

Sentinel

COQUILLE, OREGON.

JUNE 16, 1949.

OUT OF THE WOODS

By Jim Stevens

A Society of Plants

A stump ranch that I owned back in the 1920's was what the foresters term "a society of plants" in a single ownership unit. However, it was on the highway, while I had to use a rickety home-made ferry to get in and out.

This single fact made my society of plants seem to be worthless in comparison with my neighbor's. On the other hand, my clearing grew thicker and richer grass than any pasture of my neighbor's produced. His was a much older farm. His pasture had been over-grazed and it had been burned over a number of times.

But he was located on a market road. I was not. And there were probably basic differences in the soils of the two places. Certainly there were other differences that called for different plans of management for our farm forest lands. But of course in the 1920's and 1930's no plan that cost much in time or money could have been put into practice by either my neighbor or me for improving stump land or tree land. How could such plans pay us back in those times? In no way at all that we could see. Yet we were wrong. Everybody was wrong about that in those days.

Soil Appreciation a Need

We could have done better on management of fire. The heat that destroys dead ferns, grass and brush also kills seedling trees as a rule; if there are seed sources in the neighborhood a hard fire devours humus, parches soil until it is dry as bones. Instead of "helping the grass," fire will in time ruin the grass crop. For three hundred years the American people have been using fire to turn tree land into grass land. On the true tree soil it will not work. On soil of this type the only crop that will thrive is the tree crop. In Idaho people used to take

up dry-land homesteads, saying, "Land that will grow sagebrush will grow wheat." Some nearly starved before they learned that this idea was wrong. It is also wrong when tagged on most land that grows big timber. Soil that will grow a good tree will not necessarily grow a good blade of grass.

On true tree soil the crop should be a natural society of forest plants. Bracken ferns are nature's nurses for Douglas fir seedlings, for example. What else are they good for? On the poor-soiled back forty they should not be fired but used to bring up the new tree crop to sapling sizes. Many other plants play a natural part in the society that grows on our true tree sites and soils.

You can raise trees on just about any site and soil that are to be found in this region. But the first rule on this is to use the right crop on the right soil. There are a number of points to apply in judging soils that are suited for cultivated crops. Your County Agricultural agent or Soil Conservation Service men will help anybody on them.

Sometimes, says the Soil Conservation Service, gravelly loam soils that are not too shallow will make the farmer more money with cultivated crops than with woods. Farm soils are further classified by the foresters in five divisions of "site quality." But even Site Quality Class V has its good uses on the farm. One farmer sells 7,500 Christmas trees per year off 160 acres of gravelly hillside.

Maybe you have a fern patch which seems to call for hand planting with seedlings. The class of site quality should be known before this question is decided. These surveys should go beyond the woodland and on to acreage at present in pasture or cultivation. It is possible that some cultivated or pasture acres should be added to the woodland and it is possible that some of the present woodland acres may be grassland or land for cultivated crop soils.

Human power is most properly used in preventing the occasion for its use; otherwise its use is abuse.—Mary Baker Eddy.



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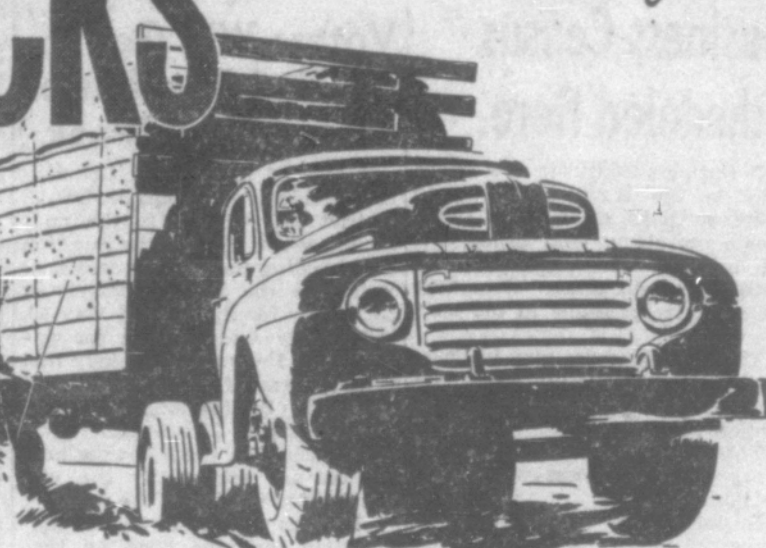
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Mast Hospital Joins Blue Cross Group

Mast hospital, Myrtle Point, today announced affiliation with Blue Cross plan for prepaid hospital-medical-surgical care, according to Paul Hammer, administrator. It becomes the second hospital in Coos county to offer full hospital service benefits to the many Blue Cross members here. McAuley hospital, Coos Bay, also accepted this week by Blue Cross, will bring to 47 the number sponsoring the Northwest Hospital service, operating organization of this nonprofit plan.

More than 21 per cent of the total population in the United States is now enrolled in Blue Cross for prepaid health care. Four thousand participating hospitals, with more than 85 per cent of all general hospital beds, offer benefits to 33,700,000 members.

Blue Cross offers the employed person, wife or husband and all unmarried children under 19, twenty-one days hospitalization for each separate ailment each year. This basic 21 days service, guaranteed by participating hospitals, more than covers the average Blue Cross patient. Less than three per cent require more than 21 days annual care. For members who need more hospitalization, 180 days at half benefits are offered for all except a few chronic cases such as cancer, heart ailments, paralysis, mental disorders or psychoneurotic conditions, pulmonary tuberculosis or quarantinable diseases. Included in the basic service benefits are the following without cost limitation: meals, special diets, general nursing in ward, operating and delivery room service, anaesthesia, x-rays, laboratory examinations, electrocardiograms and basal metabolism tests, splints, casts, dressings, medications and drugs, including the "miracle" drugs such as penicillin and streptomycin.

Maternity care up to ten days hospitalization is available and medical or surgical benefits, if desired. Surgical benefits are paid up to \$225 and medical benefits are furnished at \$3.00 a day for 21 days plus 180 days at \$1.50 if required.

Group enrollment with payroll deduction offers lower rates and increased benefits, with five the minimum required to form a group. Rural, trade or professional organizations are eligible for group enrollment. Self-employed persons or those working with less than five may join Blue Cross, however, by paying dues directly to the Northwest Hospital Service.

DAUGHTER BORN JUNE 3

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Jones are the parents of a daughter, Pamela Sue, born at Mast hospital on Friday, June 3. The baby weighed seven pounds, five ounces. Mrs. Irene Jones is the paternal grandmother, and Mrs. Irene Ragsdale of Rogers, Arkansas, is the maternal grandmother.

Alborn Shows Vacation Movies

A travel talk which proved extremely interesting was given on Friday evening by Evan Alborn before a large audience of Eagles and Eagles Auxiliary members. Mr. Alborn, who returned recently from a trip to the Caribbean, illustrated his talk with colored slides of the places he and his wife had visited.

The special program followed the regular meetings of the two organizations. New officers, installed the previous week, were in charge of the meetings. The state convention which will be held in Pendleton on June 23, 24, and 25 was discussed and arrangements were made to send delegates. Representing the auxiliary will be State trustee Hattie Gaffey, Mrs. George Adams, Mrs. Frank De Costa, Mrs. Tom Nesbitt and Mrs. Evan Alborn. The lodge will be represented by the local president, Frank De Costa, Evan Alborn and George Adams.

ANOTHER FOREST MAY BE SET UP BY COUNTY

A second county forest may be set up by the county court if plans go through it was learned this week. The forest would be in the Blue Ridge country at the upper end of Daniels creek. The land was obtained through tax delinquencies and is in an area noted for good timber growing, Judge L. D. Felsheim stated.

God has never ceased to be the one true aim of all right human aspirations.—Vinet.

Talks To Rotary Club At Coos Bay

Rev. Robert Lessing of St. James' Episcopal church gave a talk on the AA or Alcoholics Anonymous last week at the Coos Bay-North Bend Rotary meeting.

Father Lessing urged more understanding of alcoholics and said it was an allergy and like a craving for food, and that the men who drank couldn't help themselves. He stated that only through such efforts as the AA could they conquer their drinking urges.

Drivers Exams Set Wednesday

A drivers license examiner will be on duty in Coquille Wednesday, June 22, 1949, at the city hall between the hours of 9 a. m. and 4 p. m., according to an announcement received from the Secretary of State's office.

Persons wishing licenses or permits to drive are asked to get in touch with the examiner well ahead of the scheduled closing hour in order to assure completion of their applications with a minimum of delay.

DRESS SHOP PAINTED

Miss May's of Coquille has had a nice painting job done recently and it shines up a pastel pink. It adds much to the business district's good looks.

He that resolves upon any great and good end, has, by that very resolution, scaled the chief barrier to it.—Tryon Edwards.

PICNIC ON PISTOL RIVER

A group of Coquille people motored to Pistol River on Sunday where a picnic was held in honor of Miss Betty Wasson, who was celebrating her seventeenth birthday anniversary.

Attending were Mrs. E. B. Finley, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Haumschill, and Judy, Mrs. Minnie J. Stone, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. Don Wolgamott and Cathie, Hugh, Jean and Barbara McKinney, Lois Duncan, Jeanette Stone, Mary Miller, Joanne Walton, Kathleen Brockmann, Eula Shutt, Leal Stanford, Clair Howell, Freddie Finley, Richard Rush-ton, Clayton Weger and Jack Tozier.

Bandon Prepares Fish For Fourth

Bandon is busy these days stockpiling a lot of nice Pacific ocean fish for their annual 4th of July fish feed, and according to the people in that area, lots of interest is being evidenced by all Bandonites.

But it is not only the Bandon people who are planning for sea-shore July 4th. Also coming are hundreds of people from the Southern Oregon countryside, and other parts of the Oregon coast.



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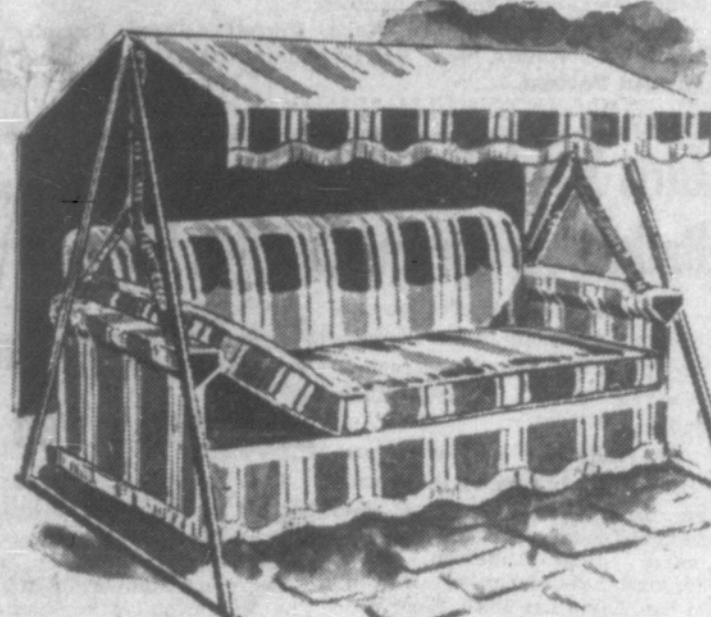
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