



Photo from color transparency by H. W. Burns
Mockingbird at nest, Cadogan, 1964.

Additional Records of the Mockingbird

by **Frank H. Brazier**, Regina

My study "Status of the Mockingbird in the Northern Great Plains" (*The Blue Jay*, 22:63-75, June, 1964) evoked welcome comment from Harold Hosford, of the Natural History Society of Manitoba, and Ron Huber, of Minneapolis, Minnesota. Mr. Hosford deplored the scanty Manitoba records, particularly as lack of them had led me to report erroneously (p. 68) that the Prince Albert record was the species' farthest north report. He had gone through "Chickadee Notes" (a column in *The Winnipeg Free Press*, by the late Mr. A. G. Lawrence, and subsequently by Harold Mossop) for many records I did not have. Mr. Lawrence had noted that in Manitoba quite a flurry of records had occurred in the late 1920's but no nest was found and the invasion petered out. A similar situation prevailed in the entire region as the records shown in Table 2 of my previous report reveal.

Ron Huber obligingly culled Mockingbird records from *The Flicker* (now *The Loon*) for additional records to bring those for the easternmost part of the Northern Great Plains up to date. I wish to record my indebtedness to both these SNHS members.

I have not included a recent Alberta breeding record in this article as it appears elsewhere in this issue.

ADDITIONAL RECORDS

1922. 1 seen at KENTON, Man., by Dr. J. E. Tisdale, Manitoba's first record. (Chickadee Notes #1755, Jan. 8, 1955, cited by H. Hosford).
1950. 1 seen at STEEPROCK, Man., May 28, by A. Isfeld of Benito, Man. (Chickadee Notes #1515, June 3, 1950, cited by H. Hosford). Note: Steeprock River is said to be 70 miles north of Swan River, Man., but this is evidently a misprint as Steeprock Creek on current maps is 40 miles north of Swan River.
1954. 1 seen at WINNIPEG, Man., by A. G. Lawrence at local feeding station Dec.-Jan. 3, 1955. (Chickadee Notes #1755, Jan. 8, 1955, cited by H. Hosford).
1955. 1 seen at CHURCHILL, Man., May 31, by Mrs. A. Beckett (continent's farthest north record). (Chickadee Notes #23, June 17, 1955, cited by H. Hosford).

1955. 1 seen in WINNIPEG, Man., Oct. 23-25, by A. W. Sellers, feeding on crabapples. (Chickadee Notes #42, cited by H. Hosford).
1960. 1 seen on Apr. 23 in CARLOS AVERY REFUGE, Anoka Co., Minn., by D. Pearson.
1960. 1 seen in HENNEPIN CO., Minn., May 1, by Mrs. A. C. MacInnes; 1 seen same area, May 2, by Mrs. Donald Barr; 1 seen same area, May 3, by R. B. Janssen (possibly same bird); 1 seen SCOTT CO., Minn., May 6, by Sophia Harms; 1 seen RICE CO., Minn., May 10-13, by Mrs. R. A. Houston. (*The Flicker*, Sept., 1960, cited by R. Huber).
1960. 1 seen May 27 south side of WINNIPEG, Man., flycatching, by H. Hosford. (Pers. corr. H. Hosford).
1960. 1 seen in RAMSEY CO., Minn., July 1, by Mrs. R. Leach. (*The Flicker*, Sept. 1960, cited by R. Huber).
1960. 1 remained at feeder of Dr. W. J. Jeffries, HOPKINS, Minn., from early Nov. to March 1, 1961. (*The Flicker*, June, 1961, cited by R. Huber).
1961. 1 seen by V. Heig, May 3, at ST. PAUL, Minn., remained a week. (*The Flicker*, June, 1962, cited by Huber).
1962. 1 seen at ROSEMOUNT, Minn., May 19, by R. Glassel. (*The Flicker*, June, 1962, cited by R. Huber).
1962. 1 adult banded May 24 at ST. PAUL, Minn., by Mrs. R. Leach. (*The Flicker*, Sept., 1962, cited by R. Huber).
1963. 1 seen at TWO HARBORS, Minn., May 11-23, by Ruth Kuchta. (*The Flicker*, June, 1963, cited by R. Huber).
1963. 1 seen at WEST NEWTON, Minn., May 15, by Grace Gordon. (*The Flicker*, June, 1963, cited by R. Huber).
1963. 1 seen at NIOBRARA REFUGE, Nebr., about May 20, by Dr. A. E. Allin. (*The Flicker*, June, 1963, cited by R. Huber).
1963. 1 seen at ST. PAUL, Minn., Nov. 7, by Mrs. R. Leach. (*The Flicker*, Dec., 1963, cited by R. Huber).
1964. 1 seen at ANOKA, Minn., April 19, by R. Huber. (*The Loon*, June, 1964, cited by R. Huber).
1964. 1 seen at DULUTH, Minn., May 9-10, by Janet C. Green. (*The Loon*, June, 1964, cited by R. Huber).
1964. 1 seen at WINNIPEG, Man., May 27-June 4, by David Hatch, Harold Hosford *et al* (Pers. corr. H. Hosford).

ADDITIONAL FALL RECORDS OF THE YELLOW RAIL

by Gary Anweiler, Melville

On October 5, 1964, while I was hunting snipe with Dr. R. W. Nero in a grassy spring-fed bog in the Qu'Appelle Valley 10 miles west of Lumsden, Dr. Nero's dog flushed a Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) which I collected. It proved to be an adult female and has been prepared as a specimen for the collections of the University of Saskatchewan, Regina Campus. Common Snipe were abundant in the bog; at least 50 were present. A few Soras were also flushed.

There are two other local fall specimens for the Yellow Rail. Both were TV tower casualties, and therefore probably migrants, found by Fred W. Lahrman. One, found at Regina on October 7, 1962 (*Blue Jay*, 20:152) was a female, and the specimen appears to be in adult plumage. This record was

discussed, together with a brief summary of the status of this species in Saskatchewan, by Margaret Belcher (*Blue Jay*, 20:153). A second Yellow Rail, found at Lumsden on August 21, 1964, was also a female; judging by its plumage it is an immature bird.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT DATES

Tuesday, December 22, 1964
through
Sunday, January 3, 1965

List the numbers of each species seen on the ONE BEST DAY. In addition, list any other species seen during the count period, giving number of individuals and dates seen.

Send reports as soon as possible after January 3 to Mrs. Stuart Houston, 863 University Drive, Saskatoon.