

Geiger Counter Taken Just 'For Laughs' Nets Fortune

Sydney, Australia — (U.P.) — Three Australians who knew little about geiger counters and even less about uranium, discovered an outcrop of the precious metal that proved itself worth more than \$250,000 to them.

The men, a former Royal Australian Air Force navigator, a garage mechanic and a veteran prospector, recently received the balance of \$170,000 on a quarter-million dollar payment for the mine they discovered in the isolated Adelaide River district of the Northern Territory.

The three men went to the township of Adelaide River, 72 miles south of Darwin, on a weekend hunting trip in March, 1953. Senior member of the party was Jack Gardner, a 50-year-old veteran gold prospector. With him were William Lickiss, 30, the ex-navigator who is now chief draughtsman at the Northern Territory Lands Branch, and Geoffrey Lennox, a service station mechanic.

Gardner promised to teach them something about gold prospecting and Lennox decided to take the geiger counter along "just for laughs."

Advice Was Plentiful

Uranium experts in Darwin chuckled at the idea of taking the counter along, and scorned attempts to find anything in the Adelaide River region. They advised the trio to "get out into the backblocks," where no one had been prospecting before.

When they arrived at Adelaide River, which has a population of 50, a police station, a school and a hotel, they found the locals as sceptical as the Darwinians.

The would-be gold prospectors were told that there was no gold near the town, although there was a gold-rush at Stapleton, 11 miles from Adelaide River, in the 1880's.

They parked their car at the side of a bush track, and trekked off into the tall "spear" grass, looking for kangaroos and other game.

Counter Counts

They were getting a little discouraged when they came upon a small hill dotted with stunted trees and named "Old Smokey" by the local citizens. Lickiss remembered the hill from the days when, as a crew-member of a Beaufort bomber in the Pacific war, he returned from strikes against the Japanese. With the temperature in the low 90's, the men decided to look for gold on the hill.

Lennox, the only member of the trio who had any inkling of the operation of the geiger, after "fiddling around" with it in his office, carried the gadget as they started to climb the slopes of "Old Smokey."

Gardner and Lickiss knocked off a few pieces of rock before testing for traces of gold. Lennox was sitting on a rock a few yards away from the others and decided to switch on the counter for the first time. He let out a yell of surprise when he looked at the indicator. It registered seven to nine times background — enough to send any prospector to the nearest mines office.

Then The Pay-off

They returned to the hill next day, keeping their discovery a secret. They scratched around, finding traces of tobernite with a count of 55 above background. They returned to Darwin where Lennox, who knew about mining procedures, and armed

with samples from "Smokey," applied for an authority to prospect the area. He was granted an area of five square miles, and the three men formed a partnership.

A mining company—Uranium Development Proprietary, which later laid the ground for the entrance of the Australian Uranium Corporation as the official mining authority in the area— took the option on the area and paid the amateur uranium prospectors \$80,000 in cash and shares. When the option was exercised last June, they received the balance of \$170,000.

The once deep quiet of the Australian outback is now shattered by the rattle of diamond drills and other mining equipment as "Old Smokey" fulfills its destiny.

California Leads In Making of Wine

Sacramento, Calif. — (U.P.) — California again leads the nation in making wine, but more is drunk per person in Washington, D. C., than in any other area of the U. S.

The California Wine Institute reports a recent survey shows this state moved 24,969,000 gallons of wine into consumption channels in 1954. New York state was second with 22,461,000 gallons and Pennsylvania third with 9,816,000 gallons.

The District of Columbia had a consumption rate of 2½ gallons per person, California was second with just under two gallons per capita. Nevada, New York, New Mexico, New Jersey, Louisiana, Connecticut, Delaware, Arizona, Rhode Island and Massachusetts, consumed more than a gallon per person.



NEW ARGENTINE CABINET—The new Argentine cabinet members flank Provisional President Eduardo Lonardi after being sworn in. Govt. Notary Garrido; Rear Adm. Samuel Toranzo Calderon (leader of the June revolution); Army Minister Gen. Leon Justo Bengoa; Minister of Transportation Gen. Juan Jose Uranga; Minister of Interior and Justice Dr. Eduardo Busso; Rear Adm. Isaac Rojas

(Cmdr. of Rebel fleet, appointed Vice-Pres.); Maj. Gen. Lonardi; Air Force Comdr.-in-Chief Gustavo Adolfo Hermanson; two men in rear unidentified; Minister of Education, Dr. Atilio Del Oro Maini; Minister of Public Works, Jose Blas Paladino (glasses); Minister of Finance and Treasury Eugenio Jose Folcini (glasses); and Minister of the Navy Rear Adm. Teodoro Hartung.

Lakeview Child Killed By Father's Automobile

Lakeview — (U.P.) — Two-year-old LeRoy Thomas Cox, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Cox of Lakeview, was injured fatally Sunday night when his father accidentally backed his car over him.

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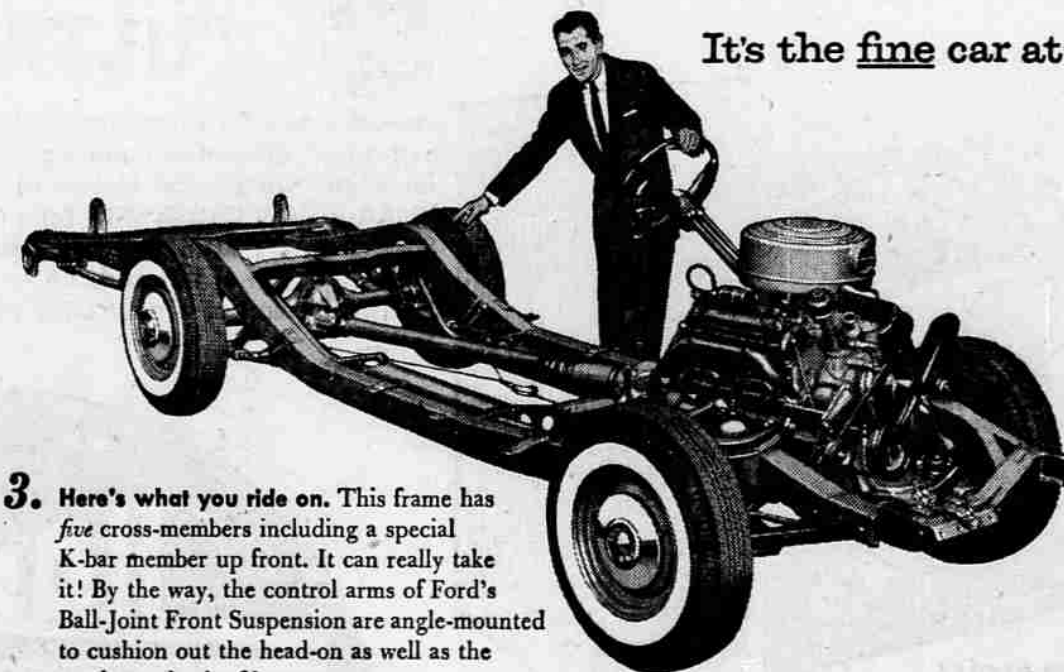
Phone 2-6779 Lobby, Jackson Hotel

1. We would like to show you some of the things that make the new 1956 Ford one of America's finest cars—despite the fact it is one of America's lowest-priced cars. Let's start with these long, low lines. Looks like it hates to stand still, doesn't it?

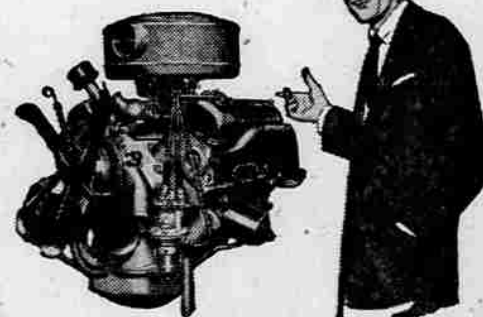


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3. Here's what you ride on. This frame has five cross-members including a special K-bar member up front. It can really take it! By the way, the control arms of Ford's Ball-Joint Front Suspension are angle-mounted to cushion out the head-on as well as the up-down shock of bumps.



4. Here's the new 202-h.p. Thunderbird Y-8...and we assure you, it will give you a new lease on driving enjoyment. This engine can be yours in Fordomatic Fairlane and Station Wagon models. And you can have the "GO"-packed 176-h.p. Y-8 in Fordomatic Mainline and Customline models. Ford's new 137-h.p. Six is available in all 18 Ford models for '56.



7. Here's Ford's new Lifeguard door latch. It is another member of Ford's exclusive new Lifeguard family. A double-grip locking engagement reduces the chance of doors springing open under unusual strain of impact. Chances of serious injury in accidents are less when passengers remain in the car.



5. Note the deep-center design of this new Lifeguard steering wheel. The wheel rim is over three inches above the post to help cushion the driver in case of an accident. It's a feature of new Lifeguard Design which Ford spent over two years developing...to give you added protection in accidents.



6. This Lifeguard cushioning for the instrument panel is optional, as is Lifeguard cushioning for the sun visors. It gives you extra protection against serious injuries which so often occur when occupants are thrown forward in an accident. You may also have optional seat belts, one third stronger than required by law for aircraft, to help keep occupants securely in their seats.

Well, that covers the important points. But there's a lot more. So we'd like to invite you to come in and see the new '56 Ford for yourself. Then you'll see the colorful new exteriors and interiors, the quality workmanship that is evident everywhere. Then you'll learn the full story on the things we have just described. When you do, you'll know that Ford is in every way the fine car at half the fine car price.

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Record Sum Paid 18 O&C Counties For Timber Sales

Washington — (U.P.) — Interior Secretary Douglas McKay said today the government paid a record \$9,000,379 last year to 18 Oregon counties for the sale of timber from Oregon and California railroad grant lands.

This was for the fiscal year ended June 30. The previous high was \$5,584,542 for the previous fiscal year. Only five counties — Benton, Columbia, Lincoln, Tillamook and Yamhill — did not receive record payments for last year.

McKay said the payments represent 75 per cent of total receipts of \$15,333,839 from the timber sales, less \$2,500,000 allotted for access road construction.

By a 1937 act of Congress, the receipts are shared by the counties and the federal government with 75 per cent going to the counties.

The counties received these amounts:

Benton, \$235,898; Clackamas, \$501,121; Columbia, \$130,911; Coos, \$512,433; Curry, \$313,576; Douglas, \$2,195,048; Jackson, \$1,373,541; Josephine, \$1,227,932; Klamath, \$213,944; Lane, \$1,315,480; Lincoln, \$29,767; Linn, \$225,441; Marion, \$128,596; Multnomah, \$246,576; Polk, \$183,697; Tillamook, \$48,009; Washington, \$57,561; Yamhill, \$60,852.