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# *The Passenger Pigeon*

## TO ENCOURAGE STUDY OF WISCONSIN BIRDS

*Bulletin of the Wisconsin Society of Ornithology*

Vol. III

March 1941

No. 3

### THE WHISTLING SWANS ON GREEN BAY

By J. B. KENDALL.

*Green Bay Bird Club*

The spring and fall migrations of the whistling swans and their stopovers on Green Bay has become an event looked for by many in great anticipation. In recent years the number of swans that make their spring visit here have either greatly increased in numbers or the widespread interest in them makes them appear more plentiful. Only a visit to the locality where the swans are to be seen will convince the uninitiated of the great numbers that stop in the sloughs of Green Bay for food and rest.



#### *"Seven Up"*

There are about 300 Whistling Swans shown in this picture taken by J. B. Kendall of the Green Bay Bird Club from the west shore of Peak's Lake, Green Bay, on April 12, 1939. These were part of about 2,500 Swans seen here on that date. Anyone interested in seeing the Swans this April should contact Mr. Winfred O. Fonder, 514 Melrose Ave., Green Bay, for details on their arrival.

The area chosen by the birds in recent years is that part of the bay starting at the southern end of Green Bay just west of the mouth of the Fox River extending in a northerly and northwesterly direction past the mouth of Duck Creek to a part of the bay known locally as Peak's Lake.

This area is mostly slough showing open water and areas heavily grown to various aquatic plant life. Some of the growth consists of underwater plants, arrowhead, rice, cattails, lilies, etc. In the marshes and on shore lines are tall grasses, willow brush, dogwood, alder, aspen, and willow trees. During the spring at the time of the arrival of the swans, much of the slough and mucky shore line vegetation is pretty well flattened down, giving it the appearance of open water. During summer and fall these slough areas are grown up so that there is little open water except in Peak's Lake, which is shown on marine and topography maps to have a depth of not more than two feet. The dense growth of marsh grass, brush, and trees along the shore in this area naturally makes approach from the shore difficult at most places so the swans can enjoy a certain amount of seclusion.

In the spring of the year 1938, the Green Bay Bird Club organized an early morning trip to see the swans close to the city of Green Bay. Every spring some of the club members and their friends who live near the bay keep their ears and eyes alert to the arrival of the swans, some of them being so interested that they sleep lightly or have their ears unconsciously tuned to the high-pitch call of the whistling swan. Swans which are usually accompanied by a constant calling and deep-toned are frequently heard at night or early morning during their flights whistling calls.

It was in April of 1939 that the greatest concentration of swans occurred in and around Peak's Lake where they spent most of their time eating and resting. They moved out occasionally to the lee side of some island or protecting shore across the bay to shifting winds and roughened water in the lake. They seemed to prefer water not too rough. After the winds subsided the birds returned to the Peak's Lake region and sloughs again.

The 1940 spring visit of the swans in this locality was not nearly as great as it was the previous year for which no reason or opinions have been advanced. There have been many estimates of the number of swans which were seen both years but due to the great variance of figures it is perhaps more conservative to say they at least reached the thousands.

In 1939 birds were reported by Bird Club members to have put in their first appearance during the first week of April, 1939, at the south end of Green Bay. The largest number of them were seen from April 8 to April 15, though many remained well into the month before departing on their northward journey. During the visit the birds seemed to be more trusting and tolerant toward observers than they were in the spring of the year 1938, and they would permit an approach from the shore to within two hundred feet of them in the early and late hours of the day. When first approached they would usually swim out about one hundred feet farther from shore, only to return to the same spot again if the observer remained quiet and motionless.

On close observation some of the swans appeared to have gray or dusky necks which is said by local bird students to be the identifying mark of young birds. Some mixed groups—gray necks and white necks—numbering up to seven, would at times stand on their tails in the water with outstretched necks and flapping wings, emitting loud high-pitched calls. Following this, they would half fly and half run excitedly over the water in all directions, and with a sudden stop, arch their necks, bow and scrape in a manner suggesting a courtship. All through this performance they gave voice to so many excited and varied calls and honks that it would be quite impossible to attempt to imitate them.

People who have had the opportunity to watch the migrations from year to year say that the swans have always stopped in the vicinity of the southern end of Green Bay in varying numbers. Fall as well as spring flights go through this vicinity but they do not ever reach the proportions of the northern flight. Since the 1940 swan concentration was not as great, and a little disappointing to many, as the 1939 concentration, it is quite difficult, if not impossible, to give out any information as to the possibilities of a big 1941 concentration on Green Bay before the first week of April.

## ANNUAL MEETING APRIL 5 AND 6 AT RACINE

It is important that all who plan to attend the Annual Meeting of The Wisconsin Society of Ornithology at the Woman's Club at Racine on April 5 and 6 send in their banquet reservations immediately. If you did not receive an announcement and reservation card, contact Dr. B. L. von Jarchow, 1601 Washington avenue, Racine, by letter, indicating your plan to attend and stating the number of banquet reservations you desire.

This third annual meeting of the Society should be the largest and best to date, as the Society has grown to almost 400 members at the present time. All members are invited to bring a guest and anyone interested is welcome to attend the sessions. W. J. Breckenridge will be featured at the banquet with unusual colored pictures of many kinds of birds. He will also show his unique movies of the dance of the Spruce Grouse. Others among the program speakers include Professor Aldo Leopold, Murl Deusing, Dr. Howard J. Lee, Earl G. Wright, Lee Steven, Mrs. H. J. Anderson, Wallace Grange, F. R. Zimmerman and J. Harwood Evans.

Those who cannot attend the banquet are urged to attend the after-banquet program, and those who cannot stay over until Sunday for the morning hike and afternoon session can return home Saturday evening. It is expected that several cars of bird students will come from various larger cities throughout the state, and those who do not have transportation facilities are advised to contact their friends for arrangements.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Sam Robbins to 1713 Chadbourne avenue, Madison; E. E. Bussewitz to 205½ N. Maple St., Watertown; A. F. Ruth to 921 N Marshall St., Milwaukee.

NEW MEMBERS: Grace B. Ogden, 216 West Ave., La Crosse; Mrs. C. F. Hedges, 640 Reed St., Neenah; Zida C. Ivey, 400 Madison Ave., Ft. Atkinson; Mrs. Anagar E. Hansen, 922 Orchard St., Racine; Miss Anna Muth, High School, Manitowoc; Gilbert N. Schwarting, 151 Randall St., Waukesha; Superior State Teachers College Library, Superior; Joseph N. Woppert, 2515 N 34th St., Milwaukee; Sidney R. Esten, 4340 N. Illinois St., Indianapolis, Indiana; Denis Rupnow, Ixonia; Poplar High School, Poplar.

SEND IN YOUR BANQUET RESERVATION  
FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING TODAY!



On February 4, 1941, Mr. S. R. Hartwell died at the age of 65 of a lingering illness at his home at 2939 South Mabbett Avenue, Milwaukee. He is survived by his wife, Lenore Quirk Hartwell, and two brothers, Harry Hartwell of Van Nuys, California, and Lansing Hartwell of Hollywood.

He was born in Waukesha County where his parents were pioneer settlers. For the past forty years he was in the Federal Government service and at the time of his death was Associate Engineer in the Rivers and Harbors Division. Until failing health prevented, he maintained his interest in natural history. In addition to his other various activities he acquired an excellent collection of butterflies.

He was a member of the Wisconsin Society of Ornithology, the Milwaukee Bird Club, and the Izaak Walton League of America, and had been very active in Boy Scout work. In the World War he was a captain with the 24th Engineers and served 19 months in France.

Since early childhood his interest in the study of birds was manifested particularly in his activities as an oologist. During his lifetime he acquired a very fine egg collection which was prepared with meticulous care. From the standpoint of accurate identifications and complete supporting data, his collection is a model of near perfection.

With the desire that the collection be properly housed and cared for, and to the end that it serve the maximum public interest, he donated it with his indexed records to the Milwaukee Public Museum on December 14, 1927.

The collection consists of 282 sets of eggs which total 1140 items. A total of 43 nests were also included. His earliest collecting date given for this collection is recorded as 1887 and the latest as 1901.

He frequently visited the Museum laboratories, and his reminiscences of early day collecting trips around Pewaukee with Captain Goss were very interesting. As a boy, much of his collecting was done for Captain Goss, and the collections of this great naturalist were further enriched through the efforts of Mr. Hartwell.

His death will be a great loss to his numerous friends and particularly to those of us who knew him as a bird lover. Owen Gromme

*Milwaukee Public Museum*

## SPRING ARRIVALS IN APRIL AND MAY FOR DANE COUNTY AND VICINITY

By HARRY G. ANDERSON, JR., Biologist  
*Illinois Natural History Survey*

April and May are the two most important months of the year for making observations on birds. New species are arriving nearly every day, and some of those which have been with us for a short time are departing northward. It is the season when the males are dressed in their best and brightest colors for their courtship.

Birds that arrived in March are now in the process of building nests and rearing broods of young. By the latter half of May the nesting season is in full swing. At least 100 species nest in Dane County and vicinity.

There are three definite waves of birds during the migration in these months. During most of April new arrivals appear daily, but there is no large influx until some time between April 25th and April 30th. This first wave includes such birds as the Black and White Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Blue-headed Vireo, Great-crested Flycatcher, Indigo Bunting and many others.

The second wave occurs some time between May 2nd and 5th, bringing in most of the warblers, vireos, sandpipers and flycatchers.

By May 9th to 13th the third and last wave may be expected. At this time such late birds as the Canadian, Mourning and Connecticut

Warblers, Peewee, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Philadelphia Vireo, Orchard Oriole and others appear.

At least 121 species of birds can be added to the last of birds submitted in previous issues of "THE PASSENGER PIGEON". The following list gives the arrival, common date and departure date, with habitats, of birds arriving in April and May. Where there is no departure date, the bird is a summer resident.

Bird	Arrival (April)	Common	Departure	Habitat
Horned Grebe	2	Ap. 15	My. 12	Lakes
Double-crested Cormorant	2	Ap. 12	My. 17	Lakes, rivers
White-throated Sparrow	2	Ap. 13	My. 24	Woods, thickets
Swamp Sparrow	2	Ap. 25		Marsh, wet thickets
Greater Yellowlegs	3	My. 1	My. 25	Mud flats, shoreline
Broad-winged Hawk	3	Ap. 20		Woods
Barn Owl	3	Erratic		Farms, quarries
Chipping Sparrow	3	Ap. 16		Thickets, woods
Rough-winged Swallow	5	Ap. 20		Quarries, sandpits
American Bittern	5	Ap. 16		Marshes
Chimney Swift	6	Ap. 26		City
Wood Duck	7	My. 4		Lakes, ponds
Brown Thrasher	8	Ap. 22		Brushes, thickets
Bonaparte's Gull	9	My. 1	My. 13	Lakes
Barn Swallow	10	Ap. 26		Barns
Upland Plover	11	Ap. 20		Meadows
Long-billed Marsh Wren	11	My. 5		Marshes
Duck Hawk	12	My. 1		Cliffs
Bank Swallow	13	My. 8		Quarries, sandpits
Sora Rail	13	My. 10		Marshes
Red-throated Loon	14	Erratic		Lakes
European Widgeon	14	Erratic		Ponds, sloughs
Osprey	15	Ap. 20	My. 20	Bodies of water
Bewick's Wren	15	Not common		Thickets
LeConte's Sparrow	16	Never common		Tall grass
Louisiana Water Thrush	16	Ap. 26		Bottomlands
Pine Warbler	17	My. 4	My. 16	Woods
Pigeon Hawk	17	Never common		
Smith's Longspur	17	Never common		
Henslow's Sparrow	18	Ap. 26		Hayfields
Green Heron	18	My. 12		Marshes
Virginia Rail	19	My. 5		Marshes
Black and White Warbler	19	My. 2	My. 24	Woods
Palm Warbler	19	Ap. 27	My. 19	Woods, thickets
Orange-crowned Warbler	19	My. 6	My. 16	Woods
House Wren	19	My. 5		City and woods
Lark Sparrow	19	My. 13		Sandy regions
Spotted Sandpiper	21	My. 9		Shorelines
Whip-poor-will	21	My. 12		Woods
Common Tern	22	My. 3	My. 18	Lakes
Florida Gallinule	22	My. 1		Marshes
King Rail	23	My. 15		Marshes
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	23	Ap. 28		Thickets
Black Tern	24	My. 5		Lakes
Eastern Kingbird	24	My. 11		Orchards
Black-th. Green Warbler	24	My. 8	My. 30	Woods
Yellow-headed Blackbird	24	My. 2		Marshes
Solitary Sandpiper	25	My. 14	My. 27	Shorelines
Nashville Warbler	25	My. 8	My. 28	Woods
Grasshopper Sparrow	25	My. 3		Fields
Northern Water Thrush	26	My. 4	My. 30	Lowlands, thickets
Crested Flycatcher	26	My. 12		Woods
Baltimore Oriole	26	My. 11		Orchards, woods

Bird	Arrival	Common	Departure	Habitat
Cliff Swallow	27	My. 11		Barns
Yellow Warbler	28	My. 6		Thickets, woods
Indigo Bunting	29	My. 18		Woods
Blue-headed Vireo	29	My. 6	My. 24	Woods
Golden-winged Warbler	29	My. 10	My. 15	Woods
Blackburnian Warbler	29	My. 11	My. 30	Woods
Wilson's Phalarope	29	My. 10	My. 20	Small grassy ponds
Bobolink	30	My. 13		Dry marshes, field
Wilson's Thrush	30	My. 12	My. 25	Woods
Olive-backed Thrush	30	My. 17	My. 30	Woods
Least Flycatcher	30	My. 16		Open wood, thicket
Catbird	30	My. 10		Thickets
Parula Warbler	30	My. 11	My. 20	Woods
Chestnut-sided Warbler	30	My. 13	My. 26	Woods
(May)				
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	1	My. 10		Woods
White-crowned Sparrow	1	My. 10	My. 18	Woods, thickets
Lincoln's Sparrow	1	My. 15	My. 23	Low thickets
Gray-cheeked Thrush	1	My. 17	My. 25	Woods
Semi-palmated Sandpiper	1	My. 12	My. 28	Shoreline, mud flat
Prothonotary Warbler	1	My. 12		Damp woods
Magnolia Warbler	1	My. 11	My. 30	Woods
Oven-bird	1	My. 7		Woods
Northern Yellow-throat	1	My. 9		Marshes
Redstart	1	My. 10		Woods
Scarlet Tanager	2	My. 12		Woods
Yellow-throated Vireo	2	My. 8		Woods
Black-th. Blue Warbler	2	My. 11	My. 18	Woods
Wood Thrush	2	My. 15		Woods
Least Sandpiper	2	My. 12	My. 27	Shoreline, mud flat
Black-poll Warbler	3	My. 18	My. 25	Woods
Mourning Warbler	3	My. 19	My. 29	Woods
White-rumped Sandpiper	3	My. 20	My. 27	Shoreline, mud flat
Cape May Warbler	3	My. 15	My. 17	Woods
Nighthawk	3	My. 21		City
American Pipit	3	Never common		Open fields
Short-billed Marsh Wren	3	My. 9		Dry marshes
Clay-colored Sparrow	4	Never common		Thickets
Grinnell's Water Thrush	4	My. 6 (Not common)		
Orchard Oriole	4	Never common		
Semi-palmated Plover	5	My. 15	My. 28	Shoreline, mud flat
Red-eyed Vireo	5	My. 17		Woods
Turnstone	5	My. 25	My. 27	Mud flats, ponds
Tennessee Warbler	5	My. 15	My. 23	Woods
Bay-breasted Warbler	6	My. 13	My. 24	Woods
Wilson's Warbler	6	My. 16	My. 26	Woods
Philadelphia Vireo	6	My. 10	My. 22	Woods
Red-backed Sandpiper	7	My. 16	My. 20	Mud flats, ponds
Warbling Vireo	7	My. 10		Woods
Alder Flycatcher	8	My. 19		Thickets
Kentucky Warbler	9	My. 12		Bottomland
Yellow-breasted Chat	9	My. 12		Open woods
Cerulean Warbler	9	My. 13		Bottomland
Canada Warbler	9	My. 19		
Black-billed Cuckoo	10	My. 20		Woods
Ruby-th. Hummingbird	10	My. 20		Flowers
Olive-sided Flycatcher	10	My. 21	My. 22	Open woods
Pee-wee	10	My. 22		Woods
Blue-winged Warbler	10	My. 15	My. 27	Thickets
Sanderling	11	My. 19	Never common	
Harris Sparrow	11	Never common		

## PURPLE MARTIN RANGE AND POPULATION STUDY

One of the most important projects undertaken by the Wisconsin Society of Ornithology in the range and population studies of our Wisconsin birds. The studies already presented on the Starling, Bald Eagle, and Cardinal have brought many favorable comments from all over the United States. We are now undertaking a study on the purple martin. We need data from every bird student and observer in the state. Will you help make this study a success by filling in this questionnaire and sending it to Murl Deusing, Public Museum, Milwaukee, Wis.? If you can not answer all the questions then fill in those you can answer and send it along. We need your help.

County..... Name and address.....

Is the purple martin common, uncommon, or rare in your area?.....

What is the average arrival and departure date for purple martins in your county? (Give separately for male and female if possible).....

Give the earliest arrival and departure date you have and the year in which each record was made. (Give separately for male and female if possible) .....

Give the number of years of observation covered by the above data .....

Have you ever observed heavy losses of martins during unfavorable weather conditions? If so give details and dates.....

What proportion of martins do you estimate nest in bird houses in your area?..... In hollow trees and other natural nesting sites?.....  
What effect if any has the starling had on the martin population in your area?.....

What effect if any has the English sparrow had on the martin population in your area? .....

Do you have any data on the following? Egg dates, incubation period, period young remain in nest, participation of male and female in nesting activities, etc.....

If you have any observations from other counties or any additional information place it on the back of the sheet.

Send this to: Murl Deusing, Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee, Wis.





Least Bittern	11	My. 18	Marshes
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	12	My. 25	Woods
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	12	My. 21	My. 30 Woods
Long-billed Dowitcher	13	My. 26	Never common
Brewer's Blackbird	17	My. 20	Sometimes nests
Connecticut Warbler	18	My. 21	My. 26 Woods
Black-bellied Plover	20	Never common	
Dickcissel	21	My. 30	Fields

#### Uncommon Birds That May Be Seen During May and June

Forester's Tern	May 14
Artic Tern	May 13
Prairie Warbler	May 13
Gambel's Sparrow	May 17
Caspian Tern	May 17
Marbled Godwit	May 18
Northern Phalarope	May 20
Golden Plover	May 15
Holboell's Grebe	May 15
American Egret	May 30
Acadian Flycatcher	May 31
Baird's Sandpiper	June 5
Western Willet	June 9
Bell's Vireo	June 2
Mockingbird	June 13
Carolina Wren	April 9
Hudsonian Curlew	May 23
Stilt Sandpiper	May 17

#### BIRD BANDERS DEPARTMENT

Edited by HAROLD C. WILSON, Ephraim, Wis.

Dr. Paul C. Gatterdam, La Crosse, in a letter to Murl Deusing regarding the spread of the Cardinal in Wisconsin, wrote in part, "I have been banding in my back yard, which is within the city limits, and have also had a trap working in the back of the Gunderson Clinic office for about two weeks. Thus far this winter I have banded over 32 different Cardinals. They seem to be very hardy and get along quite well during the severe cold which we have here. I hope they will continue to survive and increase. I only run the traps at home during the noon hour and when I am at home on part of Saturday and Sunday, I hope to be able to have banded at least 50 before spring as I am sure there are at least that many Cardinals coming to these two localities. The thing that seemed rather interesting to me was the fact that I caught 23 consecutive birds before I got a repeat. It appears that they become rather trap-shy. At least they do here, and their repeats are infrequent."

#### Wanted White-Throated Sparrow Data.

Vernon C. Rossman, Y. M. C. A., Waukesha, requests the cooperation of all banders in the Mississippi Flyway in organizing data on this species. He wants reports on the earliest and latest spring and fall banding records of the White-throated Sparrow, and also the date of the greatest abundance.

Following are some interesting records of banding returns:

Tree Swallow banded by Rossman on June 16, 1938, juvenile in nest, at Waukesha, was found in Milwaukee, April 22, 1940.

Robin banded by Rossman at Waukesha on Sept. 1, 1938 was reported killed at Garrison, Texas on May 22, 1940.

White-throated Sparrow banded by Wilson at Ephraim, April 26, 1939, was captured on Jan. 27, 1940 at Janesville, Louisiana.

Herring Gull banded on July 1, 1930 by Wilson, was found dead in November, 1939, in Kingsville, Ontario; and another banded on June 26, 1939 at the Sister Islands was found dead on May 20, 1940 at Dry Tortugas, Florida.

## FEBRUARY FIELD NOTES

By N. R. BARGER, Editor

(Kindly send field notes to N. R. Barger, 132 Lathrop St., Madison, Wisconsin, at the end of each month. Use A. O. U. order.)

## Snow Goose Discovered.

A single Snow Goose was seen by Zimmerman Feb. 25 and 28 among the thousand Canada Geese wintering in Walworth County. Dahlberg mentions a flock of Mallards, Feb. 13, on the Bruke River, Douglas County. Mason, of Milwaukee, found that fifty percent of a large flock of Black Ducks wintering there were the Red-legged sub-species; the others, of course, being the common variety. Curiously enough, all the species of ducks, usually considered not at all hardy, have showed up this winter. Most of them are in good condition too and might have flown. Blue-winged Teal at Madison, Feb. 7 (Kozlik); Pintail in Dane County, Feb. 4; Shoveller in Milwaukee, Jan. 2 (Mueller); Canvasback, March 2, by the same observer; and Hooded Merganser, Feb. 9 (Mueller). Mason and Mueller report an American Scoter for Milwaukee, Feb. 28, and both consider the Old Squaw to be more abundant this year than usual. Mrs. Rogers reports one flock of American Mergansers numbering sixty-five near Appleton.

The Goshawk appeared at Green Bay several times during February (Strehlow); and Feeney reports an immature specimen in Sawyer County, Feb. 25. Kozlik saw a Cooper's Hawk in Jefferson County, Feb. 4. Several reports of the Rough-legged Hawk were received. The Bald Eagle remains in usual numbers in the state. Feeney and others saw as many as seven in one place, Feb. 28, in Vilas County. The Marsh Hawk was reported from but one county, namely Milwaukee. This winter may have reduced their numbers as they seem to be very scarce. Deusing and others saw two Duck Hawks, Feb. 23. A Sparrow Hawk was seen near Evansville, Feb. 11, by Robbins.

Giese saw a flock of Ruffed Grouse budding, Feb. 2, in Green Lake County. A small flock of eight Prairie Chicken in Iowa County has dwindled to about half according to Watson Hall. Bobwhites have been found at Rock Falls (Clark) and are in La Crosse in good numbers (Gatterdam). Peterson saw one captured by a hawk (species ?) in his yard in Onalaska. A pair of Wilson Snipe are wintering in Wood County (G. C. Becker).

## Glaucous Gull in Milwaukee.

Mueller of Milwaukee sends this report, although Lee Stevens was the first to observe it. This was Feb. 2, but it was later observed by many other Milwaukee ornithologists. Opportunity was afforded to note its flesh-colored legs and feet; its heavy build (heavier than that of the Herring Gull); and its yellow bill with black tip, the latter indicating that the bird was in its second year.

Mourning Doves (three) were seen in Door County, Feb. 4, by Wilson.

A Great-horned Owl was found on the nest, Feb. 16 in Dane County by Schorger. On Feb. 4, Strehlow observed a Snowy Owl in Green Bay. A small flock of Short-eared Owls were seen in Dane County, Feb. 15 by Wildner and H. Anderson; in Jefferson County, Feb. 4 by Kozlik; and the flocks under observation near Milwaukee are larger and seem to be about the same as last month. Two Long-eared Owls were seen in Sauk County, Feb. 2 (Robbins and Barger); and Mueller reports one for Milwaukee, Feb. 16. Cuthbert, of Waukesha, mentions a Kingfisher there, Feb. 2.

The Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker (female) made its appearance at Hayward, Feb. 1 (Kahmann). About ten observers have reported

Flickers in the southern half of the state. Jones and Nelson counted twelve, Feb. 16, for Waukesha. Gatterdam tells of one that is observed by J. J. Esch in La Crosse, feeding daily from the warm wet ground above a heat pipe. The former observer also states that they are eating the hackberries, although they do not seem to relish them as a regular diet. All northern observers report the usual number of Pileated Woodpeckers. There has been but a sprinkling of Red-headed Woodpeckers in the southern half of the state, but Sapsuckers have been observed a little more commonly than expected.

A small number of Canada Jays were seen by Feeney in Rusk and Vilas Counties, the latter part of the month. Fifteen Ravens were at one lake in Vilas County, Feb. 26. Lesser numbers have been observed in Sawyer County (Ruegger and Allen) and in Florence County (Hopkins). The first Crow of the season for Price County was recorded Feb. 26 (Feeney). Kahmann reports six Crows, Feb. 20, for Hayward.

Chickadees have offered a perplexing problem. They seem to be absent in Racine; nearly absent in La Crosse; yet fairly common in the northern counties. There was similar comment during January, but we have reached no conclusions so far. A single Titmouse is wintering in Dane County on the Wisconsin River (Robbins and Barger).

#### **Brown Thrasher in Door County.**

Wilson observed this species in a swamp, Feb. 10, in Door County. A week later it was feeding outside his traps, but did not enter. A single Robin is reported for Green Bay, Feb. 22 (Wetli); also one for Racine, Feb. 28 (Dr. von Jarchow). In contrast to this La Crosse has flocks of from ten to twenty. Gatterdam writes that the hackberry trees, a tree very common there, attract the Robins. Peterson counted thirty-six Robins in a flock on hackberry trees in Onalaska, Feb. 21. Golden-crowned Kinglets reported have usually been in singles this winter. Occasional reports of the Northern Shrike extend as far north as Rusk County.

Scott and Grimmer counted seven Meadowlarks between Madison and Portage, by car, Feb. 20. There have been a few other scattered reports. A Rusty Blackbird wintered in Dane County (Buss and others). Jones and Nelson identified two Cowbirds, Feb. 16 in Waukesha County.

Some idea may be gained of the abundance of Cardinals in La Crosse by the fact that Dr. Gatterdam banded fifty during the first three weeks of February. Purple Finches have wintered plentifully even in the northern counties. Dahlberg states that about twenty-four Pine Grosbeaks were seen in a flock, Feb. 24, in Vilas County. Redpolls have been abundant, but Siskins are more local in distribution.

#### **The Crossbills**

Feeney, who has covered considerable ground in the northern counties this winter, states that the White-winged Crossbill has been more numerous than the Red. At least two Song Sparrows have wintered in Dane County (Robbins and Barger). Zimmerman saw a flock of about five hundred Snow Buntings and Longspurs near Wausau, Feb. 4.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS—Elton E. Bussewitz to 205½ N. Maple St., Watertown; Charles M. Kirkpatrick to Dept. of Forestry, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana; May L. Stewart to 332 Wisconsin Ave., Oshkosh; Mrs. Margaret Williams to 329 Elmwood Ave., Oshkosh; Frederick N. Hamerstrom, Jr., and Frances Hamerstrom to Edwin S. George Reserve, Pinckney, Michigan.



## BY THE WAYSIDE

Harold Shine and Therman Deerwester noticed two pair of Hungarian Partridge already mated in Dane and Columbia Counties on March 8.

A total of eleven hens were counted out of twenty-seven Prairie Chickens trapped by Harold Shine on Buena Vista Marsh in Portage County on March 4 to 6. These birds were captured at a point where 50 had been observed by Shine and about 200 were reported by local residents. As no nesting chickens are known to the local people at this locality, this record of sex on the trapped birds is of interest.

W. S. Feeney in his study of winter deer yards has located at 36 nest Heron Rookery in Douglas County, a 24 nest and a 100 nest Heron Rookery in Sawyer County and also has had reported to him another rookery in Langlade County.

Joe Alexander reports three Ruffed Grouse seen in the fall of 1940 near Cave of the Mounds, Dane County.

Dwight Warner of Whitewater has an earlier record of the Cardinal for that locality than those previously reported. He saw his first Cardinal there in February, 1922.

Alvin M. Peterson is feeding the following birds in his yard this month: Bob-white Quail, Cardinal, Blue Jay, Nuthatch, Downy, Hairy and Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Juncos and Tree Sparrows. The Bob-whites, Cardinal and Red-bellied Woodpecker are living almost wholly upon corn, which is thrown on the ground beside a spreading red cedar tree. The Blue Jay takes much corn but also visits a food tray and eats meat scraps, suet, etc. The Juncos and Tree Sparrows take rolled oats, and the Nuthatch, Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers prefer beef suet and a commercial food known as "Chickadee tidbits."

From Zaumeyer at Neenah we have the report that a pair of Titmice are feeding on sunflowers seeds there this winter and also that Purple Finches have been observed eating Coralberry.

Irven Buss reports the record of two Snowy Owls and one Goshawk in the Town of Drummond, Bayfield County, on Nov. 23, 1940.

J. H. H. Alexander records an unusual observation of an Osprey catching a coot which was feeding among low weeds in shallow water and laboriously making off with the struggling bird. This action was observed at 40 yards distance on Lake Nokomis in Oneida County on Sept. 22, 1938. He also cites a record of five American Egrets seen on Sept. 23, 1940, on Mud Lake about seven miles west of Watertown.

Lawrence Johnson sends in a note stating that another result of the Nov. 11, 1940 storm was found when Norman Sutliff, a local Boyceville trapper, found a Blue Heron the next day on the Hay River with its wings frozen to the body. He removed the ice from the bird, but it was not until three days later that it was able to fly away from the immediate locality.

A robin quite far north should have been reported for Dec. 28, 1940 by Harold C. Wilson at Ephraim, Door County.

R. C. Turner at Spring Lake, near Palmyra, Jefferson County, has noted a pair of Cardinals at his place for the past seven years but never observed any indication of nesting.

George Hartman of Black River Falls observed the Canada Jay in Dec. 1940 near Morrison Creek Camp in Jackson County which is far enough south to be of note. He also saw 100 Redpolls feeding on snow fleas in the Town of North Knapp, Jackson County, on Jan. 29, 1941, while in the company of Ralph Hopkins.

About 10 species of birds are using the feeding table at the home of Mrs. A. D. Phillips of Shorewood Hills (Madison) this winter. Unusual among these is the Tufted Titmouse.

A Red-bellied Woodpecker has been using the feeding station at the home of Elmer A. Becker, Elkhart Lake, Sheboygan County, since Jan. 10, and he reports that this bird is unusual for that vicinity.

## NEWS NOTES

On March 19 Carl Leopold talked at the Madison Bird Club on the subject "The Hawks of Wisconsin" and a movie "Birds of Prey" was shown.

Harold Hanson discussed the birds he had seen on his trip to Greenland at the March 4 meeting of the Kumlien Bird Club of Madison.

J. M. Speirs, c/o Vivarium, Wright and Healy Sts., Champaign, Illinois, is again conducting a Spring Robin census and would like to have anyone interested in cooperating with him write him immediately for report forms.

Correction: The name "White-crowned Sparrow" should be "White-throated Sparrow" in the second paragraph of the Bird Bander's Department of THE PASSENGER PIGEON, Vol. II, No. 11, November, 1940, page 122.

Another mounted Passenger Pigeon has been reported in the possession of a private party in Northwestern Wisconsin. About 35 mounted birds and skins are known to be in the museums and libraries of the state and possibly 25 or more are owned by private individuals.

Owen Gromme and J. Arthur Hochbaum will show some of their bird paintings in oils and watercolors at the Annual Meeting of The Wisconsin Society of Ornithology to be held at Racine on April 5 and 6.

The National Audubon Society, 1006 Fifth avenue, New York, New York, has sent out its prospectus for the sixth Audubon Nature Camp for Adult Leaders opening on June 13 at Muscongus Bay, Maine. Those interested in possibly attending the camp should contact that Society at the above address.

The possibility of affiliation with the Wilson Ornithological Club by The Wisconsin Society of Ornithology will be one of the items brought up at the business session of the Society at Racine on April 5. The Wilson Club publishes the Wilson Bulletin quarterly and carries many longer articles on bird life especially interesting to mid-western students. Anyone interested in securing this bulletin and joining the Wilson Club should send \$1.50 to Dr. O. S. Pettingill, Jr., Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota.

Owen Gromme is proceeding with work on "The Birds of Wisconsin" and is already taking orders for special volumes of this book.

The Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts, and Letters as well as the Wisconsin Archeological Society and Wisconsin Museums Conference will be held at the Milwaukee Public Museum on April 4 and 5. As the meetings end about noon on April 5, it is hoped that many of the members of these groups will plan to attend the W. S. O. banquet meeting at Racine that same evening.

The name of Bird-Lore magazine has been changed again to "Audubon Magazine" with the January-February issue of 1941.

Some time ago the editor sent copies of various exchange bulletins of other ornithological societies to several local Wisconsin bird clubs. As none of these have been returned, it is desired that they be sent to the editor at once so they can be placed in the Society library.

Eighteen Willow Ptarmigan trapped 300 miles north of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, were released on January 31, 1941, in the Town of Remington, Wood County, as a stocking experiment by the Conservation Department. Wallace Grange has been keeping careful check on the birds and will have further reports on their survival or movements at a later date.

Conservation Warden Eric Moir of Prairie du Chien recently was responsible for securing the removal of the Crawford County bounty on unprotected hawks from the books through action of the County Board. Warden Moir reports that too many red-tailed hawks were being shot under this bounty system supposedly only for "unprotected" species.

## PROGRAM

The Third Annual Meeting of The Wisconsin Society of Ornithology will be held at the Woman's Club in Racine on April 5 and at the Hotel Racine on April 6. Dr. B. L. von Jarchow is in charge of local program arrangements and should be contacted immediately for banquet reservations or other details. The program plans and other essentials follow:

**Saturday, April 5:**

- 12:15 P.M. Executive Board Meeting, Main Dining Room, Hotel Racine
- 1:30 P.M. Registration at Woman's Club (Near Hotel Racine)
- 2:00 P.M. Business Meeting of Wisconsin Society of Ornithology
- 2:30 P.M. Lectures and Papers at the Woman's Club including:  
 Lee Steven, "Hawk Banding Operations of the Milwaukee Public Museum;"  
 F. R. Zimmerman, "Identifying Waterfowl;" Dr. Howard J. Lee, "Bird  
 Photographs;" Earl G. Wright, "Birds of the Arid Southwest;" and Pro-  
 fessor Aldo Leopold, "The Turnover Rate and Mobility of a Chickadee  
 Population."
- 5:30 P.M. Inspection of the Dr. P. R. Hoy Bird Collection
- 7:00 P.M. Banquet, Woman's Club, J. Harwood Evans, Toastmaster, with:

Miss Polly Durgin presenting a violin solo; Murl Deusing presenting  
 movies entitled "The Great Blue Heron" and W. J. Breckenridge, Curator  
 of the Minnesota Museum of Natural History, showing his colored bird  
 portraits of many birds common to Wisconsin.

**Sunday, April 6:**

- 8:00 A.M. Bird Field Trip (organize behind Hotel Racine on Lake Avenue)
- 2:00 P.M. Lectures and Papers on Mezzanine floor of Hotel Racine including:  
 A film on the Audubon Summer Camp in Maine; Mrs. H. J. Anderson,  
 "Dr. P. R. Hoy, Pioneer of Wisconsin Ornithology;" Wallace Grange,  
 "Songbird Management;" and Walter E. Scott, "The Canada Spruce Grouse  
 in Wisconsin."
- 4:00 P.M. Meeting Adjourned

Special exhibits will include many bird photographs, paintings and sketches by Wisconsin  
 bird students and bird banding equipment organized by Harold C. Wilson. Check your  
 file of this bulletin as back issues will be available at the meeting.

Room Accommodations: Hotel Racine, \$1.50 up; Hotel Nelson, \$1.25 up; Y.M.C.A. \$1.00

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Send membership applications and dues to the treasurer.

Send manuscripts to the editor, field notes to the field note department  
 editor, and banding data to the bird banders' department editor.

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