

Baby Chick Production 'At New High'

The production of baby chicks by commercial hatcheries in October was the largest on record in California, Farm Advisor Jack Hays, of the University of California Agricultural Extension service, says the output was 24 per cent larger than for October of last year.

Hays says the California crop and livestock reporting service estimates a 34 per cent larger hatch for the nation as a whole. The total hatch for the first 10 months of this year was the third largest output on record for these months.

General

The increased production of chicks during October was general throughout the country. Largest increases were in the East South Central States and smallest in the East North Central States.

The demand for chicks for commercial broiler production is still strong but has fallen off some in the past several months. The number of chicks booked on November 1 for December delivery was 7 per cent smaller than November 1 a year ago.

The average cost of the United States farm poultry ration in mid-October was \$3.40 per 100 pounds compared with \$3.58 a year ago.

Seed Growers Plan Meeting In Portland

Committee assignments and plans for the annual meeting of the Oregon Seed Growers league in Portland, January 9, 10 and 11, have been announced by R. Wallace Rice, Grants Pass, president, and E. R. Jackson, OSC secretary.

The first day's discussion will be devoted to weed control, the league officers announce. Afternoon of the opening day, the state's elite fescue growers will hold a get-together, and during the evening growers of chewings and creeping red fescue will meet.

Banquet

General sessions starting at 10 a. m. will occupy the following two days. The league's annual banquet will be held the evening of January 10. A detailed program and names of speakers will be announced later, Rice states. Committees and their chairmen are as follows:

Weeds, Jack Sather, Clatskanie; potatoes, M. B. McKay, Troutdale; malting barley, Gilbert Courtwright, Union; legislation, Ben Day, Gold Hill; farm owned cleaning plant and bulk handling, Glenn Ritchey, Forest Grove, and marketing problems and seed outlook, Afton Zundel, Astoria.



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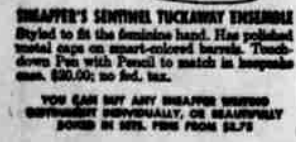
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TRIBUTE TO A GREAT NEWSPAPERMAN—A portrait of the late Ernie Pyle, famous Scripps-Howard newspaper correspondent, is hung at the Press Box, a New York restaurant. His is the first of a series of paintings of famous newspapermen to be displayed in the restaurant's Hall of Fame. On hand at the unveiling were: William Donovan, wartime head of the Office of Strategic Services; John Shelton, artist who painted the portrait, and Henry Castello, co-owner and manager of the restaurant.



"FUR HEVVIN'S SAKE"—A fallen angel is haloed Cary Wilmer, Jr., seen strumming his harp in an Atlanta, Ga., hospital. Playing the role of a Heavenly messenger in a stage show, Wilmer suffered a broken arm and leg when the cable supporting him above the stage broke. Strictly down to earth now, Wilmer vows never to act the angel again—not in this world, anyway.

Spud, Truck Crop Prices Hold Steady

Potato and truck crop prices were mostly unchanged during last week, according to the weekly potato and truck crops review prepared by the OSC extension service from USDA reports and other data.

Pacific coast potato markets were stronger the past week than those farther east. Wholesale prices held unchanged at Portland. No. 1-A Deschutes Russets were \$3.75 to \$4 a hundred. At San Francisco, Klamath Russets brought \$4 to \$4.25 in Monday's street sales. Brokers sales were mostly at \$3.75 during the week.

The Seattle market held un-

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1950 Farm Outlook Seen As Unsteady

Oregon extension agricultural economists are lukewarm to coolish with regard to Oregon's agricultural prospects for the coming year. Their feeling is decidedly bearish, they say, by comparison with the year now ending, and 1948.

Pre-war

Still, on the whole, more dollars are to go more places will be jangling in farmers' pockets during 1950 than were around to pay the grocery bill in pre-war days.

The economists base their views on the recent national outlook conference held by the U. S. department of agriculture in Washington, D. C., and other information.

Apparently, it's the old problem of supply and demand. Next year there'll be an increasing abundance of farm products. The public is tightening its belt.

Tapering Off

Consequently, agricultural economists see more tapering off in the prices farmers receive for their products.

Meanwhile, the old bug-a-boo—costs and expenses—show few signs of following farm prices downward. Interest costs, taxes and insurance are going up. Labor is coming down slowly to be sure, but not as fast as prices are falling.

Views of the Oregon agricultural economists on the future farm picture are summarized in a new circular, available through your county extension agent's office. Or write direct to Oregon State college.

In the new circular, the economists explain provisions of parity

changed at \$3.65 to \$3.75 on eastern Washington best quality. Los Angeles moved No. 1-A Idaho Russets in carlots at \$3.65 a hundred.

In the Idaho Falls area, these were mostly \$3 to \$3.15. Feb. the car. The shipping demand was very dull in that area and quotations slipped about a dime during the week. Farther east the markets were also mostly dull and quotations on truck sales at Chicago and Kansas City declined 15 to 25 cents a hundred.

Nationally, potato shipments picked up to the pre-Thanksgiving numbers, although Oregon, with less than 200 cars billed, did not share in the gain.



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