

Farmer, food, ecology, energy at ASC meeting

Oregon farm program officials from the Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service met March 4 at Gleneden Beach to discuss better service to farmers, farm programs and the challenges of hunger, ecology and energy.

Attending the meeting from Morrow County were Mr. and Mrs. Elden Padberg, Mr. and

Mrs. Delmer Hug, Mr. and Mrs. David McLeod, Judy Buschke and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Kerr.

Robert H. Jepsen, state ASC committee chairman, opened the two-day conference and introduced E. J. Person to the 200 county committeemen and ASCS employees attending the meeting. Person, ASCS's deputy administrator for programs, gave the Washington viewpoint on the agency's

programs for 1975 and on other aspects of the U. S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) current policies.

Person, a Minnesotan who began to work for the parent agency of ASCS in 1933, recalled early operations when all the farmer's needs were serviced from one office. He said, "Looking ahead, we should get back to this service center concept." The department presently plans to move all of its service agencies under one roof, a service center, in many of the nation's counties. Person said, "We need to go further than being under one roof, we need to share equipment, employees, workload—to work out a system to equitably serve farmers better."

with financing will become one of the major aspects."

Sherwood Nicholas, ASCS's state executive director, introduced Andrew J. Mair as qualified to wear two hats—the straw hat of a farmer and the top hat of a diplomat. Mair, a former Colorado farmer, is coordinator of the Office of Food for Peace, Department of State. Commenting on prospects for agricultural exports, he said, "Demand will be good because our carry over stock will be at an all time low as we go into the new fiscal year."

Mair also spoke of foreign aid. He urged support of it. "Foreign aid is a price we must pay to achieve the kind of world we want for ourselves and our children."

Mair responded to a question on food prices. "I can see only increased prices for food worldwide. You cannot have the increased cost of inputs, of credit, of fertilizer, of ma-

chinery where machinery is used, and not have increased price of food."

W.G. Nibler, who represents the extension service on the ASC state committee, praised agency relations over the years in Oregon. He recognized ASCS for leadership in this role. Nibler emphasized the importance of public understanding of the national need to maintain a strong agriculture and said, "We must rely on more grassroots efforts to accomplish this."

Don Thompson, member of the Oregon State ASC committee, chaired the Tuesday afternoon session which featured speakers Stafford Hansell of the governor's office, George Ward, who spoke on Reuse of Municipal Wastes for Agriculture, and David Junge. Junge is assistant director of the Office of Energy Research and Development of Oregon State University.

That night, the ASCS people banqueted at Salishan Lodge with Tab Sehorn of the State ASC office as M.C. The banquet speaker was Everett Rank, ASCS's director for the Western Region, a 14-state area that extends from Canada to Mexico and from the Pacific to the plains.

Wednesday the conference heard Dr. Edward Ree, senior vice president at Portland's United States National Bank, and then broke into workshop sessions. Workshop discussions ranged from daily operations of ASCS farm programs to management concerns of county offices. An afternoon highlight was a discussion panel of four county committeemen, Stan Timmermann of Umatilla, Howard Gilson of Lake, W. D. Palmer of Josephine, and Richard Breese of Crook. Wednesday's gavel was shared by W. G. Nibler and Glen Brogotti of the Oregon ASC Committee.

\$500 reward for stolen horse

Lin and Jackie Thornton, Irrigon, have offered a \$500 reward for information leading to the safe return of their Palomino walking horse broodmare and the foal she is carrying.

The mare was stolen from the Crescent Ranch, Irrigon, either Feb. 21 or 22.

"Our Golden Lady C" is over 16 hands tall and weighs 1,300 to 1,400 pounds. She is a pale Palomino with white mane and tail, and has no other white markings. She had a large horny growth of old scar tissue on the inside of her right hind leg, in the hock area, which slightly hampers her walk. The mare is 11 years old, will answer to the name "Lady" and is expected to foal in April.

She is the dam of the Oregon high-point walking horse foals for 1973-74. She is not the best built or the prettiest but is an almost perfect nick with the Thornton's stallion, Avenging Sun.

Prior to the theft of their mare the Thorntons found their watchdog had been poisoned.

According to reports when the Thorntons went out to feed the mare the morning of Feb. 22 she was gone from the pasture. "Had she strayed, she would have strayed to the nearest hay stack," said Mrs. Thornton.

After discovering the mare missing, Thornton notified the State Livestock Officer in

Hermiston, who is investigating the case.

Anyone having any information regarding the horse is asked to either call or write Lin or Jackie Thornton, Rt. 2, Box 200, Irrigon, Ore. 97844, or phone 503-922-3869.

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