

HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES THIRTY YEARS AGO

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

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From The County Agent's Office

By N. C. Anderson

Considerable interest is developing in grass and legume seedings as spring draws near. This week, seedings of grass with Nomad Alfalfa for pasture, were discussed with Ralph Beamer and Don Robinson, Heppner; Oscar Peterson, Ione; and John Graves, Hardman. Recommendations were made on seeding rates and kind of grasses to use. While questions were raised on various grasses suited to their conditions, each were sure that they wanted to use Nomad alfalfa. Grasses seeded will vary from Crested Wheatgrass in the low rainfall areas to Alta Fescue and Intermediate wheat for the higher rainfall. Oscar Peterson will seed one hundred acres, Don Robinson ten acres, Ralph Beamer sixty-five acres, and John Graves fifty acres. While these farmers, like others, are interested in the soil bank proposal, they are going ahead with the seedings regardless of the type of farm program that will be offered. They will take advantage of the agricultural conservation practice payments, A-2 or A-3 in the 1956 handbook. These payments provide for fifty per cent of the cost of the seed, fifty per cent of the cost of seed bed preparation and seeding, fifty per cent of the cost of nitrogen for fertilizing and may take advantage of a portion of this practice assisting with fencing the area seeded.

The seedings on the John Graves, Oscar Peterson and Kirk and Robinson ranches are a continuation of a program to establish a portion of diverted wheat land or waste land to forage for pasture and hay. Each of the ranches have established seedings in pastures and can plan to continue to do so, getting all suitable land into high producing forages. The Ralph Beamer seeding will be put in as a demonstration seeding of grass and

Nomad alfalfa with E. F. Burlingham and Sons Seed company which developed Nomad, providing equipment and supervising the seeding. This project is being sponsored locally by the range and pasture improvement committee of the Morrow County Livestock Growers Association.

On Tuesday afternoon of this week, board members of the several rain increase programs underway in Oregon and Washington, met at Hermiston to discuss the possibilities of an evaluation study on the effects of cloud seeding under different conditions in different manners. While those present did not favor such an evaluation, it was an interesting meeting from the standpoint of an exchange of experiences. It was also quite interesting to hear that unofficially, President Eisenhower's committee on the study of weather modification had reported positive results in the rain increase program carried out by Tri-County Weather Research over the past several years. The complete report will be made public in June of this year by that committee. The committee encouraged Tri-County to continue operations for further study.

Incidentally, several directors of "rain making" organizations in Washington were not able to attend because of roads flooded out, while Gilliam county farmers reported their first experience of having water as high as the bumper on their car over the road on Shuler Flat in North Gilliam county. My experience was nothing new, as Tuesday afternoon's meeting resulted in the same outcome as two previous rain meetings attended, that of coming home to find the basement of my house flooded.

Merlin Hughes, son of Eb Hughes, Buttercreek rancher and a member of the Buttercreek-Hinton 4-H livestock club, becomes the first Junior member of the American Hereford Association's new junior membership program. The program was developed to encourage 4-H and FFA members to breed registered Hereford cattle. Junior members are entitled to the privileges of adult members at a special membership fee which may be applied on a life membership upon reaching 21 years of age. Merlin will receive as a junior member, a membership certificate as well as pictures of model Hereford cow, bull and steer for framing.

For those farmers who have thought that there were no new crops for the Columbia Basin, they will be interested in some findings of the Pendleton branch experiment station last year. Last week at a conference of experiment agents, H. Marr Waddoups, formally with the station, reported that as a result of experimentation on crops suited to be grown on diverted acres, carrots and sugar beets were produced

on summer fallowed land profitably. Because of this experimentation, Mr. Waddoups is now with Lamb Weston Canning Company, promoting carrot and sugar beet production in Umatilla county. Yields of seven tons of carrots and eleven tons of sugar beets were raised on summer fallow. The carrots were found to contain double the amount of sugar content found in carrots grown under irrigation.

Various other crops experimented with were sorghums and sudans, compared with alfalfa for silage. Sudan grass grown in twelve inch rows produced eight tons silage per acre. This compared to alfalfa producing six and one half tons. With alfalfa, a crop is raised every year, with Sudan grass as an annual on summer fallow, every other year. Mr. Waddoups found that annual cropping was a recommended practice where soil depth was no deeper than twenty-four inches. He found that by supplying Nitrogen more production could be gained from this shallow ground which had only enough capacity to store moisture that would fall, in most years, between harvest and seeding time, growing spring crops.

Many young livestock growers, this year, are learning the value of insurance to protect their investment in livestock as 4-H Club projects. Some years ago the Oregon Farm Bureau Insurance Company offered an insurance to protect 4-H and FFA members from losses through an insurance program designed especially for them. There have each year, been club members using the insurance, however, it has not been used nearly as much in the past years as in recent months. Perhaps the reason for this is the price-cost squeeze which makes it all the more important for livestock growers to protect their investment. There are losses each year of 4-H animals but in 1956 club members Kenneth Smouse, Bill Brannon, Tom Martin, Sandra Beach, Karl Beach, Jerry Anderson, Larry Campbell and Donald Hughes will not need to worry about their investment. These club members have nine beef and eight sheep insured. Premiums for insuring these 4-H Club animals average about five dollars for the feed period on beef and three dollars per head per year on breeding ewes.

The Lexington Livestock club is the first to have the distinction of getting in all report cards for projects carried by their members. The sixteen members are enrolled with twenty-five different projects which includes eighty-five head of fat or breeding animals. Of course this does not count sudden increases such as Tom Pointer's brood sow which farrowed thirteen pigs, eleven of which he saved or the many lambs that club members have reported coming fast and furious. To record this outstanding club's projects for future reference, club leaders, Harold Beach and Kenneth Palmer are getting a series of pictures of animals now and will then take pictures at fair time for comparison.

From files of the Gazette Times
February 25, 1926

Willows grange was organized at Rhea Siding near Ceell on Friday last. Newly elected officers were Oscar Lundell, master; Mrs. Lundell, lecturer; Mrs. Tyler, secretary and Otho Spillman, treasurer.

Harold Cohn, Roger Morse, Paul Gemmill and Alva Jones were members of Heppner American Legion post No. 87 who went to Arlington Saturday to take in the district conference held there.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles McDaniel of Hardman passed through the city on Thursday afternoon last on their way down to Boardman.

Mrs. John Durham is visiting with her sons, Frank and Orval Rasmus and will spend a couple of weeks in the city.

Miss Reta Neel came over from Yakima and spent the weekend visiting at the home of her mother, Mrs. R. A. Thompson.



Political apprehension in an Oregon election was never sharper than in the current campaign. However, on George Washington's Birthday, with only 12 legal filing days left for the May 18th primary election, few Republicans and fewer Democrats had filed. The deadline for filing is March 9th.

This does not mean there is a lack of interest in the campaign. Oregon is in focus for the nation. National political headquarters are mulling, "As Oregon goes..." Local leaders of both parties are getting advice from experienced campaigners in eastern states. A reevaluation of all candidates is being made.

The actuality that the Democrats in Oregon have been short on candidates—and success, for many years may give them a break this year. So far they have avoided party-splitting contests while several impetuous contests are plaguing the Republicans.

Friday, Philip Hitchcock, Portland, a former member of the Senate from Klamath Falls, announced he would oppose Attorney Lamar Tooze, Portland, who announced several months ago he would be a candidate for the

Republican nomination for United States Senator to run against U. S. Senator Wayne L. Morse in November.

Congressman Walter Norblad's announcement that he would be a candidate for governor on the Republican primary ticket does not give him homestead rights. His unscheduled bid has not made the pundits happy. They wanted him to run for reelection in the 1st District which he has represented for 11 years and has been reelected four times. Governor Elmo E. Smith is expected to announce his candidacy for governor soon. Several years ago he was picked as a comer by party

leaders.

The blank in the Republican agenda for the 1st Congressional District caused by Norblad's gubernatorial announcement was quickly filled by William E. Healy who had announced he would be a candidate for secretary of state, and would run against Mark Hatfield, also a candidate for secretary of state. Healy's crash into the congressional race eased Hatfield and pleased Republican leaders. This will be a big boost to Healy who resigned recently as assistant secretary of state after serving eight years.

DEDICATES HOSPITAL

Governor Elmo E. Smith will give the major address at the March 3 dedication ceremonies of the new 227-bed teaching and research hospital on the University of Oregon Medical School campus in Portland. Ceremonies are scheduled to start promptly at 1:15 p. m. and will be held outdoors at the Medical School campus.

Following the dedication by Dr. R. E. Kleinsorg, president of the State Board of Higher Education, the building will be open to the public for guided tours. Additional guided tours will be held Sunday, March 4 from 1 to 5

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