

the last being September 16, 1951, when the station was closed.

On September 25, 1951 this bird was shot by Mr. J. L. Hunt at Nudeford, Christchurch, Hants, England. Mr. Hunt wrote that the bird was "in poor condition but in good health, very strong on the wing. The weather during the previous two weeks was characterized by southeast gales and winds."

This is the second European recovery for a Pintail banded at Tinker Harbour. The first was a bird which Alex Reeve of the Northeast Wildlife Station, banded on August 19, 1948. It repeated again on August 25, 1948. On September 15, 1948, the bird was shot in South Devon, England, approximately 100 miles northeast of Nudeford. — **GRAHAM COOCH**, Department of Conservation, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

Mortality of Coregonid Fish in Lake Simcoe during Spring temperature warm-up. — A mortality took place in Cook's Bay, Lake Simcoe, Ontario, on June 10th, 1950. By June 13 the distribution of dead fish was noted along 5 miles of the east shore of the bay and over a large area of the bottom in shallow water. A rough estimate of the total number of fish killed set the mortality at a million or more. The fish were about 80 per cent ciscoes (*Leucichthys* sp.) and 20 per cent whitefish (*Coregonus clupeaformis*). There was no evidence of disease in the specimens examined. The stomachs contained normal food.

The days preceding the mortality had been warm and clear and it is tentatively concluded that these fish had been resident in the bay during the winter and spring and thus became acclimated to low temperature, and that the sudden warming in this confined shallow bay subjected them to lethal temperatures. In support of this theory it perhaps should be mentioned that similar mortalities of small extent have occurred previously in certain localities from time to time in Lake Simcoe during the spring warming. — **H. R. McCRIMMON**, Department of Lands and Forests, Toronto.

Winter Records of the White-throated Sparrow in Western Ontario.—The White-throated Sparrow, *Zonotrichia albicollis* (Gmelin), is a common summer resident of northwestern Ontario including the area surrounding Fort William and Port Arthur. The average arrival date, 1938-1952, is April 27, the earliest,

April 17, 1952, and the latest, May 6, 1951. In the fall the majority have left by early October. Until the season of 1951-52, there were no winter records.

On January 12, 1952, we were observing birds at a feeding station in Neebing Township, west of Fort William, being particularly interested in the presence of an Eastern Cardinal *Richmondia cardinalis cardinalis* (Linnaeus), a newcomer to the Lakehead, which had been reported at this station by members of the Thunder Bay Field Naturalists' Club taking the Christmas Bird Census, December 26, 1951. Two white-throated sparrows were noted feeding on a compost heap. This feeding station is situated at the edge of the valley of the Kaministiquia River. The heavily wooded slopes would offer shelter for the wintering birds. Subsequently we learned that a white-throated sparrow was spending the winter at a feeding station at Caramat, 200 miles northeast of Port Arthur in relatively unsettled bush country. This bird was still present in mid-February and apparently found protection in a large brush heap. It should be noted that the snow fall for this winter was relatively light, and the winter could be considered mild. Nevertheless, an early cold wave had brought a foot of snow by November 3 when the temperature was seven degrees below zero. Few summer residents had remained after that date.

Due to our location, it is difficult to compare our observations with comparable Ontario stations but the white-throated sparrow does not appear particularly hardy. For Duluth, Minnesota, 200 miles southeast, there are only two winter records, January 12, 1924 and a bird which remained throughout the winter of 1924-25. (Roberts, Thomas S. *The Birds of Minnesota*, Vol. 2, p. 427. Univ. Minn. Press, 1932.) Winter records for Western Canada are also unusual. In the 30-year history of "Chickadee Notes," a weekly nature column appearing in the Winnipeg Free Press, there are but two winter records, viz. Winnipeg, January 5, 1932, and Minitonas, December 19, 1939.—**A. E. ALLIN**, Fort William, Ontario.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT IN NEWFOUNDLAND. — An adult male Yellow-breasted Chat was found dead in a field at Cappahayden on February 8, 1951, and was sent to me by Mr. Harold Lawlor of that place. Another Chat (a post-juvenal female) was found dead on January 5, 1952, near the feeding station of Mrs. A. G. Gosling, Waterford Bridge Road,



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