

# AROUND THE FARM

By Don Coin Walrod



Only about eight percent of Oregon's wheat growers, covering about 30 percent of the allotted acreage, had signed up to participate in the 1965 wheat program at the end of last week. The deadline for sign-up of fall wheat is October 2.

The 1965 program is voluntary, but to qualify for diversion payments and certificates in addition to price support loans, fall wheat growers must declare their intentions to participate at this time. Growers making a fall sign-up will have an opportunity to revise their intention in the spring. Full details are available from the county ASCS office, St. Helens.

Vaccination of dairy heifers for brucellosis has been a recommended practice when done between the ages of four and eight months. Now the national brucellosis committee is recommending that emphasis be put on the four-month age since calves vaccinated at this age develop as great an immunity as do those vaccinated at an older age, and they do not retain a vaccinal titer as to the calves vaccinated at later dates.

The committee is also recommending that research be conducted to determine if an earlier age could be employed for vaccinating. Certainly the job is easier to do on younger animals.

Brucellosis eradication from all states of the nation is the goal of this national committee. Besides a loss to producers of cattle, swine, and goats, the disease is a public health hazard with nearly 400 cases reported last year.

Utah recently scored as the first western state to achieve complete eradication of brucellosis. The state was also the first of the beef producing group to reach the ultimate goal. In so doing, she joins New Hampshire, Maine, and Rhode Island on the brucellosis-free roll.

Utah's battle with brucellosis began in 1934 when testing revealed infection in 35.5 percent of the state's herds and 9.14 percent of its cattle. To achieve its certified brucellosis-free status, all herds were proved free of the disease by on-the-farm testing, or through adequate screening of market cattle, or by milk-ring testing.

Brucellosis has now been eradicated from 295 counties in 20 states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. National goals are to reduce the incidence of the disease to one percent in all counties by 1965 and to establish a brucellosis-free nation by 1975. Columbia county reached the less-than-one-percent level more than a year ago, but the problem is not solved in that reactor still turn up, and one county herd currently is on the quarantined list.

A small group of Columbia county folks participated in a pot-luck dinner and a field day at the John Jacob Astor Branch Experiment Station at Astoria recently. Visitors were shown some of the forage work on the station, along with the new equipment for hay handling, and part of the registered Gurnsey herd by Superintendent Don Claypool.

Visitors from Columbia county included Mr. and Mrs. Russel Carver, Mr. and Mrs. Eino Lammi, Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Olson, and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Spragu, all of Clatskanie. Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Lloyd, Deer Island, and your writer and family took part. Clatsop dairymen and livestock producers sponsor the field day jointly with station personnel.

The extremely popular Oregon State University Extension Service bulletin, "Trees to Know" is out of print but is being prepared for reprinting. Extension Forestry Specialist Charlie Ross, bulletin author, indicates the new issue will have two pages devoted to Oregon's big trees.

Currently, it appears that the largest tree in Oregon today is a Sitka spruce on Crown Zellerbach land near Seaside. The tree is 15.9 feet in diameter at breast height and 195 feet high. The largest Douglas fir in Oregon appears to be one growing in the Oregon Caves National Monument and, strangely, at 4000 feet elevation. This old fir is 12.3 feet d.b.h. and 182 feet high. Published reports list the tallest Douglas fir ever found in Oregon as a 295 foot tree had once grew in the Siuslaw National Forest near Pawn.

A most interesting story in the National Geographic Magazine for July

1964, tells of a newly found group of tall redwoods in Humboldt county, California. The tallest one of the group is also the tallest tree in the world, at 367 feet. The California redwood findings have aroused new interest in tall trees and, according to Thornton T. Munger, retired USFS Experiment station director who lives in Portland, have revived old rumors of a 385 foot Douglas-fir that once grew in the Northwest. Authentic records of this reputed skyscraper do not exist, and Munger questions if there was a fir of such height. A rumor dies hard when everyone wishes it were fact.

## State Director Tells TB Facts

Again everyone is urged to take advantage of the opportunity to have a chest x-ray when the mobile unit makes its semi-annual visit to Columbia county, on October 28, 19 and 30.

Some of the hard facts about tuberculosis are stated by Ambrose S. Churchill, M.D., Oregon's state tuberculosis control director. He points out that more than one new case of tuberculosis occurred every day of 1963. One death occurred almost every week, thus elevating the mortality rate over that of 1962, and provided further evidence that tuberculosis is the most serious communicable disease in Oregon. Although the state and city of Portland showed a decrease in the number of newly reported cases for 1963, 18 counties, including Columbia, showed an increase of from one to 11 new cases. Tuberculosis is a contagious disease that respects no age, creed or color. From an economic standpoint, it is costing Oregonians over \$4,000.00 per day for hospitalization alone. In addition, there is the cost of medical care outside the hospital, loss of income, and other costs which represent a staggering loss to the state.

According to Dr. Churchill, Oregon's physicians and public health personnel are doing an excellent job of diagnosing and treating cases of tuberculosis, examining contacts of new cases and providing follow-up of old cases. It is through this concerted effort of case finding, that the prevalence of infectious cases of tuberculosis in Oregon have been steadily reduced.

In order to stamp out tuberculosis and promote better health, all persons are urged to have periodic physical examinations, including an annual chest film.

## Fire Safety Is Urged by Agent

Fire is the deadliest killer in the home. More people, age 1 to 64, die from fires and burns than from any other home accident cause, points out Margaret Allyn, Columbia county extension agent.

Estimates by the National Fire Protection association show that fire killed 11,800 Americans in 1963; 6,500 of these died in their own home. Of this 2,300 were children.

During National Fire Prevention Week, October 4-10, fire departments throughout the nation were paying particular attention to acquainting people with hazards that cause home fires.

More than 1,500 American homes will be struck by fire today and every day, causing nearly \$1,000,000 worth of damage.

There are various reasons for this annual toll, but people still cause most fires. The best time to fight fire is before it starts.

Some of the major causes in home fires are: faulty heating equipment, defective or overloaded wiring; smoking and matches, spontaneous ignition, and flammable liquids.

There are ways to guard your home and family from the ever present danger of fire. Every family should plan at least two escape routes leading directly from each room in the house, to be used in case of fire. Rehearse them with the entire family until even younger children know exactly what to do. Plan to use garage and porch roofs, ladders, and even tree tops to escape from upper floors. Keep a flashlight handy.

We have heard of people who attempt to explain the universe, when they really do not understand a simple blade of grass.

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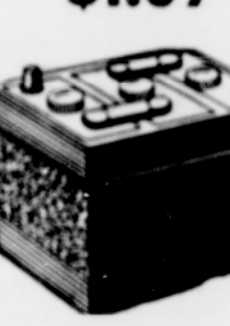
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### REAL ESTATE BROKERS COMMISSION

Mr. A. listed his house for sale with B, a real estate broker, giving B an exclusive listing on the property for 60 days. The listing contract provided that B would be entitled to a six percent commission on the sale price when B produced a buyer who was ready, willing and able to purchase the property.

B advertised the property for sale. Mr. C answered B's ad and was taken to the house by B. C liked the house and had cash and was able to pay the \$20,000 purchase price that A was asking.

The day after the broker showed C the house, C came back and asked A how long it would be before the exclusive listing with B would end. A told C the listing would expire in a week. C then said that he would buy the house as soon as the listing expired if A would reduce the price by \$600, or half of the amount of the 1200 commission that A would save by selling the house after the listing expired. A agreed to sell on those terms.

After the listing expired, A sold the house to C for \$19,400 and told B nothing about it. Later B found out about the sale and sued A for the six percent commission.

Do you think B can win the suit for his commission?

The answer is that B can collect his commission. He earned it when he produced C, who was ready, willing and able to buy A's house. A and C could not cheat B of his commission merely by waiting until the listing on the house expired. The court would require A to pay B the commission, and the fact that A reduced the purchase price by half of the amount of the commission would not change the result.

(Oregon lawyers offer this column as a public service. No person should apply or interpret any law without the aid of an attorney who is completely advised of the facts involved. Even a slight variance in facts may change the application of the law.)

When Regina divorced Rex, the divorce decree provided that Rex would pay his former wife \$200 a month as alimony for her continuing support for life. During the next year Rex deducted from his income the amount he paid Regina as alimony, paying no income tax on that part of his income which he paid over as alimony. Regina, however, did not list the alimony payments as income to her, believing that since the \$200 monthly was paid for her support, it was not taxable to her.

She told the internal revenue service that in her opinion Rex had to pay the income tax on the \$200 a month she received, as he had earned it all and it came from his income to start with.

Do you believe her contention is correct?

Unfortunately for Regina, she was wrong in her interpretation of the income tax laws. Under the law Rex was entitled to deduct from his gross income the alimony payments he made to his former wife under the decree of divorce.

Regina, however, is liable for the payment of the income tax of all of the alimony she received. She had full control over the income she received by way of alimony, and could spend it in any way she wanted.

Whether alimony or support money is taxable to the former husband or to the former wife is governed by the language and the provisions of the divorce decree, not by the belief of one party or the other that the other party should be required to pay the taxes on alimony.

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## Electric Wire Plan Needed

To have good electrical wiring, when planning a new home or remodeling, it must be planned that way, says Margaret Allyn, Columbia county extension agent.

The modern appliances you have been wanting need their full share of electricity in order to be true time savers. Enough circuits, plenty of outlets, and the right size wiring are essential.

The "Six Foot Rule" is a good guide in locating convenient outlets in living, dining and sleeping areas. No point along the floorline of an unbroken wall should be more than six feet from a double outlet.

The "Four Foot Rule" applies to the kitchen and workshop. Outlets should be no more than four feet apart above all working counters and benches. In addition, a separate outlet is needed for the refrigerator.

In hallways, porches or patio, follow the "Fifteen Foot Rule" for spacing outlets. Outdoor outlets must be weather-proof. Remember to include one at the front entrance.

Some special purpose outlets should also be installed. These might be range, clothes dryer and wall clock.

Important to safety in the home, control switches should be located so that you do not risk stairs in the dark or collide with furniture before being able to turn on lights.

## Letter to the Editor - - -

November 1

The Editor  
Vernonia Eagle  
Vernonia, Oregon

To the Editor:

I want to express my thanks for the fine coverage my race for Congress by Vernonia Eagle.

If I may, also I would like to say a heartfelt thanks to all your readers who worked in the half and who voted for me.

Sincerely yours,  
Blaine Whipple



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