Godfrey (1966, The Birds of Canada, National Museum of Canada, Bulletin 203, p. 292) mentions a nesting of the Mockingbird at Didsbury, Alberta. As far as I can ascertain this is the closest record in Canada to the one in Victoria. It is known to nest also in southeastern Oregon.

On July 25, the eggs were “candled” and of course, found to be clear. They were collected with the nest together with a portion of the cotoneaster shrub by Mr. Michael D. Miller, of the Provincial Museum and myself, and are now deposited in the Provincial Museum, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, B.C., as the first record in British Columbia of the nest and eggs of the Mockingbird.

ENID K. LEMON

A Wood Frog from Northern Manitoba


In view of the rarity of northern collections and the hiatus in records between Churchill and the above localities, an adult Rana sylvatica taken in northern Manitoba is worth reporting. It was captured at the Wolverine River (59°07’N), north of Shethanei Lake and south of MacLeod Lake, by the writer on July 17, 1966.

The specimen was taken in one of the few narrow strips of wet sedges occurring along the river edge. In general the area consists of broad rolling hills of glacial till with prominent eskers. Vegetatively, the area is transitional from boreal forest to subarctic tundra. Stands of black spruce are interspersed with broad, sweeping sedge-heath meadows which, with their permafrost polygons and undrained tundra ponds are strongly reminiscent of the coastal tundra. The subarctic effect is heightened by the presence, as breeders, of such avian species as Parasitic Jaeger and Lapland Longspur.

The specimen is an adult female measuring, after preservation, 40 mm snout-vent, 17 mm tibia (tibia/body ratio .425) and lacking a mid-dorsal light line. It has been deposited in the study collection of the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature. This was the only frog seen in 10 days of river travel in the region. As Churchill is located at 58°45’N, this specimen is the northernmost record from Manitoba. The northern limit of the species seems to angle to the northwest following the tree line, and this specimen is within the range predictable on this basis.

The writer gratefully acknowledges the generous aid and dogged persistence of Francis R. Cook in ensuring that the specimen was eventually examined and this note finally prepared.

RICHARD W. SUTTON

Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature
Winnipeg, Manitoba

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