

Book to Sam Rodden Mar 17-44 - 8 pictures
2 negatives 3 Kodachromes

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KODACHROMES BEST PICTURES OF BIRDS

The kodachromes are beautiful colored pictures of birds, but few have been published on account of the cost. They can't be used in papers and very few magazines are publishing these.

It is well known that we should have proper conservation of wildlife. It is fortunate that many of the school children are interested in birds. They like to see them hunt food and build their nests. There have been many naturalists who have worked for wildlife. For about ten years the Finleys have been writing and publishing wildlife pictures in the Sunday Journal. For the past five years they have been using three different cameras in taking kodachromes of wildlife.

Since they had a fine series of colored bird pictures, the California Monthly of the University of California used ten of these from September 1943 to June 1944 as cover pages of the Magazine. For the benefit of schools, bird lovers and others, these ten kodachromes have been assembled in a colorful portfolio twelve by fifteen inches. The kodachromes are $6\frac{1}{2}$ x $8\frac{1}{4}$ inches mounted on heavy mat paper. The original prints for the cover pages of the California Monthly cost over \$3000. The present portfolio of ten mounted kodachromes mentioned above can be purchased for \$3.50 which means only 35¢ each. The wild birds photographed in action or dressed in natural colors are as follows.

The yellow warbler is a rollicking, happy-go-lucky glint of sunshine, one of the brightest and cheeriest bird-flowers in the garden. He alights in a tree over your head and peeks down with a trustful, inquiring look, then becomes interested in food - as all the world is today.

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The story of each bird will be found on the back of each picture. The wild birds photographed in action or dressed in natural color are: 1 The yellow warbler. He is a rollicking, happy-go-lucky glint of sunshine, one of the brightest and cheeriest bird-flowers in the garden. He alights in a tree over your head and peeks down with a trustful, inquiring look, then becomes interested in food - as all the world is today.

The wood duck, in colors signifying wedding dress, holds the unchallenged honor of wearing the most resplendent plumage of all our waterfowl. When subjected to an uninvited interview by strangers, he reveals a quiet craftiness as he fades into the green of the forest where he frequents secluded pools and swampy regions. Like the Golden-eye, he prefers to nest in trees, but will condescend to accept a common bird-house, or will even sneak into a shed or barn, especially if it is near water.

Waxwings are gentle bird folk. They can't get along without the companionship and courage of the flock. They eat daintily and preen their warm mauve feathers till they shine like changeable satin, underparts paling to fawn, on their wing tips beads of red wax, and a pointed crest. They are liesurely home makers and somewhat late, building a rather indifferent, coarse nest of bark, roots, twigs, leaves, and even bits of paper, lined with grasses, hair, wool, or anything at hand.

The blue heron is big, long-legged, long-billed fisherman dressed in blues and tawny colors that blend in with the waters of a river or inland lake. His eyes are on the under side of his face so all he has to do is stand like a statue and suddenly spear a fish that swims by his feet. He also likes chubs, carp, frogs, crayfish, varied with snakes, meadow mice, and other small mammals.

If you have ever heard the soft, pure-toned calls of the horned owl to his mate on a crisp night in early spring, tones as mellow as the moonlight that floods the valley below him, you could hardly believe him anything but an angelic spirit, least of all a habitual criminal. Really he is a big feathered bomber out for blood. He is even a cannibal, for

he has no qualms about eating owl. In a careless, stick nest blended into the crotch of an old tree in the north, or crowded into the crotch of a prickly cactus in the south, you may find three half-grown owlets, graded in size for they are not born on the dot of the same hour.

The robin is perhaps the commonest bird in the whole country, and known to all children, for he is a dooryard bird, and perhaps furnishes the first bird lesson in school. It is the robin for the green lawns and the wet spots. Trim, black-headed, with grayish back and brick-red breast, he stands listening, his head cocked on one side. Suddenly he bends, jabs his bill into the ground and sits back on his tail as he pulls out a wiggling angleworm.

The hummingbird is the smallest on our list and the most brilliant in our gardens, for flowers with honey and minute insects in their cups furnish most of his food. He is truly a flash of fire, especially when the sun strikes his flame-red gorget, scintillating sparks about his burnished bronze and green body. His love-making is startling. Awinging up like an aerial spark, he loops the loop and comes falling down with the whining sound of a miniature dive-bomber, to curve in front of his mate who sits placidly on a limb.

The roadrunner is a desert bird of the south, loving the hot sands, the prickly cactus or scrub brush for his nest sites. He is a shy, wary fellow with a dry clatter for a voice. He has a long tail that works on a ball bearing as a rudder when he is scuttling over the desert catching grasshoppers or the ever present lizard. It is an amusing sight to watch the mother bring in a good-sized lizard, start it down the gaping mouth of a child, and wait for it to slowly disappear as the digestive juices work.

The gull is a complete master flier in the air. He moves straight up in the teeth of the wind, or poises, resting apparently motionless on outstretched wing, perhaps billowing a bit on his air cushion. Yet there is never an instant when wings and tail are not constantly adjusted to meet the changing air currents. The bird can land almost vertically, and doesn't need any preliminary take off. He is the rover of the coastlines, the garbage man of the shores. Again you find him the angelic picture of peace, a

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demure gray and white figure placidly tagging at the heels of the plowman, garnering the turned-up grubs.

Would that we had the wide wings of our American emblem, the American eagle, to soar the skies and look down on the world, a world that today must be a mystery to a bird. He swings in wide circles above a lake or river bank, his "eagle eye" cast over the surface for a duck or fish, or small rodent - dead or alive. During salmon runs, one may see him patrolling a stream, feasting on dying fish. On some rocky crag or the top of a tall tree, his massive fortress of big sticks may be seen, and perhaps the white head of the big bird.

Robert Sibley, editor of the California Monthly, wrote the following story. "William and Irene Finley graduated at California in 1903, were married in 1906, and since then have devoted their lives to this outdoor hobby. Billy has been prominent in securing laws for the conservation of wildlife from his first attempt in 1908 which resulted in the establishment of three wild game reservations in Oregon. He has been a member of the Oregon Fish and Game Commission, resigning to become State Game Warden for four years. After that he served as State Biologist, a post created for him by a special act of the legislature. Finally, as a result of his exceptional preparatory work, he has served as field naturalist for over twenty years with the National Association of Audubon Societies and Nature Magazine."

Accompanying him wherever he goes, Mrs. Finley helps tame the subjects and then writes the story, seeking always to emphasize the personalities of the birds and animals. She believes that natural history is not centered entirely on records, on species and all the other forms into which man has molded it; but that it is rather made up in part of the habits, behavior, instincts, and personalities as well. Residents of Oregon, the Finleys consider the great out-of-doors their real home, and the wildlife therein their best friends. And their pictures certainly reflect success."

PORTFOLIO OF TEN BIRDS

Robert Sibley

It is well known that we should have proper conservation of wildlife. It is fortunate that many of the school children are interested in birds. They like to see them hunt food and build their nests. There have been many naturalists who have worked ^{for} ~~on~~ wildlife. William L. and Irene Finley have devoted their lives to the photographing and preservation of birds and animals. They have been using three different cameras in taking kodachromes of birds. Since they had a fine series of pictures, the California Monthly of the University of California used ten of these from September 1943 to June 1944 as cover pages of the Magazine. *have photos a fine set of photos*

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