

AROUND THE FARM

By DON COIN WALROD
County Extension Agent

Oregon's agricultural progress through research reflects in high degree acceptance of the idea that farming is more than a way of life, but a way of business.

Today's farmer must be a businessman, chemist, machinist, economist and husbandman along with other skills needed for most efficient production and marketing of crops and animals. He is generally eager for research findings that can improve his position in a highly competitive business.

Adoption of Oregon State University agricultural experiment station research findings has had tremendous impact upon the state's economy. Oregon's agricultural production has increased in dollar value greatly in the past 20 years even though the number of acres in farms is about the same.

The experiment station is the research unit of OSU in the areas of agriculture, forestry, fisheries, wildlife, home economics and related sciences. Research problems are as many and as varied as in any state in the nation. Well over 100 major crops are produced commercially in Oregon.

Much of the agricultural progress of Oregon is the direct result of improved crop varieties, higher yields through use of fertilizers, animals that make more efficient use of better feeds, and other research findings.

The foundation of Oregon's agricultural research program was laid on July 2, 1888, with the appointment of Edgar E. Grimm as agriculturist and first station director. In August of that year, E. R. Lake was named horticulturist and botanist and Dr. P. H. Irish was hired as chemist.

Congress had launched the nation upon a program of agricultural research on March 2, 1887, by passage of the Hatch Act appropriating \$15,000 a year to each of the state land-grant colleges, in this case Oregon State. The Hatch Act was passed to "aid in acquiring and diffusing among the people of the United States useful and practical information on subjects connected with agriculture."

During this 74-year period, the staff has grown from two part-time scientists to over 200 agricultural scientists now serving under F. E. Price, dean and director of agriculture.

Grimm organized the station's activities under three departments: agriculture, chemistry and horticulture and botany. Director Price's organization lists 18 research departments at the central station at Corvallis and 13 branch experiment stations scattered throughout the state.

The dividends from the investment taxpayers have made in this research program have shown corresponding growth. So spectacular have been the returns from the investments made in agricultural research that the job of the agricultural scientists has been described as that of "planting tax dollars and making them grow," points out R. W. Henderson, assistant station director.

The site of the first field experiment station was the lower campus area of Corvallis. Over the years, additional experimental farms containing several thousand acres have been added. Research

laboratories are scattered across the campus.

The objectives of the agricultural experiment station, once simply stated as "to secure facts which will be effective in answering questions or solving problems confronting agriculture," have become more complex. Now research is aimed at the following objectives:

Conservation and efficient use of the state's natural resources including forests, soil, water, fish and wildlife.

Increasing efficiency of production of agricultural commodities and forest products.

Improving the processing, distribution and marketing of agricultural and forest products.

Testing and developing new crops and new uses for old crops as a means of reducing crop surpluses.

Collecting and analyzing basic information needed in development of comprehensive agricultural programs and policies.

To assist the homemakers of the state through research pertaining to the physical and mental well-being of the family.

Board Urges Care of Food

The advent of summer and its higher temperatures brought a warning today from the Oregon State Board of Health.

The board asked picnickers especially to be aware of the problem of transmitting food infections or poisonings. Even though the Oregon State Board of Health receives hundreds of food poisoning reports a year, hundreds more are apparently unreported.

Those who become afflicted suffer from a gastrointestinal upset and in some cases may become seriously ill. Symptoms generally include abdominal pain, cramps, diarrhea, and vomiting.

Most people are aware that such foods as cream pastries and ham can cause food infection or poisoning if improperly handled, but they fail to realize that many other products, such as potato salad, rice cakes, and poultry also can be dangerous if not properly refrigerated.

These poisonings most often are caused by contamination of the food with bacteria known as "staph." A person preparing or handling the food may have an insignificant scratch or nick on the hand which continues to let out the germs even after careful washing. The bacteria are deposited in the food where they multiply and produce a toxin which causes the food poisoning. Refrigeration inhibits the growth of bacteria and the development of toxin, but it will begin again when the food warms up. Thus, if a meal is prepared tonight, refrigerated until morning, then put in your hot car until you're ready to eat it in the afternoon, an attack of food poisoning could well follow.

The three best ways to prevent food poisoning or infection are: 1) keep everything coming in contact with food as clean as possible; 2) do not handle food with bare hands if you have even a small skin infection; and 3) keep hot foods hot and cold foods cold from the time of preparation to the time of serving.

Vernonia Eagle

6 THURSDAY, JULY 5, 1962

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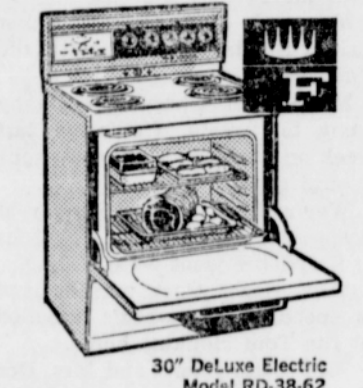
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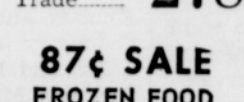
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Armstrong Budgetone vinyl floor covering. Square **\$1.29** Yard

Congoleum vinyl Floor-cast floor covering. Square **\$1.59** Yard

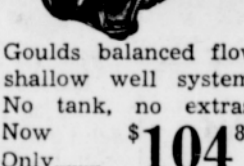
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Pages From Our Past

By Kenneth L. Holmes, writer historian

FIREBALLS — TODAY AND LONG AGO

During a baseball game between the Vancouver Mounties and the Portland Beavers on May 29th at Vancouver, B.C., the game was disrupted by the sudden appearance of a giant fireball soaring through the sky from north to south. The spectacle was so frightening that baseball players, umpires and sports writers went scurrying for the dugouts. After the startling interlude the game was resumed. The brilliant greenish fireball with "a white tail" was seen in British Columbia, Washington and Idaho. If any of you readers observed it, you might drop us a line describing the sight as it appeared to you and also the direction of its movement. Also tell if there was a trailing streamer of smoke. Or you might like to send the information right to Phil F. Brogan, Northwest Director, American Meteor Society, Phil Brogan is the editor of the Bend Bulletin, Bend, Oregon. The American Meteor Society keeps track of all phenomena having to do with meteors. If the flying object hit the ground anywhere, the observations of those who saw it are often of value in finding the meteorite. The meteor is called a meteorite once it hits the ground. The pioneer explorers and settlers sometimes saw and recorded the observation of such a fireball. We have found two very distinct such cases in our studies: One of these was seen on May 31, 1841, by the crew of one of the

ships of the famous Wilkes expedition just after they sailed out of Puget Sound heading south along the Washington shoreline. One of the men aboard, Joseph G. Clark, described the sighting of the fireball in a book of reminiscences: "Lights and Shadows of Sailor Life," published in Boston in 1848. He wrote of it thus:

"At ten minutes past 8 o'clock, on the 31st, a meteor of immense magnitude and brilliancy shot across the heavens in a north-west direction, illuminating the heavens to such an extent that there was a resemblance to a shout of fire till it nearly reached the horizon, when it exploded, sending off myriads of coruscations in every direction. When it first commenced its flight, it was exceedingly slow, but as it increased its distance towards the horizon, it increased its velocity considerably, until it burst. Many old seamen on board never witnessed a meteor half so large, nor one whose light remained so long visible. From the time it was first seen until it disappeared, was one hour and twenty-five minutes."

Another dramatic sighting of a fireball was made by the members of the so-called "Great Migration of 1843," the huge wagon train that brought so many of the well-known pioneers to the Pacific Northwest. The man who founded my own home town of McMinnville, William T. Newby, noted the event with ingenious spelling in his diary for August 4, 1834. The diary was published in the Oregon

Little People Attend The Little World's Fair

BIRKENFELD — Shirley Berg went in to Portland Saturday. She attended a meeting of the little people Sunday. Later the group went to the Little World's Fair at Damascus.

Mrs. Lawrence Johnston and children visited with Mrs. Fred Larson Friday afternoon.

The Gene Larsons have moved over to Birkenfeld for a couple of months. They are living in a trailer house.

Several people gathered at the Francis Nordstrom home last Thursday evening to help Mrs. Nordstrom celebrate her birthday. Those there were Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Art Bellingham, Mr. and Mrs. George Richardson and Elsa Richardson.

Historical Quarterly in September, 1939: "There was a very curious explosion at noon: first there was some thing past over us in the element like a bawl of fier, then followed it a lon gstreak of blew smoke in a zig zag form about 2 hundred yards long. Then followed it a very tremendous report as if it had been large guns firing."

Another member of the wagon train, James W. Nesmith, also noted in his diary for that day, "About 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon we heard a loud, sharp report of a piece of heavy artillery. After the first report, there was a loud rumbling sound overhead."

In later years Newby told a newspaper reporter that what they saw and heard "was probably a meteor."

Mrs. Garlock and Guests Attend Fair At Seattle

MIST — Mr. and Mrs. R. Saxton of San Diego, Calif. visited the Ray Garlocks from Tuesday until Sunday. Wednesday and Thursday Mr. and Mrs. Saxton and Mrs. Garlock were at Seattle and enjoyed the fair.

Saturday evening, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Garlock called on his folks and all enjoyed musical numbers by Mr. Saxton and he also showed some pictures that were interesting.

Eight of the Bible school helpers took about 56 children to the zoo a week ago Saturday. All enjoyed the trip and Packy was the main attraction.

The helpers at the Bible school all went on a clam digging expedition Saturday.

Family From Gresham Moves To Tenth Street

RIVERVIEW — Mr. and Mrs. Albert Stockam and two girls have moved from Gresham to the Robert Bates place on 10th street. Janet, the year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Marlyn Eide, underwent surgery Tuesday at the Tuality hospital.

Michael and Margaret McDonald of Portland are vacationing at the home of their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. L. G. West.

Other recent visitors at the Wests are Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Diamond, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Dinnerbeck and Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Combs of Portland and Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Hillyer of Brightwood.

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