

# Junior Naturalists

Edited by **Joyce Deutscher**, Regina

## COMMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Juniors are reminded to get their contributions for the next issue in by July 15. Send them to Mrs. Joyce Deutscher, 7200 6th Ave., Regina, and let us hear from more of you about your nature observations. Remember that letters about any form of wild life including birds, mammals, insects, plants and nature hobbies are welcome. Original sketches (not ones copied from other pictures) are also welcome and if you have a good clear black and white photograph of a plant or animal send that along too.

## WHIP-POOR-WILL AT HUDSON BAY

by **Brian Maluta**, age 12, Hudson Bay

I would like to tell about the Whip-poor-will which visited us in May or June, 1965. My mother heard it first and rushed outside to listen to it. She lived in Manitoba as a little girl and the call of the Whip-poor-will was a common sound all summer long, but we had never heard it before. We listened to it for a while then begged Mom to let us put the yard light on so that we might catch a glimpse of it. She finally consented. It was on a dead poplar tree top behind the barn. As soon as the yard light flashed on it left its perch, flew low over the ground and headed for the bush. We heard it a few more times that same evening. Then we never heard it again. Mom was sorry she allowed us to put the light on, for it might have stayed longer, maybe all summer.

I read in your magazine that owls are scarce. We have all kinds of them. They are quite common here and so are hawks, but I do not know how to identify them.

## UNUSUAL REDPOLL NUMBERS

by **Derwent Mazur**, age 14, Yellow Creek

As far back as I can remember the redpoll numbers around our place were very limited. But this year there

seemed to be a boom. Almost every day of the winter until now (March 30) there were about 200 redpolls here all day. This is probably because there is wheat, oats, and rape seed for them to eat. When I noticed they were sticking around here I scattered some grain for them.

Now they are at their greatest numbers because the snow is melting and they find more to eat. I hope they remain for a while yet and are as plentiful again next year.

## A PUBLICATION OF INTEREST

Junior Naturalists everywhere will find many interesting items in *The Young Naturalist*. This is a guide to nature study published 10 times a year by the Federation of Ontario Naturalists. We have long been impressed by the large number of articles and suggested activities which appear in it. The last three issues (February, March, April, 1966), for example, feature the following subjects: Arctic lemmings, frog development, the planet Jupiter, Canada Geese, winter botany observations, experiments with ice, nature science crossword puzzles, Rough-legged Hawk, the surface of the moon and snowshoeing.

Subscription for one year to *The Young Naturalist* and membership in the *Young Naturalist's Club* costs only \$1.00. Payment should be made to the Federation of Ontario Naturalists, 1262 Don Mills Road, Don Mills, Ontario.

The chief distinction between the Junior Naturalist's section of the *Blue Jay* and *The Young Naturalist* is the absence of original nature observations by young people. This aspect is lacking in nearly every young naturalist publication we have examined. In order to keep this *Blue Jay* feature alive, however, we need far more items, whether photographs, articles, or letters.—The Editors.