

LANDSLIDE—This is a view of the landslide ahead of the east-bound Union Pacific train which was pushed into a track-side lake in the Columbia River gorge Friday by a rock and mud-slide. The locomotive is at the right of the picture in the water. (UPI Telephoto)



### Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn M. Watkins  
(Register and Tribune Syndicate 1961)

#### Here's a Look at the Best Dressed Duck

The little wood ducks are the dapper dandies of American water fowls.

As though color was not enough to make them the handsomest of birds, Nature went a few steps further and striped them delicately with snowy white, which gives them the appearance of having been frosted with icing, or striped with a very steady hand. The white lines accentuate the greens and reds and make him the best dressed of all the ducks.

Both the male and the female wear a "hat" that flares out at the back and looks like a colored scarf had been tied on the head, leaving the corners streaming out behind. The female usually looks rather sad, but her husband carries the jaunty air of a Beau Brummell, and to all appearances has not a care in the world.

The wood ducks were named because of their preference for woodlands and often can be found there, even though no water is in the vicinity. At first this "unduck-like" habit was not understood until someone noticed that the birds' fondness for acorns probably lured them into the forests.

#### Strange Nesting Sites

Another habit that seems strange for ducks is their nesting sites, which are always in hollow trees. An abandoned woodpecker's nest does very nicely; if the tree is near a pond or lake, the "ducks" like it all the better.

Just how the baby ducks are moved from the nest to the water is a question about which many arguments are held, and which is still only partly understood.

If the ducklings were taught to fly before they enter the water for the first time, the answer is easy, but such does not always seem to be the case. When they leave the nest, they are incapable of flying and must tumble from the hollow in the tree to the ground from where they could waddle to the water's edge.

If the hollow "nest tree" is within sight of water, the mother quite often commands from the edge and under parental urging, the babies plane down by themselves, their tiny feet and wings extending

on the maiden voyage which quite often must result in painful crashes, and even broken bones.

#### Found During Night

These poor unfortunates never live to become handsome ducks for some hungry predator finds them during the night, following their first short flight.

The wood ducks have no close relatives in America; their nearest kin being the strikingly garbed mandarin duck of Asia.

Under protection afforded by the migratory bird laws, the wood ducks are increasing rapidly. This is as it should be for this little fashion-plate, who graphically illustrates what the well-dressed ducks should wear, deserves our every consideration. His beauty alone is reason enough for saving him; he is too pretty to eat.

#### NAZI HANGS SELF

Dortmund, Germany—(UPI)—Former Nazi SS Commander Rudolf Batz hanged himself in a jail cell Thursday, police reported. He was awaiting trial on charges of murdering 263 partisan fighters and slave laborers at the end of World War II.

### Harpisichordist Slates Concert at SOC Campus

Ashland—Harold Chaney, young American harpichordist, will appear before the Southern Oregon college faculty and student body Feb. 19 at 3 p.m. in Churchill auditorium.

Chaney, who has gained recognition through his many recitals and broadcasts throughout the country, exhibits a characteristic flair for early keyboard music. For some time, he was an active musical figure in southern California where in addition to his work with the San Diego County Bach Society, he was engaged in the field of church music as an organist-choirmaster, and as a member of the Los Angeles Episcopal Diocesan Commission on Church Music.

He has taught for San Diego State college, and is currently a member of the faculty of the school of music of the University of Oregon.

Chaney was recently invited to perform at the American Guild of Organists Convention in San Francisco in June.

From the vast treasures of

#### PLANES FERRY FOOD

Wiesbaden, Germany—(UPI)—American planes flew 1,092 tons of emergency supplies to The Congo during the 10-day food airlift that ended last week end, the Air Force announced Thursday. The food went to starving tribesmen in The Congo.

#### SENTENCED TO LIFE

Yazoo City, Miss.—(UPI)—Lewis Coffee, 22, and his brother, Charles, 20, were sentenced to life imprisonment Thursday for raping a 5-year-old Negro girl.

The United State capital was moved from Philadelphia to Washington in 1800.



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## SCHOOL NEWS

### Farm Bureau Hears Convention Report

Robert Lytle, Ashland, discussed his trip to the National Farm Bureau convention in Denver recently at a meeting of the Talent Farm Bureau at the Valley View school house last week.

Mrs. Lytle, who accompanied her husband, reviewed meetings she attended while at the convention.

Jackson County Commissioner Ed Taylor reviewed a proposal by a citizens group for a stadium in the county and discussed trapping coyotes in the county and state.

David Blair, Rogue River, talked on phases of legislation, and current trends in the state legislature, and Mrs. Blair talked on bargaining in the markets today.

A. L. Lemey, Ashland, introduced David Passon of the county extension office, who showed films relating to agriculture.

The meeting was conducted by Evan Rasmussen, Medford, former chairman of the bureau, in the absence of Chairman Gilbert Hill, Talent.

### Walker, Ashland

Mrs. Judith Paulsen's second grade is learning about ways messages were sent long ago and how mail is carried now. Tuesday the class visited the post office and found out about the postman's work and the machines that help him.

The fourth grade, room 8, has completed an Eskimo village complete with igloos made of flour and salt. Clay sleds, seals, killer whales, and other life of the Arctic are shown. The scene is in two parts, depicting summer and winter.

Dr. Rabenberg gave a talk and showed slides of Tule Air base in Greenland. There were lovely pictures of the Greenland ice cap, glaciers, and icebergs. All three fourth grades enjoyed his visit.

Marvin Gettling's fifth grade class made valentine mobiles. Three teachers judged them, and first prizes went to Patti Brown and Peggy Austin.

Feb. 9, the class went on a skating party for all fifth graders.

Mr. Gettling and Kathy Hall brought lemon pies for fraction work. We divided them and each had a piece.

On Feb. 22, the fifth grades are going to give a patriotic assembly.

John Cady's room has a new girl named Christine Lusk. The class has a student teacher, Miss Shaver.

Mr. Cady's fifth grade is going to have a valentine party Feb. 14. They have made folders to hold their valentines.

The class is making displays of the United States on tables. Some of the displays are the western states, central states, southern states, middle Atlantic states, and New England states.

Miss Allene Inlow's fifth grade class completed their unit on the Civil War Centennial and invited their parents to hear their reports and music. Many of the boys and girls brought dolls dressed in the Civil War period for the doll exhibit. The class served coffee and cookies to the parents.

New room officers are Mark Hicks, president; Mary Bowl-in, vice president; and Lucinda Kaylor, secretary.

The classes of Frank Koch and Lyman Pruitt's sixth grade are planning a Mexican fiesta as part of their culminating activity. Members of each class will participate in eating, dancing, singing, and game playing—all on Mexican theme. The final part of the program will be the breaking of the pinata.

### Bellview, Ashland

For Valentine's day all the grades at Bellview school will have a party. The fifth grade will have a valentine box and will exchange valentines. We have been coloring pictures with crayons and painting over them with tempera paint as an art project.

We have had many out of school with bad colds. Susan Hecox transferred from Briscoe to Bellview, and Lynette Cornelius has moved to Seattle.

The sixth grade has been studying Mexico. Pete Kreisman and Gary Jones, high school students, went to Mexico and stayed for seven days. When they got back our teacher, Noel Deets, wanted them

to come tell us about what they saw. They brought with them post cards and a folder on Mexico. They also brought with them a little glass image that the Indians used as a God. We learned many things about Mexico and enjoyed the boys' talk.

Mr. Deets' room chose new officers for the second half of the year. They are president, Pam Rhodda; vice president, Richard Schweiki; room representative, Karen Gruber; secretary, Carolyn Hassell; treasurer, Nancy King; newspaper reporters, Dawn Fitzgerald and Olin Ford; safety patrol captain, Kathy O'Harra.

We are all happy to have Miss Marianna Fletcher for our student teacher this term.

The girls in Mrs. Vera Burgoyne's room had a doll show. Each girl brought her favorite doll. There were tiny dolls, big dolls and one old doll in the show. Each girl wrote a story about her doll.

The boys helped the girls get the room ready for the show. The boys wrote invitations to all the first graders and other second graders in our school.

Our room is full of book-worms. Some of the worms are getting long. We read and report on library books to make the worms grow. Susan Coffey and Curtis Hassell have both read many books.

In science, we are studying about temperature and weather. We have each made a thermometer. We have learned the meaning of many new science words from our reading and experiments. We are each keeping a weather calendar.

The new officers of room 10 are president, Terry Kerby; vice president, Christine Decker; secretary, Carolyn Millett; room representative, Virginia Bradshaw.

The fourth grade has been studying about the cold regions of the world. Each one has been making a report about Alaska. They are making an Eskimo picture. The third grade is planning an Indian program.

Several pupils from our room have been absent. The names of the ones who were absent are Nancy Hecox, Alan DeBoer, and Yvonne Miller.

Mrs. Eleanor Silverwood's first grade room held an election for new room officers. Barry Brown was elected president; Donna Beagle, room representative; Bobby Ellis, librarian; and Sharon Kerby, newspaper representative.

At the December PTA meeting, Mrs. Silverwood's room won the room count. We

### Pear Research Funds To Be Asked

Washington—(UPI)—Rep. John F. Baldwin (R-Calif.) said Friday he and other Pacific Coast congressmen would seek an appropriation for research into disease that threatens to wipe out the pear industry.

Baldwin said congressmen from California, Oregon and Washington have met and came to the conclusion that an "emergency research program" was needed to combat the disease known as "pear decline."

Pear decline first appeared in Washington about 10 years ago. Since then it has spread to Oregon and California and last year killed an estimated 150,000 trees in the latter state alone.

The cause of the disease is not known.

## SMALL WONDER



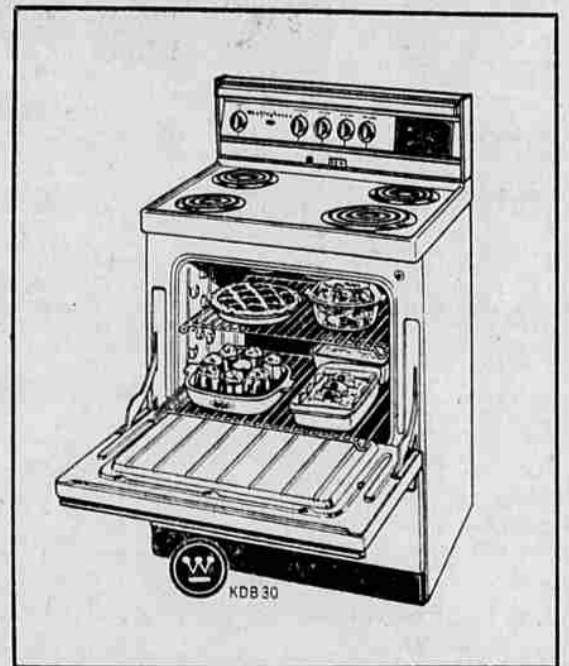
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