

By May there were birds all over — chickadees, kinglets, sparrow hawks, all manner of warblers, sea birds such as Bonaparte's gull and double-crested cormorants, blue-winged teals (the last of the ducks to arrive), swifts and swallows, plovers, turnstones, grosbeaks, bitterns, vireos, least flycatchers, cedar waxwings, eastern wood peewees, the black-billed cuckoos and ruby-throated hummingbirds.

In Ottawa

Ottawa is covered with snow in the winter and with tulips in the spring.

By the last two weeks in May Ottawa has had 500,000 crocuses, 600,000 daffodils and three million tulips on public display. Many of them are on the lawns of Parliament and they have, perhaps, been coddled a bit by the heating plant pipes that run beneath the grass. The tulips were a gift from the Netherlands in appreciation of Canada's help during World War II when Canadian Forces liberated Holland and members of the Dutch Royal Family stayed in Ottawa in exile.

Gatineau Park, on Ottawa's edge, has lakes (the beaches open the second week in June) and more acres of flowers. Their names, listed in official guide books to the Park in both English and French, include white baneberry (*actée à gros pédicelles*), wild leek (*ail sauvage, ail des bois*),



White Baneberry.

anemone, windflower (*anémone du Canada*), pussytoes (*antennaire négligée*), columbine (*ancolie, gants de Notre-Dame*), wild sarsaparilla (*salsepareille*), jack-in-the-pulpit (*petit prêcheur*), spring beauty (*claytonie de Caroline*), and stemless lady's slipper (*sabot de la Vierge*).



Dow's Lake, Ottawa.