

County Agent's Office

State Offers 'Bird Guzzlers,' and Eggs

By N. C. ANDERSON
Haskell Sharrard, Heppner businessman and director of the recently reorganized sportsman's club, stopped by the office a few days ago to visit about the need for more "bird guzzlers" out in dryland wheat and range area. While we have a lot of these constructed throughout the county there are still some people who evidently have not heard of them.

A bird guzzler is merely a reservoir that stores runoff water intended for watering upland game birds during the dry season. The small reservoir has a ramp for easy access to the water by the birds and is protected from heavy evaporation by an aluminum shade which acts as a rain-water diverting device to fill the reservoir as late spring rains come.

These bird guzzlers are installed by the State Game Commission at no cost to the landowner. There are a few requirements, such as an agreement that they be left in a designated number of years and that they be located in an area where there is a shortage of water for these birds.

The Sportsman's club is urging more ranchers to install these devices. We have called this need to the attention of ranchers from time to time and generally have had a good response. If you are interested in installing one or more of these guzzlers on your ranch, contact Glenn Ward of the State Game Commission, Haskell Sharrard or this office. Also in visiting

with Haskell he indicated that the State Game Commission would provide pheasant eggs for those who might be interested in hatching them out and releasing them on their property. Those who might be interested may contact the same source for further information.

Seven-Month Precipitation 9.36"
While this past week's abundant moisture might not be classed as a "million dollar" rain, it could easily have been, especially if a little later in the season. The big percentage of it went into the ground and other than causing a few people to scratch a little harder to get rid of cheatgrass in their summer fallow, was generally welcomed by all farmers as a boost to grain crops, range and pasture.

If advance forecasters hit their predictions better for May than they did for April, we are due for some good moisture to follow. According to the Weather Bureau's extended forecast service, the weather outlook for the next 30 days, mid-April to mid-May is for below normal temperatures and above normal precipitation. The Heppner weather station showed a normal long-time precipitation of 8.54 inches for September 1 to April 1. This year we have 9.36 inches. With April's accumulated precipitation we should be considerably further above normal at this time.

20-Year Record Broken
John Proudfoot, Ione, reports

an interesting precipitation record for this month to date with 3.25 inches measured. In the 20 year record for his ranch the average rainfall for April is .68 inches. In two of the 20 years no precipitation occurred; the highest until this year was 1.74.

Peace Corps Needs Mechanics
We have recently had an urgent plea for Peace Corps volunteers that know how to operate and repair farm machinery. Many developing nations are trying to increase their farm production by using more machinery but find that agricultural mechanics who can offer ingenuity and common sense are hard to come by. For those who are qualified, training will begin early this summer for Peace Corps projects in Brazil, Chile, Columbia, Guinea, Malaya, Pakistan and Senegal. All of these projects need volunteers with rural backgrounds who have training and experience in maintaining farm equipment.

General qualifications for Peace Corps projects include a minimum age of 18; U.S. citizenship; sound health, maturity, initiative and above all a desire to serve. Married couples are eligible to serve in some projects if both qualify and they have no dependent children. Volunteers serve for two years including training. They receive allowances to cover clothing, food, housing, medical care and incidentals plus a readjustment allowance of about \$1800 based on \$75 for each month of service. We have applications and further information on these and other projects at this office.

Committee Makes Conservation Tour
The annual selection committee for Conservation Man of the Year, took advantage of the weather last week that kept them out of the field to make their annual tour for selection of the 1963 county winner. Sponsored by the Morrow County Wheat Growers Association the committee is chaired this year by Robert Jepsen. Bob asked representatives of ASC, the Heppner Soil Conservation District, and the 1962 winner to act with him on his committee.

Those making the tour in addition to Bob were Raymond Lundell, Ione; Paul Tews, Ione; Elmer Palmer, Heppner. Ralph Richards and myself accompanied the committee. This tour is always enjoyed by the group because they have the opportunity to see progress in soil conservation practices throughout the whole county as well as how the crops are doing and compare one community to another on how spring work is getting along.

The group saw a lot of new conservation practices being put into use and were especially pleased with the amount of wind-strip cropping that is being established in the north area. Official announcement of the county winner will be made in the near future.

Roadway Weed Control Program Studied Here
While on the tour we bumped into Larry Smittion, district maintenance engineer of the state highway department, who

FARM NEWS

Your Home Agent
Camp Workshop To Help Leaders In Summer Plans
By ESTHER KIRMIS
An opportunity for local extension agents to gain a wealth of ideas and information for more satisfying operation of our own county 4-H camp is the objective of a 4-H Camping Workshop for Oregon Extension Agents this week at Camp Adams, Molalla. Joe Hay and I will be among the 40 some agents that will attend.

Discovery and activity sessions will include camp objectives and philosophy, camp organization, program planning help, samples of camp activity periods, crafts, camp finances, nature activities, ceremonies, evening programs, singing, and many extras that make an exciting and meaningful camp experience for boys and girls.

The staff, headed by Walter Schroeder and Lois Redman of the state 4-H club office, will include competent professional workers, experienced in various phases of 4-H camping, craft and recreation leaders, experienced cooks, and dependable counselors.

Although the weather has been anything but promising these days, the state staff tell us Camp Adams, which is located on Mill Creek, between Molalla and Colton in Clackamas county, has pleasant facilities for campers and staff. Wood stoves, electricity, hot showers, and restrooms are in each cabin. There's an attractive dining hall with fireplaces for pleasant dining and congenial activity center.

Two camps are scheduled for Morrow county at Cutsforth Park this year. One a counselor training camp, along with Sherman, Gilliam and Wheeler counties, June 18-19. This will be for all high school 4-H members that are interested in becoming camp counselors. The fee is \$2.00.

Walter Schroeder of the state 4-H club staff, Corvallis, along with agents from these four counties will conduct this camp. Notices will be going out to eligible 4-H members soon.

The other camp, which will be the annual Morrow county 4-H Camp, will be held June 30-July 3 at Cutsforth Park, for

with other personnel of the department, were making a survey for improvement of the bad curve below Ione where we had a bad accident this winter. Mr. Smittion told us of his weed control program on the state highway shoulders this year and plans for the future. I am sure that if all groups that have control of maintenance on county and state highways, railroads, etc., were as well sold on weed control as he is, we would make a lot faster gain in complete control of, not only perennial noxious but many of the troublesome annual weeds.

He has made detailed studies on the cost of soil sterilants, compared with mowing and with quick knock-down sprays. He has found that the soil sterilants are the cheapest in the long-run. He is hopeful that the six foot swath can be extended to a wider one in the future and that he can get over his entire district of 850 miles with this program. He has over a third of this covered this year and is still adding more.

In visiting with him on rye infestations in some areas he asked that we indicate where the most troublesome areas are and that some work would be done this year with chemicals. Anyone that has an especially tough problem with rye coming into the fields from state highway right-of-ways should let me know.

Peterson Services Held in Corvallis
Funeral services for Mrs. C. Richard (Beulah Martha) Peterson, 52, were held in Grace Lutheran church, Corvallis, Friday, April 12. Mrs. Peterson, a long time resident of Corvallis, died April 9 at her home there. Rev. Ivar P. Pihl officiated, with burial in the Pugh cemetery.

The daughter of Wat and Minnie M. Rinehart, she was born January 10, 1910, at Canon. She moved with her family as a child to Corvallis. She was married to C. Richard Peterson July 25, 1933, at Corvallis, following several years of employment at Oregon State College.

Mr. Peterson, a long time wheat and stock rancher in the Gooseberry and Monument districts, is now retired and makes his home in Corvallis. He was active in the raising and caring for stock on the Oregon State campus following his move to Corvallis. Relatives here are a brother, Henry, in the Eight-mile district; a sister, Mrs. Walter Dobyns, Ione, and a cousin, Judge Oscar Peterson, Heppner.

Mrs. Peterson leaves her husband and a number of cousins and aunts.

March Shipments Of Grain Highest Since May, 1957

Grain export shipments inspected in March by the Division of Grain Inspection of the Oregon Department of Agriculture were the largest since May, 1957. The March total was 9,112,674 bushels and the May, 1957, total was 9,419,532.

Wheat led all other grain exported with 7,516,327 bushels. This figure was also slightly below the wheat shipments of May, 1957, which were 7,733,998 bushels.

The largest shipment leaving Portland on one ship was 674,390 bushels, which went to Italy. One ship going to India took 520,800 bushels out of Portland.

Other countries to which grain was shipped included Germany, El Salvador, Korea, the Philippines, Venezuela, Pakistan, Ecuador, Japan, Chile and Formosa.

The March figure on inspection of incoming grain at the Portland office of the division was 10,619,489 bushels, with wheat accounting for 9,168,794 bushels of this total.

The Pendleton office weighed 9-13 year-olds at a fee of \$6.50. Further information will be going out from the county agent's office on this to leaders and members in the near future. Camping season will soon be upon us!

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Ayers and family went to Portland Sunday to visit their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Gale McClintock, and family. Their granddaughter, Kelly, returned for a week's visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Bud Peck and family were in Portland and Salem over the week-end.

and inspected 195,134 bushels of grain and had 149 track inspections, while the Merrill office had 69 track inspections and one truck inspection.

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