

The Herald and News

FRANK JENKINS
Editor
BILL JENKINS
Managing Editor
FLOYD WYNNE
City Editor
MAURICE MILLER
Circulation Mgr.
Ph. TU 4-4732

Entered as second class matter at the post office at Klamath Falls, Ore., on August 20, 1906, under act of Congress, March 3, 1879.

SERVICES:

ASSOCIATED PRESS UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL
AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS
Serving Southern Oregon And Northern California

Subscription Rates

CARRIER	MAIL
1 MONTH — \$1.50	1 MONTH — \$1.50
6 MONTHS — \$9.00	6 MONTHS — \$8.50
1 YEAR — \$18.00	1 YEAR — \$15.00

Sanctuary

By BILL JENKINS

Rabbits are apparently causing a minor sort of ruction over in Merrie Olde England.

British hunters and farmers are on the warpath because they claim the rabbits spot them with a gun and head at high speed for the nearest US Air Force base where hunting is prohibited.

Here the rabbits apparently sit down just across the line and thumb their noses at the red-faced pursuers.

The English are insisting that this isn't right and that the US isn't doing right by the code of sportsmanship and all the rest.

The farmers are upset because the rabbits sally forth from their US-maintained Kings-X and raid the fields roundabout.

I fail to see what the British are so upset about.

Shucks, over in this country it is even worse.

Just ask any farmer.

Geese have lots of refugees, for instance, and yet raid the fields.

And, oddly enough, the refugees aren't any particular sanctuary because the migratory bird laws make it illegal to shoot one of 'em down during certain periods of the year anyway.

And, shucks, if it wasn't for the reserves over here it would be about a million other things. We have Army and Navy reserves all over the place, too, where hunting is banned except for officer personnel usually. In addition we have huge industrial sites, forest laboratories, private clubs and just plain posted land.

What are the British complaining about? They don't know how good they have it.

I can report first-hand, and have the head cold to prove it, that the ducks and geese are still in this country. Lots of 'em. Every once in a while you get a shot at one within range, too.

This has been an amazing season with poor shooting at the start and real good weather at the end.

The last couple of weeks have provided some of the best shooting in years for those willing to go out and get it.

There is always a lot of crying amongst the sportsmen, but don't let the wish-lads and the bad weather fainthearts talk you out of the idea that there aren't any birds.

There was shooting for them as were willing to buck the wet and wind for it. Was while the season was open, anyway.

Speaking of sports, the Russian River Steelhead derby is still open, clear until the end of February.

There is the annual Winter Olympic Snow Ball at Hotel El Dorado in Sacramento on January 16, if you like that kind of sport.

The Bay Meadows horse race season is on.

There will be a folk dancing festival in San Jose on January 18, if you go in for athletics.

And the Sports and Hobby Show will be held with great layouts of displays January 30 and February first in Santa Barbara.

Orson Stearns

Editor's Note: This is a continuation of the Orson Stearns story.

By FLOYD WYNNE

They selected some state lands on the west side of the Klamath River about seven miles west of where Klamath Falls now stands. The two formed a partnership which was maintained for several years. They built a single cabin and laid out the foundation for homes.

Not having much money, they were forced to work out a part of each year. Stearns turned to carpentering work. He came by quite a bit of it naturally since his father, David Stearns, had also been a carpenter by trade.

Stearns helped construct a number of buildings in the area, working on some cabins that were being built in the vicinity of George Nurse's store, a place that was to become Linkville, and later Klamath Falls.

The year 1867 began with only one settler, Wendolen Nus, in the area which later became Klamath County, and ended with a town with something less than a dozen people and a few scattered settlers living in the Klamath country, aside from the soldiers at Fort Klamath.

O. T. Brown and his wife located on Spencer Creek; Arthur Langell settled upon the Hot Springs property, east of Klamath Falls; Dennis Crawley was located on the west side of the Klamath River near Stearns' place. C. C. Bailey settled on a place known as Humming Bird Spring, and A. J. Burnette took up residence on the east side of the lower end

of Upper Klamath Lake. William Hicks was employed by Langell on his property.

So as 1867 died away, the settlement of Klamath country had gotten a good start.

In the following years, Stearns turned his fields into grain as well as cattle. Four places in the area were growing grain successfully. Besides his ranch, and that of John H. Miller which was close to his, Stearns saw grain being raised at the Reames and Martin place near Linkville, and the A. J. Burnette place on the eastern shore of the lake.

Grain sold readily at three, four and five cents a pound. Local residents didn't cherish the thought of hauling grain over the tortuous road to the Rogue River Valley.

Stockmen were reaping excellent profits from fat herds of cattle and horses. However, a lot of the revenue from stock was spent in the Rogue River Valley for flour, vegetables, fruit and other necessities of life.

It became such a common sight to see a settler on his road over the Cascades to get supplies that a local expression came into being. The remark could be heard: "There goes another sage-brusher down to Egypt after corn."

Meantime, life took another big step for Orson Stearns on May 17, 1873, when he married Margaret J. Riggs in Sacramento.

To them were born three children, Leslie Orrin, Blanche Alice and Eva May.

His wife, Margaret, died on the 22nd anniversary of their marriage on May 17, 1895.

He then married a second cousin of William Tecumseh Sherman, Luella M. Sherman on January 10, 1897, and had one son, E. Orson Everett Stearns.

In the process of the years, the Stearns place, known as Spring Meadows Ranch, was the center for many of the area's gatherings.

The first Mrs. Stearns was a practical nurse and took care of the sick, tended the birth of new babies, cared for her house and family. She also kept a place where travelers over emigrant roads could get meals and lodging.

Stearns was busy making his mark on the community also. Besides being a pioneer in the area, he also pioneered the agricultural field, held office as justice of the peace, was elected a state representative on the Republican ticket in 1880 for Lake County, fought for the homesteaders' rights against the land grabbers, and was president of the Klamath County Historical Society.

He moved into Klamath Falls in 1909, later retired and moved to Ashland where he closed his long illustrious career on July 29, 1925 at the age of 83.

Charge It

By FLORENCE JENKINS

A million members of Diners' Club, Inc., by March 31 of this year is the expectation of Jules T. Asch, vice president of that mushrooming organization. Membership on the same date last year stood at 580,000 persons.

Total revenues for the fiscal year ending on March 31 are expected to be about \$12 million, an increase over the previous year of more than \$4½ million.

Here is pretty concrete evidence of the national tendency to live on a credit rather than cash basis.

About a third of the revenue received by Diners' Club comes from annual charges for membership cards and the other two-thirds from commissions charged service outlets for business done on the cards. The commissions

range between seven and 10 per cent.

Membership in Diners' Club is increasing at the rate of 25,000 a month, up from 18,000 a month a year earlier, according to the spokesman for the company. The company now offers service at some 23,000 outlets, up from 17,000 a year ago.

Diners' Club is planning to offer credit service along some new lines this year, including Broadway theaters. Currently, the credit cards may be used at some 500 retail stores across the nation in addition to an imposing list of restaurants, hotels and motels.

The company's expenses include a reserve for bad debts, but losses are expected to run no higher this year than previously and the \$51,211 set aside for that purpose last year was more than adequate.

It would figure just over four per cent loss at that rate, which is just about the same loss as estimated by some of the petroleum companies using credit cards on a national basis. The percentage compares unfavorably with local retail figures, however, which are estimated from a high of one and one-half per cent down to one-half of one per cent.

Diners' Club stock is listed on the American Stock Exchange and there are about 1,154,000 shares outstanding. The company does not pay a cash dividend and the vice president said that, other than the possibility of a stock dividend, the company has no plans to issue any of its 732,882 shares of authorized but unissued stock.

American Express Company entered the credit card business last October and reports indicate that its new side line is really booming.

Taxes

By TOM STIMMEL

A booklet in circulation about town these days contains some completely shocking statements, right on the cover. The booklet is "Your 1958 Income Tax Form For Oregon" and some of the statements are these:

Oregon's provisional government levied the first property taxes on the American Pacific Coast.

Oregon first taxed insurance companies in 1874; corporations in 1904.

Oregon was the first state in the union to think of a gasoline tax.

Oregon was the first state in the union to dream up a compulsory payroll withholding tax.

Oregon's income tax was thrown out in 1923, but came charging back in 1929.

It is astonishing enough that these shameful facts should be forced deliberately on people who don't like taxes and couldn't care less who invented them. But it is utterly revolting that they should be presented as they are: concocted, brazen boasts.

The State Tax Commission, in effect, sticks its thumbs in its belt, thumps its greedy paunch, and brags, "Aren't I smart? Look what I did!"

It's like some giant ogre boasting that he eats children.

In case you haven't seen what the tax commission has done, flip the enchanting cover of that Pandora's pamphlet and look inside. You'll see that the tax commission has a whip in its back pocket.

That whip is what I'm mad about.

I'm a new arrival to Oregon. Now I learn that because I lived here only part of last year, not all of it, my taxes are higher, not lower. Because the State Tax Commission cheats part-year residents of full exemption, and denies use of the optional tax table, my state tax is half again as high as it should be.

The state already has paid it self more of my salary than I

think it's worth, but it wants more.

And it'll get it.

My dilemma need bother nobody but me and any unfortunate tax collector who wanders within shouting range. But the problem has churned up some thoughts I believe are important.

Oregon wants new citizens, or claims it does. We're after them right here, right now. Why should we let the State Tax Commission penalize them for moving here?

Once new residents arrive, and recover from that first deceitful blow, they face the prospect of adding to the charms of the highest state income tax rate in the country. New Governor Hatfield introduced himself to his constituents Monday with a Sly hint about higher taxes on lower incomes.

"Every income earner owes a least a small fraction for the services he receives from his government" is the way the governor put it.

There are a few of us who believe that bumbling, bullheaded governments—state and federal—should quit trying to accommodate us with so many "services." We'd rather get some of our money back and do a few things for ourselves.

However that might be, it does seem unnecessary that the State Tax Commission brags so about its avaricious state of mind. Is it essential for the commission to claim that all by itself—from Salem or Champoeg or wherever it happened to be—it created horrible tax monsters that crept clear across America?

It seems in poor taste indeed that this hideous hardened cover girl for "Your 1958 Income Tax Form For Oregon" should nestle beside a plug for Centennial visitors.

In effect, the State Tax Commission is saying to next summer's visitors: "Come. Enjoy Yourself. Spend Your Money Here. But if you know what's good for you, you'll go back home."

Head Work

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP)—Ever yearn for the glamorous life of an actress?

Well, take it from Barbara Bel Geddes, who has made a success on stage, screen and television, there is more hard work than glamor in a theatrical career.

"When I first started," she recalled, "I thought it would be all fun — like appearing in a high school play. I didn't realize the discipline involved."

"You have to treat yourself like an athlete. You're always in training. You have to save yourself for those hours on the stage or before the cameras, when you'll need every bit of energy you possess."

Barbara is the daughter of the noted designer, Norman Bel Geddes.

Although Barbara enjoys Hollywood, she feels a Broadway star has one big advantage over a movie star.

"A stage star, unlike a film star, has privacy after she finishes her day's work. People don't bother her."

"I like that. After a show, I like to go home and live my own life. I like to put on a comfortable pair of shoes and breathe."

"The theater is in the theater. You don't have to take it home with you."

Barbara, who is hazel-eyed and flaxen-haired, likes to dress casually in a skirt and close fitting blouse, open at the collar. She usually wears neither lipstick nor rouge.

"When I'm in a play," she explained, "I get sick of looking in the mirror as I put on makeup."

She is fond of outdoor sports, and looks like the outdoor type.

One of the worst problems of the acting profession, Barbara said, is the endless waiting.

"You can't just sit down and do a job by yourself as a painter does," she continued. "You have to wait for so many people. You have to wait for the playwright, the producer, the director, and the public."

"But there is one wonderful thing about acting. It never really bores you."

Barbara is a woman who isn't sure just where she lives. She and her husband, Windsor Lewis, the stage director, have a 60-acre farm in Putnam County, New York; a 100-acre farm in County Galway, Ireland; and right now they are dwelling in a small house on the East Side in Manhattan.

In this menage they have two daughters, three turtles, two hamsters, a miniature marmoset monkey, two golden retrievers, a Maltese dog, two cats and 29 fish.

"By the time I get them all fed in the morning," said Barbara, "it's time to start preparing them lunch."

They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo

LITTLE ITCHY ACTED AS IF THE MAIL-ORDER TOY HE WAS EXPECTING WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN THE WORLD...



THEN IT FINALLY ARRIVED... TWO MINUTES LATER HE'S OUT TRYING TO SWAP WITH A PAL FOR SOMETHING ELSE...



Mayors, RR Chiefs Meet; Try To End Travel Woes

CHICAGO (AP)—Here's a hopeful piece of news for you, Mr. Commuter.

Many people in high places are thinking of ways to help you. Their main concern is to keep on moving you from your home station to the big city and back again.

It's a bad situation and the prospect is even worse. Motor vehicle traffic is approaching the saturation point in the scores of cities. And the main trend in the nation's growing population is toward the huge urban centers.

So 29 men—16 railroad presidents and 13 mayors and other city officials—got together Tuesday to exchange ideas on how to solve the commuter problem. Most of the railroads contend they make no profit in operating the commuter lines.

Here are some of the suggestions:

Government subsidies.

New equipment to lure motorists back to the rails.

A federal agency to buy equipment and lease it to the rail lines or to lend them money to buy modern rolling stock.

Elimination of the federal tax on commutation tickets.

Provision for deducting commutation fares from federal income taxes.

Giving the railroads a better break on their taxes, allowing them more freedom in setting fares, adding or removing trains and closing unprofitable stations.

A new U. S. transportation policy that would encourage the growth of railroads.

Mayor Robert F. Wagner of New York, one of the conferees, said the problem is regional and should be handled on a regional basis. He proposed the creation of a tri-state—New York, New Jersey, Connecticut—transportation agency.

One of the basic points in his plan is this:

"A sharing of mass transit deficits, where they occur, among all the jurisdictions of government that have a stake."

That means local, state and federal governments.

Some Eastern interests advocated federal subsidies at the one-day meeting. Midwesterners generally opposed them.

A committee of 12 was appointed to meet within the next 30 days to start work on a program.

John B. Hynes of Boston, Richard J. Daley of Chicago, Anthony J. Celebrezze of Cleveland, Frank P. Zeidler of Milwaukee, Frank J. Murphy of New York City, Richardson Dilworth of Philadelphia and Raymond R. Tucker of St. Louis.

TELEVISION

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More Testing Set For Billy

ROCHESTER, Minn. (AP)—Evangelist Billy Graham was undergoing further tests today as Mayo Clinic specialists studied the serious eye ailment that brought an abrupt halt to the churchman's Southern tour.

The survey included a general physical examination to determine possible cause of a ruptured blood vessel behind the retina, which has cut Graham's vision 50 per cent in the left eye. He said it causes no pain.

An early diagnosis by the evangelist's doctor father-in-law, Dr. Nelson Bell, Montreat, N. C., called the malady both rare and serious. Dr. Bell said the condition had arisen from excessive work.

Grady Wilson, Graham associate who accompanied him here, said no report was expected before Friday.

DIVORCE GRANTED

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP)—Fashion model Toni Mayer won a divorce Tuesday from her husband, Gerald, on grounds of "a difference of temperaments."

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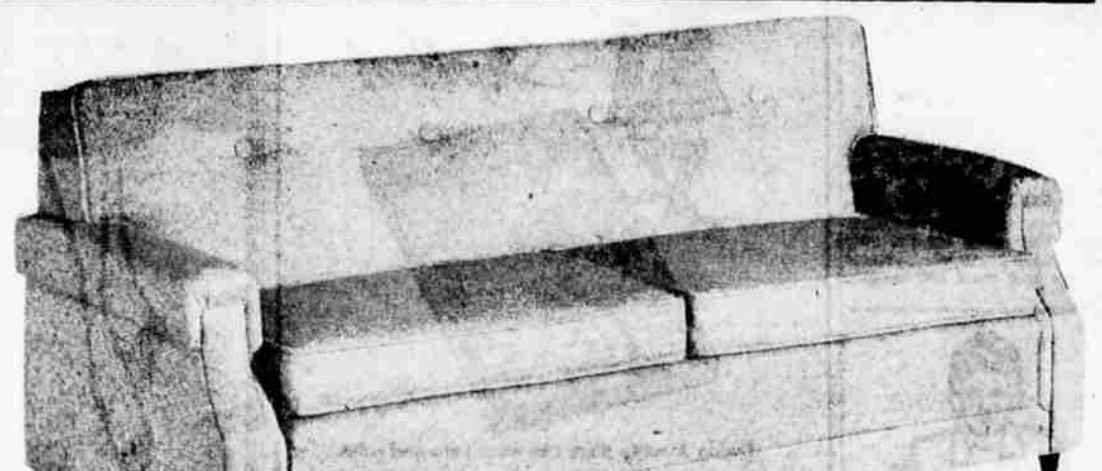
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