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To the late Prof. C. A. Weatherby and Dr. Bernice Schubert, of the Gray Herbarium of

Harvard University, to Mr. F. Ballard of the Kew Gardens and to Mr. A. H. G. Alston of the British Museum, I extend my sincere thanks for help and suggestions in carrying out this bibliographical study.

H. B. CONOVER'S BIRD WORK IN YUKON¹

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IN GOING OVER the papers of the late H. B. Conover of Chicago, I found diaries of his 1919 and 1920 hunting trips to Yukon. Yukon Territory, Canada, has long been celebrated as a hunting field, and perhaps many of the big game hunters have collected some bird specimens that are scattered through many museums. Though Conover's 1919 trip was primarily for big game and yielded few birds, his 1920 trip was undertaken shortly after his return from a collecting trip to Venezuela for the then Field Museum, on which he accompanied W. H. Osgood. This was at the time he became seriously interested in building up a world-wide collection of game birds, and this quickening interest in game birds is indicated by the increased amount of notes on game birds on this second trip and a collection of about 100 specimens.

In my "List of Yukon Birds, etc." published in 1946 (Nat. Mus. Can., Bull 105) I had no information on Conover's Yukon bird work, and these notes may be considered a supplement to that work.

In 1919 Conover, with an outfitter and two guides, by canoe went up the Nisutlin River (leaving Teslin Post August 1) to the mouth of Wolf River (August 1); up the Wolf River to the junction of the Little Wolf and Red Rivers which latter is the more northerly tributary (August 8); and up the Little Wolf River to Wolf Lake (arriving August 11). He hunted the Wolf Lake area August 11—September 9 for big game, and shot a few ducks and ptarmigan. On September 10 he started back down the Little Wolf River and reached Teslin Post September 12, where he stayed until September 17. He left the post September 17; reached Teslin River September 18 and hunted in the nearby mountains until he returned to Teslin Post October 1. He stayed there until October 5, then went to Hootalinqua, where

he arrived October 10 and took a river steamer October 12 for Whitehorse.

Though Conover's 1919 notes are full of reference to game birds seen, and some skinned, and part of his time at Teslin Lake was spent shooting birds, only one of his skins, that of a willow ptarmigan, survived and is now in his collection.

In 1920 Conover made a hunting trip to the Big Salmon River — Rose River country by packhorse, and then shot ducks on Lake Marsh, and hunted the country around Lake Bennett and Watson River. He arrived at Whitehorse August 3; with guide went by river boat to Hootalinqua arriving August 5; August 8 reached Winter Crossing² by canoe where they met their outfit of 9 horses and 2 men. They arrived at Livingston, on Livingston Creek on August 10.

The period August 12 to September 1 was spent in the sheep ranges with peaks 4000-6500 feet in altitude (estimated) between the headwaters of the Big Salmon and the headwaters of the Rose River. September 2 camp was made at the headwaters of the Rose River, among the little lakes and ponds of what was evidently the Rose-Lapie Pass and September 3 and 4 were spent there. On September 5 the party started back reaching Big Salmon Lake on September 7, and September 8-12 was spent hunting about Big Salmon and Quiet Lake. September 13 they started for Livingston which they reached September 18, and Winter Crossing September 21. Here apparently the pack outfit was left, and by boat Conover went to Lake Laberge where he shot on September 22, 23; Lake Marsh, October 1-11; Lake Bennett, October 11, and hunted Watson River, October 23—November 8. No journal covers this period, but I have the catalogue of specimens collected and the list of game birds shot.

² In 1946 I identified "Winter Crossing" as probably referring to Yukon Crossing, near Carmacks. Probably there are several Winter Crossings on the Yukon River. The present one is 40 miles above Hootalinqua on the Teslin River.

¹ Received for publication July 17, 1950.

Though this 1920 trip also was ostensibly a big game trip, Conover devoted much time to game birds as his notes indicate, and he made a collection that numbers 103 specimens entered in his catalogue.

Comments on the Data

Conover's notes and catalogues deal almost entirely with game birds, and part of the time at least he recorded daily all the game species seen. Numbers of individuals are seldom given, but from the incidental comments some idea of abundance can be secured.

The chief value of these notes perhaps is that they give a picture, sketchy though it is, of the game bird situation in parts of southern Yukon from which we had no data for any period.

Discussion of the Game Birds in the Area

At Teslin Bay on several days between September 12 and October 5 Conover found considerable numbers of ducks and geese, and swans stopped there. Between Teslin Lake and Wolf Lake, along the Nisutlin, Wolf and Little Wolf Rivers, August 2-11, only occasional ducks: whistlers, pintail, 1 flock of 100 Canada geese, mallards, green-winged teal and mergansers were seen, and there was apparently no concentration of waterfowl. Lesser yellow-legs and solitary sandpipers were also recorded, and on 3 days spruce grouse were seen. On the return trip, August 26-27 and September 9-12, only a few widgeon and a brood of harlequins were noted.

At Wolf Lake, between August 11 and 26, Conover records that many ducks were found on a bay they called Duck Bay, including pintail, green-winged teal, baldpate, golden-eye, buffle-head. Though ducks were more numerous than elsewhere, as Conover speaks of 20 ducks seen on the lake one day, the total number of ducks evidently was not large. A semipalmated plover, many lesser yellow-legs, and a few Wilson snipe were also seen here. Hunting for sheep and caribou in the surrounding mountains a few rock and white-tailed ptarmigan were found, and on the island in Wolf Lake were a flock of willow ptarmigan. Near the mouth of the Little Wolf River, was a small lake called Fish Lake. Here about 50 surf scoters were seen.

At the outlet of Teslin Lake October 6, there were quite a few geese and ducks, including whistlers, scaup, and mallards.

Travelling down the Teslin River, October 8-10 quite a few ducks were seen, mostly whistlers, with mallards the next most common.

In the mountains about the foot of Teslin Lake September 19-29 only a few rock ptarmigan (on 2 days), willow ptarmigan (1 day) and spruce grouse (on 2 days) were seen.

In the Big Salmon River country, along the valleys of the river and its tributaries, only a few broods of harlequin ducks were seen; in the forests occasional blue and spruce grouse, and at timberline willow ptarmigan were seen August 10-15 and September 13-18. In the mountains between Big Salmon Lake and Rose Lake, August 16—September 7, one brood of harlequins were recorded, and willow ptarmigan on 6 occasions; white-tailed ptarmigan, 2 coveys; spruce grouse, 1 covey; and rock ptarmigan, twice. One Wilson snipe was also seen. About the little lakes at the head of Rose River Conover on September 4 found 4 golden-eye and 5 green-winged teal only.

About Big Salmon Lake, Quiet Lake, and the few miles of water between, September 8-12 Conover found a few harlequins, 1 bunch of baldpates, some golden-eyes, mallards and buffle-heads, and saw two scaup and 2 surf scoters.

From the above it is seen that about Wolf Lake, Rose Lakes, and Big Salmon-Quiet Lake a few duck summer. Along most of the streams are only a few harlequin ducks breeding. Only in Teslin Bay, and at the foot of Teslin Lake are areas where ducks and geese stop in some numbers.

For Marsh Lake we have no field notes, but we do have a bag record, which has totals for the period October 1-8 (8 days of shooting) as follows:

lesser scaup	42 birds
golden-eye (2 species)	35 "
buffle-head	26 "
pintail	11 "
mallard	10 "
greater scaup	10 "
baldpate	8 "
surf scoter	3 "
white-winged scoter	2 "
old-squaw	2 "
red-breasted merganser	2 "
ring-necked duck	1 "

Total 152 birds

Whistling Swan.

Cygnus columbianus (Ord). Swans were reported only three times, all in 1919: on

October 3 there was a flock of about 100 in Nisutlin Bay; on October 5 swans were seen flying high over Lake Teslin, and on October 8 a flock of 15 was seen on Teslin River.

Lesser Canada Goose.

Branta canadensis leucopareia (Brandt). Apparently a few geese summer on Wolf River, where on August 5 a flock of about 100 birds, mostly unable to fly, was seen, and another flock on August 6, and on Wolf Lake, where a few were seen on August 21. Geese apparently stop in the autumn in Nisutlin Bay, where about 50 were seen on October 3, and 400 on October 4. A few geese were seen at the foot of Teslin Lake on October 6.

Common Mallard.

Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos Linnaeus. In 1919 a very few mallards were seen along the Wolf River, including one flock of young unable to fly on August 6; a few were seen in Nisutlin Bay October 6 and 8, and at the foot of Teslin Lake and in Teslin River, October 9-13 there were quite a few ducks, among which the mallards were outnumbered only by the golden-eyes.

In 1920 mallards are recorded only at Big Salmon Lake, where a few were seen, September 8-12, and at Lake Marsh, where some were shot, October 1-8, the largest day's bag being 7 birds.

Green-winged Teal.

Anas carolinensis Gmelin. Along the Wolf River seen, August 6-8; and at Wolf Lake, August 12-25, and in Nisutlin Bay, September 13-14, 1919. In the Big Salmon River—Rose Lake country only 5 teal were seen, on a pond near Rose Lake on September 4, 1920. At Marsh Lake, October 1-8, 1920, no green-winged teal were shot.

American Pintail.

Anas acuta tizitihua Vieillot. Along the Wolf River seen August 5-10; at Wolf Lake, August 11-25; at Nisutlin Bay, September 12; and on Teslin River, October 11, 1921.

In the Big Salmon—Rose Lake area no pintail were recorded in 1920. Shooting at Lake Marsh, in October pintail were shot on only October 1 and 2, when 11 birds in all were killed.

Baldpate.

Mareca americana (Gmelin). Wolf River, seen on August 24, 25 and September 11; and at Nisutlin Bay two were shot on September 14 and a few seen on October 3, 1919.

In the Big Salmon River—Rose Lake country only one bunch of widgeon were recorded, on September 12, 1920. During the period shooting on Lake Marsh baldpate were shot on October 1 (2 birds) and on October 2 (6 birds).

Specimen:

Marsh Lake: 1 ♀; October 1, 1920.

Canvas-back Duck.

Aythya valisineria Wilson. The only previously published Yukon record is of the two birds I saw on June 16, 1944 on a marshy lake in the Pelly River Valley. Conover adds another sight record, of a flock of 15 seen in Nisutlin Bay on October 4, 1919.

Ring-necked Duck.

Aythya collaris (Donovan). The specimen listed below is the first Yukon record for this more southern duck. Presumably it is not of regular nor common occurrence.

Specimen:

Lake Marsh: 1 ♀; October 5, 1920.

This specimen compares well with females from various other parts of North America.

American Greater Scaup Duck.

Aythya marila nearctica Stejneger. The only specimen hitherto recorded for Yukon was Nelson's from Fort Reliance. Though there have been a number of sight records, Swarth in 1927 was unwilling to accept any for the Atlin area because all the specimens he secured were lesser scaup.

Because of the known distribution of the greater scaup it would be surprising if they did not occur, and Conover's specimens listed below are thus particularly welcome. In addition to the specimens, Conover records shooting two greater scaup near the outlet to Teslin Lake on October 6, 1919 and another on October 8, and in 1920 on Lake Marsh shooting 1, 2, 3, 4 and 1 greater scaup on October 4, 5, 6, 8 and 11. Possibly they are all migrants in southern Yukon.

Specimens:

Lake Marsh: 2 ♂, 2 ♀; October 4-11, 1920.

Wing, ♂ 220, 222; ♀ 208, 217; exposed culmen ♂ 46, 46, ♀ 43, 44; greatest width of bill ♂ 23, 24; ♀ 23, 26 mm. The males are just beginning to get vermiculated feathers in their backs.

Lesser Scaup Duck.

Aythya affinis Eyton. Strangely no scaup were recorded on the Wolf River or Wolf Lake area, and only on Nisutlin Bay and Teslin Lake, October 1 and 3, 1919, were a few

scaup, that could well have included this species, recorded, and 1 lesser scaup was shot in Nisutlin Bay on October 8, 1919.

In the Big Salmon River—Rose Lake area the only scaup recorded are two on September 8, 1920 at Big Salmon Lake which were probably of this species. While shooting at Lake Marsh, in 1920 this was apparently one of the commonest ducks, and 2, 4, 19, 2 and 15 birds were shot on October 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Specimens:

Lake Marsh: 1 ♂ immature, 1 ♀; October 3, 5, 1920.

Wing ♂ 201, ♀ 181; exposed culmen ♂ 37, ♀ 38; greatest width of bill, ♂ 19, ♀ 16 mm.

American Common Golden-eye.

Bucephala³ clangula americana (Bonaparte). In 1946 I had but a single record of this species for Yukon. Conover recorded various golden-eyes seen in Yukon, which are listed under the next species, but he collected the specimens of this species listed below. Its summer and breeding status in Yukon is unknown.

Specimens:

Lake Marsh: 3 ♂, 6 ♀; October 2-7, 1920. One male is in partial plumage; the other two are in female plumage. All these birds have the straight sided bill with the flat nail of this species.

Barrow Golden-eye.

Bucephala³ islandica (Gmelin). As this species is known to be a fairly common summer resident in southern Yukon I have listed Conover's sight records here.

In 1919, on the Nisutlin River, August 1, one brood was seen, and a flock on the Wolf River, August 4; on Wolf Lake one was seen on August 21, and a brood on August 25. In Nisutlin Bay, August 4, there were quite a few, and at the outlet to Teslin Lake, October 6-8 there were quite a few ducks, mostly golden-eyes.

In 1920 four were recorded on a pond at the head of Rose River, September 4, and "some" on Big Salmon Lake—Quiet Lake on September 12.

While shooting on Lake Marsh golden-eyes of two species were shot as follows: 1, 2, 13, 4, and 8 on October 1, 4, 5, 7, and 8. Apparently these were amongst the commonest ducks there.

Specimens:

Rose River headwaters: 3 ♀; September 4, 1920.

Lake Marsh: 4 ♂ imm., 2 ♀; October 4, 5, 1920. These all have the tapering bill and arched nail of this species.

Buffle-head Duck.

Bucephala³ albeola (Linnaeus). In 1919 buffle-heads were recorded only on August 25 at Wolf Lake, in Nisutlin Bay on October 8, and Teslin River, October 9 and 10. In 1920 recorded at Big Salmon—Quiet Lakes, September 8 and 12, and when shooting on Lake Marsh birds were taken as follows: 1, 1, 5, 10, 5, 2 and 2 on Oct. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8th.

Specimens:

Head Big Salmon River: 2 ♀; September 12, 1920.

Lake Marsh: 1 ♂; October 2, 1920.

Old-squaw Duck.

Clangula hyemalis (Linnaeus). When I compiled my 1946 list I had not a single interior record, nor knew of a specimen from Yukon despite the species being reported to summer in abundance on the Arctic coast.

Conover collected the specimens listed on October 6, and also shot another on Lake Marsh on October 8, 1920.

Specimens:

Lake Marsh: 1 ♂ imm.; October 6, 1920.

Western Harlequin Duck.

Histrionicus histrionicus pacificus Brooks. In 1919 Conover recorded a female with 4 half grown young on August 27 on the Wolf River, and shot one on Teslin River, on October 10. In 1920 on streams in the Big Salmon—Rose Lake area he recorded broods of young on August 12, 14 and 19, and September 7, while on September 12, on Big Salmon Lake—Quiet Lake waters he saw three harlequin ducks.

None was recorded for Lake Teslin or Lake Marsh.

Specimens:

Headwaters Big Salmon River: 2 ♂, imm., 3 ♀; August 14—September 12.

The August 18 immature male is about two-thirds grown, and still has much down on the neck.

King Eider.

Somateria spectabilis (Linnaeus). In my 1946 list I had but a single interior Yukon station for this bird, two birds from the Yukon River near Dawson. The Conover specimen listed below thus gives the second interior locality for the species.

³ For reasons for using *Bucephala* instead of *Glaucionetta* as the genus for the golden-eye and buffle-head see 1948, Auk, 65, p. 439.

Specimen:

Lake Marsh: 1 ♂ imm.; October 7, 1920.

Western White-winged Scoter.

Melanitta fusca dixonii (Brooks). Conover records this bird only from Lake Marsh, where he shot single individuals on October 4 and 6, 1920.

Specimens:

Lake Marsh: 1 ♀; October 4, 1920.

Surf Scoter.

Melanitta perspicillata (Linnaeus). In 1919, on a small lake called Fish Lake near where the Little Wolf River and the Red River join to form the Wolf River, Conover found about 50 surf scoters on August 28. Later, on October 1 in Nisutlin Bay he recorded many scoters, and the one shot was this species.

In 1920, two were recorded on September 8 on Big Salmon Lake. While shooting on Lake Marsh surf scoters were taken as follows: 1 and 2 birds on October 1 and 7.

Specimens:

Head Big Salmon River: 1 ♀; September 8, 1920.

Red-breasted Merganser.

Mergus serrator Linnaeus. In 1919 recorded only on Wolf River, August 6 and 8 (species?). In 1920 while shooting at Lake Marsh one was taken on October 1, and another on October 7, both identified in Conover's notes as this species.

Specimen:

Lake Marsh: 1 ♀; October 7, 1920.

Richardson Blue Grouse.

Dendragapus obscurus richardsonii Douglas. No blue grouse were recorded in 1919; in 1920 a covey of young grouse was seen on the headwaters of the Big Salmon River on August 12, and single birds are entered for Livingston, August 10, Lake Laberge, September 22, and 3 for Lake Bennett, October 11. Evidently it was scarce and local, as appears to be the case generally.

Conover has the following notes on this species, apparently gathered in part from conversation with local people: "Found in July and August around shores of lakes. In September works up mountains to timberline where it winters. In fall seems to like to feed on a red berry locally known as "pigeon berry". Holds generally higher than either ruffed or spruce grouse. Found broods of half-grown young middle of August in high valleys, but not up to timberline. Very tame, treeing on being flushed and allowing close approach. Tamer than

either of other two grouse", the spruce and the ruffed grouse.

Specimens:

Carcross: 1 ♂ ad., 1 ♀ ad.; October 11, 1920.

Lake Laberge: 1 ♂ ad.; September 22, 1920.

Livingston Creek: 1 ♀ juv.; August 12, 1920.

Alaska Spruce Grouse.

Canachites canadensis osgoodi Bishop. As would be expected, spruce grouse were noted sparingly throughout when in forest country. Conover's notes, evidently gathered in part from local people read: "Found in spruce timber and also in jack pine but not as commonly as in spruce. Most common of [the] three grouse [the others are the blue and ruffed grouse]. A swampy spot overgrown with spruce is a good place for them. Generally tame, treeing when flushed, but sometimes very wild. One killed in September had crop full of jack pine buds. Never seem to taste bitter; drier and flavor nowhere near as good as blue or ruffed grouse. Meat black".

Specimens:

Winter Crossing (on Teslin River): 1 ♂ ad.; 1 ♂ imm.; 2 ♀; August 9, September 21, 1920.

Headwaters Big Salmon River: 1 ♂; September 13, 1920.

Livingston: 1 ♂ ad., 2 ♀; August 10, September 18, 19, 1920.

Head McConnell River: 1 ♂ imm.; 3 ♀; August 26, 1920.

Yukon Ruffed Grouse.

Bonasa umbellus yukonensis Grinnell. None was recorded in 1919; in 1920, 2 are recorded near Winter Crossing on Teslin River, and 1 at Lake Laberge, Conover's notes read: "Found in poplar groves along banks of rivers or lakes. — Don't tree, and are hard to flush as they are great runners and sneakers."

Specimens:

Winter Crossing, Teslin River: 1 ♂, 1 ♀ September 19, 1920.

Lake Laberge: 1 ♀; September 23, 1920.

Black-shafted Willow Ptarmigan.

Lagopus lagopus lagopus (Linnaeus). Found in small numbers in autumn in Wolf Lake, Big Salmon Lake—Rose Lake, foot of Teslin Lake, Lake Bennett, and Watson River areas. Conover's notes read: "Most common of the three ptarmigan. Lives in willows generally just around or above timberline, but also found in high valleys well down

below timberline. — [near Rose Lake] — saw them in valley eight hundred feet below timberline and on Wolf Lake found a large covey on a small island in the lake. Island was mostly all willow, and only hundred yards from nearest shore, but shores were heavily timbered. — In summer have also seen them well up toward tops of mountains — where there was willow. Meat dark and very dry."

Specimens:

Wolf Lake: 1 ♂, August 13, 1919.

Big Salmon—Rose Lake area; 1 ♂, 5 ♀, August 13—September 16, 1920.

Watson River: 2♂, October 23, November 8, 1920.

Southern Rock Ptarmigan.

Lagopus mutus kelloggae Grinnell. Small numbers occasionally recorded in the higher Wolf Lake country; above the foot of Teslin Lake, between Big Salmon and Rose Lake, and in Watson River country. Conover's notes follow: "Probably little more common generally than white-tailed but in 1919 and 1920 not very plentiful. In summer found on top of flat grassy mountains. Does not seem to like the rocky ones as well as the grassy flat ones. Good ewe ranges are good rock ptarmigan country. In winter seems to hold to about the same country, maybe working down closer to the willow line but holding higher than either of the two others. Sometimes very tame and others very wild. Single birds in summer apt to be very wild. Meat black but not as dry as willow ptarmigan."

Specimens:

Headwaters Big Salmon River—Rose Lake: 7 ♂, 3 ♀; September 2-15, 1920.

Head of Watson River: 1 ♂, November 4, 1920.

White-tailed Ptarmigan.

Lagopus leucurus subsp.? Two coveys, one of 4 and one of two birds recorded in the Wolf Lake area; two coveys seen one day in the Big Salmon — Rose Lake area; and collected in Watson River country.

Conover's notes follow: "Holds in summer to the very tops of the roughest peaks. Delights in the slide rock slopes of these peaks. Ram mountains are generally good white-tailed country [this does not accord with my own observations; in summer most of them, especially females with young, are on grassy meadows at timberline]. Very tame. Walked into bunch in slide rock before seeing them and they only ran a few steps.

In winter comes down into the hollows in the high draws, holding lower than the rock ptarmigan in that season. Still tame but apt to be wilder than in summer. — Best eating of the three ptarmigan, meat being black but juicy."

Specimens:

Head McConnell River (6200 feet): 3 ♂, 7 ♀; August 24, 1920.

Head Watson River: 1 ♂, 2 ♀; October 30, 1920.

These birds are much greyer than is a single Jasper bird in the Conover collection. In my 1946 list I noted the same considerable difference between Yukon and Jasper birds (topotypical *leucurus*) in the National Museum of Canada, and referred the Yukon birds to *peninsularis*. However, I had seen no Kenai birds (topotypical *peninsularis*) and was guided in this allocation by the description. Friedmann (1946, U.S. Nat. Mus. Bull., 50, p. 129) refers Yukon birds to *P. l. leucurus*. A revision of this part of the species seem advisable.

Little Brown Sandhill Crane.

Grus canadensis canadensis Linnaeus. Near Rose Lake on September 4 six were seen flying over, and again on September 5, 1920, a flock of 100 passed.

Wilson Snipe.

Capella gallinago delicata (Ord.). Only at Wolf Lake on August 12, 1919, did Conover record "quite a few". Otherwise single birds were recorded on September 1 between Big Salmon and Rose Lake; October 2, 4 and 5 on Lake Marsh.

Specimens:

Lake Marsh: 1 ♂, 1 ♀; October 2, 5, 1920.

Red Phalarope.

Phalaropus fulicarius (Linnaeus). Though not recorded in Yukon this species is to be expected. Conover shot three phalaropes in grey plumage out of a flock on October 6, 1919 at the outlet of Teslin Lake. Though the specimens were lost, as Conover mentions their bills being broad one can reasonably assume they were this species.

Upland Plover.

Bartramia longicauda (Bechstein). One was collected and another seen, on August 16, 1920 above timberline in the mountains above the headwaters of the Big Salmon River.

Specimens:

Headwaters Big Salmon River: 1 ♂ ?; August 16, 1920.

Pectoral Sandpiper.

Erolia melanotos Vieillot. The scant knowledge of the occurrence of this species in southern Yukon is added to by Conover's 1920 notes of birds as follows: September 14,

2 birds, Nisutlin Bay; and October 1, 2 birds and October 6, 2 birds at Lake Marsh.

Specimen:

Lake Marsh: 1 ♂; October 6, 1920.

REVIEWS

Annual Report for 1948 of the Province of Quebec Society for the Protection of Birds, Inc., Montreal, P.Q., pp. 1-41.

This summarizes the results of the 1948 bird observations by members of the Province of Quebec Society for the Protection of Birds in southern Quebec province. The information is presented in (1) an annotated list; (2) a table of bird migratory movements showing first, last, and peak dates; and (3) a summary by L. McI. Terrill of 14 Christmas bird censuses (1935-1948) made in the Montreal district. As is usual in these reports comments on temperature and precipitation are made and some phenological data are given. — W. EARL GODFREY.

W. E. Saunders, Naturalist. R. J. Rutter, Editor; *The Federation of Ontario Naturalists*, Toronto, 1949; pp. I-IV, 1-66, 5 photos.

This little volume, a memorial to the late William Edwin Saunders, is made up of essays written by naturalists who were fortunate enough to know him well: R. J. Rutter, John Dearnness, the late P. A. Taverner, J. R. Dymond, J. L. Baillie, Jr., and R. G. Dingman. These essays, together with several written by Saunders himself, give an informal picture of this unusual man who was able at once to run a thriving business, take major parts in civic and church affairs, and still find time to acquire an expert's knowledge and standing in such fields as ornithology, mammalogy, botany, and entomology. His imposing bibliography, which is included in the volume, comprises some 279 titles. Dr. Saunders was an outstanding example of the school of broad-interest naturalists whose members are passing with regrettable rapidity and, in these days of specialization, with few replacements. — W. EARL GODFREY.

An Annotated List of the Birds of the East Kootenay, British Columbia. By Walter B. Johnstone. *British Columbia Provincial Museum, Occasional Paper No. 7; December, 1949; 87 pp., 20 figs., 1 map. (Price, 75c).*

This is a worthwhile contribution to the ornithology of the East Kootenay, British

Columbia, the results of field work carried on by the author intermittently in the period February 1937 to June 1949. The author recognizes for biotic areas, outlines their salient characteristics, and succinctly but adequately describes the physiography of the region. Data contained in the annotated list are grouped under categories similar to those so admirably used by Munro and Cowan (1947, B.C. Prov. Mus., Spec. Pub. No. 2, pp. 43-237). There is for each species a general statement of status. This is followed by seasonally grouped data and in the case of breeding species there is usually a detailed account of nesting. Some very interesting notes on other aspects of bird behavior are included.

There are a few minor points upon which one might comment, chiefly because they might easily have been averted. Apparently the author did not have access to the latest supplements to the A. O. U. Checklist and presumably he followed the nomenclature used by Munro and Cowan (loc. cit.) — even to the point of perpetuating certain typographical errors (e.g. spelling of *suckleyi* and Friedmann). However, many important changes have been made in nomenclature since the appearance of that excellent publication and authors of ornithological papers would be well advised to keep abreast of these.

The author appears to have relied almost entirely upon his own careful observations in compiling this impressive list of the birds of the East Kootenay region. It seems possible that an exhaustive perusal of the literature might have added perhaps a few more species. *Parus hudsonicus columbianus* comes to mind as missing from the list despite the fact that the type locality (Field) of that subspecies is in the northern part of the area concerned! These are small things, however, and it is felt that the author has well attained his stated objective of recording the bird fauna, not hitherto fully reported upon, of that section of southeastern British Columbia. — W. EARL GODFREY.



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