

# Is That So?

By EUGENE BURNS  
Ranger-Naturalist

Ever wondered what big game our North American Indians hunted besides our present moose, bear, elk, deer, antelope, coyote and cougar?

The roll call is impressive. Listen? American mastodons, narrow-antlered moose, saber-toothed tigers, giant lions, dire wolves, bear-sized beavers, elephant-sized ground sloths, and woolly mammoths standing 14 feet high at the shoulders.

All of their fossil remains have been found in America—some mixed with Indian artifacts. Experts judge that every one of these animals lived less than 10,000 years ago.

American mastodon: This giant dweller of the spruce forests stood nine feet six inches at the shoulder with tusks that ran ten feet in length and as much as ten inches through. His remains have been found principally in the eastern United States adjacent to the Great Lakes' region. (A fine specimen may be seen in the Cleveland Museum of Natural History and in the New York City American Museum of Natural History.)

Because food lodged in his teeth we know even today that this monster fed on coarse twigs from the evergreen forest that covered North America following the retreat of the last great glaciers.

Widely scattered remains of this hairy, barrel-like beast seem to indicate that his kind may have numbered up in the millions!

**Widespread Hooves**  
Ice age moose: This animal whose remains have been unearthed in New Jersey and Alaska, was about the size of our living moose today—largest of deer. It had widespread hooves and long legs. Its nose was as large as living varieties and its antlers were narrower.

Saber-toothed tigers: This cat, shorter than modern lions but of much heavier build, had tremendous fangs nine inches long. It was built to kill. With its short muscular legs, short thick neck, and powerful shoulders it was marvelously adapted to spring on animals and to hang on while stabbing and slashing with its great fangs. Its nose was large and moved slightly backward in the skull to permit the cat to breathe while its face was buried deep in thick fur of its prey.

The LaBrea tar pits of Los Angeles have yielded literally thousands of these beasts—the specimens representing every stage of the saber-toothed tiger from tiny cub to sick old individuals.

Giant lion: This great lion, fully one-third larger than today's living African species, lived in many parts of North America. Larger than the saber-toothed tiger, it had longer legs

and greater height and teeth well adapted to chewing and shearing flesh. It had a long tail and a heavy mane. Principally it fed on the hooved mammals of the plains country, bison, antelopes and horses. (Yes, there were native North American horses at this time.)

Dire Wolf: This beast, omnivorous in size and great in number, prowled over all of the



United States and much of Canada. He was stockier than the modern wolf and had a much larger head the better to accommodate a stronger jaw and larger teeth.

**All Ages Represented**  
Again, the La Brea tar pits have yielded thousands of individuals representing all ages and states of health. Quite logically, the finest collection is in the Los Angeles county museum.

Giant beaver: This spectacular rodent was fully 10 feet long—as large as a bear. His remains have been found scattered throughout the Eastern United States—the major number of specimens coming from the Great Lakes' area, in Ohio, Illinois and up in Alaska.

Giant ground sloth: This Ice Age giant was as large as an elephant of today and could rear up 18 feet or more from the ground. Typical of the Ice Age mammoths, mastodons and giant beavers, he was a hairy beast.

Much of the ground sloth's time was spent feeding in a semi-erect position, his thick tail probably being used as a prop.

This largest of the many ground sloths lived from the Great Lakes region to Patagonia and from the Atlantic to the Pacific in both North and South America. The best preserved fossils have been found in Ohio, California, Florida, Kentucky and many scattered localities throughout the U.S.

But the largest of living mammals that roamed America 10,000 years ago was the woolly mammoth. If he were to stand today on the first floor of your apartment building, his shoulder would touch the chandelier in your upstairs neighbor's apartment. And his trunk could reach into the third story! With it, this tall, thin-bodied, heavy-haired giant had tremendous curving tusks.

**Most Numerous in Nebraska**  
Although he roamed the grasslands of Florida and Kentucky, he was most numerous

## Additional Acreage Granted Elk Firm

Additional tree farm acreage for Elk Lumber company, Medford, has been approved by the Industrial Forestry association, according to the Portland office.

About 15,000 acres of forest land was purchased by the company in 1954 and 6,500 acres in 1955, according to Elk Forester Larry Solin. They bring to 75,000 acres the total timber land owned by the company.

The IFA will soon become a non-profit corporation, changing the status from a voluntary association, according to articles of incorporation filed in Salem.

The articles call for IFA activities in tree farms, forest policy, forest research and education, tree nurseries and seed orchards, and related forest matters affecting the Douglas fir region of western Oregon and Washington and northern California.

A total of 1,977,109 acres in the area of certified west coast tree farms in western Oregon and 2,697,955 acres in western Washington.

perhaps in the open country of Nebraska where the greatest number of skeletons have been unearthed. For that matter, the best fossil elephant display in this country is in the Hall of Elephants, University of Nebraska Museum, Lincoln, Nebraska. The frozen remains of a baby mammoth are on display at the New York American Museum of Natural History. (For more details of the world's fossil mammals, you might wish to read: The First Mammals by William E. Scheele, director of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History (World Publishing Co., New York).

(Copyright, 1956, 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 Sealcraft set of this world-famous reference work in a handsome Sealcraft 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.

Most of the world supply of almonds and filberts comes from the Mediterranean area, trade reports indicate.

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

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS  
United Press Feature Writer

Washington — (U.P.) — Along about Eastertide, we may have a rather unusual visitor in our town.



In telling about him, it wouldn't be manly to use his name, but we can say that he's a college boy from Michigan.

Anyhow, this Harman Nichols young man wrote a letter addressed to the "City Police department, Washington." Said he:

"I would like to know if it would be permissible for me to sleep in your city jail."

"During the last week in March, around Easter, I plan to visit Washington, D.C. I do not know anybody in or near Washington. I am working my way through college and can't afford hotel accommodations and I don't know if it might be possible to stay in the jail a night or two."

"If there is any way to get a room, I would be happy to earn it by doing some type of work. Place to Sleep

"Perhaps you know of someone who can provide me with a place to sleep."

"Can you tell me what the local temperatures are likely to be during the last week in March?"

"I certainly will appreciate any information you can offer."

Howard V. Covell read it and re-read it and wet his finger and,

looked hard at the forecast for March, and said how the heck would a deputy chief of police know anything about the weather.

So Covell sent the file on the ambitious student along to Donald Clemmer, director of the Department of Corrections. Said the deputy chief to his colleague: "This request would be within the purview of your department."

At long last the young man's request for a sleep pad wound up in the hands of the lovely Mrs. Aleandra Liakos, administrative clerk of the Department of Corrections for the District of Columbia.

Mrs. Liakos wrote to the "Gentlemen of the Board of Trade." She pleaded the boy's case. But she drew a blank. So she replied to the young man, in part:

"It is necessary to advise you that we do not furnish board and room for wayfarers through Washington—only for persons committed to the jail by the courts." She didn't mention the various ways a fellow can get into the calaboose.

Mrs. Liakos, a patient lady, is waiting for an answer. And if it comes after Easter she won't mind.

Medford Shows Gain Of 1,029 Telephones

An increase of 3,055 phones in the Jackson county area was reported Friday by the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company. The company serves 20,027 phones in this area.

In Medford there was a gain of 1,029 phones for a total of 13,802. Phone service in Ashland was extended to 372 new users for a total of 3,873 phones. Jacksonville gained 165 phones for a total of 450, and Gold Hill increased 61, for a total of 450.

Added to the company in 1955 was 1,428 phones in the Central Point area.

The number of telephones in the PT and T system increased by 463,000. The company now has 5,750,000 phones in service.

PT and T revenue increased \$83,000,000 over 1954 and expenses increased \$67,000,000.

In 1956 the company plans to spend about \$400,000,000 on gross construction of new plant facilities, according to J. H. Greager, Medford area manager of Pacific Telephone.

## Around Hollywood

By ALINE MOSBY  
United Press Correspondent

Hollywood—(U.P.)—One of the nation's strangest schools is a grammar-high school on Hollywood boulevard where the small fry compare salaries and TV ratings between their classes.

Most school children take off when the bell rings to practice football or sell newspapers. But after classes at the Hollywood Professional Children's school the pupils appear in movies, radio or television—at salaries higher than those of their teachers.

This school was set up by the Los Angeles School board to take care of show business moppets. Classes are squeezed into a half day so pupils can work on their next million.

**Stars' Children Attend**  
Betty Grable, Cyd Charisse, Anita Louise, Debra Paget, Piper Laurie, Judy Garland, Donald O'Connor and Bobby Driscoll are among the famous students who've stashed their books in the school lockers.

Freckle-faced singer Jimmy Boyd graduated two weeks ago. Young singers Molly Bee and Jymme Shore of NBC's "Pinky

Lee Show," three of Bob Hope's Seven Little Foys' and two of the Mouseketeers from ABC's "Mickey Mouse Club" are current students.

About half of the school's 500 students are professionals. Many non working pupils enroll in the school because it has smaller classes than most public schools.

**Students Well Behaved**  
Although I had visions of the show business students upstaging each other in class, principal Maurice Mann insists they are "much easier to handle" because "they grasp information more quickly."

The pupils have a school yearbook (with professional photographs), school parties and graduations as any other school. But there are some touches that are strictly Hollywood.

Mann has the only school principal's office with film stars' pictures hanging on the wall—photos of his famous graduates.

The school hangout is a nearby hotdog stand with a jukebox where singing pupils like young Shore play their hit records.

Salem—(U.P.)—The New Oregon Chewings Rescue and Creeping Red Rescue Commission has voted an assessment of four-tenths of one cent per pound of seed for the 1956 crop.

## Medford Dairies Get Milk Product Awards

Jorgensen's Dairy and Snider's Dairy and Produce of Medford received gold certificate awards for fluid milk products this week at the Oregon Dairy Industries' annual products contest at Corvallis.

The ODI annual short course and convention was in session on the campus Monday through Wednesday.

Harold Ellis, plant foreman, represented Jorgensen's and David Kurtz, bottling superintendent, Snider's.

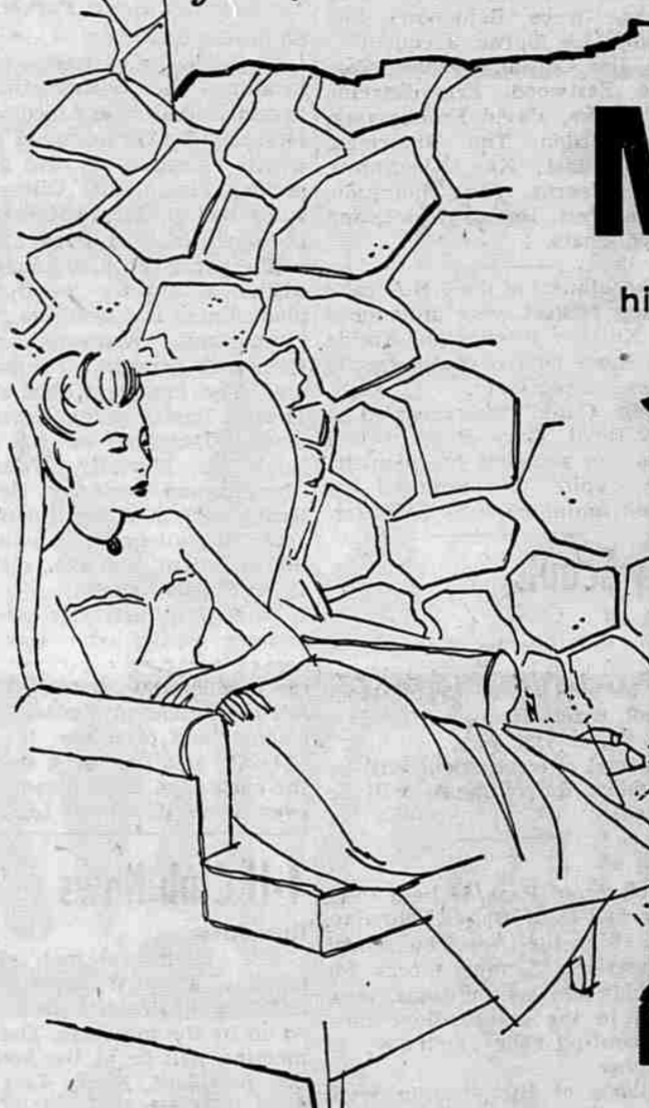
An all-time record of 241 dairy product entries were scored by judges from industry, research, and the U.S. department of agriculture.

## 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

for your finest listening hours...



the magnificent  
**Magnavox**  
high fidelity radio-phonograph



only \$298<sup>50</sup>  
In Genuine Mahogany

**NOW—you can own and enjoy a Magnavox FOR LESS than ever before!**

Only Magnavox, the greatest name in high fidelity, could offer you this exceptional value. Exclusive "Integrated Design" of superior Magnavox custom engineered components assures matchless tonal performance at a price far below what you would expect to pay for such quality. Make any comparison of features, performance and price. A demonstration will prove Magnavox superiority.

Other Magnavox high fidelity instruments from \$99.50

and for finest viewing too...

## Magnavox TELEVISION

**LOOKS ALIVE—SOUNDS ALIVE!**

**THE MAGNARAMA 24**—Today's greatest TV value! Really big pictures come to thrilling life with 2-speaker, front-projected sound. Concealed controls—no unsightly knobs—greatly enhance cabinet beauty and provide effortless stand-up tuning. Incorporates all proven Magnavox performance features...plus...new Gold Seal guaranteed service warranty without extra cost to you—proof positive of superior Magnavox quality and dependability.

now only \$249<sup>50</sup> (VHF) in Cordovan, complete with stand slightly higher in Syntex Mahogany, Oak or Cherry

other Magnavox quality TV as low as \$149.50 (VHF)

# PURUCKER PIANO HOUSE

111 North Central, Medford

Phone 2-5702

## Official Notice — 22nd Annual STOCKHOLDERS MEETING SOUTHERN OREGON PRODUCTION CREDIT ASSOCIATION

On the following dates:

1. Monday, February 20 at Coquille Hotel, Coquille, Oregon
2. Tuesday, February 21 at the Riverside Grange Hall in Roseburg, Oregon
3. Wednesday, February 22 at the Phoenix Community Hall, Phoenix, Oregon

Registration will begin at 10:30 A.M. on the above respective dates.

Dinner will be served to members and their wives and to visitors, at noon.

One director will be elected by the members at these meetings.

A report on the business done in 1955 and the present condition of the Association will be given.

The principal speaker will be Dr. Burton Woods, Professor of Economics, from Oregon State College.

Mr. Paul F. Matson, President of the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank of Spokane, is expected to be present and give a talk on the relations between the Credit Bank and the Association, and also what the prospects are for farmers and livestock men, this year.

Pending Legislation before congress affecting your Association will be discussed at the meetings, as well as the following:

- "Retirement of the Government Capital presently in the Association."
- "Three Year Intermediate-Term Loans."
- "Credit Life Insurance."

Music and entertainment will be furnished during the noon hour. Last but not least, some lovely door prizes! All members are urged to make an earnest effort to attend these annual meetings of the Southern Oregon Production Credit Association on the designated dates to learn more about the workings of your Association. Please be sure to return your attendance card so dinner reservations can be made.