

Hog, Cattle Markets Show Declines Over 1948 Prices

The average farm price of hogs at mid-November was the lowest of any time since June 1946, according to the weekly hog and cattle review prepared from U. S. department of agriculture reports.

The price received by farmers has dropped around \$2 a month since September, and is also \$5.30 under a year ago.

The price of leaf cattle also shows

a slight downward trend since mid-September. Prices are about \$1.60 a hundredweight under a year ago.

Veal Up

Veal calf prices at mid-November were slightly higher than a month earlier, but nearly \$3 below a year ago.

Hogs were the only meat animal with prices below parity at mid-

November, down 10 per cent. Beef cattle were 48 per cent above parity, while veal calves are up 36 per cent.

Less Purchase

As hog prices have dropped considerably during the twelve month period ending November 15, their purchasing power is also down compared to a year earlier. Hogs on November 15 would purchase only 74 per cent of what they would a year earlier as measured by the present parity index. The exchange values of beef cattle and veal calves were both down around 5 per cent compared to a year ago.

Since November 15, slaughter cattle prices for the extreme top grades have reached an all time peak at Chicago of \$43.50, and equaled the all time high at Omaha of \$41. Other grades have tended to work lower at most markets.

Bumble Bees Seen As Legume Seed Boost

Scientists may make bumble bees earn their regular keep on the farm.

State and federal entomologists find on some crops, in some localities, some of the bumble bees may prove more helpful than honey bees in boosting our short legume seed supply.

Alfalfa and clover and other legumes depend on insects for pollination and subsequent setting seed. The wild bees and other insects flit from flower to flower and carry pollen from plant to plant. Their flitting is anything but haphazard. They can be highly choosy about the crops they visit. Different bees work different crops in different places.

Honey bees serve alfalfa crops well in some places but not in others. They may visit ladino clover in large numbers in intensively cultivated surroundings, but near rough country entomologists have noted more bumble bees than honey bees working ladino. The reason for

this may be that the area is not attractive to beekeepers. But even different kinds of bumble bees work different crops.

Bumble bees are common on red clover in Utah, but only four of five of the 30 species of bumble bee occur in the state.

Wild Bees

Entomologists of the U. S. department of agriculture say it is now evident that the highly complicated relationships between the different pollinating insects and various forage plants emphasize the need to make use, if possible, of wild bees as well as honey bees to boost legume seed crops.

The use of bumble bees would be especially desirable in areas where the honey plants were such as not to attract commercial beekeepers and in other places as insurance to supplement the work of honey bees. These experiments indicate the rearing of bumble bees under controlled conditions offers some promise.

17,000 Christmas Trees Sold in Fremont Forest

Seventeen thousand Christmas trees were sold by the Fremont national forest this fall to bring Yuletide cheer to Pacific coast residents, according to James W. Thompson of the forest staff.

Operators are trucking most of the trees to California markets, but a few are serving population centers in Oregon and Washington.

Lakeview Area

The areas where good trees could be found were limited this year due to frost damage which killed the spring growth, and left brown tips on most branches. Most of the cutting was done in the Antelope and Quartz mountain areas west of Lakeview.

The first sale was made in July, and most operators had completed their cutting by late November. The trees were stored at points along the highways where they could be easily reached, and trucked to market in early December.

Trees cut at higher elevations are

more desirable than those from coastal areas because of the slower growth and lasting qualities, according to the operators. Sales on national forest lands are restricted to areas away from main traveled roads. All cutting is carefully managed to assure future forests on the areas cut over. Often cutting serves as a thinning operation to remove less desirable trees, such as white fir.

Free Permits

Free Christmas tree permits are issued to local folks for their personal needs, and the cooperation of everyone is asked in saving the trees along the highways and main roads to preserve the beauty of these areas.

The danger of fires in the home can be reduced by dipping the base of the tree in wax or by standing the tree in water. Hooks are urged to leave their Christmas tree lights out when there is no one to watch them, and to dispose of the trees as soon as they show signs of drying.

OSC to Hold 29th Annual Food School

Newest developments in food industries will be the general theme of the 29th annual canners and frozen food packers school to be held at Oregon State college. The food technology department has set February 6 to 15 as dates for the school, announced E. H. Weigand, department head.

Lectures, demonstrations, three special courses and the double session course will be included in the 10-day session. Speakers from the college staff, the processing industry, and government laboratories will be on the program.

C. R. Havighorst, Pacific coast editor of the magazine Food Industries, will open the school on Monday, February 6, with a discussion of "The Economic Position of the Food Industries." The session will end with a banquet on Wednesday evening, February 15.

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PRIMPING FOR THE SHOW—William Gentrut, 20, of Beemer, Neb., washes his prize Hereford steer, getting him in tip-top shape for the 50th annual International Live Stock Show in Chicago.

Hops still show the highest economic value among the specialty crops, the authors point out. Production problems and lower prices, however, have reduced the Willamette valley hop acreage, where 90 per cent of the Oregon crop is raised.

While hops still account for more than one-half the state's specialty crop income, sugar beets, dry edible peas and peppermint, by comparison, show the greatest recent increases.

Incomes

During the period 1935-1939, cash receipts from farm marketings amounted to \$4,900,000 annually from the specialty group. During the three year period, 1945 through 1947, cash receipts from the same group averaged \$31,000,000 annually.

Return of European flax fiber to U. S. markets at the end of the war and high income from other

crops have contributed to reducing Oregon's fiber flax acreage below the pre-war level. A wartime high of 18,000 acres in 1942 had fallen to 2000 acres in 1948, the economists indicate.

Adequate Milk Consumption Vital Part of Physical Health

"Adults fail to consume adequate milk for physical well-being to a greater extent than do children," Dr. Pauline Beery Mack, director of the Ellen H. Richards Institute, at Pennsylvania state college, declared at a recent national milk symposium in Los Angeles.

"No age group meets the milk consumption recommendations of medical and nutrition experts on the average," said Dr. Mack, "but the various groups approach the recommendations in this order: children under six, children from six to 12, teen age boys, teen age girls, men under 40, women under 40, older men and women."

Gambling

"By curtailing milk consumption as well as that of other needed foods," said Dr. Mack, "Americans are gambling with their health."

Dr. Mack's statement was based on the 15-year Pennsylvania mass studies in human nutrition in which food habits and corresponding physical well-being of more than 12,000 persons representing a wide economic range have been studied intensively by the Pennsylvania state college under the auspices of health. More than 50 district observations are made in this investigation, which still is continuing.

Advice

As a part of the studies, Mrs. Julia Kiene, Westinghouse home

economics authority who cooperated in a one-year study of 64 families, said the families were tested initially, then food advice was given to each individual.

"Recommendations of milk were seven quarts weekly for children, and six for adults, based on the needs as shown by the initial tests," said Mrs. Kiene, "and we brought up milk consumption 24 per cent during the year of the study with milk intake still increasing."

Improvement

Dr. Mack said "We actually measured improvement in terms of growth in children; proper mineralization of the body's bones, skin, tongue, gums, blood levels of protein, vitamins, minerals and body functions. The improvement in all phases of physical status was marked."

"Milk makes unique contributions in protein, in calcium and in many other nutrient factors which should not be ignored at any age level. We have established a direct correlation between growth and maturity and mineralization of the

skeleton in children. Elderly persons tend to decrease in milk consumption with each 10-year increase in age, whereas they need milk desperately, particularly for maintaining the proper degree of mineralization of the skeleton."

Dr. Mack described a unique electronic technique for measuring mineral density of bones of living subjects, developed during the past 22 years under her direction, that provides an accurate tool for finding the relationship of milk intake to density of the framework of the body.

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*1949 results based on incomplete but conclusive nationwide registration figures. All other facts listed here are based on complete and official nationwide registration figures.



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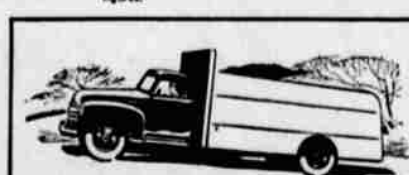
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in truck sales for total 19-year period, 1931 to date



FIRST

in truck sales for '49* (Outselling the next 2 makes combined)



FIRST

in truck sales for all postwar years



FIRST

in total number of trucks on road today

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