

About The Farm ---

By John J. Inakeep, County Agent

IMPORTANT NOTICE — All telephone calls to the county extension office are now routed through the switchboard recently installed in the Clackamas county courthouse, Oregon City. To call a county farm agent, home agent or 4-H agent, call Oregon City 2641, unless you call from a Portland phone. The number 2641 is the courthouse number. Ask for extension 67, 68, or 77. If you forget these extension numbers, just call the courthouse and tell the very pleasant and efficient operator, Mary MacGillivray, to whom you wish to speak. She will then call our office.

Our Portland number is now Olive 4-6591. This number may be called direct from Neptune numbers in or near Oswego, from Olive numbers, and all other Portland prefixes.

The recent changes has caused expected temporary confusion, few incoming calls are the result. This situation is expected to improve within a short time. On the other hand, we now have more lines incoming and outgoing. Before the change, calling our office was very difficult at times, especially between 8:30 and 10:00 AM. We had many complaints from those who tried repeatedly to call our number, only to find the line busy. The new arrangement is expected to improve this situation materially.

We visited Louie, our hunting and fishing partner from out Molalla way, recently. You guessed it, we talked of the coming deer season and plans for our annual trek into the mule deer country.

Louie's wife was shopping so we had a bachelor's luncheon and the conversation drifted to farming, past and present. His observations, it seems to us, are worth passing along.

"I can remember 30 years ago when the typical Clackamas county farmer raised oats, wheat, oats and vetch hay, and milked six or eight grade cows. Folks ate butter in those days and the milk check kept the wolf from the door, although he often came so close we could hear him howl. Any way you take it the farmer's lot was not one to envy."

"Grassland farming and intelligent use of fertilizers, when they came along, gave us a boost and

paid off many a mortgage. But farming costs have climbed to the sky and these high costs include a tremendous added tax burden, as you well know. It seems to me that the old-fashioned farm and the old-fashioned farmer are passing out of the picture. So is this old saw about the sacred family farm advocated by the long-haired boys and the short-haired girls who believe in a few cows, a few chickens, a few pigs, a little grain and 'all is well'. These days a man must have a sizeable operation, grow intensified crops or listen to the nightly howl of the wolf again.

"Take, for instance, one of my neighbors. I don't want to name him for fear of embarrassment. He bought a farm in the mid-forties, a good farm maintained in better than average condition. Prices were pretty good at that time but he grossed only 3500 dollars from hay and grain in 1945. In 1946 he did a little better—4500. He began to use more limestone and fertilizer and by 1950 the gross was \$8000.

"Then he began to irrigate and began using berries as an intensive cash crop. This year he grossed \$60,000.

"Now I don't know as everyone should fall in his footsteps to the dot. Farms vary one from the other and the intensive crop which one man uses may not be a good bet for the other. Also the individual has to consider availability of harvest labor. Maybe it's turkeys or chickens or strawberries or blackcaps or nursery stock or a sizeable dairy herd selling fluid milk. That's the way it looks to me anyhow and that's the trend around here with my successful farm neighbors."

It was a rainy, cold day. Louie's wise old Labrador dog snoozed by the range, the teakettle sang. We filled our pipes with some of Louie's "home grown" and just set back and thought it over for a while.

A number of our Clackamas county folks are starring in a new farm forestry sound motion picture recently filmed by the visual aids department, Oregon State college.

Ernest Zahar, Russellville, (south of Molalla) has a prominent place in the Christmas tree section of the film. Ernest is a handsome man, but no man is in the same class with good-looking gals in the movies. So, on the Zahar setting, Ernest's good-looking wife, Dorothy, and his two pretty daughters, Erma Jean and Linda Rae, also play prominent parts.

And then, there is Charlie Marshall, Clarkes. Charlie was one of the first farm forester co-operators in Clackamas county back in 1941 when Walter Ferguson was the project forester. He followed the best forestry practices from that time on and his excellent farm timber was a major item in the recent sale of his farm. Incidentally, the new owner expects to continue with the forestry management program.

The new film, which will be

ready for distribution throughout the state late next spring, stars Charlie Marshall also. We have not seen a preview but Chris Reid, head of the visual aids department, says he acted like a veteran.

Charlie stands proudly by his timber and tells how he rode his horse through the trees as a twelve-year-old boy. "At that time," Charlie told us, "the trees were just the height of the horse's back."

"Wouldn't it be fine," Curtis thought out loud, "if we had a picture of Charlie riding through those young trees?"

Of course that couldn't be, so Reid decided to cheat a bit. He would film a twelve-year-old boy riding through a similar stand. And so it came to pass that Charlie's grandson, Harvey Buche, Clarkes, took the role. Harvey is thirteen and a dead ringer for his grandfather.

The appointed day was September 20. Harvey's teacher, Mrs. Stanley Mitchell, Clarkes school, excused him from class and told the other kids all about it. The proper setting was located on Ben Elmer's second farm across from Bob Berger's. John Buche, Harvey's dad, saddled the brown mare and Harvey took off at ten o'clock dressed in blue denim and a cowboy hat.

It so happens that Harvey's route passed Clarkes school. It also happened that we were driving by at the moment and each kid in the school was looking out the window. Harvey cut a dashing figure. He rode as directed through Ben's trees with

the technical staff and his ma and pa as an audience. We have a sneaking suspicion that all of Harvey's classmates would like to have been there also.

We found a perfect setting showing the use of fir timber as a windbreak on the Everett Shibley ranch, Springfield. Everett's cattle are gentle and Everett's son, Elwin, played the role of cowboy. The herd wandered slowly through grass carpeted

Womans Club Sets Spaghetti Dinner

SANDY—The regular meeting of the Sandy Womans club was held Thursday, October 6, with a dessert luncheon served at 1 PM by hostesses Mrs. S. A. Moll-

timber in front of the camera without the slightest sign of fear.



From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

Shades of Tom Sawyer!

Hack Willis had just stopped the tractor so's he could cool off at the pump, when a young insurance salesman came up the drive.

Hack was tired of plowing, and needed insurance on his new barn. But he also needed to get that winter rye in fast. The salesman, an eager kid, noticed hesitation. "I come from a farm," he said. "Why don't you look at these booklets—get all the dope—and I'll take that you a couple of rounds for you."

Young fellow laid off a pretty straight furrow, too. It was almost dark before Hack—sitting

in the shade—was able to decide just what kind of policy to get.

From where I sit, to be a good salesman—or a good citizen—it always helps to "put yourself in the other man's place." He may have a different sort of job with different problems... he may prefer to close a deal over, say, a friendly glass of beer while you might prefer something else. But both of you can co-operate if you make it a "policy" to try.

Joe Marsh

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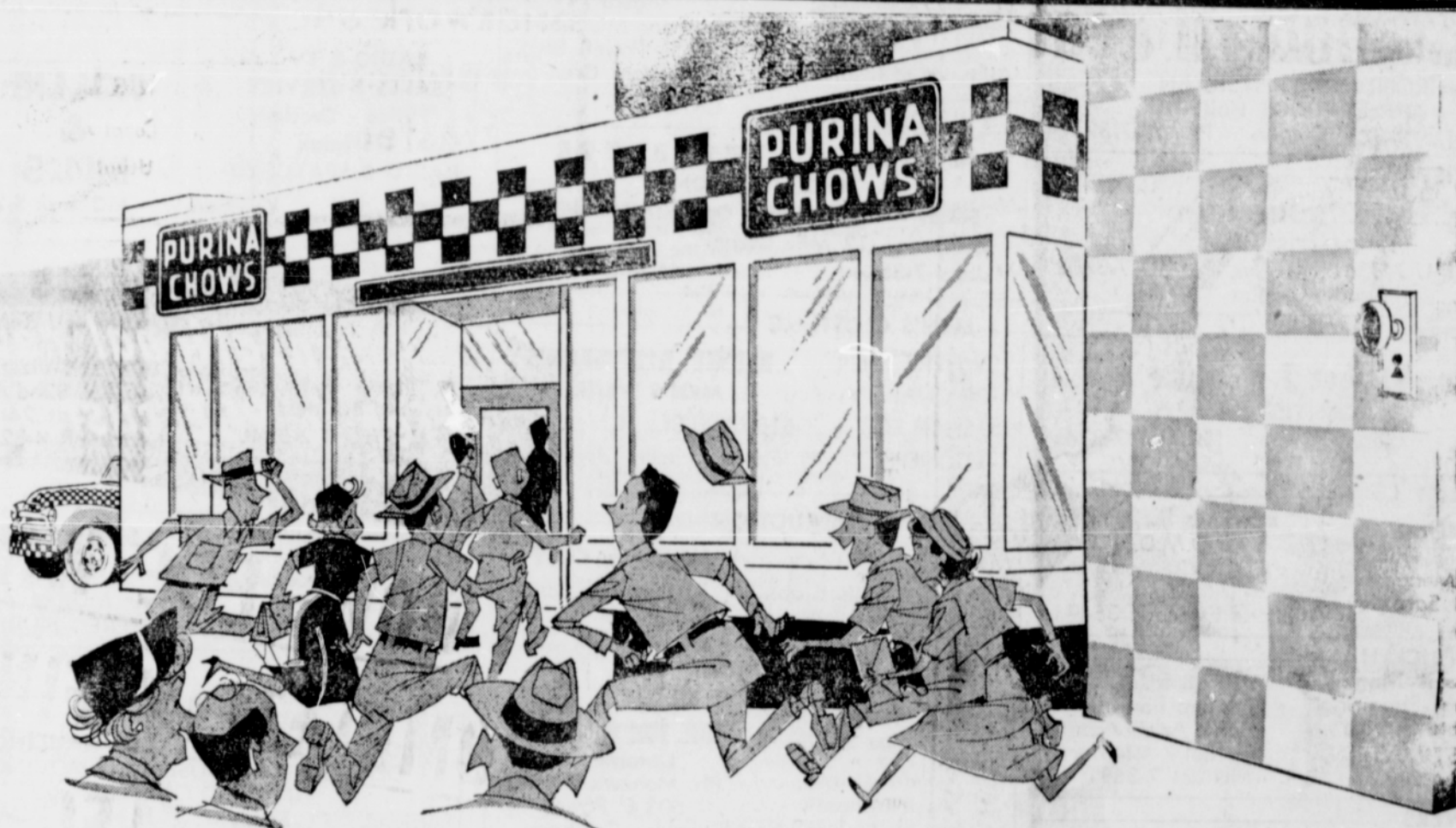
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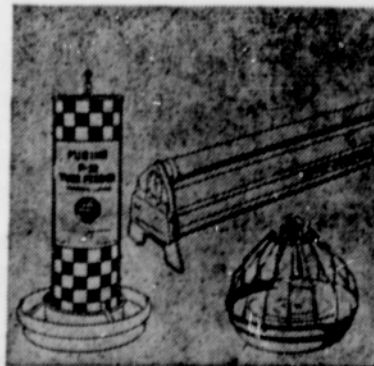


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