

Teacher Housing Is Sought By District

Medford public schools are making their annual request for assistance in securing teacher housing for new teachers to this school district. The need is for apartments and two, and especially three bedroom houses.

There is no need for furnished rooms or room and board situations. Anyone who can assist new teachers in becoming established as to housing should call the Medford School Administration office, telephone 773-3683.

859 Fires Reported in Northwest This Year

Portland—(UPI)—A total of 859 fires have burned over 1,961 acres in national forests in the Pacific Northwest this year, regional fire dispatcher Clarence Edgington said on Thursday night.

He said 1,260 fires burned over 15,532 acres in national forests in Oregon and Washington in the same period last year.

Medford Council Approves Tourist Commercial Complex Near Biddle Rd.

By a narrow 4 to 3 vote Thursday night, the Medford city council approved a zone change which will permit the construction of a tourist commercial complex adjacent to the Interstate 5 freeway interchange at Biddle rd. and Crater Lake highway.

Councilman Robert Baccus reiterated the objections he had raised to the matter at the previous council meeting on Aug. 2.

He said he was "not satisfied of the need" for more commercially zoned property in Medford at this time, though he conceded the possible need at some time in the future.

The applicant for the zone change has said he proposes to build a motel, gasoline station, restaurant and other facilities on the property.

Councilman Al Bradford countered Baccus' objections by saying he felt the planning commission, which had endorsed the zone change, "made a good case" for the development of such an enterprise at that location.

Best Use of Area
He said the tourist com-

plex would be the "best use" of the property and would not encroach on nearby residential property.

Bradford's statements were supported by Councilman William Singler, who said the project would "enhance" the city and would create a "good impression" with tourists.

In the only other public hearing held at the meeting, the council voted to defer action on a measure to pave an alley in Block 46, original town, in order to study the matter further. Some opposition to the project was expressed at the meeting.

A resolution to name and dedicate the city park located on the southeast corner of South Pacific highway and Stewart ave. in honor of Medford's sister city, Alba, Italy, was passed unanimously. Dedication ceremonies will be

Fishing In Forest Reported As Fair

Klamath Falls—Fishing in the Winema National forest continues to be fair on the Sycan, Williamson and Sprague rivers according to the Chilquien district ranger. He reports that many deer are being observed on the district.

In the north end of the forest, the Chemult district ranger reports that the Diamond Lake Highway 230 is narrow and rough while construction is under way, and travelers should drive carefully.

According to forest officials, forest fuels are again dry after the rains of last week. Travelers into the forest and range areas are cautioned against throwing out lighted material.

'CASUAL TIES' TACKLED

Camp Ripley, Minn.—(UPI)—When mock "casualties" in the attacking force of the 34th National Guard Infantry Division refused to lie down after they were "shot" during maneuvers, the defenders yelled them for real with football tackles.



Small Worlds Around Us

By LYNN M. WATKINS

(Register and Tribune Syndicate 1962)

The Little Oven-bird Seldom Leaves Ground

No larger than a warbler is a small, golden brown bird with a white breast speckled with black dots. It inhabits woodlands and areas of dense underbrush, and constructs a peculiar structure as a depository for its eggs right on the forest floor.

The bird derives its common name because of the resemblance of the nest to an old fashioned oven. Quite an accomplishment—building a nest that is oven-like. And because it does, this bird is named "oven-bird."

If one is fortunate enough to find one of the nests (which in itself would be an accomplishment), one would be surprised to see how much like an oven it really does look. It is built right on the forest floor, a mound-like structure almost hidden in the pine needles or leaves, roofed over the top, and with a small opening in one side where Mr. and Mrs. Oven-Bird enter and leave.

Not only does the oven-bird build her nest on the ground, but seldom does she leave the earth, for even a short flight. The male may at times fly up into the lower branches of a tree to sing or to scold at some disturbance, but once that's over, back he goes to the forest floor again. Essentially they are ground birds. Even if forced to fly, they seldom get higher than a few feet in the air.

In some sections of its range the oven-bird is called "teacher bird." Those who call it by that name probably never found the oven-like nest, and go by what the bird is con-

stantly saying. It repeats over and over, "teacher, teacher, teacher." With each word it speeds up the song and raises its voice until the words run into one another and the result is a sweet and melodious song.

The sweetness of the oven-bird's song somewhat justifies another—although not widely used—name which some sections of the country have adopted for the bird: the "wood nightingale." Just why, in other areas, the name "wagtail" or "golden wagtail" is popular is hard to explain.

The little creatures do have an orange colored crown, edged in black, on the head. But this is not conspicuous enough to have given it such a name. In fact, it is a very observant person who ever sees this shy, timid little bird or its nest.

Loves Seclusion

The oven-bird loves seclusion. Most of its time is spent in areas where the underbrush is dense—where it hides and utters its peculiar, "teacher, teacher" song.

One of the most peculiar characteristics of the oven-bird, aside from its oven-like nest, is its means of locomotion.

Nearly all small birds, of whatever species, progress in a series of hops, but not the oven-bird. With grace and dignity, this little bird actually walks. Sauntering along in a graceful manner the oven-bird strolls through the underbrush or the open woodland. Any bird which builds a nest resembling an oven could be expected to walk with an unbird-like gait.

for the purpose of electing a mayor for a two year term and a councilman from each of the four wards for four year terms.

Extend Columbus Ave.

In other action, the council voted to:

—Authorize negotiations for right-of-way for extension of Columbus ave.

—Approve the assignment of an airport hangar lease and cancellation of a ground lease held by Pete Logan, route 4, box 419D.

—Exchange 40 acres of land along Willow creek for 40 acres of land in the Big Butte Springs watershed now held

by a private owner.

—Approve an ordinance authorizing a contract between the city and Standard Insurance company to provide a retirement plan for the city manager.

—Approve plans and specifications for the extension of Highland dr. and Siskiyou blvd., and revision of the intersection of West Main and Hamilton sts. Bids will be called for on the projects.

Paving Contract

—Award contracts to M. C. Lininger and Sons to pave a section of Newtown st., and to James G. Robertson company to install the Rogue Valley

Estates sanitary sewer system. Funds were established for the two projects.

—Accept two completed projects: Brookhurst Unit No. 3 sanitary sewer, and the resurfacing of Stewart ave.

—Approve a variance to side yard setback requirements at 28 Myrtle st., and a home occupation in a multiple family zone at 1306 West Main st., which had been recommended by the planning commission.

Call Public Hearings

—Call for public hearings on proposals to vacate Grand ave. east of Yucca st., and to annex to the city property

lying east of Murphy rd. and south of the Rogue Valley Country club.

City Manager Robert Duff told the council the state speed control board had set 35 miles per hour as the speed limit on Crater Lake ave. from East McAndrews rd. to the north city limits 0.13 miles north of Delta Waters rd.

All councilmen were present with the exception of Fred Robinson. The meeting was presided over by Mayor John W. Snider. The next regular council meeting will be held on Sept. 6, at 7:30 p.m. in the council chambers in city hall.

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