

AROUND THE FARM

BY DON COIN WALROD
County Extension Agent

Although Christmas is over there are still some Columbia county residents that are thinking about Christmas trees. They are the folks who make Christmas tree growing a part of their farm business.

At this time we have no idea how many Christmas trees might have been cut in Columbia county during the season just over. Oregon is estimated to harvest about one million of the 29 or 30 million trees that are cut annually over the United States. Columbia county would have a good-sized share of this million trees.

Most of the Christmas trees used over the nation are Douglas fir, but some of the other species such as the true firs command higher prices than the Douglas fir. Of the trees that remain unsold at the end of the season, many are of such poor quality that harvesting and shipping are wasteful in that the owner does not realize the full potential of his production. These trees could have been left in the woods and improved by pruning before cutting. This is being done as more and more of the trees harvested come from Christmas tree farms rather than being cut from timberlands.

Marcus Heckman, Warren, brings recognition to Columbia county as an important growing area in the Christmas tree industry by being elected first vice-president of a newly organized "Northwest Christmas Tree association." Also, George Nelson, St. Helens, is one of the trustees.

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AROUND HOME...

By Helen Sellie
Home Extension Agent

A happy, happy New Year to you and your family. Now is the time to draw up that long list of resolutions to "make us better than we are." Now—all we need to do is to keep those resolutions!

I have for the home extension units a brand new recipe for the coming year which is as follows: Take equal parts of desire for better homemaking and interest in making the community a better place in which to live. Mix them with enough sociability to make a light sponge and set away to rise.

When this has risen to about twice its original bulk, add some carefully picked officers, thoroughly washed in the waters of self-sacrifice and plentifully dredged with perseverance.

Take a whole heartful of enthusiasm and dilute it with a headful of common sense. When the alkali of the enthusiasm unites with the acid of the common sense, stir it quickly into the mixture. Then add your spices—pep, tact, zeal, zest—a generous dash of each, not forgetting a pinch of difference of opinion to give it a tang.

Now take a half dozen or more fresh project leaders, trained until they are ready to stand alone, and fold in lightly. Blend into four good demonstrations, plus a better dress workshop with a few extras for good measure.

Lastly, add your flavoring. Extracts of club exhibits, tours, community projects, homemakers festivals are good. Be sure to add a dash of special-interest meetings.

Now beat the whole up well with participation of all members; upon this, absolutely, success depends. When thoroughly beaten, pour into a large vessel of opportunity which has been previously well smeared with some help from home agents and specialists, to keep it from sticking. Bake in the warmth of friendliness, good humor and sincerity.

Be sure to very carefully drain off all pettiness, all fault-finding, all pretense or prejudice, all envy or jealousy. Test with a splint from the broom of experience.

Make an icing of covered-dish luncheons, holiday parties, and special celebrations, and spread generously over the top. Decorate the whole (when warm) with outdoor social gatherings, plentifully sprinkled with a goodly number of sugar-coated husbands and children.

This recipe will make an appetizing and satisfying feast for 18 to 50 people. To serve more people, double the recipe by sponsoring another group.

Holidays Bring Guests To Rock Creek Homes

RIVERVIEW — Mr. and Mrs. John Krinick spent Christmas with their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Gail Whitlock, at Rodeo, California. On their return trip they visited overnight with Mr. and Mrs. Jim Bond at Weott, California and also visited Mr. and Mrs. Chet Wojahn at Gold Beach and Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Briggs at Carlton.

Robert Olin of Seattle spent New Years at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Olin. Mrs. Marian Wantland, son David, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Wantland, Doris Wantland and Robert Kimball spent New Years day in Portland at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Hopkins.

Mr. and Mrs. Pat Wallace and children spent the holidays at the home of her parents, Mr and Mrs. W. S. Porter, at Port Ludlow, Washington. They returned home Sunday.

WEEKLY FOREST MARKET REPORT

Issued Weekly by Extension Department, OSC and USDA

Oregon State College — Saw-log prices at the end of 1953 were generally \$2 to \$5 a thousand below the start of the year. Prices have been steady to firm for the past several months, however.

Camp-run and No. 2 sawlogs ran from \$2 to \$5 a thousand less than last January. No. 3 sawlogs were as much as \$10 less, reflecting the weak market for low grade lumber. Peeler logs averaged about \$10 a thousand under a year ago, but strengthened somewhat at the end of the year. Poles and piling were down from 2 to 5 cents a lineal foot in an uncertain market. Hardwoods were unchanged to as much as \$5 lower. Demand for pulpwood was very narrow, but prices were generally unchanged. Minor forest products were unchanged.

SAWLOGS: Most open market mills in the Willamette Valley were closed for the holidays, but the log supply was hardly sufficient for the few which operated. No. 2 second-growth Douglas fir sawlogs ranged from \$30 to \$40 a thousand, mostly \$34 to \$38. No. 3's were \$25 to \$29. Long camp-run logs were mostly \$33 to \$38. Eight-foot logs were in good demand at \$15 to \$16.50 a cord or \$30 to \$38 a thousand.

POLES AND PILING: Demand was fair to good for 40 to 45-foot barkie poles at most Willamette Valley pole yards. Poles down to 30 feet were being taken in the Silverton-Salm area. Forty-five foot barkies ranged from 15 to 23 cents a lineal foot, depending on diameters. Some yards bought long piling.

OTHER FOREST PRODUCTS: Dry cascara bark was 12 cents a pound. Swordfern was 14 cents a bunch. Oregon grape roots at Portland were 10 cents a pound.

This report, based on information supplied by the State Board of Forestry and other sources, was prepared by F. H. Dahl, Extension Agricultural Economist.

ACP Offers Aid On Drain Work

Drainage in Columbia county is often limited by lack of suitable outlets according to County Agent Don Coin Walrod.

Technical and financial assistance is given for either construction or enlargement of permanent drainage ditches and structural work under the agricultural conservation program, says Walrod. However, no financial assistance is given for maintaining existing drainage systems or structures.

Financial assistance may include \$10 per acre for necessary land clearing; 12 cents per cubic yard for earth moved; \$6 per yard for rubble masonry; and \$7 per yard for concrete.

Prior approval is required as with all cost-sharing practices of the agricultural stabilization and conservation committee. Application should be made to Donald Greeves at the county office in St. Helens.

Unit Schedules Meet At Birkenfeld Home

The January meeting of the Mist-Nehalem home extension unit will be held at the home of Mrs. Lawrence Jepson in Birkenfeld on January 8 at 10:30 a.m. The lesson for the day will be "Making Belts, Buckles and Buttons," by Mary Ann Devine, and Phyllis Busch. Bring a sack lunch. Everyone is welcome. Mrs. Wayne Kyser of Mist will be the sitter again and the mothers should provide a sack lunch for their children.

The Philippines became independent on July 4, 1946.

Leaf Curl Spray Advised Soon

Peach growers and home orchardists are being reminded of the need to take advantage of breaks in the weather in January to apply fungicide sprays to control peach leaf curl. The fungus organism, which is almost always present on the branches of the trees, will enter the new buds as soon as there is any growth activity, indicates Don Coin Walrod, county extension agent. Consequently, sprays must be applied before there is any swelling of the buds if control is to be effective.

Thorough and full spray coverage of the entire tree is essential, advises Walrod. High spray pressures of 300 to 400 pounds are best. If rain should occur before the spray is dry, a second application should be made as soon as possible.

Complete instructions for mixing Bordeaux spray are available from the county extension office. For home gardeners, forbam can be used at the rate of one ounce to two gallons of water.

New Owners for Garage Named

BIRKENFELD — Mr. and Mrs. Fred Udey from Portland are the new owners of the Birkenfeld garage. They are well known in Birkenfeld, having been friends of the Bellinghams over 20 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Udey, Mrs. Guy Bellingham, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Bellingham and Mr. and Mrs. Don Jensen were in St. Helens Saturday on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Elliott called on Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Mills Saturday evening.

The Larson family gathered at the Francis Larson home for New Year's Day.

Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Mills joined members of their family in Portland New Years eve. They went dancing at Vancouver.

Kathryn Elliott spent the week end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Elliott.

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Itzen returned to Corvallis Monday. Gene is a student at OSC.

Mrs. Guy Bellingham and Mrs. Fred Udey took Anna Hanberg to Vernonia after her car last Wednesday.

Home Scene of Visits At Start of New Year

RIVERVIEW — New Years visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Huntley were: Mr. and Mrs. George Feil of Beaverton, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald McCool and children of Portland, Nate Huntley, Mrs. Mary Teel and son, Tom of McMinnville, Amos McLaughlin and son of Tacoma and Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Perry and family of Vernonia.

Mr. and Mrs. John Krinick visited Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Howell at Gales Creek Sunday. Sunday guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Hawkins were Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hayes and family of Gaston and Bert Hawkins.

Jimmy Szofoz left Sunday to continue his studies at the University of Oregon at Eugene.



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