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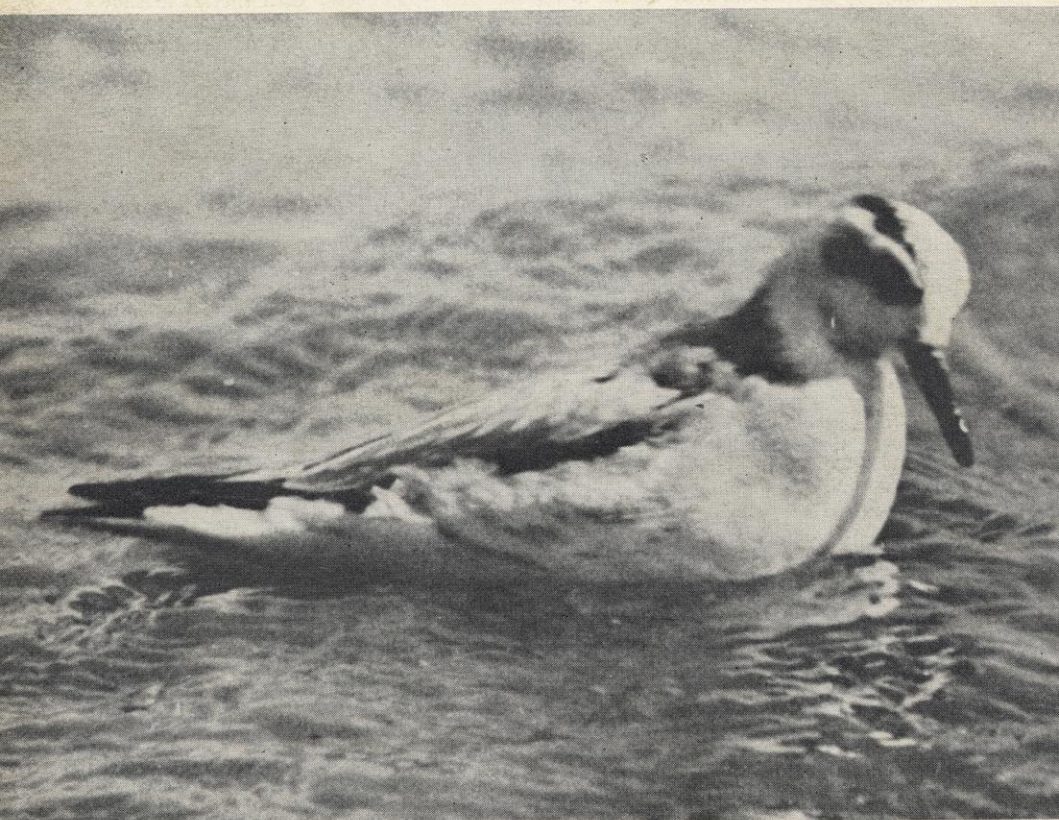
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The PASSENGER PIGEON

VOLUME XII *January, 1950* NUMBER 1



RED PHALAROPE, WINTER PLUMAGE

GEORGE PRINS

A MAGAZINE OF WISCONSIN BIRD STUDY

Published Quarterly By

THE WISCONSIN SOCIETY FOR ORNITHOLOGY, Inc.

NEWS . . .

It's Point Beach State Forest, two miles of wilderness along Lake Michigan, for this year's convention which will be held on May 5, 6, and 7. Since the location is favorable, field trips will be conducted on at least two days, probably during the early morning hours. Housing facilities are available in the vicinity of the park lodge where the meetings will be held. Murl Deusing will be the banquet speaker and he will show his new movie, which was taken in Canada, titled "Canoe Country." It includes sequences on the Nashville and parula warblers, redstart, spruce grouse, and sharp-shinned hawk, to mention a few of the birds. There are scenes of moose and deer and of fishing, also. A 4-H poster contest, sponsored by the society, will be a part of the exhibit. A very elaborate reception program has been arranged for Friday evening, the opening event of the convention.

The Inland Bird Banding Association will combine conventions with us this year.

The convention chairman, Mrs. E. R. Smith, will send out material regarding hotels, meals, and other matters prior to the date.

The red-bellied woodpecker seems to be extending its range northward in Wisconsin. It has been watched with interest recently by many persons, one of whom suggested that we use it for our next range and population study. We are agreeable, so will send out questionnaires on this species around the end of the year. In the meantime, all members are requested to be on the lookout for this species in their locality, to see whether or not it is nesting, how abundant it is, where it is the most common, whether or not it is on the increase, et cetera. The story will be written up for The Passenger Pigeon in the same way as the American egret was.

Newly elected officers of the Milwaukee Bird Club are H. W. Schaars, president; Peter Steib, vice-president; Lee Steven, secretary; and Elden Hunter, director.

The May Day bird counts will be summarized this year as usual in The Passen-

ger Pigeon. Considerable interest has been shown in these counts recently, so it is expected that trips will be taken in many counties of the state. The date selected should be near the middle of May.

Frank H. King, 1502 N. Appleton St., Appleton, was appointed membership chairman by the Board, recently, to fill the unexpired term of Howard Young who left the state.

The society's supply department will have many new things on display during the convention this year. You may wish to purchase some of them for use as gifts.

Since nesting records for the state are written up in a special article for The Passenger Pigeon each year; and, since maps are made for each species to show these records; all observers are requested to be on the lookout for nests and to send in notes about them regularly.

Those members of the society who took part in the field trip conducted last summer on the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Grange, gave a record player and some Sibelius records to the host and hostess as a mark of appreciation. Recently, a note was received from Mrs. Grange describing the pleasure they have had with the gift, and how they would like to thank each contributor individually.

Robert Bliss of Janesville describes how a large flock of geese teamed up with the weather this year to make ice skating unsafe at Lake Lawn. The continual moving of the birds kept a large patch of water from freezing.

Mrs. Howard Higgins explains that about 35 bluebird houses were put up along a local highway by her garden club of Kenosha. During the first year, at least 103 young bluebirds, five tree swallows, and two broods of wrens were reared.

The new card check-list of birds of Wisconsin, which explains our Society and its activities, has been handed out to prospective members very successfully. If you would like to interest new people in our Society by this means you may secure a supply of the bird lists from the Supply Department.

Edwin Cleary, news reporter for the Green Bay Bird Club, recently informed us that Allan Kerr is now club president.

(Continued on page 20)

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NOTES ON A LEAST BITTERN NEST AND YOUNG

By ROBERT W. NERO

Introduction:

The following notes on the Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus e. exilis*) are limited to a single nest and 5 young. These observations were made incidentally during a study of the red-wing blackbird in July and August, 1948, on a 2.2 acre cattail marsh located on the southeast shore of Lake Wingra, near Madison, Dane County, Wisconsin.

Methods:

Because of the habit displayed by the young of leaving the nest and crawling off into the cattails at the observer's approach a wire-mesh fence two feet in diameter was set up around the nest clump on the fifth day after hatching. This cylindrical screen rested in the water and extended about two feet above the nest. The parents were apparently not overly disturbed by this enclosure and the young were thus held under observation for a period considerably longer than would ordinarily have been possible, the longest period for one bird being 16 days after hatching. Eventually, of course, the young climbed over the fence and disappeared in the cattails.

The young bitterns were marked at first by tying colored threads about their tarsi; later they were banded. Their weights were taken on a gram balance. Other measurements were made with a pair of dividers and a rule.

Nesting:

The nest, which was first discovered on July 2, was fashioned of leaves of cattail to form an eight by eight inch platform in the center of a clump of cattail. It was less than a foot above the surface of the water; which water was about two feet deep. The cattail clump was two feet from the edge of a stretch of open water, and about 15 feet from a shore on which grew willow and birch trees. The growing cattail leaves surrounding the nest provided excellent cover and concealment. The nest, while flimsy in appearance, was really quite sturdy, considerable downward pressure being needed to depress it. Sizeable remnants of this nest were still in position on March 24, 1949, eight months after the nest was vacated.

Five eggs were in the nest when found, one of which was pipped the following day, July third. Assuming an incubation period of 16-17 days (Bent, 1926, p. 86), mid-June would have been the beginning of incubation of this clutch, and laying would have begun the second week in June. This fits well with the average of published nesting dates of the species in Wisconsin.

Complete hatching of the brood under observation extended over five days, from July 3 to July 7, apparently one egg hatching each day. Both the main portion and the neatly detached cap were subsequently found in the cattails of the nest clump and in the water below. The width of two egg-shells (still quite whole and intact) measured 25 and 26

mm., somewhat larger than the 23.5 mm. average width of 58 eggs measured by Bent (1926, p. 86).

Appearance of the Young:

When a day old these young had bluish-gray faces and wore tawny colored down which was especially long on their heads and stuck up in front in a grotesque fashion. By the sixth day their feet were greenish-yellow, and the face area had changed to a pattern of green, yellow, and blue, resembling somewhat that of the adult.

The first primaries were out of the sheath on the fourth day, and at six days extended 7 mm. beyond the sheaths. At eight days the longest primaries measured 12 mm. On the eighth day teleoptyle feathers appeared on all the tracts.

Down feathers were still prominent on the eleventh day, particularly on the head and rump region, but also on the neck and back. This down



NEST AND EGGS

EDWARD PRINS

persisted beyond the thirteenth day, by which time the striped throat pattern was visible and the ventral abdominal tracts covered the abdomen.

By the fifteenth day the young had a general resemblance to their parents. They were generally buffy-colored, and notably, the reddish secondary wing coverts were out to their full extent.

The egg tooth, very prominent in this species at hatching, could still be detected on the sixteenth day.

Behavior of the Young:

The very faint "peep" given by the young on their first day changed to a louder and rasping "cheep" by the fourth day. At the end of a week the voice seemed to soften and is recorded as a sibilant "shrick." I seldom saw the adults, but eight days after the brood hatched I heard one giving a continuous and rather soft "kuk-kuk" from nearby in the cattails. Forbush and May (1939, p. 40) speak of the voice of the adult as "a soft coo-coo-coo."

Young of the first day were able to sit up on their tarsi, and managed to hold their head up for short periods. They appeared generally weak. They continually flexed their toes but did not seem able to grasp anything. By the third day they were much stronger and were able to

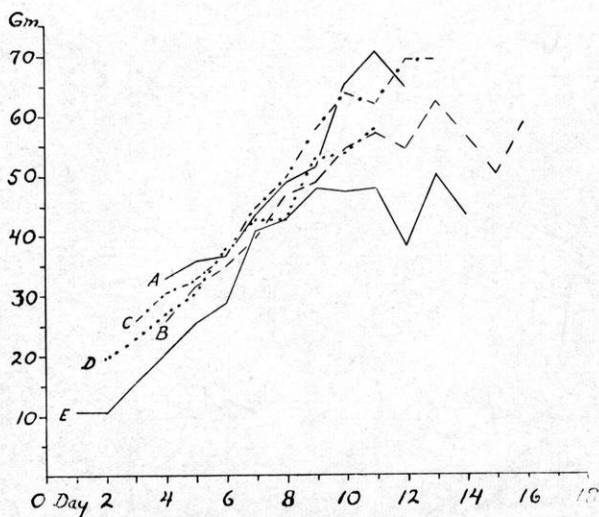


FIGURE I

DAILY BODY WEIGHTS OF 5 YOUNG LEAST BITTERNS. THE LETTERS INDICATE THE HATCHING SUCCESSION, E BEING THE LAST.

hold their wings out sideways. A day later the grasping reflex was considerably stronger and they held to a twig with a good grip. This is not without a point, for after they leave the nest they spend much of their time climbing about the vertical cattails.

By the fourth day the young birds stabbed out and bit at a pencil held before them. Wright (1946, p. 124) notes that newly hatched young show a lack of fear but that they are quite belligerent on the fourth day, and will strike one's hand.

Birds five days old were able to leave the nest, but remained nearby and returned to the nest later. One five day old bird sat up on the pan of the scale and held his beak open, meanwhile rapidly vibrating the skin of his throat. While being handled at mid-day this bird coughed up three headless and partially digested mud-minnows (*Umbra limi*),

the largest measuring 45 mm. in length. It is presumed that the heads were bitten off by the adults. Roberts (1936, p. 193) states that in crawfish remains from adults, the sharp edges of the mandibles and ends of the claws and legs are often clipped off. The habit of regurgitation when being handled was noted on several succeeding occasions. Similar be-



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havior has been described by many authors for members of the heron family.

Young bitterns are sometimes difficult to see. Often I spent several minutes trying to locate them as they hid motionless in and about the nest clump. The characteristic freezing posture of adult bitterns with bill pointed vertically upward was observed as early as the fourth day.

By the sixth day they left the nest readily, and except for the fence surrounding their nest clump I probably should have been unable to locate them. Wright (1946, p. 124) notes that at seven days the young showed considerable fear and would scramble over the edge of the nest and disappear. Even so, they remain attached to the nest, and return to it. This was noted to the age of eight days. I would wade out to the

nest, apparently frightening the young out of it, look about and perhaps find one bird in or on the edge. But upon a careful return a few minutes later I might find the others back in the nest. At eight days they are also difficult to restrain. It was necessary to wrap them in a handkerchief to keep them on the pan of the scale long enough to weigh. They

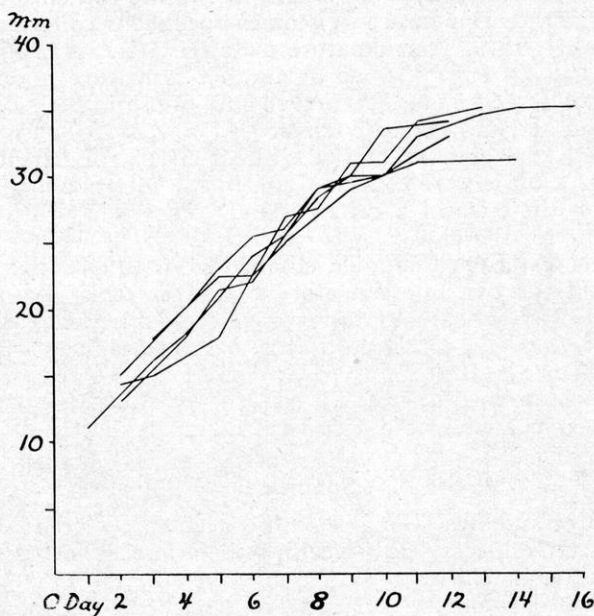


FIGURE 11
DAILY MEASUREMENT OF THE TARSAL LENGTH.

were very aggressive, making vicious stabs at a pencil held to them, and even striking at each other in their excitement.

At nine days they were exceedingly able climbers, seeming all toes and beak. They also appeared to be noisier, giving their soft "shriek" again and again when being handled.

At 13 days two of the brood had escaped over the fence. Allen (1915, p. 430) notes that 13 days after finding a nest with new young "none of the birds were about the nest, nor could I find them in the tangle of the marsh." In the course of the next four days all of the young had escaped over the fence and were gone.

Twenty-five days after the last bird had hatched, an adult was flushed from the vicinity of the nest. It flew low over the cattails and shortly dropped in again. The next day (Aug. 1, 1948) an adult and a single young was flushed about 50 feet from the nest site. Both flew for several feet before dropping into the cattails. Neither young nor adults were observed after this date.

Measurements:

Figure I shows the daily body weights of the five young bitterns. Measurements were not begun until the last bird had hatched, hence

the lack of data during the first four days. It is interesting to note the marked fluctuations in weights exhibited by the bitterns after the tenth day. These ups and downs can probably be explained on the basis of variations in the content of the gizzard, some of the measurements being taken before the young were fed, and some after.

Marked variability in body weight due to the content of the gizzard was noted in three immature Wisconsin specimens collected in August and September, 1949. An immature male (U. W. Z. #13783), weighing 63.4 gms., had an empty stomach; another immature male (U. W. Z. #13781), weighing 94.5 gms., carried 13 gms. of fish in his gizzard, or 14% of his weight; and an immature female (U. W. Z. #13782), weighing 96.1 gms., carried 20.6 gms. in her gizzard, or 21.4% of her total weight. These latter 2 birds were collected late in the afternoon, shortly before sundown, on the edge of a cattail island. They had probably just finished feeding for the day.

Weights of the birds studied climbed from 10 gms. (extremes 10 to 20) on the first day to an average of 59 gms. (extremes 48 to 70) on the eleventh day. Weights of 11 bitterns collected in Michigan from May 7 to August 13 averaged 85 gms. (extremes 72 to 100.2) (data by correspondence, from the University of Michigan Zoology Department). Wing and tarsal measurements of the bitterns in this study revealed somewhat less variation in actual body size (see figure II).

Summary:

1. A nest and five young least bitterns were successfully enclosed within a wire mesh fence, thus keeping them available for study for up to 16 days after hatching.
2. The nest site, nest, and eggs are described. The five eggs of the nest under study hatched over a five day period.
3. The appearance and behavior of the young are briefly described. By the fifth day the young left the nest and hid in the vegetation when disturbed. They assumed the vertical "freezing" pose on disturbance as early as the fourth day.
4. Daily body weights and tarsal lengths of the young are graphed. Gizzard contents up to 21% of the total body weight complicate the interpretation of gross body weight figures.

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THE ORIGIN OF THE COMMON NAMES OF WISCONSIN BIRDS

By H. W. SCHAARS

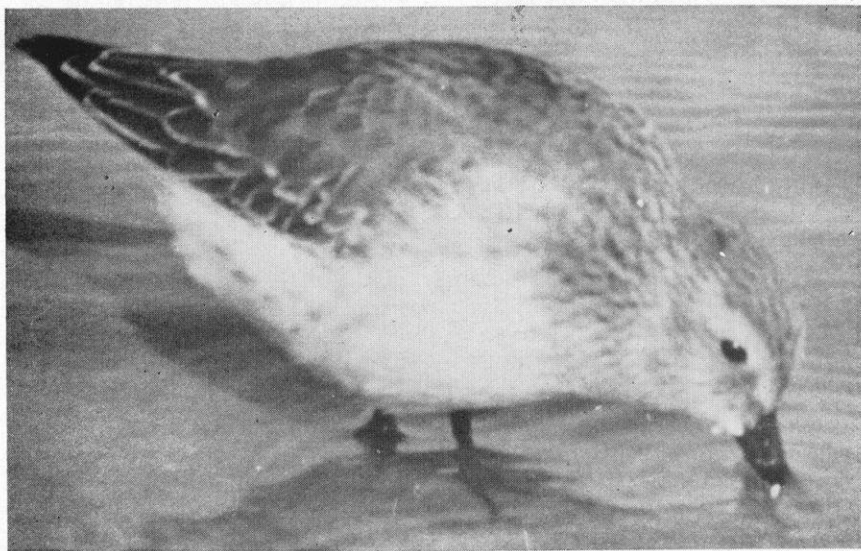
(Continued from last issue)

138. (283a) Ruddy Turnstone

The Turnstone has the habit of turning over pebbles, oyster-shells, and other objects on the beach to search for minute forms of animal life on which it subsists. Its reddish-brown back earned for it the name "Ruddy."

139. (289) Eastern Bob-white

The call "bob-white, bob-white," which has named this bird, has become one of the cheeriest sounds in bird world.



RED-BACKED SANDPIPER, WINTER PLUMAGE

GEORGE PRINS

140. (294) Valley Quail

The word "Quail" is of Teutonic source, being of imitative origin. "Valley" distinguishes this Quail from the Mountain Quail of the higher lands.

141. (298) Canada Spruce Grouse

Webster says that the origin of the word "Grouse" is uncertain. The distribution of the Canada Spruce ranges from Alaska to Labrador, truly a Canada species. It is a bird of the northern wilderness, touching only a few of our northern states. It is a dweller in dark spruce woods and tamarack swamps.

142. (300) Ruffed Grouse

A dark ruff formed by a tuft of broad black or brownish-black feathers on either side graces the neck of this Grouse.

143. Pheasant

The word "Pheasant" comes from the Latin **phasianus**, the family name of the Pheasant being **Phasianidae**. This word is derived from Phasis, a river in Transcaucasia, Russia. From here the Greeks under Alexander the Great imported these birds into Europe.

144. European Partridge

"Partridge" is a Middle English word, perhaps imitative of the whir in the bird's rising. These birds were introduced from Europe, chiefly so since 1905. A race from England proved less hardy than the Hungarian or Czechoslovakian race.

145. Reeves' Pheasant

This bird is named for a Mr. Reeves, who brought the first living birds to Europe from China.

146 Chukar Partridge

A search to get the meaning of "Chukar" proved futile.

147. (301) Willow Ptarmigan

The ulterior history and origin of the word "Ptarmigan" is unknown. The Arctic tundra is the breeding ground of this Ptarmigan. There the bush-grown gullies flourish with willow. In winter these birds subsist on the buds and terminal twigs of the willow.

148 (305) Greater Prairie Chicken

This is a bird of the open prairie country, the female, particularly, resembling our domestic chicken in many respects. It is greater in size than the other species of this family.

149 (308b) Prairie Sharp-tailed Grouse

The middle pair of tail-feathers in the male extend some distance beyond the others in spring and summer. When the western prairies were still an unsettled wilderness, this Grouse was king of the region. With the coming of the grain-fields the bird retreated farther north and west.

150. (308) Northern Sharp-tailed Grouse*

"Northern" reminds us of the fact that this Grouse is at home in central Alaska, northwestern British Columbia, central Keewatin and Ungava south to Lake Superior.

151. (310) Eastern Turkey

The name "Turkey" was shortened from "turkey cock," first applied to the guinea cock which was imported from Africa through Turkey into Europe and with which the American bird was for a time identified. The range of this Turkey is eastern United States.

152. (315) Passenger Pigeon

Immense flocks banded together to fly from one area to another, birds of passage, a sight that attracted general public attention, causing this bird to stand out in the public eye as the bird Passenger.

153. (313.1) Rock Dove

In its wild state this Dove prefers the haunts of the rocky parts of the coast. It is the parent stem of our domestic pigeons.

154. (316) Mourning Dove

The note of this Dove is a soft, monotonous "coo-oo-oo," uttered mournfully and with great tenderness.

*Names with star are on our hypothetical list.

155. (316a) Western Mourning Dove*

This is a "Western" Dove, breeding from Minnesota and Oklahoma west to the Pacific Coast.

156. (325) Turkey Vulture

The word "Vulture" is akin to the Latin *vellere*, to tear, to pluck, to take away by force. This Vulture has the bare red neck so much like that of a Turkey.

157. (327) Swallow-tailed Kite

Webster states that the word "Kite" is probably related to the German word *Kauz*, an owl. The deep forked tail, the outer tail-feathers being about eight inches longer than the middle pair, accounts for the name "Swallow-tailed."

158. (329) Mississippi Kite*

This "Kite" was first identified on the plantation of William Dunbar a few miles below Natchez, Mississippi.

159. (331) Marsh Hawk

The German word for "Hawk" is *Habicht*, which in its root refers to seize, alluding to the Hawk's chasing of its prey. This Hawk has a preference for marshy swamps, its nest being placed on the ground.

160. (332) Sharp-shinned Hawk

Which bird student would not like to know the reason for calling this Hawk the "Sharp-shin"!

161. (333) Cooper's Hawk

William Cooper of New York is immortalized in the name of this Hawk.

162. (334) Goshawk

That is the "Goose-hawk." Newton writes, "There is no tradition of the Goshawk having ever been used to take geese or other large and powerful birds."

163. (337) Red-tailed Hawk

This Hawk is readily recognized by the bright chestnut color of the tail—red to some.

164. (337d) Harlan's Hawk*

This "Hawk" is named for Dr. Richard Harlan of Philadelphia.

165. (339) Red-shouldered Hawk

This cousin of the Red-tail always shows rusty-red shoulders.

166. (342) Swainson's Hawk

This Hawk is named for William Swainson, a well-known English naturalist, 1789-1855.

167. (343) Broad-winged Hawk

Being a rather small, chunky *Buteo*, the wings appear to be broader than long.

168. (347) American Rough-legged Hawk

The feathers of the legs extend to the toes, the Golden Eagle being the only other diurnal bird of prey in our region with feathered tarsi.

169. (348) Ferruginous Rough-leg

The word "Ferruginous" is derived from *ferrum*, meaning iron; ferruginous is the color of iron rust. This Hawk has its upperparts and flanks a reddish brown.

170. (349) Golden Eagle

At first one wonders where the "Golden" comes in. Closer observation reveals that the feathers of the hind neck have separate lanceolate tips, like the hackles of a rooster, which are yellow and golden brown.

171. (352) Southern Bald Eagle

The adult Eagle has a pure white head. In the distance it looks to be bald. The general range is the United States to southern Lower California and central Mexico.

172. (352a) Northern Bald Eagle*

We must go to the northern regions as northwestern Alaska, northwestern Mackenzie, central Keewatin, and northern Ungava to see this larger but otherwise similar Eagle, similar to its relative, the Southern Bald Eagle.

173. (354) Gyrfalcon

The spelling "gerfalcon" is etymologically preferable; but "gyrfalcon" is generally preferred by ornithologists. Literally, "Gyrfalcon" means the "spear falcon," alluding to the spear-like attack made upon the prey.

174. (355) Prairie Falcon*

This ordinarily shy, but bold, daring hunter may be seen sweeping the western prairies and sage brush deserts.

175. (356a) Duck Hawk

Besides feeding on grouse and partridges, this Hawk is also fond of ducks.

176. (357) Pigeon Hawk

Its habits are much like those of the Duck Hawk; but being smaller in size, birds of pigeon-size are more in line for attack. This Hawk also looks and flies somewhat like a pigeon.

177. (357b) Richardson's Pigeon Hawk*

Ridgway named this Hawk for Sir John Richardson, a Scottish naturalist and explorer, 1787-1865.

178. (360) Sparrow Hawk

The name is misleading. Only infrequently are birds taken for food. Grasshoppers, crickets, and other insects form its principal food during the warm months, while mice predominate during the rest of the year.

179. (364) Osprey

The word "Osprey" seems to have its root in the Latin *ossifraga*, being literally the bone breaker. The name is inapplicable; this bird is no bone breaker save those of the fish that it devours.

180. (365) Barn Owl

The Latin word *ululare* is at the root of the word "Owl." It signifies the uttering of a loud, prolonged, doleful cry, which dwells upon the vowel "u." The word "howl" comes from the same root. The name alludes to the doleful "hoot" of the bird. Not only barns are used as nesting or roosting sites. The nest may be found almost anywhere—in church towers, deserted buildings, hollow trees, crevices in cliffs, even in ground burrows.

181. (366) Long-eared Owl

The ear-tufts of this bird are very conspicuous, long-eared.

182. (367) Short-eared Owl

In this Owl the ear-tufts are rather inconspicuous, but may be found if carefully looked for.

183. (368) Northern Barred Owl

The deep brown of the upperparts is regularly barred with pure white. The throat and breast are similarly barred, but of a grayer line. The primaries are barred on the inner webs. Even the tail has its fine narrow bars. The Barred Owl is appropriately named. "Northern" distinguishes this Owl from the Florida Barred and also from the Texas Barred.

184. (370) Great Gray Owl

This is a huge dark gray bird. It is the largest of our Owls, 30 inches, having a tail a foot long and a wing-spread of nearly six feet. "Great" suits the name of this Owl.

185. (371) Richardson's Owl

This Owl is named for Sir John Richardson, a Scottish naturalist and explorer, 1787-1865.

186. (372) Saw-whet Owl

The note of this bird is said to resemble the sound made by filing a saw.

187. (373) Screech Owl

Chapman writes: "We may hear its melancholy voice—not a screech, but a tremulous, wailing whistle." Barrows has this: "The note is a series of clear, tremulous, plaintive, but rather musical notes, suggesting a wail rather than a screech, and by no means justifying the common name 'Screech Owl.'"

188. (375) Great Horned Owl

The conspicuous ear-tufts of this Owl suggested the name "Horned." Of those with ear-tufts this is the largest Owl—"Great."

189. (375j) Montana Horned Owl*

The word "Montana" would here represent one of the western states in which this owl nests.

190. (376) Snowy Owl

This Owl is mainly snow-white. More or less, however, it is barred with brown.

191. (377a) American Hawk Owl

T. Gilbert Pearson writes: "The bird is appropriately named; not only is its appearance hawk-like, but its manner of hunting is similar, in some respects, to that of the hawks, or at any rate very unlike that of most of the owls. For, besides its daylight hunting, the bird has the habit of perching conspicuously on a dead stub, or in plain sight at the top of a tree, whence it watches for its prey with hawk-like alertness." "American," since it is the representative of the European Hawk Owl (*Surnia ulula ulula*).

192. (378) Western Burrowing Owl

This Owl uses the abandoned burrow of a prairie dog, skunk, fox, or badger for a nest. Its range is the unforested portions of western United States and southwestern Canada—"Western."

193. (382a) Louisiana Paroquet

This bird is now extinct. It was a bird of the Mississippi Valley. The name "Louisiana" contrasted the Carolina Paroquet, which ranged along the Atlantic Coast.

194. (387) Yellow-billed Cuckoo

The European relative of our Cuckoo, after whom our bird is named, has a call imitative of the name "cuckoo." Our American bird calls "cook-cook-cook-cook" or "cow-cow-cow." The lower mandible of the bill is yellow.

195. (388) Black-billed Cuckoo

Its bill is black, not yellow.

196. (390) Eastern Belted Kingfisher

The bill of this handsome bird is like a sharp, two-edged sword with which he can spear with deadly accuracy. Of all fishing birds he is the surest, the "king" of them all. The broad band of bluish-gray across the chest is its "belt." "Eastern" is in contrast to the Texas Kingfisher.

197. (393) Hairy Woodpecker

The Woodpeckers are preeminently distinguished for their habit of pecking the bark or decayed wood of trees in search for grubs and other insects. Do not expect to find anything "hairy" about the Hairy Woodpecker, he is clothed with plain ordinary feathers like any other bird. Taxidermists, however, will often find the feathers of the back fluffing up. Should that be a reason for the name "Hairy"?



DOWNY WOODPECKER

M. A. SCHMITZ

198. (393h) Northern Hairy Woodpecker*

The Canadian Zone of northern North America is the chief range of this "Northern."

199. (394) Downy Woodpecker

We found nothing "hairy" on the Hairy Woodpecker; we'll find nothing "downy" on the little black and white Downy Woodpecker.

200. (400) Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker

Unlike other Woodpeckers who have two toes in front and two behind, this species has two toes in front and one behind. Its chief breeding area is that of the Arctic Circle, though nests have been found in our northern states.

201. (401) American Three-toed Woodpecker

This is one of the three regional varieties known as Ladderback Woodpeckers. They are the American, the Alaska, and the Alpine.

202. (402) Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

The name refers to this Woodpecker's habit of perforating the bark of fruit and shade trees with innumerable squarish holes, first extracting the soft inner bark and then drinking the flowing sap. The belly is a pale yellow or yellowish white.

203. (405) Northern Pileated Woodpecker

The Latin word *pileatus* is a felt cap, or having a crest covering the pileum. The pileum is the top of the head of a bird from the bill to the nape. The name "Pileated" is in reference to its red crest. "Northern"

also fits the bird since even in our northern winters the bird may be seen in forested areas.

204. (406) Red-headed Woodpecker

This is our only Woodpecker with an entirely red head.

205. (409) Red-bellied Woodpecker

The middle of the abdomen is red, the color also tingeing the breast.

206. (412) Northern Flicker

The name "Flicker" probably originated from the bird's call notes, being echoic of the word "flicker."

207. (417) Eastern Whip-poor-will

This bird, so seldom seen, yet so frequently heard, has its name from its characteristic call that clearly resembles the words "whip-poor-will." Its range is Eastern North America.

208. (420) Eastern Nighthawk

The name "hawk" is misleading. In no sense of the word is he a hawk. Instead of the powerful talons, he has rather weak feet; instead of a meat-hook-like bill, his is short and weak. The name "night" is also misleading. This goatsucker flies freely by day, but does have preference for hunting at the morning and evening twilight. "Eastern" distinguishes it from the four relatives—Pacific, Sennett's, Western, and Florida.

209. (420c) Sennett's Nighthawk*

Coues christened this Nighthawk for George Sennett, a distinguished ornithologist.

210. (423) Chimney Swift

Both names are well adapted. According to E. C. Stuart-Baker this bird has a speed record for flight—it is truly a "swift." Its favorite resort is a chimney, the abandoned factory chimney or the unused chimney of a public building.

211. (428) Ruby-throated Hummingbird

The rapid vibrations of the wings when flying make a humming sound. The male has a chin and throat that is a rich metallic ruby-red ending sharply against the grayish-white breast.

212. (443) Scissor-tailed Flycatcher

The members of the family *Tyrannidae* catch not only flies, but many other flying insect species. The tail of this Flycatcher is deeply forked, that of the male being 7 to 10 inches long, that of the female shorter.

213. (444) Eastern Kingbird

The frequent and courageous attacks that this bird makes upon Crows and Hawks have won for it the name "Kingbird," the bird that "lords" it over these birds. Its range is North America, east of the Rocky Mountains.

214. (447) Arkansas Kingbird

It seems no author of bird literature analyzed the origin of the name "Arkansas."

215. (452) Northern Crested Flycatcher

The "crest" of this Flycatcher is no larger than that of most other members of the family. "Northern" would remind us of the fact that there is also a Southern Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus crinitus*).

216. (456) Eastern Phoebe

Many bird observers hear in the call of this bird the syllables "phee-bee." Others say they cannot detect that sound, but hear one resembling the syllable "see-hee." It is distributed over Eastern North America.

217. (457) Say's Phoebe

This flycatcher is named for Thomas Say, an American zoologist, 1787-1834.

218. (459) Olive-sided Flycatcher

Not only are the sides of the belly olive, but also the back.

219. (461) Eastern Wood Pewee

The voice and the habitat of the bird prompted Alexander Wilson to call it the "Wood Pewee." The most usual call is three syllabic, "pee-a-wee." It certainly does prefer the woods to any other type of landscape. There is also a Western Wood Pewee.

220. (463) Yellow-bellied Flycatcher

The underparts of this Flycatcher are mainly pale sulphur yellow, while the upperparts are dark olive green.

221. (465) Acadian Flycatcher

This bird was mistitled. It has never been seen in Acadia. Prof. Eliot suggests the name "Green Flycatcher."

222. (466) Alder Flycatcher

This Flycatcher is partial to wet situations and low growths, ideal locations for alders to flourish.

223. (467) Least Flycatcher

This is the smallest of the Flycatchers we know. None of the others has been found to measure under five inches in length. Barrows had one that measured 4.9 inches.

224. (474) Prairie Horned Lark

The ultimate etymology of the word "lark" is unknown. The little feathered tufts or "ears" suggest the name of "Horned." It is a bird of the open areas, not to be found in forests,—“Prairie.”

225. (—) Northern Horned Lark

While the Prairie Horned Lark's range is northeastern United States and Canada, the Northern Horned Lark breeds in northeastern British America east of the Hudson Bay.

226. (475) American Magpie

The word is derived from "Mag," for Margaret, a woman's name, plus "pie." The generic name of the bird is *Pica*, for which "pie" is the

abbreviation. "American" distinguishes this bird from the well-known European Magpie.

227. (477) Northern Blue Jay

The word "Jay" is from the Old French *gai*, which in meaning is equivalent to our "gay," a reference, no doubt, to the handsome plumage of the bird. The general bright blue color stands out at once. In the peninsula of Florida is a smaller and duller-colored bird, the Florida Blue Jay.

228. (484) Canada Jay

The breeding range of this species is mainly in Canada.

229. (486) Raven

This word is akin to the German word *Rabe*, a black bird.

230. (488) Eastern Crow

The word "Crow" refers to the loud cry of the bird, usually imitated as "caw." There is also a Western Crow.

231. (491) Clark's Nutcracker

The winter food is the seeds of conifers. The bird loosens the cone from the branch by grabbing it with the feet and jerking it to the ground. Carrying the cone in the bill to some place, it knocks off the scales and gets at the seed—an ingenious nutcracker. The bird was first discovered by Captain William Clark of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, near the site of Salmon City in Idaho, August 22, 1805.

(Continued in next issue)



PROF. JOHN T. EMLÉN BANDS BARRED OWL HELD BY THOMAS J. STAVRUM, PRESIDENT OF THE MADISON AUDUBON SOCIETY. ONLOOKING MEMBERS ARE CORNELIA AND NEWELL MACK (LEFT) AND H. M. WILLIAMS.

MADISON AUDUBON SOCIETY RELEASES BANDED HAWKS AND OWLS

Three red-tailed hawks and five barred owls were banded and released near Madison in the early part of December, 1949, by the Madison Audubon Society. The birds were trapped by Wallace Grange near Babcock, Wisconsin, and sent to Madison for banding and releasing. As part of the study of bird movements, it will be interesting to note whether any of the owls find their way back to the point of origin, or whether any of the hawks will return in the spring.

Walden West: 1. (Excerpts)

By AUGUST DERLETH

Long ago I fell into the habit of making a daily excursion every evening into the bottoms of the Wisconsin, going along the tracks of the Milwaukee Road toward Mazomanie for two miles or so and back. I went at first to get away from myself and the occupations of the day; but soon a normal curiosity got the better of me, and I went quite frankly to learn, a slow process by the method of trial and error. It was some time before I began to have any conception of the vast diversity of nature.

There were errors, many of them, but the slow learning afforded me much more pleasure than I could have anticipated, and the yearly calendar of spring voices and arrivals, which I soon began to keep, became a self-assumed obligation which added to this solitary delight. Every winter was made endurable by anticipation of that hour in March in which the *kildee* or *conqueree* of killdeer or redwing first rose into the air, of the first peeper's first wavering piping, of the first woodcock's first aerial dance, sight of which remains infinitely more satisfying than any mere personal accomplishment.

Indeed, nothing so impressed me in those early years of trekking through the marshes of evenings as the flight of the woodcock. There is something about the launching forth of the woodcock into its aerial dance which is ineffably stirring—that small, almost grotesque figure, soaring ecstatically aloft in an immemorial rite, twittering and chirping, flying in dizzying circles ever up and up, faster and faster, only to drop at last and rise again in a little while. There is something divine about this rite, something which beggars all description and transcends any picture—the dark body hurtling up against the afterglow among the budded, leafing trees in an ancient pattern which is an ecstasy of nature before which a man must stand in humility and wonder, and the knowledge that here is a thing of pure, unalloyed beauty which is vouchsafed only to those who learn, however slowly and ineptly, to use eyes and ears. Nor is it necessary to understand that this is an integral part of the bird's mating ritual; that becomes manifest in good time; it is only necessary to see and hear, to appreciate and to recognize that somewhere within, there is a pulse, remote and no less wild, that beats in harmony with that wild heart above.

It is so, too, with the ecstasy of the jacksnipe. To watch it makes a man feel less significant than a cinder beneath his foot. For how often in his brief span does the average man even approximate such ecstasy of his own doing? And how often does a man walk his little plot of earth in full awareness—with all his senses alert to taste, see, smell, hear, and

**Walden West* is a work in progress. It is a work on three related themes, of which that of the sounds and odors of the countryside has been drawn upon for this sequence of excerpts, which are presented here without other than a specious order. *Walden West* bears the subtitle, "a spiritual autobiography," tentatively, and is a logical outgrowth of the *Sac Prairie Journal*, paragraphs from which have been appearing in these pages.

feel all the life around him? Most men, indeed, do not know what it is to live in the fullest sense, to apprehend completely all the sensory delight which crowds upon them from all sides, once they are free of the dreadful drudgery and confinement of four walls, a leaking tap, and the violent cacophony of the radio. I stand and watch the jacksnipe, as the woodcock, listen to the long, rapid **whoo-oo-oo-oo-oo** of air in his feathers, and my pulse goes up with him, up into the blue heaven on the declining rim of day, with the last sun bright as a star on his breast, on the underside of his wings, as if this sight were something for my eyes and ears alone. But it is every man's heritage in equal proportion, and if another does not wish to take his share, I am willing and glad to assume it.

* * * * *

Perhaps the most gracious singer of all is the song sparrow. He is joyous or pensive, gay or melancholy, nostalgic and hopeful—all these at once as well. I have heard him sing ever since I can remember; his was one of the earliest songs I knew, though for years I confused him with his cousin, the vesper sparrow—a small matter, since both are singers of no small merit, and their songs are quite similar. But the song sparrow's is the more melodious. I have never heard it without a lifting of spirits, the heart leaping up, as it were, no matter what the season or the hour of the day; his song at the edge of evening or in the depth of night is as appropriate as it is at dawn.

The song starts something up in me, something that does not seem to end, as were it a thought, a theme, an idea, intangible, to be sure—that is half its charm—so that each time I hear it I embark on a familiar dream, for it **is** a dream, one of those dreams about which, on waking, you remember nothing save that it was a thing of beauty. It is a song that fills the heart with a score of things—the sound and musk of running water, the medicinal pungence of willows, the whisper of wind in leaves—everything of peace. Perhaps, indeed, it is this conscious suggestion which makes the song seem so ineffably beautiful—the beauty of seeming peace to someone in turmoil within, someone bereft of inner peace. I am not sure enough, or glib enough, for that matter, to say. Cause is of no moment; effect alone has meaning.

* * * * *

The choir of the frogs is a primal sound without counterpart in nature, like the voice of the earth itself. There is nothing a man could call melody in the **hyla** chorus, but a man could do without many a melody before dispensing with this choir. It begins with one chill, uncertain note, a hesitant fluting, followed by another, and another, and presently yet another, until at last a hundred invisible throats are pulsing with the piping of peepers or the grating rattle of cricket frogs praising the April evening from a hundred tussocks of grass, from a hundred hidden pools.

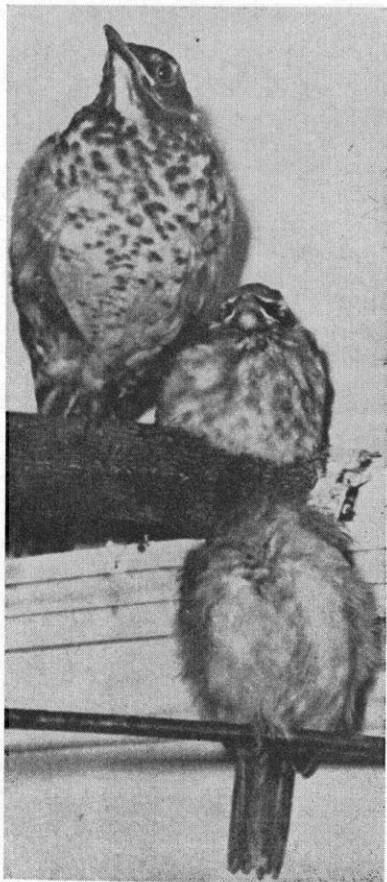
The evening belongs to them, the dusk and the darkness are theirs, and all who pass within hearing know that April has come again, April and life renewed once more. How incredible it is to reflect that there are thousands of human beings who are not stirred by this chorus, who do not even hear it, perhaps, thousands who never share the privilege of

knowing the world at their feet, who may be content to reduce the hyla choir to a simple scientific fact, preliminary to the mating of the frogs! It stands for so much more than that to the man who is sensitive and aware; it stands for something akin to what is locked within, equally as primal as the choir of the hylidae.

* * * * *

I have often thought that the sounds and odors of night are important in relation to some memory—sometimes forgotten, lost in the past of childhood or youth, but none the less carrying its own meaning to the complexity of bone and flesh and blood which is every man. Perhaps it is good and wholesome to know the source of each emotion, but such knowledge is not necessary to its enjoyment. Keys and clues present themselves, but no explication can any longer alter one's enjoyment of such sounds and odors as have come to have an added meaning because of fortuitous events of childhood or youth. What is locked in memory is tributary to meaning, it may even be essential to enjoyment, but it alters in no aspect a single facet of the world outside any given human being.

Sauk City, Wisconsin



STRANGE BED FELLOWS

"THE CEDAR WAXWING (MIDDLE) ALWAYS SAT CLOSE TO THE YOUNG ROBIN; THE ORIOLE ON THE PERCH BELOW WHEN THEY SLEPT.

"WHENEVER WE LIGHTED THE LIGHT THE ROBIN AND WAXWING AWOKE TO SEE WHAT WAS GOING ON. THE ORIOLE SLEPT THROUGH EVERYTHING, EVEN THE FLASH THAT TOOK THIS PICTURE."

MRS. CLOUGH GATES

*MRS. GATES HAS THE NECESSARY PERMITS TO KEEP BIRDS.

NEWS . . .

(Continued from page 2)

He further states that J. B. Kendall showed a bird film in color for their February meeting.

The check-list booklet with migration charts is being reprinted this spring as our original order of 5,000 copies is now exhausted. The Supply Department is financing the project, and will reprint 2500 copies. They will be available when the convention is held. Price 25c each.

THE BIRDS OF WISCONSIN

By L. KUMLIEN and N. HOLLISTER

With Revisions by A. W. Schorger

(Continued from last issue)

FAMILY ALAUDIDAE: LARKS.

Otocoris alpestris (Linn.). **Horned Lark.**

Found on the prairies during winter, oftentimes in considerable numbers. The birds representing this race of the horned lark reach the southern part of the state late in fall, and leave us early in spring. We have never known anything approaching typical *alpestris* to have been taken in Wisconsin in summer. It does not occur anywhere, under our observation, except on the larger prairies, while *praticola* is found in almost any field or pasture, even when quite small and surrounded by woods. Usually found associated with the Lapland longspur, arriving and departing with the latter. It averages so much larger than the prairie horned lark as to be readily recognized.

Otocoris alpestris praticola (Hensh.). **Prairie Horned Lark.**

This is the common, resident horned lark of Wisconsin, and is an abundant breeding species in all suitable localities. Frequently nesting as early as the middle of March, two broods are reared in a season. Breeding birds from northwestern Wisconsin show a considerable variation from those of the southern part of the state. In extremely cold weather in midwinter this form sometimes almost wholly disappears for a very short time.

Otocoris alpestris hoyti (Bishop). **Hoyt's Horned Lark.**

We have long mistrusted *O. a. arenicola* (Hensh.) as an occasional late fall or winter visitor to Wisconsin, and since the publication of Mr. Oberholser's "Review of the Larks of the Genus *Otocoris*" (1) have carefully gone over our series from many parts of the state. We find, as a consequence, no less than three perfectly typical specimens of *O. a. hoyti*, all procured in winter in Rock County, from large flocks of *alpestris*. The birds are doubtless of rare, but regular occurrence as late fall stragglers in many open prairie sections of the state.

[This subspecies is not rare and is sometimes more numerous than the Northern Horned Lark.]

FAMILY CORVIDAE: CROWS, JAYS, MAGPIES, ETC.

Pica pica hudsonica (Sab.). **American Magpie.**

Rare winter visitant. The magpie was doubtless formerly of more frequent occurrence in Wisconsin than during recent years. Dr. Hoy states that two were shot at Caledonia in December, 1848, and one was obtained at Bailey's Harbor, on Lake Michigan, November 15, 1849, by a gentleman from Racine. Mr. J. N. Clark, of Meridian, writes us that one was captured in a trap in Dunn County in 1870, and that he himself

1. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XXIV, pp. 801-884.

saw one in the same locality, at close gun range, in February, 1884. In the winter of 1859-60, Thure Kumlien made a number of ineffectual attempts to shoot a specimen that came daily to feed on some hog offal, that had been hung upon a neighbor's fence when butchering. He saw the bird plainly on two or three occasions when he did not have a gun. This was in Jefferson County. A specimen was also taken near Ashland in 1880. Deer hunters from northern Wisconsin report seeing specimens, but very rarely. During severe winters they are sometimes seen about lumber camps. A pine-land hunter, with whom we were acquainted, said he had seen perhaps a half dozen in all his experience of many years in northern Wisconsin.

[Now of rare occurrence. During the fall and winter of 1921-22, magpies invaded Minnesota in numbers. One was seen near River Falls, Wisconsin, on November 25, 1921, by C. G. Stratton (**Bird-Lore** 24,1922: 51). One was taken in Milwaukee on November 5, 1934, by W. J. Mueller (**Auk** 52,1935:90). Records for this species will be unsatisfactory due to the possibility that the bird has escaped from a zoological garden. In the spring of 1944, seven magpies escaped at Madison, and on May 7 one was collected "in good faith." (A. W. Schorger, **Wilson Bull.** 56,1944:118).]

Cyanocitta cristata (Linn.). Blue Jay.

Abundant throughout the entire year over the greater part of the state. One of the most familiar of birds; as much at home in towns and cities, as in the deepest woods. More common in the settled portions of the south and central parts of the state than in the pine region.

Perisoreus canadensis (Linn.). Canada Jay.

Common and very familiar about the logging camps of northern Wisconsin during winter. Apparently does not extend its migration far outside of the pine regions, especially at the present time. It has been taken at Racine (Hoy), near Jefferson (T. Kumlien), and Janesville, but many years ago. There does not seem to be very good evidence that it is a summer resident in any part of the state; still it would not be at all surprising if it should be found nesting. Commonly known as "Whiskey Jack," and "camp-robber."

[Now restricted mainly to the coniferous swamps in the northern part of the state. A. J. Schoenebeck (l. c. p. 32) found a nest in Oconto County on March 28, 1898. In June, 1918, H. H. T. Jackson (**Auk** 40, 1923:484) found adults accompanied with young in Vilas County. J. Cole found a nest under construction in Sawyer County in February, 1935. It contained four eggs on March 20. (A. W. Schorger, **Auk** 54,1937:392-3). I found young birds using a cedar swamp at Teal Lake, Sawyer County, in June, 1947, and one young was collected June 14, 1948.]

Corvus corax principalis (Ridgw.). Northern Raven.

Steadily decreasing in numbers, but yet rather a common species in the less settled portions of northern Wisconsin. Dr. Hoy, in 1852, gave it as more numerous than the next at Racine. It has always been considered as more common along Lake Michigan than in the interior, except in the northern part of the state. Nelson found it a rare winter visitant in northeastern Illinois in 1876, but states that it was formerly "not an uncommon resident." King gives it as "common the whole length

of the Flambeau River, October and November, 1877, several seen daily.¹¹ Willard reports but one specimen from Brown County, and Grundtvig one from Outagamie County, in 1882. Grundtvig, on the authority of residents, states that it was formerly common in that county. Thirty to forty years ago the raven was not a rare winter visitant to southern Wisconsin, but of late years it is rarely seen. A single specimen shot at Lake Koshkonong, November, 1891, by L. Kumlien, and mounted for Albion Academy, is the last real record we have, although others have been "seen." We have met it at several points in northern Wisconsin in late fall and winter, but more often along Lake Michigan and Lake Superior than elsewhere. It is really common at several points along Lake Superior, where it seems to replace the crow entirely. It is commonly found around the lake fishing stations.

[Formerly occurred throughout the state but now confined mainly to the northern quarter. Nests with eggs and young were found near Crandon, Forest County, in the spring of 1941, and 1942. (O. J. Gromme, *Pass. Pigeon* 4,1942:46-7.) Sam Ruegger (*Pass. Pigeon* 7,1945:59-61) found a nest with five eggs at Winter, Sawyer County, March 26, 1945. A nest was found in Vilas County on March 28, 1947, by Philip Miles (*Pass. Pigeon* 7,1945:54). One was shot by a hunter at Crystal Lake, Dane County, in October, 1934. (L. W. Wing, *Auk* 52,1935:455). A bird shot by J. P. Rugee near Cedar Grove, Sheboygan County, November 7, 1939, was donated to the Milwaukee Public Museum. (*Pass. Pigeon* 1,1939:167).

J. J. Van Tyne (*Occ. Papers Mus. Zool., Univ. Mich.* No. 379, June 16, 1938) refers the Michigan birds to *Corvus corax europophilus* Oberholser. According to R. Meinertzhagen (*Nov. Zoologicae* 33, Oct., 1926: 102), so far as Michigan and Wisconsin birds are concerned, *europophilus* is synonymous with *sinuatus*.]

***Corvus americanus* (Aud.). American Crow.**

Very abundant in the southern part of the state, it has gained in numbers at a wonderful rate, especially during the past fifteen years, notwithstanding the incessant warfare that has been carried on against it by the farmers and sportsmen. Indeed, the crow was formerly considered as not a common bird at all in southern Wisconsin, and the increase has been constant to a certain extent for the past fifty years. Dr. Hoy, in 1852, considered it one of the rarest of birds about Racine. At the present time it is not as common along Lake Michigan as in the interior, but is much more abundant than formerly. In north and north-central Wisconsin the crow is not a winter resident, though it is apparently extending the line farther and farther each year. At Stevens Point, for instance, it is migratory, and a common summer resident. Mr. Clark writes that in Dunn County it has become an abundant summer resident and is more of a pest to the poultry raisers each year. A few winter here, Mr. Clark states. In the southern counties it nests early in April and remains, in increased numbers, during the winter, forming immense roosts at intervals. At dusk it flocks in great numbers from miles around to these winter "crow roosts," leaving again in every direction, for the feeding grounds, at break of day.

***Nucifraga columbiana* (Wils.). Clarke's Nutcracker.**

A specimen of Clarke's crow was shot by Mr. Hawley, in the western outskirts of Milwaukee in the late fall of 1875. The bird was too badly

shot to make a good skin and it came into the possession of Dr. G. W. Peckham, who made a skeleton of it himself. The specimen, with the exact date, etc., was later destroyed by the disastrous high school fire in that city, in which Dr. Peckham lost his entire valuable osteological collection. There is not, however, the slightest possible doubt of the authenticity of the record. It is well remembered by our older ornithologists, and Dr. Peckham vouches for it himself.

FAMILY ICTERIDAE: BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES, ETC.

***Dolichonyx oryzivorus* (Linn.). Bobolink.**

An abundant summer resident, arriving the first of May, and breeding in large numbers in all suitable places. One of the first of the summer visitors to leave us in the autumn, and all are often gone by the 20th of August, but in exceptional years it is common as late as that date in September, and has been taken even later. These tardy birds, however, appear to be migrants from farther north, and not the ones which nest with us. The first arrivals in spring are still partially in the winter plumage, and all have fully acquired this dress before again leaving in the fall.

***Molothrus ater* (Bodd.). Cowbird.**

Unfortunately for many of the nesting birds, particularly vireos, warblers and native sparrows, the cowbird is a common summer resident, and well indeed must their nests be hidden if they are to be safe from the alien egg. The list of species imposed upon is a very long one, in fact no variety, unless it be much larger or of entirely different habits, seems to be exempt. It arrives early in April, and departs, usually, in August. The cowbird is, without question, increasing steadily in numbers.

***Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus* (Bonap.). Yellow-headed Blackbird.**

A summer resident. In some sections of the state the yellow-head seems to be totally absent, while on certain lakes it breeds abundantly. The species is apparently becoming more common in many localities where it was once almost unknown.

***Agelaius phoeniceus* (Linn.). Red-winged Blackbird.**

A very abundant summer resident. One of the first birds to arrive in the spring, it remains until extreme cold weather—a few even wintering in mild seasons—in southern Wisconsin. Nests in all low places, weaving the nest in the grass, placing it on a bog, bush or even in a low tree. It begins flocking from August 10 to 20, and at this time becomes very destructive to corn in the milk, entire fields being sometimes ruined when situated near a lake or marsh. From the time the red-wing begins to flock until it leaves for the south, it invariably roosts in the reedy marshes, toward which localities it returns in great numbers about sunset. Albinistic specimens are common and we have seen two or three specimens with a pink crescent on the breast, as well as an adult male with no red on wings. It is very variable in size, and a large series of fall migrants, especially, would probably produce specimens of *Agelaius* p.

fortis Ridgw., the thick-billed red-wing. It has not appreciably decreased in numbers during the past forty years.

***Agelaius phoeniceus arctolegus* (Oberholser). Giant Red-wing.**

The breeding birds of Dane County were placed under *arctolegus* on the authority of Dr. H. C. Oberholser. (A. W. Schorger, *Trans. Wis. Acad. Sci.* 26, 1931:37; *Auk* 45, 1928:106). H. H. T. Jackson (*Pass. Pigeon* 5, 1943:29) has published data to show that the breeding birds of northwestern Wisconsin are referable to the eastern form, *Agelaius phoeniceus phoeniceus*. I have compared the male taken at Madison on May 14, 1927, with a typical *arctolegus* from extreme northwestern Minnesota and find it fully as large. Recent reexamination of the red-wings in some of the state collections has revealed the following additional examples: University of Wisconsin, two males taken in Dane County on March 8, 1902 and November 7, 1947, identified by Allen J. Duvall; Milwaukee Public Museum, two males, Waukesha County, December 13, 1936, Marinette County, June 22, 1940, and a female, Waukesha County, May 27, 1940, identified by Dr. H. Friedmann.]

***Sturnella magna* (Linn.). Meadowlark.**

An abundant summer resident, it is occasionally found at any time of the year, even in the severest of winter weather. Not so plenty in southern Wisconsin as thirty-five years ago. Many are shot by would-be sportsmen, and suitable nesting sites are fewer and restricted in size. For nesting grounds the birds prefer the virgin sod to cultivated fields. In Dunn County, Mr. J. N. Clark tells us, it appears to be giving way in numbers to the western form, *neglecta*, which is slowly increasing in that region.

***Sturnella neglecta* (Aud.). Western Meadowlark.**

In many parts of the state the western meadowlark breeds more or less commonly. Dr. Hoy had a specimen, identified by Baird, which he captured at Racine as late as December 24. He also mentions its occurrence on the lake shore at other times in early winter. Mr. F. H. King found it breeding in St. Croix County (1). In Dunn County it is a regular summer resident and breeds. As stated under the preceding it is slowly increasing in numbers there. Mr. H. Russel, and Drs. Copeland and Ogden have found it in Milwaukee County. It is found regularly in Rock, Jefferson and Dane counties, but only (?) in very late fall, November and even December, not having as yet been noted in spring or summer.

[This species has increased its range until it is now a common summer resident in the southern part of the state.]

***Icterus spurius* (Linn.). Orchard Oriole.**

In the southern part of the state this oriole is a regular, and not a rare summer resident, more often nesting in and on the edges of towns, in quiet places, than in the country. Mr. Clark finds it a common breeding bird in Dunn County, and writes that two pairs nest every year in his yard. The bird is certainly more common in southern Wisconsin than formerly, and sometimes even reaches the shores of Lake Superior. We

1. Econ. Rel. Wis. Birds. Geol. of Wis., 1883.

cannot resist venturing the opinion that this species has gradually extended its summer home northward.

Icterus galbula (Linn.). Baltimore Oriole.

A common, or sometimes almost abundant summer resident, the "golden oriole," or "hang nest" is known to everyone as one of our handsomest village birds. It nests anywhere in the larger trees along the streets and about the lawns of our towns, and even in the country seems to prefer the immediate neighborhood of a farm house as a place to build its nest. One male was known to return to the Kumlien homestead five years in succession, with a mate, and build its nest on the same limb each year. This bird was accustomed to answer a certain note on the flute, and seemed happy to try and imitate different flute notes. It is not our purpose to go into details in regard to habits of birds, but the Baltimore oriole certainly possesses more "brains" than any other of our native species, as numerous instances we could cite would show. We have yearly been in the habit of furnishing the nesting materials for birds breeding about the house, and have varied the material until we have a collection of nests of many different fibrous substances.

Scolecophagus carolinus (Mull.). Rusty Blackbird.

An abundant migrant. This hardy species now pushes farther north to nest, and, returning late, is one of the last of the transients to leave us, remaining until the ice forms, and the sloughs freeze for the winter. Dr. Hoy writes of a few remaining through the summer (1852). Formerly quite a number were summer residents in southern Wisconsin even, but only a single instance of its nesting is on record. A set, nest and eggs, taken at Storrs' Lake, near Milton, June, 1861, is now in the Kumlien collection. We have several times seen specimens of either this species or the next in the western and northwestern part of the state in summer, but as they were observed from the car windows it is not safe to say which they were.

Scolecophagus cyanocephalus (Wagl.). Brewer's Blackbird.

Wisconsin is probably the extreme eastern limit of the breeding range of this species, and the only known instance of its nesting in the state was at Lake Koshkonong, June 14, 1862. Two or three specimens, besides these, have been taken at the same locality in the past sixty years. No doubt of more regular occurrence in the western part of the state. It is easily overlooked among the great numbers of the foregoing species; in fact all the specimens taken, excepting the breeding birds, were procured by accident in flocks of *carolinus*. King (1) says "met with rarely in the eastern portion of the state, but as it occurs regularly in Minnesota it may be found along the Mississippi." He procured a "single mature male, in July, on a large marsh just east of Princeton, Green Lake County." Nelson records it as "a rare visitant in company with the preceding," in northeastern Illinois in 1876.

[Not common but widely distributed in the state during the nesting season. (A. W. Schorger, *Auk* 51, 1934:482-6). It seldom nests in the same locality two years in succession.]

1. Geol. Wis., 1873-79, p. 551.

***Quiscalus quiscula aeneus* (Ridgw.). Bronzed Grackle.**

An abundant summer resident. The "crow blackbird" arrives early, and nests throughout most of the state. It flocks in the summer as soon as the young are able to fly, and deserts its nesting grounds for the orchards and fields. Remains until late in the fall, often, in small numbers, until late in November. Of late years the grackle has taken to nesting in parks of cities and villages, and in the larger private grounds, until it is a prominent feature about our towns. Away from the towns it sometimes nests in cavities in trees, constructing a complete nest, however, in these holes. It readily takes to a large, deep box in a tree for a nesting site.

FAMILY FRINGILLIDAE: FINCHES.

***Hesperiphona vespertina* (Coop.). Evening Grosbeak.**

A common winter visitant, usually found in good numbers any time from December on. Most frequent, however, during the latter part of winter, in February and March, and sometimes remaining in the vicinity of favorite feeding trees until late in the spring. It has been taken in Jefferson County as late as May 20 (1891), and Dr. Hoy notes it for Racine as late as May 15. In the northern counties it is, of course, much more abundant, and although formerly very erratic and uncertain is of late years a regular winter resident. Different observers have for the past twenty-five years given their observations on this species until the subject is almost exhausted. Unquestionably the bird has gradually extended its usual range eastward and southward, until at the present time it is anything but rare in southern Wisconsin, where thirty to forty years ago it was almost unknown.

[There is very little information on the nesting of this species in the state. O. W. Smith (*Bird-Lore* 23, 1921:86) has reported seeing a pair of adults with three young in Washburn County in August, 1920. C. D. Klotz (*Auk* 45,1928:222) saw seven young and four adults in Vilas County on July 20, 1927. C. H. Richter (*Pass. Pigeon* 1,1939:128) has found pairs in Oconto County throughout the summer.]

***Pinicola enucleator leucura* (Mull.). Canadian Pine Grosbeak.**

The pine grosbeak is a common winter bird in northern Wisconsin, and at irregular intervals it pushes its way to the southern counties, sometimes in good numbers wherever there are plenty of its favorite buds and berries. It is often supposed, and usually so written, that the appearance of this and the last species in the southern part of the state depends entirely on the severity of the weather; but this does not always seem to be the case as they are almost as frequently seen after prolonged spells of mild weather throughout the state as after an unusually cold snap, or a series of storms. Like the evening grosbeak, this species is much more regular and common every winter than during former years. It is said to nest within the boundaries of the state; but we are unable to substantiate this and think it very doubtful.

***Pinicola enucleator eschatosus* (Oberholser). Eastern Pine Grosbeak.**

A female was taken at Madison on March 2, 1947. (A. W. Schorger, *Auk* 65,1948:308). It may occur more frequently than the single record indicates.]

Carpodacus purpureus (Gmel.). Purple Finch.

In most sections of southern Wisconsin a more or less common migrant in spring and fall, but very irregular in its occurrence. Dr. Hoy speaks of a few nesting about Racine fifty years ago. It has been known to remain through the summer in Jefferson County, but nests were not found. Grundtvig (1) found it nesting in Outagamie County in 1883, several pairs being noted. Mr. J. N. Clark states that the purple finch is "a regular migrant in Dunn County, but have never seen it in summer." He thinks it very doubtful if it nests in that part of the state. Noted at Delavan only as an irregular spring and fall migrant. We have seen it at Milwaukee, Two Rivers, Sturgeon Bay and Merrill in summer, where it was no doubt nesting. Dr. Hoy speaks of its nesting on Lake Superior, and we have evidence to show it to be a summer resident in Iron County. Apparently very erratic, not only as regards migration, but also in selection of summer homes.

[Common summer resident in northern Wisconsin where it nests.]

Loxia curvirostra minor (Brehm.). American Crossbill.

A regular and sometimes very abundant winter visitant in all parts of the state, though in some seasons not at all common in southern Wisconsin. Nests irregularly in the north central parts of the state, and formerly as far south as Dane County. Young just able to fly were procured in a cemetery at Albion in August, 1869. Ofttimes remains about Stevens Point until well into summer. We have met it at various points in northern Wisconsin in summer and have procured young, barely fledged, in April in Iron County. Of a considerable number of Wisconsin crossbills sent Mr. Wm. Brewster for examination, a large percentage of the northern specimens were identified as **Loxia c. bendirei** Ridgw., and some specimens from southern Wisconsin (Walworth County) were determined as nearer **bendirei** than **minor**.

[Loxia curvirostra neogaea (Griscom). Eastern Red Crossbill.

According to the revision of Ludlow Griscom (**Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.** 41, No. 5, 1937:77-210), this is the form commonly occurring in the state. It is uncertain which subspecies, and whether one or two subspecies have nested in Wisconsin. The crossbills are great wanderers, and the taking of juveniles capable of sustained flight is no proof of breeding in the region. H. Nehrling (*Our Native Birds of Song and Beauty*, Vol. 1, 1896:41) credits A. J. Schoenebeck with the discovery in Oconto County of one nest on June 9, 1892, and another on April 29, 1893. Schoenebeck (*l. c.* p. 34) mentions only a nest with four eggs found on April 17, 1892.]

[Loxia curvirostra minor (Brehm). Sitka Red Crossbill.

H. H. T. Jackson (**Pass. Pigeon** 5, 1943:31) states that of a series of nineteen crossbills collected on Outer Island, three taken on July 9, 1919, were referred to this subspecies by J. W. Aldrich. Griscom (*l. c.* p. 172), who examined the same series, referred one specimen to **minor**, and mentions one specimen from Wauwautosa and one from Stevens Point.]

1. *Birds of Shioc-ton*, Trans. Wis. Acad. Sciences, Arts, and Let. X-p. 126.

***Loxia curvirostra pusilla* (Gloger). Newfoundland Red Crossbill.**

Old birds and juveniles were taken on Outer Island in July, 1919. (H. H. T. Jackson, l. c. p. 31; L. Griscom, l. c. p. 172). O. J. Gromme (*Pass. Pigeon* 3,1941:72) took a young male in Burnett County on July 10, 1941. According to Griscom, it is not known to breed outside of Newfoundland.]

***Loxia leucoptera* (Gmel.). White-winged Crossbill.**

A winter visitant. This species is often common in north and central Wisconsin, and irregular flights have been noted at different points in the southern counties for the past fifty years. Mr. Clark writes that in Dunn County it is sometimes found with the common crossbill, but more often keeps in small flocks of its own kind only.

***Carduelis carduelis carduelis* (Linn.). European Goldfinch.**

C. S. Jung (*Auk* 53,1936:340) collected one in Riverside Park, Milwaukee, on May 12, 1935. No bird of this species was known to have been caged for a number of years. This occurrence is purely accidental.]

***Acanthis hornemannii exilipes* (Coues). Hoary Redpoll.**

An irregular winter visitor; rare. During January, February and March, 1896, Mr. J. N. Clark found these birds tolerably common in Dunn County. He writes: "In the winter named we had an unusual flight of redpolls from the first of November until late in March, but the hoary did not appear until January. They were nearly all found in one small field, situated at the top of a high hill, and well covered with pigweed, upon which they fed. They were in small flocks, accompanied by a few of the common variety. I took over thirty specimens of *exilipes* during the three months." Mr. Clark has kindly sent us a series of redpolls from his locality for examination. Dr. Hoy noted but a single instance of their occurrence at Racine (December, 1850), but Thure Kumlien recognized them as distinct as far back as 1848, and took them a number of times during severe winters at Lake Koshkonong, where they have been taken at different times since. The last record for Rock County was in January, 1895. Specimens have also been received from Iron County and Shawano. They may be readily recognized in flocks of *linaria* by their lighter color.

[J. N. Clark (*Wilson Bull.* 8, No. 8,1896:1-2) found this species in Dunn County from December 13, 1895 to March 26, 1896. There are Wisconsin specimens in the American Museum of Natural History. Rev. F. S. Dayton (*Pass. Pigeon* 6,1944:24 and 43) collected two specimens at New London, Waupaca County, on February 8, 1916, and saw a flock of twenty at this place on January 6, 1944. S. D. Robbins (*Pass. Pigeon* 9,1947:53) has reported three seen at Neillsville on December 28 and 30, 1946.]

***Acanthis linaria* (Linn.). Redpoll.**

An abundant winter visitant. In the southern part of the state the redpoll, like others of the northern birds which appear only in winter, is of irregular and uncertain occurrence, though usually found in good numbers at different times during the season. In the northern counties it is almost always an abundant visitor from late fall until spring, and seems to be especially plenty at certain localities, as about Stevens Point.

Has been noted in Jefferson County as early as October 28 (1869). The early arrivals are always young birds, the full plumaged adults not becoming numerous until cold weather.

***Acanthis linaria holboellii* (Brehm.). Holboell's Redpoll**

A rare winter straggler. One specimen was shot at Lake Koshkong, January 22, 1867 (L. K.), and identified by Prof. Baird in 1881. In a series of redpolls taken during January, February and March, 1896, by Mr. J. N. Clark at Meridian, are four specimens easily referable to this race. Mr. Clark has kindly sent one of these to us for examination, which has been marked as *holboellii* by Ridgway and Fisher, who identified a number of redpolls for him at the time. These specimens were taken singly during the three months from flocks of the other varieties. The difference can be readily seen when compared with a series of *linaria* and *rostrata* without measurements, and the very pronounced slender bill and robust size, as well as other characters, distinguish this from both the other races.

(Continued in next issue)

The 1949 Christmas Bird Count

Participation in the 1949 Christmas Bird Count was of the sort we have been dreaming about for years. A total of 80 observers participated in the taking of 28 counts, double the number taken in 1948. With such an ornithological "force" in the field, it is not surprising that a record-breaking total of 94 species was established; it might have been more, but foggy weather held down the counts made right at the turn of the new year at Hudson, Wisconsin Dells, Viroqua, and Mazomanie.

Highlighting the rarities are the glaucous and great black-backed gulls in Kenosha, and the mockingbird in Milwaukee. Unusual winter residents included the white-crowned sparrows at Milwaukee and Horicon, the sapsucker in Wisconsin Dells, pied-billed grebe in Waukesha, blue-winged teal in Green Bay, bluebird at Seneca, grackles at Milton and Ripon, snipe at Milton and Waukesha, white-throated sparrow at Ripon, and rusty blackbird at Waukesha. There was the usual scattering of half-hardy species such as marsh hawk, red-shouldered hawk, mourning dove, kingfisher, flicker, meadowlark, redwing, and song sparrow.

A number of winter visitants from the north were also represented. The influx of snowy owls was reflected by their presence at Cedar Grove, Horicon, Milwaukee and Shields Township; shrikes were found at Cedar Grove, Horicon, Mazomanie, Milwaukee, Monroe and Watertown; Bohemian waxwing at Milwaukee; goshawk at Green Bay and Ripon; pine grosbeak and redpoll at Green Bay and Milwaukee; and evening grosbeaks at seven stations.

The prevalence of red-headed woodpeckers is remarkable. Most of those reporting them in counts mentioned that more woodpeckers would certainly have been counted in more thorough coverage. The number of long-eared owls in Kenosha is interesting, as is the total of great horned owls in Mazomanie, counted by covering the Wisconsin River bottoms over a 12-mile stretch before daylight. The counts of scaup ducks, oldsquaws and mergansers in Milwaukee were also high.

	Appleton	Appleton	Balsam Lake	Cedar Grove	Green Bay	Horicon (north)	Horicon (south)	Hudson	Kenosha	Kenosha County Park	Mazomanie	Milton	Milwaukee	Monroe	Monroe (west)	Oshkosh	Ripon	Rock Creek Township	Salem	Sauk County	Seneca	Shields Township	St. Croix Falls	Two Rivers	Viroqua	Watertown	Waukesha	Wisconsin Dells
Number Observers	5	6	2	5	6	2	1	1	3	2	2	1	17	2	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	4	2	2	1	1	14	3
Number Species	16	22	11	35	27	11	18	4	32	11	34	23	62	19	22	19	29	13	8	15	22	28	15	13	20	22	31	22
Pied-billed Grebe																												1
Canada Goose						2					2000																	
Mallard				11	18	5					150	800				20						2					89	
Black Duck		143		6	75						1	300				38											346	
Gadwall												2																1
Baldpate																												
Pintail													7															
Blue-winged Teal					10																							
Shoveller					1								2															
Wood Duck												1																
Redhead												4																
Ring-necked Duck												1																
Canvas-back				3								40										15						
Greater Scaup Duck				8								300																
Lesser Scaup Duck				25	12				1			1200				3						3						
Am. Golden-eye	29	167		150	1				375	27	1	1000				30				1		20	12	20				
Bufflehead				35								375																
Old-squaw				75					141			2900																
Ruddy Duck												4																
Hooded Merganser					1							2																
Am. Merganser		8		300	12				200	1		3100				32						15		1				
Red-br. Merganser				75					1			600										2						
Goshawk					1												1											
Sharp-shinned Hawk									2	2		1			1							1				1		
Red-tailed Hawk		1				1	1		2		4	1	5	6	5					3	2	8		2	5	9		
Red-shouldered Hawk															2						1							
Rough-legged Hawk				1			1							3	1		1				1					7	1	
Bald Eagle											10	2									3							
Marsh Hawk									1		2																	
Sparrow Hawk				1					1	1	1		13		1				2							1	2	

	Appleton	Appleton	Balsam Lake	Cedar Grove	Green Bay	Horicon (north)	Horicon (south)	Hudson	Kenosha	Kenosha County Park	Mazomanie	Milton	Milwaukee	Monroe	Monroe (west)	Oshkosh	Ripon	Rock Creek Township	Salem	Sauk County	Seneca	Shields Township	St. Croix Falls	Two Rivers	Viroqua	Watertown	Waukesha	Wisconsin Dells
Ruffed Grouse		19								1	3		16				1				10						8	4
Hungarian Partridge	14			4	12		11				3							15										
Bob-white											3																	
Pheasant		1		6	4	12	33		3		6	2	30	1	8	32	3								38	12		
Coot													5													1	2	
Wilson's Snipe												2														2		
Glaucous Gull									1																			
Black-backed Gull								1																				
Herring Gull	5	8		3500	78			2975		1		4300				1	1					7	2000		10	4		
Ring-billed Gull				25				525				700																
Bonaparte's Gull								230				145																
Rock Dove				20				1		8	8	95		90	7	50	16					50					20	
Mourning Dove														55			12	3				1	3					
Screech Owl													1			1	1											
Great Horned Owl											16			1												1	1	
Snowy Owl						2	1						1									1						
Barred Owl			1								3						1				2							
Long-eared Owl				1					8	15			4															
Short-eared Owl													2															
Belted Kingfisher									1	1					2											1		
Flicker				1							4		1				1											
Pileated Woodpecker											5							1			2		1		1			
Red-bellied Woodpecker		1							1		6		1							1	7	1	1		5		1	
Red-headed Woodpecker											15	4		15				4		4	4	41			1	5		
Sapsucker																											9	
Hairy Woodpecker	1	3	2	1	6		1	1	1		4	1	11	3	1		3		2	2	1	6	2		3	3	8	
Downy Woodpecker	4	7	2	4	4		5		5	6	11	2	30	4	7	9	4	2	6	3	5	7	3	2	3	8	18	
Horned Lark				3									2		1												4	
Blue Jay	6	5	3	1	39	1	3		5		65	8	7	31	23	2	3		4	16	6	51	4	1	20	5	33	
Crow	2	7		20	1	3	4		14	6	47	2	110	18	18	27	2			7	5	18			4	126	365	
Black-cap. Chickadee	7	19	8	17	56	8	17	1	3	2	11	17	50	7	14	10	12	2	6	5	15	21	8	5	15	44	59	
Hudsonian Chickadee			1																								12	

[illegible]

APPLETON (City parks, streets and cemeteries; river banks and swamps, woods, fields and country roads near city).—Dec. 28; 8 a. m. to 4 p. m. Cloudy, clearing in p. m.; temp. 20° to 38°; wind slight; one inch of snow. Five observers together. Total hours, 8; total miles, 45 (5 on foot, 40 in car). Total, 16 species, 345 individuals.—Mrs. Frank Blick, Mrs. Oscar Christianson, Mrs. Fred Guenther, Miss Bess Russell, Mr. George Seelinger (Appleton Bird Club).

APPLETON (north to Center Swamp, east to Kaukauna, SE to Clifton, SW to Neenah; swamp 20%, city streets and parks 10%, lake front 25%, hardwoods 10%, open fields 15%, river banks 5%, cemetery 15%).—Dec. 28; daylight to dusk. Cloudy, clearing at noon; temp. 24° to 41°; wind NE, 10-14 m.p.h.; ground mostly bare; river and lake partly open. Six observers in two parties. Total hours afield, 15; total miles, 90 (17½ on foot, 72½ in car). Total, 22 species, 1138 individuals.—Mrs. Carroll McEathron, David Parmelee, Mrs. H. L. Playman, Luther H. Rogers, Walter E. Rogers, Mrs. Walter E. Rogers.

BALSAM LAKE (lake, marsh, and village).—Dec. 30 and Jan. 3; 2 to 3:30 p. m., 7:30 to 9:30 a. m. Cloudy; temp. 30° to 15°; wind slight. Two observers separate (composite count for two days). Total hours, 3½. Total, 11 species, 84 individuals.—Mrs. Henry Spencer, Helen Tuttle.

CEDAR GROVE.—Dec. 29; 10:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. Overcast; temp. 20° to 25°; wind north, 18 m.p.h. Five observers together. Total hours, 6. Total, 35 species, 4828 individuals.—Mrs. C. R. Decker, Mary Donald, Mrs. F. L. Larkin, Helmuth Mueller, George Treichel.

GREEN BAY (upland woods 45%, swampy woods 15%, open fields 20%, river and bay shore 10%, city streets and cemeteries 10%).—Dec. 26; 8 a. m. to 3 p. m. Fair; temp. 11° to 20°; wind west, gentle; one inch snow in sheltered places. Total hours, 7; total miles, 88 (18 on foot, 70 by car). Total, 27 species, 1260 individuals.—Bernard Charrier, Edwin Cleary, Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Hussong, Ed Paulson, Paul Romig. (Green Bay Bird Club.)

HORICON NORTH (Horicon National Wildlife Refuge, from headquarters north to Schaumburg's Ditch, west along channel to Main Ditch, north and west to marsh interior, south near Main Ditch to Lehner's Ditch, east and north to headquarters area, along marsh road to Waupun; marsh 65%, willow and popple 30%, hilly hardwoods 5%).—Dec. 27; 8:30 a. m. to 3 p. m. Cloudy, with intermittent snow flurries; ½ inch snow on ground; all water frozen. Two observers together. Total hours, 7; total miles, 17 (7 on foot, 10 by car). Total, 11 species, 81 individuals.—Lloyd F. Gunther, William F. Luehring.

HORICON SOUTH (Horicon Marsh State Refuge, Horicon, NW to Burnette Ditch, SE to Four Mile Island, south to Quick's Point, and back to Horicon).—Dec. 27; 7 a. m. to 4 p. m. Cloudy, with snow flurries; temp. 22°; strong west wind. One observer. Total hours, 9; total miles, 15 afoot. Total, 18 species, 166 individuals.—Harold A. Mathiak.

HUDSON (Park along St. Croix River, along river to park on hilltop).—Jan. 1; 2 to 4 p. m. Overcast and foggy; temp. 27°. One observer. Total, 4 species, 157 individuals.—Mrs. Stella P. Owen.

KENOSHA (Petrifying Springs County Park, city harbor, sand dunes, city, lake shore; spruce-cedar bottoms 10%, deciduous woodlands 15%, fields 5%, sand dunes 15%, residential 20%, lake shore 35%).—Dec. 30; 7 a. m. to 4 p. m. Mostly clear; temp. 32° to 37°; wind SW, 6-14 m.p.h.; ½ inch snow on ground. Total hours, 9; total miles, 27 (7 on foot, 20 in car). Three observers at first, then one alone. Total, 32 species, 5114 individuals.—Richard J. Gordon, Mrs. Howard Higgins, Mrs. Robert Thomson.

KENOSHA COUNTY PARK (Petrifying Springs County Park; woodland and open fields with stream).—Dec. 26; 9:30 to 1:30 p. m. Overcast; temp. 33°; light NW wind; patches of snow on ground. Two observers together. Total hours 3½. Total, 11 species, 54 individuals.—Mrs. Howard Higgins, Mrs. Donna Nelson.

MAZOMANIE (marshes and wooded bottomland on south side of Wisconsin River between Mazomanie and Sauk City, fields along north side of river to Ferry and Cactus Bluffs; deciduous woodland 40%, river 25%, marsh 20%, open fields 10%, residential 5%).—Dec. 31; 5:15 a. m. to 4:15 p. m. Overcast, becoming foggy in p. m.; temp. 40°; wind slight; ground mostly bare; river open. Two observers together. Total hours, 11; total miles, 59 (9 on foot, 50 in car). Total, 34 species, 611 individuals.—N. R. Barger, Sam Robbins.

MILTON (village south to Johnstown Goose Refuge, north to Otter Creek, thence to Haight's Marsh on Lake Koshkonong, and return; open fields 50%, marsh border 10%, deciduous woodland 25%, roadside 15%).—Dec. 26; 9 a. m. to 12 m. Clear; temp.

20° to 27°; wind slight. One observer. Total hours, 3; total miles, 35 (3 on foot, 32 by car). Total, 23 species, 2410 individuals.—Chester Skelly.

MILWAUKEE (same area as in previous years)—Dec. 26; 7 a. m. to 5 p. m. Overcast in a. m., clearing in p. m.; temp. 27° to 32°; wind NW, 10 m. p. h., shifting in p. m. to SW; ground mostly bare; Lake Michigan open. 17 observers in six parties. Total hours, 10; total party miles, 311 (48 on foot, 263 in car). Total, 62 species, 17,200 individuals.—Audrey Andrews, Mrs. A. P. Balsom, Mr. Brooks, Mrs. C. R. Decker, Mary Donald, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Frister, John Houserheide, Bill Jackson, Rufin Janowski, Kenneth Kuhn, Mr. Kuhn, Bernard Kaiman, Mrs. F. L. Larkin, Dr. Mason LeTillier, Helmuth Mueller, George Treichel.

MONROE (feeding station, bottoms of the Sugar River south of Albany).—Dec. 26; 11:45 a. m. to 4 p. m. Clear; temp. 25°; light north wind; one inch snow on ground. Two observers together. Total hours, 4¼; total miles, 42 (2 on foot, 40 in car). Total, 19 species, 411 individuals.—Dr. John Caradine, Howard L. Orians.

MONROE WEST (fields, woods, and creek bottoms west and southwest of Monroe; open fields 50%, deciduous woodland 25%, creek banks 25%).—Jan. 7; 9:30 a. m. to 12:30 p. m. Clear; temp. 13° to 19°; wind NW, 10-15 m.p.h.; ground bare; one creek open. One observer. Total hours, 3; total miles 26 (7 on foot, 19 in car). Total, 22 species, 311 individuals.—Gordon Orians.

OSHKOSH (city and open country to the north in Winnebago County, including Neenah).—Dec. 26; 11:15 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. Clear; temp. 12° to 20°; wind slight; open water at Neenah. Four observers together. Total hours, 5¼; total miles 54 (2 on foot, 52 in car). Total, 19 species, 571 individuals.—J. H. Evans, Jack Kaspar, Kurt Kaspar, David Lyon.

RIPON (city streets and yards 30%, fields 30%, deciduous woodland 30%, planted conifer grove 6%, marsh 4%).—Dec. 29-30; composite count for the two days. Overcast; temp. 30° to 40°; moderate east wind; little snow on ground; water mostly frozen. One observer. Total hours, 10. Total, 29 species, 296 individuals.—Paul B. Cors.

ROCK CREEK TOWNSHIP (Area around Rock Creek and Rock Falls, Dunn County).—Dec. 25. Partly cloudy; temp. mild; trace of snow on ground. Total miles, 43 (3 on foot, 40 by car). Total, 13 species; 161 individuals.—H. E. Clark.

SALEM (feeding station, nearby tamarack and willow swamps, totaling eight acres).—Dec. 27. Temp. 20°; wind NW, 10 m.p.h. One observer. Total hours 1½. Total, 8 species, 85 individuals.—Mrs. Donna Nelson.

SAUK COUNTY (Badger, south to Wisconsin River, west along highway on north side of river, and return).—Dec. 26; 10 a. m. to 1:30 p. m. Clear; temp. 30°. One observer. Total hours 3½. Total, 15 species, 201 individuals.—George Becker.

SENECA (west-central Crawford County from Seneca northwest toward Mississippi River, along east side of river channel below Lynxville, and some selected river bottom areas north and south of Lynxville; deciduous woodlands 40%, pasture and open farm land 10%, beaver ponds and small stream 20%, along Mississippi River channel 10%, river bottoms 20%).—Dec. 25; cloudy; temp. 34° to 37°; wind south, 5-18 m.p.h.; 3 inches snow on ground; ponds and most of river frozen, small stream partly frozen. One observer. Total hours, 7½; total miles, 46 (12 on foot, 34 in car). Total, 22 species, 218 individuals.—Clarence Paulson.

SHIELDS TOWNSHIP (portion of Green Lake, Shields Township and other areas in eastern Marquette County, southern part of Waushara County, and the southwestern corner of Winnebago County).—Dec. 29; 7:15 a. m. to 4 p. m. Overcast; temp. 19° to 25°; wind NE, 1-5 m.p.h.; 1-3 inches snow on ground; Green Lake open. Four observers together. Total hours, 8¾; total miles, 130 in car. Total, 28 species; 1138 individuals.—J. H. Evans, Tom Hagene, Jack Kaspar, Leonard Martin.

ST. CROIX FALLS (feeding stations in town, valley and upland near St. Croix River, farm land east of valley).—Dec. 29, 31, and Jan. 3; composite count for three days of limited observation. Clear, becoming cloudy with some snow last day; temp. 20° to 0°; ground bare until last day. Two observers, separate. Total, 15 species, 135 individuals.—L. Heinsohn, Mrs. Andrew M. Seed.

VIROQUA (country roads, fields and woods, and Vernon County Park).—Jan. 1; 9 a. m. to 12:30 p. m., and 3 to 4:45 p. m. Overcast and very foggy; temp. 36° to 43°. One observer. Total hours, 5¼; total miles, 27 (7 on foot, 20 in car). Total, 18 species, 308 individuals (evening grosbeak and tree sparrow added from a previous more limited count).—Margarette E. Morse.

WATERTOWN (Mud Lake marsh north of city, woods along Rock River; marsh 40%, woods 30%, fields 30%).—Dec. 30; 8 a. m. to 4 p. m. Clear in a. m., becoming

overcast in p. m.; temp. 30° to 40°; wind 5-20 m.p.h.; some snow on ground. One observer. Total hours, 8; total miles, 49 (4 on foot, 45 in car). Total, 22 species, 704 individuals.—Philip Mallow.

WAUKESHA (approximately same areas as last three years plus a little additional southward; two wooded areas in city, SW to Kettle Moraine State Forest, along Fox River valley to Mukwonago Marsh, to Saylesville, south to Mukwonago and Big Bend; open farmlands 39%, deciduous farm woodlots 41%, tamarack swamp 4%, grassy marsh 11%, town suburbs 5%).—Dec. 26; 7 a. m. to 4:45 p. m. Cloudy; temp. 20° to 36°; wind NW, up to 12 m.p.h.; trace of old snow on ground; one large spring open, but river partly frozen. 12 observers in 5 parties; 2 more observers at feeding stations. Total hours, 27¼; total miles, 156 (23 on foot, 133 in car). Total, 31 species, 2094 individuals.—Robert Adams, Vincent Batha, Harlow Bielefelt, Olive Compton, Eleanor Cuthbert, Walter Hahn, Paul Hoffmann, Emma Hoffmann, S. Paul Jones, Juanita Larsen, Charles E. Nelson Jr., Mary Sydow, T. G. Wilder, Elizabeth Williams (Benjamin F. Goss Bird Club).

WISCONSIN DELLS (Rocky Arbor Roadside Park, Coldwater Canyon, farmland around Wisconsin Dells, thence to wooded bottomlands along Wisconsin River near Portage, and to Devil's Lake State Park; mixed woodland 30%, deciduous woodland 10%, farmland 50%, marsh 10%).—Jan. 2; 7:15 a. m. to 2:45 p. m. Overcast and heavy fog; visibility often limited to 50 yards; temp. 38°; wind slight; ground bare; river frozen. Three observers together. Total hours, 7½; total miles, 64 (2 on foot, 62 in car). Total, 22 species, 545 individuals.—Mr. and Mrs. N. R. Barger, Sam Robbins.

BOOK REVIEWS

A SAND COUNTY ALMANAC—By Aldo Leopold, New York, 1949, 226 pp., \$3.50

To my mind one of the outstanding characteristics of Aldo Leopold was that, scientist and scholar that he was, his speech and writings definitely did not show the dry pedantic style so often associated with the scientist. Rather he had the gift of eloquent prose that makes for thoroughly entertaining reading, but is none the less scientific for being easy to read.

This small volume contains a collection of essays that, while being worthy of a place on the shelf of classic literature, are indeed both fascinating and informative. As we read and enjoy these short sketches we are suddenly astonished to find that, without our knowing it, Professor Leopold has taught us a great deal about wildlife, about ecology, and about his own philosophy of life.

In the first third of the book we encounter a month by month account of the doings of nature as unfolded on Professor Leopold's farm in Sauk County. No season of the year was dull in his eyes and he carries us through the year in a discussion of a variety of interesting things—the dance of the woodcock, the behavior of migrating geese, and above all the host of little, usually overlooked things that tell such a fascinating story of the world around us.

These sketches are followed by a group of essays entitled "Sketches Here and There." In these we go further afield, to Mexico, to Oregon, and to places in Wisconsin.

The final section of the book is devoted to four articles on conservation. Few people have had such an integrated picture of the whole of the out-of-doors as had Aldo Leopold, and fewer still have been able to express in words this understanding. This section is indeed required reading for anyone interested in conservation.

Those of us who knew Aldo Leopold, even if only slightly, would have been blind indeed if we had not recognized him as a great man, an inspiring teacher, and an outstanding thinker. This book will serve as a treasured memento for his friends and as a revealing introduction to those who did not know him. It is indeed that rare thing—a "must" book which should be on every nature lover's bookshelf.—George A. Hall.

THE WAY TO GAME ABUNDANCE—By Wallace Byron Grange, New York, 1949, 365 pp., 47 photos, \$6.00

Most bird watchers sooner or later become interested in some phase of ecology, but if like myself they are relatively untrained in biology, they soon bog down in the welter of technical terms found in the available textbooks on the subject. Ecology has been defined, with almost as much truth as humor, as the science of coining new terms. The first two sections of this new book by Wallace Grange, a member of our Society, admirably covers many topics of ecological interest in the language of the layman. In an easy to read style Mr. Grange covers such topics as environmental

adjustment, activity cycles, predation, and disease. There then follows a very interesting discussion of plant and animal successions. This makes valuable reading for anyone interested in the out-of-doors, be he naturalist or hunter. Parenthetically, if this could be made required reading for our newspaper and gun editors, it might go far in bringing an end to the biological nonsense found in most of their writings.

In the third section the author presents his ideas about the causes of population cycles. Here the reader must have available the proverbial grain of salt because it is difficult to evaluate much of this material. Unless one is already well acquainted with the subject it is impossible to separate accepted fact from the speculations of the author's mind. It is regrettable that the author did not see fit to document his discussion with adequate references to the published literature. However the ideas presented here are indeed interesting and, to my unprofessional mind, worthy of consideration as theories but not necessarily as facts.

Part IV describes several techniques of improving game habitats by controlled burning, cutting, et cetera. In this field Mr. Grange has been an outstanding pioneer and has indeed been quite successful in the restoration of game birds and animals.

While primarily a book about game species, the non-hunter can learn a great deal by reading this book.—George A. Hall.

WILD WINGS—By Joseph James Murray, Richmond, Va., 1947, 123 pp., 14 photos, \$2.50

This book is a collection of short essays about birds and bird watching by one of the leading ornithologists of Virginia, a Presbyterian minister, who was formerly Secretary of the National Audubon Society. The author follows the usual custom of carrying the reader through a full year of varied ornithological experiences. Such topics as May migration waves, winter birds, birds of the mountaintop are covered. The later chapters of the book contain a similar rambling discussion of the birds seen on a trip through several European countries. Perhaps the most interesting chapter is an essay which deals with the birds mentioned in the Bible. The writers and translators of the Bible were not particularly careful about ornithological identifications but Dr. Murray succeeds in analyzing the species mentioned in rather good fashion.

The book is well written, easy to read, and thoroughly enjoyable as relaxation reading; but there is little information contained in it that is not already available in many other books.—George A. Hall.

THE WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB LIBRARY

It is desirable to call to the attention of the members of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology the library maintained by the Wilson Club at Ann Arbor, Michigan. The collection consists of approximately 400 books and 4000 pamphlets. The library was established largely to aid bird students who do not have local access to the publications desired for a particular project or for general reading.

You can increase greatly the service of the library by cash contributions for the purchase of new books, and by the donation of books and reprints. Authors are urged to send reprints to the library, since it is simpler and cheaper to mail the article requested than a bound volume.

Requests for publications should be sent to "The Wilson Ornithological Club Library, Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan." With the exception of rare books, publications will be sent prepaid, the recipient paying the return postage.—A. W. Schorger.

THE CHAPMAN MEMORIAL FUND

Mrs. Elsie M. B. Naumburg, a Research Associate in the American Museum of Natural History (Department of Birds), and her husband, W. W. Naumburg, made an initial contribution of \$5,000 to perpetuate the memory of Dr. Frank M. Chapman and to continue his influence. This fund has since grown to \$20,000, and it is hoped that it will soon grow to \$100,000.

It is proposed to expend the income of the Fund in the form of grants to younger ornithologists, such as talented and highly-recommended graduate students, to whom awards will be made upon a competitive basis. The Museum will be responsible for the judging and selection of proposals for research, and has set up a memorial committee to handle the work.

Gifts are desired of anyone interested, and they should be sent to Mrs. Elsie M. B. Naumburg, Chairman of the Committee, American Museum of Natural History, Central Park, West, at 79th Street, New York City.

By The Wayside . . .

Arkansas Kingbirds Spend Summer Near Janesville. On May 21, 1949, I was driving along the Rock River between Beloit and Janesville when I came upon a gray-and-sulphur-yellow bird sitting on the fence of the Rock County airport. I stopped directly beside the fearless bird, and was able to study it at leisure. When it made a short sally after a passing insect, and revealed a dark tail, narrowly bordered with white, I knew I was seeing my first Arkansas kingbird. On a return trip with two friends on May 30, two birds were seen at the same spot. We stopped there again on July 4, and counted at least four birds, two of which appeared to be fully grown young by virtue of their apparently imperfect plumage and hesitant movements. On July 24, three friends and I found a pair of these birds in a nearby farm yard. The birds constantly flew back and forth from a pole across the street to a clump of trees, and often "dive-bombed" the farmer's dog. We suspected this might be a second nesting of the pair. The birds were still present on August 7. Sharing in these observations were Miss Edith Van Duzer, Will Doolittle, Sherman Ehlert, Harold Bennett, Don Prentice, and Lee Johnson. It is regrettable that we did not actually find the nest or nests we knew to exist, but we shall be on the watch for the birds next year.—Paul Boynton, President of the North Central Illinois Ornithological Society, Rockford, Illinois.

Red Phalarope Found at Wind Point. While birding at Wind Point, along Lake Michigan five miles north of Racine, on October 27, 1949, I had an excellent opportunity to observe a red phalarope. The bird was observed for two days feeding close to the shore line. It was comparatively tame, feeding within ten feet of me while I was taking photos. The bird was whiter on the breast and head, and grayer on the back, with lighter markings than the northern phalarope which I saw earlier this fall. Also I am quite sure I saw its yellow feet and legs when the bird alighted on the water.—George Prins, Racine.

Hooded Warbler Visits Dane County. A large yellow warbler surprised me as it fluttered in the weeds along a roadside in the township of Roxbury in northwestern Dane County, on September 12, 1949. The brilliant yellow underparts, with back only slightly darker and more olive, reminded me of the Wilson's warbler; but the large size, especially noticeable to me after several weeks of warbler-watching in fall migration, make it equally obvious that it could not be the Wilson's. Thinking of the possibility of the hooded warbler, I looked for white tail spots; I had to look hard, because the spots were very inconspicuous. The bird flicked its tail a great deal, however, and as I



BLUE GOOSE (IMMATURE)

PHOTOGRAPHED AUGUST 14, 1949, IN OCONTO COUNTY
BY CARL RICHTER.

approached within ten feet of the bird, small white spots could be seen, "clinging" the identification.—Sam Robbins, Mazomanie.

Surf Scoter in Dane County. On October 12, 1949, I collected a juvenile surf scoter (*Melanitta perspicillata*) on Lake Mendota, in Dane County, Wisconsin. The bird was in good condition, with no evidence of disease. It is now in the collection of the University of Wisconsin Zoology Department as specimen number 13806.

According to Cory (1909, **The Birds of Illinois and Wisconsin**, p. 345) this species frequents, during late fall, "many of the inland waters of Wisconsin. . . ." Schorger (1929, **The Birds of Dane County**) does not list it. However, the University of Wisconsin museum has a mounted specimen number 4328; also a juvenile which was collected by L. Kumlén on Lake Monona, Dane County, Wisconsin, November 20, year not given. The present specimen, therefore, apparently constitutes the second record for the county.

Surf scoters are seen infrequently along the Lake Michigan shore; the last inland record for the state was taken by Clarence Searles, October 29, 1940, in Washburn County (**Passenger Pigeon, III** (1), p. 12).—Robert Nero, University of Wisconsin Zoology Department.

Another Record of Richardson's Owl. An apparently unrecorded specimen of Richardson's Owl (*Aegolius funerea richardsoni*) in the research collection of the University of Wisconsin museum has recently come to light. In view of the scarcity of published records of this owl in Wisconsin (Schorger, **Passenger Pigeon, XI** (3), 1949:123 and **XI** (4), 1949:157), it seems worthwhile to submit the following data:

This specimen, now UWZ number 13506, was collected by J. S. Gutsell on March 3, 1914 at Elcho, Wisconsin (Langlade County). Body measurements are given but the sex is not noted. The label is further marked "Biological Survey, U. S. Dept. Agriculture" (crossed out with pencil).—Robert Nero, University of Wisconsin Zoology Department.

4-H POSTER CONTEST

The Society is sponsoring a 4-H Club Bird Poster Contest in junior and senior classes in connection with the 11th annual convention at Point Beach State Forest, May 5-7. The purpose of this contest is to develop interest in and appreciation of the birds native to the area. It is open to club members in nine counties, all of which are in the vicinity of our convention headquarters. Wakelin McNeel (Ranger Mac) will be there if possible to judge the contest, and 46 cash prizes, totaling more than \$150, will be awarded.

Almost the entire amount of these awards is being contributed by the following Society members and groups: Bird Group of the City Club, Milwaukee (including donations from Mrs. A. P. Balsom and Mrs. H. J. Nunnemacher); D. C. Everest, Wausau; Mrs. Clough Gates, Superior; Mrs. John R. Kimberly, Neenah; Mrs. F. L. Larkin, Milwaukee; Manitowoc Chapter Izaak Walton League (in exchange for a bird lecture from Mrs. E. R. Smith); Mrs. H. H. Reese, Madison; Mrs. Walter E. Rogers, Appleton; Mrs. William Ryan, Fish Creek; W. H. Schwanke, Milwaukee; Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Scott, Madison; Mrs. William Simmons, Milwaukee; Mrs. Erwin Spoo, Oshkosh; Wild Wings Bird Group, Kenosha (including donation of Mrs. Gephart); Mrs. J. D. West, Manitowoc; and Dr. B. L. von Jarchow, Racine. The Society's Education Committee is actively supporting this project.

The Autumn Season . . .

August, 1949, was a typical Wisconsin August—hot and dry. Heat was not excessive, but the month produced the most pronounced warm spells of the summer. The lack of rainfall was in contrast to the unusually wet July. By late August weather had cooled sufficiently to inaugurate the fall warbler flight. Through September and October, weather remained unusually constant; temperatures normal or slightly below, rainfall slight, no abnormally hot or cold periods. An unusual wind storm, bringing southwest winds of 70 m.p.h. to most of the state on Oct. 10, brought late barn swallows to Dunn County, and chimney swifts to Madison; but no other unusual records attributable to this storm have been reported.

For the second consecutive year "white herons" made a good showing in Wisconsin. Flocks of more than 100 American egrets were noted at two places in Dodge County (Harold Mathiak and Philip Mallow), two places in Juneau County (John Emlen and Robert Nero), and in Vernon County (Margarette Morse). Snowy egrets and little blue herons turned up in phenomenal numbers, considering their absence from the State until 1948. It is particularly interesting to note that while the 1948 white heron flight was widespread—covering the entire Northeast, including New England; the 1949 flight was much more limited over the rest of the country, while still strong in Wisconsin.

The waterfowl flight was unusually good. Geese were generally plentiful during the peak of their flight in October, and Canada Geese showed up throughout the State in September, three weeks early. Ducks also were plentiful in many areas, with gadwalls showing a marked increase.

Observations of hawk flights of any size were again limited to Cedar Grove and Milwaukee. The W. S. O. was fortunate in picking one of the better hawk days for its field trip to Cedar Grove on October 9, when 476 hawks of nine species, sharp-shins predominating, were counted. Good flights of broad-wings were seen near the lake shore in Milwaukee: 1100 on September 19 (Mary Donald), and 2000 on September 22 (Mrs. F. L. Larkin).

Shorebird conditions changed considerably with the drier weather of August, but the flight as a whole was good. The flooded corn fields near Mazomanie that provided the most interesting shorebirds in late July dried up early in August, but not before turning up a willet and stilt sandpiper. In the Oshkosh area high water diminished early in August, and from August 10 on the shorebird migration there was good. Good flights were also reported from Vernon County, Kenosha County, Milwaukee, Racine, and western Green County. Numbers of all species were good, but especially interesting was the number of Baird's and stilt sandpiper reports. Shorebirds also lingered remarkably late. Black-bellied plover, both yellow-legs, pectoral, red-backed sandpipers and sanderlings were still to be found in Wisconsin in November.

The land bird migration was not an exciting one. The absence of sharp changes in weather eliminated pronounced waves, and induced birds to trickle through in a less obtrusive manner. The arrival of nearly

all species was close to normal, as were the departures of the birds that normally leave us early in September. The absence of cold snaps in October did induce some of the later migrants to remain longer than usual; more warblers than usual lingered into October, breaking several state departure records. Orange-crowned warblers were more numerous than we have known them in recent years, and the red-breasted nuthatch flight in August and September was the best in a long time. Numerous observers reported the nuthatches more plentiful than they had ever found them before. Evening grosbeaks moved over the entire state in good numbers, during the last ten days of October, presaging a good winter flight.

Loon: Early birds noted at Two Rivers, Aug. 3 (Mrs. Smith) and Appleton, Aug. 29 (Mrs. W. E. Rogers).

Holboell's Grebe: One at Crystal Lake, Dane County, Sept. 5 (Sam Robbins).

Horned Grebe: Early arrival at Milwaukee, Sept. 5 (Mrs. A. P. Balsom).

Double-crested Cormorant: Concentration of 5000 in La Crosse County, Oct. 10 (W. H. Kiel).

American Egret: Reports from 29 Wisconsin counties reached a peak in mid-September; four were seen as far north as Mosinee, Aug. 19 (Mrs. Edna Goldsmith), and eight in Oconto County, Sept. 11 (Carl Richter); individuals were still to be seen in Dodge County, Oct. 19 (Philip Mallow), and in Vernon County, Oct. 30 (Margarette Morse).

Snowy Egret: Seen in three different areas near Milwaukee, Aug. 1-24 (Mrs. F. L. Larkin et al); four noted at Lake Como, Walworth County, Aug. 16, with two present on Aug. 28 (Mrs. Howard Higgins et al); at least one present throughout August until Aug. 30 in Kenosha County (Mrs. Howard Higgins-Mrs. Donna Nelson).

Little Blue Heron: It seems strange that a bird reported only once between 1940 and 1946 should be seen in ten different areas in 1949! Adults were seen at Horicon, Aug. 2 (Harold Mathiak), and at Milton, Aug. 21-22 (Chester Skelly). Immatures were reported as follows: eight at Mazomanie, Aug. 1 (Sam Robbins), with one still present, Aug. 8 (A. W. Schorger); five in Columbia County, Aug. 14 (Alan Keitt-William Roark); three in one area near Milwaukee, Aug. 7, and one at a different location near the city, Aug. 21 (Mrs. F. L. Larkin et al); at least two in Kenosha County, late July until Aug. 30 (Mrs. Howard Higgins et al); two at Lake Como, Walworth County, Aug. 16 (Mrs. Howard Higgins-Mrs. Donna Nelson), with one still present, Sept. 3 (Mrs. Leta McMaster); one at Oshkosh, Aug. 13-18 (Jack Kaspar); and one at Mud Lake, Dodge County, Aug. 21 (Philip Mallow).

Green Heron: One in Milwaukee, Oct. 30 (Bernard Kaiman-Audrey Andrews). Latest date on record.

Least Bittern: Two still in Madison, Sept. 24 (Robert Nero).

Whistling Swan: Two had arrived at Oconto, Oct. 16 (Carl Richter); by the end of the month others had been seen at Mercer, Two Rivers, Appleton and Horicon.



MARSH HAWK (FEMALE) AT NEST
PHOTO BY M. A. SCHMITZ

Canada Goose: First noted in Rock County, Sept. 15 (Lawrence Jahn); other September arrivals noted in Oconto, Manitowoc, Outagamie, Dodge, Columbia, Dane and Lafayette Counties.

Blue Goose: Two remained in Oconto County all summer, and were photographed on Aug. 14 (Carl Richter). Good fall flight in October.

Black Duck: Notable increase in Madison (Lawrence Jahn).

Gadwall: Lake Como, Walworth County, Aug. 23 (Mrs. Leta McMaster); Green County, Sept. 23 (Gordon Orians); Ozaukee County, Oct. 14 (Helmuth Mueller-Mrs. Larkin); big increase in Madison, Oct. 5 on (Lawrence Jahn).

Green-winged Teal: Arrival in Kenosha County, Aug. 30 (Mrs. Howard Higgins-Mrs. Donna Nelson).

Lesser Scaup Duck: Arrived in Appleton, Aug. 30 (Mrs. W. E. Rogers), and in Milwaukee, Sept. 5 (Mrs. Martin Paulsen).

American Golden-eye: Two spent the summer in Waukesha County (Tom Sharp). Also noted in Marinette County, Sept. 3 (F. H. King).

White-winged Scoter: Noted on Oct. 14 in Ozaukee County (Mrs. Larkin-Helmuth Mueller), and in Rock County (George Bachay).

Surf Scoter: The first positive record of the past decade was established when one was collected at Madison, Oct. 12 (Robert Nero). See "By the Wayside" column.

American Merganser: 150 seen in Door County, Aug. 22 (Gordon Orians); arrived at Appleton, Sept. 18 (Mrs. W. E. Rogers); few present throughout the period at Milwaukee.

Red-breasted Merganser: Parent with brood of 21 young noted in Vilas County, Aug. 7 (A. N. Knudtson).

Turkey Vulture: Three in Vernon County, Aug. 28 and Sept. 25 (Margarette Morse); one in Jackson County, Sept. 17, and eleven on Sept. 20 (Harold Roberts); one at Milwaukee, Sept. 19 (Mrs. Decker), and two on Sept. 22 (Mrs. Larkin); one at Ripon, Sept. 18 (Paul Cors); one at Milton, Sept. 22 (Chester Skelly); one at Oshkosh, Oct. 2 (Jack Kaspar).

Swallow-tailed Kite: One watched for two hours at Menomonie, Sept. 27 (Helmer Mattison). See back page.

Goshawk: Two seen in Trempealeau County, Oct. 20 (Harold Roberts).

Sharp-shinned Hawk: One at Three Springs, Door County, Aug. 1 (Paul Cors).

Red-tailed Hawk: 75 counted at Cedar Grove, Oct. 23 (Helmuth Mueller-Dan Berger); numerous in Sauk County, Oct. 26 (F. H. King).

Osprey: First noted in Milwaukee, Aug. 21 (Mrs. A. P. Balsom); last seen in Sauk County, Oct. 30 (Jim Zimmerman).

Duck Hawk: Reports more numerous and widespread than usual: Iowa County, Sept. 4 (Sam Robbins); Fond du Lac County, Sept. 15 (Harold Koopmann); Cedar Grove, Sept. 25 (Lee Johnson et al), and Oct. 8-9 (Dan Berger et al); Madison, Sept. 26 (John Emlen); Monroe, Oct. 1 (Gordon Orians); Oshkosh, Oct. 2 (Jack Kaspar); Milwaukee, Oct. 13 (Helmuth Mueller); Ozaukee County, Oct. 18 (Mrs. A. P. Balsom); Mazomanie, Oct. 19 (Sam Robbins).

Pigeon Hawk: Noted at Cedar Grove on Sept. 25 (Lee Johnson et al), with a peak of 30 on Oct. 9 (W. S. O. trip), and a late date of Oct. 29 (Helmuth Mueller). Latest date on record. A summer resident was noted in Door County, early August (Gordon Orians); single migrants noted in Racine County, Sept. 8 (Ed Prins); Milwaukee, Sept. 18 (Dan Berger); Madison, Sept. 20 (John Wilde); and Iowa County, Oct. 20 (Sam Robbins).

Ruffed Grouse: The fall population near Mercer is reported to be unaccountably small, after a good breeding season (Mrs. Sell).

Prairie Chicken: Dane County, Oct. 30 (Emil Kaminski), five in Outagamie County, Oct. 18 (F. H. King).

Sharp-tailed Grouse: Three at Tripoli, Lincoln County, Oct. 27 (Frank Seymour).

Sandhill Crane: Birds that gather in the Princeton area each fall this year numbered about 700 at the early October peak (N. E. Damaske). Other records include: 12 in Waukesha County, Sept. 20 (T. E. Stone); 12 in Wood County, Oct. 1 (Fred Benson); eight at Shiocton, Oct. 11 (F. H. King); 15 at New London, Oct. 18 (F. H. King); seen at Mud Lake, Dodge County, Oct. 20 (Philip Mallow); Rock County, Oct. 28 (George Bachay-T. E. Stone).

King Rail: Ozaukee County, Aug. 29 (Mrs. Simmons); Lake Como, Walworth County, Sept. 3 (Leta McMaster); Kenosha County, Sept. 6 (Donna Nelson); Madison, Sept. 13 (Robert Nero).

Virginia Rail: Last seen in Green County, Oct. 23 (Gordon Orians).

Sora: Tremendous count of 1000 birds estimated in Milwaukee, Sept. 14 (Mrs. F. L. Larkin); last noted in Milwaukee, Oct. 13 (Mrs. Martin Paulsen); in Walworth County, Oct. 14 (Leta McMaster); and in Trempealeau County, Oct. 20 (Harold Roberts).

Coot: Numbers estimated at 5000 in Dane County, Sept. 23 (Al Kopenhagen).

Semipalmated Plover: Last seen in Green County, Oct. 21 (Gordon Orians), and in Milwaukee, Oct. 22 (Audrey Andrews-Bernard Kaiman).

Golden Plover: Noted in Milwaukee from Sept. 2 (Mary Donald) to Oct. 23 (Mrs. A. P. Balsam); at Cedar Grove from Oct. 8 (Gordon Orians et al) to Oct. 23 (Helmuth Mueller-Dan Berger); flock estimated at 200 observed closely in Ozaukee County, Sept. 18 (Mrs. A. P. Balsom et al); one in Vernon County, Sept. 25 (Margarette Morse); Green County, Oct. 1 (Gordon Orians).

Black-bellied Plover: Still at Two Rivers, Oct. 17 (Mrs. Smith); at Cedar Grove, Oct. 23 (Dan Berger-Helmuth Mueller); and throughout the month in Dane County (George Hall) and Racine County (Prins brothers).

Ruddy Turnstone: Fewer than usual, but seen in Milwaukee, Aug. 7 (Mrs. Larkin-C. P. Frister) to Sept. 29 (Helmuth Mueller); and in Racine County, Aug. 31 and early September (Prins brothers).

Woodcock: Still in Lincoln County, Oct. 20 (Frank Seymour).

Wilson's Snipe: An estimated 350 birds passed by Cedar Grove, Oct. 23 (Helmuth Mueller-Dan Berger).

Hudsonian Curlew: On Sept. 17 an out-of-place bird was sighted flying over Milwaukee harbor, and was closely observed when it alighted on the breakwater (Mrs. F. L. Larkin-Gordon Orians).

Spotted Sandpiper: Last seen in Milwaukee, Oct. 30 (Audrey Andrews-Bernard Kaiman).

Solitary Sandpiper: 28 counted together on a pond near Lodi, Sept. 24 (John Wilde); last seen in Milwaukee, Oct. 30 (Mrs. Martin Paulsen).

Willet: One found in Mazomanie, Aug. 5 (N. R. Barger-W. E. Scott) was collected the next day (A. W. Schorger). Another was discovered in Milwaukee, Sept. 4 (Dr. LeTillier et al).

Greater Yellow-legs: Two in Hayward, Oct. 14 (Karl Kahmann); noted throughout the period in Madison and Milwaukee. 500 birds seen passing Cedar Grove, Oct. 23 (Helmuth Mueller-Dan Berger).

Lesser Yellow-legs: 150 at Cedar Grove, Oct. 23 (Dan Berger-Helmuth Mueller); noted in Dane County the same day (George Hall); and lingered into November at Milwaukee.

Knot: Noted in Milwaukee for a two-month period: Aug. 7 to Oct. 10 (Mrs. F. L. Larkin et al); also seen in Racine County, Aug. 30 to Sept. 4, with a peak of six on Sept. 2 (Ed Prins).

Pectoral Sandpiper: Injured bird seen in Oshkosh, Oct. 14 (Mrs. Glen Fisher); other late departures in Dane County, Oct. 23 (George Hall); Racine, Oct. 30 (Prins brothers); and seen in Vernon County into November (Margarette Morse).

White-rumped Sandpiper: One in Racine County, Aug. 18 (Ed Prins); noted in Milwaukee from Aug. 31 (Mrs. F. L. Larkin) to Oct. 10 (Mrs. Larkin-Mrs. Simmons).

Baird's Sandpiper: Reports not restricted to the Milwaukee area as has been usual in other falls. Birds were seen in Milwaukee from Aug. 7 (Mrs. Larkin-C. P. Frister) until Oct. 20 (Helmuth Mueller), but the following observations were also made: three at Washington Island, Door County, Aug. 24 (Gordon Orians); Green County, Sept. 10 to Oct. 2 (Gordon Orians); Kenosha County, Sept. 29 to Oct. 2 (Mrs. Donna Nelson-Mrs. Howard Higgins); Racine County, on the remarkably late dates of Oct. 27 and 30 (George Prins).

Least Sandpiper: Cedar Grove, Oct. 23 (Helmuth Mueller). Latest date on record.

Red-backed Sandpiper: Arrived early and stayed late. 15 seen at Appleton, Sept. 2 (Mrs. W. E. Rogers); lingered into November at Racine, Milwaukee and Madison; also seen during the period in Dodge, Green, Kenosha and Vernon Counties.

Dowitcher: More reports than usual: seen in Dane, Dodge, Green, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Racine, Vernon and Winnebago Counties; last seen in Dodge County, Oct. 12 (Philip Mallow).

Stilt Sandpiper: This species had been reported in Wisconsin only twice in this decade until this fall; this year there were five credible

reports: one at Mazomanie, Aug. 7 (W. E. Scott); three at Oshkosh, Aug. 26 (Jack Kaspar); one in Vernon County, Aug. 28 and Sept. 18 (Margaret Morse); one in Kenosha County on Sept. 29, with four on Oct. 2 (Mrs. Howard Higgins-Mrs. Donna Nelson); one seen off and on in Green County after Sept. 5, with four present on the last date, Oct. 21 (Howard and Gordon Orians).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: Last noted in Milwaukee, Oct. 9 (Mrs. A. P. Balsom).

Western Sandpiper: One carefully studied in Milwaukee, Aug. 28 (Helmuth Mueller et al).

Sanderling: Birds away from Lake Michigan are unusual. Eight were seen near Appleton, Aug. 29 (Mrs. Rogers); one at Oshkosh, Sept. 7 (Jack Kaspar); noted in Dane County, Sept. 8 (John Wilde).

Red Phalarope: One at Wind Point, Racine County, Oct. 27 (George Prins). First Wisconsin record since 1944. See "By the Wayside" column.

Wilson's Phalarope: Ozaukee County, Sept. 5 (Mrs. Bromm); Lake Como, Walworth County, Oct. 14 (Leta McMaster).

Northern Phalarope: Seen at Wilmot Road marsh, Kenosha County, several times between Sept. 1 and Oct. 11 (Mrs. Donna Nelson-Mrs. Howard Higgins); two at Wind Point, Racine County, Sept. 1, with one remaining until Sept. 8 (Prins brothers); noted in Milwaukee from Sept. 11 (Mrs. Simmons) through October (many observers), with a peak of ten birds on Sept. 17 (Helmuth Mueller).

Parasitic Jaeger: One was observed at very close range, both perched and flying, in Oconto County, Oct. 16 (Carl Richter). Although in immature plumage, the bird was seen under such favorable conditions that pattern of flight and size made positive identification possible. Other jaegers were seen at Cedar Grove, Oct. 24 (Helmuth Mueller), and at Wind Point, Racine County, Oct. 27 (George Prins); but both birds were immatures, and not seen under such favorable conditions to make identification positive.

Franklin's Gull: Again seen regularly and in numbers in Milwaukee; first seen there Sept. 4 (Mrs. H. J. Nunnemacher), and present through October (many observers). Also noted at Cedar Grove, Oct. 30 (Helmuth Mueller).

Bonaparte's Gull: Wanderers away from Lake Michigan were noted on Lake Winnebago near Oshkosh, Aug. 11 (Jack Kaspar), and along the Wisconsin River near Arena, Sept. 23 (Sam Robbins).

Forster's Tern: Noted at Oshkosh, Aug. 11-21 (Jack Kaspar); at Milwaukee, Aug. 28 (Mrs. A. P. Balsom) to Oct. 2 (Helmuth Mueller).

Caspian Tern: Reported inland at Madison: one on Sept. 26 (John Emlen), and two on Oct. 11 (Mrs. R. A. Walker). Noted also at Cedar Grove, Sept. 5 (Helmuth Mueller), and at Milwaukee, Sept. 11 (Mueller) to Sept. 18 (Mrs. A. P. Balsom).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Late straggler at Milwaukee, Oct. 24 (Mrs. C. R. Decker). Latest date on record.

Black-billed Cuckoo: Last seen in Madison, Oct. 11 (Mrs. R. A. Walker).

Snowy Owl: First noted in Oconto County, Oct. 24 (fide Carl Richter).

Long-eared Owl: Noted in Land O' Lakes, July 31 (Fred Babcock); and at Watertown, Oct. 22 (Philip Mallow).

Short-eared Owl: Walworth County, Aug. 29 (Leta McMaster); Milwaukee, Oct. 2 on (Helmuth Mueller); Cedar Grove, Oct. 8-9 (Gordon Orians et al); Two Rivers, Oct. 19-23 (Mrs. Winnifred Smith).

Nighthawk: 300 seen migrating in northern Dane County, Oct. 8 (Ethel A. Nott). Very late for heavy flight. Last seen in Milwaukee, Oct. 10 (Mrs. Martin Paulsen).

Chimney Swift: Seen over Madison in high winds, Oct. 10 (Jim Zimmerman).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Last seen on the W. S. O. field trip to Cedar Grove, Oct. 9.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Still present at Tomahawk, Oct. 13 (Frank Seymour).

Eastern Kingbird: Last noted on Sept. 16 in Two Rivers (Mrs. Winnifred Smith), and in Monroe (Gordon Orians); and on Sept. 18 in Milwaukee (Mrs. A. P. Balsom).

Arkansas Kingbird: The birds that spent the summer near Janesville were last seen on Aug. 7 (Harold Bennett). See "By the Wayside" column.

Crested Flycatcher: Last seen in Two Rivers, Oct. 13 (Mrs. Winnifred Smith). Latest date on record.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: One found dead in Milwaukee, Aug. 28 (Mrs. Schwendener); another seen there, Sept. 1 (Mrs. F. L. Larkin).

Alder Flycatcher: Last noted at Cedar Grove, Oct. 8 (Gordon Orians et al).

Least Flycatcher: Last seen on W. S. O. field trip at Cedar Grove, Oct. 9.

Wood Pewee: Two late departures: Madison, Oct. 5 (Mrs. R. A. Walker), and Milwaukee, Oct. 15 (C. P. Frister). The latter date ties the state departure record.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Noted in Milwaukee from Aug. 24 (Mrs. F. L. Larkin) to Sept. 8 (Mrs. Alvin Bromm); La Crosse County, Sept. 2 (Jack Kaspar); Madison, Aug. 28 (Robert Nero) to Sept. 15 (Sam Robins). Eight were seen together in Madison, Aug. 29 (Nero). Seven were also seen near Land O' Lakes, Aug. 2, where they may have bred (Mrs. Philip Miles).

Tree Swallow: Last, Madison, Oct. 30 (John Wilde).

Bank Swallow: Still present in Appleton, Sept. 21 (Mrs. W. E. Rogers), and in Watertown, Sept. 24 (Philip Mallow).

Rough-winged Swallow: Seen last in Appleton, Sept. 21 (Mrs. W. E. Rogers).

Barn Swallow: Two birds seen in Dunn County, Oct. 11, were probably blown north by the high winds of the previous day (H. E. Clark).

Cliff Swallow: Appleton, Sept. 21 (Mrs. W. E. Rogers).

Purple Martin: Stragglers in Appleton, Oct. 4 (Mrs. Rogers).

Canada Jay: Noted on and off during summer and fall at Land O' Lakes (Mrs. Philip Miles and Fred Babcock); arrived at Mercer, Sept. 28 (Mrs. Herbert Sell); two in Sawyer County, Oct. 29 (Jim Hale).

Magpie: A straggler of this species turned up in Milwaukee, Oct. 2 (C. P. Frister et al). Because an individual escaped captivity in Wisconsin several years ago, there is the bare possibility that this bird did not reach Wisconsin under its own power; but as this species is also known to have invaded Minnesota in small numbers last summer, it seems most probable that the Wisconsin individual wandered even farther.

Hudsonian Chickadee: Land O' Lakes, Aug. 20 (Mrs. Philip Miles).

Red-breasted Nuthatch: Reports from 19 counties in all parts of Wisconsin all testify to the best flight in years. Birds were first reported around Aug. 21, and remained numerous through most of September. Reports slackened somewhat through October, but there were still many more birds than usual around at the end of the period.

Winter Wren: Early arrival in Mazomanie, Sept. 3 (Sam Robbins).

Carolina Wren: A bird appeared in Grant Park, Milwaukee, some time in August, and remained throughout the period (Rufin Jankowski et al).

Short-billed Marsh Wren: Last, Dane County, Oct. 19 (John Wilde).

Catbird: Last dates for various sections: Superior, Oct. 5 (Mrs. Mabelle Gates); Birnamwood, Oct. 11 (Mary Staeger); Tomahawk, Oct. 12 (Mrs. Walter Brown); Madison, Oct. 21 (Jim Zimmerman).

Wood Thrush: Still at Two Rivers, Oct. 9 (Mrs. Winnifred Smith); Appleton, Oct. 11 (Mrs. W. E. Rogers); Milwaukee, Oct. 13 (Helmuth Mueller).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: A wanderer was seen in Two Rivers, Sept. 14 (Mrs. Winnifred Smith).

Golden-crowned Kinglet: Arrived remarkably early. Land O' Lakes, Sept. 1 (Mrs. Philip Miles); earliest date on record. Arrived in Milwaukee, Sept. 21 (Mrs. F. L. Larkin); and on Sept. 23 was seen in Madison (Jim Zimmerman) and near Mazomanie (Sam Robbins).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Early arrivals noted in Watertown, Aug. 31 (Philip Mallow); Monroe, Sept. 3 (Gordon Orians); Milwaukee, Sept. 4 (Audrey Andrews-Bernard Kaiman). Still present in Milwaukee, Oct. 24 (Helene Stoll); Two Rivers, Oct. 26 (Mrs. Winnifred Smith); Appleton, Oct. 31 (Mrs. W. E. Rogers).

Pipit: Manitowoc County, Oct. 14 (Myron Reichwaldt); Monroe, Oct. 21 (Gordon Orians); Cedar Grove, Oct. 23 (Helmuth Mueller).

Northern Shrike: First reported at Birnamwood, Oct. 19 (Mary Staeger).

Bell's Vireo: Still present on its Mazomanie breeding grounds, Sept. 5 (Sam Robbins). Another seen and heard singing in Iowa County, Sept. 23 (Sam Robbins).

Blue-headed Vireo: Late straggler in Madison, Oct. 30 (John Wilde). Latest date on record.

Red-eyed Vireo: Lingered in Milwaukee until Oct. 12 (Mrs. W. Simons).

Philadelphia Vireo: Milwaukee, Aug. 28 to Sept. 20 (Mrs. A. P. Balsom et al); Racine, Aug. 30 (Ed Prins); Mazomanie, Sept. 3-15 (Sam Robbins); Cedar Grove, Sept. 25 (Lee Johnson et al); Appleton, Sept. 17 to Oct. 3 (Mrs. Fred Tessen).

Black and White Warbler: Arrived on Aug. 9 in Mercer (Mrs. Her-

bert Sell), and in Milwaukee, Aug. 9 (Mrs. Gimmler); last seen in Milwaukee, Oct. 20 (Mrs. Martin Paulsen). Ties late state record.

Golden-winged Warbler: Last, Mazomanie, Sept. 17 (Sam Robbins).

Prothonotary Warbler: Last seen at Arena, Sept. 16 (Sam Robbins).

Blue-winged Warbler: Mazomanie, Sept. 12 (Sam Robbins).

Tennessee Warbler: First migrants in Oshkosh, Aug. 23 (Jack Kaspar), and in Door County, Aug. 24 (Gordon Orians); late birds in Milwaukee, Oct. 13 (Mrs. F. L. Larkin), and in Walworth County, Oct. 14 (Leta McMaster).

Orange-crowned Warbler: In past years records of this species in fall have come from only three or four areas each year; this fall birds were seen in ten locations, and at their peak as many as 12 birds could be seen at once in Cedar Grove. First seen in Appleton, Sept. 8 (Mrs. Fred Tessen); still in Milwaukee at the end of October; other records from Dane, Green, Jefferson, Rock, Sauk, Sheboygan, Vernon, and Washington Counties.

Nashville Warbler: Land O' Lakes, Aug. 16-20 (Mrs. Philip Miles); last seen in Viroqua, Oct. 14 (Margarette Morse).

Parula Warbler: Land O' Lakes, Aug. 24-Sept. 3 (Mrs. Philip Miles); Watertown, Sept. 7 (Philip Mallow); Oshkosh, Sept. 15 (Mrs. Glen Fisher); Milwaukee, Sept. 4-Oct. 2 (Audrey Andrews-Bernard Kaiman).

Yellow Warbler: Still in Birnamwood, Sept. 4 (Mary Staeger).

Magnolia Warbler: First fall migrants in Land O' Lakes, Aug. 21 (Mrs. Philip Miles), and in Appleton, Aug. 24 (Mrs. Fred Tessen).

Cape May Warbler: First in Door County, Aug. 22 (Gordon Orians); last in Milwaukee, Oct. 2 (Mrs. F. L. Larkin); other fall reports from Land O' Lakes, Mercer, Birnamwood, Two Rivers, Viroqua, Mazomanie, Monroe and Racine.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: More fall reports than usual: Madison, Aug. 31 (Jim Zimmerman); two in Mazomanie, Sept. 3 (Sam Robbins); Milwaukee, Sept. 12 (Bernard Kaiman-Audrey Andrews) to Sept. 19 (Helmuth Mueller); Iowa County, Sept. 16 (Sam Robbins); Cedar Grove, Sept. 25 (Lee Johnson et al); Jefferson County, Oct. 4 (Sam Robbins); Watertown, Oct. 9 (Philip Mallow).

Myrtle Warbler: Early arrival for southern Wisconsin noted at Racine, Aug. 31 (Ed Prins); late departure for northern Wisconsin noted at Tomahawk, Oct. 22 (Frank Seymour).

Blackburnian Warbler: Oshkosh, Aug. 26 (Jack Kaspar), and Sept. 4 (Mrs. Glen Fisher); Madison, Aug. 29 (Robert Nero); Mazomanie, Sept.

3 (Sam Robbins); Milwaukee, Sept. 8 (Susan Drake), and Sept. 28 (Mrs. Alvin Bromm).

Bay-breasted Warbler: Late bird in Washington County, Oct. 8 (Sam Robbins).

Black-poll Warbler: First noted in Door County, Aug. 22 (Gordon Orians); last seen in Milwaukee, Oct. 5 (Helmuth Mueller), tying latest date on record; other reports from



NEST AND EGGS OF THE KING RAIL
PHOTO BY PRINS BROTHERS

Madison, Watertown, Monroe and Racine.

Pine Warbler: Still in Tomahawk, Sept. 14 (Frank Seymour), and in Milwaukee, Oct. 2 (Mrs. F. L. Larkin).

Palm Warbler: Early arrivals in Milwaukee, Aug. 28 (Mrs. Larkin and Mrs. Balsom), and in Racine, Aug. 31 (Ed Prins); late departures in Two Rivers, Oct. 25 (Mrs. Winnifred Smith), and in Cedar Grove, Oct. 30 (Helmuth Mueller). Latest date on record.

Ovenbird: Last, Milwaukee, Oct. 21 (Mrs. A. P. Balsom).

Grinnell's Water-thrush: Last seen in Oshkosh, Oct. 17 (Mrs. Glen Fisher).

Connecticut Warbler: Monroe, Sept. 5 (Gordon Orians); Madison, Sept. 15 (Sam Robbins); Milwaukee, Sept. 18 (C. P. Frister), and Sept. 25 (Mrs. F. L. Larkin); Plymouth, Sept. 27 (Harold Koopmann).

Mourning Warbler: Land O' Lakes, Aug. 18-27 (Mrs. Philip Miles); Monroe, Sept. 3 (Gordon Orians); Milwaukee, Sept. 25 (Helmuth Mueller); Cedar Grove, Oct. 9 (George Treichel et al); Madison, Oct. 11 (Mrs. R. A. Walker). Latest date on record.

Northern Yellow-throat: Late birds in Milwaukee, Oct. 15 (C. P. Frister), and in Viroqua, Oct. 16 (Margarette Morse).

Yellow-breasted Chat: Still in Mazomanie, Sept. 3 (Sam Robbins); one turned up at a feeding tray in Appleton, Sept. 26-28 (Mrs. Frank Blick).

Hooded Warbler: Township of Roxbury, Dane County, Sept. 12 (Sam Robbins). See "By the Wayside" column.

Wilson's Warbler: Two remarkably late birds: one in Milton, Oct. 15 (Mrs. Melva Maxson); one in Milwaukee, Oct. 2 (Mrs. A. P. Balsom); both later than previous state records. Others noted: Appleton, Aug. 26-27 (Mrs. Fred Tessen); Watertown, Aug. 30 (Philip Mallow); Viroqua, Aug. 31 (Margarette Morse); Milwaukee, Sept. 3 (Mrs. Larkin-C. P. Frister); Monroe, Sept. 10-18 (Gordon Orians); Mazomanie, Sept. 19 (Sam Robbins).

Canada Warbler: Reported in late August and the first half of September in Dane, Dodge, Iowa, Iron, Milwaukee, Sheboygan and Vilas Counties.

Redstart: Remarkably late straggler in Oshkosh, Oct. 31 (Mrs. Glen Fisher).

Yellow-headed Blackbird: The whereabouts of this species after the breeding season has puzzled many observers, for very few reports later than July have been received. This year there are four: 16 in Appleton, Aug. 29 (Mrs. W. E. Rogers); 16 in Milton, Aug. 29 (Mrs. Melva Maxson); 30 at Lake Wisconsin, Columbia County, Sept. 28-Oct. 7 (Ethel A. Nott); one at Sun Prairie, Dane County, Oct. 8 (Sam Robbins).

Orchard Oriole: Dane County, Aug. 20 (George Hall).

Baltimore Oriole: Last seen on Sept. 6 in Superior (Mrs. Mabelle Gates), and on Sept. 18 in Milwaukee (Mrs. Martin Paulsen) and in Monroe (Gordon Orians).

Brewer's Blackbird: Mazomanie, Sept. 16 (Sam Robbins).

Cardinal: Present this fall at Manson Lake, Oneida County (Ray Schmutzlers).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: Last, Milwaukee, Oct. 13 (Mrs. F. L. Larkin et al).

Indigo Bunting: Late birds seen in Milton, Oct. 3 (Mrs. Melva Maxson); Monroe, Oct. 1 (Gordon Orians); Madison, Sept. 30 (Mrs. R. A. Walker).

Evening Grosbeak: In Superior on Aug. 17 parents were observed feeding young on the wing, lending strong support to the possibility of this species breeding within Wisconsin's borders (Mrs. Mabelle Gates). Fall arrivals first appeared on Oct. 18, and by the end of the month birds had been reported from Douglas, Bayfield, Iron, Rusk, Lincoln, Shawano, Oconto, Door, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Sheboygan, Jackson, and Milwaukee Counties.

Pine Grosbeak: Superior, Oct. 22 (Mrs. Mabelle Gates).

Redpoll: Cedar Grove, Oct. 30 (Helmuth Mueller).

Pine Siskin: A tremendous mass migration of approximately 6000 birds was witnessed at Cedar Grove, Oct. 30 (Helmuth Mueller et al).

Goldfinch: Flocks estimated at 2500 were seen with the above siskins.

Red Crossbill: Three appeared at Madison, Oct. 31 (Peggy and Joe Hickey).

Grasshopper Sparrow: Last noted in Milwaukee, Oct. 14 (Mrs. Lark-in-Helmuth Mueller), and in Viroqua, Oct. 9 (Margarette Morse).

LeConte's Sparrow: Three in Iowa County, Sept. 23 (Sam Robbins).

Henslow's Sparrow: Still present on Oct. 21 in Madison (John Em-len), and in Milwaukee (Helmuth Mueller).

Nelson's Sparrow: One carefully observed at Cedar Grove, Sept. 25 (Lee Johnson et al).

Lark Sparrow: Last seen at Arena, Sept. 16 (Sam Robbins).

Tree Sparrow: Early arrival noted in Waupaca County, Sept. 30 (Mrs. W. E. Rogers).

Clay-colored Sparrow: Mercer, Sept. 15 (Mrs. Herbert Sell); Iowa County, Sept. 23 (Sam Robbins); Monroe, Oct. 1 (Gordon Orians).

Harris' Sparrow: Birnamwood, Sept. 23-Oct. 9 (Mary Staeger); Madison, Oct. 15 (A. W. Schorger) to Oct. 19 (Mrs. R. A. Walker); Viroqua, Oct. 14-23 (Margarette Morse); Winnebago County, Oct. 22 (Mary Donald); immature banded at Milton, Oct. 23 (Chester Skelly).

Gambel's Sparrow: This western subspecies of the white-crowned sparrow may occur in Wisconsin more frequently than has been supposed. They can be distinguished in the field, but only by extremely careful observation. Observers in Milwaukee observed this subspecies four times: Sept. 20-Oct. 14 (Helmuth Mueller et al).

White-throated Sparrow: Present in Watertown as early as Sept. 1 (Philip Mallow). Still to be seen in Superior, Oct. 31 (Mrs. Mabelle Gates).

Fox Sparrow: One seen at Monroe, Sept. 24, is early for southern Wisconsin (Gordon Orians).

Lincoln's Sparrow: Eight seen at one time in Mazomanie, Sept. 25 (Sam Robbins). Other fall reports from Dane, Green, Iowa, Milwaukee, and Sheboygan Counties.

Lapland Longspur: Noted first in Oshkosh, Sept. 20 (Mrs. Glen Fisher), and in Madison, Sept. 25 (Jack Kaspar).

Snow Bunting: Late October arrivals reported at Land O' Lakes (Fred Babcock), Mercer (Mrs. Sell), Rusk County (Jim Hale), and Door County (Harold Wilson).

WHAT'S NEW IN THE W. S. O. SUPPLY DEPARTMENT?

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NEW CHECK-LIST WITH MIGRATION CHARTS

The Check-list Booklet with Migration Charts has been revised and is once again available. A new feature has been added—a list of sources of in-

formation on Wisconsin birds as prepared by Dr. A. W. Schorger. Price, 25c.

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WE PAY POSTAGE

Swallow-Tailed Kite

Again Visits Wisconsin

On September 27, 1949 I saw a swallow-tailed kite sitting on an old tree on an island in the lake at Menomonie. When I first saw the bird, it was eating a frog. I watched the bird through a 20X telescope from a distance of about twenty rods. Except for wings and tail, the bird was all white; the wings and tail were a dark bluish gray. The tail looked to be about 14 inches long. The bird sat in that tree for about two and one-half hours; then he flew down the river.—Helmer Mattison, Menomonie.

Formerly a summer resident and breeder in Wisconsin, the swallow-tailed kite declined in the State after 1850. The last known record is of a specimen collected at Glidden, Ashland County, on July 26, 1901 by Richard Blome. The present range of this species is restricted to the Gulf states, although these birds do occasionally wander far beyond their range. Coincident with the above sight record is another, made in Minnesota (Crow Wing County) on October 9, by Wynne Lawrence et al. In August of the same year a specimen was shot in Fillmore County, Minnesota, and turned in to the Minnesota Museum of Natural History by Franklin Willis. This was the first Minnesota record since 1923—Editor's Note.

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