

planted. If this is placed in a wooded corner of the garden or shrubbery it will be constantly visited by all kinds of small birds.

The foregoing discussion of the advantages and methods of bird protection leads me to the chief object of this lecture, namely, the outlining of a definite scheme for the protection and encouragement of the birds of Ottawa, which scheme, I am pleased to say, has been enthusiastically adopted by the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club. Those who have lived in Ottawa for a number of years will have observed with regret the destruction on one by one of places which were the haunts of many wild birds. The rapid growth of the city and the outward march of the streets and houses have driven the birds from their former quarters. We are now witnessing the destruction of one of the most delightful of all nature spots around Ottawa, namely Beaver Meadow. The city is gaining in population and taxes at the expense of natural beauty. But as we cannot and should not wish to prevent such extension, we should take every means possible to offset the losses in natural beauty so occasioned.

There are within the city limits, but at present on the outskirts of the built-over districts, two areas unequalled by their natural beauty for the purpose we have in view. I refer to Rockcliffe Park and the grounds and Botanical Garden of the Dominion Government's Experimental Farm. The former, being a piece of woodland and forest rescued from the hand of the lumberman and builder, is one of the most beautiful natural parks in eastern Canada. The Experimental Farm, laid out and planted about twenty-six years ago, is even better suited to the purpose in view, owing to the abundance of trees and shrubs of all kinds, especially those bearing wild fruits. Since the establishment of the farm, efforts have been made to prevent the destruction of the birds and the robbing of their nests and Mr. W. T. Macoun, the Dominion Horticulturist, showed great zeal in this protection.

It is proposed to regard these two areas as bird sanctuaries in which steps shall be taken not only to prevent the destruction of the birds and the despoiling of their nests, but also to encourage their presence by providing those species which nest in holes and cavities with nesting boxes and sites. I am very pleased to say that the Ottawa Improvement Commission have consented to provide and distribute this spring two hundred and fifty nest boxes in Rockcliffe Park, and to constitute the same as a bird sanctuary. The Director of the Experimental Farms has agreed to the distribution in the spring of one hundred and sixty nesting boxes in the grounds of the Farm and the Botanical Garden, which will constitute a sanctuary. Apart from