



WIN SPEECH HONORS — Winners of the Soil and Water Conservation District 1963 area speech contest were selected last week in a meeting at the Olene Community Hall. Displaying their trophies are, left to right, Miss Lois Hobson, Merrill High School senior and second place winner; Miss Barbara Reid, Bonanza High School senior and first place winner, and Louis Glinkman, a KUHS senior and third place winner. Other contestants included Nondice McFall, Bonanza; Eric Haskins, Merrill, and Jim Drew, KUHS. The first two place winners will compete in the semifinals in Ashland. Lloyd Gift, chairman of the Langell Valley Soil and Water Conservation District, was emcee at the speech contest.

Local Feed Prices Govern Use Of High Concentrate

Beef cattle usually gain faster on high concentrate rations, but whether or not this type of ration is economically practical depends on local feed prices.

Two years of testing various high concentrate rations have shown that barley, milo and corn all produce good gains, according to Oregon State University Agricultural Experiment Station researchers. E. N. Hoffman, superintendent of the Malheur Experiment Station, and Dr. J. E. Oldfield, animal nutritionist.

In this particular test, steamer rolled barley produced faster and cheaper gains than dry

rolled barley. However, Oldfield points out that quality of steam rolled and dry rolled barley varies considerably according to local processing conditions.

The researchers say the tests demonstrate that high concentrate feeding is practical when basic feeds and a simple protein supplement are readily available. Where grain is cheap, rations can take advantage of rapid gains produced on high concentrate rations. Where hay or other forages are cheap in relation to grain, it may pay to feed a conventional hay-grain ration.

Four high concentrate rations and a typical hay-grain ration were fed in the test program. Typical experiments used four lots of 10 steers each. Each lot was fed a different high concentrate ration. The protein supplement in each ration was fortified with 750 I. U. vitamin A per pound of food eaten. Cattle were on feed for 145 days.

Cattle fed a ration consisting of half barley and half beet pulp gained an average 2.9 pounds per day at a cost of 9 cents per pound, and consumed 8.67 pounds feed per pound gain.

Another lot, fed 50 per cent dry rolled barley, 25 per cent beet pulp and 25 per cent ground ear corn, gained 2.92 pounds per day at a cost of 19.2 cents per pound. They took 8.05

Anti-Mice Protection Developed

OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY—Douglas fir seeds can be protected from mice with a two per cent coating of a commercial chemical, Endrin, and this may make it possible for wide areas of Oregon to be reforested economically by direct seeding, according to Hugh Black and Edward Hooven, mammalogists at the Oregon State University Forest Research Laboratory.

Seed protection from rodents and birds is necessary in direct seeding. Douglas fir seeds coated with aluminum powder repel birds, but a concentration of one-half per cent active Endrin in the coating has led to only limited success in protection against mice.

In tests from January to May of this year, seeds were coated with various adhesives and concentrations of Endrin, a chlorinated hydrocarbon frequently used as an insecticide, and tested with deer mice.

The 1963 study showed that all treated seeds were eaten freely when first offered, but two per cent or more of active Endrin in the coating repelled mice that survived after eating treated seed. Lower concentrations were not lethal to most mice and were slightly repellent after the first trial.

In the tests, a mouse would be offered daily 50 seeds treated with one-half, one, two or five per cent active Endrin. Type of adhesive and degree of weathering were found not so important as concentration of Endrin.

Germination was not lessened by increasing the concentration of Endrin to two per cent. Tests of germination with concentrations greater than two per cent have not yet been conclusive, the researchers report.

The study is continuing with test of ponderosa pine seed exposed to chipmunks and golden-mantled ground squirrels. Possible effects of the treatments on germination of seeds and growth of seedlings also are being studied.

Panic Is Biggest Enemy In Disastrous Home Fire

By FRANCES C. HALL, County Extension Agent

Oregonians need to clear their smoke from some of their ideas about home fires. Last year, fire cost \$15 million on Oregon homes and farms.

Charles Rasmussen, Oregon State University extension forester, says that panic more often than fire contributes to death. People usually don't think rationally when frightened.

To avoid panic, he suggests getting rid of potential fire hazards and laying out some escape routes in the home in case of fire. Practice drills are recommended to be sure each family member is capable of taking routes mapped out.

Recently nine members of a family lost their lives in a home fire. In their fright they couldn't find an exit. Yet, after the fire it was determined that each could have gotten out. Two small boys crawled into a closet thinking it was a doorway to freedom.

It is advisable that drills be ended at the same pre-arranged place so everyone can easily be accounted for. At the assembly point, the rule is "once out — stay out."

Last year, Oregon had more than 12,000 fires that damaged dwellings. This really is a conservative estimate because the 12,000 fires were only those reported on insured properties.

The OSU specialist lists two rules for controlling home fires.

Know the high potential risks—then eliminate them. Causes are shown through accident statistics: small children left unattended near open fires, a container of gasoline brought indoors, (triple the hazard if the container is glass), spark-producing equipment operated near paint thinners, use of flammable hair sprays near flames, children playing with matches, over heated or defective chimneys or flues, and electricity and defective wiring.

The careless smoker and user of matches just about always tops the fire causing list. One in four Oregon home fires last year was started in this way. Another one-fourth resulted from ignition of hot grease, oil, tar and petroleum products. The kitchen—the source of many fat fires—is the most dangerous room in the house.

Heating systems—stoves, furnaces, chimneys, and flues—do not cause as many fires as they once did. Newer homes have chimneys with flue liners, and many new homes are heated with electricity. Nevertheless, heating systems, as mentioned, ranked third as cause of home fires in Oregon last year.

Top Western Angus Beef Cattle Displayed At Grand Exposition

More than 20 leading Western herds of purebred Angus beef cattle exhibited some of their best animals at the recent Grand National Livestock Exposition in San Francisco. They paraded a total of 58 bulls and 54 heifers before the judge, Joe Keefe of Jonesboro, Tenn., in a show dedicated to Frank Richards, of the American Angus Association, St. Joseph, Mo., who is retiring next month after 17 years of beef industry leadership as secretary of the national Angus organization.

Selected as senior and grand champion bull was Hoots Bardoliermere 30, shown by Hoots Angus Ranch at Grants Pass, Ore. The same herd won the reserve bull calf championship with Hoots Bardoliermere 70, and they captured first place in entries sired by Hoots Bardoliermere.

Geverder Angus Ranch of Walnut Grove, Calif., won the calf championship and reserve grand championship of the bull show with GGO Bardoliermere 2, and Mr. George 27 CN was picked as the Junior champion bull. He was shown by Carl Nielsen of Middletown, Calif.

Picked as the champion heifer calf was Proud Double Diamond, an entry of Double Diamond Ranch, Reno, Nev., and Duncan Ranch, Sonoma, Calif., which later was selected as the grand champion of the show. Double Diamond Ranch also showed the reserve junior champion bull, Diamond Bardoliermere 114, and they won the junior get-of-sire class blue ribbon with entries sired by Dor-Mac's Bardoliermere 156.

Junior and reserve grand champion heifer was Haystack Queen Mother 67, exhibited by Haystack Angus Ranch of Longmont, Colo.

Nusbaum Angus Ranch of Fairfield, Calif., showed the senior champion heifer, Nusbaum's Queen Mother, and Hacienda de los Reyes, Selma, Calif., won the reserve senior championship with Hacienda Bandy Burgess 151. The Hacienda herd also exhibited Elite of Hacienda 151 as the reserve senior champion bull and they were awarded the trophy for the best 10 head of Angus at the show.

The reserve heifer calf championship went to Island Acres Farm, Klamath Falls, on IA Farmcap 2132, and the reserve junior championship of the heifer show went to Marden and Kendra Wilbur of Davis, Calif., on Georgiana 51 CN.



WINS ANGUS AWARD — Island Acres Farms, Klamath Falls, exhibited the reserve heifer calf champion of the Angus classes at the recent Grand National Livestock Exposition in San Francisco. Left to right with IA Farmcap 2132 are Joe Smith, owner; Dr. Herman Purdy of Penn State University, judge; Mrs. Joe Smith, and Bob Ryan, manager of Island Acres.

FB Studies Policy Meet

Farm Bureau policy for the coming year will be decided at the annual convention of the Oregon farm organization, Nov. 10-13 in Salem, according to Harold Beach, Oregon Farm Bureau Federation president.

Beach said over 100 resolutions have been presented by county Farm Bureau members for consideration by the voting delegates.

Each resolution submitted by an individual must be sent to all county Farm Bureaus where it is voted on by the members in their regular meetings, Beach explained. The members then instructed their elected voting delegate how to vote on the convention floor.

Topics such as beer bottles, thrown into fields by passing motorists have brought on a resolution for more stringent litter laws.

On wider subjects, taxes bring out the greatest array of ideas in resolution form. From Gilliam County comes one calling for tax appraisals to be made on the true earning power of the property, such as determined by a loaning agency and the appraisal be made on a six-year average.

The county voting delegates will meet for two days during the OPFB convention to resolve differences in the resolutions. The end result will be balloting to determine the policy of the Oregon Farm Bureau for 1964. The meeting is open to all interested parties. However, only voting delegates are allowed to vote on the resolutions.

Fall River Sale Ready

The Fall River Big Valley Cattlemen's Association is getting all set for the Nov. 6 feeder sale and the Nov. 7 bull sale.

These two sales will be held at the Inter Mountain Fairgrounds, McArthur, Calif., starting at 1 p.m. on each day.

The feeder sale will be held Wednesday, Nov. 6, will feature more than 2,600 head of feeder cattle consisting of 1,800 head of light calves, 300 head of replacement heifers and 400 head of light yearlings. The replacement heifers will be both bred and open and of the highest quality.

All the cattle in the sale will be sorted and sifted by Harvey McDougal, Collinsville, Calif., assisted by Jim Ellingson of the University of California at Davis. A committee of cattlemen will assist them. All crippled cattle, lame cattle, lumps, stags, etc., are sorted out and not sold. Cattle are sorted into uniform lots for their buyers.

These are the top quality cattle of the Inter Mountain area. Cattlemen of the area are proud of these cattle for they are the very best that are sold in the state. George Brown Jr., chairman of the feeder sale committee, says that this is the biggest and best sale offered to date.

A bull sale is to be held on Thursday, Nov. 7, featuring 63 head of bulls from the Inter Mountain area. The bulls will be on the fairgrounds four days ahead of sale time for prospective buyers to look over, and see if they will fit the bill for their herds.

Cattlemen Meet Set

Walt Schrock, president of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association, has announced that Cushman Radebaugh will be the speaker at the opening session of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association's annual convention in Baker, Nov. 6.

Radebaugh, who recently returned from Australia, will open up the discussion on imports of foreign beef into this country which will be one of the hottest issues discussed at this annual meeting.

Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman will come in for a great deal of criticism for his statements to the press and for his discussion at Walla Walla to the effect that foreign imports of beef have had no effect on cattle prices in this country.

Cattlemen of Oregon are opposed to Secretary Freeman's statements for foreign imports have materially affected the cattle prices here this year. A determined effort will be made to curtail imports when they have a detrimental effect on cattle prices paid to the American producers.

Schrock announced also that Dr. Grant Blanch, tax expert from Oregon State University, will speak on taxes in Oregon, another subject of great interest at this time.

Assets Of U.S. Farmers Increase To Record High

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Agriculture Department economists report today that the total assets of American farmers rose to a record high of \$216.3 billion this year.

The assets figure is estimated for Jan. 1, 1963. It represents an increase of \$8.5 billion over the assets of American agriculture on the same date in 1962.

This was the ninth consecutive year in which farm assets have risen. The Agriculture Department says most of the increase has been accounted for by the steadily rising value of farm land.

Between 1954 and 1963, the value of all farm assets, including land, rose more than one-third. Government economists point out that the increase came in spite of the fact that net farm income last year was only 3 per cent above the 1964 figure.

The Agriculture Department's report on the balance sheet of American agriculture for 1963 also points out that farm debts rose sharply last year.

At the beginning of 1963, farmers owed \$30.2 billion, up \$2.8 billion from one year earlier. But farmers' total assets rose faster than new debts. The result was another increase in the total equities farmers hold in their properties.

One reason for the fact that farmers' use of credit rose sharply last year was the continuing shift to farm consolidations—the move to fewer and larger farms, with more credit needed for land mortgages and equipment.

The decline in the number of people on farms also has produced substantial increases recently in the amount of capital invested for each farm worker.

As of last Jan. 1, there was about \$25,000 in farm assets behind each farm worker, about double the figure reported in 1962.

An Agriculture Department scientist says research workers would like to conduct a pilot-plant test in eradication of two boll weevil and the pink bollworm.

The experiments would be made using a method which already has proved successful against the screwworm and the melon fruit fly. Under this system male insects are sterilized by atomic radiation, then turned loose to reduce the insect population by breeding which produces no results.

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