

Frank Jackson Is 'Bird Man' of Harveys Lake



Frank is shown holding one of the many bird feeders he has built. Similar ones can be found on homes all over the Back Mountain area.

Frank Jackson is home again at Harveys Lake after a winter spent with his daughter in Vestal, N. Y. Some of the birds which he ordinarily feeds had become discouraged and gone to other feeders during the long hard winter, but they are now returning.

Frank, the Bird Man of the Lake, keeps a daily record of birds sighted from his window. All the time he was in Vestal, he kept records for the Audubon Society, registering an astonishing daily total of twenty-four goldfinches and twelve siskins at his feeder.

He suggests that bird-lovers in this area keep daily records from year to year, to point up the sad fact that many birds are disappearing from the scene.

Mr. Jackson, for years and years, made bird-houses and bird-feeders for the Library Auction, but he hasn't made a blue-bird house for sometime. No bluebirds.

Blue-birds, which used to be so common that they brought forth little comment, are becoming very scarce. A pair was sighted at Goodleigh Farm early in April.

Frank's treasured yellow lady-slippers were pushing their pale green spears through the moist earth April 16. He brushed the sheltering pine needles gently away with his fingers, opined that the sun would do them good, but said they would need protection again by nightfall. He had eighty blossoms one year, and the original bed has sent up a colony nearby on the rocky slope.

Frank loves them all . . . the birds and the flowers.

And he worries about indiscriminate use of insecticides that is in a measure responsible for the loss of the birds and the fish in the streams. "We'll lose more," he says regretfully, "if people don't stop taking nature for granted."

Frank is conservation-minded.



Mr. Jackson is at home in his workshop where he has built many houses and feeders for his feathered friends. He has many lovely furniture pieces here and repaired treasured antiques.

Gardening Sales At Record Level

UNIONDALE, N. Y. — (UPI) — Sales in the home gardening industry should sprout to a record level of well over \$5 billion this year, predicts Daniel Dorfman, president of a gardening firm.

He said the industry has enjoyed a steady boom since World War II. Estimated sales in 1950 were \$800 million. By 1955 they topped \$2 billion and hit the \$4.5 billion mark in 1960. About \$30 million probably will be spent this year just to continue the never-ending chemical war on crabgrass!

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