

Caught in the Wild

By Robert Ames Bennet.
WNU Service
Copyright by Robert Ames Bennet

million!" Like the older man Huxby had put on his poker face. He was not so successful, however, in keeping the glint out of his eyes. He had yet to make his fortune. He scoffed. "So it's a million?" he scoffed. "No wonder you prospectors go crazy. Find a little placer you guess has some gold in it, and you think you've located a mint. Five to ten dollars a pan! Why, Jack, your metal wouldn't give you half a dollar a pan, even if your small percentage of gold was alloyed with silver, instead of lead."

Garth smiled. "My mistake bothering you to test that sample. Just chew on this, my friend: A good many soundboughts might not be able to identify that gray-white metal. But only a chechahoos would be unable to recognize that it is not galena or silver."

This silenced the engineer for the moment. Mr. Garth favored Garth with his blandest smile.

The technicians like Huxby are too apt to imagine that the rest of us know nothing. Now, admitting for the sake of the argument that your guess regarding the alloy is correct, suppose we sample your prospect.

For reply, Garth led down into the tundra where a moss-bedded spring rill trickled down from pool to pool. He stopped beside a shallow dugout, roofed with spruce branches, moss and dirt. Under it lay a small shovel and pickax, a worn gold pan, and a little aluminum cooking pot.

Garth turned to Huxby. "There's the pan. Get your samples and go to it."

"How do I know your holes aren't salted?"

"You don't know anything. Why not scratch down to gauge yourself? Or perhaps I salted all the trough, before I laid on this blanket of grass and moss."

Mr. Ramill interposed. "Mining engineers have to guard against fraud as well as error. Garth, I was salted once myself, in my callow days. Just to ease his professional conscience, suppose you clear gravel for us midway between here and the staked hole down there."

"That's my discovery stake," Garth replied. "Wasn't looking for gold in this tundra. Just happened to notice the gray metal where the spring gushes the rill had torn the moss from the gravel. About my digging, I must beg to be excused. What if I should happen to drop a handful of that galena into the hole when your expert was not looking?"

Ignoring the irony, Huxby pulled the shovel from the dugout and gouted into a bed of moss. Mr. Ramill scooped his portly body to pick up the gold pan. Huxby shoveled the clear moss and black humus from a space two feet or more square. He tossed aside a few stones the size of his fist, and took the gold pan from Mr. Ramill to load it with gravel. They went a few steps down slope to the edge of a lower pool.

None too deftly, Huxby dipped water into the pan and began to rotate the contents. After more than twice the time an old prospector would have needed for the operation, the mining engineer worked the pan clear of all except a spoonful of small dull nodules.

Miss Ramill had stretched out to bask in the summer warmth. With the upblast of the sun towards the noon of the nineteenth-hour day, the breeze had died down. The calm brought a swarm of mosquitoes uplope from the lake shore. The girl put on her headnet, covered the unbooted part of her legs with caribou moss, and resumed her sun bath.

Out of the tail of his eye Garth watched Huxby and Mr. Ramill. When he saw the two get their net-draped heads together over the gold pan, he rose and went towards them. The tread of his moccasins was noiseless. Before the two looked his approach, he stood looking down over their shoulders.

"Not half bad for a starter," he said. "At least five dollars in your first pan."

"Hardly that value," replied Mr. Ramill. "Admittedly, there is some platinum in this alloy. I am afraid you're a far too sanguine young man. Call it five per cent platinum and five of gold. That leaves ninety per cent of silver and lead, with of course traces of iridium and osmium."

"Yes, move the decimal point of your million three places to the left, Jack," said Huxby. "It brings your wonderful fortune down to a few thousands. To silence this placer, freight out the alloy, and pay for separating the metals will leave slim profits. There may be none at all."

"Too bad you've had all your trouble for nothing," Garth replied. "I counted on your finding it a real strike—the first big platinum deposit located in North America."

Mr. Ramill rose to lay a consoling hand on his shoulder.

"Never mind, my boy. You'll regret that I told you about my encouraging worthy prospectors. I stand by that now. I will give you two thousand dollars for this prospect, and take the chance of getting back my money by large-scale placering."

"You're too generous," Garth protested. "I couldn't think of taking your money. In fact, I'll have to own up I had a little testing acid with me when I happened upon this gray alloy. So, as I do not believe in cheating, suppose we head back for the Mackenzie."

The millionaire mine buyer chuckled and clapped him on the back. "Boy, you're a whole lot less a fool than you look."

Huxby stared hard. Then, pocketing the alloy, he went for the shovel.

"Good idea," Garth said. "A pan from above Disaster Canyon, one hundred feet out each side—they'll tell you whether or not it's merely a small pocketing."

Without replying, Huxby set off up the trough. Mr. Ramill limped slowly after him.

Miss Ramill appeared to have fallen asleep. She lay still, propped by her net from the mosquitoes that tinged about her head.

Relieved from the company of his unpleasant travel mate, Garth stretched out like the girl. He thought of the vast length of time that had been required to erode the side of the mountain above him. Nature had spent ages in collecting these hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of precious alloy upon which he now lay banking. And he had chances to stumble upon the treasure near the end of a trip of which exploration and adventure had been the prime motif and prospecting only a side issue. Now, by law, he was sole owner of all this wealth.

He thought of the two men uplope whom he had brought to share in his good fortune. They had thanked him for seeking to ill and cheat him out of it. But that was the nature of far too many men. There was no reason to be surprised or angered. They had failed to outplay him with their stacked cards. He looked at a lump of albino blossoms close beside his elbow, and smiled.

Upslope he heard the swirl of gravel in the gold pan. After a time the sound died out. His keen ear caught the dull tread of heavy boots on the turf.

Mr. Ramill turned toward Garth. "We will go back to the plane for lunch while considering the matter."

"Only for a short time," Huxby qualified. "I intend to return here for more sampling. No need of your troubling to join us."

Garth saw that his company was not wanted. "Thanks, I'm not hungry. Come to think, I'll go down the lake and make sure my old lady grizzly isn't lurking in the bush."

"Your phantom bear," mocked Miss Ramill. "Watch out she doesn't make a ghost of you."

Under cover of his smile at the gibe, Garth caught the glance that passed between her father and Huxby. The girl had said it. "Watch out" was the word.

He swung down the trough with no sign of hurry. The length of his gliding stride made his movements appear leisurely. Without looking back, he slanted in among the scrubby spruces. A mass of the dense evergreens put him out of sight of the three chechahoos up on the open tundra. He turned sharp to the right. Midway down the brush-fringed lake shore, the tall spruces stood well spaced. He broke into a run.

A vista between the trees offered him a view upslope. He halted behind a screen of young aspens to look. The three had already reached the side of the trough. They started to hurry on aslant the mountainside. Lilith Ramill and Huxby had the girl's heavy-bodied father between them. They were helping him along twice as fast as he could have made it without their aid.

No more was needed to confirm Garth's suspicions. He glided across the glade and ran on through the woods like a startled caribou. The thick growth of spruces screened him from the view of anyone up on the open tundra.

He vaulted upon the wing of the monoplane and ran along it to jump into the cockpit. In a moment he had hold of Huxby's tool-kit and ran back onto the wing. There was a small metal object inside his buckskin shirt. He jumped off and slipped away to an alder thicket, a short distance along the lake bank.

Less than three minutes later, he heard a heavy puffing and wheezing and the snap of dry branches. Then the three staggered into sight. Mr. Ramill was purple from exertion. His mouth gaped wide with his gasps for breath. Neither his daughter nor Huxby was winded. But both were flushed from the exertion of supporting the portly millionaire.

(To be continued)

Interesting Bits of News Gleaned in County Trips

(Francis S. Barr)

On Cornelius route 2 is J. H. Hillier who is a believer in the Argus classified ads. Hillier has 140 acres on which he raises a few pigs, milks 12 cows and raises his grain and hay.

Mrs. E. W. Hinrichs is the Argus correspondent for Blooming. Of course Mrs. Hinrichs would appreciate, as would all correspondents, the co-operation of the people in the district.

Carl Simantel has a brother coming to Oregon from Scotland, South Dakota, soon. He is moving his household goods and family by motor truck. Simantel has a son in South Dakota and believes he will also soon be coming to Oregon. The Simantels, before coming to Washington county, lived in South Dakota for 25 years.

An old subscriber to the Argus and a constant user of the classified columns is Henry Scheufler. Henry was out harrowing and seemed to be having some trouble with his team at the time.

P. L. LaFollett is in the peach business, has 40 acres and reports a light but good crop for the year. The late peaches seem to be heavier this year than the earlier ones. The LaFolletts also raise early hops and are through picking for this year. The hop market seems to be on the decline and good prices are anticipated for the growers this year. It seems that hops are becoming harder to raise over former years, due seemingly to more disease and insects. So it is with fruit growers as each year requires more careful and scientific care of the orchards.

Visiting at the Philip Mohr home are their son-in-law and daughter, Mrs. and Mr. Forrest Campbell, and small daughter. The Campbells were formerly of Bend, but have been transferred to Hood River. Mr. Campbell is salesman for Swift & Co.

The garage being too near the road, A. P. Cooper was busy moving it to a more convenient place. Mr. Cooper had some very good specimens of squash that he had raised.

A bit of remodeling was being done at the J. E. Hulsman farm. The Hulsmans are old Argus subscribers and receive good results from the ads.

In the dairy business and milking 17 cows is F. W. Hering on Cornelius route 2. Mr. Hering has 75 acres on which he carries on his dairying and grain raising.

Busy canning fruit, making pickles and preparing the noon-day meal and the noon pickers was Mrs. J. H. Farley. The Farleys have seven acres in prunes and this week will wind up the season for them.

The gammas of Cornelius route 2 was busy filling silo and having a bit of trouble with his ensilage cutter. Mr. Thomas has a son who is quite a boat builder.

Kinton Grange Meets Saturday

Aid Session Today; Well for School About Ready

(By Mrs. E. L. Cox)

KINTON-Grange will meet Saturday in all day meeting, beginning at 10:30 a. m. All grangers are welcome to attend.

Ladies' Aid society will meet at the church today (Thursday) with an all day meeting with pot luck dinner at noon. This will be a quiting party so the ladies attending will please bring sewing tools.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Lierman and family, who have been living on the Warren Wilson place during the past year, moved to Beaverton last week. Mr. and Mrs. Warren Wilson, who have been making their home in Beaverton, are now back on their own place.

Mr. Moreback and assistant of Sherwood, who were employed drilling the school well, struck a good supply of water at about 65 feet. An electric pump will be installed and the school children will be enjoying the water from the new water supply soon.

Herman Metzentine of Hiteon has rented the Mrs. Lilly M. Bierly place for another year and commenced the farm work during the past week.

Mrs. Lilly M. Bierly and Mrs. Josephine A. Cox visited friends in Portland from Monday to Wednesday. Mrs. Bierly visited Mrs. Mary Kershaw of Oak Grove and Mrs. Cox with Mrs. Ethel L. Meldrum of Milwaukie.

Isaac Ennis of Gray's Harbor, Wash., visited Conrad Algeheimer and Edward Rood and sister Miss Ina Rood last week. He resided here over 63 years ago and built the buildings on the Rood farm, also a rail fence eight rails high around the 250 acres. Very little of it remains.

S. H. Pomeroy and Robert Teufel returned the last of the week from a 10-day hunting trip in the big woods. They bagged a deer.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Herrick of Sellwood visited Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Cox Sunday.

Mr. Moreback, the well driller from Sherwood, and his helper started drilling a well on the Melvin Vandermost place Monday morning.

Mrs. Ethel McCormick and family of Hillsboro visited her mother, Mrs. Lilly Bierly, Sunday. Mrs.

Americanization Cited at Meeting

BEAVERTON—Beaverton Grange met Saturday. Mrs. G. Perkins in costume gave the legend of Ceres. Thomas A. Verdinius of Portland, vice-president of the Americanization council in Portland, talked on patriotism.

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Speer of West Slope, a boy, Walter Huston, September 18.

Mrs. J. W. Sprague will soon move to Seattle, Wash., where her husband is interested in the operation of an electric pump which will be enjoying the water from the new water supply soon.

Herman Metzentine of Hiteon has rented the Mrs. Lilly M. Bierly place for another year and commenced the farm work during the past week.

Mrs. Lilly M. Bierly and Mrs. Josephine A. Cox visited friends in Portland from Monday to Wednesday. Mrs. Bierly visited Mrs. Mary Kershaw of Oak Grove and Mrs. Cox with Mrs. Ethel L. Meldrum of Milwaukie.

Isaac Ennis of Gray's Harbor, Wash., visited Conrad Algeheimer and Edward Rood and sister Miss Ina Rood last week. He resided here over 63 years ago and built the buildings on the Rood farm, also a rail fence eight rails high around the 250 acres. Very little of it remains.

S. H. Pomeroy and Robert Teufel returned the last of the week from a 10-day hunting trip in the big woods. They bagged a deer.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Herrick of Sellwood visited Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Cox Sunday.

Mr. Moreback, the well driller from Sherwood, and his helper started drilling a well on the Melvin Vandermost place Monday morning.

Mrs. Ethel McCormick and family of Hillsboro visited her mother, Mrs. Lilly Bierly, Sunday. Mrs.

Forest Grove Children Take T. B. Skin Test

Two thirds of all the children attending the Forest Grove public schools took the skin test for tuberculosis Monday, according to Margaret Dixon, county nurse. Miss Dixon was assisted by Dr. H. C. Fortner and Dr. Fred S. Richards of Forest Grove.

Donelson & Sewell

Phone 953 · Hillsboro
FUNERAL DIRECTORS
and
LICENSED EMBALMERS

Credit Bureaus

(Incorporated)
Collections - Credit Reports
in
Washington, Tillamook, Yamhill, Polk and Marion Counties.
Personal Contact on Collections.
Washington County Office
Commercial Building
Second and Main Streets
Hillsboro, Oregon
Phone 3071

PUBLIC SALE

on the N. L. Pop farm about 1 1/2 miles south of Hillsboro, on
Tuesday, October 8, at 1 P. M.

Competitive Prices - - Continuous Service - -

THE SCHOLLS TILE CO., your own home industry, is here to serve you any day of the year. Our services are gladly given on any order—whether one tile or 10,000—not limited to full load lots. (Venetian ticket, Peter Zuercher, Rt. 1, Hillsboro)
We will meet all prices, regardless of who makes them.

Yards at Hillsboro — Plant at Scholls

SCHOLLS TILE CO. YARD

Plant at Scholls, Oregon
Our Motto—"Friendly Service - Fair Prices"
Washington Street between 1st and 2nd Hillsboro

MILK FOR EVERY MEAL

Give pure, health-giving milk a regular place in the menu for every meal. The need for this invigorating, energy-building food is particularly vital during the winter months. Milk will efficiently take the place of sunlight in supplying necessary vitamins.

Morningdew GUERNEY DAIRY SAM HULIT & SONS

Phone 2568
1 1/2 miles south of Hillsboro

Gold Medal Diploma Winner in 1934 — Score 98.2
Silver Medal Diploma Winner in 1933 — Score 97.8

4-H CLUBS AID OREGON BOYS and GIRLS

Soon members of Oregon's 4-H Clubs once more will be exhibiting their livestock and farm products at the Pacific International Livestock Exposition in Portland. They will be taking honors for the past year's achievements and learning valuable new lessons about farming methods. In other states nearly a million other 4-H members will hear of the lessons learned as a result of this great annual exposition that has uninterruptedly aided Oregon farmers for so many years.

The First National Bank of Portland has witnessed the development of the farming and livestock industries since pioneer days, and has taken a personal interest in this development of the young farmer of tomorrow. We welcome you to our bank, both here and in Portland.

R. J. Searce, Manager

★ HILLSBORO BRANCH ★

The First National Bank of Portland

"Oldest National Bank West of the Rockies"
Deposits in this Bank are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

J. L. Foege Given a Birthday Party

ELMONICA—A surprise party was given for J. T. Foege at his home Sunday on his seventy-fifth birthday. Guests were his son August Foege, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Spies, Mr. and Mrs. C. Spies and Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Keehn.

Mrs. G. Graham and her mother of eastern Oregon are visiting Mr. and Mrs. George Kelsey.

Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Overturf of Bend, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Overturf Jr. of Eugene and Miss Harriett Wiseman of Portland visited Mr. and Mrs. Wiseman Sunday. Mrs. H. J. Overturf Jr. and Miss Harriett Wiseman are daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Wiseman. Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Overturf Jr. are going to the University of Oregon while Miss Wiseman is here on a special leave.

Quality job printing—Argus.

MORE MILES PER TANKFUL 'ROUND TOWN

Shell has now found a way to reduce the waste of "stop-and-go" driving. In Super-Shell gasoline you get three different kinds of power in perfect balance. And save in three ways:

- Can save up to a cupful of gasoline on every "cold" start
- Can save up to a cupful of gasoline in 10 minutes of steep hill climbing
- Can save up to another cupful of gasoline in 1 hour of steady running

These three big savings mean many more miles of driving from every tankful. Stop for 10 gallons of Super-Shell today.

SUPER-SHELL

At these neighborly stations:
— HILLSBORO —
Busch's Super Service
Hillsboro Motor Co.
Coslett's Super Service
Holwege's Service Station
Rock Creek Service Station

— FOREST GROVE —
Bailey's Service Station
Pelph's Service Station
Highway Service Station, Gaston

HERE'S THE LOWEST COST AUTOMATIC HEATING UNIT YOU CAN BUY FOR YOUR PRESENT FURNACE!

LUMINOUS FLAME GAS CONVERSION BURNER only \$99.50 installed

TERMS—\$5 a month plus small carrying charge

- If your present solid fuel furnace is in good condition, the most inexpensive way to have automatic heat is to install this gas conversion burner. This is the only burner that operates on the combustion principle for which your present furnace was designed. Its use makes your furnace 10%-15% more efficient.
- This gas conversion burner can be installed easily and quickly. Then you will be rid of the nuisances of fuel ordering, delivery, cutting and storage—of uneven heat—of monotonous furnace tending—of ashes, soot, dirt and constant cleaning. The cost of this burner is lower than that of any other type of automatic burner. Reduced gas heating rates have put the convenience of this effortless heat easily within your reach.
- So plan to see this burner in operation in our showrooms today. Hundreds who installed burners last year are completely satisfied. You will be glad you purchased one of these conversion burners, too.

Installation time... only a few hours!

IF YOU NEED A NEW FURNACE YOU CAN GET A COMPLETE GAS HEATING SYSTEM FOR AS LITTLE AS.. \$287.50

TERMS—\$8 a month plus small carrying charge

- Here is the most remarkable offer you have ever had. A new Mueller furnace with built-in gas burner, plus all necessary ducts, air returns, registers, etc., to give you a complete new heating system. You can't buy any other type of automatic heating system for anywhere near this price. In fact, most automatic burners alone cost about as much as this complete automatic gas installation.
- Remember—this price includes full installation of furnace with thermostat, humidifier, necessary cold air returns, necessary heat ducts wrapped in asbestos paper, and registers. You have your choice of gray, red or green sprayed finishes. All work is in accordance with the City of Portland's furnace code.
- This \$287.50 Mueller gas furnace installation is for homes containing not more than 5 rooms and bath on one floor, where pipe furnace system is replaced. If your home has 2 stories and not more than 8 rooms, you will need the Mueller furnace on which the price is \$377.50 and your old pipe furnace, ducts and attachments. Terms on this installation, \$11.50 a month plus carrying charge.

When you heat with Gas, you get all your Gas at lowest cost!

Good-bye furnace drudgery. Gas house heating rates are down! Other fuel costs are rising. The convenience of clean, safe, dependable, unfailing gas heat is now easily within your reach.

Thousands are taking advantage of another economy only gas offers. When you heat with gas, you also get your gas for cooking, water heating and refrigeration at lowest cost.

Portland Gas & Coke Company

Showroom Third and Main, Hillsboro—Phone 1721
Vancouver - Oregon City - Portland
Newberg - Albany - Salem - Corvallis

We will gladly make a scientific analysis of your heating requirements and advise you as to which gas heating appliance will give you the most heat for the least money. No obligation.