

# Farm & Garden

## Farm Planning Objective Given

Jackson and Josephine county farmers who borrow from the Farmers Home Administration have completed reviewing their records for the past year and making their farming plans for this year, according to Eugene Denney the agency's local supervisor.

"One of the basic objectives of farm planning," Denney said, "is putting into operation better farming practices. It is pretty difficult for us to talk about farm planning without knowing what has been done. This is why we feel that a review of records is important."

"It is easier for us," Denney stated, "to talk about Grade 'A' dairy farms which we consider to be more typical of the programs followed by Farmers Home Administration borrowers in this area. A summary of the 1958 records for

these operators show an average net return per cow of \$133. This was the same in the 1957 year and \$3.00 more than in 1956. While these figures by themselves may not be of importance, we are concerned when one operator shows a net return of \$220 per cow and another of \$105.

**Must Consider Factors**

"We realize that a number of factors must be considered in looking at each operation, but we can assume there may be a definite need for improved management practices for those having lower returns. These are considered as a part of analyzing the records and better management practices and must be included as part of the farm planning process."

In looking over the records of a number of operations, Denney added, it is increasingly evident that sound management along with a good volume, is needed for a successful farming program. The success of the dairy farmers is important to the business economy of this area. The average operator spent \$18,413 in his community last year.

The local Farmers Home Administration office located in the Mancel Building services both Jackson and Josephine counties.

## Agriculture Jobs Steadily Rise OSC Men Report

Corvallis - The number of U.S. farmers may be decreasing every year but the number of people working in agriculture is steadily increasing and the job outlook for this year's graduates in agriculture may be about the brightest in history, according to Oregon State college officials.

The number of Americans "down on the farm" is getting smaller because farm operations are getting bigger, and because per acre production is ever climbing.

To many, the fact that the number of persons employed on farms has dropped from 13,555,000 in 1913 to 7,525,000 in 1958 is a sign that opportunities in agriculture are dimming.

Exactly the reverse is true, says Wilbur Cooney, associate dean of agriculture at OSC.

## Two Freight Rate Raises Held Up By Lime Group

Salem - Oregon limestone users have gained a partial victory in their request for lower freight rates from eastern and southern Oregon supplies, said Paul T. Rowell, market development chief for the state department of agriculture.

He pointed out that recent rail rate reductions on lime did not bring substantial immediate changes. But the 1956 request of the Oregon Agricultural Lime association for reduced freight rates did serve to hold up two general freight rate increases on lime during the 2 1/2 years the matter has been before the Oregon public utilities commissioner.

Rowell said that when the PUC decided the case recently, it allowed a rail freight reduction of around \$1 per ton on single cars and 20 cents per ton on five-car lots. At the same time, it permitted the two general freight rate increases, help up during this investigation, to go into effect.

**Standoff Results**

The net result is pretty close to a standoff on any increase in rates over that prevailing in 1956, despite the dual angle of reduction and general increase contained in the final order.

Both Oregon State college and the state department of agriculture supported the lime association in its efforts to reduce costs of limestone to western Oregon farmers. The college pointed to the need for limestone on soils growing legumes and many other crops. The department of agriculture showed, through a special study made for it by the freight rate service branch of USDA, that freight rate costs on lime in Oregon were out of line with lower rates in other parts of the country.

At the hearings, testimony showed that western Oregon farmers need at least five times as much lime as the approximately 50,000 tons now used annually.

**ANIMALS PERIL DRIVERS**

New York - (UPI) - Animals caused more accidents on the New York State Thruway than any other single cause. State police traffic supervisor Capt. Robert V. Annett told a safety meeting here that 646 accidents were caused by deer running across the road and 205 by dogs.

The average American dog ate \$13.46 worth of commercial dog food in 1957.

# FARM NOTES

## United Press International Washington - (UPI) - Two big farm organizations now find themselves on opposite sides on the subject of direct payment price supports for farmers.

The National Farmers Union favors direct support while the American Farm Bureau federation opposes the plan. A House agriculture subcommittee is holding hearings on direct payment supports for farmers.

Washington - (UPI) - Two Senate Democrats today were reported preparing to introduce a new food stamp bill providing 600 million dollars a year to supplement the diets of needy Americans.

Food stamps distributed under the bill would go to people on public assistance rolls and to the unemployed. Everyone eligible for help under the bill could get \$5 worth of stamps each month to use in grocery stores for purchase of foods designated by the secretary of health, education and welfare.

Washington - (UPI) - An Agriculture Department scientist says animal shelters can reduce the danger from radioactive fallout in case of nuclear attack.

Dr. Frank Todd Monday told an Animal Health Institute meeting that any kind of shelter will give animals some protection from radiation.

Washington - (UPI) - The Census Bureau has changed its definition of a farm.

In 1950 and 1954, the Census Bureau classified as farms a number of places as small as three acres. In the new census, no place of less than 10 acres will be classed as a farm unless it has agricultural production of at least \$250 a year.

Washington - (UPI) - The Agriculture Department reported today that net margins for milk distributors in 1958 fell to 33 cents per 100 pounds of milk and cream, the lowest since 1951.

Washington - (UPI) - Agriculture Secretary Ezra T. Benson has called on businessmen, taxpayers, and consumers to help him fight the present farm price support program.

The agriculture secretary said farmers favor his program. But he said other people should join the fight to put it across including businessmen, taxpayers, housewives, and persons interested in a sound economy.

Washington - (UPI) - Spring vegetable production this year is expected to total about the same as last year and slightly above average, the Agriculture Department reports.

Crops with substantially smaller production than last year are tomatoes, onions, cucumbers, and snap beans, the department said. Less sweet corn, green peppers, beets, and eggplant also are forecast. These reductions are partly offset by a large increase in celery. More lettuce, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, spinach, green peas, carrots, and shallots are expected.

Washington - (UPI) - The Eisenhower Administration's policy of cutting farm price supports has not checked the rise in consumer food prices, according to a Democratic leader of the House farm bloc.

"We were eating cheaper back when farm support prices were higher," Rep. W. R. Poage (D-Tex.) told Assistant Agriculture Secretary Marvin L. McLain Wednesday at a House agriculture subcommittee hearing on peanut supports.

Washington - (UPI) - The Senate has okayed a bill to strip Agriculture Secretary Ezra T. Benson of his authority to veto decisions of the Rural Electrification Administrator.

The measure was approved Wednesday by a 60 to 27 vote. The Senate rejected 74 to 13 a substitute that would have made the Rural Electrification Administration an independent governmental agency.

Washington - (UPI) - The Agriculture department said today farm wage rates on April 1 were the highest on record for that date, and the farm employment in March was 3 per cent above that of a year ago.

The composite wage rate per hour for April 1 was 71.8 cents, 9 per cent above the April 1, 1958, rate of 65.7 cents. The department said the increase appeared to reflect a strong demand for regular and reliable workers on the increasingly important commercial farms which may enlarge operations somewhat in 1959.

Washington - (UPI) - The agriculture department said today U. S. farm exports last year totaled \$3,856,000,000, 14 per cent below the record 1957 figure of \$4,505,000,000.

More than half the drop was caused by a decrease in cot-

## Bill Hubbard Selected As Leading 4-H Club Boy

Eighteen-year-old, Eagle Point high school senior Bill Hubbard is the March 4-H club boy of the month. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Will R. Hubbard, Eagle Point, and the brother of Georgia, Bob and Jim Hubbard.

Bill has completed seven years of 4-H club work. His main project has been dairy-

ing, which is only natural, as he helps his dad operate a 120 acre dairy farm. Bill for seven years has helped his dad milk their herd morning and night, except the last two years. Then sports have taken up much of his time. He says that he is looking forward to going to Oregon State college this fall. There he may take Dairy Technology. His other 4-H projects have been swine, camp cookery and junior leadership.

During his seven years of club work, he has won various awards such as the A. T. Lathrop swine award. A Berkshire gilt was given him also as the outstanding exhibitor of Berkshire hogs in his first year. Twice he was winner of the Jackson County Guernsey Cattle club award as an outstanding exhibitor of Guernsey cattle. For two years he has been on the Jackson county dairy judging team which has represented Jackson county at state fairs. Also, in 1956 Bill won the county award in dairy. In 1958 he won the county boy's agriculture award.

**Junior Leader**

Last year and this year, Bill has been a junior leader of the Antelope dairy club. He also held the office of president and vice president of the club.

Besides 4-H club work, he has been active in other club and school activities.

He has been secretary and is the present vice-president of the Eagle Future Farmers of America chapter, and of the secretary of the F.F.A. district. Last year he was one of the delegates chosen to attend the National F.F.A. convention in Kansas City.

He is senior class vice president, president of the Letterman's club, captain of the varsity basketball team, member of the varsity football squad, and was county judge during the recent student government day.

Bill feels 4-H work has done much to help him overcome his lack of self confidence and to help him meet people more easily. By attending 4-H summer school at Corvallis, state fair and local fairs, he has made many friends, Bill declares.

He attributes his successful club work to his club leaders and to his parents for all their helpful instructions and lots of "push" which he says was needed many times.

**Waiting Stockmen Schedule Tests**

Salem - A number of cattlemen who waited for the supreme court decision on the Oregon brucellosis law before testing their herds are now scheduling testing for Bang's disease.

This cooperation strengthens the program to achieve a statewide certification by June 30, declares Fred L. Pope, animal division chief for the state department of agriculture.

He says the department and the cooperating federal officials anticipate that the remaining cattlemen who have delayed testing will arrange testing dates before the end of this month.

"Time is short and we earnestly solicit the cooperation of every stockman to reach the June 30 goal," says Pope, who adds, "only by united effort now will we have the state from defaulting on the tremendous effort that has thus far gone into this program to meet the target date."

Klamath Falls - (UPI) - About one-fourth of the students at Klamath Falls high school remained at a home Wednesday because of a flu epidemic, according to Dr. S. M. Kerron, county health officer. About 400 students were affected. There are between 1500 and 1600 students in the high school.

Washington - (UPI) - Assistant Agriculture Secretary Marvin McLain said Tuesday night grocery processors need to do a better job of public relations.

He told a meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee of the Grocery Manufacturers of America that they need to explain to farmers and consumers why grocery prices go up while farm prices go down.

Washington - (UPI) - The American Feed Manufacturers association and the Animal Health Institute today opened a joint nationwide campaign to convince farmers that medicated and scientifically-mixed feeds can't do the whole job of producing livestock.

The two groups reported they were going to re-emphasize the important role of good sanitation and management practices in efficient production of livestock and poultry.

## Twelve New Spray Licenses Sought In West Oregon

Salem - Twelve new applicants, including 10 ground sprayers, for a state license to apply agricultural herbicides took examinations at the recent series of weed meetings in western Oregon.

A record attendance of 428 sprayers attended the eight sessions conducted jointly by the state department of agriculture, state highway department, and extension service.

Mark H. Astrup, landscape engineer with the highway department, told the group that brush and weed control along highway right-of-ways this year is geared to a fast buildup to preserve roadside beauty for Centennial visitors. Without this quick and selective killing the spray operations would leave unsightly brown foliage in some areas.

Several speakers emphasized the importance of proper spraying practices and good equipment. Rex Warren of the extension service urged upon sprayers the importance of knowing their materials, calibration of their equipment and of following directions for use of a given material.

Ray Kelso, herbicide control supervisor with the state department of agriculture, reviewed the spray damage reported last year and said that 30 claims had been made against 14 operators, six of whom were unlicensed. Kelso discussed each claim to show what the operator could and should have done to avoid damage.

The weed sessions were held in Gresham, Hillsboro, Tillamook, Salem, Eugene, Roseburg, Medford and Klamath Falls. Highest attendance at any meeting was 75 men at Eugene. The 1959 attendance represented a 20 per cent increase over the similar series in western Oregon two years ago.

**Must Register Bee Colonies**

Ken Goeden was visiting the valley earlier this week and would like to remind all beekeepers that the State Department of Agriculture requires registration of all colonies in Oregon, it was reported.

A small registration fee is required and is determined by the number of colonies each beekeeper owns.

Further information can be obtained by contacting Mr. Goeden at the state agriculture building, Salem, or the local county agent's office.

Goeden further stated that he is in the process of trying to locate a local inspector and anyone who would be interested could contact him at the above address.

**Mitchell Argues Migrant Laws**

Washington - (UPI) - Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell apparently has won a partial victory in an intra-administration battle over federal standards on wages and working conditions of migratory farm workers.

The labor department has drafted tentative regulations designed to increase pay and improve housing and transportation for migrants. This has brought protests from leading farm organizations. Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson has opposed the plan in principle.

Mitchell wants to bar farmers from using the facilities of the U. S. Employment Service to obtain migrant workers if they do not meet federal standards on wages, housing and transportation.

The regulations, if put into effect, would affect from 250,000 to 300,000 migrant workers who move from state to state.

# --- CHIT CHAT ---

By JOE COWLEY  
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

"Come, come to the church in the wildwood" is the beginning line of one of our favorite hymns. It makes us think of the firm, nostalgic influence of the small country church on people living around it.

Sunday, May 3 has been designated the day to note the influence of the country church on rural living. A fancier name is "Rural Life Sunday." We mention this a trifle early hoping our pastor and others of the Rogue valley will base their sermons on this theme and perhaps the various congregations will give this special day a boost with some sort of observance.

Two modern trends are now working their influence on the crossroads church. Ministers tend to these smaller places of worship no longer are, on the whole, starting at the bottom and working their way up. Many of them are considered just as good as the ministers of the big city churches. They have received the same basic education. Often they like rural life and the more relaxed type of living. They intend to stay.

The other influence or trend - is economic. Modern, fast transportation tends to draw people to the city even for church. The small rural church may exist in a comparatively poor community. People often settle in the little rural communities because living is cheaper. So church collections are low. At least one such church in the valley is having a tough time meeting its building fund.

Of course, the growing trend toward suburban living may change this situation. This is just beginning to affect western areas. Back east people have spent and are spending considerable money and time restoring the quaint small town New England churches to their original grace. High school and college age youngsters of even the more exclusive schools join in "hymn sings."

These people are taking a renewed interest and pride in their small churches. We hope this idea continues to spread. It already has taken root in some small Rogue valley communities. Much of what is good in rural living should naturally center around the church.

As you have noticed the meat cutters of this area are asking for substantial wage increases. The beef industry is pushing for greater consumption of its product. At the same time it is fighting in this state to at least slow down the encroachment of mid-west meat products through cheaper freight rates from that direction. Is this move inclined to be harmful to the industry? We don't know. Just wondering.

The movement for more equitable milk prices for producers seems to have slowed temporarily. However, a reliable source, tells us that things are due to pick up toward the tail end of this month. Dry pastures put many herds in the state on feed early last fall. According to water supply reports spring and summer pasture conditions may not be much better unless rainfall keeps them greened up.

Meanwhile, here are a few dairy trends based on the Oregon monthly dairy report from the college - Oregon's milk output in March was 89 million pounds or two per cent less than the same month a year ago. Throughout the county production was totalled at 10,667 million pounds or one per cent less than a year earlier.

Cheese production during February was up three per cent from the previous February, but was nine per cent less than the 1953-57 five-year February average. Creamery butter production was down six per cent from a year ago and two per cent below the five-year average. Ice cream production, however, was 10 per cent above a year ago and 12 per cent higher than the five-year average. Main source of the dairyman's income is from milk not the manufactured dairy products, however.

Oregon dairymen are hit also with higher feed and hay prices. For mid-march feed prices averaged 5 cents more per hundredweight than a year earlier for 16 per cent dairy feed. Cottonseed meal costs 80 cents per hundredweight more with most items being 10 cents to 25 cents per hundredweight higher. Farmers also paid \$35 per ton for baled alfalfa hay which was up \$3.50 from a year ago. Wheat feed prices were down 35 cents per hundredweight from a year ago.

Oregon producers received an average of \$5.45 per hundredweight for grade "A" milk sold during February, 10 cents less than the previous month and 5 cents below February, 1958. Manufacturing milk averaged \$3.55 per hundredweight, 20 cents less than January and 15 cents less than a year earlier. Butterfat in cream at 60 cents per pound can be compared with 60 cents a month earlier and 61 cents a year earlier. Portland dealers' buying price in early April was \$5.71 per hundredweight for 3.8 per cent milk used in the bottle and can.

Those people who like a dish of spring strawberries on their table may have to pay a slightly higher price. Strawberry growers in the mid-spring states such as California will have a smaller acreage for harvest, according to the OSC market estimates. Total acreage for the mid-spring crop is estimated at 14 per cent less than last year. California has a 22 per cent smaller acreage this year. Kentucky, Virginia and Tennessee are included in this decided downward revision. Arkansas shows only a moderate reduction.

## Apply Fertilizer Now To Lawns

The next few weeks is a good time to apply fertilizer to lawns. Fertilizing will not only maintain a healthy, vigorous lawn but also helps the grass to resist invasions by disease, weeds, moss, as well as mushrooms and toadstools, according to Don Berry, county agent.

Lawn grass starts growing as the warm weather approaches in the early spring. As the rate of growth increases, more plant food is required, therefore the spring application is very important but later applications in the summer and fall are also beneficial.

Nitrogen is the most important plant food for keeping growth vigorous and good green color. Applying one pound of sulphate of ammonia or other nitrogen fertilizers per 100 square feet is a recommended practice. Application should be made when grass is dry and followed by a heavy drenching with water. Subsequent waterings are necessary if it fails to rain.

## 96 Per Cent Milk Now Pasteurized Salem Reports

Salem - Ninety-six per cent of the fluid milk sold in Oregon each day is pasteurized, and the other 4 per cent is raw milk, the state department of agriculture reports. Estimated daily gallonage is: pasteurized, 185,611 and raw, 7,711 for a total of 193,322 gallons.

In a further breakdown of the raw milk, Kenneth E. Carl, in charge of the department's dairy sanitation program, says grade A raw dairies account for an estimated 5,397 gallons daily and grade B (so-called jug dairies) 2,314 gallons.

In 1958, the department licensed 807 fluid milk producers; 84 grade A producer-distributors, 91 grade B producer-distributors; 83 distributors; and 18 non-processing distributors. The non-processing group sells under their labels milk bottled by others.

The department also licensed 386 retail and 66 wholesale ice cream manufacturers; 94 dairy products manufacturing plants, 26 of which were fluid milk processors; 38 pasteurizer operators, six milk graders, five cream graders, two butter makers and one cheese maker. Plant equipment operators are licensed for life, unless the license is revoked for cause.

**Warnings Issued**

In the fluid milk sanitation field, the state issued warning notices on violations to 200 producers, 134 producer-distributors and 55 distributors. Forty producers, 16 P-Ds and three distributors were suspended until compliance was reached.

Violation warnings were issued to nine ice cream wholesalers and 24 retailers. Main causes for all warning slips were excessive bacteria, sanitary conditions or low butterfat.

Carl says the department made more than 4200 inspections at dairy farms, distributing a n d manufacturing plants in addition to its annual check of dairy farms and milk plants supplying Astoria, Elgine, Medford and Portland which are under city inspection.

In quality control work, dairy inspectors condemned 507 cans of the 19,424 cans of manufacturing milk tested for sediment; 12 cans of the 851 manufacturing cream tested; and 11 cans of fluid milk.

Twenty-one cans of 1340 cans of cream grade-checked were condemned.

In the laboratories, the department made 22,805 analyses of fluid milk samples; 3,856 of ice creams and melonices; 32 of butter; 394 of cottage cheese; and 1,003 of water sources of dairies.

## 10 States Ship Cattle to Yard

Salem - A fraction less than 50 per cent of the cattle moving through the North Portland stockyards last year originated in Oregon, according to records of the state department of agriculture.

Washington accounted for 28 per cent of the cattle and Canada for 12 per cent. Montana, with 5 per cent, was third on the import list and Idaho was fourth with just under 4 per cent.

Other states from which cattle originated were Wyoming, Utah, California, Arizona, Wisconsin, North Dakota and Nebraska - in descending order. This group of states contributed less than 1 per cent.

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