

MEGAPODES LAY EGGS AND LEAVE 'EM

Queer Antipodean Bird is Like the Giant Sea Turtle in Brooding Instincts

NEW YORK, July 23—In his course of a recent article appearing in these columns it was related that the giant sea turtles, after laying their eggs in the sand along the East Coast of Florida, go back immediately to their ocean homes, leaving their eggs unprotected and depending upon the warmth of the sun and sand for their incubation.

This apparent lack of parental instinct is also shown by at least one species of birds—the megapodes or mound builders of Australasia and the East Indies. They show a similar disregard for the fate of their eggs, when once laid and seemingly care not what may happen to their offspring.

According to Rudyard Boulton, assistant curator of birds, of the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, these uncivilized birds lay their eggs in the sand, partly buried in twigs, leaves and the sand itself. The female bird immediately abandons them, and they are hatched by the heat of the sun or of decaying vegetation. The young birds come forth into the cold world without seeing or knowing their parents. Fortunately they are born with well-developed wings, and within a day or two after hatching are able to fly.

This habit, which might be called reprehensible (although it may be all for the best), is contrary to the way one expects parent birds to behave. Surely the robins and bluebirds, which may be nesting in one's orchard now, would not leave their little ones on another bird's doorstep, so to speak.

The ostrich is another bird which lays its eggs in a shallow hole scooped in the sand. The eggs are set upright with a number of supplementary eggs laid around the margin of the nest. The eggs, as in the case of the megapode, are hatched mainly by the heat of the sun. The parent birds are, however, contrary to megapodes, and, to a popular belief, watchful over their eggs, and aid in hatching them by sitting on them at night. But the long-legged ostrich is not entirely blameless. The male is polygamous, having from two to seven wives. Does Mr. Robin have a plurality of wives?

Another interesting feature of the egg laying habits of birds is that of the number of eggs laid by the different species. One might think that the larger birds would lay the greater number of eggs, but this is not necessarily true. For example, the emperor penguin, the largest of the species, lays one egg, and all other pen-

guins lay only two. The brooding instinct of the penguins, vastly different from that of the megapodes, is so strong that they may brood on lumps of ice, and the little Adelle penguin may continue to brood though covered completely with snow.

On the other hand, large birds sometimes lay a large number of eggs. For example, the ostrich and the emu lay about fifteen and thirteen, respectively. But some of the small song birds lay as many as four or five eggs, so the size of the bird does not seem to have any bearing on the number laid. The number is more or less characteristic of a species, or of a group of related species, but there are exceptions.

Among the curious ways of that strange-looking bird of New Zealand the apteryx, or kiwi, is that of laying one or two eggs enormous in proportion to its size. The egg is almost five inches long and weighs one-fourth of the weight of the bird.

Birds may sometimes be induced to lay a large number of eggs by taking away all but one, which is left for a "nest egg". It is related that a flicker produced about seventy eggs in this way, being a remarkable illustration of the action of the body as a result of an unfulfilled instinct.

The shape of eggs varies considerably. Everybody has doubtless seen elongated hen eggs, when normally they are oval. Long ago, in the time of Horace, pictures were strong for the long pointed ones, thinking them to be more delicate, with a clearer "white". It was supposed, also, that such eggs would produce males, and rounded ones females. However, it is known now that this is not necessarily true. Eggs of a certain type are more or less characteristic of particular groups of birds. The relation of augs and mures to shore birds is shown the similar pear shape of their eggs.

Many hole-nesting birds lay white eggs, and some authorities suggest that this is so because the eggs are hidden from view and the conspicuousness of the white does not attract enemies. On the other hand, Glover Morrill Allen, in his "Birds and Their Attributes", says that, as the ancient reptilian ancestors of our birds laid white eggs, it seems more probable that the white eggs of the hole-nesting birds simply illustrate the survival of an ancestral characteristic.

Birds which build exposed nests are likely to lay eggs with some color. The night-hawks, for instance, lay

DEATH RATE FROM AUTOS IN UNITED STATES AND CANADA

The Death Rate In United States and Canada Is Growing Into Serious Proportions — Many Canadian Provinces Show an Increase.

MONCTON, N. B., July 26 — The death rate from automobiles in the United States is growing to serious proportions, 36,000 being killed last year, stated John E. Long, president of the National Safety Council and superintendent of Safety, Delaware and Hudson Railroad who was a visitor to Moncton this week with Mrs. Long and family. "The greatest menace is the careless driver", Mr. Long said. "The National Safety Council is carrying on a programme of educational work with the idea of reducing the number of accidents. Already good results have been shown in the case of school children. The greatest number of accidents is to children under fifteen years of age and by means of lecturers and other educational work in the schools the number is being reduced although it is still far too high. Pedestrians constitute the greatest casualty class in automobile accidents. Speaking with regards to accidents involving collisions between motor vehicles and trains Mr. Long stated statistics revealed almost one-third of these are caused by vehicles running into trains. In commenting upon methods in accident prevention Mr. Long said continuation of education is one of the greatest factors. On the Delaware and Hudson, he stated, in 1928 there were 140 killed and 1,615 injured whereas last year there were only 2 operators killed and 204 injured.

Mr. Long, previous to his joining the Delaware and Hudson Railroad was safety engineer for the Canadian Government Railways at Moncton from 1914 to 1918, and has many friends in the Maritime Provinces. With his family and Mrs. Long he is on a vacation trip to the Maritime Provinces and left here for Halifax from where he will proceed to St. John via Digby enroute back to Albany.

IN CANADA

Deaths from automobile accidents in 1934 show a reversal of the downward trend in mortality from this cause which had been generally manifested since 1930. They numbered 1,108 as against 955 in 1933 and 1,120 in 1932. The death rate from this cause was 10.2 per 100,000 population as compared with 9.0 in 1933 and 10.7 in 1932. Thus the upward tendency from the figures of 1933 has not yet brought the rate for 1934 as high as the level of 1932.

All provinces with the exception of Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan and Alberta showed a larger number of automobile fatalities in 1934 than in the preceding year. Nova Scotia, however, had 37 deaths as compared with 47, Saskatchewan 30 against 32 and Alberta 61 against 64. Ontario had the heaviest death rate from this cause of any province, 14.8 per 100,000. New Brunswick has a rate of 12.2, and British Columbia 11.2. The lowest rate was in Saskatchewan, only 3.1 per 100,000.

The city of Montreal showed a slight reduction in automobile fatalities as compared with the preceding year, the figures being 100 for 1934 and 104 in 1933. On the other hand Toronto showed an increased number of deaths, 83 as compared with 65. Vancouver had 25 deaths in 1934 against 28 in the preceding year, Winnipeg 19 against 18, Hamilton, 27 against 22, Quebec 14 against 8 and Ottawa 19 against 25.

Fritz—"Dad, you are a lucky man." Father—"How is that?" Fritz—"You won't have to buy me any school books this year. I have been left in the same class."

Clerk—"What'll we do with all those invisible hairnets we have left in stock?" Boss—"Put 'em on sale as the newest material for street dresses."

speckled eggs, which closely simulate the ground on which they are laid, thus carrying protective coloring into the realm of eggs. On the other hand, pigeons and whippoorwills, which nest in exposed places, lay white, or nearly white, eggs.

How an Editor Began

(Stratford Beacon-Herald.)

Starting as a printer's devil on a weekly paper! Ah! there's the life! Hours were from 6.30 in the morning during the season when fires had to be lit, until in the evening, with the exception of Wednesday night when we printed the paper. Then it was two in the morning. One more exception was the following Thursday morning when the stage left at five and the papers had to be delivered to the stage driver.

There was more. When auction sale bills were printed we used to go about and tack them up in the post office, and in the bar-rooms (4), in the hotel barns and livery stables (7). Price was \$1.50 for 50 quarter sheets, and that figure included our valuable services. When someone ordered 50 bills and paid for them we were fairly certain of getting paid that week, for the \$1.50 would settle our pay envelope.

Then we swept the office floor, picked the two-nick brevier out of the cracks, washed the rollers on the presses, delivered the papers all over town, ran down to the hotel at the corner and told the foreman when the boss was coming down the street ahead of time in the morning, set the quack ads, cleaned the lamp chimneys and learned how to dump a stick of type without making it into pi. On Friday morning we cut the lawn at the boss' house, fed the cat there when he and his wife were out of town for a day; in the winter time snowed the boss' snow and cut the wood and generally swiped apples from his cellar. Learned that it was necessary to have dry wood to start the fire in the morning and got into the habit of taking packing boxes from the back of the store next door, also pieces from fences; found that the wood which delinquent subscribers delivered to settle accounts was never good wood; the trees from which it was taken were filled with great knots. There was a training which was a training.

Lower Queensbury

Lower Queensbury, July 22—The farmers have started haying and report a fair crop.

Mrs. Clarence Jordan and children are visiting friends at Southampton and Dumfries.

Mrs. Alex. Hood spent the past week visiting relatives at McAdam and Harvey Station.

Mrs. Ralph Jewett and children are spending a few days with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Mellow Pond.

Mrs. Pauline Agnew spent Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Frank Joslin.

Mrs. Byron McNally and daughter Ethel spent Saturday afternoon at her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mellow Pond.

Misses Violet and Bertha Jones of Prince William, and Lena Joslin of this place spent last week with their aunt, Miss Mildred Hood.

Murray Jordan who is employed at construction work near Barker's Pt., returned home to spend Sunday.

Mellow Pond has purchased a new car.

Donald Gibson of Pokiook Settlement is spending a few days with Mr. Amos Jordan.

Frank Joslin has been putting a new roof on his house which greatly improves the appearance.

Mr. Rowley held service in the church here Sunday afternoon.

PERENNIAL CHAMPION

Sports have produced a number of perennial champions during the past 50 or more years, and among them is a walker, who is not likely to receive the publicity which has been attached to many other famous athletes, because comparatively few persons are interested in walking as a competitive event. Harry Hinkel of the Los Angeles Athletic Club won his eleventh National A.A.U. championship heel-and-toe title, this month, which seems to entitle him to a place in any list which gives the names of athletes who have won titles over a long period of time.

FEWER MAID SERVANTS IN ENGLAND

Men Servants Are Being Employed But the Government Exacts a Tax for Them

LONDON, England, July 24—There prevent the growth of private armies are now 7,000,000 women "gainfully employed" in Britain, according to statistics revealed at the conference of the £700,000 or \$80,000 revenue which Labor women just held in Sheffield. This represents an increase of 1,000,000 in the last twenty years. In the last decade the increase was 18 per cent compared with 6.3 for men. Of the 7,000,000 employed women fully 750,000 have jobs in shops and warehouses.

In the steady drift of women to shops and factories or to "business", is seen the main reason for the continued shortage of domestic servants. In some small towns the servant shortage has become really acute as a result of the opening of popular-priced shops requiring a considerable staff. Many of the domestics have gravitated immediately from the kitchen to the counter because they desire every night off or resent wearing a uniform, although when they have to pay room rent and buy their own food they are often not as well off financially as when they were employed as maid servants or cooks.

At the Sheffield conference it was contended that many women employed in shops and factories were working under "sweated conditions", a view that was also expressed by Mrs. Petrick-Lawrence at the conference of the Women's Freedom League in Bradford. She declared that it was an advantage to men that women should constitute "a pool of cheap labor" from which employers could draw when they wished to cut down their wages bill. She pleaded for equal pay for the same standard of work irrespective of the sex of the worker.

In many households male servants are being employed to solve the problem of servant shortage. But while the State exacts no tax when a woman servant is employed, it does exact one—the equivalent of \$4.75 annually—when a male servant is hired. On several occasions in recent years efforts have been made by members of Parliament to obtain the abolition of this tax, which is said to have been imposed centuries ago to graphs.

WORLD'S STOCK EXCHANGES RACE DAILY AGAINST TIME

A race against time is staged practically every business day in the world's stock exchanges. Differences in time as between our country and another is largely responsible for this and cable services are constantly being improved with the speed angle constantly in view, coupled with accuracy. As a case in point, between Vancouver, B. C., and London, Eng., some lines of business have only one hour out of the twenty-four in which to conduct negotiations, due to the time difference, states the Canadian National Telegraphs, and here speed is paramount. The time in transmission has been cut down to three minutes in the case of urgent cablegrams between the two cities, from the time a message is filed by the sender until receipt by the addressee. A new metal for cable conductor, "permalloy," has had much to do with the increase in the speed of transmission, making it possible to transmit cable messages nine times as fast as the older types of cable conductor. On the Atlantic coast there are 20 cables and of these ten are operated by exclusive connections of the Canadian National Telegraphs.



GOLF

On CANADA'S SKYLINE

BANFF and LAKE LOUISE
In the CANADIAN ROCKIES

Golf has new thrills for you—on the mile-high championship course at Banff. Swim, dance, play tennis, hike, climb, fish, ride Alpine trails on Canada's Sky Line. Plan to spend your vacation in the wonderland of the Canadian Rockies—Banff, Lake Louise, Emerald Lake, or at the Chalet-Bungalow Camps: Yoho, Wapta, Lake O'Hara, Moraine Lake and Radium Hot Springs.

GOLF WEEK
Banff Springs Golf Course August 26-31
Exceptionally LOW Rates via Great Lakes... Rail to Vancouver, Victoria and Seattle.
From FREDERICTON:
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6 Wonderful Days—2 days at Banff—2 days at Lake Louise—1 day at Emerald Lake. 126 miles of spectacular motor-ing, including visit to Moraine Lake. All-Expense Tour \$78.
All Tours begin at Banff or Field, June 21. All include transportation from Banff to Field (or Field to Banff), modern hotel room, meals and Alpine motor-ing. Add rail fare from starting point. Banff Springs Hotel open June 16-Sept. 10. Chateau Lake Louise and Emerald Lake Chalet open June 21-Sept. 10.

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