

A Visual Teaching Aid of Beauty and Usefulness

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Biology teaching assets will climb with the addition to one's collection of a chart entitled *Birds: Nature's Protectors*, compiled and furnished by Church and Dwight Co., Inc., 10 Cedar Street, New York City. Conservation is the keynote of this beautiful production which features 30 of the small copies of bird pictures which this company has long used as a delightful inclusion in its packaged products.

The miniatures are from the paintings by Louis Agassiz Fuertes and portray the following useful insect and weed-seed eaters: Baltimore oriole, barn swallow, black and white warbler, black-billed cuckoo, bluebird, brown creeper, brown thrasher, flicker, downy woodpecker, crested flycatcher, chickadee, cedar waxwing, black-throated green warbler, kingbird, bobolink, red start, northern yellowthroat, meadowlark, nighthawk, phoebe, purple martin, white-breasted nuthatch, vesper sparrow, song sparrow, scarlet tanager, rose-breasted grosbeak, robin, red-eyed vireo and the red-breasted nuthatch.

Nor is this the only biological inducement. Bordering the chart are figures of the larvae and adults of 41 insect pests enlarged sufficiently to form very good means of identification (though not to scale). Twelve colored reproductions of plant fruits and seeds with some in leaf and flower illustrate vegetable bird foods. A North American continent migration route plate, bird home measurement table, and representations of bird bath and winter feeding stations are also found on the face of this excellent wall adornment; bound at top and bottom by a metal strip with eyelet for proper hanging.

As if this were not enough in itself to warrant being a "must have" for one's teaching collection the backing of the 20 x 40 inch substantial paper chart contains 9 first-class lesson plans on the following topics: *Home and Family Life, Geography, Composition, Good Citizenship, Music, Nature Study, Arithmetic, Art, Plant Life, and Food and Nutrition*. All

of these units center around birds and their protection. They are superbly conceived and executed. A well-chosen quotation prefaces each help. Then follows an introductory statement, an objective, suggestions for class discussion, activities, and pupil pursuits outside the schoolroom. This introduces a touch of the experimental method and scientific procedure.

A minimum of inconspicuous and inoffensive advertising of Arm and Hammer and Cow brands of soda, the bicarbonate for baking, long and favorably known to good cooks the nation over, accompanies the wealth of information which this fine visual aid affords. This educational service afforded by a producer of a pure and necessary product is in refreshing contrast with the purveyors of much propaganda inimical to the health and welfare of youth encountered in publicity media today.

The author was furnished with the chart through the recommendation of the Southern States Forestfire Commission of Birmingham 5, Alabama, whose worthwhile offerings to biology deserve to be brought to the attention of schools within their area. This group is alert to the resource-use needs of our country and has at its disposal many means for promoting the intelligent spread of information about the biological wealth and soil riches which we possess.

NEW NABT REPRESENTATIVE ON SCIENCE CLUBS OF AMERICA

Howard H. Michaud, Professor of Conservation in Purdue University, has been named on the Educational Advisory Committee to Science Service on Science Clubs of America. On this committee he represents The National Association of Biology Teachers. Mr. Michaud, a past president of NABT, has for seven years served as sponsor of the Indiana Junior Academy which has cooperated with Science Service in the state and national talent search programs.