

\$228 Million Value Placed on Oregon Farm Crops in 1961; Down 3 Percent

Oregon farms produced crops valued at an estimated \$228 million during 1961, down about 3 percent from the previous year, according to Mrs. Elvera Horrell, Oregon State university agricultural economist.

Most of the drop came from lower potato and hay prices along with smaller output of wheat and strawberries, she explained. Total tonnage of Oregon crops was given at five million, not much different from 1960 or the average.

Mrs. Horrell's figures are based on U.S. Department of Agriculture reports and other information. The values quoted are derived from estimated crop production and season average prices to growers based on sales to Dec. 1. An estimate of 1961 cash receipts and production expenses will be available later.

Potatoes Rank Fifth, Onions 10th

During 1961 hay replaced wheat as the top value crop for the first time in many years. The 10 leading crops, in order, were hay, wheat, barley, snap beans for processing, potatoes, pears, cherries, strawberries, ryegrass seed and onions. Field corn, on the 1960 list, was replaced by onions.

Crop-by-crop comparisons between 1960 and 1961 show both ups and downs in production and value, Mrs. Horrell noted. Tree fruits and nuts, which skidded farthest in 1960, increased fastest last year, with tonnage going up 25 percent and value 27 percent. With the single exception of apples all items in this group rebounded from the previous year's poor growing season.

Sweet Corn, Beets Above 1960

Vegetables rose 13 percent in volume and 22 percent in value with output of processing vegetables reaching the highest point on record and fresh vegetables second only to 1953. Tonnages of snap beans and sweet corn for processing topped all records and both beets and peas were above 1960.

In fresh market crops, output of asparagus, broccoli, cauliflower and watermelons was at a record high, with onions and sweet corn also showing gains. Cabbage, cantaloupes, lettuce and tomatoes were down.

Berries were off 8 percent in volume and 16 percent in value, with strawberries accounting for a substantial part of the total berry drop, although most other berries were also below 1960, she noted.

Seed Brings Higher Prices

Seed output was off about 8 percent but improved prices raised the value 6 percent over 1960. Red, alsike, ladino and crimson

clover, vetch, ryegrass and red fescue seed contributed to the tonnage downturn, while alfalfa, red and white clover, vetch, ryegrass, Austrian peas, bentgrass and tall fescue added to the value, Mrs. Horrell said.

Field, forage and miscellaneous crops, which in 1961 made up four-fifths of the state's crop volume and nearly half of the value, were off 3 percent in tonnage and 12 percent in value.

Wheat and potatoes were the biggest losers in this group.

Roy Hirai Attends National Potato Meet

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committee. He was appointed to the committee by the secretary on recommendation of Oregon Potato commission and the Malheur growers association.

Prior to Hirai's attendance at the national meeting, directors of the local potato growers association met with him to formulate local recommendations for a potato program. At that time the directors passed resolution suggesting that there be no controls on potatoes, or that if controls were demanded by other producing districts, that a national program be built around a marketing agreement.

Hirai reported on return that voting in the advisory committee heavily favored acreage allotments and marketing quotas and resulted in this type of program being recommended to the secretary of agriculture, along with a national marketing agreement.

At close of the advisory committee meeting a sub-committee was selected to work out further details of the program proposals, Hirai reported. He expects the full committee to be called together again to review recommendations of the smaller group.

Tri-Hi-Y Club Divides; Workshop To Be Held At BJC in February

(From the Nyssa High Building)

Tri-Hi-Y is now an all-girls club; Hi-Y is made up exclusively of boys. This was announced at the last Tri-Hi-Y meeting held Jan. 9. Word was received from the club's sponsor, the YMCA, that this was a national practice.

Plans were made to attend a workshop to be held at BJC in Boise Feb. 3, April 6 and 7 will dates of the Youth and Government Pre-Legislature day to be held at Idaho state capitol building. Nyssa will be represented by a senator, a congressman, a reporter and a delegate from each organization.

Attorney General Upholds Court View In Salary Argument

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funds in the amount of \$4300 in addition to the \$6500 paid by the state to increase the amount to a \$10,000 minimum to enable the county to have his services full time and eliminate his private practice.

For the year ending June 30, 1962, the original estimate submitted to the budget committee showed the county portion of the salary of \$4300 to maintain the \$10,800 figure used the previous year. This county share of the salary was adopted by the budget committee as the proposed budget.

Budget Approved and Adopted

After a hearing on June 7, 1961, the county court adopted and approved the budget, and made a levy of taxes.

On May 24, 1961, house bill 1408 that had been enacted by the legislature was signed by the governor and became law. This provided for \$10,000 payment by the state for the salary of district attorneys.

The budget committee and county court did not receive information that the amount of salary to be paid by the state had been increased until after the budget had been approved, the tax levied and a notice of levy turned over to the assessor.

Smith's contention was that since the \$4300 had been budgeted by the county it had to be spent.

Attorney General's Ruling

The attorney general's ruling was based on law that said, "The local budget law was designed and did not set up rigid barriers against expenditures in excess of appropriations. However, there is nothing in the law which requires that all money budgeted for a certain purpose must be expended nor that any portion thereof must be devoted to that purpose for any given month."

"In the absence of some provision in the statute that once an appropriation is made it must be fully expended in a given year, there is nothing to prohibit a curtailment of those expenditures if such an expenditure becomes unnecessary with the passage of time."

The concluding paragraph said, "The county auditor and disbursing officer of the county must make payment in accordance with the resolution."

Overpayment Unaccounted

Prior to the county court's resolution dated Aug. 30, 1961, setting forth their contention that the salary of Smith was unchanged from the previous amount of \$10,800, the county auditor had issued checks for July and August based on the higher figure. The overpayment resulting, based on ruling of the attorney general's office, is approximately \$583.00.

This has not been paid back into county funds, has not been deducted from any checks since issued, nor has request been made by county court for return of the funds, according to County Auditor Don Hosler in a statement Wednesday.

Potato Growers Face Critical Issues at Meet

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agent working with potatoes, will attack problems of poor quality through comparison of local methods that have affected quality.

Panel to Discuss Problems

Appearing on this panel will be Blaine Holladay of Ore-Ida Co., Ontario; Jim Williams of Western Idaho Potato Growers, Caldwell; Shig Hironaka of Jaekel & Rogers Produce Co., Ontario; and Elmer Jacques of J. R. Simplot Co. of Caldwell, and Bond.

Roy Hirai, appointed by Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman as Oregon representative to a National Potato Advisory committee to recommend a potato program, will report on the first session of this committee Jan. 3-5 and will lead discussion toward formulating local recommendations to be presented to the committee.

Wesley Roberts, president of Malheur Potato Bargaining association, will report on the past year's work of that group and conduct a short business meeting and elections.

Report of potato association advertising for the past year will be made by Fred Hagelstein, extension agent who served as potato association secretary during the past year.

Directors Will Be Elected

Election of directors of the association will be held to fill the posts of directors whose terms are expiring. These include Dean Barlow of Vale, Cal Lee of Ontario, Wesley Roberts of Oregon Slope, G. S. Steele of Harper, Maurice Judd of Adrian and Sam Hartley, director-at-large.

A film on chemical weed control in potatoes will be shown following adjournment of the formal association meeting.

The potato growers meeting will be an all-day affair, with lunch provided at the hall for those attending by the home economics ladies of the grange.

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Volumes on Negro Culture, Northern Attitudes Head List at County Library

New books going into circulation Saturday, Jan. 20, at Malheur county library include the following:

"100 Years of Negro Freedom" by Arna Bontemps. A view of Negro leaders who formed the vanguard of Negro intellectual, cultural and political endeavor during the past century.

"North of Slavery" by Leon F. Litwack. A well-documented book that presents the attitude of the white citizen toward the Negro in the states above the Mason-Dixon line from 1790 to 1860.

"Epic of Man" by Life magazine. In paintings, photographs, maps and text, this handsome book chronicles man's journey through the darkness of the prehistoric past to the first civilizations.

"Carl Sandburg" by Harry Golden. Sandburg made available to the author letters, journals, documents, anecdotes, hitherto unpublished writings and autobiographical notes. All have been woven together to create a warm biography of one of America's best-loved writers.

"Always Another Dawn" by A. Scott Crossfield. The story of a rocket test pilot.

"War Path and Bivouac" by John F. Finerty. A stirring and detailed account of the Dakota Indian wars of 1876 and the Nez Perce Indian wars of 1877.

"Mental Health in the United States" by Nina Ridenour. A short history of the mental health movement in the U.S. from about 1908 up to the present but without any attempt to describe the services available today.

"The New World of Philosophy" by Abraham Kaplan. A series of lectures on contemporary world philosophies that were delivered at UCLA in the fall of 1959 and spring of 1960.

"King of the Mountain Men" by Gene Caesar. A biography of Jim Bridger.

"Sinclair Lewis" by Mark Schorer. A biography of the distinctive American novelist whose impact upon the 1920's and early '30's was immeasurable.

"Dr. Spock Talks with Mothers" by Benjamin Spock. The author talks about illness, emotional health, family relationships, parental discipline of children, the

W. P. Schink Writes Song for NHS Band

(From the Nyssa High Building)

A musical composition by William P. Schink of Boise has been written for and dedicated to Bob "Q" Smith and his Nyssa high school band.

Entitled "The Nyssan," it will be played by the Nyssa band on April 7 at the Competition festival in Hermiston and on May 31 when the band travels to Seattle to present a concert at the World's fair.

Schink, a graduate of Washington State college at Pullman, is now teaching at Boise. He is not a professional composer but has entered several amateur contests with his compositions.

In a letter to Smith, Schink stated that he felt "The Nyssan" was the start of a future of good composing—a future that may never have been possible if it had not been for Smith's timely encouragement and faith. He had also previously handled the Nyssa band and was very impressed with the group.

New Grazing Plan Promises Increase In Beef Production for Eastern Oregon

More beef from Eastern Oregon rangelands may be in the making as a result of research on grazing management in the area. Oregon State university rangeland researchers have found that a new grazing system for crested wheatgrass can give excellent quality forage for about three out of the five months cattle are on the range and provide better grazing of native bunchgrass range for the other two months.

The new grazing system was developed at the Squaw Butte branch of the OSU agricultural experiment station. It is based on the fact that a rancher can manage crested wheatgrass to produce either one or two crops of stems on one year's moisture supply.

Don Hyder and Forrest Sneva, range conservationists at Squaw Butte, learned that the rancher can control the kind of stems produced—either coarse seed stalks or tender, leafy shoots without seed.

Can Avoid "Wolf Plants"

Carefully controlled grazing for "one-crop" production—in late May and June—yields a high amount of forage and can avoid so-called "wolf plants."

"Two-crop" management favors growth of highly palatable, leafy stems. It insures maximum early grazing at a time of critical need and also provides better quality late summer forage.

Here's how the "one-crop" and "two-crop" grazing systems work: In the "one-crop" system, begin grazing crested wheatgrass when seed heads are in the boot—at about May 20. Remove cattle when seed heads flower—around June 30. Adjust stocking rates so grazing is close and uniform to control "wolf plants"—an accumulation of old coarse, ungrazed stems.

In the "two-crop" system, begin grazing when grass is about six inches high—usually around May 1. Graze until seed heads are in the boot—about May 20.

Regrowth Will Be Leafy

Hyder and Sneva emphasized that stocking rates should be adjusted so grazing is close about May 20. This stops further growth of wheatgrass seed stalks. If grazing is close enough and soil moisture is adequate, regrowth will be leafy.

Close grazing at the right time nips seed head development and forces the plant to start new growth. Moisture shortages in late June stop growth while the plant is still leafy or before stems can be produced.

The second crop may be grazed moderately after leafy regrowth has cured in late July or August and September.

The range scientists propose a grazing system which combines "one-crop" and "two-crop" grazing as part of an overall range improvement and management plan. By using both systems, a rancher can take better advantage of the good characteristics of crested wheatgrass.

Examples of Management

A rancher who fences his crested wheatgrass seedlings into three range units, for example, could "one-crop" a unit one year, "two-crop" it the next two years and then "one-crop" it again.

By rotating the order of grazing

Cobalt Fed in Stock Salt

Canadian researchers have reported that cobalt-supplemented diets for ewes resulted in stronger lambs. Early deaths were only a third as high among lambs from ewes receiving extra cobalt in the form of trace mineralized stock salt.

Journal Classifieds Get Results!

annually, each seeded unit would be grazed "two-crop" for two years and "one-crop" for one year, in every three years. Since both cropping systems would be used on different areas in the same year, excellent quality forage would be provided.

Grazing could be started about May 1 on a "two-crop" unit, switched to the "one-crop" unit for late May and June, then back to the "two-crop" unit in September for a total of three months' good grazing.

The other two months—roughly July and August—would be made up by grazing native bunchgrass range. Here, again, is an added bonus since the system would improve the native range by decreasing the grazing load on it in early spring.

This "rest" is important to natural improvement of native ranges, the researchers stated.

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