

OREGON THE PARADISE OF NIMRODS AND ANGLERS

Game, Furred and Feather, Abounds in the State--Best Deer Shooting in Country Here--Bear Still Plentiful and Elk Are Not Rare.

By A. J. Winters.

IF THERE is such a thing as a sportsman's paradise still remaining in the United States, it is to be found in the Pacific Northwest. There is no other section of the country that is so thickly populated with such a variety of game as the three states of Oregon, Washington and Idaho. The sportsman will find an abundance of small game and of some fish in all parts of these three states, and in the counties not yet thickly settled bear, mountain lions, deer, etc., abound. Remote from settlements a great many elk are still to be found.

Of feathered game there is such a variety that it is hardly possible to enumerate, and one can only give a general idea of what is to be found throughout this domain. We have an abundance of ducks and geese, as well as swans and jacksnipe. The wild fowl most abundant are the teal, mallard, widgeon, sprig and wood ducks. Along the coast and in certain other localities, canvasbacks, red heads and bluebills are numerous. In fact, wood ducks, teal, mallard and sprig very often nest in Oregon. Along the Columbia River and Willamette Slough these ducks breed, and by September 1 there are thousands of them large enough to make good shooting, although they are somewhat unsophisticated. I presume, however, that in the Klamath Lake country, of Southern Oregon, there are more wild fowl hatched than in all the sloughs of this part of the state or Washington combined. In the Klamath Lake country swans, geese and pelicans, besides ducks, abound.

Of upland birds we have an abundance. Chinese pheasants, quail, prairie chickens are common, and in the more sparsely settled sections of Oregon we find what we call native pheasants and blue grouse. Of these upland birds the Chinese pheasant in Oregon, at least in the western part of the state, is the most abundant, although the quail of Southern Oregon and the prairie chicken of Eastern Oregon and Washington run them a close second. The Chinese pheasant, in the western part of Oregon and Washington, is becoming more plentiful year by year, and consequently the shooting on Puget Sound is now almost as good as the Willamette Valley. There are more native pheasants and blue grouse in Eastern Washington and Oregon than west of the Cascades. It is asserted by some sportsmen that the Chinese pheasant has a penchant for killing the young of the native varieties. Personally, my preference is for shooting quail, and I believe that there is no sport that can equal the quail shooting that is to be had in the vicinity of Medford, in Southern Oregon.

No state in the Union now has the deer shooting that the State of Oregon enjoys, particularly in the southern part of the state. The counties of Coos, Curry, Douglas and Josephine, venture to say, have more deer than any other four counties in this continent. These deer, however, are mostly the blacktail varieties. Directly east, over the Cascades, near Prineville, the large muledeer abounds. In Southeastern Oregon there are big herds of antelope, but, on account of the fact that it is very far from railroads, the antelope are not hunted to any great extent. Most of the deer in the State of Washington are blacktails, and the best shooting is to be found on the slopes of the Cascades.

Elk are found in the mountain districts of all three states. I presume there are more elk in the Bitter Root Mountains of Idaho than in either of the States of Oregon and Washington, although it is conceded that a herd of 25 elk ranges south of Astoria and north of Nehalem, in the vicinity of Saddle Mountain, in Oregon. There are also good-sized bands of elk in the Siletta country, as well as on the Coos and Coquille Rivers, on the headwaters of the Willamette and McKenzie Rivers of Oregon and in the Olympic and Cascade Ranges in the State of Washington. Mountain goats in plenty are to be found above the timber line in the Cascades north of Mount St. Helens, in the State of Washington, while a little farther north, between Lake Chelan and the British line, there are mountain sheep in large numbers.

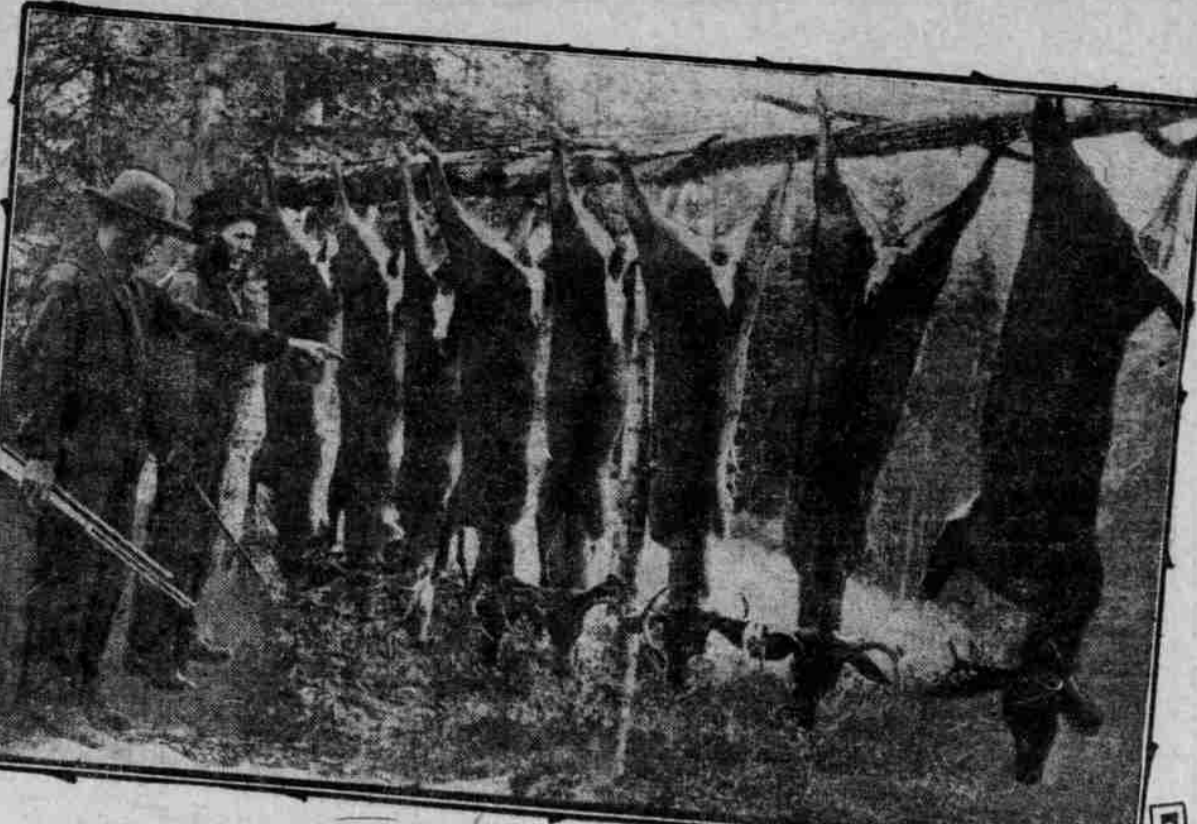
The common grizzly bear is very numerous in the Oregon country, and there are a few brown bear. They are the same species, except that they are different in color. The grizzly bear in this territory is practically exterminated, with the possible exception of a portion of Idaho tributary to the Yellowstone Park. At least no grizzlies have been killed in this state for a number of years, nor have any been seen. The California grizzly bear of pioneer days is practically exterminated. This bear was once numerous in the southern part of this state.

The elk hunting in the Bitter Root Mountains is the best. In fact, elk can now be hunted over a term of years in both Oregon and Washington. The elk shown in the photograph on this page was killed in the Bitter Root country two years ago. Naturally, while hunting in the States of Oregon and Washington would not be photographed.

So far as mountain scenery is concerned, I believe that the States of Oregon and Washington have anything in this country "beaten to death." I am sure this is the case when it comes to grans. I noticed this particularly on a recent trip through the northern part of the State of Colorado. To one who has been used to hunting in the Cascades and the Blue Mountains Colorado does not look inviting. The hills look too dry and barren. The little town of Rifle, on the Denver & Rio Grande road, is a famous starting point for hunting trips, but if the hunting country looks anything like that around Rifle, it must be very tame compared with the country we have here. I have hunted and fished all over the States of Oregon and Washington and a portion of Idaho, and have seen no country more rugged and grand than is to be found in the Coast Mountains, near John Mule Creek, in Southern Oregon. In fact, I have never been in any more rugged country than



HUNTERS TREALED BY A WOUNDED BEAR--NO FAKE ABOUT THIS



THE REWARD OF THE SOUTHERN OREGON HUNTER



CHINOOK SALMON CAUGHT IN LINPQUA RIVER



THE END OF THE ELK HUNT



OFF FOR THE HUNTING GROUNDS



THE END OF THE ELK HUNT

BEST OF CLIMATES IS OREGON'S BOAST

No Place on Earth So Greatly Blessed Says Government Expert--Rainfall Seasonal and Summers Delightful--Reasons Explained by Scientist--Southern Coast Counties of Beaver State Enjoy Perpetual Spring

By Edward A. Beals, District Forecaster, Local Weather Bureau.

HERE is probably no section of the world having a more delightful climate for the round year than Oregon. Its prominent characteristics are the absence of thunder storms, the coolness of the summer nights and the rarity of cold waves in winter. These features are general everywhere, and they add much to the salubrity of the climate, which statistics show to be one of the most healthy in the United States. In the matter of rainfall there is a wide divergence in the extreme, and one can find localities where the annual rainfall is over 100 inches or where it is less than eight inches, with intermediate gradations to suit the taste of the most fastidious. Another attribute of Oregon is its seasonal character, as nearly three-fourths of the total annual amount falls during the months of November, December, January, February and March.

The reasons for the great variation in rainfall are three-fold: First, the proximity of the state to the Pacific Ocean,

which supplies the moisture; second, the prevailing winds, which carry the moisture inland; and third, the mountain ranges, which act as condensers. There are three great mountain systems in the state, and the heaviest rainfall occurs on their windward slopes and the least in the valleys to the leeward of the different systems. The first range parallels the coast and the heaviest rainfall is to be found on its western slope, where it varies from 126 inches in the northern portion to about 70 inches in the southern portion. The next range is known as the Cascades, and it runs north and south at an average distance of a little over 100 miles from the coast. This is the highest range, and several of its peaks are snow-capped during the entire year. Over the western slope of the Cascades, the rainfall averages 50 inches in the north and about 40 inches in the south. The third system is known as the Blue Mountains, and they lie for the most part in the northeast portion of the state. The rainfall on their western slopes averages a little over 20 inches annually. It is on the windward slopes of these several ranges of mountains that the vast forests of Oregon are to be found, although the eastern slopes of the first two ranges are also heavily timbered.

The broad valley between the Coast and the Cascade Mountains is well watered by numerous streams, and the rainfall is abundant, but not more than is needed for vegetation. The climate of this section corresponds much with that of many parts of England, and the rainfall ranges between 45 inches in the north to about 20 inches in the south. Portland, the largest

city in the state, is situated at the northern end of this valley, and a record of the rainfall has been carefully kept in that city for the last 35 years, and it averaged in that time 45.10 inches. The district between the Coast and the Blue Mountains is, for the most part, a high plateau where the rainfall averages less than 15 inches, but, notwithstanding the scanty fall, large quantities of wheat are raised in the northern portion of this district, and it is said that wheat could be raised equally as well in many other localities but it is not done owing to the lack of transportation facilities.

This section, for some reason not as yet fully explained, has a secondary maximum of rainfall in the Spring, which falls just at the time that it is most needed and which is nearly always sufficient to carry the crops through to maturity. The lack of rain during July and August is in some ways beneficial, as harvesting operations can be conducted with perfect safety and there is no fear of the grain crops being damaged by too rank a growth or by wet weather after being cut.

If one wishes to find a climate that is neither too hot nor too cold, and also one where the changes from day to day are small, it is to be found in the western third of the state. At Newport, on the coast and about 100 miles south of the Columbia River, the mean winter temperature is 45 degrees and the mean summer temperature is 57 degrees, with a difference of only 12 degrees between the temperatures of summer and those of winter. At Portland the average winter temperature is 43 degrees and the average summer temperature is 55 degrees, neither of which extend beyond the extreme of temperate weather. In the central and sub-

arid portion of the state the temperature is not so equable and the winter mean is as low as 30 degrees, but the summer mean averages only 90 degrees, which is largely due to the cool nights, as the days as a rule are quite warm.

Mean temperatures, however, do not convey a very clear idea of the conditions to be met with from day to day, and a better understanding can be obtained if the mean of the maximum and the mean of the minimum temperatures are available. I will therefore take representative stations in all three districts for the months of January and July and give the mean maximum and the minimum temperature at each of them, which will show the average coolness of the nights and the average heat in the daytime.

Along the coast a representative station is Newport, and the January mean minimum temperature is 38 degrees and the mean maximum 52 degrees. For July at this station the mean minimum temperature is 45 degrees and the mean maximum 62 degrees. In the district between the coast and Cascade Mountains, Portland, although at the northern end of the valley, is a representative station, and the January mean minimum temperature is 34 degrees and the mean maximum temperature is only 44 degrees, while in July the mean minimum temperature is 36 degrees and the mean maximum temperature is 78 degrees. In the central plateau region Silver Lake is centrally located and its January mean minimum temperature is 17 degrees, and for the same month the mean maximum temperature is 40 degrees. In July at this station the mean minimum temperature is 30 degrees and the mean maximum temperature is 55 degrees.

These figures substantiate the statement made regarding the coolness of the nights in all parts of the state, which in July averages 45 degrees, 55 degrees and 59 degrees, respectively. In the three principal districts, the extreme low mean of the minimum temperatures in July at Silver Lake is largely due to the altitude of the station, which is about 4500 feet above sea level. The barrier presented by the Rocky Mountains is the primary reason for the fewness of the cold waves in winter, as it is seldom that the cold from Alberta and Saskatchewan drains into the country west of the Rocky Mountains, and it is the absence of rain in summer that makes the state so free from the destructive effects of thunder storms.

Lordly Salmon, Noble Trout, Gamy Bass, and Many Other Fish Attract Eager Disciples of Isaak Walton to Beaver State.

By Nev Churchman, President Oregon Fish and Game Association.

IT IS the natural right of man to hunt and fish, but in nearly all of the older states of the Union he has nothing left but his legal rights, surrounded by the particular laws of the community in which he desires to fish and hunt, further abridged by created land and water estates and rights, mills and chemical works of various kinds, until fishing is but a mockery of that ancient sport.

Then, with the fever still in his veins, he looks with longing eyes to virgin fields, and now rises before him soon to be enchanted vision the glorious State of Oregon, with more streams and more different kinds, tribes and species of trout and salmon than were ever dreamed in the old Isaak Walton's philosophy.

Within the state are from 35 to 40 different varieties of trout and charr, according to different authorities, with some eight or ten distinct species, all interbreeding, or crossing within their distinct classes, taking habits and colors from their surroundings, so that it is impossible for any ichthyologist to distinctly classify them all.

If you are a newcomer to the state and have the fishing germ in your blood, you can battle with the glorious steelhead and silver salmon from Sixes River and its tributaries on the south, to the Columbia River and its various tributaries on the north; or from the Necanicum on the west to the McKenzie and its branches on the east, and fight red sides, Dolly Varden, cut-throat and charr of various kinds, until with wondering eyes and grateful heart you marvel how as a sportsman you could have missed for so many years such a paradise for sportsmen.

Perhaps it is an exaggeration, but some Oregon anglers swear to it, that here some of the fish are so old that they wear eyeglasses and are so "game" that they will occasionally help the fisherman by pushing or shouldering the captive fish toward the shore, thus making more room for overcrowded waters.

In fishing within the state and keeping strictly within the game laws, the fisherman can find sport with strictly game fish all the year around. In side waters tributary to the Columbia and Willamette he can find the salmon trout up to two and one-half pounds in weight, and silver sides and pink spotted, bull-nosed, Dolly Varden, plink from 5 to 5 pounds in weight, from September 1 to April 1. Then come the various species of brook trout. With spoon fishing at Willamette Falls at different stages of the river from May till July.

From the first warm days in May, you may catch the broad-shouldered, pot-bellied black bass, with a freight warehouse for a mouth, and eyes that since his introduction into the state have expanded from viewing the glorious scenery till they fairly twinkle as he snaps the seductive minnow. The cool bass glows the older fisherman with the rheumatic wags a digit with the heart-breaking climbs and wades that pursuit of the brookie with the fly lure has come to Oregon, ye fisherman, and once feel to Oregon, ye six-pound bass with good tackle, or a 15-pound salmon on a spoon hook, and you will be constantly revising the Eastern States out of their preserves, either for hunting or fishing, to John D. and his fellow-plutocrats. They will intrude you no more, once having tasted the joys of Oregon.

For the rear guard of the angling host, a practice ground for the recruits, where the various fresh-water sloughs and lakes, where the timid angler with cane pole and worms will find the yellow and black catfish, introduced from the Delaware River in Pennsylvania. They did not introduce the best variety--the white catfish, probably because politicians and not fish experts generally receive appointments as palace-car fish distributors for the Government. Properly cleaned and fried, all the catfish are considered mighty good eating where no better fish abound.

Still milder fishing is the little German carp, with the markings of a beer glass on his side; and last of all, sans fight, but sans bones, is the sucker that the Eastern sportsman with his half-holiday caught and sold to the family on Fridays for a shilling "dozen," to make pocket money--a job in the economy of nature greedily devoured for want of better varieties.

If you are dyspeptic, if your books won't balance, if your engine won't steam, or your clothes don't fit, if your liver is on a strike, leaning up against your backbone with a plug hat on, and you live in Oregon, get out and fish, and your troubles will surely disappear.

Diverse Fruit Products.

Fruits grown in Oregon are known in all metropolitan markets in this country, and because of their excellence are meeting with an increasing demand. The estimated value of all fruits produced in the state last year is \$2,975,000. Apples lead in this with a value of \$1,250,000. Other fruits included as follows: Peas, \$276,250; pears, \$113,400; cherries, \$113,400; grapes, \$75,000; strawberries, \$258,000; all other fruits, \$125,000. The average acreage is constantly being extended, and more acre is being taken in the culture, including compulsory spraying to avoid fruit pests.

Hop Industry Is Important.

Oregon's hop crops are bountiful and of quality excellent. Both soil and climate are well adapted for this product, and large breweries within the state afford a ready market, while Oregon hops are much in demand outside the state. There were 30,000 acres set out in hops last year, producing 168,475 bales. This crop has a value of \$2,487,250. The picking of hops affords both employment and recreation to thousands of people each year. Last year the average price paid was 50 cents a box of nine bushels.

Mineral Wealth of Oregon

ALTHOUGH still little known east of the Rocky Mountains as a mining state, Oregon for many years has been a large producer of gold, and at the present time is undergoing the greatest mining development in its history. Huge veins of low-grade gold quartz, inexhaustible deposits of copper and valuable ledges of silver and lead ore that heretofore, owing to lack of railroad transportation, have been neglected, are now attracting the attention of capitalists, and scores of dividend paying mines are now being worked in all parts of the state.

It is the belief of such men as the Guggenheims, the smelter kings, that Oregon's copper deposits alone will make this one of the great mining states of the country, and they are backing their judgment with their dollars.

The first mining was done in Oregon about 57 years ago, immediately after the discovery of gold in California, the same precious metal having been found in Southern Oregon first and later in every part of the state except the northwest. These placer mines, since 1850, have yielded many millions of dollars, the total gold output of the state since that year being estimated at \$20,000,000. Last year it is estimated the gold yield was 12,000 ounces, valued at about \$24,000.

Oregon has, in the Cascade Range less than 100 miles from Portland, one of the few producing quicksilver mines in the United States and cobalt, nickel, platinum, bismuth and other comparatively rare metals are found in considerable quantities.

Coal deposits of almost incredible extent exist in Oregon, but are still undeveloped, though for more than 40 years coal has been mined on Coos Bay for shipment to San Francisco. The greatest coal deposits are in the vicinity of this harbor. Most of the coal so far found in the state is lignite, but well adapted for ordinary use. Most of the steamers in the coasting trade between San Francisco and Portland burn it.

Free Trip to Pacific Coast.

The Portland Commercial Club offers \$1000 cash for articles on Portland, Oregon, and this part of the United States--50 prizes. Many sufficient to pay all expenses for the trip. Write for particulars.