

# Herald and News

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## BILLBOARD

**By BILL JENKINS**

That outfit back on Ohio that was searching for the origin of the term "green thumb" sent in a pair of green thumbed gloves and the information that they are still on the trail.

Closest they have come so far is the colorful and charming story of the old monk in a monastery garden whose remarkable success with his plants came to be attributed to the color of his thumb, stained from the handling of same. The story appeared in 1946 but with no mention of the origin.

In a cookbook called "Green Enchantment" authoress Rosetta Clark says the term was a common one in England and Scotland around 1530. She didn't quote her authority for the statement either, and is, unfortunately, dead so we can't ask her.

Chaucer speaks, in Canterbury Tales, of millers having a "gold thumb, or 'thombe of gold'." And that's the size of it to date.

Send in an authentic answer and you'll probably get two pairs of garden gloves.

With green thumbs.

Now that the icicle season is temporarily over we are reminded that

the most symmetrical ice spikes in town are, or were, those that hung from the heating company's shed down on Klamath Avenue.

I wonder if that has any special significance?

Dropped in on the lads out at KFFPA (Klamath Forest Protective Association) the other day and found them busy in fabricating a cat truck.

In case you don't know what that is it's a truck capable of carrying a fourteen ton Caterpillar tractor from the home shed to the scene of the fire. The whole thing was being built up out of massive planks, I-beams and angle iron on a Peterbilt truck they had just acquired through the state.

When the rig is ready to go they'll really have something. And don't think it won't come in handy at the scene of a fire. It will.

Right now we'll just sit back and hope they don't have any fires serious enough to require the heavy rigging.

And there wouldn't be if we'd all take care in the open and make sure our cigarettes are out, our cooking fires are buried and we don't take any other chances with the flames.

## CAUGHT IN THE ROUNDS

**By DEB ADDISON**

**RETAIL MEMO:**

The biggest thing that has happened to many lines of retail business in many a moon is beginning to happen today.

The federal excise tax on furs, jewelry, handbags, luggage, cosmetics, light bulbs and cameras is now 10 percent. Yesterday it was 20 percent.

The excise tax dropped from 15 to 10 percent on sporting goods, mechanical pencils and pens and on cigarette lighters.

Appliances (except washing machines which carried no excise tax) had a tax of 10 percent on the manufacturers' sales price. It has been cut in half to 5. This is a tax paid by retailers on the wholesale price, but of course it is included in the final sales price to you.

Long distance phone calls dropped from 25 to 10; your local telephone bill starting today will include an excise tax of 10 percent, a cut from 15.

Movie and other admissions prices will be 10 percent tax instead of the previous 20. Tickets of 50 cents or less are exempt entirely.

buy somewhat less heavily than in 1953, but as much or more than in previous post-war years. This was determined through the Federal Reserve Board's annual survey of consumer finances and buying intentions conducted by the University of Michigan.

(Also, we might add, the survey was made prior to today's reduction in excise taxes).

Other major findings: More folks early this year still felt better off financially than felt worse off. About 23 percent of those queried reported making less money than a year earlier. However 41 percent said they are making more money than a year earlier. People expect prices to be stable or declining through the year. This is the strongest sentiment of this kind since early '49.

The survey disclosed long run demand for new homes and new cars is just as strong, short run possibly a little weaker than in the last two years.

What this means to you, as a buyer, can be seen in advertisements in this paper today. This story will unfold as time goes on. Mr. Eisenhower signed the bill to make it a law just yesterday afternoon.

It seems evident that most retail prices will reflect the excise tax cuts.

According to a statement just this week by the movie houses' national association, this industry will, in part at least, look at the cut as a new lease on life rather than as a means of immediately reducing ticket prices.

In the last six years 6,000 theaters have gone dark, box office gross has dropped 33 percent, and profits have sagged 88 percent. Television and the admissions taxes are blamed for the trend.

A little suspected effect of the excise tax cuts may be found in our next year's report on agricultural income.

County Agent Charley Henderson's recent "State of the Basin" report on agricultural income included an item of \$180,000 under income from bees, furs, horses and rabbits.

The fur coat business has been hit harder by the past 20 percent excise than most others. Aside from a still lively business in mink coats (in spite of the reflections from Washington, D.C., the past few years) there just hasn't been much fur coat business.

As a result, the price of mink coats has declined from more than three dollars during the war boom to two bits or less now.

Muskrat trapping once was a flourishing winter business here. Maybe it can make a comeback now.

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## They'll Do It Every Time



## ALONG NATURE'S TRAIL

by KEN McLEOD

In yesterday's column I told the story of the naming of our mountain sheep "Ovis californianus," described in 1829 by David Douglas from the horns and a skin he saw on August 26, 1826, near The Dalles, on the Columbia River. This name has remained unchanged for all the mountain sheep of the Cascade Range and the adjacent desert regions to the east. Only Oregon country were our species replaced by the Rocky Mountain Bighorn, in the Blue Mountain region.

Our species was quite similar the Rocky Mountain Bighorn which is spoken of in scientific circles as "Ovis Canadensis." The Lava Bed sheep in size was about the same as the Rocky Mountain sheep but their horns were more spreading and open, less closely coiled. The upper molar teeth were longer and heavier and the nasal bones of the skull averaging wider. Beyond this, not very much is known about the species.

The late Dr. Joseph Grinnell, whom I had the privilege of studying under at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology of the University of California, was never completely satisfied that one species ranged the whole area as outlined by Douglas. However, in spite of the animal being so well known to the early day settlers of the region it was very little known in the scientific world.

Vernon Bailey, of the old U.S. Biological Survey, now the Fish and Wildlife Service, gives this description of our Lava Bed sheep: "Coloration unknown, except from immature and much-faded skins from the Steens Mountains, but these show extensive areas of white which with the general pale colors suggests the desert sheep farther south." Then Bailey makes a very enlightening statement which shows why Grinnell was never satisfied with the species name: "No body measurement known."

Perhaps it is strange that Douglas should attach the word "californianus" to the species he met with on the Columbia River and of men; without a doubt his judgment which he never saw a living specimen was colored by the stories told by the old trappers of the Hudsons Bay Company.

It is well known that mountain sheep have been common along the canyon walls of the Deschutes River to near its mouth. Undoubtedly before the days of rifles mountain sheep must have followed the terraced lava walls of the Columbia River Valley above and below the mouth of the Deschutes River Valley.

In fact, on December 8, 1825, about nine months before Douglas found his specimens, one of the hunters of Peter Skene Ogden's trapping expedition, killed a sheep in the rough little range of mountains about 40 miles south of the Dalles which are known today as the "Mitten Mountains." A few days later after crossing to the

## The Doctor Says

By EDWIN P. JORDAN, M.D.

It often seems that everyone knows how to raise a baby—especially those who have never had one. Not only do they "know" what to do, but they are liberal with advice, even though this is likely to be based on folklore and prejudice.

Most of the time, a new mother with her first born is completely confused by well-meaning advice from a long line of relatives, friends and neighbors.

Usually, such advice is worth what is paid for it—exactly nothing. Although given with the best of intentions, what one person says is quite likely to be exactly the opposite of the suggestions provided by another.

Any but the strongest-minded mother is likely to be left in a state of utter confusion.

There are some points in this connection which I should like to bring out, and which are based on an excellent book written a few years ago by the late Dr. C. Aldrich. It is called "Babies are Human Beings."

I hope this is still in print. In any event, the main theme is that babies should not all be treated alike, because their individual personalities must have a chance to develop.

As the Aldriches pointed out, babies are different even at birth. In a hospital nursery for newborns a great difference can be noticed between one baby and another, in appearance and behavior, not only by the parents but by other careful observers.

One question which the Aldriches discuss is about fondling or loving babies. Conscientious mothers often ask whether fondling is proper.

Of course, a baby should not have too much or indiscriminate fondling by friends and relatives. Like everything else, this matter can be overdone. The more people who come in close contact with the baby the greater the chance of giving the infant some infection.

To feel that a mother and father should not give the infant babies affection, however, is to inflict unintentional cruelty on the child.

Everyone thrives on some affection, infants most of all. Of course, it is good to fondle babies—good for the baby and good for the parents. This does not mean bringing a baby around roughly or exposing it to colds or infections.

Two principles should govern your conduct: Treat a baby as you would like to be treated if you were young and helpless, and remember that signs of af-

## Wing Tips

A lot of people have asked us what the Civil Air Patrol and the Civil Air Patrol Cadets are. In this column we will try to answer this and other questions and tell you a little about CAP and its people.

CAP is a civilian auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force made up of men and women volunteers, interested in aviation, who have joined together to serve their country and further national interest in aviation.

The purpose of CAP is to provide an organization to encourage and aid American citizens in the contribution of their efforts, services, talents, and resources in the development of air supremacy and its encouragement and development, by example, the voluntary contribution of private citizens to the public welfare.

Also to provide aviation education and training, especially to its senior and cadet members; to encourage and foster civil aviation in local communities, and to provide an organization of private citizens with adequate facilities to assist in meeting national or local emergencies.

In future articles, we hope to tell you some of the history of CAP, what we do in CAPC, and some of the projects we work for.

Anyone interested in the senior or cadet CAP program is invited to attend our meetings Monday evenings, 6:45 to 8:45, at Altamont Junior High. Visitors welcome.

## BASIN BUILDERS

By RUTH KING

The story of the Klamath country, still awaiting the railroad, of the dollars that poured into purses from livestock and early farming interests, traveled like a prairie fire before a high wind when this land was new.

It reached the eager ears of the



MRS. JOHN TAYLOR

late John Taylor and his wife, born Jennie Crawford in the picturesque little town of Mulberry, in Missouri, June 28, 1878.

Her people were farmers. Jennie Crawford grew up midst the sweet scent of summer hay, the lowing cattle at dawn, the harvest at the end of summer.

She gave her heart to a farmer, John Taylor, son of a United Presbyterian minister, July 16, 1901. They moved to his father's farm as soon as the strains of the wedding march died away, then to LaCrosse, Washington. It was there, while he raised wheat on rented land, that the family heard about the untouched acres of land in this county, of the abundance of water, the opportunities, and the die was cast.

The family headed for Klamath Falls in a farm wagon. It took three weeks of travel. A hired man with them left his life savings of \$300 and a bedroll at a camp site. The travelers turned about and 25 miles back along the trail found it. They ate and slept in the open, saw other wagon travelers headed south.

For three months after arriving, Mr. Taylor worked on the Keno cut-off, then filled on homestead land near Merrill, adding acres until the family holdings were increased to 885 acres, mostly against the foothills, north of town.

Jennie Taylor accomplished all the necessary farm chores that confronted a farm wife. She plunged with the vigor of a leader into work of the infant Merrill grange; was its third master, back in 1933. She went into the harness again in 1937, was reelected the following year; served as lecturer of Pomona grange for six years.

She never said "no" when a job was to be done, and that won her the year-in-year-out task of chair-manning the huge dinners of the Klamath Basin Potato Festival held at Merrill after the brown earth has yielded another crop of tubers. The dinners cooked by the Ladies Aid of the Presbyterian Church, are famous over Oregon.

Jennie Taylor was treasurer of the church for 25 consecutive years. She is a member of the WCTU. She made the long drive with a buggy in the early days to Ashland, over unpaved roads for fruits and vegetables for canning; later whipped one of the first automobiles here, over the mountain route.

Mrs. Taylor is the mother of five children, two of whom died in early life. Living are Mrs. Bee Anderson, Merrill; Mrs. Jennie Opal Hanson, Washington, D.C., and Mrs. Aubrey Fleming, Henley. She has nine grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Excise Tax Reduction Sale now in progress on Kenmore electric ranges, Goldspot refrigerators and freezers, plus all other excise taxed items. Additional savings up to \$24.00. Sears, Roebuck & Co.

## Radiation Found In Snowfall

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP)—Radioactive snow has fallen in an area between here and Sheridan, Wyo., to the south, a local consulting geologist reported yesterday.

Chuck Hauptman, using a Geiger counter, said radiation was measured at about three milliroentgens an hour—about 200 times the amount of ordinary "background" radiation picked up by instruments but still very small.

He said the element of danger in the radioactive snow was "practically nil."

Hauptman and another geologist, Donald Todd, said the snow resulted from a March 1 hydrogen bomb test in the South Pacific. But weather forecasters said last Friday's H-bomb blast more likely was responsible.

Three inches of snow fell in the area Saturday and Sunday.

In Cambridge, Mass., scientists at Massachusetts Institute of Technology reported slight signs of radioactivity in the air since March 10. A spokesman said the measurements, noted only in rain, show the "radiation is insignificant as far as health and safety is concerned."

## Doctor's Efforts Fail to Save Life

CLEVELAND (AP)—Fifteen-month-old Jo Ann Yurick stopped breathing during a choking spell at her home last night. Quickly Dr. Harry Hall slit open her chest with a razor blade and massaged her heart until it started beating again.

The child died later, however, at a hospital despite efforts to revive her with plasma and oxygen.

Doctors are appreciated even before a child can talk. The rewards of proper handling in infancy are reaped when the child gets older. To make these rewards even more bountiful, it might be wise to follow expert advice and ignore the low expert advice and ignore the

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Frank Waters Johnson, MD  
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON  
announces the removal of his office April 1 to 112 No. Fifth Street KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON to continue the practice of REFRACTION, SURGERY and MEDICAL TREATMENT OF THE EYE  
Phone 6431 By Appointment

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