

Tree Seed Collecting Tests To Pit Squirrels Against Men

Research foresters looked at their hole card this week in an effort to find out who collects the best tree seed, their fellow man or the pine squirrels.

A number of foresters have questioned the quality of seed collected by squirrels. Others say squirrels consistently store cones filled with good, mature seeds in their woodland caches. Seed taken from the squirrels' hide-outs, professional seed men argue, are as sound as preferred stock in an uranium mine.

Douglas fir seed, the pine squirrel's substitute for a nut, rates high among the furry gourmets. At a rate of 38,000 fir and 9,000 pine seeds to make up a pound, squirrels would not be too happy about hiding several bushels of empty cones in hollow stumps and logs for winter.

To find out if squirrels know what they are doing, researchers at the state forestry department have set up an experiment and are determined to end the controversy.

More Research

The experiment entails considerably more scientific research than checking cones gathered by squirrels, Dick Berry, research director for the state forestry department, advised. He said that foresters have never known for certain the number of forest seedlings which may be started from seed collected from the lumber trees of the Pacific northwest. Berry pointed out this lack of information is one of the current reforestation problems facing private industry and public forest agencies.

Researchers admit they know little about the small seeds which are the forester's stock in trade. But to learn more, a Forest Tree Seed Committee, composed of leading researchers and silviculturists in Oregon, Washington and British Columbia, has been established. Committee members are Royce Cornelius, Weyerhaeuser Timber Company; Don Baisinger, Crown Zellerbach Corporation; Roy Silen, Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station; Dr. W. F. McCulloch, School of Forestry, OSC; Dr. Charles Allen, OSC Seed Laboratory; Dick Berry, Oregon state forestry department; Dr. George Allen, University of British Columbia.

Objectives of the committee will be to stimulate research in tree seed testing and advise the seed testing laboratory at Oregon State College as to the needs of

Fresh Water From Ocean Said Needed

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP)—What this country needs—and will need even more in the future—are good new ideas for getting really cheap fresh water out of the ocean.

So said Thomas K. Sherwood, professor of chemical engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in a public address Sunday.

For the fact is, he points out, we're already running short of water in various places and at certain times. He cites 1,031 cities and towns reporting enforced curtailment of water use in the first eight months of last year.

He points to Southern California not only bringing water 300 miles from the Colorado River, but also planning to transport it the length of the state from the Klamath River. He points to the withdrawal of ground water in the high plains of Texas—30 times the rate of water from the sea.

Near Chicago, the sub-soil water table has been lowered by 500 feet. Cities are restricting water-use for air-conditioning. They are building bigger reservoirs.

Sea water, he pointed out, is 96.5 per cent pure water, and directly available to the states in which more than two-thirds of the people live. One cubic mile of ocean contains enough pure water for the entire nation's needs for nearly eight days.

He estimated that the best known process—even if it could be made perfect—could only approach a price of 8.4 cents per 1,000 gallons "and this appears highly unlikely."

Dr. Sherwood said "It is a sad commentary on the state of science that we do not know how to perform the common operation of separating a salt from water without using several times the theoretical minimum power."

Bonneville Contracts Gain Confirmation

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Power Commission Monday confirmed and approved for the period ending Dec. 19 the electric energy rates provided in contracts between the Bonneville Power Administration and five private utility companies in the Pacific Northwest.

The Interior Department announced the signing of the contracts some months ago between Bonneville and: Portland General Electric Co., Pacific Power and Light Co., Mountain States Power Co., Washington Water Power Co. and Puget Sound Power and Light Co.

The FPC pointed out that the 20-year contract states that Bonneville is unable to supply the full amounts of the five utilities and that the quantities to be made available each month will be determined by a supply schedule to be prepared each year by the Bonneville administrator.

"The contracts establish a schedule of specific priorities for the allocation of power expected to be available to the various classes of Bonneville's customers during the term of the contracts," the FPC said.

"They also provide that Bonneville may withdraw from the companies, upon five years' notice, capacity and energy anticipated to be required by public bodies, cooperatives or federal agencies."

The rates and charges, the FPC said, consist of Bonneville's C-4 rate schedule (\$17.50 per kilowatt year) applied on a monthly basis to the allotted demand, with certain modifications to apply when utilization of the allotted demand is restricted.

The FPC said it approved the rates only for the interim period until Dec. 19 because the agency is now making studies to determine whether any changes should be made in its rate schedules.

Engineers to Rehearse Flood Duties

PORTLAND (AP)—The Army Engineers staff plans a rehearsal next month of duties in case of a major flood along the Columbia River this year.

Officials of the Seattle district will rehearse duties April 5, the Walla Walla district April 7 and the Portland district April 9.

The Columbia freshet normally comes in late May and early June. The runoff this year is expected to be above normal, but forecasters do not expect a major flood.

Willamette Students Collect Glee Bets



Running the gamut Monday morning of bizarre punishments, Willamette University students paid off and collected on bets made on the outcome of the Freshman Glee contest held Saturday. The annual "Blue Monday" antics included playing tennis in the library, taking a public bath in a bucket, reading Greek in a tree, and a host of others—some of which are shown above. TOP LEFT—One loser pays off by swallowing a live goldfish. TOP RIGHT—A raw egg shampoo is given a losing student in the gymnasium. LOWER LEFT—A pretty coed loses a few locks of hair for betting on the wrong class. LOWER RIGHT—Winning student takes aim, and fires with a raw egg. (Statesman Photo.) (Picture also on page one.)

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Raise Possible For Teachers At 2 Schools

Teachers at the state schools for the blind and deaf children will get salary increases if there is enough money in the school budgets, the State Board of Control agreed Monday.

Superintendents of the schools said the money is available.

The 11 teachers at the Blind school would get average \$22 monthly increases, while the increases for the 32 Deaf school teachers would average \$23.50 a month.

These raises, which would go into effect next fall, still would leave the teacher salaries below those paid in public schools in Salem and Portland, the board said.

Gov. Paul L. Patterson, chairman of the board, at first suggested that the Finance Department Director, Harry Dorman, investigate to determine if the increases were justified.

Then Secretary of State Earl T. Newberry countered that it wasn't any of Dorman's business.

The Governor agreed with Newberry's suggestion that the increases be granted if the money is in the budget.

The board also approved increasing the capacity of the segregation building at the State School for Boys at Woodburn from 30 boys to 60.

The project requires only minor alterations.

Asks Wool Tariff Rise

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. Hunt (R-Wyo.) urged President Eisenhower Saturday to increase the tariff on wool imports as a temporary expedient until congress can enact the administration's wool support program.

Noting that the President's wool proposal is tied up in both House and Senate by controversies over a general farm program, Hunt said some action should be taken now to aid domestic producers.

Solons Oppose BPA Change

WASHINGTON (AP)—Two House appropriations subcommittees are opposed to transfer of Portland, Ore., Interior Department offices from their present quarters to the new 4 1/2 million dollar Lloyd Building, Rep. John Phillips (R-Calif.) reported Saturday.

He said both subcommittees had rejected a General Services Administration report favoring the move scheduled for April 15.

GSA made arrangements to have the Lloyd Building constructed and has signed a lease for occupancy by Interior Department agencies, including the Bonneville Power Administration.

Phillips said he thinks the new quarters cost too much. He would prefer to have Bonneville remain in its present offices, have other Interior offices move in with them.

Wire Libels Congressman

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—Rep. Gary (D-Va.) couldn't make it to the testimonial banquet of the University of Richmond's basketball team.

"Deeply regret," he wired from the capital, "official duties in Washington prevent attendance at dinner. Please extend my heartiest... etc."

The telegram wished around a curve in the wires on the way here, and when it came to the banquet it read "deeply regret official duties in Washington prevent... etc."

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Shower Honors Newlyweds

NORTH HOWELL—Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Beals, who were recently married at Stevenson, Wn., were honored with a bridal shower Friday night at the North Howell Grange Hall with Mr. and Mrs. Bill Albin of Salem and Mr. and Mrs. Percy Dunn of North Howell as hosts.

Others present were Mr. and Mrs. Dave Rickard, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Espe, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Beals, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Blaney, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Dunn and family, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Redding, Mr. and Mrs. John Beals, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Peterson, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Dunn, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bump, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Davidson, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Hawley, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Beals, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Bowers, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Selman, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Zitzewitz, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dixon and family, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Mertle and son, M. A. Dunn, Mrs. Alvan Wiesner and Lark, Mrs. Nettie Noren, Mrs. Vernie Leighty, Sharon and Kathy Hatrick and Nancy and Maryann Dunn.

Will Assist at Installation

Marion Auxiliary, Veterans of Foreign Wars were entertained at the home of Mrs. George Lewis, with Mrs. Ivell Haley, and Mrs. Ed VanSanten assisting.

Committees were named to assist at the installation of officers for the auxiliary in April. They include Mrs. Billy Kelso, Mrs. Gordon Bressler, decorations; Mrs. Mae Wilder, and Mrs. Mel Clemens, door; Mrs. Genevieve Olson and Mrs. Lloyd Grim, cleanup.

Monmouth—Mrs. Gertrude Walker arrived here this week from New York City, via California, for a visit with her mother, Mrs. Alta Bergers. Mrs. Walker, a longtime resident here, was graduated from Monmouth High School and was active in local musical circles. She has spent the past month in California at an air base, visiting her nephew and niece, Captain and Mrs. Roger Beckley, and their children. Captain Beckley drove his aunt here and he is visiting his grandmother and his wife's mother, Mrs. Horold Buss, also his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Iverson at Carlton, before returning home.



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