

Oregonian Apr. 3-1933
**Two Window-Pecking Robins Found
Right in Portland's Own Dooryard**

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Kansas City may have one pugnacious window-fighting robin, but Portland goes her one better. Portland has at least two.

One of them is a widowed female which started battering windows at the home of Judge J. P. Kavanaugh, 817 Irving street, a year ago and is now back at it for her second season. The other is a fat and saucy bird who started his window-battling about a week ago against a basement window at the home of Mrs. George A. Patterson, 3117 Northeast Sixty-seventh avenue.

Activities of the two Portland birds were reported to The Oregonian by two young women, who both declared they have no need of alarm clocks. Miss Frances Habersham, city serol-

ogist, who resides next to the Kavanaugh residence, said the judge's bird, known locally as Mrs. Ruby Robin, starts her pecking at 5:30 A. M. against a window that faces Miss Habersham's bedroom and daily awakens Miss Habersham.

Miss Minerva Moffett, secretary to Dr. Guy A. Woods, who resides next door to Mrs. Patterson, said the bird that awakens her starts his activities at 6 A. M. and keeps it up for half an hour.

Although the Patterson bird confines his pecking to the early morning attack, Judge Kavanaugh's robin keeps it up spasmodically until dusk.

Miss Habersham said Mrs. Robin has a routine she follows. She starts by sitting on the ledge of a dining window and pecking at her own reflection. Then she goes around the house and stages aerial attacks upon a kitchen window. The attacks are interspersed with worm-gathering visits to the lawn.

Mrs. Robin started her window-pecking activities a year ago shortly after her mate was killed by a neighborhood cat, Miss Habersham said. For that reason Miss Habersham, who is a student of bird life, offered the theory that the bird sees her own reflection in the glass and assumes that is her departed husband. She attempts to get at him through the glass, she said.

But William L. Finley, Portland naturalist, has another theory.

"Such actions by birds are as hard to explain as those of some people," he said. "Birds that attack their own reflections appear to have crazy streaks, just as some people. There may be a bit of curiosity mixed up in it, too, but in most cases the bird appears simply to have a freak nature."

Then Mr. Finley, who was the subject of a long interview in the current Collier's weekly by Walter Davenport, went on to tell of unusual actions of various birds he has watched and studied. He said robins annually are reported to attack their own reflections, but this year more publicity has been given to the Kansas City case than before and this has increased interest in this peculiarity of birds.

But robins are not alone in such freakishness, he said. An oriole once carried on a window-battering campaign at the Finley home, for example. Pheasants and ruffed grouse, he said, sometimes attack people walking the highway.

The fact that the Portland bird returned to the same house and pecks at the same windows it attacked last year is explained by Mr. Finley as being similar to the attachment that causes robins to return year after year and nest in the same dooryard.

FINLEY STORIES APPEAR

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**ARTICLES IN COLLIER'S USE
NATURALIST'S DATA.**

**Walter Davenport Writes Series
on American Wild Life From
Information Supplied.**

William L. Finley, Portland naturalist, returned to his home at Jennings Lodge last week just in time to read the first of a series of American wildlife articles to which he subscribed technical information in the current Collier's weekly. The article, entitled "High Life," was written by Walter Davenport and includes a number of stories Mr. Finley told him of various birds, orioles, pelicans, gulls, swallows, pigeons, hawks, kingfishers.

Mr. Finley gave about 70 lectures, illustrated with his motion picture reels, in his winter tour about the nation. During his trip he called to the attention of the editors of Collier's magazine the need for more articles on American bird and animal life and his suggestion was accepted when Mr. Davenport, a popular writer, was assigned to interview Mr. Finley for a series of articles.

The Portland man's summer schedule is not yet complete but it may include field trips to California or Alaska, or both. An eastern film company, he said, is contemplating taking him to Alaska to help make a feature picture there.

Two of Mr. Finley's reels of Alaskan animal life, one of the Kodiak bear, are now being widely shown through the distribution facilities of Warner Bros.

scrip for repairs to the city hall will be *Oregonian Apr. 3-1933*

Magazine Uses Finley Data—Based on technical information and incidents of American wild life, as observed by William L. Finley, Oregon naturalist of nation-wide fame, Walter Davenport has written a series of American wild life articles for Collier's weekly. The first appeared last week. Finley is back at his home at Jennings Lodge after a lecture tour throughout America in which he gave 70 lectures, illustrated with his motion picture reels. His plans for the summer are not completed but they probably will include field trips in California and Alaska.