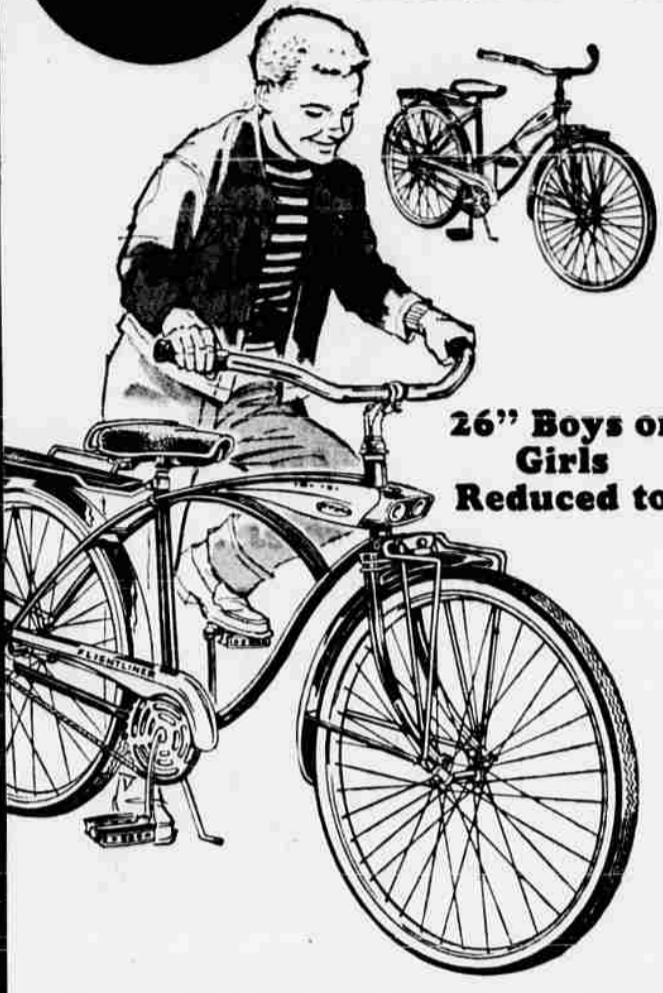


**Small Worlds Around Us**  
By Lynn M. Watkins

**His Favorite Is the Saucy Chickadee**  
All people who occasionally walk a woodland trail or spend a little time afield, consciously or subconsciously select a favorite bird or mammal; one that they look for on every outdoor trip.  
Just how we select our favorites is not always too clear. Something perhaps like the family dog that makes a selection on one member of a family; one whom he would rather be with than anyone else.  
In the case of the wild creature, especially if it happens to be a bird, we may be attracted by its song, its color or some noteworthy characteristic with which we associate desirability and wish for a continued friendship. To me this bird, above and beyond all others, is the saucy little black-capped chickadee.  
And not because of its song either, for it really does not sing like the thrasher, the catbird or the mockingbird, but its voice is pleasant even though it utters its chick-a-dee-dee-dee in a constant repetition of chuckling notes. The list of admirable traits inherent in these tiny slate-gray birds with the black skull-cap and throat patch is long and complimentary.  
Regardless of the existing conditions, which at times must be exasperating to the chickadees, they retain their cheerfulness. They are always good-natured; always polite to each other, to other birds and to any people that happen to be near. Usually very tame, the birds will allow a close approach before fluttering away to another nearby tree limb.  
They are always busy and their work is highly beneficial to mankind as 80 per cent of their food is insects, insect eggs and caterpillars. They have even been observed eating ants. About the only insect the chickadee avoids is the grasshopper, and probably only because these insects are usually too large; some grasshoppers being nearly as large as the bird itself.  
Many chickadees migrate south at the advent of winter, while others for some unknown reason decide to remain in the north. A peculiar feeding habit has been observed by bird students. Chickadees often eat the wax that often forms on poison ivy seeds. The birds do not take the seeds, but just the peculiar waxy incrustation, and only in the winter months will they indulge in this material.  
The nest of the chickadee is usually placed in an old hollow stump or a rotted tree stump. The nest is a tiny affair, made from moss and soft stemmed plants, lined with finer grasses. The modern chickadee, has taken advantage of man's work, by using telephone poles and fence posts as nesting sites.  
The eggs are of course small, usually five in number, and are white with brownish specks sprinkled over the surface. Being exceedingly friendly birds they readily feed from a window sill. Various species of chickadees broaden the birds range to nearly every section of the U.S. but wherever they are found, in the fir and pine forests of Canada, or in the trees of a city park, they are the same trusting little creatures, forever uttering their some peculiar "chick-a-dee-dee-dee."  
(Released by The Register and Tribune Syndicate, 1960)



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**Stone Tours Burn Area in Ashland**

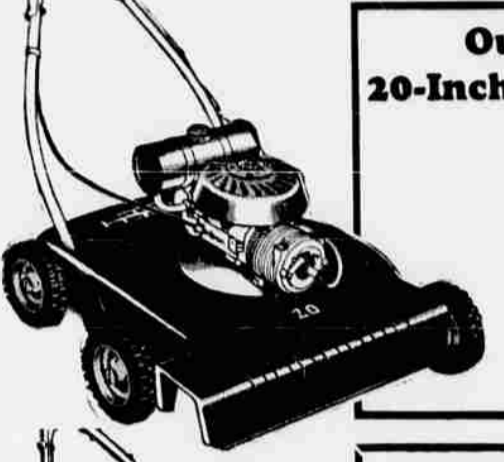
Ashland - Reforestation of all forest service land in the Ashland burn area will be completed next year, Pacific Northwest Regional Forester J. Herbert Stone said here Tuesday.  
Congress, Stone said, has appropriated funds to complete the program during the next planting season.  
Touring the burn area with Stone Tuesday were C. E. Brown, Rogue River National Forest supervisor and Harold (Red) Thomas, Ashland ranger. Main purpose of Stone's visit was to observe how well the forest service's various activities are coordinated into a multiple use program of land management.  
Stone also inspected the Tolman access road to the Ashland watershed. The road is to be extended this summer. Also on Stone's itinerary were areas at Applegate, Klamath Falls, Union Creek and Prospect.

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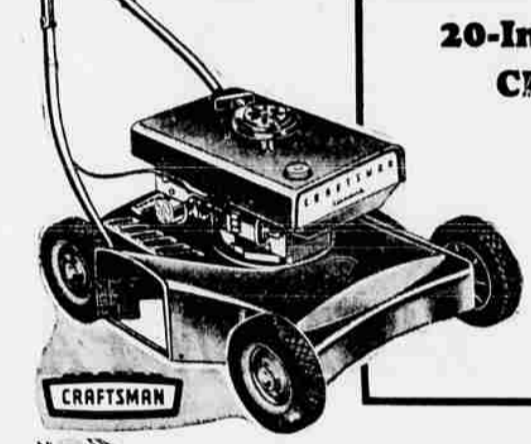
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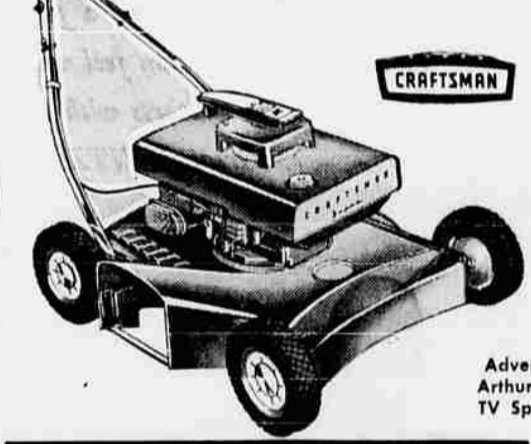
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