

# AROUND THE FARM

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County Extension Agent

When the irrigation season is over the farmer still has an important job to do—the system must be properly stored.

This summer we saw a 5 inch aluminum mainline that had developed leaks after only 4 years use. It had been left outside one winter.

Pipe that is stored off the ground with separator strips between the layers of pipe should last a lot longer than four years.

Indoor storage is best but if it is not available stack pipe outside with one end higher than the other.

In 1951 the average butterfat production for all cows under DHIA in the U.S. was 370 pounds. This is the same as it was in 1950.

In milk, however, the average production was 9,172 pounds in 1951—9,195 pounds in 1950—an increase of 23 pounds milk.

Every 15 minutes a farm building burns down somewhere in the United States. No wonder these fires cause a loss of over \$12,000,000 each year.

Along with these buildings 3,500 people lose their lives in farm fires every year.

Certain causes stand out as the main reasons for fires. Careless smoking is the leading cause in Oregon. Next comes stoves, furnaces and chimneys. With winter on hand, now is the time to check, clean and repair heating equipment.

Don't forget to clean out the chimney. Use a rope and pull a burlap sack containing some socks and tin cans up and down the chimney. This will knock off carbon and soot that causes chimney fires.

An old timer is a fellow who remembers when he could buy a pound of steak for a dime but forgets that he had to work an hour to earn the dime.—Ladies Home Journal.

That flock of laying hens should be getting at least 13 hours of light or their egg production will go into a slump. Right now there are less than 12 hours of natural daylight.

For the home flock of just a few hens a small electric light hanging right over the roosts can be used to supply the extra light at hours needed to stimulate egg production.

This light can either be turned on early in the morning or it can be left burning all night. There is no harm from having more than 13 hours of light on the hens.

There is quite a list of jobs the home gardener can now do getting ready for winter. Here are two.

Gladiolus bulbs should be dug and dried for storage. Bulb rot in gladiolus is caused by too slow drying and by storing before bulbs are thoroughly cured. Suggestions are to dig bulbs

and wash if necessary to get soil off them. Tops can also be cut off to make easier handling. Spread bulbs out in a dry place and allow them to become thoroughly dried before putting in boxes to store.

Before bulbs are put into storage it is well to dust them thoroughly with a 5% DDT dust to control thrips.

Dahlia bulbs can also be dug as soon as frost ends their blooming. They store best in cool moist conditions. After bulbs are dug and washed it is well to bury them in dry peat moss, sawdust or sand to prevent excessive drying out during the winter.

Both gladiolus and dahlia bulbs will freeze. Severe winters of the past three years have destroyed many bulbs that were put into storage but not protected from freezing.

Late summer and fall seeding of alfalfa and pasture is becoming very popular with farmers who have irrigation available to start the crop.

This system makes it possible to harvest a crop from the land in June or July and still get the alfalfa started for next year's crop.

Elmer Loyd, Deer Island, planted alfalfa in July and has an excellent stand that is now over 12 inches high. This field should give him a full crop next year and no time will have been lost in getting the alfalfa started.

For best results seeding such as alfalfa or ladino clover should be planted and up by September 1. Later seedings run a greater and greater risk of freezing out.

## 4-H Deadline Set For Record Books

October 31 is the deadline for 4-H club members in Columbia county to turn in their record books according to Harold Black, county extension agent in charge of 4-H.

Black states that many of the record books are now in his office. In order to receive their pins or certificates, club members must mail or turn their record books in at the extension office in St. Helens or give them to their club leader before the deadline. Books must be completed.

In past years, the percentage of completions in Columbia county has been below the state average. It is hoped that it can be greatly improved this year. Any club which completes 100 per cent will receive a certificate of achievement. Club members not completing because of illness or moving will not count against the club, provided the extension office is notified.

A holding company is one having controlling interest in several corporations.

## New Approach to Be Followed in Preparing 1953 Conservation

A new approach to conservation of soil and water resources on individual farms has been announced by USDA for the 1953 agricultural conservation program.

Farm conservation plans will be drawn up by Columbia county farmers with their community committeemen starting soon, according to Wm. Armstrong, chairman of the Columbia County PMA committee. The plans will be made and recorded before January 1, 1953, instead of at

any time during the year as in the past. Assistance for conservation practices under the agricultural conservation program for the coming year will be based on these farm plans.

A listing of the practices most needed to restore or maintain fertility, prevent erosion, or conserve water on his farm will be made by each farmer with the aid of his community committeeman. A decision will then be made by the farmers as to which is the most needed conservation prac-

tice to be carried out during 1953 and for which he needs financial assistance.

The most needed practice agreed on between the farmer and his committeeman will be given "first priority" when the county committee reviews the farm plans for all farms in the county. Program assistance funds will be approved first for these "first priority" practices for every farmer in the county who files a request for assistance. Second, third or fourth priority practices will be approved in that order until all county CP funds are committed.

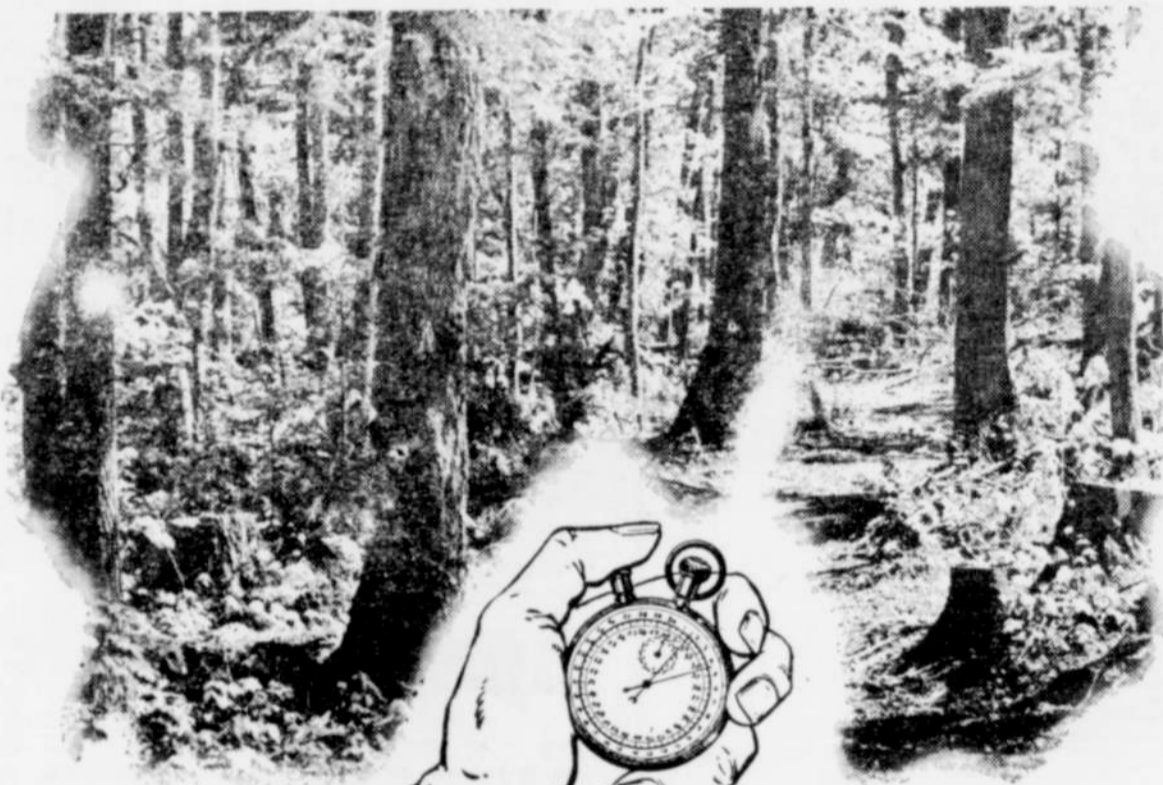
Farmers will be notified prior to the beginning of the program year of the practices approved

and the amount of assistance approved for each. Notices of approval will be sent out before February 15.

In this way each farmer will know before the beginning of his farm year how much money has been set aside to help him carry out his most needed conservation practice or practices in 1953. This system will avoid running out of assistance funds before the end of the year thus leaving out some farmers who badly need the help, Mr. Armstrong said.

No woman should be barred from the pearly gates if her fibbing goes no further than her age, her weight and her children.

# NOTICE



## TAKE TIME to be careful

and  
Keep

### Oregon Green

It takes just three seconds to crush the fire out of a cigarette and half a second to break a match. Yet, careless smokers started more than 18,000 forest fires last year. It takes only five minutes to put out a campfire. Yet, campers in an average year start 3,500 forest fires. These fires all could be prevented by a few seconds or a few minutes extra care.

## Be Careful When in the Woods!

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