

I mailed Snowy pet + map  
to you March 5 and a  
small report since I had  
sent the earlier one  
for I B L.

Pleasantville Iowa  
50225

March 6, 1977

Dear Nick; - you need one more letter  
from me like you need a hole in the head!  
But that does not deter a garrulous old  
woman!

I received a letter from Paul Jones of  
Ottawa, Ontario. His grandfather lives in  
Tana Iowa + had sent him clippings  
your Snowy Invasion.

He wrote that the mouse-hole population  
seems to be at a low point in its cycle in  
the Ottawa-Hull area and the number of mouse-  
eating raptors wintering there is lower than  
usual. He felt that the low mouse population  
in southern Canada where so many Snowies  
overwinter was a greater factor than the  
lemmings farther north. However she stated  
that the Lemming crash on Bathurst Island  
might also have been a factor. He had  
seen only 2 Snowies both in late Feb.

He said a Hawk Owl had been residing in  
an elm tree 10 miles away all winter + that Boreal,  
Saw-whet, Long-eared, Screech, Great Grey, Barred  
+ Great Horned had all been seen or reported  
but no sightings of Short-eared Owl this  
winter probably because of "Ski-doo" ram-  
paging around fields where Short-ears  
normally hunted in years past. He said  
we should try and keep "Ski-doo" out  
of Iowa!

I do not know this Paul Jones and he  
didn't state his occupation but he seemed  
to be knowledgeable. He also said few Rough-  
legs there this winter.

Sincerely,  
Gladys Black