

DO CADDIS FLY LARVAE KILL FISH?—It is a well known fact that the larvae of caddis flies form a part of the diet of many species of fish. It may not be such common knowledge that these insects may reverse the process and become the means of killing the young of the fish themselves. In the spring of 1933, while the run of seaward migrating pink salmon (*Oncorhynchus gorbusha*) fry was being enumerated at McClinton Creek, Massett Inlet, British Columbia, under the writer's direction, the counters drew attention to the fact that often the small fish, $1\frac{1}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, were found inside empty caddis cases. Upon the examination and observation it was decided provisionally that the fish had chosen the case merely as a means of protection. On April 24th, one of the type of caddis larvae which construct a case of particles of sand, was found with its head extended, tightly grasping a fry which was still alive. There was quite a definite ring round the fish behind the head where the legs of the insect had been holding. Later several similar cases were observed. In some of these the fish was drawn almost wholly into the case and its head was apparently chewed. It appears, therefore, that there is no doubt that the insect and its case may on occasion become the means of death for some fry.—A. L. PRITCHARD, *Pacific Biological Station, Nanaimo, B. C.*

WHITE HERONS IN SOUTHERN ONTARIO.—There have been numerous reports of unusual numbers of white herons through July and August from Toronto, Wheatley, Port Stanley, St. Thomas, Aylmer and Kingsville. The species in most cases have not been very well determined and the numbers reported have been from two individuals to three hundred. Even allowing for considerable exaggeration it is evident that there has been a quite considerable flight of white herons, egrets or both into the more southern localities of eastern Canada this season (1933).—P. A. T.

THE HOG-NOSED SNAKE (*Heterodon contortrix*) IN PARRY SOUND DISTRICT, ONTARIO.—The hog-nosed snake (*Heterodon contortrix* (Linné)) is not uncommon in the neighbourhood of Deer Lake (Wah Wash Kesh), a lateral to the Magnetawan River, Parry Sound District, Ontario. It has been found in the vicinity of Magnetawan, Chapman township, and at Island Lake seven miles north of Deer Lake.

The adults are generally a dull sage, occasionally lightly striped, not well-marked, rarely showing the bright checked pattern seen farther south. A specimen which I saw dead on the road some years ago near Deer Lake was larger than any I have found in any place, viz., about 32 inches.

Clifford Bennett on whom I depend to secure specimens of these snakes, says that they are found mostly in high, dry places, usually in areas covered by second growth.—HOWARD A. KELLY.

NOVA SCOTIA GETS WILLOW PTARMIGAN.—On March 13th, 1933, fourteen Willow Ptarmigan (*Lagopus lagopus albus*) were liberated near Waverly, Halifax County, N.S. These were the survivors of a shipment of seventeen birds brought here from northern Manitoba as a result of negotiations which have been carried on by Lt. Col. R. B. Willis of Halifax. In releasing the birds Col. Willis was assisted by Mr. H. L. Fennerty and other officers of the Department of Lands and Forests. The crates were taken, with considerable difficulty, to a point about six miles from the Old Guysboro Road and the birds were there given their freedom. This constitutes the first attempt on record to introduce ptarmigan in this province and the experiment is being followed with much interest. On April 20th, 1922, a male ptarmigan (sp.?) in winter plumage was shot near Elmsdale, Hants County, N.S., this being the only record for the province. This specimen was mounted and is now in the Provincial Museum at Halifax, Acc. No. 5090. It is generally believed that it came from Newfoundland, possibly having been blown across by a storm.—R. W. TUFTS.

NOTE ON THE RANGE OF *Valvata lewisi ontariensis* F. C. Baker.—*Valvata lewisi ontariensis* F. C. Baker was described in the *Nautilus* for April, 1931, the type locality being Shakespeare Island Lake, Ontario. In his remarks, Dr. Baker mentions Kimmewin Lake, north of Drayton, Ontario, as another locality and adds that "the shells mentioned by Whiteaves (*Ottawa Naturalist* 19:65, 1905) from the Kawinogans River, Ont... are probably this variety".

On looking up Whiteaves' specimens, I find that they agree very well with Baker's variety. These are N.M.C. (Mollusca) Cat. No. 2180—*Valvata lewisi ontariensis* Baker, Kawinogans River, Attawapiskat; Coll. W. McInnes, 14/7/04—4 specimens.



Taverner, P. A. 1934. "White Herons in Southern Ontario." *The Canadian field-naturalist* 48(2), 39–39. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.339531>.

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