

Regina Natural History Society

DIVISION OF ORNITHOLOGY

By E. L. FOX, Chairman

List of Winter Birds (1954-55):

Species recorded are those observed November 1 to February 28 within the city limits, plus such species as the Magpie and Sharp-tailed Grouse noted in fringe areas. Observations were made by members on regular Saturday afternoon field trips and during other field trips made by smaller groups, and by interested individuals throughout the city. Reports received from: G. Ledingham, M. Ledingham, L. Murray, M. Belcher, F. Brazier, B. Cruickshank, H. Croome, E. Fox, T. Shoyama, L. Shoyama, F. Lahrman, F. Bard.

Pied-billed Grebe — One spent part of the winter on Wascana Lake. In February it was found frozen in the ice, from which it was released. It was not reported at a later date and it seems unlikely that it survived the winter.

Whistling Swan (one pair) and **Canada Goose** (twelve until late February) from Fred Bard's Sanctuary spent the winter on the lake. At present, three pairs of geese are nesting on the lake. There are six eggs in each of the nests. On April 2, 1955, I watched a flock of 27 Canada Geese fly over the three unclipped young geese feeding, at a height of about 100 yards, and wondered whether the young would join the flock. The flock called incessantly as they flew and the young geese answered them, flapping their wings as they did so, but they made no move to leave.

Snow Goose — Two flocks in November; one goose spent about a week in Fred Bard's Sanctuary.

Mallard (175 to 200) and **Lesser Scaup** (6) spent the winter on the lake; **Pintail** (1 female), **Green-winged Teal** (1), **American Golden-eye** (1 female), observed occasionally during the winter; **Baldpate**, **Blue-winged Teal**, **Red-head**, **Canvasback** observed in November.

Pigeon Hawk — One spent the winter around the Legislative Buildings grounds, observed occasionally by most members.

Sharp-tailed Grouse — 8 reported, 2 to 3 miles north of the city limits.

Hungarian Partridge — 4 observations only.

American Coot — Occasional report, as late as end of December.

Great Horned Owl — One near Campion College in December.

Snowy Owl — Recorded by practically all members during the winter.

Short-eared Owl — Reported frequently by all members during February. At least four were in and around the cemetery during this time.

Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers — Observed occasionally.

Horned Lark — Reported in all four months. In January, just north of the city limits.

Magpie — One observed a mile out of city on No. 1 highway.

Black-capped Chickadee — Recorded during winter by most members.

Red-breasted Nuthatch — Recorded occasionally by most members.

Brown Creeper — Observed in December.

Robin — Observed by most members up to the Christmas bird count.

One spent the winter here visiting Mr. Croome's feeding station daily.

Golden-crowned Kinglet — Late fall, including Christmas count.

Bohemian Waxwing — In and around city all winter.

Northern Shrike — One spent the winter in the Legislative grounds. Observed by all members regularly.

Starling — Reported by most members.

English Sparrow — Common.

Pine Grosbeak — One report in late fall.

Hoary Redpoll — Two members recorded this bird in the city.

Common Redpoll — Recorded by all members throughout the winter.

White-winged Crossbill — One occasion.

Snow Bunting — Members reported occasional observations in the city.

Total: 38 species (22 winter birds, 16 stragglers)