Basin Proves Busy Spot For Enthusiastic Hunters

READY FOR ACTION — Ted Drennon of Reno, Nev., stands up in his floating-boat blind and waits for the ducks to come to him. He had the blind built around his boat so he could maneuver around the lake to the better sites. He also wears a camouflaged jacket and hat to deceive the ducks.

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Klamath areas opening day of waterfowl season in 1962. Almost 200 camps were scattered about the areas (121 near Lower Klamath, 72 near Tulelake).

The biggest influx of hunters occurred during the opening weekend of pheasant season when mild weather, a three-day weekend and a chance to hunt waterfowl and pheasants both attracted over 2,000 hunters to the area. About 165 camps were set up near the refuges on that weekend.

A survey conducted during the 1962 season showed that approximately 32 per cent of the hunters traveled 600 miles or more to hunt on the Basin refuge. Nearly one-fourth of the hunters using the refuges were from Los Angeles County. In the survey, 58 of California's counties, seven other states and two foreign countries were represented. It was the peak population of hunters during 1962.

This fine waterfowl area has been a big boon to business in the area during the seasons, also. A sample economic survey in 1951 of 48 motels, hotels, restaurants, sporting goods stores, and gas stations in the towns of Malin, Merrill, Klamath Falls and Tulelake revealed that 19.5 per cent of the gross receipts was received from hunter expenditures.

From this survey it is calculated that the dollar value of hunting to these businesses for that year was $2,800,000 in those areas. It is undoubtedly greater now.

Completely unmeasurable in dollars, but of tremendous recreational value, is the pleasure derived by visitors, vacationists, ornithologists, and others who visit the world famous waterfowl concentration areas of the Upper Klamath Basin each year.

Records for 1962 at Tulelake and Lower Klamath Refuge headquarters show 130,304 visitor days, including persons from numerous foreign countries. Foreign students and biologists invariably desire to visit these refuges above all others.

The Lower Klamath Refuge had a total of 11,292 hunter days with a total bag of ducks and geese amounting to 12,308. There were 4,968 goose kills and 7,340 duck kills. Tulelake Refuge had a total of 11,366 hunter days with 12,050 total kills. There were 5,909 goose kills and 6,141 duck kills.

So the total kills on the two refuges amounted to 24,358. There were 22,878 hunter days so the hunters got 1.07 birds per hunter.

An estimated 2,674 pheasants were killed on the refuges in 1962. Approximately 4,500 hunter days of use occurred on the two areas. Average number of pheasants per hunter day was about three-fifths of one bird per hunter. Hunter success on Lower Klamath was 61 per cent and the success of Tulelake was 57 per cent. Total kill was about average compared to the last five years.

There is a total of 64,496 acres on the refuges open. Tule has 34,997 acres of which 22,000 is crops and upland and the other 13,000 are marsh and water. Lower Klamath has 29,700 acres with 17,000 as upland and crops and 12,000 of marsh and water.

The acreages open to waterfowl and pheasant hunting during the season are 9,727 at Tulelake which represents 28 per cent of the total area. Lower Klamath has 6,350 acres open which is 21 per cent of the total area. This is 25 per cent of the total areas.

This open area includes about 7,000 acres of agricultural land and 9,000 acres of marsh and water. During the first two days of California state hunting season, about 24,400 additional acres are open to pheasant hunting only.

Peak duck populations generally occur the latter part of October with the peak goose populations occurring one to two weeks later. The birds come through the refuges again in spring on the way to their northern breeding areas.

HUNTER'S VIEW FROM SHORE BLINDS — This photo, taken as the sun is about to set over the Tulelake Refuge by staff photographer Don Kettler, shows the marshy sites where the ducks like to settle. A hunter sets up his blinds near this area around the reeds and waits for the ducks to come in. This is another of the scenic views the hunters enjoy during a hunting excursion to the Klamath Basin.

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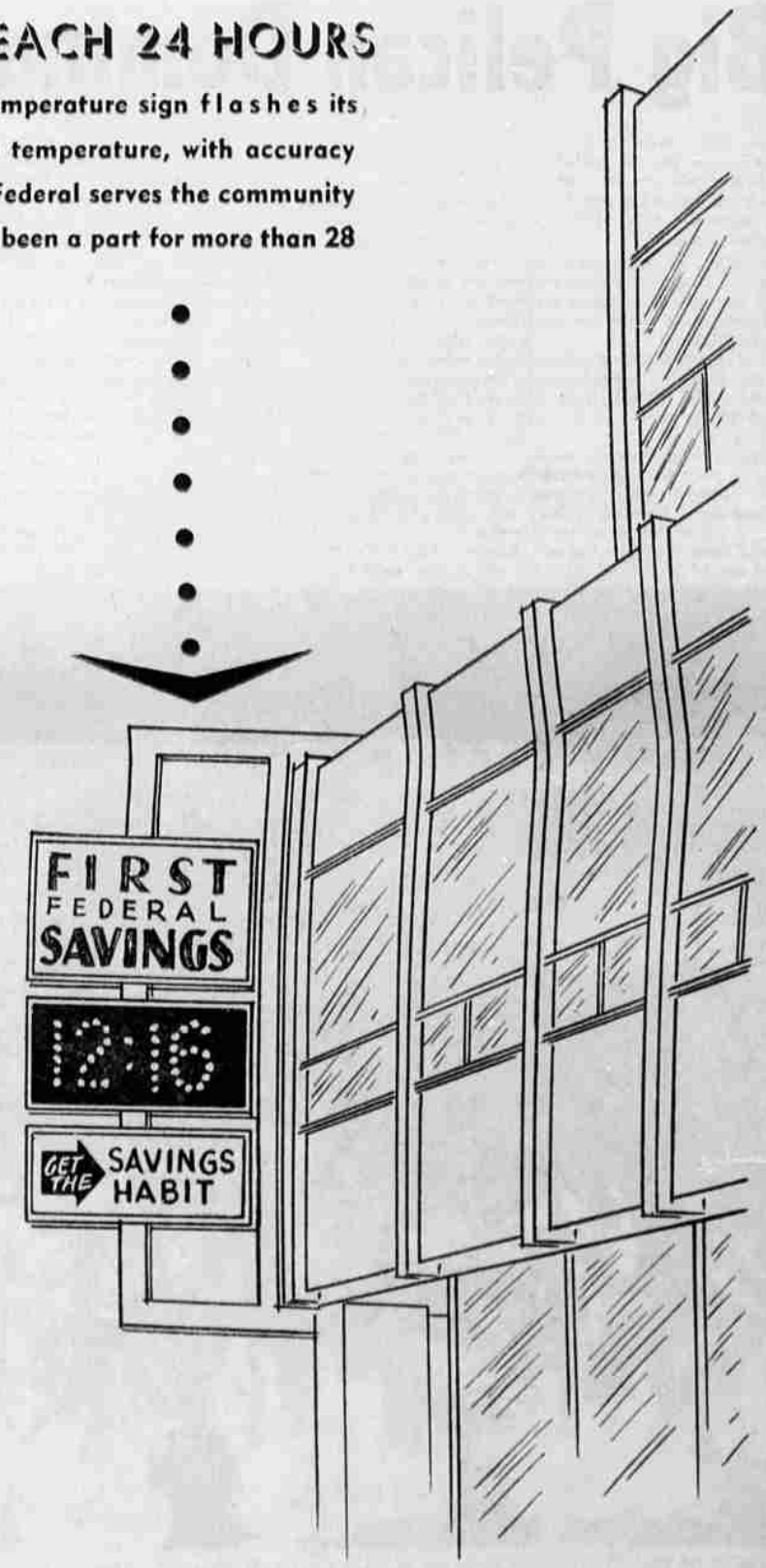

ANSWERS TO SOME QUESTIONS

ILLUMINATION is by 96 40 watt lamps, controlled by a huge system of silver contact points.

FOUR electric motors power the mechanism, effecting 17,280 reading changes each 24 hours.

SIGN WEIGHS about 1800 pounds.

Over 2 **MILES** of copper wire was used in the intricate wiring system.

TIME is controlled by a self-correcting synchronous motor.

TEMPERATURE is electronically measured by a device similar to mechanisms used by the U.S. Weather Bureau.

WIND OR SUN has no direct effect upon temperature readings.

STATEMENT OF CONDITION

DECEMBER 31, 1962

ASSETS		LIABILITIES		
FIRST MORTGAGE LOANS AND OTHER FIRST LIENS ON REAL ESTATE	21,040,150.46	SAVINGS ACCOUNTS		24,619,596.99
LOANS ON SAVINGS ACCOUNTS	269,538.39	LOANS IN PROGRESS		213,141.98
OTHER LOANS	116,388.16	OTHER LIABILITIES		98,658.59
INVESTMENTS AND SECURITIES	4,160,000.00	SPECIFIC RESERVES		8,293.94
CASH ON HAND AND IN BANKS	1,542,644.96	GENERAL RESERVES	2,229,128.98	
OFFICE BUILDING & EQUIPMENT, LESS DEPRECIATION	342,676.72	UNDIVIDED PROFITS	361,871.59	2,591,000.27
DEFERRED CHARGES AND OTHER ASSETS	59,293.38			27,530,692.07
	27,530,692.07			

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