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**NEW MACHINE NOT  
RECOMMENDED**  
Farmers are Advised to Use  
Smut Treatment Known  
to be Safe.

The following article regarding the use of a new machine for treating smut in wheat was prepared by E. N. Pressman, associate professor of farm crops at Oregon State college, and has been released through the office of the Umatilla county agent in the wheat sections.

A new machine for treating smut in wheat and other small grains is being sold in Oregon. This machine is called the "gas grain-pickler." The method was called to the attention of the Experiment Station by County Agent Hall. County Agent Hall ran some preliminary tests with the apparatus and sent supplies of treated wheat to the Experiment Station at Corvallis for germination test. The wheat sample, from near the pipe that carries the gas to the grain, was absolutely killed. A composite sample of the treated wheat germinated only 12.5 per cent. It is apparent that this treatment hinders the germination of wheat.

The "pickler" uses paraformaldehyde as the material for killing the smut spores. The Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa Bulletin No. 81, New Series, says in regard to paraformaldehyde: "Since formalin gas in water, it is evident that in the formalin treatments it is the presence of the gas in the water that is responsible for the control of the smut."

This method of treating wheat for smut has been sold in Canada for several years and the above bulletin also states:

The properties of paraformaldehyde, however, preclude its use as a fungicide. Although paraformaldehyde is formed rather readily from formaldehyde, very little of the latter can be obtained when paraformaldehyde is heated. When cooled it is deposited again in its original form. It can therefore, be seen that paraformaldehyde gas is a poor source of formaldehyde gas. Besides when wheat is treated with formalin and then thoroughly dried, only a part of the formaldehyde evaporates; the remainder changes paraformaldehyde and is left a deposit in and on the seed coats. It has been conclusively shown that it is this substance which is responsible for the injury to germination.

"It was, therefore, not unexpected that a gas grain pickler put on the market in recent years proved to be a failure when thoroughly tested. It was found that when the gas generated by heating the paraformaldehyde was conducted through a perforated pipe into the grain, the greater part of the paraformaldehyde was deposited on the pipe or on the grain near the perforations of the pipe. The germination of the whitened grain was completely destroyed. Grain further away was not injured, but the bunt in it was not controlled by the treatment. The farmer is, therefore, strongly advised to use as a treatment one that has been shown by controlled experiments to be safe and effective, if he wishes to get results that are always safe and satisfactory.

J. C. Taggart, Superintendent of the Experiment Station for Southwestern Saskatchewan, informs us that the "Gas Grain Pickler" has been tested at a number of stations in Western Canada and has been found to be wholly ineffective for the

control of smut in wheat."

The Oregon Experiment Station is conducting tests with the "pickler" this year to get additional information on the matter. However, in view of the positive statements from the Canadian Experiment Stations there is no doubt that this method is ineffective.

The Oregon Experiment Station still definitely recommends the use of copper carbonate for treating smut (bunt) in wheat, and the standard formaldehyde treatment for smuts in oats and barley. Circulars on these methods may be obtained from the Experiment Station.

**Out for Coast Title**

Ted Roy, Pilot Rock, the "singing blacksmith" of Oregon State college, who gained state-wide recognition by winning the Atwater Kent radio audition contest in Portland, October 8 left Saturday for San Francisco to enter the divisional contest there. He will compete with winners of state contests in Washington, Idaho, Montana, Utah, Nevada, Wyoming, Arizona and Northern and Southern California. The divisional contests were held in San Francisco, Monday, from 11 o'clock until midnight over radio KPO. The winner will represent the Pacific coast in the national audition contest in New York city, December 11.

**Knight-Dickenson**

Miss Gladys Dickenson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sims Dickenson, became the bride of Henry Knight, son of the late Hiram Knight, Sunday afternoon at 2 p. m., in Pendleton at the Methodist parsonage, Reverend Wire officiating. They were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Dickenson. The happy couple left immediately for Portland, where they will spend a few days before continuing on to Phoenix, Arizona, to reside. A surprise came to them when a party of young people were waiting with a shower of rice and old shoes to bid them well on their way. Mr. and Mrs. Knight were both former Athena high school students. Friends are giving them congratulations.

**Forty-Two Year Snuff**

Henry Barrett is displaying a package of Chinese snuff; anyway it was that long ago when Sam, a Chinaman, worked for the late Henry Adams on his farm east of Weston, and the snuff was left there by Sam. All drolled up in a package covered with Chinese characters printed in red ink, Henry took it to Jim, cooky at the Athena Hotel for classification. "All same snuff," said Jim.

**Tractor Kills Farmer**

Medford.—Christopher Witte, 44, farmer of the Central Point district, was killed instantly Saturday when a tractor he was driving fell upon him. The machine hit a depression in the field and fell backwards. Witte was to have been married next week to Miss Jennie Randall, 49, a nurse. He will be buried in his wedding clothes. Witte's brother was an eye witness of the tragedy.

**Spring Water Overflow**

Athena is reaping one great advantage from the excessive rainfall of the past two months. An abundance of spring water in the gravity system of the water works continues to furnish an overflow at the reservoir.

**Attend Pendleton Lodge**

Lew McNair, York Dell, Clarence Benefield, Ernest Duncan and Henry Booher comprised a party of Knights of Pythias, who attended lodge in Pendleton, Monday night.

**Senator Dill Expects  
Congress to Act**

Expectation that farm relief will take precedence over tax reduction and other subjects of legislation in the coming session of congress was expressed by Senator Dill, democrat, of Spokane, upon his departure for Washington says the Oregonian.

"Farm relief looms as the dominant question in congress," Senator Dill said in a newspaper interview. "The so-called farm block, the congressmen who are fighting for farm relief, will not be satisfied with any decoy measure intended to give temporary relief. They want something that will go to the root of the question, something that will remove the farm surplus as a reason for cutting the price of the entire crop below the cost of production."

The McNary-Haugen bill will not necessarily pass, but whatever is passed must care for the surplus. The government could handle the surplus and, if necessary, take it out of the treasury. The government could well afford to do so.

**Honored With Shower**

A beautiful bridal shower was held at the home of Mrs. Alex McIntyre, Monday evening when Mrs. McIntyre assisted by Miss Hilda Dickenson, Mrs. Jesse Myrick, Mrs. Arnold Wood, Mrs. Marion Hansell and Mrs. Max Hopper entertained in honor of Mrs. Paul Lieuallen (nee Edna Pinkerton.) The spacious rooms were tastefully decorated in pink and white, chrysanthemums being used extensively. The dining table presented a fitting scene, when a large bride's cake with tiny bride and groom under a canopy and wedding bell was the center piece, and pink tapers tied with white tulle and pink and white streamers. Mrs. Lieuallen cut the wedding cake while Mrs. Fred Pinkerton, mother of the bride poured and Mrs. Lawrence Lieuallen cut ices. About thirty-five guests enjoyed the evening in appropriate games, Miss Edna DeFrees winning first prize. The honoree was the recipient of many beautiful gifts.

**Weston Won, 2-0**

In a hard and closely contested football game played on the local gridiron, Tuesday afternoon, Weston high school won from Athena 2-0. The teams were so evenly matched that the winning of the game depended entirely on breaks, and when the break came it went to Weston. The score was made on a safety, when an Athena player unintentionally pushed the ball over his own goal line. Earlier in the season Weston and Athena played to a 6-6 tie on the Weston grounds. Athena was defeated Saturday by the Pendleton high school second team, 6-0.

**Two American Radio  
Relay Stations are  
Located in Athena**

Athena has two American radio relay stations. One is owned and operated by C. M. Eager, and the other by R. B. McEwen. The former station has been active all fall, and the latter will be in operation soon, when messages will be accepted for any part of the United States and will be handled free of charge.

Recently Mr. Eager relayed a message from a South Dakota station for a party in Spokane, and a week or so after, this Spokane man passed through Athena, found Mr. Eager and thanked him for sending the message.

Nightly radio messages are being handled by amateur radio fans, the number of which are 20,000 throughout the United States. Stations recently communicated with by Mr. Eager are located in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Alabama, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Oklahoma, Wyoming and California.

The American Radio Relay league is practically a world wide organization and many foreign stations are communicating with United States stations regularly. In addition to the message work which is in the Code, many amateurs have the wireless phone also, the distance for this is of course limited to their power. Mr. Eager recently talked to stations in Marshfield with his phone.

**Arrest Warrant Issued  
for Davis and Best**

Emory Davis and E. H. Best, squatters on the Umpqua national forest, says the Portland Oregonian, who were given 60 days in which to quit the land when they were haled into federal court at Portland September 15, were still on the land at the expiration of this time, the United States district attorney's office was advised. A bench warrant was issued for their apprehension and Loren C. Cochran, deputy United States marshal, was sent to bring them in.

Davis is a veteran of the Spanish-American war and Best a veteran of the world war. Several months ago they took up their residence high in the Cascades between Roseburg and Diamond lake in the heart of a forest reserve. The forestry service ordered them off, with little or no success.

Action was then started in the federal court and they were ordered off by a decree. No attention was paid to this. They were then held to be in contempt, brought to Portland and taken before Judge McNary. The court allowed them 60 days in which to quit and they promised to leave by the expiration of this period, unless the government should reclassify the land upon which they have squatted as agricultural land and open to homestead entry. This has not been done.

Best is married and with his family is living in a shack on the homestead he has squatted upon, while Davis has also built a small house.

**CLASSIFIED**

Lost—Boston Screwtail dog, wearing Walla Walla city license tag No. 439. Lost between Weston and Athena November 18. Reward \$25 if returned to Ed. Kimsey, 517 Bryant Avenue, Walla Walla, Washington.

Pigs—Two month old pigs for sale. Virgil Zerba, Phone 26F15.

Lost—Small black purse containing sum of money and Post Office key. Hammit A. Price.

For Sale—5 Tube Radio. Will install and guarantee. H. W. LeRoy, at Mrs. Kirk's cottage, South Third street.

For Sale—At a bargain, Cadillac sedan, run 33,000 miles. Chance Rogers.

I am prepared to do concrete curbing around cemetery lots, at reasonable prices. J. E. Crowley, phone 363, Athena.

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