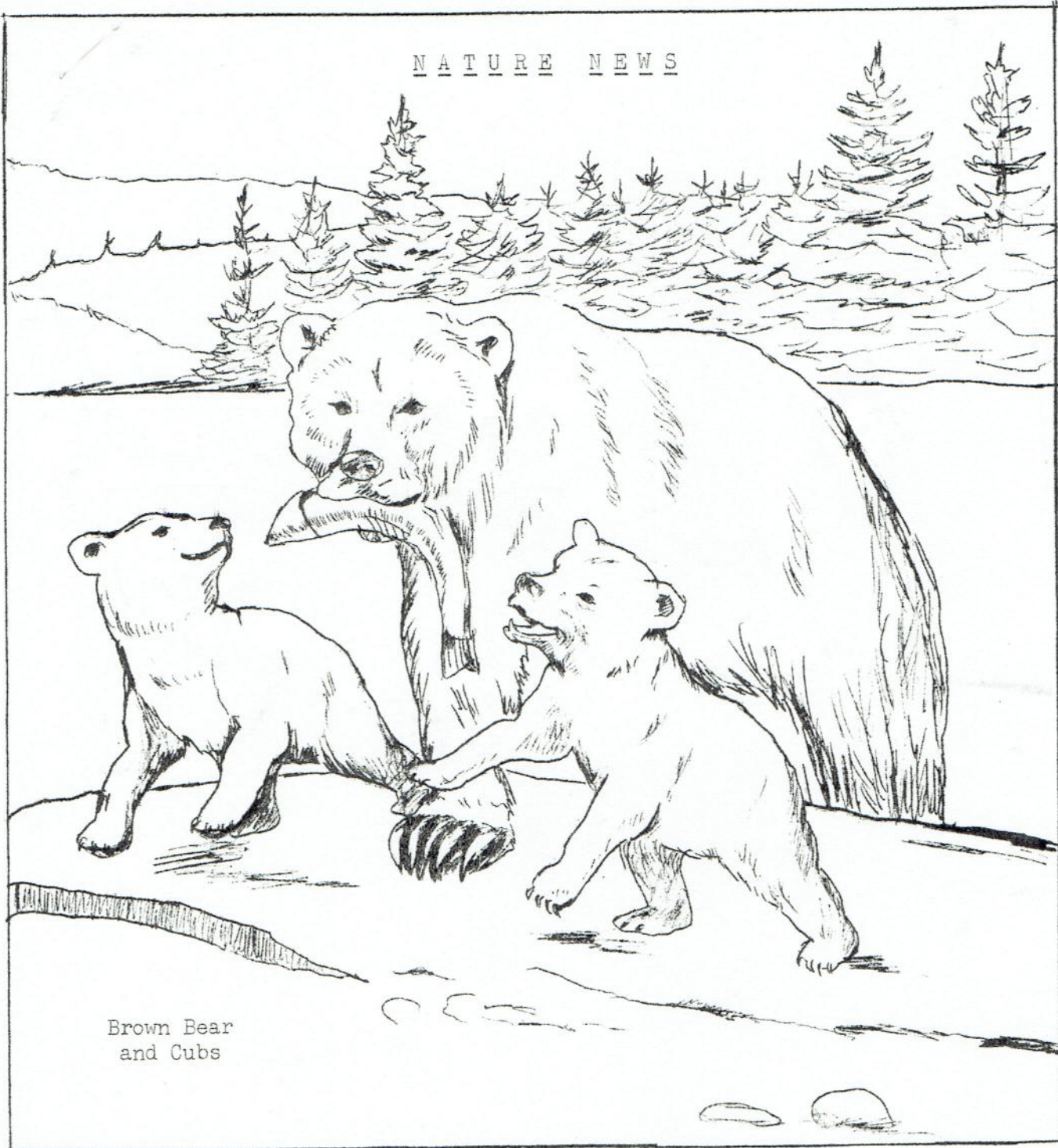


NATURE NEWS



Brown Bear
and Cubs

THE NATURAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT
OF
THE NEW BRUNSWICK MUSEUM
SAINT JOHN, N.B.

NATURE NEWS

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Number 1

FOREWORD

For the second year in succession more than one hundred persons took part in organized Christmas Bird Counts in the Province. The greater number of these belong to the Naturalists' Clubs in Fredericton, Moncton and Saint John.

The interest in all branches of natural science seems to be steadily increasing in New Brunswick and these Christmas Bird Counts are adding greatly to our knowledge of this group.

As has been our custom for several years we have also compiled a list of all species of birds reported between December 1st and February 15th.

We are grateful to all those who have contributed to this record.

W.A. Squires, Curator.

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CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Fredericton, N.B. Dec. 26, 1962; 8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.; snow and rain a.m.; clearing p.m.; temp. 25°-33°; wind SE to NW 0-15 mph; 12 in. snow; 16 observers in 6 parties. Total mileage 120 (12 on foot, 108 by car). Ring-necked Pheasant, 6; Rock Dove, 204; Pileated Woodpecker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 3; Blue Jay, 21; Common Raven, 9; Common Crow, 23; Black-capped Chickadee, 32; Boreal Chickadee, 22; White-breasted Nuthatch, 2; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 10; Robin, 1; Northern Shrike, 1; Starling, 342; House Sparrow, 938; Common Grackle, 3; Evening Grosbeak, 41; Purple Finch, 15; Pine Grosbeak, 14; Pine Siskin, 40; American Goldfinch, 20; White-winged Crossbill, 50; Rufous-sided Towhee, 1; Tree Sparrow, 25; Song Sparrow, 20. Total species 26, about 1343 individuals. Seen during the count period, White-throated Sparrow, Cowbird. Dr. & Mrs. R.E. Balch, Mrs. B.B. Barnes, A.A. Dean, Brian Ellis, Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Gibson, Miss L. Goodspeed, Mr. & Mrs. B. Hagerman, Mrs. W.R. MacNeill, Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Moore, Miss Nettie Moore, A. Morais, Kermod Parr, Miss B. Pugh, Christopher Sanders, Richard Savage, R. Squires, W.A. Squires, Wm. Varty. (Fredericton Field-Naturalists' Club)

Moncton, N.B. Dec. 29, 1962; 8.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.; sunny; temp. 20°-20°F; wind NW 5 mph; snow 12-15 in.; 13 observers in 5 parties (1 at feeder). Gray Partridge, 6; Glaucous Gull, 27; Iceland Gull, 64; Herring Gull, 1364; Ring-billed Gull, 23; Rock Dove, 58; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Gray Jay, 1; Blue Jay, 34; Common Raven, 159; Common Crow, 54; Black-capped Chickadee, 37; Boreal Chickadee, 8; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 16; Brown Creeper, 21; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 12; Northern Shrike, 1; Starling, 920; House Sparrow, 520; Evening Grosbeak, 25; Purple Finch, 9; Pine Grosbeak, 46; Pine Siskin, 20; American Goldfinch, 6; White-winged Crossbill, 25; Slate-coloured Junco, 60; Tree Sparrow, 15; Song Sparrow, 4; Snow Bunting, 90. Total species 31, about 3839 individuals. Seen during count period Rough-legged Hawk, Pigeon

Hawk, Ring-necked Pheasant, Great Horned Owl, Hawk-Owl, Barred Owl, Robin, Baltimore Oriole. Ford Alward, Fred Bone, Peter Candido, Henry Cormier, A. Erskine, R.E. Hunter, Mr. & Mrs. Chas. McDwan, Alan Madden, Dr. & Mrs. Majka, D. Whitman. (Moncton Naturalists' Club)

Sackville, N.B. Dec. 20, 1962; 7.35 a.m. to 4.20 p.m.; clearing; temp. 25°-50°F; wind NW 25-45 mph; Ground, snow 10 in.; 9 observers in 4 parties (9 at feeders).

Duck (sp.), 4; Hawk (sp.), 2; Rough-legged Hawk, 3; Ring-necked Pheasant, 2; Great Black-backed Gull, 12; Herring Gull, 136; Rock Dove, 21; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Blue Jay, 16; Common Raven, 11; Common Crow, 20; Black-capped Chickadee, 11; Boreal Chickadee, 5; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 3; Starling, 346; House Sparrow, 504; Baltimore Oriole, 1; Evening Grosbeak, 12; Slate-coloured Junco, 8; Snow Bunting, 153; Fringillids (sp.), 6. Total species 21, about 1278 individuals. Seen during count period Gray Jay, Robin, Common Grackle, Swamp Sparrow, Song Sparrow. Mrs. Lloyd Black, Mr. & Mrs. William Black, Mr. & Mrs. John Clark, L. Carbyn, Dr. E.J. Dimelow, Dr. & Mrs. A.J. Erskine, Albert Fleming, John Kelsall, Miss Jane Matheson, Mr. & Mrs. Donald McPhail, Rev. F.W. Munro, W. Prescott, A.E. Pulford, A. Rebruck, Ralph Sharpe, Dr. W.B. Stallworthy, Lindsey Smith.

Cape Tormentine, N.B. Dec. 22, 1962; 7.45 a.m. to 4.35 p.m.; clear a.m. cloudy p.m.; temp. 5°-20°F; wind E 2-10 mph; Ground snow 4-8 in.; 5 observers in 3 parties.

Oldsquaw, 82; Common Eider, 1; White-winged Scoter, 1; Red-breasted Merganser, 3; Ruffed Grouse, 1; Glaucous Gull, 14; Iceland Gull, 146; Great Black-backed Gull, 20; Herring Gull, 68; Rock Dove, 4; Pileated Woodpecker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Horned Lark, 2; Blue Jay, 19; Common Raven, 64; Common Crow, 4; Black-capped Chickadee, 2; Boreal Chickadee, 7; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 8; Starling, 35; House Sparrow, 137; Common Redpoll, 2; Slate-coloured Junco, 36; Tree Sparrow, 8; Song Sparrow, 1; Lapland Longspur, 1; Snow Bunting, 200. Fred Bone, Dr. E.J. Dimelow, A.J. Erskine, Roy Hunter, Alan Madden.

Lepreau, N.B. Dec. 22, 1962; 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; overcast a.m.; heavy snow, p.m.; temp. 5°-25°F; wind W, 5-20 mph; snow 4 in.; 2 observers, one party. Common Loon, 4; Horned Grebe, 5; Great Cormorant, 6; Cormorant, sp. 1; Black Duck, 7; Common Goldeneye, 81; Bufflehead, 8; Oldsquaw, 9; Common Eider, 80; Surf Scoter, 4; Common Merganser, 2; Red-breasted Merganser, 4; Bald Eagle, 1; Purple Sandpiper, 12; Great Black-backed Gull, 14; Herring Gull, 965; Black-legged Kittiwake, 12; Razorbill, 80; Rock Dove, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Common Raven, 1; Common Crow, 61; Nuthatch, sp. 1; Starling, 8; House Sparrow, 5; Slate-coloured Junco, 7. Total species 23, about 1380 individuals. David Christie, Jane Hazen.

Saint John, N.B. (Rothesay almost to Spruce Lake, Red Head to Woodman's Pt.) Dec. 29, 1962; 6.45 a.m. to 5 p.m.; sunny; temp. 6°-31°F; wind NW, 10-25 mph; snow 8 in.; 3 observers in 3 parties, 19 at feeders.

Black Duck, 56; Common Goldeneye, 219; Bufflehead, 8; Common Merganser, 2; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Glaucous Gull, 3; Iceland Gull, 20; Great Black-backed Gull, 371; Herring Gull, 4307; Black-headed Gull, 2; Rock Dove, 66; Hairy Woodpecker, 8; Downy Woodpecker, 26; Gray Jay, 4; Blue Jay, 22; Common Raven, 13; Common Crow, 76; Black-capped Chickadee, 81; Boreal Chickadee, 20; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 4; Brown Creeper, 1; Robin, 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 18;

Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 1; Starling, 615; Myrtle Warbler, 1; House Sparrow, 240; Brown-headed Cowbird, 19; Evening Grosbeak, 6; Pine Grosbeak, 1; American Goldfinch, 56; Rufous-sided Towhee, 1; Slate-coloured Junco, 27; Tree Sparrow, 83; White-throated Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, 5. Total 36 species, about 6385 individuals. Seen during count period Bald Eagle, Owl sp., White-breasted Nuthatch, Northern Shrike, Baltimore Oriole, Common Grackle. Mrs. C.H. Brock, Fred Brock, Mrs. C.H. Cameron, Mrs. Smith Cathline, David Christie (compiler), Mrs. E.J. Cram, Mrs. A.R. Goucher, Mrs. H. M. Hamm, Miss Frances Hayes, Miss Grace Hayes, Mrs. Chas. Laskey, Mrs. A. Lee-White, Miss Mabelle MacCoubrey, Stuart MacFarlane, Mrs. A.R. Marr, Mrs. W.R. Mathers, Miss Barbara Miles, Mrs. D.A. Ross, Scotty Ross, Miss Shirley Saunders, Mrs. W.J. Simon, Mrs. W.L. Smith, W.A. Squires, Mrs. V.B. Watters. (Saint John Naturalists' Club)

Woodstock, N.B. Dec. 25, 1962; 7.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.; sunny; temp. 0°F; wind N, 3 mph; snow 11 in.; 5 observers in 2 parties. Black Duck, 47; Common Goldeneye, 5; Common Merganser, 1; Ruffed Grouse, 1; Ring-necked Pheasant, 1; Ring-billed Gull, 1; Rock Dove, 121; Hawk-Owl, 1; Pileated Woodpecker, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Gray Jay, 4; Blue Jay, 14; Common Raven, 3; Common Crow, 89; Black-capped Chickadee, 28; Boreal Chickadee, 8; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 7; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 5; Starling, 394; House Sparrow, 306; Pine Grosbeak, 4; Common Redpoll, 11; Pine Siskin, 92; Red Crossbill, 2; White-winged Crossbill, 68; Slate-coloured Junco, 15; Tree Sparrow, 23; Song Sparrow, 2; Snow Bunting, 14. Total species 30, about 1274 individuals. Seen during count period Peregrine Falcon, Herring Gull, Screech Owl, Northern Shrike, Evening Grosbeak. Jean M. Hale, R.W. Hale, Mrs. Marjorie Gray, Robert Simpson, Ronald Simpson.

Hampton-Bloomfield, N.B. (Including Lakeside, Norton, Springfield, Lower Kars). Dec. 28, 1962; 10.30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; snow flurries; temp. 16°F; wind NW, 5 mph; snow 12 in.; 3 observers in two parties, 5 feeder reports. Ruffed Grouse, 1; Rock Dove, 11; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Gray Jay, 6; Blue Jay, 16; Common Raven, 30; Common Crow, 8; Black-capped Chickadee, 5; Boreal Chickadee, 15; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Starling, 73; House Sparrow, 189; Common Grackle, 2; Brown-headed Cowbird, 1; Evening Grosbeak, 28; Pine Grosbeak, 2; Purple Finch, 1; Pine Siskin, 44; Common Redpoll, 10; Red Crossbill, 3; Slate-coloured Junco, 4; Song Sparrow, 1. Total species 22, about 453 individuals. Seen during count period Hawk-Owl, Downy Woodpecker, Tree Sparrow. David Christie, Mr. & Mrs. L.S. Hoyt, Mrs. Walter Hoyt, Mrs. Guy Humphrey, Mrs. A.J. Leatherbarrow, Mrs. Donald Ritson, Miss Pauline Williamson.

Pennfield, N.B. Dec. 29, 1962; 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.; overcast; temp. 26°F; wind SE, 10-15 mph; Ground snow; 2 observers in one party. Bufflehead, 1; Great Black-backed Gull, 4; Herring Gull, 233; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Blue Jay, 3; Common Crow, 14; Black-capped Chickadee, 2; Boreal Chickadee, 2; House Sparrow, 15; Evening Grosbeak, 5; Slate-coloured Junco, 1; Tree Sparrow, 4; White-throated Sparrow, 1. Total species 14, about 286 individuals. Seen during count period Northern Shrike, Gray Jay, Baltimore Oriole, Brown-headed Cowbird. Mr. & Mrs. M.C. Morehouse.

Jemseg, N.B. Dec. 20, 1962; 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; partly cloudy; temp. 10-12°F; wind NW 20-35 mph; snow 3 in.; Jemseg R. open, 2 observers one party.

Black Duck, 1; Common Merganser, 7; Rough-legged Hawk, 20; Bald Eagle, 1; Marsh Hawk, 4; Hawk sp., 1; Herring Gull, 1; Rock Dove, 5; Blue Jay, 4; Common Raven, 8; Common Crow, 2; Black-capped Chickadee, 13; Boreal Chickadee, 4; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Starling, 4; House Sparrow, 40; Brown-headed Cowbird, 9; Goldfinch, 5; White-winged Crossbill, 30; Slate-coloured Junco, 8; Tree Sparrow, 14; birds unidentified 2. Total species 20, about 186 individuals. Seen during count period Goshawk, Hairy Woodpecker, Common Redpoll, Snow Bunting. David Christie, Peter Pearce.

Kierstead Mountain, Kings County, N.B. Jan. 1, 1963; 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.; light rain; temp. 35°F; wind N, 15 mph; snow 12 in.; 3 observers in one party. Ruffed Grouse, 1; Blue Jay, 5; Common Raven, 2; Common Crow, 3; Black-capped Chickadee, 5; Boreal Chickadee, 1; House Sparrow, 40; Purple Finch, 1; Pine Siskin, 20; White-winged Crossbill, 8; Slate-coloured Junco, 1; Tree Sparrow, 10. Total species 12, about 107 individuals. A. Hayes, P. Hayes, W.E. Sears.

WINTER BIRD LIST (December 1st, 1962 - February 15th, 1963)

Common Loon

Christmas Count - Pt. Lepreau 4

| | | | |
|---------|----------------|---|---------------------|
| Jan. 26 | Pt. Lepreau | 2 | P. Pearce |
| Feb. 10 | Beaver Harbour | 1 | Mrs. M.C. Morehouse |

Red-necked Grebe

| | | | |
|---------|-------------|---|-----------|
| Jan. 26 | Pt. Lepreau | 2 | P. Pearce |
|---------|-------------|---|-----------|

Horned Grebe

Christmas Count - Pt. Lepreau 5

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------|----|-----------|
| Dec. 10 | Cocagne | 1 | Dr. Majka |
| Jan. 26 | Lepreau & Dipper Hr. | 23 | P. Pearce |

Great Cormorant

Christmas Count - Pt. Lepreau 6

| | | | |
|---------|-------------|---|-------------|
| Jan. 12 | Pocologan | 2 | P. Pearce |
| Feb. 2 | Pt. Lepreau | 3 | D. Christie |

Great Blue Heron

| | | | |
|---------|-------------|---|--------------|
| Dec. 26 | St. Andrews | 1 | David Walker |
|---------|-------------|---|--------------|

Canada Goose

| | | | |
|---------|-------------|-----|------------------|
| Dec. 15 | Bloomfield | 40 | Mrs. L.S. Hoyt |
| Dec. 20 | St. Andrews | 100 | Mrs. Fred Nutter |
| Feb. 10 | South Bay | 1 | Lloyd Foster |

Mallard

| | | | |
|---------|-----------|---|-----------|
| Jan. 26 | Maces Bay | 1 | P. Pearce |
|---------|-----------|---|-----------|

Black Duck

Christmas Count - Lepreau 7, Saint John 56, Woodstock 47, Jemseg 1

| | | | |
|---------|----------|-----|-----------|
| Dec. 4 | Moncton | 110 | Dr. Majka |
| Dec. 15 | Taymouth | 9 | P. Pearce |
| Feb. 9 | Moncton | 2 | A. Madden |

Greater Scaup

| | | | |
|--------|--------------|---|-------------|
| Dec. 3 | Lower Jemseg | 2 | D. Christie |
|--------|--------------|---|-------------|

Common Goldeneye

Christmas Count - Lepreau 81, Saint John 219, Woodstock 5

| | | | |
|--------|--------------|-----|--------------|
| Dec. 2 | Lower Jemseg | 104 | P. Pearce |
| Dec. 4 | Cocagne | 250 | Dr. M. Majka |
| Jan. 3 | Cocagne | 108 | " |
| Feb. 9 | Saint John | 61 | D. Christie |

| | | | |
|--|------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| <u>Barrow's Goldeneye</u> | | | |
| Jan. 5 | Cocagne | 6 | Dr. M. Majka |
| <u>Bufflehead</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count - Lepreau 8, Saint John 8, Pennfield 1 | | | |
| Feb. 2 | Maces Bay | 8 | D. Christie |
| <u>Oldsquaw</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count - Cape Tormentine 82, Lepreau 9 | | | |
| Feb. 10 | Beaver Harbour | 9 | Mrs. M.C. Morehouse |
| <u>Harlequin Duck</u> | | | |
| Jan. 26 | Pt. Lepreau | 4 | P. Pearce |
| <u>Common Eider</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count - Cape Tormentine 1, Lepreau 80 | | | |
| Jan. 3 | Maces Bay | 250 | D. Christie |
| Feb. 2 | Pt. Lepreau | 6 | " |
| <u>White-winged Scoter</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count - Cape Tormentine 1 | | | |
| <u>Surf Scoter</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count - Lepreau 4 | | | |
| <u>Common Merganser</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count - Lepreau 2, Saint John 2, Woodstock 1, Jemseg 1 | | | |
| Jan. 19 | Kingsclear | 31 | P. Pearce |
| Jan. 26 | Musquash | 12 | " |
| <u>Red-breasted Merganser</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count - Cape Tormentine 3, Lepreau 4 | | | |
| Dec. 1 | Sheffield | 1 | P. Pearce |
| Jan. 12 | Pocologan | 1 | " |
| <u>Goshawk</u> | | | |
| Dec. 19 | Jemseg | 1 | D. Christie |
| <u>Sharp-shinned Hawk</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count - Saint John 1 | | | |
| Dec. 22 | St. Martins | 1 | Mrs. J.N. Bradshaw |
| Dec. 29 | Andover | 1 | Mr. M. Watters |
| Jan. 26 | Moncton | 1 | D. Whitman |
| Jan. 28 | Petitcodiac | 1 | F. Alward |
| <u>Red-tailed Hawk</u> | | | |
| Jan. 26 | Musquash | 1 | P. Pearce |
| <u>Rough-legged Hawk</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count - Sackville 3, Jemseg 20, Moncton 1 | | | |
| Dec. 1 | Middle Sackville | 5 | A.J. Erskine |
| <u>Bald Eagle</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count - Lepreau 1, Jemseg 1, Saint John 1 | | | |
| Jan. 26 | Musquash | 1 | P. Pearce |
| Feb. 2 | Jemseg | 2 | " |
| <u>Marsh Hawk</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count - Jemseg 4 | | | |
| <u>Gyr Falcon</u> | | | |
| Jan. 16 | Nashwaaksis | 1 (dark) | Mrs. D.K. Parr |
| Jan. 31 | Fredericton | 1 (white) | R. Squires |
| <u>Peregrine Falcon</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count - Woodstock 1 | | | |

Pigeon Hawk

| | | | |
|---------|---------|---|--------------|
| Dec. 29 | Moncton | 2 | Dr. M. Majka |
| Feb. 2 | Moncton | 1 | P. Candido |

Ruffed Grouse

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Christmas Count | - Cape Tormentine 1, Woodstock 1, Hampton 1, Kierstead Mt. 1 |
| Dec. 29 | Andover 1 M. Watters |

Ring-necked Pheasant

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Christmas Count | - Fredericton 6, Sackville 2, Woodstock 1, Moncton 1 |
| Dec. 30 | Petitcodiac 1 F. Alward |
| Jan. 27 | Hillsborough 3 Dr. Majka |

Gray Partridge

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Christmas Count | - Moncton 6 |
|-----------------|-------------|

Purple Sandpiper

| | |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| Christmas Count | - Lepreau 12 |
| Dec. 30 | St. Martins 100 Mrs. J.N. Bradshaw |
| Jan. 12 | Pocologan 30 P. Pearce |
| Feb. 2 | Pt. Lepreau 5 D. Christie |

Glaucous Gull

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Christmas Count | - Moncton 27, Cape Tormentine 14, Saint John 3 |
|-----------------|--|

Iceland Gull

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Christmas Count | - Moncton 64, Cape Tormentine 146, Saint John 20 |
| Dec. 3 | Maugerville 1 D. Christie |
| Dec. 7 | Fredericton 1 P. Pearce |
| Dec. 16 | Newcastle 3 P. Pearce |
| Feb. 9 | Saint John 23 D. Christie |

Great Black-backed Gull

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Christmas Count | - Sackville 12, Cape Tormentine 20, Lepreau 14, Saint John 371, Pennfield 4 |
| Dec. 16 | Newcastle 50 P. Pearce |

Herring Gull

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Christmas Count | - Moncton 1364, Sackville 136, Cape Tormentine 68, Lepreau 965, Saint John 4307, Woodstock 1, Pennfield 233, Jemseg 1 |
| Dec. 29 | Andover 2 M. Watters |

Ring-billed Gull

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Christmas Count | - Moncton 23, Woodstock 1 |
| Dec. 3 | Jemseg 1 D. Christie |

Black-headed Gull

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Christmas Count | - Saint John 2 |
|-----------------|----------------|

Black-legged Kittiwake

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Christmas Count | - Lepreau 12 |
|-----------------|--------------|

Razorbill

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Christmas Count | - Lepreau 80 |
| Jan. 12 | Pt. Lepreau 150 P. Pearce |
| Feb. 2 | Pt. Lepreau 1 D. Christie |

Dovekie

| | |
|---------|-------------------------------|
| Feb. 13 | Pt. Lepreau 1 killed at light |
|---------|-------------------------------|

Rock Dove

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Christmas Count | - Fredericton 204, Moncton 58, Sackville 21, Cape Tormentine 4, Lepreau 1, Saint John 66, Woodstock 121, Hampton 11, Jemseg 5, Andover 1 |
|-----------------|--|

Screech Owl

| | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Christmas Count | - Woodstock 1 |
|-----------------|---------------|

Great-horned Owl

| | | | |
|---------|-------------|---|-----------|
| Jan. 31 | Moncton | 2 | A. Madden |
| Feb. 13 | Petitcodiac | 1 | F. Alward |

Hawk-Owl

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|---|-------------------------|
| Christmas Count - Woodstock 1 | | | |
| Dec. 2 | Maugerville | 1 | P. Pearce |
| Dec. 8 | Musquash | 1 | D. Christie |
| Dec. 22 | Lakeburn | 1 | A. Madden |
| Dec. 31 | Hampton Station | 1 | Mrs. A.T. Leatherbarrow |
| Jan. 22 | St. Andrews | 1 | Miss Willa MacCoubrey |

Snowy Owl

| | | | |
|---------|------------|---|--------------------|
| Jan. 31 | Saint John | 1 | Rev. John Moorhead |
|---------|------------|---|--------------------|

Barred Owl

| | | | |
|---------|---------|---|----------------|
| Dec. 29 | Moncton | 1 | W. Quartermain |
|---------|---------|---|----------------|

Saw-whet Owl

| | | | |
|---------|-------------|---|--------------|
| Feb. 12 | Saint John | 1 | W.A. Squires |
| Feb. 23 | Fredericton | 1 | R. Savage |

Pileated Woodpecker

| | | | |
|---|---------------|---|-------------|
| Christmas Count - Fredericton 1, Cape Tormentine 1, Woodstock 2 | | | |
| Dec. 2 | Model Farm | 1 | D. Christie |
| Jan. 16 | Caledonia Mt. | 1 | Reid Parker |

Hairy Woodpecker

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Christmas Count - Fredericton 1, Moncton 2, Cape Tormentine 1, Saint John 8, Woodstock 3, Hampton 2 | | | |
|---|--|--|--|

Downy Woodpecker

| | | | |
|---|---------|---|------------|
| Christmas Count - Fredericton 3, Moncton 1, Sackville 2, Lepreau 1, Saint John 26, Woodstock 1, Pennfield 1 | | | |
| Dec. 29 | Andover | 4 | M. Watters |

Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker

| | | | |
|---------|-------|---|-------------|
| Jan. 12 | Geary | 1 | D. Christie |
|---------|-------|---|-------------|

Horned Lark

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Christmas Count - Cape Tormentine 2 | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|

Gray Jay

| | | | |
|--|---------|---|------------|
| Christmas Count - Moncton 1, Saint John 4, Woodstock 4, Hampton 6, Pennfield 3 | | | |
| Dec. 29 | Andover | 2 | M. Watters |
| Jan. 28 | Tracy | 2 | P. Pearce |

Blue Jay

| | | | |
|---|---------|---|------------|
| Christmas Count - Fredericton 21, Moncton 34, Sackville 16, Cape Tormentine 19, Kierstead Mt. 5, Saint John 22, Woodstock 14, Hampton 16, Pennfield 3, Jemseg 4 | | | |
| Dec. 29 | Andover | 3 | M. Watters |

Common Raven

| | | | |
|--|---------|---|------------|
| Christmas Count - Fredericton 9, Moncton 159, Sackville 11, Cape Tormentine 64, Kierstead Mt. 2, Lepreau 1, Saint John 13, Woodstock 3, Hampton 30, Jemseg 8 | | | |
| Dec. 29 | Andover | 7 | M. Watters |

Common Crow

| | | | |
|--|---------|---|------------|
| Christmas Count - Fredericton 23, Moncton 54, Sackville 20, Cape Tormentine 4, Kierstead Mt. 3, Lepreau 61, Saint John 76, Woodstock 89, Hampton 8, Pennfield 14, Jemseg 2 | | | |
| Dec. 29 | Andover | 3 | M. Watters |

Black-capped Chickadee

Christmas Count - Fredericton 32, Moncton 37, Sackville 11, Cape Tormentine 2, Kierstead Mt. 5, Saint John 81, Woodstock 28, Hampton 5, Pennfield 2, Jemseg 13

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------|----|------------------|
| Dec. 29 | Andover | 15 | M. Watters |
| Jan. 5 | South Tweedside | 28 | Mrs. C. Cleghorn |

Boreal Chickadee

Christmas Count - Fredericton 22, Moncton 8, Sackville 5, Cape Tormentine 7, Kierstead Mt. 1, Saint John 20, Woodstock 8, Hampton 15, Pennfield 2, Jemseg 4

White-breasted Nuthatch

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|---|-----------|
| Christmas Count | - Fredericton 2 | | |
| Jan. 11 | Tracy | 1 | P. Pearce |

Red-breasted Nuthatch

Christmas Count - Fredericton 10, Moncton 16, Saint John 4, Woodstock 7, Hampton 1, Jemseg 1

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------|---|------------------|
| Dec. 29 | Andover | 2 | M. Watters |
| Jan. 5 | South Tweedside | 3 | Mrs. C. Cleghorn |

Brown Creeper

Christmas Count - Moncton 21, Saint John 1

Mockingbird

| | | | |
|-------------|-------------|---|-------------------|
| Dec. 1 & 11 | Lancaster | 1 | Mrs. V.B. Watters |
| Jan. 10 | St. Martins | 1 | Mrs. Harper |

Robin

Christmas Count - Fredericton 1, Saint John 1, Moncton 1, Sackville 1

| | | | |
|---------|-------------|---|------------------|
| Dec. 19 | St. Andrews | 1 | Mrs. Fred Nutter |
| Jan. 4 | Kingshurst | 1 | D. Christie |
| Jan. 31 | Petitcodiac | 1 | F. Alward |

Golden-crowned Kinglet

Christmas Count - Moncton 12, Sackville 3, Cape Tormentine 8, Saint John 18, Woodstock 5

| | | | |
|---------|---------|----|------------|
| Dec. 29 | Andover | 10 | M. Watters |
|---------|---------|----|------------|

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Christmas Count - Saint John (Rothesay) 1

| | | | |
|---------|----------|----------|----------|
| Jan. 23 | Rothesay | 1 (dead) | F. Brock |
|---------|----------|----------|----------|

Northern Shrike

Christmas Count - Fredericton 1, Moncton 1, Woodstock 4, Pennfield 1

| | | | |
|---------|----------------|---|-------------|
| Jan. 3 | Dipper Harbour | 1 | D. Christie |
| Jan. 26 | Geary | 1 | P. Pearce |

Starling

Christmas Count - Fredericton 542, Moncton 920, Sackville 346, Cape Tormentine 35, Lepreau 8, Saint John 615, Woodstock 394, Hampton 73, Jemseg 4, Andover 4

Myrtle Warbler

Christmas Count - Saint John 1

| | | | |
|---------|-------------|---|-------------------|
| Dec. 12 | Fredericton | 1 | D. Christie |
| Feb. 5 | Torryburn | 1 | Mrs. Greta Clarke |

House Sparrow

Christmas Count - Fredericton 938, Moncton 520, Sackville 504, Cape Tormentine 137, Lepreau 5, Saint John 240, Woodstock 306, Hampton 189, Pennfield 15, Jemseg 40, Kierstead Mt. 40, Andover 2

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|------|-------------------------|
| <u>Eastern Meadowlark</u> | | | |
| Jan. 4 | Burt's Corner | 3 | Beverley Pugh |
| <u>Red-winged Blackbird</u> | | | |
| Dec. 4 | St. Martins | 100s | Mrs. J.N. Bradshaw |
| Dec. 5 | St. Andrews | 1 | Miss Willa MacCoubrey |
| <u>Baltimore Oriole</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count | Sackville 1, Saint John 1, Pennfield 1 | | |
| Dec. 22 | Riverview | 1 | D. Whitman, Mrs. Fownes |
| <u>Rusty Blackbird</u> | | | |
| Dec. 5 | St. Andrews | 1 | Miss Willa MacCoubrey |
| <u>Common Grackle</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count | Fredericton 3, Hampton 2, Sackville 1, Saint John 2 | | |
| Dec. 31 | Petitcodiac | 1 | Ford Alward |
| Jan. 10 | St. Martins | 10 | Mrs. Howe |
| <u>Brown-headed Cowbird</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count | Saint John 19, Hampton 1, Pennfield 1, Fredericton 1, Jemseg 1 | | |
| Dec. 23 | St. Martins | 40 | Mrs. J.N. Bradshaw |
| Dec. 26 | South Tweedside | 1 | Mrs. C. Cleghorn |
| Dec. 29 | Andover | 2 | M. Watters |
| <u>Dickcissel</u> | | | |
| Dec. 5 | St. Andrews | 1 | Miss Willa MacCoubrey |
| <u>Evening Grosbeak</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count | Fredericton 41, Moncton 25, Sackville 12, Saint John 6, Woodstock 2, Hampton 28, Pennfield 5 | | |
| Jan. 31 | Petitcodiac | 51 | F. Alward |
| Feb. 1 | St. Martins | 75 | Mrs. J.N. Bradshaw |
| Feb. 18 | Sackville | 30 | Donald McPhail |
| <u>Purple Finch</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count | Fredericton 15, Moncton 9, Hampton 1, Kierstead Mt. 1, | | |
| Feb. 1 | Petitcodiac | 3 | F. Alward |
| <u>Pine Grosbeak</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count | Fredericton 14, Moncton 46, Saint John 1, Woodstock 4, Hampton 2 | | |
| Dec. 29 | Andover | 2 | M. Watters |
| Feb. 2 | Caledonia Mt. | 80 | Dr. Majka |
| Feb. 11 | St. Martins | 15 | Mrs. J.N. Bradshaw |
| <u>Common Redpoll</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count | Cape Tormentine 2, Woodstock 11, Hampton 10 | | |
| Dec. 1 | Hoyt | 3 | D. Christie |
| Jan. 16 | Petitcodiac | 16 | F. Alward |
| <u>Pine Siskin</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count | Fredericton 40, Moncton 20, Woodstock 92, Kierstead Mt. 20, Hampton 44 | | |
| Jan. 21 | Petitcodiac | 25 | F. Alward |
| <u>American Goldfinch</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count | Fredericton 20, Moncton 6, Saint John 56, Jemseg 5 | | |
| Feb. 2 | Riverview | 11 | D. Whitman |
| <u>Red Crossbill</u> | | | |
| Christmas Count | Woodstock 2, Hampton 3 | | |

White-winged Crossbill

Christmas Count - Fredericton 50, Moncton 25, Woodstock 68, Jemseg 30,
Kierstead Mt. 8

Dec. 29 Andover 10 M. Watters

Rufous-sided Towhee

Christmas Count - Fredericton 1, Saint John 1

Slate-coloured Junco

Christmas Count - Moncton 60, Sackville 8, Cape Tormentine 36, Lepreau 7,
Kierstead Mt. 1, Saint John 27, Woodstock 15, Hampton 4,
Pennfield 1, Jemseg 8

Dec. 29 Andover 2 M. Watters

Tree Sparrow

Christmas Count - Fredericton 25, Moncton 15, Cape Tormentine 8, Kierstead
Mt. 20, Saint John 83, Woodstock 23, Pennfield 4, Jemseg 14

Dec. 20 Jemseg 14 P. Pearce

Dec. 29 Andover 2 M. Watters

Feb. 14 Petitcodiac 5 F. Alward

Field Sparrow

Dec. 11 Fredericton 4 P. Pearce & D. Christie

White-throated Sparrow

Christmas Count - Fredericton 1, Saint John 1, Pennfield 1

Feb. 14 Lancaster 1 J. Hazen

Swamp Sparrow

Dec. 23 Sackville 1 (died) Dr. A.J. Erskine

Song Sparrow

Christmas Count - Fredericton 20, Moncton 4, Cape Tormentine 1, Saint John
5, Woodstock 2, Hampton 1

Lapland Longspur

Christmas Count - Cape Tormentine 1

Snow Bunting

Christmas Count - Moncton 90, Sackville 158, Cape Tormentine 200,
Woodstock 14

Dec. 15 Petitcodiac 75 Ford Alward

Jan. 3 Musquash 200 D. Christie

Jan. 15 Lower Burton 100 Miss Marguerite McNair

Some very obvious fluctuations have been noted in several species of birds. Short-eared Owls after being very common for two winters have not been reported at all this winter.

Snowy Owls after appearing in moderate numbers for several winters were very scarce this year - only one report.

Rough-legged Hawks usually rare were much commoner than usual especially at Jemseg in November and December, 24 being counted there in one day.

Hawk-Owls are much more common this winter than usual.

The two Gyrfalcons seen near Fredericton are the first reported for many years.

N A T U R E N E W S

Vol. XIV

March - April 1963

Number 2

F O R E W O R D

All the brooks are running free, the ice in the Saint John has broken up, the stems of the red osier dogwood glow with renewed fire by the roadside, the pussy willows are out and the buds of the maples and poplars show signs of renewed life. That strange intangible smell of spring is in the air.

While snow continues to fall in the north and east of the province the great snowbanks have faded away in the southwest. The great depth of snow and the violent early spring storms have done strange things to migration patterns with some birds appearing far earlier than usual.

The bird records made available to me for this number of Nature News are so numerous that I have been able to use only a small fraction of them but all are important additions to our knowledge about the movements and habits of each species.

I would like to devote the next number almost exclusively to nature in other fields than birds for readers whose preferences lie in those fields.

W.A. Squires, Curator.

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There never was so much excitement about birds among people usually only casually interested. Late in February there was a great incursion of Purple Finches and Evening Grosbeaks in western New Brunswick extending almost the whole length of the Saint John valley. It was common for a person to count up to a hundred Evening Grosbeaks around his feeder only to find that his neighbor a hundred yards away had just as many. The Purple Finches were quite as numerous although many observers were puzzled by the plumage of the females and young males. This incursion reached at least as far as Sackville but in much reduced numbers. Dr. Erskine noted an apparent increase of Evening Grosbeaks there about February 25th but estimated only about 100 in the town through March. Purple Finches were almost of equal numbers.

Cowbirds have appeared in great numbers this spring perhaps more than last year. They were at feeders at Fredericton in flocks of 100 or more for at least the first three weeks of April. Christie reported 400 there April 2nd and on April 12th and 14th there were large flocks in Maugerville and Sheffield some by themselves, others combined with Red-winged Blackbirds and Starlings.

Members of the Moncton club report sighting a Cattle Egret on the Shepody marshes near Albert on April 19th. This is the third successive year that this species which has come recently to North America has been recorded in the province. All records are for the spring.

We also have two extremely early records for common species.

On March 31st Richard Whitman picked up a freshly dead male Purple Martin on a frequently-used driveway at Riverview, Albert County. This is an extremely early date for this species which is so dependent on insects for food. We have only two reports, April 9th and 15th, from the last century earliest than the last week of April.

An unusually early date for a Hummingbird was received from a Mrs. Mackay in Lancaster who reported seeing a male visiting crocuses on April 19th. We have only one previous April date also for the Saint John area April 28th, 1886.

Mourning Doves must be getting commoner as we continue to get scattered reports, one at Little Beach near St. Martins March 20th, Kaare Smith; one at Fredericton April 4th, K. Golding; three at Lancaster April 1st, Mrs. V.B. Watters; two in eastern Albert County April 21st, Alan Madden.

For many years between 1915 and 1940 I kept records of the first spring appearance of birds at Fredericton. One of the most regular was the Flicker not varying more than a day or two from April 18th. This year my first record there was April 19th. It winters rarely in the south of the province, but reports this spring suggest that the Flicker is not so regular a migrant after all. Dr. Bourne reported one at St. Andrews March 28th and on April 7th Mrs. Bradshaw saw it at Quaco, Stuart MacFarlane at Belmont, and D. Christie at Kingshurst and at Fredericton Junction on April 12th. As with other species migration continues for weeks after the first advance guards are seen. On April 23rd Mrs. Morrison reported 60 on her lawn at MacLaren's Beach, Lancaster.

On April 25th I drove down the west side of the Petitcodiac from Moncton. One of the great dividends from the activities of the new naturalists' clubs in the province is the discovery of more areas where birds, sometimes rare birds, can be found regularly in migration. The members of the Moncton Club had reported waterfowl, especially geese on the marshes near Albert and I wanted to see them for myself.

The great advantage here is that the waterfowl are feeding in the open treeless grass marshes and can be seen from the elevated highway. Soon after passing Hillsboro I began to see Canada Geese, 50 here, 100 there, and was seldom out of sight of them. At Hopewell Hill they were more numerous and at Riverside and Albert more still with small groups feeding as far as one could see, but the really great flocks were seen as I crossed the marsh from Albert toward Harvey. There were probably as many as 2,000 within a couple of hundred yards on each side of the road and again smaller flocks far into the distance. I followed the shore around to Waterside and many more geese were seen. Although there were many Black Ducks, a few Pintails, Red-breasted Mergansers and other species these all seemed to lose importance among the overwhelming numbers of geese. There are many geese in the lower Saint John valley where members of the Fredericton Club have been studying them since the end of March and where on April 21st I had stood almost surrounded by them at Lower Jenseg but the great migration of Canada Geese must go up the Bay of Fundy. If there were any similar numbers on the marshes to the east of the Petitcodiac at Memramcook, Tantramar and Missiquash at this time the number must be truly great.

Another outstanding sight near Waterside was three great rafts of Scoters in the Bay, one of 500-700 birds, the others smaller. As far as I could tell all were Common Scoters, the species I had found most common at Mace's Bay on April 3rd and again on April 20th.

New Brunswick is one of few places in North America where at least some of the hawks and owls are not protected by law. The trend now is towards the protection of all hawks and owls especially as their near extermination in many agricultural areas has been followed by a great increase in destructive rodents.

The desirability of protecting these species can be justified on much more than economic grounds. Some species, notably the Bald Eagle, seem to be in great danger of extinction. A National Audubon survey shows an alarming decrease in the number of eagles successfully producing young. Only 8 young eagles were found in Maine in 1962. It is my opinion that most species of hawks and owls are on the whole very scarce in New Brunswick in comparison with other birds but to justify this conclusion we should have some kind of a survey and I would ask all those who can identify hawks and owls and are willing to do so to keep a complete record of all of these birds seen with place and date for each record. If a good number of these are turned in at the end of the summer we should have data to support any statement about their abundance.

At a later date I shall submit details of hawk and owl legislation now in force in Canada.

All of the usual ducks are now to be found in the province if you know where to look.

The coast from Chance Harbour to Mace's Bay and Pocologan noted for the seabirds to be found there in fall and winter was very rewarding throughout April. Almost any day one could see Common Eiders, Oldsquaws, Buffleheads, Common Goldeneyes, Blacks, Common Scoters and Surf Scoters, and often in fresher water, Green-winged Teal, Blue-winged Teal, Common Mergansers, Red-breasted Mergansers and on at least one occasion a pair of Mallards. The Brant which appear in Mace's Bay every year were well scattered during most of April. About 200 were at the point at St. Andrews most of the month as reported by Miss Willa MacCoubrey and Dr. Bourne. I saw about 50 at Pocologan April 10th but on the 20th there were several hundred feeding scattered along the shore of Mace's Bay and a flock flying off shore at the limit of vision could have numbered 1,000 to 2,000.

Many birds seemed to stop in migration along the Bay of Fundy shore as though they knew that the snow was still deep to the northeast. Fox Sparrows, for example, were first reported at St. Martins by Mrs. Bradshaw on March 20th but the first large flight took place on March 27th and 28th when they were reported at St. Andrews, Dr. Bourne and Miss MacCoubrey; Lancaster, Mrs. Watters; and Sackville Dr. Erskine. They were very plentiful for several weeks while in more favourable seasons they go on to the north so quickly that it is often difficult to find any of them.

NATURE NEWS

Vol. XIV

May - June 1963

No. 3

FOREWORD

I had planned to devote this number to reports on spring flowers but so many interesting reports on birds have been received and so many experiences in other fields of nature recorded that mention of some of these must be included.

I must express my appreciation for all the reports received and stress again that whether space is found for them in this bulletin or not all records are preserved for future reference.

W.A. Squires, Curator.

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What recent experiences are outstanding in your mind? In the realm of nature I can name several such highlights of the spring season.

I was at Lower Jemseg in mid-April when the Saint John River gradually rising had brought fish into the shallow water of flooded fields. Here I found several Ospreys and for the first time saw one make a successful plunge fastening its talons into the back of a large fish nearly as long as the bird. This coupled with the flight song performance of the Snipe seen in bright sunshine and the "booming" of a Bittern in the distance provided a memorable experience.

Again early in June I was seated quietly on a stump in the U.N.B. forest trying to identify a warbler in a tree top when I heard a scuffling noise coming from a path which led deeper into the forest. Watching carefully I saw a large doe White-tailed Deer gradually as it cropped the fresh green plants by the side of the path. It was stopped by a fallen tree at less than fifty feet. It stood there browsing quite unconcernedly until my companion, out of sight some distance away, coughed and the deer became very alert and soon vanished.

Still another mental picture is probably the sweetest of all. On June 8th with two companions I took a long walk in the woods of Sunbury County east of Fredericton. In the middle of the afternoon we came into a pulp slashing heavily littered with brush and all of a sudden I realized that there was a young fawn on a brush pile in front of me. As we stood around it it remained motionless with its dark eyes fixed on us and confident that its dappled markings were successful camouflage. However, when we stepped closer it jumped up and ran off quickly.

How many pleasant moments in retrospect do such incidents give us!

Forecasts of a late season for spring flowers after the heavy snows and cold spring were mostly meaningless. Most flowers appeared at a normal time. Only on north slopes where deep snow was slow in melting were spring flowers very late and, of course, they would normally be a week or so later in such places. On such a slope near Cloverdale in Carleton County I found Red Trilliums still in bloom on June 9th while Mrs. Marjorie Gray reported it in bloom at Woodstock as early as April 28th.

The snow and ice, as is normal, remained late close to the Bay of Fundy and here at Lepreau Falls we found such flowers as Gold-thread and Starflower still in bloom on June 13th while they were through blooming in Carleton County on June 9th.

I have been more than usually interested in violets this spring. Some 16 species of violets have been recorded in this province, one species is yellow, the others blue and white. More by good luck than design I collected two of the rarer violets near Keswick, York County. One was a small white violet with hairy leaves - the Kidney-leaved Violet, and a small blue species associated with it turned out to be Selkirk's Violet collected in but two other counties of the province.

One of the rarest plants in New Brunswick is Skunk Cabbage. We have one specimen in the Museum herbarium collected in Charlotte County many years ago and I have seen specimens collected along the Hammond River near Nauwigewauk. This station has since been destroyed but David Christie recently found the plant at Perry's Point a few miles away. False Hellebore is often mistaken for Skunk Cabbage. The Hellebore grows in similar swampy areas and has large cabbage-like leaves. The easy test is to crush the leaves and if an almost skunk-like odor results there is no question of the identity of the plant.

Flowers are the easiest things in nature to photograph. If you have a camera that will take colour transparencies you can extend your enjoyment of their charm throughout the year.

Have you noticed the spring butterflies or have they fluttered by unseen. Among the earliest are the Compton Tortoise-shell which hibernates and is occasionally seen flying on warm days in mid-winter and the Mourning Cloak which emerges from its chrysalis early enough to become inebriated on the fermenting sap oozing from winter-cut hardwoods. I find the Little Blue, sometimes called Spring Azure, most charming. It is always a special thrill to see it flitting along a woodland path as I did many times this year from late April to mid-June.

It is not so thrilling but interesting never-the-less to find the first Cabbage Butterfly. None were reported earlier than May 4th when Richard Green saw one at Saint John. This is a butterfly introduced from Europe which develops from the green caterpillar which is so destructive to plants of the Mustard Family such as cabbages and cauliflowers. The female butterfly of this species seems very successful in searching out the right food plants on which to lay its eggs.

On June 13th near Lepreau in Charlotte County it seemed as if all the Tiger Swallowtail butterflies had emerged at once, singly and in sixes and dozens they were seen by the roadside for miles.

There have been a number of unusual bird reports which should be recorded at this time.

Among these are reports of Wood Thrushes. This is a common thrush farther south and west where I have seen it often but local records have been more or less unsatisfactory. In Maine until recently it was known to breed only in three southwestern counties and was a rare visitant a little to the north. There have been perhaps half a dozen sight records reported in New Brunswick in the last 20 years but as in no case was the bird in question examined by more than one competent observer I, as a good recorder must, had reservations about all these reports even though they may all have been correct.

We now have one report checked by many observers. On May 25th Peter Pearce saw one in Odell Park, Fredericton at close range and studied it and listened to its song for 15 minutes. Just previously he had seen the three commoner thrushes, Veery, Swainson's and Hermit. It remained in the vicinity for at least six days and was studied by many members of the Fredericton Field-Naturalists' Club. I have since learned that the very recent spread of the Wood Thrush as a breeding bird to the northeast in Maine is in the nature of an invasion and a study is being launched to determine its effect on the distribution of the other three thrushes named above. We should expect to see Wood Thrushes in New Brunswick in increasing numbers in the future.

Another important record was an Upland Plover discovered at Sheffield, Sunbury County, independently by Harold Prince and Peter Pearce on May 4th and seen by at least four others. This western sand-piper has only been definitely reported in the province two or three times before and except for the fact that one of the records was supported by a specimen these reports might have been considered doubtful.

The Gray-cheeked Thrush is most difficult to distinguish from the Swainson's (Olive-backed) Thrush. It has always been presumed that the larger subspecies which nests in Newfoundland and Labrador passes through the province in migration and recently an apparent breeding population of the smaller subspecies has been discovered in northern New Brunswick. On May 26th I saw a thrush at Lower Jemseg which I was able to compare with a Swainson's Thrush seen a few hours later. The former had a very indistinct eye-ring, in the latter it was very distinct. The former was slightly ruddier in colour with the sides of the head grayish instead of buff. The call notes were quite different but no song was heard. I and two observers with me were satisfied that this was a Gray-cheeked Thrush. Mr. R.W. Hale of Woodstock also reported a Gray-cheeked Thrush this spring on May 18th. It is possible that many thrushes identified casually as Swainson's (Olive-backed) thrushes are actually the Gray-cheeked species.

F O R E W O R D

Our 1963 summer has been one of the best in years - even Saint John warmed up but this northern summer is so short that it is gone before we have done half the things we planned to.

In this department of the museum our major project this summer and to a lesser extent last summer has been to build up the museum herbarium with plants collected in all sections of the province. Much has been accomplished and well over 3000 specimens collected but it has been impossible to visit some very desirable areas or to revisit in the late summer areas collected in June or early July. But, of course, an herbarium cannot be built in one season and the project must be continued from year to year as time permits.

W.A. Squires, Curator.

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The total eclipse of the sun was, of course, the outstanding natural phenomenon of the summer. Much has been written about it but inasmuch as very few New Brunswickers saw the eclipse at totality and many did not see it at all my personal experience should be of interest. I early planned to be in the band of totality near Bar Harbour in Maine, even though the meteorologists gave the area less than a forty percent chance for clear skies at the evening hour on July 20th. Fortune favoured us from the start when we got a tent site in the Black Woods Campground in Acadia National Park at noon on Thursday without any difficulty at all although prospective campers were being turned away at all hours throughout the week.

Eclipse Day dawned bright and clear and some observers who planned to go to the top of Mt. Cadillac left the campsite by 6 a.m. as it was reported that the motor road would be closed after 1000 cars went up. This was the site of television, newsreel and large scientific parties and this small area was crowded but miles of surrounding high land had few observers. We left the campsite about 2 o'clock under a thick overcast and climbed the mountain by the trail from the campsite carrying our equipment. It was four miles to the peak and we only expected to see the darkness sweep across the country below the clouds. However, when we had ascended about 1000 feet and were above the tree line we broke into sunshine above the overcast but as we climbed higher it was a race to keep ahead of the fog which was rushing up the valleys from the sea. As the eclipse started we took up position on a peak about 300 feet below and half a mile west of the summit of Mt. Cadillac but after a few minutes the fog coming over the ridge from the direction of Frenchman's

Bay to the east engulfed us. We packed up and climbed to another peak about 150 feet higher and were once more in sunshine. Here we had an uninterrupted view of the eclipse.

It is quite true that once you have seen a total eclipse you realize that a partial eclipse is almost commonplace. We watched the moon gradually cover the sun and it got darker and colder and then suddenly everything changed to a black circle surrounded by a brilliant halo, the clouds and fog banks changed to dark purple. A sunset glow surrounded the horizon and the planets, Mercury and Venus, shone brightly. Through a 30 power telescope solar prominences, clouds perhaps of burning hydrogen, were clearly visible.

Although we had been coached on what to look for the 58 seconds of totality gave little time for photographing and studying the strange effects of the total eclipse.

We noted that the dog with us barked and seemed frightened and heard worried notes and evening calls from birds in the valley below. All too soon the slim crescent of the sun appeared on the right side and the reversal of the partial eclipse began. Very soon, however, clouds covered the sun.

During our summer work with New Brunswick plants we had occasion to send some specimens which were either rare or questionably identified to the Plant Research Institute in Ottawa for examination.

Some of these were of much interest such as the Globe-flower, Trollius europaeus L. which I found growing in an alder swamp at Lakewood a few years ago. This was pronounced the first record of this European plant growing escaped from cultivation in Canada if not in all North America.

Of even more interest because of its associations was a rare Smartweed collected at Kingston, N.B. by Francie M. Crawford soon after 1900. This plant had been identified as Polygonum hydro-piperoides but was revised as P. Careyi known in Canada only from three or four collections made in Ontario and Quebec.

I was wondering about the identity of the collector when by the strangest coincidence Miss Julia Crawford, the well-known Saint John artist, called on the phone and confirmed that Francie was her older sister who had died at the age of fifteen. Here we have a school girl inspired by her teacher at the then new Macdonald Consolidated School at Kingston collecting plants one of which is found nearly sixty years later to be the only specimen collected in the Maritime Provinces.

Another plant of great interest, a shrub, this time found by Mrs. V.B. Watters of Lancaster, proved to be a hybrid between a species of Mountain Ash and probably a Chokeberry. It had been collected once in Nova Scotia and had been named Pyrus Jackii after its first collector.

Such hybrids are infertile crosses between closely related plants and occur quite often in some families. Sharing the characteristics of both parents they make identification more difficult.

With the wild nuts and other fruits ripening at this time of year it seems fitting to ask whether you make any use of the wild harvest for food. Many people gather a few of the wild mushrooms and other fungi and those of us who do not are overlooking an important food source but this is only a small fraction of the food available. There are literally hundreds of plants of which the leaves, or the seeds, stems, young shoots or roots are palatable in soups, as cereals and breadstuffs, as cooked green vegetables or greens, in salads, as relishes, pickles and seasoning, in the preparation of drinks, hot and cold, fresh and preserved fruits, jellies and marmalades, etc., etc.

At this season of the year there are many wild fruits, seeds and nuts still available although the commonly used raspberries, blackberries and blueberries are past. Have you made jelly from the High-bush Cranberry? It is common in much of New Brunswick and the jelly is delicious. You used cultivated cranberries but did you ever pick the same thing growing wild or the smaller species found commonly in our sphagnum bogs, or the rock cranberry common over rocky hills near the coast?

Try making a jelly or marmalade from the haws of the hawthorne. Some species are very good, others rather tasteless.

The Common Elder with purple or black berries ripening in the fall when mixed with other tart fruits makes a delicious jelly. Those who like the elderberry flavor will also enjoy elderberry pie but the berries should be dried or canned. The fresh fruit has too rank a flavor. The berries of the Red-berried Elder are inedible.

Black Huckleberries which are still on the bushes are spicy sweet berries superior to some blueberries but many people erroneously believe them to be inedible or even poisonous.

Chokeberries are slightly astringent when raw but make a sweet very solid jelly. They are very rich in pectin. The enormous quantities of them going to waste every year is a great pity.

Much could be written about fall bird migration if space permitted. The apparent increase in the Hudsonian Godwit should, however, be noted. It was not recorded from 1880 to 1951 although probably occurring rarely. This year from one to six were seen by Peter Pearce and others at Shippegan Aug. 3, Saint John Aug. 11, Cocagne Aug. 17, Grand Manan Sept. 2 & 3. Members of the Moncton Naturalists' Club also saw several at Cocagne Bar Aug. 14 & 18.

NATURE NEWS

Vol. XIV

September - October 1963

Number 5

F O R E W O R D

Readers continue to send in notes on the birds, animals, plants, etc. that they have seen and we are very glad to have them. It is these reports from all parts of the province that form the backbone of Nature News. Many more readers undoubtedly, whether they realize it or not, see things from time to time which could be published here or have information which should be filed away where it will be available to future research workers.

W.A. Squires, Curator

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Perhaps you have had a robin or a catbird or a ruffed grouse crash into your picture window and fall to the ground with a broken neck, or else you have read a news item about the number of birds killed at radar or television towers or lighthouses. Picture windows look like open passageways to birds, bright lights attract and confuse them.

Lighthouses along the coast have always been noted for the birds killed during migration. As long ago as 1885 the famous American ornithologist, William Brewster, spent seven weeks, August 13 to September 26, at the lighthouse at Point Lepreau to keep records of the birds killed at the light and other migrating birds found in the vicinity. We hear occasional reports from lighthouses around the Bay of Fundy but not nearly as often as we should. We have in the last few years seen birds killed at the lights at Cape Spencer and Pt. Lepreau.

I had a man in to see me the other day who knows a great deal about the birds that come to the lights. He is Addison Naves, one of the keepers of the light on Gannet Rock which, far south of Grand Manan, guards the entrance to the Bay of Fundy. Mr. Naves has been at Gannet Rock for four years and has become very interested in the great swarms of birds attracted by the light (one of the brightest in the world) during migration. This year he has attempted to keep a record of the species and numbers of birds killed at the light from day to day.

On the night of September 20-21 he counted 160 dead birds and estimated at least 50 injured for every 100 dead. He said there were probably as many as 1000 birds at a time fluttering around the light like moths at a street light. There was a light

wind from the NE with fine rain, optimum conditions for casualties. Similar conditions prevailed September 27-28 and 300 dead birds were recorded and there were many more that fell into the sea. About 98% were warblers.

Some of the birds killed at this light are of special interest - Brown Thrasher Sept. 27; female Baltimore Oriole Sept. 20; Red Phalarope Aug. 14; Red-breasted Nuthatch Aug. 7; Rufous-sided Towhee Oct. 6; 2 male Orchard Orioles Oct. 15. Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were killed on several occasions - a female July 31, a male September 21, and another female October 7.

Mr. Naves plans to keep as complete records as he can while he remains at the light of the numbers and species of birds killed day by day during migration. This will be a great contribution to our knowledge of bird migration through the mouth of the Bay of Fundy.

The unseasonable warm weather in October probably had many side effects. A fully developed blue violet, Viola septentrionalis brought in from the Kingston Peninsula by Mrs. R.J. Collins on October 24th may be attributed to the weather. The poem which states - "For those who have eyes the violet blooms in October" should normally be changed to September in New Brunswick. However, some of our violets after having their colorful flowers in the spring produce seeds in the fall in cleistogamous flowers. These flowers have stamens and pistils but no petals and are usually at the ground level or even in the ground. Occasionally an upright flower with petals occurs at the same time.

Other late flowers reported to me were wild strawberries and, of course, common dandelions.

I was in Madawaska County in September shortly after the early snowstorm there. One thing that impressed me was the almost total absence of fall flowering plants by the roadside which are so common farther south. After travelling over much of the northern part of the county it was not until I was south of St. Leonard that such things as butter-and-eggs, chamomile, fall dandelion and several species of asters began to appear and in Victoria and Carleton counties these were increasingly numerous. Apparently the normal season in the north is not long enough for these plants to be successful.

A few miles south of Andover I was delighted to find in an abandoned field a large clump of New England Aster. This aster is so beautiful that even in New England it is taken into the flower gardens so it may not have reached New Brunswick by its own endeavor but in this field growing up in goldenrods and other species of native asters it seemed very much at home. This aster is only credited with a range north to central Maine but I have long expected to find it here.

A very interesting plant which proved to be Indian Mallow or Velvet Leaf - Abutilon Theophrasti was sent in to me late in August by Rev. Ford Alward of Fawcett Hill. It had been found by his father at Havelock. This specimen was unfortunately destroyed. About a month later I was in Havelock and obtained the rest of the plant. This plant was over three feet high, much branched with yellow blossoms. It has come to America from southern Asia and is reported quite common in waste places in much of eastern and southern United States. To my knowledge it has never been recorded in New Brunswick before but it has been found in Nova Scotia.

The fall migration of passerine birds is just about over. There are a few white-throats and juncos still moving and the occasional warbler, perhaps delayed by the warm weather of October.

There have been a few outstanding reports. Perhaps the most interesting is a report of a male Red-headed Woodpecker at East Riverside near Saint John reported by Mrs. Gillies. This bird was well examined as it stayed on trees near the house for two days October 22nd and 23rd and the completely red head and neck and the large white patch on the back formed by the outer white half of the wings were carefully noted. This bird may have been in the Rothesay-East Riverside area during the summer as imperfect descriptions of a bird with a lot of red on its head were received then.

Everyone should be on the lookout for Rufous-sided Towhees. Miss Jane Hazen reported 4 (two males and two females) in Lancaster October 7-9 and at least a mile away Mrs. V.B. Watters saw one male October 8 & 9. Mr. P. Pearce saw one on the Oromocto Flats about October 23 and Mrs. Earl Logan reported a female at Westfield October 25. If the pattern of other recent years is repeated these Towhees will stay around well into the winter.

Mr. Peter Pearce visited Point Lepreau on October 14th. We usually neglect this area in the fall of the year and visit it in the winter and spring. On this visit he recorded among many other species 600 Common Eiders, 6 White-winged Scoters, 1 Black Guillemot, 3 Kittiwakes, 13 Red-breasted Mergansers and 1 Field Sparrow. The Field Sparrow is an elusive bird, hard for the beginner to identify but New Brunswick records are gradually increasing for at least three localities, Fredericton, Jemseg and Pt. Lepreau.

I have been interested in discovering the limits of distribution in New Brunswick of several trees.

One of these is the Bur Oak, Quercus macrocarpa, belongs to the white oak group and was often misidentified as white oak, Quercus alba in the past. I have found this growing naturally only between Grand Lake and Lakeville Corner. I also found it on an old farm south of Codys but it could have been set out there. There is one tree on the campus of the University of New Brunswick at Fredericton but this to my certain knowledge was transplanted from the Grand Lake area by the late R.F. Gorham. Surely this tree is not restricted to an area ten miles square or even twenty miles square. I would be much interested to hear of other occurrences of it.

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FOREWORD

This year it was decided to hold back this number until after the holiday mail has cleared the post office. This has given an opportunity to report on some of the Christmas bird counts much closer to the count period.

The first number for 1964 will list the birds reported during the winter period December 1st to February 15th as has been done for a number of years. All our readers are requested to send in reports on the birds, especially unusual numbers or species, seen during this period. Reports from the upper St. John valley and the North Shore are wanted especially as we know least about these areas in winter.

W.A. Squires, Curator.

Who started the idea of making bird counts at Christmas time and are these counts of more than recreational value? The answer to the first question is easy. Frank M. Chapman, whose book "Handbook of Birds of Eastern North America" published in 1895 went through many editions and who was longtime editor of "Bird-Lore" which later became the "Audubon Magazine", in "Bird-Lore" December 1900 asked people to report to him the birds which they saw on Christmas Day. About 25 reports were received mostly from the Atlantic States but also from as far afield as Louisiana, California and Canada. It is most interesting to find a New Brunswick report from William H. Moore, the farmer-naturalist of Scotch Lake, York County, heading the list of those published in Bird-Lore in February 1901.

Bird-Lore magazine and its successor the Audubon Magazine have published Christmas bird counts in increasing numbers every year since 1900, 672 reports being published last year. In addition nearly all naturalist clubs and bird societies across the United States and Canada now carry out numerous counts which they publish in their own bulletins. It is impossible to estimate how many thousands of people take part in how many thousands of counts each year. The regulations laid down by the Audubon Society are adhered to for all of these counts. Chief of these are that the count reported must be made within a fixed circular area 15 miles in diameter in one calendar day in a period of twelve days at the end of the year announced annually.

When a count has been taken in the same area over a number of years and especially when a considerable number of people take part some of the information obtained about the bird population is surprising and unexpected. Usually many more birds are found than

believed were in the area; special feeding areas for certain species are located. Rare species in New Brunswick such as Mockingbirds, Thrashers, Chats and Warblers trying to live through the winter have been found. Conclusions can be arrived at about the effect of increased feeding, mild fall weather versus severe pre-Christmas weather, etc.

In New Brunswick in spite of the early start in 1900 only a few sporadic attempts by one or two people to make Christmas counts were attempted before 1956. In December 1956 seven persons combined to make a count in Fredericton and with the exception of 1957 a count has been carried out every year since, for the last six years by the Fredericton Field-Naturalists' Club. In Saint John seven consecutive counts have been made. This activity has increased until in December 1962 there were two or more persons engaged in 11 counts in the province and for the second successive year more than 100 persons in all took part.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS - 1963

Fredericton, N.B. Dec. 26, 1963; 8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.; clear and sunny; temp. -4° to 6°F; wind W to NW 10-30 mph; 2 to 8 in. snow; streams and ponds frozen except for rapids; 21 observers in 10 parties including 5 feeding stations. Total party miles 246 (221 by car, 25 on foot).

Common Goldeneye, 5; Common Merganser, 3; Hawk (Sp.), 1; Ruffed Grouse, 7; Ring-necked Pheasant, 4; Rock Dove, 171; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 3; Gray Jay, 3; Blue Jay, 23; Common Raven, 10; Common Crow, 88; Black-capped Chickadee, 91; Boreal Chickadee, 2; White-breasted Nuthatch, 3; Robin, 2; Starling, 442; House Sparrow, 725; Red-winged Blackbird, 3; Common Grackle, 1; Evening Grosbeak, 7; Purple Finch, 1; Pine Grosbeak, 7; American Goldfinch, 1; White-winged Crossbill, 1; Tree Sparrow, 23; Fox Sparrow, 1. Total species 27, about 1530 individuals. Mr. & Mrs. N.R. Brown, A.A. Dean (compiler), Brian Ellis, Bernard Hagerman, D. Kitchen, Miss Marguerite McNair, Mrs. W.R. McNeill, Melvin Moore, Miss Nettie Moore, A. Morais, D.K. Parr, Mr. & Mrs. M. Patterson, M. Prince, Miss B. Pugh, Richard Savage, Mr. & Mrs. W.A. Squires, Wm. Varty (Fredericton Field Naturalists' Club).

Saint John, N.B. (Woodman's Pt. to Red Head, Rothesay almost to Spruce Lake). Dec. 28, 1963; 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.; sunny; temp. -10° to 8°; calm; 10 in. snow on ground. Nine observers in 6 parties, plus 25 feeder reports. Total party miles 205 (15 on foot, 190 by car). Great Cormorant, 2; Black Duck, 108; Common Goldeneye, 143; Red-breasted Merganser, 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 2; Ruffed Grouse, 2; Glaucous Gull, 7; Iceland Gull, 13; Great Black-backed Gull, 950; Herring Gull, 7000; Ring-billed Gull, 2; Rock Dove, 209; Hairy Woodpecker, 13; Downy Woodpecker, 22; Horned Lark, 3; Gray Jay, 7; Blue Jay, 56; Common Raven, 111; Common Crow, 192; Black-capped Chickadee, 144; Boreal Chickadee, 16; White-breasted Nuthatch, 4; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 4; Brown Creeper, 1; Brown Thrasher, 2; Robin, 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 1; Cedar Waxwing, 1; Northern Shrike, 2; Starling, 2110; House Sparrow, 587;

Red-winged Blackbird, 1; Common Grackle, 7; Evening Grosbeak, 89; Pine Grosbeak, 8; Common Redpoll, 6; American Goldfinch, 2; Rufous-sided Towhee, 1; Slate-coloured Junco, 50; Tree Sparrow, 100; White-throated Sparrow, 2; Fox Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, 1. Total 43 species, about 11,990 individuals. (Seen during count period, but not on count day: White-winged Scoter, Common Merganser, Mourning Dove, Short-eared Owl, Baltimore Oriole, Rusty Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird). Mrs. G.G. Anglin, Mrs. C.H. Brock, Fred Brock, Miss Helen Brown, Mrs. C.H. Cameron, Mrs. S. Cathline, David Christie (compiler), Mrs. K.W. Clark, Mrs. W.E. Clark, Mrs. R.A. Cowan, Mrs. E.J. Cram, Henrik Deichmann, Mrs. M.J. Duffy, Eldon Fletcher, Mrs. J.A. Gillies, Mrs. J.A. Golden, Mrs. A.R. Goucher, Miss Frances Hayes, Miss Grace Hayes, Miss Jane Hazen, Mrs. G.L. Hunter, Mrs. C. Laskey, Mrs. A. Lee-White, Mrs. W.R. Mathers, Mrs. J.E. McKinney, Roy Proctor, Mrs. D.A. Ross, Miss Shirley Saunders, Mrs. W.J. Simon, Carle Smith, Mrs. W.L. Smith, Mrs. I.L. Sear, Miss Marion Sherwood, Austin Squires, Mrs. V.B. Watters, Jim Wilson.

Hampton-Bloomfield, N.B. (Including Lakeside, Norton, Springfield, Lower Kars). Dec. 26, 1963; 10 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.; clear; temp. 3° to 10°; wind NW, 20 mph; 8 in. snow; water frozen. Three observers in 2 parties, plus 6 feeder reports. Total party miles 81½ (½ on foot, 81 by car).

Ruffed Grouse, 2; Rock Dove, 42; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Gray Jay, 4; Blue Jay, 27; Common Raven, 6; Common Crow, 8; Black-capped Chickadee, 16; Boreal Chickadee, 6; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Starling, 43; House Sparrow, 170; Evening Grosbeak, 2; Pine Grosbeak, 27; White-winged Crossbill, 1; Slate-coloured Junco, 3; Tree Sparrow, 2. Total 17 species, about 361 individuals. (Seen during count period, but not on count day: Common Goldeneye, Common Redpoll). David Christie, Leonard S. Hoyt, Mrs. L.S. Hoyt (compiler), Miss Marilyn Hoyt, Mrs. Walter Hoyt, Mrs. Guy Humphrey, Mrs. A.T. Leatherbarrow, Mrs. Donald Ritson, Miss Edith Wetmore.

Lepreau, N.B. (Musquash to Pocologan). Dec. 31, 1963; 8.20 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.; sunny; heavy mist on water in a.m.; temp. -9° to 2°; wind WNW, 10-20 mph; 8 in. snow on ground; freshwater frozen. 2 observers in 1 party. Total party miles 66 (3 on foot, 63 by car). Common Loon, 2; Red-necked Grebe, 39; Horned Grebe, 12; Great Cormorant, 1; Black Duck, 15; scaup (sp.), 2; Common Goldeneye, 97; Bufflehead, 16; Oldsquaw, 12; Harlequin Duck, 1; Common Eider, 38; White-winged Scoter, 1; Common Scoter, 64; Bald Eagle, 1; Purple Sandpiper, 78; shorebird sp., 1; Iceland Gull, 1; Great Black-backed Gull, 33; Herring Gull, 572; Black-legged Kittiwake, 30; Razorbill, 60; Common Murre, 1; Murre (sp.), 5; Black Guillemot, 1; Rock Dove, 6; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Gray Jay, 1; Common Raven, 1; Common Crow, 23; Black-capped Chickadee, 5; Boreal Chickadee, 4; Northern Shrike, 1; Starling, 20; White-winged Crossbill, 3; Tree Sparrow, 6. Total 34 species, about 1154 individuals. David Christie (compiler), Jim Wilson.

Jemseg, N.B. (Including Sheffield, Douglas Harbour, Gagetown). Dec. 23, 1963; 7.40 a.m. to 4 p.m.; sunny; temp. 10°; calm; 6 in. snow on ground; most water frozen. Four observers in 2 parties plus 1 feeder report. Total party miles 170½ (1½ on foot, 169 by car).

Black Duck, 1; Common Goldeneye, 3; Common Merganser, 7; Bald Eagle, 1; Ruffed Grouse, 2; Rock Dove, 55; Short-eared Owl, 1; Pileated Woodpecker, 2; Gray Jay, 1; Blue Jay, 37; Common Raven, 8; Common Crow, 26; Black-capped Chickadee, 36; Boreal Chickadee, 4; Starling, 19; House Sparrow, 124; Pine Grosbeak, 14; Common Redpoll, 9; Slate-coloured Junco, 37; Tree Sparrow, 15; Sparrow (sp.), 2; Snow Bunting, 49. Total 21 species, about 453 individuals. Mrs. B. Byno, David Christie, Peter Pearce, Robert Squires, W.A. Squires.

Grand Manan, N.B. Dec. 20, 1963; 7.45 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.; very cold and windy; temp. 0° to 10°; wind NW 40 mph with gusts to 70 mph; 2 in. snow; 1 observer in 1 party (5 at feeders). Total party miles 107 (1 on foot, 106 by car).

Red-throated Loon, 1; Horned Grebe, 4; Great Cormorant, 7; Black Duck, 4; Greater Scaup, 16; Common Goldeneye, 31; Bufflehead, 5; Oldsquaw, 5; Red-breasted Merganser, 17; Duck (sp.), 100; Rough-legged Hawk, 2; Ring-necked Pheasant, 6; Great Black-backed Gull, 45; Herring Gull, 1900; Black-legged Kittiwake, 75; Razor-bill, 215; Black Guillemot, 3; Alcid (sp.), 30; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Woodpecker, (sp.), 1; Horned Lark, 10; Blue Jay, 12; Common Raven, 7; Common Crow, 39; Black-capped Chickadee, 36; Starling, 82; House Sparrow, 87; Red-winged Blackbird, 1; Common Grackle, 2; Slate-coloured Junco, 4; Tree Sparrow, 4; Song Sparrow, 2; Snow Bunting, 12. Total species 32, about 2770 individuals. Peter Pearce, Dr. & Mrs. Carl A. Oberg, Mrs. Phyllis Wilcox, Mrs. George Nelson, Mr. Liscomb Green.

Bathurst, N.B. Dec. 27, 1963; 7.55 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.; clear and sunny; temp. -5° to 8°; wind NW 20 mph; 2 in. snow; 2 observers in one party. Total mileage 105 (1 on foot, 104 by car).

Common Goldeneye, 36; Barrow's Goldeneye, 2 (males); Oldsquaw, 125; Common Merganser, 5; Iceland Gull, 1; Great Black-backed Gull, 19; Herring Gull, 41; Rock Dove, 11; Blue Jay, 5; Common Raven, 18; Common Crow, 18; Black-capped Chickadee, 8; Starling, 112; House Sparrow, 269; Common Redpoll, 12; unidentified, 1. Total species 15, about 680 individuals. Peter Pearce, Theresa Thibodeau.

St. Andrews, N.B. Dec. 28, 1963; 8.00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.; clear; temp. -5° to 11°; wind NW, light 5-10 mph; harbour open covered by sea smoke most of morning. 2 parties took part in census; also 3 feeding stations. Total party hours 35 (13 by foot, 45 by car).

Common Loon, 1; Red-necked Grebe, 1; Horned Grebe, 2; Great Cormorant, 1; Black Duck, 233; Greater Scaup, 51; Common Goldeneye, 15; Bufflehead, 76; Oldsquaw, 5; White-winged Scoter, 23; Surf Scoter, 86; Common Scoter, 103; Red-breasted Merganser, 1; Pigeon Hawk, 1; Purple Sandpiper, 58; Great Black-backed Gull, 117; Herring Gull, 750; Rock Dove, 61; Hairy Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 4; Blue Jay, 12; Common Raven, 4; Common Crow, 245; Black-capped Chickadee, 54; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 7; Robin, 2; Bohemian Waxwing, 17; Starling, 225; House Sparrow, 175; Red-winged Blackbird, 1; White-winged Crossbill, 5; Slate-coloured Junco, 2; Tree Sparrow, 10; Song Sparrow, 1. Total 34 species, about 2345 individuals. Dr. & Mrs. Neil Bourne, Miss A.W. MacCoubrey, Dr. J.C. Medcof, Mr. R. Medcof, Mrs. F.T. Nutter, Dr. J.E. Rigby, Dr. R.L. Saunders, Mr. D. Walker.