Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn M. Watkins

Brother Rat Used the Elevated

A busy street separated the all-night restaurant from a rambling boat dock. Traffic streamed along the street both ways, in a steady procession. Even during the night there was but little lessoning of the pace. Late at night fishermen dropped in at the eatery for coffee or lunch. One night one of them stopped out in front of the building to watch the cars and the full moon.

It was up and toward the moon he was directing his gaze when from the corner of his eye he detected a movement. An animal was moving against the sky, running along the telephone wires that crossed above the busy street.

Down the Pole

As the man watched, the animal, a large brown rat, came hurrying on. Arriving at the pole at the rear of the restaurant the animal scurried down the pole to the garbage cans that were lined up against the wall of a nearby building.

The man, interested now, hid himself where he could watch the refuse containers. It was a long wait. The rat appeared occasionally, hunting from one can to another. Later two other rats came.

It was more than an hour later before the animals seemed satisfied with their meal, but instead of scurrying across the street as the man suspected they would, they ascended the pole, stepped out on the wires and disappeared in the darkness at the far pole and across the busy street.

The following night the man, forgetting his interest in fishing for the time being, was back at the vantage point. Almost at the same time as the night before, a rat came along the wires, closely followed by two others. After the feast they went back the same way they had come; over their "freeway," which was to them the "wire-way"; the only safe, sure method to cross the traffic-congested street.

Crossed with Ease

The animals crossed and recrossed with ease and without doubt had been using the wires for a long time. To them it was not a new performance. Naturally, the human watcher who has witnessed the animals using the "elevated" wonders just how the rats figured out this easy, overland way.

The ancestors of these present day rats certainly never had to use telephone wires to arrive at their banquet tables. There could be no residue of instinct either, to trigger such an action. Yet by some wild rat-intelligence, these wily creatures had solved a problem. Brother Rat lives in embarrassingly close association with mankind, even taking advantage of our ingenuity and inventiveness to better his own way of life.

(Released by The Register and Tribune Syndicate, 1959)

Doll Wardrobe

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Rogue River Council Authorizes City Jail

Rogue River – The Rogue River city council last week authorized Police Commissioner H. J. Stephens to draw up plans and specifications for a city jail.

A city jail in Rogue River has been discussed by the council for several years. It will be located on land behind the city hall now occupied by the Ground Observer Corps tower.

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LEGAL NOTICES

NATIONAL FOREST TIMBER FOR SALE
Ash Swale No. 3

Oral auction bids will be received by the Forest Supervisor or his authorized representative at the office of the Forest Supervisor, Post Office Building, Medford, Oregon, beginning at 10:30 a.m., December 17, 1959, for all merchantable timber marked or designated for cutting in an area embracing 345 acres, more or less, within Section 5, T. 36 S., R. 3 E., W.M., surveyed, in the Rogue River National Forest, Jackson County, Oregon. The estimated volumes are: 200 M board feet of Douglas-fir, 20 M board feet of all species of pine, 740 M board feet of white fir and other species. The minimum acceptable bid per M board feet is as follows: Douglas-fir $36.60, all species of pine $26.75, white fir and other species $19.20. This includes the following rates, per M board feet for stumpage (including deposit for sale area betterment). Douglas-fir $34.55, all species of pine $24.70, white fir and other species $17.15, and $2.05 for slash disposal for all species. In addition there is within the sale area an unestimated volume of Douglas-fir logs and peeler blocks unmerchantable because of defect which the bidder may agree to remove at $1.00 per M board feet, gross scale for stumpage only. Sealed bids will be publicly opened and posted at the office of the Forest Supervisor, at 10:30 a.m., December 17, 1959. All those who submitted a satisfactory sealed bid, will be permitted immediately to continue auction bidding. A money order, bank draft, cashier's or certified check in the sum of $3,000.00 must accompany each bid, to be applied to the purchase price, refunded, or retained for application to any claim for damages, according to the conditions of sale. If requested by the purchaser, contract terms will permit felling of timber in advance of payment up to the value of the performance bond. If an oral bid is declared to be high at the closing of the auction, the bidder must immediately confirm the oral bid by submitting it in writing on a Forest Service bid form. The right to reject any and all bids is reserved. Forest Service bid form for use in submitting sealed bids and full information concerning the timber, the conditions of sale and the submission of bids should be obtained from the District Ranger, Butte Falls, Oregon, or the Forest Supervisor, Medford, Oregon, before bids are submitted.

NATIONAL FOREST TIMBER FOR SALE
Imnaha No. 4

Oral auction bids will be received by the Forest Supervisor or his authorized representative at the office of the Forest Supervisor, Post Office Building, Medford, Oregon, beginning at 3:00 p.m., December 17, 1959, for all merchantable timber marked or designated for cutting on an area embracing 20 acres, more or less, within Sections 8 and 17, T. 33 S., R. 4 E., W.M., surveyed, in the Rogue River National Forest, Jackson County, Oregon. The estimated volumes are: 960 M board feet of Douglas-fir and pine species, 60 M board feet of white fir and other species. The minimum acceptable bid per M board feet is as follows: Douglas-fir and pine species $36.75, white fir and other species $11.05. This includes the following rates, per M board feet for stumpage (including deposit for sale area betterment). Douglas-fir and pine species, $35.80, white fir and other species $10.10, and $0.95 for slash disposal for all species. In addition there is within the sale area an unestimated volume of Douglas-fir logs and peeler blocks unmerchantable because of defect which the bidder may agree to remove at $1.00 per M board feet gross scale for stumpage only. Sealed bids will be publicly opened and posted at the office of the Forest Supervisor, at 3:00 p.m., December 17, 1959. All those who submitted a satisfactory sealed bid will be permitted immediately to continue auction bidding. A money order, bank draft, cashier's or certified check in the sum of $4,000.00 must accompany each bid, to be applied to the purchase price, refunded, or retained for application to any claim or damages, according to the conditions of sale. If requested by the purchaser, contract terms will permit felling of timber in advance of payment up to the value of the performance bond. If an oral bid is declared to be high at the closing of the auction, the bidder must immediately confirm the oral bid by submitting it in writing on a Forest Service bid form. The right to reject any and all bids is reserved. Forest Service bid forms for use in submitting sealed bids, and full information concerning the timber, the conditions of sale and the submission of bids should be obtained from the District Ranger, Butte Falls, Oregon, or the Forest Supervisor, Medford, Oregon, before bids are submitted.

NATIONAL FOREST TIMBER FOR SALE
Ash Swale No. 2

Oral auction bids will be received by the Forest Supervisor or his authorized representative at the office of the Forest Supervisor, Post Office Building, Medford, Oregon, beginning at 1:30 p.m., December 17, 1959, for all merchantable timber marked or designated for cutting on an area embracing 200 acres, more or less, within Section 5, T. 36 S., R. 3 E., W.M., surveyed, in the Rogue River National Forest, Jackson County, Oregon. The estimated volumes are: 330 M board feet of Douglas-fir, 20 M board feet of all species of pine, 760 M board feet of white fir and other species. The minimum acceptable bid per M board feet is as follows: Douglas-fir $42.00, all species of pine $38.55, white fir and other species $20.65. This includes the following rates, per M board feet for stumpage (including deposit for sale area betterment). Douglas-fir $40.05, all species of pine $36.60, white fir and other species $18.70, and $1.95 for slash disposal for all species. In addition there is within the sale area an unestimated volume of Douglas-fir logs and peeler blocks unmerchantable because of defect which the bidder may agree to remove at $1.00 per M board feet gross scale for stumpage only. Sealed bids will be publicly opened and posted at the office of the Forest Supervisor, at 1:30 p.m., December 17, 1959. All those who submitted a satisfactory sealed bid will be permitted immediately to continue auction bidding. A money order, bank draft, cashier's or certified check in the sum of $4,300.00 must accompany each bid, to be applied to the purchase price, refunded, or retained for application to any claim for damages, according to the conditions of sale. If requested by the purchaser, contract terms will permit felling of timber in advance of payment up to the value of the performance bond. If an oral bid is declared to be high at the closing of the auction, the bidder must immediately confirm the oral bid by submitting it in writing on a Forest Service bid form The right to reject any and all bids is reserved. Forest Service bid forms for use in submitting sealed bids and full information concerning the timber, the conditions of sale and the submission of bids should be obtained from the District Ranger, Butte Falls, Oregon, or the Forest Supervisor, Medford, Oregon, before bids are submitted.

IN EXTREMIS

Augusta, Maine – (UPI) – Maine's Inland Fisheries and Game Department recently issued this list of "symptoms" of so-called moose sickness: loss of weight, drowsiness, loss of balance and death.

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Better Students Should Prepare For Research, OSC Leader Believes

Corvallis—An all-out effort should be made to get the "brighter, upper-echelon" high school graduates who now don't go to college—to college, an Oregon State college leader believes.

One-half of the "smarter" high school graduates never go to college.

Dr. Vernon H. Cheldelin, director of OSC's Science Research Institute, said this "waste of human talent" could be partially stopped by an expansion of the national merit scholarship program and by teacher encouragement. The students could prepare themselves for careers in research, where there will be a glaring personnel shortage, he added.

To adequately educate the student and to adequately prepare his high school teacher is the problem, he said.

Excellent Teachers

"Although there are many excellent teachers, a number of them who are teaching courses have not themselves had adequate college course work, especially in science and mathematics," Dr. Cheldelin said.

Dr. Cheldelin insists the public school system has not deserved the "whipping received the past few years from the demagogues who just want to make a noise about them."

"We need to better realize what our standards in education are. What's needed is more subject matter and less methodology." This will benefit both the teachers and the students, he continued.

Administrators and school boards cannot do it alone or do it too fast, he cautioned. They will destroy themselves unless they get backing by people who want quality in education as they want quality in athletes and music.

Recognize Problem

Many teachers and school administrators recognize the problem of inadequate subject matter training, but they are hampered by inadequate training and a tradition that often seems to value "mediocrity in the classroom."

There will be plenty of jobs open in research for the well-trained students, but for the United States to keep the leadership in technology it must increase its expenditure on basic research, the OSC scientist believes.

Basic and long-range research expenditures need to be doubled from the present annual $500 million spent by industry and government, Dr. Cheldelin said.

Only 7 cents of the United States research dollar goes to basic research while Russia spends 14 cents and England spends 50 cents in an effort to regain her pre-war excellence in science.

"Basic research is to our society, what seed corn is to the farmer and what timber stands for to sustained-yield forestry," Dr. Cheldelin said.

Basic research is simply the gathering of fundamental information about nature and the universe. It has brought such discoveries as penicillin and the atomic bomb.

STEWED PIGEONS

Bath, England –(UPI)– Police rounded up a flock of pigeons Thursday on drunk charges. The birds were wobbling in the street after invading a malthouse and sampling fermenting barley.

Step Taken To Induce China To Admit Newsmen

Washington –(UPI)– The State Department has quietly taken a step which it hopes may induce the Chinese Communists to let some American newsmen into Red China, it was learned today.

It is removing from the passports of 31 newsmen wording described by the Communists as "insulting." The idea is to see whether this will pave the way to Peiping for any of the correspondents now holding passports validated for entry into Red China.

The State Department action also has the effect of removing the time limit on travel by American reporters to China.

Phrase Said Insulting

Since August, 1957, the department has placed in the passports a stamped declaration that "the restrictions contained in this passport insofar as they relate to travel to or in those portions of China under Communist control are suspended until (date)." The date currently in the passports is May 22, 1960.

The Chinese Communists have declared on several occasions that the reference to "portions of China under Communist control" is "insulting."

The State Department decided to see whether this was a major reason why only one of the 31 correspondents holding validated passports has been admitted to Red China. The one was John Strohm, an agricultural writer who visited Red China in 1958.

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New Pollution Film Available in State

Portland—"George Washington's River," a new film on water pollution produced by the U.S. department of health, education and welfare, is the latest sound, color movie acquired by the Oregon game commission for showing to groups interested in the natural resources of the land.

With an introduction of the water problems faced by the Egyptians of Biblical times and a dramatic touchback to early American history when George Washington built his home at Mt. Vernon "on the finest river in the world," the audience is carried into shocking scenes of pollution occurring in Washington, D.C., and from industries and smaller communities upstream.

Because the historic Potomac is symbolic of every stream in the land, the film has a message for every American about the threat of pollution to our waters all over America.

Methods are shown by which cities and industries can clean up their wastes and restore the streams for fishing, boating, swimming, and domestic and industrial use.

Groups interested in viewing "George Washington's River" should notify the game commission at 1634 SW Alder st., Portland.

Damage Suit Is Filed in Court

A $260,413 suit seeking special and general damages has been filed in Jackson county circuit court against Cheney, Cherf and associates.

The suit was brought by Mrs. Clara A. Thompson of Ashland.. The total represents $250,000 in genera damages and $10,413 special damages.

The suit was filed in connection with an accident in which Mrs. Thompson's husband, Willie Berry Thompson, was fatally injured June 18.

He died of injuries received when he was burned in a fire near Keene Creek dam, part of the Talent irrigation project.

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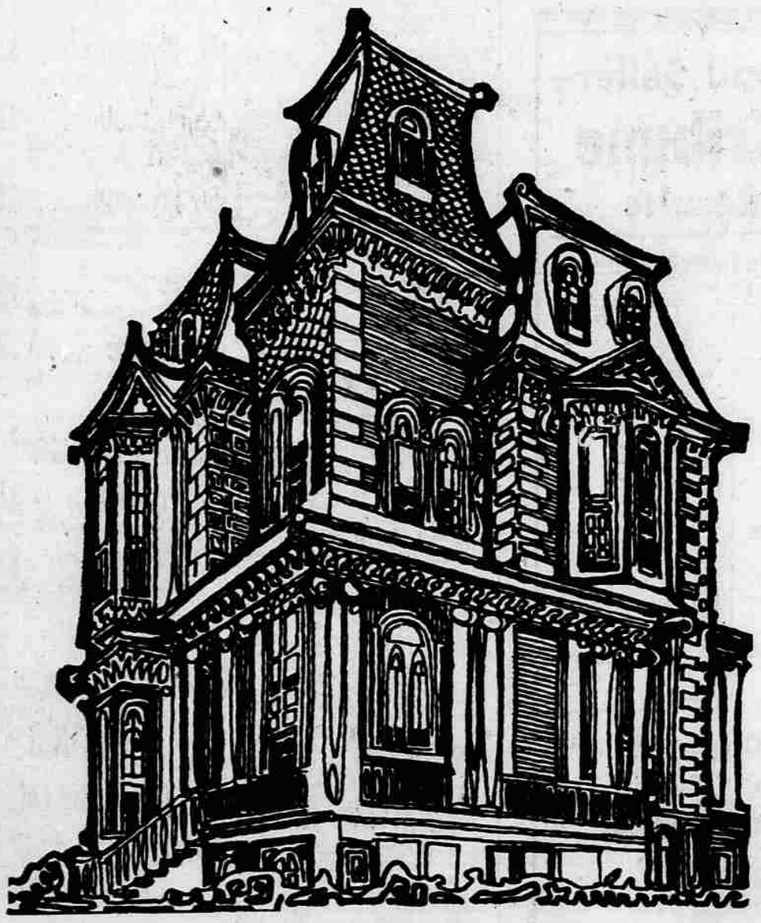

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