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**Motorists Warned Against Giving Rides to Hitchhikers**

J. Edward Hoover, head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, has advised the American motoring public, through the Oregon State Motor Association, to be alert to the increasing criminal element on the nation's highways posing as innocent hitch hikers. Females are taking to the road as well as often proving deadlier than the male as promoters of "free rides" with overly chivalrous motorists.

Escaped criminals resort to hitch hiking more frequently than any other form of free transportation, it is pointed out, and the motorist may

become Exhibit A in a criminal clean-up if he unwittingly or unwillingly picks up a prison escapee. The motorist may be put in the position of being an "accessory after the fact" abetting a criminal escape. The warning grimly adds—"that is, if you survive the experience."

The girl who loiters in a filling station to promote a ride may turn out to be more trouble than the motorist bargained for. Frequently, AAA stresses, she may be a siren front for a gun gang, or even a stickup artist working alone.

Aside from the physical dangers and badgering possibilities of hitch hiking in 21 states drivers are liable for any injury to the hitch hiker they may pick up. Even though 23 states forbid hitch hiking by law, a glance at the roadside suggests that these laws are seldom enforced.

The F. B. I. says that the prints of two out of five thumbs that beg the motorist for a ride on the highways can be identified in the Bureau's files in Washington. These files as well as stories in the newspapers across the land offer ample proof of the danger of picking up hitch hikers.

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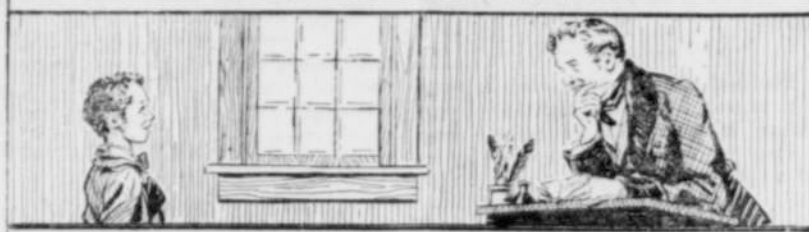
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**Linn County Farm Marketing Drops 5%**

Linn county's gross income from 1953 farm marketing was \$18,820,000, a drop of 5% from 1952, according to estimates today by county extension agent O. E. Mikesell.

Lower prices for livestock, peppermint, more seed crops and farm forest products and a further decline in turkey numbers were the principal reason for the over-all decrease. Coupled with the lower gross income, says Mikesell, is a decline in net return to farmers because of higher costs of purchased items and increased taxes and interest rates.

The value of 1953 seed crops was \$5,000,000 which is the county's number one source of income. The principal seed crops are common ryegrass, perennial ryegrass, Alta fescue, chewing fescue, highland bentgrass, hairy vetch, common vetch, and Austrian peas. Linn county continues to lead the state in the production of seed crops principally because of common ryegrass.

Of the total gross income, 37 percent is from animal sources and 63 percent from crop sources. The following is a breakdown of Mikesell's 1953 estimates:  
Animal products—(1) dairy products, \$2,900,000 or 15.4 percent; (2) poultry and poultry products \$2,200,000 or 11.6 percent; (3) meat animals and wool \$1,800,000 or 9.5 percent; (4) miscellaneous animal products \$60,000 or .32 percent. Total animal products, \$6,960,000 or 37 percent.

Crops—(1) seed crops \$5,000,000 or 26.6 percent; grain and hay crops \$2,500,000 or 13.3 percent; (3) truck crops \$1,200,000 or 6.4 percent; (4) farm forestry products \$950,000 or 5 percent; (5) speciality field and drug crops and small fruit crops tied at \$850,000 or 4.5 percent; (6) tree

**Civil Defense Center To Be Established at Clackamas**

An advance control center for the Oregon Civil Defense Agency will be established at Camp Withcombe, Clackamas. Arrangements were completed this week with the National Guard to use one of its buildings as a forward operating base for civil defense.

State Civil Defense Director Arthur M. Sheets said that organized assistance from all parts of the Oregon will be needed in Portland if an atomic attack should occur there. Purpose of the advance control center is to get closer to the disaster scene and reduce the lines of communications. It will be a point from which State CD headquarters in Salem can receive a steady flow of dependable information and various types of requests for mobile support. Operating at Clackamas also gives civil defense direct contact with the National Guard during an emergency.

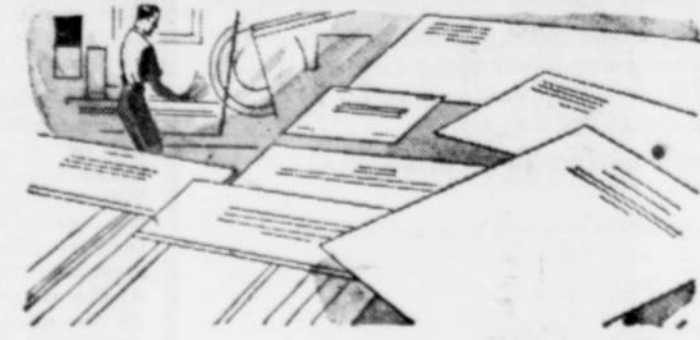
The state director said that communications is the important thing at Clackamas, which is about 12 miles southeast of Portland. One network of telephone and radio communications will connect the advance control center with all county civil defense directors and State CD headquarters. Another radio and telephone network will connect the center with Portland and Multnomah county civil defense agencies, State CD headquarters and several staging areas now being set up in adjacent counties.

Keeping up appearances is what keeps a lot of bank accounts down. Model husbands often turn out to be non-working models.

fruits and nuts \$460,000 or 2.4 percent; (7) horticultural specialty crops \$50,000 or .3 percent. Total from crops \$11,860,000 or 63 percent.

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