

able battle-line of six young Sharp-shinned Hawks was encountered the whole family being perched around the edge and watching every movement of the intruder. The birds vied with one another in the attack and shuffled each other about in the endeavour, to my mind, to obtain the most prominent striking-point. One more daring and adventuresome than the rest fell over the side of the nest and hung head downwards from the projecting twigs. The others, apparently, envied this position, as they made several attempts to use the unfortunate bird as a perch. At this juncture I descended, as it was evident the family would shortly come to grief. The parent birds, strange to say, did not join in this demonstration, but kept some fifty yards away, uttering their alarm notes at intervals. The young, judging by their vigorous protests and actions, were ready to leave the nest. A week later the birds, old and young, were discovered in the tree tops in the vicinity.

W. J. BROWN, Westmount, Que.

THE WHITE-WINGED JUNCO IN MANITOBA.—On the sixth of October, my brother, Stuart, saw a strange Junco among a number of *hyemalis*, and recognising it as probably new he collected it. It answers very well to *aikeni*, having the characteristic white wing bars with the three outer tail feathers wholly, and the fourth partly white.

This makes three different Juncos recorded for the province: *hyemalis*, an abundant species which breeds in fair numbers; *aikeni*, and *shufeldti*, both as yet only observed as migrants.

The White-winged Junco breeds in North Dakota and winters in Colorado and Kansas. It has not, so far as I am aware, been previously recorded for Canada, though odd individuals that looked like it have been seen from time to time at Aweme.

NORMAN CRIDDLE.

HOYT'S HORNED LARK IN MANITOBA.—This Horned Lark, *Otocoris alpestris hoyti*, was taken by my brother, Stuart, and individuals identified through the courtesy of the Chief of the U.S. Biological Survey, by Mr. Oberholser. Though this appears to be the first definite Manitoba record, the bird is quite abundant during the the migratory seasons and arrives in company with the Lapland Longspurs. It can be readily distinguished in the spring from the Prairie Horned Lark, by its rather darker and more distinctly marked plumage. In habits, too, it may be told by its manner of hiding behind clods of earth, like its companion the Longspur, whereas the latter always mounts them, as if desirous of being seen.

Unfortunately the geographical races of Horned Larks are so closely allied that it is almost impossible to tell one from another in nature, and it is only by studying their habits that we can hope to distinguish them.

Hoyt's Horned Lark has been recorded by me for several years past under "Desert Horned Lark," which has not yet been authentically taken in the province. Both these birds occur in Saskatchewan and Alberta, and the latter, according to Oberholser, breeds north of latitude 49°.

NORMAN CRIDDLE.

FESTUCA OCCIDENTALIS IN ONTARIO.—In an open coniferous formation on a rocky point at Oliphant, Ontario, on the Lake Huron shore of the Bruce Peninsula on June 14th, 1911, I found *Festuca occidentalis*, Hook, to be common. On June 16th, I found the same species in a *Populus-Thuja* formation near Boat Lake at the centre of the Base of the Peninsula.

As this species was not reported from further east than Keweenaw County, Michigan, its discovery on the Bruce Peninsula was an eastward extension of range and I consequently sent specimens to Prof. A. S. Hitchcock, Systematic Agrostologist of the Bureau of Plant Industry at Washington, who confirmed my identification. The occurrence of this western grass on the Peninsula is interesting in view of the fact that I have found a somewhat marked western and southern tendency in the flora of this locality, particularly on the Lake Huron shore. Here are found *Solidago riddellii*, Frank, *Cacalia tuberosa*, Nutt, *Linum medium*, Britton, *Satureja glabra*, Fernald and *Gentiana procera*, Holm, all plants whose range lies mostly to the south and west of Ontario. I have already recorded (*Rhodora*, Vol. 10, No. 119), the occurrence on the Peninsula of another western grass *Melica smithii*, Vasey.

A. B. KLUGH, Queen's University,
Kingston.

NEW MEMBERS.

The following new members were elected at a recent meeting of the Council of the Club:

MISS F. FYLES, Ottawa.

MR. E. A. HOWES, Ottawa.

MR. D. A. MARTIN, Lawson, Sask.

MR. EDW. ARNOLD, Montreal.

MR. H. W. BEERS, Bridgeport, Conn., U.S.

MR. J. W. EASTHAM, Ottawa.





Criddle, Norman. 1911. "Hoyt's Horned Lark in Manitoba." *The Ottawa naturalist* 25(7-8), 122–123.

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