

Feeding Game Birds During the Winter.

Many game associations of the State are sending out appeals to sportsmen, farmers, school children and others, to co-operate in the work of feeding the birds during the winter.

There is now in operation a first-class piece of machinery for feeding birds. It has two major elements working in harmony; the game wardens and the various county associations.

Food is provided free by the State Game Commission but in order that the highest results may be accomplished it is essential that reports be made to the game wardens and county game associations of the locations of covies of quail.

Once feeding places are established quail and other birds will visit them regularly. About as effective a sheltered feeding place as can be made is placing corn shocks against a fence and scattering the feed nearby.

Ringneck pheasants and Hungarian partridges are better able to scratch for themselves than the Bob White. The quail cannot break through a deep snow and should a crust form, the birds are imprisoned.

The State Game Commission is hopeful that a shipment of Hungarian partridges will be made from Europe in time for liberation this spring. Last year nearly 4,000 were distributed in several parts of the State and a check-up made during the past month shows that they have increased.

In five years, if they get the birds for stocking, Hungarian partridges ought to be abundant. They can survive extremely cold weather and are as hardy as the ringneck.

London.—Britain's most luxurious almshouse has two vacancies. The almshouse is Morden college, Blackheath, and each resident is provided with a self-contained flat of two furnished rooms and a small kitchen; free light, coal and attendance, free medical treatment; \$750 a year and \$50 extra for laundry.

There are beautiful gardens, bowling green, billiard rooms, library, recreation room and dining hall. The old men inmates are subject to little or no discipline, wear no badge or uniform to advertise their position, and can stay out as late as they like, and may stay away for weeks at a time without losing their pay.

They must be old merchants, manufacturers or traders, who, through no fault of their own, have fallen on evil days. Morden college has room for 40 unsuccessful merchants, and as the present average age is seventy-six, changes are fairly frequent.

Morden college was founded by Sir John Morden, a prosperous London silk merchant of the Seventeenth century. When three of his ships were reported missing, he considered himself ruined, and sought service as a clerk with another merchant.

Bath Tub Had Strenuous Fight for its Existence.

The first bath tub in the United States, so far as the printed records show, was put into operation on Christmas Day 1842, comments the Pennsylvania Public Service Information committee.

In spite of opinions from doctors that sudden shock from water would be disastrous, the bath tub idea continued to spread. The Virginia law makers promptly laid a tax of thirty dollars per tub. Boston passed an ordinance prohibiting bath tubs except on medical advice.

Philadelphia defeated by only two votes an ordinance that would have made bathing illegal between November and March. These obstructions to the progress of sanitation were however but temporary.

Helpful When It's Wet.

Late fall and early winter are productive of a brake problem that can be excessively annoying and dangerous if car owners do not know the simple solution. When your brake linings get wet, their efficiency diminishes and it invariably happens when brakes are most needed, on wet and slippery roads.

Chop Suey, Invented in America, is Introduced in Chinese Capital.

Peking, Feb. 19.—The young bloods of Peking are having their first taste of chop suey—and they pronounce it good.

When Americans go down into Chinatown, San Francisco, Los Angeles or other cities which can boast Chinatowns they think they are having "Chinese food" when they order chop suey.

Peking, however, takes kindly to chop suey. The new restaurant which serves the dish is on Morrison street about two blocks from the Legation Quarter and less than a half a mile from the Forbidden City.

Young Chinese blades of Peking Charleston there, with Oxford bags flopping around ankles and knees. Pretty Chinese girls with unbound feet, bobbed hair and short skirts are their partners.

Witty Professor Gave Nickname to Students

Law students of the freshman class in the University of Texas are designated as J. A.'s. The term is used by all students on the campus, but few of them outside the law school know its import and origin.

When Judge W. S. Simkins was a member of the law faculty, he was explaining one day to a large freshman class some of the weightier matters of the law.

Suddenly upon the clear air there came the discord of a donkey's bray. Simkins paused in his lecture while the students giggled over the animal's "hee-hawing."

"Some poor jackass is calling his long-lost brother, so I'll let all of you out to go comfort him." Since then, every fledgling lawyer in the school has been designated as a J. A.—Kansas City Star.

Mandy Speaks

When Ol' Mandy, rated as a treasure by the white folks she washes for, first came to the neighborhood she let fall the remark that "if folks hasn't got education dey jes' got to use dey brains."

So anybody might have known she would have her own views on this business of Christmas presents. The other day, when the holiday demands of the fine fat and shining little pickaninies loomed up mountain high, how do you suppose she settled them?

Papua or New Guinea

British New Guinea, now known as the territory of Papua, is one of the territories of the commonwealth of Australia. It consists of the southeastern part of the island of New Guinea, with the islands of the D'Entrecasteau and Louisiade groups.

Scott's Best Novel

Which is Scott's best novel? This question was once discussed by Sir William Fraser and Bulwer-Lytton. They agreed each to write his choice on a separate slip of paper and compare.

Frost and Humidity

The weather bureau says that the occurrence of frost is determined by temperature and humidity. If the temperature of an object falls below the dewpoint for saturation temperature of the air, dew will gather on it if its temperature is above the freezing point, or frost if its temperature is below the freezing point.

The Watchman publishes news when it is news. Read it.

Many Kinds of Bark in Use as Medicine

The United States Pharmacopoeia lists 17 kinds of bark used in medicine. There are, however, no less than 35 kinds of bark altogether grown in America which are more or less widely used for preparing simple, homemade remedies, although only 17 are classed as "officials."

Some are valued, for example, as febrifuges, chief of which, of course, is the Peruvian bark or cinchona, to which the world owes the priceless boon of quinine.

A second class includes those which exert a cathartic or laxative effect, and of these the most highly prized is the bark of the graceful little buckthorn tree found in California, and known by its Spanish name of cascara sagrada (sacred bark).

A third class includes those which stimulate the flow of one or another of the secretions of the body, such as the saliva, gastric juice, perspiration, mucus, etc.

Others are soothing in nature, such as an infusion of slippery elm, and many may be used for preparing soothing drafts in cases of sore throats, etc.

Odd Inspiration Ideas of Masters of Music

Haydn, when he sat down to compose, always dressed himself with the greatest care, had his hair nicely powdered and put on his best suit. Frederick II had given him a diamond ring, and Haydn declared that, if he happened to begin without it, he could not submit a single idea. He could write only on the finest paper, and was as particular in forming his notes as if he had been engraving them on copper.

Gluck, when he felt inspired to compose, had his piano carried into a beautiful meadow and, with a bottle of champagne on either side of him, composed divinely.

Paesillo composed his "Barbiera di Siviglia" and "La Mollnara" in bed. Sachini declared that he never had a moment of inspiration, unless his two favorite cats were sitting one on each shoulder.—Market for Exchange.

He Doesn't Call Now

The thrifty young man often called on a certain girl, but had never taken her to a theater, or movie, or even out to tea.

The family had noticed and often commented on what they termed his "stinginess," and all before the girl's ten-year-old brother.

Monkeys Sing in Chorus

Colobus monkeys indulge in community singing. Very early in the morning and at intervals during the day these denizens of the jungle start their song festives and as soon as the whole troop gets going good, other troops in different parts of the forest join in and the green rafters ring with the remarkable sounds they make, according to Delia J. Akeley, a naturalist.

Joseph Conrad's Baby

Joseph Conrad, the famous writer of sea tales, wrote a letter to a cousin January 21, 1898, three days after the birth of a son. The letter is included in a group of Conrad's letters published by World's Work.

Not to the Manner Born

Brown was going South to visit his son and wife for several weeks and was being drilled by Mrs. Brown in preparation for the visit. Table manners was one subject in the curriculum and one on which both pupil and instructor worked hard.

English Sparrows

The first English sparrows were brought to America in 1850. They were imported by Nicholas Pike and the other directors of the Brooklyn Institute to protect the shade trees from damage by caterpillars.

Employment in Pennsylvania Unimproved.

Employment conditions throughout the State have not improved during the past two weeks, attaches of the State employment offices said. A continued surplus of labor was reported in many lines of industry.

Although conditions generally are reported as no worse than in former years at this time there is much idleness in practically all lines of industry in the State. The Pittsburgh office in its report stated unemployment during January always seems more marked because of comparison with the Christmas season when most lines are at the high peak of the year.

The metal product industries and the mines, both anthracite and bituminous, were reported as generally inactive. Expected resumption in the metal lines has not developed.

The transportation industries have continued to lay off men both in the shops and on the road. Those cities depending in a large measure upon the railroads reported resultant depression in other lines.

Laying off men in industries of various sorts has served to swell the ranks of unemployed common labor. The Altoona office said the present demand for such labor is lower than it has been since the opening of the bureau there.

Textile and clothing lines were reported operating below normal with no immediate improvement in sight. Recurrent periods of unusually cold weather during January caused complete suspension of many building operations which are not expected to resume until spring.—Exchange.

Favor Cutting Length of Rabbit Hunting Season.

One of the few changes in the game laws favored at Harrisburg is said to be the proposition of Senator Horace W. Schantz, to shift the date of the opening of the rabbit season from Nov. 1 to Nov. 15. He has evolved the idea from his experience both in politics and field shooting.

Does it Presage an Early Spring.

While cleaning out his ice house a few days ago Clark Magee of Edinboro Hill, found in the saw dust five or six snake eggs about one inch long. One egg had hatched a snake which was about five inches long and the most of the shell still clung to its dead body.

How Bees Dispose of Drones When Useless.

Grim is the yearly murder of the drones in a hive of honey bees. The worker bees told off to this most socialistic job give one the impression that they dislike the duty, but obey a categorical imperative. It was not till last year, while observing a very strong swarm of crossed Italian and English bees, that I discovered how—in many cases—the death is compassed.

But very often the work is not completed. The drone shakes himself free and sets out triumphantly on wings more powerful than any worker possesses. He enjoys a last ecstasy. The filig has so weakened the shaft that of a sudden it breaks, and the drone crashes like a broken airplane—the most saddening sight the eyes can behold—or a bird shot in mid-flight. The fall even of this little and now useless insect is depressing to watch; but there is certainly no pain, as we understand the word, either in anticipation or in fact.—Sir W. Beach Thomas in the Atlantic Monthly.

for the truthfulness of the above. —Wyoming Democrat.

Ninety Below Zero in North Siberia.

The coldest known region in the northern hemisphere, where a temperature of 90 degrees below zero has been reliably recorded, is on the very edge of cereal farming in Northern Siberia, says Vilhjalmur Stefansson, leader of several expeditions to the Arctic, well-known explorer, in an article on Arctic regions in Encyclopaedia Britannica.

This region is the province of Yakutsk, in Siberia, near the Arctic Circle, colder than any known region in Canada or Alaska. It is colder than the North Pole, according to the article, where it is thought the temperature does not drop lower than 55 degrees below zero.

The highest temperature recorded in the Arctic regions, Stefansson continues, is 100 degrees in the shade, something very much like other localities of the earth's surface which was recorded at the Weather Bureau station at Fort Yukon, Alaska. Eighty degrees is not at all unusual in the Arctic regions in summer.

"The reason for great midsummer heat in the Arctic lowlands," Mr. Stefansson continues, "is that the sun delivers adequate heat units per day to account for it. The accepted figures are 3 or 4 per cent. more at the North Pole than at the Equator at the top of the atmosphere and 3 or 4 per cent. fewer at sea level. This means that there is tropical heat any place in the Arctic where the sun's rays strike a dark surface and where there is no local reservoir of cold to neutralize it. Places within the Arctic regions that do show tropical heat are on lowlands that are sheltered from ocean breezes and frozen winds from ice-covered mountains."

If the Arctic summer may be measured by the period of the year when the streams flow unfrozen and the insects are alive, then the Arctic summer may be said to range in length from five and one-half months in some places to two months in others.

One of the beliefs about the cold regions of the earth which Stefansson has helped to explode is that Arctic vegetation is mainly lichens and mosses. There are varieties of ferns and many flowering plants, and some regions in the Arctic cereals can be profitably cultivated and still others where garden vegetables will be of some value.

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