

BASIN FARM OUTLOOK GOOD FOR '47

By C. A. HENDERSON
Klamath County Agricultural Agent

Agricultural Highlights of 1946

Nineteen hundred and forty-six found farmers of the Klamath basin again producing a maximum acreage of farm commodities needed during the reconstruction period following the war. Some of the highlights of the year were: A marked decrease in potato acreage with large increases in the alsike clover seed acreage and the Hanchen barley acreage; further decreases in dairy, sheep and hogs; cattle and poultry held their gains and there was considerable increase in suburban-acreage gardens and small fruit and berry tracts.

Potato acreage reached an all-time high in 1945 with 28,098 acres in the Klamath basin. Preliminary figures for 1946 indicate that this acreage was reduced to approximately 24,500 acres or

less. Potato prices are averaging considerably lower and the total sales value as well as shipments should be considerably under that of 1945. Alsike clover, under the stimulus of world-wide demand, increased from 6000 acres in 1945 to over 9000 acres in 1946 with a production jump of from 2 1/2 million pounds to nearly four million and a sales value in 1946 approximately \$1,500,000, nearly double the sales value of the 1945 crop.

Barley also showed considerable increase in acreage and some increase in selling prices as well. The total 1945 acreage was 54,500 acres while in 1946 it increased to 56,500 acres with production of about 3,100,000 bushels and a sales value of nearly \$4,250,000 as compared with \$3,750,000 in 1945. A large portion of this was Hanchen barley and was in great demand by malsters for brewing purposes.

Other major crops showed little change from previous years with the alfalfa, onion, wheat, oat and rye acreage about holding their own. The lower income from the 1946 crop of potatoes will perhaps be offset by increased returns from alsike clover, barley and other grain crops.

Dairy production continued to decrease throughout the year and estimates of those people connected with the industry indicate that the all-time high of 8000 dairy cows in the Klamath basin has been reduced over two-thirds and that now approximately 2000 milking cows only are left. Beef cattle continued to hold their own with favorable prices and good summer feeding conditions.

Other matters of great interest to agriculture in the Klamath basin was the construction of the cooperative starch-glucose plant at Hatfield financed by potato

growers of the Klamath basin; the opening of 86 additional homestead units in the Tulelake district; survey of agricultural possibilities now being undertaken by the bureau of reclamation and increasing land values. The starch-glucose plant at Hatfield should be in operation about January 1, and should be of considerable assistance to potato growers by converting culls and low grade potatoes to starch and glucose and thereby improving marketing conditions.

The bureau of reclamation survey of agricultural lands in the Klamath basin should provide excellent information as to future agricultural development in the basin. Preliminary reports so far made indicate that less than half of the highly productive lands of the Klamath basin are now in full production. The opening of the Tulelake home-

steads focused considerable interest on the Klamath district and resulted in the adding of 86 farms to the rapidly increasing farming operations of this district. Much good farm land has changed hands during the year, at prices ranging from \$300 to \$500 per acre, showing confidence of purchasers in the agricultural future of Klamath.

All in all, the year 1946 has been one of considerable variety—excellent prices prevailing for some agricultural commodities and low prices for others and has brought about many difficulties in changing over from a wartime to a peacetime basis with some problems such as farm labor showing some improvement but with farm supplies still hard to get and cost of operation particularly high, in fact, the highest on record in the industry.

Cupid Loses Out In Basin Marriages By Long Odds

For every three couples who decided to get married in Klamath county during 1946, four came to the parting of the ways via divorce court.

A compilation of marriage and divorce records at the county courthouse shows that there were 383 wedding licenses issued during 1946, and 446 decrees of divorce granted in court.

In 1945, a war year, there were 502 marriages and 345 divorces. In 1944 the divorces totaled 279.

Circuit Judge David R. Vandenberg, who presided over most of the divorce cases, gave an average of two decrees each day court was in session in 1946. Most of them came on uncontested default cases.

The judge laid the blame for the great majority of the broken homes directly to the war, whether or not either party had been in the service. A good many civilian couples—some married as long as 20 or 25 years—split up, the judge said, simply because in the war years the family had more money than ever before, enough money to cause the husband or wife to begin to step out, drink and see a little night life.

The majority of the divorces were in families of ex-servicemen, however, quickly married during the war years at Reno or some other city which doesn't have a three-day "cooling off" period.

When the serviceman returned home everything wasn't exactly as he had imagined, his wife had been stepping out, he wanted to loaf a while instead of going to work, and so—the divorce court.

Default divorces are those in which only one party comes to court, generally the wife. She has a lawyer draw up a complaint alleging that her husband didn't write to her while in the service, beat her, drank, wouldn't work or committed any of the other multitude of sins covered by cruel and inhuman treatment, and got the decree. Judge Vandenberg says that in those cases he knows that both parties want a divorce, and the allegations in the complaint actually amount to nothing. He listens while a few perfunctory answers are given to an attorney's questions, then says:

"You may have the decree."

Year's End To Be Festive Occasion

Paper hats, tin horns and noisemakers will be on hand to help Klamath folk welcome 1947 in fine fashion tonight at dances and many other festive affairs planned for New Year's Eve.

Wednesday, New Year's Day, will mark the end of the winter holiday season when stores, banks, the post office, courthouse, liquor store, libraries and city hall will close. The day will also be a holiday for The Herald and News staff with no paper being published.

Drunk Driving Warning Issued

Police Chief Orville Hamilton, expecting a good deal of jubilation over the advent of the New Year tonight, says that the police department is not going to deal leniently with drinking drivers.

He warned drinkers to do their traveling afoot, by bus or taxicab, but to stay out from under the wheel of an auto lest they greet 1947 from the city hall drunk tank.

American railroads use annually more than 6,000 tons of weed killers on rights-of-way.

Political Figure



Circuit Judge David Raymond Vandenberg, first judge of the Klamath county circuit court to be reelected to the bench, was the central political figure in the county this past year. The November campaign in which Judge Vandenberg defeated District Attorney Clarence Humble, gave zest to an otherwise uneventful election.

Jap Island Plan Proposed

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31 (AP)—Creation of a United States "territory of the Pacific"—or some similar type of civil administration—to govern ex-Japanese mandated islands, was recommended today by Rep. Mansfield (D-Mont.).

Mansfield, who accompanied a house naval affairs subcommittee on a recent inspection of the islands, told a reporter that he will introduce legislation for this purpose in the coming congress.

He said that in his opinion the mandated islands should be administered by the United States "only because what we paid for in blood and in money and in uncertainty must never be allowed to happen again, and one way of securing peace in the Pacific is for this country to maintain undisputed control of all the islands in the Carolines, Marshalls and Marianas groups."

MB Transfer To State By WAA Told

(Continued from Page One)

tors, dishes and similar equipment.

Oscar I. Paulson, state vocational director, said that he hopes to have the school here in operation "in a few weeks," and that the legislature would be asked to appropriate money for its operation.

He had hoped to have the school in operation by tomorrow, but the final release by the WAA was slower in coming than expected.

Paulson estimates that 7500 to 10,000 war veterans and other students will attend the Klamath school within the next 10 years.

Basin Potato Shipments In Carloads		
	1946	1945
Dev. 30	38	1
Dec. to Date	882	892
Season to Date	5434	6302

Coming Year To Be Period Of Readjustment In Basin

By MITCHELL TILLOTSON
Manager, First National Bank

Klamath county has just completed the largest year in its business history. This is indicated by almost every business index available including bank deposits, post office receipts, bank debits, water, electric and telephone connections, volume of retail trade and number of new businesses established.

At the present time indications are that 1947 should be a good business year.

However the coming year appears to be one of business re-

adjustment, and under such conditions it is difficult to see how volume of business will continue to rise.

Prices in many lines will continue well above the price levels for the early months of 1946. The readjustments and realigning of price levels have already begun in many agricultural lines and undoubtedly will continue through a greater part of the coming year. This will undoubtedly be true quite largely in all soft goods lines as well as agricultural commodities, and, while no radically depressive influences are apparent at the present time, periods of price readjustment and realignment are always accompanied by buyer caution.

In Klamath county this influence will be partially offset by a continuance of substantial price levels for our greatest commodity, namely lumber. However it is generally felt that some softening of prices may be experienced in lumber before the end of the year particularly in fir. Such changes however will not radically affect production programs of any mills with available stumpage. Some mills may be closed due to a lack of timber, and it is probable that the volume of lumber cut in this area in 1947 may be below that of 1946. However there is no prospect of any material decrease in production of agricultural commodities, and, in spite of price readjustments which will gradually take place throughout the year, it is probable that 1947 will end with about the same unit production in agriculture and slightly lower unit production in lumber than in 1946. With the general level of lumber prices much higher at the beginning of the year, however, it would appear likely that the dollar volume of lumber produced would be almost as great in 1947 as in the previous year.

Another important factor bearing on general business conditions is the fact that the general level of wages received in the territory will probably be higher per capita in 1947 than in the previous year. If this condition should be maintained throughout 1947 the volume of retail trade will undoubtedly continue at high levels. This will be further encouraged by several population increases in the west and by freer flow of tourist travel.

To summarize—1947 should be good to very good as a business year, but care must be exercised in accumulation of inventory and in controlling costs of production and distribution.

Chains Advised For Crater Lake Travel

Those ski fans who plan to drive to Crater Lake national park New Year's Day to enjoy winter sports were advised by radio this morning that roads were slick and icy and chains are required above Annie Spring to the rim. Skiing is expected to be good, with 62 inches of packed snow and a powdery covering on top. The ski trails are well packed.

Minimum at the park Tuesday morning was given as 16 degrees.

There are boats that have no masts but depend on sails under water to carry them along. They're called "mussel diggers," and ply along the Ohio and Kentucky rivers, collecting the fish from whose shells shirt buttons and cheap jewelry are made.

Cautious Driving Warning Given

A warning to motorists to drive carefully was issued today, New Year's Eve, by Sgt. E. W. Tichenor of state police. The officer urged all persons driving to proceed with utmost caution as a protection to themselves as well as others. Roads were slick and with minimum temperatures, highways were deemed extremely hazardous.

With the score or more of Christmas traffic accidents still fresh in the mind, drivers should be aware that sensible driving is the only protection, Tichenor observed.

CIO Lumber Workers Pay Hike Slated

(Continued From Page One)

new base rate in sawmills and log camps will be \$1.223 an hour, and in box factories \$1.20. Effective date will be January 1.

Agreement was reached by J. E. Fadling, representing the northwest regional negotiating committee of the CIO, and C. L. Irving of the PIRC. Fadling said the plan will be presented to the membership by ballot late in January. Notice of acceptance must be received by the PIRC in January, according to the agreement.

It was also agreed that the wage increase shall not be paid to employees who terminate employment prior to union acceptance unless application is made by the terminating employee on or before February 10. Local unions and companies will decide whether to convert the raise to piecework contracts.

Fadling said 22 companies are affected, including operations at Prineville, Bend, Klamath Falls area, Rogue river valley, McCloud, Redding and the Feather river country. He said that the plan, if ratified, will be applied in a number of independent operations not represented by PIRC.

He said the agreement settles negotiations to April 1.

Irving announced that the PIRC and AFL northern California council have agreed on 15-cent wage boosts for about 1500 AFL employees in the Feather river-Susville country. Last week, negotiators agreed on the same boost for AFL employees in the Klamath basin district council areas.

'46 License Plates Expire Today

Klamath county motorists were issued a final warning by state police Tuesday advising that 1946 license plates are void December 31, (today), and that after January 1, 1947, those without plates are subject to arrest and citation to court.

Several hundred late license applicants lined up at the license bureau Monday afternoon and a similar line was observed this