

## Business Activity Fails to Halt Farm Downtrend

Consumers probably will continue spending heavily for food and fiber in the second half of 1955, but this does not seem likely to offset the price of depressing effects of lower supports for grains and larger supplies of meats and some other Oregon farm products, according to the July issue of "Agricultural Situation and Outlook," issued through Oregon State college.

Farm prices are likely to be under last summer and fall for grains, dairy products, meat animals and wool, potatoes, most fruit and vegetable and some seeds.

Prices are likely to be the same or higher most of the time for eggs, turkeys, hay, cover crop and turf seeds, peppermint oil, strawberries, peaches and prunes. During the first half of the year, Oregon farm prices averaged 2 per cent below last year. Nationally, they were down five per cent for the same period. Off the most from last year in Oregon were hogs, oats, turkeys and milk. Higher were potatoes, hay and wheat.

Oregon's income from the sale of farm products during the first four months was about the same as last year. Livestock products were seven per cent lower. Crops were nine per cent higher. Nationally, cash farm receipts were off about three per cent from the same months last year.

Farm costs, on the other hand, showed little change. Lower prices and fairly steady costs put the buying power of farm products at further disadvantage. The parity ratio, the relationship between prices received and prices paid by farmers, stood at 87 at mid-May. That is three points lower than a year earlier and 13 points below level set by Congress as a fair exchange rate for farm products.

Little change is in sight for the remainder of the year. Livestock production may average about the same, with larger supplies of some items offset by smaller supplies of others.

The season is still too young to predict the crop outturn with certainty. But, if weather is average, total crop production is not likely to be much different than last year.

It all adds up to the probability that large agricultural supplies will continue to keep farm prices from going up. With lower prices and not much change in marketing, receipts from the sale of farm products may average lower. Farm production costs may be down a little, but not as much as gross income. This would mean less money going into farmers' pockets this year.

### DAUGHTER FOR STITH

Mr. and Mrs. Audrey Stith of Route 1, Central Point, are parents of a daughter born Saturday, July 16, Sacred Heart hospital in Medford. Birth weight was six and three-quarter pounds.

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Miss America offers a timely tip on where to go for help if the bombs start falling. Shown posting the civil defense sign in a downtown Nashville, Tenn., drug store is Lee Ann Meriwether, Miss America for 1955.

### A BRIEF GLIMPSE . . .

## Into the Past . . .

From the Files of the American

#### 10 Years Ago—1945

An unusually interesting program was given at the meeting of the Central Point Grange Friday evening when the lecturer, Sgt. Cleo Young, put on two moving pictures of the war in Europe.

Mrs. Clem Finley entertained a group of small friends honoring her niece, Susan Powell's 10th birthday Tuesday afternoon.

Mrs. Donald Coleman, who has been visiting friends in Iowa, arrived home Wednesday evening. Born to Mr. and Mrs. Everett Grisson, a son, David Everett, weighing nine pounds and five ounces at the Community hospital July 7.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Griffith, Raymond and Patty, spent the weekend at Union creek.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. John W. Sharp, July 9, a boy, 9½ pounds, at Sacred Heart hospital.

#### 20 years ago—1935

The matter of the resignation of Mrs. Rose Hermanson as city treasurer was taken up by the city council Monday. Several secret ballots were taken and Edward Jones was declared elected.

Donald S. Richardson was one of those selected to receive a limited scholarship to Oregon's institutions of higher learning.

Mrs. Merle Obenchain enter-

tained with a shower in honor of Miss Ruth Turpin on Monday afternoon.

Mrs. Roy Kelly entertained Friday at her home with a shower in honor of Miss Vera Hood.

#### CONDUCTS CHURCH SCHOOL

Mrs. Everett Faber is spending this week in Ashland conducting a school of missions for women of the state. The school is being held at SOCE by the Methodist church.



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### HERE'S MORE ABOUT

## 130 4-H'ers

(Continued from page one)

follows: (4-H'ers placed in order listed)

Swine: Willie Debrick, Jim Frink, Jeff Anhorn, Russel Frink and Judy Gebhard, all of Central Point.

Poultry: Rose Marie Legler, Central Point; Joan Dobrot, Central Point; Alice Thompson, Central Point; Carolyn Tiegs, Valley View; Bobbie Kuest, Central Point; Phyllis Taylor, Central Point.

Sheep (local, beginners): Linda Gibson, West Side; Jim Frink, Central Point; Russell Frink, Central Point; Bob Kuest, Central Point.

Sheep (visitors, senior): Joan Drager, Bellview; Truman Elmore, Applegate; Annette Drager, Bellview; James Cochran, Antelope.

Sheep (visitors, intermediate): Charles Elmore, Applegate; Susan Wright, Oak Grove; Charlene Peterson, Bellview; Fred Jossy, Antelope.

Sheep (visitors, beginner): Joyce Kerr, Bellview; Nancy Lusk, Bellview; Pat Gillette, Bellview; David Hughes, Eagle Point.

Beef (local, intermediate): Patsy Charley, Bill Anhorn and Anita von der Hellen, all of Central Point.

Beef (visitors, senior): Dale Smith, Central Point; Shirley Dunlap, Ruch; David Woolfolk,

Antelope; Annette Drager, Bellview; Fred Jossy, Antelope; Bill Hubbard, Antelope.

Beef (visitors, intermediate): Charles Elmore, Applegate; Ronnie Anderson, Antelope; Truman Elmore, Applegate; Susan Wright, Oak Grove; Linda Mallory, Antelope; Russell Elmore, Applegate.

Beef (visitors, beginner): Michael Elmore, Applegate; Charlotte Bush, Antelope; Jim Sims, Applegate; John Cox, Upper Rogue; Chip Buffington, Oak Grove.

Dairy (local, senior): Laurel Higinbotham; Lewis Nickerson, Rose Marie Legler and Max Frederick, all of Central Point.

Dairy (local, intermediate): Jim Frink, John Anhorn, Jeff Anhorn, Todd Caster, Judy Gebhard and Ricky Smith, all of Central Point.

Dairy (visitors, senior): Sally Mongold, Eagle Point; Shirley Dunlap, Ruch; Carole Nelson, Reese Creek; Fred Jossy, Antelope; Ronnie Nelsen, Reese Creek; Susan Wright, Oak Grove.

Dairy (visitors, intermediate): Ronnie Anderson, Antelope; Karen Jossy, Antelope; Steve Carroll, Eagle Point; Bill Hubbard, Antelope; Joanna Mallory, Antelope; David Hughes, Eagle Point.

Dairy (visitors, beginning): Noel Dunlap, Ruch; Connie Feghe, Bellview; Steve Geren, Antelope; Gary Fossen, Ruch; Susan Carroll, Eagle Point; Martha Goodwin, Applegate.

In the home economics practice judging, girls judged classes of bread, cup cakes, sponge cakes and classes of dresses, skirts and scarfs.

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