

# Herald and News

## FARM NEWS

MALCOLM EPLEY, Jr.  
Farm Editor



### Delegates Needed For Farm Youth Exchange Program

### Henley FB Mulls Water, Spud Problem

Henley Farm Bureau Center met last Wednesday night — a week later than scheduled because of weather conditions — and held a discussion as to whether or not social welfare recipients' names should be made public, and concluded that names, at present anyway, should be held secret.

Percy Dixon described present conditions of negotiations with the Bureau of Reclamation concerning a contract calling for the taking over of the Klamath Basin irrigation system by the water users.

The expression "Beneficial Use of Water" was discussed and members suggested that an effort be made to get the expression better defined, possibly in acre feet.

### Spuds Lag Behind 1950-51

Potato shipments, after leading last year's totals most of the season, began to lag last month, probably because of OPS control threats.

Only 1045 cars of spuds were shipped during the month of January, as compared with 2316 shipped for the same period last year.

Rail	880
Overloads	31
Trucks	233
California Seed	111
Stockfeed	1061
<b>Total</b>	<b>2316</b>

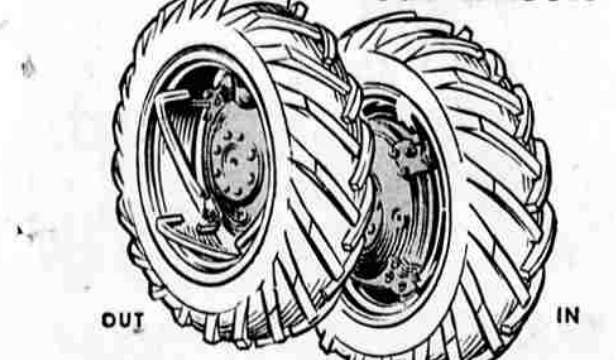
Rail	860
Overloads	40
Truck	145
<b>Total</b>	<b>1045</b>

(California seed shipments were not yet available this week. There were no stockfeed shipments.)

Cleaning fluid removes wads of bubble gum that frequently are stuck on children's blue jeans.

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### Pre-Mature Timber Cutting Problem Under Oregon Study

A trend toward premature clear cutting of 30 to 60 year-old second growth stands of western Oregon timber is a problem being studied by a statewide farm forestry committee.

Cash in the pocket today looks better than considerably more income "tomorrow" when the trees are mature, explains Glen Hawkins, Vernonia, the committee head. Second growth Douglas fir, western Oregon's most important forest tree, is normally not ready for clear cutting before it is 70 to 80 years of age or older.

Pressure from loggers is the reason many woodland owners are selling these young stands, the committee says.

National consumption of lumber continues high while supply of available privately-owned timber is decreasing. The committee estimates that the supply of available privately-owned saw timber in the state may be vanishing at the rate of five billion board feet annually. Annual cut, meanwhile, is about ten billion board feet a year.

Continued high demand on one hand; decreasing supply on the other has added impetus to the scramble for standing timber. Resulting from this, stumpage prices for growth timber have tripled in the past ten years.

Most serious obstacle standing in the way of increasing future timber production is brush encroachment. So-called "apple tree" alder along the coast, for example, will take over entire hillside of potentially high yielding forest land. It is expensive to control, yet if allowed to grow, will produce neither sawlogs or pulpwood.

The committee Hawkins leads is preparing a report to be presented at the statewide agricultural conference at Oregon State College Mar. 27 to 30. Subcommittees and their chairmen are: production

Bruce Barker, Corvallis; marketing, Ward Richardson, Fall City; education, William Tucker, Estacada; and eastern Oregon problems, Emil Muller, Helix. Charles E. Ross, OSC extension farm forestry specialist, is committee secretary.

### OSC Staffers Get Posts

OREGON STATE COLLEGE—Two Oregon State college staff members left the first of the year to accept foreign agricultural assignments with the Economic Co-operative administration.

Harry A. Schoth, senior agronomist at OSC who has done scientific and experimental work on a cooperative basis between the agricultural experiment station and the U.S. department of agriculture for more than 25 years, will spend from four to six months in low areas of Europe, particularly in western Germany.

He will give advisory and technical assistance and cooperate with agricultural representatives in European countries, primarily in forage and seed production problems.

Dr. W. P. Duruz, professor of horticulture for the past 22 years, will have headquarters at Managua, Nicaragua, where he will be a horticultural adviser for the ECA. He expects to be with the ECA until 1954.

PORTLAND (AP)—Henry Collins, a former president of the Pendleton Round-up, who underwent surgery here last weekend will retain the vision of one eye.

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### Hamaker Back Sprinkler Irrigation Costs Low for Plants at Capacity

Many of the sprinkler irrigation systems now in use in the Willamette valley are being operated far below capacity—and in nearly every case it's costing the farmer money.

That's the conclusion reached by an Oregon State college experiment station economist in a study of operating costs of sprinkler systems in the Willamette valley.

M. H. Becker, OSC assistant agricultural economist, gathered information on 111 farms using sprinkler irrigation. He found that costs in 1950 averaged about \$2 for applying an acre inch of water. They ranged from less than \$1 to nearly \$8 an acre inch.

The OSC economist reported that lowest costs were found when sprinkler systems were operated as near as possible to capacity during the critical irrigation period.

Becker said it was costing \$3.11 an acre inch to irrigate on farms where sprinkler systems were being used at only 23 per cent of their capacity. Irrigators using their systems at 91 per cent of capacity were getting by for only \$1.03 an acre inch.

Of the 111 systems covered by the OSC survey, 42 were reported as having excess capacity—too big for the acreage to be covered. Forty-five systems had the recommended capacity but only 14 of these were properly designed to give even distribution of water at the lowest total cost. Then there were 17 systems that were judged too small to give adequate coverage to the acreage to be irrigated.

It all adds up to the fact that many Willamette valley sprinkler systems need a change in design for more efficient operation, Becker explained. Such changes will pay in lower irrigation costs.

### Forest Fires Hit By Smokejumpers

ALTURAS — Twentieth-Century Fox Technicolor film "Red Skies of Montana" — which comes to Klamath Falls Feb. 10—depicts the horrors of rampaging forest fires, and arduous activity of the new smokejumper program.

According to Modoc Forest headquarters, nine fires were handled in the Klamath National Forest last season entirely by jumpers.

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