

## **The Moose (Continued)**

Alberta, the animals being then a memory only, yet fifty years later this district was well stocked with both these animals. The decrease of the northern Indian tribes is the obvious factor which is responsible for this increase.

In many parts of the prairie provinces on the other hand, the difficulty of controlling the Indian is responsible for the extermination of Moose and Elk over large areas of fine territory.

The Moose is not found in Newfoundland, where attempts are being made to introduce it, and these should be successful. The experiment of its introduction into New Zealand, where a fine lot of calves were sent in 1909, is a doubtful one, as the animal does not take kindly to a change of diet. Moose-calling is a typical Canadian sport but is not practiced much west of the Maritime provinces. The open seasons of Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta are during a season when the bulls will not respond to the call which is only effective during the rutting period; after October it is a case of still-hunting and the bull Moose of November is a very different and much more wary animal from the love-maddened wanderer of the early Fall.

Still-hunting in November, especially in a heavily timbered country, call forth all the instincts and resources of a well-trained hunter, and he who disregards the wind has no chance of success.

## **The BLACKDUCK**

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The Blackduck is exclusively a duck of Eastern North America, a few may be found in Manitoba and occasionally even further west on the Prairies, but is never found west of the mountains. It is essentially the game-duck of the Maritime provinces and Quebec, and is quite equal to the Mallard in every way, except in brilliancy of plumage in the drake. How closely allied the two specimens are is evident when one examines a Mallard drake after he has changed his brilliant dress of the winter and spring for the "eclipse" plumage he dons every summer; most men would then take him for a Blackduck, and it is this phase of the Mallard that is responsible for most of the so-called captures of the Blackduck in the West.

## **The SNOW GOOSE**

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Snow Goose in books but nowhere else, Wavy on the prairies and in the North, and White Brant in the West are the names almost universally used for this Goose. Its breeding range is from the mouth of the Mackenzie east along the Arctic Coast, but it spreads southward on migrations over the greater part of North America.

Of all the Geese, the Wavy is the least wary and where not molested it becomes surprisingly tame. Only the open nature of the ground it frequents—the most open plains and estuaries of rivers—enables it to survive in these days of countless sportsmen; and special effort is needed to ensure that these winter feeding grounds are always available to ensure its perpetuation.

There are three other species of Snow Geese, the Greater Snow Goose, which breeds in Greenland and winters on the South Atlantic coast; the Blue Goose, breeding range unknown, which winters in the lower Mississippi valley; and Ross Goose, which winters in California and whose breeding range, like that of the Blue Goose, is one of the mysteries the North has still to yield. The last is the smallest of North American Geese and is known in the fur countries as the "Warty-nosed Wavy" from the small caruncles at the base of the bill in the old birds.