

During the next few days accounts were received from other points on the prairies and it became evident that the shock was felt as far east as Winnipeg. It was strong in Estevan, but slight in Moosomin. In Calgary it was almost not felt at all. In Saskatoon it did not pass unnoticed by the citizens, but no scientific record was kept because no seismograph was then located in that city as there is today. It was, however, recorded on seismographs in Toronto and Ottawa. From the eye-witness reports and the few seismograph records in the United States and Canada it became later clear that the shock was not related to any far away source, but had originated on the prairies. The epicenter was placed at 105°W longitude and 50°N latitude (Heck, 1928, p. 37). This bit of scientific intelligence never hit the readers of the *Morning Leader* as did the quake itself. The location of the actual earthquake remained hidden in a relatively inaccessible scientific publication, whereas the effects of the quake had made the headlines.

If the epicenter is plotted on a map

of Saskatchewan it will be seen that it is located in front of the Missouri Coteau in the Avonlea area, (Heck 1928, p. 37) mentions the strength of the earthquake as 9 on the Rossiford scale, which is an extremely strong shock. This is a compelling argument for the occurrence of tectonic faulting in this area. The shock was apparently much too strong to have been caused by local faulting due to salt-collapse the only type of faulting that some geologists are willing to accept in the Avonlea area. Whatever the origin of some of the structures in this area may be, geologists interested in the structural geology of southern Saskatchewan in general and of the Missouri Coteau in particular should regard the 1909 earthquake as "another phenomenon for the scientists to discuss."

¹All quotations are from the *Morning Leader*, Regina, Monday, May 17, 1909.

HECK, N. H., 1928. *Earthquake History of the United States Exclusive of the Pacific Region*. U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, Spec. Pub. 1949, 61 pp.

IN REMEMBRANCE — EDWARD DEREK BEACHAM (1916 - 1973)

by C. STUART HOUSTON*

E. Derek Beacham, born in Worcestershire, England, on June 1, 1916, passed away in the Shuswap Lake Hospital, Salmon Arm, B.C. on May 5, 1973, after a lengthy illness.

Derek came to Canada in 1927 and his first notebook entry on May 1 of

that year, exactly one month before his 11th birthday, recorded a Herring Gull on the Toronto waterfront. Gulls were to remain one of his main interests throughout life.

As a young man, his football prowess was such that he played at Balmy Beach and the Toronto Argonauts. He was an ardent fisherman and his early bird interests were encouraged by Jim Baillie of the Royal Ontario

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Museum, who sponsored his membership in the Toronto Ornithologists' Club. Derek took part in the Toronto Christmas bird counts and for 15 years assisted H. H. Southam with bird banding.

His family was the oldest manufacturer of fishing tackle in the world, Allcotts of England, and Derek carried on the family tradition in his father's firm, A. Conway Beacham Ltd. of Toronto. Derek began his western business trips in 1938; his first Saskatchewan entry was of two Swainson's Hawks, dark phase, near Spy Hill on September 11, 1938. In 1956, he moved to Calgary to open the western branch of his firm.

True to form, he organized the first Christmas bird count in Calgary in 1957 and compiled this annually until he moved to Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, in late February, 1968. A founding member of the Calgary Bird Club, he served twice as President and also as Treasurer and executive member. With W. Ray Salt and E. O. Hohn, he instituted the *Alberta Bird Report*, acting as editor for Southern Alberta from 1957 through 1962. During these years he wrote a column, "Wingbeats", for the *Calgary Herald*. He contributed to *Canadian Audubon*, the *Canadian Field-Naturalist*, the *Blue Jay*, *The Observer*, and contributed regular observations to the Northern Great Plains region for *Audubon Field Notes*. W. Ray Salt and W. W. H. Gunn have,

respectively, acknowledged Derek's contributions to *Birds of Alberta* and the record, *Prairie Spring*. He belonged to the American Ornithologists' Union, the Wilson Club and the Saskatchewan Natural History Society and more recently was founder and President of the Shuswap Naturalists' Club. At the time of his death he was completing a study of the birds of the Shuswap.

During his stay in Prince Albert, which terminated in April, 1970, Derek organized and compiled two successful Christmas bird counts and added another 10 species to the 230 already recorded for the area in *Birds of the Saskatchewan River*. He was believed to be the only man ever to lead a successful gun-bearing expedition into the Saskatchewan Penitentiary at Prince Albert — in this case to collect, with proper authorization by the authorities, the second Saskatchewan specimen of the Glaucous Gull.

Beacham's valuable record books of 47 years of observations have been placed in the Provincial Museum, Victoria, B.C., where they will be preserved for future use by other naturalists. As one of his friends has remarked, "his great knowledge and quiet authority will be sadly missed."

I wish to thank Mrs. Elizabeth Beacham for her assistance and for loan of Derek's Prince Albert notebooks.