

Committee Holds Review Of Bang's, TB Budget

Salem—The state department of agriculture's proposed budget for tuberculosis and brucellosis eradication and control during the 1959-61 biennium was reviewed in Salem Wednesday (Sept. 17) by the official brucellosis advisory committee.

Part of this proposed appropriation will go toward two programs recently initiated by the department: auction-yard testing and vaccination and blood testing at slaughterhouses. A cutback in the necessity of brucellosis blood testing on farms and ranches will be the result of these new programs, as ranchers will receive credit toward recertification on all cattle with negative tests.

The advisory committee agreed with department officials that the state shouldn't be paying for brucellosis tests at slaughterhouses from cattle shipped in from other states. Oregon presently pays for some of these tests on out-of-state cattle since the state requires every cow going back to Oregon farms or ranches to be tested.

Problem Stated

The problem of separating out-of-state cattle from Oregon cattle in the stockyards will have to be solved before this testing can be eliminated, department officials maintained. At the present time, no provisions are made in federally posted stockyards to separate Oregon cattle from those shipped in from out of state.

The committee also discussed the possibility of having cattle owners tag their own cattle before shipping them to stockyards or slaughterhouses. This would be one method of providing proper identification for brucellosis test credit.

Another method discussed for tracing tested cows back to their herd of origin would involve the department's livestock brand inspectors making this type of identification on cows coming from federal posted stockyards. This procedure is now successfully handled at all state auctionyards, Dr. K. J. Peterson, state veterinarian, said.

Spray Arborvitae, County Agent Says

Arborvitae should be sprayed as soon as possible for the control of Berckman's blight, according to Don Berry, county extension agent.

This blight is a fungus disease which spreads during the fall rains but does not appear to affect the Arborvitae until the following spring or summer at which time it causes the browning and unsightly appearance of the foliage, Berry said.

Recommended controls consist of spraying with a fixed copper. There are a number of commercial brands of fixed coppers and any of them would be satisfactory in controlling this disease, the county agent said. Six pounds to 100 gallons should be used or if you are using a small hand sprayer, use one-fourth pound in 3 gallons. Be sure to soak the plant thoroughly.

Lamb Prices Set On Last Fall Level

Corvallis — Lamb prices that have declined seasonally much of the time since Easter are now expected to stay close to last fall's range of \$18 to \$21 a hundredweight for grade at Portland, says an Oregon State college marketing specialist.

Fewer lambs than normal may go to slaughter this fall as farmers hold back more ewe lambs for flock replacement, believes W. Y. Fowler, OSC livestock marketing specialist.

Board Proposes Meat Inspection Law Revisions

Salem—Several changes in the state meat inspection law were proposed at a meeting of representatives of the Oregon livestock and meat marketing board and state department of agriculture officials in Salem last week.

Board members recommended bringing all mobile slaughter plants under a \$50 license fee. Another proposed change would require all locker plants and retail markets receiving uninspected meat to identify meats in cooler as for sale or not for sale, by the means of a special stamp. This would prevent meats received from farmers for cutting and wrapping entering market channels.

In a third request, the group asked that the meat inspection law be changed to require plants overtime from their scheduled slaughter period to pay the full costs of overtime.

Sexauer To Leave

Dr. R. C. Sexauer, field supervisor for the program, announced at the meeting that he will leave state service at the end of September to take a position with the federal meat grading service in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Sexauer presented a resume of the present Oregon operations since meat inspection started, but only two as a result of the program, he said.

The state has not closed any plants for failure to comply with the construction and sanitation requirements of the meat inspection law. At least 40 of the 89 plants under state meat inspection have been required to make major construction changes and ten of them are still in the process. Slaughter at the state inspected plants is now running about 20,000 animals a month, Dr. Sexauer said.

In other action, board members agreed that the department should present its full budget as proposed to the 1959 legislature.

--- CHIT CHAT ---

By JOE G. COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

Interim committees for the state legislature during the last few months have been thick as flies and twice as busy. One of these committees is the legislative interim committee on migratory labor. This committee has been studying ways to ease the life of these hard-scrabble people whom we see in the pear orchards at harvest time each year. These people don't lead an easy life but then neither do many orchardists.

As in most cases, there are two sides to this coin, too. Out of the work of the interim committee will come some laws, not all of them probably to the liking of men in this area's fruit industry. Like many laws in this state and others some of this legislation will be good and others no good.

Some of the survey reporting was done by starry-eyed young idealists. Sure, they saw a lot of misery and plenty of just plain filth. If they had known many pickers they would have learned some of the people want better living conditions, want to be clean, and others don't. Also, modern plumbing complete with bathing facilities costs money. Orchardists like many other people these days just don't have the money.

The cover of the preliminary report of July, 1958 directed to the interim committee and the Governor's inter-agency committee on agricultural labor by the state of Oregon Bureau of Labor has a picture of a miserable hovel and a child with the following legend: In a tavern in the Dalles, a migrant said, "You can't do nothin' for me—I can take care of myself. But, God, the kids... maybe you can do something for the kids!"

Portions of the report gives a pretty good picture of a cross-section of the fruit pickers. Since the migrant labor problem reaches into many phases of our life—education, health, law and order, and business—it is important we take a good look at these people and their problems. Housing and bad labor contractors seem their main problem.

The older people work mostly in the tree crops like picking cherries in Wasco county and pruning fruit trees in Hood River county. Tree crops require adult males.

The male picker with family is usually between 36 and 40 years old. His wife is usually four years younger. The entire family group including the children are loyal to each other. Since they are on the road much of the time the children are probably behind in their schooling. Although they see a better way of life when they are in school and not working many of them marry other migrants. This is probably because their brief education hasn't qualified them for better jobs.

The single man is often a resident of Oregon or Washington. Less than half of the Anglo-American single men are "winos," according to the survey. Often, too, he hates farming, but likes the life on the road. This man is either new to this type of work or has more experience than the average family man. He does not stay in it steadily at first, and many finally settle down to working at something else, or may decide to stay with migrant farm labor.

The Spanish-American family man represents another segment of migrant farm labor. He seems to live in constant fear. This fear covers contractors, farmers, recruiters, police and immigration authorities. He is resigned also to the fact he may never do anything else. The door of opportunity seems closed to the Mexican. His main worry is feeding his family.

The single Mexican usually takes more pride in his personal appearance. When not working, his pants have a neat crease and his bright sport shirt is clean and pressed. This man considers himself a professional farm laborer. Like the Mexican family man he is resigned to his fate, but unlike the family man often thinks of changing occupations. Too often, drink and narcotics are his forms of escape. By marrying and having a family he would gain more help in the field.

In spite of the poor conditions revealed by investigators, more than half of the migrants interviewed preferred to work in Oregon. This was 63.4 per cent compared to 12.4 per cent who did not agree. Reasons for not liking to work in Oregon were too low wages, poor housing, types of crops and rainy climate.

Migrant labor usually stays in the state from six to eight months. (In Medford it's three months.) Most of them arrive before school is out in Oregon and stay until September and the Mexicans stay as late as October.

Most popular crop with the pickers surveyed was beans with cherries and pears bringing up the rear. The survey on wages showed that average wages for hops in valley counties was about \$1.15 an hour. Wages for thinning fruit trees in Hood River county was a dollar an hour. Wasco county paid an average of \$1.20 an hour for picking cherries.

Family work in the valley counties gave the Mexican family average earnings of \$51.20 a week. The Anglo-American family earned an average of \$46.40. Highest family wages were reported in Wasco county where they were \$78.80. Almost all children 10 years and older were working, the investigators learned.

Considering housing, the researchers learned that immigrants sleep in the open, in paper or wooden shacks, in tents and in cabins. Although Wasco county paid top wages, it also led in the use of tents. A typical example of housing is a one-room cabin housing three or four single people or a family.

As mentioned before, housing and the abuse by labor contractors seem to be the main things migratory laborers complained of. Since contract labor is not used in this area, we won't go into that.

During the public hearing held by the interim committee in Medford, County Sanitarian Orrie Moore stated orchardists are doing what they can. There have been complaints of migrants' abuse of housing, he said. He said he had not enforced and had not notified growers of the state board of health's rules on labor camps. Mexican nationals' camps met the federal standards, he said.

A worker complained during the hearing in Salem that shacks were rented to the laborers in the area between Madras and Redmond. These had no sanitary facilities or rest stations, he said.

The problem of providing adequate housing is pointed up in Hood River, which is noted in the tree fruit industry as having good housing facilities. Testimony to the interim committee revealed that the Apple Growers' Association there houses 400 people, preferably man and wife in a double room. The AGA personnel manager stated to the committee that 100 more such houses should be built but it costs an average of about \$1,000 per worker. Weekly rent charged is \$8 for two persons and \$6 for a single. All services are provided. This fee does not cover expenses, the manager testified.

According to the testimony given to the interim committee the migrants did not pose a problem to schools. Of course this depends on the length of the season.

Hood River county faces a different problem since the apple harvest comes right after the pear harvest, carrying pickers into the fall months. The Hood River superintendent of schools said enrollment of transient school children made it necessary to hire an additional teacher for three months. However, the schools, through truancy, miss as many pupils as are enrolled, the superintendent said. The addition of transients to the school population fills the equivalent of five classrooms, the superintendent said.

Here in Medford, school officials testified that schools were not affected by migrants. Peak years would mean the addition of 300-400 migrant children to the school population of 15,000, but they could be absorbed. A school spokesman opposed segregated classes even though migrant children reach the maximum age before completing elementary school and then drop out. Because the children live in camps they have little community contact, it was testified.

Blight Said Worst In 20 Years Here In Pear Orchards

Blight control in pear orchards is probably the most urgent job facing the grower right, according to Clifford B. Cordy, county horticulture agent.

He advised growers to take advantage of the bright sunny weather when blight diseases can be seen most easily in trees.

One orchard visited showed the obvious difference between trees which had received careful cutting and "peeling" and those in which blight infected limbs and branches had been allowed to stand.

The trees in which the diseased wood had been removed looked clean and whole. The trees still carrying the blight signs showed dead limbs with the withered leaves still clinging to the branches. These clinging dead leaves are a sure sign of blight, Cordy explained.

Cut Out Wood

The diseased wood should be cut out regardless of the season, Cordy urged. In some cases the brown-stained bark can be peeled off with a sharp knife. This should be done down through the cambium layer, or the green living tissue of the tree. In other cases the whole limb must be cut off.

"Bacteria causes blight," Cordy explained. "It thrives in hot, moist weather such as we had this summer. This is the worst blight infection in the Medford pear district for 20 years."

The county horticulture agent reminded orchardists that all tools used to cut out blight should be dipped in bichloride of mercury and cyanide of mercury solution right after being used. Otherwise the tools will spread the infection to unaffected areas of trees. Two tablets of each should be placed in a pint of water for best results, he said.

Wildlife Program In Soil Bank Reserve Plans

Corvallis — Farmers and sportsmen's groups have a tailor-made opportunity to improve hunting and fishing on Oregon farms as part of the 1959 conservation reserve of the soil bank, according to Andrew Landforce, extension wildlife management specialist at Oregon State college.

Farmers can get cost-share assistance and annual rental payments through the conservation reserve for shifting land from crop production to protective cover or food plantings for wildlife.

Time is running short, however, to sign up in the program, advises Arnold N. Bodker, state administrative officer of the Oregon agricultural stabilization and conservation committee. The sign-up phase of the program now underway at county ASC offices closes Oct. 3.

Projects Listed

Bodker lists the following projects for which farmers can get rental payments for the land plus cost-share assistance in establishing the program:

1. Establish protective cover to protect game birds and animals. County ASC offices have lists of approved plantings. Either 5 or 10-year contracts are available for planting trees and shrubs.
2. Plant feeding plots as wildlife habitat to attract and give winter protection to pheasants, quail, rabbits and other game.
3. Provide wetland or water habitat for wildlife — fur animals, waterfowl, and other game.
4. Ponds for fishing or other recreational purposes can be constructed by excavating or building dams or dikes. There is a choice of 5 or 10-year contracts.

Farmers can hunt or fish on their land put into the program and give permission to other persons as long as a commercial operation is not set up.

Wildlife conservation practices could be especially attractive to farmers who have odd-shaped or hard-to-get-at sections of cropland. Bodker points out. Details may be obtained from county ASC offices, county extension agents, soil conservation service technicians, or regional Oregon game commission offices.

Corvallis — Oregon farmers should see little change in wheat and hay prices in 1959, but feed grain prices are likely to drop, says Ray H. Teal, seed and grain marketing specialist at Oregon State college.

Almost all varieties of deer shed their horns each year.



CHECK PEARS—Mrs. Geraldine Kline, Medford, and Mrs. Ethel Ellestad, Central Point, check pears for stem punctures as County Horticulture Agent Cliff Cordy observes their work. The picture was taken in the John W. Greene orchard on the Jacksonville highway. The examination of pears is part of an experiment to see how the number of cull pears might be cut down in the harvesting operation. The fruit examination was part of an experiment to see if large wooden bins would be more practical in harvest operations than the standard wooden lug box.

Pear Bin Experiment Being Tried Locally

Clifford B. Cordy, county horticultural agent, and George Davis, agriculture economist at Oregon State college, are heading up an experiment in the Medford pear district to speed up and economize the handling of pears from orchard to packing house.

Large wooden bins on pallets are being tested in pear picking operations alongside the standard wooden lugs. Three of the bins loaned by Dunbar orchards are being used in various orchards of the area. The bins have the equivalent holding capacity of 22 boxes or each bin will hold about a half ton of fruit.

The lug boxes are often broken up during rough handling, are too often lost and are much more expensive when compared to a large bin with equivalent holding capacity.

The experimenters feel also that much less fruit damage may result since a smaller percentage of pears would hit wooden sides and bottoms in the large bins compared to the number of small wooden boxes now being used.

To determine if the pears are checked for stem punctures, bruises and other defects in the picker's sack, then in the lug box, in the bins and from both bins and lug boxes after they are transported by truck to the Dunbar orchards, headquarters for the experiment. Stem punctures are small holes made in the sides of pears by the stem of one poking into the side of another. Overripe fruit was used in the experiment since it is more tender.

Results of the various sortings will be carefully tabulated and the figures will be interpreted by the OSC agriculture economist. The figures with interpretation will be presented to the local traffic association made up of growers and fruit shippers.

The bin type of operation was first used by Australian and New Zealand fruit men, according to Cordy. The current season is the first time the apple industry in the state of Washington has used the system commercially, the horticulture agent said.

The cull study is important to the grower and the valley economy, Cordy said. Each good pear is worth 1½ cents, and 4 cents to the valley when the processing and shipping is figured in. A cull will cost the shipper or grower about two dollars a load to haul away and dump, Cordy said. About 5,000 tons of culls are produced each year.

Frozen Semen Talk Given Cattle Club

Rogue River — At the September meeting of the Rogue River Jersey Cattle club held in the Grants Pass city park recently, Ned Cahill, American Breeders' service representative, gave an informative talk and demonstration on the new process whereby semen is frozen and kept at 320 degrees below zero in liquid nitrogen and kept for use indefinitely.

To be used, the semen is brought gradually to a normal temperature by being thawed in ice water. This is a new process in this area and will eventually give cattle breeders here almost unlimited access to sires of their own choice.

Articles on low-fat vs. high-fat diet were read and discussed. Also taken up was the coming classification tour to be conducted by H. E. Dennison, extension dairy specialist from Michigan State college and the annual meeting later in the year.

The next meeting will be held at the E. B. Poyer home in Ashland, Oct. 3.

Proper Storage For Vegetables Urged By Agent

By DON BERRY
Jackson County Extension Agent

Proper storage of garden products will prolong their supply for table use through most of the winter period.

While different vegetables require different temperatures and humidities, for best storage they can all be stored to gether with fair results if proper storage conditions are used. The storage room must be dry and the temperature should be kept above freezing. Good ventilation will supply proper humidity. If vegetables become frozen they should not be handled until completely thawed.

Root crops such as carrots, beets, turnips and parsnips can be stored in the ground all winter providing drainage is good. Cut the tops off and place a mound of dirt over the rows for additional protection. If dug, these crops may be stored in boxes or barrels covered with slightly moist sand.

Dry Onion Tops

Onions should be dug, crated and left in the field a week or two to cure. As soon as the tops are well dried they can be stored in mesh bags or bins at above freezing temperatures.

Potatoes should be started off in storage with a few days of 60 to 65 degree temperature to permit drying and callosing of mechanical injuries, then storage temperatures of 34 to 38 degrees if possible are best. The storage room should be dark with good aeration and a fairly high humidity.

Cabbage heads are protected from early freeze damage by heavy outer leaves. Cabbage and winter brocoli can be left in the field and will not be injured unless temperature falls below 10 degrees.

Squash and pumpkins should be picked before any heavy frosts occur and stored in a warm, dry place. Near the furnace or in the attic may be ideal storage places. If injured during picking, roots will set in, so pick carefully before further frosts.

Produce Checks Show Increase

Salem — Platform inspections of early season crops have increased to nearly 34 million pounds in Oregon, the state department of agriculture reports. These are third-party inspections on fresh fruits and vegetables made as the grower delivers the produce to the platform of canneries and packing plants.

This total figure includes nearly 8 million pounds of strawberries, over 6 million pounds of potatoes, almost 19 million pounds of sweet cherries, 436,000 pounds of red sour cherries and 350,000 pounds of apricots.

Close also predicts the entire winter pear harvest in Oregon will be completed by the first of October. Harvest of the Bartlett variety is completed in both Hood River and Medford already; nearly all canneries Bartletts were platform inspected during September. Harvests of other pear varieties are well advanced.

OSC Folder Tells Of New Winter Oat Type

Corvallis — A new folder describing Crater, a grey winter oat variety, has been published by the Oregon State college agricultural experiment station.

The Crater oat is recommended for fall seeding as a companion crop with legumes such as vetch and peas. Crater's strength of straw is its outstanding characteristic, and this helps it stand up under conditions that cause severe lodging of other varieties.

WOOL HIDDEN IN THE SHED

Is Not Likely To Bring The Best Prices

WOOL SELLS BETTER BRINGS HIGHER PRICES WHEN PROPERLY GRADED AND SHOWN TO THE MILLS

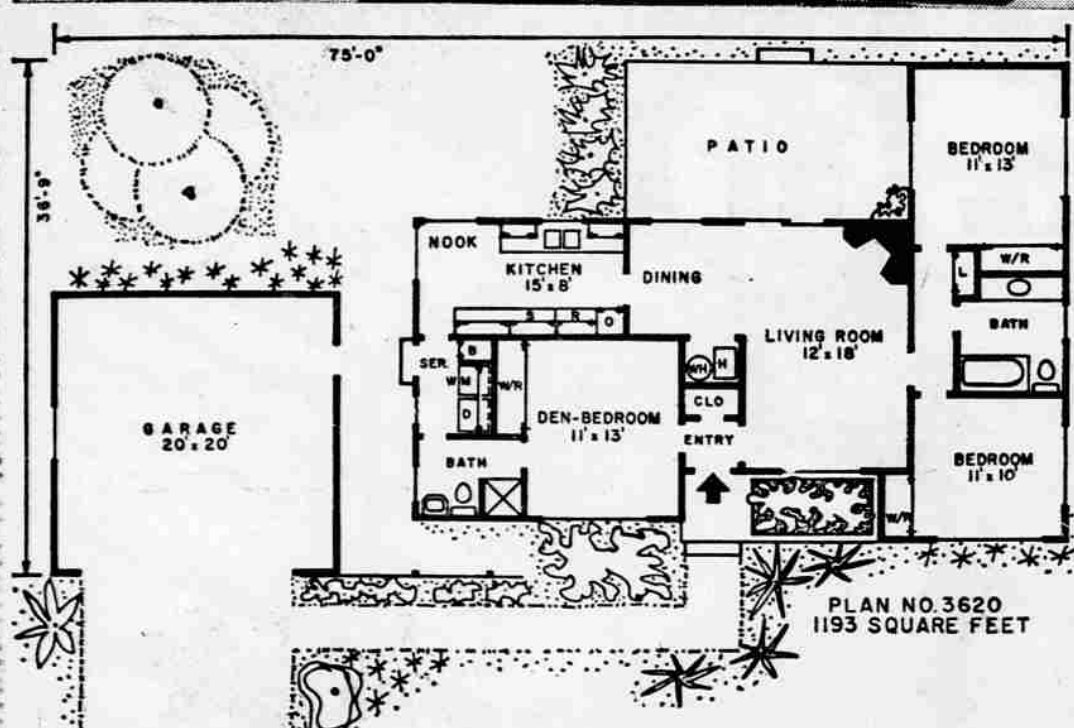
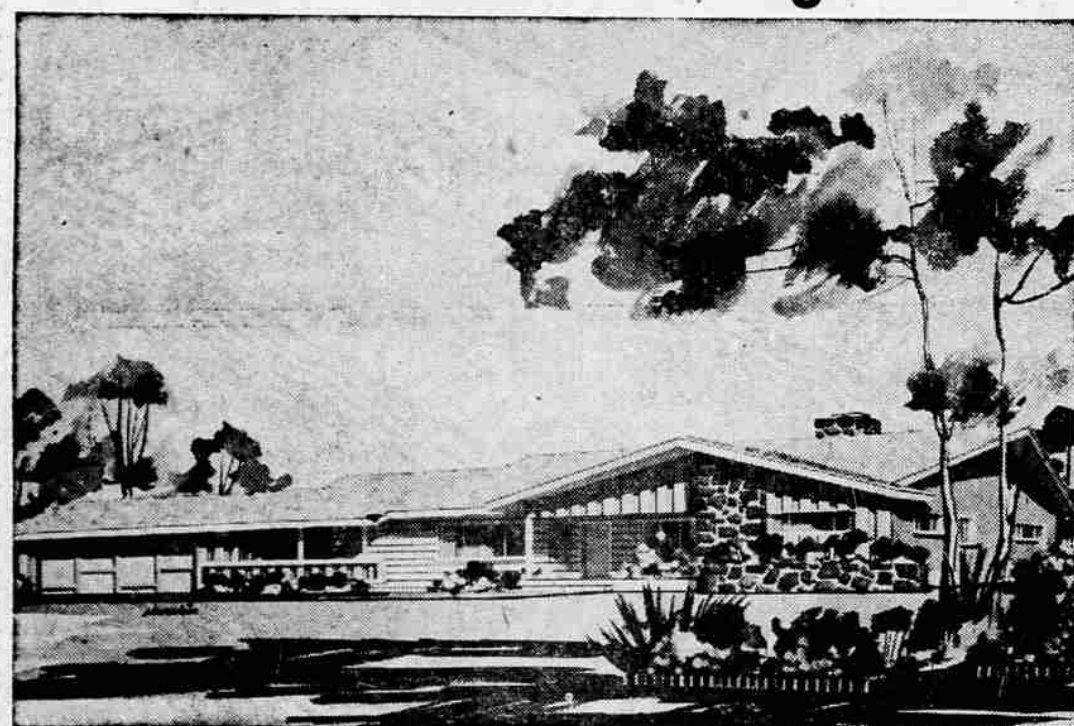
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This Week's Home For Living



By HIAWATHA ESTES

Soundly practical suggestions usually come forward when housewives themselves plan a home. Incorporating the preferences of many women, this home emphasizes livability and easy upkeep. It looks much larger than its 1193 square foot size would indicate.

The open plan, glass walled living room looks out toward both the street and rear garden. Wide, sliding glass doors extend the living area in summer to include the patio and garden. All unnecessary partitions have been omitted and the dining area is actually an extension of the living room. A movable screen or room divider could be used for area separation if desired.

The kitchen can be closed off completely to keep the mechanics of meal preparation and clean-up out of the view of guests. Built-in appliances, ample counters and

an eating area have been arranged to save steps and work. Wide windows in the eating area corner and over the sink not only make the room bright and cheerful, but permit full view of the garden and children's play yard.

Washer, dryer and broom closet are located in the service area, and the three-quarter bath is convenient to both the work area and den — guest room. The family both separates the two spacious bedrooms in the quiet sleeping area. Wide wardrobes, plenty of light and cross ventilation make these rooms pleasant and restful.

Both the water heater and the forced air heater have been located in one closet in the center of the home for more efficient operation. The ever popular contemporary styling of the exterior will be suitable for construction in almost any location. The stone used for the chimney, planter and as veneer may be that most readily available. The siding, in contrasting vertical and horizontal patterns, could be painted or stained. The doors of both house and garage offer an opportunity for touches of color.

The large overhanging eaves of the rock roof screen the breezeway and shelter passage from the garage to either the front or back door. Over the patio, the roof is partially broken by an egrate lattice to offer a choice of sun or shade below.

Complete working drawing of the above plan can be obtained at a cost of \$7.50 for the first set and \$5 for each additional set, when ordered at the same time. This plan will be available for a period of four months from this date. Please allow two weeks for delivery. If the above home does not entirely meet with your satisfaction, a new home plan book, Homes for Living, may be purchased for \$1. Send all orders for either plans or books to Hiawatha Estes, P. O. Box 407-7, Northridge, Calif.