

Hartert's quoted statement of its "casual occurrence in Austria-Hungary" is, in my personal experience, definitely inaccurate, since I assume he means Austria-Hungary when it was a joint kingdom. pre-first world-war.

When I was at Budapest in 1924, I was informed by Jakab Schenk, F.M.B.O.U., Secretary of the Royal Hungarian Ornithological Institute, that the species breeds in the Zugliget woods covering the high ground on the outskirts of Buda. Unfortunately my proposed introduction to the species, in company with an official of the Institute, fell through. However, I found the species breeding almost commonly just outside the south-western borders of Transylvania, a male was singing in a beech patch on the Rétyézat massif of the Transylvanian Alps, and finally I pointed out a singing male to a Roumanian naturalist, when in his company in a beech wood outside the town of Timisoara. He did not know the song and promptly shot the bird for preservation.

All these places are in what was originally Hungary, but it is an easily overlooked species, until one masters its monotonous jingling song. When this is done, it is easily recognizable, but its nest is less easily discoverable in areas where beech-hornbeam forests prevail. Forests of this nature still covered large areas of pre-1919 Hungary, when I was in Roumania in the springs of 1926, 1928, 1934 and 1938.

Yours, etc.,

W. M. CONGREVE.

Obituary.

Mrs. CATHERINE HODGKIN.

Mrs. Catherine Hodgkin, widow of Thomas Edward Hodgkin, died at her home, Old Ridley, Stocksfield, Northumberland, on 3 October, 1946, aged 82 years. She had a life-long interest in all aspects of bird life, but her inclination was more in the direction of bionomics than in systematic ornithology. She was elected a member of the Natural History Society of Northumberland, Durham and Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in 1905, and in 1937 became the first woman member of its Council. She was elected a member of the British Ornithologists' Union in 1927. All societies concerned with the protection of birds and the preservation of places of natural beauty received her enthusiastic support. She spent two summers at Soolt Head, Norfolk, acting as an honorary bird-watcher with her friend, the late Miss E. L. Turner, and paid regular and frequent visits to Holy Island and the Farnes. She was an enthusiastic "ringer" and the first British-bred Kittiwake Gulls to be recovered on the west side of the Atlantic were ringed by her on the Farne Islands

Privileged ornithologists will remember with pleasure their visits to her cottage at Budle Bay. Heather Cottage, as it is called, was really a row of disused coast-guards' cottages which she re-conditioned and converted for her use when studying the bird-life of the north Northumberland coast. The cottage is delightfully situated on the edge of the bay, with a view over Ross Links to Holy Island in the north and the Farne Islands lying three miles to seaward. She travelled in Italy and Greece, spent some months bird-watching in the Balearic Islands and also visited the Camargue. In addition to her ornithological activities she was interested in butterflies and moths and had a good working knowledge of the British flora. She was also a keen gardener, and amongst her hobbies were drawing, painting in water-colours and photography. Catherine Hodgkin was a woman of high character and exceptional charm of manner, and her unfailing courtesy and consideration for others endeared her to all with whom she came into contact throughout her long life. Her loss will be keenly felt by a wide circle of friends.

T. R. G.

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