

Dairymen Request Emergency Laws

Salem—Emergency legislation to save the dairy producers from economic disaster was requested by a member of the Oregon Farm Bureau dairy committee at a special hearing before a joint meeting of the house foods and dairying committee and the Senate Agricultural Committee on April 20.

All-Breed Bull Sale Approved By County Group

The Jackson County Stockmen's association agreed Thursday night to assist the Cal-Ore Hereford association in conducting an all-breed bull sale in October.

This was one of the largest stockmen's meetings ever held with over 100 cattlemen and their families attending. The stockmen will provide half the members of a sifting committee for the bull sale and the Hereford association the other half. Emphasis will be on selection of quality cattle to bring premium prices.

The association went on record approving only assessment of local association dues. Stockmen can join the Oregon Cattlemen's association if they wish and will be urged to do so, it was agreed. Formerly dues for the local and state organization were collected at the same time. The group also went on record urging the state association to lower the dues by arranging for a more proportionate assessment of larger herd owners. Garth Flint, membership committee chairman, said the local group now has 160 members and is aiming at 200.

Bob Bever, manager of the Rogue Valley Livestock yard praised the group in helping to construct corrals and chutes. Careful selection of animals for the feeder sale helped establish a record sale time of 1 hour, 35 minutes, he noted. Of the \$2 charge per animal, \$1 went to the local association and \$1 to the yard for assisting in the sale. Association President Leroy Offenbacher explained.

Bever said he hopes to have facilities available so each cattle consignor can feed his own stock the rations they are used to. One stockman explained that it was hard to adapt some cattle to the grain-hay provided at the feeder sale.

Medford Police Capt. Clyde Fichtner explained basic highway and traffic safety rules to the cattlemen and passed out pamphlets illustrating the rules.

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Frank Setniker, a member of the Farm Bureau committee, recommended the following:

1. Emergency legislation should be enacted immediately so that it could be effective at the earliest possible date to prevent economic disaster.

2. The legislation must provide for a minimum producer price.

3. A provision should provide for producer referendums.

Five members of the Oregon Farm Bureau Federation Dairy committee met prior to the hearing to develop these recommendations and to attend the hearing. Wayne Adams, Tillamook, George Hoppeler, Redmond, Melford Gregory, Goble, and Fred Morgan Jr., Gresham, were present in addition to Setniker who operates a dairy at Hillsboro.

Committee members were contacted by telephone prior to the meeting and hearing and polled for their opinions which were considered in the recommendations presented to the hearing. Other members of the committee are: Ralph Bentor, Creswell, Victor Boehl, Grants Pass, Robert Dettelson, Coquille, Melvin Hartill, Astoria, and Louis Wettstein, Ontario.

Gerald Detering, OFBF president said the dairy price cutting situation points out very vividly the pricing problems in agriculture. The entire price cut was placed on the dairy farmer, said Detering, in fact the processors' margin was widened somewhat at the expense of the producer. Detering also stated that the price cutting would be most detrimental to young people in the dairy production business and could prove disastrous to many producers.

Calls, Messages

Cheer Gary Cooper

Hollywood - (UPI) - Screen star Gary Cooper, confined to his Bel-Air home with cancer, was cheered over the week end by hundreds of phone calls and messages from well-wishers, including President Kennedy. A spokesman for Cooper confirmed Sunday that the President called him Friday.

Farm and Garden

Cal-Ore. Hereford Group And Guests Discuss Bulls

Most of the Cal-Ore Hereford association dinner meeting last week centered on a lengthy discussion of the proposed bull sale now tentatively scheduled for October.

All breeders will be invited to sell their purebred animals, it was explained. Plans are already being made to bring some bulls from northern California and Klamath county. Stockmen from other areas will be contacted, too.

Sale emphasis will be on range-ready animals—animals ready for breeding shortly after they are sold. They shouldn't be too fat or thin. "We want the best purebred bulls we can get out of this area," association President Eddie Meeker, Phoenix, emphasized.

Bull fertility is settled early, Meeker said. An Illinois study showed that bulls under six as calves produced 80 per cent less semen and that the fertility lag continued. Underfeeding later in the bull's life does not impair his fertility, he said.

Albert Straus, Central Point, said he doesn't like bulls too fat. The sale bulls should not be fattened out for show, it was agreed. Straus noted that last year registered breeders were getting larger bulls and have some wonderful cattle. These should be of serviceable age now, he said. Henry Owens suggested that the sale committee avoid "bottom bulls."

Clayton Charley, Eagle Point, pointed out that bulls can be overly fat. Some good association-sponsored field days should show the purebred stock people what the commercial men want, he suggested.

"If we can get the commercial people to follow the local cattle and see the conditions in which they have been raised and examine the stock as far back as the grandmother they can see what is going on in stock breeding in this valley," Charley pointed out.

Gordon Stanley, Lake Creek, said the cattlemen need better information on how to let the fat bull down and not have it go to pieces.

Bill Bigham, Eagle Point, said he had bought a Utah bull which didn't prove to be "too good." He recommended putting fat bulls on hay and keeping them away from the cows until they lose their

fatness. "We can buy better bulls right here. Not enough people know what is going on in this valley," he commented.

Already Acclimated

Garth Flint said local bulls are already acclimated and fit in better. Long distance hauling is expensive for the purebred men who now must sell their bulls out of the valley. The commercial men depend on the purebred men to get the type of cattle they need.

Bob Fields, Central Point, said local producers can sell their cattle more advantageously at home.

Farm Bureau Aids Milk Audit Law

Salem—Farm Bureau support of House Bill 1194 relating to the revision of the Milk Audit law was presented by Frank Setniker, a member of the Oregon Farm Bureau Federation dairy committee before the Senate agriculture committee hearing April 11.

Setniker emphasized the need for a means for the producers to know that the accounting for milk use was correct and that proper payment had been made. He told the hearing of the dairymen's investments and some of the practices prevailing in the production and marketing of milk that required the maintenance and strengthening of the usage audit law.

He explained the history of Farm Bureau's interest in the audit law, which started with the initial legislation in 1957. Setniker, who was at that time chairman of the Oregon Farm Bureau Federation dairy committee, represented the industry committee to study the changes needed during 1960 and made the initial statement before the House foods and dairying committee in February. Farm Bureau also held a special meeting early in 1960 to review changes that would be desirable for the best interests of dairy producers.

Earle Jossey, Jackson county extension agent, said the more bulls in the valley the more buyers will be attracted. Meeker said the association plans to hold a series of field days so that commercial breeders can see what purebred animals are available. Another meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 16, at the Chuck Wagon restaurant, it was announced.

A film shown during the meeting showed that \$50 million is lost annually through bruising of livestock during handling. This can be prevented by sorting the stock to be shipped the day before, using proper loading chutes and making the cattle familiar with it, using canvas slappers instead of canes, prods, whips or clubs, using a building layout designed for easier handling, keeping the yard-free of trash, sanding truck beds and spacing the cattle properly in the truck, the film pointed out.

Don Nichols, Ashland, said he is glad to see it "get to goin'." He said some prior sales sold low quality animals, then there was no sale for a year or two. He noted that the sheep men have gone well with the sheep pool. A good purebred bull sale is needed for the small breeders, he said. Nichols severely criticized recommendations for more bulls in the valley. Not enough local animals are being sold now, he said.

Meeker announced that Eldon Hoy, Weed, Calif., member of an old time cattle family, may send three bulls to the sale.

John Bohnert recommended an age limit for sale bulls of 15, 16 or 18 months. He urged the purebred men not to feed them too much. He said he likes to see what the bull will do by following through from the calf. Each commercial man has to figure his program six months ahead and consider his own operation when buying bulls. They are always looking for herd bulls, he noted. He recommended having spare bulls. Too often cattlemen turn the bulls out together. There is lots of fighting and only one or two bulls are doing the job. He recommended rotating the bulls.

Ed Lippert, Williams, urged the bull consignors not to wash and curl their animals. Commercial men don't like it, he said.

Have Top Animals

Armin Richter, Applegate Angus breeder, told the association they could select the best animals he has on his ranch. He said very few local cattlemen attended the show and sale held in conjunction with the Oregon Cattlemen's convention here. Cattlemen from all over the state were surprised at the quality of Rogue valley animals, Richter said. He urged local cattlemen to capitalize on the show. The average Jackson county cattlemaster is a top operator, he said. Richter urged some "honest to John advertising." He pointed out that Slim Hardin, Phoenix, has taken top honors with his Black Angus at various Pacific coast shows. The Angus people are particular about the type of animals they have represent them in these sales, he pointed out.

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Salem—The monthly report for Oregon gives a bright outlook for next season's fruit crops according to the State Department of Agriculture.

Report of the cooperative federal-state shipping point office states that in the Hood River area all prospects point to a large fruit crop for the coming season. Apples have all been sold and only about 30 carlots of pears remain to be shipped.

The Milton-Freewater district should show a considerable increase in fruit tonnage this season, according to the report. Prune, apple and cherry trees are still being planted, and plantings made after the disastrous 1955 freeze should begin to bear.

In the Medford district there were about 200 cars of pears still in storage in early April, when pear trees were in full bloom with ideal weather conditions.

Some potatoes are still in storage in central Oregon and the Klamath Falls area.

Reports indicate onion acreage will be about the same as last season though there will be a possible slight increase in potato acreage.

Only 5 per cent of the salt produced in the United States is used to season food; the rest is used by industry and

Valley Beekeeping, Small Business, But Active One

Oregon has 1,600 beekeepers and 1,400 of these have less than 10 colonies, Delmar L. Smith, Central Point, veteran beekeeper of the Rogue valley told the 16 people attending the bee school last week at the fair grounds.

Jackson county has about six full-time or commercial beekeepers, he said. Smith filled in until the arrival of Dr. W. P. Stephen, assistant professor of entomology at Oregon State college. Bees have developed their own air-conditioning system, have their own built-in birth control and carry their own market baskets, Smith indicated during his lecture.

People working with bees are only stung when accidents occur, he said. People who work with bees are usually careful to protect themselves with clothing, gloves, and hat with net which completely covers their bodies. However, when a bee does sting he flies about 50 miles an hour with his tail-end stinger thrust out ahead of him. The barbs stick in the skin and cause the stinger to be yanked out of his body killing him. Twelve bee stings are the equivalent of a bite from a small rattlesnake, Smith said.

Bees Air-conditioned

The veteran beekeeper said worker bees will line up in rows at the lower edges of the hive. One line of bees will draw the air in with their wings and another line of bees on the opposite side will fan air out. Others fan air up through the hive.

Worker bees continually groom or lick the queen bee who secretes a hormone causing temporary sterility in the female worker bees, Dr. Stephen explained. However, in a queenless brood the workers are not affected by the hormone and when breeding among themselves produce drones. Aim of a beekeeper should be to produce as few drones as possible since these do not produce honey.

The bees carry the pollen in sacs on their left hind legs. The bees scrape the pollen from the stamen in a flower or fruit blossom with the rough undersurface of their legs and into the sacs or "market baskets." The pollen

is food for the bees and one bee may visit from 50 to 350 flowers to get a load.

It's during this process that pollen is transferred from the anther of a pollinating plant or tree to the stigma or fertile organ of another plant or tree and starts the fertility process of a plant. In the case of fruit trees, this causes "the fruit set." Usual rate for pollinating is \$5 a colony. The hives are moved out of an orchard right after petal drop to prevent the bees contacting sprays which are poisonous to them.

There is a different type of honey for every flower that blooms. The main crop used by beekeepers is vetch. Common mustard, alfalfa and sweet clover and fireweed are also preferred since the sugar concentration of nectar from these sources is 50 per cent or better.

Dr. Stephen reminded beekeepers that colonies need large amounts of honey and pollen in early spring when they are rearing brood rapidly. When they go hungry, brood production will slow down and colonies will starve unless they receive replacement food. Dr. Stephen recommended using a half-gallon can filled with a sugar and water syrup. If holes are punched in it the syrup will form bubbles so the bees can feed on it. He said it may be necessary to give this supplementary feeding for two weeks to a month until alfalfa, vetch and clover are in bloom. It usually takes two days for the bees to consume the food they have stored in a frame, he noted.

January, February and March are the critical feeding periods, the OSC entomologist pointed out. He advised beekeepers to watch the bloom and check with other beekeepers in the area to tell when supplementary feeding is necessary to keep up the strength of a brood. He suggested that beekeepers get into the colony and examine its condition at least once every 10 days.

He recommended keeping the queen bee down in the bottom of the hive to allow plenty of room to work in the

top. He suggested taking off a full super or section of the hive and putting on an empty one.

Tips for Beginners

Dr. Stephen and Smith explained that beginners can make their start in beekeeping by buying bees in two, three or five pound colonies. The OSC entomologist recommended no less than a three pound package. These can be purchased with or without the queen cage, he explained.

The queen bee is shipped in a small sealed box with several workers, a block of sugar at one end provides food. When placing a queen bee in a hive she shouldn't be dumped in with the strange brood or they will sting her to death. Instead a match can be used to punch a small hole through the sugary substance used as food. The queen and bees can feed on that and the brood can become acquainted with the queen by smelling her until the queen and workers have eaten a passage way through which they may enter the hive, Dr. Stephen explained.

He recommended setting the queen cage with the hole up so if a worker bee dies within the cage he won't fall down and block the exit. The cage should be set in the area around the brood chamber. By checking in two or three days, the beekeeper can tell if the queen is accepted, he said. Spraying sugar over the bees and the queen often help, Smith suggested.

The beginner can buy four or five boxes and frames with indented sheets of wax. The bees secrete wax through their abdomens and build up the wax sheets into combs for storage of honey. It's important to keep three-eighths of an inch bee space at the top and bottom of the hives and between the frames. This allows for sufficient hive ventilation, Smith explained.

Clare Boothe Luce III With Pneumonia

Phoenix - (UPI) - Officials at St. Joseph's hospital said today Clare Boothe Luce, former U.S. ambassador to Italy, "is progressing" in her bout with pneumonia.

Mrs. Luce, playwright and wife of magazine publisher Henry Luce, entered the hospital Friday. Doctors said her case is not serious. The hospital supervisor described her condition today as "fairly good."

"We credit the storm for the improvement in the market," Bryn said. "We are pretty well set for irrigation water and range grass now so the market will probably hold much better than it could have before. It will slow down and string out the marketing of California grass cattle."

Cannibalism and low weight gains result when chicks are denied adequate amounts of stock salt in their rations.

Midway Sells 629 Head of Stock In Friday Sale

Midway Auction yard sold 629 head of stock during the regular Friday, April 21, sale. This includes 390 cattle, 204 sheep and 35 hogs. There were 91 consignors.

Owner-Manager Bill Bray noted that the market was quite active. Stocker cattle were stronger than a week ago. Slaughter cows and feeder steers were steady.

Choice steer calves sold from \$25 to \$26.40 and 500 to 600 pound steers, \$23 to \$26 and heavy feeders \$21.50 to \$23.25. Good to choice heifer calves sold from \$23 to \$24.50 and those weighing 500 to 600 pounds at \$22 to \$23.75. Feeder heifers weighing 600 to 700 pounds sold from \$20 to \$22.50.

Several pens of good Hereford cows with calves sold at \$220 and \$222.50 per pair. Quite a few single and double pairs went though at \$205 to \$217.50.

Springers sold for \$157.50 per head to \$187.50.

Hereford Cows A consignment of registered Hereford cows with calves brought \$240 to \$255 for nine pair and the open heifers brought \$167.50 to \$192.50 per head.

Slaughter cows—fat Hereford cows sold at \$16 to \$18.10. Most utility cows, Hereford and Holstein sold from \$15.50 to \$16.70. Cutters brought \$13.50 to \$14.80. Canners sold at \$11 to \$13.50. Slaughter steers brought from \$21 to \$23.25. One 1,410 pound steer went at \$22 per hundredweight.

Bulls sold at \$18 to \$20.40 per hundredweight and several head went out at \$19 to \$19.50.

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