

ADDITIONAL RECORDS OF MEADOWLARK NIGHT SONG

by Robert W. Nero, Regina

In 1959 I reported a record of night song given by a Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*) (**Blue Jay**, 17: 59). Since then I have heard a meadowlark sing at night on two occasions. A single brief song was heard in 1961 on May 25 at 10:30 p.m., and on June 4 at 10:40 p.m. (M.D.T.). Both songs were apparently given in response to our car as we passed slowly along a field road searching for mice about eight miles east of Regina. Since the song was heard in about the same place each time I presume that it was given by the same territorial bird. On each occasion we re-traced our route at least once but the song was only heard on our first passage. Although I have driven many miles at night in similar situations I have no other record

of night song in this species. Night song was not recorded for any diurnal species during the course of a study in Wisconsin by Aldo Leopold and Alfred E. Eynon (1961. Avian daybreak and evening song in relation to time and light intensity. **Condor**, 63: 269-293).

INFORMATION WANTED RE: HORNED GREBE

Victor Schmidt of Melville is studying the life history of the Horned Grebe and would appreciate receiving information from other Saskatchewan observers re: spring and fall migration, nest records, etc. Victor is also interested in other migration records from various parts of Saskatchewan; perhaps other young naturalists would like to compare notes with Victor. We also remind him to watch for the Co-operative Spring Migration reports in the September issue of the **Blue Jay**.

Plants



Photo by G. F. Ledingham

Astragalus gilviflorus Sheld.

This early-flowering legume is one of the *Astragalus* species being studied by our Editor. As the **Blue Jay** goes to press, the cushion milk-vetch shown here is coming into bloom, and Dr. Ledingham is collecting other species of *Astragalus* in the southwestern United States. Readers who know the Editor as a careful observer and keen naturalist will be looking forward to hearing about his trip.

The Silverberry



Photo by W. C. McCalla

Elaeagnus commutata Bernh.

The silverberry is a common shrub along riverbanks and on sandy prairies. The leaves are silvery on both sides and even the flowers, yellow within, are silvery on the outside. The flowers are wonderfully sweet-scented and the whole country-side knows when the silverberry is in bloom. The fruits are silvery. Inside the dry mealy flesh of the fruit there is an eight-striate brown stony seed. These make attractive necklaces when they are cleaned and then softened for piercing by soaking. The silverberry is often rather inappropriately called wolf willow.