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The Passenger Pigeon

The Monthly Bulletin of the Wisconsin Society of Ornithology

Vol. I.

September, 1939

No. 9

WISCONSIN PASSENGER PIGEON SPECIMENS

Mounted specimens or skins of the Passenger Pigeon are reported to be found in the following Wisconsin public institutions:

New London Museum--2 mounted birds.

Beloit College Museum--3 mounted birds.

Black River Falls Library--2 mounted birds.

Lawrence College Museum (Appleton)--2 mounted birds.

Potosi High School Museum--2 mounted birds.

State Historical Museum (Madison)--2 mounted birds.

Wisconsin Conservation Dept. Museum (Poynette)--Pair
mounted birds.

Ripon College Museum--1 or 2 mounted birds.

Milwaukee Public Museum--

5 Wisconsin specimens (4 male) as follows:

2 (Sept. 17, 1893) taken at Pewaukee.

1 (Sept. 8, 1896) taken at Delavan.

2 (about 1877) taken near Milwaukee.

4 out-of-state specimens (2 males).

6 specimens (date taken unknown) of which 4 are from Wisconsin and 4 are males.

Also 2 eggs (one from Wisconsin, Pewaukee, June 3, 1873).

Besides the above, it is believed additional specimens may be found in the Whitewater State Teachers College Museum; the Hoy collection at the Racine Public Library; and at the Baraboo Public Library, as well as other places now unknown.

In addition to the 31 or 32 specimens listed above, at least 12 mounted birds or skins are known to be in the possession of private parties in this state. The total known birds in Wisconsin are therefore well under 50, although a thorough investigation would probably bring the number closer to 100. The editor is interested in expanding this list and would appreciate any additional information in this regard.

An albino Purple Martin, pure white with pink eyes, was captured by John Gryglewski, a workman at Cranberry Lake Marsh, near Phillips, Price county, about August 15th.--"Phillips Bee"

THE PASSENGER PIGEON

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Send membership applications and dues to the treasurer.
Manuscript and field notes should be sent to the editor.

Treasurer: Karl W. Kahmann, Hayward, Wisconsin

Editor: W. E. Scott, Wisconsin Conservation Dept.

Annex, 20 N. Carroll St., Madison, Wisconsin

ADDITIONS AND COMMENTS TO A. J. SCHOENEBECK'S

BIRDS OF OCONTO COUNTY

By Carl H. Richter

(Part 2 - concluded)

NORTHERN PILEATED WOODPECKER--Resident, but not as common as formerly. Some scattered pairs that were known to nest in various wooded plots have disappeared.

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER--Rare; only one, a male, noted within the last ten years.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER--Summer resident. Has greatly decreased since Schoenebeck's time.

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER--Common in migration; uncommon breeder.

ARCTIC THREE-TOED WOODPECKER--This species may be found in the deep forests in the northern part of the county. I have never seen one during the breeding season.

NORTHERN CRESTED FLYCATCHER--Summer resident. Common. Almost every woodlot having suitable nesting cavities has a pair or two of these flycatchers. They will sometimes nest in fence posts where the birds gain entrance from the top and also about cities and villages, in birdhouses and woodpecker cavities. (Not on A. J. S. list)

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER--I have no record of this species in the county.

ALDER FLYCATCHER--Summer resident. I consider this species as fairly common, especially in the eastern part of the county. It nests commonly in low brushy areas back of Green Bay.

OCONTO COUNTY BIRD NOTES

CANADA JAY--I have no recent nesting record for this species in the county and it cannot be considered common even in winter. The cutting away of the forest has forced this bird to the northward.

NORTHERN RAVEN--No longer a common visitant. I have occasionally seen them on the ice of the Bay feeding on "rough fish" thrown away by fishermen. It may have been an occasional summer resident as a lumberman told me of a nest near a camp in the northern part of the county.

HUDSONIAN CHICKADEE--Uncommon, but occasional winter visitant. I have observed this bird several times in winter just north of the city of Oconto. (Not on A. J. S. list)

BROWN CREEPER--Common in migration, but I do not consider it a common breeding species. At the time when a greater portion of the county was heavily forested, offering many nesting sites under loose or scaled-away bark of larger trees, this creeper was no doubt a common nester.

HOUSE WREN--A common summer resident. It will no doubt be established that the House Wren of northern Wisconsin as well as elsewhere in the state, is the western subspecies.

EASTERN WINTER WREN--Uncommon resident; common migrant. I have found this wren during the breeding season in low woods near Oconto and also in low woods along the streams in the northern part of the county.

SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN--This species is listed as "not common" by Schoenebeck. I find this a common breeder, especially in the marshes bordering Green Bay, where they nest in situations less wet than those preferred by the Prairie Marsh Wren. They will be found quite commonly also about inland marshes (Peshtigo Brook Marsh, etc.)

WOOD THRUSH--Listed by Schoenebeck as a common summer resident. I no longer find it so. The bird does nest in the county.

WILLOW THRUSH--Summer resident; common. This I consider the most common thrush, especially as a breeder.

THE PASSENGER PIGEON

EASTERN BLUEBIRD--Listed as abundant. Has "fallen off" greatly in numbers.

NORTHERN SHRIKE--A northern species. Common only in some winters while almost wanting in others.

MIGRANT SHRIKE--This sub-species has decreased in numbers.

STARLING--Introduced. Common resident. Recorded the first specimen in the winter of 1929 and 1930. The first set of eggs was collected May 11, 1931, from a bird-house at the north city limits of Oconto, and about one-half mile from where the first starling was noted. (Not on A. J. S. list)

WHITE-EYED VIREO--I have not found this species.

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO--Summer resident. I do not consider this a common breeding species as I have never discovered the nest. I have observed it during the breeding season mainly in the eastern part of the county.

NASHVILLE WARBLER--Summer resident. It will be found nesting, especially in the northern portion of the county, but is not common.

EASTERN YELLOW WARBLER--Summer resident, common. Listed as being "not common", it is now the most abundant nesting warbler.

CAPE-MAY WARBLER--I have no summer records for this warbler, although I have spent some time in the cutover brushy and second growth areas of northern Oconto county and also in the thick spruce and balsam swamps in search of warblers.

CERULEAN WARBLER--I have observed a few individuals of this species during the warbler migration, but never during the breeding season.

OVEN-BIRD--This species is perhaps the second most common breeder of the warbler family.

MOUPNING WARBLER--Summer resident. I have located as many as eight pairs during the breeding season along the course of the Oconto river near the city of Oconto. This warbler resorts to the thick, low and brushy areas over-

OCONTO COUNTY BIRD NOTES

grown with nettle, near the river and on islands in the river. I found them feeding young on an island west of the city of Oconto in 1937.

NORTHERN YELLOW-THROAT--Common summer resident. This is one of the most common breeding warblers, outnumbering the Black-throated Green Warblers, which was listed by Schoenebeck as the second most common species.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT--I have not found this species.

ENGLISH SPARROW--Permanent resident, common. Perhaps less common about villages since horses are fewer.

EASTERN MEADOWLARK--Summer resident, common, but seldom seen even in mild winters.

WESTERN MEADOWLARK--Summer resident, not common. I have found the nest of this sub-species several times near Oconto.

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD--Summer resident, but can hardly be called a common species. I have found it nesting only in the marshes along Green Bay, but never in any numbers.

RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD--Summer resident, very common. The Red-wing of northern Wisconsin may prove to be the Giant Red-wing.

ORCHARD ORIOLE--Summer resident, uncommon. I have found several nests of this species, all in apple orchards. They nest in orchards in the city of Oconto. (Not on A. J. S. list)

BREWERS BLACKBIRD--Summer resident, not common. They nest in communities, generally in the low meadows. The marshes near Green Bay seem to be their favorite nesting sites. (Not on A. J. S. list)

SCARLET TANAGER--Summer resident. I do not consider the Tanager as especially common in the breeding season. They are, however, well scattered throughout the county.

THE PASSENGER PIGEON

EASTERN CARDINAL--Summer resident, rare; also rare winter resident. I have had this bird at the feeding station throughout the winter. One male noted in February and March of 1939. A set of three eggs with nest was collected April 24, 1931, northwest of the city of Oconto.

DICKCISSEL--Summer resident, now rare. It was common in 1933, '34 and '35, when nests were found in the marsh along Green Bay, and fields or uplands west of Oconto. Singing individuals were found as far north as Lakewood, Oconto county. They were rare before the dates mentioned and have been very rare since.

EASTERN EVENING GROSBEAK--Winter visitant, and may very rarely nest in pine forests in northern part of the county; as I am quite sure it will be found nesting in Marinette and Forest counties to the north of Oconto county. I have found pairs throughout the summer. It is common some winters, as in 1938-39, while rare or absent in others.

CANADIAN INE GROSBEAK--Winter visitant. This is another rather erratic northern species which may stop to nest in the northern pine forests. They are not common every winter.

EASTERN GOLDFINCH--Listed as being a summer resident, but may be considered a permanent resident unless there is a more northern sub-species which remains with us throughout the winter. However, they may roving flocks of the Eastern, not necessarily birds that nested locally.

RED CROSSBILL--Common some winters, rare during that season in other years. I have no recent summer or nesting records.

WHITE-THROATED CROSSBILL--Another of the erratic northern tribe, not common. After the publication of Oconto county Birds, Mr. Schoenebeck found the nest of this crossbill at Kelley Brook, Oconto county. The set of three eggs is in my collection.

EASTERN SAVANNAH SPARROW--Listed as migratory. This is perhaps the most common summer resident of the sparrow family. It nests in meadows, fields and marshes, suitable to them throughout the county and is especially common in the southern half.

OCONTO COUNTY BIRD NOTES

LECONTE'S SPARROW--Summer resident. When nesting conditions are favorable for this species, they will remain to nest in numbers, although it cannot be considered common. The first nest of this species was found here in 1927 in a marsh bordering on Green Bay. It is in these marshes where most of the birds have been observed with the exception of a few pairs found about inland marshes.

WESTERN HENSLOW'S SPARROW--Summer resident. This sparrow is evidently becoming more common. I have found several of their nests in one season.

NELSON'S SPARROW--Listed as resident. I have yet to find the nest of this sparrow. It is migratory.

EASTERN LARK SPARROW--I have no recent summer or nesting records for the species.

SLATE-COLORED JUNCO--This is a very common migrant and will remain during mild winters. I do not have a nesting record for the county.

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW--Summer resident. They will be found common locally. I have discovered as many as five nests in one brushy pasture lot.

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW--Only fairly common in migration. I have no recent nesting records.

LINCOLN'S SPARROW--Summer resident, rare. In June, 1938, a male in full song was found in the brushy area between the Oconto golf course and the "Bay" marsh, within the city limits of Oconto. No nest was found.

SONG SPARROW--Summer resident, does not appear as common as formerly. Our Song Sparrow has always been considered the type Eastern. Since the introduction in the latest check list of the Mississippi, there may be a question as to what form our bird represents. (Editor's note: Our bird is very likely the Mississippi sub-species, although the Dakota may be found in the north).

LAPLAND LONGSPUR--Migratory; very common. They may remain here in numbers during mild winters.

CHESTNUT-COLLARED LONGSPUR--I have never observed this bird in Oconto county.

RECENT SOUTHERN WISCONSIN PRAIRIE CHICKEN REPORTS

In 1930, when the Prairie Chicken cycle in Wisconsin was fairly well on its way up, Dr. Alfred O. Gross, with the assistance of Prof. Aldo Leopold and F. L. W. Schmidt, published a preliminary report on this bird and estimated its population throughout the state. At that time, there evidently was still a fair number of Prairie Chicken in southern Wisconsin, for it was estimated that Walworth county had about 1,000 of these birds and Columbia, Dane, Jefferson and La Crosse counties about 500 each.

A recent survey was conducted through the field personnel of the Wisconsin Conservation Department, and their kind permission has been granted for the publication of these notes. Some other field reports have also been incorporated. The following records will explain themselves. However, it should be remembered that the cycle on these birds is only now beginning to rise and possible influx from the north has been small in recent years. Also, winter records must be distinguished from breeding records as these birds move southward to some extent in winter and it is yet unknown as to what percent (if any) remain in the south to breed. All numbers after county names refer to the estimated population listed by Gross in 1930.

BUFFALO COUNTY (200)--Warden L. H. Giesen of Fountain City states that he observed four flocks totaling 100 birds in Secs. 7 and 18, T22N, R13W in the winter of 1937-38, and two flocks totaling 50 birds in Secs. 14 and 23, T23N, R14W in the winter of 1938-39. He reports no present booming grounds or summer birds but states that booming grounds once were located in Sec. 26, T20N, R12W. Mr. Ottman Berni of Nelson reported seeing 25 birds in February, 1939 on his farm.

COLUMBIA COUNTY (500)--Warden Geo. Johnson of Portage found four flocks of about 100 birds in the Swan lake, Lake Wisconsin and Dekorra marshes in the winter of 1937-38, and about 6 flocks of 150 birds in this same locality in the winter of 1938-39. He states that most of the birds leave in the spring but a few remain in spots. Old booming grounds are reported in the Lake Wisconsin marshes and active ones in the Swan lake marsh. Rob't Fairfield of Madison reported that birds were heard booming two miles west of Poynette in the spring of 1939 (Lake Wisconsin marshes).

CRAWFORD COUNTY (0)--Warden Royce Dallman of Viroqua has no recent reports for this county and none were made by Gross.

RECENT SOUTHERN WISCONSIN PRAIRIE CHICKEN REPORTS

DANE COUNTY (500)--F. R. Zimmerman of Madison reports one flock of 40 or more birds seen during the winter of 1937-38 in the Cherokee marsh about 10 miles north of Madison (farmers reported several hundred). Rob't Fairfield of Madison reports one flock of 24 birds seen six miles north of Madison in this same marsh during the winter of 1938-39. W. E. Scott and Karl Kahmann saw one bird in the Deansville marsh in May, 1939. John Spaeni of Madison states that a few birds were found just east of Madison in the southern end of the Cherokee marsh in the winter of 1936-37 and that they evidently remained to increase during the next two years. He states that in July, 1939 one flock of about 25 was observed. A nest and booming grounds have been found by Elder and Wright of the Kumlein Club and by Jackson.

DODGE COUNTY (50)--Warden William Field of Beaver Dam found 10 flocks, totaling 150 birds in the Towns of Westford, Hubbard, Fox Lake, and Theresa in the winter of 1937-38, and in the summer of 1938 found 14 birds near Randolph, 20 birds east of Beaver Dam and 30 in Horicon marsh. In the winter of 1938, he reported 13 flocks totaling 175 birds in the same towns as the previous winter and also in the towns of Lowell and Shields. He states that the birds wintered well throughout this last winter and that old booming grounds are located at Horicon marsh. Ralph Hopkins found 12 Prairie Chicken one mile south of the town line ditch in Horicon marsh in the company of Leo Gehrke on September 14, 1939.

GRANT COUNTY (100)--Warden J. G. Keeler of Fennimore has no recent records of Prairie Chicken in this county but reports that Mr. D. M. McDavid saw a few in April, 1932 near Muscoda.

GREEN COUNTY (400)--Warden Eric Moir of Janesville reported seeing a flock of Prairie Chickens 6 miles southeast of Brodhead in the winter of 1938-39; W. E. Scott saw a flock of 31 birds in the Brooklyn Marsh in the winter of 1937-38; Don Miller of Juda believes they are breeding north of Juda and has seen birds throughout the year of 1938.

IOWA COUNTY (100)--Warden P. L. Button of Richland Center has no recent records for this county and states that his last observation is of 16 birds seen near Avoca in September, 1935.

THE PASSENGER PIGEON

JEFFERSON COUNTY (500)--Warden Willard Laesch of Jefferson saw 5 flocks totaling 65 birds in the London, Palmyra and Whitewater marshes in the winter of 1937-38, and 7 flocks totaling 100 birds in these same marshes during the winter of 1938-39. He also reports that 35 birds were seen in the Whitewater marsh during the summer of 1938 and 30 birds in the London marsh that same season. These same 30 birds were still there in January, 1939. He states that old booming grounds were located in the Whitewater marsh, but none are known at the present time. Harry Anderson saw two birds at Faville Grove in the winter of 1938-39; and L. D. Hawes and Elton Bussewitz saw 7 birds there in 1939; however by August 14, 1939, Bussewitz found but two.

KENOSHA COUNTY (50)--Warden William Osburn of Kenosha has no records of Prairie Chicken in this county since 6 were seen in February, 1902 near Williams slough.

LA CROSSE COUNTY (500)--Warden Elmer Lange of La Crosse observed one flock of four birds near Lytles in the winter of 1937-38 and states that a few remained during the summer near the marshes of Federal Pool No. 7. During the winter of 1938-39 he found two flocks of 10 birds in the Brice Prairie marshes and states that a few winters ago from 300 to 500 birds stayed in these marshes. He reports no booming grounds.

OZAUKEE COUNTY (0)--Warden R. J. Lake of West Bend states that the last report of Prairie Chickens in this county was the observation of C. E. Hoffman of Port Washington, who saw 15 birds in January, 1925, north of Belgium.

RICHLAND COUNTY (100)--Warden P. L. Button of Richland Center has no recent records of this bird in that county and states that his last record is of 12 birds seen in September, 1934 near Lone Rock.

RACINE COUNTY (0)--Warden A. J. Peterson of Racine observed 10 flocks of about 150 birds in the Wind lake marsh in the winter of 1937-38 and states that about 75 to 100 remained throughout the summer of 1938 on this location. In the winter of 1938-39, he found 7 flocks of about 75 birds in this same locality. He reports no booming ground records.

SAUK COUNTY (100)--Warden Frank Adamske of Baraboo, found three flocks totaling 500 birds in the towns of Dellona,

RECENT SOUTHERN WISCONSIN PRAIRIE CHICKEN RECORDS

Prairie du Sac and Fairfield in the winter of 1937-38, and estimated 40 remained throughout the summer in the town of Fairfield and 10 in the town of Prairie du Sac. In the winter of 1938-39, he again reported three flocks totaling about 500 birds in the same locations as the previous year. Old booming grounds are located in the town of Prairie du Sac and active ones in a big marsh of the town of Fairfield.

TREMPEALEAU COUNTY (100)--Warden T. J. Johnson of Whitehall observed one flock of about 50 birds in the winter of 1937-38 and states that a few remained throughout the summer of 1938 one mile northwest of Whitehall. No booming grounds.

VERNON COUNTY (0)--Warden Royce Dallman of Viroqua reports that no birds have been seen recently. Gross evidently believed that they may have occurred in this county occasionally.

WALWORTH COUNTY (1,000)--Warden Wm. Elliot of Whitewater reports one flock of 6 birds found 6 miles south of Whitewater in the winter of 1937-38 and no birds in the winter of 1938-39. In the summer of 1938, these same 6 birds were found and seen as late as October. He lists old booming grounds at Turtle Valley and a few in other parts of the county.

WASHINGTON COUNTY (100)--Warden R. J. Lake of West Bend states that his last observation on this bird was of 10, near Baltoville in January, 1934. Old booming grounds are located at Loew's lake marsh.

WAUKESHA COUNTY (50)--Warden Frank Stiglbauer of Oconomowoc, reports one flock of about 30 birds in Secs. 4 & 5, T6N, R17E, in the winter of 1937-38 and this same number in the winter of 1938-39 on the same location. He estimates that 30 birds remained in this area throughout the summer of 1938. Old booming grounds are reported as located in the big marsh west of Dousman and at present on the property of Mr. F. Gramling southwest of Dousman.

J. H. Evans spent the summer at Culver Summer Schools in Indiana and found the Orchard Oriole quite common; Starlings scarce; Black Ducks breeding; Red-bellied Woodpecker nesting; an abundance of Turkey Vultures, but no Egrets.

AUGUST FIELD NOTES

Notes for this department are to be sent to the editor at the end of each month. Accurate information regarding dates and observers' names should be given.

BAYFIELD COUNTY--The writer has made several trips to Madeline Island and was there this season from Aug. 12 to Sept. 1. None of the 113 species observed were of exceptional interest. An unsolved problem is the source of the migrants. The northern end of Bayfield county along with the Apostle Islands, could not furnish the hundreds of migrating Night-hawks. The most logical supposition is that they cross Lake Superior. Proof was obtained that the Kingbird migrates by day. The morning of Aug. 28 was rainy. While I was on Giant's Point, the southern tip of the island, at 10 A. M., approximately twelve Kingbirds drifted in and alighted on the bushes. Within a few minutes seven birds took to the air and flew southward towards Long Island against a south wind that blew all day.--A. W. Schorger.

BROWN COUNTY--Bird observers in this county recorded 80 species during August. Carl Paulson observed 19 American Egrets on Green Bay on the 13th; on the 29th Kendall, a Solitary Sandpiper; Weber the Black-throated Green, Black-throated Blue, Magnolia, Pine, Black and White, Yellow, Blackburnian and Redstart Warblers; and Hussong a flock of migrating Nighthawks.

COLUMBIA COUNTY--On the 23rd, Zimmerman and Scott found about 30 Blue-winged Teal, 2 Shovellers, Greater Yellow-legs, King Rail and Blue Heron on the Poynette Pond. On the same day, near Merrimac, they saw a Lark Sparrow, a Ruddy Duck, 2 Pectoral Sandpipers and a Red-tailed Hawk.

DANE COUNTY--On the 18th Fairfield banded and released a Barn Owl recently captured near Deerfield; Gustave Stowe reported an albino English Sparrow near the same town on the 31st. American Egrets were abundant in the county--Mrs. A. Koehler secured some movies of them. 3 were found by Oehmke on the Madison Fish Hatchery ponds on the 27th. Brackett saw 5 at Duschak's Pond near Sun Prairie on the 14th and one near Token Creek on the 17th. On the 19th, Duschak's pond contained a few Pintail, Black and Mallard Ducks; Greater Yellow-legs and Solitary Sandpipers. At Crystal lake, Scott & Zimmerman saw 2 Wood Duck, a pair of Ruddy Ducks, one Egret, about 30 Pintail, and of course many Teal (Blue-winged).

AUGUST FIELD NOTES

DODGE COUNTY--Brackett reports that on the 15th he observed about 50 American Egrets and over 1,000 Yellow-legs on Mud Lake, near Reeseville; Harry Johnson saw 9 Canada Geese in flight 4 miles west of Waupun on the 14th; Brackett also records a great congregation of shorebirds on Horicon marsh beginning Aug. 1, when he also saw Redheads there; on the 19th, Hopkins, Zimmerman, Fairfield and Scott found the following birds on Horicon marsh (main ditch south end): Redheads, about 60, 1 Green-winged Teal (dead), 6 Shovellers; 2 Pintails, Solitary Sandpipers, Wilson Snipe, Greater Yellow-legs, several Great Blue and Black-crowned Night Herons, 1 Little Green Heron, 2 American and 1 Least Bittern, several King Rail and 1 Virginia Rail, Kingfishers and Waterthrushes. There were few Mallards, Pied-billed Grebes, many Coot, but few Blue-winged Teal. The marsh was dry except for water in some of the ditches.

DOOR COUNTY--A Pileated Woodpecker was observed by Kendall 5 miles north of Dykesville on the 6th; and a Bald Eagle was observed by the Green Bay Bird Club at the Ridges' Sanctuary.

GRANT COUNTY--On the 24th Scott found 4 Least Sandpipers, Lesser and Greater Yellow-legs and 2 American Egrets near Boscobel; and 11 American Egrets at Wyalusing State Park; on the 5th Palmer and Fairfield observed near Boscobel 6 American Egrets, 4 Little Green and 1 Great Blue Heron, 2 Wilson Snipe, 6 Mallard, Greater Yellow-legs and about 250 Mourning Doves in one group at daybreak.

JEFFERSON COUNTY--Bussewitz reports the following data regarding the Faville Grove Wildlife Area, near Lake Mills: "A few Dickcissels were seen on the area in the first part of the month, but not after the 17th. A census of the area for Upland Plover showed 89 birds the first of the month (Hawkins and Tilitson) and only 3 birds on the 31st. There were a great number of Bluebirds on the area this year. On the 20th, a total of 51 American Egrets were seen and 54 were found on the 31st. A Short-eared Owl found on the 21st may be a nesting bird. Two Prairie Chickens seen on the 14th represent the few still left on the area." Bussewitz also states that on the 6th, he saw 37 American Egrets on the Crawfish River 7 miles west of Watertown.

JUNEAU COUNTY--J. C. Curtis of New Lisbon reports that about July 15, Mr. Fred Schirmer and another man of that

THE PASSENGER PIGEON

town saw 6 nearly full grown Hungarian Partridge about 4 miles north of New Lisbon. Although this bird had been stocked about $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles away from this location about 3 years before, it had been supposed that all the birds had disappeared.

MARATHON COUNTY--Hopkins found both Semipalmated Plovers and Semipalmated Sandpipers on the Big Eau Plaine Flowage on the 30th.

MARQUETTE COUNTY--Zimmerman and Scott saw 24 Blue-winged Teal, 1 Green-winged Teal and 30 Tree Swallows near Montello on the 22nd.

MILWAUKEE COUNTY--Carl L. Strelitzer reports that a Knot was seen at McKinley Beach on the 29th and that it was captured and banded. It was still there on Sept. 14th. On Aug. 22, Atwood observed Herring Gulls catching flying ants, and Thorn found a Meadowlark playing host to a Cowbird during the month.

MONROE COUNTY--On the 30th, Zimmerman and Scott observed at Camp McCoy, a Northern Phalarope, 2 Wilson Snipe, a Spotted Sandpiper, Blue-winged Teal and 2 Sparrow Hawks. The shore and water birds were on an artificial pond.

OCONTO COUNTY--Richter reports that on the 28th he witnessed a mass flight of thousands of Nighthawks moving eastward over the city of Oconto. He states that they were everywhere as far as one could see, near the earth and high in the air. The flight was also seen at Gillett and Oconto Falls. Purple Martins were still present on that date.

ONEIDA COUNTY--Zimmerman saw a Raven on the 27th along Lake George in Pelican Township near U. S. " ".

PORTAGE COUNTY--Main found an American Egret a few miles north of Stevens Point about August 27th.

RACINE COUNTY--On the 22nd, George Prins saw 25 or more Cliff Swallows flying about at Wind Point. This bird has not been seen by others of the Hoy Nature Club in this area. The Pectoral Sandpiper, another rather rare bird here was again seen on the 2nd on the river in a flock of 8 birds. On Aug. 10th the nest of a Goldfinch was found just completed and the fol-

AUGUST FIELD NOTES

lowing day the first egg was laid. On the 18th another nest was found by George Prins with 3 eggs and 1 young. There have been very few Starlings in evidence this month. On the 10th Zell saw a Black and White Warbler; on the 18th, George Prins an Upland Plover--probably a 'last'. The same day he observed a Black-throated Green Warbler, 4 Redstarts, a Northern Water-thrush and a Yellow-throated Vireo, while the next day he found 2 Blackburnian and a number of Magnolia Warblers and Least Flycatchers, which were common. He saw an American Egret near the city on the 24th. Later this same bird was seen swallowing a 6 inch bullhead. Many Egrets have been seen in the county this month. George Prins saw an Olive-sided Flycatcher on the 29th, when Sora Rails were evidently migrating. On the 30th Zell saw a Canada Warbler and an Olive-backed Thrush. During the last days of the month the Hummingbirds began to make their appearance in numbers of 4 to 5 in patches of Jewelweed. Mrs. Pierce observed Fox Sparrows, and Slate-colored Juncos on their return by the 31st. At Wind Point on the 21st, she recorded about 6 Semi-palmated Sandpipers. Near Horlick's Dam, George Prins saw large numbers of Killdeer.

SAUK COUNTY--Leopold reports 7 American Egrets in Fairfield Township on August 4th, the first of the year.

SAWYER COUNTY--Kahmann states that he has been watching the development of Nelson Lake, T. 42 N., R. 9 W., which is a newly-created 2,000 acre lake resulting from a dam on the Totogatic River. He says that the lake is rapidly developing into a good waterfowl area and that the following birds have bred there this past season: 100 pr Blue-winged Teal, 25 pr. Mallard, 10 pr. Black Ducks, 4 pr. Green-winged Teal, 2 pr. Ring-necked Ducks, 2 pr. of Wood Ducks, 4 pr. Double-crested Cormorants, 20 pr. of Pied-billed Grebes, 3 pr. Green Heron, 1 pr. of Ospreys (new location), and unchecked numbers of Snipe, Sora and Virginia Rails, Spotted Sandpipers, Bitterns, Marsh Hawks and numbers of Swallows and Blackbirds. He plans to keep check on this lake's progressive changes.

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY--Carl L. Strelitzer, Sec. of the Milwaukee Bird Club, reports that Loyster observed a Hudsonian Curlew at Cedar Grove July 20, and finally collected it on Sept. 11. Jung recorded a good flight of hawks at the same place, Sept. 3rd. Edward Prins visited Sheboygan marsh on the 10th to

THE PASSENGER PIGEON

find at least 10 American Egrets there as well as many Blue-winged Teal, Coot, Mallard, and Black Ducks. Pintails were few as were Shovellers and Redheads. The Least Bittern was more common than expected. He observed that young Blue-winged Teal would dive and swim out of range if pressed. Indications of fall migration were recorded by Edward Prins as follows: 4 Juncos and many Barn Swallows on the 25th; increase in numbers of Pied-billed Grebes on Little Elkhardt Lake on the 26th; 100-200 Nighthawks on the 20th; flocks of Purple Martins on the 31st.

VILAS COUNTY--During the week of the 20th, Main observed the following at Allequash Lake: 2 Bald Eagles, 3 Ospreys, 3 Herring Gulls, 1 Broad-winged Hawk, 2 Horned Owls, many Nighthawks and several Rough-winged Swallows.

WAUSHARA COUNTY--Evans reports from 200-300 Nighthawks southeast of Wautoma on the 28th.

WINNEBAGO COUNTY--On the 3rd, Warden Dunham of Oshkosh reported that about 3000 Black Ducks and 800 Pintails were damaging farmers' grain near Rush Lake. On the 6th the number had increased to about 15,000 with about 75% Black Ducks and the remainder Pintail, Mallard and Blue-winged Teal. The birds would stay over a mile away from the acetylene gas exploder set up to protect the crops.

NEWS

The collection of birds of the late W. E. Snyder of Beaver Dam, which included several hundred individuals from Wisconsin and other areas, was recently sold to Mr. R. M. Barnes of Lacon, Illinois. Mr. Barnes has a private museum in that town. Mr. Snyder's bird notes were kindly loaned to us for publication. A mounted Eskimo Curlew, taken at Fox Lake in Dodge county, on Sept. 10, 1912 (one of the latest) was purchased by W. E. Scott.

The Milwaukee Bird Club featured a display on protection of hawks and owls in the poultry bldg. at the State Fair, using both mounted and living birds as well as literature and charts. Most interesting to farmers was the actual study of pellets of the Short-eared Owl, which were picked apart by members of the club. A total of 730 meadow and field mice skulls and 2 of deer mice and the beak of an English Sparrow were found in the pellets.