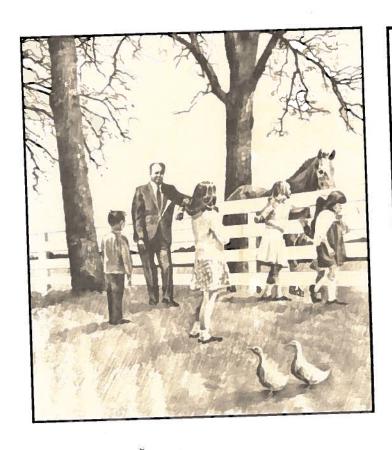


# WONDERS OF THE A.C. RANCH



IMPERIAL SCHOOLS



## **OUR COVER**

Mr. Guy Carnes, Principal of Imperial School at Big Sandy, accompanies students on this tour of the A.C. Ranch.

Cover design and illustration by Gerald E. Coleman

Copyright © 1969 Ambassador College All Rights Reserved Printed in U.S.A.

# WONDERS OF THE A.C. RANCH

BY LEO AND JOAN BOGDANCHIK

> ILLUSTRATED BY SHEILA DENNIS

**BOOK LAYOUT BY VIRGINIA HOWELL** 

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page		Page
Welcome to A.C. Ranch	7	Trees 30-31,	46-47
Messrs. McCullough and Schurter	9	Roosters and Hens	
Silos	10	Animals of the Woods	
Horses		Cows and Bulls	
Ponies		Summer	
Deer	14	Ranch	
Sheep	15	Lake	
Spring		Ducks	
Winds	16, 17	Birds	
Seeds	-	Autumn	•
Rain, Water 17-1	18, 25, 30, 40	Leaves 30-31.	
Lightning		Hibernating Animals and Insects	
Humus	19	Snakes	
Earthworms	20-21	Agricultural Society	
Insects	22, 39, 48	Feast of Tabernacles	
Burrowing Animals	22	Winter	
Dew	22	Frost	
Firstfruits	23-24	Snow Crystal	
Bees	26	God's Seasons	•
Frogs	27	Tests	
Crickets	28	Vocabulary	
Spiders	29	,	



MR. HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

Chancellor of Ambassador Colleges and

Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Imperial Schools



MR. GARNER TED ARMSTRONG
Vice-Chancellor of Ambassador Colleges and
Superintendent of Imperial Schools

# WHY THIS BOOK WAS WRITTEN

GOD CREATED the heaven and the earth (Genesis 1:1). After He made the earth habitable for man, God created man and then instructed him in the purpose of this creation. Among God's instructions, He explained the reason for the earthly seasons.

In Genesis 1:14 we see that God made lights in the firmament to be for signs, and for seasons, and for days and years. God showed man that the agricultural seasons of planting, growth and harvesting were likened very much to the higher plane of spiritual salvation.

In Romans 1:20 God states that the physical creation is a pattern of the heavenly. God has for physical man an "earthy" plan which, when lived, brings man into a close relationship with his Creator. This Plan put man right from the beginning in a *Garden*. This put him very close to the earth. (The fact that man is earth makes him even closer.)

Later, Abraham — an agriculturist and scientist — understood well the growing seasons.

The children of Israel, under Moses, were given God's Holy Days based on these growing seasons of the year (Leviticus 23).

To further impress this physical-spiritual relationship of God's Plan, Wonders of the A.C. Ranch was written. Its purpose is to acquaint the middle-elementary grade student (and younger, if it is read to him) with the reason for some of the wonders of God's marvelous creation as these are seen in an agricultural society.

Wonders of the A.C. Ranch is written in poetical form. This is intended to have special appeal to the young child who has enjoyed the meter of nursery rhymes and children's verses. The rhymes in this book will teach the child about God's creation and purpose. They are based on the Bible, which is the foundation of knowledge.

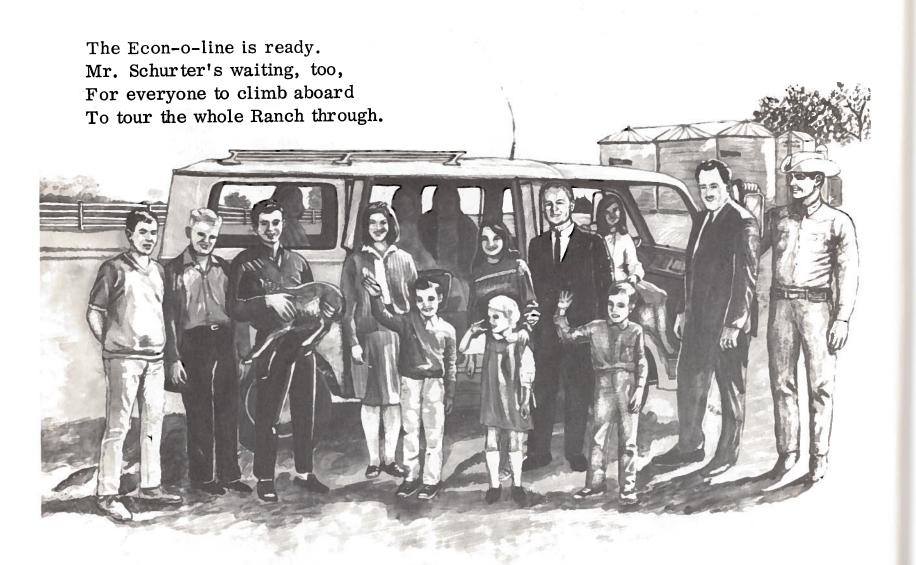
Humor has been mixed into these verses to entertain as well as educate. Words which may be new to the reader are explained in footnotes. The pictures were drawn to capture and illuminate the words—to bring them "to life" for the young reader. Learning in this pleasant and warm situation helps to reinforce the facts in a child's mind.

It is our intention that Wonders of the A.C. Ranch will accomplish the goal of further teaching the child the relationship between God's physical creation and spiritual salvation.



# WELCOME TO A.C. RANCH!







Mr. Schurter

Messrs. McCullough and Schurter Head the A.C. Ranch. Together they inspect it --Yes, every root and branch!

Continual improvement Everyday they see. All work together For farm prosperity.

God's Hand is seen at work here In every tree and herb. Each animal reflects the health Of care that is superb.

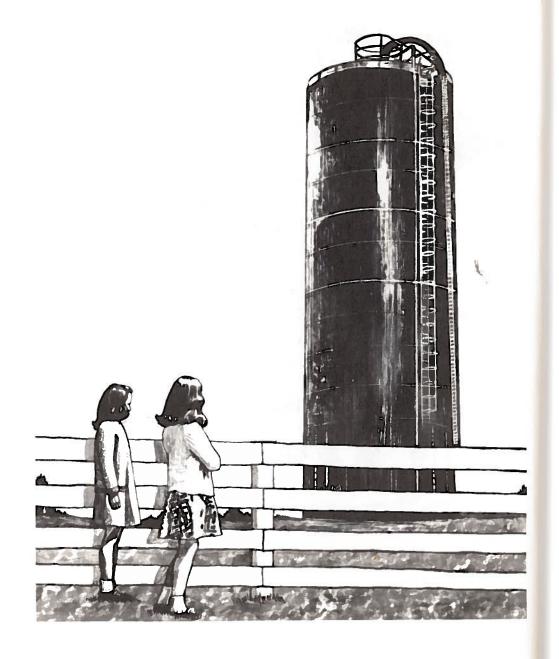


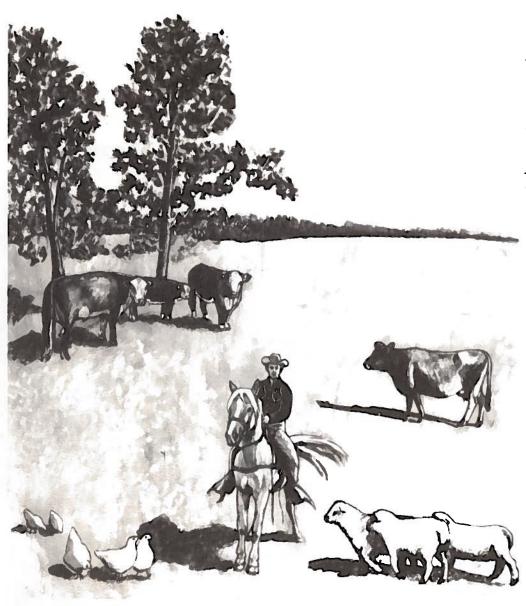
As you enter, the silos tall Are the first things you will eye. They contain the silage To keep the stock spry.

Silage is the grain that grew When summer was in bloom. Then at harvest it was placed In a silo "room."

All winter long the animals eat.
They really have their fill.
The silos are a blessing
To ward off hunger's ill.





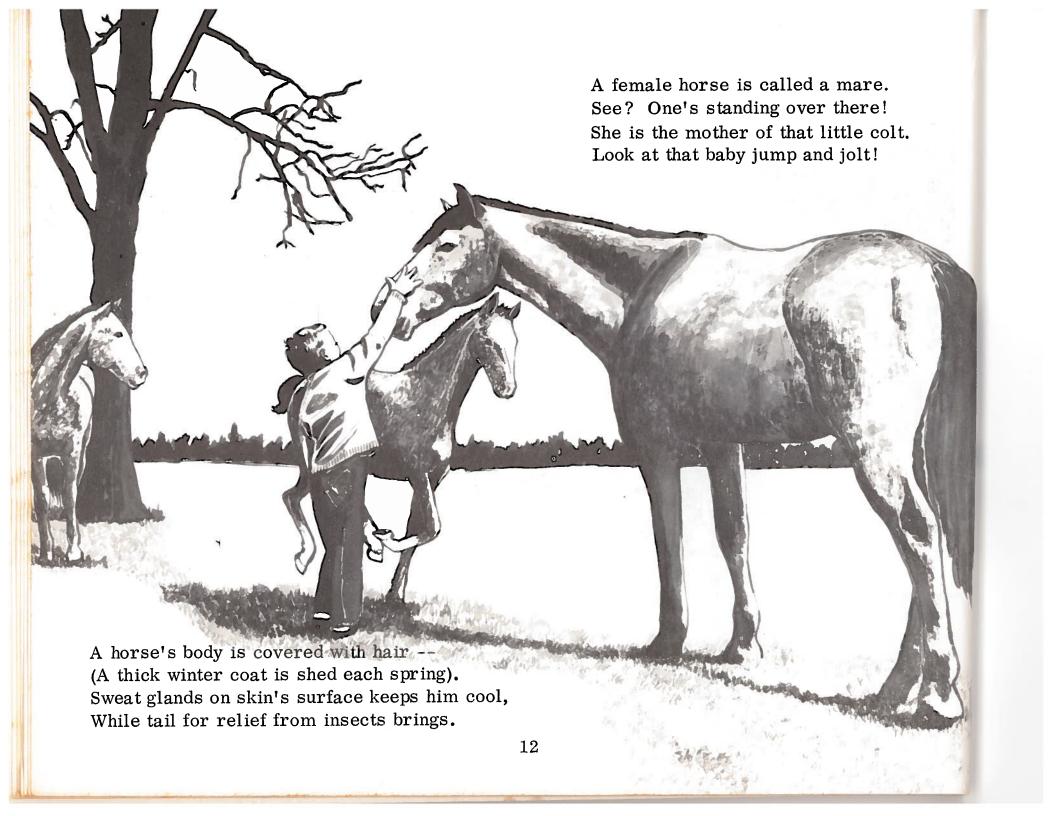


Animals of many kinds
Live on our A.C. Ranch.
There are cows, chickens, lambs,
And horses there that prance.

A horse is a necessity

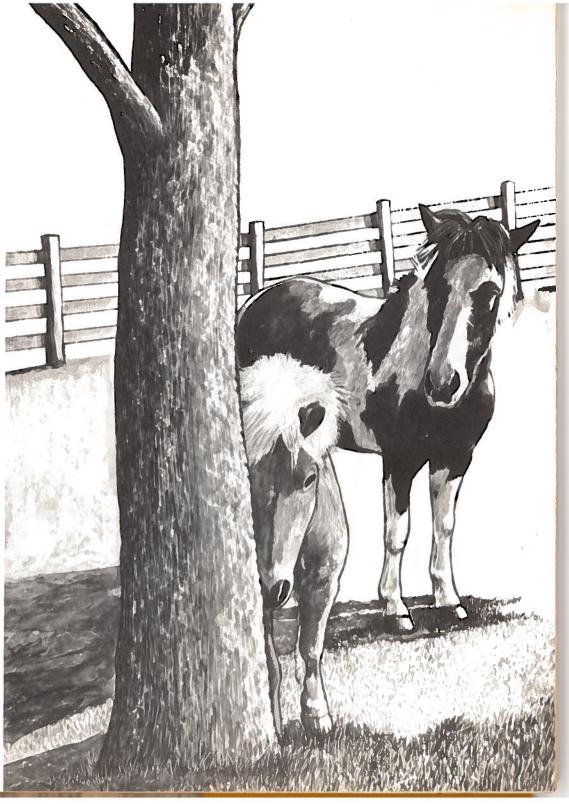
To have on growing farms.

He helps the farmers get around -Helps rest their legs and arms.



Ponies, too, are nice for riding. One is near us. See him hiding? Children love to mount and ride Ponies over the countryside.







Many animals are good to eat. Several you'll find here. Besides our cows and chickens, Nearby roam some deer!

A female deer is called a doe.

Here's one now, did you know?

She's the mother of little fawns.

Like all babies, it sleeps and yawns.





On our Ranch are many sheep.
(A female is a ewe.)
All day long they play and sleep.
They like that. Do you?

Among the most important animals We find listed sheep.
This is due to what they provide -- Woolen clothing as well as meat.

From very early history
Shepherds are found watching sheep.
A sign of Israelite nations
Is the number of sheep they keep!\*

Texas leads our country in sheep-raising. And domestic sheep vary greatly in size. While ewes weigh from 100 to 225 Rams go to 350 with no surprise!

Sheep are different from goats --They have no billy goat beard. And they have no "goaty" odor Which by so many is "feared"!

\*The United States and British Commonwealth in Prophecy, p. 177

#### SPRING

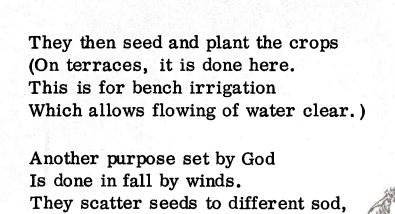
In the springing of the year God made His year to start.\* When here and there -- and EVERYWHERE! Little shoots open and part.

God made <u>four</u> beautiful seasons.
For each, various forces do show.
In early springtime, for example,
God sends WINDS to evaporate snow.

To evaporate means to turn to vapor, Or to disappear, or fade. This then happens to snow --And preparations for planting are made.

As these God even winds dry the ground And make it runt for each little plant,
Our farmers, feeling so refreshed,
Work hard - never saying "I can't"!

\*Exodus 12:2



Their flight is made easy
As God gives some seeds "wings."
And others have silky "parachutes"
Which glide each as it swings.

And reproducing then begins.

When the seeds are in the ground, God sends rain in this due season. We've long heard of "April" shows Is not this the real reason? A display of "Texas" lightning Can be at first most frightening To those who little know That God has made it so!

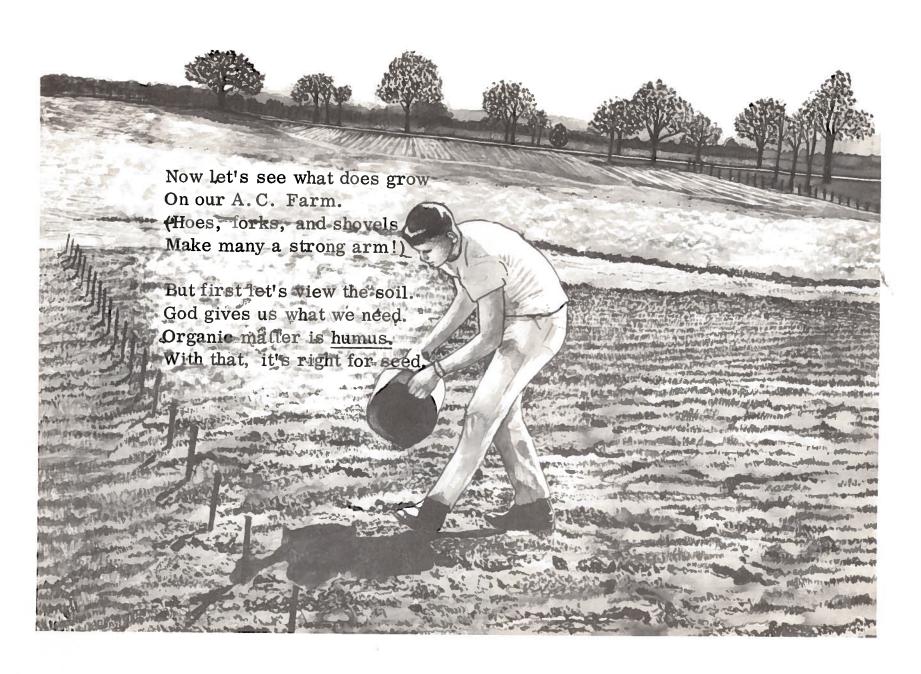
For if we take precautions --Leave lake; don't stand near tree --Lightning should not hurt us. Its purpose then we'll see:

As it journeys round the skies Nitrogen it then supplies To the waiting, longing ground Shaking from the thunder sound.

Fiery lacework in the night
That fills the blackening sky with light
Is very useful, not a fright -It helps to keep the soil right!

For out of God's vast storehouse Comes lightning, thunder, rain. These with frost, hail, wind and snow Are for the earth to gain.\*

\*Psalm 148:8



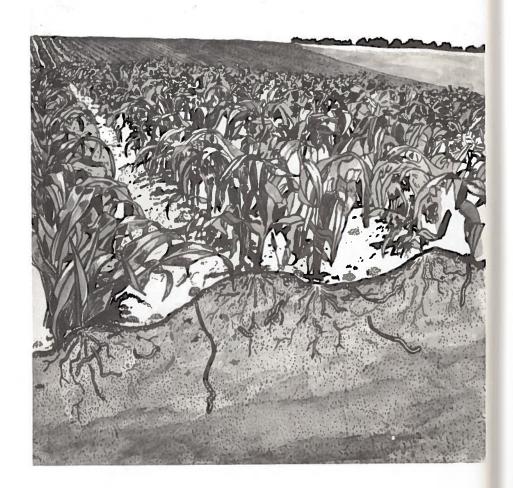
On this Farm all is neat.

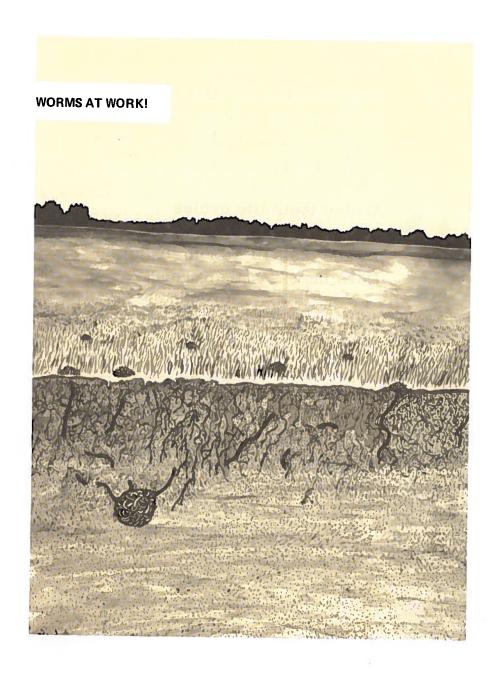
The rows are very straight.

And in the ground -- Look! we see

Earthworms as they aerate!

Earthworms and bacteria Are very good for soil. Without them, from Creation Gardens all would spoil.





With few equals as a chemist, Each wiggly worm underground Churns the earth into topsoil. (Each year near half a pound!)

He blends vegetable matter
From surface to ground below
And brings virgin subsoil up
Where plants can use it to grow.

What "wiggly" eats emerges
In little clumps called "castings."
Yet besides all he does
He still takes time for "fastings."

In winter, below the frost line He does head -- for his cozy bed. Gathering with his fellows Into a ball they spread.



Insects are a big part
Of Texas, it is true!
But did you know they contribute
To keeping soil "new"?

Within their life cycles
Some ninety-five per cent
Invade the soil at some point.
Does that "pay their rent"?

Add to these the burrowing animals: Gophers, muskrats, moles. As you tour the country, Have you seen their holes?

Aerate means "to expose to air"
And that's what holes do.
By these openings roots are reached
With air and morning dew.

Dew is water vapor
That sticks to plants at night.
When plants lose heat and get cold
We find this "condensed" sight.

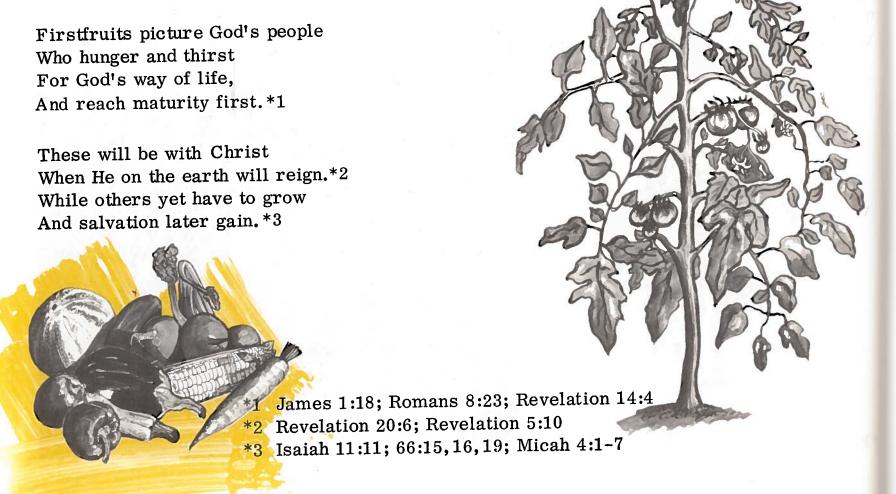
Before long, a few hardy fruits
Are seen on each little stem.
These God calls the FIRSTFRUITS
Which we give as an offering to Him.\*



\*Exodus 23:19, 34:26, Nehemiah 10:35



But most will grow on and ripen Through summer's heat and rain. Then God sends the Fall harvest Of vegetables, fruits, and grain.



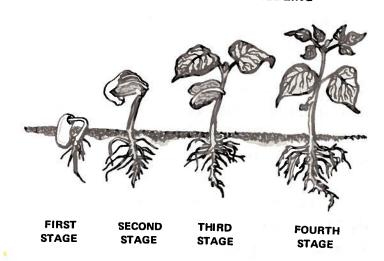


**BANANA PLANT** 

Have you wondered how a plant grows -How it grows from tiny seed?
First it's put in soil.
Then water, air and light will need.

God made the plant to grow; He provided for it all. He set within each tiny seed LIFE -- to mature it tall.

### **GROWTH OF A BEAN SEEDLING**



In the spring the flowers bloom.
The Farm is so alive!
And look! The honeybees
Are buzzing round their hive.

Bees make honey from the nectar They carry from flower to flower. Take a peek into their hive; They're busy every hour!

Into a "honey" stomach Goes the nectar bee did suck. And the pollen it will gather On rear legs will tuck.

When the bee has a full load, The shortest route it takes To return to the beehive. A beeline it makes!

Thirteen thousand miles of traveling By bees may be done To make a <u>pound</u> of honey! That's right! Just one!



Happy music fills spring air As new life bounds everywhere. All are gay and full of song, Praising God the whole day long!

Have you heard the frogs?
How they like to sing!
Like you, they have vocal cords
And use them in the spring!

Here we see a frog.

No, he really isn't ill!

But his spring trill

Caused his vocal sacs to fill.

He had been this wiggly tadpole
Which had lived in our Lake without care.
He then lost his tail, grew legs without fail,
And changed gills to lungs to breathe air!

Frogs use the floor of their mouths To fill their lungs with air. In males, the vocal sacs Empty and fill. See there?



Cricket, too, his song sings (Which is made by rubbing wings). He adds to the sounds of spring -- Sounds that make our hearts to ring!

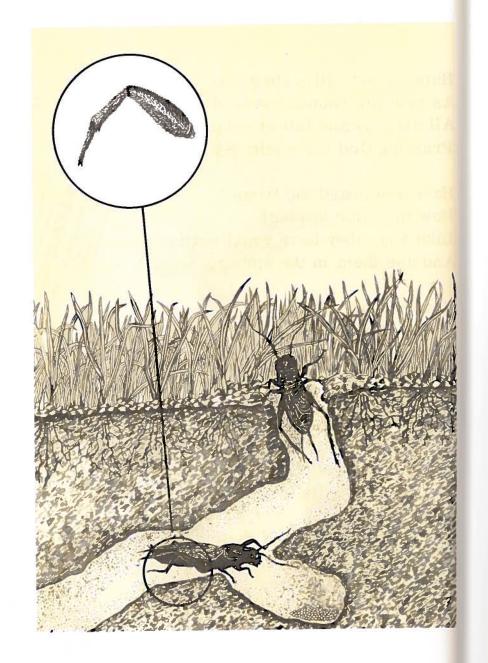
But only the male produces "song" (Though the female hears it all along). Having eardrums near their knees-A stranger sight one seldom sees!

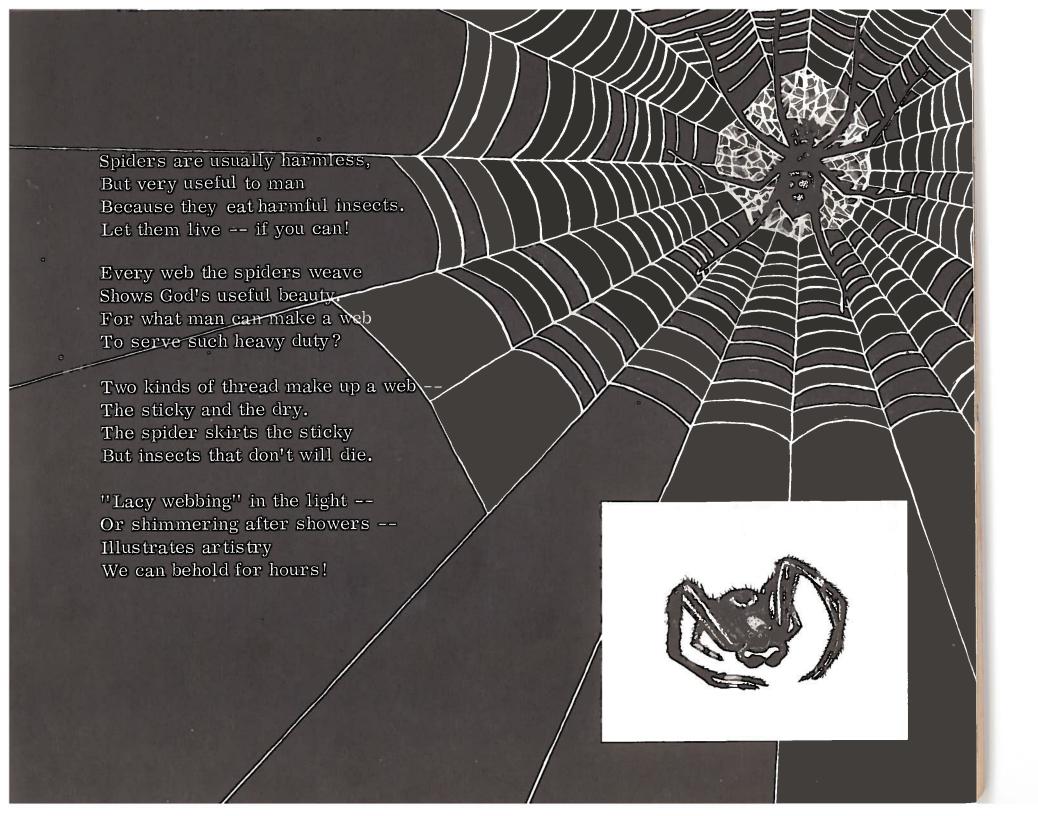
Using wings as fiddle and bow
Male plays fast (and sometimes slow).
Female lacks music-making veins
While male "strains" on grassy plains.

Staying sheltered while it's light In search of food he goes at night. Vegetable matter is his usual cuisine\* But eating clothing he's been seen!

Many enemies has the cricket To balance God's Creation. Screech owl, beetle, ant, and snake Are some that claim this station.

\*cuisine (kwi zēn'); meal, type of food



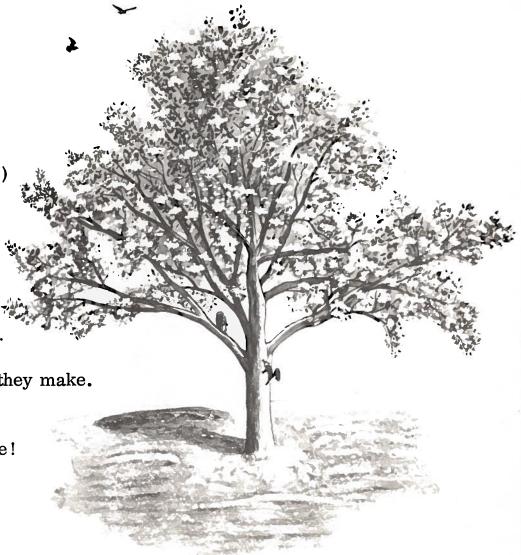


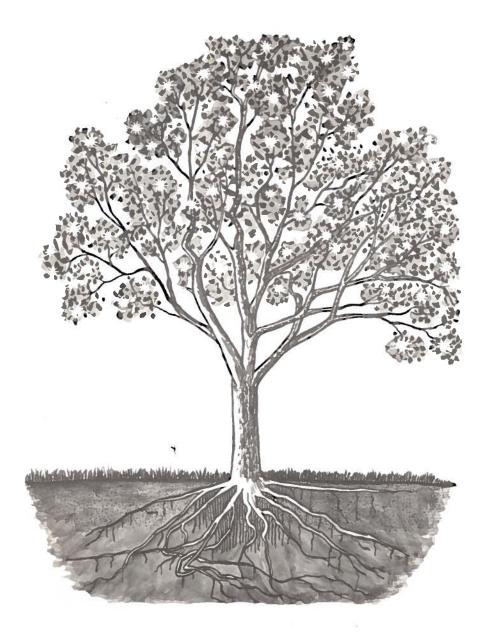
Among God's many beauties
Is the stately, kingly Tree.
Towering above the other plants
It's an inspiring sight to see!

A tree knows when to sprout.
(When cold weather is dispersed.)
Then we see new tree buds
Majestically swell and burst.

Leaves make their own food From water and from air. The heat of the sun does the work. And the product's for us to share.

We need this sugar, or glucose, they make. We need it to keep us alive. God made plants for us to eat. Without them we could not survive!



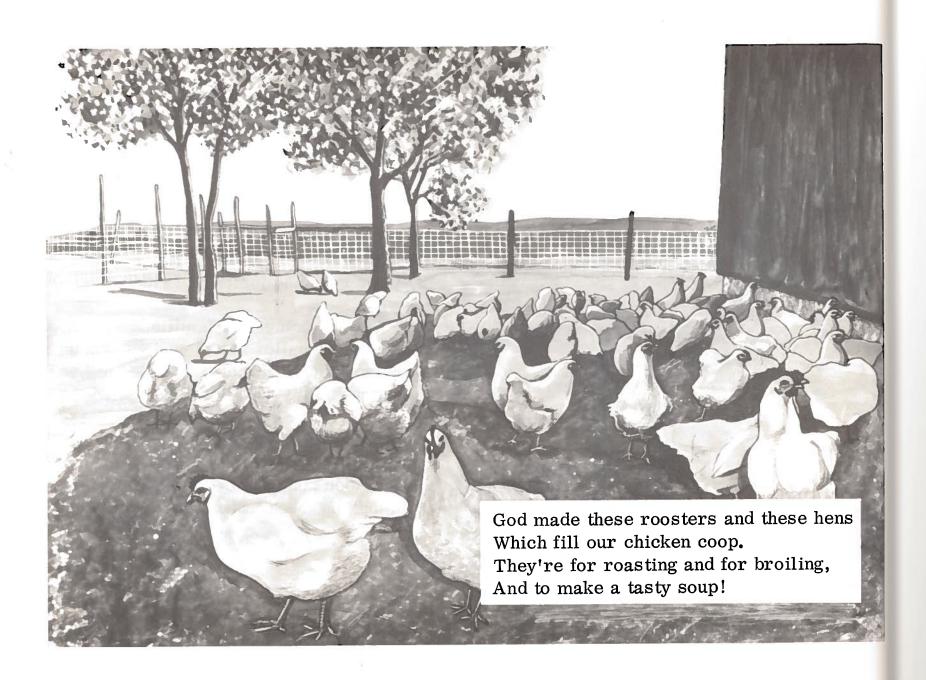


Many parts make up a tree: Trunk, branches, limbs, and roots. Also, bark, twigs, and leaves, The blossoms and the fruits.

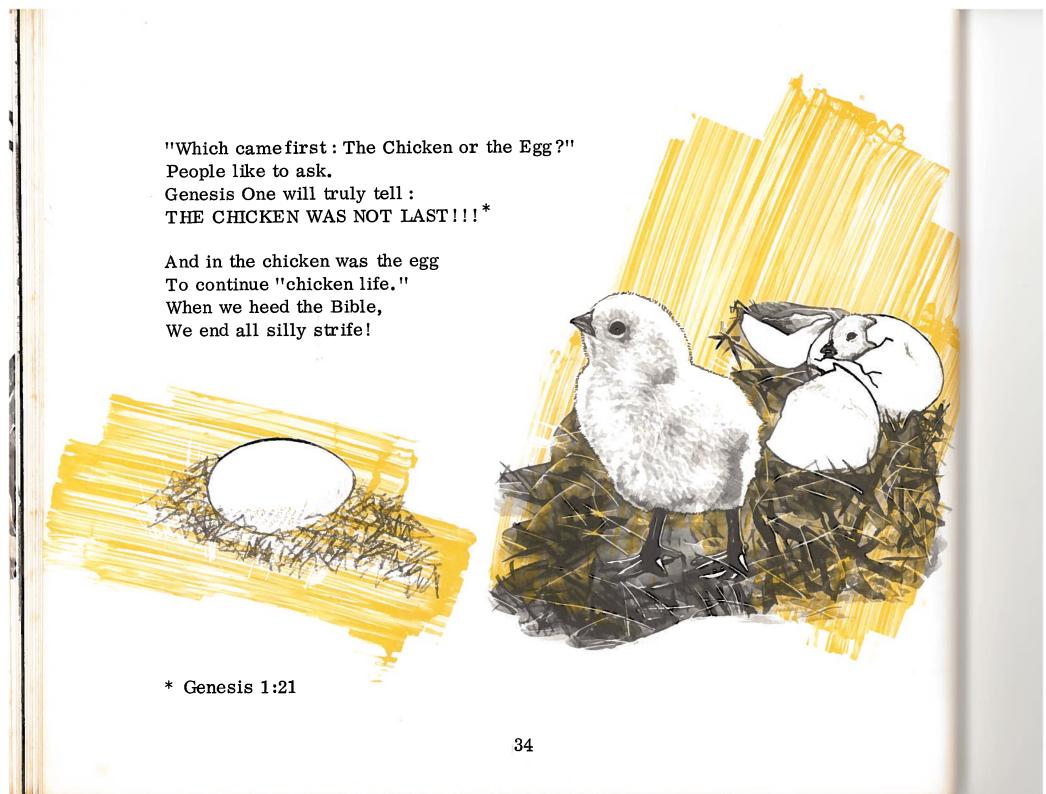
Besides its unique beauty,
The tree to one provides
Oxygen pure to fill his lungs
As he runs and jumps and rides.

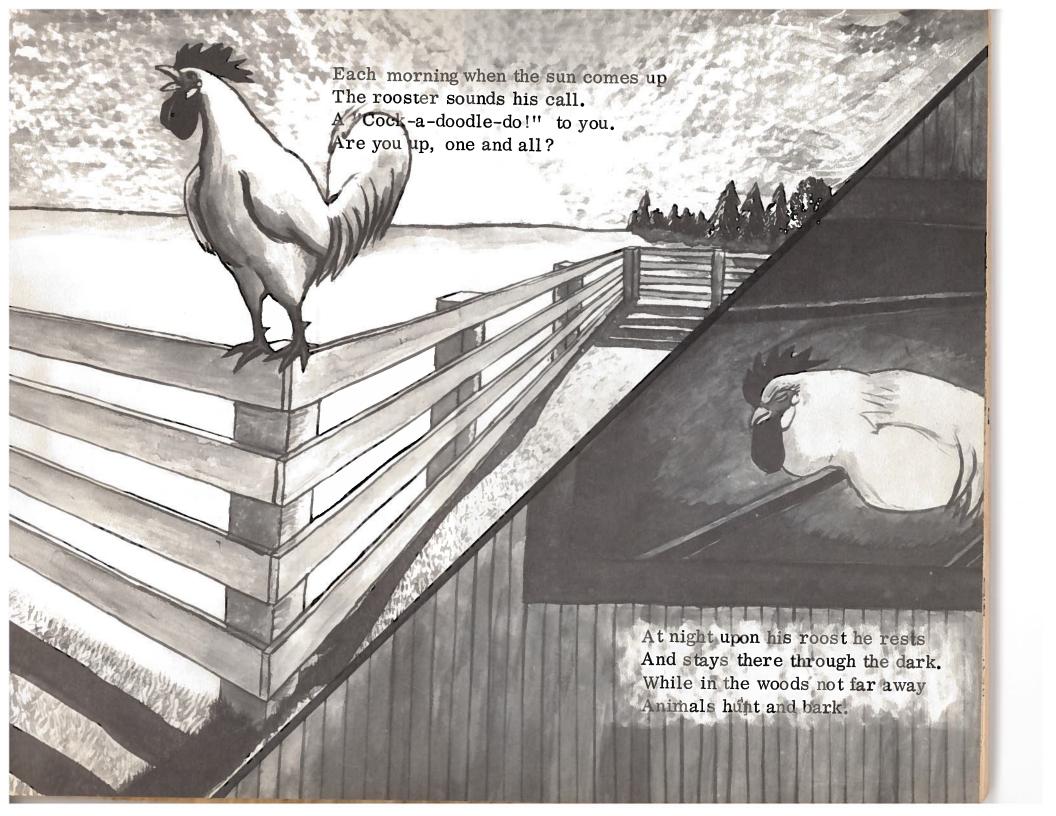
A tree is "home" for families Of owls, smaller birds, and squirrels. So next time you view its varied leaves, Be thankful, young Boys and Girls!

For indeed "God made the tree"
And He made it for all to see
How good and balanced is His Plan
In making trees to benefit man.











Raccoon and armadillo
Owl (and other fowl)
Come out by night to seek and fight.
They prowl until it's light.

God filled the woods with animals -- (So many it's difficult to count)!
Rabbit, opossum, fox, wolf are some.
And ferrets seek prairie dogs out!

A prairie dog is a rodent. It digs, reverses self, and pops out. Then it sits up and barks Before quickly playing about!

Plants and grasses are his food And the sun he does enjoy. And every day he'll dig and play Just like a little boy?? On a very pleasant morn
This calf came on the scene.
Like her mother, when she's grown,
She'll give us milk and cream.

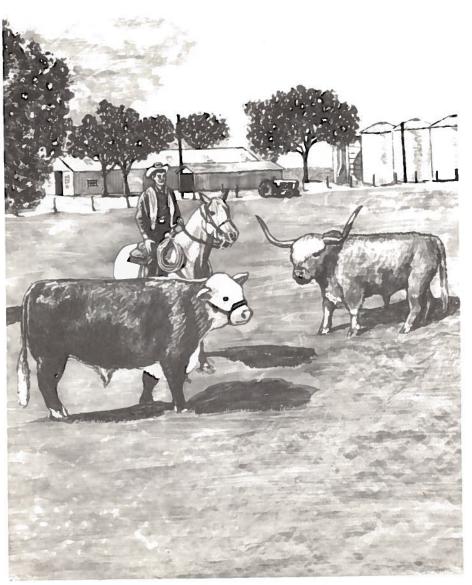
To give us milk a cow must be At least two years of age And she must give birth to a calf To reach this milking stage.

Then for a year rich milk she'll give -- She'll give a good supply.

Then she must have <u>another</u> calf

Or her supply will dry!

Some kind of cows give more than others.
Holsteins give the most of cows.
But their milk isn't very creamy -Here Jerseys and Guernseys "take the bows"



In a nearby pasture green
Stands "beefy " -- Sam the Bull.
He weighs some eighteen hundred pounds.
He must eat until he's full!

And here are Scottish Highlanders
Who in <u>cold</u> weather thrive.
Yet here in hotter Texas



#### SUMMER

Summer is the growing season
When all is green and in full bloom.
And insects sing in a summer chorus.
Listen! You'll hear more than one tune.

Each insect has its own song or moan Given by God to be all his own. Each thereby does call his mate. Look and you'll find them on field and gate!

But all the sounds they make are mechanical As no insect has a voice.

Sounding like sounds from an orchestra

We all have our favorite choice.

For beetles burrow and tap their heads While mosquitoes' vibrating wings hum. And katydids hang high in a tree While they rub their wings and strum.

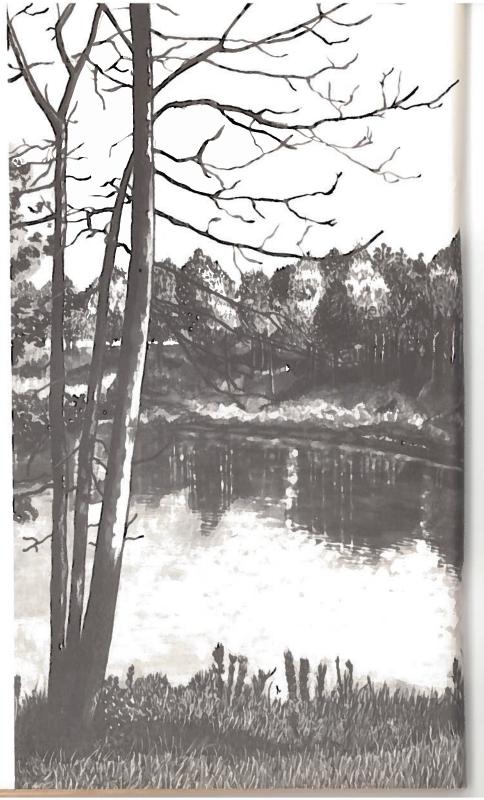
Rolling hills do mark the scene
Of our many pastures green.
And as God said He'd supply -Bubbling streams do flow thereby.

Water is a blessing from God Which we at A.C. hold dear. And God showers down all that we need While towns are dry which are near.

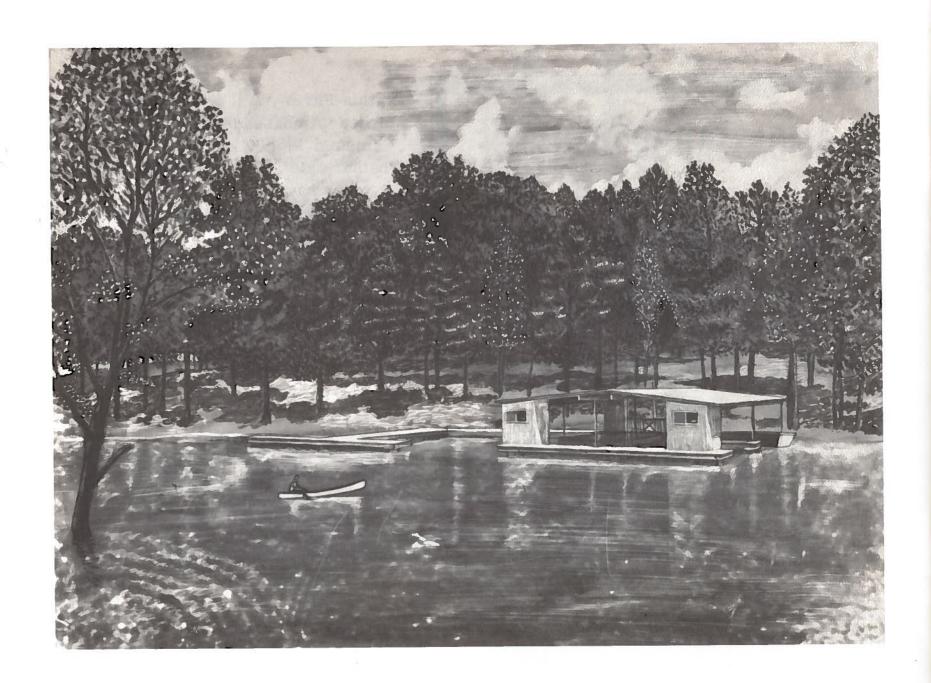
Just where it was decided A dam should be built, Our construction crew, to their surprise, Found God had laid clay and silt!

More and more we can see by evidence so free Which is here and throughout and around,
That God had long planned for this College
and Ranch -Even to the preparing of ground!

At the A.C. this balance is kept With God's Laws we always comply. If we do not, like others we've seen, Our A.C. would likewise be dry!







We might say it's a part of The Ranch, as it's so near --Our glistening Lake, full of fish Which swim in water clear.

Each day they jump and splash about Making ripples on the Lake. And on the shore (a little more) Tiny "waves" come to break.

Our Lake does not have tides.
Our Lake knows no big waves.
Unlike an ocean with powerful might,
Our Lake calmly "behaves."

Flying, skimming, swimming On the Lake fine ducks are seen. One even goes to visit homes And "quacks" up to the screen.

With beak a-pecking, he does beg For bread and other food. Then with a look, wings erect, He glides back to his brood.

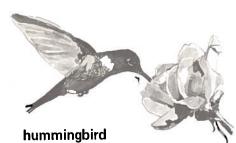




owl



blue jay

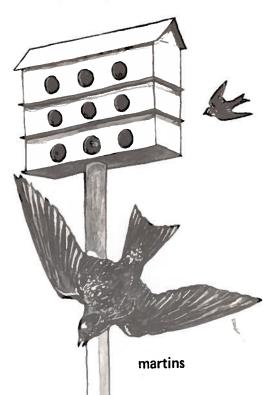


Beside and all around us Are birds of every hue. Here for your bird-watching Are some (but just a few)!

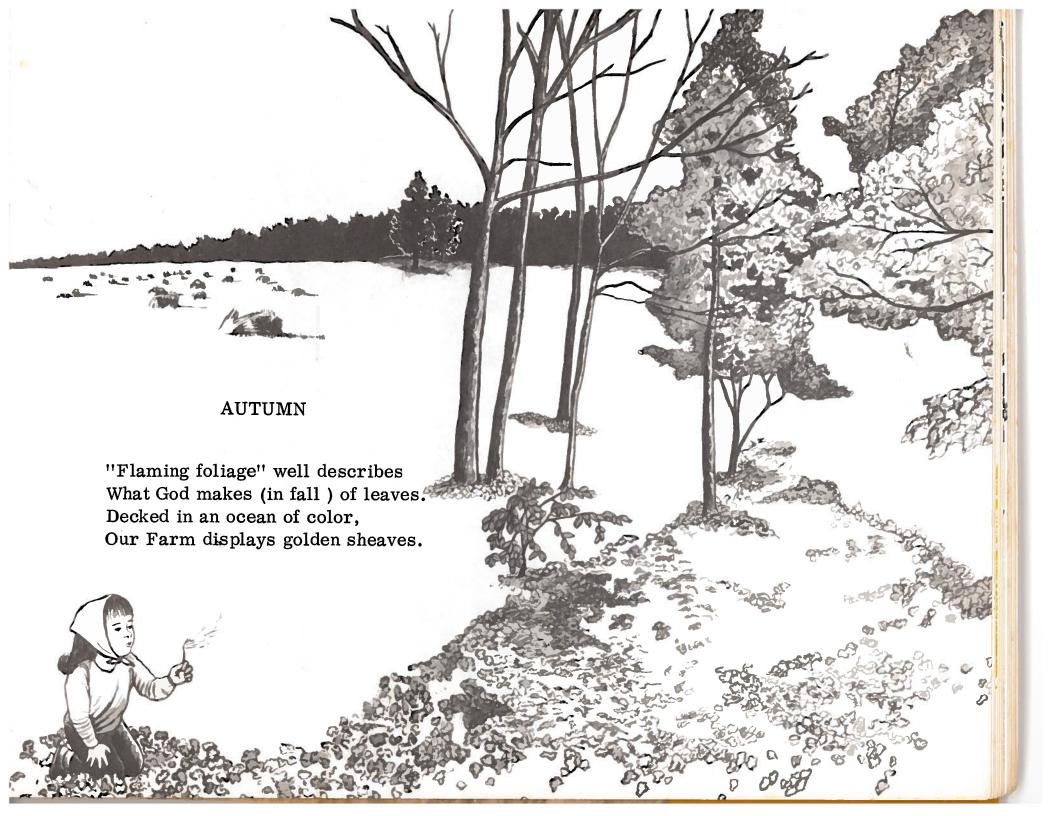
Birds keep down weeds, Insect pests and mice. They also sing such pleasing songs. Isn't that nice?

A hummingbird can fly like a helicopter--Forward, straight-up, or in one spot. That God created aeronautics\* Birds keep displaying a lot!





\*aeronautics (âr'ə nô'tiks); science of flight



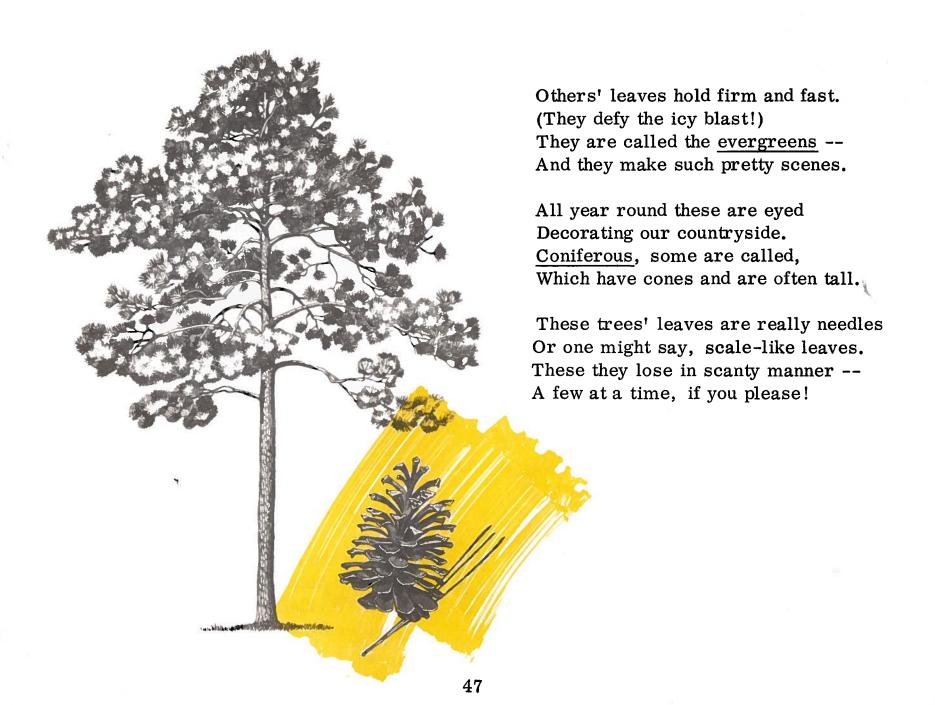
Why do the leaves of some trees Turn yellow, red and brown Just before God's icy weather Sends them falling down?

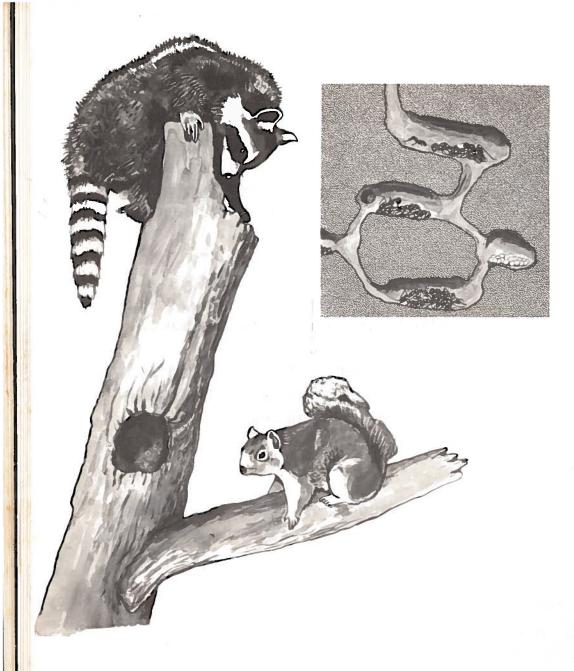
In autumn, the sap of trees
To the roots does run.
Leaves, left without this food,
Fall down, one by one!

Those that fall at autumn's call Are named <u>deciduous</u>.
Their leaves do lay and then decay Forming humus day by day.

Framed in golden radiance,
The Farm's a wonder to behold!
(But soon the barren winter
Will have its beauty with the cold!)







The animals know to prepare for winter. Raccoons grow fat so they can sleep. Squirrels gather nuts and hide them Before the snow gets deep.

Those which nap while winter raps Are said to <u>hibernate</u>.

Many sleep within the ground
Till snow evaporates.

Ants cluster together
And spend the winter sleeping,
But not before they've gathered
Food -- stored for their safe-keeping.

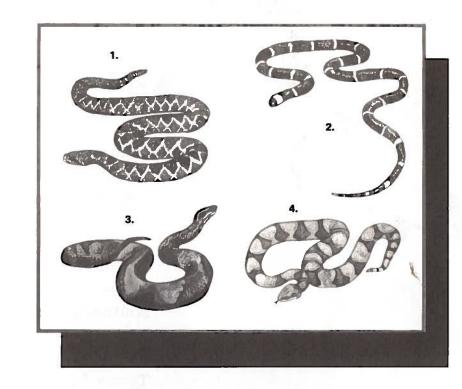
As we are told in Proverbs 6 In harvest, ant does gather. From this insect we should learn To plan and save -- not scatter.

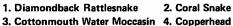
For on the earth are ants Red and black and brown. Tasks divide, while in colonies thrive And for farmers break up the ground. Snakes in spring and summer Atop the earth did slither. Now "bedding down" in protective ground Leave tracks and skins to whither.

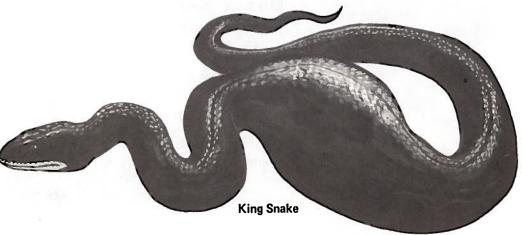
A snake may coil around a rat And squeeze it to its death. He'll tighten on this nearing meal Till the rat has lost its breath.

Then the snake will swallow it Whole -- all in one big bite! Moving through snake's slender body It makes a lumpy sight.

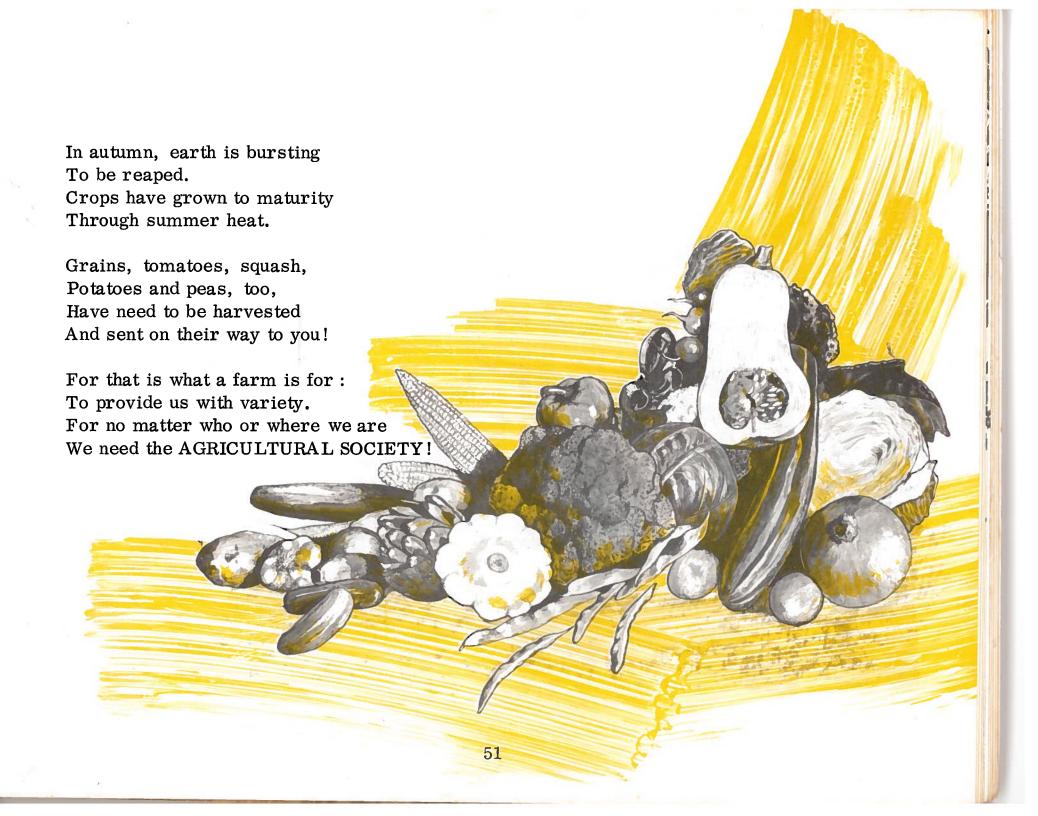
On this Ranch are many snakes —
The harmful and the mild.
You should recognize each kind
And be a knowledgeable child!

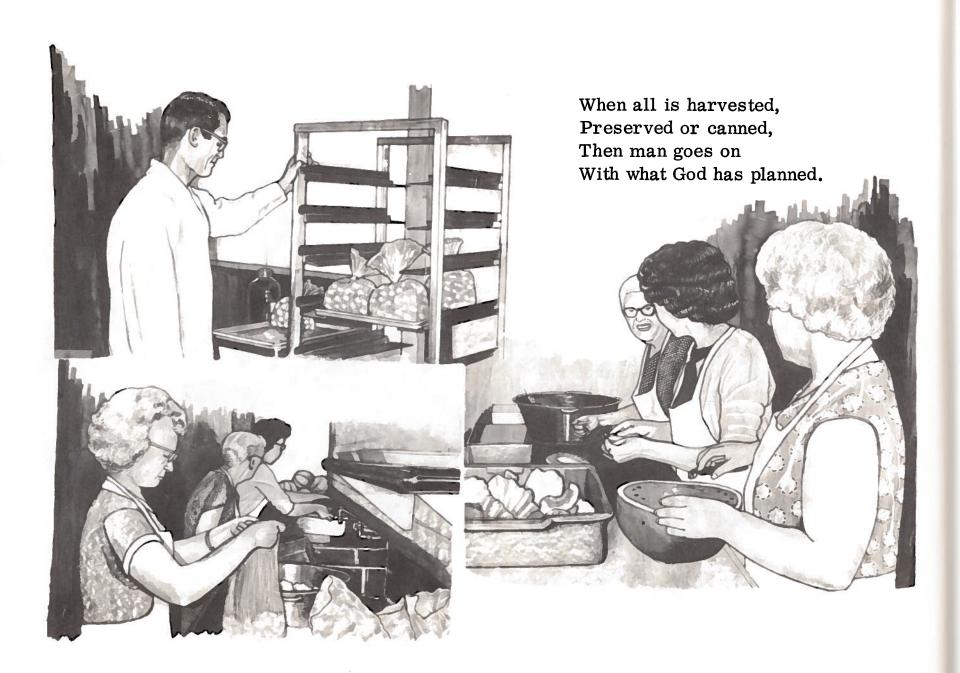








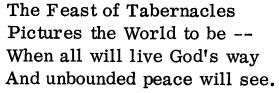




A week of rejoicing Is His Command\* To praise Him for Our bountiful land!











\* Deuteronomy 16:13-17; Leviticus 23:40-41

#### WINTER

When the air is very damp
And the ground is freezing cold,
Waterdrops get cold -- then colder
Then turn to frosty molds.

Frost is usually formed at night When it is brisk and clear.
Formations of art work
Are seen this time of year.

Delicate and lovely
Patterns made of ice
Coat plants and blades of grass
With layers of winter's spice.

For sparkling icy crystals Spread into feathery sprays. Coiling on windowpanes, These are wintry days.

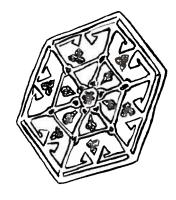








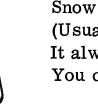
In winter all the Farm does rest; Earth is dormant -- most plants "sleep." Deep in the ground roots are securely steeped, Covered by snow that may be very deep.





When water vapor in clouds freezes, Shimmering ice crystals form. When this freezing does occur, We're in for a winter storm!





Snow crystal has a special shape (Usually smooth and flat.) It always has six corners. You can tell a snowflake by that!















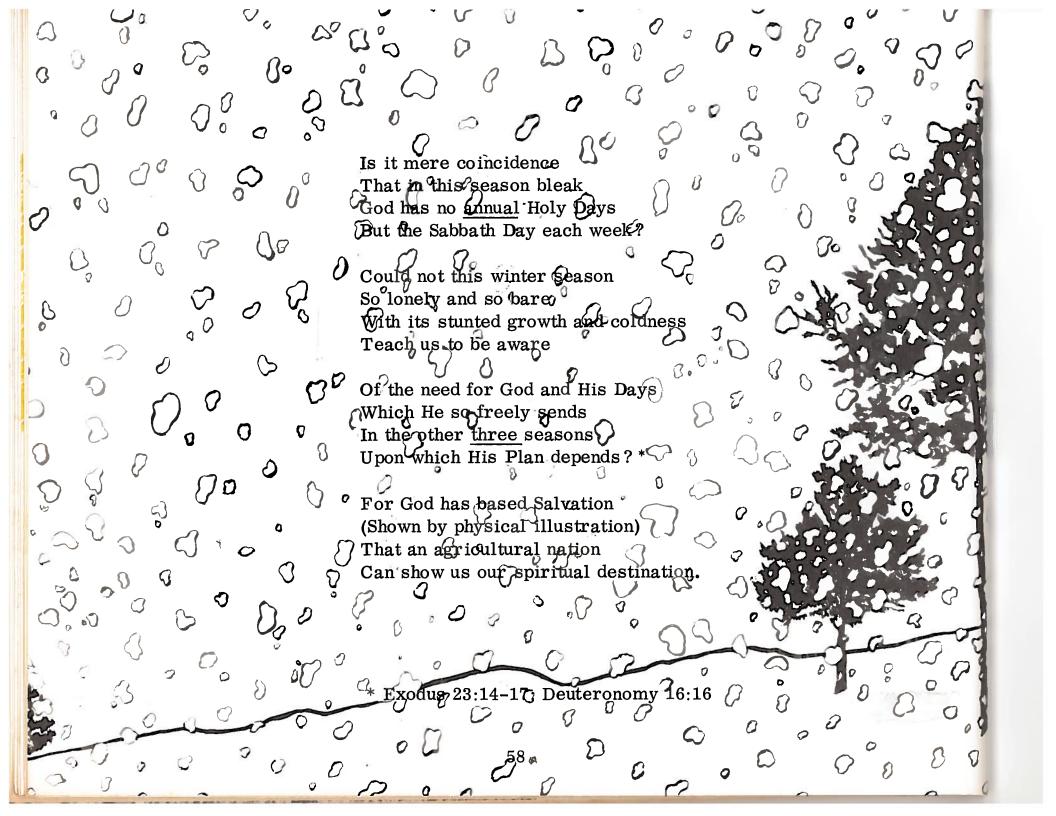
Here six-cornered snowflakes
By wind are tossed and twirled.
Piled on top of meadows,
Bushes look as if they're "curled."

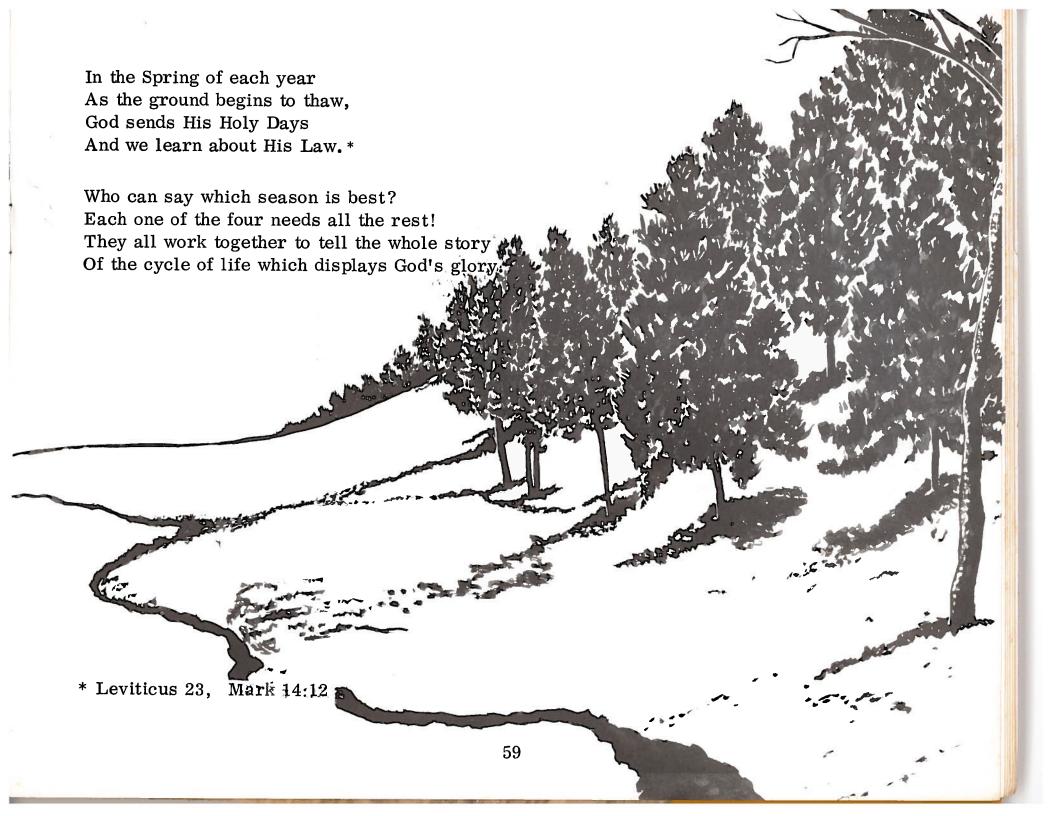
"God giveth snow like wool
And scattereth the hoarfrost like ashes."\*
In this cold and icy season
We wear galoshes and our sashes!

Earth is cloaked in a mantle of white --Sunshiny by day and glistening by night! The moon and the stars in their array bright Twinkle the meadows with their lesser light.



\*Psalm 147:16



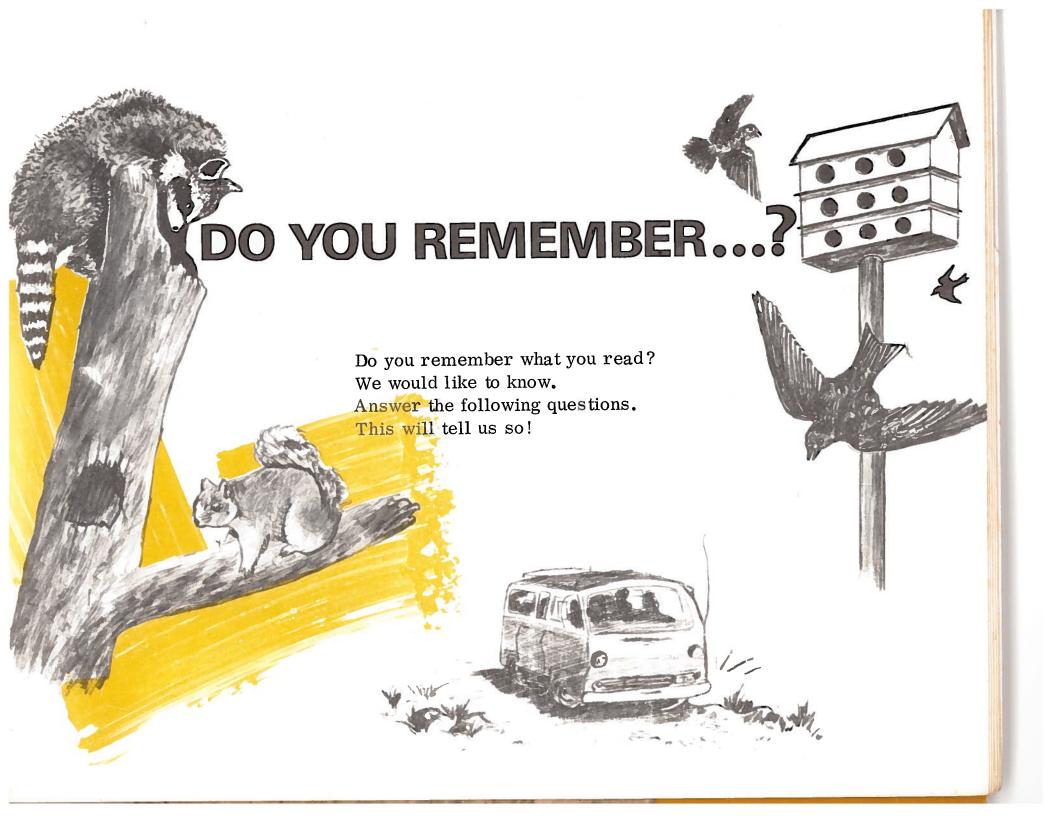


Our thanks to Mr. Schurter Who drove us on this tour. As we jostled in Econ-o-line Was it land or air? Are we sure?

On unpaved roads and no paths at all We bumped, as he explained About the land and creatures Which God has made and claimed.

For indeed we saw God's wonders As we toured the A.C. through. It's been so much fun for us. We hope it's been for you!





1. Whose Hand is seen at work at the A.C. Ranch?

Glode

2. What is silage?



3. Where is the silage stored?



4. What is a female in the horse family called?



5. What is a baby horse called?



1. Name at least three clean animals on the Ranch.



2. What is a female sheep called?



- 3. In what season does God's year start?
- 4. What are the functions of wind?

5. How do seeds easily travel from one place to another?



- 1. Why does God send showers in the spring - "in due season"?
- 2. Of what use is lightning? Explain.

it supplies mitrogon to

3. Name some of the benefits that come from God's vast storehouse.

4. What is humus?

5. Of what use are earthworms?

- 1. How do insects and burrowing animals help the soil?
- 2. What is dew?

3. What are firstfruits? Explain physically and spiritually.

- 4. What is needed for a seed to grow (germinate)?
- 5. From what is honey made?

bee

- 1. What do frogs use to sing?
- 2. How does a cricket "sing"?
- 3. Where are the cricket's eardrums?

4. What do spiders eat?

5. How do leaves make their own food?

1. Name the parts of a tree.



2. Name some of the uses of trees.



3. Explain which came first - - "the chicken or the egg."



4. Name some animals found in the woods.

5. How old must a cow be before she gives milk?

- 1. What kind of cows give creamy milk?
- 2. Do insects have voices? Explain.
- 3. Does a lake have tides?

4. Of what benefit are birds?

5. What bird flies like a helicopter?

1. Why do leaves dry and fall down?

- 2. What is the name given to trees that lose leaves?
- 3. What are trees that bear cones called?

pune

- 4. What insect is mentioned in Proverbs 6?
- 5. How do snakes spend the winter?

1. What is soaring of birds to their winter habitat called?

migrating

- 2. Who needs the agricultural society?
- 3. After all is harvested, what is man to do?
- 4. How is frost formed?

5. How many corners do all snowflakes have?

Na

1. Are there any annual Holydays during the winter?

Which season is the best?

more because dut mate them all

#### VOCABULARY

Explain the meaning of these words. Use the dictionary if necessary.

3. A. aerate

Tio Alie plagua of

B. aeronautics

science of Shart

C. cuisine

D. deciduous

4.	A.	destination	
4	In	e place you are to	icelury to
	₹0	evaporate  two to water and go  foliage  leaves of a plant	auxie
5.	- LQ	iostled wiggiled	unden
	<b>B.</b>	sheaves Surooved wheel	
	C.	slither slide, bump. smolee like action	
	<b>D.</b>	thaw	

# INDEX

_	<b>D</b>
Page	Page
Agricultural Society 51	Leaves 30-31, 46-47
Animals of the Woods 36	Lightning 18
Autumn 45	Messrs. McCullough and Schurter 9
Bees 26	Ponies
Birds 44, 50	Rain, Water
Burrowing Animals	Ranch
Cows and Bulls 37-38	Roosters and Hens 32-35
Crickets	Seeds 17, 25
Deer 14	Sheep
Dew	Silos 10
Ducks	Snakes 49
Earthworms 20-21	Snow Crystal 55, 57
Feast of Tabernacles	Spiders 29
Firstfruits	Spring 16
Frogs 27	Summer 39
Frost	Tests
God's Seasons 58-59	Trees 30-31, 46-47
Hibernating Animals and Insects 48	Vocabulary
Horses11, 12	Welcome to A.C. Ranch 7
Humus 19	Winds 16, 17
Insects 22, 39, 48	Winter 54
Lake 42	