

## Big Crowd Hears Oregon Ag Head; Honors Awarded

(Continued from page 1)  
 the Heppner Soil and Water Conservation presented them and their families, giving them awards on behalf of the district. Dallas Rea of Highland Machinery Co., Condon, gave the plaque from his firm in recognition of their achievement. **Hereford Award Given**  
 Ned Clark, president of the Morrow County Livestock Growers whose annual day-long meeting preceded the banquet, presented the Premier Hereford award to Herb Ekstrom and Sons of Ione.  
 Lindsay introduced Denny Jones, president of the Oregon Cattlemen's association, and Mrs. Jones, from Juntura; Jim Campbell, president of the Gilliam County Livestock Growers; Michael Narsarwine of Jordan who is currently at the Ralph Crum ranch studying wheat growing methods; officers of livestock growers, headed by Ned Clark, president; and officers of the CowBelles, headed by Mrs. Larry Lindsay, new president, and other dignitaries and guests present.  
 Sherman introduced officers and directors of the Chamber of Commerce and their wives. **Collins Wins Diamond**  
 A \$100 diamond, given as a door prize with the compliments of Randall Peterson of Peterson's Jewelers, was won this year by Mayor-Elect Bill Collins of Heppner. Sealed envelopes

were given to each person attending, but only one contained the "real diamond."  
 Director Leth told the large group, "California may be the best neighbor we can possibly have."  
 He pointed out that the state takes large numbers of Oregon's feeder cattle and is using more and more of the state's processed crops. He expressed the opinion that California doesn't need our water.  
 "If they conserve and utilize what they now have," he said, "they could irrigate all the good land that they have in that state."  
 The major demand for water from the northwest is from other parts of the southwest, he said, and not so much from California.  
 Declaring that there are three billion people on the face of the earth and the population growing fast, Leth said that farmers will become increasingly popular.  
 "When we get people hungry, farmers become a popular people," he said. "Empty bellies are always a cause of distress."  
 At the same time he pointed to the plight that the farmer is facing with his income declining while others benefit by an acceleration.  
**Farm Income Drops**  
 "Organized labor is earning 123% more than it did 20 years ago, but farm income is nine percent less than it was 20 years ago," he declared. If wheat ranchers' income had climbed at the same rate as labor, wheat now would bring \$5.57 per bushel, he said, and cattle would bring \$65 per cwt.  
 There has concurrently been a very serious loss in the number of farms. "We have lost one-half million farms in the last 15 years in America," Leth

## TEN THINGS A FARMER SHOULD BEAR IN MIND

(Editor's Note: Walter Leth, director, Oregon Department of Agriculture, listed 10 things that a farmer should bear in mind during his address at the Farm-City banquet here Wednesday night. The Gazette-Times has had several requests to print the list, and consequently it is reprinted below):

- IT IS DOUBTFUL IF ANY BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY:**
1. Returns as much to the community and keeps it there
  2. Is as permanent
  3. Is as clean (green fields don't create smog)
  4. Creates as many jobs
  5. Is taken as much for granted
  6. Carries the property tax load
  7. Offers more expansion opportunities
  8. Keeps economy as stable or consistent
  9. Offers greater opportunity for jobs for young people
  10. Is as much a segment that we just can't get along without, because "we gotta eat."
- Make your business better by making agriculture a better business.

said.  
 As to taxes, he said that farm people in Oregon pay 25% to 30% of their net income in property taxes while others pay only 5% on the average. In Oregon, some relief was gained when the last legislature sought to assess taxes more on the basis of earnings than on the value of the farms.  
**Food Cost Said Low**  
 "Your friends never bought food as cheap before as they do right now," the state director said. "They pay only 17% or 18% of their take-home pay for food."  
 In England the percentage is 29% and in Russia it is 53%, he declared.  
 If farmers received parity prices it would increase jobs in Oregon by 35,000, the speaker said.  
 Leth complimented the three sponsoring organizations on the joint sponsorship of the banquet, declaring, "Getting together is a wonderful thing." He spoke of his interest in the Port of Morrow and in irrigation developments underway.

"The State of Oregon isn't going to stand still," he declared. "We're on the threshold of very great developments in Oregon."  
 In introducing Leth as a friend of long standing, Sherman told the group that the speaker knew agriculture from every angle—as an agriculture teacher, as a county extension agent, as a farmer in his own right, from the standpoint of government and the legislature, and from the angle of producer and packer. He has served in each of these capacities.  
 Leth's record of 12 years in the state senate was also pointed out. He served as chairman of the agriculture committee, among others, and chairman of the interim agriculture committee.  
 The roast beef dinner at the banquet was prepared and served by the Lexington Grange.  
**Resolutions Passed**  
 At the livestock growers meeting in the Elks Temple through the preceding day, with some 30 in attendance, the growers passed a resolution asking for study of the American eagle, which is causing some problems in preying on calves. The resolution will be presented to the Oregon Cattlemen's association which is meeting in Ontario.  
 They also called for a brand inspection each time cattle change ownership and asked that the OCA head office be moved to Portland from Prineville.  
 The stockmen heard Dr. Al Ralston describe how to pick more marketable cattle on the hoof and how to precondition weaner calves in a discussion by Dr. Jim Oldfield. Both men are from Oregon State University.  
 Ned Clark, Raymond French and Terry Thompson were re-elected to the board of directors and Merlin Hughes was elected as a new director. Officers of the stockmen are to be chosen for next year at a directors' meeting this week.

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### Leth Only 'Double Director' at 100th Jersey Anniversary

Oregon's director of agriculture, Walter Leth of Salem, attracted some extra commendations at the 100th anniversary meeting of the American Jersey Cattle Club held in early October in Columbus, Ohio.  
 He was the only former director of the Jersey group who also holds the distinction of being a director of a state department of agriculture. Leth served as western director of the American Jersey Cattle Club from 1942 to 1945 and as an official Jersey classification judge. He was a member of the committee placing the AJCC headquarters in Columbus.  
 Leth reports that the Jersey breed is increasing materially in numbers. This was evident at meetings both of the AJCC and the World Jersey Council, held concurrently in Columbus. He said 73 breeders from New Zealand, more than 20 from Australia and delegations from Ireland, Denmark, and England were among those present.  
 Two personalities present drew more than passing interest: They were Lord and Lady from the Isle of Jersey, where the breed originated in the 18th century.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Waid of Portland visited Saturday night and Sunday with Mr. Waid's sister, Mrs. Amanda Duvall.

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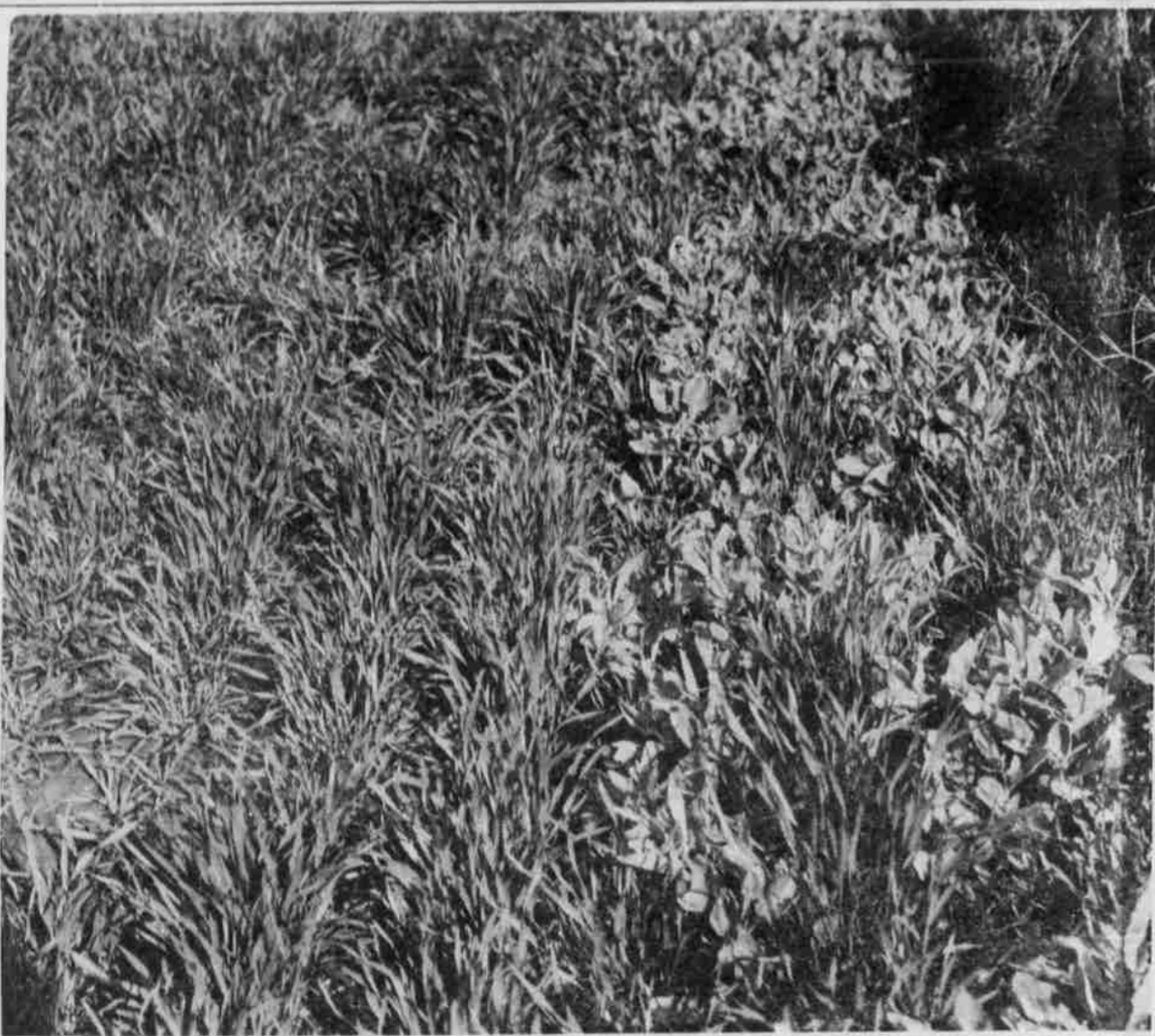
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