

Holiday Tips Given by PP&L Manager

Everyone enjoys the colorful and festive lighting effects that home owners create during the holiday season, and everyone should also remember for safety's sake that wiring circuits should not be overloaded.

The words of caution to Santa's helpers come from Pacific Power and Light Company's manager, Fred Gimbel.

A few suggestions about how to provide additional protection for the wiring circuits to avoid blowing fuses, damaging the lights or causing mishaps were passed along by the Pacific Power manager as most home owners prepare this week to plug in Christmas season lights indoors and outdoors.

Be sure to inspect your strings of Christmas tree lights. Plug in each string separately. Flickering lights after all bulbs have been tightened may mean that sockets are loose or there may be a "short" in the wire. You should also examine the insulation carefully—while disconnected—for broken or frayed spots.

For outdoor lighting use only light strings designed for exterior use. Any extensions should be of heavy-duty wiring with weatherproof covering. Wrap all connections between separate cords with rubber or plastic tape to keep out moisture.

If possible, use an outdoor, weatherproof outlet for your power supply. If not available, then it is best to use an outdoor light source, such as a porch light socket. If a line is being run to a tree or other object away from the house, run the line up the side of the house at least seven feet and secure it with an insulator.

Outside floodlighting requires weatherproof globes and special moisture-guarded outdoor receptacles.

Above all, don't overload circuits by attaching a series of plugs to one wall outlet. "Plug-

uglies" such as this can easily blow fuses and damage wiring, the PP&L manager notes.

Mental Hospital Chairman Issues Appeal for Gifts

Ever been away from home at Christmas? Then you know how some 4000 patients at Oregon state mental hospitals feel. No, probably you don't . . . because many of these patients are alone in a very special kind of darkness.

According to Mrs. Don Masters, state chairman of the traditional Christmas gift project for the Mental Health Association of Oregon, the association hopes that Oregonians will give at least one gift to each mental hospital patient this year. In addition, Mrs. Masters says, "we hope to emphasize the positive side of the picture . . . recovery and rehabilitation. We are hoping that the gifts this year will be of a recreational and vocational nature. One hospital even wants a printing press," Mrs. Masters says.

Mrs. Masters cited such items as art supplies, sport equipment, musical instruments, books, model plane and car kits. Hospital patients also need such items as new clothing, both towels, electric razors, stationery, lingerie and cosmetics.

The hospitals are asking that the gifts not be wrapped, pointing out that gift wrapping is another project to draw the patients into the Yuletide activity. Gift depots will be receiving gifts until December 22nd. Mrs. Masters says. Cash donations to purchase such items as record players—and perhaps that printing press—should be made payable to "Christmas Gifts," Mental Health Association of Oregon, 427 SW 11th, Portland.

New SCS Bulletin Tells of Erosion

Erosion is the dominant problem on 739 million acres of America's farm land, according to Ralph Richards of the Heppner Soil Conservation district. This is more than half of the agricultural land in the United States. Erosion is a problem requiring constant attention on 234 million acres of cropland, he said.

These facts, along with many more, are found in a recent publication issued by the U. S. Soil Conservation Service. It is called, "Soil Erosion, The Work of Uncontrolled Water." A copy may be obtained from the local SCS office in the Gilliam and Bisbee building, Richards said.

Richards, who is assigned by the SCS to assist the Heppner Soil Conservation district as work unit conservationist, said that the new bulletin contains 16 pages and 25 pictures describing and illustrating the causes and types of erosion caused by water. It is the latest publication by the SCS that deals with this basic problem of American farmers and ranchers. A few 2171. "How To Control a Gully" months ago Farmers' Bulletin was issued. This is also available from the local SCS office.

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HOLIDAY HARVEST . . . Headed for their few days of glory, hundreds of Christmas trees are stacked on a giant sled by woodsmen on a tree farm near Duluth, Minnesota. The firm ships more than a million and a half black spruce Christmas trees throughout the U.S. and the world. More than 40 million evergreens of all sizes and shapes will be sold in the U.S. this season.

Use of Water For Trees Advised

Water is hard to beat as a means of keeping indoor Christmas trees fresh, says Charles Ladd, chief farm forester.

In addition to maintaining the tree in peppy condition, fire hazard will be reduced considerably, he added.

To obtain best results, make a new cut at the tree's base—preferably on a diagonal. Then erect the Yuletide centerpiece in a container of water. The diagonal cut helps the tree take up moisture, was his advice.

The container should be replenished with fresh water each day, as the tree will consume a surprising amount, Ladd continued.

Registration Open At Blue Mountain

Registration at the Blue Mountain Community college is now open for the winter term. The business office will also be open December 27 for those unable to register before Christmas, Robert Hawk, director, said.

The offerings are scheduled to accommodate the beginning student as well as those having some college work. Classes begin January 2, 1963, so early registration is essential.

Further information may be obtained by calling 276-1269, Pentleton.

Livestock 4-H Club Sees Movie Program

A meeting of the Buttercrack Junction Livestock club was held December 5. Three movies were shown to the club. The first one was "Rural 4-H Clubs," which was about clubs in Thailand, telling of their projects and how they ran their meetings. Another one, "Tomorrow's Leaders," was about the trip which the outstanding 4-H'ers take to Washington, and some of their projects.

A third film, "Marie Demonstrates the 4-H Way," was about a girl who shows how to give a 4-H demonstration.

Ed French, reporter

Four-H Knitting Club Has Birthday Party

The December meeting of the Sit and Nit 4-H club was opened by President Judy Gentry, with flag salute and club pledge led by Theresa Moore and Alene Boyjean. We talked about goals. Motion was made to have a cookie sale to pay for our song books and flags.

We started making our cans so they can be displayed during National 4-H club week.

After the meeting we had a birthday party for those with birthdays in October, November and December. We had cookies and cool aid.

Our visitors were Ricky Wadholm and Jackie Millet. The next meeting is January 8.

Sue Griffith, reporter

Busy Bee 4-H Club Plan Sewing Projects

Six members of the Busy Bees 4-H club were present at the home of Mrs. Harold Snider on December 1. We discussed our goals for the year. Also we talked about patterns and materials. We decided to make beach robes. At our next meeting in January, Betty Hausler will report on Health.

Maureen McElligott, reporter

Cutters Make Aprons

Tuesday, December 11, the Cutters met after school at Kristine Peterson's to hold a meeting and to get underway on our aprons which are to be done by our next meeting. Each member brought a headscarf that she had made. Our meeting in January will be at Mary Kathryn Campbell's. Guests were Mrs. Lawrence Becket, Mrs. John Campbell, Mrs. Don Peterson and Mrs. Jim Pettyjohn.

Linda Pettyjohn, reporter

See us for envelopes of all kinds. The Gazette-Times.

T-Sgt. John Pickens Serves in Air Force

Technical Sergeant John L. Pickens, son of Mrs. Ada I. McGovern, Box 485, Granite Falls, Wn., and Harold Pickens of Chester, Calif., successfully completed a course in History of Western Civilization I through the United States Armed Forces Institute, Madison, Wisc., November 26.

T/Sgt. Pickens graduated from Heppner High school. He and his wife, the former Clara Ledbetter, are now residing in Williams Lake, Canada, where Sergeant Pickens is a personnel supervisor with the 917th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron.

T/Sgt. Pickens is continuing his education while in service through the voluntary worldwide education program for members of the Armed Forces.

Joseph Hartle, Gazette-Times printer left Tuesday night for the veterans hospital in Boise, Idaho for a checkup on his back.



Peaceful as a snowy landscape, lively as a playful fawn is the Christmas we wish for you. We are ever grateful to you for your thoughtful consideration and gracious patronage.

GILLIAM AND BISBEE

CLAUDE and MARGARET BUSCHKE



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Again, at this happiest of all seasons, may we extend our heartiest wishes to you all . . . hoping that every joy and delight of the Yuletide will be yours to enjoy to the fullest. Merry Christmas!

LAIRDS'

HAROLD AND AROLENE



Christmas Blessings

Hearts are gladdened
and faith is
reaffirmed, as
we celebrate His
Holy birth in a
humble manger.
Now may all
blessings of Christmas
be with you.

COLUMBIA BASIN ELECTRIC CO-OP Inc.