

Food Habits of the Ring-neck Pheasant.—A recent Circular¹ of the Colorado Agricultural College contains statements of the crop and stomach contents of 60 Ring-necked Pheasants collected in Colorado. No estimates of the proportions of the various food items are given and it is rather difficult to grasp the import of the data presented. The general conclusions drawn by the persons, Messrs. W. L. Burnett and Asa C. Maxon, making the stomach examinations are that the food of the pheasant is largely vegetable, including much grain, that the birds show no preference for insect food and are very indifferent to grasshoppers, that the birds damage corn, wheat and other field and garden crops, and that their value to agriculture has been overestimated.—W. L. M.

Recent Reports on Game and Bird Conservation.—Glancing over the constantly increasing number of publications dealing with bird and game protection, we find a picture in 'California Fish and Game,' for April, of 1531 Blue Jays killed in a Blue Jay hunt by sportsmen at Hollister, Calif., under the impression that these Jays eat the eggs of game birds and should therefore be exterminated. This slaughter seems, as the editor suggests, of doubtful benefit. As we have always maintained the upsetting of nature's balance by extermination of any species is a matter deserving the most careful consideration.

'Bird Notes and News' [England] tells us once more of the shameful way in which action on the plumage importation bill is held up again and again in Parliament.

'The Gull,' the organ of the Audubon Association of the Pacific, continues to publish live notes of interest to bird protectionists on the coast, as does the 'New Jersey Audubon Bulletin' for the state which it covers. From the latter we learn that the State Legislature at its last session placed the Bobolink on the list of protected birds where it was prior to the alteration in the migratory bird treaty regulations.

'Fins, Feathers and Fur' has much of interest to Minnesota conservationists and includes a good article on winter bird life in that State for the season of 1920-21 by Thaddeus Surber.

The April 'Bulletin of the American Game Protective Association' has a report on Ring-necked Pheasant breeding and a report of a delightful speech by Dr. Loye Holmes Miller on music of the woods.

The Illinois State Government publishes a 'Circular' on Arbor and Bird Days which is profusely illustrated and full of valuable hints for school work.—W. S.

¹A Study of the Food Habits of the Ring-necked Pheasant in Colorado. W. L. Burnett. Feeding Habits and Food of the Ring-necked Pheasant. By Asa C. Maxon. Circular 31. Colo. Agric College, Ft. Collins, Colo. February, 1921.