

County Stockmen To Attend, Enter Red Bluff Sale

Red Bluff, Calif.—A number of Jackson county stockmen are expected to visit and participate in the annual Red Bluff, Calif., bull sale, starting Feb. 4, according to Charles F. Stover, sale head for the past 17 years.

Those ranches consigning bulls at the sale from this general area include: Seven Oaks Hereford ranch, Central Point; Scotch Acres, Klamath Falls; Mr. and Mrs. Howell Cook, Ashland; Table Top Hereford ranch, Medford; Arrowhead ranch, Medford; Field's Hereford ranch, Central Point; and Malcolm McCarty, Medford.

A total of 523 Red Bluff type beef bulls have been consigned by 90 leading breeders in eight western states, Stover reported. They will be auctioned at the 19th annual Red Bluff sale to be held Feb. 4, 5, 6.

The coming Tehama County cattlemen's event will see 400 service age horned and polled Herefords, 85 Angus and 41 Shorthorn bulls offered through the sale ring at the Tehama County fairgrounds.

The three-day affair will feature inspection, showing, grading and sale of 25 loose pen lots of Hereford range bulls, tie pens and individuals of each breed plus top herd bull prospects.

University of California record of performance grading under which each animal will be given a rating by experts on the basis of soundness and conformation, plus range usefulness will be featured, the sale chairman said.

Buyers from six western states paid \$326,181 for Hereford, Shorthorn and Angus bulls at the 1959 February sale.

Some of the west's leading authorities on cattle will help run the annual sale, Stover said.

Bill Owens, Red Bluff cattleman who runs 1,200 Hereford cattle in California and Oregon, will head the sifting committee which will decide which animals are of sale quality.

Others include Frank Rue, Marysville, who has large Angus holdings near Paskenta and Standish, and Joe Giambornia and King Jarvis, Red Bluff veterinarians.

The judging and grading committee is headed by Reuben Albright, University of California livestock specialist; Harry Parker, San Luis Obispo; George Hunt, Millville; and Harold Thurber, Bakersfield. All are nationally known among livestock breeders and have judged at some of the leading auctions throughout the country.

Experts Listed
Breed consultants will be Fenton O'Connell of Gilroy, who has one of the largest and best herds of Angus in the West; T. B. Hawkins of Hollister, an extensive breeder of Shorthorns and Dale Carithers of Mission San Jose, nationally known breeder of Herefords.

Loose pen lots of range bulls will be judged by Roy Carmichael of Tehama county; Cameron Cliff of Burns, Oregon; and Abner McKennie of Tehama county.

Judging will start at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 3. It will be followed that evening at 7 o'clock by a dinner at the fairgrounds where the members of the four committees will meet with consignors and commercial cattlemen to discuss production and financing of beef cattle.

Among others who will assist are Farm Advisors Lin Maxwell of Red Bluff and Jesse Bequette of Redding; Les Berry, University of California range expert; Arch Bathurst, manager of the Dixon auction yard and assistant manager of the Farm Bureau Marketing Association of Stockton and Clare Myers, manager of the Lassen Farm Loan association of Red Bluff.

Ryegrass Growers Seek Commission
Salem - Ryegrass seed growers have petitioned the state department of agriculture to hold hearings on a proposed Oregon Ryegrass Growers Seed Commission.

A petition signed by 38 ryegrass seed growers with the petition filing fee of \$250 was received Jan. 22.

The petitioners have 30 days in which to submit the remainder of the department's budget estimate of \$1,350 to cover costs of conducting hearings, producer registrations and a referendum, if held.

---CHIT CHAT---

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

The newspaper business is noted for handing out some impossible assignments. But we heard of one Tuesday which tops 'em all.

"Go out and find out all you can about the lumber business in southwest Oregon and northern California, where they ship their lumber and other pertinent information." This is the assignment an employee of the California board of equalization received from the top brass of his department.

Purpose was to find out if California is receiving all the sales tax monies it should receive from sale of lumber from retail lumber yards. Figuring timber is a crop like any farm commodity is a crop, we naturally were interested. He claims that Oregon could raise enough money from a state sales tax to eliminate the state income tax. This Californian pays \$216 property tax on his \$16,000 market value home, \$200 a year in sales taxes and \$19 a year in state income tax. California has a \$2 billion budget while Oregon has a \$328 to \$330 million budget. Anyway we wish our friend luck in his assignment. He's promised to let us know how he makes out.

We spent part of the time this week listening to the condemnation suit involving Lester Gilman's dairy farm. The state is taking a strip of land which will cover both sides of Bear creek which runs through the Gilman farm. Apparently the state completely overlooked the fact that the freeway would cut off irrigation access from the creek to the farm.

One thing, though, since the federal government pays 90 per cent of the freeway cost and the state 10 per cent the federal government has a definite limit on the amount of money which can be spent on the project. This, of course, limits the amount of money available for condemnation. We understand anything over the federal limit has to come from the state's funds.

We were out visiting Slim and June Hardin's ranch near Phoenix. Slim, as you will remember, had two purebred Angus bulls rate triple A at the Sacramento sale a couple of weeks ago. He has 23 head of Angus stock on his 15 acres. He has those animals so gentled that they follow him around like dogs. Even little Bit, our daughter, wasn't a bit afraid of those big black cows as they approached. Of course we kept a safe distance from the bulls. They did a little snortin' and pawin' the ground. But, no more than the politicians are doing these days. And like the politicians we imagine if they really got their horn into something there would be a lot of howlin' from the other party.

We attended the pear and peach meetings this week and picked up a lot of good miscellaneous information at the sessions so ably emceed by Don Berry, county extension agent. Don has been working with the vegetable growers, also, to help develop better markets for their produce such as corn. From the jokes Don tossed out to the crowd we think he has already developed a good home market for the latter. Only kidding. The jokes were pretty good.

While talking to Dave Lowry of Associate Fruit, Phoenix, we learned Dave thinks highly of the newer Idaho peach varieties. Dave says Idaho peaches have a good red and golden color and almost silky skin.

We thumbed through a pamphlet from the Idaho extension service and found that like our growers the Idaho commercial grower generally plants mostly J. H. Hale. It is one of the few leading peach varieties requiring a pollinizer. The Early Elberta is second in popularity now. It could be replaced by Redskin or Gold Medal. Gold Medal is one of the finest canning peaches, according to the Idaho people. One of the earliest good peaches is Dixired. This is followed by Redhaven and July Elberta.

As in this area, Rio Oso Gem is one of the best late peaches. Earlihale is an early ripening variety producing a J. H. Hale type of peach, well suited to shipping, according to the Idaho extension service. It ripens with Halehaven which is ripe two weeks before J. H. Hale. It is pollen-sterile. This yellow-fleshed freestone peach is a new variety introduced by the USDA and should be planted only on a trial basis.

A brief report was given at the peach meeting on sour cherries. One grower reported that the price for this fruit now being tried in the valley experimentally is no lower than the previous year. He reported getting 64 cents a pound and picking costs at 34 cents a box. Their future in the valley is anybody's guess, he said. They require little water, are easy to raise, sure-bearers, and don't crack or split from rain. Bagley canning company in Ashland processed them for the first time last year. He processed several tons and will need 50 tons next year to stay with them, the grower said.

County Agent Berry suggested that sour cherry trees make good interplants or fillers in pear and peach orchards. The grower admitted there is still an opportunity to develop a good commercial market for Rogue valley sour cherries.

Best variety of the tart or pie cherry is Montmorency for both the commercial grower and the home gardener in this valley. Early Richmond ripens about a week earlier than Montmorency, but is inferior to it in quality. English Morello ripens 10 days after Montmorency, but the yield is lower than Montmorency and the fruit is more acid. Meteor and Northstar can withstand hard winters. They are on a trial basis, however.

One peach grower noted that more lumber cutting in the lower hills has driven more deer down to the higher orchards. Gold Hill and Talent areas have been affected particularly, he noted. Best method is a spray dope called magic circle which repels the deer. Mothballs tied to the young trees work well until the deer get used to them.

The east is demanding more defuzzed peaches, it was reported. One packing house has found that the defuzzing process using camel hair brushes cleans and brightens the peaches. Fungicide can be introduced when they are being defuzzed and ensures better condition in transit.

How many acres of pears have been planted during the last three years was one of the questions asked at the pear meeting this week in the county courthouse. Some 690 to 700 acres have been planted. About 65 per cent of this acreage is in Bartlett's and red Bartlett's.

What is happening to pear decline? One grower reported he may have checked it by installing a tile drainage line and watching his irrigation more carefully. Some of his trees hit by decline this year showed a short growth of 8 to 12 inches and the trees formerly in decline had livelier fruit buds than in the last three years. Another grower noted "real promising results in a couple of blocks."

Fertilizer recommendations have not changed this year other than in decline orchards. Rates are about the same. Don't put the dosage on all at once, growers recommend.

Bulk bins have been easier handling and cheaper handling. One problem is dumping them. Pickers like them once they get used to them, one pear grower noted. A packing house operator and grower said his bin pears were shipped directly to the cannery. Blemishes to pears from handling in bins vary, he noted. He said he would like to use them and keep on using bins especially for cannery pears.

Lee Foster, Hood River county extension agent, said the Apple Growers association there has noted some injury in its experimental orchards. Growers, however, are enthusiastic in their use for pears and apples. Considerable moving is done in bulk bins for pears and apples in the Hood River area, he said.

Rogue Valley Peaches Said To Have Promising Future

Rogue valley peaches do have a promising future but certain things must be done to bolster the market and various factors should be considered, members of a panel noted during this week's peach meeting in the county courthouse.

Panel members were Lyle Kinney, Bear Creek Orchards; Art Wilson, Velmart Orchards; and David Lowry, Associated Fruit.

Kinney urged growers to "do a little modifying" in tree care. Generally, the low trend is to overprune. Low heading the trees is of increasing local interest, he said. Don't over care for peaches. Irrigate sparingly and "leave them go for several years" with moderate care.

Limiting factors for valley peaches might be that the neighboring states of California and Washington can produce a cheaper product.

Young orchards needed
Young productive orchards are needed to expand the market, Kinney noted. Rio

Oso Gems over the years have usually brought a fair price. "It's surprising there are not more peaches on the market because of excellent climatic conditions here for them. Also, they can grow on wide variety of soils, but not on sticky wet soils (heavy clay soils)," he said.

Many fine peach varieties are raised here and the valley does and can produce the best quality peaches in the world, the Bear Creek Orchards man said. Greatest future markets would be New York, Philadelphia, or Chicago. More demand will come on the west coast as the population moves west, he predicted.

Certainly some expansion of local peach production by good growers is in order. Lowry noted that an industry to be justified it must make money.

Hales have been an expensive variety to produce, but comes on the market after the California peaches, so have market acceptance, Lowry added. He suggested

mixed shipments of peaches and pears and sending truckloads to the southwest and midwest where markets are developing. This is a new trend in California, he explained. "Generally, valley peach prices are beaten down," he pointed out. "We need to get better organized saleswise. Now the pear people have good organized sales outlets and cooperation."

Need More Fruit
Wilson noted that no decrease in production or keeping it at the present level would boost peach prices. It's a case of a handful versus a carload like other areas can produce, he said. Production must be built up to create a market demand.

J. H. Hale and Red Haven have brought very good returns, he pointed out. At trees over 20 years old should be replaced. The Rio Oso Gems extend the season. The Almar is a good new variety, has good size, good color and picks well.

"I don't know of any peach which can outsell the Rogue River Valley Hale when picked at the right peak of maturity. However, they should be precooled as soon as they are picked. Too often local peaches are picked too green or too ripe," Wilson pointed out. We can continue to ship mature, high colored fruit to distant markets, but we should carefully examine each pack."

Expanded production would mean more investment in farm machinery, in packing house and cold storage expansion, Wilson said.

Director Wallace Ragsdale reported one of his rows returned from his range with an auction tag in her ear and that she still had the identification tag which Wallace uses. He had not sold her, he said. Brand inspection should be tightened at the auction yards, Ragsdale said.

Guy Hughes, Medford, district supervisor of theft and brand inspection, said he believed there would never be good brand inspection until it is done at the point of origin—inspection of the cattle before they leave the ranch. Blotched brands are another problem, he said. It cost \$50 to \$80 in a state man's wages and mileage to identify one animal in the county this year because her brand could not be read, he said.

Hughes introduced the new county brand inspector. His name is Jerry Schwimler. His phone is SPring 2-9655 and he lives at 538 Franquette ave., Medford. Schwimler is married, has a family and has worked in brand inspection for three years in the Eugene area.

President Jack Reid said he had learned at the Portland meeting of the Beef Council the brand inspectors are collecting the 10 cents per head voluntary fee for beef promotion. The directors went on record approving and sponsoring the Beef Council and recommended that the association members support it.

Expenses Paid
Richter said expenses of the speaker who spoke in Medford on the proposed 23rd amendment were paid by a few individual contributions and the stockmen will not have to bear any of the expense.

Director John Bowman reported the bureau of reclamation has put 200 new crossings in the Howard Prairie ditch to assist sheep and cattle crossing the ditch. However, the crossings are too near the water and cattle or deer with horns fall in and hang up against the crossings.

The taxation committee reported the State Forestry Patrol will hold a hearing about the middle of March on the fire patrol budget.

New committee chairman appointed in clude Collier Buffington, to head the newly organized public relations and publicity committee; Ed Meeker, membership committee. Bud Jess, legislative committee. Two other committees appointed and told to elect their chairmen are taxation-Garth Flint, John Bohner, Ralph Cook, John Black, John Bowman and Terry Houk; and sales and marketing committee - Al Straus, Fritz Offenbacher, Gordon Stanley, Henry Owens and Bud Nevin.

Committee chairmen willing to serve another term are J. C. Miller Jr., chairman of the brand inspection committee and Wallace Ragsdale of the sanitary committee. Other committee chairmen were not present or asked to be relieved of their duties.

Sue Meeker is the new Cowbelles representative to the board. In answer to her question she was informed there are no strings attached to the \$100 provided by the association for beef promotion.

A contract has been awarded by the Maritime Administration for the design of a 600 passenger hydrofoil liner and a boat builder is offering a stock eight foot hydrofoil pram.

Agriculture Department Releases Thumbnail Outlook for Commodities

Washington—(AP)—The agriculture department this week released these thumbnail sketches of the agricultural outlook for various commodities:

Cattle—Record number of cattle on feed in 26 states at beginning of year indicates that prices this winter and spring will continue below last year.

Eggs—Low prices over the last year are likely to lead to a reduction in the hatch of flock replacement chicks this spring. Hatchings of replacement chicks in recent months have been well below a year earlier. If reduction continues, egg production next fall is likely to be under a year earlier. Such a prospect would encourage operations and strengthen prices this spring. Thus, some recovery in egg prices is likely as 1960 progresses.

Broilers—Marketings through February are likely to be below a year ago. But in recent weeks settings of eggs for broilers have risen above a year earlier for first time in eight months.

Turkeys—Prices, at highest in three years, probably will remain relatively high until about mid-year. Improvement in turkey prices last year came in face of a record crop. This is likely to result in increased production this year. Milk—Production in 1959 was in a closer balance with commercial demand at support prices than in any of the six previous years. Output declined slightly from 1958 and total demand was steady. Prices were above support rates by a larger margin and for a longer period than at any time since 1952.

Feed—Feed grain prices in mid-December averaged 4 per cent below a year earlier. Probably will continue a little lower the first half of this year.

Fruit—Fewer apples and pears but more grapes remained to be marketed after Jan. 1 than last year. Supplies also are smaller for grapefruit and tangerines, about the same for winter oranges, larger for lemons.

Fresh Vegetables—A winter crop 9 per cent above last year is in prospect. Showing increases over last year are cabbage, carrots, lettuce, cucumbers, snap beans, cauliflower, eggplant, and broccoli. Declining are celery, tomatoes, green peppers, and spinach.

House Plants Need Particular Attention
By J. VERNON MARSHALL
January - The month to really enjoy house plants—they bring beauty into your home, require less care than you think, but how much care do house plants require?

In actual time and effort, they require very little. Perhaps only minutes a week. What they do require, is regular care, plus a fairly congenial environment. Particularly as regards light.

Before I get into the proper environment for the various plants, I would like to touch slightly on "watering plants indoors." This is the general cause for failing to successfully grow pot plants in the home. Watering plants in pots requires careful attention. The plants are entirely dependent upon you for the right amount necessary to encourage healthy growth.

When out in the open the roots have a chance to go down into the soil and look for moisture if necessary and they usually do it. You can lift a tender annual and find that its hair-like roots have grown right into a hard, rock-like clay soil and wonder how it was possible. That same plant in a 4-inch pot has no chance to do so. It is absolutely dependent on someone to supply the moisture necessary. The roots are confined within the little pot.

Keep Soil Moist
Now, with most plants grown by the average home-maker it is just a matter of keeping the soil fairly moist at all times and, when applying the water, of disturbing the plants as little as possible. You can tell when plants grown in pots are in want of water by examining them. Get your fingers down into the soil and find out its exact conditions; you cannot tell by surface appearance. Don't water soil that is wet nor ever let a plant suffer in soil that is dry. To let soil in pots dry out is wrong. The plants suffer every time you do it. You stunt their growth. Plants which have grown under glass in pots or in a shallow bench with artificial watering are different from those in the open field and can't stand a dry soil without showing bad effects.

On the other hand, if you have poor drainage and the water you apply remains in the soil too long, you will get the same bad effects. Take a Boston Fern. No plant loves water more and as long as you have plenty of drainage in the pot it can stand watering practically every day. But in

Brand inspection of livestock, about 95 per cent of the operation in 1959 was on cattle, is part of a three-pronged program to identify livestock and prevent thefts. Other phases are brand recording and theft investigation.

It took Thomas Jefferson five days to travel by public transportation from Philadelphia to Baltimore. A modern bus can do it in 3 1/4 hours. Last year more Americans traveled than ever before, and to capture their share of the travel market, bus lines invested over \$2 million in newspaper advertising.

MODERN ARTIFICIAL BREEDING WITH FROZEN SEMEN

FROM AMERICAN BREEDERS' SERVICE
Provide the dependable means of increasing the value of your dairy herd.

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February Meeting To Plan Convention

A meeting will be held early in February to plan for the Oregon Cattlemen's association's convention scheduled for Medford this fall, Armin Richter, immediate past president of the Jackson County Stockmen's association, told the association's board last Thursday.

Richter said he would meet with Medford Chamber of Commerce officials and area businessmen. He appealed "for lots of help."

Under new business, director Raphael Gardner reported Sen. Richard Neuberger (D-Ore.) has introduced a bill in Congress to prohibit all forms of poisoning and trapping of predatory animals except for one humane type of trap. This is so constructed that most cattlemen feel the coyote wouldn't be caught in it anyway, Gardner said. The legislative committee was instructed to learn what they could about the bill, to write or wire Senator Neuberger

of their opinions, and make the stockmen aware of the situation.

Plan Better Law
James C. Miller Jr., reported for the brand inspection and theft committee. This group is working to develop a better Oregon brand law, he said.

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Ground Hog Dinner Planned by Grange

Eagle Point—The Eagle Point Grange will hold its famous annual Groundhog dinner from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. Sunday, a Grange spokesman announced.

Everyone is invited to attend this annual pioneer type dinner of "ground groundhog" (pork sausage) and all the fixins.

IRRIGATED AREA
About 90 per cent of Nevada's farm land is irrigated.

Farm Notes

Washington—(AP)—The agriculture department's current statistical summary shows the farmer's share of the consumer's food dollar dropped to 37 cents in November to the lowest point in 25 years.

The farmer's share in 1934 was 34 cents. In 1932 and 1933, it was only 32 cents.

Washington—(AP)—Agriculture Secretary Ezra T. Benson says he will try again to get agreement on revised lamb grading standards.

Benson attempted to put new lamb and mutton grading standards into operation last summer, but the various groups could not agree on them and Benson suspended them.

Washington—(AP)—Sen. Harrison A. Williams Jr. (D-N.J.) has introduced two bills aimed at helping the families of migrant farm workers.

One measure would authorize spending about two million dollars a year on subsidies for educating migrant workers' children. The second bill would authorize \$250,000 to educate whole migrant families in the use of modern living equipment.

Houston, Tex.—(AP)—A government banker said today interest rates were likely to remain "relatively high for some time to come."

Fred W. Gilmore, director of the Farm Credit administration's land bank service, expressed this view at a stockholders' meeting of the federal land bank of Houston.

He said unparalleled demands for credit from all segments of the economy was the chief cause of higher interest rates, including those charged farmers.

Washington—(AP)—The Agriculture Marketing Service (AMS) is attempting to determine what happens when industry moves to the country.

The agency is making a special survey for the rural development program in selected rural areas in Louisiana, Mississippi, Iowa, Utah, and Ohio. Deputy administrator Nathan Koffsky said the special research project already has turned up some significant findings.

Koffsky said rural people who obtain jobs in the new factories moving into their area are much younger than average residents of employment age. And the average factory worker in the areas under study is about 30 years old, compared with an average of 50 years for heads of farm families in the same area.

Industry increases the income of many rural people, Koffsky added. The living standard of those who find jobs in the new plants has gone up at a faster rate than that of other rural residents. Incomes of plant workers equal, and in many cases exceed, incomes of average families in the same community.

About one in four plant workers in the areas studied operate farms, he said, but their farms usually are smaller than the average in the community because they usually reduce their farming operations.

There are an estimated 29,900 supermarkets in the U. S. which do 68 per cent of all the retail grocery business. Eighty-four per cent of these supermarkets use newspapers regularly for their advertising.

NAVY DAY
Washington—Celebration of Navy day was originally sponsored by the Navy League of the United States in 1922.

WATER ROUTES
Amsterdam - Holland has about 2,000 miles of canals and about 3,000 miles of navigable rivers and channels.