

Immature ♀—British Columbia, January 7th, 1924. Weight 17 lbs.; tail feathers 22; bill dull black, clouded with purplish-vinaceous, above and below nostril; tarsus and toes nearest to honey yellow, darker at joints; webs deep mouse gray, becoming brighter and merging into honey yellow near angle formed by toes; claws mouse gray.

MEASUREMENTS IN MILLIMETERS FROM SPECIMENS
IN FLESH

	Length	Wing	Tail	Tarsus	Middle Toe and Claw	Culmen	Anterior Angle Eye to Posterior Angle Nostril	Anterior Angle Eye to Tip Bill	Height of Bill at Base.	Maximum Width of Bill
Ad. ♂	1555	615	175	117	195	118	73	141	44	38
Ad. ♀	1500	610	170	116	177	115	74	144	44	37
Im. ♀	1395	590	174	115	179	112	70	136	45	33

—J. A. MUNRO.

a NORTHERN RECORDS OF THE WILD STRAWBERRY IN THE MACKENZIE RIVER BASIN.—During the summer of 1923, a geological survey party had occasion to ascend the valley of the Dahadinni River, a western tributary of the Mackenzie, which joins the latter about lat. 64°N. When the party was about 15 miles up the river, several patches of the wild strawberry were noticed. These grew on the flats of the river.

In the *Geogr. Review*, Vol. 10, 1920, p. 395, Dr. Kindle says:

"The wild strawberry is abundant along the Mackenzie as far north as Simpson, at the mouth of the Liard, which appears to be near the northern limit of its range."

I am informed, however, that the National Herbarium of Canada has a record of strawberries collected by Bell from the west shore of Great Slave Lake. This puts the limit at least 150 miles farther north.

Other berries met with were raspberries, a blueberry, black currants, and red currants. These latter two were found on the west shore of what is called Whitefish Lake about lat. 65°30' N. This is one of several lakes drained by Brackett River (Willow River on old maps), which flows into Great Bear River, about 10 miles east of Fort Norman.—WILLIAM H. KELLY.

FIELD SPARROW AND TOWHEE AT CHRISTIE LAKE, ONTARIO.—Christie Lake lies in the southwestern corner of Lanark County, some twelve miles south-west of Perth. In connection with these occurrences it is of interest to observe as well that it is almost equidistant from Arnprior and Kingston, Ontario, being 39.5 miles north of

Kingston. Mr. James White in "Altitudes in Canada" gives the altitude of the lake as 542 feet above mean sea-level, whereas Lake Ontario (1871-1899) is given as 245.8 feet, and the Central Station at Ottawa, as 213.7 feet. I spent July 22nd and 23rd, 1923, and July 25-28, 1924, in bird instruction work at a boys' camp located there. On July 22, 1923, I was out at 4.15 a.m. on my first real bird walk in this very attractive locality, which, with its rocky winding roads, reminded me strongly of the days at Sulphide, Ontario, just about forty miles to the westward. A pleasant surprise awaited me, for the song of the Field Sparrow came to me clearly on the fresh morning air. There were two singing males found, and, as though to mark Christie Lake definitely as more southern than Ottawa, a pair of Towhees was discovered at the same spot. Additional confirmation of a southern influence reaching this locality was found in the fact that the Black Squirrel was fairly common, and that the red juniper occurred. In the course of my 1924 visit the Towhees were found again, and, while I believe the Field Sparrow's Song was heard in the distance, I am not positive of this species for this year.

Both the Towhee and the Field Sparrow are rare and irregular at Ottawa, although W. E. Saunders records the Field Sparrow from Kazubazua, Quebec, forty miles north of the city, and I have heard has evidence of the occurrence of the Towhee at River Desert, near Maniwaki, Quebec, sixty-seven miles to the north of the capital.—HOYES LLOYD.

LATE FREEZING OF MACKENZIE RIVER—A letter recently received by one of the associate editors from Mr. T. W. Harris, who has resided for many years at Simpson, on the Mackenzie River, states that "We had a late fall; the Mackenzie did not freeze till December 3rd, which has rarely happened. At the moment of writing (January 21st, 1924) the thermometer stands at 5 below zero, which is mild for this time of year."—E. M. KINDLE.

ANNUAL MEETING, OTTAWA FIELD-NATURALISTS' CLUB.—The Annual Meeting of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club was held in the lecture amphitheatre of Victoria Memorial Museum on Saturday evening, December 8th, 1923. President Lloyd presided and in opening the meeting briefly outlined the activities of the Club during the past year, and gave a summary of the aims of the Club



Lloyd, Hoyes. 1924. "Field Sparrow and Towhee at Christie Lake, Ontario." *The Canadian field-naturalist* 38(9), 180–180. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.338446>.

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