

# I WRITE

## As I See It

By Barton W. Marsh

It has been raining steadily, here on the Chetco heights, for the past 48 hours. A fifty-gallon barrel, sitting in our backyard, which was about empty when it began to rain, is now running over, there has been not less than eight inches of rainfall to date, (Sunday at 6 p. m.) and it is still raining. I do not recall anything like this happening in July during our more than 14 years of residence in southern Curry county. Everybody should be happy about it. It means big grass for the late summer and fall pastures. The parched bulb fields and gardens will take on a new lease of life. Any possible complaints can come only from those who had just completed irrigating their bulbs and gardens. We worked diligently all day last Thursday and Friday diverting a supplemental spring into our reservoir and in getting everything ready to sprinkle our good-sized garden and the flowers, and then it rained.

Well, life is made up of incidents such as this. What a splendid opportunity for the bulb folks that have irrigation facilities to be happy for the fellows whose fields were blackening out from lack of moisture. My neighbor worked hard last spring preparing the ground for a garden. He put out plants and put in

the ground all kinds of garden seed, hoed it and cultivated it, and thought of the many pleasures he would garner when it yielded him a well-earned return. Unfortunately, it did not rain enough at the proper time and he had no means of irrigation. His garden shriveled up and died. When he comes by and looks at our splendid garden I know he thinks sadly of the many things he is denied through no fault of his own. What a fine opportunity that occurs, and how good it makes one feel way down inside to be able to say; neighbor, go out there in the garden and help yourself to a big mess of those vegetables and things that are going to waste for want of someone to gather and enjoy them. It affords one such a heart-warming feeling, that he anxious to do it again.

While we are talking about gardens I must say a word or two about berries. Everyone knows this a wild berry country. The wild blackberries are everywhere. They are always reaching out after one, seeming to say, as they show their teeth: You had better be on your toes or I will get you. One of these vines decided some eight or ten years ago that it wanted to locate in our yard. We loved flowers and our garden was almost the "apple of our eye," but we were not so sure about this wild thing with its big, bristling thorns that wanted to live in our yard. Members of the family and some of the neighbors protested and ask-

ed what we meant by letting that prickly thing grow right in the yard, but it seemed so full of the joy of living, growing and producing berries that I spared it. I gave it a little care, took out the old wood each year and fixed up something for the heavy trailing vines to rest on. For many years now, all summer long, and until it is driven out of business by the late fall rains, we can go every morning and in five minutes pick a serving of big, rich, juicy blackberries for breakfast. The king of England or the president of the United States could not have anything more delicious and appetizing.

Truly the wise man has well said: "Moreover the profit of the earth is for all, and the king himself is served by the field." Eccl. 5:9.

Life and living it, does seem to get terribly mixed up at times. God's original plan was for every family to live close to the land, that is so doing he could delve more deeply into the secret of right and true living, and thereby drink more deeply from the fountain of true happiness. That formula has not suited us humans, so we have built great cities and have filled them with smoke, dirt, scum and filth until they have become reeking pestholes of murder, rape, robbery and deception. Added to this miserable situation, millions in these cities of the world are naked and starving and we seem unable to deliver the necessary things to keep them alive and clothed.

No one can have more tempting and healthful foods placed before them than we enjoy every day from our garden and vines. It is heaven's reward indeed, for being satisfied with a simple way of life.

### Veterans Urged To Finish High School

SALEM—In a progress report on the Oregon veterans' educational program, Edward T. Taggart, education chief for the state department of veterans' affairs, gave an account of expenditures, cited the effect of recent restrictive measures placed in the aid act, and recommended that every effort be exerted "to encourage our veterans to avail themselves of the opportunities offered in obtaining high school diploma or its equivalent."

Taggart's report to the advisory committee of the veterans' department, released this week, disclosed that 15444 Oregon veterans have received state benefits through July 7, while attending 114 schools and colleges in the state and 18 outside colleges. The average paid each student was \$181 under the act which allows \$35 a month for a maximum of 36 months of study. But Taggart then turned to figures from the adjutant general's office which show that 45,000 Oregon veterans from the army alone have not completed high school, out of a total of 90,000 who served in the army in the recent war.

"Our state aid has been used by many high school students, but many men have evidently not taken advantage of either federal or state aid to complete their education. Our department should champion the cause of high school education for all veterans and enlist the aid of veterans' organizations, labor, and civic and educational institutions to encourage the young man to improve himself while the federal and state assistance is to be had," Taggart urged.

Amendments, effective July 1, limiting veterans to one month of benefits for each month of service, excluding army ASTP

and Navy V-12 students from payments and requiring six months' service instead of three, have already cut off 75 men from the program, says the report. In the two years since the act's passage, \$180,554 in benefits have been paid out, with current funds available amounting to \$244,108.

be home before the end of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. L. S. ... and family of Dayton, ... day callers on former ... people of this area. Mr. ... a prominent Jersey ... breeder of Oregon, ... eral Jersey breeders in the ... lois area en route here. ... turned to Dayton via ... Caves and Bend.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard ... expect to leave some ... week on a business trip ... Francisco. They plan to ... for one week.

### Local News Items

Herb Mason, and son, Quentin, left Friday for Vacaville, Calif., where they visited Mr. Mason's mother for a few days on her birthday. They are expected to

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