

Especially bad were the last ten days, when strong, cold winds from the north were the rule, and heavy snowfalls occurred. Night-time temperatures, as well as day-time, were far below normal during this period (see table.)

A mild February and average March conspired to rid the prairies of almost all their snow cover by April 8th so that the ground was mostly bare for the middle two weeks of April. On April 17th and 19th traces of snow fell. The heaviest subsequent falls of snow were as follows (at Regina — these are typical of South Saskatchewan, Estevan, Broadview, Swift Current, Saskatoon, Dafoe and Yorkton).

April 21st	—	1. "
April 23rd	—	1/2 "
April 27th	—	1.4 "
April 28th	—	3.3 "
April 29th	—	1.8 "
April 30th	—	1/10"
Total		8.1 "

In addition to this a heavy fall of 9" occurred at Estevan on the 21st.

Total Regina snowfall for April was 8.8" as against a normal snowfall of 3.1". This snow is only now melting and running off.

Table of Regina Temperatures

Day	Day Night (actual 1954)		Day Night (normal)	
* April 15	48	27	49	26
April 16	62	22	50	26
* April 17	48	33	50	27
* April 18	41	24	51	27
April 19	45	16	52	28
April 20	36	29	52	28
April 21	39	20	53	28
* April 22	50	24	53	29
* April 23	40	32	54	29
April 24	42	28	55	30
* April 25	50	33	55	30
April 26	30	30	56	30
April 27	25	17	56	31
April 28	26	25	57	31
April 29	28	11	57	31
April 30	28	-1	58	32
May 1	28	19	58	32
May 2	36	21	59	33
May 3	37	14	59	33

* Strong Winds



—Photo by Fred Bard
Pied-billed Grebe, unable to fly after being forced down in storm.

The night-time temps on April 29-30th and May 2-3rd were the lowest ever recorded; the previous record lows were +3° (1909) and +16.5° (1907) respectively.

The day-time temperatures on the 26th, 27th and 28th were the coldest ever recorded. Previous coldest temperatures on these dates were 33.5° (1907) 30° (1907) and 28° (1907) respectively.

The Black Swallow-tail

Mrs. Ellen Averill

In one of the "Blue Jay" books of last year I saw an inquiry from Viceroy, Sask., as to whether anyone had seen the larva of the Black Swallow-tail Butterfly. Just about that time I found on the parsnip row in our garden some large caterpillars — I believe they were bright green with some colored markings, stripes and spots of black and pink, though I'm not positive about this. However, I was curious as to what butterfly they would become. I placed four or five in a cracked quart sealer, replaced the glass top with a double piece of cotton mosquito net, held in place by the screw top, and placed the jar in a shady spot on the veranda and fed the larvae with fresh parsnip leaves every day. In due time they pupated and later hatched into Black Swallow-tail Butterflies.