

- Silene acaulis* L. var. *exscapa* (All.) DC. — common; in clumps on moist sand beach; 5.
- Cerastium alpinum* L. — fairly common; scattered on sand bank; 14.
- Stellaria laeta* Rich. (*Stellaria longipes* sensu Polunin, *pro parte*, Bot. East. Can. Arctic, Part 1, Canada, Department of Mines and Resources, National Museum Bulletin No. 92, 1940). — moist rocky area; 39.
- Papaver radicum* Rottb. — moist sandy beach; 2.
- Cochlearia officinalis* L. var. *arctica* (Schlecht.) Gelert — prostrate on sand beach; 12.
- Eutrema Edwardsii* R. Br. moist plain; 23.
- Draba fladnizensis* Wulfen — sand beach; 19, 20B.
- Draba nivalis* Lil. — sand beach; 20A.
- Arabis arenicola* (Rich.) Gelert — prostrate on sand beach; 21.
- Saxifraga cernua* L.—scattered on moist sand bank; 9.
- Saxifraga stellaris* L. var. *comosa* Retz. — scattered on moist sand bank; 10.
- Saxifraga tricuspidata* Rottb. forma **Woodruffii** J. A. Calder, forma nov. — laxissime caespitosa caudiculis elongatis; folia fere omnia integra; caules floriferi breves uniflori simplices; petala lutea (epunctata?).
- TYPE: Moist sheltered habitat among boulders along a rocky hillside, west coast of Melville Peninsula, Franklin District, N.W.T. 68°18'N, 85°25'W, B. J. Woodruff 38, Aug. 20, 1948. (DAO).

Although this form is represented by only a single collection, it is so strikingly different from the typical phase that it has been thought worthy of describing. It is readily distinguished by its more lax and prostrate form, its caudex with elongate branches, leaves more diffused along the branches, and the short, simple, single-flowered scapes 2—10 (—25) mm long. As in forma *subintegrifolia* Abrom., the majority of the leaves are subentire, lacking the lateral teeth. Since the collector stated that only a single colony was noted in the area, it is impossible to say whether this is simply an ecological form which may occur throughout the range, or whether it is variably distinct with a restricted distribution. Until further collections have been made, it has been thought appropriate to give this entity the status of a form.

- Saxifraga Hirculus* L. — clump in marsh; 32.
- Saxifraga oppositifolia* L. — prostrate clumps on moist sandy beach; 3.
- Dryas integrifolia* Vahl — moist plain; 40.
- Astragalus alpinus* L. — prostrate on moist rising ground; clay soil; 41.
- Oxytropis Maydelliana* Trautv. — common; prostrate on sandy bank; 18.
- Epilobium latifolium* L. — sand bank; 25.
- Cassiope tetragona* (L.) D. Don—dry rocky hillside; 36.
- Armeria maritima* (Mill) Willd. var. *sibirica* (Turcz.) Lawr. (*Armeria maritima* sensu Polunin, *pro parte*, L.c.) — scattered on sand bank; 16.
- Antennaria Ekmaniana* A. E. Porsild — on moist plain; 22.

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

An Albino Mud Puppy near Fort William, Ontario. — On May 7, 1949, Mr. Edward Hay, Fort William, presented me with two mud puppies (*Necturus maculosus* (Raf.)) which he had taken the previous evening while fishing with worms in Mosquito Creek, Neebing Township, near its confluence with the Kaministiquia River, outside the city of Fort William. The one was a male, typical in appearance and measuring 280 mm. in the preserved state. The second was an albino female which measures 204 mm. In life it was delicate pink in coloration but after preservation in ten percent formalin, assum-

ed a dirty white appearance, the gills and borders of the tail being considerably darker. The dorsal surface shows a suggestion of small pale grey spots where black spots typically occur in normal specimens. I have been unable to find a previous record of albinism in the mud puppy. It occurs of course in other amphibians and in reptiles and there is no reason why it should not also occur in this species.

The two mud puppies had been kept in a pail of water overnight and in the morning Mr. Hay stated several dead "young" were

present in the container. Unfortunately he had destroyed them. I presume they were small amphibians of the same or of another species which had been disgorged.

During the ten years spent in this region prior to 1948, salamanders were conspicuous by their scarcity. In addition to one or two records of mud puppies, I had seen a Jefferson's Salamander (*Ambystoma jeffersonianum*) (Green) taken locally in 1944. On May 1, 1941, Common Newts *Triturus viridescens* (Raf.) were noted at Nishin Lake, 100 miles to the north-east, both in the water and in the stomach contents of Brook Trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis* (Mitchill)).

In the Fall of 1948, several Jefferson's Salamanders were taken in Port Arthur. This year (1949) one was taken at Lake Shebandowan, 50 miles west of the Lakehead, on June 26. On June 22, a Newt was caught at Nishin Lake, where I had observed the above specimens. Two Red-backed Salamanders (*Plethodon cinereus* (Green)) were captured in Pardee Township on June 19, and one in Paipoonge Township on August 28. These localities are 25 miles south and 20 miles south-west of Fort William. Several other mud puppies have also been taken this year by local fishermen. The increased number of records is probably due to an increasing interest in our wild life rather than due to an actual increase in the numbers of salamanders present. — A. E. ALLIN, Fort William, Ontario.

Migration of Black Swift. — A very large flight of Black Swift, *Nephoecetes niger borealis* (Kennerly), was seen at 9.30 o'clock on the morning of September 16, 1949, over the city of Vancouver, B.C. The weather was dull and showery. Temperature 50°F. and the wind was 20 mph. from the southeast.

At first two flocks of swifts could be seen moving in a southeastern direction and very high up. On looking at these birds through field glasses it was found that they were but a lower stratum of swifts and that there were great numbers higher up all migrating in the same direction; in fact the sky seemed full of swifts. It was quite impossible to estimate the number seen in this flight which lasted about six minutes and I do not think I saw the beginning, but there were many hundreds. Through the glasses the centre of

the flock reminded me of a swarm of bees so great was the number. These swifts were not circling in the usual manner of flight, but were sailing or gliding in one direction and travelling very rapidly. The flight was somewhat broken towards the end with single individuals and groups of five or seven following close together.

It is known that the Black Swift nests in the high mountains about Kennedy Lake on Vancouver Island, but this colony could not possibly account for even a small proportion of the birds seen this morning as all were coming from a northwesterly direction which is the direction Kennedy Lake lies in relation to Vancouver.

Southbound flights of Black Swift have been seen at other times about Huntingdon which lies about fifty miles east of Vancouver. On September 8, 1934, about 350 swifts passed overhead during the morning, circling and drifting in a southerly direction. Small flights were also seen on Sept. 10 and 11 of the same year.

Flights of Black Swifts which might be termed feeding flights have been noticed on numerous occasions. On June 22, 1932, at 7 p.m. after a rainy morning, about 150 swifts were seen flying between 100 and 200 feet in the air near Huntingdon. After circling about for an hour they disappeared. The same number appeared the following day at the same hour and repeated the performance. On June 26, the flight again appeared, but this time at 7 a.m. and remained circling about until 12.30 p.m. The flights on June 25 and 26 both came from the south-east in which direction lies the Mount Baker range of mountains. — KENNETH RACEY,
Vancouver, B.C.

A New Record for Palm Warbler. — On October 1, 1949, while collecting on the University of British Columbia campus, the unusual behavior of a warbler attracted my attention. I collected the bird, which proved to be a Palm Warbler (*Dendroica palmarum palmarum*). This appears to be the first record for Canada west of the Rockies and the second specimen collected in North America west of the Rockies.

Munro and Cowan, (B. C. Prov. Mus., Spec. Pub. No. 2, 1947, p. 195) state that the species is a summer visitant to the extreme



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