

ance of Parasitic Insects," by Dr. C. Gordon Hewitt, Ottawa; "Scolytidæ of the Larch," by J. M. Swaine, Macdonald College, Que.; "Notes on the Breeding of *Tropidopria conica* Fab.," by G. E. Sanders, Ottawa, and "The Bean Root Maggot," by J. E. Howitt, Guelph.

All of the above papers and addresses will be published in full in the forthcoming annual report of the Entomological Society of Ontario, which will appear early in 1911.—A. G.

#### NOTE.

THE CLARKE NUTCRACKER IN MANITOBA.—A bird has been received at the Experimental Farm which has been identified as the Clarke Nutcracker or Crow, *Nucifraga columbiana* (Wils) Aud., the specimen agreeing perfectly with published descriptions, and specimens in the Geological Survey, of that bird. This specimen was received early in September from Mr. W. D. Black, Margaret, Man., whose brother shot it on the banks of the Souris River in that province. The Clarke Nutcracker has not previously been recorded, to our knowledge, from any Canadian station east of the Rocky Mountains. In Macoun's Catalogue of Canadian Birds it is reported to have been "rather common at Banff, Rocky Mountains, in 1891, and breeding in the mountains; common in the Crow Nest Pass in August, 1897; in the summer of 1885, when the Canadian Pacific Railway was being built through the Rocky and Selkirk Mountains, the bird was very common around the camps, and apparently living on their refuse (Macoun)." It occurs widely in British Columbia and Alaska, keeping generally to mountainous country. In Coues' "Key to North American Birds," it is said to be a bird of the coniferous belt of the West, ranging from within the Arctic circle in Alaska, to Lower California and Mexico, and eastward to the eastern spurs and foothills of the Rockies, with casual appearances in Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, and Arkansas. The States mentioned lie within the same meridians as Manitoba; therefore, while the present extension of the range of the species is a noteworthy one, it is not one which might not reasonably have been expected.

In his letter, Mr. Black makes some interesting observations on the habits of the Nutcracker, which are worthy of quotation here. "This bird made no sound or noise that I could hear, but perched on a tree or shrub, from whence it would suddenly swoop to the ground, and pursue a cricket or grasshopper, and, after catching it, it would return, and after hitting its prey against a limb of the tree it was sitting on, would devour it. The actions of this bird resemble a Canada Jay's somewhat, as does its color, but of course it is much larger."—HERBERT GROH.