

Farm and Garden

Oregon 4-H Clubs Set Membership Record of 31,026; Highest Noted

Corvallis — Membership in Oregon 4-H clubs went over the 30,000 mark last year pushing enrollments to the highest in club history. A total of 31,026 youngsters, including 1,413 new members were enrolled, according to the state 4-H office at Oregon State college.

Washington, Lane, Malheur, Linn and Marion counties showed greatest gains in membership. More than 500 club members were added to the Marion county program as a result of a merger with the former City of Salem club program.

Girls continue to outnumber boys 2 to 1 in Oregon clubs. A total of 20,267 girls and 10,759 boys enrolled in 44,589 projects in agriculture, home economics, creative arts, and related fields.

Clothing, foods and food preservation were most popular projects among girls with 10,078 in clothing projects and 8,000 in food and food preservation. Projects popular with both boys and girls are livestock, health, crafts and horticulture. Projects that increased most in popularity were child care with a 47 per cent enrollment increase, and knitting, marketing, and photography. New project materials, and added interest from urban and suburban youngsters in 4-H clubs have made these projects more popular.

Oregon Leads in Horticulture
Oregon follows the rest of the country on interest and enrollment in clothing, cooking, livestock and health, but leads in horticulture.

To service 4-H clubs, 5,061 adults volunteered to be club leaders. In addition, 1,200 older club members enrolled in the junior leader project to help beginning club members.

Camps, fairs, 4-H Summer School and preparation of exhibits for public events were among main statewide 4-H activities during the year. A total of 1,627 4-Hers attended summer camps, 1,947 were at the OSC 4-H summer school and more than 1,600 took part in state fair contests. Many more participated in countrywide activities such as tours, country fairs, and special programs.

Adult Courses Set For Crater High

Central Point — Ed Griggs, vocational agriculture instructor at Crater High school in Central Point outlined today the topics included in the adult veterinary practices class.

The 10 sessions start on Monday, Oct. 13, at 8 p.m. The first session will cover the use, nomenclature, and maintenance of common veterinary equipment, types of shots, and methods of administering medication.

Other sessions will cover general discussion of the types of diseases and their course, victory over scours—vaccines and vaccinations; a study of medicines including sulfas, dextrose, calcium solutions; sodium iodide and mineral oil; diagnosis of disease and their classification and handling of livestock during treatment; nutritional diseases; battling brucellosis; infectious diseases of sheep and swine; reproductive diseases and problems and the new story of Phenothiazine.

The farm motors class will hold its first meeting on Thursday evening, Oct. 16, at 7:30 p.m. This course will deal with trouble shooting and maintenance of farm motors, Griggs said.

Offering help and training in subject matter, organization and youth development to 4-H club leaders is a major objective of the state 4-H program for 1958-59, says Burton Hutton, state 4-H extension leader.

Only about half of all leaders re-enlist their services after their first year and about 40 per cent of all leaders are beginners.

Development of projects and programs to attract older club members will also be emphasized, Hutton says. Nearly 80 per cent of all club members complete a year's work, but dropouts increase as youngsters reach junior high age. Average age of members is 12 years, although they may join clubs when they are 9.

Jackson county 4-H clubs have had a 15 per cent increase in membership representing 125 youngsters coming under the program, according to Glenn Klein, county 4-H agent.

Next Monday during the regular meeting of the Jackson County 4-H Teenage Council a new program for older teenage youngsters will be started. Called the Oregon 4-H Empire Builders, this program will include those who do not join 4-H. Its activities will be both educational and recreational, Klein said.

26 Cases of Sleeping Sickness Are Reported

Salem — The state department of agriculture reports 26 cases of encephalomyelitis (sleeping sickness) were diagnosed in Oregon horses during August.

During the first seven months of the year only eight cases were reported.

--- CHIT CHAT ---

By JOE G. COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

A WANTED sign has gone up at the state department of agriculture in Salem. Director Bob Steward is looking for a new state veterinarian to replace K. J. (Pete) Peterson who has resigned as of Nov. 7.

Steward said yesterday he should be ready by the November date to have an acting state vet to carry on. It will take some time to recruit "a top man" throughout the Pacific Northwest, and if necessary, the nation, the agriculture department director said. Peterson came to Salem from private practice in Minnesota, Steward said. He is looking for a man with administrative ability as well as someone with a high rating in his profession. Locating such a man might take some doing.

From what we have seen recently we do know that such a man must have a built-in "G suit," like our high-flying aviators use, to withstand the pressures of his job. And there seem to be plenty of them.

We find it strange that recent difficulty between the state veterinarian and the division of animal industry should occur recently, first before the primary election, and now again, just a month before the general election. A local man, active in both politics and farm circles, reports receiving many phone calls inquiring, "if this whole mess doesn't stink of politics?" We don't know.

We also find that after a departmental conference Monday Peterson had agreed to wait until the state legislature could meet and consider legislation creating an independent state veterinarian division. (It now comes under the division of animal industries in the state department of agriculture.) Peterson left the meeting at 5 p.m., Monday in agreement with the cease-fire statement issued by Steward. Then, early Tuesday afternoon Peterson's letter of resignation appeared on Bob Steward's desk.

A witness at the departmental meeting Monday corrects two erroneous statements printed in some news accounts. The resignation did not come two hours after the meeting. Also, the director of the state department of agriculture did not "insist Dr. Peterson agree with the joint statement or else," as reported by Dr. Clarence Milleson, Portland, president of the Oregon Veterinarians Medical association. Peterson was asked by Steward if he would join in issuing the statement. He was not ordered or directed, the witness said.

Peterson's resignation stated, "I hereby resign as state veterinarian of Oregon as of Nov. 7. Under the present administration it is impossible for me to conduct a sound animal disease program or a sound meat inspection program."

"Conducting such a program is a duty of the state veterinarian and when conditions exist which do not allow proper protection to the livestock industry and to the people of Oregon I no longer feel I should remain. Very truly yours, K. J. Peterson, DVM."

In a telephone conversation to the Mail Tribune yesterday Steward said, "If there are partisan political undertones I have not observed them. However, the Oregon veterinarians may be taking advantage of the political climate to advance their cause. This may have come a month before the general election largely on the presumption that the issue would get more attention at this time."

Steward said also that Peterson was influenced by Milleson and Walter Steele, both Portland veterinarians. In spite of the controversy the integrity of the state-wide brucellosis control and the meat inspection programs have not suffered, the agriculture department director emphasized. The public need not be concerned, Steward said. He said the published statement of the Oregon Veterinarians Medical association "that the health, and even the lives, of our citizens are being placed in jeopardy" was a scare tactic to incite public opinion to the disfavor of the department.

Steward added that "both are good men." M. E. Knickerbocker, head of the division of animal industries is one of the top administrators in government. Knickerbocker, he said, is handling a complex job representing over 40 per cent of the activities of the entire state department of agriculture. Actions in the last session of the state legislature little more than doubled the activities and workload of this division, Steward said.

"Oregon is well out in front in both brucellosis control and inspection programs," Steward said. "Only Washington and Utah in the west have attained certified status of being brucellosis disease free. Oregon is three-fourths of the way along in this."

Peterson agrees with the joint report section on brucellosis program statistics, according to reports. This section cites that in fiscal year 1958, a total of 715,336 head of cattle were tested in the state brucellosis program, a substantial increase over the previous fiscal period. Today, the report continues, 27 counties are certified under the brucellosis program and by next June 30 the entire state will be certified.

The report also states that more meat is being inspected for wholesomeness in Oregon today than at any time in history. Steward added that during the 1957-58 fiscal year the state tested 715,336 cattle for brucellosis. This compares with 377,327 the previous year. More meat than ever is being inspected, he added.

The question of separate offices has been brewing since 1945, Steward said. Then Knickerbocker came to work for the state department of agriculture and was under Peterson at that time. Knickerbocker in 1946 became head of the animal industries division. The issue was settled then as far as "administration determination made," Steward said. However, it was not until 1951 when the law clearly spelled out the organization and functions of the two offices as it is now, he added.

This matter first came up locally when a meeting was arranged at the Jackson hotel for Peterson, Dr. George Gilton, local veterinarian, and president of the Southern Oregon Veterinarians' association, Ward Spatz, member of the state agriculture advisory board and Armin Richter, local contractor and cattleman and secretary of the Jackson County Stockmen's association. Peterson was down here to see about organizing a push on the county brucellosis control program, it was reported.

What was intended as a small private meeting, however, mushroomed into a large private meeting as veterinarians from throughout southern Oregon drifted in. Under questioning by Spatz, Peterson gave some reluctant answers. The 17 veterinarians present agreed that two actions should be proposed. First, Steward was to be asked to issue a directive temporarily making the state veterinarian's office independent from the division of animal industry. Then legislative action was to be urged to make this separation from the division of animal industries a permanent thing. Resolutions were to be carried to the Oregon Cattlemen's association asking this group to back such action. The association is scheduled to meet next month.

Those inspectors who check meat in the packing houses for cleanliness and wholesomeness now come under two chains of command, that of the state veterinarian's office and that of the chief of the division of animal industries. This has brought confusion and an unsatisfactory operation, a local veterinarian said.

Because of this confusion and overlapping, brand inspectors in sparsely populated areas of the state often act as meat inspectors. The brand inspectors also come under the division of animal industry. During the seasons of the year when cattle are being shifted from one range to another the brand inspectors are too busy for meat inspection, it was explained. During these times, the veterinarian with private practice is forced to act as meat inspector. Other than performing designated duties of supervising the meat inspection

Farm Income Dips 3 Per Cent for 1957, OSC States

Corvallis — Oregon's farm income dropped last year, ending up 3 per cent below that of 1956, according to Mrs. Elvera Horrell, extension agricultural economist at Oregon State college.

Reports from the U. S. department of agriculture show that Oregon farmers received an estimated \$397 million from the sale of their products last year, Mrs. Horrell said. And while government payments, value of products last year, Mrs. Horrell said. And while government payments value of products used on the farm, and other "non-money" income boosted this total to \$454 million, farm income still fell short of that received by farmers in 1956.

At the same time, farm production expenses in the state climbed nearly \$8 million over the previous year to an estimated \$308 million in 1957.

Taking these production expenses out of the gross farm income in the state, and allowing for increased inventories on farms totaling \$15 million, left Oregon farmers with a net income last year of approximately \$147.3 million—down 11 per cent from 1956. This was the lowest total net farm income in the state since 1954, Mrs. Horrell reported.

On a per-farm basis, this left each farm operator in Oregon an average net farm income of \$2,684 last year, compared to \$2,946 in 1956. Current estimates of farm income in the state indicate an upturn this year, however Mrs. Horrell said. The first seven months of this year show an increase in receipts from sales of farm products of nearly 9 per cent over the same months, in 1957. Both crop and livestock receipts are showing gains.

There's no indication yet of the direction farm production expenses are moving in the state, but based on national price tags on things used in farm operation, production costs would be up only about 3 per cent.

Mid-September estimates show prices on things farmers sell advancing faster than on things they buy — resulting in an improved price-cost relationship for farm products.

Frosted Sudan Grass Dangerous

By EARLE JOSSY
County Extension Agent

Frosted Sudan grass pastures can poison cattle and sheep.

Sudan grass and other sorghums along with some other plants contain prussic acid in sufficient quantities to kill stock after freezing or when plants are suffering from drought. Trampling, mowing or wilting may also cause a concentration of the poisonous material.

Stock affected by the poison often die in a very short time after eating a very small amount of poison, even a few mouthfuls—there is usually no time for treatment. If a poisoned animal is found in time a drench of molasses diluted with water may help. A veterinarian should be called at once to give additional treatment.

Frozen forage which has dried, cured hay, or silage is not dangerous. Horses and swine are not poisoned when fed plants high in prussic acid.

One of the best control program and disease control measures at the auction yards, said a veterinarian is also too busy that time of year, a local vet said.

Fortunately, Medford is large enough and has a number of packing houses which entitle it to full-time meat inspectors, it was explained. A local veterinarian said often in those areas where meat is not inspected regularly meat consumption takes a drop. These inspectors do not check meat just for grades, as many people think. They inspect for disease which may be transmitted to humans and for sanitation and wholesomeness.

Making the state veterinarian's office a separate division would leave the division of animal industries everything but meat inspection and disease control which the state veterinarian would supervise separately. There may be some savings through elimination of the overlapping of the two departments but they would not be too great, it was admitted.

Because of this overlapping and conflict in interests between the two departments, Dr. Peterson threatened last spring to resign as veterinarian. Then the OVMA met with Steward and Knickerbocker, director of the division of animal industries, and worked out compromises. Every one of those agreements have since been broken by the division director, a local veterinarian said. A resolution urging the resignation of Knickerbocker was passed during the OVMA meeting in Roseburg last month.

As another step since the local meeting, a meeting was held in Portland Monday between Oregon livestock interests to determine what stand to take in the controversy. This meeting included the Oregon Cattlemen's association, Grange, Farm Bureau, Oregon Milk Producers and the Oregon Dairy-men's association. The press was excluded but news was promised later.

George Russell, president of the Cattlemen's association, said his group is on record in favor of continuing the present setup.

"We don't want to become involved in a personality conflict and that is what the present situation seems to be," he is reported to have said.

Small Woodlot Owners Get Invitation To Local Meet

The problems of the owner of small tracts of forest land and how the holdings may be better managed are to be discussed at a meeting at 1 p.m. Oct. 15 at the Jackson county fairgrounds in Medford, according to Jack Mace, service forester, Oregon State Board of Forestry.

He stated that half the 10,000,000 acres of privately owned commercial forest land in Oregon are in the small

ownerships and these are producing about half the timber they should. It is a critical problem in a state such as Oregon where the economy of the commonwealth is so dependent upon the lumber industry, the forester added.

"The primary purpose of the meeting is to take a critical and informative look at the problem," Mace stated, "and analyze the importance of the small woodland to our

economic setup. The suggestions and reactions of the owners and other interested parties are sought."

He pointed out that this is one of a series of meetings that are scheduled to be held throughout the state during the early part of October through the cooperation of the U.S. Forest Service and the State forestry department.

"A statewide meeting is to be held in Salem on Nov. 6 and the various interested parties are urged to attend and express their views," Mace stated. "A study and analysis of the suggestions and recommendations is to be made and submitted to the Washington, D.C., office of the U.S. forest service, where it is to be used as an aid in setting up a national program to improve production of the small woodlands."

Alfalfa Aphid Seen First Time in State

Corvallis — Spotted alfalfa aphid — scourge of alfalfa fields in much of the United States—has made its first appearance in Oregon.

A suspected infestation of the aphid was reported recently near Hermiston by Herman Bierman, Umatilla county agent in the area. Identification of the aphid was confirmed this week by Oregon State college and U.S. department of agriculture entomologists.

Oregon State department of agriculture entomologists this week also reported finding the spotted alfalfa aphid in Gilliam and Morrow counties. Oregon entomologists have been on the lookout since 1956 when the aphid completed a two-year sweep through California where it brought \$15 million damage to alfalfa in 1955 alone.

Since 1954, when the aphid was first found in New Mexico, it has spread to three-fourths of the states in this country. The USDA estimated 1954-57 alfalfa damage at more than \$80 million.

No reports of the pest have come from Washington or Idaho or other parts of Oregon even though the south bordering states of California and Nevada have suffered heavy outbreaks.

While the aphid can survive temperatures below freezing it has not yet overwintered in the northern part of its range in the United States, says Robert W. Every, Oregon State college extension entomologist.

A thorough survey for the aphid in Oregon this fall has been scheduled by state department of agriculture entomologists headed by Pete Larson in charge of the survey section of the division of plant industry.

An early spring survey is also slated to indicate need for control programs if the pest maintains itself through the Oregon winter.

The aphid is spread primarily on air currents. Prior to the infestation in the United States it was known to occur in India, Israel, Italy and other Mediterranean countries.

The aphid is pale yellow, about 1/16-inch long, and has six or more rows of black spots along its back. Under favorable weather conditions, it can reproduce rapidly — 20 or more generations a year.

Both the adult and young aphids suck juice from alfalfa leaves and stems and also secrete a toxic sticky substance that speeds up killing of foliage. Sooty fungus grows on the sticky substance, called honey dew, turning hay into a black sticky mess that clogs machinery used for hay and seed harvest. The aphid also feeds on crimson, alsike and other clovers but causes little damage.

One of the best control

methods is use of resistant alfalfa varieties where they can be grown profitably. Lahontan alfalfa already widely tested in Oregon has shown remarkable resistance to the aphid, Every says.

Lahontan has yielded well in comparison with other recommended varieties in trials at Oregon State college agricultural branch experiment stations at Medford and Ontario.

Lahontan is also resistant to stem nematode and bacterial wilt. This resistance, coupled with high yields in the Hermiston irrigated area, had already led to substantial plantings there, giving growers a running start in combatting the aphid.

Insecticides that have proven effective in controlling the aphid include malathion, parathion, Demeton, and phosdrin. All except malathion are extremely poisonous to humans and warm blooded animals. Manufacturers' precautions should be followed carefully. Every warns.

To avoid damage to bees, pesticides should be applied early in the morning or late in the evening when bees are not active in the fields.

Growers are advised to see their local county extension agents for more information on spotted alfalfa aphid control and on availability of Lahontan seed.

Mites Numerous In Peach Orchards

By Don Berry
Peach silver mites or rust mites are quite numerous in some of the valley peach orchards.

This pest has been troublesome from time to time but seldom has been in numbers sufficient to require control measures. Where mites are numerous, however, a fall spray for their control would reduce populations for next year.

Miticides such as Aramite, Kelthane or Chlorobenzilate will give good control. Wettable sulfur also has controlled this pest. Chlorobenzilate at 1 lb. per gallon, or Kelthane at 1 1/2 lbs. per 100, or Aramite at 1 1/2 lbs. per gallon, or wettable sulfur at 3 lbs. per 100 may be applied this year. The addition of a good spreader would also be beneficial.

Do not use Chlorobenzilate on peaches during the growing season. Where fall sprays are omitted a pre-pink spray or summer sprays may be used to control this pest.

Alkali Bee Research Aids Alfalfa Future

Corvallis — Major advances in "domesticating" the alkali bee and transplanting the valuable alfalfa-pollinator to artificial nesting beds in alfalfa seed producing areas have been reported by an Oregon State college entomologist.

The bee, found in scattered areas of the West, is the most effective pollinator of alfalfa known.

In some areas where they are abundant, the bees have increased seed yields 10-fold. Yields of a ton of clean seed per acre have been reported in such areas

White Leghorns Show Increase

Salem — If you take the annual report of the Oregon Poultry Improvement program as a yardstick, white leghorn chickens are making a comeback in Oregon.

For the first time in five years, the number of white leghorns participating in the program is over 100,000. Five years ago less than 75,000 white leghorns were listed and last year there were 86,000.

Crossbred chickens continue to hold the spotlight, however, running over 277,000, which is a drop of about 55,000 from a year earlier.

In the other heavy breeds, participants included 24,000 white rocks, down about 10,000 from the previous year; 19,000 each of Hampshires and Reds; and 8,000 of miscellaneous breeds.

Total participation in the program was 451,000 birds in 454 flocks supplying 39 hatcheries.

The poultry improvement program is under the state department of agriculture's division of animal industry with Earl Reitsma as supervisor. Reitsma's office is on the Oregon state college campus at Corvallis.

Dairy Breeders Set Open House Oct. 11

Corvallis — An open house will be held Saturday, Oct. 11, at the Oregon Dairy Breeders association, Corvallis, to celebrate the completion of a new modern laboratory building, it was announced.

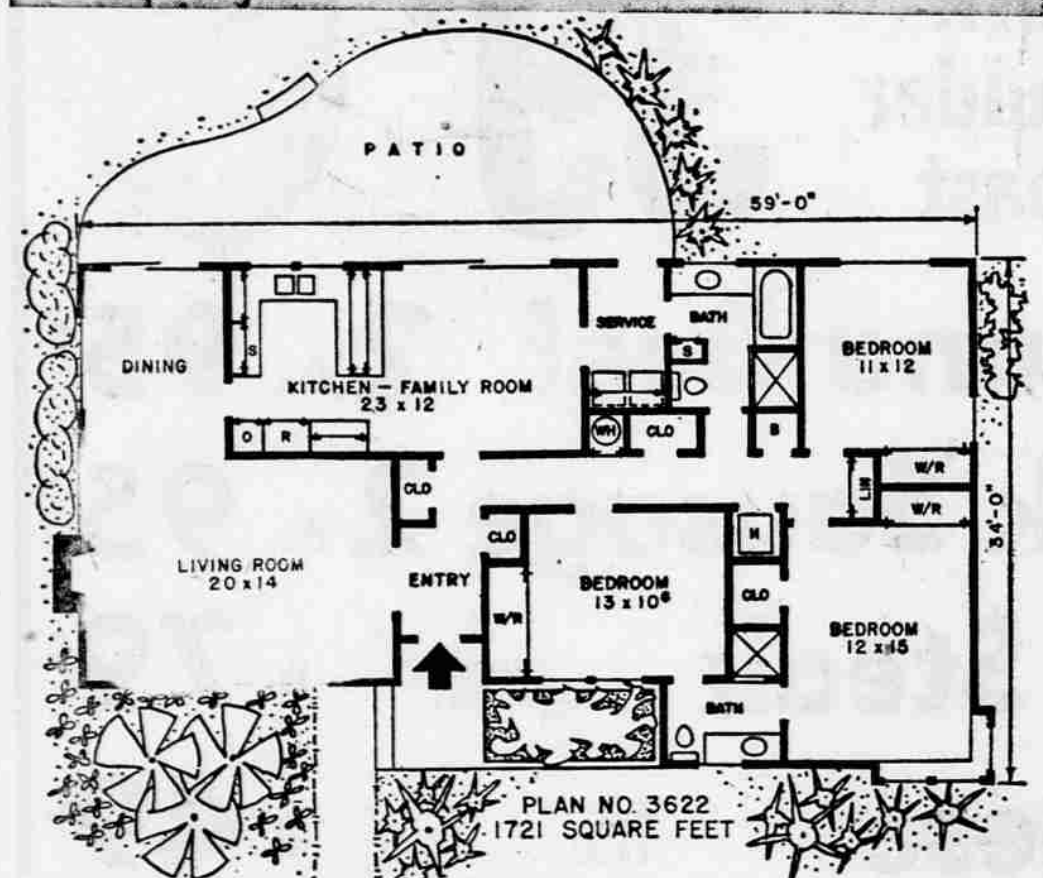
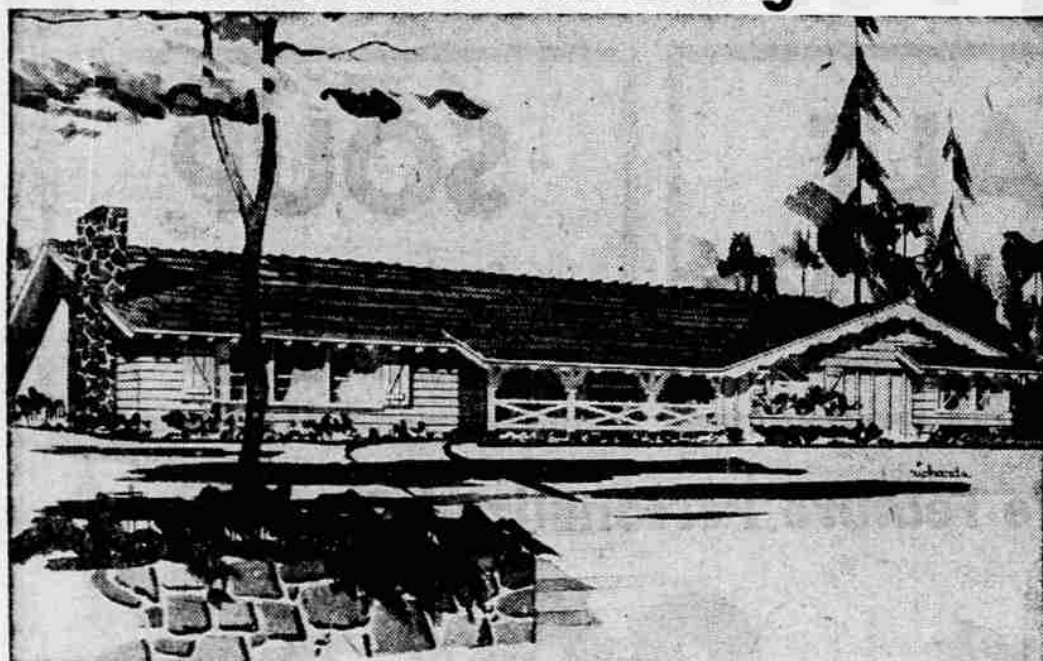
This new laboratory, which is one of the most modern and efficient plants in the country, will make use of new developments in the field of semen preservation and will be able to offer greater services to the members and patrons of the association, a spokesman said.

The bulls will be shown and there will be special displays on sire selection, semen collection and processing, methods of getting better breeding results and record keeping. Refreshments will be served. All interested persons are invited to visit the bull stud and laboratory located between Albany and Corvallis, on Highway 20, any time Saturday, October 11, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.,

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This Week's Home For Living



With its low, sloping shake roof and long covered porch, this enchanting ranch style home appears to wander to much greater dimensions than its 1,721 square feet of living area.

Band sawn wood trims the gable and flowerport itself, and shutters flank the windows. Stonework, used in the tall fireplace chimney is repeated in the porch and planters.

To allow a maximum of usable floor area, the center hall has been kept to a minimum, yet it functions perfectly to channel movement from the front entrance to all areas of the home.

Focal point of the big front living room is the stone fireplace. The dining area, actually an extension of the living room, can be left visually united for a feeling of open-

ness or separated by room dividers.

U-shaped for efficiency, the kitchen has built-in appliances and plenty of counter top work surfaces. Between the kitchen and family room, an eating bar provides a place for serving quick family meals and snacks.

Wide glass doors open to the patio from both the family room and dining room, to expand the living area in warm weather.

Opening to both the service room and hall, the master bath has both tub and stall shower, pullman lavatory and recessed water closet. A floor to ceiling cabinet provides storage for towels and accessories.

The three-quarter bath has been located between the two front bedrooms.

Unbroken wall areas in the bedrooms will make the arrangement of furniture easy. All three bedrooms are amply large and well lighted.

This plan provides an extraordinary amount of storage space. Seven closets line the center hall. Wardrobes in the bedrooms are roomy, and the master bedroom also has a walk-in closet. A centrally located forced-air unit keeps this home at uniform temperature the year around.

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 Estates, P. O. Box 404-7, Northridge, Calif.