

Report on the Economic Value of Eight British Birds.— In a recent report¹ Professor Walter E. Collinge further shows his reliance on the volumetric method of analyzing the contents of birds' stomachs, and throws a clearer light on the economic relations of eight species of British birds. The Jackdaw although having a bad name like most of the Crow family, is found, on the whole, considerably more beneficial than injurious. Only occasionally is combating it warranted. The Starling has increased enormously in England during the past 15 years and consequently has been forced to change its feeding habits. Repressive measures calculated to bring the bird back to its normal abundance are needed; then it is practically certain the species could again be classed as useful. The Chaffinch is not of decided economic importance, one way or the other. It destroys some fruit buds and grain, which it seems to pay for by an equivalent consumption of injurious insects. Vigorous methods either for or against the bird are not indicated. The Yellow Bunting, like the Chaffinch, has an almost neutral economic significance. The Great Tit and the Blue Tit are shown to be heavy consumers of injurious insects. Both species differ from the American Titmice in doing some damage to fruit, but the conclusion as to their general economic tendencies is, as would be expected, distinctly favorable. Two thrushes are reported upon, of which the Song Thrush is shown to damage fruit, at times, but to compensate for it by insect destruction, and the Fieldfare is shown to be almost exclusively beneficial.— W. L. M.

The Ornithological Journals.

Bird-Lore. XXI, No. 3. May–June, 1919.

The Warblers of Central New York. By Arthur A. Allen (concluded).

Notes from A Traveller in the Tropics. IV. Peru. By Frank M. Chapman.— An interesting account of familiar species with figures of the White-throated Song Sparrow (*Brachospiza capensis*) and the Flightless Grebe of Lake Titicaca (*Centropelma micropterum*).

Purple Finches. By Mrs. H. F. Straw.— Interesting notes on habits.

Two Thrushes. By T. A. Taper.— Olive-back and Hermit with observations on nesting.

The migration and plumage notes refer to the Blue, Green and Steller's Jays, with plate by Fuertes, while the Audubon leaflet treats of the Least Bittern, the plate being by Horsfall.

Bird-Lore. XXI, No. 4. July–August, 1919.

Nature and England. By Frank M. Chapman.— An impressive picture of England in spring time and her people recovering from the strain of war.

¹ Some Further Investigations on the Food of Wild Birds. Journ. Board Agr. [London], 25, No. 12, March, 1919, pp. 1444–1462, 9 figs. (diagrams).