

Judge Goldstein Sets Jury Verdict Aside

Judge Barnett Goldstein Thursday set aside a jury verdict which gave a \$500 judgment to Robert Voris. Voris brought suit against E. W. Ekman, Medford, for a \$750 real estate commission which he alleged Ekman owed.

In setting aside the verdict, Judge Goldstein said the jury should have returned a verdict granting the \$750 or nothing. Goldstein said the two contracts stating the agreement between Ekman and Voris were not in agreement, as one stated the amount of commission to be paid and the other did not.

Retrial has been set for next month.

Use Tribune Want Ads
Just Call 2-6141



Gertrude and Erhardt Blind

Medford Paint & WALLPAPER STORE
Corner 6th & Holly

Wish to Extend Their Best Wishes for a

Merry Christmas

and a Most Prosperous NEW YEAR!

Is That So?

By EUGENE BURNS
Ranger-Naturalist

Nothing on this earth can be more enchanting than the first fall of snow with its sudden and magical transformation of everything it touches. Yet soft as it is, there's hidden in it a mailed fist.

The first snow's coming is eerie: steely skies lower, gray clouds hang with a great enveloping stillness. Then a few flakes flutter down without sound. The air fills until one can scarcely see across the valley. And winter's first snow is on.

As the flakes fall into the swirling back river, they melt instantly—the river rushes ominously on. As they fall on the evergreens, they cling and soon powdered branches bend with their weight of snow. In the stark hardwoods, last spring's robin's nest grows a cocked peaked roof. A veil is drawn over the



stones. Irrigation ditches soften into gentle slopes. Each fencepost is crowned with a diadem. The familiar cluster of nearby roofs takes on a strange appearance.

Study the first great flakes to lie unmelting on your coat sleeve. With a hand lens, their beauty will be revealed—the most delicate and fleeting perfection in nature. Thoreau called them "the sweepings of heaven's floor." Although the patterns are seemingly endless in varying details, yet the basic design will be the same—that of a hexagonal star, its parts divisible by six or three.

Night comes with a subdued excitement underlying. It is snowing. The miracle of snow. First To Look

Who can resist the windows in the morning? Everyone wants to be first to look at the new strange world. There is an all-pervading brilliance of whiteness. The outdoors seems suddenly enlarged; and in contrast, the rooms suddenly become smaller, but cozier. Dawn has a new inner glow—and all is shot through with blue shadows, and

as the sun lifts, it finds a million diamonds.

Beautiful as it lies over tree, and rock, and housetop and last season's robin's nest, this snow cover is not to remain untouched for long. Comes the wind to whirl up the flakes and quickly and easily throw them into new sculptured patterns, piling curving banks there, wavy peaks here, and long hollows there — and never was artist more dexterous than the wind, nor his medium, the snow, more malleable. And, as wind leaves off, there is, all over again, a new-shaped world.

Falls then the night again swiftly, the chilled silence of winter night, and twinkling stars step forth with a grandeur and sparkling brilliance unmatched. Summer never knew of such skies.

In the forest, the snow was already inscribed the first day. As one enters the woods, footprints are to be identified—the leap of a cottontail, the tracks of a pheasant with the wingbeats where it took off from the snow, the tracks of a deer mouse with tail dragging. Romances are here too to be interpreted; and there are silent tragedies to be read—where a great owl on soft wings swooped down on an easily-seen meadow mouse. But red berries, too, are now more easily seen by the birds.

Snow Actually Warm

Cold as the snow may seem, actually it is warm. Fluffing out feathers or fur, the small creatures find in the snow shelter and stay warm. And it also conserves the earth's banked warmth and thus protects roots from frost-heaving.

Yet hidden in that delicate-seeming blanket of snow is cruel power. It can melt, then freeze, making a hard crust — hard enough for a wolf to run over, yet too weak to support a deer. Or the same crust may hold imprisoned a grouse which sought warmth and shelter and now has no food. But that crust, too, can serve as a stepladder for the snowshoe rabbit, turned white, so that he can reach up and get new tips and buds to stave off hunger which is already making inroads on his stored tallow. Quickly melted, that snow can start floods; or hold stored moisture against summer's drought.

But how fickle, the human. Should the snow last a week, he

Suit Brought Against Highway Department

Salem — (U.P.) — Seventy-two employees of a Lane county lumber mill filed suit against the State Highway department here Friday seeking damages totaling \$9,375.20 for loss of wages.

The employees charged the department with setting off a blast near the Consumers Cooperative association plant at Swisshome which destroyed a transformer and forced the mill to close down from Jan. 5 to Jan. 17, 1955.

The suit was brought in Marion County Circuit Court by Elmer Ballard for himself and 71 other workers at the mill.

becomes restive; in a fortnight, he is heartily sick of the old, grey tiresome stuff. Forgetting so soon that the deeper the snow often the richer the year. And forgetting that always underneath the snow spring is hiding: next year's white dogwood and red rose; next year's waterfalls to refresh a parched landscape. All is there, in these first hexagonal snowflakes, twirling down, gathering in numbers, whitening the sky and transforming the earth as by magic.

(Copyright, 1955, By Eugene Burns—Released by McClure Newspaper Syndicate)

Free: By special arrangement with the editors of the Encyclopedia Americana, my panel of judges will award each week to the reader who sends me the best true-life nature adventure, the best nature observation, or the best question on nature and wildlife. A complete 30-volume set of this world-famous reference work in a handsome Seacraft binding. Each week new submissions will be considered. Sorry, I simply can't answer your many friendly letters. Please address your letter to: IS THAT SO? c/o Medford Mail Tribune, Box 575, Sausalito, Calif.

A Nichol's Worth of . . . Comment On This and That

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS
United Press Feature Writer

Washington—(U.P.)—This is an open letter to mamas—wherever they are:



Harman Nichols

The next time junior lets out a howl about getting dunked in a tub, tell him to shaddup. The kid has no copyright on that sort of torture. Bathing, according to information I have at hand, has been going on for at least 7000 years, maybe longer.

The Plumbing Fixture Manufacturers Association has dug up some facts about the business of keeping clean. Time was, it seems, back there in the forgotten past, when bathing in some countries was sort of a celebration to greet a new year. It was sort of a public dunking. An altogether business.

The record says that bathing was quite the thing in ancient Babylonia. Bathrooms were 15 by 15 feet and were fixed up in the palace of King Urnimar's little showplace at Tshunnak. Tubs were not known in those days, so his majesty stood there in the buff and servants raced around dousing him with water. Cold water.

A long time after that, around 1300 B.C., the Persians and the Egyptians thought up a rough clay pipe system which spurted water onto anyone needing a bath. Could be that was the first shower.

Funny thing is that folks think the bathtub is an American invention. Fact is, nobody knows who did, really.

A story has been going around for years that it was a character named Adam Thompson. That man is a myth. He lived only in the mind of one of our newspaper colleagues back in 1917. The columnist wrote the thing as a joke, but the story grew and grew and is growing still.

Thing that started all of this about bathtubs came up in conversation the other day. Somebody asked a sensible question:

Lodge To Present Festival of St. John

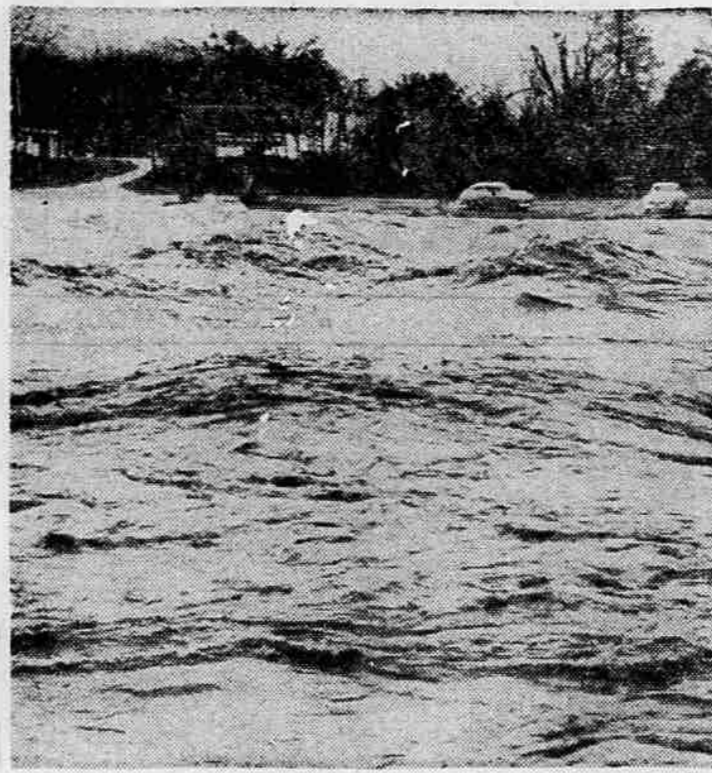
The Festival of St. John the Evangelist will be observed by members of the Medford Lodge 103, AF and AM, at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 27, in the Masonic temple.

Two speakers on Masonic subjects are scheduled, as are several musical selections. Refreshments will be served.

PICTURE TUBES REJUVENATED

Is your picture tube dull and weak? Most picture tubes can be restored to original brightness at only a fraction of the cost of replacement. For further information CALL

Electronic Service
18 N. GRAPE PH. 3-1971



RUSSIAN RIVER ON RAMPAGE—This isn't the Pacific Ocean—it's the Russian River, summertime paradise for swimmers from the San Francisco Bay Area, roaring through Guerneville, Cal., after the season's worst storm lashed the Northern California coast. The resort town was isolated and 150 families evacuated. Damage was estimated at two million dollars.

Klamath Falls Flood News Inside Paper

Klamath Falls — (U.P.) — Despite some of the worst floods in recent years within the circulation area of the Klamath Falls Herald and News, the paper refused to back away from its resolution to print only "good" news during Christmas week on its front pages.

Readers who wanted to learn about flood troubles in Oregon and California had to turn to the inside pages.

Hannon Named New Attorney For Fong

Portland—(U.P.)—John Patrick Hannon Friday was named new attorney for Wey Him Fong, accused of the murder of 16-year-old Diane Hank. Hannon said he would ask for a 30-day extension of time before Fong's trial to familiarize himself with the case.

Fong was originally scheduled for his second trial on Jan. 9. His wife, Sherry Fong, was recently convicted of second degree murder in connection with the 1954 Hank death in a separate trial.

Convictions of both Fongs in an earlier joint trial was dismissed by the court. Attorney Irvin Goodman defended both Fongs in the earlier trials.

Newsprint Shortage Seen With Closures

Oregon City — (U.P.) — A possibility of a newsprint shortage faced Portland newspapers Saturday because the flooding Willamette river has forced shutdown or curtailment of production at two paper mills here.

The Crown Zellerbach corporation mill at West Linn across the river from Oregon City was shut down for "probably as much as 10 days," a company official said.

Publishers' Paper company mill was at 60 per cent of capacity Friday night.

The two mills are principal source of newsprint for Portland papers.

New York Police Look For \$10,000 In Taxi

New York — (U.P.) — Police Saturday carried out a painstaking search for the cab driver who unknowingly drove off with a Brooklyn housewife's \$10,000.

The woman, Mrs. Frances Cohen, lost the money last week but didn't tell police until Friday because she was afraid to break the news to her husband. The money had come from the sale of their house.

Mrs. Cohen tearfully told police that she had gotten into the taxi Dec. 16, carrying the money, her daughter's doll and several packages. She had gotten out of the cab and seen it drive off before she realized she didn't have the money, she said.

Police broke the news to her husband Harry Cohen, 47. "What's done is done," he said.

Adenauer May Confer With Ike Next Year

Bonn, Germany—(U.P.)—Chancellor Konrad Adenauer may meet with President Eisenhower early in 1956, informed political sources reported here Saturday.

The West German chancellor has been invited to visit the United States to receive an honorary degree from Yale university. He has not yet accepted the invitation.

HOW CHRISTIAN SCIENCE HEALS

Station KWIN 1400 K.C. Sundays 10:15 A.M.

Blackstone
— a new kind of automatic washer

Fully . . .
AUTOMATIC
FLEXIBLE
MECHANICAL

Here are time-saving and work-saving features never before equalled in an automatic washer, including Blackstone's exclusive Flex-O-Trol which assures quicker, easier laundering of all fabrics. Treat yourself to a treat and see a demonstration.

YOU CAN OWN ONE FOR ONLY A FEW CENTS A DAY

We Service What We Sell . . .

MARINE MARVAIR

"Your Exclusive Blackstone Dealer"

220 WEST MAIN PHONE 2-4922

HERE'S OUR Holiday "Goast" FOR YOU



MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

MILK PRODUCERS LEAGUE
of
JACKSON COUNTY



May your Yuletide glow brightly throughout the Rogue River Valley with that good old fashioned Christmas cheer that makes every heart lighter, every friendship warmer, every hour richer in happiness and contentment.

CRATER INN MOTEL
Bill and Mary Schei