

County Ramblin's

County Agricultural Agent

The "Meadow" or "Field Mouse" has existed in Eastern Oregon for many years. The heavy build up this year, in Central Oregon, has likewise had some build up in other counties as well. Here in Sherman county the meadow or field mouse has caused damage to the Phil O'Meara alfalfa field and Delmer Smith's irrigated pasture. Bait control measures are available for farmers that feel the problem is getting out of hand. Some farmers have reported unusually heavy mouse population in their straw dumps, and one farmer indicated some damage to wheat along the fence row.

The most costly phase of this build up in mouse population could be its importance to human health. Tularemia, which is associated with these mice, is present in the mice in Eastern Oregon, but we are uncertain whether it exists in Sherman county. Surface water in areas where mice are heavy is quite commonly found to have these bacteria. Some other animals have been found infested. It is principally a disease of wild animals and spreads from animals to humans, rather than person to person. About 90% of all reported human tularemia infestations in the United States have had contact with sick or dead wild rabbits. The other important source of infection is the bite of infected insects, chiefly ticks and deer flies.

There is no need for alarm in Sherman county relative to this disease, but it is one that people should be aware of and avoid direct contact with sick or dead wild animals. The field or meadow mouse is different from the house mouse in that they are black or dark brown in color and are often mistaken for young moles. They have short legs and tails, and comparatively long course fur, heavy bodies and short rounded ears.

A build up of mice, maybe associated with a decrease in their natural enemies, which include the hawk, owl, shrike, crow, snake, badger, weasel, skunk, coyote and other similar animals. Nature seems to be overbalanced and all farmers and others can help reduce this situation by protecting some of these animals mainly birds, unless they are doing damage to the individual.

The 15th annual meeting of the Pacific Northwest Crop Improvement Association will be held May 20, Marcus Whitman Hotel, Walla Walla, Wn. The Pacific Northwest Regional Grain Sanitation committee will meet the following day.

About 375 million dollars were spent in the United States last year for agricultural research. Of this about 14 million went for research to find new industrial uses for farm products. Most of the rest had increased production as its goal.

The average industrial firm devotes about \$2 out of every \$100 of gross income for basic research but only about 4 cents of every \$100 obtained from farm production goes for research to expand market use.

Nearly 60% of the 1957 wheat production of the Pacific Northwest was of white club wheat varieties. Common white made up 35%, hard red winter wheats 11%.

Seventeen per cent of the wheat grown in the Pacific Northwest in 1957 was assessed with smut dockage. This is down 13% from the 1956 figure of 30%. This reduction can be attributed partially to the increased production of the newly released smut resistant varieties and the increased use of HCB for seed wheat treatment.

The continued use of HCB and introduction and expansion of Omar should reduce smut percentages further in 1958. A fast reliable easy method to measure protein in food products has recently been developed by USDA scientist D. C. Udy, of the Western Quality Laboratory, Pullman, Wn. The most common way to measure protein in the past has been with the Kjeldahl method, the new test can be made in about 5 minutes. The cost of the material is reduced about 1-15 of the previous method. The development of a new protein test may eventually allow protein testing of farmer's wheat as it is brought to the elevator. This is an important factor when consideration is given to binning of wheat according to quality and market use.

Several fruit growers in the Rufus area were visited last week with John Thienes, Wasco county extension agent, handling the horticulture work. Unless frost occurs good crop prospects are in the making. Apricot trees are through blooming and peach trees are in nearly full bloom. The Twig borer and Corymen blight are the most serious attacking these trees at present.

The road fence rows between Joe Heater and Joe Peters, Erskine area, were sprayed last week in a demonstration trial for control of cheat grass and rye. Dalapon and Amino Triazole, two grass killing chemicals, were used in combination with 2,4-D for broadleaf plant control. Farmers in this area can watch the progress and success of this material. Joe Heater can give information as to location.

Have you ever had vegetable and flower seedlings fall over on the ground due to rotting at the ground level. This is called damping off and can be prevented if it is serious in establishing new seedlings. Popular materials available are Arasan, Ceresan, Seme-

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Meets each First and Third Tuesdays
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Gordon Harper, Sec.

Lupine Rebekah Lodge No. 116
Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Visiting members welcome.
Ann Miller, NG
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Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in I.O.O.F. hall. Transient and visiting brothers are cordially invited.
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Leo Watkins, Secretary

Eureka Lodge No. 121 A.F.&A.M.
Meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings each month. Visiting members cordially invited to meet with us.
Joe Heater, W. M.
Jyde Gilmer, Secretary

san, Spergon and Captan. For home plantings of small seed packets, use about as much chemical as can be placed on the tip of a knife blade. Shake the package gently so all seeds are well coated. Other precautions against infection include avoiding overcrowding of seedlings, providing adequate air circulation if in hot frame or greenhouse, and by morning watering to allow drying off foliage by evening.

MORE OREGONIANS BUSY

About 8,300 fewer Oregon workers were seeking employment at the beginning of this month than last month, it was announced today. The number of unemployed dropped from 73,600 to 65,300 during March but this was 17,200 above the first of April a year ago.

Improvement was noted in outside activities with the better March weather than Oregon usually experiences. Employment increases in lumbering construction and agricultural work were reported by the local offices of the Unemployment Compensation Commission. Payments to the insured unem-

ployed reached \$5,636,921 during March, highest March total in the commission's history and only exceeded by the preceding two months. The Trust Fund balance is down to \$26,250,000 and employer tax rates would all have gone to 2.7 per cent if Governor Holmes had not requested a \$14,000,000 loan from the Federal Government through the provisions of the Reed Act. The tax increase would have affected about 12,000 Oregon employers.

Insured claimants have dropped from the Mid-January peak of around 52,000 to about 39,000, but the number of people who have drawn all their benefits by the end of March is about 13,000. This is over twice the number of exhaustees at this time last year. It is estimated that a majority of these exhaustees are still without jobs.

JAPS SEEING WHEAT

The American wheat exhibit at the U. S. Agricultural Pavilion at the April 12-27 Osaka International Trade Fair will have a definite futuristic flair.

So suggests Joseph J. Spiruta, Far East representative of the Oregon Wheat Growers league

which is teaming up with the foreign agricultural service of the U. S. department of agriculture.

"Our idea runs like this," Mr. Spiruta commented. "We intend to graphically demonstrate and compare the ancient rice-eating diet of Japan with the modern tendency, in this dawning age of space ships, to turn more and more towards wheat for a truly balanced and health-giving diet." The space given to the Oregon Wheat Growers league, cooperating with a number of Japanese eating wheat foods in a modern age of jet planes, helicopters and supersonic planes, as contrasted with the farm family of yesterday gathered around the evening meal of rice.

Wheat is one of five commodities to be highlighted at the U. S. Agricultural Pavilion, together with cotton, soybeans, and tallow. All five products link Japanese and foreign cooperators with the U. S. Department of Agriculture's market development program.

This marks the third time that the Oregon Wheat Growers league has participated with the foreign agriculture service in a major Japanese international trade exhibition, and the second time such

participation has taken place in Osaka.

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NOTICE OF SCHOOL MEETING

Notice is hereby given to the legal voters of school district No. 9 of Sherman County, State of Oregon, that a SCHOOL MEETING of the said district will be held at the schoolhouse on the 5th day of May, 1958, at 2 o'clock p. m., for the purpose of discussing the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1958 and ending June 30, 1959, hereinafter set forth.

BUDGET - FISCAL YEAR 1958-1959

Summary of Estimated Expenditures, Receipts, and Available Cash Balances, and Tax Levies	Total			
	All Funds	General Fund	Bus Reserve	Lunch Fund
1. Total Estimated Expenditures	\$ 54,339.73	\$ 45,339.73	\$ 7,350.00	\$ 1,575.00
DEDUCT:				
2. Total Estimated Receipts and Available Cash Balances	24,542.05	20,378.05	2,589.00	1,575.00
3. Amount Necessary to Balance the Budget	29,722.68	24,961.68	4,761.00	
ADD:				
4. Estimated Amount of Taxes that will not be collected during the Fiscal Year for which this Budget is made, including Estimated Rebate on Taxes	891.68	748.85	142.83	
5. Total Estimated Tax Levies for Ensuing Fiscal Year	\$ 30,614.36	\$ 25,710.53	\$ 4,903.83	
6. Analysis of Estimated Tax Levies:				
(a) Amount Outside 6% Limitation	\$ 30,614.36			

INDEBTEDNESS		Dated:
1. Amount of bonded indebtedness (Include all negotiable interest-bearing warrants issued under ORS 328.205)	\$ None	March 18, 1958
2. Amount of warrant indebtedness on warrants issued and endorsed "not paid for want of funds."	\$ None	Signed: Frank von Borstel District Clerk John J. Decker District School Board Chairman
3. Amount of other indebtedness	\$ None	Approved: March 18, 1958
4. Total indebtedness (sum of items 1, 2, 3.)	\$ None	Signed: Frank von Borstel District Clerk

GENERAL FUND - District No. 9		SPECIAL FUNDS - District No. 9	
Schedule II - Estimated Receipts		Bus Reserve	
Item	Estimated Receipts Ensuing Fiscal Year	Estimated Receipts	
10. Revenue from Local Sources	\$ 900.00	Beginning Net Cash Balance or Deficit	
Rent	200.00	Total Budget Resources	
20. Revenue from Intermediate Sources	850.00	1. New Bus	
21.1 County School Fund	750.00	2. To Bus Reserve	
29.3 Miscellaneous - Music	100.00	Total Expenditures	
30. Revenue from or through State Sources	5603.80	1. Sale of Lunches	
31.0 Basic School Support Fund	74.25	2. Reimbursement from State	
33.1 Common Irreducible School Fund	4000.00	Beginning Net Cash Balance or Deficit	
10. Revenue from other Sch. Dist.	\$ 12,378.05	Total Budget Resources	
High School Bus	8000.00	1. Supplies and other expenses	
Total Receipts	\$ 20,378.05	Total Expenditures	
Beginning Net Cash Balance Less Cash Working Fund (or deficit)	\$ 20,378.05	1. Supplies and other expenses	
Total Budget Resources - Gen. Fund	\$ 20,378.05	Total Expenditures	

GENERAL FUND - District No. 9		SPECIAL FUNDS - District No. 9	
Beh. III - Estimated Expenditures		Lunch Fund	
Item	Estimated Expenditures Ensuing Fiscal Year	Estimated Receipts	
I. General Control	\$ 480.00	1. Sale of Lunches	
1. Personal Service:	25.00	2. Reimbursement from State	
(2) Clerk	50.00	Beginning Net Cash Balance or Deficit	
2. Supplies	167.00	Total Budget Resources	
3. Elections and Publicity	722.00	1. Supplies and other expenses	
4. Legal Service (Clerk's board, Audit, etc.)	3000.00	Total Expenditures	
6. Total Expense of Gen. Control	\$ 480.00	1. Supplies and other expenses	
II. Instruction	10175.00	Total Expenditures	
1. Personal Service:	800.00	1. Supplies and other expenses	
(1) Principals	300.00	Total Expenditures	
(3) Teachers	15.00	1. Supplies and other expenses	
(4) Music	600.00	Total Expenditures	
(5) Substitute teacher	200.00	1. Supplies and other expenses	
2. Library Supplies, Repairs	100.00	Total Expenditures	
3. Teaching Supplies	18,850.00	1. Supplies and other expenses	
4. Textbooks	\$ 6,030.00	Total Expenditures	
6. Other Expense of Instruction		1. Supplies and other expenses	
7. Total expense of Instruction		Total Expenditures	
III. Operation of Plant		1. Supplies and other expenses	
1. Personal Service:		Total Expenditures	
(1) Janitors and other employees		1. Supplies and other expenses	
(2) Fuel		Total Expenditures	
(3) Water		1. Supplies and other expenses	
(4) Light and Power		Total Expenditures	
(6) Telephone		1. Supplies and other expenses	
7. Other Expense of Operation		Total Expenditures	
8. Total Expense of Operation		1. Supplies and other expenses	
		Total Expenditures	

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