that some Swallows hawking about some beaver ponds near Anthracite Creek were Tree Swallows and not Violet-greens, which are very common in the region, and which were seen at the same time.

Dendroica aestiva aestiva. YELLOW WARBLER.—Yellow Warblers were very common among the willows along Slate River in July.

Geothlypis trichas occidentalis. WESTERN YELLOW-THROAT.—A Yellow-throat was seen July 15 at Lake Brennan. This is a new record for the region.

Hylocichla guttata auduboni. AUDUBON'S HERMIT THRUSH.—I saw a bird of this species feeding near some beaver ponds on Coal Creek about five miles west of Crested Butte.—EDWARD R. WARREN, *1511 Wood Avenue, Colorado Springs, Colo.*

Notes on Birds of Ft. Collins, Colorado.—In our many trips afield during the past year or so, we have come upon a few birds of rare occurrence in the Fort Collins region, Colorado. Both of us have had considerable experience in the field in various sections of the United States. Our sight observations here recorded were made with 8 x 10 x 12 binoculars, the subjects being either close enough for identification without glasses or within easy range for the glasses. The Double-crested Cormorant was under observation for twenty minutes; all the others for much longer periods of time. All birds were observed in the swamps and lakes eight to twelve miles north, east, and southeast of Fort Collins except the Northern Blue Jay, which visited our neighborhood in the city of Fort Collins.

Aechmophorus occidentalis. WESTERN GREBE.—One individual May 10, 1927, and several all through July and August to date, 1927, by Gordon.

Phalacrocorax auritus auritus. DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT.—One individual May 18, 1927, associated with Canvas-backs and Pintails. Gordon.

Pelecanus erythrorhynchos. AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN.—One individual observed by Langdon, July 4 and 15, 1927, and by Gordon, July 5 and 10, 1927.

Chen hyperboreus hyperboreus. LESSER SNOW GOOSE.—One individual April 25, 1927. Subspecies determined by geographic range. Gordon.

Plegadis guarauna. WHITE-FACED GLOSSY IBIS.—One individual May 11, 1927, by Gordon at less than one hundred and fifty feet.

Casmerodius egretta. EGRET.—One individual companioned by a Great Blue Heron, June 20 and 22, 1926. Langdon.

Egretta candidissima. SNOWY EGRET.—One individual April 27 and 28, 1927; two individuals together April 29, 1927; three individuals together May 2, 1927; and one individual May 6 and 13, 1927; by Langdon. Gordon and Langdon were together May 2, 1927. Two individuals together August 15, 1927, by Gordon. On one occasion this bird was observed on a ditch bank from a distance of not more than sixty feet, every detail being distinctly seen.

Himantopus mexicanus. BLACK-NECKED STILT.—One individual September 2, 1926, two individuals together May 29, 1927, by Langdon. One individual May 10 to 17 inclusive, 1927, observed daily by Gordon. On May 17, while Gordon was photographing Avocets, the Stilt came to within forty feet of his blind.

Limosa fedoa. MARBLED GODWIT.—May 2, 1927, Gordon and Langdon together, counted seventy-three. May 6 and 15, 1927, six and forty-three respectively were observed and counted by Langdon.

Squatarola squatarola. BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER.—One individual May 6, 1927; three individuals May 7, 1927; four individuals May 10, 1927; by Langdon. Four individuals May 12, 1927, and three individuals May 18, 1927, by Gordon.

Cyanocitta cristata cristata. BLUE JAY.—One individual January 8, 1927, by Langdon and Gordon; one individual May 18, 1927, by Langdon. On January 8, the Jay was under observation for exactly thirty minutes. He was in the company of a few Long-crested Jays.—KENNETH GORDON and ROY M. LANGDON, *Ft. Collins, Colorado.*

Cases where Birds become Harmful, and Insects Useful, Factors in Economic Problems.—The reflective biologist is aware of the great complexity of the interrelationships of animals and plants, and of their almost endless ramifications. It must always be borne in mind that we usually are able to attain only a rough-and-ready sort of justice in our investigations of such problems, and that new information may demand at any time a general recasting of our views, with consequent alteration in policies.

Instances in point come up most forcibly in connection with organisms introduced into new environments, where at first, at least, there is no 'balance of nature,' so far as the newcomers are concerned. Often as we know to our regret they run riot. The Lantana introduced in Hawaii was aided in its terrific spread by birds; then insect enemies of the plant were introduced which for the most part prevent it from seeding and the pest is subsiding.[1]

The prickly pear escaping in Australia rapidly became a national problem. The seeds were carried far and wide by birds and there was demand even for the extermination of the Emu as the most effective of these disseminators. Fortunately this proposal did not prevail, for even had the Emu been removed the prickly pear would have been kept going by numerous other agents of distribution. The effective step that was taken, however, was the introduction of cactus feeding insects, and one of them "entirely destroyed some thousands of acres of one species of prickly pear, *Opuntia monacantha*, but was quite unable to feed upon the allied pest pear, *Opuntia inermis*."[2] Other cactus insects have been imported and the whole problem seems to be in a fair way of solution.

[1] See 'The Auk,' 42, No. 1, Jan. 1925, p. 160.

[2] Tillyard, R. J., 'Nature,' Feb. 12, 1927, pp. 242–243.