

A tansy ragwort plant in full bloom was sent into the office by R. E. Keene, Wilark, for identification. Apparently the plant was one that was about to bloom when fall weather set it, but since the weather was not cold enough to kill the tops back, it went ahead making slow growth until it bloomed. Incidentally, this plant did not come from Columbia county, but was found on some land that was rented by Keene.

The appearance of a plant in bloom at this time of the year points out how persistent this weed can be. Nevertheless, we feel optimistic about the possibility of eliminating this stock-killer, or at least reducing it to the point that it is not a major problem. Much of the thanks for the progress made on this score must go to Earl Watson, Delena, and the other members of the weed control committee, and also to Bob Robinson, who has been county weed inspector for the past few years.

Recently we have heard or seen two or three reports indicating that Columbia county was one of the counties having ragweed, the heavy pollen producing weed that causes so much discomfort for the hay-fever sufferer. However, we have been unable to verify any of these reports, and at present it is our belief that we do not have this pest in Columbia county.

Market reporters and economists indicate on the average the American housewife paid about 2 per cent less for the items that she purchased from the grocery store during 1953 than in 1952. But even with the slightly lower prices, consumers (and we are all one) paid a higher food bill in 1953. This was because they ate more food, but also because they ate more expensive food, and perhaps more meals in restaurants.

Economists all seem to agree that for the past several years people in this country have been spending about 27 per cent of their spendable income for food. However, they also indicate that they have spent only 18 per cent of their spendable income for food had the housewife bought only the same kinds and same quantities of food as before the war.

Our eating habits are changing in that we are now eating more fruits and vegetables, eggs, dairy products, meats, fish, and poultry; and, we are eating less of the cereal products and less potatoes. Altogether each person ate about one per cent more in 1953 than in 1952, and estimates of those who have studied the subject show that we are eating about 12 per cent more food now than during the prewar years.

Earl Butz, Agricultural Economist of Purdue University has, along with many others, developed food costs in relation to the amount of effort required to pay for them. "In 1948 the American factory worker spent 6.4 minutes to get a pound of white bread. Today he spends 5.8 minutes. In 1948 he spent 40 minutes to get his pound of round steak. Today he gets it in 30 minutes. In 1948 he spent 25 minutes to get his pound of hamburger. Today he gets it in 20 minutes. In 1948 he spent 9.5 minutes to get a quart of milk delivered to his doorstep. Today he gets it in 8.0 minutes. Never before in the history of America was food so cheap in the terms of the human effort required to buy it."

Farmers received an average of 45 cents out of each dollar that consumers spent for farm food products in 1953. The remaining 55 per cent went to pay the marketing and processing charges after the products left the hands of the farmers. The share of the retail price received by farmers varies widely by commodities. For example the costs of transportation are high for some perishable fruits and vegetables that are often shipped long distances to market. In this instance the farmer averaged only 29 cents out of the consumer's dollar spent in 1953 for fruits and vegetables.

After observing that bear can do a lot of damage in second growth stands of Douglas fir, especially early in the year by pulling the bark loose near the base to get at the inner layers, George A. Nelson, St. Helens, decided to try to put a stop to it. After building a log-cabin type cage with a falling lid, George used a half hog head wired to the trigger as bait. In this way, George got to trap his bear and to shoot it also. George reported that the bear did considerable chewing on the inside of the walls during the two or three day interval between trap inspections, and if he had confined his chewing to one area he might have escaped. Now George indicates that he is preparing to eat the bear after having it smoked and cured.

The garnet sometimes is green, instead of the familiar red.

AROUND HOME...

By Helen Sellie
 Home Extension Agent

The preliminary meeting for the Better Dress Workshop will be held at the Rainier high school auditorium on Friday, February 5, starting at 10:30 in the morning and continuing through until 3:00 in the afternoon. Those attending are asked to bring along their sack lunches for the noon hour.

Janet Taylor, clothing specialist from the Oregon Extension Service will give the instruction on selection of material for the workshops.

Attendance at this meeting is required for those wishing to enroll in the Better Dress Workshops.

Better Dress Workshops scheduled for March unit meetings are receiving focus among extension members these days. Additional cotton dress workshops are being conducted by some of our project leaders so more of the members may be qualified for this advance training.

Our project leaders deserve much credit for the additional work, time and often times much patience which this involves. In addition to spending days receiving this training, they spend an equal amount of time and often much more in passing on this information to their neighbors.

Much of the success of well-made garments in our Better Dress Workshop depends upon a good sewing machine. The regular cleaning of this bit of home equipment helps assure better service.

Begin by cleaning out all lint and dust. An old tooth brush is good for this. Lint and dust will cause the machine to run heavy and sometimes prevent it from sewing properly. It will also put an undue strain on the motor of an electric machine.

After removing the lint and dust, oil the machine with oil made especially for sewing machines. Put one drop of oil in each bearing and oil hole. Never oil the tension. Run the machine with some waste cloth under the pressure foot to absorb excess oil from around the needle and feed works.

It is a good practice to oil your machine after each day's work or after eight to ten hours of use.

If your machine needs a more thorough cleaning than this, follow the instructions that came with the machine. If you have misplaced the instruction booklet, ask at our office for a copy of Sewing Machines—Cleaning and Adjusting, FB 1944.

Whether your home is new or old, simple pre-tested lighting recipes can show you exactly how to get all the light you need for all of your kitchen tasks.

Today's light conditioned kitchen includes light over the sink, over the range, and over at least one work counter to give just the light you need—where you need it.

Lesson Given At Unit Meet

"Making Buttons, Buckles, and Belts" was the theme of the lesson given at the regular meeting of the Mist-Nehalem home extension unit Friday, January 8, at the home of Mrs. Lawrence Jepson of Birkenfeld. Mrs. Fred Busch and Mrs. Clair Devine demonstrated the making of covered cord, then tying a chinese button from that. Belts and buckles from material were also shown.

A report from the research chairman, Mrs. Elvin Larson, on "Taking time to be a better citizen" was given. A discussion was held on the nameplates for the festival. Mrs. Joe Roeser was appointed for health and safety chairman.

A memorial service was held in memory of Mrs. J. E. Crawford by the reading of John 10-14 by Zella Bellingham and also a prayer for the family and friends.

The March meeting was filled at this meeting by the decision to have Mrs. Udey teach cake decoration.

The next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Howard Jones of Birkenfeld on salads and salad dressings by Mrs. E. E. Larson and Mrs. R. Garlock. The lesson will be in the morning and those attending will sample the salads for lunch.

WEEKLY FOREST MARKET REPORT

Issued Weekly by Extension Department, OSC and USDA

Oregon State College — Logs remained in short supply in western Oregon last week. Many mills were operating on limited schedules because of the shortage. Prices were unchanged.

SAWLOGS: No. 2 second-growth Douglas fir sawlogs at Willamette Valley mills ranged from \$30 to \$42 a thousand, mostly \$35 to \$40. No. 3's were \$25 to \$30. Long camp-run logs ranged from \$30 to \$40 a thousand, mostly \$33 to \$38. Short logs were \$2 to \$5 less. Eight-foot logs down to six-inch tops were \$15 to \$16.50 a cord, or \$30 to \$38 a thousand.

Old-growth Douglas fir sawlogs were \$40 to \$47.50 for No. 2's and \$25 to \$37.50 for No. 3's. Peeler logs sold over a wide range. Top prices were \$85, \$95, and \$110 a thousand.

POLES AND PILING: Demand was fair to good for 40 and 45-foot barkie poles at Willamette Valley pole yards. The volume of poles being brought in was small. Forty-five foot barkies ranged from 15 to 23 cents a lineal foot, depending on diameters.

PULPWOOD: Unpeeled hemlock, spruce, true firs, and Douglas fir for pulp were \$15 a cord at St. Helens. Cottonwood was \$23 to \$24 a thousand for 24 to 38 foot logs at Eugene and Lebanon.

HARDWOODS: Alder, ash and maple at Portland brought \$36 a thousand for 16-inch logs. Eleven-inch logs were \$34, and eight-inch logs were \$30. Top quality highland maple brought \$34 at Albany. Both alder and maple were \$29 a thousand in eight-foot lengths at Lebanon. Longer logs were \$30.

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

Today's work that is put off until tomorrow probably got the same treatment yesterday.

There's more hard work than luck in most success stories.

Convention of Stockmen Due

All livestock producers and their friends are invited to attend the 16th annual convention of the Western Oregon Livestock association being held in Salem, January 25-27, reports George Poysky, president of the Columbia County Livestock association.

The Western Oregon Livestock Association is made up of the thirteen county livestock associations of Western Oregon. Presidents of county associations serve as directors for the Western Oregon association and each member of a county association is also a member of the Western Oregon association.

Monday, January 25, will see the start of the convention at 10:30 a.m. Headquarters will be the Senator hotel. Monday's session will be general business with committee meetings in the afternoon. Quite a number of Columbia county stockmen have been assigned to committees, but the meetings are open to anyone interested. They are welcome to sit in with committees which include range and pasture, predatory animals and game, swine, livestock disease, and legislation.

The Tuesday and Wednesday programs will be given over to speakers and to committee reports. Governor Patterson will

speak at 11 a.m. on Tuesday. Miles Teneyck will give a demonstration on lamb cutting; there will be a panel on the major problems of the livestock industry with E. L. "Dad" Potter as moderator, a speaker on range and pasture management, and a talk on taxation by Art Johnson, Astoria. The annual banquet will be Tuesday evening.

Roads Given Attention During Bad Weather

MIST — Snow plows and sanders are busy during this weather.

Both Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Melis are sick. Mr. Melis is feeling a little better, but Mrs. Melis was taken to the Longview hospital Friday morning, where she still is. Mrs. Vern Fugerson from Kirkland, Washington, their daughter, is at the Melis home and also the granddaughter, Miss Joan Melis, from Seaside, helping with the chores and work.

Miss Margaret Dippold from Clatskanie was a recent visitor of the George Jones.

The Bert Eastmans were motorists to Clatskanie one day last week.



From where I sit ... by Joe Marsh

Open Even When He's Closed

Must have been daydreaming on my way to a meeting down in Centerville the other night. My car ran dry before I thought to look at the gas gauge, but I managed to coast into a gas station—and found it closed!

Well, I thought my plans were ruined for sure until I noticed a gasoline can with a sign: "This is emergency gas. Just help yourself and leave the can with \$1.00. Thanks."

Got started, made the meeting on time, and had enough gas to

get back home again—thanks to a trusting friend.

From where I sit, folks who trust their neighbors make the world a better place to live in. For instance, letting a friend express his personal preferences, is one way of trusting your neighbor. Sometimes I prefer a temperate glass of beer in the evening but I'll always ask what you'd like before I pour yours.

Joe Marsh

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