



BLOOD TESTING is still the most practical method of diagnosing brucellosis in individual animals. Blood samples drawn by a veterinarian from each animal in a suspected herd are sent to state-federal laboratories. Standardized materials and methods developed by Agricultural Research Service veterinarians aid in the accuracy of both the milk and the blood tests.

Farm Prices In State Rise

Oregon farmers started the new year with prices at the highest level since last April, according to Mrs. Elvera Horrell, extension agricultural economist at Oregon State College.

Prices received by farmers in the state rose nearly two per cent from mid-December to mid-January. Mrs. Horrell found in studying reports from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. As a result, prices now stand at the same level as a year ago.

Nationally, farm prices also gained two per cent during the last month to reach an average nearly four per cent higher than the last month to reach an average nearly four per cent higher than January, 1957. Most of this national uptrend was due to sharply higher prices on fresh market vegetables, a result of winter freeze damage in the South, Mrs. Horrell said.

Meat animals also moved up in price, but more moderately. And these higher price tags more than offset lower prices received by farmers last month for eggs, dairy products, cotton, and corn.

While prices were rising, the parity index—the government's yardstick for measuring farm costs—also kept moving uphill. Mrs. Horrell found that this index edged up again last month to reach the highest level on record and three per cent above a year ago.

As a result, the parity ratio—the ratio between prices received and prices paid by farmers, including taxes, interest, and wages—stood at 82 in mid-January. This was one point above mid-December, Mrs. Horrell said, but the same as mid-January of 1957.

It has been more than five years since this parity ratio has topped 100—the point set by Congress as



A VETERINARIAN using a branding iron marks brucellosis reactors with a large "B" and also applies a special ear tag. Such animals should be kept apart from healthy cattle and removed for slaughter as promptly as possible.

How To Keep 'Em Down On Farms

CHAMPAIGN, ILL. — (UP) — Miss Corinne Malone, 24, a graduate student at the University of Illinois, hopes to make farm homes better places in which to live.

She is studying for a master's degree in home economics, with farm home planning as her particular field. The 5-foot, 3-inch brunette from Ridgway, Illinois, was born and raised on a farm.

"Farm people today are very much interested in improving their homes," she said. "I feel there is a great potential for anyone trained in improving housing in general, farm housing in particular."

Farm homes should be designed with kitchens and family areas to make country living more fun, she said.

a "fair" relationship between prices paid and prices received by farmers, Mrs. Horrell pointed out.

BACKWARD BEGINNING

NEW YORK (AP) — Noel Coward switched show business tradition by making Broadway a tryout stop for his out-of-town tour. Plays usually arrive on the Great White Way after preliminary testing on the road, but Coward reversed things because of plans to alternate performances of two of his shows, "Present Laughter" and "Nude with Violin" during cross-country travels. "Nude with Violin," a sellout during its limited engagement here, brought Coward back to Broadway for the first time in 25 years.

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N.Y. Poultrymen Told Of Hepatitis

ITHACA, N. Y. — (UP) — New York poultrymen are faced with a new poultry disease which is capable of causing a drop of 15 to 25 per cent in egg production, according to a report made to the annual Cornell conference for veterinarians.

A poultry professor said that infectious avian hepatitis appears most frequently in pullets that have been in production only a few months. The expert warned, however, that the disease develops gradually and may go unnoticed for three or four weeks as egg production and feed consumption drop slowly.

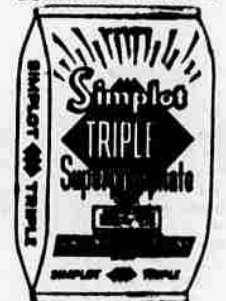
Mortality may increase from one to five per cent extending over a period of several months. The symptoms are a listless bird, one that may remain on the roost, have a dry, scaly, pale, shrunken comb.

The expert said the liver is the organ that is most frequently involved in the bird, but other organs also may be affected.

CLUB ADVERTISING

NEW YORK (AP) — A new touring night club act has been produced as a new kind of sponsorship of entertainment by a manufacturing firm. Stars of the cafe act are Florence Henderson and Bill Hayes, who both have appeared in Broadway shows and are currently under television contract to an auto maker (Oldsmobile). There is to be no product advertising in the act, but it is expected that constant association of the performers will subtly promote the products with which they have become identified on TV screens.

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