

THE CANADIAN FIELD-NATURALIST

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INTRODUCTORY.

With the March, 1919, issue, THE OTTAWA NATURALIST, the official organ of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club, ceased to exist under that name. THE OTTAWA NATURALIST had a long and honourable career. Like all similar publications it had its trials, its ups and downs, financial troubles, etc., but it weathered all storms and appeared fairly regularly during its thirty-two years of existence. In its pages are to be found many articles of great scientific value and we would like to have space to remind our readers of at least some of the more important of the contributions which it presented. With the increase in its size, improvement of paper, specially prepared articles, etc., Vol. XXXII, certainly may be regarded as an excellent production and one which has brought forth many words of encouragement from its readers.

This, the April issue of the organ of the club appears under a new name—THE CANADIAN FIELD-NATURALIST. Such a change was intimated in the April, 1918, issue of THE OTTAWA NATURALIST, and at the recent annual meeting of the Club, held

on March 18, 1919, the same was duly approved. This change in name will not, of course, affect in any way the spirit of the publication. Such change only reflects its widened sphere of influence. We hope it will develop along improved lines and ultimately be accepted as the organ not only of The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club, but of similar organizations throughout Canada. There is an excellent opportunity for the naturalists of Canada to assist in building up this publication and making it truly representative of Canadian scientific research. The popular side will, of course, not be overlooked. Special efforts will be made to make it useful to amateur naturalists, teachers and the public generally.

The subscription price for the present volume which will contain six issues, namely for the months of April, May, September, October, November and December will be \$1.00. Thereafter the volumes will consist of nine issues each volume beginning with the January number; the subscription price of each volume will be increased proportionately.

NOTES ON THE CASPIAN TERN (*STERNA CASPIA*) AND THE PARASITIC JAEGER (*STERCORARIUS PARASITICUS*) IN MANITOBA.

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Island faunæ, ever an interesting field in ornithology, become particularly attractive in continental areas where lake islands afford the only suitable breeding grounds for certain water birds.

The following observations refer to a small but interesting island in the northern part of Lake Winnipeg visited on July the 9th and 13th, 1918, where a colony of Caspian Terns (*Sterna caspia*) was found. No record of this species breeding in Manitoba has hitherto been published. A specimen of Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) was also secured and constitutes the first inland record for this province.

Through the courtesy of the Riverton Fish Company, of Riverton, Man., the authors were enabled to make the journey—a round trip of some 500 miles—from Hnausa to Berens Island. The objects of the trip were first to study if possible, breeding colonies of White Pelicans (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) and second, to gather some idea of the biological conditions on the northern portion of the lake. The original intention to make Reindeer Island the base proved impracticable and a camp was established at Swampy Bay, Berens Island, where the Riverton Fish Company maintained a large fishing station. We desire to express