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AROUND THE FARM County Extension Agent BY DON COIN WALROD Many silos about the county are being opened now as dairymen and stockmen begin digging

into their "canned pasture" to

fresh supply.

take the place of the diminishing sidewalks, trees and other orna-Some of the folks who have used the black polyethylene plastic as a cover with varying degrees of success." Dick Rchards is well pleased with the results he has had this year on the Joe Fisher farm at Scappeose. Others have not always found it so successful, but the method of application may have something to do with this. Dick used a covering of straw over the plastic to hold it tight.

It is possible that the plastic can do two things. It can protect the silage from rain, re- , that we can and should be enjoyducing the amount of water that ing. Included are azaleas, cagoes into it, resulting in some loss even though the cattle will still eat the silage. Since silage fermentation takes place in the absence of oxygen, a tight fitting cover that excludes the air helps reduce some fermentaton losses and particularly those on the surface where some spoilage almost always occurs.

Plastic can serve some other jobs around the farm very nicely, too. Bruce Berndt, Vernonia, 13 using it for machinery cover, and he has also made a very satisfactory cattle shelter against one side of a bunker silo with it, using sawdust on the ground. Special metal rings and a small rubber ball 'serve as a especially designed fastener for the plastie in such cases.

Spring planting of nursery stock is still a month or so away; but now is a good time to plan just what is gong to be needed, how many and where they will be planted.

Ornamental trees are somewhat of a problem to many people. The larger, rapid growng trees have no place on the average city lot. They give us trou-

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Calcium Grit Is Beneficial | ble with debris in the gutters, increase fungus growth on the roof, shut off view and cause considerable damage to cement

mentals. Many of the smaller ornamentrench or bunker type silos have tals can be used quite successfully. Some of these are flower ing crab apples, plums, dogwood, mountain ash, mimosa or silk tree, hawthorne, sunburst locust, magnolias, pin oak and scarlet oaks. It is important that there is enough room for them to make a good root system for a healthy growth. Narrow parkings are not good places for trees. Generally, trees should not be planted closer than 12-15 feet to the house.

> Here in Western Oregon, there are many beautiful ornamentals mellias, andromeda, daphne, skimmia, and acuba. There are a great many more. Most of these shrubs like an acid soil so they should not be planted nearer than 3 or 4 feet to brick or cement work. Acid forming fertlizers are best when feeding them.

Our nation's Christmas tree operation is now in full swing. This multi-million dollar industry is an important one to many of our states, particularly those along the Canadian border. All of these border states harvest more Christmas trees than they use except for North Dakota.

Two-thirds or about 28 mllion of the trees we use annually are grown in the U.S., the remaining 12 million are produced in Canada. Oregon, like a number of other states, will harvest more trees in the future when some of the plantings made in recent years, are ready for harvest.

In 1955, about 87 per cent of the domestic trees were cut from woodland and pastureland, and only 13 per cent were culturel trees harvested from Christmastree plantations. From what figures are available, the number of trees coming from plantations has been increasing since 1955. It is these plantation trees that bring premium prices, as such trees are the ones with real qual-

The 1957 production of Christmas trees in the Northwest amounted to 2.7 million trees. About 1.8 million of these came | math county, followed closely by om Washington and 0.9 million Josephine county.

Research workers have found that insoluble grit improved feed conversion, growth, and egg production when fed to chickens receiving a mash and scratch raions as compared to birds re ceiving calcium grit, and no grit, says County Extension Agent Don Coin Walrod. They have fed in-

soluble grit and calcium grit compared to no grit in the rations of chickens and turkeys. The chief function of the gizzard is to grind food. Grit aids the gizzard in this function by providing hard surfaces between which the particles of feed may be crushed. Grit remains in the

gizzard until it has been reduced

to such a size that it no longer can assist in the grinding process. Neither calcium grit nor crushed oyster shells seem suitable to the dual purpose of supplying calcium and hard grit, as evidenced by their ability to improve growth, feed conversion, or egg production. Chickens may over-eat calcium grit in an effort to get enough hard grit in the

gizzard. Most authorities agree that when a mash and scratch system is used there is a definite advantage in using insoluble grit. However, when all-mash systems are used, grit is less important. Many times the added advantages of using grit for all mash rations doesn't warrant the added expense of the grit. However, says Walrod, it would seem that in order to get the best growth, feed conversion, and egg production, poultrymen should supply grit to their chickens from the time they are a week old, whether they are receiving an all-mash diet or a mash scratch ration.

were from Oregon. A Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station report says that "three-fourths of the Washington trees were cut from private nonfarm lands, mostly owned by specialized Christmas tree companies or other forest industries. Oregon had a higher proportion than Washington of trees coming from farmers and from public

lands. The Oregon county producing the most trees in 1957 was Kla-

Historical Cartoon Series Depicting Lives of 52 Pioneers to Start

Historical cartoons depicting in the history of Oregon since 1859 will be sent to all the newspapers of the state for use in the

The plan was announced by Tom Vaughan, director of the Oregon Historical society and a member of the centennial commission with responsibility for the committee on history.

The cartoons have been prepared under the direction of the Oregon centennial commission's advisory committee on history, of which Malcolm Clark is chair-

The 52 persons were chosen by vote of the committee. The text explaining their activities also was written by the committee, which is made up of historians, history teachers and persons otherwise qualified in Northwest history. Members are from all parts of the state.

More Jug Dairies **Noted In Oregon**

A continual movement to "jug dairies" is apparent among produce distributors in Oregon, Kenneth Carl, assistant chief in charge of the department of agriculture's foods and dairies division told a conference of department workers in Salem last

In 1956 there were 36 '.jug' producer distributors selling grade "B" milk; in 1957, 51; and November, 1958, shows a total of 82 with two additional sources seeking licenses. Grade "A" dairies totaled 73 in

1956; 80 in 1957; and by November, 1958, reached 84, the department reported. Under the fluid milk act, grades "A" and "B" are destined for human consumption. Carl cited several reasons for

the trend to jug dairies: 1, small, often part-time farms produce milk as a supplementary interest; 2. producers are not able to find milk outlets that bring a satisfactory return; 3. consumers are looking for a cheaper sources of milk; 4. families who like to drive out to the country to pick up products.

Artist for the cartoons is Roy the lives of 52 persons prominent | Paul Nelson, assistant professor of journalism at the University of Oregon.

Among the people to be de-John Whiteaker, first state governor of Oregon, who was in office from 1859 to 1861; Pete French, eastern Oregon cattle king; Sen. Edward D. Baker, a friend of Abraham Lincoln who lost his life in the civil war; Dr. Bethena Owens-Adair, who was married at 14, divorced at 19 and became the first woman doctor in the west; Dr. William Keil, founder of the Aurora colony, and Robert . D. Hume, "king of the Rogue" river, an early sal-

Bond Sales Up In November

mon canner.

County savings bonds sales for November totaled \$48,050 as compared to \$18,461 for November of last year according to figures released this week.

Sales in the state for the month amounted to \$2,974,403. A year-ago they totaled \$2,285,129.

Sales of E and H savings bonds for the first 11 months of 1958 were \$34,064,109 throughout the state as compared with \$34,256,-353 for the first 11 months of

"Each citizen who saves by the purchase of United States savings bonds adds to his city's 'good business insurance', " the county chairman said.

"He is helping to keep his country strong and at the same time is providing for his own future security."

Club Elects Officers

At the meeting of the Vernonia Gern and Fossil club held Friday evening at the West Oregon Electric meeting room, Mrs. Albert Schalock was re-elected as president. Others who will serve with her for 1959 are Harry Sandon, vice-president and Mrs. Verne Dusenberry, secretary.

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