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Arbor Day Notes

WITH

Suggestions for Bird Day

APRIL 21, 1899

ISSUED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION OF COLORADO

MRS. HELEN L. GRENFELL
SUPERINTENDENT



To the Teachers and Pupils of Colorado.



IT IS a pleasant duty to call your attention to our next holiday. Established but a few years, Arbor Day has won its way to our hearts by the best of all means—its own merits. The necessity for the planting of trees is growing to be better understood, through the influence of a day, annually set aside for the study of trees. Wherever practicable, a part of the day's exercises should be the actual planting of at least one tree, and even in localities where there are not facilities for planting trees, the reason is all the stronger for observing the day, by impressing upon the children their value.

The institution also of Bird Day is a movement of which all lovers of animate nature can but approve, and this not only from the poetic point of view, but also from the practical and utilitarian. Our children should learn that birds, in addition to being pretty creatures with beautiful voices, are exceedingly useful to mankind. Let us teach our pupils something of the lives and habits of the birds, as well as of their charm and the duty of kindness in their treatment.

In view of the fact that Arbor Day has become an established occasion for celebrating the awakening of spring, of whose coming the birds are the first harbingers, and following the custom already obtaining in several other states, I urgently recommend for the future the observance of Arbor Day and Bird Day as one.

HELEN L. GRENFELL,

Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Denver, Colorado.

Press of
The Smith-Brooks Printing Company,
Denver, Colorado.

PROCLAMATION

ARBOR DAY

ARBOR Day was born of an idea, is sanctioned by custom, and has been established by statute. The sentiment inspired by its purpose is not more beautiful than the benefits entailed by its observance. The appropriateness of its objects and the willingness of the people to effectuate them are too obvious for discussion.

In cheerful obedience, therefore, to the requirements of the law and pursuant to the authority in me vested, I hereby call the attention of the people to the Act of the General Assembly of the State of Colorado, designating Friday, the Twenty-first day of April, A. D. 1899, as Arbor Day, and do recommend and enjoin its observance in the planting of forest trees for the benefit and adornment of public and private grounds, places and ways, and in such other efforts and undertakings as shall be in harmony with the general character and purpose of the day.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State to be affixed this Third day of April, A. D. 1899.

CHARLES S. THOMAS.

By the Governor,
ELMER P. BECKWITH,
Secretary of State.

To the State Flower.

By Celia F. Osgood Peterson.

O dainty Colorado flower,
Thou' st met us in a happy hour,
For we would choose our Queen;
And what so sweet, so gracious fair,
Can e' er to us with thee compare,
In thy lilac, white and green.

In simple grace dost thou appeal,
Thy modest beauty half conceal,
In valleys far away;
But standing in majestic state,
Thou canst not justice long await,—
Thy coronation day.

We crown thee as our chosen flower,
And bow before thy regal power,
Thou smile of Love Divine;
And loyalty unto our State,
Bids us rejoice to hail thee, great,
O queenly Columbine.