

all they require. To find dead birds in the nest is quite an exception.

Owls also keep their larders well stocked with fresh meat, and it is by no means an uncommon thing to find several untouched mice in nests containing young of Long-eared Owls. I have twice found those rodents present a day previous to the first egg-hatching, but whether these were for the expected young, or had merely been supplied by the male for his mate's use, I am unable to tell.

AUGUST 5.—I have been taking special observation of House Sparrows feeding their young within the last two weeks, and find that the food consists largely of grasshoppers, which at present are more plentiful than usual. Both parents go out in search of these insects, sometimes as far as half a mile away.

NOVEMBER 12.—About thirty House Sparrows arrived from the north this morning and left in a southerly direction before evening.

NOVEMBER 20.—A Northern Shrike has been up several times recently and at present is devoting its attention to capturing Juncoes. The House Sparrows have grown wise and as a rule are much too quick having learned that safety lies in rapid entrance into a building. The smaller birds are not so sagacious and attempt to escape by flying upwards, which almost invariably proves fatal, as the shrike follows like a bloodhound, and by sheer persistency more than rapidity of flight, accomplishes its object.

MEETINGS OF THE BOTANICAL BRANCH.

On the evening of November 13th, the first meeting of the Botanical Branch for the season was held at the residence of Mr. G. H. Clark. The following members were in attendance: Messrs. J. Macoun, R. B. Whyte, W. T. Macoun, T. E. Clarke, D. A. Campbell, G. H. Clark, L. H. Newman, A. E. Attwood, H. Groh, Geo. Michaud, Dr. Blackader, T. H. Binnie, W. H. Harrington and E. D. Eddy.

Mr. J. W. Gibson was the leader for the evening and chose as the topic for discussion "The adaptation of plants to their environment as shown by their internal structure." The different evidences of adaptation in the plant tissues were demonstrated by means of microscopes and a carefully selected collection of microscopic slides, some of which had been loaned for the occasion by Prof. W. T. McClement and his assistant, Mr. A. B. Klugh, of Queen's University.

The leader introduced the subject by first pointing out the