

capped Chickadee, 1; Bohemian Waxwing, 20; Northern Shrike, 1; English Sparrow, 15; Evening Grosbeak, 12; Pine Grosbeak, 5; Common Redpoll, 2; White-winged Crossbill, 15; Snow Bunting, 250). — **C. Stuart Francis.**

WYNYARD, Jan. 3, 1955. 1½ mi. foot. 4 species, 48 indiv. Downy Woodpecker, 4; Magpie, 6; Black-capped Chickadee, 8; English Sparrow, 30. (Add: Canada Jay, 4 on Dec. 25). — **Dora Bardal.**

YORKTON, Dec. 26, 23 observers in 6 parties. 112 mi. by car in 15 hours, 14½ mi. on foot in 8 hours. 20 species 1910 indiv. Goshawk, 1; Ruffed Grouse, 5; Sharp-tailed Grouse, 43; Hungarian Partridge, 30; Horned Owl, 3; Snowy Owl, 9; Hairy Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 3; Blue Jay, 2; Magpie, 47; Black-capped Chickadee, 65; Bohemian Waxwing, 287; Common Starling, 4; English Sparrow, 814; Red-winged Blackbird, 1; Brewer's Blackbird, 7; Pine Grosbeak, 51; Common Redpoll, 57; Slate-colored Junco, 4; Snow Bunting, 474. — **Tyrone Balacko, Paul Barski, Wayne Bjorgan, Jim Bridgewater, Brother Clarence, Lionel and Ronald Coleman, Brother Halward, Dr. and Mrs. Stuart Houston, John Hutchinson, Preston McDonald, Dave McVey, Allan Nurse, Jack Park, Irving Pearce, Jack Shaver, Cliff Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Smith, Frank and Gillean Switzer, Brother Vincent.**

Bird Census

Miss Margaret Cope, Calgary

Birds seen Dec. 25, 1954 — Jan. 2, 1955, inclusive.

Inglewood and adjoining wooded area and river flat. Open country just north and west of city limits.

3 Killdeer; 5 Snowy Owls; 42 Hungarian Partridge; 2 Horned Owls; 2 Short-eared Owls; 3 Marsh Hawks; 2 American Roughlegs; 1 Pigeon Hawk; 50 Evening Grosbeaks; 3 Starlings; 2 Baldpates; 3 Pintails; 1 Ross' Goose; 17 American Mergansers; 60 Magpies; 1 Red Breasted Merganser; 12 Ringneck Pheasants; 9 Black capped Chickadees; 4 Downy Woodpeckers; 2 Hairy Woodpeckers; 20 American Golden-eyes; 2 Sparrow Hawks; 4 Snow Buntings; 12 Redpolls; 125 Mallards; 20 Canada Geese.

26 species and 607 individuals.

The Thistle Bird (from Page 27)

sweeeeet." Parting the needle masses, we look into the nest, built in early September. All but a thin outer casing of yellow grass is milkweed down. Within this immaculate cup lie four pearls, symmetrically arranged with points meeting at the centre. Nothing more exquisite ever graced Tiffany's show window.

Hastily but cautiously, we readjust the needle groups and tiptoe silently away. We are now on our way to the car, parked on the road perhaps one hundred and fifty yards from the nest. We have not advanced ten steps when both birds dive swiftly into the pine. The female remains there, but the male bird, after half-a-minute's inspection, shoots like an arrow from a bow straight up high into the air, then dives as steeply down. Up and down, up and down, the ordinary undulation of his flight is now exaggerated unbelievably. At each deep undulation he loudly sings, "perchicoree."

He flies in circles, a continuous succession of ever-enlarging circles. Each circle has as its most southerly point, the pine tree and as its most northerly point, the new position at which we had just arrived in walking toward the car. On each return he dives to within two or three feet of our heads — joy is in every note and movement.

At his last visit we have reached the road, and in a matter of seconds will be on our way. This time he dives to within inches of our faces, and loud and clear he shouts, "perchicoree." Then he breaks his circle and flies straight to the pine tree.

Conferring as we drive away, we find agreement in this: if the notes and manoeuvres of this bird could be translated into English phraseology, it would read very much as follows: "You people will surely think that I am crazy. I suppose I am. I'm just mad with joy. When we saw that you had accidentally found our nest, we were deeply concerned; but when we found that it had been discovered, not by enemies but by friends, our joy knew no bounds. I am trying to say thank-you, thank-you friends. Now you are leaving, so on behalf of my mate and myself, a final thank-you and farewell."