

common summer resident. One never needs to be in doubt whether it has arrived in the spring or not, for its call, *chebec*, hurled out in a somewhat scratchy voice, heralds its presence plainly enough. This is in the latter half of May (11th to 17th), and may be heard in any of our city streets lined with large trees. It leaves in July and early August (10th), the remarkable fall of 1909 again being an exception, when one was seen as late as September 14th.

ALAUDIDÆ—LARKS.

141. *Otocoris alpestris*, Horned Lark. A rare migrant, although when it comes at all it will, locally and temporarily, be abundant. The writer has never met with this bird here, despite careful looking for it. In 1890 a flock remained from April 19th to May 25th, and again from September 26th to October 28th.

141. *Otocoris alpestris praticola*, Prairie Horned Lark. A common spring and summer resident and abundant migrant. This is our earliest arrival from the south, as early as February 10th. The bulk of the species come in the first part of March, but by the end of that month these flocks have again moved on or have scattered into breeding pairs. Nests with eggs may be found in old meadows, etc., as early as March 28th, and fully fledged young in May. It is thus the earliest breeder of our common perching birds. In summer they make themselves less apparent. The latest dates for fall migrants are: November 22nd, 1908; January 12th, 1909, when one was seen.

CORVIDÆ—CROWS, JAYS, ETC.

143. *Cyanocitta cristata*, Blue Jay. A moderately common resident, although most of them move southward for the winter. Their number, for a certain locality, changes from season to season. Mrs. R. D. Brown noticed them fifteen times in January, 1908, but only four times from November 1st, 1908 to March 21st, 1909. In April it is locally abundant.

144. *Perisoreus canadensis*, Canada Jay; Meat Bird. This inhabitant of the northern woods makes the Ottawa River the southern boundary of its range, rarely, even in winter, going far south of it. It is a moderately common resident in the northern parts of the district. At the farm houses along the Gatineau and Lievre it is a daily visitor in winter, especially at butchering time. It nests even earlier than the Prairie Horned Lark, namely in February and March, when the thermometer is often far below zero. For an account of its fearlessness or rather greediness for food, see THE OTTAWA NATURALIST, vol. XXII., p. 65.

(To be continued.)