

## From The County Agent's Office

By N. C. Anderson

Howard Isaacson and Merrill Sather, Seed Certification Specialists from Oregon State College, were in the county on July 9 to make field inspection. Field inspection is the first step toward certifying crops. Fields of Rex M-1 wheat on the Kenneth Smouse and Winnie L. Zinter ranches, Ione, were inspected, while a field of Brevor at the Kenneth Smouse ranch also passed certification. Kenneth Smouse, veteran certified grain grower, has 250 acres of Rex and 300 acres of Brevor approved in the field this year. Mrs. Zinter has 122 acres of Rex. A field of Pubescent wheatgrass at the Ralph Taylor farm, Cecil, also passed inspection.

With storage as tight as it is this year, it is going to be a problem for certified seed growers to hold their seed past harvest. Mrs. Zinter has not yet made arrangements for storage for her Rex, while Kenneth Smouse will not be able to store any of his Brevor. He has storage accommodations for the 250 acres of Rex M-1, which is partly spoken for by Morrow county farmers. The Brevor will be sold off of the combine next week, while being harvested or hauled into the elevator and sold on the market.

With the great amount of rye and mixtures in wheat this year, many farmers will be wanting to seed new seed this fall. Both Mr. Smouse and Mrs. Zinter have excellent seed sources for those of you who are going to make a change.

While we are talking about wheat, we might suggest that with a bumper wheat crop being harvested this year that there be hundreds of wheat exhibits at the Morrow County Fair. Kenneth Smouse, superintendent of the grain division asks that farmers carry a couple of sacks on their combine so that they can gather a good sample of wheat for exhibit from the best part of their field. Exhibits can be left at any time with Ed Craber at the fair grounds or held until the fair begins. Mr. Smouse plans to run each of the exhibits brought in early through a cleaner in order to make up better exhibits than in the past. This is Kenneth's first year as superintendent. We hope that he will have a large and successful exhibit in his division.

With the cold late spring, our annual conservation and better farming practices tour in the Boardman and Irrigon areas have

been postponed. Now that pastures are growing, corn booming, and everything at its best, the tour has been scheduled for July 22. It will start at 9:30 a. m. at the Glenn Aldrich ranch in Irrigon, where new concrete lined ditches will be observed. From there we will spend considerable time on the Rex Ellis irrigation development between Irrigon and Boardman, having the noon lunch at the Oregon State Highway park on highway 730. The afternoon agenda includes stops at the Clarence Nelson farm, Boardman, to see irrigation ditches; at the Nels Christenson farm to observe drain ditches; at the Russell Miller farm to see a corn fertilization trial; at the C. D. Eades farm to see land leveling and at the Bill Forthman farm to observe pasture seedings, both old and new. The whole family is invited to attend for what we believe will be a full day of education and fun. The noon luncheon is free with plenty of ice cream and pop for all.

The last full week of this month, July 19-25, is the 10th annual Farm Safety Week. One safety commandment being emphasized is: Follow Safety Instructions. Posters, leaflets, signs, and tables are safety instructions designed to help you save your life. This office reminds you to read and heed these instructions. You farm to live—live to farm.

Many interesting observations were made at the annual field day at the Sherman Branch Experiment Station held on July 7. Some of these observations will be discussed in this column in the next few weeks. Right now, there seems to be a lot of interest in barley for seeding on diverted acres, this fall. The first observation shows that winter barley is outyielded by spring barley varieties by from five to eight bushels per acre. The top winter yielding barley was Purdue, 1101 selection, which had a 45.6 bushels per acre yield over a five year average. Olympia was next with 44.8 bushels. Flynn No. 37, a spring variety, yielded 51 bushels. Meloy yielded 42.9. These are the two recommended spring barley varieties. Flynn 37, besides being one of the highest yielding varieties, has smooth beards; Meloy is a hooded variety, and though it has a lower grain yield, it is preferred for hay. Gem and Harland outyielded either of the two first mentioned spring barleys, but their rough awns make them less desirable.

They are newly released varieties in Idaho and eastern Oregon. In talking with the Pendleton Grain Growers last week, they indicated that they would have quite a supply of seed barley, but are having a storage problem like everyone else. There is some seed available from the Grass Valley Grain Growers Association in Sherman County. There is also about 200 bushels of Meloy seed at the Sherman Branch Experiment Station for those that might be interested in obtaining their barley seed now. It will not last long.

Oregon farmers, like those of the nation, are feeling the effects

of the lower farm prices this year. Of the major commodities on which farm prices were gathered in this state only eggs, chickens, and hogs were above last year. Wool prices on June 15 were the same as a year earlier, but most farm prices were lower.

Careful, watch your step! You've heard those words many times and probably said them yourself, and yet there were over twenty thousand people fall to their death last year. Falling was the major cause of accidents among western farmers last year. Most of the farm falls were from

(Continued on page 3)



From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

### An Honest Night's Sleep

Slim Johnson, just back from a business trip, tells about a hotel he stayed at one night.

"I hit town late and went right to the hotel. There was no clerk at the desk, but there was a sign that said: 'Gone to bed. Rooms \$3. Take a key. Pay' when you leave. Sleep Well.'

"Upstairs, the room was real clean, the bed comfortable, and I slept like a log. Came down in the morning—still no clerk. So I left three dollars at the desk and went on. Can you imagine folks that trustful?"

From where I sit, running a hotel on the honor system shows a real trust in people. And people always appreciate being trusted. Letting your neighbor follow his personal preference is a kind of trust too—trusting in his good judgment. I like a temperate glass of beer occasionally, you may prefer buttermilk, but let's hope neither of us "registers" a complaint against the other.

Joe Marsh

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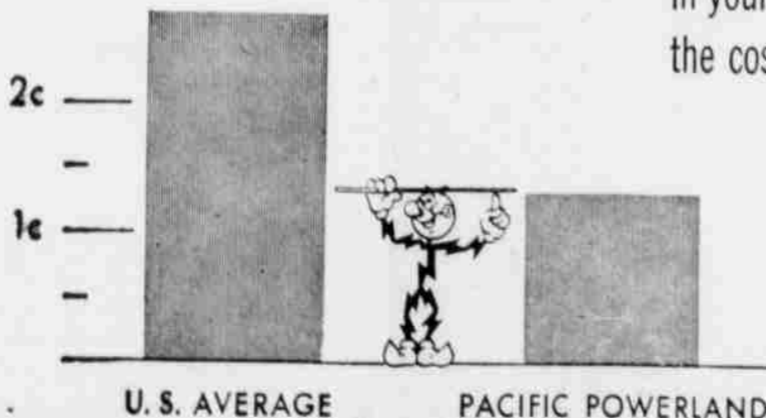
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