

# WILLAMETTE VALLEY FARMER News and Views of Farm and Garden —By LILLIE L. MADSEN

## Ranch Ramblings

**By RURAL REPORTER**

A. L. Chandler of Salem, manages to maintain the same number of herd stires in his Guernsey herd although he does some swapping about.

Just recently he sold a young Guernsey sire, Moonbeam's Correction, to Joe Foster, Albany Guernsey man. This young bull is out of the cow, Joyce's Moonbeam and is sired by Mabel's Sampson of Linn Valley.

Then Al buys the young Guernsey sire, Spring Branch Duke from Frances M. McNeerney, also a Salem Guernsey raiser. Duke is out of Oresan Daffodil and is sired by Wandamer Daisy's Duke, the latter one of the famous Wandameres from Troutdale which have made numerous local and national records.

We were interested in a little squib in "The Eggmaster," journal put out by Nulade, the egg cooperative to which so many Willamette Valley farmers and poultrymen belong.

"Today everyone is looking for ways to cut costs. And that's fine. But just be sure that in cutting costs, you don't cut your profits. Don't make the mistake of getting bargain chicks, for instance, thinking you'll cut your costs. All you'll do is cut your profits."

"If you want to cut costs, you have to get more eggs per hen. So, instead of bargain chicks, you want better chicks — chicks that are really bred for production. Sure, they'll cost you more. But only a few more pennies more. And for those few extra pennies, you will make extra dollars."

Farm storage is one of the big problems today, with grain prices and crops looking like what they do now. Polk County farmers are going to look into the matter, too. There's to be a farm storage building meeting, Friday at 1:30 at the city hall in Dallas. Types of buildings, types of construction, materials and space needed will be among the points discussed. In addition, types of cleaning equipment will also be talked about.

While rambling around over in Polk County, we chatted a bit with Eldon Riddell, who was recently re-elected president of the Ash Creek Water Control district. Eldon said that funds are being raised by taxation of the district folk for maintenance of the drainage ditch which has been serving such a marvelous purpose in the area. The district has also agreed to meet in early summer to investigate the maintenance work needed, and to make plans for corrective measures to be carried out during the summer in helping maintain satisfactory drainage in the area.

George Kurre has been added as a new member to the control district board. Re-elected with Eldon were J. B. Lorence of Donmouth and Frank Neufeld of Dallas. J. B. is vice president and Frank is secretary-treasurer for the directors.

We hear a lot of rumors

## Weed Control Still Forms Study Basis

A new weed control chemical that might be the answer to quackgrass will be under test this year at Oregon State College, W. R. Furtick, OSC farm crops department, told Oregon chemical applicators at their annual short course at the college this week.

Furtick said the chemical, Dalapon, might also control annual grasses in beans, corn, flax, alfalfa and other broad leaf crops. The researcher reported planned experiments with Phenyl Dimethyl Urea for control of morning glory. Neither chemical yet has been released to the public.

Because PDU is a soil sterilant, its use against morning glory will be limited to patches rather than widespread application. However, it does not remain in the soil as a residue toxic to plants as long as does CMU to which it is closely related. PDU has been effective elsewhere in the United States for controlling deep-rooted weeds not controlled by CMU, but it must meet the test of Oregon weather conditions, which could limit its effectiveness to certain parts of the state.

**Other Herbicides Studied**

Other current weed research at the college includes trials with pre-emergence herbicides to replace 2,4-D for controlling weeds in wheat and barley. They would not present the "drift" problem that has brought vigorous criticism of 2,4-D. The latter has proved dangerous to other crops than those being treated and some lawsuits have resulted. The researcher reported that several of the new herbicides now look promising and will be tested for possible effects on grain yields.

Dr. E. J. Kraus, widely known horticulturist, told the applicators that plant injury to trees, flowering plants and vegetable plants that are sensitive to 2,4-D, is easily recognized. But, he added, legal responsibility for damage is hard to fix since the substance in any form can be transmitted many miles as vapor or dust. In areas of mixed agriculture, where 2,4-D is used in patchwork applications, it is hard to pinpoint the origin of the drift.

Dr. Kraus explained symptoms of 2,4-D injury as including transparent veins in leaves when held up to light. Sometimes leaves curl. These symptoms can be noted in injured tomato and grape vines, box elder trees, Chinese elm and basswood. Locust injury shows up in small shriveled leaflets.

The short course, which is sponsored annually by the college and the state department of agriculture, was attended by 150 spray and dust applicators.

while roaming around the valley. One of the biggest guessing games during the past three weeks is: "Who's to be manager of the Mt. Angel Creamery?"

Frank Heltzer, who has been manager almost since the beginning, has resigned. The stockholders expect to hear all about the new one, it seems, at the business meeting set for Feb. 6. Most folk out through the district have sort of thought of Frank and the creamery as one. This readjusting isn't easy!

## Livestock President Likes Shorthorns



Roger Dumdi, McMinnville, was found feeding his prize-taking Milking Shorthorns when The Statesman farm editor and photographer arrived to get information on the Western Oregon Livestock Association. Dumdi is president, and the association meets for its annual event at Salem, Jan. 25-27. (Statesman Farm Photo.)

## Cattle Do Best on 350-Acre Dumdi Farm in Yamhill County

**By LILLIE L. MADSEN**  
Farm Editor, The Statesman

A practical program for practical livestock men will open at Salem Monday when the Western Oregon Livestock Association begins its 18th annual convention. Headquarters will be the Senator Hotel.

The program is practical and gives promise of being interesting because it is planned by livestock men who are in the business—

Dumdi now farms approximately 350 acres in the McMinnville and Yamhill areas. He was born and reared on a farm near Carlton. On his mother's side of the family, members have farmed in the Carlton district since Dumdi's great grandparents, the Alexanders, came across the plains by wagon train.

**Started as 4-H Clubber**

Dumdi himself started his livestock work with one Milking Shorthorn heifer in a 4-H project in 1932. There were high school and college years in between, but when he was ready to return to farming he also returned to Milking Shorthorns. He now has 40 cows in production on his farm. He is national director of the American Milking Shorthorn Association. His cattle have taken purples and blues at the shows throughout the Pacific Northwest.

But Milking Shorthorns aren't the only livestock on the Dumdi farm. There are 50 commercial ewes now lambing, 25 Herefords and 12 registered Hampshire sows and a boar from Indiana. The latter are feeders bought in the Portland stockyards to help out on the pasture program.

There were 500 commercial sheep pastured on the Dumdi ranch during the past summer and 2,200 the summer before that.

"But," said Dumdi, in referring to the sheep project, "I'm easing out of sheep. We are bothered too much with parasites here on irrigated pastures. I know they raise sheep on irrigated pastures in California, but it's more dry in between times there, I guess. We've tried all the rules, but we still have parasite trouble. Sheep do better, it seems, on higher, drier pastures."

Was "Grassman"

Pasture is one of Dumdi's true loves, and no matter what the farm conversation is, it leads back toward pasture. In fact, his program was so good and he carried it out so well that he was named "Yamhill's Grassman of the Year," two years ago.

"I divided 100 acres of irrigated land into seven different fields," he told us as we sat in the cozy living room in the Dumdi home at McMinnville, with two-year-old Penny Kay helping make notes, and Mrs. Dumdi filling in with information.

"Into all of the 100 acres, I planted Meadow Foxtail and Tussock Oatgrass," he continued. "Then on one-third I sowed Ladino Clover, on another third, Kentish White, and on the last third Mother White, the new clover which

is a cousin to Kentish and which looks like it's going to be the best of the three."

When asked why, Dumdi said that "it stools out and covers the ground very quickly. By doing this it retains the moisture in the soil much longer. It isn't quite so stemmy as the Kentish and the leaves start right from the crown, but it is as large a plant. There's as much forage. It makes awfully good hay and good silage. I think a lot of Tualatin Oatgrass, too, and so do the animals. The cows are giving excellent returns on the hay which is all grass and clover. Had four cows last month that beat 50 pounds of milk each—and these are dual purpose cattle."

**Limes Well**

Dumdi limed his soil well, using two tons to the acre, and from there on out uses an annual program of 200 pounds per acre of 16-20, splitting applications between spring and fall.

"The spring application goes on as early as possible, usually in March, February if we can make it," the livestock association president said.

The farm on which they are now living is leased, but they are remodeling the pioneer home on the 108-acre Fred Bund pioneer ranch which they purchased sometime ago at Yamhill. The family will move to this when school is out for the summer. There's a new milking parlor and a 50 by 60 feet loafing shed being readied on the place prior to receiving the Milking Shorthorns, now housed and pastured on the McMinnville farm.

Dumdi's knowledge of livestock is being passed on, too, in the same manner in which his own interest began. He is leader of the 4-H sheep and beef club, Bawl and Blat, which won the Yamhill trophy last year.

While Dumdi admits it's rather difficult to arrange, he is taking off three days next week to preside at the Western Oregon Livestock Association, the first general assembly of which has been set for 1 p.m. Monday.

The Gulf Stream flows through the 100-mile-wide Straits of Florida at an average rate of 7,245 million gallons a second says the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

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## Farm Calendar

- Jan. 22—Farm Storage Construction meeting, Dallas City Hall, 1:30 p.m.
- Jan. 22—Linn County Poultry meeting, 10 a.m., Linn County fairgrounds, Albany.
- Jan. 22—Strawberry Growers meeting, Newberg Chamber of Commerce, 1:30 p.m.
- Jan. 23—Willamette Production Credit Association annual stockholders meeting, Marion hotel, 11 a.m.
- Jan. 23—Pomona Grange, Polk County.
- Jan. 25-27—Western Oregon Livestock association, Salem, Senator hotel.
- Jan. 25-10 a.m. Deetz Milk Hearing, Salem.
- Jan. 25—Soil fertility meeting, Middlegrove, 8 p.m.
- Jan. 26—Annual 4-H Club Leaders conference, OSC.
- Jan. 28-29—Oregon Essential Oil Growers League, OSC.
- Jan. 29—Linn County Silage tour, 10 a.m. at Arthur Hanebury farm, six miles from Albany on Corvallis River road.
- Jan. 29—Polk County silage meeting; Courthouse, Dallas, 9:30 a.m.
- Feb. 1—Soil Fertility meeting, Middlegrove, 8 p.m.
- Feb. 2—Fruit tree and nuts information meeting, fair building, McMinnville, 8 p.m.
- Feb. 4—Animal nutrition conference, OSC.
- Feb. 6—Mt. Angel Creamery meeting, 10 a.m.
- Feb. 6—Oregon Swine Growers Bred Gilt Sale, Salem, 12 noon, state fairgrounds.
- Feb. 8-10—Fruit and vegetable handlers short course, Multnomah hotel, Portland.
- Feb. 8—Soil fertility meeting, Middlegrove, 8 p.m.
- Feb. 10—Blue Lake Inc., annual business meeting.
- Feb. 10—Polk County Dusting Cooperative meeting.
- Feb. 11-13—Oregon State Farmers Union annual meeting, VFW hall.
- Feb. 11—Yamhill Dairy Day, fair building, McMinnville, 10 a.m.
- Feb. 12-13—Range bull sale, Ontario, sponsored by Oregon Cattlemen's Association.
- Feb. 16—Linn County agriculture outlook conference, city hall, Lebanon, 10 a.m.
- Feb. 16-19—Oregon dairy industries 43rd annual convention, OSC.

## Twilight Time

**By FARMER'S WIFE**

A clear, cold night and a bright barnyard light helped me to see, as I was sitting here by the window facing the farm, that the man of the place just returned from the far corners with a ewe and a pair of twins. There's no time on the place I like much better than lambing time. I always sort of heave a sigh of regret when the Farmer comes in to say that the last ewe has lambed.

This was the fifth ewe this year but the first pair of twins. Even if it's true as they tell us that one has to look to the meat rather than the wool of the sheep industry for the future profit, it looks as if the sheep business is here to stay. I can't quite see how all the new fabrics can replace natural wool, however. But I like lamb chops too.

Miss Ida Ingalls, associate professor of clothing at the college, is heading the study and says there's no such thing as a "girl's awkward age." What makes her appear awkward is that the dresses, blouses, skirts for grade school girls are often too young or too old, the girls in that age are chubby, thin or leggy, and that might not help the designer's problem, but it's a problem, Miss Ingalls believes, that can be overcome with the right study.

Mothers of grade school girls in nine Oregon counties will be interviewed. Their opinions will be used for further study in clothing improvement. Final recommendations will be turned over to clothing manufacturers.

Questionnaires are being prepared for certain school districts in Marion, Polk, Yamhill, Linn, Benton, Lane, Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington counties. If one comes to you, study it carefully and answer sincerely.

Going out in Waldo Hills is always bad for the figure. Somehow or other they've managed to gather together some of the valley's best cooks in that area. That the place has a name for itself, too, is evident every time there's a "come-and-get-it" notice out. At two dinners recently, cooks admitted there were almost twice as many as expected — two public dinners at the Waldo Hills Community hall, that is. And yet there was plenty to go around.

Somehow it isn't just that it's bad for the figure when you are there. The men of the family al-

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## Expert Gives Apple Tree Pruning Hints

Training and pruning apple trees is a necessary orchard management practice for quality fruit production, says D. L. Rasmussen, county extension agent. However, since pruning is a dwarfing process, growers must sacrifice a part of the crop in order to have quality apples for harvest.

As with other fruit and nut crops, the fruiting habit of the apple affects the type of "pruning." Apples are borne on permanent spurs in the presence of sunlight. Young spurs are two years old when the first crop is harvested. These spurs lengthen each year and may reach a length of several inches. The frequency of apple production from a single spur depends upon the variety, age of tree, amount of sunlight, soil fertility, water supply, and other factors.

Non-bearing apple trees are trained to select well spaced scaffold limbs. Most growers prefer trees with three to five scaffold limbs spaced along the trunk and around the trunk. The distance from the lowest scaffold limb to the ground level will vary with the grower and the district and conditions under which the apples are grown. When apple trees are headed back to about 36 inches at planting time, the lowest scaffold limb usually originates about 24-30 inches from the ground.

Strong crotch angles of 30 to 45 degrees between the scaffold branch and the trunk are necessary to lessen the breakage of limbs from heavy crops, sudden gusts of wind, and other causes. Strong crotches also result when only one scaffold branch is allowed or originates at a given point on the trunk. A desirable spacing between scaffold limbs is at least four to six inches or more.

## Makes Study



W. A. Fuller Jr., Harrisburg teacher, who made farm youth survey for master's degree thesis.

## Survey Shows Scholarship Winners Stick

Farm scholarship winners make higher grades and stay in college longer than other students, according to details released Wednesday of a study by an Oregon high school principal.

The survey was made by W. A. Fuller, Jr., high school principal and agricultural instructor at Harrisburg for his master's degree thesis.

Fuller investigated the records of 90 former winners of Union Pacific Railroad's Carl Raymond Gray Agricultural Scholarships who attended Oregon State College.

It was found that 96 per cent of the winners were farm-reared and represented almost every type of farm.

The group had an average of 3 1/4 years of vocational agriculture in high school and all received the Chapter Farmer Degree in the Future Farmers of America. Of these 43 earned the State Farmer Degree and six won the American Farmer Degree.

In addition to scoring higher grades, Fuller found that a larger percentage of scholarship winners were graduated than other students.

The Union Pacific Railroad established the scholarships in 1921 and in the 11 western states it serves. Fuller himself was a winner of one.

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