

Des Moines, Iowa,
April 6, 1946

A CENTENNIAL YEAR SUGGESTION

Every Iowan should recognize Iowa's official emblems! Why not a discussion period on this emblem subject for every school and study group in the state? These are the emblems:

THE WILD ROSE: On May 7, 1897, the Wild Rose was officially designated as the flower of the state by the Twenty-sixth General Assembly at which time the resolution was adopted.

THE STATE BANNER: On March 29th, 1921, the Thirty-ninth General Assembly adopted a resolution designating a design for a flag to be known as the "State Banner" with the motto "Our liberties we prize and our rights we will maintain."

THE STATE BIRD OF IOWA: On March 22, 1933 the Forty-fifth General Assembly of Iowa proclaimed the GOLDFINCH, the State Bird of Iowa.

THE GOLDFINCH

Because of the above listed official historical events, in this our centennial year, we should salute Iowa's significant emblems in appropriate and various ways.

Bird Clubs and Audubon societies throughout Iowa should make special plans in their program planning to discuss the Goldfinch and how it became Iowa's state bird.

The colorful Goldfinch symbolizes conservation in its highest sense in the state of Iowa. J. Wilbur Dole of Fairfield, in cooperation with the Iowa Ornithologists' Union, recommended to the 45th General Assembly that the Goldfinch be designated as a state bird and a resolution was introduced in both houses which proclaimed this fact - and history so stands.

Because of the foregoing, the writer of this article, who is interested in bird lore and nature study recommends the study of the Goldfinch to bird clubs and Audubon Societies throughout Iowa. She is making her salute to this little songster and Iowa's centennial year by a specially prepared program presented to the Fairfield Bird Club in Fairfield, Iowa, April 6, 1946 at the McElhinny House where the bird club meets. Whistling interpretations and bird calls will be featured on the program. Here's a final salute to our happy little songster the Goldfinch, in this little poem written by Lena Springer of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Do I see gay buttercups
Blooming on our lawn?
No, A Goldfinch breakfasting!
Look! But now he's gone!
Surely, with his crocus coat
Showers will not fade,
Goldfinch, must, in birdland, head
The Easter Parade.

PROGRAM: By Jo Baumgartner, 1143-36th Street, Des Moines, Iowa
I. Distribution of Iowa Centennial Suggestion. II. Whistling Selections with Piano accompaniment. III Whistling Interpretations featuring recordings of bird calls via records and whistling imitations. IV. Questions and Answers Period on GOLDFINCH.
