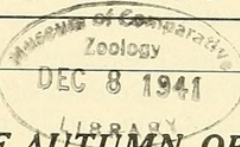


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NOTES ON BIRDS OF THE JAMES BAY REGION IN THE AUTUMN OF 1940

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DURING the period from September 15 until October 7, 1940, we visited the James Bay region for the purpose of securing information on migratory birds for our respective departments. Through the courtesy of the Indian Affairs Branch of the Canadian Department of Mines and Resources we were able to use the motorboat *Charles Stewart* for our travels about this great "bay", which is 245 miles long and 140 miles wide.

We arrived at the end of steel at Moosonee, Ontario, on the evening of September 14 and spent the night at Moose Factory, on an island in the Moose River. Our boat trip, which started the following afternoon, was divided into two cruises. The first cruise took us along the west side of James Bay, to Attawapiskat, Ontario; Akimiski Island, Northwest Territories; and Albany, Ontario, in the order named. We returned to Moose Factory on September 23rd to refuel and, after being delayed by bad weather, left the mouth of the Moose River on September 26th for our second cruise. This time we steered for the east side of James Bay, where we visited successively Charlton Island and Strutton Islands, Northwest Territories; Eastmain, Quebec; Caroline Shoals, Northwest Territories; and Rupert House, Quebec. At Rupert House, where we arrived on October 1st and departed on October 2nd, we transferred from the *Charles Stewart* to a smaller motorboat, the *Jacqueline*, belonging to Mr. J. S. C. Watt, of that place, who accompanied us for the rest of our voyage. We subsequently visited Cabbage Willows Bay and Boatswain Bay, Quebec; and Plover Shoals and the Mississikabe River, Ontario. On October 5th we again arrived at Moose Factory and on October 7th we travelled southward on the weekly train from Moosonee.

During the twenty-three days mentioned we travelled approximately 850 miles by motorboat and canoe on the western, southern and eastern parts of James Bay, and recorded a total of 81 species of birds. We wish to express our gratitude and appreciation to the many who most kindly assisted us, especially to Dr. H. W. McGill, Director of Indian Affairs, and to the late Dr. W. L. Tyrer and other officials of that Branch, and to Mr. J. S. C. Watt and other officials of the Hudson's Bay Company.

Since there are few published records of birds for this region we are presenting in detail below some of our more interesting and important records. We are also listing the other bird species observed in the region, the birds recorded on Akimiski Island, those found on the Strutton Islands, and those observed at Plover Shoals, Hannah Bay.

1. *Colymbus auritus*. HORNED GREBE.—Our only record is that of one bird seen in the mouth of Albany River in the late afternoon of September 22.

2. *Phalacrocorax auritus*. DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT.—None observed along the west side of James Bay or around the Moose River. Seen first near Charlton Island on September 26 (three), and thereafter at the Strutton Islands on September 27 (six) and near Eastmain on September 28 (one); at Caroline Shoals on September 29 they were common, and on September 30 when we approached Way Rock we saw 70 of them. We landed on that rock on the afternoon of September 30 and found 65 old nests of this species still visible despite the action of waves and rains since the nesting season. This is the only nesting colony of Cormorants known from Hudson Bay or James Bay. It was observed by W. E. C. Todd in 1912. No Cormorants were seen as we continued southward in the first week of October.

1. National Parks Bureau, Dept. of Mines and Resources, Ottawa.
2. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, Charleston, S.C.

3. *Botaurus lentiginosus*. AMERICAN BITTERN.—One was flushed at close range by Lewis at Cabbage Willows Bay, on the west side of Rupert Bay, on October 2. We were told by a local resident that the species nests near Eastmain.

4. *Branta canadensis*. CANADA GOOSE.—First recorded at the mouth of the Attawapiskat River on September 17. Recorded in small numbers at Akimiski Island on September 18 and 19, at the mouth of the Albany River on September 22, at Ship Sands Island, in the mouth of the Moose River, on September 25, and at Charlton Island on September 26. About 260 seen at the Strutton Islands during a storm on September 27, a few observed at Caroline Shoals on September 29, a small flock at the mouth of Rupert Bay on September 30, about 50 near Rupert House on October 1, about the same number in Boatswain Bay on October 3, and about 100 at the Hannah Bay Sanctuary on October 4. We were told by local residents that larger groups occur at times during migration, particularly in spring, and that the species nests locally around James Bay.

5. *Branta bernicla*. COMMON BRANT.—About 175 brant were observed at Charlton Island on September 26, and 7 were found at the Strutton Islands on September 27. We were told by a former resident of Akimiski Island that thousands of Brant formerly gathered in the shallow water at the southeast end of the island to feed and rest during migration. Reports from several places on the shores of James Bay indicate that this species no longer occurs in that region in numbers.

6. *Chen hyperborea*. SNOW GOOSE.—A common to abundant migrant in James Bay, feeding and resting in greatest numbers in the marshes along the western side of the bay. We were too early to see them at their best, but found small numbers mingled with larger numbers of Blue Geese in the marshes at the mouths of the Attawapiskat, Albany, and Moose Rivers. Some were seen on Akimiski Island, a few at Rupert Bay, and a few at Hannah Bay Sanctuary. The majority of the migrating flocks arrived later in October and were reported as being more numerous than in the previous year. In the flocks that we saw we noted indications of a good production of young birds.

7. *Chen caerulescens*. BLUE GOOSE.—A very common to abundant migrant in the James Bay region, gathering in great flocks to feed in the extensive coastal marshes. We found Blue Geese

in small numbers in the marshes at the mouths of the Attawapiskat, Albany, and Moose Rivers, on the south side of Akimiski Island, on Charlton Island and Strutton Islands, at Eastmain and Boatswain Bay; but they were numerous in Rupert Bay, especially at Cabbage Willows Bay, where we estimated that we saw 12,000 on October

2. About 3,000 were found at Hannah Bay Waterfowl Sanctuary on October 4. We were a little too early in the season to see the largest flocks of these birds and learned subsequently that large numbers migrated through this area later in October.

Local residents informed us that twenty years ago Blue Geese were not at all common in the southward migration along the west coast of James Bay and Snow Geese occurred there in that migration in abundance, but that the proportion of Blue Geese seen on that side of the bay in autumn has gradually increased until they are about equal in numbers to the Snow Geese. On the east side of the bay the Blue Geese, as far as we are informed, have always greatly outnumbered the Snow Geese and still do so.

At Cabbage Willows Bay on October 2 we were greatly interested to observe the methods used by the Indians to preserve Blue Geese for winter food. The birds are dry plucked and dismembered, and the pieces are hung in rows on racks in the teepees, to be dried and smoked by the fire burning brightly in the center of each temporary home. Nothing is wasted; even the feet are preserved after having been slit along the under side of each toe to facilitate the drying. The dried meat is packed in bags and constitutes an essential part of the Indians' food until the trapping season enables them to obtain fresh carcasses of muskrat, beaver, and other mammals.

8. *Anas platyrhynchos*. MALLARD DUCK.—We observed this species only twice; first at Cabbage Willows Bay on October 2, and again at Hannah Bay on October 4. Five others were examined in hunters' bags in early October. Generally only a few Mallards migrate through James Bay.

9. *Anas rubripes*. BLACK DUCK.—The second most abundant duck at James Bay, found in the marshes along the western and southern sides of the bay, around river mouths, and in suitable marshy habitats on the islands that we visited.

10. *Mareca americana*. BALDPATE.—Two records: 7 found in a pond on Akimiski Island on September 19 and 7 at Hannah Bay on October 4.

11. *Dafila acuta*. PINTAIL.—Much the most numerous duck in the James Bay region during our visit. It was found at each locality visited, feeding in marshes along the mainland coast and on the islands. As many as 5,000 were seen at Ship Sands Island at the mouth of the Moose River on September 25 and 4,000 at Hannah Bay on October 4.

12. *Nettion carolinense*. GREEN-WINGED TEAL.—Common around James Bay during our visit and found at nearly every locality visited. The only ducks that exceeded it in numbers were the Pintail and the Black Duck.

13. *Nyroca affinis*. LESSER SCAUP DUCK.—Observed only at the mouth of the Moose River, the mouth of the Albany River, the Strutton Islands, and Caroline Shoals.

14. *Glaucionetta clangula*. COMMON GOLDEN-EYE.—Generally distributed in small numbers. Observed at Attawapiskat River, Akimiski Island, Albany River, Charlton Island, Strutton Islands, Caroline Shoals, Boatswain Bay, Rupert Bay, and Hannah Bay.

15. *Clangula hiemalis*. OLD-SQUAW.—The only one seen was observed near Caroline Shoals on September 29.

16. *Somateria mollissima*. COMMON EIDER DUCK.—Nine females and 9 young not yet able to fly were observed at the Strutton Islands on September 27.

17. *Melanitta deglandi*. WHITE-WINGED SCOTER.—The second most common scoter, recorded offshore during our boat trips from point to point. The largest number observed in one day was 100, found between Charlton Island and the Strutton Islands on September 27.

18. *Melanitta perspicillata*. SURF SCOTER.—Recorded only a few times and in small numbers offshore.

19. *Oidemia americana*. AMERICAN SCOTER.—The most common scoter, seen in open waters on both sides of James Bay, sometimes in scattered companies containing 100 to 400 individuals.

20. *Mergus serrator*. RED-BREASTED MERGANSER.—Generally distributed in small to moderate numbers.

21. *Lagopus lagopus*. WILLOW PTARMIGAN.—On September 19 two flocks, totalling 24 birds, were found on an old burn on dry, sandy ridges, 2 or 3 miles inland on Akimiski Island.

22. *Pluvialis dominica*. AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER.—Three observed at Attawapiskat on September 17, five observed at Cabbage Willows Bay on October 2, and five at Hannah Bay Sanctuary on October 4.

23. *Squatarola squatarola*. BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER.—Generally distributed in small numbers.

24. *Capella delicata*. WILSON'S SNIBE.—Widely distributed; found at Attawapiskat, Akimiski Island, Ship Sands Island, Charlton Island, Strutton Islands, Caroline Shoals, and Hannah Bay Sanctuary. Common in September, rare in October. Forty-seven in one flock seen at Attawapiskat on September 17.

25. *Totanus melanoleucus*. GREATER YELLOW-LEGS.—Common and generally distributed. On October 3rd, when we were miles from the nearest land and the water was very smooth, two birds of this species overtook the motorboat on which we were travelling and flew past it. A short distance ahead, one of them alighted on the water and closed its wings, while the other one circled about. When, after about half a minute, the boat approached them, the bird on the water rose and both birds flew away.

26. *Pisobia bairdi*. BAIRD'S SANDPIPER.—Found with other sandpipers on Akimiski Island on September 18 and at Cabbage Willows Bay on October 2.

27. *Larus philadelphia*. BONAPARTE'S GULL.—Several seen at the mouth of the Moose River, at Attawapiskat River, Akimiski Island, and Charlton Island.

28. *Xema sabini*. SABINE'S GULL.—At noon on September 26, a calm, sunny day, when the *Charles Stewart* was about 10 miles south of Charlton Island, a bird of this species soared slowly over the boat at a height of about 30 feet. Lewis, who was the only person on deck at the time, had an excellent view of it, and noted distinctly the solid black wing-tips, the large white area in the rear part of each wing, the head with white top and darker auriculars and nape, and the forked tail with a narrow black line parallel to each side of the fork. Within a few minutes the identification was checked with the illustration in Peterson's *Field Guide to the Birds*.

29. *Hydroprogne caspia*. CASPIAN TERN.—Two observed flying over the settlement at Albany, at a height of about 100 feet, in the afternoon of September 22. Their distinctive cries, with which we are very familiar, drew our attention to them in spite of a strong wind, and they were very clearly seen under excellent light conditions.

30. *Surnia ulula*. HAWK OWL.—Recorded on Akimiski Island on September 18 and 19, and at Albany on September 22.

31. *Asio flammeus*. SHORT-EARED OWL.—The most abundant owl, found at Attawapiskat, Aki-

miski Island, Moose River, Strutton Islands, and Rupert Bay, and also at sea between Attawapiskat and Albany on September 21 and near Hannah Bay on October 5.

(*Archilochus colubris*. RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD.—One was reported by Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Michell to have visited the settlement at Attawapiskat for 2 days in the latter part of July, 1940.)

32. *Dryobates pubescens*. DOWNY WOODPECKER.—Two together were seen by Lewis on Akimiski Island on September 18.

33. *Corvus corax*. RAVEN.—Four records: Akimiski Island, September 18 (Lewis); Strutton Islands, September 27; Caroline Shoals, September 29; and Hannah Bay, October 4.

34. *Corvus brachyrhynchos*. CROW.—Found at three localities: lower Moose River, Attawapiskat, and Albany.

35. *Hylocichla guttata*. HERMIT THRUSH.—Last recorded at Rupert House on October 2.

36. *Anthus spinoletta*. AMERICAN PIPIT.—Recorded at Attawapiskat, Akimiski Island, Charlton Island, Strutton Islands, and Cabbage Willows Bay.

37. *Sturnus vulgaris*. COMMON STARLING.—Twelve seen at Albany on September 22.

38. *Dendroica coronata*. MYRTLE WARBLER.—Our latest record was September 22 at Albany.

39. *Dendroica palmarum*. PALM WARBLER.—Latest record at Moosonee on September 24.

40. *Oporornis philadelphia*. MOURNING WARBLER.—Our only record is that of one bird seen at Albany, September 22.

41. *Geothlypis trichas*. MARYLAND YELLOW-THROAT.—Latest record at Albany on September 22.

42. *Euphagus carolinus*. RUSTY BLACKBIRD.—Three records: Moose Factory on September 15, Akimiski Island on September 19, and Rupert House on October 2.

43. *Loxia leucoptera*. WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL.—Observed in flocks at Eastmain on September 28. A Crossbill not identified specifically was observed at Rupert House on October 2.

44. *Zonotrichia leucophrys*. WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW.—To our surprise we observed but one individual of this species. It was seen at Eastmain on September 28.

45. *Melospiza lincolni*. LINCOLN'S SPARROW.—Observed at Moosonee, Attawapiskat, and Albany.

46. *Plectrophenax nivalis*. SNOW BUNTING.—First observed at Caroline Shoals on September 29.

Other species recorded during our trip in the James Bay area are:

47. *Gavia immer*. COMMON LOON.
48. *Gavia stellata*. RED-THROATED LOON.
49. *Buteo lagopus*. COMMON ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK.
50. *Circus hudsonius*. MARSH HAWK.
51. *Pandion haliaeetus*. OSPREY.
52. *Falco peregrinus*. PEREGRINE FALCON.
53. *Falco columbarius*. PIGEON HAWK.
54. *Canachites canadensis*. SPRUCE GROUSE.
55. *Charadrius semipalmatus*. SEMIPALMATED PLOVER.
56. *Arenaria interpres*. COMMON TURNSTONE.
57. *Pisobia melanotos*. PECTORAL SANDPIPER.
58. *Pisobia fuscicollis*. WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER.
59. *Pelidna alpina*. DUNLIN.
60. *Ereunetes pusillus*. SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER.
61. *Crocethia alba*. SANDERLING.
62. *Larus argentatus*. HERRING GULL.
63. *Sterna* (sp. ?). TERN, COMMON OR ARCTIC.
64. *Colaptes auratus*. YELLOW-SHAFTED FLICKER.
65. *Picoides arcticus*. ARCTIC THREE-TOED WOODPECKER.
66. *Otocoris alpestris*. HORNED LARK.
67. *Perisoreus canadensis*. CANADA JAY.
68. *Penthestes atricapillus*. BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE.
69. *Penthestes hudsonicus*. BROWN-HEADED CHICKADEE.
70. *Turdus migratorius*. AMERICAN ROBIN.
71. *Corthylio calendula*. RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET.
72. *Pinicola enucleator*. PINE GROSBEEK.
73. *Acanthis linaria*. REDPOLLED LINNET.
74. *Passerculus sandwichensis*. SAVANNAH SPARROW.
75. *Junco hyemalis*. SLATE-COLOURED JUNCO.
76. *Spizella arborea*. TREE SPARROW.
77. *Zonotrichia albicollis*. WHITE-THROATED SPARROW.
78. *Passerella iliaca*. FOX SPARROW.
79. *Melospiza georgiana*. SWAMP SPARROW.
80. *Melospiza melodia*. SONG SPARROW.
81. *Calcarius lapponicus*. LAPLAND LONGSPUR.

So far as we know there is no published record of birds from Akimiski Island. This island, the largest in James Bay, has an area of about 900 square miles. At present it is uninhabited, except for the presence of a few wandering Indian trappers during the winter months. We made

two stops on Akimiski, both on the southwest shore. Our first stop was made a short distance east of the middle of this southwest shore on September 18, when we spent much of the afternoon on shore. The next day, September 19, we made a trip inland from the same place and were on shore from 7.30 a.m. until 2.00 p.m. On September 20 we walked twice along three miles of the southwest shore near the western end of the island between 9.00 a.m. and noon. During these three days we observed the following 48 species of birds on or near Akimiski Island:

<i>Branta canadensis</i> .	CANADA GOOSE.
<i>Chen hyperborea</i> .	SNOW GOOSE.
<i>Chen caerulescens</i> .	BLUE GOOSE.
<i>Anas rubripes</i> .	BLACK DUCK.
<i>Mareca americana</i> .	BALDPATE.
<i>Dafila acuta</i> .	PINTAIL.
<i>Nettion carolinense</i> .	GREEN-WINGED TEAL.
<i>Glaucionetta clangula</i> .	COMMON GOLDEN-EYE.
<i>Melanitta perspicillata</i> .	SURF SCOTER.
<i>Oidemia americana</i> .	AMERICAN SCOTER.
<i>Mergus serrator</i> .	RED-BREASTED MERGANSER.
<i>Circus hudsonius</i> .	MARSH HAWK.
<i>Falco columbarius</i> .	PIGEON HAWK.
<i>Lagopus lagopus</i> .	WILLOW PTARMIGAN.
<i>Canachites canadensis</i> .	SPRUCE GROUSE.
<i>Squatarola squatarola</i> .	BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER.
<i>Capella delicata</i> .	WILSON'S SNIFE.
<i>Totanus melanoleucus</i> .	GREATER YELLOW-LEGS.
<i>Pisobia melanotos</i> .	PECTORAL SANDPIPER.
<i>Pisobia fuscicollis</i> .	WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER.
<i>Pisobia bairdi</i> .	BAIRD'S SANDPIPER.
<i>Pelidna alpina</i> .	DUNLIN.
<i>Ereunetes pusillus</i> .	SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER.
<i>Crocethia alba</i> .	SANDERLING.
<i>Larus argentatus</i> .	HERRING GULL.
<i>Larus philadelphia</i> .	BONAPARTE'S GULL.
<i>Surnia ulula</i> .	HAWK OWL.
<i>Asio flammeus</i> .	SHORT-EARED OWL.
<i>Colaptes auratus</i> .	YELLOW-SHAFTED FLICKER.
<i>Dryobates pubescens</i> .	DOWNY WOODPECKER.
<i>Picoides</i> (sp. ?).	THREE-TOED WOODPECKER.
<i>Otocoris alpestris</i> .	HORNED LARK.
<i>Perisoreus canadensis</i> .	CANADA JAY.
<i>Corvus corax</i> .	RAVEN.
<i>Penthestes hudsonicus</i> .	BROWN-HEADED CHICKADEE.
<i>Turdus migratorius</i> .	AMERICAN ROBIN.
<i>Hylocichla guttata</i> .	HERMIT THRUSH.
<i>Corthylio calendula</i> .	RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET.
<i>Anthus spinoletta</i> .	AMERICAN PIPIT.
<i>Dendroica coronata</i> .	MYRTLE WARBLER.
<i>Euphagus carolinus</i> .	RUSTY BLACKBIRD.

<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i> .	SAVANNAH SPARROW.
<i>Junco hyemalis</i> .	SLATE-COLOURED JUNCO.
<i>Spizella arborea</i> .	TREE SPARROW.
<i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i> .	WHITE-THROATED SPARROW.

<i>Melospiza georgiana</i> .	SWAMP SPARROW.
<i>Melospiza melodia</i> .	SONG SPARROW.
<i>Calcarius lapponicus</i> .	LAPLAND LONGSPUR.

In the case of the Strutton Islands also, we know of no published bird records, so we believe it worth while to list the birds we found there while storm-bound by a strong wind on September 27. We were on West Strutton from 9.00 a.m. until noon, and on East Strutton from 1.00 p.m. until 6.00 p.m. Because of the close association and similarity of these two islands we are not listing separately the birds from each. Thirty-three species are listed:

<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i> .	DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT	6
<i>Branta canadensis</i> .	CANADA GOOSE	260
<i>Branta bernicla</i> .	COMMON BRANT	7
<i>Chen caerulescens</i> .	BLUE GOOSE	25
<i>Anas rubripes</i> .	BLACK DUCK	400
<i>Dafila acuta</i> .	PINTAIL	5
<i>Nyroca affinis</i> .	LESSER SCAUP DUCK	2
<i>Glaucionetta clangula</i> .	COMMON GOLDEN-EYE	50
<i>Somateria mollissima</i> .	COMMON EIDER DUCK	18
<i>Melanitta deglandi</i> .	WHITE-WINGED SCOTER	100
<i>Melanitta perspicillata</i> .	SURF SCOTER	5
<i>Oidemia americana</i> .	AMERICAN SCOTER	100
<i>Mergus serrator</i> .	RED-BREASTED MERGANSER	30
<i>Falco columbarius</i> .	PIGEON HAWK	1
<i>Canachites canadensis</i> .	SPRUCE GROUSE	3
<i>Squatarola squatarola</i> .	BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER	4
<i>Capella delicata</i> .	WILSON'S SNIFE	3
<i>Totanus melanoleucus</i> .	GREATER YELLOW-LEGS	25
<i>Pisobia melanotos</i> .	PECTORAL SANDPIPER	2
<i>Larus argentatus</i> .	HERRING GULL	12
<i>Asio flammeus</i> .	SHORT-EARED OWL	2
<i>Picoides arcticus</i> .	ARCTIC THREE-TOED WOODPECKER	1
<i>Otocoris alpestris</i> .	HORNED LARK	150
<i>Perisoreus canadensis</i> .	CANADA JAY	6
<i>Corvus corax</i> .	RAVEN	2
<i>Penthestes hudsonicus</i> .	BROWN-HEADED CHICKADEE	1
<i>Anthus spinoletta</i> .	AMERICAN PIPIT	25
<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i> .	SAVANNAH SPARROW	4

<i>Junco hyemalis</i> . SLATE-COLOURED JUNCO	8
<i>Spizella arborea</i> . TREE SPARROW	100
<i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i> . WHITE-THROATED SPARROW	5
<i>Passerella iliaca</i> . FOX SPARROW	3
<i>Calcarius lapponicus</i> . LAPLAND LONGSPUR	25

On October 4 we spent the morning on Plover Shoals, which is a low-lying peninsula on the east side of Hannah Bay near its mouth and is a part of Hannah Bay Waterfowl Sanctuary, which was established in 1938 by the Province of Ontario. This is a favorite resting and feeding place for thousands of ducks, geese, and shorebirds during the autumnal migration. Our visit was too early for the maximum numbers of waterfowl and too late for the largest concentrations of shorebirds, but it may be of interest to record the 25 species of birds we saw:

<i>Branta canadensis</i> . CANADA GOOSE	100
<i>Chen hyperborea</i> . SNOW GOOSE	150
<i>Chen caerulescens</i> . BLUE GOOSE	3,000
<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> . MALLARD DUCK	1
<i>Anas rubripes</i> . BLACK DUCK	900
<i>Mareca americana</i> . BALDPATE	7
<i>Dafila acuta</i> . PINTAIL	4,000
<i>Nettion carolinense</i> . GREEN-WINGED TEAL	400
<i>Glaucionetta clangula</i> . COMMON GOLDEN-EYE	4
<i>Circus hudsonius</i> . MARSH HAWK	3
<i>Falco peregrinus</i> . PEREGRINE FALCON	2
<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i> . SEMIPALMATED PLOVER	5
<i>Pluvialis dominica</i> . AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER	5
<i>Squatarola squatarola</i> . BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER	5
<i>Capella delicata</i> . WILSON'S SNIPES	1
<i>Totanus melanoleucus</i> . GREATER YELLOW-LEGS	50
<i>Pisobia melanotos</i> . PECTORAL SANDPIPER	150+
<i>Pisobia fuscicollis</i> . WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER	50
<i>Pelidna alpina</i> . DUNLIN	1,500+
<i>Ereunetes pusillus</i> . SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER	3
<i>Larus argentatus</i> . HERRING GULL	15
<i>Otocoris alpestris</i> . HORNED LARK	200
<i>Corvus corax</i> . RAVEN	4
<i>Calcarius lapponicus</i> . LAPLAND LONGSPUR	100+
<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i> . SNOW BUNTING	4

In order to make readily available a list of all species of birds that have so far been observed on Plover Shoals, the names of certain species that were observed there by Lewis on September 21-22, 1938, and that are not included in the list

immediately preceding are recorded hereunder.
Arenaria interpres. COMMON TURNSTONE.
Calidris canutus. KNOT.
Crocethia alba. SANDERLING.
Colaptes auratus. YELLOW-SHAFTED FLICKER.
Spizella arborea. TREE SPARROW.

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NOTES ON SASKATCHEWAN MAMMALS

By FRANK A. BANFIELD

PUBLISHED data on the Mammals of Saskatchewan are scanty. The earliest published accounts concern the first two Franklin Polar Expeditions. During the first expedition the party wintered at Cumberland House, and in the early spring of 1820, paddled up the Saskatchewan River past Carlton House. During the second expedition, Drummond spent August and September 1825 on the Saskatchewan River on his way to the Rockies. On his return trip Drummond was met at Carlton House by Richardson, where they remained during the summer of 1827. Because of their work in this area Carlton became the type locality for several animal forms characteristic of our western prairies.

During subsequent years the Saskatchewan River formed a highway to the Mackenzie basin, and many explorer-naturalists such as Kennicott in 1859 traversed this route. During the years 1893 and 1894 Tyrell on his explorations about Hudson's Bay passed through extreme north-eastern Saskatchewan.

Preble, neither in his investigations of the Athabaska-Mackenzie region, nor of the Hudson's Bay region, actually worked on Saskatchewan soil; but his observations were made in contiguous areas which are faunally similar to northern portions of the province of Saskatchewan.

Edwin Hollis (1902) listed twenty-two species of mammals from the Touchwood Hills noted during a year's residence in this district in 1901. Harper (1932) reported twelve species of mammals collected by the Biological Survey Party at Lake Athabaska in Saskatchewan in 1920.

From the years 1920 to 1932 the annual reports of the Provincial Museum contain lists of mammals collected and observed in connection

with ornithological work at summer stations under the direction of the curators, Messrs. Mitchell, Bradshaw and Dunk.

Edwin Hollis (1926) discussed the status of the voles of the genus *Microtus* in Saskatchewan. Soper (1938) has recorded completely the discovery of the Black-tailed Prairie Dog in Saskatchewan at Val Marie in 1929.

Mitchell (1924) published a map indicating the faunal zones recognized in the province. The Hudsonian zone occupies the extreme northern portions of the Province; the Canadian zone occupies the central portion of the province and its southern border swings down in the east below Hudson Bay Junction; approximately the southern third of the province is considered to be in the Transition zone. In the extreme southwestern corner of the province there is a suggestion of Upper Austral conditions. Klugh and McDougall (1924), in their outline of the faunal areas of Canada, agree closely with those of Mitchell but include extreme southwestern Saskatchewan in the Campestrian faunal area.

Because of the paucity of published data on the fauna of Saskatchewan, a party including Mr. F. Mowat, Mr. H. Hord and the writer, was organized to make a brief survey with collections of the birds and mammals of the central area of the province. The writer was primarily interested in the mammals. We hoped that this preliminary survey would be an introduction to further work.

Our first Saskatchewan camp was made on June 26th, 1939, at Emma Lake, which is situated forty miles north of Prince Albert and lies on the lower edge of the Canadian zone.



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