

Hi! Whatever did we do without the Ed Shed? Hibernated, that's what. Since the floor was laid there have been a few days, like Thanksgiving and Christmas, when there has not been at least 100 students using it! Besides the classes there have been art, pottery & weaving exhibits, adult lectures, lunches, coffee and cocktail parties. Committee meetings have been held in the Eccles Room. We hope neighbours will remember we have such rooms available if you sign up in advance (either the Ed Shed or Eccles Room, or both, depending on the size of your activity.) It held a big group for the Wolf movies. Jethro, the most famous wolf in the world, relaxed on our nice new floors. Radishes are growing in the planter and the skink is happily warm under its lights. The November lunch-lectures brought in \$230.00 for the teaching program. People complained that they were warm! We do miss the old Shed--to say the least, it had character.

In the Fall all signs of a rough winter were with us--abundant berries, seeds and fruit. The fuzzy caterpillars weren't even banded this year--horrors! Ponds and reservoirs were full. The first snow shower was on Nov. 15, and folklore tells us, we shall have 15 blizzards. The caravanning was great fun, three times the bus set forth from the Barn at 8A.M.,. We toured likely spots to sight migratory birds. We saw 35 species one day--the rarest was a horned lark? snow buntings? or ruddy ducks. American Humane Assoc. says the most humane way to feed birds in winter is not to feed them all the time. Let them be in the habit of finding food from time to time. Then when bad weather hits, fill the feeders & keep them full, no matter how the snow piles up. Otherwise you are running a welfare program for them and they forget how to hunt for food. A reminder--don't put glycerine in the bird baths to prevent freezing. The glycerine strips oil from the birds' feathers thus depriving them of their first line of defense against the cold. For birds who will wash in winter (starlings!) there are brooks and puddles. All birds ship at ice and snow for drinking water.

Do birds hurl themselves against your windows and die - That is because the big windows act as mirrors - the lovely view you have from your house the birds have reversed from outside. For 5 years the Bird has had an inexpensive sticky tape(made by the 3M Co.) shining on the outside of picture windows and not one bird has died because of GLASS. You will soon get used to it- not even see it. Your neighbours will think 1)you have a high powered burglar alarm, or, 2) a new way to heat the room! Cost \$10.00.

The proper management of sanitary landfills on the Island comes at the best possible season. Had it come about in the spring, new-borne every thing would have suffered from the scavenger gulls. As it is, house pets have to be fed inside. Even the dog's bone is swiped before he has one good chew!

75 Nations have met in Great Britain & signed pacts not to dump waste into the Atlantic. Next they will turn their attention to the rivers that feed into the sea. It is hoped the Pacific people will follow the leader. We who are custodians of the Planet Earth should get cracking. It was heartening to have some rivers cleaned up a bit prior to Election, but how much of that was electioneering! We must keep alive determination to get the job done and laws passed that will be stiff--with teeth. It can be done! In a formerly fouled river, the Wilmette near Chicago, salmon are swimming!

Comm. Ed. of Boston is using coal to generate electricity. They have trapped the smoke, sold it at a profit to a firm in Rumford. They have converted it to sulphuric acid, and sold that for a profit. Technology, which in part, got us into the mess we are in, is getting us out. How do we use all that acid? The Bird can think only of engraving and batteries! If all Edisons adopt this program there's going to be an awfull lot of H2SO2 around! Excreta from animals can be converted into fuel oil--another technological breakthrough in the use of waste material.

"Chairperson" is an awkward expression. Why does a "womb-man" want to become just a person-with-a-chair? A womban with a houseband makes a nice couple.

The alligator population is such that a legal hunt was held in the bayous. Surprisingly few hunters turned up on the appointed day, so the game wardens did what is necessary for the lives of many gators(vs. the deaths of a few) Trouble is, man has decided just how much space these Early Americans may have, and then we tailor the group to the acreage.

While the USA talked about it, the other nations clucked, USSR went ahead and did it. They mined minerals, with atomic blasts! Ingots of silver are appearing in world markets(Zurich) The ingots are from USSR and they are radio-active. Photography is one of the big industries using silver, and radio-activity will "expose" the firms before developing. Furthermore USSR WILL LOSE ITS WORLD MARKET THEN WORD OF THIS gets noised abroad.

Two 5 gallon gerryjars of water have been found in the Sahara Desert. Left there by the retreating armies of Rommel, they are the most valuable 10Gals. of water in the world! Bottled in Italy in 1943 this water is the only water in the world not exposed to atomic fallout. Scientist by the hundreds are to convene in NYC to study the air we breathe. Incidents of emphysems, bronchial asthma and lung cancer are increasing everywhere.

Leaves on the trees are doing us another service beside making oxygen. They are found to be absorbing lead from gasoline. What will happen to the microbes that eat the fallen leaves?

It is good that the "eco-freaks" are off the streets and parks. It is good that "eco-work" is being done by engineers, legislators and judges. Our President will soon ask for a 10 year program spending \$285 billion against air and water pollution. The question is, will we be willing to pay the tab to clean up the environment? Unless we wish to die horribly on a filthy planet, rather than live more simply on a cleaner Earth, we'll pay. As it is we may lose some of our beautiful monuments and buildings. Someone has suggested that we enclosed the Acropolis in plastic and Cologne Cathedral in glass! The guards at Lincoln Memorial say they hear "a fizz like a giant alka seltzer" each time it rains in Washington- the sulphur in the air mixing with water produces a milk sulfuric acid.

It was said years ago that the northern hemisphere would have to feed the southern. It begins to look that way. For the second year in a row the emerging nations have failed to increase their food output. Indeed, this year they fell below last year's production. And their populations have not stabilized--ours have.

Did you know that the merging nations feel that all the talk about pollution is a ploy on our part to keep them from emerging? Would you not think that they would like to learn from our mistakes and so avoid the same.

The Gnomes of Switzerland(Swiss Bankers!) are investing in US! And what stocks do you think they are buying - Paper and packaging companies! They have decided Americans are not going to be able to resist prettily packaged goods. And when you remember the mountains of Christmas wrapping and cards, they are right. Even tho' our trash piles grow higher and higher until there is no more room. So much of the trash reflects our national laziness-convenience packaging. Re-cycling has produced one smile GI-GO Garbage In-Garbage Out.

COMING EVENTS AT THE NORMAN BIRD SANCTURARY

- JAN. 26 8PM Owl Walk-listening for the Great Horned Owl.
FEB. 4 10AM & 2PM Winter Wildlife walks, Sanctuary
- FEB. 11 2PM Nature drive thru Sanctuary's wider trails for those who
can't do much walking. For further information call Sanctuary
846-2577. Tea in Eccles Room.
- FEB. 16 & Owl Walks, listening for Screech, short eared, long eared and
23 Barns 8PM
- MARCH 1 and the first Thursday of each month-Family Programs, either slides
7:30PM films or lectures on Nature.
- MARCH 15
6:15 PM Rain or shine. Annual Woodcock Nuptial Flights-Nature Walk.
- APRIL WEDNESDAYS 12:00 noon - Lunch Lectures \$3.00 per person (\$10.00 for Series
bring your own sandwich. Coffee & dessert supplied.
- APRIL 1974 Start saving shekels about (\$800.00 for our First European Bird Tour via
Southern Spain-Italy-Yugoslavia-Greece-Turkey.
MORE ON THIS LATER
- Don't forget Project I.D.--Make your home safe from robbers for 2 bits or more or less
as you feel. Just DO IT!!!!