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CHARLES V. STANTON
Editor

EDWIN L. KNAPP
Manager

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THE WHY OF THE FLY

By CHARLES V. STANTON

As we talk with fisherman friends we find a great deal of misunderstanding concerning restrictive rules and regulations applied to the Umpqua River system.

A few anglers deliberately blind themselves to conditions as they make resentful protest because their sport is affected. They have no conservation interest and would willingly risk the river's future for their own selfish pleasure. They discount biological facts and rationalize their own selfishness. These people must be placed in the same category as the commercial interests who, for the sake of a few dollars, insisted upon the privilege of taking the last fish from the river.

On the other hand, many real sportsmen and conservationists are genuinely puzzled. Although efforts have been made time and again to explain the necessity for restrictions on sports angling, some persons have either failed to inform themselves or have listened to irresponsible statements and have not made the effort to learn the truth.

With the approach of open trout season, starting May 3, the issues probably will be even more seriously and heatedly debated. People sincerely interested in conservation should understand the facts.

River Critically Depleted

It seems hardly necessary to mention that the Umpqua River has been critically depleted of fish population. But we find that few people actually realize the extent of that depletion. The Umpqua River once swarmed with spring and fall salmon migrations. During late years the spring count of chinook salmon shows only about 4,000 fish. A few years ago 4,000 fish would have been a very poor take for any one of several scores of commercial fishermen. The late R. W. Marsters used to describe to us how, as a boy, he worked each year driving a team between Umpqua and Oakland with a daily wagonload of salmon taken in nets at Umpqua and transported to Oakland for shipment by rail into Portland.

By way of comparison, the Rogue river, which halted commercial fishing in 1935, has a count of from 40,000 to 50,000 spring salmon, while the Umpqua, where net fishing was not stopped until 1947, has only about 4,000 or one-tenth the population of the Rogue.

Prior to the removal of nets, fall salmon were virtually non-existent in the upper river. In late years the run appears to be coming back.

Our river once had a large population of steelheads, both summer and winter species. This migration, particularly the summer run, also has dropped off.

Salmon Governing Factor

It would appear that the salmon population of a stream largely governs the volume of other species. It is our theory that the salmon, by dying after spawning, furnish required fertilization which maintains plant, animal and fish life. Without that fertilizing effect there is insufficient food to support a large population. If this theory is true, we cannot hope to restore the river's fish life until we can rehabilitate salmon runs. Therefore, every possible protection, within reason, must be given salmon.

Spinning and flashing lures are destructive to salmon in their resting holes in the upper river spawning waters. Therefore, it becomes advisable to bar such forms of tackle from the areas in which the salmon, upon whom future hopes of the river's rehabilitation rests, are awaiting the spawning period.

Salmon eggs and worms used as bait are killers of downstream migrant fingerlings. If these fingerlings reach the ocean they stand a chance of returning as mature fish. The more we can get to the ocean the greater the number we can expect to return. Consequently, prohibiting bait fishing adds needed protection.

Salmon will not, except on very rare occasions, strike an artificial fly. Few fingerlings will be taken on a fly. Those hooked on fly usually are hooked only in the lip and may be returned to the water without serious injury, which is not the case if they have swallowed a baited hook. Thus fly fishing may be permitted within the hatchery and nursery section of the river without material damage to fish life. No good reason exists to bar fly fishing at this time. Nor is the regulation closing the upper river to all except artificial fly discriminatory inasmuch as any and all anglers are placed on equal basis. While some anglers may not have the needed skill in handling a fly at present, the use of fly equipment is not difficult to learn.

Another misunderstanding that should be cleared is that the fly fishing restriction was NOT proposed by organized sportsmen. It originated with the game department biologists who have been making river studies and who are alarmed by conditions. It is true that the biologists were given the unanimous support of organized sportsmen because, through sports clubs, it was possible for the biologists to reach them with convincing arguments for the necessity of the restrictions.



A cold rain beat on the windows of the Carl Huebner home, but that only made the living room with its brightly blazing fire seem more cozy. A dozen members of the Sunnyside "Home Ec" had just finished the first course of a bountiful and delicious potluck—dinner was left for later—and now they were planning how they could furnish the new Sunnyside Grange Hall on highway 38.

Not only that but electric ranges were needed and other items, if they were to carry out the plan of a turkey dinner on the evening of Friday February 29. Treasurer Mona Rydell reported \$1.60 in the treasury, but did that trouble anyone? Not that I could notice. There were not two electric ranges in place when needed, and the other items, too.

Chairman Dorothy McCormack consulted a list in hand. "For 150 we need five, maybe six, turkeys. Electric roasters were offered for the occasion. What about tables? Long ones, or shall we have many small tables?" The secretary let down the promises of card tables etc. Back to the dinner itself: cocktails or tomato juice with a zip in it. The various zips were

discussed. And what about vegetables? The list called for twelve quarts of frozen beans; quickly the required number was reached. Interruption while, in response to a telephone call, the chairman drove off to inform the Jim Patersons that their brand-new granddaughter was "ready to come home." The hostess, Elsie Huebner, carried on meanwhile.

Pies were discussed. "Men like apple and pumpkin pie best," it was agreed. The secretary's busy pencil noted who would bring which kind of pie. The chairman upon her return remarked that if she "was going to make three pumpkin pies, she might as well make six" . . . the thirty pies were pledged.

Then someone exclaimed: "What about the school bus?" A list of children's names was telephoned to the school. In due time the children were deposited at the Huebner home by the bus driver, instead of at their usual exit points. They greeted a table set for home made fried cream and cake with whoops of joy. By now the business of the dinner on the 29th was finished and the Home Ec continued the potluck still discussing ways and means. . .

If you like turkey, and find it convenient to stop at the new Sunnyside Grange Hall (a new cement block building) on Highway 38 on Friday, February 29, between 5 and 7:30, you will be most welcome.

Theater Fire Starts Panic; Six Die In Rush

GUADALAJARA, Mexico (AP)—Six persons died Wednesday night when fire broke out near the screen of the Alameda movie theater, then spread to the rest of the building.

Patrons on the ground floor of the building escaped, but the one exit from the balcony became jammed with terrified fans trying to reach the streets. Six bodies were found near the door. Some were trampled and some burned.

Marine Backs Truman's Claim Of Propaganda

EUGENE (AP)—A Marine Corps reservist, recently returned from Korea where he was a combat correspondent, told Oregon's newspaper publishers Friday that "President Truman was right about the Marines' propaganda machine."

"A well organized and hard working department of public information starts the Marine Corps legends, some of which are true," said Don Bonham, 26, who last December returned to his position as editor of the Sweet Home News after a year of active duty, much of it in Korea.

His reference to the President was in connection with a letter written by Mr. Truman in 1950 for which the President later apologized. In it he had said that the Marines have a "propaganda machine that is almost equal to Stalin's."

Bonham, opening speaker at the annual Oregon Press Conference at the University of Oregon, said that "when something doesn't happen in fact, the public information office often makes it happen on paper anyway."

He said that the Marine Corps issued considerable information and photographs on a claim of being first to transport troops to the Korean front by helicopter.

Bonham said that was partly true—but it was first only with a test maneuver, in a safe sector, not under fire.

But, he said, the PIO let go with all barrels to show "The Marines had done it again."

He said one of the things he most disliked was writing about a PFC (private first class) getting a Bronze Star while a captain or a major might get a silver star for something "not worth a hill of beans."

Bonham was called to active duty as a private first class in September, 1950, for a year's tour.

Coming Home to Roost



In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

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kind—will be 728 MILLION DOLLARS.

Here's the stinger: That amount of tax money, the Voters statement adds, equals the assessed value of ALL OF THE PROPERTY IN ALL THE COUNTIES OF OREGON SAVE ONLY Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook, Washington, Yamhill, Multnomah, Clackamas, Hood River, Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam, Morrow and Umatilla.

Let's put it another way: The total assessed value of all property in Oregon last year was \$1,695,000,000. According to the Voter's estimate, our total of ALL taxes in the fiscal year that is just coming up will be \$728,000,000.

That is to say: The total of ALL of our taxes in the next fiscal year, if this estimate is anywhere near accurate, is going to amount to 42.9 per cent of the assessed value OF ALL THE PROPERTY IN ALL OF OREGON.

Guerrillas Rather Than Atom Bombs May Be Decisive Power In Real War

By PETER EDSON
NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON — (NEA) — The question of what is the most decisive weapon of the present cold war, or what it will be if there is a hot one, was raised recently at a War College lecture in Washington.

The quick and easy answer was that it would be the atomic bomb. Or maybe its successor, the hydrogen bomb.

But William S. B. Lacy, who was delivering the talk to future generals, admirals, staff officers and diplomats, had another answer.

It might be neither of these mass destruction weapons, he said. Instead, the most effective weapon might be found to be the single guerrilla soldier, fighting in loosely organized small bands in the jungles and mountains of Asia.

At first the War College students were inclined to scoff at this idea. The more they thought about it, the more they liked it. William S. B. Lacy makes no pretense of being a military authority or tactician. He is head of South East Asian affairs in the Department of State.

He watches what goes on in the area from Burma to Indo-China and beyond to the Philippine and Indonesian archipelagos. It is the area where jungle fighting is now general.

Against guerrilla fighters who can strike like cobras and then fade into the jungle, atomic bombs are completely ineffective. It takes a different kind of warfare to win in this area.

In the past six years, the French and Viet Nam forces in Indo-China have had superiority of firepower, though they may not always have had superiority of manpower.

Today their forces are about equal with 350,000 men apiece. The French have spent nearly three billion dollars on this war. U. S. arms aid has amounted to 300 million.

French, colonial and native Viet-Nam troops have nevertheless been fought to a stalemate by the Viet-Minh Communists in the hills.

French casualties in the six years have been over 100,000, with 40,000 killed—a fourth of them Frenchmen.

Farther south, in the 400-mile-long Malay peninsula, "the Emergency," as it's called, has been going on for four years. If they called this a war, tin miners, rubber planters and rice growers would all have to pay higher insurance rates.

Four-fifths of this area is jungle.

One more thought along this highly unpleasant line:

In the old days (I almost said the GOOD old days) when we thought about the total of all of our taxes we were thinking in terms of 75 per cent local taxes and only 25 per cent federal taxes. In other words, in those days, 75 cents out of every dollar of our tax money stayed at home and was spent at home for things that we could see and understand.

NOW—Only about 25 per cent of our tax money is spent at home (or anywhere near home) and 75 per cent of it is shipped off to Washington to be spent for things that we never even heard of.

Remember the days when the politicians first began to tell us that money from Washington was like manna that falls from heaven—that it cost nobody anything and we might as well have it because if we didn't get our share somebody else would?

Well, the system is beginning to BITE now!

Society and Clubs

CANYONVILLE COUPLE MARRY AT MADERA, CALIF.

Mrs. Annie Worthington and Robert E. Cassidy both of Canyonville were united in marriage Friday, Feb. 15, in the First Christian Church, Madera, Calif. Dale Sherwood read the single-ring ceremony and Mrs. Lilly Vollborn presided at the organ.

The bride wore a powder blue suit with a corsage of red roses. The church was decorated with spring flowers.

Mr. and Mrs. Cassidy and Alice Green of Canyonville were entertained in the evening after the wedding in the home of Mrs. Alfretta Wilson, aunt of the bridegroom. She served the party a turkey dinner.

The couple is taking a honeymoon trip to the Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico and will go there via Los Angeles. They will be at home in Canyonville the first of March.

Mr. Cassidy is a native of California and is well known in Madera County.

Mrs. Cassidy comes from a pioneer Oregon family and has lived in the vicinity of Canyonville all of her life.

VALENTINE PARTY IS HELD IN YONCALLA