



EARLY PEAR PICKER—Mrs. John Brandstatt, Albany, reaches for some prime Bartlett pears on the Sunny Crest orchard near Medford. When Mrs. Brandstatt has filled her half metal and half canvas "bucket" she scoots down the ladder and unsnaps the chords holding the canvas bottom and the pears cascade into a waiting box. The picture was taken Monday as picking got underway on many ranches in the Rogue River valley. Harold Holmes, manager of Rogue River Orchards, said the Bartletts are in wonderful shape.



RELAXING—The Evert Chaney's enjoy their magazines on the doorstep of their cabin in the Sunny Crest orchard after a hard day of pear picking. This is their first year in the Rogue valley. They say they usually make the circuit from California through to Washington, following the apples, peaches and cherries. Those who know say pears are harder to pick since they must be handled more carefully.

Changes Evident In Pear Harvest

As the pear harvest shifts into high gear this week, the visitor as well as the seasoned pear men have noted the gradual changes now evident.

Perhaps one of the biggest changes has been in the pickers themselves. The professional "fruit tramp" who returns year after year to the same orchard is gradually diminishing. Instead of the ancient cars and trucks laden with house-hold possessions and family, now a man and his wife often roll up in a sleek late model car pulling a trailer. Many of these people now are picking for both profit and pleasure. Some are retired, some just picking to earn enough money to travel around during the summer, or for a brief

change to outdoor work.

So, an ever-flexible industry has to become more flexible through the ever-changing quality of its help. That means, too, that better facilities must be provided for those wishing to live in the orchard during picking season. However, many of the pickers in the Rogue Valley area are "drive-ins" who live in town.

Rogue River Orchards, for instance, provides small stucco houses for its pickers. Each has a sink with running cold water and a stove. Martin Luther, manager of the company, and Harold Holmes, sales manager, both say this housing helps to attract good pickers. Also, the easily heated cabins are a big boost in

the pruning season when crews are hard to get.

Facilities equivalent to a 24-unit trailer camp are provided plus wash-room and laundry facilities. For the single man there is a large boarding house. They are charged a nominal fee for board.

This season usually runs for seven weeks from early August. The school youngsters who are available the first part of the season are back in school near season's end when they are needed. Near the end of the season, too, other pickers are likely to jump into the next fruit harvest which further complicates the situation for the fruit man.

Also, the Rogue Valley does not harvest two or more differ-

ent kinds of fruit which tends to keep the picker on the spot. It's not like Hood River, for instance, where the picker can shift directly from pears into apples.

Since there are now no professional packers, fruit men must rely on unskilled help here too. The three-weeks packing school is the answer. Organized by the Fruit Growers League, this school is available to all packing plants in the area. Ron James of Southern Oregon Sales Inc., has been running the school for several years.

Each would-be packer is first directed to the Oregon State Employment Service office here. There they are given aptitude tests. If they pass they attend the packing school. Wooden pears are used to help develop speed and coordination. Upon graduation each person is given a card placing them in three rated groups. If they fail, a packing house may or may not hire them. However, failures are few.

The school is financed in part by the league, the state vocational education department and each trainee pays a small fee. Increasing mechanization is yet another new facet of the pear industry. Pallets or small wooden platforms are used on which to transport the boxes of pears. They move from low-bed tractor-pulled trailers to a truck, to the warehouses where fork-lifts move them to the processing lines.

Those favoring the operation say the fruit is protected from bruising by more gentle and less handling. They argue further it provides a smoother, faster operation—in distributing empties through the orchard as well as in pick-up and delivery. However, Manager Luther registers some doubt as to the time-saved. His company is sticking by the simple truck loading and unloading operation. Luther says his company's operation is set up to receive not less than 6,000 lugs a day.

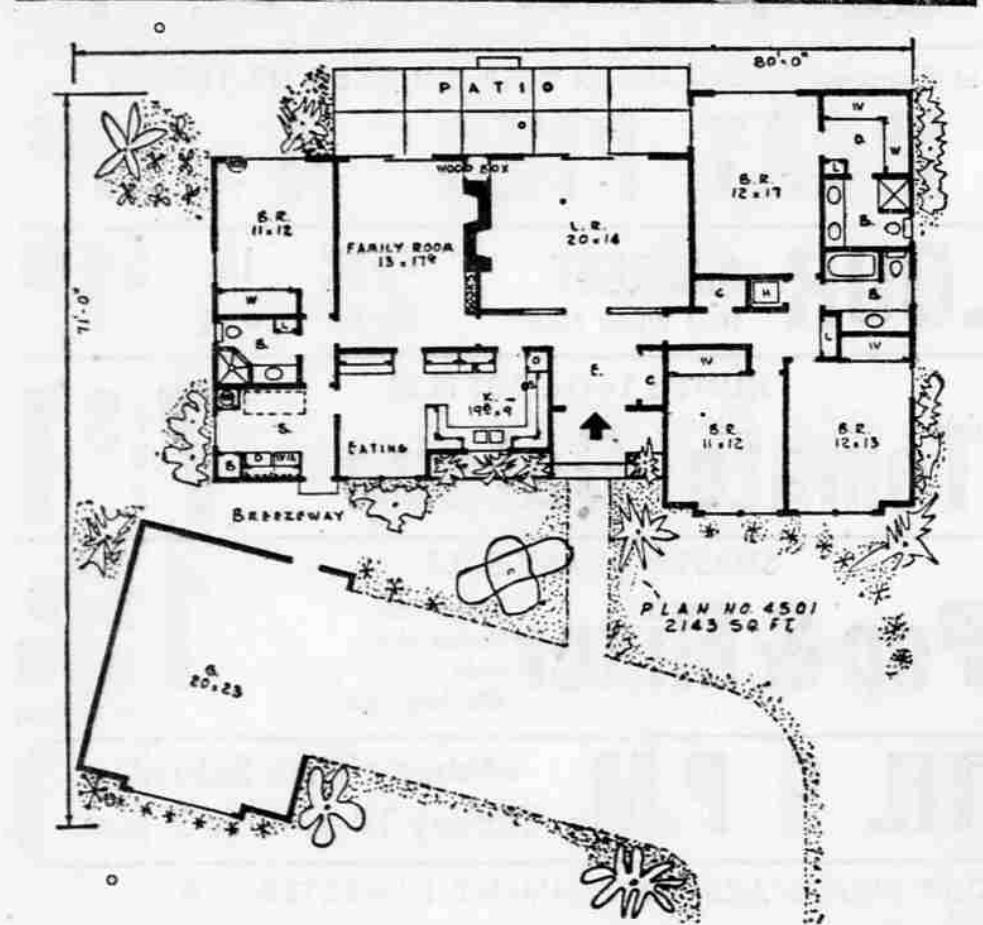
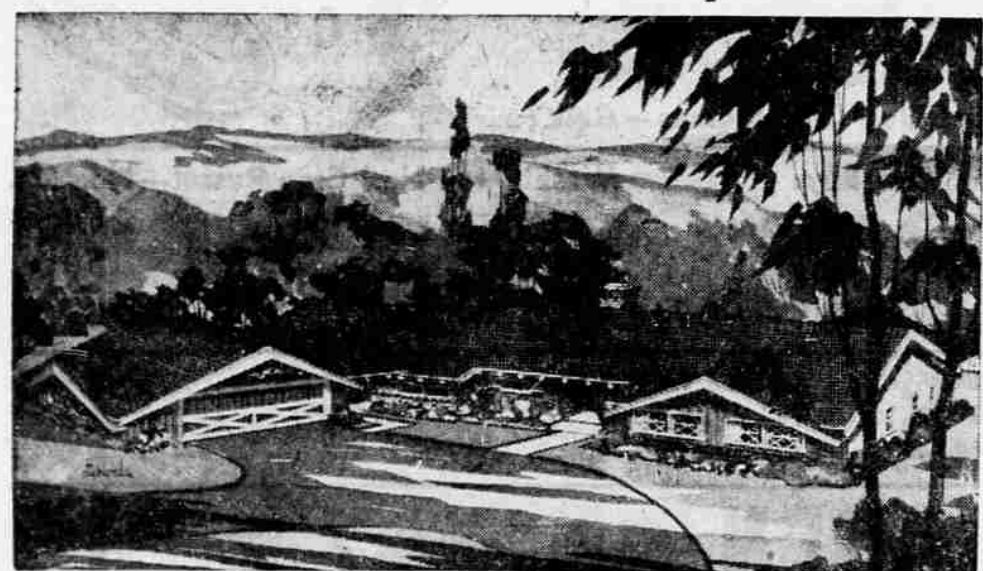
However, mechanization is a story in itself. After the picking season ends in October the labor force soon dwindles. A packing house employing about 150 will maintain a skeleton force of five or six employees plus the car-unloaders.

A ranch or orchard having 500 bearing acres will keep approximately 14 men for irrigation, cultivation etc. Then, in the winter approximately 60 pruners, depending on their quality, will be needed to cut the dead wood out of the trees as they are prepared for another harvest season. The pruning operation will run as long as from the middle of November up to bloom time, depending on weather.

GOING TO DOGS

Chicago—The Cook county dog catcher won't be able to miss the radio call number assigned to his new pickup wagon. It's K-9.

This Week's Town and Country House Plan



If you've ever wanted a home of your own, you've dreamed of owning one like this. There's the mark of quality in its long, low lines, in the "hand-hewn" shake roof, the small-paned windows, the interesting combination of vertical and horizontal siding. Soft-toned brick is used in the chimney for planters and as veneer to frame the double doors that lead to the entry.

From the spacious foyer, the center hall channels movement throughout the home. The vast living room opposite the entry is the place for gracious entertaining. Family activities will center in the relaxed

atmosphere of the informal family room. Deep brick fireplaces back to back, plus a large book case form the wall between the two rooms, both of which open through large sliding doors to a broad garden patio.

A pass-through space between the kitchen cupboards and base in the chimney for planters and as veneer to frame the double doors that lead to the entry. From the spacious foyer, the center hall channels movement throughout the home. The vast living room opposite the entry is the place for gracious entertaining. Family activities will center in the relaxed

breezeway offers covered passage between the service door and double garage. The fourth bedroom and three-quarter bath are located off the small hallway near the family room.

All bedrooms are exceptionally large. A three-quarter bath and spacious dressing room complete the master bedroom suite. The family bath doubles as powder room for guests.

The extra large garage has been attached to the home at an angle to make a more interesting exterior. Extra room in this garage has been provided for storage and workshop.

Farm and Garden

New Entry Records Set In 4-H Home Ec Events

The Jackson county 4-H home economics demonstrations and contests ended Friday afternoon with possibly the largest number of entrants ever listed, it was reported.

Champions were: Donna Ger-en, Antelope, junior individual food preparation; Judy Patter-

son, Central Point, muffin baking; Cathie Carroll, S and R Sewing club of Eagle Point, wool sewing contest and junior dollar dinner; Colleen Franek, route 2, Medford, canning contest; Mavis Strom, Southwest Medford 4-H club, junior bread baking; Sharon Coffman, Cen-

tral Point Kandy Kids club, senior bread baking. Other results were:

Individual food preparation demonstration—Mike Anhorn, Central Point, blue ribbon and Kathleen Fredrick, a white ribbon. Juniors (Teams)—Carol Straus and Karen Griggs, Shilo, Savage and Nancy Inman, all of Central Point, seniors—Charlotte Bush, Antelope, red ribbon, Mary Lou Savage and Donna Meade, both of Central Point, white ribbon winners.

Dairy food demonstration—Patsy Charley, Central Point, Sharon, and Marietta Coffman, all of Central Point, blue ribbons. All three will go to the state fair.

Special bread demonstration—Joan Dobrot, Central Point, team of Carol von der Helton and Carolee Brantley, both of Central Point, senior team—Karen Jossy and Alice Woolfink, both of Antelope, blue ribbons; Pat Cranston and Laura Rupert, both of Medford, red ribbons.

Junior dollar dinner contest—Nelda Chapman, Siskiyou, red ribbon; and Nelda Chapman, Siskiyou, red ribbon.

Brownie baking contest winners were: Mike Charley, Mike Anhorn, Carol Foote, all of Central Point; Mary Ann Carnegie, Medford; Errol Coffman, Central Point and Carol Affrey, Antelope, all blue ribbon winners.

Red ribbon winners in the contest were: Florence Woolfink, Antelope; Judy Bagley, Talent; Elaine Young, Central Point; Martha Merriman, Medford; and Paulette Anderson, Antelope.

White ribbon winners in brownie baking were: Janice Neel, Elva Root and Margie Root, all of Medford; Karen Hunter, Central Point; Alta Neel, Medford; Cecelia Kees, Linda Paulson, Diane Steele and Carol Hale, all of Shady Cove.

Muffin baking winners were: Laura Rupert, Medford; Phyllis Jaffrey and Donna Ger-en, both of Antelope; Maryvada Frost, Evans Valley.

Red ribbon winners in muffin baking were: Karen Griggs, Kathleen Fredrick, Carol Straus, Shirley Savage and Carolyn Barnes, all of Central Point; Betty Jo Howell, of Talent. The two white ribbon winners in the contest were Nancy Inman of Central Point and Marianne Goodwin of Applegate.

Wool sewing contest—Carol Meyer, Central Point and Dona Brown, both blue ribbon winners; Rommelie Foss, Ruth, red ribbon winner.

Sun 'n Fun contest—Nancy McKay, Central Point; Nelda Chapman, Ashland; Allison Pinkham, Central Point; Nedra Harris, Phoenix and Julie Ashton, Central Point, were all blue ribbon winners.

Julie Ashton, Central Point, won a red ribbon and Mary Herriott, Applegate, won a white ribbon.

Bread baking contest winners: Juniors—Patsy Charley, Central Point; to Anna Maloney, Antelope; Linda Bates, and Ann Darland, both of Medford.

Charlotte Bush, and Donna Meade, both of Antelope, were red ribbon winners. (Seniors)—Margaret Taylor and Carolee Brantley, both of the Central Point Kandy Kids club, blue ribbon winners.

Carol von der Helton, Central Point Kandy Kids club was a white ribbon winner.

Weevil Spreading In Legume Crops In Areas of State

Growers of legume crops are warned that the pea leaf weevil—not to be confused with the old established pea weevil—is rapidly spreading southward in the Willamette valley.

Joe Capizzi, survey entomologist with the state department of agriculture, reports the pest has spread to southern Polk county this year and is also in Marion county.

This insect was first found in Oregon in 1951, and shortly became a pest of peas in Washington county. It has traveled southward through Yamhill and northern Polk county, inflicting economic damage in areas it enters.

The pea leaf weevil looks somewhat like the clover root curculio; the larva feeds on the roots and the adults on the foliage. It eats the foliage of most of the legumes and shows a definite host preference. For example, in birdfoot trefoil fields containing scattered clovers, the weevil will defoliate the trefoil but not the clover.

Capizzi says there is a great deal to learn about the pest, but it is now apparent farmers and entomologists are dealing with a serious pest with an even greater potential. In Yamhill county, the weevil inflicted serious damage to red clover seed, alfalfa hay and birdfoot trefoil seed fields, and also to irrigated pastures containing legumes.

Two years after the insect enters a county, it begins to assume damage proportions that cut into the farm production.

Capizzi reports that Hubert Prescott of the U.S.D.A. laboratory at Forest Grove and E. A. Dickason of the O.S.C. experiment station, have been doing experimental control work with pea leaf weevil in the valley this summer. These men have found that in some pastures the weevil apparently prefers ladino clover to subterranean clover. In Marion county, Extension Agent Ben Newell has reported substantial damage to red clover.

The pest is beyond its peak for this season, but survey work is continuing. It can still inflict damage to pasture lands.

Capizzi is sending sample specimens of the pea leaf weevil to all Willamette valley county extension offices where the pest is not known to be present.

Fair Opens Friday At Yreka, Calif.

The Siskiyou county Tenth District fair, one of the oldest on the Pacific coast, will open for a three-day session Friday at Yreka.

Ed Matthews, fair manager, said more and more visitors come from the Medford area each year. Some have exhibits. Iris Dodge is expected to have horses in both breeding classes and the horse-show. Richard Ireland has entered his Hereford strain beef. Ralph Cook has entered Herefords also, as has R. E. Smiley of Grants Pass. Mike Maynard, Grants Pass, is expected to enter race horses along with Fred Hall of the Medford area. A number of people of this area have also entered horses in the cutting horse class.

The fair in Yreka, now known as the Tenth District Fair, started as a county fair in 1859. It was not until 1927, however, that it became a district fair under the state of California. The fair has grown gradually until this year exhibits are considered generally 30 per cent larger than last year's. Only division which has not increased, Matthews said, is the swine division.

Sheep have 270 head entered compared to 156 head last year, a boost of nearly 100 per cent. Dairy cattle number 190 head, beef 180 head and Matthews said he has many more horses.

than the 72 box stalls available.

The latter class includes quarter horses, standard-bred, American saddle and a class composed of all other breeds.

Main events are the rodeo Friday and Saturday nights, harness-racing Saturday and Sunday afternoons and the junior livestock auction Sunday night.

FAIR SCHEDULE

Friday

9 a.m.—Light horse classes judged in horse barn area.

10 a.m.—Exhibit building, concessions open and whole fair officially opens.

12 p.m.—Fair parade through downtown Yreka sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. Throughout the day punch and Judy show, clown acts and mid-way stunts.

5-7 p.m.—Fair barbecue.

8 p.m.—Rodeo using Dick Hemsted stock, brahma bulls, bronie riding, bare-back riding, bull-dogging and calf-roping.

10 p.m.—Exhibit buildings close.

Saturday

9 a.m.—Judging of starts where it left off the day before. Senior judging follows junior judging left over from Friday.

11 a.m.—Pet parade for children under 12 years sponsored by the Yreka Elks lodge to be held in the Esplanade area in Yreka. Redding, Calif. TV clown Jerry to be featured.

2 p.m.—Harness racing, horse racing and horse-show events to be held in the grandstand area and on the track.

10 p.m.—Dancing in the National Guard Armory at Yreka. Esplanade area in Yreka. Redding, Calif. TV clown Jerry to be featured.

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Fall Seeding Best, Lawn Men Emphasize

By ROBERT W. SCHERY
Director Better Lawn and Turf Institute

Who says to seed the lawn in autumn, rather than wait until spring? Of course the experts do, for all "bluegrass country," that immense sweep of our nation north from Tennessee. But above all nature says so. Here's why.