

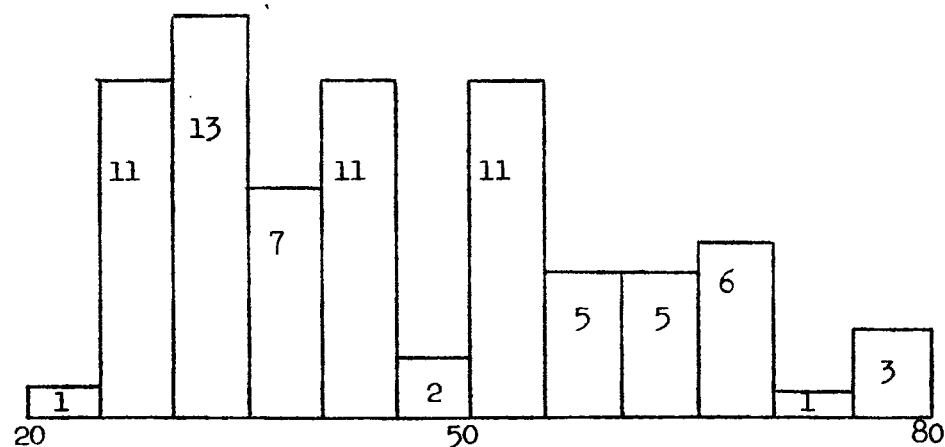
EDITORIAL

"The perfect naturalist is one who is always reverent yet never superstitious, wondering at the commonest, yet never surprised by the most strange... holding every phenomenon worth the noting down; believing that every pebble holds a treasure, every bud, a revelation; making it a point of conscience to pass over nothing through laziness, lest the vision once offered and despised should be withdrawn, and looking at every object as if he were never to behold it more."

....Charles Kingsley

Sooner or later every well-regulated publication finds its pages adorned by a more or less comprehensible graph. There seems no reason why the Proceedings should be an exception.

The graph given below, based on our complete membership (Honorary, Active and Corresponding) shows the number of individuals falling within five-year age groups, from 20 to 80.



P R O G R A M M E S

Proceedings Nos. 1 and 2 included Programmes for the Club Year (Sept. to May) and the Annual Report for the Calendar Year. To synchronize these items the Club has decided that henceforth the Proceedings should tabulate programmes of the Calendar Year. To accomplish this without omissions this number presents all programmes from September 21, 1937 to December 13, 1938.

276th Meeting - Sept. 21st, 1937: Chairman, Baillie. "Report on Annual Field Day" Rutter; Nominations; Observations and Reviews.

277th Meeting - Oct. 5, 1937: Chairman, Allin. Elections: Secretary - Rutter; Committees:
Membership - Snyder, Coventry, Thompson;
Programme - Oughton, Cross, Logier;
Conservation - Emery, Baillie, Shortt;
Editorial - Snyder, Shortt, Rutter;
Library - McDougall, Bell, Downing,
Hadwen, Brown.

Observations and Reviews.

278th Meeting - Oct. 19, 1937: Chairman, Bell. "Sir John Richardson", Dymond; "The Northwest Coast Sharp-shinned Hawk", Snyder; Observations and Reviews.

279th Meeting - Nov. 2, 1937: Chairman, Brodie. "The Sphynx Moth Invasion", Corfe; "Spiders", Kurata; "Bird Banding", Southam; Observations and Reviews.

280th Meeting - Nov. 16th, 1937: Chairman, Coventry. "The Waterfowl Situation", Baillie and Shortt; "Roosevelt, on Concealing Coloration", Harrington; "The Malacologists' Convention", Oughton; Observations and Reviews.

281st Meeting - Nov. 30, 1937: Chairman, Cross. "The Charleston Meeting of the A.O.U.", Fleming and Snyder; "Waterton vs. Audubon", Fleming.

282 Meeting - Dec. 14, 1937: Chairman, Emery. "Pyramids of Numbers", Coventry; "Inland Eskimos, and Other Remarks", McIlwraith; "Rediscovery of the Phillipine Parrot Finch", Hurlburt.

283rd Meeting - Jan. 4, 1938: Chairman - Devitt. "Christmas Bird Census, 1937", Rutter; "Catscradles", Coventry (with an appropriate introduction by McIlwraith, an appreciation by Cross and a trophy award by Oughton); Observations and Reviews.

284th Meeting - Jan. 18, 1938: Chairman - Downing. "Seasonal Reports for 1937", See Proc. No. 2, pp. 6-7.

285th Meeting - Feb. 1, 1938: Chairman, Hope. "Early History of Taxonomy", Coventry; Observations and Reviews.

286th Meeting - Feb. 15, 1938: Chairman - Fallis. "Trends in Taxonomy", Dymond.

287th Meeting - Mar. 1, 1938: Chairman - Southam. "Letters from Corresponding Members", Hope. "Notes on, Trip to Florida", Ussher; "Winter Bird Records from Simcoe County", Devitt; "Nest Habits of Young Kingfishers", White; "Life and Work of Rassmussen", McIlwraith.

288th Meeting - March 15, 1938: Chairman - Urquhart. "Earthworms", Downing; "Molluscs", Oughton.

289th Meeting - March 29, 1938: Chairman - Dymond. "On the Taxonomy and Evolution of Arthropods", Walker. Observations and Reviews.

290th Meeting - Apr. 12, 1938: Chairman, Logier. "A Trip to the West Indies & N. South America", Harrington; "The History and Distribution of the Evening Grosbeak", Baillie; "Variations in the Yellow Warbler", Hope.

291st Meeting - Apr. 26, 1938: Chairman, Lewis. "The Rehabilitation Survey in King Township", Mr. K. Mayall.

292nd Meeting - May 10, 1938: Chairman - Prince. "Bigalke's Naturalization of Animals in S. Africa", Lindsay; "Bird Census Work in King Township", Ussher; "Moving Pictures of Birds", Devitt.

SUMMER

293rd Meeting - Sept. 20th, 1938: Chairman, Baillie. "Report on Annual Field Day", Rutter; Nominations; Observations and Reviews.

294th Meeting - Oct. 4, 1938: Chairman, Bell. Elections - Secretary - Rutter; Committees:
Membership - Snyder, Coventry, Thompson;
Programme - Hope, Devitt, Urquhart;
Conservation - Brodie, Emery, McIlwraith;
Editorial - Snyder, Shortt, Rutter;
Library - McDougall, Bell, Brown.
Observations and Reviews.

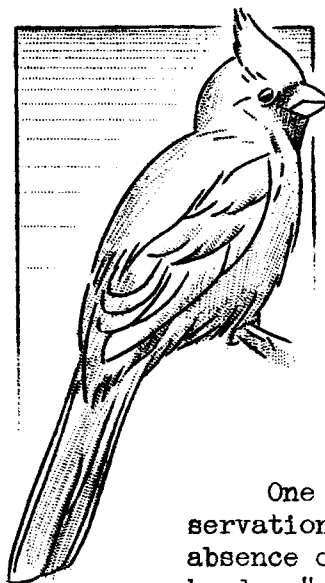
295th Meeting - Oct. 18, 1938: Chairman - Brodie. "F.R. Latchford", Oughton; "Discovery of Butler's Garter Snake in Ontario", Logier; "Fish in their relation to Man", McIlwraith; Observations and Reviews.

296th Meeting - Nov. 1, 1938: Chairman - Campbell. "The Washington Meeting of the A. O. U.", Snyder, Emery, Baillie, McDougall, Devitt.

297th Meeting - Nov. 15, 1938: Chairman - Coventry. "Through Canadian Eastern Arctic", Shortt; "Pictures of Washington, D.C.", Mr. Chas. Molony; Observations and Reviews.

298th Meeting - Nov. 29, 1938: Chairman, Emery. "The R.O.M.Z. Favourable Lake Expedition", - Hope, Prince, Mr. Morley Neal.

299th Meeting - Dec. 13, 1938: Chairman, Fallis. "The Guelph Meeting of the Entomological Society of Ontario, 1938", Urquhart; "R.O.M.Z. Mammal Collecting in the Lake Edward Region, Quebec", Downing; "Mark Catesby and His Work", McDougall.



CHRISTMAS BIRD CENSUS

The 14th Christmas bird census was held on Dec. 26, 1938. The following members, Baillie, Bell, Bennett, Coventry, Devitt, Emery, Harrington, Hope, Prince, Rutter, Shortt, Snyder, Southam, Thompson, and 21 visitors took part. Approximately two inches of snow covered the ground and temperatures ranged from 32° to 37° during the day.

One might characterize this year's observations by remarking on the comparative absence of winter finches. On the other hand, "a wintering finch", the Cardinal, was particularly numerous; 17 were tabulated during the day, a number not previously attained in this region. This observation is consistent with reports from a wide area, at least in the northern part of its range, in southern Ontario and contiguous states.

Three species, new to Toronto Christmas bird lists were added, the Iceland Gull (Speirs) Cowbird and White-crowned Sparrow. The total of species observed this year is 46 and the total of individuals is 10,865.

The Christmas bird census as a local programme has no outstanding value but considered as a part of a continental project, which it is, data of considerable value are compiled. The results of the Brodie Club's census have been printed in the Canadian Field Naturalist for February, 1938.

FIELD DAY

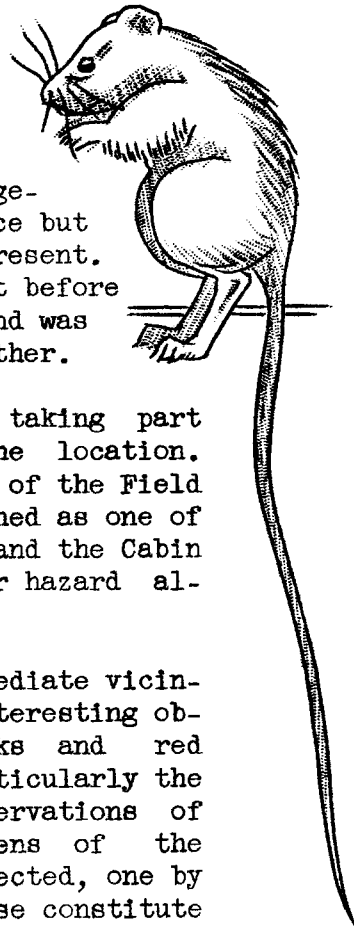
The 14th annual Field Day was held again at Nancy Lake, on May 22, 1938. Conflicting arrangements prevented a large attendance but 12 members and 7 visitors were present. The minimum temperature the night before was 46 and the maximum on the 22nd was 68 with little wind and fair weather.

As usual, several of those taking part camped the preceding night at the location. These "camp meetings" on the eve of the Field Day seem to have become established as one of the main features of the outing and the Cabin at Nancy Lake reduces the weather hazard always present in May.

Sunday was spent in the immediate vicinity of Nancy Lake where many interesting observations were made. Chipmunks and red squirrels were both common, particularly the former, in comparison with observations of the previous year. Two specimens of the Woodland Jumping Mouse were collected, one by Rutter, the other by Shortt. These constitute the first specimens from King Township.

Although the tabulation of animals observed is rather beside the point on Brodie Club Field Days, our total is of interest. This year 87 species of birds, 8 species of mammals and a combined total of 9 reptiles and amphibians were listed.

The most interesting bird observation was that of the nest of the Red-breasted Nuthatch, (Ussher) not previously found in the Toronto region.



ANNUAL REPORT - 1938

Late Winter Period

Temperatures during January and February were approximately normal, but snowfall (13.3") was much below the average (31.7"). The "Early Winter Period, 1937" (Proc. No. 2, p. 7) was marked by reports of winter birds. Species such as Pine and Evening Grosbeaks, Cedar and Bohemian Waxwings, Red and White-winged Crossbills, Redpoll, Siskin, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Snow Bunting, Goshawk and Snowy Owl were reported during late winter. Meadow Mice were still fairly prevalent locally.

Spring Period

Rain was slightly below normal for the spring period and temperatures were slightly above the average. So far as our reports indicate, the season was normal in respect to the growth and blossoming of plants and also as regards bird migration. Red Admiral Butterflies were exceptionally numerous in April and the last two weeks of May saw an unusually heavy emergence of Cecropia and Polyphemus moths. A Meadow Mouse "crash" occurred in this period in northern Ontario.

Summer Period

The mean temperature for the summer period (June, July, August) was 70.1°F. which is slightly more than 5° above the normal mean. A maximum of 91° was reached in both July and August. Rainfall was slightly below normal. In general the summer was normal, pleasant and not peculiar climatically or biologically. Larvae of Cecropia moths were heavily infested with parasites.

Autumn Period

Autumn rainfall was below normal, although 2.52" fell on Sept. 21-22. Only 1.7" of snow fell during this season. A mean temperature of 82.1° was recorded for Toronto in October and 69.1° was reached in November, a

local record. The first frost, 30°, occurred on Nov. 14. Insects were more numerous than usual. The Ground Cricket, the Sordid-winged Locust and the Red-legged Locust were abundant well into November. Blue-winged Teal and Cardinals were reported, locally and over a wider area, as "increased". A northward flight of American Egrets reached as far as Toronto. Late autumn brought a few reports of Snowy Owl, Goshawk and Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker from southern Ontario. Varying Hare and Deer were reported to be "increasing" in many localities.

Early Winter Period

No sub-zero temperatures occurred during this period and the average temperature was somewhat above normal. Snowfall was about normal. The most extraordinary bird observation was the large number of Cardinals. Their increase seems to be over a wide area of their range, to the south and well into southern Ontario. No marked movement of northern winter birds, into our region, occurred. Several migrant species remained, such as the White-crowned Sparrow, Towhee, White-throated Sparrow, Gallinule, Yellow-throat and Cowbird.

NOTES

Membership Changes

Elected: Corresponding Members - L. J. Milne, H. C. White, R. D. Ussher.

Transferred: To Active Membership - T. M. C. Taylor.
To Corresponding Membership - R. E. Bennett, C. H. D. Clarke.

Dropped: H. B. Haugh, J. A. Varley.

The average attendance for the 17 meetings held during 1938 was 25.