

into the traps without any ceremony whatever.

In all I banded 34 Orioles from May 27th until July 13th, with the same decoy. On June 6th, No. 241,936 was released at 5 p.m. from the City Hall, Winnipeg, and on the following day was back once more in the traps and he was again released at once and after a few days was observed to have made a nest about 500 yards distant from the traps in a large Maple Tree, he remained there with the hen which was also banded, No. 241,938, during the entire summer months and reared three (3) young, but I was not fortunate in banding them. The decoy kept calling all the time during the day, those in the tree answering. As the Orioles were released out of the traps they at once made for the large Maple Tree where No. 241,936 had his nest, but he never let them get nearer than about 200 yards and after a short, but sharp struggle he drove them away.—PAUL KUNTZ.

TWO WINTER RECORDS FROM WOLFVILLE, NOVA SCOTIA.—On December 24, 1924, I saw in an orchard in Wolfville a small Sparrow which I at first thought to be a Tree Sparrow, but which, on close inspection, failed to reveal the characteristic black mark on the breast. Consequently, I collected it. It proved to be a female Chipping Sparrow in fairly good condition. Here at Wolfville the Chipping Sparrow is usually a summer resident from the first of May until the first part of October, this being the first winter record of this species known to me.

On January 17, 1925, I observed about thirty Lapland Longspurs on the Grand Pré meadow near Wolfville, and again on January 29 I saw eight, two of which I collected. The only other record of this species in this locality is one by R. W. Tufts, who states that from February 8 until March 2, 1916, they were frequently observed in small numbers on the Grand Pré, several specimens being taken.—A. L. RAND.

A MYSTERY BAND SOLVED.—The Canadian National Parks Branch, which keeps a record of all wild bird banding operations of interest to Canada, has had brought to its attention an item from *The Free Press*, St. John's, Newfoundland. This item gave an account of a bird locally called a "Ticklace", which was killed on August 12, 1924, by Mr. L. Curtis, of Horse Island, in the District of St. Barbe, Newfoundland. On the bird was found a thin silver band said to be inscribed with the words: "Inform Witheberry High. Holdron, London".

On writing to Messrs. H. F. & G. Witherby, 326 High Holborn, London W.C. 1, England, it has now been learned that this ring, No. 67,423, was put on a young Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*),

on June 28, 1923, on the Farne Islands, Northumberland, England, by one of Mr. Witherby's correspondents. Mr. Witherby stated that the foot of the bird was examined by Mr. W. C. Henderson, of the United States Bureau of Biological Survey, and was pronounced by him to be that of a Kittiwake, which agrees with Mr. Witherby's records. The record is extremely interesting, more especially as this bird is the first under Mr. Witherby's ringing scheme—which has been in operation for sixteen years—reported from this side of the Atlantic. The correct lettering on the band was "Inform Witherby, High Holborn, London".—HOYES LLOYD.

ON THE WINTERING OF *Perdix perdix* IN ALBERTA, 1924-1925.—The following facts appear to me to be of sufficient interest to warrant publication.

The Hungarian Partridge (*Perdix perdix*) has been increasing very steadily since its introduction into the south of Alberta some fifteen years ago. In the last year or two more introductions have been made in the north central portions of the Province, chiefly for the sake of fresh blood, as the birds had already spread into this district. Climatic conditions seem to suit them admirably, and not even the severest winters appear to have had any detrimental effects upon them. But this year there has been quite a high rate of mortality in many localities. The ultimate cause has undoubtedly been the heavy snowfall.

Partridges have been picked up dead along the railway tracks in large numbers. One section foreman has picked up about sixty on his section alone, whilst another has picked up even more. Similar reports, that have not yet been verified, however, are plentiful. All the birds were reported as being in excellent condition. Various samples have reached the Scientific Committee of the Northern Alberta Game and Fish Protective League for examination. Of a batch of six, picked up together near Blackfalls, four were submitted to us. These had all met violent deaths, injuries ranging from a cracked skull and broken back to broken wings and crushed legs, the birds being otherwise in prime condition. Since the injuries had all been received from the same side, the obvious inference to draw is that the birds had roosted in the railway bank in covey formation and had flown into a passing night train, possibly making deliberately for the headlight of the engine.

This view has received ample corroboration from various other specimens examined and from information derived from many sources. Thus, Mr. Dan. MacDonald, a locomotive engineer, and an exceptionally observant member of the Game League, has kindly sent me the following in a



Rand, Austin Loomer. 1925. "Two Winter Records from Wolfville, Nova Scotia." *The Canadian field-naturalist* 39(5), 114–114. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.338533>.

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