

fifth of the total breadth of the polypary.

Horizon and locality: Dark gray Silurian shale, collected by A. E. Cameron 1935 at Galena Creek, tributary of Prairie River, 14½ miles east of gates of South Nahanni River, N. W. T.

Remarks: The form here figured agrees well in its general outline and the character of the thecae with the common European graptolite and although the material is not well preserved it is certain that the form belongs to the *pandus-marri* group and in the relatively smaller breadth of the hooks and their close arrangement is nearer to *M. pandus* than to *marri*.

*Monograptus* cf. *priodon* (Bronn)

*M. clintonensis* (Hall)

Plate 1, Figures 8, 9.

A graptolite of the *Monograptus priodon-clintoni* group was found covering a slab of dark gray Silurian shale from Galena Creek, tributary of Prairie River, 14½ miles east of gates of South Nahanni River, N. W. T.

The specimens are preserved as impressions only in a somewhat sandy shale and therefore not as distinct as might be desired. The material leaves, however, no doubt that it belongs to the group of *M. priodon* and *M. clintonensis* Hall, which are closely related and by many considered as identical. The writer (1908, p. 453) saw a differential character in

the nature of the thecae of the sicular or proximal end which however is not available here, as no similar ends are shown. O. T. Jones remarks that in his opinion *M. clintonensis* as labelled in American collections, includes more than one form and that the species calls for careful re-examination. The writer has already recognized one or several varieties as var. *chapmanensis* from Maine.

#### EXPLANATION OF PLATE

*Monograptus* cf. *convolutus* (Hisinger) and *M. spiralis* Geinitz

Fig. 1. Specimen No. Si. 264 x 4

Fig. 2. Specimen No. Si. 265 x 4

Fig. 3. Specimen No. Si. 265 x 1

Fig. 4. Specimen No. Si. 264 x 1

Fig. 5. Specimen No. Si. 266 x 1

*Reliolites geinitzianus* Barrande var. *maximus* nov.

Fig. 6. Specimen No. Si. 267 x 1

*Monograptus pandus* Lapworth.

Fig. 7. Specimen No. Si. 268 x 4.

*Monograptus* cf. *priodon* (Bronn) and *M. clintonensis* (Hall)

Fig. 8. Specimen No. Si. 269 x 1

Fig. 9. Specimen No. Si. 269 x 4

The numbers of the specimens refer to the catalogue of the Geological Museum, University of Alberta.

#### CHRISTMAS BIRD CENSUSES, 1937

MONTREAL, QUE. — December 26, 1937; 8.30 a.m. to 4.15 p.m. Snow flurries; 19 inches snow on ground; wind fresh, east veering to north-west; temp. 14° at start, 18° at return. Five parties of observers covered 25 miles on skis, snowshoes, and on foot, and 20 miles by automobile. The census area includes Mount Royal, Westmount Mountain, Montreal West, St. Lambert, and Caughnawaga. American Golden-eye, 30; White-winged Scoter, 37; Red-breasted Merganser, 2; Great Horned Owl, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 12; American Crow, 4; Black-capped Chickadee, 43; White-breasted Nuthatch, 7; Brown Creeper, 2; American Robin, 1; Common Starling, 180 (est.); English Sparrow, 292 (est.); Pine Gros-

beak, 10; Common Redpoll, 10; Tree Sparrow, 1. Total, 16 species, about 635 individuals. Seen recently: Snowy Owl, December 24th. — J. D. CLEGHORN, J. A. DECARIE, JOHN FRY, W. S. FRY, GEORGE HOW, G. M. HYDE, H. A. C. JACKSON, COLIN NICOL, H. F. SEYMOUR, MR. AND MRS. L. M. TERRILL, A. M. TERROUX, *members of the Province of Quebec Society for the Protection of Birds, Incorp.*

OTTAWA, ONT. — December 26, 1937; 7.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Completely overcast and snowing until 10.30 a.m.; rest of day partly cloudy, with 50 per cent clear sky as maximum, occasional snow-flurries; wind east, light, to 2.00



p.m., then calm to 3.30 p.m., then strong west wind to dark; 18 in. snow on ground; temp  $10^{\circ}$  at 8.30 a.m.,  $17^{\circ}$  at 1.30 p.m. Twenty observers in 9 parties, in various directions about Ottawa. American Golden-eye, 81; Hooded Merganser, 1; Common Pheasant, 2; Rock Dove, 24; Hairy Woodpecker, 5; Downy Woodpecker, 8; Blue Jay, 13; American Crow, 28; Black-capped Chickadee, 128; White-breasted Nuthatch, 22; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 4; Brown Creeper, 4; American Robin, 1; Northern Shrike, 2; Common Starling, 327; English Sparrow, 1254; Pine Grosbeak, 7; Redpoll Linnet, 154; Pine Siskin, 15; American Goldfinch, 99; Lapland Longspur, 3; Snow Bunting, 473. Total, 22 species, 2655 individuals. The Hooded Merganser, a female or young bird, was identified by Dr. R. E. DeLury, who found it on the Rideau River, a short distance below Hog's Back. Merganser beak, small size, and dark coloration were noted. This bird may have been injured, as it was not seen to fly, but it appeared well otherwise. The Lapland Longspurs, in the company of a Redpoll Linnet, were feeding in a weedy field near Aylmer, Quebec, where they were identified by Dr. Harrison F. Lewis. Characteristic markings were clearly observed. The Hooded Merganser and the Lapland Longspur have not previously been found in Christmas Bird Censuses at Ottawa.—OTTAWA FIELD-NATURALISTS' CLUB.

Observers: R. M. ANDERSON, F. E. BANIM, R. F. CLARKE, D. B. DELURY, R. E. DELURY, B. A. FAUVEL, G. H. HAMMOND, T. S. HENNESSEY, C. E. JOHNSON, GIFFARD JOHNSON, REVELL JOHNSON, W. H. LANCELEY, BARNARD MCL. LEWIS, C. R. LEWIS, HARRISON F. LEWIS, HOYES LLOYD, ARTHUR D. NELLES, A. E. PORSILD, L. K. POUPORE, PEGGY WHITEHURST.

PAKENHAM, LANARK CO., ONT.—December 24, 8.10 a.m. to 12 noon and 1.30 p.m. to 3.15 p.m. Dull sky, visibility good, fresh east wind, with heavy snow after 2.45 p.m. 12 inches snow on ground. Temperature  $2^{\circ}$  below zero at start,  $11^{\circ}$  above at finish. 15 miles on foot, 20 miles by automobile. Four observers separate. Eastern Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Northern Downy Woodpecker, 2; Blue Jay, 10; Eastern Crow, 5; Black-capped Chickadee, 39+; White-breasted Nuthatch, 6; Eastern Robin, 1; Eastern Golden-crowned Kinglet, 2; Common Starling, 29; English Sparrow, 84; Canadian Pine Grosbeak, 2; Common Redpoll, 99+; Eastern Snow Bunting, 32. Total, 13 species, 313 individuals.

Seen recently, Snowy Owl, 1 (December 18); Canada Ruffed Grouse, 2, and Brown Creeper, 2 (December 26). Numerous flocks of birds were observed but were not definitely identified. These may have been Goldfinches or Pine Siskins, as both have been unofficially reported in the district. Redpolls are very plentiful this season.

On December 18th four Pine Grosbeaks, including one rosy male, were seen. No Evening Grosbeaks have been noted. The one Robin was found in a clearing in the woods that is sheltered on one side by small cedars. It was feeding on bittersweet. A Robin, presumably the same bird, was also observed in the same clearing on December 14th. The lack of Grouse in this census was disappointing. At least six are resident in the woods on the outskirts of Pakenham, but none could be found on census day.—EDNA G. ROSS, VERNA M. ROSS, ALLAN F. ROSS, WILMER ROSS.

ARNPRIOR, ONT.—December 25; 9.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Fine, 12 in. snow; moderate n. w. wind; temp.  $11^{\circ}$  at start,  $15^{\circ}$  at return. 18 miles on foot and snowshoes. Observers separate. Canada Ruffed Grouse, 3; Eastern Horned Owl, 2; Northern Pileated Woodpecker, 2; Eastern Hairy Woodpecker, 3; Northern Downy Woodpecker, 6; Blue Jay, 1; Eastern Crow, 2; Black-capped Chickadee, 36; White-breasted Nuthatch, 7; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 6; Eastern Brown Creeper, 1; American Robin, 1; Common Starling, 1 plus; House Sparrow, 1 plus; Eastern Purple Finch, 2; Canadian Pine Grosbeak, 2; Common Redpoll, 22 plus; Common Snow Bunting, 29. Total, 18 species, 127 (plus) individuals. Subspecies determined geographically. No attempt made to count Starlings or House Sparrows. Seen recently, flock of 1000 Snow Buntings. Evening Grosbeaks are absent this year.—LIGUORI GORMLEY AND CHARLES MACNAMARA.

GANANOQUE, ONT. — December 27. Cloudy moderate temp.; wind west. Two observers in the vicinity of Gananoque and along the partly open St. Lawrence River. American Common Merganser, 2; Bald Eagle, 1; Herring Gull, 2; Great Horned Owl, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Blue Jay, 3; Black-capped Chickadee, 8; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Bronzed Grackle, 1; Snow Bunting, 12. Total, 10 species, 32 individuals. — W. E. EDWARDS, G. C. TONER.



ATHENS, ONT.—January, 1, 1938. Cloudy at first, north-east wind, with sleet, changing to snow, then clearing; temp. 6° at start, 12° at return. Observer alone. 18 to 24 in. snow on the level. 5 miles on snowshoes. Ruffed Grouse, 13; Great Horned Owl, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Blue Jay, 2; Black-capped Chickadee, 15; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 2; Pine Siskin, 100 (3 flocks). Total, 7 species, 134 individuals. Siskins feeding on seeds of conifers. Each flock seemed to keep to its own locality. Have identified no Redpolls so far this winter. Snow Buntings very plentiful, not found during census.—MURRAY W. CURTIS.

---

HALIBURTON, ONT.—December 21; 8 00 a.m. to 1.10 p.m. and 1.50 p.m. to 3.50 p.m. Mostly cloudy, snowing in p.m.; about 1 ft. snow; wind southerly, moderate; temp 6° at start; about 12 miles afoot. Ruffed Grouse, 1; Great Horned Owl, 1 (heard); Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Blue Jay, 7; Black-capped Chickadee, 55 approx.; Brown-headed Chickadee, 4; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 2; Brown Creeper (?), 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 3; Pine Grosbeak, 40 approx.; Redpoll (sp. ?), 60 approx.; White-winged (probably) Crossbill, 85 approx.; Snow Bunting, 5. Total, 14 species, about 267 individuals. Other recent records are: 16th, Barred Owl and Pine Siskin; 19th, Pileated Woodpecker; 20th, Evening Grosbeak. Crossbills seen at close range during the month proved to be White-winged Crossbills.—E. W. CALVERT.

---

BRADFORD, SIMCOE COUNTY, ONT.—December 25; 10 a.m. to 4.15 p.m.; sky overcast; temp. 25° to 30°; moderate north-west wind; 2 in. snow. 4 miles on foot along the Holland River, west from Bradford and return. Observers together. Common (Ring-necked) Pheasant, 1; Eastern Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Blue Jay, 3; Black-capped Chickadee, 30; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 4; Brown Creeper, 2; Eastern Golden-crowned Kinglet, 1; Common Starling, 3; English Sparrow, 10; Pine Grosbeak, 2; Redpoll Linnet, 25; Pine Siskin, 150; White-winged Crossbill, 10. Total, 14 species, 243 individuals — D. SUTHERLAND AND O. E. DEWITT.

---

TORONTO, ONT.—The census of December 26, 1937, was the 13th consecutive Christmas bird census carried out by the Brodie Club. Although

this number may give a reasonably accurate picture of our usual winter bird population there is an erratic tendency in winter records of many species which suggests that at least 20 will be necessary before sufficient figures are available to justify any conclusions as to periodicity, effects of weather, etc. There has been little tendency in the census figures to form periodic peaks and depressions, either in number of species or individuals, but this may become apparent over a longer period.

On this census, with 42 observers in the field, we recorded 58 species, which is 12 more than on any previous census and 18 more than last year when there were 43 observers. There are other indications that birds are present in greater numbers this winter than for some time. The number of common birds is probably more significant in this respect than the number of erratic visitors and if we take the ten species which have been seen on all of the 13 censuses, which might be considered as our basic winter bird population, we find that in 8 of the 10 more individuals were seen this year than ever before. The two exceptions are the Downy Woodpecker and the English Sparrow, the number of the former having been exceeded only once, 1936, and the latter being counted for only the third year. The other eight species seen on every census are: American Golden-eye, Oldsquaw, Blue Jay, Common Starling, White-breasted Nuthatch, Black-capped Chickadee, Tree Sparrow and Song Sparrow. There are indications of a fairly pronounced invasion of northern forms, although this is balanced by a high count of species which are normally only summer residents.

There is no doubt that some of the increase in numbers of birds seen on recent censuses is attributable to more observers but as this usually only means larger groups covering the same ground it can be discounted to some extent. On the other hand censuses tend to become more thorough. Following the same routes year after year we come to know just where to look for certain birds. As a good example, the Swamp Sparrow was practically unknown here in winter prior to 1927 but for the past 6 years we have seen one, two or three on every census. This does not indicate more Swamp Sparrows but only that we know where and how to look for them.

Three species were seen this year which were new on our census lists, viz., the Red-breasted Merganser, Pileated Woodpecker and Hudsonian Chickadee. The two last-named were seen by



no. 8 party at Nancy Lake, about 20 miles north of the city, where the Pileated breeds and where a few of the Chickadees have been present since late autumn. At Nancy Lake, too, was found a quite extraordinary concentration of Red-breasted Nuthatches, 26 being counted.

CHRISTMAS BIRD CENSUS OF THE BRODIE CLUB—TORONTO  
DECEMBER 26, 1937

SPECIES	PARTIES :	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	TOTALS
Redhead							1			1
Greater Scaup Duck					45	240	1030			1315
American Golden-eye					83	300	60	6		449
Buffle-head					3		16			19
Old-squaw					40	73	812			925
American Common Merganser					2		9			11
Red-breasted Merganser							2			2
American Goshawk			1							1
Sharp-shinned Hawk						1				1
Red-tailed Hawk			1	1		1				3
American Rough-legged Hawk		1								1
Marsh Hawk			2			1				3
American Sparrow Hawk			1					1		2
Ruffed Grouse								1	2	3
Common Pheasant		55	8	5	10	11	6	14	1	110
Wilson's Snipe					1					1
Glaucous Gull					1		1			2
Great Black-backed Gull					7	4	15	5		31
Herring Gull			7	54	261	355	905	43		1625
Ring-billed Gull					2	1				3
American Screech Owl			1							1
Great Horned Owl			1			2				3
Snowy Owl							1			1
Barred Owl			1							1
Short-eared Owl				1						1
Belted Kingfisher					1					1
Northern Flicker				1						1
Pileated Woodpecker									1	1
Hairy Woodpecker									2	2
Downy Woodpecker			7	9	18	5		4	2	45
Blue Jay			2	5	17	10		2	20	56
American Crow				4	15			18		37
Black-capped Chickadee			21	39	70	26	7	26	70	259
Hudsonian Chickadee									1	1
White-breasted Nuthatch				5	14	4			1	24
Red-breasted Nuthatch		2		3		1		3	26	35
Brown Creeper		4		3	10				1	20
American Robin			1						1	2
Golden-crowned Kinglet					5		1	2	4	12
Cedar Waxwing				1						1
Northern Shrike				1						1
Common Starling			424	588	66	428	270	114	17	1907
English Sparrow			162	331	149	188	150	163	57	1200
Eastern Meadowlark				2						2
Rusty Blackbird					3					3
Cardinal					6	1		1		8
Common Purple Finch			2	17	10	32				61
Pine Grosbeak			3							3
Redpoll'd Linnet				11	2	6		90		109
Pine Siskin								225	70	295
American Goldfinch			8	6	17	44		110		185
Red-eyed Towhee				1						1
Slate-coloured Junco			16	23	20	9		20	2	90
Tree Sparrow		3	18	63	172	10	9	4		279
White-throated Sparrow						1				1
Swamp Sparrow				1	1					2
Song Sparrow			1	5	5	11	2	1		25
Snow Bunting			1						50	51
Total individuals:		65	690	1181	1056	1765	3297	853	328	9235
Total Species:		5	22	26	30	26	18	21	18	58



Our census counts of the Common Pheasant show a fairly steady increase of this bird in the Toronto region. The first census record was in 1928 when 1 was seen and since then the figures have been: 1929, 2; 1930, none; 1931, 5; 1932, 17; 1933, 61; 1934, 44; 1935, 43; 1936, 74; 1937, 110. In spite of a falling off of the Starling count for the preceding two years and general reports of a decrease, more were seen on this census than on any other, or 1907 as against the next highest number, 1514 in 1934. English Sparrows were more than 1000 below the records of the previous two years and this agrees with the opinion of most observers that lately the population has decreased. The number of Cardinals seen is twice the highest former figure and encourages one to think that, barring accidents, this desirable bird will yet become firmly established in this region.

The weather at Toronto during December has been a little colder than last year but not extreme. Snowfall has been light and on census day, although there was from 2 to 3 inches of snow in the woods, the ground in the open was practically bare. The weather was fair, with a maximum temperature of 37° and a minimum of 23° and a west wind of from 29 to 35 miles.

Those taking part in the census and their parties were as follows: 1. H. M. Halliday, W. V. Crich. 2. L. L. Snyder, G. S. Bell, R. J. Rutter, J. Oughton, P. Oughton, D. Miller, F. Barratt, S. Troyer. 3. C. E. Hope, J. Walty, F. Banfield, G. Beare. 4. O. Devitt, M. Boissonneau, A. Boissonneau, E. Boissonneau, W. Mansell, D. Forbes, C. Cook. 5. J. L. Baillie, P. Harrington, M. Speirs, L. Beldan, B. Beldan, Dr. Cummings, H. Ivor, F. Mowat. 6. H. Southam, F. Emery, R. Lindsay, F. Norman, R. Carreau, D. West, R. Hicks, G. Lambert. 7. R. Bennett, R. Saunders. 8. E. G. McDougall, R. Ussher, W. Gunn.—THE BRODIE CLUB. Per: R. J. RUTTER, *Secretary*.

VINELAND STATION, ONT.—December 27.—9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. One party of 4 observers in a.m., only 2 observers in p.m. Cloudless; ground bare; light wind varying from south to east; temp, min. 23°, max. 35.3°. West bank of Jordan Pond, Lake shore, Experimental Farm, Ball's Falls. 8 miles on foot, 5 by automobile. Scaup Duck (?), 2; Marsh Hawk, 1; Common Pheasant, 2; Herring Gull, 2; Ring-billed Gull, 1; Eastern Mourning Dove, 16 (1 flock); Northern Flicker, 1; Northern Downy Woodpecker, 3; Horned Lark, 7; Black-capped

Chickadee, 4; White-breasted Nuthatch, 3; Brown Creeper, 1; Eastern Golden-crowned Kinglet, 4; Common Starling, 15; English Sparrow, 80+; Red-winged Blackbird, 2; Cowbird, 4; Eastern Purple Finch, 9; Redpoll (?), 30+; Eastern Goldfinch, 2; Slate-coloured Junco, 43; Tree Sparrow, 45+; Song Sparrow, 2. Total 22+ species, 270+ individuals. — W. J. K. HARKNESS, R. C. ROSS, J. STRONG, D. A. ROSS.

HAMILTON, ONT. (Burlington Bay and Beach, Aldershot, Dundas Marsh, Escarpment to Ancaster, Bronte and Lake Medad).—December 27; 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Clear; traces of snow; wind east, light; temp. 26° to 34°. Eight parties on foot, one by car. Mallard Duck, 3; Black Duck, 250; Greater Scaup Duck, 600; Lesser Scaup Duck, 3; American Golden-eye, 270; Buffle-head, 6; Old-squaw, 2; American Common Merganser, 300; Red-breasted Merganser, 2; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Cooper's Hawk, 2; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Common Rough-legged Hawk, 4; Bald Eagle, 1; Marsh Hawk, 6; American Sparrow Hawk, 2; Ruffed Grouse, 18; Gray Partridge, 4; Common Pheasant, 26; Glaucous Gull, 1; Iceland Gull, 2; Great Black-backed Gull, 82; Herring Gull, 5200; Mourning Dove, 3; American Screech Owl, 3; Eastern Horned Owl, 3; Arctic Horned Owl, 1; Snowy Owl, 1; Northern Flicker, 5; Hairy Woodpecker, 15; Downy Woodpecker, 35; Blue Jay, 80; American Crow, 69; Black-capped Chickadee, 124; White-breasted Nuthatch, 40; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 8; Brown Creeper, 13; Winter Wren, 1; Brown Thrasher, 1 (J. Martin); American Robin, 4; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 8; Cedar Waxwing, 101; Common Starling, 886; English Sparrow, 360; Bronzed Grackle, 1; Cardinal, 9; Common Purple Finch, 34; Redpoll Linnet, 88; Pine Siskin, 86; American Goldfinch, 68; Slate-coloured Junco, 206; Tree Sparrow, 411; White-throated Sparrow, 2 (Mrs. Morton, H. C. Nunn); Swamp Sparrow, 2; Song Sparrow, 6; Snow Bunting, 50. Total 56 species, 9511 individuals.—Hamilton Bird Protection Society (F. H. Butcher, Leroy Dove, Mrs. J. G. Farmer, Maurice Hackman, Dr. R. E. Haist, Kenneth Hannigan, Peter Henderson, Oliver Hewitt, Gavin Lawrason, Miss Edith McEwin, Mrs. F. E. McLoughlin, Dr. and Mrs. G. O. McMillan, Rev. Calvin McQuesten, Miss J. Magee, Miss Eleanor Malcolm, Jack Martin, Miss Ruby Mills, Mrs. J. P. Morton, Douglas Mundell, H. C.



Nunn, Léonard Pollard, Blair Ronald, Douglas Simpson, Miss Laura Stewart, Clifford Swan, Ivor Thornewell, Vernon Trott, J. H. Williams, George W. North.)

KITCHENER AND WATERLOO, ONT.—December 29; 8.45 a.m. to 5.15 p.m. Sky overcast in a.m.; mainly clear, with much-improved visibility after noon; somewhat variable wind, averaging moderate, easterly most of afternoon; 8 in. crusted snow on ground; temp. 20° to 25°. Eighteen observers were afield in four parties, three by auto, one on foot. Largest list of one party, 24 species. Birds appeared considerably more plentiful, both in numbers and in species, than during our Christmas Bird Census in 1936. This winter certain "northerners" preponderated, especially the (Common) Redpoll and the Pine Siskin, which are occurring largely in mixed flocks, though pure flocks of either species often seem to segregate, at least temporarily, apparently for special foraging or roost-resorting purposes. The Snow Bunting, typically found here at such times, was missed in this census. The single Rusty Blackbird, found in active forage near the Bridgeport Dam, constitutes the first known winter record for at least the County of Waterloo. Black Duck, 26 (1 flock); American Common Merganser, 6 (1 group, close to Black Ducks); Red-tailed (?) Hawk, 1 (R. A. B.); Ruffed Grouse, 2; Common ("Ring-necked") Pheasant, 3; Herring Gull, 55; Ring-billed Gull, 2; Great Horned Owl, 1 (observed in late afternoon in "Beesley" swamp, by two hunters who know the species well); Hairy Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 11; Blue Jay, 130+; Black-capped Chickadee, 45; White-breasted Nuthatch, 16; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 33; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 10; Common Starling, 110+; English Sparrow, 275+; Rusty Blackbird, 1 (vigorous male); Common Purple Finch, 12; Pine Grosbeak, 2 (Hilliard Swamp); Common Redpoll, 210+; Pine Siskin, 275±; American Goldfinch, 25; Slate-coloured Junco, 17; Tree Sparrow, 32; Song Sparrow, 5. Total, 26 species, 1308+ individuals.

Other recent observations of interest: Great Blue Heron, 1 (about Dec. 22); Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1 (Dec. 30); Bald Eagle, 1 (mature bird, Puslinch Lake, Nov. 7); Mourning Dove, 1 (Dec. 31); American Screech Owl, 1 (Dec. 25); Belted Kingfisher, 1 (shortly before Dec. 29); Pileated Woodpecker, 1 (Dec. 28 and 30); American Crow, 1 or more (about Dec. 18); Brown Creeper, 3 (Dec. 30); American Robin,

1 (about Dec. 15); Cedar Waxwing, about a dozen (late in Dec. or early in Jan.); Bronzed Grackle, 1 (Dec. 1); Snow Bunting (casual reports of small flocks since early December).—Observers: A. Bain, R. A. Boothby, F. W. R. Dickson, G. W. Knechtel, F. H. Montgomery, C. B. Price, K. Robbins, Miss D. Russell, F. A. Shantz, Miss V. Snyder, and eight public school senior boys. — F. H. BENDER, *Secretary*, Kitchener-Waterloo Naturalists' Club.

WOODSTOCK, ONT.—December 26; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fair, wind south-west, 3 in. snow, with heavy ice crust, temp. 25° at 9 a.m., rising slightly later. Eleven observers, in two parties, along Cedar Creek, hardwood areas and cedar swamp around Hodges' Pond and Sweaburg. Distance travelled: 5 miles by automobile, 9 miles on foot. Great Blue Heron, 1 (seen several times); Black Duck, 2; Cooper's Hawk, 1; American Rough-legged Hawk, 1; Common (Ring-necked) Pheasant, 9; Herring Gull, 2; Great Horned Owl, 1; Blue Jay, 5; American Crow, 100+; Black-capped Chickadee, 50+; Cedar Waxwing, 1; Common Starling, uncounted; English Sparrow, uncounted; Pine Siskin, 40; American Goldfinch, 2; Slate-coloured Junco, 10; Tree Sparrow, 6; Song Sparrow, 9. Total, 18 species, 240+ individuals. Dec. 25, a flock of Snow Buntings, 150+; Dec. 27, Hairy Woodpecker, 1, and Mourning Dove, 1.—Observers: E. Dutton, C. Cooke, G. L. Nutt, E. Long, J. Woodham, T. Best, S. Best, E. Farmer, Mrs. Illbury, Misses F. Jones and D. Best.—H. MILNES, for *Woodstock Naturalist Society*.

LONDON, ONT. (VICINITY OF).—December 18; daylight until dark. 14 observers in 6 parties. Great Blue Heron, 2; Black Duck, 19; American Golden-eye, 32; American Common Merganser, 31; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 2; American Rough-legged Hawk, 2; Bald Eagle, 1; American Sparrow Hawk, 1; Bobwhite, 14 (1 covey); Common (Ring-necked) Pheasant, 9; Herring Gull, 75; Mourning Dove, 1; American Screech Owl, 1; Great Horned Owl, 2; Belted Kingfisher, 4; Red-headed Woodpecker, 6; Hairy Woodpecker, 5; Downy Woodpecker, 23; Blue Jay, 67; American Crow, 96; Black-capped Chickadee, 111; White-breasted Nuthatch, 34; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 15; Brown Creeper, 13; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 6; Northern Shrike, 1; Common Starling, 281;



English Sparrow, not counted; Cardinal, 32; Common Purple Finch, 9; Redpoll Linnet, 325; Pine Siskin, 24; American Goldfinch, 19; Slate-coloured Junco, 87; Tree Sparrow, 82; Song Sparrow, 11; Snow Bunting, 4. Total, 38 species, 1448 individuals, plus English Sparrows.

In many ways, despite several decidedly cold "snaps", the winter of 1937-38 has proven rather remarkable, ornithologically. After a week of sub-zero weather, a Killdeer Plover was found and taken, along the Thames River, on December 17 — the first winter record for this species in Middlesex County, although this bird is regularly found in winter not many miles to the south of our borders. Next in the list of unusual occurrences were four Eastern Bluebirds, found on December 17, a few miles west of London, and, on the same date, in the same place, two Swamp Sparrows. The former were discovered feeding on the ground where several horses had pushed aside the snow in search of food, thus leaving scattered patches of ground clear of snow. The Sparrows were not located together, one being found frequenting a frozen stretch of reeds and rushes that in summer harbours several pairs of this species. The second Swamp Sparrow noted was selected from a flock of Tree Sparrows feeding along a stretch of ground left bared of snow by a small stream of water.

Other recent bird records of interest include: Ruffed Grouse (Dec. 12), Winter Wren (Dec. 12), Northern Flicker (Dec. 15), Snowy Owl (Dec. 25); American Robin (Dec. 23 and 25), Pine Grosbeak (Dec. 26), Marsh Hawk (2 on Dec. 27), Evening Grosbeak (Dec. 27).

The census, in itself, presents little of special interest, although the number of wintering Red-breasted Nuthatches is noteworthy. To many the number of Cardinals here recorded may seem rather high, when one takes into account the fact that this species was unrecorded in this county 40 years ago. Late in any afternoon last winter, however, the writer could count nearly 60 Cardinals as they made their way to a roost near London, and a survey of four such gatherings early this spring (1937) netted a total of nearly 180 birds. — MCILWRAITH ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB, per KEITH REYNOLDS, *Chairman Census Committee*.

MEAFORD, ONT.—December 28; visibility good, temp. about 40°, 8 observers, visiting the shore line at Meaford and one mile and a half east-

ward. American Golden-eye, 18; American Common Merganser, 3; Ruffed Grouse, 4; Common (Ring-necked) Pheasant, 1; Gulls (mostly Herring Gulls, but including also a few Ring-billed Gulls), 122; Great Horned Owl, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Blue Jay, 6; Black-capped Chickadee, 110; White-breasted Nuthatch, 12; Brown Creeper, 2; Common Starling, 9; House Sparrow, 19; Common Purple Finch, 1; Pine Grosbeak, 1; Common Redpoll, 25; Tree Sparrow, 1; Snow Bunting, 200. Total, 20 species, 540 individuals. Other species reported commonly during Christmas week are: Snowy Owl, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-breasted Nuthatch. — L. H. BEAMER for *Meaford Natural History Club*.

BRANDON, MAN. — December 22. Common (Ring-necked) Pheasant, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Canada Jay, 3; Blue Jay, 7; Chickadee (sp. ?), 5; White-breasted Nuthatch, 3; American Robin, 1; Bohemian Waxwing, 9; Evening Grosbeak, 3; Redpoll (sp. ?), 5. Total, 11 species, 41 individuals. — (MISS) G. I. TODD.

CAMROSE, ALTA.—December 29; 10 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. (dusk). Clear and cold, windy, 10 in. of snow on ground, temp. all day 15°. By train to Battle River, six miles south of Camrose, then on foot through spruce woods east and west from bridge, a total of six miles. Ruffed Grouse, 2; Sharp-tailed Grouse, 1; Gray Partridge, 10; Snowy Owl, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker, 2; Canada Jay, 2; Blue Jay, 1; Magpie, 5; Black-capped Chickadee, 25; Brown-headed Chickadee, 3; Bohemian Waxwing, 10; Pine Grosbeak, 50. Total, 14 species, about 116 individuals, excluding House Sparrows.

The most outstanding event in the winter bird-life of this part of Alberta this year is the unprecedented invasion of Canada Jays into the settled parts of the parkland country. They have taken up residence on many farms and seem to be quite at home and are able to procure satisfactory food around the buildings. These wanderers have been reported from as far south as Donald, 30 miles south of Camrose. Some have fed in Camrose at feeding stations provided for Chickadees and Woodpeckers. No reason can be given for the wide-spread invasion from their usual haunts, the spruce and tamarack muskegs. Red-breasted Nuthatches are winter-



ing in the spruces along the Battle River, but were not encountered when taking the census. From 20 to 25 Rusty Blackbirds are spending the winter on a farm at the south end of Dried Meat Lake, about 20 miles south of Camrose. — EDWARD ENGSTROM and F. L. FARLEY.

EDMONTON, ALTA.—January 2, 1938. Sky partly overcast, light north-west wind, temp. 25°. 7 miles on foot along North Saskatchewan River and White Mud Creek and back along the top of the bank. Downy Woodpecker, 1; Canada Jay, 2; Blue Jay, 6; American Magpie, 3; Long-tailed Chickadee, 12; Brown-headed Chickadee, 12; Bohemian Waxwing, 6; Evening Grosbeak, 11; Pine Grosbeak, 18; Common Redpoll, 16; White-winged Crossbill, 29. Total, 11 species, 116 individuals. —ALBERT L. WILK and HARMAN BURPPE.

VEDDER CROSSING, B. C.—December 26, 10.30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sky mostly clear, but partly cloudy with snowflurries about 1.30 p.m., strong south-west wind, 20 in. snow on ground, temp. 36°-38°, following several days at about 20°. One observer, northwest shore of Cultus Lake, to Vedder Crossing by way of logging railway, returning by the main road, 6 miles on foot. Numbers greater than 15 are estimated. Mallard Duck, 2; Ring-necked Duck, 4 (one examined in the flesh); Lesser Scaup Duck, 2; American Golden-eye, 8; Barrow's Golden-eye, 6; Turkey Vulture, 1; Bald Eagle, 4; American Coot, 110; Glaucous-winged Gull, 30; Gulls (not further identified), 300; Red-shafted Flicker, 3; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 4; Steller's Jay, 5; Raven, 1; American Crow\*, 40; Black-capped Chickadee, 3; Brown Creeper, 1; Ameri-

\*I believe these are the same as the "North-western (Fish) Crow" listed in last year's census of Brooks and Pearse, being small and feeding on dead salmon along the river.

can Dipper, 4; Winter Wren, 2; Bewick's Wren, 1; Varied Thrush, 10; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 80; Spotted Towhee, 15; Oregon Junco, 25; Song Sparrow, 12. Total, 25 species, about 674 individuals. — W. E. RICKER.

CRESCENT DISTRICT, SURREY MUNICIPALITY, B. C.—December 27, 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Snowing in morning, changing to rain in afternoon, visibility poor, wind north-east, 4 in. snow on ground, temp. 30°. In the morning walking eastward through second-growth timber to Elgin and back to Crescent along the Elgin Road. In the afternoon from the south end of Crescent Beach along the shore line in a northerly direction to the end of Blackie's Spit, then east along the dyke to the Great Northern track, turning south to Crescent Station. Distance covered, about 10 miles. Two observers, together. Common Loon, 3; Horned Grebe (?), 6; Western Grebe, 1; Northwest Coast Heron, 4; Black Brant, 100; Mallard Duck, 8; Pintail, 1; Green-winged Teal, 2; Canvas-back, 1; American Golden-eye, 6; Bufflehead, 2; Surf Scoter, 12; Ducks (not further identified), 100; Marsh Hawk, 1; Pigeon Hawk, 1; Hawk (sp. ?), 1; Killdeer Plover, 2; Black-bellied Plover, 2; Sandpipers (not further identified), 1000; Short-billed Gull (?), 50; Red-shafted Flicker, 1; Gairdner's Woodpecker, 1; Western Crow, 42; Oregon Chickadee, 9; Western Winter Wren, 1; Seattle Wren, 1; Varied Thrush, 29; Kinglet (sp. ?), 25; Brewer's Blackbird, 7; Oregon Towhee, 10; Savannah Sparrow, 1; Slate-coloured Junco, 1; Oregon Junco, 25; Rusty Song Sparrow, 10. Total, 32 species, 1466 individuals. Subspecies determined geographically. Larger numbers estimated. American Robin seen December 28, when weather much milder. — MARTIN W. HOLDOM and MARY W. HOLDOM.

## WILLIAM HERRIOT, BOTANIST

By H. GROH

Contribution No. 528 from the Division of Botany, Experimental Farms Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Canada.



IT IS FITTING that those who have contributed from their obscurity to the sum total of our existing knowledge should share with others, more officially placed, in our grateful recognition of

services rendered. It is already more than seven years since the passing of William Herriot, respected citizen of Galt, Ontario, keen and competent student of the natural history of his locality, and erstwhile member of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club, to the present members of which organization these belated notes are offered.





1938. "Christmas Bird Censuses, 1937." *The Canadian field-naturalist* 52(2), 21–28. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.340029>.

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/89087>

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.340029>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/340029>

#### **Holding Institution**

Harvard University, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Ernst Mayr Library

#### **Sponsored by**

Harvard University, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Ernst Mayr Library

#### **Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: In copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder.

Rights Holder: Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/>

Rights: <https://biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.