

The Herald and News

FRANK JENKINS
Editor
BILL JENKINS
Managing Editor

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Ursus Klamath

By KEN McLEOD

Most everyone will recognize the name "Ursus" as being the Latin name of bear. Ursus Major the Great Bear in the heavens is the most conspicuous of the constellations with its 53 visible stars seven of which form the Big Dipper. Ursus klamathensis, however, is no great bear of mythology but from its name one can see that it was the great bear of the Klamath. The grizzly bear, Ursus grizzly, when my teacher in the ways of wildlife, the late Dr. Joseph Grinnell, bade me farewell as I took off from home camp at Berkeley to explore Nature's Trail a long trail he handed me a charge, a trail to follow — "Ken," said the good doctor, "when you are in the Klamath country find out what you can about the Klamath Grizzly."

What he meant actually was "when you come home bring us some bones of that mysterious creature." The search of Nature's Trail through the broad expanse of the Klamath country so far has brought no bones to light — only anecdote.

Why this interest on the part of a great scientist? Ursus klamathensis was named by C. H. Merriam in 1914 after study of an old skull presented to the U.S. Biological Survey (now Fish and Wildlife Service) by Charles F. Edson in 1912. Edson secured the skull from the eastern end of the Siskiyou Mountains, near Beswick on the Klamath River. This old skull was an important event in the scientific field because it showed that the race of grizzlies which ranged the Klamath country and possibly the whole region of the Cascade Range in Oregon was distinct from the California grizzly (Ursus californicus). Unfortunately there is not known to be even a skull of this huge bear from Oregon, consequently its range is problematical. Merriam gives the species as ranging in the Siskiyou Mountains of northern California and southern Oregon, north in recent times to Fort Klamath section and Rogue River Valley; in earlier days to lower Willamette Valley (presumably the same species); south in the Sierra Nevada an unknown distance. In 1931 another skull was discovered in the lower McCloud River country and Merriam pronounced it to belong to the same species.

There are many old records of grizzly bears from the Klamath country, the Klamath River, the Umpqua, and Willamette valleys but no recent authenticated records. Yesterday I quoted an article from the Toledo, Ohio "Blade" as giving the last grizzly in Oregon as 1921 but whether that was actually verified as a grizzly I do not know. I remember that there was much newspaper publicity regarding the incident. A taxidermist in the Medford region was supposed to have identified the animal and preserved the hide but our search for the taxidermist and hide has proven as fruitless as has been our search for the Lava Bear.

The general characteristics of the Klamath grizzly were given by Merriam as being of larger size than the Idaho grizzly but not as large as the California grizzly. Its skull was high with a strong frontal shield, a long rostrum, heavy canine teeth and short wide upper molars. The back upper molar was narrowed to a point in the back. Merriam stated that the Klamath grizzly was nearer to skull characteristics to the Idaho grizzly of the Rocky Mountain region and was not closely related to other California forms. The skin characteristics remain unknown except in anecdote.

In 1927, W. J. Perry, of the U.S. Forest Service at Bend, made a collection of bones in the South Ice Cave, some 40 miles south of Bend, and sent them to the Biological Survey for identification. Among these bones was found one tooth, next to the back lower molar, of a grizzly bear agreeing almost perfectly with the corresponding position in the type skull of klamathensis. Science finds many uses for "old bones" to trace the history of past events.

Tattle

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP) — Typewriter tattle.

Would you like to know what it is that meadowlarks and robins sing about so early in the morning?

Well, there is a way to find out — if you go for superlatives. There was a belief in medieval times that anyone who ate the tongue of a white crow would understand the language of all birds.

There are two problems involved:

(1) The crow population of America has been estimated to be as high as three billions (that seems awfully high) but the Audubon Society is reported to have observed fewer than 100 albino crows in the last half century.

(2) There are even fewer cook books which contain recipes on how to dish up crow tongues palatably.

However, Joe Pellegrino, a Boston macaroni magpie, is now trying to popularize something he calls "non-skid spaghetti."

It tastes exactly like ordinary spaghetti, but the strands have been given a permanent wave and a plate of them looks pretty much as your wife does when she shows up at breakfast with her hair in curlers. The advantage: The spaghetti can easily be entwined around a fork.

Pellegrino got the idea from It-

Discovered

By CHARLES MERCER

NEW YORK (AP) — If someone has gone along for much of his life building up to speak a pretty good mousetrap, it's always pleasant to note the moment when the world begins beating a path to his door.

Take the case of Lawrence Welk, a calm and thoughtful 52-year-old accordion-playing bandleader who has been "discovered" the past few months by several million television viewers. The popularity rise of his Saturday evening hour of "Champagne Music" on ABC-TV is sensational — if not phenomenal.

Actually, as long as his bosses would leave him alone, Welk has been playing the same kind of music for years in ballrooms, theaters and one-night stands the length and breadth of the country. How many million viewers constitute a TV "discovery"? Well, happily now has them.

"Champagne Music" is smooth and has the flavor of a little age, but it's a village wine. Welk, whose favorite beverage is champagne, can't give you a specific formula for it any more than a French vintner can explain the specific chemical of the specific grape.

"I think," he said slowly the other morning "that mothers are the strongest audience in television. If Mom puts her okay on a program it has a better chance of being accepted by the rest of the family."

Well, Mom certainly has put her okay on the music of Welk and his band. But why?

"I think the human ear is untrained to take music as loud and modern and full as many bands have been playing it," says Welk. "The easiest thing for people to understand is the melody. Perhaps many of us have made a mistake in the band business by ignoring people's wants and needs."

Vets Mail Bag

By GORMAN HOGAN

PORTLAND (AP) — "In the future, we must learn not so much how to grow wheat but how wheat grows."

This, in a little more than a dozen words, is the way K. S. Quisenberry, crops research expert for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, sums up the nation's wheat growers' problems.

The goal ahead, he said here recently, is a cooperative effort to produce a wheat variety that will fit a known market need and will not have to find its place by chance.

Continuing progress has been made in such fields as wheat diseases and insect control, he told the National Assn. of Wheat Growers, yet much work remains to be done in these and other fields, including soil and water conservation and quality.

Quisenberry said the present wheat surplus does not reduce the need for research. "It points up the need for more research if we are to meet our stated goals of stabilized production, dependability of varieties and superior quality."

Discussing the continuing fight against wheat disease, Quisenberry reported the development in six years of four durum wheat varieties resistant to stem rust.

This he called "a truly remarkable accomplishment, probably unmatched in plant breeding."

This particular type of stem rust, designated as 15-B, struck in 1955. Agricultural researchers rushed into the fight against it.

Cooperative nurseries were set up in several Latin American

Deposits Up

By SAM DAWSON

NEW YORK (AP) — The nation has one less bank in the billion dollar class today than a year ago. But the total of deposits entrusted to the surviving 17 are almost three billion dollars greater than that

Epilepsy

By EDWIN P. JORDAN, M.D.

The distress on the part of the parents of a child who develops epilepsy is understandable, but one can be sympathetic while at the same time pointing out that one must not by any means despair of the situation.

Epilepsy is primarily a disorder of the brain. It is commonly divided into two main varieties. The less important kind is called petit mal, in which there are episodes of brief loss of consciousness without convulsions. The severe type is called grand mal; in an attack of grand mal there is loss of consciousness with typical convulsions.

Before an attack of grand mal there is usually a peculiar sensation in some part of the body. This is known as an aura. The exact sensation varies, but an "uneasy feeling" in the stomach area is one of the most common. Those who have epileptic attacks learn to recognize this aura and to know that an attack is on the way.

At the beginning of a major attack the patient may give a loud scream or yell, which is called an epileptic cry. When an attack first begins the head is usually drawn back or to one side, the jaws are clenched and the legs extended straight out. This is quickly followed by muscular contractions, noisy breathing and a brick-red colored face. During all this period the epileptic cry on, the patient is unconscious.

An attack is indeed a frightening thing for someone to witness who does not know what is happening. After the attack, however, the patient recovers consciousness without recollection of what has happened. Sometimes attacks come only at night so that it is possible for a person to have been epileptic for years without anyone knowing it.

We have today methods for treating the electrical waves in the brain. Known as electroencephalography, these tests have shown that the brain waves of someone with epilepsy are different from those of a normal person. This method of testing has already proved to be of great help in finding out what people are most likely to develop epilepsy, determining the severity of the disease, and helping to decide what treatment is best for the particular patient.

I had thought that everyone knew that epilepsy was not a catching disease but a reader recently asked whether it was contagious. This is one question that can be answered definitely and with much confidence: No.

Much has been learned about epilepsy in the last few years. The drugs and management available today have helped many.

Research, Knowledge Of Growth Needed If US To Solve Wheat Surplus Deal

By GORMAN HOGAN

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They'll Do It Every Time

By JIMMY HATLO

SEDIMENT DROOL-BERRY IS HIS NAME... BUT YOU WOULDN'T KNOW IT, THE SLOPPY WAY HE SIGNS HIS CHECKS...

...BE DARNED IF ANYBODY CAN MAKE IT OUT, IT LOOKS LIKE SANSKRIT... THIS IS A CASE FOR THE F.B.I.



Royal Pair Welcomed

By JIMMY HATLO

IBADAN, Nigeria, (AP) — Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh received a screaming welcome from 17,000 African school children here Monday.

The Queen and Duke, in the final phase of their Nigerian tour, occasionally held their hands to their ears as they rode up and down before half a dozen rows of children standing with toes on chalk lines. One Queen, in a beige dress with a wide white collar, waved until her arm was tired.

Some children from distant communities had been here a week, quartered at schools with their teachers.



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By JIMMY HATLO

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Billy Graham In Hong Kong Today

By JIMMY HATLO

HONG KONG (AP) — Billy Graham stepped out of a plane from Manila Monday, waved to 400 greeters and told newsmen he had come here to teach the Bible, not discuss international politics.

The American evangelist will stage a mass rally Wednesday and leave the next day for Formosa, Japan and South Korea.

Graham preached Sunday night to an overflow audience of more than 25,000 persons at Manila Roman Catholic Archbishop Rufino J. Santos had discouraged attendance by Catholics, but there were many in the audience.

POSTPONED

By JIMMY HATLO

BONN, Germany, (AP) — The clemency bid of former SS Col. Joachim Peiper, serving life for the Malmédy massacre of American soldiers has been postponed.

Valentine Special...

Flowers say it



FOR SAVING PLANS IT'S The Equitable AND John Houston

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