

## THE PRAIRIE CHICKEN

By E. LAURENCE PALMER

MANY well meaning conservationists spend much useless energy bemoaning the extinction of the Passenger Pigeon, the Heath Hen and the Dodo. They cannot possibly bring back these extinct birds. How much more sensible is the effort now being spent by the National Wildlife Federation to prevent the disappearance of the Prairie Chicken.



©1953 National Wildlife Federation  
Lesser Prairie Chicken

To call public attention to the plight of this bird, the Federation has selected the Prairie Chicken as the symbol for National Wildlife Week, March 15-21.

The Prairie Chicken is the king of native game birds of the grassy and shrubby interior of America just as the Turkey was the king of the wooded East and South's game birds. The Turkey is gradually increasing in numbers. Possibly a similar trend



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## SMITH RIVER

The Smith River P.-T.A. held its regular monthly meeting in the third grade room of the church, with President Mrs. Edna Samuelson presiding.

Plans were completed for the smorgasbord, to be held Saturday night.

The Humbolt-Del Norte Youth Conference is to be held Saturday evening, March 14, at Jefferson school in Eureka.

The third grade pupils, under the direction of their teach, Miss Ina Hansen, put on a patriotic program, with Jenni Westbrook, who spoke a few words of welcome, and announced the following program: song, "America," third grade pupils; poem, Sandra Back; song, "God Bless America"; poem, Ted McClung; poem, Frances Tedrick; closing song, "America the Beautiful," third grade; a cartoon drawing by Mrs. Stanley Barker. "The House Beside the Road." This poem was read by Mrs. John Ostrom. The meeting closed with refreshments served at the cafeteria room. The attendance prize was won by the seventh grade, having the largest number of parents present.

Plans are completed for the annual smorgasbord, sponsored by Smith River P.-T.A., to be held Saturday evening, March 14, at the Community hall when Scandinavian delicacies will be served to an expected large crowd. Plans are made to seat 200 at a time in the main hall. There will be plenty of food for all. Serving will begin at 5:30 and until 9:00 p.m. Ted Westbrook will entertain the visitors by playing the Hammond organ. Tickets are on sale in Brookings at Feed and Seed store, where anyone may purchase tickets. There will be plenty of entertainment for old and young.

The ladies of the Federated church in Crescent City were hostesses to the subdistrict meeting of Women's Society of Christian Service of Methodist church, held on Tuesday, March 10, at the church. Representatives from other societies attending this service from Fortuna, Ferndale, Rio Del, Arcata and Eureka in Humboldt county while those in Del Norte were from Klamath, Smith River and Guschu Indian Mission churches. New district officers for the coming year were installed with an interesting program enjoyed by all. Mrs. Richard Hurdle sang the Lord's Prayer to close the program, accompanied at the organ by Mrs. Robert Schroeder.

Mr. and Mrs. Burton Tyler and the latter's mother, Mrs. Mattie Knutson of State Line Motel, have returned home from two weeks' vacation trip, visiting relatives and friends at Watsonville and Sacramento valley. Mr. and Mrs. William Hall were in charge of motel and service station during their absence.

The Greyhound bus company has announced its new freight and ticket office at Frank Endert's drug store at Smith River with bus stops daily going north and south and tickets may be purchased by those who wish to travel by bus, and passengers can wait under shelter for the arrival of the bus.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Henry of Crawfordsville, Ore., were overnight guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Crook on Thursday night. They continued their trip to the southern part of the state.

Mrs. Clara Moore of Burns, Ore., is house guest of her grand-

mother to help the Prairie Chicken in 1952, just as a similar campaign in 1952 helped the Key Deer of Florida.

## Night Migrations Of Birds Studied By OSC Zoologists

(Special to The Pilot)

OREGON STATE COLLEGE—Night migrations of birds in Oregon are being charted from the first time this winter by Oregon State college zoologists as part of a vast continental research project.

More than 275 stations scattered from Alaska to Panama are cooperating in the study. At OSC, work is directed by Phillip C. Dumas, curator of the museum of natural history.

The night travels of birds are observed by telescope during full moon periods. Information is recorded as to numbers, relative size of birds and direction of flight as seen against the moon.

Because most birds have been found to migrate at night, the continental study is expected to supply a wealth of new information. Migrations depend in great measure upon the weather, with birds tending to move when they have a full "tail wind." This accounts for the great number of birds seen in flights at certain times of the year.

In Oregon, birds follow three general migration routes—along the coast, up and down the Willamette Valley and across central Oregon in the Bend-Redmond sec-

tion and family, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Owens and little daughter. The latter is great-grandchild of Mrs. Moore.

Following the nice warm sunshine for the past week, folks began to think spring was near. But the weather has changed to plenty of rain and wind.

tion. Geese headed for winter stay in central California from southern Idaho generally fly across the Malheur lake region.

One of the first birds to go in the fall and return in the spring is the hummingbird, according to Dumas. Nighthawks also beat an early retreat in the fall. A few birds, such as the robin and song sparrow stay around all winter, but most Oregon birds spend the cold weather in the balmy southern regions of this county or in central America.

Assisting Dumas in the migration study are Richard E. Freiburg, graduate assistant in zoology, and Brien K. McNabb, sophomore in zoology from Portland.

◆ New Wood Burning Plaques, Yeltons.

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