

Canadian Forestry Journal

VOL. XV.

OTTAWA, CANADA, SEPTEMBER, 1919.

Nos. 8 and 9.



English Sparrows appreciate bathing and drinking facilities as much as do more desirable species.

HOW TO ATTRACT BIRDS TO THE HOME*

By P. A. Taverner.



Arranging Nesting Quarters, Guarding Against Trespassers, Providing Food During Fall and Winter Seasons.



When poor Tom Paine wrote "Home Sweet Home," he sounded a note that found an echo in every human heart. In the second stanza he wrote:

"The birds singing gaily,
That come to my call";

thus suggesting the intimate association existing between the sticks and stones of that which we call "Home" and its animate surroundings. In fact "Home" is not merely that shell of brick and wood and plaster in which we abide and the ground that surrounds it, but includes also a host of associations of which we consciously or subconsciously feel the influence. A home without these delicately haunting memories is but a name, and one of the essentials to home building and the development of its higher refining influences is the creation of these subtle

intangibles that after all finally rule the world. That birds are not the least important of these influences is declared by all the poets and is confirmed by our own experience. In the days of careless childhood or busy young manhood, we may not have particularly noted the common birds about us, but in after life they have made an indelible impression when the twittering of a flock of swallows takes us back to the old hay-mow with its attendant flight of birds or the chatter of the kingbird reminds us of the orchard with its refreshing shade and its noisy guardian driving off intruders.

From the purely esthetic side therefore, the encouragement of birds about the home and the introduction of the impressionable child mind to them makes for stronger home ties and a better coming generation, while the benefit of having numerous feathered allies in our constant fight against insect pests must be ac-

*Published by permission of the Geological Survey, Canada.