

## Growers Should Act on Disease, Strike Problems

**Barratt Tells Need On Return From Albuquerque Conclave.**

Attention of the wool industry right now is centering on the Argentine sanitary convention and the strike situation, reported J. G. Barratt, president of Oregon Woolgrowers association, on his return from the national convention at Albuquerque, N. Mex., the first of the week.

"The strike tie-up has lessened the sale of sheep carcasses by at least 10,000 a month," Mr. Barratt gave as an opinion from information gathered by talking to men representing various departments of the industry.

"Not alone is Argentine a formidable competitor of American growers for markets, but it is estimated right now that sixty percent of the flocks and herds of that country are afflicted with the foot and mouth disease.

"It cost the United States millions of dollars a few years ago to eradicate this disease. Now the western United States is practically free of it, but imports from Argentine are a constant threat of contamination to livestock of this country. It is important that every livestock man and everyone interested in the welfare of the livestock industry do all in his power to get congress to act before it is too late and another tremendous expense is faced in again cleaning up the disease in this country."

Mr. Barratt pointed out that a memorial to congress is now up at Salem, asking a quarantine against livestock from countries where foot and mouth disease is prevalent. This, and important strike legislation, is being pushed by the state association, but more support is needed. He said the state and national associations are both handicapped by being forced to operate under inadequate budgets, and they haven't the resources to present the growers' problems as they should be presented. Growers outside the associations must let their wishes be known to legislators and congressmen immediately before the memorial and bills are acted upon.

Mrs. Barratt accompanied her husband to Albuquerque as delegate from Oregon Wool Growers auxiliary to the national auxiliary convention held at the same time as the woolmen's conclave. She led the successful fight for the presidency of the national for Mrs. W. P. Mahoney of this city, thereby adding to the recognition which Oregon received in conducting the destinies of the national industry. Mrs. Mahoney while president of the Oregon association several years ago did much in helping introduce and promoting the "Eat More Lamb" campaign which has resulted in largely increased consumption of lamb.

Mr. and Mrs. Barratt went on the train via Union Pacific and Denver to Albuquerque, making the lap from Denver south by the D. & R. G. Leaving Albuquerque they took D. & R. G. to Los Angeles, then came north the coast route over the Southern Pacific. They made the trip on schedule all the way except for one time. On the way north just out of Dunsmuir they were held up for eight hours by snow banks, making them eight hours late getting into Portland Sunday morning. On reaching Portland everything was tied up, and though they were in the city six hours they could find no means of transportation for a visit to the home of Mr. Barratt's parents in Laurelhurst.

The mercury hovered about the zero point at Albuquerque and residents were complaining, while at points a few miles out from Albuquerque, sub-zero temperatures of 20 to 25 degrees were experienced. Albuquerque is high and dry at 5000 feet altitude, Mr. Barratt said, thereby getting hit with lower temperatures than many places so far south.

Speaking of the outlook for the industry generally, as gleaned from the national convention, Mr. Barratt believed prices no lower than last year could be expected. Optimism

of growers, however, was generally cloaked with conservatism. There are enough troublesome problems with bearish effects to cloud the picture. One of these is the 500,000 more feeder lambs in the Texas area than last year which will be turned onto the market about the same time as the California lambs. The 500,000 represent an increased production and heavier carry-over than normal. Then there are the threat of the disease from Argentine and the strike depression, among the major problems.

Mr. Barratt served as chairman of the finance committee which had charge of formulating the national association budget, and he worked hard for the inclusion of a second secretary whose duty would be to contact members and prospective members in keeping them informed. The one secretary, forced to work with an inadequate budget, cannot carry on the work of lobbying at Washington and all the other work required and still do justice to keeping up the association's membership, Mr. Barratt said. He declared that he had known of one large business concern spending as much money in one session of the legislature lobbying at Salem as is budgeted for conducting the national association's office for an entire year.

## Courthouse Force Fetes Mr. Groundhog

"Eb" Cox's ham and "Sam" Notson's lima beans—each a jealously upheld pride of the gentlemen's culinary capabilities—provided a substantial basis for celebration of Groundhog day at the court house yesterday noon. Each member of the court house force contributed to the pot luck, which may account for the loggy atmosphere noted by visitors to any of the offices yesterday afternoon.

Not that the cooking was "heavy." Paunchy middles and droopy eyelids testified to the contrary. There was just too much of it. The only hungry-looking individual in the bunch shortly after the party was Sheriff Bauman.

Celebration of Groundhog day is an annual custom with the court house force. It matters not that the celebration came a day late this year. Anyway, the force as a whole looked like they were ready to join the weather-testing critter in his hole for another good, six weeks' nap. So far as your reporter was able to learn, Commissioner Peck was the only one who came up for air long enough to say anything, and that was to extend George Hayden's invitation for the gang to attend a chicken feed at his place as soon as the weather opens up. He, George, probably thought they would be less easily tracked after the snow is gone.

Dipping their noses into Mr. Groundhog's trough were Judge Bert Johnson, Commissioners L. D. Neill and George Peck, Assessor Jake Wells, Deputy Assessor Tom Wells, Treasurer L. W. Briggs, Sheriff C. J. D. Bauman and Deputies Elbert L. Cox and Neva Cochell, Special Deputy Sheriff Alvah Mason, School Superintendent Lucy E. Rodgers, Clerk Chas. Barlow, Deputy Clerk Mary Chaffee, Engineer H. A. Tamblin, District Attorney Frank C. Alfred, Janitor Henry Howell, Auditor Bernard C. Davis, S. E. Notson, Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Nickerson, Earle Bryant and Miss Lucille McDuffee.

## MISSIONARY SOCIETY MEETS.

The Woman's Missionary society of the Church of Christ met Wednesday afternoon at the home of Miss Leta Humphreys. An interesting program on the missionary work in Africa was enjoyed. Mrs. J. O. Turner played a piano solo and Miss Rose Leibbrand played a violin solo. Delicious refreshments were served by Miss Humphreys.

## MOVES OFFICE.

Vawter Parker, newly appointed secretary for Hardman National Farm Loan association, returned the end of the week from Spokane where he spent a week learning details of his new duties. He has removed his office from Heppner hotel building to the loan association office on Willow street next door to the Gazette Times.

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## AS SEEN BY A LEGISLATOR

Courtesy of GILES L. FRENCH, Member from 22nd District.

Any citizens of the state of Oregon who, during sessions of the legislature, are given to reading the brief reports of bills introduced must have felt this week end that there were storms blowing in the minds of legislators as severe as the one that whipped around the corners the same days.

There is some consolation in the old saying that "Man proposes and God disposes." In this case individual legislators propose but it takes a majority of ninety of them and the governor to dispose. It is not probable that the legislature will vote to give an award to writers and musicians, that it will abolish those who examine into relief cases, or that it will do very many of the peculiar things asked of it.

There is an effort being made by what seems to be a majority to hold to the rule that no bills can be introduced after the first twenty days. True, due to lack of heat in the armory, where the house is meeting, and the heavy snow in the valley, caused a postponement of the deadline a few days, but the movement to have it put off for ten days was killed. There is a feeling that if state departments cannot get their bills ready in the allotted time they

can wait for another session.

Several important hearings are being held this week. The labor bills in both the house and the senate will be given their first public airing and a large group of those who labor and those whose market has been stopped by labor will be on hand, snow on sunshine, to give their views on the subject. In fact demonstrations are being managed by both sides of the controversy.

The erosion bill that permits the formation of erosion control districts is in the hands of the erosion and flood control committee. The bill is in better form than when it was first drafted and will come nearer to doing what is wanted from it. A resolution to let the people vote on a constitutional amendment to give each county a representative is finally drawn and in the hands of a committee. The bill that simplifies the procedure of getting refunds on gas tax payments is through the house and in the senate.

There was snow in Salem Sunday and Monday morning there were a number of absentees among the members. Twenty-seven inches of wet, valley snow that has been soaked with rain is hard to move from the highways and many legislators had eight or ten hours work getting a few miles to Salem. Trains were late and busses off schedule.

Clive Huston reached town Saturday from the Eight Mile farm by a very circuitous route, due to roads being snowbound.

## Lexington Gives Readily to Relief

A fine spirit of giving was shown this week in the raising of funds to be sent to the flood stricken area along the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, reports Wm. D. Campbell, Dona E. Barnett and Elsie M. Beach from Lexington.

Even before Mr. Campbell, the chairman, had his drive fully mapped out there were calls on the telephone and personal inquiries as to where to place contributions. Mr. Campbell with Mrs. Beach and Miss Barnett started the drive and quickly raised a sum of \$115.52, which was turned over to Allan Bean, Morrow county chairman of the drive, and funds are still coming in.

The committee expresses appreciation for the way the community responded to the call, and are reminded of the great brotherly love and kindness in the hour of great need.

"We are proud to be linked with the American Red Cross who are doing so much to take care of those who at this time cannot help themselves," they reported.

## WINTER BAD.

Most of the "old timers" say this is about the worst winter they have ever known in this section, says Long Creek item in last week's John Day Valley Ranger. Drifts are over the fence tops. Snow plows are continuously busy trying to keep the roads open.

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