

County Agent Reports

Farm News Briefed From The County Agent Radio Programs

By WALT JENDRZEJEWSKI

Several meetings of interest to farmers are scheduled for next month.

The sixth annual Weed Conference will be held at Oregon State College November 14-15.

The following week, November 19-21, there's a National Potato Council meeting in Washington, D.C.

The last issue of Potato Council News carries an article announcing approval of a potato marketing agreement order for the Red River Valley. With approval of the marketing order in the Red River Valley, it is estimated that 70 per cent of the nation's late crop potatoes are now covered by federal marketing orders.

The Washington State Potato Commission has launched its first advertising program. They're using TV spots on NBC's "Today" as well as news ads on the West Coast and full color (point of sale material). They've managed to get plugs on various TV network shows.

A recent consumer preference test carried by the Department of Economics at the University of Michigan comparing the three dehydrated mashed potato products—ranked flakes and granules about on a par but rated down the extruded product.

This is of interest to us because some of our growers believe manufacture of a dehydrated mashed potato into either flakes or granules offers the best processing opportunity here for our small sizes.

On November 21 and 22, the State Association of Soil Conservation Districts will hold its annual meeting at Tillamook. A new feature of the State Soil Conservation District Association meeting is a soil judging contest for district supervisors, with a \$100 prize for the winning team.

Klamath County has three soil conservation districts. Among them they cover the county. Two of these districts operate heavy equipment programs for improvement of agricultural land by drainage and leveling.

Another date to put on the calendar is the Oregon Seed League meeting at the Mullnomah Hotel in Portland December 5, 6 and 7. Quite a number of Klamath's grass and legume seed growers like to make this meeting.

The following is quoted from John Riggie of the National Council of Farm Cooperatives. It suggests a possible solution for some of the problems arising from the technical revolutions in farm production and marketing.

"The mechanical revolution on the farm and the marketing revolution in the ten year post-war period has netted the farmer an annual income of 9.5 billion dollars less because of marketing costs passed back, and increased production costs he has absorbed. And he has accumulated a debt of 18 billion.

"It hardly looks as if improved technology will pay for itself down on the farm in the foreseeable future as long as the economic benefits are absorbed in increased costs by suppliers of equipment and materials, and production, marketing and transportation services.

"The pressure toward increasing the size of farm in order to increase production and sales, in order to buy more machinery, in order to reduce net income is like a dog chasing his tail.

"Sooner or later he will bite off enough tail that he can't make both ends meet. If he had a short tail, he has already lost the race."

Riggie points out that the consumer is being better served by better processed and packaged food and is eating better than he was ten years ago with the expenditure of about the same percentage of income.

The urban customer has reduced his expenditure for food from 24 to 22 per cent of his income. He does spend \$94 more per capita than 10 years ago but his per capita income has increased \$420. But Riggie doesn't like what he sees is happening to the farmer.

He sees a solution in attempts to

improve bargaining power. He sees marketing agreements and cooperative associations as tools by which better bargaining power can be achieved.

And he states, "Unless through the principles of the marketing agreement or similar procedure, the producer is able to feed supplies into the market as effective demand will absorb them, he may become increasingly dependent either on government, which also represents labor, business and consumers, and in the face of all these interests, can, at best support agriculture only at subsistence level; or on non-producer agencies who if they provide the capital and management, will also absorb the profits and control of the farm economy."

Integration of marketing with production is developing rapidly in some areas. Broiler production and other processing industries supplied by contract farming are examples of this. The development is attracting much attention.

Canada's Pig Plan Studied

A team of seven specialists in swine production and marketing has been sent to Canada by the United States Department of Agriculture to study improved methods of producing and marketing hogs in that country.

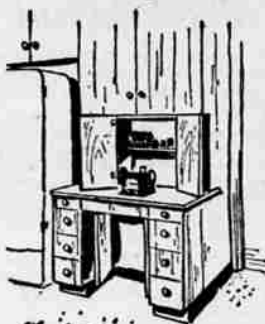
The group currently is touring several hog producing Provinces of Canada after meeting with Canadian Department of Agriculture officials in Ottawa.

The study is part of the practice of exchanging technical information long observed by United States and Canadian agriculture.

The mission to Canada resulted from concern by hog producers in the U.S. and recognition by the U.S. Congress and the Department of Agriculture of problems in producing and marketing hogs in this country. American consumers have been changing their preferences toward less fat and more meatiness in the pork they would like to buy. At the same time, progress in the United States toward production and marketing of meat-type hogs has been relatively slow.

Study of Canadian methods and procedures was undertaken in accordance with recommendations of the House Committee on Agricultural Appropriations. Meatier type hogs have long been produced in Canada. An important

Sewing Desk



ONE HOUSEWIFE has solved the problem of space utilization by an ingeniously designed desk-type cabinet in one corner of her combined kitchen and family room. The desk becomes a sewing table when the sewing machine slides out into position to replace a section of the desk top which lifts out.

Conservation Sign-Up Set

Sign-up for the 1958 Soil Bank conservation reserve is now underway at county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation offices.

There are several changes in the 1958 program that will be of interest to part-time farmers as well as full-time farmers, says M. D. Thomas, agricultural economist at Oregon State College.

One of the main changes in the program is that farmers are now being encouraged to put whole farm units under the program. The conservation reserve is also encouraging more forestry practices. Trees for windbreaks and wildlife refuge get a boost under the 1958 program.

The 1958 Soil Bank contracts will pay up to 80 per cent of the cost of establishing land in the conservation reserve, plus annual rental payments for the land. Contracts now range from three to ten years. And annual payments may be made up to \$5,000 per farm.

reason for this, pointed out in the House Committee report, is that for several decades Canadian producers have received higher prices for production of high quality meat-type hogs. It is hoped that observation of Canadian production and marketing techniques will reveal features of their program that might be adaptable to production and marketing conditions in the United States.

Farm Bureau's Annual Meet Announced For November 6

The 26th annual meeting and convention of the Oregon Farm Bureau Federation is scheduled for November 7, 8 and 9 at the Eugene Hotel in Eugene, according to Gerald Detering, president of the Oregon Farm Bureau.

The membership gathering will open formally with a vesper service and candle lighting ceremony at 8 o'clock the evening of November 6. Official business of the convening delegates and members will begin the following morning at 8:45.

More than 600 Farm Bureau members, representing 30 Oregon counties, are expected to attend the three day event. Featured speakers will be Don Paarlberg, assistant secretary of agriculture; Charles Shuman, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation; General L. H. Foote, north division engineer on Water Resources Development and Dr. Kenneth Hood, director of the Commodity Department American Farm Bureau Federation.

Individual commodity conferences are scheduled throughout the day of November 7, said Detering, and these groups will discuss special problems and make suggestions for future policy consideration by Farm Bureau members.

The entire family is represented at the annual meeting, Detering pointed out. Farm Bureau women will conduct their annual young peoples Talk Meet and plan their Farm Bureau activities for the coming year. Mrs. Robert Crane, Northwest regional chairman AFBF will visit with the women group and address the general session on November 7.

Detering points out the primary purpose of the annual meeting is to form policies which will guide the Oregon Farm Bureau throughout the coming year. The issues are now being discussed and recommendations are being made on the county level. The county recommendations will be presented to the state resolutions committee for final drafting. The final approval is given by the voting delegates at

the annual meetings, the delegation charged with this important task is made up of Farm Bureau members from each of the organized counties. After final passage, by the delegates, the resolutions become the policy of the Oregon Farm Bureau for the 1958 year.

Ford Trucks Last Longer on the FARM

See your Farm Truck Headquarters
BALSIGER
MOTOR CO.

Main St. Esp. Ph. TU 4-3121



Headquarters for Livestock Supplies

FRANKLIN

Vaccines, Medicinals and Supplies for Cattle, Horses, Sheep Hogs and Poultry
LEE HENDRICKS

Your Neighborhood Druggist
2212 So. 6th Ph. TU 4-4321

WE HAVE A COMPLETE LINE OF



Simplot Soilbuilders

Ph. TU 2-1438, K. Falls
Ph. 607 - Malin

Farmers Go Forward
With The
Forward Control
4-Wheel Drive
JEEP!
•
ECCLES
MOTOR CO.
606 S. Sixth



HOME IS HIS RANGE. Calves are usually at home on the range, but not so for this critter whose favorite range is in the kitchen. Mr. and Mrs. Bunte, of Balwin, Illinois, adopted "Torro," now three months old, when its mother died shortly after giving birth. Mrs. Bunte bottle fed Torro for a few days and kept the calf alive. Now the friendly calf is one of the family and has the run of the house.

At Your Service!

CUSTOM MIXING

Winema Mills

Merrill, Oregon — Phone 4881