

THE DESCHUTES RANGER

FOR JUNE

The June number of The Deschutes Ranger, issued monthly from the office of the supervisor of the Deschutes Forest in Bend, has as front cover illustration, views of the road to the Tumalo ranger station before and after improvement, showing in a striking way what has been accomplished in the way of road construction on this former trail.

Extracts from the Ranger follow: On June 20 the Maiden Peak Lookout was manned by Mr. C. G. Bowers. This is the last of our primary peaks to be occupied by the men who will be on the constant watch for fires throughout the approaching fire season. Frank Childers is stationed at Paulina Peak; B. G. Stevens will report from Walker Mountain and Claude Woods is occupying the Black Butte Lookout station. These men are all in telephonic connection with their respective district rangers and with the Supervisor's office in Bend.

There will be an effort made during the coming season to utilize the dry range in the Fort Rock valley. One band of approximately 2,000 sheep, owned by J. E. Hinton, of Shaniko, will probably use the Fox Butte range and will depend upon the well drilled at Dry Lake by Hollengren & Jones as a watering place. An application to graze 900 ewes and lambs in the vicinity of Cabin Lake well has been approved and, if satisfactory arrangements can be made for pumping water, this band of sheep will graze the country lying between the South Ice Cave and the Forest boundary at Cabin lake. It is more than probable that within a year or two a considerable portion of the timbered dry range lying at the north west end of the Fort Rock valley will be fully developed through the drilling of wells by private capital on National Forest land. Should this region become fully grazed it will materially lessen the fire hazard and probably prevent a repetition of devastating fires which have repeatedly occurred in this district during the past few years.

Mr. Brinkley is still engaged upon land classification work. He finished the field work in connection with the Crescent project and returned to Bend on the afternoon of June 11. On June 15 he began the field work on the Fremont portion of the Long Butte project. It is his intention to work continuously on this project until July 1, by which time he will have completed all the ragged outlying portions of the project and will then return to Bend, leaving the bulk of the project lying in a solid body still to be completed which will be organized later in the summer. On July 1 Mr. Brinkley will return to Bend and become available for fire suppression work.

Mr. Harpham topped off a month's work at telephone and road repairing and bridge construction work with a flying trip to Portland during the Rose Show.

Mr. Sproat is still engaged on the Snow Study in the Tumalo district. Once a week since the latter part of March trips have been made to Tumalo Ranger Station to collect data bearing on the comparative rapidity with which snow melts in the open and under the shelter of heavy timber. Four stations, each containing an open area contiguous to timber cover where conditions relative to slope, aspect, etc., are as nearly identical as possible were selected. A number of graduated stakes were set in the open and adjacent timbered area of each of the four stations to facilitate the accurate measurement of snow depth from week to week. At the same time a snow section is taken in the open and timbered area of each station, making eight sections in all, for the purpose of obtaining the water equivalent as well as the depth of snow. This work is to be continued until the snow has entirely melted, when a report will be written.

The new test sets which have recently been put into use by the ranger force bid fair to prove an important link in the chain of fire detection and early suppression. It is the unanimous opinion of those into whose hands this new style test set has fallen that the instrument will be extensively used and will do away with much useless travel.

Up to and including June 19 ten fires have been fought by the Forest Service officials in the Deschutes forest. Four of these fires succeeded in getting a good start and developed into Class C fires before they could be controlled. The five days of June 13 to 17 inclusive were extremely favorable for bad fires and during this period a large number of fires started on private lands outside the National Forest, and a few within our boundaries. Immediately following this dry and very hot week two electric storms passed over the mountainous portions of the forest and several small fires were reported having started from lightning. The rather general rain and cold wave which followed the electric storm prevented the spread of the fires and brought an end to what might have been an unprecedented fire situation for the middle portion of June.

Ranger Smith reports from Paulina Lake that the snow is exception-

ally deep in that locality for this season of the year. He states that there are drifts in the neighborhood of the lake shore which are at least 30 feet deep. Mr. Smith also states that the snow on top of Paulina Peak is exceptionally deep, but that the lookout cabin which was built last season has withstood the heavy winter storms and is in good condition.

During the latter part of May Mr. Harpham assisted Ranger South in putting a wagon bridge across the East Deschutes river at the military crossing about 13 miles above Crescent. It will now be possible for autos to travel the old military road between Crescent Lake and Beaver Marsh. Because of the bad ford it has for several years been impossible to take this route. Since funds were not available for team hire, part of the timbers and the decking for the bridge were moved by use of the auto. A small sled was constructed and fastened to the rear axle of the car and one end of the poles chained to it "lizard" fashion. By this method it was possible to move more than one hundred pieces of 12 foot decking for about 300 yards in approximately 3 1/2 hours time. This operation cost the Forest Service 25 cents in auto mileage and saved much time and sore shoulders to the bridge builders.

Supervisor Hastings has recently made a complete circuit of the ranger headquarters for the purpose of reviewing the present condition of roads, trails and telephone lines and to gain first hand information relative to the present condition of the fire fighting equipment. His observations show that the Forest is in good shape for the approaching fire season, except in the matter of plows and water barrels. Immediately after July 1, when 1917 funds become available, each ranger district will be provided with water barrels to be used in fire protection work only, and plows for the same purpose will be furnished to those districts where fire suppression work can be economically and efficiently conducted through the use of a plow.

Interest is again centering in the McKenzie wagon road. There is at present a survey party working in the vicinity of the summit on the west side of the Cascade range making a final location over this portion of the proposed road. It is expected that the work will be completed on the west side of the summit before the end of June and that survey work in the vicinity of Windy Point in the Deschutes Forest will be begun by July 1. During the coming summer it is expected to do the field work in the final location survey and during the coming winter the plans and estimates for that part of the McKenzie road lying east of the summit will be prepared under the direction of Mr. Finch of the Office of Public Roads. The citizens in the Sisters road district are contemplating levying a special tax for the purpose of reconstructing the McKenzie road from the town of Sisters to Windy Point with the hope that the Forest Service, through the 10 per cent fund, will be able to construct the road from Windy Point westward across the summit of the Cascades. The people of Sisters who are agitating the levy of this special tax have approached the Forest Service for data sufficiently accurate upon which to base a budget for the purpose of levying their special tax. This information probably can be furnished and if the tax is levied the money will be available for the working season of 1917. It is thought, therefore, that the McKenzie wagon road from Sisters westward to the Willamette valley will be in first class condition for through travel by the end of the summer season of 1917.

It is with difficulty that we are maintaining the phone service over the West Deschutes line which runs through the Shevlin-Hixon logging operations. It has been necessary, in order to insure service, to lay approximately one mile of insulated telephone wire near the camp located below Benham Falls on the Deschutes river. The logging operations made it impossible to keep up the line on the west side of the river and the lava field prevented the construction of a permanent line along the other bank. Insulated wire was, therefore, strung along the rough surface of the lava field. In laying the insulated wire two parallel lines were put down which are at some points a couple of hundred yards apart. In at least six places within the mile these parallel lines are connected by cross wires, thus making a ladder effect; it is hoped in case either line is broken we will still have service by way of the other. In case both lines become broken it is still possible and highly probable that service may still be had over a part of the first one and then the other of the lines by way of one or more of the cross wires. Except for the few miles of telephone line which is near the summit of the mountains and is heavily buried in snow, all lines are in excellent working order.

Nearly all truck line roads have been placed in condition for summer travel. There are, however, a few exceptions on account of the depth of snow. The Paulina Lake road, for instance, is still blocked by fallen

timber, but this road will be cleaned as soon as snow conditions will permit. The road to Tumalo Ranger Station will be treated likewise. Perhaps within ten days both of these roads will be put into shape for auto travel.

GAME IN THE ANTARCTIC.

Seal Steak is Good, and So Are the Breasts and Eggs of Penguins.

In the antarctic there is not the immense variety of game which is to be found in north polar regions; but, on the other hand, it is very abundant and can be turned into food with the smallest exertion. The Weddell seal, which sometimes weighs as much as half a ton, allows itself to be killed and cut up with placid calm. Its natural enemies are in the water, and for long generations it has been accustomed to bask in the sun undisturbed.

Seal steak is an acquired taste, but when acquired explorers prefer it to tinned provisions. It is a common assumption that seal flesh tastes of train oil. That is a mistake; the flesh itself contains no fat, but it is extremely rich in blood, and in taste suggests the Scottish delicacy known as black pudding.

Penguins, too, make a very desirable addition to the antarctic larder. Epicures eat only the breast, which is rather like hare, but of a more delicate flavor. The eggs, which are very abundant in the spring, suggest ducks' eggs, but are about four times as big. They are excellent eating if you happen to pick a new laid one, but this is naturally something of a lottery, and a penguin egg can be very bad indeed.—London Chronicle.

OVER THE EQUATOR.

The Coldest Air Blows High Up Above This Torrid Region.

Winds blow not merely along the surface of the earth, but upward and downward throughout the atmosphere. They whirl about in all directions. So it is impossible to construct a weather chart that will really show the directions of the winds, for such a chart would have to be in three dimensions. Professor Alexander McArdie of Harvard in an article in the Geographical Review describes some of the recent experiments in the upper air performed by sounding balloons. The atmosphere has, roughly, two layers, the lower called the troposphere and the upper the stratosphere. The strongest winds are found just below the stratosphere, and it would seem that pressure changes originate in this region.

The stratosphere is highest over the equator and lowest over the poles, but its height varies with the season. "At the equator," says Professor McArdie, "as we rise in the air the temperature continues to fall to a much greater height than in temperate latitudes. Indeed, the lowest temperature is found above the equator."

Origin of Satin.

The discovery of the principle of the manufacture of satin was a pure accident. The discovery was made by a silk weaver named Octavio Mal. During a dull period of business one day he was pacing before his loom, not knowing how to give a new impulse to his trade. As he passed the machine each time he pulled short threads from the warp and, following an old habit, put them into his mouth and rolled them about, soon after spitting them upon the floor. Later he discovered a little ball of silk upon the floor of his shop and was astonished at the brilliancy of the threads. He repeated the experiment and eventually employed various mucilaginous preparations and succeeded in making satin.

Deaf as an Adder.

The expression "deaf as an adder" is from the Psalms of David, where it appears in the following form: "Their poison is like the poison of serpents. They are like the deaf adder that stoppeth her ear, which will not hearken to the voice of charmers, charming ever so wisely." East Indian travelers tell us that there is a widely prevailing superstition in the east to the effect that both the viper and the asp stop their ears when the charmer is uttering his incantations or playing his music by turning one ear to the ground and twisting the point of the tail into the other.

MUFF BRONSON TO MEET LEO HOUCK AT HIPPODROME

Portland and Seattle Featherweights to Have 10-Round Go—Many Preliminary Events are Arranged.

Muff Bronson is fast rounding into shape for his ten round go with Leo Houck at the Hippodrome next Monday evening. The game little battler from Portland seems to be extremely fast and clever, according to his sparring partners, and a very hard hitter. He is considered the sensation of the present season and his admirers around Portland are predicting that he will relieve Johnny Kilbane of his laurels.

Manager Doudnah of the Hippodrome has secured Leo Houck to meet Bronson. Leo Houck is said to be the best 125 pounder around Puget Sound and as Bronson is king in that weight among the Oregon boxers it will be seen that the fans are in for a treat. These two lads met several months ago in a six round bout in Portland, and though Bronson was the victor on a close decision at that time, still Houck and his supporters are confident that he will reverse the verdict when they meet here. Houck is doing his prep-



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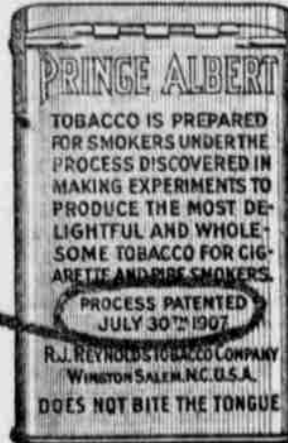
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aratory work in Seattle and will arrive here Thursday morning to complete his training. Both these lads are young and aspiring and the winner will have a clear title to the featherweight championship of the northwest.

The preliminary bouts are also creating quite a bit of interest. In the semi-windup, Fred Gilbert, of Bend, will meet Jack Dubray, of

Prineville. Gilbert has been showing improved form since he started to work out with Bronson and is confident that he will defeat the pride of Prineville. Two preliminaries, one between Kid Spec and Johnny Montgomery at 135 pounds, and the other between Kid Bosko and Joe Clements, have already been announced. In addition, Max Martin will give an exhibition. The Shev-

lin-Hixon quartette will sing several selections and a four round curtain raiser will be arranged. Dr. W. G. Manning will referee the main bout. The public is invited to see Bronson work out every afternoon at 3 o'clock at the Hippodrome.

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