

U.S. Offers New Sanctuaries For Dwindling Golden Eagles

The killing of 48 eagles in Wyoming recently has alarmed naturalists fighting to save them from extinction in North America.

About 30 bald and golden eagles were killed by poison, presumably set out to kill coyotes. Fifteen birds were electrocuted when they landed on power lines. And although they are protected by federal law, at least three golden eagles were shot by hunters.

The great birds that once were seen over most of the United States are found today chiefly in Wyoming, Montana, Idaho and California, the National Geographic Society says. Some spend winters in Texas and New Mexico.

About 800 pairs of nesting eagles remain in the United States, Assistant Secretary of the Interior Nathaniel Reed reports, and their future is uncertain.

In 1967 researchers found

only 18 pairs of golden eagles in a 1,260-square-mile area of Montana, or one pair for every 70 square miles. Poisons and hunting continue to take their toll, and conservationists had hoped Wyoming's remote canyons might provide a refuge.

At least 20,000 golden eagles were shot by hunters using light planes in the 20 years before the practice was banned in 1962. Today, both golden eagles and bald eagles are on the Interior Department list of endangered species. Killing them is a federal offense.

While the bald eagle is America's national bird, Persian armies and Roman legions marched behind the standards of the golden eagle. Shakespeare described it as a "feather'd king."

In falconry, only kings and emperors were permitted to

hunt with the eagles. The spirited birds were used for hunting in the time of Kublai Khan, and hunters still employ them in parts of China and the Soviet Union.

By the time an eagle is four weeks old its sight is eight times sharper than a man's. Its remarkable eyes can focus from telescopic almost to microscopic vision, and a mature golden eagle can detect a rabbit fully half a mile away.

The eagles suffer unfairly for their reputation as hunters. Ranchers kill them for allegedly preying on sheep. But studies indicate the birds live mainly on rabbits, squirrels, snakes, and smaller birds and rarely on sheep.

A survey in Scotland showed that in a region producing some 4,000 sheep in five years, only seven became meals for eagles. These may have been lambs that died at birth, for eagles will feed on carrion.

Naturalist John Craighead reported in the September 1967 issue of National Geographic that observations of the remains of 980 animals found in 38 series in Montana disclosed only two lambs, and these may have been dead before the eagles flew off with them.

The golden eagles' chances of making a comeback remain slim. The birds mature at five years and may live more than 40. But a pair produces less than two eggs in two years, and not all of these hatch.

Some eaglets die in falls from cliff-top nests. Other eagles elude hunters only to alight on power poles, cross the wires by flapping their six-foot wings, and electrocute themselves.

Three Army Distance Runners Take Top AAU Team Honors

WASHINGTON (ANF) — Three Army distance runners put together strong performances to take the team championship in the National AAU Marathon at Eugene, Ore.

Sp5 Russ Pate, Ft. Ord, Calif., paced the soldiers in the grueling 26-mile, 885-yard event with a time of 2 hours, 27 minutes and 5 sec-

onds, good for 13th place in the field of 103.

Second Lt. Ron Sayers of Ft. Bragg, N.C., was 17th in 2:29:17 and Second Lt. Tom Raliff, Ft. Sill, Okla., finished 20th in 2:30:09 to complete the winning team.

The individual title in the marathon was won by former Army standout Ken Moore, now running for the Oregon Track Club, in 2:16:48.

Some ants are so fond of the "honeydew" food produced by feeding places and corral them aphids, the "cow" insects of inside the anthill in times of the ant world, that they may danger.



SEW GOOD - Girls improve their sewing skills this summer in a workshop sponsored by the home extension department. Here Susan Townsend (seated at machine) gets some help on a zipper from PACE worker Julia Augustoni, who is instructing the workshop. In the background, Debra Scarboro presses a seam.

To Operate Local Cars, \$6,417,000 A Year

(Special to The News-Journal)
NEW YORK, June 26 — Vacation costs, for Hoke County residents who will be taking automobile trips this summer, will be higher than ever.

According to the American Automobile Association, which has just made a survey of such costs, travelers will have to pay more for food, overnight lodging, gasoline and most other items.

Prices are about 16 percent higher, on average, than they were two years ago, when a similar survey was made.

All in all, to travel comfortably, a Hoke County couple will need about \$46 a day, the figures show. That is \$6.50 more than the \$39.50 that was required in 1969. It will adequately take care of the necessities but not the frills.

On this basis, a two-week trip for the local couple will cost a minimum of \$644. It is exclusive of outlays they may wish to make for amusements, admissions to places of interest, souvenirs and the like.

Provided for, under this budget, are \$16 a day per couple for food and snacks, an increase of \$2 over the amount needed two years ago, \$17 for overnight accommodations, which is \$3 more than before, \$9 for gas and oil, a rise of 50 cents, and \$4 for tips and

miscellaneous expenses, as compared with \$3 previously. Assumed in the figures is that the couple will travel an average of 300 miles a day and get 14 miles to the gallon of gas.

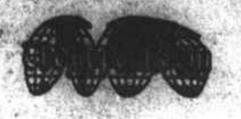
Also of importance to Hoke County residents is how much it is costing them per year to own and operate their cars.

According to the latest figures, released by the AAA, for a standard-size car in the popular price range, driven 10,000 miles a year, it comes to approximately \$1,550. This compares with \$1,448 two years ago.

Included is \$1,125 in fixed costs — for depreciation, insurance and registration fees — and \$425 in variable costs, for gas, oil, maintenance and tires.

Applied to Hoke County and to the 4,140 passenger cars registered, car ownership costs local drivers close to \$6,417,000 a year.

Gas stations in the area have been aided by the increase in auto travel. Their receipts per year now total \$2,202,000, topping the previous year's \$2,168,000.



Read John 10:7-16
They are all bent on their own ends, not on the cause of Christ Jesus. (Philippians 2:21, NEB)

My husband and I were at a drive-in movie. In the semi-darkness we noticed a child going toward the lighted area, where the refreshments and rest rooms were. In a few minutes, she came by on her return trip. She was sobbing because she had not found her father's car. She wailed, "Why are you hiding from me?" Then her father appeared out of the darkness. He just took her hand and led her back to the car — her security.

This story points to man's experience of God:
God is not playing "hard to get"; man has lost his sense of direction.
God is not dead; man has allowed his perception to become dulled.
Man has become confused by the "bright lights" and has lost his sense of direction, but God is watchful over us. In Him is our peace, our security.
PRAYER: Dear Father, in the confusion of modern living it is often difficult to find our way. Forgive us whenever we assume that the fault is Yours. Help us to reach out to You and accept Your guidance. Amen.



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