

fied by J. H. Fleming. The White-crowned Sparrow, the eastern form, breeding June 18, 1919, near Eastend. It has been previously been reported from the Cypress Hills by A. C. Bent and Wm. Spreadborough apparently breeding but without definite substantiation. The Chipping Sparrow is reported as breeding in the Cypress Hills but is declared to be "not common in any part of the province." The breeding form of the Horned Lark in the Cypress Hills is declared to be the Desert Horned Lark, *Otocoris alpestris leucolaema*. It is not evident from the context whether Mr. Mitchell regards Mr. Oberholser's *Enthemia* as a separable race which would be the expected form if it is. The Whip-poor-will was heard near the juncture of the North and South Saskatchewan rivers, about thirty miles east of Prince Albert, on July 15, 1919. This forms the first record for the province and the farthest west for Canada. Whether there is any likelihood that one familiar with the call of the Whip-poor-will of the East could mistake that of the Poor-will, can best be judged by those who are

acquainted with both. Either species would be important.

P. 239. An amusing reason for the elimination of the subspecies is reported by J. H. Fleming from the suggestion of the editors of the London Catalogue of British Plants, third edition, who oppose plant splitting on the grounds that it would make the catalogue unduly bulky and raise the postage on it beyond the limits of a blue (two penny) stamp.

P. 240. In a short note we are informed that Mr. Geo. Willet has established himself on Prince of Wales Island, Alaska; for the winter and expects to devote practically his entire time to ornithology. Prince of Wales Island is on the Pacific Coast just across Dixon Channel from the Queen Charlotte Islands and hence so close to British Columbian waters as to be of great interest to Canadian ornithologists. Information of this coast is not very complete and there is probably no place on the continent where a winter's work could be put in to better scientific advantage.

P. A. TAVERNER.

#### NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS.

A CANADIAN NATIONAL MUSEUM.—The following is a copy of a resolution passed by the Council of The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club, on March 12, 1920.

"Whereas all important civilized nations have found it desirable and necessary to establish national museums as storehouses and repositories for historic artistic and scientific treasures, safe from the ravages of time or accident, or the exploitation or caprice of private ownership, and where they will be available for the study or contemplation of the whole nation rather than of the favored few, and

"Whereas Canada has at this time no such national museum definitely established as such,—

"Be it resolved that the Council of The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club recommends that for the purpose of the safe-keeping of specimens of national importance, as an aid to and encouragement of Canadian scientists, to act as a general clearing house of scientific endeavors, for the general education of the public and as a monument to Canada's intellectual life, the present museum organizations under the Federal Government of Canada be re-established as a Canadian National Museum. And, further, that the Council urge upon Parliament that steps be immediately taken to establish such a museum as will worthily and creditably represent the Dominion amongst like institutions of the world. And further,

that a copy of this resolution be given to the press, and also published in *The Canadian Field-Naturalist*."

"PRAIRIE" FRINGED ORCHID. Mr. F. MORRIS, 643 Aylmer St., Peterboro, would be glad to hear from any reader of the NATURALIST who knows of a station in Ontario for the so-called "Prairie" Fringed Orchid (*Habenaria leucophaea*). It was found by him on the margin of a mud lake near Smith's Falls some 20 years ago, and in the moist heart of a tamarac swamp near Port Hope, 10 years ago, growing in Sphagnum moss with pogonias and cranberry vines close to standing water and cattails. It is a tall handsome plant with large creamy white flowers having a three-parted lip of fanlike and fringed divisions and a very long curving spur; the plants stand from 2 to 3½ feet high."

THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF BIRDS, MONTREAL, recently held meetings as follows:—

Jan. 12. Annual Meeting—Report—Election of Officers. Address: Mr. Napier Smith.

Feb. 9. The Traditions and Superstitions of Birds and Insects. Speakers, Miss M. Hadrill and Mr. A. F. Winn.

G. M. Dyer, Hon. Corres. Secy.