

when they flew from one end of the lake to the other the Little Gull fell 100 to 200 yards behind the Bonaparte's Gull. This may be only when the birds are flying to escape danger. Probably in migration flight and as we saw in feeding flight, the Little Gull had no difficulty in keeping up with the flock of Bonaparte's that it must have arrived with.

Special thanks go to Bob Luterback, the person who first spotted the bird and my co-identifier. Thanks are also due Jim Jowsey, Margaret Belcher, Frank Brazier and, especially George Ledingham for confirming the identification.

¹GODFREY, W. E. 1966. *The birds of Canada*. Nat. Mus. Canada Bull. 203. 428 pp.

²NERO, R. W. 1963. *Birds of the Lake Athabasca region, Saskatchewan*. Sask. Nat. Hist. Soc. Spec. Pub. 5. 143 pp.

³PETERSON, R. T. 1947. *A field guide to the birds*. Houghton-Mifflin, Boston. 290 pp.

⁴ROBBINS, C. S., B. BRUUN and H. S. ZIM. 1966. *Birds of North America. A guide to field identification*. Golden Press, New York. 340 pp.

Editor's Note: A few Little Gulls were found nesting in Ontario in 1962!

HOUSE FINCHES SIGHTED IN REGINA

by FRED G. BARD*

At approximately 1:45 p.m. on April 26, 1973, my wife, Phyllis, called me outside to see three birds which she was sure she hadn't seen in Regina before. To my surprise, they were House Finches — all three rosy-coloured males. They were feeding in our neighbour's adjoining backyard on the ground and later on the buds of seedling plum trees. They afforded us an excellent view as they fed for about 10 minutes. In recent years during several rather lengthy visits to New Mexico and California, we had

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become familiar with House Finches which are common residents there. They could only be confused with the Purple Finch which was a frequent visitor to our neighbourhood this spring but the song and call notes are quite distinctive from those of the Purple Finch. As well, the reddish colouring on the House Finch is a different shade, being more scarlet than the wine red or purplish red of the Purple Finch which also has a light cheek streak. However, to make certain of the identification we were able to compare field marks with the aid of Robbins' field guide, "Birds of North America" with the birds before us. The brown streaking of the breast, side and flanks confirmed the identification. Suddenly, they flew away and, although I placed mixed seeds in the area in hopes of attracting them back, they were not seen again.

L. G. Saunders reported seeing a male House Finch at Saskatoon, October 15, 1959 (*Blue Jay*, December 1959:158), but because not all field marks were noted at the time the record has not generally been accepted. Note that this species has not appeared on the official list of Saskatchewan birds.

W. Earl Godfrey in "Birds of Canada", 1966, describes their range as follows: "Southwestern and central southern British Columbia, Idaho, Wyoming, and western Nebraska south to southern Mexico." Included in the range description for Canada is the notation quote, "casual in southwestern Alberta (Jasper Park May 29, 1944)."

A FURTHER SIGHTING OF WANDERING TATTLERS IN ALBERTA

by E. OTTO HOHN*

The second edition of *Birds of Alberta*¹ states that Wandering Tattlers have been recorded in the province on three occasions, each report involving a single bird. Professor W. Ray Sal