

--- CHIT CHAT ---

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

We've been hearing plenty lately about how farmers should speak out for agriculture and conduct a thorough going public relations program.

And many farmers and people in agri-business agree. Trouble is they forget that this nation-wide public relations program for the farmer has to be built up on a local basis. It takes a lot of newspaper articles, radio and television programs and, above all, it requires the farmer to go to public meetings and speak up for his program.

So, what's happening in Jackson county? Ed Griggs, the ever-promoting Crater high school v-o-ag instructor, reports he will have to abandon his adult education class on parliamentary procedure. Not enough people interested. People who attend Ed's classes are practically all farmers. There can't be that many farmers who know about parliamentary procedure and how to conduct a meeting properly. And, we don't know of any farmers who are taking the excellent classes in public speaking conducted by the Jackson Toastmasters' club.

If farmers are going to "Speak Out For Agriculture" they're going to have to learn how to do it properly. Word of mouth is often the most effective way to spread the good word. To paraphrase a local misleading advertising slogan, "More rural people get their news from their neighbor and their neighbor's neighbor than from any other single source."

Getting away from the arrows (even if it is the season of St. Valentine), some local agricultural people are doing a very effective job in speaking out. From all reports, Sen. Lyn Newby, Ashland packing house operator, spoke well against repeal of the tree tax exemption the other day in state legislature. He will do a good job in representing the pear industry in the state senate and dad will be right at his elbow to advise him, too.

On the county government level, all three members of the Jackson county court either are or have been connected with agriculture. Commissioner Chet Wendt still farms. Commissioner Ed Taylor has been active in agriculture for years. County Judge Earl Miller was raised on a mid-western farm. He can probably still handle a good team of horses. The county judge has been active in teamwork between city and rural areas, too.

This regional planning advisory committee is his brainchild. This assures the small towns an equal voice in county-wide planning and also makes available to the small towns the same high-powered technical advice used by the larger cities. (This for Dorothy who says we never write anything nice about the county court.)

Getting down to the county budget level, Arnold Bohnert, Central Point farmer, has long been an effective voice on the county budget committee. Incidentally, Arnold is scheduled for an interview a week from Thursday with the county home rule committee. Probably questions will be exchanged since this home rule charter proposal is a brand new thing in this area. If you have any questions about home rule you might contact Arnold so he can ask the home rule committee.

Incidentally, two people representing the fruit industry attended the home rule committee's meeting last Thursday night in the basement of the public library. Although visitors to these meetings are always encouraged, these two men were the first. We would like to see the Farm Bureau and Granges take a more active interest in this vital study. Vital, because the home rule committee is making a microscopic study of county government. Their findings and recommendations could very well save you lots of tax money, regardless if this county ever adopts a home rule charter. And, if you don't know what home rule is you just haven't been reading.

Well, we went all around the barn and way out in the field to get in a plug for our favorite committee. Judge Miller has plenty for them going now, too.

Monday morning's mail brought in a story about Stanislaus county, Calif. farmers not being able to speak out for agriculture. This bears along the general theme of this column. A Stanislaus county farm advisor (same as our county agent) noticed that labor hearings, planning meetings, tax discussions or crop bargaining sessions are dominated by attorneys or people trained in public speaking. Farmers said very little. (In Jackson county this would be true except in planning and taxation meetings.)

The farm advisor noticed that although Stanislaus county is the nation's second most important dairy county, only four farmers spoke up for dairying at various public meetings. He also noticed that only a few people, always those with speaking ability, became officers or directors. Others with good or better ideas and perhaps less forceful never took the lead.

The upshot of all this was that farmers were encouraged to organize Toastmasters clubs. They were invited to attend existing Toastmasters' groups and 120 signed up for the program the first night.

Wheeler McMillen, Farm Journal columnist, built up some interesting images for agriculture when he spoke before the recent meeting of the California Beet Growers association in San Francisco.

He pointed out that people would pay more attention to the farmer if they weren't so well fed. All the food required to fill our stomachs if served at one meal would require 11 tables reaching from San Francisco to New York and with guests sitting elbow-to-elbow on each side.

American beer drinkers probably consumed an all-time record of 87.8 million barrels of beer and ale in 1960, according to the United States Brewers Foundation. Consumption of milk is less than a half of that. We still think milk should be promoted as a nourishing, stimulating beverage poured foaming out of the bottle, cooling to the tonsils and calming to all nervous stomachs.

Both wheat growers and dairymen are working hard to decrease their surplus problems. A fourth agreement has been signed between an agency in India and the Wheat Associates for promotion of bread in the villages of West Bengal. British and West German consumers seem to accept favorably the U. S. instant non-fat dry milk.

The Aryasthan Social Center in India, (primarily a charitable institution) is fostering the use of tandoori bread to correct the poor nutritional balance in the rice eating areas. It operates some 82 dispensaries in the villages and provides a self help program for them.

Instant non-fat dry milk is not available in either country from domestic producers or other supplying countries, according to Stephen C. Marks, OSC extension agricultural economist.

A series of bills affecting agriculture directly are before the legislature. One of these is House Bill 1008 which provides that lands zoned as farm land pay taxes on farm use value rather than best or highest value. The hearing for this bill is scheduled for Feb. 13 at 1 p.m. in Room 321 at the state legislature in Salem.

Finally, we notice that Ford Farm Editor John Strohm predicts laying flocks will be bigger next fall and egg prices will drop. Now, when eggs are scarce, is a good time to sign up on a quality program to insure a better market for next season, he advises. The state's independent egg producers were featuring this idea and seem to have ground to a halt for some reason or 't'other.

DO IT UP ROYAL

London—(UPI)—The ninth anniversary of the accession to the throne of Queen Elizabeth was duly noted at the Warwick race track where it was "Royal Reprieve," "Royal Fort," and "Royal Repose" with "Regal Splendor" finishing fourth.

TIME TO UNPACK

Quincy, Ill.—(UPI)—Officials seeking to determine why the Quincy courtroom has been so chilly discovered Monday that the room's radiators, heretofore hidden by grills, had never been removed from their cardboard packing cartons.



RECEIVE CITATIONS—Gene Winters, extreme left, Mildred Dyer and Freda Marie Nelson, both secretaries with the Jackson County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation committee, received citations here last week during an ASC recognition banquet at Kim's restaurant. Others receiving citations and committee members were Albert Straus, Sams Valley, Lance Offenbacher, Applegate, and Roy Vogel. Harry Martin, former ASC manager here, came for the banquet and also received a certificate. The local ASC office was commended as the most outstanding in the Farmer's Fieldman's district from the standpoint of effective and efficient operation.

Farms Here Gross \$26,403,597

Jackson county farm lands take up 506,118 acres of the total county land area of 1,802,240 acres (1959 agricultural census). From these farm lands in 1960 came a gross agricultural income of \$26,403,597.

Of the total gross income, \$16 million (based on pack out) comes from horticulture. Horticulture here includes pears, peaches, apples, cherries, plums, apricots, filberts, walnuts, berries and grapes.

Actual crop land totals 86,726 based on the 1959 agricultural census figures. There are 1,908 farms in Jackson county averaging 329 acres. Irrigated land totals 51,806 acres.

Squeezing agricultural lands is the steadily increasing population which grew from 36,213 to 73,316 from 1940 to 1960. Measuring the farms by acreage the biggest bulge came at 10 to 49 acres. A total of 642 farms were in this grouping. The smallest group were the 38 farms covering 220 to 259 acres. Farms with 1,000 acres or more total 76.

Forage crops produced a gross income of \$1,926,750, cereals grossed \$310,200, seed crops \$400,900.

Sheep grossed \$226,500, dairy cattle sales \$2,639,847, beef \$2,900,000, and swine \$140,000.

Miscellaneous livestock grossed \$35,500. This includes \$3,500 from rabbits and \$32,000 from bees.

Chickens produced \$1,263,200 in gross receipts and turkeys \$1,463,900. Farm forestry produced \$360,000 in gross receipts.

Grade "A" milk sales to distributors were estimated at \$1,453,847 and \$420,000 by direct consumer sales. Grade (B) sales totaled \$2,179,847.

Pears amount to 11,000 in commercial acreage, yielding 2,400,000 boxes, peaches 1,100 acres, 4,000 tons; apples, 250 acres, 60,000 boxes; cherries, 65 acres, 150 tons; plums, 24 acres, 75 tons; apricots, 40 acres, 40 tons; filberts, 13 acres, 4 tons; walnuts, 60 acres, 15 tons; berries, 90 acres, 400 tons; grapes, 10 acres, 30 tons.

In the truck crop classification, sweet corn covers 87 commercial acres, dry onions, 66; tomatoes, 29; cucumbers and pickles, 4; carrots and snap beans, each 2; cabbage, 18; green peas, 2 acres; squash, 14 acres and other vegetables 66 acres, for a total of 348 acres devoted to truck crops. Nursery and greenhouse products—flower and vegetable seeds and plants and flowers and bulbs total \$175,000 in gross income.

Hay Grosses \$715,000. Alfalfa hay produces 28,500 tons from 9,500 acres, for a gross income of \$715,000. Clover mixtures cover 12,000 acres and produce a gross income of \$480,000. Cropland pasture covers 30,000 acres and results in a gross income of 300,000.

Of the cereal crops, barley covers the most acreage, 5,000, produces 5,000 tons and grosses \$212,000 for the biggest share of the gross income from cereals.

Of the seed crops, blue grass produces the most gross income, \$176,000. The amount of acreage is not given. Bentgrass (PC) and Talent Alfalfa are tied for second ranking for seed crop gross income. Each produces \$81,000 gross income.

According to the 1960 inventory lambs raised in this county totaled 10,000. Of these 9,000 were sold bringing a gross income of \$180,000. Credit for much of this gross

OSC Plans Study Of How Viruses Affect Bacteria

Corvallis—Bacteria can get a virus too, just like people get the flu or a common cold. And this fact may lead scientists to the solution of a costly problem that's been puzzling dairy manufacturing and other industries that use fermentation processes.

A new research project at the Oregon State college agricultural experiment station is aimed at finding whether bits of genetic material—complex chemical compounds that affect inheritance—can be passed from one strain of bacteria to another closely-related strain by a virus during fermentation processes.

The project is being supported by a \$10,800 grant from the National Science Foundation.

Most bacterial cultures used in industry today are made up of closely-related strains of bacteria which do the needed fermentation job, explained Dr. William E. Sandine, OSC bacteriologist in charge of the project. Occasionally, however, a culture will change suddenly, upsetting the industrial process. The exchange of genetic materials by a virus—a process called transduction—by the bacteria multiply during fermentation would explain the change, Sandine said.

Dairy Problem Explained. In the dairy manufacturing industry, for instance, it's not uncommon for a bacterial culture used in making cottage cheese to suddenly start producing too much carbon dioxide gas. This causes the cheese to float on the surface of the processing vat and produces a cheese with inferior texture.

If he finds the exchange of genetic material actually takes place, Sandine will know that new procedures must be worked out to protect bacterial cultures from virus infections. He also hopes to use the transduction process to develop new bacterial cultures that will be more stable during fermentation.

As part of the research project, Sandine will also study the characteristics used to identify a number of species of lactic acid bacteria, and try to develop a more satisfactory classification system.

Will Brown and Lois Kendron, OSC department of bacteriology research fellows, will assist him in the project.

drangeas do not react to the above treatments.

Gopher and Mole Problems?

Having gopher and mole problems? This Friday, Feb. 10, 1961, at 2 p.m. you have an opportunity to see a demonstration on the control of these pests.

The demonstration will be held at the home of Henry Fong, 450 Charlotte Anne rd., Medford. All are welcome to attend.

Date To Be Set For Mrs. Garrett's Plea

Portland—(UPI)—Circuit Judge Charles Redding said Monday a date for arguments on Mrs. Constance Garrett's innocent plea to a first degree murder charge would be set Thursday.

Mrs. Garrett faces a murder charge in connection with the death of a daughter in a fire last October. She was acquitted earlier of a similar charge. Her attorneys have raised the question of double jeopardy.

FEDERAL LAND

Reno—All of the land in four Nevada counties is owned by the federal government.

Overfeeding Kills Many Baby Lambs Raised on Bottle

Overfeeding kills more baby lambs raised on bottles than any other single cause, the extension service warns.

A proper feed mix is the first requirement. One good mix is made by using one pint of whole cow's milk mixed with one tablespoon of dark corn syrup and two tablespoons of lime water. This lime water can be bought at most drug stores.

For the first three to four days feed one ounce every two hours (at least six feedings should follow this schedule), then feed late at night and early morning.

In the second week give four feedings a day of two to three ounces each. By the third week, lambs doing well will take a half pint of milk—mix three times a day.

Most families do not give lambs water the first three weeks. Avoid overfeeding and keep little lambs from chilling.

The first week is the critical period in the lives of most lambs, the extension service warns. After that, success or failure of the project depends on the farmer and his family.

Board Requests Calf Vaccination

Salem—State Veterinarian Dr. L. E. Bodenweiser, at a recent meeting of the livestock auction market board, was asked to move "slowly but definitely" toward 100 per cent calfhood vaccination statewide whether compulsory or through some other method. The board serves in advisory capacity to the state department of agriculture on matters pertaining to auction market services of the department.

The problem of hog cholera was discussed and it was recommended that the state veterinarian hold meetings with the various segments of the swine industry to determine how rapidly a hog cholera eradication program may be instituted. Oregon has declared "live blood virus" illegal and will move toward vaccination with modified live virus and serum.

Dr. Bodenweiser presented a brief program for future handling in scab outbreaks in Oregon with a reminder that scab infested areas must be quarantined according to law. Further, that animals from non-infected herds or non-exposed herds or originating in areas not under quarantine, be examined by state or federal veterinarians on a herd basis. Following such a survey blanket certification of these herds should be granted, said Bodenweiser, for movement to other states.

Midway Auction Gets Recognition

Midway Auction company, Medford, received a new nationwide trade-mark identification and recognition as a nationally certified livestock market this year, the National Association of Livestock Auctioneers announced.

Qualifying markets gain certified status and use of the distinctive trade-mark through a public market pledge of 17 operating principles to livestock-owner customers. It denotes a "brand" of marketing services adhering to a strict industry administered code of business standards governing all market operations.

Plans have been announced, also, by the certified markets through their national trade association, for a full development of each market as a key industry in the agricultural economy of its trade area.

Baker Hereford Champion In Red Bluff Bull Sale

Red Bluff—A Baker, Ore., Hereford was judged champion bull at the 20th annual Red Bluff bull sale Saturday. The animal, consigned by Chandler Herefords at Baker, won over about 400 Herefords.

The winning bull is named "Royal H DHU 68." Reserve champion was "Corona Silver Zato II," of the Lost River ranch at Klamath Falls.

Hereford bulls sold for an average price of \$706.50. Angus bulls averaged \$509.83 a head Friday compared with \$552 last year. Shorthorn bulls brought an average price of \$591 a head.

Top price at the sale was the \$4,200 paid for the champion Hereford, Royal H DHU 68, by T. T. Herefords of Connell, Wash. The champion was consigned by Chandler Herefords of Baker, Ore.

The reserve champion Hereford, consigned by Lost River ranch of Klamath Falls, Ore., was purchased by Byers Brothers of Pomeroy, Wash., for \$2,250.

The average Hereford price dropped this year from last year's average of \$850. Angus bulls also brought a lower average price this year of \$509.83 as compared to \$552 in 1960. Shorthorns, however, sold for more than last year—\$591 in 1961 compared to \$517 in 1960.

Total price paid for 319 Herefords at Saturday's sale was \$227,375. Approximately 3,000 cattle people from several western states were in the stands at the jam-packed bull sale arena for the spirited and colorful bidding for bulls to increase and improve their herds.

Seven Oaks took third prize on a pen of bulls in the loose pens classification. It sold a pen of three for \$2,430.

Normandie Hereford ranch owned and operated by Bob Fields' son-in-law placed a bull in the top sale rating of one minus and sold it for \$2,000 to Mrs. Charles A. Lindquist, Black Springs, Nev. This was the second high selling bull in the sale.

The Straus Brothers, George Loflin, and Lloyd Beers, all of the Sams Valley area and James C. Miller Jr., of Medford and Ashland, were buyers at the sale.

Table Top Hereford ranch sold a bull for \$1,000 and the Fields pen of two bulls sold for \$1,320.

Top Angus Price. Top Angus price was \$835 for the show champion, Black Jack, consigned by Jack Foley Jr., Loomis, Calif. Buyer was Blanche Abbott, Millville, Calif. The 30 head of Angus sold for a total of \$15,295.

Top price paid for a Shorthorn was \$1,000 for Hilldale Geronomino, a Shorthorn bull consigned by J. W. Bennett, Oakville, Wash. Buyer was G. E. Truett and Son of Shingletown, Calif.

The reserve champion Shorthorn, consigned by the California Shorthorn ranch, Madera, Calif., was sold to Faustino Silva, Sacramento, for \$700. Reserve champion Angus, consigned by Hillside Angus of Auburn, Calif., was purchased for \$675 by W. Baker, Redding, Calif.

Neva Silver Return IV, a horned Hereford bull donated by Fred Dressler, Gardnerville, Nev., brought in a total of \$10,250 for the National Cowboy Hall of Fame near Oklahoma City Saturday morning.

Label Importance On Pesticide Noted

What are labels? They are the printed pieces of paper attached to every package of herbicide or insecticide chemicals.

Why are labels? They are to inform the user of the following: (1) What the product in the package consists; (2) for the control or prevention of what pest or pests the product is effective; (3) on what crops it should and can be used; (4) when and how to apply; (5) how dangerous it is and how to protect oneself and others in its use and (6) what to do if accidents occur in its use.

Efforts shall be made to bring you some interesting facts regarding the labels on agriculture pesticides. Users are constantly urged to "read the label." Perhaps it can be shown how important this is. Label Carefully Prepared. Thousands of man hours go into the preparation of any pesticide label, making them possibly the most expensive pieces of literature in the world. These labels have been prepared for the one purpose of insuring the correct and safe usage of the material. This expense adds to your cost of these products. If you don't read them you are wasting your money.

Any new pesticide requires years of research and field testing before an application for registration will be accepted by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The pesticide must control the crops on which it can be used safely as indicated by the label. Such label data covers the pests the pesticide will control, amount of material to be used per acre or per unit, amount of residue remaining on the crop at harvest; the toxicity, both acute and chronic, to warm blooded animals; precautions necessary for its safe usage and its antidote.

Provided this data is sufficient the USDA will issue a certificate of usefulness to the Food and Drug Administration. Then, the food and drug scientists will study this data and if, in their opinion, they will issue a residue tolerance. This is the amount of product, usually in terms of parts per million, remaining on the crop at harvest that is considered to be non-injurious to the user of the crop. Then and only then will a registration be issued, and thereby a permit to offer the product for sale acknowledged.

The vast amount of expense and publicity regarding the residue of a certain pesticide on cranberries could have been avoided had the users of this product read the label and used the product as it was intended to be used.

More about labels next week. Meanwhile, read the label.

Talent Seed Men Sign Contract For Greek Trade

By GENE WINTERS
County Extension Agent
The Talent alfalfa seed growers association recently signed a contract with Greece to supply Talent alfalfa seed up through the 1965 crop.

Under terms of the contract the Greece government will accept the local production in excess of 1,500 acres meeting certification standards.

Practically all of the Talent alfalfa seed production in Jackson county is produced on dry land. Growers normally take the first cutting for hay and save the second cutting for seed. The dollar returns from the cutting for seed have been in excess of that received from a second cutting hay crop.

Considerable Talent alfalfa acreage has met the certification programs seedling inspection requirement with no seed being taken. Seed from such fields will have a ready market when meeting a blossom inspection. Growers planning to harvest certified alfalfa seed should make application at the County Extension office for a blossom inspection by July 1.

Talent alfalfa seed was harvested from 770 acres in 1960 with a total yield of 100 metric tons.

Additional information about Talent alfalfa seed marketing can be had from Wallace Rice, Josephine Growers cooperative in Grants Pass or Gene Winters, Jackson county extension agent.

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