

## FIELD-CHECKING LIST OF SASKATCHEWAN BIRDS

This list is printed on both sides of stiff card, and is creased for folding, after which it becomes a handy 4-page list, 3½" x 6", which will fit in any average size pocket.

It has been compiled from "Birds of Saskatchewan" by H. Hedley Mitchell (Canadian Field-Naturalist, XXXVIII, 1924, pp. 101-118 and "Saskatchewan Bird Records Made Since the Publication of Mitchell's 'Birds of Saskatchewan'" by Laurence B. Potter (Blue Jay, I, 1943, p. 25). It lists 294 species that have been definitely identified including five introduced species. In addition, 14 species marked (?) are inserted that have been reported but whose status is still doubtful. Twelve additional races (subspecies) have been listed as being possibly recognizable in the field. The names are based upon the official A.O.U. List, and those used in "Birds of Canada."

Abbreviations are used to indicate species to be expected only in the far north, and those considered to be rare, or that only occur as stragglers. There is a space beside each species, where the number of individuals seen, or the relative abundance of the species, may be noted. Allowance has also been made for listing the Date, Locality, Weather, Time, Observers, etc.

We believe that these cards provide the quickest, easiest and most accurate method of keeping bird records. We suggest that members fill out a card for each bird hike, and also keep one "master card" for the season, with first-seen dates for all species on it. The latter, or a copy of it, could then be sent in to the Editor of the "Blue Jay" at the end of each season.

These cards will be found to have many uses. As they list every species noted in the province, they provide a quick method of ascertaining whether any particular species has been noted here before. Bird banders will find it an easy way to let fellow banders know how many species and individuals they have banded.

Two sample copies of this list are being sent to every member of the Y.N.H.S., resident in Saskatchewan. We, in turn, ask that each member return one card to us, after having denoted, by abbreviations, the relative abundance of each species in his or her district. In this way, we should gather a fairly good idea of the distribution and abundance of each species in the province, after which we can gain further information by direct inquiry, or through the pages of the "Blue Jay."

Further copies of the List will be available from the secretary, at .25¢ per dozen cards.

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We should like to remind members that fees for the coming season are now due. Will members please bring our Society and the "Blue Jay" to the attention of others interested in our native wildlife. Our membership is not nearly as large as it could and should be. Dues for the coming year (50¢) should be sent to the Secretary, Miss Pauline Summers, 34 sixth avenue, Yorkton.