

species. It was studied by Radvanyi and the author, through 7 x 50 binoculars, and was obviously a large white crane with black wing tips.

SEMIPALMATED PLOVER *Charadrius semipalmatus*. Apparently nesting when first observed on June 5, 1951. (McEwen, first observed June 9, 1950; first evidence of nesting July 4, 1950).

HUDSONIAN GODWIT *Limosa haemastica*. New species. Although not recorded by McEwen, a single bird was seen on the Burnside River delta June 26, 1950.

NORTHERN PHALAROPE *Lobipes lobatus*. First seen on June 4, 1954 (McEwen, June 15, 1950).

RED PHALAROPE *Phalaropus fulicarius*. New species. A single female was observed and photographed on the Burnside River delta June 24, 1954.

PARASITIC JAEGER *Stercorarius parasiticus*. New species. Single birds were seen June 9 and 19, 1954, both being in the light phase. Unidentified jaegers were seen several times in each year of observation, most frequently flying northward up Bathurst Inlet at some distance from land. Several did not appear to be bulky enough to be Pomarine Jaegers (*Stercorarius pomarinus*), the most common species in the region.

SNOWY OWL *Nyctea scandiaca*. Identified in 1950 only from the remains of a single bird. Live individuals were seen June 5 and 13, 1951.

EASTERN KINGBIRD *Tyrannus tyrannus*. New species. A single bird, obviously a stray, was collected in June, 1953 on the Burnside River flats and is now deposited in the Royal Ontario Museum (Snyder, 1957).

GREY-CHEEKED THRUSH *Hylocichla minima*. First seen June 11, 1951, and June 9, 1954. (McEwen, about June 13, 1950).

#### REFERENCES

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 SNYDER, L. L. 1957. Arctic birds of Canada. U. of Toronto Press, Toronto. 290 pp.

JOHN P. KELSALL

Canadian Wildlife Service,  
 Edmonton, Alberta  
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#### Incubation Periods of Some Subarctic Birds

SINCE 1930, the Churchill, Manitoba, region has received much attention from ornithologists. However, despite the great amount of field work that has been carried out there, basic aspects of the breeding biology of many Churchill birds are still poorly known. During field studies in this area, Jehl in 1964 and 1965, Hussell in 1965, we gathered some data on the incubation periods of 15 species, which we present here. Although we have not made a complete search of the literature, it appears that for at least six of these species there are no previously reported incubation periods, and for several other species the available data are sparse or imprecise. Eggs were code marked with indelible ink in order of their appearance in the nest. Unless otherwise noted, all incubation periods are calculated from the laying to the hatching of the last egg in the clutch.

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Semipalmated Plover, *Charadrius semipalmatus* — Incubation periods of 23 and 25 days.

Whimbrel, *Numenius phaeopus* — Periods of 22 and  $23\frac{1}{2}$  days recorded; another nest was incubated at least  $22\frac{1}{2}$  days. There are apparently no previous data for the New World population of this species (W. E. Godfrey, *in litt.*).

Common Snipe, *Capella gallinago* — One nest, 19 days.

Short-billed Dowitcher, *Limnodromus griseus* — Incubation period at a nest discovered by Parmelee was 21 days (maximum error, 6 hours). This is the first reported incubation period for this species.

Least Sandpiper, *Erolia minutilla* — Periods of  $19\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $20\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $20\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $21\frac{1}{2}$  days noted. It is extremely surprising to us that the incubation time of this common sandpiper seems previously unreported.

Stilt Sandpiper, *Micropalama himantopus* — A minimum incubation period, 21 days, determined at a nest thought to have been found on day when last egg was laid. There is no previous report of an incubation period for this species.

Hudsonian Godwit, *Limosa haemastica*. — One period of  $23\frac{1}{2}$  days  $\pm$  5 hours. Ellis (1948. Northwood bound for godwits. Audubon Magazine 50: 154-159) reported an incubation period of approximately 22 days, but the eggs were not marked at this nest, and one disappeared early in incubation.

Northern Phalarope, *Lobipes lobatus* — One record,  $22\frac{1}{2}$  days.

Bonapart's Gull, *Larus philadelphia* — Not previously reported, the incubation period at one nest was 24 days.

Gray-cheeked Thrush, *Hylocichla minima* — One period of 12 days.

Savannah Sparrow, *Passerculus sandwichensis* — Two periods, both 12 days.

Harris' Sparrow, *Zonotrichia querula* — Minimum incubation period for one nest  $13\frac{1}{2}$  days, computed from laying of fourth to hatching of third egg; the

fourth egg did not hatch. This nest was shown to us by R. Kontak.

Common Redpoll, *Acanthis flammea* — One record, 13 days.

Lapland Longspur, *Calcarius lapponicus* — Two incubation periods, both 13 days, recorded. Two other clutches incubated at least 13 days.

Smith's Longspur, *Calcarius pictus* — Previously unknown, the periods at three nests were  $11\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , and 12 days.

JOSEPH R. JEHL, JR.  
D. J. T. HUSSELL

University of Michigan Museum of Zoology  
Ann Arbor, Michigan,  
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### Sighting of a Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*) near Vancouver, B.C.

THE bird was first seen on the afternoon of September 13, 1964. It was standing at the water's edge, at half tide, on a muddy salt-water beach near the Vancouver city sewage plant at Iona Island, B.C. It was with a group of 20 Greater Yellowlegs (*Totanus melanoleucus*) and 5 Lesser Yellowlegs (*Totanus flavipes*), and was immediately seen to be a godwit by its bill (upturned, black with a light buff colour at the base) and its relative size.

My wife and I approached to within 100 feet of the bird, and viewed it with a 25x telescope. The white rump, and the broad black tail band with its white-tipped feathers were all clearly seen as the bird preened. A Pigeon Hawk put it up and the godwit showed its striking wing plumage well: the black axillars, generally dark under plumage, and the white stripe on the upper surface were all easily recognizable. A white superciliary line was noted; the legs were steel grey. The bird was in fall plumage: it was uniform grey (including the wings) shaded darker above and on the wings





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