

Chats From Your Home Agent

Mrs. Skiles Reports On 4-H Council Meet

By DONNA GEORGE

Mrs. Andy Skiles of Irrigon, new member of the Oregon 4-H club leaders' executive council, reports many matters of interest to 4-H leaders were discussed at its recent 2-day meeting in Corvallis.

The council decided that only in very special cases should youngsters be allowed to carry 4-H projects without participating in club activities.

Special honor will be given all 25-year 4-H leaders at the State 4-H Leaders Conference next year.

The council decided to emphasize the policy that 4-H members be encouraged to exhibit their project work but that exhibit is not required for project completion.

Other topics discussed included County Youth Councils, exchanges between 4-H clubs of different counties or states, criteria for national 4-H award selections, revealing 4-H exhibitors names to fair judges, and district 4-H leader conferences.

Mrs. Skiles has just begun a 3-year term representing Morrow, Gilliam and Wheeler counties. The council includes 12 4-H leaders from throughout Oregon. It makes policies and plans for the State 4-H Leaders Association and also acts as an advisory council to the state 4-H extension staff.

Now in her 12th year as a 4-H leader, Mrs. Skiles has willingly led her club members in both Morrow and Wasco counties in projects including clothing, woodworking, knitting and flower gardening. This year finds her starting with a new project—home improvement. Fourteen members enrolled in the Irrigon Future Homemakers 4-H club are: Dee Ann McElroy, Donna Pummel, Anita Pummel, Anna Sue Leslie, Julie Leslie, Linda

Reed, Betty Ritzer, Judy Snyder, Vicky Hobbs, Rebecca Goodall, Teresa Goodall, Terri Senn, Linda Early and Leslie Ann Early. Mrs. Skiles has also been very active in north Morrow 4-H Leaders Council, Morrow County Extension Advisory Council, home extension unit, Sunday school teaching and once taught school near Morgan.

To Study House Moving
"Should You Move Your House?" was the topic Friday evening in the first of a series of three cooperative extension service programs on housing at Boardman. Morrow county extension agent Donna George explained purposes of the meeting were to give Boardman families information to help them start planning the move from their present homes made necessary by John Day Dam. She listed other sources of available information and emphasized the importance of early planning for either moving, remodeling or rebuilding of homes since each family must make decisions to meet their own needs in housing.

Dewey West, mayor of Boardman, related personal experience in having two homes moved and showed a short movie of one of the houses being moved in Arlington. Factors to be considered in deciding whether a house is worth moving were presented by N. C. Anderson, Morrow county extension agent. He said this decision involves factors including structural durability; changes necessary to meet building code requirements in a new location; costs of lot, foundation, plumbing and electrical hook-up and interior and exterior repair.

Miss George showed an example of a contract used by house movers. Lloyd Sanders, house moving contractor from Kennewick, Wn., discussed costs of moving a house and answered other questions relating to house moving.

Specialist and Panel To Present Program on Housing Finance

This Friday, March 19, the second program will deal with housing finance, a topic which promises to be helpful to anyone planning to build, remodel, buy or refinance a house. Mrs. Alberta Johnston, Oregon extension family finance specialist, will discuss ways that a family can provide for financing housing. Mrs. Johnston and a panel of lenders will answer questions relating to sources of housing loans and the services provided by these sources.

Panel members will include Gene Pierce of the Bank of Eastern Oregon at Heppner, Mr. William Parker of Hermiston representing First Federal Savings and Loan of Pendleton, and Mr. Roland Friezen of the Farmers Home Administration at Pendleton.

The final session of the Housing Clinic on March 26 will feature ideas for planning building or remodeling of kitchens, bathrooms and utility rooms by Miss Bernice Strawn. All interested persons from other areas as well as from Boardman and Irrigon are urged to attend these educational meetings. All the sessions are scheduled for Fridays at 8 p.m. in the basement cafeteria of Riverside High school.

FARM NEWS

County Agent's Office

Benefits Noted in Change Over to Grass Seeding

By N. C. ANDERSON

Don Robinson, Sandhollow rancher, is a firm believer of grass. As a long-time registered polled Hereford breeder, grass contributes substantially to the type of agriculture that he has chosen to follow.

Over the years he has seeded many acres to improved pasture mixes and has been very well pleased with the results. These seedings were made on areas that otherwise were wasteland, had a tendency to blow or in most cases, land that was steep and subject to water erosion, which is typical of that area.

Don was especially pleased with these grass seedings after the December 22 heavy run-off which caused considerable soil erosion in crop land even on the less steeper slopes. Don told of heavy run-off resulting in deep gullies that stopped immediately upon reaching grass seedings even though many of these continued on steeper slopes. The silt spread out over the grass land causing very little or no erosion at all. He was especially pleased with some fields where an erosion pattern had been established over the years and the steeper land seeded to grass.

In addition to this attribute, Don estimates that he would have had to sell at least a third of his cow herd during the dry spring and summer of 1964 and had he not had these improved pasture seedings. He told me his improved seedings produced 50 times more forage than native range land last year. By constant pasture rotation, he was able to keep his cattle in very good flesh and held together his registered Hereford herd.

Like many Morrow county ranchers, Don would like to take more land out of grain production and put into grass but because his place is small, it is hard in this time of decreased farm income to make a complete change-over from producing crops to grass. He has, however, some ideas on how he can make this gradual change-over without losing too much income, which because of steep slopes and great soil erosion, appears to be a must.

Rood Makes Early Coyote Find; Burcham Joins County Staff

About this time of year each spring we get a report from Gerald Rood, genial coyote trapper-hunter, that he has gotten his first den of coyotes of the season. At least during the past few years he has been the first in the state to make this record.

On Friday, March 12, the same day as a year ago, Gerry dug out his first den of coyote pups. It will be a busy season from now on for him and Ralph Burcham who within the last few weeks replaced Carl McDaniel as coyote hunter in Morrow county.

For those who would like to contact Mr. Burcham in case of any coyote problems, his phone is 989-8190. He recently moved from Wallowa county where he has been coyote hunter for a number of years. In visiting with some of the Wallowa county livestock growers we are sure that their loss is our gain. Those that I have talked to speak highly of his ability as a coyote hunter. So with these two Fish and Wildlife Service trapper-hunters at our call, no one should need suffer any losses from these predators.

Study of Leaf Stripe Rust Planned Again This Year

Dr. Bob Powelson, plant pathologist, Oregon State University stopped by the office last week on a trip through the Columbia Basin checking leaf stripe rust infections and making arrangements to continue the observation program started last year. This is a research project financed by the army and is to continue at least through this year.

Bob informed me that leaf stripe rust infections had "boomed" in the Willamette Valley in recent days and that some rust had been found in higher elevations in Umatilla.

county in early fall seeded wheat. While in the county plans were made to establish again the three rust spore traps with the first readings to be taken later this month. Spore traps will be located in various areas of the county to get an indication of infection in that community.

Spore traps last year were located in the north Lexington area at the Max Barclay ranch, in the Gooseberry area at the Louis Carlson ranch and at the ranch of Lawrence Beckett near Eightmile.

Certificate of Recognition Given For 20 Years of County Service

Presentation of certificate of recognition as a USDA worker for over 20 years last week caused me to reminisce a bit on some of the accomplishments in agriculture in this and other areas where I have worked, as well as to recall some of the satisfactions of progress in the various programs in both adult and 4-H club work.

As I have observed in various occasions in this column, it gives great satisfaction to watch the boys and girls that you have worked with in the 4-H club program develop into good citizens and raise a family who follows in their footsteps.

It is interesting to think back 10 or 15 years ago and observe the change of types of farm implements which have taken a lot of the work from and added efficiency to operations as ranches double or triple in size. Capital investment for this progress has grown tremendously.

One needs only to go back to some colored slides taken in the late '40's to get quite a chuckle from the quality comparison of livestock now with then. An enjoyable evening can be spent in looking at grand champion livestock of that period of time and compare it to present day standards. Morrow county has progressed above the average in improvement of livestock and

much credit can be given to those breeders who have spent lots of time and money in improving breeding herds, making available to the rest of the country the herd sires and brood cows that go into this improvement.

It is interesting to think back to the original organization of the Morrow County Livestock Growers Association made in 1949 and the tremendous impact that this has had on improving livestock in the county, the progress of the wheat grower working through such organizations as the Morrow County Wheat Growers Association, Oregon Wheat Growers League, Western Wheat Associates and National Association of wheat growers. New and better varieties have come through constant demand from our growers.

Many of the now established wheat varieties grown in the county were once observed for adaptation in the cereal nursery grown for over 20 years at the Frank Anderson ranch in the Eightmile community. Encouragement by our growers has resulted in new and better winter and spring barley varieties. Conservation has progressed tremendously and it gives one a feeling of security in having worked in organizing soil conservation districts that have led the way in these conservation practices.

On the lighter side, it adds spice to life to remember the many incidents that keep things interesting such as some of the experiences in serving hot dogs, hamburgers and lots of coffee to Rodeo dances in the old dance pavilion located where the new library and museum is now located. With no running water at the concession stand it was a one or two-man job to carry cream cans full of water from a distant hydrant and this water was treated preciously at the stand. So preciously in fact, that we would even save the "wiener water" for re-use, but not intentionally to make coffee. It was quite embarrassing when by accident the can of wiener water was poured into a coffee maker in the midnight lunch rush, however, coffee made from wiener water is good, according to some of our customers if it doesn't carry too much "scum" on top of the cup!

As I remember and think back to 19 years ago when I came to Morrow county, I thought the county quite desolate on the trip over Franklin Hill which I was advised was the best and closest way to Heppner to see for the first time a "rock jack" which is quite common in the area. It has been a lot of fun in helping to develop such pro-

Meat Label Bill Passes in House

The House of Representatives Monday passed a foreign meat labeling bill authored by Representative Irvin Mann of the 28th Legislative District.

Mann is a member of the House Agriculture committee which sent the bill to the floor. He said that the passage of the bill would give the housewife protection she badly needed. The livestock industry of the state has long sought such legislation and it had the solid backing of labor groups.

Mann noted in presenting the bill on the floor that it would protect the agricultural economy of Oregon and protect the jobs of Oregon meat cutters and slaughter house workers.

jects as a 4-H Summer Camp starting from scratch and developing a facility that is now not only used by Morrow county 4-H members, but also by many from the neighboring counties of Wheeler, Sherman and Gilliam. These and many, many other pleasant memories were brought to mind last Tuesday evening when Jerry Nibler, State Extension Agent made the presentation of this certificate at a meeting of our Morrow County Extension Advisory Council.

Justice Court

March 2—Roger Eugene Allan, Rt. 1, Stanfield, violation of the basic rule, sentenced to three days in jail.

March 5—Donald Edwin Turner, Lexington, disobeyed stop sign, fined \$15.

March 8—Roger Eugene Allan, Rt. 1, Stanfield, drawing check with insufficient funds, pleaded guilty, placed on probation one year.

Directories List Four More Towns

The 1965 Heppner, Ione, Lexington and Pendleton telephone directories, recently received by area residents, contain new listing sections for four communities not previously shown, according to Dale Slusher, local manager for Pacific Northwest Bell.

The new sections are for Holix, which follows the Pendleton listings, and Pilot Rock, Ukiah and Boardman following the Heppner, Ione and Lexington section.

Slusher said the new sections were added due to numerous customer requests for directories from the four communities.

Wheat Growers!

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COSTS SO LITTLE Good lighting makes such a difference in your life

Your biggest bargain in modern living

One of the most important benefits of rural electrification is the miracle of electric lights throughout rural America. It wasn't many years ago that only a few homes enjoyed electrical living... now we all take it as a matter of fact.

Did you ever consider how proper lighting can change your life? It makes your home safer, more comfortable and convenient. Lighting can even change the mood of any room... soft, indirect lighting encourages relaxation... comfortable lights encourage you to speed through household chores (and helps children study).

There's no trick to decorating with good lighting. Valances, for example, are ideal to emphasize the beauty of windows and drapes. They provide



inches to the left or right. Be sure to have adequate bulbs; a minimum of 150 watts is desirable for reading.

Study is easier in a well lighted area

An adequate study area is important to your children's success in school. It need not be expensive. Chances are a little planning could change a dark corner into an ideal study center!



Many home accidents can be prevented with proper lighting. A small, inexpensive night light can save dangerous and painful falls. Outdoor lights serve the dual advantage of letting you work later and discouraging unwanted visitors.

Yet, electric lighting costs are low, thanks to rural electric power. It's your biggest bargain in better living!

First, there should be adequate room for the student to spread his work in front of him. A table or desk is sufficient. The chair should be comfortable and encourage proper posture.

Lighting should be free from glare and shadows. A single lamp will do the job; place it on the side of the desk opposite the writing hand. The bottom of the shade should be 15 inches above the desk top; place the lamp about 12 inches from the front edge of the desk. Use at least a 150-watt bulb.

Two wall mounted lamps also give excellent lighting. Place them 15 inches above the desk and spaced 30 inches between the center of the shades.



good balanced lighting and bring out the colors of walls and furnishings. Cornices and wall-brackets can be effectively used to display planters, fireplaces and other interest areas.

Well placed lamps make reading and many tasks (such as sewing) easier. Floor lamps should be about 47 inches from the floor and 26 inches behind the reading material. It's usually best to have the light source slightly to one side... say 15

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Bob Elkins, Pres., Oregon-Washington Farmers Union, 215 Front St., N.E., Salem, Oregon

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