



REPRESENTING the dairy industry of Oregon on the board of directors of the Oregon Dairy Council are, from left, seated, Elmer Hauke, Astoria, secretary-treasurer; Elmer Peterson, Portland, president, and Vic Birdseye, Medford, vice president; standing, same order: Floyd Hopeman, Albany; Dale Scheller, Hillsboro; Stan Masten, Klamath Falls (past president), and Reed Garrison, Eugene, all directors. Not pictured were board members Dewey Burt, Portland, and Henry Gantenbein, Boardman. The 1959 annual meeting was held at the Sheraton Hotel in Portland on December 4. It was reported to the council that milk consumption in Oregon had its biggest increase in history in 1959, with fluid milk consumption up 29 per cent over 1958.

## Crop Yields Down, But More Land In Production May Lead To New Record

Crop yields in Oregon and across the country are lower, on the average, than last year because of less favorable weather. Still, by planting more acres, farmers are turning out a record-equaling crop tonnage, and record-breaking supplies of livestock products.

Among this year's crops, corn is hitting a new high in Oregon as well as in the nation as a whole, reports M. D. Thomas, Oregon State College extension agricultural economist.

In a story in the fall issue of the OSC agricultural experiment station magazine, "Oregon's Agricultural Progress," Thomas noted that Oregon's corn crop would have been even larger if spring and early summer weather in the Willamette Valley had not been so cold and wet.

Part of the corn increase comes from a shift of acreage away from barley, oats, grain sorghum and other crops and from planting land that was temporarily in the acreage reserve. Increase in corn production more than offsets the decrease in other grain crops, and points toward a further buildup in feed grain stocks despite record numbers of cattle and hogs on feed.

In looking at immediate prospects for some of Oregon's principal farm products, Thomas reported the following situations:

Drought isn't as much of a factor in this fall's cattle market as was feared earlier. Even so, the improvement in forage doesn't seem likely to be enough to push either feeder or fat cattle prices up this winter. It will just keep them from slipping as much as they might have.

Strongest forces in the current cattle market picture are the high level of employment, record incomes and the strong consumer preference for beef. The abundance of corn and sorghum grain also favors feeder cattle.

On the other hand, the fat cattle market is under pressure of record numbers in feedlots and large supplies of pork and poultry.

Hog producers may be easing up some on further increases in pig crops. For the time being, Thomas believes it is safest to plan that the worst hog prices in the current cycle will come next fall.

Foreign suppliers have found the U.S. lamb and mutton market rather thin and easily depressed, but chances are they will continue testing it. Meanwhile, pelleted feeds are giving a boost to lamb feeding in Oregon and other parts of the country.

Pressures to increase efficiency in the dairy business continue strong. Prices of feed, labor and other costs of Willamette Valley dairymen have averaged highest on record for this time of year.

Poultrymen can expect better prices this winter than last, but they still may not be exactly good.

The potato market picture looks quite bright, mainly because the nation's fall crop is a tenth smaller than last year. But Thomas cautions against over optimism, for potatoes aren't scarce by any means. This is a year when it should pay to follow markets closely, he emphasized.

Strawberry growers across the country are planning about the same acreage for 1960 as harvested this year. Oregon and California growers are planning modest increases, and Washington growers will hold about even. Recent studies indicate that Oregon's competitive position in the strawberry business is about on a par with its neighbors to the north and south.

Copies of "Oregon's Agricultural Progress" are free on request to Oregonians. Requests for the current issue, or to be placed on the regular mailing list, should be sent to Bulletin Clerk, Industrial Building, Oregon State College, Corvallis.

### FILLING UP

NEW YORK (UPI)—The number of service stations in the United States has soared from 15,000 in 1920 to more than 181,000 doing an annual volume of business in excess of 15 billion dollars, according to oil industry statistics.

## Ocean Study Fund Granted

OREGON STATE COLLEGE—Oregon State College plans for expansion of oceanography research off the Oregon Coast have received a \$50,000 assist from the National Science Foundation.

The \$50,000 will be used to purchase special equipment for the \$250,000 ocean research vessel approved under a \$319,555 grant made to the college in July by the Office of Naval Research.

Architects are now preparing plans for the special research vessel with construction scheduled to begin sometime next spring and completion expected in the fall of 1960. The boat will be a specially-designed "floating laboratory" that will permit OSC oceanographers to probe the depths of the ocean and explore the ocean floor off Oregon for the first time.

The boat will be approximately 75 feet long with quarters for 12 to 15 scientists and crew members. Newport will be home port.

Part of the \$50,000 grant from NSF will go for purchase of deep sea winches that will let the OSC scientists take ocean floor samples of sediment and marine life and collect water samples at depths down to more than two miles. Latest electronic devices for measuring temperature and salinity and navigation equipment, including radar, also will be purchased with the grant.

Dr. Wayne V. Burt, head of the oceanography department, calls the boat "the key to unlocking the unknown of Oregon's ocean area."

Burt himself started the first extensive studies of Oregon's 350 miles of coastal water — fourth longest coastline of any state — when he joined the OSC staff in 1954. Aside from his work, almost no research has been made on the ocean immediately off the Oregon coast.

Burt's studies to date have included research on tides, inlets, water temperature, salinity, and oxygen content.

The new grants will permit the research efforts to be tripled during 1960 with great advances seen during the next decade by Burt.

The average milk bottle is reused 33 times.

# Tule Lake Battle Taken Up By State Of California As Wildlife Men Add To Worries

By DE VAN L. SHUMWAY

SACRAMENTO (UPI)—California's Fish and Game Department has a sort of second-hand interest in a controversy now underway in the extreme northern part of the state—near the Oregon border.

The dispute over the water level at Tule Lake actually is between the federal government and the Tulelake Irrigation District as well as sports groups.

But Frank Koslick, waterfowl supervisor for the state, says that although the Tule Lake area is a federal area, the state is interested because it affects waterfowl in the state.

The problem is that the water level at the refuge is below its minimum level, thus resulting in the possibility of ruining the refuge as a home for ducks and geese.

"We are concerned because we're responsible for fish and wildlife in California," said Koslick, "and anything that affects Tule Lake affects the Pacific Flyway."

The lake is a key part of the flyway, Koslick said that during the fall birds come into the area at a fast rate. During part of the year there are millions of birds at the refuge, making it the largest on the continent.

Koslick was frank in his hope that Interior Secretary Fred A. Seaton will rule that the water level must be maintained adequate to keep the waterfowl nesting and feeding area. Thousands of hunters use the area annually.

What would happen if Seaton ruled against maintaining the water level?

A disaster to waterfowl, said Koslick.

"Birds use that area during the spring and summer for nesting and their young are born there," he explained. "Lowering the lake level would destroy much of the habitat."

"In time there would be no birds."

And that isn't all.

"This might have the result of reducing the waterfowl populations in the entire state of California," he added.

Koslick said failure of the lake to maintain the birds would also affect another part of California's economy: the farmer.

He pointed out that the area, located in an area where farmers plant a great deal of barley, feeds millions of birds during what normally is the crop depletion season.

The birds start arriving in July for the summer season and during September and October there are millions of the birds at the lake.

The federal government goes so far as to plant and grow barley to feed the birds so they won't go to adjoining crop areas for meals.

But if the birds were unable to get food at Tule Lake, they would be required to go elsewhere.

And elsewhere in this case might be nearby barley fields.

Then, too, elsewhere might be along the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley where lush croplands are available and ripe for the birds during their flight south.

Koslick pointed out that as a result, the situation at the lake could well affect crops in the Central Valley of the state.

One proposal has been to suspend the Tule Lake Irrigation District's contract in an attempt to force maintenance of the level of water sufficient to keep the waterfowl nesting and feeding in the area.

Interior Secretary Seaton, in San Francisco recently, told news-

men that he was going to take a personal hand in the matter. He said he would have his aides in Washington look into it and take whatever action was necessary.

California's Fish and Game Department hasn't officially entered into the negotiations directly, but Koslick puts it flatly:

"We are concerned."

### MAGIC 'EYES'

CLEVELAND (UPI)—More than 1,700 companies in the U.S. are using radiostopes to "look into" and detect inner flaws in thick castings, to measure and control thickness of sheet metal or paper, to inspect the welds in ships, submarines and aircraft, and to find leaks in pipelines or refineries, according to radiation experts at the new \$1 million Picker Research Center here.

In dedicating the center recently, Dr. Paul C. Aebersold, director of Isotopes Development for the Atomic Energy Commission, said radiostopes are saving industry "hundreds of millions of dollars every year—and the figure may soon be in the billions."

### WASN'T HIS DAY

HARTFORD, Conn. (UPI)—The day two-year-old Bobby McCarthy Jr. was supposed to show up for an operation he visited two other hospitals—once after being bitten by a dog and a few hours later after falling from a second floor window.

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