

The summary of the spring migration is fuller than usual owing to a material increase in the corps of observers, and there are the 'Abstract of Proceedings,' 'Bibliography' and 'Club Notes.' Under the last appears an account of the Twenty-fifth anniversary dinner of the Club on January 7, 1915, at which 66 members and seven guests were present. The average attendance at the meetings during 1914 was approximately 24.—W. S.

Publications on Bird Protection.—Mr. E. H. Forbush's annual report¹ as state ornithologist of Massachusetts is, as usual, full of interesting facts and valuable suggestions. Among other things he shows the effect of birds in checking the ravages of the army worm, the effect of the destruction of ducks, herons and other aquatic birds on the abundance of mosquito larvæ and the prevalence of diseases transmitted by these insects. Ducks at least are known to devour mosquito larvæ in quantities. The European Starling and the havoc it causes in the orchards by pecking apples and pears and devouring cherries are also considered at length.

The Alabama Bird Day Book for 1915² for which the Commissioner of Game and Fish, Mr. John H. Wallace, Jr., is responsible, is as usual admirably fitted for its purpose, replete with short sketches and poems suitable for Bird Day celebrations and illustrated by some of the Mumford color plates of familiar species. Alabama stands well in the lead among the states of the Union in furthering the observance of Bird Day.—W. S.

Bird Enemies of two Beetle Pests.—The huisache (*Acacia farnesiana*) a favorite shade tree in the southwest is damaged by a longicorn beetle (*Oncideres putator*). "It is believed that the Southern Downy Woodpecker (*Dryobates pubescens*) and probably also the Texas Woodpecker (*Dryobates scalaris bairdi*) attack the larvæ. While neither of these birds has been found with larvæ, they have been observed at work on branches that contained numerous larvæ of this insect and have left empty chambers behind."³

A click beetle, seriously injurious to corn, oats and cotton, is reported upon by entomologists of the South Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station. They report that in both 1912 and 1913 "the elytra of this beetle were recognized in the excrement of a Nighthawk, presumably *Chordeiles virginianus*. These elytra were found to be very frequent in the excrement of this bird in a field of tasseling corn where thousands of these

¹ Seventh Annual Report of the State Ornithologist [of Massachusetts] for the Year 1914, Sixty-second Ann. Rept. State Board of Agr., pp. 1-31. January 13, 1915.

² Alabama Bird Day Book. Issued by Department of Game and Fish. John H. Wallace, Jr., Commissioner; Miss Sophia Watts, Secretary. [Montgomery, Ala.]

³ High, M. M. The huisache girdler. Bull. 184, U. S. Dept. of Agric., April 8, 1915, p. 8.