

College Honor Roll Plant Experts From Other States Lists Ashlanders Visit Rogue Valley Orchards

Continued from Page One

Lakeview; Ernest Bretzel, Myrtle Point; Dave Campbell, Takilma; Mary Campynol, Milwaukie; Andrew O Castello, Ewa T. H.; Lester Cingcade, Oakland; Gunvor Clute, John Eggink, Marjorie Englesby and Mary Swart, Portland; Ivy Coffey, New Delhi, India.

Margaret Dyer, Etna, Calif.; William Hansen, Junction City; Charlotte Harris, Talent; Marjorie Hollister Keating, Springfield; Arlene Hooker, Great Falls, Mon; Kenneth Humphreys, Eastside; Larry Johnson, Malin; Alanna King, Seal Rock; Frank Koch, Central Point; Lewis Krauss and Dorothy Warren, Selma; Patsy Lynn, Pasadena.

Lois Milne, Cornelius; Kenneth Mohney, Salem; Carreen Molthu, Coquille; Nan Rethmeyer, Gold Hill; Robert G. Smith, Eugene; Ora Strom, Chiloquin; Stafford Thomas, Melbourne, Australia; Darel Verley and Mary Ellen Yost, Tulelake; Phyllis Wallen, Meama.

SOCIAL DANCE CLASS INVITES PARTICIPANTS

Ashland townspeople are invited to take part in a class in social dancing which will be held at 7:30 every Tuesday evening at Memorial Court, according to Beverley Bennett, instructor in physical education. The popular course was originally scheduled at 3 o'clock Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons but has been changed to the Tuesday evening hour.

The dance class is the only one being offered in the evening during the summer session.

CLARENCE DAVIES PRES. OF LOCAL STUDY GROUP

Clarence Davies, Eagle Point was elected president of the Medievalists, a study group at Southern Oregon college, when the group met Monday. Mrs. Nellie Young, Talent was named secretary.

On Thursday of this week, the club will visit the home of Mrs. Sam B. McNair, 361 Scenic Drive to observe her collection of historical material. Dr. Arthur S. Taylor, professor of social science, is advisor to the 43-member group.

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By C. B. CORDY

We had quite a distinguished group of visitors in the valley last week and it was quite interesting to go around to the different orchards with them. They were a group of plant pathologists who have been working on the virus diseases of stone fruits. Their training was much broader than virus diseases, but that happens to be what they are specializing in at this time.

There were representatives here from New York, Canada, Oregon, Washington, California, Utah, and one young fellow from Switzerland.

The disease they were principally interested in here was the albino disease of cherry. This is the only place in the country where it exists, and it's one of the most destructive diseases of stone fruits. Most of the virus diseases weaken the trees or ruin crops, but this particular one not only ruins the crops but in most cases it kills the tree within a few years. It was first observed here about fifteen years ago in the Ashland area, but since that time it has pretty well cleaned out the commercial cherry industry in Ashland, and it has made considerable progress in cleaning the cherries out in the rest of the valley. We have a lot of affected trees both in the City of Ashland and Medford.

One of the most distinct symptoms of the disease is the failure of the fruit to color and ripen properly. This is especially true in the Bing and Royal Anne varieties. The fruit seems to develop normally until about three weeks before harvest, and then the fruit on the diseased limbs stops developing. When the other fruit is full grown and colored, the diseased ones will still be only partially grown and more or less colorless. Sometimes late infections get started and the fruit reaches a further stage of maturity, but even these are not normal. In many cases the disease will be spotted over an entire tree, and you have an intermixture of normal and diseased fruits. In many cases the disease will spread rapidly throughout the tree and in a short time the tree will die. In other cases the tree loses its vigor and continues to produce the small immature cherries but does not completely die.

We have located one seedling tree in Ashland which has been top worked to Bing. One of the branches is diseased with albino, and has been for the last three years. Under normal circumstances we would expect to find this disease spreading throughout the tree, but it's still

confined to the one limb in which it first appeared. This gives some hope that the tree which it is grafted onto may be resistant to the disease and will not allow the virus to pass thru it to get to the other limbs. If this is the case we could use that variety as a root and trunk stock and graft our acceptable varieties, such as Bing and Royal Anne, onto it, then if the trees became infected the infection would be confined to a single limb which could be cut off or possibly cut back and re-grafted, and the rest of the tree would not be affected.

Developments in the control of virus diseases come very slowly, so we shouldn't anticipate any immediate relief. However, this group is working on the problem and we never know when something will turn up that will benefit us.

While these virus specialists were here the pear growers got together and invited them to a meeting to discuss the pear measles problem. Pear measles is the most serious trouble that we have in the production of the Bosc pear. It's likely that at least 25 per cent of our trees are infected. The disease affects both the fruit and the tree and while the cullage is serious, it's not as serious as the high percentage of infected trees might indicate. However, in some cases it has caused enough loss so that some growers have grafted their tree over to another variety rather than take the yearly loss from pear measles.

Our pear growers thought as long as this group was working on virus diseases they would like to have them include pear measles in their study. By and large, the group of virus specialists was unaware of the seriousness of the problem in Bosc, but after meeting with this group of growers there seems to be a good chance that it can be included in the virus studies.

Another disease which has been causing us considerable worry and loss has been one which is commonly known as blast. This trouble was originally confined almost exclusively to the Winter Nelis variety and it attacked and wilted the blossoms. In more recent years it has become serious especially in Bartlett and Bosc, and in addition to wilting the blossoms it also attacks the limbs and twigs. The sap ferments in the affected areas, and this gives the shot hole borer an ideal place in which to live. There's probably more permanent damage done to the trees by the shot hole borer than there is by the blast, but

in any event the disease seems to be increasing and we have not known what to do to control it.

To round the picture out, we visited a couple of peach orchards that had been having some trouble with twigs dying. This was quickly recognized as being the peach blight disease. It was quite surprising to find peach blight that serious here, as we have never found it doing any damage in commercial orchards. In one of these cases the orchard was so badly infected that it had lost a good deal of its commercial value. We have had peach blight in backyard gardens where only one or two trees were planted and the spraying was not too thorough, but no commercial damage has ever been experienced before in our larger orchards. If these two cases are an indication of what we

may have in store for us, it would pay to be on the alert.

We might put in another word about frost. It's very difficult to discuss this frost injury without creating false impressions.

Some people are bound to think it is disastrous, while other people with the same information may think that it does not amount to anything. We have had quite a little injury show up this week on pear trees, especially in the colder areas. The fruits affected are the ones which are out in the open with no leaf cover over them.

The most important thing to recognize is that there is some damage, and especially in the Comice variety, if any thinning is to be done this damage should be taken into account. Of course, it's obviously impossible to go around and cut all the pears to see if they have been damaged, but a few can be cut, and once a

person learns the general location of the damaged fruit it would be quite practical, where thinning is necessary, to thin off the fruits in the exposed locations.

Most growers in the valley will not suffer any great loss, but there are some where the loss will be quite severe. Because of the spotted condition of the frost damage, it's still impossible to make any estimate of the loss because we just haven't had a chance to get around to all the different sections in the valley.

The frost damage to the home gardens is now pretty clear cut. It is quite evident whether a plant has been so badly damaged that it should be removed, or whether it will recover. It's still early enough so that corn, melons, cucumbers, squash and beans can be planted and a crop still produced. As a matter of

fact, in the case of pole beans, planting at this season has some advantages over earlier planting, as we have much less trouble with the wilt which is so destructive to our pole beans. Of course, it is necessary to keep them well watered and fertilized and growing rapidly if a good crop is to be produced. Late planting also has the advantage that you can get the weeds pretty well under control before seeding, and then you will have less trouble with weeds during the hot weather than you do during the earlier spring when your grasses are more troublesome. It's getting pretty late for corn, but if your other plantings have frozen out, it would be well to plant an early variety such as Golden Hummer and a late variety such as Golden Cross Bantam or Iochief. By doing this you would lengthen your harvest season by a week or ten days.

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- LADIES PLEASURE HORSE RACE
- CALF ROPING - 1st Sect.
- MEN'S SADDLE HORSE RACE
- SADDLE BRONC RIDING - 1st Sect.
- QUARTER HORSE RACE
- WILD COW RIDING TUG-O-WAR
- BARE BACK BRONCS - 2nd Sect.
- RELAY BATON RACE
- SADDLE BRONC RIDING - 2nd Sect.
- WILD COW MILKING
- HOT BLOOD RACE
- CALF ROPING - 2nd Sect.

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GENERAL ADMISSION \$1.00 PLUS TAX CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS FREE

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- Competitive Games
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