

11 Jan. 1978

Dear Nick:

Here's one that I'd like to know the answer for. Monday evening Stu Burns called to say he and his wife on Sunday had seen a flock of 25-30 Redpolls and among them were a few with unstreaked white rumps. He thought this not too unusual until he referred to the Annotated List and found no reference to the Hoary sp. He called me to find out why I had omitted this. Dick and I went to the area Tuesday morning but of course failed to find any Redpolls. It was an ideal place and full of weeds but we found only Tree Sp., Juncos and Chickadees.

Stu is firmly convinced that they saw the Hoary and so is his wife. Due to the fact that there is no previous record, he is unwilling to document the find unless it is confirmed. He is the one who found Red-thr Loons in Jester Park and Mary and I were able to verify the record. Personally, I think he is correct but I can see his point in not documenting the record.

I am surprised to read in Roberts where they come in winter as far south as Ill and southern NY. The only one I ever saw was at Grand Marais, Minn which is 120<sup>mi</sup> North of Duluth on L Superior. On the other hand, the weather over the week-end could have brought down most anything; it was blowing a gale directly from the north with sub-zero temps.

We are beginning to get records of Redpoll sightings but I've not seen any. I thought of alerting the Audubon members asking them to look out for the Hoary, but decided there would merely be a number of erroneous reports.

I will list this incident in my winter report to Field Reports even though we will consider this as a hypo.

*Andy*