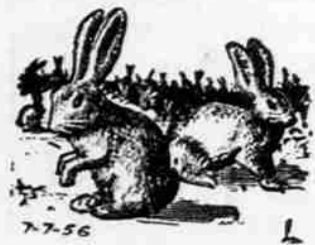


Is That So?

By EUGENE BURNS
Ranger-Naturalist

This spring I reprinted a letter from Dee J. Poole of Magic Valley, Ida., who was literally being eaten out of his homestead by hundreds of thousands of jackrabbits. He said he had tried shooting them (by the thousands), also building supposedly rabbit-proof fences (in summer they dug under the fences, in winter they ran over them on snowdrifts), and was about to lose his mind. In writing to me he asked whether he would be



morally justified in infecting the rabbits with myxomatosis, a disease deadly to rabbits.

In turn, I asked you readers for the solution. Hundreds of you responded from all over the land. These letters I forwarded to Mr. Poole. Here is his response:

"Now that spring work is done, I can get down to answering the hundreds of letters which kind people sent to me.

The letter writers were overwhelmingly against the introduction of the virus disease both on moral and economic grounds. (Three who were in favor of using the virus seem to feel the end justifies the means.) I'm inclined to agree with the majority of the writers.

"Many of the writers offering solutions said that the rabbits could be put to good use for chicken, hog or fox foods. Some gave me the addresses of places where rabbits may be sold, pointing out that dressed rabbits bring as high as 50 cents to \$1 each.

"Several advocated the importation of predators. A man from Billings, for example, suggested that we import coyotes to kill off the rabbits.

Come and Go in Cycles
"With this writer and others I cannot agree that the extermination of coyotes and other predators has caused the jack-rabbit plague. The letters of our pioneer homesteaders in this valley prove that the rabbits were here in destructive hordes long before mass coyote poisons were used.

"Besides, recent experiments by University of California and U.S. Bureau of Land Management experts have shown that the rise and fall of rodent numbers has little relation to the number of predators present. In other words, rabbit numbers come and go in great cycles regardless of their natural enemies, because, I suppose of the rabbit's tremendous reproductive capacity coupled with food supply. (Editor's Note: In his book, *The Sex Life of Wild Animals*, Eugene Burns deals with this subject comprehensively).

"My wife and I got a great kick out of the suggestions that we give up sheep farming and make our fortunes by going into some 'sensible' occupation like mink farming or the processing of rabbits for the mink farm trade. As one writer put it: 'Man, you've struck gold if you only knew how to handle the situation!'

"Then there was the man who suggested that we sell this 'rabbit-infested' place and go to work in a factory where we could make a lot more money with less effort and investment.

They Like the Life
"I can't help but answer that one. My wife and I are here because we like farming and ranching as a way of life. We have tried city jobs in which we could make a living with much

less effort. We don't aim to quit, either now or in the future, because the going gets rough in spots.

"In the final analysis, your publication of my letter has brought us great help in deciding on a definite policy of survival against rabbits. First, we are thoroughly convinced that the only effective long-range policy is to eliminate the sagebrush as far back from our fields as possible. One writer told us that rabbits will not cross land that has been cleared of brush for at least three quarters of a mile. This we will do as fast as finances permit.

"Hunting is another angle and may prove an important one. We had several letters from Montana, especially, suggesting that men would like to come here and hunt rabbits and truck them to eastern Montana for sale to mink and other farms. Also rod and gun clubs have expressed interest.

"All in all, we feel greatly encouraged. We were particularly impressed by the friendly interest shown by men and women in all parts of the U.S. To them we extend our thanks, and also to you for reprinting our letter. Dee J. Poole."

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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 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? care Medford Mail Tribune, Box 575, Sausalito, Calif.

Mrs. Lydiard Named President of Firm
Mrs. Jane C. Lydiard, wife of one of the founders of the Groceteria, was elected president of Gates and Lydiard, Inc., at a directors' meeting here Thursday night.

Melvin H. Hall, who has been associated with the firm for the past 30 years, succeeds the late William A. Gates as general manager. Lowell Iverson will be assistant manager.

Other officers of Gates and Lydiard, Inc., include Paul Smith, vice president, Melvin Hall, secretary, and Iverson and Ross Minnick as directors.

The Groceteria was one of Medford's first self-service food stores, organized in 1920 by W. A. Gates and William Lydiard. The concern was first housed at Sixth st. and Central ave. in a portion of the building now occupied by the F. W. Woolworth company.

Lebanon Voters Approve Three Issues Friday
Lebanon — (U.P.) — Voters here okayed three measures Friday at a special election.

Receiving approval was a \$141,000 bond issue to provide additional funds to make mandatory additions and advisable flood control precautions at the sewage disposal plant the additions were required by the state sanitary commission.

Also approved was \$55,000 above the six per cent limitation to make up a deficit in the general fund and a \$9,000 bond issue for purchase of city street maintenance equipment, now being purchased on a rental plan.

Steel Strike May Cause Lay Offs of 100,000 This Week

Pittsburgh — (U.P.) — Upwards of 40,000 coal miners will feel the pinch of the nationwide steel shutdown when they return from vacation next week, adding to the more than 65,000 sideliners already laid off by the United Steelworkers strike.

Layoffs will mount even higher in other steel-centered industries should the contract dispute remain deadlocked. The crippling walkout is in its seventh day.

Efforts to end the strike, which cut off 90 per cent of the nation's steel production and sent 650,000 millworkers on the picket line, remained at a standstill. Negotiators for the USW and the steel producers made no more to revive contract talks which collapsed Saturday, six hours before the strike began.

Federal Mediation Director Joseph F. Finnegan, after separate "exploratory" conferences with both sides Thursday, indicated he would contact the bargainers "early next week," presumably to press for renewed negotiations.

While settlement seemed far off, the nation was getting continuing reminders of the price tag of an eventual basic steel contract. Three more small steel firms announced price increases of about \$8 to \$14 a ton in anticipation of higher labor costs.

United Mine Workers returning to the pits Tuesday after their annual 12-day vacation may be greeted by "No Work" signs.

An informed coal industry source said 40,000 miners will "either go on a shorter work week or be laid off."

U.S. Steel Corp. announced it would not reopen its "captive" mining operations in Western Pennsylvania, Kentucky or West Virginia. The sole exception is the Robena mine at Masontown, Pa., the world's largest mechanized coal pit. The company will temporarily store the mined coal in barges.

Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp. said none of its 2,500 miners would work until the mills reopen.

50,000 Rail Layoffs
The Railroad Retirement Board estimated rail industry layoffs at 40,000 to 50,000 since July 1, the day the steel strike began. An official said the rail companies were hit "sooner and harder" this year than in the

Officers Installed At Lions Meeting
The annual installation of officers and ladies night of Medford Lion's club was held Wednesday, June 27, at Tally-Ho.

Herbert Seitz was installed as the 34th president of the club. Louie Ruhl and Joe Tomjack were installed as vice presidents. Deputy District Governor Robert Dames installed the officers. International Counselor Lee Mellish was master of ceremonies.

Other officers installed were Lee Knox, secretary-treasurer; Edward Ashton, lion tamer; Lee Mellish, tail twister; and Speed Waters and Jerry Lausmann as directors for two years. Jim McGoodwin and Elliott Becken are holdover directors.

SPECIAL SENATE CHAIR
Madison, Wis. — (U.P.) — Former State Sen. Clifford (Tiny) Krueger, redistricted out of office in 1954, filed nomination papers Friday to get his old chair back. It's a special chair, custom-built, to hold "Tiny" Krueger's 400 pounds.

56-day steel strike of 1952, the industry's longest and costliest. In the Chicago-Gary steel area, 8,000 railworkers were idled. The board said 12,000 were furloughed in the Pittsburgh steel district.

The American Trucking Assn. said between 20,000 and 30,000 drivers and cargo handlers were furloughed in five Eastern and Mid-Western states.

Bureau of Land Management Estimates Area I Earnings

Bureau of Land Management earnings in area I in fiscal 1957 are expected to reach \$40,000,000, nearly 12 per cent higher than the \$35,000,000 1956, income, James F. Doyle, area administrator, said Saturday.

The anticipated higher earnings are made possible by a \$9,676,860 appropriation, the largest in the history of area I, which comprises Washington, Oregon and California, accounts for more than 40 per cent of the total appropriation for BLM, which for fiscal 1957 received \$22,914,300.

The biggest portion of the area I increase was for work in the O&C lands where \$1,730,285 has

Prolonged Strike May Cripple Jobs

Portland — (U.P.) — Builders warned here Saturday that a prolonged strike against the steel industry could cripple construction projects in the Portland area and cause job layoffs but that no effect of the walkout has been felt yet in this area.

Oregon steelworkers negotiate separately with employers and are not involved in the dispute which has closed the nation's largest steel mills. But lack of steel for fabricating locally could result in project delays here.

A. H. Harding, manager of the heavy construction department of Associated General Contractors, said lack of steel could slow down work on the Morrison and might be possible to divert steel from less pressing projects if a shortage should develop.

Harding added "I don't believe the overall picture justifies any alarm at this time."

Some 5,000 to 10,000 barge workers have been idled by the steel shutdown, according to Chester Thompson, president of American Waterways Operators, Inc.

The 10,000 seamen who man the 300 boats which carry iron ore from Western ranges on the Great Lakes face furloughs if the strike continues to the end of next week.

Program Aided

Soil and moisture conservation work received a substantial increase from \$339,750 in 1956 to \$488,400 in 1957. This will permit BLM to continue its leading role in the Department of Interior's 20-year program involving the four other principal land agencies and geological survey for revitalization of public and Indian lands, totaling approximately 270,000,000 acres nationally. The benefits will be improved watershed protection and erosion control, increased grazing capacity, sustained ground water level and lessened flood damage.

Doyle pointed out that \$851,594 have been allotted for fire control work in the three-state area, an increase of \$76,667 over fiscal 1956. Another \$45,000 will go for blister rust control in the forest areas. Grazing administration received an allotment of \$246,000, an increase of \$23,000 over last year.

Sunday, July 8, 1956

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—FIVE

Osteopathic Buys Cardioscope For Heart Therapy Here

The Medford Osteopathic hospital has purchased a new Daltons cardioscope, an electronic machine for heart therapy.

The purchase of the cardioscope makes the Osteopathic hospital the first hospital with a complete "lifesaving team" between Portland and San Francisco, according to hospital officials.

A research expert from the Daltons company spoke to a meeting at the hospital and demonstrated uses of the machine July 3.

The machine includes a cardioscope, which keeps the doctor constantly informed of the condition of the patient while under an anesthetic; a cardiophone which amplifies the heart beat; a pacemaker which will start the heart beat in case the heart comes to a stand still during an operation; and a defibrillator which will bring the heart back to normal in case an abnormal rhythm develops.

Comment on Machine
The Los Angeles Times newspaper, commenting on a cardioscope machine installed recently in a California hospital, explained: "It makes it possible for the surgeon, with a quick glance at a round glass screen to see the condition of the heart by interpreting blue line patterns made on the screen by the heart's electrical activity. The markings are identical in shape but larger than those traced on paper with ink by an electrocardiograph (an older type heart machine)."

The Osteopathic hospital has also recently installed an air conditioning unit. The July 3 meeting was attended by most of the osteopaths in the valley and representatives from Canyonville, Riddle, and Glendale.

V. E. Noel Named to CP Planning Group

Central Point—V. E. Noel was named to the Central Point planning commission by Central Point Mayor Donald E. Faber last week on the recommendation of the city council.

Noel will replace Bill Askwith, who resigned. Askwith, chairman of the planning board, submitted his resignation because of his recent election to the board of directors of school district 6. The meeting dates of the organizations conflict.

Askwith's term on the board had one and one half years to run.



FURNITURE



- 2 PC. LIVING ROOM SET
Was 209.95. Tapestry cover. 2 only **169.77**
- 2 PC. LIVING ROOM SUITE
Was 179.95. Modern styling. Brown tapestry. **149.77**
- 2 PC. SECTIONAL SUITE
Was 198.95. Foam rubber cushions **149.77**
- 2 PC. LIVING ROOM SET
Was 219.95. Green only. Foam rubber **179.77**
- 2 PC. SECTIONAL
Was 189.95. Nylon upholstery. 1 only **149.77**
- 7 PC. DINING ROOM SET
Was 265.95. Lined oak construction.... **189.77**
- 5 PC. DINETTE SET
Was 114.95. Black and brass finish **89.77**
- 7 PC. KOROK DINETTE
Was 179.95. Chrome finish. Red chairs. **99.77**
- 5 PC. KOROK DINETTE, was 164.95
Chrome and gray table, heavily padded chairs **79.77**
- 5 PC. DINETTE SET, was 129.95
Black and brass. Korok table top. 1 only **49.00**

EVERY ITEM REDUCED
Savings!... We need customers!

- 4 PC. BEDROOM SET, was 386.90
Desert sand mahogany veneers **289.77**
- 4 PC. BEDROOM SET, was 407.90
Wards Hallmark quality, dark mahogany **299.77**
- 2 PC. BEDROOM SET, was 159.00
Bookcase bed, dresser, mahg. veneer. **129.77**
- HEADBOARD — was 32.95
King size. Heavily padded. 1 only **9.77**
- CHAIR WITH OTTOMAN
Was \$96. Choice of brown or turquoise.... **79.77**
- REG. 49.50 CHAIR
Maple finish. Brown tapestry cover..... **34.77**
- OCCASIONAL CHAIR, was 54.95
1 only in pink tapestry **39.77**
- HIGH CHAIR, reg. 15.95
Chrome. Padded seat, back..... **11.77**

FLOOR COVERINGS
Wards gotcha covered... for less!

- SCATTER RUGS, values to 5.50
24x36 in. Wide assortment styles, colors... **99¢**
- 9x12 AXMINSTER RUG, was 95.40
Wards Tonelle. 1 only..... **59.77**
- 9x12 WILTON RUG, was 107.40
Green. Floor sample **59.77**
- RATTAN SHELL CHAIR, reg. 6.95
Rattan peel, wrought iron base **4.99**
- SWIVEL SHELL CHAIR, reg. 13.95
King size, rattan peel **9.77**
- GARDEN UMBRELLA, reg. 9.95
60 in. diameter. Color choice..... **7.77**
- SUNTAN LOUNGE, reg. 21.95
Folding aluminium. Saran seat, back..... **18.97**

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Kleenex **25¢**
With Any Gas Purchase

Next **FREE FORD** AUG. 31st
FORTUNE
It's Fun to Buy Gas at
On the Point — South Central at South Riverside

FIFTY-SEVENTH SEMI-ANNUAL STATEMENT

FIRST FEDERAL

SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION OF MEDFORD
MEDFORD, OREGON • JUNE 30, 1956

STATEMENT OF CONDITION

ASSETS	
First Mortgage Loans	\$2,711,300.41
Investments and Securities	144,000.00
Cash on Hand and in Banks	163,634.36
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment, less depreciation	6,960.30
Total Assets	\$3,025,895.07
LIABILITIES	
Members' Share Accounts	\$2,665,996.32
Loans in Process	146,108.60
Other Liabilities	660.60
Specific Reserves	300.00
General Reserves	\$196,249.76
Undivided Profits	16,559.79
Total Liabilities	\$3,025,895.07

AN INSTITUTION DEDICATED TO THOSE WHO SAVE