

Loffin Elected New President Of Water Group

Sams Valley-George Loffin was elected president of the newly reactivated Sams Valley-Beagle Water Development association meeting last week.

Other officers are Ralph James, secretary; treasurer, Albert Straus; C. W. McDonough and Bill Bray, all directors.

Two more directors will be added at a later meeting, it was announced at the meeting attended by approximately 30 persons.

Claude Eaker, director of the Rogue Basin Flood Control and Water Resources association, gave a report of the present status of the Rogue basin study. He reported also on the history of the association's activities, the present status of the project and what is expected to happen with completion of the report and following the hearing next summer. The Rogue basin appropriations bill is expected to be ready for introduction into Congress in the spring of 1962, he said.

Old Officers Report
Past officers, who include Ben Day, former president, and James, former secretary, reported on what they did when the association was active earlier. Their primary purpose was to keep the basin study alive during 1950-51. However, the association failed in its purpose then.

Two-fold purpose now is to keep the residents of the Sams Valley-Beagle area advised as to what is being done as far as water development is concerned and to provide a means by which the area people can make their voices heard so they can help in designing a program which best fits the need of people in the area.

Tracadie, on St. George's Bay in Nova Scotia, was settled by French colonists in 1776.

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--- CHIT CHAT ---

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

Since we are rapidly entering the season of the hot stove league, much of this column will discuss topics which should figure in planning for spring and summer. Many of the topics will affect chiefly farmers. Others will broaden out to include all citizens.

One such topic is recreation. As we mentioned earlier the farmer may be overlooking a good bet in not making recreational use of his land. In use of irrigation water these days the farmer almost has to consider recreational use. More and more people are using reservoirs such as Howard Prairie, Hyatt and Emigrant in Jackson county for recreation.

The public must be informed repeatedly that primary use of such reservoir water is for irrigation of farm crops. Then comes power use, and after that, recreational use. Even before Howard Prairie came into full use we heard many arguments from ardent sportsmen that a water level should be set which would be beneficial to the fishery. Such sportsmen were tactfully informed that the water must be drawn down as low as necessary to irrigate the Rogue valley fruit trees, pasture lands and specialty crops.

Such a priority will remain, but recreational use is increasing so greatly that authorities on that subject refer to the "recreation explosion." It is important and must be figured into all reservoir uses now.

The irrigation people also have a hot stove league—only it consists of a series of reclamation association meetings. During the meeting of the National Reclamation association at Bakersfield in November, Marshall N. Dana, assistant to the president of the U. S. National Bank of Portland, said, "The average cost of a sport-caught fish is \$1.87 a pound. Spending for recreation is three times the interest we pay on our national indebtedness. It is two-thirds the spending for national defense. It is 15 times the spending of the government for reclamation since the reclamation act was passed."

"And the inclusion of reasonable fees for the enjoyment of recreational facilities that represent an added cost in water development projects will add no unjust burden to the recreationists in their multi-billion dollar spending," Dana said. In other words, when the government constructs a reservoir it includes the cost of constructing some basic recreation facilities. The farmer using project water does not have to reimburse the government for this cost as he does for the rest of the project.

There have been some bitter words flung out about the slow development of such recreational resources in Jackson county. Such publicity has brought a strong vocal opposition against recreational developments—opposition which was not expressed before, according to County Judge Earl Miller. He refers to many communications he has received. He also says that he would have to call in the county budget committee to transfer any unused funds from one department to recreational planning and use. After all the red tape could be unwound we would be close to another budget year, he said.

The county judge also stated firmly that money could not legally be withdrawn from the county emergency fund for recreational development. Unfortunately, the county judge had a nasty experience early in his term when he tried to short-cut legality. Although his motives were pure, he never forgot the sharp lesson. Now, everything is according to the book, the law book. He may be right for following the book, the law says he is. But, meanwhile a lot of recreational development which could have been started early in the season is only on the drawing board.

We wish that all the doubling Thomases could take a good thorough look at a booklet on recreation published by the state of California. Each colored dot on a map of California represents a recreation site. The great clusters of dots look as if somebody spit at it with a multi-hued tobacco juice. These are sites which were developed through public use or were created by the state through need.

But, getting off the cracker box, Marshall Dana says, "The most conservative estimates place the money value of the recreation industry at better than \$30 billion a year. This breaks down not only into gas and tires, but into consumption of irrigated land products through patronage of eating places and market."

Dana also points out that "in this country there is one motorboat to every seven cars, with some two million water skiers trailing along behind the boats." Approximately 28 million licensed anglers, not counting youngsters and oldsters who do not buy licenses, drop their lines in streams, rivers or lakes. Dana estimates there are about 100 million vacationists who swim.

While the Germans talked about living more prior to World War II, Americans need more and more play room. This former newspaper man estimates that a boat and skier needs 50 acres of water to operate in and four such outfits perhaps 200 acres.

Dana points to a number of problems involved with increased recreational use of water: Need for general zoning to keep the ski-boats from running down the fishermen, new techniques of land and forest management, need for multiple cooperation as well as multiple use, need for conservation use of such recreational resources "for the people, by the people, and of the people;" and lack of federal general policy or uniform approach to concessions, land leasing and establishment of fees.

"While efforts to turn the development and management of reservoir areas over to local political entities and states have met with some success, there is no uniform policy concerning what the federal government will and will not do," Dana pointed out. He said the U. S. Corps of Army Engineers and bureau of reclamation should set down details on how leasing of land and concessions should be handled, specific guidelines for transferring the reservoir area management to a state or other local interest.

FOR OREGON, TOO?—An article in Friday's San Francisco Chronicle reported that, "California came one step closer Thursday to establishing its first minimum wage for farm workers." The article explained that the proposed minimum would apply only to women and minors, but its passage would be a big boost to a drive for a minimum wage for men.

Thursday, the industrial welfare commission set public hearings on this proposal for Los Angeles, Feb. 1 and 2, and San Francisco, Feb. 3 and 4. The recommendation came from a state agriculture wage board. Farmer members of the wage board had protested the recommendation.

Eight worker representatives on the wage board recommended a minimum wage of \$1.25 an hour, according to the article. Its chairman, Daniel G. Aldrich, dean of agriculture, University of California, recommended a "floor" of 80 to 90 cents.

A companion article mentioned that Norman Smith, California director of the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee told a state senate committee on labor and welfare that collective bargaining in good faith is the answer to strikes.

Several farm workers from northern California told the committee that their families have poor pay, miserable living conditions and the bracero program and increased mechanization reduces the domestic labor force.

However Edward F. Hayes, former chief of the state farm placement service, told the committee that many farm laborers are "derelicts" who don't really want to work regularly. The Mexican National program is needed because of the unavailability of qualified domestic workers. Hayes

GARDEN TIPS

By JOHN McLOUGHLIN
County Extension Agent

The poinsettia plant is almost as symbolic of Christmas as the Christmas tree. A few precautions in the placement and care of your poinsettia will give added weeks to the life of your plant.

Be sure the plant you purchase is in a strong healthy condition. The size of the flower bract and stem and the presence of lower leaves are points to consider in choosing a quality plant.

The ideal location for a poinsettia would be a sunny, draft-free location with a humid atmosphere and a temperature of 60 degrees. Such an ideal location exists in very few if any homes. However, keeping the plant in a location approaching this ideal will add to its bloom life.

Keep the soil moist and the plant away from sources of heat as the humidity in these areas is greatly reduced. The humidity may be increased around the plant by placing the pot in a tray or container partially filled with a media such as pebbles or sand. The tray is then filled with water to a point just below the level at which the pot is set in the media.

Leaves Will Fall

Poinsettia leaves will eventually fall naturally and the plants should be allowed to go dormant. Place the plants in a cool, dark place until spring. Do not water the plant during this dormant period.

When the ground warms up and danger of frost has passed, plant the poinsettia in a sunny position in the garden. The plant may be removed from the pot or the pot may be plunged up to its rim. Cut the stems back to two eyes. Water and fertilize the plants through the summer.

Flower formation in poin-

Red Bluff Bull Sale Set Feb. 3

Red Bluff, Calif. — Dan Thornton, former governor of Colorado and nationally-known Hereford breeder, has accepted an invitation to be master of ceremonies at the 20th Anniversary Red Bluff Bull Sale banquet here Feb. 3. Charles F. Stover, sale chairman, announced today.

Thornton is a Colorado trustee of the National Cowboy Hall of Fame, now under construction at Oklahoma City. A Hereford bull donated by Fred Dressler of Gardnerville, Nevada, president of the American National Cattle-men's association, will be sold for the benefit of the cowboy shrine on Feb. 4, immediately preceding the sale of 426 Hereford bulls consigned by 65 leading Hereford breeders from eight western states.

A total of 525 Hereford, Shorthorn and Angus bulls have been consigned to the 1961 sale by 83 breeders throughout the West. The Red Bluff Bull Sale is the largest sale of selected and graded, service-age bulls in the United States.

Settling is correlated with a short day length as in chrysanthemums. Therefore, do not expect the poinsettia to flower naturally in your summer garden. Flowering results may be obtained by artificial shading as with chrysanthemums.

The best way to have house sized plants for next Christmas would be to take cuttings in the fall. Make the cuttings with four or five nodes. Remember, to bring these cuttings into flower you must keep them away from artificial lighting.

Turin, Italy — (UPI) — Nine persons, including an entire family of seven, were killed Sunday when a rain-triggered avalanche swept through the tiny hamlet of Tournin in the Alpine foothills region south west of here. Three houses were destroyed and eight others damaged by the landslide in the 3,600-foot high hamlet.

Midway Auction Has Lively Market

Bill Bray, proprietor of Midway Auction yard here, reported a very active market during last Friday's regular auction sale.

He reported 314 cattle were sold.

Hereford steer calves, 300 to 400 pounds, brought \$24.50 to \$26.60 per hundredweight. Steer calves, 400 to 500 pounds, brought \$25 to \$26.20. Hereford heifer calves, 300 to 400 pounds, brought \$22.50 to \$24.10.

Yearling Hereford steers brought \$23 to \$24.80 and yearling Hereford heifers \$20 to \$22.75. Holstein steers sold for \$16 to \$17.10.

Choice veal calves sold from \$23 to \$26, medium to good sold \$20 to \$24. Bulls sold \$18 to \$19.10.

Slaughter cows, utility, sold at \$5 to \$16.40; cutters, from \$12.50 to \$14.75, and canners from \$10 to \$12.

Bray noted that prices have been steady and on the rise all fall. The three feeder sales held this fall totalled \$426,934.75. The all-comers sale held earlier this month was added on to the usual two fall feeder sales sponsored by the Jackson County Livestock

association. During that sale 1,047 head sold for \$116,764.94. Most of the animals sold were Holsteins.

Twenty Holstein Springer Heifers sold at \$200 to \$232.50. A pen lot of 23 heifers sold at \$195 a head. Holstein yearlings and two-year-old heifers sold for \$15.75 to \$16.50. Holstein steers sold at \$16 to \$17.50.

Good to choice Hereford steer calves brought from \$25 to \$27.30; medium to good steer calves \$20 to \$24; medium to good heifer calves \$18 to \$22.

Good to choice Yearling Hereford steers brought \$23 to \$24.50 and medium to good Hereford steers \$20 to \$22.50. Good to choice yearling Hereford heifers brought \$20 to \$22, and medium to good heifers \$17 to \$20. Stock cows with calves at their side brought \$185 to \$230 per pair, and stock cows \$150 to \$177.50 per head.

During the sale a steer owned by Jim Corson, Applegate, brought \$27.20. This was out of Beau Donald of the Golden Real bulls. It was purchased by Minch Meat company, Red Bluff.

was ousted for alleged favoritism to growers, according to the article.

The statistics are in also from Wisconsin. There the number of dairy plants dropped from 2,528 in 1945 to 1,776 in 1955 and 1,302 currently. This emphasizes the need for milk producers to belong to strong, soundly operated and financed cooperatives, dairy authorities said.

Plenty of opportunities still exist for youth in agricultural or in the production of foods, according to a recent study by the Institute of Food Technologists. Industry needs twice as many food technologists in the next five years as are now being trained, one third of all food items on the shelves didn't exist 10 years ago and half of all food products which will be available in 1970 are still being developed.

Christmas Greetings

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Public Range Land Topic For Stockmen's Meeting

Much of the discussion at Thursday's annual meeting of the Jackson County Stockmen's association centered on public range land use.

Egg Prices Rise

Egg prices rose slightly and egg supplies are lower than a year ago, according to a market analysis by Stephen G. Marks, extension agricultural economist.

Egg prices to producers climbed three cents a dozen on the low side of the price range for Double A large and mediums since late November, Marks said. Small rose 8 cents on the low side of the price range.

Prices to producers on Dec. 12 ranged from 49 to 52½ cents a dozen on Double A extra large, 47 to 50½ cents on Double A large, 44 to 45 cents on Grade A large, 43 to 47½ cents on mediums and 32 to 40½ cents on smalls.

Current egg prices range 10 to most 12 cents higher than a year ago on the large sizes. Mediums are up 15 cents and smalls are priced nine to 14 cents higher.

"Egg production will remain below year earlier levels for several months, at least," Marks reported. "There are fewer layers, about 5 per cent. As December started, the U.S. laying pack was estimated 4 per cent smaller than on Dec. 1, 1959, and the smallest since 1937."

How To Prune Told In New Booklet

Homeowners who wish information regarding the pruning of fruit trees and shrubs may obtain a free booklet about this from the county agricultural extension office at the county courthouse.

Orchardists started pruning the pear trees as soon as the majority of the leaves fell, County Agent Clifford B. Cordy said. The pruning will continue all winter. Object of the pruning, he explained, is to remove old growth which is badly spurred so it rotates the growth.

The panel discussion was moderated by Francis Krause, Applegate rancher. Others on the panel were Bob Torheim, in charge of range management for the Rogue National Forest, and Neil Suttell, Applegate ranger; John Carnegie and John Birch, of the bureau of land management.

During the question and answer program items discussed were revegetating depleted ranges, range improvements, stock watering facilities, fences on public lands and the need for more of them and the new BLM permit system.

U.S. Forest Service men reported that plans for the revegetation work this year have been pretty well made. Lack of money makes it difficult to do as much as should be done, it was pointed out. Current program is to revegetate about 20 acres this year in the Silver Fork basin of the Applegate. This compares to the thousands of acres which need revegetation work.

Only way to get range improvement work done is for the government to buy the materials and the stockmen to do the work. This, too, has to be on a limited basis due to lack of funds.

Only fencing done so far is the construction of range division fences, range zone fences and drift fences.

Some of the ranchers Thursday plainly didn't like the new BLM system of issuing grazing leases to grazing associations only such as the Applegate Stockmen's association, Lake Creek Stockmen's association and others. Formerly, the permits were issued to individual permittees. However, apparent aim of the new system is to eliminate the terrific bookkeeping problem involved in issuing permits to so many ranchers.

Under the new system, the stock association does the bookwork for the individual permittees and bills each association member for grazing fees, then it pays the BLM a lump sum each year. The association also must determine who should graze cattle, and how many should be grazed based on the carrying

capacity of the range. Stockmen objected that the associations would have to do all the book work. Actually, the BLM district office only keeps the permit as only one entity, it was explained. It is really nothing new for BLM. This is the first year the local district has required the new system.

New Assessment Plan

The association agreed to a new method of voluntary assessment for the beef council. Under the new system, the cattleman will automatically be assessed 10 cents a head as their stock is sold in the different sales. Those stockmen who, from time to time, don't want to be assessed can apply for a refund through the council.

This is aimed at avoiding the present cumbersome method of collection which involves too much bookwork for livestock auction yards. Currently, the stockman indicates on his brand slip whether he wishes to be assessed, then the auction yard people have to go through checking each slip and make a notation of those to be assessed and those who don't.

One of the new 1961 proj-

ects discussed by the Jackson County Cow Belles is a Rogue brand book which is now on sale at \$1.50 each. These brand books can be obtained from any Cow Belle and contain all the brands now used in the Rogue valley.

The project was requested by the stockmen who felt the \$5 price for the state brand book was expensive and the book too cumbersome to carry around.

Leroy Offenbacher, Applegate, was elected new president of the stockmen; Eddie Meeker, Phoenix, vice president, and Don Nichols, Ashland, treasurer and Earl Jossy, county agent, secretary.

New officers for the Cow Belles are Mrs. John Bohnert, Central Point, president; Mrs. Ed Meeker, vice president, and Mrs. Bill Bigham, secretary-treasurer.

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