

AROUND THE FARM BY DON COIN WALROD County Extension Agent

Two ten-year-old girls, Opal Knoedler and Sherry Roediger, stole the show, in our opinion, at a recent community 4-H meeting for club members, leaders, parents and others interested held in Vernonia. These two girls did a most remarkable job of demonstrating the proper way to pack a lunch. Their dialogue covered the points to consider in selecting the ingredients while at the same time they were actually demonstrating the preparation and packing. Their poise and delivery were actually amazing.

Eleven of these community meetings have been scheduled by County Extension Agents Mrs. Helen Sellie Hazard and Harold Black. Club members of the community cooperate in putting on the program. We would recommend them as being worthwhile for any parent or boy or girl.

Fertilizers was one of the important topics of discussion at a recent meeting of the soil conservation committee of the Columbia county advisory council. Members of the committee, under the chairmanship of Jack Sather, Clatskanie, felt that farmers needed more information about fertilizers.

The field of commercial fertilizers is a big one of greater scope than could be covered at any one time here. Nitrogen is one of the essential plant foods that is often a factor in crop production in Oregon. Although the atmosphere contains about 80 per cent nitrogen, it is not available to plants. Certain bacteria are able to take nitrogen from the air and make it available for plant growth from decaying plant and animal tissues.

For many years the only known way of supplying nitrogen to the soil was through the use of legumes with their nitrogen-fixing bacteria and barnyard manures. Both methods are good and should continue to be used because they benefit the soil in some other ways also. Since there is never enough manure and other crops besides legumes are needed, commercial sources of nitrogen, as well as other fertilizers are being used at a constantly increasing rate.

Many different commercial fertilizers are available in this area such as ammonium sulfate, ammonium nitrate, urea, calcium ni-

trate, cyanamid, and the two very excellent ammonium phosphates, 16-20 and 11-48. Prices of these different fertilizers vary considerably as does the nitrogen content. And so you ask which one should I buy.

When buying anything we normally look to see how much we get for a dollar, and the same thing should be true for fertilizers. This can easily be done by determining the actual pounds of plant food elements in a ton of fertilizer material. Divide the cost per ton by this amount to determine the cost per pound of plant food. Then compare the different ones to find the best buy.

Using local price quotations on a ton basis, nitrogen of ammonium sulfate costs between 17 and 18 cents per pound. Nitrogen in ammonium nitrate, a high analysis fertilizer, costs about 14½ cents per pound. In calcium nitrate the nitrogen costs just over 20 cents per pound, and in cyanamid the cost runs over 22 cents per pound. Thus, ammonium nitrate is the best of those listed with ammonium sulfate being a close second.

Other factors should be considered in buying a fertilizer, such as the fact that the nitrate form of nitrogen is more subject to leaching than that of the ammonium form. If weather or irrigation conditions are such that this fertilizer might be leached, one of the ammonium forms would be the most desirable. Otherwise high analysis fertilizers are generally the best buy.

Farmers and researchers have noted that the ammo-phos (common abbreviation used for the ammonium phosphates) materials give better results on most crops than comparable amounts of straight nitrogen fertilizer or superphosphate. This is thought to be because the phosphate is more soluble and being tied to the ammonia is taken into the plant with it. In addition the 16-20 ammo-phos contains about 14 per cent sulfur which is beneficial to most of our soils.

For more information we would recommend Extension Bulletin 699 entitled "Nitrogen Fertilizers."

Political parties make a platform to fit the people and then alter a candidate to fit the platform.

Hearing Set for Fluid Milk Price

A public hearing to consider minimum price to be set for fluid milk in nine counties of Northwestern Oregon for the summer months will be held by the Oregon milk marketing administration March 1, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 36 of the state office building, Portland, according to notices published by W. S. Weidel, administrator.

The hearing is one of nine meetings to be held in as many marketing areas of the state at which opportunity will be given for milk producers, dealers and other interested citizens to express their opinions concerning minimum price schedules and other regulations designed to effect orderly market conditions in the fluid milk industry.

A policy adopted by the State board of agriculture, which administers the Oregon milk marketing act, requires that such hearings be held twice each year in order that market orders issued by the board can reflect changing economic conditions in each section of the state. The present series of hearings follows a similar set held last fall.

The Lower Willamette-Mid Columbia marketing area, familiarly known as "Zone 2" comprises Multnomah, Clackamas, Marion, Polk, Yamhill, Washington, Columbia, Hood River and Wasco counties.

Present prices for milk at the producer level in the area are \$3.16 per hundred pounds plus 76 cents a pound butterfat for milk used in the fluid trade in the marketing area. Wholesale and retail prices vary slightly according to location. Milk is sold to stores in Portland at 20 cents a quart for products containing 3.8% butterfat. The minimum retail price is 22 cents a quart for "standard" 3.8% milk. Prices of other products are graduated according to butterfat content.

84th Birth Date Remembered

ROCK CREEK — The Keasey extension unit met at the home of Mrs. Herb Counts February 10. Since the subject was "Salads and Salad Dressings," three of the members brought salads. The recreation period featured Valentine games. Those attending were Betty Brady, Rena Brady, Eda Parker, Edith McFarland, Mary Christensen, Hilda Keasey, May Krieger, Ella Martan, Necia DeWitt and Blanche DeWitt, besides five children.

Vivian Counts and Mary Christensen attended the Timber Route Extension unit since they had been unable to attend the project leaders training meeting.

Dad Bonnick celebrated his 84th birthday a day ahead of time with the women of the Keasey extension unit.

The Ted Keaseys have a new granddaughter. Mr. and Mrs. Philip Keasey have two daughters and a son now.

Margaret Bjornsen is at home convalescing after her recent operation.

The Smith homestead just west of the Chet Fugate place is finally being logged.

Relatives Meet to Observe Date of Birth

TREHARNE — Mr. and Mrs. Harry Weaver and family, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Reynolds and Kenneth, Mr. and Mrs. Don Reynolds and children, Mr. and Mrs. Lin Reynolds and boys and Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Reynolds were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Marvia Stephens Sunday at a birthday party in honor of their daughter, Sylvia.

Dairy Club Judges, Talks Summer Trips

The Maple Meadows Dairy club held its February 4-H meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Dimbat on February 7 with seven members and three visitors present. The members judged a group of Gurnsey cows and discussed making trips to Meadowland Dairy in Portland and the Tillamook cheese factory and to various county fairs as they open this summer.

At the next meeting the Winema calf club from Birkenfeld will be invited to attend a showing of slides by Harold Black who will come over from St. Helens.

Refreshments were served by Mrs. Dimbat, then the meeting was adjourned and the members watched TV. The next meeting will be held at Noran's March 7 at 7:30 p.m.

President Announces Association Meeting

Members of the Clatskanie Dairy Breeders association will hold their annual meeting Thursday, February 25, starting at 8:00 p.m. in the multi-purpose room of the Clatskanie union high school announces Shalmon Libel, Mist, president of the association.

A movie will be shown and refreshments served in addition to the regular business of the association. A representative of the Oregon Dairy Breeders association will be present for the meeting, says Libel. Membership certificates and capital stock certificates will be presented to those dairymen who have them coming.

All dairymen, whether members or not, are invited to attend this meeting.

No man needs both money and brains — if he has money the brains will soon look him up.

PHONE 853

NEHALEM VALLEY
MOTOR FREIGHT

Subject Studied At Unit Meeting

"Salads, and Salad Dressings" was the subject presented by Mrs. Bud Larson and Mrs. Ray Garlock at the regular meeting of the Mist-Nehalem home extension unit. The meeting was at the home of Mrs. Howard Jones, Birkenfeld, February 12. Instead of observing the usual custom of bringing the sack lunch, the members paid for the ingredients for the salads, then sampled the salads demonstrated, for lunch.

After lunch, the business meeting was called with 21 answering the roll. Two new members were added: Mrs. Donald Jensen and Mrs. Delmer Jepson. In the absence of the world citizenship chairman, Mrs. Norman Hanson read the high points of interest in an article from the Reader's Digest on An American in Mexico, marrying into an old Mexican family, traditions and ideas. Mrs. Bill Wilson announced the 4-H community day for the Mist gym March 1. The unit will sell refreshments for the kitchen fund.

A sample plate for the festival was presented and accepted and a memorial service was held in memory of Emma Melis. Bible passages and prayer were given by Mrs. Guy Bellingham.

The next meeting will be with Mrs. Buddie Larson of Birken-

feld March 12 and Mrs. Thomas Dyer will substitute as sitter for the day. The subject will be cake decorating by Mrs. Udey. She asks those attending to bring either a cake or a pie tin to work on and decorating tips.

Opportunity is what opens the door for you, but it takes hard work to stay on the inside.

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