

Food Processing Boosts State to Farm Leadership

Though far down the list of states in total farm production, Oregon leads the nation in output of a sizable list of food products, points out E. H. Wiegand, head of the department of food technology at O.S.C., in a major article in Reclamation Era, magazine published by the department of the interior.

Oregon ranks first in the production of winter peas, filberts, loganberries, youngberries, boysenberries, black raspberries and gooseberries, and takes second place with strawberries, red raspberries, walnuts, prunes and sweet cherries, Wiegand states.

Production of these and other food crops is closely linked to the food processing industry, Wiegand emphasizes. He shows how the production and processing of these perished crops have grown together, making possible invasion of distant markets otherwise closed by high shipping costs.

"Oregon, recognized as the source of high quality foods, has long been a key state in the processing industry," Wiegand wrote. "The long growing season plus a wide choice of products and comparative freedom from crop failures have made it possible for Oregon producers and processors to compete at a lower cost. . . . With the world food situation what it is today, there is every indication that the processing industries will grow even more extensively."

How research by the O.S.C. experiment station in his department has helped advance the processing industry in this state is mentioned by the author. A striking example was the development of a huge brined cherry industry directly from research in the department undertaken at the request of growers in 1925. It now is a \$7,000,000 enterprise in this state.

Research is continuous in the problems of canning, freezing, dehydration and brining, as well as in utilization of waste products. Preliminary experiments in utilization of surplus filberts have developed filbert butter, oil, flour and press cake. Under study also is a process for making methane gas from pear waste.

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Silage Spoilage Usually Caused By Poor Methods

It's about this season of the year, when silage feeding starts in earnest, that a few farmers will write to Oregon State college and inquire: "What's wrong with my silage—the cows don't like it?"

Experience from past years indicate two silage making errors will cover most of the difficulties, answers Harold P. Ewalt, extension dairy specialist. For unappetizing, sour smelling silage, Ewalt says the usual fault lies in the fact the silage was put up too moist or with no preservation, or at least too little, added.

White mold on the silage is another frequent complaint. This, says Ewalt, is often caused by loose packing or when the silage is put up too dry.

In either event, it is too late after the damage is done to correct it. Unappetizing silage, however, may be "dressed up" adding a little grain mix or molasses. Cows will often learn to eat slightly unpalatable sour silage if it is put before them for several days.

To farmers who open their silos for the first time and find excessive spoilage, Ewalt says that is a reminder for next year to tramp silage for several successive days after the silo is filled. A good rule to follow is to tramp a silo daily until settling is completed.

In rare cases an additional cause of off-flavored silage results from excessive weeds.

Grass silage is the cheapest feed available, according to Ewalt. He recommends that dairy animals be given all of this type of feed they will eat, since it is practically im-

possible to overfeed. He cautions, however, that up to 40 pounds daily is the limit for corn silage. Foul-feeding will result from excessive grain silage feeding.

Three times a day feeding has resulted in increased silage consumption for many dairymen, Ewalt adds.

Farm Betterment Theme of Ag. Engineering Meet

Agricultural engineering problems of the northwest including soil and water conservation, farm structures, rural electrification and farm power and machinery will be discussed this weekend in Hood River at the third annual meeting of the Pacific Northwest section of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers.

More than 30 Oregon State college staff members and agricultural engineering students will join with college and industry representatives from Washington, Idaho and British Columbia for the three-day meet devoted to many phases of farm betterment. The principal address will be given by A. J. Schwantes, president of ASAE and head of agricultural engineering at the University of Minnesota.

Staff members who will appear on the program include: J. B. Rodgers, second vice-chairman of the Pacific Northwest section of ASAE, who will participate in the silo

round table; J. E. Harmond, who will preside over power and machinery section meetings; H. R. Sinaud, who will conduct the final general session; F. P. McWhorter, who will discuss "Plant Disease Control"; John Wolfe, "Economic Problems in Farm Irrigation"; Dave Long, "Portable Dehydrator Test Results"; and W. L. Griebler, "Better Cooperation Between Industry, the Experiment Stations, and the Extension Service."

David Moore, senior in agricultural engineering from Corvallis, will talk on "Farm Dairy Structures" and George Ray of Klamath Falls, president of the college student agricultural engineering branch, will discuss O.S.C. student activities.

Czech Refugee Shipped Creamery Bulletins

A shipment of bulletins on dairy manufacturing from Oregon State college, together with several used books on the subject, have helped brighten the outlook for a refugee creamery operator from Prague Czechoslovakia, who wrote to Dr. G. H. Wilster, professor of dairy manufacturing.

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J. Stuedl wrote from Salsburg, Austria, that after 21 years in the dairy trade as manager of production in his country's largest plant, he was forced to flee, leaving behind his property, personal belongings and his library. Books on milk and dairy products were not available in Salsburg and he could not buy them if they were, he said.

After receiving the shipment he wrote his gratitude, adding that "Your great country not only has saved many million Europeans from starvation but also helped in many other ways. But do we deserve such benefit? Over 300,000 boys of yours have been killed and over a

million disabled—Decent people are aware of all this and appreciate what Americans have done for them."

Stuedl then hesitantly made another request, saying "old pieces of wardrobe, linen or shoes that someone does not like to wear anymore would still do a good service to us."



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