NOW AND THEN

CARDINAL

A cardinal and April rain—
Let those who thirst for joy know these;
The clear and vibrant redbird note
That glorifies the dripping trees.

Let those who seek for beauty go
Down rain-washed streets where trees are tall,
And through the misty air, look up
To where the redbirds call.

If one finds joy in simple things,
If one has learned to watch and hear,
Above his head may blithely sound
A cardinal's high note of cheer.

And when the days are dark and wet
When showers strike upon the pane,
It is a joyous thing to hear
A redbird calling through the rain.

—Margaret E. Peck, in 'American Lyric Poetry."

Yes, the birds are coming back, yesterday I saw a pair of lovers. They must have just mated and were busy looking for a house. There was one near by which was unrented and they flew to it, thinking it would just suit their purpose. But alas! it had been built for a wren and the door was too small. Again and again they tried to get in, pausing every once in a while to sit on top of the house to think of other ways to make the door larger, but they must have given up the attempt for they are not here today. Very soon the rightful tenants will come and take possesion and the air will again be filled with bird songs and spring will be here in earnest.

At an open meeting of the Women Literary Club, the Club and its visiting guests were much entertained by Captain Nye and his Indian friend, Mr. Hunt. Captain Nye was stationed in Oklahoma, doing work among the Indians and the club was indebted to Mrs. Beasley, whose husband had been stationed at Fort Sill in Oklahoma, for bringing them here, Mrs. Beasley being a daughter of Mrs. Leonard, a member of the club. Captain Nye spoke of the different Indian tribes and of the diversity of customs. Afterwards he and his Indian friend, Mr. Hunt, gave an interesting exhibition of the Indian sign language, a language which was necessary as the different tribes all spoke a different language. Mr. Hunt told how difficult it was to convert the Indian to Christianity because of the Medicine Man of their tribe who used their ignorance and supersition to further his own ends, and told them of dire things which would happen if they embraced Christianity. After their talk delightful refreshments were served by the club.

When the late Charles M. Schwab was presented with the Bessemer Medal by the British Iron & Steel Institute in 1928 it was a most solemn occasion. The professional toastmaster prefaced al his announcements, such as "dinner is served," "let us say grace," etc., with these words: "Mr. President, Your Excellencies, My Noble Lords and Gentlemen." These words also were used when he introduced the speakers after the banquet. Mr. Schwab, when called upon said more solemnly than even the Toastmaster:

"Mr. President, Your Excellencies, My Noble Lords and Gentlemen." Then after thoroughly mopping his brow, he added: "Thank God that's over. You see at home I would start like this, 'Well, Boys.' "

This ended the solemnity of the occasion, as everyone, even the Professional Toastmaster could not suppress a laugh. Thereafter, Mr. Schwab made one of his usual speeches, interposed with wit and stories. He was by far the hit of the evening.

Frederick the Great was a master diplomat, and able to compliment those whom he wished to please. In 1770, when the interviews were being held at court, he noticed General Laudohn, one of his most able adversaries seated across the table. Speaking up in a loud voice, he said: "Pray, sir, take place here at my right; I do not feel at ease to have you opposite me even at the table."

A SUFFIX ATROCITY

Horace H. Taft, head of the Taft School, Watertown, Conn., writes to Wilson Follett, who conducts the "State of Language" department of The Atlantic Monthly: "I read with interest your refence to the linguistic atrocities which have resulted from adding ize' wherever it seems to be convenient. It brought to my mind a man who had just been elected mayor of a western city on a reform ticket, one of the reforms promised having been in the matter of the crooked streets. The new mayor said that the first job of his administration would be to 'paralyze' the streets."—Kansas City Star.

On the bank of the James River, a husband erected a tombstone in memory of his wife, one of those 100 maidens who had come to Virginia in 1619 to marry the lonely settlers. The stone bore this legend:

"She touched the soil of Virginia with her little foot and the wilderness became a home."

NEWS GATHERED ON THE PENINSULA

The Virginia Commission of Fisheries, at a special meeting held on Tuesday, decided it would not permit the catching of crabs this season by boats having engines in them, and has issued a warning to crabbers to this effect.

About three years ago crabbers in Virginia began catching "peelers" with boats equipped with engines and the Virginia authorities permitted the practice to continue.

Now it is forbidden to use power in boats which scrape for crabs.

Ocean City construction work, topped by the proposed new $750,000 Synepuxent Bay highway bridge, may reach a valuation of more than $1,000,000 during the year 1940, it was estimated this week.

Initial work for the bridge has already been completed on the west side of the bay opposite North Division street. The Ocean City bridge is the largest of many Federal, State and Municipal projects planned at the Maryland resort this year.

In addition to thirteen private building projects now under way or planned in the vicinity of Ocean City, new docks are to be completed for the United States Coast Guard station at Ocean City. A City-WPA waterworks project in north Ocean City has just been completed at a cost of around $8,000.

The Ocean City Chamber of Commerce is planning to hold dedication ceremonies some time in May for the $102,000 Ocean City-Delaware beach highway which was opened to traffic last Fall. Delaware officials are expected to join in the occasion, which is expected to be held around May 15 when the new Indian River Inlet bridge in Delaware is finished.

A Federal jury Wednesday overrode protests from certain residents of Denton and condemned part of the town's historic green as the site of a new postoffice and at the same time awarded owners of the property more money than they had asked for.

An award of $14,600 was made for the land. If accepted by postal officials, this amount will be divided as follows:

To the Masonic Lodge on whose site the new postoffice is planned—$12,500. Attorneys for the lodge had requested $12,000.

To the County Commissioners as agents having title to the green—$2,000. The commissioners had asked for $500.

Another $100 will go to the town commissioners, although no money was requested by them.

William L. Weaver, 22, farmhand, was electrocuted last Saturday afternoon when he came in contact with an electric wire estimated to carry about 22,000 volts.

It is believed that he touched the wire which had been knocked from a REA pole at Masten's Corner, Kent County, Delaware, following an accident in which an auto operated by Elwood Shute crashed into the pole, severing the high powered wires.

The fatality ocurred shortly after the auto mishap, Weaver having been attracted to the scene by the crash.

Broiler growers throughout the southern part of lower Delaware are losing thousands of broilers ranging from 6 to 14 weeks old, from a disease whcih is known as "lyrolis". According to State Senator Ebe H. Chandler, of Dagsboro, chairman of the Republican State Central Committee, the disease many times strikes the flocks at 6 weeks of age and before they are ready for marke.t Most of the broilers are said to be placed on the market from 12 to 14 weeks old.

Sure Signs Of Spring

Spring is here when motorists dig out the road maps and lay their plans for seeking the "open road," and sailors the country over begin their annual "fitting-out" activities, preparing sleek water craft for the first jaunt of the season. Here Skipper Ted Skinner begins operations under the watchful eye of Miss Tony Clark, who motored down to the boatyard in her new 1940 Chevrolet.

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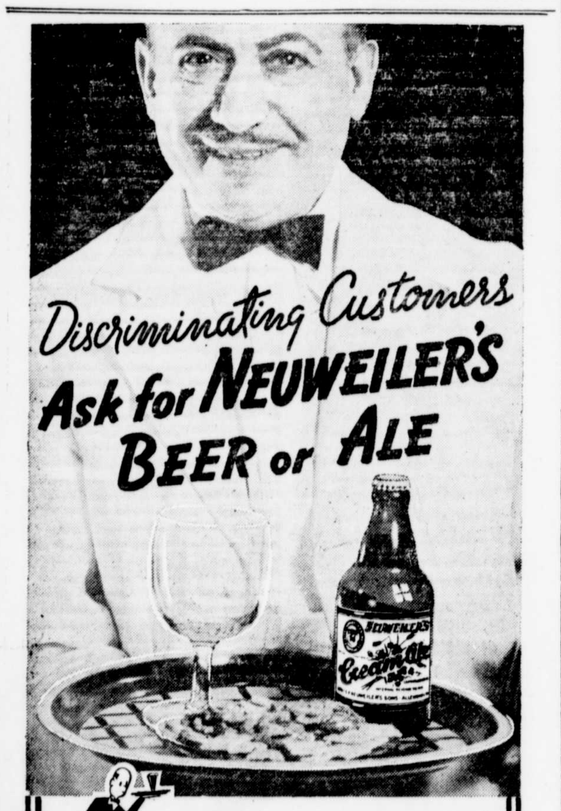

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Notice To Creditors

NOTICE is hereby given that the undersigned has obtained from the Orphans' Court for Kent County letters of Administration on the personal estate of

MARION BUTTERWORTH WALBERT

late of said county, deceased. All persons having claims against said deceased's estate are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the proper vouchers thereof to the undersigned on or before the 30th day of September, 1940, otherwise they may be law be excluded from all benefit of said deceased's personal estate.

All persons indebted to this estate must settle at once.

Given under my hand this 26th day of March, 1940.

W. LEON WALBERT
Administrator

Edna Elliott, Register of Wills.

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By Cy Hungerford