

SUMMARY OF 10th ANNUAL SASKATON

By Dr. Stuart Houston

WITH a total of 18 localities reporting, an all-time high of 40 species were recorded. However, no new species were added to the list of 62 species seen in the previous nine counts (note that the form printed on the back page of the last "Blue Jay" omitted Sharp-tailed Grouse and Magpie, and the American Goldeneyes seen at Saskatoon in 1948 were overlooked).

For the fifth time in 10 years, Nipawin had the biggest list of species seen, but still fell short of the record of 25 species they set in 1948.

The twelve species most frequently reported were, respectively, Snow Bunting, Magpie, English Sparrow, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Black-capped Chickadee, Hungarian

Big River (wooded and meadows); December 30, 1951, 11 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. Cloudy, north 15 m.p.h., 20 below, 12 inches snow. Two observers, 5 miles on foot. 11 plus 1 species.—**Anne and Sam Olson.**

Bladworth (rolling cultivated land, many sloughs rimmed with poplar and willow); January 2, 1952, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Clear, 4 m.p.h., 4 to 17 above, 4 inches snow. 2 hours and 5 miles on foot. 6 plus 4 species.—**P. Lawrence Beckie.**

Broadview (parkland and open country, also Qu'Appelle Valley); December 26, 1951, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Clear, light, zero, 3 inches snow. 7 hours and 92 miles by car. 6 plus 1 species.—**Mr. and Mrs. C. I. Thacker.**

Dilke (rolling prairie with sparsely scattered "bluffs"); December 31, 1951, 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 and 2 to 3.30 p.m. Clear, N.W. at 8 m.p.h., 22 to 26 below, 4 inches snow. Four observers in two parties. 1 hour and 6 miles by car, 2½ hours and 3 miles on foot. 7 species.—**J. B. Belcher, Dr. and Mrs. Stuart Houston, Wilfred McArton.**

Gerald (around farmyard); January 2, 1952, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Clear, then cloudy, S.W., 10 above, 12 inches snow. 6 plus 3 species.—**Lad. Martinovsky.**

Grenfell (parkland and open country); December 28, 1951, 10.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Clear, west 15 m.p.h., 5 above, 3 inches snow. 4½ hours, 6 times over same 11 miles hauling grain. 8 plus 2 species.—**John Hubbard, Jr.**

Hawarden (prairie); December 27, 1951, 9 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. Clear, calm, zero, 4 inches snow. 4 miles by car, 3½ on foot. 6 species.—**Harold Kvinge.**

Humboldt (No. 6 highway, Regina via Watson to Humboldt); January 2, 1952, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Clear, west, zero, 9 inches snow. 7½ hours and 160 miles by car. 7 species.—**W. A. Brownlee.**

Lumsden (town streets and 15 miles on highway 11); January 1, 1952, 12.30 to 1.30 p.m. Clear, 25 below, 4 inches snow. 4 species.—**Dr. and Mrs. Stuart Houston.**

Melville (highway 15 miles south); December 23, 1951, 10 a.m. Clear, calm, 10 above, two inches snow. 4 species.—**Ruth and Cliff Shaw.**

Naicam (open fields, isolated wooded

areas); January 2, 1952, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Overcast, 10 m.p.h., 10 above, 8 inches snow. 2 hours by car, 3 hours on foot. 6 plus 2 species.—**W. Yan-chinski.**

Nipawin (cultivated fields, wasteland, pine and spruce); December 30, 1951, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cloudy, N.W. at 10 m.p.h., 15 below, 6 inches snow. 3 observers together. 7 hours and 70 miles by car. 14 plus 8 species.—**Walter and Billy Matthews, Maurice G. Street.**

Pathlow (open fields and wooded patches, Pathlow to Beatty and Ethelton); December 30, 1951, 9.30 to 10.30 a.m. and 1 to 2 p.m. Overcast, northerly, 5 to 15 below, 12 inches snow. 35 miles by car. 7 plus 3 species.—**Rev. Thos. M. Beveridge.**

Sheho (parkland); December 28, 1951, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Clear, light, S.W., 5 below to 10 above, 3 inches snow. 6 hours doing farm chores. 8 plus 2 species.—**William Niven.**

Somme (open fields and poplar bluffs; heavy poplar, birch and spruce forest); January 1, 1952, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Clear, 5 m.p.h., 10 to 30 below, 7 inches snow. 5 hours and 10 miles on foot. 10 plus 9 species.—**Ronald and Donald Hooper.**

Spirit Lake (parkland); December 26, 1951. Clear, light wind, zero to 10 below, 2 inches snow. ½ hour and 8 miles by car, chores around yard. 8 plus 2 species.—**William Anaka.**

Wallwort (about farm and down side roads); December 26, 1951, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Clear, 7 m.p.h., 15 below, 14 inches snow. 4 hours and 5 miles on foot. 7 plus 2 species.—**J. Turnquist.**

Yorkton (parkland; 15-mile diameter); December 26, 1951, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Overcast at noon, otherwise clear, N.W. at 10 m.p.h., 5 to 9 below, 2 inches snow. 15 observers in 6 parties. 5½ hours and 48 miles by car, 7½ hours and 7 miles on foot. 14 species.—**Norma Beck, Wayne Bjorgan, Brother Clarence, Brother Vincent, Henry Chilman, Jr., Lionel Coleman, Ronald Coleman, Dr. C. J. Houston, Dr. and Mrs. Stuart Houston, Professor Charles Lightbody, Tony Pawluk, Paul Welgan, Ronald Welgan, D'Arcy Wershler.**

(5+3)

HEWAN CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

on, Yorkton

Partridge, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Ruffed Grouse, Snowy Owl, Common Redpoll and Blue Jay. The game birds are thus more in evidence than most previous counts.

Two male and two female red-winged blackbirds were seen at close range near a spring on the western outskirts of Yorkton by Brothers Clarence and Vincent. A male and female red-winged and a female Brewer's blackbird were wintering about the farmyard of P. L. Beckie at Bladworth. One slate-colored junco remained at Somme from a flock of hundreds present in November. It was quite tame and was killed by a cat in mid-January.

DISTRIBUTION AND TOTALS BY SPECIES

(Species in brackets were seen between December 23 and January 2, but not on the day of the count reported above.)

Oshawk—Dilke, 1.

Geon Hawk—Yorkton, 1.

Bruce Grouse—(Nipawin, 3).

Ruffed Grouse—Gerald, 6; Nipawin, 3; Sheho, 3; Yorkton, 1. (Big River, 3); (Grenfell, 1); (Pathlow, 4); (Wallwort, 3).

Sharp-tailed Grouse—Bladworth, 18; Broadview, 3; Dilke, 5; Grenfell, 41; Humboldt, 6; Melville, 8; Nipawin, 19; Pathlow, 1; Sheho, 1; Yorkton, 10. (Gerald, 12); (Somme, 1).

Hungarian Partridge—Bladworth, 41; Dilke, 6; Hawarden, 10; Humboldt, 10; Nipawin, 8; Pathlow, 5; Sheho, 5; Yorkton, 5. (Somme, 7).

Great Horned Owl—(Gerald, 1); (Pathlow, 1); (Spirit Lake, 2).

Snowy Owl—Bladworth, 1; Dilke, 1; Humboldt, 2; Naicam, 1; Pathlow, 1; Yorkton, 1. (Sheho, 1); (Somme, 1).

Hawk Owl—Big River, 1.

Short-eared Owl—Hawarden, 1.

Leated Woodpecker—Big River, 1. (Nipawin, 1).

Hairy Woodpecker—Big River, 2; Grenfell, 1; Naicam, 1; Nipawin, 3; Sheho, 1; Somme, 4; Wallwort, 2. (Spirit Lake, 1).

Downy Woodpecker—Big River, 2; Gerald, 1; Nipawin, 1; Sheho, 1; Spirit Lake, 1; Wallwort, 1. (Bladworth, 1); (Naicam, 1); (Somme, 2).

Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker—(Somme, 1).

American Three-toed Woodpecker—Somme, 5.

Horned Lark—Lumsden, 2.

Canada Jay—Big River, 2; Somme, 8; Wallwort, 3. (Nipawin, 11).

Blue Jay—Big River, 6; Broadview, 1; Gerald, 2; Somme, 10; Wallwort, 2; Yorkton, 2. (Nipawin, 6).

Magpie—Big River, 1; Bladworth, 6; Broadview, 5; Dilke, 2; Grenfell, 13; Humboldt, 12; Melville, 1; Naicam, 1; Nipawin, 6; Pathlow, 8; Sheho, 3; Spirit Lake, 3; Wallwort, 2; Yorkton, 24. (Gerald, 3); (Somme, 3).

Raven—Nipawin, 1; Somme, 10.

Black-capped Chickadee—Big River, 22; Broadview, 2; Gerald, 4; Grenfell, 2; Lumsden, 3; Naicam, 2; Nipawin, 9; Somme, 4; Spirit Lake, 6; Wallwort, 5; Yorkton, 10.

Hudsonian Chickadee—Somme, 4. (Nipawin, 5).

White-breasted Nuthatch—Big River, 2; Somme, 4.

Red-breasted Nuthatch—(Nipawin, 1).

Brown Creeper—(Somme, 1, on January 2nd).

Bohemian Waxwing—Humboldt, 50; Nipawin, 1.

Northern Shrike—(Nipawin, 1).

European Starling—Grenfell, 3. (Bladworth, 1); (Pathlow, 1).

English Sparrow—Bladworth, 25; Broadview, 100; Dilke, 50; Gerald, 6; Grenfell, 70; Hawarden, 120; Humboldt, 30; Lumsden, 60; Melville, 20; Naicam, 6; Nipawin, 1; Pathlow, 25; Spirit Lake, 4; Yorkton, 373. (Somme, 50).

Western Meadowlark—(Grenfell, 1, on December 26th).

Red-winged Blackbird—Yorkton, 4; Bladworth, 2.

Brewer's Blackbird—Bladworth, 1; Hawarden, 1.

Evening Grosbeak—Naicam, 1; Nipawin, 39.

Pine Grosbeak—Big River, 1; Gerald, 20; Nipawin, 58; Wallwort, 14; Yorkton, 5 (Sheho, 6); (Spirit Lake, 6).

Hoary Redpoll—(Nipawin, 30).

Common Redpoll—Big River, 25; Grenfell, 40; Nipawin, 2,000; Sheho, 5; Somme, 25; Yorkton, 8. (Broadview, 30).

White-winged Crossbill—Yorkton, 2.

Slate-colored Junco—Somme, 1.

Tree Sparrow—Hawarden, 1.

Snow Bunting—Big River, 5; Bladworth, 4; Broadview, 1,000; Dilke, 2; Grenfell, 1; Hawarden, 500; Humboldt, 200; Lumsden, 80; Melville, 350; Nipawin, 414; Pathlow, 1; Sheho, 30; Spirit Lake, 3; Yorkton, 395. (Naicam, 50); (Somme, 8); (Wallwort, 25).