

From The County Agent's Office

By N. C. Anderson

Those attending the annual field day of the Sherman Branch Experiment Station at Moro last week observed many practices that have led the way for Columbia Basin farmers for the past forty years or more. The work done at this station is especially valuable to Morrow County since the average rainfall (11.47 inches) elevation (1800 feet) and soil (fine sandy loam) is comparable to the majority of our farming area.

It is interesting to note that even though we have thought of this crop year as one of deficient rainfall, the average rainfall is above average at the Station. However, a big share of this fell during the past month. June precipitation was 2.27 inches or 1.56 inches more than average. All months were below average with the exception of October, November and June.

In comparing tillage practices—time-of-planting plots continued to show the same results as have resulted since 1913 through 1951. On clean cultivated fallow, the following years yields show that by plowing early (April 1 at the Station) yields were 2½ bushels more than May 1 plowing, with June 1 plowing 7½ bushels less than the early date.

Based on 39 year average yields deep plowing (9-10 inches) has produced 7 of a bushel more than shallow (5 inches) plowing. This may indicate that there is more need for subsolling many of our

soils. For those who may be considering disking their stubble this fall, it is timely to point out that 39 years of experiment at the Station shows that yields were .8 of a bushel less wheat than no disking. The only advantage of fall disking, then, would be to cut up the straw when the soil is dry and hard to help with plowing in early spring.

Average yields for a forty year period shows that spike tooth harrowing of winter wheat in the spring has decreased yield one bushel per acre. This has been stressed for many years, yet there are those that continue to harrow. While no yield data is yet available the rotary hoes have been used for a short period of time at the Station with good results. Plots rotary hoed this spring showed a definite improvement over plots where the rotary hoe was not used.

We will discuss nitrogen and wheat yield in next weeks column.

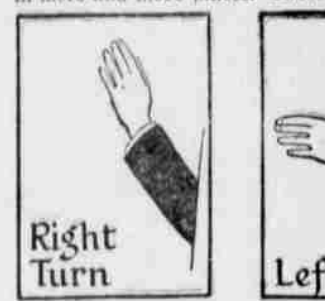
This week's column is being written in sunny California—and by the way the day has started, it appears it will uphold its title of being the sunny state. We're off for a vacation—loaded the Ford down, top and trunk, to stay about three weeks. Most of the time will be spent in driving and looking forward to eventually visit the old farm and counties to North Dakota worked in as county

Sportsmanlike DRIVING

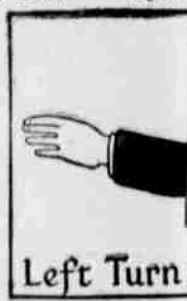


USE DRIVERS' SIGNALS

Signal your intentions! Streets and highways are not good places for guessing games. That little game of "What Do You Think I'm Going to Do Next?" is as dangerous as dynamite. Be fair to other drivers and use correct hand signals, says the AAA driver training book, "Sportsmanlike Driving."



Right Turn



Left Turn



Stop or Slow

positions show clearly exactly what you intend to do. The old one-position signal did not. It showed the driver back of you that you were going to do something. He had to guess the rest. Get in line with this safer signal system. Practice these three signals in all of your driving.

Help take "crystal gazing" guessing off the streets and highways!

agent. Have always wanted to go South, but since I am not in the wheat farmer class to take a winter cruise, will have to see it in the heat of the summer.

Yesterday, we saw many hayens busy catching up on time lost by rains—mowing, raking, baling, and some with horse teams handling it loose. Visited Crater Lake and was surprised to see snow six feet deep on the level at the lodge and grounds. Lower down there were hundreds of two year old steers in the Rogue River meadows. Looked like there would be plenty of beef for everyone when they went to market. In the Tulelake country barley and row crops are looking wonderful.

We're off for the South and Nevada today. Hope we can find some water clean enough to encourage taking a bath. California doesn't seem to have it!

PICNIC ENJOYED

The Robert Grabill home on Gilmore street was the scene of a July 4th picnic. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Garnet Barrett, Mr. and Mrs. John Williams and son, Mr. and Mrs. Mervin Leonard of Lexington and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Grabill and Bobby.

AT LEHMAN

Mrs. W. O. George, Kit and David; Mrs. Stephen Thompson, Jan and Judy; Mrs. F. W. Mahoney, Bobby and Shannon; Mrs. Sadie Sigbee and Miss Helen Graham left Tuesday for Lehman Springs to stay until Friday.

NEED Envelopes. Phone 882

DUVALS ENTERTAIN AT BLACK HORSE RANCH

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Duvall are spending the summer on their Black Horse ranch.

The past week they had as their guests Mrs. Duvall's cousin and husband Mr. and Mrs. Walter LeMaster and a friend Miss Audrie Pslieter of Pasadena, California.

The Duvalls entertained for them on Sunday with a picnic get together of relatives. Others present were Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Wickersham, Portland; Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Waid, Ukiah; Mr. and Mrs. Niel White, Pilot Rock; Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Waid and son Rickie, Ordinance; Miss Lenna Waid, Stanfield and Miss Carla Waid, Arlington.

Tsk! Tsk!

"My crop is too poor to insure for Hail" Were the famous last words of farmer Bill.

Then came the storm and results we all fear; Bill has nothing to run on next year!

H. Ruggles

For Hail Insurance SEE

C. A. RUGGLES INSURANCE

Phone 723 Heppner

Hospital Staff Honors Ernsdorffs With Party

The staff at Pioneer Memorial Hospital entertained Saturday afternoon with a surprise farewell party for Mr. and Mrs. John Ernsdorff who are leaving soon to make their home in Spokane. Present were Lee Gronemeyer, Mrs. Blanche Gearheart, Mrs. Carol Freeman, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Blakney, Mrs. Max Gentry, Mrs. Glenn McLachlin, Miss Kathleen Matteson, William Low, Mrs. Wilbur Worden, Miss Kate Kaser and Mrs. Katherine Sayers. An automatic coffee maker was presented to the honorees. Refreshments were served by Mrs. McLachlin and Mrs. Sayers who were in charge of arrangements.

DINNER HONORS BIRTHDAY

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Rauch, Jr., were hosts for a dinner party Tuesday evening at their home on S. Main street, complimenting her mother, Mrs. Ted Pierson, on the occasion of her birthday. Others present were Ted Pierson, and the Misses Rose Marie and Marjorie Pierson.

SOROPTIMISTS HEAR REPORT

Mrs. Grace Nickerson presided at her first meeting as the new president of the Soroptimist club, Thursday noon July 3 at O'Donnell's.

This was the regular business meeting and annual reports of all committees were heard.

PICNIC JULY 4

The Willow creek home of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Thompson was the scene of a potluck picnic Friday July 4. About 40 guests and Mrs. Stephen Thompson were present.

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