

ORNITHOLOGY.

Edited by W. T. MACOUN.

BIRD NOTES FOR APRIL AND MAY.

From the long list of birds which have been recorded during the past month it is very apparent that some members of THE OTTAWA FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB have not been idle. It is unfortunate, however, that so few of us take the time, or make the opportunity, to study the habits of our birds and record observations. The members of the Club should feel grateful to the few who send their notes for publication, and who, in this way, perhaps, may cause others to learn more about birds.

It is interesting to compare the dates of arrival of birds recorded in this number with those in the June number for 1898, up to the 14th May last year, the arrival of 81 birds have been recorded and up to the 14th May this year 77 birds have been noted. On the whole, during the past month the birds have arrived on nearly the same date as last year, there being a few exceptions, however, where there was more than a week's difference; in some cases the bird having been recorded earlier and in some cases later this year.

1899.

- Apr. 13—RUBY THROATED HUMMINGBIRD, *Trochilus colubris*. Miss Harmer.
 14—BLACK DUCK, *Anas obscura*. Mr. C. H. Young.
 14—MEADOWLARK, *Sturnella magna*. Mr. C. H. Young; April 15th. Mr. W. A. D. Lees.
 15—SNOWFLAKE, *Plectrophenax nivalis*. Large flock. Mr. W. A. D. Lees.
 15—BELTED KINGFISHER, *Ceryle alcyon*. Mr. W. A. D. Lees; April 16th, Mr. Geo. R. White.
 15—WHITE-RUMPED SHRIKE, *Lanius ludovicianus excubitorides*. Miss Harmer.
 15—COW-BIRD, *Molothrus ater*. Mr. Geo. R. White; April 17th, Mr. C. H. Young.
 15—RUSTY BLACKBIRD, *Scolecophagus carolinus*. Mr. Geo. R. White.
 16—GREAT BLUE HERON, *Ardea herodias*. Mr. Young.
 16—VESPER SPARROW, *Pooecetes gramineus*. Dr. J. Fletcher. Fairly common at Experimental Farm, April 21.