

# Bit of a Bittern Outflashes Flash



(AP Newfeature)

What's Quicker than a flash? It could be a little bird called a bittern, smallest member of the heron family. Here is one held by Mrs. Peter H. Snyder, amateur ornithologist and member of the Audubon society, who rescued it from a San Diego, Calif., lawyer's office. It was terrorizing the lawyer and his staff. They were afraid of its knitting needle beak lunging quicker than a flash. A stenographer called Mrs. Snyder, who now feeds it small frogs and minnows. It snatches its food so fast that a camera set at 1/400 of a second can't quite catch the action without a blur. It lunges nine inches. Bitterns usually are so tricky about concealing themselves that they are seldom seen, says Mrs. Snyder.

# Socialized Medicine Fight May Culminate Next Year

Washington, Dec. 7 (AP)—Leaders in the battle of the American Medical Association against what it calls "socialized medicine" say that the final win-or-lose struggle may come in 1950. Members of the AMA have been informed by their top officials that backers of the Truman proposal for federalized compulsory health insurance have given ground—but only temporarily. They've been told that "skirmishes" have been won by the AMA against its "enemies" and that extensive public support has been rallied to the AMA's cause. But they've been placed on notice that the war itself has not been won. President-Elect Elmer L. Henderson of Louisville told the

doctors yesterday at a clinical session here: "American medicine is stronger today than at any other time in its history, bulwarked by the support of hundreds of other groups and millions of aroused citizens. But we would be foolish, indeed, if we assumed that the final victory had been won." Declaring that in the 1949 session of congress, "the fight

for compulsory health insurance was abandoned, even though the White House itself had become a sounding board for the socializers," Henderson said in a prepared report: "The advocates of socialized medicine, at the start of 1949, were in full cry. American medicine was under violent attack from those who would destroy it, or reorganize it as a political arm of the government. "But the Battle of Armageddon—the decisive struggle which may determine not only medicine's fate but whether state socialism is to engulf all America—is still ahead of us. "That fight may be lost or won in next year's congress, or in the 1950 congressional elections."

# Everything Barred But Fun In Elks Dude Ranch Show

By EILEEN SCOTT ROSS

Barring everything but fun from the premises, the Salem Elks opened the gates of the Bar Nothing ranch for the second time last night. The enjoyment of the performers was contagious, and the audience was caught up immediately in the good humor which prevailed. The greatest enthusiasm was displayed in the rangers' song from "Rio Rita," which opened the second scene and was also the finale. Bill Roble's gold tooth and surrounding talent brought down the house just as on opening night. Scriptwriter George Bynon wove a plot that contrasted the sweet and hot western tunes of the chorus and Al Finn's orchestra with the classical music of

west scenery, planned and constructed by Joe Krauger, Lloyd Thomas, A. C. Baker, John Gilmer, Jack Cherrington, Amil Kilin, Bish Bishop, Louis DuBuy and Pete Peterson. Emcee Dick Schmidt keeps ranch life moving, and audience reaction proved that the Carl Steelhammer production was as action-packed as could be desired. Exalted Ruler Gib Wynkoop appeared at intermission to explain the Christmastime charity for which the musical is a benefit. The Bar Nothing boys will be back tonight and tomorrow for two more hoedowns.

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## Sheep Breeders to Meet in Corvallis

Corvallis, Ore., Dec. 7 (AP)—The Oregon Purebred Sheep Breeders' association's annual meeting will open here Friday, Dec. 9, it was announced today. C. M. Hubbard of Junction City, association president, said discussions of tick control methods and marketing problems would be on the program. R. A. Ward, manager of Pacific Wool Growers, will discuss the current outlook for wool.



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