

Winter Creates Need For Extra Bird Care

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Special Writer for the Birmingham Eccentric

When the first heavy snows of the season cover the land, the life of our winter birds is imperiled. The supply of softer berries is already exhausted and many of the seeds and fruits which remain are buried in ice and snow.

This is the time to establish your bird-feeding station. It need not be an elaborate one. An inverted bushel basket lid or a tin can with both ends removed can be suspended with wire from the limb of a tree or a clothesline.

If you wish to study or photograph birds at close range, a window-sill tray is a good choice. Once accustomed to this closer scrutiny your visitors will come and go unafraid. Birds seem to like an uncovered tray best. However, this requires more care to keep it freed from snow and spoiled food.

Because we enjoy squirrels and blue jays and even English sparrows, we usually feed from the ground.

Birds like to scratch and to not mind the competition as long as there is enough food to go around.

THIS POINTS to a mounting bill at the pet store which can be reduced by paying grain screenings at a mill. These are largely seed seeds and make excellent bird feed. If you wish to attract cardinals add some sunflower seeds.

A few of these tall plants set in a sunny garden spot will provide you with enough bird food for the winter season. If you do not object to "litter" birds will eat many table scraps such as bread, left-over greens, and apple parings. Peanut butter and any cracked nuts you may have left over from Christmas are extra treats.

If you have accumulated a supply of kitchen fat, pour it over your discarded Christmas tree or over the dried stalks of annuals in your garden. It will harden to delight the hard visitor until the last leaf is eaten.

We have just tackled a large piece of suet well up on a tree trunk so that it is out of reach of prowling dogs and cats. It is visited each day by the Southern downy woodpecker and frequently nut-hatches and brown creepers come to dine. Blue jays and starlings are omnivorous eaters and also relish this treat.

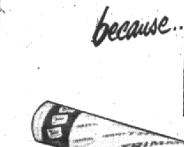
IF YOU WATCH birds come to your feeding station you will soon be able to single out certain regular visitors. At our house an English sparrow who has lost a foot shows up for his breakfast each morning. He is chipper and seems not too handicapped by his loss.

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Guilty Plea Stops Intoximeter Test In Circuit Court

A hoped-for test of the strength of Birmingham's intoximeter as admissible court evidence failed to materialize Tuesday, Jan. 5, when a defendant in Oakland county circuit court, an appeal from a drunk driving conviction in Birmingham justice court, changed his mind and pleaded guilty.

The defendant, Clare H. Graham, 680 Hazelwood, Detroit, was arrested Dec. 7, 1952, and later fined \$50 by Justice John J. Gaffi.

When he appealed the conviction to circuit court, Birmingham Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley welcomed the action as an opportunity to find out whether the results of an intoximeter test which showed Graham to be under the influence of liquor would be upheld by the higher court.

HOWEVER, the defense attorney for Graham waived any argument over the results of the test. Dr. C. W. Muehlberger, Michigan state toxicologist, had been subpoenaed to testify on the results of the test given Graham.

His services were not required as, following Patrolman Tony Suel's preliminary testimony, defense counsel entered a plea of guilty for his client.

Graham was fined \$75 and ordered to pay \$25 cost in circuit court by Judge Hartrick, who heard the case.

A recent United States Supreme Court ruling on a Texas drunk driving case upheld intoximeter tests as valid evidence.

Thousands of people read The Eccentric Classified Ads. So remember, if you want to sell that hard-to-get-rid-of article, advertise it in the Want Ad section of The Birmingham Eccentric.

Manager at Northland

Robert Warner, 187 Columbia, has been named manager of the furniture department for the lower level and basement store of the J. L. Hudson company's Northland development, according to James B. Webber, Jr., vice president and general manager.

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