

EGG AND FEED RATIO BETTER THAN YEAR AGO

The egg situation which has been of major interest to Klamath producers is explained as follows by Noel Edsall, extension poultryman of Oregon State college: "Recently there have been a few complaints on the price of eggs. We would all like to see the producer getting more money. However, this is the season of the year when the margin of profit is always narrow in the poultry business. Feed costs are high and there has been the usual seasonal decline in the price of eggs. However, eggs are still about 50 per cent higher than they were a year ago and feed is from 35 to 40 per cent higher. The feed-egg ratio is slightly more favorable than it was a year ago and above the 10-year average.

"Poultry producers should be reminded that leaders in the industry, from the secretary of agriculture on down, have advised against expansion in the poultry business by going into debt buying or building new equipment. It has been stated on many occasions that adequate facilities are available to take care of the desired increase if used efficiently. Poultry producers in this state have been urged to stay in line with state and federal goals. State and federal reports show that since the first of the year receipts of eggs in Oregon have been running from 10 to 15 per cent higher compared with last year.

"The federal government has stated they would support the price of eggs at 85 per cent parity until June 30, 1942. Under the Steagall amendment the secretary has the authority to raise, lower or extend this price support.

"At present the seasonal adjusted parity price on eggs is 25.91 cents per dozen. Eighty-five per cent of parity would be 22.02 cents per dozen. It should be kept in mind that parity price on eggs varies throughout the year, depending on the price of commodities that farmers have to buy and the seasonal variation in the price of eggs. While present parity on eggs is 25.91 cents per dozen, in November it may be 36 cents or more per dozen.

"At the present time the number of laying hens in the United States is 12 per cent higher compared with last year. The total egg output for last month was 17 per cent higher than a year ago.

"Poultry producers expect to raise 12 per cent more chicks this year than last. These figures indicate the 1942 goal will be more than surpassed.

"The Bureau of Agricultural Economics states that the feed-egg ratio is expected to continue favorable for egg production, but it probably will not be as favorable for this year as a whole as for 1941."

Idle-Hour Capacity Of Oregon Plants

PORTLAND, March 19 (AP)—The idle-hour capacity of Oregon plants, which might be utilized for war production, is being tabulated in a survey started yesterday by David Eccles, state war industries co-ordinator.

Plants outside Portland are being queried first, with 200 questionnaires sent to foundries, machine shops and other factories. Portland plants' idle capacity will be surveyed later.

The possibility that small Oregon plants might obtain contracts for manufacture of ship parts was seen in Eccles' announcement that the Oregon Shipbuilding Corporation had offered to list parts which might be manufactured within the state. He said he had suggested to the maritime commission that the local manufacturing possibilities be investigated.

Heavy Construction Agreement Calls For Pay Boosts

A new Allied Heavy Construction crafts agreement, recently signed, calls for wage increases on all projects started after today, Earl Edsall of the Teamsters' union said Thursday.

Edsall said that the contract was agreed upon by the Allied Heavy Construction Crafts union and the Associated General Contractors of Oregon.

He said that construction projects already under way and let on previous bids would not be affected. Jones and King, airport contractors, are a party to the new agreement, Edsall declared.

Dog Race Revenue Needed for Fair

SALEM, March 19 (AP)—The Oregon state fair probably won't be held this year unless the dog races are held in Portland, Director of Agriculture J. D. Mickle said today.

The state ordinarily receives about \$30,000 a year from receipts at the dog races. Mickle said that without this money, it would be impossible to hold the fair.

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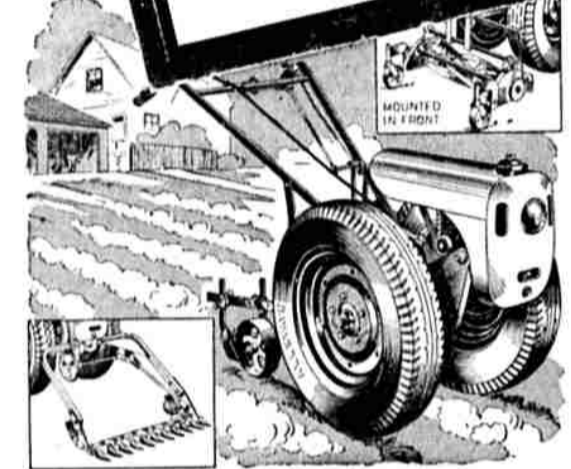
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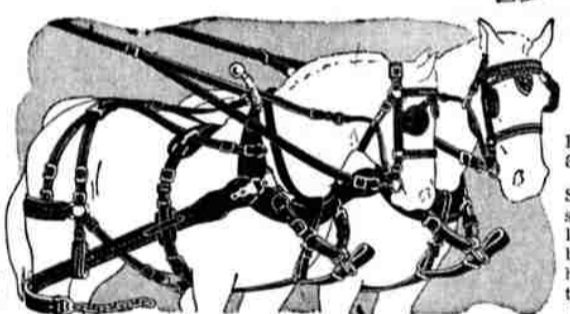
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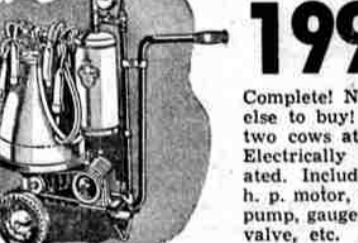
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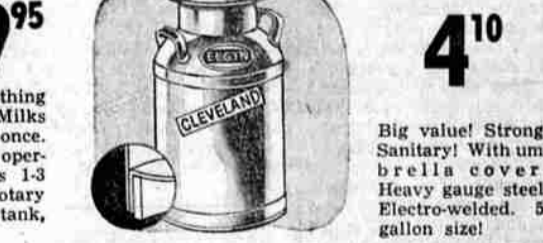
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