

The Herald and News

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Bristle Pig

By BILL JENKINS
A subject of burning interest to any timber region got a thorough discussion the other night down at Tulelake when the Modoc Council of Natural Resources wound up its annual meeting schedule.

The common porcupine was the subject. It was ably handled by a couple of fellows who have had their go-rounds with the spiny little fellow, too. Don Hummel of WTC, sponsors of the meeting, and Ken Smith from the Modoc Forest.

Porcupines have been classified by many as the second greatest forest menace today, following on the heels of the forest fire problem. During its lifetime one porcupine can do thousands of dollars of damage to the tree crops of a region.

Not all this damage is in the killing of a tree as many believe. The porky in some instances has an insatiable appetite for cambium, the inner bark of young pine trees. If such a tree is girdled by the porky then it dies. But in many cases the damage is apparent only in the ruining of otherwise good trees by crown damage and other deformation.

Porokies are not popular with stockmen, either, because of their habit of feeding in the same meadows with cattle and the resultant loss of livestock. A cow that sticks her nose in the way of a porky is likely to end up with a dose of quills that will prevent her feeding and thus lead to starvation.

What is being done about the porky? Well, a good deal at the moment, although we still have the beast with us. Seems like no matter how many of them you kill off there are always more next year. But the biggest weapon today is research. Foresters and game management people are cooperating with private industry in a study of the habits of the beast in order to find some way of holding down the damage. No one wants to exterminate the porky. We just want to find a reasonable control measure.

Each year thousands of porokies are shot in the area around these parts. Klamath County has put up a bounty for two years and the funds have been promptly exhausted at the rate of four bits a nose. Several large firms as well as many private individuals are poisoning. If you are out in the woods and come across a little, solidly anchored structure that looks like a miniature house chances are it will prove to be a poison shelter. The poison, contained in wood blocks, is nailed or otherwise secured to the roof. It is anchored to keep stock from uprooting it and getting to the poison. Down in California, on the Modoc at least, the shelters are made of two inch planks in the form of a rectangular box, the poison secured inside. Don't disturb such boxes. They are there for a purpose.

Trapping is carried on to some extent. So is fencing. Controlled burns will get rid of a lot of porokies—and a lot of timber. But every individual that takes to the woods, can help. If you come across a porky when you are hunting or fishing or out plinking with the family, be sure and kill it. The old belief that the porky is protected is so much hogwash. They are not protected, but rather are classed as a forest menace. They do not provide food for starving hunters, either. (With as many roads as we have in the country today it is pretty ridiculous to think of anyone being lost long enough to starve, anyway).

Whatever the answer is we have a problem on our hands. And until study pays off, until we learn enough about habitat modification and other far-reaching control measures to do some good, we are going to have that problem. And if you think we already know a lot about porokies then get two experts together and compare notes. The porky is predictable only in that he will surely prove unpredictable.

Traffic Toll
By FLORENCE JENKINS
Insurance companies are predicting that approximately 25,000 persons will be either killed or injured in automobile accidents over the Fourth of July weekend.

Fourth will come as the result of a speeding automobile crashing into the rear of another.

"Our studies have shown us that the average accident this weekend will not be a spectacular crash on a super-highway," a spokesman said. "On the contrary, our figures show that more than 80 per cent of the crashes will occur on good, clear, straight roads—and surprisingly enough, not far from the victims' homes."

Last July Fourth, in only three out of 100 cases were any mechanical defects reported in automobiles involved in accidents.

During 1958, youthful drivers under 25 years of age, although comprising less than 14 per cent of our total driving population, were involved in more than 27 per cent of the accidents.

Forms of human failure of the man behind the wheel include inattention, recklessness, excessive speed, aggressive driving and fatigue.

The driver is the one who must realize that he holds the lives of many in his hands every time he gets behind the wheel.

We're having a rodeo, a parade and city-provided fireworks right here in Klamath Falls over the coming weekend.

In between times, it looks as if it would be good gardening weather. The highways and byways will have to do without us this weekend.

Louisiana Longs
Klamath Falls (To the Editor)—In Chapter Nine of the Gospel of John, we read the story of the healing of a blind man by Jesus. The Pharisees tried to deny that he was healed. The man said, "One thing I know, whereas I was blind, now I see." (John 9:25)

In the June 22 Herald and News we have a writeup about Louisiana, her politics and the Long family. I am taking the privilege to answer this article, because I believe the people should have the truth, whether we like it or not. I suppose this is one reason that I love the Baptist Church of which I am a preacher.

I lived in Louisiana before Huey Long became governor and after he was in control, and at the time of his murder in the capitol building at Baton Rouge. I lived there during the time that Earl was serving as governor.

You stated in so many words that they were bad for any people, and that we certainly do not need their kind of reform here in the State of Jefferson. I want to tell you something about the condition of the state of Louisiana before Huey's time and its condition now.

When Huey Long was elected governor of the state, about 75 per cent of the farms were up for sale for taxes. The charity hospitals in New Orleans and Shreveport had about as low reputation as possible. Most of the rivers had little manpower ferry boats that charged a fee.

There was little if any form of welfare. Industry did not seek to enter the state. The highways were poor. The teachers in the school systems were in the lowest paid bracket.

The average citizen of the state did not know who our U.S. senators and representatives were. They never heard of the governor any time other than that of election. Not too many were interested enough to vote. In fact, the state was just about unknown.

Some of the results of Huey's leadership, which Earl continued to carry out, included homestead exemption. This means that you pay no state property tax on your property if you live on it. This means in the city as well as outside the city. To pay any tax you would have to own property worth well over what the average man owns. The city tax on a

home in the \$10,000 - \$15,000 bracket would be from \$50-\$60 in most of the cities.

The state operates charity hospitals at New Orleans, Shreveport and Alexandria, with leased facilities in many private hospitals. This does not include the mental and other special institutions. The hospital in New Orleans is one of the largest in the world, containing 19 buildings and some 4,000 beds. The hospitals at Shreveport and Alexandria both are listed with the best in the nation. If you need hospital care, and don't have the money, your doctor can write you an order and you will be admitted and treated. If you are not able to travel, an ambulance, as fine as you will find anywhere in America, will come to your home and take you to the hospital.

I do not know of a toll ferry in the state. There are very few ferries. The rivers have been bridged. Even at New Orleans, where engineers said for years that the river could not be bridged, Huey had one constructed anyway. The roads are far from what they ought to be now, but so much better than the day Huey was elected. The school teachers draw the top salaries in America. In fact, I think that only California pays more.

From the day Huey was elected, people knew who he was and where he was. When he went to Washington, we knew we had representation there. I think, perhaps the per capita voting in Louisiana is as high as that of any other state. I never knew of the Long family trying to keep anyone from voting, but I know they did all they could to get every voter to go to the polls and vote. Today the state of Louisiana is one of the best known in the nation, and is well off financially.

I think there are some questions that I feel you should take time to answer. If the late Huey Long was such a rabble raiser and demagogue, how did this all take place? If he could give free tax exemption, better hospitals, schools, teachers pay, bridges, roads, free school books, higher old age benefits, and all the other benefits and be such a rascal and demagogue and thief, then what is wrong here in the State of Jefferson?

I have on my desk the picture of a one bedroom frame house that is valued by the tax assessor at \$5,000. I also have the picture of a two story brick mansion, which is valued by the same office for \$11,500. I know one family that lives in Pelican City who pay about \$70 taxes, and they do not have an improved road or toilet facilities in the house. If it takes a rabble raiser and demagogue to bring about reforms in cases like this, I disagree with you. I believe it would be good for us.

I would like to know how this great improvement has come about in the state of Louisiana. If the Longs were crooked, as so many out here seem to think, where did the money come from?

I know that industry is fighting to get into Louisiana. In 1958, nearly a billion dollars worth of industry located there. The people must still get to keep some of the money they work for. One of the best signs of the financial condition of a state or city is its churches. The money given to build them is usually considered a surplus (I do not hold this theory). I know God teaches his people to pay the tithes and give an offering above, but so many do not. I will cite you some cases that tell more about the state's prosperity than most anything else.

The First Baptist Church in Lake Charles has built a new church plant costing over two million dollars. This is a city with many Baptist churches and until a few years ago considered to be predominantly Catholic. The First

Baptist Church of Shreveport has just begun a new church plant that is to cost in excess of three million dollars, with the auditorium alone costing one and one third million dollars. This is the story all over the state. In Oakland, a little city of about 4,000 people and several Baptist churches, the First Baptist Church built a new church a few years ago that cost about one quarter million dollars.

I have heard the late Huey Long say many times, "The Standard Oil Company of Louisiana would give me a million dollars to go to my home at Winnfield and retire," but he did not.

I know the Longs are far from perfect and have made many mistakes, but I believe that the only price that would buy Huey or will buy Earl is a better standard of living for the average man.

There is one thing to their credit. They made no promise that they did not carry out. When Earl was elected governor, he promised the old people of the state a minimum of \$50 per month. I did not think it possible without more taxes, but sure enough, at the end of the first month he served, the checks came. All this causes me to wonder just where all the money goes in states that have such heavy taxes.

I conclude with a promise Huey made in the heart of the depression. He said, "Elect me governor of the state of Louisiana and I will see that every child shall receive free tablets, pencils, books, and even lunches if they cannot pay a dime a day for them." You wonder, did he keep the promise. Yes, I received all but the free lunches and could have had that, but I was able to pay for it, that is a dime a day.

Grady D. Estes,
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Think Cool
By ED CREAUGH
WASHINGTON (AP)—So you're hot?

Your clothes hang limp on you, sweat beads trickle down your chest, your vision fuzzes, your brain goes numb?

Nonsense. It's all in your mind. You can beat the heat in a matter of seconds if you will just follow one simple rule: Think cool.

Close your eyes. Imagine you're an ice cube. Shrink yourself and pour yourself into an imaginary little plastic tray. Tuck yourself into a refrigerator and drink in the delicious smells of celery, salmon, and other goodies as you slowly freeze.

Or play iceberg. Think of the frothy cool North Atlantic lapping your chin, with the bulk of you submerged in that blessed salty coolness.

Don't make the mistake of being as cool as a cucumber. Once, in the interest of science, I took the body temperature of a cucumber. It was two degrees higher than mine, which averages 102.3.

Think of frigid mountain lakes, or a car motor on a January morning in Alaska.

Turn yourself into a mint julep. Sash around luxuriantly in your frosted glass shell. Don't drink yourself, however. Alcohol raises the body temperature.

This cool-think bit won't work for everybody, though.

Some people get more relief by not thinking. That is: Imagine yourself even worse off than you are.

Like you're unloading bananas on a New Orleans dock with the sun pouring globs of hot lava on you.

Or you're a steak sizzling frantically on an outdoor grill, abandoned by a cook who has reeled off in search of something tall and cooling.

Whew! It's enough to bring out a cold sweat. And that's what you're after, isn't it?

The Almanac
Today is Monday, June 29, the 198th day of the year, with 185 more days to follow in 1959.
The moon is approaching its new phase.
The evening stars are Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn.
On this date in history:
In 1577, the Flemish painter Peter Paul Rubens was born.
In 1852, the former senator, speaker of the House, secretary of state and three-time presidential candidate Henry Clay died in Washington.
In 1946, British arrested 27-hundred Jews in Palestine in an attempt at stamping out terrorism.
In 1954, Guatemalan rebels completed a 12-day revolt by overthrowing a pro-communist government.

Thought for today: Henry Clay said, "I would rather be right than be president."

Reporter Gives Profile Of Middle East Leader

ROME (AP)—Suddenly your driver slams on the brakes in Baghdad's busiest street and jumps out of the taxi—clapping his hands. A tax station wagon passes by, accompanied by a ripple of applause from sidewalk crowds.

The driver gets back in and grins. "Abdel Karim Kassem. He is good."

The obvious spontaneity is evidence of the popularity of Iraq's Premier Kassem, the solitary passenger in the chauffeur-driven station wagon.

In his Defense ministry office the career army officer who led the overthrow of Iraq's monarchy last July, is surrounded by portraits of himself—one of them encircled by peace doves.

Almost everyone who meets the 44 year old Kassem considers him shy.

He gives the impression of being an idealist, but he has shown his shrewdness by outwitting plotters against him.

A moderate member of his cabinet says Kassem's views lie somewhere between those of Britain's Labor and Liberal parties. His expressed views indicate he favors some form of socialism.

The Communists stood behind him when other groups plotted against him. After the unsuccessful Mosul rebellion of pro-Nasser army officers in March, the Communists demanded their price—elimination of the forces opposed to them, arming of the people and creating of a national front government with themselves in key positions.

Kassem bowed with the wind. But during the past month he has infuriated the Communists by calling on them to cease political activity and by releasing hundreds of persons arrested after Mosul.

Kassem still says, as he did immediately after the revolution, that he wants to maintain Iraq's old friendships with the West as well as make new friends among the Communist bloc.

Kassem was born in Baghdad Nov. 21, 1914. His father owned a small farm on the Tigris river. One brother works in commerce and another is an enlisted technician in the Air Force. One of his two sisters is married to a clerk and the other to a fellow army officer, Brig. Abdul Jabbar Jawad.

Kassem says he has never married because he vowed in his youth to devote all his energies to overthrowing what he considered the corrupt former regime.



TRAINING at the Navy Recruit Center in San Diego, these Klamath Area reservists of Electronics Division 13-22 are, from left, Fred Becholdt, Bill Bond and Larry Huffman, Bonanza; Tom Morris, Wes Cookson, Terry Gathwright and John Miller, Klamath Falls. Charles Gossett of Bonanza is not pictured.

Road Project Cutback Seen

SALEM (AP)—If federal funds allotted for interstate highway construction in Oregon are cut off, work on the projects will have to be curtailed, Milo McIver said recently.

McIver, chairman of the Oregon Highway Commission, said the state Highway Department construction program is geared to the amount of money allotted to the state by Congress.

President Eisenhower warned earlier in the day that 10 states—including Oregon—would have to stop issuing contracts for the next three months unless Congress provides new funds.

McIver said that if Oregon had known the money would not be available, it would not have such an extensive program under way.

Work on the Albany-Eugene section of U.S. 99 and the Baldock Freeway in southwest Portland would be the first to feel the effect of any cutbacks, he said.

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