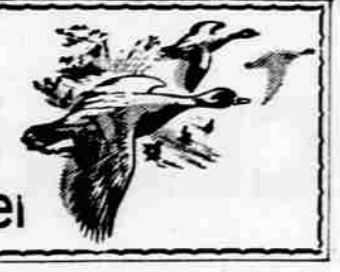


## Diary of a Bird Watcher



**Monday, Sept. 15**  
I hadn't planned a morning field trip for today because a nephew was visiting us overnight. However, it turned out he had to be on his way soon after breakfast. So I proposed to my wife that we take a little run out to Hoover lake and she took me up on it. As often as I have been out there it struck that she never had been there yet, so I was glad it worked out this way.

On the way out along Foothill rd. we saw a Swainson's hawk fighting with a red-tailed hawk. We had seen the same thing last week in an entirely different location. There must be a feud between the species. Actually, the two hawks are similar. Both commonly soar and feed on rodents. So I suppose they have competition over feeding territories even when they are on migration. We also saw a Cooper's hawk plummeting down after some prey which I think it missed (they usually seem to miss when I watch them) so it was a good day for seeing hawks.

At Hoover lake the most notable thing we saw was a larger number of pied-billed grebes than usual. One of them sat calmly among some weeds in the shallow water, quite oblivious to our near presence. My theory on this is that it had made a migration flight in the night and was too tired to move or dive. We also saw a greater yellowlegs and a couple of great blue herons.

**Tuesday, Sept. 16**  
White-crowned and golden-crowned sparrows, mostly immatures, are now staying regularly around our place. I have watched them again to be sure of their distinguishing marks. The adults are easy to tell. The white crowns have alternating black and white stripes on the top of the head. The golden crowns have a yellow spot surrounded by black. The immature white crowns have buff and brown stripes in place of the black and white. The young golden crowns are even more nondescript. They have a faint yellowish crown which is only visible in good light. Otherwise they look a lot like female house (English) sparrows. It appears to me that the legs of the house sparrows are set farther back giving them a more awkward appearance when they hop. Actually they belong to an entirely different family from our native sparrows.

**Wednesday, Sept. 17**  
Distinguishing sparrows is easy compared with distinguishing different kinds of flycatchers. Early in the day today I saw a Traill's. Unless you know the calls and can hear them you can never be sure of these species without shooting them and even then you often have to send the skins in to an expert. I have my own ideas about how to tell these two apart and I hope I am right.

I'm always glad to have any kind of flycatchers around the place and could use more. Insect life is in great abundance at this time. Innumerable tiny yellow caterpillars dangle from the oak trees. They make fine food for birds but I don't seem to have enough birds to keep up with them. The same is true of weed seeds. There are enough on our lot, but even more across the fence, thistles, flax, grasses, and many others. The gold finches, both kinds, are around now. They and the house finches and sparrows are all great seed eaters. The gold finches, especially the bright yellow and black American goldfinches are changing to their winter plumage now, so they don't look so gold any more. In their winter or intermediate plumage they become harder to recognize, too.

**Thursday, Sept. 18**  
I had a call from Charlie Hoover telling me how the birds get drunk on the pears that he is trying to dry for pig feed out on his place. He says some of the blackbirds and others get so drunk that they can hardly stand up or fly. I have heard of this before but have never actually seen it. I'll have to go out and take a look if I can find the time.—T.M.

## Prize-Winning Book Available in Area Library System

Some of the most noteworthy literary prizes of the year are the Liberty and Justice Awards of the American Library Association for books which make distinguished contributions to the American tradition of liberty and justice.

The three prize-winning books, for which each author received an award of \$5,000 and each publisher a citation, are now available to any patron of the Jackson County library.

"The Challenge of Soviet Education," by George S. Counts, (McGraw-Hill, publishers) won the award in the category of contemporary affairs and problems. The judges said of Counts' book: "This carefully documented, authoritative description of Soviet education deserves wide reading. For it warns the American people that our intellectual leadership of the world will be lost and our very freedom threatened unless they begin to realize that we must . . . build a new strength into our nation through an educational system which will serve the purposes of a free society as effectively as the Soviet education serves the purposes of despotism."

**History Biography**  
"Churchill, Roosevelt, Stalin," written by Herbert Feis and published by Princeton University Press, won in the category of history and biography. The judges said of its author: "His personal concern for liberty and justice sharpens his insights and judgments, but true to his professional role as faithful historian he lets the record tell its own story and the reader draw his own conclusions. The result is a masterpiece of creative research and exposition which will illuminate the student and inspire the scholar for years to come."

In the category of imaginative literature the award was won by "The Prisoners of Combine D," by Len Giovannitti (Henry Holt, publisher). This was declared by the

judges to be a novel of "unusual honesty and perception about Americans under conditions of suffering and endurance which compel them to reconsider the assumptions and prejudices of their lives and which bring some of them to heroic determination."

**Acceptance Speech**  
The author said, in his memorable acceptance speech "I have tried to express the idea that when a decent man, in chains, is divested of almost all the essentials of life, his hope for justice, his desire for liberty, will sustain him. In a camp for American prisoners of war in Germany, I knew such men. Though skeletonized by near starvation, trapped by walls of barbed wire, and persecuted by their Nazi guards, these men not only clung to life but stubbornly resisted all efforts to destroy their spirit, to divide their ranks, to crush their hopes."

The American Library Association's purpose in making these awards is to draw attention to books which contribute to traditions of liberty and justice; to encourage authors and publishers in creating such books; and to recognize those who do so.

These books may be requested through any agency of the Jackson County library system.



**CRASHING INTO FARM** at Hastings, Minn., B-52 jet bomber of Strategic Air Command is demolished, killing seven of eight crewmen, injuring eight members of August Kahl family. Lower arrow points to holes dug by four engine pods at impact. Top arrow points to burning farm.

## Crow's Price Index Rises 11 Cents

Portland—Crow's Lumber price index has risen 11 cents in the past two weeks, with the strength coming mainly from kiln-dried Douglas fir, Crow's Lumber Market news services has reported.

There was an upward push noted in some western pine region items, the service said, but green-Douglas Fir's index retreated.

A softening in random length green Fir dimension, both standard and better and utility grade, was the main cause of the Fir index decline, Crow's said.

## Subsidies Proposed By Parole Association

Salem—(UPI)—State subsidies for counties forced to house juvenile offenders in jails because they have no juvenile detention facilities were proposed Friday by the National Probation and Parole Association to the Legislative Interim Committee on Judicial Administration.

Hickory pit barbecuing is descended from a centuries-old system originated by the Aztec and Inca Indians.

## Maintenance Inspector Attends LA Program

Harold G. Lane, an aircraft maintenance inspector with the Civil Aeronautics Administration at the Medford airport, attended a special training program at the CAA regional headquarters in Los Angeles last week.

The program was conducted under the joint supervision of the general safety division and the aircraft engineering division.

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Central Point

## Lyle Bigham Places Fifth in Contest

Central Point — Lyle Bigham, past vice president of the Crater High school Future Farmers of America chapter, placed fifth in the national Lincoln arc welding competition. He has placed fourth and sixth in the nation in previous years.

This year he built a tractor scraper with a three point hitch to fit on the hydraulic system of a tractor.

To compete in the national arc welding contest, an FFA boy must draw plans, build the piece of equipment in the farm shop, and after the project is completed and in various stages of construction, he is required to keep notes and pictures of the project.

The boy must complete the project by preparing a step-by-step instruction manual on how to build the piece, and it must be written so anyone reading it could build the object. In previous years, young Bigham built a grain and hay elevator and a hydraulic implement lift for this tractor.

## Charles Crary Named To Nilsen Committee

Charles W. Crary of Medford was named to the labor committee of the Re-Elect Nilsen for Labor Commissioner committee, Norman O. Nilsen, state commissioner of labor, had announced.

John Gillard of Portland was named chairman of the Re-Elect Nilsen for Labor Commissioner committee.

Area of the Azores totals about 880 square miles.

## Boy Scout Groups To Deliver Booklets

Some 4,000 Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Explorers of the Crater Lake Council, Boy Scouts of America, will mobilize Oct. 11 for their biggest "good turn" of 1958, delivery of the new Federal Civil Defense "Handbook for Emergencies" to every home in the Council's three counties.

On "delivery day," Scouts from 145 local units will carry safety messages and the CD booklets to homes in assigned territories. Distribution centers for each district of the council and details for delivery of the handbook have been set up and organized by committees of volunteers, according to Donald R. Rutter, chairman of the council health and safety committee.

The handbook is a guide to help families prepare for natural and man-made disaster. It emphasizes five steps to safety, covering such topics as home shelters, flood and hurricane preparations, first aid, warning signals, Conelrad instructions, fallout protection, and community emergency planning.

Missouri has produced more than one-quarter billion tons of coal since 1800.

## Be a Smart Santa



by Alice Brooks

Thrill small-fry at Christmas and keep them warm all winter in cozy Santa sweaters. Fun to knit Santa sweaters for Christmas gifts. Pattern 7258: directions; chart for knitting Santa's face. Child's sizes 4, 6, 8 included in pattern.

Send Thirty-five cents (coins) for this pattern—add 5 cents for each pattern for 1st-class mailing. Send to Medford Mail Tribune, Household Arts Dept., P.O. Box 168, Old Chelsea Station, New York 11, N. Y. Print plainly NAME, ADDRESS, PATTERN NUMBER.

Our new 1958 Alice Brooks Needlecraft Catalog, just out, has many designs for crocheting, knitting, embroidery, quilts, dolls, weaving. A special gift, in the catalog to keep a child happily occupied—a cutout doll and clothes to color. Send 25 cents for your copy of the book.

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Electric Blanket, twin. Save over \$3.....24.86  
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