

REPRESENTATIVE WILKES DEFINES HIS POLICY

Salem, Oregon—Representative L. E. Wilkes of Hillsboro, has definitely defined his policy in the State Legislature this year to be that of friendly cooperation with his colleagues here at Salem, but also close attention to the instructions and needs of those at home.

In committee on counties and cities he sent in a minority report on house bill No. 182, which provides that office hours in county offices of counties of less than 100,000 population shall be 8 A. M. to 5 P. M. on five days of the week and on Saturdays 8 A. M. to 1 P. M. Representative Wilkes presented the point of view that Saturday afternoon was the farmer's day in town and closing at 1 o'clock that day would inconvenience him.

J. F. Clark, representative from

Clackamas County, introducer of the bill, suggested that since the general use of the automobile the farmer more often came to town after the morning's work and since at present many of the county offices are closed from twelve to one he was obliged to wait around until their opening. The proposed measure would keep them open during the noon hour.

Representative Wilkes asked Mr. Clark to delay bringing the bill back from committee for vote in the House until he might determine what Washington County wanted.

Mr. and Mrs. Myers, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Place, Mrs. Sanders and daughter and Mrs. Rockwell and sons, William and Henry spent Sunday evening visiting at the home of Homer Wolf.

Mrs. Cook is offering stamps to all in her room who get two one hundreds in their work.

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ALOHA

H. A. Lowrey injured his left shoulder very seriously Wednesday when his car slid into a ditch.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Ewer moved Saturday to their new home at the corner of Wheeler and Blanton Sts.

Mrs. J. A. Coward is greatly improved.

Mrs. H. Weaver is slowly improving.

L. Gilmore and family drove to Mt. Hood Sunday. The snow was 8 feet deep at Battle Ax and there was only one line of traffic.

S. W. Kelly celebrated his 80th birthday Monday at the home of his nephew, J. E. Tuttle.

Mrs. V. Kearney and daughter were dinner guests of Mrs. L. Gilmore Tuesday.

Mrs. Markovitch and daughter, Marie returned Saturday from a two weeks trip to California.

J. E. Mitzell, of Huber, while on his way to Portland, saw a garage on fire stopped and put it out and then drove on.

ALOHA-HUBER SCHOOL

Ruby Zastrow of the 7th grade who has been ill returned to school this week.

The 8th grade are planning a party to be given in the near future.

Vivian Wilson is greatly improved.

Mrs. Saxton and Mrs. Twoby visited the 6th grade Friday.

The Parent-Teachers Association cleared \$42 at the cafeteria Friday.

George Wilson, Katherine Markovitch and Walter Miller of the 7th grade, made such high grades in their studies that they will take up 8th grade history.

In the 7th grade there were eight who passed in the physiology exams and 12 in the geography classes. Four of whom made a grade of 90 or over.

Mrs. L. Gilmore was a visitor in the 7th grade Wednesday.

The first year sewing met Wed.

Betty Buchanan and Eva Wolf demonstrated how to make biscuits at the

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last meeting of the Cookie Cutters. The meetings will be held on Tuesday, commencing with next week, and Nellie Mitzell and Dorothy Markovitch will demonstrate how to make muffins.

The 6th grade are making Valentines this week, at least part of them are and the rest hope to do so. Any pupil that has a perfect lesson receives a red heart and when they win five red hearts they are given a gold heart and allowed to make valentines.

Mildred Twoby, Elmer Larson, Elsworth Jones, Leonard Rohrbach, Esther McKeown, Jean Lewis, Rex Saxton and Kenneth Wells completed mid year tests in healthy living. Divided into groups they will do supplementary reading along historical lines. This will give them an opportunity to perfect their reading habits.

The members of the 6th grade who have been studying Europe made up some good looking ten page booklets filled with pictures of European scenes and short write ups. Most of the pictures were taken from magazines and the class made them up without any help from the teacher.

County Superintendent, N. A. Frost attended school Friday and spoke to the pupils. He complimented the Parent-Teachers Association on the work they were doing. His speech was on "Thrift."

The following pupils passed the mid-term exams in hygiene and geography: Wallace Bush, Marion Lewis, Kenneth Sundberg, Geo. Wilson, Rosalie Reed, Lester Teschner, Clarence Harenden, Jerome Tuttle, Helen DiMayo, Eva Wolf, Marjorie Buchanan, Katherine Markovitch, Esther Mc-

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Humberg entertained with 500 Friday evening. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Erskine, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Noslor, Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Edwards. Mrs. Erskine won high score and Mr. E. P. Edwards the booby. Keown, Rex Saxton, Kenneth Wells, Sylvia Carlson, Pearl Dudley, Edna Fuller, Ellsworth Jones and Jean Lewis.

Last Friday, the day of the P.T.A. cafeteria at school, the primary room enjoyed visits from the following parents either for a part of the day or for all day: Mr. and Mrs. Bartel, Mr. and Mrs. Saxton, Mr. Earnest Wolfe, Mrs. White, Mrs. Hogen, Mrs. Sivard, Mrs. Schlottman, Mrs. Pulver, Mrs. Ewer, Mrs. Beattie, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Twoby and Mrs. Teschner.

Jack Mortimer, after an absence of several weeks on account of sickness, returned to school last week but is out again this week.

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LATEST METHODS GIVEN ON PRUNING

Walter E. Upshaw

Pruning methods today are radically different from those of a few years ago.

The best horticulturists and experiment station experts formerly recommended a pruning system that was very disastrous to fruit production.

These remarks apply principally to apples, but can be made to apply to pears and prunes also.

The keynote of successful pruning is the realization of the more or less perfect balance which nature maintains between the root system and top of a tree.

The object of pruning is, of course, the production of fruit. I mean that by our pruning we expect to either increase the quantity or improve the quality, or both. Any pruning which seriously upsets the balance of a tree is certainly not conducive to fruit production.

If we remove a part of the top, we unbalance the tree to just that extent. When the tree is unbalanced by severe pruning, it proceeds with the first flow of sap in the spring to regain its balance. This means a great amount of sucker growth and in the case branches have been headed in, a wood growth from fruit spurs as well.

You now have a tree in an abnormal condition. The tree is doing its best, by a wild growth of wood, to get back into balanced, or normal condition. A normal condition is a fruitful condition and a fruitful condition means a nice balance between wood growth and fruit production.

A tree may be unbalanced in another way, and that is where the top is too much for the root system to support. A tree in this condition will have light colored foliage, will make no wood growth at all and while it may bloom fairly well, it does not set fruit. In young trees this occurs from mechanical injuries to the root system, such as plow injuries, or gophers. Such trees may be headed in so as to make up for the loss of root system.

A young tree dug in the nursery row, reaches the orchard in an unbalanced condition. The root system has been pruned and disturbed and that is why we cut back the top of a young tree when setting it out.

This cutting back makes up for the root loss, and the first year we get a good vigorous growth.

Right here is where we made our mistakes in the past. We thought when we headed in our young trees, to mere stubs, the first three years, that we were making our trees strong and stocky, but such was not the case. The strong sappy wood growth which results from the heavy heading

in of young trees, looks more like vigor and strength than the slow normal growth, resulting from a more drastic pruning system. Here is the joker. The heavy growth made by the tree in a wild attempt to regain a balance and a very large part of this growth is not a continuation of the previous seasons growth but just simply to get back where it was at the end of the last growing season.

This district is full of orchards from twelve to twenty years old that have never borne a profitable crop of fruit, because of too much pruning.

You may take out large limbs boldly, with less damage to your tree than would result if you gave the ends of all the branches a light heading in. This statement applies more to a bearing tree. The reason for this is that the shock of removing a branch is taken up more in sucker growth at the place where the cut was made. This growth is easy to handle but the heading will cause, as I said before, a wood growth from spurs and fruit buds which is very hard to manage.

If you have young trees of bearing age, that are not doing their stuff and you want to change from the short system of pruning to a long, you will find the change hard to make, because of the long glad like shoots which have resulted from your heading in processes. You will find that these whip like limbs are so spindly and weak and probably they are, but if you want your tree to get back to a balance, quit heading regardless of the length of the growth, at least until your tree is well spured out.

After the tree is bearing you cut back lightly or in some cases cut back at the first lateral.

In closing I would say that you had better confine your pruning to trees from three years of age to a thinning out of branches, so that the sun can get into the top and stop giving your trees a hair cut.

In case of trees which have not been pruned for years, you had better spread your pruning over a number of years. If you take out all the wood that looks like it should come out, you will have an unbalanced tree, producing wood instead of fruit.

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