

## Nearly Extinct Whooping Crane May Soon Become Mother in Texas Zoo

Austwell, Tex., Apr. 25—(U.P.) Josephine, the only female whooping crane in captivity, may become a mother.

It all depends, of course, on whether there's a little whooper inside the shell of an egg in her nest.

She laid an egg last year but pecked it to pieces when she learned, after a long session on the nest, that it was infertile.

The rarely-seen whooping crane is the tallest bird in the United States.

**Discovered Saturday**  
Josephine's precious egg was discovered last Saturday by Julian A. Howard, manager of the Arkansas national wildlife

refuge, which is maintained by the United States department of interior.

Howard said he became suspicious when Josephine's mate, a raucous whooper known as "Crip," strolled to the edge of his fenced enclosure alone at feeding time.

"We wondered what had happened to Josephine, so we decided to take a look," the manager said.

Howard and another official of the refuge climbed to the top of a 45-foot tower in the 47,260-acre preserve and looked through field glasses at the marshes where Josephine and Crip abide.

They saw Josephine in a nesting position. The men descended from the tower and walked slowly through the marshes until they were within a whooper's wing-spread from Josephine.

**Intrusion Resented**  
Josephine resented the intrusion and shifted her position, enabling Howard to see the egg. Both men withdrew when Crip indicated pompously they were violating the privacy of a whooping crane which is trying to replenish a species rapidly facing extinction.

"I don't know the dimensions of that egg, but it's bigger than a turkey egg," Howard said.

Howard said that he put Crip in the vast enclosure with Josephine last winter and they immediately became fond of each other. Crip was taken captive two years ago when he injured a wing.

The egg is so priceless that Howard said he will not venture into the enclosure again.

Howard said he did not know the length of a whooping crane's incubation period, but estimated it as "22 or 23 days."

A special meeting was held in the Union hall Monday evening by the CIO.

Donald Baker and Bill Spears are working on Elk creek.

Mrs. Harry Hereford is staying with her daughter, Mrs. Bill Fontaine, in Medford, for several days.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Klumph visited Mrs. Klumph's grandmother, Mrs. Case, here Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Rodgers recently returned from Sacramento, Cal. Her mother, Mrs. Minnie De Fina, returned with them. While here she stays with her other daughter, Mrs. Les Scott.

Dog owners are reminded to keep their dogs tied up after May 1, whether licensed or not.

**Rogue River**  
Rogue River, Apr. 25—Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Smith were away from home Friday, when their son, Artie, and his wife passed through Rogue River on their way from Eugene to Pittsburg, Cal. They left word with a neighbor that they would return in a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hughes entertained a group of friends at a birthday dinner and card party Thursday evening in honor of Mrs. Walter Carroll. The dinner table was beautifully decorated with lilacs from the Hughes gardens.

Lloyd Marrow Jr. is recovering rapidly from a tonsilectomy performed Friday.

Mrs. C. A. Parr returned from the hospital Thursday. After undergoing two operations on her eye, she is much better and her husband reports she is recovering the use of her eye.

Four new members were present at the regular business men's meeting at the VFW club rooms, Thursday evening. After a short business meeting, the movie of Oregon scenery and power development was shown by Jim Cummins of the California Oregon over company. Members voted to continue the twice-a-month dinner meetings for the present. Dave Gelvin, Bob Gail and Phil Engle were appointed on a program committee.

Ladies of the Church of God met at the home of Mrs. Lizzie Hatch, Thursday, and tied a com-

fort. The sewing circle has met regularly for many years to sew and make quilts for gifts and for needy families. Next meeting will be at the Hatch home.

Lions auxiliary members held a cooked food sale at the Gelvin Groceteria Saturday. Their large supply of food was sold out early and many customers were un-supplied.

Memphis, Tenn.—(U.P.)—Mrs. E. G. Ballenger has learned that silence from her 2½-year-old daughter, Nora, usually means trouble. The ominous silence set in as the first of a series of dinner guests arrived at the Ballenger home. When Mrs. Ballenger found Nora, the child was busily feeding the dinner to the family dogs.

Lake Itasca, in Minnesota, is the source of the Mississippi river.

Whitman, Mass.—(U.P.)—Valedictorian of the 1950 class at the Whitman high school is Evelyn Harrington. Her sister Ruth enjoyed the same honor in 1944 and her sister Frances in 1941.

Students of the Holt high school are so proud of their school they spent part of their spring vacation scrubbing and painting it. The students went to work in two shifts and finished the major part of the job in two days.

Long, Long Ago  
Paw, Mich.—(U.P.)—While spring cleaning at the depot of the Chesapeake and Ohio, Roscoe Seavers found an old Sears, Roebuck catalogue advertising a Sears car for only \$325, guaranteed to run 25 miles an hour.

South Miami, Fla.—(U.P.)—A voter here said a proposal to reduce South Miami's city commission from seven to five members seemed very sensible to him. "That means there'll be only five-sevenths as much confusion," he pointed out.

Time Bomb Plotter Faces 6 Counts of Attempted Murder

Santa Monica, Cal., Apr. 25—(U.P.)—Time bomb plotter John H. Grant, whose plan to murder his wife and children by bombing an airliner came within minutes of success, will be arraigned today on six counts of attempted murder.

The 31-year-old aircraft engineer also is charged with one count of violating California's safety code.

**Driven by Debts**  
Grant admitted the plot to time-bomb a United Airliner April 17 with 16 persons aboard to kill his wife, Betty, 29, and two children for \$25,000 insurance. He said more than \$6000 in debts had driven him to the murder play.

Deputy District Attorney George Kemp said only six counts of attempted murder were charged to cover Grant's family and the plane's three crew members. The other passengers had scattered, and it would be too difficult to insure their presence at a trial, Kemp said.

**Banned by Statute**  
The state safety code bans placing of explosives on public carriers, similar to a federal statute which prohibits placing of explosives on an airplane.

Grant's gasoline-rigged bomb was removed from the airplane only four minutes before its takeoff for San Diego, Cal. The aircraft engineer shouted a warning to a cargo handler just as the suitcase containing the bomb began emitting smoke.

Butte Falls

Butte Falls, Apr. 25—A number from Butte Falls who are interested in scouts and scouting attended the recent scouting exposition at the Medford armory. Troop 45 of Butte Falls was among the scout groups having booths at the exposition. Badges were given by the boys to visitors at their booth that displayed a knowledge of safe fire-building practices.

Loren Moore is in a Medford hospital. He underwent surgery Saturday.

Last Friday the high school student body of Eagle Point visited the fish hatchery. They were shown around by Everett Moore who explained the habits of the fish.

Mrs. Bob Driskell, who was recently operated on in a Medford hospital is recovering nicely and is expected home soon. While Mrs. Driskell is away her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hodgson, had Jimmie with them in Prospect.

Mrs. Floyd Price is visiting in Washington with her brother. He came down after her in his car.

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