

Bird Enemies of the Chinese Cotton Scale.—For several years our shade trees, especially maples and black locust, ornamental shrubs and vines, have been threatened with destruction by the invasion of the Chinese cotton scale. I have kept close watch over the pest to see if it had any bird enemies, and not until last winter was I able to satisfy myself that there were birds which sought the scale for food. A flock of twenty-five Redpolls (*Acanthis linaria*) passed the winter months in the city, and came almost daily to the maple trees about my home and fed upon the cotton scale. Their peculiar action in reaching around beneath the branches of the trees whilst feeding first attracted my attention, and with the aid of my field glasses I was able to determine their kind and what they were feeding upon.

Frequently a number of Pine Finches would associate with the Redpolls and partake of the same insect food. It is claimed by some observers that the Western Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus montanus*), feeds upon the Chinese scale, but I am inclined to doubt this assertion, from the observation I constantly had over a large flock of over one hundred which spent the winter in this city, and upon no occasion did I notice them feeding upon the scale. A friend told me he had observed the Chickadees feeding on the Chinese cotton scale and I trust that he was not deceived.

This season, for the first time, the city authorities have systematically sprayed all our shade trees with some chemical which has pretty thoroughly annihilated the scale pest, so the opportunity for study along this line will not be so favorable this winter.—W. W. ARNOLD, *Colorado Springs, Colo.*