FOR PROTECTION **OF THE SWALLOW**

Department of Agriculture Shows Why These Birds Should Be Increased.

WHOLE COUNTRY INTERESTED

Importance of Nature Study Recognized by Faculty at University and Emphasized by Govt. Appeal.

TEACHERS' SUMMER COURSE, It was the intention to close this se-ries of articles with a statement of what is being done in nature study In the schools of other states, But the forceroing subject of more importance is presented, so that only a brief ref-erence will be made here to nature study. The faculty of the university summer school has decided that two courses shall be given in this subject the present season. That it shall likewise be taken hereafter with a credit of three hours per week through the year by all fourth year normals, is a decision of the university faculty as a whole. The work to be given in the summer school may be briefly outlined as follows: The fundamental principles of the natural sciences will be developed and illustrated by simple experiments, home-made apparatus, and convenient field lessons. Special work will be given in elementary agriculture and the school garden, and in weeds, wild flow-ers, etc. One of the latest bulletins, April 27, 1907, issued by the department of agriculture, concerns the whole people rather than any one class. It emphasizes the actual necessity that is now before the nation of requiring that nature study shall be taught in the schools.

The bulletin referred to explains that insect eating birds are not only of immense value to the farmer, but that mense value to the farmer, but that their protection is now believed to be necessary to the protection of any country. Thirty-eight species of birds, for example, are now known to feed upon the cottonboll weavil. Prominent among these are the several species of swallows. The object of the publica-tion is to ask for the co-operation of citizens of the northern states, where these birds chiefly nest, in an effort to increase their numbers. A summary of bulletin 56 follows: Swallows may be increased in num-ber by enforcing the laws for their rotection and by providing them with additional accommodations for mest-ing. These steps alone, however, after not sufficient. It is very important that all of the swallow tribe nesting in the northern states and migrating through the cotton belt be increased to the limit, more particularly since in late years a steady diminution of their numbers has been noted. TREE SWALLOW. mense value to the farmer, but that

TREE SWALLOW.

TREE SWALLOW. The tree swallow, as is well known, has been persecuted by the English sparrow until it has entirely abandoned inny districts where formerly it nounded. Unless a systematic effort be made to reduce the number of spar-rows and to protect from invasion the boxes put up for the occupancy of rwallows, it is difficult to see how the tree swallow can receively the old ter-ritory from which it has been driven, or even long hold its present area. An one careful protection of the swal-low domiciles in a few years would re-sult in a complete change of the situa-tion, so far as this, one of the most beneficial of the swallow tribe, is con-cerned.

BARN SWALLOW.

BARN SWALLOW. The barn swallow formerly was abundant throughout the northern states, especially in New England. The tightly built modern barn, how-ever, no longer invites the presence of the barn swallow by affording it friend-ly shelter, and the birds are becoming scarcer and scarcer. To provide open-ings in modern barns and to encourage the presence in them of colonies by providing convenient mesting sites are easy and effective methods by which this beautiful species may be greatly increased in numbers. This bird also requires protection from the English sparrow, which in one foray has been known to kill the young and destroy the eggs of a large colony. BANK SWALLOWS.

BANK SWALLOWS.

The well-known bank swallow, as its name implies, nests in sand banks in holes of its own digging. Some farmnoies of its own digging. Some farm-ers in the northern states take special pains to protect their colonies of bank swallows from the marauding boy and the prowling cat. Some even take pains to excavate suitable banks on their farms and devote them to the exclusive use of the swallows. Gravel and sand banks are so numerous throught the words and sand banks are so numerous throughout the north, especially in New England, that at trilling expense the number of colonies of bank swallows may be vastly increased, to the advan-tage of every farmer north and south, and to that of every nature lover as well.

Some birds are most desirable summer residents of northern states, but when migrating greatly damage certain crops in the southern states. Not so with the southern states. Not so the graceful flight, and their sociability in-sure them a welcome everywhere and endear them to every lover of nature. Their eathefit value, however, great as it is, is not so important as their coo-nomic worth, so constant and effective is the warfare they wage against the based hosts which but for them and other avian benefactors would render successful agriculture impossible. To trusted the day of protecting and augmenting in every possible way the bounders of resident birds that prev upon the boll weevil. But it is for the horthern states to aid the good work so fightened patrialism knews no state boundaries. The insect enemy of the fammer of either district is the enemy of the earmon weal and endy from co-operation can come a full measure of success. class room exercises for grades 5 to 9 of the schools, with references to the work of insects, birds, and other na-tive animals: (3) to represent the topics for winter study in the schools—heat, weather, and soils—both as a course and as a method for school work in the grades.

These changes in the attention now These changes in the attention now given to courses in nature study in-dicate the increasing favor with which the subject is being received in our own state; but what precedes must prove beyond question the financial value to the country as a whole that will result from systematic instruc-tion in the common schools upon such topics as birds, insects, weeds, etc., hitherto treated in these outlines. J. H. PAUL.

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TEACHERS' SUMMER COURSE.

Gems From "Success Magazine,"

Gems From "Success Magazine." Scarcely anything seems impossible to the man who can will strongly enough and long enongh. A home without hooks, periodicals and newspapers is like a house with-out windows. The chances are that what you call "hard luck," or "fate" that is against you, is some weakness, some victous habit, which is counteracting all your efforts and keeping you down. The strength of will is the test of a young man's possibilities. Directed toward the enjoyment of the senses, the strong will may be a de-mon, and the intellect merely its de-based slave; but directed toward good, the strong will is king and the intel-lect is then the minister of man's highest well-being. There is a divinity in the meanest man, a philanthropist in the stinglest iman, a philanthropist in the stinglest index, a hero in the biggest coward, which an emergency great enough will call out.

which an emergency great enough will call out. Every man stamps his own value upon the coin of his character in his own mint, and he cannot expect to pass for more, and should not be dis-appointed if people do not take it for more than its face value. The greatest blessing that ever comes to a human being is the deter-mination to realize that for which the heart longs. It is grander to be nobly remembered

It is grander to be nobly remembered than to be nobly born.

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school garden, and in weeds, wild flow-ers, etc. Students may take one or both cours-es. Only one laboratory period will be required of students who take both courses. Credit for either course, two hours; for both courses, three hours. Course one is primatily for teachers in the common school grades 1 to 5, in-clusive. Text book, Gaye- The Great World's Farm," printed lesson sheets issued by the state normal school; and certain bulletins. from the department of agriculture at Washington, The aim here will be to take the class through a course of study and practise that will prepare them to teach by the laboratory method the nature work that should be given in the lower grades of the public schools. Course two is primarily for teachers in the public schools who may have charge of grades 6 to 9 inclusive. Text book: Goodrich- 'First Book of public schools who may have charge of grades 6 to 9 inclusive. Text book: Goodrich—'First Book of Farming.'' The aims in this course will be: (1) to take the class through a course of study in elemenicary and practical agriculture, with illustrative exercise in the state normal school garden; (2) to illustrate the teaching of fall weeds and wild flowers and of native and cultivated spring plants, as



George's church at that suburb of New York. The man lost his heart and won that of the young girl, with whom he cloped, leaving behind him a heautiful wife and a disgraced pulpit. The penalty for his offense, Miss Whaley being less than 18 years of age, is imprisonment, and the grandmother of the child, Mrs. Mary Whaley, is determined to prosecute him when he shall have been arrested. As yet there is no clue to their whereabouts.



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CLIFF SWALLOWS.

CLIFF SWALLOWS. The curious pouch-shaped mud struc-tures of the cliff swallow, attached un-aight familiar enough in the northern and western states, but in the cotton states, save Texas alone, they are wanting, the bird that makes them be-ing exclusively a migrant. The Eng-lish sparrow persecutes also the cliff is much less common than formerly, under the mistaken idea that cliff is much less common than formerly, that the sparrow desirable neighbors, the nests, especially when near houses, are often destroyed and the birds driv-nesting, but the parasites are not bed-bugs nor the kinds obnoxious to man, and no one need banish the swallows for fear of trouble from this source, and houses is so much desired that artificial nests made of clay or other inderinal are put up in order to altract birds by saving them the labor of con-structing their own domiciles. BURPLE MARTIN,

PURPLE MARTIN.

PURPLE MARTIN, This is the largest, most beautiful, most local, and least numerous of ali our swallow tribe. This fine bird is steadily diminishing in numbers. The English sparrow often takes possession of its boxes, ruthlessly kills the young martins or throws out the eggs, and usually succeeds in routing the colony and appropriating the nexts. When measures are not taken in the tome-diate vicinity of martin colonies to abate the sparrow nuisance, the mar-tins are forced to abandon their homes. The putting up of bird boxes is recom-mended, and as the young can be raised by hand without serious difficulty, it may prove easier to start the new col-on with nextlings alone, feeding them on meal, worms, grasshoppers, and the like. Six or eight pairs can well be spared from a strong colony without unduly weakening it. This method prom-ises well, and if the experiment can be scale, a gradual increase in the num-ber of martin colonies is likely to re-sole and. sult and new centers of distribution be formed

be formed. From the standpoint of the farmer and the orchardist, perhaps no birds more useful than the evallows exist. They have been described as the light cavairy of the avian army. Specially adapted for flight and unexcelled in aerial evolutions, they have few rival-in the art of capturing insects in mid-air. They eat nothings of value to main except a few preduceous wasps and bugs, and in return for their services in destryoing vasit numbers of notions in bugs and in return for their services in desiryoing vasit numbers of noxious in-sects ask only for harborage and pro-tection. It is to be fast that they cap-ture their proy on the wing that their peculiar value to the cotton grower is due. Orioles do royal service in catching weevils on the bolls; and blackbirds, wrens, dycarchers, and oth-ers contribute to the good work; but when swallows are migrating over the cotton fields they find the weevils fly-ing in the open and wage active war egginst them. As many as 47 adult weevils have been found in the stom-act of a single cliff swallow. What may be termed the interstate relations of birds are not always as simple as in the case of the swallows.



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