

# County Agent's Office Hums With Fall and Winter Activities

By N. C. ANDERSON

Plans were laid Thursday evening for a farm crops short course which is tentatively scheduled for late January and early February. Steering committee members, Fritz Cutsforth, Larry Campbell and Ron Hague-wood, outlined a course to cover fertility, weeds, fallow and tillage methods, diseases and insects, varieties, forage utilization and range improvement.

The farm crops subject was selected for a winter short course after a questionnaire was mailed out to ranchers asking for their indication of interest in several subjects. This winter's short course will be patterned after short courses which we have carried out here during the past several years which included soils, livestock management and farm management.

Livestock growers who contributed to the special fund for building a new livestock research center at Hermiston will be interested in news releases which have appeared recently announcing the beginning of the project. The research center to be supervised by OSU will be located at Hermiston branch experiment station, two miles south of Hermiston. Research work on sheep, beef and hogs is expected to answer many of the questions that growers and feeders have in disease and feeding problems. Voluntary contributions from individual growers, Morrow county livestock growers association, First National bank, Heppner branch, and the Morrow County Grain Growers totalling \$2,000, with contributions from other livestock growers in the area, will go toward building facilities.

Reports from farmers and ranchers indicate that by September 1 more than a third of the expected total fall marketings of range cattle and calves had already been sold or contracted for out of first hands. This represents the largest number of deals completed by September 1 since 1958 and compares with one-fourth traded for at the same date in 1960. Marketing activity picked up speed

during late August and by September 1 a price basis had been established that was mutually satisfactory to both buyers and sellers and a large volume of livestock changed hands.

Farmers and ranchers are reminded that the deadline for filing a claim for refund of Federal tax on gasoline used on a farm is drawing near. The refund amounts to four cents per gallon and covers the period of July 1, 1960 through June 30, 1961. The claim will be allowed only if filed on or before October 2, 1961. For those who have not received their tax refund forms in the mail, we have a small supply at the office.

Late this spring we announced a forage sampling service which was made available through OSU at that time. Anticipating quite a lot of call for this service the office purchased a special tool for taking forage samples. To date we haven't had the tool out of the package which it came in.

The forage analytical service was initiated at the request of ranchers and feeders throughout the state who were interested in knowing the feed value of silage hay of which they were purchasing or planning to use in formulating balanced rations. Since there is a wide range of differences in digestible protein and total digestible nutrients in various lots of hay and silage it would seem that both the buyer and seller would make the utmost use of this service. We have the equipment for taking samples, forms, guides and kits for submitting and interpreting results of forage samples.

Last Friday, September 15, was the kickoff date for the annual Red Hat days program. The program will be continued throughout the fall hunting season. The major objectives of the Red Hat days program are to promote better relations between landowners and hunters and to provide safer, saner and more productive hunting opportunities both today and in the future. Governor Hatfield has appointed a County Chairman in each

county. Ralph Taylor is the Morrow county chairman. The extension service has joined 25 other groups in sponsoring and promoting the program. We hope we can do some good during this fall season in getting the hunter and landowner to enjoy better relationships.

## PMS Regulations For Market Area Pool in Effect

Regulations which will guide any market area pool formed under the 1961 producer milk stabilization law were filed last week and became immediately effective, according to Kenneth W. Sawyer, administrator of the program.

The State Department of Agriculture has before it the first petition, from Dairy Co-operative Association, for a referendum on a market area pool. Date of mail balloting on the referendum, originally set for late August, was postponed to permit producers and milk dealers to study the regulations.

In a market area pool, all producers selling to the area dealers receive the same price for their grade A and B milk through a surplus equalization process. In the final regulations, computation of the pool price follows closely the Department's proposals at the hearing held in Salem July 27.

The order contains two added provisions, one requiring uniform reports from milk dealers. The other authorizes the department to set a class 2 price, based on a hearing on current payments by processors and receipts by producers. This is in line with the requirement for a set price on which to base equalization.

In setting a class 2 price, the regulations allow a built-in 10 per cent up or down change, without a further hearing, to keep in balance with seasonal milk fluctuations. The regulations also spell out that the federal marketing order price in Seattle and the Chicago price around which it pivots shall be considered in setting the class 2 price under any Oregon market area pool.

Class 2 milk is grade A or B milk not utilized in the bottle and can trade; class 1 milk is that used in the bottle and can trade, which means retail or home delivery.

Copies of the regulations are available from the department at Salem.

## Special Awards By Organizations Encourage 4-H

Local organizations offered special awards in the form of plaques, cash, or articles to encourage 4-H members to participate in extra 4-H activities or to do well in their 4-H project at the Morrow County Fair, according to Esther Kirmis, Morrow county extension agent.

Heads of these organizations will be asked to present these awards to the ambitious 4-H members at the 4-H Achievement Party to be held November 4 at the Heppner fair pavilion.

Donors and winners are: Rhea Creek Extension Unit: Jeanne Stockard, Heppner (best foods demonstration, Ind.); Sheridan Wyman and Barbara Blake, Heppner (best foods demonstration, team).

Ione Extension Unit: Joan Stockard, Heppner (best clothing demonstration, Ind.); Bernice and Denise Matthews, Ione (best clothing team).

Heppner Extension Unit: Judy Smith and Lynn Burkenbine, Heppner (best knitting team); Pine City Unit: Jean Martin, Ione (best clothing construction, senior); Cheryl Lundell, Ione (best clothing construction, junior); Jeanne Stockard, Heppner (best cake baker).

Mrs. Walter Wright: Julie Pfeiffer, Heppner (style revue winner, senior).

Mrs. L. A. McCabe: Arleta McCabe, Ione (style revue winner, junior).

Morrow County Cow Belles: Jeanne Stockard, Heppner (best demonstration using beef).

Lena Extension Unit: Marilyn Morgan, Ione (best bread baker); Lexington P.T.A.: Rogena Wilson, Heppner (junior clothing judge); Jean Martin, Ione (senior clothing judge).



Chats With Your Home Agent

## Venezuelan Gives Talks, Enjoys Sports and Trips

(Picture on page 1)

Edgar A. Uzcategui U., 21, International Farm Youth Exchange (IFYE) from Merida, Estado Merida, Venezuela, arrived in the county on September 3 to spend a few weeks with his host family, Mr. and Mrs. Keith Rea, Ione, on a person-to-person peace program.

The oldest of a family of eight, Edgar lives on his father's 1250 acre farm where such crops as coffee, sugar cane and small fruits are grown. Cattle, swine, and poultry are also raised. The exchange is especially interested in the study and experimentation in cross-breeding of cattle to improve both milk and meat production.

Arriving in Miami, Florida, in May, Catholic Mr. Uzcategui, attended an orientation program in Washington, D. C., and then spent six weeks visiting farm families in Indiana.

All exchange students had a "mid-point" meeting at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, on July 25-29. From there six young IFYE's from Poland, Venezuela, Israel, Finland, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg came to Oregon for a six weeks stay. Marie-Voictore von Roesgen from Luxembourg spent the month of August with the Fredrick Martin family of Ione.

Edgar's sponsor for this exchange is the Rural Welfare Commission of the Ministry of Agriculture and breeding and the Creole Foundation.

More than 200 Oregon families have acted as IFYE hosts since the program first got underway 10 years ago. (Six in Morrow County). The program gives youth and their host families opportunities to learn about another way of life by living it, says Miss Esther Kirmis, county extension agent. Exchangees assist with jobs around the home and take part in the family's leisure activities. They visit county and state fairs, schools, and community clubs to get as many different kinds of experiences as they can before going to another host family.

Edgar has spent some time with the Paul Hansen family of Oakland, Oregon; the Ira Strauss family of Corvallis; and will visit the A. A. Hurlburt fam-

ily in Burns after this lone stay. The exchange's activities since he arrived in Morrow county have included boating on the Columbia river with the Houghton and Rea families, a cattle drive from the mountains to the Don McElligott ranch south of Ione, a visit to the Herbert Ekstrom heroford ranch, a wedding in the Rea relation, lone high school football games, the Pendleton Round-Up, and an appearance before the Soroptimist club of Heppner.

Mrs. Ray Williamson, foreign language instructor from the Heppner schools, acted as interpreter at the Soroptimist meeting as the Spanish-speaking IFYE has trouble expressing himself in English.

## FHA Offers Loans To Oregon Farms

Many Oregon and Alaska farmers and ranchers in need of assistance, which regular sources of credit cannot supply, borrow funds from the Farmers Home Administration, an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture.

During the fiscal year July 1, 1960 through June 30, 1961, a total of 873 loans were made totalling \$4,378,890, and collections were made in the amount of \$3,798,992.

Since the inception of the program in 1935, \$58,408,048 has been made available to farmers in Oregon and Alaska. To date \$54,621,543 has been repaid in principal and interest with \$15,653,086 principal outstanding. Some 1650 loans are active at this time in the two-state area.

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## Fall Activities On Conservation Are Announced

Announcement was made at the September meeting of the Heppner soil conservation district supervisors that the Morrow County Grain Growers would sponsor this year, the annual soil conservation speech contest. The contest, announced last spring to schools in the area and sponsored state-wide by the Oregon Association of soil conservation districts has for a theme, "Soil Conservation." The Morrow County Grain Growers will provide plaques for the first, second and third place winners and recognition medals for other participants. It is expected that there will be many participants this year from both the lone and Heppner high school and a tentative date of October 4 has been set for the Heppner district contest with the district winner to participate in an area contest in Hermiston on October 8.

Roger Doherty, Heppner, gave an interesting report on his trip to the youth range camp held at the old "P Ranch" near French Glen in Harney county the first week of August. In reporting on the weeks activities which consisted of range management, soil judging, plant identification, soil conservation as well as wildlife and recreation, Roger urged the district to continue their interest in sponsoring a youth to this camp. Roger was one of four boys attending from

## Relocated Highway Crossing Bids Asked

At its meeting in Salem September 13, the State Highway Commission received bids for the construction of a reinforced concrete overcrossing to carry the relocated Columbia River Highway over the Oregon-Washington Railroad and Navigation Company lines operated by the Union Pacific Railroad Company at a point approximately 1 1/2 miles northeasterly of Boardman Junction.

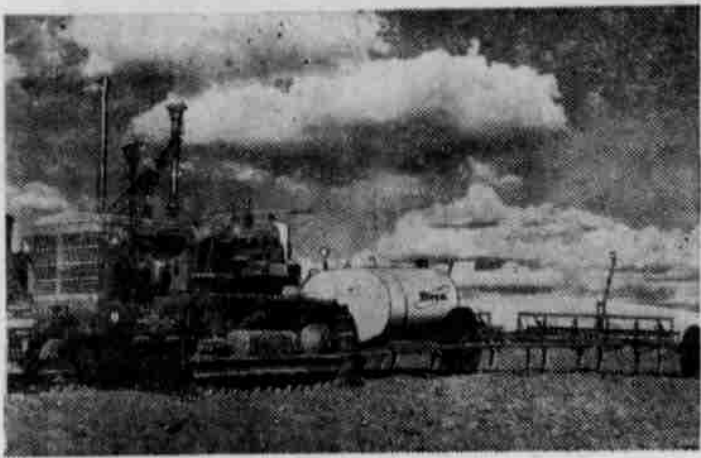
This project is scheduled for completion during the spring of 1962.

Morrow county with 50 from twelve counties in eastern and southern Oregon.

The Heppner district extended an invitation to host the area soil conservation districts in their annual workshop in Heppner. This workshop has been held in Heppner for the past several years and is scheduled for mid-October. Supervisors from eight districts are scheduled to discuss conservation matters of mutual interest and plan programs for better conservation of our soil and natural resources. Plans were made for a soil judging workshop or field day which will be aimed at educating farmers, businessmen and youth on soils of the area. District supervisors will be given special instructions which will enable them to participate in the state soil judging contest which will be part of the annual meeting of the Oregon Association of soil conservation districts scheduled for November 8, 9, and 10.

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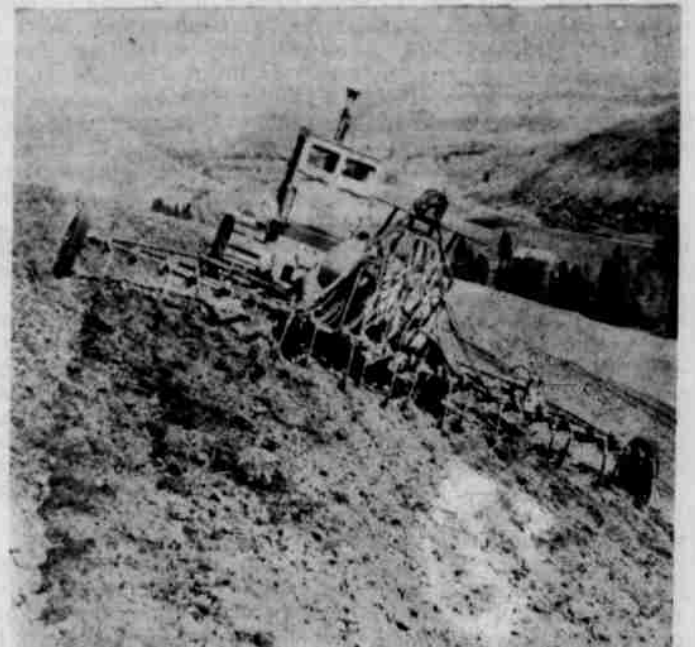
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