

--- CHIT CHAT ---

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

"That old cow has false teeth!"

A child saying that about one of mother's friends would get a hard spanking. A beef grower making that remark probably would be among those seeing some of the cows at the Cottonwood ranch near Sedgwick, Colo.

Rood Menter, Cottonwood ranch owner, is capping the eight front teeth of his valuable breeding cows with steel crowns. By helping to preserve the grass-cropping teeth of these cows this stockman figures he adds from three to eight years to their lives. Naturally, if a cow, due to poor teeth, can't graze or drink cold water she has to be sold for slaughter.

This stockman has discovered from statistics gathered that the average cow in northeastern Colorado will live around 11 years, but in southern counties such a cow will live for eight years. Cattle grazing on mountain slopes of that state live to 20 years, possibly since limestone in that area helps to preserve teeth. There are less grinding materials in the high altitude grass there.

A cow doesn't have any upper front teeth. Horny tissue along the upper gum helps the cow to tear away clumps of grass. All the masticating is done with the back teeth, upper and lower. The capping of the teeth while they are still in good condition eliminates the loss of enamel, exposure of painful nerves and jaw destruction.

Menter and Mr. Ward Newcomb, a Chappell, Neb. dentist worked out the capping process for the cows. Paper-thin stainless steel was finally used since this material grows tougher and harder as it is used. Also, it is malleable enough to work with.

The dental clinic for the cow is a squeeze press used for dehorning operations or surgery. This has been converted with a hand-built clamp to hold the animal's head. A soft rubber bit keeps the cow's mouth open and a swinging bar prevents any convulsive jerks. The caps have been used on cows with a couple of dead teeth and on those whose enamel was wearing dangerously thin.

Dental cement keeps the crowns on. The operation during a demonstration takes approximately 12 minutes per cow. This capping would not benefit dairy cows if they receive only carefully inspected feed and do not have to graze. Menter pointed out. Menter is well known also for his supplement feeding methods.

Beef is just part of the total agricultural picture in Jackson county as in many other counties. How important each industry is according to acreage involved, number of stock and those engaged in it will be determined when a new federal government farm census is taken this fall. This will be the 17th such census. From 1840 to 1920 the agriculture census was taken every 10 years, but since 1920 every 5 years.

A man will visit every farm in October or November. During such a county wide check throughout the United States such information obtained will include kinds of equipment and facilities, time worked off farms, amount of fertilizer and lime used, amount spent for farm labor, custom work, feed, gasoline and oil.

Agriculture still has some serious problems to solve in spite of its many improvements. Since everybody has to eat the food produced on farms everyone also has a stake in this census. At the turn of the century the census showed three people living on farms for every two in the cities. Now less than 6 million farm workers supply food for more than 176 million persons.

The spotlight is still on the poultry industry with its current problem of underpriced and overproduced product. The broiler producers are also hard hit, but we will leave that for another time. The aforementioned regular agriculture census over the decades has shown the gradual changes in agriculture and some not so gradual. One of these is integration—that is becoming big enough to—in the case of the poultry industry—control your own feed supplies, production and markets. Can the small poultryman survive?

Competition, not size will determine whether or not a poultryman stays in the business. One local poultryman we talked to definitely feels that bigness can be a definite advantage. He feels that a poultryman, who with his wife or family, can do all the work is much better off than one who has to hire his labor done. He cited the case of an egg producer who awoke to find his hired man gone. He also pointed out that a good family-sized operation is apt to be more closely watched, cage by cage or henhouse than a large egg-factory type of operation. The main factor in either case is which operation can squeeze its costs the tightest and come up with the biggest profit margin. This same local poultryman gives his wife a pat on the back with the comment, "It takes a d— good woman, too."

This poultryman, as many others, likes his phase of farming or he wouldn't stay in it. He can choose the hours he works, is his own boss, can coffee up when he wants to and chat with the neighbors when they drop in. The poultry industry is also gradually realizing that if you produce you must also promote. Consumers will see more poultry ads.

Farmers are keeping an eye on integration. This is probably most pronounced in the broiler section of the poultry industry. Elmer McClure, master of the Oregon State Grange, in one of the poultry magazines this fall complained that the "entire agricultural industry is controlled by off-farm interests." This could be the crux of the farm price problem. Controls on production also set controls on the price.

As we said before, the broiler industry is a startling example of these controls. Many a broiler grower operates under a contract. He is told how to buy baby chicks, feed supply, method of handling, how much to market and when to market it. Some authorities report integration now controls 30 per cent of the beef production and 60 per cent of the hog production and it is creeping into fruits and vegetables.

Some people recommend cooperatives to give the farmer his fair share of the profits and to give him control of his own production. However, we have been told by independent poultrymen they could not stay in business if they had to wholesale their eggs today—even through cooperatives. And some orchardists are doubtful on the value of a fruit cooperative.

Having operations throughout the state were affected with little delay or damage from light showers during the week ending June 26, according to the Oregon State college crop and livestock reporting service. Dairywomen in coastal areas were filling silos. Some good fields of grain and grain-legume hay were being harvested in the Willamette valley, but delayed harvest of clover and alfalfa hay crops lowered quality.

Meadow hay was being cut throughout this area. Grain hay and first crop alfalfa harvests were nearing completion in Columbia river counties of eastern Oregon. Haying is just under way in counties of higher elevations such as Walla, Harney and Lake. Hay yields are light in southeastern counties where moisture supplies have been short.

Housewives planning to process strawberries for jam or jelly should hustle. The strawberry harvest reached its peak during last week and was about three-fourths finished. Harvesting of sweet cherries was increasing and red raspberries were being picked primarily for the fresh market. A few black raspberries and loganberries are now appearing in local markets. Strawberries are ripening rapidly in the Hood River valley. More pickers are needed there. In the Rogue River valley thinning of good pear and peach crops is nearly complete. Thinning of apples and pears continues in the Hood River valley.

Risks Said Same For Diversified As Specialized

Corvallis—The adage, "don't put all your eggs in one basket," isn't necessarily good advice for Oregon farmers.

A recent study by Oregon State college agricultural experiment station shows that the farmer who specializes in one or two items is as safe from long-term price variations as is his neighbor who scatters efforts over several crops or commodities.

Most agricultural commodity prices tend to increase and decrease together, according to Yu Hsien Mo and Emery Castle, OSC agricultural economists. As a result, diversified farming proved inadequate protection against price risk.

The economists studied records in all major agricultural areas of Oregon for price changes of various crop combinations from 1936 to 1956. Few of the crop combinations had less price risk than individual crops.

Points Up Combinations

A look back, however, points up several combinations that would have resulted in slightly less price fluctuations during the 20-year period. These included beef cattle and lamb combination in the lower Columbia and coast areas; milk, eggs, and alfalfa; and potatoes or onions combined with other crops in the Snake river area.

Fruit growers in the Columbia basin have good reason for raising several kinds of fruit rather than specializing in one, the records show.

But by and large, farmers who tried to cushion themselves with several crops or commodities took their price variations right along with the "specialist." Ninety-one combinations were studied and only 18 gave more price stability than a single crop operation.

The complete study is summarized in a 16-page bulletin just published by OSC agricultural experiment station and titled "Diversification—Does It Reduce Price Variation?" Oregon residents may obtain free copies from local county extension offices or from the OSC bulletin clerk, Corvallis.

Unique Workshop Seen in Salem

Salem—A unique laboratory workshop, the first of its kind in Oregon, was conducted by the state department of agriculture's dairy officials June 26.

Technicians from the 10 Oregon dairy plants which have their own laboratories spent the day watching the state's bacteriologists at work on department law enforcement laboratory procedures.

The state uses the official methods standardization by the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists.

The visitors learned first hand the procedures used in the state tests for phosphatase (which indicates milk is not properly pasteurized), coliform, butterfat content, moisture, solids and adulteration of dairy products. They also witnessed the precise procedures for standard plate counts.

Department of agriculture officials are hopeful that the one-day review of official laboratory techniques will lead to a longer, college-sponsored session for private plant technicians. Under a college short course, the group could also have advantage of several production and quality control tests which the department does not include, since they are not involved in official standards works.

GARDENING TIPS

Pea Problems: What's wrong with the garden peas, is a question often asked the Extension office.

There are very few good pea crops being grown in home gardens in this area any more. Most of the trouble is due to a virus which causes a yellowing deformation and a stunting of the pea vines which in turn reduces yields.

Since this disease is transmitted by aphids, repeated applications of an aphicide such as Malathion from the time the peas first show in the spring will help this problem some. Also, Oregon State college has been working for a number of years to develop a resistant strain of garden peas to overcome the virus problem.

Bulb plants: Leaving the tops on flowering bulbs as long as possible aids in food storage. It is best not to disturb the tops on these bulbs until they have completely died down. Annual plants can be set between them, or the

bulbs may be lifted carefully and heeled in, in a shady area where they are allowed to mature gradually.

Pruning Rhododendron and Azalea: Rhododendron and Azalea should have the seed pods removed when flowers have faded. The pods should be carefully snapped off because new growth starts just below them. This growth starts within two weeks after blooming and it is during this time between the blooming and before new growth begins that plants can best be pruned.

Home garden Tomatoes: Tomatoes should be staked and pruned in order to conserve growing space. Pinching out the suckers or branches growing in the axils of the leaves to make a single stem and tying tomatoes to a stake is often practiced. Stakes should be about four feet long and a loose cloth tie made from rags, nylon stockings, etc., may be used. Mulching is also recommended for reducing blossom end rot on tomatoes.

Saw dust, grass clippings, leaves and other material may be used. Black polyethylene sheets laid on the ground around the plants is also practiced as a mulch and gives excellent weed control.

Fruit thinning: Home gardeners who have not already done so should thin apples, pears and peaches as soon as convenient. The main idea of thinning is to increase the size and quality of the remaining fruit as well as reduce the amount on the tree so that limbs will not be overloaded as the fruit matures. Apples and pears may be thinned to a single fruit per spur, spacing them six to eight inches apart.

Peaches may also be spaced-thinned but it is a good idea in all cases to remove the fruit out on the tips of the limbs as well as any which is in the crotches of branches. In addition, remove small, diseased, injured, wormy and blemished fruit, leaving those which are large and hanging free from the underside of the limb.

Too little thinning will cause small fruit and breakage of limbs as the fruit matures, and in addition will cause trees like apples with alternate bearing habits to have lighter crops the following year.

The first session of swimming lessons at the Hawthorne pool will be held from July 6 through 17, according to Ed Knapp, manager of the pool.

The classes are held five days each week Monday through Friday. A registration fee of \$2 per child for the two-week session will be charged to cover the use of the facility.

Registration must be made in person, it was stressed, and the fee must be paid at that time. No registration will be accepted by telephone.

Registration started at the pool today and will continue through July 5 from 1 until 5 p.m. and 7 until 9 p.m. each day.

Instructors for the first session of lessons will be Frank Rector and Charles Weller, guard instructors at Hawthorne pool. They both hold summer Red Cross water safety instructor ratings.

This is the first of four sessions of swimming lessons to be offered this summer with registration limited to 200 students per session.

Junior and senior life saving classes will be organized if sufficient number request it, Knapp said.

Classes will meet for beginners and intermediates daily from 9 until 9:30 and 9:30 until 10 a.m. Additional classes for beginners only are scheduled for 30 minutes each at 10, 10:30 and 11 a.m.

Belgian Prince Claims Bride

Brussels—(UPI)—Prince Albert of Belgium and Princess Paola Ruffo di Calabria were married today. It was European royalty's "match of the year," and it was televised.

The 25-year-old heir presumptive to the Belgian throne and blonde Princess Paola, 21, became man and wife under Belgian law in a simple civil ceremony performed in the ancient empire room of a downtown Brussels palace.

Immediately after the civil ceremony, the couple drove in a 17-car motorcade through streets lined by thousands of cheering Belgians to the church of Saint Gudule.

There, in the solemnity of the 13th Century mother church of Belgium, Joseph Cardinal Van Roey united them in a religious ceremony that was carried on European television.

Sour Cherry Processing Set By Local Firm

By DON BERRY
County Extension Agent
Growers of Montmorency sour cherries would no doubt be interested in future prospects for processing in this area.

The Bagley Canning company in Ashland are putting in a pitter and expect to start processing sour cherries this season. If successful, Bagley hopes to further expand local production in the next few years of this crop. The company feels that the present tonnage available is not sufficient for a heavy investment in processing sour cherries, but that there are enough available for a large scale trial run.

Prices for this product have not yet stabilized but the local canners expect to base their rates to the grower on the delivered price of Michigan cherries to the Pacific coast. There has been some expansion in recent years in sour cherry production in the Willamette valley where growers are getting up to seven tons or higher per acre on mature trees. Prices last year in that area were 8½ cents per pound.

Sour cherry growers who are interested in the possibility of selling their crops for processing should contact Ralph E. Koozer at the Bagley Canning company. It must be remembered, however, that unsprayed cherries would not be accepted since they are apt to have worms in them.

First Session Of Swimming Lessons Planned

The first session of swimming lessons at the Hawthorne pool will be held from July 6 through 17, according to Ed Knapp, manager of the pool.

The classes are held five days each week Monday through Friday. A registration fee of \$2 per child for the two-week session will be charged to cover the use of the facility.

Registration must be made in person, it was stressed, and the fee must be paid at that time. No registration will be accepted by telephone.

Registration started at the pool today and will continue through July 5 from 1 until 5 p.m. and 7 until 9 p.m. each day.

Instructors for the first session of lessons will be Frank Rector and Charles Weller, guard instructors at Hawthorne pool. They both hold summer Red Cross water safety instructor ratings.

This is the first of four sessions of swimming lessons to be offered this summer with registration limited to 200 students per session.

Junior and senior life saving classes will be organized if sufficient number request it, Knapp said.

Classes will meet for beginners and intermediates daily from 9 until 9:30 and 9:30 until 10 a.m. Additional classes for beginners only are scheduled for 30 minutes each at 10, 10:30 and 11 a.m.

Sea Captains Get Blame For Weeds

Corvallis—Old sea captains putting in on the Oregon coast weren't entirely blameless. Neither were the Russians nor the Turks.

They all had a hand in compounding Oregon's \$5 million yearly headache—a rough estimate by experts on what weeds will cost the state this year.

Oregon started out with a fairly clean slate in its first days of farming, nearly a half-century ahead of statehood. It was grass country, forests, and scrubby trees.

Weeds came with progress, with commerce and people. Weed seed came in ships, on covered wagons, stuck to the hair of animals, and lodged in the cuffs of trousers. Most of the weed seed is traced to other countries because the United States was forced to look back to the Old World for most of its crop seed.

We bought Turkestan alfalfa seed from the Near East just before World War I, and received the menacing Russian knapweed seed in the same shipment. Today, Oregon has some 10,000 acres infested with the weed, mostly east of the Cascades, says Rex Warren, Oregon State college farm crops specialist.

Brought By Sea Captains

Gorse, the yellow-orange blossomed ornamental-turned weed—was brought to the Oregon coast by sea captains before 1900 and used as hedge plants.

Taller than a man, thorny, and vigorous, gorse has invaded some 25,000 acres of coastal lands and is gaining ground. Early records indicate it first grew in the coast town of Bandon. By the middle 1930's, gorse had spread through and around the town. Its highly flammable, oily branches provided fuel for the fire that destroyed Bandon in 1936.

Dalmatian toadflax is another menace introduced to Oregon as an ornamental from southern Europe. Similar to snapdragon with orange blossoms, it was used around cemeteries. It's still on the increase, Warren says.

White top is a weed scourge of Oregon's eastern border on some 20,000 acres. It was first noted in the U.S. in 1898 along the New York docks and is believed to have crossed the Atlantic in soil used as ship ballast.

Not all such "imports" proved to be menaces. Highland bentgrass, a favorite turf in western Oregon, reportedly came as packing for a shipment of dishes from Germany to a general store near Aurora. It sprouted and thrived at the store's rubbish pile and grew into a million dollar Oregon crop.

Thus, Oregon inherited the bitter with the sweet, although not all were imported. Poison oak, sagebrush, and quackgrass are but a few of the "native" weeds.

The sum total costs Oregon about \$5 million a year, Warren estimates, in reduced crop yields, livestock losses, medical bills for allergies and rashes, weeding costs, seed cleaning and other control measures.

Anti-Weed Chemicals

War against weeds has built mushrooming a agricultural chemical industries. Biggest boost came with development of 2,4-D during World War II. Its use as a "selective" weed killer set the stage for whole arsenals of chemicals.

Oregon State college agricultural chemists and agronomists test dozens of new materials each year—netting two or three for commercial use. Eptam, simazin, atrazine, and diuron may soon be household names to farmers.

Entomologists are also in the thick of the battle looking for insects that restrict their diet to certain weeds, clean up the weeds, then die for lack of feed. Beetles brought

into Oregon from Australia and Europe in 1944 have almost eradicated the once-troublesome St. Johnswort weed.

Scientists are now testing a beetle in Paris, France, laboratories for control of tansy ragwort weed now spread over 100,000 western Oregon acres.

Intertwined with Oregon history, weeds remain negative symbols of progress, but symbols that are slowly losing ground to 20th Century science, Warren says.

Triplets Aid OSC Dairy Study; Adds Third Set

Corvallis—Visitors to the Oregon State college dairy barn these days may think they're seeing triple, for a third set of triplet calves has joined the herd.

Dr. I. R. Jones, professor of dairy husbandry, says he's quite sure the new, little grade Jersey-Guernsey heifers are identical—a rarity happening possibly once in 500,000 births.

The herd already included year-and-a-half old triplet grade Holstein bulls and an older set of triplet milking cows. Jones says it is hard to determine definitely when cattle are identical. However, blood typing is one of the surest ways.

The bulls were blood typed and proved identical. The new heifers haven't been blood typed yet, but Jones says they appear to have all physical characteristics of identical animals. He explained that color markings needn't be exactly the same on identical twins or triplets. But many other characteristics, such as skin pigmentation, hair whorls, nose prints, head and body proportions, must be identical.

Born in California
Born in California in March, the heifers—named Faith, Hope and Charity—were bought by OSC when they were about two weeks old. They were brought to the attention of Jones by W. D. Pine, county agent in Humboldt county, Calif. Pine is an OSC graduate and a former Tillamook county agent.

The heifer calves are being fed a normal ration, and will be used in milk production experiments after their first calving in about two years. They'll then be placed on different energy intake rations to help determine the economy of different grain feeding levels. Since inheritance of identical triplets is the same, any differences will be due to feed or management, and not to individual quirks—a factor always present when non-identical animals are used for research.

Identical triplets replace four calves each in OSC research. The bull triplet are being used to study effect of energy intake on fertility and the older triplets in milking studies.

The Farmers Union said wheat growers must vote for quotas to keep wheat prices from breaking down to a free-market level of about \$1 a bushel.

The referendum on 1960 wheat quotas is scheduled for July 23.

The Farmers Union said wheat growers must vote for quotas to keep wheat prices from breaking down to a free-market level of about \$1 a bushel.

The bureau said its own review indicated the present sheep industry promotion campaign for wool and lamb is not effective. It said the direct payment price support program had failed to build up sheep production.

Washington—(UPI)—The American Farm Bureau Federation said today it's considering calling an industry-wide conference on the problems of wool and lamb producers.

The bureau said its own review indicated the present sheep industry promotion campaign for wool and lamb is not effective. It said the direct payment price support program had failed to build up sheep production.

Washington—(UPI)—The National Farmers Union has launched a campaign to persuade wheat farmers to vote for marketing quotas for their 1960 crop.

The referendum on 1960 wheat quotas is scheduled for July 23.

The Farmers Union said wheat growers must vote for quotas to keep wheat prices from breaking down to a free-market level of about \$1 a bushel.

The bureau said its own review indicated the present sheep industry promotion campaign for wool and lamb is not effective. It said the direct payment price support program had failed to build up sheep production.

Washington—(UPI)—The American Farm Bureau Federation said today it's considering calling an industry-wide conference on the problems of wool and lamb producers.

The bureau said its own review indicated the present sheep industry promotion campaign for wool and lamb is not effective. It said the direct payment price support program had failed to build up sheep production.

Washington—(UPI)—The National Farmers Union has launched a campaign to persuade wheat farmers to vote for marketing quotas for their 1960 crop.

The referendum on 1960 wheat quotas is scheduled for July 23.

The Farmers Union said wheat growers must vote for quotas to keep wheat prices from breaking down to a free-market level of about \$1 a bushel.

The bureau said its own review indicated the present sheep industry promotion campaign for wool and lamb is not effective. It said the direct payment price support program had failed to build up sheep production.

Washington—(UPI)—The American Farm Bureau Federation said today it's considering calling an industry-wide conference on the problems of wool and lamb producers.

The bureau said its own review indicated the present sheep industry promotion campaign for wool and lamb is not effective. It said the direct payment price support program had failed to build up sheep production.

FARM NOTES

Washington—(UPI)—The Agriculture department reported today that imports of fresh beef and veal dropped to 28,400,000 pounds in May, down some 2,600,000 pounds from the same month a year ago.

The department also said imports of fresh pork climbed. Imports of canned beef and pork fell.

Washington—(UPI)—Agriculture department home economists estimated today that a family of four, including two school-age children, can hold its grocery bill down to \$24 a week.

The economists described this as a "low-cost diet." The family food bill would go up to \$32 a week on a "medium-cost diet" and to \$36 a week on a "high-priced diet."

Washington—(UPI)—The fact-finding committee of the American National Cattle-men's association warned anew today that beef prices will nose dive unless farmers and ranchers stop increasing their herds so fast.

The committee said this may be the peak year for prices in the current cattle cycle.

Washington—(UPI)—The Agriculture department said today pears, plums, turkeys and eggs will be among the foods due to be plentiful in August markets.

The pears will come from California where the Bartlett crop is the largest on record. The department said total Bartlett production this year will be near 22 million bushels, 19 per cent larger than last year.

Washington—(UPI)—The master of the National Grange has branded proposals to get rid of federal farm aid as "sheer folly."

Herschel Newsom, head of the farm group, said Congress should ignore threats of presidential vetoes and develop a workable farm program.

Washington—(UPI)—The National Farmers Union has launched a campaign to persuade wheat farmers to vote for marketing quotas for their 1960 crop.

The referendum on 1960 wheat quotas is scheduled for July 23.

The Farmers Union said wheat growers must vote for quotas to keep wheat prices from breaking down to a free-market level of about \$1 a bushel.

Washington—(UPI)—The American Farm Bureau Federation said today it's considering calling an industry-wide conference on the problems of wool and lamb producers.

The bureau said its own review indicated the present sheep industry promotion campaign for wool and lamb is not effective. It said the direct payment price support program had failed to build up sheep production.

Washington—(UPI)—The National Farmers Union has launched a campaign to persuade wheat farmers to vote for marketing quotas for their 1960 crop.

The referendum on 1960 wheat quotas is scheduled for July 23.

The Farmers Union said wheat growers must vote for quotas to keep wheat prices from breaking down to a free-market level of about \$1 a bushel.

The bureau said its own review indicated the present sheep industry promotion campaign for wool and lamb is not effective. It said the direct payment price support program had failed to build up sheep production.

Washington—(UPI)—The American Farm Bureau Federation said today it's considering calling an industry-wide conference on the problems of wool and lamb producers.

The bureau said its own review indicated the present sheep industry promotion campaign for wool and lamb is not effective. It said the direct payment price support program had failed to build up sheep production.

Washington—(UPI)—The National Farmers Union has launched a campaign to persuade wheat farmers to vote for marketing quotas for their 1960 crop.

The referendum on 1960 wheat quotas is scheduled for July 23.

The Farmers Union said wheat growers must vote for quotas to keep wheat prices from breaking down to a free-market level of about \$1 a bushel.

The bureau said its own review indicated the present sheep industry promotion campaign for wool and lamb is not effective. It said the direct payment price support program had failed to build up sheep production.

Washington—(UPI)—The American Farm Bureau Federation said today it's considering calling an industry-wide conference on the problems of wool and lamb producers.

The bureau said its own review indicated the present sheep industry promotion campaign for wool and lamb is not effective. It said the direct payment price support program had failed to build up sheep production.

Washington—(UPI)—The National Farmers Union has launched a campaign to persuade wheat farmers to vote for marketing quotas for their 1960 crop.

The referendum on 1960 wheat quotas is scheduled for July 23.



LIME

Right After Hay Cutting, When Ground is Firm,
is an Ideal Time to Apply Lime.