

The Sandy Post

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A Sad and Reluctant Farewell

Lookout towers in the Mt. Hood National Forest are a thing of the past. Only one will be in operation this year, Hickman Butte, which will serve more as a radio relay station than a lookout tower. Progress is progress and no one can stop it. We suppose no one should try, but it seems to us that much has been left unsaid about these towers. Perhaps they have not always been first to report fires. What does that really mean? It means that some hysterical tourist came into the ranger station and said there was a fire or something over thataway—where exactly or how far he did not know.

While he was reporting this bit of almost useless news, the lookouts were doing triangulation on the fire and placing it exactly before reporting.

Now all this work is to be done by helicopter and fixed wing planes.

Knowing the cost of plane operation, we doubt greatly that there is any saving here.

But there is more, much more, that the towers accomplished. They stood on high promontories where they could be seen for miles. Lost or injured persons knew that here was certain help, food, water, first aid and a radio to make contact with rescue forces. Can planes do this? Or doesn't anybody care?

Planes are notoriously incapable of finding lost persons in dense forest growth, even when they know the persons are there. How much help will they be in locating others they know nothing of?

There was a feeling of security and comradeship as one saw the towers standing guard along the crests throughout the forest. Capable men manned them who would help anyone out of any sort of situation. What will the planes be able to do? Spot fires. Yes; and absolutely nothing more.

We seriously regret the passing of the lookout towers and feel it a great mistake in every way.

Let's Take Another Look

It is now well into the time when the so-called migrant worker arrives in Oregon to pick our bountiful crops. We, personally, dislike the term 'migrant worker'. It sounds like a description of an ant colony. Couldn't we be more sedate and call them, perhaps, seasonal harvesters.

Of what use is the knowledge, the machinery, the land and the effort of our farmers, if their crops can not be picked and so sent to market? Without the har-

vesters, no berry farmer could realize anything.

They are Americans and our fellow man. Somewhere along the line they have been less fortunate than some of us. Seldom was this their fault. They work hard for little; yet, without them, we would be completely lost.

They have pride and human dignity. Let's appreciate them and make them welcome.

County Extension Agent News

June is the best time to control poison oak, advises the County Extension Service. Chemical spray is usually the most practical method of control. The most effective chemical is Amitrol, and as a liquid, Amitrol T.

For spot spraying one pound of the 50% wettable powder or one quart of liquid Amitrol T per 12 gallons of water is recommended. A wetting agent (spread-sticker) added in small quantity is desirable for best coverage.

Thorough wetting of all foliage of the plants is necessary for good control.

This spray must be kept off other plants if injury is to be avoided.

A circular describing the poison oak plant and further details of control is available at the County Extension office.

Youth for Christ To Hold Musical

Youth for Christ will present a summer musical spectacular Saturday night at Benson High School, 7:45 p.m.

Guests for the musical will be Mary Jayne, Capitol Recording Artist, Gary Moore, Bass Baritone Soloist, and James Bohl, Baritone.

Mary Jayne, a singer of Religious Ballads extraordinary, was awarded the National Evangelical Film Foundation "Oscar" for being voted the best female vocalist of the year. She enjoyed much success as a night club singer and as a radio personality before turning her talents to Gospel and entitled "I Believe in Miracles," is a statement of fact for Mary Jayne who does believe in miracles.

Gary Moore of Kansas City, base baritone, featured soloist at the Teens Only meetings last spring, is included in the musical and James Bohl of Iowa, baritone soloist, will make his first appearance on the rally. Bohl has won honors in the musical field and is well known throughout the east.

Wild Cow Corralled

Sheriff's deputies received a call last Monday to round up a "wild, rambunctious cow" that was tearing up the scenery on Duncan Road. The deputies have the beast now—they say it's a 2 year old brockle-faced dairy cow weighing about 500 pounds—and the cost of care and feeding is getting them down.

So if you live in the Duncan Road area and are wondering where Bossie has gone, call the boys at MU 7-4365.

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Column Comments

from your
COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT

Home gardeners and other non-commercial users of agricultural pesticides represent a group which are hard to protect from themselves.

Federal and state laws stipulate those chemicals which may be sold to the non-commercial buyer. And pesticide labels clearly state where and when each material should be used. But, once the product is in the hands of the home gardener, control is no longer possible. There is no possible way to be certain that the homeowner uses the product correctly.

Control of the commercial producer is a lot more thorough. Federal and state inspectors take thousands of samples each year to be certain no illegal residue is present. Also, most commercial producers of agricultural products are required to file a complete record with their processor naming the amount and timing of each pesticide used during the year.

If home gardeners attempted to sell their products, probably no less than 50% of the material would be confiscated due to illegal residues. When the label directions are not followed, illegal residues often result.

As the old saying goes, "You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink". You can provide detailed directions on pesticide labels, but you can't be certain they will be followed.

For your own sake, read and heed the label. Agricultural pesticides are more thoroughly tested than many of the patent drugs and home remedies. But all of the testing and research goes of naught if the label is not read.

While we're talking about pesticide use and registration, here's an interesting point. Someone mentioned the other day that it would be very difficult to obtain official registration for the use of salt and pepper on steak!

As many of you know, every pesticide and food additive must be cleared and registered by the Pure Food and Drug Administration. To obtain official registration for any given material, years of research are necessary. The manufacture of the material must prove beyond a shadow of a doubt that the material can be used safely.

Any material which tends to produce cancerous-type growth in test animals when fed at high rates is registered on a zero tolerance basis. In other words, even one molecule of such a material on an edible product is illegal.

We all know that salt is highly poisonous when ingested in large quantities. (A number of babies were killed last year when salt was mistaken for sugar.)

Jamestown, Va., founded in 1607, was the first permanent English colony established in North America.



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