

## HORNED LARK

By DOUG GILROY



*Photo by Doug Gilroy*

Each February the Horned-Lark returns to the Southern Prairies and even though the countryside is still locked in the grip of winter their coming seems to bring a spring glow to the atmosphere.

We know that the return migration of our summer birds is beginning to take form and only in a matter of a few short weeks we will thrill to the song of the robin, the liquid call of the Meadowlark and even the harsh Caw! Caw! of the old black crow.

There are several forms of the Horned-Lark and the one in the picture incubating her eggs is the Desert Horned-Lark which is the species that inhabits the Southern Prairies.

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## Prairie Perfumes

By Mrs. W. KEYTE, Pollockville, Alta.

Over twenty years ago I was told that there is little perfume on the Prairie; actually there appear to be many scented flowers. Surely nothing is sweeter than the fragrance of the thorny pink June rose and its not-so-prickly shell-pink companion, unless it is that of the crimson-flecked creamy-pink rose of the grain fields and roadsides, which blooms late in July or early August.

In spring the sweetness of the golden Buffalo Bean rivals that of

a flowering bean field. The Northern Bedstraw has a sleepy fragrance in the warm sun which contrasts pleasantly with the sharp aromatic freshness of the ever-present sages.

A clean, tangy odour is released from the peppermints, as man or beast move on the edge of a slough or along the coulee banks. The delicate lily-like fragrance of the Prairie Onion flower is there, although it is easily masked by the pungent smell of its crushed leaves.