

OUT OF DOORS STUFF

By Lans Leneve

A man who lives in a hovel may criticize the man who dwells within a mansion and even a poor painter of pictures may thumb his nose at the art of a master. But on either occasion it is seldom, if ever, heed is paid to the poor man or the painter of poor pictures. And many times their criticism is warranted and just, especially that of the painter, for sometimes the finished artist is not at his best and paints "off color." There are writers of out-door subjects who have their own private offices near the press rooms in large newspaper offices and there are noted novelists who at times stray from the writing of western thrillers and spread the ink regarding firearms, upon the pages of sporting magazines. And many times these two writers make statements that sound actually childish concerning certain subjects. And I feel that when a writer such as myself points the finger of ridicule at such personages who have blundered, that what I say carries the same weight as does the criticism of the poor man regarding his wealthy brother or the poor artist regarding the famous one. But regardless of that fact I sound off just the same, for who knows but at times words of wisdom may come from the mouth of a hunter and fisherman as well "as from the mouths of babes."

All this leads up to the fact that not long ago a famous western novelist carried an article in an outdoor magazine relative to firearms and in which he questioned the fact as to whether or not a bolt action was ever found in the hands of a real sportsman or a rifleman. He strayed so far from his western thrillers in this article, it seems, as to tell the sporting fraternity, or to leave the impression that any rifle aside from the one that he favored was not, or should not, be a favored arm. Personally, I do not care for a bolt action, but nevertheless they are to be found in the hands of thousands of sportsmen and riflemen, many of whom could hand out some first rate pointers to this gentleman regarding firearms, if he does not actually possess more knowledge concerning them than was shown in his article.

It all goes to show, as I have always contended, that whenever a man strays from his own particular well-versed subject into new fields he is going to find the going tough. Just as I was all primed and cocked to send in a wall of protest to the magazine in which the novelist's article

appeared, about some Captain Crossman, one of the greatest authorities on guns in the world today and he handed the noted novelist a bawling out that must have burned the type-setters' fingers. Among other things the captain informed the public that the novelist was a charming writer, at times, but that he lacked any knowledge of possibilities of gun-play. He condemned his sweeping assertions as to sportsmanship and the judgment of men in their selection of rifles. Crossman added, "Grey is a great fisherman. He shows that by his childish comments of rifles and shooting." The captain also poked fun at the noted author for his quick gun-drawing heroes in his books and stated if he was really familiar with firearms that he would change these heroes and tame them down to the bounds of possibilities concerning their lightning draws.

Taking it all in all, Captain Crossman's article was a masterpiece on the subject and caused me to refrain from writing any comments upon it myself to that magazine. I wouldn't be at all surprised that when the famous novelist in his next best seller causes the cattle thief to be suspended from the swaying limb of a study oak that his thoughts are centered upon good old Captain Crossman to whom this novelist looked like just any ordinary hombre who had bungled Crossman's favorite topic—rifles. It all goes without saying that when articles concerning firearms are published in magazines with half a million circulation that they have to be right up to par, for there are thousands of men well versed on the subject who read those articles and it is mighty easy to get tripped up.

A few years back an eastern writer, giving advice to the novice as to how to bag swift flying birds, stated that all that was necessary was to hold your gun right on the bill of the bird and that no lead was necessary. It was the most absurd statement regarding wing shooting that I ever saw printed. About forty shooters, including myself, hopped right on his neck in the following issue and a controversy was carried on for several issues. Finally there were so many letters coming in to clutter up the pages of the magazine that the editor left it up to the editor of the gun department in the magazine and that editor told the easterner that if he only had to hold on a bird's bill at any distance to kill it on the wing that he was cockeyed or cross-eyed, or words to that effect.

About the most amusing controver-

sy that I ever heard of regarding game was the statement that a college professor made back east that deer did not shed their horns, and was called by the late Jim Cox, of Curry county. Finally a caretaker of a big park that housed scores of deer was called upon to settle it and he did so in short order. The gist of the whole thing was the fact that the college professor simply connected up with a subject concerning which he was totally ignorant.

Another thing that struck me as amusing not long ago, was the adventures of a weasel as drawn by an artist for a Sunday paper. It showed the weasel sneaking upon a large hen, killing her and eating her. All that was left was the bones of poor biddy. A weasel is a sucker of blood and very, very rarely partakes of any sort of meat unless driven to it by extreme hunger. Even if this little animal was a meat eater, he'd sure have to go some to get on the outside of a chicken that would make a big bobcat a royal feast. And then the end of the picture showed the greedy weasel caught around the neck in a steel trap, which further showed the artist's lack of knowledge of trapping. It all goes to show that writers of articles should stick to subjects with which they are familiar, for to stray from them simply means the inviting of ridicule and the heaping of criticism upon their heads. I am not saying that everything I write regarding the outdoors is perfect in every respect, but I do know that I can deal more intelligently with that subject than any other, for the reason that I am better versed in it. But if I strayed from that field and sought to write upon such subjects as railroading, bridge building or quilting bees, I wouldn't get far until some one tripped me up and that's a cinch.

Two of the most confusing things that a woodsman and a hunter has to contend with are fog and snow. A heavy, swirling fog enveloping the marshlands makes landmarks mighty hard to locate and is very baffling to the hunter who is seeking some particular spot. It is then that a man has to rely almost entirely upon his sense of direction. A fall of snow in the mountains completely changes the appearance of the landscape and old familiar ridges, openings and trails acquire an entirely different aspect. It is mighty easy to get turned completely around under such conditions. One of my most trying experiences in the hills was during a snow storm when I was forced to wallow for two solid miles

through snow that reached to my armpits and with snow flying so thick it was impossible to see but a few feet ahead. Every few steps I would fall into deep drifts higher than my head. I shall never forget the welcome sight of the cabin looming up in the little clearing at the end of my destination.

It is a known fact that any game bird raised in captivity does not possess the protective instinct that comes natural to the game bird which is hatched in its natural haunts. And pen-raised birds I doubt very much possess the stamina of wild birds. A pen-raised bird is pampered, fed well at all times and practically raised by hand. Such a bird is in reality a domesticated bird and it is not only a pity but a crime as well, to liberate such birds a short time before the opening of the game season, as in the case of Chinese pheasants.

HONORED BY FRANCE



Dr. Ray P. Bowen, head of the Romance languages department of the University of Oregon, has been awarded the order of Officer d'Academie, with silver palms, by the French government, in recognition of his contributions to French literature and culture. He has taught in the famous Sorbonne in Paris, and is a world traveler and student of foreign affairs.

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Knife Hospital

Sam and Gene Nosler, brothers who entered the hospital at the same time for hernia operations, were dismissed last Thursday.

Other dismissals were Adrian Campbell on Saturday, Wm. Ferris on Tuesday, Jimmy Willett on Wednesday, Harry Houghton, Tony Georges, and Alice Fenise, of Weed, Calif., on Thursday.

Mrs. Flora Carlson, of Randolph, entered the hospital on Monday for treatment; Mrs. Helen Herzog, of North Bend, underwent a tonsil operation Tuesday, and Mrs. Geo. Anderson, of Coquille, a major operation the same day.

A tonsil operation was performed for the young son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Oerding on Wednesday.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Gould yesterday morning.

Dr. C. G. Stem, Chiropractor. 292 Moulton St., phone 86J. 221

New Cases in Circuit Court

May 31—Raymond E. Burton vs. Jerry Burton. Suit for divorce.

June 3—Gladys L. Shriefer vs. Emmet E. Schriefer. Suit for divorce.

June 3—In the matter of examination of Mary E. Cary. Appeal from County Court.

June 3—State Industrial Accident Commission vs. Glenn A. Parr.

June 6—State Industrial Accident Commission vs. V. V. Hagedorn.

J. J. Stanley left this morning for Eugene, taking Geo. Baxter with him. The latter is in poor physical condition and will join his son and daughter in the Lane county seat.

WARRANT REDEMPTION NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that warrants up to and including No. 6061, issued by Coquille School District, No. 8, will be paid upon presentation to the district clerk, on and after Saturday, June 8, 1935. Interest on said warrants ceases on that date. Keith Leslie, Clerk. School District No. 8, Coquille, Coos County, Oregon. 2113

LOOK!

THIS OFFER EXTENDED TO **JUNE 15**

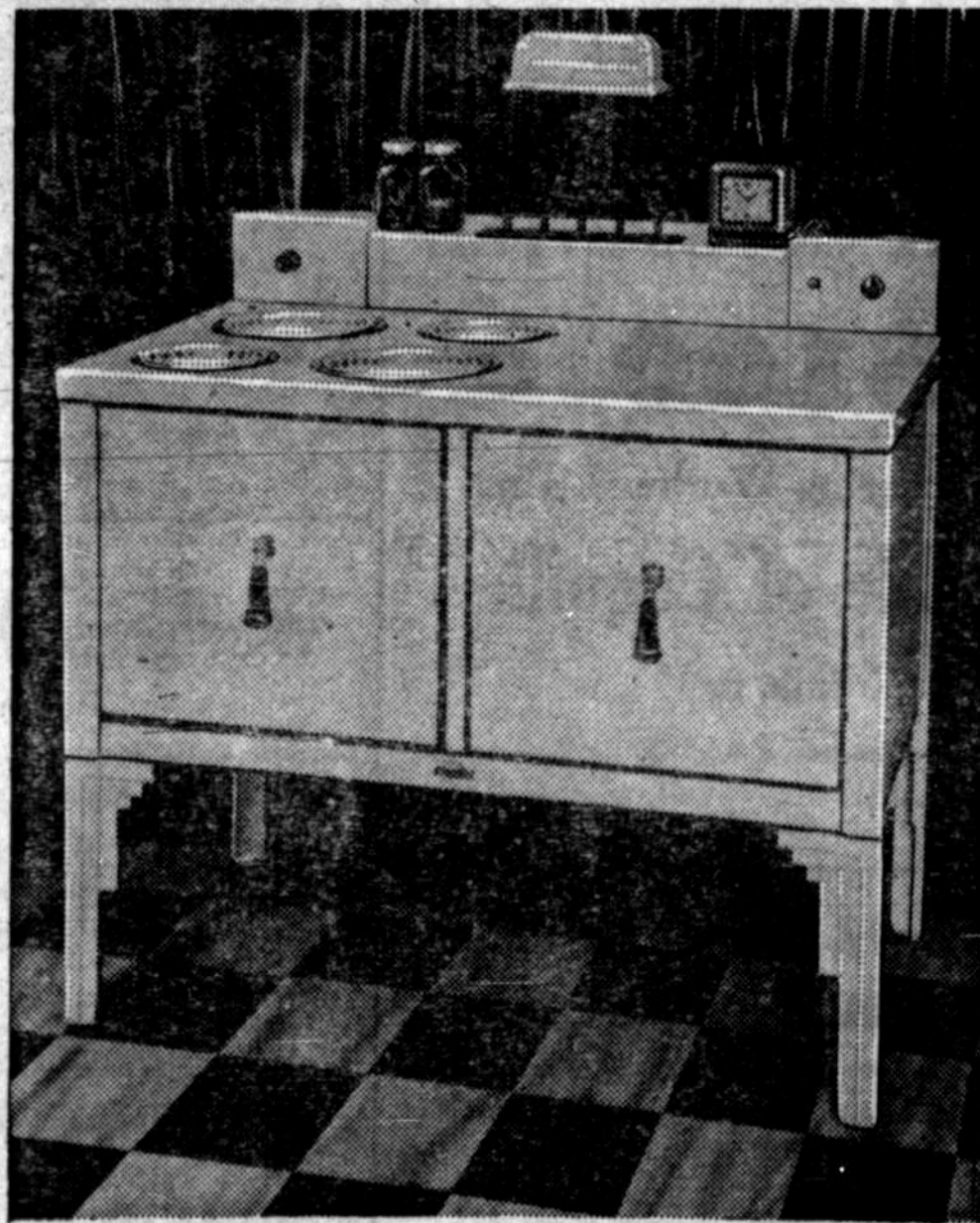
Positively Ends On That Date

Monday, June 17, this very fine range will cost you \$165. The extraordinary offer we are now making is only possible because these ranges were contracted for with the factory last fall. Those purchased on that contract are practically all sold. Bought at today's prices they will have to be sold at \$165. This is a very fine range, for the rest of the week only it will sell at a price so far below its regular selling price that this is the outstanding bargain of the year. We unreservedly recommend this range to you believing that it will give you excellent satisfaction in every way. Do not let the price mislead you. There is "nothing wrong" with this range, it is strictly high grade and dependable in every way. It is modern in every respect, one of the most attractive ranges we have ever sold and a range that we are proud of.

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