

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1922

WILD FOWL JOURNEY MANY MILES SOUTH

One Canadian Teal Flew
3,000 Miles in Two Months
and Seven Days — Survey
Bands Give Record.

The marking of migratory waterfowl, which has been practiced by the collaborators of the Biological Survey, United States Department of Agriculture, has given evidence that it will be a most interesting and important investigation. Although the work has been in progress for only two years it has had notable results. It is announced that ducks and other birds, the movements of which are being studied by the use of special traps, light aluminum bands are placed on one leg and the captures are released, says a departmental report. Every band bears a serial number and the legend "Biol. Surv., Wash. D. C." In the Washington office of the Biological Survey, these banded birds are card indexed, so that when a hunter bags a duck bearing a band and reports its capture, by referring to the card file the route covered by the bird in question can be ascertained. When such records are received the hunter is advised where the bird was banded, while the person who attached the band is informed where the bird fell.

During fall shooting seasons for the last few years a large number of mallards and black ducks, with a few blue-winged teal and other species, have been banded at a small lake about twenty miles north of Toronto, Ont., and many interesting returns have been received. The best long-range record for these Canadian ducks is that of a blue-winged teal, banded Sept. 24, 1920, and killed two months and seven days later in the Cargill Swamp, near Port of Spain, on the island of Trinidad, just off the coast of Venezuela. The shortest flight that this bird could have made to get there would be over three thousand miles. It is well known that blue-winged teals and certain other ducks that breed in North America winter in South America, but it was rather a surprise to learn that these individuals that had bred in Canada would make the long flight to South America, because the species also winters in small numbers in the Gulf region, and it is to that area that the more northern birds might be expected to go.

The return record of ducks of other species, banded near Toronto, have afforded valuable data relative to their migration, the report continues. The lake where the banding was done, Lake Scugog, is surrounded by marshes and thus offers excellent opportunities for the ducks to feed and rest before starting the long flight to the South. The trapping and banding were carried on continuously through the autumn, so that by the time the big southward movement began several hundred birds had been marked. At this time the season was open from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico and the migrating birds had to run a veritable gauntlet of sportsmen. A large number of return records were therefore received.

In tracing the route of these birds it seemed apparent that the mallards and black ducks traveled together and their course from Lake Scugog was southward along the shores of Lake Erie by way of the St. Clair flats. Here the route divided, the majority continuing toward the Southwest, cross-country to the Ohio River, thence to the Mississippi Valley, where many of them spent the winter. The second group, that parted from their fellows in the vicinity of Lake Erie, took a southeasterly route, crossing the Alleghenies and reaching the Atlantic Coast by way of Chesapeake and Delaware Bays. It is interesting that, although both of these kinds of ducks are present and the black duck is

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plentiful along the coast of New England none of the birds marked at Lake Scugog was taken in that region. The question that naturally arises is: Where do these ducks come from? So far we only know that some breed in that area but we do not know just where the migrating birds come from that use that route. Bird banding will probably supply the answer when it has been applied more intensively at a larger number of stations.

SILVER REGION EXAMINED.

Geological Survey Reports That San Juan Mts. May Contain Rich Deposits.

E. S. Bastin of the United States Geological Survey, who was assigned to a study of the ores produced in the region around the San Juan Mountains in Southwestern Colorado, has rendered a favorable report indicating that rich deposits if operations are carried far enough.

In a statement issued by the Geological Survey, it is said that many of the ores of the San Juan Mountains were long known to contain minerals rich in silver and the question had often been asked whether these minerals had been formed by water that percolating downward collected the silver from the upper part of the vein and redeposited it at a lower level, or whether they had been found by the hot ascending waters from which the ores were originally deposited. If formed by the first process, says the statement, the rich silver ores would represent the downward enrichment of a comparatively low grade vein and would be confined to its upper part. If formed by the second process, the rich silver minerals might continue to as great a depth as any other of the ore minerals.

Mr. Bastin finds, continues the statement, "by microscopical and chemical study of the ores that, though some of them were formed by downward enrichment, others were deposited originally in the vein and may therefore occur at depths far below the bottom limit of enrichment. This discovery is decidedly encouraging to the future operation of some of the mines."

The district including the San Juan Mountains is one of the most interesting mining regions in the United States. Scientifically, historically and geologically, Silverton, Telluride, Ouray, Rico and other mining towns are situated there. In the mountains are Camp Bird, Snuggler-Union, Liberty Bell, Tomb, Yankee Girl, Sunnyside, Silver Lake, Enterprise and other well-known gold and silver mines some of which have also yielded much lead.

The W. C. T. U. held its regular meeting yesterday afternoon with Mrs. Hope Thompson, the president, in the chair. The programme of the afternoon was in the nature of a prayer service and little business was transacted. A letter from the provincial corresponding secretary, Mrs. Gerald was read and plans for the coming convention were spoken of.

LUCY PUBLISHES ANOTHER DIARY; HE IS "TOBY M.P."

(Toronto Mail and Empire.)

Sir Henry Lucy, better known as "Toby M.P." of Punch, has published his diary notes made between 1890 and 1910, or rather judicious extracts from them. Not only as a member but as an inveterate diner-out and successful host he had the best of opportunities for knowing the great figures in the political world, and of seeing sides of them that were not always presented to the public. He never failed to get hold of the gossip little things that sometimes give one a better picture of a man than pages of solemn biography. For instance, he tells us that cabinet ministers are always expected to attend a Royal Academy dinner. On one occasion Balfour was conspicuously absent and inquiry revealed the fact that the previous year he had attended, but had found himself next the president and hummed in the other side by cabinet colleagues. He mildly protested against arrangement, saying that while he had the greatest esteem for his colleagues he saw them every day, and would rather have been placed next to persons whom he did not so often meet. He was told that the seating arrangements were in accordance with long established custom which could not be varied. "Very well," he said, "you will have to dispense with my presence in future," and he attended no more.

Balfour as Leader.

"Toby" was of opinion that as leader of the House, Balfour was a failure when he first undertook this duty, and ten years after he confirmed the original impression. Balfour came to the leadership of the House from the chief secretaryship for Ireland. He did not immediately change his manner in the House, which he treated as though it were composed of Irish members whom he might, if he chose, clap into prison. This inroad of "impetuous, impatient, and somewhat unbecoming" conduct, according to the record, led to a change in this manner had been modified, he did not try to conceal the indolence and conservatism which he viewed most of his colleagues. He was obviously bored by having to sit through tedious debates into which rarely anything but the commonplace was interjected.

Curzon's Chance.

Lord Curzon's industry and intellectual vigor are sufficient to explain his career, but he had a piece of luck when, in 1898, a new Viceroy was to be appointed for India. It appears that Curzon when he first entered parliament conceived the idea of spending his vacations in Asia to gain first-hand knowledge of the Eastern empire. While visiting Afghanistan he became acquainted with the Amir, Abdur Rahman, and a fast friendship was established between them. Curzon was particularly well qualified for at least this part of the job, and he was appointed.

Lord Curzon died at eighteen years before Asquith reached the goal, he announced in secret that one day he would be prime minister. At the time of the party, thought it not improbable that Curzon was particularly well qualified for at least this part of the job, and he was appointed.

Lloyd George and Gilbert.

Lucy was host to Lloyd George at the time the latter was Chancellor of the Exchequer was in the thick of his fight for his insurance bill. His slogan, summing up the scheme, was "You give me four pence and I'll give you nine pence." Lucy produced four pence and asked for his nine pence. Holding the copper in his hand the author of the bill proceeded to explain what it would be necessary for Lucy to do before he received his ninepence. In the course of his talk he slipped the fourpence into his pocket, and that was the last the owner ever saw of them.

Lord Castlereagh, a political opponent of Lloyd George, who was present remarked: "So like him."

We are interested to learn from Lucy that the author of the famous solution of the Bacon-Shakespeare controversy was W. S. Gilbert, who said that Sir Beerholm Tree could settle the matter by reciting in the presence of the coffin of the two reputations a passage from "Hamlet," for one of the corpses would be found to have turned over.

Court Changes.

Lucy comments upon the late King Edward's delight in golf and the pleasure he had in having his sporting friends about him at court. After his death, however, these disappeared, and people of different tastes took their places. We imagine there must be similar changes with the accession of every new monarch. There are some persons who are

by right entitled to appear at court functions, and these appear or do not appear as they see fit. There are others whose appearance is due to personal favoritism on the part of the sovereign, and not unnaturally these are often different people under different sovereigns. Lucy has by no means exhausted his material despite the prolixity of his writings, and we look for still later entries in his interesting diaries.

HEART TROUBLE BANE OF CHILDREN

Surveys Show That at Least
1 Per Cent of New York
Pupils are Sufferers.

(New York Times)

School surveys show at least one per cent of the children in elementary school grades have serious cardiac affections and it is estimated that in New York city there are 20,000 or more school children suffering from definite cardiac defects. The work of school medical inspectors in other large cities throughout the country discloses similar conditions, the total of cardiac children being large in proportion to school attendance totals.

It is estimated that among the 20,000,000 school children in the United States, between 2 and 10 years of age, there are as many as 200,000 cardiacs of various degrees of impairment, whose condition requires systematic, skilled medical supervision.

A great opportunity exists for checking heart disease mortality in later life through the discovery and relief of these children. Points out the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company in a statement just issued. It is shown that people very often underestimate the gravity of cardiac disease among children, both from the standpoint of morbidity and mortality. The sickness rate and the death rate are so much higher among adults that attention is naturally focused upon the older ages. But if the importance of heart disease is measured by comparing its frequency among children with that of those other diseases which are generally considered to be the chief causes of child mortality, heart disease is found to rank high. It is predicted that the fact will soon be generally recognized that heart disease is a problem for the school authorities just as much as for the cardiac specialist.

While cardiac disease may cause death in later life, they are often acquired during childhood. In the case of New York school children, the survey has brought out that in large numbers of cases there were significant histories of tonsillitis, rheumatism, diphtheria, dental disease, and St. Vitus' dance and that measles, pneumonia, whooping cough or scarlet fever present an antecedent. In many of the cases it is recorded that the cardiac impairment followed closely upon an attack of some of these diseases.

The intelligent care of children who have had infection disease is therefore of vital importance in connection with the prevention of heart disease. The early diagnosis of rheumatism is especially important. So is the increased practice of tonsillitis, and so, also, is better care of the teeth.

Viewed from the standpoint of mortality alone, heart disease is a very important factor in the life of children. The loss of life to various cardiac impairments among wage-earners, the medical men generally recognize as "children's diseases," it is found that at ages of 1 to 4, heart disease causes approximately one-third as many deaths as scarlet fever or one-quarter as many as whooping-cough. At ages 5 to 9 these organic heart troubles cause more deaths than do acute infectious diseases. In the latest period of childhood, 10 to 14 years, the mortality from cardiac conditions is heavier than that from the four principal diseases of childhood combined.

Tuberculosis is therefore the only condition which leads heart disease as a cause of death.

Inasmuch as it has now been proved that cardiac impairments rank high as "children's diseases," it is suggested that special attention be paid to this feature of the situation, and that the fact that cardiac impairment death rates in middle age life and in old age are relatively higher should not be allowed to obscure their importance in childhood.

MACHINERY AND ART.

How The Modern Factory Supplements Hand Work.

Those who maintain that machine production is inimical to true art in textiles, pottery, metal work, or whatever other field it may be utilized in, have not got the right idea. They have lost sight of the fact that it is not the machine that destroys design, and to blame it on the machine is to confess inability to properly use the machine, according to Richard F. Bach, writing in the current number of Arts and Decoration.

Compare, he says, the potter's wheel that produced Greek vases of 800 B. C. with the "jigger" or "pull-down" in the modern factory turning out table china. Compare the primitive apparatus for weaving with a modern Jacquard loom. Compare the old-time chisel and mallet with the rapid-fire molding machine. And consider other developments such as the metal-spin-



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ing machine, stamping machines, even the wicker loom for weaving baby carriages. And, finally, consider the printing press. While each development reduces the time of labor needed, but has no effect on the quality of either material or execution. And each brings the resultant product within reach of a larger number of consumers. "Thus," says the writer, "we approximate the fundamental requirement of democracy." "It is not the machine that destroys design," he says. "To blame it on the machine is to confess inability properly to use the machine. A mechanism cannot be reasoned with; it must be controlled ruthlessly; a mercerized cotton warp and a wood pulp filling will not produce in the journey through the loom a pure silk fabric. A mediocre conception on paper combined with poor equipment inadequately understood will not produce a masterpiece in metal or in millinery."

Mr. Bach cites the lace-making machine as an example. There are lace machines, making curtain-net in complex designs, which weave a length of sixty yards of lace of a total width of nearly nineteen feet. They are harnessed up with 8,000 different threads. The yarn used in one threading, if run in a single length, would amount to something more than 6,000 miles. It takes two skilled operatives, working steadily for two weeks, to only thread this machine.

Depending on the design in work, as many as 600 widths of edging or record can be woven, or a total of 3,000 yards, from one threading. This is a representative modern complicated tool. As to whether it is worth while or not, the writer asks how many people can afford hand-made lace curtains. And as to whether the product is artistic or not, it is solely a question of design, he says.

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THE BIRTHPLACE OF DE VALERA

Mother of Irregulars' Leader
Laughs at Encyclopedia
Giving Ireland as Scene of
His Nativity.

Mrs. Charles E. Wheelwright of Rochester, N. Y., mother of Eamon de Valera, when informed that the Encyclopedia Britannica had listed her son's birthplace as Ireland and not the United States, said: "All I can say is that Eamon's friends will have a good laugh on the Encyclopedia Britannica."

Further than that, Mrs. Wheelwright would not commit herself. She refused to divulge the birthplace of her son, although she admitted that as a boy he lived within a stone's throw of the Christ-

than Brothers' College, which he later attended. She reiterated her stand of some time ago when she announced she would give no more information to the press concerning de Valera. She was equally reticent concerning her own life and refused to say whether she married in Ireland or in the United States.

Dr. William H. Guilfoyle, registrar of records of the department of health, said that the birth annals of New York City contained proof that de Valera was born there. Dr. Guilfoyle said that he was looking at the de Valera record, and he recalled it was dated October 14, 1882. He did not remember in what street or in what house the Irish leader was born, but thought it was somewhere on the east side.

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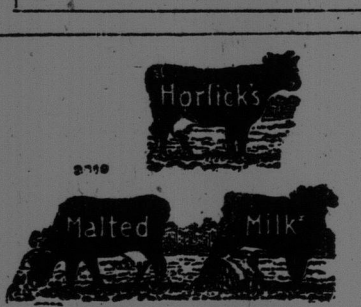
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