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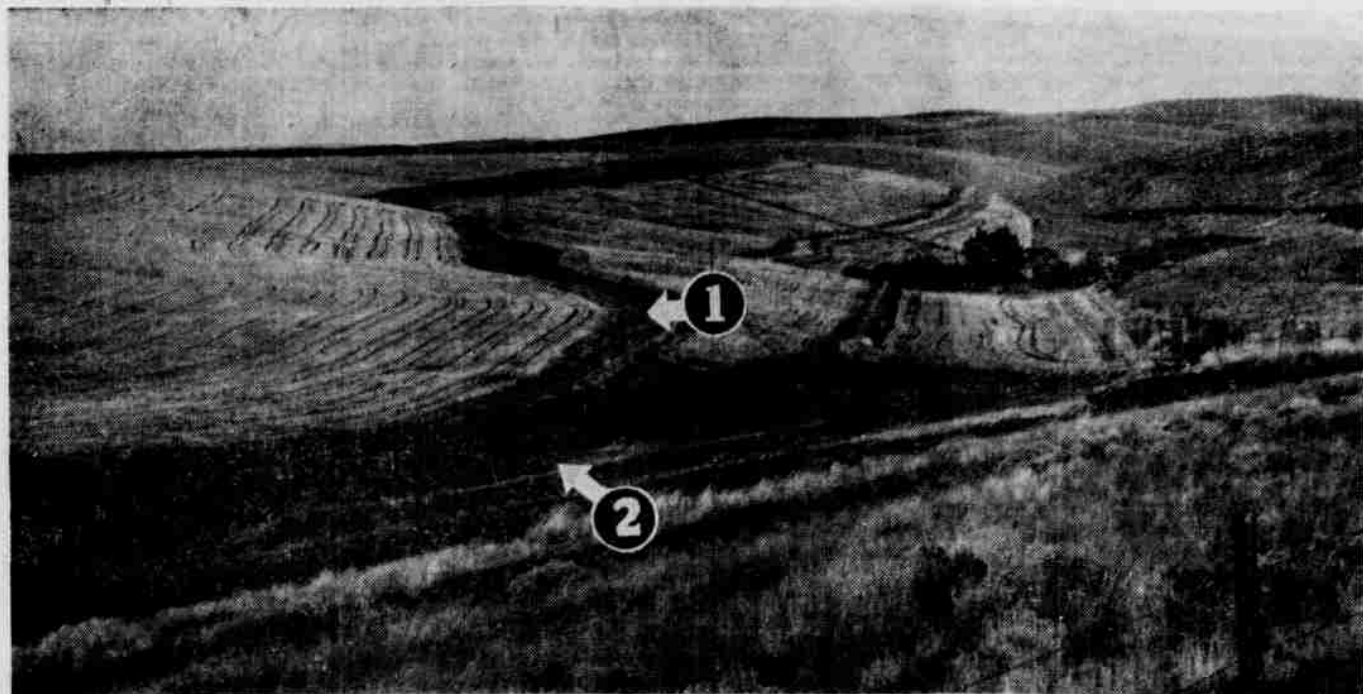
You're off in a few seconds when you prime the engine with Chevron Starting Fluid. Use spray gun or permanent primer applicator. Works in temperatures as low as 50 below zero!

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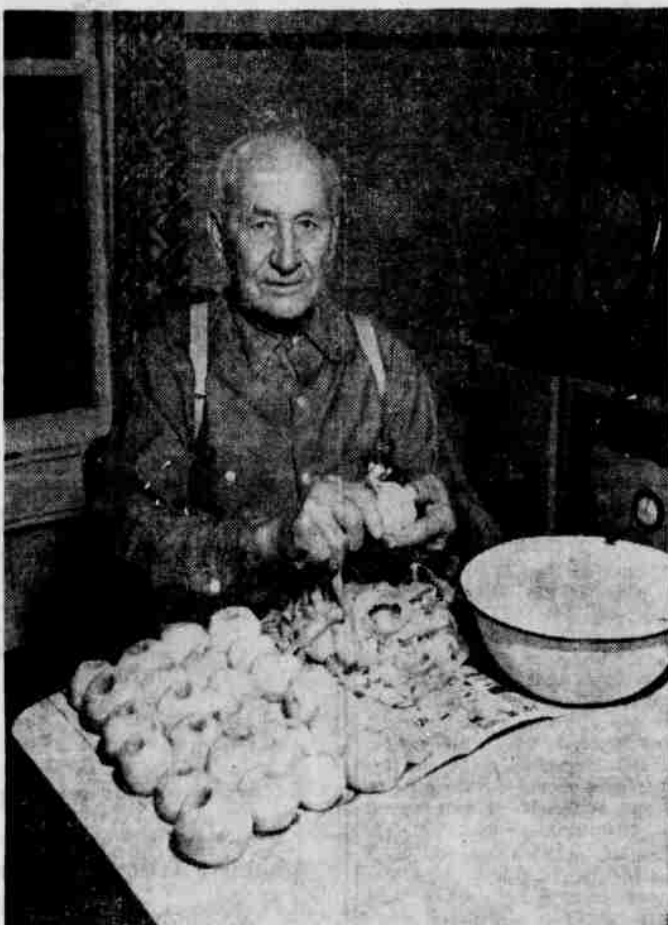
Gordon White
IONE

Conservation Winner Doctors "Sick Ranch"



Soil-saving measures on this wheat ranch near Hardman were judged top conservation job of 1950 in Morrow county. Winner, W. W. Bechdolt and Sons, will compete for Oregonian trophy in Oregon Wheat Growers' league "Conservation Man of Year" contest. Picture shows (1) contour terrace and grass filter strip which carries run-off water to sod waterway (2).

Winner Takes It Easy Now



W. W. Bechdolt has turned over active operation of the winning ranch to his sons, Archie and Adrian, does other jobs.

Straw Blanket Protects Soil



Trashy fallow is one of erosion-control practices used by the Bechdolts. Straw held by County Agent Nels Anderson is residue from 1948 crop, picked from stubble of 1950 crop.

By JOHN L. DENNY

Market Editor, The Oregonian (Pictures and story courtesy The Oregonian).

An emergency job of doctoring a "sick" ranch won the Morrow county "Conservation Man of the Year" award for W. W. Bechdolt & Sons, Hardman.

When the Bechdolts took over their present place two years ago it rated as one of the worst-eroded ranches in the area.

A gully funneled topsoil off a long, sloping field and piled it up six feet deep in back of the house. During one heavy runoff mud even covered the living room floor to a depth of six inches.

Bottom Field Split

A bottom field near the barn was so split up that County

Agent Nels Anderson found it impossible to drive his small weed-spraying wheel tractor across it. The area looked as though a major battle had been fought over it.

"You wouldn't know it was the same place," Anderson commented, when he led an inspection tour over the 600 acres of cropland.

First step taken by the Bechdolts in their two-year "miracle cure" was to banish the mouldboard plow and to institute a trashy fallow system of farming that utilizes the straw and stubble to check washing. Commonplace in some areas trashy farming is still a rarity in the Hardman district, where sticky, heavy soil and heavy stubble makes a straw blanket very hard to handle.

Monument Casts Biggest Vote In Precinct's History

Barney Cork took a load of stock to the Portland market on Saturday. He was accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Joe Simas who will do some shopping for material for their new house.

Mr. and Mrs. Hickman are leaving Monday for Mississippi to visit relatives and attend to matters of business. They will stop in Phoenix, Ariz. to visit their daughter. They plan on being back in Monument by the first of January.

Mr. and Mrs. Arlot Fleming left Saturday for Blaine, Wash. to make their home for the winter. Mr. Fleming enjoyed hunting while here. They are from Alaska.

Dell Neal was in town Saturday from his ranch down the river. He is a busy man and rarely takes a day off to come to town.

Al Arseneau was a business visitor in John Day Friday.

Millie Wilson took the ballot boxes to the county clerk's office in Canyon City Wednesday. While there she visited the county school superintendent's office.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Batty drove to Heppner Monday to get their son Joe who has been under the doctor's care the past week. Joe was guest of his aunt, Mrs. Douglas Ogletree, while in Heppner.

Mr. and Mrs. Spike Miller drove to Pendleton Monday to consult a doctor concerning the illness of their baby daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Cupper, Mr. and Mrs. Morton Cupper, Mrs. Wayne Leathers and Johnnie Lawrence drove to Bend Monday, returning home the same day.

Mr. Peterman, principal of the grade school, was forced to take his pupils home Friday on account of the furnace in the gym being out of order.

In spite of the stormy day, Monument had the largest election held here in years. The Hamilton precinct is now included in the North Fork precinct.

Subsurface-type tillage implements leave the surface of the soil cloudy, rough and covered with trash. Some folks call it "squaw farming" but it's highly effective in keeping the soil in place.

Diversion terraces divide a long slope into three sections. They keep farming operations on the contour, and channel runoff water safely off the field. One of the major difficulties with these terraces is a tendency to fill up with silt. The Bechdolts have reduced the maintenance job by equipping each one with a filter strip of grass on the upper side.

A couple of the deeper gullies have been seeded to smooth brome grass and alfalfa and converted to permanent sodded waterways to collect water from the terraces. Their dry-land alfalfa planting, which yielded a hay crop this year, is the only one in the area.

The senior Bechdolt has turned over active operation and management of the ranch to the "sons" part of the partnership—Adrian and Archie. All told, they farm 924 acres of cropland and 2226 acres of range. A sizeable string of Shorthorn Hereford yearlings were fattening on the grass and stubble.

Boardman Farm Sold

The Bechdolts formerly operated a wheat-livestock ranch at Boardman and an irrigated farm at Boardman. They consolidated their holdings into one operation by selling the Boardman ranch and buying the additional 600 acres at Hardman two years ago.

The Morrow county winner will compete in the state finals of the contest, which is sponsored by the Oregon Wheat Growers league. The state winner will receive a trophy awarded by The Oregonian.

band, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Holmes, had the misfortune to break her ankle when she stepped on a rock which turned under her foot. She was taken to a doctor and is now wearing a cast.

Mrs. Iffie Stewart of John Day spent Saturday night with her sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. George Stirritt. On Sunday she accompanied Criss Hamilton to Portland where she will visit her sister, Mrs. Geraldine Cox. Mr. Hamilton went to consult his doctor.

Monument had its first snow-fall Saturday evening. It was a wet snow and did not lay on the ground here in the valley, too long.

Rho Bleakman was attending to business matters in John Day Wednesday.

Red Henderson, district warden of the Sisters, spent a day at the guard station taking inventory.

Mr. and Mrs. Chet Brown enjoyed a visit with their son and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Duane Brown of Eugene. Duane enjoyed several days of hunting but had no luck.

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STAR REPORTER

Admission prices afternoon and evening, unless specifically advertised to be otherwise—Children: Est. Price .17, Fed. Tax .03, TOTAL 20c; Grade and High School Students 12 years and over: Est. Price .40, Fed. Tax .10, TOTAL 50c; Adults: Est. Price .50, Fed. Tax .10, TOTAL 60c. Every Child occupying a seat must have a ticket.

Sunday shows continuous from 1 p. m. Phone 1472 for starting time of the different shows. All programs except Sunday start at 7:30 p. m.

Thursday-Friday-Saturday, Nov. 16-17-18

The Great Rupert

Jimmy Durante, Terry Moore, Tom Drake, Frank Orth, Sara Haden, Queenie Smith, Chick Chandler

A goodly share of comedy and a touch of fantasy are the highlights of this refreshingly different photoplay.

—PLUS—

Pioneer Marshall

Monte Hale in a new western thriller.

Sunday-Monday, November 19-20

Fancy Pants

A rootin', tootin', shootin' hilarity round-up in Technicolor. "Home Cookin' Bob Hope" is whoopin' it up with Lucille Ball as his partner.

Tuesday-Wednesday, November 21-22

Rock Island Trail

Forrest Tucker, Adele Mara, Adrian Booth, Bruce Cabot, Chill Wills, Barbara Fuller, Grant Withers

Blazing, unforgettable adventure when reckless men defied all dangers to drive their railroad West through the Wilderness. Filmed in outdoor natural color.

Thursday-Friday-Saturday, Nov. 23-24-25

This Thanksgiving we give Thanks for Freedom...Happiness...and for your loyal patronage. And we have prepared a Thanksgiving program to bring cheer and laughter to every member of the family!

Singing Guns

Introducing famed orchestra leader and crooner Vaughn Monroe as a new western star in Max Brand's famous adventure novel! Plus color photography and a superior supporting cast including Ella Raines, Walter Brennan, Ward Bond, Jeff Corey and Barry Kelley. The musical numbers, among which is "Mule Train," are excellent.

Triple Trouble

The Bowery Boys are in jail and breaking out with laughter!