

Cardinal Near Rosetown

by MRS. TED SCRIVENS, Rosetown

A beautiful Cardinal (male) was seen on July 9, 1957 perched on the branch of an evergreen at our farm some 18 miles northwest of Rosetown. This spruce is growing about twelve feet from the window so the Cardinal could be very clearly seen. It stayed about five minutes, and was not seen again.

Lewis's Woodpecker at Keatley

A. P. Pym reports a Lewis's Woodpecker spending the first three weeks of October in his garden at Keatley. It was still there feeding on the crabapple crop when Mr. Pym gave us this report at the annual meeting on October 18.

New Saskatchewan Species

"The Parasitic Jaeger in Saskatchewan," by Charles D. Bird, Canadian Field-Naturalist, Vol. 71, Jan.-March 1957, p. 37, lists a sight record of this species for Lozinsky's Slough, 9 miles south and 1½ miles west of Kindersley, on June 27, 1956. It also lists two records furnished by Fred G. Bard of the Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History: one suffering from botulism taken at Old Wives Lake by George Lydiard, on Sept. 1 (or Sept. 19), 1933; and a specimen shot by Mr. Vinn Huggins, Oct. 28, 1933, at Imperial Beach, on Last Mountain Lake, 7 miles east of Imperial, Sask.

The above records were overlooked and the Parasitic Jaeger mistakenly listed as "hypothetical" in the Field Checking List of Saskatchewan Birds (Bard and Houston, Feb. 1954).

Waterfowl Habitat in Saskatchewan

By J. BERNARD GOLLOP, Wildlife Biologist, Canadian Wildlife Service

The agencies in North America concerned with the conservation of waterfowl—particularly Ducks Unlimited, provincial and state game departments, the U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife and the Canadian Wildlife Service—are currently trying to do something about the problem of the destruction of the continent's wetlands. Their most urgent task is to draw up a plan to counteract drainage that will prove to be unwise in the long run, all of the public's interest being considered.

One phase of this plan is to evaluate the waterfowl habitat currently available in order to determine which type is most valuable and which is most urgently in need of being saved. This evaluation includes an inventory of lakes and sloughs, followed by determinations of waterfowl use the year round, and of potential drainage and drought.

In Saskatchewan, spring and summer inventories and waterfowl use of prairie water areas can be determined from data gathered in the course of aerial breeding pair and food surveys conducted by the Saskatchewan Wildlife Branch and the U.S. Bureau of Sports Fisheries and

Wildlife for the purpose of setting hunting regulations. Ducks Unlimited has begun a more detailed ground survey that will eventually cover the southern half of the province.

The missing link is the September-to-December period. We know that Saskatchewan has probably the best hunting in North America, but we do not have a catalogue of the sloughs and lakes that provide this hunting, nor do we know the relative values of these areas. As a start on this phase of the project the Canadian Wildlife Service is asking the cooperation of members of the Saskatchewan Natural History Society. In the centre of this issue of the BLUE JAY there has been inserted a form that we would like you to fill out and return to us. The form is pretty well self-explanatory, but we would like to emphasize that right now we are interested in areas that have been heavily used by waterfowl in the past couple of years.

We shall very much appreciate any assistance that members may be able to give us in this project. If you yourself are not in a position to fill out the form, possibly you would be good enough to pass it on to someone who is.