

Modern Shepherd Uses Jeep

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Bulletin Correspondent

The peak of lambing is over at the Jack Shumway ranch, south of Powell Butte. Most of the 2600 ewes who waited on the sunny, juniper dotted hillsides by day, and secured the lambing pens at night, have borne their lambs, and with their young are being moved each day by the herders into larger flocks. There are hundreds of new long-legged creatures in the flock now, adding their impatient baaing to the ewes' deeper-toned conversation. The prevailing breed is Rambouillet.

Penned enclosures, lambing sheds, several large permanent tents, and fenced areas for browsing comprise the sheep ranch that covers many rolling acres of land. To an outsider the arrangement is bewildering, but to Shumway and his hands, of course, each enclosure has its purpose.

By day the modern shepherd in jeep and trailer circulates among the ewes on the hillsides, looking for the new-born. A new lamb, after thorough cleaning by its mother's efficient tongue, is picked up by the herder by its hind leg and placed in the trailer, anxious mother following. When the trailer has assembled several ewes and their lambs, in their own compartments, the jeep rolls down the hillside and delivers the ewes with single offspring to a small penned area. There the ewes are fed on a special diet of hay, oats and cubes. Ewes with twin or occasionally triplets are taken to the long, frame-covered row of single pens where they can be watched more closely to be sure the mothers have enough milk for multiple births.

If the ewe cannot nourish more than one lamb a foster mother must be found, logically one who has lost her own lamb or one with more milk. The substitution is not always welcome to the ewe, though junior has no objections. If mama won't take on a stranger, psychomotor change her mind—there isn't enough unoccupied time or manpower in an operation of this size to feed many bums. A sheep hand may neatly skin a dead lamb—the one lost by the mother if possible—and redress the bummer in its skin, hoping to arrange a satisfactory mother-lamb relationship. Usually it is effective. There are probably as many other means of enticing ewes to take on foster lambs as there are shepherders. Old hands at sheep raising say you just have to figure out your sheep!

At night all the ewes who have not delivered that day are brought in closer to the pens around the bunkhouses and the lambing continues by floodlight. No one gets much sleep when lambing is under way. As high as 150 lambs are born in a peak 24-hour period at Shumways. Normally about five hands are employed, with the number of help doubled in the spring. Two of Shumway's regulars are Con Guiney and Dave Clifford, both experienced sheep men who for years ran their own ranches around Millican and Bend before selling out.

During lambing the ewes are fed three times daily. They crowd around the feed truck on its periodic trips to the browsing grounds, and watch for their troughs to be filled at the enclosures. A water tank truck also makes the rounds each day, keeping water troughs filled. Sheep are very clean, Shumway says, and particular about their drinking water which must be free of dust and dirt.

As the lambs get older day by day they are moved with their ewes to larger penned areas, gradually becoming accustomed to living in larger flocks. Shearing, by contract, gets under way in April or May, depending on the weather. Eventually the ewes and lambs



FLOCK LIVING—Pens accommodate several families each of mothers and their new lambs, assembled each day into larger groups to adjust to flock living. Con Guiney here watches over a group of pens on Jack Shumway's ranch. Guiney's name is synonymous with sheep raising for he ran his own outfit for many years in the Millican area. In the right background is the water tank truck which keeps troughs filled. (Photo for The Bulletin by Giles Studio)



YOUNGSTER — Jack Shumway holds a 10 day old lamb from a flock of ewes with lambs old enough to live out on one of the further ranges of his extensive Powell Butte ranch. (Photo for The Bulletin by Giles Studio)

will be formed into bands of around 500, and then two bands combined to form the summer flocks. Shumway expects to have about three summer flocks this season on the ranges. He will keep three to four hundred ewe lambs to add to his own breeding stock,

selling the rest of the lambs on open market.

Jack Shumway came to the Powell Butte area 32 years ago from Eastern Oregon. He and his wife, the former Sarah Hubstein of Al-falfa, have raised two sons and a daughter. In 1927 they began their sheep ranch with 200 head, and since then have developed one of the largest operations in the area. Many visitors each spring stroll the hillsides watching the lambing. The scene on a calm, sunny day has a pastoral quality — almost reminiscent of old Biblical times — if the modern jeeps and trucks are not at the moment in evidence.

The Shumway holdings comprise about 13,000 acres in Deschutes, Jefferson and Crook counties, plus acreage leased from the Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, Gray Butte grazing. Shumway also runs 200 head of cattle on portions of his land and raises grain crops for part of his feed. The need for rain is acute this year, he reports. Grazing on the dry land south of Powell Butte where his sheep are headquartered will not be possible at all this year without rain, which will mean taking the flocks at an earlier date than usual to the summer ranges, east of Bend.

MAILING COMPLETED
Special to The Bulletin
MADRAS—Mailing of 1385 envelopes containing Easter Seals has been completed. Walter McCaulon, president of the Madras Kiwanis club, which yearly handles mailing for Jefferson county, has announced. Patrons are asked to assist the program which benefits the Oregon Society for Crippled Children and Adults, Inc., and the national group.

It takes 400 electric motors, generators and other rotating electrical machines to operate the various power systems on one heavy bomber in the U. S. Air Force.



FALSE SKIN—A lamb in lamb's clothing. The lamb was put out for adoption, dressed in the hide skinned from a dead lamb. At this point the foster mother has pretty well agreed to take on junior and the tail part of the pseudo covering has been cut off and soon all of the extra skin will be removed by the shepherd. Ordinarily the false skin more nearly matches the lamb it covers. (Photo for The Bulletin by Giles)

Reds Announce New Farm Plan

LONDON (UP)—Moscow Radio Thursday announced a plan to shift thousands of top Communist party members to farms in a massive attempt to improve the Soviet's seriously lagging agricultural production.

The author of the plan is party boss Nikita S. Khrushchev. The Moscow broadcast outlined the "new look" Soviet agricultural plan which Khrushchev unveiled yesterday at Voronezh in Russia's soil-rich "black earth" region.

Khrushchev and other top Soviet leaders are touring the provinces to win worker support for the new policy shifting the Soviet economy away from the "soft" policies sponsored by ousted Premier Georgi Malenkov.

Malenkov himself has been reported on an inspection tour of lands.

Khrushchev lashed lagging farm production and served blunt notice that a whole new cadre of leaders was on the way to run Russia's sprawling collective farms.

A jet-propelled steam-operated boat was developed as far back as the 18th century. George Washington watched a test model run in 1781 and called its demonstration of the propelling principle one of "vast importance."

Lawmakers Due Back in State

WASHINGTON (UP)—Easter recess and a Hells Canyon hearing will draw most of Oregon's members of congress west this weekend.

Sens. Wayne Morse, Richard L. Neuberger and Rep. Edith Green will participate in the Hells Canyon hearing in Portland April 6. It is on a bill to authorize federal construction of the proposed dam.

Reps. Harris Ellsworth, Walter Norblad and Mrs. Green plan to be on hand this weekend for atomic tests at the Las Vegas proving grounds.

Ellsworth will then come to Oregon to arrange hearings on his partnership bill for Cougar and Green Peter dams. Norblad will return to Washington. Rep. Sam Coon plans to remain in the capital during the recess.

RESOLUTION APPROVED

WASHINGTON (UP)—Rep. Sam Coon (R-Ore.) said Thursday the House Public Works Committee has approved a resolution he introduced asking the Army engineers to make a flood control study of the Malheur river and its tributaries in Oregon.

He said the survey would cost about \$70,000 and would involve flood problems on Willow creek and Bully creek as well as the Malheur.

Redmond GOC Seeks Recruits

Special to The Bulletin

REDMOND — A special recruitment drive is under way during this Ground Observer Corps week, according to new acting supervisor Mrs. Florence Radtke. Townspeople are also urged to visit the Redmond post stop the city hall and become acquainted with the functions of the skywatch.

Recognition has been given retiring supervisor H. O. Wilson whose resignation is effective April 1. He recently was awarded his merit pin for 750 hours on plane spotting duty. Official appointment of a successor will be made by city council, probably at their next meeting. Serving with Mrs. Radtke is Mrs. Paul Person as chief observer.

Day captains are, from Sunday through Saturday, Mrs. Everett Parr, Mrs. Marie Roberts, Mrs. P. D. Montgomery, Mrs. Maynard Brown, Mrs. Claude Widener, Mrs. Kelsay Clapp and Walter Henner. Mrs. Chapp recently resigned as co-chief observer.

Mrs. Radtke reports there is still need for more watchers, particularly during the hours from midnight to 6 a.m. Among those who stand shifts during the late night hours are Mr. and Mrs. Parr, both past 70, who watch from midnight to 4 a.m. on Sunday. Mrs. Radtke reports. The next monthly meeting of Redmond G.O.C. post will be Monday evening, April 11, with the place of meeting and program to be announced. The post is also considering plans for raising funds, possibly a food sale, according to the supervisor.

Bible Credited For Longevity

LEAVENWORTH, Kan. (UP)—A former slave, John Shaffer, who will be 109 years old tomorrow, attributes his long life to "living by the Bible."

The aged Negro, a resident of the county hospital for the aged, said, "If you live right, you will die right."

Shaffer was born in slavery in Richmond, Va., April 1, 1846. He was sold at the age of five to another owner and did not see his mother again for 25 years.

One of life's biggest thrills, Shaffer said, was shaking the hand of President Abraham Lincoln when he was a presidential candidate on a campaign tour.

Although blind, Shaffer is in good physical condition. His only bad habit, he said, was pipe smoking, which he has been doing for 90 years.

Experiments reveal that if a car with a white top and a car with a black top are parked side by side in the sun, the lighter topped car will remain 15 degrees cooler inside.

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