

MARION
COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENT
JESU HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING
SALEM, OREGON

1946

**Agricultural
Planning Conference
for
Marion County**

Containing Committee Reports

**Submitted and Adopted
February 1, 1946**

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FORWARD

The Marion County Agricultural Planning Committee decided in January 1945 that as soon as possible after the war a Farm Program Conference should be held. Similar conferences had been held in Marion County. The first being in January, 1936, the next in January 1938 and again in February 1941.

The purpose of the 1946 conference was to reappraise the agricultural outlook and conditions and to consider adjustments and improvements that should be made.

The OSC Extension Service was asked to cooperate in this conference and members of the Agricultural and Home Economics Extension Staff of Marion County who assisted were W. G. Nibler, County Agent, Ben Newell, Assistant County Agent, James Bishop, 4H Club Agent, and Marjorie Tye, Home Demonstration Agent. All agencies serving the agriculture of the county were asked to cooperate.

Eleven committees were set up several months in advance of the conference date. Each committee gathered data and used all available information in preparing a report to be presented at the one day conference.

The committees served faithfully and efficiently and prepared reports that represent the best judgment of active farmers and farm leaders.

The conference adopted the reports and appointed a committee to see that they were assembled and published for general distribution. Members of this committee whose work made printing of this report possible are:

Ivan DeAmond
W. M. Tate
Homer Davis
Wm. Chase
Eddie Ahrens
Josephine Fox

REX HARTLEY,
General Chairman.

W. G. NIBLER, County Agent,
General Secretary

Report and Recommendations of the Land Use Committee

RECOMMENDATIONS ON FARMING OPPORTUNITIES

In the adjustments that must take place following World War II one of major agricultural problems will be the many people, particularly war veterans and war workers who will be looking for opportunities in farming as a business. The committee has considered what the opportunities are in Marion County for absorbing some of these people. For their recommendation on this problem, they have approved the report prepared by the Marion County Veteran's Agricultural Advisory Committee with a few minor changes and additions to bring the report up to date. This report as incorporated herein and is as follows:

(1) It is recommended that people interested in becoming established in farming, make efforts to get some experience in the different types of agriculture before taking up any kind of farming with which they are not acquainted. It is suggested that they rent a farm or work for established farmers for one year before purchasing a farm. The desire to "get started" often leads to hasty purchases later regretted. Renting or working requires much less capital and risk than buying, for those not experienced.

OPPORTUNITIES LIMITED

It is recognized, however, that at this time, placement of full time workers as ordered by farmers is about filled and opportunities for renting a farm are very limited. At present these opportunities are not sufficient to absorb even the local farm boys returning and interested in getting started in farming. The Committee recommends that every possible effort be made to locate and fill full time farm jobs to assist in this problem. This problem should be called to the attention of farmers. The committee particularly suggests that posters be placed in warehouses, banks and other prominent places, calling farmers attention to the need for locating full time farm jobs for veterans.

(2) It is recommended that where the entire living of the family is to be made from the farm, serious thought be given to the minimum sized farm on which this can be accomplished.

As a guide for general consideration, the committee suggests the following acreages as representing the minimum acres of land that would constitute a farm capable under the average conditions of just supporting an average farm family. It must be kept in mind that these recommendations cannot take into account highly variable factors such as the ability of the operator, his needs for money, the type of land, prices and other considerations. The committee considered these factors to be average in making the recommendation.

These recommendations are not based on the present high returns to many types of farming, but are based on the size of unit that will provide opportunity for planned labor programs that will permit full time employment at productive farm work. These recommendations are based on incomes that would be derived from average long time prices.

General Farming—A minimum of 60 acres cultivated land devoted to field crops, seed crops and some more intensified

specialty crops along with some livestock enterprise. This acreage must be large enough to justify the necessary outlay for machine and equipment.

Dairy Farming—A minimum of 80 acres of cropland is recommended to support about 20 dairy cows for a minimum dairy farm. There should be sufficient land to produce the pasture, hay and silage.

Poultry Farming—A minimum of 10 acres of cropland for range and green feed and to provide rotating ground are recommended. The minimum number of birds recommended for a full time commercial poultry farm is 2,000 laying hens. If poultry is a side line enterprise, it is suggested that at least 500 hens be kept. The committee feels straight commercial poultry farming is one of the least practical farms. Combination with other farm enterprises is considered essential for success in most cases.

Grain, Hay, Field Seed Farming—These are field crops with low average income per acre. A minimum of 150 acres of cropland is recommended for this type farm. This much land is needed to justify the investment in equipment for efficient operation of this type of enterprise.

Small Fruits Farm—A minimum of 30 acres cropland with 10 acres in small fruits and 20 acres for rotation is considered necessary for a minimum small fruit farm and on a long time basis.

Tree Fruit and Nut Farm—A minimum of 30 acres of orchard, about equally divided between four or five different varieties of tree fruit and nuts. This will spread out labor requirements over a longer period and allow greater use of on-farm labor.

Specialty Crop—Beans, other vegetables and mint. This type farm requires at least 30 acres of cropland to provide 15 acres in the main crop and 15 for rotation to be a long time vegetable farm. This land must be irrigated.

Hop Farm—A minimum of 30 acres of cropland in the farm with 10 in hops. Except on large hop ranches, this crop is generally always in conjunction with a general farming operation.

Irrigation is becoming an important consideration in the size of farming operation. All recommendations, except for vegetables and mint have been made on the basis of dry land farming. In general one acre of irrigated land will equal almost two acres of dry farmed land in judging the size of a farming unit.

There is a great variance in soils in Marion County. Regardless of the type of farming, more land is needed on some soils than on others to have an economic farming unit.

The following acreages are listed as an indication of the approximate average acreage of land required under different soils to have a minimum farming operation.

- a. Peat Soil—3 acres (with at least 1 acre up-land for buildings).
- b. Amity and other similar soils—125 acres.
- c. Willamette, Chehalis, Newberg and other similar soils—40 acres.
- d. Dayton and other poorly drained soils—250 acres.
- e. Hill soil—100 acres.

(3) The committee feels that the resources of Marion County to absorb veterans and others wishing to enter agriculture is very limited. Since it is doubtful if there will be a place for all the farm boys of this county wishing to return and take up farming, putting more people on the farm will mean either dividing present farms or displacing present operators. There will be a few farmers voluntarily retiring and selling their farms but to sub divide farms or to displace more than the usual number of farmers retiring or quitting farming will require bidding up the price of land and decreasing the size of farms.

Considering present day land values there is small possibility for success for people entering agriculture unless they have 50% or more of the price of the farm and have equipment, stock and cash for one year's operation.

The committee particularly recommends the statement that those without sufficient capital to properly finance a minimum farming operation or those who lack experience in our Willamette Valley farming methods, should rent a farm, work on a farm or in case of returning veterans take the opportunity afforded to go to school and wait for better adjustment of prices.

The committee does not wish to discourage anyone thoroughly interested in agriculture. There is opportunity for industrious capable men. Entering farming and making a success under present conditions is not expected to be easy and the problem must be faced realistically to avoid disaster.

(4) The following recommendations made by the Marion County Home Extension Committee in regard to the Farm Home, have also been incorporated in this report because of their particular application to those interested in becoming established in farming.

a. That the farm home be livable, fairly modern and convenient, and with possibilities for future improvement as finances become available. The frame of mind of the prospective farmers is important. In many cases it may be necessary to get along with less desirable living conditions while planning for later permanent improvements. If building is to be done, the farmer and his wife should visit the office of the Home Demonstration Agent, 475 N. Church St., to get information regarding farm home plans, built-ins, desirable heights for working surfaces, etc.

b. That the water supply be sufficient for farm and home use and gardens. The purity of the water of household purposes should be tested.

c. That adequate garden space be available, preferably near the house.

d. That a variety of fruit, berries and nuts is desirable. If these are not already on the farm, it is recommended that they be set out as soon as possible. To have satisfactory production, pruning and spraying will be necessary.

e. That the house be located on an all weather road.

f. That careful consideration be given to the accessibility of schools, church, health service, and adequate recreational facilities to meet the needs of the family.

g. That electricity and telephone services or the prospect of the services be available.

h. Unless some phase of farming brings in a definite monthly income, the farmer and his wife may find it difficult

to accurately follow a budget, but they should realize that it is important. Careful judgment should be exercised in making farm and home expenditures. Successful farm living is acquired over a period of years through long-time planning, labor and economy.

(5) Finally the committee recommends any one interested in becoming established in farming in Marion County particularly those with little or no previous experience, that they use information available through the Marion County Extension Service.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON A LAND USE PLANNING PROGRAM

In 1938 a program of Land Use Planning was initiated in Marion County. The committee classified the general land use areas in Marion County and prepared a map of the County on which these areas were indicated.

In 1940 the Stayton Community Land Use committee was set up to make a more detailed recommendation on the land use classification of just the Stayton Community. This work was interrupted by World War II.

The committee feels that effective Land Use Planning is one of the best means of solving our problems in maintaining all soil resources and preserving a permanent agriculture.

Increased acreages of grass and legumes grown during the war and soil building practices performed have improved somewhat the overall picture of Marion County's Soil resource, but there is still much to be accomplished.

The committee recommends that the program of Land Use Planning in Marion County be taken up again as soon as possible and they suggest two projects for resuming activity:

1. That additional cropland on hill farms be diverted to grass and legumes. Approximately 40 per cent of all cropland in hill farms should be diverted to the production of grass and legumes.
2. That Land Use Planning be continued in the Stayton Community.

In 1938 the Land Use committee recommended that 24,000 acres of cropland in hill farms be diverted to grass and legumes. It is the opinion of the committee that this goal has almost been reached but the acreage diverted to grass is concentrated in certain areas while there is very little grass in other areas. Problems of land use are equally important in all hill areas of Marion County so that the committee recommends a diversion of 40 per cent of cropland acreage in hill farms to the production of grass and legumes.

RECOMMENDATION ON NATIONAL FARM PRICE AND INCOME POLICIES

The committee took up the question of national farm price income policies in relation to Marion County's agriculture.

They spent one meeting discussing the various phases of this question and found it too comprehensive and extensive to reach any effective conclusion considering the time available and the influence of this group. For example, there are over 70 farm commodities in Marion County produced for market, varying greatly in importance. This committee is only a county group considering a question on which there must be national unity, if any recommendation is to be put in effect.

The committee therefore concludes that they would recommend that

this matter be made the subject of a conference for the 9 Willamette Valley Counties of the State of Oregon. They recommend that the Oregon State College Extension Service be requested to invite producers and representatives of all agricultural commodities produced for marketing in this area including representatives of farm organizations, commodity group; marketing organizations and others interested in the question, to a conference for the purpose of formulating an acceptable farm price and income policy. The committee feels that this will be of greatest value if it is accomplished during the first half of 1946.

W. M. Tate
Leonard Hudson
John Tweed
Adolph Heater
Frank Way
Fred McCall
Al Hassler
Pete P. Kirk
Vernon Jette

Report and Recommendations of the Dairy Committee

FIRST FACTORS TO NOTE

The dairy industry of Marion County has been steadily growing through the past few years. There has been an increase in numbers of cows from 17,500, two years old and over, in 1940 to 20,000 head in 1945. Total production is at an all time high.

In considering the industry the committee reached definite recommendations on some points while suggestions on others were as far as we dared to venture.

Cattle numbers and feed supply in the county are not balanced as satisfactorily as they could be. Most dairy farmers now buy their grain feeds ready mixed from dealers and many feel that this is better than raising grain, diverting their efforts and acreage to higher paying crops. Many experience periods each year of poor pasture or no pasture at all.

RECOMMEND ROUGHAGE PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

It is recommended that an overall roughage program be developed on each dairy farm to provide a good supply of pasture, either dry land or irrigated, to provide a maximum amount of feed during the pasture season. Irrigated pastures have proven their worth and deserve expansion on farms where irrigation is possible. The use of good grass and clover mixtures on dry land has almost unlimited possibilities.

The dairy committee recommends that cattle numbers be brought into balance with available feed through a program of testing and culling. A Dairy Herd Improvement Association is in operation in the county. The committee recommends that this D.H.I.A. work be expanded and that steps be taken to start owner sampler testing as a further opportunity for dairymen to check production of individual animals and cull "boarder" cows. By the owner sampler method the dairyman takes his own samples and sends or takes it to the tester.

The program of artificial breeding of dairy cattle has also been studied by the committee. Advantages afforded dairymen through this program are many. Inheritance is considered the least expensive and most effective method available for dairymen to raise the level of milk and butterfat production. The effect of proved or high transmitting index sires can be spread over several times the number of animals than is possible in natural breeding. Breeding associations eliminate the handling of bulls on the farm which decreases possibilities of spreading disease. It might also be said that one is not bothered by neighbors wanting service, the worst factor of which is disease being carried from herd to herd.

Marion County has organized a dairy breeders association and membership is being taken at the present and it is highly recommended that the artificial breeding program as developed for Oregon be supported by the dairy industry.

BANGS CONTROL

The committee recommends that the State Department be encouraged sales for spread of disease through these facilities. Any violations known

to strictly enforce the T.B. and Bang's disease law and that more thorough inspections be made of public livestock sales rings to check the or suspected should be reported.

Dairy markets for Marion County have joined Portland's during the past few years. The Portland milk shed has been extended to a point where our product now brings Portland prices.

The committee recommends the whole hearted support of the various groups who are advertising and promoting dairy products. It is felt that the time may soon come when new markets may be needed and that now is the time to start promoting.

If the dairy industry is to maintain satisfactory prices and markets for its product, it must follow a program of quality improvement. The industry must advertise the nutritive value of its products.

The committee recommends the support of the Oregon Dairy Products Commission and the Oregon Dairy Council in promoting the use of dairy products.

PREMIUMS FOR BEST GRADE PRODUCTS

It is recommended that a substantial premium be paid for top-grade products, and that a quality improvement program in production and manufacturing be vigorously carried forward. These programs should have the full support of every dairyman.

Several other points were considered by the group. It is suggested that further study and experimentation be carried on with regard to grass and legume silage in this county. The increasing supply of cannery wastes suitable for dairy feed also need consideration. Chopping hay is a debateable practice which the committee felt had a place in the county but that chopping was not a method of improving quality of hay. Good hay with color and leaves is palatable even unchopped but less waste is experienced when hay is chopped. Alfalfa is considered. The use of new machinery which is being put on the market should be effective in improving the quality of the hay produced.

The committee felt that a progressive attitude toward new and better methods is always wise. And although the production of milk is up, we have experienced increases in population and new markets are being developed. There is no immediate danger of over supply.

Albert Boschler
Bill McKinney
Floyd Bates
Fred Davis
Manton Carl
George Kruse
Wm. Schwartz
Silas Torvend
Kenneth Austin
Ralph Seeley
Alvin Robinson
Laird Kaup

Report and Recommendations of the Farm Crops Committee

Marion County's income from seed crops, grain and hay is approximately 12 per cent of the total agricultural income. This has been true for the last 20 years but seed crops have jumped from about 1 per cent to almost 7 per cent with a decrease in hay and grain from 11 per cent to 5 per cent.

There is a great interest in seed crops because of their relation to our soil fertility problem, livestock industry and marketing problems.

The committee feels that Marion County farmers should look to maintaining and developing our various seed industries in the betterment of our agriculture.

Recommendations and suggestions on Marion County seed crops:

FESCUE GRASSES FOR SEEDS

If growers in Marion County and the Willamette Valley are going to increase and maintain their present acreage the committee feels that they will have to compete with Eastern Oregon and Washington from a quality standpoint, if we are to continue marketing our seeds. The better yields per acre in the eastern sections of the state will make difficult competition in cost per pound for producing seed.

- a. **Chewing Fescue.** The majority of this seed goes for lawn seedings and golf courses. There is a good demand for the seed in spite of increased production here in this country but the big demand is for good quality seed. Particularly that which is free from ryegrass. Imports during the War have been maintained and there has been a greatly expanded domestic production. Increased consumption has resulted from more seed being available. The present production can be maintained if quality is kept high enough to compete with other producing areas. There has been rapid increase in acreage the past few years and prices have been high. The committee cautions against increased plantings until the present situation levels out. The need for improving quality is paramount.
- b. **Alta Fescue.** The future of this crop depends mainly on the development of a market for the seed for pastures in the eastern states and it is a relatively new grass that has no established market. It would appear that the present planted acreage of Alta would be sufficient until the market develops and eastern growers become better acquainted with the crop as a pasture grass.

Marion County farmers have certain cultural difficulties and will have to compete with high eastern Oregon yields and their excellent quality if they are going to even maintain their present acreage of alta fescue for seed. Fields should have the alternate possibility as used for pasture particularly sheep in the event of price decline.

One of the greatest problems of the alta fescue growers in the future is the question of establishing a market for the seed. The grass is little known in the east at present and growers in some way are going to have to carry on a program to educate

eastern farmers to this grass. This would develop the market more rapidly than it could otherwise be expected to develop.

PERENNIAL RYEGRASS

Considering the acreage of Marion County land on which this crop is one of the more suitable, it is probable that the acreage of perennial ryegrass now found is about at its maximum. Because of the established market and demand for this crop and its adaptability to certain types of ground, the committee recommends that the present acreage be maintained. This will require careful planning on the part of the growers considering the problems of the blind seed disease in which rotation must be practiced and fields usually cannot be left down for a very long period.

COVER CROP SEEDS

The main factor influencing the future acreages of cover crop seeds is a satisfactory program of financing the carry-over of seeds produced here one season for planting in the south the following season. Only a small portion of the seed produced in Oregon can be cleaned and shipped south in time for planting that same year. This carry-over of seed must be financed and prices supported to prevent it from ruining the market. This committee feels there is at present no satisfactory substitute method for the government program of financing the carry-over of these cover crop seeds.

- a. **Hairy Vetch.** Should the use of DDT in the control of the hairy vetch weevil prove as practical as now indicated there will be a place for many acres of hairy vetch on Marion County hill land and some poorly drained land. This would require many more dusters than are now available. A shift of dusters from areas that once grew Austrian field peas to hairy vetch sections is suggested. The use of airplane dusting of hairy vetch should be given immediate trial.

There is a large demand for hairy vetch seed in the south and production possibilities are unlimited if government purchase programs continue at a fair price to hold over seed and AAA benefits continue in the south.

- b. **Willamette Vetch.** If the dusting for hairy vetch weevil is practical and successful considerable demand for Willamette vetch will be filled by hairy vetch which is a more satisfactory cover crop for most of the south.

Willamette vetch produced the past year was far in excess of the demand in the south, however, much of this crop was disposed of by shipment to Europe. The 1946 anticipated crop will build up a large surplus of Willamette vetch, according to present prediction. This will probably necessitate acreage limitation on production in the future.

- c. **Common Ryegrass.** As a cover crop seed common ryegrass has gained greatly in popularity the last few years. The Government Purchase Program has assisted this by financing a carry over of sufficient seed to supply markets the following year and there has been a rapidly increasing interest in the use of this grass in eastern states. Future market outlooks look excellent and there would appear to be a prospect for increasing the acreage of this grass on ground suitable for growing this crop. Some of the poor lands upon which grain farming is not being attempted particularly the heavier wetter lands could well be diverted to larger acreages of common ryegrass for seed. Use of nitrogen fertilizer on ryegrass for seed on these lands will give much better reforms than fertilizer on grains.

HIGHLAND BENT GRASS

In Marion County this is a poor land crop and has developed as a soil cover on poor or worn out hill soils. In the eastern Waldo Hills there is a large area of this grass in volunteer stands of which about 2,000 acres is being harvested for seed along with considerable seed being cleaned out of grain harvested in that area. Appreciable acreages of this grass have been harvested for seed only the last three or four years, previous to this time it was considered a nuisance and there was no market for the seed. Market possibilities have been developed to where there is now a strong demand and future possibilities look very good.

Because of its disease resistance, vigor and draught resistance it is displacing some of the market for other bent grasses and creating new demand for bent grass seed.

The committee **does not recommend new seedings of this crop** because there is additional acreage of volunteer stands that can be developed for seed and the crop is naturally continuing to spread to more land. In addition to this there is possibility of increasing the yields by better management of these fields. Use of fertilizer particularly nitrogen and some phosphates is proving very profitable on some farms and has raised the yield per acre. Average yields of seed per acre are now very low and yields will have to be increased to compete with other producing areas. Establishing of subterranean clover stands with bent grass fields by liming and use of phosphate proved very practical on small trial fields and should be tried on a large scale. In general the quality of the seed produced on these fields is good and is fairly free of weeds particularly St. Johnswort which is showing up in more and more lots of seed. Continued care should be exercised to maintain the quality of this seed since this is so important in competing with other producing areas.

VEGETABLE SEEDS AND SUGAR BEET SEED

At the end of World War II there were large supplies of vegetable seeds on hand. Acreage contracted by companies for 1946 is very low with some increase anticipated for 1947 to allow cleaning up of these surpluses. Beginning with 1947 there will be increase in some crops with a return to something like prewar acreages in 1943. Vegetable seed companies indicate continued and possibly increasing operations in this area after present surpluses are cleaned up.

Sugar beet seed production fell off during the war and there is an opportunity for **some increased production**.

SMALL LEGUME SEEDS

- a. **White and Ladino Clover.** Future possibilities for dry land acreages are very doubtful. Production on irrigated land has some possibility of competing with other irrigated sections.
- b. **Red Clover.** Because of its place in the rotation on many farms there will **continue to be some production** of seed of red clover. Where fields are eligible for certification and the extent that seed is available our acreage should be shifted to Cumberland strain of red clover because of better market demand and premium prices in the last.
- c. **Subterranean Clover.** There is a good demand for this seed and **increased supplies are needed** to seed pastures in this area. Harvesting difficulties are the greatest obstacle at present. With increased supplies markets in the south are a strong possibility.

SMALL GRAINS

During the War we had an increased demand for grains as feed and greater difficulty in importing grains from other producing sections

along with labor shortages which made grain one of the easier harvested crops. This caused a definite increase in the acreage of small grains. By the same token it is felt that as grains become easier to import from other sections and as the demand for grains as feed diminishes the acreage of small grains here in Marion County will decrease. It is recommended that farmers anticipate this decreasing demand and **reduce acreages of small grains.**

CORN

Corn has always been recommended as an advisable grain crop for small farms where a great deal of hand labor may be available but where machines for the harvesting of small grains might be difficult to obtain. Growing corn will reduce the cash cost because the crop can be raised with a minimum of machinery for planting, growing and harvesting. Most of the work can be done by hand or with simple machinery. In spite of this advantage there has always been a resistance on the part of people to growing this crop in as large an acreage as we are justified in growing it.

The committee feels that many farm folks that should have been growing corn as a grain crop probably have avoided it because of the hand labor involved. The committee feels that the artificial drying of corn is not practical or that the market is so uncertain that it is not worth the risk involved. On the other hand they feel that by the use of proper cultural methods and proper hybrids along with fertilization to improve maturity that the crib drying of corn is practical. There has been an increasing interest in the use of mechanical pickers here in Marion County and along with this some fairly large acreages have been planted. These have been harvested mechanically and crib dried either for use as feed or for shelling and sale after they are dried. The committee feels that this latter method offers the greater possibility for increasing the acreage of corn in Marion County.

Corn does provide a much needed cultivated crop in the rotation and is our high yielding grain. The committee continues to **recommend the use of corn as a grain crop on small farms.**

HAY CROP

Most significant in the hay crops is the fact that the acreage of alfalfa has decreased from 4,400 acres in 1940 to 2,800 acres in 1945. The committee feels that there is a need for an **increase in this acreage of alfalfa** and that many more of our dairymen should be using alfalfa hay. The present acreage of hay in Marion County is about the same as in 1940 but larger acreages of it are annual and biannual legumes. The big problem in alfalfa is the first crop.

MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT NEEDED

Pick-up hay balers will not solve this problem entirely. The use of these balers and the small windrow along with their limited capacity requires that there be a sufficient number of balers to put up the hay prepared for the pick-up hay baler as soon as it is ready for baling to avoid either rain damage or over drying in the field. The committee feels that legume silage could be used to get the first crop of alfalfa off early and make it possible to obtain full second cuttings of alfalfa.

Pick hay balers and the high price of hay during the war period have stimulated interest in the growing of hay as a crop for sale on Willamette valley farms. Under normal conditions the committee does not feel that this is a profitable enterprise and they feel that here in Marion County the sale of hay makes for the most rapid depletion of fertility from the farm.

PASTURE

The committee feels there is need for more pasture on two different types of land. There is considerable acreage of land that is still being put into grain crops that is either now or soon will be very marginal for grain production. Use of lime and phosphate planting of these lands to pasture crops and grasses and subterranean clover would be a more profitable use of these lands. The committee feels there is also a need for more pasture on better lands. These would include permanent pastures of good grasses and legumes, well managed and fertilized and irrigated pastures.

Pastures are one of our cheapest sources of feed along with having a place in the rotation and program of soil fertility and erosion control. Irrigated ladino clover pasture is one of the most profitable uses of irrigation and probably provides the cheapest source of feed available to dairymen with irrigation. The committee anticipates that within a few years irrigated ladino clover pastures will be found on a majority of Marion County dairy farms.

PEPPERMINT

The acreage of peppermint for oil in Marion County has increased from the few hundred in 1940 to around 2500 acres in 1945. Excellent prices and demand have been responsible for this increase the last few years but at present short sugar supplies are interfering with the consumption of mint oil.

On many farms mint has developed to be the only crop grown. Reduction of the acreage on some of these farms providing for better diversification of crops is advised. Mint acreage in other producing sections in Oregon and in the United States as a whole has increased greatly with no particular reason to anticipate a greatly increased consumption following the War.

There is a possibility that the demand for mint oil from river bottom soils will be better than where the oil is grown on beaver dam and muck soils which accounts for the majority of U. S. acreage. No very definitely established differentials in price or in demand are as yet evident.

WEEDS

Of the many weed pests that constantly plague the farmer, the committee wishes to call attention to a few specific problems that particularly warrant early attention from particular groups of farmers.

- a. **St. Johnswort or goat weed.** Highland bent grass growers must prevent this weed from getting a foothold in their seed producing areas or great losses will come to this seed industry.
- b. **Tansy Ragwort.** This pest is being found in more and more places in Marion County. It is a prolific seeder and spreads by wind and water carried seed. It will take over pastures unless controlled and is poisonous particularly in hay.
- c. **Wild Onions and Wild Garlic.** The increasing presence of this weed is showing up in vetch seed samples where it is very objectionable. Dairymen should also be particularly concerned because of milk flavors.
- d. **Quack grass.** Is showing up in increasing number of grass seed samples where it is a noxious weed.

Weed control districts are recommended as the best procedure of dealing with the St. Johnswort and Tansy ragwort problems.

Marion County produces annually between 3,000 and 4,000 acres of fibre flax. As a war crop, flax for fibre has been a relatively profitable crop, competing favorably with other crops.

There are many questionable factors about this crop in the future,

and flax fibre will undoubtedly face increasing foreign competition as heretofore with a depressing effect upon price.

We recommend, however, that fibre flax production be maintained in keeping with the existing ability of plants to process and market.

MARION COUNTY CROPS

GRASS SEEDS	1935	1940	Recommendation for future up to	
			1945	1950
Chewing Fescue		350	1,000	1,300
Creeping Red Fescue		50	20	50
Alta Fescue		240	500	600
Perennial Ryegrass		600	1,500	1,500
Highland Bent		150	1,600	2,500
Other Grasses		100	225	500
SMALL LEGUMES				
Red Clover	750	1,200	1,200	1,200
Alsike Clover	150	1,000	1,200	1,200
White Clover		500	450	400
Ladino Clover		52	80	100
Subterranean Clover			150	500
COVER CROP SEED				
Common Ryegrass	1,200	4,300	4,500	5,000
Crimson Clover		250	500	700
Common Vetch	800	1,200	4,000	
Willamette Vetch		11	8,000	8,000
Hungarian Vetch	600	400	1,500	1,500
Hairy Vetch	1,100	3,500	800	10,000
Austrian Peas	1,200	9,400	600	
Total Cover Crop Seeds	4,900	19,061	19,900	25,200
Vegetable Seeds & Sugar Beets				
		940	1,855	1,800
Total Seed Crop Acreages	6,000	24,243	29,680	36,850
Small Grain				
Corn	81,625	87,550	84,250	70,000
Total Hay	12,500	12,900	8,000	14,000
Alfalfa	43,700	39,800	39,800	40,000
Grain Hay	3,500	4,400	2,800	7,000
Vetch Hay	15,000	4,200	6,500	3,000
Clover	10,000	21,500	16,500	13,000
Grass	11,000	7,000	11,500	16,000
Rotation Pasture	4,200	2,700	2,500	1,000
Other Forage Crops		22,000	24,000	30,000
Other Field Crops		2,160	4,000	
Mint	525	580	2,400	
Total Field Crop Acreage		185,500	204,945	

Ivan DeArmand
 Floyd Fox
 Robert Harper
 Fred Hottinger
 Henry Ahrens
 Joe Zorn
 Walter Smith
 Ivan Stewart
 N. A. Reiling
 Andy King
 Albert Mader
 Nelson Gilmour

Report and Recommendations of the Horticulture Committee

Horticulture holds a very important place in Marion County's agriculture. In 1942, 19.8 per cent of the total farm income was derived from the numerous horticultural crops. Since vegetables are to be considered by another committee this report will apply to fruits and nuts.

Much information upon which recommendations were based came from canners and freezers now operating in the county. Our thanks is extended to each for their assistance.

Competition with other horticultural producing areas is the limiting factor in expansion of the industry but if a quality product, superior to those from other areas is produced, then little difficulty should be experienced in marketing it.

No doubt labor supplies for seasonal harvest and care of fruits will be a limiting item in the future. The committee had some very definite opinions on this problem but since it is being considered by another committee we will not discuss it farther.

TREE FRUITS

The apple acreage in Marion County is low, in fact, too low to satisfy the needs of local markets. Every year apples are imported from Hood River and Yakima to satisfy the demand. The committee feels that small plantings of apples, especially red varieties, should be made on good soils.

Prunes in this county have been up and down but most often down. At least 75 per cent of the present acreage is old and past prime production years. The only thing we hear about prunes is that they are coming out. The committee recommends that a few prunes be planted on good soil. There is a place for up to 1000 acres of new prune orchards. Planting of this acreage could well be spread over several years so there would be a few hundred acres coming into production each year.

Pears are a problem of their own hinging mainly on packers demands. Probably the present acreage is about right.

AGEING CHERRY ORCHARDS

Cherry orchards are mostly old with many trees that should be removed but few new orchards are coming into production. The committee recommends the planting of small acreages on good, deep, well drained soil with air drainage to replace old plantings. This would not mean an increase in acreage, but a replacement of old trees with new.

The work being done by the experiment station in an attempt to find virus free cherry bud wood is commended. We recommend that this project be continued and expanded.

The group recommended that the cherry fruit fly control area being established in Marion County be supported by all growers large and small and that every effort be made to comply with its requirements.

Packing plants are interested in more valley peaches to can and to freeze. The quality and flavor far exceeds the fruit now imported from other areas. The present plantings supply packers in years of good crops but go to fresh market in short crop years. Local peaches

have freight advantages over many areas now supplying local needs. The committee feels that new plantings should be made with a packers price and market in mind.

SMALL FRUITS

The demand for small fruits has been at a long time high thru the war years. Strawberry acreage has been very low but about a 25 per cent increase in bearing acreage is expected in 1946 over 1945. This still will not satisfy demands. The committee recommends that further expansion be limited to growers and areas suited to the business.

Disease is a constant problem in strawberries. Therefore, the committee recommends that the certification program now in effect be continued with no relaxation of the rules. Other root troubles and crown roots are becoming more prevalent and may require definite crop rotations to clean up. It is recommended that the production of certified plants by good growers be encouraged on a small scale.

The demand for loganberries looks good but disease makes it a very difficult crop to produce. New thornless varieties, to a degree, may become disease resistant.

Boysen and nectar berries are in demand by packers and small acreages can be planted without over loading the market.

The red raspberry acreage is low. The committee recommends small plantings of Newberg, Willamette or Washington varieties, which ever the packer favors. Plantings should go on good soil, well drained and fertile.

The acreage of evergreen blackberries has not changed much in the last few years. The committee would recommend holding the present acreage with possibly a few small new plantings.

NUTS

The acreage of English walnuts is nearly correct for this county. Very few plantings have been made in the past 15 years. The committee feels that small acreages could well be planted to at least maintain the acreage we now have. No large plantings are in line because 30 per cent of the national production is now being diverted for use in by-products of the industry. The use of boron is proving very useful in some areas reviving low producing orchards. Further studies and checks need to be made on these trials.

Blight control by dusting may prove to be the solution to this disease problem.

Filbert plantings have been made in Marion County at the rate of 1200 acres per year for the past three years. This builds up a potential production which is almost unbelievable. The committee feels that the filbert is a good crop for this area but that further plantings at this time would not be advisable. The committee recommends that the efforts of both growers and processors be exerted toward advertising and selling the potential production we now have rather than expanding acreages.

Homer Davis
Neal Butterfield
John Ramage
Ralph Dent
Bill Linfoot, Jr.
Pat McClaughlin
P. J. Blake
Ray Fessler

John Etzel
Henry Hansen
Ray Heckart
Robert Shinn
A. L. Page
Pete Saucy
Sam Drager

Report and Recommendations of the Livestock Committee

The livestock committee has given thorough consideration to the situation from a county standpoint. It is difficult to think in terms of livestock alone without getting into some phases of agriculture which probably will be covered by other committees.

PASTURE

So important is pasture management to the growing of livestock that pasture improvement is as important in the management of the farm as in the improving of crop land. A short review on pasture is deemed essential in the livestock report. In the post war period no increase in the market price of livestock can be expected, yet living and other costs are increasing. The livestock man must meet these advances with a lower production cost and improved pasture management seems to be the only way to get the cost of production down.

The committee recommends that:

1. The use of improved pasture grasses and clovers be expanded in accordance with the type of land and livestock to be produced.
2. Subterranean clover is the greatest find in years and much of Marion County's hill and stump land pastures should be seeded to this clover.
3. The State Forestry Department should be encouraged to survey the 200,000 acres of brush and cut-over land between Mehama and Molalla for the purpose of zoning it to allow burning of slash and stump and brush land when conditions are ideal. Certain restriction should be retained but under the present set-up the only good burns are those set unlawfully or accidentally. Fire patrol charges do not serve the purpose for which they were originally set up.
4. The State Game Commission be encouraged to set up pasture seed depots during the hunting season so that hunters could seed a few pounds as they travel through the hill areas. Improved range and wildlife conditions would result and less damage would be done by game animals to orchards and crops of farmers in the foot hills. Better stands in reforestrations have been consistent where land was grassed down immediately after logging or burning.
5. The use of fertilizers on pasture is recommended as livestock grown on soils lacking lime, phosphate, and other minerals, do not show the thriftiness of animals grazing on pastures with an abundance of minerals. Experiments bear out the fact that meat from animals lacking minerals in their diet does not have the highest nutritional value nor health building properties for human consumption. Lime, phosphate, and nitrogen applied to the pastures are especially recommended for livestock production.

SHEEP

Sheep numbers have decreased in Oregon about 51 per cent in the years between 1934 and 1944. The cut has not been quite so drastic in the United States as a whole, only 15 per cent. The coast counties

have increased their numbers slightly while eastern Oregon has made the big drop. Douglas County now has more sheep than any other county in the state.

Marion County had 34,400 sheep in 1940 but sheep numbers increased to 36,000 in 1944. Estimates show a decrease in 1945 to about 34,000 again.

After considering these and many other factors, the committee recommends that:

1. An increase in production be made, not in numbers, but through quality with better care and management and using top quality sires.
2. The Marion County sheep quota be fixed as of the January 1, 1946 inventories.
3. The Commodity Credit Corporation be supported in reducing the domestic stock piles of wool by selling at a price competitive with foreign wool price levels.
4. A reasonable tariff be maintained and a quota be placed on imported wools and woolens.
5. It is understood that the Experiment Station has an appropriation for carrying on experimental work with DDT for control of external parasites on sheep. We encourage them to carry out their studies and issue recommendations on their findings as soon as possible.
6. Commendations be extended the Marion County Fat Lamb Show management. The committee feels that this show has a definite place in the county livestock program regardless of what other fairs may again resume operations.
7. The sponsors of the sheep shearing schools held during the winter of 1944-45 be commended and encouraged to repeat the course.

HOGS

The production of hogs in Oregon and Marion County continues to be very low. In the United States hog numbers are up 12 per cent over 1941 but Oregon is down about 30 per cent. It is the lowest population in many years, the present figure being 194,000. There are enough waste products in Oregon including stubble, garbage and other wastes to support 300,000 head of hogs. In 1944 Marion County had 29,300 head of hogs and estimates for 1945 were 26,000.

The committee recommends that:

1. The number of hogs be increased as the grain ratio becomes more favorable. The present ratio of six and one-half to one will not return a profit unless the producer has sufficient pasture or other low cost feed to at least bring the hog to fattening age. We therefore recommend that.
2. Pastures be improved and increased use be made of them.
3. Number should not be increased to exceed enough to utilize garbage and wastes on the farm.
4. Quality rather than quantity should be stressed.
5. Public sales of high quality registered stock be encouraged and supported.

BEEF

The number of beef cattle has been increasing about 100 to 200 head per year or 10 per cent in Marion County. In the state as a whole, the increase since 1941 has been 25 per cent and in the U. S. nearly

17 per cent. At the present time our county has 1,600 beef animals 2 years old or over.

The committee feels that **quality should be stressed again by avoiding crosses of dairy and beef type animals** and instead starting out with registered or pure bred foundation stock. Much cross breeding has been done and will prove costly to the producer in the long run.

Greatest profit for beef in this county can be expected where feeder steers are bought and run on grass and finished with grain and silage. Utilization of grass seed fields after harvest is recommended.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The committee feels that a return of markets to more nearly normal conditions where supply and demand could operate would be a more healthy condition for the entire livestock industry than the present subsidy payments being made. **Improved methods of reporting market information** is suggested and recommended.

The **State Department of Agriculture** is encourage to continue and expand its work on disease and inspection work.

The **4-H Clubs** and **F.F.A.** work with livestock is recognized as an excellent method of training young people in the production of the best types of livestock. The committee encourages the **further expansion of these programs.**

In response to interest of many livestock people in Marion County the committee recommends that the **State Fair Board** encourage the **sale of breeding stock at the state fair** and that some method be devised to disseminate this information to prospective buyers in the advertising and catalogues prepared and distributed for the annual show.

Parasites are a constant menace to livestock in this area, not only sheep but cattle and hogs as well. The committee recommends that stockmen study the approved control measures especially for liver fluke and that educational work be carried on to get this information spread over the county.

Eddie Ahrens
Carl Magnuson
Karl Whipper
Louis Hennies
J. J. Thompson
Elton Watts
Adam Hersch
Elmer Lorence
Floyd Fox
H. D. Barnes
Alvin Hartley
Willard Benson

Report and Recommendations of the Turkey Committee

During the past five years there has been a large increase in the turkey industry in the United States and also in Oregon. The 1945 turkey crop in the U. S. was 43 per cent greater than the prewar average. In Oregon the 1945 crop was a 65 per cent increase over the five year prewar average. Oregon now ranks fourth in the production of market turkeys and second in the productions of hatching eggs and poults. While the expansion has been large and rapid, it has been on a fairly sound basis. Most growers have good equipment, adequate land and large enough units. Oregon is well equipped with marketing and processing facilities, has a good climate and under normal conditions has had a reasonably good feed supply, which should enable it to compete well with other producing areas.

Recommendations on the future of the turkey industry:

1. The committee has considered the present high level of turkey production. Before the war, consumption of turkey was about 3.5 to 3.7 pounds per capita. The 1945 production would require consumption of 5 pounds per capita if the army had not purchased its quota. It is true that the consumption of turkey has gradually been increasing but it is also true that the army has been purchasing 25 per cent of our turkey crop. There will also be an increasing supply of red meats. It was the opinion of the committee that for 1946 there should be a 15 to 20 per cent decrease in turkey production. In the following years a small increase as it is justified by consumption is suggested. Because of feed shortages in this area, growers should be sure of their feed supply in planning their production for 1946.

2. The committee next considered the outlook for eggs and poults. Oregon has developed a wide reputation for the production of large Broad Breasted turkeys that are free from pullorum. We have many natural advantages such as mild winters, early springs, cool summers and low altitudes for the production of eggs and poults. There has been an increasing demand from various sections of the United States for eggs and poults from Oregon.

On the other hand, it should be remembered that Oregon is especially favored in the production of early eggs and poults and possibly some of the demand for Oregon turkeys has resulted from the army's demand for early birds for overseas shipment.

In addition some reduction in the production of turkeys is anticipated for 1946.

The committee therefore recommends that there be no increase in the number of breeder hens for 1946. This will allow for an adjustment in some of the factors just mentioned, so that the situation can be sized up more accurately.

3. The committee discussed the size of birds in relation to the turkey industry. Much has been said lately in regard to the need for smaller birds. The committee feels that the larger birds make the most economical gains and are the best birds to produce. The fact that larger birds may be more than a family wishes to purchase can be overcome by proper marketing. The committee

felt that birds can be sold by cutting them up and selling in packages, selling half turkeys and other marketing procedures that can be developed to get around the problem of disposing of large turkeys to smaller families. Smaller birds make less economical gains and would have to command a considerable premium price to compete.

The committee does not anticipate that this premium price will develop but rather that present price differential between small and large birds will narrow down.

The committee does not feel that problems in fertility and hatchability are caused by too large a bird. The use of awkward and unbalanced toms should be avoided however. **Size of the breed flock should be held down to 500 or less for best fertility. The use of young toms, seven to eight months of age is also advised.**

4. Since there is considerable interest indicated by many people in entering the turkey industry the committee wishes to state their opinions on the minimum size of a full time turkey farm and the amount of capital and land required for such an enterprise.

It will take a minimum of \$2.50 a bird for brooding house and equipment, and equipment for range, feeding, watering, roosting and other items. A minimum of two acres per 100 birds is needed for range and three acres would be better especially if breeders are to be kept. At present figures indicate a cost of \$5.80 a bird to produce a turkey with 60 per cent of the cost being feed. If the turkeys are the sole farm enterprise, a minimum of 2000 birds are recommended for a full time farming operation.

These figures can be used to figure the capital investment that will be required to enter the turkey industry and complete one years production.

Wm. Chase
Guy Aupperle
Art Gath
Sam Speerstra
Alex Doerfler
Ivan Elam
Fred Taylor
Hugh Small
Maurice Hynes
Ted Riches
Oran Ottway

Report and Recommendations of the Poultry Committee

RECOMMENDATION ON THE FUTURE OF THE POULTRY INDUSTRY

1. During the past five years poultry production has increased approximately 50 per cent. The expansion on the Pacific Coast has not been as much as in some other areas and there has been a large increase in population on the Pacific Coast. As a result the per capita production of eggs on the Pacific Coast is below the prewar level and during the past 15 years it has changed from a large exporting area to an importing area. The number of laying hens in Oregon has not varied greatly during the past 15 years with the exception of a 15 to 20 per cent increase during the war.

The committee has considered the information that the poultry industry of the United States is expected to decrease 15 to 25 per cent from the present high level of production. During this period surplus eggs from the Middle West might tend to flow to the Pacific Coast markets. It is the opinion of the committee after considering all this information that, if Oregon producers maintain the quality of their eggs, the present level of production can be maintained. They particularly wish to point out the importance of maintaining and improving quality however, if production is to be kept at present levels.

2. In considering the future possibility of meat bird production the committee reviewed our prewar broiler and fryer production, our wartime increases, and our present production. Although increased population in this area will make possible some increase in meat production over prewar years, as purchasing power decreases and more red meat becomes available, the demand for meat birds may decrease.

Meat bird production is somewhat hazardous and a large volume of birds is required to make a full time enterprise. It is particularly important in the broiler and fryer business that markets be investigated and arranged before large scale production is attempted because of limited capacity of markets to absorb production.

The present meat bird production is mainly in the New Hampshire breed, but there is need for a better meat type bird and the committee recommends that the poultry industry organize a program to assist in accomplishing this.

Battery equipment is not essential to broiler production and heavy broilers or fryers from three to three and a half pounds can best be raised on the floor.

3. Marion County has excellent conditions for the production of hatching eggs and we have an excellent export market for the heavier breeds particularly New Hampshire. Maintaining hatchability and improving the meat type of these birds is important to holding and increasing this market.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON SIZE OF POULTRY UNIT

The committee has made certain recommendations as a general guide

for consideration of people interested in the poultry industry. They realize that there may be exceptions to these suggestions.

1. The committee recommends that a full time commercial poultry enterprise should be at least 2000 laying hens when the entire family income is to come from the poultry enterprise.
2. If poultry is kept as a side line enterprise to other farming, there should be at least 500 laying hens. This will provide enough eggs to justify proper attention and facilities and allow for better marketing.
3. Where hens are kept just to furnish eggs and meat for the family a maximum of 25 hens will usually be sufficient.

Where flocks are being kept to produce hatching eggs and greater care is required, a smaller number of hens could be kept for either a full time enterprise or a side line flock.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON AMOUNT OF CAPITAL AND LAND REQUIRED TO DEVELOP A COMMERCIAL POULTRY ENTERPRISE

1. Under present conditions it will take at least \$5.00 per bird to build and equip brooder and laying houses.
2. In addition it will require \$2.00 to buy a chick and get it ready for the laying house.
3. In addition if pullets are to be raised on range there should be from three to four acres for each 500 birds. If pullets are raised in confinement, less land will be sufficient.
4. On the basis of operating over a period of years under average price conditions the committee felt that a producer must have cleared enough from a flock of spring hatched pullets by the following January 1 to pay for the cost of raising that flock if that flock is to be a profitable one. In this connection it is very important particularly for those not too familiar with marketing eggs that they realize that certain seasons of the year provide a higher market for eggs. Birds must be brooded and handled so as to get a substantial production during this higher price period if the poultry flock is to be profitable.

Egg prices are always the highest during the last six months of the year, July to December, inclusive.

John Dasch
W. F. Krenz
L. D. St. John
M. W. Wampach
Hubert Esser
W. H. Berndt
Buford Brown
Ernest Andres
Lee Dow
U. J. Kirk
Lloyd Lee

Report and Recommendations of the Farm Home and Rural Life Committee

The success of rural living depends as much on a good home and well directed activities for its members, as it does on technical skills in operation of the farm. This cannot be achieved without careful planning and an understanding of the standards to be attained.

A continuous effort to improve rural living is desirable. The present is an especially opportune time to re-evaluate goals, and reorganize methods for achieving them. Everywhere effort is being directed toward adjusting to peace-time living from the war-time life of the past few years. Statistics show that the average income of the Marion County farmer is higher now than it was before the war. Because of this increased income, and more available educational opportunities, it should be possible to raise standards of living. With this in view, the Farm Home and Rural Life committee has given serious consideration to the problems which are likely to confront Marion County rural families in the next five or ten years. The purpose of this report is to present the recommendations of the committee in regard to improvements which would be most desirable for Marion County rural homes.

REACHING MORE PEOPLE WITH EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

In a long-time program one of the goals is to have education information available to all rural families. In order to do this we recommend the following methods be used:

1. That inasmuch as radio is a modern method of teaching, a radio broadcasting unit be located in the extension office for a daily broadcast by Extension staff members as is now done in Josephine County.
2. That a weekly newspaper column prepared by Extension staff members be published in all county papers.
3. That a monthly newsletter be sent to each rural homemaker in the county.
4. That in addition to the extension units already organized, special groups such as young mother clubs, be organized and a specialized program to meet their specific needs be conducted. In most instances, these would be evening meetings.

FOODS AND NUTRITION

An adequate food supply in both quantity and quality is one of the primary essentials to a healthy, happy person. The rural families of Marion County are particularly fortunate in being able to supply all of their essential foods through home production. In a study made in Oregon in 1935 on 2,110 part-time farms (1,810 operator owned and 300 rented) it was found that the value of home produced food consumed and sold was 44 per cent of the total income. We recommend:

Home Gardens and Other Food Sources—That every family be encouraged to raise a garden and that fall and winter gardens, which do so well in Western Oregon, be especially stressed. Much of this educational work could be done through 4-H clubs and F.F.A. chapters. Gardens enrich the family diet and relieve the family food budget.

That families be encouraged to raise their own supply of berries and fruit (except citrus) and where possible, families produce their own supply of milk, eggs and meat.

School Lunches: There are 95 rural schools (as of December 1945) in Marion County. Of this number, only 17 are serving hot school lunches. It has been demonstrated that a child's ability to learn is greatly affected by adequate food which includes three well-balanced meals a day. We recommend that school boards (districts) make provision to serve hot lunches in every district. Where this is not possible, we urge that educational work be done with parents to provide better packed school lunches.

Vitamin C and Similar Studies: Through experiments conducted by Oregon State College, it was found that 62 per cent of the Marion County grade school children and 72 per cent of the High School students were deficient in vitamin C.

Due to interest shown in the Vitamin C demonstration conducted by the Home Demonstration Agent in 1945, we recommend that other demonstrations be conducted along similar lines. (Example: Vitamin A and Fewer Colds.)

Food Preservation, Canning, Drying, Freezing: That the study of food preservation on the farm by the use of home freezing units as well as the best methods of canning and drying be encouraged, and that information on these subjects be made available. We recommend that a food preservation budget insuring an adequate year-round diet be made and followed by each rural family.

Buying and Preparation of Food and Planning Balanced Meals: That information be made available in food buying, food preparation and planning balanced meals for the best health of the family.

Study Nutrition: That great effort be made to encourage all homemakers, especially young homemakers to attend meetings relating to food and nutrition, or that special meetings be scheduled at such times (probably evenings) when young mothers can attend.

Child Feeding: That mothers be encouraged to take advantage of authoritative material on the care and feeding of children.

CLOTHING AND TEXTILES

During the war textiles for both clothing and home furnishings have been greatly limited in selection and poor in quality. As a result of standards developed for textiles used for war purposes, it is anticipated that in this post war period homemakers will be confronted with a tremendous variety of new materials and finishes of both tried and untried quality. In light of this situation we recommend:

Clothing Budget: That a long-time (at least for a three year period) clothing budget be made and followed by rural families.

Informative Labeling: That information be made available to homemakers on what constitutes desirable standards in household textiles, wearing apparel and yardage.

That as an aid to homemakers in buying, simplified labels giving definite information on wearing quality, fiber content, color fastness, shrinkage, finishes, recommended care, etc., be attached to all merchandise, and that consumers demand labeled merchandise.

Clothing Construction and Remodeling: That through demonstrations and workshops, specific help be given in clothing construction and remodeling for both adults and children.

Clothing Selection and Care: Poise comes partly from being appropriately and attractively dressed. We recommend that informa-

tion be made available on becoming colors and designs, good grooming and care of clothing.

That work clothing be chosen from the health standpoint—comfortable, efficient and attractive.

RURAL HOUSING

According to the 1940 census, 3,497 Marion County rural homes were over 25 years of age. Although rural families have had more money to spend for building, remodeling and household equipment during the past five years, only now are supplies and materials coming to the markets. Many prefabricated houses will soon be available. It is estimated that one out of every 12 rural families plan to build or buy a new home when restrictions are lifted. An even larger number are expected to remodel or repair old houses. Statistics show that 70 per cent of the rural families in the United States will have \$2,000 or less to spend for a new home. Prices of all materials, supplies, labor and equipment are high. This will necessitate careful planning. For satisfactory rural housing this committee recommends:

Long-time Financial Plan: That each rural family make a long-time financial plan within their means, and work out a schedule for remodeling and building projects to be carried out in the next 5 or 10 years. Provision should also be made for replacement and new household equipment. Careful evaluation will need to be made to determine the order of purchasing each item.

Remodeling vs. Rebuilding: That families avail themselves of authoritative help to determine whether to remodel or build a new structure.

Sound House Plans: That when building a house, sound plans be chosen with consideration given to the family activities, placement of the house in relation to prevailing winds and available sunshine, available labor, material and costs. We recommend that rural families take advantage of the handbook of houseplans (suitable for western Oregon) available for loan from the Home Extension office. The plans may be purchased at a minimum cost from Oregon State College.

Prefabricated Houses: That information be made available on prefabricated houses to determine their suitability as Oregon rural homes.

Home Beautification: That home beautification information be made available. That each family work out a long-time home beautification plan. Emphasis should be placed on the use of natural shrubs, trees, etc. To create interest, we recommend that this project be carried out on a contest basis and that a committee be appointed by the Agricultural Planning committee to work out details.

That 4-H and F.F.A. Home Beautification projects be encouraged.

Water Supply: That each rural family work toward a goal of hot and cold running water, complete bathrooms, sinks, laundry facilities and adequate water supply for household uses and irrigation purposes. Information on these subjects should be made available to all rural families.

That all drinking water be tested for purity (service free through Marion County Public Health Department).

Post-War Household Equipment: In view of the many improvements bound to appear in mechanical equipment within the next four or five years, we recommend that rural families be assisted in the selection, the use and care of this equipment.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY LIFE

During the war years, many family and community activities were of necessity directed to aid in the war effort. Less time was available for improving family and community life. Now that the war is over, it is again possible to consider activities which will have a direct influence on better family and community relationships. Successful homes make for successful communities. Improved standards of living in both family and community relationships is of major importance in Marion County. Educational help in this field is needed. As a means to this end, we recommend:

Family Living: That monthly training meetings be held for leaders (men and women) of study clubs in the fields of family life. Emphasis should be placed on education for marriage since Marion County Court records show that almost four out of five marriages in the county ended in divorce in 1945. That information be made available on more constructive use of leisure time. Adequate library facilities in each community are desirable. When this is not possible much material can be obtained free of charge from the State Library.

Family and Community Recreation: The alarming increase in juvenile delinquency stresses the need for better family and community recreation, as well as definite religious training in the family. We recommend that monthly training meetings for leaders from all county organizations be given in the field of recreation.

That special emphasis be placed on social organization for older youth specializing for example: in folk dances, one-act plays, and discussion groups on current community, national, and world problems where programs of action can be formulated and carried out.

That two county-wide recreation camps, one for homemakers and one for 4-H members, be held each year.

Community Activities: In many communities there is much overlapping of activities. To avoid this, we recommend that a council be established in each community to organize and coordinate all community activities.

That adult and youth discussion groups be organized to encourage the debate of current topics. An effort should be made to stimulate thinking on community, state, national and world problems and to interest people in voting at every election.

That each community make a special effort by letter, personal contact, etc., to bring newcomers into community activities. With the greatly increasing population in the Willamette valley each community has many new families.

That rural families be encouraged to identify themselves with some religious group and that rural children receive the benefit of religious training. The fundamental strength of a nation depends largely upon the strength of its Christian faith.

4-H CLUBS AND OLDER YOUTH

In Marion County there are 14,810 boys and girls between the ages of 9 and 21. Of this number, 7,400 are rural boys and girls to whom the club program is primarily extended. The balance of the number come within the limits of the cities of Salem and Silverton which are not considered rural. Of this latter number, 2,000 belong to one or more 4-H clubs. The training received in club work is of undisputed value. Opportunity for club work should be made available to every rural youth, and to as many city youth as desire it. One of the limiting factors is lack of leaders. This committee feels that it is both a parent

and a community responsibility to provide leadership. We recommend:

Leadership: That every extension unit in the county have an active 4-H Club Committee sponsoring club work and furnishing leaders.

That granges, farmers unions, parent-teacher associations, community clubs, service clubs and other organizations sponsor club work and provide leaders.

That regular training meetings in subject matter be held for 4-H leaders. That actual demonstration of specific processes concerning the 4-H projects be given with leaders actually doing the processes demonstrated.

4-H Club and Older Youth Projects: In addition to the projects now available, we recommend the following:

1. A project for older girls and boys, where the girl would take full responsibility for directing the home over a definite period of time (1 or 2 weeks) and the boy, with his father, work out a plan of farm management which would allow the boy to have responsibility for certain farm projects such as management of the poultry or sheep flocks, pigs or cows, complete record of farm accounts. (There is a regular project in farm accounting.) The parents would of course need to act as supervisors of such projects.

2. Additional advanced projects for older girls such as in food preservation and clothing.

3. That the county club program be strengthened by adopting the ten-guidepost program recommended at the 1945 National 4-H Club Congress at Chicago.

Guideposts for 4-H Club Programs: To help prepare tomorrow's citizens, physically, mentally, and spiritually, 4-H Club work provides opportunities for voluntary participation in programs, built on needs and interests, through which youth are:

1. DEVELOPING TALENTS FOR GREATER USEFULNESS.

2. JOINING WITH FRIENDS FOR WORK, FUN AND FELLOWSHIP.

3. LEARNING TO LIVE IN A CHANGING WORLD.

4. CHOOSING A WAY TO EARN A LIVING.

5. PRODUCING FOOD AND FIBER FOR HOME AND MARKET.

6. CREATING BETTER HOMES FOR BETTER LIVING.

7. CONSERVING NATURE'S RESOURCES FOR SECURITY AND HAPPINESS.

8. BUILDING HEALTH FOR A STRONG AMERICA.

9. SHARING RESPONSIBILITIES FOR COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT.

10. SERVING AS CITIZENS IN MAINTAINING WORLD PEACE.

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

Whereas vocational education in agriculture and home economics with programs in F.F.A. and F.H.A. is available in several high schools of the county, this committee recommends that rural boys and girls attending these schools be encouraged to take advantage of such training.

Respectfully submitted by:

Mrs. Floyd Fox
Mrs. Grace Cramer
Mrs. Glenn Bridwell
Mrs. Harry Martin
Mrs. Rex Hartley
Mrs. H. R. Woodburn

Mrs. V. D. Scott
Mrs. Wm. Wiederkehr
Mrs. Thomas Bump
Mrs. Geo. Tate
Mrs. Frank Way
Mrs. Ralph Cartwright

Report and Recommendations of the Vegetable Committee

Vegetable crops in Marion County make up a large percentage of our total horticultural income. 5,664 acres of vegetables were grown in Marion County for both fresh and cannery markets. This represents 8 per cent of the total farm income.

Processors and warehousemen indicate their stocks of goods from the 1945 pack are being rapidly depleted so that indications for a bright immediate future at least are good.

Increases and decreases in acreages of most vegetable crops are so closely tied in with packer and market demands that it is difficult to visualize problems that may confront the industry in the very distant future.

LABOR AVAILABILITY A FACTOR

It is the opinion of the committee that labor will continue to be a controlling factor in future vegetable production. There is no indication that wages will be lowered materially so prices must be kept up to allow farmers to realize some profit over high production costs.

Demands of Lend-lease and the armed forces increased vegetable acreage during the war period. Now some adjustment will of necessity have to be made.

Beans: The demand is good for the high quality green bean that has been produced in Marion County. Some difficulty is expected in getting pickers to harvest the crop without having the large tonnage of culls that have been harvested in the past few years.

The committee recommends that better management of yards and soil be the principal basis for increased production. There is also a place for a limited increase in acreage of beans in this county and the committee recommends that plantings be based on packers demands.

It is recognized that several destructive bean diseases such as mosaic, and other virus, are present in this county and probably will become more serious in the future. The committee recommends that the studies started in 1945 by plant pathologists be continued and that some provisions be made to allow experiment station personnel to further investigate the problem.

Asparagus: The mild winters that we have in the Willamette Valley make profitable production of asparagus difficult. The weed and grass problem runs costs too high for the price usually paid by processors. The plantings of small acreages for fresh market is suggested. Yields are only fair and the fresh market price has made it a good enterprise.

Sweet Corn: The production of sweet corn has been popular in the county during the past few years and interest is continuing to increase as packers requirements expand. Freezers and fresh markets are the main outlets. The crop has been especially good to work in, on small acreages with dairy cattle where the fodder can be used for silage. Single cropping, using sweet corn as the main crop requires acreages up from 20 to 30 acres. Sweet corn is recommended as a crop to clean up soils and aid in rotations.

Cauliflower and Broccoli: These crops are fairly new in this county with varying success the first few years. They are good cash crops for October, November, January and February. These two plants are very exacting in their soil requirements as well as climate. Insects, both aphids and loopers, must be controlled to produce a high quality product. The committee recommends a small acreage increase by good producers to meet the demands of the quick freeze industry.

Squash and Pumpkins: This crop is easy to handle. An average price of \$7.00 a ton has not been comparable to prices on other vegetables and has not encouraged larger acreages.

Beets: The acreage of beets is being reduced by packers this year and indications are that the pack will demand a smaller beet that will make a higher quality product.

The committee recommends that the experiment station be encouraged to make further studies of beet canker and its control, for it is still a problem in production.

Carrots: Carrots have both packer and fresh market outlets, which take comparatively small acreages to supply.

The main problem in production is the carrot rust fly. The committee recommends that the experiment station workers be encouraged to make further study of the rust fly and its control.

Cabbage and Tomatoes are both good crops but limited chiefly to fresh market. New varieties of tomatoes are badly needed for this area.

PEAT LAND CROPS

Lettuce, onions and spinach are all crops produced extensively on Lake Labish. Acreages are pretty well established in this area.

Marion County's peat land is comparable to the best in the United States but losses of crops have been large because of lettuce drop, nematodes and pink root of onions. It is recommended that some program be established by the experiment station to study lettuce drop, rootknot nematodes in celery and other vegetable crop troubles showing up in peat soils.

Larry Goss
Herman Darley
John Cornwall
Lynn Simmon
McGill Bros.
Ed Gilbert
Merl Crane

Report and Recommendations of the Farm Labor Committee

The committee was of the opinion that housing was probably the most important factor influencing the supply of labor and that farmers should supply adequate housing if they expect to obtain necessary labor supplies. It is probable that housing standards that formerly prevailed and were furnished labor, particularly to seasonal labor, will no longer be adequate to meet the needs of labor.

For the most part housing of labor is an individual problem but the committee suggests, particularly for smaller growers less able to meet this problem, that the following might be used to assist in supplying adequate housing.

1. Cooperation housing project.
2. Community housing project.
3. Trailer houses.
4. Mobile Camps.

Cooperative efforts of several growers to supply housing facilities at one point might in many cases be a better method of meeting the housing problem. These efforts might range from two or three growers going together on housing, to larger cooperative housing units involving whole communities such as the Milton Freewater or Coberg projects.

COMMUNITY INTEREST IN HARVEST

Communities have a great interest in the harvest of crops not only in the money spent by labor in the community, but also in the value of crops harvested. Cooperation of civic groups might often be employed to aid in providing housing.

Increased use of trailer houses by transient and even some local labor would mean better housing facilities in many cases, particularly if growers provide adequate sites and facilities for trailer camps.

Use of war surplus equipment to provide camps for seasonal labor with the possibility that these camps might be mobile to meet the needs of different crops in different areas is also suggested.

Since housing refers mainly to the standard of living of our agricultural labor, the committee also wishes to point out that farm incomes, in relation to the wages farmers can pay for labor, must be maintained if the farmers are to compete with industry for competent labor.

YOUTH AID HARVEST

Since there were 25,000 urban youth whose average age was slightly over 12 years, used in harvesting agricultural crops in 1945, the committee recommends that these children be encouraged to participate in the harvest if they are properly supervised under proper working conditions. It is recognized that this harvest work is actually a benefit to children if properly conducted and handled. Studies made by the Salem Juvenile Officer showed that cases of delinquency declined from 105 cases in June with no school and little work to 60 in July and 40 in August by seasonal harvest months and rose again to 90 in October when school started.

During the past five years there has been in Oregon a big increase in acreage of crops requiring hand labor. State acreage of such crops grown in Marion County are as follows:

Crop	1940	1945
Beans	2200	4500
Onions	3200	5000
Peppermint	2800	7500
Hops	19000	22000
Total	27200	39000

It is recognized that some of these acreages were increased because of the war and that government control of prices may be exerted on some of these acreages to effect reduction but not on all of them.

The committee suggests that anyone planning an increase in their acreage of hand labor crops should give serious thought to the supply of labor available for harvesting these crops, particularly those harvested during the peak.

During the war period as high as 1500 people a day were hauled out from the Salem Farm Labor Office during the peak harvest periods. In 1945, however, the year in which the war ended, a peak of only 418 people was hauled from the Salem office.

It is not anticipated that the supply of labor available for seasonal harvests will be increased in the next two years. Although there may be sufficient supply of labor available to accomplish a large percentage of the harvest, the tendency toward seasonal harvest problems has increased and with the present harvest loads during August and September, this problem is liable to continue to be present.

In the opinion of the committee, it is entirely possible that we might under post war conditions experience greater harvest problems during the peak than were actually experienced during the war, unless factors not now anticipated bring about an increase in the labor supply.

The committee recommends that farm people give necessary consideration to who will handle the farm labor program in Oregon in 1947 and how it will be financed.

FARM LABOR SUPPLY A QUESTION

It should be realized that since July, 1943, farm labor and recruitment has been the responsibility of the Extension Service and costs have been financed from the federal treasury. Provision has been made by Congress to continue this program to the end of 1946. The Farm Labor program has been carried on by the Extension Service as a war time activity on request of the Congress. It is an activity, however, that is deemed not within the scope of the purpose for which the Extension Service was originally set up and on their request it has been indicated that they would be released of the responsibility for farm labor at the end of 1946.

The committee wishes to point out that in 1942, the Oregon State Employment Service had available \$7,000 for use in farm labor recruitment and placement. The farm labor program was only incidental to the industrial placement program. Funds for industrial placement are provided for by Oregon Law and the \$7,000 used on farm labor were taken for that purpose because of the interest of certain industries particularly canning in the farm labor program.

In comparison there was supplied to the Extension Service in 1945, \$185,000 for the Farm Labor program in Oregon. Since it is expected that the present farm labor program will terminate at the end of 1946, and there is now no provision made to finance a farm labor program for 1947, the committee feels that farm people should give necessary consideration to this problem.

Ray Glatt
Geo. Tate
Creighton Jones
Fred J. Schwab
Floyd Bates
Oscar Loe

Eugene MacCarthy
Walt Snyder
W. H. Baillie
Gladys Turnbull
Raleigh Carothers
Jake Gilmour

Report and Recommendations of the Hop Committee

STATUS OF HOP INDUSTRY OREGON AND MARION COUNTY—1945

	Marion County	Oregon
No. of Hop Growers	302	557
Acres per Grower	31	35 $\frac{3}{4}$
Acres of Fuggles	2365	4442
Acres of Early Chesters	709	1847
Acres of Late Chester	6175	13622
Total Acres of Hops	9249	19911
Total Production of Hop (bales)	47900	105929
Total Value	\$6,000,000	\$12,500,000

PAST DEVELOPMENTS IN HOP PRODUCTION

To intelligently face the future of the hop industry, it is first necessary to review developments of the past 13 years since the repeal of prohibition.

Starting with 1933, hop production plus imports quickly exceeded demand except in 1936 when there was short crops. During the 1930's exports averaged about half of our imports.

Starting in 1941, employment increased rapidly and with it beer consumption. Beer production was 55,000,000 barrels in 1941 and 86,000,000 barrels in 1945 by September 1.

With the start of the war, European exports to the United States and the rest of the world decreased rapidly while U. S. exports to other countries increased. By 1941, we were supplying all nations outside Europe with their needs. By the 1942 season, all surplus hops were released and brewer's carryovers were reduced to about 60,000 bales.

These shortages encouraged heavy plantings and U. S. production rose from 180,000 bales in 1942 to 283,000 bales in 1945, which far exceeded our total production plus imports in prewar years.

Also influencing the picture is the fact that the hopping ratio has decreased from .7 pound per barrel of beer in 1934 to .43 per barrel in 1944. There is an indication that this ratio may increase with better supplies of hops but indications are that public taste prefers the milder brews.

ADJUSTMENT NOW TAKING PLACE

The 1945 production is known to be at least 283,000 bales on the basis of 200 pounds each. Present reports indicate a use for about 250,000 bales in brewing and export, leaving about 30,000 bales surplus. Since brewers carryover was reduced to about 60,000 bales, it is anticipated that for this year, the surplus of about 30,000 bales should be absorbed by brewers in rebuilding their carryovers up to 90,000 bales, particularly since restrictions on brewers purchase were lifted on January 11, 1946.

DEVELOPMENTS THAT MIGHT BE EXPECTED

A normal crop for 1946 could easily be 300,000 bales with many

1944 and 1945 plantings coming into full or increased production. With a demand similar to this season, there would be left 50,000 bales carry-over. This added to the 90,000 bales carryover expected in brewers stock, would mean a total carryover of 140,000. Such a carryover would be a return to the surplus situation of 10 years ago, and could be disastrous to domestic hop growers unless a program is developed in the meantime to dispose of it or keep it from ruining our market.

It should further be pointed out that these calculations do not take into consideration any European competition either in terms of imports into the U. S. or competition in our present export markets. Before the war, our exports were about 20,000 bales annually. While during the war our exports to Europe quit we took over exports to other countries and exported up to 45,000 bales compared to 20,000 bales before the war.

When European hops again become available we can hold our export markets only on a competitive basis. Our best efforts in producing best quality and clearly picked hops for both domestic and export markets will be needed to properly maintain our post war trade.

HOP STUDY IN PREPARATION

An economic study of the post war outlook for Pacific Coast hops is now being completed by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in cooperation with the State College of Oregon, Washington and California and should be available soon.

It is also understood that chemists at the USDA Research Laboratory at Albany, California, have agreed to carry on research in finding new uses for the resins and other valuable constituents of hops.

Continued research on factors affecting supply and demand should be an important part of any program looking to the continued welfare of the hop industry.

In spite of what research may be accomplishing, hop growers face the possibility of a surplus problem in the near future and must lay plans to control such a surplus if they wish to avoid being engulfed by it, as they were in the 1930's prior to development of the diversion and loan program on old hops and the control program on crops to prevent the destruction of the market by new surplus.

Just what sort of program may be feasible and practicable under our post-war conditions, no one can now say, but it is not too early to begin studying the problem and getting our legislative background in order. As a start in this direction, an amendment to the Agricultural Marketing Agreements Act was sponsored by hop growers through the U. S. Hop Growers Association a year ago, and was enacted by Congress in June, 1945, repealing the time limitation in the hop amendment under which past Hop Marketing Agreements have been established.

As the Act now reads, a new Hop Marketing Agreement may be requested by the industry and placed in operation by the Secretary of Agriculture whenever it is needed and can be justified under terms of the Act (including prices below parity) without limiting it to two or three years as has been necessary in the past. On a continuous basis, it would be subject to amendment or repeal at the request of the industry thru the Secretary of Agriculture, but might otherwise continue indefinitely while conditions justified it.

The last previous Hop Marketing Agreement expired on September 1, 1945, but the Secretary of Agriculture states that he cannot establish a new one while prices are above parity, under present requirements of the Act.

Due to lack of consideration of the abnormal rise in the cost of agricultural labor when calculating parity, this is still approximately 40c

per pound on hops. With the high percentage of labor in hop production costs, the parity price for hops would now be much higher if labor costs were properly included in parity calculations. It is felt that every effort should be put forth by growers of all crops with heavy labor costs to obtain proper recognition for farm labor costs in future parity calculations.

It is also felt that a continuation at least for the coming season of the USDA Wage Stabilization program is to the best interests of farmers and farm workers through out Marion County and the State of Oregon.

C. W. Paulus
Paul Rowell
Joe Serres
Gene McCarthy
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Jack Minto
Fred Stadel

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