

Seed Testing Laboratory Opens in Salem

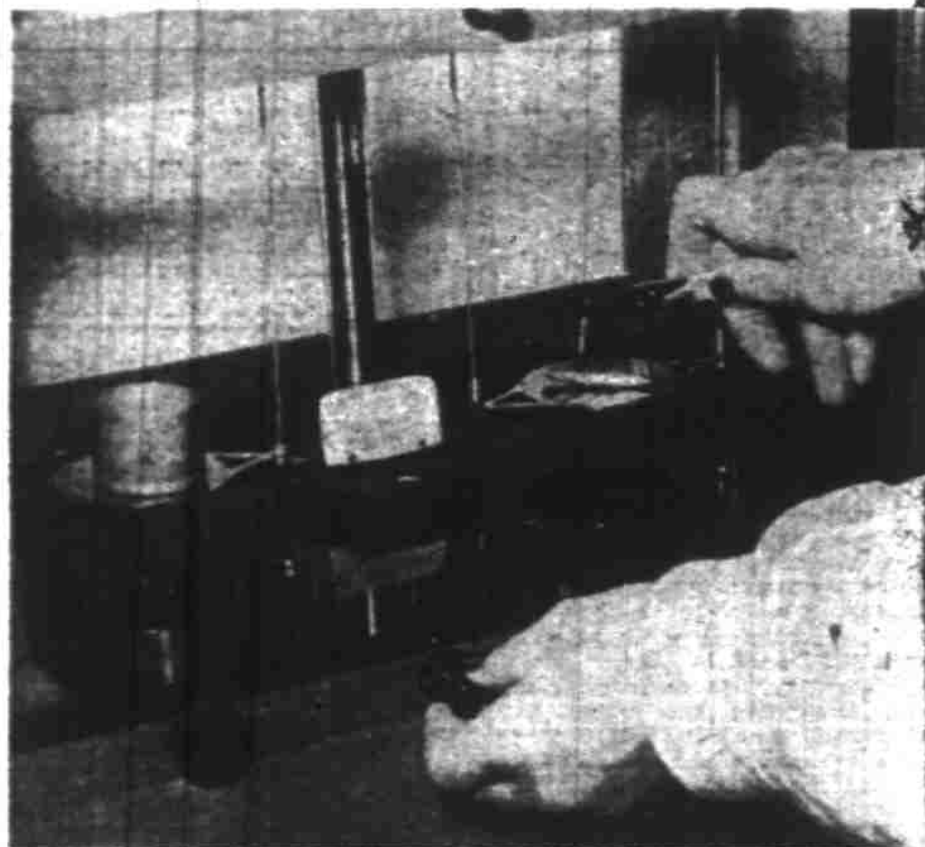
By Don Dill
Staff Writer, The Statesman

With a new planting and growing season coming to the Willamette valley a new business has started in Salem which in future years will probably contribute to the success of the valley crops. Mrs. Charles K. Fulton recently opened her private seed testing laboratory at 2342 S. Commercial st., the first in the state of Oregon.

Until the opening of Mrs. Fulton's laboratory the only seed testing plants were in the commercial seed company warehouses and a public testing laboratory at Oregon State college. The seed companies test only their own seeds, while the state laboratory is available to all farmers, but necessarily limited by the large number wishing to use the state facilities, according to Mrs. Fulton. Accordingly, she decided that a private laboratory with proper facilities would be welcomed by farmers and ranchers in the valley area.

Academic Training
Mrs. Fulton is a graduate of Franklin college in Franklin, Ind., and of the post graduate school of Washington State college. She has both bachelor's and master's degrees in botany and is working toward her doctor's degree. She has had practical experience of 10 years in seed testing laboratories, including the federal-state laboratory at OSC, research laboratory for soil con-

Salem Seed Tester Runs Experiments in New Laboratory



Newest industry in Salem is a private seed testing laboratory being operated by Mrs. Charles K. Fulton at 2342 S. Commercial st. Two series of tests are necessary to determine the quality of the seeds in question; one to determine the purity of the seeds and the other to determine the germination ability. Mrs. Fulton is shown checking a germination test being run in one of the thermostatically controlled heat cabinets. Other photo shows the accurate weighing of seeds preliminary to conducting purity tests. (Photos by Don Dill, Statesman staff photographer.)



servation at WSC and several seed company laboratories. Testing seeds for purity entails accurate weighing on delicate balance scales a sample of seeds. After careful computation the percentages of pure, inert, or weed seeds are determined. Noxious weeds which are harmful to

other crops are noted and the percentage of weed seeds per pure seeds is given so as to permit a farmer to know what his fields are producing.

Differences Seen
By use of fluorescence and "black light," differences between seeds in the same family also are determined. To determine the growing ability of seeds they are placed between special blotters and placed in heated cabinets for the germination tests. Each cabinet is surrounded by a water jacket which controls the temperature to an exacting degree 24 hours a day.

Since some seeds must have light to sprout, one cabinet has neon tubing lining the interior which simulates sunshine. Humidity is also controllable. After the tests the seeds are classified as strong, weak, dead or hard. With such information a farmer can determine the success of a crop which he harvested during a past season, and at the same time can make plans for his next year's planting.

Ducks have a transparent membrane to pull over their eyes in flight—like goggles.

Agnes Booth Speaks At Mt. Angel Meeting

MT. ANGEL — Mrs. Agnes Booth, county school superintendent and secretary of the Marion County rural district school board, spoke at Mt. Angel Business Men's club on the county and state school conditions and the budget election Monday, April 19. Mrs. Booth was introduced by Joseph L. Wachter, chairman of the local school board.

Mrs. Booth complimented Mt. Angel on its school and teachers here and said she was proud of the showing Mt. Angel had made in the recent statewide physical education demonstration at Portland.

Fred J. Schwab of Mt. Angel and a member of the county rural school board, again reminded members of the election April 19.

Aumsville Guests Are Entertained

AUMSVILLE—Mrs. Grace Marling of Salem is convalescing at

the home of her daughter, Mrs. Charlie Wright.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Boehme were called to Portland by the death of his brother, Herbert Boehme.

PTA meeting will be held Monday, April 19 and will feature the 4-H Club Achievement day program and a silver tea for the 4-H club.

The Extension Unit held a picnic party at the City hall Friday April 16 to raise funds for 4-H Summer school scholarships.

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Valley Obituaries

Calvin David Harris
ALBANY — Calvin David Harris, 71, route 3, Albany, died in the Willamette hospital April 15 after a brief illness. Funeral services will be held from Fisher Funeral home at 10 a.m. Monday, April 19, with the Rev. Roy D. Strong officiating, burial in Masonic cemetery.
Born July 25, 1877, in Sweet Home, he spent his entire life in Lincoln county. Since 1919 he had been a resident of the Albany community and for 28 years had been connected with the maintenance department of the Albany public schools.
In 1901 he married Mary L. South at Waterloo. She survives, also two sons, Perry E. Harris of Albany and Carl M. Harris of San Leandro, Calif. Also a brother, Ed Harris of Foster, and six grandchildren.

Lillian Lorain
ALBANY — Funeral services for Mrs. Lillian Lorain, 43, who died at the family home in West Albany Thursday, April 15, will be held from the Fisher Funeral home at 2 p.m. Monday, with the Rev. Edward Hughes officiating. Concluding services at the Portland crematorium. The family has requested no flowers be sent.
Born in Juneau, Alaska, Jan. 16, 1905, she spent her girlhood days in Alaska, and was graduated from the School of Education, Bellingham, Wash., and later

er taught several years. She was a member of St. Peter's Episcopal church, Modern Travelers and the PTA of Albany.
June 18, 1927, in Eugene, she married Sinclair H. Lorain, who survives, as does one daughter, Mary Frances of Albany; also a brother, Charles W. Perelle of Detroit, Mich., a sister, Mrs. R. F. Grece, and her mother, Mrs. Charles Perelle, both of Portland.

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