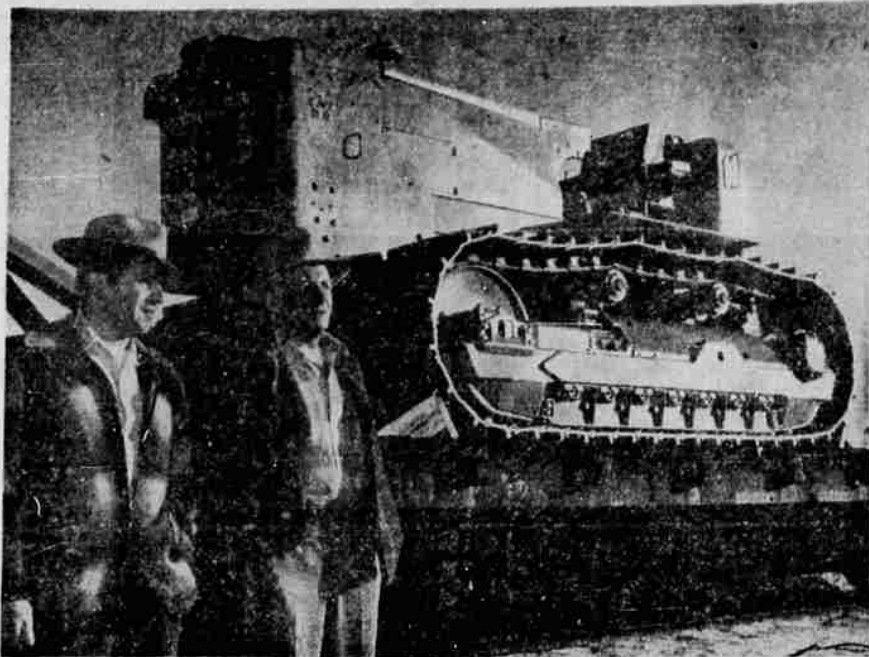




THIS HUGE NEW CATERPILLAR D-9 type tractor went through Klamath Falls recently and was shown by the Crater Lake Machinery Company while it was here. The D-9 is the new largest model manufactured by the Caterpillar Tractor Company. It weighs 60,230 pounds bare. With bulldozer, logging winch and canopy top the weight is approximately 73,000 pounds. The tractor is powered by a six-cylinder turbo-charged diesel engine with 240 horsepower on the drawbar. Standing in front of the huge machine is Bob Holl, right, of Loveness Lumber Company and Mike Balcom, sales representative for Crater Lake Machinery Company, local caterpillar dealers. At present there are two of the machines near the Klamath area—one at Loveness Lumber Company near Canby, California, and one at Long-Bell Lumber Company in Tennant, California.

Farmers Spurred To Enlarge Dairies Or End Businesses

OREGON STATE COLLEGE — Trends toward better and fewer dairy farms, coupled with a price-cost squeeze, are spurring farmers to get bigger or to get out of the dairy business, Oregon State College agricultural economists report.

A big drop in the number of Oregon farms keeping milk cows is shown in preliminary 1954 census figures. Only 33,170 farms reported one or more milk cows last fall—5000 fewer than in the spring of 1950.

Further emphasizing the trend to specialization, the economists point out that only 5866 Oregon farms sold whole milk in 1954 compared to 13,173 in 1949 and 15,010 in 1944. More milk was sold per farm in 1954, however.

Despite the trend, the economists expect some farmers to turn back to milking cows as a break-away from dwindling returns from other livestock and most crops.

Pointers to help dairymen keep pace in the highly competitive business are outlined in the latest "Oregon Agricultural Situation and Outlook" circular available from county extension agents or the OSC bulletin clerk.

Closer herd culling, more empha-

sis on milk and less on fat, greater use of artificial breeding, herd testing, and better feeding are among suggestions.

Substituting lower-priced grain for high-priced hay in Oregon dairy rations may cut feed costs this winter. For the longer pull, the economists favor more pasture and silage.

Recent steps by the dairy industry to shave farm-to-market expenses have reduced Oregon milk distribution costs to among the lowest in the nation. Early this year, Oregon marketing costs and margins for fluid milk averaged about 9.9 cents a quart compared to a national average of 12.2 cents. The shift from cans to tank-handling of milk, collection and delivery of milk on alternate days, and wider use of paper containers are changes that are helping to hold down marketing costs.

CANDY THIEF

COVINGTON, Ky. — Someone who swiped \$100 worth of candy from the nearby Latonia Baptist Church yesterday has earned the title of "meanest thief of the year." The candy was to be used at a Christmas party for youngsters.

Agricultural Economists Warn Of Too Many Turkeys

OREGON STATE COLLEGE — Improvement in the poultry business during the past year may signal trouble ahead, especially for turkey growers, according to Oregon State College agricultural economists.

A combination of lower feed costs throughout 1955 and higher turkey prices this fall momentarily pulled the industry out of the doldrums and may encourage national production of too many turkeys for good returns in 1956, the economists warn.

Poultry and dairy trends are outlined by the economists in their latest "Oregon Agricultural Situation and Outlook" circular. Copies are available from county extension agents or the OSC bulletin clerk.

Although feed costs may be somewhat lower in 1956, turkey prices are likely to drop more than feed as all signs point to an increased turkey hatch. A recent survey showed that breeder-hen owners in leading turkey states plan to hold 13 per cent more heavy hens and seven per cent more light-breed hens for the 1956 hatching season than they held last year.

Other poultrymen also have fared better during the past year

with returns from the egg business showing a gradual climb. But returns have not been high enough to bring much increase in layers in 1956, the economists believe. A three to five per cent increase in chicks would just about replace the large number of old hens slated for culling next year.

The next big "squeeze" in the egg business seems likely to hit in 1957. One comes every two or three years, the economists say. On this basis, men who watch farm price trends see 1956 as a good year for established egg producers to "stay in" but a questionable year to start or expand.

Established growers are advised to cull flocks closely next year to have them at top efficiency. It will probably pay to market old hens as soon as they have finished their spring lay, the economists suggest.

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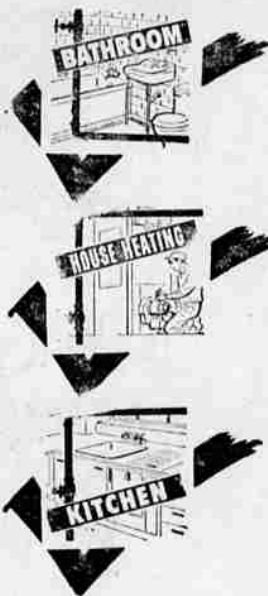
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