

Washington's Birthday Sale



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Walnut Bedroom Set
 TRIPLE DRESSER, CHEST, KING SIZE BED **1/2 Off**

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Hunting Accidents Increase in 1967, Commission Says

A total of 14 fatal and 80 non-fatal firearms accidents occurred among Oregon hunters in 1967, it is reported by the Game Commission. This is a jump of 15 accidents from the 79 reported the previous year.

Cal Giesler, hunter safety supervisor, said that the large increase in accidents took place while hunters were after nongame species such as rodents, magpies, and other small critters of this kind. Accidents during the scheduled hunting seasons for game birds and game animals declined from the previous year, registering 51 compared to 57 in 1966.

Of the total accidents, 45 were self-inflicted, indicating that the hunter himself is his own worst enemy. Sixty-three of the accidents occurred at less than three yards distance, 19 of these from loaded firearms in vehicles. Five more occurred also at very close range, less than 25 yards.

Hunters carrying side arms are becoming increasingly more involved in accidents, with 26 recorded last year — almost double that of 1966. The 22 rifle was involved in 17 accidents, with most of these involving juvenile shooters plinking at various small animals.

Deer hunters chalked up 29 firearm accidents, upland bird hunters 14, migratory bird hunters 4, only 2 among elk hunters, and one each for antelope and bear hunters.

According to Giesler's report, just plain carelessness accounted for 59 of the accidents. Seventeen of the victims were out of sight of the shooter or were hit by ricochets. Eight hunters were reportedly mistaken for game.

Although the accident report shows the highest number ever recorded, Giesler said that hunting continues to be one of the safest of sports, with hunters spending at least three million man-days afield during the game season last year. No estimate is made of the number of man-days spent hunting for varmints and other nongame animals, although it is recognized that hunting is extensive on these species.

Riding Club Meets

The third meeting of the South Springs 4-H Riding club was called to order by Michele Miller last Tuesday. The minutes were read and approved. We decided to give reports about horses at each meeting. The meeting was closed and refreshments were served. Our next meeting will be February 20 at the home of Wilma Kemp. Tana Rauch, reporter

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