

a Spadefoot Toad (*Scaphiopus bombifrons*) found on the camp road by some member of the camp and brought to us in the morning of June 7. These records show that there is a need for far more study of this interesting region. It seems particularly unfortunate that so little collecting and study have been done within the area of the South Saskatchewan River valley which will soon be permanently under water.

I wish to thank Robert R. Taylor for assisting in this brief mammal "survey".

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## A COUGAR KILL NEAR KINCAID

by Tom White, Regina

In late June, 1964, I checked the report of a cougar kill south of Kincaid. A 300-pound calf had been attacked and killed and was examined by the farmer before rigor mortis set in. It was lying on the ground 20 feet from the brush on the edge of the creek and death seemed to have been instantaneous as there was no sign of a struggle. There were deep razor-like claw marks in the shoulders, and wounds in the neck and throat. The body was drained of blood though none had been shed on the ground, and some meat had been eaten from the shoulder. Five other calves had been killed recently all of which were eaten clean and all killed approximately 20 feet from the brush. One calf had been dragged 100 feet by the brisket before it was eaten. During the preceding winter cat tracks—four and a half inches in diameter—with an 18 inch stride

were followed for a quarter of a mile and periodically the animal had jumped 20 to 30 feet for no apparent reason.

Wolves, coyotes and feral dogs do not drink their kills dry and cannot kill without a struggle; the bobcat and lynx could not kill without a struggle either, and do not have the capacity to drink a calf dry. All indications point to a series of cougar kills in the Kincaid area in 1964.

## MORE LYNX RECORDS

"I believe there have always been a lynx or two around this district, especially in the hills southwest of Ethelton. But this year [letter of April 10, 1964] there have been an unusually large number reported. I did not keep the record of those reported in papers but I did talk to farmers and trappers who had shot or trapped them.

"Taking a ten-mile radius around Ethelton, this is what I have found: seven trapped by C. Cosman, three by Wm. Lambert, three by H. Selness, two by L. Eros, all in winter; one shot by G. Kearns, one by J. Mitchell, one by F. Duclaux, one by W. Hill, all in summer or fall. Add one with a mutilated foot reported in the **Melfort Journal** to have been shot in the Pleasant Valley district. We believe this to be a lynx that visited our yard. One rainy day we found several hens lying around the yard, mauled, slashed and torn so that we had to kill them. We asked H. Selness to catch whatever was killing them, but all he caught was skunks—14 of them. Two weeks later more hens were mauled; this time we saw a big grey cat, but were unable to shoot it. A few days later the report of the lynx with the mutilated foot appeared in the paper, and Mr. Selness suggested that it could have been the one which caught our hens as it would be unable to hold on to the hens after catching them.—**Genevieve Belliveau**, Ethelton.

Editor's Note: It was interesting to see a clipping from the **Craik Weekly News** with an item from the column "Days that are done" quoting a report of 50 years ago, May 21, 1914, "A lynx was shot on the Anderson farm west of Reber school."