



Small Worlds Around Us

By LYNN M. WATKINS

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Ever See a Fence Post With a Personality?

You wouldn't believe it unless you took careful notice and looked at it with a discriminating eye and an open mind, but you might try it sometime, just for fun, and see if you don't agree there is a certain peculiar something about a fence post that is at least partly personal and highly individual.

Like peas in a pod that are never exactly alike, fence posts, too, are all different from one another.

Just walk slowly along a fence, stopping for a moment at several individual posts, and look at them carefully. It will be a unique but nevertheless broad field of research, for there are thousands of posts on any good-sized farm, and each and every one of them has a story to tell if only you can read it.

Most posts were originally cut from the farm woodlot, so no two are ever alike in size, length or degree of straightness. A tree of considerable

diameter is often cut to a prescribed length, then split several times lengthwise, each post being pie-shaped in cross-section.

Never Same Dept

In spite of them being usually of a uniform length, no two will be buried at the same depth. No two will have exactly the same slant. Some fence builders were meticulous, carefully lining each post up with the one next to it.

But most of the time a sighting along a row of them will show a wavy and somewhat jagged line. Some rows will almost seem to undulate.

At the four corners of the field were the anchor posts, much stouter and larger than the common run of fence posts. These were securely braced, and acted as the "immoveable objects" upon which the entire length of the wire depended for support. If the anchor gave way, the whole fence sagged disconsolately, and all the smaller posts leaned in the direction of the pull.

On some of the posts grew a green tapestry of poison ivy. Around the base of each grew weeds and grass. In these tiny tangles a wide assortment of small creatures had their homes.

Posts Perforated

Some posts were perforated with knotholes and worm holes, in which lived half a hundred varieties of insects. Termites and wood boring insects were always busy, under the bark or under the ground or in the crevices.

Woodpeckers visited the rows of posts at regular intervals, catching those insects who carelessly exposed themselves. In some posts the woodpeckers may have made a nest cavity. In some, numerous families of small birds have first seen the light of day.

Fence posts, too, are the handiest places in the world for wild birds to take a rest; they figure the posts are there for vantage spots from which they may watch what goes on in the meadow or the field. The wise bird is always conscious of the fact that no two posts are alike; that each has an individuality all its own.



SKIERS CATCH UP—Wolverine Bowl in picturesque Alpine Meadows near Tahoe, Calif., is the scene of this photo as a skier takes a chair lift and surveys the 17-foot snowpack that covers the mountain. A boom year for skiers and resort owners, the winter skiing that was missed because of storms will be more than made up with spring skiing as long as the outstanding pack lasts. (UPI)

Trucks Collide on Elk Creek Bridge

A logging truck and a lumber truck collided Wednesday at the Elk Creek bridge on Crater Lake highway near Trail, state police reported. No injuries resulted.

An empty logging truck driven by Joel Robert Oliver, 32, Trail, was traveling east. As it entered the narrow bridge, a loaded lumber truck and trailer, driven by Leroy Virgil Draper, 32, of Eagle Point was westbound on the bridge.

Oliver applied the brakes and swerved, hit the bridge railing and swerved back into the lumber truck. The drive wheels were knocked out from under the logging truck and

only minor damage resulted to the lumber truck.

A second accident Wednesday occurred on Old Stage rd. Only minor damage resulted and no injuries, police said.

A car driven by Robert Fred West, 27, of 530 Benson st., Medford, attempted to pass a car driven by Sally Lea Bailey, 18, of 1872 Taylor rd., Central Point, as she started to make a left turn into a driveway, state police said.

Both cars sideswiped and landed in a ditch.

FAST TIME VOTED
Albany—(UPI)—Albany's City Council has voted to recommend "fast time" for the area.

Former Clackamas Man Changes Plea

Portland—(UPI)—Donald I. Quesinberry, former Clackamas county Republican chairman, has changed his plea to guilty on a federal indictment, the U.S. Attorney's office announced Thursday.

The announcement said Quesinberry has pleaded guilty to transportation of forged securities across a state line. A pre-sentence investigation was ordered by U.S. District Judge Gus J. Solomon.

Quesinberry has pleaded innocent to two other charges of unlawful possession of draft registration cards and con-

Subcommittee on Divorce Criticizes Film Land Couples

Salem—(UPI)—A divorce subcommittee of the Oregon Legislature Thursday condemned Hollywood marriages and an Oregon circuit judge sharply rapped Mrs. Nelson Rockefeller's recent divorce from New York's governor.

The divorce subcommittee, an arm of Oregon's Interim Committee on Social Problems, passed a resolution criticizing the movie industry and blaming it for the prevalence of divorce and fast remarriages in Hollywood.

Efforts Thwarted

"Meaningful efforts, such as ours, to stem this injurious tide of broken homes is thwarted when the motion picture industry is complacent about divorce for the motion picture is recognized as having a significant influence in molding opinion," the resolution said.

The subcommittee is working to improve Oregon's divorce laws.

The subcommittee said it deplores the apparent absence of the action on the part of the motion picture industry in this subject and the willingness of the media of reporting to lend itself to this socially inimical end.

State Sen. Carl Francis (R - Dayton), subcommittee chairman, said the statement was prompted by news stories

spiring to transport forged securities.

A spokesman for the U.S. Attorney's office said it is unlikely that the 40-year-old Oregon City man will be brought to trial on the latter charges. The FBI arrested him Jan. 9 in San Francisco.

PLAN SPECIAL SESSION

Monte Carlo—(UPI)—Monaco's national council will go into a special session next Monday, presumably to discuss France's threat to cancel the treaty of friendship between the two countries. The session will last 15 days.

force was granted, she flew to Philadelphia, he said. Holman said marriage and divorce laws should be tightened and made uniform nationally. Joining in the criticism of she declared.

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