

Future Viewed By Ag Director

Despite setbacks for vegetable and tree fruit growers, state agriculture director, Irvin Mann, Jr., foresees a good year for Oregon agriculture. However, he says that progress is dependent upon three factors, over two of which the farmer, himself, has no control.

Mr. Mann says the state's agricultural picture depends upon what happens in the administration of Phase Two of the president's program to curb inflation; congressional action to prevent future transportation stoppages and the outcome of the May primary vote on Ballot Measure 5, the so-called "water bank" act.

The director predicts that if Phase Two has the same effects in 1972 as in 1971, it could be the biggest thing to happen to agriculture in several decades. He says it first would offer agricultural prices a chance to seek their own level and, secondary, it could continue to halt inflation that would tend to stabilize the operating costs of agriculture, which are currently facing many producers to the wall.

"Congress must act to prevent the lifeline of the nation from being cut in two," said Mr. Mann.

Referring to the current work stoppage on the docks, he noted it must be settled and says that inter-industry conferences are being held throughout the northwest in an attempt to bring about a united front of congressional delegations of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Alaska and Hawaii in support of legislation to prevent future recurrences.

On the third factor, the water bank measure, Mr. Mann says, "The farmer has an element of control because he has a vote." But he reminds that this needs the support of other voters and points out that benefits from passage of the measure go much further than just the farmer.

"If Ballot Measure Number 5 is enacted by the people, it would make 1972 the start of the biggest agricultural expansion and diversification ever experienced by any state in the union," he explained.

Mr. Mann thinks Governor Tom McCall's promise to use his official powers to prevent any work stoppages in areas where perishable crops are involved will act as a deterrent to farm labor trouble in Oregon in 1972.

"The Oregon Department of Agriculture, through its agricultural development division, is moving to encourage the installation of processing plants in areas of the state where total dependence upon the fresh produce market has brought about real distress," the director said, adding, "This should be a major effort of state government and has the active support of the governor."

Mr. Mann thinks the image of agriculture in Oregon has taken a pronounced turn for the better and that this trend will continue to gain in 1972. He attributes this changing image to the fact that people in agriculture are taking a positive approach and have actively worked with government in the drafting of regulations affecting their industry, instead having a negative reaction to population pressures put on them by encroachment on available lands.

As an example he cites the feedlot regulations designed to prevent pollution by animal wastes and the voluntary assessment by grass seed grower for use in seeking alternatives to open field burning now used for weed and insect control.

RC & D Meets Next Monday

President Ed Hoelt has announced that the annual meeting for the Columbia-Blue Mtn. RC & D will be Jan. 10 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Arlington's municipal building.

Serious soil erosion will be studied plus a talk by George Stubbert on watershed projects. Committee accomplishments will be presented by resource committee chairman, Rangeland chairman is Raymond French.

Legislator Joe Burns will speak on future development and progress of our area. An election of officers will conclude the day's meeting.

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PETER SUNDIN, case worker for the Children's Services Division serving Morrow, Gilliam and Wheeler counties. His offices are in the County Welfare office in the Gilliam and Blaine building, Heppner.

Cutsforths See Gene Heliker In Spokane

Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Cutsforth, Donna and Lisa went to Spokane last Tuesday to visit Mrs. Cutsforth's son, Gene Heliker and an uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Roberts.

Gene is with the show group "Rick Harris, Candy and Mr. D.", showing at the Front Street Review until Jan. 22. They do variety entertainment with songs, jokes and dance. The Cutsforths were introduced and then Mr. D. told a joke on Heppner.

The group just returned from a 10 week's assignment in Hawaii and on Jan. 24 will go to Anaheim, Ca., for a two weeks showing at the Play Girl.

Mr. and Mrs. Serge Coval, Tom and Linda of Hillsboro came up to spend New Year's weekend with the Cutsforths. Both Mr. and Mrs. Coval formerly taught at Lexington.

Allen Hughes Family Has California Trip

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Hughes and their daughters Patricia, Carolyn, and Jennifer have just returned after a holiday week in Southern California. They drove both ways. They stayed with Gail's brother Arnold "Butch" Coe, his wife and their four children at Thousand Oaks.

Gail says they all enjoyed seeing Disneyland and Marine Land. On Thursday, Dec. 30 when they visited Disneyland, 60,000 other people dropped in to look around, too.

Outside of the Los Angeles area traffic, she reports that the heaviest traffic they went through was at Salem, on their way south on Dec. 27. They returned Sunday evening, Jan. 2.

Ralph Thompson, a well-known retired sheepman here, was taken to Pioneer Memorial Hospital Saturday afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson's son, Alex Thompson of Portland, was here to see them. No other visitors are permitted at this time.

Molly Saul Visits Hello Heppner

Molly Saul, Extension Home Economist visited the Hello Heppner study group Tuesday evening at the Neighborhood Center. Her topic, "Ecology" prompted a great deal of discussion on problems locally and in their homes by the members. Her presentation was by film and lecture.

Hello Heppner is for the younger women and the working women. It meets each first Tuesday of the month at the Neighborhood Center in the evening. By meeting in the evening, the young mothers may have older children or a husband who can baby sit. Mrs. Ron Jones is chairman. Anyone interested in meeting with this group is asked to call her for more information.

The homemakers discussed ways they could cut down on pollution. They decided they could use fewer colored paper products which don't breakdown as fast as the non-dyed. Most dishwasher soaps contain phosphates. They felt they could wash fewer times by washing once a day or only when the dishwasher was filled. They could conserve water by washing a full load in their washer rather than one garment as some of them said they did. Fix leaky faucets.

Complaints were heard on the garbage dump and Kinzua smoke. They felt they should push for a sanitary land fill and hope that state regulations would bring about the elimination of the smoke stack.

The next meeting will be Feb. 1, at 7:30 at the Neighborhood Center on "The Detection of Breast Cancer" by Mrs. Sonny Biddle.

Mary Ellen Healy

Mary Ellen Healy, age 88, passed away Jan. 2, at the Pioneer Memorial Hospital. She was born May 28, 1883 in Heppner. Her parents were John Hughes and Mary Malloy Hughes.

Her husband Michael preceded her in death in 1946. She was a resident of Boardman before coming to the nursing home about 15 years ago.

Mrs. Healy is survived by sons John M. Healy, Portland; William P. Healy, Hillsboro; daughters Mrs. R. B. Holmbo (Mary) Portland; Mrs. Ray Gronquist (Geraldine), Pendleton; Mrs. R. E. Rands (Josephine) Boardman, one sister Mrs. Dan Buffington, Tigard; 17 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews in this area. Mrs. Olive Hughes is a sister-in-law.

The Rosary service was Monday evening at St. Patrick's Church. Funeral Mass took place Tuesday at 10:00. Rev. Raymond Beard officiated.

Casket bearers were: James Farley, Jack Healy, Harry O'Donnell, Thomas Hughes, James McNamee and William Healy.

Concluding services were at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery.

Contributions in Mrs. Healy's memory may be made to the Pioneer Memorial Hospital. Sweeney Mortuary took care of the arrangements.

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HOSPITAL NEWS

Those who were dismissed from the hospital this week were: Beth McBride, Mattie Green, Ben Cox, Edna Bailey, all of Heppner.

Still receiving care in the hospital are Ralph Thompson, Jack Hughes, Earl Gilliam, Owen Leathers, all of Heppner and Beecher Emert and Matilda Jepsen, both of Ione.

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