

worms in gardens which have not shelter for his nest.

One may travel on the prairie for weeks without seeing a Robin, but the first tree planting of any size will almost certainly have a pair at least, and in addition to the good services of birds in controlling insects, it must be a barren life that does not enjoy their presence and their songs. These pleasures can be enjoyed in the cool, quiet shade of a planted woods on even the otherwise treeless prairie.

The bird lover will do more for his bird friends than merely provide them with the shade they need. Bird-houses will be appreciated by many of them and do not forget birds must have water. A shallow dish with a few pebbles for foothold will satisfy them for drinking and bathing. It should always be kept filled and be so placed that cats cannot reach it. In the limited area of a shelter belt about the house and garden a cat or two will succeed in destroying many adult and nesting birds. Cats and birds are not compatible, and one must decide upon which to encourage. A regular water supply is especially necessary on the prairies, and domestic cats can cause more damage in the limited area of a prairie shelter belt than elsewhere.

The persons who have taught the value of planting trees on the prairies have been concerned, and rightly so, in getting any suitable trees planted that would grow under the various climatic conditions of the Canadian West. Certain trees and shrubs are especially attractive to birds because of their fruit, and in case any bird-lover on the prairies wishes to plant some trees and shrubs, especially for the birds, he cannot do better than consult the list which is given below. Some otherwise valuable birds will molest cultivated fruits, but the damage they cause has usually been amply repaid and more by the insects destroyed.

One way to lessen damage to domestic fruits is to provide the birds with early wild fruits. The list given at the end of this article was compiled by the Biological Survey, Washington, D.C., under the title: "Plants That Attract Birds and Protect Fruit." The original list as published was carefully amended to meet Canadian conditions by the late James M. Macoun.

Plant trees on the prairie, for in addition to their obvious advantages there is pleasure and profit in attracting tree-loving birds to devour the insects in your garden and orchard.



To the oft-repeated question: "How fast will a planted shade tree grow?" there are many convincing replies. The above silhouette photograph shows a mammoth maple planted in 1860 in the Seminary courtyard at Quebec by King Edward VII., then Prince of Wales