

PROTECTION FOR SONG BIRDS OF THE UNITED STATES

TODAY the songbirds of the United States have thrown about them the strong arm of protection. For a quarter of a century there was hard and systematic work to save creatures who were helpless to save themselves and against whom, as someone has put it, the hand of man and the head of woman constantly were raised. It is hardly necessary to say that the allusion to the hand of woman had to do with the fashion of wearing the plumage of native wild birds for decorations for hats and bonnets.

It was a hard fight to get the masses of the people interested in the bird protection movement. Today very little is known in a general way of the manner in which success was wrought out. It is not at all uncommon even now to hear the bird protectors spoken of as mere sentimentalists, and there are men who have had a part in the fight to save the wild life who have been sneered at as effeminate. The truth is that most of the men who engaged in the work of preserving the feathered species were hard-bitten and could prove on occasion that they were hard-fisted.

It takes only a casual glance at a woman's hat today to show that the fashion of wearing feathers is still in full vogue, at least to a considerable degree. It should be known, however, that not once in a hundred times do you see on a woman's head today the plumage of a native American bird. The traffic in the feathers of blackbirds, robins, catbirds and other songbirds has been almost entirely stopped. Even those who wish that the plumage-wearing habit should cease altogether are powerless to prevent the sale of the feathers of certain species of foreign birds. The species of which woman is so fond is a part of the plumage of the snowy heron, a bird which lives not only in the United States but in certain foreign countries. If a bird is to be found in America and also abroad the sale of its plumage is generally forbidden in the United States, but there is, and always has been, some difficulty in getting from whence come the supply. Law generally speaking, has its technicalities and the bird protective law is no exception.

Out of the bird protective movement grew the biological survey of the department of agriculture.



GREAT WHITE HERON

After a lapse of a quarter of a century it is hard for the people of the present day to realize the enormous number of birds that were slaughtered for the millinery trade alone.

"The greatest sufferers were the white-plumaged sea and swamp birds, such as terns, gulls and heron, but incredible numbers of land birds also were sacrificed, some 60 or 70 species being included in the lists. In one millinery establishment alone 150 kinds of the Baltimore Orioles were found.

"From the work started by this committee in 1884 the present well-organized and financially endowed corporation known as the National Association of Audubon Societies for the Protection of Wild Birds and Animals has resulted, although in the interim there were many periods when the outlook for bird protection in North America seemed doomed to failure."

It was the result of an appeal made to congress by the council of the Ornithologists' union that led congress to vote an appropriation of \$5,000, the money to be administered under the direction of the department of agriculture for the purpose of taking means to save the lives of the native American birds which were useful to man.

As William Dutcher says further in his story of the protective movement:

"In recognition of the action taken by the American Ornithologists' union in securing the appropriation, the secretary of agriculture invited the council of the union to select a superintendent to carry on the work and at a subsequent meeting held in Washington, Dr. Clinton Hart Merriam was selected as the superintendent and Dr. Albert K. Fisher as his assistant. Both of these noted ornithologists were among the founders of the American Ornithologists' union."

It was from this humble beginning that the present biological survey, a division of the United States department of agriculture, has grown. It is perfectly apparent from the letters which agriculturists send to Washington constantly that the work of the biological survey has its value appreciated more and more every year. The survey has published a great mass of valuable statistics of the food habits of birds and their relation to agriculture and forestry.

As has been said, there are Audubon societies for bird protection in nearly every state in the Union. They are affiliated in one great society called the National Association of Audubon Societies. The writer of this article from personal knowledge can speak of the beginnings of one of the largest and most active of the state organizations.

Persons who were known to be interested in birds were asked to meet to form a protective organization. A good many persons not particularly interested in bird protection also were invited. Several women came to that first meeting, wearing the plumage of wild birds in their hats. At first the society intended to do its work by persuasive missionary efforts, and along this line to a considerable extent the endeavor has been ever since.

The editorial in question further refers to details of the work published in other columns of the paper, which furnishes evidence of the ghastly character of the business. The logical result of this newspaper agitation was that the American Ornithologists' union at its annual meeting held in New York city September 26, 1884, appointed a committee of its members to investigate the extent of the alleged wild bird destruction and to devise means to stop the slaughter by legal or any other legitimate method.

"This committee found that the claims of the press and of individuals were not in the least exaggerated, but on the other hand did not fully represent the terrible inroads that were being made on the non-game birds.



GRAVE OF CUY M. BRADLEY ASSOCIATION WARDEN IN FLORIDA KILLED IN PERFORMANCE OF DUTY



KENTUCKY WARBLES

culture of the United States government. The biological survey has been of great service to all the farmers of the United States and to all who have engaged either directly or indirectly in any form of agricultural pursuit. When the survey was threatened with extinction a few years ago by the apparent intention of congress to reduce it to an appropriation, the farmers of the United States with the bird protectors and the real sportsmen, rose in its defense and saved it. The survey probably will be approved to continue its useful work as long as the agricultural department has existence.

The history of bird protection in the United States generally and of right is connected with the history of two organizations, the various state Audubon societies for the protection of wild birds, and the American Ornithologists' union. Recently William Dutcher of New York, who is the president of the National Association of Audubon Societies and a fellow of the American Ornithologists' union, told the ornithologists of the world assembled in convention to a European city the story of the bird protection movement in North America. Mr. Dutcher and all the other officers of the National Association of Audubon Societies are men who have devoted their lives to the study of birds and to their protection.

A celebrated French scientist said not long ago that if the bird life were to be swept out of existence man could survive only a few months. Because of the ravages of the insects

Woman and Her Instincts

Women will follow the law of their nature, not because masculine or "womanly" arguments convince them, but because it was there before they were; they can no more help it than they can stop their hearts from beating; they have no more choice in the matter than they have in regard to having hands and feet, nor as much. Quite as amenable to the underlying laws of life are the older and sterner members of womankind who chatter on platforms about women's rights. When this kind fall, they fall like Lucifer. I have even observed, though I realize that it will take several aeons before man finds this out, that the strongest-minded women are usually the ones capable of the strongest affections, the most apparently unsexed often, in the deepest sense, the most womanly. The instinct for mother-

hood is the primal, indestructible fact of woman's life, and professional work, university life, even—even the ballots are not going to change it, any more than the present style in sleeves is going to change it. As well be afraid that water will run up hill, that the Hudson will turn and travel back to the Adirondacks, as that the heart of woman, be she short-haired or long-haired, booted and spurred or clad in chiffon, shall be made any way except as it is made, and has been for all time! The swallow to her nest, the river to the sea and the heart of the woman to her child, existent or non-existent. You cannot keep the needle from pointing to the pole, and no amount of good advice will make it point there irrevocably.—Scribner's.

A Criticism.

First Angel—What is that spirit fussing about?

Second Angel—She says her hat pins stick out beyond her halo.—Harper's Bazar.

DOCTORS ADVISED OPERATION— DECIDED TO TRY GREAT KIDNEY REMEDY

I want to tell you in a few words what your Swamp-Root did for me, believing that my testimony may do some other suffering person a great deal of good.

About six years ago, I was dangerously ill, consulted three doctors, all of whom said I had kidney trouble. One of the doctors analyzed my urine and reported that I had gravel, and further said that in order to regain my health and life, an operation would be necessary. I did not want to be operated on as I was afraid that I would not recover. Someone told me of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root and said it was a reliable medicine for kidney trouble, so I decided to try it and went to Mr. Rose, the druggist, at 333 Central Ave., Minneapolis, and bought a bottle. I took it, noticed results and continued taking it until I was entirely cured.

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I never fail to tell my friends about your remedy, as I believe it is the best of its kind. Your U & O Ointment is also very good. We are never without a jar in our house.

Yours very truly,
MRS. MARGARET E. ANDERSON,
Minneapolis, Minn.
State of Minnesota ss.
County of Hennepin ss.
Personally appeared before me this 23rd day of Sept., 1909, Mrs. Margaret E. Anderson of the City of Minneapolis of the State of Minnesota, who subscribed the above, and on oath says that the same is true in substance and in fact.
M. M. KERRIDGE,
Notary Public.
Commission expires March 25, 1914.

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When you are tired out and your nerves are on edge, try going off by yourself and losing yourself in some good story. You will, in nine cases out of ten, come back rested and invigorated.
One woman who has passed serenely through many years of hard work and worry that go with the managing of a house and bringing up of a large family of children, said that she considered it the duty of every busy housekeeper to read a certain amount of "trash," light fiction, for the rest and change to the mind that it would give.
Try it, you who lead a strenuous life, and who sometimes grow exceedingly weary of the same.

Getting a Reputation.
There is a desk in the senate particularly convenient as a place from which to make speeches. It is next to the aisle and almost in the center of the chamber, and affords an opportunity for the speaker to make everybody hear.
At least a dozen senators, according to the Washington correspondent of the St. Louis Star, have borrowed this desk when they had special utterances to deliver to a mild protest from its legitimate occupant.
"I am perfectly willing to give up my desk," said he, "but I am afraid people will think that the same man is talking all the time. I don't want to get the reputation of constantly filling the senate with words."—Youth's Companion.

Not Easy.
Pat was a married man—a very much married man. He had married no fewer than four times, and all his wives were still in the fore. According to Pat's own account before the court where he was tried for bigamy and found guilty, his experiences were not altogether satisfactory. The judge, in passing sentence, expressed his wonder that the prisoner could be such a hardened villain as to delude so many women.
"Ver honor," said Pat, apologetically, "I was only tryin' to get a good one, an' it's not aisy!"—Lippincott's Magazine.

Some folks never feel faintly until they have a chance to syndicate their sorrows.
Deserved the Shoes.
The weary wayfarer leaned over the fence and watched the housewife doing her chores.
"Ah, lady," he said, tipping his hat, "I used to be a professional humorist. If I tell you a funny story will you give me an old pair of shoes?"
"Well, that depends," responded the busy housewife; "you must remember that brevity is the soul of wit."
"Yes, mum, I remember that, and brevity is the sole of each of my shoes, mum."
Natural Query.
Mrs. Thynn—"Don't you think I look plump in this gown?"
Thynn—"Yes. Did you have it made at an upholsterer's?"
Anemia is often temporarily mistaken for virtue.
They who talk much of dying are usually dead already.

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