

The Cottage Grove Sentinel

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1956

COTTAGE GROVE, LANE COUNTY, OREGON

NUMBER 10

Lane County Flood Group Reactivated

Reactivation of the Lane county unit of the Willamette River Basin Project committee was undertaken at a special meeting recently at Eugene hotel, according to Dave Calvert, Coburg area farmer, and new chairman for Lane county.

Other officials elected by the group include R. E. Kerr, as vice chairman. An executive committee, formed of the chairmen of the following five sub-committees was chosen: Flood Control, Wayne Endicott; drainage, Horace Myers; irrigation, Richard Malpass; recreation and parks, Lee Murphy; and water supply and use, Lou Torgeson.

Elmo B. Chase, general chairman of the Willamette Valley group, and Fred Knox, who was recently named on the executive committee of the valley association to encourage flood control and water use, told of the annual meeting of the group, to be held Thursday and Friday, October 18 and 19 in Salem, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Oregon Reclamation Congress.

Local citizens, particularly those interested in drainage, irrigation and flood control, are invited to attend the two-day conference.

School Club Gives Teachers' Party At Dorena Oct. 8

By Mrs. Charles Denzer
Phone 6-8425

DORENA — A teachers' reception was held Monday, October 8, at Dorena school with a large attendance. The school club honored the cooks and janitors, with gifts, as well as all the teachers. Linda Potter, Sue Tryk and Judy Larsen sang a number of songs and a skit "Gay Nineties" was given. The table was decorated and refreshments of angel food cake and ice cream were served.

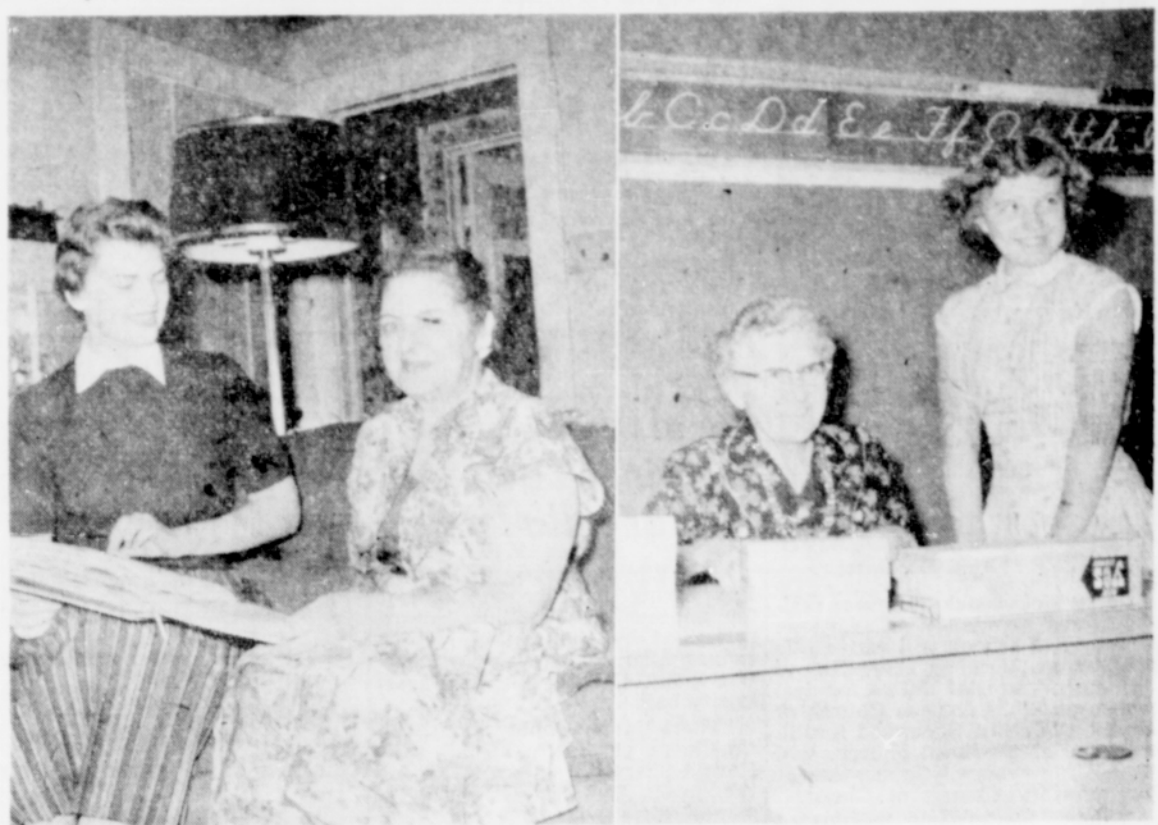
Mrs. Zelma Menor, who spent the spring and summer visiting her daughter, Mrs. Charles Denzer, returned to her home in Los Angeles, Calif., Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Wicks and son, Tom, left Thursday for Eastern Oregon for deer hunting.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray White and son Danny, Lee of Cottage Grove spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Howard Raymond to try their luck at hunting. The ladies accompanied the men for a picnic in the woods.

Suzanne Raymond visited Saturday night with her grandmother Mrs. Frank LaBlue of Cottage Grove.

Mrs. Robert Hansen and children of Glendale visited Thursday with her mother, Mrs. Marvin Ponton. They left Thursday after-



AFTER 25 YEARS of leading 4-H clubs, Mrs. Leon (Jeanne) Morton, London, hasn't lost a whit of her enthusiasm for the program that encourages members "to make the best better." Above, she shows 4-H scrapbook to Mrs. R. L. (Carolyn) Westrup, Lane county's new extension agent in 4-H club work.

A TEACHER FOR 27 YEARS in the Cottage Grove area and a 4-H leader for 20, Mrs. Carl (Nora) Small often sees a repeat of personality patterns in second generation students and club members. Four-H, she says, strengthens the bond between teacher and student, and former students, like Nora Lou Pereira, above, often stop at her classroom for impromptu conferences.

Long-Time 4-H Leaders Agree Children Remain the Same

No matter the change in the face of our world, in our fashions and furnishings, in our books or theories — children remain the same, agree three veteran 4-H club leaders in Lane county who are now leading second generation (sometimes, third generation) 4-H club members.

"Today's children aren't blasé or veneered," declares Mrs. Benjie (Crest) Marsh, Rt. 1, Veneta, a grade school teacher for 33 years and 4-H club leader for 20. "They're just as easy to reach and as genuine as they ever were," she declared. "I imagine from the beginning of time, children have had the same dreams, the same qualities of natural curiosity and warm affection."

This "enduring sameness" is true, too, of 4-H, and is a part of the never-ending appeal, they agree. Although projects have changed with the times, the 4-H program remains essentially the same with its emphasis on the development of the child — its methods encouraging youngsters "to

learn by doing" and "to make the best better."

The three leaders who will be presented jeweled clover pins at the annual 4-H leaders' recognition program at Pioneer Hall (Lane county fairgrounds) October 19 at 8 p.m. are Mrs. Leon (Jeanne) Morton, London, a leader for 25 years, and Mrs. Carl (Nora) Small, London, and Mrs. Marsh, both 20-year leaders.

Featuring the 4-H program this year, the award of the clover to 144 4-H leaders who have served one to five years in the county 4-H program, presentation of seals, certificates, or jeweled pins to 26 others who have served from six to 28 years.

Gives Generously
Probably no one leader in Lane county has devoted more generously of her time and interest in developing the 4-H program than Mrs. Morton. Literally hundreds of 4-H youngsters in the London area have passed through the quaint wooden gate leading to Mrs. Morton's home. The little house in the beautiful, wooded Black Butte valley between Cottage Grove and London seems straight from the pages of a Grimm's fairy tale. Handhewn shakes cover the quaint cottage in quizzical, crazy-patch fashion. No less enticing is the interior with honey slogans painted on the inviting Dutch door, hand-painted figures marching across cabinets, the collection of thimbles from far corners of the world, an antique organ, and storybook quilts which Mrs. Morton makes in spare moments.

Receives Many Honors
Mrs. Morton's achievements extend far beyond the many earned in 4-H. A Zonta club "first citizen in Lane county," she was also named last year as Cottage Grove's woman of the year. She has worked 22 years with the South Lane Fair (now renamed Western Oregon Exposition), has served as a member of Cottage Grove's Union High school board of directors for 10 years (its chairman for four years); was president of Lane County 4-H Leaders' association for eight years; and was active in the organization of the South Lane Leaders' association.

Soon after moving to London in 1928, Mrs. Morton organized her first 4-H club in clothing. The mother of a daughter then six, Mrs. Morton was concerned about the lack of activities for youngsters in the area.

"I had read about 4-H in the paper," she recalls, "so I called

the 4-H office to find out more about the program. Soon I was in it head-over-heels leading my first clothing club. What odd things we made then. I had never crocheted before — nor have I since. But together, the girls and I made the required crocheted mats. This project has changed most during the last three decades."

Since 1928, Mrs. Morton's name has been synonymous with 4-H in the Cottage Grove area — and the youth program has become a bright thread woven through school and community life. With the exception of three years when she lived along the Columbia River, she has led youngsters in two to five 4-H projects each year and has encouraged scores of adults to lead clubs.

First 4-H Summer Camp
In 1939, Mrs. Morton helped organize the first 4-H summer camp along Fall Creek for 17 youngsters. With the assistance of one girl who helped with swimming, Mrs. Morton was chief cook, nurse, camp mother, and director. For 10 consecutive years she was active in the summer program and trained older 4-H members as camp counselors. By 1949, Mrs. Morton's last year as camp director, the 4-H camp had become traditional in Lane county, and 139 youngsters enjoyed the program.

Mrs. Morton taught at 4-H summer school at Oregon State college from 1936 to 1947. Formidable title of her subject was "household accounts and budgets."

"We changed the name to personal allowances and got along fine," she smiled. She also taught her favorite craft, needlepoint.

Sportsmanship is Key
Closely dovetailed with her 4-H work has been her interest in local fairs. For 17 years she was "fair mother and cook" for club members who entered livestock at the Lane County 4-H Fair.

"The old 4-H club building was home," she recalled. "I slept on the floor with the youngsters until my husband presented me with an air mattress."

Years ago she organized the London 4-H mothers club which boasts its own club house located to the rear of Mrs. Morton's home.

"We're mostly grandmothers now," says Mrs. Morton, "but we still meet in the interest of 4-H plan refreshments, gather project material, and help wherever we can."

No few honors have come to 4-H members in Mrs. Morton's clubs. Her own daughter, Jacqueline, now a young matron in Fresno, Calif., twice represented Oregon at the 4-H club congress in

(continued on page 3)

GOVERNOR ELMO SMITH gives active leadership

LIQUOR CLEANUP—One of Governor Smith's first acts was reorganization of the Liquor Control Commission with instructions that it must deserve the complete confidence of the people . . . and stop sale of liquor to minors.

HIGHWAYS—No governor has been better informed on highway problems. Oregon's 72 million dollar highway program was developed under his senate leadership. His leadership in highway development is nationally recognized.

THE AGING—While insisting that Old Age Assistance payments recognize higher living and medical costs, Governor Smith has given equal emphasis to programs that will utilize the skills and experience of our older people and furnish recreation for them on an enjoyable basis.

He has recommended a permanent state committee to formulate such programs.

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