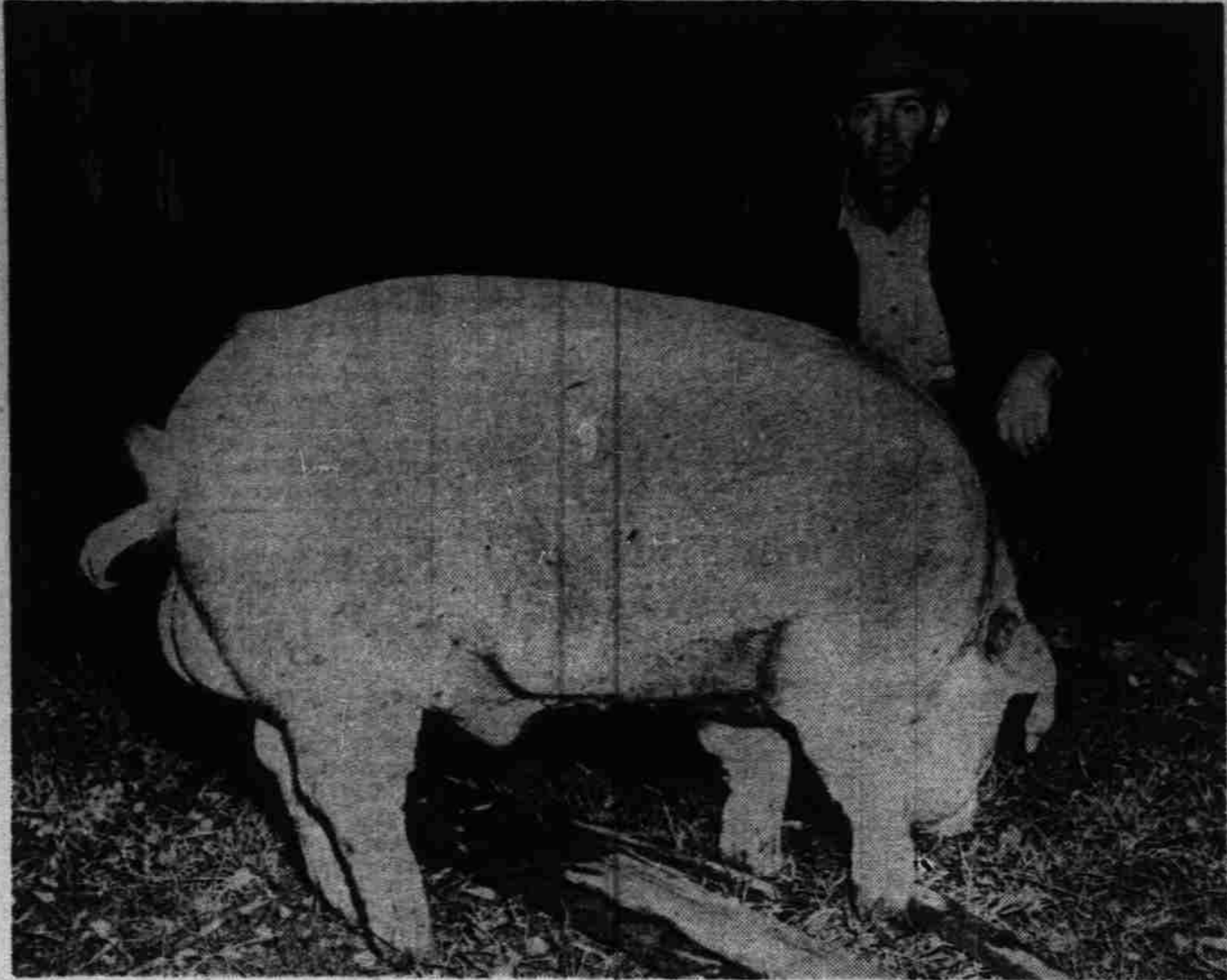


WILLAMETTE VALLEY FARMER

News and Views of Farm and Garden —By LILLIE L. MADSEN



Elton Watts, Silverton, will be lone man honored at the 4-H club leaders banquet Thursday night for having worked as a club leader five years. A number of men will receive one-year pins, however. Watts is pictured here with Henry Weimer, an eight-month bear which he just received from Boise, Idaho. Watts is widely known for his Chester Whites, having taken a large number of prizes at Oregon shows. (Farm Photo for The Statesman.)

Ranch Ramblings

By Lillie L. Madsen
Farm Editor, The Statesman

It takes time and patience but it's fun, says Elton Watts, who has been a 4-H club leader in Marion county for five years and will receive a pin testifying to that fact tonight at the annual Marion county 4-H leaders banquet. Elton was born in Iowa but lived here and there sort of before he came to the Willamette valley in 1925. He liked it so well that he married a native, Claire Collard, (born out at what once was Parkersville) and settled down for life.

Elton and Claire bought themselves a 60-acre farm—once owned by Chris Lichty—and settled down to some serious crop raising. Not least serious was their four-child crop. Harold is now 19 and is taking—of all things for a farm-reared lad—business administration and accounting at the University of Oregon. Howard is 15, goes to school at Silverton and is definitely interested in farming. The lone girl in the family, Helen, is 12, goes to school at Central Howell and the fact that she placed well in her showmanship at Pacific International indicates that she, like Howard, is interested in farming. And Dick, the youngest one, finds it a complete bore to put in time at school when he could be home roaming about on the farm.

The Watts family has rented an additional 40 acres of land and is growing 35 acres of corn this year. The ranch rambler caught Elton out harvesting corn this week, and he indicated he might do some entering in the Marion county corn show set for Central Howell on November 17. Otherwise the corn is grown for swine feed, as swine raising is the main project on the farm at the moment. There are 100 pigs, big and small on the place.

But another project is being added to the Watts farm. The 14 Jersey cows are going into a grade A dairy as soon as possible. Work on bringing the barn and dairy division up to grade A standards is already underway.

In rambling out through the country we find that farmers are pretty well satisfied with their fall work. The crops, they say, are better balanced this year. Weather has permitted putting in what the farmers thought best. Some years, weather prevents much fall sowing, and farmers in the valley are forced to put in spring crops whether they want to or not. This year, if spring crops go into the soil it is because the farmers want spring crops. They have had plenty of good weather in which to plant any fall crop they might wish to sow.

The Linn County Livestock association, headed by Leonard Forster of Tangent, is planning two events for the winter. First of these will be the annual beef tour on Tuesday, November 20. Arranging the tour are Albert Julian of Lyons and John Rohwein of Scio, and these two are planning stops at Mill City, Lyons and Scio beef areas. The second event for the winter will be the annual meeting to be held in Lebanon on January 16.

Don't get in a rush and go out to prune your fruit and nut trees this fall in order to save time next spring, county agents are reminding orchardists. If you feel you must do some pruning now then cut out a few branches on the more hardy and less valuable varieties. Fall pruning of fruit and nut trees may result in severe injury from freezing, the horticulture specialists are reporting. You should delay your pruning until late winter or early spring to play safe.

Another thing you shouldn't be doing just to save time, is spray your perennial grasses with the new wonder spray IPC after November 10. This selective spray is used to control annual grasses in perennial grass fields but it is very apt to reduce seriously seed yield in the perennial fields if put on too late.

The county agents are pointing to several alta and chewings fescue fields that were sprayed late last year and failed to set seed heads this year.

Speaking of grass seed, a report just came across the ranch rambler's desk that Linn county ranks first among Oregon counties, in the production of certified Alta fescue seed. Linn county has 3,879 acres eligible for certification this year.

Second is Union county with 2,410 acres, and third is Marion county with 1,516 acres.

Linn county also ranks first in the production of common ryegrass and certified perennial ryegrass seeds.

After reading this report we feel sure that some of the other counties are going out to try to break Linn's record.

Rabbit Show Set At Albany, Nov. 17

Linn county rabbit breeders, both open class entrants and 4-H club members, will have an opportunity to exhibit their animals at Linn-Benton Rabbit Breeders association's annual Sweepstakes show, scheduled for November 17 and 18 at the 4-H

club fair building, Albany. E. H. Rudisill is general chairman of the show. He will be assisted by Jimmy Monroe, Ed Cantrell and Fred V. McCown, show superintendents. All entries are due at the grounds at 10 a. m. Saturday, November 17, with judging scheduled to start at 11 a. m.

A giant African land snail can eat a whole head of lettuce in a night.

PGE Officials To Entertain 4-H Leaders

More than one hundred Marion county 4-H club leaders will be dinner guests of the Portland General Electric company at 7 p. m. Thursday, November 8, in the Capital room of the Senator hotel. Included in the group is Mrs. Arthur Weddle who will receive her 25-year pin as a leader in home making and health. However, two other women have each served two years longer than she, Theresa Dehler and Mrs. Harvy Evans, both of whom have completed their 27 years as 4-H club leaders.

Receiving 10-year pins are Mrs. Minnie Goode, Salem; Mrs. Lloyd Leach, Detroit, and Mrs. E. A. Klein, Astoria. Helen Keber and Eustelle Bauman, both of Mt. Angel will receive 15-year pins, and Mrs. Emma Wolford of Silverton, 20-year pin. To Get 5-Year Pins

One lone man, Elton Watts of Silverton, along with 11 women will receive five-year pins. The feminine members of this group are Gladys Burch, May Brown, Letty Genre and Ione Macnamara of Salem; Gladys Claxton, Detroit; Patricia Connell, Mt. Angel; Mrs. A. H. Hennies and Mrs. Loren Newkirk, Turner; Lois Riches and Selma Moser, Silverton, and Mrs. Ben Stoner, Aurora.

Ninety-six will be given one year pins.

T. R. Hobart, field representative of the U. S. National bank, will award the pins. Principal speaker for the evening is Lester Kirkendall, associate professor of family relations, Oregon State college. Ruby Bunnell, secretary of the Marion County Tubercular and Health association will be toastmistress, and singing will be led by Mrs. Anthea Riney.

Mrs. Evans to Install Mrs. Willow Evans will install the Local Leaders' association officers who include Mrs. George Durham, president; William Williams, vice president; Mrs. A. W. Katka, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. A. C. Mount, Mrs. A. W. Beardsley, Mrs. Melvin DuRette, Mrs. John Cage and Mrs. Siddall.

Table floral arrangements are to be furnished by Breithaupt's, Olson's, Shafer's, Flowers by Jary, Lutz, and the Flower Box, all Salem florists.

Adding Ragweed To Weed Control Program Talked

Weeds and weed control districts will be on the program Monday, November 12 at the Mayflower Hall in Salem at 1 p. m. Weed district inspector, Jake Neufeldt, and extension crops specialist, Rex Warren, will review 1951 activities in weed control and hear recommendations for the district's operation in 1952.

Fansy Ragwort and Gorse are now the designated weeds, and weed committee chairman, Arno Spranger, of Salem, says taxpayers attending the meeting may want to consider addition of ragweed or other bothersome plants to control program.

Farm Calendar

November 8-9—Soil Conservation meeting Salem, Marion hotel.
November 8—Marion County local leaders dinner 7 p.m., Senator hotel.
November 12-16—Agriculture Cooperative Council of Oregon, 30th annual meeting, Multnomah hotel, Portland.
November 12—Marion County Weed Control district meeting, 1 p.m., Mayflower hall.
November 12—Farm & Garden Organic society; Salem Memorial hospital chapel, 1 p.m.
November 13—Oregon Swine Growers association annual meeting, Senator hotel, 10 a.m.
November 13—Oregon Baby Chick association annual fall meeting, Multnomah hotel, Portland.
November 15-16—Oregon Reclamation Congress, Bend.
November 15—Marion county Livestock association, Washington Irving building, 8 p.m., Silverton.
November 17—Marion County Corn show, Central Howell.
November 17-18—Linn County Rabbit show, Albany.
November 18—Rabbit show, Salem.
November 26-30—Oregon Farm Bureau Federation convention, Senator hotel, Salem.
November 29—Oregon Turkey Improvement association outlook meeting, Mayflower hall, Salem, 8 p.m.
November 28-30—Western Forestry and Conservation association, 42nd annual meeting, Multnomah hotel, Portland.
November 29-30—Oregon State Horticultural society meeting, OSC.
November 30-December 1—Oregon State Corn show, Canby.
November 30-December 1—Oregon State Beekeepers' association annual meeting, Baker.
December 1—Oregon Jersey Cattle club meeting, annual election.
December 3—Oregon Wool Growers association, Portland.
December 4-7—Pacific Coast Turkey show, McMinnville.
December 4-7—National Wool Growers association meeting, Portland.
December 5—Marion County Dairy Breeders association, Salem, Senator hotel, 10 a.m.
December 6—Oregon Guernsey Breeders annual meeting, Senator hotel, Salem.
December 7-8—Second annual meeting of Oregon Rural Health council, OSC.
December 20-21—Nut Growers society of Oregon and Washington, 37th annual meeting, Multnomah hotel, Portland.

Fruit Growers Arrange Big Event Nov. 29

The 1951 meeting of the Oregon State Horticultural society on November 29-30 promises to be one of the outstanding meetings during the 66-year history of the organization, says D. L. Rasmussen, Marion county horticultural agent.

Under the leadership of President Ward Spatz and Program Chairman Paul J. Skinner, both of Medford, the society will present a varied program of interest to growers and processors from the major horticultural crop producing areas of Oregon.

The convention will be held in Corvallis and all sessions will be held at the Memorial Union building on Oregon State college campus. The November 29 session will start with registration at 8 a. m. and on Friday, November 30, the opening session is set for 9 a. m.

The afternoon program each day will be divided into four group meetings: Pears and apples, small fruits, stone fruits and vegetables. Each section's program will include discussions on subjects requested by growers, processors and others interested in the horticultural industry.

According to Skinner, the November 29-30 meeting should be of particular interest to horticultural crop growers.

"In these times, the grower must stay abreast of changing conditions and improved practices. It is too easy for a grower to become so involved in his own operation that he does not have time to find out what the other fellow is doing," Rasmussen states.

New Lotus Free From Cattle Bloat

Granger lotus is a new variety of lotus corniculatus released this year by Oregon State college experimental station. H. A. Scoth, senior agronomist at the college, states that reports on its performance are extremely favorable. It has rapid and vigorous seedling development. Indications are that it may outlive ladino and produce as much palatable forage under the same conditions.

There has never been a case of livestock bloat reported on cultivated lotus. It can be grown for seed in several areas in Oregon but is especially well adapted to the Willamette valley. Since the seeds are small, it would be difficult to separate from alfalfa, white, ladino and strawberry clover. For that reason it should not be grown where it could mix with these clovers, Scoth reports.

Average prices received by farmers, nationally, advanced two per cent from mid-September to mid-October, the first increase in farmers' prices since last February. All commodities, of course, did not share in the advance. Dairy and cotton products were leading contributors to the increase, while cattle, fruit, poultry, corn and wool were among those showing price declines during this period.

Higher prices for feed, feeder livestock, automobiles, and trucks upped farm operating costs with farm wage rates also slightly higher this month.

This Scrap Will Pay Out, Says Newell

Farm organizations, community clubs, other rural groups, and individuals can make their Christmas money this year by getting in the scrap, says Ben A. Newell, Marion county agricultural agent.

Scrap metal, needed for defense as well as for civilian building and equipment, is a "Cinderella find" on many farms, he adds.

Prices range from \$20 a ton on scrap iron and steel, and \$10 for tin which includes old car bodies and fenders. Practically all the steel made in the northwest comes from scrap. Newell explains. The Oregon Rolling Mills in Portland use 10,000 tons a month.

Newell suggests searching the home junk piles, fence corners and machine sheds, and clean up all the metal not in use or that probably will never be used for welding or repair of farm machines.

"Such scrap heaps might furnish play ground equipment for rural schools. It might paint the range hall or roof the play shed or even buy the winter's fuel for the church," Newell said, as he urged farmers to clean up junk from the home grounds.

Oregon Swine Breeders Plan Meet at Salem

Swine breeders from throughout the state are invited to the annual Oregon Swine Growers association meeting to be held at the Senator hotel, Salem, Tuesday, November 13, at 10 a. m. reports Ben A. Newell, association secretary.

Provided for program numbers are a panel discussion of breeders' feeding management and disease problems, a discussion on the Oregon State college swine research program by Professor James Oldfield and election of officers.

Valley Farm store manager, Don Schmidt, will show the Purina film, "A Trip Through a Pig Factory," and a report on market demands for carcass type and bred gilt sales will be made.

Hog numbers are the lowest in 80 years in Oregon, says Mr. Newell. They are now 60 per cent below the 1944 peak and Oregon is a heavy importation state for pork and pork products, he adds.

President George Kraus of Silverton reminds breeders that the organization is one for commercial breeders as well as purebred owners.

Orchardists Losing Trees From Disease

Walnut growers are reporting considerable blackline disease showing up in their orchards again this year. In visiting around the countryside, several walnut orchards where trees are dead and dying, have been noted, Wayne Roberts, county extension agent in Yamhill county reports. He adds that about 80 per cent of this is due to the blackline disease.

He describes blackline disease as a non-parasitic disorder with no satisfactory control that will save affected trees. In the early stages, blackline is indicated by short and slender shoot growth along with drooping of part or all of the leaves. As a rule suckers from the black walnut root stock appear at the same time or shortly afterwards. The affected tree will usually die in from two to five years after it first starts showing symptoms of the disease.

The decline and death of the tree is caused by the development of a dark brown layer of non-conductive callous tissue at the graft union. The layer eventually encircles the tree and breaks the union between the black walnut root stock and the Persian scion. This results in death of the tree. Here in the Pacific northwest, Roberts states, only the Franquette variety grafted on the Hinds black walnut root stock or on a hybrid between Hinds and some other species of black walnut so far been affected. The disorder occurs not only in the crown grafted trees, but also in the limb grafted trees as well.

Mr. Roberts said this week that some of the propagators are turning back to using Persian walnut seedlings of the Franquette variety instead of black walnuts to get away from this trouble. While this practice should prevent the blackline disease, it is well to remember, says Mr. Roberts, that Persian walnut root is very susceptible to mushroom root rot and should be planted on land that is free from the fungus causing this disease.

Unless the soil is known to be free from mushroom root rot fungus, the Hinds black walnut is still the best root stock to use even though some loss of trees from blackline may occur, Mr. Roberts concludes.

GET IN THE SCRAP

Highest prices paid at CALIFORNIA BAG & METAL CO. N. W. 24th & Nicolai, Portland, Ore.

Small Seed Prices Holding Steady

There was little change in the price situation for Oregon small seeds during the week ending November 7, the USDA reports. Alsike clover seed sales by growers slowed down during the week just ended. Some sales were reportedly made in the Klamath Basin at 42 1/2 cents a pound for seed testing 98-99. Most shippers' offers, however, were at 40 to 42 cent level. The relatively small amount of seed that is left in strong hands.

Highland bent grass seed prices remained about steady. A few sales by growers were reported within a range of 85 to 87 1/2 cents a pound for blue tag seed. Most of the shippers' offers were at 85 cents a pound. Uncertified seed sold from 82 1/2 to 85 cents, depending upon the quality of the individual lot.

Turkey Exhibit Plans Going Ahead

Red Dunning and his gang are going to entertain the Pacific Coast Turkey Exhibitors this year at McMinnville, December 4-7, announces the board of directors of the turkey association.

Most of the features that have been carried out in the past will be a part of the show again this year, board members also state. Indications are too, that Nebraska turkeys will be exhibits this year. This is a large white variety of turkeys not too well known in this area.

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