



Bird Control

BIRD control, the planned effort to maintain all species in the bird population in normal and natural relations to the environment, was explained before the recent North American Wildlife Conference held in Washington, D. C., by two scientists of the U. S. Biological Survey, E. R. Kalmbach and Johnson A. Neff.

To a great many people, especially those who are pestered in one way or another by "bad" birds like crows, bird control is summed up in just two words: "Kill 'em!" That would be an extreme over-simplification of the matter, in the view of the Biological Survey field men. Birds may be "bad" in one place and "good" in another, as the rice-devouring reed-bird of the South becomes the harmless and beloved bobolink in the North. Hence moderation and restraint are in order at all times, and especially the gathering of all possible information before judgment is pronounced.

In some regions, birds that are being anxiously cherished by the nation as a whole become at least local nuisances. Thus, near some of the western duck refuges the flocks of broadbills help themselves too freely to ripening sorghum and other crops from neighboring fields. Sometimes (though not always) this problem can be solved by arranging for crops that can be harvested before the ducks arrive. This also is a subject calling for more research—and much patience.

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Sixteen muscles control *facial expression*, and ten of them are in or around the mouth.

Remains of an *aqueduct* built by the Roman Emperor Claudius have been found by workmen near Naples.

ANTHROPOLOGY

New World's First Conquest Wars Were in Greenland

"It is odd that the first wars of conquest in the New World were fought in Greenland between peoples noted outstandingly today for their peaceful traits—Eskimos and Norsemen."

So Henry B. Collins, Jr., of the Smithsonian Institution declared, speaking as retiring president of the Anthropological Society of Washington.

Ascribing to Greenland the key role in Eskimo history of providing the only dated site from the Eskimo's entire past, Mr. Collins said that the sequence of the Eskimos' ancient experience in America is being pieced together, working from that date. A rune stone near Inugsuk, Greenland, is taken to mean that Vikings were in the region near the end of the thirteenth century A.D. Digging near there, a few years ago, Dr. Therkel Mathiassen, Danish archaeologist, found clues to the conflict which ensued when Vikings encountered Greenland Eskimos in that era.

Excavations in Canada and Alaska have proved that the oldest Eskimos

were established in Arctic Alaska, Mr. Collins said. Although five main stages of Eskimo culture can be distinguished there, it is not yet possible to count the centuries that Eskimos have inhabited the New World. Efforts to trace these people into Asia, where they lived before crossing Bering Strait to Alaska, are being made.

Oldest Eskimo art is significantly like that of the Old Stone Age, Mr. Collins has concluded. Eskimos did not engrave figures of animals with the skill of Europe's Cro-Magnon artists, who decorated cave walls 30,000 years ago. But the Eskimos used geometric designs in their ivory and bone articles strikingly similar to Old Stone Age designs.

This does not mean that the Eskimos using the designs lived as long ago as the cave artists, Mr. Collins emphasized. But Old Stone Age art ideas may have persisted and spread in widening circles, being carried far afield to the New World eventually by the wanderers who became America's Eskimos.

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PHYSIOLOGY

Sex Hormone Treatments Replacing Youth Operation

A MEDICAL Ponce de Leon, famous for originating widely discussed rejuvenation operations, now looks to sex hormones as science's closest approach to a fountain of youth.

Dr. Eugen Steinach, in his "first statement to the lay public" about his work, a book, *Sex and Life* (Viking), indicates that there is greater hope in medical treatment with synthetic sex chemicals than the sex gland transplantation experiments that made him famous.

This new viewpoint, resulting from the advance of medicine, is in accord with American experience. The famous physician of Vienna and Zurich reviews the development of his medical attempts at restoring youthful vigor to men past the prime of life.

The famous Steinach operation itself consists in ligating or tying off the sper-

matic duct, thus interrupting procreative activity and thereby increasing all secondary sex characteristics.

Reversal of sex in animals was secured by Dr. Steinach through sex gland transplantations. Success with this and other

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