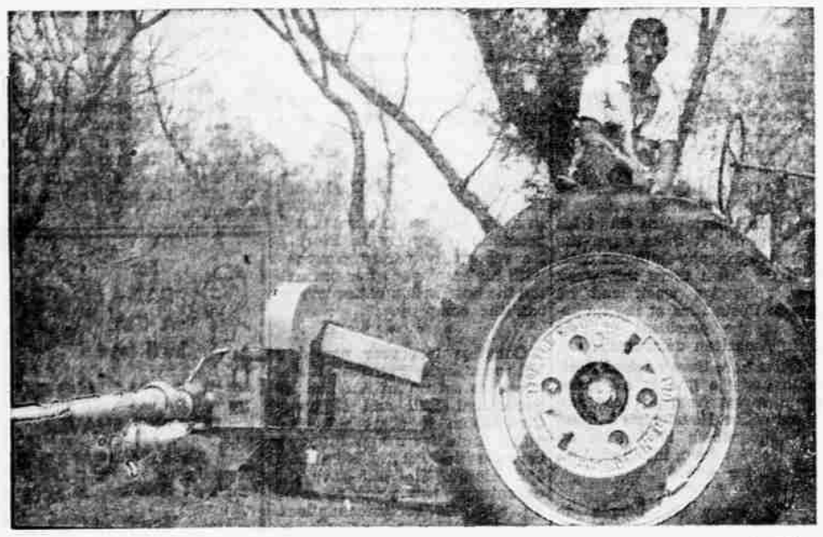
New Sprinkling System In Use at Bear Ranch



SPRINKLER SYSTEM—Ermin Bear is shown above with new Pow-R-Sprinkler system installed at his father's ranch in Hornbrook, Calif. The device was manufactured by the Vermeer Manufacturing company of Pella, Iowa. It is the first to be used north of Woodland, Calif. It is also one of the first on the west coast.

By MRS. H. H. CHAPMAN
Mail Tribune Correspondent

Hornbrook—How to get available water from where it is to where it is needed has been a problem facing farmers since man first began to grow food for himself and his livestock.

Many methods of doing this have been devised since the first man who thought of it carried the water in his crude vessel from the source of supply to his garden patch. A newer device was installed recently by Frank Bear on his ranch in Hornbrook.

First in Area

Called the Pow-R-Sprinkler, and manufactured by the Vermeer Manufacturing company of Pella, Iowa, it is one of the first in operation on the west coast. It is the first north of Woodland, Calif.

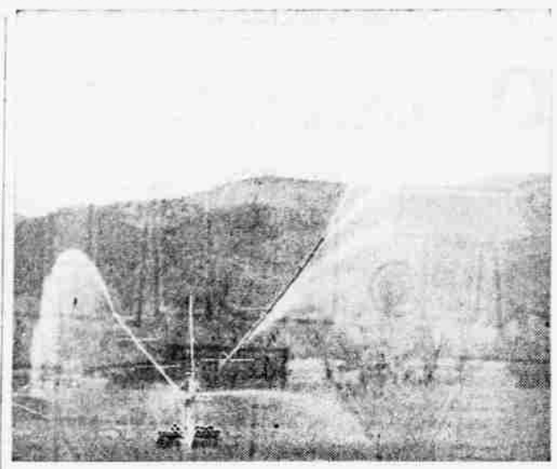
It resembles a giant lawn sprinkler, with a 140-foot boom. Its capacity is 350 gallons of water per minute at 65 to 70 pounds pressure. It is capable of covering up to a 500-foot circle with one-fourth to one inch of "rain" in one hour.

The boom is rotated by water pressure only. One end of the boom has a sprinkler, and the opposite end has five smaller nozzles which take care of spraying the center of the circle. The boom is mounted on a sturdy four-wheeled trailer on a roller-bearing turntable, and the entire unit is pulled by a farm tractor from either end of the trailer.

Water Pumped

The water is pumped from an exisiting water supply on the Bear ranch by means of a centrifugal pump operated by a tractor. The water goes through a pipeline to its destination. The portable pipeline consists of 3-foot lengths of 5-inch aluminum pipe. Chief operator of the sprinkler system is Bear's son, Ermin, who says the "rig" is the easiest to move and operate of all irrigating systems he has seen.

Sale of the system was handled through the Siskiyou Tractor company in Yreka, and the "rig" was assembled by a Vermeer representative from San Francisco.



IN OPERATION—Shown here is the Pow-R Sprinkler in operation. The machine has a 140-foot boom. Capacity is 350 gallons of water per minute at 65 to 70 pounds pressure. It is capable of covering up to a 500-foot circle with one-fourth to one inch of water in one hour.

Milk Recording Method Developed

Champaign, Ill — (AP) — The University of Illinois has come up with a new milk-recording service that costs only a nickel a cow a month.

The new method is almost eight times cheaper than the Standard Dairy Herd Improvement Association Program and five times less expensive than the owner-sampler plan.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has adopted the university's idea, called the Weigh-a-Day-a-Month.

"Every dairyman whose herd is not now enrolled in a record-keeping plan should consider using this new methods," said J. G. Cash, University dairy extension specialist. "With a minimum of record keeping, it provides the information needed for higher profits and greater efficiency."

Cash explained that production records are invaluable to dairymen in managing and improving a dairy herd. Dairymen can cull low-producing and unprofitable cows from the herd with the use of such records — and also can feed each cow they keep according to her production.

The Illinois plan basically calls for cooperating herd owners to fill out monthly milk production sheets and mail them to the county extension office, where they are calculated and returned to the herd owner.

An annual summary of each herd also is included in the service.

PROSPECT
Seniors Are Graduated

Prospect — Commencement exercises were held May 29, at the gym. Seniors receiving diplomas were Vera Pope, Roberta Dunlap, Jim Daniels, Jim Teegarden, Jim Setzer, Jim Davidson and Don Vannice. Salutatorian was Roberta Dunlap and valedictorian was Don Vannice.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Larson are the parents of a baby daughter born May 28. She has been named Vikki Lynn. The Larson's have three other children, all boys.

Mrs. Warren Long and baby daughter of Fort Lewis, Wash., have arrived at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Robertson. They will be here about one month.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond L. Artmire and daughter, Frances traveled to Klamath Falls Sunday, where they attended the ninth annual commencement of the Oregon Technical institute. Their son, Frank Ray Artmire was one of the 361 graduates.

A farewell party was given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Gaines of Prospect for Beverly Cummons and Jim Dole. Attending were Ramona Odom, Mary Ann Hubbard, Joyce Moore, Kathy Dilly, Celeste Burril, Beverly Cummons, Barbara Mc Elmurry, Beverly Bean, Jill Hedgepeth, Yvonne Struck, Rose Jantzer, Don Vannice, Dave Gardener, Mike Burrill, Robin Hedgepeth, Jerry Gains, Jim Dole, Leon Bean, Divid Gains, Carl Spencer, Jim Valentine, Lerry Peterson and Paul Rogers.

M. W. (Bill) Betts was injured early Monday morning when a log rolled on his foot. He received a broken toe and cuts that required stitches.

Mrs. Earl Bliss is reported to be very ill and under doctors care. Little Jane Reings has the chickenpox.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Pope announce the marriage of their daughter, Mary, to Allen Valentine, son of Helen Valentine. The couple was married in Reno, Nev. Saturday, June 1.

Larry Gidney and family have moved from their home in Prospect to reside in Medford.

The night shift at Red Blanket Lumber Co. has again started after a two-week shut down.

Visiting over the week end at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Granvile Yates were Mrs. Gib Martin and children, Reno, Nev.

Le Roy Struck arrived home Saturday for the summer months, after completing his first year at North West Nazarene college, Nampa, Ida.

Miss Margaret Reeves, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charley Reeves, has returned to here to she will spend the next five weeks. She resides at Los Angeles.

Horse Show Entries Due Next Monday

Salem—Entries for the 11th-annual All-Arabian Horse Show June 22-23 at the state fairgrounds here close midnight, June 10, according to Ward W. Wells, show manager.

Wells said by the time final entries are in, an anticipated 200 horses will be signed up to perform in the two-day event sponsored jointly by the Arabian Horse Breeders association of Oregon and the Salem Shrine club patrol of Al Kader Temple.

Prairie City Woman Named Justice of Peace

Salem—(AP)—Gov. Robert D. Holmes today appointed Mrs. Edgar Marie Howard, Prairie City, to be justice of the peace in District No. 2 of Grant county.

Mrs. Howard, a nurse at Prairie City hospital and mother of four children, was named to fill a post which was recreated by the Grant county court last January. It had been previously held by Mrs. Elizabeth Kight, also of Prairie City.

4-H CLUB NEWS

Phoenix

The Phoenix 4-H club will hold a meeting June 7, instead of the usual second Friday, as some members will be at summer school.

Virgie Martin,
News Reporter.

Eagle Point Club

An Eagle Point 4-H child care meeting was held at Mrs. Claus' home May 28. Members planned a skating party and also voted to hold meetings during the summer.

Mrs. Harbison read a list of items to report on at the next meeting.

Sandra Wallis,
Reporter.

Lone Pine Merry-Maids

The Lone Pine Merry-Maids met on June 3 at the residence of Mrs. Herman Mitchel. Sally Flett and Doris Young gave a demonstration on baked crispy peaches.

Next meeting will be on June 30 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Mrs. Mitchel's. The sewing group will meet at the same place at 2:30 p.m. on June 4.

Doris Young,
Reporter

County Agent Tells Ways to Prevent Root Suckering

Cottonwood trees are commonly planted as a means of getting quick shade around a building.

After the trees get quite large they frequently send up a large number of root suckers and many people would like to cut the trees down, according to C.B. Cordy, county horticulture agent. If poplar trees are cut down in the winter time they will send up forests of suckers from the roots over a large area.

Procedure Recommended

This root suckering can be almost entirely prevented by girdling the trees a year before they are cut down, Cordy noted. This girdling can be done by chopping out a section of bark four inches wide completely around the tree. It is necessary to take out only bark and a small layer of wood, he said.

Some people will not want to wait a year to remove the trees, in which case now is the best possible time to cut them down, Cordy advises. As trees grow in the spring the roots become progressively weaker until about this time of year.

From now on the food manufactured by the leaves will be returned to the roots and they will become progressively stronger until fall. By cutting the trees down now this lowered food supply in the roots would cut suckering to the minimum, but it would not be as good as girdling, the county agent explained.

Cottony Maple Scale Appear In Epidemic Numbers Now

Cottony maple scale have appeared in epidemic numbers on the maple trees in this area, according to C. B. Cordy, county horticulture agent.

These scale are readily noticed because of the little balls of white cottony material that appear on the branches, he said. A microscopic examination shows that this cottony material is full of eggs. These eggs will hatch in about a week and the young scale will seek out a place on a twig and settle down for the remainder of its life.

When it once settles down, it inserts its beak into the tissues of the tree and sucks out sap for its food. This process will continue until early next summer, when the old scale will again produce this mass of cottony material filled with eggs. At this time the adult scale dies.

Cordy said the weakest point in the life cycle of this insect is just after the eggs have hatched. At that time which will be between June 15 and 20, a spray containing two gallons of summer oil in 100 gallons of water will give good control if thoroughly applied. It would be futile to attempt control with small sprayers.

At some time in the future other insects will feed on these scales and again reduce their numbers to where they are of no commercial consequence, Cordy commented.

In the meantime he said, considerable damage may result to the trees and it would seem that where the health of the tree's a consideration it would be best to spray it this summer to reduce the scale numbers. In all likelihood one spray will not give perfect control and a second spray will be needed either in the winter or next summer at this same time, Cordy stated.

Ground Water Prospects Good

Ground water prospects in Jackson county during the current irrigation season are good at the present time, according to David Hendrix, watermaster of district 15.

He said that although the snow pack feeding streams and the water table was only 7 per cent of normal, there was "exceptionally good ground storage."

Hendrix' duties concern water useage from pumps and ditches in the rivers and streams and from wells and sumps watering in excess of one-half acre.

Legislation which went into effect last year, requiring permits for such wells and sumps, will eventually result in much greater knowledge of ground water in the state, he said

Figures being compiled by the state engineer should show where and how large the water table is throughout the state, Hendrix explained.

Persons must secure permits from the watermaster's office before drilling wells for irrigation of land in excess of one-half acre.

Smog Control Costs Declared To Be High

St. Louis —(AP)— A California smog-fighter predicted high costs to control air pollution and warned against spending money to control the wrong pollutants Wednesday.

Dr. Arnie J. Haagen-Smit, the man who solved the riddle of Los Angeles smog, said he had worked a year to control air pollutants from power generating plants.

"It is clear that no matter which process will ultimately be developed, the cost will be high" he said.

He added that the removal of dust and some industrial emissions would not decrease smog conditions, but that controlling the keys uspect in these emissions, oxides of nitrogen, might eliminate pollution.

He addressed 300 members of the Air Pollution Control association in convention here.

Agreements on Soil Bank Still Effective

Jackson County farmers with land signed up under the Soil Bank program are being assured this week by Harry E. Martin, office manager of the County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation office, that their agreements are still in effect and have in no way been jeopardized by recent Congressional action.

Since the Soil Bank program is in two parts, the agreements are different for each part. One of these are for acreage reserve whereby Jackson county farmers with wheat allotments and who have signed an agreement, are paid approximately $28 an acre for acreage of wheat allotment reduced. These agreements are annual agreements that expire at the end of the 1957 calendar year.

The second part of the Soil Bank program is the conservation reserve whereby Jackson county farmers, who agree to reduce their acreage of soil depleting crops and at the same time establish cover on land set aside will receive an annual payment of $11 per acre plus approximately 80 per cent of the cost of establishment of protective cover. These contracts will be for 3 to 10 years.

Both types of agreements require the control of noxious weeds and the havesting of any crop or grazing of the land is prohibited for the duration of the contract.

At the present time there are 16 acreage reserve agreements in Jackson county, covering 230 acres of wheat land. In 1957 these 16 farmers will receive a total of $6,564.54 compensation for keeping their wheat land out of production thereby reducing the Jackson county wheat production by an estimated 5,497 bushels this year.

Eleven Contracts

There are at present 11 conservation reserve contracts in effect in Jackson county. The majority are on land that has been in feed grain production and was low in soil fertility. A total of 312 acres of cropland will be kept out of production and permitted to build up strength for at least three years under these contracts. The objectives of the Conservation Reserve program are to retire general cropland from production that is not needed now, and to help conserve soil, water, trees and wildlife.

The farmers who have set this land aside will receive $3,212 in annual rental payments for the land set aside in 1957. In addition they will receive an estimated $5,811 in Federal cost share payments for establishing satisfactory vegetative cover.

At present time the acreage reserve part of the Soil Bank program, which is the annual program for wheat and other basic allotment crops is under strong criticisms in Congress and may not be renewed for 1958. The present agreements will be honored fully, according to Marin.

The conservation reserve part of the program has also received some criticism in Congress but stands a better chance to continue on for a number of years.

Farm and Garden

Adjusting Equipment Saves Mowing Time

Penny wise and pound foolish can apply to mowing hay, County Agent Earle Jossy points out.

A few minutes spent in adjusting and sharpening equipment can result in hours saved in the actual mowing job.

Causes of Trouble

The cutter bar on mowers are frequently out of alignment. This can be caused by manual wear or hitting some object at the end of the cutter bar. The outer end of the bar should be ahead of the inner end by about one-fourth inch for each foot of length, Jossy said. The cutter bar sections and guard plates on the mower must be centered in order to do a good job of mowing Agriculture engineers call this the register of the mower.

To register properly, the knife sections must center on their corresponding guard plates at the end of both the in and out stroke, Jossy explained. If they do not center, look for wear at the hinge pins, the pitman crank pin bushing, loose pitman connections, or wrong length pitman, he advised.

Jossy further commented, no mower can cut well unless the knife blades are sharp and in good repair. Broken or badly nicked blades should be removed and replaced with new ones. When new guard plates are used it is necessary to check the wearing plates which are on the back side of the cutter bar. If these are worn and new guard plates are used, the sicke will not be level and will not hit well. In this case it would be necessary to replace the wearing plate also.

These are just a few of the most important problems in keeping a mower working well. The instruction book with the mower should be studied carefully whenever repairs are necessary, Jossy added. A bulletin, "How to Repair and Adjust Mowers," extention bulletin 686, is available from the county extension office.

Young Trees Need Sun Protection

Corvallis—A strip of burlap and a bit of string could save the life of that young tree planted this spring, advises R. Ralph Clark, extension horticulturist at Oregon State college.

A little tree set in a new location where the host sun can beat on part of its bark often gets a killing sunburn, Clark explains. To protect the tree, some form of shade must be provided.

One way is to use a strip of burlap several inches wide. Start at the top of the trunk, just under the branches, and wray in a spiral—keeping the burlap just tight enough to stay in place. The end at the bottom can be held in place with a piece of string or light twine.

A wide stake, placed so it will shade the trunk from the hot afternoon sun, is another way of protecting a young tree, Clark suggests. Placing a second stake on the other side of the tree and winding a piece of wide cloth around both stakes will also help hold the tree in place during high winds.

One other method of protecting trunk from the sun—which may be easier if you have many trees to take care of—is paint the trunk with ordinary whitewash.

Conservation Group Will Take To Hills

San Francisco — (AP) — The West's oldest and largest outdoor conservation organizattion takes to the hills this summer in California, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and British Columbia, Canada.

The outings, open to members of the San Francisco Sierra club and non-member applicants for membership, and members of some 70 other conservation groups will take four high-trips, six base camp trips, four river trips, eight knapsack trips and six burro trips.

The club has sponsored summer outings since 1900 on the theory that persons who become initmately acquainted with the nation's scenic areas will be their best defenders against spoilation.

High trips along the timber line will take groups to the Evolution and Palisade Basins of the High Sierra, to Glacier Park, Montana, and Grand Canyon Teton National park in Wyoming.

Other club trips include rubber boat trips down the canyons of Dinosaur National monument on the Utah-Colorado border and two burro trips in the High Sierra in California.

Additional details may be obtained from the club headquarters, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco, Calif.

Nitrogen Aids Grass Production

Champaign, Ill. —(AP)— Soils and bluegrass recently have been scutinized by University of Illinois agricultural experts.

"Bluegrass top-dressed with nitrogen produced five times more early-season pasture than untreated bluegrass," said J. A. Jackobs, University agronomist. Jackobs and E. C. Spurrier, another university agronomist, conducted the tests.

Across campus, meanwhile, R. C. Hay, University agricultural engineer, was conducting irrigation tests.

"Irrigation may be profitable on sandy soils where the water supply is close or where specialized crops are grown," Hay said. "But irrigating soils like clay loam would not increase yield enough to pay for the equipment and labor.

Jackobs and Spurrier discovered that applying about 140 pounds of actual nitrogen per acre produced nearly one and one-half tons of dry matter per acre compared with only one-quarter ton of dry matter where nitrogen was not applied.

"And fertilized bluegrass can be pastured about 10 days before non-fertilized bluegrass usually is ready to pasture," he added.

Hay, meanwhile, defended his tests from the financial viewpoint.

"Irrigating high-value specialty crops and hybrid seeds will increase profits enough to justify the cost of expensive equipment," he said.

"But surface irrigation is practical only on land that is uniform with no ridges or depressions. Sprinklers have to be used on uneven land."

Hereford Tour Planned Sunday

Members and friends of the Cal-Oregon Hereford Breeders association will view Hereford cattle in southern Oregon Sunday, June 9, on their annual tour.

The group will meet at the E. N. Lippert farm on Watergap rd. near Williams creek at 10 a.m. At 11 a.m. they will visit the W.H.R. Norstrand farm on Palmer creek. To find this ranch, visitors are advised to drive up the Applegate river straight ahead from McKee bridge. They are reminded not to cross the river.

This will be the lunch stop and Cal-Oregon will furnish steak, potatoes, ice cream, coffee and soft drinks. Visitors will bring their own dishes and a salad or dessert.

At 2 p.m. the tour will be at the R. H. Fields ranch north of Central Point and at 3 p.m. at the John Bohnert Seven Oaks Farm. Friends of Cal-Oregon and anyone interested in cattle are invited to attend, members said.

WILSON ON POLITICS

Boston —(AP)— Defense Secretary Charles E. Wilson, who has a knack for stirring up controversies with his pithy remarks, told a GOP dinner Wednesday night how he and a friend recently discussed Wilson's lack of political know-how. Wilson said he conceded he was no politician. "Yes, Charlie, we all understand that," the friend replied, "but what we don't understand is why you think you have to keep proving it."

Time for Second Cover Spray Near On Pear Trees

The second cover spray for control of codling moth, mites, and psylla on pears should be applied June 10 to 15 according to L. G. Gentner, entomologist at the Southern Oregon experiment station, and C. B. Cordy, Jackson county extension agent.

In speed sprayers, use 8 pounds 50 per cent DDT plus 8 pounds armite plus 6 pounds malathion or 3 pounds parathion or 3 pounds EPN per acre. On comice, use 8 pounds chlorobenzilate instead of aramite.

With Hose Rigs

In hose rigs they recommend 1½ pounds DDT plus 1½ pounds aramite plus 1½ pounds malathion, or ¾ pound parathion or ¾ pound EPN. On comice use 1½ pounds chlorobenzilate instead of aramite.

If all growers spray in the week of June 10 to 15 it will prevent psylla from moving back and forth between early and late sprayed blocks, they pointed out. This is important in maintaining control.

Spray Apples

In apples, the spray for the control of codling moth and leaf miner should be applied at the same time. Cordy and Genter suggest 10 pounds of 50 per cent DDT and 6 pounds of parathion per acre, or 2 pounds of DDT and one pound of parathion per 100 gallon. In both cases, use one quarter of a pint of spreader per 100 gallon.

This spreader is essential in order to get control of the leaf miner. This insect is causing serious damage in apples, but so far is found only occasionally in pears.

Livestock Judging Schools Scheduled

Corvallis—A school for livestock judges, to be held at Oregon State college July 8 and 9, will give interested persons an opportunity to qualify themselves to judge at community and county fairs, according to Cal G. Monroe, state extension agent in 4-H club work.

A similar school will be held July 11 and 12 at the Eastern Oregon Branch Experiment station, Union.

Instruction on judging dairy cattle, beef cattle, sheep, swine, saddle horse showmanship and horsemanship, livestock showmanship, and show ring procedure will be offered at the school. Those attending will also learn how to give reasons for their placings when judging.

Interested persons are advised to see their local county agents to get more details on the school and to arrange housing and transportation, Monroe said.

Western Livestock Producers Warned

San Francisco — (AP) — President E. Floyd Forbes of the Western States Meat Packers Association has warned western livestock producers, packers and processors that their economic future would be at stake at an important meeting in Chicago on June 12.

The meeting, Forbes said, is called by the freight traffic managers of all western transcontinental railroads to consider reducing westbound freight rates on dressed meat and packing-house products 30 cents per 100 pounds under the present truck rates.

The result, Forbes warned, may be "disastrous" for all segments of the western meat industry unless the reduction is accompanied by an equal reduction of westbound rates on live animals.

Wheat Acreage Allotment Offered

Farmers with land on which no wheat was seeded for grain for any of the years 1955, 1956 or 1957, may apply for a 1958 wheat acreage allotment, according to Albert L. Straus, chairman of the Jackson County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation committee.

To be considered for an allotment on a farm which had no wheat seeded for grain for any of those years, the farmer must apply in writing to his county ASC committee by July 1.

Blank application forms are available at the ASC county office, courthouse, Medford, Oregon, for use in filing requests for allotments.

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