

Report

OF THE

1946

*Agricultural Program
Planning Conference*

for

Josephine County

JOSEPHINE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

FEBRUARY 6, 1946

FOREWORD

The Josephine County Agricultural Program conference of 1946 was a continuation of the planned agricultural development that has characterized the farming activities for many years. An earlier planning conference that contributed to this development was held January 25, 1938.

The 1946 conference had its origin with a request made a year earlier when members of the Josephine County Agricultural Planning committee asked the O.S.C. Extension service to cooperate in such a re-appraisal of agricultural conditions and outlook as soon as possible after the close of the war.

Members of the Agricultural and Home Economics Extension staff of Josephine county who assisted with the conference are Jens F. Svinth, county agent; Ruth E. Crawford, home demonstration agent; Lloyd C. Baron, assistant county agent. Cooperation of all agencies servicing agriculture in the county was also sought.

Eight committees were set up months in advance of the conference date which gathered data and considered all facts obtainable before preparing reports and recommendations for submission to the final one-day conference.

The conference adopted the reports and set up a committee to see that they were assembled and published for general distribution. The reports are accordingly presented in full in this pamphlet with the idea that they may serve as a guide, representing the best judgement of active farmers and farm leaders counseling with Extension specialists in the various fields as to the trend in agricultural development of the farming industry and rural home life in Josephine county in the immediate postwar years. The members of the committee on publishing whose work made the printing of this report possible are:

George R. Riddle, chairman,
Mrs. May Loghry,
Raymond Lathrop.

THIS REPORT

is brought to you through the cooperation of the following:

Josephine County Pomona Grange
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PROCEEDINGS OF THE 1946 JOSEPHINE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM PLANNING CONFERENCE

Grants Pass, Oregon, February 6, 1946

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REPORT OF DAIRY COMMITTEE

Dairying in Josephine county has made rapid expansion during the past 10 years. This is due partly to the excellent pastures produced in the irrigated sections as well as the mild climate. Then too, with an equal expansion of population causing larger farms to be subdivided into smaller tracts, more cows have been carried per acre with fair success. The 1935 census estimates 3500 cows while the 1945 census tabulates the dairy population at 6000.

The committee feels with dairying producing 30 per cent of the county's agricultural income, it will need to continue on a quality program if it is worthy of greater expansion. The committee therefore recommends that established dairymen as well as new ones consider the following points:

1. PRODUCTION COSTS

- a. That more frequent renewal of pastures be made so as to provide more legumes in proportion to grasses and improve the quality of hay. Further, that rotation of pastures be practiced during the pasture season.
- b. That hay land be pastured early in the spring in order to retard the time for cutting the first crop of hay.
- c. Or, utilize the first cutting of hay for ensilage purposes on such farms where the herd is of at least 10 cows and sufficient equipment is available.
- d. That proper fertilization of hay lands be practiced as recommended by the Extension Service.
- e. To cull out low and inefficient producers.
- f. That clipping pastures of coarse growth and weeds will improve quality of pasture and provide more feed per acre.

2. ECONOMIC UNIT

- a. That if dairying is to be carried on as a full-time operation, 20 animal units should be the minimum carried on the farm (one producing cow or two half-grown heifers equal one unit).
- b. One acre will provide sufficient pasture and hay throughout the year for one animal unit, providing proper fertilization and rotation practices are carried out. This unit will not allow too much acreage being devoted to other farming practices such as a seed crop of ladino clover.

3. PRODUCING QUALITY MILK

- a. That dairyman should provide a covered stand by the side of the road in order that milk cans will not be exposed to the sun rays.
- b. High quality milk depends on clean utensils, cows and milking habits.
- c. That all udders prior to milking should be washed with a chlorine or disinfectant solution.
- d. That all milk should be filtered and cooled immediately after it is drawn from the cow.
- e. That lime or phosphate be sprinkled on floors where cows stand and in gutters immediately after barn is cleaned daily,

- unless these floors are thoroughly washed.
- f. That cow barns and milking parlors be sprayed with liquid DDT spray to prevent occupation by flies.

4. DISEASE AND SANITATION

- a. That all dairy cows be tested at least once each year for both Bangs and T. B. State law requires that this be done, therefore it is partly up to the dairyman to see that this is carried out.
- b. That a Livestock Disease Control Committee be reactivated to assist in enforcing such rules and regulations affecting the health of livestock within the county.
- c. That dairyman should practice such measures that will keep down the spread of mastitis—since it is now the greatest source of loss to the dairy industry today.
- d. That effort be made to control the infestation of cattle grubs to dairy cattle by proper application of recommended disinfectants.

5. DAIRY HERD IMPROVEMENT

- a. That the Dairy Herd Improvement Association be expanded so that all dairymen interested in testing will take advantage of either the standard plan or owner-sampler plan of testing.
- b. That dairymen be encouraged to use purebred bulls from dams with known production records or from proved sires.
- c. That only such calves for replacements be saved that are from dams with better than average production sires.
- d. That a calf pool be organized where dairymen may go to purchase heifers for replacement that are from dams with known production records.

6. ADVERTISED DAIRY PRODUCTS

- a. The committee recognizes the value of advertising milk and dairy products and recommends the continuation of the $\frac{1}{2}$ c per lb. butterfat from patrons' checks during the month of May to be used by Oregon Dairy Products Commission in promoting sale of dairy products in Oregon.

7. YOUTH DAIRY ACTIVITIES

- a. The committee recommends that more 4-H and Future Farmer dairy projects be developed and that breed associations give them such assistance and encouragement as is possible.

REPORT OF LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE

During the period 1926 to 1942 practically one-half of the agricultural cash farm income in Oregon has been derived from animal products, indicating that this has been a sound basis for agriculture.

The amount of hay required for different classes of livestock in Oregon is as follows:

Sheep average 285 pounds per head.

Beef cattle, one and a quarter tons per head of animals in the herd.

For both cattle and sheep we find this amount varies according to climatic conditions, etc. Some counties require 350 to 400 pounds of

hay per sheep, and other localities as low as 200 pounds. Beef cattle require 2 tons or more in some sections, while in other sections less than a ton will do the trick.

Cost-of-production figures indicate that it will require 950 pounds of grain or its equivalent to carry a sow from the time she is bred until the litter is weaned. It will require 710 pounds of grain or its equivalent to carry a 30-pound weaner pig to the weight of a 200-pound market hog. Pasture will reduce the grain requirement for growing and fattening pigs by one-fourth or more. Protein concentrates when available should make up 10 to 12 per cent of the grain ration.

The better type of seeded pastures in the area will carry one sheep to the acre or four acres will support one head of cattle. The number of months pasture of course varies. The native pasture will carry considerably less than seeded pastures, and irrigated pastures carry more.

There has been a general decline in number of beef cattle, sheep and hogs during the past few years in Josephine county. This has been due to restrictions of grazing areas, some having been overgrown by brush, others taken over for dairy purposes. Since the establishment of the herd law, it has cut down materially the numbers in the Illinois Valley area. Other farms once serving large areas have been subdivided to the extent that they are no longer large enough for strictly grazing purposes. There are areas that can be developed and be profitable for beef and sheep grazing but in doing so the operator needs to develop such operating practices that will give the greatest efficiency possible.

1. BEEF CATTLE

- a. On a strictly irrigated farm, 80 to 100 acres under irrigation is necessary to carry a full-time economical unit, providing outside range is provided to take care of five or six months feeding.
- b. That approximately 475 pounds of beef per season can be gained from an acre of good Ladino Clover pasture.
- c. That only registered breeding bulls of the proper type be used in order to improve the quality of the stock sold for meat purposes.
- d. That anyone contemplating the raising of only registered breeding stock investigate thoroughly market outlets before starting.
- e. That a movement be undertaken to re-seed logged off areas that have been burned over and in such brush areas on public lands where brush may be burned and the area reseeded. This relates particularly to such range land under the supervision of the Forest service in the county where it may be possible to establish trial plots of various grasses to determine the most practical grasses for re-seeding.

2. SHEEP

- a. It is generally considered that 500 farm sheep under Western Oregon conditions would be sufficient to make a satisfactory farm income. Under range conditions, twice to three times this number would be used.

- b. That raising of sheep in Josephine County should be done as a side line and in small farm flocks.
- c. That it is not practical to raise sheep entirely on irrigated pastures because of parasitic problems.
- d. That the quality of stock now in the county can be materially improved by the use of registered bucks.

3. HOGS

- a. The committee recommends that hogs be raised only on those farms where a legume pasture can be maintained and where there are waste products to supplement the feed supply.
- b. Also that the breeding stock can be improved considerably by use of registered boars of the right type.
- c. The long-established policy among Oregon farmers has been that Oregon's swine production should be based on the utilization of farm wastes. Where whole milk is not sold on the dairy farms, one hog can be kept profitably for every cow to consume the skim milk. One hog can be kept on 5 to 20 acres of grain stubble and put on considerable weight, making it a worthwhile consideration. One hog can be kept on the garbage from the average farm family.

4. GENERAL

- a. The committee recommends that more thought be given to cooperative marketing direct to consumer and that feeders of cattle consider the pooling of finished cattle in order to ship more efficiently to larger markets.
- b. Also, encourage more 4-H and Future Farmer livestock projects in order that future growers of livestock may gain considerable experience under supervision before entering into the business for themselves.

REPORT OF POULTRY AND TURKEY COMMITTEE

During the years 1930 to 1945 the Pacific coast has changed from a large poultry products exporting to an importing area. Oregon's 15 per cent increase in laying hen population during the war years can be maintained providing producers continue to improve the quality of poultry products.

Josephine County is adapted to poultry production, both from the standpoint of climate and farm size. The branching out of the Pacific Poultry Producers' Cooperative in Josephine County has tended to stabilize local markets for poultry products and put the poultry industry on a sounder footing.

Josephine County had 80,000 hens and pullets of all breeds on farms in 1945 as compared to an average of 70,000 for the past several years. 50 per cent of the 1945 County egg production is going into the hatching trade.

Oregon 1945 turkey output was 2,605,000 birds which is a 65 per cent increase over the five-year pre-war average. Per capita consumption of turkey products ranges from 3.5 to 3.7 pounds, showing a slow but gradual increase. At the present time 50 per cent of Oregon hatching eggs and 50 per cent of its poults are exported.

Josephine County produced 55,000 turkeys and over 140,000 hatching eggs in 1945.

POULTRY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That three poultry groups be recognized and that poultrymen adhere closely to them.

- a. Commercial flock — 2,000 birds are needed to supply an adequate family income and make the best use of family labor.
- b. Side line flock — 500 birds are an economic unit and fit in well with many other enterprises.
- c. Home flock — 25 birds are sufficient to supply family needs.

2. Chicks should be purchased at one time. February, March and April chicks are usually more profitable since they come into lay when the egg market is best.

3. That high quality products must be produced if we are to compete successfully with other producing areas.

4. Labor saving equipment must be devised and adopted to cut down production costs.

5. That poultrymen increase production through better housing, feeding and care of chicks and hens rather than through increased numbers. The Oregon Extension Service may be contacted for information on these subjects.

6. That a person going into the poultry business should realize and provide:

- a. A capital investment of \$5 per bird the first year to cover housing and brooding equipment.
- b. Brooding operations should be isolated from laying flocks.
- c. Screen sun porches are of great value when birds are raised in confinement.
- d. Generally speaking, day old chicks are preferred to started chicks.
- e. The use of batteries is not encouraged except for starting purposes.
- f. Range reared pullets will require about four acres of range for each 500 pullets, which is adequate for a two-year rotation system.

7. That the ray lamp be tried further in connection with hatching and brooding operations to control disease and be adopted by all poultrymen if and when proven feasible.

8. Continued meat bird production be encouraged with special emphasis on developing a higher quality (better meat conformation) bird.

9. Growers should acquaint themselves with the hazards of meat bird production before going into the business. It must be realized that it requires four pounds of feed to produce one pound of meat and the market price must be at least double the total feed price in order for the producer to profit.

10. That all producers of hatching eggs adhere strictly to the pull-orum testing program.

11. Concur with the part-time farming committee in recommending that the Josephine County Grange Cooperative and the Rogue Dairy Cooperative affiliate themselves with marketing agencies for poultry and poultry products, thereby making a steady market for the small producer.

TURKEY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. A 15 per cent decrease in production to stabilize supply and demand until new processing methods have been further developed which will increase consumption.

2. The producer should be in a position to finance his operations until his birds are eight weeks old. Recognized sources of financial aid for growing out and finishing the birds are:

- a. Production Credit Association
- b. Banks
- c. Feed Companies

That the capital requirement for turkey production be carefully considered before going into business. It must be recognized that under present prices it will cost \$2 per bird the first year to provide adequate brooders, brooding equipment, range, shelter, roosts, feeders and watering devices. In addition to that it will cost from \$5.00 to \$6.00 to mature a market bird. Feed represents 60 per cent of this cost, labor 20 per cent, cost of poults 12 per cent, and overhead 8 per cent.

4. At least two acres per 100 birds be provided for range purposes, which is sufficient for a two-year rotation program.

5. That some attention be given to cooperative marketing or a local killing plant.

6. That youngsr, smaller and better balanced birds be used in the breeding programs in an effort to increase fertility.

7. All producers of hatching eggs cooperate with the Oregon Turkey Improvement plan.

REPORT OF MILK GOAT COMMITTEE

Considerable acreage in Josephine County classed as sub-marginal and wasteland is not suitable for regular farming operations. On most of this land goats can be used to good advantage. They reduce fire hazards to a minimum, keep down weeds, blackberries, poison oak, and return a fair profit to the operator. At present several outlets are available for goat milk and cream, assuring new producers with favorable markets.

The present milk goat population does not seem to make full use or cover the acreage that might be available for such use. Trends in goat population indicate an increase during the past four years according to the following figures:

GOAT POPULATION

1941	—	2150
1942	—	2400
1943	—	2200
1944	—	2350
1945	—	2500

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

1. That in the best interests of land use and marketing of goat products, the goat population of Josephine County be increased as such land that is suitable is available.

2. That 40 goats be considered an economic unit which with present prices will gross between \$18 and \$22 per week.

3. Range feed should be supplemented by fall sown grains, sub-

terranean clover and such hardy grasses as the Extension Service shall advise. Food requirements for six goats will equal that of one cow. It requires approximately five acres of sub-marginal or wasteland to provide sufficient feed annually for a matured goat.

4. Only registered bucks of high quality should be used in order to produce does that will average three quarts per day, which is considered profitable.

Only one-fifth of the milking herd needs to be replaced each year. Therefore, save kids from only the best does and dispose of the rest.

That \$1,000 is considered the minimum a new operator should have available to start operations on a full time basis, providing operator already has the land. However, the nature of the business insures a quick turnover on the investment.

7. That in order to insure a sound industry in Josephine County a goat milk condensery should be established as soon as the goat population reaches 5,000.

8. That in order to continue in the goat milk business the producer must recognize that he is handling a highly perishable product and must handle it as such. That in order to produce quality milk he must be in a position to provide immediate refrigeration or cooling down of the milk as soon as it is drawn.

9. That all milk goat producers cooperate in getting all goats tested annually for both Bangs and T.B.

REPORT OF LAND USE COMMITTEE

The Land Use committee, in accepting the responsibility of making such recommendations as apply to land use in Josephine county, realize at the beginning it had a job involving much detailed study and information. It recognizes the fact that this county has become a mecca for prospective settlers and that land values have reached unbelievable heights. Also, only 3 per cent of the land within the county is now suitable for cultivation and that any increase in population invariably causes settlement on such sub-marginal lands where there is no chance whatsoever to make a decent living. In addition to this, farms have continued to be subdivided to such an extent that in the Grants Pass Irrigation District 86 per cent of the farms are less than 10 acres in size.

Total farms in the county have increased from 1944 in 1940 to 2288 in 1945. This means that those living on such small farms find it necessary to earn part of their income away and off the farm. It is estimated that a considerable number of this increase in farms is due to increased farm earnings from smaller acreages. A farm is defined as consisting of three acres or more or having a gross income of \$250 or more per year.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS

1. That sub-marginal areas which represent farms which have been abandoned, re-occupied, and abandoned many times be removed from agricultural use. These farms are not in agricultural areas and the land cannot be used by other farmers to make a more favorable economic unit. Timber is the only crop which can be recommended for these areas.

2. That all land classed as granite soil which is not irrigated be

taken out of cultivation. The returns from crops on this type of dry land are not at all encouraging and every effort should be made to discourage any settling on these lands by those new to the county.

3. That further agricultural development without irrigation is not economically feasible.

4. That under the conditions prevalent in the Grants Pass Irrigation District, the family unit should consist of 15 acres or more for most types of agricultural endeavor, if they expect to raise all of their own feed (except grain) and enable them to rotate crops, occasionally raising a seed crop, renewing pasture land, etc. — all being recognized as good farming practices. For a poultry or specialty type of farming, the committee recommends a maximum of five acres under irrigation; that three acres is sufficient for those requiring a homesite and raising only such crops and livestock for subsistence, and receiving the major portion of their income away from the farm. Those recommendations are for average conditions, recognizing the varying ability of individuals to farm as well as location and condition of the farm. Farms in the Williams and Illinois Valley areas, and other outlying areas, will need to be of larger size to be considered a family unit. This will depend somewhat on the amount of water available for irrigation purposes.

5. That the Bureau of Reclamation continue the study of development of irrigation districts in the Merlin-Hugo, Applegate and Illinois Valley areas. And that these studies be completed at the earliest possible moment since there is an acute need for more agricultural land in the county.

6. That the County Court trade off such county owned land for certain federal owned tracts that can be cleared and developed for agricultural uses. There are several such tracts within the county that could be developed.

7. That since only 3 per cent of the land in the county is suitable for cultivation, the committee feels strongly toward a reforestation program on such lands that have no agricultural value but would produce a sustained timber yield.

8. That the Forest Service give consideration to improving range pastures by re-seeding or burning. Past records show that range pastures have produced more where underbrush has been kept down.

9. That a map of the county be made showing those areas of land that are now suitable for agricultural purposes, areas of sub-marginal land that should be taken out of cultivation, those areas where it would be feasible to develop irrigation districts, and those areas where it is best to divert the land to a reforestation or range pasture area. The committee feels such a map would do much in keeping them informed on how the land in the county is actually used and what recommendations to make in future plans.

10. In view of the inevitable serious consequences resulting from settlement in sub-marginal areas or the setting up of sub-marginal units in good areas, it is recommended that such units be discouraged by the following means:

a. Restrictions of agricultural credit.

b. In disposing of county-owned land, that the county, as a general policy, sell to prospective farmers only such lands as are in areas classified as agricultural.

- c. Refusal to extend public facilities that are under direct control of the County Court unless justified by non-agricultural enterprises.
- e. Securing the cooperation of the forward-looking real estate and promotional agencies in directing settlement to agricultural areas only, and in urging the purchase by buyers of economic units.

REPORT OF FIELD CROPS COMMITTEE

CEREALS

The committee does not recommend an increase in the small grain production. 4,000 acres are now devoted to grain crops, used primarily for feed purposes. The committee believes that on land of limited irrigation or dry land, only fall grains should be sown. The committee recommends that new growers consult the County Agent's office for the best varieties to be grown in this locality.

FIELD CORN

The committee feels that this crop can be used in rotation with clover to reduce the weed problem. However, it can only be used on those farms large enough to continue such a rotation and have sufficient livestock to which this corn could be fed. The committee recommends the use of hybrid varieties as recommended by the Extension Service.

FORAGE AND PASTURE CROPS

The committee feels that an increase can take place in acreages of forage crops. Alfalfa on the better type soils with considerable depth is highly recommended. On the better dry lands, ladak alfalfa is recommended. On dry lands used strictly for pasture purposes the committee recommends that consideration be given to the planting of subterranean clover along with a mixture of grasses composed of highland bent, perennial rye, alta fescue and orchard grass. The committee further recommends the use of the Mt. Barker strain of subterranean clover and that it be inoculated before being planted. There are new grasses available that should be investigated.

LADINO CLOVER

1. The committee recommends that an effort should be made by growers of ladino clover seed to increase the bee population. In order to do this it may be necessary for the farmer to get his own bees or pay a commercial bee-man to bring in sufficient hives. In addition, the farmer should recognize that bees brought in are worth more to him in the increase of a seed crop rather than the honey crop that they would produce. One hive is recommended for every acre being saved for seed.

2. That it is necessary to adopt a rotation which would include a cultivated crop every four or five years. The committee suggests the following or similar rotation plan:

- 1st year — Clover for hay and seed
- 2nd year — Clover for hay and seed
- 3rd year — Clover for hay and seed

- 4th year — Clover for hay and seed
- 5th year — Cultivated crop (corn or bulbs) or oats and vetch.
- 6th year — New stand of clover in fall
- 7th year — Clover for hay and seed

2. That it is advisable to plow up a portion of clover at a time in order to carry on a proper rotation system.

3 That ladino clover responds to applications of phosphorus and sulphur. That on new seedings 200 to 300 pounds of super phosphate should be applied prior to seeding in the fall. On established stands, a minimum of 200 pounds should be applied early in the spring. Flours of sulphur at the rate of 50 to 75 pounds per acre must be applied in the fall, while land plaster or gypsum at the rate of 100 pounds to the acre to be applied in early spring.

4. That the last cutting of hay before seed should be cut not later than July 1 so that it will be off the ground before July 10.

5. The committee recommends to the seed trade that any seed not identified as ladino clover seed by an official field inspection should not be marketed as ladino clover. This will stop the sale of so-called affidavit seed, often sold as true ladino but actually in many cases consisting of very undesirable mixtures.

6. The committee recommends that effort be made by those who continue to produce ladino clover for seed to keep out of their fields such other crops with seeds of similar size such as lotus and alsike because of the difficulty of cleaning this seed out of ladino clover.

7. The committee concurs with the recommendation of the dairy committee in suggesting that the first cutting of hay be made into silage on such farms where the herd is of economic size and sufficient equipment is available. Farmers usually have more pasture in the spring than they can use and by cutting a part of this for silage in early May would give them some relief. Also, this would allow for cutting of the regular hay crop a little later than usual so as to allow for the seed crop to mature before the early fall rains set in during September.

WEED CONTROL

The committee recommends that the county court set up in its budget an appropriation to be used for preventing an outbreak of any noxious weeds or the eradication of some that are now becoming quite a problem, principally blackberries alongside roadsides and fences. The group in attendance recommended that the Weed Control District be re-established in the county under the supervision of the county court.

REPORT OF VEGETABLE AND FRUITS COMMITTEE

In view of the fact that most of Josephine County farms are small and have soil, water, climate and family labor suitable for vegetable and small fruit production, the committee recommends:

1. VEGETABLES

- a. Processing plants be encouraged to operate in the county.
- b. An orderly fresh produce marketing service be established in southern Oregon and northern California.

- c. Encourage the development of a fast service and lower rates between Josephine County and population centers.
- d. The volume and quality of local produce be increased.
- e. The committee believes that it will be necessary to specialize in high value vegetables to be marketed when other areas are unable to supply, such as: late crop tomatoes, green onions, broccoli, cantaloupes and sweet corn. However, prospective growers should contact processors or marketing agents before planting a vegetable crop.
- f. New growers should contact the county extension office on the selection of vegetable varieties and cultural practices. All growers should provide themselves with adequate grading, packing and insect pest control equipment.

2. SMALL FRUITS

- a. Certified plants should be the basis of all strawberry plantings to insure disease free stock with high potential producing ability,
- b. The present trend would indicate that the growing of certified strawberry plants should be a profitable business for the next four or five years wherever growing conditions are favorable.
- c. Only varieties acceptable to the fresh markets and processing plants should be grown.
- d. Growers should contact the county extension office on cultural and pest control practices.
- e. The committee recommends an increase in acreage of strawberries to take care of local demand. An additional 25 acres would take care of the demand.
- f. The committee feels that a freezing plant should be established when local production is more than local needs can consume.
- g. Since all trailing type berries require a relatively high capital investment and must be operated on a long time rotation system, it is recommended that the grower investigate thoroughly and be financially able to take care of the initial cost and operating expenses for two years.

3. TREE FRUITS

- a. Pears — No expansion in pears is recommended at this time by the committee. Efforts should be made by owners of well-cared-for orchards to have the nearby neglected orchards removed.
- b. Peaches — The committee believes that there is local demand enough to warrant some increase. It recommends that the acreage in existing peach orchards be increased with the Hale and Elberta varieties. Considerable equipment is necessary to care for an orchard properly. The spray program outlined by the Extension Service should be followed.
- c. Cherries — The committee believes that the acreage of cherries in the Hugo section should be maintained, but the industry does not seem to justify expansion. More work should be done in that section to determine the reason for the non-bearing trees of the past few seasons. The committee believes replace-

ment should have the true mazzard stock to avoid the gummosis disease. The cherry fruit fly is not known in the county and every effort should be made to prevent cherries from infested territories entering the county.

- d. Plums — The committee believes that a small acreage of plums on dry land farms might be profitable. A good shipping and market variety should be used.
- e. Orchard Practices — The committee recommends the growing of green manure crops to supply organic matter where barnyard manure is not available. The committee also recommends that further work be done with using early maturing permanent crops as a cover crop, such as subterranean clover or ladino clover.

4. NUTS

- a. A profitable production of filberts in Josephine County is not possible, therefore new plantings should be discouraged.
- b. The outlook for walnuts, according to the Josephine County production record and the length of time between planting and profitable production, would make new planting inadvisable on any but the very best land.
- c. The committee advises the use of boron as recommended by the Extension Service on all existing walnut plantings.

REPORT OF BULB COMMITTEE

The production of gladioli, corms, lily, iris and tulip bulbs is a highly specialized and competitive business.

Good bulb land is becoming less plentiful due to the necessity of allowing several years elapse between bulb plantings on the same soil. All bulblets and planting stock are being replanted at present, which will undoubtedly bring the industry to its saturation point in two years.

Bulb acreage trend in Josephine County is as follows:

	1943	1944	1945
Gladioli	75.1	108.5	118.7
Iris	20.0	17.2	18.0
Tulips	2.0	2.0	2.0
Lilies	1.3	5.0	6.8
Daffodils	1.5	4.7	6.1
	99.9	137.4	151.6

The committee recommends:

1. That greater emphasis be placed on proper storage and fumigating facilities by established as well as new growers.
2. That a successful bulb crop depends largely on the wise selection of fertile soil that is well drained and has not previously been used for bulbs.
3. That as long as present conditions exist it will be necessary to provide from \$4000 to \$5000 capital for planting stock and the growing of one acre or more of gladioli bulbs.
4. That new growers become affiliated and cooperate with the Grants Pass Gladioli Society.

5. That Oregon grown lilies of high quality be used for planting stock.

6. That the local bulb industry could be expanded as much as 20 per cent for the next two years providing a high quality product is maintained and it is realized that an extended increase in acreage is likely to work a hardship on the industry.

REPORT OF HOP COMMITTEE

The hops industry in Josephine County ranks second in the amount of gross return to the county, being exceeded only by the dairy industry. Acreage devoted to hops has increased from 1,015 in 1938 to 1,645 in 1945. The acreage in 1945 produced 13,350 bales of dry hops, averaging nine bales per acre, and represents 12 per cent of the hops produced in Oregon.

In view of the fact that hops produced in this county are of superior quality and yields are greater than any other hop growing section in Oregon, the committee makes the following recommendations:

1. That hops in Josephine County should be grown on only Columbia loam and sandy loam soil types.

2. That quality production should be foremost in the minds of the growers and should be maintained if this county is to continue to be recognized as producing the highest yields of any section as well as above average quality.

3. That we are facing a period of over-production and new growers contemplating growing hops should be in a position to finance entirely the establishment of a new yard and carry on through the lean years and should definitely plan to carry this new project on a long time basis.

4. That new growers should recognize that they will be faced with the problem of supply and demand and that they should be in a position, when necessary, to carry over part of one year's production to the next.

5. The committee recognizes that the present trend of increased population in the county would give more potential labor supply for hop harvesting and this should be kept in mind by those growers either in the business or contemplating new yards.

6. That the hop industry in the past has always had years of very low prices and such a situation is likely to occur again. However, we are in a favorable situation here because our average yield is 1600 pounds per acre, whereas the Oregon acreage is 1000 pounds of dry hops per acre.

REPORT OF PART-TIME FARMING COMMITTEE

Part-time farms in Josephine County differ somewhat in type of operation and the farm experience of the operator. However, they all have similar equipment, labor, marketing and general economic problems.

Therefore, the committee recommends:

1. The organization of small districts wherein one person with self-owned or cooperatively-owned equipment be assigned to take care of all mechanical farm operations on the farms in his district. Districts to be limited to about 75 acres. Hand labor be taken care of by exchange of labor by district members. Labor saving equipment

be introduced into the district and the method of harvesting ladino clover be improved by experimentation.

2. That the Josephine County Grange Cooperative and the Rogue Valley Dairy Cooperative affiliate themselves with marketing agencies for poultry and poultry products, thereby making a steady market for the small producer.

3. The establishment of a processing plant for small fruits and vegetables be encouraged, preferably on a cooperative basis.

4. That an artificial insemination breeding ring be formed for the convenience of the small dairyman and to help stamp out communicable diseases. T. B. and Bangs tests to be made annually with the present county veterinarian setup being continued.

5. Community sprayers or commercial type spray rigs operated by experienced men are recommended for tree fruits. However, if and when a processing plant is established the spraying program could best be handled in conjunction with the plant.

6. In the best interests of land and water use, a drainage district is recommended to take care of all surplus water.

7. The committee recommends that the irrigation district train all its ditch walkers on the proper and most efficient use of water—they in turn work with the water users in producing maximum crops with a minimum waste of water and labor. Greater care be given to land preparation with special emphasis on the use of checks and borders to obtain more efficient use of water.

8. No recommendation is made on the size of the part-time farm. The operator to be the judge of his available time, farming ability and his inclination to work.

9. The operation should, however, include a garden and the production of eggs, meat, milk and fruits for home use to be considered an efficient unit.

REPORT OF HOME AND RURAL LIFE COMMITTEE

Every rural family in Josephine County should have the opportunity for a well balanced life—one that provides, not only for the social needs for good family living, but the material necessities for comfortable living which include adequate housing, clothing, and food. In order to accomplish this, consideration should be given to the status of the health situation, social life, population trends, educational facilities, and financial possibilities.

There has been a great shift and increase in the population in the county. This means that many of the people are new to this area as well as new to their farm situation due to shifting within the county. Adjustments are necessary to change from war time to peace time conditions. Inflated prices, change of land value, and the increase of the use of machinery replacing hand labor are among problems involved. Logging off of land has contributed to the income of a large percentage of people. When this industry decreases, other means of income will be needed by the groups of seasonal workers depending upon it.

Figures indicate that there will be a great increase in the use of electricity as power is extended. Since 86% of the farms in the Grants Pass irrigation district are less than ten acres, full time employment does not yield sufficient income to support the family — hence the

indication of need for the establishment of new industries to provide payrolls to support the present and incoming population. The county is especially adapted to truck gardening, but lack of adequate means of transportation or preservation by freezing or canning has discouraged those who have tried raising garden produce on a commercial scale. An industry of this nature would add materially to income in this locality. Problems have been considered and classified according to type and are discussed in detail.

HOUSING

The population has increased, making additional housing necessary. When materials are available more building sites will be needed, calling for more subdivisions of farm land. The Census figures for 1940 show that 1/6 of the homes need repair, 1/2 need running water, 1/2 want refrigeration, 78% have radios, and 75% have electricity. A spot survey taken of homemakers in 1946 show that about 50% desire to remodel their homes to some extent, install plumbing or increase these facilities. In all cases contacted, those not having electricity, desire it. The needs most often expressed were for better telephone system in the rural areas, home freezer lockers, enlargement of refrigeration facilities, improvement of roads, and erection of community buildings where youth centers could be organized and adequately supervised. Knowing this to be the situation, we make the following recommendations to help families secure the best possible housing:

1. We recommend open house, or public inspection tours of new or remodeled homes. Exhibits of new equipment in these homes would be helpful for prospective builders.

2. Advise building new homes with a thought for future needs for enlargement.

- 3 The public should be informed of the plans and blue prints for new buildings and improvements that are available at the Extension Service office, that may be used by local builders and lumbermen.

4. Recommend improvement of roads and telephone service in the rural communities, including an extension or expansion of these facilities.

5. Since prices of property are inflated, we recommend that prospective home owners investigate values and sources of credit.

6. We advise adequate protection of the home against fire and flood damage.

7. In regard to running water, plumbing should be installed to conserve the heat and water supply. Piping water from springs should be investigated to see if water source provides a year-around-supply and meets health tests.

8. In considering electricity, rural people should inform themselves on the availability of public and private ownership of power—the advantages and disadvantages of each — to provide cheaper rates, giving each farm unit more power and greater use of the power they have.

HOME MANAGEMENT

Farm homemakers have duties requiring long hours of labor to care for the family and many outside tasks. Any equipment or methods which will conserve energy and time are to be recommended.

Labor saving equipment now on the market requires wise selection, use and care. In order that the best selection be made we recommend:

1. That buyers study construction of new furniture and furnishings.
2. That new equipment be selected of standard makes and tested for reliability.
3. Since many homes need adequate storage space, we recommend a utility room to be constructed, or an available room to be utilized as such.
4. We encourage installation of home freezer lockers when available, and when farm operations make it practical. Power rates have been reduced and further reduction is expected; therefore, instruction should be given on selection, installation and care of new equipment with consideration given to labor-saving features.

HOME GROUNDS

In planning and building the farmstead, attractive appearance should be given consideration. To aid families with this phase of planning we recommend:

1. That adequate driveways and parking space be provided in planning and building the farm home and grounds.
2. That home beautification be undertaken as a family project. 4-H projects could help.
3. That projects to teach farm families the basic rules of landscaping be given with suggestions for using native shrubs as far as possible.

HEALTH AND SANITATION COMMITTEE

Although rural health facilities are inadequate, more thought and attention are being given to this phase of rural life.

Our Josephine County Health Office offers our residents a splendid service. We believe every effort should be made to encourage people to make use of this service. The personnel is available to conduct a health educational program out in the communities, including home nursing, X-rays, medical examinations, we urge communities to cooperate with the Health Office. The educational work, including general health and prevention of diseases, given in cooperation with the Home Extension work about three years ago, should be reinstated in the program and arrangements made to include husbands and fathers.

We have all been shocked at the unsightly and unsanitary practice of piles of garbage of all kinds along our county roads and fishing streams. We urge that "dumps" be provided in each community for use by the rural residents. We believe every citizen should aid in every way possible to help enforce the laws now in effect regarding garbage disposal.

There are about 18,000 people in the Grants Pass trade area, yet we have only 65 beds in our present hospital which serves the same territory. We urge that facilities be made available to meet the needs of the rural people. With the shortage of doctors, rural people are neglected. In Josephine County there are five M.D.s available to the public.

We believe more families should avail themselves of hospitalization insurance.

We urge that a study be made to determine a solution for adequate medical aid to rural people.

CLOTHING AND TEXTILES

A brief glance at what is happening in the clothing world serves to tell us there will be new fabrics and finishes on the market both in materials and ready-to-wear. We feel they should carry labels indicating methods of cleaning and care and instructions for use. This will require legislation to be secured by demand from the consumer. We recommend:

1. That studies be made of new materials, their use, care and kind.
2. That consumers request the merchants knowledge of their fiber content of fabrics, indicating a desire for informative labeling.
3. That homemakers inform themselves of the interpretation and meaning of the labels, know standards of quality — and the best article to buy for the use to be made of it.
4. That homemakers study construction and selection of ready-to-wear in order to determine good values.
5. Education of salespeople should be adequate to supply the homemaker with information she needs to make wise choice of merchandise.
6. Information on home sewing and construction should be continued thru our extension program to meet needs as they occur.
7. That help be given mothers in selecting and constructing children's clothing.
8. That homemakers do what they can to influence the new practice in children's ready-to-wear and that patterns being available according to size, height, and weight, rather than age.

WHOLESOME FAMILY AND COMMUNITY LIFE

In the past two years an organized effort was made for a recreational center for teen-age youth in Grants Pass. This only served to stimulate the realization that such a program was greatly needed by the rural youth. To meet this need, we wish to recommend:

1. That support be given the plans now under way by our County School Board. There are to be seven community centers in the county, which will be equipped with gymnasiums, dining rooms, and kitchens which will be available to the people of the communities under adequate supervision.
2. Religious training is essential for character development and we recommend that church schools, vacation Bible schools, and the religious education program in schools, be established in the communities where none exist, also encouraging those already in operation.
3. There are many "young" families moving into our county. We believe a definite effort should be made to interest these young wives in our Home Extension program and other community activities.
4. It is felt clubs for young mothers are needed. It is suggested that young mothers be contacted to find out the best way in which they be organized.
5. That men and women study-clubs be made available to rural groups, giving training in subjects needed.
6. That creative art and craft talents be encouraged — and use of local ability be used in promoting this talent.

7. That care for children in home extension units, study clubs, and other organizations be provided to enable mothers of young children to derive benefit from these educational opportunities.

FOODS AND NUTRITION

Statistics from the 1940 census show that families raised 66.3 per cent of their family living — valued at \$163.19 per family. These figures were contributed by 52 per cent of the farms and totaled \$154,219.00. Such a practice seems highly desirable at any time to help farm families obtain an adequate diet.

We still feel it to be good management and economy to raise and preserve our own food; so we recommend that the program of gardening and food preservation information provided by the County Extension Office be continued, which gives requirements adequate for the health of the family.

For the past several years a custom cannery has been available to preserve food, now there isn't one available. We recommend custom canning facilities be promoted.

In the past year 11 schools have provided school lunches for 827 children. There are 632 children in Junior High and High School who haven't had the advantages of an adequate school lunch program so that it will be available to every school age child in Josephine County.

We recognize the need to get up-to-date, authentic information on food preservation and preparation to maintain proper food values by canning, freezing, etc., and that every means should be utilized to acquaint the homemaker according to his needs, such as newcomers in the area, young homemakers, and those who have been associated with extension work over a period of years.

Josephine County was included in the research indicating that one half of the school children lack a minimum requirement of Vitamin C. More research is required to determine the cause of defective teeth. There is also a feeling there is a lack of proper minerals in our soil. We therefore recommend that a study of the soil of Josephine County be made to determine the richness in the necessary minerals as they relate to general health and to specific health of teeth.

We know there is a need for adequate help in the County Extension Staff Offices to carry out these recommendations to improve the general nutritional needs of our county. We therefore recommend an adequate staff be provided to help carry out this educational program.

There is a definite need to improve food habits for the purpose of developing resistance to disease, promoting normal growth of children and efficiency and well-being of adults. Also to give information that will help families with the evaluation of advertisements and sales programs. Homemakers further need reliable information about nutrition and about equipment for preparation of foods.

We recommend projects related to this subject be presented to our extension units and other interested groups.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Josephine county has 3918 boys and girls between the ages of 9 and 19 as of January 1, 1946. Youth organizations (4-H, F.F.A., Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts) are not functioning in all parts of the county at present. Only about 900 youths were active in the above organiz-

ations in 1945. Parent understanding in the functions and benefits of youth organizations is lacking in many families. Competent adult leaders have not been available to develop youth work in many communities. At least 7 communities have no or very little organized youth work. Juvenile delinquency has increased 150% in Josephine County during 1945. Projects especially designed for older youth are lacking. In light of the above situation, we make the following recommendations:

1. That a home life be provided for all youth that gives supervised training in social, financial and moral problems.

2. That some type of youth development program be offered in every community so that all youth will have the opportunity to participate.

3. That parents avail themselves of the information disseminated through home extension units, extension service and other organizations on youth needs and development so that they may better guide their own children.

4. That more adults volunteer to work with youth organizations. That regular training meetings be arranged for leaders of these youth organizations; giving help in organizing a club as well as subject matter information.

5. That schools cooperate with other agencies in making youth organizations possible and profitable for the young people. That fuller use be made of school facilities in a comprehensive year-around program for youth development.

6. Provide incentive in the way of camps, tours, prizes, etc., to make youth programs more attractive. Provide and encourage hobby clubs, vocational training and apprentice work for the training of older youth.

7. That projects of special interest to older youth be prepared so club members will continue in club work beyond grammar school age. These projects and clubs should give opportunity for these youth to learn leadership.