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RURAL TRENDS

ROGER M. KYES
Director, National Farm Youth Foundation

MORE TOOLS

The vast quantities of ships and tanks and planes and guns we are called upon to manufacture for national defense could never be made without the marvelous machine tools industry has devised.

Tools multiply the amount of work a pair of hands—or a hundred thousand pairs—can do. They made possible our streamlined production methods, which are based on turning out thousands of parts, all exactly alike, all interchangeable.

And just as industry has speeded up, so is agriculture being called upon to speed up, to produce more. Men who are working hard eat more. Men who are in the army and navy eat more, and they deserve more. And men who are being called into industry and into military service are being taken in part from food-producing farming.

And now we have the job of providing a great part of the food supplies for the nations that are fighting aggression. All of this means that just at the time when agriculture is asked for its greatest production of all time, we have an increasing shortage of farm labor.

The answer to the challenge is tools, and still more tools. Fortunately, we do not have to design new tools. Manufacturers are ready to produce more of the tools that have been proved in actual use for many years. Constant improvements have been made in this equipment, to make it more and more efficient.

Today, tractors are made that, with their implements, can be operated with perfect safety by young boys or girls, who can do just as good a job of plowing, planting, cultivating, or harvesting as grown men under most circumstances.

Fortunately, too, agricultural implements and tractors are given a high priority rating by the government, recognizing the need for increased farm production. There may be at times shortages of metals, and delays in delivery, but generally speaking, it promises to be much easier to secure up-to-date farm equipment than to obtain most other peace time merchandise.

This column advises every farmer to plan now for much greater production during the coming season, especially production of crops other than the staples of which we already have surpluses. The big demand is for vegetables, dairy products and meat.

To plan for this increased production, the first step is to check over every implement on the farm, including the tractor. See that necessary repairs are made now, when parts are available. Valuable growing time may be lost by putting off this job until the last minute.

Then study carefully the needs of the farm, with increased production in mind. If a new tractor, or new implements are needed, arrange to get that equipment well before your season begins. Today, this equipment can be bought for immediate delivery. In the spring, you may have to wait, and again lose valuable growing time, for the weather never fits itself into the capacities of your equipment.

Farmers are foresighted and forehanded people. They know how important it is to plan in advance. Now, more than ever before, that advance planning will pay dividends, as well as contribute to national welfare.

RHUBARB GOOD FOR YOU

Rhubarb is one of those rather odd vegetables used like fruit, just as the tomato is a fruit used like a vegetable. Those who enjoy their rhubarb sauce or one of the many delectable forms of rhubarb pie may take satisfaction in the fact that dieticians at O. S. C. say this early spring product is also a good "protective food." Rhubarb as a source of vitamin C is about half as good as the tomato, long known as one of the best.

Mrs. Charles A. White has been confined to her home this week with illness.

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HINDSIGHT ON SPORTS

By I TOLD YOU SO

Leonard "Pat" Patterson, athletic coach at Jacksonville high school, is angling for a new job, it was revealed this week. Patterson, whose team won the recent SOCE hoop tournament, is having financial difficulties at Jacksonville and now has feelers out on several positions.

Pat has been at Jacksonville for three years and in that time has built a record that any coach would be proud to have. His football teams have won 22 straight games and have been county champions three years in a row. His baseball teams have won 14 out of 18 games, including a defeat of Ashland last spring. This season his baseball team will be in class "A" league with Ashland, Medford and Grants Pass.

Out of 63 basketball games his club has won 55. They copied the SOCE tourney in his first year and repeated again this past week. Last season his team finished fourth in state class "B" competition.

Of the tight games lost, four of these were to Butte Falls and the total difference between these two teams is 10 points. This is a mighty good record for any school and for any coach and we hope Patterson gets his difficulties ironed out and stays at Jacksonville, but this is a matter that is up to the school authorities.

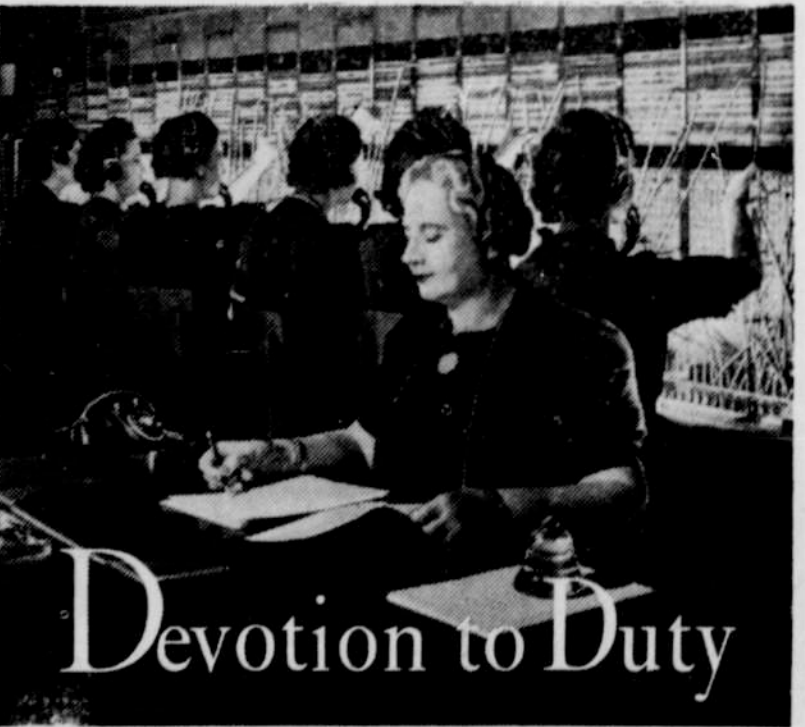
The district track and field meet was to be held at the new Walter Phillips field at Ashland high school this spring but, because WPA crews have not completed the project, the plan has been dropped. . . . Ashland high's baseball team has reached no farther than the talk stage as yet. . . . Word from Martin Herrin, star high school football player last season, says he likes the Marines but longs for a crack at a Jap and less marching and drilling.

Jandreau Leads All Scorers in Basketball

Charlie Jandreau, playing his final year of basketball competition for Ashland high school, led all scorers in the season just finished when he scored a total of 229 points, an average of 12 2/3 points per game. Bud Provost, also a senior, was second high with 182 points, averaging 9.6 per game. Barney Riggs, sophomore, was the only team member to play in all 21 games.

Ashland scored 636 points to their opponents' 536 and averaged 33.4 points per game, against the opponents' 28.1.

The season record for the squad follows:
Provost: Total points 182; fouls committed 39; free throws tried 66, free throws made 32.
Jandreau: 229, 32, 52, 25.
Fowler: 61, 38, 27, 9.



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Lopez, Brazil Top Armory Mat Card

Continuing his policy to bring southern Oregon wrestling fans the best available talent, Promoter Mack Lillard has matched Vincent Lopez, the rough and tough Mexican heavyweight and former world champion, with Pedro Brazil, South American champion who has yet to be defeated in this section of the country, in his top one hour main event at Medford armory next Monday night.

Jim Casey, who proved a big favorite in winning his match last Monday, will face Cy Williams, the hated Floridian, in the middle go of six 10-minute rounds.

In the opener, for four 10-minute rounds, a newcomer from Finland, Arn Kallio, will meet Andre Adoree, the French-Canadian. Kallio, weighing about 200 pounds, is light for this class of competition but makes up for lack of weight with speed and ability.

The first match begins at 8:30 p. m. and two out of three falls will decide all matches.

Mrs. Bert Larsen is spending several days with Mr. Larsen at Dunsuir. He is employed by the Southern Pacific there.

Dom Provost was a Dunsuir business visitor Thursday.

Mrs. Minnie Newton of Independence visited her sons and their families in the valley this week, the Gary Newtons of Ashland and the Dee Newtons of Medford.

Mr. and Mrs. T. L. O'Harra are in Caves Junction on business.

Riggs: 83, 48, 42, 15.
Smith: 6, 5, 4, 0.
Balfour: 23, 8, 9, 3.
Dunn: 4, 6, 2, 0.
Green: 22, 4, 6, 2.
Elam: 16, 2, 5, 2.
Griffith: 5, 6, 2, 1.
Bartelt: 4, 7, 1, 0.
Kannasto: No score.

VICTORY GARDEN EFFORT

The Oregon victory garden program is providing an outlet for the desires of many older citizens to contribute valuable service toward the war effort, reports O. T. McWhorter, extension horticulturist at Oregon State college. At a recent meeting one of these "senior citizens" who had retired from active life remarked that he had not grown a garden for several years but was going to this year. "I used to grow a garden and this year I am getting back into harness and will plant a garden to raise the food that we need at home," he said.

McWhorter says he has encountered frequent instances of this kind. Most of these older people have had previous farm experience and already know the fundamentals of good gardening practice, but are interested in knowing about the new developments in home gardening, new varieties and the like. Any who use their skill in this way will be making a valuable contribution toward the total war effort, says McWhorter.

LITHIA

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