



FRED MacMURRAY AND AVA GARDNER play the romantic leads in the exciting Universal-International melodrama, "Singapore." It is Miss Gardner's first co-starring stint. At Roxy Theatre Thurs., Fri., Sat.

## Progress Noted In Sheep Study On Hill Pasture

Progress in the long-range research work in sheep breeding for hill pasture utilization was reported to those who attended the recent field day of the animal husbandry department at Corvallis.

The objective of this breeding program is to develop sheep which can produce a large number of marketable desirable fat weaner lambs on improved hill pastures of the Willamette valley at the greatest net profit to the farmer.

So far the work has been confined largely to testing existing breeds to find the best ones adapted to the area. The weakness and strong points of each breed are discovered in actual tests under typical farm conditions, explained Dr. Ralph Bogart, professor of animal husbandry, now heading the study.

So far the same ewe foundation material has been crossed with rams of Romney, Hampshire, Cheviot and Border Leicester breeds to develop four distinct but related flocks. Production data already indicate

certain trends, but further testing is necessary before drawing definite conclusions, Dr. Bogart explained. Thus far no differences among sires was noted in lambing percentages, from year to year. Only minor differences in growth rate were noted among lambs of the different sire groups.

Hampshire and Cheviot rams produced a higher percentage of lambs grading fat in 1947, with Romney the lowest. Hampshire rams also produced lambs having the highest total pounds per ewe. Carcass figures on fat lambs at weaning favored the Border Leicester and Cheviot sired lambs.

If the research shows that each of the existing breeds have weaknesses not corrected by breeding improvement methods, it is planned to select and inbreed to combine strong points of the different breeds into one sheep particularly adapted to Willamette valley hill pasture conditions.

## Profit Factors Found In Dairy Survey

Relatively large operations plus good pastures and home grown feeds were the chief factors in making some dairy farms in Tillamook coun-

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ty more profitable than others in a study just reported on in an O.S.C. experiment station bulletin, "Dairy Farm Earnings in Tillamook County, Oregon."

While the results apply particularly to the coast region, the factors affecting profit are largely applicable to dairy farm operations throughout the state, according to the three authors of the report, G. W. Kuhlman, A. L. Pullman and D. Curtis Mumford of the farm management department.

Ten farms cooperating in the TVA fertilizer project were studied, using detailed records kept for the years 1940 through 1946. Average size of farms was 115 acres of which 50 acres was in tillable pasture and 29 acres mostly in hay and silage crops. Capital investment per farm was close to \$30,000.

Following were factors found responsible for some farms being the most profitable: Large number of cows, larger amount of capital to work with, enough work for two full-time men in contrast with those having too much for one man, but not enough for two, larger gross sales with less actual expense per farm, larger acreages of crops, higher carrying capacity of pastures, less purchased feed because of more home grown.

## Crop Prospects Good Summary Shows

General good crop prospects for major items, are indicated in a summary of the agricultural situation at mid-1948, just prepared by L. H. Breithaupt, Oregon State college extension agricultural economist. Meanwhile, the buying power of consumers continues at near record high level.

The summary is contained in a regular agricultural outlook circular which also contains data on price trends for all major farm products. Copies may be had free from any county extension office or direct from the college.

No clear sign of much recession, if any, in this country in 1948 is seen. Exports of food are expected to continue large, although probably below 1947-48. Thus the 1948-49 marketing season starts with demand again exceptionally strong.

United States production of all crops combined is expected by the United States department of agriculture to equal the average of the past ten years, at least. On the other

hand, the output of animal products for food may be the least since 1941. Meat production this year may fall ten per cent below 1947, with milk output somewhat smaller, and egg and poultry production down considerably.

## Well Dried Hay Essential When Stored Chopped

Stored chopped hay must be drier than whole hay to keep properly, otherwise it will not hold its color, declares M. G. Huber, O.S.C. agricultural engineer.

Some hays, however, much as the clovers have a tendency to turn brown under any conditions, Huber points out. The difference between natural browning of hay and the tobacco color resulting from over-heating and too much moisture is easily recognized by anyone familiar with it.

Whole or unchopped alfalfa hay can be safely stored with a moisture content as high as 28 and 29 per cent; though 24 per cent is the recommended moisture level, the engineer indicates. High moisture content hay must be carefully spread in the mow to avoid heating. On the other hand, chopped hay from one and one-half to two inches in length must be cured to a moisture content of not less than 25 per cent, while 22 per cent is recommended.

Huber points out that the figures themselves mean little to those who have had no experience with moisture testing equipment. But, the figures do indicate the small difference between properly cured hay and hay that is too wet.

There is some evidence that chopped hay, especially when cut short, is more likely to catch fire from spontaneous ignition than is whole hay. This danger is decreased, however, by using a long cut. Proper curing will avoid the danger entirely, Huber points out.

For practical purposes, a good rule to follow for hay chopping is to have the hay dry enough that it is safe to store the whole hay in large quantities.

With the chopper blades set to cut one and one-half inches, Huber says usually 41 per cent of the hay will be

shorter than one inch, 31 per cent will be from one to two inches in length, about 15 per cent will be two or three inches long, nine per cent will be three to four inches, and four per cent will be four inches or longer.



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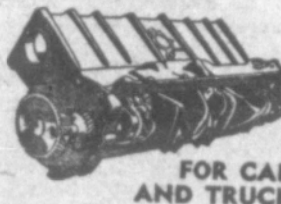
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From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

They let the Wives in!

The ex-GI's of our town entertained their wives the other night at one of their "feeds" of hamburger sandwiches and ice cold beer. (The girls had hinted that they'd like to see what went on when their husbands got together!)

Being wary, the boys provided chicken sandwiches and cake and cider—for those wives who might have other tastes. But though they were grateful for the choice, most of the wives agreed that hamburger sandwiches and beer were a mighty pleasant combination.

After the "feed" the husbands took their wives on at a game of darts, and later they played "Indications." The party broke up around ten, with the boys agreeing that it was mighty successful.

From where I sit, it's this companionship among young couples today, and their moderation in a sensible beverage like beer, that's won the younger generation such a wholesome reputation.

Joe Marsh

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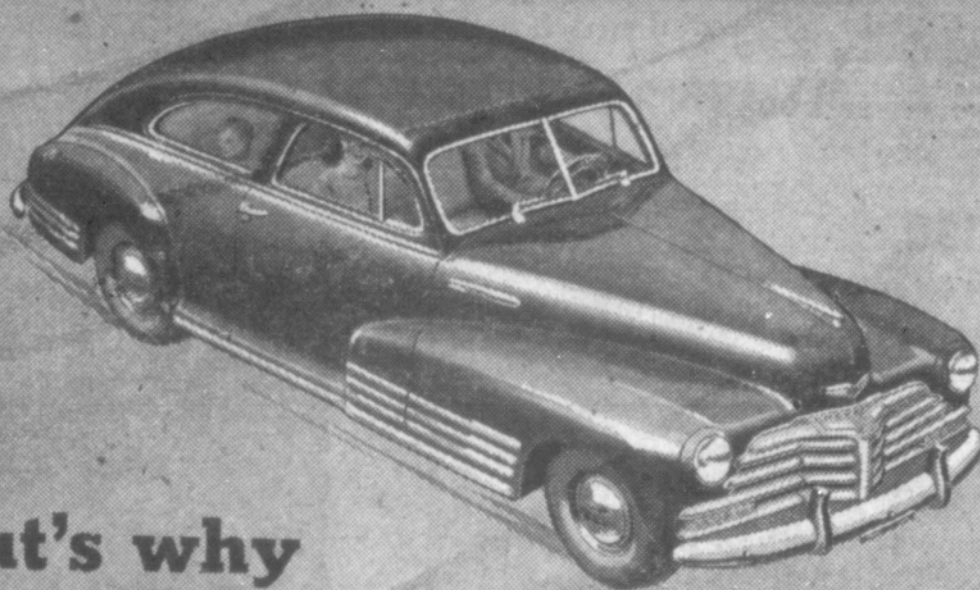
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