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GAME LICENSE FEES

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Now that the Legislative Interim Committee has filed its report and recommendations, following study of the state's fish and game management activities and policies, we can expect plenty of fireworks.

The Committee recommends, with but few minor changes, code revisions suggested by Dr. Ira Gabrielson, internationally known conservationist, who was employed as consultant. The Committee is not unanimous in its report and some minority opinions on various details will be filed. The Committee members are all sportsmen, and we have yet to find any two sportsmen who can agree fully on any matter of wildlife or wildlife management. Consequently some differences of opinion were only to be expected, and, in fact, probably will have some benefit in promoting more complete study by the Legislature when it reaches the task of revising the game code.

One of the chief issues of disagreement doubtless will be in connection with recommendations for transfer of game law enforcement from the State Police to a force of Game Protectors under direct control of the Game Commission. Another will be in regard to the proposal to increase fees from \$3 for hunting and angling licenses to \$7 each, and combination licenses from \$5 to \$12.50 each, together with substantial boosts in non-resident license fees.

Hunters and anglers, we anticipate, will voice long and loud protests to the proposed license boost.

A hunter or angler will think nothing of spending from \$100 to \$200 on a vacation trip, and many will buy liquid refreshments costing considerably more than the proposed annual license fee for single trips. But, while the license is but a small fraction of the vacation cost, it is only human nature to object to taxes and licenses.

Reserving to ourselves the privilege of every sportsman to object to any proposal made by any other individual or group of individuals, we have a gripe against the proposed license schedule. We recognize the need for more money for our game management program—the Commission says it needs \$3,000,000 annually or twice what it is now receiving. The proposed license schedule is planned to raise that amount of money. Personally, we don't think it will work. We can see danger of increased poaching and a large drop in the number of licenses sold. One theory is that fewer licenses will decrease hunting and fishing pressure, but we believe the pressure, because of more poaching, will remain about as at present, unless we have an army of enforcement officers, which would eat up the additional income from licenses.

We also believe the license schedule, as proposed, to be unfair to many people.

Some anglers, for instance, use a license only two or three times during the year. Some fish only for trout. Others fish for trout and salmon.

Some hunters buy a license only that they may carry a target rifle and shoot pests and predators. Others may hunt pheasants only. Some confine their shooting to waterfowl. Most hunters, of course, hunt deer. A few seek elk. Some will hunt everything.

Our theory is that anglers and hunters should pay in proportion to the recreation they enjoy. The fellow who uses a gun only to keep his farm free from pests shouldn't be required to pay as much money as the man who hunts through all the seasons for big game and birds. Nor should the angler, who buys a license only to do a little trout fishing while taking the family out for a weekend, pay as much as the angler who devotes days and weeks to trout and salmon fishing.

We would suggest that the original license fee be kept low and that permits or tags be issued for each of the various types of fish or game.

We don't have at hand current figures on exact numbers of hunting and angling licenses. But let's say that we have 110,000 persons who take out hunting licenses and that they were charged \$3 for a license or a total of \$330,000. We will, for sake of argument and in no attempt to be exact with our figures, assume that 100,000 hunters go into the woods after deer (we believe the figures for the last season were around 112,000) and that they paid \$5 for a deer tag. That would raise \$500,000. Then if 25,000 went elk hunting and were charged \$10 for an elk tag, the revenue would be \$250,000. Let's say we put on a \$1 charge for hunting upland birds and that 50,000 hunters bought tags, we would have another \$50,000. And if the same number hunted waterfowl at \$2 per tag, we would have \$100,000 from that source. Angling licenses number around 250,000. If they were at \$3 each the revenue would be \$750,000. Assume that 125,000 went salmon fishing and each paid \$3 for a salmon license, that would be another \$375,000. Altogether, based on these estimates, total revenue would be around \$2,350,000. Add non-resident licenses and the few other sources of income, such as special seasons, charges for use of public shooting grounds, etc., and we would easily top the \$3,000,000 sought by the Game Commission.

We believe, too, that non-resident licenses should be kept low in price, to encourage more people to stop in Oregon rather than by-passing the state. But revenue in excess of that produced by higher non-resident license fees could be obtained through use of the trophy tax system, which Canada and some of our states are finding so profitable.

Half a cup of hot milk and a teaspoon of salt will be sufficient to add to a pound of potatoes that have been boiled, peeled and mashed. Beat the mashed pota-

Building Up a Lot of Pressure



Scissors from the MENDING BASKET

By Viannett S. Martin

Greeting cards are so attractive; one wishes to derive more enjoyment from them than just looking them over a few times.

So after trying various ways we hit upon the method that has given each member of the family equal pleasure, and has made each greeting an individual one to be remembered separately.

As they come we pin them on a three-fold screen (a piece of cardboard covered with paper would do just as well, of course) and we place the screen at meal times so that we can look at the gay cards as we talk about the ones who sent them.

Now the Man of the House, and the boys when they were at home, notes the "new ones" as they come, reads the several messages, and then the cards go up on the screen. It really is worth trying—unless you have a still better way to share with us? What do you do with yours to add extra enjoyment?

When time comes to put away holiday things the cards come down and go in a box until around Thanksgiving, when they go to a school for little folks to use in Christmas "busy work." At one time I sent ours to a children's hospital; the nurses like to have fresh, blank scrapbooks, too, and the dime-store Kinder-

In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

from the presidency. It is immediately denied in Nanking (the capital).

A MESSAGE FROM HONG KONG SAYS THE RUMOR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN STARTED BY SPECULATORS WHO WANTED TO BUY GOLD AT A CHEAPER PRICE.

As a matter of fact, responsible correspondents say, the rumor DID cause the price of gold to drop and speculators DID buy at the lower price.

THIS is the point: When things get so bad that speculators start selling their country short, in order to make a quick profit, the will to fight is gone. When the will to fight is gone, not much is left to fight with—or for.

It looks like the end of one regime and the beginning of another—which has happened often in China. Through it all, down through the centuries, the MASSES OF CHINA have gone on more or less unchanged.

IN Berlin, the British-licensed Socialist newspaper *Telegraf* (we must remember that in Germany the Socialists are anti-Communist) says the "people's police" in Eastern Germany (the Russian part) are being retrained secretly by the Russians. It adds that even the women are undergoing mili-

tary training. The "people's police," the *Telegraf* says, is really an ARMY designed to fight for Communism.

Moscow, of course, wants ALL of Germany. The drift of this Berlin story is that if the Russians can't have all of it, they are going to TAKE half of it.

ON the domestic front, there are rumors of a renewed political war. A Washington dispatch says: "The threat of power shortages this winter sets the stage here for a battle of kilowatts in the next Congress. It may rival in fury the public-private power fight over Muscle Shoals after World War I."

"The big question is: Should the government invest new billions in dams and transmission lines or should the job be left to private capital?"

SPEAKING realistically, it seems likely that THE GOVERNMENT WILL DO THE JOB. Back in the high, wide and handsome days of the 20s (which ended in the smash of 1929) the big power people got too hungry for quick and easy profits. Too many mergers were aimed at stock profits rather than actual development. There was insull and his paper empire. Too many little outfits were sold at low prices and recapitalized at big prices.

It was another story of too much power in too few hands too long. EVERY TIME that happens, there is trouble. The trouble usually lasts a long time and has far-reaching consequences.

Pruning Project Assures Future Peeler Log Supply

Plywood mills must have a continuing supply of high grade peeler logs in order to remain in operation. From these logs, with their clear-grained wood, is manufactured the veneer used for plywood boards.

A tree pruning project recently started on the Umpqua National Forest is one step being taken to assure that there will be a supply of peeler logs for the future, said M. M. Nelson, forest supervisor.

In a 100-acre area on the South Umpqua District, foresters are selecting trees that look like potential peelers. These are being pruned of their branches to a height of 18 feet, so that in the next 75 to 80 years the trees will grow trunks that are clear grained and unknotted.

Fast growing trees, 20 to 25 years of age, that are now six to eight inches in diameter are those selected for pruning.

To determine the rate of growth of trees in a given area, the foresters make tests with a device known as an increment bore. These bores extract a pencil-shaped cross section of the tree, on which the growth rings may be counted. The spacing of the rings indicate the rate of growth.

With fast-growing trees, the potential peelers should be from 24 to 30 inches thick when they reach maturity, the foresters explain. In 50 to 100 years, the trees should have "clear plywood right down to the core."

Assigned to the current pruning project are Louis Gable, in charge of timber stand improvement for the forest, and Leroy Bond and Wright Mallory, both timber management assistants at Tiller. The work is under the general supervision of Ranger Milton Andrews.

In the current project, the men will prune about 100 trees to the acre, selecting those that apparently have a chance for good future growth.

LAW'S ARM WEAK

BIRMINGHAM, England.—(AP)—This arm of the law should be equipped with a better hand, ex-Herbert Cyril Harris, 41, a mechanic was found innocent of inducing three other men to rob a restaurant when the judge told the jury there was no evidence for it to consider. He explained: "The statement of the defendant is written by a police officer and his handwriting is indecipherable."

FRIGID TRIUMPH

GUELPH, Ont.—(AP)—The feature prize at a Board of Trade ladies night was a year's supply of ice, delivered. The winner was Mrs. John Collins, wife of the proprietor of a refrigeration equipment firm.

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METERS PAY OFF
PORTLAND, Dec. 17.—(AP)—Portland's parking meters hit the jackpot Wednesday. They took in 41,330 nickels, big-

gest one-day total in the 10 years the meters have been in use here. Starting with 1800 meters, the city now has 4000.

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SPEND YOUR HAPPY CHRISTMAS SUNDAY AT THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

9:45 A. M.—Brief Sunday School Christmas Program by the smaller children.

11 A. M.—"A Doctor Tells The Christmas Story"—Two Choir numbers.

7:30 P. M.—"Mary, The Mother of Messiah." Have Protestants neglected the Virgin Mary? Why are some perplexed over the Virgin birth?

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