

# Oregon Teemed With Wildlife Of Every Size And Description

OREGON STATE COLLEGE — Oregon's main attractions today — rich farm and forest lands, mild climate, spectacular mountain and ocean scenery — weren't what first drew people to the Oregon country.

Hunters and trappers were attracted in the early 1800s by a seemingly inexhaustible supply of game birds and animals.

In those days, hunting was a means of livelihood rather than the sport it is today. A significant change in hunting has been in

the number and kinds of game available. Hunters have learned that wildlife resources are not inexhaustible as they first seemed. Several of the early game animals have become completely extinct. Others are on their way out.

On the other hand, the ring-necked pheasant, Hungarian partridge and Chukar partridge, favorites of many hunters, have been introduced from other countries. Rocky Mountain elk were brought in from Wyoming, and desert big horn sheep are being introduced to Oregon from Canada. Valley quail, native to a few Southern Oregon counties, have been spread over the entire state by transplanting.

Oregon State College wildlife management specialists point out various reasons for the decline of many game animals. For instance, wolves and grizzly bears were bloodthirsty, destructive predators. Early settlers killed them to protect livestock. Wolverines were victims of trappers. The fur of this cunning animal never brought a very high price, but trappers killed them to protect their cache, cabins and to keep them from raiding their traps of martens, mink and other valuable fur bearers.

Sea otters and beavers were killed for their fur faster than they could reproduce. A century ago, Cape Blanco was one of the main hunting grounds for sea otters, but they have not been seen in Oregon since about 1876.

Beavers were so abundant in almost every Oregon lake and stream around 1836 that they brought trappers rich returns in fur. But by the time the "Beaver State" entered the Union, there were few beavers to be seen. Since then they've had their ups and downs. Currently, beaver is plentiful in Oregon.

Members of the deer family were affected in different ways by settlement of the state. The white tail deer, like the Columbian sharp-tailed grouse, was killed off rapidly as farmers changed their habitat into farmland.

On the other hand, the black tail deer came to make its home in dense, almost impenetrable forests. This species is increasing faster than it used to because current logging methods create better habitat.

The number of mule deer in eastern Oregon was reduced by hunters long ago, but is now on the upswing for various reasons: good deer management practices by the Oregon Game Commission; good control of predatory animals;

Plutarch observed that bread dipped in wine was a favorite breakfast in ancient times.

recent mild winters; and better grazing.

Bison once were found in eastern Oregon, but apparently died off during a hard winter when snow was too deep to find grass.

Diseases of domestic livestock proved as fatal to some game animals as the white man's gun did to others. Desert big horn sheep, now being reintroduced, died of

scab a few years after tame sheep were brought into the area. These animals can live and thrive year-round in deserts where no other stock or game can. With proper management they can make profitable many areas now only picturesque. Old Indians, early settlers and few big-game hunters have called their mutton far superior to that of any domestic

sheep or game animal in North America.

Rocky mountain big horn sheep also can contract some of the diseases of domestic sheep. Around 50 of this species were known to be in the Wallowa National Forest as late as 1930 or 1940. A state game preserve was created to protect them, but was later abandoned.

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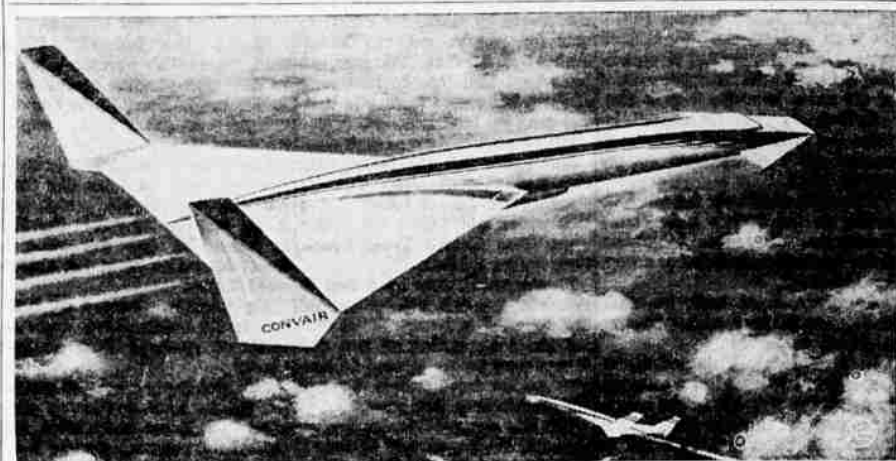
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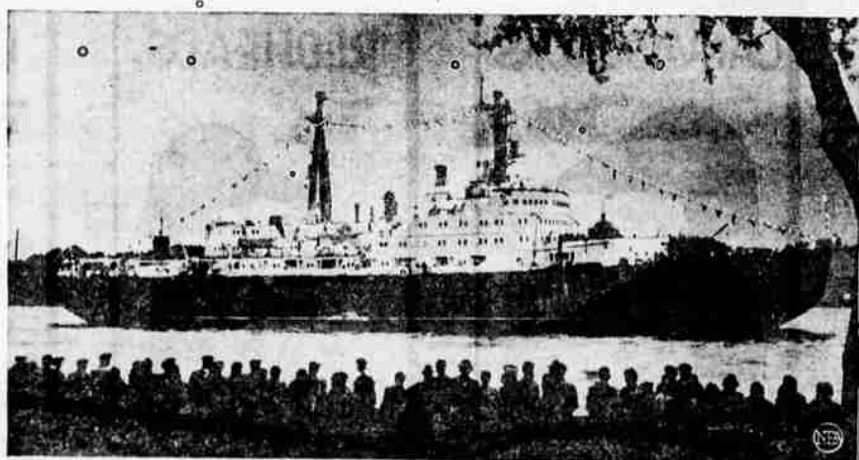
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**AIRLINER OF THE FUTURE**—Tomorrow's airliner may look like this artist's conception—a shovel-nosed, delta-wing craft capable of Mach 3 speeds (three times the speed of sound). So predicts R. C. Sebald, vice president of Conqair. The plane will fly at 60-80,000 feet and be capable of coast-to-coast flight in only an hour and a half. Passengers will have individual television receivers instead of windows and a master electronic brain will constantly monitor all the plane's systems. When could it be flying? Sometime in the 1970s.



**STAR OF THE ICE**—Carrying a string of lights—including a glowing red star—the new Soviet atomic icebreaker Lenin cruises up the Neva River, near Leningrad, before an admiring crowd. The icebreaker and the city are named for Red revolutionist Nicolai Lenin.

## matter of FACT



"The life of Ma-ka-tai-me-she-kia-kia" is an autobiography written or dictated by Black Hawk (1767-1838), chief of the Sac Indians. In 1830, his lands were sold by the U.S., but he could not bear to see them occupied by white people so in 1832 he started fighting in the Rock River Valley near Rock Island, Ill. Although reinforced by 1,000 warriors, Black Hawk was defeated and taken captive.

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### IT'S CLIFT-TAYLOR AGAIN

HOLLYWOOD (UPI)—Montgomery Clift will star with Elizabeth Taylor in the Columbia Pictures release of "Tennessee Williams' 'Suddenly, Last Summer.' Miss Taylor and Clift appeared together in "Raintree County."

## WHAT'S UP THERE NOW?

### AROUND THE SUN:

#### AROUND THE MOON:



#### EARTH SATELLITES:



**COSMIC CONGESTION**—Year III of the Space Age got off to a spectacular start when Russia sent a rocket—Lunik III—around the moon. If it manages to stay in orbit, it will bring to two the number of current Russian earth satellites, as against eight American. Both countries have an artificial "planet" circling the sun. In the two years since Sputnik I, the U.S. has launched 12 successful earth satellites (out of 18 tries); Russia three. Several U.S. attempts to hit or circle the moon have failed; Russia hit the moon once (Lunik II). Any Russian failures are not known.