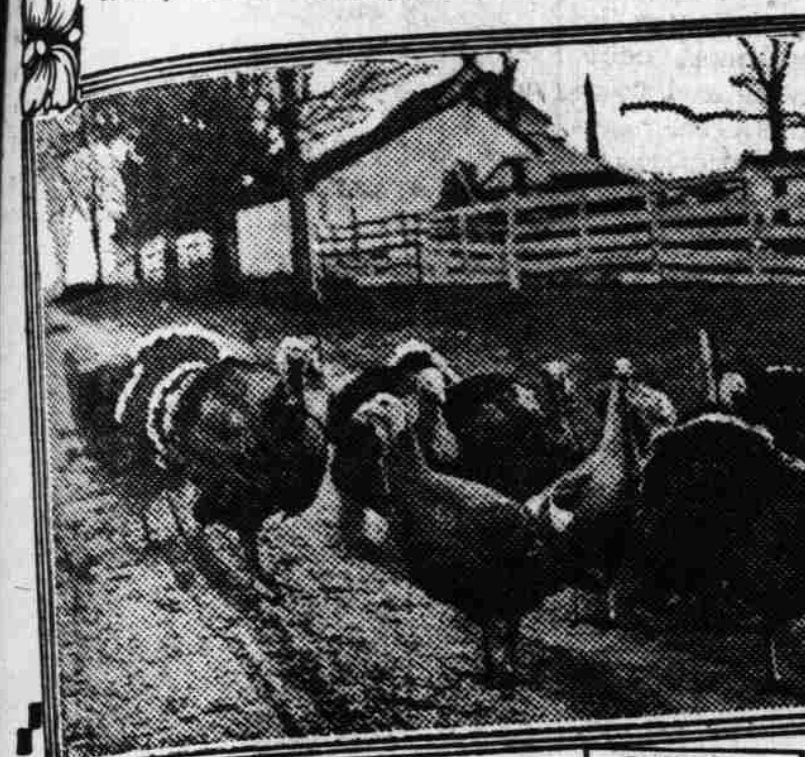


# TURKEYS TAME and WILD



THE NATIONAL BIRD



A FINE FLOCK

**T**HE symbol of Thanksgiving? Why, turkey, of course. Thanksgiving means plenty and goodness. So does turkey—plenty of white meat and plenty of dark for everybody. And as for the goodness—just remember how, when a slow and awkward carver was on the job, you sat and felt your mouth water! And the stuffing—that's plenty and goodness, too. Down with the fellow who says turkey-stuffing lessens the sweet flavor and delicious aroma of the bird! That fellow never tasted real turkey-stuffing in all his born days. Why, it's the soul of the turkey. You just smell that heavenly smell and then you take all the carver will give you—for a first helping. What'll I have? Imparticular. Big piece. Lots of stuffing.

After studying the wild turkey for 60 years, hunting it for 50 years and photographing it for ten years, Charles L. Jordan, an Alabama gentleman, thought with Benjamin Franklin, that the eagle hasn't an honest leg to stand on as the real bird of freedom.

"Though a little vain and silly," the turkey, Franklin said, is a native American "and a bird of courage." Had he known more on the subject he would have added that the turkey is both wise and cleanly and is never vain or silly except during the gobbling season. Can as much be said of any other bird?

The gobbling season—among turkeys, of course—opens and ends with spring. It is then that the male struts and calls and reveals his whereabouts to hunters and their dogs.

During the rest of the year, however, he frustrates man and mocks at all his plans. He is in the woods, but invisible to enemies armed with guns. Brave, silent, dignified and capable, he is unconquerable until he becomes eloquent and love-lorn and begins to make a huge fan of his tail.

Wild turkeys have had their historians, biographers and antiquarians, says James B. Morrow in the Boston Globe. Scientists have written about them in a lingo that nobody can understand. There are enough turkey books here and in France, Spain and Great Britain to make a large library in themselves.

The department of agriculture in Washington employs a field expert who spends a larger part of the year with flocks of domesticated turkeys that he may learn their habits and search out all the secrets of their lives. The turkey industry touches almost every farm.

Trainloads of live and dressed turkeys are shipped from large and small towns in the South. There are turkey farms in the West, with herders for the flocks, and turkeys in droves, like cattle and sheep, can be seen in Tennessee, California and elsewhere, just before Thanksgiving and Christmas, on the way to market. Also there are turkey doctors.

But Mr. Jordan, living out of doors from childhood to old age, and meeting his death at last from a poacher's shot, knew more about turkeys than anyone who has ever lived. He began studying them, hidden behind fallen trees and in the brush, while still too young to carry a rifle.

Chief among the pupils of this fine old master was Edward A. McIlhenny, a business man of Avery Island, Louisiana, at whose suggestion reserves for birds have been established in different parts of the United States. The McIlhenny family owns Avery Island, some 3,500 acres in extent, where the fast vanishing white heron finds refuge during the breeding season, and where ducks by the thousand live throughout the winter.

Among the turkey hunters of today Mr. McIlhenny is prominent. But for his fidelity and enthusiasm and his skill as a writer, Mr. Jordan's practical and fascinating knowledge of the wild turkey would have been lost to sportsmen and naturalists. So, too, would have been lost Mr. Jordan's method of cooking, whether the turkey is shot in the woods or, less dramatically, is taken from a tree near the house or from a coop.

A turkey having been obtained, the next transaction is to prepare it for the table. The second



SERVICING WILD TURKEYS



PREPARING THE FEAST

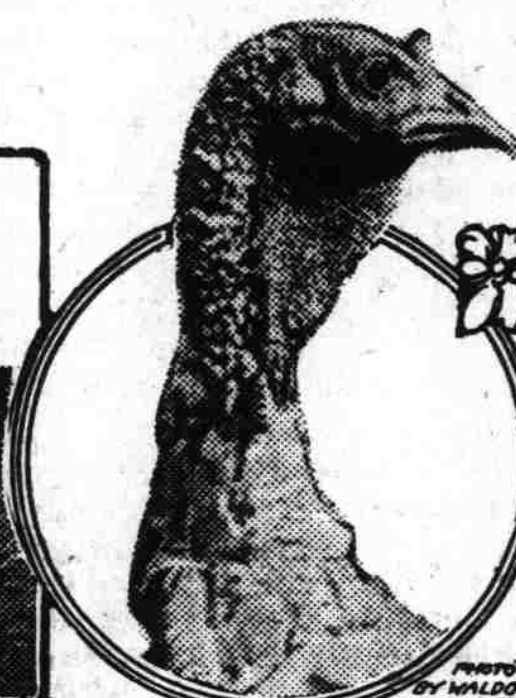


PHOTO BY WILSON FANCETT

proceeding is as important economically as the first. And under that heading the art of Mr. Jordan is final, though French chefs, amid their smears and concoctions, may voice exclamations and denials.

"If the turkey is young," Mr. McIlhenny says, quoting Mr. Jordan, "cook it in the way usual to stove baking, after first filling its cavity with a suitable dressing of bread crumbs, pepper, salt and onions chopped fine, moistened with fresh country butter. This is the best dressing that can be made, and it will detract nothing from the flavor of the bird nor add to it."

Oysters or chestnuts, if put into the dressing, are a profanation, and shrimps an abomination, in the view of Mr. Jordan. Wine and celery destroy the rich turkey flavor.

Originally the wild turkey was found in most parts of the United States—from the forests of Maine and westward as far as Nebraska and southward to the lower parts of Mexico. Gonzalo Fernandez de Oviedo, the Spanish historian, who wrote many books about the West Indies, printed a description of the wild turkey at Toledo in the year 1527. He had seen the males in the gobbling season and supposed they were peacocks.

Thus Oviedo brought the turkey into literature. But if the records are reliable, it was Alejandro Geraldini, an Italian and the Roman Catholic bishop of Santo Domingo, who introduced the turkey into Europe. A letter he wrote in 1523 mentions that he had sent a pair of turkeys to a friend in Rome.

The domestication of the bird, however, was brought about by the Spaniards, whose navigators took it home in their queer little ships and localized it in "European barnyards," as John Fiske states the case. This happened in 1530.

Eighty years later Christopher Newport, the leader of the expedition that founded Jamestown, in Virginia, sailed back to England. With him he took a large quantity of yellow sand that he thought was gold, and several coops of wild turkeys, "the first," again to quote John Fiske, "that ever graced an English bill of fare." The sand was found to be valueless, but the turkeys lived and multiplied and became a source of large profit to British farmers.

During the reign of Charles I, king of England, the prices of many things were regulated by law. Hume, the historian, says a turkey cock brought four shillings and six pence, \$1.12; a turkey hen three shilling, or 75 cents, and a goose two shillings, or 50 cents. A pheasant cock sold for \$1.50, a pheasant hen for \$1.25 and a partridge for 25 cents. Turkeys then were a novelty in Great Britain.

About 7,000,000 turkeys are grown yearly in this country. Texas produces more than any other state. Missouri is second, Illinois third, Iowa fourth, Ohio fifth and Indiana sixth. An ordinary western turkey weighing 12 pounds used to sell for about \$3.36 at retail in the eastern markets. As to its cost this Thanksgiving—your guess is as good as anybody's.

Mr. Ilhenny will tell you that wild turkeys live in the regions where they are born. If they go away, it is for the reason that there is a shortage of food in the territory constituting their natural range. After feeding they will return to their old homes.

During the 60 years that Mr. Jordan spent in hunting and studying wild turkeys, he never saw or heard of one that died a natural death. "Nor," he said, "have I heard of any disease or epidemic among them." Blackhead, a common distemper among domestic turkeys, has baffled the doctors, so far, and in regions has made the production of turkeys not only unprofitable but practically out of the question.

The mother turkey of the woods keeps her children under control and at her side until mid-winter. By that time the brood is full grown. The young gobblers, Mr. McIlhenny says, then leave their mothers and sisters and form bachelor clubs among themselves.

Turkey society in the forests, from December until early in the spring, is made up of three divisions—the old hens and young hens; the young gobblers, and the old gobblers. At mating time, in March, there is a reunion. It is then that the old gobblers strut and gobble and call to their plural wives as well as to the hunters.

At the moment the hens begin to set, the old gobblers, in couples and groups up to 20, again sequester themselves from all but their own society. So they live, summer, autumn and winter. They never fight except when they are showing off to the ladies and then their combats are not mortal. The rules of their contests of strength permit shoving, pulling, pecking and wing-beating.

They are brave birds, as the McIlhennys, all famous hunters, will testify. Furthermore, they are wise birds. It is the exceptional hunter who gets a sight of them in summer. They are not afraid, however, of the farmer who is plowing, husking corn or reaping.

Notwithstanding the spectacular enterprise of turkey ranching in Texas and California on a grand scale, the old farm must still be relied upon for most of our Thanksgiving and Christmas turkeys, says James Hamilton Byrd in Grit. On thousands upon thousands of farms, as a side issue to her regular work, it is common practice for the farm wife to keep a half a dozen or perhaps a dozen turkey hens and a gobbler from which to raise a flock of 40 to 50 turkeys.

Early in the spring the turkey hens begin laying. Then comes the brooding season. By October 1 the young turkeys have grown to be big, rangy birds, so now the fattening or finishing process is begun. Little do they know as they are being fed more and more of the farmer's corn every night of the diabolical intentions of their master's better half. Ten days or two weeks before marketing they are literally feasted on grain—stuffed three or four times a day—until just before the enactment of the tragedy of their young careers they should be as fat as butter balls.

Although turkey ranching in Texas and California has almost reached the proportions of a new and spectacular industry, by far the greater number of turkeys are raised on the farms of the middle West—Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri and Iowa. New England, long famous for its turkeys, raises comparatively few, although its reputation still lingers. Some of the big turkey ranches have a thousand or more turkeys, and some of the turkey drives to market are most extraordinary sights. The flocks of the middle West are usually less than a hundred. Still 50 to 75 fine gobblers and hens weighing from 15 to 25 pounds each is not a mean sight and represents indeed no small value.

There are still millions of acres in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico where the wild turkey breeds plentifully, and where turkey hunting is great sport. But of far more importance to the turkey market is the "still hunting" which is carried on in the spring in many places to secure eggs or possibly the very young birds in order to raise the pure wild-blood turkey and introduce it into tame flocks. The tame turkey has degenerated until it is no longer the virile bird it was in the days of our pilgrim fathers, but the wild turkey is subject to no known disease. On some of the forest reserves the government is protecting the wild turkey for this important purpose of using it as a breeding stock.

## IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D. D., Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. (Copyright, 1919, Western Newspaper Union)

### LESSON FOR NOVEMBER 23

#### JESUS CORRECTS JOHN'S NARROWNESS.

**LESSON TEXT**—Luke 9:46-56.  
**GOLDEN TEXT**—Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity.—Eph. 6:24.  
**ADDITIONAL MATERIAL**—Mat. 18:1-35; Mark 9:33-42; 10:13-16.  
**PRIMARY TOPIC**—Jesus and the Children.  
**JUNIOR TOPIC**—Jesus the Friend of Children.  
**INTERMEDIATE TOPIC**—Hasty and Narrow Judgments.  
**SENIOR AND ADULT TOPIC**—True and False Liberty.

#### 1. Jesus Teaches True Greatness (vv. 46-48).

1. The occasion (v. 46). A contention among the disciples as to who should be the greatest. Jesus had just announced his coming death on the cross, admonishing them to let his sayings sink down into their ears (v. 44). They were disputing among themselves as to who would be the biggest man in the kingdom. The imagination cannot depict a condition where rebuke and teaching were more needed.

2. The method (v. 47). He "took a child and set him by him." Teaching by object is one of the best of methods. In this Jesus showed himself to be the master teacher. Christ was qualified to meet the supreme need of all teaching, namely to know the pupil and to translate knowledge into terms adapted to the comprehension of the pupil. He perceived even the thoughts of the disciples and met their need. When they were conscious of his knowledge of them they were ashamed (Mark 9:34).

3. The teaching (v. 48). (1) "Whoever receiveth this child in my name receiveth me." So completely is Christ identified with those who are childlike in spirit that he regards treatment of them as treatment of himself. (2) "Whoever receiveth me receiveth him that sent me." Christ and the Father are one, therefore whatsoever attitude one has toward Christ he has toward God. Rejection of Christ is rejection of God. (3) "He that is least among you all, the same shall be great." The one who in self-forgetful service takes the lowest place is truly the great one. This is the supreme law of Christian discipleship. In Jesus we see the one who was incomparably great identifying himself with humanity.

#### II. Religious Intolerance Rebuked (vv. 49, 50).

1. The case cited (v. 50). The disciples saw one casting out devils in Christ's name, but because he refused to follow them they forbade him. This spirit is liable to seize those who are really zealous for Christ. It often expresses itself against those who do not belong to one's particular church or sect. In determining whom we should admit to fellowship two questions only need be asked: (1) Are devils really being cast out? (2) Are they being cast out in the name of Christ? The plain implication of Christ's words in Matthew 7:22, 23 is that one may even cast out devils and be a stranger to the Lord. There is a supernatural work which is not divine, so unless the mighty works are done "in the name" of Christ a Christian should not fellowship the miracle worker.

2. The principle declared (v. 51). "He that is not against us is for us." This truth is positively stated in Luke 11:23, "He that is not with me is against me." When it comes to man's attitude toward Christ there is no neutrality.

#### III. Resentment Rebuked (vv. 51-56).

1. Farewell to Galilee (v. 51). As the time had come for him to be received up he set his face to go to Jerusalem. The time of his sacrifice was come and Jerusalem was the place where it was to be accomplished.

2. The Samaritans refused to receive him (vv. 52, 53). This refusal was due to the impression that he was going to Jerusalem. Their national prejudices were so strong that they regarded his action as a national insult, therefore refused hospitality to him.

3. James and John vehemently resent this action of the Samaritans (v. 54). They regarded it as an insult to their Lord. Their love was so vital that an affront to the object of their affection was most bitterly resented.

4. The Lord's rebuke (vv. 55, 56). (1) "Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of." He did not minimize the insult or question their motive. He who knew their hearts was aware that they were moved by love for him. He told them, however, that such insults were not to be met by violence. Religious persecutions are always wrong. The spread of truth is not to be by means of material weapons. (2) "For the Son of Man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them."

#### A Fiction.

That God being good is the author of evil to anyone, that is to be strenuously denied, and not allowed to be sung or said in any well-ordered commonwealth by old or young. Such a fiction is suicidal, ruinous, impious.—Socrates, in Plato's "Republic."

#### The Law of God.

Wealth is a weak anchor, and glory cannot support a man; this is the law of God, that virtue only is firm; and cannot be shaken by a tempest.—Pythagoras.

## BOY SCOUTS

(Conducted by National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.)

### CATHOLICS EXTEND SCOUTING

Upon the initiative of the National Catholic War Council, the formation of the boy scout organizations in every Catholic parish throughout the United States will soon be under way. The council, which has been casting about for a solution of the problem of taking care of young boys and providing for them wholesome and profitable diversion, has decided that the boy scouts meet the requirements of the situation better than any other organization that could be devised, and an effort will be made to stimulate the enrollment of Catholic boys in it.

Contrary to the impression that has prevailed in some quarters, the boy scouts are not in any sense a religious or denominational organization. It happens that in most cases Protestants have been quick to take advantage of it, and Catholics have for some reason held aloof. Assurance is given by the officials of the council that there is no reason for this.

Through Michael J. Slattery, chairman of the committee on men's activities, the council has taken up the question with the national governing body of the boy scouts, and has been assured that Catholic boys will be placed on the same footing as any other boys, and that their interests will be safeguarded by Catholic representation on the various boards. No discrimination of any kind is made. A campaign for the extension of the organization among Catholic parishes will be undertaken under Mr. Slattery's direction.

It is evident, from what has already been done, that the idea has impressed many pastors very favorably. More than 400 inquiries have been received by the council, asking for information as to the methods of organization.

### SCOUTS KILL OFF GOLF PEST.

After every other means to exterminate the beetles that had menaced the golf course of the Louisville Country club had failed, the boy scouts of the city were frantically appealed to.

"Everybody has fallen down on us," the khaki-clad boys were told, "and we're calling on you as a last resort." The boys looked the situation over. They found that the beetles at the links had become so numerous during the past four years that they swarmed around like bees and threatened the very life of the course.

But that didn't faze the scouts a bit. They armed themselves with a bunch of small minnow nets and some used by entomologists, and then "went after 'em."

Result? Complete annihilation of the foe! Thousands of the pests were caught, killed, piled up into a mountain of "carcasses" and burned.

Incidentally, the golf authorities were tickled and showed their appreciation by giving the boys a spread of "chow" that would make a New York hotel look like a night-owl lunch-cart.

### SCOUTS TO BAN NICKNAMES.

One branch of the government at Washington has instituted a campaign to discourage the use of nicknames for representatives of our allies.

Boys are the ones who most of all perpetuate the use of undignified appellations and the Boy Scouts of America are invited to put their active ban on them.

"The use of nicknames and names of derision as applied to the foreign-born in America is a considerable obstacle in the way of Americanization," says Commissioner of Education P. P. Claxton in a letter to Chief Scout Executive James E. West.

"So long as the foreign-born person feels that we do not respect him he does not want to join America, learn English or become a citizen. With the help of the Boy Scouts of America we believe the use of such nicknames can be eliminated to a very large extent."

### THE RELIABLE SCOUT.

Here's to the steadfast, reliable scout,  
 The scout with the tongue that is true,  
 Who won't promise to do any more than  
 he can,  
 But who'll do what he says he will do.  
 He may not be clever, he is often quite  
 blunt,  
 Without either polish or air;  
 Yet though it's not in him to "put up a  
 front,"  
 He is there when you need him, he's  
 there.  
 So here's to the scout on whom one can  
 rely,  
 And here's to his lasting success.  
 May his species continue, forever multi-  
 ply,  
 And his shadow may it never grow less.  
 —Boys' Life.

### SCOUT GOOD TURN RUNS AUTO.

As unusual "good turns," Scout Jack Branch of Atlanta, Ga., tells of a new one that took place outside that city.

"We were going home from a meeting," writes Jack, "when we came upon an elderly lady whose auto was stalled. The gas had given out, and she couldn't get to where she wanted to go. So we just put our shoulders to the fiver and put one over on the freakishness of stubborn lizards. She got there!"