrs. Cecil Judd chairman, Friday, Jan. 6 at 1 P. M. at Oregon City Junior high school.

Committee on horticulture - Robert Taylor, Damascus, chairman - The committee held its first meeting in December. Second meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 10 at 9:30 A.M. A.S.C. Office, Gladstone.

Farm Forestry - William H. Tucker, chairman - Wednesday, January 11 at 10 A.M. in Oregon City Junior high school.

Poultry committee - Maurice Buxton, chairman turkey committee at 9:30 A.M. on Thursday, January 12; Barry Brownell chairman, chicken committee, 1:30 P.M., Oregon City junior high school.

Urban - Mrs. Ellen Bergis, Oswego, chairman, Friday, January 13 at 10 A.M. in Oregon City junior high school.

Urban or part-time farming, Saturday, January 14 at 9:30 A.M. in Oregon City junior high school.

Livestock - Tex Barger, Canby, chairman, Monday, January 16 at 9:30 A.M. Warner grange hall New Era. Sub-committees on beef, sheep and swine.

Farm crops - Harold Ridings, Molalla, chairman - on Tuesday, January 17 at 9:30 A.M. in Oregon City junior high school.

Weeds - Alton Marshall, Clarkes chairman - Wednesday, January 18, at 9:30 A.M. in Oregon City junior high school.

Youth committee - Mrs.

Inez Gottwald, Rural Dell, chairman - Thursday, January 19 at 8 P.M. in Oregon City junior high school.

Committee members have been given personal invitations but these meetings are open to all who might desire to attend.

Reports from these various committees will be given during a public meeting which has not yet been arranged. Committee recommendations will form the basis of the extension service program of work for a complex and arduous ten years coming up.

We found Louie, our hunting and fishing companion from out Molalla way, in a happy mood. He had just emerged from a neighbor's cornfield with five fat Mallard greenheads. "I always pick out the greenheads and leave the hens to perpetuate the species," he said with a wide grin and handed us two to take home. (We never take more than two because we have to pick them. Louie's wife is likewise uncooperative so he gives a good many of his hard-earned ducks away.)

Louie's wife was visiting her mother in California so we sat ourselves down in the kitchen beside the cherry wood stove. Louie produced a jug of his three-year old sweet cider, we lit our pipes and sat down for a visit.

The conversation fell to new year's resolutions. "You know" Louie told us, "I seldom make new year's resolutions and I am not making one for this coming year. But I have an idea which I would like to develop. We hear a lot these days about the evils of farm surpluses. It's getting so that farmers are like as not to meet with opposition with the State Department when they try to expand foreign markets. I'll not go into any foreign trade restrictions which affect each and everyone of us. I am not complaining because these are complex problems.

"However, it seems to me that city folks should be grateful to the American farmer for providing them with the world's most abundant varied and cheapest food supply. Maybe if us farmers did a little better job of public relations, city folks would give us a more sympathetic ear. It seems to me we are better off to have a few surpluses because food shortages are the root of financial and social unrest most everywhere else. Let's learn to live with surpluses. The day may not be too far off when we might wish we had a few."

Clackamas county farm operators are still licking the wounds caused by the unprecedented November freezeup. Nor do they yet know of the extent of these wounds or the time it will take them to heal entirely. But we do obtain a little information on the subject as time progresses.

Charlie Finch, Garfield, was in last week and reported that all of next year's filbert crop has been destroyed - at least in his neighborhood. "I expect to have to cut off all of last season's boysenberry cane growth," he added. "This means no boysenberry crop for me next summer. And where the wind blew the snow away our strawberry plants are gone. Prune trees appear to be damaged to some extent and we will have no cherries in 1956"

"Strawberry plantings seem to have been severely damaged in unprotected locations in the Damascus area" according to Odie Mense, Damascus berry and vegetable grower. "During the coldest weather the east wind blew all the snow from

the east edge of north and south rows to the west edge. It now appears, in my fields at least, that the east portion of strawberry matted rows succumbed to freezing but the west half of the rows, which remained under snow, seem to have survived. No one yet knows how much damage our cane fruits suffered."

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