

### OSC Staff Member Wins Western Extension Award

Corvallis—An Oregon State College staff member has been cited by the Western Farm Economics association for the outstanding extension service program in agricultural economics in the western states.

Manning Becker, OSC farm management specialist, received the award at the association's annual meeting at Logan, Utah. His selection was based on a special training school series in farm management which he initiated throughout Oregon last fall and winter.

Becker conducted six regional schools in farm management for farmers and county extension agents as part of a long-range program to assist farmers in analyzing their business operations. Other OSC agricultural economists assisted with the training schools.

Dr. G. Burton Wood, OSC agricultural economics department head, said the farm management program fills an urgent need to help farmers adjust business operations to compensate for the present cost-price squeeze in agriculture. The program teaches basic economic principles and how to apply them to individual farm situations.

Becker was appointed extension farm management specialist in 1954. He was formerly on the OSC agricultural economics research and teaching staff and is continuing some classroom teaching in farm management.

An OSC graduate, he is immediate past president of the Western Farm Management Extension committee representing western land-grant colleges.

### Farm Census Set During October; Values Given

Corvallis—Why take a farm census? Census taking requires money and time, but turns up facts about the fast-changing business of farming that makes it well worthwhile, maintains Marion D. Thomas, Oregon State College extension agricultural economist.

The 17th nationwide farm count will start in October in Oregon. The census provides a factual foundation for wise management of farms, businesses and government, Thomas noted. It's our main source of county and local data, he added. Census answers such questions as: Where are yields highest? Where increasing most? Where is production located? How many farms are there? How big? How much are farmers spending for supplies?

Each farmer benefits by knowing how he stacks up with farmers all over the nation. The farm count tells him how his farm is like the average farm; how it is different. It helps him make decisions in light of what has happened in other parts of the country.

**Aids Decisions**  
The census gives farmers the same kind of information used by businesses and governmental agencies in making decisions.

Public and private agencies serving farmers with information, materials, transportation, credit, storage and the like all use census figures to guide their plans, the economist points out. Advertising staffs of publications and firms that make or sell farm goods use census information to determine equipment wanted in different parts of the country.

The census provides facts for groups concerned with local problems such as best use of land and water. Figures are used in seeking public support for research, education, health protection, or when disaster aid is requested in times of drought, flood or pestilence. The government uses data to plan public programs.

Last week a major brand canner opened formally with a price of \$2.75 a dozen on clings, the journal reported. That's still 30 cents under the opening price a year ago.

Some brand name packers figure pears will remain close to current low prices when their 1959 pack prices are quoted. One independent packer has come out with a price of \$3.15 a dozen on key grade pear halves. This is expected to set the pattern for California independents, the Journal states. And this should give local pear growers and packers something more to worry about.

## --- CHIT CHAT ---

**By JOE COWLEY**  
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

Man the beaches men! They're invading us! Economic, government and business leaders have warned of the increasing incoming tide of foreign exports. Now the farmers are concerned — even Rogue valley farmers. A lot of the general farm gossip and buzz of crop information came to a sudden halt at the Jackson County Agricultural committee meeting Monday night when someone mentioned the increasing flood tide of agricultural products gradually eroding this country's economic shorelines.

"Fellows there must be something wrong when everything else is going up in price and cattle and crops are going down!" one weather-beaten veteran of the soil remarked.

"I'll tell you what it is," another farmer shouted. "I read tonight about importing about 23,500 live Australian lambs into San Diego. That's what knocks your prices down!"

These farmers were talking about an editorial column in the Western Livestock Journal telling of the lamb import. The local farmers like wool grower spokesmen mentioned in the column are afraid that this large import is the first of a series. And it could lead to a "world series" flooding the U. S. markets with other agricultural and manufactured goods.

As one farmer remarked there must be something wrong when Australian sheep interests feel they can ship live lambs 6,500 miles and still compete with U. S. goods profitably.

An important point as brought out in the Livestock Journal weekly publication is that Americans eat less than five pounds of sheep and lamb meat per capita. This compares with 80 pounds of beef, 66 pounds of pork and 35 pounds of poultry. Some U. S. meat packers and retailers think a lot of cheap lamb meat on the market will retard the demand and help stabilize the market.

We have never tasted the Australian mutton but we did snare our teeth on the New Zealand stuff overseas during World War II. If the Australian product is anything like that of New Zealand the demand for sheep and lamb meat will drop to almost nothing. Due to our overseas experience the very smell of lamb chops frying or mutton cooking can cause an upchucking.

"Undoubtedly, if heavy importations of frozen and chilled beef from Australia and New Zealand continue, such imports will have a depressing effect on the U. S. cattle market, especially when normal marketings of cows are experienced," Nelson R. Crow concludes. "It is also true that both Australia and New Zealand governments are studying U. S. market demands and are preparing to further invade U. S. markets with their meats. The fact that such importations of meat as well as manufactured products, are possible, points to the need in this country for businessmen, politicians and labor leaders to seriously attempt to curb inflationary pressures which force continually higher production costs in this country."

As one local agricultural authority pointed out — this thing affects everyone. Americans, he said, are rapidly pricing themselves out of their own markets. So, now we face a possible raise in steel prices which also affects the agricultural economy seriously. This same agricultural authority also remarked on seeing German tractors in a recent Hillsboro parade. It's not only something to think about, it's something to study seriously and act against. It would be too bad to see the trade scales tipped against American agriculture and industry.

**Swedish Tractor**  
The Volvo tractor of Swedish make has now appeared in the Medford area. It sells \$400 to \$500 less than an American tractor of similar size and capacity. Main features include a differential lock to keep rear wheels from slipping, and a three-point hitch. Compared to a similar tractor it is five inches longer and has more weight up front to keep it from tipping back. It also has more drawbar horsepower compared to a tractor of like size — 32 horsepower. The engine has 37 horsepower. This is the smaller tractor, or T-25. A larger tractor, the T-55 or big diesel, weighs 5½ tons and is equipped with tracks to fit over the regular tractor wheels.

And while we're in a campaigning mood—what are the farmers going to do about the Rogue basin development project? Is it or is it not your project? An agricultural leader remarked at the county agricultural committee meeting that not a single farmer spoke up during the three meetings held in the valley recently on the basin project. The people of this valley should be told over and over again that this additional irrigation water will not be used for surplus crops, is need for a valley rich in agriculture and can help broaden the agricultural base to make those cash registers in the stores jingle even more. The farmers have much more at stake in the proposed basin development than the sports fishermen.

The 4-H and FFA fair starts Sunday with a horseshow at the Jackson county fair grounds. We hope business and civic leaders continue their hearty support wholeheartedly.

A business newspaper, the Wall Street Journal, does seem to be interested in agriculture, however. It reports canned California fruit is cheaper due to heavy fruit crops in the golden state. So, Mrs. Housewife, fill that cupboard space with this canned fruit now while the prices are down.

Reason for the cheaper canned goods are heavy crop prospects plus a comparatively large carry-over stock from last year, the Journal reports. Prices for cling peaches were reported at the lowest point since mid-1950 for a short period recently. Industry spokesmen forecast low canned fruit prices for next year, also. Apricots, fruit cocktail and pear prices have been cut already, according to reports.

This pear price, a canning company sales official said, is the lowest price in years. He added that it's about 10 cents under current prices just before the announcement. Most advertised brand canners are selling pears at approximately \$3.65 a dozen f.o.b. northwest canneries, 40 cents under last year's opening level, and the lowest price since \$3.60 in the 1952-53 packing year.

Getting back to cling peaches, one California tree counted out to 3,000 peaches. Usually the absolute maximum is about 1,500 peaches to a tree, a cannery official said.

## Farm and Garden

### Top Young Stockman Noted For Practical Ranching Set-Up

**By EARLE JOSSY**  
Jackson County Extension Agent

Don Nichols, Ashland area rancher, is probably one of the youngest stockmen to be named Jackson county cattleman of the year.

The 31-year-old rancher was selected by a committee of the Jackson county stockman's association. In making the selection a committee member said, "Don operates his farm in such a way that it certainly would benefit many operators to observe how his cattle are handled and to talk to him about his record keeping and other activities. The ranch is not an impressive layout but is a very practical operation."

The modest young farmer credits much of his success to his father, George W. Nichols, an Ashland area rancher. With his father he ran sheep and cattle from the time he was large enough to handle a pitchfork and ride

a horse. He assumed operation of the ranch as he grew up. Until recently he and his father were partners.

Don runs his cattle on a combination commercial and purebred type of operation. All of the cows are purebreds. A percentage of them are run as a commercial herd. On the commercial basis most of the calves are sold as yearlings although a few are fed on the place. He has about 25 head of commercial cattle and 50 head of purebred cattle. The young stockman has been accomplishing about a 95 per cent calf crop in the past. His calves weigh about 450 pounds average weight at weaning and about 600 pounds at marketing.

Don has an average calf loss of around 2 per cent. His purebred cattle average about 450 pounds at weaning time of 8 months.

Young Nichols feeds about 1½ tons of hay per cow per year. Hay is baled in the field and stored in stacks. He has built three miles of fence to enclose a piece of range land which he owns in the Dead Indian area.

His disease control program includes testing and calfhood vaccination for brucellosis and vaccinating for blackleg plus a general disease control program. His cattle are sprayed three times a year for insects, once in the fall when they come in from the range and once in the spring before they go out on the early range and again in June before they go into the high mountain range.

Don's purebred cattle are fed a mixture of barley and cottonseed meal to produce strong, healthy calves. Supplemental feed is given almost exclusively to calves and to purebred bulls which he is raising and some to a few commercial calves which he feeds and sells as locker meat. Don feeds a good quality hay raised on the ranch. It is largely a meadow-type hay made up of mostly rye grass and ladino clover. His hay is fed in bunkers and the cattle are kept in a feed lot all winter.

Don's breeding program includes calving his heifers at two years, running his bulls with the cows and breeding the year round so cows do not lose time between calves. Don feels this gives him an extra calf in the lifetime of a cow plus about three-fourths of a calf by getting her to calve as a two-year-old. So, he winds up with about 1¼ extra calves per cow by the breeding program he follows. This is possible because he feeds his cattle well.

Don culls every cow that does not produce a calf. Pregnancy testing his females makes it possible to cull at a much earlier date. He also eliminates those cows which are not "good-doers."

Besides all this he raises all of his replacement females. Only bulls with good bone and size for age are purchased. He looks for bulls that have a good gaining record.

For his range improvement, Don has encouraged the bureau of land management to develop several water holes on his leased range. He has reseeded 320 acres of range which he owns privately to perennial grasses and legumes.

Don distributes his cattle on the range by riding regularly through the range season and taking the cattle from one area to another. Strategic placing of salt licks also helps. His range land consists of 400 acres which he owns plus a permit for 122 head of cattle from the O and C lands.

The ranch is set up so cattle are his best adapted type of livestock. His cattle numbers and forage production are in proper balance. He keeps enough feed in reserve to care for his needs.

Don's ranch consists of 50 acres of irrigated land and 400 acres of mountain range plus a considerable acreage of low range and dry land, 50 acres of which are used, for dry land hay and 30 acres for growing grain. All of this feed is utilized.

His fertilization program includes using 200 pounds of ammonium phosphate, 16-20 per acre on his meadows and nitrogen fertilizer on his grain. His grain fields are sprayed for weed control. He has followed a good poisoning program on control of ground squirrels and uses good farm management to prevent erosion. Permanent crops are kept on some steep land as much as possible.

The young rancher has made all his money off his ranch. He is making wise use of credit and is keeping his ranch operation in line with

## FARM NOTES

Washington — (UP) — Farm prices in mid-July were at the lowest levels since December, 1957, the Agriculture Department reports.

The department said farmers' prices dropped 1 per cent in the month that ended July 15. They were 4 per cent lower than one year ago.

Cheaper hogs, potatoes, oranges, beef cattle and watermelons mainly were responsible for the tumble, the department said in a report Friday. Higher prices for eggs, cotton and milk kept farm income from falling lower.

Washington — (UP) — Near record feed grain production and a record supply of feed grains are in prospect for 1959-60, the Agriculture Department said today in a review of the livestock feed situation.

A big corn crop of more than 4,200,000,000 bushels is in prospect, nearly a billion bushels above the 1953 - 57 average. Oat production, however, is expected to drop to about 1,000,000,000 bushels, the lowest in 20 years. Smaller crops of barley and sorghum grains also are expected.

The department estimated the total supply of feed grains and other concentrates for 1959-60 at 254,000,000 tons, 3 per cent above the 1958-59 record and nearly three times higher than the 1953-57 average.

Washington — (UP) — Use of feed grain has been at a record level in 1958-59, both in total and per grain-consuming animal unit. The number of grain-consuming livestock on farms is expected to increase moderately in 1959-60. Farmers, however, may not feed their animals as liberally as the very high rate of 1958-59.

Washington — (UP) — The Agriculture department forecast today that retail prices of cereals and bakery products will be slightly higher this year than in 1958 because of increased processing and distribution costs.

The department said civilian per capita consumption of cereal food products in 1959 will be about the same as last year.

Washington — (UP) — The Agricultural Marketing Service predicted today that farm manpower in 1960 would be reasonably adequate unless industrial activities grabbed off too many workers.

The agency said farm employment, especially those using many seasonal workers, should make an extra effort to employ domestic workers instead of foreign manpower.

Foreign workers will continue to be available for seasonal farm work if needs cannot be met from domestic sources, the marketing service said.

Washington — (UP) — The Agriculture Department announced today it would buy no more than about 500,000 pounds of dried whole egg solids per week from now on in its program to stem a market surplus.

The department purchased 829,725 pounds of the dried whole egg solids this week, bringing to 9,779,475 pounds the total stock bought since the program began April 24.

Washington — (UP) — The Senate Agriculture Committee begins hearings Aug. 13 on a controversial bill to exempt farm cooperatives from antitrust law provisions.

The measure, approved earlier, was sent back to the committee by the Senate last week for further study. It would permit farmer cooperatives "to acquire existing processing, marketing and handling facilities."

Washington — (UP) — The Senate has approved a bill to extend for two years the government's authority to make loans to refinance debts for enlarging or improving family size farms.

The bill was passed Wednesday and sent to the House, which has voted a slightly different measure.

Washington — (UP) — The Senate Foreign Relations Committee has approved a plan designed to increase uses of U. S. food surpluses abroad.

## GARDENING TIPS

**By DON BERRY**  
County Extension Agent

**BOBBER IN ORNAMENTALS**  
Home owners who have any of the flowering stone fruits such as peaches, cherries, plums or laurel hedges should treat now to control the peach root borer.

This insect is a clear winged moth which lays its eggs on the bark of the tree during late summer and early fall. The young larvae which hatches works its way down the trunk to ground level and bores into the tree under the bark. It spends the rest of the winter and early part of the summer feeding between the bark and the wood of the plant. When severe these bugs can girdle and kill the flowering stone fruit trees or laurel hedges.

Two applications of DDT starting in mid-July will generally control this pest. The second application is due now. Use eight pounds 50 per cent DDT per 100 gallons of water, or one fourth pound in three gallons. Soak the trunks and allow some of the spray to run into the soil and puddle at the base of the tree.

For dusting, use 50 per cent DDT either in a small duster or in a gunny sack. The sack containing the DDT can be slapped against all sides of the tree trunk and a little shaken around the base of the trunk.

**SCALE CONTROL**  
Scale control on ornamental plants is sometimes practiced in early August. The cottony camellia scale, soft brown scale and lecanium scale which infest camellia, daphne, hydrangea, pyracantha and holly can be effectively controlled now.

Added to the damage of the scale insects is the unsightly, black, sooty mold which develops on honeydew secreted by scale.

Malathion is effective against scale. Two or three applications may be necessary for controlling heavy infestations. Thorough coverage is important to control all scale, especially those on the under side of the leaves.

**"CANE CARE"**  
Care and training of trailing berries such as boysenberries, blackberries and loganberries should be continued even after harvest. Training the canes during August will give a six to eight week period for the new canes to "harden off" on the wires before cold weather occurs. Although canes which are left on the ground are not as exposed and therefore are less subject to winter injury than the canes put up on the wires, many growers prefer to put the canes up after harvest.

Cleaning out all of the old canes and burning them will help to reduce the amount of leaf and cane spot disease in the field next year. Canes which have been put up on the wires in the fall may be sprayed with a bordeaux or fixed copper spray in the fall to prevent disease. Also, chemical weed control is easier to apply on canes which are already on wires.

**Blue Tongue Warning Issued**  
All sheep owners and veterinarians in Oregon are warned to be on guard against possible appearance of blue tongue in sheep.

The warning comes from Dr. L. E. Bodenweiser, the state department of agriculture's chief livestock sanitary official.

He says that in two widely separated counties in the state a disease highly suspicious of blue tongue has appeared. Blood samples are being submitted to diagnostic laboratories for confirmation of the field diagnosis.

State and local veterinarians have the flocks under quarantine and supervision.

Dr. Bodenweiser says ranchers should look for the early symptoms: swollen ears, swollen muzzle, sores in mouth, swelling of gums and lameness.

The disease is most commonly transmitted by the "nose-see-em."

**LONE RANGERTIES**  
Hollywood — (UP) — The Lone Ranger expressed some fear today that the next generation's cowboys may all be girls. He hopes not, but he said, they're leading two to one in a contest to find the child who can yell the loudest: "Hi Yo Silver!"

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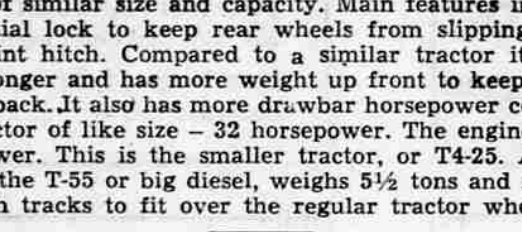
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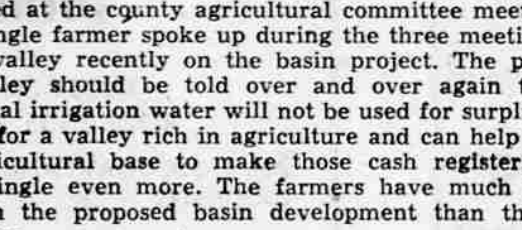
**ROGUE VALLEY PROVED SIRE SERVICE**



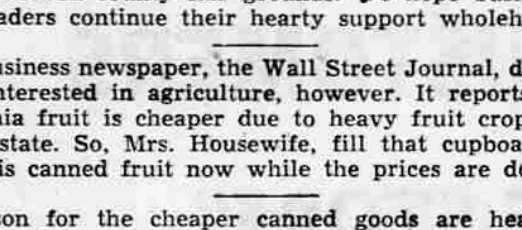
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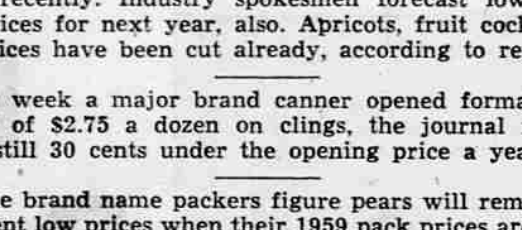
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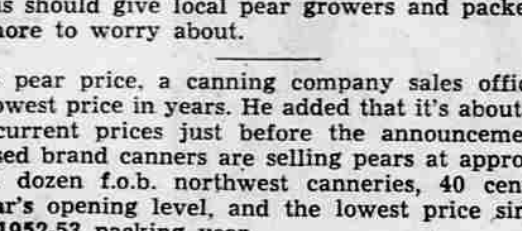
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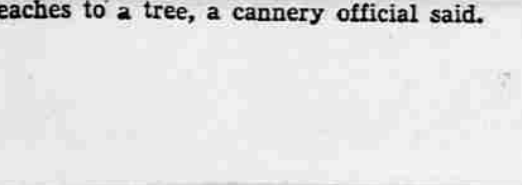
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