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CONSERVATION

(Continued from page 9.)

The Middle Atlantic coast from New Jersey to the Eastern Shore of Virginia. This bird is variable in color, ranging from dark above, paler below, and is intermediate in size and length of bill the Hudsonian curlew (P. hudsonicus), has benefited by the protection afforded by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918. Among more familiar shore-birds that probably only one or two and during migration may be seen in considerable numbers on salt marshes are the greater and lesser yellowlegs, dowitcher, pectorial sandpiper, and least sandpiper.

Neither species of yellowlegs breeds on the Atlantic coast, but both may be seen there in migration. The greater yellowlegs (T. melanotos) breeds in the southern United States. The two species are color alike; the body is dusky above, speckled with paler, and is whitish below, more or less streaked or mottled with dusky. The greater yellowlegs is 12 to 15 inches long; the lesser yellowlegs is 9 to 11. The bill of each is long as the head, a moderate length in proportion to the size of the bird compared with that of the lesser yellowlegs. Both species are easily alarmed and take to wing uttering repeated loud, ringing, whistling cries. The latter, in old hunting days a habit known as "tattling".

The dowitcher (Limnodromus griseus), occurring only as a migrant on the Atlantic coast salt marshes is a plump-bodied bird, with the bill more than twice as long as the head. The upper side of the body is in spring largely brown and in winter gray, the rump is chiefly white, and the tail is barred black and white. Dowitchers are less excitable than the yellowlegs and may sometimes be closely approached. They remain by preference in compact flocks and probe their mud industriously with their long bills.

The pectorial sandpiper (Pisobia melanotos), or grassbird, of short, stout build, with a long, straight bill, is seen on the Atlantic coast only in migration. It is 8 to 9 1/2 inches in length, with the head the top of the head is streaked brownish black and light chestnut, the back feathers are a small size, the upper breast is pale brownish streaked with dusky, the belly and rump are white, and the middle tail feathers are darker than the others.

A note, kreek, kreek, given by the bird when flushed, has suggested one of its local names, "kreeker". There are several small species of very similar appearance, but it is impracticable to differentiate them here, though a common one on mud about 5 to 6 inches long with greenish-yellow legs and a slightly down-curved bill, is likely to be the least sandpiper, or mud peep (P. minutus), which breeds in the Atlantic Coast States but occurs in all of them in migration and winters from North Carolina southward. It frequents mud benches everywhere and is often seen in salt marshes, sometimes assembled in great flocks. From the large numbers and small size of the sandpipers associating in these flocks, the birds are locally called "bumb-bee peeps".

The spotted sandpiper (Actitis macularia) frequents both wet grassy and muddy areas. Although chiefly a fresh-water associate, it is so universally distributed that individuals at times are likely to visit salt marshes. This bird, 6 to 8 inches long, is grayish brown above and white below, marked with round dark spots that distinguish it from any other shorebird. It is constantly bobbing and is on that account named "bobber". When taking flight, it carries feet and wings alternately flaps and sails, usually not far before alighting.

It was pointed out by the writer in 1911 that shorebirds deserve protection because of their beneficial feeding habits at times. Local conditions permit, the birds are highly insectivorous, feeding on grasshoppers, caterpillars, including such pests as the army-worm, cutworm and cut-worms; and beetles, including billbugs and wireworms. They eat also adults and larvae of hoppers and beetles, and winter-hordeflies and midges. The hordeflies and midges, which are destructive to grasshoppers, have been found in single stomachs, as well as water beetles and their larvae which prey on worms; and beetles, including billbugs and wireworms. They eat also adults and larvae of hoppers and beetles, and winter-hordeflies and midges. The hordeflies and midges, which are destructive to grasshoppers, have been found in single stomachs, as well as water beetles and their larvae which prey on worms; and beetles, including billbugs and wireworms.

A Line on the A.E.F. . . . by LOW



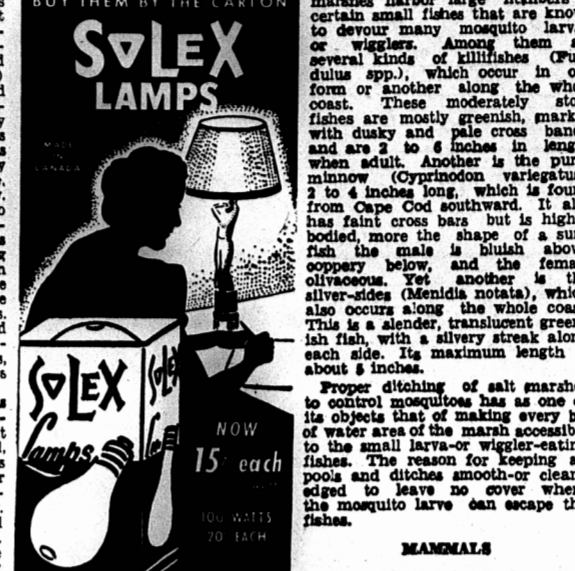
INTERROGATION.

The Flying Fortress had limped back to its English base after a daylight raid over France. Members of the American crew tramped into headquarters and sat before Major Rufus Rand, of Minneapolis, for routine interrogation. They told the officer of their bombing job and of the 50-mile running fight homeward at 20,000 feet. From every clump of trees along the winding, glistening Somme below, anti-aircraft guns had blazed at them, shrapnel-pocking the wings and body of the big ship until two of its four engines were out of order.

Then there were the German fighters, who first moved up from behind in a straight line, then changed tactics and darted in from both sides. One Nazi actually had tried to loop the Fortress. Gunners got some of the attackers . . . one American was wounded . . . but they made it back, all right.

It was a dramatic, spine-chilling story. But David Low, famous English artist attending the meeting, found something humorous to sketch as one of the bulky clads yers tried to demonstrate the graceful darting tactics of an enemy plane.

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circle to treat of the fishes of salt marshes, but it should be mentioned that the waters of these marshes harbor large numbers of certain small fishes that are known to devour many mosquito larvae and pupae. Among them are several kinds of killifishes (Fundulus spp.), which occur in one form or another along the whole coast. These moderately stout fishes are mostly greenish, marked with dusky and pale cross bands, and are 2 to 3 inches in length when adults. Another is the pearly minnow (Cyprinodon variegatus), 2 to 4 inches long, which is found from Cape Cod southward. It also has faint cross bars, but is higher bodied, more the shape of a sun-fish, the male is bluish above, coppery below, and the female is olive above, and the male is silver-sided (Menidia notata), which also occurs along the whole coast. This is a slender, translucent greenish fish with a heavy streak along each side. Its maximum length is about 3 inches.

Proper ditching of salt marshes to control mosquitoes has as one of its objects the making every inch of water area of the marsh accessible to the small larva- or wiggler-eating fishes. The reason for keeping all pools and swamps smooth or edged to leave no cover where the mosquito larvae can escape the fishes.

MAMMALS

No species of fur animal or other mammal inhabits salt marshes exclusively. Meadow mice and muskrats may live in the marshes at all seasons but colonies that are only of a very extensive inland range.

Meadow mice, or field mice (Microtus pennsylvanicus), inhabit the marshes with some localities may be numerous. They are short-tailed, smoothly rounded little rodents, with not even the ears sticking out of the fur to any extent. Their average length is about 7 inches, about 5 1/2 for the body and 1 1/2 for the tail. These mice construct runways, irregular, indented with a heavy streak along the ground and some on the surface. The latter are easily seen on burned-over areas in spring when the snow has melted away from the flattened vegetation. Meadow mice feed largely on vegetable materials and in salt marshes they use such materials for their burrows. They are the most frequently captured prey of a number of King's of hawks and owls.

The muskrat (Ondatra zibethica) is not unlike meadow mice but they are about 2 feet in length, of which nearly half is the tail, which is compressed and flattened. They live in areas where burrows and cattails are abundant and eat all parts of these plants, which they use as materials for the construction of their lodges. These are low, conical mounds, substantially built and standing high enough above the water line to provide ample space within for a dry, grass-lined living room, from which several passages lead off in different directions under water. Muskrats are heavily trapped for fur, which ordinarily has a good valuation, and considering the abundance of the animals. The revenue from the sale of skins on some controlled lands of muskrat farms has proved equal to or even greater than that from nearby agricultural lands.

Other common mammal visitors to the marshes include the otter (Lutra canadensis), the milk (Mustela vison) the raccoon (Procyon lotor), the mink (Mustela vison), and the muskrat (Ondatra zibethica), all probably well enough known for there to be no question as to the identity.

GRACKLES

The boat-tailed grackle (Cassidix mexicanus) almost universally called jackdaw, is a bird of the coast from southern Delaware southward. The male is mostly black with bluish and greenish reflections; the female, chiefly buffy brown, with wings and tail darker. The male is 15 to 16 inches in length, of which more than a third is tail, the female, 12 to 14 inches. This is stout and longer than the head. The female is marked by a cinnamon band across the breast below the single blue eye possessed by both sexes. The bird frequently utters a loud, harsh rattle. It captures fishes by plunging for them, and its fishing habits are probably due to little harm about hatcheries and rearing ponds, however, the bird must be controlled. This usually is by means of traps, but screening all fish ponds of moderate size would be preferable.

WARBLERS AND SWALLOWS

In winter two small land birds, the warbler and the swallow, are likely to be common enough near or in southern salt marshes to attract attention. Both birds consume insects whenever available and feed chiefly on them during the warmer months, as do all the birds of their order. Both species are legally protected throughout the Union.

The myrtle warbler (Dendroica coronata) is a small bird, less than 6 inches long and is chiefly bluish gray above and white below, streaked with black; and the crown of the rump and the sides of the breast are yellow. This attractive little bird frequently utters a characteristic and rather loud chirp. It feeds to a considerable extent on the fruits of the bayberry or waxmyrtle, a habit alluded to in the standard vernacular name. This habit, an unusual one for warblers, a highly insectivorous group of birds, enables the species to winter farther north than any of its relatives.

A remark to the same purport is in order respecting the tree swallow (Iridoprocne bicolor), and the bayberry-eating habit seems even more remarkable in its case. This species is seen in winter regularly as far north as North Carolina and occasionally as New Jersey. It is glossy bluish green above and white below. Like others of its tribe it goes much in company and is expert in flight.

OTHER WILDLIFE OF THE SALT MARSHES

Birds are more prominent elements of the wildlife of marshes than are some other groups, no doubt because of the ease with which they come and go—they do not have to stay but are free to visit. Temporarily frequenting a salt marsh, however, is very different from living there permanently, which requires close adaptation. As we have seen, relatively few birds are fitted for such exclusive residence. The same is true among other kinds of wildlife, and the amphibians (toads, frogs, salamanders, and the like), one important group, are totally banned from the marshes because their tender skins will not endure salt.

REPTILES

Comparatively few reptiles penetrate the salt marshes, though of course a number may be found near the landward edge (this is true of the amphibians, too), where conditions may become radically different in a short distance.

The alligator (Alligator mississippiensis), which all will recognize on sight, occasionally appears in salt water and at times, therefore, may be seen in the marshes. Its normal range is from North Carolina southward, but a few alligators possibly escaped from captivity, have been found as far north as New Jersey. Alligators deposit their eggs in layers in mounds of mud and vegetation scraped together by the fynes. Owing to the heat produced by the rotting of the vegetation, the mounds, which serve as incubators. The animals

CONSERVATIVE MEETING

A general meeting will be held at the Empire Theatre on Tuesday evening November 17th, 1942, at 8 o'clock P. M.

Honourable R. B. Hanson, K. C., M. P.
Conservative Leader in House of Commons

Honourable Hugh McKay
Conservative Leader of New Brunswick.

Honourable W. J. P. MacMillan
Conservative Leader of Prince Edward Island

will be the speakers—
Queen's County Conservative Association

Walter S. Grant, President.
M. Alban Farmer, Secretary.

CONSERVATIVE CONVENTION

SECOND, THIRD AND FIFTH DISTRICTS OF QUEEN'S COUNTY

Conventions to nominate Conservative Candidates to contest the Second, Third and Fifth Districts of Queen's County at the next Provincial Election will be held in the Empire Theatre, Charlottetown, on Tuesday, November 17th, 1942 at 2 p.m. for Second District, 3 p.m. for Third District and 4 p.m. for Fifth District. Each poll is entitled to send five delegates to the Convention for its District. The poll chairmen are asked to arrange for the selection of delegates at once.

QUEEN'S COUNTY CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION
Walter S. Grant
President
M. A. Farmer
Secretary
10-31-4-7-11-14-18

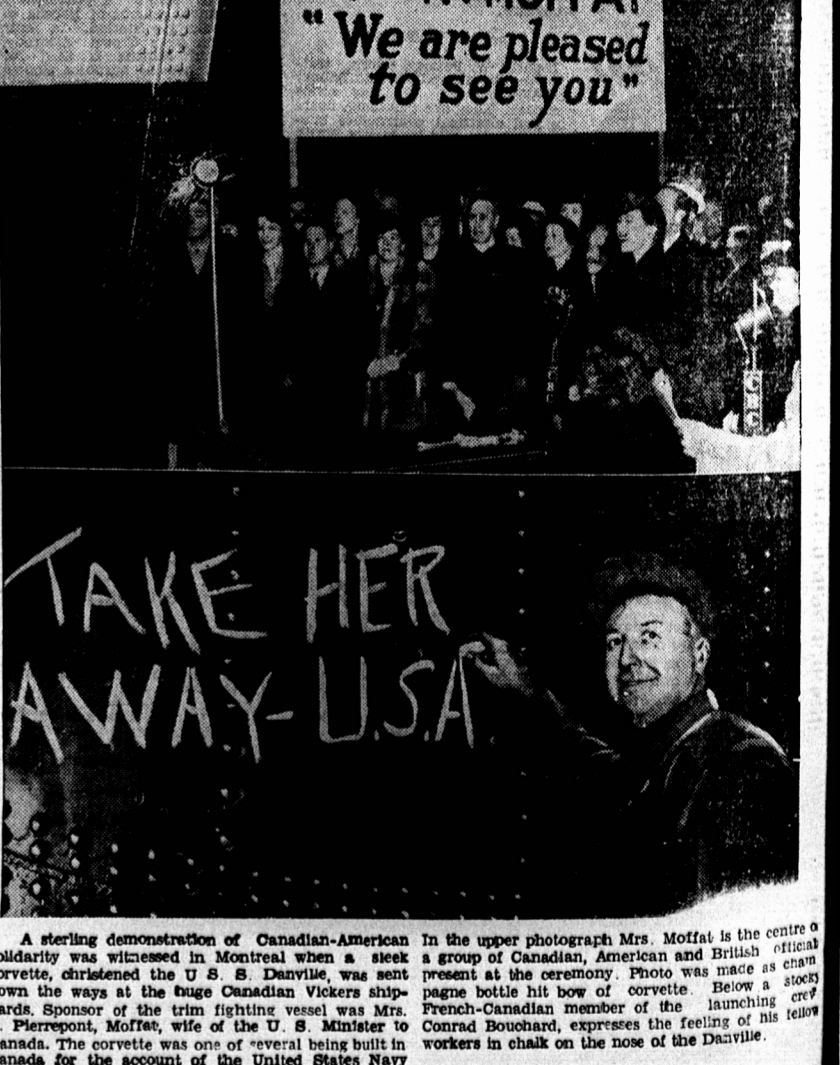
CONSERVATIVE CONVENTION

FOURTH DISTRICT OF QUEEN'S

A convention to nominate two Conservative Candidates to contest this District at the next Provincial Election will be held at Eldon Hall on Thursday November 19th, 1942 at 2 p.m. Each poll is entitled to send five delegates to this convention. The poll chairmen are asked to arrange for the selection of delegates at once.

QUEEN'S COUNTY CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION
Walter S. Grant
President
M. A. Farmer
Secretary
10-31-4-7-11-14-18

venom as possible by suction, which as the venom may be absorbed should be done with a stout rubber tube through abrasions in the lining of the mouth, unless there is no other way. (To Be Continued)



MR AND MRS MOFFAT
"We are pleased to see you"

A sterling demonstration of Canadian-American solidarity was witnessed in Montreal when a sleek a group of Canadian, American and British officers corvette, christened the U. S. Danville, was sent down the ways at the huge Canadian Vickers shipyards. Sponsor of the trim fighting vessel was Mrs. J. Pierrepont, Moffat, wife of the U. S. Minister to Canada. The corvette was one of several being built in Canada for the account of the United States Navy.

In the upper photograph Mrs. Moffat is the centre of solidarity was witnessed in Montreal when a sleek a group of Canadian, American and British officers corvette, christened the U. S. Danville, was sent down the ways at the huge Canadian Vickers shipyards. Sponsor of the trim fighting vessel was Mrs. J. Pierrepont, Moffat, wife of the U. S. Minister to Canada. The corvette was one of several being built in Canada for the account of the United States Navy.

workers in chalk on the nose of the Danville.