PUREBRED LEGACY—Part of the Hoy herd of 100 top reigstered Herefords is shown grazing in the lush meadowland near Edgewood and two miles northeast of Weed. The bloodline is W. H. R. Chandler and Crowe.

Death of Siskiyou Rancher Leaves Legacy in Purebreds

By J. O. McKINNEY

Siskiyou County – The passing of Albertis (Bert) B. Hoy has left a legacy of pioneering in the registered cattle industry in Siskiyou county. He was the first here and in the state of California.

He died at 85 years in the Mercy hospital, Redding, Calif., on November 15, 1962.

He was cattleman of the year for Siskiyou county in 1956. This was the second year this honor was given here.

He was active also in County Farm Bureau and in State and County Cattlemen associations. Always a good neighbor and friend, he was well respected by all who knew him.

Born in Kansas

Bert Hoy's interesting and productive life started in 1877 on the Kansas plains near a little town called Garnet. He was born in a "dugout", a structure built mostly underground by the pioneers of that day, as timber was not available.

From this he has developed one of the oldest and most outstanding registered Hereford herds in the State of California. The bloodline is of W. H. R. Chandler and Crowe. His son is running the business and a third generation, his grandson, a potential cowman also living on the ranch. A beautiful home overlooks green meadows at the foot of Mt. Shasta.

When Bert was only six weeks old his family moved to California.

In 1890 after several moves, the Hoy family of nine moved back to the Dibble Creek Farm, nine miles from Red Bluff. It was here that 13-year-old Bert Hoy got his start in the cattle business. He and his older brother, Mart, gradually accumulated a herd. By the time he was 20, they were able to buy the Albert Vestel herd which ran on the Diamond range 30 miles west of Red Bluff along Dry Creek.

Rode Diamond Range

Bert Hoy hired out as a cowboy for Ed Saunders who also ran cattle on the Diamond range. Bert covered the county from Red Bank to Redding and knew at least 150 brands. He had a reputation for being able to identify cattle and was often consulted. He also made his own riatas, quirts, reins and hackamore ropes. During the summer the cattle were taken up in the mountains of Trinity County to the Mad river and south fork of the Trinity area. It was here that all the cowboys wore six shooters to the dances and occasionally used them. Bert was never known to do this, however, much to his grandson's disappointment, in telling about it years later.

In 1909, Hoy sold his cattle moved to Siskiyou County with this brother, Mart. They leased and later bought the ranch which was his when he died. Due to his brother's ill health, Bert bought him out and owned the entire ranch on the edge of Edgwood, north of Mt. Shasta and two miles northeast of the city of Weed.

He was an avid mountain climber. His ranchdog and and four other young people ascended the mountain often.

While near Edgwood he met and later married Nora Rucker. Her brother Boler Rucker, was once regional brand inspector for northren California. He often credited his success to his wife's constant help and encouragement.

For a few years Hoy operated a butcher shop in the city of Dunsmuir. He also and helped operate the Shasta Lilly dairy. They lived continuously on the Hoy Ranch since 1918, which he purchased from a man by the name of Decker.

Old School House Home

The living room of Hoy home is actually an old school house. And it is actually the oldest standing school house in Siskiyou County. It was once known as the Mt. Shasta School, but after two remodelings the entire school building now serves as the living room with other rooms alongside and behind. An apple tree still standing in the yard was started by two school children, Fred Stone and Lula Decker eating their apples and burying the seed. It is a great prize to the present Hoy family.

It was in 1921 when Hoy saw the future of top hereford cattle and first purchased his registered stock. The original purchase of three cows and a bull has developed into the present top herd of registered Herefords of over 100 head of cows. It was only a few years prior to this time that the first herd of registered cattle was started in the state. Hoy Herefords are consigned to all the major Bull sales throughout the State and southern Oregon. They have never missed consigning to the Red Bluff Bull sale since its inception. They also sell bulls in Nevada, Arizona and other western States. They pride themselves on having raised all of their own breeding heighfers.

FROM THE GROUND UP

By BART BARTLETT

Now, to pursue further the subject started last week, of now developments in certain crops.

New sports or mutants of fruit varieties are discovered, and many of them are actively promoted for planting to produce for the market. In some instances the new fruit or plant sort may be the result of a breeding project. In either case all too often the only merits these new varieties or strains posses, is the taking on of attractive red colors early in the growing season. In which case, they are judged ready for harvest and sale. By their beauty and early arrival in the market place premium prices are the result.

In the case of apples the per capita consumption has declined steadily each year during recent times. May not this be due to the fact that the consumer only bit once on that beautiful skin full of immature starches that looked so good on the grocer's shelf? His future purchases no doubt were such old reliable items as citrus fruits or bananas. This one example is certainly applicable to the production, sale, and consumtion of many other edible crops besides apples.

There are other means of giving agricultural crops either an early spot on the market, or of changing their appearance for display. These methods are applicable to the production of old established varieties. Nevertheless their usage often results in a product that is of poor consumer quality in spite of all its eye-catching characteristics. Many tons of certain crops such as melons, grapes and apricots, are sold that have been materially altered in form and nature by some treatments that were supplied by the grower. Such treatments usually include an abnormal amount of certain fertilizer elements, or the application of hormonal sprays that are calculated to increase the size, color, or some other trait of the product to make it easier to sell. Needless to say, that all too often while these changes are being accomplished, the consumer quality is being sacrificed. When the quality goes the consumers does, too—to some other commodity.

There is no long-term substitute for farm products that are well grown so they are representative of the best in nature and variety. This does not preclude use of fertilizers necessary to grow crops typical of the species when maintained in a state of nutritional balance. Nor does it preclude chemicals for protection from insects, diseases and decay while in storage or transit.

New inovations in crops, such as varieties, or even in the packing and handling of economic crops, only pays a premium for a brief time. In a year or two the offering price reverts to that of the conventional item. The conventional item in turn declines in price to make way for the reversion of the new.

These ideas are presented as food for thought. Not all that's new and looks good is good, nor is it all bad. People will continue to eat, but whether or not they eat a particular product depends largely on the producer.

Chit Chat

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

The end of the year is when most businessmen and people take inventory.

As one historian put it, you have to see where you have been before you can tell where you are going. Irrigation districts are businesses and probably operate some of the largest continuing construction outfits in the valley.

Medford Irrigation district, for instance, maintains a 25-person year-around payroll costing $100,000 a year. Total district expenditures are $300,000. Fifty-five per cent of this annual expenditure is for rehabilitation work. All of this payroll and these expenditures are spent locally, so the business community has a large stake in the district operations as well as the farmers served with irrigation water.

Heading up this large year-around operation is Jack Hoffbuhr, a big, genial man noted for his active community interest and loud rooting voice at local sports events.

This year marks Jack's eleventh with the district. He can remember when veteran ditch walker Glenn Abbott had to be a high-wire artist to walk along the wooden flumes which stretched across the local canyons. Abbott was honored at the recent Oregon Reclamation Congress dinner here.

When Jack first became district manager, Nov. 15, 1951, there were many of these wooden flumes. These have all been replaced with concrete structures and only two metal flumes remain. These, too, will be replaced soon.

As one irrigation district spokesman put it: "Things were in a mess when Jack first arrived. During World War II all maintenance had been deferred due to lack of materials. The district was short of mony, also. The Bureau of Reclamation loan of $1,475,466 came in 1955.

During the 10 year period 150 of the 215 main canal bridges were replaced with treated lumber and concrete abutments. General canal and ditch maintenance operations have been stepped up too.

Banks were widened so equipment could be run along the canals and not in them. Before, equipment had to be dragged through the canals and many axles were broken resulting in considerable repair and lost man-hour expenses. The Antelope creek section of the canal can be cleaned in a half day now. Before, it took three weeks. Widened and stronger bridges makes it possible to run equipment along the bank from one end of the system to the other.

Chemicals for demossing and brush control have speeded up the maintenance program considerably and reduced costs. Before demossing was done by a team of horses dragging a chain and crews could never keep up with the moss. Scythes used to be used for bank brush control.

The widened banks also makes for faster ditch patrolling by car or truck. Before it was afoot or on horseback. Gunite canal sections has greatly reduced the tremendous water loss and number of canal wash-outs.

Up to this year 20.64 miles of lateral pipelines were laid using the district's own crews. During the same period 6.06 miles of concrete lined laterals were constructed. Total miles of canal is 75½ miles, of which 1 8/10 miles consists of concrete siphon and 5 1/ miles is lined.

Also, a parapet wall has been constructed across Four Mile lake dam to prevent waves from overtopping the dam. A new spillway structure has been constructed at Four Mile plus a new fish screen in front of the control gates.

Fish Lake now has a new spillway structure and entire face of the dam has been riprapped. This should have been done 40 years ago, but was not since the contractor went broke and was unable to finish the job, it was explained. A clay face has been placed across the entire left abutment dam to control leaks.

Now a two-way radio keeps ditch riders in constant contact with the district office on Barnett rd. This means that turn-offs and turn-ons can be made more quickly than under the old system where riders reported to the office twice a day to receive orders. Irrigation, remember, is still considered a major factor in pear decline.

The district still has $200,000 federal rehabilitation funds to spend. It takes an experienced man like Jack to make the money do the most good in the right places.

Under the MID manager's experienced and knowledgeable guidance the new year promises further progrss in order to keep up with the agricultural demands of the Rogue valley.

Gardening Tips

By JOHN W. McLOUGHLIN
County Extension Agent

Although a freshly cut Christmas tree is preferred over one that has been cut for several weeks, what you do with the tree after you have it home is very important in maintaining its good appearance and safety.

A few simple steps will help maintain the tree color, reduce needle drop and make it more resistant to burning if accidentally exposed to fire. Some tree species, such as the pines and firs, normally retain their needles longer than the spruce, but all will usually give satisfactory service if treated properly.

Home Care

When you bring your tree home, place it in a bucket of water outdoors or in a cool place until you are ready to decorate it. The tree will not be injured by snow or rain, but heat will cause it to dry out and may result in early needle drop.

When it is time to bring the tree indoors for decorating make a fresh cut about an inch above the original one. Place the tree in a container of water. Never place the tree near the fireplace.

A tree in a warm room may use a pint or more of water a day. Keep the cut surface completely covered with water at all times. The larger the container the less frequent water will have to be added.

There are many types of tree holders on the market. Select one that will hold the tree firmly and that has a water container of generous size.

The United States Forest Products laboratory at Madison, Wisc., investigated the benefits of fire retardant chemicals on Christmas trees. They concluded that keeping the tree standing in water is about the most practical, satisfactory and convenient method of those tried for reducing the fire hazard and preventing the needles from discoloring or falling. Actually, certain sprays could increase the fire hazard by reducing water intake.

Decorative Christmas Greens

All live green boughs and branches used for decorative purposes should be arranged in water if possible. This not only keeps them fresh but reduces the fire hazard.

If greens or trees cannot be placed in water and are used where there is danger of fire, make them flame retardant by coating them with a transparent water glass (sodium silicate) solution.

Fire-Retardant Coating

For those who undertake to coat boughs and trees with a fire retardant chemical, the following formulation is suggester: Mix nine parts by volume of water glass (sodium silicate) to one part of water. Add one teaspoonful of a mild detergent to each quart of water to act as a wetting agent. This formulation produces a shiny, transparent, colorless coating. Sodium silicate is available at most drug stores.

A heavy coating is necessary to reduce the fire hazard. One coat reduces the tendency for flame spreading, but two coats are more effective. Apply by spraying or dippling. For spraying, add more water to thin the mixture. If this is done, more applications are needed. Use an insecticide, vacuum cleaner or a paint sprayer.

Making quality hay is largely a matter of timing. Each day hay cutting is delayed past early-bud stage means a loss in protein and digestibility.

The output of 60 million acres of U.S. cropland moved abroad last year as exports

Broadleaf Weed Control Steps, Given by Hubbell

By RAY HUBBELL
Weed Control Supervisor

Broadleaved weeds, either annual or perennial, seriously reduce grain yields.

Selective control of these plants by properly timed sprays of 2,4-D gives good weed control. In mixed crop areas, such as here in the valley, the amine form of 2,4-D should be used. Applications of from one to two pints, of four pounds per gallon material in ten to twenty gallons of water should be used per acre. Slightly heavier rates with a wetting agent, if hard to control weeds are present.

It is important when spraying grain to make sure that the grain is well tillered and in a good thrifty growing condition. The treatment may be made any time from the three to five leaf stage on up to the very early boot stage. Later applications can result in injury to the grain and some loss in yield. It should be remembered that many plants are susceptible to 2-4-D sprays and may be injured by drift of this spray. Applications should be planned and applied carefully so as to avoid this drift. Pick calm days, using low pressure and large nozzles, for best insurance against drift damages.

Another Chemical

Another chemical has been registered for use on drill-planted winter oats and mixtures of winter oats and peas or vetch. Karmex applied at a rate of one and one half to two pounds of 80 per cent material per acre in a minimum of forty gallons of water, as soon after planting as possible and before the crop emerges, will control such annual weeds and grasses as annual ryegrass, annual bluegrass, chickweed, dog fennel and shepherd's purse.

We are also advised not to graze or feed forage from treated areas to livestock or to replant treated areas to any crop within one year after the last application as injury to subsequent crops may result. Since the effect of Karmex on oats, peas or vetch varies with soils, uniformity of application, and environmental conditions, it is suggested anyone interested in this application limit their first use to small areas. This office would be glad to assist in such an application.

Before using any chemical, READ AND CAREFULLY OBSERVE THE CAUTIONARY STATEMENTS and all other information appearing on the product label.

FARM

Woodlot Facts

By DICK OLSON
Oregon State Farm Forester

With the tree planting season almost upon us the following research note by R. K. Herman, forest research lab., O.S.U., provides some interesting information.

Short periods of exposure to sun and wind are unavoidable when planting stock is handled in the nursery or in the field. The general practice of holding such periods to a minimum certainly should be continued. There are indications that seedlings are less sensitive to exposing roots for short periods than is commonly believed.

Roots of seedlings were exposed prior to planting for the following periods: 15 seconds, 30 seconds, one minute, two minutes and four minutes. Controls were transferred without delay from the planting bag into the ground. During the following late summer, inspection showed that puddling the roots had a much greater effect on survival than did the periods of exposure in this trial. The difference between mortality for puddled and unpuddled seedlings was highly significant.

Statistical analysis of the data showed that mortality after four minutes of exposure was significantly higher than exposure of one minute, or 30 or 15 seconds.

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Fire insurance for forest land in Oregon is still being sought. Woodlot owners in western Washington already have an insurance policy available to them and I believe this protection is especially needed in Southern Oregon. Any future progress in this field will be reported in this column.

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With less than three weeks remaining before Christmas, Christmas tree lots are beginning to appear on the scene. By looking at the number of cutting permits written it looks like the growers are having a good year. However caution should be used and before trees are cut, the landowner should receive at least one half the selling price and the other half on delivery or pick up. Numerous trees are left each year-cut but not picked up. Your farm forester's office is becomin quite a clearing-house for the Christmas tree business. If you want to buy trees, this office will be glad to put you in touch with growers. Several of them still have trees to sell.

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Arnold Toynbee, the famous English historian, postulates that the primary reason, or at least the catalyst, for the development of the great civilizations is response to a challenge. A challenge, in some cases, of climate, or vegetation, or soil, or of politics. The present gap between forestry practice and economic feasibility is one of the challenges we are facing. Our response to it is what is making American forestry the most dynamic in the world.

State Board of Agriculture Men Examine Oregon State Research Work

Corvallis–Members of the Oregon state board of Agriculture recently took a behind-the-scenes look at research under way at Oregon State university to help boost the state's $400 million annual income from farming and ranching.

Ward Spatz, Medford, was among board members who visited OSU agricultural experiment station research laboratories following the board's regular quarterly meeting held on the campus at Corvallis.

Included in the research tour was a briefing on techniques being developed to combat soil-borne diseases that cost Oregon agriculture an estimated $15 million yearly, and a blue-print for doubling the grazing capacity of Oregon's millions of acres of rangeland.

New wheat wafers under study as an emergency ration, beef improvement studies aimed at more red meat and less fat, and a look at actual life processes within a living plant cell were among other investigations viewed by members of the state board.

Soil-borne diseases are now costing Oregon's potato industry an estimatd $2 million annually, and wheat crop losses from such diseases may top $3 million a year, reported Robert L. Powelson, OSU plant pathologist.

The scientist said experimental materials to treat the soil have boosted potato yields as much as five times–from 40 bushels up to 200 bushels an acre. While the materials are still too costly for wide-scale use, he expressed hope that future developments may make such soil treatments commonplace.

Leo E. Jones, OSU research botanist, presented motion pictures of plant cells enlarged hundreds of times to show growth and aging processes going on within the cell. Jones has developed a special microculture chamber that, for the first time, makes possible long-term studies of living plant cells in a controlled environment. Such studies should give scientists new clues as to how plant life may be altered and improved through adding or removing substances from the cells.

A report by D. W. Hedrick, range management researcher, explanied how scientists and ranchers are teaming up to give eastern Oregon rangeland a badly-needed facelifting through chemical control of sagebrush and reseeding of land with desirable forage grasses.

Range Dollars To Double

Income from Oregon's 20 million acres of open range–now roughly a dollar an acre from grazing–may double in the next quarter century as sagebrush and other "range robbing" plants are driven off and range grasses stage comeback.

Trends toward developing livestock that will yield high quality red meat with a minimum of waste fat will benefit everyone from the producers through to the food shopper, explained J. C. Miller, OSU animal science department head. Stockmen are finding that it costs more money to put those added pounds of exterior fat on an animal than it does to produce the same weight in red ,well-marbled meat, he said.

Reprtrs by researchers in food science and technology covered tests that are giving better understanding of the chemistry of food flavors, meat quality, and flavor and other quality preferences by the public.

Whole wheat crackers recently developed as survival rations are the newest items under test at the laboratories where they will be stored at varying temperatures over a five-year period to learn how well they maintain their quality.

Farm & Garden

Beef Promotion Favored By California Stockmen

By MRS. ORLO DAVIS
Mail Tribune Correspondent

Siskiyou county – The California Cattlemen's association in its annual state convention in Sacramento, Dec. 7-9, was attended by a delegation of over 30 members from Siskiyou county.

The session convened at the Hotel El Dorado and was presided over by Gordon Van Vleck of Sloughhouse. Registration showed a total of close to 700.

Most important issues decided included resolutions to initiate legislation to keep the Beef Council law in effect and to continue on a voluntary basis the assessments of 10 cents per head sold, and to make further study of efforts of the new government dual grading system which is now on a trial basis.

Sedgley R. Nelson, Siskiyou County Farm adviser, and at one time with Swift and company, explained the full intent of the dual grading. He feels the retailer is surest of getting what he pay for under the system. Nelson said, "The producer must remember that he produces meat for the consumer principally, and not for himself, and the consumer is often a fickle entity." He also stated, "We should not resist change for changes sake, because often changes are for the good."

Charles T. Reynolds of the accounting committee for Western States Meat Packers association, Vallejo, said reaction, to date, has not been favorable from the retailers standpoint.

Other main speakers were Robert T. Durbrow, San Francisco, executive secretary and treasurer of Irrigation Districts Association of California, who spoke on range water problems; Honorable Paul J. Lunardi, California state assemblyman from Roseville, explained legislative activities concerning the cattle producer.

The need for a beef promotion program was handled by Jake L. Schneider, chairman of the California Beef Council from Sloughhouse.

"California Deer Management Programs and Problems," was outlined by Walter T. Shannon who is a director of California Department of Fish and Game from Sacramento.

Robert R. Gros, vice president of Pacific Gas and Electric company, and world traveler and foreign correspondent of San Francisco spoke on one of his pet subjects "Khrushchev and company – A New Look at an Old Foe." He entertained Khrushchev while he was on the west coast several years ago and was entertained by him in Moscow in recent months, he speaks with the knowledge of one who knows him firsthand. Gros described the Russian leader as volitile, vulgar and repulsive, and in spite of it all, "He is one of the most fascinating persons of our time. He is freedom's enemy No. 1 and the most completely nerveless public figure," said Gros. He spoke of him as "master of bombs, bombast, bluster and bull" and warned even without war the communists may pass us in world domination, if we are not alert at all time.

Eight or 10 youngsters attended the first Junior Cattlemen's association which organized in Humboldt county in December. They urged other counties follow suit to prepare more children for future cattle ranchers.

Carl Twisselman, Kern county rancher, was named the new president of the California Cattlemen's association at the final session, for a two year term to replace Van Vleck. Twisselman was first vice president previously and also is a director of the American National Cattlemen's association.

Other state officers chosen were John Weber, of Alturas, first vice president; John Montgomery of Simi, vice president; Jules Villard of Delano, vice president; Wilton Guild of Madera, vice president; Tom Hawkins of Hollister, treasurer; and J. Edgar Dick of Sacramento, secretary.

Bakersfield was chosen for the 1963 meeting.

Among those attending from this area were: Mr. and Mrs. Edson Foulke of Gazella, Mrs. Foulke having been chosen state president of Cow-Belles; Siskiyou County Cattlemen president, William Valentine and Mrs. Valentine; state directors from the county, Blair Smith and Mrs. Smith, and Ed Hart and Mrs. Hart, the latter being the president of Siskiyou County CowBelles, and Mr. and Mrs. Louis Hessig, who is also a state director and she is Siskiyou's "CowBelle Mom." The last four couples are from the Montague vicinity.

Pesticide Rules Set For Hearing

Salem–A public hearing at which the state department of agriculture will propose as an Oregon requirement the federal food and drug administration regulations on pesticide residue tolerances is scheluled for Dec. 28 in Salem. It will be held in the conference room of the Agriculture building, beginning at 2 p. m.

The hearing will concern residue tolerances of pesticides permitted on all raw agricultural products.

The department urges all interested persons to attend. Those unable to be present may submit data or views in writing any time prior to the hearing date.