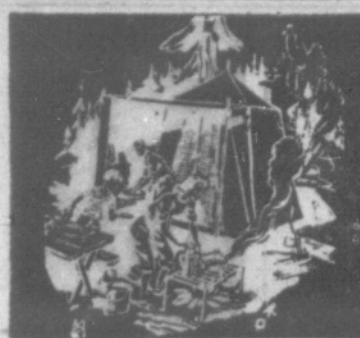


Coquille Valley Sentinel

COQUILLE, OREGON

MAY 6, 1948.



Out Door STUFF...

By
Lans Leneve
of
Remote, Oregon

Sportsmen in general figured that within a few months after the end of the war that guns and ammunition would be plentiful. Few suspected that said guns and ammunition would be rationed out to dealers this season as were nylons rationed to the ladies during the big scrap, but such is now the case. Just take a tip from us and grab your favorite rifle ammunition for this coming deer season or you are liable to find yourself out of luck, for lack of shells, when the season arrives.

In many cases only a certain amount of ammunition is being allotted dealers and a notice accompanies the invoice that any and all part of the order may be cancelled. The same applies to the order pertaining to firearms that have been ordered.

Many standard rifles are still not available and the sportsmen that are lucky enough to secure new firearms are "soaked" with the highest prices on record. Both shotguns and rifles have jumped in price to an alarming extent, not to mention ammunition advances.

Shotguns that sold prior to the war for \$55.00 are now selling for \$95.00. Rifles that sold for \$35 and \$40 are now selling for \$75 and \$80. Twenty-two caliber rifle shells that sold for 30 cents are now priced at 55 cents and the old dollar and a quarter boxes of shotgun shells are now bringing over two smackers a box.

Today it is costing the sportsmen almost twice as much to hunt and to fish as it did in pre-war days, so far as the purchase of guns, ammunition and tackle is concerned. In addition to this, there are about twice as many hunters and anglers as there were afield before the war. Both fish and game are scarcer than prior to the war. Seasons are being shortened, more restrictions clamped on the sportsmen, more choice lands taken over by wealthy gun clubs, and Hollywood is moving in on the Rogue.

The poorer class of sportsmen is being gradually forced from the picture, and, especially so, where ducks are concerned, and in many cases where choice fishing may be had. And each season sees more and more

when the ruffed grouse (native pheasant) frequented every old orchard and crab apple thicket throughout the county, when the plumed quail moved in great convoys along every county road and forest trail; when the blue or sooty grouse hooted by the thousands throughout our forests and when there were hundreds of thousands of wild ducks and geese filling the air lanes. Where have they disappeared to? What is responsible for their decrease to the new pitiful numbers? The answer is simple. Man is responsible.

Man likes to point out the fact that cougar, bobcats and other predators take such a great toll from the ranks of our wildlife—that they are responsible for the decrease. But what about the great herds of elk and deer and the millions of game birds that were in evidence even before the appearance of man upon the scene? The advent of man is what unbalanced Nature and not the varmints of the woods. The advent of the most greedy varmint of animal life—man himself, is directly responsible for present conditions. Man with his lust to kill, his lust for profit and for pleasure. A varmint of the woods kills only in order to survive, few of them kill wantonly, but man, the real blood-thirsty varmint, kills and kills and kills. He kills for gain, for profit, for pleasure and it is directly at his door and his door alone may be laid the present scarcity of our game birds and animals and we defy any one to prove otherwise.

Summer Camping Planned By Scouts

Plans for summer camping and a summer Scout Jamboree were on the program of the executive committee meeting of the Boy Scout council last Thursday evening.

Presided over by Chairman Evan Aiborn, the meeting was attended by Scout Executive Dave Putnam, Mr. Harris, Lloyd Claver, Ray Jeub, Al Brannan, Rev. Robert Lessing, and Eugene Fields.

There are thousands of men who profess to be sportsmen that are crying their eyes out concerning the shortness of the duck seasons. They are clamoring for longer seasons, for larger bag limits; in fact they are demanding them. Would you call that true sportsmanship?

A gesture of true sportsmanship would be for sportsmen to demand a closed season on our migratory waterfowl, for two or three years in order that the birds could stage a comeback. But no, they wish to extend the seasons, to increase the number of the bag limit and to whale away at the birds until they are entirely exterminated—until they go the way of the carrier pigeon.

There will be three or four million more hunters in the marshes the coming season than there were prior to the war, and there will be ten million less ducks than there were prior to that same war. Just how can the poor birds be expected to increase in numbers, or even hold their own under those conditions—we ask you?

Many old timers can recall when there were thousands and thousands of elk which roamed Coos county,

Coast Manager Back From Meeting

Verne H. Tinnerstet, manager of the Oregon Coast association, returned from California where he represented the Oregon Coast at the sportsmen's and vacation shows in Oakland and Los Angeles.

According to Tinnerstet, Oregon's exhibit was one of the most outstanding at both shows. The Oakland show ran from March 26 to April 7 and the Los Angeles show from April 8 to April 18, the overall attendance being 400,000. Other representatives from the state of Oregon were Carl Jordan, state highway commission, travel information dept.; Wilfred-Jossey, central Oregon representative, and V. C. McNeil, Portland Chamber of Commerce.

Oregon's exhibit covered a 30 ft. by 10 ft. space, one of the largest at the shows. Agates and Japanese glass floats were part of the coast display. Moving pictures were shown.

In addition to distributing literature and promoting vacation and tourist travel on the Oregon coast, Tinnerstet visited travel editors of travel magazines and newspaper, chambers of commerce, automobile associations and travel bureaus in San Francisco, Oakland and Los Angeles.

The reports that the California people were very appreciative of the Oregon exhibit and the aid given by the Oregon representatives to those seeking information on vacationing in Oregon.

Mammoth Egg Brought To Sentinel

A mammoth egg, measuring eight inches around the long way and six and one-half inches around the other way, was brought into the Sentinel office this week by Mrs. George A. Johnson, 195 N. Beach street, Coquille. The egg was laid by a white leghorn hen, according to Mrs. Johnson.

In Coquille For Week-End—Mrs. Es-ther Hatcher, who is working at the new Tioga hotel in Coos Bay, spent the week-end in Coquille visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mansell.

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