

# The Weekly Monitor

AND

## Western Annapolis Sentinel.

VOL. 37

BRIDGETOWN, ANNAPOLIS COUNTY, NOVA SCOTIA, AUGUST 18, 1909

NO. 18

### BIRDS IN RELATION TO THE FARM

Paper on the Birds of the Maritime Provinces by W. H. Moore, Scotch Lake, N. B. Written for the Maritime Farmer.

It is not the purpose at this time to take an account with all the birds that have at one time or another had a direct bearing in relation to the farm.

If it were, there would be a vast amount of statistics and information to be given in connection with our many breeds of poultry and poultry products, either as eggs or meat for our consumption. The poultry business is a great branch of farming in itself.

Or we might deal at some length with the sea birds of the equatorial Pacific ocean, and their valuable fertilizing product, known as guano, a fertilizer which we shall know no more.

Perhaps many of the younger members of the audience have not heard of this by-product of the wild birds; perhaps many of the older members knew little of it even when it was on our market here between thirty and forty years ago.

For the information of all I will say that guano was voidings of sea fowl dropped upon their roosting places, upon rocky islands in the Pacific ocean. Under the rays of the tropical sun, the moisture soon dried and very little, if any, of the fertilizing constituents were wasted in evaporation. When these banks of bird manure were first discovered, they were many feet in depth, 90 to 100 feet on some islands. This manure was carried in shipsloads to civilized countries and there sold at a good figure, but it well repaid both the sailing merchants and the farmers who used it.

Deposits of excrement of sea birds occur on rocky islands in various parts of the world in nearly all latitudes; but guano of commercial value is limited chiefly to rainless regions of the tropics.

The importance of guano as a fertilizer was realized by the Peruvians nearly 300 years ago. The Incas held it in high esteem and deposits on the Chincha Islands were jealously guarded.

In 1824 the first experiments were made in United States.

In 1840 it was introduced into England by Lord Derby.

Chincha Island deposits estimated at 12,376,100 tons.

In 1850 the price in United States was \$50.00 or more per ton.

Alex. von Humboldt took some to Europe in 1804 and called attention to its value. Not until 40 years after was its importance realized.

NEW BRUNSWICK BIRDS.

Our subject at this time has more to do with our New Brunswick birds in relation to our New Brunswick farmers, and it is a subject well worthy of our consideration, and one that it is well to have come before us at such a convention as this, to be treated of by a New Brunswick farmer for the benefit of New Brunswick farmers.

In considering whether a plant or animal is beneficial or injurious to the welfare of man, we must make up our minds to deal with the question in an unprejudiced manner. If we consider a plant, we try to find out if the plant is of direct benefit to us. If it should be beneficial, it is possible, also, that it may be more harmful than the benefit is worth. A plant may be of some little use as a fodder and yet be injurious in removing moisture and fertility from the ground that we want reserved for our crops, which are regarded as highly beneficial plants.

The same applies, also, to a bird or an animal. A bird or an animal may destroy injurious insects or plants and yet do more injury, in some manner, than its benefits amount to. So, in considering our birds in relation to the farm, we must study both sides of the question and weigh them in a true balance with an unprejudiced hand. With the exception of the game birds, our other birds will only have to be investigated in connection with their food supply.

THEIR FOOD SUPPLY.

Is the food they consume anything that would be highly beneficial to the farmer or is it a material that is more or less injurious to the welfare of the farmer? In dealing with our birds and their habits, it must be done briefly with the short time at our disposal. Let us divide the birds into groups. In the first group we will place the permanent residents, for, as they are with us the year round, it may be possible that they do either more good or more harm than a group that is with us for a short period. In the second group we will place the summer residents or those coming here to rear their broods of young during the summer season, when our supply of injurious insects and weeds are generally abundant. In the third group we will place the migrants that breed north of us and pass the winter season south of us, thus passing through our fields and woods twice a year—in spring, when the insects are becoming active, and in autumn, when many insect eggs are to be found and when weed seeds are plentiful. Group four contains the winter visitors, being those that breed in the north in summer and pass the winter in our section.

Let us review the birds of the first group! Among them we find the Chickadees, surely known by everybody. They are with us in goodly numbers and what do they eat? In winter their food consists chiefly of eggs and pupa of various species of moths that infest our orchard and forest trees. In summer, larvae, pupa and mature insects compose the bill of fare. They consume an immense amount of insects that are injurious. The Crows and Jays belong to this group, but the Crows are more plentiful along the southern coast in winter than they are here. The verdict concerning the Crows' qualities hang in the balance in some districts, yet over our greater area they are highly beneficial. The amount of cut-worms, tent caterpillars, locusts and other noxious pests comprised in the menu of this bird goes a great way toward pardoning his wrongs. In grain sections in the south farmers even take the trouble to feed the birds old corn at the time when they would be pulling up the young sprouts, for they realize that the workman is worthy of his hire, and would no more think of shooting crows than they would of shooting horses and cows, because they demand grain in return for their work.

(Continued next week.)

### Canadian Forestry Association

A Special Meeting of the Canadian Forestry Association will be held in Regina, Sask., Friday and Saturday, Sept. 3rd and 4th, 1909. The meetings will begin at 9.30 a. m. and at 2 p. m., in the City Hall and there will be an evening meeting at 8 o'clock, when illustrated lectures will be delivered. On Saturday, there will be an excursion to Indian Head to inspect the Forest Nurseries and Plantations. The subjects dealt with will refer particularly to conditions in the prairie provinces and will embrace:—Tree Planting on the Eastern and Western Sections of the Prairies, Forest Reserves, Game Protection, Growing Wood for Fuel and for Wind-breaks, the Relation of Forests to the Conservation of Moisture, etc.

His Honor the Lieut.-Governor has kindly consented to open the meeting and Representatives of the Provincial Government, the City of Regina and delegates and take part in the discussion. The Board of Trade will welcome the excursion.

### MRS. PETERS RETIRES FROM PRESIDENCY OF REBEKAH ASSEMBLY.

The Rebekah Assembly of the provinces convened in annual session at St. John on the 11th inst. Mrs. Margaret S. Peters, president of the Assembly, in her annual address spoke favorably of the fraternal papers, and told of the many visitations she had made. She made the following suggestions:

1. That the Assembly have prepared a set of Model By-Laws, to be in skeleton form, leaving blank places to be filled in to suit the peculiar circumstances of each lodge.

2. That the stronger lodges try to devote some time to looking after the weak ones in their district, visiting them and encouraging them in every possible way.

3. That the president appoint one of the past presidents a committee on foreign correspondence to report to the next annual meeting.

4. That the Rebekah Lodges continue the penny offerings to the Home Fund and make some special effort each year to raise an amount.

Mrs. Peters is succeeded by Miss Harriet A. Smith, of St. John.

### A CHARMING TRIP BY WATER.

To the Editor of Digby Courier:

Dear Sir:—It will interest your readers to learn of my very charming trip by water to Bridgetown. Our party, comprising Mr. and Mrs. Graham and Miss Gordon, of Boston, with Mrs. A. L. Wear, Mrs. A. L. Andrew and myself from New York, made this trip with Capt. S. D. Munro of Digby in his clever little yacht "Constance" and as she has both motor and sails, we enjoyed all the forms of water navigation.

The Annapolis Valley through which we sailed is one of the choicest scenic spots I ever saw and I have been in most of the countries of the globe.

Captain Munro is certainly a capable and experienced yachtsman and his courtesy and care won our deep appreciation.

Yours faithfully,  
G. A. SYKES.

Joggin Bridge, Aug. 7, 1909.

### END OF THAW TRIAL.

White Plains, N. Y., Aug. 12.—Justice Mills handed down a decision this morning declaring that Harry K. Thaw is insane. He dismissed the writ of habeas corpus under which Thaw endeavored to secure his release from Matteawan and remands him to the custody of the state authorities at that institution.

Thus ends the trial of Harry Thaw for the murder of Stanford White, one of the most sensational and fittest murder trials in the history of the country. The trial has been an expose of the degraded hidden life of the murderer's victim, and though the world could well spare the slain none the less is the murderer made to suffer a just and inevitable penalty.

The owner of Mona Baron, the Fredericton mare which died at Sussex, during the races, was offered \$900 for her a few days before.

### Nova Scotia Temperance Alliance

As articles have appeared in the Press which convey a false impression regarding the work of the Nova Scotia Temperance Alliance, the following facts are submitted:—

#### I. PURPOSE OF THE ALLIANCE.

The Alliance is at the unification of the Temperance forces of the Province. It is a league of work along educational lines, a campaign of Pledge-signing, a distribution of literature, the expense of Councils to enforce the law, and is endeavoring to obtain the most satisfactory legislation.

#### II. ATTITUDE OF THE ALLIANCE.

The Alliance is not directly, or indirectly, seeking to remove the interests of either the clergy or the membership of the admittance are adherents of the law during liberal Conservative rule.

The Alliance asks its members to increase in the nomination of temperance candidates, who, in the ordinary course of things, are fixed at \$3.75 per cent.

—1st. Because as under the Ditch License Act, the higher grade liquor is sold at 75¢ instead of 50¢ per gallon. More than one hundred gallons are sold under this Act instead of 50 gallons about 100 but at a cent a pound.

We should prohibit the sale of liquor in public houses, and we should prohibit the sale of liquor in public houses, and we should prohibit the sale of liquor in public houses.

We advocate the prohibition of liquor in public houses, and we should prohibit the sale of liquor in public houses, and we should prohibit the sale of liquor in public houses.

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### New Airship to Fly Like Eagle

Los Angeles, Cal., Aug. 12.—Prof. H. L. Twining, head of the Department of physics and electrical engineering in the Los Angeles Polytechnic High School, began aerial experiments today with an "Ornithopter," a flying machine with 27 foot wings, designed to operate like those of an eagle.

Prof. Twining has been studying bird flight for 20 years and feels confident he can demonstrate the principles he has evolved.

The flying machine has no motor. Instead Prof. Twining has devised a system of levers to be operated with hands and feet.

Mineola, R. I., Aug. 12.—Charles Foster Willard, the amateur aeronaut, made two successful flights here this morning in the Herring-Curtiss aeroplane recently purchased by the Aeronautical Society. In the first flight he made a complete circle of about two miles in circumference the starting place. In the second and landed easily within 50 feet of flight he described a figure "8" travelling about four miles and landing ten feet from the starting point. During the last flight Willard attained the height of eighty feet.

Does Advertising Pay?

Few people realize the enormous extent to which advertising has been carried on in America. Take for instance the eleven largest retail stores in New York city. The following table is said to show what each store spent in advertising in a single month:

The Siegel-Cooper Co.	\$32,052.31
John Wanamaker	30,273.83
Simpson-Crowford Co.	26,406.24
The 14th Street Store	25,402.24
R. H. Macy & Co.	21,193.03
Hearn	20,412.45
Bloomington Bros.	18,677.28
The Adams-O'Neill Co.	17,499.14
Ehrich Bros.	14,201.23
Saks & Co.	13,912.97
Rothsberg & Co.	12,488.84

These figures afford about as convincing proof of the fact that it pays to advertise as anyone could desire. These great retail establishments are not in the habit of spending money for things that do not pay.

A DRUNKEN NINE-YEAR-OLD BOY.

A special despatch to the Globe from Chatham last week said: "A nine-year-old boy named Burley was seen staggering home yesterday, and it was thought to be sunstroke. Later it was found that he was drunk. As a result, an information was laid against Augustus Newman, bartender, for supplying liquor to a minor."

SCORES OF BABIES KILLED BY HEAT.

New York, Aug. 11.—Infant lives went out by scores under the heat and humidity of yesterday. Seldom since the day after the General Slocum was burned has the Morgue at the Bellevue dock held so many tiny bodies as last night, when forty five there, twenty-seven sent from the New York Foundling Asylum and the others from various hospitals and other institutions.

Coney Island, whose hot sands were unswept by the light westerly breeze during the afternoon, added three to the heat's toll of babyhood. Prostrations were numerous, several occurring in the neighborhood of the Brooklyn Bridge entrance from Park Row.

GOING IT SOME.

To the Editor of Digby Courier:

Dear Sir:—According to the Bear River News air ships and flying machines have got to take a back seat and Bear River can come to the front and boast of more horse speed than any other place in the province, for two ladies of the above place drove to Boston last Thursday and spent the day.

READER.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Correspondents will confer a favor by sending in their copy to this office on Monday, whenever possible.

### FARMERS PICNIC AT HALL'S ISLAND

Addresses by Principal Cumming, Professor Woodworth, Judge Longley and Others.—Crowd Enjoy Gaily Occasion.

The Farmers' Picnic at Lawrence-town on Saturday afternoon and evening last was a most successful and enjoyable occasion. Hall's Island, which is one of the beauty spots of the County and a favorite picnic resort, was crowded with people coming by carriage or train to join the social gathering and hear the speeches of the prominent agriculturists.

The first speaker was Professor Cumming of the Agricultural College, Truro. His addresses are always educative and make a deep impression. He laid especial stress upon the value of dairying which he thinks is a branch of agricultural industry sadly neglected by our farmers. He would make hog-raising an adjunct of dairying. Other important suggestions received due appreciation.

Mr. Justice Longley followed Prof. Cumming and in his usual happy vein reviewed the agricultural progress of the province, urging our farmers to make better advantage of the accessories to farming which they now enjoy and of which their forefathers were deprived. "Fifty years ago," said the judge, "you had no reapers, no

reaping machines, nor any other of these mechanical improvements that have come with recent years, but you were just as prosperous as you are now. With improved conditions should come improved prosperity; you have not bettered your condition. Why? The answer is you are not systematic in your labors and system is necessary to the farmer as well as to the merchant. It is the basis of all success."

Professor Woodworth spoke upon the rotation of crops, which he strongly advocated and gave other important advice about the planting and care of orchards.

Colonel Spurr followed in a speech commending the Agricultural College at Truro as the acme of instruction and benefit for young farmers.

After the speech-making, sports followed consisting of a tug of war between a pair of oxen and 20 men, also tub-racing, log rolling, etc. Fireworks and music by the Lawrence-town brass band also enlivened the occasion.

Digby Boat Damaged

Digby, Aug. 11.—The worst northeast storm of the season was experienced here last night. The St. John yacht Rena, of the R. K. Y. C., owned by S. A. Williams, lost an anchor and dragged down among the other yachts anchored in the harbor. Great damage was done to the Bay of Fundy fishing fleet. A number of gasoline boats of the Little River fleet, which were anchored at Tommy's Cove, were nearly all destroyed. Captain Rupert MacWhinnie, of the schooner Elmer, found it the worst storm he ever passed through in the Bay of Fundy. He lost three dories. John W. Hayden's sloop yacht Evelyn parted her murrings and sank at low water mark in the Joggins. The New York yacht Clara II, arrived here last night for a harbor and rode out the gale in safety. The Rena was rescued from her perilous position this morning by Captain F. A. Robinson's power boat Moto. During the night some boat collided with O. S. Dunham's power yacht Okawella, although her light was burning brightly, and carried away her signal mast and part of her brass rail.

EARTHQUAKE IN JAPAN.

Tokio, Aug. 15.—Reports received today concerning the earthquake in Central Japan on Saturday afternoon show that there were a number of fatalities and that great damage was done to property. The dead at present are said to be thirty, though it is feared that the fatalities will be greatly increased when the outlying districts are heard from. The number of persons injured is 82. Thus far 362 buildings, including many temples, are reported to have been destroyed and more than one thousand others badly damaged.

ANOTHER REPORT

Sydney, N. S., Aug. 15.—A report is current here that International President Lewis, of the U. M. W., has wired instructions to District President Dan McDougall to order the Springfield strikers to return to work. The report probably refers to the pump-men, fan-men and repair men only, and not to the coal cutters and loaders.

### Union Bank of Halifax

ESTABLISHED 1856  
Capital - - - \$1,500,000  
Rest - - - \$1,200,000

DIRECTORS  
WILLIAM ROBERTSON, President.  
C. C. BLACKADAR, Vice President.  
E. G. SMITH, W. M. P. WEBSTER,  
N. B. SMITH.

THIRTY-SEVEN BRANCHES IN NOVA SCOTIA.  
SAVINGS BANK DEPARTMENT

AT EACH BRANCH.  
HAVE YOU AN ACCOUNT? IF NOT, OPEN ONE TODAY

**Royal Baking Powder**  
Absolutely Pure  
The only baking powder made from Royal Grape Cream of Tartar.