

Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn M. Watkins

The Poor Salamander Always Misunderstood

One innocent creature rather common but seldom seen is the salamander. In reality very few people know what a salamander is, or even what it looks like or where it lives. In some sections of the South and Southeast there are at least a dozen different animals that people call a "salamander."

This poor, lizard-like creature has always been misunderstood. Mythology pictures this creature in a strange and unjust light. It gave the poor thing a character and a reputation that a real dragon couldn't live up to, for mythology tells of a hideous monster that ate fire and breathed flame from its nostrils.

To make the salamander even more fearsome, the creators of fiction have told the uninformed that the creature was on the form of a man or a manlike animal that groveled in the dirt, and waited with bared fangs for its helpless prey. The salamander of mythology was only the brain-child of an over-stimulated imagination.

Still Confused

Many people today are still confused about this lowly, mud-loving creature. In many parts of the South it is reputed to be an earth-dwelling animal that amuses itself by piling heaps of earth on lawns and fields. The culprit that digs the holes and heaps the piles of sand can truthfully be called a "critter."

Actually it is a small burrowing rodent with fur and sharp claws, commonly known as a pocket gopher. Pocket, because there are sacks inside the mouth that the animal uses to carry earth until it can come to the surface and empty the cheek pouches. It doesn't resemble a salamander in any way.

The real salamander looks like a lizard, but isn't. Its nearest relative is a newt. So if you don't know what a newt is, you are still in the dark about a salamander. The salamander is a cold-blooded creature that resembles a large tadpole. In fact they are related to the frogs and toads and, like them, spend their lives in shallow fresh-water pools and ponds.

16 Varieties

There are about 16 varieties found in North America. The common salamander, the so-called "black," has bright yellow spots on either side of the smooth body. Seldom is one ever found that exceeds six inches in overall length. They are seldom seen unless the body where they live is suddenly dried up, or drained. They are pathetically harmless, and relatively helpless.

They are sometimes used as aquarium pets, and make interesting inmates in a fish globe. Although larger, they closely resemble tadpoles; tadpoles whose development was stopped at the time when the tail should have been absorbed by the body. The salamander keeps his. Just to be different, the tail remains and the "critter" turns out to be a real honest-to-goodness salamander.

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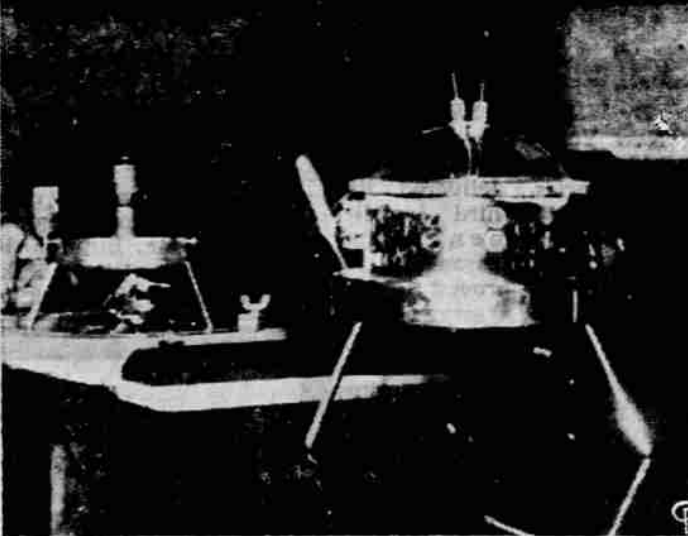
Medford Man in Antarctic Rescue

Christchurch, N. Z. — (UPI) — The U. S. Navy's most powerful icebreaker plowed around the frozen Antarctic today to rescue a stranded five-man scientific team believed to include an American.

The U.S.S. Glacier, commanded by Capt. Edwin A. McDonald of Medford, Ore., crunched through the white seas to Robertson Island off Palmer Peninsula where an Argentine Antarctic expedition has been stuck more than a week.

The icebreaker was expected to reach the men by Jan. 27.

Capt. Edwin McDonald attended Medford high school about 1920.



HAILED AS A "significant breakthrough," this five-pound atomic generator was unveiled before President Eisenhower at the White House. Standing only 5 1/2 inches high, it can generate electricity from atomic heat, may serve satellite radio casts. It would have a real long life.

McLEOD Couple Back From East

By CAROLINE L. HARDING

McLeod-Mr. and Mrs. Albert Esten have returned from a trip to Providence, R.I. where they visited relatives and friends.

They made the trip east by airplane, going by way of San Francisco, Chicago and New York City, and returned by way of Portland, Ore.

Mr. and Mrs. Arlin Millard and family of Lake Creek have bought the Burl Goodman ranch on Crowfoot road and have taken possession. One of their daughters is in the second year of high school at Eagle Point and the four younger children are in attendance at Elk-Trail school.

Jimmy Valentine and Bud Gillespie have joined the Marines.

Mr. and Mrs. Bud Chandler have returned from Santa Ana, Calif., where they were visiting Mrs. Chandler's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, and now the Chandlers are living in their trailer house on the Applegate.

Mr. and Mrs. Rex Ressler and son are spending several weeks in Portland on business.

Mrs. Caroline Harding was an overnight guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Vaughn, Wednesday, Jan. 14.

Mr. and Mrs. Vic Chapman and sons, Dwayne and Clifford and Mr. and Mrs. Jack DeRosier and family all spent the New Year holidays visiting relatives in Sanger, Calif.

Guests over the holidays at the Ralph Goodes were Mr. and Mrs. Don Hammon and family of Redding, Calif., and Mrs. Goodes' father, Jack Nyross, of Bandon, Ore.

The senior class of the Prospect High school will put on the play "A Hillbilly Wedding" on Thursday evening, Jan. 22. The public is invited.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Cleveland have left for Mexico, where they will stay the rest of the winter.

Prospect Lions auxiliary held their monthly meeting and dinner in the community hall Wednesday evening, Jan. 14, with 19 members present.

The next executive meeting will be Wednesday evening, Jan. 28, at the home of Mrs. Ralph Goode. After the business meeting, which was presided over by President Velma Chapman, the birthday song was sung to Mrs. John Gartman, Mrs. Joe

Back Stairs: President Reminisces

By MERRIMAN SMITH
UPI White House Reporter

Washington—UPI—Back stairs at the White House: President Eisenhower at some recent social occasions has reminisced almost nostalgically, it seemed, about his visit to Moscow after World War II.

Obviously these reminiscences were touched off by the visit to this country of Soviet Deputy Premier Anastas I. Mikoyan. But the jovial manner in which the President has been recalling his trip to Russia could well lead to this question:

Does he have another such journey in the back of his mind.

Surrounded by Girls

Kim Novak, the blond temptress of the movies, and Perry Como, the barber who became a television idol, dropped in on the President the other day in behalf of the Variety club.

While they were waiting to be ushered in the chief executive's office, Perry was surrounded by the girls of the White House staff with a loud-voiced character in Como's stable booming, "Which one are ya gonna kiss, Per?"

Como had much better taste and dropped into a chair to gossip with the girls who assured him faithfully that they watched him every Saturday night.

longer I stay out of the barber shop," he said matter of factly.

Bull Session

Miss Novak, looking rather wanly beautiful with only mascara and lipstick for makeup, borrowed one of the ladies' rooms to freshen up before meeting the President.

She had sort of a girl to girl bull session with the White House women, too, and confided that she didn't think much of going on television when motion pictures were her bread and butter.

She said one TV show in New York had offered her a new Cadillac with all taxes paid if she'd just walk on for a minute or so, and as much

as she wanted the car, Kim turned down the offer because she thought it was pointless to stand before the nation and do absolutely nothing. The White House ladies started to ask about the Jag-uar she was given by that playboy general from the Dominican Republic, but the White House visit was moving along so cordially, they asked instead about her new movie, "Middle of the Night."

ACCOUNTING PRACTICE WANTED

Responsible, experienced Principals desire to purchase an accounting practice in Medford after the tax season.

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Morse, Porter Get Invitation To Cuba

Havana—UPI — Fidel Castro Monday invited his foremost critics in the U.S. Congress to fly to Havana and see for themselves how revolutionary justice works. But his invitation was sharply rejected by most of them.

The congressmen-five senators and five members of the House-were asked to come here along with 350 foreign newsmen to witness "Operation Truth," a move designed to show that the provisional government is acting properly in dealing out punishment to followers of ousted Dictator Fulgencio Batista. Castro has said about 400 Batistianos will be shot.

Among those listed as invited included Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) and Charles O. Porter (D-Ore.).

Washington—UPI—Rep. Al Ullman (D-Ore.), has introduced a bill to provide recreational facilities for future federal flood control and reclamation projects.

Josephson, Mrs. Frank Boothby and Mrs. Kenneth Van-nice.

Miss Dorene Christian of Eagle Point was an overnight guest recently of Miss Josephine Hume at her home on Big Butte creek.

Miss Suzi Chubb, Miss Jacqueline Hume and Miss Eda Larson are attending the girls athletic convention in Eugene.

Before you start feeding a too-big '59 car...

See the Compact '59 Rambler

Save more than ever on first cost, gas, upkeep

You've seen the others grow in size and price—now see how much more you can save with Rambler '59. Hundreds of dollars on first cost alone. Great new gas economy. Highest resale value. Easiest of all to turn and park. Discover Personalized Comfort, too: sectional sofa front seats that glide back and forth individually; reclining seatbacks; adjustable headrests; famous Weather-Eye heating-ventilating. Get the compact quality car—Rambler 6 or V-8.

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America's lowest-priced station wagon, \$500 less than other leading low-priced wagons. Based on a comparison of published manufacturer suggested prices. Full 8 passenger room.

LEA MOTORS, Bartlett at 5th, Medford



BLITZ COUNTRY!

Blitz Country isn't all Mountains. One man claims it includes New York. He carried a couple of cans of Blitz along with him on a trip and drank them in the Waldorf Astoria. As the Beer of the Bright Cascades gurgled down his parched throat he was in deepest Blitz Country for sure.

If you'd like to explore Blitz Country yourself, pack in to wherever Blitz is sold. Or six-pak into your refrigerator. Open the door, open a Blitz.

Blitz Country!

