

FARM

Chats With Your Home Agent

Ralph M. Holman to be Speaker For Homemakers' Achievement Day

By DONNA GEORGE

Ralph M. Holman, associate justice of the Oregon Supreme Court, will be featured guest speaker at the Morrow County Homemakers Achievement Day, May 11. His topic will relate to career guidance of youth and the role of the home.

The event is being planned by the County Extension committee. It will be in the old Irrigon school with the Irrigon Home Extension Unit as hostess. All interested persons are welcome to attend.

Where Do Parents Stand On Vital Issues for Youth?

Is smoking or getting married more important?

Parents appear to take a more definite stand about smoking as far as teenagers are concerned than they do about getting engaged or getting married. Nearly half the teenagers in one large Oregon high school report

The What and Why of Zoning

by Ted Sider
Resource Development Specialist
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Zoning in this country had its beginning in tiny colonial settlements along the Atlantic Coast long before the Declaration of Independence was signed. The earliest zoning measures were simply regulations to keep gunpowder mills and storehouses confined to the outer edges of each settlement. These public safety measures were adopted as a result of frequent explosions and fires at powder mills.

In 1962 the state of Massachusetts granted Boston, Salem, Charleston and certain other market towns the power to influence the location of "offensive" industries. Each was authorized to assign areas within the town where activities such as slaughter houses, stills and tanneries would be least objectionable.

These early zoning laws were designed to protect public health and safety. Communities exercised limited control over the use of a landowner might make of his land, through a basic zoning tool, the land use regulation, to separate dangerous or offensive activities from the rest of the community. Since these early days, zoning has become a widely used tool for controlling land use for the best interests of the public.

Public planning for land is very much like laying out the floor plan for your new home, to get the best use and most convenience. In our personal life, we all plan how best to use our limited resources of time and money to get the things we want, such as a vacation or a new car.

The businessman plans how best to use his capital, labor and property to gain a present profit and increase future profits. Public planning for land use is similar to both your individual planning to the planning by the businessman.

In the early days of the American Frontier, if a man objected to the actions of his neighbor, he packed up and moved on to new territory. Today, with the population of this country increasing at a rapid rate, the possibilities are much greater for conflict between your interests and those of your neighbor, whether that neighbor be an individual, a business or a government agency. Even here in the wide-open spaces of Oregon, it's hard to find a place where you don't have neighbors.

The multiplication of population and advances in technology, particularly in the technology of transportation and communications, have brought us all closer together. These advances have also brought problems of conflicting demands on our resources of land, water and air to a critical stage in many areas. In some of these areas the chaotic conditions resulting from unplanned use of natural resources may have gone beyond the point of no return.

One of the purposes of land use planning is to draw up rules to help guide future growth and development of an area. As the demands on the land resources become greater these guidelines help ensure that this resource will be put to the best use, from the standpoint of all concerned.

Who does this land use planning? You do, through group efforts that enlist individuals, businessmen and public representatives in the community. In the next article in this series, we'll talk about how this planning is done.

Farm Workers' Buying Power Up--Yet Down

Sharp price recoveries in December lifted farm product buying power to the highest level in three years. However, "real" buying power of farm workers is still considerably behind that of the urban population, reports Mrs. Elvera Horrell, Oregon State University Extension Agricultural Economist.

The index of prices received by farmers nationally, vaulted 11 points (4 per cent) in December, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture. This was the largest increase for a single month since March 1958. The gains were attributed to the unusually high price of hogs, and modest increases in eggs, cattle, and corn.

At the same time, prices paid by farm operators also moved up last month. Major increases were in feeder cattle and calves, replacement dairy cattle, turkey poults, all groups of feeds, metal products, concrete products, lumber, and roofing materials.

In comparison, prices that farmers receive for their products moved up faster than prices they paid for goods and services. This caused farm product buying power to register a sizeable gain.

Furthermore, in the past half-dozen years, prices city people pay for goods and services have increased faster than prices paid by farm people for the same items. However, the price story alone does not represent the "real" buying power of the two groups.

Net farm income has come up less than 20 percent since the 1957-59 base period. But off-farm wage and salary incomes have leaped nearly 50 percent.

This means that on a "real" basis, before income taxes, U.S. farm operators gained less than 10 percent in their buying power while city workers boosted their buying power by more than 30 percent.

Valley Leads In '64 Ag Sales

The Willamette Valley led the state in value of agricultural sales during 1964, according to Mrs. Elvera Horrell, extension agricultural economist at Oregon State University.

The Columbia Basin was in second place, followed by South Central Oregon, the Snake River Basin, Southern Oregon and the Coast and Lower Columbia counties.

Commodities sold by Oregon farms and ranches were valued at more than \$400 million in 1964. Ranked in order of importance, the top ten products were cattle and calves, wheat, dairy products, greenhouse and nursery products, potatoes, eggs, strawberries, barley, snapbeans and hay.

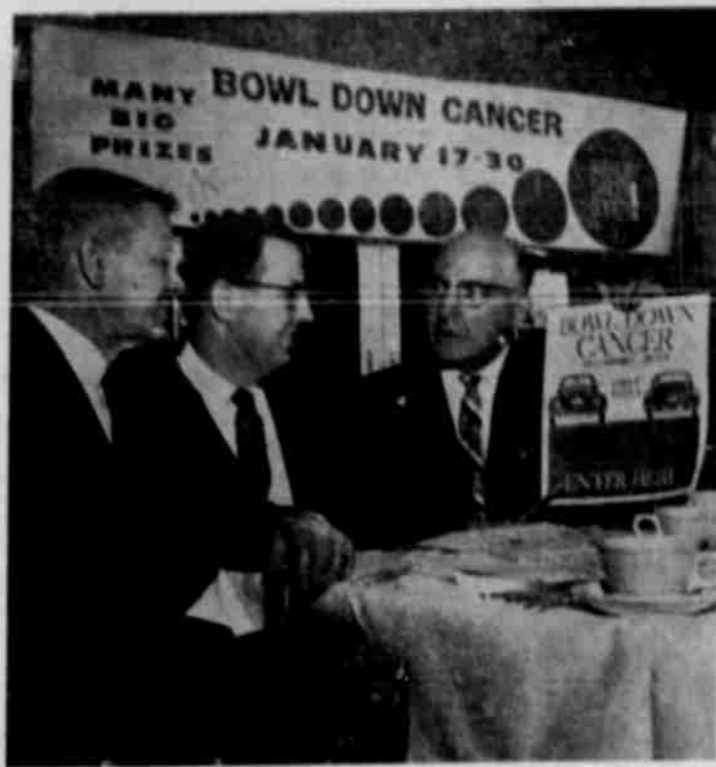
Nearly half of the state's crop sales and more than a third of its livestock sales came from the Willamette Valley. Vegetables, seeds and berries were the most important crops in the Valley, bringing in more than a third of this area's agricultural returns. Marion County led in production of all three crops.

Grain was the big money maker in the Columbia Basin, followed by sales of cattle. Wheat was the top crop in this region, while Umatilla County led in Columbia Basin farm production.

Cattle topped the agricultural product list in both the Snake River Basin, where Malheur ranks as the leading county, and in the South Central Region, with Klamath County as the leader.

The three Southern Oregon counties are noted primarily for tree fruits, according to Mrs. Horrell, with Jackson the top producing county in that area. Milk is the most important product in the Coast and Lower Columbia counties, with Tillamook the leading county.

The 1964 Census of Agriculture should be released soon, according to Mrs. Horrell. This will provide an inventory of Oregon farms by county, and will present much more detailed information on all aspects of Oregon agriculture.



CHAIRMEN for "Bowl Down Cancer", the Oregon State Bowling Proprietors' Association-sponsored tournament for the benefit of the American Cancer Society's Oregon Division, go over final plans for the state-wide event. From left to right are Chester Nelson, OSBPA co-chairman; Reuben Getz, ACS chairman, and George Amato, OSBPA co-chairman. Preliminary rounds may be bowled at all OSBPA member houses through January 30. All entry fees go directly to the fight against cancer.

Prosperous Year Indicated, Says OSU Ag Economist

This year should be another prosperous one for the United States.

Mrs. Elvera Horrell, Oregon State University Cooperative Extension Service, says continued growth all along the line provides the background for a strong economy in 1966.

Writing in the latest Oregon Farm and Market Outlook Circular released this week by the Extension Service, Mrs. Horrell pointed to higher employment, wages, consumer incomes and prices as indicators of continued economic well-being.

Farmers as well as the rest of the public will share in the general prosperity, according to the agricultural economist. The nation's farm and ranch operators earned better net incomes during 1965 than at any time

since the early 1950's. Expanding markets, a bright outlook for livestock, and the new national farm program should provide the necessary push for continued improvement in the farm profit picture, she adds.

The end of the third quarter, 1965, marked the 18th quarter of uninterrupted gain in Gross National Product. This measure of the value of all goods and services produced reached an annual rate of \$677 billion during the quarter. The last quarter of 1965 should show a further increase with more rises coming in 1966.

Spending by business, the consumer, and government will all add impetus to the continued growth of an all-ready high-flying U. S. economy, according to Mrs. Horrell. Twin dark spots in an otherwise bright economic picture, she says, are the still unhealthy but improving U. S. balance of payments and the problem of how to keep the economy booming without feeding the fires of inflation.

The new Outlook Circular is available free from county Extension Service offices.

2,792,388 Tons Grain Inspected

Portland inspectors for the grain division of the Oregon Department of Agriculture weighed and inspected 1,384,365 tons of grain for export at Portland and Astoria during the final six months of 1965.

This brings to 2,792,388 tons the total amount of grain checked by Portland inspectors for export in 1965.

The export figure for the final six months of 1965 is 548,829 tons in excess of the export grain checked in the last six months of 1964, which was 835,536 tons.

Wheat continues to be the major grain inspected for export with the shipments the last six months in 1965 totaling 1,193,019 tons and the figure for the entire year 2,452,306 tons.

Incoming grain inspected in Portland the final six months of 1965 also exceeded that checked in 1964 during the same period. Inspections covered 1,844,967 tons in 1965 and 1,270,389 tons in 1964.

The total for the entire year in 1965 was 3,664,695 tons and 3,070,781 tons of this was wheat.

The department's grain division made 36,451 protein analyses in its laboratory during 1965, topping the previous year by 455.

The Pendleton office of the division made 3,241 track inspections in 1965.

At the Merrill office of the division inspectors checked 49,474 tons of grain in out-inspections; 3,060 tons on hopper inspections; and 966 tons in truck inspections. They also made 561 track inspections.

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Veterans Property Tax Exemption List Extended

Disabled veterans of the Vietnam conflict and other "cold wars" or their widows may qualify for state property tax exemptions, the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs said today.

They, along with disabled veterans or widows of other wars, must apply to their county assessor by April 1. The exemption amounts to \$7500 of the true cash value of the property. Those entitled include:

1. War veterans 40 percent or more disabled.
2. Unremarried widows of war veterans.
3. Spanish-American War veterans, regardless of disability.

A separate benefit is provided for widows and disabled veterans residing in house trailers, in the way of an annual license fee reduction of up to \$100. Application for this benefit is filed with the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Winners of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal or the Vietnam Service Medal were added to the list of war veterans in Oregon law by the 1965 Legislature. As such, they qualify for the property tax exemption if they meet the disability requirement. If deceased, their widows qualify.

The expeditionary medal dates back to July 1, 1958, and was awarded for service during periods of tension in Lebanon, Berlin, Quemoy-Matsu, Taiwan, Straits, Cuba, Congo, Vietnam and the Dominican Republic.

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