

Earth, Stars and Man (7) Fossils and Fancies

by Don Oakley and John Lane



For ages men had been familiar with fossils. Some of the Greeks had correctly surmised that they were the remains of organisms that once had flourished. But to medieval and Renaissance man, as he came across them in mines or as erosion washed them to the surface, they were freaks of nature, curiosities. The savants said they were caused by a "plastic force" in rocks which somehow imitated living forms.

In the 18th century, Swedish soldiers returning from Siberia after the war with Russia brought back tales of huge, shaggy beasts called mammoths which were frequently found well preserved in ice. In fact, their tusks were an important source of ivory and hunters' dogs



fed on the flesh frozen for . . . who knew how many years?

The stories made little impression among the learned. One of the reasons was the soldiers' countryman, the great naturalist Carolus Linnaeus (Latin version of Carl von Linné). He considered all fossils to be merely stones and so classified them in his *System of Nature*. For nothing had perished or changed since Creation. After all, the infallible Aristotle had said so.

Otherwise, Linnaeus' life work performed a much needed service for early biology. For the first time, living things were arranged in an orderly manner, classified as to species, genus, family, etc. With corrections, it is the system



used by biologists the world over today.

Man, too, was an animal, said Linnaeus—*Homo sapiens*—and was of the same order as the apes. But, of course, a separate creation.

Another man of the age, however, had other ideas. He was Georges Louis Leclerc, Comte de Buffon, whose *Natural History* filled 44 volumes. This director of the Royal Gardens in Paris liked to scandalize the ladies of the court of Louis XV by asserting that man was no more than a decadent ape and that the earth was far older than the accepted 6,000 years. Indeed, he maintained, it was perhaps as much as 80,000, and had gone through numerous epochs which had seen many species rise and perish.

NEXT: Evolution vs. Creation

College Choir Sets Concert For Tonight

The Bible Standard College Choir, Eugene, will appear in concert at Klamath Temple Sunday, October 30, at 7 p.m.

The talented group of 35 young men and women will sing a repertoire of choruses, duets and trios, highlighted by "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," which in past performances has won the group acclaim.

They will be accompanied by the Rev. Rollie Clark, vice president of the college, who will bring the evening message. The visitors will conduct the entire youth service starting at 6 p.m.

New costumes will add to the appearance of the choir.

The Rev. Harry Strachan, Klamath Temple pastor, invites the public.

Racing Take Hits Mark

The apportionment of racing revenues to county fairs and other agricultural shows reached an all time high this year. Secretary of State Howell Appling Jr., who announced the distribution of a total of \$1,192,599.86 for the year, said each county fair has received more than \$16,000 while 11 other shows including the State Fair have received over \$100,000.

An additional \$27,000 is applied to the Amortization Fund for the 4-H and FFA building at the state fairgrounds.

In the list of apportionments from the State of Oregon Racing Funds the Klamath Basin Round-up Association received a total of \$45,000 between 1933 and 1955. During 1956 and 1957 the amount was \$5,000 per year, dropped to \$4,858.30 in 1958 and to \$3,886.63 during the two years of 1959 and 1960.

The Klamath Basin Potato Festival at Merrill received \$971.67 annually for 1959 and 1960.

Apportionment to numerous county fairs has increased slightly from \$4,553,240.67 from 1933 through 1955 to \$592,998.48 this year.

Dear Ann: Please publish this letter and save some young guys from agony and court costs.

About 10 months ago a buddy of mine started to date a very cute girl. She had lots of personality and lots of dates. Four months later she told him she was pregnant and he had to marry her. He said no because he wasn't sure the child was his. He knew she had always been popular and he never did trust her 100 per cent.

Anyway he refused to marry her so she had him arrested for contributing to the delinquency of a minor. He's out on bond now, but due in court when the baby is born. How can nice guys protect themselves against dames like this?—FRIEND

Dear Friend: The best way for "nice guys" to protect themselves against "dames like this" is to stay so far away from them that there's no chance of being named as a candidate for fatherhood.

I get many letters on this subject and the refrain is always the same: "I could be the father, but she had lots of 'friends,' and I think I'm being hooked."

I tell these fellows, "If there's any possibility that you could be the father then I can't help you."

The only prayer an innocent guy has is to wait until the baby is born and hope the blood test proves he's not the father. (No blood test can prove a man is the father; it can prove only that he is not.)

If the tests fail to rule him out as the possible father, the girl's word is usually taken, unless it can be demonstrated that she is a total tramp.

Dear Ann Landers: I'm going to be married soon and need your advice. My mother died five years ago. She and I were very close. I promised mom that on my wedding day I would go to the cemetery and place my bridal bouquet on her grave.

My fiancé is agreeable to this and his mother said she thought it was a lovely idea. My mother's two sisters, however, are horri-

Soil District Contest Set

BONANZA—The annual speech contest sponsored by soil conservation districts of Lake and Klamath counties will be held at Bly School November 4 at 8 p.m.

Youngsters from Paisley, Fort Rock, Klamath Falls, Bonanza and Gilchrist will take part. The subject will be "Wild Life Conservation."

Plaques and cups will be awarded.

The speaker winning at Bly will go to The Dalles November 16.

Bly Grange is sponsoring the meeting and will furnish the refreshments.

The New TEMPEST

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Public Roads Bureau Understaffed Despite Huge Increase In Work Load

By BEM PRICE
AP Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. Bureau of Public Roads has an annual budget of \$29.5 million and employs 1,122 engineers, including 150 bridge engineers.

With this engineer force, the bureau is supposed to exercise supervision over the greatest state-federal road building program in history.

Over the past four years the states and the federal government have spent \$10 billion on highways and authorized the expenditure of another \$10 billion.

Since mid-1956 over 40,000 road contracts have been executed and 10,000 are currently in force.

When the bureau was charged only with the supervision of the regular primary, secondary and urban road programs, its 1,122-man engineer force seemed adequate. This is the program to which the states and the federal government contribute on a 50-50 basis.

But in 1956 Congress set up a huge new program to build 41,000 miles of superhighways over a 20-year period and told the bureau to supervise this program, too, without any increase in engineers. Under this program the federal government pays 90 per cent of the cost.

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Bureau engineers have to approve the design, plans and specifications for roads in both programs. Further, they are expected to conduct on-the-spot inspections to see that all is going according to contract.

In the past four years the engineers have inspected over 135,000 miles of highways and 2,900 bridges.

This is a back-breaking chore for such a limited force of engineers.

At best, a federal engineer can inspect each job in his district once a month. The inspection may last a day, and in that day he is supposed to check grades, take samples of materials, consult the state's project engineer on special problems, and generally see that the federal government is getting its money's worth.

The federal engineers have to rely heavily on the state's project supervisors and hope the contractor is living up to his agreement.

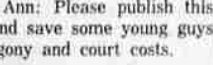
Breakup of a million-dollar highway at Lordsburg, N. M., indicates that federal engineers can't always tell whether a highway is well built just by looking.

While the federal government is withholding payment of \$200,000 on the Lordsburg project, the fact remains that federal engineers gave preliminary approval to the work.

The Bureau of Public Roads did spot the developing land scandals in Massachusetts where selected rights-of-way properties, so the report goes, were overpriced. When the need developed for an investigation, the bureau gave the job to a consulting firm. Critics complained that the federal govern-

'Innocent Guy' Out On Limb

By ANN LANDERS



ment shouldn't farm out its investigative chores.

The bureau takes the position that the states have their own inspectors and engineers and for the federal government to set up a more extensive supervisory system would be a duplication of effort.

The bureau says it does not feel obligated to question state records as a rule, that it assumes these records are accurate and submitted in good faith.

Bertram D. Tallamy, the bureau's chief administrator, put the viewpoint in focus last May when he testified before a congressional subcommittee.

"The bureau and the states act as coordinating agencies. That is required by federal law. The state initiates projects and presents them to the bureau for consideration. After review, if the bureau concurs, there is a complete meeting of the minds as to exactly what is to be accomplished and how. The state has responsibility for construction," Tallamy said.

The bureau does have a projects examination division which is supposed to act as a sort of roving police inspection force. There are 27 people on its staff. With Congress' permission, the bureau hopes to expand the division to 40.

To questions about the adequacy of its supervision, the bureau says other federal agencies are also in the act—the General Accounting Office, the Department of Justice, and Congress.

From the time the General Accounting Office actually audits a state's highway program until reports to Congress, about two years elapse.

The Department of Justice usually acts only when requested to do so by the bureau or upon formal complaint.

Congress began scanning the highway programs last year through the House Roads subcommittee headed by Rep. John Blatnick, D-Minn. It has held two major hearings.

While there is a tendency in Congress to blame the bureau for the ills besetting the highway programs, it must be noted that Congress set up the ground rules, established the state-federal relationships, and gave to the states the responsibility for actual road building.

If any charge can be leveled against bureau operations, it would be the exhibition of certain bureaucratic tendencies.

Though the bureau disclaims responsibility, it was a participant in one of Washington's prize muddles.

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Fire Department Progress Noted

ROCKY POINT—Formation of community Fire Department, has an option to buy a used fire truck from Clarence Balfour, owner of Odessa Marina.

Balfour came to the area about a year ago from Yakima, where he operated a private fire department. He has offered to sell the truck for \$1,500. It contains a full complement of equipment.

In addition, the organization will need a fire house and warning facilities.

An architect who lives here, Bud Miller, has drawn plans for a fire house and a list of materials needed. Beaver State Telephone Company officials say they are able to rig a central alarm system, so that phones of volunteer firemen will ring simultaneously when a fire alarm is turned in.

Organization spokesmen this week sent out 500 letters to property owners asking donations. They hope to erect a fire headquarters for \$2,000 or less.

They also are investigating feasibility of setting up a fire district. They hope no district will need to be formed so that complications in taxation may be sidestepped.

Once equipment is acquired, they hope to operate the department using volunteer firemen.

No boundary of coverage so far has been established. Most improvements, however, are located in a strip from Odessa Marina to Rocky Point Resort, a distance of about four miles, up to two miles wide.

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NOTICE... To All Taxpayers & Voters

YOU the taxpayers are the regulators of tax dollars. It is up to you voters and taxpayers to vote at Budget Elections — to decide whether or not a budget is accepted or rejected in your taxing district.

I am proud of you taxpayers of Klamath County for your determination to keep our County in the top bracket. You are the ones who provide for our schools, roads, sanitary districts, and of course every part of your local government.

The Assessors Office is responsible for evaluating property according to Oregon Laws, equitably, and according to market value. The budget approved by you, the taxpayers of your district, are computed against the assessed value in each taxing district to arrive at the levy. The levy is then applied to your assessed value to arrive at the tax you pay.

I, Hap Caldwell, am asking for your support in this election. Since you elected me last time, I feel it is my duty to give you a brief report of accomplishments during my past 4 years in the Assessors Office.

When you elected me 4 years ago, I immediately departmentalized the Assessors Office, so that the employees could serve you better and in a more comprehensive manner. It has been put on a YOUR OFFICE basis, with your problems in mind. You will find, in this office a sincere attitude among the employees to help you in any way possible, with any problem you have.

My full time is, has been, and will be devoted to this office, free from outside business interests.

I am qualified, by experience and training and by a thorough knowledge of Klamath County and market conditions. A working relationship with surrounding counties which is essential in conducting the office. I have installed efficient record systems in Real and Personal Property Departments. I have authorized or made the most comprehensive ratio studies ever conducted in this office. We have almost completely remapped the County. We have processed over 21,000 deeds and ownerships and they are all up to date. Our index system has been revamped to the highest degree possible. We are taking over more and more appraisals of Industrial Property from the State. This number has dropped from 25 down to 6 at present. We will have the other 6 if my program is carried on. Thus more local control. The State Tax Commission will not turn these back to an incompetent Assessor.

We are carrying on a complete reappraisal of the County with our own personnel which will be complete July 1, 1961, and are doing this at a lesser cost than the one done in 1952-53 by the Tax Commission and outside help.

We are operating 6 vehicles at a cost of less than 3c per mile as the records will show.

Our appraisers are all receiving special schooling to enable them to carry on a more intelligent appraisal.

All men in the office, including myself, are State Certified Appraisers, certified by State Civil Service Commission as required by State Law.

I am required by law to extend the tax rolls and all tax levies are certified to me for collection by the Budget Committee for all 25 taxing districts in the County.

THE ASSESSOR LEVIES NO TAX — THIS OFFICE IS UNDER THE DIRECT SUPERVISORY POWERS OF THE OREGON STATE TAX COMMISSION, AND IS A STATUTORY OFFICE, AND NOT A CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICE. THE MONEY TO OPERATE THIS OFFICE IS BUDGETED BY THE COUNTY BUDGET COMMITTEE AND EACH EXPENDITURE IS AUTHORIZED AND PAID FOR BY THE COUNTY COURT.

I am sworn, by oath of office, to uphold the Constitution and Laws of this State and Nation to the best of my ability, and this I have done in a manner that is fair to all. My office has been conducted with a high degree of efficiency and the most courteous service possible.

We have added 8 people to our staff since 1956, with the authorization of the County Budget Committee and the County Court.

We have added approximately 287,949 acres of land, 720 new buildings; we have audited the books of 30% of all businesses each year in addition to a reappraisal of 80% of the property in Klamath County.

The State Tax Commission ordered the Assessor to raise assessments on all property 17% and 30% in 1958, as most of you people are aware of, so how can these same assessments be lowered by a new Assessor?

The people who have been in this office, and who work with us, know conditions. I invite each and everyone of you to come in and use the office force and the public records.

RE-ELECT HAP CALDWELL
COUNTY ASSESSOR

Re-elect Hap Caldwell COUNTY ASSESSOR



Paid Pol. Adv. by Hap Caldwell, 4829 Cottage