

ADDITIONS TO CALLIN'S BIRDS OF THE QU'APPELLE*

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Introduction

It has been a pleasure to comb through Manley Callin's notebooks and files in order to prepare the records which constitute the additions to his published Birds of the Qu'Appelle, 1857-1979.

Manley was a meticulous record-keeper all his life. He shared with Saskatchewan's other self-taught, life-long student of birds, the late Maurice G. Street of Nipawin, the habit of careful recording of every observation, using little pocket notebooks that in depression days were called "nickel notebooks" since they then sold for 5 cents. From Manley's notebooks, we not only learn much about birds, but also about "bird people" — particularly Manley and the many birders who so faithfully reported to him.

Even when Manley's health deteriorated to the point where birding was mainly carried out through his kitchen and car windows, birds at no time lost their fascination for him. Manley's excitement can be sensed from the way he records simple observations, underlining the earliest date for every migrant each year. In 1984, 13 of the first 35 arrivals set record early dates for their species. He also records the first day he identified five different species of gull (May 9, 1984), and the first individual of each new species to be seen in his yard at 366 Bay Street in Fort Qu'Appelle: a Ruffed Grouse drinking from the bird bath on September 13, 1984, and visits from a Ring-necked Pheasant on May 1, 1985 and a Rufous-sided Towhee on May 12, 1985. On May 11, 1980 Jack Lowe cleaned out Manley's purple martin house: "All eight sections had young or eggs of the house sparrow."

Manley watched the two feeders and the bird bath in his backyard, noting in detail the comings and goings of each avian visitor. The entry of September 25, 1982 tells of "a very good wave from 7.30 to 8.15 a.m." and for October 5, 1982 includes the following: 'Fifteen species at bird bath today, 12 of them between 3 and 3.30 p.m.... very quiet at other times checked.' He recorded the date that he first put out seeds each fall (e.g. September 6, 1984).

Manley's files fill a four-drawer filing cabinet. They include four sets of manila folders. The first contains one folder for every species, 297 of them. There are other sets for each year (with summaries of dates), for every correspondent, and for every subject. One of the thickest files consists of letters to and from his twin brother Elmer at Revelstoke, British Columbia, each summarizing important bird observations.

* The normal Blue Jay format has been forgone in order to retain the same format used in Birds of the Qu'Appelle for this supplement to that special publication (No. 13). Observations were accepted up to 30 April 1986.

Copious weather notes include high and low temperatures for every day, mention of the first frost-free night in spring (March 25, in 1984), and dates of break-up and freeze-up. In 1984, the lakes broke up quickly on April 19; that fall, Echo Lake froze over on November 6, the earliest on record, but Lake Katepwa did not freeze solidly until November 15.

A quiet, modest man, Manley's social contacts were mainly with other birders. He cultivated a local network of observers. In a town of 1,600 population he gave or sold 250 copies of Robbins' field guide, *Birds of North America*. Old birders and new recruits alike loyally reported their observations to him, weekly or even daily. His notebooks record every visit, giving the exact hour of arrival and departure, and every phone call.

Maurice and Kay Lindgren next door on Bay Avenue were unusually kind neighbors, helping him with household repairs such as laying rugs and replacing a toilet seat, and entertaining him until the wee small hours on his birthday or at New Years' when he might otherwise have been lonesome.

Frank Brazier, often accompanied by John Nelson, came from Regina every week or two, to go birding with Manley, from his wife Margaret's death until near his end. The best spots for birding from a car were the large "Balcarres slough" 3 km southwest of Balcarres, the east end of Mission Lake near the village of Lebret, and the dam at Fort Qu'Appelle. An annual event was the weekend outing to birding hot-spots further east, to Broadview and Ekapo Lake one day and Round Lake and Scissor Creek the next, accompanied by John Nelson, David Chaskavich, Don Weidl and Frank Brazier.

Careful and cautious, Manley had quite a few entries of uncertain identification, denoted by a question mark. Such observations have not been used. Birds in flight at a distance caused much grief, particularly accipiters, gulls and terns, when they did not allow close enough approach for accurate identification. He could identify small birds such as warblers and sparrows by ear, pointing out any one of the many dialects of the American Redstart and Yellow Warbler, some of them most difficult to differentiate. Only after publication of his book did he learn to differentiate the Forster's from the Common Tern and the Ring-billed from the California Gull. He was not enthusiastic about new-fangled names, continuing in spite of the 6th AOU Checklist to speak of the Marsh Hawk, Pigeon Hawk and Sparrow Hawk instead of the Northern Harrier, Merlin and Kestrel. Never did he deign to mention the lowly Rock Dove.

Although his handwriting gradually became slower and shakier, Manley's analytical and reasoning powers remained strong to the end. The numerous records of all-time early dates attest to the breadth and intensity of coverage in the six years since publication of his book.

The following list gives the pertinent observations made since January 1980, when the third and final version of Callin's manuscript was completed. Added on the basis of sight records are 10 new species: Arctic Loon, Red-throated Loon, Eurasian Wigeon, Black Scoter, Western Sandpiper, Parasitic Jaeger, Thayer's Gull, Glaucous Gull, Least Tern, and Three-toed Woodpecker, and two hypothetical species, the Cattle Egret and Red-shouldered Hawk. Further well-documented sight records have elevated the Barrow's Goldeneye from the hypothetical to the accepted list. The area list now stands at 298 species plus 5 hypothetical species plus 5 readily identifiable subspecies

that once were classed as full species (consult "The Birds," p.19 in Callin, 1980). One new breeding record, for the Orange-crowned Warbler, brings the breeding species total to 134.

In addition, earlier spring arrival and later fall departure dates have been obtained for a surprising number of species in the six years since the original publication. Manley's book has served as the catalyst to encourage everyone to watch for all-time record-breaking dates. To emphasize the magnitude of this phenomenon, I have listed, for example, under "early spring date", not only the new earliest date, but each date earlier than the best recorded between 1857 and 1979.

Unlike the 1980 book, the present supplement deals more exclusively with the Fort Qu'Appelle area, except for one or two annual excursions to Round Lake and Ekapo Lake. First or second observations for any species in the area are noted by upper case letters.

The term "modern" refers to records since 1926. Modern vernacular and scientific names are based on the 6th AOU Checklist, but for ready reference and comparison, page numbers and the sequence of species refer to the 1980 publication.

Because we believe that few if any areas of North America can boast such a long-term record of bird life as the Qu'Appelle Valley, because the area has always had an incredibly high proportion of its human population taking a serious interest in birds, and because Manley's original list is one of the finest on the continent, it seemed appropriate to make this record as complete as possible.

Generous donations, one of them a recycled bequest from Manley Callin's will, have allowed publication of this augmented section of the June 1986 Blue Jay. Owners of Birds of the Qu'Appelle, 1857-1979 and future purchasers may obtain a separate reprint of this subsidized supplement by sending \$2 for postage and handling to the editor, Sheila Lamont at Box 414, Raymore, Saskatchewan. SOA 3JO

Additions to species accounts:

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COMMON LOON *Gavia immer*

Early spring dates, April 17, 1981 (Barnett) and three on April 19, 1985 (Hooper).

ARCTIC LOON *Gavia arctica*

New species. Two pairs seen at 75 m distance at Mission Lake on May 7, 1983 (Ken Ashdown). Two pairs (same birds?) on river at dam. Fort Qu'Appelle, brown nape visible at 80 m. May 8, 1983 (Maurice and Kay Lindgren).

RED-THROATED LOON *Gavia stellata*

New species. "One May day in the early 1970's I saw a Red-throated Loon swimming in Echo Lake. It was within 100 yards of the shore and the reddish-brown throat was clearly visible without the aid of binoculars." (Hooper)

EARED GREBE *Podiceps nigricollis*

Early spring date, April 17, 1981, four pairs at Balcarres Slough (Laing), and two on April 19, 1985 (Hooper).

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WESTERN GREBE *Aechmoporus occidentalis*

Late fall date, in open water of Echo Lake, November 25, 1980 (Barrett).

PIED-BILLED GREBE *Podilymbus podiceps*

Early spring date at dam, April 14, 1981 (Laing).

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DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax auritus*

Early spring dates, one each on April 11, 1986 at Fort Qu'Appelle (Nelson), April 12, 1981 (Nelson and Callin) and on April 13, 1985 (Laing).

GREAT BLUE HERON *Ardea herodias*

Early spring date at Deep Lake on April 4, 1981 (Scott & Scott).

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CATTLE EGRET *Bubulcus ibis*

New species. One among cattle at Muscowpetung Indian Reserve from late April through the end of May, 1981. Good views, noting especially the rusty on the back. (Jim Keepness, fide Hooper). One in field with cattle, 11.2 km south and 1.6 km east of Indian Head on October 13, 1984 (Scott & Scott).

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TUNDRA SWAN *Cygnus columbianus*

Early spring dates, 2 at Echo Lake on March 31, 1981, 6 on March 31, 1985 (Hooper) and 12 on April 4, 1984 (Mlazgar). *Early fall date*, west end of Mission Lake, September 30, 1983 (Brazier and Callin). *Late fall dates*, seven at west end of Pasqua Lake, November 24, 1979 (Callin), and one on river at Fort Qu'Appelle, December 11, 1985, found dead next day near the dam (Perkins, Rowell).

TRUMPETER SWAN *Cygnus buccinator* (Hypothetical)

Fred Dunk, Jr., accompanied by John Most and Jim Yanko of Regina, reported seeing three on October 26 and 27, 1979. They were studied with binoculars at 350 meters, but differentiating features were not evident at this distance.

Whistling (Tundra) Swans were seen before and after, but not on the same day. Dunk was struck by the difference in the calls of the two sizes of swans.

CANADA GOOSE *Branta canadensis*.

Early spring dates, 11 on river, February 24, 1984 (Callin), 50 flying 7 miles south of Indian Head on February 25, 1981 (Raymond Longeau, fide Scott), and 2 flying over Sanatorium on March 3, 1981 (Cockwill).

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GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE *Anser albifrons*

Late fall date, Deep Lake, November 23, 1980 (Scott).

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SNOW GOOSE *Chen caerulescens*.

a) White morph. *Early spring dates*, 15 on March 29, 1984 (Cochrane), 15 flying over Deep Lake on March 29, 1986 (Lahrman, Scott and Scott), and 10 on March 31, 1985 (Callin and Lindgren). *Late fall date* at Deep Lake, November 23, 1980 (Scott).

b) Blue morph. *Early spring dates*, 7 flying over Deep Lake on March 29, 1986 (Lahrman, Scott & Scott), 10 on April 11, 1981 (Mlazgar). *Late fall date* on Mission lake, November 5, 1983 (Hooper).

ROSS' GOOSE *Chen rossii*

Second and third modern records: two birds in a mixed flock of geese feeding in a field to the west of the Balcarres slough, April 21, 1980 (Ken Messner), and six in flock of Snow Geese 3 miles south of Indian Head in early October 1983 (Lahrman and Scott).

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MALLARD *Anas platyrhynchos*

Large wintering numbers at Sioux Bridge in 1981: 300 on January 8 (Brazier and Callin), with 150 still present on March 8 (de Vries).

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BLACK DUCK *Anas rubripes*

An adult female was shot at the west end of Pasqua Lake on October 18, 1980 (Fred Dunk, Jr.) and the duck shown to Callin, his first direct acquaintance with this species. *Late fall date*, two at Deep Lake, November 11, 1980 (Scott and Lahrman).

GADWALL *Anas strepera*

Early spring dates, March 30, 1981 (Callin), and south of Indian Head, April 4, 1981 (Scott).

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BLUE-WINGED TEAL *Anas discors*

Early spring date, one on April 13, 1985 (Hooper). *Late fall date*, November 8, 1984 (Laing).

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CINNAMON TEAL *Anas cyanoptera*

Early spring date and sixth record for area, April 26, 1981 (Nelson).

EURASIAN WIGEON *Anas penelope*

New species. A pair at east end of Echo Lake, watched for 15 minutes at 100 m distance on April 25, 1982 (Nelson and Callin).

AMERICAN WIGEON *Anas americana*

Early spring dates, a male on March 21, 1986 (Hooper) and one on April 2, 1981 (Brazier and Callin).

NORTHERN SHOVELER *Anas clypeata*

Early spring dates, a male on March 30, 1981 (Callin), and a male on March 12, 1986 (Hooper).

WOOD DUCK *Aix sponsa*

Early spring date, a male in Bluebill Bay, April 21, 1985 (Lindgren). While canoeing along the creek on June 3, 1985, Maurice and Kay Lindgren saw a pair, following other reports through most of May. Clearly the species is increasing, aided by the release of flightless young by the Wildlife Federation; Callin went to see 89 young in a pen on July 15, 1984, just prior to their release.

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REDHEAD *Aythya americana*

Early spring date, March 30, 1981 (Callin).

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RING-NECKED DUCK *Aythya collaris*

Early spring dates, a pair on March 24, 1984 (Hooper) and three pairs on April 12, 1981 (Callin and Nelson). *Late fall dates*, three pairs on November 9, 1980 (Callin and Nelson) and a male on open water near the hatchery at Echo Lake on November 10-11, 1984 (Kreba, Brazier and Callin; Laing).

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CANVASBACK *Aythya valisineria*

Early spring date, a pair at the Sioux Bridge on March 4, 1980 (Lowe).

GREATER SCAUP *Aythya marila*

Second modern sight record and late fall date, one on Echo Lake, November 10, 1984 (Adam, Luterbach, Fitzgerald). An earlier sight record, with corroborating details has come to light since publication: a male seen by Dale Hjertaas at Ekapo Lake, on May 2, 1979.

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COMMON GOLDENEYE *Bucephala clangula*

Early spring dates, March 5, 1981 (de Vries), March 14, 1986 (Hooper), March 19, 1985 (Hooper), and March 24, 1984 (Brazier and Callin).

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BARROW'S GOLDENEYE *Bucephala islandica*

Third and fourth records: a pair on Echo Lake on April 2, 1984 (Hooper) and a male near the hatchery at Echo Lake, November 7, 1984 (Hooper) with two at the same place on November 8, 1984 (Laing) (Hooper, *Blue Jay* 43:181).

BUFFLEHEAD *Bucephala albeola*

Early spring date, March 30, 1981 (Laing). *First summer record*, a female July 19, 1984 (Hooper). *Largest flock*, 150 birds at west end of Echo Lake, October 11, 1980 (Callin).

OLDSQUAW *Clangula hyemalis*

Second, third and fourth modern records: a female seen at close range on river about November 24, 1981 (Norman); one at mouth of river at east end of Echo Lake, September 28, 1982 (Dunk); an immature female at the hatchery on Echo Lake, November 7, 1984 (Hooper, *Blue Jay* 43:181) and November 8, 1984 (Laing).

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BLACK SCOTER *Melanitta nigra*

New species. One seen at Deep Lake, south of Indian Head, on November 11, 1980 (Lahrman and Scott, *Blue Jay* 39:181).

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER *Melanitta fusca*

Late fall date, a female at hatchery on Echo Lake on November 8, 1984 (Hooper) and one at B-say-tah Point on November 10, 1984 (Adam, Luterbach, Fitzgerald).

HOODED MERGANSER *Lophodytes cucullatus*

Early spring date, seventeen on April 15, 1981 (Callin). *Largest flock*, 28 birds at Deep Lake, November 11-28, 1980 (Scott and Lahrman).

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COMMON MERGANSER *Mergus merganser*

Early spring dates, one at Echo Park, March 9, 1984 (Brazier and Nelson), and four at Deep Lake on March 30, 1986 (Lahrman, Scott and Scott).

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER *Mergus serrator*

Early spring date, a pair on March 24, 1984 (Hooper).

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TURKEY VULTURE *Cathartes aura*

Early spring date, four seen by Mabel Peigan at close range, feeding on a dead horse, on Muscowpetung Indian Reserve during last week in February 1985 (Hooper). *Late fall date*, one near Indian Head, November 3, 1980 (Scott).

NORTHERN GOSHAWK *Accipiter gentilis*

The fall of 1984 produced more than the usual number of sightings: one on November 22 (Ray Mlazgar); one on Pasqua Indian Reserve on November 25 (Hooper); one near Edgeley on November 27 (Rowell); one on Muscowpetung Indian Reserve on December 17 (Hooper).

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RED-SHOULDERED HAWK *Buteo lineatus* (Hypothetical new species)

One sighted by Don Hayward near Wolseley, August 17, 1980 (Harris, *American Birds* 35:195, 1981).

RED-TAILED HAWK *Buteo jamaicensis*

Early spring date, March 15, 1981 (Mlazgar).

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ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK *Buteo lagopus*

Early spring date, March 5, 1981 at Cochrane's farm (Cochrane).

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FERRUGINOUS HAWK *Buteo regalis*

A pair seen April 30, 1986 west of Crooked Lake (Harris, Dodge).

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NORTHERN HARRIER *Circus cyaneus*

Early spring date, one on February 29, 1984 (Cochrane).

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GYRFALCON *Falco rusticolus*

First gray phase bird for this area was sighted by Alan and Ray Mlazgar on January 16, 1985.

PRAIRIE FALCON *Falco mexicanus*

Fifth modern record, September 23, 1984 (Hooper).

PEREGRINE FALCON *Falco peregrinus*

Early spring date, 7 miles south and 2 miles east of Indian Head, April 8, 1981 (Lahrman, Scott and Scott).

MERLIN *Falco columbarius*

First wintering occurred in 1980: Hooper saw one flying over Fort Qu'Appelle on January 9, and at least one bird was present at Errol Cochrane's feed lot through March 3, and two birds thereafter. The first sighting at Callin's yard on Bay Avenue was a female on March 25. *Early spring date*, a territorial bird at Sanatorium, February 21, 1984 (Harrison). *Recent nesting*: in a previous crow nest in a spruce on a residential street in Indian Head, in 1984 and 1985 (Scott).

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SANDHILL CRANE *Grus canadensis*

Early spring dates, fifteen flying over Scott farm south of Indian Head, March 28, 1986, a flock heard over Fort Qu'Appelle, March 30, 1981 (Callin), and one (wintering?) bird flying along valley with long thin legs and extended neck, February 25, 1984 (Cochrane).

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SORA *Porzana carolina*

Early spring date, Cherry Lake, April 23, 1981 (Scott).

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COMMON SNIFE *Gallinago gallinago*

Early spring date, in open water at Sioux Bridge, February 28, 1981 (Kreba).

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UPLAND SANDPIPER *Bartramia longicauda*

Possible recent indication of breeding: a pair acting as though on territory at the Strawberry lakes Community Pasture on June 15, 1985 (Scott and Scott).

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GREATER YELLOWLEGS *Tringa melanoleuca*

Late fall date, November 5, 1983 (Brazier and Callin).

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RED KNOT *Calidris canutus*

Early spring date, May 12, 1981.

PECTORAL SANDPIPER *Calidris melanotos*

Early spring date at Balcarres slough, April 24, 1981 (Callin).

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BAIRD'S SANDPIPER *Calidris bairdii*

Early fall date, July 9, 1981 (Brazier and Callin).

LEAST SANDPIPER *Calidris minutilla*

Early positive identification at Katepwa on May 9, 1985 (Brazier, Nelson and Callin).

DUNLIN *Calidris alpina*

Tenth and eleventh records, one on May 17, 1981 (Nelson and Callin) and two on May 26, 1984 (Brazier, Nelson, Chaskavich, Weidl and Callin).

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SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER *Calidris pusilla*

Early spring date, April 30, 1981 (Brazier and Callin). *Early fall date*, twelve at Balcarres slough on July 2, 1981 (Brazier and Callin).

WESTERN SANDPIPER *Calidris mauri*

New species. Two at Edgeley Marsh May 16, 1984 (Hooper, *Blue Jay* 43:181).

HUDSONIAN GODWIT *Limosa haemastica*

Eleventh modern record, May 16, 1984.

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AMERICAN AVOCET *Recurvirostra americana*

Early spring dates, one at Strawberry Lakes on April 19, 1981 (Lahrman, Scott and Scott), and four near Fort Qu'Appelle on April 25, 1981 (Laing).

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RED-NECKED PHALAROPE *Phalaropus lobatus*

Early fall date, two at Balcarres slough on July 6, 1981 (Widstrand, Risinger and Callin). *Late fall date*, thirty at Lebret sewage lagoon on September 18, 1982 (Brazier and Callin).

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PARASITIC JAEGER *Stercorarius parasiticus*

New species. Only after publication of *Birds of the Qu'Appelle* did Callin learn of a female specimen in the Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History, collected at 'Pasqua Point', Pasqua Lake, by Fred Dunk, Sr., on October 28, 1936 (SMNH accession # 3793).

HERRING GULL *Larus argentatus*

Early spring dates, four on April 2, 1984 (Kreba) and one on April 9, 1985 (Hooper).

CALIFORNIA GULL *Larus californicus*

Early spring date, 15 on April 9, 1985 (Hooper).

RING-BILLED GULL *Larus delawarensis*

Early spring date, April 2, 1984 (Brazier, Nelson, Kreba, Hooper and Callin). Unusual feeding behaviour, feeding on chokecherries, but having difficulty as they could not perch properly to reach the berries, September 14, 1979 (Elsie Pattullo).

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THAYER'S GULL *Larus thayeri*

New species. One at east end of Katepwa Lake on May 18, 1984 (Brazier, *Blue Jay* 43:136). Ten at Fort Qu'Appelle on April 6, 1985 (Hooper). Two at east end of Echo lake on March 26, 1986 (Hooper).

GLAUCOUS GULL *Larus hyperboreus*

New Species. One April 14, 1985 (Chaskavitch). One at Mission Lake April 30, 1986 (Harris, Dodge).

ICELAND GULL *Larus glaucooides*

First record, at Katepwa Lake, April 24-25, 1980 (Brazier, Blue Jay 39:96; also published as an addendum on p.159 of Birds of the Qu'Appelle). *Second record*, at Katepwa Lake, November 11, 1984 (Callin).

BONAPARTE'S GULL *Larus philadelphia*

Early spring date, eight on April 19, 1985 (Hooper).

FORSTER'S TERN *Sterna forsteri*

Early spring dates, April 24, 1981 (Callin) and May 2, 1985 (Callin). *Late fall date*, at Mission Lake, October 5, 1984 (Brazier and Callin).

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COMMON TERN *Sterna hirundo*

Early spring date, with close view of colour of beak and wings, April 19, 1985 (Hooper).

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LEAST TERN *Sterna antillarum*

New species. One seen at dam at Fort Qu'Appelle by Widstrand, Risinger and Callin on July 6, 1981. The two young Swedish ornithologists, visiting with Callin, thought this was an ordinary "ho hum" sighting of the Little Tern so familiar to them.

CASPIAN TERN *Sterna caspia*

Sixth and seventh records: one at the east end of Katepwa Lake on July 9, 1981, a "lifer" for Callin; one on May 16, 1984 (Brazier, Nelson and Callin; early spring date).

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BOREAL OWL *Aegolius funereus*

Seventh modern record: a freshly dead specimen, still warm, picked up at the Prairie Christian Training Center on November 28, 1984 (Rowell). Specimen sent to Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History (SMNH).

NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL *Aegolius acadicus*

Additional February records in 1985: one photographed at Prairie Christian Training Center by Hooper and de Vries on February 1; seen at Lebret by McCullough on February 2; one seen at Katepwa by Hugh Stueck on February 6.

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RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD *Archilochus colubris*

Early spring date, May 14, 1981 (Rowell). *Late fall date*, September 20-24, 1985 (Lindgren).

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NORTHERN FLICKER

b) Red-shafted Flicker. *Colaptes auratus cafer*

First modern record: one found dead, September 13, 1981 (Golly).

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PILEATED WOODPECKER *Dryocopus pileatus*

Fifth record, 7 miles south and 2 miles east of Indian Head, May 12, 1982 (Joan Scott). *Sixth record and first summer record*: east end of Crooked Lake, May 27, 1984 (Brazier, Nelson, Chaskavich, Weidl, Callin).

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER *Melanerpes erythrocephalus*

Eighth and ninth records: at farm south of Indian Head, June 30, 1980 (Scott); one near Balgonie, May 24, 1982 (unnamed "lady from Regina").

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BLACK-BACKED WOODPECKER *Picoides arcticus*

Sixth record: two, chasing each other through the trees on Bay Avenue, September 15, 1985 (Lindgren and Callin).

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THREE-TOED WOODPECKER *Picoides tridactylus*

New species. Female seen on trunk of a spruce, during the Christmas count, December 31, 1984 (Hooper, *Blue Jay* 43: 181).

EASTERN KINGBIRD *Tyrannus tyrannus*

Early spring date, April 19, 1981 (Barnett).

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SAY'S PHOEBE *Sayornis saya*

Eighth and ninth modern records: at Round Lake, May 27, 1984 (Brazier, Nelson, Chaskavich, Weidl, Callin); one seen south of Welby, only 8 km west of Manitoba boundary, on July 5, 1984 (Kreba).

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HORNED LARK *Eremophila alpestris*

Additional winter records, Balcarres, January 3, 1980 (Hooper), and 25 on January 30, 1981 (Hooper).

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TREE SWALLOW *Iridoprocne bicolor*

Early spring date, eight at Deep Lake on April 17, 1981 (Lahrman, Scott and Scott).

NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW *Stelgidopteryx serripennis*

Fourth breeding record: at nest hole in bank at Scissor Creek on Highway #9, May 27, 1984 (Brazier, Nelson, Chaskavich, Weidl, Callin). Possible territorial pair: two along Pipestone Creek, south of Ekapo Lake, May 24, 1981 (Brazier, Nelson, Chaskavich, Weidl, Callin).

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BARN SWALLOW *Hirundo rustica*

Early spring date, one at Balgonie on April 18, 1981 (Lahrman, Scott and Scott).

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PURPLE MARTIN *Progne subis*

Early spring date, April 18, 1981 (Norman).

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GRAY JAY *Perisoreus canadensis*

An unprecedented number invaded the Fort Qu'Appelle area in the fall of 1984: one stayed near Lipton from October 26 through November 23 (Mlazgar); one visited a feeder at Sandy Beach, Katepwa from October 27 through November 18 (Marge Leader); one came to Cockwill's on Hudson Avenue from October 29 through November 4; one visited a feeder in Fort Qu'Appelle, November 19-30 (Laing); one was seen at the west edge of Fort Qu'Appelle, December 17 (Hooper).

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COMMON RAVEN *Corvus corax*

Early fall dates, October 26, 1980 (Lindgren) and November 2, 1984 (Mlazgar, Luterbach). An incursion unprecedented in recent years occurred in 1984: a bird present at Mlazgar's farm, four miles south and three miles east of Lipton, stayed until November 15; another individual flew south over Fort Qu'Appelle on November 10 (Adam, Luterbach, Fitzgerald); one was at Katepwa on November 12 (Marge Leader); one was seen at the Albert Braumberger farm above the Sioux Bridge in late November (Lowe).

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AMERICAN CROW *Corvus brachyrhynchos*

Early spring dates, February 22, 1981 (Hiebert), February 28, 1983 (Mlazgar), and two near Indian Head, March 7, 1982 (Hudell).

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BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE *Parus atricapillus*

In the winter of 1979-80, there were unusual reports of one-legged birds: one at Cockwill's through November and December; and two at a Katepwa feeding station, February 4, 1980.

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH *Sitta carolinensis*

Early song, March 16, 1981 (Callin). *Sixth breeding record*: feeding two young, B-say-tah, July 6, 1984 (Hooper).

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RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH *Sitta canadensis*

Unlike most other Saskatchewan localities, the valley seems to have few that winter. Callin has recorded an early spring date of April 5, 1982.

BROWN CREEPER *Certhia americana*

Second winter record, one on Bay Avenue, January 19, 1985 (Hooper). (Elsewhere in Saskatchewan, one would expect records throughout many winters.CSH)

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SEDGE WREN *Cistothorus platensis*

Fifth mid-summer record of singing males near Fort Qu'Appelle: northeast of hospital, July 10, 1984 (Callin).

NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD *Mimus polyglottos*

Fifth and sixth records: one on territory, singing from a large, solitary poplar in a weedy pasture southeast of Jameson, at the extreme southwest corner of area, June 25-28, 1984 (Kreba, Lahrman, Turner). Another was heard from the railway above, singing in impenetrable shrubs at the bottom of the valley at Scissors Creek, southeast of Tantallon, July 5, 1984 (Kreba, Russon).

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AMERICAN ROBIN *Turdus migratorius*

Early nest with three eggs, April 29, 1981 (Cockwill). Unusual winter numbers, 25 at Katepwa on Christmas Bird Count, December 21, 1985.

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VARIED THRUSH *Ixoreus naevius*

Six records, four of them in 1984, have been added to the published five. An adult female was found dead in mid-December 1983 in Qu'Appelle by Annette Isabel, and was donated to the Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History (SMNH). A female was seen one mile west of Lebret, September 24, 1984 (Hooper). A male was killed when it flew into a window at Cockwill's, Bay Avenue, on September 27, 1984; this specimen was sent to the Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History, Regina (Cockwill). An adult male visited Wanda Stueck's feeding station at the east end of Katepwa Lake for one hour on October 29, 1984. An adult male visited Enola Rak's feeding station on the Sanatorium grounds from November 13 through November 20, 1984; this or another individual was at the Sanatorium from December 1 through December 23 (Robillard). One visited Marg Thompson's feeding station at Katepwa on April 16, 1985.

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SWAINSON'S THRUSH *Catharus ustulatus*

Early fall dates, August 19, 1980 and August 31 of both 1981 and 1982 (Callin).

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH *Catharus minimus*

Early spring date, one on May 6, 1984 (Callin), one April 12, 1986 at Lumby Spring (Nelson).

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MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD *Sialia currucoides*

Largest spring flock ever, 40 feeding on snowberries in marsh near Fort Qu'Appelle on March 22, 1980 (Brazier and Callin). *Early nest* with one egg, south of Indian Head, April 22, 1980 (Scott).

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TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE *Myadestes townsendi*

Second and third records: one at Camp McKay at east end of Round Lake on November 12, 1982 (Weidl) and one seen in Fort Qu'Appelle at close range on October 20, 1984 (Cockwill and Hiebert); the bird noted at the Prairie Christian Training Center on October 26 may well have been the latter individual (Rowell).

GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET *Regulus satrapa*

Sixth and seventh winter records: one on February 21, 1981 (de Vries) and one at Sanatorium on December 20, 1984 (Norman).

Page 121

CEDAR WAXWING *Bombycilla cedrorum*

Third largest wintering flock of 16 birds accompanying a larger flock of Bohemians on February 5, 1980 (Callin).

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NORTHERN SHRIKE *Lanius excubitor*

Early fall date, October 7, 1984 (Laing).

Page 123

EUROPEAN STARLING *Sturnus vulgaris*

Only occasionally do starlings winter in the valley. *Early spring dates* (years when none wintered), two on March 2, 1981 (Mlazgar) and one on March 3, 1980 (Cockwill).

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BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER *Mniotilta varia*

Early spring date, May 3, 1981 (Laing).

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER *Vermivora celata*

First nest record: a nest found on the ground near Echo Lake on May 31, 1984 contained only a Brown-headed Cowbird egg, but the next day an Orange-crowned Warbler egg had been added (Golly, confirmed by "museum boys"). *Late fall date*, October 29, 1984 (Hooper).

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MAGNOLIA WARBLER *Dendroica magnolia*

A singing male at a tributary of Scissor Creek on May 27, 1984, may have been a migrant (Brazier, Nelson, Chaskavich, Weidl, Callin).

YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER

a) Myrtle Warbler. *Dendroica coronata coronata*

Early spring date, April 12, 1985 (Callin); April 12, 1986 at east end of Round Lake (Nelson). *Early fall date*, August 24, 1980 (Callin).

b) Audubon's Warbler. *Dendroica coronata auduboni*

Fourth record: one seen at bird bath, September 26, 1985 (Callin).

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CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER *Dendroica pensylvanica*

Additional summer records tend to confirm the suggestion that a few pairs may breed within the area. Singing males were present for the first time in

Callin's Coulee in 1983 and 1984, where two were singing on July 2 and 3, 1983 (Brazier, Nelson, Weidl, Callin). In 1984, one male was singing on May 29 and was heard again on June 8, 13, 23 (Brazier, Mundy, Callin). On July 5, 1984 there were also three males singing near Tantallon (Kreba). A male was present in Callin's Coulee on May 22, 1985 (Brazier, Nelson, Callin).

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BLACKPOLL WARBLER *Dendroica striata*

Early fall dates, August 24, 1980, August 31, 1981 and August 31, 1984 (Callin). *Late fall date*, October 5, 1985 (Callin).

PALM WARBLER *Dendroica palmarum*

Early fall date, an immature near bird bath on August 30, 1981 (Callin).

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OVENBIRD *Seiurus aurocapillus*

Early spring date, May 14, 1985 (Hooper).

NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH *Seiurus noveboracensis*

Early fall dates, August 8, 1981 and August 10, 1984 (Callin). *Late fall date*, one found dead at Prairie Christian Training Center, September 28, 1984 (Rowell).

CONNECTICUT WARBLER *Oporornis agilis*

Third record, first for spring: at west end of Round Lake, May 24, 1980 (Nelson, Chaskavich, Weidl, Callin).

MOURNING WARBLER *Oporornis philadelphia*

Sixth summer record: two singing males in coulee near Bird Point, Round Lake, July 4, 1984 (Kreba, Russon).

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WILSON'S WARBLER *Wilsonia pusilla*

Early fall date, male in bird bath, August 11, 1981 (Callin). *Late fall dates*, one immature on September 23 and an adult on September 24, 1984 (Callin).

CANADA WARBLER *Wilsonia canadensis*

Second fall date, Echo Lake, with photograph, August 19, 1981 (Golly).

AMERICAN REDSTART *Setophaga ruticilla*

Late fall date, September 26, 1985 (Callin).

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YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD *Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*

Early spring date, a male at Cherry Lake, April 8, 1981 (Lahrman, Scott and Scott).

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NORTHERN ORIOLE *Icterus galbula*

Early spring date, May 8, 1981 (Callin).

RUSTY BLACKBIRD *Euphagus carolinus*

Early fall date, September 9, 1980 (Callin).

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BREWER'S BLACKBIRD *Euphagus cyanocephalus*

Fifth wintering record, daily from November 30, 1979 through February 5, 1980 (Hiebert).

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SCARLET TANAGER *Piranga olivacea*

Fourth modern record, with recognizable photograph, at Scissor Creek, June 6, 1982 (Nelson, Weidl, Callin).

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NORTHERN CARDINAL *Cardinalis cardinalis*

Second record: a male, red, smaller than robin, prominent crest, no wing bars, sighted on the Peepeekeesis Indian Reserve, seven miles northeast of Balcarres, on November 11, 1985 (Darryl and Sandra Kitchemonia, fide Hooper).

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BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK *Pheucticus melanocephalus*

Fourth and fifth records: female in yard on August 26, 1979 (Callin) and female seen on farm near Lipton on September 6, 1982 (Mlazgar).

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EVENING GROSBEAK *Coccothraustes vespertina*

Early fall date, September 25, 1980 (Callin).

PURPLE FINCH *Carpodacus purpureus*

First winter record: December 12, 1983 through February 9, 1984 (Cockwill). (There are more numerous winter records for a number of other Saskatchewan localities, as far north as Prince Albert. CSH.)

Page 144

HOUSE FINCH *Carpodacus mexicana*

Second record for area and fifth record for province: an immature or female was present at the bird bath along with three immature or female Purple Finches at 4.15 p.m. on September 11, 1980. From the "ringside seat" of the kitchen window 15 to 20 feet distant, an excellent comparison was possible of the smaller size of the House Finch, the lack of face pattern, much lighter streaks below, stubbier bill and shorter fork in tail (Callin).

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COMMON REDPOLL *Carduelis flammea*

Early fall date, one in bird bath on October 1, 1980 (Callin).

PINE SISKIN *Carduelis pinus*

Early spring dates, April 13, 1985 (Cockwill) and May 4, 1981 (Mlazgar).

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH *Carduelis tristis*

Early spring date, May 9, 1985 (Brazier, Nelson, Callin).

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RUFOUS-SIDED TOWHEE *Pipilo erythrophthalmus erythrophthalmus*

Twelve males singing in Callin's coulee on July 10, 1984 (Callin). Good views showed them to be of the *eastern race*, not *P.e.arcticus*.

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SAVANNAH SPARROW *Passerculus sandwichensis*

Early spring date, April 17, 1985 (Callin).

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DARK-EYED JUNCO

a) Slate-colored Junco. *Junco hyemalis hyemalis*

Early spring date, March 14, 1981 (Mlazgar). *Early fall date*, September 22, 1981 (Callin).

b) Oregon Junco. *Junco hyemalis oregonus*

Fifth record for Fort Qu'Appelle: May 13, 1982 (Cochrane).

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AMERICAN TREE SPARROW *Spizella arborea*

Early spring date, loose scattered group of 50 on February 26, 1981 (Cochrane).

CHIPPING SPARROW *Spizella passerina*

Early spring date, April 13, 1985 (Lindgren, Callin).

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HARRIS' SPARROW *Zonotrichia querula*

Early fall date, one at Lebret bridge, September 11, 1982 (Fort Qu'Appelle Naturalists). *Fourth winter record*, January 3, 1986 (Hooper).

Page 155

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW *Zonotrichia albicollis*

Early spring date, April 16, 1981 (Callin). *Early fall date*, August 23, 1980 (Callin).

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SONG SPARROW *Melospiza melodia*

Third winter record, December 29, 1982 (Hiebert).

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Round Lake, Qu'Appelle Valley

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