

TUALATIN VALLEY FARM NEWS

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SENATORS MORSE AND CORDON URGE REMOVAL OF OLEO TAX



SENATOR WAYNE MORSE

Signing as co-sponsors of a bipartisan bill to eliminate all consumer taxes on butter substitutes but banning interstate commerce in yellow oleomargarine, Senator Wayne L. Morse and Senator Guy Cordon, from Oregon, take a public stand on an issue which has definite interest to farmers and to the consuming public.

"I am willing to see oleo taxes removed," Morse declares, "providing consumers and dairy farmers are given some protection against the fraudulent passing of oleomargarine as butter—at butter prices."

"It is evident," he continues, "that the dairy industry could not long withstand such unfair competition in a vital market for surplus milk. No one wants to deprive the housewife of oleomargarine. But it should be sold as oleo and not as butter."

Senator Cordon states, "I am giving my unqualified support to this legislation because I believe that dairy farming is essential to the agricultural economy of this country. The family-sized farm is an American tradition and the dairy farmer is an outstanding example of the small businessman at his best."

"The oleomargarine interests would like to attack this tradition with synthetic production of an imitation product, colored and sold in semblance of the original."



SENATOR GUY CORDON

They seek to monopolize the spread market at the expense of the dairy farmer, 26.9 per cent of whose milk production went into butter last year.

"The legislation I favor," Cordon concludes, "would eliminate all Federal taxes and license fees on oleomargarine. I do not think Congress should go any further to advance the cause of 24 oleomargarine manufacturers, five of whom control 65% of all oleo production in the United States."

Senator Morse, developing his views on the proposed legislation to let each state decide whether yellow margarine could be manufactured and sold within its borders, adds, "The oleomargarine manufacturers have imitated the texture and taste of butter and have been allowed to fortify their product with Vitamin A in and attempt to imitate the nutritional qualities of butter. They now demand the unrestricted right to usurp the naturally yellow color."

"The dairy herds of the nation are probably the most important single factor in maintaining stability in our agricultural economy and incidentally in developing a sound soil conservation program. The direct relationship between our dairy industry and a balanced diet for our people is being overlooked by too many people in the butter-oleo controversy," he concludes.

County Dairymen Aim To Build Up Open Class Show

HILLSBORO—Representatives of the Washington county dairy industry met Monday night with the county fair board to offer suggestions aimed at building up the open class dairy show at the fair in Hillsboro, August 31, September 1, 2 and 3.

Nearly 150 head of stock including Jerseys, Guernseys, Holsteins and Brown Swiss were indicated as the maximum number to be paraded this year before the judges. The dairymen indicated a wide spread interest in the open class show which will be in its third year this fall.

The meeting was called by the fair board because of the ceiling placed on income from Oregon racing meeting, for county fairs by the Oregon legislature. Under the laws as amended by this session, the county fairs of the state cannot receive more than \$7,500 regardless of the take at the racing meets in the future.

Top figure received by the fairs in the past was more than \$12,000. Under the present law as amended, the Washington county fair will not be able to do much, if any, remodeling or repair work on the present buildings, the fair board points out.

Income for the operation of the county fair is received from the sale of exhibit space in the buildings and on the grounds; from admission to the fair grounds and from the racing funds. A part of the money paid out in premiums comes from a state tax levy for fairs and from a county appropriation. The entire premium fund amounts to about \$4,000 the fair board records show.

Strawberry Crop Requires Plenty Farm Laborers

Farm labor is ample in practically every section of the state for the coming week but by May 23 thousands of workers will be needed to start picking a better-than-average strawberry crop, the Oregon State Employment Service reports this week.

Ontario, where 100 sugar beet thinners are needed, was the only one of the 17 local offices reporting a labor shortage, but most Western Oregon areas expected to need additional help by June 1.

"All reports indicate an above-normal crop of berries despite recent frost damage in some sections," said Earl R. Lovell, OSES director. "Fair weather has made it possible for growers to put their patches in good shape so that picking conditions should be even better than for last year's record crop. If the weather continues favorable, we will be able to offer several weeks' employment for many migrant families in addition to the available local labor supply."

With big acreages in two nearby areas, the Portland district expects to need 1,000 outside family groups for berry harvests. Cabins are available at Hillsboro, while many farms also offer cabins, tents, camping and trailer space.

The Oregon City office expects to absorb 150 new families by June 1, while McMinnville, Albany, Corvallis, Eugene and Free water also anticipate heavy labor demands in the berry fields. Salem area farms with hop training, bean planting, berry hoeing and cutting of asparagus, rhubarb and spinach already have put many to work and even heavier demands are expected.

RECLAMATION PROJECT FARMS DECLINE IN VALUE PER ACRE

BOISE, Idaho.—Farmers on 16 water through federal facilities federal reclamation projects in the Pacific Northwest in 1948 produced crops valued at \$202,639,040, third highest on record, according to the final crop census completed today by the regional office of the bureau of reclamation.

The gross return in 1947 was \$225,235,236, and in 1946, it totaled \$210,337,163. The average per-acre value in 1948 from the 1,910,502 acres under cultivation was \$106.07, as compared with \$120.18 in 1947, and \$114.35 in 1946, the tabulation shows.

Bureau records disclose that since the bureau of reclamation delivered its initial supply of water in the Pacific Northwest in 1907, the cumulative value of crops produced on projects in the area served full or supplemental irrigation.

Science Blames Bloat In Cattle On Clover Acid

Welsh scientists, across the Atlantic, have discovered what may be the missing link in the search for the true cause of bloat in cattle and sheep.

A possibly important trouble-causing factor in bloat cases, according to these investigators, is the "hydrocyanic acid or other cyanogenetic glucosides" found in the leaf juice of certain legumes, such as white clover. These chemicals were shown to cause relaxation and then paralysis of the smooth muscle of the rumen in cattle.

American veterinarians have long acknowledged that bloat is due to a paralysis of the belching mechanism whereby rumenants become unable to expel the gases that form during digestion. However, the prevailing theory has been that unusually large amounts of two poisonous gases—carbon monoxide and hydrogen sulfide—form after legumes are consumed and that it is these poisons which cause the paralysis.

If the Welsh investigators' view is proved correct in further research, the likely explanation of bloat will be that it is caused by the combined action of two different paralyzing agents: poisonous gases naturally formed in the rumen, and hydrocyanic acid or its equivalent naturally present in legumes.

Hydrocyanic acid poisoning, often contracted by cattle on sudan grass, is well known to American livestock owners and is a cause of heavy losses in some regions during the summer and fall, but this type of poisoning has not heretofore been linked with bloat. The latter is a common spring and late fall problem. It usually can be traced to allowing cattle to graze too freely on lush legume pastures.

Veterans Vie In Homestead Filing, Near 6,000 Acres

Fifty homesteads covering 5912 acres of irrigable land will be thrown open this summer to World War II veterans in the Riverton reclamation project, central Wyoming, the Oregon department of veterans' affairs reported this week.

Applications must be filed with the office of the superintendent, operation and development, bureau of reclamation, Riverton, Wyoming, by August 2, to be included in the public drawing. Blanks and instructions may be obtained at the same address.

This makes the second homestead opening announced in Wyoming in the past month. Applications are still accepted in Cody, Wyoming, for chances at 104 farm units on the Shoshone project comprising more than 12,000 acres of reclaimed public lands.

The Riverton project lands, according to the reclamation bureau, are "in their raw state, covered with sage and grasses, and must be cleared and leveled and a farm irrigation system installed prior to crop production."

"The soils," the bureau says, "are low in organic matter and a period of three to five years of soil building practices will be necessary before maximum yields can be obtained."

Principal crops are alfalfa, small grains, sugar beets, dry beans, irrigated pastures and various seed crops. The bureau advises that the typical farm be operated as a combination of cash crops and livestock enterprises.

Applicants must have \$3,000 in cash, assets or farm equipment and livestock, five character references, at least two years of farm experience, and an intent to farm as an occupation.

Severe Weather Causes Stem Rot Of Peas, Alfalfa

Stem rot is showing up on some red clover, alfalfa and alsi-like clover fields, reports Palmer Torvend, county agent.

Stem rot is a fungus trouble which kills individual plants, but the disease generally does not affect the entire field. The same stem rot is also found in vetches and Austrian winter field peas.

Severe winter conditions appear to have added to the occurrence of this disease this year, Torvend said. There is little a farmer can do about the stem rot problem this year.

Rex Warren, farm crops specialist, suggests that farmers who plan to rotate grain fields with legumes can help out future legume crops by spraying the grain fields to kill out all legumes which volunteer. Killing out volunteer legumes, Warren says, will cut down on the carry over of the source of infection. The disease will live over winter in the vines of these legume crops.

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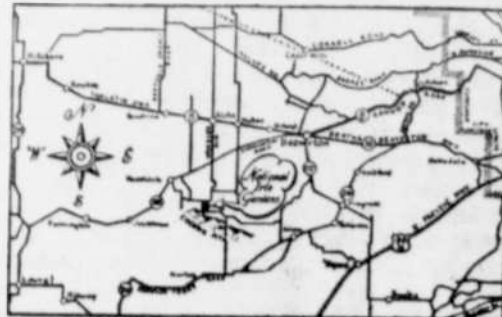
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Strawberries of County Ready for Harvest In Week

Strawberry harvest in Washington county may begin in some fields within one week if present weather conditions continue, says Palmer Torvend, county agent.

Fields located in the foothills and valley floor will generally be ready for harvest before those located on higher elevation. Indications are that between 5,000 and 6,000 pickers will be needed at the peak of harvest, Torvend estimates.

This will be especially true if warm weather continues so that the berries ripen quickly. Unless sufficient number of pickers are available, growers stand a chance of losing berries because of the lack of help to harvest.

Some damage is reported in a few areas. However, generally through the county prospects still indicate a good crop. If damp wet weather should develop as harvest season approaches, the period of harvest will be extended to a certain extent.

Torvend urges growers to take steps now to secure adequate picking help. Orders for help should be placed with the employment service.

4H Essay Contest Offers Milking Shorthorn Calf

4-H club members of Washington county have an opportunity to compete for a registered milking shorthorn heifer calf reports Joe Cox, county extension agent.

The Oregon milking shorthorn association will award the calf to an Oregon boy or girl who writes the best story of 200 words or less entitled "What I would do with a registered milking shorthorn calf."

This contest will be open to all Oregon boys and girls who were under 16 years of age on January 1, 1949. Contestants should describe their home setup, pasture, feed available, animals already owned and 4-H club or FFA experience according to Roger Dumdli, McMinnville, president of the association.

Stories should be sent to James R. Jorgenson, secretary, Jefferson, Oregon by September 1. The stories will be judged and the awards made at the Oregon State Fair.

Poultry Industry Accounts for 10% Ore. Farm Income

Gross income from Oregon's poultry industry last year totaled \$43,111,000 and was 6 percent higher than in 1947, according to latest U. S. department of agriculture reports.

Income from the sale of baby chicks, poult, hatching eggs or breeding stock is not included in the gross income figure. A breakdown of the \$43,111,000 total includes \$21,600,000 from sale of eggs, \$13,086,000 from turkeys, \$6,863,000 from chickens, and \$1,562,000 from broilers.

The poultry industry normally accounts for about 10 percent of the state's agricultural income.

OLD HENS GET AVIAN TB

Old hens are 42 times more likely to have tuberculosis than pullets, an official avian tuberculosis survey has revealed.

Results of the survey, made by midwestern veterinarians and reported in a national professional journal, emphasized the advantages of the all-pullet flock in preventing the spread of this disease.

VINES IN TEST BY COLLEGE CHEMICAL KILLS BLACKBERRY

Scientists all over the United States have been experimenting for the past three years on another new chemical tool, 2, 4, 5-Trichlorophenoxy - acetic acid—known as 2,4,5-T for short.

2, 4, 5-T is a chemical cousin of the well-known 2,4-D selective weed killer. Millions of gallons of which have found recent use to control weeds in lawns and cereal crops, such as corn and wheat. The latter chemical is not very effective on some weeds nor on most woody types of plants, such as blackberry vines and other brambles and brush.

Prominent among experimenters endeavoring to find a chemical that would control 2,4-D resistant plants of the woody type, were the Extension Specialists at Oregon State College, who have recently announced the results of their 1948 experiments using 2, 4, 5-T on blackberry vines, both Evergreen and Himalayan which are such pests over much of the land in western Oregon and Washington.

They found that 2, 4, 5-T in the Isopropyl Ester form dissolved in water and sprayed at the rate of 5 to 8 pounds of 2,4,5-T per acre, would kill most of the

top growth and from 50% to 60% of the roots in one application. The dead tops are then cut and burned, and when regrowth appears an additional spraying or two will give complete control of this pest.

Spraying should be done when the vines are in full leaf and growing vigorously.

2,4,5-T is now on the market and available to all who wish to control blackberry vines, brush along fence rows, and in pastures and woodlands. Highway, railroad and utility rights-of-way can now be economically cleared, and noxious or poisonous vines, such as poison ivy and poison oak, can be removed without difficulty from parks, playgrounds and other recreational areas.

2,4,5-T is reported to be non-toxic to humans and livestock, also non-inflammable, non-corrosive and will not sterilize the soil. Thus one more new and useful chemical tool is now available to farm, home and industrial use to do chemically and inexpensively a job of killing many unwanted plants which formerly could only be handled by hard, back-breaking labor.