

County Agent's Office

# Farm Fire Risks Need Check Before Winter

By N. C. ANDERSON

By the time you read this, National Fire Prevention Week will be almost over. It is being observed nationally from October 6 to 12. In order that you might be better informed on the importance of observing an annual fire prevention week, we would like to quote some statistics.

First, did you know that Oregon lost 75 lives and \$15,000,000 from fires last year? While Morrow county is not average, an average Oregon county would approximate the population of Coos, (54,000) and the area of Jackson. This average county, believe it or not, would have one dwelling fire every day. Records show that better than one Oregon home in 50 is hit by fire each year. Fire damage to homes alone cost 6 1/2 million dollars in 1962.

The causes of these fires last year were: Matches and careless smoking, 24%; ignition of oil, hot grease and tar, 22%; stoves, furnaces, chimneys and flues, over heated or defective, 13%; electricity and defective wiring, 10%; with the remaining about equal in importance including open lights, hot ashes and coals, hot metals, conflagration, children playing with matches and sparks on the roof.

Fire risks can be prevented by no more attention than the home owner gives to feeding a dog or to studying weather reports. Fire prevention is given attention in managing any sound business. While we are drawing to a close in observing National Fire Prevention Week, it is still not too late to check your home and farm buildings for fire hazards.

### Wheat Growers Workshop Set

Executive members of the Morrow County Wheat Growers Association, have been invited to attend the annual fall workshop sponsored by the Oregon Wheat Growers League for October 16. All standing committees chairman and officers will have the opportunity to be brought up to date on latest Federal legislation, freight rate developments, grain standards, and other important activities in preparation for the annual fall meeting.

The annual meeting of the Morrow County Wheat Growers Association has not been sched-

## Several In Race For Farm Award; 6 Ranches Toured

A tour of six Oregon wheat farms last week provided a dramatic contrast between the failure of Russian wheat crops and the extraordinary yields achieved by American producers. Each growing operation demonstrated that the difference stems largely from one factor—conservation.

The occasion was a survey by a judging committee from the Oregon Wheat Growers League of conservation practices which have won for the six farm managers their title of "Conservation Man of the Year" in their respective counties.

The findings of the eleven-man committee will determine the winner of the Wheat League's 1963 state conservation award, who will be honored at the organization's annual meeting.

Chosen earlier in the year as county winners were Orva Dyer, Gilliam county; Ron Vibbert, Jefferson county; Gar Swanson, Morrow county; Bill Todd, Sherman county; John Storie, Umatilla county; and George Royes, Union county.

Spokesman for the judging committee, league executive vice president John H. Welbes of Pendleton, described the factors on which the candidates were evaluated.

"Is the land used for the purpose for which it is best suited?" he said, is the first question asked by the judges. Other considerations are the success of adapted conservation practices, practicality of methods, elimination of soil erosion and quality of work done.

The size of a layout has no bearing on its eligibility for top honors," asserted Welbes. "The ranches we inspected varied from 1200 to over 10,000 acres, but we grade on conservation techniques and results achieved."

The Wheat League contest, which is open to any Oregon farmer who receives a substantial portion of his income from wheat growing, has been held since 1948. The 1963 state winner will be announced at the December meeting of the league, which will be held this year at the Hilton Hotel in Portland.

In addition to Welbes, the judging committee included county extension service conservation experts as well as League members, and comprised Robert Crosswell, Pendleton; Howard Cushman, Corvallis; John Decker, Kent; Howard Eubanks, Arlington; Charles Forman, Antelope; William Hall, Moro; Robert Jepsen, Ione; Merrill Oveson, Pendleton; Lee Pettijohn, Arlington; and Rex Roulet, Elgin.

uled as yet, but it is planned that it will be held sometime in early November.

### Swine Testing Entries Received

Seventeen tested boars sold at the Brooks Station September 14, 1963, averaging \$125 per head. Top price of \$210 was paid by Mack and Brandt, Klamath Falls, for a Yorkshire boar sold by Bob White of Canby.

The Brooks Station was recently set up to supplement the Hermiston Station as a swine testing center. Both stations will be accepting entries for swine from October 15 to November 15, 1963. An entry can be composed of two boars and two market hogs or four market hogs. At least two pigs in each pen must be market hogs so that carcass information can be obtained. Entry blanks are available from this office.

### Horse Shortcourse Available

Recently announced was the eighth annual Horseman Shortcourse which will be held at Oregon State University on November 16 and 17. Two of the nation's leading experts on horses will be instructors at the shortcourse. They are Mrs. Fern Palmer Britton, equitation teacher at Lyndonwood College in St. Charles, Missouri, whose specialty is judging and equitation classes and Dr. J. T. Wheat, Veterinarian at the University of California. Davis will discuss feet, legs and unsoundness in horses. The shortcourse is open to anyone 18 years of age or older who is interested in horses. Registration fee is \$10.

### Smouse Has Blue Tag Gains

We were interested to receive a copy of the report of a purity test for certified Gaines wheat sent in recently from the bin of Kenneth Smouse, Ione. The bin sample revealed no crop seed, no weed seed, and only .45 of 1% inert matter leaving the seed at 99.55% pure. Kenneth has 2400 bushels of this seed which met blue tag standards. Another grower with blue tag Gaines seed available is C. K. Peck, Lexington.

### New Inspector Number Noted

Now that calf delivery time is here and ranchers are working cattle, the State Brand Inspector will be frequently called upon. Morrow county has a new one who replaced Clyde Nutting, who retired last summer. Art Stevens, the new inspector, dropped by the office last week to leave his telephone number in case anyone was asking for it. It's not in the phone book so better jot it down in a place where you can find it if you need it. It's 676-9966.

## County Winners Named to Compete In State Bakeoff

The last of Oregon's county fairs having been held in September, the Oregon Wheat Growers League this week announced the county winners and runners-up in its annual cake baking contest.

Nine county victors, who will compete in a state "bakeoff" to be held during the Wheat League's annual December meeting in Portland, will vie for the \$100 cash prize and rotating trophy that are awarded to the state winner. Announcement of the county results came from Mrs. Milton Morgan of Ione, chairman of the League's domestic wheat utilization committee.

The winner in Baker county was Mrs. Eunice Squires of Baker, followed by Mrs. Jean Chastain, Halfway, and Mrs. Flossie Carnahan, Richland. In Gilliam county, Mrs. Donna Hardie, Condon, took first place, with runners-up Mrs. Erma Pattee, Condon, and Mrs. Robert Hector.

First place in Jefferson county was taken by Mrs. Floyd Miles, Madras, followed by Mrs. Viola Carter and Mrs. Gay Cambell, both from Madras. Mrs. Floyd Jones of Heppner took the honors in Morrow county, with runners-up Mrs. Don Peterson and Mrs. Lewis Carlson of Ione.

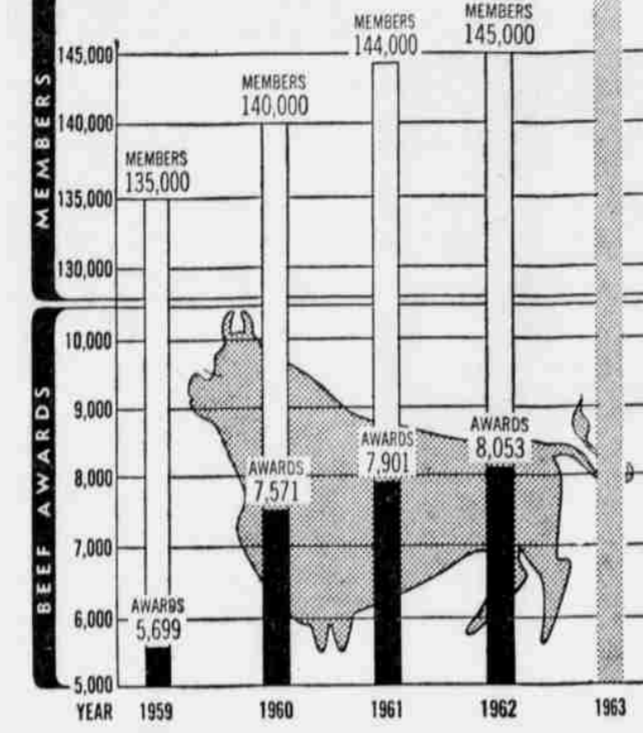
Mrs. Kenneth Hattrup of Grass Valley took first place in Sherman county, with Mrs. George Von Borstal and Mrs. Don Von Borstal, both of Grass Valley, as runners-up. In Umatilla county, first prize went to Mrs. Tamoko Baxter, Umatilla, followed by Mrs. Mark Jones and Mrs. Ruth Stoddard, both of Hermiston.

Winner of the Union county competition was Mrs. Fern Killenbeck, La Grande, with runners-up Mrs. Linda Strand and Mrs. W. D. Calvert, also of La Grande. In Wallowa county, Carol Wulff, Flora, took first place, followed by Evelyn Wilsey, Flora and Verne Anderson of Joseph. Wasco county honors went to Mrs. Carl Peterson of Wamic, and to runners-up Prudence Muller and Mrs. Glen Hearing, both of The Dalles.

Cash awards paid by the Wheat League to county winners and runners-up are \$5, \$3 and \$2. Cakes entered at fairs in each of nine wheat-producing counties were judged on outside and inside appearance and texture, flavor and frosting.

# FARM NEWS

## 5th ANNIVERSARY 4-H Beef Program



### The 1963 National 4-H Club Congress and the International Live Stock show the first week in December are destined to be one-in-a-lifetime experiences for a 4-H beef project winner.

An all-expense trip to Chicago awaits the state's top prize winner. The boy or girl also will be considered for one of six \$500 college scholarships presented to the highest ranking 4-H beef cattle producers in the nation.

This year marks the 5th anniversary of the beef program sponsorship by E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company. During the last five years participation and awards won by 4-H'ers have increased markedly.

### Extension Supervised

Supervised by the Cooperative Extension Service, the program in 1962 attracted more than 145,000 boys and girls in nearly every state compared to

about 135,000 in 1959. Enrollment is expected to show another increase when the 1963 figures are compiled.

### Chance to Learn

The beef program offers 4-H'ers opportunities to learn and apply latest methods of breeding, feeding and marketing. Much of the original research and testing were done by the agricultural experiment stations.

The youths also practice judging, fitting and showing of animals, and demonstrate various aspects of livestock production and management.

### Awards Not Easy

Progress reports, personal development and service to the community are considered when 4-H award winners are selected. Three girls and 21 boys already have claimed scholarships and next December six more youths will join this elite group.

## Home Ec Advisory Committee Lays Goals for Year

Mrs. Weldon Witherrite, Echo, was again named chairman of the Morrow County Advisory Committee for extension's Home Economics program. The six women on the committee met at the home of Mrs. Paul Slaughter, Irizon, on September 25 to lay plans for the new year, according to Esther Kirmis, Morrow county extension agent.

This committee, made up of one woman from each of the extension units in the county, advises the agent on the home economics program in the county, and serve as chairmen of standing committee for state council such as Azalea House, Associated Country Women of the World, 4-H work, health and safety, etc. In the county they especially plan the Homemakers' festival for the units in May.

Twelve goals for the year, says Mrs. Witherrite, are as follows: 1. Each unit remember Eastern Oregon State hospital with a box of gifts this year. 2. Save Betty Crocker coupons for Azalea House on OSU campus. 3. Each unit sponsor award for at least three 4-H girls in the county. 4. County committee will have a fair booth at Heppner Fair. 5. Sponsor a "Help to Young Marrieds" newsletter again this year. 6. Each unit will attempt to give one of its lessons to another organized group. 7. Promote civil defense. 8. Promote sales of Morrow county history. 9. Send delegate to State Council in Corvallis. 10. Take radio poll for possible Morrow county radio program. 11. Collect commemorative stamps and pennies for friendship for A.C.W.W. 12. Attend another county of the homemakers' festival.

Others on this board include: Mrs. James Pettyjohn, Ione, vice-chairman; Mrs. John Graves, Heppner, secretary; Mrs. Joe Wright, Heppner, treasurer; and Mrs. Paul Slaughter, Irizon, and Mrs. Walter Hayes, Boardman, members-at-large.

The next meeting will be on October 23 at the home of Mrs. Joe Wright.

Mrs. Jim Prock and children visited over the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Albert in Union.

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## Chats From Your Home Agent

# 4-H Knitters to Get OSU Service Help

By ESTHER KIRMIS

Mrs. Gene Cutsforth, Mrs. Opal Cook, Mrs. Rachel Harnett, Mrs. Larry Simmons, and other 4-H leaders in the county will be interested that one of the most complete sets of information assembled anywhere in the U. S. for youngsters who want to learn to knit will be released soon by Oregon State University Extension Service.

The new knitting information has been developed for youths who enroll in the 4-H knitting club project.

Because of its anticipated popularity, it will have to be limited to youngsters who enroll in a 4-H knitting project, says Ruth Brasher, state 4-H extension agent who helped develop the project. More than 20 states have requested copies, hoping to pattern their 4-H programs after Oregon's.

Enrollment in the 4-H knitting project has doubled twice over the past 10 years. Last year, 4075 girls and boys enrolled in the project.

The new project materials consist of seven phases or steps. In the beginning phase, 9 and 10-year-olds get the feel of different yarns and needles, learn to bind and cast on stitches and read patterns.

With practice, they are able to make simple garments, tasseled caps, slippers and mittens. More difficult garments follow—Scandinavian ski sweaters and individually designed knitted coats. After several years young knitters are ready to make knit and fabric ensembles and to combine several colors into an original design.

Mrs. James K. Franklin, Clackamas county 4-H leader who lives near Milwaukie, wrote the project material and planned illustrations based on an outline devised by an advisory committee.

What a youngster learns in a 4-H knitting club includes more than knitting skills, says Miss Brasher.

"Members learn to work with others in a 4-H club, develop patience, and to finish what they start," she emphasized.

Our office can help interested parents get their youngsters into a 4-H knitting club.

### Dressmaking I Workshop Starts

Mrs. Roland Bergstrom, well known Ione seamstress, has consented to lead a class of beginner women in a Dressmaking I Workshop, beginning October 16, 10:00 a.m. in the Heppner Fair annex.

Nine women have already signed up. Donna would still have room for a few more. If you're interested call the county agent's office.

### Ione Garden Club's Flower Show

I always look forward to this event in the fall. The riot of colors in the dahlias and mums takes your breath away, and you hope the frost will stay away just a little longer.

I especially enjoyed this year as I had a chance to try my hand at flower arranging. Through Mrs. William Rawlin's generosity of flowers, and containers, I had myself a morning.

I've always been interested in flower arranging, but know there is much I need to know. I'm going to begin boning up on the bulletin, "Flower Arranging" that we have in our office. Would you like one too?

### Self-Service Laundries Visited

Bernice Strawn, OSU Home Management Specialist, has originated a poster on bleaching which she has suggested we put in the self-service laundries around the county.

It cautions against pouring bleach directly on your clothes—it should be diluted first. The poster also advertises her bulletin, "Be a Better Buyer of Bleaches" and a packet of cards used to order them from the county agent's office in Heppner.

Besides bleaches, she also has written bulletins on starches, and other laundry aids that are available.

I placed posters in the Heppner laundrette, Ione Self-Laundry and the Boardman store. Miss Strawn will be in Morrow

county in the spring to conduct a public laundry clinic.

### Downey's Upholstery Visited

We are planning an upholstery workshop in the county this spring, and I thought it well to see what we had available in the county. I've seen the Downey Upholstery sign many times while in Boardman, but this time I decided to stop. Donald Downey has a separate building where he carries on his business. It has large tables for cutting and a special sewing machine. He does re-upholstery for furniture and automobiles, and has many sample books from which we could order.

He said he would be willing to cooperate with our extension workshop. Looks like an interesting spring ahead.

### Hinkles Move to Boardman

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Hinkle and their six-year-old daughter have moved to the Barnatt Ranches in Boardman from Condon.

While chatting with Mrs. Barbara Hinkle the other day she told me that she was one of the first Azalea House girls when she was going to Oregon State. This is quite a coincidence as Azalea House is a cooperative living house on OSU campus sponsored by the extension unit women of the state.

Barbara has joined the Boardman unit and now can help support Azalea House by saving Betty Crocker coupons.

Small world, isn't it.

### A week-end guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hughes

and family was Mrs. Hughes' father, Lloyd Stearns of Puyallup, Wn. He came Saturday, participated in a hunting party over the week-end, and left for his home on Wednesday.

### Charles Shults of North Bend

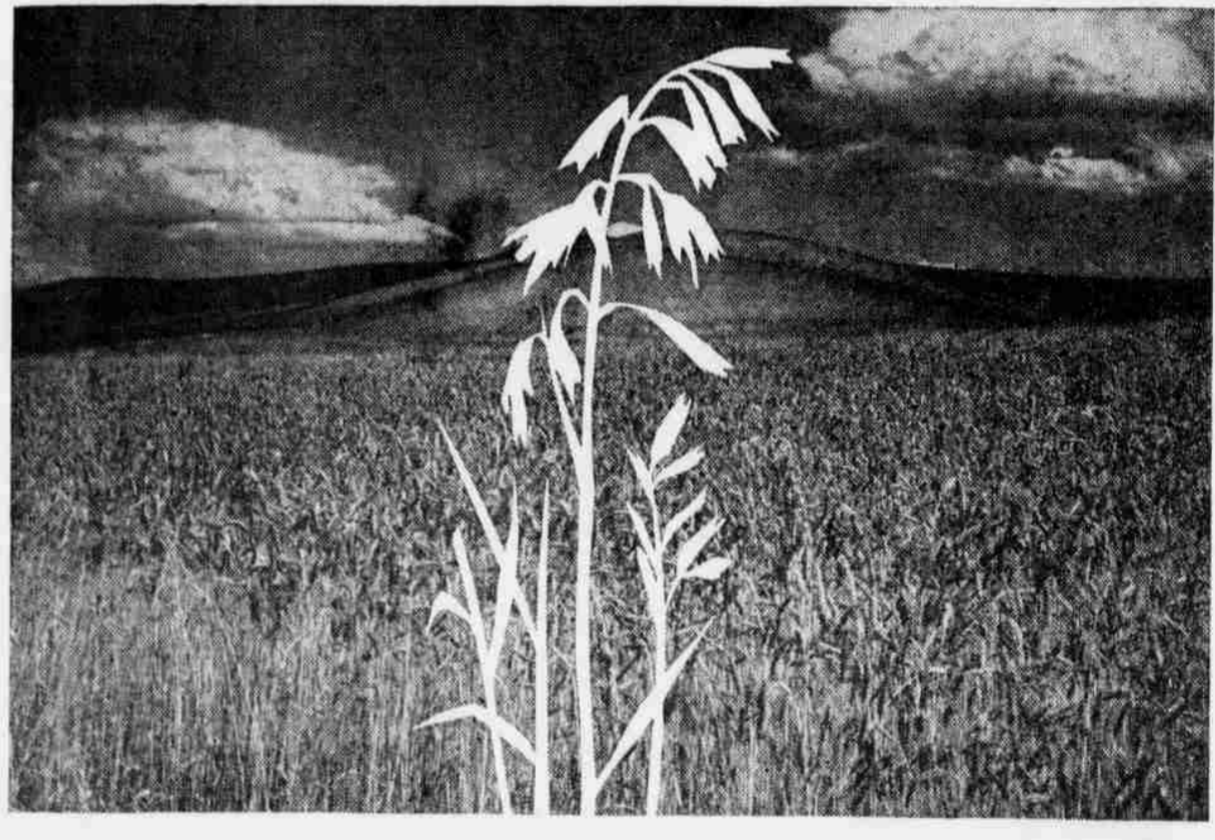
left Sunday for his home after spending a week at the home of his cousins, Mr. and Mrs. N. D. Bailey. He had been visiting his sister in Pocatello before coming here.

## Seed Cleaning and Treating

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Chemical fallow with Atrazine gives outstanding Cheatgrass control

The practice of chemical fallow promises to take another important step forward with the introduction of new Atrazine herbicide into the program. Even under this year's conditions... which experts have been calling "one of the worst situations we can remember"... control of Cheatgrass and other weeds was outstanding with chemical fallow based on Atrazine.

A single spray of 1/2 lb. of Atrazine 80W per acre (plus a contact herbicide such as Amtrale), applied to emerged weeds in early winter, generally eliminated the necessity for tillage until late April or May.

### Multiple benefits

The primary benefit of this program is to keep Cheat and other grasses and weeds under control (and Cheat that's controlled can't produce seeds for next year). In addition, moisture and soil nutrient losses are held to a minimum and soil erosion... by both wind and water... is reduced because the stubble mulch has not been destroyed. All this plus a real saving in labor.

For 1963-64

This is the year to try Atrazine on a trial basis. Treat one of your smaller fields with the combination of 1/2 lb. of Atrazine 80W per acre plus the

locally recommended amount of a contact herbicide. Prepare to be amazed at the fine control of Cheat next spring...without having touched a weeder!

Spray with ground equipment any time after weeds emerge up to January 1st. Be careful about overlap, however, since a double or triple dose of Atrazine could adversely affect next year's stand of wheat. And, don't treat shallow or very sandy soils. (If you're on two-year fallow, the rate of Atrazine 80W is 2 lbs. per acre.)

### Readily available

Atrazine is readily available in 5-lb. bag sizes. Chemical fallow with Atrazine can help you get more production per acre... and do it for less money.

Geigy Agricultural Chemicals, Division of Geigy Chemical Corporation, Saw Mill River Road, Ardsley, N. Y.

