SPECIAL NOTICES

Advertisements for these columns will be taken until 12:30 p. m. for the evening and until 8 p. m. for the morning and Sunday editions.

Advertisers, by requesting a numbered check, can have answers addressed to a numbered letter in care of The Bee. Answers so addressed will be delivered on presentation of the check only.

Rates, 1 1-2c a word first insertion; 1c a word thereafter. Nothing taken for less than 25c for the first insertion. These advertisements must be run consecutively.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

WANTED—BY MARRIED MAN, POSITION AS bookkeeper or assistant; first-class references; would not object to going out of city. Address F 60, Bee. A—306 5*

WANTED—MALE HELP.

WANTED—AN IDEA. WHO CAN THINK OF some simple thing to patent? Protect your ideas; they may bring you wealth. Write John Wedderburn & Co., Dept. V, Patent Attorneys, Washington, D. C., for their $1,800 prize offer and a list of 200 inventions wanted. B—143

TRAVELING SALESMEN FOR CIGARS; OLD reliable house; experience unnecessary; extra inducements to customers; $75 to $150 per month and expenses. C. C. Bishop & Co., St. Louis. B—M760—M13*

A FEW ENERGETIC, HUSTLING MEN CAN find steady, profitable work with C. F. Adams Co., 524 So. 16th St. B—894

$30 PER WEEK, ADVERTISING; POSITION permanent; experience unnecessary; either sex. Jones, Kepler & Co., Chicago, Ill. B—M138 Mch12*

WANTED, YOUR ADDRESS; WILL SEND particulars of how one man made $22,000 in five years; you can do the same by trying. Address P. O. box 5308, Boston, Mass. B—M299

$30 WEEKLY SALARY AND EXPENSES PAID salesmen for cigars; experience unnecessary; permanent position. The W. L. Kline Co., St. Louis, Mo. B—M314 A2*

WANTED, MEN TO LEARN BARBER TRADE; situation guaranteed; high grade tools given students; only 8 weeks required. Write for ills, catalogue, Moler's Barber college, 11th and Franklin avenue, St. Louis. B—M332 5*

WANTED—FIRST-CLASS SALESMAN FOR LUbricating oils, greases and specialties; salary or commission. Equitable Refining Co., Cleveland, O. B—M416 9

WANTED—FEMALE HELP.

WANTED—FIRST-CLASS MILLINERY TRIMmer. Address F 63, Bee office. C—324 9

FOR RENT—HOUSES.

HOUSES IN ALL PARTS OF THE CITY. THE O. F. Davis Company, 1505 Farnam. D—344

HOUSES—BENEWA & CO., 108 N. 15TH ST. D—145

MODERN HOUSES. C. A. STARR 925 N. Y. LIFE D—146

CHOICE HOUSES AND COTTAGES ALL OVER the city, $5 to $50. Fidelity, 1702 Farnam St. D—147

HOUSES, WALLACE, BROWN BLOCK, 16TH and Douglas. D—148

HOUSES, COTTAGES & STORES, ALL PARTS of city. Brennan, Love Co., 430 Paxton block. D—149

HOUSES, FLATS. GARVIN BROS, 1613 FARNAM D—150

HOUSES FOR RENT. BEMIS, PAXTON BLK. D—151

LARGE LIST. M'CAGUE, 15TH & DODGE. D—152

TURKINGTON, 605 BEE BUILDING. D—153

14-ROOM HOUSE, 169 S. 17TH; FURNISHings new and complete, for sale. D—M316 A2*

THE JEWETT COTTAGES—GREEN MOUNtain Falls, Colorado; a summer home in the mountains; twelve beautiful cottages fully furnished, for rent by the season, at reasonable rates. Descriptive circulars sent to any address. J. H. Jewett, Green, Colorado. D—321 10*

FOR RENT—MODERN EIGHT-ROOM HOUSE, near Hanscom park. Hicks, 305 N. Y. Life. D—344—6

FOR RENT—FURNISHED ROOMS.

FURNISHED ROOMS, 614 SOUTH 17TH AVE. E—362

ONE FLOOR (5 UNFURNISHED ROOMS) WITH water and water closet. 614 So. 17th St. E—M120

FURNISHED ROOMS, 614 SOUTH 17TH AVE. E—362

3 FURNISHED ROOMS FOR HOUSEKEEPING for man and wife. Rent taken in board, 318 N. 17th. E—M363

3 NICELY FURNISHED ROOMS; HOUSEkeeping. 1112 South 11th. E—372—13*

FURNISHED ROOM FOR LIGHT HOUSEkeeping. Enquire 1924 Douglas st. E—M450 9*

TWO FURNISHED ROOMS FOR LIGHT housekeeping. 1913 Douglas. E—M456 8*

FURNISHED ROOMS AND BOARD.

BOARD; STEAM HEATED ROOMS, $1.00 A day. 602 So. 13th st. Lange Hotel. F—718 M11

3 FRONT ROOMS WITH BOARD; MODERN; reduced rates. 618 So. 19th. F—876 M18*

FURNISHED ROOMS, BOARD. 2820 HARNEY. F—M925 M20*

LARGE FRONT ROOMS; GOOD BOARD; VERY reasonable. 614 N. 19th. F—M296 9*

HANDSOMELY FURNISHED ROOMS, GOOD board; rates reasonable. The Rose, 2820 Harney. F—M441 20

MODERN BRICK, FROM $3.50 UP. 516 N. 19TH. F—M422 13*

FOR RENT—UNFURNISHED ROOMS

FOUR ELEGANT ROOMS ON MAIN FLOOR, with bath; $19. 2121 Clark st. G—M425 9*

FOR RENT—STORES AND OFFICES.

FOR RENT, THE 4-STORY BRICK BUILDING at 916 Farnam st. This building has a fireproof cement basement, complete steam heating fixtures; water on all floors; gas, etc. Apply at the office of The Bee. I—910

AGENTS WANTED.

AGENTS WANTED, CAN MAKE $75 TO $100 per month. Address Box 37, Rock Island, Ill. J—M434-8

STORAGE.

OM. VAN. & STORAGE. 1415 FARNAM. TEL. 1559 M—154

PACIFIC STORAGE AND WAREHOUSE CO., 908-910 Jones. General storage and forwarding. M—155

WANTED—TO BUY.

SMALL HOUSE AND SMALL LOT, WITHIN half, to one mile of postoffice; will pay cash if a bargain. Bemis, Paxton block. N—M304

6 OR 7-R. HOUSE AND PAY $500 CASH AND some clear Holt Co. meadow land. W. L. Selby, 324 Board of Trade. N—104

OMAHA SAVINGS BANK ACCOUNTS BOUGHT for cash. H. H. Harder, 1702 Farnam street. N—822

I WILL PAY CASH FOR ALL KINDS OF junks; guarantee satisfaction as to weight. A. B. Alpiru, 107 S. 10th. N—236-A1*

WANTED TO BUY FOR CASH, RECEIVERS certificates in German Savings bank; state amount of certificate and lowest price asked. Address G 2, Bee office. N—357-19*

WANTED, SHETLAND PONY; GENTLE; OF good style and suitable for small children. Hubert O. Bell, Aurora, Neb. N—M451 13*

FOR SALE—MISCELLANEOUS.

CHEAPEST HARDWOOD WOVEN CORN CRIBbing made. C. R. Lee, 901 Douglas. Q—156

BEST SEED SWEET POTATOES, $1.25 PER bbl.; all sorts. Address Theo Williams, Omaha. Q—M158

NEW BICYCLE, GUARANTEED, FOR ONLY $35. Nebraska Cycle Co., 15th and Harney. Q—M326 M15

CHICKEN, HOG AND LAWN FENCE; ALL wire; cheaper than wood. Wire Works, 498 S. 14th. Q—346 M—4

FOR SALE—MISCELLANEOUS.

(Continued.)

OPEN BUGGY, $29; TOP BUGGIES, $18 TO $60; good surrey, $75; another at $45; good phaeton, $75; nice open trap at less than cost. Drummond Carriage Co., 18th and Harney, opp. court house. Q—M364 A5

NEW $100 FOWLERS FOR $65; NEW MIDlands, $35; bicycles repaired. Omaha Bicycle company, 322 N. 16th street. Q—M365

PURE PLYMOUTH ROCK EGGS PER SETTING 50c. 922 N. 26th St Q—347—A-3

HORSE CLIPPING MACHINES & CLIPPERS; standard make; all kinds repair; clippers ground prompt attention. A. L. Undeland, 106 S. 14. Q—354-A4

FOR SALE—PEDIGREED JERSEY BULL. G 12, Bee. Q—M415 11*

COLUMBIA BICYCLE; FIRST-CLASS REPAIR; only $40.00. B. R. Hastings, 212 S. 14th st. Q—M434

CLAIRVOYANTS.

MRS. MARY FRITZ, CLAIRVOYANT. 317 N. 16th. S—M672 M15*

MASSAGE, BATHS, ETC.

MRS. DR. LEON, ELECTRIC MASSAGE BATH parlors; restful and curative. 417 S. 11th st., upstairs. T—M454 13*

PERSONAL.

$25.00—RUPTURE CURED—TILL MARCH 15 for $25.00; no pain; no detention from business; we refer to hundreds of patients cured. The O. E. Miller Co., 717 New York Life Bldg., Omaha. U—159

BATHS, MASSAGE. MME. POST, 319½ S. 15TH. U—160

OMAHA DENTAL COLLEGE, 12 & PACIFIC STS Teeth filled with gold, amalgam, tin, guttaperch, cement, and plates made for cost of material only. Teeth extracted and cleaned free U—162

I CURE WRINKLES, BALDNESS AND SUperfluous hair. 326 Chamber of Commerce. True Co. U—M798 M 15*

VIAVI FOR UTERINE TROUBLES. 346-8 BEE Bldg. Physician, consultation or health book free. U—161

$25.00 REWARD WILL BE PAID AND NO questions asked for the return of pocketbook, containing rings, etc., lost at 24th and Harney or between that and 26th and Howard. Address F 66, Bee. U—M339

EUROPE SPECIAL TRIP, EMBRACING ENGland France, Switzerland, Italy, Russia, Germany, the "Rhine, Holland; conducted by experienced party, $490. June 30. Address Marie A. Foote, 13 Willoughby Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. Early registered the better. U—M399 8*

TOO MUCH FLESH. I WILL SEND TO ANYone a recipe for a harmless and inexpensive remedy and preventive for obesity, for 25 cents. Address G 8, Bee, Council Bluffs, Ia. U—M402-9*

MONEY TO LOAN—REAL ESTATE.

MONEY TO LOAN ON IMPROVED OMAHA real estate. Brennan, Love Co., Paxton block. W—163

MONEY TO LOAN AT LOW RATES. THE O. F. Davis Co., 1505 Farnam St. W—164

6 PER CENT MONEY TO LOAN ON OMAHA property, Neb. farms. W. B. Meikle, 1st Nat'l Bk W—165

ON OMAHA PROPERTY. LOWEST RATES; building loans wanted. Fidelity Trust Co. W—168

ANTHONY LOAN & TRUST CO., 315 N. Y. L.; quick money at low rates for choice farm loans in Iowa, northern Missouri, eastern Nebraska. W—167

WE WILL HAVE $200,000 TO $300,000 TO LOAN in April, May, June and July on first-class improved Omaha property in sums of $1,000 to $10,000; want applications at once; lowest rates on best loans. Fidelity Trust company, 1702 Farnam st. W—M877

CITY LOANS. C. A. STARR, 925 N. Y. LIFE. W—166

LOANS ON IMPROVED & UNIMPROVED CITY property. W. Farnam Smith & Co., 1320 Farnam W—176

MONEY TO LOAN ON IMPROVED OMAHA property. Pusey & Thomas, 207 First Natl. Bank Bldg. W—169

MONEY TO LOAN—CHATTELS.

MONEY TO LOAN ON FURNITURE, PIANOS, horses, wagons, etc., at lowest rates in city; no removal of goods; strictly confidential; you can pay the loan off at any time or in any amount. OMAHA MORTGAGE LOAN CO., 306 So. 16th St. X—170

MONEY TO LOAN, 30, 60, 90 DAYS; FURNIture, pianos, etc. Duff Green, room 8, Barker blk X—171

BUSINESS CHANCES.

FOR SALE, ABOUT 2,000 LBS. MINION TYPE, 700 lbs. agate, 150 pair two-third cases, 40 double iron stands for two-third cases. This material was used on The Omaha Bee, and is in fairly good condition. Will be sold cheap in bulk or in quantities to suit purchaser. Apply in person or by mail to The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha, Neb. Y—713

FOR SALE OR TRADE, GOOD GROCERY store with fixtures. 1701 St. Mary's avenue. Y—235-8*

FOR SALE ELEVATOR, LARGE TRADE; good inducements. Address box 113, Springfield, Neb. Y—M295 8*

MEAT MARKET, DOING GOOD BUSINESS; proprietor dead, hence business for sale. J. J. Gibson, 514 First National bank building. Y—M309 12

FOR SALE—CLEAN STOCK OF DRUGS OF about $1,000 in an eastern Nebraska town; fine country. Address Chapman Drug Co., Chapman, Neb. Y—M350 11*

VALUABLE PATENT FOR HARDWARE AND stove dealers. Will sell or trade for city or farm property. Write for circulars. Box, 365 Glenwood, Ia. Y—M367 14*

FOR SALE CHEAP, THE FINEST AND MOST complete cigar store west of Chicago; best location; rent, $30; must be sold at once; owner has other business. C. D. Strow, 6 Pearl street, Council Bluffs. Y—M444 8

FOR EXCHANGE.

A VERY FINE 320-ACRE IMPROVED FARM in S. W. Iowa to trade for Omaha residence property. Will give good bargain. Fidelity Trust Co., sole agents. Z—M313 9

WANTED TO EXCHANGE—COLUMBUS, NEB., real estate for Omaha property. Address C. H. W. D., Columbus, Neb. Z—M334 A3

FINANCIAL.

LIFE INS. POLICIES BOUGHT. W. F. HOLDEN 288

FOR SALE—REAL ESTATE.

HOUSES, LOTS, FARMS, LANDS, LOANS—Geo. P. Bemis Real Estate Co., Paxton blk. RE—173

OMAHA SAVINGS BANK ACCOUNTS BOUGHT for cash, taken at par for choice 1st mortgages or taken at par in exchange for real estate at present low values. G. G. Wallace, Brown block, 16th and Douglas. RE—329

KOUNTZE PLACE HOMES AT 50C ON THE dollar; $2,250, $3,500 to $6,500; see photos at 16th and Farnam, Morse bldg. J. J. Gibson, 514 First National bank bldg. RE—175

ABSTRACTS. THE BYRON REED COMPANY. RE—172

FOR SALE—
50x135 feet, east front, on Hanscom park, $3,000.00.
50x150 feet, on Park avenue, opposite east entrance to park, $1,800.00.
100x127 feet, corner, near Hanscom park, $1,000.00.
Lot, 30th avenue, between Poppleton and Woolworth, $1,250.00.
Lot, Kountze Place, on Binney street, $1,200.00.
Lot, Newton street, three blocks west of Kountze Place, $200.00.
132x182 feet, corner, 13th and Grace streets (trackage), $3,300.00.
162x132 feet, on 11th streets, near Nicholas street (trackage), $2,500.00.
House and lot, 28th street, between Pacific & Poppleton, $1,100.00.
House and lot, Georgia avenue, near Leavenworth, $2,500.00.
Five-room house, good location, $1,100.00.
One acre, well improved, East Omaha, $1,000.00.
Five acres, improved, near South Omaha, $750.00.
11 acres, well improved, $2,500.00.
40 acres, N. W. part city, $90.00 per acre.
40 acres, four miles from P. O., $65.00 per acre.
POTTER & GEORGE COMPANY, S. W. Cor. 16th and Farnam Sts. RE—M431 10

ELEGANT DOUBLE HOUSE WITH LARGE grounds near Hanscom park, only $14,500.
Choice acre lot near fair grounds, $550.
Residence lot near 32nd & Dodge, $1,250.
Two cottages, large grounds, Hanscom park, $3,750.
Modern 8-room house, Hanscom Place, $4,800.
Choice garden land, 10 acres, $2,850.
Good 160-acre farm, central Nebraska, $1,200.
5 acres near Elmwood park, only $1,850.
Nice lot, 24th St., South Omaha.
Geo. N. Hicks, 305 N. Y. Life. RE—345—6

SNAPS—
66x120 feet; price, $10,000; near 15th and Dodge Sts.
45x66 feet; $2,700; near 18th and Capitol avenue.
Corner, 100x145 feet, east, Hanscom park; $850.
Near 27th and Manderson streets, full lot, 50x125 feet; $400.00. John N. Frenzer, opp. P. O. RE—M368

PARTIES WANTING ACRE PROPERTY, IN tracts of from five to forty acres, near the city, desirable building lots or homes of from five to ten rooms, at very low figures, should see Potter & George Company, S. W. cor. 16th & Farnam streets. RE—M430 31

CARPET CLEANING.

CHAMPION CARPET CLEANING CO., CARPET beaten, scoured and renovated; refitting and relaying carpets a specialty; new management. 718-720 South 14th street, Omaha, Neb., Tel. 655. 868 M-17

SEWING MACHINES AND SUPPLIES.

NEW HOME, HOUSEHOLD AND WHITE sewing machine office, 1514 Cap. Ave. Tel 1574. 181

SHORTHAND AND TYPEWRITING.

A. C. VAN SANT'S SCHOOL, 513 N. Y. LIFE. 179

AT OMAHA BUS. COLLEGE, 16TH & DUGLAS. 180

PHYSICAL CULTURE.

ELOCUTION, MRS. W. N. DORWARD, 622 N. 19 —M281 Mch22*

BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION.

SHARES IN MUTUAL L. & B. ASS'N PAYS 6, 7, 8 per cent when 1, 2, 3 years old; always redeemable. 1704 Farnam street. Nattinger, Sec. 182

HOW TO GET A HOME OR SECURE GOOD interest on savings. Apply to Omaha L. & B. Ass'n, 1704 Farnam. G. M. Nattinger, Sec. 183

FARMS TO RENT.

80 ACRES 3 MILES S. W. OF BENSON AND one mile N. of Dodge st., now occupied by Claus Kuhr. Bemis, Paxton Block. M—968

FURNITURE PACKED.

GET M. S. WALKLIN'S PRICES ON FURNIture packing, repairing, upholstering; mattresses made and renovated; 2111 Cuming. Tel. 1331. 178

LOST.

LOST, WEDNESDAY, NEAR 26TH & HARNEY streets, ladies' leather pocket book, containing 5 rings, keys and money; finder will return to Bee office and receive liberal reward. Lost—105.

STOLEN, FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL FEB. 18th, a Waverly bicycle; No. 60494; a reward of $5.00 will be paid upon return of same to 2103 Binney St. Lost—405-8

LOST, PROBABLY ON BURLINGTON TRAIN, between Omaha and Lincoln, pocketbook containing railroad passes and money. Finder will be rewarded by returning same to J. E. Kelby, B. & M. Headquarters, city. Lost—407-8

TYPEWRITERS.

GET THE BEST TYPEWRITERS; SUPPLIES; repairs. United Typewriter & Supplies Co., 1612 Farnam st. 436June30

MUSIC, ART AND LANGUAGE.

GEORGE F. GELLENBECK, BANJO, MANDOlin and guitar teacher. Room 412 Bee Bldg. Tel. 238. 190

WANTED—MUSIC TEACHER WHO WILL give piano lessons in exchange for board. Apply 2020 Harney. M—440 9*

PAWNBROKERS.

H. MAROWITZ LOANS MONEY, 418 N. 16 ST. 184

PHYSICIANS.

DR. W. R. HOBBS, 2816 SHERMAN AVENUE. Resumed practice. Telephone—Office, 1476; residence, 374. —M286 31*

SUES & CO., PATENT SOLICITORS, Bee Building, Omaha Neb Advice and Patent Book FREE

MUSIC OF THE MALLARD'S WING

With the Mellowing Rays of March's Sun the Hunter's Joy Returns.

MENTAL SKETCH OF A MORNING SHOOT

The Lone Sprigtail's Fate—The King of Wild Fowl—The Redhead's Erratic Flight—The Greenhead, the Teal and Widgeon.

IT IS quite evident, judging from the unusual bustle among the craft, that the late widespread and heavy snow falls, combined with the present revivifying symptoms that inevitably presage the approach of balmy spring, have filled the sportsmen's hearts with most delightful anticipations. There is no ingredient in the category of necessities so essential to good, wild fowl shooting as plenty of water. With empty streams and shallow lakes, dried-up marshes and arid sloughs, you can always count on a scarcity of birds, for it matters little how abundant the previous fall's crop of feed was, the palmiped beauties find it exceedingly difficult to obtain the sustenance they demand, and they will not tarry, but merely overlook the region and then wing their way on to a country where the conditions are more to their liking.

However, local shooters need apprehend no deprivation of their favorite sport through such causes this spring, for all through last summer the rainfall was far in excess of the normal, and this winter coverlet after coverlet of flocculent crystals has been spread over the earth, on the plains and in the mountains, and when the soft breath of the southern winds begin to work upon the icy-fettered earth a freshet will follow that will start the rivers and streams gushing with rapturous uproar on toward the gulf, fill the lakes to the brim and inundate marsh and lowland everywhere.

This means sport the kings might envy. A feathery flight comes up from the land of perpetual sunshine. The lordly canvasback, the royal mallard, dainty redhead, the graceful sprig, widgeon, bluebill and teal, to say nothing of the great Canadea and their cackling congeners of the virgin plumage. What kindles so quick a fire in the sportsman's bosom as the scenes he enjoys while crouched in his reedy hide on the shore of his favorite marsh his first morning out in the spring? As Phoebus in his glowing chariot approaches the eastern gateway of gilded masses of fleecy cloud, along the distant sky you discry a long line of dark dots, and the bewildering intensity of the situation begins. Perhaps a lone sprigtail first elevates your heart like a great lump to your throat, as he cleaves the upper ether toward you, resplendent in his mottled coat of gray and looking furtively from side to side as if even before a sound is heard he suspects danger lurking within those greening stalks along the shore. Perhaps he is an old cock who has traveled that same route before, and heard the crack of a hammerless and felt the sting of leaden pellets. But on he comes quickly from out the circle of gray and darts athwart the blue above in dim outline, catching sight of your couchant figure as you raise your gun and pull ahead of him. But alas for him and good for you, he has made his discovery too late. With frantic wing beats he essays to climb away from that perilous clump of reeds, but at the crack of your piece his long neck doubles up and down he comes, over and over, until his ashen form strikes the icy water with a resounding smack.

And what a thrilling transformation scene ensues.

In an instant the air is throbbing with the sound of myriads of wings, as from out the yellow and bedraggled rice fields, beyond and behind you, with discordant quacks of affright thousands of birds take wing. The rising horde breaks into countless fragments, each circling toward the leaden and sullen sky, bewildered and alarmed, they know not which way to go, but as a whirring bunch of redheads swing within range your gun again flashes, the report rings out with spiteful intention, a pair drop from the flock and for the time the excitement ceases, for your second shot is the signal for a grand aerial scamper from the vicinity. But the lull is a short one, the masses of birds circle off into the dim distance, many disappear, but numbers still hover in sight and soon you see them singly and in flocks returning your way. Your caller is called into requisition, the birds catch the imitation and then see your decoys and the morning's sport is on in all its ecstatic fullness. With every additional beam of light which struggles through the misty dawn the feathery stream increases. Bluebills pounce upon you from the sky, mallards circle about in uneasy flight, the teal whiz by like rockets and the redheads swish in and out, and all around you, as if impervious to shot or shell. From almost every point you see approaching or receding birds. They skim over the cattails in shadowy bunches, and cross and recross each other as if in futile search for something they cannot find.

Of all the birds that come up from tropical climes in the springtime the sprig or pintail, as he is more commonly called, is invariably the avaunt courier. The period of his arrival depends not so much on the weather as does that of his relatives, but he generally comes in with a storm of rain and snow and sleet, and this spring he put in an appearance a week ago with the flurry of snow we enjoyed, when small flocks were seen flying aimlessly up and down the Missouri river. The extreme cold which immediately followed that brief storm, however, evidently sent him on back south to await more propitious conditions for the trip toward the arctic circle. When his migration sets in in earnest they come in fast flocks, flying very high and seeming to settle nowhere in particular for any extended sojourn. Later, when his cousins arrive, he is found much in the company of the mallard, the wigeon and teal. As said before, they fly at a great altitude and often in tremendous flocks and mostly frequent the open prairies and broad expanses of backwater which border the big rivers and extensive lakes. His plumage is soft and blended beautifully with greenish browns, gray and dull, yellowish lines—the cock bird being the perfection of graceful symmetry and quiet beauty. They are often found, plentifully along our swiftest flowing rivers, and where these are heavily wooded, as they are in Illinois, they gorge themselves with acorns, of which they are extremely fond, and for which they will venture a long ways from the water into the forest's deepest depths. They are anything but wise birds and decoy readily and are without a doubt the easiest killed of all the wild fowl genera. In February and early March they are in poor form, owing to their propensity for long flights without food or rest, and at this season of the year are not particularly attractive for the table. A fat, fall sprigtail, however, nicely served, is a delicacy not to be sneezed at by even the daintiest epicure.

As the veriest tyro in shooting lore is aware, the canvasback is the world over acknowledged to be the king of his kind. He is the largest of all the wild duck family and is supposed to possess edible qualities eminently superior to any bird that flies, and yet I have had mallards on my own table that came fully up to the canvasback standard, if they did not surpass it. They are magnificent looking birds, especially the drakes, who will not take second place even to the mallard in all the blazonry of his winter plumage. Their heads are shapely and of a deep cinnamon in color, while their bodies, with the exception of the wings, which are a weak lavendar, are as white and spotless as the driven snow. In flight they are the swiftest of not only all wild fowl, but other birds, too, and are capable of leaving 100 miles behind for every hour they are in transit. While extremely shy, they decoy beautifully, but are so extremely hardy and so full of restless vitality that they are the hardest to kill of all their class. Years ago these incomparable birds halted here in countless millions on their semi-annual migrations, but latterly they are rare, and lackaday growing rarer with each recurring year. In the spring of 1894, together with my old shooting pal, Ed Hamilton, I made the biggest record on canvasback ever known in the history of the state. On an intensely clear, cold March day we bagged between noon and a short time before sunset 169 of these princely birds.

The redhead looks so much like the canvasback to those not familiar with their distinctly different features that he is often taken for the king. In fact, in many markets in the big cities redheads are readily and frequently palmed off on unknowing customers for canvasbacks. While there is a pronounced difference in both the physical and constructional organization of the two birds, they are marked in almost an identical manner, and properly placed upon the banquet board it would require the most expert gastronomic connoisseur to separate them from the canvasback. Like their lordly superiors, they too are strong, rapid flyers, but decidedly erratic, decoy in matchless style, and when plentiful afford the most exhilarating sport, from a blind, of any bird that quacks or flies. They are regular gormands, and, like the canvasback, have an insatiable capacity for wild celery, tender twigs and grasses, aquatic bulbs and smartweed. In this particular latitude they are exceedingly plentiful in the spring, but unaccountably scarce in the fall season.

But laud the other members of the wild fowl family as exhaustively as you may, none of them, or all of them combined, possess the attractive qualities of the commonest bird in the lot, and that is the ever-familiar mallard. He is to be found throughout the country from ocean to ocean and from the polar regions to the gulf, and furnishes more sport and gives better satisfaction to those who kill and those who eat him than any high-class representative on our long list of game birds. With the first warm rays of the March sun this noble fowl starts from the tepid waters of the southern lagoons for his favorite haunts in the more salubrious north. He is always impatient to begin his vernal pilgrimage and is invariably found here before all the snow has melted from the hillsides or the frozen corn fields begin to soften under the mellowing influence of soothing southern winds. He comes in flocks of from a dozen to two or three hundred, and as they cleave the air on strong and regularly beating pinions make a sight well calculated to accelerate the blood in a sportsman's veins. They are not so speedy in flight as either the canvasback or redhead, but plenty speedy enough to tax the skill of the most expert handler of the hammerless. They are exceedingly difficult to knock down and can carry away as big a load of shot as a goose or a crane, and even when mortally wounded, so unconquerable are they, they will place miles between your blind and the spot where the weary wing relaxes and the grand bird descends to earth to gasp out his precious life. They are a great bird to stalk in the ragged rice fields and smartweed beds, where the waters are just deep enough for them to reach the sedgy bottoms with their greenish yellow bills as they tip upon end in their quest of the good things that lie below. In this manner you may get quite close upon them and have easy shooting, as so intent are they upon their love-making and feeding that often they refuse to "jump" from their reedy scence until you are within a few yards of them. On the open water they are extremely coy and alert, and yet lure splendidly to a large stool of decoys anchored properly in front of a good, natural blind. The slightest artificial tampering is generally sufficient to warn Anas Boschas of the danger lurking there, and it is the acme of exasperation to see them give you the go-by while in every direction the air seems swarming with them. They invariably prefer shallow waters, where they can both swim and wade and waddle about in search of food in precisely the same manner as do our tame barnyard ducks. Still they can dive well, and in fact almost as dexterously as a blue bill or canvasback when wounded, yet they seldom look for feed in water of a greater depth than a foot and a half. Like the geese, they are fond of field feeding and in stubble and corn find many a sumptuous collation on the scattered kernels of the farmer's harvest. The Nebraska lakes and marshes are favorite feeding grounds for these birds, as they are for other kinds, and in these spring days, where the brown brows of the sandhills are pictured in the crystal waters, the slanting sunlight glistens alike on the emerald head of the mallard, the ruddy neck of the canvasback and mottled back of the widgeon.

Like the mallard, the teal, both green and blue wing, are partial to the shallows, low, muddy, estuaries and soggy woodland crypts. They whiz through the air like minie balls, decoy but indifferently, and plump into the water with a suddenness that often discomfits the most experienced gunner. As a morceau for the table none is more highly prized and where one man would demand a canvasback or mallard a dozen would go into ecstacies over a well browned teal, with a sprig of watercress stuck in its crop. Who can conceive of a fairer picture than a bunch of teal dozing along the sunny shores of some shallow bay, robed in their garb of gray and beamy cinnamon, slashed with bands of iridescent blue and green. The forked tail of the sprig may steer him unerringly across the sky above and the swish of the gadwall startle the hazy atmosphere like the rush of a hungry hawk, but the teal cares not for these when in the glories of an early March sun bath.

The widgeon, or bald pate, displays many of the mallard's characteristics, only his penchant is for the open water and nothing can tempt him into the wooded districts. They seldom travel in flocks, after their advent into a certain region, but sneak about alone, or by twos and threes, and occasionally in bunches of from six to a dozen. They are also much addicted to the open prairie like the pintail, and next to the mallard are the best known and most plentifully found in this part of the country. While their market value is insignificant this can only be attributed to their lack of attractive looks, for once in condition there are few wild fowl that surpass them for the table. They lure well to either mallard or redhead decoys, and can be brought down from immense heights by the imitation of their wheezy quack.

Reports of arriving birds are coming in daily and the shooting season will soon be here. The main issue of birds may be looked for in the course of three weeks and even earlier should the weather turn favorable. Already the sportsmen are preparing for the fray. Boats are being hauled out and recaulked, shooting duds mended, waders patched, shells loaded and guns inspected, the whole preparation amounting to almost as much enjoyment to a large portion of them as will active operations in the marsh a half month later.

At the last regular meeting of the Dupont Gun club a resolution was unanimously passed requiring each member of the club who is delinquent in dues for 1896 to liquidate the same on or before the first Tuesday in April, 1897. Payment may be made to Henry S. McDonald, sheriff's office; James H. Davies, 1314 Farnam, or W. D. Townsend, 116 South Fifteenth street. It was also resolved that each member of the club must pay his dues on or before the date set for the squaring of old accounts. Upon compliance with these requirements each member will receive a certificate entitling him to all the privileges of the club.

On Wednesday next George Nicholai of Sutton, and one of the crack trap shots of the state, will shoot Jim Den of Arapahoe a 100-live bird race, for $100 a side, at the latter place. This is a return match, Nicholai having beaten Den at Sutton two or three weeks ago. After this match Sid Smith of Minden and Hon. E. E. Hairgrove of Sutton will also shoot a return match, 25-live birds, for $25 a side. Smith defeated Hairgrove in a similar match at Sutton on the same day the Dago flaxed the Man from Wild Horse Canyon. And this is not all, for on this same occasion Colonel Den will hold an all-day live bird and target shoot, adding $100 to the purse, and it is quite probable that a number of Omaha shots will go down to participate in the sport, as well as to witness the two special matches.

The Dupont Gun club intends to collar a little of the trap shooting pie from this on, and will be heard of frequently and distinctly during the coming season. The membership of the organization is now the greatest of any club in the city and growing continually. At the regular monthly meeting held at Townsend's shooting headquarters last night there were fifty members in attendance, and all business was transacted with an enthusiasm that promises the best of results. A committee of five, Henry McDonald, William Shepherd, J. E. Knowles, Jim Davies and Walter Watt, was appointed with instructions to have plans and specifications for a club house drawn up immediately, which is to be built without delay and be in readiness for the opening shoot in April. This club house is to be erected on the club's fine grounds at Anderson's, across the lake, to which a 15-minute motor car service has been arranged for. A house for the new Magautrap will also be built and a compact cinder foundation put in for the trap shooting field. The annual meeting, at which the full roster of officers will be elected for the current year, will be held at Townsend's the first Tuesday in April.

Mr. Fred Quimby, who represents one of the big New York powder houses, was in the city several days during the past week. Mr. Quimby has a host of friends in this city, and is one of the best known and most popular shots in the country.

Irvine Gardner is in camp with Sam Richmond, the old redoubtable goose killer of the Platte, out near Clarke's, and writes that the Canadas are in quite plentifully and that great sport is promised within the next fortnight.

Henry Oleson, residing at Fifty-fourth and Center streets, while hunting rabbits with a companion out on the Papio, just west of the city, last Wednesday, came across a huge gray wolf lying asleep alongside a log on the creek's bank. From Henry's story, it would be hard to determine which was the worse scared, he or the wolf, but as it jumped for the tall grass he let it have both barrels, and was elated to see it roll over, dead as a door nail. The animal was a big fellow, weighing over eighty pounds, and while Henry is to be commended for killing it, he is to be censured for killing rabbits at this season of the year, when the females must be heavy with young and utterly worthless for the table.

Captain Simon Geotz glories and chuckles over the fact that he was allowed to sink his incisors into the first goose of spring. A friend from out somewhere on the legendary Platte sent him in a big thirteen-pounder a week ago and the captain had it for Sunday's dinner, and he says that sportsmen may talk all they please about the poor condition of spring birds, but his Sunday goose was a little bit the most delectable piece of game he ever had the ecstacy of helping to devour. "Fat and toothsome," said he, "and as tender as a September chicken. I would like to know how you would beat it."

Stockton Heth's thoroughbred English setter "Rex" has disappeared and a suitable reward will be paid to anybody returning him. Rex is good sized, white and blue black, tan ticked on shoulders, nose and legs.

Omaha sportsmen will be pleased to learn that M. C. Peters' matchless Irish retriever, "Samaha," took the first prize at the St. Louis Kennel club's great show last week. "Samaha" is undoubtedly one of the finest and most valuable Irish spaniels in the country, the ideal of his kind. He is big and muscular, with long hair on body and ears, but a muskrat tail, and is one of the most thorough retrievers that ever breasted wave for dead or wounded duck. All the gun club boys know "Samaha" well, and Mr. Peters can depend upon their unanimous congratulations. "Samaha" is probably the only $1,000 dog in Omaha.

C. C. Claflin has the sporting editor's acknowledgments for a basket of the finest black bass he has seen for many a long year.

Superintendent O'Brien of the State fisheries made the sporting editor a pleasant call one day the past week. Mr. O'Brien is barely convalescent from a severe attack of appendicitis, but hopes to continue right on the road to perfect health again, for he says the commissioners are cutting out some great work for him this year, and that the state may expect the best of results from her interests in fish culture.

"Stroebel's" article on German carp will appear in next Sunday's issue.

Excuse these flowers, they come from the New Orleans Picayune:

Sandy Griswold, the distinguished sporting editor of the Omaha Bee, gets up about as readable stuff on the big fight as any writer in the country. There are no "ifs and ands" about Sandy's work. It is all straight leads with him and there is a charm in his pencil that few can imitate. Griswold is a royal fellow, a good newspaper man and one of the "wits of the west" in the journalistic profession. He never missed coming here when we had our fighting blood up, and many is the laugh that I had on him in the "children's corner," a separate and secluded spot in the great club house, near the ring, where I and "some" others used to locate during the great fights. Sandy was always a nervous fellow, and whenever the man he was betting on was hit hard enough to upset him he felt it his duty to demonstrate himself one way or another. One night—it was the night poor Dempsey fell—just as Jack was knocked down first, Sandy hit a big, red-whiskered sea captain, who was also a Dempsey adherent, and who by the way, wasn't in the best of humor. As soon as Sandy "landed" on the captain's jaw the "sea dog" proceeded to logically refute the "familiarity," but before the two made one (on the floor) a friend explained what it meant to the excitable journalist from Omaha. But Sandy is known to be a royal friend to thousands of sportsmen over this broad land as well as by

HARRY M'ENERNY.

The championship among the professional cyclists of the United States is a disputed or unsettled honor, and lies between Cooper, Bald and Butler. Cooper, on the score of his performances, has a slight lead over Bald. These three crackerjacks came together thirty-six times during the circuit of the League of American Wheelmen, which closed at Washington on October 5, and at the finish Cooper had scored forty-five points, Bald forty-two, and Butler thirty-one. In the races in which all three men or two of them came together, Cooper leads with eleven firsts, Butler having eight and Bald seven. Cooper ran