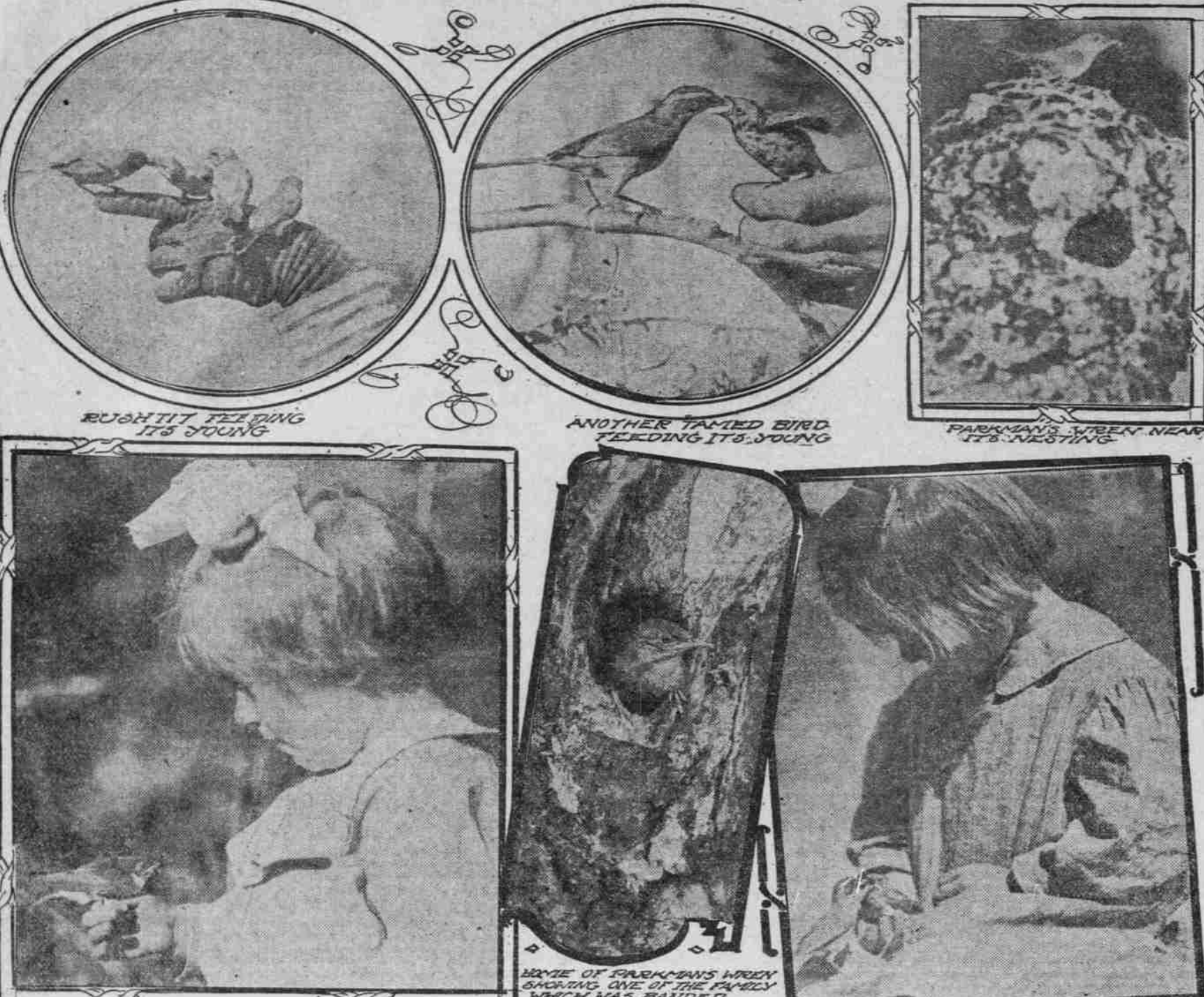


Lovers of Birds Studying Their Habits of Migration

Oregon Naturalist's Home on Willamette River Resort of Feathered Creatures That Become Tame.



ROUGH IT FEEDING ITS YOUNG

ANOTHER TAMED BIRD FEEDING ITS YOUNG

PARKMAN'S WREN NEAR ITS NESTING

YOUNG SWALLOWS WHICH HAD JUST BEEN BANNED

BLACK-THROATED SPARROW TAKEN JUST AFTER BEING BANNED

YOUNG OF PARKMAN'S WREN SWARMING OUT OF ITS NEST WHICH WAS BANNED LAST YEAR

MUCH interest was aroused among ornithologists recently when J. G. Martzoff, of Woodburn, found a bird drowned in a watering trough. One of its legs being encircled with a small band with the inscription "The Auk, New York, 3428." It was at first believed that this small feathered creature had been nested in the state of New York and had met death in a foreign state. However, this theory was disproved later when a letter, received by Mr. Martzoff from L. J. Cole of the University of Wisconsin, saying that the band was stamped on the bird's leg by William L. Finley, who lives on the Willamette River, between Portland and Oregon City.

Mr. Finley is one of the most enthusiastic of those on the Pacific Coast who are interested in the study of bird life, and is aiding the American Bird Breeding Association in its endeavor to procure data in regard to migratory birds.

Record Tells Story Partially.

At the time the bird was found at Woodburn, Mr. Finley was in Mexico. When he was informed of the incident on his return, he searched his records and found that the bird which had met its death in the trough was a Parkman's wren and was one of a family of six which were nested in his barn last year. Mr. Finley banded the entire family as soon as they were old enough to leave the nest, and he says it is likely that this bird and gone South, probably into Mexico, last winter, and had returned to Oregon this Spring to nest, but had not come back to the place where it was banded.

The migration of birds has been somewhat of a mystery to those interested in the scientific study of bird life. Although it is generally conceded that they migrate each year, it is not known to which of the different varieties of birds journey each winter from whence they come when they return to this country. Usually in September or October they have nested and reared their young, and the birds of the Northern districts flock to the South. Some go to Mexico and South America, and others as far south as the southern part of South America, where they spend the winter and return in the Spring to nest.

Habits Are Studied.

In order to learn something definite about the migration of the different species of birds, the American Bird Breeding Association has devised a plan whereby a record is kept of the birds that nest in the various localities. When the little bird is all feathered and almost ready to leave its nest, a small aluminum circlet is placed on its leg just above the foot. This circlet is so light of weight that it does not injure or annoy the bird in any way and does not inconvenience the wearer in its flight. Engraved on this aluminum band are the words: "Notified by the Auk, New York, followed by the number, whatever it may be. The Auk is an Eastern magazine which treats of the study of birds. When the Auk receives the advice that a bird has been found bearing a certain number, the records are referred to and it is ascertained in what territory the bird was banded. The person who did the banding, in turn, refers to his records for the history of the bird, which is given on the band, and it is ascertained where the bird nested and to what species it belonged.

Public Interest Desired.

It is the desire of the association to interest the general public in this subject to the extent that when a bird is found dead or is captured, the aluminum band will be looked for and if such is found on the bird's leg, notification will be given as requested in this way if the bird so banded notices the legs, southward and meets its death there, or it is banded in the South and goes North, it can be determined in what locality the bird was nested.

While there are numerous places in the East where birds are banded in this way, Mr. Finley says that he is the only one who has done anything of this kind on the Pacific Coast, and that the case of

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country to conquer the difficulties of a region devoid of fuel, water, oil and power. We have a state law that imposes a heavy tax and restriction on all of the projects. Now for the Government to duplicate the best investments they could make of this character and deter the material progress of this region. It is a step backward, and not forward. I have submitted this project to Eastern investors who have turned it down. It can only be developed by the investment of myself and associates. We are ready to go ahead.

Case No. 7.

We do not care to incur any additional expense until this question is settled. Will you kindly ascertain if a convention for us to be initiated in our work if we have any interest in the project? We will accept our maps and filing for a reservoir site, in the event we present them to the proper office.

To more clearly explain, I am enclosing map of proposed dam site. It is time for us to begin our work if it is to be actual construction August 1, 1910, therefore an early decision is of great importance to you, for this is in your district.

H. V. GATES.

FOR A CONVENTION LEAGUE

An Organization Would Be of Much Benefit to Portland.

PORTLAND, July 27.—(To the Editor.)—A number of leading business men of Portland propose to establish and maintain a convention league, having for its purpose the securing of a very desirable convention possible for this city. The Hibernian convention, just closed, is not without its lesson as to the value of such a convention for any city or state. Thousands of happy, enthusiastic visitors have just returned to their homes in the East and will tell their neighbors of this wonderful country we have here, and of all the royal hospitality and good fellowship of Portland people. This policy would be "bread cast upon the waters," and will return a hundredfold the time and money expended in securing it. Thousands of people will visit this state as a result of the good report carried back East. Our business men did not lose money as a result of their visit.

There is an old saying, "comparisons are odious," but I believe they are also valuable, when properly considered, and I wish to point out what California has accomplished within nine months through the medium of the San Francisco Convention League. Our enterprising neighbor to the south secured eighteen National and state conventions during the past nine months. This does not include the Jeffries-Johnson match, which the league secured, but had its plans spoiled by Governor

"Conservation" in Eastern Oregon

One Man's Experience in Trying to Use the Power of John Day River, and How the Government Balked the Enterprise.

HILLSBURO, Or., July 28.—(To the Editor.)—The timely, based-on-fact editorial in The Oregonian regarding conservation vs. the development and progress of our state are being corroborated in actual results every day. Here is a least out of my own experience. I attach letters explanatory of what I tried to do on the John Day and the result. After completing surveys and estimates, I prepared a prospectus of this project, submitted it to a number of capitalists, the so-called "interests," combinations and trusts, Chicago and New York. Not one would entertain the proposition. Then I and my Oregon associates pledged the capital necessary to build, Morrow and Gilliam County people enthusiastic. We have paid the state for the use of the water, but the lands upon which to build a dam and powerhouse belong to the Government, and there is no way we can secure it or the use of it. We have expended our last dollar on the project and it is not attractive enough to induce others to do so. It is only another example of a socialistic conservation epidemic gone on a rampage.

H. V. GATES.

Washington, Dec. 31, 1909.—R. V. Gates, Hillsboro, Or.—Sir: In reply to your letter of December 11, 1909, addressed to Hon. W. H. Ellis, which was personally brought to this office by Mr. Ellis, regarding power development on the John Day River, Oregon, and in which you ask if the Land Department will accept maps and filings for a reservoir site for power development on land now withdrawn:

The Department is now refusing to ac-

snowbirds, four bluebirds, three thrushes, one night hawk and one goldfinch. All of these, he said, were nested almost in his dooryard.

Home Is Bird Rendezvous.

Mr. Finley has for ten years studied the taming and photographing of wild birds. His place, which consists of ten acres on the banks of the Willamette River, at Jennings Lodge, is a great rendezvous for wild birds, and they in time become so gentle that they will eat from the hand. It is explained, however, that the process of taming birds is a difficult and slow one and must be pursued with much care and patience. Also is this the case, Mr. Finley says, in the photographing of birds. Even where the bird is fairly tame, it requires many days to accomplish the feat of getting one picture.

Mr. Finley is the author of "American Birds." His recent trip to Arizona, New Mexico and Texas was for the purpose of studying bird life on the deserts.

Every year for three years," said Mr. Finley, "a humming bird has nested in a little maple tree near my house, and while I have no way of knowing definitely, still I feel sure it is the same bird that returns each Spring to nest, after having spent the winter in the South."

Mr. Finley last year banded 41 birds in all, seven robins, 14 violet-green swallows, eight Parkman's wrens, three

in townships 7 and 8 south, and ranges 27 and 28 east W. M. is a deep, rocky canyon, the walls of basaltic formation, the slopes ranging from 10 to 70 degrees. The first benches, or table lands, on top, from 1000 to 1500 feet above the bed of the river, are about 30 feet to 100 feet wide, not exceeding 300 feet at any point during high water. At the dam site planned the river falls about 30 feet to the mile, going up stream the rise is quite regular, but gradually increasing, until at 25 miles from the dam site, the rise is about 100 feet to the mile. There is no little agricultural land lying along the stream, it is not worth mentioning. Nor is it practical to irrigate water by canals to reach irrigable lands below the dam site, as planned.

Reservoir sites.—For the entire distance of 25 miles from the dam site to the mouth of the walls of the stream, where storage reservoirs could be created. The only place possible where a dam for power would create, and this could only be done during the minimum use of water, is at the peak of the land, each and every 24 hours.

Here is a very poor site for the Middle and North Forks I made careful measurements of the water and, on October 12, 1908, I found by the dam site, the North Fork 80 second feet. On August 31, 1909, I measured the North Fork at proposed dam site, and found 68 second feet; one mile below I found 72 second feet. In November, 1908, I measured the North Fork, six miles above the junction, and found 150 second feet. During December, 1908, at the same place, I made several approximations and found 150 to 170 second feet. Occasionally a rise of a day or two would rise it would reach a normal, as above.

My conviction was that the main river and its tributaries, if properly developed, could produce a power of 2000 to 4000 second feet; July, 200 second feet; August, 200 second feet; September, 200 second feet; October, November and December, 200 second feet.

I have acted in good faith, have expended on surveys, legal advice, filing fees and expenses over \$4000. I delayed filing maps and data in the land office for a reservoir site on Government lands until I had corrected and perfected my surveys, and now I learn that the lands I sought are among those recently withdrawn for power sites.

The towns to be served by this project are, and distant from the plant, as follows:

Popo	100
1000 Miles	2
Hillsboro	1500
Harmon	1500
Longview	200
Longview	200
Perse	800
Condon	1000

These towns use, annually, for generating steam or power, 7000 cords of wood, or its equivalent. It is shipped in from Portland, 200 miles distant, or hauled from the forest, 15 to 25 miles distant. It makes very expensive power, and corresponding high rates for use of power.

The North Fork of the John Day River,

of the proposition that it pays a city to attract conventions, but it is worth while to inquire whether Portland needs two mercantile bodies to work in the same cause.

Only a few days ago within the Commercial Club there was formed a Convention Bureau with precisely the same object that Mr. Dixon's associates are striving to attain. Will it not be better for the hotel interests to join with the Commercial Club? Most of the men who would be asked to contribute toward the proposed league are members of the Commercial Club, which embraces the Convention Bureau. Why approach them for money from two sides? Get together.

GIRL BARTENDERS MANY

American Men Who Visit Britain Surprised at Number.

LONDON, July 30.—(Special.)—American men who visit Great Britain for the first time often express surprise at seeing the number of girl bartenders in the saloons. Although the tendency to employ men for the liquor business is on the increase, the number of girls so engaged is very large. In their interests, a Rest Club has been started, with Princess Louise, of Schleswig Holstein as president. The Countess of Bective, another earnest worker in various philanthropic enterprises, is vice-president.

Girl bartenders when off duty can take a rest any afternoon at the club, and on Sundays, meetings of a social, musical and religious character are held. Another of the girls' society friends, Mrs. Ernest Palmer, occasionally invites the fair manipulators of the beer engine to an "at home" at her Grosvenor Place mansion.

How It Happened.

Louisville Courier-Journal.

You've heard that antic story. The tortoise ran a race. And grabbed a lot of glory. A most unusual case.

The maddest hare or hatter. Has evidently guessed. The details of the matter. Were partially suppressed. The old yarn is misleading. Here's how the trick was done. The hare was plucked for. And so the tortoise won.