



Common Merganser

Bob Mitchell

SCARLET TANAGER REPORTED AT KATEPWA

by MANLEY CALLIN*

Two observations in 1973 of this rare and beautiful visitor from the southeast have been brought to my attention. The details are as follows:

On May 21, 1973, Bernard De Vries of Fort Qu'Appelle was driving along the highway a short distance east of the village of Katepwa when he saw a bright red bird at the roadside ahead. He immediately slammed on his brakes and quickly realized that he was watching a male Scarlet Tanager and another bird which was apparently the female. As the birds flew leisurely from one roadside shrub to another, Bernie slowly moved the car ahead and at times was within 15 or 20 feet from them. He states that he followed them in this manner for several minutes before they disappeared into the dense thickets lining the roadside.

On May 28, 1973, Margaret Belcher kindly mailed a note to me to the effect that Elizabeth Cruickshank had notified her that Larry Shaw had recently seen a Scarlet Tanager at Katepwa. By telephone and by correspondence Larry advised me that on May 22, 1973, he was driving along

Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan.

the highway a short distance west of the village of Katepwa (north of the Salter's Beach cottages) when he saw a flaming scarlet bird by the roadside. He stopped immediately but the bird flew into the shrubs. As he waited, the bird re-appeared and he had a perfect view as only the width of the road separated them.

The observations by De Vries on May 21 and by Shaw on May 22 were only a short distance apart and this strongly suggests that they had both seen the same bird.

We wish to express our appreciation to those who were involved in the reporting of these records. It would also be appropriate to mention that Larry Shaw is a brother of the deceased Cliff Shaw of Yorkton, whom a large number of members of our Society will remember with affection.

Readers are referred to a review of Scarlet Tanager Records in Saskatchewan by Margaret Belcher in the September, 1965, *Blue Jay* (p. 117-119).

SUMMER FLOCK OF COMMON LOONS IN MANITOBA

by ROBERT W. NERO*

Recently, while examining files of the Manitoba Department of Mines, Resources and Environmental Management, I found an unpublished record of a large flock of Common Loons. In view of the considerable interest in the phenomenon of summer flocking in this species (*Blue Jay*, June and December, 1972) this information is worth recording.

Daniel Bushree of Wayne, Michigan, reported that while on a fishing trip he observed and filmed 250 or 300 loons in one flock in the

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