

Market News

Red Bluff Livestock Auction Report, Tuesday, Jan. 10, 1961

CATTLE: Salable 1,113 including around 525 calves. Slaughter steers and heifers scarce; slaughter cows in small supply, about steady. Slaughter bulls steady to strong; slaughter calves steady; stocker and feeder calves active, generally steady, quality considered. Supply comprised of less than 10% slaughter cows, around 25% stock cows, few slaughter calves and bulls, balance mainly stocker and feeder steers and heifers. Consignments almost entirely of northern California origin, few from Nevada.

SLAUGHTER COWS: Few standard \$18.75-19.50, Commercial \$17.60-18.40, Utility \$16.00-17.50, Cutter \$14.00-16.00, Canner \$12.00-14.00.

SLAUGHTER BULLS: Individual Commercial 1845 lbs. \$22.50, several Utility and Commercial \$16-15.50 lbs. \$18.50-21.50.

SLAUGHTER CALVES: Few good and choice 260-370 lbs. \$22.50-28.25, 350 lbs. \$22.50-24.50, Penlots and individual Good and Choice 350-720 lbs. yearlings \$20.00-25.50, few medium and good 350-770 lbs. \$22.00-24.00.

STOCKER AND FEEDER STEERS: Penlots and individuals Good and Choice 265-310 lbs. calves \$22.10-26.00, Small lots Good and Choice 340-500 lb. yearlings \$20.00-24.10, 400-740 lbs. \$19.00-23.50.

STOCK COWS: Small lots Medium and Good \$12.50-17.00 per head; individual and few lots Common, Medium and Good \$12.50-17.00 per head. Few lots Medium and Good with young calves at sale \$21.50-25.25 per pair.

HOGS: Salable 21. Supply insufficient to fully test market.

SHEEP: Salable 3. Supply insufficient to test market.

WFA Names Director Candidate at Session

Salem—Cornelius Bateson, Salem, was nominated as director candidate who will represent Southern Oregon on Western Farmers' association policy making board of directors the next three years. Selection of the directors will be made by individual voting of members prior to the annual meeting on Feb. 9.

WFA services to Pacific Northwest agriculture will be further broadened and integrated during the 1960's to "shorten the gap between producer and consumer" so members can share in a larger portion of all margins of producing and marketing the products of their farms, WFA General Manager Harry J. Beernink reported at the well-attended nomination meeting at Marion hotel in Salem.

In the feature address, "Challenges and Opportunities of WFA in the Sixties," Beernink reported that while figures are not complete for 1960, the association's business volume is estimated to exceed \$70 million; creating operating margins approximating \$4,500,000 which have been or will be returned to members early in 1961.

Few Commercial Farmers

"Less than 1 per cent of our nation's population are true commercial farmers, but under today's technological progress in agriculture they are producing ample supplies of food and fiber for our nation's requirements, plus substantial quantities for export. This is a most remarkable accomplishment."

"The years immediately ahead are full of challenges, and probably the greatest of all is to develop leadership and know-how to take advantage of the opportunities that are ever knocking at the door."

"This requires initiative, courage, sound policies and aggressive action through strong organizations so farm people will obtain their full share of our nation's business income," Beernink concluded.

Central Point Herd Rates Tops By DHIA in County

A Central Point area dairy herd owned by Walter and Helen Herzog was rated the top herd by the Jackson County Dairy Herd Improvement Association for November, it was announced. A cow named Malinda owned by R. L. Wyant was the top cow for the month by a wide margin.

The 33 cow Herzog herd produced a 976 pound milk average and butter fat average of 37 pounds; 12 per cent of the herd was dry. Malinda produced 2,640 pounds of milk and 150 pounds of butter fat for 41 days in milking.

Second top herd for the month was that of Glenn and Edna Chase, Gold Hill, 31 cows, 16.18 per cent dry, 966 pound milk average, 37 pounds butterfat average; third, Bob Burk, Eagle Point, 63 cows, 1.26 per cent dry cows, 944 pounds milk average, 37 pounds of butterfat; Jack Caldwell, Eagle Point, 47 cows, 2.03 per cent dry, 787 pound milk average, 36 pound butterfat average; and Gilman's dairy farm, Medford, 107 cows, 12.33 per cent dry, 937 pound milk average and 34 pound butterfat average.

Others among the top 10 cows in the DHIA were: Ben, owned by Glenn and Edna Chase, Gold Hill, 2,383 pounds of milk, 95 pounds of butterfat, 38 days of milking; Twink, owned by R. L. Wyant, 1,410 pounds of milk, 92 pounds of butterfat, 85 days in milking; Muffet, owned by the Herzogs, 2,261 pounds of milk, 90 pounds of butterfat, 47 days in milking; Cow No. 408, owned by Don Geren, Eagle Point, 2,220 pounds of milk,

Lamb, Wool Pool Members To Meet

Are Jackson county's lamb and wool pools functioning effectively? This is the main question which will be discussed during Wednesday night's meeting of the members of the lamb and wool pools. Time is 8 p.m. Place is the Jackson court courthouse auditorium.

The two pools brought higher than Portland market prices here FOB last year. The wool pool has 25 members and the lamb pool, 45.

A discussion will be held on strengths and weaknesses of the pools and possible changes.

AGE BRACKETS

Washington — Persons over 65 years comprise about 9 per cent of the U.S. population.

--- CHIT CHAT ---

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

This is the time of year farmers, probably chiefly their wives, are going over their books to see where they stand financially just before making out their income taxes.

And farm financing is an intricate operation all by itself. The good manager spends more time riding the swivel chair than the tractor. There are two extremes to farm financing. There's the youngster who is entering agriculture and the small independent farmer trying to "stay in" during this age of large, specialized operations.

The youngster wants to build up his herd, probably started while in 4-H or FFA. His loan needs start out small and gradually build up as he gets further into agriculture and his needs expand.

The other extreme is this real life problem. This small farmer has farmed almost a lifetime. To do anything else would seem out of character. The growing specialty on this small farm is purebred hogs. They are high quality hogs and with a little time and luck a good purebred business could be built up. However, this requires more farm equipment and that means more farm loans.

Although diversified crops on the farm have brought in a fairly steady income, local bankers point out that 69 is a little old to stay in farming actively. They hint that a rocking chair might be a more practical seat than a tractor. However, such inactivity would quickly kill the veteran farmer used to being busy from sunup to sundown. These same bankers gasp in horror when they read newspaper stories of increasing government aid to the elderly. Old people should be financially independent as grandpa was, they snort. Yet, bound by standards of "good business" they refuse to aid such independence. Perhaps in being responsible for other people's money they can't. Yet there is still a great need.

The problem of the farmer like that of anybody else is over-spending, keeping solvent and satisfying the repayment schedule. The cost of poor management is seen too late when the farmer applies for credit.

Bankers make loans for 18 to 24 months for establishing feed yards, orchards etc. Machinery loans usually cover two crop years and maybe three to 3½ years. Bankers, we are told, must be careful to see that their loans do not over-expand production of any one farm item. Some poultrymen claim for instance, that the reason the egg market dropped so low earlier was that too many would-be poultrymen were able to get loans and could jump into the business when eggs were high. Bankers say a loan should be economically feasible—good for the lenders, borrower and community.

The Southern Oregon Production Credit association here has probably loaned more money to fruitgrowers, other than packing house operated orchards, fruitgrowers say. A loan is like a piece of equipment, a grower either knows how to use it intelligently and wisely or doesn't, we were told. There is no limit to the size of these loans and the terms may run from one to five years. About 98 per cent of these loans are of the budgeted type which require planning first.

The Farm Home administration loans were originally designed for the family type farm with no more extra help than one hired man. Loan ceilings are \$50,000. Most operational loans are for seven years. FFA doesn't do much business in fruit. Main job of this lending agency is to take the smaller farms and build them up so they become good loan risk for the other agencies who mostly lend money to the more substantial farms.

One Oregon banker admitted that basically there are only two ways a young man can get his farm: marry into it or inherit it. However, he did say that his particular branch has five or six young fellows who have become successful growers on a lease operation. Another representative of a loan institution told of a 17-year-old youth with a wife and child who raised 13½ tons of graded strawberries on two acres. After paying all the rent and the lease of his machinery, he cleared \$5,000. So much for farm financing, a painful subject for many farmers.

Farmers who are members of the hot stove league now are busily sizing up the new presidential cabinet; particularly those appointees who directly affect agriculture. They want to know, for instance, will Orville L. Freeman, U.S. secretary of agriculture, be another Henry A. Wallace, a Charles F. Brannan, or an Ezra Taft Benson?

Farm Bureau spokesmen say they hope Freeman will be more of an administrator not a legislator as some of his predecessors, not that it did them any good. These people believe that once President Kennedy has outlined his agricultural policy views to Congress, the Congress should determine the exact policy after hearing from representative groups. The ag secretary should merely carry out the determined policy, it was pointed out.

Wallace, perhaps started that role of part-time legislator when he served under President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Most of the New Deal farm legislation was drafted under Wallace's supervision. Brannan under President Harry S. Truman carried this further. His proposal would have raised farm price supports and would have used payments from the U.S. Treasury to supplement farm returns when prices fell below guaranteed levels. The Brannan proposal flopped.

Benson was just as active in this sphere. He stubbornly insisted Congress enact legislation reducing government activity in agriculture. This aroused strong opposition in Congress and from some farm groups.

Some observers feel there will be little change. The farm problem is still unsettled and a major political and economic issue. Freeman, as governor of Minnesota, was active legislatively by recommending and working for his state programs.

While the California growers are battling the Agricultural Workers Organizing committee which wants to organize all pickers they are also working for better health of migrant workers, too. As the California legislature starts its new session a bill will be introduced to provide state aid in bringing medical help to the agricultural workers and in revising residence requirements to fit the needs of these shifting workers.

A report on medical conditions among migrant laborers was prepared earlier by a group of medical men and was issued recently by the state department of health in California. The report was significant since it is backed by the powerful California Farm Bureau Federation. What happens to this bill when it reaches the state legislature will also be interesting. Migrants here report they can obtain shots but not free medical care when they need it.

This general problem of the migrant worker will be discussed here on Jan. 20 in the Medford National Guard armory when the Fruit Growers League holds its annual meeting.

Housing for farm workers in California has long been a headache. It is no different here. There's plenty to be said on both sides. One local grower complained to us recently of the condition his foreman left his neat little cottage in when he left. After spending lots of money in redecorating, plumbing and proper lighting fixtures, this grower had plenty of reason to be bitter after seeing his cottage literally "gutted." Such people naturally wonder what good it does to keep housing up to standard when the occupants don't treat it that way. Perhaps one of the local orchards has the solution in building all concrete cabins which are easily cleaned and not so easily destroyed inside.

Construction costs are high, even when it comes to moving in complete housing units. Californians term the most hopeful development the growth of camping spaces and trailer parks for migrants. Such spaces have running water, showers and toilets. This has been suggested here, but growers are afraid any great centralization of living quarters will make it much easier for labor organizers to work on the migrants.

The reasons for lack of adequate housing are still many and complex.

Editor of College Newspaper Named

Ashland — Larry Barleen, Southern Oregon college senior from Klamath Falls, has assumed the editorship of the Southern Oregon college newspaper, "The Siskiyou."

Wallace Gobeil, former editor, resigned last week because of other responsibilities, according to Hugh G. Simpson, director of information, who serves as adviser to the paper.

Barleen, a major in social studies in the field of secondary education, is well qualified for his new post. Simpson said, saying that he has served in various capacities in the past.

Old Home Pear Tree Moved From Station To Hanley Farm

A 45-year-old pear tree, which may be the answer to the pear decline problem here, was moved recently from the former Southern Oregon Branch Experiment station near Talent to the Hanley farm property near Jacksonville.

This Old Home tree is the only known surviving direct descendant of the original Old Home trees found growing on a Farmingdale, Ill. farm. This French variety is blight resistant and may be pear decline resistant, according to findings made by County Horticultural Agent Clifford B. Cordy and OSC Horticulturist Henry Hartman.

The budwood of this tree was obtained and brought to the Rogue River valley and propagated by Prof. F. C. Reimer in 1915, reported H. H. White, experiment station superintendent. Professor Reimer then was searching for blight resistant pear material. He discovered a tree of this variety growing on the farm of Benjamin Buckman at Farmingdale, Ill. It was called "Old Home" because the tree grew on the home place of the Buckman family. Buckman died in 1925 and soon after that his family orchard was destroyed. Also destroyed was the tree from which Professor Reimer collected the budwood.

"Several young Old Home trees have been propagated and are growing nicely at the Hanley research farm of the Southern Oregon Branch Experiment station, but they are not mature enough to yield much propagation material," White said.

Most Important Tree

"The Old Home tree at the experiment station, together with its descendants, probably constitutes the most important and valuable pear germ plasm in the world today and Professor Reimer deserves immeasurable credit for its discovery, introduction, and preservation," the experiment station superintendent said. "While the fruit of the Old Home is of little value, the variety has no equal or superior as a root and trunk stock for commercial pear trees. Budwood from the tree at the station has been sent to all parts of the United States and to many foreign countries and in no case did the variety fail to prove its worth. Some of the finest pear orchards in the Rogue valley and elsewhere were propagated on Old Home trunks beginning as early as 1922."

Pear trees with Old Home may get blight in the grafted tops, but the Old Home when used for trunk stock prevents the blight organism from spreading to the roots, trunks, and framework branches where it may do irreparable damage, White explained.

Another remarkable attribute of Old Home is its ability to root from cuttings and to develop roots of its own whenever the trunks contact the soil. White pointed out. This makes it possible to propagate trees which have blight resistant roots and blight resistant trunks and framework branches. Of the hundreds of pear varieties tested at the station over the past 45 years, no variety but Old Home has been found to possess this characteristic to any dependable degree, White said.

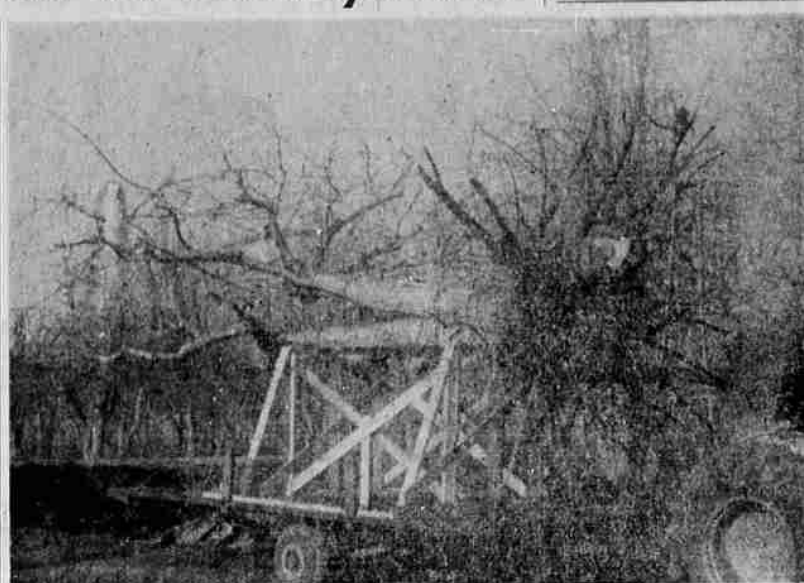
What's even more important now is that no pear decline has appeared among trees with Old Home trunks and roots. This makes its budwood priceless not only in the Rogue valley but in other Pacific coast areas where pear decline is a serious problem.

Carefully Moved

The personnel who moved this 12 foot high priceless tree did everything but pack it in cotton. The problem was removing a tree with a trunk 52 inches in circumference, with a large top and a correspondingly large root system. This required considerable study. White noted. The OSC horticultural department supplied technical assistance and Jackson County Engineer Robert J. Carstensen supplied the heavy equipment needed. The actual transfer was made by experiment station personnel.

"Soil was first removed from a circle 20 feet in diameter around the tree trunk with shovels and wide-tined forks," White related. "All possible roots within the 20 foot circle were traced out and uncovered. One of the county's large cranes supported the tree while this was being done. When all roots were freed from the soil, the tree was placed horizontally in a cradle constructed on a large trailer and transported the 12 miles to its new location. Wet straw, canvas and soil was used to protect the roots from drying winds and freezing temperatures during the moving process."

At the new site a hole 21 feet in diameter and 3½ feet deep was dug. Loose top soil to a depth of six inches was put back in the hole to provide a proper bed for the roots. The crane then lowered



READY TO MOVE—The Old Home variety pear tree is shown still in place at the old Southern Oregon Branch Experiment station just before it was moved to the Hanley experimental farm near Jacksonville recently. This 45-year-old tree which may be the answer to the pear decline problem on the Pacific Coast was meticulously uprooted with the experiment station workers instructed to use their bare hands if necessary to avoid damaging the roots. Standing beside it is one of the county's large cranes used for hoisting it up and onto a special trailer.



READY TO GO—The extensive root system of the valuable Old Home tree formerly located at the Southern Oregon Branch Experiment station near Talent, lays exposed as the 12-foot high tree was placed on a trailer ready for the 12 mile trip to its new location on the Hanley Experiment farm near Jacksonville. Wet straw, canvas and soil was used to protect the roots from drying winds and the freezing temperatures during the moving process.

the tree into position and more topsoil was firmed around the roots. When the back-filling was nearly complete, water was applied to eliminate harmful air pockets adjacent to the roots. Posts were set around the tree and guy-wires attached to hold the tree firmly in position until the root system became fully rejuvenated. The crew then pruned the top to bring it into balance with the root system.

OLDER PEOPLE

Washington — The percentage of Americans 65 years old or older has more than doubled within the last 50 years.

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FIRE LOSSES

Hartford, Conn.—Fire losses in the U.S. for the past three years have exceeded \$1 billion for all-time highs.

GARDEN TIPS

By JOHN W. McLOUGHLIN
County Extension Agent
PEACH LEAF CURL

The second spray application for control of peach leaf curl should be applied now before the buds begin to swell. This disease is caused by a fungus which overwinters in the bark and twigs and on old infected leaves. Spores enter through the bud scales in late winter just as the buds begin to swell. Control measures require the presence of a protective fungicide covering the buds prior to early spring swelling.

Puritized agricultural spray and TAG are the fungicides recommended for use. Both are liquid fungicides and are easier to handle than a Bordeaux mixture. Spray at the rate of three gallons per tree when a hand sprayer is used and a minimum of five gallons per tree when a power sprayer is used.

Spray Thoroughly

Thorough spraying is a necessity. Cover every bud. If rain follows before the spray material dries on the tree, repeat the application. Flowering peaches are also susceptible to peach leaf curl and should be sprayed at the same time as the other peach trees.

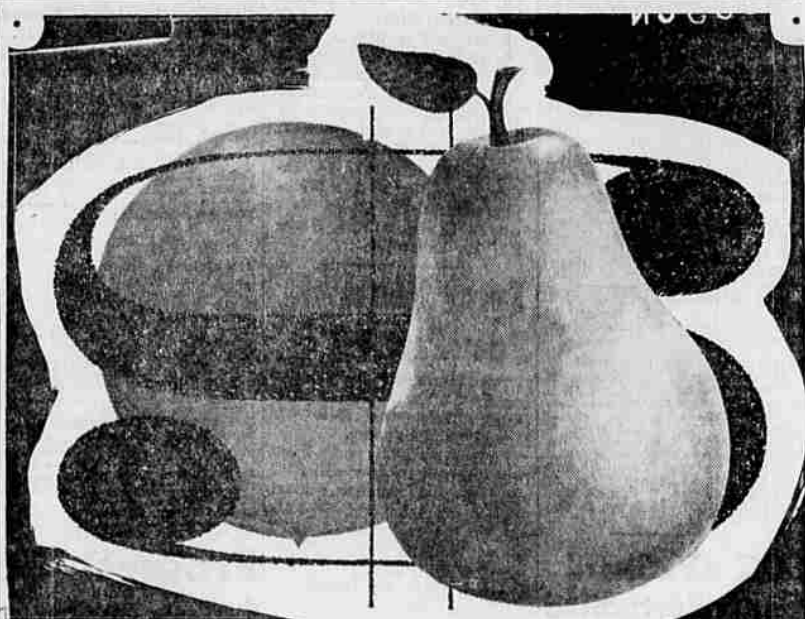
To prepare three gallons of spray add three tablespoons of Puritized Agricultural Spray or 1½ tablespoons of TAG to three gallons of water. A spreader sticker should be added to the spray.

A word of caution — both Puritized Agricultural Spray and TAG contain mercury and are deadly poisonous if taken orally. Store these materials away from children and pets. These fungicides may cause a mild skin burn on some people.

The home garden peach spray schedule differs from the commercial spray schedule because the home gardener is troubled more by leaf curl while the orchardist is troubled more by aphids. The commercial spray schedule is prepared with this in mind.

INDIAN TRIBES

Washington — There are more than 150 tribes of American Indians represented on the various U.S. reservations.



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