



### CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

It would be difficult to imagine two Christmas seasons, in New Brunswick, less alike than last winter and this. A year ago, observers walked easily about, on mostly bare ground, discovering many unusual birds that had survived due to very mild December weather. This year, most of the miles walked were on snowshoe and the less hardy birds were absent, having moved farther south or succumbed from the stress of a severe, early winter.

Continuous snow cover in most of the province from Nov. 27 was deepened by a number of storms during the first ten days of December. Additional winter stress for wildlife populations came in the form of extreme cold, with below zero weather recorded during the early part of the month. So it was that all was frozen and snow-covered when the Christmas Bird Count period began on December 22, in the midst of another cold snap. Two more storms, beginning on the 24th and 26th, added a lot more snow, interfering with travel and forcing postponement of a number of counts. As far as birdlife was concerned the amount of winter received by the end of December was probably more like that of late January most years. (Mean Dec. temp. was about 7° below normal; snow depths at month's end ranged from 31" at Charlo to 54" at Moncton).

Twenty-three Christmas Counts were conducted, one less than last year, and including 5 in the northern half of the province. It was disappointing that the Bathurst, Kouchibouguac and Jemseg counts were not done again. All the counts lasted at least 6 hours, except two made at sea where longer counts were impossible. A total of 241 participants observed for 412 hours (on foot and by car and boat) and at 90 bird feeders, reporting 50,418 birds of 94 species. Five more species were seen during the count period.

Weather conditions meant a reduced variety of birds in most areas, and in the province as a whole. Grand Manan, where for the first time several observers took part, was an exception. The increased coverage there this year illustrates well the area's potential. There was only one new species for the list of those seen on provincial counts, Dunlin at Eastport-Campobello.

Of the irregular and least hardy birds here only 2 Mourning Doves, a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, a Winter Wren, and 2 White-crowned Sparrows were recorded. Despite the weather, a Myrtle Warbler was found in the regular spot at Cape Tormentine where apparently they subsist on bayberries. It would be interesting to know how long such a bird will survive. They have been recorded several times on the Tormentine count. No orioles, towhees, or Dickcissels were recorded this year and only one Mockingbird and one Brown Thrasher.

Various species of songbirds which are at the northern fringe of their winter range were generally quite scarce. Robins were at their lowest level since 1963. Grackles and Cowbirds were also fairly low and there were very few Fox and White-throated Sparrows. Amongst 6 Red-winged Blackbirds was one as far north as Perth-Andover.

It was a poor year for finches, at least in southern New Brunswick. Only on the two Restigouche County counts were there good numbers, Jacquet River having a provincial record of 337 Evening Grosbeaks. In the south there were a few Goldfinches, and Evening Grosbeaks were common at Fredericton and Moncton. No Red Crossbills were seen. Conditions suggest that some of the finches may stage a late winter flight this year.

Again, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Golden-crowned Kinglet, and Slate-coloured Junco were all recorded in lower than average numbers, but the two chickadees were back to normal. Blue Jays were reported in high numbers for the third successive year; Downy Woodpecker, Tree Sparrow, and Horned Lark also produced good counts. Snow Buntings were widely distributed, being recorded on almost every count, but the numbers were large only on three northern counts.

Snow depths may have concentrated some birds in places where they were more readily seen, such as at dumps and along the coast. At any rate both Ravens and Crows were reported more commonly than usual, the latter in almost twice normal numbers, including a record 349 at Saint John. A record 38 Pheasants at Moncton also probably was due to the birds moving into farmyards and suburbs because of the deep snow.

It was a very good season for hawks, particularly Goshawk, Sharp-shinned, and Red-tailed. Although there were 20 Rough-legs at Riverside-Albert there was only one at Sackville this year. Before long, these "mousers" probably will be moved south by the snow. A record four Bald Eagles (all adults) were at Eastport-Campobello.

The unbelievable numbers of Ruffed (26) and Spruce Grouse (16) reported at Blackville on a one-party count are records for the province. Norman Stewart says that the Ruffed Grouse were buried in the snow along a trail and took off as he approached. Must be a very favorable area.

Most waterbirds were reported in what seems to be normal numbers. Black Duck, Bufflehead, Oldsquaw, and Purple Sandpiper were more common than usual, with a record 509 of the sandpipers at Lepreau. We can do little more than echo Alan Madden's comment, "What a pile of Barrow's!" for the 96 Barrow's Goldeneye at Dalhousie, 90 more than the previous Christmas Count high! Note also the very unusual 30 seen at Eastport-Campobello. A record 8 Hooded Mergansers were tallied at St. Andrews.

A number of the rarer waterbirds were found on the counts, for example, Harlequin Duck, Thick-billed and Common Murres, and Common Puffin, as well as an Ivory Gull that appeared in the count period at Eastport. The Common Loons found in open water of the Saint John River on the Woodstock count were most unusual, for this species usually makes a quick retreat from inland areas at the first sign of very cold weather.

It should be interesting to look through the counts comparing the figures with those obtained under very different conditions last year.

Notes: The following notations have been employed:

\* record high for the province

\*\* first time on a provincial count

33 record high for the count area

Common Loon first time for that count

(Underlining is used only for areas where there have been at least 4 counts)

New Brunswick -- Dec. 22, 1970 to Jan. 3, 1971

PERTH-ANDOVER - Dec. 29; 10.00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.; cloudy; temp. 15°; wind W, 3 mph; 3 ft. light snow cover. 3 Observers in 2 parties; 2 at feeders. Total party-hours, 6½ (5 on foot, 1½ by car); total party-miles, 14 (2 on foot, 12 by car). Ruffed Grouse, 2; Rock Dove, 20; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Blue Jay, 19; Common Raven, 75; Common Crow, 15; Black-capped Chickadee, 7; Boreal Chickadee, 9; Starling, 100; House Sparrow, 150; Red-winged Blackbird, 1; Brown-headed Cowbird, 3; Evening Grosbeak, 5; Tree Sparrow, 2; Snow Bunting, 15. Total: 16 species, about 426 birds. (Seen in count period: Ring-necked Pheasant, Pine Grosbeak, Song Sparrow). Mrs. George E. Baird, Gordon C. Cook, M.E. Watters (compiler).

BLACKVILLE - Dec. 26; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; cloudy, snow flurries; temp. 26°; wind: NE, 25 mph; 3 ft. snow; few springs open. 2 Observers in 1 party. Total party-hours, 8½ (5½ on foot, 3 by car); total party-miles 54 (6 on foot, 48 by car). Canada Goose, 6; Common Goldeneye, 3; Spruce Grouse, 16\*; Ruffed Grouse, 26\*; Rock Dove, 2; Barred Owl, 1; Saw-whet Owl, 2; Pileated Woodpecker, 3\*; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Gray Jay, 6; Blue Jay, 3; Common Raven, 16; Black-capped Chickadee, 15; Boreal Chickadee, 26; Northern Shrike, 1; Starling, 3; House Sparrow, 6; Evening Grosbeak, 10; Pine Grosbeak, 7; Snow Bunting, 350. Total: 21 species, about 505 birds. Norman S. Stewart (compiler), Hoyce Stewart.

WOODSTOCK - Dec. 29; 9.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.; overcast with a few sunny periods; temp. 15°F; winds gusty, N., 10 mph; record snowfall conditions preceded the count, 3 ft. on ground. 8 Observers in 2 parties; 7 at feeders. Total party-hours, 12 (1 on foot, 11 by car); total party-miles 163 (2 on foot, 161 by car). Common Loon, 2; Black Duck, 1; Common Goldeneye, 3; Common Merganser, 5; ~~Red-tailed Hawk, 1~~; Ring-necked Pheasant, 9; Rock Dove, 138; Hairy Woodpecker, 7; Downy Woodpecker, 7; Gray Jay, 1; Blue Jay, 77; Common Raven, 87; Common Crow, 169; Black-capped Chickadee, 11; White-breasted Nuthatch, 3; Northern Shrike, 1; Starling, 221; House Sparrow, 181; Purple Finch, 9; Pine Grosbeak, 6; Tree Sparrow, 9; Snow Bunting, 69. Total: 22 species, about 1017 birds. (Seen in count period: Pigeon Hawk, Ruffed Grouse). Mr. & Mrs. Ian Bernard, Mrs. Lucy Dyer, Mrs. David Fry, Mrs. Marjorie Gray, Ken Homer, Stephen Homer, Mrs. Margaret Jones, Charles MacDonald, Rowena MacDonald, Jane Speer (compiler), Mrs. Robert Speer, Mrs. Cecil Stewart, Janess Todd, Mrs. Charles Webb.

FREDERICTON - Jan. 2; 8.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.; overcast with sunny intervals; temp. 28°-30°; wind: NW, 10 mph; deep snow, 98% water frozen. 28 Observers in 12 parties; 12 at feeders. Total party-hours, 52½ (23½ on foot, 29 by car); total party-miles 250 (28 on foot, 222 by car). Sharp-shinned Hawk, 2; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Ruffed Grouse, 2; Ring-necked Pheasant, 5; Herring Gull, 1; Rock Dove, 482; Pileated Woodpecker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 12; Downy Woodpecker, 28; Woodpecker sp., 1; Gray Jay, 9; Blue Jay, 156; Common Raven, 114; Common Crow, 122; Black-capped Chickadee, 322\*; Boreal Chickadee, 26; White-breasted Nuthatch, 13; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 10; Brown Creeper, 5; Robin, 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 5; Northern Shrike, 2; Starling, 2721; House Sparrow, 4464; Brown-headed Cowbird, 2; Evening Grosbeak, 128; Common Redpoll, 10; Pine Siskin, 1; American Goldfinch, 82; Tree Sparrow, 106; White-crowned Sparrow, 1; Fox Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, 2; Snow Bunting, 31. Total: 33 species, about 8872 birds. (Seen in count period: Canada Goose, Goshawk, Bald Eagle, Common Grackle, Slate-coloured Junco). Mrs. M. Acheson, B. Bartlett, W. Bauer, Prof. N.R. Brown, S.L. Brown, G. Clayden, J. Clayden, P. Clayden, S. Clayden, A.A. Dean (compiler), A.G. Dean, A.M. Dean, L.V. Dean, P. Dionne, D. Fowler, K. Fowler, W. Jarratt, D. Kristmanson, M. Moore, N. Moore, A. Morais, D. Noble, J. Noble, P. Pearce, M.H. Schneider, W.A. Squires, Mrs. W.A. Squires, I.W. Varty.

CAMBRIDGE-NARROWS - Jan. 1; 7.45 a.m. to 4.45 p.m.; overcast; temp. 4°-19°; wind: E., 0-10 mph; 48" snow on the ground; lakes frozen. 6 Observers in 2 parties; 1 at feeder. Total party-hours, 9 (1½ on foot, 7½ by car); total party-miles 65 (5 on foot, 60 by car).

Ruffed Grouse, 4; Great Horned Owl, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Blue Jay, 60; Common Raven, 21; Common Crow, 4; Black-capped Chickadee, 24; Boreal Chickadee, 1; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Starling, 1; House Sparrow, 163; Evening Grosbeak, 4; Pine Grosbeak, 2; Tree Sparrow, 6; Snow Bunting, 9. Total: 15 species, about 302 birds. (Seen in count period: hawk (Accipiter sp.), Pileated Woodpecker, Gray Jay, American Goldfinch, Slate-coloured Junco). Marion Belyea, Enid Inch (compiler), Rhoda Inch, Lillian Pugsley, Lena Robinson, Joyce Thorne, Nivan Thorne.

CENTRAL ALBERT COUNTY - Dec. 29; 7.20 a.m. to 5.10 p.m.; cloudy with sunny periods and snow flurries; temp. 18°-22°; wind: NW, 5-10 mph; 48" snow cover, all waters frozen. 5 Observers in 2 parties, 3 at 2 feeders. Total party-hours, 10½ (8½ on foot, 2 by car); total party-miles 51½ (4½ on foot, 47 by car).

Goshawk, 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 5; Downy Woodpecker, 9; Gray Jay, 6; Blue Jay, 52; Common Raven, 5; Black-capped Chickadee, 23; Boreal Chickadee, 43; White-breasted Nuthatch, 4; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 8; House Sparrow, 26; Evening Grosbeak, 3; Pine Grosbeak, 3; American Goldfinch, 2; Slate-coloured Junco, 1; Snow Bunting, 2. Songbird sp. 2; Total: 17 species, about 196 birds. David Christie (compiler), Elvira Irving, Chris Majka, Mark Majka, Mary Majka, Dr. M. Majka, Ole Steeves, Ray Steeves.

DALHOUSIE - Dec. 30; 8.40 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.; overcast, light snow flurries, windy all day; temp. 14°-19°; wind: 18-29 mph; 12"-18" snow on ground in open; water open in bay, Eel R. frozen. 2 Observers in 1-2 parties. Total party-hours 9 (2 on foot, 7 by car); total party-miles 71 (2 on foot, 69 by car).

Common Goldeneye, 6; Barrow's Goldeneye, 96\*; Goldeneye sp. 90+; Oldsquaw, 34; Red-breasted Merganser, 4; Hawk sp. 1; Glaucous Gull, 4; Iceland Gull, 24; Great Black-backed Gull, 66; Herring Gull, 36; Ring-billed Gull, 2; Rock Dove, 18; Blue Jay, 4; Common Raven, 11; Black-capped Chickadee, 5; Boreal Chickadee, 5; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 2; Northern Shrike, 1; Starling, 45; House Sparrow, 54; Evening Grosbeak, 21; Pine Grosbeak, 10; White-winged Crossbill, 8; Snow Bunting, 150. Total: 23 species, about 697 birds. (Seen in count period: Black Duck, Common Merganser, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Robin). Jean-Paul Lebel, Alan Madden (compiler).

JACQUET RIVER - Jan. 2; 9.05 a.m. to 4.05 p.m.; overcast to partially clear; temp. 22°-28°; wind NW, 10-16, gusting to 27 mph; 12-18+ in. snow on ground; fresh water frozen; salt: 65% open. 2 Observers in 2 parties. Total party-hours 13½ (4 & 3/4 on foot, 8½ by car); total party-miles 82½ (5½ on foot, 77 by car).

Common Goldeneye, 52; Oldsquaw, 74; Common Merganser, 9; Red-breasted Merganser, 19; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 2; Iceland Gull, 5; Great Black-backed Gull, 8; Herring Gull, 22; Rock Dove, 11; Gray Jay, 1; Blue Jay, 15; Common Raven, 16; Common Crow, 15; Black-capped Chickadee, 9; Boreal Chickadee, 7; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 4; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 1; Northern Shrike, 1; Starling, 13; House Sparrow, 44; Brown-headed Cowbird, 2; Evening Grosbeak, 337\*; Purple Finch, 18; Pine Grosbeak, 74; Pine Siskin, 44; White-winged Crossbill, 27; Tree Sparrow, 1; Snow Bunting, 32. Total: 28 species, about 863 birds. Jean-Paul Lebel (compiler), Alan Madden.

SHIPPEGAN ISLAND - Dec. 29; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; overcast, light snow half the day, fairly good visibility; 12 in. snow. 3 Observers in 1 party. Total party-hours 9 (1 on foot, 8 by car); total party-miles 97 (3 on foot, 94 by car); temp. 4-15°; wind NW 10. Common Goldeneye, 2; Oldsquaw, 47; Common Eider, 20; ducks sp. 15; Glaucous Gull, 5; Iceland Gull, 99; Great Black-backed Gull, 78; Herring Gull, 3; Thick-billed Murre, 1;

Rock Dove, 2; Blue Jay, 2; Common Raven, 12; Common Crow, 47; Northern Shrike, 1; Starling, 131; House Sparrow, 89; Lapland Longspur, 1; Snow Bunting, 303. Total: 18 species, about 858 birds. (Seen in count period: Black Guillemot). Hilaire Chiasson (compiler), Mrs. Rose-Aline Chiasson, Frere Clarence LeBreton.

CAPE TORMENTINE - Dec. 23; 7.45 a.m. to 3 p.m.; clear, light snow showers late p.m.; temp. 4°-15°; wind NW, 10 mph; 30"-35" snow cover; most fresh and salt water frozen. 4 Observers in 2 parties. Total party-hours, 13 (6 on foot, 7 by car); total party-miles 108.5 (6.5 on foot, 102 by car).

Cormorant sp. (probably Great), 1; Common Goldeneye, 21; Oldsquaw, 111; Red-breasted Merganser, 17; Goshawk, 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 2; Rough-legged Hawk, 1; Ruffed Grouse, 2; Glaucous Gull, 2; Iceland Gull, 120; Great Black-backed Gull, 13; Herring Gull, 37; Ring-billed Gull, 2; Rock Dove, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Gray Jay, 3; Blue Jay, 13; Common Raven, 33; Common Crow, 116; Black-capped Chickadee, 30; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 1; nuthatch sp. 1; Brown Creeper, 3; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 5; Starling, 25; Myrtle Warbler, 1; House Sparrow, 42; Evening Grosbeak, 1; Pine Grosbeak, 3; Tree Sparrow, 2; Snow Bunting, 12; Common Redpoll, 1; songbirds sp. 13. Total: 32 species, about 626 birds. Gordon Burns, Ronald Hounsell, A.D. Smith (compiler), Bill Whitman.

MONCTON - Jan. 2; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; sky overcast, light good; temp. 20°-30°; wind W, 10 mph; 75" snow on ground, reservoirs frozen over, brooks flowing. 17 Observers in 8 parties, 10 at feeders. Total party-hours, 41 (18 on foot, 23 by car); total party-miles 155 (16 on foot, 139 by car).

hawk sp. (large Accipiter), 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 2; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Ring-necked Pheasant, 38\*; Glaucous Gull, 9; Iceland Gull, 25; Great Black-backed Gull, 285; Herring Gull, 934; Rock Dove, 52; Mourning Dove, 1; Pileated Woodpecker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 7; Horned Lark, 4; Gray Jay, 7; Blue Jay, 66; Common Raven, 122; Common Crow, 85; Black-capped Chickadee, 86; Boreal Chickadee, 14; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 3; Mockingbird, 1; Robin, 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 4; Northern Shrike, 1; Starling, 1064; House Sparrow, 607; Evening Grosbeak, 229; Purple Finch, 13; Pine Grosbeak, 4; Pine Siskin, 2; Slate-coloured Junco, 5; Tree Sparrow, 7; White-throated Sparrow, 1; Fox Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, 5; Lapland Longspur, 1; Snow Bunting, 41. Total: 38 species, about 3754 birds. (Seen in count period: Common Merganser, Red-breasted Merganser, Pigeon Hawk, Brown Creeper, Grackle, Goldfinch). Fred Bone, Mrs. Ross Brown, Peter Cook, Mr. & Mrs. Henry Cormier, Dr. & Mrs. Arthur Dobson, Dr. & Mrs. Joe Dobson, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Fraser, Mrs. Gordon Harris, Mrs. Marguerite Hope, Fred Lloyd, Chris Hajka, Dr. & Mrs. M. Hajka, Reid McManus, Mr. & Mrs. Jim Scammell, Doug Whitman (compiler), Dr. & Mrs. D. Wilcox.

SACKVILLE - Dec. 22; 7.30 a.m. to 4.45 p.m.; extremely cold, clear; temp. 8°-11°; wind NW, 15-20 mph; 30"-35" snow cover; most water (salt and fresh) frozen. 6 Observers in 5 parties; 9 at feeders. Total party-hours, 19 (10 on foot, 9 by car); total party-miles 201.5 (13.5 on foot, 188 by car).

Black Duck, 7; Common Merganser, 1; Goshawk, 2; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 2; Rough-legged Hawk, 1; Bald Eagle, 1; Ring-necked Pheasant, 17; Great Black-backed Gull, 25; Herring Gull, 37; Rock Dove, 45; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Horned Lark, 8; Gray Jay, 3; Blue Jay, 37; Common Raven, 74; Common Crow, 22; Black-capped Chickadee, 47; Boreal Chickadee, 20; Starling, 314; House Sparrow, 437; Common Grackle, 5; Evening Grosbeak, 8; Pine Grosbeak, 1; Slate-coloured Junco, 4; Tree Sparrow, 9; White-throated Sparrow, 1; Fox Sparrow, 1; Snow Bunting, 11. Total: 29 species, about 1142 birds. (Seen in count period: Pigeon Hawk, Brown Creeper). Mrs. H. Burke, Gordon Burns, Mrs. Roger Calkins, Mrs. John Clark, Mrs. N. Cormier, Mrs. J.E. Greenslade, Hinrich Harries, Mrs. L.P. Harris, Ronald Hounsell, Reid McManus, Mrs. D. McPhail, Ted Pulford, Mrs. A.J. Smith, Al Smith (compiler), Mrs. N.A. Weldon.

RIVERSIDE-ALBERT - Jan. 1; 7.45 to 5.00 p.m.; clear in a.m., clouding over in p.m.; temp. 10°-20°; wind 5-10 mph; very heavy snow cover, up to 4' in woods; all water frozen except fast rapids. 15 Observers in 4 parties; 4 at feeders. Total party-hours, 27 (12 on foot, 15 by car); total party-miles 156 (10½ on foot, 145½ by car). Red-throated Loon, 1; Canada Goose, 2; Black Duck, 295; Common Goldeneye, 12; Bufflehead, 1; Common Eider, 1; Surf Scoter, 1; Common Merganser, 1; Red-breasted Merganser, 1; Goshawk, 3; Red-tailed Hawk, 7; Rough-legged Hawk, 20; Ruffed Grouse, 1; Glaucous Gull, 2; Iceland Gull, 5; Great Black-backed Gull, 6; Herring Gull, 64; Hairy Woodpecker, 5; Horned Lark, 6; Gray Jay, 13; Blue Jay, 45; Common Raven, 110; Common Crow, 15; Black-capped Chickadee, 68; Boreal Chickadee, 36; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 5; Robin, 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 2; Starling, 180; House Sparrow, 142; Common Grackle, 1; Evening Grosbeak, 9; Pine Grosbeak, 6; American Goldfinch, 2; White-winged Crossbill, 1; Slate-coloured Junco, 1; Tree Sparrow, 40; White-throated Sparrow, 1; Lapland Longspur, 3; Snow Bunting, 38; unidentified, 6. Total: 40 species, about 1166 birds. (Seen in count period: Sharp-shinned Hawk, Ring-necked Pheasant, Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl). David Alward, Ford Alward (compiler), Mark Alward, David Christie, Sue Fullerton, Chris Majka, Dr. M. Majka, Mary Majka, Thomas Norman, James Quinn, Billy White, Mrs. Percy Wilbur, Dennis Wilcox, Mrs. Dennis Wilcox, Cecil Williamson.

ST. MARTINS - Jan. 1; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; overcast sky; temp. 30° to 24°; wind NE, 5 mph; 16" snow cover; freshwater frozen. 2 Observers in 2 parties; 2 at feeders. Total party-hours, 9½ (5 on foot, 4½ by car); total party-miles 31 (7 on foot, 24 by car). Red-throated Loon, 1; Black Duck, 24; Common Goldeneye, 2; Barrow's Goldeneye, 1; Ruffed Grouse, 3; Purple Sandpiper, 100; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Gray Jay, 2; Blue Jay, 8; Common Raven, 5; Common Crow, 4; Black-capped Chickadee, 2; Boreal Chickadee, 2; unidentified chickadees, 10; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Northern Shrike, 1; Starling, 21; House Sparrow, 12; Red-winged Blackbird, 1; Brown-headed Cowbird, 30; Evening Grosbeak, 9; Tree Sparrow, 20; Song Sparrow, 6; Snow Bunting, 15; unidentified birds, 2. Total: 23 species, about 233 birds. (Seen in count period: Goshawk, hawk (Buteo sp.), gull sp. Rusty Blackbird). Frances Bradshaw (compiler), Jim Bradshaw, Eva Harper, Mrs. A. Headley.

SAINT JOHN - Dec. 26; 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.; overcast; snowflurries, becoming continuous snow late p.m.; 25°-32°; wind N NE, 5-30 mph; drifted snow, averaging 24" - 30" deep, freshwater frozen. 20 Observers in 10 parties; 25 at 23 feeders. Total party-hours, 49½ (32 on foot, 16½ by car); total party-miles 252½ (17½ on foot, 235 by car). Great Cormorant, 13; Mallard, 2; Black Duck, 427; Greater Scaup, 4; Common Goldeneye, 163; Barrow's Goldeneye, 1; Bufflehead, 4; Oldsquaw, 5; White-winged Scoter, 1; Surf Scoter, 1; Common Scoter, 2; Hooded Merganser, 1; Common Merganser, 36; Red-breasted Merganser, 33; ducks sp. 8; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 3; Red-tailed Hawk, 3; Pigeon Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 1; hawk sp. 1; Glaucous Gull, 3; Iceland Gull, 24; Great Black-backed Gull, 639; Herring Gull, 2739; Ring-billed Gull, 17; Black-headed Gull, 1; Black-legged Kittiwake, 1; gulls sp. 200; Rock Dove, 173; Hairy Woodpecker, 5; Downy Woodpecker, 24; Horned Lark, 18\*; Gray Jay, 2; Blue Jay, 41; Common Raven, 137; Common Crow, 349\*; Black-capped Chickadee, 158; Boreal Chickadee, 7; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Brown Creeper, 1; Robin, 3; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 3; Northern Shrike, 1; Starling, 1498; House Sparrow, 575; Common Grackle, 6; Brown-headed Cowbird, 18; Evening Grosbeak, 6; Common Redpoll, 2; American Goldfinch, 1; Slate-coloured Junco, 14; Tree Sparrow, 96; White-crowned Sparrow, 1; Fox Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, 5; Lapland Longspur, 1; Snow Bunting, 88; Songbird sp. 1. Total: 54 species, about 7577 birds. (Seen in count period: Goshawk, Rough-legged Hawk, Bald Eagle, Ruffed Grouse, Purple Sandpiper, Purple Finch, Rufous-sided Towhee, White-throated Sparrow.) Bayard Armstrong, Bruce Bosonce, Fred Brock, Mrs. Smith Cathline, David Christie (compiler), Florence Christie, David Clark, Shirley Colquette, Mrs. E.J. Cram, Henrik Deichmann, Mark Deichmann, Jan Dexter, Mrs. M.J. Duffy, Mr. & Mrs. Eldon Fletcher, Mrs. J.A. Gillies, Joyce Golden, Irene Gorham, Stanley Gorham, Mrs. A.R. Goucher, Frances Hayes, Joan Henry, Mrs. G.L. Hunter,

Roy Hunter, Cecil Johnston, Doris Johnston, Dot Laskoy, Mrs. W.R. Mathers, Mrs. Ken Melven, John R. Morrison, Bill O'Brien, Mrs. George Ramsay, Gordon Rodstone, Mrs. H.G. Rogers, Mary Ross, Marion Sherwood, Mrs. W.J. Simon, Carle Smith, David Smith, Gerald Spencer, Diane Trenwith, Ian Trenwith, Marlene Vaughan, William Vaughan, Jim Wilson.

LEPREAU - Jan. 2; 7.30 a.m. to 5.10 p.m.; heavy overcast becoming only slightly cloudy; 29°-32°; wind N to W SW, 5-20 mph; 15" snow cover, freshwater frozen. 6 Observers in 2 parties; 1 at feeder. Total party-hours, 17 (10½ on foot, 6½ by car); total party-miles 124 (6 on foot, 118 by car).  
Common Loon, 3; Red-throated Loon, 3; loon sp. 2; Red-necked Grebe, 17; Horned Grebe, 39; Great Cormorant, 14; Black Duck, 66; Greater Scaup, 2; Common Goldeneye, 76; Barrow's Goldeneye, 2; Bufflehead, 169; Oldsquaw, 21; Harlequin Duck, 2\*; Common Eider, 180; White-winged Scoter, 12; Common Scoter, 19; Common Merganser, 20; Red-breasted Merganser, 22; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Rough-legged Hawk, 1; Bald Eagle, 1; hawk sp. (possibly Gyrfalcon), 1; Purple Sandpiper, 509\*; Great Black-backed Gull, 83; Herring Gull, 692; Black-legged Kittiwake, 400+; Razor-bill, 16; Thick-billed Murre, 1; Black Guillemot, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 3; Horned Lark, 6; Gray Jay, 5; Common Raven, 31; Common Crow, 115; Black-capped Chickadee, 16; Boreal Chickadee, 20; chickadee, sp. 1; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 5; Brown Creeper, 1; Northern Shrike, 1; Starling, 30; House Sparrow, 4; Pine Grosbeak, 1; American Goldfinch, 26; Tree Sparrow, 10; Snow Bunting, 2. Total: 45 species, about 2650 birds. (Seen in count period: grouse sp., Short-eared Owl, Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker). Arthur Callaghan, David Christie (compiler), Jan Dexter, Cecil Johnston, David Smith, Ed Spencer, Jim Wilson.

PENNFIELD - Jan. 2; 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; cloudy a.m. becoming sunny p.m., temp. 24°; wind N; heavy snow on ground; low tide. 2 Observers in 1 party. Total party-hours 7 (4 by car); total party-miles 15 (15 by car).

Common Loon, 1; Great Cormorant, 7; Bufflehead, 12; Oldsquaw, 28; Common Eider, 1; Common Merganser, 5; duck sp. 1; Great Black-backed Gull, 1; Herring Gull, 70; Common Murre, 1; Common Crow, 27; Black-capped Chickadee, 5; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 2; Starling, 10; Evening Grosbeak, 3; Tree Sparrow, 6. Total: 16 species, about 180 birds. (Seen in count period: Pigeon Hawk, Ruffed Grouse, Iceland Gull, Bonaparte's Gull, Common Raven, Brown Creeper, Robin, House Sparrow, Common Grackle, Common Redpoll, Snow Bunting.) M.C. Morehouse, Mrs. M.C. Morehouse (compiler).

ST. ANDREWS - Dec. 28; 8.30 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.; light clouds; temp. 14°; wind 1-5 mph; heavy snow cover; freshwater frozen; Bay Shore open. 6 Observers in 3 parties; 17 at 13 feeders. Total party-hours, 22½ (1½ on foot, 20 & ¾ by car); total party-miles 188 (1½ on foot, 186½ by car).

Common Loon, 2; Great Cormorant, 3; Mallard, 2; Black Duck, 274; Greater Scaup, 65; Common Goldeneye, 19; Bufflehead, 39; Common Eider, 40; White-winged Scoter, 4; Surf Scoter, 11; Common Scoter, 28; scoter sp. 140; Hooded Merganser, 8\*; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Bald Eagle, 2; Ring-necked Pheasant, 1; Purple Sandpiper, 67; Great Black-backed Gull, 321; Herring Gull, 1064; Rock Dove, 34; Hairy Woodpecker, 7; Downy Woodpecker, 3; Gray Jay, 3; Blue Jay, 54; Common Raven, 12; Common Crow, 177; Black-capped Chickadee, 71; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Robin, 2; Starling, 221; House Sparrow, 302; Common Grackle, 6; Brown-headed Cowbird, 6; Evening Grosbeak, 32; Pine Grosbeak, 2; American Goldfinch, 11; Slate-coloured Junco, 41; Tree Sparrow, 47; Song Sparrow, 3. Total: 38 species, about 3126 birds. (Seen in count period: Common Merganser, Glaucous Gull, Boreal Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch). Mrs. Hollis Bartlett, Mr. & Mrs. E.T. Caughey, Miss Jacqueline Davis, Mrs. Fred Gonyea, Mrs. George Hall, Mrs. Donald Johnson, Mrs. Carl Kohler, Miss Mabelle MacCoubrey, Miss H.W. MacCoubrey, Mr. & Mrs. N.T. Mais, Mrs. Fred Nutter, Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Perry, Dr. John E. Rigby (compiler), Miss Pamela Rigby, Mrs. Donald Ross, Dr. Richard Saunders, Dr. & Mrs. David Scarratt, Mr. & Mrs. David Walker.

EASTPORT-CAIPOBELLO - Dec. 22; 7.15 a.m. to 4.15 p.m. F.S.T.; clear to 50% overcast; temp. -12°-18° above; wind NW, 5-10 mph; 6-12 in. snow cover, all freshwater frozen. 4 Observers in 1 party. Total party-miles, 101 (2 on foot, 99 by car).

Red-necked Grebe, 1; Horned Grebe, 28; Great Cormorant, 49; Black Duck, 27; Greater Scaup, 5; Common Goldeneye, 20; Barrow's Goldeneye, 30; Bufflehead, 17; Oldsquaw, 422; Common Eider, 12; White-winged Scoter, 15; Common Merganser, 2; Red-breasted Merganser, 31; Bald Eagle, 4\*; Ring-necked Pheasant, 2; Purple Sandpiper, 6; Dunlin, 2\*\*; Glaucous Gull, 4; Iceland Gull, 28; Great Black-backed Gull, 188; Herring Gull, 2330; Ring-billed Gull, 9; Bonaparte's Gull, 8; Black-legged Kittiwake, 205; Black Guillemot, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Blue Jay, 11; Common Raven, 14; Common Crow, 173; Black-capped Chickadee, 7; Boreal Chickadee, 3; Robin, 1; Starling, 61; House Sparrow, 5; Slate-coloured Junco, 3; Tree Sparrow, 27; Snow Bunting, 39. Total: 37 species, about 3792 birds. (Seen in count period: Ivory Gull). Tom Bartlett, Charles Dorchester, Gail Gould, Wm. Townsend (compiler).

GRAND NANAN - Dec. 22; 7.45 a.m. to 5.15 p.m.; sunny, "vapour" seriously reduced visibility over water in a.m., conditions improved p.m.; temp. -4° to 11° above; wind NNW, 20-35 mph; about 12" snow on ground; fresh water frozen. 7 Observers in 3 parties; 5 at feeders. Total party-hours, 26 (14 on foot, 11 by car; 1 by boat); total party-miles 170 (15 on foot, 146 by car, 9 by boat). Common Loon, 4; Great Cormorant, 50; Black Duck, 167; Common Goldeneye, 52; Bufflehead, 137; Oldsquaw, 150; Common Eider, 14; White-winged Scoter, 1; Common Scoter, 1; scoter sp. 10; Common Merganser, 8; Red-breasted Merganser, 33; merganser sp. 1; duck sp. 35; Goshawk, 2; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 2; Red-tailed Hawk, 2; Rough-legged Hawk, 3; Hawk sp. (prob. Sharp-shinned), 1; Ruffed Grouse, 1; Purple Sandpiper, 105; Glaucous Gull, 4; Iceland Gull, 2; "white" gull sp. 2; Great Black-backed Gull, 138; Herring Gull, 3814; Black-legged Kittiwake, 5460; Razor-bill, 71; Common Murre, 1; alcid sp. (Razorbill/Murre), 1002; Dovekie, 2; Black Guillemot, 11; Mourning Dove, 1; Short-eared Owl, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Horned Lark, 1; Blue Jay, 6; Common Raven, 54; Common Crow, 138; corvid sp. 3; Black-capped Chickadee, 37; Boreal Chickadee, 22; Brown Creeper, 1; Winter Wren, 1; Brown Thrasher, 1; Robin, 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 16; Northern Shrike, 3; Starling, 233; House Sparrow, 91; Red-winged Blackbird, 4; Common Grackle, 7; Brown-headed Cowbird, 33; blackbird sp. 1; Pine Grosbeak, 2; White-winged Crossbill, 5; Slate-coloured Junco, 11; Tree Sparrow, 69; Song Sparrow, 2; Leiland Longspur, 1; Snow Bunting, 21. Total: 53 species, about 11,754 birds. (Seen in count period: Horned Grebe, Canada Goose, Greater Scaup, Surf Scoter, Bald Eagle, unidentified sandpiper (probably Com. Snipe), Evening Grosbeak). Vernon Bagley, David Christie, Christopher Mejka, Peter Pearce (compiler) Mrs. Carl Small, Eric Tull.

BAY OF FUNDY, SAINT JOHN TO DIGBY (from H.V. "Princess of Acadia"), Jan. 2; 11.15 a.m. to 1.15 p.m.; light overcast; temp. 35°; wind N, very light. 1 Observer. Total party-hours, 2 (by ship); total party-miles, 40 (by ship). Great Cormorant, 4; Common Merganser, 2; Red-breasted Merganser, 5; Glaucous Gull, 9; Iceland Gull, 12; Great Black-backed Gull, 4; Herring Gull, 60; Ring-billed Gull, 1; Black-legged Kittiwake, 2; Razor-bill, 1; Common Puffin, 1; alcid sp. 5; Common Crow, 1. Total: 12 species, about 107 birds. (These birds seen on the open parts of the Bay). Henrik Deichmann.

GRAND NANAN CHANNEL (from deck of H.V. "Grand Nanan") - Dec. 29; 8.15 a.m. to 9.30 p.m.; overcast, visibility good; temp. 20°-25°; wind N, 30 mph. 1 Observer. Total party-hours, 1½ (by ship); total party-miles, 15 (by ship). Great Cormorant, 1; Iceland Gull, 3; Great Black-backed Gull, 9; Herring Gull, 45; Black-legged Kittiwake, 60; Razor-bill, 14; Murre sp. 3; alcid sp. (Razorbill/Murre), 50; Dovekie, 3. Total: 8 species, 188 birds. (Seen in count period: Oldsquaw). Peter Pearce.



FUNDY NATIONAL PARK - Dec. 31; 7.30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; clear; temp. 14°-21°; wind NW, 8-4 mph; 2 to 4 ft. snow cover, freshwater frozen. 12 Observers in 5 parties; 3? at feeders. Total party hours, 39 (31 on foot, 8 by car); total party miles 197 (37 on foot, 160 by car).

Red-throated Loon, 1; Black Duck, 17; Common Goldeneye, 10; Surf Scoter, 2; Common Merganser, 2; Goshawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 3; Rough-legged Hawk, 1; Iceland Gull, 2; Great Black-backed Gull, 1; Herring Gull, 5; Hairy Woodpecker, 4; Downy Woodpecker, 6; Gray Jay, 18; Blue Jay, 11; Common Raven, 48; Common Crow, 14; Black-capped Chickadee, 8; Boreal Chickadee, 21; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Brown Creeper, 2; Robin, 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 10; Northern Shrike, 1; Starling, 16; House Sparrow, 39; Red-winged Blackbird, 1; Common Grackle, 3; Evening Grosbeak, 2; Pine Grosbeak, 3; American Goldfinch, 39; White-winged Crossbill, 5; Slate-coloured Junco, 5; Tree Sparrow, 30; White-throated Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, 1; Snow Bunting, 2. Total: 37 species, about 337 birds. (Seen in count period: Great Blue Heron, Mallard, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Ruffed Grouse, Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Lapland Longspur. Ford Alward, David Christie, Peter Cook, Chris Majka, Mary Hajka, Bill McCarthy, Jim McLaughlin, Phyllis McLaughlin, Jim Quinn, Roger Roy (compiler), Blair Stevens, Billy White.

#### NUMBER OF SPECIES

On this year's counts, Saint John produced the most species, 54, one more than Grand Manan. Considering landbird species only, Moncton had the greatest variety at 34, one more than Saint John and two more than Fredericton and Grand Manan. In northern New Brunswick Jacquet River was top count with 28 species.

#### ALBINISM

From time to time we receive reports of partially or completely albinistic animals. Three such birds and one mammal have been reported in the last few months. An "almost white" Robin was seen near Shediac during the summer. It was back for the third or fourth year (Mrs. B.F. Mundle). A white Starling with a brown wing bar was reported at Westfield Sept. 23 (Cecil Johnston) and an albino Red-tailed Hawk was seen near Dorchester Oct. 18 (Al Smith). The albino mammal reported was a white Bobcat seen twice in October at Chester, Albert County (fide Mary Hajka).

#### THE AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES OF NEW BRUNSWICK

Mr. Stanley Gorham's book "The Amphibians and Reptiles of New Brunswick" is now available from the New Brunswick Museum. Its 30 pages contain detailed information on the appearance, habits, and life history of 16 amphibian and eight reptile species. Also mentioned are three sea turtles that wander to northern waters from time to time. Twenty-five species are illustrated with attractive drawings by Rosamond Campbell. A special section of the book gives advice on how to care for native species in captivity and there is a selected bibliography. Cost of the new publication is \$2.00, plus 25¢ handling charge for mail orders.

Also still available from the museum are "Distributional Checklist of the Fishes of New Brunswick" by Stanley Gorham (32pp; 50¢ + 15¢ postage); "Field Check-list of New Brunswick Birds" by W.A. Squires (12 for 25¢ + 10¢ postage); "The Mammals of New Brunswick" by W.A. Squires (57pp., 6 black & white plates; \$1.50 + 30¢ postage); "The Birds of New Brunswick" by W.A. Squires (1952); 164 pp, 6 plates, black and white, 1 map; \$2.00 + 50¢ postage).