

Home Agent Gives Safety Suggestions

By ESTHER KIRMIS
Now that warm weather is with us, our thoughts naturally turn to housecleaning and clean-up around the house and yard. Here are a few safety tips.

Think safety. Most authorities agree that accidents are preventable. They occur because someone is not thinking. There are a lot of situations that cloud our minds.

We don't think well when we are too tired. More accidents occur when we are pushing our physical strength too far. Plan your housecleaning so that you stop before the point of exhaustion.

Don't rush so much that you can't think about safety. Do a smaller amount at a time and really give the organizing of your home some thought. There are two important things to be checked in all cleaning of storage areas. Is this storage arrangement safe, is it convenient? Sometimes you can't have both in equal amounts. Use your "thinker" to decide which is the most important to you and your family.

We don't think too well if we are emotionally upset. Just as it is somewhat dangerous to drive a car when you are upset so it may be dangerous to climb ladders if you are in a wreckless mood.

The modern home is full of chemicals. Some of these have potential built-in hazards if not properly used. Read the labels, learn what is dangerous and what requires careful handling. For example, don't use carbon tetrachloride, gasoline, benzene, or kerosene for cleaning. Some of these are combustible, some have dangerous fumes. They can be used only under very carefully regulated conditions. Don't use combustible cleaning products, either clear or mixed with water, in an automatic dryer or combination washer-dryer. The fumes will explode when the temperature gets high enough in the dryer.

Don't put articles containing foam rubber in an automatic dryer because heat will be retained

Dr. and Mrs. Jim Norene and daughter, Tracy, were in Portland Saturday and Sunday to attend Dr. Norene's high school class reunion.

Mrs. Richard Meador is in La Grande taking some summer school classes at Eastern Oregon College.

in them for a long time. The National Fire Protection Association reports that several fires in dry cleaning plants were attributed to spontaneous combustion of foam rubber long after it had been removed from the dryer.

Bulletin Tells Council Progress On Planning

Mid-Columbia's Planning Council members received Progress Bulletin No. 1 from Ebasco Services, their consultant, at their second regular program meeting last Friday, June 15, in Arlington. The 47-page bulletin presented facts on the region's population and economy.

C. R. Cavanaugh, Ebasco's project director, also cited work conducted by the Planning Council's executive secretary, Mrs. Elaine Esselstyn, and by Eldon Hickey of the State's Department of Planning and Development. According to reports by Mrs. Esselstyn and Mr. Hickey, basic research on such regional physical development factors as existing land use, traffic circulation patterns and public facilities is nearly complete and ready for mapping and tabulation.

Council members were presented with a preliminary outline of the study's final report for review. Next phases of the study were described and plans for the regional agency's next meeting were set for Friday, July 20, in The Dalles. Judge J. A. Hunt of Wasco county will make arrangements for the meeting.

In attendance at Friday's meeting were Morrow County Judge, Oscar Peterson; Hood River County Judge, Harris A. Higgins; Arlington Port Commissioners Earl P. Hoag, Donald M. Potter and R. V. Logan; Sherman County Judge, Vernon I. Miller; Port of The Dalles Manager, Dolph M. Kimsey; Wasco County Judge, James A. Hunt; Port of Umatilla Commissioners, Arthur Lorenzen and R. G. Penney; George Abid and Eldon Hickey of the Department of Planning and Development; C. R. Cavanaugh of Ebasco Services Incorporated, and Mrs. Esselstyn, the council's executive secretary.

FARM NEWS

County Agent's Office

Planned Fire Control Needed by Farmers

By N. C. ANDERSON

While grass, weeds and grain are still "green as grass" it is not too early to be thinking about fire control. As June draws to an end there is bound to be a maturing of forage. With the abundant growth this year there is apt to be some big fires. By planning now we might be able to "temper" some so that the results will not be quite so disastrous.

I believe that we are in the best position for fire control that we have had in many years. The six by six tanker unit owned by the county and stationed at the Walt Jacobs ranch south of Lone, is being equipped with a high-pressure pump and motor. The auxiliary pump will be used for transfer and in filling the tank. Outside of being slow to get to fires, it should be quite helpful for that area this year. Don Heliker has a county owned tank and pump which will again be on call. Bob Rietmann has a county owned jeep fire fighting unit again this year. There is another such unit at the Roy Martin ranch on call. While additional units have not been put out, there are three to be distributed soon. These are scheduled for Sand Hollow, Buttercreek and Ruggs communities. There are a number of privately owned sprayers well situated throughout the county, some new ones that have been added this year. We know of several, such as Verner Troedson, Ione; Delwin Nelson, Lexington; Clarence Holtz, Ione; and Charles Doherty, Ione, that have bought new sprayers that we are sure will be in use during the fire control season.

Don't forget the suggestions we made in keeping sprayers full of water during the fire season. If they cannot sit in a pickup all of the time have a handy loading ramp with pipe rollers to load them quickly. A suggestion was made by one of our fire control committee members that everyone be reminded to bring some piece of fire-fighting equipment to a fire and to use it when you get there. We have observed a lot of people running to a fire without even a wet sack or a shovel. There is always cleaning up to be done with wet sacks and shovels even though you might not have a sprayer or some other piece of equipment.

A tub or 30 gallon barrel in the back of a pickup full of wet sacks is a good fire-fighting tool. Even a pail in the back trunk of a car with wet sacks could help put out a fire. If everyone contributes a little when a fire gets started, control is much quicker and easier.

Have you noticed the field of wildflowers at the Dr. W. H. Wolff country home near the mill? The doctor, without a doubt, can be distinguished as having the largest acreage of seeded wildflowers in Morrow county; we think in the state and perhaps in the Pacific Northwest. When I worked with Dr. Wolff in this seeding early last spring I was tempted to comment on it in my column, however, being the first experience with seeding wildflowers I thought it might be a disappointing experience so didn't mention it. Now the story can be told. The wildflowers were secured from a dealer in California who packages wildflower seeds that are given out by one of our gas-

oline stations. The flowers were seeded through the legume seed attachment with hoses dropped. Pubescent Wheatgrass was seeded in the grain box, the flower seeds being covered by the discs and chains. Recommendations were for fall seeding but because of the dry fall it was decided to wait until spring. While the field is weedy, like all new seedings, the wildflowers are in abundance and are really beautiful. If plans go as scheduled it is hoped that these will mature and reseed and that the four-acre field between the house and the highway will be a literal blaze of wildflowers each spring. If you haven't noticed them look for them next time you go by.

A couple of weeks ago I commented in this column about Dalmation Toadflax, a relatively new weed menace in Oregon. At that time I mentioned that it had been found in all neighboring counties but that none had been reported in Morrow county. This has changed. Like Goniweed and Medusahed which showed up over night following such news articles, Dalmation Toadflax was found a week ago in the Heppner cemetery. This seems to be a common place for the weed to get started as it does have a pretty flower and many times is set out as a flowering ornamental. This is the only infestation we know but we must keep our eyes open for it. It is in full bloom now and you might be on the lookout for it. Its flowers are bright yellow tinged with orange and resemble a wild snapdragon. Plants grow 2 to 4 feet tall, stems are light green with a smooth surface. Many stalks are produced from a single crown forming a clump. The leaves are light green, alternate heart shaped and clasp the stem. Dalmation Toadflax has no value as a forage crop. Its danger lies in its ability to crowd out valuable forage thus reducing range carrying capacity. If you find a weed resembling these characteristics we would be glad to identify it and give you control recommendations which include the use of 4 lbs. of Sodium Chlorate per square rod or at least 8 pounds of Borate-Chlorate mixtures. These are best applied dry on the infested area. 2,4, TP commonly called Silvex has proved more effective for the control of Dalmation Toadflax than has 2,4-D, 2,4,5 T or similar hormones. When used at the rate of 2 lbs. of Silvex and 50 gallons of water per acre (one-half cup in three gallons of water) gives excellent control.

Best profits in the sheep business come from lambs that are ready for market when weaned rather than going into the feed lot for further finish.

The market is presently looking for lambs weighing about 90 to 100 pounds. As soon as lambs hit this weight and will grade choice, it pays to move them as quickly as possible—even though it means marketing them in small groups.

Marketing all lambs at the same time requires selling some that are too light and others

that have hit their peak finish and then dropped off in finish. When lambs have gone past peak finish, it's usually necessary to put them in the feedlot to bring them back to market condition. Frequently, when lambs have to be refinished in dry lot, they come out too heavy to meet the best market demand.

Reducing evaporation losses from lakes and reservoirs, especially in the West, becomes increasingly important as demands mount for the limited water supply. One of the proposed methods of cutting such losses is by aerial spraying of "monolayer-forming" chemical materials on the water surface.

Investigations to perfect aerial techniques for such spraying will be conducted this summer and early next year by Utah State University, under a contract with the Bureau of Reclamation. Estimates are that 14 million acre-feet of water are lost annually by evaporation from lake and reservoir surfaces in the 17 Western States alone. This is enough water to irrigate nearly five million acres of crops.

Dieldrin dust is most effective material at present for controlling sheep ticks.

Dieldrin comes in a 1 1/2 percent dust and can be used as it comes from the bag. An ounce of material per head will pretty well take care of most sheep. All sheep in the flock should

Deadline Set On Wheat Applications

Farmers who wish to be considered for a "new farm" allotment for 1963 on a farm which does not now have a wheat allotment should get in touch with the ASCS county office right away. David McLeod, office manager, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation county office, said today. Such farmers have until July 2 to file applications for such an allotment.

Under the wheat allotment-marketing quota program, a "new farm" is a farm on which there is no wheat acreage history, including acreage considered as wheat under the Conservation Reserve program, for any of the years 1960, 1961, or 1962. The office manager emphasized

that formal application for a "new farm" application must be made in writing on a form provided for that purpose, and the application must be filed at the ASCS county office by the July 2 deadline.

Mrs. Mabel Chaffee and Mrs. Ethel Zelmantz spent Tuesday in Walla Walla, Wn., as guests of Mrs. Frank E. Parker and her sisters, Mrs. Mary Davis and Mrs. Inez Loney.

Laura Lee Sumner was a guest last week at the home of Mary Ellen Rooper in The Dalles. Over the week-end they accompanied Mrs. Jim Lovgren and Frankie to Portland to see the Rose Festival parade and festivities. Mrs. Lovgren has been on vacation from her employment in the First National Bank.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Ferguson and daughter, Mrs. Robert Kelley, and children, all of Santa Maria, Calif., are visiting in Heppner for two weeks.

Mrs. Alex Thompson and children, Portland, are visiting for two weeks with her mother, Mrs. Allen Case.

House guests of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Gilliam Thursday and Friday were her brothers, Lawrence and Leo Perry, Ellensburg, Wn. Leo has a mink farm there.

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