

NOTES.

DEER MOUSE DEVOURS HER YOUNG.—On September 8th. while hunting Batrachians, my friend Johnson and I turned a six foot log exposing two Jefferson's Salamanders and the nest of a White-footed Mouse.

The White-footed mother, leaving in haste, dragged two of her five pink, blind and hairless young a foot or so from the nest. We replaced them and put the log back in position.

Passing that way two days later, we again turned the log and were surprised to find only three young mice, the other two having totally disappeared. We captured the mother and placed her with the nest and three young in a covered aquarium with plenty of food and water. The following morning the young were gone, without doubt devoured by the mother, who evidently considered them contaminated by the human touch.

Johnson, who has had considerable experience in pet raising, states that ferret, white rat and domestic rabbit females will sometimes eat their young if the nest is disturbed even very slightly.

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KILLING BIRDS HELPS THE ENEMY.—Killing birds that eat insects and weed seeds helps the enemy. The annual food loss in the United States from the ravages of insects on crops, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, exceeds \$1,200,000,000. The loss in Canada is in proportion. Every careless person who kills a bird that is less injurious than it is valuable as an eater of weed seeds and insects is helping the enemy by killing our bird allies and by so doing is giving aid and comfort to the weeds and insects that reduce our food supply. Most of our birds are of this beneficial class and are really our allies. Robbing their nests is also an aid to the enemy. One can hardly go into the country without seeing boys and even men killing birds. Doubtless many of these persons would be surprised to know they were practical traitors and would gladly stop aiding the enemy if they knew it.

A large number of utterly fearless wild ducks are reported near Niagara. In one swamp along a brick highway where hundreds of autos pass daily and trolley cars run every 15 minutes, there have been 500 ducks for a month and they come up to this roadway to feed. Such a sight has not been seen in the region at least for years and the residents would pity any one who would molest the ducks. This is due to the Migratory Bird Law, and the recently arranged treaty between Canada and the United States.