

this time the temperature was 32° F. and intermittent rain and sleet had occurred over the past 12 hours.

Tundra Vole *Microtus oeconomus* — Two were caught at Umiat on June 21. One was a mature male (testes 9.0 mm.) and the other a nonpregnant female one-fourth grown.

Singing Vole *Microtus miurus* — Four sub-adults were trapped at Ocean Point on August 8 and 9, measurements for three males are — testes: 2.5, 2.5, 2.5; total length: 124, 125, 129; tail: 22, 20, 20; hind foot: 18, 17, 18; ear to notch: 11, 11, and 12 mm. Much vole sign and several voles were seen on the tundra around first camp; however none were collected.

Alaska Moose *Alces alces gigas* — Moose were seen as follows: June 28, bull a few miles above Awuna; July 4, cow above Colville Bar; July 5, three cows, one calf, Colville Bar; July 10, calf Ninuluk Creek; July 25, two cows, one calf below Umiat; July 28, bull Anaktuvuk; August 6, bull Ocean Point. Tracks were numerous from Awuna to Anaktuvuk. The skeleton of a bull with huge antlers was found on a small island two or three miles below the mouth of the Kurupa River.

Barren Ground Caribou *Rangifer arcticus* — Most numerous early in the summer. We estimated, based on partial count, that by June 27 2,000 animals, of which about ten percent were calves, had been seen. Most of these were on the north side of the Col-

ville moving upstream. In addition the following were noted: band of thirty to forty at Ipnarik, scattered small groups and individuals between Etivluk and Kurupa, four swimming the Colville above Umiat, one bull at Kikiakrorak, nine at Ocean Point, three at Itkillik, few at Forks and five at Oliktok Point. A very young, perhaps stillborn, dead fawn was found at the Kurupa mouth.

At Kikiakrorak as I was returning to camp from a day of pond sampling I chanced upon a bull lying on a little hummock in the tundra. While I was still 300 to 400 yards away and down-wind, the caribou got up and began to trot about, first one way then another but gradually moved on a course which took him down-wind from me. From a point about 200 yards away, the caribou approached until within 100 yards and at this distance followed me for about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile, moving at a slow trot, but pausing occasionally to look and always raising his tail before trotting a few steps more.

SUMMARY

Field notes were obtained on 48 species of birds and 11 species of mammals along 450 miles of the Colville River in Arctic Alaska during the summer of 1955. These observations were made secondarily to other work, hence are not exhaustive but perhaps will add to the growing fund of information regarding arctic and high boreal fauna.

SOME DISTRIBUTIONAL NOTES ON CANADIAN BIRDS

W. EARL GODFREY

National Museum of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario

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PIED-BILLED GREBE *Podilymbus podiceps podiceps* (Linnaeus)

Near Scotsville, Cape Breton Island, the writer counted nine adults on July 5, 1954, and later, on July 19 and 20, near Grande Anse, saw an adult passing food to a flightless young bird, the latter certainly indicating breeding. This species has not previously been recorded from Cape Breton Island.

SNOWY EGRET *Leucophoyx thula thula* (Molina)

The bill, feet, and wings of a Snowy Egret, freshly killed, apparently by collision with a telegraph wire, on November 5, 1955, at St. John's, Newfoundland, were forwarded to the National Museum by Leslie M. Tuck. Peters and Burleigh (1951) report five seen (one collected) at Trepassy on August 18, 1948, the only other Newfoundland record.

LITTLE EGRET *Egretta garzetta garzetta* (Linnaeus)

The skin of a female, shot at Flat Rock, Conception Bay, Newfoundland, on May 8, 1954, was forwarded to the National Museum by L. M. Tuck. This is the first North American record for this Old World heron.

GREENLAND WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE *Anser albifrons flavirostris* Dalgety and Scott

A specimen shot at Debert, Nova Scotia, on November 21, 1949, was donated to the National Museum by Robie W. Tufts.

BLUE-WINGED TEAL *Anas discors* Linnaeus

The writer observed it on Cape Breton Island in 1954 on the following dates (number of individuals in parentheses): On Madame Island June 4 (1); at Indian Bay June 6 (4), 8 (1), 11 (1), 12 (2), 13 (2), 15 (2), 27 (2), 29 (3); July 12 (2 ad., 3 downies), 15 (2); at Nyanza June 6 (4); Margaree Forks, July 7 (1); East Margaree (2 ad., two broods of 12 and 2 young respectively). Breeding of this species does not appear to have been previously recorded from Cape Breton Island.

RING-NECKED DUCK *Aythya collaris* (Donovan)

Although apparently not previously recorded from Cape Breton Island this duck is locally not uncommon there in summer, breeding in freshwater marshes. In 1954 the writer counted 26 adults in the marshes of Indian Bay, Inverness County, on June 6 and three at Nyanza on June 15. At the outlet of Lake Ainslie broods of 6 and 9 respectively were seen on July 5. On the west side of Lake Ainslie nine downies were noted on July 7. At East Margaree 17 adults and 17 downies were counted on July. Three broods of young were seen on Indian Bay on July 15; and on a small lake near Sydney an adult with 7 young were seen on July 25 and 26.

Another range extension is indicated by banding records of the Canadian Wildlife Service made available by T. S. Hennessey. At a banding station near Baie Johan Beetz, at Lac Salé, Quebec, north shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, 88 Ring-necked Ducks were banded in 1949; 9 in 1950; 36 in 1952; 18 in 1953. F. Graham Cooch, who operated the station in 1950, has informed me that he observed two broods of young there on September 17 of that year.

OLD-SQUAW *Clangula hyemalis* (Linnaeus)

Four were observed regularly by the writer between July 17 and 28, 1954, in a bay of Madame Island, Cape Breton, Island, an unusual summer record so far south.

ICELAND BLACK-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa limosa islandica* Brehm.

The skin of a female, taken at Dunn's Pond, Placentia Bay, Newfoundland, on May 20, 1954, was donated to the National Museum by L. M. Tuck. Dr. Alexander Wetmore, who has recently investigated the validity of the subspecies *islandica*, refers this specimen to that race. This is the first record of the species for Canada, the only other North American record being from Greenland.

FORSTER TERN *Sterna forsteri* Nuttall

The writer examined a mounted immature specimen in the collection of the Nova Scotia Museum of Science which was taken at Maynard's Lake, near Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, on September 4, 1924, apparently the first Nova Scotia record.

NORTHERN BARRED OWL *Strix varia varia* Barton

A female in the flesh, forwarded to the National Museum by Leonidas Gagne, was picked up unable to fly with badly frozen legs and feet at Lake Patterson, Mistassibi watershed (Lat. 50° 11' N), on January 17, 1954.

EASTERN MOCKINGBIRD *Mimus polyglottos polyglottos* (Linnaeus)

At Deroche Pond, Queen County, Prince Edward Island, the writer collected an adult female on August 4, 1952. Although the bird had an incubation patch it may have been a post-breeding-season wanderer. This is the first record for Prince Edward Island (Godfrey 1954).

CATBIRD *Dumetella carolinensis* (Linnaeus)

In alders along the Aspy River, near Cape North, Cape Breton Island, the writer collected a singing male on June 22, 1954. Another was observed in willow shrubbery at Scotsville on July 5, 1954. The Catbird has not been previously recorded from Cape Breton Island.

BICKNELL GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH *Hylocichla minima bicknelli* Ridgway

Wallace (1939) mentions three specimens taken near Percé, Quebec, in June and July. Two are referable to *bicknelli*, one to the

Newfoundland population of the nominate race. On July 12, 1955, R. J. d'Entremont secured three additional specimens in the hills behind Percé. All are referable to *bicknelli*.

NEWFOUNDLAND YELLOW WARBLER

Dendroica petechia amnicola Batchelder

The wings and some attached dorsal feathers from a specimen picked up early in August, 1951, by an Eskimo on Southampton Island, N.W.T., were forwarded to the National Museum by Niall Rankin.

SYCAMORE WARBLER *Dendroica dominica albilora* Ridgway

A specimen collected by Leslie M. Tuck at St. John's, Newfoundland, on November 11, 1955, was donated by Mr. Tuck to the National Museum. Several other warblers, believed to be of this species, were seen there at the time. The specimen, unsexed, is somewhat intermediate in racial characters but seems nearest to *albilora*. This appears to be the first specimen of this species collected in Canada although sight records have been reported.

SCARLET TANAGER *Piranga olivacea* (Gmelin)

A family group consisting of an adult male and female and a juvenal (suggesting breeding) were observed near Rivière du Loup, Quebec, on July 21, 1955, by R. J. d'Entremont and the writer. The adult male and juvenal were collected.

RED-EYED TOWHEE *Pipilo erythrophthalmus erythrophthalmus* (Linnaeus)

A post-juvenal male was secured by S. D. MacDonald at Northport, Nova Scotia, on October 27, 1949. This appears to be the first definite record for Nova Scotia.

CHURCHILL SAVANNAH SPARROW *Passerculus sandwichensis oblitus* Peters and Griscom

An unsexed specimen was collected at Resolute Bay, Cornwallis Island, N.W.T., on September 4, 1954, by J. A. Crosby. This is the northernmost North American record.

EASTERN GRASSHOPPER SPARROW *Ammodramus savannarum pratensis* (Viellot)

On June 25, 1952, some five miles northeast of St. Peters, Prince Edward Island, the writer collected an adult male Grasshopper Sparrow. It had been singing, appeared to have a definite territory, and its testes were fully enlarged. No others were seen, however, although a considerable search was made. It has not been previously recorded from Prince Edward Island (Godfrey 1954).

REFERENCES

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ANNOTATED LIST OF BIRDS OF PART OF THE BACK RIVER, N.W.T.

JOHN S. TENER

Canadian Wildlife Service, Ottawa, Ontario

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From July 31 to August 9, 1955, Mr. Lloyd Beebe, Sequim, Washington, and I were on the Back River system, N.W.T. We flew from Yellowknife, N.W.T. to Beechy Lake, and then down the Back River to the Baillie River where we landed. July 31 and August 1 and 2 were devoted to a wildlife reconnaissance at the junction of the Back and

Baillie Rivers, with one day spent in traveling ten miles up the latter river. On August 3 we paddled down the Back River arriving at Pelly Lake in the evening of August 7. On August 8 we made a short reconnaissance around our campsite and on the 9th we left by air. Observations of birds and mammals were recorded and plants collected.



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