

TREE SWALLOW, No. 36,581, banded by A. L. Holm. at Otto, Manitoba, on June 4, 1923, repeated at the same station on June 5, 1923.

FLICKER, No. 110,136, male, banded by

Dan Patton, at Midnapore, Alberta, on June 7, 1923, returned to the same station on April 15, 1924. It mated with the same female and nested in the same place as it did in 1923.

IN MEMORIAM

Edward J. Whittaker

Born November 12, 1891

Died September 14, 1924

Through the death of Edward J. Whittaker on the 14th of September, the Geological Survey of Canada has lost one of its most promising younger members. The deplorable accident which closed a scientific career just at its beginning occurred while Mr. Whittaker was enjoying a holiday with his wife and friends among the Gatineau hills a few miles from Ottawa.

Edward J. Whittaker was born November 12, 1891, at Toronto, Ontario, the son of John W. and Mary Whittaker, née Mary Somerville. He was married in 1916 to Miss Winnifred Robertson. His mother and wife survive him.

Mr. Whittaker was a graduate of Toronto University, where he received the M.A. degree in 1913. He became a member of the Geological Survey of Canada in 1913. Leave of absence was granted him in 1922 to complete his university training at Yale University. The thesis undertaken during his residence at Yale was nearly completed at the time of his death. Mr. Whittaker was a member of The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club and of the Palæontological Society of America.

Field work with various members of the Geological Survey staff during his college vacations had given him an unusually extended acquaintance with many of the problems dealt with in survey work. Mr. Whittaker's work for the Survey included several seasons in the Mackenzie River basin, a season in southern Alberta, and work in various parts of Eastern Canada. His published

work includes papers in *The Canadian Field-Naturalist*, *Nautilus*, and the *Summary Reports of the Geological Survey of Canada*, and other scientific publications. Mr. Whittaker will be remembered by readers of *The Naturalist* as an occasional contributor to its pages. Naturalists interested in freshwater shells will find his illustrated paper, *Bulletin 33, Geological Survey of Canada*, on the molluscan fauna of the marl bed near Ottawa of permanent value.

It was the writer's good fortune to be closely associated with Mr. Whittaker both in the field and in the office for a decade. The wide variety of problems which were taken up during that period always enlisted his enthusiastic interest and energetic co-operation. The cheerful optimism which was the keynote of Whittaker's disposition had won for him a host of friends. He had never learned the meaning of the word "can't". The discomfort, difficulty, or hazard of any piece of work was never a deterrent to him if it needed to be done. Whether the work was taking bottom samples from Ontario lakes in mid-winter, crossing the widest part of Lake Ontario in a small and antiquated launch, or threading the rapids of unexplored rivers, Whittaker did it cheerfully as part of the day's work, worthy of no more serious comment than a jest.

Such men are very rare and it is with a feeling of deep personal loss that the writer records that Fate has written *finis* so early in a career that promised so much for Science.—E. M. K.

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

NOTES ON THE MEASUREMENTS AND SOFT PARTS OF THREE TRUMPETER SWANS, *Cygnus buccinator*.

—In view of the scarcity of Trumpeter Swans in collections it would seem desirable to publish the following notes relating to three specimens taken in British Columbia during recent years. The two adults referred to are in the Brewster-Sanford collection in the American Museum of Natural History, New York; the immature ♀ is in the writer's collection at Victoria, British Columbia.

Adult ♂—British Columbia, April 2nd, 1918.

Weight 26½ lbs.; tail feathers 22; bill black; roof of mouth lavender, shading to green on outer margins; lamellæ dark flesh, base salmon red; tarsus olivaceous black, darker at joints; toes and webs black; iris fuscous black.

Adult ♀—British Columbia, April 2nd, 1918. Weight 22¾ lbs.; tail feathers 22; colors of soft parts as above.

The stomach and gullet of each specimen contained seeds of sago pondweed, *Potamogeton pectinatus*.



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