

Small Fruit Outlook Fairly Promising

Fewer acres of Oregon strawberries will be harvested this year than in 1938 although nationally an acreage 8 per cent larger than last year is in prospect, according to the third recent Agricultural Situation and Outlook report issued by the Oregon State college extension service. The report deals with small fruits and nursery crops and follows two former ones dealing with field crops and tree fruit outlooks. Any of these may be obtained from county extension offices.

The 1939 strawberry crop will probably be marketed under somewhat more favorable demand conditions than was the case last year, the report shows. Average or better than average yields on the large United States acreage, however, combined with the relatively large carryover of processed berries may more or less offset the expected improvement in consumer demand.

Government estimates indicate 12,800 acres of strawberries for picking in Oregon in 1939 compared with 13,400 acres last year. The current acreage is 2000 acres above the 1928-1937 average harvested acreage.

Acreage of small fruits in the country as a whole has tended to increase slightly in recent years, but annual production has been greatly influenced by weather conditions,

the report continues. With the present acreage and average yields, production of small fruits appears ample for all uses under current conditions of consumer demand. Berries in processed form are higher priced than such competing fruits as peaches, pears and prunes, hence are more susceptible to change in workers' incomes.

Red raspberries are next in importance to strawberries among the small fruits in Oregon, followed by loganberries, youngberries, black raspberries, blackberries, boysenberries and gooseberries. Since the time of the general census in 1929 the acreage of strawberries has tended upward, red raspberries have decreased, while black raspberries have increased. Youngberries and boysenberries together make up about 6 per cent of Oregon's small fruit acreage. Loganberries, blackberries and gooseberries have all tended downward in acreage since 1929.

Among commercial concerns which have made great contributions to safer highways in Oregon is the Oregon Motor Stages company, which cut its accident total 54 per cent in 1938 as compared with 1937. National Safety Council no-accident medals were presented to 53 of its drivers for having driven one to three years without an accident. Bus drivers as a whole were outstanding in improving their driving record last year, according to Secretary of State Earl Snell.

SAFETY SONNETS



—National Safety Council

"Traffic chiseling" is an insidious art which in many circumstances produces more disastrous results than openly reckless driving, in the opinion of Earl Snell, secretary of state.

While the chiseler often suffers from his own actions, nearly as frequently does he force other drivers into difficulties while he himself goes free.

The traffic chiseler is the person who seizes the right-of-way whenever he thinks he can get it, whether it is rightfully his or not; he passes other cars when he has restricted clearance, forcing them to slow down suddenly or take to the

ditch; he never slows down when he is on a through street, but cuts across in front of cars which are making a legitimate attempt to get through the stream of traffic. He himself will bluff his way through other traffic, park in restricted zones, drive slowly in spots where other traffic is moving fast, and honk through crowded spots where he should go slowly and wait his turn.

Many persons are guilty of occasional chiseling without knowing that they are putting other drivers at a disadvantage. Every driver should take stock of his own driving habits and see whether he sometimes fails to give other drivers the privileges that are rightfully theirs, according to Snell.

KOAC Hearing Date Set for May 10th

Oregon State College—President George W. Peavy has been notified that the rehearing in the KOY-KOAC radio case will be held in Washington May 10. At that time the state-owned radio station, licensed to the college, will have opportunity to submit evidence in support of its objection to allowing KOY of Phoenix, Ariz., to use the same wavelength long assigned to KOAC.

An appropriation to finance enlarging the station to 5000 watt power was passed by the Oregon legislature, and application has been made to the Federal Communications commission for a permit for such expansion.

Three bicyclists were among the 27 persons killed in February highway accidents in Oregon, according to Secretary of State Earl Snell. He reminded bicyclists that the law requires them to ride in the right-hand lane except when turning left or passing, and to signal their turns and stops, in the same manner as automobile drivers.

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