

# Silver Lake Bear Hunt Described in Old Frisco Paper

"A Recent Grizzly Hunt in Southern Oregon" is the title of a stirring account in the San Francisco Bulletin on Sunday, April 15, 1900. A faded copy of the paper owned by P. D. Reeder, 412 Michigan, devoted half a page to the grizzly hunt, and had an artist's impression of it across five columns.

"The old grizzly bear that has made trouble for the Southern Oregon sheep and cattle owners has been killed," the account starts. "For years 'Old Yank' has been prowling about, destroying the fattest of the flock and the pride of the herd, but Jeff Howard's skill and daring courage were too much for the old fellow. His shaggy skin now stretches on the cabin side at Howard's Silver Lake home.

"Silver Lake is a small town in Lake county, Oregon, near the California state line. It lies near the edge of the great Southern Oregon desert, close to the famous fossil beds and 'moving sandhills.' There shepherds and stockowners dwell and prosper, caring little for the outside world. San Francisco is their purchasing headquarters, and trips are seldom made northward, though Portland and Salem are not very distant. The country is wooded to the east and south. Great mountains are near, and broken ridges of heavy rock, the ideal home for bears and other wild animals.

**Grizzlies Driven Out**

"Years ago the grizzly roamed in this section unmolested except by the Indian hunters, but in later periods his species have been driven out of the country and practically exterminated, with the exception of Old Yank, who has defied the organized bands of hunters, and after his raids beaten a safe retreat to the mountain caves of the wild region.

"Of recent months his depredations became so numerous that the ranchers offered large rewards for his skin. He killed their horses, sheep, cows and hogs. Many times the old fellow slaughtered as many as a dozen sheep in one night. Though the general location of his den was known, the exact spot where he hid in the daytime could not be found, even with dogs. At any rate, he would move away from it when hard pressed by the hounds, and take up quarters at some inaccessible mountain top.

**Destructive Raids**

"On several occasions a stray hunter had met Old Yank, but his tremendous size and ferocious appearance usually discouraged a chance shot.

"During the past winter Yank became exasperating in his destructive raids. Sheep were killed by the dozens and the cattle suffered proportionately. A number of ranchmen met during the latter part of last month and, after talking over the matter, sent for William Vandervert, a noted hunter, who in response arrived at Silver Lake with a pack of yelping hounds ready for the round-up.

"On a Thursday morning the hunters started out. Toward night a fresh trail was struck, but it being too late to follow it, the dogs were called and camp made for the night. An early start was made Friday morning. There were six in the party, Vandervert, Jeff Howard, William Bell, an Indian hunter, two ranchers and a 12-year-old boy. The dogs picked up the trail and were soon off on a run, leaving the hunters to make their way through the thick brush and over the rough trails. It was a hard tramp and began to wear on the trackers as the day wore on. Yank had not been overtaken.

**Yank in Hole**

"The trail led over the hills, into canyons and across several little creeks where the grizzly had stopped to drink. Suddenly it took a turn toward a large mountain, up the steep sides of which a few of the dogs could be seen making their way. Finally the leader of the pack stopped in front of a deep hole in the mountain side, and it was evident that the game was 'treed.'

"The hunters found that they had a very serious task before them. The mouth of the cave could be reached only by climbing along a narrow shelving of rock overhanging a canyon. The men did not hesitate, and after a good deal of scrambling and scratching for something to hold on to, and for a foothold on the loose stones, the entrance to the den was reached.

"The pathway to the cavern, or rather, break in the face of the mountain, was narrow and dark. The dogs refused to go in. A quantity of dry brush and some green wood were piled in front of the entrance and an attempt made to smoke the grizzly out. The trick was a most dangerous one, as a hasty retreat for the party would have been impossible. Then it was that Jeff Howard suggested a very daring feat. Some projecting rocks overhung the cavern's entrance, and he proposed that his companions climb to these. In peering into the cave he had discovered that the place was divided by a shelf of rock into two compartments, in the larger of which the bruin stood growling defiantly. Howard's plan was to have his men posted above so that they could shoot down at the bear should he make a rush. The position would give them all opportunity to use their rifles, thus delivering a murderous volley. The brave fellow would use himself as a bait to entice Yank to make the rush.

**Pole Did the Trick**

"Foolhardy as this may have seemed, the men did as suggested. Arming himself with a heavy pole, Howard carefully groped his way into the dark den, guided by the growls of the animal. The bear was behind a split boulder, directly opposite a crevice that Howard promptly poked his pole through and began jabbing the brute at a lively rate.

"The snarls and growls that Old Yank gave forth from his cruel jaws were terrible to hear. He clawed madly at the pole. Then he broke for the entrance, rounding the boulder and overlooking Howard in his fright. As soon as he reached the entrance, William Ball shot him through the neck and head. The other hunters fired and Old Yank dropped over the ledge with a score of bullets in his carcass.

"Old Yank's hide measured nine feet in length and his body weighed nearly a ton. The tracks he left in the snow were 12 inches wide and 18 inches long. Brave Jeff Howard has rid the country of a pest and does not think that he did anything out of the ordinary in entering the monster's den."

**Merchant Shipyards Increase Tonnage**

WASHINGTON, July 5 (AP)—American merchant shipyards in the first six months this year delivered more tonnage than in all of 1942.

The delivery of 168 vessels aggregating 1,676,500 deadweight tons in June brought total production in the first half of the year to 879 ships totaling 8,818,622 deadweight tons. Last year's record was 747 vessels of 8,089,732 deadweight tons.

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Mr. and Mrs. Dave Shirk called at the O. L. Brown home one day this week.

**EPICS BEAT ANGELS**

VANCOUVER, B. C., July 5 (AP)—The Bremerton Epics beat the Vancouver Angels 12-0 here Saturday night in a softball match. Al Jensen, Bremerton, pitched a no-hit game.

# Hildebrand

HILDEBRAND—Some of the farmers of this district have started cutting their alfalfa hay.

Dr. Wright was called to the Hartzler ranch on Saturday to treat Mrs. Hartzler who was quite badly hurt by being run over by a calf. There were no bones broken, but she suffered bad bruises and is confined to her bed.

Leonard Ritter was transacting business in Klamath Falls Saturday.

T. P. Michael has been quite sick for the past week and was taken to Klamath Falls on Monday for medical attention.

Charles Carlson was transacting business in Dairy on Monday.

Mrs. Charles Borough and daughter Myrta of Sprague River visited on Monday with her sister, Mrs. Marvin Michael of Hildebrand.

Jesse Drew and son Billy, have been hauling wood from Sprague River to their home at Hildebrand the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schmor and son Bobby of Bonanza, accompanied by their mother, Mrs. Henry Schmor Sr., and their daughter, Mrs. Clay Combest of Klamath Falls, visited on Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Schanz and daughter Charlotte.

Charles Carlson was a business visitor at the Chris Wandsted home on Monday.

Mrs. Joe Vieira and son Jerry, and Mrs. Rosa Vieira visited on Tuesday with Mr. and Mrs. S. K. Hartzler and Bessie.

Sarah and Walter Logue visited on Tuesday with Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Pool and family.

John Logue is employed at the Liskey ranch in Poe valley.

Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Michael and Mrs. Marvin Michael visited Tuesday with Mr. and Mrs. Hartzler and daughter Bessie.

Mrs. Addie Lovell of Klamath Falls visited Tuesday and Wednesday with Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Pool and family.

Sallie and Roberta Pool spent Tuesday night with Sarah Logue.

S. K. Hartzler and son John, delivered some fat hogs to the E. D. Trulove meat market in Klamath Falls Thursday.

Sarah Logue was an overnight visitor at the E. P. Pool home Wednesday.

**Soil District Adds Fire Equipment**

LANGELL VALLEY — The Langell Valley Soil Conservation district has again equipped a fire truck for use in the district. The truck is stationed at the O. S. Campbell ranch.

A 500-gallon water tank has been added to the equipment this year as well as some large fire extinguishers.

The equipment now consists of the truck and tank, four fire extinguishers, a fire pump and 300 feet of hose, hand tools and buck pumps.

**Allied Bombers Pound Greece, Italy**



While U. S. bombers (arrow, right) pounded airdromes near Athens, planes of the North African air force (arrow, left) bombed Naples, communique announced. Salonika, in Greece, was raided previously.

**First No Pipe, Then No Crew Delay Lines For Reedsport Water**

REEDSPORT, July 5 (AP)—After waiting two years, the city of Reedsport finally had an \$11,000 order of pipe to replace the lines of its water system today, but now there's no crew to lay it.

The city water superintendent is trying to scrape up enough men despite the labor shortage to do the job before the old mains and leads go to pieces. The iron and wood pipes have been in about 20 years.

# Jap Airmen to Have Tough Time Attacking, Says Knox

SEATTLE, July 5 (AP)—Members of any Japanese air force with the temerity to attack the west coast will stand the world's slimmest chances of ever returning to their homeland, Navy Secretary Frank Knox assured a crowd at the launching of the Destroyer Morrison by the Seattle-Tacoma corporation here last night.

"It can be said with certainty," he declared, "that if any raids are made on this coast, they will be of the nuisance variety only, without the slightest military value."

Speaking of the turn in the war as signaled by recent American victories in the Solomons and New Guinea he said: "Both the army and the navy are on the march, and from now on we will pick the time and place of every battle."

Misgivings he once held that American youth had grown soft all vanished, the secretary said, on a visit to Pearl Harbor when he learned of the magnificent courage with which the "treacherous attack of the Japanese had been met."

"Wherever Americans have fought in this war," he said, "they have lived up to the finest traditions of the invasion. Yes, we have the finest ships and the finest men—and they are fighting for the most magnificent cause the world has ever known."

"Ultimately our fleet will find its way into Tokyo harbor—and then tyrants of the Tojo type will learn their aggression has been done away with on this globe."

**Ways, Means Group Declines Approval Of Coal Act**

WASHINGTON, July 5 (AP) Notwithstanding a recommendation by President Roosevelt the house ways and means committee today declined, by a vote of 13-11, to approve extension of the bituminous coal act.

President Roosevelt, in a letter to the committee, had appealed for continuation of the act, saying:

"The whole coal situation is so unsettled that it would be helpful if any phase of it could be definitely concluded. . . . I am again concerned about the failure to extend the Guffey Coal act and I hope the ways and means committee will find it possible to conclude its hearings and report the bill favorably."

**War Casualties Totaled by OWT**

WASHINGTON, July 5 (AP) American casualties in World War II now number 81,644, of whom 31,579 are listed as missing.

The armed services have reported 16,696 dead, 21,828 wounded and 21,541 imprisoned by the enemy, the Office of War Information (OWI) reported.

Army casualties total 64,821, the OWI said, and navy losses number 27,023.

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# Buy City Jail

Robert Pinckney, 16, said he bought the city jail at Harvard, Neb., at a tax sale. City officials admitted the lot containing the jail was listed by error and were wondering what to do about the \$20 rent bill Pinckney said the city owed him for use of the jail.

About a hundred kinds of carrion flowers grow in Africa; they smell like spoiled meat.

**LET**

State Farm Ins. Co.  
Protect Your Privilege to Drive  
J. I. Beard, Agent  
1929 Main


# Scene of Grand Junction's Unscheduled Shelling



Here's the way the Grand Junction, Colo., railroad yard looked after two freight cars loaded with ammunition exploded and started firing all sizes and shapes of bullets and shells in every direction. The unexpected barrage, apparently started from a hot box in one of the cars, injured but eight persons when one of the freight cars turned over on its side and the ammunition blasted in the opposite direction from the town's residential district.

HOW LONG SINCE YOU'VE READ

# The Constitution of the United States?



"We, the people of the United States . . ."

156 years ago, these simple words began America's warranty of freedom.

Today we are deep in war—so that this warranty may endure. Should we win—and win we must—whom will it profit?

Are you a farmer, and do you love your land? Are you a worker, and do you cherish your hard-bought home? It will profit you that no man, without due process, can wrest your home, your field, your plow from you.

Do you worship God in a church, or in a synagogue, or in the secret places of your heart? It will profit you that no heathen hand can desecrate your altars.

Do you impart the truth to the printed page—or do you seek it there? It will profit you that the presses will not be shattered in the night.

Do you talk with your neighbors in the market place—or meet on the steps of the town hall? It will profit you that no bludgeon can drive you into secret cellars.

Our Constitution assures us these things. And these we fight for.

In many ways we fight. Some in small, silent ways—when our sons have gone. Some in large, heroic ways—in the roaring of wings. Farmers fight in the rows of corn; writers under the lamp; ministers from the pulpit's height.

Not the least of these are the men of industry. And proud we are to be among them.

Proud to pledge ourselves still further to the fight—that all peoples everywhere may continue to find in this Constitution of ours a heartening hope!

## The California Oregon Power Company