

# Herald and News

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## ALONG NATURE'S TRAIL

By KEN McLEOD

A cooperative scientific study of pollution on the Klamath River came to a virtual standstill last Monday when state and federal agencies involved in a study program of the quality of the waters of the Klamath River met in the Portland office of the Oregon State Sanitary Authority in a conference to summarize the results of studies completed during the current year.

It will be some time before the official combined report of the co-operating agencies will be written and published for the record, however, the conclusion of the various agency representatives drew from the reports presented by their technical staffs was to the effect that domestic pollution on the Klamath River was a matter of secondary importance to that of the primary problem of the presence of algae in the waters of the river.

There was no conclusive evidence that algae aside from being a nuisance was a pollution problem even though it poses economic repercussions on the Klamath basin economy. To undertake a scientific study of the algae problem, the agency spokesmen felt, would resolve into an academic investigation which was beyond the scope of the several agencies' abilities as they possessed neither the personnel nor funds to adequately pursue the type of research program that would be required if a basic understanding of all the factors of the algae problem could be ascertained.

This decision on the part of the investigation agencies to place the program which was started last March into the scientific "deep freeze" tosses the algae problem right back into the lap of the people of the Klamath Basin. The agencies have placed the narrow interpretation possible upon the pollution problem for they contend that they were drawn together on this study by reported fish kills and the unexplained death of numerous waterfowl. Since the current series of studies have neither proved nor disproved that pollution was the causative source of these epidemics, future studies will be reduced to mere routine checks, if and whenever, agency personnel happen to be in the area.

Any unified study will be held in abeyance until such wildlife epidemics occur in the future. The algae problem was considered to be aside from the basic program on which the agencies entered upon a cooperative pollution study.

The writer, therefore, is drawn to the conclusion that the position of the agencies in regard to the

basic problem of algae in the waters of the Klamath Basin is purely a matter of local concern. The experts attending the conference were in accord that the algae problem was a very serious one, both from the standpoint of water supply for industrial processes and for its objectional features in the recreational field.

No hope was held for eradication of algae since there has been no economical treatment discovered to cope with the problem. The development of control measures, however, which would tend to minimize massive concentrations of the algae might be within the realm of possibility but the development of such control measures would be directly dependent upon a thorough scientific study of the life cycle of the algae in the lake. If control could be established it was the opinion of the technical researchers that it would only be obtained through an understanding of the nutritional and growth requirements of the algae. They pointed out that chemical treatments were definitely out of the picture for an 80,000 acre body of water. It might be possible that chemical treatment of localized concentration areas of algae beds might have some place in a control program.

The use of copper sulphate which has been applied with success in some small reservoirs was out of the question in consideration of Upper Klamath Lake. The cost of copper sulphate for one treatment of the lake would amount to \$30,000 and there would have to be at least six such applications a year, even then, it is doubtful if chemical control would be successful for the algae tends to build up resistant forms which demand increasingly higher applications of copper sulphate until the point is reached where copper concentration in the water is so high that nothing can live in the water. Nowhere in the history of algae control has any large body of water been subjected to study and those who undertake to study the algae problems of the Upper Klamath Lake will be strictly on their own in a vast unexplored field of biology, for this reason, the agencies consider the study to be academic.

The cooperating organizations on the present study was composed of the Oregon State Sanitary Authority, the State Water Pollution Control Board of California, the United States Public Health Service, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Oregon State Game Commission.

## HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP) — A cry is sweeping the land for the abolition of wild office Christmas parties.

This is indeed a worthy campaign, and I am glad to enlist in the cause. It will be remembered that I was among the first to point out last year it was high time we got rid of the growing menace of the bustle and also contributed heavily to a fund to wipe out the dinosaur and the sabre-tooth tiger.

And what about the woolly rhinoceros in America? Is nobody going to attack him?

The trouble with our current crusade against the wild office Christmas party is one that afflicts many drives against other forms of sin. By the time we get our dander up about it, we find it already quietly has expired, and the only way we can show our virtue is to go out and kick the tombstone.

It seems to me it's about that way with the annual Christmas office orgy. A recent Sunday magazine article claimed they are getting rowdier each year. But, frankly, I no longer would know where to look to find one, in order to denounce it. And nothing takes the fun out of any campaign against sin like the inability to find it.

Wives and other bosses began tending down office parties some years back. The first thing they did was throw them out of the office and start holding them in restaurants and rented halls.

The year the first wife showed up at an office Christmas party spelled the downfall of its mad revelry. Who wants to play that merry old game, "Let's chase the stenographer around the water cooler," with a wife looking on? That cooled down the office bargain basement satyr, but quick. Sure ruined Christmas for many a homely stenographer, too.

The average office party today is about as sinful as an Easter egg rolling or an old-fashioned lawn social. It has no more of an antic note than a high school spring prom. Mama leads papa to the frolic like a tame bear on a leash, and his ears echo with her stern ultimatum. "Take one trip too many to that punch bowl, Buster, and home you go."

They search you at the door to be sure you haven't hidden any mistletoe in your pocket. There is a dance band to play civilized music, and the office quartet sings a sedate number from the floor instead of leading college cheers from the top of a desk. As a matter of fact, they don't even have a desk in the joint a fellow can fall from and break a leg, and get a well-deserved rest on full pay.

The other evening I looked in a restaurant room and saw a group of bank employees wearing paper

hats and looking glumly at one another. One oldtimer was crying softly, and I asked him respectfully:

"Is this a memorial service for one of the bank officials?"

"No," he said, as the tears rolled down his cheeks. "This is an annual office Christmas party."

"Don't you hold it in the bank?" I inquired.

"We used to," he said, "until the year one of the fellows began making paper airplanes out of \$100 bills and sailing them out a window."

"That was what was wrong with the old office Christmas parties—some guy always went just a bit too far, and ruined it for all time. A friend, who formerly enjoyed joining in the annual chase to catch the boss's secretary, said his office had given up parties altogether."

"You mean you finally got common sense?" I asked.

"No," he replied. "The secretary just got so middle-aged it no longer was much fun to catch her—even to the boss himself."

Perhaps somewhere there still will be a real rowdy office Christmas party this season, one that looks like the hanging gardens of Babylon swept by a hurricane. If I locate it, I intend to join in the fun for ten full minutes for old times' sake—and then denounce it in the strongest possible terms.

Joyeux Noel has departed from the office, leaving behind it a sign saying: "Gone home." And, of course, that's where it belongs.

**Chimps, Lions Star in Show**

ST. LOUIS (AP)—A family of lions and chimpanzees are stars of the St. Louis Zoo's first film which is destined for nationwide telecasting.

George P. Vierheller, zoo director, held a preview showing of the 20-minute film yesterday. It is the first in a series of shows called "Backstage at the Zoo."

The shows have been in production since September, 1953, but there was the problem of a double schedule for many of the animals—they had regular shows plus the TV films.

Voices are dubbed in for the chimps.

**THEFT**

LANSING, Mich. (AP)—Lansing police have crossed fingers today. Thieves took three tool boxes last night from a downtown key shop. One contained safe-opening tools and instructions on how to use them. Another contained a set of master keys for all General Motors cars.

## They'll Do It Every Time

WHEN AGONEY GETS WEARY FROM MINDING BABY ALL DAY—HUBBY GRACIOUSLY OFFERS TO TAKE OVER—



THEN NO SOONER THAN THE GOOD WIFE CLOSSES HER EYES—THE BIG HELP STARTS BROADCASTING THUS—



## POET'S CORNER

Bruce Biossat

### THE OLD TIME DANCE

By ORVILA COLLINS

Clide, Oregon

Now ladies and gentlemen here is a chance

To recoup your mind on the old fashioned dance.

The violin once was a fiddle, you know,

And many there were expert with the bow.

The tunes that they played had both rhythm and swing

And everyone danced that could do anything.

The dance hall was spacious—perhaps a new barn,

The owner would say, "I don't give a darn."

There's cider on tap and a jug full of ale,

And more in the cellar if either should fail.

The crowd was assembled, the fiddles tuned up

The fiddler was braced by a swing from the cup.

The caller was named and then stationed and put,

He cried out, "All set!" and kept time with his foot.

Four couples move out and then, "Balance and Swing!"

Then, "Join the eight hands and form in a ring!"

A break and a swing, remember the call?

With a "Right and left grand and promenade all!"

Perhaps you can hear it if you have been there—

That resonant sound floating out of the air.

Or, "Lady round lady and gents so!"

And, "Lady round gent and the gent don't go."

There, gallants and swains and beauties and dames

All danced with a vim, as in childhood's old games.

There, no one was slighted and each did his best.

The stranger and aged taking part with the rest.

And Cupid's swift arrows with accurate aim

Struck hearts just as loving as those known to fame.

To those who recall those gay, merry old days

Just let me say this: "In life's re-sash-ays"

There's nothing that touches the hearts of our friends

Like living the old times—that pleasure ne'er ends.

Those dear reminiscences live in our hearts

As long as the memory of Cupid's straight darts.

If old fashioned dances come back into vogue

And e'en carry back with them some of their "brogue"

There'll be no harm done, but they'll serve to unite

The present and past and if this I write

Will bring up old memories sweet to the soul

'Tis not written in vain. I'll ask no more toll.

TO MOTHER AT CHRISTMAS

I'm thinking tonight dear Mother

THE DOCTOR SAYS

By EDWIN P. JORDAN, M. D.

On the average about one person in ten is left-handed. Left-handedness is twice as common in boys as it is in girls. Why some people are born left-handed rather than right-handed still is not clear.

Hand preference may be related to eye preferences. Most people who have equal vision in the two eyes prefer to use one eye or the other for sighting a gun, looking through a telescope, or looking through a hole in a fence. The preferred eye is called the dominant eye. One investigator found that about 70 per cent of a group studied were right-eyed, 20 per cent were left-eyed, and only one in 100 did not have any preference.

Most of those preferring the right eye were also right-handed, but nine of the ten of those who preferred the left eye were also right-handed. Just what all this means, however, is not quite clear.

Many tests have been devised for testing hand preference. One investigator working with young infants found that whichever hand was used in wiping a desk with a dust cloth, rolling it into a ball and throwing it away was reliable in

testing which hand was preferred.

Older children and grownups can be asked which hand they prefer to use for throwing, cutting bread or dealing cards.

It is believed that heredity is at least partly responsible for hand and eye preference. However, heredity probably is not the only factor involved, but it seems to be the most important.

Occasionally children who are left-handed, but who have been forced to use their right hands have developed stuttering or some other type of speech defect. Some authorities believe that a young stutterer is one who has shifted from normal left-handedness to using the right hand and that he or she should be encouraged to use the left rather than the right hand.

This does not mean that most left-handed children will develop stuttering if they are forced to use the right hand, but it is considered wiser to let left-handed children write with and use the preferred hand. Many of them become almost ambidextrous, using one hand for some things and the opposite for others.

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John Foster Dulles has wanted to be Secretary of State for a long time. His grandfather held the post, and there was a family tradition of foreign-affairs service. Evidently he's glad he has the job, but he must have learned by now that it makes him the readiest target in the country.

For reasons that are special to the nature of the job, secretaries of state have perhaps always been easy pickings for the political sharpshooters.

To begin with, the head of the State Department normally has little if any political power or influence on the domestic scene. Except for occasional speeches, his work does not take him regularly through the country and his department has no widespread domestic organization—being concentrated in Washington and abroad.

Since this is so, he is always something of a distant figure to most politicians. Remoteness can breed suspicion, or at the very least, indifference. The Secretary of state need not be feared, and he can be attacked with impunity.

The phrases "cookie-pushers" and "striped-pants boys" are tired old staples of the ammunition that politicians have hurled for years at this convenient target. These seemed to say that foreign affairs and domestic policies are so tightly intertwined today that few politicians try to argue for the consideration of the one without the other.

More than that, all the nation's hopes and fears are understood to center around the world dilemmas which are the prime business of the State Department.

Yet this has not helped the Secretary of State as a national figure. It has only magnified his difficulties. In a time of seemingly endless crisis and tension, many citizens and many politicians work out their frustrations on him as they never did before.

They seem to say that, since our worst problems are foreign, they must inevitably be the fault of the Secretary of State.

In times such as these the Secretary of State is the natural target, for some of the old reasons cited and the new ones as well. We are not likely to see a truly popular Secretary of State for some years to come. Possibly Dulles is reconciled to that prospect. Surely any man who is not will not have a happy tenure in one of the world's most sensitive and vulnerable jobs.

### Of the Christmas's long ago.

When our house was filled with Childish glee.

The dearest a heart can know.

I remember too, how we gathered 'round

While you read from the Holy word.

The real true meaning of Christmas

Till our very souls were stirred.

Of the lowly manger and the Holy child.

And his own dear mother so meek and mild.

And we sung the carols in voices low.

In that Christmas tide so long ago.

We had no wealth of earthly store.

But of love and laughter we had far more.

Our wants were simple, the gifts were few.

But they meant so much because of you.

Those days to me are hallowed now.

Like the crown of silver upon your brow.

I hope the memories of my boy, will bring to his heart such richness and joy.

Mrs. Grace Jones

CLOCKS

Two little kittens played see-saw.

As the pendulum swung to and fro.

Two little kittens of paste-board.

That made both the time-hands go.

Right and then left they kept swinging.

As the minutes fast tick-tocked away.

Swinging in happy abandon.

As time build another day.

"Silly," I thought, as I watched them.

While the pendulum swung left and right;

"Willing or not they must travel The clock in its tick-tock flight."

High on the walls it was ticking.

As the kittens and pendulum swung.

High on the walls it was singing

A mockery as it sung.

"See!" said the over-alled kitten.

As he see-sawed with all of his might;

"Did I not tell you these mortals.

Are puffed in their own vain sight?"

"Here we are doing our duty.

Conscientiously as you well know;

But do we get any credit.

My sister in calico?"

"Let not your heart be so angry.

Or you'll swing altogether too fast;

Year after year we've been riding.

In harmony unsurpassed.

"Whether or not they are willing.

As the pendulum swings right or wrong.

Mortals must travel its highway.

As Destiny ticks along."

Elizabeth Alice Thies

### Indo-China War Enters Eighth Year With French Still Doggedly Hanging On

By LARRY ALLEN

HANOI, Indochina (AP) — The Communist-led Vietnamese rebels in Indochina rounded out its seventh year today with still no end in sight. But the French are hopeful another two years will bring victory.

Throughout the war which started Dec. 19, 1940, French Union forces have kept a strong grip on the Red River Delta in northern Indochina as the key bulwark against a possible Communist sweep through Southeast Asia.

But the French and their main ally, the Indochinese republic of Viet Nam, have not yet scored a decisive victory. Neither, however,

has the Vietminh, led by Moscow-trained Ho Chi Minh.

On this anniversary day, rebel forces occupy most of Viet Nam, one of the three French-associated Indochinese states which also include Laos and Cambodia. French sources say Ho Chi Minh's Red Chinese-trained and equipped army is stronger than ever.

The French are hoping that with reinforcements from overseas and the rapidly expanding Vietnamese army they can drive deep into the heart of rebel-held areas in the new year and deliver the finishing blows by the end of 1955.

American aid, which has been averaging a half billion dollars in war materials annually, is being boosted by another 385 million dollars. With that, the United States will be paying about 60 per cent of the war's cost.

As the conflict goes into its eighth year Sunday, a backward glance shows:

The French and Indochinese governments have already spent around 10 billion dollars to fight it.

Two million Vietnamese have been uprooted from their homes and forced to flee into French-controlled zones.

The Vietminh—by French estimates—have had 240,000 killed, 420,000 wounded and 238,000 captured.

French Union losses have been estimated at 48,000 French and Vietnamese killed, 80,000 wounded and 12,000 missing.

Rumors persist there might be a Korean-type truce to end the shooting here. Rebel leader Ho Chi Minh recently said he is ready to talk peace if the French ask for it.

But the French are not asking for it and have said they would do nothing without the assent of the Vietnamese government which the rebel leader has ignored.

Dr. Jones spoke to 50 administrators of state and private colleges and public officials.

Eight states now are in the program, under which the states open up their graduate schools to students from the other states. They are Arizona, New Mexico, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Montana, Wyoming and Colorado.

"It is necessary," Jones said, "for each state to develop those graduate schools for which it possesses advantages, and to stay out of the fields in which other states have advantages."

Jones said the meeting was a "trial balloon," being the first of several meetings to be held in each state in the compact.

Other speakers included Chancellor Charles D. Byrne of the State System of Higher Education; Dean F. L. Gillilan of Oregon State College; and State Sen. Dean H. Walker, Independence.

Oregon already is sending students to Colorado A. & M. College to study veterinary medicine.

high now—52 per cent of earnings for ordinary corporations, and up to 70 per cent if they come in the excess profit class—that anything that can cut gross earnings show up as a big savings in income tax payments.

The inheritance tax is also playing an increasing part in the sale of property. Estates must be made liquid or the heirs may one day find themselves forced to sell, at a big loss, the property they inherit, to get cash