

The farmers nearer the Fraser suffer as much as we do, and, in spite of being further from the mountains, more than most of our nearer neighbors. We know of one ranch where for years a barn door has been used as a deadfall, and the birds fed to hogs by bucketfuls. In another case great numbers are shot, and as many as thirty-five birds have been picked up as the result of enflaming a row of vegetables with a single charge of shot. As the typical associations of the Canadian Zone are left behind, and the greater drouth and summer heat of the river flats approached, the nuisance decreases. From the immediate vicinity of Quesnel we hear a few scattered complaints of moderate losses, but a short distance southward, within touch of the long arm of Transition Zone conditions, which stretches so far up the valley, all knowledge of the trouble seems to disappear, though we do not know where it may recur.

What of the "Peace River Block," a successful agricultural venture on latitude 56° N., and the immense new agricultural northlands of Ontario?

These visits of the siskins are by no means sporadic, like the well-known "cross-bill-years", of ancient record, but, nowadays at least, are as regular as the recurring seasons themselves. Mr. Harry Boyd, of Cottonwood, to whom we are indebted for much interesting material on the siskins, recalls their descents as long ago as 1884, though they seem to have been less regular in the early years. It may be that the habit of seeking cultivated districts will prove a cumulative adaptation, as many, more welcome adjustments of avian and human economy have proved to be.

Methods which depend upon destruction will always be useless. One must live in typical Canadian and Hudsonian surroundings, and learn to be conscious of the continual, unobtrusive presence of the siskins in the tree-tops, to realize how immense their numbers must be. Most of their great breeding ground will never be invaded. No war of extermination will thin their ranks perceptibly.—THOMAS T. MCCABE and ELINOR BOLLES MCCABE, *Indianpoint Lake, British Columbia, January 6, 1929.*

Hooded Merganser at Salton Sea, California.—On November 27, 1928, I was hunting along the north end of Salton Sea near Mecca, Riverside County. A Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*), in female plumage, was found dead on the shore. The bird had evidently been dead some time and in its poor condition could not be preserved. There seem to be few records for this species in southern California.—J. STEVENSON, *Los Angeles, California, February 15, 1929.*

Slate-colored Fox Sparrow at Alameda, California.—On November 15, 1928, I found a dead fox sparrow on a street in Alameda, California. Later the specimen was submitted to Mr. H. S. Swarth who pronounced it *Passerella iliaca schistacea*. This appears to be the only record for the occurrence of this race in middle-western California.—FRANK N. BASSETT, *San Francisco, California, March 27, 1929.*

Golden Eagle in Death Valley.—On December 27, 1928, while passing through Death Valley, the writer saw a Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) perched in a dead tree by Bennett's Well. The bird rose and flew away when we were still a hundred yards from it, but identification was unquestionable.

A flock of some fifteen Green-winged Teal (*Nettion carolinense*) was noted on one of two small ponds at this oasis, as well as a group of unidentified ducks, while along the grassy margins was an assemblage of five or six Killdeer (*Oxyechus vociferus*) which disported themselves in customary noisy fashion. These might have accounted for the presence of the eagle.

Bennett's Well lies some 250 feet below sea level near the south end of the valley, and appears in no way unsuited to the needs of this eagle. However, there seem to be no previous records of its occurrence there.—E. L. SUMNER, JR., *Pomona College, Claremont, California, February 12, 1929.*

The Pasadena Screech Owl near Victorville, San Bernardino County, California.—On April 22, 1928, the same day on which the Sage Thrasher was found nesting in the near vicinity of Victorville, San Bernardino County, California, I collected a