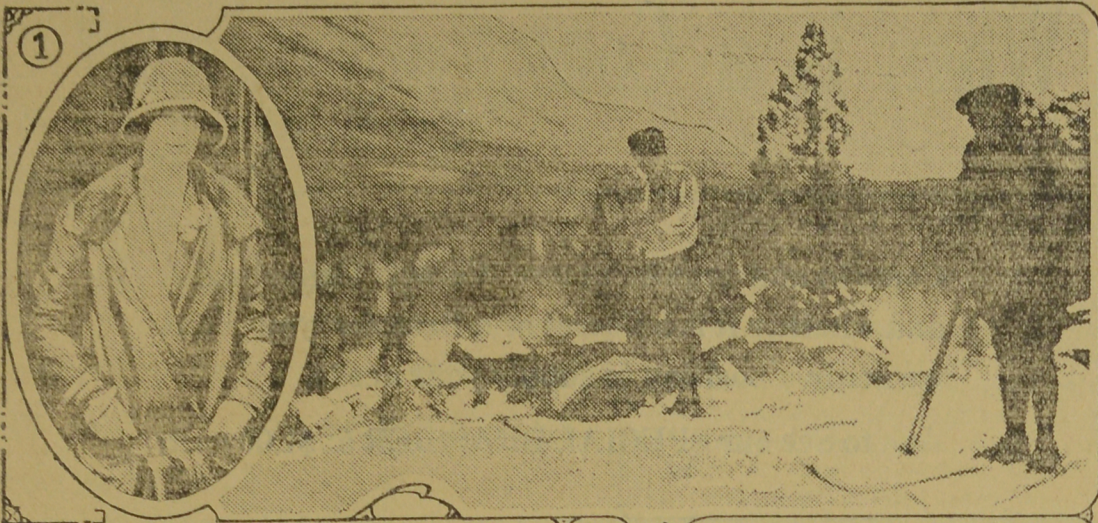


Amery Travels 55,000 Miles



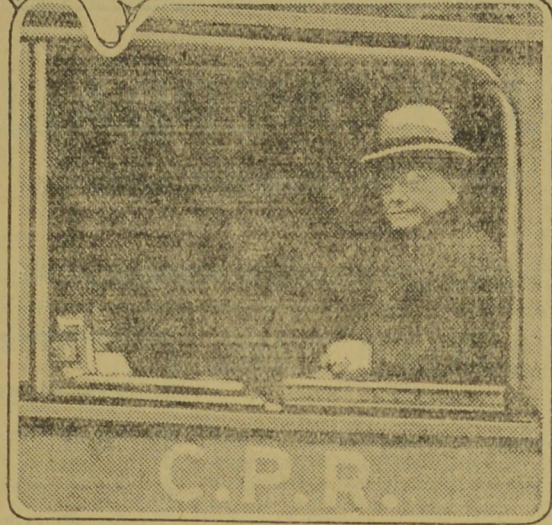
Upper left—Mrs. Amery after an inspection of the C.P.R. engine. Upper right—Disproving the belief that mountain air is colder than cities. Lower right—Right Hon. L. C. M. S. Amery driving the engine which carried him across the Dominion.

Fifty-five thousand odd miles in twenty-two days! That will be the record of Lieut.-Colonel the Right Honorable L. C. M. S. Amery, M.P., Secretary of State for the Dominions, when he returns to England after his Dominion-wide tour on February 11. During this period Colonel Amery has visited South Africa, Australia, New Zealand and Canada, and has delivered upwards of 380 speeches all told.

His speeches have covered a wide range and have been enthusiastically received by monster audiences throughout. He has been particularly happy in his references to the romance of the British Empire and, in his remarks concerning the economic position of the component parts of the British Empire, while in speeches touching on the Empire Marketing Board he has broken new ground with most satisfactory results.

In every speech delivered by Colonel Amery in Canada he stressed the findings of the Imperial Conference in 1926, which made known explicitly to the world, he stated, that every one of the Dominions was an equal Imperial partner in the British Empire.

Colonel Amery landed in Canada from the S.S. "Aorangi" at Victoria on January 6, and will sail from Saint John, N.B., on February 3, on the Canadian Pacific liner, the "Montclare," for Liverpool. For the journey across Canada, where stops were made at 18 important centres, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company placed a special train at the disposal of the distinguished visitor and staff. On arrival at Banff, Alberta, the capital city of the Canadian Pacific Rockies, Colonel Amery threw all



cares of state aside and spent all the day of January 12 enjoying winter sports. The Colonel is an expert skier and took great pleasure in overcoming the difficulties of Tunnel Mountain. Throughout the tour Mrs. Amery, herself a Canadian girl, accompanied her gifted husband. Others to make the trip were Capt. W. Brass, M.P. for the Clitheroe Division of Lancashire and Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Health; G. G. Whiskard, Assistant Secretary at the Dominions office, and G. Huxley, of the Empire Marketing Board.

REASON.

Bill—"You certainly are loyal to your school. Don't you think it's a little bit too ridiculous?"

Tommy—"I don't. You see, I put some heavy bets on the school team and won enough money to pay my tuition for the rest of the year."

GOOD REASON.

Len—"Yeah, Frank left his home for her."

Jim—"Why?"

Len—"Oh, her's was a better one."

A lot of fliers seem to come to no good end.

THE OTHER WAY.

Author—"I can see you have my novel. I suppose you had a peep at the last page to see how it ended?"

Candid Lady—"As a matter of fact, after reading two chapters, I wondered why it began!"

MR. WILLIAM H. MOORE DEALS INTERESTINGLY WITH THE RAPTORIAL BIRDS OF N. B.

(W. H. Moore, Scotch Lake, York County, N. B.)

The order "Raptores," as represented in New Brunswick, include the vultures, kites, hawks and owls which are classified under several smaller branches. Although not a true bird of prey as we understand it, the vultures, which are really carrion feeders, are classed with the birds of prey, who capture their own food. Hawks are classified as "diurnal," owls as "nocturnal" birds of prey.

"Cathartes aura," Turkey Vulture: This species has been taken in New Brunswick even though naturally they belong farther south. A few individuals have been known well to the northern section of the province. These individuals have been spring migrants, adventurers as it were, out to find new fields to conquer.

"C. uruba," Black Vulture: Similar to "aura," reported as occurring in New Brunswick. There is an old record of one kite being known here, reported in an early list of New Brunswick birds by a surveyor by the name of Sills. This was probably the Swallow-tailed Kite, "Elanoides forficatus," as this species has been recorded near north to the Canadian border.

"Circus hudsonius," Marsh Hawk or Harrier, is generally distributed about marshes and other low lands where they nest upon the ground and prey upon the small mammals that make their homes in such places. Some small birds are also added to the bill of fare, and farm poultry are oftentimes taken by the juvenile birds as they migrate southward in September and October. The young birds while in the brown plumage show the white rump while flying, the same as the light-grey adults do. This is their distinguishing field mark.

"Accipiter velox," Sharp-shinned Hawk: From an analysis of the stomach contents of this small species of hawk, it has won for itself the title of destructive hawk! Song birds largely comprise its diet with us here, but in more southern sections young poultry is often taken. Blue-jays delight in tormenting the Sharp-shin, and oftentimes a young jay is part of the bill of fare. Juncos, Song and Vesper sparrows create great unrest when one of these hawks come around where they are assembled previous to going south, and the hawk, apparently with the slightest effort, just reaches out and grabs some one of the birds that venture too near.

The Sharp-shin is of general distribution but nowhere plentiful.

"Accipiter cooperi," Cooper's Hawk: This hawk, like the Sharp-shin, has been classed as destructive. It is, luckily, not so plentiful even as the Sharp-shin, to which it is in appearance somewhat similar, being distinguished by its larger size and more rounded tail. This bird is capable of killing well grown farm fowls and mammals up to and including the grey squirrel.

"Astur atricapillus," American Goshawk or Blue Hen Hawk. This species is the most daring and most destructive of our birds of prey. Its large size, near two feet in length, gives it the power to cope with full grown farm poultry of all breeds; also with grouse and hares.

While migrating southward in autumn, this species is most destructive. At one farm known to the writer, six of these hawks in juvenile plumage were killed as they came there one fall to get poultry. A few remain during the winter season. They prefer heavily wooded tracts and have been observed in the northern highlands of this province in winter time. When pressed by hunger, they have been known to chase pigeons into a barn and go in after them, when their cunning, dashing energy evidently forsakes them when they find themselves prisoners.

This species has been known to nest in late winter, having eggs in March.

"Buteo borealis," Red-tailed Hawk: This large, heavily built bird is very hardy, coming north in March and remaining until late October. Very little poultry is eaten but wild birds, mammals reptiles and insects are eaten in great numbers; and when other food is scarce in late winter or early spring, they feed upon carrion or other animal substance that is available.

The identification mark for this hawk is the rich, rufous-red tail.

"Buteo lineatus," Red-shouldered Hawk: This rather rare bird with us is quite harmless. Much of their food in the early part of the season is comprised of frogs, but this is supplemented with many other wild creatures such as birds, mammals, reptiles, insects, worms and fish.

The Red-shoulders are not very noticeable, but a good field mark for this species is the narrowly barred tail.

"Buteo platypterus," Broad-winged Hawk: This medium sized hawk is another special frog-eater, but may be distinguished from the Red-shouldered Hawk by having a shorter tail with wider bars of white and blackish colors. This has been our most common hawk, arriving from the south in late March or early April, nesting in May and June. If undisturbed, they use the same nest several years in succession.

Prey on Chickens.

The Broad-wings will get the habit of preying upon young chickens to feed their young.

"Archibuteo lagopus sancti-johannis," Rough-legged Hawk: A rare migrant of a vari-colored plumage, some individuals being quite black in color while others are more brown or tan with black breast. A large hawk, with shank feathered to the base of the toes. Beautiful birds when in light-colored plumage.

"Aquila chrysaetos," Golden Eagle: This large bird is rare in New Brunswick and, like the Rough-legged Hawk, is feathered to the base of the toes. This feature distinguishes this species from the succeeding.

"Haliaeetus leucocephalus," Bald Eagle: A large bird, over thirty inches in length. Adults with white head and tail. Fairly common about large lakes, where they feed upon carrion, fish waste left by fishermen and fish taken from fish-hawks. They kill very little food for themselves, other than game birds. This species is known to nest in tall trees in this province.

The Bald Eagle has only the upper part of the shank or tarsus feathered, either in juvenile or adult plumage.

Four species of Gyrfalcon have been secured along the southern coast of this province. All four species are rare and not likely to be noticed by the ordinary observer as being different from some other species of hawk that might occur with us in winter. They are classified somewhat in comparison to their color and the colors and other characteristics vary sufficiently to allow of specific and sub-specific differences.

"Falco islandus," White Gyrfalcon, is recorded by Mr. A. Moses as a very rare visitor at Grand Manan.

This gentleman also reports the next two species:

"Falco rusticolus," Gray Gyrfalcon, and "Falco rusticolus gyrfalcon," Gyrfalcon, as very rare.

"Falco rusticolus obsoletus," Black Gyrfalcon, also rare, is found along the southern coast and was reported in the lists of New Brunswick Birds by Dr. Adams and by Mr. M. Chamberlain.

These gyrfalcons are more common in Europe than in America. Personally I have not handled any of the four falcons recorded above.

"Falco peregrinus," Duck Hawk: Have never had any personal acquaintance with this hawk. In Chamberlain's list it is spoken of as breeding in New Brunswick.

"Falco columbarius," Pigeon Hawk: This small hawk is nowhere plentiful. It comes north along with the early sparrows migrants. Small birds constitute the greater part of its food.

"Falco sparverius," Sparrow Hawk: This vari-colored species is an interesting sort of bird. The male and female spring and autumn plumages make up a variety of phases that test the abilities of an amateur bird student in identifying all as the same species. Insects constitute a large part of the food of this species. Unlike the greater number of hawks this species nests in holes in trees. The members of a family remain together during the fall migration.

The Fish Hawk.

"Pandion haliaetus carolinensis," Osprey; Fish Hawk: This large species is fairly common in the interior of

New Brunswick during the season of open water. They come north soon after the rivers and lakes are free from ice. The nest is placed high up in a tall tree, or sometimes upon the broken trunk that has had the top blown off.

The Bald Eagle annoys this species by making the hawks give up the fish it may have caught. I have known the hawk to drop its fish when the eagle was coming to rob it and afterwards go back and search for the fish, as the fish was dropped on land. This was one way to cheat the larger bird.

In the study of the habits of the Fish Hawk, some very interesting incidents have occurred to assure one of the intelligence of these birds in the choice of a tree as a nesting site. Its ability to know when to abandon its old nest; its cunning in dropping its load of fish to prevent the Bald Eagle from getting it and then going back for the fish.

Concerning Owls.

We have listed the diurnal birds of prey, now we come to the owls or nocturnal workers.

"Asio wilsonianus," American Long-eared Owl: This medium-sized owl has now become rather rare. Its habitat is more about marshes and swamps than in heavily wooded tracts.

"Asio flammeus," American Short-eared Owl: This is another of the owls that prefer the marshes as a home in summer. They prefer to migrate southward in autumn.

The Long-eared and Short-eared owls feed principally upon small birds, small mammals and large insects, and cannot be really classified as harmful to the agriculturist.

"Strix varia," Barred Owl, Round-headed Owl: This smallest of the large owls is a permanent resident and becoming rather scarce. This species does not appear to get along on good terms with the Great-horned Owl.

The hooting and other calls of the Barred Owls are most weird and hair-raising in their intensity. From their frightful yells they are sometimes known as "Screech Owls."

Their food is composed of a great variety of birds, mammals, frogs, salamanders, insects, etc.

"Scotiopteryx nebulosa," Great Gray Owl: This large owl comes to us only as a rare migrant. It resembles in general make-up the Barred Owl, but is darker color and much larger.

"Cryptoglaux funerea," Richardson's Owl: This is a rather rare species here. It is probably resident, and may be regarded as beneficial. A small species, only about ten inches in length.

"Cryptoglaux acadica," Saw-whet Owl: This is our smallest owl, being only about eight inches in total length. Only in size and in shape of the white markings on the feathers of the head can the 'acadian' owl be distinguished from Richardson's Owl. Mice form the greater part of the diet of these small owls. They nest in old nest holes of the larger woodpeckers and incubation begins when the first egg is laid.

"Otus asio," Screech Owl: A very small owl and having tufts of feathers resembling horns. The plumage is variable in color from grey and white to rufous and white.

This species has become rare, if it occurs at all.

"Bubo virginianus," Great Horned Owl: The largest and most destructive of our owls. Its large size enables it to prey upon full grown poultry, skunks, muskrats, hares and even domestic cats.

The plumage of the Great Horned Owl is beautiful in pencillings and variegation of patterns and colors, ranging from light to very dark shades. This species is known to take up family affairs as early as March, but the young are not fully fledged before August so that the parent birds have a long, busy time supplying them with food.

The Snowy Owl.

"Nyctea nyctea," Snowy Owl: The Snowy Owl comes to us as rare winter visitors, until the winter of 1926-27, when a great flight came down from the northland. This great wave reached from the Rocky Mountains (Continued on Page 7.)

R. J. Prof. Eng'r N. B. ... R.A.I.C. Associate Mem. Eng'r Inst. Canada Mem. American Ass'n Eng'rs.

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