

Rural Cooperation Society Formed For Hokkaido, Japan and Oregon

Salem—An event of long-range significance to the people of Oregon and the Prefecture of Hokkaido, Japan, occurred in Portland Oct. 16 with the formal organization of the Oregon-Hokkaido Rural Cooperation Society.

This marked the culmination, and at the same time the active beginning, of an exchange relationship toward which Governor Mark O. Hatfield has been working with Hokkaido officials and Oregon people since 1960.

"People to people programs," Governor Hatfield told the luncheon gathering of farm and business leaders at the Pacific International exposition grounds, "can help establish lasting international friendships and thus enhance not only our culture and trade

Dwarf Fruit Trees Hit By Columbus Day Storm

Mike Thorniley, Rapp Lane, Talent, estimated the big

Oregon Weed Conference Set For Nov. 8-9

Corvallis—Battle plans to combat weeds—an estimated \$5 million annual cost item to Oregon—will be drawn up at a statewide Oregon Weed Conference, Nov. 8 and 9, at Eugene. Approximately eight people will attend from Jackson county.

Importance of effective weed control is pointed up by the fact that county courts and the Oregon State Highway Department budget about \$500,000 each year for ridding roadsides of weeds. This, coupled with control costs to farmers and others, plus crop losses from weeds, run costs of these pests up to the \$5 million mark, reported Rex Warren, Oregon State University farm crops specialist and secretary of the conference.

The conference is open to the public. Registration will start Nov. 8 at 9 a.m., at the Lane county fairgrounds, Eugene.

Weed control in vegetable and fruit crops, ornamental and nursery crops, and seed crops will be featured along with reports on weed and brush control in forest lands.

New developments in weed control will be reviewed by OSU researchers and representatives of the State Forestry Department and industry. Growers, industry fieldmen, and extension workers will conduct a panel discussion on control of weeds in fruit and vegetable crops.

Walter C. Leth, fieldman for Blue Lake Packers, Salem, will be moderator.

Weed control on non-cropland will include reports by state highway and county highway representatives, commercial applicators, and representatives of public utilities. Larry Rowse, Portland General Electric, will moderate the session.

Chemical industry representatives will announce development of new herbicides and new uses for older chemicals in a panel moderated by Keith Sime, Miller Products Company, Portland. New developments in chemical applicator equipment will be presented in an illustrated talk by Jim Rear, Eugene equipment designer and manufacturer.

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Similar sentiments were voiced in a congratulatory wire read from Hokkaido's governor, Kingo Machimura, who said: "We look forward to active cooperation and deepening of relations between the peoples of Oregon and Hokkaido. Wishing you a great success."

The society has been incorporated as a non-profit corporation under the laws of Oregon. The governor will serve as permanent chairman.

Committee Listed

The committee assisting the governor with the organization details included Ray Yasui of Hood River, Foye M. Trout of Portland, John Fulton of Portland and Director

of Agriculture J. F. Short who is the secretary. Katsuma Ura-be, Japanese consul at Portland now being reassigned to Damascus, Syria, participated briefly in the organizational meeting and John Fulton told of his visit to Hokkaido. The society will have a board of 30 directors, most of whom have already accepted the invitation to serve and attended the organization meeting.

The selection of Hokkaido seemed appropriate because of our trade with Japan and because the geography of the two states is similar and the history of Hokkaido very much parallels that of Oregon, Governor Hatfield explained.

"The people in Hokkaido were pioneers at about the same time and in much the same manner as the early settlers in Oregon," he added.

Other factors were the present affiliation between Portland and Hokkaido's major city, Sapporo, and that Hokkaido has the largest area of any prefecture in Japan. A prefecture corresponds to a state in the United States.

The articles of incorporation state the purposes of the Oregon-Hokkaido Rural Cooperation Society thus: To promote cooperation, friendship and understanding between Japan and the United States of America, and principally Hokkaido, Japan, and the state of Oregon... and to promote a more abundant life for rural Hokkaido and Oregon, especially among youth and young groups.

The organization will assist Japanese visitors in Oregon to see the state and to observe the particular part of the agricultural industry in which they are interested. It will help coordinate visits to Japan by Oregonians interested in agriculture.

Further possibilities were described by the governor as exchange visits of farm owners, industry leaders, state and university officials and others; exchange of exhibits, technical publications, television programs, farm organization and AFI and FFA representatives and students interested in working on farms to learn firsthand about farm work in the other country.

Highlights Listed

Among the highlights which form the background for the organization, as the governor recounted them to the luncheon group, are several interesting exchanges.

In March, 1961, a thousand fir seedlings were shipped to Governor Machimura, a gift from Oregon. They were delivered by Col. Robert T. Walker, an Oregonian with the United States Army, who was accompanied by the U.S. consul at Sapporo. They brought much favorable press coverage and a gracious letter of thanks from the governor of Hokkaido. Word came that the trees were planted in the botanical gardens in Sapporo, the city park, Hokkaido university and elsewhere there and that they are doing well.

In September, 1961, at the Sixth Conference of Japan-American Mayors and Chamber of Commerce Presidents in Portland, the Oregon governor received from Governor Machimura a beautiful film about Hokkaido. The film was shown at the organization luncheon.

Oregon reciprocated with a copy of the new film, "Oregon Today," with Japanese sound track. This was presented to Governor Machimura by Oregonian John Fulton, one of the O-HRCS incorporators. The film was shown at the Osaka Trade Fair and is now being shown throughout Hokkaido.

Last August, Vice-Governor Saito of Hokkaido visited Oregon as the special representative of Governor Machimura. He spent four days here viewing our agriculture, especially dairy, beef cattle and grass seed raising, and the forestry industry. He expressed a keen interest in the formation of a rural cooperation society.

The association in Oregon follows by about two years the formation of the Hokkaido, Japan-American Rural Cooperation Society, with purposes to: help rural Hokkaido have a more abundant life, promote cooperation between the two countries and strengthen friendships between them by assisting in exchange of culture, agriculture, ideas on research methods and similar matters.

Persons interested in the society and its projects should contact J. F. Short, director, State Department of Agriculture, Salem 10, Oregon.

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"I have about 45 acres. But when you figure 150 to 300 trees an acre it is a little too big an operation for me," Thorniley said. "But I do think orchardists need to think more of the size of orchard trees. Dwarfs are the coming thing. Of course, this is only my opinion. And there are many opinions on this subject," he concluded.

blow on Columbus day blew down about a third of his dwarf fruit trees.

These were late variety apple trees such as the Spitzenberg which were top heavy with fruit. Otherwise, there was no damage to his pear trees, Thorniley reported.

The Spitzenberg tends to produce a top larger than the foot growth so is naturally top heavy and susceptible to strong winds, Thorniley explained. The wind seemed to hit trees on maling 7 and 9 rootstocks more than others. Even trees tied to stakes were affected, he said. Pears on quince seemed a little more tolerant of wind.

Through study and experimentation the Talent orchardist has learned that the stem piece type of tree is better anchored. He is starting to develop other than rootstock trees for dwarf varieties, he added.

Maling 9 rootstock does not seem as adaptable to local soils and climatic conditions as others, Thorniley noted.

"What is good in England where they grow a lot of the dwarfs is not good here," the orchardist noted.

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FROM THE GROUND UP

By BART BARTLETT

The fall colors now on display by the foliage of many of the valley trees is perhaps as brilliant as we can ever hope to see on the species of trees that are predominate in the area. In most fall seasons the leaves of our trees just die, turn brown and fall.

No doubt many leaky roofs were in evidence during the heavy rains of October. This is an excellent time to make needed repairs.

Many shade or specimen trees were damaged during the recent storm. In some instances the damage was compounded as the tree or some of its limbs fell onto homes or other buildings. Any trees that are overly tall and are near homes should probably be topped to insure that their possible fall in a high wind does not do damage to a home or even result in injury to persons in a building. Where damage did occur it may be well to check with your insurance agent as you may have some coverage that will aid in the expense of repair.

The period of home heating is here and it is a good idea to have a competent specialist check your home for fire hazards. Many types of home heaters deposit a layer of soot and other very combustible materials in chimneys and flues that can result in dangerous fires.

Soil conditions are very good in orchards now. It may be wise to put out orchard heaters at this time. All stack type heaters should be thoroughly cleaned as they are placed in the orchard. This will insure that they will operate at maximum efficiency and with the production of a minimum of smoke.

This is also a period when it will be profitable to rid farm lands, orchards and farm buildings of mice and rats. See your seed or spray dealer for materials and advice.

A proper compost pile can be made of any vegetable or decomposable plant materials that are at hand. If the compost pile behaves properly there is no danger of disease or insect infestations resulting from disease or insect infested plant materials being included in the vegetable portion of the pile. The severe heat that is generated by a good compost pile serves as a sterilant for all pests whether of animal or plant origin.

The politicians are either crazy or courageous judging from the whoppers they tell. They claim they are full of courage—you be the judge.

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