

Quest for Century
Farmers Begins

The Oregon Historical Society and the State Department of Agriculture will conduct their third annual Century Farm program this year. This will honor a new crop of families whose continuous Oregon farming activity extends back to 1860 or earlier.

The program will climax with an assist from the Oregon State Fair and the award ceremonies on the fairgrounds Tuesday, September 6. Plans for the final celebration were made recently at a conference of leaders of the three organizations.

Two years ago, the program found 354 Oregon families with century or better farming records; last year, 44 Century Farmers were enrolled. Of the 398 so far, only three farms are east of the Cascades. The sponsors are hopeful that this year will see some entries from other eastern Oregon counties.

The lag in representation from east of the mountains is natural for, as every school child will recount, the early migrations to Oregon concentrated in the western part of the state--particularly the Willamette valley.

Application blanks for Century Farm honors will be available in the offices of county judges who again are being invited to make the final determination of eligibility. Their cooperation has been a decided asset to the program, inasmuch as the county judges have at their command the records of farm ownerships from the beginning.

All applications will be submitted to the state department of agriculture for preliminary screening and then relayed to the county judges. All 1960 applications for Century Farm honors must be in the hands of the department at Salem on or before July 5.

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