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FISH TRAP REBUILT IN EAGLE CREEK

Steel-Heads To Be Butchered Public Deprived Of Fish Food

The opposition, which for the past years has been steadily growing among the sportsman and residents of Eastern Clackamas County, against the present system employed by the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries in the conduct of its hatcheries in this territory, about reached a climax last week, when it was reported that the rack and fish trap is again being built across Eagle Creek near Alspaugh Station.

The original rack was washed out by the floods of last winter and it was sincerely hoped no further barriers would be built in that stream. But the foundations are now in and the rack should shortly be in operation.

As the name implies, this rack and trap are installed to stop and catch all steel-heads or salmon in their attempted ascent of the stream to their natural spawning beds. So successfully does it accomplish its purpose, that but a very small proportion of the total run of fish ever reach the upper waters.

According to the principles advocated and given publicity by the government employees, but a fair portion of the fish are captured, these being but temporarily detained in their annual pilgrimage. To the uninformed it is also supposed these fish are humanely treated while the eggs are being removed and fertilized, with the parent fish finally returned to the stream and allowed to enjoy many more years of life, returning each year from salt water, as is the habit of steel-heads, to reproduce in the fresh waters of its natal stream.

In reality, at the Eagle Creek rack and probably elsewhere, fully ninety percent of the steel-heads ascending to that point, which is less than two miles from the stream's mouth, are caught in the trap. These beautiful fish, ranging in weight from three to a dozen pounds each and in fine condition for eating, are handled like cord-wood and thrown into nearby muddy pools and packed in like sardines in a can. These captives are kept in these dirty pools from a day to a few weeks, dependent upon their so-called "ripeness". Then instead of be-

Boy Scout Corps' Finances Are Assured

Thanks to the liberal response given the Estacada Boy Scouts in the sale of "Tags", on Saturday last, the perpetuation of that useful organization is assured for two years at least.

The local corps' quota was \$45, payable in three yearly installments of \$15, and Saturday's campaign netted between \$35, and \$40., about \$10, of which was received from private contributions, other than the sale of tags.

ing carefully stripped of their eggs and milk and as carefully placed back in the parent stream, their necks are broken with a club, the eggs and milk taken and the carcasses tossed into the stream, for craw-fish food and water pollution.

The hatchery employees will tell you that anyone is welcome to a fish after they are done with it. But by the time they are finished, a hungry bear or a Digger Indian wouldn't eat it, covered as it is with sores, fungus and other parasites, incident to the congested pools and unnatural propagation.

Statistics and investigations of the past few years clearly indicate that the steel-head and salmon are diminishing in the Clackamas River and tributaries, this condition being due in part to the two dams at River Mill and Cazadero, but largely to the effective barriers maintained by the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries at Clackamas and Alspaugh.

Together with this condition is the injustice of the enforcement of the federal law prohibiting fishing, even with a hook and line, within two miles of a fish rack.

From the standpoint of the public there is no argument in favor of the present hatchery system along the Clackamas River, for natural reproduction would assure at least as many fish as the artificial system and would also allow the public the right to fish for food purposes, whereas at present no one is being benefited.

The people of Eastern Clackamas County do not need the hatcheries or the government supervision, but they do need the food supply and are rightfully entitled to their share—consequently well signed petitions will shortly be forwarded to the proper authorities in Washington, D. C. and elsewhere, which it is hoped will result in some relief.

E. C. C. F To Issue Premium Lists Early

At a recent meeting of the directors of the Eastern Clackamas County Fair, it was decided to immediately set about having the 1918 fair premium lists prepared and printed, to be ready for distribution this Spring.

This action is a sensible one, allowing exhibitors to plant agricultural products with a view to conforming to the exhibit requirements and the production of livestock and poultry accordingly.

The custom has been general among most fairs to issue the premium list too late to be of value in preliminary preparation, in many instances being distributed too late to save samples of grain from the threshers. But the E. C. C. F., like everything in this hustling portion of the state, is not afraid to tackle new things and get out of the rut of tradition.

Lumbermen To Work For Terminal Rates

Apparently the News struck a popular note in its recent article on "Terminal Rates" for Estacada.

Already, a number of the shippers from this community have volunteered their cooperation, even offering to finance the fight for a square deal if money is needed.

In the case of the Horner-Millard Lumber Company of Viola, Mr. Horner states that a charge of over \$40, is made on every carload of their product, between Estacada and Fairview or Estacada and Portland, whereas the Willamette Valley mills are able to ship as far as Portland, free of charge, on shipments bound east of the Montana line.

This handicap of \$40, on a carload of lumber is a serious one for the local mills, materially decreasing their profits and directly hurting the industrial growth of this outlying section.

The Oregon Development League and nearly every booster organization in the state is constantly urging and working for the upbuilding of the rural and slightly developed portions of Oregon and their cooperation should be obtained in this fight for equal shipping rates.

Any arguments or suggestions that will aid in this important cause will be welcomed and given full publicity by the News.

COMMUNITY AUCTION WELL ATTENDED

Implements Find Ready Sale But No Demand For Livestock

Despite the good plowing weather and the Grange meetings on Saturday, the community auction sale held on the Broadway pavement in Estacada was a big success and well attended.

About one hundred articles were disposed of in the sale, ranging in prices from 10c to \$85., with the demand and prices paid being the best for implements and household goods, with vehicles and harness going at lower prices and no call whatever for livestock, excepting a horse and colt.

Due to the high cost of feeds, no one was in the market for cattle of any description and the one prize boar offered brought no bids.

A few complaints were made because some owners, either personally or through representatives, finally bid in their goods, paying the 10% commission, rather than having them sold at a price far below their value. Even then many articles, especially good harnesses, sold for but a fraction of their value.

From the general business standpoint of the community and town much good was done, with many dollars going into circulation among the people and merchants and many supposedly useless articles getting into the hands of parties needing them.

The splendid cafeteria dinner served by the ladies of the C. I. C. in the former Adams' restaurant was well patronized and netted the sponsors about \$16.

The sale of tags by the Estacada Boy Scouts on that day met with a hearty response from the public, with the boys disposing of about \$28, worth.

Many parties from Portland and distant parts of the county were in attendance and a large number of people from outlying sections of Eastern Clackamas were present.

Many Buying New Cars

Even the H. C. of L. is not interfering with the purchasing of new automobiles in this community and the outlook is a bright one for the dealers this Spring.

Within the past two weeks, the Cascade Garage reports the sales of Chevrolet cars to T. J. Dolan of Barton, John Moger and Jas. Folsom of Springwater and J. F. Fournier of Boring; with a Dodge car sold to Ray Keith of Faraday and a Ford to George Sawtelle of Eagle Creek. Smiley Lovelace of Springwater is also driving a Dodge, which he purchased from the Cascade people a few weeks ago.