

Bob White In Oregon

The spring call of the male gave this bird its name "bob-white." It is the best known game bird throughout the United States, generally quail through the north where the ruffed grouse is called "partridge." But Bob-white is often called "partridge" in the southern states. It is a bird highly sought by the sportsmen, a bird that is a valuable friend of the farmer.

In our Oregon country, Bob-white is loved by all. Since his coming many years ago, there has never been an open season in this state. No bird gladdens the heart of the Oregon farmer more than Bob-white as he calls from the top of an old rail fence, for the larger part of our farmers knew him in bare-foot days among the hills of the eastern states. He is the friend and companion about the garden and field. His call means gladness and satisfaction. To some of my farmer friends, he is always an optimist. If a shower is needed, one may hear Bob-white calling—"More-wet! More-wet!" After a dreary downpour, that has lasted for several days, Bob-white is sure to mount an old brush heap and sing just as confidently—"No-more-wet! No-more-wet! No-more-wet!"

The history of the introduction of the Bob-white quail into Oregon would be very interesting if it were complete. A few birds were brought in from the east thirty or thirty-five years ago and liberated in the Willamette valley.

Mr. J. H. Raley of Pendleton writes that during the fall of 1893 he secured sixty Bob-white quail from the Willamette valley and liberated them on McKay creek on the place where he was then living. This accounts for the coveys of Bob-white quail along the Umatilla river west of Pendleton. During the summer of 1911, I heard several Bob-white quail calling on the grounds of the state hospital near Pendleton. They thrive well in the patches of willow and cottonwood along the river.

Years ago, Bob-white quail were introduced into the Boise valley in Idaho and from this point they have undoubtedly spread to eastern Oregon in the vicinity of Vale and Ontario in Malheur county and along the Snake river in Wallawa county.

Bob-white are also found in the northern part of Umatilla county and it may be these birds spread north from those that were introduced at Pendleton in 1893; or they may possibly have been introduced by some one in that locality.

During the summer of 1899 while on a cruise up the Willamette river with Herman T. Bohlman, we saw and heard Bob-white quail near Independence. They were not uncommon at that time in the country around Salem and south to Independence.

During the spring of 1908, I heard a Bob-white quail at Risley station between Portland and Oregon City. During the early spring of 1909, I frequently heard Bob-white quail calling in the vicinity of Jennings Lodge. I am very sure a pair nested in that locality, but after the summer was over I saw nothing more of these birds, nor were they there during the following year. They were likely killed by house cats.

In September of 1912, I saw three different flocks of Bob-white quail within a distance of a mile or so of Sherwood in the southeastern part of Washington county.

Mr. C. C. Bryan, deputy game warden of Corvallis, reports that on May 20, 1912, he heard numbers of Bob-white quail calling about three miles west of Lebanon. He reports that during 1911, he saw but very few of these quail in the southern part of Benton county, but in 1912, the birds had materially increased in that locality.

During the fall of 1911, Mr. George Russell, deputy game warden at Gaston, reports seeing a number of coveys of Bob-white quail in Polk, Benton and Linn counties.

Bob-white quail are now fairly common in the Willamette valley from the foothills of the Cascades west to the foothills of the Coast range, and from Oregon City south to Albany, and especially in the vicinity of Corvallis and north to Dallas, McMinnville and Forest Grove. At the present time, they are perhaps more abundant in parts of Benton, Polk, Yamhill and Marion counties than in any other parts of the state. During the winters of 1913 and 1914, about 200 of these birds were trapped in Yamhill county, near McMinnville, and liberated in other parts of the state. During the winters of 1914 and 1915, over 300 were trapped near the same localities to stock other sections.

During 1913, a covey of Bob-white quail was reported near Grants Pass, but at that time, as far as I know, there were practically none of these birds to the south, especially through the Rogue river valley and across the Cascade range into Klamath, Crook,

Lake and Harney counties. Since then Bob-white quail have been liberated in Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Coos, Multnomah and Klamath counties.

For data on the economic value of the Bob-white quail and the rearing of the Bob-white quail in captivity, the reader is referred to two excellent articles by Prof. C. F. Hodge of the University of Oregon, published in the issues of The Oregon Sportsman for January and February, 1914.—W. L. F. in Oregon Sportsman.

MANY UNCERTAIN FACTORS.

Course of This Year's Hop Market Cannot Be Forecasted.

Whether new-crop hops will sell at record prices this year or whether they will not bring what it costs to grow them are questions hopmen would like to answer but cannot. There are so many uncertain conditions confronting the trade that it would be hazardous to make a guess as to the probable course of prices. Circumstances may arise that will send the market to either extreme. It is not beyond the range of possibility in these war times for events to occur between now and next winter that will put prices on a higher plane than known in recent years. It must be acknowledged, however, that all the signs at present point to a diminished rather than an enlarged use of new Pacific hops. In the domestic trade consumption is likely to be reduced without any corresponding decline in output. Dry territory is steadily growing and the effect of prohibition laws is already seen in the efforts of brewers in some of the states to dispose of their reserve supply of hops. In the meantime American growers are preparing to harvest a big crop, and if weather conditions are right the yield may be a bumper one.

THE STUDEBAKER IS POPULAR.

California Sales Last Year Are Almost Unbelievable.

Mr. C. J. Shreve, local representative of the Studebaker cars, says: "The number of Studebaker automobiles sold in California last year would be almost unbelievable by one unacquainted with the car were the figures not given out officially by the state itself. Thirteen thousand three hundred thirty-six Studebakers were sold and delivered, a number of thousands in excess of any other machine listed to sell at over \$650.

"As the 1915 sales are already above what they were for the same period of time in 1914, they increased over 400 per cent last year, there is no doubt in the world that this year will set the record far above last. Studebaker dealers are already discounting the sale of 20,000 machines by speculating on how many will be sold in excess of that number. The Studebaker is one of the most popular cars in Oregon today and is a favorite with the people."

Makes A Correction.

Mr. J. M. Campbell of this city objects to the statement made by a Monmouth writer and published in this paper to the effect that of the two hundred men who went to the Yakima Indian war from Polk county only seven are still living. Mr. Campbell gives the number at fourteen, they being L. W. Loughary of Luckiamute, A. Byerley of Dallas, J. L. Collins of Dallas, J. T. Hayter of Dallas, J. L. Morrison of Rock Creek, J. M. Campbell of Dallas, H. Augden of Idaho, M. V. Taylor of Oakland, California, Theo. I. Ingalls of Washington, Dave Hege of Independence, Sam Tetherow of Falls City, P. T. Cunningham of Gilliam county, Tig. Kibby of Luckiamute and Wes. Williams of near Portland.

Barham on Honor List.

Waivers have been asked and secured on seven members of the San Francisco baseball club. Of this list one was cut loose yesterday in the person of pitcher Mickey Shadrer and Radie Baterwald is being held temporarily pending some deal to dispose of his services to some other club. This leaves on the roll of honor four of the young pitchers and an outfielder, to-wit: Wayne Barham, Johnny Couch, Arthur Benham, Ira Colwell, Joe Tobin.

Date Set For Merger.

The formal taking over by the Southern Pacific company of the Portland, Eugene & Eastern, the Willamette Pacific, the Salem, Falls City & Western, the Pacific Railroad & Navigation company, the Coos Bay, Roseburg & Eastern Railroad & Navigation company, and the Corvallis & Eastern will occur April 7.

Spraying for Insects.

The following suggestions for immediate use are made by Professor H. F. Wilson, department of Entomology, Oregon Agricultural college:

Now is the proper time to apply dormant sprays for the control of certain insects on orchard trees. Spray apple and pear trees just as the buds are breaking with lime sulphur 1 to 12 plus Blackleaf-40, 1 to 1200. This will catch the blister mite, red spiders, aphids, and scale insects. On peaches and prunes use the same spray for aphids and peach twig miner.

PLAY AT SPRING VALLEY.

Parent-Teachers' Association There Gives Two Splendid Plays.

The plays staged at Spring Valley under the auspices of the Parent-Teacher association were a marked success. The Messrs. Larkins, in their comic Irish roles, were the hit of the evening. Mr. Guy Simkins, as Jason the farmer, and his friend, Josh Arrowroot (Lloyd Simkins) were hard to beat. Eugene Kirkwood, a tramp, flirting with an orphan girl whom Arlie Simkins as Malcolm Gray the villain, and Mrs. Fenton as Mrs. Gimmer, a painted grass widow from the city, are trying to abduct, was very comical. Mrs. Kirkwood played the role of waif and orphan with success. Miss Rebecca Linstrom, as the farmer's old maid sister, Becky, was the best acted part in the play. Miss Mabel Smith, as the secretly married wife of Malcolm Gray, did excellent work in all three acts.

Those from Lone Star were Mr. Claude Larken and Mrs. Fenton, Lloyd Larkin, Ersel Martin, Kathryn Brigham. Those from Spring Valley were Guy and Lloyd Simkins, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Kirkwood, Miss Rebecca Linstrom.

Miss Mabel Smith, Miss Georgia Simkins, Hazel Ray and Belle Fosnot were the girls and maid in the play, "A Case of Suspension." Miss Brigham playing the role of matron of the select girls seminary. Elmer Ray, in the role of professor, and Lloyd Larkin, as the hired man, were successes. Messrs. Jack Simkins, Ersel Martin and Delmar Versteeg were the college boys who were invited to the girls' spread. Mrs. Ray and Mrs. Fosnot gave some much appreciated help to the play, "A Case of Suspension," and by their help made it a success.

The money received for the bandana baskets was \$20. It will be used to buy play apparatus for Spring valley's school, after the expenses of the play has been deducted.

Miss Viva Ray sang at the opening of the program, "Why Did You Make Me Love You?"

Mr. and Mrs. John Fosnot played between the plays and Mr. Bush and Mrs. Simkins played between the acts of "The Old Dairy Homestead." Mrs. Fenton and Mr. Claude Larkin sang "It's a Long Way to Tipperary" as a duet.

FIRST HALF ENDS WEDNESDAY.

Taxpayers Subject to Interest Penalty After That Day.

Next Wednesday will be the last day on which first half payment taxes will be received without interest. After March 31 all taxes, the first half of which has not been paid, will be subject to interest at the rate of 1 per cent per month until August 31, when they become delinquent and subject to a 10 per cent penalty and 12 per cent interest per annum. First half payments made by March 31 entitle taxpayers to defer second half payments until September 30. After that date the second half becomes delinquent and subject to the 10 per cent penalty and 12 per cent interest.

Persons making first half payments by March 31 should not proffer second half payments until after May 22, as the old tax law will not be superseded until that date and interest must be collected under its terms until May 22. Taxpayers can make payments only in half or full amounts. Many taxpayers who have offered checks for over half payments have been compelled to write new checks because the law provides only for half or full payments.

County Treasurer Holman is now experiencing a rush, and this will probably gain momentum until the closing hour on the last day of the month, many hold back their payments as long as possible.

Fair Premium List.

The Observer was, on Tuesday, awarded the contract for printing the annual premium list for the Polk county fair, which will be held in September. The booklet will contain approximately forty pages, and will include the premiums offered in the Industrial school fair and also those of the Poultry association, which events will be held simultaneously with the county fair. The list will be ready for distribution early in April.

Read The Observer's want column. It is the column in which some genuine bargains may be found. If you want to rent a hop yard; if you want to buy an auto; if you want to buy a gasoline engine; if you want to buy a horse; if you want to buy sheep; if you want to rent a house; if you want

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Daily we hear it said, "Well, we did not know that you carried this or that," or "You sold it at such and such a price." Why not also YOU come in and see what kind of merchandise the Golden Rule carries and what its prices are. Can we expect you to look over our spring lines?

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Ladies' Muslin Gowns,	39, 49, 69, 98c,	\$1.49, \$1.98
Ladies' Muslin Drawers,	19, 25, 49, 69, 98c	
Children's Black Bloomers,	- - - - -	25c
Children's Muslin Pants,	- - - - -	10, 15, 25, 49c
Children's Muslin Skirts,	- - - - -	23, 49c
Children's Gauze Vests,	- 8 1-3, 10, 15, 18,	23c
Children's Gauze Union Suits,	- - - - -	25, 49c
Children's Nazareth Waists,	- - - - -	23c
Children's Ruben Shirts,	- - - - -	25c
Ladies' Gauze Vests,	5, 10, 12 1-2, 18, 25, 39,	49c
Ladies' Gauze Union Suits,	- 25, 49, 69, 98c	
Ladies' Lawn Waists	- - - - -	98c
Ladies' Gingham Aprons,	- - - - -	49c
Ladies' House Dresses,	- - - - -	98c

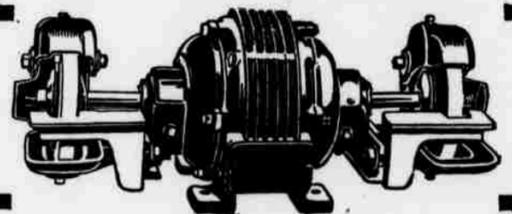
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