

WILLAMETTE VALLEY FARMER

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

Monitor Mills Started Grinding in Civil War; Town Holds to Goal of Farm Trading Center

By LILLIE L. MADSEN

Farm Editor, The Statesman

MONITOR—The Monitor Mills ground its first grist on the day of the historical battle between Monitor and the Merrimac. It is still grinding, but instead of flour only feed for livestock and poultry come out of the hoppers today.

The water wheel has been changed for electric switches, and horse and wagon have given way to trucks, but the old timbers still hold up the structure which still serves farmers as it has done since it was first built.

The mill, lying in the center of the little community, is a symbol of the town's being. It modernizes but it does not outgrow its original purpose: To serve the farmers.

"We aren't an incorporated town. In fact, we aren't really a town at all. We are a farm trading center and that's what we want to stay," any business man encountered on the street of Monitor will tell you. In fact al-

most any business man owns his own farm . . . like Marcus Vetter who now owns the Monitor Mills. Not Like Old Clock

"It's a fine place to do business and to call home," Vetter, president of the National Association of Columbia Sheep, will tell you. Vetter bought the old mill less than a year ago. For more than 90 years the old mill, like Grandfather's Clock of the old-time ballad, ran without stopping. Then its owner Involud Edlund became ill and died. Raymond David took a brief swing at its management, but gave up. The wheels laid idle for about four years. Unlike the old clock, however, its destiny was not "never to run again." The mill and Monitor appealed to Vetter, a widely known sheep breeder, and he took over. The mill is now again a smoothly running plant, again buying, grinding, mixing feeds and seeds, cleaning and treating the products for the rich farm community which borders the trading center on all sides.

Monitor, situated on Butte Creek, the dividing line between Marion and Clackamas Counties, stands on the old donation land claims of William Eastham and Joseph Eason. It is connected to highway 99E by two paved roads. One connection is at Woodburn and one at Barlow.

There is a modern grade school and an auditorium, there are two school buses and a PTA with a membership of more than 100. There are three churches in the community: The Nidaros Lutheran, Seventh Day Adventist and a Community Full Gospel. A \$12,000 fire hall, furnished with modern equipment, was built in 1948, when the Monitor Rural Fire Protection district was formed. The fire district has a valuation of more than \$2,000,000 and includes the communities of Harmony, Monte Cristo, Oak Lawn, Marquam, Needy, Ninety-One, Whiskey Hill, Elliot Prairie and Union.

Has Two Machine Houses

In addition to the Monitor

Mills, the two largest businesses are probably the two implement houses — farm implements. The one is now owned by Elmer Thompson, farmer in the Monitor district. He bought it a few months ago.

The other is one of the historical items of the community. It's senior partner is L. D. Lenon, one of the town's oldest. He was born in the area 75 years ago and has spent most of his life here. More than 40 years ago he bought a half interest in the old grocery store of Jensen and Cook. It became a general country store, known for miles around, where almost anything could be bought or sold. In 1919, Lenon became sole owner, and in 1925, he added the John Deere Implement and tractor agency. In 1938, Lenon's son-in-law, Edgar Tweed, a native of Salem, became manager, and the general merchandise was closed out in 1945.

"Even in the 20 years since I came to Monitor, we've seen a lot of changes—but somehow, Monitor, while it keeps up with the

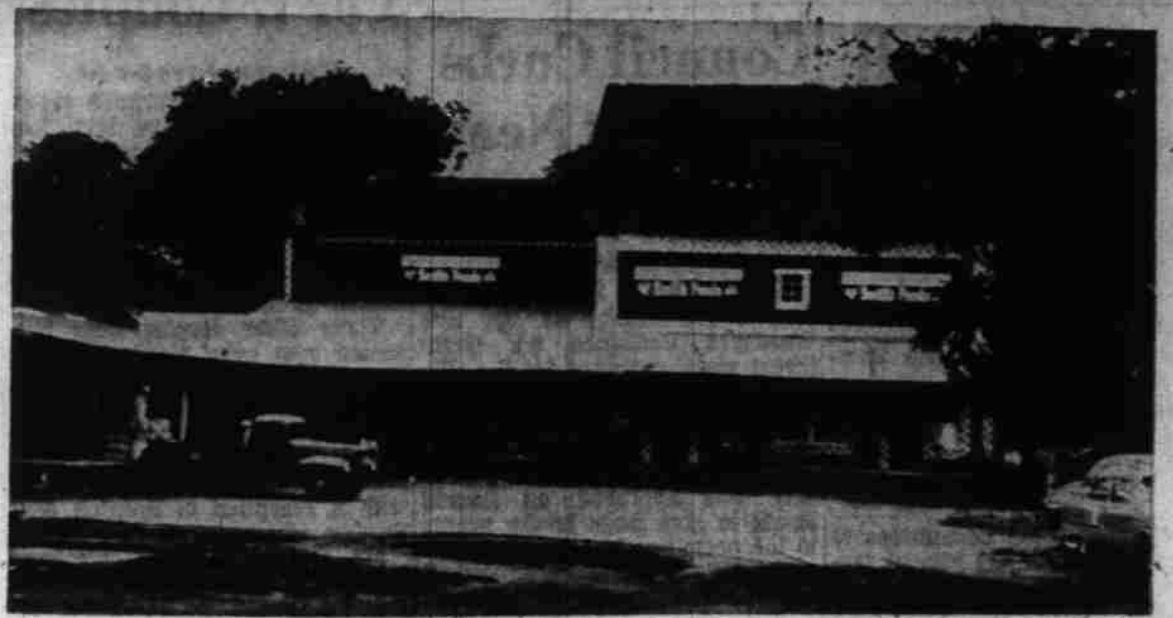
times in its schools and in the products it sells, remains the same," Tweed said, as we sat in the patio of his attractive home, just east of the "center."

He went on: "Hundreds of thousands of dollars—all farm dollars—change hands here each year. During the spring, the summer and the fall, we are a very busy little place, in winter we are quieter."

We stopped our car near Thompson's implement house. A farmer, whom we recognized as coming from 10-12 miles southwest of Monitor, was getting into his car.

Double Appreciation Noted
"Sure I've traded here for years. Buy most of my farm machinery and things like that here. I like it. They really understand the farmer. We don't have to hear a lot of hard luck stories. We even get to tell our own once in a while. But mostly everybody is sort of happy. We talk about crops and the weather. May be politics and the schools. They appreciate our business here and we appreciate their appreciation, I guess," he said as he started his engine and hurried homeward for evening chores.

At the top of the hill we stopped to look back. Instead of turning to salt, like Lot's wife of Biblical times, we almost turned to sugar. Monitor is not, as we had supposed, just another wider spot in the road, another place we had to slow up on the way from our home some nine miles to the south, into Portland. It is an individual community. A rich community. Grain trucks were backing up to the mill. Feed trucks were pulling out, loaded. Farmers and businessmen together were stopping at the little restaurant for a cup of coffee. While we couldn't hear the old-time clink on the anvil, the whir-r-r and the whizz-z-z and hammering a-plenty in the two farm machine shops—almost directly across the highway from each other—reached us.



Monitor Mills, like the old clock, ran 90 years without stopping, and then laid off for four years. Now it is running and busy again. This mill was built in 1853, and while much of the structure remains the same, it changed from water to electricity more than a quarter of a century ago. New owner is Marcus Vetter. (Statesman Farm Photo).



This is "Main Street" in one of the Willamette Valley's richest farm community trading centers. In among the trees are hidden a half dozen business houses which cater exclusively to farm business. It is a happy little center, and—in the proper seasons—a busy little center. It is Monitor. (Statesman Farm Photo).



Many lovely homes are found in the Monitor area. This one, with just as spacious a lawn in the back as is noted here in front, is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Tweed. It was built in 1941. (Statesman Farm Photo).

OSC Lists Sprays For Weedy Grass

Weedy annual grasses can be successfully sprayed out of perennial grass seed crops if the right materials are applied at the correct time.

Crop	Material	Rate—Pounds	Time of Application
Alta fescue	Chloro IPC	3 to 4	Sept. 22 to Oct. 31
	Karmex DW	2	Sept. 22 to Oct. 31
Chewing fescue	IPC	3	Sept. 22 to Oct. 20
Red creeping fescue	IPC	3	Sept. 22 to Oct. 20
	Karmex DW	2	Sept. 22 to Oct. 20
Highland bentgrass	Chloro IPC	3	Sept. 22 to Oct. 20
	Karmex DW	2	Sept. 22 to Oct. 20
Merion bluegrass	Karmex DW	2	Sept. 22 to Oct. 20
Perennial ryegrass	IPC	2	Sept. 22 to Oct. 20

Where velvet grass is exceedingly heavy in alta fescue and Highland bentgrass, the Karmex DW can be increased to 4 pounds per acre. Strong stands of alta fescue and Merion bluegrass established in the spring of 1955 can be safely treated with Karmex DW at the 2 pounds per acre rate.

New Product Used
Karmex DW is a new product that comes as a wettable powder. The chemical has some advantage over IPC as it does have some effect on broad leaf weeds as well as the annual grasses; however, it has the disadvantage that it must be used in a sprayer with a mechanical agitator. The cost of Karmex DW and IPC is practically the same.

Moisture isn't too important for fall application as good results can be expected after Sept. 15. Spraying with IPC can be done with a ground rig, or an airplane. With IPC, the recommendation is to use from 10 to 40 gallons of water per acre with a ground rig, and 1 gallon of oil per acre with an airplane. With Karmex DW, the recommendation is to use 30 gallons of water per acre.

Weedy annual grasses that can be expected to be controlled with these chemicals are rattail fescue, soft chess, common ryegrass, silver hairgrass, and fall germinating velvet grass.

Several perennial ryegrass growers received good control of weedy annual grasses and sheep sorrel in 1955 by treating their fields with a mixture of IPC and 2, 4-D. The IPC was used at the rate of 2 pounds per acre and the 2,4-D at the rate of 1 pound per acre.

Peach Fungus Should Be Treated Now

An after harvest spray of Bordeaux 8-8-100 for control of Coryneum blight is needed in Willamette Valley peach orchards, say Willamette Valley extension agents. A Bordeaux spray, properly mixed and thoroughly applied, will protect the new wood from the contagious fungus disease, also called "Fall blight" or "California blight."

Regardless of the name, Coryneum blight is a serious problem. It blights the buds and produces small sunken spots on the one-year-old or fruiting wood during the fall and winter months. This may be followed by spotting of the twigs, leaves, and fruit in the spring and early summer.

Growers who are harvesting the later varieties of peaches should look for small, circular, purplish-red spots in the skin of the peach. In larger spots, the centers turn white and have a brown area surrounding the white area. Unlike the watery breakdown of peach tissue caused by brown rot (another fungus disease) the diseased tissue from Coryneum blight infections on the fruit is typically dry. Whether the spots are large or small, they lower the grade of the peach both for fresh market and processor use.

Bordeaux Best Spray
Bordeaux 8-8-100 remains the best spray mixture for control of Coryneum blight under conditions in the Willamette Valley. Bordeaux 8-8-100 means 8 pounds of copper sulfate plus 8 pounds of lime in 100 gallons of spray. In any Bordeaux formula, the ingredients are always given in the same order with the pounds of copper sulfate first, then the pounds of lime, and followed by the gallons of water.

Proper preparation of Bordeaux mixture is just as important as proper timing and thoroughness of application. The best way to mix Bordeaux is to follow "work with dilute solutions." Second, soak hydrated lime in water for at least two hours before adding in the spray tank. Stock solutions can be prepared by adding one or two pounds hydrated lime per gallon of water. The required gallonage of stock solution can be added to the spray tank to give the recommended pounds of lime per 100 gallons of spray.

Many growers have had good results by preparing stock solutions of copper sulfate. Wooden barrels make convenient mixing and storage containers. Glass lined barrels are satisfactory but the corrosion of the copper sulfate solution eliminates the use of metal barrels. The rate is one or two pounds of copper sulfate per gallon of water.

Method Recommended
The recommended procedure in adding Bordeaux materials to the spray tank are as follows: After filling the tank from one-half to two-thirds full of water, wash the copper sulfate stock solution in a stream of water passing through the screen over the tank as the agitator is going. This method will also work if the copper sulfate powder is washed slowly into a stream of water falling into the spray tank. After all the copper sulfate is

Cover Crops Should Be Planted Early

Sow cover crop early in the fall and turn them under early in the spring, has been a standard recommendation for caneberry and fruit growers in the Willamette Valley for many years.

D. L. Rasmussen, Marion County agent, is reminding farmers of this area that it is still a good practice. He adds that early seeding, even in a dry year, is desirable. Germinations will follow any good rain. Farmers with irrigation systems can sprinkle irrigate after seeding to hasten a germination if soil should become too dry again, which is not thought likely as longer nights prevent evaporation.

Crimson clover, common or hairy vetch, oats, rye, turnips and chewing fescue are among the satisfactory cover crops for Willamette Valley caneberry and tree fruit plantings. Grower experience, cost of the seed and soil requirements will help the farmer decide what cover crop to use.

Cover crops add organic matter to the soil. Their decomposition supplies good material to other crops in the soil. The value of cover crops for erosion control is well established. Cover crops improve aeration and tilth of the soil. Rasmussen points out, adding that these are very much needed in the valley.

Fertilizing the cover crop is a good practice. Nitrogen is the most important element for fall cover crops. From 20 to 25 pounds of nitrogen per acre will speed early fall growth without delaying dormancy of the caneberry tree fruit plantings.

Car Hits Deer; Driver Injured

EUGENE — A deer bounded onto the McKenzie Highway in front of a car Monday night, and in the ensuing crash the deer was killed, the car wrecked, and the driver injured.

Jack Summerlin, 26, Long Beach, Calif., said he tried to avoid the crash, skidded on gravel, hit the animal and then plunged over a roadside embankment. His wife escaped injury, but Summerlin suffered an elbow cut.

Sheep Growers Give Approvals To Promotions

Oregon sheep producers joined the rest of the nation recently in approving a promotion program for wool and lambs. The program was approved by 72.2 percent of the sheep growers representing 9 million head.

This approval put into effect an agreement between Secretary of Agriculture Benson and the newly organized American Sheep Producers Council providing advertising, promotion, and related marketing activities.

Deductions from sheep producers' incentive wool payments will amount to one cent per pound of shorn wool and 5 cents per 100 pounds of live weight from lambs and yearling payments.

Ike Speaks For Modern Road Program

WASHINGTON — President Eisenhower spoke out again Tuesday for a modernized highway system and declared the country's economic growth "must not be stunted by a creeping paralysis of traffic."

The President called for support from a directly interested audience, the 53rd annual convention of the American Automobile Assn. From his vacation headquarters in Denver, Eisenhower sent a message asking the organization to "speak up again and again for prompt action on a highway system adequate for modern living."

Congress this year rejected the President's road-building recommendations, and administration leaders say highway legislation should be among the first items tackled next year.

Eisenhower proposed a special bond issue outside the national debt to finance a huge interstate highway network. Both that plan and another put forth by Democrats — providing for tax increases to expand the present system of footing road bills — were turned down.

"Motoring convenience, safe driving and national security must not be checked by a lack of roads," Eisenhower said Tuesday. "A modern road system is one of our great national needs."

About 700 delegates represent-

Fall Time to Dust Sheep

September is a good month in which to control sheep ticks, county agents are now reminding farmers.

Ticks can be controlled by spraying, dipping or dusting. The latter method is only recommended where the owner has a few sheep.

Several insecticides are effective against ticks, including DDT, methoxychlor, TDE, taxaphen, chlordane, lindane and rotenone. Suggestions are for 8 pounds of 50 per cent wettable DDT to be used in 100 gallons of water when a high pressure spray rig is used.

For preparing a dip, use from 4 to 8 pounds of 50 per cent wettable DDT powder to 100 gallons of water, or 8 ounces of 5 per cent rotenone powder to 100 gallons of water; a 10 per cent DDT dust will serve as an effective dust for the smaller flock.

If other materials are used, the county agents suggest that the manufacturer's recommendations are followed closely.

Russia Frees 1st Germans Under Pact

FRIEDLAND, Germany — Four Germans arrived at this repatriation center Tuesday after their release from more than 10 years of Russian captivity.

They were the first to be freed since Chancellor Konrad Adenauer returned from Moscow with a Russian promise that all Germans still held in the Soviet Union would be sent home.

The four returnees included a former German soldier and three civilians, among them a young woman with a 2-year-old child born in a Russian camp. The three civilians were deported to Russia from their native East Prussia after the war.

They reported a wave of excitement in sweeping the camps in Russia with every German hoping to be in the first mass transport home.

ing AAA's nearly five million members reported for the start of the three-day convention.

Fescue Screenings Can Be Poisonous

The feeding of nematode infested screenings to livestock can be extremely dangerous because of a poisonous effect, says O. E. Mikesell, Linn County extension agent.

Chewing fescue and red creeping fescue are the most commonly infested, but bentgrass seed may also contain nematodes. Screenings that are free of nematodes are those of common ryegrass, perennial ryegrass and alta fescue.

Mikesell advises that screenings from susceptible crops be destroyed by burning as a number of losses have occurred in Linn County in past years from feeding nematode infested screenings.

Negotiations Of U.S., Reds To 'Drag Out'

GENEVA, Switzerland — The seven-week-old negotiations between the United States and Communist China Tuesday appeared headed for a long period of complete secrecy as they began dealing with political matters for the first time.

At their 16th meeting Tuesday, U. S. Ambassador U. Alexis Johnson and Red Chinese envoy Wang Ping-Nan for the first time exchanged views on questions other than the release of civilians on both sides. Their next secret meeting was set for Friday.

It was learned that the two ambassadors agreed Tuesday to clamp down a complete security blanket on their discussions until further notice. The negotiations now about to begin concern economic, strategic and political questions.

Johnson later said, "It is only by restoring the private nature of these talks that we can hope to make any further progress."

'DING DONG' MAIL OSWEGO, N.Y. — (UP) — A three-year-old girl took her "Ding Dong School" lessons all too seriously. Police and postal workers received a hurry-up call from the child's mother who said the girl had mailed a mud pie to the television program's teacher by wrapping it in a paper towel and dropping it into a street letter box.

MOMMY By THE MOSSLERS



"I always get mixed up on Duncan Phyfe and those . . . but the legs go sort of like this!"

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