

# AROUND THE FARM

By Don Coin Walrod



Columbia county folks are prominent in state activities in many ways, but being modest folks not a great deal is said about it. No doubt there are many that we don't know about, and knowing full well that there will be omissions, we would like to call attention to the activities of some of these folks.

Harold Davis, Clatskanie, is currently president of the Oregon State Fur Breeders association while Cecil Huff, Vernonia, heads up the Oregon Broiler Growers association and Mrs. Huff is a member of the Oregon Fryer Commission.

Carl Brandenfels, St. Helens, is president of the Oregon Holly Growers association, and Elmer Peterson of the Columbia county side of Sauvie Island is president of the Oregon Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Last month Peterson was appointed to a four-year term on the State Soil and Water Conservation committee by Governor Hatfield.

Mrs. Kent Magruder, Clatskanie, is currently a member of the Oregon 4-H Foundation. A few years ago Kent Magruder was president of the Oregon Cattlemen's association, and several years ago John W. Whipple was president of the Oregon Essential Oil Growers League.

Perhaps the matter of shade for livestock isn't as important for Western Oregon folks as it is in Eastern Oregon and other parts of the nation. However, there are times when dairy, beef, and hog producers would be justified in making some provisions for the comfort of their animals.

Actually more than just animal comfort is involved. Research work indicates that steers on feed in dry-lot will gain from a quarter to a third pound more per day if shade is provided during the summer months. Such shade devices for cattle need to be at least eight feet off the ground for air circulation. Because of its reflective qualities, aluminum is one of the best type of shade roofing materials.

In much of Western Oregon good advantage can be made of natural cover provided by a small grove of trees for cattle and livestock on pasture. To be convinced of the need for shade for livestock, one need only observe them closely on a hot summer day.

Dry plowing following the harvest of an early maturing crop is an effective way of controlling persistent creeping grasses such as quackgrass and bluegrasses. This is only one of several methods of control, but tillage is one of the more practical methods when these creeping grasses infest large areas.

The most common procedure is to dry plow with a moldboard plow, exposing the root systems of the plant to the drying actions of the wind and sun. After regrowth of the grassy plants starts, the area should be cross-harrowed with a springtooth type implement. Such cultivations should be repeated for the remainder of the summer as often as the green growth occurs.

The tilled area can be early fall planted to cereals, silage crops, or crimson clover for seed in the adapted areas. Following harvest the second year, the field should be replowed and cultivation continued if needed.

Rototilling can be substituted for moldboard plowing. However, more summer tillage is needed when rototiller type machines are used.

Chemical herbicide treatments are effective for grassy plant control, but their use is usually limited to small acreages since they are apt to be more expensive than tillage. In some cases there may be some merit to using a combination chemical and tillage control program for the reduction of grassy weeds.

Columbia county's Astoria bentgrass seed fields were inspected for certification late last week. Apparently the acreage to be harvested is down slightly this year, but for the most part the fields show promise of an excellent crop.

Fields were pollinating when certification inspectors were making their rounds last Thursday. With the season somewhat late at this point, it is expected that harvest will begin sometime after August 1.

Passing field inspection is only the first step in the qualifications of certified seed. After harvest a

representative sample of the seed from each lot must meet rigid standards for purity and germination as well as be free from certain noxious weeds. All of these steps are aimed at giving the ultimate consumer a high grade seed of known quality. After all, what home-owner can look at seed that contains 5 to 8 million seeds per pound and know what he is getting from his money?

Someone remembered recently that savings bonds used to pay less interest than they do today. So the question came up as to whether it wouldn't be smart to cash in the old ones and buy the 3 1/2 percent bonds now on sale. So that led to a little investigation.

The truth of the matter is that no series E bond still being held is paying less than 3 1/2 percent when held to maturity — and most of the old ones are paying more. As we understand it, here is the way it works.

The interest is based on a sliding, upward scale. Also, old bonds were increased at the same time that the new rate went into effect in 1959. So — any E bond you might own will draw at least 3 1/2 percent to its next maturity. Many will earn a rate of four percent or higher.

If you'd like to check this yourself, ask your banker to let you see his copy of the "Table of Investment Yields". The rate of any E bond is shown on this one-page table.

Over the years many alfalfa varieties, as well as other forage species, have been tested for adaptability here in Columbia county. Because plant breeders are actively developing improved varieties to meet conditions of some particular area, we need to constantly watch for varieties that will better meet our own conditions.

A variety test planting was made this spring at the Ron Hein farm, Scappoose, using 29 different varieties of alfalfa. DuPuits is still the best of the alfalfas for this area and consequently we will be comparing all others with it.

Many things besides yield need to be considered. Although DuPuits works out well under our conditions, we would like to see something with better longevity and disease resistance. No one would object to still greater yields, we're sure.

In a recent visit Ron Hein noted that a newly planted field of alfalfa showed response from manure applied in one small portion of the field. Ron was interested in this since the field had been limed and fertilized prior to planting, and ordinarily alfalfa is not expected to respond to manuring.

The manure Ron applied may have made a more favorable climate for the rhizobia, the nitrogen fixing bacteria that lives in a symbiotic relationship with the alfalfa supplying the nitrogen for its needs. Or it may be that the manure supplied minor elements in a greater amount than the young plants could obtain from the newly limed and fertilized field.

Research continues to improve on the herbicides available to do specific jobs. Tordon, one of the latest developments, is not currently on the market but is expected to be available in the next few weeks.

All of the uses of this material are not known at this time, but there is no doubt that Canada thistle will be one of the more important weeds it will control. Last year plots were put on late in the season and still gave very good control. Both one and two pounds per acre gave complete kill with no regrowth on a plot near the Borlin dairy farm near Deer Island.

On the farm of the late Nick Thomas, Goble, excellent control of wild morning glory was achieved with a September spraying. Without question, better control would result from an earlier application.

To find out more information about the use of such materials, considerable work needs to be done. Trial plots have already been located along highway 30 near Warren and the road to the Longview bridge.

The current hunter's catch report of the Fish and Wildlife Service shows that County Trapper Bob Walker caught 30 opossum for the month ending the last of April. We've felt for some time that there would come a day when we started getting complaints about damage done by this intruder into the northwest. The time has arrived.

This spring we've had several re-

ports of losses of young chicks, as well as apparent raids into yards that are being blamed on the opossum. Time will tell how serious this is to become.

Reports of nutria predations into gardens are starting to come in also. From our understanding of this animal this sort of problem could really become serious. How much so will depend somewhat upon how well suited our climate is to the needs of this South American emigrant.

A number of county landowners in the Clatskanie area are making use of ASCS cost-sharing provisions to institute control measures against tussock rush and tansy ragwort. Both offer heavy competition to pasture species and the latter is poisonous to cattle and horses.

Undertaking to do this spray work

are Mrs. Edna Johnson, Kent Magruder and Jim Luxford. Aerial spraying is generally less costly than ground applications. In addition, the rapidity of the operation takes advantage of the best weather conditions for such work.

Herbicides of the 2, 4-D type are the basis for control.

Fly control programs need to start early, and the first step is to clean up all manure and remove debris that might serve as breeding sites.

Fly sprays are usually quite effective when used in conjunction with a sanitation program. Spraying of both livestock and premises is necessary for the most effective control.

Caution must be used in selecting the right spray material to avoid contamination, says Walrod. Specific recommendations for individual sit-

uations can be secured from extension agents.

An unusual number of requests for information about the consequences of grazing pastures that have been sprayed with 2, 4-D have come into the office in the past few weeks.

Over the years a great deal of information about 2, 4-D and 2,4,5-T has been collected, and while these materials have been cleared for weed control uses in pastures, it is generally advisable to allow a little time interval between the application of sprays and the actual grazing.

While these hormone sprays certainly are not poisonous in themselves, they cause internal changes in the plant. It is possible that some of these chemical alterations in the plant could be harmful to the animal.

In other instances, spraying with herbicides may make certain plants palatable whereas they would not ordinarily be eaten.

Generally we have no problem with regard to 2,4-D sprays, but it always pays to exercise caution.

For the past year or so, thibenzole has been doing a most satisfactory job of controlling internal parasites in sheep and goats. During this period, stockmen owners have been impatient to use the material with cattle but such use was not approved.

The food and drug administration and the USDA have now cleared thibenzole for oral use with cattle for the control of roundworms.

"Any boy who brings home a bad report card will tell you a little learning is a dangerous thing."



## "THANKS A MILLION, FRIENDS"

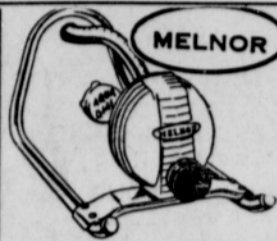
Our Grand Opening last week was a huge success - you made it a success when you dropped into our store to visit and shop. Because of the large crowd we couldn't give you the kind of attention you'll get the next time you drop in - but for stopping in during our Grand Opening, we are saying again: "Thanks a Million, Friends."

Signed,  
DAVE & BERT BRUNSMAN

### HERE ARE JUST A FEW OF THIS WEEK'S APPRECIATION SPECIALS FROM OUR 11 BIG DEPARTMENTS

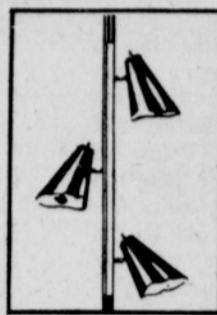


9/16" x 60' LAWN HOSE \$3.33  
Nickel plated, maximum volume coupling. 8 yr. guarantee. (HE0219-5)

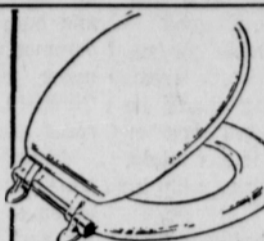


MELNOR Oscillating LAWN SPRINKLER \$5.95  
Water rectangular areas up to 1500 sq. ft. Perma-sealed motor. (HE014055)

3 Light Black and Brass POLE LAMP



Regularly \$9.95 \$5.77  
Modern pole lamp with three black bullet lamps and gleaming brass pole. Adjustable to fit average size rooms. (FN0602-4)



White CLOSET SEAT AND COVER Regularly \$3.98 \$1.99

Heavy sprayed enamel finish on molded hardwood. 1 1/2 inch seat, long wearing solid plastic hinge. (PE0120-5)



Ironing Board PAD AND COVER SET with FREE Door Hanger! Reg. \$1.89 \$0.99

Silicone treated cover, dura-foam pad. Fits all standard 54 inch ironing boards. To clean wipe with damp cloth. With FREE OVER THE DOOR HANGER. (WA0623-3)

#### Visit Our Upstairs For Fine Furniture

Regularly \$5.25 \$3.87 5 FOOT SIZE Regularly \$6.25 \$4.97 6 FOOT SIZE



Housemaster STEP LADDERS

These ladders are specially designed for strength, rigidity, and have pail shelf, lock back slots and truss blocked steps! Easily stored when folded flat. (GY0152-3-GY0162-1)



Men's & Ladies' COMMANDER BICYCLE \$34.99  
Reg. \$41.99

\*CHROME RIMS!  
\*CHROME FENDERS!  
\*WHITEWALL TIRES!  
\*MEN: FLAMBOYANT RED!  
\*LADIES: BLUE!  
(SX0452-2-0455-9)



"Mastercraft" Size D FLASHLIGHT BATTERIES SALE 2 FOR 15¢ 8 FOR 59¢



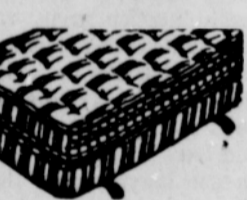
13 Foot Roll 1/4 In. FRICTION TAPE 9¢ Per Roll  
A high voltage resisting tape with strong adhesive qualities. (EB0076-6)



Heavy Duty Rubber ELECTRIC PLUG CAP Regularly 10¢ 7¢ EACH  
Replace old plugs with these sturdy rubber caps. Brass blades with good spring action. (EB0417-4)



Metalcraft 7-Pc. Dinette Set. Reg. \$79.95 \$69.95 - Only

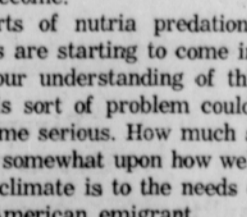


SIMMONS Slumber King Inner Spring Mattress and Box Springs \$49.95 Price, each Beauty Rest Inner Spring Mattress and Box Springs, Each \$79.50

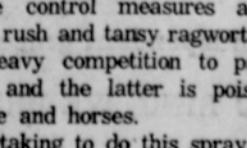


Big 52 Gallon Silver Seal Electric WATER HEATER \$54.88

P.O. Co. Furnace, Oregon Fully Insulated 5th Floor Built Sintering Thousands of 3 Year Service Element! Castro glass lined model. Hot water instantly. 10 year warranty.



GARBAGE CANS 20-Gallon Now Only \$2.44 31-Gallon Now Only \$3.88



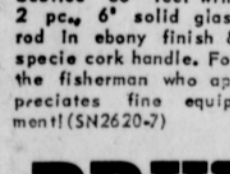
Scottie "66" reel with 2 pc., 6' solid glass rod in ebony finish & spool cork handle. For the fisherman who appreciates fine equipment! (SN2620-7) \$8.88



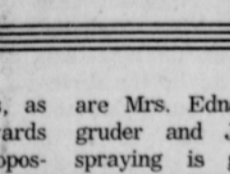
Armstrong Budgetone vinyl floor covering. Square \$1.28 Yard \$1.58



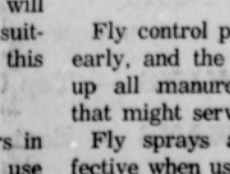
Congoleum vinyl Forecast floor covering. Square \$1.58 Yard \$1.75



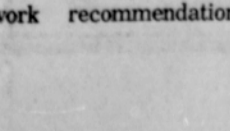
SPRAY PAINT Rea \$1.19 77¢



UL approved motor, swing-out split. Crank-type grid adjuster. Metal handle, rubber tired wheels. Aqua. (SE6425-5) \$10.99



Biltwell Sofa Bed and Rocker Set \$179.95



Batteries - Group 1 15 Mo. Guar. \$8.99 Exchange

## BRUNSMAN Hardware & Elec.

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