

--- CHIT CHAT ---

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

Used to be a time when an English professor was so far up in his ivory tower that a practical tiller of the soil such as the farmer seldom if ever listened to him. Nor was he familiar with any of the farmer's problems. However, last night an English professor by the name of Dr. Arthur Kreisman had considerable to say and it all made good sense.

The Rogue River valley is one of the two areas in the state facing a serious economic problem, he pointed out. Reason for this is the two-pronged economy here—lumber and fruit. The economic base must be broadened to include other industries, he urged. This broader industrial development cannot be done by a few people. Everybody must pitch in.

A few groups in the valley are doing it. Some of the vegetable growers are pushing for more research in their field so the truck garden industry can be increased here. The handful of broiler raisers have been meeting to see about increasing the marketability of their product. Those who own beef animals are moving toward a commodity commission. Trouble is only a handful in each of these farm groups are doing anything about this economic situation. There should have been many more to register for voting on the formation of a beef commission. We imagine the vote will be even smaller.

Dr. Kreisman describes the average citizen as sunk in ignorance and apathy. This certainly must include the average farmer. The average farmer is in economic quicksand. Instead of thrashing around and sinking deeper in his aimless struggles he might better look to see where he can receive his best help, then reach out and grab the helping hand which is much closer to him than he thinks.

Anyway, farming at its best must be a shifting business. Not long ago we heard a farmer turned lawyer and a lawyer turned farmer ask each other, "How come?" Now, we have just heard of a farmer who is selling a ranch to devote his time to writing.

We had started to work on the possible promotion of an agricultural cooperative for this area but were told, on good authority, it might be better to wait to see how much additional acreage the Talent irrigation project might bring it. It seems someone had started to work on the cooperative idea some time ago but learned it would take considerable more acreage in fruit and produce to make operation of a cooperative pay.

However, a little look around to see what other areas have and possibly some advance planning never hurt. According to a colorful brochure we have received, the Eugene Fruit Growers association is now celebrating its 50th anniversary. This outfit is rated by those who should know as an outstanding example of cooperative effort.

This cooperative grew out of a definite need. The panic of 1907 left the local cannery unable to finance the 1908 crop of fruit. The growers, acting through the association, leased the idle property and canned the fruit of the members, selling as much as possible in the fresh state. Total stock was \$5,000. First year's pack was 11,000 cases. First year's sales totaled \$15,000.

In 1910, according to the history printed in the brochure, the young organization purchased the plant of the local cannery, sold additional stock and established the beginnings of the present organization.

"Constant experimentation and study of regional advantages dictated changes. Increasingly the association directed its operations toward processing of vegetables and toward those fruits for which valley conditions are suited, and toward handling the filberts and walnuts of the area."

Now the Eugene Fruit Growers association has total assets of \$10,857,000. The gross sales for 1957 were \$10 million. The 1957 pack totaled 2,501,000 cases.

One encouraging sign is the rapid growth the Christmas tree industry is making here. County Commissioner Ralph James told us the other day that he has ordered a thousand trees and plans to add 4,000 this spring. He suggests planting rye grass between tree rows to furnish the needed shade for the seedlings this summer.

The Jackson county 4-H Friendship follies have been set for a day later to avoid conflict with the "old time political rally" sponsored by the Eagle Point Grange for March 21.

We're sure Bob Steward, secretary of the state agriculture department won a lot of friends when he spoke to the recent meeting of the Jackson County Livestock association. He is reported to like the industry he saw here and the people of the Rogue River valley. Steward wryly commented to us that when he was in the state legislature he thought he could get more done by getting into administration. Now he thinks he can get more done by returning to the legislature. One sure solution to his quandary would be for the farmers of this area to give him the support he needs by backing him in his requests for better farm legislation.

Did you know western juniper is the "camel of Oregon trees?" It can live with less water in drier climate than any other Oregon tree. It also grows the oldest. The most important tree in the lives of the Pacific Northwest Indians was the red cedar. It was used for canoes, totem poles and plank lodges. The bark of this tree was used for women's skirts and for cords and fish nets. These and many other interesting facts about trees, their identification and pictures are included in a new booklet published by the extension service called "Trees to know in Oregon." They are free for the asking at the extension office in the basement of the courthouse.

Production Tips Listed For Getting More Pigs

New born pigs cost money. A recent study of five years' records indicate that each new born pig represents five dollars' worth of feed eaten by the pig's mother, Earl Jossy, county extension agent said.

Other costs—labor, housing, taxes, interest—bring this cost up to a point which requires the income from four to five pigs per litter just to support the old lady. The swine grower must take his share out of pigs No. 6, 7, 8, 9, or 10. It therefore becomes very important to him that each sow wean as many pigs as possible, Jossy said.

Here are a few things he can do to get more pigs in the 6 to 10 category:

1. Have sows in good condition and gaining at breeding time. This will increase the size of litters.
2. Feed enough of a well-balanced ration so the sow gains some weight during gestation. Don't let her become too fat.
3. Have clean farrowing pens on ground which is free of parasites. Pen the sows a few days before farrowing. Clean them up and get them used to being handled. A good farrowing crate will save many pigs. Plans are available at the County Extension Office.
4. Be present at farrowing. Dip naval cords of new born pigs in iodine immediately. Clip needle teeth. Place pigs in a basket until farrowing is completed. Beware of drafts. An infra-red heat lamp will save many pigs in cold weather.
5. See that all pigs get a drink of milk and know where the dinner table is.
6. If pigs are confined, provide a piece of clean sod to prevent anemia. This is very important.
7. If several sows are farrowing about the same time, litters can be evened up by giving pigs from large litters to sows with small litters.
8. Start pigs on supplemental feed as soon as possible, within two or three days. A sheet of paper or a board with food sprinkled on it will attract the pigs and get them started eating.
9. Provide plenty of clean water. Keep feed supplies clean.
10. Careful attention to details can spell the difference between profit and loss in raising pigs.

Americans spend more than \$9 billion per year for alcoholic drinks.

Red Bluff Event Said Successful For County Men

The Red Bluff bull sale recently in Red Bluff, Calif., was reported as one of the most successful sales held with many Jackson county stockmen participating, according to reports received this week.

Total short-horn sales amounted to \$24,360, with the average sale bringing \$659.38. The grand champion was top seller at \$1,360. The reserve champion brought \$800.

Consignors from this area, the buyer and price include: For Angus, Homestead Angus, Central Point, to Terhel Farms, Inc., Colusa for \$500 and \$585.

For Herefords: Seven Oaks farm, Central Point, to Robert L. Fisher, Medford, for \$750; Seven Oaks Farm, Central Point, to Frank Carmichael and Son, Quincy, for \$575; Ireland Hereford Ranch, Ashland, to A. A. Vadney and Sons, Vina, Calif., \$600; Ireland Hereford ranch, Ashland, to Robert R. Ross, Fort Bragg, Calif., \$700.

Bill and Gayle Wood, Eagle Point, to Douglas Schohr, Gridley, Calif., for \$560; Seven Oaks Farm, Central Point, to Darrell Conrad, Red Bluff, for \$735; Fields Hereford Ranch, Central Point to Albert Meyer, Anderson, Calif., for \$1,800; Seven Oaks farm, Central Point, to J. H. Ayers, Arbuckle, Calif., for \$900; Field Hereford ranch, Central Point, to Quinn River Ranch, Winnemucca, \$1,230; Fields Hereford ranch, Central Point to W. B. Aldridge and Son, Shingletown, \$475; Fields Hereford ranch, Central Point, to L. H. Ayres, Arbuckle, Calif., for \$485.

Local buyers included the following in the horned Hereford sale: Don Bradshaw, Central Point, \$1,000 from Lucky Hereford ranch, Gilroy; Spear Point ranch, Medford, \$1,000 to Hudspeith L. & L. company, Prineville; George A. Laftin, Central Point, \$575 to Kirk and Robinson, Heppner; Straus Brothers, Gold Hill, \$725 to Lester E. Clark, Susanville, Calif.; Straus Brothers, Gold Hill, \$725 to Lester E. Clark, Susanville, Calif.; Straus Brothers, Gold Hill, \$560 to Ranch Paraiso, Concord, Calif.

Horned Hereford results showed the top seller brought \$3,400. The champion brought \$3,300. The reserve champion brought \$1,950. Average sale for the 234 bulls was \$759.19. Total sales were \$177,660.

Angus results show the champion sold at \$1,225, reserve champion at \$900, total sales were \$15,350, average sale was \$667.39 for the 23 bulls.

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Evolution Slated For Milk Trucking

From 10-gallon cans to tank trucks to plastic bags may be the evolution of milk transportation. Four loads of milk, ten tons to the load, have been hauled in huge plastic bags from Hermiston to Portland, a distance of about two hundred miles, according to Earle Jossy, county extension agent.

This container consists of a polyethylene liner inside a rubber tube which is sealed at each end. The liner is easily cleaned and can be replaced at low cost when necessary.

At present the milk is being hauled in refrigerated trucks. Experiments are being planned to haul it on flat bed trucks with sides, Jossy said.

After delivery the container can be rolled up and practically a full pay load hauled on the return trip, thus eliminating the costly empty return of the tanks now being used.

This new transportation method is being watched by other industries and promises to be one of the great developments in the transportation of liquid materials.

Floodwater mosquitoes of the Mississippi river lay their eggs on a stream bank where they cannot hatch until floods raise water over them. Some eggs must wait years before the waters return.



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New Milk Waste Uses Seen Scientists Tell Industry

Corvallis—Science is pointing the way to many new uses for milk—a protein "extender" for meats, a main ingredient for high-protein bread, special types of butter, and as a valuable supplement for many types of foods.

Scientists at last week's Oregon dairy industries conference at Oregon State college turned the spotlight on half a dozen probable trends that could revolutionize the dairy industry within the next 10 to 15 years.

In addition to new forms of dairy products, the researchers predicted profitable use of present milk wastes for making plastic and livestock feed.

Dr. Michael J. Pallansch of the U. S. department of agriculture's utilization research and development division, said such "customized" use of milk is the dairy industry's greatest hope in the highly competitive food market.

He said there is need for a high-speed centrifuge to separate milk into its three major components—protein, fat, and carbohydrates—so each could be tailored for use in other foods.

Oil and fat components of butterfat should find many uses in the food industry, Dr. Pallansch explained. Butterfat is composed of many physical forms of fat, all having equal flavor value but wide variations in melting points. Types of butter could range from easy-to-use liquid to butter that stands up under high temperatures.

The lactose or carbohydrate could be used commercially in manufacture of plastics instead of "continuing to dump most of it down the sewer," the researcher explained. He added that the

research center is also making progress toward greater utilization of whey and other waste products in livestock feed.

Increased use of powdered milk and concentrated fluid milk was also predicted. Research is developing whole milk and concentrated fluid milk powder that can be stored without refrigeration and then be brought up to the original whole milk flavor with addition of water.

Also in the research stage is a sweet condensed cream that keeps well and retains flavor at temperatures up to 70 degrees F. It is a mixture of butterfat, water, non-fat dry milk, and sugar.

Research workers say the cream could be processed in nearly any dairy plant and should find wide use as dessert topping and in making ice cream.

The USDA research center has also developed a method to bake a nutritious high-protein loaf of bread that includes 25 parts of milk, by weight, to 100 parts of flour. Six parts of milk per 100 parts of flour is the common ratio for commercial bread.

Oriental Fruit Moth Subject For Talks

Salem—The 1958 control program for Oriental fruit moth will be the subject of a meeting scheduled for February 28 at the state department of agriculture building in Salem.

County agents and peach growers from Marion, Polk, Yamhill, Washington, Multnomah and Clackamas counties will attend the planning conference.

Other suggestions for marketing the high-quality milk protein included a concentrated powdered form that should find a ready world market now drastically short of protein.

New Evaporation

A new method of evaporating milk at low temperature with heat supplied by compressed ammonia, rather than conventional steam or hot water, was explained by George D. Armerding, an Oakland, Calif., dairy plant representative.

He said the milk is concentrated at less than 100 degrees F., loses practically none of the original flavor, preserves more of the protein, and is cheaper to make. Armerding thinks the method has special advantages for the Pacific Northwest with its low-cost electric power to operate the ammonia compressors.

Even "jet-age" technology came into the picture in the form of a new insulating material for refrigerated milk trucks. The material—a liquid plastic that hardens with addition of chemicals—was developed to strengthen tail sections of jet planes. The liquid mixture finds its way into small crevices before hardening into a porous, adhesive material.

W. J. Thompson, transportation manager for Carnation company, Los Angeles, says the material has given excellent results as an insulator for milk tank trucks and refrigerated vans. When "activated" by the chemical, the liquid plastic expands into a substance with thousands of small air cells per cubic inch. It not only insulates, but adds strength to the truck body, Thompson stated.

Oregon Eggs Said High In Quality Throughout State

Salem—The quality of eggs offered for sale in Oregon during the past three years has held at a consistently high level, as recorded in the annual summaries of state egg work by Oregon's department of agriculture.

There is only one-tenth of a point variation between 1955 and 1957 percentages of eggs down—graded upon department inspections. The annual summary shows 2.2 per cent of the eggs inspected in 1957 were found to be of a grade lower than the labels claimed. This figure for 1955 was 2.1 per cent and for 1956, 2 per cent.

The department inspected 7358 lots of eggs, about 1800 more than in 1956. This substantial increase is the result of placing an extra inspector on duty during three months of the year.

Violations Given
Last year 369 violations were issued; most of them were for eggs below claimed grade and for incorrect labeling on egg cartons. Although a minor item in the total number of violations, improper advertising of eggs was found on 32 occasions during the year. Advertising violations result from failure to include grade or size with the price quoted.

The department's two full-time and one seasonal egg men covered almost 41,000 miles last year in checking marketing channels of the state for compliance with the egg law.

The egg program is directed by W. E. Upshaw, manager of the department's Portland branch office.

The sport of curling, increasingly popular in the United States, was introduced to Canada nearly 200 years ago by Scottish troops stationed in Quebec.

ATTORNEY, AUTHOR DIES

Montevideo, Uruguay.—Dr. Mariano de Vedia y Mitre, 76, president of the Argentine Academy of Letters, died after a heart attack Wednesday. De Vedia, a noted attorney, was the author of a number of works on constitutional law.

JUST ASKED THE WAY

San Leandro, Calif.—Franklin E. Jarvis, a convicted murderer who escaped from a prison camp, told authorities who recaptured him the reason he got as far away as he did was that he obtained directions from a San Francisco police officer.



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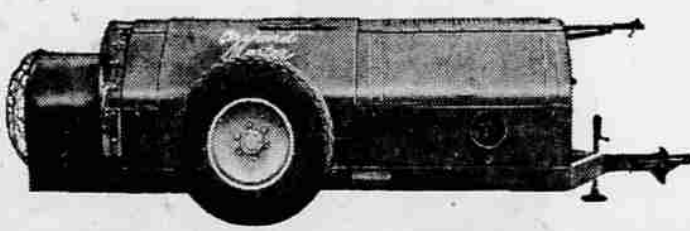
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FOUR LINES OF EQUIPMENT WILL BE DEMONSTRATED—SEE . . .

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