

FARM NOTES

Washington - (UPI) - Farm prices in the first seven months of 1959 were 3 per cent lower than in the same period last year, the Agriculture Department said.

Cash receipts from farm marketings totaled \$16,600,000,000 in the January through July period this year, about 1 per cent less than in the same months of 1958. Volume of marketing increased more than 2 per cent.

Washington - (UPI) - Final results in the July 23 referendum in the 39-state commercial wheat producing area showed that 80.8 per cent of the farmers who voted favored marketing quotas for the 1960 wheat crop.

The Agriculture Department reported the vote as 169,760 for quotas and 40,427 against. The final of those in favor was slightly higher than the preliminary figure of 80.7 per cent announced July 24.

The 1960 crop referendum was the ninth time farmers have voted for wheat marketing quotas.

Washington - (UPI) - The Senate Agriculture Committee has approved a "food for peace" bill which would expand the sale of U.S. surplus farm commodities overseas.

It would extend for three years the current authorization for overseas sale of up to \$1,500,000,000 in surplus items annually for foreign currencies.

Washington - (UPI) - The Senate has passed and sent to President Eisenhower a bill that would outlaw hunting of wild horses on public lands or ranges by airplane or automobiles.

It would outlaw poisoning of waterholes to trap the wild horses. The Senate approved the measure Tuesday.

Washington - (UPI) - Backers of legislation to help migratory farm workers have conceded that there was no hope of congressional passage this session.

But Sen. Pat McNamara (D-Mich.) urged a Senate labor subcommittee to approve the measure to give them a better chance next year.

The bills would extend the minimum wage and child labor laws to farm workers and would require the foremen of migratory farm crews to register with the labor department.

Washington - (UPI) - The Agriculture Department said today market supplies of fresh fruit were expected to be somewhat larger during late summer and early fall than in the same period last year.

Total supplies of fresh citrus fruit will be seasonally light this summer. But supplies of oranges will continue heavier than in 1958.

Washington - (UPI) - The Agriculture Department said today the national school lunch program used more than 36 million dollars worth of fresh, frozen, canned, and dried fruit and fruit juices from July, 1957, through June, 1958.

Washington - (UPI) - The Agriculture Department today estimated the per capita consumption of fresh fruit in 1958 at 96.6 pounds, far below the record 164.3 pounds in 1926.

Washington - (UPI) - The Agriculture Department has estimated the 1959 turkey crop at record 82,000,000 birds, 5 per cent more than in 1958 and 1 per cent more than the previous record set in 1957.

The department said prices received by farmers for turkeys from March through July averaged 13 per cent less than in the same period in 1958. Turkey-feed ratios since January have been below last year.

Washington - (UPI) - The Agriculture Department said today forest service receipts from national forest timber sales and other land uses totaled a record \$124,067,882 in the fiscal year that ended July 1.

This was an increase of \$30,000,000 over the income during the previous fiscal year.

The big income producer in the latest fiscal year was timber sales, which accounted for almost \$116,000,000.

Washington - (UPI) - Sen. Gale W. McGee (D-Wyo.) has called on the agriculture department to halt increasing lamb imports.

McGee said Friday that 30,000 lambs recently were imported from Australia. He said an application was pending to bring in 30,000 more.

--- CHIT CHAT ---

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

A woman medic of the country doctor type used to tell us that if you are hurt holler. Nobody is going to know if you are hurt unless you tell 'em. This, she said, is the reason so many people end up stretched out on a psychiatrist's couch or worse. They're simply afraid to yell ouch!

Now this woman doctor weathered a tough pre-med and medical course at the University of Michigan when few women studied medicine and fellow medical students presented those who did with cadaver sandwiches and skeletons in their beds. She also practiced her early medicine during the Alaska Gold Rush or shortly thereafter. So, this rugged old gal knew when people should keep their troubles to themselves and when they shouldn't.

Now comes the local pear industry. They or it is really hurting! Pear growers and shippers need help. Those ripening pears dropping off the trees in increasing numbers have to be picked before they carpet the ground and hustled into the packing houses. According to what we saw it is costing the grower \$4 a tree for all those Bartlett's on the ground—about four lug boxes equivalent. But, not enough of continuously working, reliable pear pickers. These are our own observations, remember, not those of the pear industry. But, for some reason, the pear grower and shipper is afraid to holler "Ouch, we're hurting."

And the pear industry here has been hurting year after year for a good supply of fruit pickers. Like a lot of things it's going to get worse instead of better. And this too is our own idea, not that of the industry. Pear growers need to have direct contact with a government agency which can get outside pickers when they need 'em and right now!

A few years ago transient farm labor was switched to the department of labor from the department of agriculture. We don't know for sure how the pear men feel, but the department of labor does not understand the fruit grower's need for pickers. It seems much more concerned with full employment.

Summing it up, the current picker shortage is just one more trouble to add to the pile this season like the pears now piling up under the trees. Such troubles include increased costs of operation, tougher fight against insects, and against tree diseases, plus the ever varying market.

The pear industry ranks just behind lumber and is our number two valley industry. The industry's promotion ideas have blazed the trail for other segments of our state-wide agriculture. Medford pear district's product is well-known throughout the United States. The valley's packing houses have bolstered many a family income during the packing season as women seem to like this seasonal work. What hurts the pear industry hurts every man, woman and child in the valley as pear industry money is spent here. Our politicians might do something about it. Again, these are our ideas and do not necessarily reflect the pear industry's attitudes.

As we were writing this Sunday we noticed that a meeting was called for Monday at Oregon State college to see what can be done about the falling farm prices. The conference was set for the office of Dr. A. L. Strand, OSC president.

The executive board of Oregon State Farmers Union had requested the meeting. The college faculty has been asked to make studies of various parts of this problem.

It seems only logical that OSC, an agricultural college, should be asked to work on this problem. But, it is just as logical that the governor should take the lead in pressing for a solution. We, and a number of farm leaders, have been waiting for the governor to act. Perhaps he hasn't taken the time to study the problems of one of the state's top industries. If not, it is high time he did so.

An amusing, but informative little story is published in the "Trees Make News" publication of the American Forest Products Industries for this month.

Scientists of the Oregon Forest Lands Research center in Corvallis wanted to know what the Douglas fir bark beetles do in their home life so scientists could better fight this timber scourge. A contact microphone was strapped to a log.

Papa fir bark beetle arrived home and a rhythmic cricket-like chirping began, mixed with irregular, sharp, staccato noises. A family fight, or just the usual welcome home. Then started scratching, probably the female excavating—perhaps preparing dinner. Later scientists hear a vigorous chewing—the family at dinner.

Next day the eavesdroppers heard lusty singing as the beetles cleaned house. Even a sweeping noise was picked up and every now and then bark dust was pitched out of a hole in the log.

Scientists said they could tell the difference between male and female bark beetles because the one doing all the housework was always the female. The one making all the grumbling noises was invariably the male.

Nationally, the lumber industry, our number one industry here, is preparing a 10-year, all embracing program to promote wood products on equal terms with competitive materials.

The farmer says he isn't getting much for his product, yet food prices keep going up. How come? Mrs. Housewife wants to know.

Civilian consumers in this country last year spent a total of about \$37 billion to cover the food marketing bill. This means a 4 per cent increase over the previous year and nearly two-thirds more than the 1947-49 average, according to Stephen C. Marks, OSC extension agricultural economist. This marketing bill represents total charges for all marketing services performed from the time products are sold by farmers until they are purchased by consumers.

Much of this rise in marketing charges comes from increases in the amount of processing, packaging and other services provided. This rise also comes from increases in wages, salaries, transportation charges, prices of containers, packaging materials, machinery and other items bought by marketing firms.

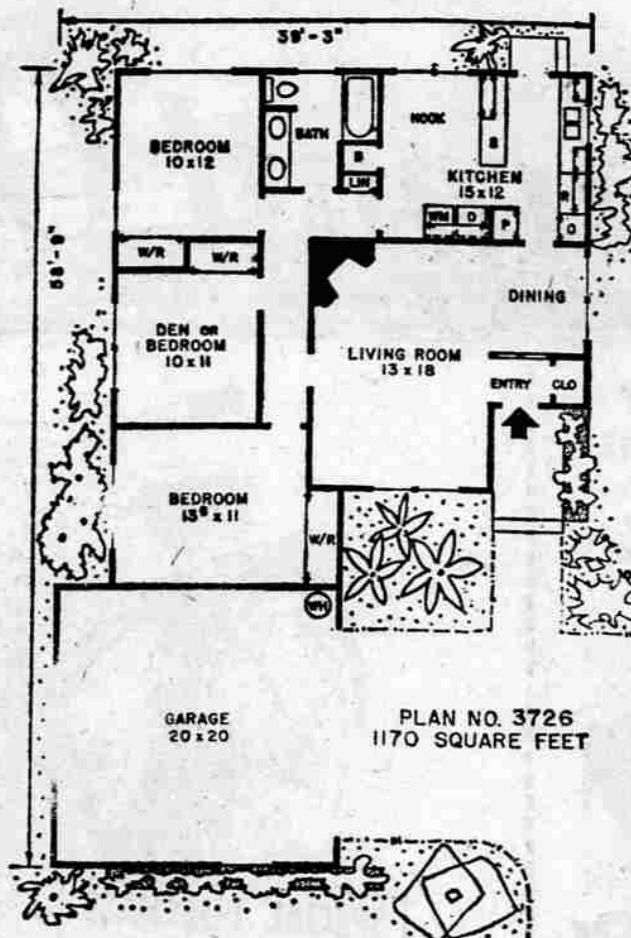
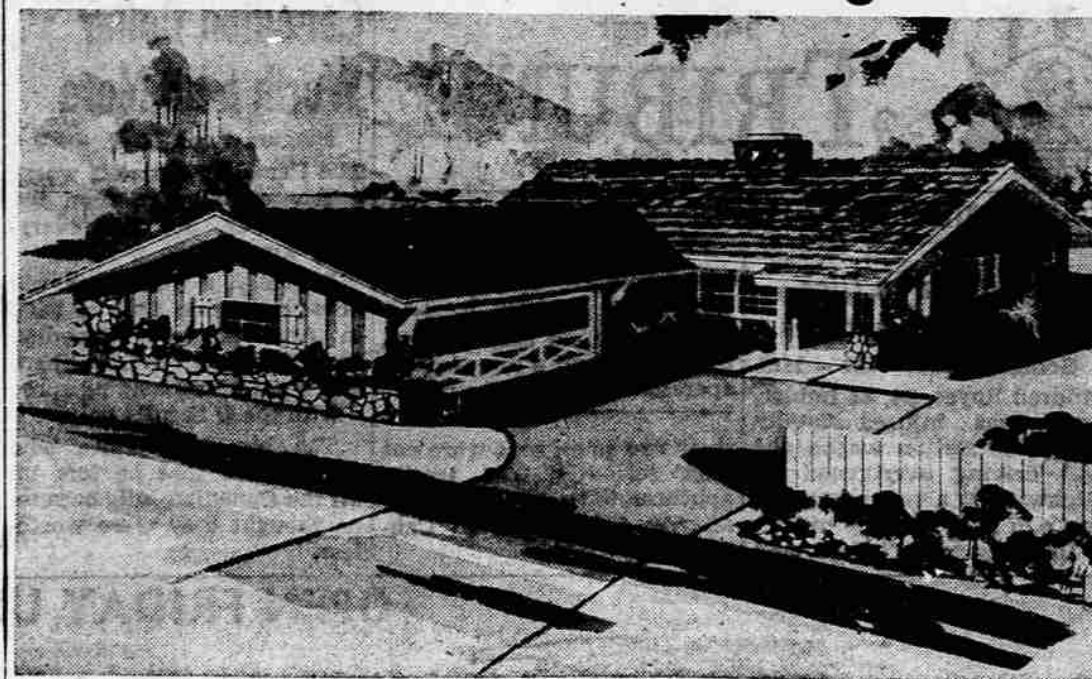
On the other hand, farmers received about 36 per cent of the civilian's expenditures for food in 1958 compared with about 45 per cent in 1947-49. The cut received by marketing agencies rose from 55 per cent to 65 per cent during the same period. The farmer's share of the food dollar, then, dropped 9 per cent, while the share the marketing agencies received for wrapping tomatoes in cellophane, etc., rose 10 per cent.

The recent hot, dry weather has been tough on all Rogue valley crops. Growers and those who have been watching the alfalfa seed crop report a poor one this year, on the whole. You can figure on about 30 per cent of the average harvest of 300 pounds of good clean seed. Approximately 570 acres were certified this year. Most of it was Talent with some Lahontan.

Farmers are going into the fall months with a short hay supply. Prices will be up, naturally. In most places in the valley, the third cutting is in. We have noticed some in the middle of haying, but can't tell if it is the second or third cutting. Hay supplies in the south-central and eastern part of the state are also down. Hermiston and Madras with a fair amount of water have pretty good hay supplies. The wet meadows of Malheur, Burns and Klamath areas are said to be poor. Cows in those areas are being brought down from the high ranges to graze on hay land which cannot be cut profitably this year.

The irrigation picture is still a tight, uncertain one. Medford irrigation district reports it will make it through to at least Sept. 15, the end of its irrigation season. It is carrying a total of 4,000 acre feet of water in both reservoirs. At this time during an average year the district carries 11,000 to 12,000 acre feet total. Low temperatures during the day and cool temperatures at night will ease the pasture situation. One irrigation on the 15th should carry pastures through to the expected rains during the first of October or sooner. Irrigation men say that it invariably rains sometime from Sept. 20-25.

This Week's Home for Living



This home has the style and individuality of homes many times its size. There are many features provided in this home which will appeal to a large family which is planning to build on a limited budget.

The large dining ell which is open to the living room, is separated from the entry hall by a partial wall with turned posts extending from the top of the wall to the ceiling.

The water heater has been placed in the garage for easy servicing and to prevent damage if it should develop a leak.

The home is more than adequately heated by one of the latest designed dual wall heaters that has been located on the wall between the living room and hallway. If preferred, a horizontal forced air unit could be located in the attic.

The large family bath features a double pullman lavatory with storage below, a semi-partitioned water closet and an enclosed tub with shower over.

In the compact kitchen, all major built-in appliances are within a few feet of each other. A floor to ceiling pantry offers that additional storage which is always welcomed in any kitchen. Because of the good looking designs of today's washers and dryers, they have not been enclosed in a closet as was formerly done. Even the largest of families will be satisfied with the extra large kitchen nook, which is partially separated from the work area of the kitchen by a built-in range top.

Stone planters and veneer and fireplace make a pleasing contrast with the cedar shingle roof and the board and board siding of this compact home.

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, Homes for living, may be purchased for \$1. Send all orders for either plans or books to Hiawatha Estes, P.O. Box 404-T, Northridge, Calif.

In 1909, food provided almost 3,600 calories per day per person compared with about 3,200 today, mainly because a smaller portion of the population is doing the heavy labor that requires more calories.

On our flower exhibits, Cheryl Swanson received senior champion ribbon with four blue ribbons and one red on her gladiolus delphiniums, marigolds, dahlias and asters; Elaine Young received junior champion ribbon with three blues on gladiolus, marigolds and dahlia.

Other placings in the senior division were to Carolyn Sidener with three blues and two red ribbons on gladiolus, zinnias, marigolds, Ester Reed daisies and a house plant, and to Patti McCue with one blue and two red for Ester Reed daisies, miniature asters and house plant.

In the junior division, Judy Frink received two blues and one white on gladiolus, dahlia and house plant, and Miki Hays, two white on calendulas and house plant. Cheryl Swanson received a white award on her demonstration on arrangements.

Butter manufacturing still is a highly important segment of the dairy industry. More milk equivalent goes into butter than into cheese, evaporated milk and ice cream combined, according to U.S.D.A. figures.

Three out of five U.S. farm homes had telephone service in 1958, a five per cent increase since 1957.

GARDENING TIPS

GOPHER CONTROLS

Gophers are often pests in gardens, lawns, flower beds, and around trees and shrubs.

The "scissorjaw" trap is the best means of control. It does require some techniques for results, however. These are discussed in an extension service circular on rodent control.

Gophers are best controlled with strychnine baits (on carrot strips, diced apples, clover tips etc.) placed in runways.

RIPENING GREEN FRUIT

Keep all green fruit out of warm sunlight. Cool dark places usually are best.

Tomatoes can be room ripened, but not on a sunny window sill. Store pears in cool (60 degrees), dark place in boxes (with lids) upon picking to ripen for desired usage. These conditions are desirable for ripening most kinds of fruit.

IRISH LEAF SPOT

A fungus leaf spot is common in some plantings.

Principal damage is disfigurement of the foliage. Within a very short time the fungus may cause a beautiful iris planting to become unsightly and a "sore spot" in the garden.

Symptoms for this heterosporium iridis are: At first, tiny brown spots appear with a water-soaked edge which later turn yellow. Toward the end of season, after bloom the spots may become more numerous and run together. When infection is severe affected leaves may die. Cider spots have grayish centers with red-brown borders.

The fungus overwinters in the leaves so remove and destroy affected leaves in the fall. Space the plants to provide good air circulation. Rotate plantings. Spray with Bordeaux 4-4-50 in the spring, especially if spring is cool and moist. Apply spray every 10 to 14 days. Add a spreader-sticker to the spray. Glossy iris leaves are hard to wet.

GLADIOLUS LEAF SPOT

Both commercial growers and home owners should be on the lookout for Botrytis leaf and flower spot.

This disease is most common in cool, humid areas, often appearing on foliage and old flowers towards the end of the season. Brown discolor-

ed spots develop on the leaves and on the flower petals. Besides retarding growth, fungus spores are washed down during early fall rains to the base of the plant where the fungus may infect the gladiolus corm. Infected corms rot in the soil or in storage.

Spray with ferbam at 7 to 14 day intervals for the rest of the season. Apply spray at the rate of 1 ounce in 3 gallons of water (2 pounds in 100 gallons). At digging time discard all infected corms. These show up as tan to light brown discolorations which may be either soft or wet and spongy. Home owners should dig corms as early as possible and dry thoroughly before storing. Commercial growers use specialized heat equipment for curing.

The growers are picking Bartlett and Anjou pears. When should apples and pears be picked? This question confronts many home growers each year. Proper picking times is especially important when the fruit is to be stored.

The commercial grower can draw upon his experience and pressure tests available to him. The home gardener often doesn't have these resources to answer the question for him.

Several indications, rather than any one, should be used to determine proper time to pick apples and pears. Color of fruit, both outside and under the skin, is a good indicator if you're acquainted with the color characteristics of the variety.

Firmness of flesh and seed color can be used as indicators. The flesh should be firm, but not too hard. The seeds should be brown although unripe fruit often has brown seeds, too. Green seeds do indicate unripe fruit, however.

Ease of separating the fruit stem from the spur is still another indicator. The stem should remain attached to the fruit and the spur to the tree when apples or pears are picked. Ripe pears will usually detach when "tilted" to a horizontal position from their usual vertical hanging position.

One of the most reliable indications is to watch the fruit fall. When the first unblemished, worm free, healthy fruit falls from the tree, the apples or pears are usually ripe for picking. On apples the best index is to pick one and eat it. If it is ready, you'll know.

The association will meet at 9:30 a.m. in Withycombe Hall on the Oregon State college campus, reports Noel Bennion, OSC extension poultryman and secretary of the association.

A feature of the meeting will be a talk by Stanley J. Marsden of the USDA Research Center, Beltsville, Md. He will discuss ways to improve fertility and hatchability of turkey eggs, and ways to get egg production throughout the year.

Other out-of-state speakers at this year's meeting will include Dr. M. M. Rosenberg, director of the experiment station, University of Hawaii, who will speak on "Hawaii's Diversified Agriculture;" and M. C. Small, executive secretary of the National Turkey Federation, Mt. Morris, Ill., who will discuss the outlook for market turkeys, hatching eggs, and poults during the coming year.

Control For Scale On Ornamentals Given By OSC

Corvallis - Two new insecticides have been found to completely control soft scales, common insect pests on ornamentals and commercial holly in Oregon, an entomologist at the Oregon State college agricultural experiment station announced.

Dr. Knud Swenson says a thorough spraying of Sevin and Diazinon this time of year will give 100 per cent control of both brown soft scale and cottony camellia scale. Malathion also is effective on cottony camellia scale, he added.

Cottony camellia scale usually is found on holly and camellias. Brown soft scale is found mainly on camellias, holly, and daphne, and is a greenhouse pest of poinsettias and gardenias.

Scale infestations can be recognized by the sooty mold fungus which coats plant leaves. Immature stages of both scales resemble each other closely but brown soft scale varies considerably in size, all present at the same time. Cottony camellia scales are fairly uniform in size and can be identified readily by cottony masses on the undersides of leaves of the previous season's growth.

Found Year Around

Both scale varieties are found the year around. Spraying for brown soft scale can be done any time from early May through September. For cottony camellia scale, the most effective time to spray is in August and September when the insects are young. In fact, no control of cottony camellia scale can be obtained by spraying in June and July when only eggs are present.

The OSC entomologist recommends a Diazinon spray of 6 pounds 2 percent wettable powder to 100 gallons water (6 tablespoons to 1 gallon for smaller amounts) or a Sevin spray of 2 pounds 50 per cent wettable powder to 100 gallons water (or 2 tablespoons to 1 gallon).

Holly growers can apply Diazinon as a bud moth spray and control scales at the same time, he suggested.

Two other chemicals are being studied at OSC as possible scale controls. One chemical which looks promising is a systemic, the entomologist reported.

The total population of the United States on March 1, 1959 was about 176.2 million, an increase of about three million since the same date in 1958.

Daffy Dills Club Ends Second Year With 4-H Party

By JUDY FRINK
4-H Club Reporter

The Daffy Dills 4-H club, of Central Point, completed its second year this week with a party at the home of its leader, Mrs. C. W. Anhorn.

At this meeting the members discussed their exhibits at the recent fair and made plans for the future. At the awards banquet Saturday evening, Elaine Young received the Farm Bureau trophy for the best garden project.

Arrangements made by Carolyn Sidener using pink gladioli and Elaine Young with Ester Reed daisies, were announced as senior and junior champions of the flower arrangement contest and these girls will enter the contest at state fair on Sept. 6.

In this contest the girls made choice of the flowers available and in 20 minutes made an arrangement before a large audience. Judges for this contest were Mrs. L. C. Gorden, accredited flower show judge, and Mrs. R. D. Kay, student judge, of the Central Point Garden club.

The members wish to thank them. Other placings in the contest were Cheryl Swanson, blue; Judy Frink and Linda Vincent, red, and Carolyn Fields, white.

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Soil Bank Signup Nears Deadline

Corvallis - Deadline nears for first 1960 soil bank signup - Thursday, Sept. 10 is the last day farmers can take the necessary steps to participate in the soil bank's 1960 conservation reserve program.

Don Nichols, chairman, Jackson County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee said today.

The first step is for each farmer who wishes to offer cropland under the program to ask the county ASC committee to set a basic annual rate per acre for the land offered.

The period for filing such requests is from Aug. 24 through Sept. 10. The chairman emphasized that no requests will be accepted after Sept. 10.

After the basic rate has been established for the land offered, the farmer will then have an opportunity to apply for a contract any figure below the basic rate. If the offer can be accepted, the farmer will be notified of the date by which he must return the signed Conservation Reserve contract to the county ASC office.

Growers who participate in the program receive cost-sharing help in establishing approved conservation practices on the reserved land, and annual rental payments for the life of the contract.

Farmers who would like to have further information about participating in the 1960 conservation reserve are urged to get in touch with the County Office as soon as possible, but certainly before Sept. 10.

Taylor Re-elected Farm Bureau Head

E. H. Taylor, Central Point, was reelected county chairman for the Jackson County Farm Bureau at an annual meeting and picnic at Lithia park on Saturday, Aug. 29.

Will Hubbard of Eagle Point had been appointed earlier as chairman of the dairy committee and Dewey Penrod, Talent, was recently appointed to serve on the state organization committee by Clifford Wright, state organization chairman.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Taylor and David Blair recently attended the midsummer resolutions meeting at Bend, along with delegates from all over the state, to prepare resolutions for the coming year.

Turkey Group Sets OSC Meeting

Corvallis - Ways to expand year-round turkey production so housewives can find a steady supply of turkey in their local supermarket will be spotlighted at the 20th annual meeting of the Oregon Turkey Improvement association Sept. 18.

The association will meet at 9:30 a.m. in Withycombe Hall on the Oregon State college campus, reports Noel Bennion, OSC extension poultryman and secretary of the association.

A feature of the meeting will be a talk by Stanley J. Marsden of the USDA Research Center, Beltsville, Md. He will discuss ways to improve fertility and hatchability of turkey eggs, and ways to get egg production throughout the year.

Other out-of-state speakers at this year's meeting will include Dr. M. M. Rosenberg, director of the experiment station, University of Hawaii, who will speak on "Hawaii's Diversified Agriculture;" and M. C. Small, executive secretary of the National Turkey Federation, Mt. Morris, Ill., who will discuss the outlook for market turkeys, hatching eggs, and poults during the coming year.

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