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OREGON AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE



March 27-28-29

**OREGON STATE COLLEGE
CORVALLIS**

Auspices of

Cooperative Extension Service in Agriculture
and Home Economics,
Oregon State College and United States Department
of Agriculture cooperating.
F. E. Price, Director.

Extension Circular 545

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of May 8 and June 30, 1914

What It Is

A state-wide meeting of rural and urban people interested in agriculture and rural homes. Committees of farm people, assisted by technical consultants, will present reports giving their views as to the needs and opportunities for development of Oregon agriculture and rural living for the next 10 to 25 years.

Such a conference was held in 1924. The program adopted at that time has played an important part in guiding the development of Oregon's agricultural resources.

In 1924 much of Oregon's farm produce had to seek markets on the East Coast. Westward migration has largely changed this. Today California is the best market for many products.

Great changes in products produced and processed for market have taken place since 1924. Answers are sought for these changing conditions.

General recognition of the need for wise conservation and use of soil and water resources has been established. This may well be the keystone to future considerations.

Its Objectives

By careful analysis of resources and market outlets to determine what products and marketing methods will insure continued sound economic growth of Oregon's agriculture.

Through counseling together of foresighted farmers, homemakers, business and technical people to set up a program of development behind which all forces can unite for the common good.

Among the many questions to be considered are the following:

1. Should Oregon farms direct production to Pacific Coast market demands?
2. How can farm forest products achieve a position of importance in the large list of crops?
3. What should be done to translate the economic returns into better rural living?
4. Are adjustments needed to insure the continued and increased productivity of the soil and water resources?
5. How do changing dietary demands, technological changes and international trade affect long-time production plans?

In short, a program to guide Oregon's rural development for the next 10 to 25 years.

Its Organization

The Extension Service began planning for this state-wide conference in the spring of 1950. By fall 11 committees had been decided upon. During the winter of 1950-51, 490 rural people were invited to serve on these committees.

College staff members were assigned as secretaries. Committee meetings were started in February 1951. These will continue throughout the year and until early 1952 when a preliminary report will be prepared for consideration of the conference in March.

Consultants from state, federal, and private agencies or organizations have been invited to work with each of the 11 committees. Final consideration of the 11 committee reports will be given at the state-wide conference. Woven together, these will make a state-wide program to guide the development of rural Oregon.

ELEVEN COMMITTEES NOW WORKING

<i>Committee</i>	<i>Chairman</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
Farm Crops	Paulen Kaseberg	E. R. Jackman
Livestock	Larry Williams	H. A. Lindgren
Dairy	S. B. Hall	R. W. Morse
Rural Life	L. E. Francis	Mrs. Mabel Mack
Poultry	Geo. Petersen	N. L. Bennion
Farm Forestry	Glen Hawkins	C. R. Ross
Fur Farming	Robert Watt	R. E. Dimick
Horticulture	Riddell Lage	C. O. Rawlings
Specialty Crops	Mike Dering	R. R. Clark
Soil and Water Resources	Ed McCause	A. S. King
Land Economics	Charles A. Tom	J. C. Moore

Its Background

The Extension Service has built its program of work through consultation with rural committees. Since the state-wide conference of 1924, county economic planning conferences have been held several times in every county.

In recent years County Agricultural Advisory Councils have been organized and are functioning in every county. These meet two or more times annually to review progress and to adopt new program objectives. These programs are on a county basis.

In many county programs there are similar or identical goals. It is felt that greater impetus can be given such programs if they are drawn together as long-time state goals.

In 1924 Oregon was still largely rural. Many newcomers, coupled with increased industrial development, now have changed the ratio to one which is largely urban. It is estimated that there are half-a-million people now in the state who are unfamiliar with Oregon agriculture. This conference and its reports should be of value to all.

It Is for You

The 1952 Conference is open to all.

All interested people are invited.

The dates—March 27-28-29—were chosen because that is spring vacation for Oregon State College students. All facilities of the College and Corvallis will be available.

Details on the Conference are available from County Extension Offices or from Oregon State College.

The reports of the committees as approved at the Conference will be combined and published for general distribution.
