

# AROUND THE FARM

BY W. G. NIBLER  
County Extension Agent

Strawberry planting time will soon be here and it is not too early to start thinking about a source of planting stock.

The use of certified strawberry plants has been increasing every year as growers find that the best quality planting stock pays good dividends.

At present most of the certified plants being used in Columbia county are produced in eastern Oregon. These certified plants were first used here about five years ago. Growers results have shown these eastern Oregon plants to be reliable. Yields have been good and plants have consistently shown very little disease.

Planting stock may be ordered in several ways. Some processing plants handle plants for their growers.

Some growers order their plants direct from the plant grower.

One eastern Oregon plant grower has a local dealer in Columbia county who is taking and pooling orders. He will probably have local cold storage facilities available.

Cold storage is valuable in years when weather conditions prevent setting plants when they are delivered.

With the chick hatching season here, poultrymen may wish to give some consideration to the size of their poultry flocks for the coming year.

One of the recommendations of the poultry committee at the state agricultural planning conference this past year was to adjust the size of the flock to an economic unit. They encourage producers to plan their flocks to come under one of three classifications.

A poultryman that expects to derive his major source of income from chickens should develop a business unit of not less than 2,500 laying hens. The number will depend somewhat on the age and health of the operator and income needed to maintain a reasonable standard of living.

The general farmer or part time farmer that plans to supplement his cash income from chickens should have a side line flock of at least 500 laying hens. This will make the unit large enough to justify proper feed and care of the flock.

For the farm or city family that just wants a family flock to supply them with what eggs and poultry meat they will consume, 25 or less fresh pullets each year will do the job.

## Wire Shortage Anticipated

Supplies of baling wire, nails and fencing materials may fall short of demand during 1953 unless sufficient orders are placed now to boost lagging mill output, the Columbia county production and marketing administration committee cautions farmers.

"We have been advised that beginning in early September steel mills began reporting empty space on their rolling schedules for bale ties, coiled baling wire, nails, woven wire fencing, netting and barbed wire," says Wm. Armstrong, committee chairman. "This situation has grown steadily worse. If orders sufficient to utilize full mill capacities are not placed shortly, it is quite possible that shortages will occur next spring and summer."

Chairman Armstrong explains that in order to fill the expanding farm needs for these products it is necessary for the mills to operate at or near capacity the year around. This depends upon the extent to which orders on the mills are sufficient to utilize the available rolling capacity.

## Mist-Nehalem Unit Studies on Project

The Mist-Nehalem extension unit met at the home of Mrs. C. L. Waddell January 9. Fifteen members answered the roll call. The cotton dress workshop was discussed and explained to all. Those wishing to take it should have attended this meeting on garment finishes and the next on pattern alteration, plus the preliminary workshop nearest this locality.

The project for the day was garment finishes which included a zipper placket and a corded buttonhole. The lesson was given by Berna Howry and Della Wilson.

Next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. John Howry February 13 on pattern alteration and will be given by Miss Francis Gallatin.

## Cooking Club Members Enjoy Party, Cooking

The 4-H Little Bakers drew names at Christmas. They had a very nice party. Rose Patterson and Donna Savage made some sample toast and Judy Strong and Susan Kock cooked some cereal.

Sinclair Lewis was the first American to receive the Nobel Prize for literature.

One person out of every 12 is left-handed.

# AROUND HOME...

Perhaps you plan to use Christmas gift money for a piece of new furniture for your home. If so, here are a few suggestions by Frances Gallatin, home agent.

Before you go shopping, decide exactly what you need and want. You may not get it, but it may keep you from buying something you won't want when you get it home. It will also make shopping easier for both you and the salesclerk. Measure the space you want to fill and take samples of colors to match or complement, as few folks can carry colors in their minds.

Another suggestion before you go shopping is to learn how to recognize good construction in basic pieces.

Shop around for best values. Compare quality, styles, comfort, prices, and credit terms. Ask questions and examine the furniture on all sides, including the bottom of upholstered furniture. Read labels. And, above all, be sure the whole family is satisfied.

For the home seamstress there is only one size of nylon thread available, according to Lucy Lane, clothing specialist. There is size A which is comparable in size to number 70 cotton, but it has greater strength. The homemaker will find some sixty colors and they come on one hundred yard spools.

To sew by hand with nylon thread, Miss Frances L. Gallatin, home agent, suggests cutting the thread from the spool and using a shorter length than when sewing with cotton thread. When threading the needle, do not attempt to roll the thread to a point as with cotton or mercerized thread. Simply cut straight across and put through the eye of the needle. Take several back stitches to tack the beginning and ending of seams. Always cut nylon thread, don't break it, as it ravel easily and makes needle-threading difficult.

When doing machine sewing with Nylon thread, you will find these directions helpful: Use a sharp needle with no roughness or burrs. For an all Nylon fabric, use Number 11 needle or comparable size. Use this same size for any sheer fabric. For other medium weight fabrics, use a Number 14 or comparable size needle.

The upper tension should be about half as tight as for sewing with cotton thread. Skipped stitches are sometimes caused by too tight tension.

Seams of garments in fabrics from man-made fibers tend to draw or pucker at the seams. This is true of the woven fabrics, but rarely ever of the knitted ones. To avoid the puckered seams, choose patterns with the seams that are on the bias rather than straight. Even a slight bias helps. The up and down, or warpwise, seams pucker more than the crosswise ones.

Nylon sewn seams should be pressed or ironed with low heat—that is at a low rayon or nylon setting—260 to 275 degrees. For fabrics that require a higher ironing temperature, a damp press cloth must be used or the Nylon thread will be damaged. Nylon will take a higher moist heat, as with a damp press cloth or from a steam iron, than it will dry heat.

## Unit Studies Lesson Topic January 13

The Timber Route extension unit met Tuesday, January 13, at the Vernonia Grange with 16 members and two visitors present. Alice Weed and Margaret Conz were the project leaders giving the lesson on Garment Finishes, teaching the ladies how to put in zippers (skirt and dress) and making corded buttonholes. Pot-luck dinner was served at noon with hostesses Doris Baker and Jean Shulke.

Next meeting will be February 10 at the Gänge hall with County leader Miss Gallatin giving the lesson on pattern alterations.

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## Medical Attention Sought for Daughter

RIVERVIEW—Mrs. Pete Wells of Hebo brought her daughter, Sue, here Monday for medical attention. They are staying at the home of her sister, Mrs. Hank Hudson.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Callister, son Ronnie, and Mrs. Clara Hill visited Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Struchen at Dundee Sunday.

## Lesson Demonstrated At Extension Meeting

The Vernonia extension unit met at the EUB church Thursday, January 8. A short business meeting was held at 10 a.m., after which the project leaders, Laura Hicks and Shirley French, demonstrated the lesson on garment finishes. Much interest was shown on the simple way to put a zipper on a garment and also how to make corded button holes. Twenty-one members attended. In the near future the unit will hold a cooked food sale to raise money for the Azalea house fund.

Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Lindsley of Portland visited at the home of his brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Lindsley, recently.

Mrs. Mabel Gravon of Portland is visiting at the home of her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Merle Cline.

The average woman washes an estimated 26,000 dishes a year.



## From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

### Pretty "Foxy" Terrier

Talking about dogs the other night—and Sandy Johnson topped everything off with a tall story about his fox terrier, "Boscum."

According to Sandy, "Comes bird season and that dog won't stir if I take down my rifle. Same if it's deer season and I go for my shotgun—he won't move, but he's scratching at the door if I so much as look at my rifle!"

One day, Sandy decided to fool him. He took down both his shotgun and his rifle—and swish, Boscum was on his way! So Sandy put the guns back and took out

his fishing rod. He went outside and there was Boscum—digging like crazy for worms!

From where I sit, a dog that can outguess humans is as rare as a human that can outguess other humans. For instance, I like a glass of beer with lunch but I wouldn't think of pouring you one without first asking. Everybody has preferences—and it's finding out what they are and respecting them that keeps freedom from "going to the dogs."

Joe Marsh

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# A New Year Resolution for 1953

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When you receive a Pioneer Service County Credit Board statement bearing its registered trademark, either pay your account in full, or part pay it, or satisfactorily arrange to pay, and

## Keep That New Year Resolution

TRY TO PAY ALL YOUR BILLS BETWEEN THE FIRST AND THE TENTH OF THE MONTH.

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The Pioneer Service Company calls your attention to a condition that is quite serious for the local merchants, doctors, hospitals, and druggists:

## DO YOU REALIZE:

- A. Do you realize that your grocer pays for his groceries once a week, or twice a month?
- B. Do you realize that virtually all the merchants have to pay their bills every 30 days? When any of these merchants carries a customer over 30 days on his books his profit is gone, and he is losing money on his investment.
- C. Do you realize that the gas and service stations (or a lot of them) pay every time that gas is dumped?
- D. Do you realize that your doctor, your hospital, and your druggist have to pay not only their wholesale bills but also their own personal bills every 30 days?
- E. Do you realize what it costs to send statements? After the second statement is mailed out, it costs from 35c to 40c a statement. It is the handling charge on the money that really counts, not the paper, the stamp, and the time it takes to send it out.

Why not quit taking advantage of your merchants and professional men, and cooperate with them by paying your bills sooner, and thus help the financial rating of your trade area as well? By so doing, you are not only helping to keep your own credit good, but you are helping your merchant and your doctor to keep his credit good also.

Do not be over-sold on installment buying.

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