

RANGING ZIG ZAG

By ELLEN STAUFFER, Hood-Land 117

Having never been connected with 4-H work, I was very impressed by the reports given by three 4-Hers at the Brightwood Extension Christmas party, Linda Blaisdell first reported on summer school which she has attended three times and explained what a typical day might be like. Camp Colton and its activities were explained by Michael Anderson. The final speaker was Diane Root, who with the use of slides, told of her trip to Ventura County, California, last summer. After this program we ate some delicious turkey and then joined in the fun of exchanging Christmas gifts and singing carols.

I would like to say to the Mt. Hood Women's Club that the cookies which were baked for the sale last Saturday are delicious. After eating two bags full, I can confirm that there are some mighty good cooks on the mountain.

Congratulations to Violet Marks and Joyce Martin who both bowled a 200 game for Zig Zag Inn last Thursday night. Violet's 211 and Joyce's 220 helped us to take two games from the first place Dew Drop Inn. It was a most exciting evening for a two month beginner like me as you could feel the tension building each time they got up to bowl; and I'm still dreaming of a big 150.

We've had a real great time learning square dancing at the Welch's Grade School on Tuesday evenings, but we would still like a few more enthusiasts to make another square. There will be no meetings until January 7, so consider joining us in having a good time, each Tuesday from 8-10 p.m.

The Christmas Tree is in its place, the wreath is on the door, the candles are in the window, and the chimney and fireplace are open and ready. And after talking to my mother tonight, I can be assured that Knight Ruprecht or Santa Claus is on his way, so all we do now is wait.

NO STAIN

A good thing to remember is that you don't have to stain your patio deck boards. If you use either western red cedar or Douglas fir you will find that they will weather in a year to a soft, silvery grey. If you stain, you merely ask for a maintenance problem.

About the County

Mrs. Helen McDowall
Clackamas County Extension Agent

Reduce Christmas Fire Hazards
Make it a safe Christmas. The following suggestions from Mrs. Helen McDowall, Clackamas County Extension Agent, will help make the holidays safe:

1. Keep the tree fresh.
Obtain a fresh-cut tree if possible. Run your finger along the branches to see if the needles are firm and fresh.

2. Make a fresh cut on a slant, about 1 inch from the butt end. This increases water uptake. Mount the tree in a container of water. A gallon container will insure a plentiful supply of water. Keep the water level about the level of the cut the entire time you have the tree. Keep trees away from heating units.

3. Do not use open-flame candles on the tree or nearby where there is a chance for the flame to touch off the tree or presents piled at the foot of the tree.

4. Use only electric lighting sets that have the UL (Underwriters' Laboratories) label. This means they have been tested for fire and shock hazards and may be considered safe if properly handled and maintained. Check old cords each year for frayed wires, loose connections, and broken sockets.

5. Don't plug too many cords into one outlet, and be sure you use no more than a 15 ampere fuse on the electrical circuit.

6. Never leave the house or retire for the evening without making sure that all lighting is turned off.

Selection of Toys

If you're buying toys for Christmas, you have an opportunity to contribute to the growth and development of the child for whom you're shopping.

Fortunately many of the toys on today's market are age-graded. That is, the toy is marked suitable for a 2 to 4 year old or an 8 to 12 year old. Although there is great individual difference between children, these guides are reliable and helpful, explains Mrs. Helen McDowall, Clackamas County Home Agent.

No matter how good or desirable a certain toy is it may not appeal to all children of the same age. But exposure to a wide range of toys is advisable.

Select a toy which will be challenging, but be sure that it will enable a child to achieve success. A toy too difficult for a child, which breaks easily or which is likely to irritate his parents is a poor buy for a child.

Safety is another important thing to consider. Small children are likely to use toys as weapons against others. The weapon potential of toys needs to be given serious consideration if there are two or three children close in age in a family or if the youngster has several playmates.

Another safety factor to consider is whether there are small removable parts which could be swallowed—or sharp edges which might cut.

As you purchase toys for children, remember that they are not used just as "time-fillers," but are important tools for a child to use as he explores the world around him and as he builds feelings of confidence and adequacy in himself.

Cottrell Doings

Mrs. H. H. Watkins
MU 7-3205

Cottrell school Christmas program will be held this evening (Thursday) at 8 p.m.

There will be an operetta depicting the Gay Nineties. There will be new chairs added to the auditorium.

There will be a Christmas assembly Friday morning at 10 a.m. Also a Christmas party that afternoon at 2 o'clock. School holiday vacation will last until Jan. 2.

Edith Johnson, primary teacher at Cottrell school, took a very bad fall while in the school gym. One wrist is broken in two places. She is at Portland Sanitarium in traction. She will be there at least three weeks.

Mrs. Ivy Varette is substituting for her.

The Rest Harbor Sanitarium, owned by the David Carpenters,

has been sold to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dempsey. The sanitarium is in Powell Valley.

Mrs. William Breen is welcoming a brother who will be visiting here for awhile from Ohio. The Cottrell Ladies Aid Bazaar home of Mrs. Ethel Peterson, was well attended and most everything was sold, but a silk patchwork comfort which the ladies still have for sale.

The Ladies Aid Annual holiday party will be held on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 28, at the home of Mrs. C. J. Wilkinson with Mrs. Watkins as co-hostess. Everyone is welcome at the party.

We are feeling so sorry about Mrs. Joe Caldo falling and fracturing her hip.

SERVICE LINES



Marine Pvt. CHARLES W. HYDE, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard G. Hyde of Hunt's Trailer court, Sandy, completed four weeks of individual combat training Oct. 18 at the Second Infantry Training Regiment, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

CHESTER T. HODGKISS, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin T. Hodgkiss, Rt. 2, Estacada, was promoted in mid-November to specialist four at Fort Kobbe, Canal Zone, where he is a member of the 508th Infantry.

POST DEADLINES
News deadline each week is 4 p.m. Monday. Deadline for ads is 12 noon Tuesday.

Patronize Post Advertisers

Someone should be assigned to the task of making sure that the lights on the Christmas tree are turned off at bedtime and when no one is near the tree.

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