



THEY GROW 'EM BIG at the Nelson-Tucker ranch. Ed O. Nelson holds a heart-shaped potato and proudly displays five potatoes that measured 4 1/2 inches in length when placed end to end. The potato harvest at the ranch was concluded last Friday. (G-T Photo).

State Fair Offers Shows For All Ages and Tastes

Oregon's BIG ONE—the 104th edition of the Oregon State Fair opens August 23 and runs through September 1. The Fair traditionally showcases a magnificent display of Oregon's bounty, beauty and talent on the states scenic 181-acre fairgrounds in Salem.

This year the Big Show offers a multitude of products and skills, a bigger All America Rodeo-Horse Show, top-flight entertainment, nine days of thoroughbred racing, a myriad of special events and attractions. State Fair Manager Robert L. Stevens is predicting this year's BIG ONE will draw 400,000 visitors from throughout Oregon and the Western United States. Competition in many classifications is open to the world, he added.

State Fair Commission Chairman Sanford Nemerovsky announces improvements in grounds and facilities for this year's fair. Foremost is the new 46,000 square foot Agricultural Exhibits Hall. Unique in concept, this total-use structure will house product and industry displays, the agricultural show, county and commodity feature exhibits, and the International Photo Salon.

The free grandstand shows run the entertainment gamut beginning with nationally-famous Marilyn Maye, and the Inkspots August 23-25. Miss Maye has made numerous TV appearances and was nicknamed "Super Singer" by Johnny Carson.

Browning Bryant and Bernie Burns will appear August 26-29. Browning is the twelve-year-old protege of Wayne Newton and has appeared with him on Kraft Music Hall shows, with Arthur Godfrey, as well as other major TV shows. Burns is a zany instrumentalist who plays calypso, popular, and wild blues.

Oregon's own Action Faction, a group of seven versatile, energetic young personalities, three girls and four boys, have been making show-biz history in such places as Las Vegas and Nassau, and action is the keynote of their unique act which will be featured nightly August 23 through 29 in the free Rodeo arena. The Action Faction will wow afternoon crowds at the Fair's Young America Center August 25 through 29.

With acts and animals from all parts of the world, the big Polack Brothers Circus tops the final three days of the free grandstand show. Offered in this two-hour spectacular are the time-honored thrills and chills of big-time circus.

All America Horse show and rodeo fans will find even bigger events this year according to Assistant Fair Manager and Horse Show Director William Turnquist. Leading stables from throughout the West and Canada will be competing in 264 classes held in the Fair's indoor stadium. The ultimate in horsemanship will compete in this nationally "A" rated show.

Internationally famous Cy Taylor will emcee the World Championship Rodeo interspersed in the Horse Show. Oregon's own Larry Mahan and Doug Brown will be competing with other top professional cowboys, and clown Wilbur Plaugher, of movie and TV fame, will enliven the events.

Livestock Superintendent Jim Westfall, of McMinnville, reports more entries and new breeds in this department. Charolais are an added class in beef cattle. Rambouillet are new in the sheep division, and American La Manchans will compete for the first time in the dairy goat division. A record total of \$66,875 will be awarded in the livestock department.

The fair will award a new trophy, known as the "Grain Man of the Year" to the sweepstakes winner in the grain division of the Horticulture and Agriculture Department.

County booths theme this year is "Down the Oregon Trail". The new concept in booth design will display many variations in a "first of its kind" arrangement.

Cavies, another new division are being added to the rabbit department. Completely reorganized and modernized, the Home Economics Department is boasting many new classes designed to spotlight the art of home-making. Mrs. James A. (Pat) Wells, new department superintendent, announces many special demonstrations, including a fashion show, to be seen in the new Women's World Demonstration Theatre.

The Gerry Frank chocolate layer cake contest and the Doug Baker berry pie contest will engender some intensive activity among Oregon oven artists. Queen of the Kitchen and Queen of Clothing and Textiles honors, senior and junior, will go to the top winners in this eagerly anticipated event.

Floral Gardens, among the most popular attractions at the fair, and largest outdoor show in the Northwest, has "God and Country" as its 1969 theme and covers an even larger area this year. An added attraction will be the concerts on a cathedral organ by Larry B. Noyes, of Rogers Organ Co., of Oregon.

The International Photo Salon will have quarters in the new Agricultural Exhibits Hall. Among the top fifteen photo shows in the world, the Salon will display entries from many countries including Russia, Finland, Hungary, and most states in the U. S.

George H. Dow, Salem artist, directs the All Oregon Art Show now back indoors in the entirely remodeled second floor of the Arts and Hobbies Building. Also in the Arts and Hobbies Building the entirely new Tropical Fish Department will create interest for many, along with mineralogy, crafts and a very unusual turn-of-the-century sheet music display. And from the U. S. Treasury Department one of the most outstanding currency exhibits in the country.

Racing fans will have one more day of thoroughbred racing this year with the meet, final of the year, posting August 22 at Lone Oak Track, to begin a nine-day session featuring some 93 runs to the finish line. Post time on opening day is 3:00 p.m., 2:30 p.m. other week days, 1:30 p.m. Saturdays and Labor Day. No racing on Sunday.

The All-Oregon Talent Show will present the accomplishments of 336 participants from 95 Oregon cities, and culminate in the Command Performance, new this year, in the Fair Armory auditorium on Sunday, August 31.

Lawrence Green is visiting at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Green, while on army leave. He has completed basic training at Ft. Bliss, Texas, and will begin advanced individual training at Ft. Riley, Kan., after his two-week stay. Margaret Green is also home on vacation from the Bonneville Power Administration south of Eugene. She will stay for one week, leaving August 24. Mrs. Alma Green is vacationing from her job to visit while her son and daughter are here.

Grain Movement Down in 1968-69

Grain inspection figures compiled by the Oregon Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1969, show both export and incoming grain at Portland and Astoria behind the previous year.

At the end of the 1968-69 fiscal year grain exported totaled 2,628,564 tons, compared with 3,231,272 tons the previous year. Incoming grain checked by the department's grain inspectors totaled 3,049,640 tons, while the previous year the total was 3,680,537 tons.

Livestock Yard Free of Charges

Charges brought against the former operator of Hermiston Livestock Commission are not charges against the operation itself, according to the new owners of the sales yard.

Carson Vehrs, Emmett Rogers and Bill Bowden bought out the operation on January 1 of this year. The charges against the former owner stemmed from an incident in October of 1968.

"We are in no way whatsoever connected with any charges brought against the former owner," Vehrs states.

Commenting on the drop in grain movement, Allen G. Plummer, chief of the Grain Division of the department, said major cause of the lower volume was the worldwide competition in the grain market and the effect on quality of the wheat as a result of the rains of late summer and early fall of 1968, which caused sprouting of grain. He noted that not only Oregon wheat but other states' wheat that moves through Oregon ports, had problems with sprouting.

Plummer also reminded that the fiscal year 1967-68 included September, October and November, 1967, grain movement and that all of these months were record months for inspections.

The year-end total showed Merrill the only area moving more grain in the past fiscal year than the previous year. During 1968-69 a total of 126,144 tons of inspection and diversion grain was inspected by the department in comparison with 99,987 tons the previous year.

At Pendleton inspectors checked 80,047 tons of incoming grain and 101,141 tons of inspection and diversion wheat during the past year. The previous year inspections covered 78,693 tons of incoming grain and 288,034 tons of inspection and diversion wheat.

Mechanic Openings Available in Army

The United States Army currently has openings for young men in the automotive maintenance field, according to Sergeant Leroy Reed, recruiter for Umatilla, Morrow, Gilliam and Wheeler counties.

Young men may now enter this field to learn techniques and skills as wheel vehicle mechanics, track vehicle mechanics, fuel and electrical systems repairmen, automotive repairmen, automotive maintenance foremen and recovery specialists.

While much of the training in the field is given right on the job through "learning by doing", under skilled mechanics and experienced supervisors, a regular school course is provided.

Sergeant Reed pointed out that there are many jobs in private industry in which veterans have become gainfully employed as a result of the experience and skills acquired while in the Army.

Sergeant Reed is a qualified counselor who can advise young men about vocational training and careers in the United States Army. His office is at 258 S. W. First Street in Pendleton. He invites collect calls from qualified applicants at 276-6534.

Mrs. Joan Grey, daughter, Sheridan, and Molly Pierce, all of Heppner, and Mrs. Joe Wright, Gresham, recently spent ten days at Ft. Stevens Park on the Oregon coast. They returned from their vacation Monday, August 18.

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