

STAR GAZER
By CLAY E. POLLAN

Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars. To develop message for Sunday, read words corresponding to numbers.

18 year Zodiac birth signs

11 Aquarius	21 Taurus	31 Aries
22 Capricorn	32 Gemini	42 Cancer
33 Leo	43 Virgo	53 Libra
63 Scorpio	73 Sagittarius	83 Capricorn
93 Aquarius	103 Pisces	113 Aries
123 Taurus	133 Gemini	143 Cancer
153 Leo	163 Virgo	173 Libra
183 Scorpio	193 Sagittarius	203 Capricorn
213 Aquarius	223 Pisces	233 Aries
243 Taurus	253 Gemini	263 Cancer
273 Leo	283 Virgo	293 Libra
303 Scorpio	313 Sagittarius	323 Capricorn
333 Aquarius	343 Pisces	353 Aries
363 Taurus	373 Gemini	383 Cancer
393 Leo	403 Virgo	413 Libra
423 Scorpio	433 Sagittarius	443 Capricorn
453 Aquarius	463 Pisces	473 Aries
483 Taurus	493 Gemini	503 Cancer
513 Leo	523 Virgo	533 Libra
543 Scorpio	553 Sagittarius	563 Capricorn
573 Aquarius	583 Pisces	593 Aries
603 Taurus	613 Gemini	623 Cancer
633 Leo	643 Virgo	653 Libra
663 Scorpio	673 Sagittarius	683 Capricorn
693 Aquarius	703 Pisces	713 Aries
723 Taurus	733 Gemini	743 Cancer
753 Leo	763 Virgo	773 Libra
783 Scorpio	793 Sagittarius	803 Capricorn
813 Aquarius	823 Pisces	833 Aries
843 Taurus	853 Gemini	863 Cancer
873 Leo	883 Virgo	893 Libra
903 Scorpio	913 Sagittarius	923 Capricorn
933 Aquarius	943 Pisces	953 Aries
963 Taurus	973 Gemini	983 Cancer
993 Leo		

BIRDING
By JOSEPH HICKS

Although the bird population is at its height during the fall migration, identification by species is difficult because of the large numbers of immatures. Ornithologists predict only one-third of this peak in population will survive through the winter. Because of this high attrition rate, it is necessary for many species to hatch out two or more broods each year and so raise relatively large families.

Migrating swallows and vultures, however, are readily identified and their congregations in large flocks during September are spectacular to even the casual observer.

I always look for autumn migrating swallows on the wires adjacent to Agate rd. north of Little Butte creek. This year the peak of migration occurred from Sept. 16 to 30 when the electric lines for almost a mile were crowded with perching swallows. From Sept. 19 to 20 small and large circling flocks of vultures were passing over the valley. The size of the flocks varied from 10 to 50 or more. The last vulture I saw on the Rogue was Oct. 1.

Other noticeable migrants were flocks of chipping sparrows seen on the Rogue on Sept. 17. Returning for the winter season, migrant Lewis woodpeckers and golden-crowned sparrows were observed on Sept. 25. Savannah sparrows are resident the entire year, however, there are evident peaks in population in the spring and fall. Larger than normal numbers of this interesting sparrow were seen at the game commission area on Aug. 24.

Pringle and I visited Tulelake refuge and lava beds Sept. 14. En route via the Dead Indian rd. we saw two goshawks, the first I have seen this year. At Tulelake, there were two immature avocets, 12 snowy greets, and Forster terns as well as thousands of ducks and geese. I was surprised to learn from the naturalist at the lava beds that pygmy nuthatches were quite common there, and that red crossbills had spent the summer near the refuge headquarters. Crossbills were seen in Jackson county in the winter of 1955 but have not been reported since that date.

When you go to the coast, do you see many shore or sea birds? Mrs. Ted Conway reports that she saw wandering tattlers, scoters, and sandpeeps, during a low tide period at Harris Beach State park north of Brookings.

Also, during low tide I have seen shore birds on the north side of the bay near Newport. Information concerning other favorable locations for seeing coastal birds would be appreciated.

Elton Petrie from Ashland called me recently concerning some Vaux swallows that were using a chimney in the arroyo for a roosting site. About a year ago Audubon's Magazine had an article on Vaux swallows nesting in the fireplace chimney of a private residence in Red Bluff, Calif.

Considerable difficulty was experienced in evicting the birds. Even when a fire was started in the fireplace, the swallows did not leave the chimney, but flew into the house causing damage. I should think the solution would be to temporarily close up the top of the chimney while the swallows were away foraging for food.

If you are planning to have a bird feeder this winter, October is the month you should start operation. I am still convinced that those who have only one feeder should set range to suspend a large chunk of suet from a clothes line or tree limb. Meat packers or the Groceries in Medford, generally can supply the large chunks of hard suet. An empty mesh potato bag or a screen basket will serve as a container.

If you wish to extend your feeding operation, small feeders with a chick scratch, or inverted pine cones filled with peanut butter and chick scratch, will attract the smaller birds. All feeders should be suspended sufficiently high to be out of reach of cats and dogs.

The first birds at my feeders this October were the pair of titmice who have nested and lived in the yard for the past five years. They went for the sunflower seeds and chopped nuts in a suspended mason jar. The lid of this jar has a round hole with a diameter of one and one-half inches.

Sparrows and scrub jays were the next visitors to suet and cracked corn feeders. A ruby-crowned kinglet looked over the feeders but didn't partake. I would like to know if other birders have success feeding these kinglets. Two golden-crown sparrows have commenced to feed on the chicken scratch. They also like leftover pancakes and pieces of bread.

Many people telephone me with queries about birds. I am usually home in the evenings and can be reached by calling 773-5230. I also have color slides of about 80 of our western birds and different types of feeding stations that I will show to interested groups or clubs.

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Dennis the Menace

Hi, Mr. Wilson! Gee, I didn't know you ever went to church!

Your Money's Worth
By SYLVIA PORTER
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IS PRICE STABILITY PREVENTING PROSPERITY?

The remarkable stability of prices of raw materials across the board and of most goods in recent years is turning out to be too "remarkable" for the financial health of many basic U.S. industries and also of underdeveloped countries around the globe which are leading producers of raw materials.

Now, new signs that price stability is giving way to weakness in key areas in dramatizing the lowering problems inherent in the ideal of steady to lower prices—an ideal to which we paid ardent lip service during the early post-World War II inflation years.

The stable-to-weak price structure is keeping U.S. industry in a tight financial squeeze. With competition for the consumer's dollar so intense, with supplies of just about everything more than ample, with the buying public hardly hungry, most companies simply cannot raise prices to cover their climbing production and overhead costs. A Wall Street Journal poll of 100 manufacturers disclosed only 22 price increases which have stuck since Aug. 1 on things the manufacturers buy and sell. These have been offset by 23 price cuts and by "concessions" which don't show up as outright cuts but which still dig into profits.

But most of this year's increase and of the increases in immediately preceding years have been due to the continuing climb in the cost of services. Prices of many goods actually are down. What's more, the consumer price index is the only one which has been falling ever since 1954. The government's index of raw industrial commodities, which figures 1957-59 as the base period of 100, is down to 94. The government's index of wholesale prices for non-farm goods, which also figures 1957-59 as 100 is around 100.8, which is practically no change. The index of consumer finished durable goods, excluding food, is around 100.2 and of consumer finished non-durable goods, a bit over 101. This is stability with a vengeance and it has held for years now.

On top of this comes the sudden rash of price cuts of the last several days. Aluminum Company of America, for instance, has cut prices of aluminum sheet products—used in the auto, appliance, utensil and construction industries—by as much as 14 per cent. Du Pont has cut the prices of Orion acrylic fiber by more than 10 per cent. While some price hikes have been posted as illustrations, in silver and newspaper ink-price softness is the big news.

The factors behind these trends are clear: worldwide competition, the disappearance of shortages, the fulfillment of World War II's pent-up demands, the existence of excess plant capacity, businessmen's determination to maintain strict control over inventories at this time.

This profit squeeze has undoubtedly contributed to the slowdown in the growth of the U.S. economy. Businessmen are not going to risk investing in large-scale plant expansion and modernization ventures unless they see a demand for the goods they can turn out and a chance to make a reasonable profit on the sale of the goods.

The price pattern draws since the late 1950s, therefore, well may be a reason our unemployment rate has remained so stickily high. It will be more than a coincidence that ever since we entered this era of price stability our economy has crawled from recession to sluggish recovery, fallen back into recession, crawled again to sluggish recovery.

To put it in a blunt, simple sentence: our most informed economists are coming to the uncomfortable conclusion that we have not yet learned how to couple our ideal of steady prices with our goal of prosperity and full employment.

You, who think of prices only in terms of what you pay for the goods and services you buy for yourself and your family, may consider the above comments madness, myth or both. They are not.

Yes, the consumer price index—the only measure we have of our cost of living changes—is sitting at an all-time high, up slightly more than 1 per cent from a year ago and the market basket of goods and services you could have bought for \$1 in 1957-59 now costs you \$1.65.

But explaining the trends doesn't blow away the fact that they're tough on many of our great industries to which we must look to put zip into our economy and create new jobs. After searching for price stability for so long we've found it, and found too that it has brought with it a whole new set of problems about which we must ask new questions in order to find new answers.

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