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*The*  
**PASSENGER PIGEON**

A Magazine of Wisconsin Bird Study

*Published Quarterly By*

**THE WISCONSIN SOCIETY  
FOR ORNITHOLOGY, INC.**



SUMMER ISSUE  
VOL. XVII, NO. 2

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# THE MANAGEMENT OF PREDACIOUS AND FISH-EATING BIRDS IN WISCONSIN\*

By WALTER E. SCOTT

We have good reasons to celebrate the establishment of an Audubon Camp in Wisconsin and to thank all those who contributed towards this worthwhile project. If the traditional Audubon Camp enthusiasm is transmitted through good leadership, teachers and youth leaders will learn ecological concepts which should pay off in continuous dividends. It is hoped that Wisconsin will always be well represented at this camp so it will fully benefit from this opportunity.

So far as the predacious and fish-eating birds in Wisconsin are concerned, the establishment of this camp may mark the beginning of a new era for their consideration in the fields of scientific research and management. It might even be a worthwhile project to attempt to evaluate the change in public attitudes and management techniques in regard to these two controversial groups of birds several decades from now as compared to the present. Certainly the National Audubon Society should evaluate the impact of this camp on the understanding and solving of the nation's natural resource problems.

Possibly the title of this paper may be misleading, for this is not a scholarly treatise on management techniques. Rather, it will be a statement of the management problem today as related to the opinions of people, the few facts we possess, and some hopes and ideas for the future. The Conservation Department is offering this report in a spirit of cooperation and a desire for understanding by an interested public—and especially by the organized bird students and ornithologists of the state.

The story of a British club might be mentioned in this regard, for the only condition of membership is that they are required always to sign letters to the government with the same statement, "You are, my Dear Sir, my Humble and Obedient Servant."

It is significant that the Conservation Act which established the Conservation Commission and Department in 1927 envisioned a service agency which would be a servant of the people. Its purpose was clearly stated: "to provide an adequate and flexible system for the protection, development and use of forests, fish and game, lakes, streams, plant life, flowers and other outdoor resources in the state of Wisconsin." The predacious and fish-eating birds are an "outdoor resource" which deserve consideration by the Commission and Department under this Act. Their proper management is both a scientific and a public relations problem of considerable importance.

It is not the purpose of this paper to detail the comparative values of the several species of predacious and fish-eating birds. It is already well known among ornithologists that most species are more beneficial than harmful to man under ordinary circumstances. Some of them are almost wholly beneficial, and all have high aesthetic values which should

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\*Delivered at the 16th annual WSO convention at Wausau, Wis., on April 30, 1955.

not be overlooked. Some no doubt have values to the ecological balance which have not yet been discovered.

Unfortunately, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act has not yet been able to afford protection to all of these birds although it does protect the waterfowl, cranes, bitterns, grebes, gulls, herons, loons and terns. Federal law of the United States now also gives strong protection for the bald eagle. Beyond this, the several states must do their part with management regulations on the hawks and owls and the kingfishers.

About a decade ago Wisconsin bird students and ornithologists hailed the establishment of state regulations which prevented the shooting of eagles and hawks and owls with the exception of the great horned owl. This order was adopted by the Conservation Commission while many other states gave these birds little or no protection. It was possible only because an exception stated that "the owner or occupant of any land and any member of his family may take hawks and owls of any species thereon when found to be causing damage."

It is of interest to note that our sister state of Michigan last year passed a similar law which went several steps farther than Wisconsin's present regulations. They included the great horned owl in this same category and limited their exception for killing by farmers or landowners to those birds "which are doing real damage to poultry or other domestic animals."

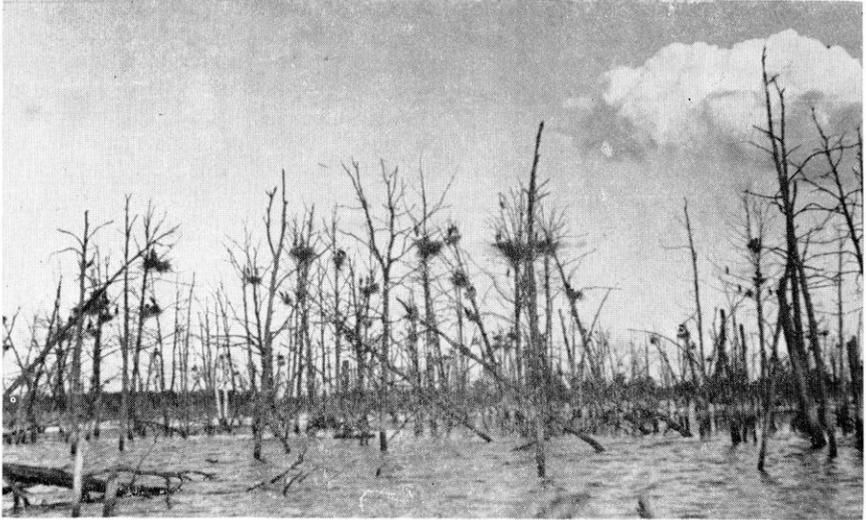
So far as fish-eating birds are concerned, Wisconsin regulations protect all such birds except the kingfisher "on federal, state and licensed private fish hatcheries" and great blue herons and cormorants more than 1,000 feet from any rookery used by these birds for nesting purposes. Michigan law gives these birds much more protection and might well be studied for the example it provides. There also is an obvious conflict between protection of herons under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Wisconsin regulations which permit the destruction of great blue herons more than a thousand feet from their nesting rookery.

So much for the protective laws and Commission regulations, which are a primitive form of management. Another more specific type of management is aimed at the control of these birds when they become a costly nuisance at fish hatcheries or game farms where fish or pheasants are being propagated under controlled conditions. Young trout in a pond are very attractive to kingfishers, herons, terns and other fish-eating birds, and hundreds of brailed pheasants in open runs at game farms are easy prey for certain hawks and owls. To this day there has been no protection devised for these public and private projects other than control by the use of guns and traps under permit from federal and state agencies when permits are required.

It should be pointed out that under Wisconsin law licensed private fish hatcheries may kill kingfishers at any time they believe it is necessary, and if they are more than 1,000 feet from a nesting rookery, they may also kill great blue herons and cormorants. Also, a private game farmer may take hawks and owls at any time on his own property if he believes they are damaging his property. It is significant to note that there are 355 licensed private fish hatcheries in the state and 128 of these are trout hatcheries. In addition, there are 42 cooperative fish rearing ponds of

which 37 are for trout. Wisconsin also has 460 licensed private pheasant farms and on ten of these fee shooting is permissible. An intensive type of management for hawk and owl control might also be expected at about 80 private shooting preserves for pheasants. There are no easily available records of the number of predacious and fish-eating birds "controlled to death" at these places.

Only the control activities at the State Experimental Game and Fur Farm and at 20 state and federal fish hatcheries are covered by complete reports for the calendar year 1954. At these places of intensive fish and game propagation, a total of 1,091 protected predacious and fish-eating birds were killed last year. This number included 122 great blue herons,



WISCONSIN LAW PROTECTS GREAT BLUE HERONS AND CORMORANTS WITHIN 1,000 FEET OF NESTING ROOKERIES

PHOTO BY GEORGE KNUDSEN

5 green herons, 14 American bitterns, 448 kingfishers, 42 black terns, 7 grebes, 3 gulls, 2 mergansers, 2 barred owls, 360 red-tailed hawks, 85 Cooper's hawks and 1 snowy owl. To this might be added 150 unprotected great horned owls also in this general class but not in the total cited.

It is not to be inferred that the kill at all fish hatcheries is commensurate with that at public hatcheries operating large propagation programs in several ponds. Likewise, many private pheasant farms have their birds continually under wire and may need no special control for predacious birds at all. Probably none have any need to control as intensively as the State Game Farm as they have much less to protect and are therefore less attractive to hawks and owls. However, it can be assumed that the kill at these private fish hatcheries and game farms is sufficient to be seriously considered in any management plan for these birds.

In regard to the legal destruction of such birds by the citizens of the state, it would be difficult to compile the total kill. Great blue herons

1,000 feet from a rookery are a large and legal target, and any individual on his own or rented land may kill hawks and owls on his own determination that they are "causing damage" to his property. The excellent article by Gordon Orians in the Spring 1955 issue of **The Passenger Pigeon** summarizes the result of the Society's questionnaire to members on this point. He states:

"Through the questionnaire an effort has been made to evaluate the attitude of the public towards hawks in general and red-tailed hawks in particular. The results have been rather discouraging. Not one of the members reported that local residents were able to or cared to distinguish one species of hawk from another. All were unanimous in saying that hawks are shot whenever possible in their area. The attitude that the only good hawk is a dead hawk still prevails.

"Wisconsin has a law protecting all species of hawks but it is clear that such a law is not effective until public opinion is behind it. Here is a challenge to everyone who professes to be genuinely interested in our wildlife and its welfare. This is not a plea for prosecutions but rather a plea for destroying the need for them. Wisconsin is frequently used as an example of a state with good protective legislation. It is hoped that soon she can also be used as an example of enlightened public opinion behind such legislation."

I am pleased to permit Gordon Orians, one of our best bird observers, to "steal my thunder" on this point. I am also pleased to quote from a survey of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology which shows their interest in this problem and in its public relations and educational aspects.

### **The Need and Limitations of Management**

One of the investigations I urged when working in the Game Management Division over a decade ago was an exploration of the possibilities of covering the ponds at the state's Bayfield Trout Hatchery where hundreds of kingfishers were being killed annually. The report returned was that this was so difficult that it would not be economically feasible or practical from an operational standpoint. Similar studies have been made at the State Game Farm near Poynette. It is so costly a proposition to cover the open runs with wire or other protection that it is not practical.

It has been estimated that the cost of covering the 260 acres of open holding pens at the State Game Farm with 2-inch, 18-gauge wire mesh would be approximately \$650,000. Although this covering could be erected over a ten-year period, it still would not be very practical. The problem is accentuated by the fact that it is necessary to get into these fields to plant crops on a rotation basis in order to maintain this intensive level of propagation activity. Cost of control of winged predators at this location is estimated at \$1,200 annually. It should be stated that most of the birds are shot, although some are dispatched after being caught in pole traps. Fortunately, there is no control activity during the majority of the time the predacious birds are nesting, for the pheasants are then in covered laying pens.

Although the covering of fish hatchery ponds and bird holding pens is an obvious solution to this problem, it has not proven to be a practical

one in most cases. Probably the greatest hope for solution lies in some far simpler device not yet discovered. The Conservation Department is now investigating the possibility of securing a sufficient supply of wind-activated streamers of the type used to attract attention at filling stations. These would be used experimentally to see if they would scare hawks away from the open pens. Other contraptions such as sound devices, self-propelled dummies, electrically activated pole perches or even camouflage of the birds themselves, might all deserve consideration. This same type of study of preventive devices is needed at fish hatcheries.

There have been a few cases where birds taken alive in traps have been salvaged by groups or individuals interested in banding and research projects. Without doubt, a number of hawks and owls captured each year could be preserved and used for banding studies by this procedure. However, it would require some expense and assurances that the predacious birds would be taken far enough away so they wouldn't immediately return.

If we consider the matter of continuous inventories of populations as management rather than research, then it should be pointed out that much more of this type of management is necessary. As there is an understandable tendency for Conservation Department projects to concentrate on census studies of game birds, it is even more urgent that groups such as the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology maintain a continuous inventory program on the non-game species. It is probably most important that this type of study feature the controversial fish-eating and predacious birds, and that it be set up so annual population tallies are possible for Wisconsin migratory routes and nesting study areas. The Society's surveys on the red-tailed hawk and American egret were a step in this direction.

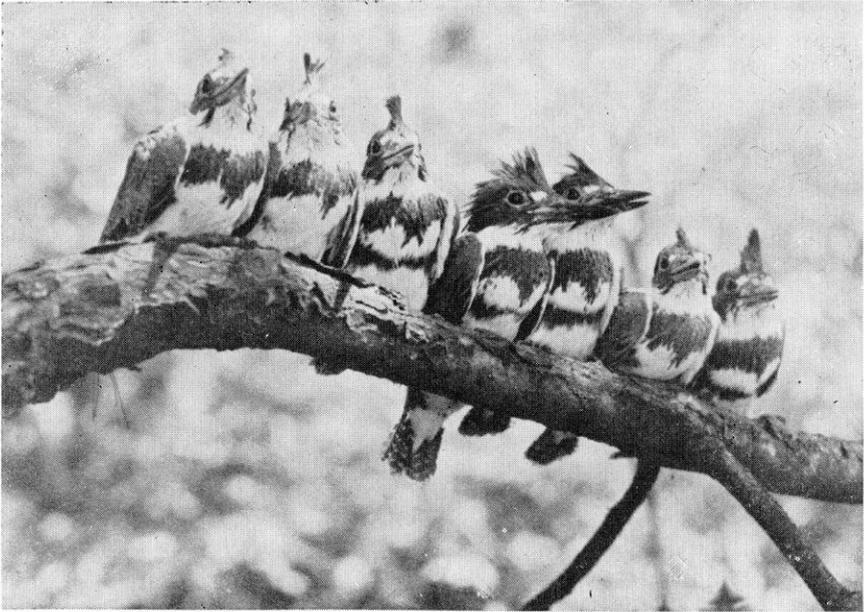
Daniel D. Berger, Helmut C. Mueller and Gordon Orians deserve considerable credit for manning the Bahr Creek Biological Station near Cedar Grove for hawk banding and migration observations in recent years. This also applies to the other young ornithologists who have taken a deep interest in the possibilities for study at the department's Cedar Grove Scientific Area. Here is an example of cooperation between the Conservation Department and bird students. It should be the beginning of similar cooperative efforts in other locations throughout the state.

The game manager also needs considerable information on nesting distribution and location and status of rookeries. There should be an annual census of such rookery populations to determine trends and all new ones should be plotted on location maps. It is necessary to know how far these birds travel from their nests for food and whether such choice feeding opportunities as are present at fish hatcheries or game farms attract the birds from greater distances. Also a significant question frequently asked is whether extensive control measures are capable of reducing local populations below normal breeding potential, whether populations within range of these "food factories" are abnormal compared to similar areas nearby, and whether all possible niches in the state for predacious and fish-eating birds are occupied—or does this continuous unrecorded harvest reduce populations below desirable breeding

potential or survival level? The effect of shooting in other states through which these birds migrate must also be appraised.

Those of you who read the **Audubon Magazine** have probably read Floyd B. Chapman's article entitled, "Fish-Eaters, Welcome!" He points out the value of herons, kingfishers and other fish-eating birds with special attention to the problem of over-population of fish in the numerous Ohio farm ponds. He asks, "Will it not be possible, as a result of the change to liberalized fishing, to alter public thinking in regard to fish-eating birds?" Also, R. W. Eschmeyer, in the **Sport Fishing Institute Bulletin** of February, 1955, comments on this article as follows:

"At one time many of us blamed fish-eating birds for our poor catch on days when the fish weren't biting. Then we discovered that a major



THE PRESENCE OF KINGFISHERS AT FISH HATCHERIES CREATES A PROBLEM

PHOTO BY E. M. DAHLBERG

problem was too many pan fish—bluegills, yellow perch, and other species. A fish-eating bird, helping thin down the pan fish, might be a friend, not an enemy."

Unfortunately, this statement does not include trout waters which seldom are plagued with an over-abundance of fish—at least in Wisconsin. It also cannot apply to fish hatchery installations. However, it is a very hopeful sign for possible reconsideration of Wisconsin's regulations which now permit the shooting of cormorants and great blue herons under certain conditions. A recent report by H. C. White of the Atlantic Biological Station, "The Eastern Belted Kingfisher in the Maritime Provinces," gives a fairly favorable report for this bird and even acknowl-

edges its assistance in the removal of trout "from some naturally overstocked trout streams." This should serve as a reminder for any "opinionated" individuals that situations frequently differ from one stream or lake to another, and no bird is completely detrimental to man.

Recently we have heard reports of the introduction of the European rabbit—or similar burrowing varieties—into the United States. The latest case, in Northern Pennsylvania, is mentioned in the first **Bulletin** of 1955 from the International Union for the Protection of Nature. It is of interest to note a report published in Bent's "Life Histories" to the effect that the European Hare had been stocked in Eastern New York and spread into Western Massachusetts by 1919. He quotes Edward Howe Forbush as authority for the extermination of this pest by a concentration of great horned owls in three successive winters. Although it is possible that weather or other conditions were not given sufficient credit, there is no good reason to ignore completely the value of the great horned owl in this case. Considering the increasing importance of forest plantations in Wisconsin and the added need for control of rabbit and snowshoe hare populations in such locations, there may be justification for reconsideration of the state's present rules which permit the killing of this large owl wherever it is found.

### **The Vital Need for Research**

We have already mentioned the survey and inventory type of activity which members of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology should carry on in an organized and consistent manner. It is even more important that research projects to study some of these problems be established by the University of Wisconsin, the Conservation Department and other agencies. These should be encouraged by the Society even to the extent of the establishment of monetary research grants for work on specific problems. These agencies should also be urged to use some portion of their own funds for this purpose.

As previously indicated, research is needed for the development and testing of possible devices to drive predacious and fish-eating birds from the fish hatchery and game farm "banquet tables" without seriously disturbing the propagation process. In this connection, the Conservation Commission's recently announced plan to concentrate its fish hatchery operations at several major stations will be beneficial to fish-eating birds in the vicinity of hatcheries which are closed, but some attention should be paid to this problem in the planning of new ponds at the enlarged major stations.

Research is needed on many problems in this field and may be justified from general conservation funds because these birds affect many ecological conditions which are important to the economy of the farmer and the forester as well as to the enjoyment of the hunter, the fisherman, the conservationists, and outdoor enthusiasts in general. There are also the questions of migration routes, distribution and nesting densities, food habits in localized and special situations, available unoccupied habitat niches, rookery studies, calculation of effect on local waters or wild-life populations, economic aspects—and even research on the effect of regulations and educational efforts on public relations by the public.

## The Role of WSO and Related Groups

Throughout this paper there have been suggestions as to what the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology and other interested conservation organizations can do about these problems. It is not only necessary to be interested, but this interest must be actively expressed in organized efforts to work together. Very probably these efforts should be led by a Committee on Conservation which would handle the planning and contact work. One of the primary purposes of such a group should be to promote the distribution of factual information and encourage educational activities along these lines. Even the American Ornithologists Union and the Wilson Ornithological Club have Conservation committees which regularly report to their membership. Every member should be encouraged to cooperate in worthwhile programs under this leadership.

Today the Society will consider its amended Articles of Incorporation. According to this proposed amendment, "The purpose of the Society shall be to stimulate interest in and to promote the study of birds of Wisconsin." It would seem, from the Society's experience of more than 15 years, that two words should be added to this statement so it would read, "To promote the study **and conservation** of birds of Wisconsin." It might be asked, who is expected to be interested in the conservation of the state's bird populations if the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology is not? Certainly, the support of no other conservation organizations could be expected without WSO leadership!

As indicated at the beginning of this paper, it is presented as a plea for understanding of a difficult problem and to encourage cooperative efforts to solve this problem and its related aspects in future years. It is one thing to enjoy the beautiful soaring of a falcon or thrill at the sight of its stoop to capture its prey, and another to face facts and frankly work toward the solution of seemingly impossible problems.

There are many reasons to hope for the future of the predacious and fish-eating birds which frequent Wisconsin as their home or their migration route. Certainly a survey of public attitudes and actions in relation to these birds only two decades ago would show much more prejudice and more active efforts toward their destruction. Progress has been made in the right direction—but slowly. We can accelerate this trend by facing the facts and by making every effort, personally and through organizations, to assist in extending knowledge and to encourage public agencies in their constructive research and management efforts.

A book in my library called "Bible Animals" contains an interesting bible quotation from Job 39:26. No doubt it has some other connotation in its total context sequence, but it is most appropriate here as a motto for all who appreciate the birds of prey or would tackle the research and management needed to fully understand and help them. It reads,

"Doth the hawk fly by thy wisdom, and stretch her wings toward the south?"

In conclusion, it might be added, "or doth she hang limply on a fence because of thy lack of wisdom and thy lethargy?"

Information and Education Division  
Wisconsin Conservation Department

# MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRDS VISIT WISCONSIN

By MARY NYE HAYES

On the morning of December 16, 1954, we were startled at seeing a strange, beautiful, blue bird outside our window. He was picking at the few dried-up mountain-ash berries that were still left on the tree. For four days, December 16-19, the bird was seen many times, on the branches and on the ground under the tree. Since none of my friends could identify the unusual visitor, I wrote to Dr. Olga Lakela, ornithologist at the University of Minnesota, Duluth Branch, describing the bird as we had observed it: "A little larger than a sparrow, but smaller than a robin, gray-white on the under side, but a striking blue from head to tail; the head something of a slate-blue, the color more intense across the back to the tip of the tail."

Dr. Lakela's reply came promptly: "The bird you so well describe is a mountain bluebird, accidental from the northwest Manitoba and the western range. I am happy to have your report."

Following mention of the unusual bird visitor in our local newspaper, two other persons from the same part of the city stated that some of these birds had visited them about the same time. Mrs. W. J. Bohn said that two of the bluebirds had been in her yard for a number of days, feeding on the mountain-ash berries and the high-bush cranberries. Mrs. Henry F. Flemming reported that four of the birds had been busy in her yard, working around the Hopa-crab tree, even tugging at the half-buried apples on the ground under the tree.

It was also learned that Mr. and Mrs. Carl Peterson of South Range had seen one of these birds in October, while visiting the new Audubon Camp near Sarona. Then, too, some persons in Nebagamon, Douglas County, sent word that these birds had been in their yards during December, but they did not give any details. The birds were so very beautiful and so strikingly blue, that all of these persons mentioned were instantly attracted by the strange visitors and curious as to the identity of the bird. No one could report any sound of chirp or song, but all had ample opportunity to observe the birds carefully.

1807 East Fifth Street  
Superior, Wisconsin

(Editor's note: In response to a request, Mrs. Carl Petersen added the following information: "In answer to your request about the bluebird we saw at the Audubon Camp at Carona, we are not certain of the date. It was a Sunday afternoon about the middle of October, as near as we can remember. We had taken a drive, and after dinner at Sarona, drove out to see just where the camp was to be located. We drove into the yard, but the caretaker was absent; and as we were standing there looking at the foundations that were being laid, we noticed this very beautiful sky-blue bird on the ground. It was not a very large bird, but very noticeable, as the blue coloring was more vivid than our native bluebird, and the breast was light grey instead of rosy. It was under a pine tree less than fifty feet away, and was eating something on the ground, such as seed. Nearby was a chickadee, also eating. Both were quite unconcerned at our presence.")

# Operation Prairie Chicken...

By JERRY VOGELSANG

The Prairie Chicken Survival Fund has gone over the top; our \$1500 goal has been exceeded. Congratulations, W.S.O. members and conservationists!

As of May 12, 1955, the gross receipts from contributions to the Prairie Chicken Survival Fund were \$1,704.53. With expenses at \$77.45, W.S.O. has \$1,627.08 to buy land for prairie chickens. Contributions came from 287 organizations and individuals representing 42 of Wisconsin's 71 counties, and 14 other states. The out-of-state contributions represented more than 12% of those received. Fifteen gifts came from our neighbor state of Illinois, a state where conservationists know what it is like to lose the prairie chicken. Many of the contributions were for \$25 and \$30, the price of an acre of land.

Although we have gone over the top, we still hope for more contributions, making possible the purchase of more land than we originally anticipated, helping further in the perpetuation of the prairie chicken. Anyone who has not already contributed, or who would like to give more, can do so by sending his gift to the treasurer, Carl P. Frister, 2956A North 38th Street, Milwaukee 10, Wisconsin. The names of additional donors will be published in a future issue of **The Passenger Pigeon**.

Land purchase for the prairie chicken will be made in the near future, as soon as a suitable sites become available.

The Conservation Committee wishes to extend thanks to everyone who helped to make the operation a success. That includes the following who made extra efforts: Laurel Maechtle, Carl Frister, Fred and Fran



W. S. O. MEMBERS ARE HELPING PRESERVE SIGHTS LIKE THIS

PHOTO BY WISCONSIN CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

Hamerstrom, Oswald E. Mattson, Walter E. Scott, Joseph J. Hickey, Audrey Kaiman, Sam Robbins, Clara Hussong and Magnus S. Harding. It also includes thanks to every contributor; these gifts are strong demonstrations of what a group of foresighted, sincere and determined conservationists can and will do. Some were large donations of \$100 and \$50; others were large enough for an acre of land; still others were \$1 and \$2 gifts. All together it is people like those listed below who will see to it that we won't have any more stories to tell like that of the passenger pigeon. Again we say "congratulations" to the following contributors:

Allen, Marion B.	Dryer, R. B.
Almond Progress Club	Durkin, Ramona
Amadon, Dr. Dean	Durkin, Terry
Ashman, Thomas	Eastman, Whitney
Augenfeld, J.	Egan, Nancy
Baer, Myrtle W.	Ela, Janet S.
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Brehm, Wilbur	Grant, Ruth
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 Kassilke, Gordon  
 Kassilke, Mrs. Gordon  
 Kelley, Phelps C.  
 Kelly, Tom  
 Kemper, Dr. Charles A.  
 Kieckhafer, Mrs. James  
 Kocian, Mrs. J. G.  
 Koenig, Arnold  
 Kossack, Charles W.  
 Krawczyk, Charles G.  
 Krzykowski, Al  
 Kuhn, Herbert E.  
 Kuhn, Kenneth  
 Kummer, Gordon  
 Kummer, Mrs. Gordon  
 LaBudde, Mrs. Edward  
 Landis, Ralph V.  
 Larkin, Dixie  
 Larsen, James  
 Lassig, Harry C.  
 Liebherr, Harold G.  
 Liebherr, Mrs. Harold G.  
 Lindner, Chadford H.  
 Logemann, Mrs. L. M.  
 Lound, Roy H.  
 Lound, Mrs. Roy H.  
 McKenna, Mrs. E. A.  
 McKnight, Tom  
 McMillan, Jean  
 Marathon Box Co.  
 Marsh, Lillian  
 Maybauer, Madeline  
 Mayer, Winnifred  
 Metcalf, H. N.  
 Mikelson, Arthur L.  
 Miles, Mrs. Eleanor B.  
 Miller, Hilda E.  
 Miller, Lotus Simon  
 Miller, Wilmer  
 Milwaukee Audubon Society  
 Moeller, Mrs. Harriet F.  
 Morris, George C.  
 Morrow, Mrs. John, Jr.  
 Morse, Margarete E.

Mossman, H. W.  
 Mostek, Raymond  
 Muckenhirn, R. J.  
 Muir, John, Club, Milwaukee  
 Mullenix, Mrs. Roland A.  
 Munson, Raymond G.  
 Munson, Mary  
 Natelson, Delle  
 Nelson, C. E., Jr.  
 Nelson, Mrs. C. E., Jr.  
 Nelson, Harry  
 Nelson, L. F.  
 Nelson, Theodora  
 Nero, Robert  
 Nice, L. B.  
 Nice, Margaret M.  
 Norris, Ross  
 Northup, Helen F.  
 Oehlenschlager, Elizabeth A.  
 O'Hearn, Nila  
 Olson, Allen D.  
 Olson, Mrs. Ethel  
 Ott, Frederick L.  
 Ott, Mrs. Frederick L.  
 Palmer, Daisey  
 Palmer, H. H.  
 Palmquist, C. O.  
 Parker, Mrs. William W.  
 Parsons, Helen T.  
 Paulson, Clarence  
 Paulson, Edward O.  
 Pearson, Bertha I.  
 Peartree, Edward  
 Peartree, Mrs. Edward  
 Peirce, Mrs. Walter A.  
 Peterson, Peter, Jr.  
 Peterson, Eleanor  
 Plunkett, Raymond J.  
 Plunkett, Mrs. Raymond J.  
 Polacheck, Stanley  
 Polacheck, Mrs. Stanley  
 Pullman, Fred C.  
 Reese, Mrs. H. H.  
 Reich, Jane  
 Reichwaldt, Myron  
 Remeus, C.  
 Rich, Ronald A.  
 Riegel, Mrs. L. A.  
 Roark, Eugene M.  
 Roark, William N.  
 Robbins, Chandler S.  
 Robbins, Mrs. Chandler S.  
 Robbins, Samuel D., Jr.  
 Roberts, H. D.  
 Roberts, Mrs. H. D.  
 Rogers, Mrs. Walter E.  
 Rollis, E. J.  
 Rusch, Alan J.  
 Schaars, Herman W.  
 Schoenleber, Marie L.  
 Schorger, A. W.  
 Schroeder, Helen E.

Schultz, Mrs. W. John  
Schwanke, William H.  
Scott, Walter E.  
Scott, Mrs. Walter E.  
Seeliger, Mrs. George  
Seyberth, Leonard  
Showers, Walter  
Simmons, Mrs. William  
Simonis, John  
Simpson, J. Allan  
Skuldt, Mrs. H. A.  
Smale, Mrs. E. R.  
Stefanski, Raymond  
Steven, Lee  
Steward, Orville  
Stillman, Ruth A.  
Stoddard, H. L., Sr.  
Strehlow, Elmer  
Strehlow, William  
Thompson, Edward  
Thompson, Dr. Pearl  
Tischer, Harvey E.  
Tollefson, Ruth  
Troemner, Allen  
Trowbridge, Mrs. W. B.  
Urban, Emil  
Urban, William  
Van Natta, L. W.  
Van Vonderen, Mildred  
Vesely, Doris  
Vogelsang, Gerald A.

Von Jarchow, Dr. B. L.  
Walker, David W.  
Walker, Edward  
Walker, H. P., Jr.  
Walker, Mrs. R. A.  
Wallner, Dr. A.  
Walton, Mrs. W. L.  
Wardell, Robert  
Weber, Mrs. Andrew  
Webster, Lois E.  
Weir, James R.  
Weller, Mrs. Pearl D.  
West Side Garden Club, Madison  
White, Alden  
White, Keith L.  
White, Raymond  
Wilder, T. J.  
Wild Wings Bird Club, Kenosha  
Williams, Mrs. H. M.  
Williams, H. R.  
Williams, Lt. Robert J.  
Wilson, Harold C.  
Wilson, Mrs. Max  
Yehle, Mrs. R. R.  
Wright, Madison J.  
Young, Howard  
Zeiss, Leonard  
Zell, Hans  
Zimmerman, Ernest H.  
Zirrer, Francis

## THE 1954 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

By C. DENNIS BESADNY

What kind of birds can you expect to find in Wisconsin in winter? This question was ably answered a short time ago when 225 amateur ornithologists, armed with binoculars and note books, searched the way-side for our feathered friends. This was the annual Christmas bird count.

One hundred and twelve species of birds were found in 41 separate counts between December 24, 1954 and January 2, 1955. Observers in the field were greeted with a variety of weather conditions. Snow covered the ground in most parts of Wisconsin during the census period and temperatures hovered around the freezing point. Snow flurries, rain, and fog threatened some observers, while sunny but crisp weather treated others. Though the total number of species fell short of the 1953 record-breaking list of 116 species, the observers were well rewarded with their findings.

Numerous open water areas played host to a large variety of ducks with most species being present. It was rather surprising to find such a large number of canvas-backs in the Lake Geneva and Madison areas. This species is quite rare during the winter months. Also outstanding among our water bird rarities was the presence of two Western grebes in the Milwaukee area.

The relatively mild weather also produced other notable finds. A black-crowned night heron appeared on counts in Kenosha, Madison,

and Milwaukee. The presence of a Carolina wren in Appleton and three in Milwaukee created a good deal of excitement. Hudsonian chickadees on the Madison and Nekoosa lists was another outstanding find of the 1954 bird count.

The observations on birds from the north were quite interesting. Northern shrikes were seen on many of the counts—the second consecutive year that they were so numerous in winter. Snowy owls again invaded Wisconsin and were recorded at Green Bay and Horicon. The variety of finches found also added interest to the counts although no spectacular concentrations were seen. Evening and pine grosbeaks were recorded in many areas as were the redpolls. There was a noticeable lack of red crossbills and the rare white-winged crossbill was observed only at Madison and Nekoosa.

Southern birds such as the tufted titmouse and cardinal have been appearing more frequently on winter counts and the red-bellied woodpecker was observed farther north than usual. The brown creeper, an uncommon winter resident, was quite conspicuous in the state.

The hike through the snow-covered underbrush was quite tiresome, the wind cold against the cheek, but the results obtained by Wisconsin's amateur ornithologists were most satisfying.

#### Details of Individual Counts

**ADAMS**—Dec. 27. Overcast, snowing in p. m.; wind ENE, 15 mph.; temp. 28 to 34; two inches crusted snow on ground; Wisconsin River open below Castle Rock dam, frozen above dam, creeks open. Area covered; east bank of Wisconsin River from Point Bluff north past Castle Rock dam to Dellwood, thence east along Little Roche A Cri Creek to Adams and Friendship. Three observers together. 6:15 a. m. to 4:00 p. m.; total miles, 104 (6 on foot, 98 by car). 28 species, 890 individuals.—Ray Christensen, John Holmes, Sam Robbins.

**APPLETON**—Dec. 26. Overcast, visibility poor; wind SW shifting to NE, 12-15 mph.; temp. 36 to 38; three to four inches of snow on ground; river open, Lake Winnebago frozen except at river entrance. Area covered: a 7-mile radius of Appleton—east to Kaukauna, west and south to lake front and Neenah; cities and parks 5%, riverbank 20%, cemetery 5%, fields 25%, lake front 40%, hardwoods 5%. Seven observers in four parties. 7:30 a. m. to dark; total miles, 98 (8 on foot, 90 by car). 25 species, 1330 individuals.—Mrs. A. C. Berry and Janet, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Rehbein, Luther Rogers, Mrs. W. E. Rogers (compiler), Mrs. Dale Vawter.

**ARKDALE**—Jan. 1. Cloudy, clearing in p. m.; wind SW, 5 mph.; temp. 28 to 38; two inches crusted snow on ground; Wisconsin River partly open, creeks open. Area covered: east bank of Wisconsin River from Dellwood north to Petenwell dam and Strongs Prairie, thence east along Big Roche A Cri Creek to Arkdale. Four observers, together at times, in two parties. 6:00 a. m. to 5:30 p. m.; total miles, 79 (11 on foot, 68 by car). 39 species, 841 individuals.—N. R. Barger, Bill Foster, John Holmes, Sam Robbins.

**BARABOO**—Dec. 30. Clear with a few scattered clouds; no wind; temp. 20 to 30; three inches of snow on ground. Area covered: Devil's Lake State Park through Baraboo to the Wisconsin River. One observer spent five hours afield. Total miles, 51 (5 on foot, 46 by car). 24 species, 264 individuals.—David W. Walker.

**BALSAM LAKE**—Dec. 27-Jan. 2. Observations at bird feeder and in vicinity of Balsam Lake. 12 species, 43 individuals.—Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Hermstad.

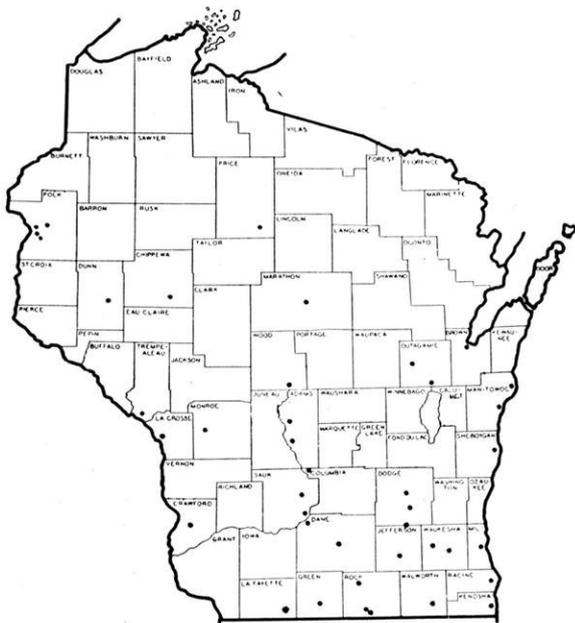
**BELOIT**—Dec. 27. Completely overcast, slight drizzle, snow and rain in afternoon; wind NE, 20 mph.; temp. 35; no old snow on ground; rivers open. Area covered: a 7½-mile radius of Beloit. Four observers in two parties. 8:45 a. m. to 4:30 p. m.; total miles, 75¼ (5¼ on foot, 70 by car). 22 species, 486 individuals.—David and Hazel Cox, Roy Cole, E. A. Hepler.

**BELOIT**—Dec. 30. Partly cloudy, clearing in p. m.; wind WSW, 4 mph.; temp. 19 to 29; 8 inches of fresh snow on ground, trees and shrubs also covered; streams and

rivers open. Area covered: 7½-mile radius of Beloit. Four observers in one party. 8:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m.; total miles, 29 (5 on foot, 24 by car). 18 species, 460 individuals.—Mrs. Ruth Mezger and David, Harold and Hildy Liebherr.

**CHIPPEWA FALLS**—Dec. 29. Sky clear, slightly overcast in late p. m.; wind ENE, 2-8 mph.; temp. 0 to 23; three inches of snow on ground; rivers partly open, lakes frozen. Area covered: from Big Falls on north bank of Eau Claire River east to Town of Seymour and Dells Pond on the Chippewa River, northward on east bank to and completely around Lake Wissota. River bottoms 15%, jack pine—scrub oak woods 20%, white pine—white oak woods 20%, deciduous woodlots 15%, open farmland 20%, town and suburban areas 5%. One observer in field, one at feeding station. 6:30 a. m. to 4:15 p. m.; total miles, 89 (6 on foot, 83 by car). 22 species, 1576 individuals.—Dr. C. A. Kemper, Mrs. Arthur Lunde.

Location of 1954 Christmas Bird Counts



**COOKVILLE**—Jan. 2. Clear to cloudy in late p. m.; winds SW, 5 mph.; temp. 22 to 32; about five inches of crusted snow. Area covered: 15-mile diameter centering in Cookville. Four observers. 7:30 a. m. to 3:30 p. m.; total miles, 45 (5 on foot, 40 by car). 33 species, 805 individuals.—Mr. and Mrs. Lyell Porter, Fred Homme, John Wilde (compiler).

**GREEN BAY**—Dec. 26. Cloudy in a. m., clearing in p. m.; wind SW to W, 0 to 3 mph.; temp. 34 to 39; about one inch of melting snow left on ground. Area covered: 7½-mile radius centering on Bay Beach, and including Bay Shore, Point Sauble, Town of Scott, Allouez and DePere areas. Upland woods 35%, thickets and swamps 15%, pasture 15%, plow land 5%, river and bay shore 20%, city and cemeteries 10%. Twelve observers in 5 parties. 7:00 a. m. to 4:30 p. m.; total party-miles, 177¾ (13¼ on foot, 164 by car). 50 species, 3043 individuals.—Ed Paulson, Jim Quinn, Bob Bethe, Chester Krawczyk, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Romig, Mrs. Andrew Weber, Esther Rahn, Mrs. Roy Markell, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hussong, Edwin Cleary (compiler).

**HORICON**—Dec. 27. Cloudy with snow flurries; NW wind; temp. 25 to 31; ground snow-covered; small open water areas in creeks and channels. Area covered: state portion of Horicon Marsh and adjacent uplands. One observer. 6:15 a. m. to 3:00 p. m.; total miles, 54 (2 on foot, 52 by car). 17 species, 121 individuals.—Harold A. Mathiak.

	Adams	Appleton	Arbuckle	Barebosc	Balsam Lake	Beloit	Beloit	Chippewa Falls	Cooksville	Green Bay	Horicon	Jefferson	Kenosha	La Crosse	Lake Geneva	Madison	Manitowoc	Mazomanie	Monroe	Milwaukee	Monroe	
Leon																						
Red-throated Loon																					19	
Western Grebe																					2	
Pied-billed Grebe																						
Great Blue Heron			2								1						1					1
Bl-cr. Night Heron													1			1						1
Canada Goose										8					1							2
Mallard	3	16	50					27	38	9	12				11	1688		8	2025			
Black Duck	1	370	25					6	12	6					10	832		1	75			
Gadwall																11					3	
Baldpate															2	10					9	
Pintail																	1				8	
Green-winged Teal										3						2						
Shoveller																					6	
Wood Duck																					1	
Redhead																58					5	
Ring-necked Duck		1	1												2	13						
Canvas-back									3						2500	2084					8	
Greater Scaup Duck									30							30					550	
Lesser Scaup Duck		7	1			1			20						18	256						
Am. Golden-eye	1	355	2	1		18		125	1	20	1		2		350	837	109	4	1365			
Bufflehead															3	50					87	
Old-squaw												40				1	100				735	
White-wing. Sooter															1	2						
Ruddy Duck		3							4	1						17					14	
Hooded Merganser									1						4	4					8	
American Merganser		23	8						430						50	205	155	1	512			
Red-br. Merganser									2							3					497	
Goshawk																1						
Sharp-shinned Hawk																1						
Cooper's Hawk									1	1						3						
Red-tailed Hawk		1	1	1		1		23	5	3	3	1				15		5	6	7		
Red-shouldered Hawk							1								1	3						
Rough-legged Hawk								3	3	1					1	4					2	2
Bald Eagle	1		20	1																4		
Marsh Hawk						1				2						10		1				
Pigeon Hawk						1																
Sparrow Hawk								1	4			2	2			6					12	1
Ruffed Grouse	4		6	2			1		4							1						
Sharp-tail. Grouse																						
European Partridge									12								9				14	
Bob-white			1	5							10			78						6		12
Pheasant		3		18		3		8	12	36			4	5	68	13				200	55	
Coot									16					1	550	979		1				
Killdeer															1							
Wilson's Snipe			2													1		1			3	
Herring Gull		170				2		1	128			1000	2	55	131	100	60	2467				
Ring-billed Gull									1			100		1	280					3100		
Bonaparte's Gull												50									70	
Rock Dove	30		12	7	2			59	55		17									35		
Mourning Dove							16	60	2		2					13	15	51	42	48		
Screech Owl			1						1												2	
Great Horned Owl	4		14					1								1		5				
Snowy Owl										3												
Barred Owl			1			2										2		1				
Long-eared Owl							1									7				27	2	
Short-eared Owl																1					1	1
Belted Kingfisher		1	1					1	1		1					4		1		2		
Flicker						1			4	4		3			2						3	
Pileated Wdprker	1		5		1			2	1				2						2			

	Nekoosa	Oconomowoc	Ogema	Outagamie Co.	Racine	Rock Falls	St. Croix Falls	St. Croix Falls	St. Croix Falls	Sauk City	Seneca	Sheboygan	South Wayne	Sparta	Trempealeau	Two Rivers	Watertown	Wausau	Wausau	Wisconsin Dells
Loon	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Red-throated Loon	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Western Grebe	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pied-billed Grebe	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Great Blue Heron	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bl-cr. Night Heron	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canada Goose	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mallard	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Black Duck	..	..	..	1	137	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gadwall	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Baldpate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pintail	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Green-winged Teal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Shoveller	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wood Duck	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Redhead	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ring-necked Duck	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canvas-back	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Greater Scaup Duck	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lesser Scaup Duck	..	..	..	..	265	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Am. Golden-eye	..	2	..	25	316	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	..	..	6	..	..	16	..	5 1
Bufflehead	..	..	..	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Old-squaw	..	..	..	..	29	..	..	..	..	..	..	P	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..
White-wing. Sooter	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ruddy Duck	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hooded Merganser	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
American Merganser	..	..	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	P	..	..	1	..	..	25	..	..
Red-br. Merganser	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..
Goshawk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sharp-shinned Hawk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cooper's Hawk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Red-tailed Hawk	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	25	2	..
Red-shouldered Hawk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rough-legged Hawk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	3	5	..
Bald Eagle	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mareh Hawk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	1	5	..	..
Pigeon Hawk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sparrow Hawk	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2	1	..
Ruffed Grouse	1	..	3	2	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Sharp-tail. Grouse	..	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
European Partridge	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	..	11	..	..
Bob-white	..	..	..	..	..	20	..	..	..	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pheasant	..	..	..	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	7	14	2	7	162	..
Coot	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	300	11	..
Killdeer	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wilson's Snipe	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Herring Gull	..	1	..	5	1596	..	..	..	..	..	..	P	..	..	900	1	159	..	..	..
Ring-billed Gull	..	..	..	..	351	..	..	..	..	..	..	P	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..
Bonaparte's Gull	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rock Dove	30	..	..	25	54	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
Mourning Dove	2	..	..	2	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	..	..	11	..	21	..	1
Screech Owl	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Great Horned Owl	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2
Snowy Owl	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Barred Owl	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Long-eared Owl	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Short-eared Owl	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..
Belted Kingfisher	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	3	..	..
Flicker	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Pileated Wopkar	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..

	Adams	Appleton	Arkdale	Baraboo	Milwaukee Lake	Beloit	Beloit	Chippewa Falls	Cooksville	Green Bay	Horicon	Jefferson	Kenosha	La Crosse	Lake Geneva	Madison	Marion	Mazomanie	Milwaukee	Monroe
Red-bellied Wdprk.	4	1		7	12	1														
Red-headed Wdprk.	5		28	5		2														
Hairy Woodpecker	6	6	6	1	3		1													
Downy Woodpecker	5	9	6	2	4	3	1	3	7	17	3	2	1	36						
Horned Lark																				
Blue Jay	82	8	89	15	4	13	10	65	30	156	4	1	2	101	6	220	10	60	12	24
Raven																				
Crow	69	8	181	4		21	19	17	35	94	5	12	5	16	30	605	6	37	217	31
Black-cap. Chick.	36	31	26	10	8	29	150	35	16	74	5	24	3	101	13	196	16	20	162	39
Hudsonian Chick.																				
Tufted Titmouse						4	24	1	1											
White-br. Nuthatch	7	8	11	1	5	3	7	11	3	28		1		43	2	55	4	10	53	11
Red-br. Nuthatch	2					1			3	1			1			16		1	8	3
Brown Creeper	2	3	1			1	6		1	1				29	4	25		1	1	
Winter Wren			1											1		1				
Carolina Wren		1																		3
Prairie Marsh Wren																				
Robin								1		36				1		4			3	1
Hermit Thrush																				1
Golden-cr. Kinglet	5		2						1	5					1	66	5	1	33	
Cedar Waxwing														24		1			7	
Northern Shrike			3	3				1	5	1			1		6	3	1	7		
Starling	70	112	26	5		148	9	94	55	215	2	56	20	414		694	215	325	1215	250
English Sparrow	220	125	95	50		6	30	873	325	1365	20	315	50	863	11	1094	100	605		650
Eastern Meadowlark				3					17							8			9	
Western Meadowlark				1										14						13
Red-wing										1				2		381				
Rusty Blackbird															1					
Brewer's Blackbird																				
Bronzed Grackle															1					
Cardinal	9	18	1	10	1	4	1	9	13	10		1	1	65	7	57	8	53	59	24
Evening Grosbeak										1				18		6	8	1	5	
Purple Finch	1		1	1										6		44	4	4	2	
Pine Grosbeak					2					1				8		23			33	
Redpoll	1		1		12					125			10		6				5	
Pine Siskin																3		10	1	
Goldfinch	95		200			7	10	62	6	39		12	2	80	1	32		45	46	16
Red Crossbill																				
White-w. Crossbill																1				
Vesper Sparrow												1							1	
Slate-col. Junco	100	25	16	70		109	75		85	24	21	40	7	89	32	353	95	340	163	116
Oregon Junco																1				1
Tree Sparrow	125	25	46	45		107	9	75	70	64		185	5	565	8	899		260	220	147
Field Sparrow																				
White-crowned Sp.																				1
White-throated Sp.																1				1
Fox Sparrow																1				
Swamp Sparrow																1	1			2
Song Sparrow				2					2	1				2	2	13		2		6
Lapland Longspur	1															807		1		
Snow Bunting					P			110								13		1		
TOTAL OBSERVERS	3	7	4	1	2	4	4	2	4	12	1	2	2	6	7	33	8	3	25	11
TOTAL SPECIES	28	25	39	24	12	22	18	22	33	50	17	20	21	32	37	78	26	42	64	33

	Nakona	Oconomowoc	Ogema	Outagamie Co.	Racine	Rock Falls	St. Croix Falls	St. Croix Falls	St. Croix Falls	Sauk City	Seneca	Sheboygan	South Wayne	Sparta	Trepealeau	Two Rivers	Watertown	Waukeeba	Waupun	Wausau	Wisconsin Dells
Red-bellied Wdpr.	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	..	..	1	1	1	2
Red-headed Wdpr.	5	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	8	..	..	10	..	..	24
Hairy Woodpecker	6	2	3	1	..	3	4	1	1	2	1	..	5	..	3	..	..	22	1	3	3
Downy Woodpecker	1	4	1	..	1	1	8	1	3	4	4	4	6	1	8	3	3	55	..	5	6
Horned Lark	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	P	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Blue Jay	134	2	2	2	2	4	..	3	7	1	5	10	15	18	63	5	6	105	1	29	94
Raven	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	P	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Crow	30	4	..	5	..	35	..	..	..	3	2	10	1	3	..	38	86	14	1	46	..
Black-cap. Chick.	28	6	120	4	1	7	20	6	4	7	7	12	10	1	51	7	7	115	3	111	11
Hudsonian Chick.	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tufted Titmouse	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	15	..	4	..	..	..	1	..	..	2
White-br. Nuthatch	11	5	..	..	1	3	4	1	4	4	12	3	15	9	17	..	3	35	..	13	18
Red-br. Nuthatch	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	13	1
Brown Creeper	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	2	..	3	5	..	..	3	..
Winter Wren	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Carolina Wren	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Prairie Marsh Wren	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
Robin	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Hermit Thrush	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Golden-cr. Kinglet	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	..	2
Cedar Waxwing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Northern Shrike	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	..	..	5	1	7	..
Starling	11	1	..	200	128	80	..	..	P	3	24	17	100	74	119	41	75	868	6	33	41
English Sparrow	165	27	..	300	69	45	500	508	20	48	25	150	1000	122	227	106	500	1517	160	648	65
Eastern Meadowlark	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	34	..	..	7	..	8	..	..	..	..
Western Meadowlark	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Red-wing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	1	..	..
Rusty Blackbird	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brewer's Blackbird	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bronzed Grackle	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Cardinal	5	..	..	3	1	..	11	9	4	3	3	2	10	2	54	1	4	21	1	11	13
Evening Grosbeak	..	..	..	..	..	16	21	13	45	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	111	..	..
Purple Finch	1	4	..	..	..	5	..	P	..	..	..	10	..	..	..	..	40	..	..	..	..
Pine Grosbeak	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	20	..	..
Redpoll	2	..	41	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	66	..	..
Pine Siskin	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Goldfinch	35	..	..	..	3	..	..	7	..	21	..	10	5	..	..	..	11	..	1	235	..
Red Crossbill	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
White-w. Crossbill	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Vesper Sparrow	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Slate-col. Junco	15	7	..	15	..	11	4	12	12	..	..	8	400	32	116	20	20	464	1	2	195
Oregon Junco	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Tree Sparrow	45	16	..	5	..	2	..	..	..	50	..	200	12	103	..	3	1859	30	25	215	..
Field Sparrow	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
White-crowned Sp.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
White-throated Sp.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fox Sparrow	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Swamp Sparrow	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Song Sparrow	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	5	..	1	..	..	13	..	..	..	..
Lapland Longspur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..
Snow Bunting	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	..	..
TOTAL OBSERVERS	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	2	1	27	2	29	1
TOTAL SPECIES	27	17	8	17	18	17	13	10	15	12	21	17	38	15	22	18	17	52	24	24	26

**JEFFERSON**—Dec. 31. Foggy, visibility poor, clearing at noon; wind S to SW, 5 mph.; temp. 18 to 35; 8 inches of snow on ground. Area covered: east portion of Jefferson township between Jefferson and Helenville, south to Cushman's mill in north-eastern Hebron township. Two observers together. 9:30 a. m. to 1:30 p. m.; total miles, 29 by car. 20 species, 698 individuals.—Nils and Lois Dahlstrand.

**KENOSHA**—Dec. 25. Cloudy; temp. 32; ground bare. Area covered: Lake Michigan shore and adjoining areas. Two observers together. Two and one-half hours in field; total miles, 15 (mostly by car). 21 species, 1311 individuals.—Mr. and Mrs. Howard Higgins.

**LA CROSSE**—Dec. 25. Clear in a. m., clouding over in p. m.; wind SW, 10 to 30 mph.; temp. 34 to 40; snow cover spotty—ranging from bare ground to four inches of snow. Areas covered: City of La Crosse, including Grandad Bluff and Pettibone Park, Goose Island, Chipmunk Coulee, City of Onalaska, Upper French Island, Lake Onalaska, Brice Prairie, and McGilvray Bottoms. 6 observers in three groups. 8:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m.; total miles, 35 (both on foot and by car). 32 species, 2601 individuals.—Mr. and Mrs. Harold Schick, William Frisch, Lloyd Wiegand, Mr. and Mrs. Alvin M. Peterson.

**LAKE GENEVA**—Dec. 27. Cloudy with light rain most of time; wind NE, 20 to 25 mph.; temp. 31 to 38; ground bare, all water open; visibility one mile. Area covered: around entire lake stopping at suitable localities for observations; town and suburbs 35%, deciduous woodlots 25%, open water 30%, pasture 5%, cattails and spring-fed streams 5%. Seven observers together most of time. 7:15 a. m. to 4:15 p. m.; total party-miles, 50 (10 on foot, 40 by car). 37 species, 3700 individuals.—Albert Gilbert, Clarence O. Palmquist and sons Bob and Ronald, Mr. Anderson, Margaret Lehmann, Karl E. Bartel (compiler).

**MADISON**—Dec. 26. Cloudy with light rain; temp. 30 to 35. Area covered: a 7½-mile radius of Madison centering on the state capitol. 33 observers in 12 parties, 10 hours in the field. 78 species, 13,383 individuals.—Members of the Madison Audubon Society, Mrs. R. A. Walker (compiler).

**MANITOWOC**—Dec. 29. Overcast; wind NE, 12 mph.; temp. 28; three inches of snow on ground. Area covered: city of Manitowoc including the Lake Michigan shore. 8 observers. 8:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m.; total miles, 39 (4 on foot, 35 by car). 26 species, 988 individuals.—Merle Pickett, Helen Dedrick, Mrs. Chet Thornton, Mrs. Ray Hallisy, Mrs. Frank Turgasen, Robert Wilda, David Block, Mrs. Louis Ansoerge (compiler).

**MAZOMANIE**—Dec. 28. Cloudy with snow squalls, clearing in late a. m.; wind E, 12 mph.; temp. 16 to 28; five inches of snow on ground, Wisconsin River open, creeks open. Area covered: marshes and wooded bottomland on south side of Wisconsin River between Mazomanie and Sauk City, fields and woodlands on north side of river from Prairie du Sac to Ferry Bluff. Three observers together. 7:00 a. m. to 4:30 p. m.; total miles, 47 (5 on foot, 42 by car). 42 species, 2013 individuals.—N. R. Barger, William Roark, Sam Robbins.

**MILWAUKEE**—Jan. 2. Sunny until noon, cloudy in the p. m.; wind NW, 10 to 15 mph.; temp. 21 to 31; 8 to 10 inches of crusty snow on ground. Area covered: the Milwaukee area, including city parks and the lake shore. 25 observers in 7 parties. 7:30 a. m. to 5:00 p. m.; total party-miles, 274 (35 on foot, 239 by car). 64 species, 14,206 individuals.—Marion Allen, Mrs. Amos P. Balsom (compiler), Harold Bauers, Virginia Becker, Mike Becker, Russ Burlingame, Dr. G. Collentine, Mrs. C. E. Decker, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Carl P. Frister, Carl Hayssen, Anna Hehn, John Hoogerheide, Rufin Jankowski, Jerome Karidis, Allie Kruger, Dixie Larkin, Nila O'Hearn, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Peartree, Karl Priebe, Annette Shaffer, Mrs. L. P. C. Smith, Mrs. W. D. Van Dyke, Jerry Vogelsang.

**MONROE**—Jan. 1. Cloudy to clearing; slight breeze; temp. about freezing; about a 6 inch snow cover. Area covered: east of Monroe to Decatur Lake, north to Albany millpond, back to Monroe on highway 59, then west of Monroe to Zander's Pond. 11 observers in two cars; total miles, 58 (3 on foot, 55 by car). Also one observer at feeding station in Monticello. 33 species, 1536 individuals.—Mrs. Dorothy Barlow, Charlotte Churchill, E. O. Evans, Ronald Johnson, H. L. Orians (compiler), Dr. and Mrs. James Weir, Jim, Donald, and Glen Weir, Marcus Weston.

**NEKOOSA**—Jan. 3. Cloudy; wind SW, slight; temp. 30 to 40; one to two inches of crusted snow on ground; Wisconsin River mostly closed, creeks partly open. Area covered: east bank of Wisconsin River from New Rome north to Wisconsin Rapids, then south along west bank of river to Port Edwards and Nekoosa. One observer. 7:00

a. m. to 12 noon; total miles, 50 (2 on foot, 48 by car). 27 species, 549 individuals.—Sam Robbins.

**OCONOMOWOC**—Dec. 26. Cloudy with some rain; wind E, 5 mph.; temp. 38; ground wet. Area covered: vicinity of Oconomowoc. One observer. 10:00 a. m. to 3:30 p. m.; total miles, 9 (6 on foot, 3 by car). 17 species, 90 individuals.—Ed Peartree.

**OGEMA**—Dec. 27. Cloudy; wind NW, 10 mph.; temp. 10 to 20; 8 inches of snow on ground. Area covered: vicinity of Ogema, including mixed woodlands and farmlands. One observer. 9:30 to 11:30 a. m. and 1:30 to 3:30 p. m. 8 species, 184 individuals.—William Hilsenhoff.

**OUTAGAMIE CO.**—Dec. 25-26. Area covered: western half of Outagamie County. One observer. Total miles, 55 (5 on foot, 50 by car). 17 species, 597 individuals.—Alfred Bradford.

**RACINE**—Dec. 29. Overcast; wind E to N, 10 to 20 mph.; temp. 23 to 28; snow-storm beginning about 1:15 bringing  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches of snow. Area covered:  $7\frac{1}{2}$ -mile diameter, centering on North Shore station; lake front 5%, urban areas 15%, river bottom 10%, rural areas 70%. Three observers: one in the field, two at feeders. 7:15 a. m. to 4:45 p. m.; total miles, 40 (5 on foot, 35 by bar). 18 species, 2976 individuals.—Cecilia Whelan, Henry Keefe, Mary Elizabeth Whelan.



BILL FOSTER AND MARY WALKER HELP MADISON ESTABLISH RECORD CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT FOR WISCONSIN

PHOTO BY ELIZABETH BARDWELL

**ROCK FALLS**—Dec. 25. Partly cloudy; very little wind; temp. 20; three inches of snow on ground. Area covered: Rock Falls area, Dunn County. One observer. 10:30 a. m. to 12:00. 23 miles by car, stopping at suitable spots. 17 species, 169 individuals.—H. E. Clark.

**ST. CROIX FALLS**—Dec. 28. Area covered: vicinity of St. Croix Falls. One observer. 13 species 585 individuals.—W. D. Barnard.

**ST. CROIX FALLS**—Dec. 30-31. Cloudy; slight wind; cold; one inch of new snow on ground. One observer. 10 species, 563 individuals.—Mrs. J. A. Riegel.

**ST. CROIX FALLS**—Dec. 27-Jan. 2. Count at bird feeder and in village. One observer. 15 species, 76 individuals.—John McKenney.

**SAUK CITY**—Jan. 1. Cloudy; wind SW, 5 to 10 mph.; temp. 40; three inches of snow on ground. One observer at bird feeder. 9:00 a. m. to 12 noon. 12 species, 120 individuals.—Mrs. Henry Koenig.

**SENECA**—Dec. 26. One observer in the Seneca area. 21 species, 190 individuals.—Clarence Paulson.

**SHEBOYGAN**—Dec. 29. Cloudy; wind NE, quite strong; temp. 27; thin snow cover; visibility poor. Area covered: a 10-mile area around Sheboygan covering open country, woods, urban areas, and the lake shore. Two observers. 8:00 a. m. to 12 noon. 17 species, number of individuals unknown.—Arelisle Qumby, Mrs. Edwin Fisher.

**SOUTH WAYNE**—Jan. 1. Clear; wind, 2 mph.; temp. 40; five inches of melting snow. Area covered: area around South Wayne. Two observers together. 1:00-5:00 p. m.; total miles, 32 (2 on foot, 30 by car). 38 species, 1947 individuals.—Lola Welch, Ethel Olson.

**SPARTA**—Dec. 26. Wind, quite calm; temp. 34 to 36; snow cover spotty, ranging from bare ground to four inches. Area covered: city of Sparta and La Crosse River bottoms adjoining city on southwest. Three observers. 10:00 to 11:30 a. m. and 1:45 to 3:45 p. m.; total miles, 8 (4 on foot, 4 by car). 15 species, 288 individuals.—Mr. and Mrs. Alvin M. Peterson, Miss Ruth Peterson.

**TREMPEALEAU**—Dec. 30. Cloudy; wind, slight breeze; temp. 16 to 26; snow cover spotty, up to three inches of snow. Area covered: Galesville area, Trempealeau village, Perrot State Park and Black River bottoms. Three observers in one group. 8:30 a. m. to 4:15 p. m.; total miles, 50 (15 on foot, 35 by car). 22 species, 855 individuals.—Harold Schick, William Frisch, and Alvin M. Peterson.

**TWO RIVERS**—Dec. 31. Clear in a. m. to cloudy in p. m.; wind, calm; temp. 10 to 32; 8 inches of snow on ground. Area covered: Two Rivers and vicinity, harbor 10%, feeders 10%, woodlots 50%, fields 30%. Two observers (one in a. m. and two in p. m.). 7:30 a. m. to 12 noon and 1:00 to 4:30 p. m. 18 species, 1137 individuals.—Donald Lintereur and John Kraupa.

**WATERTOWN**—Dec. 26. Overcast with scattered showers; temp. 35 to 40. Areas covered: Tivoli Island, Oak Hill cemetery, Riverside Park, Rock River area below Bethesda Home, Watertown Country Club, and Izaak Walton marsh area. One observer spent 6 hours in field. Total miles, 22 (4 on foot, 18 by car). 17 species, 703 individuals.—Gordon L. Paeske.

**WAUKESHA**—Dec. 27. Wind ENE, 5 mph.; temp. 35 to 40; snow on ground; river open, lakes and ponds mostly open. Area covered: 15-mile diameter of Waukesha including one park, southwest to Kettle Moraine State Forest, along Fox River valley to Mukwonago marsh, to Saylesville, south to Mukwonago and Big Bend, north to south shore of Pewaukee Lake, west to south shore of Nagawicka Lake. Open farmlands 45%, deciduous farm woodlots 36%, tamarack swamp 4½%, grassy marshes, 14%, parks ½%. 27 observers in 13 parties. 7:00 a. m. to 5:00 p. m., total party-miles 418 (31.3 on foot, 386.7 by car). 52 species, 6975 individuals.—S. Paul Jones, Peter Weber, Charles Sontag, Fred Alyea, Paul and Emma Hoffmann, Robert Adams (compiler), Tom Soulen, Mary Sydow, Helen Kramer, Les and Olive Compton, Charles and Mary Nelson, Ernest Zimmerman, George and Nancy Egen, Ron Cuthbert, Harvey Draheim, J. E. DeLong, Lydia Schwartz, Verna Zimmerman, Alice Jones, Mary Rutenber, Herman and Marie Scharrs, Clarence Anthes.

**WAUPUN**—Dec. 27. Occasional snow flurries; cold with strong NW winds; four inches of snow on ground; open water only in streams and ditches. Area covered: 50-mile circumference centered around Horicon National Wildlife Refuge. Willows and cattails 40%, fence rows and ditches 30%, hardwood woodlots 10%, cropland 20%. Two observers in two parties. 8:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m.; total party-miles, 57 (5 on foot, 52 by car). 24 species, 493 individuals.—C. A. Hughlett and L. F. Gunther.

**WAUSAU**—Jan. 2. Clear to cloudy; wind NW, 5 mph.; temp. 9 to 24; five inches of snow on ground. Area covered: Wausau and vicinity. 29 observers spent 93 man-hours in the field. Total party-miles, 204½ (22½ on foot, 182 by car). 24 species, 1113 individuals.—Members of the Wausau Bird Club, Dan Kozlousky (compiler).

**WISCONSIN DELLS**—Dec. 30. Partly cloudy, wind N, 5 mph.; temp. 8 to 18; 2 inches of crusted snow on ground; river mostly open. Area covered: east bank of Wisconsin River from Wisconsin Dells north to Plainville, west bank of river from Rocky Arbor State Park to Lake Delton. One observer. 6:45 to 10:45 a. m., total miles, 22 (one on foot, 21 by car). 26 species, 1012 individuals.—Sam Robbins.

## W. S. O. FIELD TRIPS

### Sunday, August 28, 1955—Horicon Marsh

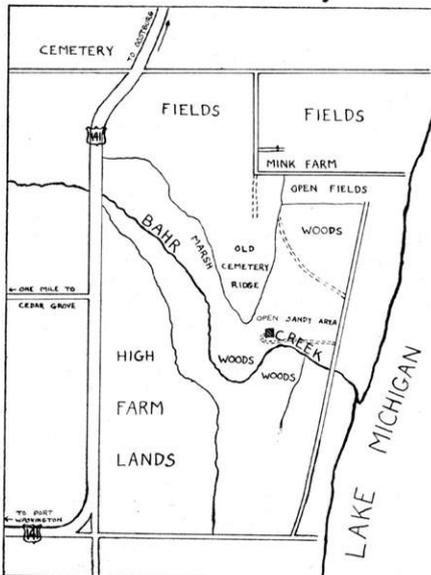
**Meeting Place:** State Headquarters at south end of Marsh (reached by taking marked road at the Northeast corner of the City of Horicon)

**Meeting Time:** 7:30 a. m. (group will leave headquarters about 8:00 a. m.)

**Leader:** Dick Hunt, et al.

**Itinerary:** The trip will begin at state headquarters and will cover a number of dikes and marsh roads in the marsh. The group will have lunch on a ledge, a limestone outcrop, overlooking the marsh. This is a good place to see a number of birds other than marsh birds. The trip should be good for marsh-bird observations with the possibility of some shorebirds. Bring your lunch.

### Sunday, September 25, 1955—Cedar Grove



**Meeting Place:** Old Cemetery Ridge (see map). Follow signs in approaching the ridge from either the milk farm to the north or from the lake. Please stay clear of the hawk trapping station.

**Meeting Time:** Come as early in the morning as you can; bring your lunch. If the weather is favorable, there could be a spectacular hawk flight such as we had last year. The area is also good for passerine birds. Members of the banding station will be on hand again to explain some of their work. Last year we all had opportunity to view some hawks and owls in the hand.

# WISCONSIN'S FAVORITE BIRD HAUNTS

## Long Lake

Along the extreme eastern edge of Fond du Lac County, within the Kettle Moraine State Forest, lies Long Lake, stretching for four miles north of Dundee near highway 67. At the north end of the lake, a sign on highway 67 identifies the road that leads in to Camp Long Lake, owned by the Potawatomi Area Council of Boy Scouts. It is used as a Boy Scout camp from early June until the first of August each year. For the scout campers and for any other bird enthusiasts, the area offers an unusual mixture of northerly birds at the south edge of their breeding range and more southerly species at the north edge of their range. It is not unusual to list up to ninety species on a summer morning, so the old bird merit badge which required the knowledge of forty species took a beating at this camp.

The terrain is varied. The camp area itself is devoid of trees and consists of beautiful kettles covered with grass, occasional shrubs, and many flowers. This central area is surrounded by diversified types of habitat—cattail marshes, wet cedar bogs, wooded hills, open grass land, and the lake itself.

### Area A

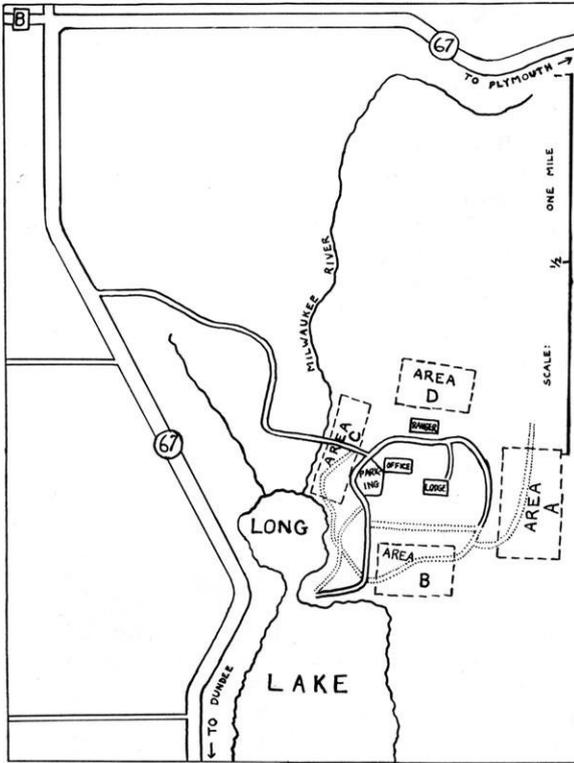
The east side of the camp area terminates in a low swamp covered with a dense growth of cedars and ash. This cedar bog is sufficiently deep to afford cover for birds as well as some animals such as deer. The pitcher plant has been found in this area, and the writer has seen the showy lady slipper there. To explore this area thoroughly, one should be equipped with rubber boots and adequate protection against mosquitoes.

For four consecutive summers the pleasing song of the winter wren has been heard. The first year the writer walked onto the nest of this bird. The next time he visited, he found the mother and four young flying away from the general area. Several birders have seen and heard the wren in subsequent years.

This is one of the few areas in Wisconsin where both the Grinnell's and Louisiana water-thrushes can be found in summer. The Canada warbler has been known to breed here—one of the most southern breeding locations for this species in Wisconsin. The mourning warbler is another more northern breeder which is to be found here. Occasionally the yellow-bellied flycatcher has been seen in summer. Other species making their homes here are the golden-winged warbler, blue-winged warbler, wood and willow thrushes, ovenbird and crested flycatcher.

### Area B

Going south and onto the higher ground, one inevitably hears the cerulean warbler trying to out-sing the yellow-throated vireo and the scarlet tanager. The ruby-throated hummingbird has been known to nest on an oak branch above the old swimming area. Across the road, down in a wet kettle, the unmistakable call of the Acadian flycatcher has been heard. Also in this area there are some high beech trees where a



barred owl waits for darkness to descend, so he can do a little fishing along the lake shore. Cooper's and red-shouldered hawks have nested in the vicinity, and turkey vultures have been seen occasionally. Recently the blue-grey gnatcatcher took up residence here.

### Area C

The west side of the camp is almost entirely faced by a cattail swamp through which the beginning of the sluggish Milwaukee River winds its way into Long Lake from the north. This swamp is an ideal home for herons; the least bittern is a nester, and most other species of Wisconsin herons have

been found here. Sora and Virginia rails are yearly residents, and an occasional king rail may be found. The black duck has nested and raised its young along this area for the past several seasons, as have the black terns. Both marsh wrens can be seen.

### Area D

The hill at the north side of the camp is also worth exploring. It is from these woods that calls of the great horned owl and whip-poor-will emanate at night. The red-tailed hawk is often seen near these woods. At times birders have seen families of ruffed grouse here.

Undoubtedly one may find something unusual at Camp Long Lake on every trip. The best time to visit the camp is toward the end of June, before the song periods of some of the summer residents end. Parking space is provided. Permission can be obtained from the camp ranger, Mr. Jack Richards, or from the Boy Scout office in Waukesha.

Vince P. Batha

# Convention Highlights . . .

By HELEN NORTHUP

Wausau, for the first time, was the scene of the 16th annual convention, held on April 29, 30 and May 1st, 1955. 210 registered, including persons from Illinois, Indiana and Minnesota. Early on Friday afternoon a small band of WSO'ers gathered at the handsome St. Paul's Guild Hall and were welcomed by our convention chairman, George Brabender, and by the President of the Wausau City Council, also George Brabender! (I doubt if this ever happened to us before!)

The three papers of the afternoon session were on the general theme of bird biology. Robert McCabe of the University Department of Wildlife Management discussed the "Nest Ecology of the Catbird," Arnold Peterson of the Wisconsin Department of Conservation talked on "Egg Laying and Incubation in the Bank Swallow," and Frederic Wagner, also of the state Conservation Department, presented a talk on "Pheasant Ups and Downs—Some Hows and Whys." Joseph J. Hickey, president of the WSO and chairman of the Department of Wildlife Management at the University, discussed the subject, "Is Hunting a Form of Predation?" The afternoon session wound up with the film "To Conserve Our Heritage," showing a wastage of resources in the past and the efforts being made today to conserve land, wildlife, etc.

The evening session began with "Song of the Seasons," a series of very good kodachrome slides made in many parts of the country by Mrs. Harley T. McKeague of Rhinelander. Owen J. Gromme of the Milwaukee Public Museum staff showed an exciting film of a walrus hunt. These events were announced by Mr. Spencer Doty, a past president of the Wausau Bird Club whose members were our hosts at the very pleasant reception which followed.

Saturday morning began early for the more rugged folk. At 5:30 a. m. the cars were heading out of town to Lake Wausau and its vicinity, guided by Messrs. Doty, Andrews and Bierbrauer of Wausau. The morning was beautiful and the birding had variety, ranging from prairie horned larks and clay-colored sparrows on the uplands to buffleheads and horned grebes on the lake. Most of us were back at the auditorium in time for the morning session, which was on the general theme of "Bird Occurrence and Distribution," presided over by John Teeple, president of the Wausau Bird Club. C. Dennis Besadny, WSO field editor,



JOHN T. EMLEN, JR.  
W. S. O. PRESIDENT

talked on "Occurrence of Some Rare Migrants in Wisconsin." Donald R. Thompson of the State Conservation Department discussed "Singing Males, a Method of Census Breeding Bird Populations." Richard R. Bond, Research Assistant in Zoology at the University, read a paper on "Distribution of Some Birds in Wisconsin Hardwood Forests." A description of migration studies made at Cedar Grove was presented by Thomas Soulen, university student, and Jim Zimmerman reported on his Wisconsin Migration Study Project. A film on flamingo nesting, made by R. P. Allen, rounded out an interesting morning.

Conservation was the theme of the afternoon session. The story of the founding of the Wisconsin Audubon Camp was told by Mrs. "Dixie" Larkin of Milwaukee, who was principally responsible for its success. Walter Scott read a paper on "The Management of Predacious and Fish-eating Birds in Wisconsin." Fred and Fran Hamerstrom gave their important annual report on the "Prairie Chicken Population of Wisconsin."

The business meeting, attended by many former presidents and the most loyal of the society's members, is reported elsewhere in this issue. New officers for 1955/56 will be President, John Emlen; Vice-president, Harold G. Liebherr; Editor, Samuel D. Robbins, Jr.; Associate Editor, G. William Foster; Secretary, Helen Northup; Treasurer, Carl P. Frister; Membership, Merle N. Pickett; Endowments and Advertising, Stanley L. Polacheck; Supply Department, Harold Kruse; Education and Publicity, Gerald A. Vogelsang; Legal Counsel, J. Allan Simpson. The 1956 convention will be held at Beloit.

The banquet, attended by 162 persons and ably toastmastered by our vice-president, Mr. Brabender, was a highly satisfying affair. Speaker of the evening was Douglas H. Pimlott, of the Newfoundland Department of Natural Resources, who told of "The Wildlife of Newfoundland," with colored slides depicting the beauty of the island. Mr. Pimlott is director of wildlife research in Newfoundland, and is conducting a study of the moose population there. The distinguished film of the Missouri Conservation Department, "Bobwhite Throughout the Year" was also shown.

The weather was superb throughout the week-end. Sunday's post-dawn found many WSO'ers starting out on field trips, some to Rib Mountain and some to the beautiful Dells of the Eau Claire, a Marathon County park. At the Dells we found little more than a few noisy sapsuckers, but the woods were glorious with wildflowers, ample compensation for the sparseness of the bird population. Last memorable glimpse of the WSO—two of the groups meeting on a rustic bridge over the Eau Claire, finding old friends, discovering new ones, forming the ties that make us return again and again to the WSO conventions.

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

April 30, 1955—Wausau, Wisconsin

The meeting was called to order at 4 p. m. by President Hickey. The minutes of the 1954 annual business meeting were accepted as reported in **The Passenger Pigeon**.

The reports of the three divisions of the Supply Department were presented. Mr. Krawczyk, in charge of stationery and pictures, reported

having turned over merchandise of the value of \$277 upon withdrawing from his responsibilities. Mr. Diedrich, in charge of bird houses and feeders, sent his report with a cash profit for two years of \$78.62. Mr. Barger reported for the years 1947 through January, 1955, a total of \$17,394.13 paid for merchandise and a profit, less expenses, of \$11,071.30. The "store" is to be turned over to Mr. Harold Kruse and all records will be completed at that time.

Mr. Frister, treasurer, reported cash on hand, \$3217.28 and bonds to the value of \$1191.74, making total assets of \$4409.02. The auditing committees for the divisions of the store were named and all reports were accepted. Mr. G. W. Foster, who spoke for the committee auditing Mr. Barger's division, moved that the Society's thanks be extended to Mr. and Mrs. Barger for the great service they have rendered to the Society. Mr. Dietrich's and Mr. Krawczyk's names were added to this motion which carried. Mr. J. H. Evans and Mr. Alvin Throne had audited the treasurer's books and gave approval to them.

Mr. Robbins, editor, paid tribute to the good work of Mr. Besadny, field editor, in bringing records up to date, and to the cooperation of the printer. He pointed out that the magazine is now nearly on schedule due to the issue of five magazines in the past year. Mr. Besadny was absent and there was no report from him.

Miss Alice Fosse, business manager, was asked to stand and receive a vote of thanks from the Society for her good work in sending out the magazine.

Mrs. Rogers, membership, reported a total of about 600 members. Her expenditures were \$15.78, which amount she requested the treasurer to place in the Prairie Chicken Survival Fund as her gift.

Mr. Stanley Polacheck, advertising and endowment, sent his report showing total advertisements for the **Passenger Pigeon** to the amount of \$245.00.

Mr. Harold Liebherr, education and publicity, reported on the field trips of the past year and those to be held in the summer of 1955. Field trips were conducted at Cedar Grove for the hawk migration, Milwaukee for ducks, Lake Koshkonong for early spring migrants and the June campout will be at La Crosse.

Gerald Vogelsang, conservation, reported on the Prairie Chicken Survival Fund. He sent out about 1040 letters to all Society members and many others. The Hamerstroms had sent him a list of about 800 persons who had come to Plainfield to watch the prairie chicken. Contributions to the amount of \$1644 had been received, making a fund of \$1567.30 after expenses were deducted. Contributions had been received from fourteen states outside of Wisconsin.

Mr. G. W. Foster, legal counsel, reported on the constitution. At the convention in Green Bay in 1953 a charter of incorporation was proposed for adoption. The constitution required a 30-day notice to the membership of all proposed constitutional amendments prior to voting on them. When the proposed charter was published in the **Passenger Pigeon** more than 30 days prior to the convention, no mention was made of the fact that the proposed charter was to be adopted at the convention. Therefore, the vote was invalid. It was therefore pro-

posed that the Articles of Incorporation considered at the Green Bay meeting now be adopted as the Constitution of the WSO. A copy of them had been published in the Winter, 1954, **Passenger Pigeon**, together with an announcement that they were to be proposed and voted on at the 1955 meeting. Mr. Foster moved the adoption of the Articles of Incorporation, as printed in the above-mentioned issue of **The Passenger Pigeon**. Seconded by Mr. Frister and carried. Mr. Foster then moved that the provisions of the preceding WSO Constitution set forth in Articles III and VII, relating to membership, dues, and duties of the Board of Directors, be adopted as By-Laws. Seconded by Mr. Evans and carried. Mr. Walter Scott moved that the incoming Board of Directors act to place before the membership at the 1956 convention a proposal to amend the newly adopted Constitution by adding to the statement of purposes as set forth in Article I the words "and conservation." Seconded by Mrs. Weber and carried.

Mr. Charles Nelson, chairman of the nominating committee, named the nominees for office. (See new officers in the convention account.) J. H. Evans and Mr. S. Paul Jones were also members of the committee. A motion by the chair was made to close the nominations and have the secretary cast a unanimous ballot.

Mr. Liebherr announced that the 1956 convention would be held at Beloit on May 6-7, 1956. Mr. Barger stated that the American Baptist Assembly on Green Lake requires reservations two years ahead and that the week-end of May 3-5, 1957, has been tentatively set aside for the WSO. Mr. Nelson moved that the Board of Directors handle the matter.

Mr. Hickey recalled that the WSO library was to be offered to the Wisconsin Audubon Camp, and announced that a list of its contents would be offered to Mr. Engelke, the director. In this connection, Mr. Scott asked if the Board of Directors had considered the idea of offering a scholarship for this camp. He made the motion that the Board investigate this possibility.

Mr. Hickey extended an expression of appreciation to the many members of the Society who had handled the affairs of the Society during the past year.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Helen F. Northup  
Secretary of the WSO

## NEWS . . .

President Emlen has appointed Bob McCabe and Fred Wagner (both of Madison) to the W. S. O. Research Committee for the coming year. They will decide soon on another in the series of Wisconsin "range and population studies" in which all W. S. O. members can participate. Watch for further announcement.

Does your local bird club have someone assigned to keep the editor of **The Passenger Pigeon** informed about the activities of your club? We want to include in the "Dates to Remember" column as many as

possible of the future meetings and activities of each local club, and we want to publish a "Club Page" from time to time that will tell of the significant accomplishments of local clubs.

The Supply Department wishes to thank those individuals who have donated merchandise to the Society as follows: Clarence Anthes, \$70 value; Mrs. Henry Koenig, \$22.50; Mrs. C. R. Decker, \$3.50; Howard Young, \$6; Margaret Morse, \$18.85; Carl Haysen, \$1.50; and Mrs. G. E. Kummer, \$14.30.

# SUPPLY DEPARTMENT HAS NEW MANAGER

After eight years as originator and manager-in-chief of the W.S.O. Supply Department, N. R. Barger has resigned from this post. To take his place, W.S.O. members at the annual convention chose Mr. Harold Kruse of Loganville, and Mr. Kruse has now taken over the operation of the "store".

Some eight years ago, Mr. Barger conceived the idea of having the Society operate a Supply Department, through which ornithological literature, stationery, bird houses, bird feeders, records of bird songs, etc., might be made available to W.S.O. members and the general public. It would be an important means of implementing the Society's purpose of encouraging interest in and knowledge of birds, and at the same time a much-needed source of added revenue for the Society.

Starting from virtually nothing in 1947, Barger built up the Supply Department to the extent that over \$17,000 has been paid out for merchandise since that time. This means that a great many books, pamphlets, records, feeders, houses, boxes of stationery, etc., have found a use with many nature-lovers during this time. The profits have helped pay for the reprinting of the revision of Kumlien and Hollister's **Birds of Wisconsin**, helped pay the postage for mailing **The Passenger Pigeon**, and added to the W.S.O. treasury.

As the Supply Department grew, it became more than a one-man job. Chester Krawczyk was enlisted to handle the stationery and pictures; Lester Diedrich took over the sale of bird houses and feeders. The help of Mrs. Barger and other interested volunteers was drawn upon many times, especially at convention-time.

To all of these people, and especially to Mr. Barger for the tremendous work he has done for W.S.O. through these years, members join in expressing sincere thanks.

Mr. Kruse reports that the relocation of the Supply Department has now been completed, and it is now open for business at the following addresses:

## PICTURES and STATIONERY

Mrs. Harold G. Liebherr  
1540 Jackson Street  
Beloit, Wisconsin

## BINOCULARS and RECORDS

Mr. Edward W. Peartree  
Downy Dell  
725 N. Lapham Street  
Oconomowoc, Wisconsin

## BIRD HOUSES and FEEDERS

Mr. David J. Cox  
1905 Cottage Avenue  
Beloit, Wisconsin

## BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, OTHER ITEMS

Mr. Harold G. Kruse  
Hickory Hill Farm  
Loganville, Wisconsin

## FIELD TRIP REPORTS

### MILWAUKEE—FEBRUARY 27, 1955

As we drove into the Smith Brothers' parking lot in Port Washington, Carl Frister remarked, "Only birders would come out on a day like this." He was right.

It was Sunday, February 27, 1955, temperature about 30°, sky overcast, wind north at 20 m.p.h. and the ground was covered with an icy coat of new fallen snow. Cars skidded around the curve as their drivers attempted to follow 141 through Port Washington.

Oliver Smith from the fishery was plowing his parking lot as cars began to pull in—cars from Madison, Beloit, Janesville, Plymouth, Sheboygan Falls, Racine and Waukesha, full of eager birders. By 8:30, 21 birders were on the spot, armed with binoculars, spotting scopes, field guides, lunch and plenty of warm clothing.

We must have been something of a spectacle as we huddled together on the edge of the slip because many of the local citizens stopped to see what was going on. Herring gulls sailed over the slip eyeing us curiously too. In the harbor were rafts of wintering ducks, ducks that were a common sight to people from the area along the lakeshore, but a treat to the landlocked birders. "Look at the old squaw," shouted Ruby Bere as she focused her binoculars on a handsome male. We all had a fine time watching the buffle-heads, golden-eyes, ruddies, old-squaws and scaups swimming and diving.

Meanwhile, expectation ran high. We anticipated the sight of a rare visitor from the Arctic: the harlequin duck. It had been discovered a few weeks earlier by Carl Frister, Ken Lange and Harold Bauers. We looked for the harlequin, but to no avail. Then we decided to try that part of the harbor on the other side of the chair factory; Joe Hickey and I stayed at the parking lot to wait for late birders. The group was gone about ten minutes when we heard some excitement on the other end of the harbor; Bill Foster drove over to tell us that the harlequin had been found. We hopped into the car and drove back with him. After a bit of searching with our glasses, we saw the highlight of the day swimming west in the slip toward the power plant. The cinnamon plumage, ruddy duck position of the tail and the slight harlequin pattern on the head showed up well in our binoculars.

Then we started south along the lakeshore, with Virmond Park in Ozaukee County our first stop. There we were charmed by the sight of four long-eared owls roosting in a pine grove. The owls remained still as we drew in for a closer look. Below the trees were scattered many pellets, the remains of a multitude of mouse dinners.

From Virmond Park, we traveled south making frequent stops until we reached the Juneau Park Lagoon in Milwaukee. At the lagoon we saw two wintering Canada geese and took close-up looks at redheads, scaup, mallards and pintails.

About one o'clock, we assembled in the warmth of the South Shore Beach pavilion for lunch. By that time a number of other birders had joined the group bringing the total attendance to 33. We all waited expectantly for some of Dorothy Frister's cake which has become a tradition on WSO field trips. Our patience was rewarded with brownies. After an hour of eating and friendly discourse, we went outside to scan the area inside the breakwater for more ducks. A number of red-heads, American and red-breasted mergansers were observed.

We then left for the harbor area near Jones' Island where we saw Hungarian partridge, a sparrow hawk and many gulls. Several of the birders then called it a day and headed for home. Those who remained were richly rewarded when, a few minutes later, an Iceland gull appeared. The gull circled the area showing his distinctive plumage to good advantage—a perfect ending to the trip.—Jerry Vogelsang.

#### MILTON—MARCH 27, 1955

One of the new field trips added to the usual trips of the W.S.O. was to the area surrounding Milton, March 27, 1955. This area has many small lakes which serve as resting places for migratory waterfowl and is close to the southern end of Lake Koshkonong. All arrangements for the trip were made by Chester Skelly of Milton, and his fine work resulted in a well organized and interesting trip.

The last week of March was characterized by lower than normal temperatures; as a result many of the small ponds had frozen over again, after opening up earlier in the month. This adverse weather did not stop many of the waterfowl from seeking out any available open water, nor did it stop a large number of determined birders from participating in the trip.

The morning was spent investigating Storr's Lake and surrounding wooded area and many of the small pot holes that circle Milton. After a cheerful lunch period at the Milton school, at which lunch and spirited repartee were exchanged, the group set out to visit Lake Koshkonong. Most of the lake was frozen over, but the hike in the zestful March air and the opportunity to visit with old and new friends made up for the lack of birds.

A total of 45 species were seen during the day, and a few events will be remembered by all: the three blue geese that flew over the group and then disappeared into the sky over Lake Koshkonong; the little sparrow hawk that conveniently arranged to hunt for his dinner while our group looked on and then flew over our caravan of cars carrying the mouse clutched tightly in his talons; the small pond loaded with Canada geese, and then half of them rising—with loud honking—into the air, an excellent example of "goose music"; and the red-tailed hawk that circled over our heads for 15 minutes, giving all of us a wonderful chance to study his plumage and to note it against the bright blue sky.—Harold Liebherr.

## CLUB PAGE

# *A Conservation Workshop . . .*

By MARY WALKER

A "Conservation Workshop" for teachers and youth leaders was held at the Madison Vocation and Adult School on February 18 and 19, 1955. It was conducted by the Madison Audubon Society, with the cooperation of the Madison Board of Education, the National Audubon Society, the Wisconsin Conservation Department, the University of Wisconsin, the Black Hawk Council of Girl Scouts, and the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology Supply Department.

During the afternoon of February 18 and the morning of February 19, three continuous exhibitions were maintained in different rooms. One of these was a display of conservation literature for teachers and students. It included all the standard reference books in all phases of nature study, and a number of publications of the Wisconsin Conservation Department, the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, and the National Audubon Society—all arranged by N. R. Barger. Literature on visual aids was displayed by A. W. Jorgenson of the Wisconsin Conservation Department. Literature concerning the new Wisconsin Audubon Camp was shown by its director, Walter Engelke.

A second exhibition dealt with the problems of identification in several spheres of nature. Assisting teachers and students in identifying birds and mammals were two University of Wisconsin specialists. Prof. Robert S. Ellarson and Prof. John T. Emlen, and Mr. Ray White. C. Lee Holt of the U. S. Geological Survey was on hand to assist with the identification of rocks.

In the third room were shown various types of nature projects in which students can participate and learn first hand about the operation of the laws of nature. A display entitled "Some Nature Crafts Your Students Will Enjoy" was headed by Mrs. H. L. Ahlgren of the Girl Scouts, and Cynthia Jackson and Genevieve Kuehn of the Madison Audubon Society. Walter Engelke showed how terraria, fern collections and water cells might be used as teaching aids.

To conclude the Friday afternoon program, A. W. Jorgenson spoke to the entire gathering about conservation films that can be readily obtained from the Wisconsin Conservation Department.

The workshop was very well attended. Close to 100 people signed the visitors' register, and probably twice as many more were in attendance but did not register. This is the second year in which this "Conservation Workshop" has been sponsored by the Madison Audubon Society. The enthusiastic response by so many visitors practically guarantees that the exhibit will become an annual event.

2222 Chamberlin Avenue  
Madison 5, Wisconsin

# By The Wayside . . .

Edited by C. DENNIS BESADNY

**Little Gull at Racine.** On November 16, 1954, the second known appearance of the European little gull was made in the Racine harbor. The first record was on November 17, 1938, when I saw one flying about with Bonaparte's gulls in the mouth of the river. My attention was drawn to the bird when it banked in flight, exposing the black underwing surface just as illustrated in Peterson's "Field Guide." With 8X binoculars I could further establish its identity by the small size, dark head spot, and the rounded wings with the thin white rear border line. The bird was seen in the area again about a week later. The gull seen in 1954 could easily be identified without binoculars as it fed near the pier on minnows dropped by fishermen. The following day my father, Hans Prins, saw it again along the pier. I failed to find it again, as it must have mixed with the 1000 or more Bonaparte's gulls in the harbor area.—Edward Prins, Racine.

**A Bee Apiary Supplies More Than Honey.** In a bee apiary near my home two or three swarms of bees have become weak because of an old, inactive queen bee or because of a lack of honey during the winter. Moths have taken over the hives the past summer and filled them with their webs. Many young moths have hatched out, but quite a few cocoons are still in the hives. The hairy woodpeckers have discovered these cocoons and now they are busy digging holes through the sides of the old hives to get at them. The red-bellied woodpeckers occasionally join in the digging for the cocoons when the hairy woodpeckers are absent from the apiary. The downy woodpeckers are sometimes seen near the hives though they have not been seen digging. A pileated woodpecker was also observed near the apiary, but he did not dig into the hives. His strong bill would certainly have torn the hives to pieces.—H. E. Clark, Rock Falls.

**A Yellow-Crowned Night Heron Visits Milwaukee.** Three Milwaukee birders, Flora Bauers, Carl Frister, and I had the great thrill late in the afternoon on May 4, 1954, of finding an adult yellow-crowned night heron. It was observed in a low woodlot adjacent to the Menomonee River Parkway on the far northwest side of Milwaukee. This rare bird was observed at very close range as it skirted the edges of a wet slough worrying the tadpoles and other aquatic life. On one occasion the bird walked up to within 30 feet of an observer, and then binoculars were not needed to note the black head with the creamy white cheek patches and crown, and the reddish eye. Also noted was the large black bill, plain blue-gray breast and darker back; the lower back and wings were covered with black lanceolate feathers edged in a tawny color. Twice the bird was seen in short flights when its long legs were particularly noted. After each flight it perched for a while at a low elevation in plain sight, but soon returned to the ground and the slough.—Harold Bauers, Milwaukee.

**White Pelicans in Allouez Bay.** The white pelican is seen only rarely along the shores of western Lake Superior. Most of them are reported in the fall, and usually these reports are from the Wisconsin side of the St. Louis River. During the first two weeks of November there were three of these birds in Allouez Bay. With the permission of Wisconsin conservation officials and the city of Superior, staff of the Duluth Zoo attempted to catch one of the pelicans. It appeared to be injured, and it could be approached quite easily. However, the attempts to capture it were unsuccessful, and apparently the bird recovered and left with the other two birds.—P. B. Hofslund, Biology Dept., University of Minnesota, Duluth Branch.

**A Bewick's Wren In Late Fall.** A Bewick's wren began to visit the yard and feeding station on Nov. 9, 1954, when six evening grosbeaks, 15 bob-whites, several chickadees, a red-bellied woodpecker, and other species were present. It was back on Nov. 22, working its way from tree to tree near the bird bath. Eventually it flew to the rocks that supported the basin and looked these over before flying to a bird food tray that was located in the main crotch of a Montmorency cherry. Soon it dropped to the ground and hunted there for a few minutes before making its way up the trunk of the cherry again. On it went to the trellis and arch on the south side of the terrace, where it inspected a virgin's bower vine before flying to a suet stick that dangled from the branch of a near-by tree. There were two suet sticks in this tree and it sampled the suet of both before flying off. We watched it from the terrace and an upstairs window, sometimes within three feet of it, and had little trouble making out the white at the sides and corners of the long tail beneath. The bird was back on Nov. 24, Nov. 30, Dec. 1 and Dec. 7 as well as a few other times not recorded.—Alvin M. Peterson, Onalaska.

**Tufted Titmice In Onalaska.** A tufted titmouse visited our feeding station on Dec. 21, 1954, eating freely of beef suet and sunflower seeds, the latter taken from the seed-heads of sunflowers. The heads were gathered last fall, stored in the attic until needed, and then tied together by two's and hung on a food tree on the terrace. The suet was served in suet sticks made from pieces of 2-by-4, each about a foot long and full of holes made with an auger bit. The suet was melted, mixed with scratch feed and oatmeal, allowed to harden until about the consistency of butter, and added to the holes in the sticks. Another titmouse visited us on January 26, 1955, when we found it pecked at a cocoon that was anchored to a rose bush in the front yard. After it had left we secured the cocoon and found that it had been punctured and robbed. The bird clung to the cocoon, upside-down, while securing and eating the insect found within it.—Alvin M. Peterson, Onalaska.

**Something New in Bird Food.** A new kind of bird food has been developed by Florence Peterson of Waupaca. She saves waste fat, gravy and any other left over cooking liquids. Next comes cold boiled potatoes, dry bread, meat scraps, left over vegetables, stale Karo syrup, and breakfast cereal. The coarse foods are put through a food chopper and these ingredients are then mixed with the liquids. It must be edible for this concoction attracts hundreds of birds to Florence Peterson's bird feeders each year.

**Diurnal Migration of a Brown Creeper.** Professor P. E. McNall reports observing a brown creeper striking a window pane on the 12th floor of a building along the lake shore in Chicago. This occurred on October 21, 1954 at approximately 1:00 p. m. As the window faced east, there is some presumption that the bird had been blown over Lake Michigan and was making its way back to land at this elevation.—J. J. Hickey, Madison.

**Ever Have a Cape May Warbler Perch on Your Shoulder?** October 3, 1954 was a weird day as far as weather was concerned. There was sunshine, dark clouds, heavy rain, and mist all in one day. It was not an ideal field day, but we were spending some time observing birds in Lake Park. In one spot we were able to count twenty species.

My husband and I were standing three feet apart training our binoculars on some elusive warblers in a tree. Suddenly we heard a wing beat so close to our ears that we put our glasses down simultaneously and were fortunate to see a little Cape May warbler fly up and over to a snow fence. We couldn't believe it really was there, but one little wet foot print plainly showed on my husband's raincoat. It really was a thrill. The little warblers must have assumed that we were a couple of odd fence posts.—Mrs. A. C. Bromm, Milwaukee.



# FIELD NOTES

THE WINTER SEASON

November 1954-January 1955

By C. DENNIS BESADNY

What a season this has been! Wisconsin's first sight record for the mountain bluebird; the state's second sight record for the European little gull; observation of an Iceland gull, for which there are but a handful of previous state records; huge flights of finches at Cedar Grove; widespread influx of white-winged crossbills; Richardson's owl and Hudsonian chickadee in southern Wisconsin; red-bellied woodpecker and cardinal spread out in northern Wisconsin; winter records for the Western grebe, black-crowned night heron, pigeon hawk, Virginia rail, Bewick's, Carolina and prairie marsh wrens, towhee, Henslow's vesper, field and white-crowned sparrows. Normally the winter months lack some of the ornithological zest of the other seasons, but this was an exceptional period.

The winter of 1954-55 went down in climatological history as being another mild winter. The month of November started out rather cool, but warmed up considerably after the first week. Intermittent rain and snow covered most parts of the state during the last week of the month. Temperatures during the first two weeks of December averaged about

normal, with the last half of the month averaging above normal. The warmest period of the month was December 23-25, which helped account for another successful Christmas bird count. Several heavy snowstorms during the month left a good snow cover over most of Wisconsin. The first three weeks of January were relatively mild. This was followed by a cold snap the last ten days. Snowfall in January was somewhat below normal.

Huge rafts of ducks wintered in Milwaukee—concentrations considerably higher than some in recent years. Because the larger lakes in southern Wisconsin remained open through December, large counts of waterfowl were made during the Christmas bird count. The mild weather was also responsible for more open water than usual in other parts of the state, explaining the presence of kingfishers in 15 areas, Wilson's snipe in six areas, seven great blue herons, three black-crowned night herons, and a Virginia rail.

It was an interesting period for winter finches. At Cedar Grove during weekends in November, Tom Soulen et al witnessed tremendous flights of redpolls, pine siskins and goldfinches, with lesser numbers of most other finches. It developed that this was part of a widespread southerly movement of finches throughout the East and Mid-West—a movement that brought evening grosbeaks to the Carolinas and Georgia; pine grosbeaks to Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio; redpolls to Illinois, Indiana and Ohio; and red crossbills to Illinois and Indiana. Particularly outstanding, however, was the movement of white-winged crossbills; Wisconsin had at least five times its normal number of records, and this was part of a general influx that established records as far south as Ohio, West Virginia and Kentucky.

Something of the same pattern applied for other northern visitors. Bohemian waxwing records were scanty, but the flight of Northern shrikes appeared to be the equal of last winter's heavy flight. Since snowy owls were recorded as far south as Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee, it is not surprising that Wisconsin had numerous records during the period. A Hudsonian chickadee spent the winter in Madison, and another was seen in northern Adams County in early January.

As would be expected, the mild winter induced many of the half-hardy species to remain in Wisconsin. Mourning doves and blackbirds were particularly numerous. Particularly outstanding were the very late date for the Henslow's sparrow, and Wisconsin's first winter record for the Bewick's wren.

To top the winter cake for Wisconsin's ornithologists was this thick layer of frosting: mountain bluebirds in Superior; a little gull at Racine; an Iceland gull and Richardson's owl in the Milwaukee area; another Richardson's owl in Winnebago County; and surf scoters in Madison.

Here are the highlights of the winter season:

**LOON:** One was observed on Lake Kegonsa, near Madison, Jan. 2 (Les Neustadter). Noted also on Christmas bird counts at Waukesha on Dec. 26, and at Milwaukee on Jan. 2.

**RED-THROATED LOON:** 25 seen in the Milwaukee area, Nov. 14, and 19 counted on Jan. 2 (Mrs. F. L. Larkin et al); three near Cedar Grove, Nov. 27 (Tom Soulen).

**HORNED GREBE:** Observed in Dane County, Nov. 21-Dec. 18 (Mrs. R. A. Walker).

**WESTERN GREBE:** In the Cedar Grove area on Nov. 27 (Tom Soulen); two seen on the Milwaukee Christmas bird count, Jan. 2.

**PIED-BILLED GREBE:** Seen on Christmas bird counts in Lake Geneva, Waukesha and Two Rivers. The latter is remarkably far north for this species in winter.

**WHITE PELICAN:** Three carefully observed in early November on Allouez Bay, Lake Superior (P. B. Hofslund). See "By the Wayside."

**GREAT BLUE HERON:** Quite a few winter reports: Outagamie County, Dec. 3 (Al Bradford); Brown County, Dec. 4-5 (Ed Paulson—Edwin Cleary—Robert Bethe); Horicon, Dec. 7 (C. A. Hughlett) and Dec. 27 (Harold Mathiak); two in Adams County, Jan. 1 (Sam Robbins et al); single birds on Christmas bird counts at Manitowoc on Dec. 29, and at Monroe on Jan. 1.

**AMERICAN EGRET:** Winnebago County, Nov. 6-10 (Mrs. Glen Fisher); Lafayette County, Nov. 7 (Ethel Olson—Lola Welch); Horicon, Nov. 7-14 (the L. E. Comptons—Frank King—D. Decker). Late dates.

**BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON:** Kenosha County between Nov. 4 and Jan. 16 (Mrs. Howard Higgins); Waukesha, Nov. 10 (the L. E. Comptons); Brown County, Nov. 14 (Ed Paulson—Edwin Cleary); Madison, Dec. 26 (N. R. Barger et al); Milwaukee, Jan. 2 (Mrs. A. P. Balsom).

**WHISTLING SWAN:** Burnett County, Dec. 1 (Norman Stone); Chippewa County, Dec. 3 (C. A. Kemper); along the Wisconsin River in Sauk County, Dec. 4 (George Knudsen); four on Lake Monona, Madison, Dec. 5 (Harry Thorne).

**CANADA GOOSE:** Large flock still present at Horicon, Dec. 9, despite new snow (C. A. Hughlett). Seen on Christmas bird counts at Seneca, Green Bay, Horicon, Milwaukee and Lake Geneva.

**GADWALL:** Remained in Madison until Jan. 8 (Mrs. R. A. Walker).

**BALDPATE:** Adams County, Dec. 9 (Sam Robbins); Milwaukee, Nov. 28-Jan. 30 (Mrs. A. P. Balsom et al).

**PINTAIL:** Christmas bird counts at Horicon, Watertown, Madison and Milwaukee.

**GREEN-WINGED TEAL:** Three still present in the Adams area, Dec. 17 (Sam Robbins); also noted on Christmas bird counts at Green Bay and Madison.

**REDHEAD:** Remained in Madison until Jan. 9 (Mrs. R. A. Walker); Adams County, Dec. 17 (Sam Robbins); Waukesha County, Jan. 22 (Ed Peartree).

**CANVAS-BACK:** Huge concentrations in Madison and Lake Geneva in late December; also noted in Outagamie County, Dec. 13-Jan. 31 (Al Bradford); Waukesha area, Jan. 23 (Ed Peartree); Milwaukee, Jan. 30 (Mrs. A. P. Balsom).

**OLD-SQUAW:** Seen in the Madison area, Dec. 4-26 (Mrs. R. A. Walker, Tom Soulen et al). Unusual inland record.

**WHITE-WINGED SCOTER:** Brown County, Nov. 6-14 (Ed Paulson—Edwin Cleary); four at Cedar Grove, Nov. 27 (Tom Soulen et al);

Madison, Dec. 16-26 (Bill Foster et al); one at Lake Geneva, Dec. 27 (Karl Bartel et al). More than the usual number of records.

**SURF SCOTER:** Observed at Madison, Dec. 4-6 (Mrs. R. A. Walker et al). Good inland record.

**RUDDY DUCK:** Christmas bird counts show that in addition to small flocks at Madison and Milwaukee, stragglers were still to be seen in late December at Appleton and Horicon.

**HOODED MERGANSER:** Few reported on Christmas bird counts at Green Bay, Milwaukee, Madison and Lake Geneva.

**SHARP-SHINNED HAWK:** Dunn County, Dec. 11 (H. E. Clark); Marathon County, Jan. 8-14 (the Spencer Dotys). Remarkable winter records so far north.

**COOPER'S HAWK:** Birds observed in December in Brown, Chippewa, Dane, Jefferson and Waukesha Counties.

**RED-SHOULDERED HAWK:** One in Chippewa County, Dec. 29 (C. A. Kemper—Mrs. Arthur Lunde).

**BALD EAGLE:** Twenty spent the winter along the Wisconsin River just below Petenwell Dam, Adams and Juneau Counties (Sam Robbins et al); other winter reports from Bayfield, Brown, Chippewa, Crawford, Dane, Iowa, Lafayette, Sauk and St. Croix Counties.

**MARSH HAWK:** Waukesha, Dec. 2-Jan. 15 (Mrs. Emma Hoffmann) and four on Jan. 31 (the L. E. Comptons); Adams County, Dec. 16 (Sam Robbins); Iowa County, Dec. 26 (Mrs. R. A. Walker); Sauk County, Dec. 28 (N. R. Barger—William Roark—Sam Robbins); Horicon, Jan. 16 (David Walker); noted also on Christmas bird counts at Watertown, Beloit, and South Wayne.

**PIGEON HAWK:** One at Beloit, Dec. 30 (Harold Liebherr et al). Good winter record.

**VIRGINIA RAIL:** A straggler was found in Madison on Jan. 15 (Ellen Hoffman—Mrs. R. A. Walker—Bill Foster).

**COOT:** Christmas bird counts showed late December concentrations at Lake Geneva, Madison and Waukesha; and scattered individuals at La Crosse, Mazomanie, Horicon and Green Bay.

**KILLDEER:** One noted at Lake Geneva, Dec. 27 (Karl Bartel et al).

**WILSON'S SNIBE:** Iowa County, Dec. 28 (N. R. Barger—William Roark—Sam Robbins); Milwaukee, Jan. 16 (the A. C. Bromms); two wintering in Adams County (Sam Robbins et al); noted also on Christmas bird counts in Dane, Green and Lafayette Counties.

**ICELAND GULL:** A first-year Iceland gull was carefully identified in the Milwaukee harbor area on Jan. 30 (the Carl Fristers—Harold Bauer—Mrs. A. P. Balsom). Wisconsin has no valid specimen as yet, but this species has been seen frequently in the Chicago region in winter, and more careful observation along Lake Michigan is now producing several Wisconsin sight records. This bird was subsequently seen by many observers.

**LITTLE GULL:** One was carefully observed in the Racine harbor, Nov. 16-17, in the company of 1000 Bonaparte's gulls (Ed Prins—Hans Prins). This is the first published record of any kind for Wisconsin, but the observer of this bird also has a sight record for Nov. 17, 1938. See "By the Wayside." This bird is a rare straggler from Europe, but is now

being seen with increasing frequency both along the Atlantic Coast and in the Chicago area.

**MOURNING DOVE:** Remarkably widely distributed this winter: observations from Adams, Brown, Chippewa, Columbia, Dane, Dunn, Green, Jefferson, Lafayette, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, Outagamie, Polk, Rock, Sauk, Vernon, Waukesha, Waupaca, Waushara, Winnebago and Wood Counties.

**BARN OWL:** Four at Oshkosh, Nov. 17 (Frank King)—believed to have been raised in the immediate area.

**SNOWY OWL:** Numerous reports of this irregular visitor were received for the second consecutive winter season: Horicon, Nov. 8-Dec. 9 (Earl Loyster—Harold Mathiak et al); Iron County, Nov. 19 (Cliff Wiita); several areas on Nov. 25: Burnett County (Norman Stone), Manitowoc County (John Kraupa), and Winnebago County (Stanley Wellso); Land O' Lakes, Dec. 17 (Rev. Fred Babcock); Dane County, Dec. 19-Jan. 5 (John Wilde—Mrs. R. A. Walker—George Knudsen); Green Bay, Dec. 26 (Christmas bird count); Waukesha County, Jan. 15 (the L. E. Comptons); La Crosse County, Jan. 23 (Alvin Peterson); Barron County, late Dec. and Jan. (John Butler).

**LONG-EARED OWL:** 27 counted on Milwaukee Christmas bird count; smaller numbers noted on counts at Madison, Monroe and Chippewa Falls.

**RICHARDSON'S OWL:** Two excellent reports for the period. One was observed under good conditions in northwestern Winnebago County on Nov. 26 (John Kaspar—Stanley Wellso). Another was found in Milwaukee on Jan. 23 (the Carl Fristers).

**SAW-WHET OWL:** One observed in Iowa County, Dec. 15 (George Knudsen—James Hale); one in Dodge County, Nov. 14 (D. Decker).

**KINGFISHER:** Winter reports from Adams, Brown, Chippewa, Dane, Fond du Lac, Jefferson, Lafayette, Milwaukee, Outagamie, Rock, Sauk, Sheboygan, Waukesha, Winnebago and Wood Counties.

**FLICKER:** Wintering birds in Brown, Chippewa, Dane, Green, Jefferson, La Crosse, Lafayette, Rock and Waukesha Counties.

**RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER:** A glance at Christmas bird count records shows surprisingly wide distribution—even as far north at Wausau.

**YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER:** Dane County, Nov. 27-Jan. 15 (Mrs. R. A. Walker).

**BLUE JAY:** Abundant in Adams County this winter; numbers way up from last winter (Sam Robbins).

**HUDSONIAN CHICKADEE:** One in the Madison area, Dec. 4 throughout the period (Mrs. R. A. Walker et al); one in northern Adams County on Jan. 3 (Sam Robbins); Oneida County, Dec. 28 (Kenneth Lange—Tom Soulen).

**TUFTED TITMOUSE:** Noted in Dane County, Nov. 30-Dec. 28 (Mrs. R. A. Walker et al); nine in Iowa County, Dec. 11 (Tom Soulen); Onalaska, Dec. 21 and Jan. 26 (Alvin Peterson); Waukesha County, Dec. 26 and Jan. 29 (Tom Soulen); on Dec. 28 in Iowa and Sauk Counties (N. R. Barger—William Roark—Sam Robbins); Lake Delton, Dec. 30 (Sam Robbins); one in Wood County, Jan. 3 (Sam Robbins); other win-

ter observations from Chippewa County (C. A. Kemper); Rock County (Melva Maxson—John Wilde); and Vernon County (Margarette Morse).

**RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH:** Numerous winter reports including Adams, Brown, Columbia, Crawford, Dane, Fond du Lac, Jefferson, Kenosha, La Crosse, Lafayette, Marathon, Milwaukee, Rock, Sauk, Sheboygan Trempealeau, Vernon, Vilas, Waupaca and Winnebago Counties.

**BROWN CREEPER:** In addition to the normal wintering birds in southern Wisconsin, there were birds present in some of the central counties (Chippewa, Adams, Outagamie, Brown), and one far north in Vilas County.

**BEWICK'S WREN:** Seen at a feeder at Onalaska from Nov. 19 until Dec. 7 (Alvin Peterson). First winter record for Wisconsin. See "By the Wayside."

**CAROLINA WREN:** Although this species is as likely to turn up in winter as at any other time in Wisconsin, there were an unusual number of birds this winter: one at a feeder in Calumet County, Nov. 5-19 (Mrs. Dale Vawter—Mrs. W. E. Rogers); one at a feeder in Appleton, Nov. 20 through the period (Mrs. A. C. Berry—Mrs. W. E. Rogers); at least five observed in southern Ozaukee and Milwaukee Counties during the period (many observers).

**PRAIRIE MARSH WREN:** Two at Waukesha (Christmas bird count).

**ROBIN:** Numerous winter observations: as far north as Wausau (the Spencer Dotys) and Dunn County (H. E. Clark).

**HERMIT THRUSH:** A late migrant seen in Kenosha, Nov. 2 (Mrs. Howard Higgins); one seen on the Christmas bird count in Milwaukee.

**MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD:** Correspondence from Dr. P. B. Hofslund of Duluth, Minnesota, brought us word of the first Wisconsin records of any kind of this western species. In fact, we know of no other records of this species anywhere east of the Mississippi River. Subsequent correspondence shows that the first observation was that of a single bird at the site of the new Audubon Camp near Sarona, on or near Oct. 17 (Mr. and Mrs. Carl Peterson). Then came a series of records from Superior in mid-December: one at the home of Mrs. Frank Hayes from Dec. 16 to 19, two at the home of Mrs. W. J. Bohn for several days at about the same time, and four at the same time at the home of Mrs. Henry Flemming. There is also an indefinite report (exact dates, observer and details missing) from about the same time at Nebagamon, Douglas County. See article on page 59 for further details.

**PIPIT:** A straggler at Cedar Grove, Nov. 7 (Tom Soulen et al).

**BOHEMIAN WAXWING:** Three at Cedar Grove, Nov. 14 (Jack Kaspar—Frank Kuhlman—Tom Soulen); Madison, Dec. 2-16 (Mrs. R. A. Walker—Bill Foster—Tom Soulen); Brown County, Jan. 8 (Edwin Cleary); twelve in Milwaukee, Jan. 31 (S. P. Jones—Tom Soulen).

**NORTHERN SHRIKE:** Good flight for the second consecutive winter: seen during the winter period in Adams, Bayfield, Brown, Chippewa, Dane, Dodge, Iowa, La Crosse, Lafayette, Manitowoc, Marathon, Milwaukee, Outagamie, Price, Rock, Sauk, Trempealeau, Vilas, Waukesha, Waupaca and Winnebago Counties.

**RUSTY BLACKBIRD:** Dane County, Nov. 27-Jan. 20 (Mrs. R. A. Walter et al); noted on Christmas bird counts at South Wayne and Lake Geneva.

**BRONZED GRACKLE:** Madison, Dec. 17-Jan. 2 (John Wilde et al); Jefferson County, Dec. 28 (Mrs. H. W. Degner); single birds on Christmas bird counts at La Crosse, Madison and Waukesha.

**COWBIRD:** In the Baraboo area, Dec. 4 (David Walker); observed at a feeder throughout the period in Waupaca County (Florence Peterson).

**CARDINAL:** Now so widely distributed throughout the state that it was missed on only four of 41 Christmas bird counts.

**EVENING GROSBEAK:** Reports well scattered throughout the state; not a particularly heavy flight, however.

**PINE GROSBEAK:** Bayfield County, Nov. 7-Jan. 30 (David Bratley); Burnett County, Nov. 21 (Mrs. J. A. Riegel); Polk County, Nov. 27-Dec. 2 (W. D. Barnard—the A. M. Hermstads); Adams County, Nov. 30 (Sam Robbins); Dane County, Dec. 19-26 (Mrs. R. A. Walker et al); Kenosha, Dec. 25 (Mrs. Howard Higgins); Monroe County, Dec. 26 (Alvin Peterson); Milwaukee and Wausau, Jan. 2 (Christmas bird counts); Wood County, Jan. 3 (Sam Robbins); Brown County, Dec. 26-Jan. 22 (Edwin Cleary); Dunn County, Jan. 31 (H. E. Clark); Barron County, during Dec. and Jan. (John Butler).

**REDPOLL:** Numerous in November and early December, then petering out.

**PINE SISKIN:** Numerous at Cedar Grove, Nov. 7-20 (Tom Soulen); Dane County, Nov. 13-Jan. 9 (Mrs. R. A. Walker); Rock County, Nov. 26 (Melva Maxson); Sauk City, Dec. 28 (N. R. Barger—William Roark—Sam Robbins); southern Adams County, Dec. 30 (Sam Robbins); Milwaukee, Jan. 1-16 (Mrs. A. P. Balsom—Tom Soulen); Waukesha County, Jan. 9-20 (Tom Soulen—the L. E. Comptons).

**RED CROSSBILL:** Winter observations from Barron, Dane, Fond du Lac, Ozaukee, Polk, Waupaca, Winnebago and Wood Counties.

**WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL:** It has been many years since a flight could compare with this year's. In contrast with the usual two or three winter records, we have the following flood of reports: Port Edwards, Oct. 22-27 (Mrs. T. A. Pascoe); Bayfield County, Nov. 3 (David Bratley); Polk County, Nov. 4-11 (the A. M. Hermstads); Winnebago County, Nov. 5-9 (Mrs. Glen Fisher); Waupaca County, Nov. 5 (Florence Peterson); Adams, Nov. 6 (John Brenner—Sam Robbins); Cedar Grove, Nov. 7-27 (Tom Soulen); Dane County, Nov. 13-14 (Mrs. R. A. Walker); Fond du Lac County, Nov. 14 (Rev. George Henseler); Winnebago County, Nov. 25-28 (Stanley Wellso); Burnett County, Nov. 27 (L. Heinsohn); Rock County, Dec. 3 (Melva Maxson); Lincoln County, Dec. 5 (Robert Schlising); Madison, Dec. 26 (Mrs. Thomas Leonard); northern Adams County, Jan. 3 (Sam Robbins); Waukesha County, Jan. 20-29 (Tom Soulen); Vernon County, during Nov. and Dec. (Margarette Morse).

**RED-EYED TOWHEE:** Late migrant still in Iowa County, Nov. 2 (Mrs. R. A. Walker); one wintering in Brown County (Edwin Cleary); one seen in Winnebago County, Jan. 29 (Jack Kaspar—Stanley Wellso).

**HENSLOW'S SPARROW:** A freshly road-killed bird was found in Racine, Nov. 29 (J. Allan Simpson)—very late date.

**VESPER SPARROW:** Single birds seen on Christmas bird counts in Jefferson County and Milwaukee.

**OREGON JUNCO:** Several good reports of this species: at a feeder in Waukesha during late Dec. (the L. E. Comptons); one appeared at a feeder in the Cooksville area in Rock County during mid-January (John Wilde); one in typical plumage in Adams County, Jan. 18 (Bill Foster—Sam Robbins); reported also on Milwaukee and Madison Christmas bird counts.

**FIELD SPARROW:** Reports on the Seneca and Wausau Christmas bird counts are phenomenal.

**HARRIS'S SPARROW:** Late migrant in Madison, Nov. 13 (Mrs. R. A. Walker).

**WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW:** One at Horicon on Dec. 27, and one at Monroe on Jan. 1 (Christmas bird counts).

**WHITE-THROATED SPARROW:** Straggler in the Appleton area, Dec. 20 (Mrs. W. E. Rogers); noted on Christmas bird counts at Sauk City, Madison and Milwaukee.

**FOX SPARROW:** One seen at Manitowoc on the Christmas bird count.

**SWAMP SPARROW:** Wintered in the Madison area (N. R. Barger); others on Christmas bird counts at Manitowoc, Waukesha and Monroe.

**LAPLAND LONGSPUR:** Winter observations from Adams, Brown, Chippewa, Dane, Iowa, Ozaukee, Waukesha and Winnebago Counties.

**SNOW BUNTING:** Observations from Adams, Barron, Brown, Chippewa, Dane, Iowa, Lincoln, Marathon, Outagamie, Ozaukee, Portage, Price, Waupaca and Winnebago Counties.

## BILL FOSTER TO EDIT FIELD NOTES

It was with regret that W.S.O. members learned at the annual meeting that "Buzz" Besadny would no longer be available to edit the field notes. He has done splendid work as Associate Editor of **The Passenger Pigeon** for the past two years, but the combined pressure of work and studies has forced Besadny to give up this responsibility.

But the nominating committee did not have to look far for a successor; they found him already on the W.S.O. board of directors, in the person of Prof. G. William Foster, Jr., who has served as legal counsel during the past year. Bill Foster teaches at the University of Wisconsin law school. He has lived in Wisconsin only since 1952, but has been very active in the field since then, made a host of friends, and has quickly established himself as one of the most competent and thorough field observers in the state. He began birding in 1933 as a boy scout around St. Louis, Missouri, and since that time has lived on both the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts, birding in about three-fourths of the states since that time.

So from now on, all field notes should be sent to Bill Foster, 5109 Flambeau Road, Madison 5, Wisconsin.

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

**August 1-10, 1955 (State-wide)**—Field notes for May, June and July should be sent to the Associate Editor (note name and address of new Associate Editor).

**August 7-20, 1955 (Spooner)**—Fourth session of Mid-west Audubon Camp.

**August 21, 1955 (Green Bay)**—Field trip to the Town of Scott and corn roast conducted by the Green Bay Bird Club.

**August 21-September 3, 1955 (Spooner)**—Final session of Mid-west Audubon Camp.

**August 28, 1955 (Horicon)**—W. S. O. field trip to see herons and shorebirds at Horicon Marsh; meet at state headquarters at south end of Horicon Marsh at 7:30; bring your lunch.

**September 18, 1955 (Green Bay)**—Field trip to the Y. M. C. A. camp at Chute Lake, sponsored by the Green Bay Bird Club, starting at 8:00.

**September 25, 1955 (Cedar Grove)**—W. S. O. field trip to watch the fall hawk flight; meet any time in the morning at the Cedar Grove Wildlife Sanctuary on Old Cemetery Ridge; bring your lunch.

**October 16, 1955 (Green Bay)**—Field trip to the Menominee Indian Reservation, conducted by the Green Bay Bird Club, starting at 9:00.

**November 1-10, 1955 (State-wide)**—Field notes for August, September and October should be sent to the Associate Editor.



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