

WILLAMETTE VALLEY FARMER

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

Silverton Area Farmer's Inventions Helping to Make Farm Work Easier

By LILLIE L. MADSEN
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It really all had its beginning back on a Dakota wheat farm when a small, 9-year-old boy built a threshing machine out of some wooden boxes and nails and found that it worked.

Heads of grain would actually go through the machine and come out in separate kernels. Spools were used for the twine belt, pulled by means of someone pumping an old foot-peddle grindstone.

From then on Jonas Byberg had many an invention of farm machinery—in miniature form. It wasn't until seven years later, when living on his father's prune farm south of Silverton that Jonas took out his first patent. The high school youth didn't like the method of washing prunes. So, he set about making a washing tray by means of a floatation system. The water went over the prunes, and this worked much better than the former system of dipping the prunes, which bruised them.

A patent was granted—

"But I wasn't equipped to build the washers. I just did the planning and tried to build a few in a shop in our barn. They worked out—but individual production does not pay. I couldn't build them fast enough," Byberg said, smiling at the youth who got ahead of himself.

There was college in between, but all the time there were plans for machines and gadgets that would make work on the farm more efficient, less difficult. There were scores of patents, and finally there was a factory built at Silverton.

Thinking Changes

Gradually the thinking of farmers has changed. For them, too, it has become an automatic age. Steps, heavy labor, time, all have to be saved to meet the tight competition. Always, Byberg, thinking back to his boyhood and early youth on the farm, was a step ahead.

A prophet in his own home town? Well, it was while I was rambling out over the countryside in Polk County that I first heard of the new piece of machinery—a grinder-mixer. Inquiry brought out that it was actually new, that it was built at Silverton (my home town), and patented by Jonas Byberg (whose farm adjoined ours when we were youngsters).

With the enthusiasm of the user of the new machine still ringing in my ears, I went back home for my week's farm story.

"I believe this is the first time a farmer has had available a machine that will automatically feed itself—grind any grain to whatever grade he desires—thoroughly mix the ground feed, without rehandling from a grinder to a mixer, and automatically shut itself off when the job is done. Many feeders can, with this machine, dump in various whole grains, previously ground ingredients and desired feed supplements and concentrates, then turn on the automatic switch and thereafter leave the machine to do the whole task while they do other work or take a nap. When the feed is to be used, the switch is thrown again and the feed is discharged into any convenient cart or bags.

Much Dust Eliminated

Byberg, reared on a farm and recalling the dust of the grinding operations, has perfected a principle whereby the grain is ground while submerged under a layer of previously ground feed, eliminating much of the dust.

Careful planning has made this little mill fit numerous farming conditions. In most feeding units that I have visited, the farmer has had to locate his grinding and mixing equipment in the most suitable place and bring his grain to the units in the best way possible. This new mill, when equipped with its ball bearing, rubber tired cart, is so maneuverable that it can be rolled easily up, under, or into any feed bin for filling, and again rolled to any desired point for grinding or discharging.

Like all else in the Byberg inventions, a rather unique method of blending heavy, sticky molasses with the feed has been evolved in this machine. Most molasses mixing principals create small globules of molasses coated with a layer of feed. Here I saw the heavy molasses thoroughly atomized, and the spray, meeting a constantly moving layer of feed, turning out feed minus the usual lumps.

Took Five Years

How long did it take to perfect this machine, I asked?

It came out that the thing wasn't done overnight, but was the result of constant application in developing the mill over a period of full five years. To incorporate all the features in one inexpensive little mill, it became necessary as time went on, to design and build many special machines and special equipment without which parts of the mill could not be made.

I stood in the small Silverton plant, listening to my former farm neighbor explaining casually, and I was supposed to grasp it just as casually about equipment which consists of intricate rubber molds, of "a deep section of band iron on edge for the manufacture of its continuous helix"

a special "carburing furnace which hardens a large circular part of the mill while being boiled at 1,600 degrees in molten salts and subsequently drenched in cold water." I did understand that this latter process went on behind a glass and metal curtain to protect the mechanic during carburing the parts. A 250-ton,

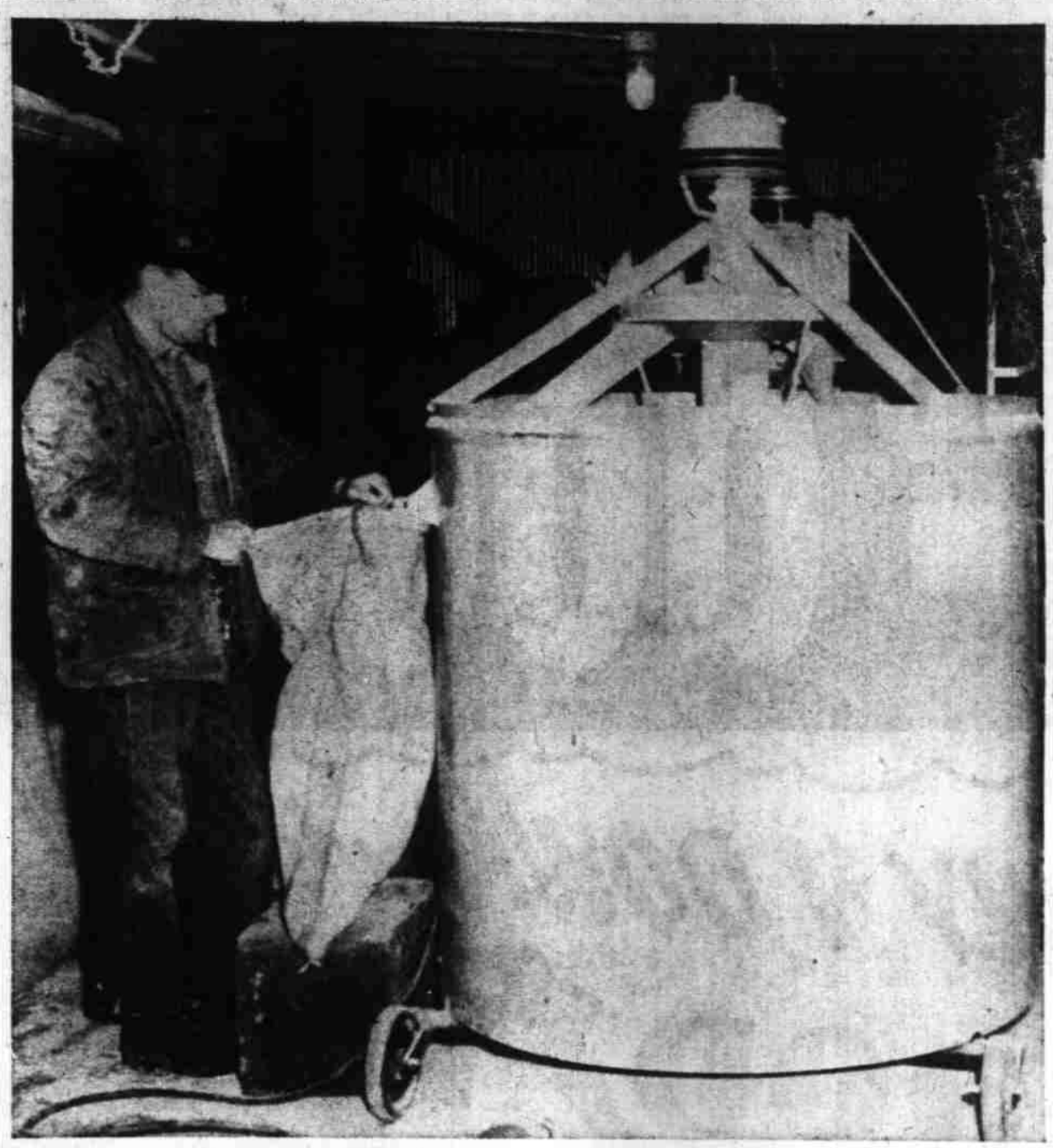
press was built in the Byberg plant some years ago which also makes possible the production of some of the parts.

Test mills have been in use for some time in Oregon, California, Idaho and Illinois under varying farm conditions.

If the interest of others in any way parallel the interest shown

by the feeder I visited, the Byberg plant may find its 25,000 square feet of available floor space none too large.

Certainly, I thought, as I left the plant, there is considerable saving in hauling grain to town and seed back to the farm—the method used by Jonas' and my father on the old home farms.



Donald D. Rowland, Rickreall livestock feeder, was one of the first to try out on the farm one of the new grinder-mixers which, to quote him, "Makes this division of farming much easier." Rowland runs 110 bred white faces, and 325 ewes on his 1,045 acres. He travels to Eastern Oregon where he buys his weener calves in Grant County, and brings them back to Rickreall to fatten out. The way things are now, it pays to market the grain through the livestock, in the opinion of Rowland.

Coon Among Cattlemen's Meet Speakers

A program designed to keep people wide awake is being put together for this year's convention of the Oregon Cattlemen's association, May 8 to 11, in Corvallis, reports Ed Coles, association secretary.

Program headliners will include both state and nationally known speakers along with demonstrations and a panel of experts. General sessions will be held on the Oregon State College campus.

Listed as principal speaker is Sam Coon, Baker, now serving his second term in the U. S. House of Representatives. Coon will discuss "Happenings in Washington as Related to the Beef Industry" Monday morning, May 9.

Also scheduled for Monday morning is a panel composed of John Housell, state senator from Hood River; Harold Cople, secretary-manager of the Washington State Apple Commission, Wenatchee; and two members of the Oregon Cattlemen's association yet to be chosen. The panel will discuss the pros and cons of a beef commission for Oregon.

National Figure Listed

How the beef industry stacks up public relations-wise is scheduled for a going over Tuesday afternoon by Radford Hall, assistant executive secretary of the American National Cattlemen's association, Denver. George Tucker, secretary of the California Cattle Feeder's Association, Los Angeles, will outline the growth of the cattle feeding industry on the West Coast that same afternoon.

Tuesday afternoon, Alan Rogers, Ellensburg, Wash., past president of the Washington Cattlemen's association and now chairman of the research committee of the American National Cattlemen's association, will talk on the "Strides We Have Taken in Beef Cattle Research." Later that day, Roy Nelson, state department of agriculture, Salem, is to discuss the state livestock brand recording code and demonstrate the filing system used to record brands.

Movie on Nutrition

On Wednesday, final day of the convention, Rita Campbell, nutritionist for the National Livestock and Meat board, will talk and show a movie on the nutritional values of meats and the functions of the board.

Pigs are Less Pigs if Given Clean Pastures

Clean, fresh pastures and spring pigs go well together. Cheaper gains can be realized on pasture, and parasites and worms are held at minimum.

Clean ground means land that has not been used for hog pasture for at least one year, and better two years.

Sodium floride at the rate of one pound to 100 pounds of dry feed for one day will do an effective worming job on sows or pigs that have been weaned.

Plenty of shade, water and salt are needed for hogs all the time. Be sure to include animal protein in the hog ration for most efficient gains.

Farm Calendar

- April 26-28 — Farmers from Australia to visit Oregon.
- April 27-30 — City of Salem 4-H Club Spring Show.
- April 30 — Marion County home extension spring festival, Leslie Junior High.
- May 2-3 — California Ram Sale, Sacramento.
- May 2-6 — Marion County 4-H Spring Show, Silverton.
- May 3 — Marion County Holstein Breeders meeting, Virgil Deihl, Mt. Angel.
- May 9-11 — National Guernsey meeting, Los Angeles.
- May 9-11 — Oregon Cattlemen's Association annual meeting, OSC.
- May 13-14 — Polk County 4-H Spring Exhibit, Dallas Chamber of Commerce.
- May 15 — National Rural Life Sunday.
- May 17 — Evergreen Guernsey Classic, Mt. Vernon, Wash.
- May 18 — Polk County Sheep Show, Rickreall.
- May 24 — Linn County annual pasture and livestock tour, Crawfordville.
- May 27 — Farm crops weed conference, Salem.
- May 28 — Marion County Spring Jersey Show, Salem.
- May 28 — Linn County Fat Lamb Show, Seila.
- May 30 — American Jersey Cattle club (Salem headquarters) trip to Multnomah Falls. Smoked turkey and strawberry supper at Marlin Fox Farm, Molalla.
- May 31 — American Jersey Cattle Club tour of Polk and Marion county Jersey farms; chicken luncheon at Silver Creek Falls State park; salmon bake at State Fairgrounds, and Your Opportunity Sale, 7 p.m., Oregon State Fairgrounds.
- June 1 — Business meeting and annual dinner of American Jersey Cattle Club in Armory and Marion Hotel.
- June 2 — American Jersey Cattle Club membership choice of trip to Tillamook and Lincoln Counties or attendance at All Western Jersey Cattle show at Pacific International, North Portland.
- June 3-4 — 4-H club fat stock show and sale, Bend.
- June 4 — Clackamas County Spring Lamb Show, Canby.
- June 4 — Marion County Spring Lamb Show, Turner.
- June 6-10 — Oregon State Grange Convention, Klamath Falls.
- June 8 — Farm Crops Field Day, Hyslop farm, Corvallis.
- June 9-11 — Lebanon Strawberry fair.

Mint Market Reported Up

Supply and demand prospects point toward favorable prices for the 1953 peppermint oil crop, but prices are likely to work down as production increases, marketing experts report.

Meanwhile, returns should be quite satisfactory for Oregon growers able to get 50 pounds or more oil per acre.

Larger exports, strong domestic demand, and some decline in peppermint oil production since 1952 brought new strength back into the peppermint oil market during the past two seasons.

Polk County Farmers Hear Control Talk

Controlling weeds is becoming more practical each year, with many new products on the market for that purpose, according to Rex Warren, farm crops specialist, Oregon State college.

Warren, speaking at a Polk county weed meeting held during the week at the Rickreall Grange hall, discussed the various chemicals available for weed control and their uses.

The meeting, sponsored cooperatively by the Pomona Grange and the Polk County extension office, is one of a series of three county-wide meetings during the year, under the leadership of the Pomona Grange.

Small patches of perennial weeds that are beginning to show up in fields, can still be controlled satisfactorily by sodium chlorate, using about four pounds per square rod.

CMU, now known under trade names of Telvar-W and Karmex-W is recommended for areas of quackgrass and other hard-to-kill grasses.

Discusses Brush Control

Brush control methods discussed by Warren included a basal spray, which includes four gallons of 2,4D to 100 gallons of oil and put on the brush around the base during the dormant season. Another brush control method is using 2,4D and 2,45T at the rate of one gallon to 100 gallons of water, sprayed over all the foliage of the brush when it is in full leaf.

Garlic control recommended is 1½ pounds per acre of 2,4D, preferably in the ester form. Annual weeds in grain crops and vetches can be sprayed out by using approximately three-fourths of a pound of 2,4D acid per acre, Warren stated.

Late April, May

Tansy ragwort control is most economical during late April and May when the plants are in the rosette stage. Recommended material is 2,4D ester at the rate of three pounds acid per acre. After the tansy ragwort plant begins to form seed stock, chlorates, ammatos, or similar materials can be used as a spray by mixing one pound per gallon of water. However, the later spray is about three times as expensive as the 2,4D material.

Some of the crop producers in Polk County have already sprayed with 2,4D and are getting fairly good control. Spraying of grains is recommended as soon as weather conditions permit on fall-seeded grains. Spring-seeded grains should be sprayed when the crop is about five inches high.

will be a complete dairy luncheon served to business men of Lebanon and Albany besides exhibitors taking part in the event. The luncheon will be served by members of the Linn County Dairymen's Association as part of June Dairy Month publicity.

No. 3 Barley Price Support Set at \$1.07

Marion county farmers who grow barley in 1955 are assured by W. M. Tate, chairman of the County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee, that the crop will be supported at a minimum of \$1.07 per bushel for Grade No. 3 or better. "Mixed" barley will not be eligible for price support. As in other years the support will be through Commodity Credit Corporation loans and purchase agreements.

The minimum 1955 barley support, Chairman Tate advises, is based on 70 per cent of parity as of December 1.

The 1954 crop support in Marion county was \$1.30 per bushel for No. 2 barley or better, and was based on 85 per cent of parity.

To be eligible for a loan the barley must be within the grade requirements and must be stored in approved storage on the farm or in a commercial warehouse. Barley with more than 13.5 per cent moisture will not be eligible for a loan.

Ben A. Newell, Marion county extension agent, said farmers who wish to take advantage of price-support programs for 1955 barley and other supported crops, are urged to check up on their storage requirements before the season gets too far along. If additional storage is needed plans to meet local conditions are available at the County ASC office and from the county agent.

Loans and purchase agreements will be available from the time the crop is harvested until January.

Oregon Folk To Take Part In Ram Sale

When the 17th Annual Far West International Sheep Dog Trials take place at the State Fair grounds, Sacramento, on Sunday, May 1, famous canines such as Lassie and Rin Tin Tin will be pushed out of the limelight by a group of extraordinary working dogs.

These black (or border) collies are runts compared with Lassie, but centuries of training dating back to their origin in Scotland make up for lack-tending skill for what might be sleeping in size.

Visitors to the trials, which provide one of several preliminaries to the 35th Annual California Ram Sale, will see some of the West's finest sheep dogs competing in a contest of wit and skill. Ribbons and trophies are awarded to winners.

Nine "Senior" dogs, ranging in age from 19 months to 6 years, and four "Junior" dogs, from 10 to 17 months, have already been entered, according to William R. Hosselkus, president of the California Sheep Dog Society which sponsors the trials in cooperation with the California Wool Growers Association.

At the Ram sale almost 30 Oregon Rams from the Willamette valley, will go on the block.



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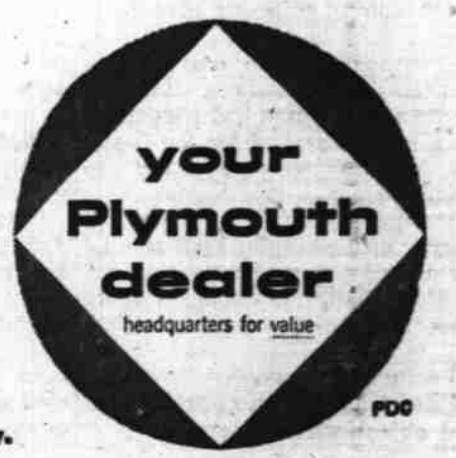
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Dairy Luncheon to Be Given at Show

Fourth Annual Linn-Benton All-Breed Dairy show will be held at Albany June 4. Serving on the show committee are Jim Ruby, Darrell Shepherd and Everett Struckmeier all of Seio; George Chandler and Paul Berger, Albany.

Planned as a feature of the show