

Nebraska Gunners Down 700,000 Ducks

LINCOLN, Neb.—A game harvest survey completed by the State Game, Forestation and Parks Commission indicates that Nebraska hunters bagged 700,000 ducks, almost half of which were mallards, during the last hunting season. Gunners also harvested 12,500 geese.

In Curacao and Aruba, islands in the Netherlands West Indies, the flourishing cactus plants keep animals out of the yards. Gates are cut through the needles and thorns to admit humans.

Tree Growers Slate Meet

Snow and north winds seem far removed from the Oregon scene, but one group has already started the count-down for the yule season.

Christmas tree growers of Oregon and Washington have announced their first annual "Trade Fair" in Portland, September 26 and 27, to display tree samples and draw marketing agreements with major West Coast buyers.

Sponsored by the Northwest Christmas Tree Association, the fair will be staged at the Multnomah Hotel, reports Gary Sander, Oregon State College forest products marketing specialist.

A critical problem in the Christmas tree business has been the arranging of contacts between buyers and growers, especially the small operators, says Sander. The trade fair is the first opportunity growers have had to display products to a large group of buyers. Christmas tree wholesalers from Oregon, California, and Washington will attend the two-day fair.

Also scheduled is an association business meeting including a discussion of capital gains taxes and special taxes affecting tree growers.

Sander says growers wanting to reserve tree display space should contact James Gibbons, 2028 S. W. Canby Street, Portland.

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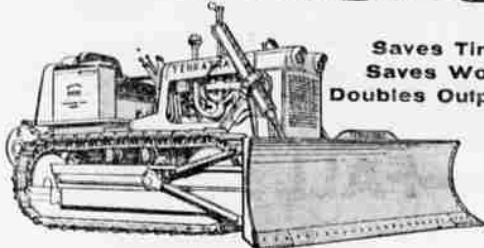
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SOME IDEAS OF THE BIGNESS of the country is gained from this picture of a rider crossing a long slope on the second day of this year's Modoc Tribe Ride. The trails wind up through the Warner's opening up new and magnificent vistas of timber and meadow and revealing many lovely fishing streams at the foot of the big basins.



A LINE OF RIDERS pause on top of a ridge to let their horses have a breather while they look over some of the spectacular country lying below them. This picture was taken on the second day of the 1959 Modoc Tribe Ride as the party was circling the Pine Creek Basin on its way to Mill Creek Meadows and the permanent camp.

Farmer Census Shows Few Under 35

High cost of operating a modern farm is pushing the age brackets upward for Oregon farmers.

Oregon now has the smallest proportion of farm operators under 35 years of age and the largest percentage over 65 years of age of any census year dating back to 1920, says D. Curtis Mumford, Oregon State College agricultural economist.

The report, based on the 1954 federal census of agriculture, shows that while the average age of Oregon farmers has changed little in the past two decades, there are fewer "young" farmers. That times have changed since

an ambitious young man with a plow and good team of horses could break into farming is emphasized by the fact that only one per cent of all Oregon farmers were under 25 years of age in 1954.

At the other end of the age scale, 17 per cent of Oregon's farmers were 65 years or older at the last census.

Average age of farm operators in Oregon is 50.4 years. While slightly higher than the 49.7 age for 1950, it is similar to the 1945 and 1940 figures of 50.1 and 50.6 years, respectively.

Little or no change in the state average—coupled with a decline in percentage of young farmers—has resulted in a marked "bunching up" around the 50-year average. Twenty five per cent of all Oregon farmers are in the age group of 45 to 54 years, and 88 per cent are at least 35 years old.

Jefferson County rates the distinction of having Oregon's youngest farm operators—average age, 45.3 years. Multnomah has the oldest—52.4 years.

Youngest average ages are in eastern Oregon. Of the state's