

MYRTLE WARBLER
(Dendroica coronata)



Length, five and one-half inches. The similarly colored Audubon's warbler has a yellow throat instead of a white one.

Range: Breeds throughout most of the forested area of Canada and south to Minnesota, Michigan, New York, and Massachusetts; winters in the southern two-thirds of the United States and south to Panama.

Habits and economic status: This member of our beautiful wood warbler family, a family peculiar to America, has the characteristic voice, coloration, and habits of its kind. Trim of form and graceful of motion, when seeking food it combines the methods of the wrens, creepers, and flycatchers. It breeds only in the northern parts of the eastern United States, but in migration it occurs in every patch of woodland and is so numerous that it is familiar to every observer. Its place is taken in the West by Audubon's warbler. More than three-fourths of the food of the myrtle warbler consists of insects, practically all of them harmful. It is made up of small beetles, including some weevils, with many ants and wasps. This bird is so small and nimble that it successfully attacks insects too minute to be prey for larger birds. Scales and plant lice form a very considerable part of its diet. Flies are the largest item of food; in fact, only a few flycatchers and swallows eat as many flies as this bird. The vegetable food (22 per cent) is made up of fruit and the seeds of poison oak or ivy, also the seeds of pine and of the bayberry.

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO
(Coccyzus americanus)



Length, about twelve inches. The yellow lower part of the bill distinguishes this bird from its near relative, the black-billed cuckoo.

Range: Breeds generally in the United States and southern Canada; winters in South America.

Habits and economic status: This bird lives on the edges of woodland, in groves, orchards, parks, and even in shaded village streets. It is sometimes known as rain crow, because its very characteristic notes are supposed to foretell rain. The cuckoo has sly, furtive ways as it moves among the bushes or flits from tree to tree, and is much more often heard than seen. Unlike its European relative, it does not lay its eggs in other birds' nests, but builds a nest of its own. This is, however, a rather crude and shabby affair—hardly more than a platform of twigs sufficient to hold the greenish eggs. The cuckoo is extremely useful because of its insectivorous habits, especially as it shows a marked preference for the hairy caterpillars, which few birds eat. One stomach that was examined contained 250 American tent caterpillars; another, 217 fall webworms. In places where tent caterpillars are abundant they seem to constitute a large portion of the food of this and the black-billed cuckoo.

No Commendation.

"You seem to think a great deal of that candidate."

"How do you arrive at that conclusion?" asked Senator Sorghum.

"Why, you have always supported him."

"Yes; but a public man's attitude toward a candidate may be that of the family toward the head of the house. You don't necessarily think any more of a man because you've got to support him."

RUSSET-BACKED THRUSH
(Hyalocichla ustulata)



Length, seven and one-fourth inches. Among thrushes having the top of head and tail nearly the same color as the back, this one is distinguished by its tawny eye-ring and cheeks. The Pacific coast subspecies is russet brown above, while the other subspecies is the olive-backed thrush. The remarks below apply to the species as a whole.

Range: Breeds in the forested parts of Alaska and Canada and south to California, Colorado, Michigan, New York, West Virginia (mountains), and Maine; winters from Mexico to South America.

Habits and economic status: This is one of a small group of thrushes the members of which are by many ranked first among American song birds. The several members resemble one another in size, plumage, and habits. While this thrush is very fond of fruit, its partiality for the neighborhood streams keeps it from frequenting orchards far from water. It is most troublesome during the cherry season, when the young are in the nest. From this it might be inferred that the young are fed on fruit, but such is not the case. The adults eat fruit, but the nestlings, as usual, are fed mostly upon insects. Beetles constitute the largest item of animal food, and ants come next. Many caterpillars also are eaten. The great bulk of vegetable food consists of fruit, of which two-fifths is of cultivated varieties. Where these birds live in or near gardens or orchards, they may do considerable damage, but they are too valuable as insect destroyers to be killed if the fruit can be protected in any other way.

CATBIRD
(Dumetella carolinensis)



Length, about nine inches. The slaty gray plumage and black cap and tail are distinctive.

Range: Breeds throughout the United States west to New Mexico, Utah, Oregon, and Washington, and in southern Canada; winters from the gulf states to Panama.

Habits and economic status: In many localities the catbird is one of the commonest birds. Tangled growths are its favorite nesting places and retreats, but berry patches and ornamental shrubbery are not disdained. Hence the bird is a familiar dooryard visitor. The bird has a fine song, unfortunately marred by occasional cat calls. With habits similar to those of the mockingbird and a song almost as varied, the catbird has never secured a similar place in popular favor. Half of its food consists of fruit, and the cultivated crops most often injured are cherries, strawberries, raspberries, and blackberries. Beetles, ants, crickets, and grasshoppers are the most important element of its animal food. The bird is known to attack a few pests, as cutworms, leaf beetles, clover-root curculio, and the periodical cicada, but the good it does in this way probably does not pay for the fruit it steals. The extent to which it should be protected may perhaps be left to the individual cultivator; that is, it should be made lawful to destroy catbirds that are doing manifest damage to crops.

As She Remembered It.

Miss Blanche Johnson, Sunday school teacher of a primary class at Hope Chapel, Nineteenth street and Washington avenue N, Minneapolis, is wondering whether her efforts toward uplifting humanity are worth while.

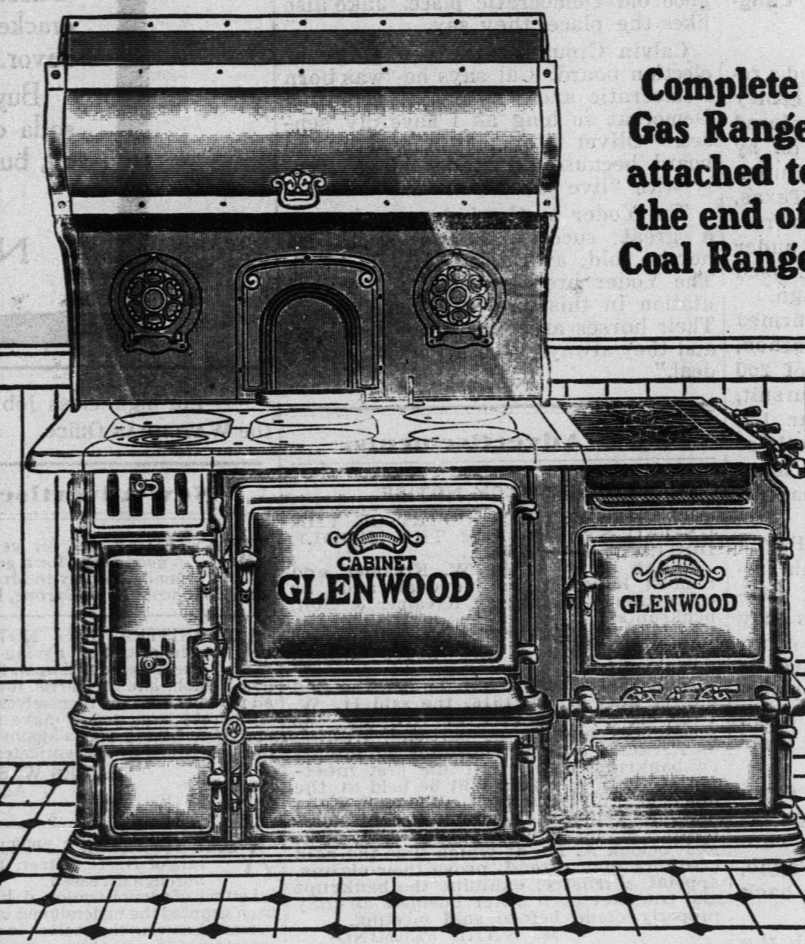
In a recent lesson she told the children how Moses had led the Israelites to the land of Canaan, guided through the wilderness at night by a pillar of fire.

The next Sunday she asked the children what the previous lesson was about. An intelligent-looking little girl raised her hand and answered: "The Israelites were led into the land of Canaan by a caterpillar."—Washington Post.

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The Glenwood Balanced Baking Damper is far ahead of any other—it is as positive as the turning of a railroad switch—open to start the fire, closed to bake—just this one damper for kindling or baking and best of all, it can't warp or stick.

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H. P. Schaeffer, Bellefonte

Rippling Rhymes.

The rush of the crowded city seems fierce to the rural clown, and he thinks it a beastly pity that people must live in town, to toil o'er the pave of granite, hemmed in by the walls of brick, while over this sunlit planet the roses the rustic stranger, "how luckless the ones who dwell in town, in the midst of danger, confusion and roar and smell! I'll flee from this glare and rattle, away to that farm of mine, and

flirt with the Holstein cattle, and play with the Berkshire swine!" And when from the roar and riot the dweller in town repairs, to rest in the country's quiet, and breathe unpolluted airs, he's filled in a day with longing for streets where the crowds are thronging—he curses the rural life. "The man," says the city dweller, "who travels from town's a boob; I pity the country feller. I pity the hayseed rube!" The town for the man who likes it, the town with its light and song; the farm for the man who hikes it with glee down his furrows long.

New Advertisements.

7 H. P. GASOLINE ENGINE.—A practical new 7 Horse Power International Harvester Gasoline Engine, with coils, gas tanks and all fittings in splendid condition, can be bought at a bargain. Call on or address the WATCHMAN office, Bellefonte, Pa. 61-10-14

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Cattle received ONLY on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Persons desiring to pasture Cattle should make application by letter or telephone to the

Lehigh Valley Coal Co.,
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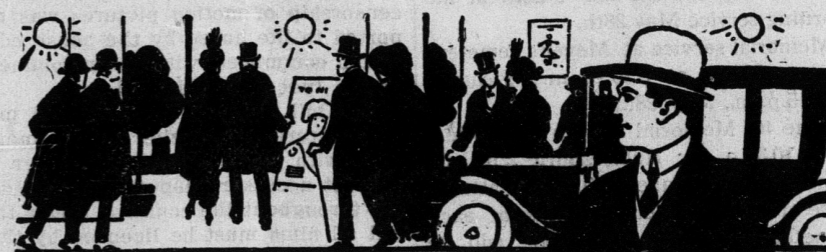
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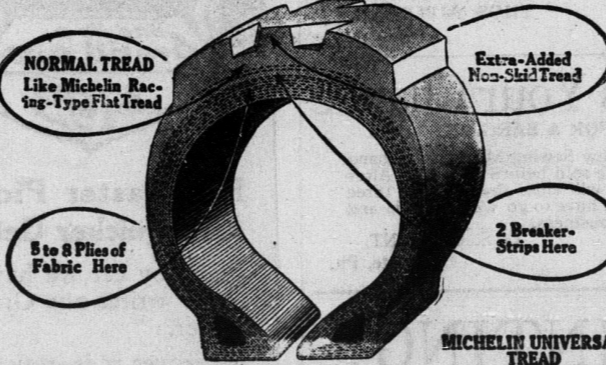
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