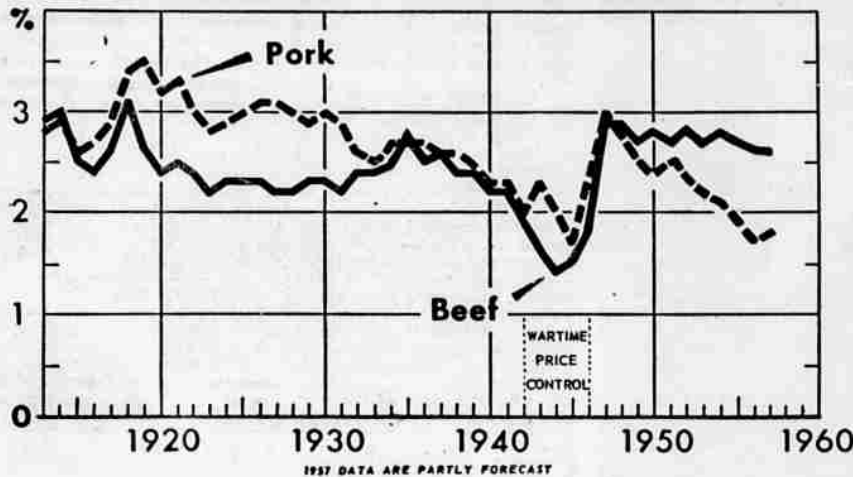


PERCENTAGE OF CONSUMER'S DOLLAR SPENT FOR BEEF AND PORK



CONSUMERS HAVE SPENT a decreasing proportion of their income for pork. This is in contrast with the steady to rising proportion spent for beef.

Soil Bank Pay Exception Set

Oregon farmers who earmark marginal cropland for forest plantings under the Soil Bank program can receive payment for the conservation practice even though they are unable to get trees to make the planting this year.

Charles Ross, Oregon State College extension farm forestry specialist, says forest tree seedlings in Oregon are being rationed to stretch supplies among as many persons as possible. Even so, seedling supplies may run short of demand this fall.

A four to five-fold increase in seedling supplies is expected next year. Ross advises farmers to sign up land now for the Soil Bank's conservation reserve program and receive rental payments until trees are available. Sign-up before April 1 will prevent any loss of eligibility.

The State Forestry Department, Salem, has reported three million young trees, mostly Douglas fir, available from the Oregon state forest nursery this fall. An estimated 15 million or more seedlings will be available next fall following expansion of the nursery program to meet expected Soil Bank needs.

Meanwhile, the forestry department, OSC Extension Service, and the U.S. Forest Service are cooperating with farmers to get as

Farm Prices Show Gains

Oregon farm prices rose in October, gaining back the ground lost in September, according to Mrs. Elvera Horrell, extension agricultural economist at Oregon State College.

As a result, farm prices in the state are now at the same level as in August—about one per cent higher than a year ago—Mrs. Horrell said. In contrast to the local situation, national farm prices turned downward.

Reviewing reports from the U.S.

Department of Agriculture, Mrs. Horrell found that livestock prices held about steady in Oregon, as lower prices on most meat animals and wool offset price gains in dairy products and eggs. Prices received for farm crops in Oregon moved upward and higher prices for grains, potatoes, vegetables, and seeds more than offset lower hay, fruit, and nut prices.

On the cost side of the ledger, Oregon farmers paid less for mill-run, mixed dairy feed, laying mash, scratch grain and broiler mash. Alfalfa hay cost the state's farmers more last month than in September, but cottonseed meal and soybean meal held about the same. All of these feed costs were lower than in October 1956.

Farm wage rates in Oregon are running higher than a year ago, Mrs. Horrell also reported. Nationally, farm products felt a tightening of the squeeze as prices dipped lower while costs held about the same. Mostly responsible for the decline over the nation were lower price tags on most meat animals, oranges, corn and cotton. These were partially offset by higher prices for dairy products and eggs.

Despite the decline, national farm prices are still around three per cent above a year earlier, Mrs. Horrell said.

many plantings as possible started this year. County extension agents can advise farmers on getting technical assistance to help decide what to plant and how to plant, Ross says.

The Soil Bank pays \$25 an acre toward costs of buying and planting trees plus annual rental payments of \$8 to \$14 an acre for land in the reserve program. Most lands in Oregon will be eligible for \$13 an acre rental, the specialist says.

Ten-year contracts are required purposes. Either five or 10-year contracts are available, however, if plantings are for shelterbelts, windbreaks, or wildlife habitats. Farmers with lands not eligible for the conservation reserve are advised to investigate possibilities of forest plantings under the agricultural conservation program.

State Farm Bureau Convention Heard Many Local Speakers

Mrs. E. G. Kerns reports that one of the prominent features of the State Convention of the Oregon Farm Bureau Federation held recently in Eugene was a series of agricultural commodity conferences.

Tom McElroy, farm bureau state livestock chairman presided over a livestock conference which was based on the theme "Promoting and Marketing Our Farm Products."

Among the recommendations discussed were:

1. A proposal that individual counties carry on meat consumption programs using materials supplied by the National Livestock and Meat Board.

2. That marketing services of county farm bureaus be further developed.

3. That educational programs on disease control be promoted.

4. A request for a legislative program supporting a change in the brucellosis control plan from the county to the state level because of out of state shipping; a vote on the proposed Oregon Beef Commission; and a bill to clarify the present fence laws.

C. W. Ferguson discussed the problems facing Western livestock producers brought on by the recent freight rate reduction granted railroads on westbound dressed meat. He brought out the fact that packers in Portland are able to buy dressed beef shipped from Midwestern points for six cents per hundredweight less than locally slaughtered cattle.

Mac Cullen explained the promotional efforts of the National

Livestock and Meat Board and following this a panel discussion of cooperative livestock marketing was held with Bill Fowler of Oregon State College's marketing service acting as moderator. The growth of Lake County's lamb and wool was outlined by George Manning and Earl Kerns reviewed the services offered by the Klamath County Livestock Shipping Association since its beginning in 1950. Fred Stelzen Mueller described the wool and lamb pool being operated in Klamath County and outlined the order buying system he is conducting here.

Ted Hyde, of Bly, who is serving as chairman of the committee responsible for organizing an Oregon Beef Commission under the sponsorship of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association described the proposed commission and answered several questions regarding the function of such a commission.



Money Released For Timber Sales

The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced that an additional \$375,000 to increase the number of timber sales on the national forests of Oregon and Washington has been allotted for use during the current fiscal year. This is in addition to approximately 1.9 million dollars previously allocated for the same purpose.

These additional sales will help forest products industries by making more timber available within the allowable cutting capacity of the national forests.

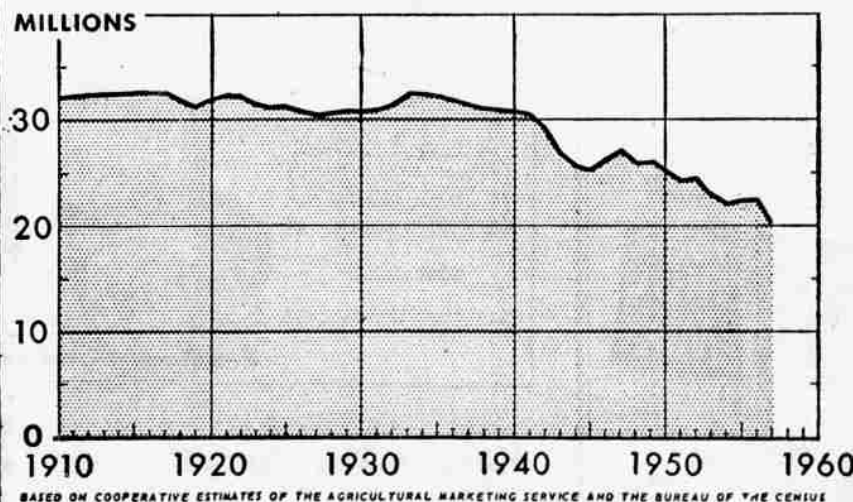
These additional funds will make it possible to advertise for sale 800 million more board feet of timber than the Department's Forest Service has previously scheduled.

Four hundred million board feet will be advertised prior to July 1958, and the remaining 400 million board feet will be advertised between July 1, and September 30, 1958. Total value of this timber is estimated at 12 million dollars.

COOPERATION — This is the official National Farm-City Week emblem for 1957. This year's celebration, the third annual observance, will be held the week of November 22-28. Farm-City Week, in which more than 5,000 U.S. and Canadian communities participated last year, is designed to bring about better understanding between rural and urban peoples.

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FARM POPULATION



FARM POPULATION, as is shown in the above chart, has fallen off sharply in recent years. The trend is said to be a result of increased mechanization in agriculture. Rural population has increased, but the majority of the new country dwellers are not dependent upon the land for their living.

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