

Grain Producers Face Big Decisions In 1963, Says Agricultural Economist

Oregon wheat and barley growers and grain producers throughout the nation will make decisions during 1963 which could have long range effects on their incomes and the Pacific Northwest economy, points out M. D. Thomas, Oregon State university extension agricultural economist.

Pressures for idling acres and reducing grain production are increasing. New programs are being offered aimed at reducing tax costs of storing, exporting, supporting, diverting and the like. Thomas notes in the new OSU Farm and Market Outlook circular now available from county extension offices.

Early in 1963, Oregon barley growers and other feed grain producers will decide whether to participate in the federal feed grain program under the 1962 Food and Agricultural Act.

Grower Alternatives Offered

They may choose to idle at least 20 percent of the feed grain acreage and receive amenities in the form of government checks and assured minimum price or they may plant as much as they like, taking their chances on the open market, he explained.

The first choice tends to reduce the amount of raw products available for export, livestock feeding and other related economic activity. The second exposes producers to certain short-term price and income risks now greater than in other recent years due to new administrative alternatives and changing supply and demand conditions, the economist pointed out.

Barley market prices in 1963 could be \$5 to \$6 a ton below re-

turns available to growers who participate in the program. This would be a change from other recent years when prices were equal to or higher than supports.

Information at ASC Offices

County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service offices have program details and county extension offices have work forms and other information to assist in analyzing income effects of various alternatives, Thomas said.

Wheat producers will be making a choice on a new program that would attempt to price some wheat back into its traditional use in this area as a feed grain. Such an approach has long been favored by the Oregon wheat industry, Thomas explained. It also aims to bring idle or diverted acres back into production as soon as surpluses have been reduced to needed reserve levels.

This plan splits the wheat supply between domestic food use and other domestic uses, an approach that has been resisted by politically powerful grain and livestock interests in the corn and milo country east of the Rockies, he stressed.

Seek Pacific Coast Markets

These interests prefer to minimize the Pacific Northwest's ability to compete, directly or indirectly, in the markets for livestock and poultry products, Thomas noted. They would like to corner as much as possible of the Pacific Coast market as well as the Eastern market for grains, livestock and poultry, he emphasized.

These attitudes and resulting programs have dwarfed Oregon's poultry enterprises, Thomas stated. Wheat feeding has practically vanished and now barley feeding and Oregon's relatively recent expansion in cattle feeding and hog raising are threatened by federal grain programs that have operated to place the Pacific Northwest's grain feeding industries in a vulnerable competitive position, he added.

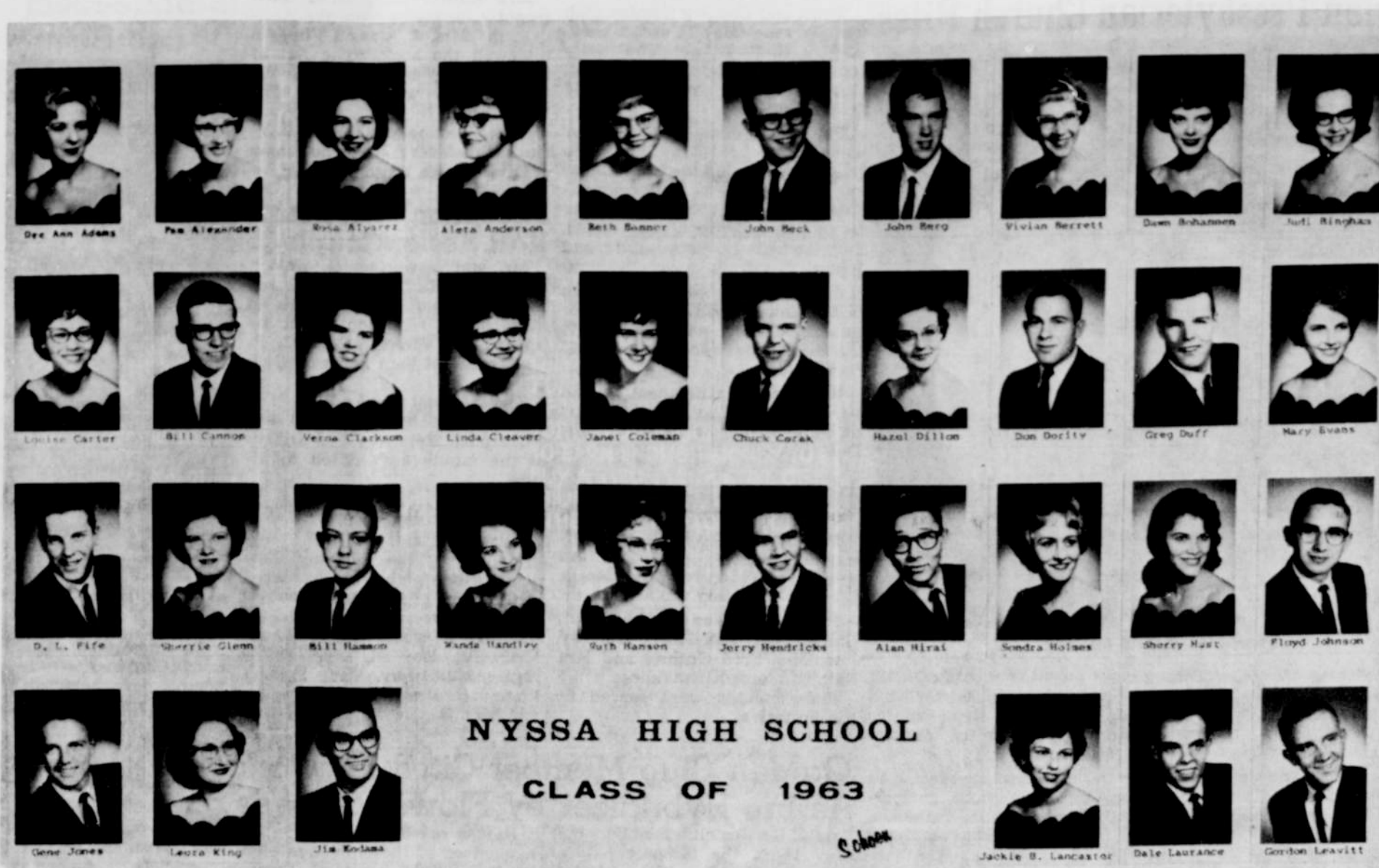
Efforts are being made to relieve this situation, but response at the federal administrative level has not been very encouraging since the fall of 1961 when special sales programs were operated for a short time, Thomas noted.

Barley Action Unfavorable

Actions which tended to reduce 1962 fall barley prices were not necessarily in the national interest and certainly not among those favored by leaders in the Northwest grain and livestock industries, he believes.

As 1962 ended the U. S. Department of Agriculture continued selling milo and corn in the Midwest below price support levels, holding market prices down and providing an indirect subsidy to livestock and poultry feeders there, he explained. No similar program was available in the Northwest.

Decisions to be made in 1963 will have important bearings on whether Oregon has the opportunity to retain and expand local feed grain markets and help supply the meat wanted by the growing Pacific Coast population, Thomas stressed.



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Commencement Exercises... May 26

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF HEARING OF FINAL ACCOUNT In the County Court Of the State of Oregon For Malheur County

In the Matter of the Estate of

JOHN LEWIS HERRIMAN

Deceased

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the final account and report of Catherine A. Herriman, executrix of the estate of John Lewis Herriman, deceased, has been filed in the County Court of the State of Oregon for Malheur County, and that the 17th day of June, 1963, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. has been duly appointed by such court for the hearing of objections to such final account and settlement thereof, at which time any person interested in such estate may appear and file objections in writing and contest the same.

CATHERINE A. HERRIMAN

Executrix

Taggart & Albano
Attorneys for Estate
71 SW Third Avenue
Ontario, Oregon

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Arena Valley

By Della Reno

Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Reno spent a recent Tuesday evening in Homedale where he attended a meeting of Veterans of World War I, spoke to the men and distributed literature pertaining to a picnic slated June 23 in Nampa. Mrs. Reno visited her daughter, Lorraine and children in Homedale.

Rada Proctor is very ill and was taken to Caldwell Memorial hospital. She underwent major surgery last Friday morning and is reported to be in satisfactory condition.

Alice Yensen has been in a Nampa hospital after she fell and broke her wrist. She was a chaperone at a Y-Teens skating party in Nampa at time of the accident.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Thomas were called to Boise recently due to the serious illness of their son-in-law.

Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Anderson were summoned to Topeka, Kan., recently due to the illness of their son-in-law who was taken to a hospital in the Kansas capital city.

Auxiliary ladies of Barracks 2726, Parma, recently turned in nine hospital pads which they had made for the Veterans' hospital in Boise. This makes a total of 16 pads made by the group.