

THE ZEPHYR

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There's a voice in the dawn,  
Word upon liquid word,  
Heard in a dream, then gone --  
The mockingbird.

No reed pipe of Pan  
Ever such music made;  
No clear flute of man  
Ever thus played.

So bid me ope my eyes,  
Bird, when the sunlight nears,  
That I may daily rise  
To the song of the spheres!

-- Clinton Scollard, Sun (N.Y.).  
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Countless thousands of places in this country and abroad have become famous for their magnificent trees, which silently lend their beauty and shade and add to the joy of living. Who would think of Cambridge without associating with it the memory of the magnificent elms that lend their welcoming shade? Throughout the South, our magnolias and live oaks hold an equally important place in the hearts of our people.

Our state highways demand our first attention, although every thoroughfare leading into Houston should be beautified with judicious planting. No investment of like amount would do so much to give pleasure and comfort to all our citizens, as well as the tourist and stranger, and at the same time advertise the merits of our soil and climate, bringing us dividends on the investment of invaluable worth.

It would be neither necessary nor desirable to plant these roadsides with rare exotics or trees and flowers difficult or expensive, since we have in our own native woodland and prairies an abundance of subjects equally beautiful, which merely ask our permission to grow and flourish in the congenial places they should occupy. Careful study should be given to determine the proper places for planting those that thrive best in our various soils and taking advantage of the great possibilities offered by the particular local conditions and situations, as it is always safe to conform the planting to a natural or informal style in which the natural beauty of the landscape may be brought out in harmony with the surroundings.

While stately avenues of trees may often be used effectively in places, the roadsides may be further embellished with gaillardias, bluebonnets, wild roses, native holly, yupon and dogwoods, and the endless variety of beautiful native shrubs. -- Edward Teas.

## Notes and News.

The American Society of Landscape Architects has recently issued a statement of policies favored by that body as to parks and related matters. One of the most interesting paragraphs reads:

"The American Society of Landscape Architects believe that additions should be made to the number of our National and State Parks in order that examples of our most characteristic and rapidly decreasing natural scenery may be preserved against encroachment of economic forces".

We are indebted to Charles L. Bernheimer for a copy of his book on Rainbow Bridge - the story of the author's adventures and discoveries in the desert lands of our American Southwest. This is a decidedly worthwhile addition to our library.

Lovers of birds will enjoy an article in the September-October number of Parks & Recreation entitled "Birds of the Mississippi Watershed", by Paul B. Riis. Mr. Riis has charge of that section of the magazine devoted to the conservation of wild life, and his work adds much to the interest and value of Parks & Recreation.

Nawona Adelle Taylor, a thirteen year old school girl of Markham, Texas, won first prize, \$50.00, in the Tree Essay Contest sponsored by Holland's Magazine as class III of its Campaign for Civic Beautification. "Trees as Friends of Man", was the title of the winning essay, which is published in Holland's for October, and is well worth reading.

From the pupils of Miss Julia Beazley's class, at Lamar School, comes a most interesting series of letters, giving the ideas of the young people in regard to a state bird for Texas. As was to be expected, the mockingbird is the young folks' favorite, and they give some very logical reasons for his selection.

As Yuletide draws near, outdoor clubs throughout the land are again calling to public attention the inevitable necessity of using cultivated plants and artificial substitutes for holly in Christmas decorations. There is still some wild holly left, of course, but it is unthinkable that the American people should wish to destroy that pitiful remnant before necessity forces them to use substitutes. And so again the slogan is: "Save our native American holly - Use substitutes in Christmas decorating."

This isn't the season when songbirds are at their best, but, according to radio listeners, birds are on the air in song, if not singing. And here's the evidence:

"Like a meadowlark."

"Bye-bye, Blackbird!"

"When the red, red robin comes bob-bob-bobbin' along."

And when Texas has chosen our gray-coated Dixie troubadour as its state bird, all the world will "Listen to the mockingbird".

In regard to the scheme of Idaho sugar beet interests to grab a part of Yellowstone National Park, The Outlook says: "Americans, keep the looters out." "Aye! Aye!" say we.