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DO WE WANT A COUNTY GRAZING DISTRICT?

On the heels of the organization of a grazing district in Jordan Valley, comes the proposal to encircle all of Malheur county within the bounds of a county grazing district. Such a district might well be practical and a means of conserving range in the wide open spaces of the Jordan Valley country, which borders Idaho, but a far different situation exists in our hay producing valleys along the Malheur and Snake rivers. It appears that the organization of a countywide district is not practical.

A letter written to The Journal by Ralph Jones, Idaho sheepman who feeds his stock in this vicinity, gives facts and figures which disclose that the big end of our local hay is purchased by Idaho sheepmen. It discloses that the hay buyer is a valued asset and that we should think twice before he is driven out of our valley by the stringent provisions of the grazing law.

If we but read the careful survey, we will see beyond a doubt that we are fortunate in marketing our principal crops of hay and corn to these annual visitors who leave "75 per cent of their yearly expenditures" where they winter feed and February lamb. First, the farmer sells his hay, corn and pasture. Second, local men receive employment. Third, taxes are paid into the county treasury.

A clear cut reversal it is—from the situation which exists in Jordan Valley. Here, the Idaho sheepman takes no summer feed, he is in the forest reserve in the summer. In the winter he buys our local hay and corn and uses only a small border of grazing land as he goes and comes. Very few Idaho sheepmen who winter here go further into the interior than Jamieson at the outside.

In Jordan Valley, many resident land owners are stockmen. They have seen Idaho sheep cross the border and graze the range to their very fences and boundary lines, year after year. Those visiting sheepmen leave very few dollars in Jordan Valley most years as few of them purchase hay there but they take the summer feed and leave. No wonder the transient is unwelcome there.

But how different is his business here. He is with us during the period of heavy expenditures—and he spends. In Jordan Valley he takes all and spends little.

BANK DEPOSITS WILL BE GUARANTEED

For the purpose of restoring the confidence of the people in banking, guaranty of bank deposts of $2500 or less will be effective on January 1st and will be extended to larger deposits six month later, on July 1, 1934.

The purpose of the new banking law, passed by congress is to encourage and maintain good banking practices and to guarantee the safety of the small savings accumulated by diligent effort on the part of most of the depositors, who can ill afford to lose. The new guaranty law will make their savings as easy to get as it was to pass them through the teller's window for safekeeping until such time of need. The new law will remove the fear that has resulted in all forms of hoarding and it will send the money back into the bank where it belongs and can be of some use.

Speculation with depositors' money, such as in the large New York National banks, must stop after such stringent measures as the new guaranty law becomes effective. It was not poor loans that caused the bank crisis of last spring but fradulent manipulationss and gigantic swindles. All of them were made, not in the honest course of business, but for the purpose of enriching one or a few individuals at great cost to many unsuspecting victims. Such practices are a disgrace to our country.

While deposits are not guaranteed in Canadian and British banks they have no failures. Conducted on the chain plan, large banks take the initiative in directing sound banking business. That, of course, is all that is necessary but we believe the guaranty on deposits is needed to restore the confidence of the American people in their banking system at this time.

MORE BUYING POWER

Definite indication of an improved purchasing power for American farmers during the coming years is foreseen.

Prospective improved purchasing power is based partly on improved demand conditions and partly on the working of the agricultural adjustment administration, the statistics disclose. In this connection the greatest improvement in the general agricultural commodity situation is expected in those basic commodities included under the farm act.

The sheep industry so far outside of the basic commodity list, also shows evidencé of real improvement as it is now on the downward side of its more or less regular production cycle. The ultimate effect of this depends, however, somewhat on the developments in the corn-hog adjustment program in the middle-west. This program may, in fact, influence the whole western range livestock industry.

The question yet to be settled that will affect vitally this industry are those concerning possible compensatory taxes on competitive products with pork, and the use to which rented or contracted corn acreage will be put. Certain policies, western experts believe, might stimulate the production of cattle and sheep in the corn belt.

Mae West says she was a good girl once, but probably once was enough.

Who Is Buying Hay Crop From Malheur Farmers?

Ontario, Route 1—(To The Journal)—In answer to several articles in regard to the organization of a Malheur county grazing district, which have appeared in Malheur county newspapers, and in reply to a recent editorial in the Ontario paper, condemning the Idaho sheepman, here are a few facts in answer to such thoughtless talk.

Do the farmers and business men of Malheur county realize that there are approximately 35,000 Idaho ewes being fed between Nyssa and Vale and Weiser for February lambing. In this same territory, approximately 7000 Oregon ewes are being ranged for February lambing. This is exactly one-fifth of the Idaho total.

For the strictly Idaho ewes in this particular district it takes 10,000 tons of hay in feed grounds from Nyssa and Vale to Weiser. Here is an important fact, entirely overlooked in the Ontario write-up. Seventy-five per cent of the year's running expenses on sheep is spent for winter rations in Malheur county—it costs only 25 per cent to take care of them through the summer months when they are on Idaho range.

The following comparison was made from an R. A. C. C. budget of last year, under which sheep in this district were largely run. Out of an allowance of $4 per head, $3 was spent n Malheur county by the Idaho sheepman from November until May 1st—for hay, labor, grain, supplies and taxes for five months spent in Malheur county. The balance of $1 per head had to carry the sheep through the summer months. Taxes alone brought Malheur county about $1500 on this number of "transient" sheep.

The Ontario editor stated that the Idaho sheepman stands on the street corner and cries down the price of hay. The writer undoubtedly did not realize the problem that faced the sheepman this fall who was operating under a government budget set by being rediscounted. The present price of $8 and $7 per ton for hay left the sheepman less money for the balance of his overhead than he had a year ago. No wonder he remarked upon the price situation when he knew nearby Idaho hay sold for 50 cents to $1 per ton less. He would be a poor business man who was not interested in this price difference.

Has the farmer realized that if Malheur county adopts the grazing law, at least 50 per cent of the hay in this valley will find no market. If the Idaho sheepman is kept out by the law, would there be sufficient Malheur county cattle and sheep to feed the hay? Range could be conserved with the "sky the limit" but there would not be sufficient range to keep the stock through the summer months that would be required to eat the hay now utilized by Idaho sheepmen.

Personally, I could qualify under the grazing law because I own Oregon land but a division of the outlying range would be impractical as no one in this locality would possess enough to be of benefit. The law would merely make it difficult for both Oregon and Idaho sheep to cross the open spaces on their way to and from the hills and forest reserves.—RALPH JONES, an Idaho Sheepman.

Around the Country

Crushed under the wheels of the family automobile when she fell out the door, Ella Lewis, 4 of Gresham, was killed in Portland last Friday. She was hurled to the pavement and one wheel passed over her chest.

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Idaho is building 6½ miles of the I-O-N highway south of Homedale with a crew of 33 men and about 20 teams at work. George Upton and H. Linsberger report that the farmers along the route have given the right of way freely.

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Lyle Kingsbury, 11, of Caldwell was a a winner in the radio elimination contest in Portland Friday. He played on a harmonica and also imitated animals. He will enter the finals in Portland next month.

Home Corner

PUDDING SAUCES

Hard Sauce: Cream one-third cup of butter. Then add slowly, a little at a time, 1 cup sifted confectioners' sugar. Beat until satin smooth and free from grains. Then add 2-thirds teaspoon vanilla and a little grated nutmeg. Beat and cream again, then mold in sauce dish and set in refrigerator to harden.

Sterling Sauce: Cream one-half cup of butter, add 1 cup of brown sugar, 2 tablespoons wine or 1 teaspoon vanilla and 4 tablespoons cream. Add cream and flavoring drop by drop with constant creaming. Mold and chill.

Lemon Sauce: Serve hot over pudding. Mix 1 tablespoon cornstarch and pinch of salt with one-half cup of sugar. Then add 1 cup of boiling water and cook 5 minutes. Then add 2 tablespoons butter, juice of 1 lemon and grated rind of half a lemon.

Journal Ads Are Your Shopping Guide

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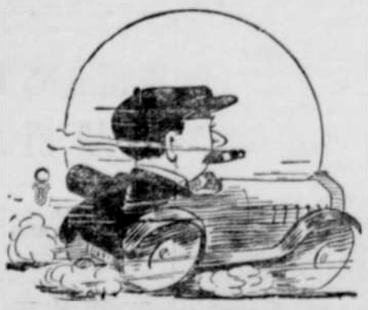

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