

Indian Village Proves Tourist Mecca

By NORM CARDOZA

LAKEVIEW—Bob Ogle, a soft-spoken young businessman, has done more to attract tourists to Lakeview, probably, than the city's chamber of commerce.

A growing number of people from all over the West and even the whole country are swinging through Lake County, says Ogle, specifically to visit his fabulous Indian Village Restaurant and Lounge.

To get into the building, in downtown Lakeview, the visitor walks through a big fierce-looking Navajo thunderbird that frames the door.

Inside he finds one of the most opulent private collections of American Indian artifacts in the nation. Even if the visitor does not plan to sample Ogle's fine food or sit at one of his decorous bars, it's worth a trip just to tour the place.

Ogle estimates casually that he owns in the neighborhood of 10,000 pieces, including the 3,500 artifacts of the famous Menkenmeier Collection.

These were exhumed from the Menkenmeier Cave at Fort Rock during the 1930s by men from the University of Oregon. The collection later became the property of Josephine Wolff, a collector in Chiloquin, and she sold it to Ogle.

Most prized is one of the 41 Indian moccasins found in the cave and dated at nearly 10,000 years of age by the Carbon 14 test.

The other moccasins have found their way to museums and institutes around the country.

Ogle values about equally three huge spear points fashioned exquisitely by aboriginal Indians of a pearly stone not native, apparently, to the area.

The spear points are the apple of many a collector's eye and so are Ogle's arrow heads, known among collectors as projectile points.

He has hundreds of them, from the coarse, heavy models produced by ancient Indians to the dainty and gracefully-streamlined type produced by latter day natives.

Most are of common black volcanic obsidian, a glassy stone found in abundance in Southern Oregon and Northern California, but many are fashioned of all sorts of material. All are from Lake and Klamath counties.

Ogle is particularly proud of one showcase loaded with arrowheads cut from various and colorful stones.

Not all of Ogle's artifacts are ancient. Many are interesting because they were made by modern Indians who have retained the skills of their ancestors.

Ogle has several fine swinees

or hoops, which are Indian baby boards, some made recently. And his collection of beadwork must be termed superlative.

Though some of the latter is hundreds of years old, all Indian craftsmanship of that type was done with tiny colorful beads supplied by the white man. And some of his beadwork is of quite recent vintage.

Even Ogle's office is loaded with articles that would make any artifact hobbyist's mouth water. In there he keeps a pair of rather overwhelming headdresses worn by chiefs of the Chippewa and Sioux and a bone ceremonial breastplate he believes to be at least 150 years old, given him by an Indian friend.

Ogle's collection is full of surprises. Mrs. M. M. Barry of Lakeview recently sold him a buckskin



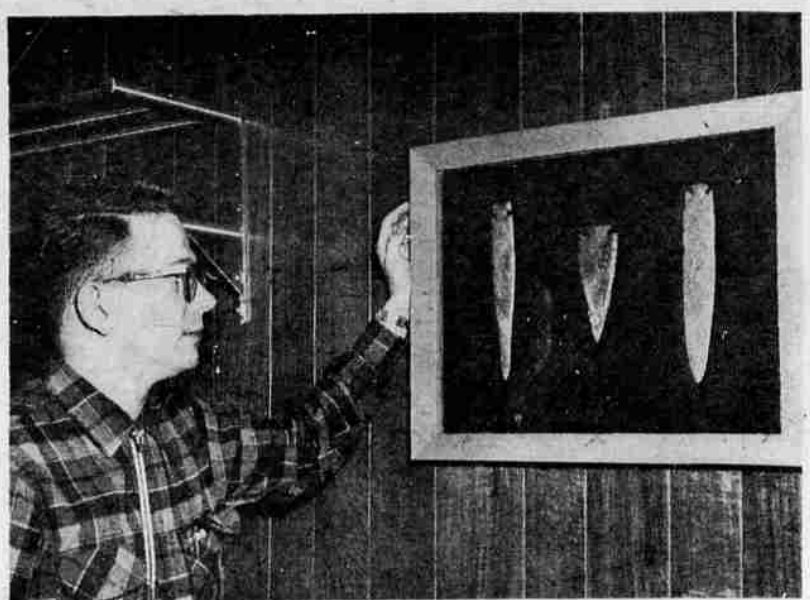
A MOCCASIN, the Menkenmeier, estimated to be 100 centuries old, is a valuable portion of the Bob Ogle collection of artifacts at the Indian Village in Lakeview.

shirt that she kept 50 years, made by the Blackfeet of Montana for one of the earliest missionaries among them, a priest from Switzerland.

Not everything in the collection is of Indian origin, but it has the flavor of Indian country about it. No visitor should miss a foray into The Corral where the floor is covered with sawdust and a man can drink a glass of draught at home in a rugged environment.

It was built by Ogle's father nearly 30 years ago and not a whit of it has been changed, except, perhaps, for addition of the harpoon-horned steer head that hangs over one entrance.

Among appointments is a row of cabinets containing old beer



PRIZED SPEAR POINTS, a portion of the famous Menkenmeier collection of Indian artifacts, are examined by Bob Ogle, owner-manager of Indian Village in Lakeview, where the points are displayed.

schooners and skulls and a robust assortment of odds and ends left to rot in the Eastern Oregon desert by early cowboys and Indians.

Overhead hangs a collection of old guns, aged saddles and leatherwork, and deer heads.

The atmosphere is studiously informal and the room incorporates a lot of classic ideas, such as the booth at the rear with a little model fireplace and supports cut from trees carved years ago in the forest by young lovers and children.

The old West is preserved even on the outside of the building. The thunderbird, a sort of Indian deity, left his V-shaped tracks up and down the walls, designed and painted by Duncan Lincecum, a local artist.

And Lincecum incorporated various Navajo symbols, such as the sign of fertility and the bear track of good luck, in the brilliant mural.

Ogle, himself, designed the interior, working 10 to 14 hours daily for six weeks to incorporate his rich store of original ideas into a plan.

He bought out his parents' interest and tore down the hotel portion of the building upstairs. Contractors went to work and last May the building was ready to open.

Visitors quickly spread the news and in less than a year the business has become a landmark in the western states. Early in its renaissance, for instance, a visitor from Vancouver reported his

discovery at home, said Ogle, for Lakeview has since been visited by several travelers from that area who said they'd heard of his place.

Even celebrities come to see his collection, Ogle says, including movie stars.

Ogle, just 31, obtained a degree in business administration from the University of Oregon. He is also a self-taught expert of Indian lore.

His collection got its start when at 6 years of age he received a gift of some artifacts from an aunt. Since then he has spent much of his spare time probing the Oregon desert and negotiating for artifacts all over the country.

Ogle still goes out once in a while to look for arrowheads and other curios. But his business keeps him tied up most of the time, now, he says.

It probably will even be more so in the future, for tourist trade seems certain to increase. Meanwhile, Ogle is thinking of new ways to keep his customers happy.

He is planning an all-Irish evening for St. Patrick's Eve, with a real Irish orchestra, Irish food, and even shamrocks imported from Ireland, if he can arrange to get them.

Ogle is also planning to open a gift shop in the building next summer.

Oakland Lady Aids Cons, Starts Prisoner Group

OAKLAND, Calif. (UPI) — An Oakland woman is helping ex-convicts make a comeback through Prisoners Anonymous.

Mrs. Willa Crouch recently organized the group as a "half-way house" specializing in counsel and provision of food, quarters and employment aid to help the former prisoner.

About 12 former prisoners now attend bi-monthly meetings with their families and discuss problems that arise between meetings.

One of the most frustrating problems for an ex-convict is whether to "level" with a prospective employer and disclose his prison record.

Mrs. Crouch estimated that it takes an ex-convict at least three to six months to get a job if he tells the truth. But she urges members to list their record.

"It's honesty we try to teach," said the mother of four grown children. "If they have to go without a job for two or three years they still must have honesty."

John — considers himself a "guinea pig" of Prisoners Anonymous. He was sitting in his dingy hotel room feeling sorry for himself. He had lost his job and had only \$2 in his pocket with the rent due.

He toyed with the idea of robbing a liquor store around the corner.

But he happened to turn on the radio and heard Willa Crouch tell in an interview about the prisoners group. The two-time loser went to her office and was given food and lodging. Now he has a job as an electrician.

Mrs. Crouch said it was a "fierce drive" that made her start Prisoners Anonymous. Chance reading of a magazine published by the National Jail Association spurred her on. The publication showed pictures of

wretched conditions in some prisons, with murderers sharing the same cells with persons who had committed lesser crimes.

"I just felt these men must be accepted and must not come out into a hostile world," she said.

Mrs. Crouch tries to help the convicts within prison walls, too. She corresponds regularly with 25 convicts and books prison shows for her daughter's dance troupe, "Merri's Revue."

Her hard work has paid off. Prisoners Anonymous is recognized by the Better Business Bureau and is supported by charity donations.

Farm Calendar

March:
4-11—National 4-H Week. Theme "Learn, Live, and Serve Through 4-H."

15-17—State Invitational 4-H Entomology Tour, Corvallis and Portland.

16-17—Oregon Farm Bureau Federation Education Conference, Salem.

16-17—4-H Club Tractor and Automotive tour, Portland.

18—4-H Livestock field day, Oregon State College, Corvallis.

18—Boar Sale, Oregon Swine Testing Station, Umatilla Branch Experiment Station, Hermiston. (Open house 10 a.m., sale at 12:30 p.m.)

20-30 — Oregon State College sheep shearing schools. March 20-21, OSC barns, Corvallis. March 22-23, OSC barns, Corvallis. March 24-25, OSC barns, Corvallis. March 29-30, Cave Junction.

22—Field Day, Squaw Butte—Harney Branch Experiment Station (at Section V Unit about 7 miles south of Burns).



THE COLORFUL LOUNGE at the Indian Village in Lakeview is surrounded with some of Bob Ogle's best displays of Indian artifacts. This will be the scene of an Irish party on St. Patrick's Eve.