

# Hunting Good in John Day Fossil Beds

The following is condensation of a motorist's experience in the Sunday Oregonian, one of an annual series sponsored jointly by The Oregonian and the Oregon State Motor Assn. These travel articles describe vacation trips and destinations throughout the Northwest which are recommended for out-of-state visitors to Oregon during the Centennial Year.

**By LEVERETT RICHARDS**  
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**Fossil Beds (Special)** — Want to go big game hunting—without a license, without a gun, without fear of attack? Come on over, the hunting is better here than anywhere in the United States. The game is bigger. And it's safe. The game is all dead. Petrification set in, in fact, some 30 or 40 million years ago.

For this is the land of the oreodont, the largest tiger the world has ever known, and the home of the brontothere, the "thunderbeast," a rhinoceros, big as an elephant and twice as ugly, that thundered across the plains of Eastern Oregon some 60 million years ago.

Here, too, the bone burler finds the stone bones of three-toed horses, pig-dogs, tiny camels—and fossil nuts like those found on the market today. Paleontologists call it one of the most important bone piles in the country.

**Important Finds Made**

Hundreds of amateur big game hunters have made important finds, harking back to the day when Central Oregon was a tropical bog where "horse and rhino had it fine-o," to quote the paleontological anthem of Oregon.

The fossil, like gold, is where you find it, however, and the casual tourist in a hurry to see Oregon celebrate its Cen-

## Giant Tigers, Elephant-Sized Rhinos Once Roamed Ancient Oregon Hills



Eroded hill in background is typical of formations in which fossils are found in John Day country. Layers are formed from mud compressed into stone by weight of years.

tenial, for instance, cannot expect to bag a bag of big bones in a few hours. Finding and recovering these fossils which reveal so much of the earth's past is a job for professionals or educated amateurs.

The State of Oregon has set aside 2,773 acres of picturesque fossil beds along the sparkling John Day River as the Thomas Condon-John Day Fossil Beds State Park. But most of the area is inaccessible to anyone but an oreodont.

Driving along Highway 19 you can see and photograph the multicolored, multilayered cliffs and formations that house the fossils, but they lie across the John Day River and there are no bridges.

Easy access to the beds can be gained only by one public road and that is not passable for conventional cars. Amateurs really intent on hunting stone bones can get directions from the John Day-Canyon City Chamber of Commerce, or inquire at Fossil, Condon or Kimberly.

There is no comprehensive collection of these fascinating fossils open to the public either. The Canyon City Museum has a few on display. The general store at Kimberly on Highway 19 has some impressive fossils of tortoises, oreodonts and prehistoric deer. There are other impressive private collections, but none readily viewed.

The fossil country has a rugged scenic charm all its own, however, apart from its prehistoric past, as we found on our Oregon State Motor Assn.-Oregonian motorlog tour. Highway 26, one of the nation's main east-west streets, cuts through the heart of the fossil beds between John Day and Mitchell. The Fossil State Park lies just north of 26 on Highway 19.

Highway 19 follows the twisting John Day River through the scenic heart of the fossil country where Sheep Rock and the Cathedral stand like sentinels above this mass burial ground of the mighty beasts that fell so long ago. The mud of the ancient lake beds in which these huge beasts bogged down 30 to 60 million years ago presents an ever-changing kaleidoscope of greens, blues, yel-

lows and browns in pipe-organ shapes as fantastic as the creatures buried therein. Fossil beds like this are seen from the highway all the way from Spray on Route 19 to Highway 26.

All roads in Central Oregon are interesting. One favorite loop trip from Portland is via the Columbia River Highway to Arlington, thence south down Highway 19 to its junction with Highway 26 near Dayville. Here on the rock walls of narrow Picture Gorge, the pre-Indians left their calling cards. This was a crossroads and a sort of post office where they carved or painted mysterious messages. A sign calls your attention to them, but they are not easy to find and there is no place to park in the narrow canyon to do your looking on foot.

### Viewing Requires Time

To properly enjoy this landscape, garnished with juniper like a garden of the gods, requires a couple of days at least. There are plenty of wayside parks and overnight camping sites, as well as motels, along the route. Don't miss sidights like the Painted Hills State Park, which lies nine miles northwest of Mitchell via Burnt Ranch Road off U.S. 26 on a dirt road. The pastel shades of red and chocolate brown on the rounded domes and ridges make interesting color pictures. If lucky you can find fossil tree leaves and plants of 50 million years ago. There is a picnic park here with fireplaces and water—w h i c h should be boiled before using, the signs say.

To complete the loop you can return to Portland on Route 26 via Prineville, Madras and Warm Springs, or take Route 126 via Prineville, Redmond, Sisters, the McKenzie River and Eugene. Both are scenic and full of interest.



Map shows choice of routes to fossil country of Eastern Oregon. Fossil beds extend from Fossil State Park north and west along highway 26.



Typical of fossils found is this turtle, found near Kimberly, displayed at Kimberly store. From left: Jaap Wertheim, Dutch student; Durbæ Richards, Mrs. C. H. Schoenberger; Mrs. L. G. Richards and Sheila Richards view relic.

# State Fair Offers Variety of Entertainment for 10-Day Run

Salem —UPI— The Oregon State Fair which opened today for a record 10-day run should be a pleasant mixture of the corn-fed and the atomic, the educational and the entertaining.

The 93rd State Fair got under way officially at 8 a.m. with Gov. Robert D. Holmes sawing a log in two at the main entrance.

Agriculture and lumbering are still the dominant themes of the fair. But Fair Board Chairman Mrs. Marguerite Berg says the scope of exhibits is gradually being broadened to reflect the expanding interests of Oregon citizens.

Current interest in science has resulted in an atomic science exhibit this year which covers 5,000 square feet.

Stars of the night revue will be Jimmy Rodgers, the former Camas, Wash., paper mill worker who rose to fame on his recording of "Honeycomb" and the popular band leader, Vaughn Monroe.

**Cowboy Star on Hand**

Heading the combined rodeo and horse show will be Walt Disney's Slim Pickens, star of the Indian epic "Tonka" now being filmed near Bend.

Top cowboys from the rodeo circuit again will appear, although George Mankemaier, Burns, second place national saddle bronc riding champion, was killed last Friday in an automobile accident near Prineville.

A feature attraction of the floral and garden show is a 25-foot tower, highlighted with 19th century statues, ac-

ording to W. Kay Huntington, Salem landscape architect, who heads the expanded floral show.

A five-foot Japanese lantern, one of the largest ever shown in the Northwest, also will be on display.

The new \$300,000 4-H and FFA building will be in use for the first time. Funds for it were appropriated by the 1957 Legislature.

**Century Farms Honored**

Sept. 2 will be century farm day at the fair and Gov. Holmes will present awards to families who have been in continuous ownership or operation of the same Oregon farm for at least 100 years.

A feature for the children, aside from the rides and midway entertainment, will be free tickets on two ponies to be given away Thursday and Sept. 4—Kids' Day at the Fair.

Even politics will get some inings at the fair with Salem radio station KBZY conducting a pre-election forecast poll in which visitors will get a chance to cast ballots for governor, Congress and state labor commissioner.

Some of the judging has been completed even before the gates were opened. Max E. Baumberger and Duane Duval, both of Portland, won top prizes in the first all Oregon color slide exhibit—a feature of the fair.

Daily fashion shows at 2 and 7 p.m. will be held for the ladies.

There has been a big increase in the number of livestock entries this year with 524 dairy animals entered. Jerseys lead this year although Guernseys were ahead last year.

The Portland zoo exhibit will include 50 animals and the farm machinery exhibit will be the biggest in recent years.



ARRIVING IN MADAGASCAR, French Premier Charles de Gaulle shakes hands with child at Tananarive on first stop of tour to check on France's colonial problems.

# Navy Reveals New Missile To Be Shot From Submarines

Washington —UPI— The Navy today announced development of an "underwater guided missile" to be fired from submarines and steered by an attached thread-like wire.

It was the third major development announced by the Defense Department in 24 hours designed to increase the nation's military posture.

The new underwater weapon, the Navy said, can strike its target despite enemy evasive maneuvers. As the torpedo noses through the water, the wire is played out from the launching vessel and "wire guidance enables the torpedo to follow the target until the kill is made."

The Navy declined to disclose range of its new weapon, designated the Mark 39, Test New Rocket.

A Defense Department statement Wednesday night revealed the Army has tested a rocket motor with such huge power it could hurl "an air defense missile to a very high altitude almost instantaneously."

While the official announcement did not say so, the rocket booster was known to have been tested in connection with the Army Nike-Zeus program for developing a defense against intercontinental ballistic missiles.

The Defense Department statement said the Army "successfully test fired" the rocket motor at Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, Ala., Wednesday night. It was tested while bolted down to a test stand.

Power of the rocket was given officially as "several hundred thousand pounds" of thrust. It was understood officially to have produced more than 450,000 pounds of thrust.

**Develop New Propeller**

The Navy, meanwhile, took the wraps off a revolutionary new propeller design which officials said could lead to development of ships with "unlimited" speed.

Capt. E. A. Wright, commander of the David Taylor Model Basin here, where the propeller was developed, said the Navy would "no longer be speed-limited as far as propulsive capacities are concerned."

ed." The officials spoke freely of future ships, with radical new hulls, that could travel at speeds of 100 to 150 knots (115-170 miles per hour) as a result of the new propeller development.

**Spokane Lumber Strike May Spread**

Portland —UPI— A union official said Wednesday that a strike by members of the AFL-CIO Lumber and Sawmill Workers in the Spokane area could spread to the fir and pine region of Oregon.

The strike, which started three weeks ago against the Valselt Lumber Company's Inchellum logging camp mushroomed Wednesday to two more Valselt operations in the Spokane area at the Lincoln sawmill and the Western Pine operations. A total of 500 men have been idled by the walkout.

The strike could spread to the Blue mountain and Willamette valley areas of Oregon, the union spokesman said.

A total of about 1,000 employees are involved in Valselt operations at La Grande, Enterprise, Pondota, Joseph, and Elgin in the pine area and in the Douglas fire operations at Valselt.

The strike is over wages, the spokesman said.

**EX-TAX MAN DIES**

Washington —UPI— Walter William Law, 87, former New York State tax commissioner, died Tuesday night in Georgetown Hospital.

# Quotes From the News

**By United Press International**  
Los Angeles—Attorney General William P. Rogers, on school integration:

"There is no state, granting the will, which cannot maintain law and order and at the same time permit a final decree of a court to be carried out."

Little Rock, Ark.—Gov. Orval Faubus, on President Eisenhower's attitude toward integration:

"If the President thinks the pace of integration should be slowed down to occur peacefully, we are in agreement, I am for him."

Cape Canaveral, Fla.—An informed source, on the firing of a Jupiter missile:

"There was nothing startlingly different about this bird. It's just another flight in the development series."

Beirut, Lebanon—Maj. Gen. Paul Adams, commander of U.S. ground forces in Lebanon, on a rebel demand to withdraw tanks from positions near a rebel-held section:

"If fired on, they (U.S. forces) will return the fire in sufficient volume to stop hostile fire, making sure to attack the hostile fire at its source."

Indianapolis—Police Lt. Richard Caine, on the finding of an unexploded bomb under the bedroom window of Maurice Hutcheson, president of the Carpenters Union:

"I do not consider this an attempt on Hutcheson's life. It is more of a scare than a serious try to kill somebody."

# Teamsters Union Blamed for End Of Tented Circus

Washington —UPI— The Senate Rackets Committee today placed at the doorstep of the Teamsters Union partial blame for the end of an American institution—the circus under canvas.

Committee counsel Robert F. Kennedy said testimony in the next few days would show that organizing pressure by the huge transportation workers union was at least a "factor" in the abandonment of the Big Top by Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey Circus, and the elimination of other smaller shows.

**Operators To Testify**

Testimony was scheduled from the operators of eight circuses and carnivals. Kennedy said John Ringling North, head of "The Greatest Show on Earth" was in Europe but had submitted a sworn affidavit to the committee.

The Ringlings gave up their annual summertime tours under canvas two years ago and the gradual loss of smaller shows has been the despair of circus buff throughout the nation. Ringling's show now appears only in large cities, in indoor arenas or outdoor stadiums.

Kennedy said while other economic factors obviously had a part in the decline of circuses, the organizational drives of the Teamsters also took a toll. He said there would be testimony about other Ringling labor difficulties, including violence when the circus was in Philadelphia and Teamsters sponsorship of a rival show to compete against it during a Boston engagement.

**Taxicabs Targets**

The committee turned to the circus situation after two days of testimony about violence in the taxicab industry in St. Louis.

B. A. Foster, manager of a St. Louis cab company employing only Negro drivers, told the committee Wednesday his vehicles were shot at, burned and bombarded with stench fluid in 1954-55 when his drivers voted to leave the Teamsters for an independent union.

**FORMER RACER DIES**

London —UPI— Alfred Thomas (Goldie) Gardner, 68, a former top auto racer, died Monday in Eastbourne, England.

# Truck Strikers Ready To Talk

San Francisco —UPI— Northern California teamsters leaders declared themselves ready today to meet with employers to discuss settlement of a Central California teamsters strike.

The strike of 2,350 drivers in Central California and Western Nevada has touched off an employer lockout in the 11 Western states.

Leaders of San Francisco Bay Area Joint Council No. 7 and Central Valley Joint Council No. 38 met Wednesday to discuss strategy in the 17-day-old dispute.

After the meeting, both councils announced they were ready to negotiate. Whether the employers would take them up on the offer remained to be seen. The employers contend that teamsters in the 11 western states accepted a master contract negotiated on May 27.

Meanwhile Joint Council 38 prepared to file an unfair labor practice charge against the California Trucking Association. The union will charge the employer group with refusing to bargain in violation of the Taft-Hartley Act.

# Albany Man Dies Under Flying Stump

Gold Beach —UPI— A 38-year-old Albany man was injured fatally Tuesday in a construction accident south of here.

Sylvester B. Callison died en route to a Crescent City, Calif., hospital after he was crushed by a stump that had been blasted.

Callison was operating a tractor on an access road when a stump, blasted out on the other side of the hill, flew over the hill and fell on him.

He was employed by the Morrison-Knudsen Co. of Boise, Idaho, on a highway relocation project on Highway 101 in the Hooskanaden-Thomas creek area.

He is survived by his wife and two children.

# PLANT EXPLODES

Taipei, Formosa —UPI— Twenty-three persons, most of them teen-age girls, were killed and 13 other persons were injured Tuesday when a fireworks factory exploded in Chiayi in central Formosa, reports reaching here Wednesday night said.

The steel industry's coke is produced in 16 states.

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WED — Chico Marx, 67, oldest of the comedian Marx Brothers, and actress Mary Louise Dee, 41, pictured in Beverly Hills, Calif., following their marriage. It was their first marriage for Miss Dee and the second for Chico.