

expended a great deal of time and labor in bringing together the facts here presented, which he has secured in large part through the issue of circulars to some two hundred correspondents requesting information on the points at issue. — J. A. A.

**Judd's 'The Economic Value of the Bobwhite.'** — In a paper of about ten pages Dr. Judd<sup>1</sup> treats of the economic value of the Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*) as (1) a weed and insect destroyer, (2) an article of food, (3) an object of sport. The food report is based on field observations and an examination of 801 stomachs, collected in every month of the year and over a wide extent of country—from Canada to Florida and Texas. The Bobwhite is found to be preëminently a seed-eater, over fifty per cent of its food consisting of seeds, of which the seeds of weeds constitute the bulk. On a very conservative basis "the total consumption of weed seed by Bobwhites from September 1 to April 30 in Virginia amounts to 573 tons." From May to August nearly one third of the Bobwhite's food is found to be insects, which is made up largely of such injurious species as the potato beetle, cucumber beetle, squash bugs, chinch bugs, cotton-boll weevils, various kinds of destructive caterpillars, grasshoppers, etc. It eats very little grain, and this is mainly gathered from stubble fields, and it never, apparently, destroys sprouting grain, like the Crow, various Blackbirds, etc., nor is it, like the Ruffed Grouse, destructive to any harmful extent to leaves and buds. The importance of the Bobwhite as an article of food, and also as an object of sport, is dwelt upon at some length, and it is pointed out that it is possible for farmers to derive a considerable revenue from sportsmen by promoting its increase for purposes of sport. "It is believed," he says, "that if suitably managed, some farms of from 500 to 1000 acres would yield a better revenue from Bobwhites than from poultry." More stringent and more uniform legal provision is recommended for its preservation and increase. The paper closes with a list of seeds, fruits, insects, etc., eaten by the Bobwhite, and is illustrated by a colored plate, by Fuertes, of a Bobwhite in a potato field catching potato beetles. The utility of the Bobwhite as a weed destroyer is especially emphasized. — J. A. A.

**Elrod on Birds in Relation to Agriculture.** — In this paper of some twenty pages, illustrated with several plates of representative birds, Professor Elrod<sup>2</sup> summarizes some of the results of recent investigations of

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<sup>1</sup> The Economic Value of the Bobwhite. By Sylvester D. Judd, Ph. D., Assistant in Ornithology. Yearbook of Depart. of Agriculture for 1903, pp. 193-204, pl. xvi.

<sup>2</sup> The Relation of Birds to Agriculture. By Morton J. Elrod, University of Montana. Second Ann. Rep. Montana State Board of Farmers' Institutes, pp. 173-190, with 8 pll. University of Montana, Missoula, Mont., 1904.



Judd, Sylvester D. 1904. "Judd's 'The Economic Value of the Bobwhite'" *The Auk* 21, 509–509. <https://doi.org/10.2307/4070152>.

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