

# Herald and News

**FRANK JENKINS**  
Editor

**BILL JENKINS**  
Managing Editor

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## BILLBOARD

**By BILL JENKINS**

From a bird's eye view it must have looked like a wonderful duck season last year. At least the figures for the annual midwinter waterfowl inventory would make it appear to be so. Figures for this year listed 423,421 waterfowl on land in Oregon. This compares to a figure of 156,000 in 1949; 177,000 in 1950; 202,000 in 1951 and 261,000 in 1952.

There were more mallards than any other species of duck and more Canada geese than any other species. There were also some 3000 whistling swans.

If the birds go on increasing at that rate there won't be room for anything else in the Northwest.

Along the subject of game we might mention that a set of figures recently compiled by the state game commission inform us that hunting and fishing is a 160 million dollar industry for Oregon. There were 434,000 resident licenses sold last year, plus some 28,481 out-of-state tags of various kinds. The crystal ballers have estimated that the average sportsman spends \$300 per year on his hobby.

There was an increase of 3.7 percent in license sales over 1952, 7.3

percent more non resident hunters and a 7 percent rise in the number of deer tags bought. Total deer kill for the year is estimated at 100,000. There were 203,096 deer tags sold.

Getting more dangerous every year to trust yourself out beyond your own front yard.

And, finally, just in case you are remotely interested, your duck stamp for next year will bear the picture of a pair of ring-necked ducks slanting in for a landing. Design was done by a commercial artist in Duluth by the name of Harvey Sandstrom.

Down in the Cedar Pass area Don Euler and Hal Hunter have just made the first snow survey. Done with a combination of pack horses and snowshoes to get them and their instruments in. Total snow depth showed an average of 32.1 inches with a water content of 8.7 inches. This compares to last year's figures of 45.3 inches of snow with a water content of 13.8 inches.

The average snow depth in my front yard is 13.5 inches and there isn't no water content. It's all solid ice.

## CAUGHT IN THE ROUNDS

**By DEB ADDISON**

Cleaning out the note drawer uncovers a miscellany of such things as:

**THE REMARK** at the last Community Concert to the effect that if someone would buy the gal (Erika Morini) a new fiddle she really could turn out some tunes.

Which brings up the thought that, while entertainment has evolved from the traveling minstrel and a court jester to television, while transportation has progressed from the ox cart to the jet airplane, while communications have grown from smoke signals to radar — in 200 years no one has improved on, or even matched, the violins made by Antonio Stradivari in Cremona, Italy.

There may be a moral to draw from that, and from the remark of the do-it-yourself boys who say that people appreciate home movies a lot more since the advent of TV.

**THE REMARK**, "You make Monday mornings seem like Tuesday."

What nicer compliment have you heard? (That remark was not directed this way.)

**THE FACT THAT** Pete Belcastro, the old "Weed Assassin" of wrestling fame who now is a staid and hard-working dairyman, has been invited by the Boone & Crockett Club to enter his mountain sheep head in competition for record trophies.

The head of the ram that fell to Pete's rifle, now in the hands of the American Museum of Natural History, has a 42-inch curl, 15-inch base and 26-inch spread. The animal weighed about 350 pounds.

Now Pete has to build an addition

to his home for a trophy room.

(If you ever find this writer with his tongue hanging out, it will be because he's still panting from the time, years ago, when he tried to keep up with Pete in scrambling over the crags on a buck hunting trip.)

**THE FACT THAT** the name, "Rex," as in Rex Porterfield, means "king." The Kiwanis Club was right on two scores.

**THE STATEMENT** of Bryant Williams that nobody realizes how much good will, how much good public relations, has come out of the trip of His Majesty Rex Porterfield, and brother Jim and Bryant, to Washington, D.C.

The potato has been the whipping boy of farm politics for a number of years. We've suffered from it economically and politically. The continuation of such activities — boys like Rex growing better potatoes to be eaten, not subsidized — will help right that situation.

**THE FACT THAT** there are only two true foods in the world.

Our daily bread comes from grain. A kernel of grain is a seed, which grew for the primary purpose of reproduction, of growing another plant. Potatoes are seeds, too. Meat comes from mammals, which means it is one, whose existence is an end in itself.

The only true foods, which exist for no other purpose, than that of being foods, are milk and honey. Milk, of course, more completely furnishes all the needs of life than any other thing that we eat.

**THE FACT THAT** lots of folks like garlic — those who eat it.

## JAMES MARLOW

**WASHINGTON** — If events like a horse, could be made to stand still, the Democrats and Republicans already would have their main issues for the 1954 congressional election in November.

The Democrats are hammering on the downturn in business which has occurred under the Eisenhower administration.

And the Republicans are working overtime on the subject of Communists in government under the Democrats.

By election time, business conditions may have leveled off, as administration economists say they will. If they don't, the Democrats will have a talking point probably overshadowing everything else.

And the issue of Communists-in-government may be pushed into the background by other developments before then.

For instance, by November Congress will have finished this year's work on Eisenhower's program, which affects practically everyone; taxes, social security, unions, business, tariffs.

The President himself has said that if his party doesn't put over a progressive program it doesn't deserve to win. The congressional score on his program will provide plenty of election issues.

But at this time, before Congress even begins to act on most of the program, Communists-in-government and the economic reverse have given the politicians on both sides something to talk about.

For 20 years, beginning in the 1922 campaign, the Democrats barged away at the fact that the big depression began under the Republicans, which may explain one reason for their hitting so hard on the downturn now.

When some Republicans reacted with the charge that talk of a recession is unethical and almost un-American, it may have been an indication that recession talk was getting under their skin.

And although Eisenhower himself

**BOY SCOUTS**

**NEW YORK** — The Boy Scouts of America now has 3,395,884 enrolled members, following an increase of 6.7 per cent in 1953, Chief Executive Arthur A. Shuck reported last night.

## They'll Do It Every Time



## ALONG NATURE'S TRAIL

by KEN McLEOD

It is unfortunate our pioneer settlers have left us such a small amount of information in regard to the numbers of big game animals present when the country was a wilderness. Some of the very early visitors to the great central valley of California remarked on the great herds of deer and elk to be found upon the plains before the days of the gold rush. Tremendous numbers were killed by the Indians for food and market. Hunting was one of the first industries to supply the camps with meat. The greatest toll of this wild life resource, however, was not the drain upon the supply for meat but the terrific toll that was taken just for hides. The "deer slayers" as they were called in those early days persisted down to the turn of the century.

The literature of pioneer days has little to say in regard to Mountain sheep which were numerous in the Klamath Basin. Deer receive some notice but even they have little mention to the chronicle of the early day settler. Elk are from time to time casually mentioned.

The last of the native Klamath Basin elk appear to have vanished sometime in the latter part of the 1890 decade. Their last stronghold seemed to be in the Blue Canyon area and around the base of Mt. McLoughlin. The chronicle of Frank Riddle the husband of Toby (Wi-ne-ma) Riddle as written by Meecham carries this line: "During his sojourn upon the Western coast, he has killed seven hundred and forty-three deer and elk, and one hundred and thirty-two bears of various species." Meecham makes no mention of Mountain sheep.

Joaquin Miller has written of "deer and elk" in the area about "The Forks." In a bit of prose called "An Elk Hunt in the Sierras" Joaquin tells about how the Indians hunted elk around the base of Mount Shasta. The whole great mountain range of the Cascades and the Sierras was always the "Sierras" to Miller. Joaquin writes in his narrative of crossing the plains of the Miller family "crossing the Cascade Mountains, or rather, the Sierra Grande del Nord."

Of the elk hunt, Joaquin writes: "After great preparation, we struck out steeply up the mountain, and for three days wallowed through the snow in the dense, dark woods, when we struck the great elk trail. A single trail it was, and looked as if a sawlog had been drawn repeatedly through the snow. The bottom and sides of the trail were as hard and smooth as ice. Perhaps, a thousand elk had passed here. They had been breaking from one

## Sam Dawson

**NEW YORK** — Tax relief for business first or for individuals first—which would give the economy the biggest boost?

Industry is bending congressional ears just now, seeking more liberal depreciation rates — something the average citizen may be a little hazy about. Industry holds that this would spur business and create jobs.

The changes would apply to new farm buildings and equipment, and new rental housing, as well as to new factories and machinery, and commercial and industrial buildings.

Individuals would like a cut in personal income tax payments.

So would William McChesney Martin Jr., head of the federal reserve system, in all probability.

But he tells congressmen: "If you increase the money consumers have to spend through raising tax exemptions on personal income taxes, there is no guarantee that the consumer will spend the money."

Many a citizen, on the contrary, may be quite sure that he'll have to spend any money saved him on taxes — and the merchants to whom he is in debt might be interested in seeing the color of that money.

But most businessmen will go along with Martin's belief that at this time of recession worries the emphasis should be on the production side.

Here is how businessmen figure that liberalization of depreciation rates would spur production and create or save jobs:

The present practice in reckoning income tax returns is for businessmen to charge off the cost of plant and equipment over the estimated life of the property. The Treasury has a lot of rules of thumb for this.

If you buy a small cutting tool, say, and its life expectancy is one year, you set up a depreciation reserve for it and charge it off completely as a deductible expense item in the year you buy it. Next year you tap the depreciation reserve for the money to buy a new tool.

But businessmen contend that the modern world is much too speedy for these old rules. They say that often nowadays a machine becomes obsolete years before it would wear out. Or shifting consumer tastes call for a new machine to make a different product currently striking the public fancy.

They want the Treasury to change depreciation rates so that they can charge off most of the cost of the machine or plant in its early years before it may become outdated.

They argue that such a change would spur manufacturers to put in new and more efficient machines now, would encourage shopkeepers to modernize now; would induce farmers to get new labor-saving equipment now.

## THE DOCTOR SAYS

**By EDWIN P. JORDAN, M. D.**

What goes on in our minds when we are not conscious is something which has puzzled physicians, philosophers, and everyone else for a long time.

Q—My niece, who is 24 years old, after being in bed about 15 minutes, turns and screams, most of the time calling her mother. Her mother lives with her. In the morning when we tell her, she does not remember a thing.

Mrs. T.

A—This seems to fit into the pattern of what are known as recurring nightmares. It seems likely that this young woman was at one time terribly frightened about the health or well-being of her mother, and this keeps cropping up in her subconscious when she falls asleep. Quite likely it will become less constant with the passage of time.

Q—Could you tell me if it is possible to take treatments or vitamins to nourish the brain, to prevent or cure failing memory in persons over 60 years of age?

A—Unfortunately, it seems that there is nothing which one can do by way of diet or treatment to cure a failing memory. A more practical method is to use a notebook frequently.

Q—Please give me an opinion on a condition of the eyes. Noticeable is a slight bulging of the eyeball, lessening of the water in the eye, and at times flashes of light appear before the eyes.

Mrs. H.

A—This has all the earmarks of a serious eye condition, quite likely glaucoma. No time should be lost in consulting an eye specialist.

Q—I am allergic to strong soaps and cleansers on my hands, which break out in tiny water blisters. I have used them for 40 years, and would like to know why, after all these years, I should be come allergic to these things.

C. D.

A—Allergy to soap or other things can develop at any time in life, after one has been in contact with the offending substance for a long time. It would seem quite likely that if this is really the cause of the trouble in your hands you would get some relief by using a chemical detergent or cleansing agent other than soap.

Q—Please say something about the corners of a person's mouth becoming sore and cracking.

C. A. G.

A—It is possible that this is the result of a particular vitamin deficiency, though other causes must be considered. Professional advice is indicated.

## HAL BOYLE

**NEW YORK** — The charm of old things never disappears. Many children growing up in the television era now are discovering and enjoying an antique, old-fashioned form of home entertainment their parents have appreciated for some years. It is called radio.

"The kids are going back to radio," said Johnny Sinn. "There are some programs they like better on radio because they can imagine the scenes better than if they are shown on a screen."

One of his own children for example, prefers hearing the horse opera, "Cisco Kid," on radio to watching it on television. This intrigues Johnny beyond the normal interest of a parent in what takes his kid's fancy. The "Cisco Kid" happens to be one of many famous characters who walk, talk or gallop for Johnny on either radio, television or both.

He is a top man in the destiny of radio as well as television, and sees a prosperous future for each, although he predicts radio will become the more localized medium.

You probably never heard of John L. Sinn. But he has thought of you, wherever you are. He has studied you for many years and, or than he ever studied his primer in school. He wants to know how to make you laugh and cry.

At 38 he is one of the bigger figures in the world of entertainment, and one of the least known to the public. But you'll hear more of him. He might look like the guy who lives next door to you, if you are lucky enough to have a pleasant neighbor with a receding hairline, dark eyes, a wide but determined frown, and a sensitive willingness to hear you brag before he says what he knows to be so.

Johnny travels about 150,000 miles a year between New York, and his partner, Fred W. Ziv, produce — at the moment — 23 weekly radio and 12 television shows, own Hollywood studio.

Two years ago their gross gulp was estimated by "Variety" at 20 million dollars annually, perhaps a modest figure today when their programs are on at least 1,500 of the nation's 2,500 radio outlets and some 145 television markets.

Some of the programs Johnny Sinn never has to worry about getting tickets to are "Boston Blackie," "Mr. District Attorney," "Yesterday's Newsreel," and "The Hour Stars." They are his.

He recently signed Red Skelton in a three million dollar deal. Among the other stars who work for him — no movie studio could

## Norway Rounds Up Spy Suspects

**OSLO, Norway** — Norway's government says it has rounded up a group of spy suspects in the Oslo area. The newspaper Aftenposten reported today that 10 to 20 persons were picked up on suspicion of selling secrets to the Soviets.

The government in November arrested five farmers in the arctic Finnmark province, near Norway's 130-mile border with the Soviet Union, on espionage charges.

A communique last night said the security police for some time had suspected a "small group of persons in the Oslo area of illegal intelligence service for a foreign power."

The announcement said a number of arrests had been made and added:

"As the investigations are expected to become very extensive and require some time, further information will not be given out."

## Chinese New Year Calls for Reunion

**LOS ANGELES** — The Wong family celebrated the Chinese New Year last night with a family reunion. Eight hundred relatives showed up.

Thomas S. Wong, president of Wong Won San Assn., which means the Wong Ancestral Family Assn., said the group has 3,000 members and is the largest Chinese family group in this country.

## Eastern Man Wins Skinning Contest

**CAMBRIDGE, Md.** — A Dorchester County man, Russell Insley, claims the new world record for skinning muskrats. He skinned three in 1 minute 37.7 seconds to win the championship of the Cambridge Outdoor Show.

Contest Chairman M. Baker Robbins said Insley's time eclipsed the old record by two seconds.

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