



BIRDING
By JOSEPH HICKS

When the weather is on the chilly side, such as we have experienced this spring and summer, it apparently had little effect on the migratory instincts of birds, except when such weather increased or decreased the supplies of food available to the birds.

The fall migration, including large numbers of young birds, usually commences in late July and continues into October and November.

However, there have been some indications that the migration this year may have started earlier than usual. On July 18, there was a very large mixed flock of swallows in the Hoover lake area, and two dozen least sandpipers dropped on Hoover lake to feed and rest.

During the latter part of July, large congregations of swallows on electrical lines were evident throughout the valley.

Both greater and lesser yellowlegs were on the river from about July 4 to July 20. They also may be preparing to migrate, for their winter migration takes them to the Strait of Magellan, South America.

The lesser yellowlegs can be distinguished from the larger, greater yellowlegs by its straight bill and its call of single or double "wheus," and its bill is slightly upturned. This is the first record of a lesser yellowlegs in this country.

This year I was fortunate in making the trip to the top of Mt. Ashland just after the road was cleared of snow. The final slope was covered with beautiful wild flowers. I noted blue penstemon (variable), wallflower, dwarf and prostrate lupin, and a deep pink penstemon (pride of the mountain), as well as other flowers unfamiliar to me.

Both rufous and calliope hummingbirds were busy feeding on the nectar of these flowers. Fox sparrows, green-tailed towhees, chipping sparrows, pine siskins, and purple finches also were seen near the top of the mountain.

Many birds were still nesting during July. The tree sparrows and the house wrens both were busy with second broods. Young birds seen on the Rogue included hairy woodpeckers, pileated woodpeckers, and one family of four or five ash-throated flycatchers. The latter are handsome flycatchers with white throats and rufous tails.

During July, H. Pringle reported a nesting pair of hermit warblers at Lake of the Woods. At Diamond lake, A. Butler observed a nest of grey jays (Canada jay) near his cabin.

He also reported seeing an osprey giving chase to a bald eagle. Such action on the part of the osprey suggests the possibility of an osprey nest in that area as normally one would expect the eagle to be the pursuer.

An article in a recent issue of the Audubon Field Notes explains why Bohemian waxwings and evening grosbeaks were in abundance throughout the continent last winter.

These birds normally inhabit the northern part of the continent. However, a lack of food in the form of winter seeds and berries, and a concurrent high population, caused these birds to spread across the United States. Both species were seen here in the valley.

In the western states the severity of the winter with a consequent scarcity of food also caused a mass exodus from the mountainous areas. Varied thrushes, robins, Townsend's solitaires, and mountain bluebirds were seen in abundance in the southwestern lowlands. Even the rugged Clark's nutcracker deserted the high mountains for the lower mountain sides, and some even went as far east as Missouri.

This mass movement explains why I saw Clark's nutcracker at Bishop, Calif. about the middle of March.

The above doesn't explain the present shortage of Western flycatchers. F. Sturges has reported he heard one in the Ashland watershed area. Perhaps future Audubon Notes will have pertinent information.

It won't be long before ducks and geese will be returning from their northern breeding grounds. Even now a trip to the wildlife refuge south of Klamath Falls is interesting. There are still terns, gulls, greets, pelicans, Western and eared grebes, and some ducks and geese present on the lakes.

Nuclear-Powered Generating Attracts Increased Interest

New York - (UPI) - In the past year, one plant joined the operating list of nuclear-powered generating facilities developed by investor-owned electric companies in the United States, and changes in other figures show the high degree of interest in future developments in this field.

Creating a nuclear-powered generating facility is not a rush job, and perhaps more significant than the figures for plants in operation are the changes shown from 1961 to 1962 in the numbers of plants under construction, or in preliminary planning, or under consideration.

A recent report from the electric companies public information program gave some measure of the activity, short and long range, shown by utilities in the growth of nuclear-powered generating.

The report was issued as of June, 1962. Taken in comparison with the last previous edition, issued in April, 1961, or approximately 14 months earlier, here is what it showed:

Five Plants To Start
Latest addition to the operating reactor group was that of the 5,000-kilowatt experimental Saxton reactor, at Saxton, Pa. It was built by the General Public Utilities Corp. on the Pennsylvania Electric Co. system. The Saxton reactor went "critical" last April 13, although full operation was not scheduled until later this summer.

Five other reactor plants in which electric companies are participating are slated to go into operation in 1962 and another in early 1963. They are listed as under construction or design. In 1961, Saxton was in this category, but has moved up to the operational group. Including Saxton, last year seven plants were listed as under construction; in 1962 there are eight. The 1962 additions to this category are in widely separated parts of the country. The 40,000 kilowatt Peach Bottom reactor, being

constructed on the Philadelphia Electric Co. system; and the 325,000 kilowatt Bodega Bay plant under design by Pacific Gas and Electric Co.

In the 1961 report, the Peach Bottom project was listed as under design.

Southern California Project

Listed in the 1962 category of preliminary planning or negotiation are a Southern California Edison Co.-San Diego Gas and Electric Co. project, a 375,000 kilowatt unit, and a New England Electric System project of 300,000 to 350,000 kilowatts. A year ago the Southern California project was under negotiations and the New England electric project was in the planning stage.

Two more now classed as under consideration are the Nutmeg Electric Co.'s atomic project and the Jersey Central-New Jersey Power and Light companies.

"Whether they will be built," said the report, "depends upon competitive considerations. Their significance lies in the fact that both are recent proposals for large-scale plants, and as such, they may reflect an increasing interest in commercial nuclear power projects."

One project which was in the "under design" category in the 1961 listing, however, fell by the wayside. It was a project of the East Central nuclear group and the Florida West Coast nuclear group.

There are enough automobiles in the U.S. to carry the entire population at one time, plus all the people in Italy.

For Fast, Efficient Service—
Ship It LASME
to or from
Oakland, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Other California Ports
Call Jack Fitzgerald 773-7761

Which do you prefer . . .

DANISH MODERN? WESTERN? MAPLE?

Take Your Pick From These Beautiful

5 PIECE LIVING ROOM GROUPS!



Royal Danish
SOFA BED GROUP

"Flota-Bed" construction
Two individual sleeping surfaces.
Sofa has 4 inch foam seat and back. Foam seat and back chair. Choice of smart covers.

5 Pc. Group:

- Sofa That Makes Bed
- Matching Chair
- 2 Step Tables
- Coffee Table

\$199⁹⁵
Complete

Your Choice

ONLY
\$199⁹⁵
Complete 5 Pc. Set

Or You Can . . .
GO TEXAN! WITH
Wagon Wheel RANCH GROUP

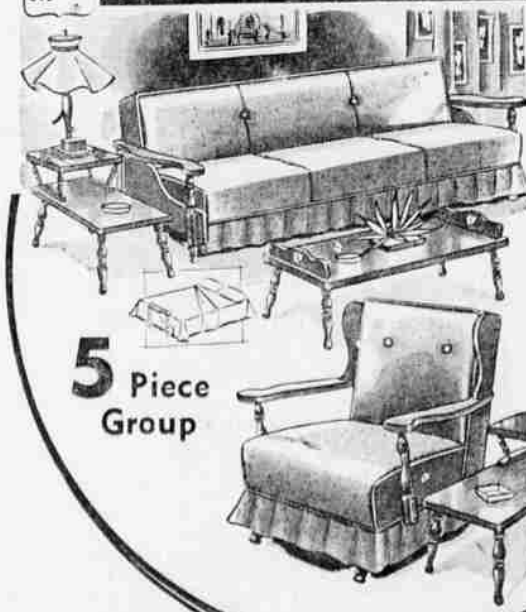


5
Piece
Western Group

- Sofa That Makes a Bed
- Platform Rocker
- 2 End Tables
- Coffee Table

\$199⁹⁵
Complete

Early American Maple
complete living room group



5
Piece
Group

Includes:

- Sofa that makes a Bed
- Platform Rocker
- 2 End Tables
- Coffee Table

All for Only
\$199⁹⁵



WEEKS
& ORR

114 West Main Street
Phone 772-9351

EASY TERMS

No carrying charges or interest. At Weeks & Orr you pay only for the merchandise. There is no extra charge added to your payments. Shop at Southern Oregon's longest established furniture store where you find fine quality at lowest prices!

NOW OPEN FRIDAY NIGHT FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE!