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Giles L. French Editor

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CHRISTMAS

The annual Christmas lull has begun when activity on so many fronts ceases until after the holiday. Christmas is on every mind, on that of the boy who wants a pair of skates, the child who will be overjoyed with a tractor, the girl with something to decorate herself, and the older ones with expectancy of some remembrance from others long accustomed to observe the time.

To see business stop for a week or two would be cause for alarm at any other time while at Christmas it seems appropriate that all should pause in the usual attachment to affairs of profit for a week or so and pay attention to more noble things.

Christmas is a celebration of the birth of Christ to whom we look for the spiritual guidance that lifts us out of worldly matters and makes us not mere physical beings who trample out the corn but men and women with ideals to uphold and responsibilities to carry on toward ourselves and our Creator.

MORE WHEAT IN LESS TIME

The Portland Oregonian and the Farm Journal have both had articles recently which give the general opinion that by the use of enough nitrogen wheat growers of the Pacific northwest and especially the Columbia basin can produce a crop every year. The summer fallow system may be doomed, is the general tenor of the stories.

It is true that the summer-fallow system does not save all the moisture that falls on the land in the two year period. Poor summerfallow saves very little of it, in fact. For that portion of the Columbia river basin that lies close enough to the Blue mountains to get up to 20 inches of rainfall per year it is probable that with applications of fertilizer a crop could be grown every year.

In the pea district around Athena farmers can now take a crop of peas, one of wheat before fallowing, making a three year rotation.

Success of these tests in yearly cropping has been found because moisture conditions in recent years have been better than average in this area. Not all years have been wet ones, but the moisture in the soil in the fifth and sixth foot has been above average and that is often the test of a successful crop.

In much of Umatilla county nitrogen has been the limiting factor in the production of wheat. That is true when the rainfall is in excess of 15 inches or an amount near that figure.

In the greater part of the Columbia basin the rainfall is between 10 and 12 inches and under such conditions rainfall is the limiting factor and all the nitrogen in Muscle Shoals will not grow a crop of wheat without moisture. Yearly cropping would surely reduce the deep soil moisture so much that no satisfactory crop would grow.

It is true that one of the beneficial results of fallowing is to keep some moisture. Fallow in the fall should have moisture within two to four inches from the top of the ground. Cropped land should be dry for two or three feet unless rains have been very plentiful. There should also be more moisture in the fifth and sixth foot in fallow.

It is very nice of reporters to come in and tell us how to farm and some of them may have some good ideas to contribute. Yet, as a long range program for the greater part of the Oregon wheat belt using nitrogen as a substitute for rain is somewhat far-fetched.

WEATHER

The old timer squinted at the leaden sky and thought to himself that maybe there had been too much delay about the threatened snow storm and that it wouldn't come after all, despite several days when a foot of snow seemed imminent. By keeping his weather thoughts to himself the old timer proved himself an old timer. Newcomers of ten to forty years commented on the weather.

For nearly a week the skies have grown gray nearly every day, the wind has stilled as if presaging a storm. The temperature has been right for a big snow. Nothing of that nature has occurred.

Some days the sun broke out again, once the wind switched to the west as another storm hit the coast and came busting inland to drive away the snow clouds. Even at night the thermometer has not dropped below 24 or 25 degrees although we are sure some one's thermometer has disagreed.

Oddly snow fell at Wasco and missed Moro which is an oddity. Flakes have drifted down quietly now and then but the big snow has not materialized. No body would care much if it did for there is little frost in the ground and a nice big snow would tuck the crop in under a big blanket and make the farmers happy.

Want Ads

WANTED: Good used piano for public school use. Contact Mr. Townsend, Phone 711, or Mr. Keyes. 6-8c

FOR SALE: Hand made gifts. Mrs. A. F. Balzer, Grass Valley, Oregon. 6c

FOR SALE: 1939 Nash Lafayette. G. A. Mitchell, Moro. 7c

LOST: Four head Durham cattle branded circle W on right rib. W. E. Bruckert, Wasco. 7p

WANT TO RENT: Grain land. Share crop. Have tools and equipment. Write T. B. Preuit, 3115 N. Watis, Portland 17, Oregon. 6-9p

FOR SALE: 8 complete plow bottoms, model 66, cast, John Deere, new shares and used shares and all parts, including extra midboards. Tex Irzyk, Moro, Oregon. 50fta

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Bethlehem Chapter No. 75. O.M.S. Meets every second and fourth Thursday in each month; visiting members invited. Moro, Oregon. Gwen Ross, W. M. Naomi Van Gilder, Secretary

Moro Lodge No. 113 I.O.O.F. Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in I.O.O.F. hall. Transient and visiting brothers are cordially invited to meet with us. Earl Gentry, N. G. Leo Watkins, Secretary

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, Jesse Helyer, has been appointed Administrator of the estate of Barbara Helyer, deceased, and has qualified as such Administrator. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified and required to present the same, duly verified to the undersigned, at Kent, Oregon, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice, to-wit: December 14, 1951.
Jesse Helyer
Administrator
Donald E. Heisler
Attorney for Administrator 6-9c

Lupine Rebekah Lodge No. 116 Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Visiting members welcome. Gladys Morrison, N.G. Helen Martin, Sec.

Eureka Lodge No. 121 A.F. & A.M. Meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday evening each month. Visiting members cordially invited to meet with us. Donald Martin, W.M. H. B. Pinkerton, Secretary

Merry Christmas
Seasons Greetings and Happy New Year to everyone
We hope your hearts are singing carols of joy
1951
Flatt Truck Line

BEST CHRISTMAS WISHES
This is the day which the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. Psalms 118:24
John and Joy Parker
RANCH AND HOME

Merry Christmas
The best of Holiday Wishes from Sherman County Abstract Co.
Have yourselves a wonderful holiday
1951

Christmas Greetings 1951
Moro Lumber & Fuel Co.
Mike and Mary Ann Mulick

Merry Christmas
We add our voice to the chorus calling for abiding hope and peace
1951

May & Son
GREETINGS
Merry Christmas to all and a Happy New Year from DALE'S CLOTHING WASCO, OREGON
The abiding peace of Christmas be in your hearts
1951

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How To Make An Attractive Christmas Decoration From Candle Ends. First we want to extend our warmest personal wish to you for a very Merry Christmas!
Make floating candle "flowers" from candle ends! Simply remove wicks from candle ends... melt down wax... pour wax into muffin molds, using same wicks again... when hard, heat mold slightly to remove.
Floating "flowers" make effective conversation pieces... as part of Christmas table or fireplace-mantle decorations.
Many thanks for your patronage of our local business during the year, and best wishes to you for a happy 1952!
Distributed by
Keith McDonald
Phone 552 Wasco, Oregon