

## Diary of a Bird Watcher



Saturday, May 17.

My wife says she has been hearing wood pewees down by the corner quite often. In fact she heard one several times while we were sitting on our patio eating dessert. I have not heard one for a long time. Apparently the pitch of their voice is beyond my hearing range, although I could probably hear it if I got close enough. Her identification is a good one, though, because a wood pewee is one of those flycatchers that is easier to recognize by voice than by sight.

Sunday, May 18.

We took a short drive in the late afternoon of this fine day. A boy had been telling me about finding some kind of owl near the Mason & Ehrman warehouse, so on our way home we stopped and drove by that area. Sure enough, in a field nearby we saw a burrowing owl. I was glad to find another place where they are resident. Very likely a closer observation would reveal several and they are probably raising some young in an abandoned gopher hole as is their custom.

One reason we are glad to find these picturesque ground owls in another place is that we are afraid they may be crowded out of the field near the Hoover School where civilization is threatening to engulf them. R. B. keeps track of the owls there and at last report there were still four or five.

Monday, May 19.

A morning appointment (which I can't always avoid on this day off) made it impossible for us to take our usual extended birding trip. However, at the last minute I decided I could spare an hour and a half, so I jumped in the car and scooted out to Hoover lake by myself. There, sitting on the lake very calmly was a handsome western grebe and with it a not quite so handsome but much rarer red necked (Holl's) grebe. I looked it up in the Peterson bird guide that I always have with me in the car and studied it at close range with my binoculars. I never had a better view of an unusual bird. Peterson says it is a "rare migrant inland". Gabrielson and Jewett don't have any record of it for this part of the state and apparently no Oregon record for the month of May. When I got back I called J. H. and he went out to see it; both grebes were still there.

This wasn't the end of this short trip either. I went on down Corey rd. and then a short distance down Gregory rd. There I think I have located the nesting area for the tricolored blackbirds. I strongly suspect that they are nesting in the willows and cattails in the draw just north of Gregory rd. I saw a number of them and heard their raucous songs. I hope to go back with rubber boots soon and verify a nesting record for this species in our valley.

There is no place like Hoover Lake and the area near it. I have seen more unusual birds there than any other place in the valley.

Tuesday, May 20.

I went to Eugene with a friend, starting at 6 in the morning. It was a pleasant trip and the weather ideal. After arriving at Eugene we were kept busy attending the conference sessions that we had gone to attend, except for a short walk to a nearby cemetery to see what birds were about. I saw some pretty ones, tanagers and black headed grosbeaks, but nothing unusual.

Wednesday, May 21.

My hosts in Eugene all went to work or to school by 8 or a little after so I had time to take a walk to that wooded cemetery on the hill before the conference sessions began. I kept hearing what I thought was a red eyed vireo, but it kept in the tops of the Douglas fir trees and I was never able to get a view of it. Although I feel fairly sure of the song I decided not to add it to my records because it is so long since I have heard it. I like to record all the birds I identify but



REV. GEORGE TROBOUGH  
Assigned to Idaho

### Minister Assigned To Idaho Church

The Rev. George A. Trobough, associate minister at First Methodist church, has been assigned as minister of the Jason Lee Methodist church, Blackfoot, Idaho, by the Rev. A. Raymond Grant, bishop of Portland. The announcement was made at the annual Methodist conference in Idaho at Nampa, Friday.

The Troboughs will leave Medford Wednesday, May 28, for Idaho where he will assume his new duties June 1.

Mr. Trobough came to Medford in June, 1956. He has been in charge of the religious education program of the church and has developed a series of television and radio programs for both First Methodist church and the Medford Ministerial association.

Prior to coming to Medford he served churches in St. Helen's, Ore., Somerville Mass., and Conway, Ark.

He is married and has two daughters, Mary Elizabeth and Gloria Glen.

A coffee hour will honor the family at the First Methodist church this morning following the 11 o'clock service.

The first American ocean-going ship was "The Virginia" an open-deck vessel of 30 tons, which was launched in Maine in 1607.

I don't like to make wrong identifications, as I know I have done at times.

Thursday, May 22.

Back at home I note that Brewer's blackbirds have been frequenting our home grounds, which they do not usually do. I wonder if they are nesting nearby. I saw a female gathering rose petals in her beak. Could that be nesting material? I don't find very many nests. That takes time and patience, both of which I have in short supply. Very likely red winged blackbirds are nesting in the marshy area just above us. I see birds of both sexes and the males sing their sweet, liquid song.—T.M.

### 31 Measles Cases Reported in Week

Reports of communicable diseases last week show a total of 31 cases of measles, according to figures from the Jackson county health department.

Measles were reported in Ashland, Evans Valley and Medford. Forty nine cases of German measles were in Ashland, Central Point, Medford, Shady Cove and Trail. Ashland reported 28 cases of measles and 16 cases of German measles, and Medford reported 18 cases of German measles.

There were 37 cases of mumps, 21 of them in Medford. Ashland had seven cases and Central Point five, with Phoenix, Trail, White City and Evans Valley each reporting one.

There was one case of infectious hepatitis in Medford. Also reported in the county were pneumonia, one; strep throat, three; trench mouth, two; chicken pox, 11; influenza, seven; whooping cough, two, and pink eye, one.

Medford physicians reported 62 cases of communicable diseases, and Ashland 56, according to Dr. A. Erin Merkel, public health officer. Others reporting were Central Point, 17; Shady Cove, five; Evans Valley, three; White City, two; Trail, two; Phoenix, one.

### Crowing Contest to Be Held June 21

Rogue River — The annual Rooster Crowing contest at Rogue River will be held on June 21 at Rogue River's community park, starting at noon. It will be preceded by a parade at 10 a.m.

The score of each rooster is tabulated by a judge, and the spectators hear a running report over the loudspeaker. The record is 109 crows in 30 minutes.

The contest received national recognition in the June issue of Sunset magazine, which appeared on newsstands last week.

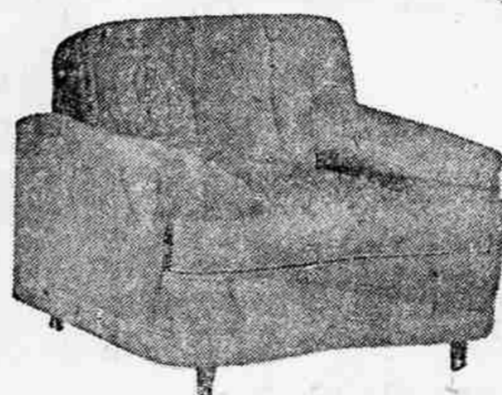
**NOW** YOU CAN BUY at LESS Than **WHOLESALE** in this "One-of-a-Kind" FURNITURE

*Biltwell*

Mr. Hunsinger, President of Portland Mfg. Co., made these special concessions to Marvin K. Lucas, since Marvin Lucas bought ALL of the floor samples in their display store — therefor MARVIN is PASSING THE SAVINGS ON TO YOU!

*Sale!*

Just Compare These LOW-LOW Prices

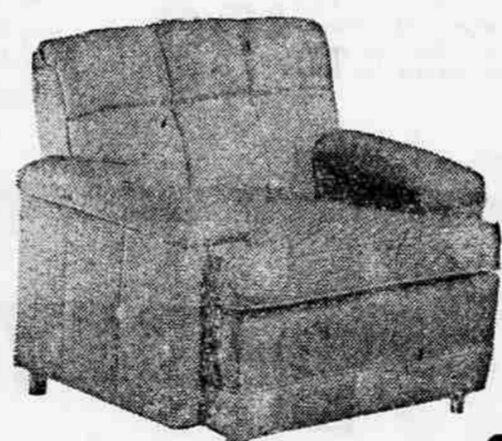


CLUB CHAIR  
Regular Value \$152.25  
**SALE \$71<sup>25</sup>**

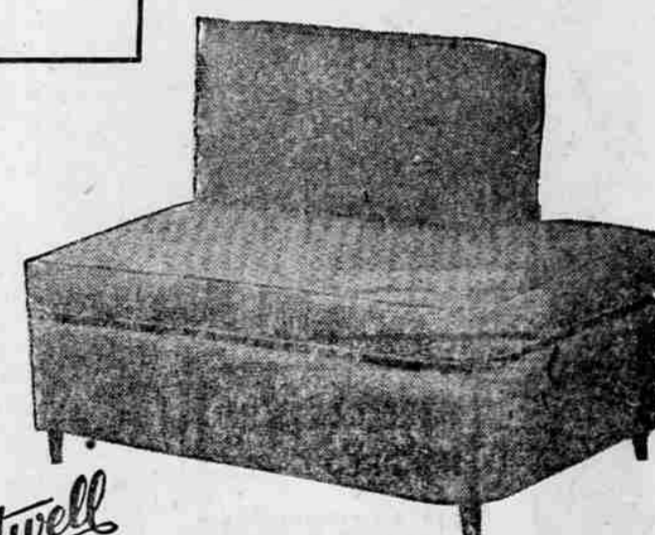
SECTIONAL CENTER PIECE

Regular Value \$222.95  
**SALE \$99<sup>95</sup>**

CLUB CHAIR  
Regular Value \$132.75  
**SALE \$63<sup>35</sup>**



CLUB CHAIR  
Regular Value \$120.75  
**SALE \$55<sup>50</sup>**



BUMPER END  
Regular Value \$137.15  
**SALE \$61<sup>75</sup>**

CENTER PIECE  
Regular Value \$82.25  
**SALE \$39<sup>35</sup>**

Biltwell Furniture speaks for itself in Quality, Durability and Economy — it's construction is guaranteed for 5 YEARS!

BUMPER END  
Regular Value \$138.25  
**SALE \$63<sup>45</sup>**

Open Until 8 p.m. Except Saturdays

**LUCAS & HOWARD**

FURNITURE BARN

With National Brands YOU Know

Hiway 99 South of Central Point — North of Medford

Ph. NO 4-2243

# NOTICE!

Beginning May 31st

All Medford, Central Point and Shady Cove

## Dry Cleaning Plants

and

## Commercial Laundries

# Will CLOSE Every Saturday at 1:30 p.m.

ACME CLEANERS  
BIG Y. CLEANERS  
CENTRAL POINT CLEANERS  
CITY CLEANERS  
CRYSTAL WHITE LAUNDRY  
DRIVE-IN CLEANERS  
EASTSIDE DRIVE-IN CLEANERS  
SHADY COVE CLEANERS

MEDFORD CLEANERS  
MEDFORD DOMESTIC LAUNDRY  
MODERN CLEANERS  
NU-WAY CLEANERS  
RELIABLE CLEANERS  
RYAN CLEANERS  
AMERICAN LAUNDRY

"Your Cleaner Is Your Clothes Best Friend"