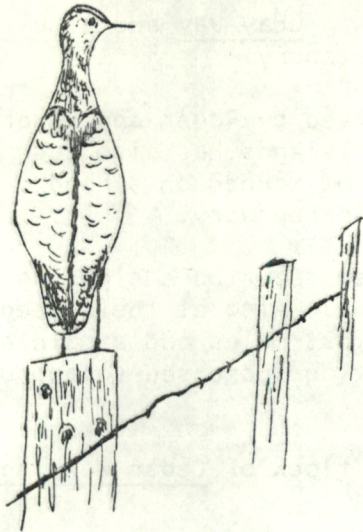


bellied Plover and the color of this bird would easily distinguish it. This would be in the early 1920's.



My uncles in Brudenell were ardent gunners and often hunted Field Plover as they were then called. Very often they would come from Brudenell to Summerville, because at that time, the Summerville area had much larger areas of open fields than either New Perth or Brudenell and it was in Summerville that larger flocks were to be found. This hunting took place about the turn of the century."

SIGHTING OF A NORTHERN THREE-TOED WOODPECKER

In February, Kevin Hughes from Corran Bann observed a female northern three-toed woodpecker upstream on the Winter River near a log cabin. He watched it for several minutes from a distance of approximately 15 feet as it chipped away on a dead red spruce stripping the bark from the top to bottom. The ladder stripping on the back and sides was distinct, hence it could not be an Arctic Three-Toed Woodpecker. Mr. Hughes is quite familiar with downy and hairy woodpeckers which also exist in that area. This represents a positive sighting of a species previously listed as hypothetical on the P.E.I. field checklist of birds.

The Northern Three-toed Woodpecker breeds all across Canada. Its southern and eastern limits are poorly defined, but it breeds in Newfoundland, Anticosti Island and Northern New Brunswick. In Nova Scotia there are sight records only. (W.E. Godfrey, 1976, The Birds of Canada).

More recently, Mr. Hughes observed an arctic three-toed woodpecker also working on a dead red spruce. Mr. Hughes noted that the work of the three-toed woodpeckers on trees was much more obvious than that of the downy and hairy woodpeckers. I have observed sapsucker activity there and flickers are also common. Hence, the winter River area has all species of Woodpeckers which occur.

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NATURALISTS ON THE WATCH

This month we have a considerable volume of sightings because sightings received for February, March and April were not included in the last two newsletters.

Thelma Murchison at a Belfast Community School Meeting this winter told us that others saw a Mocking bird at Pinette in the spring of 1976 (May or June) early in the evening. It sang a whole repertoire of songs, stopped and then repeated all of them again.