

NEW OR RARE BIRD RECORDS FROM MANITOBA,
1912.

BY NORMAN CRIDDLE.

The following notes refer chiefly to birds that have not hitherto, so far as I am aware, been recorded from the Province of Manitoba, and all are new to the fauna of Aweme.

SAY'S PHOEBE, *Sayornis saya* (Bonap.) Baird.

An example of this bird was secured by my brother Stuart, on April 23rd, close to some deserted farm buildings, and another one observed three days later. A bird almost surely of the same species was heard uttering loud cries in an old barn the previous year, but made its escape before it could be observed closely. Others have also been seen from time to time in past years, but the above constitutes the first authentic record east of Saskatchewan.

It has, however, been found breeding in North Dakota as well as from Saskatchewan westward to the coast, so there is good reason for expecting that it will eventually be found nesting in Manitoba also.

OBERHOLSER'S HORNED LARK.

This bird, known scientifically as *Otocoris alpestris enthymia*, was found breeding in company with a colony of Chestnut-colored Longspurs; a specimen was also collected by my brother, Stuart, on a ploughed field in April. He submitted two to Mr. Oberholser, who determined them as above.

This race, to judge from the latest Check List, has not yet been recognized as valid by the A. O. U., so may very possibly intergrade with other forms found further west. In Manitoba its nearest ally seems to be *praticola*, from which it is very difficult to separate during the migratory seasons. When breeding, however, it selects the open prairies, while the Prairie Horned Lark confines itself more to the broken wood-lands, where there are small plains or bare hills surrounded intermittently with trees, though it seldom, if ever, seeks shelter in or among the trees. When better known, *enthymia* will probably be found to be quite a common breeding bird in the province.

Another horned lark, the Pallid, has also been identified from Aweme by Mr. Oberholser, which adds yet another to the local list, though previously collected and recorded for Manitoba. Thus to date we have records of four races, *praticola*, *arctica*, *enthymia* and *hoyti*, while Mr. Seton enrolls a fifth, *alpestris*. Probably at least one other, *leucolæma*, occurs here also.