

Herald and News

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BILLBOARD

By BILL JENKINS

There have been occasional moments in a duck blind when I wondered if the whole thing was worth while. I'm relieved to find that I am not alone in this feeling.

A letter from Hugh Wells, who is business manager of the Sacramento Bee, says "I have reformed. There will be no more falling out of duck boats into icy water; no more frozen toes and fingers; or sitting in a blind with the rain driving at you 60 miles per hour. I'll never join another duck club the blinds will have to be steam heated and equipped with all the other modern conveniences. No more poling of a duck boat. I will take a cabin cruiser from the club house and return."

There have been a great many times, and some of them pretty recent, when I would have agreed with Hugh right up to the hilt.

Let me write it off this way for the present: I'll stick to bluebird weather for my hunting. I've never done too well in bad weather anyway and the sunny kind is so much more pleasant.

Yesterday the gang around here was engaged in trying to lift a pret-

ty hefty chunk of equipment out of the basement through a tiny little hole in the sidewalk. A good many years ago we had one of those big double doors that present a slippery sheet of steel to the passerby, but which would open up to a respectable four by six foot hole. Yesterday we found that this magnificent opening had been replaced by a tiny little old hole that would hardly square two feet.

And the piece of equipment we wanted to move out was just exactly an inch and a half wider than the hole. Just goes to show that when you have adequate facilities you should leave them alone. You never know what the future will bring.

A clipping from the Ashland Daily Tidings sent in by someone whose name we can't quite make out informs us that a former Klamath Falls woman, Mrs. Cressa Grubb, turned in a splendid performance last week in the SOO presentation of "Member of the Wedding."

Just seems that Klamath Falls people, both those living here presently and the ex variety, keep getting in the news.

Congratulations to Mrs. Grubb.

JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON (AP)—These are the days, fairly quiet for Washington after the storms of 1954, when President Eisenhower charts the course for the ship of state in the troubled waters of 1955.

His success in steering the ship next year and the year after will probably influence his own decision on running again and the Republican party's chances in the 1956 elections.

Yet, since the Democrats control Congress next year, Eisenhower is in the ironic political position of having to depend on them in large part for keeping on the course he wants to follow.

Eisenhower set aside yesterday and today for conferences with the congressional leaders of both parties on the program he will lay down in his State of the Union message to Congress when it returns in January.

In these two days he explains his ideas on both domestic and foreign policy—such as taxes, statehood for Hawaii, lowering the voting age to 18, money for defense, foreign aid—and then writes his message.

It is after he reads the message that his troubles begin anew.

Keeping the Communists abroad from grabbing another piece of real estate will be his biggest worry. And trying to get along with some of America's allies may, at times, not add to his peace of mind.

In the meantime he'll have plenty to do handling American politicians at home.

It's a rare day in Congress when Democrats and Republicans vote solidly along strict party lines for or against anything. On almost every issue there is a shifting of at least a few votes.

For that reason—and because the Democrats' majority is extremely thin—the shift of a few votes either way may mean the difference for Eisenhower's program, piece by piece.

So he will need the help of Democrats and Republicans alike to get any of his program through. But the Democrats, because of their control of the committees, can be a major help or hindrance.

The committees not only examine the pieces of his program but can pigeonhole, reject, approve or change them before putting them in the form of bills sent up to the full house and senate for final vote.

The Democrats talk of going along with Eisenhower on what is good for the country. But their

ideas and his on what is good may not always be the same.

The fate of Eisenhower's party may depend more on what happens within Republican ranks. Even though his program went through, intraparty fights could wreck the party's next election hopes.

Sen. McCarthy (R-Wis.), one of the Eisenhower administration's most constant critics the past two years, is in temporary eclipse of his own choosing. He's away resting, after openly criticizing Eisenhower.

He'll be back, minus some of the support he had before the break. Being McCarthy, and having made the break, he will hardly return like a sheep to the fold.

Before the 1956 Republican convention and the election that year McCarthy may be in total eclipse. But if he retains a following he may make double trouble for the Republicans.

1. By filling the voters with discontent with the whole Republican setup.

2. By having, or trying to have, a voice or veto on what the Republicans do at their next party convention in adopting a platform and picking a presidential candidate.

McCarthy may be only a minor annoyance to Eisenhower, Sen. Knowland, almost surely the party's minority leader next year, could split the Republicans down the middle if he continues to go off in an opposite direction from Eisenhower on foreign policy in Asia.

QUICKIES By Ken Reynolds



"Your Herald & News Want Ad said they were unbreakable - I'll see!"

They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo

SCENE ONE SHOWS HOW PEISTY BULLISTER BORE CHARGES RIGHT THRU THE CROWD AND THE REVOLVING DOOR...

NEXT SCENE—HE'S OUTSIDE—STANDS GLUED IN HIS TRACKS—LETS ALL THE REST PILE UP ON EACH OTHER'S BACKS!!



ALONG NATURE'S TRAIL

by KEN McLEOD

Good bird watchers in the field are judged on how quick and accurate they are in identifying birds when they are upon unfamiliar ground. At home a person gets to know just where certain species of birds are to be found and so on familiar ground they can call off birds accurately even before the stranger can get a good look at the individual. There are some bird men who excel at field identification, the bird artist George Sutton is one of them.

place him anywhere upon the continent and he would know immediately what to look for in that particular area. Sutton has a technique all his own. He doesn't stick to the paths the way most of us do, but wanders into dark thickets and makes squeaks on the back of his hand. In this way he turns up a lot of things, little obscure species that most of us would miss.

Another of the outstanding names in the field of the bird watchers is that of Ludlow Griscom of Cambridge, Massachusetts, who has been called by his fellow bird watchers, "the virtuoso of field identification." He knows hundreds of birds by their flight alone, and 500 or more by their songs. Very few North American birds have eluded him, and his list of birds he has seen during his life in the field is well over 2,500 species. After 10,000 field trips he has learned to call off birds in a split second—so quickly and surely that his scientific colleagues sometimes have their doubts. But when they check, he is almost always right.

Griscom has an interesting background that gives him the edge over a lot of people. Brought up in a family with a tradition of international diplomacy, he crossed the Atlantic fifteen times before he was twenty-eight. He spoke German and French, not as an American speaks them, but like a European. All told, he learned to speak five languages fluently, can read ten easily and can translate up to eighteen with a little help. As a youngster, he played the piano so proficiently that by the time he became a young man he had to make a choice between the career of a concert pianist and that of an ornithologist. There came a time

when he could further his art only by devoting eight hours a day to the piano keys instead of four. end this meant he would have to give up the birds. Although he still plays Chopin beautifully, ornithology won out. Languages and music both demand the control of great masses of detail, so organized that they can be sorted out with unconscious speed. Griscom's achievements in these fields undoubtedly conditioned his way of thinking, and in addition to his training as a first-rate biologist and museum ornithologist, helped make him the field-man he is.

"The mind of a good field observer," states Roger Tory Peterson, "works just like a kaleidoscope, the gadget of our childhood, wherein loose fragments of colored glass fall quickly into symmetrical patterns. We see a bird. With an instinctive movement we enter it in our glass. All the thousands of fragments we know about birds, locality, season, habitat, voice, actions, field marks and likelihood of occurrence flash across the mirrors of the mind and fall into place—and we have the name of our bird."

This indeed sounds greatly complicated to the beginner, but it is not especially so, at least not as difficult as learning to read and write. The average individual who has gone through life accepting everything he saw without thought, seeing very little comprehensively, is at first startled and then dismayed when the complexities of nature are first consciously observed by him. For his early school training never emphasized the mass of detail that surrounds him in his every-day life. Yet after a little while with nature, her complexities fade away and you come to be able to recognize her creatures with the same familiarity you recognize the neighbors down the street.

In the language of the bird watcher, a new bird, seen for the first time, is called a "life bird." It goes on a "life list." Herbert Brandt, one of Cleveland's leading business men, and Ludlow Griscom are nearly tied with "life lists" of about 180 species and subspecies for the North American continent. There are not many more North American birds left for either of these men to see. How-

ever, even Griscom cannot separate most subspecies while in the field, so he contends that they ought not be counted as sight records, even if they are found within the range outlined by a scientific check list. He believes that only full species should be counted and most bird watchers agree.

In a single year, Dr. William Helmuth, a physician, ran up a list of 672 species and subspecies. Guy Emerson noted him out with a score of 674. For a time, the largest one year's list, even topping Emerson's, was 681, made by Arthur Allen. Then word came out of Boston that Dr. Morton Cummings has piled up a grand total of 752. All records seemed to topple until it was noticed that his list ran heavily on eleven different Horned Larks, ten Song Sparrows, eight Nighthawks. But when the lists of Allen, Emerson and Cummings were broken down to full species, Emerson came out ahead with 497. It's a rugged game when played by the experts.

Overwhelmed by a vast sense of guilt, the tortured wretch takes no joy in the bright prospects of the year ahead, because he feels he has wasted all the splendid opportunity in the year just ended.

In a blue funk he makes wild, hopeless resolves to do better—good resolutions that would test the mettle of an angel, resolutions he knows he can't possibly keep, and thus plants the seeds of future conscience pangs.

Reduced to a kind of moral jelly by this titanic attack of mass brooding, the guy really doesn't manage to lift himself out of his depression until he sees his first robin.

Meanwhile he is pretty grim company for other members of the house, and the kids keep asking: "Mama, what's the matter with daddy? Did somebody give him a new ulcer for Christmas?"

The way to avoid this situation is to start your year-end brooding right now. But don't do it all at once. Space it out.

You can begin gradually. Just brood 5 to 10 minutes a day until you feel you are getting the hang of it. Too much sudden brooding, like too much sudden exercise, is bad for anybody, and particularly bad for people over 40.

One easy way to get into the swing of it is to start off by brooding over the wrongs people have inflicted on you during 1954. This can be really enjoyable. In fact the danger here is that you will find this so pleasant you won't bother to get around to brooding over all the wrong things you did yourself.

But, of course, to do a thorough, all-around job of brooding you can't treat it like a one-way street. If you don't brood back over your

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HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP)—Are you a last-minute brooder? Do you wait until 1955 actually begins before you start brooding about all the wrong things you did in 1954?

Well, why keep putting it off? Why not be an early brooder? There are still 18 good brooding days left before the first of January. Why not do your brooding now and avoid the late season rush?

It is this habit of postponing his brooding that ruins the post-holiday period for many an average man.

He wakes up on New Year's morning, feeling the effects of too much partying the night before, takes a look at himself in the mirror, then crawls back into bed, muttering to himself:

"Boy, what a louse I've been all year!"

His 12-month collection of conscience pangs strike him all at once, and he writhes in mental self-torture. His mind is crowded with the memories of all the ways he has let down himself, his boss, his wife, his kids—and Norman Vincent Peale—during the preceding 365 days.

Overwhelmed by a vast sense of guilt, the tortured wretch takes no joy in the bright prospects of the year ahead, because he feels he has wasted all the splendid opportunity in the year just ended.

In a blue funk he makes wild, hopeless resolves to do better—good resolutions that would test the mettle of an angel, resolutions he knows he can't possibly keep, and thus plants the seeds of future conscience pangs.

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But, of course, to do a thorough, all-around job of brooding you can't treat it like a one-way street. If you don't brood back over your

own mistakes, you're only doing half the job, and you're missing the real scientific value of brooding.

The main thing is to buckle down to the task right now. Then, when the New Year arrives, you'll be all brooded out, and eager to face the challenges ahead.

And that brings up a final suggestion. Timing is very important in constructive brooding. Don't wait until next June to get your 1955 brooding underway. Get in a little spring practice during April.

Then, if you are really getting the knack of profitable brooding, you'll take time to brood about what lies ahead as well as what is already past.

The guy who is most likely to stay out of trouble in this world is the guy who does a little constructive brooding in advance—for if he doesn't like the price tag on what he sees, he won't have to buy the penalty.

Police Probe Girl's Death

WASHINGTON (AP)—A pretty 23-year-old government girl was found shot to death Monday night amid piles of Christmas packages in a fashionable apartment just across the Potomac River in Arlington, Va.

The victim was Sally Wood, formerly of Boston, who worked at a secret government installation in Arlington, Police said. Miss Wood apparently was the victim of a freak accident but launched a full investigation to check the possibility of murder.

The accident theory was advanced by Dudley H. Rector, Arlington detective captain. He said he believed Miss Wood was killed by a chance shot from a 12 gauge shotgun she had purchased as a Christmas present.

Rector said Miss Wood apparently died Sunday night or Monday morning. Her body was discovered shortly after dark Monday when apartment officials broke into the room.

The body was curled on its side beside a card table on which were piled Christmas wrappings and gifts. The shotgun's butt was on the floor; the barrel was supported by the table.

But the Federal Reserve Board, the other arm in that operation, is hinting strongly that it is watching the present upsurge in business and has no intention of letting inflation get started again. It intends to keep credit easy and money fairly cheap.

TERRORISTS
NEW YORK (AP)—A Polish tanker captain who gained asylum in the free world after his ship was seized by the National Chinese of Formosa said yesterday Red authorities in Poland had robbed and evicted his wife and two daughters from their home. Capt. Leonard Wawrowski, 41, said similar reprisals were taken against families of the 11 crewmen who fled with him.

MISTAKE
TULSA, Okla. (AP)—Red-faced Tulsa Street Department officials explained to some South side residents that workmen made a mistake when they tore up 313 feet of their street. Supt. Wesley Beck promised that the street would be rebuilt immediately. He said his men had the right street but the wrong block.

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