especially *Dendroica striata* (Forster), the Black-pool Warbler; *Passerculus sandwichensis* (subsp.?) (Gmelin), Savannah Sparrow; *Zonotrichia leucophrys leucophrys* (Forster), White-crowned Sparrow, *Passerella iliaca iliaca* (Merrem), Eastern Fox Sparrow.

It is probable that Ruddy Turnstones, *Arenaria interpres morinella* (Linnaeus), which, during the height of the armyworm outbreak at Harrington Harbour, were observed to leave their usual feeding-grounds along the shore to forage on grassy slopes, were also eating these larvae.

At Cross River, where the resident human population is restricted to one family, Herring Gulls, *Larus argentatus smithsonianus* Coues, are reported by the superintendent to have fed heavily on the armyworms and to have been, in his opinion, an important factor in subduing the outbreak. According to his report, a flock of these Gulls, numbering about 100 at its maximum, fed on the armyworms at Cross River for about a week. They first attacked the larvae among *Elymus* on the upper beach, close to the usual feeding-ground of these birds, but later invaded the oat-fields, nearly half a mile from the sea. Local residents were inclined in several instances to attribute the general disappearance of the larva in the villages to the attacks of the flocks of passerine birds, but I suppose that that general disappearance was due chiefly to a movement of the larvae, at the proper stage in their life-history, into their hiding places. Although the heavy destruction of armyworms by passerine birds may have been insufficient to constitute a factor of prime importance in controlling the outbreak, it is conceivable that sustained mass attacks by birds as large as Herring Gulls may, on the other hand, have been locally significant.

Specimens of the larvae collected at Harrington Harbour on August 18, 1937, and submitted to the Entomological Branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture were identified as *Cirphis unipuncta* Haw.

HARRISON F. LEWIS.

Dominion Parks Branch.

NEWS AND VIEWS.

STRONG SUGGESTS INSECT EXTERMINATORS GO AFTER PESTS ON THE FARM

Commercial insect pest control operations, now directed almost exclusively to household insect pests, might well be extended into other fields of insect pest control, according to Lee A. Strong, Chief of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, U. S. Department of Agriculture. This industry would benefit also from a licensing system for its operators, which would stop present unfair competition for legitimate firms with fly-by-night concerns using unscientific methods and also end the serious health and property hazard from the use of dangerous chemicals by inexperienced people.

Speaking before the 5th Annual Convention of the National Pest Control Association at Memphis, yesterday (October 26), Mr. Strong suggested these changes in the rapidly expanding insect extermination industry and outlined the interdependence of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine and that industry.

The Bureau's research, he said, is the base for all control measures. Commercial operators alone can put the results of much of this research to practical use. Special equipment and special technic are required for using many of the measures developed by the Bureau. "When pest control operators efficiently carry out their work," Mr. Strong said, "they demonstrate in the most effective way possible the value of the research by the Bureau and other related institutions."

MR. ERLE G. BREWER NAMED HEAD OF JAPANESE BEETLE CONTROL AND DUTCH ELM DISEASE ERADICATION PROGRAM IN THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. Erle G. Brewer succeeds Mr. Leon Howard Worthley, who died on October 9th at Montclair, N. J., as leader of two of the U. S. Department of Agriculture's most extensive insect control campaigns (eradication of Dutch elm disease and Japanese beetle control).

Since 1906 Mr. Brewer has been associated almost continuously with the work of the division he now heads. Several years ago he was active in gypsy and brown-tail moth control work in New England. When the Department increased its emphasis on the control and prevention of spread of the European corn borer, he was transferred to that work. Later he was assigned to Japanese beetle control. The division of which Mr. Brewer is in charge covers Japanese beetle control, Dutch elm disease eradication, and inspection and certification of products to meet the requirements of Federal and State quarantines on account of the European corn borer and gypsy and brown-tail moths.

Mailed Saturday, November 6th, 1937.