Herald and News

FRANK JENKINS, Editor — BILL JENKINS, Managing Editor

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BILLBOARD

By Bill Jenkins...

The jays around our house — we have Stellars, California and Woodhouse varieties — have found a new pastime.

Teasing the cat.

It used to be when we first moved out to our tiny cottage among the pines that all the jays did was sit around in the trees and scream. I don't know that this has been abated, really, but they have added a few tricks of their own while doing their eternal complaining.

I do not claim to be a professional bird watcher. Many of the secrets relating to bird lore are a closed book to me. But I probably know as much about the behavior of bluejays as anyone in the county.

As I said, when we first moved out of the smoothly paved surfaces of town to take up our life among the weeds and rocks these jays commented. They commented on the quality and quantity of the food. They commented on my methods of doing those chores that all suburban dwellers are familiar with. They finally banded together into a tight-knit group to sit along the fence of the dog run and make nasty remarks about my build and general conformation while I was indulging in a shower.

But now, thanks to the cat, they have found a new diversion and I am spared most of these humiliating interludes. It all started when I put up a bird feeder around one of the pines in front of the house. I guess I shouldn't say that, exactly, because it really started when I put a birdhouse up in this tree. The cat found the house soon after a family of birds had moved in and started making life miserable for them by sitting on a branch in front of the house or on the roof of the little structure and reaching through the tiny doorhole with a paw. Thinking to allay this threat to the bird life of the drive I erected a plywood platform encircling the tree in order to keep the cat from climbing up. Since she learned to crawl around this shield about ten seconds after the final nail was driven I decided to make a bird feeder out of it.

That was just fine for the jays. I would put grain out on this little platform and they would come in from miles around, drive off all the smaller birds, and eat it. But they soon learned that it was more fun if they waited until the cat showed up before they flew down to the platform. They would see the cat — her name is South — trotting along the driveway with all her Siamese grace and would promptly set up a great to-do, hopping about frantically from branch to branch and fluttering their wings. This, of course, would drive the cat into a tizzy and she would start stalking them. That was what the jays waited for. When she got close to the foot of the tree they would fly down to the feeder, perch on the edge of it and dip their tails over the edge in apparent unconcern. They would stay there, too, and feed until the cat lost her patience and charged up the tree howling like a banshee. Then they would flutter off to a branch just out of reach and laugh until their feathers shook.

But by now the cat has caught on to the fact that jays have eyes in the back of their heads so she doesn't waste much time on the game. That left the jays with little to do but curse me for my niggardly attitude toward putting out expensive grain for them, stealing the dog's dinner if he hadn't quite finished it or filching the garden spoons from their storage place.

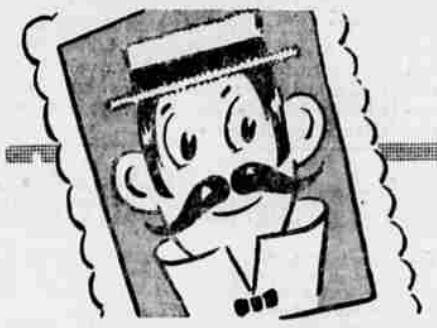
But the other day they found a new game. We put out our stale bread for the birds in still another feeder. Whenever we put out a good sized chunk of it the jays promptly pounce on it and knock it off the feeder, then worry it around until they have moved it to the middle of the lawn. Then one or two of 'em go in search of the cat. When they locate her they lure her up onto the front lawn and then the fun begins. First one jay will swoop down on the chunk of bread and tear out a chunk and fly away. Then another and another until there are as many as four or five around the grub. This, naturally, starts the cat off on another of her eternal stalks. She'll walk up to within four or five feet of the feeding birds and then charge like a tiger springing on a hapless sheep. The sound of the jays gleeful laughter is enough to make the cat's ears turn red as they spring out of her way and watch while she bumbles all over the grass trying to run, stop, turn and leap at a fleeing jay all at once.

To date neither group has tired of the fun but we're running short of bread.

I suppose this stalking jays is all right. After all, she has to have some exercise and she certainly doesn't get it chasing the mice in the basement. She has made up with them and, I'm quite sure, shares her food with the little grey fellows. Her only real form of exercise is to get herself into an inaccesible corner and then hurl insults at the dog, who is ninety per cent teeth and ten per cent feet. Whenever she tires of his ineffectual efforts to dislodge her from her spot she belts him one across the nose and strolls off to her penthouse for a nap. (I say penthouse because I built her a nest up in the rafters *before* I found out that she wasn't in the least afraid of the dog.)

While this constant teasing from the jays is slowly driving the cat crazy I sort of welcome it. It keeps them out of my hair for a while. But it will be interesting to see what they come up with next. Whatever it is, I hope they pick on someone besides me.

They'll Do It Every Time — By Jimmy Hatlo



FAMILY ALBUM

Bert Henson

Then . . .

Now . . .

By LYLE DOWNING

Take it from Bert Henson, manager of the Klamath theaters, there's no business like show business—and business is good!

Henson, who has spent most of his life in the theater, says, despite the great expansion of television, the movies,' with wider screens and better films, are more than holding their own.

When asked if big name entertainers performing in supper clubs affect the movies, Henson said:

"Not very much. There aren't too many people around who will pay eight dollars for a dollar and half steak and believe they are seeing a floor show for nothing. Perhaps in P. T. Barnum's day, there was 'one born every minute.' I don't think that is the case now."

LIKE COOK'S TOUR

Henson's record reads like a Cook's tour brochure or a composite of half a dozen transcontinental railroad timetables. In the role of impresario, manager and press representative he has traveled from coast to coast and border to border.

Before vaudeville took a nose dive and road shows became virtually a thing of the past, Henson managed legitimate theaters in various sections of the country. While manager of the Keith-Boston Theater in Boston, he produced some of the top shows of that era. He also presented the first midnight performance of a legitimate production in Boston's history.

Henson was born in LaJunta, Colorado. While he was still in grammar school the family moved to Eugene. His first job was delivering newspapers. His first contact with show business was as an usher in the Eugene Theater which presented top legitimate stage attractions. He remembers seeing such productions there as "Forty-Five Minutes From Broadway," "It Pays to Advertise" and "Turn to the Right."

DESERTED FOOTLIGHTS

After Eugene, Henson's next stop was San Diego where he was an usher in the Garrick Theater for two years. From there he went to Portland and deserted the footlights for a few months to work as a candy salesman.

Then he returned to the entertainment field as a film salesman. He sold films throughout the west. In 1932 Henson went to Cleveland, Ohio as publicity and advertising representative for RKO. From there he moved to Boston. In the late thirties, Henson returned to the West Coast and has been here ever since.

Looking back on his career, Henson values most the associations he had in the theater. Among his closest friends are Ted Lewis and Ray Bolger.

"It's too bad vaudeville troupes and road shows don't tour the country like they did 30 years ago," he said. "But they'll never come back any more than the horse and buggy will be in vogue again.

"For some reason," he concluded, "no matter what our careers have been, we all look back with wistfulness to the so-called 'good old days.' In spite of this inclination, I still believe as far as show business is concerned, the good days are still ahead."

(Listen to Family Album Sunday 9 p.m. Radio Station KFLW.)

VET'S MAILBAG

Atomic medicine is providing a faster and more accurate measurement of heart action—important in the diagnosis and treatment of heart diseases and some cases of shock.

Veterans Administration said the radioisotype research unit at the Bronx VA Hospital in New York City has developed a new technique for measuring the pumping efficiency and status of heart action speedily and accurately.

The technique is designed to replace the less accurate and slower method of using dye substances for this purpose.

Mounted on a cart, the equipment can be wheeled to the bedside of patients. It is so fast in its operation that it can record the heart actions of 10 patients per hour without difficulty, VA reported.

The device uses an ingenious tie-up of a Geiger counter, a count-rate meter, an amplifier, an oscilloscope, and a recording camera.

A minute amount of radioactive substance is injected into the blood stream of a patient.

The blood from an artery then is directed into a specially designe Geiger counter, and the output of a sensitive count-rate meter is amplified so it may be viewed as a moving spot on an oscilloscope screen.

This moving spot is photographed with a recording camera to form a pattern of curves, known as the arterial dilution curves. From this strip of film, a graph of heart action can be plotted quickly to provide an accurate measurement of cardiac output.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

Q—If I enroll in a correspondence course under the Korean GI Bill before my starting cut-off date, will I be permitted to switch to classroom training in the same field, after that date has passed?

A. No. A correspondence course is considered a program of training within itself. A change from correspondence training to classroom training would be considered a change of program, regardless of the subject of the course. Changes of program generally are not permitted after a veteran's starting cut-off date has passed.

SAM DAWSON

NEW YORK (AP)—Fickle nature has been aiming blows at the economy in parts of the nation while dealing out prosperity to others.

To the human misery and great property damage in Diane's wake will be added disruption of much industry and a strain on the building materials companies already plagued by shortages.

In parts of the Middlewest hot and humid weather favored the corn crop for awhile. But now seering and dry weather is reported blasting the hopes of many farmers who had looked for a bumper crop.

In the Eastern states hurricanes and floods ruined part of the tobacco and corn crops.

The heavy rains, however, revived many seered pastures, bringing cheer to dairymen. West of the Mississippi some areas have another story. There drought is killing pastures and some livestock men are reported saying they may have to rush cattle to market.

Butter production, partly because of the fickle weather, has been running seven per cent lower this August than last.

Durum wheat farmers, on the other hand, have had a good year, nature having dealt lightly with them in the matter of disease. This wheat is highly favored by the makers of macaroni.

Diane's furious torrents dealt heavy blows to some Eastern railroads, which won't be able to move much revenue freight for some time. Not only are their roadbeds gone, but also the output of many of their customers.

The storm's destruction of factories, highways, utilities, stores, homes and schools will bring a heavy call for building material. The great building boom already was straining the capacity of some of the building material producers.

Copper and brass fabricators in Connecticut are badly hit by the floods. They had been suffering from metal shortages. Now many of their mills are out of operation, probably for some time to come.

New England's textile industry, previously combatting the move of the mills to the South, now is hard hit by flood and fire damage. The garment industry elsewhere may be disrupted for a time by delayed deliveries.

Some chemical plants in New England will also be closed for awhile because of flood damage.

To other firms in these industries that have factories and plants in sections untouched by nature's tempers, this may mean new orders, added pressures for deliveries.

Merchants in the stricken towns will be feeling the aftermath for

SF Official Dies Of Heart Attack

SAN FRANCISCO (UP)—Harold H. Jones, San Francisco City Purchaser died Friday of an apparent heart attack suffered while watching the Bobo Olsen-Joey Giambra fight at the Cow Palace.

Jones, 60, was attending the fight with Fire Chief Frank Kelly when he suffered the attack and collapsed at the end of the second round.

He was rushed from the arena to Alemany Emergency Hospital where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

Jones was a veteran of 34 years with the City and County of San Francisco. He had been purchasing agent since 1950.

He is survived by his wife, Agnes, and three daughters, Marjorie Kreulzer, Napa; Forence Bacon, Corpus Christi, Tex., and Agnes Colton, Fairfield.

TEAM PLANNED

HIROSHIMA, Japan (AP) — Dr. William S. Kiskadden, professor at the UCLA Medical School, Los Angeles, said Saturday he would try to organize a team of American plastic surgeons to come here to treat disfigured victims of the atomic bombing.

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Along NATURE'S TRAIL with Ken McLeod

W. E. Hamilton, director of research, Farm Bureau Federation, in discussing the "Walton Soil Plan" before the national convention of the Izaak Walton League this year made the comment that one of the things the Izaak Walton League's proposal had that appealed to him was the fact it held out the possibility of ending the problem of diverted acres.

"This problem is really terrific," stated Hamilton. "You know we have price supports on six basic commodities and I am quite frank to say that three of them, corn, wheat, and cotton, are basic commodities and the other three are politically basic.

"Well, then, it has been recognized a long time that if you are going to have price supports and the price supports are at a level that increased production, then you are going to have to have production controls. Now these controls look a lot better from the standpoint of theory than they do from the standpoint of practice. Here is what happens when you put a production control on —

"The farmer is told to take maybe 10 per cent—that isn't too bad, it gets bad when it gets up to over 20 per cent—of his land out of a crop. If he puts that land in the next best crop — suppose he takes it out of wheat and puts it into barley or grain sorghums—it helps to solve the wheat problem, but it transfers a part of our wheat surplus problem into a barley or grain sorghum problem. Some of this land may be shifted over into perishable commodities like vegetables. Not very much of it, but it does not take very many acres to ruin the vegetable market.

"You have a situation where maybe you have a corn allotment that may be in an area where there is a canner who cans corn, that is, sweet corn or peas, and it gives him a greatly increased bargaining power with regulated producers of those canning crops if he can go out and say, 'Now you are going to lower the price this year or else I am going down here and contract with some of those fellows who have corn allotments to grow beans or sweet corn on their diverted acres.' So that is a terrific problem and the size of it is overwhelming.

"This year under the programs that have been announced if all of them are compiled with, we will have something like 35 or 40 million diverted acres.

"Another problem that arises in these production control programs is the fact that the commodities are not uniform. There are several classes of wheat. Those classes of wheat are used for different things. So right now in the midst of a wheat surplus we have some wheat that is short in supply and selling above the support price. You cannot deal very well with that problem by acreage allotments because there seems to be no politically acceptable basis of saying that one farmer can continue to grow the amount of wheat he has grown in the past and that another farmer must be cut down. Instead, you find a historic base for all wheat and you give them all a percentage cut and some types will be in worse surplus than others. So you compound the problem.

"The cotton people who had thought that the cotton program worked pretty well are beginning to find out that the same thing applies to cotton. So you see we are creating a lot of problems with acreage allotments.

"Looking at it from the standpoint of individual farms, if you have a 40-acre field and the government comes along and says that you cannot put 5 or 10 acres of that into the crop it is scheduled for, then you have a problem if these 5 or 10 acres aren't seeded. How are you going to manage and get anything off of them? They interfere with normal crop rotations.

"Then there is the question of control of diverted acres. The people who are not protected by price support programs feel that the acreage that is taken out of these protected crops ought to be set aside in some way and not used for producing crops in competition with them. The secretary of agriculture announced a program of control of diverted acres a year ago but he did not put it into effect. He got some pressure against putting it into effect. He had a personal reluctance to go that far with controls and he found reasons for suspending it, I am not being particularly critical of the secretary. I don't know that I would have done differently if I had been secretary because control of diverted acres is a tough problem.

"The approach that the Izaak Walton League proposes in the Walton Soil Plan could relieve a great many of these problems, yet it too has some problems.

"I think probably I should say a little about just where we are in the Farm Bureau in our own thinking. We have been struggling for a number of years to get some kind of a program which would relieve this problem of allotments, tight control over production, and the problem of diverted acres. The closest we have been able to come to is what we call our 'Soil Bank' proposal. Frankly, at the present stage our Soil Bank proposal is not much more than an idea. We have been so busy trying to prevent the enactment of rigid 90 per cent price supports which are one of the causes for our present troubles that we haven't had the opportunity really to do the work we ought to do on our Soil Bank Plan."

Equal Pay, Work Study Urged

SALEM (AP) — Oregon employers were urged Friday to reappraise their wage structures to make them comply with the equal pay for equal work principle which became law this month.

State Labor Commissioner Norman O. Nilsen, who is administering the law, noted that one-fourth of Oregon's labor force is composed of women who now must be paid equal with men in the same type of work.

He pointed out that the law also is indirectly beneficial to men, as it removes the possibility that they will be replaced by women at a lower pay scale.

39 Dead In Japan Milk Poisoning

TOKYO (AP) — Many Japanese babies went without milk Saturday as the nationwide toll of poisoned powdered milk victims rose to 39 dead and 4,448 sick.

Alarmed families were reported feeding their children thin rice gruel instead of suspect dry milk in the numerous areas where fresh milk is unavailable. Newspapers and radio broadcasts alerted parents to the danger.

"A considerable amount of arsenic" in one brand of powdered milk was blamed for the poisoning in a preliminary report of the National Hygienic Laboratory.

The Osaka University medical department said it had detected radioactivity in the same brand.

A member of parliament angrily declared that letting arsenic get into babies' milk is "worse than the H-bomb dust which fell on crew members of the Lucky Dragon." The dusting of 23 crew members of the Japanese fishing boat Lucky Dragon last year with ashes from a U. S. H-bomb test aroused the bitterest public feeling since World War II.

The House Committee on Welfare and Labor debated whether Morinaga Milk Co. should be forced to halt production of its powdered milk.

Supplies are already being withdrawn from the market and the welfare bureau promised to take stronger action when source of the poison is positively tracked down.

Health authorities reported the arsenic definitely did not come from enriching calcium which was produced in a lime plant near an arsenic mine.

43 Arrested In Portland Raid

PORTLAND (AP) — State Liquor Commission agents and vice squad detectives raided a night club operating after hours early Saturday and arrested 43 persons.

Lt. Carl R. Crisp and Lt. Vic Curtin said the place was run by two women, Dora Johnson, 27, and Doris D. White, 22.

The first woman was charged with unlawful sale of liquor and released on $500 bond. The second was accused of conducting a poker game and released on $500 bond.

The 41 others arrested were booked on charges of visiting a gambling place. Each posted $25 bail.

Police said it was one of the largest numbers ever arrested in such a raid here.

POLIO VACCINE

HEIDELBERG, Germany (AP) — The U.S. Army announced Saturday it would offer Salk anti-polio vaccinations to servicemen's children from five to nine years old in the European Command beginning Sept. 6.

BURTON GRAY'S
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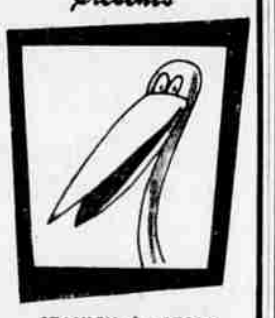
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