

Future Farmers Have Investments Of Over Million

Salem, Ore., Apr. 1 — (U.P.) — Future Farmer boys enrolled in 71 Oregon high school departments of vocational agriculture have farming investments totaling more than one million dollars.

This is an average of \$321.01 a boy for the 3,132 boys holding membership in the organization, Ralph L. Morgan, state supervisor of vocational agriculture, reported today.

The farming investment of \$1,004,458.30 brought members a total labor income of \$707,171.73 last year, Morgan said.

Equipment Owned
Thirty-eight local chapters own equipment co-operatively valued at \$91,181.32 and 22 chapters operate chapter farms totaling 650 acres, which brought in a net income of \$9,558.75.

Future Farmers in 31 chapters borrowed \$24,463 from their local banks to improve and expand their supervised farming programs.

Field crops brought in the highest returns, with a labor income of \$198,936.49. Dairy rated second with \$98,278.88. Swine projects brought in \$50,346.27. Fruit accounted for \$40,393.40. Beef was fifth with \$39,487.27. Truck and garden netted \$26,480.28, and poultry, \$25,809.12. Miscellaneous brought in \$14,969.17, and sheep projects earned \$10,426.44.

Senate Aspirant To Speak Tuesday

Dave Hoover, Deadwood, one of three candidates for the republican nomination for United States senator, will speak in Medford at 8 p. m. Tuesday, it was announced Saturday by the county Young Republican and Republican Women organizations, which are in charge of the meeting.

The meeting, which will be open to the public, will be at the high school auditorium. GOP candidates for election to local and state offices will be welcome.

Hoover is seeking the office now held by Sen. Wayne Morse. Other candidates for nomination are Morse and John McBride, Portland.

Mrs. M. Allison Moulton and Warren Lesseg, heads of the sponsoring groups, said that other candidates meeting will be held from time to time before election, and that they do not constitute support of any one republican candidate.

Cigarette Brings Heavy Damage to Hospital

New York, Apr. 1 — (U.P.) — A fire started by a careless cigarette smoker caused \$100,000 damages to one wing of a three-story women's dormitory at the Manhattan State hospital Friday, routing more than 30 women employees.

The only person injured was Laura Cleary, 46, a laundry worker whom fire officials charged started the fire accidentally when she fell asleep while smoking. She was burned on the hands and feet trying to put out the blaze before turning in an alarm.

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Second Section

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Pages 1-8

Old Burstones Again To Turn at Eagle Point Mill; History Told

WHOLE WHEAT FLOUR DEMAND STARTS PLAN

By Richard Jewett
Mail Tribune Staff Writer

One of the glowing periods of southern Oregon's colorful history was the age of flour mills.

Oldtimers say that seven mills once flourished in the area, serving this region and northern California.

The age has long since passed. It faded with the advent of steam mills elsewhere, transportation developments and decrease in wheat production here.

Two reminders of the bygone era can be seen at Eagle Point today. One is the old Snowy Butte mill building. Inside is the other, the mill's original grindstone.

The massive burs of the old grindstone ceased their labor 60 years ago. Now they are going back to work, and water power once again will whirl the runnerstone. George Putman, owner of the aged mill structure, yielded to the suggestions of his feed store patrons and has turned back the pages of time.

The grindstone was a victim of progress. It gave way to roller type machinery. For 60 years it lay out in the weather along the ditch bank at one end of the mill. The roller mill halted operations almost 30 years ago. Machinery was torn out and most of it hauled away. But the grindstone has staged a comeback to fill a new demand. Putman will grind whole wheat flour and corn meal.

Repairs Started

Putman, who also operates a cold storage business at the old mill, began repairing the grindstone burs last summer. Burstones loosened by time were reset with plaster of paris. Reinstalled, the grindstone lies just about where it operated years ago.

Putman hopes to have his grist mill going Monday, with the giant rollerstone turning 160 to 180 revolutions per minute and grinding perhaps 500 to 600 pounds per hour.

Because of the many years that have elapsed, accounts of pioneer residents vary as to the chronology of events at the mill. Its history, however, began in 1872. It was constructed by Eber Emery and John Daley Sr. A. J. Daley, son of the builder, was miller for 20 years. Water supplied from Little Butte creek furnished the power.

From Switzerland

Rock of the mill's old grindstone came from Switzerland, some say. Burstone of flint and limestone was quarried in the Alpine country. Shipped from France to the United States, it acquired the name of french burblock. After passing through the hands of Barnard and Lee, long established mill manufacturers, the burstones next traveled to Roseburg.

Freighting the stones to the Rogue River valley must have been a chore. The upper and lower burs each weigh 1,350

pounds, and are four feet in diameter, Putman reported.

In 1888 or in 1890 the old grindstone gave way to the roller type operation.

Mill Purchased

The mill remained in the Daley family until about 1893 when it was purchased by William and S. B. Holmes. They changed the name from Butte Creek Roller Flour mill to Snowy Butte mill. George W. Daley, who learned the trade from his uncle, A. J. Daley, was their miller. He ran the enterprise for them until they discontinued the business nine years later.

In the heyday of the era, oldtimers recall, waiting wagons formed long lines and the mill ran day and night.

Rogue River Canal company bought the property from the Holmes brothers to obtain a water right. End of the Holmes brothers' operation and the sale to the canal firm brought idleness to the mill. It stood still until bought by Frank and George Brandon in 1916.

Wheel Installed

The Brandons installed the heavy iron water wheel that Putman now uses. During the war-time period they filled government contracts and possibly some Eagle Point flour was mixed into dough for the doughboys. Frank Brandon, now a Medford resident, said the old grindstone was offered to the city of Ashland for its park but the gesture was rejected.

In 1920 the Brandons went out of business and Henry Campbell, Eagle Point banker, acquired the mill. He leased it for a short time then once more the mill machinery halted.

The mill had been silent for more than a decade when Putman purchased the building from Campbell's widow in 1932. He tore out part of the machinery, and began using the structure in 1934. Putman, who entered the dairy business when he came from Missouri 25 years ago, first used the facilities to hammer his own feed.

Operates Freezer

Ten years ago Putman went into the cold storage business, utilizing the cheap water power rather than electricity or a gasoline generator to operate the units. His quick freeze was the first in the county, he maintains. He now has more than 700 lockers.

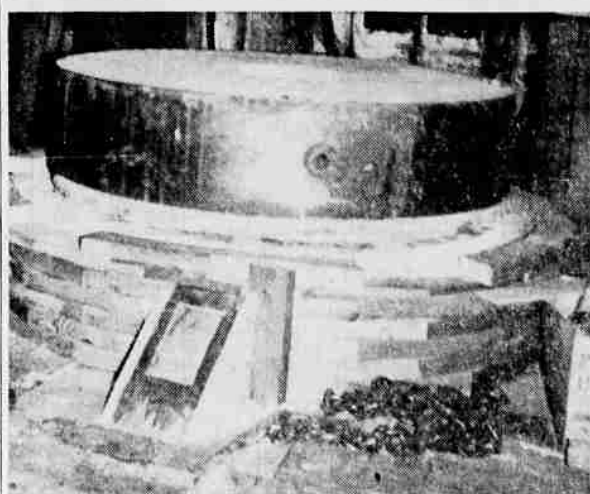
Putman believes that his new undertaking will be the only burstone flour operation in Oregon or Washington.

Last vestiges of the flour mill era, the mill and grindstone have a reputation to uphold. No mill in southern Oregon had better water power, ran any better or made any better flour than the old bur mill at Eagle Point, according to Frank Brandon. It was a credit to the community, he declared.

22 Diseases Reported During Past Week

Twenty-two cases of communicable disease were reported to the county health officer during the week ending March 31.

In Medford there were six mumps cases, six chicken pox, one infectious mononucleosis and two influenza. Ashland had one of whooping cough; Central Point, four chicken pox and one mumps; and Gold Hill, one case of measles.



OLD GRINDSTONE REINSTALLED—The aged grindstone which George Putman is putting back to work in the old Snowy Butte mill structure at Eagle Point is shown above. Idle 60 years after giving way to roller machinery, the massive burs are scheduled to resume operation turning out whole wheat flour and corn meal. The upper or runnerstone plainly seen here weighs about 1,350 pounds and is four feet in diameter. Grain will spill from a chute into a hole in the center of the runnerstone. The finished product will pour into the chute in the foreground.



SNOWY BUTTE MILL—At the old Snowy Butte mill building picture above, George Putman now operates a feed store and cold storage business. John Daley and Eber Emery erected the building in 1872 and A. J. Daley, son of John, was miller for 20 years.

Rep. Norblad Protests Nuts from Red China

Salem, Ore., Apr. 1 — (U.P.) — Congressman Walter Norblad, Oregon republican, has protested to the state department against shipments to this country of several thousand cases of shelled walnuts from communist China, he informed Oregon state officials today.

Norblad said the walnuts are delivered to California ports at prices 20 cents a pound under the current domestic price.

NAMED BY GOVERNOR

Salem, Ore., April 1 — (U.P.) — Gov. Douglas McKay today announced the appointment of Don Ellis of Garibaldi as a member of the state fish commission. Ellis will fill the unexpired term of the late D. M. Kyle Sr. of Florence.

Los Angeles, Apr. 1 — (U.P.) — Author Edgar Rice Burroughs left an estate "in excess of \$10,000.00" a will filed for probate revealed today.



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Highway Priority Program Due for Review Here Soon

A highway improvement priority program drawn up in 1948 will be the principal topic of discussions here April 12 when the boards of directors of the Ashland, Jackson county, and Grants Pass and Josephine county chambers of commerce hold a joint meeting at the Rogue Valley Country club.

The highway priority program was endorsed and reaffirmed yesterday by the highway committee of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, and after it is reviewed at the joint meeting, it will be re-submitted to the highway interim committee of the state legislature when that group meets April 14 at Grants Pass. The program is the product of two-county talks between interested groups in both Josephine and Jackson county.

Four Recommendations

The program carries four major recommendations in what is considered the order of their importance.

Top priority is given to the widening and improvement of highway 99 from Central Point to Ashland, one of the most heavily traveled sectors of the inter-regional highway in Oregon. Also in the first recommendation is the opening up of the traffic bottleneck at the Caveman bridge at the southern approach to Grants Pass. Three major routes converge at this point, creating traffic congestion that has plagued Grants Pass for years. The narrow, twisting sectors of 99 from the Jackson-Josephine line to Central Point are also given high priority in the joint recommendations for improvement. The most hazardous points in this stretch are the Buck Point bridge and Blackwell hill.

Second Priority

The Prospect-Eagle Point sector of the Crater Lake highway is given second priority, followed by recommendations for an all-year, cross-state route from Crescent City to Klamath Falls via Medford, Lake Creek, McAllister Springs and Soda Springs. The fourth recommendation is for improvements on

Thursday Warmest of Year; Month Said Cool

Yesterday was the warmest day during March and the warmest of 1950, the weather bureau reported today. Maximum temperature was 72, while the minimum dropped to 35, resulting in an average of 54 for the day.

Weather bureau records show that March has so far averaged five degrees below normal temperatures and has had more than half an inch more rain than usual.

MONUMENT AUTHORIZED

Key West, Fla., Apr. 1 — (U.P.) — President Truman signed today a bill authorizing erection of a monument to the memory of Henry Milton Brainerd at Cape Arago light station, Coos county, Oregon. Brainerd, former lighthouse keeper, perished while on duty.

Church Plans Rallies To Start Monday Eve

Central Church of Christ will extend a welcome to the public to attend a pre-Easter rally beginning Monday, April 3, and continuing through Friday.

Glen Vernon will speak each evening. Vernon is a minister and evangelist. His messages are plain, Biblical, understandable and applicable to the needs of people, it was said.

Services begin at 7:30 p. m. with song service led by Don H. Byers, pastor of Central church.

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