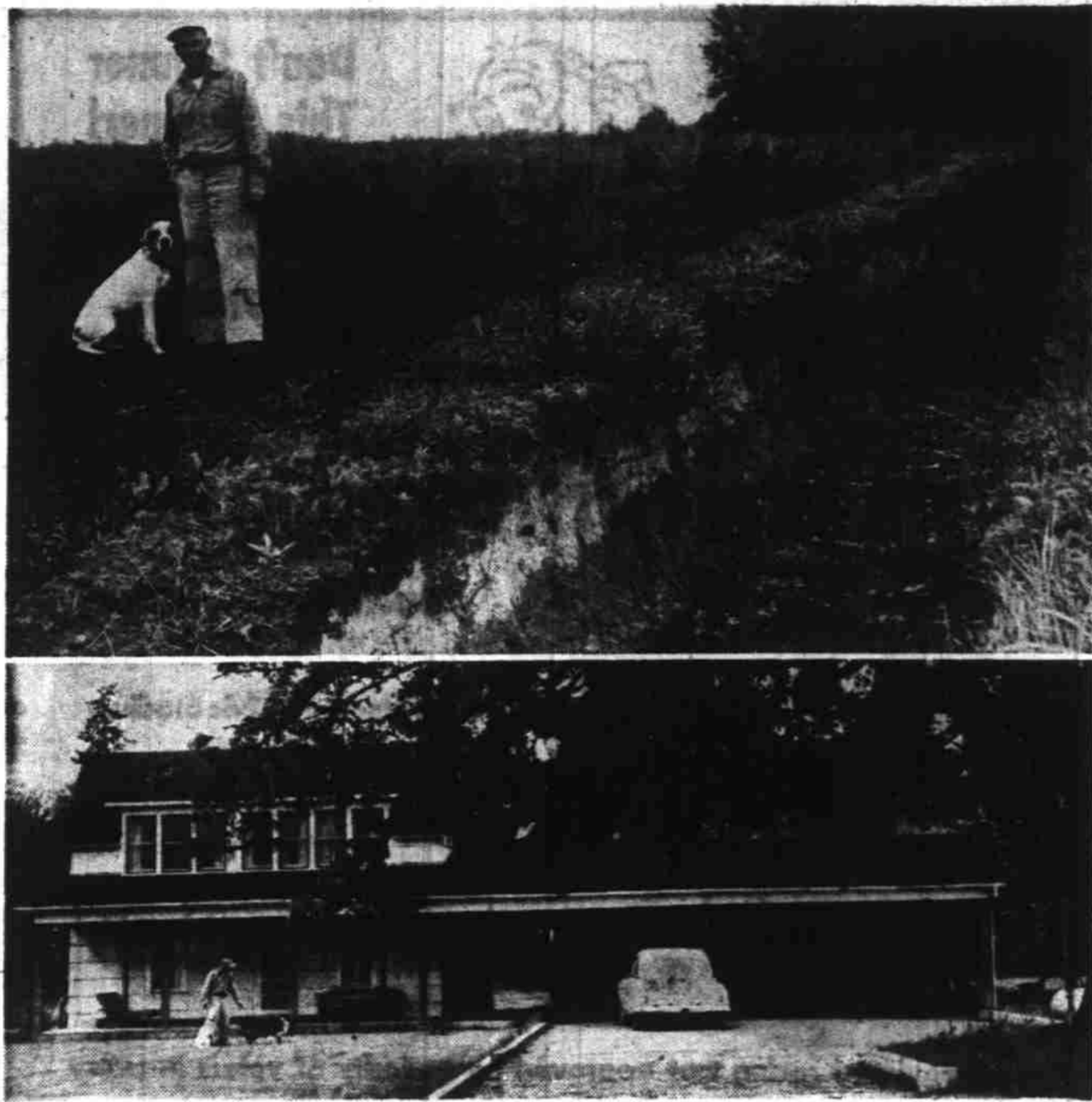


WILLAMETTE VALLEY FARMER

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

Drainage Ditch Helps Increase Yield



Raymond Hendrie says that with proper drainage and fertilization, any whiteland can grow such alta fescue as shown in top photo. Ditch at right shows how proper drainage is obtained, while Hendrie stands between rows of grass, which last year averaged 600 pounds of clean seed per acre. Lower photo shows how the Hendries, who live part of the time at Portland, have rebuilt the 100-year-old farmhouse on their 400-acre ranch between Gervais, and St. Paul. (Statesman Farm Photos.)

North Marion Farmer Proves Whiteland Can Be Profitable

By LILLIE L. MADSEN
Farm Editor, The Statesman

Whiteland can be made to pay. But it isn't easy. Besides that, it's costly.

These are a few of the observations made by Raymond Hendrie as he told his French Prairie farming venture which started on May 15, 1945.

The Hendrie farm lies on the Fairfield Road, between St. Paul and Gervais, with the Willamette River banking the place to the west. It is a part of the old J. B. Decour land donation claim, and the pioneer Feister Landing is on the place.

"We happened to picnic here once with our sons—that was it. Ever since I was a youngster living along the Mississippi, I've wanted a farm. So we bought the 450 acres. It was so run down we got it cheap. We fixed the old house up — it's a hundred years old — and now this is our coast and mountain cabins. We spend our spare time here," Hendrie said.

"Sometimes it's more than 'spare' time," Mrs. Hendrie added, recalling one time when they became infected with foot-root — how she and the hired man took care of them, while Hendrie directed from his office in Portland.

Farmland Worn
"The place had been farmed for 100 years—and I can't believe very successfully. I can understand why the old-timers called this Buttermilk Flats. Water just stood on the soil. We couldn't work it until late in the spring. The first two years we tried farming it, we didn't get our seed back. The second summer I went two rounds with a 12-foot combine on a 50-acre field and got two sacks of oats. Then I knew something had to be done if this place was to be farmed," Hendrie continued.

That was the time the \$12,000 drainage project on the 170 acres began.

The land was too heavy for tile, so three big graders were turned in for open ditching. A test was made by placing these 75 feet apart, but it was found that 60 feet apart as a maximum was more economical.

"Now we can get on the land 30 days before our neighbors in the same location," Hendrie said. "We till just as deeply as we can, and we use a lot of fertilizer. When land is ready to go, we just throw all of the machinery on it and keep going 24 hours a day until everything is in."

Grass Farming Find
Grass farming has been a "find" for this type of land, in the opinion of Hendrie, who has 170 acres of Alta Fescue, all in rows. He gives this 400 pounds of fertilizer to the acre each year. Of this amount 200 pounds are 40 per cent available nitrogen and 200 pounds are treble phosphate.

The first year this was seed-cropped, it yielded 35,000 pounds in the dirt and gave 14,000 pounds of clean seed, none of it blue tag. The second year there were 72,000 pounds in the dirt and 42,000 of certified seed, of which 21,000 pounds were blue tag and the remaining half red tag.

"I like to experiment, so when I was told that grain couldn't be grown here, I had to try it, of course. Last year we took off from three-fourths to 1½ tons of oats and Willamette vetch to the acre. We give our barley 200 pounds of treble phosphate to the acre, too. We get back \$3 for each \$1 we spend on fertilizer," Hendrie went on.

Plane Fertilizing Fails
On most of the fields, he said, he spent up to \$15 and \$17 an acre for fertilizer. He had tried fertilizing by plane, but didn't like this. He believed considerable fertilizer was wasted this way. It didn't all get where it was supposed to.

In referring to his experiments he told of having 10 acres in now of a new Swedish oats he was trying out. He is also testing out some acres of hullless oats and some of Overland.

"And while we have tried our own combines, and have three of them which sat idle last year, we find custom harvesting pays best. You can't put an inexperienced man on the grass combine. You need three 12-foot machines to harvest the Alta Fescue I have when it is right ready to harvest. These cost about \$6,000 apiece. I can get it done for \$8 an acre. It's really cheaper that way when you take into consideration the three men you'd have to hire to sit on your own combines and the upkeep of the machines," he said.

When asked if he could always get the custom harvesters right when needed, he replied that he contracted ahead for them.

She's No Farmer
"There's a farm family living on the place all the time to do the regular farming. The Hendries, however, keep the old house for themselves, and here they live practically all of the summer. And while Mrs. Hendrie

assists in the management and even has given a hand to some of the manual labor, she insists she is not a farmer at heart.

"But Ray likes to farm—spasmodically. He does a lot of his farming from his desk in Portland, but he does read everything he can on farming and he likes to talk about it, but he doesn't always follow the rules. But I guess breaking the old rules and making some new ones is the way you find new methods and new materials. However, secretly I doubt if he'd like farming well enough to give up his fuel brokerage work and live here all the time, living completely off the income of the farm—I think you sometimes need another business to support this kind of farming—certainly you do in the beginning until it gets started," she said.

"But this farm does pay for itself and then some. That's certainly more than it did when we took it over," Hendrie concluded, as he explained he kept a very careful bookkeeping system on the outlay and income of the place.

Oregon Growers Boost Vegetable Canning Acreage

Oregon vegetable growers are devoting more and more land to crops for processing, with 1952 recording a 23 per cent increase in acreage over the average for the 1941-50 period.

Asparagus, with a spectacular gain of 243 per cent, led the four major vegetables that contributed to the mounting acreage for processing.

Sweet corn growers more than doubled their acreage for canning last year over the 10-year average, while growers of snap beans and green peas increased their processing acreages substantially during the same period.

Farm Calendar

May 7 — Polk County Homemakers Festival, Rickreall.
May 9 — Guernsey Cattle Show, Canby.
May 11-13 — Annual Oregon Cattleman's convention, Multnomah Hotel, Portland.
May 16 — Clackamas County Spring Jersey Show.
May 19 — Oregon Sheep Breeders Field Day, Withycombe Hall 9:30 a.m.
May 21 — Hearing on proposed Mt. Angel Soil Conservation District, 1 to 8 p.m. Mt. Angel city hall.
May 22 — Linn County Livestock Association annual tour, 9:30 a.m. Paul Heisenheimer farm, Brownsville.
May 23 — Marion County Spring Jersey show, Salem.
May 23 — Clackamas County Lamb Show, Canby.
June 1-2 — Linn-Benton Breed Dairy Show, Albany.
June 4-6 — Lebanon Strawberry Festival.
June 4-6 — Tri-County Fat Stock show and sale, Bend.
June 6 — Turner Lamb Show.
June 8-12 — Oregon State Grange Convention, Medford.
June 10 — Annual Farm Crops field day, OSC.
June 10 — Dedication of Detroit Dam.
June 12 — Marion-Polk Guernsey Cattle Show, Salem.
June 16-24 — Annual 4-H summer school.
June 18 — Oregon Poultry Hatchery Association, Withycombe Hall, Corvallis.
June 19 — Oregon Poultry Improvement Association, Withycombe Hall, Corvallis.

Pole Frame Type Buildings Have Long Life Ahead
Life-expectancy of low-cost pole frame farm buildings may be as high as 35 years if pressure treated poles are used, says M. G. Huber, agricultural engineering specialist. Buildings made with home-treated poles should last for 15 to 20 years or more where decayed stubs of the poles are replaced with new materials.

Growing popularity of pole frame buildings—both round and square poles—stems from low initial cost, particularly from less-skilled labor required for construction.

A disadvantage of pole construction is that some designs lack sufficient bracing to withstand high winds or heavy snow loads which may weaken joints and loosen roofing, especially metal roofing. Insufficient nailing or fastening of rafters or railing strips is the chief cause of roofs "blowing up" from underneath wind pressure.

The specialist points out, however, that well-designed structures will withstand excessive winds.

Turner Families Move
TURNER — It was moving day for three Turner families over the week-end. Mr. and Mrs. Jack Vickers moved to Salem and "Nels" Nelson moved to the apartment vacated by the Vickers and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Messer moved to where Nelson has been living. Nels Nelson who has been working for Ball Bros. garage opened his own garage at Four Corners.

Nitrate is still an important export of Chile, despite world-wide synthetic production.

Ticks Keep Lambs From Normal Gains
Control sheep ticks either before or after sheering. Lambs infested with ticks fail to make the best rate of gain and often end up as feeders rather than fatts.

Eight pounds of 50 per cent wettable DDT powder in 100 gallons of water makes a good spray for ticks. Use 300 to 400 pounds pressure and thoroughly soak each sheep.

Many dips and sprays have been successfully used says County Agent Ben A. Newell. The main thing is to control the ticks now.

CUBS WATCH SENATORS
HAZEL GREEN — Cub Pack 57 of Hazel Green and Brooks attended the ball game at Waters Park Friday night. They were accompanied by Cubmaster Gardner Johnson, Glen Looney and Leo Hawley.

Polk Jury Finds For Defendant in Accident Lawsuit
DALLAS — A Polk County jury found for the defendant in a \$25,000 civil suit that stemmed from an auto accident.

George W. Etheridge, plaintiff, had sought the damages from Dale R. Walker as a result of an auto accident south of Monmouth on 99-W on June 9, 1952.

The circuit court jury deliberated over six hours before returning a verdict in favor of Walker late Tuesday night.

Valley Births
STAYTON — To Mr. and Mrs. Clay Perkins, Stayton, a son, May 4, at Santiam Memorial Hospital. To Mr. and Mrs. Edward Rogers, Stayton route 1, a daughter, May 3, at Santiam Memorial Hospital.

Valley Briefs
Hazel Green — A decision whether or not to continue the Hazel Green Extension Unit next year was deferred until a later date when it met at the home of Mrs. Ralph Gilbert Tuesday. A large membership will be needed if it is to be continued.

Roberts — G. T. Club will meet Thursday at the home of Mrs. John Osborn on Route 1, Gervais. Assisting Mrs. Osborn will be Mrs. Albert Blankenship, Mrs. Frank Needham and Mrs. E. E. Jones. A dessert luncheon will be served at 1:00 p.m.

Victor Point — Mrs. Kenneth Warnock will entertain the McAlpin Stitches' Club Thursday at an all-day meeting, the last of the club year. Officers will be chosen.

Turner — The fire department was called to the William Bales residence to extinguish a fire Sunday night when the children mistook a bottle of gasoline for a bottle of oil and it exploded, burning Kenneth Bales severely.

North Howell — Diane Bartsch was the first place winner in the sewing II division at the 4-H Achievement Night program, reported previously. Christine Piekens and Louise Dixon tied for second, and Sharon Mayte was third. Judges were Mrs. Andrew Hall, Mrs. Jasper King and Mrs. Agnes Booth.

Elliott Prairie — Kenneth Ogren, 15, son of Gil Ogren, broke his leg while riding his motor scooter Friday evening. He hit a rock which was lying in the road, throwing his scooter out of control and into the gravel at the side of the road. He is at the Silverton Hospital.

THE VALLEY NEWS COLUMNS
From The Oregon Statesman's Valley Correspondents

Boys Win 4-H Baking Laurels at Spring Fair

STAYTON — Boys exhibited some of the prize-winning muffins and cupcakes here Wednesday as cooking and sewing judging dominated the second day of the Marion County 4-H Spring Fair.

The fair continues Thursday with competition in art, knitting and other divisions, and winds up Friday with a big parade at 1 p.m. The exhibits are on display at the Civic Building.

Some well-known names flashed to victory Wednesday with Keizer and Hayesville particularly well represented in the blue-ribbon department. Other communities that had several winners included Butteville, North Santiam, Aumsville, Swegle, Central Howell, Jefferson and Monitor.

The boys who won firsts in baking included Lloyd Ralphs of North Santiam; Charles Way, Aumsville; and Dennis Kreuger, Swegle.

Keizer Sweeps Class
Keizer swept the Clothing II division with firsts going to Carl Ann Hudson, Donna Ebert and Sarah Mayers. Jeanette and Janice Siddall of Hayesville swept the Clothing III and IV sections.

Winners in the "Charmingly Yours" sewing contest who will advance to the State Fair were Sandra Lee Maas, Auburn; Judy Mogster, Keizer; Ethel Ralphs, North Santiam; Loretta Gassner and Carol Reid, both of Monitor.

Other blue-ribbon winners in "Charmingly Yours" who did not qualify for State Fair were Betty Bethel and Beverly Martin, both of North Santiam, and Diana May Threlkel, Marion.

Good posture demonstration—Barbara Lichty, Central Howell. Wool sewing — Priscilla Durham, Keizer.

Formals—Betty Zahara, Hayesville, Joyce Mount and Priscilla Durham, both of Keizer.

Cooking Winners
Cooking — muffins, Lloyd Ralphs, North Santiam; Carolyn DuRette and Connie Arendt, both of Champeog; cupcakes, Charles Way, Aumsville, Eloise Robbins, Pioneer, Dennis Kreuger, Swegle, Sherill Hockspeier, Jefferson, Glenn Jo Riley, Butteville.

Cooking III — senior division, Lois Holmquist, Aumsville; junior division — Verlene Meisenheimer, Bethany; Janice Kauffman, Central Howell; bread-baking, Jeanette Siddall, Hayesville (goes to State Fair), other blue-ribbon winners, Maribel Starr, Auburn, Helen Watts, Central Howell, Verlene Meisenheimer, Bethany, Carolyn Adams, Jefferson; drop-cookies, Margaret Ann Gilman, Swegle, Ronald Seely, Union, Connie Stewart, Butteville, Pat Miller, Fruitland.

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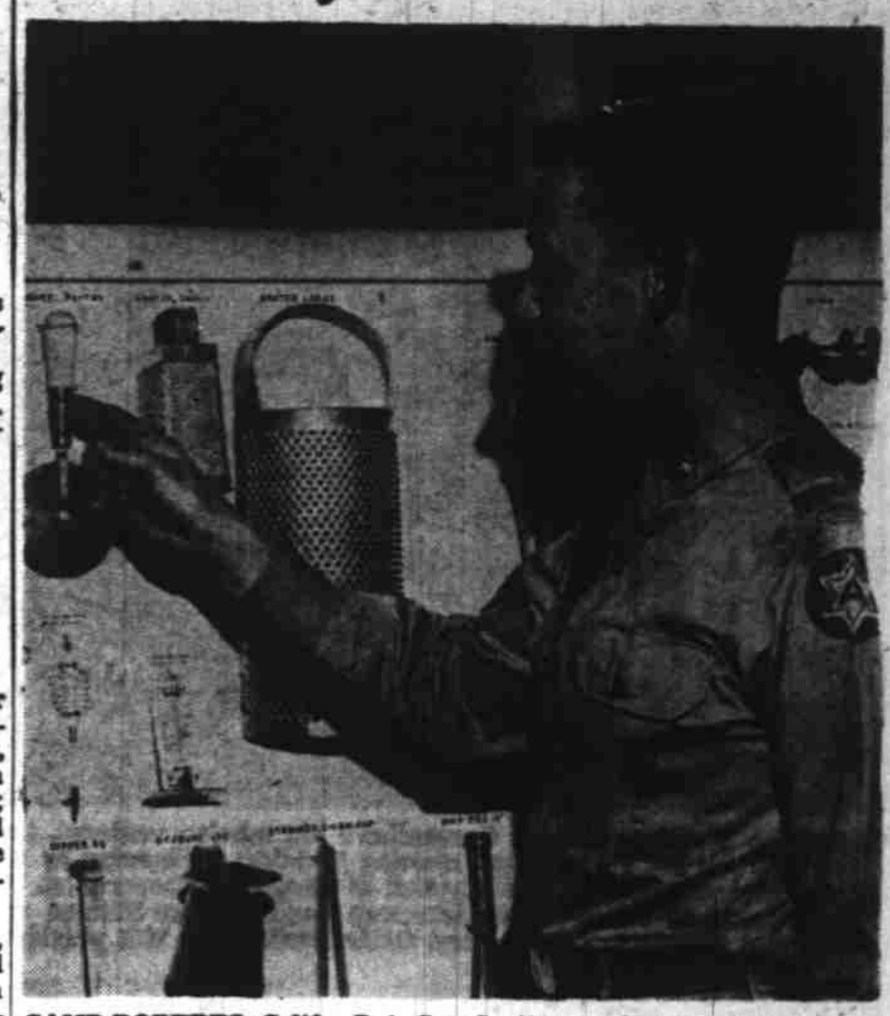
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CAMP ROBERTS, Calif.—Pvt. Guy Scott, son of Mr. and Mrs. Vera Scott who live near Sublimity, Ore., is honor graduate of the current class of Army cooks here. He is shown pointing to a past wheel, one of the kitchen utensils he learned to use. Before graduation he was a ranch hand. He and his wife, Mary Ann, live at a motel in nearby Paso Robles.

Girls' Camp Slated Again At Silverton

SILVERTON — Silverton's fifth annual Girl Scout Day Camp has been set for the Coolidge & McClaine Park from June 30 to July 9, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

Mrs. William Woodard will be director for the fifth year. Her committee consists of Mrs. Harlan Moe, chairman; Mrs. Lowell Hoblitt, Harlan Moe, Mrs. John Middlemiss, Mrs. Maurice Schnorenberg; Mrs. Robert Mallorie, Mrs. C. R. Wilson, and Mrs. Wals Slater.

The camp is intended primarily for Brownies and Girl Scouts, Mrs. Moe reports, but adds that in the event there are not enough scouts to fill the available spaces, non-scouts will be admitted after June 5. Registration of all Brownies and Girl Scouts is due on that day and should be sent to Mrs. Satern, at 418 E. Main Street.

Any intermediates who would like to complete tenderfoot or second class requirements in outdoor activities are encouraged to submit to the director a list of these requirements.

Any adult wishing to assist at the day camp, either full time or part time, is asked to contact a member of the committee, Mrs. Moe concluded.

It is estimated that the world's oceans hold 1,968,830,121,984,000 tons of magnesium.

East Salem P-TA Elect

EAST SALEM — Dr. Robert derson was elected president of the Hoover P-TA Monday night. Other officers elected: Vice president, Albert Morris; secretary, Mrs. Jordan Johnson; and treasurer, Donald Culp. The new officials were installed by Dennis Patch, Marion County P-TA president.

The picture of Herbert Hoover for whom the school was named was presented to the school by Harry Johnson, curriculum director of Salem schools. It was accepted, on behalf of the students by Linda Seeburn.

Percival Jones
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