

A Profile Of An Outstanding Young Farmer



IDA LEA AND GORDON GIVAN are shown above with their youngsters, from left to right, Dallas Henry, 4½; Ann Jane, 14 months; and James Jess, 2½.

—Photo by Nelson Sharp

By NELSON SHARP

Dallas Gordon Givan Jr. of Beatty was recently presented the Reservation Jaycee award as the outstanding young farmer of 1957.

Givan, 30, is a Klamath tribal member and a lifetime resident of the Beatty area. During the Korean conflict he served two years with the 45th Infantry Division. Seventeen months of this time was spent overseas, eight months in combat as a forward observer for the artillery. He was discharged a sergeant first class.

In 1952 Givan decided on a career as a farmer. He leased a part of the Drew Ranch near Sprague River, bought some cattle and went in business. A desire to own a ranch of his own prompted Givan and his wife Ida Lea to buy a ranch near Beatty in 1955.

The ranch was not very productive during the first year so Gordon took on a job driving a logging truck to supplement their farm income. The income from the truck driving job enabled the Givans to build up their ranch to its present state of productivity without borrowing.

The Givans were quick to realize that in an area that may expect frost any month of the year, grain farming was not a very profitable enterprise. The first two years they raised some rye and oats, but now have all their cultivated acres in alfalfa and grasses. As some of their land is highly alkaline, 25 acres has been planted to Tall Wheat Grass. This is a comparatively new crop in this area and is one of the most alkali-tolerant grasses known. Givan expects to make about two tons of hay per acre from the tall wheat. Sixty acres is in dry-land alfalfa, and 50 acres in a mixture of Smooth Brome, Meadow Foxtail, Alsike Clover, and White Dutch Clover.

Last summer the Givans tried an experiment of raising wheat, an uncommon crop for this part of the country. Six sacks of wheat produced an almost unbelievable six tons.

The Givans irrigate about 100 acres from an irrigation canal. A well is presently being drilled on the high ground, and it is hoped that this summer the dry acres will be irrigated.

Although the mother of three small children: Hank 4½ years, Jim 2½, and Ann Jane (Muffet) 14 months, Mrs. Givan finds time to do many of the farm chores, thereby releasing Gordon for his trucking job. Gordon says that when he was driving it was not an uncommon sight to see his wife out at daylight feeding cattle or driving the tractor. The Givans hope these

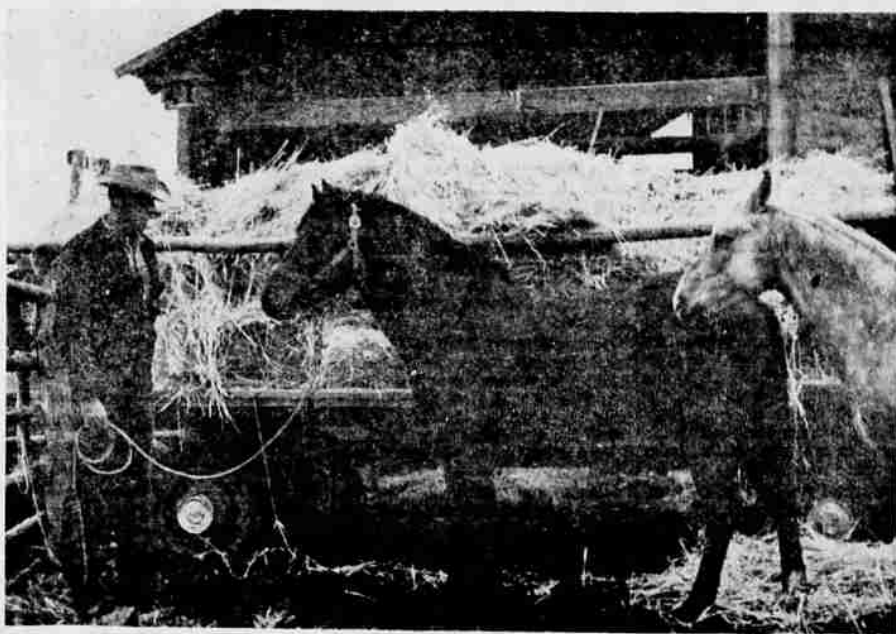
days are gone forever now and that Gordon may devote fulltime to farming.

The Givan's present cattle herd consists of 68 head of Hereford cows, 13 Durham cows, two registered Polled Hereford bulls, and a growing population of calves. They hope to build up the herd to 100 head this year.

Along with farming and truck driving, Givan participated last year in local rodeos as a calf roper. His pride and joy is his 3-year-old quarter horse stallion named Tightrope. Givan is presently breaking and training the young thoroughbred horse and has high hopes for him.

All Cedar Scraps Have Their Uses

After installing a cedar closet in your home, don't throw away left-over pieces of aromatic red cedar closet lining. The pieces of cedar may be used to make closet accessories, such as tie or shoe racks, shelves and blanket compartments in other closets. The aromatic red cedar adds a pleasant aroma and an attractive appearance in any closet.



"TIGHTROPE," the 3-year-old bay quarterhorse stallion shown above with Gordon Givan, is the young rancher's pride and joy. Givan, who was recently chosen as the outstanding young farmer of the year by the Reservation Jaycees, spends his spare time practicing calf roping as a hobby.

—Photo by Nelson Sharp

Picture Said Brighter For Klamath Potatoes

By BILL HUSE

The potato picture for the Klamath Basin is much brighter for the balance of the shipping season for several reasons, chief of which is the devastating loss to the Florida potato crop and the rapid and satisfactory disappearance of stocks on hand throughout the nation.

February stocks on hand are approximately twelve million sacks less than a year ago. Winter potato production is down 27 per cent as compared to a year ago.

Due to the high grade - out in the Klamath Basin, there are less than 3,000 shippable cars left here and optimism is high throughout the Basin for satisfactory potato prices for the balance of the crop. Increased seed demand will be another important factor in the potato picture during the next 60 days.

The poor prices received by Basin potato growers this winter has been entirely unwarranted as it has been obvious since last fall

that potato production was not burdensome.

Unfortunately for Klamath Basin growers, is the fact that we no longer have any speculative buyers. Most local buyers are merely order takers and seldom purchase a car of potatoes unless it is already sold. With the result that potato prices are at the whim and will of the terminal market brokers.

It is important, however, that the Basin continue normal shipments for the balance of the season, in order to insure against an over supply of potatoes at the end of the marketing season.

Our marketing season will be prolonged probably two weeks due to unfavorable planting conditions in other areas.

CHEAP FREIGHT?

Before the introduction of railroads, it cost 20 to 25 cents per ton-mile to move freight overland. It cost about \$100 to move a ton of freight from New York City to Buffalo, a distance of about 425 miles.

COLONIAL FUN

Early American colonists looked to the forests for lumber for homes, and for such unexpected variety of products as tea made from sassafras and the leaves of some willows. Spruce beer and elderberry wine made men forget their toil. Children gathered spruce gum and pine gum to chew. The Indians showed the white men a mixture of leaves and bark called kinnikinnick which they smoked.



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FARMERS FROM ALL OVER THE BASIN have been attending a series of information meetings on the mouse problem being conducted by the Klamath County Agent's Office. The county has embarked upon a concentrated poisoning campaign to reduce the mouse population which has shown no sign of dying off. State and county funds will be used to reduce the price of the bait so that the farmers will be able to afford to protect their lands against the rodents.