

# THE OTTAWA NATURALIST

Vol. XXXI.

FEBRUARY, 1918.

No. 11.

## THE BIRDS OF EDMONTON.

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Considering the geographical situation of Edmonton, the locality possesses a surprising wealth of bird life; not less than one hundred and forty-three species have been recorded from the vicinity.

The superficial survey of a map discloses the fact that Edmonton, Alta., lies in the same latitude as southern Labrador and Ungava, and yet compares very favorably, as regards climate, with parts of southern Ontario, about six hundred miles in latitude to the south. One is forced to reflect that latitude alone is a poor and deceptive medium by which to judge the climatical conditions of a region. On climate, of course, depends largely the existence or non-existence of many of our birds, especially the less hardy species, and of these a generous number are represented in the faunal life of the Edmonton territory.

Two distinct floral conditions exist at Edmonton, one comprising the usual poplar forest of the north-west, and the other the coniferous tracts of the river basins and adjacent ravines. The deciduous growth of the uplands with their deforested areas, interspersed with lakes and marshes, together with the gloomy forests of the river valleys, offer it seems, quite a diversification or latitude in the accommodation of avian life.

My observations were conducted during three summers and two winters, from 1912 to 1914. I have been favored, in making my list as complete as possible, with the numerous references in Macoun's Catalogue of Canadian Birds, embracing in part the observations of Mr. William Spreadborough and Mr. Geo. Atkinson on many species occurring in the Edmonton district. To these gentlemen I feel indebted. My thanks are due to Mr. P. A. Taverner, who kindly assisted in matters of nomenclature and identification.

**WESTERN GREBE** (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*).—Observed occasionally during the fall.

**HORNED GREBE** (*Colymbus auritus*).—Common summer resident. Breeds; nests from June 5 to 25.

**PIED-BILLED GREBE** (*Podilymbus podiceps*).—This species was reported at Edmonton, in 1906, by Geo. Atkinson.