

Diary of a Bird Watcher



Sunday, June 29

Now I am having my celebration. I am celebrating the longest day of the year. It is a ~~long~~ day, but nobody would know the difference without a calendar. Also I celebrate the full moon. I am ~~very~~ early for this, but it looks as round as a dollar to me. So I throw some sandwiches and a thermos of coffee and a sleeping bag in the car, and I am off. I take off up Little Butte creek and go somewhere in the neighborhood of McAllister Soda Springs, which I never find. Why do they have signs pointing to a place and no sign to tell you when you get there?

On the way I stop several times and see several birds but nothing of special note, especially no poor wills and no owls. I find a wonderful place to pull off the road, an open place in the woods where the full moon shines beautifully through the pine trees. But still no wild life, nothing to be heard or seen. So I go to sleep in the car.

Monday, June 30

In the morning I find it is rather cold in the car when it begins to dawn at around 3:30. I start off up the road thankful for a little warmth from the car heater. I stop every so often to listen, and to look as it gets a little lighter. I hear hermit thrushes singing at one or two stops, also the ever-present robins and some tanagers. Actually, though, I see no birds, except one robin, until around 8 o'clock when the sun begins to strike where I am. Now I am up on a hill above Fish Lake where a sign warns people about climbing Mt. McLoughlin. Here birds are singing and flitting about all over. I identify four different birds of warblers, orange crowned, Audubon's, Nashville and MacGillivray's, besides Steller's jays and fox sparrows.

Then I double back to Fish Lake and note the birds around the camp ground and along the shore of the lake. Then I take off along the road toward Robinson Butte, heading south. I go up the side-road to the lookout. The man in charge of the lookout is very friendly, has even read this column. The most conspicuous bird on the top of the Butte is a fox sparrow singing cheerily. As I start down, though, I see a different bird. It is a small flycatcher and I identify it as a "dusky", formerly called "Wright's". This is only the second time I have ever listed this species. It looks almost the same as four other small flycatchers, but this time I feel reasonably sure of the identification by its longish tail and its way of feeding on top of the chapparal and going down into it.

Then I proceed along the road that heads toward Ashland. I stop especially at places where the road crosses streams. At one of these I sit on a rock where a warbling vireo comes within a few feet of me. I move and sit on the end of a log and a dipper (water ouzel) comes and sits on the other end of it where the stream runs under. It is the first one I have seen this year. This is the gray bird that lives along the mountain streams going right into the water after its food. At another stop I see a whole family of red breasted nuthatches, flying all around in plain view. Usually I only hear them.

As I start down the grade on Dead Indian rd. toward Ashland I see a grouse, so I stop the car. To my surprise instead of flying away it comes closer. It is a ruffed grouse hen, the best view of one I ever had. By the way it is clucking it must have young some place nearby. This would also explain its lack of fear. So I come on home, arriving just at noon.

Thursday, July 3

It says on my calendar that this is the beginning of the dog days. I don't know what they mean to dogs, but for birds it is definitely a period of reduced song and more wandering about. As the young are raised and get able to support themselves they go their own way looking for their food. The adult birds are freer, too, and may move in any direction, with or without their young. It is a good time for home bird watchers because you are likely to pick up different varieties on your own places. But if they are young ones they will be harder to identify, since they are usually duller and more nondescript.

Friday, July 4

This was a very peaceful day to stay home and write my sermon. There were no phone calls and no visitors. Not that I don't enjoy both. But today it was useful to me to have peace. In between times I went outside to move the sprinklers and saw more birds, adding four to my week list for the home place and bringing it to 24. I heard a group of orioles (young I think) chattering almost each time I went out. I also saw a young brown towhee.—T.M.

Committees Named For IV Jubilee

Cave Junction — Standing committees for the annual Labor Day Jubilee celebration sponsored by the Illinois Valley Veterans' Organizations were appointed last week with Otto Tryon acting chairman.

Art Kellert was appointed parade chairman. Any organization or individual desiring to present a parade entry is requested to register the intent with Kellert.

Joy Kellert is in charge of all advertising for the celebration. Dr. Stem is in charge of the concession spaces.

A program committee was set up with C. Y. Arnold, Palmer Lovejoy and Frank Mellow in charge.

Writers Conference Set in Portland

Portland—A rich and varied series of lectures and panel discussions by distinguished literary experts will be features of the first Writers conference scheduled Aug. 4-15 by Portland Summer session of the general extension division, Oregon state system of higher education.

Heading the list of visiting experts is Wright Morris, one of America's leading novelists and critics. Morris is author of The Field of Vision, winner of the National Book award for fiction in 1957, and many other novels.

Further information may be obtained from Robert Gridley, Portland Summer Session coordinator of workshops.

Bridgeport, Conn. — (UPI) Two days after the city's first polio case of the year was reported so many persons lined up at a free clinic for polio shots that it caused a four-hour traffic jam.

"NOT ONLY MUST THE PHYSICIAN BE READY TO DO HIS DUTY, BUT THE PATIENT MUST CONDUCE TO THE CURE"

—(Author's Name Below)—

When you consult your physician you rightfully expect him to use his great medical knowledge and experienced skill to help you. He can do much for you, if you follow his exact advice.

Listen carefully to his health and diet instruction. Take any medicine he may prescribe, according to his directions, which we carefully type on the label. Pharmacists are taught in our College of Pharmacy to follow a physician's specifications exactly when we compound a prescription. Can you do less, as a patient?

YOUR PHYSICIAN CAN PHONE
SP 2-6239
WHEN YOU NEED A MEDICINE

Pick up your prescription if shopping near us, or let us deliver promptly without extra charge. A great many people entrust us with their prescriptions. May we compound yours?

HEATH'S

Medical Center
PHARMACY

33 North Central

*Quotation by Hippocrates (460-377 B.C.)
Copyright 1958 (7W1)

Paving Alaska Highway May Be Discussed at Canada Meeting

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Mail Tribune Correspondent

Washington — Vice President Nixon plans to try persuading President Eisenhower

to take up with Canadian Prime Minister Diefenbaker this week the proposal of Sen. Richard L. Neuberger (D. Ore.) for paving the highway which links the new state of Alaska with the Northwest.

Eisenhower is going to Ottawa for talks with Diefenbaker July 8 through 11. It will be their first meeting since the Canadian Conservative leader won a smashing national election this spring.

Neuberger introduced a bill last Tuesday to authorize a cost-sharing plan with Canada for paving the 1,200 miles of gravel-topped road to Alaska running through Canada. The 300-mile portion of the Alaska highway in Alaska has been paved.

Served in Alaska

The Oregon senator, who served in Alaska in the Army during World War II and helped build the long overland road to Alaska, told the Senate:

"We have just completed action on the historic legislation that will take into the Union a great new state—a state larger in area than Texas, a state whose mountains include a higher peak than any in the present 48 states, a state with vast natural resources and with a growing population of splendid, patriotic Americans. Now, let us make it possible for more Americans to get there."

After his speech, Vice President Nixon called him to the rostrum to express his support for the idea. Neuberger noted that he had a bi-partisan group of senators sponsoring the bill with him—Sens. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.), James E. Murray (D-Mont.), Frank Church (D-Ida.), Norris Cotton

(R-N.H.) and Francis Case (R-S.D.).

Thinks Idea Good

Next day Nixon informed Neuberger that he'd rounded up two more Republicans—Sens. Gordon Allott (R-Col.) and Arthur Watkins (R-Utah). He said he thought the idea was so good he planned to urge the president to discuss it with the Canadians this week.

"We've got to do this," Neuberger said Nixon told him. "We might as well do it now. It will put people to work, and it will help solidify our relations with Canada."

The bill authorizes \$11 million for each of six years starting next year, on condition that Canada share costs and agree to maintain the road after its finished. Canada would also agree to make it accessible on free and nondiscriminatory terms to American traffic with reciprocity on licensing vehicles and operators.

Estimated Total Cost

The Bureau of Public Roads estimates the total cost at \$125 million. This includes \$15 million for making the 110-mile connection with Haines also paved.

A study is now being made by the Alaska International Rail and Highway commission, set up early this year, of the feasibility of building a more direct road between the Pacific Northwest and Alaska. The existing highway goes far inland. It is also to examine the prospects of a railroad linking the 49th state to the rest of the Union. One was declared feasible during the war, but the highway was built instead.

More and better overland transportation between the Northwest and Alaska will be demanded by the expected rise in tourist trade alone. The American Automobile association last week predicted that statehood would stimulate tourist interest in Alaska.

"With the Pacific Northwest as the gateway to Alaska, existing facilities for automobile, plane and ship travel

to the new state probably will be expanded as tourist demands develop," the AAA reported.

The motor trip to Alaska, AAA added, covers approximately 2,350 miles from the U.S.-Canadian border to Fairbanks and requires under normal road conditions a minimum of eight days from Seattle. AAA said the best time to make the trip is from June through September when temperatures range from 35 to 75 degrees.

General Increase In Cases Reported

A general increase in reports of major offenses, motor vehicle accidents, traffic citations and parking meter tickets for June was revealed last week in the Medford police department's monthly statistics.

There were 97 major offenses reported, compared to 86 in May; 50 vehicle accidents with four injuries, compared to 39 with two; 527 traffic citations, compared to 490 and 2,996 parking meter tickets compared to 2,674.

Eighteen burglaries were reported in June, while 11 were reported in May and seven in June, 1957. There were nine cases of larceny over \$50 and 63 cases of larceny under \$50 in June, while eight and 61 were reported in May and seven and 57 a year ago.

Other crime reports listed for June included: one robbery, six auto thefts, one forgery, 13 embezzlements or frauds, two illegal possessions of weapons, one prostitution, four sex offenses, one violation of liquor laws, 36 drunks in public, seven disorderly conducts, six vagrancies and six driving while intoxicated.

The geographical center of the North American continent is near Rugby, N. D. A monument marks the spot.

Attendance at Museum Rises

Jacksonville—The largest June attendance since the Jacksonville museum was opened was recorded last month.

Museum officials report that 4,332 persons from 40 states, India, Canada, England, South Africa, Switzerland, and Alaska visited the museum.

Attendance during the first six months this year totaled 17,492 and since July 10, 1950, the attendance figure has reached 291,495 persons.

Gifts and loans now in the museum include casket relics from Jack Sutton, Grants Pass; handmade clothing from Mrs. Margaret Miller, and model stamp mills from the

O. C. Purkeypile family, both of Medford, and a hitching post from Mrs. Sam McNair, Ashland.

Other persons who have loaned or donated articles include Frank E. Rose, Mrs. Charles Hoover, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Wilson, L. C. Taylor, Mrs. K. W. Thompson and Edgar L. Mills, all of Medford; Basil D. Buford, Mrs. George Helms and Dr. Frank Haines, all of Ashland; Ben Hilton, Grants Pass; Carrie Arpan, Talent; L. C. Merriam, Salem; J. A. Martin, Fort Bidwell, Calif.; J. G. Garvin, San Luis Obispo, Calif., and Mrs. A. J. Naylor, Arlington, Wash.

Mann's
MEDFORD

MONDAY BUYS!

ON SALE 9:30 A.M.
OPEN MONDAY EVENING

ONE GROUP OF DRESSES

Transition fabrics—Crepes and sheers. Pastel and dark tones. Regular from 1/2 Price 10.98 to 39.95.

WOMEN'S BETTER WOOL COATS

Milium lined, tweed fabrics. Values 40⁰⁰ to 49.95.

WOMEN'S FULLY LINED DUSTERS

Complete your summer costume at 10⁰⁰ great savings. Values to 14.98.

FASHION DRAPERY YARDAGE

Usable lengths of 4 to 10 yards. 99¢ yd.

SUBTEEN DRESSES

Summer type dresses, sleeveless, drp-dry. Plains, pastels & florals. Embossed cottons. Sizes 8-14. Reg. 1/2 Price 7.98.

MEN'S SUIT CLEARANCE

A wide selection of colors and fabrics. You will recognize the famous makes the minute you see them. Reg. to 67.50 49⁰⁰ Reg. to 55.00 39⁰⁰

MEN'S SOCKS

Assorted patterns of our regular \$1.00 numbers. Includes side diamonds and brushed cottons. Sizes 10 1/2 thru 13. 2 for 1⁰⁰

Mann's
MEDFORD

cordially invites you to

MEET SUMMER'S PERSIAN PRINT NYLON JERSEY

Shelton Stroller FOR JULY



Cool! washable! packable! It's the perfect combination for easy living at home, traveling en route, winning raves on arrival. No dress packs more easily or pops from a suitcase so fresh and wrinkle free. Thanks to the wonder of nylon jersey, it washes simply, drips dry, needs no ironing.

Choose yours in: Blue, Green, Brown, Wine

Sizes: 10 to 20, 12 1/2 to 22 1/2

12⁹⁵

MANN'S — MEDFORD — SPing 2-6133

Please send me Shelton Stroller at \$12.95, in size color (state second color choice) Name Address City Zone State ☐ charge ☐ cash