

since." The natural increase of years wantonly destroyed in an afternoon!

Mr. Sam Lucas, who resides near Wyoming, keeps a fur farm and miniature zoological garden. Fishers, black foxes, rabbits, pheasants, etc., make up most of his stock in trade. In addition, however, he has two bald eagles brought when young from Manitoulin Island, and two sand-hill cranes, one of which, he states, has now been in captivity for more than fifty years. The cranes are in an enclosure where they stay voluntarily as their wings are not clipped. On request from their master, they throw back their heads and give the peculiar cry so familiar to those who have seen them on the plains of Saskatchewan. About the 20th of June one was sitting on hen eggs in an excavation in the ground which served for a nest. Her own infertile eggs, Mr. Lucas had removed. The two seen were about the size of turkey eggs, and were splashed with brown markings on a dirty blue ground.

N.B.—On the 19th of July the writer saw a yellow-bellied Sapsucker in the woods at Eugenia Falls, Grey County, Ont.

### BOHEMIAN WAXWING AT OTTAWA.

On February 15, 1917, late in the afternoon, I saw a Bohemian Waxwing in a tree near my residence. It was surrounded by a group of curious sparrows. It flew to another tree, and the sparrows returned to their roof and held an animated discussion no doubt as to the identity of the stranger. Finally two of the hottest debaters flew to the second tree to make further observations of the waxwing. They inspected him quietly until he flew away, and then they returned and reported in calmer tones to the other expectant sparrows. I trust they agreed that it was "Bohemian" and not "Cedar." On March 16, and again on March 27, I saw a flock of Cedar Waxwings and three Bohemian Waxwings with them. On the latter date the Bohemian Waxwings sat quietly and nearly hidden among the brown leaves of a small beech at the Experimental Farm, while the Cedar-birds flew about on the nearby shrubs and trees. These are the first Bohemian Waxwings I have seen in Ottawa during ten years. A. L. Gormley reports one recently at Arnprior, (April 28, 1917, OTTAWA NATURALIST, XXXI, p. 32).

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### LEAST BITTERN NESTING AT LONDON, ONT.

(READ BEFORE THE McILWRAITH ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB.)

At "The Pond", two miles south of London, where many productive visits are made by the members of the McIlwraith Ornithological Club, in the seasons of migration, a red letter day occurred on May 30, 1917, when a Least Bittern, the first record for the pond, and the first local view for any of the members, gave them a leisurely display of his colors and actions.

Farther on, an unknown song was heard, which proved to emanate from a Prairie Warbler, the first County record, and a new bird for all the party.

Nothing further was heard from either of these birds in the spring of 1918, and apparently the visit was not repeated. What was our surprise, then, on the morning of August 2, 1918, while silently skirting the edges of the pond in a canoe, to find a fuzzy Least Bittern, perched on a dead twig, three feet above the water. Eventually we found all four of the young, as well as the two old birds, and during that, and subsequent mornings, they were invariably found roosting, where they seemed to have passed the night, from one to four feet above the water on the twigs of water-killed bushes, in which we thought they should be very safe. The young still had the whitish down of the nestling adhering in places, that on top of the head being very conspicuous.

Generally speaking, we would miss finding the parents, but would find the young, though occasionally, only one or two of the latter would be seen. For the benefit of those who have similar chances it may be remarked that we began the morning with a paddle around the pond at daylight, and found the time very propitious.

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### NOTE.

The Ontario Department of Agriculture has recently published Bulletin No. 263, on "Mushrooms of Ontario", the author being Dr. R. E. Stone. This publication of 24 pages emphasizes the importance of using wild mushrooms as food, particularly at the present time when a world shortage of food is threatened. Illustrations are given of twenty species. Descriptions of the various common kinds are given in brief as well as other useful information. Recipes for using mushrooms are also included, as well as directions for the growing of mushrooms.