

Herald and News

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BILLBOARD

I was not end perturbed the other day to notice a suggestion coming from Washington that some of the surplus grain in this country be used to feed wild birds. In other words, the ducks and geese that swarm all over the country every fall on their way south.

I am a trifle hazy as to whether this suggestion recommended feeding in the fall or the spring. But I have heard such comments and suggestions before.

Offhand I can't think of anything that would tend to foul up the already massed up duck and goose season any more than would such a feeding plan.

I think it is safe to assume that if such a plan were put into operation you would find the birds being fed well inside the line of existing reserves and refuges or new king-sexy sites would be provided. In short, the birds would be fed to the bursting point, eating until they were too heavy to fly, but the hunting situation wouldn't be improved in the slightest degree.

There might be a humanitarian desire behind such a proposal although I am inclined to believe that most such crackpot ideas are forwarded by those working hand in glove with special groups and with a definite aim in mind. Like, maybe, feeding the birds in the Northern areas in order to keep them from raiding crops further to the South. There have been many groups in the past who have sponsored such ideas and who are still fighting to keep the birds in the North as long as possible. Thus our late seasons and huge closed areas.

Now, if someone would come out with a proposal that we use surplus grain to feed the migratory waterfowl in the Spring when they are heading North I could go along with it. There is no gunning season then, they could be fed with impunity within the reserves and

it would probably tend toward a better hatch because of strong and healthy birds. It would also keep the geese, maybe, from grazing so extensively on young grain crops. They can do as much or more damage in the Spring as they do in the Fall. Such a move would, in my opinion, be true conservation in every way. It would help the birds and the farmer alike, it would get rid of at least a small portion of our ever-growing reserve of surplus grain. We might as well feed it to the birds as go on putting it in storage at the taxpayers' expense.

I wish there were some way by which the people of the nation as a whole could be brought the true picture of the migratory bird situation and the hunting seasons that go along with it. We have swung too far in the direction of preservation of the birds to be able to understand any conservation measure.

Because of politics and the changing economy of our country it has reached a point now where duck and goose hunting is no longer a sport for the little man. It takes money these days if you are to have any extensive shooting in an area that isn't crowded with more hunters than birds.

But as long as we go on getting these appeals such as feeding the birds—aimed at the soft hearted, non-hunting, I'd-as-soon-shoot-a-person-as-an-animal-or-a-bird type of person—then we are never going to have any sort of understanding or agreement on the hunting proposition.

I'm afraid that hunting is on the way out along with the dodo bird and the buggy whip.

I might also add that if people are worried about the poor birds starving to death in this area they are nuts. The birds pulled out of the Basin last year while there was still plenty of feed around. And we wintered a big crop this year. The birds made out okay.

Along NATURE'S TRAIL with Ken McLeod

Dr. Richard E. McArdle, chief, United States Forest Service very effectively took his listeners at the national convention of the Isaak Walton League in Chicago this year back to April 1, 1906 to show the progress we have made in conservation since that date. Speaking of the forest industry particularly as it was 50 years ago McArdle stated:

"The average wages for all industries are (1905) 24 cents an hour. In the logging woods the hourly wage runs from 12 to 17 cents and as high as 27 cents on the Pacific Coast, but in some places in the South a woods worker gets four cents an hour and board.

"The northeastern states have long since been logged over for white pine and are now (1905) being logged over again for spruce. The lake states still turn out a lot of lumber, but are 15 or 20 years past their peak of production. They have been pretty largely cut over. The South as a region is in the lead now, but this year (1905) on the West Coast, Washington state will come up with a lumber output of nearly four billion feet, more than any other state. The United States lumber production in 1905 will be a near record, with 43,500,000,000 board feet, but the all-time peak of 46 billion feet won't be reached for another two years.

"Horse logging and bullwhacking is still going on in many places in the Lake states. River drives are still fairly common in the North and East. In the Far West and the South, however, have turned to railroad logging. They don't know, of course, that 25 or 30 years later, steam 'donkeys' and steam locomotives will, in their turn, begin to be replaced by diesel 'cats' and trucks.

"Now what about forestry? Where do we stand in this year of 1905 in placing forest lands under management for the continuous production of wood?

"We stand about as you would expect at a time when it is easier and cheaper to move somewhere else than stay put and grow timber as a crop. Despite a few voices raised in disagreement, the widespread general impression is that there is plenty of timber, enough for a long time to come, so there is no need to produce a timber supply by growing it. Cut-over lands have so little value that it is not even considered essential to make any provision for fire control except to protect buildings.

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James Marlow

Associated Press News Analyst
WASHINGTON (AP)—Hoots against the idea the government has responsibility for its people's welfare—have died down a bit since the social security system became law 30 years ago yesterday.

The Social Security Act, which President Roosevelt signed Aug. 14, 1935, repudiated the notion that jobless workers can starve on that old people without money to live on are interior people entitled to nothing.

It established the use of taxing powers to assure regular payment to retired workers, money for the survivors of workers, and jobless pay for those thrown out of employment.

The United States did not reach the acceptance of this system easily.

The idea of government responsibility for its citizens' welfare goes back to the English poor laws of Henry VIII and Queen Elizabeth, even though that was recognition of a very limited responsibility.

The British colonists brought the poor laws with them to this country, establishing them in towns, colonies, counties, states. But this was always local responsibility, not national.

At its roots was contempt: an attitude that help for paupers only contributed to their idleness.

The social thinking of American businessmen, legislators and intellectuals was strongly influenced in the 19th and first quarter of the 20th centuries by three Englishmen.

They were Thomas Malthus, a political economist; Charles Darwin, the evolutionist; and Herbert Spencer, a social philosopher. The latter two acknowledged in turn the influence of Malthus on them.

Malthus argued poor people were responsible for their own misery and had no right to public relief. Spencer was against all state aid for the poor. He considered them unfit and thought they should be eliminated. "Clear the world of them and make room for better," he said.

It was Spencer who coined the phrase "Survival of the fittest," applied so aptly later to Darwin's studies on evolution and natural selection. Spencer's philosophy said, in effect, that the race belongs to the strong and that might makes right.

This gave a philosophical justification to the ruthlessness of American business in the 19th century, to the creation of trusts and the elimination of weak competitors, and to the policy of forgetting about people who became too old to work.

In the middle of the last century President Pierce showed himself a pure Malthusian. In 1854 he signed a bill passed by Congress under the urging of Dorothea Dix, a social reformer — to give millions of acres of government land to states to care for their insane. Pierce suggested help to the poor, insane or not, makes them more helpless.

The first really general welfare legislation approved by Congress after the Pierce veto of 1854 was in 1927 when it voted almost one million dollars for maternity and infant hygiene. It dropped that two years later.

By that time Western European nations were at least a generation ahead of this country in social legislation, such as old age pensions and unemployment pay.

Before 1935 there were 26 states with old age pension systems although they covered only a fraction of retired workers. And some states before then had unemployment and accident insurance. Because of the burden of this expense, states which had social security systems.

But by the time the depression was a couple of years old it was clear that unemployment and insecurity were national problems. Some exaggerated plans — for old age pensions and unemployment pay — sprang up. They would have cost perhaps 20 billion dollars a year. They put pressure on the government for action too.

In comparison with them the Social Security Act passed by Congress 20 years ago yesterday looked very conservative.

It came in putting electricity to work? Or in aviation? "I've used forestry as an illustration, but it's fairly typical of the whole broad field of renewable resource conservation. I think that I can say for conservation generally, as I know I can say for forestry, that in 50 years we have, indeed, come a long way. But let's not be too satisfied; let's not be too complacent with the progress that we have made so far; we just simply can't afford to be complacent.

"We have scarcely begun to take advantage of the opportunities for better resource conservation offered us on every side."

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HAL BOYLE

By ED CREGH
(For HAL BOYLE)

WASHINGTON (AP)—There were these two angels sitting on a cloud in heaven —

Well, not exactly sitting because angels don't have bodies. Besides, there aren't any clouds that high. But anyway these two angels were resting themselves, so to speak, both off duty, just taking it easy, when a silvery whoosh passed by, and:

"Glory be!" exclaimed the first angel. "Whatever do you suppose that was?"

"Space ship," said the second angel, just for something to say. "Looked like the Mars Express to me. Thought I recognized the man, fellow named —"

"Stop that!" protested the first angel, who was the serious type. "You know perfectly well they haven't got space ships on earth yet."

"Okay," said the second angel. Like all angels, he had an angelic disposition. "Chances are," he said, "it's a satellite. You've heard about the artificial satellite?"

"I've been briefed," said the first angel, cautiously. "Whose satellite do you suppose it was? It was going fast enough — around the world in 90 minutes, or whatever the figure is. Whose was it, do you think? Ike's? Or that fellow Bulgannin's?"

"Hm-mmmmm," mused the second angel. He'd been on headquarters detail lately and wasn't going to tell all he knew. "It's a little bit classified," he teased.

"Keep it to yourself, then," the first angel said, struggling to maintain the disposition expected of him. Even angels have their problems.

"I'll tell you," the second angel retorted, "if it won't go any farther, you've got the general idea? These people shoot basketballs, or whatever they are, 'way up into the air and then the things circle the earth like little moons."

"Everybody knows that," said the first angel, with a look of scorn.

"Well, time's up. Back to the salt mines. You're your guardian angling this week? Bulgannin?"

"No, Ike. Got to be down here soon, too, or I'll miss the plane to Denver. Sometimes I wonder what those earthlings would do without us."

"Surely there are enough rumors, half-truths and total fabrications circulating about the uranium strike in Lake County, and elsewhere in the state, without outsiders dreaming up such harmful poppycock. Why can't they stick to the news in their own small worlds and let us alone? At least, why can't they stick to the news?"

"The same balderdash was on the air Wednesday, and some folks thought it came from me. A woman at a K Falls radio station had phoned and wanted the dope about the uranium rush. I told her how many claims had been filed, about the staking that was going on, etc. Neither she nor I mentioned you. But when the stuff went on the

Nimitz Recalls War Incident

SAN FRANCISCO (UP)—Nimitz recalled yesterday how a B29 bombing raid forced Radio Tokyo off the air 10 years ago just as fanatic Japanese militarists were preparing to urge their countrymen to continue the war.

Nimitz reviewed the last days of World War II in an address commemorating the 10th anniversary of V-J day in a ceremony at Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno. He was commander of Allied naval forces in the Pacific during the last war.

The ceremony was the last event of the Air Force Association convention. Some 200 persons attended.

Nimitz told how Emperor Hirohito, in an "unprecedented imperial intervention," overruled his army officers and decided to surrender after the B29 raid prevented them from rallying the nation over the radio.

The silver-haired commander praised the "sound teamwork of all our armed forces which worked so harmoniously together" for victory over Japan. He urged the nation to maintain its defenses and to remain strong "to meet our responsibilities...to the brave men whose memory we honor."

Eastern Polio Total Reported

BOSTON (AP)—New England's unofficial total of polio cases stood at 1,572 today, with at least 17 new patients and five deaths reported over the weekend.

Boston reported 13 cases yesterday, bringing the city's number to 435. New Hampshire unofficially listed three cases, and one Massachusetts National Guardsman at Camp Drum, N.Y., was stricken. Two others at the camp were suspected of having the disease.

Four adults in Massachusetts and a 27-year-old mother of three in Connecticut died yesterday, raising the New England death toll from polio this year to 53.

The three members of the Yankee Division were taken to Sampson Air Force Base, N.Y., hospital. Lt. Col. Alfred L. Frechette, division surgeon, said he believes they contracted polio while in Boston since the incubation period is 7 to 10 days.

Reported dead yesterday were: Mrs. Henry Simon, 27, Bridgeport, Conn.; Edward F. Clifford, 29, Southwick, Mass.; John N. Stanley, 35, Wilmington, Mass.; Ralph Bellows, 31, Brookline, Mass.; and Charles R. Gens, 23, Brookline.

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THE DOCTOR SAYS

By EDWIN F. JORDAN, M.D.
L. A. writes that her two-and-a-half-year-old grandson has a disease known as San Joaquin fever or valley fever and says that few of her friends know much about it.

This disease, medically known as coccidioidomycosis, is not yet spread over the North American continent.

It is caused by a fungus and has, so far, been most frequent in So.thern California. It is found in other parts of the southwestern United States and seems to be spreading slowly eastward.

Aside from the fact of its apparent gradual spread, it may be of interest to people living in many parts of the continent, because there are so many military camps in the southwest in which young men and women from other sections may be quartered, and consequently exposed.

The fungus responsible for coccidioidomycosis has been found in members of the rodent family and in the soil. Human beings may be attacked by this fungus either through a break in the skin or, more commonly, by inhaling it.

It is not spread directly from person to person, though there have been a good many laboratory infections of those who have been studying the organism.

When acquired by inhalation, symptoms may be entirely absent, but if the reaction to the infection is severe enough, cough, loss of appetite, fever, headache, and other symptoms much like those of tuberculosis of the lungs are likely to occur.

Quite often, after a week or two, skin lesions, which are sort of bumps, may appear. It is this kind of coccidioidomycosis which is sometimes known as San Joaquin fever, desert fever, valley fever or "the bumps."

The outlook for those attacked by the disease is usually good. Most recover fairly promptly without any special treatment. Occasionally, a person gets a form

which is pretty generalized or which attacks the delicate membrane lining the central nervous system, and under such circumstances the outlook is poor.

Also, the chronic type which occurs from time to time is difficult to treat because drugs or medicines so far tried are often not particularly effective.

Coccidioidomycosis is at present largely a regional problem, and does not afflict a large number of people. What the future will bring, however, is another matter.

The spread of coccidioidomycosis and its direction must be watched carefully. Let us hope that if it does become common more effective treatment methods will be discovered.

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