

# FARM

County Agent's Office

## Moisture Blocks Set To Test Soil Needs

By GENE WINTERS  
County Extension Agent

Soil moisture, as well as rain, is one of the more popular topics of conversation this season throughout the county. Most of the concern is for the estimated 153,000 acre wheat and 15,000 acre barley crop and rangelands. A short supply of irrigation water for hay and pasture lands is critical for the livestock producers.

Farm windbreaks suffered through 1967. Where irrigation water is available these should be irrigated. The evergreen conifers such as pine, fir, spruce, arborvitae, cedars and junipers are especially vulnerable this season after a dry summer, fall and winter. Evergreens use some moisture throughout the winter.

Two series of soil moisture demonstrations will be established on Morrow county farms throughout the season. Soil moisture blocks will be placed in the soil profile in irrigated wheat to determine root penetration and water use. Blocks will be placed at one foot intervals to five or more feet of depth. Weekly moisture readings will be charted during the season. Such information for the different soil classes will promote better irrigation management. These trials will be on the Sagemoor and Ritzville soils.

A second demonstration will be established using soil moisture blocks on summerfallow wheat land that has been sub-soiled and on that which has received normal tillage. Readings will be taken the spring of 1969 to determine root penetration and moisture use. These trials will be used to determine the value of sub-soiling soils with compaction layers, thought to be limiting root growth. The sub-soiled moisture trials will be on the Morrow and Condon soils.

### Survey Shows Goods Bonus Paid on Certified Seed

The Oregon State University seed certification staff recently made a survey of seed companies across the state to determine whether or not farmers are receiving a bonus for the certified seed they are growing.

According to Gary Cooper, certification assistant, over 80% of the questionnaires were returned. The summary of the survey shows that in 1967 growers received a bonus of 37c per hun-

Mrs. Mabel Chaffee returned Sunday evening from a trip to Spokane, Wash., where she attended memorial services on Friday for her brother-in-law, F. A. Chaffee. She first traveled to Walla Walla, from where she accompanied friends to Spokane, and was met in Umatilla by friends on her return trip home.

## Deadlines Near For Requests On Crop Loans

Producers who want loans on 1967 crops of wheat, barley, oats, and rye should request such loans at the ASCS county office by the end of April, according to David McLeod, office manager, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service office.

Final dates for requesting price-support loans are approximately 30 days prior to the particular loan maturity date. If the crop is not placed under loan, it may be sold to the Commodity Credit Corporation by notifying the ASCS county office before the loan maturity date.

Growers who are considering the resale of 1967 crops under loan—either on farms or in commercial warehouses—also should file a request for extension of such loans. The 1967 crops eligible for resale are wheat, corn, oats, and barley. Resale loans on older crops which are stored on farms will be extended automatically without the filing of a request.

Maturity dates for the different crops grown locally are April 30 for rye, May 31 for wheat, barley and oats, and July 31 for corn.

Manager McLeod pointed out that the price-support loans make it possible for farmers to market their crops when prices are most favorable. Crops may be redeemed from loans at any time prior to maturity by paying off the loan plus interest.

## Wheat Executive Tells Benefits Under Law 480

By JOHN WELBES  
Executive Vice-president  
Oregon Wheat League

It's always been of concern whether Public Law 480, the sale of agricultural commodities in exchange for foreign currency, has been of any real economic advantage to agriculture and the United States.

The Oregon Wheat Growers League, the organization that singlehandedly took this new program in 1954 and developed a gigantic overseas market, can now look back with pride on its accomplishments.

Since 1954 over \$1½ billion worth of U. S. expenses have been paid abroad in those currencies in lieu of dollars. This is resulted in a balance of payment benefit in that amount.

Large payments of principal and interest from long term dollar credit sales are now starting to come in, and in the 1963-66 period amounted to 56.6 million.

During that same period, 1963-66, larger program operations emphasized overseas procurement of materials, goods, and services required abroad by U. S. Government agencies, resulted in a further savings of \$479 million.

The building of these new overseas markets by PL 480 wheat has now resulted in a rapid emergence of cash wheat markets. Japan, is the best example, now being our number one cash wheat customer.

Taiwan's PL 480 imports dropped from 325 thousand tons in 1962 to zero in 1967. It's commercial buying—cash purchases—went from 9,000 to 280,000 tons.

The Republic of Korea; PL 480 wheat imports dropped only slightly from 337,000 tons in 1962 to 331,000 tons in 1967. But its cash purchases from us during that same period went from 26,000 tons to 341,000 tons.

Public Law 480 is one government program that has not only been a social success but an economic one, too. It deserves to be continued.



NAMED TO REIGN over the 24th annual Milton-Freewater Pea Festival and Junior Livestock Show are (left to right) Princess Susan Heidenrich, Queen Roberta Parent and Princess Peggy Hall. Pea Festival events begin Monday, May 6 and run thru Saturday, May 11. (Photo by Harris Studio).

## Oregon Farmers Indicate Decline In Wheat Acreage

By DIANA KINCAID

According to survey results just released by the Oregon Crop and Livestock Reporting Service, Oregon farmers indicate a 3 percent decline in planted wheat acreage from a year ago. Intended spring wheat acreage, at 95,000 acres, is down 8 percent from a year ago. Spring wheat acreage plus the winter wheat acreage planted last fall equals 1,018,000 acres, 78,000 acres less than planted in 1967. The decreased wheat acreage is partly in response to smaller 1968 wheat acreage allotments.

If Oregon farmers carry out their planting intentions, the following crop acreages will increase in 1968: spring and fall sown oats, up 16 percent; spring and winter barley, up 10 percent; and sugar beet acreage, up 9 percent. Crops registering acreage decreases along with wheat are: field corn, down 19 percent; potatoes, down 12 percent; dry field peas, down 10 percent; and hay acreage for harvest, down 5 percent.

Oregon's farmers will be facing the probability of moisture shortages in the coming growing season. At the present time, topsoil moisture is in adequate supply in most areas due to February showers and snow pack run-off caused by mild temperatures; however, subsoil moisture is in short supply in Columbia River counties. Streamflow irrigation water supplies in both western and eastern Oregon are likely to be short due to the small snow pack at higher elevations.

## Cattlemen's Board To Hear McMillan

Bill McMillan, Denver, executive vice-president, American National Cattlemen's Association, will address the board of directors of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association on Friday, March 29, Imperial Hotel, Portland, according to Denny Jones, president.

McMillan will discuss with this state's beef leaders details of the computerized communications marketing program which will be initiated nationally on April 2. This activity, which ties in with the ANCA Guidelines marketing program, could revolutionize our livestock marketing activities, Jones said.

More than 100 of this state's leading cattlemen are expected to attend this board meeting. Another main topic on the agenda will include a discussion on the NFO (National Farmers Organization), which has been very active in signing up members from among the cattle industry. Other important items on the agenda will include marketing; public lands; proposed budget and a discussion on state taxes and agricultural tax assessments. Jones also stated that this might very well be the most important Oregon Cattlemen's Association directors meeting in the last five years.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Buschke and children, Brett and Tanna, of Canyon City visited in Heppner over the weekend at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Swagart and with his father, Claude Buschke.

## One Public Library Helped By Club's Annual Benefit

By DIANA KINCAID

IONE—Topic Club members were hostesses for an afternoon of pinocle and bridge play on Saturday, March 23, at the lone Masonic hall. Ten tables, decorated with spring flowers, were in play at the annual library benefit. Approximately \$100 was raised for the purchase of additional new books for the lone Public Library.

Prizes were won in bridge by Mrs. Faye Ferguson, high; Mrs. Virginia Rosewall, low, and Mrs. Lois Hunt, 100 honors. In pinocle, prizes were won by Mrs. Dot Halvorsen, high; Mrs. Flossie Mariek, low, and Mrs. Ida Coleman, 300 pinocle. Mrs. Oia Ruggles and Mrs. Eunice McElroy were winners of the two door prizes.

In ceremonies directed by Worthy Advisor Willa Johnson, initiation was held for Melanie Ball, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don Ball, last Tuesday evening in the regular meeting of the lone Assembly of the International Order of Rainbow for Girls. Grand officers who were escorted and introduced were Martha Peck, grand treasurer, and Bonnie Akers, grand confidential observer. Other guests were Susan Meiby and Patsy Wright of Heppner. Mrs. Lewis Halvorsen served refreshments at a table decorated in a St. Patrick's Day theme.

Kristin and Keith Nelson were among the some 340 Oregon young people who met in Portland on March 22, 23 and 24, for the United Church of Christ Youth Conference. Eight discussion-study groups were held in eight Portland area churches with the main theme of all discussions being "Turn on Youth Power." The three day affair also featured a film festival, ice skating, bowling, a dance and an after dark tour of Portland. In a meeting of the Mid-Columbia District, Keith was elected area representative. The two young people were accompanied by Mrs. Norman Nelson who served as one of the leaders for a study group.

Mrs. Hershah Townsend was feted with a birthday dinner on Saturday evening given by Mr. and Mrs. Cleo Childers. The evening of pinocle that followed was enjoyed by Mr. and Mrs. Bert Akers, Mr. and Mrs. Art Dalzell, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Halvorsen, Mr. and Mrs. John Jensen, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Palmer and Hershah Townsend.

Mrs. Mike Matthews and Mrs. Bert Akers drove to Monmouth on Sunday with their daughters, Denise and Bernice returned to register for classes at OCE and Bonnie Akers was their overnight guest at the dormitory. Mrs. Akers reported a pleasant visit with a former junior high classmate, Mrs. Helen Adisson, who is now with the Elem. Ed. Dept. at OCE.

Week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Crabtree were Portlanders, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Meyers.

On last Thursday afternoon Mrs. Larry Prock of Heppner entertained at the home of her mother, Mrs. Lewis Halvorsen, with a coffee hour in honor of Mrs. David Beckham (Tass Morrison). Mrs. Beckham and her husband are leaving by plane

## Timber Sales Down In Northwest Area

Timber sales in the Pacific Northwest Region of the U. S. Forest Service last year amounted to 4,429,625,000 board feet with a value of \$121,680,000.

This is a decrease of 308 million board feet from 1966 when sales in the 19 National Forests of Oregon and Washington totaled 4,738,065,000 board feet valued at \$147,954,094.

The amount of timber actually harvested during 1967 was 4,669,610,000 board feet, only 59 million less than the previous year's 4,728,456,000 board feet. Total value of the 1967 harvest was \$118,437,602, about \$1½ million under the 1966 total of \$119,673,808.

Volume of timber sold varies from the amount cut in any given year because the period in which a sale of timber is harvested will vary from a few weeks to several years.

The Pacific Northwest Region's annual sustained-yield allowable cut is 4.347 billion board feet. Since harvest figures are averaged out over a period of years and include some material not included in allowable cut calculations, a slightly higher harvest figure for 1967 does not violate the sustained-yield principle, said Regional Forester Charles A. Connaughton.

One-fourth of National Forest receipts, including those from timber, are returned to the counties having National Forest lands.

in play in another home game this time with Arlington.

For the first time in many years lone sent several representatives to the Solo and Ensemble Contest held in La Grande last Saturday. "Since this was the first time any of these students were entered in competition they did very well," commented their music director, Darrell James. "I was proud of all of them."

David Marick received a rating of I which is a superior rating on his tuba solo "Mastodon" by Guentzel. "He was recommended for the State Solo Contest in Corvallis, however he had to have his music memorized before his performance at the district contest so next year we'll plan for that problem ahead of time," said James.

Among other students participating were: Neal Christopherson who played "Trumpet Concerto" Movement III by Haydn; Chuck Nelson played "Melodie" by Tchaikowsky on his alto saxophone; Kerry Peterson did a trombone solo, "Hasse Suite," accompanied by his sister, Kristine Peterson. All these students are seniors.

Others were Jim Swanson, "Trumpeter's Lullaby" — Anderson; Ron Christopherson, a trumpet solo "Bugler's Holiday" — Anderson; Christine McCabe, alto sax solo, "Sax-Caprice" by Harris; and the Choralettes sang "Call To Remembrance" and "How Excellent Thy Name". Members of the choralettes include: Connie Emert, Anita Crawford, Sharlene Hamlett, Tanya Tucker, Janice Snider, Linda Nichols, Joy Beggs, Terrie O'Connor and Teresa Tucker.

Principal Harold Beggs attended a conference in Salem on Wednesday and Thursday concerning Computer Instruction. The juniors and seniors are being taught a special course in civil defense for the next two weeks. The class is taught by high school instructor Jim Johnson.

NEED ENVELOPES? The Gazette-Times can furnish you with any size or kind, including special needs. Many are carried in stock, others available on order.

## ATTENTION, FARMERS!

### SALES MAY STOP SOON

Accepting new applications for Federal Crop Insurance protection may stop early this year, according to Mary McLeod, Morrow County Crop Insurance Agent.

New applications on 1968 spring Barley were stopped a month ahead of the normal date this spring. Continued drought makes this more than a possibility on next year's crop.

Anyone intending to apply for a new or change in their old policy coverage, should do it without delay.

The Federal Crop Insurance office is located in the Gilliam and Bisbee Building, Heppner.

## Mike Snyder Serves On USS Ticonderoga

Commissionary Seaman Michael R. Snyder, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam I. Snyder of Route 2, Irrigon, is at Subic Bay, R. P. aboard the attack aircraft carrier USS Ticonderoga.

The Ticonderoga went to Subic Bay following 38 days "on the line" in the Gulf of Tonkin off the coast of North Vietnam. While in the Gulf planes from the carrier flew more than 700 air strikes in support of U. S. and Allied ground forces operating in South Vietnam.

In addition to supporting ground forces the planes struck the Vinh airfield near Vinh, North Vietnam. Also, strikes were made against enemy gun positions, waterborne logistics craft, storage areas, bunkers and rocket sites north of the Demilitarized Zone.

The Ticonderoga is the first carrier to return to Vietnam for a fourth tour of duty.

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## Where To Vote

In Morrow County

### BLUE MOUNTAIN AREA EDUCATION DISTRICT ELECTION

(Blue Mountain Community College)

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

#### PERSONS RESIDING IN:

School District Voting Precinct No. 18 (Morrow County General Election Precinct number 4).

School District Voting Precinct No. 19 (Morrow County General Election Precinct number 1.)

School District Voting Precinct No. 20 (Morrow County General Election Precinct number 3.)

School District Voting Precinct No. 21 (Morrow County General Election Precinct number 5.)

School District Voting Precinct No. 22 (Morrow County General Election Precincts numbered 6, 7, 8, 9.)

School District Voting Precinct No. 23 (Morrow County General Election Precinct number 2.)

#### WILL VOTE AT:

A. C. Houghton Elementary School Irrigon, Oregon

City Hall Boardman, Oregon

Ione High School Gymnasium Ione, Oregon

School District Office Lexington, Oregon

Heppner Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room Heppner, Oregon

Rhea Creek Grange Hall Ruggs, Oregon

(Pd. Adv. by Blue Mt. Area Education Dist., Robin R. Woodroffe, Dist. Clerk, 215 S. W. First Ave., Pendleton, Ore.)