

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

ENGLISH BIRD NOTES. — Last year the well-known British Ornithologist, Mr. Kinnear of the British Museum, offered to help bird-minded Canadian Members of the Services, who were in England, to study English birds. The happy results enjoyed by one of our men overseas is shown by the following excerpt from a letter from LAC D. S. Miller to Mr. H. G. Mack of Guelph, Ontario.

"I took your advice and contacted Mr. Kinnear and he made a very interesting programme out for us. On the 13th January, Gord and I visited Mr. Kinnear at the museum and talked over the birding programme. I asked if he had any copy of the particular article you wanted but most of the books and birds were not handy as they had already been put in safe keeping. On the 14th we were invited to Mr. Witherby's place but unfortunately he was ill in bed. That did not however stop us from seeing Wood Larks (quite similar to our Horned Larks) which are very rare and localized. On the 15th we visited Mr. Seth-Smith of Essex County (he was the former Zoo curator) and had a grand walk in the country and, incidentally added several species to our ever growing list. Some of them were: Nut-hatches (looks like a cross between our red-br. and white-br.), Bullfinch, Sparrow Hawk (which is an accipiter). After our long walk we had tea at Mr. and Mrs. Seth-Smith's house and had a long talk on birds in general.

"On the 16th we went to the famous Zoo but were quite disappointed as most of the animals and birds were dispersed. They had some lovely Iceland Gyrfalcons

and other birds of prey. As we arrived just half an hour before closing time we did not have very much time — but we were quite satisfied with what we did see.

"On the 17th Mr. R. S. Fitter of the London Natural History Society took us to the famous Epping Forest where Queen Elizabeth had her hunting lodge. There we saw some very interesting birds; such as Hawfinch (somewhat like one of our grosbeaks), Reed-bunting, Great Titmice (these are very comical creatures with long unwieldy tails), Green Woodpecker, Stock-Dove and we also frightened 6 Fallow Deer.

"On the 18th we had a very good day. We visited Mr. Glegg who works (on his own) in the Lord Rothchild Museum. He showed us some of the treasures (namely the best Bird of Paradise egg collection in the world), etc. then took us for a very interesting walk — we encountered Corn Buntings, Goldeneye Duck, Greenfinch, Goosanders, Linnets, Meadow Pipits, Smew and 1 Common Sandpiper. On the 19th at Hammersmith Bridge we saw a 2nd yr. Iceland Gull and a few Lesser Black-backed Gulls. All in all, we had a splendid time of it all. Thanks very much Mr. Mack for advising me to get in touch with Mr. Kinnear — he must have gone to a lot of trouble to arrange such a nice programme."

All of our members will join us in expressing our thanks to Mr. Kinnear and his colleagues for their much appreciated attention and hospitality to our men overseas. — A. L. RAND, NATIONAL MUSEUM OF CANADA.

THE SWAMP CRICKET FROG, *Pseudacris nigrita triseriata* (Wied), IN QUEBEC. — Logier and Toner had no records of the swamp cricket frog east of the boundaries of Ontario (1943, *Canadian Field-Naturalist*, 57, p. 104).

On October 3, 1943, one was seen and caught as it hopped through the short grass on the edge of a grassy, swampy vale, in Quebec province, three miles north of Gatineau Point

on the east side of the Gatineau River.

The identification of this specimen has been checked by Mr. C. Patch of the National Museum of Canada.

The record slightly extends the known range of this species and is the first published record for the province of Quebec.

— A. STANLEY RAND, 15 ROSEDALE AVE., OTTAWA.



Rand, Austin Loomer. 1944. "English Bird Notes." *The Canadian field-naturalist* 58(2), 68–68. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.340707>.

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