



LIBRARIES

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

The passenger pigeon. Vol. XVII, No. 4 Winter 1955

Madison, Wis.: Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Winter 1955

<https://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/E7VMCRO5KPRJT9A>

<http://rightsstatements.org/vocab/InC/1.0/>

The libraries provide public access to a wide range of material, including online exhibits, digitized collections, archival finding aids, our catalog, online articles, and a growing range of materials in many media.

When possible, we provide rights information in catalog records, finding aids, and other metadata that accompanies collections or items. However, it is always the user's obligation to evaluate copyright and rights issues in light of their own use.

RING-BILLED GULL

PHOTO BY JOHN EMLÉN



The PASSENGER PIGEON

A Magazine of Wisconsin Bird Study

Published Quarterly By

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



WINTER ISSUE
VOL. XVII NO. 4

IN THIS ISSUE

	Page
Ring-bill City. John Emlen describes by words and pictures the nesting behavior of the ring-billed gull	139
The La Crosse Campout. The story of the 1955 June campout by Harold Liebherr will make you anxious to attend next summer's campout	143
Wisconsin Audubon Camp Birds. An annotated list of birds seen during the Audubon Camp's first summer of operation is given by the camp's ornithological instructors, Ernest Edwards and Alexander Sprunt IV	148
Yellow-crowned Night Heron. Judge J. Allan Simpson tells of the first nesting record for this species in Wisconsin	152
An Unsuccessful Bluebird Nest. Here is the day-by-day account of an all-too-common tragedy, from the diary of James Quinn	154
W.S.O. Field Trips. Detailed announcement is given for late winter and spring trips to Milwaukee, Oshkosh and Plainfield	157
Great Blue Heron Nesting Study. The next project of the W.S.O. Research Committee, for which cooperation by many observers is needed, is outlined by R. J. Williams	158
By the Wayside. The behavior of evening grosbeaks and the occurrence of the Western tanager in Wisconsin are given special attention	159
Late Spring and Summer Season. Bill Foster's seasonal summary lists remarkable summer records for such birds as white pelican, red-backed sandpiper, ruddy turnstone and snowy owl	161
Other Features. Elsewhere in this issue are "dates to remember," proposed constitutional changes, news of an Audubon Camp scholarship, a book review, and news items.	

Volume XVII, Number 4

Winter (October-December) 1955

THE PASSENGER PIGEON, official publication of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Inc., is published quarterly at 1640 Monroe Street, Madison 5, Wisconsin. Classes of membership and annual dues: Active \$2.00 (Students under 18 years \$1.50). Sustaining \$5.00. Life \$75.00. Patron \$100 or more. At least \$1.75 of each annual membership (\$1.50 in the case of student membership and Wisconsin library subscriptions) is set aside to cover subscription to The Passenger Pigeon. Send membership dues to the treasurer, Carl P. Frister, 2956A North 38th Street, Milwaukee 10, Wisconsin. Send change of address to Miss Alice Fosse, 1640 Monroe Street, Madison 5, Wisconsin. Send manuscripts to the editor, Samuel D. Robbins, Adams, Wisconsin.

Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Madison, Wisconsin.

Ring-Bill City . . .

By JOHN T. EMLER, JR.

On July 5, 1952, a group of us from the University of Michigan Biological Station visited Green Island, a tiny sand bar just west of the Straits of Mackinac which separate Lake Michigan from Lake Huron. The experience of that visit was enough to lure me back twice more in 1952 and again for several days in June, 1953 and June, 1955.

We rented an outboard in the town of St. Ignace on the north shore and turned our bow toward the little strip of sand and shrubs which was Green Island. A flock of golden-eyes skimmed across our bow and two Caspian terns coursed overhead dipping slightly as they uttered their harsh three-syllabled call. But our attention was focused on the white beach line ahead. It looked like nothing more than a distant line of surf, but this, we were told, was a nesting colony of ring-billed gulls: Ring-bill City.

Within half an hour we were approaching our destination. The sky on all sides was now filled with the screams and glistening wings of a thousand gulls. The beaches ahead were alive with half-grown chicks and their parents. It was a thrilling sight, and we grew impatient as we steered our boat around a point, into a shallow bay and up onto a protected beach.

We wasted no time in unloading our gear and plotting our course of action. The island was "J"-shaped. To our right the long arm of the J extended behind us for half a mile as a slender spit of sand capped with a narrow ridge of cedar scrub, dogwood and coarse grass. To our left was the hook of the J curving back to form the north arm of the little bay. Herring gulls, several hundreds of them, were circling above us and occasionally swooping defiantly at our heads. They had an uncanny way of diving from behind, giving us no warning of their attack until the swish of their wings almost set our hair on end. We tried keeping our eyes on the guilty individuals and found that this was enough to restrain them, but the minute we turned our backs the swish of wings was again upon us.

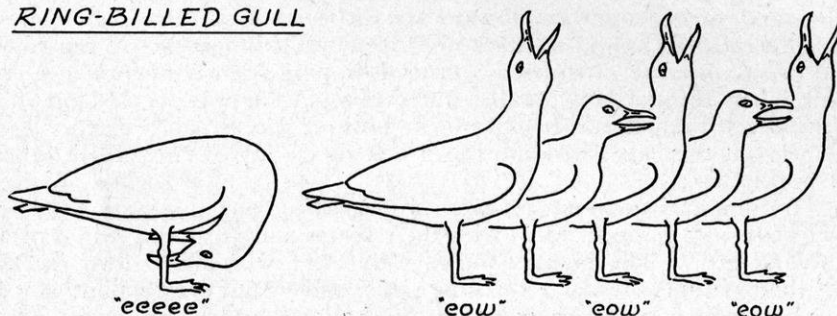
We made a reconnaissance of the long arm first. Herring gulls were clearly the dominant residents here, and not a single ring-bill was to be seen. We found several merganser nests under the dense cedar shrubs, a few spotted sandpipers along the beaches and several pairs of song sparrows and yellow warblers in the cedars, strangely subdued and muted by the clamor of the gulls.

We hurried back from this preliminary excursion, realizing that our real objective, Ring-bill City, was localized on the smaller arm of the island to the left of our landing beach. A few hundred feet of cautious walking in this direction and we were suddenly surrounded by pandemonium. The ground before us seemed to rise in an inverted snowstorm of criss-crossing wings. The sound was almost deafening. Here rising from an area of about half an acre were between 1600 and 1800 adult ring-billed gulls. As they drifted out and back over our heads hundreds

of downy gray chicks rushed for cover or stood teetering and bewildered, adding their thin shrill trills to the clamor. Most of the eggs had hatched, but dirty, abandoned eggs were strewn about on the ground together with dozens of dead chicks, hapless victims, as we were to find, of the fierce territorial fighting with which the citizens of this metropolis defended their home sites.

We wasted no time in setting up our two observation blinds at critical vantage points in the colony center and settled down to await the birds' return. They were back before we expected them, almost before we could get comfortably seated on our camp stools. The first to

RING-BILLED GULL



HERRING GULL

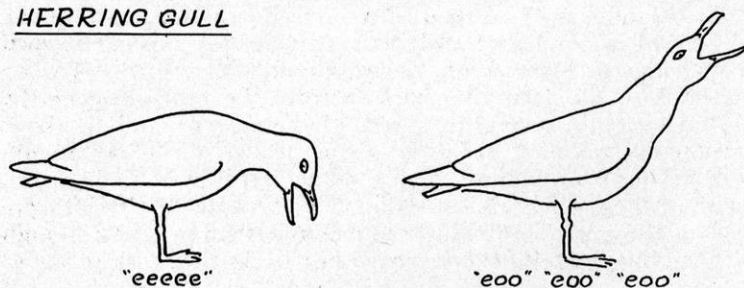


FIGURE 1: THE TRUMPETING CALL OF THE RING-BILLED GULL
COMPARED WITH THAT OF THE HERRING GULL

return were a bit cautious, eyeing the strange canvas tents with obvious misgivings. But within fifteen minutes we were just two more harmless objects in the landscape, and gulls were settling all around us, even on the roofs of our blinds where their webbed feet made artistic silhouettes against the sky. One gull walked so close that my companion, seeing that it was banded, cautiously reached under the edge and grabbed the bird.

Audubon describes the ring-bill as a common, nondescript gull without any special features of distinction. With this statement we are prepared to take strong and decisive issue. The pureness of the white plumage, the clean greenish yellow the legs and the yellow, black-ringed

bill were truly beautiful as these sturdy creatures walked and displayed only a few feet away. But most striking and beautiful of all was the brilliant scarlet of the mouth lining and the eye ring, adornments which the student of the museum specimen never sees and which the casual observer of gulls usually overlooks. This brilliant mouth lining had a real function, we discovered. The loud trumpeting call which birds of both sexes give as they enter their little territories starts with a long shrill scream uttered with the head completely inverted and lowered between the legs. Suddenly the head is thrown upward and a series of shorter screams ensues, each accompanied by a vigorous upward toss of the head, the mouth wide open and the scarlet lining vividly displayed (Fig. 1).

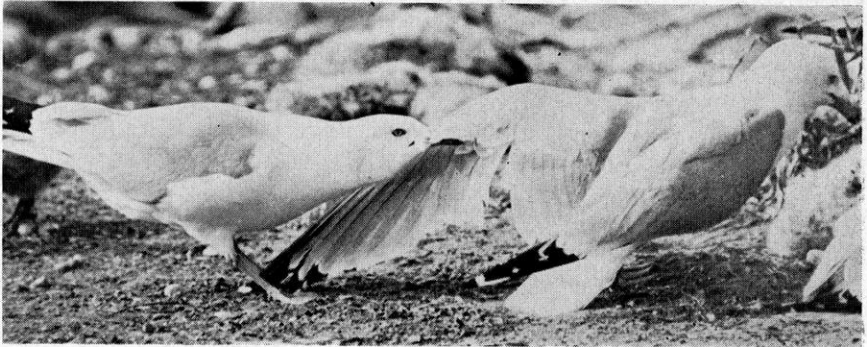


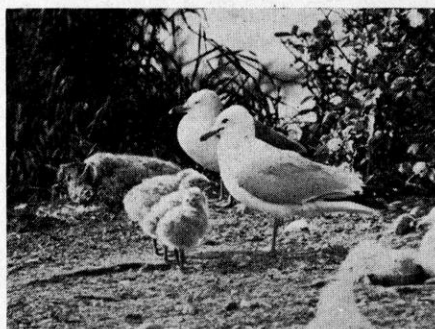
FIGURE 2: TERRITORIAL FIGHTING

Quarrels started as soon as the necessary two individuals were there to make them (Fig. 2). Each bird had a home area or territory, and no other bird except members of the immediate family were permitted to trespass under threat of death. This applied to young and old alike; the consequences were great. An adult gull could absorb the vicious jabs with which it was confronted as it gingerly made the few steps and turns that were possible within the confines of its tiny territory. But the chicks suffered terrific abuse and were often killed. We had not been in our blinds more than fifteen minutes before we saw an episode which we were to witness many dozens of times in our brief visits. A downy chick, probably about ten days old, appeared from beneath a protecting shrub and started a return to its home territory. It had gone only a few steps when an adult gull ran up to it, jabbed viciously at its head and rolled it over. Struggling to its feet it ran on peeping pathetically only to be rushed and attacked again and again. Within seconds it had crossed this first territory and entered another, and again it was pecked and tossed about relentlessly, this time by both adult and young defenders. In the third territory this little chick, finding no place to escape the rain of blows, sought shelter beneath an attacking adult herself. This actually brought temporary relief, for the old bird could not reach it there. She backed away, awkwardly trying to gain the necessary head room for another effective blow, but the chick pressed close, and both were soon encroaching on another neighbor's domain. More screams

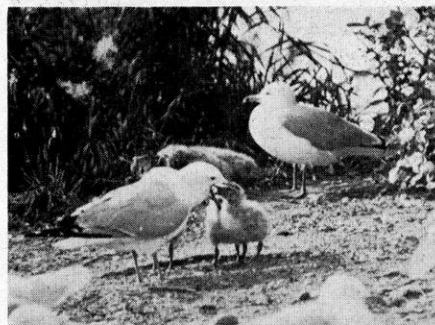
and fighting ensued as our wayward chick broke loose and dashed on while the adults about it bit and lashed each other. After running the gauntlet through five different territories this youngster reached home and safety, but even its parents greeted it with questioning pecks until it assumed a relaxed upright posture and began begging for food.

Apparently these attacks are as serious and destructive as they look, for all about us were the decaying bodies of the victims. We were ap-

FIGURE 3: RING-BILLED GULL FEEDING YOUNG. NOTE THE FOOD BULGE IN THE PARENT'S NECK.



"WELL, WE'RE WAITING!"



"COME ON, POP, LET'S HAVE IT!"



(NO TIME FOR TALK NOW)

palled at the destruction and the next day decided to make some counts. On four plots totalling 36 square yards there were no less than 37 dead chicks. This, we computed from our measurements of territory size, meant that two out of every three chicks hatched in the colony were being killed. Our first thought was that this reflected some abnormal situation, that some strange social disease had infected the Green Island colony or that, perhaps, our intrusion had precipitated or augmented the destruction. But a study of published papers on gull colonies and gull mortality showed that this scene is not atypical. Apparently it is rare for an average pair of gulls in a colony to raise more than one young from its clutch of three eggs.

More pleasant to watch than this vicious infanticide was the care which parents bestowed on their own chicks. It was disconcerting to note that this care was given only when the youngsters were at home in their own little 2 x 4 back yards. A mother or father bird sometimes showed concern when its offspring was being violently mistreated on a neighbor's territory, but never did it venture a rescue, and rarely did it take particular notice. At home, however, peace prevailed—relatively speaking at least. A father bird coming in from a foraging excursion perhaps many miles distant would land on its territory, its neck bulging grotesquely with a load of tidbits in its crop. The arrival produced a

wave of excitement in the chicks and among the neighbors. After patrolling the boundaries of the tiny territory for a few minutes and giving vent to several calls, while the chicks persistently followed and teased, the father lowered his head and started to regurgitate. These movements caused much excitement in the chicks which pecked coaxingly at the black ring of his bill, or, later, at the scarlet corner of his mouth. After several false starts with much turning away the food appeared, and a mad scramble ensued. Neighboring gulls watched closely and occasionally got in for a bite, but the dainty morsels were not exposed for long and were quickly reswallowed by the deliverer himself if the chicks did not help themselves immediately (Fig. 3). Older chicks were terribly impatient with their hard-working parents and literally mobbed them as they sought a quiet place to deliver the goods. Even within the family circle the ring-billed gull leads a stormy, competitive life.

Colonies of sea birds possess a wealth of fascinating opportunities for the bird watcher. Just to walk through a massed gathering of nesting gulls is a thrilling experience, but the real pay-off comes when seated on an old wood box in a simple canvas or burlap blind, one sees all the intimate happenings of the birds' family and social life being enacted right before his eyes. I hope that it will not be long before I can revisit my friends in Ring-bill City.

Department of Zoology
University of Wisconsin

THE LA CROSSE CAMPOUT

By HAROLD G. LIEBHERR

Members and friends of W.S.O. began arriving in the La Crosse area on Friday, June 17, 1955, to participate in the fourth annual camp-out of the Society. First arrivals were not alone for long; soon Onalaska Park began to be dotted with tents and other camping equipment. Long after dark—even well toward midnight—the ring of hammers hitting tent stakes, the whispers of late arrivals looking for a camping claim, and the welcomes given to each new camper could still be heard. Midnight seemed to bring a quieting to the camp, since most of the members were planning to be up again at 6:00 a. m. to begin a full two days of hiking, birding and good fellowship. Onalaska Park had all the conveniences of a good campsite.

Early in the morning the camp was in full activity with everyone ready to participate in one of the two trips planned by Alvin Peterson and Harold Schick. The first group left for the Mississippi River and a boat trip up the river. "Captain John" had his sea-worthy vessel in good condition, and while the going was slow, the scenery was interesting and the company good-natured. It was on this first trip that Judge J. Allan Simpson, of Racine, showed the group how to fall in the river without getting photographic equipment wet, and—most of all—without drowning.

The second group waited for late-comers and then left to visit three areas: Pettibone Park, Grandad Bluff and Upper French Island. Pettibone Park is an area of river bottom-land forest and is criss-crossed with



TYPICAL MISSISSIPPI RIVER SCENE

PHOTO BY ALVIN M. PETERSON

backwashes of the Mississippi River. It was here that the carpenter-like pounding of the pileated woodpecker was heard, and the tiny prothonotary warbler seen.

The group left the lower levels of the region to go to the higher elevations of Grandad Bluff. Alvin Peterson led the group down a nature trail that had been laid out on the bluff. Near the entrance to the trail was a box which contained printed information and guides to the trail. As our leader put his hand into the box to get a paper, a small bird flew out. Keen eyes, aided with binoculars, identified it as a Bewick's wren, and closer examination revealed that the bird had built a nest in the box. In this area the flora was more interesting than the bird life we were able to see, and many of the group were introduced to prairie plants and those of a maple forest on opposite sides of the bluff.

Upper French Island is typified by sandy soil and the plants which inhabit such an area and interspersed with groves of scrub oak and aspen. It was here that we were able to hear, but not see, the Bell's vireo. The bird was very reluctant to show itself off before strangers, but did sing its typical song over and over again. S. Paul Jones, of Waukesha, found the nest of a Bell's vireo in this area during the time of the campout. Upper French Island held other surprises for us. There was an alder flycatcher, spoken of by Alvin Peterson as the first record for the species in the La Crosse area. The group literally stumbled on the nest of a

Box Score

Species of birds watching bird watchers:	92
Number of bird watchers watching birds:	92
States represented by birders:	3
Wisconsin cities represented by birders:	15

nighthawk, while tracking an upland plover. The nest is characterized by the presence of eggs and little else. Here was a fine opportunity for photography, and many made the most of it.

Birds Seen at the Campout

Great Blue Heron, American Egret, Green Heron, American Bittern, Least Bittern, Mallard, Bob-white, Virginia Rail, Killdeer, Upland Plover, Spotted Sandpiper, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Black-billed Cuckoo, Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Belted Kingfisher, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Eastern Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Alder Flycatcher, Wood Pewee,

Horned Lark, Tree Swallow, Bank Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Crow, Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Bewick's Wren, Prairie Marsh Wren, Short-billed Marsh Wren, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Cedar Waxwing, Starling, Bell's Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Warbling Vireo,

Prothonotary Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Northern Yellow-throat, Redstart, English Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, Western Meadowlark, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Red-wing, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Bronzed Grackle, Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissel, Goldfinch, Savannah Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Song Sparrow.

After this tiring activity it was time to return to camp for a well deserved lunch. In the afternoon the two groups exchanged trips. Those that had been on the boat trip traveled to the land areas and the others took the boat trip. There were other short trips that various W.S.O. members and friends took during the day. Some went to the Lake Onalaska area to add the orchard oriole and yellow-headed blackbird to their lists.

The two birds that aroused the greatest interest, and were most eagerly hunted, were the Bell's vireo and the orchard oriole. The former was heard on Saturday morning by a group led by Jo Ann Schick, but after that was reluctant either to sing or to allow itself to be seen—no doubt frightened by so many people armed with dangerous-looking field



ORCHARD ORIOLE TERRAIN AT ONALASKA

PHOTO BY ALVIN M. PETERSON

glasses. A tragedy to a nest at the time of the campout also had something to do with the behavior of the birds, as the nest found by Paul Jones was a deserted nest and had been visited by cowbirds. Apparently the owners of this nest were the birds heard about the black locust thicket a block or two away on Saturday afternoon. Both before and after the campout at least three different pairs of Bell's vireos were seen and heard on Upper French Island—all but one pair in the area and places visited.

While the vireo was shy and hard to see, the orchard oriole was as obliging as you'll ever find a wild bird. It was seen and heard by Jim Zimmerman, Paul Jones, Carl and Dorothy Frister, David Cox and Alvin Peterson on Friday afternoon, and by many watchers on Sunday morning—not one bird, but several. If so much as one person who was interested in seeing and hearing this bird failed to do so, we have yet to hear about it.

Birders Seen at the Campout

David Cox, Rex and Rosemary Geddes, Harold, Hildegard and Jim Liebherr, **Beloit**; Charles, Margaret, Jon, Karen and Jean Kemper, **Chippewa Falls**; Dr. and Mrs. Paul Gatterdam, Mabel Graham, William Frish, Mrs. Jack Jennings, Janice Johnson, Gertrude Lunke, Katherine Martindale, Florence Prybylouski, Paul, Penny, Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Robinson, Theo. Rovang, Harold and JoAnn Schick, Alta Snyder, Mrs. Barney Spangler, Miss Spangler, Emma Wilder, Leonore Wilson, **La Crosse**; Buddy, Mr. and Mrs. N. R. Barger, John and Woody Emlen, Roy and Martha Lound, Helen Northup, Ruth Stillman, Mrs. R. A. Walker, James Zimmerman, **Madison**; Lillian Marsh, Merle Pickett, Dick Schroella, Bob Trochell, Bob Wilda, **Manitowoc**; Mr. and Mrs. Campbell, Bruce Campbell, Carl and Dorothy Frister, Rufin Jankowski, Bernard and Audrey Kaiman, Jerry Vogelsang, **Milwaukee**; Ed and Claire Peartree, **Oconomowoc**; Mr. and Mrs. Lotus, Alvin and Mae Peterson, Mrs. Edna Schaller, **Onalaska**; Fred, Frances, Alan and Elva Hamerstrom, **Plainfield**; J. Allan Simpson, **Racine**; Winona J. Haney, **Sparta**; Mary and Margaret Morse, **Viroqua**; S. Paul Jones, Charles and Spencer Nelson, Waukeshia; Roy, Edna and David Andrews, David and Emily Bierbrauer, **Wausau**; Rev. and Mrs. Win Slosser, Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Walberg, Peter Walberg, **West Salem**; John Trisch, Jr., **Caledonia**, **Minn.**; Gladys Haney, **Ishpeming, Mich.**; Peter Kramer, **Wilhelmhaven, Germany**.

Film Show In the Evening

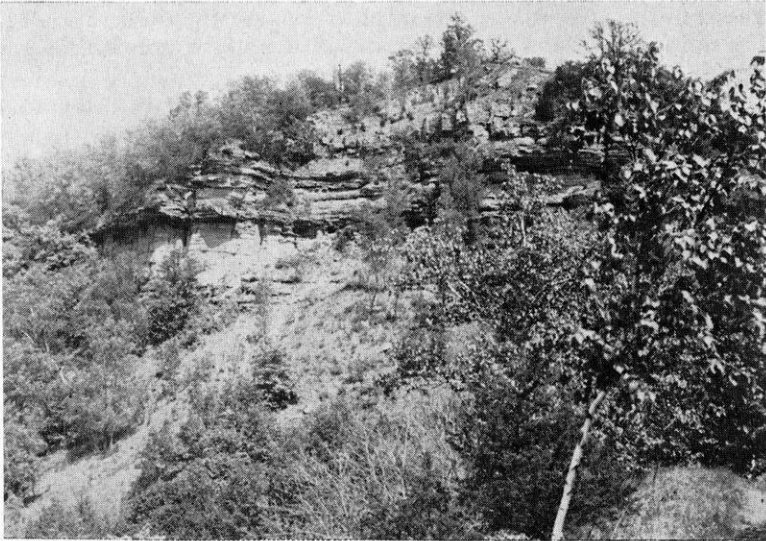
The evening program was highlighted by some films of Dr. Paul Gatterdam. Many of the pictures were taken near his home in La Crosse and were enjoyed by all. Carl and Dorothy Frister, Bernard and Audrey Kaiman led the group in community singing, accompanied by their own "instrumentation". They sang for the first time a W.S.O. song set to the tune of "The Happy Wanderer."

Amid the hilarity of the evening program two awards were made to outstanding members of the Society. To Judge J. Allan Simpson of Racine, for showing great determination in overcoming all hazards in his bird-watching efforts, an air mattress was presented to help prevent future duckings. To W.S.O. president John Emlen of Madison was given the largest pair of binoculars in the state, so that he would be able to lead the group in compiling the longest list of the year.

Perrot Park Is Visited

After a night of sound sleep the group broke camp and started in two directions. Some went on to Perrot State Park for more birding and botanizing with the Petersons and the Schicks, while the others headed for home. The ones who stayed were in for more pleasant surprises: the golden-winged and cerulean warblers were found in the Black River Bottoms, and later in the day two American egrets were seen along the Mississippi River.

At Perrot State Park a large group led by Jim Zimmerman—a very busy man at the campout—followed the park trail to the top of Brady's Bluff and literally crossed the mountain before getting back to the picnic



BRADY'S BLUFF, FROM WHICH ONE SEES THE GREAT VISTA
OF TREMPLEAU MOUNTAIN AND THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

PHOTO BY ALVIN M. PETERSON

area. The baneberry, whitlow grass, blue cohosh, red-berried elder, Kentucky coffee-tree and scores of other plants occupied the attention of this group, which also had the satisfaction of seeing a small flock of tufted titmice at the crest of the bluff. Some of the grandest scenery in the Upper Mississippi Valley is to be enjoyed from the top of Brady's Bluff at Trempealeau.

These last trips brought to a close a wonderful weekend. Special thanks should be given to the Alvin Petersons and the Harold Schicks for the fine work they did in planning the La Crosse campout. Special mention should be made of the publicity given W.S.O. by the **La Crosse Tribune**; three articles were printed over the weekend to tell of our activities. From the comments heard during and after the campout, the general opinion was that this was by far the best such event of the W.S.O. Future campouts will have a goal to shoot at because of the work of the fine people of La Crosse.

1540 Jackson Street Beloit, Wisconsin

Wisconsin Audubon Camp Birds

By ERNEST P. EDWARDS and ALEXANDER SPRUNT IV

The Audubon Camp of Wisconsin is located in southern Washburn County in an area composed mostly of farm land with a considerable amount of second growth timber, and occasional stands of mixed deciduous and coniferous forest. There are many lakes—both large and small—some of which have marshes and tamarack swamps around or connected with them. The 300-odd acres of Hunt Hill, where the Camp is immediately located, has a representative selection of almost all the habitats found in the area, making it an ideal spot for the observation of the birds of the region. Most field trips and bird walks were within a radius of three miles of the Camp itself.

During the season several longer trips were taken in order to visit habitats not available locally. Three of these were made more than once, and because they added significantly to the total list, the location and type of each is given here:

Flambeau Forest—Some fifty miles east of Camp lies the Flambeau State Forest, and visits to it were made during the first three sessions. The area concerned was a stand of virgin timber known as "the Big Chunk." This has an outstanding growth of deciduous trees, birches, basswoods, oaks, maples, etc., with a few white pines and many hemlocks.

Crex Meadows Conservation Area—This area, just north of Grantsburg on the St. Croix River, is composed of submerged marshland and upland of prairie and oak opening types. It is at present under development by the Wisconsin Conservation Department. Visits were made to it during all five sessions.

Lake Superior—The area visited here was the long wooded sand spit which thrusts from the Wisconsin shore east of Superior toward Duluth. It is becoming known as a major migration route around the western end of Lake Superior, and was visited during the last two sessions.

The list covers a ten-week period from June 27 through September 2, 1955. The nesting season was well along when the list was started, and the fall migration was only nicely under way when observations ceased with the closing of Camp. The 162 species noted in this period include no remarkably rare or accidental birds, but is probably representative for the region during the time covered. By no stretch of the imagination, however, can this be considered a really thorough study of the birds of this area. We were much too busy getting things started at the Camp, and exploring new territory, to make a detailed job of analyzing the bird populations. The observations of future years will give a much clearer picture.

It was deemed advisable to indicate in some manner the relative abundance of the species noted, so an arbitrary classification was set up. The list covered a 67-day period; a note was made of each day during the season on which a species was observed, and by a breakdown of the number of days on which each was noted, they are assigned to a class:

Abundant—noted on 50 or more days
 Comon—noted on 25 to 49 days
 Uncommon—noted on 10 to 24 days
 Occasional—noted on 5 to 9 days
 Unusual—noted on 1 to 4 days

List of Species

- Loon**—Abundant
Pied-billed Grebe—Uncommon
Double-crested Cormorant—Common at Crex Meadows, nesting there
Great Blue Heron—Abundant, nesting at Crex Meadows
Green Heron—Uncommon
Black-crowned Night Heron—Unusual
American Bittern—Common
Least Bittern—Unusual, Crex Meadows early in season
Mallard—Uncommon, locally common
Black Duck—Unusual
Green-winged Teal—Unusual
Blue-winged Teal—Uncommon, locally common
Wood Duck—Occasional
Ring-necked Duck—Unusual
Lesser Scaup Duck—Unusual, Crex Meadows
Hooded Merganser—Unusual
Turkey Vulture—Occasional
Sharp-shinned Hawk—Unusual, late in season
Cooper's Hawk—Unusual
Red-tailed Hawk—Uncommon
Red-shouldered Hawk—Occasional
Broad-winged Hawk—Common
Bald Eagle—Unusual
Marsh Hawk—Common
Osprey—Uncommon, nest found
Duck Hawk—Unusual, Lake Superior, Aug. 11 and 13
Pigeon Hawk—Unusual, Lake Superior, Aug. 20 and 31
Sparrow Hawk—Uncommon
Ruffed Grouse—Uncommon
Sharp-tailed Grouse—Unusual, Crex Meadows
Ring-necked Pheasant—Unusual
Virginia Rail—Unusual
Sora—Unusual
Semipalmated Plover—Occasional, fall migrant
Killdeer—Common
Golden Plover—Unusual, Lake Superior, Aug. 20 and 31
Black-bellied Plover—Unusual, Lake Superior, Aug. 12 to Sept. 1
Ruddy Turnstone—Unusual, Lake Superior, Aug. 31
Wilson's Snipe—Occasional
Upland Plover—Unusual
Spotted Sandpiper—Uncommon
Solitary Sandpiper—Uncommon, fall migrant
Greater Yellow-legs—Occasional, fall migrant
Lesser Yellow-legs—Unusual, fall migrant
Pectoral Sandpiper—Unusual, Lake Superior, fall migrant
White-rumped Sandpiper—Unusual, Lake Superior, Aug. 31
Baird's Sandpiper—Unusual, fall migrant
Least Sandpiper—Unusual, fall migrant
Dowitcher—Occasional, Lake Superior, fall migrant
Stilt Sandpiper—Unusual, Lake Superior, Aug. 21 and 31
Semipalmated Sandpiper—Unusual, fall migrant
Western Sandpiper—Unusual, Crex Meadows, Aug. 15 and 21
Sanderling—Unusual, Lake Superior, fall migrant
Herring Gull—Common on Lake Superior
Ring-billed Gull—Occasional

Bonaparte's Gull—Unusual, Lake Superior, Aug. 12
Common Tern—Common on Lake Superior
Black Tern—Common, nest found
Mourning Dove—Common
Yellow-billed Cuckoo—Occasional, early in season
Black-billed Cuckoo—Occasional, early in season
Great-horned Owl—Unusual
Barred Owl—Occasional
Whip-poor-will—Unusual
Nighthawk—Uncommon, heavy migration Aug. 16-31
Chimney Swift—Common
Ruby-throated Hummingbird—Common
Belted Kingfisher—Abundant, nest found
Flicker—Abundant
Pileated Woodpecker—Uncommon
Red-headed Woodpecker—Common, nest found
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker—Common, nest found
Hairy Woodpecker—Uncommon
Downy Woodpecker—Common
Kingbird—Abundant, nest found
Crested Flycatcher—Common, nest found
Phoebe—Common, nest found
Least Flycatcher—Common, nest found
Wood Pewee—Abundant, nest found
Olive-sided Flycatcher—Occasional, fall migrant
Horned Lark—Unusual
Tree Swallow—Common, nest found
Bank Swallow—Uncommon, nest found
Rough-winged Swallow—Occasional, nest found
Barn Swallow—Common, nest found
Purple Martin—Abundant, nest found
Blue Jay—Common, nest found
Raven—Occasional
Crow—Abundant
Black-capped Chickadee—Common
White-breasted Nuthatch—Common
Brown Creeper—Unusual, Flambeau Forest
House Wren—Common, nest found
Winter Wren—Unusual, Flambeau Forest
Prairie Marsh Wren—Occasional, Crex Meadows
Short-billed Marsh Wren—Uncommon
Catbird—Common
Brown Thrasher—Common, nest found
Robin—Abundant, nest found
Wood Thrush—Common
Hermit Thrush—Unusual
Olive-backed Thrush—Unusual, Flambeau Forest and fall migrant
Willow Thrush—Uncommon
Bluebird—Abundant, nest found
Cedar Waxwing—Abundant, nest found
Migrant Shrike—Unusual
Starling—Common, nest found
Yellow-throated Vireo—Common
Blue-headed Vireo—Unusual
Red-eyed Vireo—Abundant, nest found
Warbling Vireo—Common, nest found
Black and White Warbler—Uncommon
Golden-winged Warbler—Uncommon
Tennessee Warbler—Occasional, fall migrant
Orange-crowned Warbler—Unusual, Aug. 16 and 24
Nashville Warbler—Unusual, fall migrant
Parula Warbler—Unusual, fall migrant
Yellow Warbler—Common, nest found

Magnolia Warbler—Unusual, fall migrant
Black-throated Blue Warbler—Unusual, Flambeau Forest, July 16
Myrtle Warbler—Occasional, fall migrant
Black-throated Green Warbler—Uncommon, common in Flambeau Forest
Blackburnian Warbler—Uncommon
Chestnut-sided Warbler—Uncommon
Bay-breasted Warbler—Unusual, fall migrant
Pine Warbler—Occasional
Palm Warbler—Occasional, fall migrant
Ovenbird—Uncommon
Grinnell's Water-thrush—Unusual, Crex Meadows
Connecticut Warbler—Unusual, Sept. 1
Mourning Warbler—Uncommon
Northern Yellow-throat—Common
Canada Warbler—Unusual
Redstart—Uncommon
English Sparrow—Abundant, nest found
Bobolink—Common

Eastern Meadowlark—Common
Western Meadowlark—Common
Yellow-headed Blackbird—Occasional, early in season
Red-wing—Abundant, nest found
Baltimore Oriole—Common, nest found
Rusty Blackbird—Unusual
Brewer's Blackbird—Uncommon
Bronzed Grackle—Uncommon
Cowbird—Common
Scarlet Tanager—Common, nest found
Rose-breasted Grosbeak—Uncommon
Indigo Bunting—Common
Purple Finch—Uncommon
Goldfinch—Abundant, nest found
Red-eyed Towhee—Occasional
Vesper Sparrow—Common
Savannah Sparrow—Uncommon
Slate-colored Junco—Unusual, fall migrant
Chipping Sparrow—Abundant, nest found
Clay-colored Sparrow—Common
Field Sparrow—Uncommon
White-throated Sparrow—Occasional
Swamp Sparrow—Unusual
Song Sparrow—Abundant

NEWS . . .

Renewal blanks are included with this issue. Be prompt. Don't run the risk of missing an issue. Don't make extra work for the treasurer, the membership chairman, and the circulation manager. Send in your renewal today. You could save still more work by renewing for two years instead of one.

Vice-President Harold Liebherr informs us that there are still a few openings in the program of paper sessions for the coming convention. Anyone wishing to present a paper should contact Mr. Liebherr immediately at 1540 Jackson Street, Beloit, giving title, amount of time desired, and type of visual aid equipment needed.

Muri Deusing of the Milwaukee Public Museum, nationally known photographer and lecturer, has been engaged as banquet speaker for the annual W.S.O. convention

at Beloit, May 4-6, showing his film, "Adventure in Africa." This feature, plus the papers to be read, field trips, displays, good fellowship with old and new friends, acquaintance with an area not previously visited by W.S.O., all combine to make this a convention you won't want to miss.

To attest to the growing interest and enthusiasm in the W.S.O. field trip program, 120 persons attended the hawk trip at Cedar Grove on September 25, 1955.

An excellent schedule of W.S.O. field trips for the next several months has been prepared. Details of late winter and spring trips to the Milwaukee lake shore, Lake Winnebago, and Plainfield, will be found on page 157. The next issue will contain details about the summer campout at the North Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest. Our first fall campout will be held at Point Beach State Park, Sept. 7-9.

(more news on page 156)

A YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON NESTING RECORD FOR WISCONSIN

By J. ALLAN SIMPSON

Sometime in April, 1955, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Lloyd discovered a bird in a marshy spot near the junction of Highway 32 and the Racine-Kenosha County Line, which they later identified as an adult yellow-crowned night heron. They notified Mrs. Walter Peirce and she informed many bird lovers in Racine. It was not until my fifth visit to the area that I saw the bird, but on that occasion I was rewarded by seeing two birds—both in beautiful adult plumage, the conspicuous light crown contrasting sharply with the dark head and the pearly-gray body.

The birds were remarkably tame. They appeared to do their feeding at the edges of three small bodies of water—too big, perhaps, to be called “pools,” yet hardly large enough to pass for “ponds.” Although these tiny ponds are right beside the road, the birds did not seem to be disturbed by the passing traffic or by my presence.

Because there were two adults, and because it had been nearly two months since the discovery of the first bird, I had strong suspicions that the birds might be nesting. On June 27 Mr. and Mrs. Peirce, Ed and George Prins and I observed the flight of a disturbed heron, and checked with the others the direction such birds had taken when disturbed before. We decided the probable nesting site was in a grove about a quarter of a mile east of the three ponds in which they were usually seen. Ed and George Prins and I then combed the grove and soon discovered the nest. As we watched the nest, one of the adult birds flew off, making certain that we were looking at what we believe to be the first positive nesting of the yellow-crowned night heron in Wisconsin. Under the nest I picked up the largest part of an egg shell. It was of a soft bluish green color, and about the size of a small hen's egg. I still have the egg.



ADULT YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON FEEDING
NEAR ITS RACINE COUNTY BREEDING GROUNDS.

—PHOTO BY ED PRINS

During the following week I visited the nest two more times, and spread the news among many friends during the next three weeks. Among those who saw the nest, parents and young were: Mr. and Mrs. Martin Paulsen, Mary Donald, Marion Allen, Lillian Logemann and Amelia Simmons, all of Milwaukee; Paul Jones and Charlie Nelson of Waukesha; Roy and Martha Lound, Ruby Bere, Helen Northup and Bill Foster, all of Madison; Sam Robbins of Adams; and a large number of Racinians.

On the first visits only two young birds were noted, but on almost every visit I made after the first two or three, there appeared another young bird, until at the end there were five healthy young in the nest. A number of people took pictures of the nest and the birds—notably Ed Prins, Mrs. Logemann and Mrs. Simmons: Ed taking 35 mm. stills, and the ladies taking 16 mm. movies, all colored. The young birds all continued to grow, and by July 17 they were all large and strong enough to perch on the nearby tree branches, although no evidence of flight had yet been noted. By July 24 the young did fly when the nest was approached, but were later seen to return to the nest. Three days later the birds had left the nest, and thereafter I saw neither the adults nor the immatures again.

An interesting feature of this successful nesting was the presence a Cooper's hawk nest in another tree less than 100 feet from the heron nest. The hawks raised four young, apparently without disturbing the herons in the least.

It will be interesting to check next June and see whether or not a return visit will be made, and whether other nests will be found in the area.

3635 Nicolet Place, Racine, Wisconsin

(Editor's note: Minnesota also experienced its first nesting record for the yellow-crowned night heron during the same month. On June 25, 1955, Brother L. Theodore, F.S.C., discovered a pair nesting in the Mississippi River bottoms near La Crescent, Minnesota—just across the state line from Wisconsin (see 1955 *Flicker* 171). Heretofore Wisconsin has had but a handful of sight records of this species.)

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations are in order for the Green Bay Bird Club which is celebrating its twentieth anniversary this year. The anniversary was observed at a banquet on January 15, 1956, at which all the original officers were present, and ten of thirteen past presidents were introduced. Doctors Frederick and Frances Hamerstrom were guest speakers for the occasion.

Club members could look back on twenty years of outstanding achievement. Monthly meetings and field trips have interested many Green Bay people in ornithology. Club members were instrumental in helping establish a wildlife sanctuary at Green Bay (see 1953 *Passenger Pigeon* 75-76). Twice this club has played host for W.S.O. conventions.

Our best wishes are extended to the Green Bay Bird Club as it embarks on its next twenty years of growth and progress.

An Unsuccessful Bluebird Nest

By JAMES L. QUINN

During the summer of 1954 I had the opportunity of keeping almost daily tab on a pair of bluebirds that nested in a box I had built for them near my home. The notes are taken directly from my Nature Diary."

June 11, 1954—Bluebirds inspecting house built for them.

June 12—Bluebirds have apparently taken over house. No sign of opposition from English sparrows or tree swallows. Male bluebird the guardian—frightened off a house wren that paused to inspect bird house.

June 13—Female bluebird seems to be dominant. Male more concerned (apparently) with whether or not nest gets built. He is always the first to return after leaving the box for materials. Female is doing the actual building with male acting as grand supervisor. Female continually scolds male, maybe for holding up progress with his inspections of nest.

June 16—Bluebirds still with us.

June 18—A. M. Bluebird nest appears to be complete but no eggs laid as yet. Occasionally a male English sparrow tries to invade house. Female bluebird is usually the one to drive him away. P. M. One egg today—not carefully examined as yet—appears uniformly pale blue, unspotted.

June 19—Second egg today—examined closely—typical bluebird eggs.

June 20—Third bluebird egg today.

June 21—Fourth egg.

June 22—Fifth egg today.

June 23—Still five eggs. Incubation apparently begun.

June 24—Now only four eggs. Do not know what happened to the fifth egg. Would say they (bluebirds) are definitely incubating the eggs.

June 29—With warm weather female seems to leave the nest quite often.

June 30—With cool weather female bluebird is staying much closer to nest.

July 1—Weather has been very cool and am afraid to check nest for fear of frightening adult and allowing the eggs to cool. Apparently still being incubated.

July 4—One of the bluebird eggs could have hatched today. Was out of town and unable to observe.

July 5—Two young bluebirds in nest. 18 days since first egg was laid. 12 days since fifth egg disappeared and incubation had definitely begun.

July 6—Third egg hatched. Fourth shows signs of hatching—several small holes noticeable. Adult bluebirds do not stay close to nest when outsider appears. Fly some distance away to observe with safety.

July 7—Fourth egg has still not hatched. Weather has been cool and damp.

July 8—Fourth egg has been removed from the nest. Three out of five so far. 60% not too good this year.

July 14—Disaster! English sparrow is trying to invade nest. Has pecked the upper mandibles of the three young. Two of them are in critical condition. Adult bluebirds seem hesitant to attack. They wait until sparrow flies away and then they set chase. Appears as though the sparrow wants to nest in the box. Has mate with him occasionally.

July 15—One young dead this morning. Second in bad shape, third fair.

July 16—A. M. English sparrows still persistent. Bluebirds seem to be in a state of despair. Saw the English sparrows having coition this morning. Undoubtedly intend to nest. P. M. Total loss! Remaining two young have died. No sign of adult bluebirds. English sparrows preparing to nest.

July 20—Destroyed English sparrow nest. They have deserted the area.

Green Bay, Wisconsin

BOOK REVIEW *

WILD AMERICA. By Roger Tory Peterson and James Fisher. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1955. Pp. xii, 434. \$5.00.

Perhaps Roger Tory Peterson is not the best-rounded naturalist in North America (though he likely is). Perhaps James Fisher is not the best-rounded naturalist in Britain (though he likely is). And perhaps the team of Peterson and Fisher reporting on North America's natural assets is not the best-rounded team which could be assembled for this purpose (though it likely is).

But it is hard to imagine a team of naturalist-writers who could have done a more articulate and polished job of elevating a travelogue into a prose epic. The hero of the piece is the North American continent with all its trappings, including humans. And the duration of the tale is 100 days—the length of time it took Fisher and Peterson to sweep a broad, U-shaped path from Newfoundland around the eastern, southern and western boundaries of the U. S., thence north and west to the Yukon delta and out to the Pribilof Islands, north of the Aleutians and west of Alaska, where the junket ended.

In the Prologue to **Wild America**, Peterson thus describes the scope of the volume: "This book, a record of our journey, is woven together from our combined notes. After introducing each chapter, establishing the continuity and background, I usually turn the narrative over to James Fisher, who quotes directly from portions of his journal under the date-line." That design is faithfully followed in writing the book, but Peterson should have added that his own pen and ink drawings of mammals, plants, insects, places, etc., stud the volume from front to back. The drawings have about them a fine, fresh charm, and the best of them are utterly lovely.

It takes considerable derring-do to risk the dangers of writing a travelogue. Even the best of them suffer from too much that is merely

*All books available from the W.S.O. Supply Department.

warmed over from experiences of others. But to a remarkable degree, **Wild America** avoids this shortcoming because both authors stuck pretty much to the business of describing the things they saw and knew something about. And to this end, their trained eyes and ears helped supply the book with an exceptional breadth of information, just as their wide-ranging knowledge of the world they live in contributed an important dimension to the depth of their reporting.

Both men are ornithologists first and foremost, and birds rarely remain out of the discussion for long—but the discussion flows easily and expertly from birds to botany, to geology, to reptiles, to conservation practices, to man and his works—and, always, back to birds. And while the writing styles of the two men differ, both share the virtues of lucidity and easy readability.

For James Fisher, the Briton, this was a first visit to North America, and while his description of what he observed gives us a refreshing new look at our continent, he was scarcely a stranger here. He had read much of North America before coming; and this alone minimizes the elements of surprise. And he found much, too, that reminded him of things familiar in Europe. Yet for all he had read beforehand, and for all that looked like things back home, there were so many things which differed from expectations, or came wholly without expectation. And as to these, Fisher's quickened interest shines through his journal notes, and the reader is time after time spurred on to share with him the excitement of the moment.

Altogether, the reviewer found **Wild America** an unqualified delight—and a source of much information new to him. This was to have been expected from the two authors, however. Roger Peterson is best known to Americans for his field guides, but countless thousands who have heard him speak, or who have read his charming and informative **Birds Over America**, and know him as a many-sided human being with a fine mastery of the English language. James Fisher will be new to many American readers, but the British already know him well from his writings and broadcasts, and his monumental contributions to the life histories of sea birds have won him a small but respectful American audience. James Fisher's contributions in **Wild America** are certain to expand greatly the circle of American admirers who will conclude from his writing that he is an urbane, fluent and altogether charming fellow.

In short: get **Wild America** as soon as you can.

Bill Foster

Madison, Wisconsin

MORE NEWS . . .

On December 16, 1955, the Wisconsin Conservation Commission held an important public hearing on its prairie chicken management and research policies. W.S.O. was well represented at this meeting: Dr. Robert McCabe read a statement on behalf of W.S.O., six members of the Board of Directors were in attendance, as well as numerous other Society members.

Have you considered transferring from active to sustaining membership? A number of members did this a year ago, and gave W.S.O. a big boost. If you wish to give the Society a similar boost for the coming year, now is the time to make the change.

Perpetuation of the prairie chicken took a forward step as a result of this hearing. The Commission has now voted unanimously to proceed with management and

research plans that include: provision of winter feed, spring census operations, and the management of such areas of the Buena Vista and Leola Marshes as may be leased to the Wisconsin Conservation Department by individuals and organizations that wish to cooperate in the program of preservation of this species. As a result of this "green light," the W.S.O. Prairie Chicken Purchase Committee is now in-

vestigating prairie chicken lands for possible purchase.

Have you friends who would appreciate a membership and receiving a gift subscription to **The Passenger Pigeon**? Since memberships begin with the spring issue, the time between now and the spring convention is the most auspicious time for entering gift subscriptions.

(more news on page 159)

W.S.O. FIELD TRIPS

Sunday, February 26—Lake Michigan Shore

Meeting Place: Smith Brothers' parking lot in Port Washington

Meeting Time: 8:00 a. m.

Itinerary: The trip will begin at the Port Washington harbor where a harlequin duck has been seen again this winter, also a glaucous gull. Stops will be made at various parks and lookouts along the way to Milwaukee to observe wintering waterfowl and other winter birds. Bring your lunch.

Sunday, April 8—Oshkosh and Lake Winnebago

Meeting Place: Parking lot at rear of Winnebago County Court House, 215 Jackson Drive, Oshkosh

Meeting Time: 10:00 a. m.

Leader: Frank King

Trip Highlights: Large concentration of whistling swans and waterfowl. Lake Winnebago and Green Bay are the major stopping-off places of the swans on their trip to the arctic in the spring. Bring your lunch and friends whether they are W.S.O. members or not. This applies to all field trips.

Friday-Sunday, April 20-22—Plainfield

Leaders: Fred and Fran Hamerstrom and Jerry Vogelsang

Again we have the privilege of seeing booming prairie chickens, close-up, from blinds. There are blind facilities for about 50 people; 25 each morning. Due to the popularity of this trip, reservations must be made on a "first come, first served" basis. Write now for your reservation to:

Gerald A. Vogelsang
3218 W. Highland Blvd.
Milwaukee 8, Wisconsin

Those wishing to attend the Saturday morning performance must be in Plainfield Friday night, and those for the Sunday morning show on Saturday night. When writing for reservations, please indicate your first and second choice of mornings and number of people in your party. Upon receipt of your reservation, full instructions and details will be sent.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

At the 1955 annual meeting a motion was passed asking the Board of Directors to consider adding the words "and conservation" to the statement of purpose in Article II of the Articles of Incorporation, and to make a proposal that could be voted on by the members at the 1956 annual meeting. The Board of Directors considered this matter at its January meeting, and voted to submit the following proposed amendment to Article II, Section 1:

After the words "the purpose of the Society shall be to stimulate interest in and to promote the study of birds of Wisconsin," add the following words: "towards a better understanding of their biology and the basis of their preservation."

This proposal will be acted upon at the annual business meeting of the Society in Beloit, Wisconsin, on May 5, 1956.

Two additions to the by-laws will also be proposed at the same annual business meeting. One would create a new classification of membership—a "husband-and-wife membership"—whereby both husband and wife might be members of the Society but receive only one copy of **The Passenger Pigeon**, the cost of such membership being \$3.00. A second proposed change would enlarge the Board of Directors by three by adding the chairmen of the committees on conservation, research and publicity (the latter post being created by dividing the work of the present Education and Publicity Committee).

GREAT BLUE HERON NESTING STUDY

By ROBERT J. WILLIAMS

This subject, sponsored in part by the W.S.O. Research Committee, is a nesting census of the great blue heron in Wisconsin. The primary objective is to locate and count all the breeding herons. Most of these will be in colonies, but some have been known to nest separately. In addition there are apparently large numbers of non-nesting herons, but since no adequate means have been developed to count these, they will be excluded from the scope of this inquiry.

It is evident that the cooperation of many observers is needed to make this study successful. Later on a questionnaire will be sent out to all Wisconsin observers. For the present, I want to alert you to watch for and make notations on the following points:

Size and Location of Colony. Exact location should be noted. A specific count of active nests is desirable; not all nests in a given colony are necessarily active, for some will have fallen or been torn apart with the sticks used to repair other nests (sticks are sometimes stolen from one active nest to repair another). Is it a new colony, or has it been used in previous years? Do you know the location of colonies no longer in use?

Significant Dates. Notice arrival dates, not only of the first bird, but also of the large mass of birds. Note the date of departure. Other dates of interest are brooding and hatching times. Brooding is quite accurately indicated by birds sitting on their nests rather than standing above them. After the young have hatched, they are quite easily heard. The date when young start to fledge is also valuable, and it is hoped to be able to do a comparative study over the range of the state. They will probably start to fledge about the first of August.

Each piece of information—small or large—will make a significant contribution to this study. My function will be largely one of collection and coordination of data. Good birding!

1921 Kendall Avenue
Madison 5, Wisconsin

MORE NEWS . . .

Excellent opportunity, including financial aid, for field studies in ornithology during the summer of 1956 is provided at the University of Michigan Biological Station. An introductory course, an advanced course and graduate student research, under the direction of Dr. Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr., and facilities for independent research by mature ornitholo-

gists, will be offered. Courses and similar research opportunities in various other aspects of field biology will also be offered under the leadership of distinguished faculty members. Through the generosity of the National Science Foundation, financial aid will be available to about twenty applicants, irrespective of field of interest. For further information, address Biological Station, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

By The Wayside . . .

Edited by **BILL FOSTER**



NESTING SITE OF BLUE-GRAY GNAT-CATCHER IN OCONTO COUNTY, 22 FEET UP IN JACK PINE AT RIGHT.

PHOTO BY CARL RICHTER

Gnatcatcher Nest In Oconto County. On July 11, 1953, I found the nest of the blue-gray gnatcatcher in the Township of Oconto, Oconto County. The nest was 22 feet up in a jack pine tree, in an area of mixed scrub oak and jack pine. The nest contained four young birds. Later, when the chicks had left the nest, I took it. I did not check too well in 1954, but I found them here again in 1955. The male was catching insects in the same tree which held the nest in 1953, but I did not find the nest. I heard the birds on various trips through the territory after that. So this species has extended pretty well to the north in Wisconsin from its former range.—Carl Richter, Oconto.

Observations on Behavior of Evening Grosbeaks. We have had evening grosbeaks in our area in ever increasing numbers throughout the last ten years. I can remember when seeing them here was rare—something to tell about. Now they come in early October and stay until late April. Perhaps the large number of families in our valley having feeders would account for it. We know that over a ton of sunflower seed was fed each winter the last couple of years because the seed was purchased in bulk through the nature study club and sold in small amounts; 50 to 100 lbs. to a family.

My experience is that the evening grosbeak is a very "flighty" bird—easily frightened from the feeder and he flies so wildly he hits the house and tennis court fence. The large number of casualties among them in my yard has been most distressing. A year ago last winter during their stay here, I found ten dead in an area of about fifty square feet between the feeder and the house. I thought the color of the house (blue-gray—the color of the winter sky) was contributing to their death toll so since the house needed paint anyway we kept the color problem in mind and painted it a pinkish tan. While there have been fewer casualties there have been four or five. Perhaps a change in the location of the feeder will help but I do want it to be where I can watch it from my kitchen window. I wonder if others have had a similar problem. We have no picture windows but we do have corner windows, which might be one factor. Other birds don't hit the house except very rarely.—Mrs. J. A. Riegel, St. Croix Falls.

Western Tanager at Madison. On the morning of May 8, 1955, which was clear, cool, and sunny, I was in Forest Hills Cemetery, Madison. While scanning the trees, which were well leaved out, I spotted a male western tanager near the top of an oak tree. As I am well acquainted with this bird, having seen it a number of times in the western United States and Canada, I recognized it immediately. It was not singing, but I had an excellent view of it before it disappeared in the foliage of some nearby trees. I spent some time trying to find it again but was unsuccessful.—Roy Lound, Madison.

(Ed.: On May 12, Mrs. Janet Ela also reported a western tanager from Forest Hill Cemetery. Mrs. Ela, a thoroughly competent observer, knew the bird at once since she, too, was familiar with it from the West. Her observation was made without knowledge of Mr. Lound's previous report.)

Blue Jays Enjoy a Daily Treat of Peanuts. Every morning before leaving for work I always put out a handful of peanuts for the blue jays. I have been doing this all summer. Many times I can hear the jays calling for something to eat before I get out to feed them. On Sunday they are especially puzzled as I do not feed them quite so early in the morning.

The peanuts are kept inside the garage and one of the blue jays has learned to associate the opening of the garage doors with feeding peanuts. As soon as this particular jay hears the squeak of the garage doors he gets excited and starts to call and flies over to a tree close to the garage. Here he patiently waits for me to appear with the peanuts. As soon as I put the nuts down I can hardly step back before he dashes down and grabs some.—Edwin Cleary, De Pere.



FIELD NOTES

By BILL FOSTER

Late Spring and Summer Season

May Through August 15, 1955

Three species share top honors for the late spring and summer period. The first, the western tanager found at Madison, belongs to the spring migration; and the other two, the white pelican that spent the summer on Horicon Marsh and the yellow-crowned night heron which nested successfully in Racine County, both belong to the summer.

Roy Lound, who found the Western tanager on May 8, describes his observation in "By the Wayside" in this issue. (Note that Mrs. Janet Ela reported the species from the same cemetery four days later without knowing of Mr. Lound's earlier observation.) Kumlien and Hollister's **Birds of Wisconsin** refers to the "Louisiana tanager" (the same species) and remarks that Thure Kumlien found a nest of this western bird in Jefferson County in 1877 and that male birds were collected in the same neighborhood in 1878 and again in 1891. (See Dr. A. W. Schorger's 1951 revision of the Kumlien and Hollister book, p. 91.)

In many ways the white pelican which R. Labisky found on June 14 just north of the Federal Dike Road on Horicon Marsh was the biggest treat of the season. Hundreds of persons saw it in that area and it remained there well into September.

Judge J. Allan Simpson describes on page 152 the discovery of the first Wisconsin nest of the yellow-crowned night heron which he and his party found in Racine County on June 27. The nesting site—a dry, overgrazed woodlot—was a pointed reminder that not all herons nest alongside water or above damp ground. Probably closer scrutiny of similar woodlots in areas where yellow-crowned night herons have been seen in recent years will produce further nesting locations in Wisconsin, though we may all regret that there seem to be far more overgrazed woodlots than night herons in the state.

The Late Spring Migration

What was left of the spring migration after May first was generally regarded as disappointing.

Apart from the shorebirds and terns, birds associated with water have more or less completed their migratory movements in Wisconsin by late April and unusual May records come primarily from stragglers. Ex-

amples this year were: red-throated loons which lingered on Lakes Michigan and Superior; an eared grebe in breeding plumage on Horicon Marsh, May 14; a western grebe in Lake Michigan (Ozaukee County) on May 14; two whistling swans on May 12 in Bayfield County; a white-fronted goose which lingered in a pen of Canada geese at Horicon until May 16; a male European widgeon in Columbia County until May 8, and in Adams County on May 15; two old-squaws in Lake Michigan (Ozaukee County) on May 7.

The spring shorebird flight for the three years from 1953 through 1955 has produced most of its headlines around a few ponds on the Arlington prairie in northern Dane and southern Columbia Counties. Goose Pond in Columbia County has been the most important of these. The 1955 flight was the poorest of the three years, at least in terms of numbers, and while one or more observers reported nearly all the species which have been seen on the Arlington prairie in previous springs, there was a tendency for the birds to move through quickly and from hour to hour in a given day the population changed radically as flocks moved in and out. The Western sandpiper was the only rare species reported more frequently in 1955 than in the two previous years. And it should also be noted that Dr. Charles Kemper turned in some quite interesting shorebird records from Chippewa County, including both the white-rumped and Western sandpipers.

The principal participants in the late spring migration, however, are birds not primarily associated with water. From the arrival dates at hand of these land birds, few correlations with the weather patterns of May are apparent. April ended with a week of warming, relatively clear weather. That weather pattern terminated in a storm system which reached south central Wisconsin late in the day of May 1, and the only real migration "wave" of the month occurred May 2-4. This was followed by almost three weeks of weather predominantly clear, warm and dry. It broke around the 23rd and this produced a slight build-up in the number of individual birds present, but this would not have been referred to as a "wave" in most other springs.

This relatively uniform weather pattern was paralleled by the apparent absence of birds in any real numbers. Foliage thickened rapidly. The warm, clear weather halted song early in the day. Birds trickled through singly rather than in flocks, and nothing stopped northward movement sufficiently to build up concentrations. The rapid turnover of shorebird flocks on the ponds of the Arlington prairie has already been noted—you get a willet for your annual list if you chanced to be at the pond during the twenty minutes it paused to rest and feed. And this dispersive character of the migration—of land birds proceeding singly on a broad front—probably accounts for the fact that many species were seen in north or central Wisconsin before they were reported by a majority of observers in the southern counties.

All regular species of flycatchers, thrushes and vireos put in an appearance. Thirty-five species of warblers were reported during the spring—only the rare worm-eating, yellow-throated (sycamore), and the hybrid Lawrence's warblers were missing. But so far as known, no single ob-

server saw all of them in that period—and a lot of work was necessary to have picked up 30 warblers during the spring.

All told, most observers would have preferred a migration that moved less smoothly, with more lingering birds and larger concentrations.

The Summer

Probably the most unexpected summer "resident" in Wisconsin was the snowy owl at Racine which forgot to go home to the tundra and spent most of the summer along the waterfront. Among the other species reported during the summer without evidence of nesting were the adult little blue herons seen on Horicon Marsh, June 7 and 14; the ruddy turnstones on Lake Winnebago much of the summer; the short-eared owl in Waukesha County on June 13; the winter wren singing in Wyalusing State Park in s. w. Wisconsin on June 17; the Carolina wren in Douglas County on August 1; the hybrid Brewster's warbler that spent much of May and June in Adams County; and the appearance again this year of a male hooded warbler that sings in the Arboretum at Madison for a few days in late May or June, then disappears.

Much of the most interesting nesting information came from Norman Stone whose reports from Crex Meadows in Burnett County furnish the bulk of the duck nesting material that is reported here. And from Horicon came the encouraging report that the second egret rookery (established in 1954) trebled in size in 1955—and that "a number" of Wilson's phalaropes nested on the Marsh this year. (Harold Mathiak captured a flightless young phalarope there in 1954, establishing the species as a breeding bird on the Marsh at that time.)

Early Fall Migration

The month of July generally produces the first evidence in Wisconsin of bird movements that occur after nesting is finished. Usually this is evidenced by a northward push of herons that have nested south of us, and of a return southward of shorebirds.

July was simply a horribly month for most of Wisconsin: the heat was awful and precipitation was far below normal. Rains at the close of the month brought inches of water down in minutes in some areas and did drop the temperatures to normal or below in the first days of August, but by the 10th of August the mercury began another upward march that carried it to oppressive peaks by the 15th.

Some shorebirds did return in July and white herons did put in an appearance in the southern counties toward the end of the month. But Sam Robbins—whose enthusiasm is apparently impervious to all extremes of weather—was almost the only bird watcher out looking for them. Sam went north for a week or so in late July and early August and there turned up the first evidences of fall movements of land birds (see his July and August dates for many warblers, and for the red cross-bill at Ashland on August 1).

Perhaps other unusual early fall migrants turned up in July and early August. If so, they were missed by the rest of Wisconsin's bird

watchers, who were completely occupied with cursing the heat while it lasted, and trying to recover from its effects after it broke.

Here are the highlights of the late spring and summer period:

LOON: The only evidence of nesting came from Burnett County, where Norman Stone reported two young birds on June 28. Other observations during the period came from these counties: Polk on May 22 (Mrs. L. M. Pedersen); Sheboygan on May 22 (Dick Wills); Bayfield on May 29 and July 6 (Roy Lound); Lincoln on June 16 (Robert Schlising); and Sawyer on July 29 (Sam Robbins).

RED-THROATED LOON: Rather a surprising number of lingering birds: Tom Soulen reported three in Lake Michigan (Ozaukee County) on May 7; Sam Robbins found two in the Lake off Sheboygan County on May 14; and Roy Lound observed eight birds in Lake Superior off Bayfield County on May 29.

HORNED GREBE: Mrs. R. A. Walker reported a late bird from Dane County on May 3.

EARED GREBE: An adult in breeding plumage was reported by Sam Robbins from Horicon Marsh on May 14.

WESTERN GREBE: Tom Soulen found a single bird May 14 in Lake Michigan off Ozaukee County.

WHITE PELICAN: On June 14 R. Labisky found the lone white pelican which remained until mid-September in the area north of the Federal Dike Road on Horicon Marsh. See 1955 **Passenger Pigeon** 117.

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT: Norman Stone reported twelve nests on Crex Meadows, Burnett County, June 23. And the species is now established as a breeding bird on Horicon Marsh. A few summered there in 1953; three nests were found in 1954; and on July 4, 1955, Lloyd Gunther and R. W. Poulter found eleven nests containing young and three nests apparently vacated shortly before their discovery. The species also nests along the Wisconsin River in Adams County (Sam Robbins); and Roy Lound observed it in Grant County June 4.

AMERICAN EGRET: The modern nesting of the American egret on Horicon Marsh dates from 1943. In 1954 the egret, along with great blue herons and black-crowned night herons, established a second rookery totaling 25 nests. This new rookery expanded to 75 nests in 1955 (Dick Hunt). Away from the Horicon nesting area, egret observations were reported from the following counties: Adams on May 15 (Sam Robbins); Rock on May 17 (Les Neustadter); Dane on July 20 (Bill Foster); Manitowoc on July 26 (John Kraupa); and La Crosse on Aug. 6 (Alvin M. Peterson).

LITTLE BLUE HERON: A single adult bird was observed on Horicon Marsh by Dick Hunt on June 7 and by R. Labisky on June 14. Sam Robbins found a young white bird on Horicon July 18; N. R. Barger found one in southern Dodge County on Aug. 7; and Tom Soulen reported 14 young white birds from Horicon Aug. 13.

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON: This species was first reported from Wisconsin May 15, 1941, by Mrs. Phelps Wyman. Sight records in recent years have been numerous in the area running from

southeast Wisconsin north and west to Horicon Marsh. On June 27, 1955, Judge J. Allan Simpson and party added it to the list of species known to nest in Wisconsin by finding a nest with four young in an over-grazed woodlot near the s. w. corner of Racine County (see page 152). A Minnesota nesting record was established July 2, 1955, when Brother Theodore found a nest in Winona County, Minn., near the Wisconsin line (see 1955 Audubon Field Notes 379).

LEAST BITTERN: The earliest reports were on May 15 from Adams County (Sam Robbins) and Dane County (Bill Foster). Also reported from these counties: Milwaukee on May 28 (Mary Donald); Sawyer on June 28 (Karl Kahmann); La Crosse on July 4 (Alvin M. Peterson); Burnett on July 7 (Norman Stone); and Dodge on Aug. 7 (N. R. Barger).

WHISTLING SWAN: David Bratley reported two birds lingering in Bayfield County on May 12.

WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE: A single bird joined the Canada geese in a pen maintained by the Wisconsin Conservation Department at Horicon on April 30 and the bird remained there until May 16 (Dick Hunt).

EUROPEAN WIDGEON: The male (and possibly a female) first reported from Goose Pond, Columbia County, by Bill Foster on April 30 remained there till May 8 (see 1955 Passenger Pigeon 126). And Sam Robbins found an adult male in Adams County on May 15.

GREEN-WINGED TEAL: Twelve young were reported from Crex Meadows, Burnett County, by Norman Stone on June 28.

BLUE-WINGED TEAL: Norman Stone reported a nest with 14 eggs from Crex Meadows, Burnett County, on May 17.

WOOD DUCK: Eugene Roark noted separate family groups in Dane County on July 18 and 30. And N. R. Barger reported adults and young from southern Dodge County on Aug. 7.

RING-NECKED DUCK: Norman Stone reported 11 young birds from Burnett County on Aug. 4.

OLD-SQUAW: Two loitering birds were reported from Lake Michigan (Ozaukee County) by Tom Soulen on May 7.

HOODED Merganser: Miss Margarette Morse reported a female and six young from Vernon County on May 29; and Norman Stone reported six young from Burnett County, June 28.

TURKEY VULTURE: Reported from these counties: Vernon on May 29 (Margarette Morse); Grant on June 6 (Roy Lound); Waukesha, nine birds on June 15 (Paul and Emma Hoffmann); Burnett on June 21 (Norman Stone); and Sawyer on July 29 (Sam Robbins).

COOPER'S HAWK: A pair raised at least one young bird within fifty feet of the successful nest of the yellow-crowned night heron in Racine County.

BROAD-WINGED HAWK: Only two reports were received for the entire period: two birds in Sheboygan County on May 7 (Tom Soulen); and a single bird in Ashland County on July 31 (Sam Robbins).

BALD EAGLE: Reported intermittently throughout the period in Adams County (Sam Robbins). Other reports: Vilas County on May 20 (Fred I. Babcock); Forest County on July 7 (Roy Lound); and Sauk County on July 24 (Roy Lound).

OSPREY: The only reports of this harassed species: Adams County on May 4 and July 18 (Sam Robbins); Bayfield County on May 10 (David Bratley); Sheboygan County on May 29 (Tom Soulen); and Oconto County on July 3 (the L. E. Comptons).

DUCK HAWK: A single bird was seen pursuing (unsuccessfully) a group of black terns at Goose Pond, Columbia County, on May 15 (Bill Foster). Roy Lound reported two birds from Bayfield County on May 29; and observers from the Wisconsin Audubon Camp reported the species from Douglas County on Aug. 11.

PIGEON HAWK: Mary Donald reported one from Milwaukee County on May 2.

SHARP-TAILED GROUSE: Three young were observed in Burnett County on July 17 by Norman Stone.

SANDHILL CRANE: Again observed in the Jefferson County area about midway between Milwaukee and Madison, where Paul Kennedy reported it June 14. (For details on reaching the area, see **1953 Passenger Pigeon 173**). Also reported from the following counties: Adams, all summer (Sam Robbins); Marquette, 32 birds on May 17 (Norbert Damaske); Portage on May 28 (Truman Stone); Jackson on June 21 (Stanley DeBoer); and Winnebago, two birds on July 6 (Frank King). The observations of Messrs. Damaske, DeBoer and Stone were reported by N. R. Barger of the Wisconsin Conservation Department.

KING RAIL: Tom Soulen reported four young from Horicon Marsh on July 23; and Harold Mathiak found young birds "numerous" along the Main Ditch at Horicon during the latter part of July.

SEMIPALMATED PLOVER: Spring dates: Columbia County on May 6 (Bill Foster); Waukesha County on May 10 (L. E. Compton); Bayfield County May 12 (David Bratley); on May 15, Adams (Sam Robbins), Chippewa, (Charles Kemper) and Milwaukee (Mary Donald); Brown County on May 21 (Edwin Cleary). The last spring date was May 26 in Chippewa County (Charles Kemper). Fall dates: Racine County, July 14 (Tom Soulen) and Adams County, July 18 (Sam Robbins).

GOLDEN PLOVER: Last reported from Columbia County on May 8 (Bill Foster); from Sheboygan County on May 14 (Sam Robbins); and from Chippewa County on May 18 (Charles Kemper).

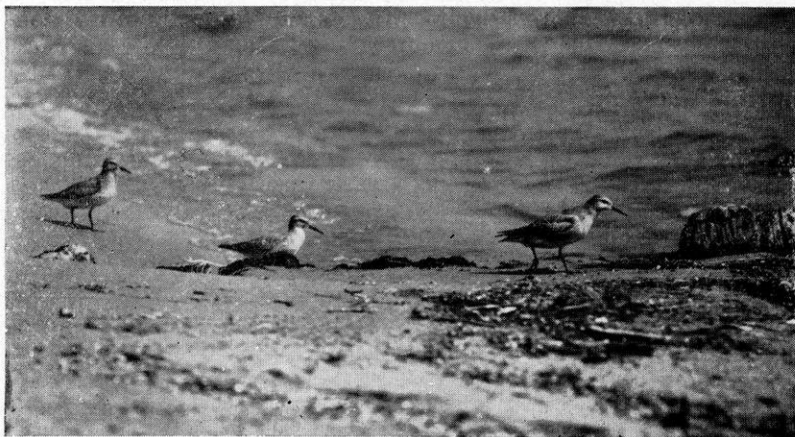
BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER: Spring dates from these counties: Columbia on May 14 (Tom Soulen); Adams on May 15 (Sam Robbins); Sheboygan on May 15 (Harold Koopmann); Dane on May 17 (John Wilde); Milwaukee on May 17 (Mary Donald); and Brown on May 21 (Edwin Cleary). Last spring date was June 4 from Adams County (Sam Robbins). Returning fall birds were noted in Douglas County Aug. 12 by observers from the Wisconsin Audubon Camp.

RUDDY TURNSTONE: Spring reports from these counties: Columbia on May 14 (Dick Bond); Manitowoc on May 15 (John Kraupa); Winnebago on May 17 (Mrs. W. E. Rogers) and several birds summered on an island in Lake Winnebago (Jack Kaspar); Brown on May 21 (Edwin Cleary); Adams on May 24 (Sam Robbins); and Dane on May 24 (Bill Foster).

UPLAND PLOVER: Four young were observed in Burnett County on June 22 by Norman Stone, and the species was observed in numerous counties during the spring and summer months.

WILLET: Spring reports from these counties: Manitowoc on May 7 (John Kraupa); Dane on May 11 (Mrs. R. A. Walker); Bayfield on May 14 (David Bratley); Sheboygan on May 15 (Harold Koopmann) and again on May 29 (Tom Soulen). Peggy Brooks Hickey noted two returning birds on Horicon Marsh August 11.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER: There were a few April dates (see 1955 *Passenger Pigeon* 127), but by May 1 the species was distributed over the state as far north as Bayfield County (David Bratley).



KNOTS FEEDING ALONG LAKE SHORE

PHOTO BY EARL LOYSTER

SOLITARY SANDPIPER: The first report came from Sam Robbins in Adams County on May 2; and by May 15 it appeared to have overspread the state. The first returning birds were noted in Adams County July 11 (Sam Robbins) and Bayfield County on July 23 (David Bratley).

GREATER YELLOW-LEGS: Last spring date came from Harold Liebherr in Rock County on May 23; and returning birds were noted in Chippewa County as early as July 12 (Charles Kemper).

LESSER YELLOW-LEGS: Dr. Charles Kemper of Chippewa County turned in the last spring, and first fall, records: May 21 and July 2.

KNOT: Sam Robbins reported a flock of 12 in Douglas County on Aug. 1.

PECTORAL SANDPIPER: Last spring report came from Columbia County on May 27 (Bill Foster). Returning birds were noted July 23 in Adams County (Sam Robbins) and Chippewa County (Charles Kemper).

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER: The only reports were spring dates from these counties: Dane on May 11-12 (Mrs. R. A. Walker); Columbia between May 15-27 (Bill Foster); Chippewa between May 17-20 (Charles Kemper); Milwaukee on May 24 (Mary Donald); and Sheboygan on May 29 (Tom Soulen).

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER: Two reported by Sam Robbins in Adams County on July 23; and one from Horicon Marsh on Aug. 14 (Mrs. R. A. Walker).

LEAST SANDPIPER: First arrivals were reported from Milwaukee County on May 3 (Mary Donald); Adams County on May 7 (Sam Robbins); and Dane County on May 11 (Mrs. R. A. Walker). The latest spring date came from Sam Robbins in Adams County on June 4. Returning birds were noted July 23 in Winnebago County (Mrs. Walter Rogers) and in Chippewa County (Charles Kemper).

RED-BACKED SANDPIPER: A widespread and common spring migrant, first reported from Milwaukee County on May 8 by Mary Donald, in Bayfield County on May 12 (David Bratley) and was reported from most parts of the state by May 15. Mrs. R. A. Walker found them still present in Dane County June 6, and a bird in adult plumage with an injured eye was present June 25-26 in Chippewa County where it was photographed by Dr. Charles Kemper.

DOWITCHER: Spring reports came from these counties: Columbia on May 7 (Bill Foster); Sheboygan on May 15 (Harold Koopmann); and Chippewa on May 19 (Charles Kemper). Returning birds were noted in Adams County on July 12 (Sam Robbins); Racine County on July 14 (Tom Soulen); and Dodge County on July 18 (Sam Robbins).

STILT SANDPIPER: These fall reports were received: Ozaukee County on July 11 (Mary Donald); Racine County, bird still in spring plumage on July 14 (Tom Soulen); and Horicon Marsh on Aug. 8 (Sam Robbins).

SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER: Earliest reports came from Dane County on May 8 (Bill Foster); and Bayfield County on May 13 (David Batley). Loiterers were still in Adams County June 4 (Sam Robbins) and Columbia County on June 7 (Mrs. R. A. Walker). Returning birds were noted in Chippewa County July 2 (Charles Kemper) and Adams County on July 18 (Sam Robbins).

WESTERN SANDPIPER: A surprising number of detailed reports of this species was received: Chippewa County on May 17 (Charles Kemper); Columbia County on May 27 (Bill Foster); and Columbia again on June 7 (Mrs. R. A. Walker and others); Milwaukee County on July 29-30 (Karl Priebe and numerous others); Crex Meadows in Burnett County on Aug. 15 (representatives from Wisconsin Audubon Camp).

MARbled GODWIT: A single bird observed in Bayfield County on May 15 by Carol and Gordon Bly.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT: April dates appear at 1955 **Passenger Pigeon 127**. May reports were received from these counties: Dane on May 11 (Mrs. R. A. Walker); Columbia on May 14 (Tom Soulen) and again on May 23 (Paul Jones); and Manitowoc County on May 15 (Tom Soulen).

SANDERLING: These spring reports were received: Manitowoc County on May 15 through June 4 (John Kraupa); Brown County on May 21 (Edwin Cleary); Adams County on May 24 (Sam Robbins); and Bayfield County on May 29 (Roy Lound). Returning birds were noted in Adams County on July 18 (Sam Robbins).

WILSON'S PHALAROPE: April dates appear at 1955 **Passenger Pigeon 127**. By mid-May reports had also been received from these counties: Brown (Edwin Cleary); Chippewa (Charles Kemper); Columbia (many observers); Dodge (Sam Robbins); Fond du Lac (Sam Robbins); Manitowoc (John Kraupa) and Milwaukee (Mary Donald). Dick Hunt reported "a number of breeding pairs and nests" on Horicon Marsh.

NORTHERN PHALAROPE: Dane County produced the first reports on May 17-18 (Dr. Howard Winkler and Roy Lound); and a single bird was observed at Goose Pond in Columbia County on May 27 (Bill Foster).

BONAPARTE'S GULL: David Bratley reported 400 in Lake Superior (Bayfield County) on May 12. Reported from Lake Michigan (Sheboygan County) on May 15 by Harold Koopmann; and a lone bird was seen along the Wisconsin River in Adams County by Sam Robbins on July 23.

FORSTER'S TERN: The only reports came from these counties: Dane, May 1-28 (Bill Foster); Milwaukee on May 3 (Mary Donald); Adams, May 4-20 (Sam Robbins); and Dodge on May 14 (Sam Robbins).

COMMON TERN: April dates are reported at 1955 **Passenger Pigeon 128**. The first May report came from David Bratley in Bayfield County on May 13; and subsequent May reports came from these counties: Sheboygan on May 14 (Sam Robbins); Winnebago on May 15 (Mrs. Walter Rogers); Green Lake on May 21 (Sam Robbins); Chippewa on May 22 (Charles Kemper); and Dane on May 28 (Bill Foster). Also noted at Green Lake County in July.

CASPIAN TERN: See 1955 **Passenger Pigeon 128** for April date. Spring reports from these counties: Bayfield on May 10 (David Bratley); Brown County on May 21 (Edwin Cleary); Dane County on May 28 (Bill Foster); and Sheboygan County on May 29 (Tom Soulen). Sam Robbins reported it from Green Lake County on July 4 and from Adams County on July 23.

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO: The May 7 date reported by Tom Soulen from Sheboygan County and from the L. E. Comptons in Waukesha County is exceptionally early. The next date reported was May 19 from Alvin Peterson at La Crosse and the bulk of the dates occurred between this time and May 22.

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO: This more widespread and numerous cuckoo was first reported May 12 from Milwaukee County by Mary Donald. Sam Robbins found it in Fond du Lac County on May 14 and in Adams County on May 15. But most first arrival reports clustered around May 22.

BARN OWL: Mary Donald reported the bird to be nesting in Ozaukee County on May 19, and Tom Soulen found four young birds at that place on July 30.

SNOWY OWL: Ed Prins reported that one of these birds which invaded the Racine area during the winter of 1954-55 did not return to the tundra in spring and remained along the lakefront at Racine at least as late as mid July.

SHORT-EARED OWL: A single bird was seen hunting over Eagle Marsh, Waukesha County, on June 13 by the L. E. Comptons. A sur-

prising record of a species which in theory should be, but manifestly is not, a regular nester in this area.

NIGHTHAWK: First arrival reports formed a curious pattern. The following counties are listed in order of the return dates reported: La Crosse on May 5 (Alvin Peterson); Dane on May 6 (Jim Zimmerman) and Lincoln on May 6 (Robert Schlising); Adams on May 12 (Sam Robbins); Brown on May 14 (Edwin Cleary); Milwaukee (Mary Donald) and Rock (Harold Liebherr) on May 15; Chippewa (Charles Kemper) and Waukesha (E. W. Peartree) on May 18; Winnebago on May 20 (Mrs. W. Rogers); Marathon on May 21 (Mrs. Spencer Doty); Fond du Lac on May 22 (Rev. Henseler); Manitowoc on May 26 (John Kraupa); Sheboygan (Harold Koopmann) and Vilas (Fred I. Babock) on May 27; and Bayfield on May 29 (David Bratley).

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD: Counties are listed in order of first date reported: La Crosse (Alvin Peterson) and Waukesha (L. E. Compton) on May 7; Marathon on May 8 (Mrs. Spencer Doty); Bayfield (David Bratley) and Sheboygan (Sam Robbins) on May 14; Brown (Edwin Cleary), Dane (Bill Foster) and Winnebago (Mrs. Walter Rogers) on May 15.

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER: Sam Robbins noted that the species summered in Adams County. Other dates which might imply summering birds were: Bayfield on July 6 (Roy Lound); Marathon on July 19 (Mrs. Spencer Doty); and Douglas on Aug. 1 (Sam Robbins).

KINGBIRD: Reported from Rock (Harold Liebherr) and Winnebago (Mrs. Walter Rogers) Counties on May 1; from Vernon County (Margaret Morse) on May 3; and from Adams County on May 4 (Sam Robbins) but it was not until mid-May that the species seemed generally present over the state.

CRESTED FLYCATCHER: Almost the same pattern as the kingbird: E. W. Peartree found it May 1 in Waukesha County; Mary Donald found it May 3 in Milwaukee County; and on May 4 it turned up in Adams County (Sam Robbins) and La Crosse County (Alvin Peterson). But most dates clustered around May 14.

PHOEBE: Dr. Charles Kemper banded four young birds in Chippewa County on July 28, a rather late nesting.

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER: First reported from Sheboygan County on May 22 by Tom Soulen, who found 15 birds present there on May 29. Between May 22 and June 1 the species had also been reported from these counties: Adams on May 24 (Sam Robbins); Dane on May 25 (Jim Zimmerman); Milwaukee on May 27 (Mary Donald); and Fond du Lac on June 1 by Rev. George Henseler, who banded the bird.

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER: Dane County on May 22 (Bill Foster); Wyalusing Park, Grant County, on June 4 (Roy Lound). And Rev. George Henseler found a nest in Fond du Lac County on June 2.

ALDER FLYCATCHER: Reported from these counties: Dane on May 19 (Sam Robbins and Bill Foster); Adams on May 20 (Sam Robbins); Milwaukee on May 21 (Mary Donald); Chippewa on May 22 (Charles Kemper); Waukesha on May 29 (Mrs. Emma Hoffmann); and Brown County on June 1 (Edwin Cleary).

LEAST FLYCATCHER: Reported from Dane County on May 1 (Mrs. R. A. Walker); from Fond du Lac County on May 2 (Rev. George Henseler); and Adams County on May 4 (Sam Robbins). Most dates, however, cluster around May 14.

WOOD PEWEE: On May 15 it was reported from Brown County (Edwin Cleary) and from Dane County (Mrs. R. A. Walker); and on May 17 from Sheboygan County (Harold Koopmann). Between May 20-22 the species had completely overspread the state.

OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER: Reported from Milwaukee County on May 19 (Mary Donald); Adams County, on May 20 and 27 (Sam Robbins); Dane County on May 28 (Bill Foster); Brown County on June 3 (Edwin Cleary); and Chippewa County on June 13 (Charles Kemper). At the close of July and in early August Sam Robbins reported the species from four northern counties: Burnett, Douglas, Sawyer and Taylor. Al Eynon reported an early migrant from Dane County on Aug. 9.

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH: There were May records from these counties: Dane on May 2 (Jim Zimmerman); Winnebago on May 13 (Mrs. Walter Rogers); Barron on May 20 (John Butler); and Bayfield on May 29 (Roy Lound). Sam Robbins may have seen transients rather than summer residents when he reported the species in Sawyer County on July 29, Bayfield County on July 31, and Douglas County on Aug. 1.

WINTER WREN: Chandler Robbins found a singing bird at Wyalusing State Park in Grant County on June 17, a quite unusual record. Sam Robbins found the species present again through the summer in Adams County. Both these records are well south of the northerly counties in which the bird may be found regularly during summer months.

BEWICK'S WREN: Summering birds were reported from Adams County (Sam Robbins) and Dane County (Bill Foster).

CAROLINA WREN: Two unusual records. Rev. George Henseler reported a successful nesting of the species on the grounds of St. Lawrence Seminary in Fond du Lac County; and Sam Robbins saw and heard a scolding bird near Superior, Douglas County, on Aug. 1. The Douglas County record is probably the northernmost report of the species in the state.

LONG-BILLED MARSH WREN: Reported from these counties: Milwaukee on April 29 (Mrs. A. P. Balsom); Adams on May 4 (Sam Robbins); Dane on May 7 (Mrs. R. A. Walker); and Waukesha on May 8 (E. W. Peartree).

SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN: The earliest records came from Adams County on April 29 (Paul Jones and Sam Robbins); Marathon County on May 1 (Bill Foster) and Manitowoc County on May 4 (John Kraupa). The next records were on May 15 or later.

MOCKINGBIRD: A single bird was watched in Fond du Lac County on May 2 by Rev. George Henseler, who reported that others had seen the bird in the same place during the two weeks prior to his observation.

CATBIRD: It took this conspicuous species about ten days to overspread the state in numbers. On April 30 it was reported from Dane (Bill Foster), Lafayette (Lola Welch and Ethel Olson), and Sheboygan

(Harold Koopmann) counties; on May 1 from Winnebago (Mrs. Walter Rogers); May 2 from Rock (Harold Liebherr) and Waukesha (E. W. Peartree) counties; May 3 from Milwaukee (Mary Donald) and Vernon (Margarette Morse) counties; May 4 from Adams (Sam Robbins). By May 8 it was reported from Manitowoc (John Kraupa) and Marathon (Mrs. Spencer Doty) counties; and was as far north as Bayfield County on May 9 (David Bratley).

WOOD THRUSH: Reports came from these counties: Brown on April 29 (Ed Paulson); Adams on May 4 (Sam Robbins); Milwaukee on May 6 (Mary Donald); Dane on May 7 (Bill Foster); Fond du Lac on May 8 (Rev. Henseler); La Crosse on May 10 (Alvin Peterson); Waukesha on May 13 (E. W. Peartree); and Winnebago on May 15 (Mrs. Walter Rogers).

HERMIT THRUSH: Rev. Henseler noted a lingering transient in Fond du Lac County on May 6; and during the summer period the species was noted in Sawyer County on July 4 (Roy Lound) and again July 29 (Sam Robbins).

OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH: Arrival dates are a hodge-podge. Jim Zimmerman found it at Madison in Dane County on April 29 and Mrs. Walter Rogers reported it from Winnebago County on May 4, by which time it had also been reported from Rock County (Harold Liebherr) and Fond du Lac (Rev. Henseler). But Sam Robbins did not find it in Adams County till May 19; and from the northerly counties Fred Baccok first reported it from Vilas County on June 1 and David Bratley from Bayfield County on June 4.

GRAY CHEEKED THRUSH: Another hodge-podge of dates. Reported from these counties: Winnebago on May 4 (Mrs. Walter Rogers); Dane on May 6 (Mrs. R. A. Walker); Milwaukee on May 7 (Mary Donald); Fond du Lac on May 8 (Rev. Henseler); Bayfield on May 13 (David Bratley); Adams on May 19-22 (Sam Robbins); and Vernon on May 23 (Margarette Morse).

VEERY: The earliest reports came from these counties: Adams on May 4 (Sam Robbins); Milwaukee on May 5 (Mary Donald); Fond du Lac on May 6 (Rev. Henseler); Dane on May 7 (Jim Zimmerman); Polk on May 16 (Mrs. L. M. Pedersen); Sheboygan on May 22 (Harold Koopmann); and Manitowoc on May 23 (John Kraupa).

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER: Some interesting records of this species which reaches the northern limits of its range in Wisconsin. First arrivals: Dane County on April 28 (Bill Foster); Adams (Sam Robbins) and Milwaukee (Mary Donald) counties on May 3; and Barron County on May 6 (John Butler). The species summered again in Oconto County (see Carl Richter's note in "By the Wayside") and Tom Soulen observed young being fed in Fond du Lac County in late June.

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET: These late departures were noted: Bayfield County on May 4 (David Bratley); Fond du Lac County on May 6 (Rev. Henseler); Dane County on May 10 (Jim Zimmerman); and Winnebago County on May 15 (Mrs. Walter Rogers).

PIBIT: Reported from these counties: Columbia on April 29 (Tom Soulen); Adams on May 2-12 (Sam Robbins); Sheboygan on May 6 (Har-

old Koopmann); Waukesha on May 10 (the L. E. Comptons); and Dane on May 15 (Bill Foster).

BELL'S VIREO: Alvin Peterson reported it in La Crosse County on May 14; and summering birds were reported during June from Dane and Iowa counties by numerous observers.

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO: Reported from these counties: La Crosse on May 1 (Alvin Peterson); Dane on May 2 (Mrs. R. A. Walker); Adams on May 3 (Sam Robbins); Chippewa on May 8 (Charles Kemper); Milwaukee (Mary Donald) and Vilas (Fred Babcock) on May 17.

BLUE-HEADED VIREO: First reports from Dane County on May 2 (Mrs. R. A. Walker); Adams County on May 3 (Sam Robbins); Fond du Lac, May 6-8 (Rev. Henseler); Vilas County May 17 (Fred Babcock); and Bayfield County on May 19 (David Bratley). Sam Robbins found it in Sawyer County on July 30.

RED-EYED VIREO: Earliest reports were: Fond du Lac County on May 10 (Rev. Henseler); Chippewa (Charles Kemper) and La Crosse (Alvin Peterson) counties on May 11; Adams County on May 12 (Sam Robbins); Vilas County on May 14 (Fred Babcock). Many counties did not report the species until after May 15, however.

PHILADELPHIA VIREO: The following counties reported the species: Dane, May 7 and 22 (Bill Foster); Milwaukee on May 20 (Mary Donald); Brown on May 22 (Edwin Cleary); and Fond du Lac on May 30 (Rev. Henseler).

WARBLING VIREO: Reported from the following counties on May 2: Dane (Mrs. R. A. Walker); La Crosse (Alvin Peterson); Milwaukee (Mary Donald); and Vernon (Margarette Morse). By May 6 it had been reported from several other counties as far north as Marathon (Mrs. Spencer Doty); and by May 13 was reported from Bayfield County (David Bratley).

BLACK AND WHITE WARBLER: Not numerous, apparently. On May 2 it was reported from Adams (Sam Robbins), Dane (Mrs. R. A. Walker), Milwaukee (Mary Donald) and Waukesha (Mrs. L. E. Compton) counties. By May 8 it had also been observed in Brown (Edwin Cleary), Manitowoc (John Kraupa) and Marathon (Mrs. Spencer Doty) counties; and David Bratley found it in Bayfield County on May 18. Sam Robbins found it in Green Lake County on May 21, and at the end of July and in early August found it in Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas and Sawyer counties.

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER: On May 15 it was reported from Dane County (John Emlen) and Rock County (Harold Liebherr); from Adams County on May 24 (Sam Robbins); from Vernon County on May 29 (Margarette Morse); and Roy Lound found it common at Wyalusing State Park in Grant County on June 4.

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER: First county reports: May 2 in Dane (Jim Zimmerman and Bill Foster) and Adams (Sam Robbins); on May 7 from Milwaukee (Mary Donald); on May 8 from Fond du Lac (Rev. Henseler) and Waukesha (E. W. Peartree); and on May 15 in Winnebago County (Mrs. Walter Rogers). Summer reports came from these counties: Dane on June 16 and later (Dick Wills); Sawyer on July 4 (Roy Lound); and Douglas on Aug. 1 (Sam Robbins).

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER: These counties reported the species: Dane (Mrs. R. A. Walker) and Adams (Sam Robbins) on May 2; Vernon on May 4 (Margarette Morse); Rock on May 15 (Harold Liebherr); and Chippewa on May 22 (Charles Kemper).

BREWSTER'S WARBLER: Sam Robbins reported the same male bird in Adams County on the following dates: May 15, 24, 27; June 22, 23, 28.



NASHVILLE WARBLER AT NEST

PHOTO BY GORDON ORIAN

TENNESSEE WARBLER: Winnebago, May 1 (Mrs. Walter Rogers); Dane, May 2 (Mrs. R. A. Walker); Adams (Sam Robbins) and Fond du Lac (Rev. Henseler) on May 3; Milwaukee, May 7 (Mary Donald); Brown (Edwin Cleary) and Waukesha (E. W. Peartree) on May 8. There were a few other spring dates, with the last report coming May 29 from Bayfield County, Roy Lound. The birds reported on July 30 in Ashland County and on Aug. 1 in Douglas County by Sam Robbins were probably early transients.

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER: Dane on May 2 (Mrs. R. A. Walker); Adams (Sam Robbins) and Milwaukee (Mary Donald) on May 3; Bayfield on May 5 (David Bratley); Fond du Lac (Rev. Henseler) and Winnebago (Mrs. Glen Fisher) on May 16; and Chippewa on May 22 (Charles Kemper).

NASHVILLE WARBLER: Dane, April 30 (Bill Foster); Brown (Edwin Cleary) and Winnebago (Mrs. Walter Rogers), May 1; Adams (Sam Robbins) and Milwaukee (Mary Donald), May 2; Bayfield (David Bratley), May 5; and Chippewa (Charles Kemper), May 11. These sum-

mer reports were received: Sawyer County on July 4 (Roy Lound); Bayfield on July 31, Douglas on Aug. 1, and Burnett on Aug. 2 (Sam Robbins).

PARULA WARBLER: Dane on May 2 (Bill Foster and Mrs. R. A. Walker); Adams, May 4-12 (Sam Robbins); Milwaukee on May 7 (Mary Donald); Bayfield on May 14 (David Bratley). The only later reports were from Brown County June 3 (Edwin Cleary) and Sawyer County on July 4 (Roy Lound).

YELLOW WARBLER: Milwaukee, April 29 (Mrs. A. P. Balsom); Columbia (Bill Foster) and Winnebago (Mrs. Walter Rogers) on May 1; Adams (Sam Robbins) and Rock (Harold Liebherr) on May 2; Dane (Jim Zimmerman) and Waukesha (Mrs. Emma Hoffmann) on May 3; Brown (Edwin Cleary) and La Crosse (Alvin Peterson) on May 4; Marathon (Mrs. Spencer Doty) on May 6; and Bayfield (David Bratley) on May 12.

MAGNOLIA WARBLER: The dates are spotty and few individuals were noted. Milwaukee (Mary Donald) on May 7; Dane (Bill Foster) on May 8; Winnebago (Mrs. Walter Rogers) on May 10; Adams (Sam Robbins) on May 12; Fond du Lac (Rev. Henseler) and La Crosse (Alvin Peterson) on May 16; Sheboygan (Harold Koopmann) on May 22; and Waukesha (Mrs. Emma Hoffmann) on May 25. The last date noted was May 30 in Fond du Lac County (Rev. Henseler).

CAPE MAY WARBLER: Adams (Sam Robbins) on May 3; Milwaukee (Mary Donald) on May 4; Dane (Bill Foster) and Fond du Lac (Rev. Henseler) on May 7; Waukesha (E. W. Peartree) on May 8; Manitowoc (John Kraupa) on May 12; Brown (Edwin Cleary) on May 15; Bayfield (David Bratley) and Winnebago (Mrs. Walter Rogers) on May 16. The latest spring date noted was May 22 in Waukesha County (Mrs. Emma Hoffmann); and David Bratley observed what was apparently a returning fall bird in Bayfield County on Aug. 8.

BLACK-TROATED BLUE WARBLER: These spring dates were reported: Dane County on May 17 (Mrs. R. A. Walker) and again May 22 (Bill Foster); Bayfield County on May 19 (David Bratley) and again May 29 (Roy Lound). During the summer it was noted in Sawyer County on July 16 by observers from the Wisconsin Audubon Camp; and in Douglas County on Aug. 1 by Sam Robbins.

MYRTLE WARBLER: Late departures were noted in Dane County on May 19 (Sam Robbins and Bill Foster); and in Fond du Lac County on May 20 (Rev. Henseler). Roy Lound's date of July 6 for Bayfield County suggests that the species summered there; and Sam Robbins reported the species on Aug. 1 in Douglas County.

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER: Winnebago County (Mrs. Walter Rogers) on May 1; Milwaukee (Mary Donald) on May 2; Adams (Sam Robbins) on May 3; Dane (Bill Foster and Jim Zimmerman) on May 4; Fond du Lac (Rev. Henseler) and Sheboygan (Harold Koopmann) on May 8; and Bayfield (David Bratley) on May 15. Norman Stone's observation in Burnett County on July 7 suggests a summering bird.

CERULEAN WARBLER: First arrivals reported were: Dane on May 14 (Mrs. R. A. Walker); Waukesha on May 15 (E. W. Peartree);

Milwaukee on May 16 (Mary Donald). Summering birds were observed in Grant County on June 4 (Roy Lound); La Crosse on June 19 (Alvin Peterson); and in Fond du Lac County (Tom Soulen).

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER: Dane (Jim Zimmerman) on May 2; Adams (Sam Robbins) and Milwaukee (Mary Donald) on May 3; Waukesha (E. W. Peartree) on May 10; Manitowoc (John Kraupa) on May 12; Bayfield (David Bratley) on May 15; and Winnebago (Mrs. Walter Rogers) on May 16. Late departures were noted in Adams County (Sam Robbins) on May 27 and in Dane (Jim Zimmerman) on May 26. Summers reports were: Sawyer on July 4 (Roy Lound); Langlade on July 17 (Alfred Bradford); and Douglas on Aug. 1 (Sam Robbins).

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER: Milwaukee (Mary Donald) on May 2; Adams (Sam Robbins) on May 3; Dane (Mrs. R. A. Walker) on May 6; Brown (Edwin Cleary), Waukesha (E. W. Peartree) and Winnebago (Mrs. Walter Rogers) on May 8; Fond du Lac (Rev. Henseler) and Manitowoc (John Kraupa) on May 12; Vilas (Fred Babcock) on May 14; Bayfield on May 15 (David Bratley). Late birds were noted in Vernon (Margarette Morse) on May 25; Dane (Jim Zimmerman) on May 26; and Adams (Sam Robbins) on June 4. Summer records were: Lincoln, June 14 and July 6 (Robert Schlising); Sawyer on July 4 (Roy Lound); Bayfield on July 6 (Roy Lound) and Douglas on Aug. 1 (Sam Robbins).

BAY-BREASTED WARBLER: Curious pattern of dates: Adams (Sam Robbins) on May 3; Dane (Bill Foster) on May 8; Fond du Lac (Rev. Henseler) and Winnebago (Mrs. Walter Rogers) on May 16; Milwaukee (Mary Donald) on May 17; Bayfield (David Bratley) on May 18; Waukesha (E. W. Peartree) on May 19; Green Lake (Sam Robbins) on May 21; Sheboygan (Harold Koopmann) on May 22; Vernon (Margarette Morse) on May 24; and Manitowoc (John Kraupa) on May 27. Sam Robbins noted the species in Douglas County on Aug. 1.

BLACK-POLL WARBLER: Not numerous, and the first Dane County reports are strikingly early: May 3 (Mrs. R. A. Walker) and May 8 (Bill Foster). Other dates were: Milwaukee (Mary Donald) on May 15; Fond du Lac (Rev. Henseler) on May 16; Waukesha (Mrs. Emma Hoffmann) on May 19; Adams (Sam Robbins) on May 20; Vernon (Margarette Morse) on May 28; and Bayfield (David Bratley) on May 29.

PRAIRIE WARBLER: Mary Donald reported one of these on May 6 in Milwaukee. The rarity of this bird in Wisconsin is puzzling in view of its abundance in portions of the lower peninsula of Michigan.

PALM WARBLER: Late departures were noted in Fond du Lac County on May 16 (Mrs. Walter Rogers) and Green Lake County on May 21 (Sam Robbins).

OVENBIRD: Dane (Mrs. R. A. Walker) on May 1; Adams (Sam Robbins) on May 2; Milwaukee (Mary Donald) on May 3; Rock (Harold Liebherr) on May 4; Brown (Edwin Cleary) and Chippewa (Charles Kemper) on May 8; La Crosse (Alvin Peterson) and Waukesha (E. W. Peartree) on May 10; Vilas (Fred Babcock) on May 14; and Manitowoc (John Kraupa) and Sheboygan (Harold Koopmann) on May 15. Summer reports came from Grant (Roy Lound) on June 4; Bayfield (Roy Lound) on July 6 and (Sam Robbins) on July 31.

NORTHERN WATER-THRUSH: Adams (Sam Robbins), Dane (Mrs. R. A. Walker) and Fond du Lac (Rev. Henseler) on May 2; La Crosse (Alvin Peterson) and Milwaukee (Mary Donald) on May 3; and Marathon (Mrs. Spencer Doty) on May 4. Summering birds were noted in Fond du Lac County (Tom Soulen) and in Marathon County (Mrs. Spencer Doty).

LOUISIANA WATER-THRUSH: Dick Wills found a nest with four eggs in Sauk County on June 14.

KENTUCKY WARBLER: Bill Foster noted a singing male on the University of Wisconsin campus at Madison on May 23. Sam Robbins and Bill Foster heard a singing individual in the Wisconsin River bottom lands June 25; and the Roy Lounds found the species common at Wyalusing on July 16 (Grant County).

CONNECTICUT WARBLER: Adams (Sam Robbins) on May 15; Barron (John Butler), Dane (Bill Foster), and Milwaukee (Mary Donald) on May 22; and Bayfield (Roy Lound) on May 29.

MOURNING WARBLER: Milwaukee (Mary Donald) on May 18; Adams (Sam Robbins) on May 20; Green Lake (Sam Robbins) on May 21; Dane (Jim Zimmerman) on May 24-5; and Bayfield (Roy Lound) on May 29. Summer reports: Dane (Jim Zimmerman) on June 12; Winnebago (Mrs. Glen Fisher) on June 14; Bayfield (Roy Lound) on July 6; Fond du Lac, all summer (Tom Soulen); and Sam Robbins found them late in July and early in August in Ashland, Burnett and Douglas Counties.

YELLOW-THROAT: The dates reflect a rather slow northward progression: Dane, May 2 (Mrs. R. A. Walker); La Crosse (Alvin Peterson) and Milwaukee (Mary Donald) on May 3; Adams (Sam Robbins) on May 4; Manitowoc (John Kraupa) and Winnebago (Mrs. Glen Fisher) on May 7; Fond du Lac (Rev. Henseler) and Waukesha (E. W. Peartree) on May 8; Chippewa (Charles Kemper) on May 12; Brown (Edwin Cleary) and Sheboygan (Harold Koopmann) on May 15; Lincoln (Robert Schlising) on May 19; and Bayfield (David Bratley) on May 22.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT: The only reports came from Dane County on June 25 (Bill Foster and Sam Robbins) and Pepin County on Aug. 3 (Sam Robbins).

HOODED WARBLER: Mary Donald and others reported a female from Ozaukee County on May 24, and at Madison a male was present and singing in the Arboretum June 5-7 (Bill Foster and others). (There is no evidence of nesting although the species has been found almost annually for five years in the same section of the Arboretum, appearing late in May or in early June and disappearing again a week or so after its arrival.)

WILSONS' WARBLER: Sam Robbins' report from Adams County on May 4 stands alone. The next reports came on May 15 from Dane (Mrs. R. A. Walker) and Winnebago (Mrs. Walter Rogers); and most observers did not report the species until May 22.

CANADA WARBLER: Mrs. Walter Rogers' date of May 10 from Winnebago County is early. Subsequent county reports were: Dane, May 16 (Mrs. R. A. Walker); Milwaukee, May 17 (Mary Donald); Adams, May 20 (Sam Robbins); Green Lake, May 21 (Sam Robbins); Lincoln

(Robert Schlising) and Waukesha (Mrs. L. E. Compton) on May 22; Vernon, May 24 (Margarette Morse); and Fond du Lac, May 25 (Rev. Henseler). Summer reports were: Sawyer, July 4 (Roy Lound); Lincoln, July 23 (Robert Schlising); and Bayfield, July 31 (Sam Robbins).

REDSTART: The return dates of this widespread and numerous species showed a rather intermittent character: Dane (Mrs. R. A. Walker), May 2; Manitowoc (John Kraupa), Milwaukee (Mary Donald) and Waukesha (Mrs. L. E. Compton) on May 7; Marathon (Mrs. Spencer Doty) on May 9; Adams (Sam Robbins) and La Crosse (Alvin Peterson) on May 11; Winnebago (Mrs. Walter Rogers) on May 12; Brown (Edwin Cleary), Rock (Harold Liebherr) and Sheboygan (Harold Koopmann) on May 15; Fond du Lac (Rev. Henseler) on May 18; Bayfield (David Bratley) on May 19; and Vernon (Margarette Morse) on May 21.

BOBOLINK: Mrs. R. A. Walker and Bill Foster found a lone male in Adams County May 1. The next observations did not come until May 7-8 when it was reported from these counties: Brown (Edwin Cleary); Chippewa (Charles Kemper); Manitowoc (John Kraupa); Milwaukee (Mary Donald); Polk (Mrs. L. M. Pedersen); Waukesha (E. W. Peartree); and Winnebago (Mrs. Glen Fisher).

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: Several observers remarked that the species seemed more numerous than usual in their areas, and reports of summering birds were received from these counties: Adams, Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Chippewa, Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Sawyer, Waukesha and Winnebago.

ORCHARD ORIOLE: The species appears to occur most often in the areas reasonably close to the Mississippi River along the western edge of the state, viz., Chippewa (Charles Kemper) on May 10; La Crosse on May 13 (Alvin Peterson); Barron (John Butler) on May 23; Vernon on May 29 (Margarette Morse); and Pepin on Aug. 3 (Sam Robbins). The other three reports came from counties bordering Lake Michigan on the eastern edge of the state: Manitowoc on May 15 (Tom Soulen); Brown on May 22 (Edwin Cleary) and Ozaukee on May 24 (Mary Donald).

BALTIMORE ORIOLE: The species overspread the southern two-thirds of the state rapidly. It was first reported April 30 from Lafayette County by Lola Welch and Ethel Olson, and by May 3 it had been reported by most observers from Marathon County south. North of this line it was reported from Bayfield County on May 12 by David Bratley and from Vilas County May 21 by Fred Babcock.

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD: The species summers over a substantial area of the state: Adams, Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Chippewa, Dane, Douglas, Fond du Lac, Marathon, Price, Sawyer and Washburn counties furnished reports.

WESTERN TANAGER: A male bird was observed in Forest Hill Cemetery, Madison, on May 8 by Roy Lound and on May 12 by Mrs. Janet Ela. Both furnished complete details of their observations, which they were able to make in a leisurely manner; and both are familiar with the species from the West. See "By the Wayside."

SCARLET TANAGER: Arrival dates were spotty: Adams (Sam Robbins) on May 3; Dane (Bill Foster) on May 4; Milwaukee (Mary Donald) on May 7; Waukesha (E. W. Peartree) on May 10; La Crosse (Alvin Peter-

son) on May 11; Manitowoc on May 12 (John Kraupa); Brown (Edwin Cleary), Polk (Mrs. J. A. Riegel), and Winnebago (Mrs. Walter Rogers) on May 15; Fond du Lac (Rev. Henseler) on May 16; Bayfield (David Bratley) and Sheboygan (H. Koopmann) on May 22; and Vilas (Fred Babcock) on May 23.

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK: Dane (Mrs. R. A. Walker) on May 2; Milwaukee (Mary Donald) on May 3; Adams (Sam Robbins), La Crosse (Alvin Peterson) and Winnebago (Mrs. Walter Rogers) on May 4; Brown (Edwin Cleary), Fond du Lac (Rev. Henseler) and Vernon (Margarette Morse) on May 8; Marathon (Mrs. Spencer Doty) on May 12; Chippewa (Charles Kemper) on May 13; Manitowoc (John Kraupa) on May 14; Bayfield (David Bratley), Lincoln (Robert Schlising), Rock (Harold Liebherr), and Sheboygan (Harold Koopmann) on May 15; and Vilas (Fred Babcock) on May 20.

INDIGO BUNTING: Adams (Sam Robbins) on May 2; Dane (Mrs. R. A. Walker) on May 3; Milwaukee (Mary Donald) on May 5; Waukesha (Mrs. L. E. Compton) on May 8; Brown (Edwin Cleary), La Crosse (Alvin Peterson), Manitowoc (John Kraupa), Rock (Harold Liebherr) and Winnebago (Mrs. Walter Rogers) on May 15; Fond du Lac (Rev. Henseler) on May 16; Bayfield (David Bratley) on May 17; and Chippewa (Charles Kemper) on May 19.

DICKCISSEL: Reports from Waukesha (Mrs. Emma Hoffmann) on May 13; and Rock (Harold Liebherr) on May 15 were rather early. Subsequently reported from Adams (Sam Robbins) on May 24 and Dane (Bill Foster) on May 29. Summering birds were reported from these counties: Brown (Edwin Cleary), La Crosse (Alvin Peterson), Pierce (Sam Robbins) and Vernon (Margarette Morse).

EVENING GROSBEAK: Late reports came from Marathon County on May 6 (Mrs. Spencer Doty); Ashland County (Mrs. J. Murray Speirs) on May 12; Bayfield County on May 12 (Mrs. J. Murray Speirs) and on May 19 (David Bratley).

PURPLE FINCH: Late departures were noted in Waukesha (Mrs. L. E. Compton) on May 7 and in Manitowoc on May 12 (John Kraupa). These late summer reports were received: Bayfield on July 6 (Roy Lound); Sawyer and Taylor on July 29 (Sam Robbins); Douglas on Aug. 1 and Burnett on Aug. 2 (Sam Robbins).

PINE GROSBEAK: Carl Frister reported an exceptionally late straggler from Sheboygan County on May 15!

PINE SISKIN: These late birds were noted: Dane on May 8 (Dick Wills); Adams on May 20 and a single bird on June 23 (Sam Robbins); and Marathon on May 25 (Mrs. Spencer Doty).

RED CROSSBILL: Sam Robbins observed four birds in Ashland County on July 30.

LECONTE'S SPARROW: Edwin Cleary furnished a detailed account of four birds observed in Brown County on May 8; and the species was also reported by Paul Jones and others from Waukesha County on May 15.

LARK SPARROW: The only reports of summering birds came from Adams, Chippewa, Dane and La Crosse counties.

SLATE-COLORED JUNCO: The only report during the period came from Fred Babcock in Vilas County who noted that the species was a summer resident.

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW: Adams (Sam Robbins and Paul Jones) on April 29; Marathon (Sam Robbins) and Milwaukee (Mary Donald) on April 30; Bayfield (David Bratley) on May 3; Vilas (Fred Babcock) on May 7. Subsequent reports came from Chippewa (Charles Kemper); La Crosse (Alvin Peterson); Lincoln (Robert Schlising); Manitowoc (John Kraupa) and Washburn (Diane Feeney).

HARRIS'S SPARROW: All reports indicated that this handsome species arrived with, or was reported among, white-crowned sparrows. These reports were received: La Crosse (Alvin Peterson) on May 6; Manitowoc (John Kraupa) on May 7; Dane (Mrs. Florence Anderson and others) May 8-11; Barron (John and Eugene Butler) on May 9; Bayfield (David Bratley) on May 9; and Milwaukee (Mary Donald) on May 9-15.

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW: Outagamie (Mrs. Walter Rogers) on May 1; Fond du Lac (Rev. Henseler) on May 3; Bayfield (David Bratley) and Manitowoc (John Kraupa) on May 4; Polk (Mrs. L. M. Pedersen), May 5-10; Dane (Mrs. R. A. Walker), La Crosse (Alvin Peterson) and Waukesha (Mrs. L. E. Compton) on May 6; Chippewa (Charles Kemper) on May 8; Adams (Sam Robbins) on May 10-20. Quite late dates came from Miss Margarette Morse, who reported the species from Vernon County between May 28-30.

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW: Late departures were noted from these counties in which the bird is not known to nest: Waukesha (Mrs. Emma Hoffmann) on May 17; Fond du Lac (Rev. Henseler); and Dane on May 19 (Jim Zimmerman and others) and again June 3 (Jim Zimmerman). Summer reports came from Lincoln County on July 26 from Robert Schlising and from Sam Robbins during the closing days of July and early August came reports from these counties: Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas, Iron and Sawyer.

LINCOLN'S SPARROW: Waukesha on May 2-3 (Mrs. L. E. Compton) and again May 17 (Mrs. Emma Hoffmann); Fond du Lac between May 3 and 19 (Rev. Henseler); Winnebago on May 3 (Mrs. Glen Fisher); Adams between May 4 and 15 (Sam Robbins) Dane on May 7 (Bill Foster); Brown on May 8 (Edwin Cleary); and Sheboygan on May 29 (Tom Soulen).

LAPLAND LONGSPUR: Flocks occasionally numbering several hundred birds were intermittently noted around Goose Pond in Columbia County as they stopped briefly along the muddy shorelines during May, with the last report there being May 27 (Bill Foster). The only other reports during the period came from Bayfield County on May 12 (David Bratley) and Chippewa County on May 19 (Charles Kemper).

CORRECTION

Regarding American brant records, the statement "No unquestioned specimen is known for Wisconsin," (1955 *Passenger Pigeon* 101), was made inadvertently overlooking a specimen collected at Horicon on October 17, 1951, by Laurence Jahn (see 1955 *Passenger Pigeon*).

DATES TO REMEMBER

- February 26, 1956 (Milwaukee)**—W.S.O. field trip to Lake Michigan shore, meeting at Smith's Brothers parking lot, Port Washington, at 8:00 a. m.
- February 26, 1956 (Green Bay)**—Movie and lecture by Cleveland Grant, sponsored by Green Bay Bird Club, at West High Auditorium, at 2:00 p. m.
- March 1-10, 1956 (State-wide)**—Field notes for December, January and February should be sent to the Associate Editor.
- March 14, 1956 (Milwaukee)**—Milwaukee Audubon Society meeting, with Wallace Grange speaking on "Prairie Chickens and Sharp-tails in Wisconsin," and with the film "Sunrise Serenade," at the New Jewish Community Center (1400 N. Prospect Ave.) at 7:30 p. m.
- March 16, 1956 (Madison)**—Audubon Screen Tour, with Robert P. Allen speaking on "The Long Flight Back," at West High School at 8:00.
- March 17, 1956 (Milwaukee)**—Audubon Screen Tour, with Robert P. Allen speaking on "The Long Flight Back," at the Shorewood High Auditorium at 8:00 p. m.
- March 18, 1956 (Green Bay)**—Green Bay Bird Club field trip up the river, followed by supper and meeting at Joannes Park shelter house, starting from Neville Museum at 2:00 p. m.
- March 26, 1956 (Madison)**—Wildlife Research Seminar, with Ruth L. Hine speaking on "Wisconsin Wildlife Disease Studies," at 424 University Farm Place (third floor) at 7:45 p. m.
- April 2, 1956 (Milwaukee)**—Audubon Screen Tour, with George Regensburg speaking on "Little Known New Jersey," at the Shorewood High Auditorium at 8:00 p. m.
- April 8, 1956 (Oshkosh)**—W.S.O. field trip to see swans at Lake Winnebago, starting from the parking lot at 215 Jackson Drive at 10:00 a. m.
- April 14, 1956 (Milton)**—Ned Hollister Club field trip to Lake Koshkonong, leaving Milton Square at 8:00 a. m.
- April 15, 1956 (Plainfield)**—Milwaukee Audubon Society field trip to see prairie chicken.
- April 20-22, 1956 (Plainfield)**—W.S.O. field trips to watch prairie chicken booming. Advance registration necessary.
- April 23, 1956 (Madison)**—Audubon Screen Tour, with Olin Sewall Pettigill speaking on "Penguin Summer," at West High School at 8:00 p. m.
- April 24, 1956 (Beloit)**—Audubon Screen Tour, with Olin Sewall Pettigill speaking on "Penguin Summer," at Eaton Chapel at 8:15 p. m.
- April 26-29, 1956 (Buffalo, N. Y.)**—Annual meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Society.
- May 4-6, 1956 (Beloit)**—W.S.O. annual convention.
- June 1-10, 1956 (State-wide)**—Field notes for March, April and May should be sent to the Associate Editor.
- June 15-17, 1956 (Kettle Moraine State Forest)**—W.S.O. campout to the North Unit of the Forest, with headquarters at Long Lake.

W. S. O. OFFICERS—1955-56

President: John T. Emlen, Dept. of Zoology, Birge Hall, Madison 6
 Vice-President: Harold G. Liebherr, 1540 Jackson Street, Beloit
 Secretary: Miss Helen Northup, 251 Langdon Street, Madison 3
 Treasurer: Carl P. Frister, 2956A North 38th Street, Milwaukee 10
 Editor: Samuel D. Robbins, Adams
 Associate Editor: G. William Foster, 5109 Flambeau Road, Madison 5
 Circulation Manager: Miss Alice Fosse, 1640 Monroe Street, Madison 5
 Memberships: Miss Merle N. Pickett, Tall Oaks, River Road, Manitowoc
 Endowments and Advertisements: Stanley L. Polacheck, 3914 North Prospect Street, Milwaukee 11
 Education and Publicity: Gerald A. Vogelsang, 3218 West Highland Boulevard, Milwaukee 8
 Legal Counsel: J. Allan Simpson, 3635 Nicolet Place, Racine
 Supply Department Manager: Harold G. Kruse, Hickory Hill Farm, Loganville
 Pictures and Stationery: Mrs. Harold G. Liebherr, 1540 Jackson Street, Beloit
 Binoculars and Records: Edward W. Peartree, Downy Dell, 725 North Lapham Street, Oconomowoc
 Bird Houses and Feeders: David J. Cox, 1905 Cottage Avenue, Beloit
 Books, Pamphlets, Other Items: Harold G. Kruse, Hickory Hill Farm, Loganville

AUTHENTIC RECORDINGS OF NATURE'S AMAZING VOICES

Selected from Cornell University's Library of Natural Sounds,
the world's largest collection of wildlife voices.

THE MOCKINGBIRD SINGS (10-inch vinylite record—78 RPM).....	\$2.50
MUSIC and BIRD SONGS (10-inch vinylite—LP record).....	\$5.00
VOICES OF THE NIGHT (12-inch vinylite—LP).....	\$6.75
The calls of 34 frogs and toads of U. S. and Canada.	
WESTERN BIRD SONGS (10-inch vinylite—78 RPM).....	\$2.50
FLORIDA BIRD SONGS (10-inch vinylite—78 RPM).....	\$2.50
AMERICAN BIRD SONGS (12-inch vinylite—LP, Vol. 2).....	\$7.75
Also on 5—12-inch 78 RPM records.....	\$10.50
AMERICAN BIRD SONGS (12-inch vinylite—LP, Vol. 1).....	\$7.75
Also on 6—10-inch 78 RPM records.....	\$8.50
SONGBIRDS OF AMERICA in Color, Sound and Story	
1—LP record in color book.....	\$5.25

Mail Orders Promptly Filled—Add 35c for Postage

All the Above Records Available At

630 N. Broadway
Milwaukee 2, Wis.

HELEN GUNNIS MUSIC SHOP

Wisconsin's Largest Classical LP Record Shop

Phone
BR. 1-5133



Over 500 Acres Devoted
 To Growing Fruit Trees,
 Small Fruits, Evergreens,
 Shade Trees, Roses,
 Shrubs, etc.

W.S.O. AUDUBON CAMP SCHOLARSHIP

Here is your chance to win a two-week scholarship to the Wisconsin Audubon Camp during the 1956 camp season. The Wisconsin Society for Ornithology Board of Directors has voted to establish this scholarship—\$95, covering all expenses except transportation to and from the camp—in memory of Mrs. Edward LaBudde, Milwaukee W.S.O. member and long-time fighter for the preservation of wildlife.

Those interested in applying for this scholarship must be at least eighteen years of age and a resident of Wisconsin. Applicants will be judged by the W.S.O. Audubon Camp Scholarship Committee on the following basis: (1) proposed use of the natural history training received at the camp; (2) experience and interest in group leadership; (3) background and training in natural history; and (4) earnestness of intent to use this training.

Application blanks may be had by writing to one of the following committee members:

Mrs. A. P. Balsom
2209 Stratford Ct.
Milwaukee 11, Wis.

Mr. Gerald Vogelsang
3218 W. Highland Blvd.
Milwaukee 8, Wis.

Mrs. Carl P. Frister
2956A N. 38th St.
Milwaukee 10, Wis.

If you are interested, you must act immediately. Applications must be in the hands of the committee by April 2, 1956. Results will be made public and the winner will be notified by April 23, 1956.



THE DARK ROOM

COMPLETE PHOTOGRAPHIC Equipment & Supplies

For Amateur and Industrial Use
IF IT'S NATIONALLY ADVERTISED
—WE HAVE IT

Prompt Repair Service—All Makes
We Rent Cameras and Projectors

We Buy—Sell—Trade Cameras

PHOTOGRAPHIC SPECIALISTS AT YOUR SERVICE

722 N. Milwaukee St.—Open Thurs. Eve. BRoadway 2-1151
159 E. Silver Spring Dr.—Open Fri. Eve. WOodruff 2-7080

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Buy your wild bird feed . .

SPECIAL

WILD BIRD FEED MIXTURE

Sunflower Seed, Buckwheat, Milo, Hemp, Flax,
Red Millet, Rape, Fine Chick Grit, Charcoal, Salt,
Fine Cracked Corn, Fine Cracked Wheat, Med-
ium Cracked Corn, Whole Wheat.

100 lbs. 8.00 50 lbs. 4.50 25 lbs. 2.35



SUNFLOWER SEED

100 lbs. 14.00 50 lbs. 7.50 25 lbs. 4.00

PARCEL POST ORDERS ACCEPTED . . . WE DELIVER



FROM

FEED SUPPLIES, Inc.

3328 West Cameron Avenue

HI. 5-6929

Two Blocks North of Hampton Avenue

Milwaukee 9, Wisconsin

ALL PRICES QUOTED ARE F. O. B. MILWAUKEE