

### Agricultural Situation Reported With Aid of County Agents

Sustained interest in dairying with keen demand and limited offerings for milk cows feature the latest monthly reports of Oregon county agents on the agricultural situation as made to the division of agricultural economics of the state college extension service. Prices for dairy products are fair, with feed supplies ample at reasonable cost in most districts. A note of conservatism is sounded on accumulating cheese supplies in storage. Much dairy stock has been sold into California. Unusually good grain pasture and range prospects due to heavy late fall rains are reported from most sections. Prospects for supplies of irrigation water next season are greatly improved. Some surplus of farm labor is reported in certain sections, particularly where milling operations have slowed up.

Livestock is wintering well, but weather has been unfavorable for feeding and cost of feeders was a little high last fall in proportion to current fat stock values. Beef feeders are in a better position than lamb feeders just now. Much interest is in hog production and poultry. Movement of some horticultural products has not been satisfactory and returns are slow. On the other hand nut and berry growers had a good season and an interest in expanding production.

Every year Oregon farmers are confronted with the problems of what crops and livestock to produce, and how much of each. With wise decisions agricultural conditions are better during the season and agricultural enterprises forge ahead faster than when mistakes are made.

#### United States Situation Reported

To help farmers adjust production to probable market demands the federal bureau of agricultural economics prepares a report each year. It is recognized that the various states and divisions of states should receive special consideration by state agricultural authorities, which will be given this year in Oregon. The state report is expected to be ready for release about February 15.

Nineteen twenty-six for the country as a whole seems to have registered with the majority of farmers as a disappointing year, reads the January report on the agricultural situation of the United States department of agriculture. The season was more favorable to livestock than to crop production.

The dairy industry showed a favorable spread between milk and feed prices most of the year. Poultry producers were relatively prosperous, and hog producers had the most advantageous spread in several years between corn and high prices. The recent pig survey indicates a probable decrease in hog slaughter in the marketing year 1926-27.

The value of the principal crops, based on prices December 1, was \$7,801,000,000 compared with \$8,949,000,000 a year earlier. The 1926 events hold reasonable assurance to livestock producers, but suggest conservatism generally in crop average for 1927, concludes the report.

### INCIDENTS ALONG ROAD TO FLORIDA

(By A. D. Moe)  
Tampa, Fla., Feb. 3, 1927.

We got here yesterday before one o'clock, leaving Lake City about 7, in a light fog, making the trip of nearly 200 miles in less than six hours. The roads were paved, except a stretch of about 10 miles of dirt road, and another stretch of rather uneven, oiled dirt road, about one track wide, and we had to slow up every time we passed a car, which was often. The speed limit in Florida is 45 miles an hour in the country, 25 in residence sections, and 15 in business districts, but many drive from 45 to 55. We tried to keep up to the speed limit on the pavement, but went too slow for many.

For over 100 miles south of Lake City the country is uninteresting, mostly sand with small pines growing rather scattered in most places. Many of the pines are being tapped for the pitch, which is distilled for turpentine. We saw all the way across northern Florida and Alabama. Many lakes and swamps can be seen from the highway. Most of the older trees have moss hanging from them. There are many live oaks in the Southland, and we saw a few very large ones, but as a rule there are no large trees of any kind. There are no flowers at this time of year, except an occasional bush of hibiscus in a sheltered spot in the city.

Our speedometer showed 4100 miles from Hood River to Tampa, which included some extra mileage in Los Angeles and 15 or 20 miles we traveled the obscure trails when we were lost in Mississippi. We may have added over 50 miles extra travel. The distance across the state of Texas was 900 miles. The old Stude came through like a Pierce Arrow, but it was a sight! Mud had accumulated clear to the top from Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi, until the color of the paint was entirely obscured. It took two niggers three hours to clean it up.

It is real summer here, much warmer than in southern California, and the nights do not get as cool either. But it is a great contrast to California. With all the warm weather there are no green lawns, no flowers, and many shrubs and vines are burned brown by the freeze of the first week in January. A few banana plants around the city are entirely frozen, but the citrus trees do not seem to be damaged, except some of the tender shoots. Most of the groves are prepared to manage, but they do not have freezes often and the first cold caught much of the fruit. The big orange associations are holding the fruit for at least two weeks before shipping, to cut out all frost damaged fruit. Florida oranges are much sweeter than those grown in California, and we are enjoying them very much.

We were watching for alligators in the swamps along the highway, but did not see any. All over this southern country pigs run loose along the road, and we had to slow up many times to keep from running over them. Cattle are also loose and roam about, occasionally blocking the road, but the young shoats around the swamps would be a great temptation to alligators, but were told the latter have been practically exterminated in the settled sections, as their hides have been profitable to hunters.

Hobos have lined the road most of the way to Lake City, but they are keeping away from this country as a rule.

We have not done any looking

around here yet, just resting up and enjoying the sunshine weather. Have shed our winter clothes and winter seems a faded dream. It has been a dry winter here, despite the excessive rains and disastrous floods farther north.

Tampa, Fla., Feb. 5, 1927.

We have been enjoying the good old summertime weather since we arrived here and resting from the long trip. It is a little too hot here in the middle of the day for comfort, and the humidity is greater here, making the average 75 degrees of heat seem more like 90 on a summer's day in Oregon. The nights are very comfortable for sleeping, however, and we have certainly had rest good night rest.

Yesterday we took a drive to St. Petersburg, 19 miles the other side of Tampa bay, going across the famous Gandy bridge, which is six miles long from the end of one approach to the other, and about three miles over the water of the bay. It is a toll bridge, but shortens the distance around the bay about 80 miles. The bridge is a concrete structure and a very pretty drive.

St. Petersburg is really the tourist center of this part of the state, although there are many places where people from the north spend the winter. The suburb of Clearwater has a peninsula between Tampa bay and the Gulf, while low sand islands or keys extend along the Gulf shore line and have bathing beaches, hotels and small settlements. It is said about 100,000 tourists winter at St. Petersburg, and during the summer season the city is practically deserted. The streets are neat, the stores up to date and more attempt made in beautifying the homes than we have generally seen around here. They have an outdoor postoffice, claiming it to be the only one in the United States, but they overlooked Honolulu. On three sides of the building the balconies are open to the corridors from the streets, with general delivery windows on one side also.

From the city we drove a few miles out to one of the beaches on the narrow key, across a rickety wooden toll bridge. The island seemed deserted, but a very few people being on the bathing beach. The water is warmer than the Pacific in southern California, and it would seem a great attraction. It is well patronized on Sunday, however.

Going north we took the long way home, passing quite a few orange and grapefruit groves. All showed more or less damage from the recent freeze, especially young trees. At a roadside stand we purchased a dozen very large grapefruit for 20 cents, while the smaller ones were a cent each. They are very delicious. Oranges are also very cheap and sweet.

The next town was Clearwater, also a popular bathing beach for Tampa people. There is quite a town there and across another rickety toll bridge is a very large, exclusive hotel, with many fine residences near by. There were a few people on the beach, but not much doing. We were told that the local residents flock here in the warmer season.

The road from Clearwater circles around the head of Tampa bay and back to the city, a very pretty ride. Many subdivisions have been started along the road, and in fact in every part of the bay district, most of them with but a house or two built, and apparently at a standstill. The boom is over here as well as in the rest of the state, but they are bragging here that the big hurricane of last September did not do any damage here. We could see no evidence of it.

for an occasional cold spell of a few days. It seldom rains in winter, so a St. Petersburg paper had a standing offer of free papers any day the sun doesn't shine, but a spell of cloudy and rainy weather last winter caused them to withdraw the offer. It is usually 75 to 80 every day in the winter, with 10 degrees less at night. The hottest day last summer was 94. The humidity, however, is much greater than on the Pacific coast, so the heat is felt more. The warm weather, however, is a lure to people who live in the north, and will always be an attraction to winter tourists. This country is just beginning to wake up to the tourist business in the last three years. The natives do not pay much attention to good, clean accommodations, but northern people are taking hold and fixing up things. They are way behind the Pacific coast states in that respect, but are making improvements. Florida is working out a big road program that will be an attraction to motorists. The Old Spanish Trail is being rebuilt about 600 miles across the northern part of the state, and a road is now under construction that will circle around through the southern part. There is a private toll road circling Lake Ochechochee and across a section of the Everglades, coming into Palm Beach, but no road to the west coast across from Miami, except that under construction.

Tampa has a tourist bureau open at all times where one can register and get information. There are desks for writing, checker and card games going on, and it is generally full. "Bachman's Million Dollar Band" plays every afternoon in Plant Park, where costs accommodate several thousand people, and a splendid program is given. We attended the concert Sunday evening, and it was delightful to sit under the large shade trees and listen to the excellent music, with the concert just right without any wraps. We have seen no mosquitoes here and very few flies.

Business men admit that the collapse of the real estate boom in the state has depressed business, but all have confidence in the future, and that Florida will have a steady, legitimate growth from now on. Tampa was just on the edge of the big hurricane last September and no damage resulted here.

Tarpon Springs, 27 miles north on the gulf, is the base of the sponge industry and a very interesting place to visit. Sponges that would not go in a bathtub are on exhibition, as well as all sizes for commercial use. Many curios and novelties are also on sale in the shops. A large open court with cells of barred doors like a jail, hold the separate "catches" of the sponge divers, who go down as deep as 35 fathoms for the best sponges, a dangerous occupation, sometimes having to fight sharks and octopuses, while the heavy water pressure often inflicts permanent disability. All along the beaches as far south as St. Petersburg we saw pieces of shallow water sponges washed ashore. These, however, are of no value.

Billy Sunday was just finishing an engagement at Mobile, Ala., when we passed through, as we learned afterwards, and will open here the latter part of this month.

Under the caption, "Still Carry Insurance," the Orlando Reporter Star printed the following: Mayor Wall, of Tampa, opposed the location of the Billy Sunday tabernacle on account that it would increase the fire risk. But Billy claims that the men who take his advice thereby avoid the fire risk.

**WOMEN'S CLUB NEWS**

A local garden club was organized last week under the auspices of the Woman's club of this city, but it was announced that everyone interested in flowers and gardens is asked to join. There are about 50 members at present and the officers elected were: President, Mrs. J. W. Sifton; vice-president, R. B. Bennett; treasurer, Mrs. O. W. West; and secretary, Mrs. E. E. Bennett. The organization here will perhaps adopt a similar plan to the Portland club, which has one meeting each month and features garden visiting, plant and seed exchange and civic and highway improvement as well as protecting native plants and trees, many of which are being shipped out of the state for commercial purposes.

Speakers of the evening from Portland were Mrs. Turner, who told of British gardens and garden shows; Mrs. F. E. Smith, past president of that organization, who showed colored slides of Portland gardens which aroused great enthusiasm among local amateur gardeners; also R. J. Clary, representing "Better Flowers" magazine.

The next meeting of the club will be the last meeting in this month, when there will be a speaker from Portland, announcement of committees and the plans of future meetings.

Camp Fire girls and their parents were guests of the Woman's club at the meeting yesterday, as the program had been arranged by the Camp Fire girls' sponsors, Mrs. R. B. Perigo and Mrs. O. B. Nye. Miss Louise Knoll, who has been devoted to this work for several years, presented her group in a ceremonial, and a speaker sent by the executive office in Portland talked about the needs and activities of this work.

"Faust," as presented in part at Liberty hall last week was a notable musical event for Hood River and a credit to the Woman's club. Much praise was given the local singers, Albert Case and George Smith, who sang respectively the parts of Mephistopheles and Faust in most dramatic manner, and evidenced careful preparation. The vocalists were pupils of H. Goodell Boucher, of the Ellison-White conservatory, and the accompanist was Miss Sarah Howes, of the faculty of that institution. Her accompaniments added much to the pleasure of the review, especially as she gave the beautiful prelude as a solo, as well as the prologue to the fifth act. Miss Ruth Howes presided over the meeting which was largely attended.

The possibility of bringing out-of-town talent to club gatherings was made possible by club members working during vacation time and further stipulations are promised for the near future.

News that last year's apple crop was 234,000,000 bushels is printed in Produce Reports when it might just as well be listed among Vocational Hazards of Doctors.—Arkansas Gazette.

### New Schedule

EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1st

**Stages leave Hood River**

FOR

**Portland and Way Points**  
8:00 and 10:10 a. m.  
12:10, 2:40, 4:10, 6:10 and 10:05 p. m.

**The Dalles**  
10:30 a. m.; 12:50, 2:50, 4:50, 6:30, 7:50 and 9:50 p. m., and 12:40 a. m.  
\*Dally except Sundays and holidays only. †Sundays and holidays only.

**Wasco, Moro, Shaniko**  
12:50 and 2:50 p. m.  
(Making direct connections at the Dalles)

**Bend, Klamath Falls, Redmond, Prineville**  
12:50 noon

**Yakima and Yakima Valley Points**  
10:30 a. m.

**Arlington, Pendleton, Walla Walla, and Eastern Oregon and Idaho Points**  
10:30 a. m. and 2:50 p. m.

Ticket Offices and Waiting Rooms  
**MT. HOOD HOTEL WAUKOMA HOTEL**

**Travel by Motor Stage**  
COLUMBIA GORGE MOTOR COACH SYSTEM

### STEELE'S ECONOMY MARKET

R. E. STEELE Phone 4141

### PRIME MEATS

Prime Home Rendered Lard, 2 Lbs. at	38c
4 Lb. Pail at	85c
8 Lb. Pail at	\$1.65
50 Lb. Can at	\$8.50
Economy Little Pig Sausage, per Lb.	32c
Bulk Sausage	25c
Swift's Premium Hams are always good. Half or whole, at per lb.	40c
Fresh Hood River Valley Eggs, 3 doz.	\$1.00

BRING IN YOUR HOGS, VEAL AND CHICKENS  
Highest market price paid for choice produce

### Didn't You Go

Well, you will feel like all of the rest who didn't frolic in the sunshine at Goldsby's Farm with the Ski Club Sunday, when you hear the glowing stories of those who were there. We will all be there next time.

The next thing on the docket of old Father Time is gardening. We'll have the best of seeds. We sell the best of meats and groceries all the time.

### SANITARY MARKET & GROCERY

R. C. SAMUEL, Prop.  
Phone 8811  
Deliveries leave at 9 a. m. and 2.30 p. m.  
Country Deliveries Tuesday and Friday at 12 m.

### BIG CANDY SPECIAL!

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, FEB. 18TH-19TH

Ooconut Bon Bons, per lb. 29c  
Karamel Kokettes, per lb. 31c  
Swiss Opera Creams, per lb. 39c

EXTRA { Jelly Donut, lb. 27c  
SPECIAL { Fruit Tablets, lb. 27c

All Quality Candy at Special Prices  
TRY OUR CANDY FIRST  
Yours For Service  
**VINCENT & SHANK**  
"The Home of Quality Groceries."

### KELLY BROS. HDW.

### Saturday Special

White Enameled Bread Boxes  
\$1.00

A good quality, large size box, with hinge cover.

### Kelly Bros. Hardware

Rialto Theatre Bldg. Tel. 2433

### Cigars

Tobacco Soft Drinks Confectionery

TRY OUR Draught Luxo

WE KEEP IT RIGHT  
**C. A. Richards**  
111 2nd Street

### Tell it to the City Council,

Do you know how to better health conditions? If you do, tell it to the Health Committee.

### Tell it to the Tum-A-Lum,

If you need any help in planning your buildings; if you need help or suggestions for remodeling, estimates on costs or other troubles in the building line.

**Tum-A-Lum Lumber Co.**  
Telephone 4121  
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### THE YOUNG WIFE WHO IS A HOME ECONOMICS GRADUATE

We are very gratified by the patronage we are receiving from the young housewives of the community who are graduates of schools of home economics. This is certainly a justification of our claims of quality and economy. It is a well known fact that these young women know what they are buying. They know quality, know how to be economical and they insist on courtesy. We are glad to be their first choice of food-stuffs store in Hood River.

### The Grange Co-Operative Store

Telephone 2151  
N. H. MacMILLAN, Manager

### W. O. W. DANCE

M. W. A. HALL  
TUESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 22  
FINE MUSIC. YOU ARE INVITED.

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Office Phone 1394 LIMOUSINE HEARSE Home Phone 1391  
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