

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

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS
United Press Feature Writer

Washington—(U.P.)—It may be news to you, but the Grus Americana is in a bad way.



That's not supposed to be funny because the Grus Americana is one of our rarest and most interesting birds. It is better known as the Whooping Crane.

It is the tallest feathered thing on the American continent and when it sticks its neck way up is over five feet high.

Latest word from the Texas wildlife refuge where the whoopers spend the winter is that one of the tiny surviving flock of 28 birds is missing. The whooper is so close to extinction that conservationists from coast to coast grieve over the loss of even one of the big birds.

Point is, we are approaching National Wildlife Week and the whooping crane is only one of the creatures we ought to hang onto if we possibly can.

The National Wildlife Federation of all areas, Federal and state agencies should get to work to protect endangered wildlife and restore national environments. Habitats could be improved!

If men want to continue to stalk the quail and the pheasant and the like they will have to put up a little dough to see that the fields and streams are restocked and protected from poachers and trigger-happy out of season hunters.

A few for instance:
The Sea Otter is threatened.

So is the Lake Sturgeon, and the Key Deer in Florida and the Trumpeter Swan.

The federation nails home a point when it asks the question: "Why save an endangered species?"

Extinct Passenger Pigeon
The federation falls back on the late Aldo Leopold, teacher of wildlife management and philosopher to the conservation movement.

Leopold was dedicating a monument to the extinct Passenger Pigeon. He said:

"For one species to mourn the death of another is a new thing under the sun. We who have lost our pigeons mourn the loss. Had the funeral been ours, the pigeons hardly would have mourned us."

Well, the plain facts are that people ought to get together and try to protect the wildlife that is ours.

Some of you might not cotton much to the Grizzly bear, but this fellow is going the way of all flesh. Guns, traps, stray dogs and the lack of legal protection are doing the bear in.

Time was when the waters of the country were well supplied by nature with Lake Trout. But these fine eating fish are getting scarcer. Man didn't have much to do with this misery of our finny friends. It was one of his distant relatives, the Sea Lamprey, an eel-like rascal with an appetite for Lake Trout. The Lamprey sneaked into the great lakes and has played havoc with the love life of the Sea trout.

Summing up: The conservationists are more than a mite worried.

Pickin' Pears

News and Notes
From Camp White

By BILL HURN

In observance of the 37th anniversary of the American Legion and celebration of the fourth year of Legion veteran hour programs at Camp White, Central Point Post 129 and delegations from other district 13 posts of Ashland, 15.; Medford 15, Grants Pass 28 and Cave Junction 70 were at Camp White theater Friday evening, March 9.

Following introduction of the delegates, each of the posts received certificates of commendation signed by H. V. Higley, Administrator of Veterans Affairs through Mr. Ricker, VA manager.

Jerry Girard, recreation director, conducted the quiz show with Jonas Snyder, Carson Mays, Robert Tobias and Carl Thompson as contestants. Carson Mays was winner and each of the others were awarded a special gift from District 13 Auxiliaries. In addition, Tobias received a watch for having won in the afternoon quiz on television.

Bill Kaiser presented Dewey Gearin, Past - Commander of Central Point who emceed the show following. Duet numbers by the Misses Tackett, Jack Cunningham in a monologue. Liz Raynes with a dance act and the All-Done Quartette provided entertainment.

Coffee and home-made cakes with a cut of the Legion birthday cake were served by Mrs. Neplei and Mrs. Parker of Central Point; Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Clyde Smith and Mrs. Freeman of Ashland; Mrs. Hughes and Mrs. Rehder of Grants Pass and Mrs. White and Mrs. Henry of Cave Junction.

Howard Curry Watson of Camp White received the \$10 second-prize award in the Short Story section of the Hospitalized Veteran's writing project quarterly contest for January, 1956 with his entry "A Night on the Hill."

Monday was the third pay day for the 100 non-compensated members who have spent the winter tying 294,000 Legion poppies to be used in the drive

on the week end preceeding Memorial Day. These men were rewarded just before the holidays to provide them with Christmas funds and drew pay again late in January, and with this completion of their task under direction of Mrs. Thelma Williams and Mike Tanzell of the Camp White Legion office. The state-wide distribution of the poppies will now be made.

Hobby Fair registrations indicate an all-out participation of exhibits of handicrafts by Camp White members. A survey of exhibits shows the wide range of abilities of the men having hobbies. Orders will be taken by them for the items displayed or assignments taken for special items to be prepared by them for visitors. The show will be Sunday, March 18 from 10:30 a.m. until 7 p.m. in the Camp White theater.

Vets Have Priority On Homestead Sites

Salem—(U.P.)—Priority in acquiring 194 homestead farms in the southern Idaho will be offered to war veterans, the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs said Wednesday.

Veterans' applications should be filed by May 7 with the Bureau of Reclamation, Rupert, Ida. Forms are available in Oregon from county service officers or the state veterans' department in Salem or Portland.

Vere A. McCarty, veterans' service office, said applicants must have had two years of full-time farm experience, must intend to engage in farming and must possess assets worth at least \$4,500 in excess of liabilities.

FILE ARTICLES

Salem—(U.P.)—Articles of incorporation were filed here Wednesday for the Eugene Plywood Company's registered office at Coos Bay. They were signed by Hayden Hastings, Doyle Hastings and R. W. Cole, Jr.

Dead line Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday; 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 5:30 previous day.

FPC Grants Permission For Firm to Drop Plans

Washington—(U.P.)—The Federal Power commission said the Puget Sound Power & Light Co., Seattle, has been granted permission to drop its application to build a hydroelectric project on the Columbia river at the Wells site.

It said Feb. 8 decision of Examiner William C. Costello to grant the withdrawal became final March 9 since the company did not file exceptions and the commission did not order a review within 30 days.

Washington—(U.P.)—Sen. Frank Carlson (R-Kan.) formally announced for a second six-year term Wednesday.

News Conference a Good 'Institution'

Washington—(U.P.)—President Eisenhower said Wednesday he has decided that White House news conferences are "a wonderful institution."

He made the comment at today's meeting with reporters when a newsman observed that it was the 43rd anniversary of the first White House news conference, held by President Woodrow Wilson. Mr. Eisenhower grinned broadly and said "I congratulate you and hope you last another 43 years."

In a more serious vein, he said that more than three years in the presidency have showed him that his regular meetings with reporters accomplish two valuable purposes:

1. He gets an idea from the

reporters' questions of "the kind of thinking that's going on" among the American people.

2. Preparing for a news conference requires him to set aside at least half an hour each week to "review in my own mind what has happened" so that he will be ready to answer questions. He said he has found this review most useful in maintaining a broad view of developments.

He said he had always had pleasant relations with the reporters and their questions were always "polite and respectful."

The Romans ruled France for 500 years after Julius Caesar conquered the Gauls between 57 and 52 B.C.

Stevenson Says Court Right on Segregation

Chicago—(U.P.)—Adlai E. Stevenson said Tuesday night that the Supreme Court is right and a manifesto of Southern Law makers is wrong on the issue of racial segregation in the schools.

He said he could not agree with the manifesto's charge that the Supreme Court was guilty of "unwarranted exercise of power" in banning school segregation.

"I think rather that these rulings are correct interpretations of the Constitution and the conscience of the nation," Stevenson said.

Stevenson issued the state-

ment before flying to Minnesota for a last round of campaigning in the state's March 20 Democratic presidential primary.

Harvard university had the first American printing press which was transported to the U. S. in 1640.

ARTICLES FILED

Salem—(U.P.)—Articles of incorporation were filed here Wednesday for the Elk River Timber Company of Coos Bay. They were signed by Robert M. Smyth, Kenneth E. Rogge and Lynne McNutt.

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