

FARM

Predatory Animal Protection Hit by Oregon Sheep Growers

Oregon Sheep Growers meeting in Corvallis April 18-19 took a dim view of the protection given to predatory animals in Oregon. John Carmen, Gaylor, chairman of the predatory animal committee, said a shift in the method of paying trappers of predatory animals was forcing many of them out of business. He said trappers are hired by the state, but must now be paid by the county and that low pay was discouraging trappers from following that line of work.

Also discussed were the restrictions placed on killing cougars and coyotes. Cougars must be first classified as killers before they can be hunted, according to Carmen, and a cougar can kill a lot of sheep before it can be identified and properly accused.

He said there is also a new concept in the treatment of coyotes. Some officials, he said, are claiming that coyotes do not kill sheep. Carmen stated that sheepmen have been under a terrible misconception for many years, if the new educational concept is true. He said the only time coyotes do not kill sheep is when there are no sheep around. He pointed out that since the sheep population has dwindled east of the mountains, coyotes have turned to calves and deer and that a large deer kill is expected this year from the predators.

Carmen said predators continue to cut profits for the sheepmen in all parts of the state and if not controlled can become a major loss factor in a few years. He pointed out that the legislature has for several years slashed the budget for predator control and that this session has already cut the funds to \$5,000.

Club Members Work On 4-H Dress Project

The Nimble Thimble Stitches met at the home of their leader, Mrs. Albert Wright, on April 9. The vice president, Patricia Van Scholack, presided in the absence of the president, Diana Wright. The pledges were read, the roll was called and the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. We were to have material for our dresses this meeting. Dress patterns were cut out and altered to fit. Refreshments were served. Next meeting is planned for Wednesday, May 14.

Sandra Palmer, reporter

Resource Areas Plan May 26 Meet

A combined meeting of the Columbia-Blue Mountain and the Grant-Wheeler Resource Conservation and Development Areas was held May 5 in Heppner. Preparation for a joint public meeting in Pendleton was the topic. In attendance were Edwin Hoft and Ralph Saylor, co-chairmen of the Columbia-Blue Mountain R.C. & D. and C. L. (Buck) Smith, co-chairman of the Grant-Wheeler R.C. & D. Other interested parties from Grant, Wheeler, Morrow, Umatilla and Gilliam counties attended.

It was decided to hold the next joint meeting, open to all, at the Lecture Hall of the Pendleton Blue Mountain Community College on Monday, May 26, at 8 p.m. Everyone is invited. The conservation objectives of the proposed projects will be the topic, including resource use, development coordination and local control. Featured speakers are Rupert Kennedy who will discuss the nuclear power plant siting, coolant water uses and economic impact, and Smith, who will talk about woodland resource use, multipurpose uses and markets.

STATEMENT BY THE GOVERNOR ON SOIL STEWARDSHIP WEEK

Emphasizing the theme, "Confronting the Issues," the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts will coordinate Oregon's observance of National Soil Stewardship Week during the period, May 11-18, 1969.

Oregonians are finding their lives ever more complex. There are more of us. We are younger, on the average, and more affluent. More of us now live in the cities or its suburbs; and our attitudes toward natural resources, as well as toward so many other values, are changing. We are increasingly worried about resource quality. We are becoming more particular about resource uses; and out of these growing concerns, an array of issues has emerged, requiring judgment and participation.

I am pleased to commend the supervisors of Oregon's soil and water conservation districts and others who have accepted the responsibility of good stewards. Through proper resource management, we can be assured that Oregon's basic wealth and the benefits we derive therefrom will continue to contribute to the well-being of our State.

As Governor of Oregon, I urge all citizens to join with the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts and the clergy throughout Oregon during Soil Stewardship Week in showing our gratitude for the richness of our land. May we renew our pledge and accept the challenge of good stewardship and conservation of our soil, water, forests, wildlife, minerals and all resources.

TOM McCALL
Governor

Packwood Against Federal Tobacco Aid

Oregon Senator Bob Packwood has joined in sponsorship of legislation which would phase out the government's financial participation in the production and promotion of tobacco.

"We have no business subsidizing an industry which produces a product which is potentially harmful to the health of American citizens," Packwood said. "That's why I believe the passage of this legislation is in the interest of a healthier America."

"Although I am a non-smoker, I do not advocate legislation making it illegal to smoke. This is an individual choice. But the government has no business in the tobacco business."

"This legislation—The Tobacco Market Adjustment Act of 1969—provides for a four-year phaseout of government subsidy beginning in 1970. Price supports would be eliminated and the use of government funds to advertise or promote this product would be prohibited."

Shannon Kelly, reporter

Forest Service Lists Vandalism

Delicate lava formations in a central Oregon cave were being destroyed by vandals and souvenir-hunters, so the Deschutes National Forest closed the cave to entry except with a guide.

But vandals are a determined lot. To gain entrance, they cut a bar off the wire mesh gate placed over the 4-foot-square opening to the cave.

That was one of dozens of acts of vandalism recorded by the Forest Service in its annual survey of damage. In 1968, acts of vandalism caused damage totaling nearly \$53,000 in the National Forests of Oregon and Washington, according to Regional Forester Charles A. Connaughton. The total does not include regular maintenance and cleanup costs.

The cave mentioned above is Lavacicle Cave, 46 miles south of Bend. The gate has been repaired and reinforced. The cave with its treasure of irreplaceable stalactites and stalagmites formed by dripping lava were discovered in 1959 during mop-up of the Aspen Flat forest fire. The cave area has since been designated the Lavacicle Geological Area.

Last year, there was the usual amount of sign-stealing and defacing, wrecked toilets, chipped up picnic tables, and other acts of destruction.

Padlocks weren't much of a challenge to vandals and

thieves, the Forest Service found. There were several instances in which boxes used to collect camping charges were broken into and the money stolen.

A sign disappeared at No-name Creek in the Mt. Adams area of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, which was not particularly surprising since signs with odd names are a favorite of collectors (thieves).

Here are a few more interesting examples of vandalism during the year:

1. A Forest Service horse was shot near Green Mountain east of Darrington, Wash., in the Mt. Baker National Forest. The district ranger surmised a deer poacher made a mistake.

2. Cornell Creek scaling station one mile west of Glacier in the same forest was burned. Loss was estimated at \$500.

3. In the Mt. Hood National Forest on Highway 26 just northwest of Warm Springs, Ore., vandals stole a bronze plaque marking the Robinson Research Natural Area. The souvenir had cost \$300 installed.

4. On Larch Mountain in the same National Forest, 10 juveniles teamed up one day last August to: Break open a supply cabinet, burn 10 rolls of paper and a cloth towel, plug a toilet, strip boards off a restroom, build fires in the men's and women's restrooms, dump some garbage cans, and depart

5. In the same forest, 30 locks were shot off the gates to the Bull Run watershed during the year. The watershed, source of Portland's water supply, is not open to the public.

6. The Ochoco National Forest, Prineville, Ore., experienced a rash of incidents in which timber sale boundary signs were destroyed, right at the time timber sale administrators were in need of money and personnel to make sales to meet the demands of a wood-hungry nation.

John Cole Finishes Course on Reactors

John F. Cole of Heppner, who has been advanced to MM1 (E-6) in the Navy, has completed his qualification as a reactor mechanical operator in the largest reactor complex in the world, according to information received from the Navy.

The qualification completes a rigid course of training which has covered about 20 months. Cole's final grade point average was 3.57, which places him high among all personnel who completed their training aboard the aircraft carrier, USS Enterprise. Cole is serving on the Enterprise.

His rank advancement was made as of April 16, according to Lt. C. W. Jones of the Navy.

Mrs. Hiemstra Called By Death of Mother

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Hiemstra were called to Nampa, Idaho, last week for funeral services for Mrs. Hiemstra's mother, Mrs. Edna Tucker, age 80. They returned on Sunday after attending the services at Alspis Mortuary in Nampa on Friday.

Survivors include the two daughters, Mrs. Marylee Hiemstra of Heppner, and Mrs. Anna Conyers of Arcadia, Calif., also five granddaughters and three great-grandchildren.

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