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ROUNDDUP TIME IN THE APPLGATE
Dave Webb with Captured Wild Horses

Rangers, Ranchers Capture Wild Horses In Applegate Area

By MAUDE ZIEGLER
Mail Tribune Correspondent

Applegate Valley - Wild horses long have been a problem on the Applegate cattle range, but one day when some ponies happened to wander into a fenced pasture in the high Siskiyou, local buckarooing ranchers and forest service men did a little quick organizing, and now the men are riding fancy new cow ponies. It was all done in less than a couple of months' time.

It all happened when Bob Webb of the local forestry staff went to Perks Pasture guard station west of Dutchman's peak, preparatory to moving in a trail crew late in May. The pasture gate was left open, and a band of eight horses, believed to be the last on the range, came into the pasture during the night for salt, where Webb had salted his own animals. Apparently the wind blew the gate shut, so the first step in capture was accomplished.

Webb related that he returned home, gathered a crew of anxious horse wranglers and returned to Perks for the battle of wits between man and horse. To add to the excitement, the men had to dig through five feet of snow at Chapel springs and pack in with horses for the last six miles or so, food, wire and fence posts being their major items.

Included in the crew awaiting the horse roundup were Fritz Offenbacher, local stockman; Lee Canaday, forest service packer at Hutton guard station; Buford Weis, summer guard at Perks, and Webb's son, Dave, who was fortunate in having the week end away from junior high school to join the fun.

First Horse Roped

As a first move toward enticing the wild brood, the men tied their own saddle horses in the corral near the house, and extended a string from the gate to the house, expecting to pull the string should the horses walk in. As the day passed, three horses lingered around, but refused to walk in the corral, but by next morning one came in. The next problem was whether to rope him or let him alone in the hopes

more would follow. He got away, but the next one to come in was roped and tied up.

The next step was to build a wing fence for 200 feet from the corral to join on the garage. It was necessary then to build a trap-like structure called a "take-down fence" of barbed wire and stags, which the men left laying on the ground under a bit of camouflage, and which they could pull up while staying in the house.

Finally men moving about in the pasture caused the horses to move toward the corral, and after standing before the "take-down fence" for about 10 minutes, they walked over it and went in the corral. Immediately the gate went shut and the fence went up. The horses were roped, tied to the corral fence, and haltered, and afterward put through the process of being broken to lead by being pulled behind the saddle horses. A four-year-old sorrel mare, later taken by Offenbacher and named "Tamarack," put up a two-hour fight before submitting.

Hauled in Truck

With the lapse of several days of horse wrangling, snow had melted sufficiently to permit entry of a truck for transporting the horses to the ranger station. By use of saddle horses the wild ponies were herded into the truck and were hauled in two trips down the 22-mile mountain road without mishap.

Guy Watkins, another local stockman, was among the first to ride a bronc, and a two-year-old named "Perks" he has claimed for a cow pony. Canaday and young Dave Webb also added their skill in breaking the horses to ride. Incidentally, Dave learned on the trip that coffee is no good unless it boils.

One of the mares had a buckskin colt a few weeks old at the time of capture which is known now as "Whoop-de-do." The horses will be disposed of to local people. As Webb explains, horse breaking, after the first fight is over and they know defeat, they soon tame down, and with receiving feed and

Tablets

By R. E. NEALON

Table Rock - We'uns, our better half and I, were invited to a Monday evening dinner July 11, by Mrs. Eva Ringo, a gracious lady of Medford, who took us to a place where they tell you to take all you want, but to eat all you take.

We had forgotten what our doctor said about a person's stomach being only as big as the two clenched fists placed together with the thumbs on the inside, so we did fine in the "taking" operation, but in trying to comply with the latter part, the stomach stretching almost became distressing. But with the delicious well-cooked food, attentive waiters and our round-table visiting with friends and former neighbors, we had a most enjoyable time.

Later, we went to the new home of the Berthold Barnums' north of Phoenix in a setting of pear trees, and native shade trees, where we inspected the modern house, the many convenient gadgets, and some of Mrs. Barnum's paintings, and antiques picked up in different localities.

The dinner party consisted of Mrs. Eva Ringo, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Marsh, Mr. and Mrs. Berthold Barnum and ourselves. All but Mr. Barnum have been residents of the Table Rock community. The Lydiard family owned and lived in the house now owned by Norman Matteson. Mrs. Barnum attended school here in her girlhood days, and was known as an expert tennis player.

Ray Harrison, bee inspector for Jackson and Josephine counties, was working in this district recently, and reports that local bees are picking up now after a backward trend caused by the cold, wet spring.

Mr. Ferguson, caretaker at the Black Oakes Episcopal Conference center, was down this way a few days ago in search of cherries, but found none. Says deer are quite plentiful in the church grounds, 14 being counted in the yard, and one on the porch at one time.

Walter Timm, caretaker at the Chiloquin State Park in Klamath county, was an in and out visitor here Wednesday, looking for some local grown sweet corn, but found he was too early.

Nearly every day we meet Californians who are here inquiring about the coming pear harvest.

Daily Vacation Bible school will start here Monday.

water from their captors, they soon learn to trust and obey.

The horses originated from local stock. The animals are said to be detrimental to the range due to their sliding hoofs ploughing a furrow of three or four feet, according to Webb. This band had ranged on Elliott creek ridge from Perks to Stein's butte.

Other horse round-ups have been staged in the Applegate in years past.

day, July 18, at the school house for children, with teachers for primary, beginners and young people.

A crew of road builders is working through here on the road between Table Rock store and the Dodge Bridge junction, which will complete the job of paving and which when finished will have a concrete surface of several inches and a width of some 30 feet.

Miss Linda Doran has accepted a position with the Commercial Credit Corp. of Medford, and commenced office work there Monday.

The Harold Sharp family returned Friday from a week's vacation, spent mostly in California where they visited Disneyland, the Knotts Berry Farm near Los Angeles, a zoo, a museum, and several historical places.

The Table Rock Sunday school is asking for bids on the job of painting the school house, which they now own and use as a meeting place. Mrs. R. E. Nealon is superintendent.

We have always thought that a cigarette smoker was more or less careless, but now it seems cigarettes are getting the careless habit. We heard over the radio that a fire near Jacksonville was caused by the flipping of a careless cigarette.

In our account book of the years of 1913 and 1914, we note the following prices paid for labor and services and prices charged for products, rent, etc. William Eldridge, labor two days hauling hay, \$2.50. Mrs. Roff, charged for three months' horse rent, \$9. This was a four-room house built mostly of rough lumber, but a warm and comfortable dwelling. Other products sold were: one dozen watermelons for \$1 and 100 pounds of carrots, 40 cents.

Mrs. S. W. Pleasant is a patient in the Sacred Heart hospital, and Aubrey Nettles is a surgery patient at the Rogue Valley Memorial hospital.

The rattlesnake scare has died down here, although several have been killed lately, but none have shown any signs of attacking. The favorite weapons for slaying the snakes have been shovels and a 22 caliber pistol.

The Bert Pierce family returned Tuesday from a vacation trip to Harrison, Ark., and adjoining states, where they visited relatives and friends. They were gone some three weeks, traveled more than 7,000 miles and enjoyed a trouble-free trip, with good weather both ways. While in Kansas City, they visited the Bill Bishop family, who were working on a new dwelling which they will move into in the near future.

Thought of the Day: Those who are sending us literature condemning churches other than their own had better save their paper and read the Constitution of the United States and the Oregon labor laws.

IV Post Office Slates Open House

Illinois Valley - Postmaster C. Y. Arnold has announced that open house will be held at the local post office this Wednesday to coincide with the issue of a "Pony Express" stamp on that day.

A stamp collection will be on display and the post office's methods of handling mail will be demonstrated.

Trucker 'Borrows' Flags from Police

Yreka - A truck and trailer loaded with lumber slowed down outside of town. The driver climbed down, picked up three red flags belonging to the California highway patrol construction gang, hung them on the back of the trailer and proceeded on his way, flags blowing merrily in the breeze.

A motorist from Texas witnessed the near-comedy and reported it to the Calif. highway patrol, who took after the truck and trailer and the driver, Eugene Mays, of Sonora, Calif. He was booked on a charge of malicious mischief and petty theft.

Mays pleaded guilty, saying he thought the markers belonged to his company and, as he needed them on the end of his trailer, he just took them.

He was fined \$105.

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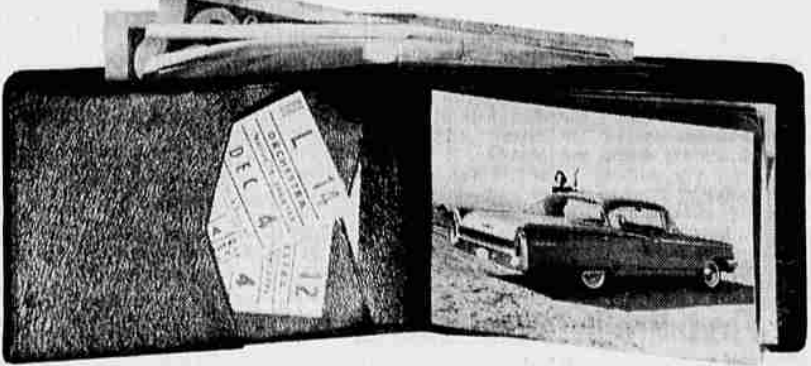
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