

Farm Economist Predicts Generally Lower Prices For 1959 Farm Products

The housewife may pay higher prices for beef in 1959, but prices of some other farm products will be lower, indicated Dr. G. Burton Wood, head of the department of agricultural economics, Oregon State college.

Dr. Wood made his "guesstimates" during a talk before the Town and Country breakfast at the Phoenix Grange hall yesterday. This following set of trends follows the overall national trend of greatest production in 40 years on the smallest acreage.

1. Agricultural net income is now up 6 per cent for 1958.
2. More beef cattle will be kept on farms in 1959 which will greatly boost the beef prices.
3. Fourteen per cent more hogs will be on the market in 1959 with \$19 as top price. Hogs will feed out at \$12, \$13 and \$14 this time next year, he said. This means a new low in hog prices and pork to the consumer.
4. Income of the Iowa corn-hog farmer will be down 25 per cent in 1959. In Indiana, this type of farmer will see a 20 per cent drop in his income.
5. First quarter of next year will find broiler prices at 17 or 18 cents. A year from now the grower average will be 12 cents.
6. A 3 per cent to 5 per cent increase in the number of turkeys on the market will mean that 50 per cent of the turkey growers will lose money next year.
7. Prices of eggs in 1959 will be 6 cents to 7 cents lower since 3 per cent more layers will be on the farms.

Dr. Wood said he made these predictions following a meeting in Chicago of the college feed survey committee of the American Feed Manufacturers Association. The OSC agricultural economist belongs to a number of national boards and committees. These include member of the U. S. Council of International Conference of Agricultural Economists, member of the advisory council of the Agriculture Commission of the American Bakers association, past president of the Western Farm Economics association, and was appointed by President Dwight D. Eisenhower as a member of the National Agriculture Advisory commission.

Dr. Wood said he learned, while in Chicago, this country will have the largest supply of feed grains in history.

A new corn area has been developed in the Yakima-Sunnyside area. Average production is 150 bushels of corn to the acre. Out of pocket costs for such production is \$42 to \$45 an acre.

A new white variety is producing 136 bushels to the acre in the Palouse area.

Dr. Wood concluded his talk by urging that more dollars be poured into research. Only 7 per cent of the population is required to produce the food on the breakfast table, he said. This compares to 50 per cent for Russia. More production facilities not used for raising food then can be used to maintain the high standard of living for the United States.

Another prediction is that 44 per cent excess of feed will be available over that designated for consumption. This means that an increasing number of livestock will be fed out.

Agriculture, he said, has developed a tremendous horsepower. However, there is not quite the same capacity in this country to consume it.

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Steward Commends State Personnel

Salem—Robert J. Steward, Oregon's director of agriculture, has informed Governor-elect Mark O. Hatfield of his desire and intention to resign effective upon Hatfield's inauguration as governor.

In his letter of resignation Steward congratulated Hatfield on his victory and said, "You will find in this department personnel of fine caliber, good morale and high productivity. I commend to you, also, the State Board of Agriculture whose members represent a broad, practical cross section of Oregon agriculture."

SCD Group Plans Baker Convention On November 20

Corvallis—Natural resources come into focus November 20 and 21 at Baker when delegates from Oregon's 57 soil conservation districts stage the annual convention of the Oregon Association of Soil Conservation districts.

Farmers, professional conservationists, and other agricultural leaders will discuss soil, water, forests, and wildlife conservation in districts that now cover more than 80 per cent of Oregon's farm acreage. Ralph Wilson, Salem farmer, is association president.

Convention highlights will include finals for the association sponsored state-wide speaking contest for high school students. Regional winners representing seven Oregon areas, will compete. Topic is "Forest Conservation."

Don Fredericksen, Gooding, Ida., vice president of the National Association of Soil Conservation districts, will speak at the annual banquet. Master of ceremonies will be William Cooper, Union, a director of the Oregon State Soil Conservation committee.

Farmers and district supervisors will conduct a symposium discussion on economics of conservation for rangeland, cropland, woodland and irrigated land.

Prelude to the convention is a statewide soil judging contest for district delegates, Nov. 19 at Baker. Arthur King, Oregon State College soil conservation specialist, and Karl Baur Portland, chemical division manager of Pacific Supply, are in charge of contest arrangements. They will be assisted by Soil Conservation Service technicians and OSC soil scientists.

Judging contest awards and the annual Goodyear Award to Oregon's outstanding soil conservation district will be presented Nov. 20 at a convention luncheon.

Special events for women include a Nov. 21 breakfast program and noon luncheon with an address by Mrs. Sylvia Zimmerman, Baker, former winner of Toastmistress International.

--- CHIT CHAT ---

By JOE G. COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

Many farm groups are opposing the wilderness bill, according to the recent public hearing in Bend.

The Bend hearing is one of four to be held in the Western states on this controversial bill, original version of which was revised.

County Judge Rodney Keating and Charles H. Mack, county judge of Klamath county, represented southern Oregon at the meeting. Both men were representing also the public lands committee of the Association of Oregon Counties, of which Keating is a member and Mack is chairman.

In his prepared statement to the sub-committee meeting presided over by Sen. Richard L. Neuberger, (D) Oregon, Mack takes a common sense approach. Oregon county government has a financial stake in continued use of one acre in two of federal lands. Any change in this status should be determined at the state and local level. This is where the public interest in such lands really lies, he pointed out.

In his statement he traced the trend of government management of such national forest acreage. Administration of such land started in 1891, he explained. Wilderness areas have been created, extended, delimited and abolished by the secretary of agriculture, the chief administrator of such lands. Congress enacted the so-called Taylor Grazing act in 1934 for orderly administration of such public domain, Mack stated.

Local advisory boards, the federal and state wild life agencies and the secretary of interior have been authorized to protect wildlife in these areas also. Also, subject to public hearing such as the one held at Bend, the secretary of the interior may withdraw such acreage for recreation uses. States and counties may use such lands for parks.

Multiple use idea for such federal lands in the west is now an established policy. Those favoring single use of such lands should not be allowed to modify the good judgment of the lands administrator, Mack insisted.

One of the prominent local cattlemen remarked that he doesn't blame those wanting to protect the beauties of the natural wilderness from the beer cans and general trash of the public. People favoring the wilderness bill, apparently, are going by the assumption if people have to hike into an area they won't be apt to pack a lot of trash in. Roads into such areas are forbidden, according to the provisions of such a bill. He points to the public's mistreatment and trash dumping on an Applegate farmer's land. This farmer allows use of this riverside spot for picnic use.

He thinks, and we agree with him, that the purpose of the bill is good. That is to protect our natural wild life areas. Some legal safeguards should be set up. However, at the same time the entire public and the state and local economy should not be penalized for the actions of the few. Further compromise will have to be worked out.

Further criticism from the southern Oregon area was provided by the statement of Forrest Cooper, Lakeview, who has served as counsel to the Interstate Association of Public Land counties for 12 years. This is a tax-supported organization and includes Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, Colorado and Wyoming. It deals with public land problems.

Fifty per cent, or one acre out of every two in the 11 western states, is owned by the federal government, he points out. Use of such land should be measured by the present yardstick, "the greatest good for the greatest number of our citizens," he said.

"The wilderness bill is not irrevocable. The decision to destroy wilderness is a final choice. Any legal protection we can give to wilderness now Congress can revoke if the national welfare ever demands it," was a statement made by Charles D. Hessey Jr., representing the Cascadians of Yakima, Wash. This is perhaps the strongest argument for the bill.

R. E. Kerr, Eugene, representing the Oregon Farm Bureau Federation stated that the bill diminishes rather than increases the recreation potential of the country, militates against conservation and is not necessary and is untimely." This probably sums up the feeling of other farm groups opposing the bill. These include the Oregon Cattlemen's association, Oregon Wool Growers and the Washington Wool Growers.

We side in with the farm interest opposing this bill. Sunday we were reading about "cars with the backward look." This was a story about manufacturers of ancient model cars. We feel this is "a bill with a backward look." A good many farmers who oppose this bill are also ardent fishermen and nature lovers. They seem to feel, as we do, that creating payrolls or just plain eating comes before fishing, hiking and camping. There is a lot of good eating on sheep and beef animals allowed to graze on government timber land pastures. There would be even more such animal grazing if wilderness areas were opened to other than recreational activities.

We like to fish, hunt and hike just as much as anyone else. In our early teens we spent much time in the great wilderness area of a national forest, fishing, hiking and shooting down a river in an Indian dugout canoe.

Hiking through the woods we stepped over downed and rotting timber, threaded our way through sections of spindly trees and slipped through brush. Proper sustained yield practices would have cleared the dead and down timber and allowed for planting of seedling trees for future sound timber. The spindly trees could have been cut out to permit growth of the giant Douglas fir trees. The brush could have been removed to make room for grazing land—fat steers and sheep—and eventually beef and mutton for you and me. But it was a wilderness area so none of these things could have or are being done. Proper timber operations would have enhanced the forest beauty. And don't tell me grazing cattle in a woodland meadow don't make a pretty sight!

Another aspect—the tourist industry which the Pacific Northwest is really just beginning to appreciate and profit from. Mount Rainier in the Mount Rainier national forest, another wilderness area, could be as good a skiing area as any place in the Swiss Alps. People who have skied in both places say so.

However, under present "wilderness area" law this can never be. Tramways and lifts which could carry skiers and sightseers to upper snowy white reaches of the mountain cannot now be erected. In fact, the U.S. Forest Service insists that rope tows be removed from the lower slopes after every ski season. No permanent structures can be erected. Yet many people miss seeing more of the mountain's beauty since they cannot reach its upper levels without becoming mountain climbers and cannot ski the better slopes.

We used to belong to a mountaineering and skiing organization which now strongly supports the wilderness bill. Then we thought all wilderness areas should be preserved against the onslaught of civilization. However, in our work we have been privileged to view at close range the operations of those interests which need this wilderness area land to keep from "starving out." We now realize such lands can be used for multi-purpose use rather than a single purpose of recreation. We strongly oppose the proposed establishment of another government agency which would supervise the United States wilderness area.

Practical Oregon politicians in close touch with the wishes of their supporters should, too, since Oregon voters resoundingly defeated at the general election all measures which even smelled of more taxpayer expense. People of this state, then, certainly would oppose creation of another money-gobbling federal agency. The golden, representing the taxpayers, can only lay so many golden eggs.

Pear Decline Panel Feature Of Hort Society Meeting

One of the more interesting parts of the 73rd meeting of the Oregon State Horticultural Society in Corvallis will be a panel on pear tree decline.

Moderator of the panel during the opening session on Thursday at Oregon State college is Clifford B. Cordy, Jackson county horticultural agent. Also on the panel are Henry Hartman, horticulturist, OSC; L. P. Batjer, United States Department of Agriculture, Wenatchee, Wash.; and R. C. Blake, USDA horticulturist with the Southern Oregon Branch Experiment station.

Other topics during the opening session of the apple and pear section include: quality trees for orchard planting, a talk by Paul Stark Jr., Stark Brothers Nursery, Louisiana and Missouri; commercial controlled atmosphere storage of apples in California by George Jones, research horticulturist, Gerber Products company, Oakland, Calif. Howard Bush, is chairman of this session.

Paul Culbertson, Medford, is chairman of the Friday session of the apple and pear section. One of the highlights of the session is changing problems in pest control, a talk by L. G. Gentner, entomologist, Southern Oregon branch experiment station and by F. E. Ellertson, Entomologist, Mid-Columbia Branch experiment station.

Another highlight of the second session will be a talk on stony pit of pears by J. A. Milbrath, OSC plant pathologist. Other talks in the second session include a discussion of pear blight control measures by J. J. O'Reilly, plant pathologist, University of California, Davis; increasing the fruit set in pears by L. P. Batjer, USDA horticulturist, Wenatchee, Wash.; farming and fruit growing in the USSR by J. R. Magness, chief of fruit and nut crops research branch, ARS, USDA, Beltsville, Maryland.

The general session on Friday will feature a talk on super farming and the horticultural industry by G. B. Wood, head of the department of agriculture economics, Oregon state college. This will be followed by a business meeting and adjournment to sectional meetings.

Chairman of the horticultural society meeting is Orville Hamilton, Central Point fruit grower, and president of the society. His opening remarks will be followed by a speech by F. E. Price, dean and director, school of agriculture, Oregon State college, on "My Visit in Thailand." W. C. Jacobsen, director of the California State Department of Agriculture, Sacramento, Calif., will follow with a talk on legislation, regulation and certification—their uses and abuses in the horticultural field.

Steers, Heifers Reported Missing

Salem—Two heifers and two steers are the only losses reported on the latest estray bulletin of the state department of agriculture, issued Nov. 7.

A Columbia county woman reports the loss of one long yearling whiteface heifer and one long yearling whiteface steer, missing between early July, 1958 and October.

An Enterprise man reports one whiteface steer is missing from an auction yard in Enterprise since Sept. 24.

Missing since Oct. 28 from the Whiskey Hill area in Clackamas county is one nine-month-old black whiteface heifer. This animal is a cross Holstein-Black Angus, predominantly Black Angus.

Descriptions of the missing animals have been issued to livestock officers, brand inspectors, and county sheriffs.

Farm & Garden Crater FFA Member Builds for Future

Jim Conger, junior in vocational agriculture at Crater high school, is typical of the members of the FFA chapter there since he is building for the future.

Jim has 14 head of Suffolk sheep and eight head of beef. He plans to plant five acres to barley this year, also.

He and his father have 39 acres at their home place which they farm and 100 acres at Jim's grandfather's which they work. The Conger farm is located one mile north and one mile west of Central Point. The Congers raise a few beef on their farm, but mostly squash and corn is raised on the 100 acres.

Young Conger started in 4-H with one cow and a couple of sheep, building up his herd as he went. He got his start by winning a Hereford cow at the Cal-Ore Hereford sale. He rented a bull for breeding purposes.

Right now he is busy fattening a steer for next year's fair. He's too busy with farming to go into many school activities. Lambing which starts in December particularly occupies his time. Then he stays up at night with him and his dad working in shifts.

He financed his \$2,400 in agricultural holdings by working for his dad who paid him so much an hour and bought the feed.

Future education after high school will hold agricultural training for Jim. He wants to go to a good agricultural school. After that he and his dad may become partners.

The young farmer thinks the agricultural future of the valley will be in small farms with most of them not larger than 50 acres. Those planning to go into the beef or sheep raising business should study animal husbandry, know their diseases and keep their stock sheltered and well fed, the young FFA member advised.

What he learns in vocational agriculture at the Central Point school he puts into practice on the farm. A third member of the Conger family may join the future possible partnership that is Jim's younger brother who is now 11 years old and is active in 4-H work. He now has a fat lamb, an ewe lamb and an ewe. He is planning to have some beef also.

Salem—After completing a survey of city milk inspection services in Astoria, Eugene, Medford and Portland, the state department of agriculture has approved all four operations as meeting state standards.

State law provides that cities may maintain their own milk inspection services provided that the grade designations conform with state standards. The law further directs the state department of agriculture to survey these city systems at least once a year to determine if state standards are being met.

In 1945, when this fluid milk act was passed, there were 12 city milk inspection services; now there are four.

In the four cities, 122 of the 1,189 dairy farms were state checked, as well as all 25 of the processing plants.

In making the survey, the department inspects a representative number of dairy farms under city inspection and all of the milk processing plants to determine if sanitary conditions are at least meeting state minimum standards.

The department inspector also determines from the records of the inspection service if the city is satisfactorily enforcing state standards throughout the year. The city milk laboratory's sampling and testing procedures are also checked to see if standard practices are being used.

O. K. Beals, chief of the department's division of foods and dairies, and Kenneth E. Carl, assistant chief in charge of dairy law enforcement, supervise the program. Vergil Simmons and Alvin Tesdal, dairy specialists, made the inspections.

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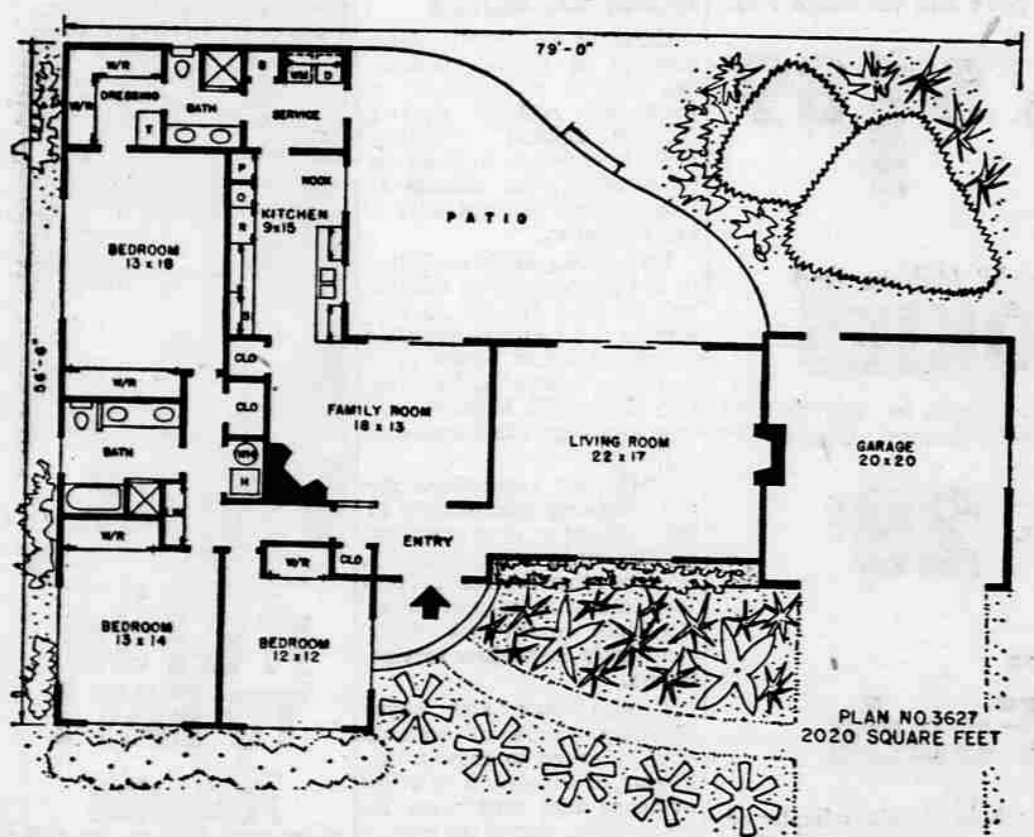
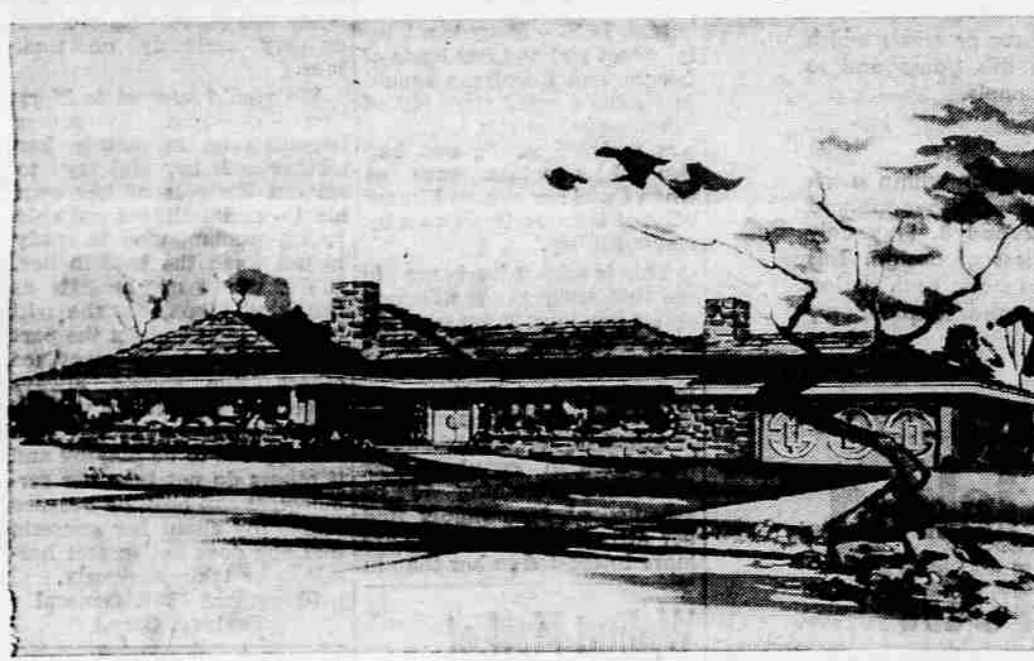
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This Week's Home For Living



Oriental influence marks this Hawaiian Modern home—a theme which can be carried out in the furnishings. The two different slopes of the roof are borrowed from homes popular in the Islands.

Bevered frames outline the aluminum casement windows. Chinese coin motifs decorate the garage door, and the double doors of the entry are set in a "moon gate." The roof is of hand split shakes. Dark cut stone lends sharp contrast to the painted board and stucco wall material.

Typical of the Oriental influence is the feeling of openness and space, evident in the interior planning.

A lounge-topped half-wall defines the opening between the family room and hall, and a big corner fireplace adds a comfortable atmosphere.

The kitchen, open to the family room is planned to please the fastidious American housewife. Built-in appliances and well arranged work area, a pantry, broom closet and ample cupboards add to its efficiency. More closet space and home laundry appliances are in the service area.

A wall of glass doors opens from both the family room and living room to complete the easy flow of activity between house and patio. A stone fireplace is centered at one end of the big living room.

The bedroom hall, opening to the entry foyer, is lined with closets. The family bath has twin pullman lavatories, tub and stall shower.

The master bedroom has a wide wardrobe, plus a closet-lined dressing room with built-in vanity. The adjoining three-quarter bath also opens to the service room and work area.

The family bedrooms are exceptionally large and well lighted.

Complete working drawing of the above plan can be obtained at a cost of \$7.50 for the first set and \$5 for each additional set, when ordered at the same time. This plan will be available for a period of four months from this date. Please allow two weeks for delivery. If the above home does not entirely meet with your satisfaction, a new home plan book, Home for Living, may be purchased for \$1. Send all orders for either plans or books to Elwyn Estes, P.O. Box 404-T, Northridge, Calif.

Farmers Warned Against Planting New Forage Grass

Corvallis—Oregon farmers are cautioned against seeding a so-called "new forage grass" that has been ruled out of a dozen states as a noxious weed.

Now being promoted as Sorghum alum—it is also called Sorghum grass, or Sorgo negro—the grass has made slight inroads into Oregon, reports the Oregon State College farm crops department.

Sorghum alum is actually not new in the United States but has been under test as a perennial sudangrass for at least 10 years with generally poor acceptance, according to Rex Warren, OSC farm crops specialist.

The coarse, creeper-type grass is similar to Johnson grass and is a rank grower, reaching heights of 10 feet. Like Johnson grass, it contains prussic acid poison. Most western states have legislated against it, and it has also been ruled out as a noxious weed in Kansas, Indiana, Missouri, Virginia and Georgia.

Trials Not Indicators

D. H. Hill, OSC farm crops department head, says the few farm trials in Oregon this year were not good indicators of Sorghum alum performance since it was favored by the early warm spring. It requires higher temperatures than corn for best growth.

Better forage grasses for Oregon are tall fescue, orchardgrass, ryegrasses, and wheatgrasses, Hill states. He adds that field corn will double the yield of Sorghum alum in Oregon as a summer silage.

Tests in other states show Sorghum alum to be a normally slow-starter in the spring. This would shorten its useable forage season, Warren explains, since it would be hazardous to livestock in the fall when frost raises prussic acid content to poisonous levels.

These trials also make it doubtful that Sorghum alum could consistently overwinter in eastern Oregon, and its creeper habit would make it a menace in western Oregon where it could apparently winter through.

SOMETHING MISSING

Monterey, Calif. — (UPI) — An eyewitness described the light plane's landing as "funny looking but smooth." Pilot J. D. Hand, San Pedro, explained he thought he had lowered the wheels but only the flaps went down.

New Markets Set For Discussion At Seed Meeting

Corvallis—Ways to open new markets for Oregon's multi-million dollar grass and legume seed industry will receive top billing at the 18th annual meeting of the Oregon Seed Growers League, Dec. 8 to 10, Multnomah hotel, Portland.

Possible markets for Oregon seeds in the Far East will be reported by members of a survey team that visited that area earlier this year, said Rex Warren, Oregon State college extension farm crops specialist and secretary of the league. Giving the report will be Hubert Willoughby, Harrisburg seed grower; Stanley Cellers of Buchanan-Cellers Grain company, McMinnville; and Warren.

Seed growing and seed needs in South and Central America will be reported by D. D. Hill, head of the OSC farm crops department. Hill recently returned from an extended trip through the South American area.

Seed promotion activities that can be carried on in these and other areas will be among the main topics at this year's seed league meeting, Warren stated.

Other program features include a discussion of use of forage seeds on federal lands, by L. R. Nadeau, U.S. bureau of land management, Portland; Bill Currier, U.S. forest service, Portland; and E. R. Jackman, OSC extension farm crops specialist. Tom deArmond, Woodburn farmer, and Stanley Fagg of Northrup King Seed company, Albany, will examine ways to coordinate seed grower and dealer activities.

New seed crops, ways to get the most clean seed from a crop, seed quality and certification, and storage methods to improve seed germination are other topics that will be covered by talks at the meeting.

The regular annual meeting of the Northwest Chewings and Creeping Red Fescue association will be held the night of Dec. 8. The league will hold its annual banquet Dec. 9.

Warren said all persons interested in the seed industry in Oregon are welcome to attend the meeting.

Brand Inspection Fee Now 30 Cents

Salem—The state department of agriculture has announced that livestock brand inspection fees will be increased to 30 cents per head, effective Nov. 15.

The increase was recommended by the department's official livestock advisory committee and approved unanimously by the brand committee of the Oregon Cattlemen's association.

The brand inspection fee has varied from 20 to 30 cents per head in the past eight years. H. A. Matschner, livestock officer who supervises the brand inspection program, said there has been a deficit in the budget for the operation since the fall of 1957, due to higher costs and fewer inspections.

On April 1 of this year the fee was raised from 20 to 25 cents. This increase has not been sufficient to put the program back on its feet, Matschner said.

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