

Hunters, Fishers Bring in Game Worth 9 Million

Based on current retail market prices, Oregon's wildlife provided more than \$9,000,000.00 worth of "meat in the pot" to hunters and fishermen during the 1955 season, according to figures released by the Oregon Game Commission.

Statistics provided by hunter kill records and angler punch cards show that deer provided the most meat poundage followed by salmon and steelhead, elk, ducks, pheasants and geese.

The total value of the 13,408,700 pounds of meat provided by 134,987 deer harvested was \$5,363,480.00. Sport fishermen reported taking 98,896 salmon and 74,333 steelhead for a poundage of 2,078,104 and a meat value of \$1,810,827.20.

Broken down into their respective categories, big game animals provided 15,863,380 pounds of meat valued at \$6,345,352.00; upland game birds provided 641,765.5 pounds of meat which was valued at \$320,882.75; waterfowl provided 1,014,679 pounds valued at \$558,073.45; and salmon and steelhead had a value of \$1,810,827.20 from a total poundage of 2,078,104. For all big game animals, upland game birds, waterfowl, and salmon and steelhead the total value was \$9,035,135.40.

Poundage figures were obtained by applying the average dressed weight of the animals, birds and fish to the total number.

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Nationals Show More Balance As World Series Time Nears

By JIM LARIMORE

Emerald Ass't Sports Editor
The contrast between the overall team strength of the National and American leagues is becoming more marked each year. The senior circuit is achieving remarkable balance with a thrilling, three-team race highlighting the year, while Yankees have manhandled all opposition in the league founded by Ban Johnson. Cincinnati was shot down by the Phils on September 18th, losing a double-header to drop 4½ games behind Milwaukee and Brooklyn with nine to play. The Dodgers lead the Braves by one tenth of one percentage point.

The Yankees clinched the flag on the same day by 11 games, outlasting Chicago 3-2 in 11 innings. It is a poor state of affairs when a team overshadows its league as New York has done in spite of bitter pitching disappointments.

Casey Stengel, who looks wiser than a tree full of owls and is wiser than a whole forest of trees full of owls, counted heavily upon Bob Turley, Don Larsen and Tommy Byrne to back up ace left-hander Whitey Ford this year. For insurance he bought Mickey McDermott to add further depth to the pitching staff.

Both Turley and McDermott have been complete "busts" this season. McDermott, who doubles as a night club singer in the off-season, has added only a few pinch hits and two pitching victories. Stengel remorselessly summed up his feelings about the former Bullet Bob Turley by saying, "Turley lives very clean and doesn't smoke or drink — I'd rather have a boozier who could pitch."

The saving grace of the American league race especially attendance-wise has been the

emergence of Mickey Mantle to the super-star status which has long been predicted for him. The 24-year-old Oklahoman stands ready to assume the Mantle of greatness soon to be cast off the aging shoulders of the Splendid Spitter, Theodore Williams.

The only teams having a chance to overhaul the Bronx Bombers in the near future are Boston and Detroit. Cleveland is definitely shopworn around the edges and Chicago lacks the power to make them a serious threat. The entire league needs badly the shot in the arm which can only be provided by a real challenge to Yankee domination.

The picture in the National league is as different as Kefauver and Nixon. Right now the Braves and Dodgers are fighting it out in a ding-dong battle right down to the wire. The IBC's James (Octopus) Norris couldn't have made a better match in the ring than pitting the world's champion old pros against the hustling, hungry young team of the future.

Shortstop Johnny Logan of the Braves commented upon the reference by sports writers to the Brooklyn "old pros" by saying that they may be the old pros but we are the "young pros."

Cincinnati, with home run power and the sure-fire Rookie of the Year, Frank Robinson, made a game fight of it and Manager Birdie Tebbets deserves the Manager of the Year award.

The voluble former Red Sox backstop has gotten considerable mileage from a couple of castoff pitchers, Brooks Lawrence (19-10) and Herschel (Buster) Freeman (13-6 in relief). But for the disappointing showing of Joe Nuxhall (11-10) who was the staff's bellwether

in 1955, the Redlegs would be in first place.

It appears that the Dodgers have to win it this year since their magnificent seven-veteran nucleus headed by Captain Pee-Wee Reese and graying Jackie Robinson, both 37, is on the other side of the hill. The Dodgers have not been hitting for average as a club and only the fact that big, scowling Don Newcombe has carried the pitching staff all year (24-6) and that 38-year-old Sal (The Barber) Maglie can still fool National league hitters has kept them in title contention.

The Braves must reign as the sentimental favorites of fans throughout the country and certainly of their own rabid supporters in the brewery city. Milwaukeeans don't ask if the Braves won, they say did we win, and at one point in this crucial race a bartender in Milwaukee, when asked for a refill by a customer, told him to "Shut up!" until the inning was over on the television.

Three ace pitchers, Warren Spahn, (17-9), Lew Burdette (19-10) and Bob Buhl (18-9) have paced the Braves as they electrified the baseball world even though the Gene Conley of today is far from the Conley of old. Another trio, this one of solid sluggers, has led the way at bat. Joe Adcock, Eddie Mathews and Hank Aaron have supplied plenty of punch.

As for the future, the Braves have come up with two outstanding rookies in Bob Trowbridge and Taylor Phillips to add ballast to a pitching staff which was already the greatest in baseball. Brushing sentiment aside, in this corner it looks as if the Brooklyn Dodgers have too much in the stretch for the talented lads from Milwaukee. A sad note appears in that the

'54 world champion New York Giants have aged all at once and slipped all the way in '56. Only recently did the Giants escape the mire of eighth place. Further testimony of the great balance in the National league is added by the Pittsburgh Pirate's astounding early season rise to first place.

Even the last-place Chicago Cubs have three outstanding young bonus pitchers in Don Kaiser, Moe Drabowsky and Vito Valtinetti. With the Cardinals also coming on fast, the 1957 pennant race could be even tighter, if possible.

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