

# FARM NEWS

County Agent's Office

## Labor Saving Machines Help Hay Operations

By N. C. ANDERSON

Many of our hay growers are right in the middle of haying and a lot of them are sure that they were the cause of the good rains that fell over the last two weeks. Some have proposed that they take up a collection from those who are benefiting mostly from the rains to help offset the poor quality hay caused by these rains. Of course, most of them are getting as much benefit as anyone else.

A trip through the haying country this year will reveal that there is a constant improvement in haying methods. This is clearly felt by high school and college boys who have been able to find haying jobs waiting for them.

Last spring I commented on the revolutionized haying at the Krebs ranch near Cecil where hay is hardly touched by human hands in any stage. They swath, bale, pick up and stack with harro-bed, pellet and feed with power augers through self feeders. This procedure is catching hold with several new owners of this type of equipment this year. The harro-bed automatically picks up bales in the field, stacks them on the carrier where the hay then is transported to the hay stack by merely pushing a few levers. The equipment is on the road in a few minutes and back to the field for another load.

While there might be others we note that Delbert Emert, Ione, is handling his hay this way at present and Dick Wilkinson, Heppner, has a new harro bed, as does Kenny Cutsforth. These are not the only type of labor-saving haying machinery and we have discussed in this column the farm hand equipment which takes much of the labor out of making hay. We predict that there will be little hand labor in haying in the years to come.

### Leaf Rust Has 'Explosion'

Stripe leaf rust in many parts of the Columbia Basin practically exploded this past week. This "explosion" was caused by the cool, damp weather with some warm days. While most of our readings were around 10 spores per spore trap during the past weeks, recently readings jumped to over 1,000 spores at these stations. This shows that the rust is prevalent if conditions are right. Some late crops could be injured yet, but most crops are beyond the damaging stage at this time.

### Ranger Feed Lowest Since '39

As of June 1 Oregon range feed condition was the lowest June 1 condition since 1939, according to the Crop and Livestock Reporting Service. The rating given to Oregon was fair compared to poor for the Columbia Basin. Oregon was not alone in these low range conditions as many of the Western States were subjected to hot, dry windy weather until late May when many areas received rainfall over the Memorial Day week-end. In some cases, the rain improved range conditions, this being especially true in North and South Dakota, Montana, Nebraska, Kansas and Colorado.

### Agriculture Aid Low

Only 4c of every dollar to be spent by Uncle Sam in the coming fiscal year will go for Dept. of Agricultural programs. And that 4c includes healthy outlay for programs aimed primarily to benefit the consumer rather than the producer of agricultural commodities. These facts may come as a surprise to some critics of USDA activities who talk and write as if aid to farmers accounted for an indefensibly high percentage of the total Federal outlay.

Choosing Careers Get Attention on 4-H Program

Twenty-four 4-H Summer School delegates from Morrow county returned with the chaparrons, Leonard Munkers and Mrs. Jim Bloodsworth, last Saturday afternoon tired, but happy. New friends were made and new experiences gained. Those attending participated in general assemblies, a hootenanny, and chicken barbecue which supplemented a week-long schedule of classes.

Special attention was given this year to career exploration in the program. Oregon State University president, James Jensen in his message to the delegates pointed out that "participating in 4-H Summer School programs provide an unusual opportunity for members to have a most interesting series of experiences that may influence careers." The University is interested in helping young people in helping themselves. This is why we have a 4-H education program in each county in Oregon. There were many programs based on choosing a career that were ably presented by authorities in the field.

Morrow county 4-H club members, like the rest of the approximately 1800 young men and women attending this 49th annual 4-H Summer School, stayed in Oregon State Univer-

## Hardman Hall Scene of Reunion

By CHARLOTTE WALKER

HARDMAN, RHEA CREEK — The annual reunion of the Leathers family was held Sunday at the Hardman Odd Fellow hall. Over 100 members of the family and friends attended the potluck dinner, after which some musical numbers were given and the rest of the time spent in visiting.

city dormitories. In addition to classes in special program, there was a real competitive air in the various participation during the week.

Attending from Morrow county were: Shirley Jackson, Jeniece and Dee Ann McElroy, Joyce Jackson, Bruce Jones, Byron Hobbs, and Tom Van Horn, Irri-gon; Arieta McCabe, Susan Lindstrom, Cheryl Smouse, Berniece Matthews, Deniece Matthews and Tim Tuillis, Ione; Sheridan Wyman, Barbara Bloodworth, Nonda Clark, Ruby Fullerton, Nancy Doherty, Dale Van Blockland, Steve Pettyjohn, and Kit Anderson, Heppner; Karen Nelson, and Keith Nelson, Lexington; and Mike Partlow, Boardman.

### Hybrid Grass Developed

Crested wheatgrass and quackgrass have been successfully crossed by a plant breeder, Dr. D. R. Dewey at Logan, Utah. Preliminary results of this hybrid cross indicate that the hybrid grass has vigor and leafiness of quackgrass, but retains the drought resistance and better seed quality of crested wheatgrass. There are still many breeding problems, however, which prevent the immediate practical use of this new hybrid. The hybrid has few fertile seeds and the progeny of the hybrid may or may not be similar to the parent grass. The experimentally reproduced hybrids have characteristics that are desirable for a range grass. The hybrid plants are leafier than crested wheatgrass, have mildly spreading characteristics, and make a very acceptable forage.

Through plant breeding techniques, the researchers are attempting to overcome the seed sterility and one trying to control genetic combinations.

Foster Collins received word recently that his eldest sister, Mrs. Jessie Hayden of Klamath Falls, had passed away.

Alta Stevens was a patient in Pioneer Memorial hospital last week due to illness, but now is recuperating at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Everett Harshman.

Mike and Eric Graves are here to spend the summer with Mr. and Mrs. Dean Graves.

Mrs. Velva Bechtoldt went to Milton Freewater Thursday to attend a school business meeting. Archie Bechtoldt accompanied her as far as Pendleton.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam McDaniel drove over to Spray Tuesday to visit with Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reed.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Jackson of Long Creek were visitors at the Huston Lesley home Friday and Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Les Robinson have moved to the mountains for the summer where he rides the Cattle Reserve.

Mr. and Mrs. Roland Davidson and girls of Hollandale, Florida, visited her folks, Mr. and Mrs. Huston Lesley, for a few days. Mr. and Mrs. Blaine Chapel went to Pendleton Tuesday on business.

Mrs. Arlene Wilhelm, Donna and Eunice of Imbler, and Mrs. Betty Wilhelm and family of Heppner visited with Mr. and Mrs. Foster Collins Thursday.

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SOIL CONSERVATION was the subject of the day at the annual Oregon Wheat Growers League Field Day, held last week at the John Storie Ranch near Pendleton. The host rancher, who was named Conservation Man of the Year in 1963, sits at the controls of his tractor. With Storie are (from left) conservation committee Chairman Ted Miller, Umatilla county extension agent Vic Johnson, Wheat League President Milton Morgan, Mrs. Storie, Gene M. Lear, associate director of the OSU Extension Service, and Robert Crosswell, president of the Umatilla County Wheat Growers.

## Field Day Draws Wheat Ranchers

Over one hundred Eastern Oregon wheat farmers attended the Oregon Wheat Growers League's annual Soil Conservation Man of the Year Field Day on Thursday (June 18), this year held at the John Storie Ranch outside Pendleton.

Storie was selected as the outstanding wheat grower in 1963 for his successful land conservation improvements and practices. He is the sixteenth state award-winner to be honored since the Wheat League initiated the contest in 1948.

Royal Raymond, Umatilla county chairman of the committee which selected the 2900-acre Storie Ranch for the conservation trophy, greeted the assembled growers and news media representatives and reviewed the history and significance of the annual award. He described the techniques and land improvements that won Storie top honors in 1963.

Expressing appreciation for his selection, Storie gave a brief history of his wheat spread, which was founded by his grandfather in 1908 on land leased on the Umatilla Indian Reservation. The present owner took over the operation in 1950. Storie explained that all of his wheat land is still leased from Indian tribal members, and that all leases are limited by federal regulations to four-year renewable terms. Well over one hundred separate leases are involved, he said.

Although those attending the farm tour were forced to enjoy their buffet luncheon in the farm equipment storage shed to escape the steady drizzle that marked the all-day affair, not a complaint was uttered. The wheat growers were happy to contemplate the cloudy skies, whose presence during the past two weeks has terminated one of the most severe Eastern Oregon droughts in many years.

Main speaker of the day was Gene M. Lear, associate director of the Oregon State University Extension Service. He reviewed the remarkable technological strides that have been made in agricultural growing methods

### Two 4-H Clubs Meet

The Country Cutters 4-H club met at the parish hall of Valby Lutheran church to have a joint meeting with the Buralettes on Tuesday, June 9. Each of the members gave the demonstration that he will give at the fair. Refreshments were served by each club. Next meeting will be held at the home of Sandra Carlson.

Kristine Peterson, reporter

and yields, and said they have transformed the American farming economy.

Following Lear's address, guests boarded farm vehicles and were conducted on a tour of the Storie farmland. At each of the several areas selected for inspection, Storie and Umatilla County Extension Agent Vic Johnson described the conservation improvements and methods that have contributed to the successful operation. These include contour seeding, extensive terracing and a complex of sod waterways to prevent soil erosion. The farm operator observed that his wheat yield averages 45 bushels to the acre, in addition to gratifying returns on acreage devoted to dry peas and barley.

### Morrow County CROP-WEATHER SUMMARY

For week ending June 23 (From Oregon Crop and Livestock Reporting Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture).

Grass silage popular this year. Much hay down and waiting for drying weather. Recent rains have caused weed growth, resulting in rod weeding now in progress. All grains have improved in an amazing manner from recent rains. Yields have been doubled from June 1 potential in many areas. Continuous rain this week is welcome. While rains helped crops considerably, pastures and ranges in lower elevations were past being helped. Some hay being fed. Excellent general rains this week have improved all crop conditions. Rains which assured a crop encouraged many growers to clean wheat fields from volunteer rye.

### Irvin Mann Named P. I. Vice President

Irvin L. Mann, Stanfield cattle feeder, was elected as vice-president of Pacific International Livestock Exposition at a meeting in Portland early this month. Mann owns and operates Beef City, Oregon's first major cattle feeding operation.

Herbert Chandler, Baker, a veteran purebred Hereford breeder, and John McGregor, a cattle feeder from Hooper, Wn., were also elected to vice-president positions.

Thomas J. Kerr, grain dealer of Portland, resigned his office of president and was replaced by Hillsboro horse breeder, James Brown. Kerr became chairman of the board, replacing Ervie Williams, who is deceased.



MAIN SPEAKER at the Oregon Wheat Growers League's Conservation Man of the Year Field Day last week was Gene M. Lear, associate director of the OSU Extension Service. Lear predicted that population growth will present the farming industry with new challenges. He addressed a group of about 100 wheat growers at the John Storie Ranch near Pendleton.

### Lambs to Promote Farmer Program At Party Conclave

Paul Youngman of McMinnville and Al Lamb of Heppner have been delegated by the executive board of the Oregon-Washington Farmers Union to promote the organization's farm program at the Republican and Democratic national conventions.

The farm group's executive board, made up of regional representatives from all parts of Oregon and Washington, met in an all-day session Sunday at the Mallory Hotel in Portland. Youngman, a member of the executive board from Yamhill county, is being sent to the Republican convention in San Francisco. Lamb, mayor of Heppner and campaign manager for Congressman Ullman for the past six years, is a Farmers Union executive board member from the central Oregon area. Already an elected delegate to the Democratic national convention, Lamb will work for inclusion of the Farmers Union program in his party's national program.

The Pacific Northwest farm group's executive board also gave all-out endorsement to the initiative measure being pushed by the Oregon AFL-CIO for sweeping changes in the state industrial accident compensation law.

TYPING PAPER, Mimeograph paper and other office supplies for sale at the Gazette.

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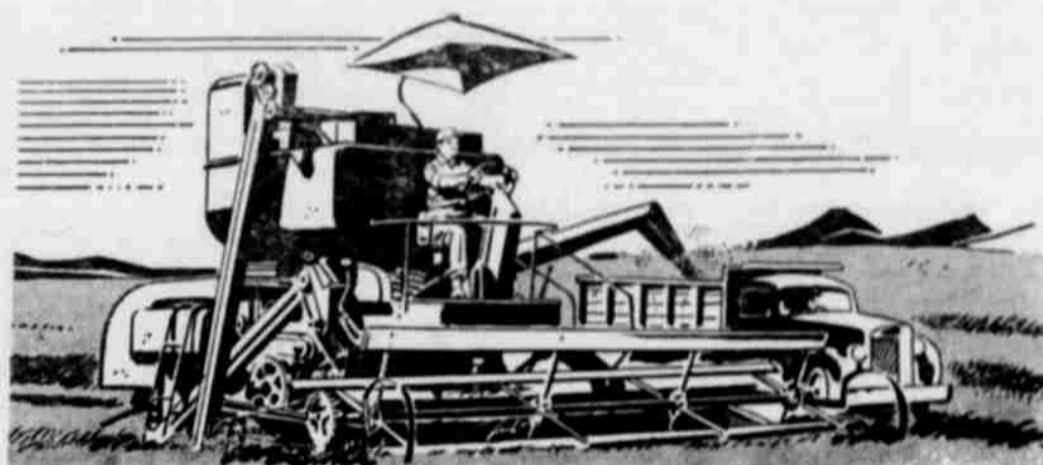
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- Don Greenup, Heppner
- Ekstrom Farm Chemicals, Ione
- Morrow County Grain Growers, Lexington

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