

Parcel Post Window Busy

William Ross Finds Many Packages Sent Far From Salem

To Japan, France, Nebraska and Silverton—and all points between—go nearly 400 packages that are daily received at the Salem postoffice.

All sizes and descriptions of packages—just so they are not heavier than 70 pounds and more than 100 inches over all—pass the watchful eyes of the man at the parcel post window who weighs each one, probably shakes it, asks what is in it and looks to see if the return address is plainly marked. If the package is to go abroad the process is even more complicated.

William G. Ross, who has worked with parcel post at the Salem office for many years, says the worst trouble with mailers is the ineffective way they wrap packages. Second in his list of "I wish mailers wouldn't" is dropping packages in boxes without checking them through the package window at the post-office.

Regulations Change
"Mailing regulations and rates are continually changing," he said, thumbing through a 300-page book of regulations interleaved with many typewritten sheets indicating changes. "There is no way a mailer may be sure his package is properly wrapped, addressed and stamped unless he checks here. And if it isn't, it can't be delivered promptly."

Several packages a week are mailed to Germany, Mr. Ross said. England, Italy and France are among other foreign countries receiving many packages from Salem. Chief among things mailed to these countries is used clothing. Later in the year, particularly near Christmas, nearly every country in the world is represented on the addresses of boxes passing the postoffice window. Every day during the Christmas season 1000 to 1200 packages are mailed here.

The farther a package is to go, the more complicated is the mailing process. If it is going to a foreign country, a declaration tag lists in detail everything in the box. It is not enough, for instance, to say it contains three yards of dress material. The kind of material and whether it is new or used goods must also be put down. The second disposition tag gives instructions for forwarding the package if it cannot be delivered at the address given. Besides, many European countries require a third tag, the dispatch note.

No Liquor Allowed
Packages mailed in the United States may not contain alcoholic beverages or poisonous liquids. This regulation causes no little trouble to the busy man who checks the bundles. Mr. Ross is still laughing over an incident of

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Lake o' the Woods Is Popular



Lake o' the Woods nestles in the Cascades of southern Oregon, one of the beauty and vacation spots for residents of that area.

This newspaper is cooperating with the Oregon State Motor association in presenting a series of motorlogs designed to stimulate travel in Oregon and the Pacific northwest.

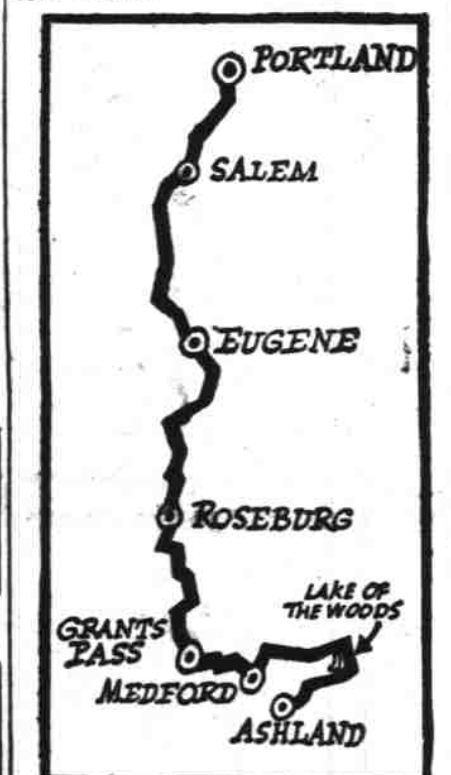
Lake o' the Woods, we learned on the second lap of our AAA-Oregonian motorlog tour of lakes in the southern Cascades, is a playland particularly popular with residents in the Ashland, Medford and Klamath Falls area.

The resort, however, is well known to Californians and they flock to it as the place for a well-rounded vacation.

Fishing, swimming (temperatures of the water runs from 60 to 70 degrees) and boating are easily the lake's most popular recreations.

Attesting to its popularity, there are some 150 summer homes on the lake, ranging from modest cottages to luxurious residences, valued, we were told, at upwards of \$10,000.

Youth, too, liked Lake o' the Woods, we found. Camp McLoughlin is maintained there by Crater lake area council of the Boy Scouts embracing Jackson and Josephine counties in Oregon and Siskiyou in California. It was to be busy with scouts for five weeks.



The motorlog's trip back to Portland after looping into the Lake o' the Woods is mapped above.

last week. A woman passed a large package over the counter to be mailed. After shaking it, Mr. Ross asked what kind of liquid was in it.

"Oh, I don't know," the woman innocently answered. "I'm mailing it for a friend."

But when asked what else bottle it was, she readily answered that it was a gallon jug. And to the question of how securely it was sealed, she replied that the cork was sealed in well.

Mr. Ross decided the woman knew quite a bit about the package not to know what was in it, so he suggested to her that it is illegal to mail alcoholic beverages by parcel post but that he believed it could be sent by express.

Thanking him profusely for the suggestion, the mailer who "didn't know what was in the package" left saying she would try express.

Foreign countries have much more complicated lists of prohibitions. Almost two pages of fine print is taken in the postal regulation book to list things that cannot be sent to some countries. Playing cards is an item often listed.

Wife of Whitman President Passes

WALLA WALLA, Aug. 12—(P)—Mrs. W. A. Bratton, 68, wife of the president of Whitman college, died at home today after an illness of several hours. Funeral services will be Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock at St. Paul's Episcopal church here.

Mrs. Bratton came to Whitman conservatory of music near the end of the last century to head its voice department. She married Bratton, then a member of the college faculty, in 1901. Her music training had included study and teaching in this country and study in Europe and after she gave up teaching she continued active in music circles here.

Four More Are Arrested In Fake Insurance Ring

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 12. (P)—Assistant United States Attorney A. J. Zirpoll today announced the arrest of four persons, bringing to 36 the total arrested in a federal probe of an alleged fake accident insurance ring.

Medford Girl Scouts and southern Oregon Camp Fire Girls use it, too. Some 400 4H club youngsters from Jackson and Klamath

counties were to hold their camp at one of the forest camps. And 25 members of Klamath Falls junior police organization also were to have their vacations at the lake.

Many road improvements were being made in the area and others contemplated, John Sarginson, district ranger at Lake o' the Woods ranger station, told us. Men from regular forest road development crews and CCC troopers are now at work on roads which many believe may ultimately provide a short route between Klamath Falls and Medford and Ashland. Last year the forest service began work on the roads here in earnest and spent about \$30,000, he said.



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Aluminum Drip-lator \$1

It's fast heating! Mirror polished. Heavy-weight aluminum. No-burn handle! 8-cup size.

Oblong Dish Pan \$1

Triple-coated ivory enamel! Fits sink! Deep shape prevents splash! 14 1/2-qt. size!

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It toasts 2 slices at once! Doors turn back. Chromium plated. Black trim. Cord set included.

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5 quart sealed can . . . 69c

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8 quart sealed can . . . \$1.00 (Add 1c qt. Fed. Tax to all oil prices)

How Does Your Garden Grow?

By LILLIE L. MADSEN

Answers to inquiries: Much of the fun in growing gourds, other than their decorative appearance in the garden, is the utilization of the matured fruit—both as an indoor decoration and for a multitude of uses such as making bird houses, dippers, nest eggs and for darning purposes. In pioneer days they were used for such practical purposes as salt shakers, sugar bowls, powder horns and spoons.

Care and good judgment must be used in harvesting of gourds, and in preparing them for the various uses. For permanent use, save only well matured specimens, and handle them carefully. A bruise may result in rot.

To know just when to harvest is rather a problem. The first fruits may be mature as early as August. But the plants must have been started early for this. The fruits should be harvested as they are ready.

In growing and harvesting gourds, it is desirable to know whether the type of gourd is Lagenaria (the hard-shelled utilitarian type like Hercules Club, Bottle, Dipper) or whether the gourd is of the Cucurbita type (the small ornamental so-called soft-shelled gourds which resemble the orange, the pear, and the apple.) The first has white flowers, the latter yellow flowers.

The Lagenaria is mature when the fruit becomes lighter in weight, its green rind turns brownish, and the tendrils nearest the fruit shrivel up. The whole vine will also look spent.

If gourds are not treated with some disinfectant while curing, a skin fungus will create mosaic-like designs on the surface, which are liked by some people. If you find this objectionable, however, wipe over each gourd daily with a strong solution of a coal-tar base disinfectant.

After curing, some people shellac or varnish gourds to enhance the color, but many experienced gourd growers do not approve of this because, they say that even when gourds are to all outward appearances quite dry and well cured, there may be moisture on the inside, causing rot which will spread to the surface and ruin the gourds.

You may, without detriment to the gourds, wax them with a li-

quid floor wax, let dry for an hour and polish. This treatment gives a very good gloss and finish.

If desired, gourds may be painted with various designs. Before painting, be sure the gourd is well cured and thoroughly dry. Draw on the gourd tightly with a pencil any design wanted, and apply the paint with a camel's hair artists' brush. After the paint is entirely dry, oil with vaseline.

Another method of decoration is to burn a design on the gourd with an electric needle. If you have some choice specimens you especially desirous of preserving, drill small holes at each end so the inside can dry out thoroughly.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES
Mrs. K. R. J.—Crocuses should be planted in September. You speak of planting them beneath a birch tree. The effect will be very good. Why not use the yellow and the blue crocus and plant them close together so that you will have a solid sheet of bloom. Narcissuses should also be planted in September. It is well to order these bulbs early so that you can have them on hand at planting time. The shipper will send them out to you the first part of September if you so state.

Rust may be checked on snapdragons and hollyhocks if a Bordeaux spray or a dusting sulphur is used. Pick off all diseased leaves and burn. Keep the young ones sprayed.

Oak galls have done serious damage to trees in Oregon. There doesn't seem to be any definite known control. One having oak trees on the lawn should rake up all refuse frequently and burn it. The galls seem to contain larvae which, when they fall on the ground, jump about and likely settle in some other tree, thus scattering the injury. I suppose if one knew exactly when these were deposited and could spray for them some control might be effected. I understand that the entomological department of Oregon State college is making some investigations.

Camellias: Cow barn fertilizer,

well decayed, is a good camellia food. Sandy loam and leaf mold form the soil basis for camellias. Camellia shrubs shouldn't be trimmed unless it is necessary to remove some weak shoots or to shape a bush. Pruning now will sacrifice some of next year's blooms. It can be done, however, without injury to the shrub.

Buddleia: If the dead flowering spikes are removed from the buddleia now and the bush given quite a bit of water it will bloom late into the fall. The Anthony Waterer spirea can also be made to bloom throughout the summer.

Hydrangeas: To keep your bush pink-flowered keep the soil neutral to alkaline. Use oystershell flour, limestone, wood ashes, bone meal. If you want your flowers blue add peat, oak leaf mold, iron filings, aluminum sulphate. But if your hydrangea is just naturally turning blue and you don't mind, give it a little more of the material which makes it blue so that it won't remain a soiled, faded blue but will become a bright blue. All hydrangeas do not turn in color.

Asilbes: Don't let them become too dry now. Give them plenty of water if you want them to give you plenty of bloom next spring.

Parsley: Mrs. A. T., your grandmother probably dried the parsley in the oven (not too hot an oven), reduced it to powdered form and put it into a tightly closed jar (not sealed) for handy flavoring use.

Hedgers: Laurel and privet may both be trimmed now. But this should be the last clipping these shrubs receive until next summer. Too late pruning is not good for them.

Porch boxes: Applications of fertilizer may be given the plants in porch boxes and baskets once every three weeks. It is best to give this in liquid form. Use a balanced fertilizer.

Heat Hatches Chick
ASHLAND, Aug. 12—(P)—Mrs. Mark Monroe said today that the hatching sun hatched an egg. The orphan chick is doing fine, she said.

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