

## Farmers' Share In Food Dollar Varies By Years

Considerable confusion continues over the so-called "farmers' share of the consumer's food dollar," says L. R. Breithaupt, O.S.C. extension agricultural economist. This is not strange, he adds, because of the complicated production and marketing processes between the land and the table that are not too generally understood.

The production and marketing processes involve costs, of course. Owing to these costs, the net income that remains available to the farm families is only a fraction of national consumer expenditures for food, amounting to about 25 per cent last year.

In 1944, United States consumers spent slightly over 30 billion dollars for food. But 50 per cent of the total retail cost of food was required to pay processing and marketing charges. Thus gross farm receipts were 50 per cent of the consumers' food dollar. Out of this the farmer's production expenses must be deducted.

### Net Income Given

The net farm income from marketed food products was approximately 25 per cent of the consumers' food dollar in 1944, as data indicate that approximately 50 per cent of the gross farm income was required to pay farm operation expenses that year.

Usually production expenses amount to more than 50 per cent of the gross farm income. According to the data for Oregon, the 1939 ratio was 63 per cent while in 1929 61 per cent of the gross went for expenses. Over a period of normal years in the past, both marketing and production expenses took greater proportions of the consumers' food dollar than in 1944, leaving less net for farm family income.

Currently, the trend of prices for farm products in relation to production and marketing costs is moderately toward prewar ratios. Should these trends continue, the farm family's net share would again become smaller than one-fourth of the consumers' food dollar, possibly even less than one-fifth as a general average for all farm products.

Considerable variation is found in the shares required for marketing costs and production expenses between different products. These variations are due to various factors, including labor requirements, amount of processing, transportation expenses, and other variables in the production and marketing processes, Breithaupt says.

## Alta Fescue With Subclover Found Best Pasture Mix

Western Oregon farmers faced with the problem of what to sow on the so-called "red hill" soils where a permanent pasture is desired can best plant alta fescue in mixture with Tallarook subterranean clover, according to a newly published Circular of Information No. 376 entitled "Results of Permanent Pasture Grass and Legume Experiment, Red Soils Experimental Area at Oregon City" by Edwin Keltner, superintendent.

As a project of the Oregon State college experiment station, six pasture grasses in general use in western Oregon were seeded alone and in mixture with subterranean clover and white clover in the fall of 1940. The grasses were: English rye grass, chewing fescue, alta fescue, red creeping fescue, orchard grass and highland bent grass. Seeding and fertilizer applications are included in the circular.

All of the plots received pasturing throughout the summer months by a herd of dairy heifers. From the palatability standpoint, English rye grass was the number one choice followed by little preference between alta fescue and orchard grass. The English rye grass provided only a short pasture season, however, and was gone soon after the rains ceased. The cattle showed a distinct liking for the mixed grass and clover seedings over grass planted alone.

On the basis of observations and yield, alta fescue and Tallarook subterranean clover fertilized with 100 pounds of treble phosphate each fall proved to be the most desirable combination for a permanent pasture. This mixture rated well toward the top in palatability and produced a continued growth throughout the dry summer months. By its vigorous growth it practically eliminated foreign grasses and weeds after three years of pasturing.

The subterranean clover increased rather than decreased its stand in spite of constant pasturing.

## Weekly Letter From Washington, D. C.

BY CONGRESSMAN HARRIS ELLSWORTH

### Atom Bomb Test

Elaborate preparations to make a test of the effect of atomic bombs on naval craft have been under way for some time. All of the plans and specifications had previously been worked out. I believe even the lists of scientists and War and Navy department personnel who will be permitted to see the tests are also nearly complete. But it was only this week that the bill to authorize the use of navy ships for targets in the test was passed by the House. It was argued on the floor by a few Members who were opposed to the conduct of the tests that it was wrong to destroy a number of our ships, some of which have been completed less than two years. The answer to this objection was that we cannot tell what sort of ships to have in our future naval defense unless we know definitely what happens to ships when they are attacked with atomic bombs. The completion of some ships now under construction has been delayed until these tests are made. It was pointed out that, unless some modern ships are used as targets, we have no way of knowing how modern construction will react.

I have been invited to witness the tests and may do so if too much time is not required, and if there is a lull in congressional business.

### Lend-Lease Still Going

Believe it or not, we are still shipping vast quantities of goods on lend-lease commitments. Lend-lease officially was declared at an end on V-J Day, but it was later agreed that goods being manufactured and in transit would be delivered. Such goods, incidentally, include 18,000,000 feet of hardwood lumber, considerable of which could be used as flooring lumber for homes. The countries receiving lend-lease goods since the actual end of the war have agreed to pay for them over a period of thirty years at an interest rate of two and three-eighths per cent on the unpaid balance.

This week, an attempt was made to reduce the amount of these commitments by \$200,000,000, but on a straight party vote, Republicans voting to save the money and Democrats voting to spend it, the House insisted on going ahead and spending the \$200,000,000. The vote was close—171 to 148.

### Magicians In Congress

I was reminded by the announcement by Congressman Fritz Lanham of Texas that he would not seek reelection and would retire from Congress that we have at least two excellent magicians in the House of Representatives—one Republican and one Democrat. Fritz Lanham is positively a genius as an amateur magician. I have seen him do his act, and I believe he is far better than most professionals. Equally good is Congressman Paul Shafer of Michigan.

Although not a member of congress, Carl D. Shoemaker, also an excellent amateur magician, has been closely identified with the work of Senate Committees for a number of years. Carl Shoemaker has done his act for the Oregon State Society and numerous other groups. He is a former Oregon man. His brothers, S. J. Shoemaker and Dr. B. R. Shoemaker, live in Roseburg.

### 1947 Agriculture Yearbook

The 1947 Agriculture Appropriation Bill, now pending before Congress, includes an item for a new Agriculture Yearbook which will be known as the 1943-47 edition. The title will probably be "Science and the Farmer" and will cover recent developments on such subjects as animal breeding, nutrition, plant breeding and diseases, soil, fertilizers, insecticides, fungicides, and kindred subjects.

The new book will go to the printer late this year and will be ready for distribution some time in 1947. This will be the first new yearbook since the 1942 edition, publication having been suspended during the war.

I still have available for distribution a limited number of the 1942 Yearbooks entitled "Keeping Livestock Healthy," a copy of which will be sent on request as long as my supply lasts.

## Traffic Accidents Kill 15 In March

Traffic accidents claimed a toll of 15 lives during the first ten days of March, Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell, Jr., said today in warning Oregon drivers and pedestrians that unsafe practices were contributing a heavy toll of death and injury this year.

"Final figures on fatalities for the month of February show 35 persons killed, an all-time high for that month in Oregon's history," Farrell declared. "Such unsafe practices as passing in the face of approaching traffic, speed too great for safety on curves and driving after drinking contributed to this tragic record."

The secretary of state said that while vehicle defects played a part in the accident upswing so far this year, the greater proportion of the increase was due to unsafe driving and walking practices.

"The individual driver and pedestrian can prevent these accidents by accepting his full share of the responsibility for safety," Farrell declared.

## Coquille Students Attend Meeting

Eleven girls of the Coquille high school home economics groups attended a Future Home Makers' association meeting held at Myrtle Point Saturday, March 9. The Future Home Makers' association is a national association designed to organize the districts who have girls who are interested in the home economics field.

Some of the districts of the state who were represented there are Cottage Grove, Roseburg, Reedsport, Myrtle Point, and Coquille. The eleven Coquille girls who attended this meeting include Alice Parry, Doris Willard, Virginia Pullen, Ramona Cunningham, Yvonne Davis, Lillabelle Robison, Carol Walton, Deloris Sell, Bettie Sell, Careen Molthu, Delpha Owen and their director, Miss Leona Ingman.

The afternoon was spent in playing games to get acquainted and refreshments were served by the hostesses, the Myrtle Point girls.

### Examiners Slate Date

A traveling examiner of operators and chauffeurs is scheduled to arrive in Coquille, March 28th, 1946, and will be on duty at the city hall between the hours of 11 a. m. and 5 p. m., according to a recent announcement released from the Secretary of State's office.

All those wishing permits or licenses to drive cars are asked to get in touch with the examiner during these hours.

Trespass Notices, printed on tuff tag, for sale at this office.

## Now For Sale

PORTLAND, Oregon, March 21—Portable Army saw mills—designed during the war for hurried production of lumber in theatres of operation—are going into civilian production in the Northwest. Fourteen such units, recently declared surplus at Spokane, were quickly snapped up on preference certificates.

Veterans in this region who bought mills are: Virgelee Hawkins, Ridgefield, Washington; Elbert J. Noakes, Seneca, Oregon, and Joseph J. Connolly, 2747 Northwest Twenty-eight Avenue, Portland. Connolly will operate in the Coos Bay country. The sets sold for \$5990 and have a capacity of 1200 board feet an hour.

### Marriage Licenses

Marriage licenses were issued this week to two Coos county couples by the office of the county clerk, L. W. Oddy.

On March 19th, Clayed Ed Johnson of Heber Springs, Arkansas, and Jeanne E. Baedridge of Reedsport were issued a license to wed.

Wilbur Ray Randall of Coos Bay and Rosina M. B. Morris of Coos Bay received their license on March 20th. Married in Coos Bay's Emmanuel Episcopal church on March 16th were George F. Taylor and Lola Mae Saylor. The Rev. J. Thomas Lewis performed the nuptial ceremony.

### Justice Court

Dennis Forrest Sullivan, age 42, was placed in the county jail after appearing before justice court in Coquille. He was charged with driving with no license for his vehicle.

### Stiles On Way Home

Word just received from Jack Stiles, by his mother, Mrs. Julia Bracelon of Coquille, was that he was leaving on the U.S.S. General Hodges for Seattle, Wash.

Jack has been stationed at Calcutta, India, with the 142nd General Hospital there. He was leaving India March 5th and it will take him about 24 days to make the trip. Jack was a graduate of Coquille high school in 1943. Before entering the service he was employed at Henninger's Market.

### Visit From Spokane

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Mildes and infant daughter, Donna Marie, visited last week at the home of Mrs. Mildes' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Nosler of Sanford Heights. They left Sunday morning for their home in Spokane.

### Divorces Granted

At its hearing on March 19th, the Circuit court granted the following divorces:

- Belva Barkdoll vs. Kenneth Barkdoll.

Helen Dupell vs. Arnold Dupell. Albert Henry Gouley vs. Theresa M. Gouley.

Miriam R. Roady vs. Orville E. Roady.

James S. Duke vs. Rae Duke. John H. Culpepper vs. Madge S. Culpepper.

In the case of the State vs. Robert Edgar Garver who was charged with burglary not in a dwelling, he was committed by the court as insane.

### County Clerk's Office

Legal proceedings on file at the county clerk's office this week are: an action at law filed March 13,

Howdy Folks: One of our customers remarked that in some parts of India a man doesn't know his wife until after he has married her. But why single out India?

In China, it is reported that a man can buy a wife for five dollars, but then a good wife should be worth that.

While discussing marital situations over the globe, a magazine states that in Persia a wife is required to know how to comb wool for her husband.

In this country, they just pull it over his eyes.

Some folks prefer to stay single—other rather knot.

Our neighbor says he heard of one marriage that reminded him of a house. She was painted and he was plastered.

We don't plaster nor paint but we do lubricate.

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Thomas Kelley vs. Sigfrid Granstrom; vs. Jacob Lind, March 18; Vivian B. Kerby vs. James R. Kirby, March 13; Anna G. Reeve vs. Oliver E. Reeve, March 18.

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