

Diary of a Bird Watcher



Saturday, Oct. 18
My regular time for throwing out chick scratch to feed the birds is in the late afternoon, but there is considerable variation in the exact time, depending on my schedule. Today, as several times lately, I was quite late about it. If I feed late enough I fool the house sparrows because they go to bed earlier than some of the other birds. Their "bed" happens to be in some of the vines around the house, but they like to get there early. I can't fool them this way later in the winter because then they are so hungry that they will stay up until they get fed.

Birds of different species also differ in their time of rising, as I have noted in my springtime observations of dawn song. Then I think something depends on their feeding habits. Flycatchers wait until the sun has warmed the air enough for insects to begin to stir. Soaring hawks also are often inactive until there begin to be rising currents of air in the sun.

Sunday, Oct. 19
I awoke before 5 and heard it raining. I love the sound of rain in the night. I was also very thankful that much needed rain had come. I never have agreed with the popular notion, sometimes apparently shared by weather bureau workers that sunny weather is always "good" weather and rainy weather "bad." As a native Oregonian I know that rains are often good, and this is especially true of the first ones in the fall.

Monday, Oct. 20
J. H. stopped for me and we went up the Anderson creek rd. for our morning trip. Up at the summit the air was nippy and the snow was close by on all the mountain ridges. It seemed right and proper to see snow again on the mountains. There were again many birds in that high country with especially large flocks of juncos. We also saw some fox sparrows. Just a little lower, where the madrona berries were plentiful we saw a number of thrushes including robins, varied thrushes and hermit thrushes. In the woods we saw a flock of pretty little golden-crowned kinglets.

It was on the valley floor, though, that we made our most interesting bird observations. At three different places we found violet-green swallows. Looking it up after my return I discovered that this may be a new late date for this species in the state. According to last December's "Audubon Warbler" (publication of the Oregon Audubon society) the latest previous record in the state is Oct. 18. This is one thing I like about studying birds in Jackson county. There are so few previous published records that it is easy to make new ones. I particularly like it when I feel sure of the identification and have a witness along to corroborate it. How different it would be in the region of Boston, where for 80 years there has been careful and expert observation of birds, and where today there are so many bird watchers that there is a telephone number you can call and be told what unusual species are in the area.

We also saw starlings for the first time this fall. They were in a mixed flock with cowbirds on the east side of the valley.

Tuesday, Oct. 21
Robins began feeding on the firethorn on the south side of our house. It is a different variety from the one in the front that ripens earlier. This bush is still loaded. I was glad to see the robins eat a while then fly off. The berries are pretty and I will be glad to have them stay on for a time. Besides they will be needed by the birds more later in the season.

I noticed a row of oak trees with some pretty foliage along Foothills rd. where it goes off of Hillcrest. There is a great variety of color from scarlet to russet and yellow.

Wednesday, Oct. 22
We had three phone calls about birds today. One of them was a little unusual. A woman asked us to identify a bird song which she whistled for us on the phone. I said I thought it was a white-crowned sparrow; then I had my wife listen and she said it was a golden-crowned. I am sure she was right because she knows these songs better than I do. One reason is that she hears them better because they are high pitched and I am deaf to those tones. Very few bird watchers who are deaf to high pitches are smart enough to marry a wife who will become deaf only to low pitches. Honestly though, I have to admit it was just my good luck.

Friday, Oct. 24
Today I saw a Nashville warbler in a tree right out the study window. This is very likely a late record for this species, because it is late now for any of the summer warblers. —T.M.

Pictures Illustrate Article on Jacksonville Appear In Sunset

Six pictures and a map showing the location of Jacksonville off Highway 99, accompanied by an article, appear in the November issue of Sunset magazine, published in Melo Park, Calif.

Pictures include one of Jackson creek, where the first gold strike in the Oregon territory was made in 1851; the Odd Fellows' hall in Jacksonville, which still is in use after being built in 1860; and the Lyden House, a weathered old inn which was once an overnight stopping place for stage coach travelers on the Applegate trail.

One picture shows tombstones in Jacksonville cemetery, giving "mute" evidence of Indian wars of the past. The old Jackson county courthouse, which is now a museum, and one of the first churches in southern Oregon also are pictured.

Transit Company To Merge Routes

Portland —UPI—Rose City Transit Co., announced Friday a plan to consolidate certain bus lines for longer routes in an effort to speed schedules and save movements of their 205 gas and diesel buses.

The line removed 31 trolley vehicles Thursday in anticipation of a city council move to block the action. The company has a daily movement of 200 buses.

Raymond I. Perkins, general manager for the company, said some 900 turns would be eliminated by the consolidation. He said he plans to merge the St. Johns line with the 52nd Ave., the Interstate with the Hawthorne and the Mississippi with the Foster. There will be little or no reduction of service he said.

Ralph H. King, attorney for the transit company, said the trolleys were removed because of federal taxing formulas.

West Side Pupils Visit Local Library

First grade pupils of the Westside school visited the junior department of the Medford Public Library Friday, Oct. 24.

The Halloween story, "Wobbly, the Witch Cat," told by Mrs. Cynthia McKay, entertained the group of 23 boys and girls; and they were invited to become library borrowers. Miss Goldie Davidson, first grade teacher at Westside school, accompanied the group and took them later to visit the Medford fire station.

Canada's longest river is the Mackenzie, stretching 2,635 miles to the Arctic ocean.

The best-known Hungarian wines come from the hilly country named Tokaj in the northeast.

and original use. Many are still in service today. The Table Rock Billiard Saloon, built in 1859, now houses a grocery store. The adjacent IOOF hall, built in 1860, still serves as a meeting place. Jacksonville's oldest brick structure, the Brunner building (1855) is now a library. The building served as a refuge for women and children during an Indian uprising the year it was built.

"But other buildings have fallen into disrepair. Doors of the old U.S. Hotel have been locked for years, and one would hardly guess, from a peek through the windows, that President Rutherford B. Hayes spent a night there (and according to legend, was charged an outlandish rate somewhere between \$75 and \$150).

Vacant and Musty
"Also vacant and musty, but nonetheless interesting, is Beckman's Bank, once southern Oregon's leading financial institution and a Wells Fargo express office. The doors are locked, but you can look through the windows. The furnishings are much as they were in the 1860's. The gold scales, over which more than \$30 million in gold passed, are still in their glass case. Signs on the back wall, such as "Gold dust shipped to the Atlantic states," add 19th century Western flavor.

"A visit to the Jacksonville cemetery, set on a knoll beneath old madrone trees, will remind you of the ruggedness of frontier life. One tombstone, for instance, notes that George W. Harris was 'killed by Indians, October 9, 1855.' The story around Jacksonville is that Harris, mortally wounded in an Indian attack on his cabin, showed his wife how to use his gun and she used it to protect her home and family until help arrived.

"If you're northbound after your visit to Jacksonville, return to U.S. Highway 99 at Medford or near Gold Hill; or continue on Highway 238 through rolling, pine timbered hills and pleasant valleys along the Applegate river. A 30-mile drive takes you to Grants Pass and U.S. 99."

"Another building, formerly the jail, houses Jacksonville's first fire equipment. In 1883 Jacksonville kept pace with progress by purchasing a hand-drawn pumper, also on display. In a newly built shed is a collection of early wagons and stage coaches.

Church Built in 1854
"Across the street from the museum is a church built in 1854, said to be the first Protestant church west of the Rocky mountains. Occasional services are still held there. Nearby, recently renovated in its original style, is St. Joseph's Catholic church, built in 1856. Mass is conducted there each Sunday morning.

"In the center of town are other old buildings of significance. On each a small sign notes the construction date

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FACSIMILE OF THE OFFICIAL ELECTION BALLOT

Which Serves as a Notice of the General Election Nov. 4, 1958—ORS 250-121

OFFICIAL GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT FOR THE

56B—Medford Precinct

JACKSON COUNTY, OREGON

AT THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE 4th DAY OF NOVEMBER, A. D., 1958

Make a cross (X) in the voting square between the number and the name of each candidate voted for.

STATE AND DISTRICT

FOR REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS, FOURTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, Coos, Curry, Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Lane and Linn Counties. Vote for One

102 CHARLES O. PORTER Democrat

101 PAUL E. GEDDES Republican

FOR GOVERNOR Vote for One

104 ROBERT D. HOLMES Democrat

103 MARK HATFIELD Republican

FOR COMMISSIONER OF THE BUREAU OF LABOR Vote for One

106 NORMAN O. NILSEN Democrat

105 LYLE E. MCCAULEY Republican

FOR STATE SENATOR, FIFTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT Vote for One

108 GORDON HUDSON Democrat

107 EDWIN R. DURNO Republican

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, NINETEENTH REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT Vote for Two

110 ROBERT B. DUNCAN Democrat

111 MELVIN J. LATTIE Republican

112 EVELYN (Eve) NYE Republican

109 MARIJANE B. DUNCAN Democrat

COUNTY

FOR COUNTY CLERK Vote for One

114 ERNEST MARVIN MADDEN Democrat

113 BERTH P. HOPKINS Republican

FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER Vote for One

116 CHESTER H. WENDT Republican

115 FRANK CHRISTIAN Democrat

FOR COUNTY CORONER Vote for One

117 CARLOS W. MORRIS Republican

FOR COUNTY JUDGE Vote for One

119 EARL M. MILLER Republican

118 C. SCOTT HAMILTON Democrat

FOR COUNTY SHERIFF Vote for One

121 JOSEPH D. WALSH Republican

120 LAURENCE J. (Larry) SHEEHAN Democrat

JUDICIARY BALLOT

FOR JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT, Position No. 2 Vote for One

122 KENNETH J. O'CONNELL "Present Supreme Court Judge; Impartial; Able; Vigorous."

FOR JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT, Position No. 3 Vote for One

123 GORDON SLOAN "Present Supreme Court Judge; qualified, young, vigorous, dedicated."

FOR JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT, Position No. 7 Vote for One

124 GEORGE ROSSMAN "Present Supreme Court Judge. Well qualified by extensive judicial experience."

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT, Position No. 1, Jackson, Josephine Counties. Vote for One

125 JAMES M. MAIN "A Judge qualified by experience as District and Municipal Judge."

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT, Position No. 3, Jackson, Josephine Counties. Vote for One

126 EDWARD C. KELLY "Incumbent. Judge Kelly experienced by thirty years varied active practice."

FOR DISTRICT JUDGE, Jackson County. Vote for One

127 E. ROY BASHAW

Superintendent of Public Instruction Ballot

FOR SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION Vote for One

128 REX PUTNAM "INCUMBENT, Education adequate to fit Oregon's youth for the future."

Referred to the People By the Legislative Assembly

Vote YES or NO. Mark (X) in square indicating choice

FIXING STATE BOUNDARIES—Purpose: Repeals obsolete constitutional provision describing state boundaries. Authorizes modifying of existing state boundaries by interstate agreement with approval of Congress. YES NO

INCREASING FUNDS FOR WAR VETERANS' LOANS—Purpose: To increase from four percent to six percent the assessed valuation of all the property in the state, as the maximum limitation on the amount of state bonds that may be issued to raise funds to make farm and home loans to World War II and Korean War veterans. YES NO

ESTIMATE OF INCREASED INDEBTEDNESS—Purpose: The Constitution of Oregon now authorizes the borrowing on the credit of the State of approximately \$150,000,000 for farm and home loans to veterans. This amendment would increase the total authorized to approximately \$225,000,000. Interest on the additional \$75,000,000 would be approximately \$2,500,000 per annum. Loan repayments by veterans are expected to be adequate to pay the interest and retire any state bonds issued under the proposed authorization. YES NO

SALARIES OF STATE LEGISLATORS—Purpose: To amend Oregon Constitution by increasing salaries of state legislators from \$600 to \$1200 per year. YES NO

ESTIMATE OF COST: This amendment would increase the aggregate salaries of the 90 members of the legislature by \$54,800 per annum. YES NO

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT BILL—Purpose: To eliminate from Oregon Constitution present provision for death penalty for first degree murder. Allows legislature to fix penalty. YES NO

FINANCING URBAN REDEVELOPMENT PROJECTS—Purpose: Makes possible for urban taxes levied against property included in an urban redevelopment or renewal project to be divided so that such taxes levied against any increase in value of such property shall be used to pay any indebtedness incurred in carrying out the project. YES NO

MODIFYING COUNTY DEBT LIMITATION—Purpose: Authorizes legislature to fix maximum limitation on county bonded indebtedness incurred in carrying out purposes prescribed by law. YES NO

SPECIAL GRAND JURY BILL—Purpose: To authorize the legislature to enact laws permitting the calling of a special grand jury. YES NO

AUTHORIZING DIFFERENT USE OF STATE INSTITUTION—Purpose: Authorizes the legislature to alter, reduce, enlarge or terminate the use or purpose of any state institution located outside Marion County any time after 10 years from the date of the election which located the institution. YES NO

TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT AND ASSIGNMENT OF JUDGES—Purpose: To authorize the Supreme Court to appoint temporary judges to the Supreme Court and lower courts and to assign lower court judges to serve temporarily outside of the district for which they were elected. YES NO

STATE POWER DEVELOPMENT—Purpose: Empowers the state to acquire and develop water, thermal and nuclear power generating facilities. State may develop electrical energy for transmission and sale on wholesale basis or directly to industries using 10,000 kilowatts or more. YES NO

COUNTY HOME RULE AMENDMENT—Purpose: Authorizes the voters in any county to adopt charter to provide for the exercise of authority over matters of county concern. Initiative and referendum powers also are reserved to the legal voters of counties adopting a charter. YES NO

AUTHORIZES DISCONTINUING CERTAIN STATE TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITALS—Purpose: To permit the Board of Control to discontinue using the Eastern Oregon and University State Tuberculosis Hospitals, in whole or in part. Board could designate the use for any other state institution or agency. YES NO

Proposed By Initiative Petition

PERSONS ELIGIBLE TO SERVE IN LEGISLATURE—Purpose: Amends Oregon Constitution to permit employes or members of a school board or the Board of Higher Education to serve as members of the legislature. YES NO

OFFICIAL GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT FOR THE

56B—Medford Precinct

JACKSON COUNTY, OREGON

At the General Election to be Held on the 4th Day of November, A. D., 1958

Make a cross (X) in the voting square between the number and the name of each candidate voted for.

FOR MAYOR—Two Year Term Vote for One

129 JOHN W. SNIDER

FOR COUNCILMAN—Fourth Ward, Four Year Term. Vote for One

136 STAN STARK

135 GEORGE EDWARD STACEY

Charter Amendment to be Submitted to the Voters of the City of Medford

Vote YES or NO. Mark (X) in the square for the answer voted for.

Submitted by the Council of the City of Medford, Oregon and Referred to the Legal Voters of Said City

EXCLUDE SIDEWALK ASSESSMENTS FROM PETITION REQUIREMENT—Purpose: Amend City Charter by authorizing construction of sidewalks on local assessment basis without petition of owners of abutting property. YES NO