

# FARM BUREAU NEWS

(From the Morrow County Farm Bureau News.)

## The Cost Plus Profit Basis

It has been said that the farmer is the one man who cannot put his business on a cost plus profit basis, that he is compelled to take whatever is offered and has no option. We admit that this has, in the past, been true. However, at the present time the cotton grower, the citrus fruit grower, the potato grower, the raisin grower, the dairyman, the Oregon fruit grower, the cheese makers, several hay associations and various other organizations have so banded together and so organized that they are able to work on this basis. When the grain farmer, the cattle raiser, and the wool grower remember that there is practically no commodity that they buy, practically not a man with whom they deal but what is, to a greater or less extent, affiliated or controlled by organizations which do work with cost as the basis of operation, it is easy to see that these farmers are the only ones who are not organized, and that they are the ones who are going to pay the profit for the other man without any chance for a come back. It is too late a stage for any man to say that any organization of farmers cannot succeed. Organization must succeed. It has succeeded and it will continue to succeed. A few days ago we received a letter from the Washington Hay Growers association which is a Yakima valley organization, stating that they had reached an agreement with the United Dairy association of Washington to supply their hay this year. The price will start with \$23 a ton, f. o. b. shipping point, and the advances throughout the season will be enough to allow for storage, interest on money invested and insurance. This will cover a deal calling for 60,000 tons of hay. The price to the dairymen is based on the cost of producing hay. The cost in the Yakima valley, figured by this association, of a ton of hay grown and delivered baled at the cars is \$20 a ton. The association requires \$1.00 a ton for the handling and, by this contract, the grower receives \$2 profit.

It is planned by this organization that the speculation in hay will be eliminated. It is hoped to keep it above cost of production for the benefit of the hay producers.

Here is one concrete example of organized dairymen who have succeeded in getting a stable price for their product, and organized hay producers who are working with the dairymen to get cost plus profit for the product all down the line. The time is here when not only these organizations but wool grower, the cattle raiser, and the grain grower will also receive cost plus profit for their product. Let us all help hasten the day and keep our eye on a cost-plus basis.

## The Morrow County Farm Bureau Holds August Executive Committee Meeting

The members of the executive committee met in executive session Saturday afternoon, August 28th, President Oscar Keithley in the chair. Under the discussion of irrigation problems, on Willow creek, it was decided to call a meeting of all water users, for Saturday afternoon, September 18th, in the I. O. O. F. hall, to consider any action that it might be advisable to take for future benefitting of these rights.

Mr. Keithley produced a letter, which was read by the secretary, showing that the county presidents of Eastern Oregon were called to meet in the preliminary organization of a state Farm Bureau, at LaGrande on August 30th, with some representative of the Extension Service. It was voted that the president, Mr. Keithley, proceed to LaGrande and re-

present the Farm Bureau, the Farm Bureau defraying all expenses of his trip.

It was moved by R. W. Turner, that the Morrow County Farm Bureau adopt a resolution declaring itself to be in favor of a state Farm Bureau with a paid secretary. Motion seconded by Ed Rugg and carried unanimously.

After taking up and discussing the fact that the Farm Bureau would be meeting with the County Court to pass upon road matters, it was moved and seconded that a committee of two be appointed to confer with the court to represent the Farm Bureau and assist in working out any road program, and also to represent the Farm Bureau in presenting a request for an appropriation for the road control campaign of last winter. Accordingly Adam Knoblock, road committeeman, and Ed Rugg were appointed.

In discussing the hay situation it was the unanimous opinion of the members present that if it were possible to assist some of the farmers in the northern part of the county to sell their hay, that the Farm Bureau should do everything possible to do so, and realizing perfectly well that the cattlemen are also the members of the Farm Bureau, that nothing should be done to place one section of the country against the other. It was moved that the Farm Bu-

## How To Sow Grain Shallow

The farmers of Morrow county are, many of them, talking the necessity of sowing their grain shallow this fall. It is a well known fact that grain sown too deep largely fails to come through the ground and a poor stand and a poor yield are the results, as well as a plentiful supply of weeds. The farmers of Sherman county have been working with this problem for a considerable time and make a practice of releasing the springs on the drills, as well as, where necessary, pulling the levers clear back and tying them out of the notches. If your ground is level you will probably have no trouble in sowing any depth that you may desire. If, however, you have sidling ground

or ground that is inclined to be loose it is something of a problem to keep it up at a reasonable depth from one half to one and one-half inch. Where difficulty of this kind is experienced, when releasing the springs and tying back the levers do not prove to be sufficient several farmers in Sherman county have adopted the expedient of dragging a twelve inch board in front of the disk or holes of the drill and upon this twelve inch board erecting another twelve inch board edgewise, spaced at such distance that it will allow the disk to drop into the ground only the required distance. This is an abso-

lute check on allowing the grain to go too deep. If the ground is uneven some difficulty may be had in keeping the grain covered at all, but it is better to have a little laying on top than to have too much go too deep. The vertical board will rest against the bars of the drill and it can be wired to these, or the board dragging on the ground may be stayed with runners so that there is no danger of it tipping or canting out of line. This expedient has been tried successfully by the farmers of Sherman county and we believe that it will work here. Anyway if you are troubled along this line it is worth a trial.

### Work the Ground Before Seeding

With the splendid rain which has fallen during the past month of August and while it may have done some damage will surely serve to start the weeds so that they may be killed before seeding. This has two benefits: would be advisable to go over the ground with a weeder or harrow before seeding. This will have two beneficial results; it will kill the weeds, and by working the ground while still moist will go a long way towards preventing the crusting of ground in the spring.



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