

in the Lees Creek valley. These efforts, carried out under the bounty system, have been unsuccessful. The higher reproductive potential of a reduced population and the fact that bounties were paid on the easily collected young magpies, many of which would die anyway, are facts now fairly well understood by most sportsmen's groups.

Magpie population and nesting dynamics in this study compare favorably with Brown's (1957) results. Here on Lees Creek, density of breeding birds was 24 per quarter section. On Brown's 6.3 square mile area in Montana's Bitterroot Valley the density was 28 birds per quarter section. Reproductive rate for Lees Creek was

42 young birds per quarter section and in Montana 50 per quarter section. Average number of eggs per completed nest reported by Linsdale (1937) was 7; by Brown, 6.7; and in the Lees Creek, 7.0 eggs per nest. Average number of young magpies to leave the nest in Montana was 3.4; on Lees Creek it was 4.7.

LITERATURE CITED

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BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER REACHES BELCHER ISLANDS, N.W.T.

by Stanley Zazalenchuk, Belcher Islands

I was much excited when on October 20, 1966 a male Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Dendroica caerulescens*) was sighted and later unexpectedly collected in an odd manner. Upon returning to class after the morning recess several children reported seeing a small blue and white bird which was apparently seeking shelter under the eaves of a house. I quizzed the youngsters, but even then was unable to attempt a satisfactory guess as to what it might be. Regretfully, I went to lunch, wishing I had seen the bird myself. While I was still thinking about this and preparing my lunch two boys came in. Johnny called out, "Isaac got the bird!" Sure enough, there was Isaac holding a small, ruffled bird. I recognized it immediately as a male Black-throated Blue Warbler. Peterson's *Field Guide to the birds* confirmed my identification.

The range of this warbler as given by Peterson is southern Quebec and southern Ontario, where it breeds in the undergrowth of deciduous and mixed woodlands. I then checked Snyder's *Arctic birds of Canada*, but found no mention of a record of this

species.

The Belcher Islands are a group of islands in Hudson Bay, approximately 70 air miles west of the Quebec mainland. Our settlement is located approximately at a latitude of 55° 54'. The islands are devoid of any trees except stunted dwarfed willows a foot or so in height. I assume that the warbler got sidetracked from his regular route, as the islands are obviously far beyond its normal range.

It is possible that the relatively cool temperature on October 20, somewhere in the low forties, hindered the bird's activity and caused it to seek shelter, for during the two hours after the first sighting, it flew only several hundred yards, then settled into the grass where young Isaac spotted it on his way home from lunch. Owing to his ability to pitch a small stone with unusual accuracy we have now established beyond any doubt the occurrence of the Black-throated Blue Warbler in this northerly region. I plan to prepare the bird as a study specimen and donate it to the collections of the National Museum at Ottawa.