

The Canadian Wildlife Service plans and carries out scientific investigations concerning numbers, food, shelter, migration, reproduction, diseases, parasites, predators, competitors and uses of wild creatures in Canada. In certain of such investigations, e.g., the mid-winter waterfowl inventory, it works in close co-operation with United States authorities conducting parallel studies.

The Service is responsible for the establishment and administration of bird sanctuaries under the Migratory Birds Convention Act. On Dec. 31, 1953, there were 90 bird sanctuaries with a total area of more than 1,800 sq. miles.

The Limnology Section of the Service concerns itself with the maintenance and improvement of sport fishing, the control of aquatic and semi-aquatic insects, the control of algæ, and other biological problems that arise in regard to water areas in the National Parks. It also acts in an advisory capacity to the Northern Administration and Lands Branch in connection with aquatic biological matters.

A series of special articles relating to the wildlife resources of Canada are being carried in the Year Book. Articles on 'Migratory Bird Protection in Canada', 'Game Fish in Canada's National Parks,' and 'The Barren-Ground Caribou' were carried in the 1951, 1952-53 and 1954 editions, respectively. The following article on 'Migratory Bird Legislation' describes the measures taken by Canada to fulfil its obligations under the Migratory Birds Treaty.

MIGRATORY BIRD LEGISLATION

Migratory birds are protected in Canada under the terms of the Migratory Birds Treaty, signed at Washington on Aug. 16, 1916, and put into effect by parallel legislation in Canada and in the United States. The Treaty does not, however, apply to all birds migrating between the two countries, but only to those classified in three main groups as follows:—

(1) **Migratory Game Birds.**—*Anatidæ* or waterfowl, including brant, wild ducks, geese and swans; *gruidæ* or cranes, including little brown, sandhill and whooping cranes; *rallidæ* or rails, including coots, gallinules and sora and other rails; *limicolæ* or shorebirds, including avocets, curlew, dowitchers, godwits, knots, oyster catchers, phalaropes, plovers, sandpipers, snipe, stilts, surf birds, turnstones, willet, woodcock and yellowlegs; and *columbidæ* or pigeons, including doves and wild pigeons.

(2) **Migratory Insectivorous Birds.**—Bobolinks, catbirds, chickadees, cuckoos, flickers, flycatchers, grosbeaks, humming birds, kinglets, martins, meadow-larks, nighthawks or bull bats, nuthatches, orioles, robins, shrikes, swallows, swifts, tanagers, titmice, thrushes, vireos, warblers, waxwings, whippoorwills, woodpeckers, wrens, and all other perching birds that feed entirely or chiefly on insects.

(3) **Migratory Non-game Birds.**—Auks, auklets, bitterns, fulmars, gannets, grebes, guillemots, gulls, herons, jaegers, loons, murre, petrels, puffins, shearwaters and terns.