

21 August, 1972

Ann
8-31-72

Dear Fred:

Mary joins me in expressing our deepest sympathy. I have been concerned ever since you wrote months ago that cobalt treatments had been started.. All in all, I think you have been extremely fortunate to have had so many years (I've lost count since your 50th) of happily married life and such a swell family.

It is hot, and between the heat, hayfever and lack of things to see, I've not been out. A week or so ago Dick and I rode around the new Polk City lake which has been filling rapidly. It's part of the arrangement to keep Polk C from being flooded after the Saylorville Lake is backed up. Sounds contradictory, doesn't it? Incidentally, we saw no birds, but it should be a good place.

Interesting reports are coming in. Gillaspey had said there was a singing Henslow's in his pasture, and Saturday he called from the fair to say Mrs. DeLong had banded it and he had the nest. Mrs. DeL also had banded a Red Crossbill the week before.

A card from Mrs. Hewitt at Jesup says they had Red Crossbills also, and a Blackburnian and a Chestnut-sided. Helen Peasley reported a few waders at Brenton Slough. Ann Moore (I forget her maiden name) writes from Indianola of a Magpie there. Did I tell you that there were Ruby-crowns at Shenandoah at the same time as Dr. Helmi's?

The damned hayfever has been the worst in some years. Will try to see the doc tomorrow - sometimes he gives a booster shot which helps.

Ann