



EXTENSION AGENT Walt Jendrzejewski, right, and farmer Sam Chernabaff discuss potato planting in a Lower Klamath field. A three-row bed arrangement was used in this large field. Potato seed production has been good in lower lake type soils.

Potato Growers Group Plans Basin Operation

Klamath Potato Growers Association dates back to 1924. Minutes of the organization meeting of Jan. 19, 1924, reported that Henry Semon was named president. I. J. Dixon became vice president and C. A. Henderson was chosen secretary.

Records show that 27 carloads of potatoes were shipped that year. Five hundred and fifty acres were grown with most of the crop used locally. By comparison, shipments from the 1959 crop totaled 10,334 carloads.

Minutes of the organization meeting record that the first item of business was purchase of a carload of certified seed. Sixteen growers placed orders for seed at the meeting.

Now the Basin produces certified seed for export and some of the best netted gem seed available anywhere is produced here. Over 3,000 acres of certified seed are grown annually.

The first annual potato show was held here December 8-10 of 1926. It was sponsored jointly by Klamath Potato Growers Association and the Agricultural Committee of the Klamath County Chamber of Commerce, according to a copy of a printed program still in the files.

Pictures on file taken in those early days of horse farming show potatoes with lots of size but with some of the same mechanical damage defects that still plague the industry.

The potato show has moved to Merrill, where Merrill Lions devote much time to it. The 24th annual Klamath Basin Potato Festival was held there last October.

The association has been active in solving many problems including disease, insects, fertility, labor, transportation, packaging, marketing and legislative trou-

bles. Marketing order, labor camp, advertising, processing and disease problems claim most attention presently. Labor recruitment, government acreage and price control programs including ceiling prices and Department of Health, Education and Welfare directives have been important questions in the past.

Mechanization has changed potato production. Labor requirements have been reduced very materially. Capital requirements have increased tremendously. New disease problems have risen. Marketing problems remain in changed forms.

Henry Semon served as president from 1924-1946 except for two years when Clyde Griffith took the gavel.

In 1946 a policy of turning responsibilities of the presidency over to a different association member each year was adopted. The list of past presidents is quite impressive. It includes Karl Dehlinger, E. C. Lemler, Earl Wilson, Fred Mueller, Joe Steele, Scott Warren, Bryant Williams, Leland Cheyne, Robert Patrick, James Ottomian, Louis Lyon, Randall Pope, Troy Qualls and LaVerne Haskins.

Officers for 1961 are Duane Blackman, president; L. L. Porterfield, vice president, and board members James Ottomian, Paul Fairclough, Isom Patterson and Joe Fotheringham. County Agent Walt Jendrzejewski has been secretary since 1946.

If accomplishments of past years can be used as a yardstick, coming years will see Klamath Potato Growers Association contribute substantially to progress in the potato industry and to continued improvement of the agricultural economy of Klamath County.



TWO SISTERS, Shirley, 12, left, and Virginia, 14, daughters of Mrs. Ida Scala, owner of a family dairy in the Midland District, are consistent exhibitors at the annual 4-H and FFA Junior Livestock Show. Both will take their dairy animals into the judging ring next fall. Last fall, Virginia exhibited Jersey heifer, Sugar, and Shirley, a Holstein heifer, Dainty.

Modernization Hits Milk Industry

The production of milk has undergone drastic changes in the last few years. Not so long ago the majority of farms in Klamath County milked a few cows, many of them by hand, and either separated the milk, sold the cream and fed the skim milk

to other livestock or shipped the whole milk in 10-gallon cans to a cream station, cheese plant, or fresh milk distributor.

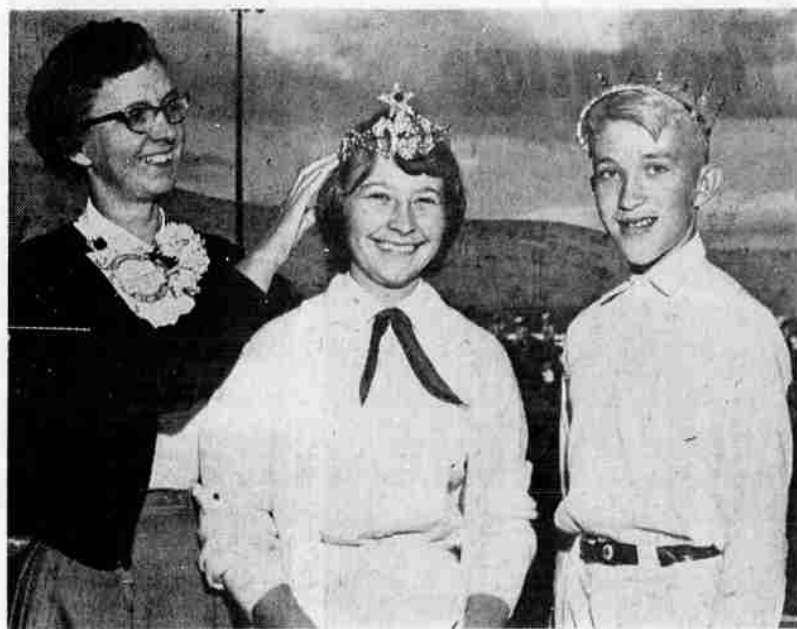
Today dairying is a highly specialized farming enterprise in Klamath County and to a similar extent in other parts of the United States. The modern dairy is now equipped with a refrigeration plant that cools the milk in a stainless steel tank as soon as it is milked. The milk comes from the cow under extreme sanitary procedures.

It is never exposed to human hands or to the surrounding atmosphere. Stainless alloy milkers and pipe lines carry the milk directly to refrigerated tanks where it is collected by a refrigerated tank truck and taken to a modern creamery for pasteurization, packaging for the fresh milk trade or manufactured into butter, cheese, ice cream, or other dairy product.

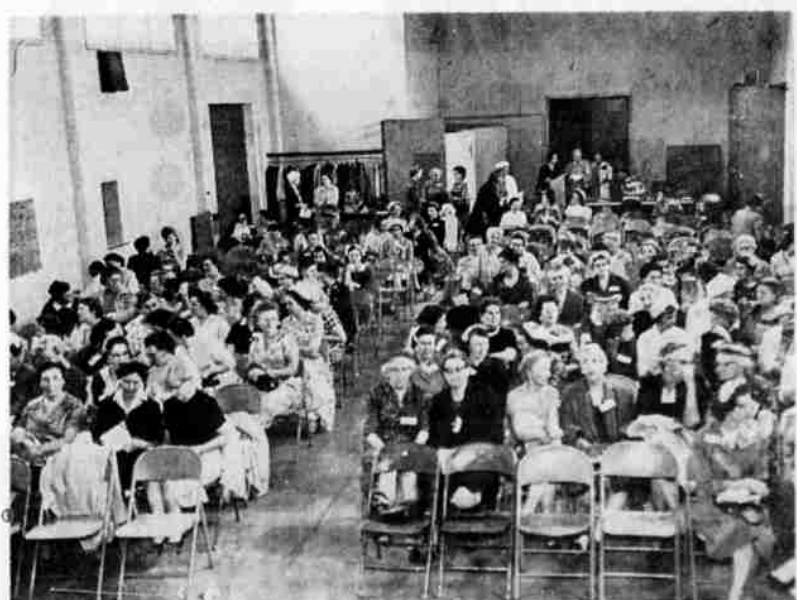
Mechanization, not only of the milking operation but the bulk handling of feed concentrates, the field chopping of forage and use of machinery to do many other chores on the dairy farm, makes it possible for one man to handle several times as many cows as in past years.

In order to make use of these methods and machines, large numbers of dairy cattle must be kept to cover investment and upkeep costs.

Dairymen have also found it necessary to form their own marketing organization to handle their milk and conduct advertising programs that present-day business



A GARDEN KING AND QUEEN are selected each year at the Junior Fall Fair, held jointly with the Rotary sponsored FFA-4-H livestock show and sale. The 1960 winners of this honor, shown here, are Jean McClay, center, and Eric Wakkuri. They are being crowned by Ruth Dyer, Klamath County home extension agent. The judging is based on gardens and flowers raised by the youngsters.



THIS VIEW shows some of the women present for planning series which are a feature of the Home Extension Service. It was staged at the Klamath County Fairgrounds at a Homemakers Festival on April 28, 1960.

methods require. The local dairymen solved this problem by organizing the Klamath Basin Grade A Milk Producers Association.

Present directors and officers of the association are Lawrence Geraghty, president; Stanley Reiling, vice president; Wilbur Reiling, treasurer. Other directors are Ed Born, Ted Alberts, Kenneth Waters. Wilbur Haskins is secretary-manager.



ESTHER TASKERUD, right at easel, state leader of Home Economics Extension, Oregon State College, was present at a meeting of members of the program planning committee of all Klamath County Home Extension units at the Klamath County Fairgrounds. More than 100 ideas for future programs were advanced by the committee members, seven to be accepted. 17 units were represented.

Home Economics Division Opened Activities In Basin During 1938

Klamath County Homemakers saw the beginning of Home Economics Extension in 1938 when Mrs. Winifred Gillian came to Klamath County in August. Home Economics Extension came about as a result of a meeting with the Pomona Grange Home Economics Committee. This meeting was held in a school room, dimly lighted by a kerosene lamp in the Hildebrand School House, so Mrs. Harry Ward of Klamath Falls reiterates.

In the fall of 1938, the Home Economics Unit, which was the first to organize, met in Mrs. Ward's home. Beef cookery was the first project. Mrs. Ward states the demonstration was done on an old wood cook stove, worse for

wear, with the ashes sitting into the oven and consequently into the beef roast.

Fifty-two women were present at this first meeting which was held in a room 15 x 25 feet.

Since this first meeting, more units were organized through the years to the present number of 21 in Klamath County.

The first meeting of the County Advisory Committee was held in the home agent's office in 1939. Those serving on this first committee were Mrs. Fred Fletcher, Klamath Falls; Mrs. Robert Allen, Chiloquin; Mrs. Lee Holliday, Fairhaven; Mrs. C. E. McClellan, Homedale; Mrs. A. L. Marshall, Olen; and Mrs. Bert Shultz, Altamont.

These members were the key people in the Home Economics program to assist the home agent in planning activities. Since its inception, the county committee has been active and each year a rotational system has been used to include membership from all areas of the county.

The year 1939 also saw the beginning of program planning meetings when representatives from various organizations met to discuss problems and plan a program of work. This procedure has carried down through the years to the present day, when representatives from each group are present to discuss subject matter and plan a program.

Home Economics work has included all phases of homemaking — foods and nutrition, clothing, housing, family living, family economics, equipment, home management, home furnishings, recreation, health and safety.

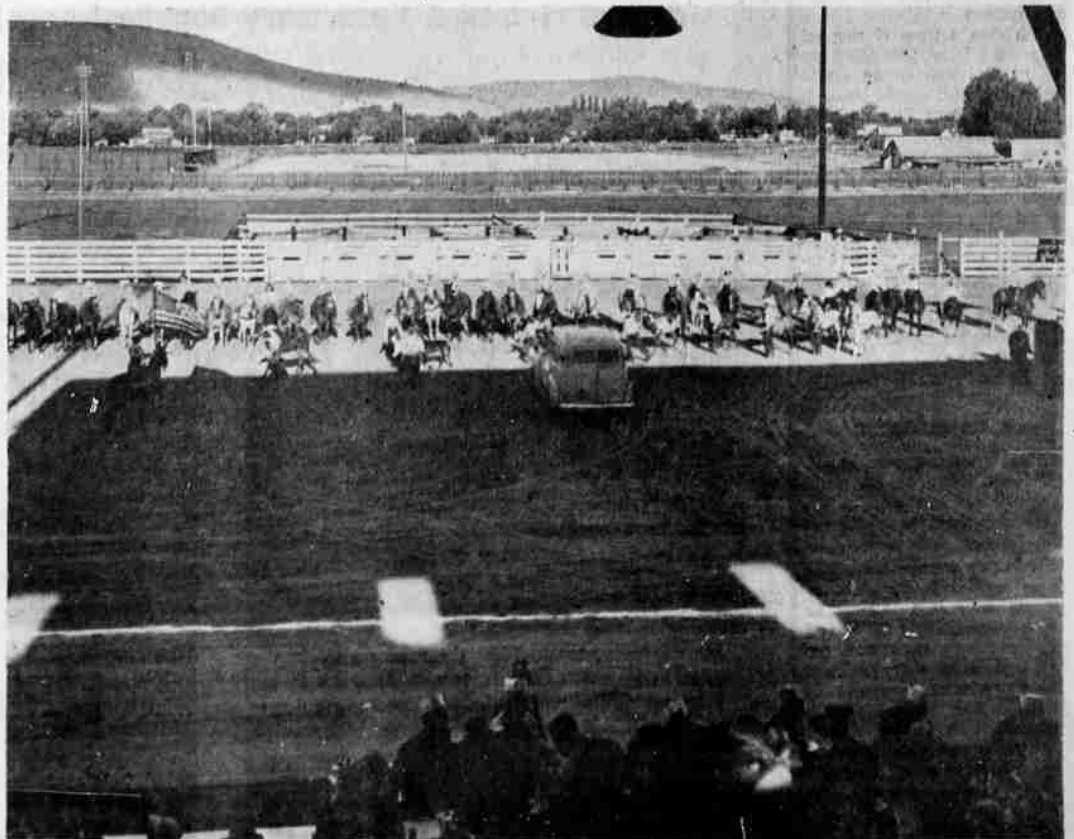
Through the years there have been several agents serving the home economics program. These include: Winifred Gillian, August, 1938, to May, 1947; Helen P. Stine, July, 1947, to August, 1948; Lorna Peck, January, 1949, to September, 1949; Mary Glen, September,

1949, to February, 1952; Dorothy Tolleth, February, 1952, to May, 1952; Dolores Bracken, July, 1952, to July, 1954; Hope Holbrook, July, 1954, to August, 1957; and Ruth Gustavson Dyer, January, 1958, to the present.

Each of these agents have helped homemakers carry out their programs.



SPRAGUE RIVER 4-H CLUB members, standing, left to right, are Sue Schonchin, Rosa Morgan and Donna Schonchin, gather around Melva Cook, who is sewing a barbecue place mat as part of a first year clothing project. They are members of the Willing Workers Club. —Photo by Carol Armstrong.



ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS of the agricultural season is the annual 4-H, FFA Livestock Show and sale at the Klamath County Fairgrounds that occurs in late August. Here, the grand entry of 4-H club horsemen and horse-

women, bearing the U.S. flag and other emblems, is captured by the photographer. They are shown before the grandstand at the Klamath County Fairgrounds.



CAROL ARMSTRONG, a native of Red Wing, Minn., has been 4-H Club extension agent in Klamath County for 2½ years. She was graduated in 1957 from the University of Minnesota with a bachelor of science degree in home economics. She came here from Sherman County. Francis Skinner is the county's other agent.