

in species and individuals, and flowers are very conspicuous in the woods in spring, although later in the season they are more noticeable on the borders of the woods where they receive the sunlight.

The bird species are transitional, and northern and southern forms overlap their ranges. Typical summer birds are bluebird (*Sialia sialis*) in the east and mountain bluebird (*S. currucoides*) and western bluebird (*S. mexicanus*) in the west. Baltimore oriole (*Icterus galbula*), catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*), bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*), wood thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*), red-eyed and warbling vireos (*Vireo olivaceus* and *V. gilvus*). The mammals of the Transition Zone include the gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*) and the red squirrel (*S. hudsonicus*), cottontail rabbit (*Sylvilagus floridanus*), woodchuck (*Marmota monax*), mink (*Mustela vison*), striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis* in the east and *M. occidentalis* as well as the little spotted skunk, *Spilogale phenax*, in the west). In many districts the Transition Zone merges very gradually with the Canadian Zone, with occasional oases or relicts of Canadian fauna on higher uplands, but in the west the boundaries may be rather abrupt, as they are also along the lower Ottawa and St. Lawrence rivers where the south side of the rivers are typical Transition, passing at once into Canadian Zone in the Laurentian hills north of the rivers.

The prairie section of the Transition Zone has some species peculiar to the Great Plains, the pronghorn antelope (*Antilocapra americana*), northern white-tailed jackrabbit (*Lepus townsendii campanius*), Black Hills cottontail (*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*), and three overly abundant species of ground squirrels (the "striped gopher" *Citellus tridecemlineatus*, the "brush gopher" *C. franklinii*, and the "flicker-tail gopher" *C. richardsonii*). On the prairies are also found a number of characteristic birds, prairie chicken (*Tympanuchus cupido*), prairie sharp-tailed grouse (*Pedioecetes phasianellus*), chestnut-collared longspur (*Calcarius ornatus*), McCown's longspur (*Rhynchophanes mccowni*), Sprague's pipit (*Anthus spraguei*), and burrowing owl (*Speotyto cunicularia*). Otherwise, most of the prairie birds are generally slightly differentiated subspecies of Eastern Canadian forms, the general tendency of species of animals found on plains or semi-arid regions running to paler or bleached coloration and frequently smaller size; at the same time, the tendency of geographical races is to become larger towards the north. There are many exceptions to this rule, possibly because some species are subject to these conditions only on their breeding range and spend much of the year under different conditions. The occurrence of sage hen (*Centrocercus urophasianus*) and lark bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*) in the extreme south of this area as well as recent records of black-footed ferret (*Mustela nigripes*) and Wyoming kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys ordii lutescens*) shows a close approach to Upper Sonoran Zone fauna not heretofore considered to extend much farther north than central Montana. The unusual presence of some of these forms may be due to the prolonged drought conditions in the area during the past few years.

Carolinian Zone.—The most southern faunal region in the eastern part of Canada is the northern edge of the Carolinian Zone, which is confined to extreme southern Ontario. The northern limit may be defined as a strip of territory running along the north shore of lake Erie from Windsor to Hamilton. Its flora resembles the Transition but has many southern genera and species not found elsewhere in Canada. Six species of hickory, ten of oak, together with black walnut, chestnut, and sycamore are found; less abundant are tulip tree, flowering dogwood, sour gum, and sassafras. At least one hundred species of herbaceous plants are found here that occur nowhere else in Canada.