

# Common American Birds

Interesting information about them supplied by the Bureau of Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture

## Sparrow Hawk

(Falco sparverius)

Length, about ten inches. This is one of the best known and handsomest, as well as the smallest, of North American hawks.

Range: Breeds throughout the United States, Canada, and northern Mexico; winters in the United States and south to Guatemala.

Habits and economic status: The sparrow hawk, which is a true falcon.

Habits and economic status: The food of the mourning dove is practically all vegetable matter (over 99 per cent), principally seeds of plants, including grain. Wheat, oats, rye, corn, barley, and buckwheat were found in 150 out of 237 stomachs, and constituted 32 per cent of the food. Three-fourths of this was waste grain picked up after harvest. The principal and almost constant diet is weed seeds, which are eaten throughout the year and constitute 64 per cent of the entire food. In one stomach were found 7,500 seeds of yellow wood sorrel, in another 6,400 seeds of barn grass or foxtail, and in a third 2,900



seeds of slender paspalum, 4,820 of orange hawk-weed, 950 of hoary vervain, 120 of Carolina cranesbill, 60 of yellow wood sorrel, 620 of panic grass, and 40 of various other weeds. None of these is useful, and most of them are troublesome weeds. The dove does not eat insects or other animal food. It should be protected in every possible way.

## Horned Lark

(Otocoris alpestris)

Length, about seven and three-fourths inches. The black mark across the breast and the small, pointed tufts of dark feathers above and behind the eyes distinguish the bird. Range: Breeds throughout the United States (except the South Atlantic and Gulf states) and Canada; winters in all the United States except Florida. Habits and economic status: Horned larks frequent the open country, especially the plains and deserts. They associate in large flocks, are hardy, apparently delighting in exposed situations in winter, and often nest before snow disappears. The flight is irregular and hesitating, but in the breeding season the males ascend high in air, singing as they go, and pitch to the ground in one thrilling dive. The preference of horned larks is for vegetable food, and about one-sixth of this is grain, chiefly waste.

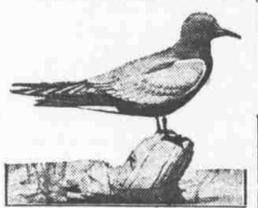
lives in the more open country and builds its nest in hollow trees. It is abundant in many parts of the West, where telegraph poles afford it convenient perching and feeding places. Its food consists of insects, small mammals, birds, spiders, and reptiles. Grasshoppers, crickets, and terrestrial beetles and caterpillars make up considerably more than half its subsistence, while field mice, house mice, and shrews cover fully 25 per cent of its annual supply. The balance of the food includes birds, reptiles, and spiders. Contrary to the usual habits of the species, some individuals during the breeding season capture nestling birds for food for their young and create considerable havoc among the songsters of the neighborhood. In agricultural districts when new ground is broken by the plow, they sometimes become very tame, even alighting for an instant under the horses in their endeavor to seize a worm or insect. Out of 410 stomachs examined, 314 were found to contain insects; 129, small mammals; and 70, small birds. This little falcon renders good service in destroying noxious insects and rodents and should be encouraged and protected.

## Black Tern

(Hydrochelidon nigra surinamensis) Length, ten inches. In autumn occurs as a migrant on the east coast of the United States, and then is in white and gray plumage. During the breeding season it is confined to the interior, is chiefly black, and is the only dark tern occurring inland.

Range: Breeds from California, Colorado, Missouri, and Ohio, north to central Canada; winters from Mexico to South America; migrant in the eastern United States.

Habits and economic status: This tern, unlike most of its relatives, passes much of its life on fresh-water lakes and marshes of the interior. Its nests are placed among the tiles and weeds, on floating vegetation, or on



Some sprouting grain is pulled, but drilled grain is safe from injury. California horned larks take much more grain than the eastern birds, specializing on oats, but this is accounted for by the fact that oats grow wild over much of the state. Weed seeds are the largest single element of food. The insect food, about 20 per cent of the whole, includes such pests as May beetles and their larvae (white grubs), leaf beetles, clover-leaf and clover-root weevils, the potato-stalk borer, nut weevils, billbugs, and the chinch bug. Grasshoppers are a favorite food, and cutworms are freely eaten. The horned larks, on the whole, may be considered useful birds.

## Steam and the Home.

Steam shelled industry out of the home as one shells peas; put it in the factory; the family, father, mother and the children tagged after, and home survived merely as a place to eat and sleep. Applied to transportation, though, steam did even more. It dissolved the population which had caked and clogged in one parish for a thousand years, and made it fluid to run uphill about the earth. Nobody lives now where he was born if he can get over by the best of anything better somewhere else turns up. The attic under the ancestral shingles, full of horsehide trunks that hold the broad-clothed sashes in which our great-grandmothers danced with Lafayette—you just read about them in the story books; they don't exist.—Eugene Wood, in Century.

## Mourning Dove

(Zenaidura macroura)

Length, twelve inches. The dark spot on the side of the neck distinguishes this bird from all other native doves and pigeons except the white-winged dove. The latter has the upper third of wing white.

Range: Breeds throughout the United States and in Mexico, Guatemala, and southern Canada; winters from the central United States to Panama.

## Road to Success.

What we need is depth. Depth can be imparted through the teaching of anything. It can be imparted through Latin grammar, through handwriting, through carpenter work, through arithmetic, or history. The one element required is time. Depth cannot be imparted quickly, or in many subjects at once. Leisure is necessary—a slowing down, a taking of things, not easily, but slowly, determinedly, patiently—as if there were plenty of time and nothing else counted. This is the road

to rapid and brilliant work, and there is no other. The smallest children should be set on this road, and guided and governed and helped and slaved over by the best of your masters. One subject understood means the world mastered.—John J. Chapman, in Atlantic.

## Never Borrow Trouble.

Let us be of good cheer, remembering that the misfortunes hardest to bear are those which never happen.—Lowell.

# U. S. Has Made Steady Gains for Years in World Market

1880	1900	1910	1913
85%	64%	55%	51%
CRUDE MATERIALS and FOODSTUFFS			
15%	36%	45%	49%
MANUFACTURES			

Record of United States exports in representative years shows how manufactured products are displacing crude materials and foodstuffs.

By DR. EDWARD EWING PRATT, Chief of Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Department of Commerce.

The great European war has forced upon us the industrial leadership of the world. And thereby it has also brought home to us with singular force the importance of foreign trade. Three years ago it would have been difficult to arouse much serious interest in the middle West or in the South on the subject of foreign trade. Overseas markets meant little to producers, manufacturers and merchants not located near the Atlantic, Gulf or Pacific seaboard.

Today it is different. Our farmers in the middle West have realized that because nations, thousands of miles away, have gone to war, and because the supplies of wheat from certain large wheat-producing sections of the world have been cut off from their usual markets, there is a special demand for American wheat and the prices obtained for the largest crop produced in the history of the United States are the highest prices on record.

At the same time the producers of cotton in another section of the United States have had brought home to them with disastrous forcefulness the fact that a large part of the cotton crop of the United States is marketed in Europe, that when those markets were suddenly cut off the price of cotton went down and down until it was scarcely more than half of the usual price, and far below the cost of production. Both of these groups have suddenly and for the first time realized the importance of foreign trade.

As a matter of fact the whole nation has had an object lesson, staged on a tremendous scale, of the importance of that comparatively small proportion of our total trade that may be classed as "foreign." That small por-

tion amounts to not more than 10 per cent of the total and yet all of our difficulties at the outbreak of the European war were caused because that small percentage was disarranged.

In view of the apparently small interest taken in foreign trade prior to the outbreak of the European war, it is surprising to learn the real importance of the United States in the world's markets. In the fiscal year, 1912-13, our exports sent abroad nearly \$2,500,000,000 worth of products. This was exceeded only by the exports of Great Britain. We were the second exporting nation of the world, ahead of Germany and far outdistancing France. And, what is more significant, our exports during the last quarter century have shown a steady and rapid increase. The exports of the United States have doubled in the last 15 years.

It is necessary and interesting to point out that a very large proportion of those exports consisted of raw materials and foodstuffs. This proportion, however, has been steadily decreasing during recent years.

In the decade 1870 to 1879 the proportion of manufactured goods exported from the United States amounted to only 20.35 per cent. In the period 1890 to 1899 it had increased to 25.28 per cent. And in the period from 1900 to 1909 it amounted to 37.66 per cent. During the normal years immediately preceding the European war, from 1910 to 1914 inclusive, the proportion of our manufactured goods to total exports amounted to 46.75 per cent. On the other hand the proportion of raw materials and foodstuffs exported from the United States steadily decreased. These movements are significant in themselves and would have been equally significant if their importance had not been forced upon us by the outbreak of the European war and by the new role in international affairs which we in consequence are called upon to accept.

## Millions of Chinese Have Never Even Tasted Rice.

Rice is often spoken of as the staple article of food for the whole of the Chinese people, yet tens of millions of people in China have never seen or tasted rice, says Julian Arnold, United States commercial attaché at Peking. Vast areas of the country in the north cannot grow rice and even in the rice-growing sections millions of people are too poor to buy or use rice.

Yet there they still stand today, in calm serenity and majesty, unhurt by disease, unscarred by all save fire and the hand of man, while we, creatures of a day, creep about and peep beneath their mighty shade and pass away, while they live on. And there is no visible reason, barring foolhardy destruction by man, why they should not live for another millennium or more.

## MORE PLAYER PIANOS MADE

Output Make Big Jump in Five Years While Manufacture of Ordinary Instruments Experiences Slump.

During the period of five years between 1909 and 1914 the number of upright pianos made in the United States for or with player attachments increased from 34,495 to 87,808, or 154.6 per cent, while their value increased from \$9,275,001 to \$29,892,514, or 118.5 per cent, according to Uncle Sam's census figures on the industry just given out. The number of grand pianos made for or with player attachments increased from 21 in 1909 to 831 in 1914.

At the same time the output of upright pianos without player attachments decreased in number from 321,309 in 1909, to 337,556 in 1914, bringing a reduction of 10.6 per cent in the output of pianos of all kinds. The number of organs manufactured decreased 34.5 per cent in the five-year period, but the value of the output was increased 20.2 per cent. This was due to a big increase in the output of pipe organs.

A big increase is also shown in the manufacture of phonographs, graphophones and talking machines, the output growing from 344,581 machines with a value of \$5,406,684 in 1909 to 515,154 machines with a value of \$15,290,491 in 1914.

## TIN-PLATE INDUSTRY GROWS

Output in United States Increases 51.9 Per Cent in Five Years—Business Built Up Since 1891.

The growth of the American tin-plate business since 1909 is shown by statistics of the United States bureau of the census, which places the increase in the output of tinplate and terneplate from 1909 to 1914 at 696,462,878 pounds, or 51.9 per cent. The value of the output increased \$19,536,591, or 41.8 per cent. This growth was all in tinplate, as the output of terneplate, which, in 1914, constituted less than seven per cent of the total production of coated plates, was somewhat smaller in 1914 than in 1909. Terneplate consists of steel or iron plates or sheets coated with an alloy of tin and lead known as terne mixture.

The tinplate industry in the United States dates from 1891, as prior to that year practically the entire domestic market was supplied by imports.

## More Oil Burned in Locomotives.

Uncle Sam's figures show a marked increase in the use of petroleum as a locomotive fuel by railroads of the United States in 1914. The quantity of oil fuel consumed last year was 35,648,466 barrels, an increase of 5,556,200 barrels or 18 per cent over 1914.

# The KITCHEN CABINET

Whether a life is noble or ignoble depends not on the calling which is adopted, but on the spirit in which it is followed.—Sir John Lubbock.

## CHOICE PUDDING SAUCES.

The same attention should be given to the preparation of pudding sauces as is given to meat sauces, as well as the proper sauce to serve with each pudding.

German Sauce.—Boil together one cupful of sugar and a half cupful of water for 15 minutes. Then whisk into it the beaten yolks of three eggs and continue beating over hot water until thick. Add a tablespoonful of butter, one of vanilla, and the stiffly beaten whites of three eggs. Stir over the boiling water three or four minutes until the eggs are cooked. The vanilla should be added after the sauce is cooked. If other flavors, like currant jelly or fruit juice of various kinds, are added, it is not so important when it is added.

Opera Sauce.—Cream a fourth of a cupful of softened butter with a cupful and a fourth of light yellow sugar. Add slowly as much cream as it will take without curdling. Flavor to taste.

Currant Jelly Sauce.—Beat a cupful of double cream until thick; add currant jelly till a light pink in color.

Brown Sugar Sauce.—Take a cupful and a half of medium brown sugar, add a pint of boiling water and a tablespoonful of cornstarch; boil ten minutes. Just before serving add a tablespoonful of butter and a grating of nutmeg.

Creamy Sauce.—Cream two tablespoonfuls of butter with a cupful of powdered sugar. Add a tablespoonful of vanilla or any desired flavor and two tablespoonfuls of cream, beating well. More cream can be added if it is not soft enough to drop easily from a spoon.

Orange Sauce.—Beat four yolks with tablespoonfuls of powdered sugar, a cupful of cream and the grated rind of an orange. Cook like custard until smooth; strain and serve. Fine on a fruit salad.

Chocolate Sauce.—Boil together for five minutes a half cupful each of sugar and water. Cool the sirup before stirring in four ounces of chocolate, melted. Add a half teaspoonful of vanilla or a pinch of cinnamon. Stand in a pan of hot water, and when ready to serve add a half cupful of thin cream.

Every good and commanding movement in the annals of the world is the triumph of enthusiasm. Nothing great was ever accomplished without it.—R. W. Emerson.

The most wasted of all days is that on which one has not laughed.—Chamfort.

Who is the happiest of men? He who values the merits of others, and in their pleasure takes joy, even as though it were his own.—Goethe.

## DELICIOUS CAKE FILLINGS.

An ordinary cupcake or a plain, cheap, simple cake recipe may be so varied by frostings and fillings that it is always different.

Pineapple Filling.—Take a tablespoonful of gelatin dissolved in a little pineapple juice, add a half cupful of grated pineapple and enough lemon to make it pleasantly tart; add very stiff

boiled frosting to make sufficient quantity of icing and filling.

Orange Filling.—This is especially delicious with any white cake, but is a great favorite as a filling for chocolate cake. Take the rind of an orange as well as the juice, put into a cup and fill the cup with water, cook two tablespoonfuls of cornstarch, a pinch of salt, the yolks of two eggs and a third of a cupful of sugar with it; add a teaspoonful of butter and a little lemon juice. Cool before using on cake.

Fruit Filling.—Take a cupful of seeded raisins, a half pound of blanched almonds, a half pound of figs, the same amount of dates and a fourth of a pound of citron. Put these twice through the meat chopper and add enough boiling frosting to make a soft paste.

Plain Chocolate Icing and Filling.—Melt two ounces of chocolate over hot water, add two cupfuls of brown sugar, a half cupful of milk and a teaspoonful of butter; cook until it makes a soft ball in cold water. Cool, add a little cinnamon and stir until thick enough to spread. Put it on while the cake is warm.

Maple filling is delicious, using maple sugar for the sirup and beating it as any boiled frosting.

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## Summer Luncheons in a jiffy

Let Libby's splendid chefs relieve you of hot-weather cooking. Stock the pantry shelf with

Libby's Sliced Dried Beef and the other good summer meats—including Libby's Vienna Sausage—you'll find them fresh and appetizing.



## Situations for White or Colored Men

and boys in our mill and box department. Good wages, steady work; unsurpassed working conditions. NO STRIKE ON. G. Elias & Bro. Inc., Buffalo, N. Y.

## DAISY FLY KILLER

placed anywhere, at once kills all flies. Most clean, or nematic, convenient. Kills all seasons. Made of metal, non-toxic or injurious to anything. Guaranteed effective. All dealers or sent direct for \$1.50. HAROLD SOMERS, 100 De Kalb Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

## A Joy Table.

Mother made a "joy table" for her children by sawing off the legs of a kitchen table more than half-way up, so that the little ones could reach it. Round the table, after it had been painted green, was nailed a green ledge of wood—to keep in the sand—quite four inches deep, and table and ledge alike were lined with zinc. Clean white sand was now distributed evenly over the table, and the children hugely enjoyed a game of "being at the seaside," bringing their spades and pails and making hideycks and waterways on it. On other days the children pretended that the table was a village, or a garden, and planted it with green things and flowers and set a church and farmyard buildings and animals about. The table was a success.

## Important to Mothers

Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of Dr. J. C. Fletcherson. In Use for Over 30 Years. Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria

## When Greek Meets Greek.

Two business men famous for their acumen and keenness in the marts of trade were wont to meet on the golf links every Sunday afternoon in friendly rivalry. It was known that they did not discard professional ethics in playing the game, and they watched one another very closely for infractions of the rules. A ball was driven out of bounds, and the driver, after searching for it earnestly, finally gave up, and slipping a new ball in his trousers, he cautiously let it drop out by his foot and picked it up quickly with a cry of delight. "Oh, here it is!" he said. "You're a liar!" said his companion morosely. "I've been standing on it for ten minutes."—Harper's Weekly.

## Bible Only Noncontraband.

During the Civil war the demand for the Scriptures increased and multiplied and Bibles printed at the Bible house, New York, were the only merchandise which, during more than three years of civil strife, the Union army permitted to go through its lines to the people of the Confederacy, and the only merchandise which the Confederate states were willing to receive from the people of the North. In 1868 the receipts of the society were \$942,625.25, and the total number of Bibles and portions printed was 1,150,328, a number which was not exceeded until 20 years later.—Christian Herald.

## Her Last Cook.

Mistress—My last cook shed tears on the slightest provocation. Maid—Did she spot it, mum?

## A Sensible Thing To Do

When the drug, caffeine—the active principle in coffee—shows in headache, nervousness, insomnia, biliousness, jumpy heart, and so on, the sensible thing to do is to quit the coffee.

## Instant Postum

It is made from wheat roasted with a bit of wholesome molasses and is free from any harmful substance.

Thousands who prefer to protect their health, use Postum with comfort and delight.

Made in the cup—instantly—with hot water. Convenient, nourishing, satisfying.

"There's a Reason" for POSTUM

Healthy New Zealand. New Zealand has an annual death rate of less than 1 per cent.

Be a Good Spender. "Blow thyself," seems to be the modern idea.—Kansas City Journal.