

- FROM THE PRESIDENT -

The energy crisis has been making headlines for some time. The utilities and oil companies have spent millions publicizing it. And while it is to a large degree both manufactured and created, it is also very real.

The power companies are using the crisis to push new plants, primarily atomic. It is claimed that atomic energy is the power source of the future, clean and pollution free. And unfortunately many sincere conservationists believe it. But it is not true. Atomic plants create their own pollution. Some radioactivity escapes into the air and the water, and then, of course, there is the inevitable thermal pollution. But the primary problem - one recognized and feared by many informed scientists - is that of disposal of atomic wastes. These materials remain extremely dangerous for many thousands of years, and no satisfactory method of disposal has yet been devised.

There are other sources. The primary one, solar power, requires a great deal of research to become usable on a large scale. While the burden will have to be shared by the utilities and the Federal Government, I am convinced that our technology, which got us to the moon, can also overcome this problem. But, if we once acquiesce in atomic power, we are stuck with it. If we do not insist on better solutions, we will never get them. And a nation that can afford over \$80, billion a year on armaments can spare a few billion on truly clean energy.

In the meantime, however, we, the people, may have to make some small sacrifices. We can all help conserve power. Mankind got along for many millennia without air conditioning; the lack of it, at least in our homes, will not kill us today, or even "wilt" us. We can also save electricity in many other ways.

All National Audubon letterheads bear the motto, "Americans dedicated to conservation". If we are to be worthy to be called conservationists we must lead the fight.

Late flash: Legislation has been submitted to give the Connetquot protection under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, as described in my last article. Although our local legislators are all for it, opposition is mounting from upstaters who cannot believe Long Island has an unpolluted river.

Letters will help. Write to Senate Majority Leader W. M. Anderson, asking him to support the Smith-Trunzo bill, #S-1864. Also write to the Speaker of the Assembly, Perry Duryea, to back the Cockrane-O'Doherty bill, #A-3128.

Both may be addressed at the Capitol Building, Albany, New York #12224.

Representative Angelo Roncallo has introduced a bill to permanently abolish oil import quotas. This could be a step to keep oil drilling away from our shores. Please write Chairman Wilbur D. Mills, House Ways and Means Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C., 20515, urging support of H.R. 3303.

Al Lemke, President

FROM THE BIRDING FRONT

*****All bird walks start at 10:00 A.M. unless otherwise stated. No walk if it rains, snows, or the temperature is below 25*****

- March 4 --- Coast Guard Station
Jones Beach Parking Field #2
- 11 --- Tobay - J.F.Kennedy Sanctuary - east of Jones Beach off
Ocean Parkway - bay side of parkway
- 18 --- Jamaica Bay - Cross Bay Boulevard, south of Belt Parkway
- 25 --- Cedar Beach, east of Jones Beach on Ocean Parkway - east of
Gilgo, ocean side of parkway
- April 1 --- John F. Kennedy Sanctuary (Tobay Beach) - off Ocean
Parkway, east of Jones Beach; bay side of parkway
- 8 --- West End Parking Field #2 - Jetty (Jones Beach)
- 15 --- Atlantic Beach - meet 9:30 A.M. on beach side of toll
bridge
- 22 --- Easter Sunday - no walk
- 29 --- Jamaica Bay - Cross Bay Blvd., south of Belt Parkway
- May 6 --- Mill Neck
- 13 --- Jamaica Bay - Cross Bay Blvd., south of Belt Parkway
- 20 --- John F. Kennedy Sanctuary (Tobay Beach) - off Ocean
Parkway, east of Jones Beach; bay side of parkway
- 27 --- Suggested boat trip

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FEEDING WILD BIRDS

from Nassau County Museum of Natural History
Educational leaflet #3

In the winter man can help birds by providing three essentials - food, water, and shelter. Because flight takes enormous amounts of energy, starvation affects birds more quickly than other animals. Establish a winter feeding station, but be careful to keep it provided. Birds will get into the habit of finding food and water there, and even one day without these necessities may be fatal.

A variety of birds will visit your feeder if you supply dried meat, suet, wild bird seed and nuts, or any combination of these. The meat-eating birds will flock quickly to a station where they find the oil rich sunflower seed. The downy woodpecker and the white-breasted nuthatch are particularly fond of pork rind. This can be nailed to the side of a tree. Dense evergreens, honeysuckle, rose hedges or brambles will provide not only shelter but a place of refuge for fleeing birds.





'Is Plastic Wrap Bad for Ecology?'

We who became homemakers years ago find it difficult to obey environmentalists. Plastic wraps were such a godsend for me. I feel it is ever so much neater to line my trash can with a plastic bag. But now I am told everything plastic is bad. Don't the environmentalists consider how hard it is for us to change daily habits?

Your confusion is understandable, since plastic and packaging industries have been encouraging the use of their products. But we still must urge you not to use any plastic packaging to wrap food—or to carry out garbage.

Thin plastic used for food wrapping does not break down into natural components (is not biodegradable) and remains in the landfill. If it is carted off to the incinerator it has a tendency to melt down and gum up the grates of the furnace.

The larger problem is with the heavy plastic bottles which hold household cleaning products and even milk. These containers end up on beaches, on roadsides, and floating in the bays and up and down Long Island Sound. Even more important than the visual pollution this causes is disposing of these containers in the incinerator, which is even more hazardous. As they burn, the plastic produces gases, in the form of hydrochloric acid, and phosgenes, which are a severe irritant to the respiratory system, and create air pollution, which is a health hazard.

May I make the following suggestions: Try to use plastic wrapping sparingly. Save your paper bags after shopping and substitute them for the plastics to carry out the garbage. Avoid buying fresh fruits and vegetables which are neatly boxed and covered with plastic wrap. Don't buy products that come double wrapped. All this is unnecessary garbage. The manufacturers and markets will stop this double and triple packaging if we refuse to buy their products. This type of consumer boycott can be far more effective than any laws that might be passed.

Claire Stern

*Executive director of
the Long Island
Environmental
Council.*

WE PAY YOU 10¢ A POUND!

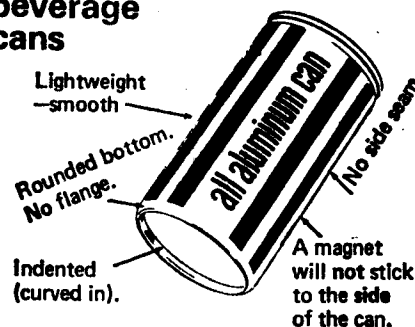
Bring empty all-aluminum cans to

Assoc. for the Help of Retarded Childred (AHRC)
Vocational Training - Recycling Center
230 Hanse Ave., Freeport (in the new
Industrial Park).

OPEN - 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. MONDAY through SATURDAY

For free pick-up of 200 lbs. or more,
call 546-7700

**How to identify
all-aluminum
beverage
cans**





I am a majestic bird that soars high in the sky above a lake, all I'm doing here is looking for my fish dinner. My body is large, powerful and dark, ending in my long white head and wide white tail and you're sure to see my long outstretched wings. Suddenly my keen eyes see two anthronoid figures. One raises his gun to shoot at me while the other looks through her binoculars and exclaims what an exceptional thing. You poison my eggs with DDT, you say I attack your sheep and carry little children away, in some places you have a bounty for my death, and you even call me "white head". It seems the only thing I mean to you is being your national emblem! Conservationists try to protect me from too-greedy men, and a suspected culprit called DDT, but all they've done was to give me time. With all you people and too few me, all I can go to is my ultimate extinction!

WHAT AM I? A Bald Eagle!

Anthony Brigagliano
 "The Killdeer" - Huntington Audubon Society



DID YOU KNOW ?????

Water pollution takes big toll on a form of river life not too familiar to the average person - North American Mollusks - some 1000 species are in danger of becoming extinct because of water pollution and destruction of their natural habitat!

March 18-24 is National Wildlife Week - don't pass up the opportunity to get outdoors and discover wildlife - it's really just too good to miss!

American Cyanamid drops controversial plan for off-shore acid waste dumping! The industry has decided to seek alternate means of disposals for wastes, once dumped into the Savannah River.

That only 24 nesting colonies of the Brown Pelican remain in the United States! They are in serious trouble because of pesticides.

"If the small volume of nuclear wastes now being stored by the AEC at its Hanford installation were to spill into the Columbia River, all the oceans of the earth would be contaminated to near lethal levels."

* * * * *

"The problem of waste disposal is clearly desperate. . . . It is doubly desperate because it is irreversible."

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KIRTLAND'S WARBLER

(Condensed from an article written by Stephen D. Fretwell, Director, Bird Populations Institute.)

The Kirtland's Warbler is a very rare and fragile species. Unlike Whooping Cranes and Ivory Billed Woodpeckers, individual Kirtland's Warblers are little and vulnerable. They cannot live many years, get few chances to breed and cannot easily survive the accidents of life. They currently number in the hundreds.

And now, the Kirtland's Warbler is getting rarer. These are times when man is reaching into the wasteland and the wilderness to exploit them for his own populations, which seems somehow to have upset the fragile balance by which Kirtland's Warblers manage to survive each year.

Kirtland's Warblers nest each June and July in recently burned Jack Pine fields in a few counties in Michigan. In the fall, the species migrates over thousands of miles of land and water to the Bahamas. There they stay until May, but we know very little about how they live in the winter. In the spring they return to Michigan to breed. Recently many square miles in Michigan were set aside just to provide Kirtland's Warbler habitat, but they still decline.

After much study, Harold Mayfield, an amateur ornithologist of great competence and energy, has found that there are extensive breeding losses due to Cowbird parasitism. There has been an increase of Cowbirds which is just as difficult to explain as the decrease in Kirtland's Warblers.

In summing up, Kirtland's Warblers are rare and declining. Cowbird parasitism in the breeding season is implicated but the wintering grounds may be involved.

Mr. Fretwell goes on to say that a Kirtland's Warbler Fund is being started. The funds would be spent at the direction of Mr. Mayfield, to support the research on basic biology and control that is needed. Funds would be directed solely at the Kirtland's Warbler.

Anyone wishing to contribute to this very worthy cause can mail their contributions directly to the Kirtland Warbler Fund, Dr. Stephen Fretwell, Director, Bird Populations Institute, C/o Division of Biology, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas, 66506.

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..... Our Newsletter - a renewed plea!

Our deadline is the 10th of the month preceding mailing the mailing of the Newsletter on the 1st. We established this last fall when we said we would mail the Newsletter on the 1st of each month. While we have streamlined and shortened our methods with experience, we still must get the copy to the printer by the 20th. So, please, if you have anything for us, let us have it by the 10th!

The Editors -

THE OTTER AND THE PIPELINE

(Friends of the Earth - Nov. 1972 issue)



Prince William Sound is the terminus for the proposed Alaska pipeline. It is also the home of four thousand otters.

The sea otter is unique among marine mammals in that it lacks blubber, and depends for body warmth on a layer of air trapped next to the skin by its thick, soft fur. This fur must remain very clean - if it becomes dirty, the otter will soon die of exposure, hence they are as vulnerable as birds to oil pollution.

The otter floats on its back, a position in which it grooms, eats and even sleeps, putting its forepaws over its eyes. A mother otter has one pup at a time, and cares for her infant for about a year. When she is not gathering food for herself and the pup, the baby rides on her chest, and after several weeks of practice the pup soon learns to bring back shellfish from the ocean floor. The otter is playful and sociable, demonstrating great swiftness and agility - in short, a real charmer.

The fate of Prince William Sound otters is fairly predictable, as a result of tanker spillage and chronic oil residues from onshore facilities if the pipeline is built. Prince William Sound was one of the few places where a remnant otter colony survived the orgy of fur hunting, which went on for about a hundred and fifty years until the sea otter was protected by international treaty in 1911. By 1911, the otter was nearly extinct, but since then, it has come back.

Tragically, the otter is only one of many many animals which will suffer from ruined or disrupted habitat as a consequence of a totally unnecessary pipeline. Those of us who believe it is a moral obligation (and a joy) to share the earth with other species must continue to fight, and find new ways to fight, for the rights of our animal friends.

WHO is Tit Willow?

The following bit of amusing minutiae was sent to by Lily Wolsk who is spending the winter in Manhattan. Lily is obviously a Gilbert and Sullivan fan and the item is condensed from the Gilbert and Sullivan Journal of September 1972. It has to do with "who is Tit Willow".

It seems there are two likely species of Tit which could have been candidates for the famous song. The Blue Tit (Parus Coerulea) is the one which the writer feels Mr. Gilbert had in mind. The other is an Azure Tit, a paler bird. However, neither bird unfortunately occurs in Japan - a "must" without poetic license. The only Tit occurring in Japan is the Willow Tit who, unfortunately is a "sombre little grey bird" hardly suited to the imagination of a poet. The Willow Tit was first observed and named (in Latin) in the mid-1700's by the Swedish naturalist, Linnaeus - but on the basis of specimens from America where the bird is known as the Black-capped Chickadee (whom your editor feels could hardly qualify as a "sombre little grey bird"). The Willow Tit of Japan has been known as a distinct species since the mid-1800's when it was recognized as distinct from the Marsh Tit of Europe. It was named the Willow Tit. --- unfortunately, that bird, too, was later found in England!

So - who is Tit Willow so famous for having died of a broken heart? ----- If you are interested in following up on this bit of research, may we refer you to the Gilbert and Sullivan Journal of September 1972. Again, unfortunately, it is published in England.



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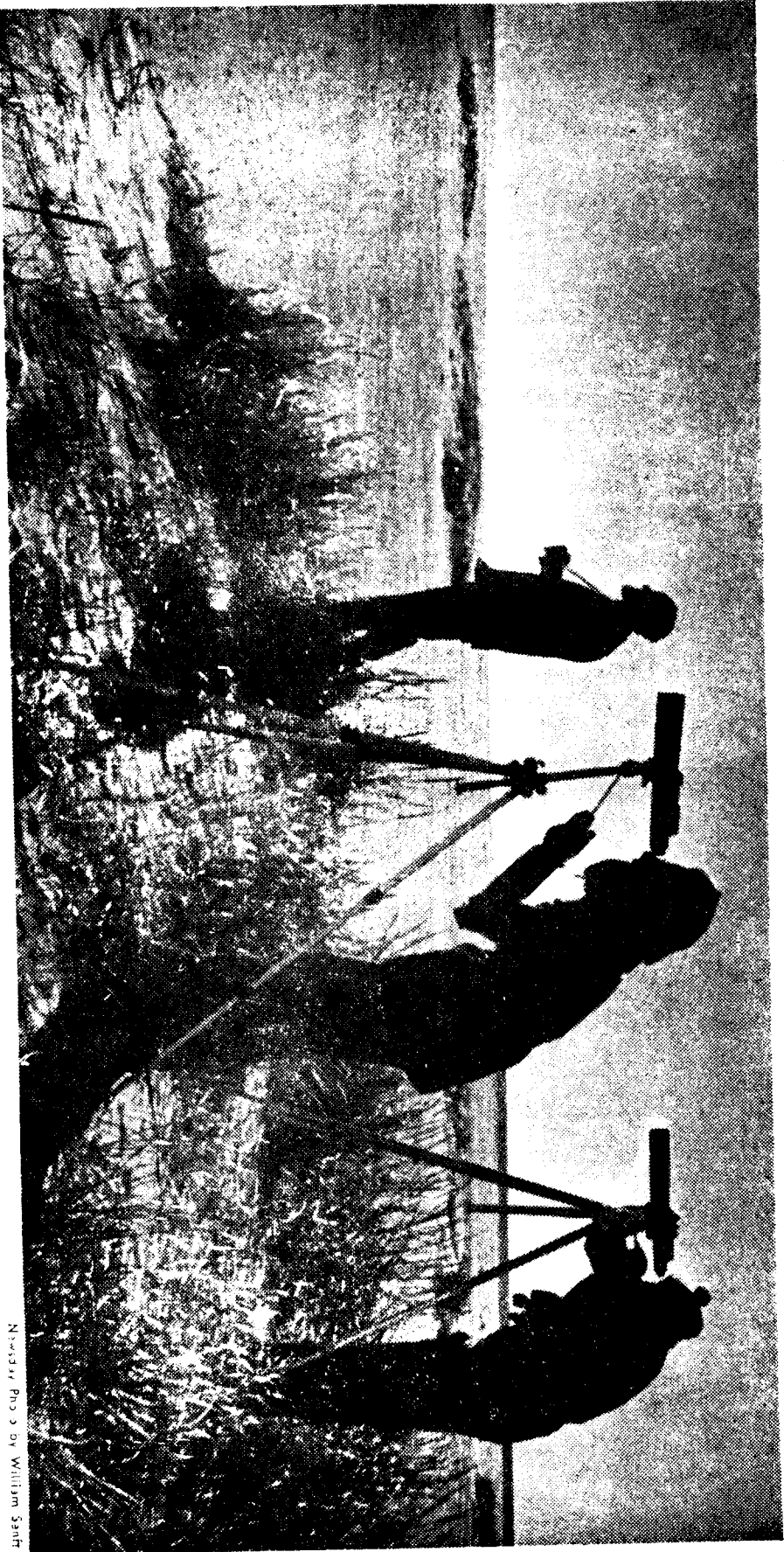
..... Note on good conservation habits: For those of us who may not have known, it was pointed out during the course of our last meeting that products of the Hudson Paper Company are all re-cycled paper. Let's patronize them and one wonders if a letter of commendation to the appropriate officer of the Company might not be encouraging.



Complaints about air polluters may be telephoned to the Nassau County Bureau of Air Pollution Control, 535-3232, from 9 A.M. to 4:45 P.M., Monday through Friday.

Winter's Wadliffe By the Sea

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Three members of the South Shore Audubon Society set up their equipment for a winter bird-watching session.

Nessey Photo by William Smith

Reminder



RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

If you have a change of address, please notify "South Shore" as well as National Audubon, so that we can keep our records up-to-date, and YOU on our Newsletter mailing list.

Pass our Newsletter on to someone else when you have finished with it - they might be interested in joining!

It is also a good time for Audubon members to renew permits---
FREE OF CHARGE! Write to

JFK Memorial Wildlife Sanctuary (Tobay)

For

Superintendent of Beaches
Town of Oyster Bay, Oyster Bay, N.Y. 11771.

JAMAICA BAY WILDLIFE REFUGE

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs
City of New York
830 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10021.

South Shore Audubon Chapter, National Audubon Society

Albert Lemke, President	- 2108 Stuyvesant Ave., East Meadow Tel. PE 5 - 1110 #11554
Michael Smiles, Vice-President Chairman Legislation/ Conservation	- 1279 Melville Rd. Farmingdale #11735 Tel. 293-7225
Raymond Ward, Membership	- 104 Parkside Dr., Levittown #11756 Tel. PY 6 - 0115
Elliott Kutner, Birding	- 461 Dunster Court, W. Hempstead Tel. IV 6 - 7667 #11552
Miriam E. Raynor, Editor, Newsletter	- 127 Morris Avenue, Rockville Centre Tel. RO. 4 - 6204 #11570



SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY
127 MORRIS AVENUE
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, N.Y. 11570

NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY EVENING

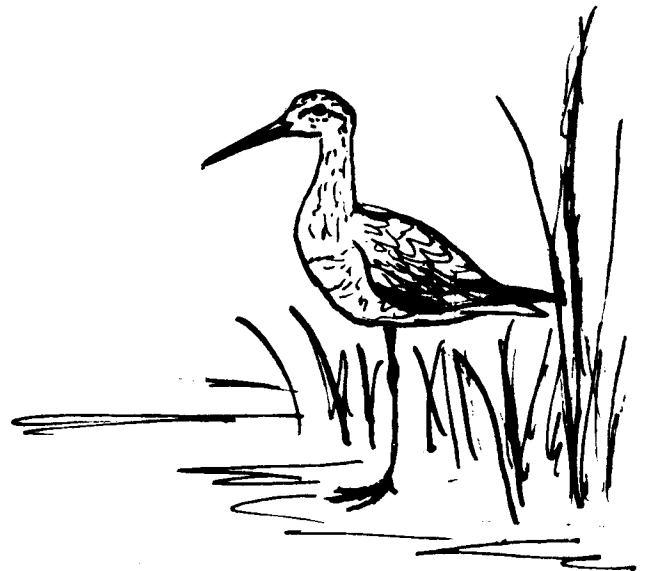
MARCH 13th

8:15 P. M.

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