



THE CANADIAN FIELD-NATURALIST

VOL. XXXIV.

OTTAWA, ONT., DECEMBER, 1920

No. 9

THE VERTEBRATES OF THE OTTER LAKE REGION, DORSET, ONTARIO.

BY A. H. WRIGHT AND S. E. R. SIMPSON.

(Continued from Vol. XXXIV, page 145).

IV.—THE BIRDS.

BY A. H. WRIGHT AND S. E. R. SIMPSON.

The birds of this region have received attention through all the years of this camp's establishment. Each year either at the beginning of camp or in the later portion, bird contests have been held and almost every year of its ten years' existence the camp has had a naturalist among the councillors in residence from June 28 or July 1 to September 1 or 10. This list is based mainly on the records of the two authors for the seasons of 1913 and 1919, and is now put in form to stimulate recording of subsequent finds. We are sure there are forms omitted but some of the naturalists did not keep notes and prefer to leave almost certain observations unrecorded because of memory's tricks. Our list then is almost solely a summer list with several additions in prospect. It numbers 122 species. Comparable notes are those of Messrs. W. E. Saunders¹ and John M. Cooper² on birds observed in Algonquin Park.

Our greatest thanks are due to Mr. J. H. Fleming³ for his courtesies previous to our trip. In many ways the most useful list in the field was his "List of the Birds of the Districts of Parry Sound and Muskoka, Ontario," also his "Birds of Toronto."⁴

The authors have found very helpful Macoun's and Macoun's Cat. of Canadian Birds; the works of C. W. Nash and Thomas McIlwraith; and the subsequent work on "Birds of Eastern Canada, 1919," by P. A. Taverner to whom they owe favors for assistance in 1913. Of assistance were the three lists of "Birds of Ottawa" in this journal (1881, 1891, 1910-11). Subsequent work can well center on fall migration, breeding data, more

records of waterfowl, shore-birds and birds-of-prey. There are twenty or more species yet to be sought in summer or previous records which need verification.

1. *Colymbus auritus* Linn. Horned Grebe.

One reported from Lake of Bays, August 22, 1911, by Mrs. J. M. Haber.

2. *Podilymbus podiceps* (Linn.). Pied-billed Grebe.

Present in summer but scarce in this region. Mr. G. M. O'Connell reports them from Lower Fletcher lake where the residents claim they were more common in earlier days.

3. *Gavia immer* (Brunn.). Loon.

Common on all the lakes and one of the most distinctive birds of the Lake of Bays country. A nest with two eggs found on an island in Otter lake the last week of June, 1919. Later, July 7, two young were seen on Otter lake. In 1913, the newly hatched egg shells were found on an island on Otter lake. Young not infrequently observed throughout the region. Several nests have been found on Otter lake since the camp was established.

4. *Larus argentatus* Pont. Herring Gull.

Common on Lake of Bays; less frequent in the smaller lakes to the northward.

5. *Mergus americanus* Cass. American Merganser.

The most common duck of the lakes of this region. Every lake has a pair or more and one of the most spirited sights is a parent bird with its young. They either swim away or frequently half swim and half fly along the surface to a safe distance. These broods are frequently recorded in the first weeks of July and even later.

6. *Lophodytes cucullatus* (Linn.). Hooded Merganser.

Mr. L. A. Fuertes observed a female with a flock of four to five young.

7. *Anas rubripes* Brewster. Black Duck.

In 1919 common on all the lakes in August and present every season.

(1) Saunders, W. E., Birds of Algonquin Park. The Ottawa Naturalist, Vol. XXIX., Feb., 1916, No. 11, pp. 145-150.

(2) Cooper, J. M., Ottawa Naturalist, XXX., No. 10, Jan., 1917, pp. 125-129.

(3) Auk., Vol. XVIII., pp. 33-45.

(4) Auk., Vol. XXIII., pp. 437-453; XXIV., 71-89. Also "Birds" in "Natural History of the Toronto Region, 1913," pp. 212-237.

8. *Aix sponsa* (Linn.). Wood Duck.

One female was seen at outlet of Otter lake, August 21, 1919, the same locality in which it was reported in 1913. Also reported by G. M. O'Connell, Mrs. A. T. Kerr, and others.

9. *Botaurus lentiginosus* (Montag.) American Bittern. "Plum Gudgeons," "Stake Drivers," "Bill Gudgeons."

Scarce. One seen August 16, 1919 in a marsh at Hardwood lake. One recorded at North Bay in August, 1911, by Mrs. Julia Moesel Haber.

10. *Ardea herodias* Linn. Great Blue Heron.

Common. Capt. Jones, fire ranger reports them as nesting at Crain lake.

11. *Nycticorax nycticorax naevius* (Bodd.). Black-crowned Night Heron.

One in immature plumage recorded on August 27, 1913 at Camp lake.

12. *Gallinago delicata* (Ord.). Wilson's Snipe.

The natives report a few in these lakes in the summer, but we have not seen this species as yet.

13. *Ereunetes pusillus* (Linn.). Semipalmated Sandpiper.

Reported August 16, 1919, in lower Algonquin Park.

14. *Totanus flavipes* (Gmel.). Yellow-legs.

Three were seen August 26, 1913, at Fletcher Lake by G. O. McConnell. One reported from Algonquin Park by C. Huber, August 16, 1919.

15. *Helodromas solitarius* (Wils.). Solitary Sandpiper.

One was seen at a marsh near Otter lake, July 12, 1919. On August 24, two were seen at the same place with young.

16. *Actitis macularia* (Linn.). Spotted Sandpiper.

Common.

17. *Oxyechus vociferus* (Linn.). Killdeer.

One was heard August 2, 1913 near Dorset, also another August, 1919 at Crozier lake. A female with three young were seen August 21, 1911, by Mrs. Haber at North Bay.

18. *Aegialitis semipalmata* (Bonap.). Ring-neck Plover.

One reported at Otter lake, August 19, 1913.

19. *Canachites canadensis* (Linn.). "Spruce Partridge."

Dr. Abram T. Kerr reports a specimen brought to him in camp several years ago. The natives report quite a few. G. M. O'Connell reports that he killed one Spruce Grouse near Otter lake.

20. *Bonasa umbellus togata* (Linn.). Canadian Ruffed Grouse.

Common. Many adults and young recorded about camp every year.

21. *Pedioecetes phasianellus* (Linn.). Sharp-tailed Grouse.

On July 20, 1913, near Hardwood lake we saw what we took to be a sharp-tailed grouse though never familiar with it before in the field. This rather negative note is introduced because of the reported spread of this form into this region.

22. *Circus hudsonius* (Linn.). Marsh Hawk.

Two recorded August 2, 1913 and two during the summer of 1919. At Point Lumini, Mrs. Haber recorded one August 20, 1911.

23. *Accipiter velox* (Wils.). Sharp-shinned Hawk.

One reported August 26, 1919 at Hardwood lake by Mr. G. Wilson.

24. *Accipiter cooperi* (Bonap.). Cooper's Hawk.

Rare. One was observed July 28, 1913 at the camp.

25. *Buteo borealis* (Gmel.). Red-tailed Hawk.

Mrs. J. M. Haber saw it August 24, 1911 at Fox Point. Three seen in 1913 and one in 1919.

26. *Buteo lineatus* (Gmel.). Red-shouldered Hawk.

One reported by Mr. C. Huber, August, 1919, and another at Hollow lake, August 11, 1913.

27. *Buteo platyperus* (Vieill.). Broad-winged Hawk.

Most common of all the hawks in the region. In 1919 it nested at the camp.

28. *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* (Linn.). Bald Eagle.

One recorded July 7, 1913 at Otter lake. In 1919 one immature recorded at Harvey Jr. lake, August 9 and one adult in Algonquin Park, August 15.

29. *Falco sparverius* (Linn.). Sparrow Hawk.

One was seen August 29, 1919 at Huntsville and another August 12, 1913 at Hollow lake.

30. *Pandion haliaëtus carolinensis* (Gmel.). Osprey.

In 1913 one was seen (August 4) over the Peat Bog, Otter lake. In 1919 one was reported over Hollow lake, August 12.

31. *Strix varia* Barton. Barred Owl.

Three were recorded in 1913 and one in 1919. Others heard in each year.

32. *Cryptoglaux acadica* (Gmel.). Saw-whet Owl.

Two heard in July, 1913. One seen on August 8, 1919, near the camp.

33. *Bubo virginianus* (Gmel.). Horned Owl.

In a deserted lumber cabin, the dried skin and skeleton of a horned owl was found (July 14, 1919) filled with porcupine quills.

34. *Coccyzus erythrophthalmus* (Wils.). Black-billed Cuckoo.

Common. Frequently heard at night.

35. *Ceryle alcyon* (Linn.). Belted Kingfisher. Common on all the lakes.

36. *Dryobates villosus* (Linn.). Hairy Woodpecker.

Common.

37. *Dryobates pubescens medianus* (Swains.). Downy Woodpecker.

Much less common than the preceding species. In 1919 apparently more common in August than July.

38. *Picoides arcticus* (Swain.) Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker.

On August 24, 1911, two males were seen at Fox Point (Mrs. J. M. Haber). On August 4, 1913, at camp a female was observed feeding its young and later the species was recorded on August 27. In 1919, (Aug. 16) one was shot on a trip to Algonquin Park. Also recorded by Fuertes, Kilburn, Palmer, O'Connell and others.

39. *Sphyrapicus varius* (Linn.). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.

Easily the most common woodpecker of the region. Many nests and young recorded.

40. *Phloeotomus pileatus abieticola* (Bangs.) Pileated Woodpecker. "Wood cock."

Not common. On August 24, and 26, 1911, Mrs. J. M. Haber recorded it at Fox Point. On August 25, 1913, we saw a "cock of the woods" at Fletcher lake and another at camp August 31. On August 31, behind the camp we found a sound maple stump with typical holes of the species. In 1919 three were recorded at Hardwood lake. The natives hold this and the Spruce Grouse the two handsomest birds of the region.

41. *Melanerpes erythrocephalus* (Linn.). Red-headed Woodpecker.

Uncommon. One was heard back of camp July 5, 1913 and one seen August 11, 1913 at the same place. In 1919 two more were recorded in same locality. Mr. G. M. O'Connell also reports one from Dorset.

42. *Colaptes aureus luteus* Bangs. Northern Flicker.

Common.

43. *Antrostomus vociferus* (Wils.). Whip-poor-will.

A few recorded each season. The natives say they are very common in the spring.

44. *Chordeiles virginianus* (Gmel.) Nighthawk. Common summer resident. Seen every evening on the wing. Nest with two eggs found in a potato patch near the camp July 2, 1919.

45. *Chaetura pelagica* (Linn.). Chimney Swift. Very common summer resident. Nest with four young found in an old barn at Hollow lake, July 26, 1919.

46. *Archilochus colubris* (Linn.). Ruby-throated Hummingbird.

Common in all parts of the woods. They are

very partial to sapsucker borings and quarrel with this species for possession of such trees.

47. *Tyrannus tyrannus* (Linn.). Kingbird.

Common summer resident.

48. *Myiarchus crinitus* (Linn.). Crested Flycatcher.

Quite common summer resident.

49. *Sayornis phoebe* (Lath.). Phoebe.

Quite common summer resident. Nests each year about the camp.

50. *Nuttallornis borealis* (Swains.) Olive-sided Flycatcher.

Common in all the more open woods and in the swamps. Very quiet in August.

51. *Myiochanes virens* (Linn.) Wood Pewee. Common.

52. *Empidonax flaviventris* (Baird). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher.

Recorded in 1919 on two occasions, August 10 at Harvey Jr. lake trail and August 13 back of camp. In 1913 two or three records were made.

53. *Empidonax traillii alnorum* (Brewst.). Alder Flycatcher.

On July 28, 1919, M. C. Huber found a nest with four young in the crotch of a young tree. Later the junior author saw the young and one parent in the thickets.

54. *Empidonax minimus* (W. M. and S. F. Baird.) Least Flycatcher.

Common summer resident.

55. *Cyanocitta cristata* (Linn.) Blue Jay.

Very common. Large flocks were seen assembling for migration after the middle of August.

56. *Perisoreus canadensis* (Linn.). Canada Jay. "Meat Hawk."

Reported more common in fall and winter. Recorded by L. A. Fuertes. Several seen by Carl Huber in Algonquin Park, August 12-16, 1919.

57. *Corvus corax principalis* Ridgw. Raven.

Rare in summer. More in winter. In the more densely wooded portions. In times past they were abundant. Some of the natives attribute its reduction in numbers in this region to their being killed off by poisoned-bait set for foxes, etc. One recorded at Otter lake, August 31, 1913.

58. *Corvus brachyrhynchos* Brehm. Crow

A few observed at camp and around Dorset in 1919. In 1913 and 1911 a few recorded on Lake of Bays. Considered more common in early spring and very scarce in winter.

59. *Agelaius phoeniceus* (Linn.). Red-winged Blackbird.

Not common. One reported August 7, 1913 at Otter Lake; five females at Peat Bog, August 1, 1919, several at Dorset during summer of 1919 and also in August, 1911 at Point Lumini.

60. *Sturnella magna* (Linn.). Meadowlark.

In 1913 one member of the camp reported a meadowlark near Hardwood lake but the natives say they occur in cultivated fields of the region but not at Dorset. Mr. G. M. O'Connell reports one nest found during his seven years at camp.

61. *Icterus galbula* (Linn.). Baltimore Oriole.

Rare. The only definite record we have is at Huntsville, July 1, 1919, but not at camp or surrounding territory as yet.

62. *Euphagus carolinus* (Mull.). Rusty Grackle.

On August 26, 1919 a flock of ten seen at Dorset. In 1913 three were observed at Otter Lake, August 9.

63. *Quiscalus quiscula aeneus* Ridgw. Bronzed Grackle.

Common summer resident.

64. *Carpodacus purpureus* (Gmel.). Purple Finch.

Common summer resident throughout the region. Its song is one of the most startling of the woods and is heard through July and most of August.

65. *Passer domesticus* (Linn.). House Sparrow.

In 1913 several were seen at Dorset where in 1919 they were quite common. One recorded at camp July 4, 1919.

66. *Loxia curvirostra minor* (Brehm.). Am. Crossbill.

Not common resident. Several flocks around Otter lake in August, 1913. Common enough in spring for the residents to note it.

67. *Loxia leucoptera* Gmel. White-winged Crossbill.

One fall (September) a flock were around camp for two or three days. (G. M. O'Connell).

68. *Astragalinus tristis* (Linn.). American Goldfinch.

Common summer resident.

69. *Spinus pinus* (Wils.). Pine Siskin.

Several seen at Camp Otter on August 3 and 7 1913.

70. *Pooecetes gramineus* (Gmel.). Vesper Sparrow.

Common in the fields around Dorset and in Lake of Bays region. Nest with three eggs found at Otter Lake, August 3, 1919.

71. *Passerculus sandwichensis savanna* (Wils.). Savannah Sparrow.

Rare. Two heard at Dorset July 6, 1913 and one near Hollow lake, July 28, 1919. Several recorded at Huntsville.

72. *Zonotrichia albicollis* (Gmel.). White throated Sparrow.

Very common species. A nest with four eggs was found July 22, 1913, in a carpet of *Lycopodium undulatum*.

73. *Spizella passerina* (Bech.) Chipping Sparrow.

Common summer resident.

74. *Junco hyemalis* (Linn.). Junco.

Common summer resident. A nest was found August 2, 1919 in a huckleberry and blueberry patch at Rock Point, Otter lake, and young were on the wing July 10, 1913.

75. *Melospiza melodia* (Wils.). Song Sparrow.

Not uncommon summer resident especially in swampy places.

76. *Melospiza georgiana* (Lath.). Swamp Sparrow.

Fairly common around camp, e.g. Gem Lake, the Peat Bog and other marshy places.

77. *Pipilo erythrophthalmus* (Linn.). Towhee.

Reported July 14, 1913, between camp and Dorset. Seen in 1911 near Dorset by G. M. O'Connell.

78. *Zamelodia ludoviciana* (Linn.). Rose-breasted Grosbeak.

Common in all parts of the woods. One of the most striking birds of the region.

79. *Passerina cyanea* (Linn.). Indigo Bunting.

In 1911 it was reported at Point Lumini (Mrs. J. M. Haber). In July, 1913, several were heard and seen about Otter and Hardwood lakes, also at Dorset, and in August, 1919, Mrs. A. T. Kerr reported it.

80. *Piranga erythromelas* Vieill. Scarlet Tanager.

Quite common summer resident. Not as common as the the rose-breasted grosbeak.

81. *Progne subis* (Linn.). Purple Martin.

One recorded July 26, 1931 at Otter lake.

82. *Petrochelidon lunifrons lunifrons* (Say.). Cliff Swallow.

On August 2, 1913, a flock of forty was seen at McEachern landing of Otter lake, others along road to Dorset and also at Dorset. One record for 1919.

83. *Hirundo erythrogaster* Bodd. Barn Swallow.

Nearly as common as the Chimney Swift. Young about to leave nest when camp begins.

84. *Iridoprocne bicolor* (Vieill.). Tree swallow. Not common.

85. *Riparia riparia* (Linn.) Bank Swallow.

Several recorded both in 1913 and in 1919. A colony is said to inhabit a sand-bank on the Dorset-Hollow lake road.

86. *Bombycilla cedrorum* Vieill. Cedar Waxwing.

Common summer resident. Two nests found in 1919: one with five eggs in a balsam fir in front of camp, and hatched August 18; another at Hardwood lake, eggs hatching August 16.

87. *Vireosylva olivacea* (Linn.). Red-eyed Vireo.

The only common vireo of the region. Several nests of eggs or young found during the summer of 1919.

88. *Vireosylva philadelphia* Cass. Philadelphia Vireo.

On June 29 and July 1, 1913, one was seen near the camp.

89. *Vireosylva gilva* (Vieill.). Warbling Vireo. One recorded July 2, 1919, in American elms at Dorset.

90. *Lanivireo flavifrons* (Vieill.). Yellow-throated Vireo.

Two seen at camp, July 28, 1919.

91. *Lanivireo solitarius* (Wils.). Blueheaded Vireo.

One recorded July 28, 1913, at portage between Skin and Porridge lakes.

92. *Mniotilta varia* (Linn.). Black and White Warbler.

Common resident. In August numbers apparently much increased from migrations. Young recorded on wing July 9, 1913.

93. *Vermivora rubricapilla* (Wils.). Nashville Warbler.

Quite common. Several seen in 1913 and also in 1919.

94. *Compsothlypis americana usneae* Brewst. Northern Parula Warbler.

In 1913, a beautiful male was singing near our tent on June 29. Later saw another on Hardwood road. In 1919 in August two more records were made.

95. *Dendroica aestiva* (Gmel.). Yellow Warbler.

Uncommon. In 1913 recorded at portage railroad of Lake of Bays, at Dorset and one or two at east end of Otter lake. In 1911, August 20, Mrs. J. M. Haber found a male and female and their previous nest at Point Lumini. In 1919, Mr. G. Wilson saw it the last week in August.

96. *Dendroica caerulescens* (Gmel.). Black-throated Blue Warbler.

One of the most common warblers of the region. This like the ruby-throated humming-bird likes the yellow-bellied sapsucker's borings.

97. *Dendroica coronata* (Linn.). Myrtle Warbler.

Fairly common about camp in 1913 and 1919, also recorded at Point Lumini in 1911.

98. *Dendroica magnolia* (Wils.). Magnolia Warbler.

Quite common summer resident. Young on wing recorded July 14, 1913.

99. *Dendroica pennsylvanica* (Linn.). Chestnut-sided Warbler.

Common. Two nests found July 30, 1913 and July 27, 1919 in small bushes not three feet from the ground.

100. *Dendroica castanea* (Wils.). Bay-breasted Warbler.

Several, apparently migrants, reported from August 26, 1919 onwards.

101. *Dendroica fusca* (Mull.). Blackburnian Warbler.

Not uncommon in the latter part of August when both young and adults are seen. Recorded in 1911, 1913, 1919.

102. *Dendroica virens* (Gmel.). Black-throated Green Warbler.

Common summer resident. In the middle of July, 1913 several families of this species were seen on the wing near camp, on Hardwood road. In 1911, Mrs. Haber found it August 24, at Fox Point. In 1919 it was only once recorded August 7, on Hardwood road.

103. *Sciurus aurocapillus* (Linn.) Ovenbird.

Common summer resident.

104. *Sciurus noveboracensis* (Gmel.). Northern Water-thrush.

Recorded July 7, 1913, at Hardwood lake and later July 20, in an alder near camp. In same place in 1919 a pair recorded most of the summer.

105. *Oporornis philadelphia* (Wils.). Mourning Warbler.

In 1913 quite commonly heard from June 28-July 20. Last record for the season was August 9.

106. *Geothlypis trichas* (Linn.). Maryland Yellow-throat.

Common summer resident in every marshy thicket.

107. *Wilsonia canadensis* (Linn.). Canada Warbler.

A common summer resident.

108. *Setophaga ruticilla* (Linn.) American Redstart.

Common summer resident.

109. *Troglodytes aëdon* (Vieill.). House Wren. Common on road to Dorset. Recorded at Glenmount, portage railroad of Lake of Bays, at Point Lumini.

110. *Nannus hiemalis* (Vieill.). Winter Wren.

Common resident. No bird song do we more associate with the wild north woods than the fine notes of this songster.

111. *Certhia familiaris americana* (Bonap.). Brown Creeper.

Common summer resident.

112. *Sitta carolinensis* (Lath.). White-breasted Nuthatch.

A few recorded each season. Probably more frequent than our records show.

113. *Sitta canadensis* (Linn.). Red-breasted Nuthatch.

Several seen each season during the summer.

114. *Penthestes atricapillus* (Linn.). Chickadee.

Common summer resident. Most in evidence in August.

115. *Penthestes hudsonicus* (Forst.). Hudsonian Chickadee.

Mr. L. A. Fuertes once recorded it on Little Trout lake, in the summer of 1912.

116. *Regulus satrapa* (Licht.). Golden-crowned Kinglet.

Occasionally recorded in September by those who remain after camp closes (September 1).

117. *Regulus calendula* (Linn.). Ruby-crowned Kinglet.

Recorded several times in first weeks of September.

118. *Hylocichla mustelina* (Gmel.). Wood Thrush.

Several heard or seen each season. Also recorded by Mrs. J. M. Haber in 1911 at Fox Point and Point Lumini.

119. *Hylocichla fuscescens* (Steph.). Wilson's Thrush.

One heard July 11, 1913 on hill to west of road from camp to Dorset. In 1919 on July 22 another record in a deep ravine to left of above road. Also recorded at Huntsville July 1, 1919.

120. *Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni* (Tschudi). Olive-backed Thrush.

Fairly common in 1913 and 1919.

121. *Hylocichla guttata pallasii* (Cab.). Hermit Thrush.

Fairly common summer resident. Not so commonly heard in July. Apparently more common in August. Also recorded August 24, 1911 at Point Lumini and Fox Point (Mrs. J. M. Haber).

124. *Planesticus migratorius* (Linn.). American Robin.

A few around camp. More about Dorset, Glenmount, Point Lumini, Fox Point, Huntsville and more open and populated areas.

122. *Sialia sialis* (Linn.). Bluebird.

Not common. One or two pairs usually recorded nesting near Dorset. Also a few individuals are usually seen in the meadows south of Hardwood lake.

V.—THE MAMMALS.

BY A. H. WRIGHT.

These observations are based mainly on the data secured by the author in 1913 when a few small mammals were trapped in spare moments. Interwoven are the accounts of several trustworthy residents, rangers and guides of the region. In this list are thirty-five species, several less than G. S.

Miller, Jr.¹ found at North Bay, Lake Nipissing, where he systematically trapped for a month. He found a slight eastward extension of western forms to North Bay, e.g. *Putorius longicauda spadix* Bangs, *Tamias quadrivittatus neglectus* J. A. Allen. Other forms like *Napaeozapus insignis* (Woodland Jumping mouse), *Synaptomys fatuus* (Bang's Lemming), *Sorex fumeus* (Smoky Shrew), *Microsorex hoyi* (Hoy's Shrew), *Neosorex albibarbis* (Marsh Shrew) are yet missing from our list but might well be expected with future systematic collecting. Of use to the author were J. H. Fleming's "The Mammals of Toronto, Ontario"² in which are recorded forty-one species and the Manual of Vertebrates by C. W. Nash³ wherein he records fifty-one species. The new records are to be expected in the shrews, bats and mice.

Condylura cristata (Linnaeus). Star-nosed Mole. "Mole."

The residents report "lots of them in damp soil" and these "dark in color." One was taken about August 1, 1913 on Fletcher's lake but not observed by the authors.

Sorex personatus I. Geoffroy. Masked Shrew.

Common. Several were found dead on the road to Dorset by the authors, G. M. O'Connell and others. Trapped them around Peat Bog, under mossy banks with plenty of roots, under mossy-covered stumps near the roads and trails, in a dark underground cellar under bark, under logs among manure and rotting saw-dust between old lumber buildings.

Blarina brevicauda talpoides (Gapper). Mole Shrew.

Common. Like the preceding not uncommon about buildings where cats bring them without eating them. Trapped around the Peat Bog in tamarack and spruce areas under decaying stumps, and under mossy logs; amongst carpets of Lycopodium in less moist woods. Also taken along the trails and roads.

Myotis subulatus (Say). Say's Bat.

One specimen (C.U. 6700) of this species was taken in the summer of 1913. Only infrequently they were recorded feeding over the Peat Bog from 8 p.m. onwards.

Myotis lucifugus (LeConte). Little Brown Bat.

Not yet taken at Camp Otter, but must be here because of Mr. Miller's record⁴ which is "a specimen of this bat (caught) on the platform of the

(1) Miller, G. S., Jr. Notes on the Mammals of Ontario. Proc. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist., 1897, Vol. 28, No. 1, pp. 1-44.

(2) Faull, J. H. The Natural History of the Toronto Region, Ontario, Canada. Toronto, 1913, pp. 206-211.

(3) Nash, C. W. Vertebrates of Ontario. Toronto, 1908., pp. 83-96.

(4) Miller, G. S. loc. cit., p. 39.

railroad station at Gravenhurst on the evening of August 16. Many others were seen."

Ursus americanus Pallas. Bear.

Some report the "Brown nosed Bear" as not very common. Hardly a season passes but some of the camp encounters the work, tracks or signs of bear. One resident since 1873 said he had seen only one, but that there were quite a few bears in the region. Occasionally some of the parties from camp frighten them from blueberry, huckleberry or blackberry patches, but rarely ever see them.

Canis lycaon Schreber. "Timber Wolf," "Gray Wolf."

Every winter a few packs are reported in this region. At least two killed west of road to Dorset in the winter of 1918-1919. In winter of 1911-1912 a pack of seven were seen on Fletcher lake and a few years before a pack reported east of Otter lake where many deer were more or less snow bound.

Vulpes fulva (Desmarest). Red Fox.

Common. During the summer their signs are frequently found. Many killed with poisoned bait. The red phase predominates in this region though silver grays are reported. Quite a few cross foxes are taken. Some residents doubt local reports of black foxes.

Procyon lotor (Linnaeus). Raccoon.

Not common. Mr. Joseph Allen who had resided at Fletcher lake since 1873 said in 1913 that raccoons were not plentiful. Never knew they were there until five or six years ago." Toward Lake of Bays and southward they report quite a few. They are held to eat berries, fish, nuts, etc.

Martes americana (Turton). Marten. Pine Martin.

A few in the Dorset region. Allen McEachern of Otter lake reports (1913) them "very scarce. Never caught but one. Have seen more signs." Some hold them quite plentiful where timber is heaviest. On Fletcher lake there are quite a few.

Martes pennanti (Erxleben). Fisher.

There are a few in the Dorset region. Fishers are not plentiful about Otter lake. There are more from Hollow lake to and into Algonquin Park. In Fletcher lake region there are far more martens than fishers, and the latter are hard to secure. Arthur Allen, son of Joseph Allen of Fletcher lake took one fisher in the winter of 1911-1912 and another in winter of 1912-1913.

Mustela cicognanii Bonaparte. Bonaparte's Weasel.

Common. This is included by the author on the report of several residents who describe two weasels one quite small and another as large as a small mink. Both are reported great mousers. Some encourage them about the premise for mousing, and

maintain they do no damage. One resident said he always had at least one family around his barn and every winter they turned white as do the larger ones also.

Mustela noveboracensis (Emmons) New York Weasel.

Fairly common. I have the head of this species. It was brought in by a cat.

Mustela vison Schreber. Mink.

Common at Otter lake. Have been very plentiful from Dorset to the Park but have been hunted so much they are becoming very shy. They will attempt to capture anything. One day, near camp a mink tried to catch a bathing cedar waxwing.

Mephitis mephitis (Schreber). Skunk.

Common. One or two have been taken at camp.

Lutra canadensis (Schreber). Otter.

There are quite a few throughout this region. In the winter of 1908-1909 two were taken at Otter lake, one 42 inches and another 47 inches in length. Rarely they are seen in winter at the outlet of Otter lake.

Lynx canadensis Kerr. Lynx. "Bobcat." "Lynk."

"There are a few lynx here, these very shy and more of them toward Timagimi country." Another resident speaks of them as "not extra common" and says that "some are caught every year."

Lynx ruffus (Güldenstaedt). "Wild Cat." Bay Lynx.

These are "very scarce, odd." Another reports that he "has seen only one in several years." A wild cat was reported to have been taken in the winter of 1910-1911 at Hollow lake. As yet I can find no certain evidence that both species are present or that the residents really know the two species apart.

Peromyscus maniculatus gracilis (LeConte). Canadian White-footed Mouse.

Common. This is the common mouse of the lumber camps, houses, barns, etc. Trapped most of our specimens under logs. It is generally distributed through the woods.

Evotomys gapperi (Vigors). Red-backed Mouse.

Abundant. Trapped them under and between mossy logs, stumps, in holes at bases of live trees, amongst Lycopodium carpets and occasionally in old abandoned lumber camp buildings. Were particularly plentiful among hemlocks, arbor vitae, and other conifers, yellow birches, etc.

Microtus pennsylvanicus (Ord.). Meadow Mouse. Meadow Vole.

Presumably common in the open fields but very few were taken at Otter lake. Usually found them in the fields around old lumber camps, beneath boards and logs.

Ondatra zibethica (Linnaeus). Muskrat.

The residents hold them plentiful but in mid-summer they are not so frequently seen. Each summer a few are observed at Otter lake.

Epimys norvegicus (Erxleben). House Rat.

They are reported to be present in the lower country at Bracebridge. All residents agree they have not seen them about Otter lake or northward and in the years of camp none have been taken around it.

Mus musculus Linnaeus. House Mouse.

We have no records of it at camp nor in its vicinity. Some residents in the Fletcher lake region did not know of them. A few people about Dorset assert they occasionally occur there.

Zapus hudsonius (Zimmermann). "Kangaroo Mouse."

The jumping mouse is not often taken about the camp. On June 30, 1913, we captured two alive in large pits. Most of the residents either do not know them or hold them not very plentiful. Just as in more cultivated regions some of the residents note their particular abundance in hayfields at cutting time.

Erethizon dorsatum (Linnaeus). Porcupine.

Very common. According to some a great nuisance in lumber camps and rangers cabins. They gnaw the tables, leather seats, chairs, wagon seats, belting, etc., yet we believe them persecuted unduly and would hate to see them lost to the north woods.

Marmota monax canadensis (Erxleben). Wood chuck.

Common everywhere. Some of the fire rangers eat the half grown ground hogs. They were about the camp where one semi-tame one near our tent was fed raspberries, bread, and leaves of the basswood, wintergreen, sorrel, and raspberries.

Tamias striatus lysteri Richardson. Chipmunk.

Common about camp, along road to Dorset, in lumber camps, on rocky cliffs, about sphagnum bogs, and in almost any habitat not aquatic.

Sciurus hudsonicus (Erxleben). Red Squirrel.

Common. A great nuisance around lumber camp supplies. One ranger tried to frighten them away with a stuffed porcupine, but it didn't work. Occasionally a wild red squirrel will leap for a person. On road to Dorset one of the authors heard a chase in the thicket beside the road and was surprised to have a red squirrel run for him and leap at his knee. This form is held by all the residents as responsible for the scarcity of black squirrels.

Sciurus carolinensis leucotis (Gapper). Black Squirrel.

Scarce. Once more common in this region around Lake of Bays and southward. Some report it too cold for them while others maintain the species has lost its hold in its struggles with the red squirrels. None of the residents have seen the gray phase. The last black squirrel taken near Otter lake was in October, 1909.

Sciuropterus sabrinus (Shaw). Northern Flying Squirrel.

Reported not uncommon in old stubs. We did not see any alive or skins. On September, 1913, I found the tail of one near a residence and on inquiry the owner said the cats frequently catch them and leave only the tails around the house. The tail vertebrae of the tail I picked up measured 24 mm. or in accord with the measurement for *S. s. macrotis*.

Castor canadensis (Kuhl.). Beaver.

Quite common. The tracks, dams, signs and work of beavers are not infrequent in the outlet of Otter lake, along Ten Mile creek, at Hardwood lake, and throughout the region. One of the most interesting experiences of the camp is to spend a night beside a dam of a beaver colony.

Lepus americanus virginianus (Harlan). Southern Varying Hare.

Very common throughout this region. About the beginning of camp (July 1) the young half grown hares are common about the camp quarters. In one garbage hole 4 feet deep we caught them early in the season (July 2, 1913). Others smaller were caught occasionally by hand. When the last of the councillors leave camp September 15 or earlier these hares have no perceptible change in pelage. Later in late October and early November they get the new white coat. There are no cotton-tails at Dorset, Otter lake or northward.

Odocoileus americanus (Erxleben). Virginia Deer.

Common.

Alces americanus Jardine. Moose.

Not common. The first year Professor C. V. P. Young began his camp he saw one and every year some one of the camp reports tracks or signs of moose. A resident of Fletcher lake for 40 years said he had shot three or four during that period and that there were a few stray moose in the region. Another reports "odd Moose here and there between the head of Hollow lake and Algonquin Park. All agree there are no caribou (*Rangifer caribou*.)



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<https://doi.org/10.5962/p.338009>.

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