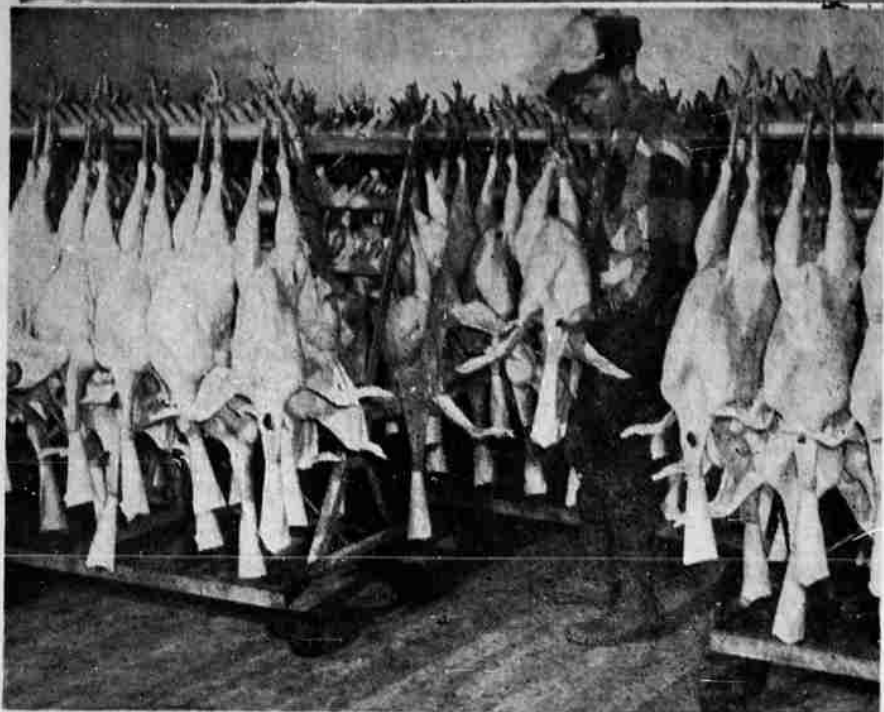


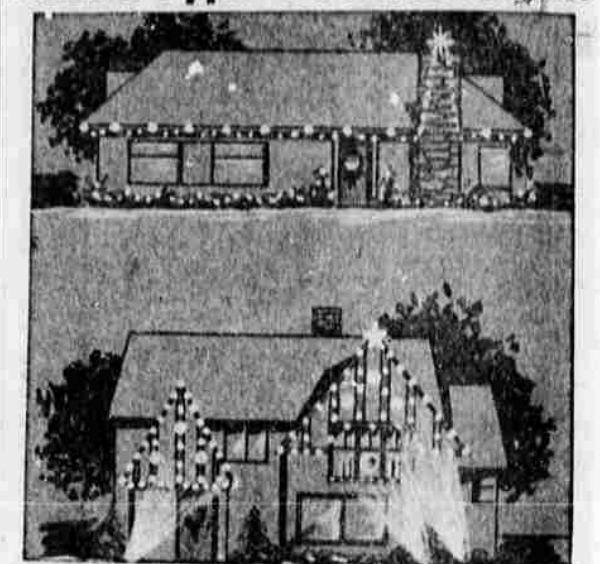


ROY MILLER, foreman of the turkey "factory" at Merrill, inspects turkeys being readied for shipment to retailers and hence to the Christmas dinner tables. Birds are cooled in cooling room for shipment.



PINNERS follow turkey chain from de-feathering machine, taking pin feathers from the flesh. Turkeys take from 10 to 15 minutes each to get through line, but 15 or 20 birds are being worked on all the time. About a turkey every 45 seconds comes off this mass production.

House Type Governs Lights



Don't overlook the architectural features of your house when planning outdoor decorations, say holiday lighting specialists. Sometimes just the slant of a roof top or gables can suggest a design for outdoor lights. As sketched at the top above, modern ranch-type houses, often suggest a horizontal pattern of lighting. Notice how lights on the drawing are carried along the eaves until they reach the chimney where they follow its line in a sharp upward sweep. For the older home, gables often create a natural pattern to follow when installing lights. In addition to colored lights, spotlights with color caps are placed in front of the house to bathe it in soft green light.

Putting Turkey on Table Not Simple Matter

By MAC EPLEY JR. Herald-News Farm Editor

Klamath Basin families will put some 15,000 turkeys into 15,000 ovens this Christmas, but the story behind the gobblers isn't as simple as the well-known chopping block and turkey pen have led the world to believe.

The story of the turkey is one which has been climbing toward a climax in recent years. Turkey growing today is big business, a near million dollar business in the Klamath area alone.

At one time this area was probably one of the finest turkey-growing districts in Oregon, and was rated high in production on the national list. Conditions here are ideal. The high elevation and cool fall and winter weather put finishes on the birds in a hurry—and just in time for the holiday seasons.

The economics of the turkey market are about as complex as any commodity market there is. Poultry man Stan Soran places the recent increase of importance of the turkey market on the footsteps of processing.

Processing has made the turkey available the year around; consequently, Soran says, instead of just being holiday specialties, turkeys are now restaurants and hotel favorites the year around. He says only about 40 per cent of the nation's turkey crop is consumed over Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

The way to grow turkeys—and make money doing it—is by turning out a terrific volume.

And any outfit which can maintain an annual flock of 25,000 turkeys has volume. That's what the Tulake Grain Company's project does with Crater Lake mountain turkeys.

Under the direction of Bruce Hagerman, a breeding flock is maintained at Malin, and there the turkeys are hatched and brooded until they are eight weeks old. Then—just like cattle—they are put out on the range.

The "range" in this case isn't the kitchen type yet, but vast pens containing 2,000 birds each. These are located in Swan Lake, and there the birds are fed grain and develop fast. When the hens are 26 weeks old and the toms 28, they are ready for the trip to Merrill and the packing plant there.

The Merrill plant is a mass-production affair, a large edition of

the poultry packing operation at Klamath Poultry Farms here in Klamath Falls. Turkeys are killed by injecting a needle in the brain. This allows the feathers to loosen, rather than tighten up as happens in some methods of killing. It then permits the de-feathering process to run through more efficiently.

Hanging on a moving chain head down, the birds are pulled through a scalding vat, and then through an automatic rougher. Next a drum rougher strips off most remaining feathers except for the heavy wing tufts which leave via the "winger." After that "pinners" take over. They are usually women who follow the meandering chains loaded with birds, picking off pin feathers. Final mechanical operation is the washer which not only cleans but also slaps the turkey flesh into bloom.

It takes between eight and 10 minutes to do a complete job this far on a bird—and most of that is automatic.

Thus volume is achieved, and turkeys can be brought to the consumer at lower prices. Yet, the quality of the turkeys are good in most cases. A check will determine whether they are or not, because government graders label each bird, classifying it from "A" through "C," or as reject. The rejects are sometimes called for by grocers. Their place on the turkey market is much like that of cull potatoes. If they sell at all, they are much cheaper than the graded birds.

Soran says class "C" turkeys really aren't bad grades at all, and class "B" is a good looking turkey. Class "A," he says, is an excellent bird in every way. So with volume and class, house-

wives are getting lots of turkey for their money. In fact, the margin is so slight butchers under ordinary circumstances might not carry them. Yet turkeys are a drawing card, and good turkeys sold to customers may bring them back for other meats which are more profitable.

Take a good look at the hen or tom ready for the oven.

He didn't get there by accident; his life was planned for him in advance—from the egg to the platter!

Town Trees New Custom

The custom of having a community Christmas tree is a relatively new one to the Yule season, but many cities and neighborhoods within cities follow it now.

The first real Community Christmas tree was believed one decorated by residents of Pasadena, Calif., in 1909, a living evergreen on Mt. Wilson.

In 1912 trees were set up on Madison Square in New York City and on the Commons in Boston for the first time, and in 1914 Philadelphia started its custom of putting up a Christmas tree on Independence Square.

NEW IDEA

Window-cleaner spray bottles do make excellent tools for dampening plaster edges before any patching is done.

Snow Sport Areas Many

Comes Christmas, comes snow and comes winter recreation.

The Klamath Country provides numerous spots for those who love the winter out-of-doors, all the way from close-in clear to far-out.

Ice skaters this year will have a chance to skate at the Moore Park rink as in the past, though with a new sub-surface skating probably will begin a little earlier this season than last. However, until there is a good solid, consistent freeze on the rink will not be ready. It is under supervision by the park and city recreation Director Bob Bonney.

As in the past, the Recreation Department will probably set up supervised sledding areas here in town for thrill-seeking youngsters. Announcements will be made later. Skiing may be okayed on Moore Park's slopes again this year, and as usual one of the most popular local ski-spots is expected to be Crater Lake National Park's slopes where a warming hut operates weekends and holidays.

Warner Canyon, northeast of Lakeview, has been a coming ski attraction in recent years, and the Forest Service-operated area is expected to warrant attention from considerable crowds of skiers again this year. The Willamette Ski Area, on the Willamette Pass at the summit of the Cascade, has long been popular with skiers from the north end of the county and attracts crowds from the Willamette Valley.

How to Buy Trout Flies

The young lady has a bright idea: she's going to buy trout flies for her fish-happy husband for Christmas.

But she doesn't know what to look for when shopping for flies. Well, young lady, your worries are over if you follow the advice of A. J. McClane, fishing editor of Field and Stream.

Twenty-two pros ventured the opinion that the average angler just picks flies by their color. That's like buying melons without squeezing them.

The first point to check on a wet or dry fly is the hackle. The hackle of the dry fly should be stiff and glossy and at right angles from the hook bank. The hackle of the wet fly should be soft and absorbent, lying perfectly flat and pointing back toward the bend of the hook.

And in both cases the hackles should be tied in, leaving some space between hackle and hook eye. This allows for the leader knot and aids in "cocking" the fly.

The body of the dry fly should be slim and tapered; in the wet fly should be, in addition to this, made of some absorbent material, such as seal's fur, rabbit fur, wool, etc.

The wings of the dry fly should be perfectly matched, divided, and cocked at equal angles to insure a perfect float. At least this is the criterion set by the divided-wing school. The wings of the wet fly should be perfectly matched, thin, and cocked to the rear—almost parallel to the hook shank.

The tail is important in the dry fly. It should be stiff and glossy. In the wet fly it is of little or no importance.

If you've followed along thus far, here's parting advice from Mr. McClane:

The hook of the dry fly should be of light wire, with tapered eye and of fine temper. Wet-fly hooks are preferred in heavy-gauge wire to insure quick sinking.

Now you're all set, young lady. You're equipped with sound advice from an expert.

If this isn't clear, operators of the various sporting goods stores in Klamath Falls can fill in for you.

But you can't make your husband any happier than to slip some trout flies under the Christmas tree for him.



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