

during the first week of the month were Robin (*Planesticus m. migratorius*), Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchus*); Raven (*Corvus corax principalis*); Canada Jay (*Perisoreus canadensis*); Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*); White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*); Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*); Black-capped Chickadee (*Penthestes atricapillus*); Slate-colored Junco (*Junco hyemalis*); Horned Lark (*Otocoris alpestris*) and Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*). On October 10, a Kingfisher (*Ceryle alcyon*) and Pileated Woodpecker (*Ceophloeus pileatus abieticola*) were observed, the latter again on the 21st. One Tree Sparrow (*Spizella monticola*) was noted on the morning of October 13. During the afternoon of the 18th, Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator leucura*) were common. The first small flock of Snow Buntings (*Passerina nivalis*) made their appearance the following day. A single Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*) was observed on Oct. 21. Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) was noted but not commonly.

In the preparation of this article I have received many courtesies from Mr. W. E. Saunders, of London, Ont., and Dr. R. M. Anderson of the Geological Survey, Ottawa. The late Mr. James M. Macoun also of the Geological Survey, kindly furnished the proper common and scientific names of the trees known to occur in the region. To Mr. George Visser, of Ridout, I am indebted for many favors extended during the trip.

COMMON EASTERN SHREW, COOPER SHREW, OR MASKED SHREW, *Sorex personatus personatus* I. Geoffroy.

The masked shrew is very common at Ridout, persisting in nearly all situations from low woods and meadows to the wooded ridges.

Nine specimens were taken. Color.—Dorsal surface of the body brownish-gray, the latter barely perceptible; brown deeper on the rump. Sides slightly lighter. Belly, throat and chin ashy-gray, no sharp line of demarkation between color of belly and sides but change taking place rather abruptly. Tail obscurely bicolor, brownish above, paler below. Feet very light brown.

RICHARDSON'S SHREW, *Sorex richardsonii* Bachman.

Only three specimens of this beautiful shrew were collected at Ridout. A fourth was found dead on a trail through the woods but was beyond the stage for proper preservation. One of the three preserved was found lying dead on a trail intersecting a low meadow. No marks of violence were found on either of these animals but probably the pounce of a cat or bird would be sufficient to extinguish life, the aggressor leaving it unutilized when discover-

ing by the unsavory odor of its prey (which characterizes the shrews) the reality of its mistake. Few animals, I believe, devour the shrews on this account, and I have seen dogs that were very reluctant to even kill them for the same reason.

One man whom I talked with in the north firmly believed that every Richardson's shrew that crossed a human trail fell dead instantly; the idea doubtless originating from the appearance of numerous shrews in these places. The two which I found in the traps were in low damp meadows frequented by the Forest Vole (*M. fontigenus*) and the Mole Shrew (*B. breviceauda*). So far as I am aware these specimens represent the second record for Ontario, the other being Miller's two specimens collected at Peninsula Harbor, in 1896.

SMOKY SHREW, *Sorex fumeus* Miller.

Only one specimen of this comparatively rare shrew was collected at Ridout. Its identity among many of the common shrews was for a time uncertain but it has now been referred to this species by both Mr. W. E. Saunders and Dr. R. M. Anderson. It was collected on Oct. 12, 1918 and measured: Length, 108 mm.; tail vertebratae, 44 mm.; hind foot, 15 mm.

Colour:—Bicolor; back, dark brownish; underparts slightly paler rust brownish. Pelage slightly glossy.

MARSH SHREW, WATER SHREW, *Nesorex albarbis* (Cope).

At Ridout I found that the water shrew was uncommon. Three specimens collected may be described as follows: Color—Above very dark, in some lights almost black, in others, faint brownish-black or greyish-black, overlaid almost imperceptibly with silvery tip to some hairs giving it a slight frosted appearance. Belly silvery-grey washed with dusky, heaviest between forelegs. Whitish around lips and chin. Tail bicolored, blackish above and around the tip, white below. Feet, light brown and fringed with silvery, bristle-like hairs, adapted for swimming. All are apparently adult and in winter pelage.

It is perhaps strange that I found the water shrew in only one very limited locality at Ridout. This was along a small brook which flowed down from the timbered hills and entered the Ridout river a short distance east of the station. At intervals its margin was grassy and moss-grown and underneath this by lifting away the growth, the tiny tunnels of the shrew could be seen. In a space about twenty-five yards in length along the western bank of this streamlet I trapped the three specimens mentioned, all in four days, from Oct. 4 to 7, after which no more were taken. Beyond doubt extended diligence would locate other small