

Rancher's Report

By BILL DECKER

The Klamath Cattlemen's Association will hold its annual meeting February 22 at 1:30 p.m. in the Willard Hotel. The meeting will be open to everyone interested in beef production. The Cow Belles will hold a tea on the same day at the home of Mrs. Irwin Campbell on the Lakeview Highway from 2 until 4 p.m. The two groups will join for a social hour and banquet at 6 p.m. in the Willard.

Highlighting the cattlemen's meeting will be an address by George Russell, president of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association. Ed Coles, secretary of the state organization, will discuss the recent reduction of freight rates on west-bound dressed meat. This highly controversial Interstate Commerce Commission decision is being actively opposed by Western cattlemen and Coles will report on the progress being made to obtain a reversal of the grant.

M. E. Knickerbocker, head of the Oregon State Department of Agriculture Department's Animal Industries Division, will offer an analysis of the new Livestock District Law which was revised by the last State Legislature. He is expected to report on the brucellosis control program as well. Other problems to be discussed, according to president of the Klamath Cattlemen's Association Bill Marshall, will be taken up as they are presented from the floor.

Reservations for the banquet should be made as soon as possible with Ray Peterson in the County Agent's office in the federal building.

More than one-half million tests for brucellosis were made in Oregon during 1957 and in addition, nearly 138,000 calves were vaccinated for protection against this disease. These figures are from the annual summary of the federal-state cooperative brucellosis control program.

The testing in 1957 marked an all-time high in Oregon eradication efforts, according to the two veterinarians heading the program. These men are Dr. K. J. Peterson, state veterinarian with the State Department of Agriculture, and Dr. A. G. Beagle, in charge of federal veterinarians working in Oregon under the Federal Department of Agriculture.

A total of 348,639 blood tests was given with 2,690 reactors discovered. The reactor percentage was 0.771. Also, an estimated 158,800 cattle were covered with milk and cream ring tests made last year. Use of the ring tests to discover suspicious herds was started in late August under the authority of 1957 legislation.

Vaccinations were given to 137,891 calves in 8,164 herds—this exceeds the number of vaccinations given in 1956 by more than 57,000.

Testing of cattle for tuberculosis was done concurrently with the brucellosis work, but on a lesser scale. Sixty-two reactors were found in 102,806 cattle tested for the disease—or one in every 1,658 animals tested. This was more than in 1956 when one reactor appeared in every 3,287 cattle tested for T.B.

The increase in tuberculosis last year was due primarily to a flare-up in Jackson County, where 51 of the 62 reactors were found. Only other counties in which reactors were found were Marion and Multnomah with three each, Washington with two, and Morrow and Wasco with one each.

During the month of December alone, 43,269 brucellosis tests were given—over 6,000 more cattle tested than in November. In addition, nearly 18,000 calves were vaccinated in 771 herds. In Grant County 6,296 head of cattle were tested in December; other areas in which the number of tests given was high were Baker, Crook, Harney, Malheur and Wasco counties.

The State Department of Agriculture has just issued a pamphlet on the brucellosis program. Copies are available to anyone interested.

A master recipe for hamburger has been issued by the State Department of Agriculture so that wherever it is sold in Oregon it

ascorbate, Vitamin C) and monosodium glutamate as optional ingredients if stated on the label.

If sellers want to show that the product is made entirely from a certain part of the beef carcass, the label on the package or placard by the bulk display in a retail market, may bear this information. For example, "ground beef made from ground round."

The department will soon begin sampling hamburger at the retail level on the basis of new standards of identity. The state will enforce the same uniform standards at both the wholesale and retail levels.

Known livestock losses from predatory animals during the last three months of 1957 totaled 471 head of animals and poultry, including 229 sheep, three goats, 136 chickens, five geese, 97 turkeys and one duck. These figures come from Mel Smith, district agent for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and M. E. Knickerbocker, animal division chief of the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

These totals should not be con-

BLEACH JOB

Bleaching of cedar to subdue the rich autumn colors of the wood and yet retain its natural beauty is receiving preference from many architects. Especially in paneling and where western red cedar lumber is used as exposed ceiling decking, a white primer coat is brushed on and wiped off immediately. After thoroughly drying, the wood is sanded with 6-0 paper and clear varnish is brushed on. Rub the last coat with 4-0 steel wool for best results. The wood should first be sanded with 2-0 paper.

POPULARITY CONTEST

A surprising increase in the number of single-family dwellings built of wood was registered during 1956, says the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Wood was used structurally in the exterior walls of 83 per cent of one-family homes, compared to 77 per cent just a year before. More than half of all framing lumber used in the U.S. is Douglas fir, the tough, high stress lumber produced in the rain-drenched western half of Oregon and Washington.

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