

Vernonia Eagle

Entered at Vernonia, Oregon,
Postoffice as Second-Class Matter.

VERNONIA, OREGON, THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 1928.

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 31.

Evolve Better Relationships

Agricultural Economic Outlook Conference Held

In St. Helens Last Week

General Upward Trend in Agricultural Noted By The Conference; Improved Prospects Predicted

St. Helens, March 5—Better understanding and closer cooperation between Columbia county farmers and business men was an outgrowth of the agricultural economic outlook conference held here last week. This improved relationship was demonstrated in the course of the conferences when business men appeared before committees and discussed means of improving market conditions through use of more home products. It came to a focus at the final general meeting at noon of the last day around the dinner table of the First Methodist church.

Warren Young, general chairman of the conference, presided and called for brief remarks from representatives of both city and country. Dr. A. Holmes Johnson, president of the chamber of commerce; and Glen R. Metzgar, president of the Kiwanis club, extended greetings and offered substantial assistance and cooperation on the part of their organizations. F. D. and Ray Tarbell responded on the part of the farmers and spoke of the need of mutual assistance.

A. L. Morris, chairman of the farm crops committee, pointed out the need of more organization for cooperative marketing on the part of the farmers themselves before they will be in position to make the most of city cooperation. A representative of Columbia county granges presented a real problem for immediate attention of both country and city in the serious depletions of poultry and livestock thieves who frequently wipe out a farmer's profits and part of his capital in a single night.

The conference as a whole was conducted in a most efficient manner, according to state college extension specialists who have taken part in many similar ones throughout the state. Good advance preparation by County Agent George Nelson and his committee chairmen was said to be responsible for this.

A general upward trend in the agriculture of the county was noted by the conference though some enterprises have reduced in volume since the previous conference. Improved prospects for some enterprises were predicted and practical adjustments in others were pointed out.

The six sections of the conference report cover general conditions, poultry, dairying, livestock, farm crops and horticulture. These bring the recommendations of the previous conference down to date and add information on the outlook for the next year or more. Following is a brief digest of the reports which will probably be printed in full for distribution by County Agent George Nelson.

Farms of the county have increased in number from 991 in 1920 to an estimated 1661 at present. This increase is largely in the smaller sized farms. Local markets consume the bulk of the farm products in this county, in marked contrast with the situation existing in many counties of the state, the committee found. Benefits of these local markets are not being fully realized, however, because of unbalanced production in some cases, lack of standardization and other faulty marketing practices. Further study of the most profitable combinations of good livestock enterprises with cash crops was recommended. Cooperation of granges with the county agent as a means of gathering authentic county statistics was advocated.

Poultry and egg production has greatly increased in Columbia county in recent years until now the supply exceeds local demand and is going to general outside markets. Conditions such as climate, land values and building costs are favor-

Ground Squirrel Poison Available To Farmers

A supply of ground squirrel poison was mixed this week by J. F. Branson, of the U. S. biological survey. This will be available for distribution to the farmers of the county at the county agent's office.

Mr. Branson states that the most effective time to eradicate the ground squirrels is to put out the poison in the early spring when the squirrels first come out. At that time there is a shortage of feed and they will take the poison more readily. This also destroys them much more effectively than if they are poisoned after the crops are partly destroyed and there is plenty of feed.

Several of the communities of the county have already planned to put on an intensive drive to eradicate the ground squirrels this spring.

orable to economical production under good management, however, for the man who will either specialize or make poultry a major enterprise.

Prices of eggs and poultry were poorer last year than any other time since the war, but slight average advance in eggs and a comparable advance in poultry is indicated for the coming year. Reduced labor cost through keeping large enough units was found desirable in view of recent studies by the Oregon experiment station showing the cost of egg production to range from 14 to 56 cents per dozen with the average at 27.9 cents. These figures allow for labor of the family.

A slight decrease in dairying has occurred in recent years in this county, numbers of dairy cattle having been reduced about 5 per cent in three years. Expansion is advocated only where feeds enough for such increase can be produced on the farm. High prices of cows make the present a good time to cull out the lower producers and build up herds from better young stock.

Infectious abortion was pointed out as a most dangerous menace at present and special gatherings were advocated as a means of acquainting farmers with best methods of control.

The economics, dairy, and farm crops committees all reported a marked increase in legume acreage, especially of clover and alfalfa with the latter having jumped 200 per cent. This increase with the lessened number of dairy cattle has tended to bring a better balance between legume supplies and needs. More alfalfa both for hay and soiling crops can be profitably produced, however, and home grown barley and oats, grown and ground together in some instances and supplemented with some oil meal, will reduce grain feed costs.

Indications of a 14 per cent increase in potato acreage in the United States this year makes any general increase here precarious, except as local markets might warrant. This is said to be a good year to get a start with certified seed at a low cost, however. Burbanks for mellow land and more rounding types for heavier soils are advocated for late varieties. A potato growers association would be beneficial to the county in many ways, the committee reported.

Corn silage is losing some popularity because of the expense of production but an increase of corn for grain is warranted. Markets for fiber flax are too far from this county, though seed flax on tide lands is profitable. Landino clover for irrigated or subirrigated pastures is showing great promise. Sodium chlorate for eradicating perennial weeds is worthy of demonstration tests here.

Except that hogs are now in a slump, the general livestock situation in the county is favorable. Continuance of just enough hogs to care for farm waste is advocated. Beef cattle in the county have dropped from a total of 2000 head to about 600 in eight years. With good prospects for the next three years at least, some increase is warranted by feed supplies. Sheep will continue to be profitable if well managed on farms not overstocked. Goats could stand considerable increase in the county as foreign demand for mohair is increasing and goats not only do well on logged off land but actually benefit the pasture for other stock.

Please turn to page 6

Permission To Sell Firecrackers Here Is Refused By Council

City Fathers Will Make Personal Survey of Vernonia to Determine Need of Sidewalks Being Built.

Demonstrating what was purported to be a "safe" explosive, a representative of a firecracker corporation asked permission of the city council Monday night for a local dealer to have the right to sell them in the city for the coming Independence day.

An ordinance is in effect in Vernonia prohibiting the sale of firecrackers within the city limits, and it is said that if this is not enforced the prevailing insurance rates will be raised. For this reason the request was refused.

Curiosity as to the effectiveness of the crackers prompted some of the councilmen to try them. After setting off a few in the city hall, one bunch was thrown on the roof, near the director's room of the Bank of Vernonia, where a meeting was in progress, much to the enjoyment of the councilmen and the discomfiture of the bank president, H. E. McGraw.

To Survey Town

In order to determine the immediate needs of the city for sidewalks, to comply with the post office regulations for village free delivery service, the members of the council will make a personal survey of the town before the next meeting, when they feel they will have a better understanding of what districts should be named in requiring sidewalks to be constructed.

Livestock Situation In Columbia County Reported To Be On Satisfactory Basis

Committee At Agricultural Conference Makes Detailed Report of Conditions In This District

At present the general livestock situation is on a very satisfactory basis, except for a low price for hogs.

In considering the outlook for livestock the committee wishes to stress the fact that it is unwise to base one's operations on one year's outlook. It is necessary to spend several years in building up a flock or a herd. Low prices are bound to occur, however, livestock production over a period of years has shown a profit. We, therefore, wish to emphasize the importance of a farmer staying with the livestock enterprise which is best adapted to his own farm.

Going out of business just because one year's conditions look unfavorable is false economy in the livestock business. Raise the kind of livestock in sufficient numbers to reasonably consume the class do not overstock.

Beef Cattle

Just at present the beef cattle situation is attractive. Prices are high following a period of extensive liquidation. The beef cattle raisers can logically expect the prices to remain good for a period of 3 to 4 years, providing the present embargo against Argentine is maintained. This is the time to improve the breeding by use of good bulls. Beef cattle have decreased in the county from 2019 in 1920 to less than 600 at the present time. This decrease has come about because of the depression rather than through lack of feed.

The committee feels that there is feed for an increased number of beef cattle and that the price looks good for several years to come. Therefore, we believe that it will be a good business for those inclined toward beef production.

The committee feels also that good quality beef should be raised rather than beef of off quality.

Where a farmer has grain and hay, it is recommended that he consider feeding of beef as a means of marketing it.

Sheep

Sheep look good for another year. Wool prices and lamb prices will justify this condition. It should be considered, however, that there has been an increase in the number of sheep in nearly all countries. It is only reasonable to expect eventually that there will be a period of low prices. However, this will be temporary and those engaged in the business should stay

Nehalem Valley Ice & Creamery Buy Large Pasteurizer For Milk

All Milk Retailed For Local Consumption Will Be Pasteurized; Buy Larger Butter Churn.

The Nehalem Valley Ice & Creamery company has purchased a 300-gallon milk pasteurizer, which will be sufficient to handle the output of this concern for some time to come, in the opinion of the manager, J. E. Tapp.

All milk retailled by the company will be pasteurized as soon as the new equipment is installed, which will take several days. The small pasteurizer in the plant at present is unable to handle the output, and much of the milk has been delivered without receiving this treatment.

A larger butter churn has also been purchased, to handle the increased demand for this product. It is said that the creamery is unable to secure sufficient cream to supply the local demand for their butter.

Partnership Dissolved By Childs And Reese

Albert Childs of the Nehalem market has bought out his partner J. D. Reese. The business will continue under the name of Nehalem market and no changes in policy will be made at present. Mr. Reese will stay with the business until the end of March when he expects to return to Roseburg, Oregon, where he owns considerable property. The family will remain in Vernonia until the end of the school term.

Fifty Girls Participate In Open Council Fire

Fifty girls took part in the open council fire held by the Camp Fire groups in the Legion hall last Thursday. They included members of the three Camp Fire groups and the two Bluebird groups. Miss Bessie McDonald was the guardian in charge of the program, which was as follows: Wobelo call; girls entered singing, "We come to the council fire;" fire lighting ceremony, and the reading of the Camp Fire law; song, "Burn, Fire, Burn; Merle Mills gave a short talk on the significance of the gown to Camp Fire.

The Tatapochin group gave a dramatization of "Mammy Moon." Miss Hazel Malmsten gave the history of Camp Fire and Mrs. Judd Greenman spoke on the "Ideals of Camp Fire." The Lolita group presented a sketch, "The Call," which was followed by the fire extinguishing ceremony and the recessional. More than \$7 was taken in the collection toward the cabin fund.

To Discuss Raising Of Sheep In Nehalem Valley

The raising of sheep in the Nehalem valley will be discussed at a meeting in Vernonia Thursday evening, March 15, according to Geo. A. Nelson, county agricultural agent.

Harry Lindgren, livestock specialist from the O. S. C. extension service, will be present to discuss this subject. Sheep raising is an important and growing industry in the Nehalem valley, according to Mr. Nelson, and everyone interested is invited to be present at this meeting, which will be held in the Grange hall at 8 p.m.

No More Pyrotol Left, Reports Extension Man

The supply of pyrotol salvage war explosive, which has been sold to the farmers during the last three years for land filling work is entirely exhausted, says F. E. Price, specialist in soils of the extension service, who was in charge of the distribution in Oregon.

The allotment for Oregon was 900,000 pounds for land clearing purposes. This has all been ordered and there has been a demand for more.

The extension service handled the distribution through the county agents in the various counties. The cost of the material represented only the charges for carttridding and freight as the smokeless cannon powder which is the most important ingredient was furnished free of charge by the government for such work.

Vernonia Wins Three Prizes In Declamatory Contest Held in Rainier

Vernonia, with four contestants, carried off three prizes at the county declamatory contest held in Rainier on Friday. Lorraine Space took the first prize in the fifth and sixth grades serious pieces. Doris Anderson won the second prize in the fifth and sixth grade humorous and Betty Cameron the second prize in the seventh and eighth grade humorous. There were 23 contestants from various parts of the county competing. Special credit is to be given to Lorraine Space who had her piece changed on Monday in order that Vernonia might have a serious and humorous selection in that division.

This result is said to be due in a large measure to the efforts of Mrs. Ethel Ray in drilling the children. Mrs. Ray made a special study in oratory and dramatics at the University of Oregon and is said to be well qualified to handle this subject.

Local Dog Prize Winner.

Duke von Waldheim, a German police dog owned by Dr. Geo. Pasto of Vernonia, took three second and one third prize at the dog show held in Portland March 1, 2, and 3. Duke is a son of the imported international champion, Bruno von Mangoldstein. He drew much favorable comment to himself and elicited many questions about Vernonia, his home town.

Ethel Louise Spencer, Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Spencer, Observed Her Third Birthday, Her Second Birthday Anniversary, and Was Eight Years Old February 29.

Fifteen of her little friends were present for a party in her honor that day.

Local Chamber Registers Cars

Secretary Sheeley Is Appointed Vernonia Registrar

For Non-Resident Vehicles

Present Year's License Plates Needed For Non-Resident Register in State

Secretary Lester Sheeley of the Vernonia Chamber of Commerce has been appointed a registrar of non-resident motor vehicles. All the necessary blanks are now in the office of the local chamber, and reports will be made regularly to the secretary of state regarding registrations.

The supplies for the registration of motor vehicles consists of permits to be issued to the applicants for attaching to the windshields of their cars, application blanks for such permits, report blanks for listing applications received and envelopes for mailing the applications and reports to the secretary of state.

No application is accepted unless the applicant has license plates of the current year issued by his home state. It is not sufficient that he show that he has applied for a license or that he has temporary plates. He must have his permit plates for the present year.

Permits are never made to expire more than three months after the date of issuance and never later than December 31 if issued during the latter part of the year. Local registrars are not authorized to issue annual permits nor to issue a second permit to any person during any calendar year.

No person who was a resident of his state at the time of bringing his car into Oregon will be issued a non-resident permit, even though the license was secured legally and was required by the issuing state.

Good Attendance At Parent-Teacher Meeting

The Parent Teacher association met at the high school on Monday evening with an exceptionally good attendance. Miss Eaton gave a short report on "Safety." Mrs. Helen Austin read the constitution as drawn up by the special committee and this was adopted with one amendment. The program, which proved very interesting was as follows: A recitation, "Suppose" by Marjorie Royer; solo, "Among my Souvenirs" by La Velle Gosa; dramatization, "The Princess Whom Nobody Could Silence" by the 4th grade of Miss Alice Eaton's room; talk, "The Social Standard" by Rev. G. W. Plumer; recitation, "The Owl and The Pussy Cat" by Herbert Anderson.

Mrs. Mabel Nichol reported that the Vernonia Junior Red Cross had raised \$27.50, which had been sent to help purchase six radio sets for the children's hospital. This was the largest amount sent from any school in the county. She also explained that it was through the Red Cross that the portfolios were being exchanged with foreign countries and exhibited those received by Vernonia and also one prepared by the school here.

The bazaar committee reported that about \$44 had been raised but as all the money is not in yet they could not make a definite report. The next meeting will be held in the Washington school on Friday afternoon, March 16, when Miss Beatrice Anderson's room will put on a puppet show.

JOHN M. GORDY

The funeral of John M. Gordy was held in the Christian church Sunday at 2:30 p.m., Rev. Teddy Leavitt officiating. Interment was in the Vernonia cemetery.

He was born at Franklin, La., July 18, 1860, and was 67 years of age at the time of his death, which occurred March 1, due to chronic myocarditis.

He leaves two sons and two daughters to mourn his death, Maurice and Gus Gordy of Houston, Texas, Mrs. C. C. Johnson of Gevrette, La., and Mrs. Chris. Near of Vernonia.