RETIRED IN TIME – A pastured horse watches strange goings-on by a rival means of transportation – a truck. The truck is hauling a house to people and the horse probably thinks he didn't retire a minute too soon. (UPI)

Seed Research Work Expanded At Oregon State University

Corvallis – Oregon's importance to the nation's seed industry was emphasized this week with announcement that by Sept. 1 the U. S. Department of Agriculture will move its research project on harvesting, cleaning and farm handling of small seeds from Clemson, S. C., to Corvallis and consolidate it with the one at Oregon State university.

The project at Corvallis currently is supported by $61,000 annually from the USDA's agricultural research service.

Consolidation of the work at Clemson with that at Corvallis will strengthen seed research in Oregon by adding about $23,000 annually to studies at OSU on small grass and legume seed harvesting and handling, reports Jesse E. Harmond, agricultural engineer and investigations leader for the USDA projects.

Moving to Corvallis from Clemson will be J. K. Park, agricultural engineer, who has headed up studies there for 17 years. One of his notable achievements at Clemson was development of an inexpensive combine attachment enabling farmers to harvest corn with a combine.

Park will join USDA agricultural engineers Leonard J. Klein and Norman R. Brandenburg in carrying on cooperative state and federal research under the direction of Harmond.

International Reputation

The unit at OSU has gained an international reputation for work in the field of small seed handling and harvesting. Harmond reports many of the 700 visitors to the OSU laboratory last year were from foreign countries.

Much of the research at OSU in this area has been in developing of machines and methods to reduce seed harvesting and processing losses. For example, agricultural engineers discovered that farmers could increase their yield of crimson clover seed 75 per cent merely by harvesting at an earlier date.

Similarly, an earlier harvest date plus use of a USDA-OSU developed suction reclaimer for shattered seed increases yields of subclover seed about 60 per cent.

Other noteworthy contributions of USDA researchers in this field include development of an electrostatic seed separator which separates seed from its contaminants; development of a fluidized method of seed conveying and handling in the processing plant without mixing and damage; and development of a method of microscopically measuring seed to 1/1000 of an inch at the rate of 12 seeds in 15 minutes for length, width and thickness.

Among current projects are: development of a centrifugal-pneumatic seed separator, discovery of optimum moisture content for seed harvesting, development of vibratory feeders for use in studying seed cleaning and handling machines; and development of cutting and feeding mechanisms for legume and grass seed crop harvesting equipment.

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Gardening Tips

By JOHN W. McLOUGHLIN
County Agent

Tomatoes

Many of our garden tomatoes have been affected by various types of spotting. The most common of these spots come under the names of cloudy spot, blossom-end rot and sunscald.

Cloudy Spot

Tomatoes affected with cloudy spot show irregular white to light yellow spots in the skin. The spots may be up to one-half inch in diameter and may be so numerous as to cover a considerable part of the fruit surface. When the tomato skin is peeled, glistening white masses of cells with a spongy texture are seen.

The feeding punctures of stinkbugs cause cloudy spot. If the amount of injury warrants control, spray or dust with DDT on the foliage at regular intervals. Wait five days after spraying or dusting with DDT before harvesting any tomatoes.

Blossom-End Rot

Shrunken tissue at the blossom end of the tomato with a black leathery appearance indicates blossom-end rot. This condition appears most frequently where the plants have grown under favorable conditions in the early part of the season and then are allowed to dry out when the fruit is developing.

Blossom-end rot may also develop when the small rootlets are killed by a lack of aeration due to overwatering. The root system is so damaged that sufficient water cannot then be absorbed. This situation is common on the heavy soil in the valley.

Even, regular watering and proper fertilization are necessary to prevent injury from blossom-end rot.

Sunscald

Another common spot on tomatoes is caused by sunscald. This first appears as a yellow or white patch on the side of the fruit and later forms a large flattened grayish white patch with a dry paperlike surface. This is most common when the tomatoes are exposed to the sun due to premature loss of foliage.

A light covering over the plants during extremely hot weather will reduce the amount of injury due to sunscald.

Raspberries

Spray the lower half of blackberry, loganberry and raspberry canes for control of the root borer with one quarter pound of 50 per cent DDT to three gallons of water. Apply this spray now and around Sept. 10.

The root borers appear in August and September as a beautiful thick bodied clear winged moth with a wing spread of about one inch and with four bright yellow bands across the abdomen. The females are often seen resting on the leaves where they deposit up to 150 reddish brown eggs on the under surface close to the edge.

The larva hatch and move to the base of the cane where it hibernates in a cavity or crevice in the bark. In the spring the larva enter the crown and actively feed on the roots and canes. The second winter is spent in the roots. Pupation is completed the following August and the adults emerge.

The wilting and dying of the foliage is frequently the first indication of this moth. Preventive measures such as the destruction of dying canes and those showing evidence of borings and the eradication of wild brambles which may harbor the pest are also important in the control of this moth.

There really is a Santa Claus

We're it. All during August. Which is the end of our year when it's traditional to make gifts of our cars (by cutting prices, raising trade-ins and relaxing terms). So come in and make yourself a present of a shiny new Mercury or Comet during our big year-end "Christmas Clearance Sale"

MEDFORD MOTORS
225 South Riverside

Brand Inspection Helps Locate Stock After Checking Six Auction Yards

Salem – Brands are helpful in locating and identifying cattle that have strayed or been stolen.

But, with the aid of Oregon's brand inspection law, the livestock officers of the Oregon Department of Agriculture frequently prove all is not lost for lack of a brand.

Cattle, like people, have traits and characteristics that help these policemen of the bovine kingdom in establishing identity.

Such was the case of an eight - month - old white-faced brindled bull with distinctive rings around his eyes; a little six - month - old black heifer answering to the name of Susie; and their two Hereford heifer companions, who disappeared March 24 from the Arthur Gering pasture at rt. 2, box 145, Yamhill.

After searching for the animals the Gerings notified law enforcement officers. The department's livestock officer, E. L. (Doc) Wright, was called in on the case March 30, when evidence at hand indicated that the quartet had not strayed, but had been stolen.

Check Marks

Doc asked the Gerings for any markings or characteristics that would identify the animals. Gering and his 14-year-old son, Lee, put their heads together and recalled that the little bull had the rings around his eyes and that in addition to being brindled with a white spot on his face he had a little black spot in the middle of the white and that Susie, who was somewhat of a pet, came atrotting when Lee called her name.

On his check of livestock auction markets in Portland, Wright found the department's brand inspector recalled seeing the pair and that the other animals had been sold in the group.

A look at the inspection records showed the four animals had gone through the markets and the names of the buyers were found. Each had gone to a different place and all but one had been resold by the time Livestock Officer Wright, who has been with the department in this capacity 15 years and before that spent 7½ years with the Oregon State Police, caught up with them. This was after checking six auction yards, one of them at Vancouver, Wash., and sifting through some 3,000 head of cattle sold at these auctions.

Five days after Wright started his search he had located all four animals and identified them. The little brindled bull had gone to Orchards, Wash.; Susie went to La Centre, Wash; one of the Hereford heifers was located south of Redmond, Ore., and the other at Powell Butte.

Records Give Clue

Brand inspection records kept by the department of agriculture had also given officers a clue as to whom the rustlers were that spirited the Gering cattle away.

The next day after the cattle were located and identified, Raymond Robert Larson, 24, of Route 2, Carlton, and George Robert Minor, 30, Route 2, Box 145, Yamhill, were arrested in Utah on an all points bulletin.

Convicted July 22 at McMinnville on the charge of stealing the animals, Larson was given a three - year sentence by Judge Arlie G. Walker, and Minor was sentenced to five years in the Oregon State penitentiary.

All that remains now to close the case is the homecoming of the cattle. Only one has been returned, but the others will be returning to the Yamhill ranch, now that Larson and Minor have been convicted of the theft.

Officers Named For WICHE Group

Boulder, Colo.–The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) appointed new officers at the commission's annual meeting held recently in San Francisco.

Dr. Dermont W. Melick, Phoenix, Ariz., former commission vice chairman, was appointed chairman and will replace Dr. Charles J. Armstrong, president of the University of Nevada, who has been WICHE chairman for the past year.

Dr. Willard Wilson, secretary of the University of Hawaii, was appointed to replace Dr. Melick as vice chairman.

WICHE is active in interstate programs for student exchange.

RATION

Hay represents 38 per cent of the average milk cow ration and 60 per cent of the ration for beef and other cattle, according to an article in the New Holland Grassland News.

Of every $20 Americans spend on groceries, $1.50 to $2 goes for packaging, the USDA says.

FROM THE GROUND UP

By BART BARTLETT

The budding of trees and shrubs can be continued for several weeks or until the bark of stock plants will no longer slip.

The result will, of course, be a dormant bud and should not be forced into growth until next spring. It may be well to break over the tops of stock plants that are being budded. If the tops are broken over properly they will continue to live and will give a considerable amout of shade to the newly set bud.

The question often arises as to how late during the growing season should a plant grower or farmer continue to apply fertilizer. In the first place fertilizers, as a term, is an all encompassing misnomer. All materials that are referred to as fertilizers do not accomplish the same job for plant growers. In the second place many plants should not receive any supplemental nutrition once they have reached a given stage of development in their life cycle.

At this time of year in the local area, very little fertilizer or plant nutrients should be used on most economic crop plants. There are certain landscape plants, lawns, meadows and hay crops that may benefit from supplemental nutrients at this time.

It is rather late now to apply nitrogen fertilizer to young fruit trees and get some growth and have the trees go dormant with wood that will stand low winter temperatures. The moderate temperatures of this season are causing most plants to remain vegetative and growing later than is normal for this area.

Bart is greatly concerned over reports that indicate that our Oregon employment and charity service must be curtailed somewhat because of a lack of manpower. It seems they are out of funds. Now perhaps they know how we taxpayers feel. We will miss our Chick Sales Sniffer as well as the Potable Water pest. This may even free some labor for farm use.

Inspect young pear plantings now for late fireblight infections. The red bartlett variety should receive special attention as fireblight infections are difficult to identify in this variety at this time.

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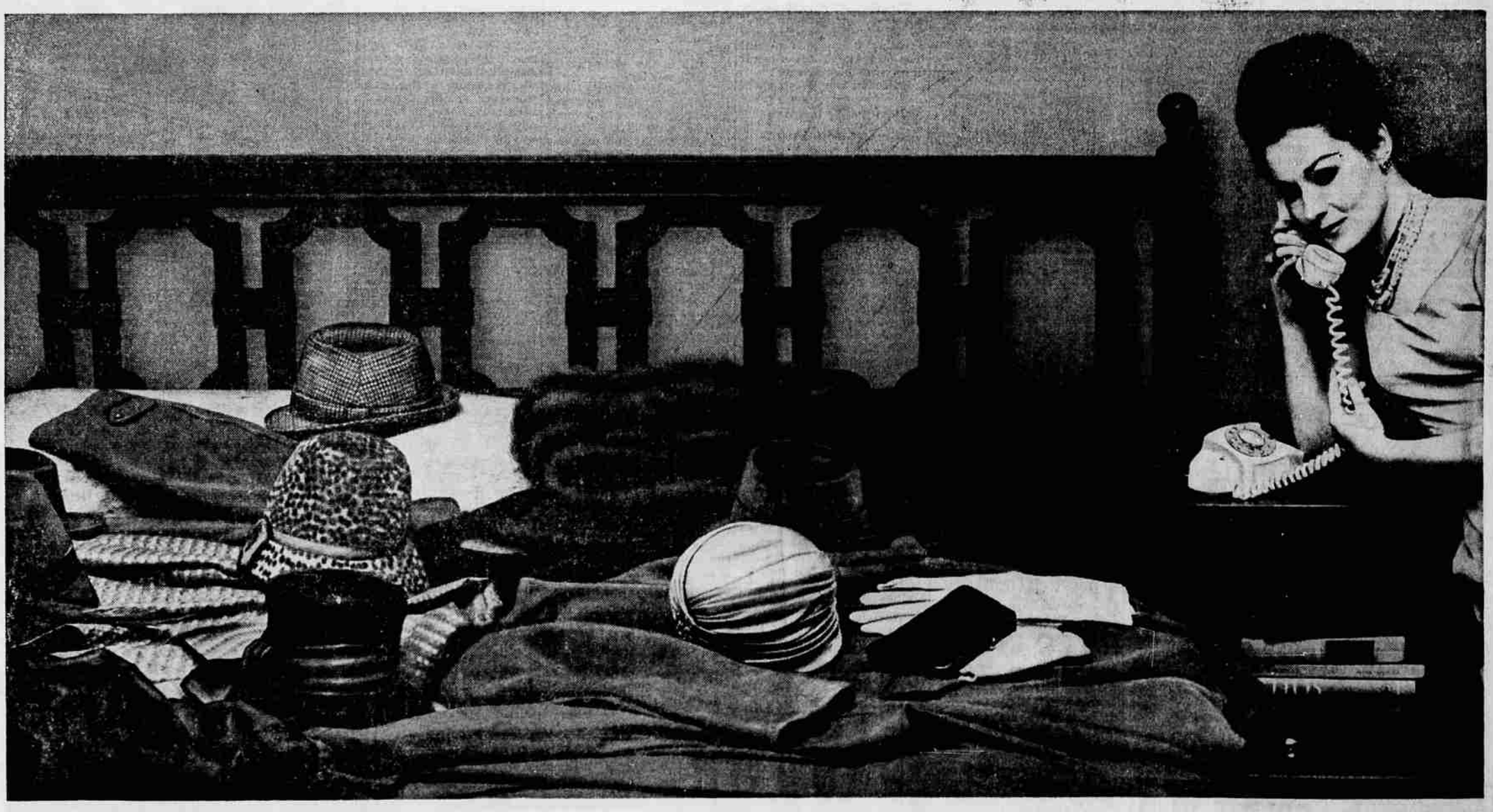

Entertaining idea: A bedroom extension phone

When you're entertaining guests at home, how nice it is to say: "Use our bedroom phone." And during the day, a bedroom extension phone saves you steps when you're doing the housework, offers you priceless security when you're alone in the house at night. To order yours, just call the telephone business office and ask for Beverly, the Extension Girl. PACIFIC NORTHWEST BELL