

## Sport Gags

By K. D. P.

Well, with our loss to Huson's by the score of 20 to 9, we have finished the season. It has been much fun—worries and all—and has been very interesting to Everett and me. We have really enjoyed very much working with this fine bunch of boys and it is our sincere hope that they will all be back together to make it very interesting for our opponents next year. Our boys simply could not click at all in fielding and batting Tuesday night and could not rally together sufficiently to make it tough for Huson's. Huson's deserved the honor of being champions of the City League after they have run through a very bad streak of bad luck. If we were to look carefully into the record of our wins and losses it will prove to be very impressive for there are over half of the team who have never played softball before. With added experience, they will be plenty good next year.

Our softball players had a dandy time last Saturday and Sunday as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Everett Faber at their cabin at Lake of the Woods. The only drawback was the absence of some of the players who could not go because of business or other reasons. There were 10 boys besides me and some of them brought their wives and Blue O'Connor was the only one who brought his girl in to the lake. Also Miss Frances Faber was there making it a merry party for all. Some of the boys have got some sunburns but not bad enough to hinder their playing at the softball games. I believe I got the worst of all as I have to sleep nearly all night on my stomach. Later I spent my time in fishing for bass and got a nice one and engaged in a fishing contest with Lorne Webster as to who would catch the most perch. I believe we are tied. Everyone spent their time in swimming and boat riding. And to think that we have been swimming about 2 o'clock in the morning and fool around all we

want. (Wonder how Bill and Avys Grimes felt when we woke them up at about 2:30 a.m. to give them an old fashioned charivari in honor of their recent marriage.)

But there was one thing I kick about the trip to the lake is the poor condition of the road from Crater Lake-Butte Falls Junction to Lake of the Woods. The road is in the poorest shape I have ever seen it and it is just like a regular washboard and virtually shook my old car to pieces. I have already lost a radiator cap and have the unfortunate pleasure of a blow out on one of my tires. So coming home I decided to go by the North Fork of Little Butte Creek down to the Lake Creek store, which is only 15 miles. The first five miles is pretty rough in spots, particularly the last mile, (which caused Babb and Webster to wonder if we were on the right road) and the last ten miles are much better than the Butte Falls road and we made pretty good time in getting home.

It looks very bad about the steelhead fishing in the Rogue this year. Last Monday evening, while fishing below Hardy Riffle, I found four dead steelheads and it is the first time in all my years of fishing on the Rogue that I have found a dead steelhead. Taking one of the dead fish I examined carefully for any mark of damage and I could not find anything wrong with it. And mind you, they are fresh-run steelheads. Wonder if the recent hot weather has had anything to do with it? In one of the recent bulletins put out by the fish commission, it stated that when the water reached 77 degrees, it bordered on the danger mark for trout life. Could it be possible that the warmth of the water has already passed that mark? I have noticed that the water seems very warm lately. It certainly looks bad.

The action of the Grants Pass people has got me puzzled. For years they have been one of the strongest of Southern Oregon communities in their insistent fight on the net fishermen at the mouth of the Rogue and have done a great deal in an effort to improve the conditions of the Rogue. Then to calmly fold up and do nothing when it was discovered that there was very little water flowing through the fish ladders at Savage Rapids dam! Mr. Reed Carter, secretary-manager of the Grants Pass Irrigation district stated that if the company should

be forced to rotate the system of diverting the water through the ladders, the farmers of Josephine county would take a terrific loss in their crops. That sounds like the most silly remark I ever heard in my life, for a few years ago they were forced to use the rotation system and I have heard very few howls about the loss of crops. Even if they are now allowing the water to go through the ladder, I am not satisfied with the amount of water running through for it looks woefully low to me and for the life of me, I cannot see how steelhead could go up the ladders under such conditions.

## The R.F.D. Service

Wm. H. McNEAL

(Reprinted from July 22 Issue of the National Rural Letter Carrier)

(Continued From Last Week)

The total R. F. D. income is estimated to be around \$190,000,000. Total costs of salaries and equipment allowance for carriers is \$91,000,000. Profit over and above costs \$100,000,000. In addition to this 31,000 small fourth class post offices were abolished or absorbed by the R. F. D. service with the saving of many millions of dollars for these salaries.

No other branch of the service has an income record equal to ours. We are the well known goose who "lays the golden egg" for the post office department.

To charge the R. F. D. service with any of the postal deficit is indeed an unjustified, unfounded mythical conclusion. By no stretch of the imagination can any of the deficit be laid to our door and rural carriers of the nation should be quick to correct any such misstatements uttered or printed. Quite the contrary, rural carriers are entitled to an increase in pay. We have never had a full restoration of salary cuts made under the economy act. The advisability of asking for

such a restoration is debatable at this time, due to the general depression. But they should not be forgotten.

### Legitimate Costs of Postal Service

Some years ago the official organ published the following table on postal costs. It varies annually but for general purposes is about the same now. Expenditures:—Ship and air line subsidies \$200,000,000; Railroad subsidies \$120,000,000; City carriers salaries \$120,000,000; Clerical and office costs \$190,000,000; Railway mail clerks salaries \$60,000,000; Postmasters and helpers salaries \$60,000,000; R. F. D. service \$91,000,000;—TOTAL \$841,000,000.

This same table (in 1931) showed 1st class postage bringing in 42.7% of the department's income; 17.2% by parcel post; 10.7% by 2nd and 3rd class mail and 18.2% was deficit. Deficit was due partly to free mail services and to above subsidies and not to the R. F. D. service. About 11% of income was from all other types of service.

In 1926 there was a peak number of 45,315 R. F. D. routes. The consolidation policy of the Department has not only reduced this number to 33,144; but the 12,000 fewer carriers are today traveling 137,467 miles daily FARTHER and serving more people, doing more work than the 45,000 did in 1926; and at an annual saving to the Department of \$15,265,087 for the 1,387,445 miles we cover daily.

Another important fallacy to explode about the R. F. D. and postal

service, is that our salaries are NOT paid by the taxpayers, as are other governmental employees; but instead by the USERS OF THE SERVICE just the same as any private business. When postal employees ask for increase in salary from Congress it should be made known in bold print and loud words that the taxpayer is not paying our costs. The taxpayer does pay the deficit. But most of the deficit is for free mail service for other departments of the government and subsidies, controlled solely by Congress and paid for by Congress.

WM. H. McNEAL.

## SOFTBALL NEWS

Unloosing a terrific batting streak which never let up at all during the

game, the powerful Huson's the championship of the City when they crushed Faber's to 9 Tuesday night.

Playing one of the off n which Faber's is noted, t ply did not click and mad which hurt pretty bad in sor The defeat for Faber's finl season for them and the pla turn in their suits to the i Probably all of the players back next year.

OUR CLASSIFIED ADS A  
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## Legal Notices

### NOTICE

The Board of Equalization for the County of Jackson, State of Oregon, will meet in regular session at the office of the County Assessor, in the County Court House at Medford, Oregon, at 10:00 O'clock a. m., Monday August 14th., 1939, for the purpose of hearing complaints and equalizing the 1939 assessment rolls. The said hearing will continue from the above date until August 30th., 1939.

Any property owner who is aggrieved at the valuation placed on his or her property may appear before said board and petition for a correction in the valuation as shown on the 1939 assessment rolls. All petitions must be filed on or before August 30th., as the Board of Equalization will complete its public hearings on said date.

J. B. Coleman,  
County Assessor

25—July 28, August 4, 11

## Try an Ad in The American

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