



LARGEST STEER?—This huge steer which weighs 3,000 pounds and stands some six feet tall, is causing some sensation. He is believed to be the largest steer in the U.S. since 1910. The animal which is 11½ feet long was brought at an auction in Belle Fourche, S.D. by the Endlich Packing company and the Kroll Bar-B-Que shop of Green Bay, Wis. When ground up this beef should make 8,500 hamburgers, it was estimated. The animal, pictured with Perry Nolan, Aniwa, Wis., is a cross breed of short horn and Holstein and is about seven years old. (UPI Telephoto)

State Ag Department Tells Of Year's News Developments

Salem—Bread, brucellosis, bees, Bang's, beef and beetles were all part of the 1960 news year for the state department of agriculture.

James Short, director of agriculture, took his post in April from retiring Frank McKennon. Short made news recently with reorganization plans approved by both the state board of agriculture and Gov. Mark Hatfield.

The well publicized proposals will not, according to the director, add new responsibilities or duties. "We have simply developed a realignment of the staff to meet present day responsibilities," he said.

Short earlier separated veterinarian services from under the division of Animal Industry, made veterinary work a division of its own, and put both divisions under his direct supervision, Dr. L. E. Bodenweiser was named chief of the new division of veterinary services.

Livestock leaders and private veterinarians gave Short

a vote of confidence on animal activities reorganization.

Against Suspension

In another action of 1960 the department went on record as against suspension of reduced railroad grain freight rates.

Other department news was created when the only pine stock in Oregon infected with the European pine shoot moth was destroyed. The Dutch Elm bark beetle was found in Klamath county. Officials said that in the spring another survey would be made though no Dutch Elm disease has yet been located. A round-the-clock watch was placed at the Portland-Klamath Falls airport for possible entry of the Japanese beetle (none got in alive). The last of the '59 crop of Willamette valley sugar beet seed was planted in West Germany.

Other states requested information from the Oregon department of agriculture on ragweed. Its control program was said to be "head and shoulders" above other states.

Red Bluff Bull Sale Expected as Largest

Red Bluff, Calif. — Red Bluff's 20th Anniversary Bull sale, scheduled for Feb. 2, 3 and 4, should be its biggest as well as its most impressive one, according to Sid Watson, Tehama county cattleman and 20-year member of the county cattleman's bull sale committee in charge of the annual event.

"Since 91 outstanding western breeders from eight states consigning 519 head of 'Red Bluff type' bulls, the February anniversary sale should be our largest one from the standpoint of numbers," Watson said.

"In this record consign-

ment," he added, "are 65 Hereford breeders with 432 bulls including range bulls in loose pens, tie pens, single range bulls and outstanding herd sire prospects. The total also includes 56 Angus bulls and 31 Shorthorns."

"Then," he added, "our sale of a Hereford bull for the National Cowboy Hall of Fame should prove a highly popular sale addition."

Watson said that Jim Rogers, Caliente cattleman and youngest son of Will Rogers, one of the original four honorees of Oklahoma City Cowboy shrine, will serve as guest auctioneer.

"The auction of this bull," he said, "will be handled in the same manner in which bulls were sold for the Polio Foundation at previous Red Bluff sales. Every cattleman who takes possession of this bull will be given credit for his donation to the Hall of Fame and the total purchases of the buyers from each state will be credited to that state's Cowboy Hall of Fame quota."

Fred Dressler, first vice president of the Hall of Fame, and president of the National Cattleman's association, Gardnerville, Nev., has donated the bull to be sold for the national shrine.

California Cowboy Hall of Fame trustees, including Nelson Crow of Los Angeles, Gordon T. Davis, Templeton, Roger W. Jessup, Glendale and Harold J. Powers, Eagleville are aiding the Red Bluff committee in this new addition to the annual event.

OSC Plans Fifth Ornamental Course

Corvallis-Oregon horticulturists will have a chance to review latest research and gain new ideas on production and management of nursery and greenhouse ornamentals at a special short course Feb. 7 and 8 at Oregon State college.

The fifth annual Oregon ornamental short course will center on soil management for best plant growth, and problems caused by soil borne diseases and pests, according to A. N. Roberts, OSC horticulturist in charge of the course. There also will be sessions on weed control, use of chemicals, and business principles.

Seven out-of-state speakers will help OSC scientists bring latest information on ornamentals to those attending.

The short course is designed for landscape gardeners, nurserymen, florists, bulb growers, turf managers, and holly growers, Roberts said. Special afternoon sectional meetings will be held for each of these interest groups, with topics of general interest scheduled for the entire group during morning sessions.

Registration fee for the course will be \$3. Registration will open Feb. 7 at 8 a.m. at the OSC Home Economics auditorium. The first session will start at 9 a.m.

Programs and more information can be obtained from OSC registrars at Corvallis or county extension offices.

KF Cattlemen

Sponsor Bull Sale

A range ready bull sale is being sponsored by the Klamath Cattleman's association, starting at 1 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 26 at the Klamath county fairgrounds, County Agent Ray O. Petersen announced.

The consignment includes 34 horned Herefords, 18 polled Herefords, eight Aberdeen Angus, and four Shorthorns. These cattle have been carefully selected for quality and good breeding conditions, the association

State Fertilizer Sales Show Increase

Salem — Oregon farmers bought more fertilizer for their land in the third quarter of 1960 than in corresponding 1959.

Over 35 thousand tons of fertilizer were sold in Oregon from July 1 to Sept. 30 according to reports from the State Department of Agriculture.

The total for this three month period is six thousand tons greater than for the same September period in 1959.

--- CHIT CHAT ---

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

The Oregon state legislature got under way Monday. Agriculture will probably present it with some of its biggest problems to be solved through lawmaking or law recreating, if possible.

A veteran observer of many sessions of the state legislature who recently departed from Medford to look out for his phase of the state's farm industry expects the threatened unionization of farm labor by the Agricultural Workers Organizing committee to be the hottest problem. "What we need is a decent labor law," one pear grower here remarked Monday morning. We understand there is no labor law in this state except that which governs goods shipped through interstate commerce.

Generally the big agricultural problem discovered by the very able legislative interim committee on agriculture is agricultural marketing. Much of proposed farm legislation will be aimed in this direction.

In its report, the interim committee defines agricultural marketing as the moving of commodities from the farm to the ultimate consumer and returning the income to the farm. The marketing process includes more than development and promotion of product markets. It also includes buying, grading, handling, processing, transporting, merchandising and market information. "State agricultural agencies now work on many phases of marketing through programs of grading and inspection, marketing news and information and research on the broad variety of marketing problems. Increased effort on each phase would benefit Oregon's agricultural and general economy," the interim group reported.

To meet the marketing problems the state must expand. Such expansion may include regulation of marketing associations aid to commodity groups in marketing decisions, marketing service projects, transportation, relations with federal agencies and joint state programs.

A big problem pinpointed when the interim committee met in Medford was duplication. Any expansion will involve further duplication. Now the state department of agriculture, the cooperative extension service and the agriculture experiment station are working within their assigned roles, the committee noted. The committee recommends that the state department continue to confine itself to regulation and action program specifically authorized by the legislature, the extension service to educational and information services, and the experiment station to research. None should try to perform functions best done by individuals, groups or industries. (We hope this isn't wishful thinking.)

The committee recommends that the extension service spend more than the 20 per cent allotted in budgets for marketing programs.

The agricultural marketing practices bill, House Bill No. 1031, is aimed at encouraging and protecting producer negotiating associations. Specifically, the bill provides guarantees for the right of collective negotiating for terms of trade between producer associations and dealers. The bill provides, also, protection for these associations from certain discriminatory practices. These provisions are to be enforced by the state department of agriculture. However, the department cannot act until it receives a petition for a hearing on a complaint. After such a hearing, the department may issue a cease and desist order to the dealer involved.

All parties have the right of appeal to the courts and the negotiating association may also sue, under the bill's provisions, for damages.

Also on the market problem, the committee recommends that the experiment station conduct research relating to uniform grading standards and sampling methods for commodities for processing. The committee would encourage the state department of agriculture to use research results to study the problems involved and form and enforce uniform grading standards and sampling methods for commodities for processing throughout the industry.

The committee also recommends that the experiment station expand research on factors influencing prices and marketing for principal Oregon commodities. This research should be made available to the growers and industries through cooperative extension to aid them in determining proper terms of trade, the committee suggests.

Zoning and taxation of farm land can always stir up a hornet's nest if not approached properly. The interim committee noted that farm land located near urban development is subject to a higher assessment for purposes of ad valorem taxation than its value as farm land. This works a hardship on farmers who wish to continue to farm their land, and brings intense pressure for sale of such land for purposes other than farming, the committee noted.

It proposes an amendment to the county zoning statute. House Bill No. 1030 would allow owners of farm land to petition county zoning boards to zone their land exclusively for agricultural purposes. Land so zoned would not be subject to other use of development. Land could be removed from this zone classification by the same process as it was zoned. Final discretion would be with the county government.

The committee urges that Oregon tax laws be amended by instructing county assessors to assess land zoned exclusively for agriculture on its farm use value only, rather than on its market value. This determination of value should apply only so long as the land assessed at farm use value remains under exclusive agriculture zoning.

These are only a few of the recommendations and proposed bills. We will deal with the others later. As background for this proposed legislation, the interim committee points out that farmers are in trouble. Net farm income in Oregon in 1960 was lower than in six of the past 10 years, the report stated. Highly efficient, heavily financed Oregon farms often do not yield decent returns on labor and investment, it was pointed out further. Federal support programs aid only a minor percentage of Oregon farm production. Overproduction and lack of grower bargaining at the market place are prime causes for the economic threat to farming.

The committee also points out that agriculture is Oregon's second industry. About 75,000 persons work on 42,000 farms and produce \$400 million a year in raw agricultural products. Another \$200 million is added by processing and related industries. Farmers spent over \$300 million to produce this. Over one-third of those employed in the state are directly or indirectly involved in growing, handling and processing agricultural products.

Taking the state-wide value of things produced here on farms: Oregon cattle, including meat and dairy animals, have a farm inventory value of over \$200 million. Sheep and lambs are worth \$17 million, chickens and turkeys over \$5 million, and hogs over \$3 million. Sales for slaughter and feeder animals run over \$75 million a year. Dairymen produce nearly \$50 million in raw dairy products each year. Pears produce \$11.5 million, but the pear decline is threatening the trees. Apples produce \$3 million, and peaches \$1.5 million. Vegetables were worth \$27.5 million before processing.

Earlier reports showed that cattle markets are firming up. And how! If you look at the report on this page on Friday's Midway auction sale. This year's calf crop was up 1½ per cent. This is just enough to keep up with the population increase. Slaughter rate has been up about 9 per cent this year, cutting the steep rise in cattle numbers. The sharp reduction in pork supplies is making room for more beef on dinner tables. The long-range outlook is good with no beef surplus expected, according to the experts.

Local growers did well with their lambs shipped through the lamb pool this year. The time may come when the extreme seasonal price swing on lamb disappears, according to scientists. An artificial hormone to induce heat periods in ewes may be the solution. Main problem so far has been low conception rate. New compounds being tested at South Dakota State college may solve this problem.

Ag Department Lists Proposals

Salem — The state department of agriculture will submit to this legislature a number of proposals for legislation aimed to cover loopholes or inconsistencies in present law.

Compatible with the policy of Director James Short, none of the proposals embraces a new field. The entire packet deals with laws now effective and is designed to protect farmer and consumer interests or to recognize new developments.

These proposals are the result of conferences and studies with department officials and recommendations of affected groups.

The department is asking for more authority on auditing of warehouses. This came as a result of two warehouses defaulting in obligations to farmer depositors.

The department will propose that certification of an individual's report on claimed crop loss due to spray application be waived.

The department seeks to strengthen its present supervision of egg breaking plants through a proposal for full-time inspection.

Produce Law Amendment

A suggested amendment to the produce dealer's act will be offered. The department suggests it settle any claims of producers, directly with the bonding company. This, say authorities, would save time and costly court procedure now required.

Two proposed amendments will be sought for livestock auction market laws. One would eliminate duplication of bonds required by a yard posted under the federal stockyard and packers act and under Oregon law. The other would authorize the department to provide free service to livestock sellers who have money coming to them from the bonding company if an auction market defaults.

More effective control and eradication of the common barberry plant will be asked. The department will suggest that frozen meat food products be put under the state meat inspection program. The department will also ask repeal of the present "cold" inspection under which farmers may submit carcasses not killed under ante-mortem inspection for post-mortem inspection.

specification if head and viscera are still attached.

More inspection of walnuts and filberts, higher first month interest charge on overdue bills, permission to reduce cost of publication on quarantines, will also be on the legislative agenda.

Audit Revision

A revision of the Grade A milk usage audit, clarifying what the producer and distributor can and cannot do, is an important proposal and will, according to officials, help to wipe out the question of constitutionality of the present act.

Amendments permitting better enforcement of a more effective service under the 50 or more laws under department jurisdiction, will be asked. A complete rewrite of the present law on commercial feeds, will be asked to put Oregon on a more cooperative basis with other states.

Changes will be proposed in the pesticides law to bring state statutes in line with federal statutes. The department proposes updating the Oregon Food law, also in line with federal procedures, and a change of fat standards on frozen desserts.

Director Short urges interested persons to follow legislative progress of the department proposals and to make their opinions known to their legislators.

California Tells Of Import Rules

Salem — Fifteen years ago Oregon shipped more than 4,000 dairy cows into California. That number dwindled to less than a thousand in 1959.

Oregon farmers are reminded that after Jan. 1, all dairy breed cows shipped into California must have been vaccinated against brucellosis between ages four and 12 months.

Certificates to this effect must accompany dairy cow shipments. (Oregon vaccination requirements are between four and eight months old.)

The California department of agriculture has advised the Oregon department of agricul-

Market News

Red Bluff Livestock Auction Report, Tuesday, Jan. 3, 1961
CATTLE: Salable 422, including around 150 calves. Holiday week market fairly active on slaughter classes, stockers and feeders moderately active. Compared with last week's auction, slaughter steers and heifers were; slaughter cows \$1.00 higher, stockers and feeders steady; slaughter calves fully \$1.00-1.50 higher, spots \$2.00 up. Supply comprised of less than 10% slaughter cows, around 12% stock cows, few slaughter calves and bulls with balance almost entirely stocker and feeder steers and heifers. Consignments almost entirely of northern California origin, few from Southern Oregon.
Slaughter Steers: Individual Utility around 900 lbs. \$19.10.
Slaughter Heifers: Several Utility 775-1175 lbs. \$16.75-19.00, individual Standard \$19.85.
Slaughter Cows: Couple Commercial \$17.00-18.10, Utility \$16.10-17.70, mostly \$16.50-17.30. Cutters \$14.10-16.00, Canners \$12.25-14.10, several "chelly" Canners \$9.00-11.10.
Slaughter Bulls: Small number Utility around 1,130-1,495 lbs. \$17.75-19.85, mostly \$18.05-19.85.
Slaughter Calves: Good and Choice around 200-485 lbs. \$25.00-28.75, couple Choice weaners 235 lbs. \$30.75, Good around 500-640 lbs. \$24.25-25.75, several Standard \$19.80-22.50, Utility \$16.70-19.00.
Stockers and Feeders Steers: Mostly Good around 550-600 lbs. \$25.00 to \$26.25, including 13 head lot 604 lbs. \$23.20, Few Good and Choice 730 lbs. \$25.00, 730 lbs. \$22.25, Medium 500-640 lbs. \$22.10-23.90, Common, mostly dairy type steers 500-650 lbs. \$16.40-18.40.
Stock Steer Calves: Good and Choice, mostly Good around 315-525 lbs. \$23.50-28.40, bulk Good \$20.00-27.00, Medium \$18.40-23.50.
Stockers and Feeders Heifers: Good and Choice around 500-625 lbs. \$19.20-24.50, including 29 head lot 634 lbs. \$22.00, 34 head 510 lbs. \$24.30, Medium 305-640 lbs. \$17.50-19.00.
STOCKER HEIFER CALVES: Good and Choice around 300-500 lbs. \$22.25 to \$25.10, one 12 head lot mostly Choice 387 lbs. Angus calves \$28.80, Medium 250-450 lbs. \$19.20-22.00, few Common \$18.10-18.80.
Stock Cows: Medium-Good calves mostly pregnant, tested \$16.25-17.00 each, few Common and Medium cows around 775-850 lbs. \$13.00-14.00 each, Couple Good Cows with small calves at side \$20.20 to \$21.00 per pair, 4 year aged, Medium cows with calves around 100 to 130 lbs. \$18.25 per pair.

Migrant Labor Meeting Topic

Joe Bianco, Oregonian agriculture editor, will speak on the threatened union organization of migratory labor in Oregon during the annual meeting of the Fruit Growers league in the Medford National Guard armory, at 1:30 p.m., Jan. 20.

Bianco has covered the California agricultural labor problems in a series of articles for his paper," said Charles E. Henry, league president. "He moderated a discussion between AFL-CIO's Norman Smith and a representative of the California Growers. He comes to us well informed and will give us an informative and enlightening talk. What you learn at this meeting may well save you trouble and money during next year's harvest."

Also scheduled for the program are a pear decline report by Prof. Henry Hartman, OSC horticulturist, annual committee reports and the election of six directors. Tentatively scheduled is the English film, "Pillar Method of Pruning." This film will be shown after the business meeting, Henry said.

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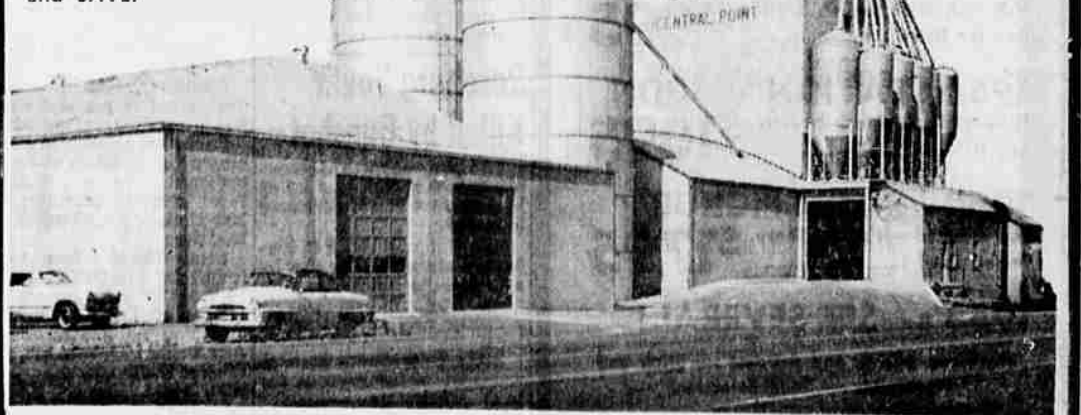
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