

1 (7); Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 1 (7); Rose-breasted Grosbeak 1 (7); Olive-backed Thrush 1 (7); Veery 1 (7); Hairy Woodpecker 1 (7). Total pairs 13 per 15 acres, (87 per 100 acres).

Visitors: (Bird pairs frequently seen on the plot, obviously nesting in the vicinity but not within plot limits). Hermit Thrush 1, Wood Thrush 1, Blackburnian Warbler 1, Black-throated Green Warbler 1, Redstart 1, Cooper's Hawk 1, Barred Owl 1, Scarlet Tanager 1, Crested Flycatcher 1. Other species seen in the area but never on the plot, Pileated Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, and White-throated Sparrow.

Remarks: Majority of birds nesting high in trees, even those normally near ground.

J. W. ARNOLD, *Ottawa*

**MATING of the RED-NECKED GREBE,** *Colymbus grisegena* Boddaert. — On May 18, 1952, while observing some ducks on a small lake in the Kootenay Valley, a few miles north of Cranbrook, B.C., the writer's attention was drawn to the activities of a pair of Red-necked Grebe. Both birds were obviously in a state of great excitement, frequently submerging for short durations, coming together, bobbing heads and occasionally touching beaks.

Surfacing after a dive, one of the pair proffered the other a gift, which appeared to be a small portion of water weed, this was accepted and swallowed. Immediately following, both birds, one close behind the other, started swimming towards a small island, from the shore of which there projected, almost horizontally into the water, the bole of a fallen yellow pine, the diameter of which was approximately twelve inches where it made contact with the water. The grebe that was ahead, on reaching the fallen pine, slid up the tree for about two feet from the point where it was totally submerged, came to rest lying flat on its breast with neck out-stretched and the posterior slightly elevated; its mate immediately followed up the tree and reared up to take an almost vertical stance, seemingly using the posterior and legs for support, made contact and coition took place, lasting for ten to fifteen seconds, then both birds slid into the water and commenced preening. According to Jourdain and Ticehurst (*Handbook of British Birds*, 1940, Vol. 4, p. 94) coition is usually on the nest (or nest platform) as in other grebes.

WALTER B. JOHNSTONE,  
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***Gavia adamsi* on Devon Island.**—Constable Donald Nelson, R.C.M.P., has forwarded to the Royal Ontario Museum the skull of a loon found at Dundas Harbour, Devon Island, in 1949. The specimen, No. 76508, is of the form *Gavia adamsi*, and represents a mature example. This constitutes a considerable northeastward extension of range within the Canadian Arctic though probably occurrence beyond the limits marked by the Boothia Peninsula is more or less casual. — L. L. SNYDER, *Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology and Palaeontology, Toronto.*

**Northern swamp tree frog,** *Pseudacris nigrita septentrionalis* (Boulenger) from **Churchill, Manitoba.** — On 30 July, 1952, the author accompanied by Harold E. Welch found an adult northern swamp tree frog, *Pseudacris nigrita septentrionalis* (Boulenger) at Landing Lake near Churchill, Manitoba. Subsequently, on 12, 15 and 16 August, 1952, while engaged in field work for the Defence Research Board, C. A. Barlow and the author collected three more specimens — all small, recently transformed individuals.

These four specimens apparently are the first of the species to be recorded from the Churchill region, although the occurrence of *P. n. septentrionalis* in this part of northern Manitoba was not altogether unexpected. Logier (1952) states that the range of this subspecies is: 'From Minnesota and northern and western Ontario to the Canadian Northwest Territories and the Peace River District of British Columbia.'

Although many naturalists and professional biologists have carried out active field work in the Churchill region, no report of the presence of the swamp tree frog has hitherto been published. Indeed, on the basis of extensive field studies at Churchill, Sheldford and Twomey (1941) state that, 'The northern frog is the only tailless amphibian...' in the vicinity of Churchill, Man. (They elsewhere refer to the 'northern frog' as *Rana cantabrigensis latiremis* (S and B), which species Logier (1952) considers synonymous with the wood frog, *R. sylvatica* Le Conte.)

The Landing Lake area from which all our specimens were collected lies several miles to the south of the townsite of Churchill. Here the great boreal forest of the south and west grades into the strip of flat tundra which occupies most of the Hudson Bay coastal area. Numerous small, sedge-bordered ponds, and hummocks of lichens and heaths cover most of the area. On this tundra,





Snyder, L. L. 1953. "Gavia adamsi on Devon Island." *The Canadian field-naturalist* 67(4), 181–181. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.341507>.

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