

a refuge. This was a famous place for market hunters in days gone by. More than 300,000 ducks were taken there in one year. Another large series of bird-reservations is situated in the state of Louisiana. These include 234,000 acres of marsh-land, where numbers of ducks and geese now find a safe refuge. These reservations were made by the private purchase of Charles Willis Ward, E. A. McIlhenny, Mrs. Russell Sage and the Rockefeller Foundation.

Birds being So we are making some headway. It is a matter in
Driven which those of us who are actively engaged are
Further North naturally greatly interested, and we are very anxious to see the work extended to Canada. Sloughs in your Northwest are being drained and the wild water-fowl are being driven farther north. Alaska will, perhaps, be the last refuge for some of these. We became so apprehensive of the situation there that we undertook to call the attention of the people of Alaska to the value of their bird-life. The Association sent two men to gather information on the birds of Alaska and collated from publications such material as was available. Then we published the combined data in illustrated book form, and last winter sent a copy of the *Alaskan Bird-Life* to every school-child in Alaska—eight thousand copies in all. As the children would take the books home, it was thus distributed to the people. But let us not drive all the nesting birds out of Canada. You have an immense wealth here yet, and I appeal to you, as a man from the United States, interested in bird-protection, to take up the work, for it is quite worth while. If we are going to conserve the wild water-fowl, which is a great national asset to both nations, we must have co-operation and must work together.

You have an opportunity in Canada to set aside as bird-reserves very important areas for harbouring wild ducks and geese that cannot be of any great agricultural value. In establishing bird-reservations we have found in the United States it is necessary to bear in mind that people are more important than birds, and, if we set aside land for birds that people can really use for agricultural purposes, it sometimes becomes necessary later to relinquish such areas. But you have many lakes and sloughs in the west that could easily be created bird-reservations without interfering with the agricultural interests of the Dominion. The expense of guarding such territories need not be great. Very frequently some person who resides in the immediate neighbourhood can be secured to give adequate protection. We have found that a little protection goes a long way, that it is perfectly astonishing how kindly and quickly birds respond to protection, how soon they discover the areas in which they are immune from human attack, and how