

Market Tussle Trade Involved

that is, cash onions were offered to and accepted by those who had bought the futures. Deliveries of between 200 and 225 cars were taken by two commission houses believed to be representing the Florida N. Y. group.

The onions were not initially hedged in the futures market—in other words, no sales had been made in onion futures to correspond to the holdings of cash onions. But the price decline set in after Thanksgiving. There were reports onions were more plentiful than had been supposed, that they had been "hidden under haystacks in the country."

The Florida, N. Y., group started to hedge its position in cash onions by selling January and March futures contracts. However, they sold more futures than they had cash onions in other words, they went short on the market in expectation of making a profit on a price drop.

The November futures contracts on which delivery of cash onions were made, were bought at around \$3.15 to \$3.25 a sack. The New York group started to sell futures, hedging their cash holdings, at \$2.80 to \$2.90. It was during this period that prices plunged so deeply.

As prices went down, the Chicago merchandising group started to buy on the belief prices had sunk much too low. They were proved right when in mid-December prices started a good recovery. Trade sources view the market as largely a tussle between these two groups, with the final outcome uncertain.

otic Bug Killers Oregon Experiment

then both up and down the plant. They soon become concentrated in new plant tissues, however, which is one of the major advantages of the new group of compounds. Non-systemic protectants only the surfaces to which they are applied and new plant growth is subject to insect attack.

RESISTANCE for unknown reasons are apparently not very receptive to the new chemicals, but most will readily take up the compounds through root hairs and natural plant surface openings.

The big questions in using the systemic, the entomologists report are which insects will they control, how safe are they on food plants, and how can they best be used to get maximum results.

Research elsewhere has indicated systemics may control more insects than just sucking aphids and spider mites. Considerable work has to be done from the health hazard standpoint, and technique of use, however, before the new chemicals can be widely recommended, the entomologists caution.

The OSC chemistry department is cooperating in the radio-active botany and plant pathology on phases of research dealing with plant physiology.

Radioaction Helps Studies

OREGON STATE COLLEGE — Life inside the tomato and apple is being studied by Oregon State College scientists with radio-active materials that promise to provide a wealth of new information on plant physiology.

The solution of difficult problems in fruit metabolism has been made possible by the development of radio-active tracer techniques by OSC chemists during the past four years.

Radio-active carbon compounds are being used in the study. With them the scientists hope to uncover new findings in such inner plant goings-on as formation of sugars, acids and proteins in fruits. These processes are inter-related and are responsible for the life cycle of the fruit.

The tracer materials are injected into the fruit with a hypodermic needle. Later on after they have been absorbed into the fruit tissues, the compounds or their derivatives can be traced and isolated with special detection apparatus that operates in Geiger-counter fashion.

By this technique it is possible to determine how complex compounds are made from or into simpler compounds by natural processes.

The OSC work is among the first on fruits. Most plant studies of this nature to date have been on leaves, roots and other parts of the plant. It is expected that the tracer techniques can be used to advantage by other research groups of the college such as bacteriologists, zoologists and food-technologists in studying animal and plant functions.

Cooperating on the fruit metabolism studies are the departments of horticulture and chemistry. Research workers include Dr. Elmer Hansen, horticulturist, and Dr. C.H. Wang, Dr. Vernon H. Chelidini and Dr. Bert E. Christensen, chemists.

Research is supported in part by a grant from the atomic energy commission.

Growers April

growers will hold a show in April according to OSC officials. Tentative plans have been shown for a show April 8 and 9. The show will be held at the fairgrounds and will feature a variety of exhibits and demonstrations. The show is expected to be a success and will provide a valuable opportunity for growers to display their products and for the public to learn more about the growing process.

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Herald and News FARM NEWS

MALCOLM EPLEY, Jr.
Farm Editor



Tule Growers Begin Agreement Campaign

TULELAKE—The Tule Growers Association's board of directors Monday began the big push to gain approval of its 1953 program by a necessary 75 per cent of the growers in this area.

In a special session held here, the directors have readied some 800 agreements to be signed by growers who plan to participate or support the TGA's programs. A mimeographed letter listing the background and work of the Tule Growers' group is being circulated, according to Pres. Charles Wiese, and it explains many of the past accomplishments of the group.

Wiese said the directors are expecting the agreement-drive to be a success.

He named three Tulelake potato operators to handle the potato activity of the growers association. They are Dan Crawford Sr., Woody Chambers and Glen Arthur.

The association has been invited to attend and participate in Monday afternoon's meeting of Klamath Growers Association in the Merrill Recreation Hall where area policy recommendations are to be drawn up to be submitted to the new administration.

Future plans of the TGA, according to Wiese, are to have committees on other commodities such as clover and grain, similar to the three-man committee on potatoes.

Frank Mancuso was No. 1 to sign up on the agreement list Monday, and Raymond Baker was No. 2. By Tuesday dozens had been contacted and signed up, according to TGA Mgr. John Seis.

Consumer Pork Report Out

Leaner cuts of pork are clearly preferred and bacon is served more often than any other meat, according to a new Oregon State college experiment station bulletin, "Consumer Report on Pork Products."

Copies of the bulletin, which was prepared by Dr. C. W. Vrooman, assistant agricultural economist, are available from county agents or OSC.

The publication points out that finding a way to make pork production more profitable involves a study of markets and consumer wants as well as production methods. Consumer studies for the report were made in five western Oregon cities—Roseburg, Medford, Portland, Corvallis and Astoria.

The study, combined with other swine production and marketing research is aimed at providing a solid base of information on which the interested farmer can build a profitable swine enterprise, the author points out.

OSC'er Named To USDA Board

The head of the agricultural economics department of Oregon State College, Dr. G. Burton Wood, has been named a member of the national advisory committee to the new secretary of agriculture, Ezra Taft Benson.

It will be the function of this committee to "advise the secretary of agriculture and his associates on matters of policy and procedure of immediate interest to the agricultural industry." Secretary-designate Benson informed Dr. Wood in his telegram of appointment. The appointment was made with the approval of President-elect Eisenhower the OSC staff member was told.

First meeting of the committee will be held at the University of Maryland Jan. 6 and 7.

Born and raised in Oregon, Dr. Wood received his master's degree from OSC in 1940 and his doctorate from the University of Wisconsin in 1942. He has served with the farm credit administration and the war food administration and was at Purdue university from 1944 until July 1951 when he joined the OSC staff.

House to Hear Rain Makers

WASHINGTON — Congress is going to get a weather-control or "rain-making" proposal.

Sen. Case (R-S. D.) told a reporter he plans to introduce the legislation, probably Tuesday. It would set up a temporary advisory committee on weather control which would require reports on rain-making operations but would not prevent farmers or others from carrying on experiments.

The committee would analyze reports and deliver its findings to Congress. It would authorize minor research to fill in the gaps left by private experiments.

Case said he feels there is need for prompt national action on rain-making.

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There is some doubt, Case said in a statement, whether large-scale rainmaking activities produce rainfall in economically significant quantities. He added:

"There are still some doubts whether rain-making practitioners are operating ethically and scientifically."

Case's bill is identical to the one he offered last season along with Sens. Magnuson (D-Wash.) and Cordell (R-Ore.) and Anderson (D-N. M.). It passed the Senate but never came up for a vote in the House.

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PHILIPPINES TO MAKE TIRES

MANILA — The Philippines will start manufacturing automobile tires early in 1953. Hermogenes Jacinto, vice-president of Jacinto Rubber and Plastics Inc., announced his concern would set up a \$500,000 tire-producing plant. American and Japanese technicians will serve as advisors. Jacinto said \$100,000 worth of equipment purchased in the United States is en route for the new plant.

Bigger Strawberries Come From Hormone - Spray Tests

OREGON STATE COLLEGE — Larger strawberries through use of a liquid chemical spray appear likely as the result of tests recently completed at Oregon State college.

Marshall strawberries gained as much as one-third in size, retained full flavor, texture and sugar content following application of one of the so-called "hormone" sprays.

Preliminary tests with Beta-Naphthoxyacetic acid used first time on strawberries were termed "highly satisfactory" by Quentin Zielinski, horticulturist, and Ralph Garren, research assistant, who conducted the tests on irrigated plots at the OSC experimental farm. They believe their findings warrant use of the spray in field tests by strawberry growers next summer.

Zielinski stated that larger fruit could be grown at low cost if results of next summer's field tests bring about production of the spray in commercial quantities. Spray mixtures using the same chemical are produced commercially for increasing the size of Hawaiian pineapples.

Correct mixture and application of the spray were of major importance in the OSC experiments. The treated berries showed no off-flavor effects, either fresh or frozen, retained full sugar content, and were firm textured, with no increased "seediness."

Both the fruit and plants were better colored than the unsprayed plants in the same plot, Zielinski reported. After two years' testing, the plants showed no wilting or burning which results in the use of some growth-regulating chemicals.

Findings in the OSC experiments were further checked at Michigan State college under different soil and climatic conditions with similar results.

Strawberry growers who wish to make field trials next year should contact the horticulture department at Oregon State college for recommended application and sources of supplies.

January is 'Egg Month', Says Poultry Industry

January has been designated national egg month in an attempt to increase consumer buying at a time when egg prices are usually at the low point.

Noel Bennion, poultry specialist at Oregon State college, says egg producers and allied industries will conduct the campaign through retail stores, local newspapers, radio stations and word of mouth.

"January provides a welcome occasion to recognize publicly the importance of a basic food used by people of all ages," Bennion says.

He points out that this is a good time to use a variety of egg dishes to stimulate appetites after the heavier-than-usual holiday meals. Nutrition authorities recommend eggs be included daily in meals because of their rich protein, mineral, and vitamin content, according to Bennion.

In pointing out the importance of the campaign to Oregon's \$50 million poultry industry, Bennion says 67 per cent of the state's farmers keep chickens. The industry accounts for 10 to 12 per cent of Oregon's total agricultural income.

Barry Brownell, Milwaukie, is Oregon chairman for the Poultry and Egg national board. Other committee members include Noel Bennion, Oregon State college poultry specialist; Harry Rohe, Oregon Egg Producers; Dick Keuhner, farm market relations; Carl Zimmerman, Howard McNulty, Oregon Food Merchants association; Henry Witt, Buy-Rite Grocery operator; H. E. Carlson, Independent Retail Growers; Earl Childs, Fred Meyer; Clem Norton, Northwest Poultry and Dairy Products; Mrs. Nancy Morris, food editor, Oregonian; Mrs. Katherine Laughton, food editor, Oregon Journal.

53rd Dairy Meet at OSC

Milk production and marketing will be examined by key men of the industry at the fifty-ninth annual meeting of Oregon Dairymen's association at Oregon State college, Jan. 13 and 14.

R. W. Morse, OSC dairy specialist and secretary of the association, says representatives of dairy products processors and retail outlets will discuss current problems in Oregon's shifting dairy picture. This will include price of milk and butterfat content which have come in for much public discussion recently. Also of special interest will be the state's declining number of dairy cows which threatens the state with becoming a deficit dairy products area.

R. S. Walz, Seattle, manager of the Consolidated Dairy Products company, will discuss substitute dairy products at the first day morning session.

S. Eugene Allen, Secretary-manager of the Oregon restaurant association, Portland, will examine the relationship between dairymen and restaurants and public relations at the second morning meeting. E. Wayne Laird, chairman of the milk marketing committee of the Oregon Independent Grocers association, will discuss milk marketing.

Also scheduled for the second day is a group discussion of disease control, production testing, artificial breeding and marketing and production. Election activities of the Oregon milk producers committee will be presented to the conference.

The conference will close with a report of resolutions and election of officers and directors.

All meetings will be held in Withycombe Hall.

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