

The Herald and News

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Managing Editor

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Deer Herd

By BILL JENKINS

We might not have been able to find any deer three weeks ago when we made a swing down over the winter range of the Devil's Garden interstate deer herd. But the picture was entirely different last Sunday when a caravan of trucks took off from Dry Lake on a look-see tour.

Under the joint sponsorship of the Forest Service and the California Fish and Game department the trip included a swing out from both sides of the highway and covered areas varying from rich, fine browse to areas of stunted, scrubby, over-used range where a rabbit would have hard time making a decent living.

The deer were literally crawling in the hills. Thicker than the hair on a dog's back. Wandering around in bands like sheep. Most that we saw looked in good shape and as though they had come through the winter with little or no trouble.

Speculation as to why the deer had been hiding out ranged over a pretty good sized area, too.

It is no secret that they are on the move now. They're beginning to work back toward their summer range and the annual count, held along the state line, will be getting under way in just about two weeks.

This track count is carried on over a 25-mile-long strip running from Willow Reservoir in Klamath County to Young Valley over in Lake County. The count is made by a "yellow" walking along the track with a counter in each hand. He records the number of tracks going north and those going south. At the end of the day he subtracts count from the north and thus establishes the actual number of deer going north. The "track" is just that. A trip three feet wide along the road which is smoothed out as each count is made by a Jeep which follows the counter and drags a spring tooth harrow and a tire behind. This leaves an unmarked trail and as the average walking step of an adult deer is 18 inches and the trotting average only 23 inches the service feels that they get most of the deer crossing on count. Few deer run across the road as there is no reason for them to be in a hurry right there and at that time. Half this strip is counted every other day.

The counters also figure that their total is on the conservative side because of such things as stretches of hard or rocky terrain, snow, and patches in large bunches single-file which make tracks impossible to count, live-stock blotting out tracks, deer crossing on snow strips which melt before they are counted and incidental travel by vehicles over the road.

It is, however, felt a fairly accurate manner in which to count the herd and is probably the only place in the country where such a count is feasible because of the peculiar terrain and migratory habits of the herd.

Anyway, whether you believe in the count or not, there has to be a starting point and this is usually it. Back in 1947 the adjusted total of deer in the interstate herd was put at 12,856. Today the figure stands somewhere over the 17,000 mark before this year's count. The winter kill was apparently light although further investigation may turn up other facts. Back in the winter of 1951-52 the deer died off by the thousands despite the efforts of sportsmen and others who fed them sufficiently to carry them through the winter.

On last Sunday's trip, limited somewhat in scope because of soft ground which prohibited driving in many areas, we found only two winter killed fawns, both of which had apparently died of natural causes. A check of bone marrow showed them to be in not-too-good shape. One weighed in at 49 pounds, the other 24. There were no horns spotted for sure in any of the numerous bands we saw. The bucks having already gotten rid of them.

(We also spent quite a lot of time digging the trucks out of one mud hole after another.)

Why the emphasis placed on this herd? Well, it's a long story. Too long to go into here. We'll try and fill it out another time. But basically it hinges on several points. For one thing there has to be an equitable use-ratio on the range worked out that will permit of both recreational and livestock use. The stockmen have that side of it and naturally the deer herd cannot be allowed exclusive use of the range. Nor can we overgraze any area to such a point that it is unfit for either deer or livestock. Then there's the question of overstocking of deer on a range which leads to heavy die-offs due to starvation. Deer are funny animals and there are portions of the winter range which they will not use. No one knows why. There are other portions of this range that while they have adequate feed are asked off by heavy snows that force the herds to seek the lower, more open areas.

Then there is a question, hot in California today, as to the hunter outlook and the taking of antlers (does) deer. Ideal total for this herd has been estimated at 12,000. What to do with the remaining 5,000 if they must be harvested? Shoot does? They tried that last year and got little but a storm of protest. Just as we have run into here in Oregon on the same thing. And yet despite the cries of "slaughter" the hunter success ratio in California, with the highest numbers of hunters of any of the Western states, was only 16 percent, lowest of the 48. Highest hunter success ratio is in Nevada with a staggering 71 percent. In that state in 1953 latest figures I have on hand 33,852 hunters took a total of 24,000 deer.

out of a herd estimated to contain 90,000 deer. That is killing off 27 percent of the herd. In California for the same year 77,938 hunters took to the woods with trusty rifle in hand and killed a total of 60,798 deer which was six percent of the herd (state total) of 1,100,000 deer. Those are the kind of figures that bring about howls from the sportsmen as well as the professional conservationists. In short, the deer are on the increase but the range isn't and so something has got to be done about it.

So that's why there is so much interest in this particular herd. It's an ideal study specimen and may offer a solution for the whole area. As I said earlier, it's a big question and one that we'll get into further at some future date. In the meantime I suggest that if you are a nature lover and like the outdoors you take a drive down toward Alton and see for your self. You can't conditions are the same as they were a week ago. See plenty of deer right from the highway. Start looking for them in the area around Timber Mountain, Perez, Dry Lake and in through there. And keep off the side roads. It's hell to have to dig a car out of the mud.

Also, make it a point to drop in at Jimmy Hamilton's Timber Mountain Inn. He's got a mounted head of a Timber Mountain doe-buck down there that is, I swear, the only one of its kind anywhere.

Charlie Henderson

By DEB ADDISON

C. A. Henderson, our county agricultural agent for the past 33 years, annually compiles data on farm production and farm product sales for the Basin. His service club, Rotary, annually calls on him each spring for a "State of the Basin" report. Following is an in-one-ear-and-out-the-type writer report of Charlie's talk to Rotary last week on 1955 agricultural production and income.

We always have been able to grow a lot per acre here (Henderson talking) but 1955 was one of the poorest we've ever had. The season was against us. The weather curtailed production; there was a national condition of surplus so the price was down; production costs continued to increase. The combination was deadly to the farmer.

I was just thinking about the Rev. T. R. Malthus. He was a political economist who lived from 1768 to 1834. His theory, the Malthusian theory, was that the population would increase faster than its ability to produce food for itself and that poverty is inevitable. That certainly has not proved out in the United States although it may be true in some Iron Curtain countries.

Behind the Iron Curtain it takes 50 percent of the population to feed the people. In the United States it takes only 12 percent of the population to feed the country — and create a surplus. As one of the Russian farm visitors remarked last summer, what they need is not self-propelled motive power, they need self-propelled people.

It makes me wonder how much truth there can be to the state-mens put out by some people that the Soviets are superseding us as the leaders of this day's civilization — when it takes half the people to feed the rest.

The big question on today's U.S. agriculture is that of surpluses. Surpluses come from artificial stimulation of agricultural production.

At the time of World War I we needed more food. We plowed up the Great Plains to grow wheat and wound up with the Dust Bowl. Soil conservation practices have helped correct this but we still have a dust bowl problem.

The McNary-Haugen bill was written for the purpose of creating a food surplus, a reserve against contingencies. Calvin Coolidge vetoed it but that wasn't the end.

The next move was for the "ever normal granary." Next was the matter of farm support as an incentive to produce more. This brought the extra production needed for World War II and WW II merely postponed the building up of surplus surpluses that we have today.

The 90 percent of parity support of the six basic crops — corn, wheat, cotton, tobacco, peanuts, and rice — was continued after the wartime need had passed, and that resulted in the present surpluses.

Everyone has been affected by the 90 percent of parity support program.

Farmers raising the six basic crops under this program vote themselves to keep the 90 percent support. (And this seems a sort of one-way, one-sided "Russian election" to me.) They take acreage out of production on these six crops and it comes back on the rest of the farmers, which are 75 percent of the total because these diverted acres go into production of other crops such as barley and potatoes.

In the meantime they keep their best acres for continued "basic crop" production (it's our human nature to do so) and they pour on the fertilizer and raise just as much or more than ever.

In the meantime other crops, such as barley and potatoes, are in surplus and the prices go down. In 1951 total farm income was \$13,100 million; by 1955 it had dropped to \$10,600 million.

Uncle Sam (you taxpayers) has invested \$8,500 million in surplus crops. There is another two billion out in crop loans now, so Uncle

soon will have an investment in surpluses of over 10 billion dollars.

(More of Henderson's report will be continued tomorrow.)

Bond Issue

By MAX WAUCHOPE

The Klamath Falls city administration's approval of an \$800,000 sewerage system improvement bond issue to be placed on the May 15 primary election ballot marks the first bond issue of this size that the city's voters have been asked to vote on for many years.

During the 1920s several general obligation and Bancroft type bond issues were approved to build sewer lines and improve the city's street system.

The 1920s will be remembered as a time of extensive growth and prosperity for Klamath Falls and the entire nation. With the pressing need for funds to supply the various services that a municipality must furnish its citizens, Klamath Falls was soundly heavily during those formative years.

By January 1933 the city owed approximately \$518,000 general obligation bonds and \$1,479,000 in Bancroft bonds. These were both net figures after deduction of the then current sinking funds.

These bonds were issued when the property valuation of the city was rising. However, by the early 1930s the business depression of those years caused the real property valuation of the city to drop considerably. This bonded indebtedness of about two million dollars represented 31.06 per cent of the assessed valuation of the city in 1933.

Following an intense political campaign in the fall of 1932 Willis E. Mahoney was elected mayor of Klamath Falls by a write-in vote. He defeated Fred Cofer by the narrow margin of six votes. After considerable legal action Mahoney took office although he hadn't lived in Klamath Falls for what was then the required legal length of time before filing for public office.

A short while after assuming office on January 1, 1933 Mayor Mahoney appointed a Bond Commission of several prominent Klamath Falls businessmen. This commission devoted many years to the big job of paying off the big bonded indebtedness of the city without repudiating any of the bonds, as some municipalities were forced to do during those years.

The Klamath County Court, the city administration during those years cooperated in the exchange of property in the city which had been foreclosed for failure to pay taxes and other reasons. The sale of these lots and revenue from regular taxes was used to pay off the bonds. The last of the bonds were paid off several years after World War II.

As of January 31, 1936 Klamath Falls had approximately \$142,000 outstanding in bonded indebtedness. This represented the balance due on the \$130,000 municipal swimming pool bond issue voted in 1932 and some current Bancroft street improvement bonds.

A comparison of the bonded indebtedness of Oregon cities may be seen in the biennial report of the state treasurer, last published in 1954 for the 1952-54 period. At that time Klamath Falls' net debt was listed as \$152,433.62 or 1.13 per cent of the city's assessed valuation of \$14,338,791.07.

The municipality of Medford owed \$3,810,016, or 19.38 per cent of its assessed valuation. Ashland had \$383,732.63 in outstanding bonds for 7.83 per cent of its assessed valuation. Grants Pass owed \$955,852 or 11.69 per cent of its assessed worth and Roseburg was bonded for \$524,828 or 4.81 per cent of its valuation.

These figures will be changed somewhat since that time due to annexations which broaden the tax base making the percentage owed in relation to assessed valuation different and the passage of new bond issues and payments on the old issues. However, the figures show the relatively sound status of the finances of Klamath Falls in relation to other Southern Oregon cities, tax experts have pointed out.

Mohawk Trail

By KEN McLEOD

The other day Dr. F. D. Wilders, the resident physician of the Klamath Agency left with us an interesting little book the title of which is — "A Children's Coloring Book of the Mohawk Trail." By Laura Lee Leonard (The Pond-Ekberg Co., Springfield Mass.) This book contains 16 pictures in outline for children to color and at the same time a page of descriptive text that tells the history of each picture.

The first picture shows a map of the region with the Mohawk Trail shown stretching westward from Greenfield, Mass., to the Connecticut River to Williamstown, close to the tri-state junction of Vermont, Massachusetts and New York. The next page shows two children looking at the Old Indian House, Deerfield, then we come to the Indians making maple syrup which is followed by a picture of a New England church. We next come to a picture of the forest fire lookout tower, on Mt. Massachusett at Shelburne.

This tower is interesting, apparently of stone construction, and resembles greatly a lighthouse upon the coast. One is impressed with the fact that here in New England, forestry is a solid, permanent institution.

We are next introduced to the Bridge of Flowers at Shelburne Falls. This bridge of five concrete arches once carried a trolley car track across the Deerfield River. The old abandoned bridge has been turned into a walkway with

flower beds on each side making an attractive asset to the community which boasts "in all the world there is no bridge exactly like this one."

We continue westward along the Mohawk Trail and come to the "Massacre at Claremont" a very bloodthirsty picture of the Mohawks killing a child and the settlers. Another famous house follows, "The Mary Lyon House." Mary Lyon founded the Mount Holyoke College for girls. In the next picture we go "Skiing" and then follows a picture of the granite tower that graces the summit of Mount Greylock, the highest mountain in Massachusetts — nearly 4,000 feet high!

In all the book we do not get away from the Indian theme very often and in the next illustration we come to the maker of Indian War Bonnets and the child learns of Jim Perkins who makes Indian regalia though he is not an Indian. Next attraction becomes the famous Hopkinton, the entrance to which is illustrated. The famous iron ship of Civil War Days appears in the next illustration and comes into the story because the iron from which the ship was built came from the foot of Mount Greylock. The next illustration shows the "Haystack Monument" which commemorates a meeting in a field by a haystack of five young students at Williams College. We learn that out of this meeting a movement was started that created the American Foreign Missions.

Next we see an illustration of Fort Massachusetts (1745) and learn of the battles fought there. The cover illustration of the book shows the children raising the flag at Catamount Schoolhouse (1812).

This type of book for children is one that could be done for many other communities it holds a lot of appeal and carries a wealth of historical data. The cover illustration of the book shows the children raising the flag at Catamount Schoolhouse (1812). This type of book for children is one that could be done for many other communities it holds a lot of appeal and carries a wealth of historical data. The cover illustration of the book shows the children raising the flag at Catamount Schoolhouse (1812).

Highlights

By FRANK CORMIER

WASHINGTON (AP) — The racial integration issue kicked up a flurry of impassioned oratory in Congress this week and played a part in prolonging Senate consideration of election year farm legislation.

Senate action on the session's major farm bill was interrupted repeatedly for debate on a "manifesto" from some Southern lawmakers who attacked the Supreme Court's school desegregation order. Final voting on the farm bill was put off to next week.

INTEGRATION—Nineteen senators and 82 House members from 11 Southern states initiated the integration debate by submitting a signed pledge to do everything legally possible to reverse the Supreme Court's decree.

The manifesto, attacking the of judicial power, brought an immediate reaction from Northern members in both houses.

Sen. McNamara (D-Mich.) said the document "will forever be a dark page in American history." And Sen. Clifford P. Case (R-N.J.) said it can only "inflame a situation already difficult."

The viewpoint of the manifesto's signers was strongly stated by Sen. Thurmond (D-SC). "We are free morally and legally to oppose the decision," he said. "We must fight it to the end." To do otherwise, he asserted, would be "submission to cowardice."

FARM—The Senate acted on dozens of proposed farm bill amendments during the week and recessed with dozens more hanging fire.

Administration forces were dealt a couple of setbacks, in contrast to last week's important vote reaffirming flexible price supports for most basic crops. The first jolt came on a 54-39 vote to permit higher price proper starting next year on wheat used in this country for human food. The second was a 48-44 decision to use the higher of two formulas in calculating support prices.

Another amendment, approved 78-11 would limit to \$100,000 the amount of price support loans any one farm operator could receive in a year.

TAXES—Legislation to forestall an automatic April 1 cut in corporation income and excise tax rates was approved by the House 366-4. Though the Senate still has to act, there's no doubt it will vote to postpone the cuts for another year and thus save the government from a three-billion-dollar revenue loss.

LORRY—Chairman McEllan (D-Ark.) outlined for colleagues the intention of a special Senate committee that will look into lobbying and campaign spending. Its main aim, he said, will be to develop background information for needed legislation.

The committee will seek "to expose any specific corruption," he said, but will try to steer clear of "rumors, innuendoes and unsubstantiated accusations."

They'll Do It Every Time

THE TREMBLECHINS HAVE JUST ABOUT GIVEN UP ON LITTLE JOONIE'S EVER GETTING BY IN ARITHMETIC



By Jimmy Hatlo

BUT, OH, BOY! IS SHE A LIGHTNING CALCULATOR WHEN SHE WANTS TO BE LIKE IN THE STORE TODAY, FRINSTANCE



Pupils Prepare For Contest

WEED — Contestants from all Siskiyou County schools are expected here Monday for the county finals of the annual Sacramento Bee spelling contest. The finalist will enter further competition at Sacramento.

Cecelia Pastega, eighth grader and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Pastega, was Weed winner with Sharron Pillion, seventh grader, as Weed alternate.

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On The Record

KLAMATH FALLS BIRTHS

STROMBERG—Born to Mr. and Mrs. George Stromberg, March 14, a boy weighing 7 lbs. 14 oz. at the Klamath Valley Hospital.
FRIESEN — Born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Friesen, March 15, a boy weighing 7 lbs. 7 1/2 oz. at the Klamath Valley Hospital.
LONG—Born to Mr. and Mrs. Phil Long, March 15, a boy weighing 7 lbs. 10 1/2 oz. at the Klamath Valley Hospital.
WILKERSON—Born to Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Wilkerson, March 15, a boy weighing 7 lbs. 9 1/2 oz. at the Klamath Valley Hospital.

KLAMATH COUNTY SUITS

Richard D. Cottrell vs Juanita Cottrell, divorce granted.
Maxwell and Goddard vs. Alice L. Gardner vs. Aubrey L. Gardner, divorce granted. Attorney for plaintiff, Edwin W. Driscoll.
Oswald Graves vs. Odell Graves, suit for divorce. Attorney for plaintiff, Don E. Day.
Runie L. Day vs. Horace G. Day, suit for divorce. Attorneys for plaintiff, Maxwell and Goddard.
Gertrude H. Boyd vs. Harold H. Boyd, suit for divorce. Attorney for plaintiff, J. C. O'Neill.

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