

# Herald and News

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## BILLBOARD

By BILL JENKINS

Today is the day that a lot of eager gunners sneaked out of their offices early and hit the firing line for the opening day of the Oregon duck season.

California, suffering under a split season, opened last Saturday, and the shooting, as usual, was fabulous for a few hours and then died as dead as yesterday's newspaper.

From noon Sunday on there wasn't a bird in sight and so amount of herd busting could scare 'em up. A few in sight, hovering over the reserve to shake down a few pounds of the barley they had been feeding on, but none anywhere else.

I have a sneaking hunch that a goose is about half smart. Smart enough, anyway, to figure out that if he's shot in California and not in Oregon that he'll stay in Oregon. Maybe with the season open up here they'll be shot back and forth over the line a little.

Dick Gallagher, the bossman of the Legion drum and bugle corps, got a nice hand the other day from Governor Paul Patterson. Patterson, writing from Salem, said to Dick that it had been brought to his attention that when he, Patterson, lauded the corps for its performance at the Republican picnic he was not aware that Dick had already left the grounds.

His letter stated that he thought the corps had done an outstanding job. Then he added a personal postscript to the effect that "Hillabore lost to a real champion."

Congratulations to Dick and the corps. Keep up the good work, men.

Myrtle Wimer and her pigeon are back again. Myrtle writes us from Fort Klamath that the wandering pigeon is still staying with her flock of chickens up there, that it is not a walking pigeon as suggested by Frank Braman, because she recently found it perched on the top of a brooder box outside a chicken house, and that she had received a letter from a Bill Chrysler of Medford stating that he had lost a pigeon or two in that area lately and asking for the number of the band.

Myrtle sneaked up on the pigeon one night when it was asleep and got the number, AU 34 F2144. So far no answer from her letter to Chrysler.

And the pigeon is still there.

For the past several days we have been talking about a forest fire started by a hunter. Just remembered that I forgot to mention that in those two days the Lone Creek fire was being battled there were five other fires reported. And every one of them started by a careless hunter or fisherman.

I'm not so real sure that merely taking a man's license away for life is adequate punishment for a crime of this magnitude. Maybe he should be branded "firebug" across the forehead and be forced to wear a heavy charred stump chained to his neck for life, too.

A more practical deterrent to starting fires, I think, would be to sentence the man to work, without pay, for one year on a fire suppression crew. I'll bet he'd watch out for fire after an experience such as that.

Those shovels can raise one heck of a blister on tender hands in a matter of minutes.

## ALONG NATURE'S TRAIL

by KEN MCLEOD

I do not know how many times I have been asked about the meaning of the Petroglyphs on the Tule Lake Peninsula and my answer has been you can attach any meaning to them you desire because no one has ever been able to decipher any of the characters. Some of the carvings are obvious like the lamp carved on the southern end of the group, but what is its significance? Many of the characters carved on the cliff are undoubtedly Indian in origin and since the Indian had no specific set of symbols, the characters so carved possessed meaning only to their carrier. We have discovered this to be true in the attempt to obtain a definition for various designs, occurring on Indian baskets. A design might mean something to one basketmaker but something different to another.

There is nothing strange to this observation as we have the same problem in the field of modern art. The average person looking at an abstract design or painting will invariably ask "what is it?" The artist usually uses some description applicable to a fifth grade youngster for he is expected to put a label on it, Indian carvings to some extent are much in the same case today. They have personal meaning to the maker but may not hold any particular significance to other members of his tribe. Most men of science merely attempt to classify the symbols into recognized groups — circles, dots, rakes, squares, and so on for the simple designs. Other designs might be obvious like animals, lizards, snakes and so on.

If we knew the individual who carved the meaning behind the symbols the makers are not available for interview, your guess is as good as mine.

We may stand a better chance of interpretation in the ogam type carvings if we should be able to discover the proper alphabet but we will obtain some profound message. In one of these columns I mentioned the fact that the probable interpretation of any of the ogam would be "Kilroy was here." This statement might sound facetious but it would probably be close to the truth. Of course Kilroy would not be the name as it would more than likely be Oscar. The point is, much of the ogam writing merely records proper names. The ogam alphabet as illustrated in Webster's Dictionary apparently does not give us words with meaning and so the conclusion is that these identifiable carvings must have some other alphabet basis.

The world's knowledge of the meaning of runic carvings has developed from various sources that have preserved the runic alphabet. One very old English manuscript now in the British Museum contains two pages that have given the key to the alphabet used in the British Isles. In the Scandinavian countries, however, the keys to three runic alphabets have had strange discoveries. These three alphabets came from various discoveries, the first was discovered in 1774 at Vadstena, in Sweden on a thin gold bractea; the second on a bracelet, dug up at Charnoy, in Burgundy; the third on a knife, found in the Thames in 1857, and now in the British Museum. In the Scandinavian countries this runic writing in its earliest stages has been found only as inscriptions

upon ornaments and it is not until the 6th century that runic stones begin. The invention of this form of writing started back in the so-called "Iron Age" which is placed at about 500 B.C.

In the period of the 4th to 7th centuries, the gold ornaments of the period have been its chief glory; indeed the wealth of gold, especially in Sweden, has suggested the title "Gold Age" for these centuries. The favorite ornaments for the period were the so-called bracteaes, worn as pendants, and imitated from Roman coins, but often stamped on one side only and decorated in the Northern style. Such was the bractea that was discovered bearing the inscription of the runic alphabet.

The discovery of carving on the Tule Lake Peninsula bearing a resemblance to these runic forms does not necessarily mean that they such writing need be of vast antiquity, since anyone with a knowledge of this form of writing could execute it at any later date and this is what forms our mystery.

The field is wide open to anyone to interpret this mystery as he desires. This is what Cerve has done in his book "Lemuria." However, Cerve taxes one's credulity when he attempts to get away from the unknown into the known, like attempting to place definitions and words into the mouths of the "Modoc Indians." Cerve writes: "Part of the lake valley (Tule) was known to the Modoc Indians who lived there in later generations as 'The Valley of Knowledge' because there was evidence that this place had been the best for some American tribes of people. These American Indians called this valley of knowledge 'Walla-Was-Skeeny.' The Indians said that just where Cerve obtained such a queer combination of words he gives no source and well he might for I can find no such word in the Modoc language. The best we can write their name for this area is 'Moatoki-E-shu' while 'Walam-ski' refers to the Rogue River Valley.

## Poet's Corner

UP FOR INVESTIGATION

By Orpha Collins  
The dictionary says thimble-rig is a game played with cups, we believe.

That must be what made a cup of coffee so high —

"Those thimble-riggers tryin' to deceive."

QUITE A QUESTION

By Orpha Collins  
Do we have "dog days" with us again?  
To some, it seems like a joke. And for others it's a bit uncertain —

Anyway, there's quite a bit o' smoke.

Dr. R. T. Lindley  
OPTOMETRIST  
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## They'll Do It Every Time



## HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP) — In changing America nothing changes more than the idea of success.

Everybody starts life in this country with the desire to be a success. But how can you tell, as the Army saying goes, "when you're really got it made?"

The finest test of success in any civilization, whether a man lives in a concrete jungle, the desert, or a vine-tangled forest, is simple. It is the ability to meet the fortunes and misfortunes of a lifetime with fortitude and inner serenity.

But usually only old people come to a full realization of this truth. Many of us spend our lives trying to achieve the outward trappings that pass for success, and die without fully realizing we have missed the real thing.

American success goals have undergone almost as many transitions as women's clothing styles. The fashion of today is old hat tomorrow.

One fashion that seems dying in America is the idea that success begins with birth. Under this theory any person descended from someone who came over in the Mayflower or fought in the American Revolution is automatically, by pride or family, lifted forever above the reeking herd who came to this country later.

The ancestor-worship cult still holds a thin blue-blooded axis from Boston to Charleston, S.C., escaping the realities of the present by poring over the footnotes in genealogy journals. But the attitude of most America is: "Never mind what your great-great-great-granddaddy was. What are you?"

To mingle in high society is no longer much of a success aim either. High society is practically as out-of-date as ostrich feather fans. The trouble with high society is that it began to act too soon.

Great wealth is no longer, as it was in the gilded age, a success goal for most people. Few of us any more dream of living in an

## JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON (AP) — This country pumped 2½ billion dollars into Indochina to help the French save it from communism. Sen. Mike Mansfield, Montana Democrat, says it's beginning to look like money down the drain.

Mansfield, a member of the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee, went to Indochina last year. He has just returned from a second visit. Both times he reported findings.

Last year he said, and so did the Eisenhower administration, that the French, with the help of some Indochinese and American military equipment, could smash the Communist-Vietnam who had fought the French seven years.

The French and those Indochinese who fought with them against the Vietnam, outnumbered the latter, by Mansfield's estimates, 5 to 3 in manpower and 10 to 1 in armaments, the latter largely American.

But it was the French, not the Vietnam, who were smashed. The humbled French at Geneva last summer agreed to let the Vietnam have half of Viet Nam, the largest of Indochina's three states. The other two are Laos and Cambodia.

The French are still in southern Viet Nam. But with the Vietnam in the northern half, and the Vietnamese in the southern half torn by factional disputes and corruption, all Viet Nam looks shaky to Mansfield.

So does Laos, where he reports discussion and Communist infiltration. To Mansfield the only bright spot is Cambodia, where the French have given the people real independence.

The French held Indochina as a colony for almost 100 years, and they did not prepare the Vietnamese for independence by training them as administrators or soldiers who could run and defend the country if and when it got independence.

Ho Chi Minh, leader of the Vietnam, cloaked his communism under nationalism, promising the Vietnamese freedom from the French. The French still didn't realize that their day in Indochina was over.

The result: Millions of Vietnamese, fed up with French colonialism, gave their sympathy or active support to the Vietnam.

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## Telling The Editor

NEWSPAPER COLUMNS

I don't blame you for your personal convictions. However, I can't see where a newspaper columnist gets the idea that a news column should be so biased.

After all, we Democrats are for all the people. We're not only for those who are privileged. We are even out to help biased, narrow-minded Republicans.

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