

Is That So?

By EUGENE BURNS
Ranger-Naturalist

Although the average family in Canada and the U.S. is going to eat some 100 pounds of chicken and right around 1,000 eggs this year, did you know that . . .

Diverse as chickens may be in size, appearance, and uses, they are all descendants of one



species—the red jungle fowl of India.

Most of the eggs you will eat will be laid by white leghorns—a breed introduced some 130 years ago from Italy. The white leghorn has virtually been bred into an egg-laying machine. Properly cared for, it will lay an egg a day almost the year 'round. This chicken has almost lost its instinct of brooding and incubating.

Quite likely, the chicken was the first domesticated fowl. Chickens appear in early Chinese literature and tradition carries the domestication of the cock in China back some 3,300 years.

Ancient Egyptians hatched eggs in big stone or brick vaults, heated with rotting manure. Today, modern incubators use electricity and steam or water heat.

A chicken's egg hatches in three weeks; a duck's in four. A newly-hatched chicken has enough food stored inside, from the yolk, to supply it with sufficient nourishment for three days—a handy device in the wild, making it possible, in these incubator days, to ship the young in cardboard boxes by mail, express, or airmail for distances up to 5,000 miles.

Peacock Cousin
The glamorous peacock—one of the most beautiful of all living creatures—is a cousin of our barnyard chicken. And so is the turkey, the pheasant, and the quail—one of these latter being no bigger than a sparrow.

Bantam chickens did not get their name from their size. Rather because they were a special breed grown in the Bantam district of Java. A breed with feathered legs and feet brilliant coloring, and very small.

Biddy, the popular familiar name for any hen, may have come from chickabiddy, an onomatopoeic word built from the sound—chickabiddy, chickabiddy, chickabiddy.

Years ago there were spring chickens, remember? Now, with the common use of incubator and brooder, young chickens are grown for market the year 'round. So the names has been changed to "fryers" and "broilers." And with it has gone that expression: "She's no spring chicken."

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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

Registration Starts For Summer Tour

Monmouth—The sixth annual summer study tour of the Oregon College of Education at Monmouth is now registering members, according to Professor Charles J. Noxon, tour director. The title of the tour this year is "geography and related cultures of the British Isles and Scandinavia."

The tour group will be limited to 20 members, Noxon said, and may receive five hours undergraduate credit. Registration also is open for non-credit members.

Individuals participating in previous study tours included students, teachers, retired teachers, housewives, business people and family groups.

The group will leave Portland June 23 and return to Portland Aug. 30. The cost of the trip is \$1,198, Noxon said.

Inquiries concerning the tour may be directed to Noxon, tour director, Oregon College of Education, Monmouth, or to Mrs. Vivian Hanson, manager, Imperial Travel Bureau, Imperial hotel, Portland.

Court Records

MUNICIPAL COURT
William Rue Brychts, no operator's license, \$5.
Robert Fulton, violation basic rule, \$10.
Rae Hazel Bosworth, violation basic rule, \$10.
Clyde Leslie Walker, violation basic rule, \$10.
Jack Elzie Rockwell, failure to display registration, \$5.

DISTRICT COURT
Jack Neil Woodridge, no PUC permit, \$30, bail forfeited.
Wayne Lowell Reed, no operators license, \$7.50.
Frank Dale Forrer, overload, \$167.50, overweight, \$10.
Charles William Franks, excessive overweight, \$15.
Roland Alfred Thompson, violation of basic rule, \$15.

CIRCUIT COURT
Donald E. Beers vs. Mabel L. Beers,

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 subscriptions 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, P.O. Box 575, Sausalito, Calif.

TABLE ROCK Woman Observes 96th Year

By R. E. NEALON

Table Rock—Mrs. Julia Myers, Table Rock's oldest citizen, celebrated her 96th birthday, Monday, Dec. 31, at the home of her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Myers, where she has made her home for the past four years.

Mrs. Myers, with her husband and three children, came to Oregon some 63 years ago, settling

Congregationalists Elect Officers

The annual meeting of the Congregational church was held Monday evening in Pilgrim House, the social hall on the church property completed during the past year. The meeting was preceded by a waffle supper prepared and served by the men of the church.

Reports were given by various officers of the church and heads of affiliated organizations. The pastor, the Rev. Thomas McCaman, told of a growth in membership and church attendance, which increased an average of 12 a Sunday over the preceding year. This trend was helped, he indicated, by the new schedule of two church services each Sunday.

The report of Mrs. Charles Stearns, president of the Women's Fellowship, was read by Mrs. George Moore. It told of the varied activities of that organization. Mrs. Richard Travis, superintendent of the Sunday school, told of its growth and work and the observance of special days during the year. She also reported on the first Vacation Church school.

The report of the Couples club was given by Emmett Bullard. The activities of the Pilgrim fellowship, an organization for high school youth during the year, were reported by Pat Foulon.

Following a report of the nominating committee officers were elected.

They included deacon, 3 year term, Gatewood G. Smith; deaconess, Mrs. Rex Stevens; trustees, 3 year term, Manville Heisel and Mrs. W. E. Ashton; treasurer, 1 year term, Noel Davis; financial secretary, Mrs. Ted McLean; member of Christian education committee, 3 year term, Mrs. George G. Moore; member of Social Action committee, George G. Moore; Emmett Bullard, moderator, 1 year term; and Mrs. Emmett Bullard, church clerk.

The meeting was presided over by Henry Padgham, the retiring moderator, who served as the first chairman of the Board of Trustees of the new church and then as its first moderator.

4-H Club News

Talent Forestry Club
The first meeting of the Forestry club at Talent was held Jan. 5. The main purpose of the meeting was to organize the club and to elect officers. Officers elected were: John James, president; Janet Zediker, vice president; secretary; Doris Bench, reporter.

Janet Zediker and Doris Bench were appointed to choose names for the club which is to be voted on at the next meeting.

There are not too many members and more are wanted. Anyone wishing to join the club may come to the next meeting at Zediker's Feb. 20.

Doris Bench, Reporter

HOT FEET
Hartford, Conn.—(U.P.)—After falling three stories, Richard Brewer, a window washer, complained only that "the bottoms of my feet are sore." He landed upright on soft turf.

divorce complaint
Albert J. Kimbrell vs. Venola D. Kimbrell, divorce complaint.

START NOW To Save at OK

HILTS Home Destroyed By Fire

By MRS. M. F. CAVIN

Hilts—The home of Mr. and Mrs. Don Wilcox at Siskiyou summit was completely destroyed by fire about 5 p.m. Monday evening.

The fire started in the chimney of the fireplace and spread rapidly to the remainder of the building.

The young couple had no insurance and only a few items of

household furniture were saved. Fruit Growers Supply company, where Wilcox is employed, has offered them a rental and friends are helping to get them settled.

They have three small children.

Mr. and Mrs. Donovan Ward, John Barbera and Mr. and Mrs. David Holland of Hornbrook attended the C and Square club dance in Hawkinsville, Saturday night. Douglas Fosbury of Medford was the caller.

Mrs. Ed Mason and daughter Lillian, of Hornbrook, called at the Eastman home Thursday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Preston and family spent the recent holidays with relatives in Anderson and Cottonwood.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hofer and family visited in McCloud during the holiday season with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Nichols.

Mrs. Italo Marin spent several days last week in Central Point, caring for her mother and grandmother who were ill.

Guests at the home of Mrs. Al Simmen on Wednesday were Mrs. Jack Haueter of Anderson, and Mrs. Norma White and son of Loyalton.

"Old Man Winter" came to Hilts in the form of five inches of snow on Monday night, much to the delight of the children. Two lumber trucks were stalled for a short time on the road out of Hilts, causing the homebound traffic at 6 p.m. somewhat of a delay.

Casting their ballots at the polls set up in the cafeteria of the new school on Tuesday, Jan. 8, were 31 voters in favor of the proposed junior college district.

About 20 couples welcomed the new year with a party at the club house on New Year's eve. A juke box furnished music for dancing and a smorgasbord was served.

Mrs. Elizabeth Maquire spent Saturday and Sunday in Etna at the home of her sister, Mrs. Margaret Weston.

Mr. and Mrs. Weston Kleaver and son called on relatives here Thursday, en route to Corvallis, where Kleaver will enroll for the second semester at Oregon State college.

Mr. and Mrs. Orrin Avent left this week for their home in Theodore, Ala., after spending several weeks with relatives here and in Ashland.

Mrs. Audrey Rease of Ashland spent Monday and Tuesday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Spannaus.

Bucket of Bucks Dance Brings \$270 for MOD

The annual Bucket of Bucks dance, held at the Rogue Valley ball room last Thursday night, brought approximately \$270 for the March of Dimes, according to Dick Knight, Medford MOD chairman.

The dance was sponsored by the Medford Central Labor Council, with Vernon Marshall acting as chairman. The Council paid all of the expenses, Knight said, allowing the entire receipts to go to the fight against polio. All personnel connected with the dance donated their time and several local merchants also assisted.

The Navajo Indians, whose population sank to fewer than 10,000 after their defeat by Kit Carson in 1863, are today the largest tribe in America, with an estimated population of 75,000. They live on the country's largest Indian reservation in New Mexico and Arizona.

A TRIBUTE TO Our Soroptimist Club!

Members of the Soroptimist Club are women leaders. They have proven their worth to this community. They pioneer new fields. They plan constructively. They get things done. Along business, educational and social lines, the Soroptimist Club members bring improvement, help deserving individuals, contribute to worthy causes and generally show what smart women can do in almost every field of endeavor. We are fortunate to have a highly successful Soroptimist Club. So archduke to them all . . . and to all ladies who make up the American Federation of Soroptimist Clubs!

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Siskiyou Constitute One of Ruggedest Groups of Mountains in Country's West

By AL HOBART

The Siskiyou mountain range is not an imposing range as mountain ranges go in size. Compared with the great north-south ranges of the west—the Rockies, Cascades, Sierras, and Coast ranges—it is small.

But when it is observed from other angles and in another light its stature grows until the apparently insignificant mountain range has become as important as any other.

Ruggedest, Loveliest
The Siskiyou constitute one of the ruggedest, and loveliest, groups of mountains in the west.

Rich in natural resources, its greatest claim to fame lies not in the material wealth it holds, but in its esthetic and educational value, its ability to contribute pleasure and important knowledge to its admirers and students.

The people of southern Oregon and northern California who share the fame and grandeur of this little mountain chain are becoming more aware of the fact that the mountains, with their unique flora, constitute one of the west's leading attractions and one of the country's notable beauty spots.

The Siskiyou occupy an enviable position in the midst of the west's rich wildland community. Lying approximately at right angles to, and between, the Coast Range and Cascades, the range tends to intercept the flora of California and the plant-life of Oregon. Here the two intermingle and overlap, the resulting rich floral composition extending into Oregon about as far as the Rogue river, and probably a like distance south into California.

Number of Plants
In addition to the diversity of colorful and priceless plethora of plant life, the Siskiyou nurture a large number of plants—trees, shrubs and herbs—of its own. Among them are Siskiyou

cypress tree; the rare and beautiful Calmiopsis shrub, once known as dwarf rhododendron, which it somewhat resembles in its diminutive way; and the Imperial Lewisia, a succulent herb.

Tourists from all parts of the country, passing through the California plant quarantine stations on the western Oregon-California border, are constantly heard to remark with enthusiasm that the area is one of the most beautiful areas they have seen.

Residents of southern Oregon's Rogue and Illinois valleys can drive to the ocean over one of the most beautiful and botanically wonderful stretches of highway anywhere. The Redwood

Italy Defeats U.S. In Bridge Tourney

New York — (U.P.) — Italy defeated the United States overwhelmingly early Saturday to win the world's contract bridge championship.

The final score gave the Italian team 10,150 more points than its U. S. rival, the most one-sided score in the history of the international tournament.

Throughout the final session the Italians increased their lead.

The biggest point swing in the final 14 hands of play came when the American team in the closed room made a sacrifice bid of seven diamonds to deny the Italian pair a six-heart contract. The Americans were set by 1,100 points.

WINDS WIN ACQUITTAL
Washington — (U.P.) — A judge dismissed a drunk charge against William R. Thompson when he learned what made him tilt. "The wind was blowing awfully hard and I only weigh 119 pounds," Thompson told the magistrate Friday.

A VERSE FOR THE LAW
Racine, Wis.—(U.P.)—A traffic violator paid his \$1 fine with 100 pennies and a poem: "I hate to pay this ticket boys, but what else could I do? So I rushed down to my basement and made these just for you."

of our area are so rare and unique as to be botanical treasures. Hundreds of species are sought because of their peculiar esthetic value; others for commercial reasons. No doubt there are quite a few as yet undiscovered species still to be found in unexplored regions of the mountains.

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