

dived, the remainder scattered back to the sea shore.

On the 17th, I had made arrangements for a mountain climb and did not return until late in the evening, and as all seemed quiet around the nest on the morning of the 18th, the nest was examined and one dead Jay was all that was found. The parents were still present, but being kept on guard, probably this young bird was starved. I hoped that the Crows would now leave us in peace, but late on the same afternoon a Crow was seen silently making its way towards the nest but, seeing me approach, it broke covert, making a fourth dead Crow.

On the 19th, Crows were constantly seen hunting through the underbrush, and one being seen on the lawn, a Lutescent Warbler's nest on the edge of it was inspected, which had newly hatched young the day before; it was empty.

I am well aware that the Jay wears no halo when it comes to egg-lifting, but the damage done by the Jays in this area is naught as compared to the Crow, nor does the Jay make a business of nest hunting as does the Crow. Whilst beating

up their "game", Crows are very stealthy in their movements, flying low over the bushes, almost "creeping" through the air. Settling every now and then, they appear as if listening, when woe betide the young that call for food. On the 20th and 21st I watched Crows systematically beating up and down through the woods on a broad front, and there was no doubting their intentions. So silently did they move along, that despite the fact that the Jays were very much on the alert, a Crow would often reach the nest unperceived by them.

One could not but admire the plucky efforts of these Jays to protect their young, nor could one but enjoy watching 260,902 as a Crow dropped to the gun, show no sign of fear at the report, but slip from his perch on the top of the maple tree and, with wings closed, dart past like a Kingfisher in an endeavour to strike its enemy before touching the ground.

It is very noticeable that Jays are taken little notice of by small birds, all feed together amicably at the traps, but the appearance, or even the shadow or notes of the Crow has the same effect as would those of a hawk. Sufficient proof surely.

FISHES AND MARINE INVERTEBRATES COLLECTED DURING THE CRUISE OF THE "ARCTIC" IN 1923

By FRITS JOHANSEN

BEFORE Mr. J. D. Soper, who, as naturalist, was attached to the staff on board the C.G.S. *Arctic* on its cruise in the eastern part of the Canadian Arctic in 1923, left on the trip, I supplied him with instructions and equipment for the collecting of fishes and marine invertebrates, when opportunities presented themselves. Considering that the main purposes of the cruise were non-biological, he did very well indeed; and besides a number of plants, mammal and bird skins and Eskimo specimens, he also brought back in the fall, some fishes and marine invertebrates, secured by plankton-hauls from the ship, and by shore-collecting. These latter I received for the purpose of sorting them out and having them identified by specialists, determining the fishes myself. (A detailed description of the fishes will be found in my account of the fishes of Arctic America, to be published in *Rep. Can. Arct. Exped. 1913-18*, Vol. VI, Ottawa.) Of the invertebrates, only the Crustacea and Pteropods have so far been identified, and therefore, there will be further notes on the others. The determinations follow:—

PTEROPODS

(Identified by Dr. W. H. Dall, U.S.N.M., Wash., D.C.)

(1) Strait of Belle Isle (off Point Norman, Newfoundland), July 16th, 1923, Surface (water-temperature 40°F.): 3 *Clione borealis*, Phipps.

(2) Davis Strait, 50 miles south of Disco Island, W-Greenland (on the meridian of Disco), about Lat. 68°N., July 29th, 1923, Surface (water-temperature 42°F.): 1 *Clione borealis*.

(3) Melville Bay (Baffin Bay), about 35 miles south of Cape York, N.W. Greenland, lat 75°N., long. 47°W., August 4th, 1923, Surface (water-temperature 41°F.): 2 *Clione borealis*.

MARINE COPEPODS

(Identified by Prof. A. Willey, McGill University, Montreal.)

(1) Point des Monts, N. side of Gulf St. Lawrence, Que., July 11th, 1923, Surface (water-temperature, 45°F., air 46.5°F.): 1 *Psamathe longicauda* Phil. (immature).

(2) Attached to floating algae (*Fucus* and *Ascophyllum*) in Davis Strait, lat. 63°N., long. 55°W., July 25-26, 1923, surface (water-temperature, 46°F.): Several *Halithalestris croni* (Kroyer) (females with eggs).

(3) Attached to floating *Fucus* in Davis Strait, about lat. 65°30'N., long. 55°W., July 27th, 1923, surface (water temperature, 44°F.): Several *Halithalestris croni* (females).

SCHIZOPODS

(Identified by W. L. Schmitt, U.S.N.M., Wash., D.C.)

(1) From stomachs of two Rock-Cods (*Gadus ogac* Rich.), Godhavn, Disco Island, W. Greenland, July 30th, 1923: Several *Mysis oculata* (Fabr.).

AMPHIPODS

(Identified by C. R. Shoemaker, U.S.N.M., Wash., D.C.)

(1) Locality, etc., as Marine Copepods (2): Two *Euthemisto* sp.

(2) Davis Strait, lat. 63°N., long. 55°W., July 26, 1923, surface: One *Gammarus locusta* (Linn.).

(3) From stomachs of Sculpins (*Myoxocephalus groenlandicus*), Gready Island Harbour, east coast of Labrador (lat. 54°N.), July 19th, 1923: *Gammarus locusta* and *Pseudalibrotus litoralis* (Kroyer).

(4) Locality, etc., as (3); but from stomach of *Gadus ogac*: *Caprella septentrionalis*, (Kroyer), *Gamarellus homari* (Fabr.), *Pseudalibrotus litoralis*, *Metopa* sp.

(5) From stomach of sculpin (*Oncocottus quadricornis*), Ponds Inlet, N.E. side of Baffin Island, Sept. 1-2, 1923: *Pseudalibrotus litoralis*.

(6) Locality, etc., as Schizopods (1): *Caprella septentrionalis*.

DECAPODS

(Identified by M. J. Rathbun and W. L. Schmitt, U.S.N.M., Wash., D.C.).

(1) Locality, etc., as Pteropods (3): One *Hymen-*

odora glacialis Buckh. (female with half a dozen, deep-rosa eggs).

(2) Locality, etc., as Amphipods (3): *Hyas coarctatus* Leach.

(3) Locality, etc., as Marine Copepods (2): One zoea-larva of Decapod (crab?).

FISHES

(Identified by Frits Johansen, Ottawa, Can.)

(1) Antlered Sculpin (*Gymnocanthus* [*Phobetor*] *ventralis* Reinh.): a 22 mm. long post-larva from stomach of *Gadus ogac*, Godhavn, Disco Island, W. Greenland, July 30th, 1923.

(2) Four-horned Sculpin (*Oncocottus quadricornis*, Linn.): a 20 cm. long female with eggs, from Ponds Inlet, Baffin Island, September 1-2, 1923.

(3) Great Greenland Sculpin (*Myoxocephalus groenlandicus* Cur. and Val.): two females, 31 and 29 cm. long, and two males, 27 and 29 cm. long, all from Gready Island Harbour, Labrador, July 19th, 1923.

(4) Rock-Cod or Greenland Cod (*Gadus ogac* Rich.): a 40 cm. long male from Gready Island Harbour, Labrador, July 19th, 1923; and two 33 and 34 cm. long males from Godhavn, Disco Island, W. Greenland, July 30th, 1923.

Mr. Soper went again north with the *Arctic* in 1924, and remained in Baffin Island, to return to Ottawa in 1926. There is therefore every reason to expect still more valuable collections, also in the line of fishes and marine invertebrates, as a result of his more prolonged stay in Arctic Canada.

SOME NOTES ON CANADA'S SO-CALLED WOOD BUFFALO

By FRED. V. SEIBERT



DURING the summer of 1922, I had the pleasure of exploring that area lying between the Peace River, Lat. 59°N. and Great Slave Lake, Lat. 61°N., from the Slave River west as far as Buffalo Lake.

In this region are found to-day (1500 to 2000 or more) the only remnants in a wild state of the millions of buffalo (*Bison Americanus*) which a few decades ago roamed over the great central plains of North America. That these animals have existed in these latitudes from early times and in considerable numbers is evidenced by the reports of practically all the early explorers: Hearne, 1772, Mackenzie, 1789, Harmon, 1808, Franklin, 1825, and many others. All bear witness to the fact that most of this northern country was once inhabited by numerous herds of buffalo as far north as Slave Point on the north shore of Great Slave Lake.

The name "wood buffalo" leads the observer to expect a type of animal somewhat different from

the plains buffalo. Nevertheless they have the same conformation, the wood buffalo, however, being larger and darker. They are without doubt superior in size, weight and stamina to any other herds now existing. These differences may be accounted for by the fact that they have always been wild, and also because of the shelter and good feeding conditions within their range. A specimen of wood buffalo, now mounted and in the museum at Calgary, weighed, when killed, 2,402 pounds. Samuel Hearne's notes of the buffalo he encountered south of Great Slave Lake and east of Slave River in 1772 are worthy of note in this connection. "They are of such amazing strength," he writes, "that they frequently brush down trees as thick as a man's arm; and be the snow ever so deep, such is their strength and agility that they are enabled to plunge through it faster than the swiftest Indian can run on snowshoes." Even when walking with that deliberate and apparently slow tread which is their peculiarity,



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