

## Veteran Camp Adair Being Rehabilitated

By Lillie L. Madsen  
Farm Editor, The Statesman

Like many other veterans of wars, Camp Adair is on its way back. Also like some veterans, it is going to take some time and considerable expense before it will have become completely rehabilitated. Portions of it may never become re-established in its old grooves. Parts of it will, eventually, be better. But there is much worry and more work connected with the rehabilitation.

**College Uses Portion**  
The area contains 55,000 acres. Of these, 6,300 have been set aside for use for laboratory purposes for Oregon State college. Part of it will be used by the school of forestry for study in sustained timber yields and proper logging operations. Another part of the 6,300 acres will be used in all probability by the school of agriculture, whose animal husbandry division is interested in land grazing study.

While many have had the idea that the former owner or tenant had first choice in buying back his old farm, this is not so. First chance goes to government agencies. Second choice is for the Reconstruction Finance corporation for small business; third, is state and local governments, with the former owner or tenant in fourth place, followed by veterans, the owner-operators and non-profit institutions.

However, all priorities senior to the former owner must file during the first 10 days of the 90-day period allowed the former owner, thus the owner is in first place at the expiration of 10 days.

**Most Land Back in Use**  
Better than 50 per cent of the available acres have been bought back by the men who farmed them prior to the war. They paid practically the same price for the property, less damage done, that the government paid for it during the war. Approximately 25 per cent went to veterans who look advantage of their priority. The owner-operator bought at the same price as the veterans and land not sold through these various channels was then sold to the highest bidder.

Some 280 acres still remain to be sold at the present time. These have been advertised and made available to the former owners.

The priority accorded them expires on March 14 and what remains unsold after that date will be offered to veterans and owner-operators who have qualified for such sale. To qualify, a veteran or owner-operator must signify in writing his intention to purchase land prior to the close of the priority period. T. F. Whiteman, project manager, is in charge.

**Schools Are On the Way**  
Because school districts no longer exist in the area, most of the land formerly used for such purposes has reverted to adjoining tracts. Likely no schools will ever be built on the area again. Most of the school children go to Monmouth, a few go to Corvallis.

The state game commission has filed application for portion of the Camp Adair building area which the commission wishes to use as a game reserve. However, this application is still going through channels and approval has not yet been received. There is little doubt, it is believed, that the request will be granted eventually.

The return of property to agriculture and other civilian life is being made through the Federal Farm Mortgage corporation, the deeding agency. Mr. Whiteman has been the project manager since the lands first opened up. A land office has been established in the little Adair Village which is now occupied chiefly by married veterans who attend school at Oregon State college.

**Unexploded Mines Found**  
As the farm land has been sold a letter goes with it explaining whom to notify in case of finding any anti-tank practice type mines on the property, following which such missiles are disposed of by the U.S. corps of engineers.

However, practically all of the tillable land has now been plowed and while some unexploded mines have been found, no reports have been received. Mr. Whiteman told me this week, of any premature explosions.

Even on the main traveled roads the motorist cannot fail to notice that the war came close to home. Former fine farm homes are now lacking windows and doors. If the motorist stops for closer investigation he will find that much

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## Ranch Ramblings

Hens can't, as some folk seem to think, do everything and thrive. Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Woelk of the Brush College area report losing 150 laying hens when they ate wheat which had been damp, then froze and then thawed. The rest of the laying flock was saved by disposing of the remaining wheat.

A Ton of Gold certificate has been awarded to Volunteer Standard Gold Bond 1421022, a registered Jersey cow owned by the John E. Lindows over at Independence. This trim looking female produced 2,433 pounds of butterfat over a period of four years. During this time her production averaged over 500 pounds of butterfat per year, two and a half times the production of the average dairy cow in the United States. John and Norma certainly know how to squeeze the butterfat out of their herd. Only short spaces of time elapse between times of records made in their herd.

In spite of quite high faluting sounding names attached to the hooses, the Holsteins owned by Poepping Brothers, Mt. Angels are down to earth when it comes to producing big records in their breed. Lady Chieftain Veeman gave out 603 pounds fat, 16,508 pounds milk at 8 years and 10 months of age; Rose Veeman Seals Hartog, 560 butterfat, 15,164 milk, at 5 years and 8 months; Allfame Pabel Katherine Wayne, 518 pounds fat, 13,954 milk at 4 years and 10 months. All were milked twice daily, the first two for 365 days and the latter for 292 days.

Out of the J. B. Hamilton ranch, five miles east of Stayton on highway 222, the hens are trying to cut down the wrapping expenses by producing more material in larger packages. One of the eggs weighed almost half a pound, and measured 7 1/2 by 8 1/2 inches. The producer was a Rhode Island.

of the interior of the homes has been removed. Only a shell remains and not a very good shell.

**Plumbing Stolen**  
Vandalism has been great in the Adair section, and vandalism was not done by members of the fighting forces, it is said. Civilians entered the homes and robbed them of everything removable and many things not believed removable. Plumbing and furnaces were stolen in many instances hardwood floors, stairway railings were removed.

We stopped at the old DeArmond home, one of the better known farmsteads in the area prior to the war. Mrs. John E. Sparks, who with her husband, is residing in the place, showed us how all the white oak flooring was gone; bricks and damper had been removed from the large living room fireplace. Only one door, that in the basement, had been left, she said. Even the plastering in the beautiful large colonial house, had been ripped from the walls so that electrical wiring and plumbing pipes could be removed. The bathroom was stripped bare, and the vandals even dug up the turf in the formerly well-kept lawn, and removed it in strips as professional gardeners do. The Sparks had acquired 253 acres from Mrs. Beatrice DeArmond who had bought back her old home when it became available.

**Dead Sheep in Basement**  
Across the fields to the southwest, the former attractive Valentine home had been treated no better. This is now owned by Ralph Kestor and is again attractive. But when the Kestors took it over doors and windows were gone. It had been leased as sheep pasture and sheep had been permitted to run rampant, some having died and been left in the basement.

Few, if any houses, escaped similar fate. Where the land was needed for army purposes, the house had been removed by the government. But these are completely gone.

At the present cost of building materials and labor, many owners expressed the belief it would be "considerable time" before houses would be plentiful on the area. A few are going up, but they are far between. Most of the land is being farmed by men living in nearby towns or in more recently established homes elsewhere.

**No Fences Left**  
"We have put our money into the land. We can't afford to build," they say. "And we won't have to be on the places to tend livestock. It will be sometime, too, before livestock will be plentiful here. Fencing has to start from scratch. There are no poles and no fencing left."

And in only a few instances are there barns or other necessary livestock buildings. But come the spring of 1949, the fields will again be green on the former Camp Adair. The rows and rows of war dummies, the hurdles and the barb wire barricades are being removed from no man's land as Oregon's biggest industry swings into action again on former war fields.

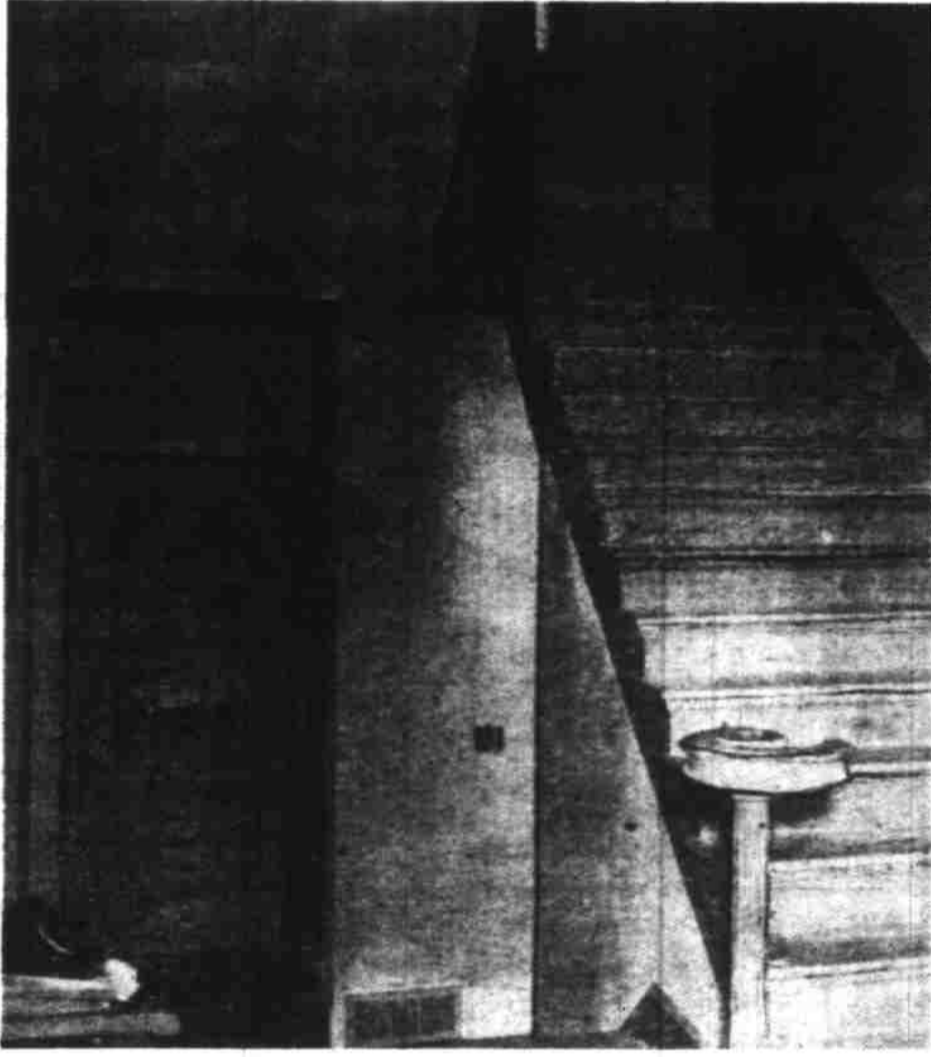
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# Willamette Valley Farmer

## News and Views of Farm and Garden — BY LILLIE L. MADSEN



The exterior of this home, the old DeArmond ranch house on the Camp Adair site, has been restored. Only one door had been left by vandals when it was brought back following release from the government. All other doors and windows had been taken. (Statesman Farm photo.)



Shown here is the stairway in the DeArmond entrance hall. The steps have been repaired but it is noted the hand railing, removed by vandals, is still missing. This property was formerly part of Camp Adair. (Statesman Farm photo.)



Shown here are E. K. Agee, Albany, (right) and Avery Swink, Lebanon, president and vice president of the Linn county turkey growers association, and elected at the recent Lebanon turkey day.

### FFA State Meeting Set for Tillamook

The annual state convention of the Oregon Association of Future Farmers of America will be held at the Tillamook naval base near Tillamook, March 31 to April 2, with the executive committee meeting two days earlier, March 29 and 30.

The state parliamentary contest will be held Wednesday evening, March 31. The state public speaking contest and talent night are planned for the following night, April 1. Chapters wishing to enter the talent night competition are requested to send their entries in to the state office by March 1.

### RED POLL CLUB PLANS MEET

Kehne Waln, secretary, is announcing the annual meeting of the Oregon Red Poll Cattle club for Friday, February 18 at 1 o'clock at the Salem Chamber of Commerce rooms. He reports everyone is welcome even if not a member.

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### Farm Calendar

- Feb. 18 — Nutrition conference, Oregon Seed and Feed Growers association, Memorial Union Bldg., room 105, OSC campus.
- Feb. 18 — Oregon Red Poll Cattle club, annual meeting, 1 p.m., Salem Chamber of Commerce.
- Feb. 20 — Marion County Jersey Cattle club meeting, Keizer grange hall.
- Feb. 22 — Farmers night, Silvertown Chamber of Commerce.
- Feb. 22-24 — State convention Oregon Farmers Union, Maplewood grange, near Aurora.
- Feb. 23 — Raspberry growers' meeting, Stayton city hall, 1:30 p.m.
- Feb. 24 — Marion County Livestock Breeders, Macleay grange hall, 7 p.m. dinner meeting.
- Feb. 25 — Marion and Polk County Cherry and Peach Growers, Salem Chamber of Commerce, 1:30 p.m.
- Feb. 26 — Third annual Junior Jersey sale, Washington county fairgrounds, Hillsboro.
- March 2 — Oregon Swine Growers bred gilt sale, Crooked Finger Roundup grounds, Prineville, 2 p.m.
- March 5-13 — National 4-H club week.
- March 15 — Marion county poultry meeting, Salem Chamber of Commerce.
- April 4 — Second annual Oregon Holstein sale, Pacific International, Portland, 11 a.m.

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## More Nitrogen Suggested for Pasture Crops

Application of commercial fertilizer to legumes, grass and grain, which have been damaged somewhat by this winter's cold will usually help somewhat in counteracting the injurious effect if applied as soon as possible, according to D. D. Hill, head of the farm crops department at Oregon State college.

A nitrogen fertilizer is recommended for grain and grass crops at a rate to supply 20 to 40 pounds of nitrogen per acre. Legumes will require land plaster at the rate of 100 to 150 pounds per acre. Both are to be applied as soon as soil conditions will permit.

**Crimson Clover Killed**  
Reports received by the farm crops department indicate that common rye grass has had a 25 to 40 per cent kill while Willamette common vetch has been set back to an undetermined degree. Crimson clover in Western Oregon has apparently been completely winter killed. Crops on poorly drained low land have been hurt worse than those on well drained soil.

**Advances Grazing Date**  
Pastures containing legumes will profit by applications which will supply up to 20 pounds of nitrogen per acre while grass pastures will need 40 pounds or more. Application may advance the spring grazing date as much as two weeks provided they are not harmed by too early pasturing.

Such early fertilizing applications will be particularly beneficial this year, because the root growth has been damaged so generally by frost heaving while total root development has been reduced by rather low temperatures.

Dr. Hill also points out that crops getting such fertilizer will be more likely to compete successfully with weeds, although even so growers may find it necessary to do more than normal spraying for weed control this year.

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