

The passenger pigeon. Volume 28, Number 1 Spring 1966

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A MAGAZINE OF WISCONSIN BIRD STUDY

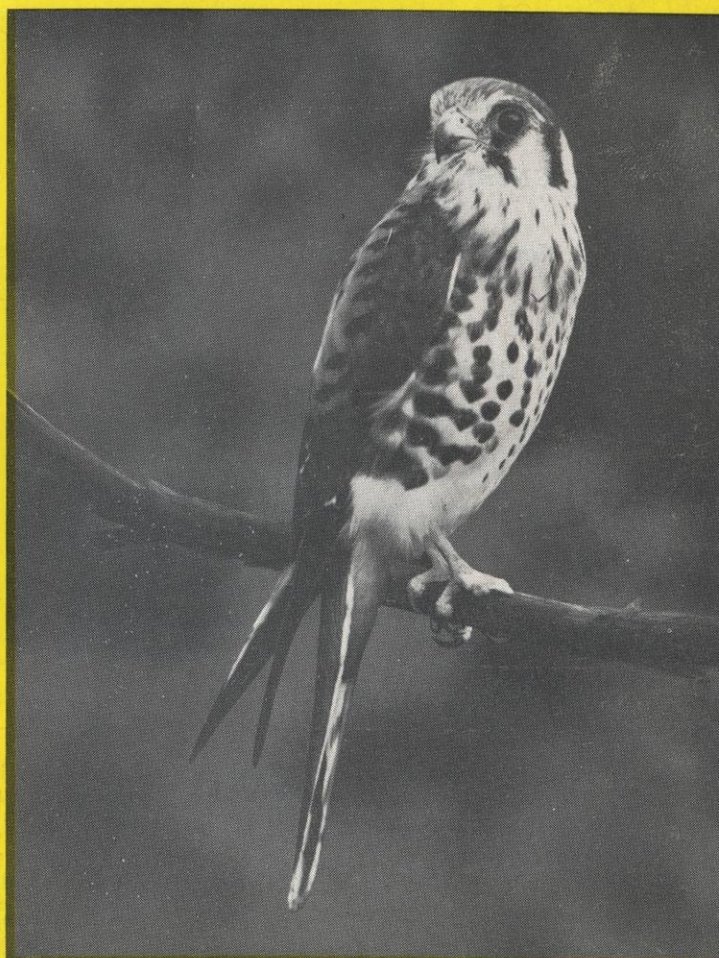


The Passenger Pigeon

SPARROW HAWK

PHOTO BY

ALFRED O. HOLZ



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Falconry

By FRANCES HAMERSTROM

This is an essay on falconry and its place in modern times. Falconry has always been limited to a few—it still is. Falconry is legal in about 40 states, including Wisconsin since the recent change in our game code. Falconers themselves, who have a particularly strong and practical wish



COL. LUFF MERIDETH WHO, DURING HIS LIFETIME, SET A FINE EXAMPLE FOR GENERATIONS TO FOLLOW.

to know how many people are participating in this sport, estimated the total at not more than 400 in all North America in 1964.

This is a sport which takes an astonishing amount of time. It takes money—not much, patience of a type that few people have, and painstaking skill. Many people like to imagine themselves as going afield hunting with a hawk, or going on a safari to Africa, but when they learn what it takes, they lose interest. Particularly when they learn they must

show that they have a serious interest in the art and should not only learn from falconers, but even read **books** on the subject, many would-be falconers give up. I believe Wisconsin is to be congratulated on having a particularly fine falconary law with well thought out regulations.

A special license is required and must be obtained before taking a hawk or an owl, the applicant must be recommended by a qualified falconer, and an annual report is required. Poletraps are outlawed, but I can scarcely envisage a falconer who would stoop to such inhuman methods. It is part of the proud tradition of American falconry that most falconers obtain their own birds, and selling of hawks is happily strictly prohibited by the Wisconsin game law.

For a few, the hours of training, of living with a hawk, and the delight in its flights and the unique companionship on a hunt, the effort is well worth it. Among the best hawks for beginners are red-tailed hawks and kestrels. Many American falconers prefer to fly red-tails as the best all-around game hawks. Falconry is perhaps the most natural method of hunting—crippling losses are essentially unknown—the quarry either is killed or escapes and does not suffer slow death, unlike shotgun hunting where there is often a crippling loss.

Falconers have certain attributes—a deep love, not only for their own birds, but for all birds of prey and their conservation. Many falconers are artists, and an astonishing percentage are actively engaged in research on hawks. At the recent International Symposium on Peregrines held in Madison, Wisconsin, about 40 experts on birds of prey were gathered together. Eighteen of them were falconers. Of the ten scientists from foreign countries, at least seven were falconers. What other sport has such a high percentage of its adherents actively working on research and conservation of any group of birds?

Falconers have a body of knowledge held by no other group. For example, to quote a letter from Professor J. J. Hickey, "At least at the moment, a small cohort of falconers experienced with the peregrine falcon represents one of the few opportunities (perhaps the only one) that we have to manage the reintroduction of nesting peregrines in states like Wisconsin."

If you see a hawk soaring overhead and hear a sharp whistle before it swings down, it may be coming in to the glove of a falconer. It may be that you are seeing the rare and beautiful hunting partnership between man and bird, which has been passed down as part of our civilization since long before Christ was born.

Need I add, do not shoot hawks; work for their survival? They, too, are part of the beauty of the earth we inhabit. Pole traps, pot hunters, and pesticides are taking their terrible toll. Of these, pesticides are the greatest threat of all . . . insidious, pernicious and fostered by powerful interests, which can only be combatted by education and legislative control.

Plainfield, Wisconsin 54966

Wisconsin Conservation Department



RESEARCH COMMITTEE SURVEY

By WSO RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Your Research Committee has embarked on a rather ambitious program which involves cooperation with several other groups. In part, our original, more modest idea has been expanded because of logical connections with other operations, and in part it "just grew." The survey has been broken into three parts, 1) Osprey and Bald Eagle, 2) Cormorant and Night Heron, and 3) Sandhill Crane.

Ospreys and Bald Eagles

The Osprey and Bald Eagle survey is under the direction of Charles Sindelar, Jr. who can best be reached by mail c/o Hamerstrom, Plainfield, Wis. 54966. Over much of the United States and Europe, Ospreys have declined drastically in numbers within the last 10 years along with the Bald Eagle on this continent. There is strong circumstantial evidence that pesticides are involved in all these decreases. Whatever the cause, we need regional surveys to determine population status and trends for the species that are affected. Bald Eagles are greatly reduced, especially around the Great Lakes, and are under study by the National Audubon Society. Ospreys are being watched closely in the eastern states and on Rainbow Flowage in Wisconsin, but have not been censused on a regional basis in the Midwest. It is high time for such an inventory in Wisconsin; and, in fact, a still wider inventory is proposed by the North Central Audubon Council, and our survey will be coordinated with it.

The first phase of the Osprey survey will be to learn where Ospreys were known to be nesting in Wisconsin in 1965 (and as far as possible before the deadline for reporting in 1966, where they are this year), and where they have been known to nest in earlier years. From this we can determine whether or not nesting has fallen off. The second step, if manpower and money are available, would be to find out how many young are actually being produced, and to band a number of them. That, however, would require a good many days of field work and a good many miles of travel; it may be more than WSO can undertake.

If you know of any past or present Osprey nests in Wisconsin, and if you have not yet answered the first call in **The Badger Birder**, we ask you to check off the appropriate boxes on the tearsheet questionnaire included in this issue. In this way we will find out who has information for us, and we will then write to ask for more details. We want to know exactly where all currently occupied nests are and how long they have been known; where other nests have been in the past; and when these other nests were last occupied, if that is known. Records of the number of young fledged would be most interesting and valuable. Since Ospreys and Bald Eagles nest in similar places, those of you who know of the nest of one may also know of the other; it seems a good idea to ask for the same information on both. We will send the eagle data on to Sandy Sprunt of the National Audubon Society.

Cormorants and Night Herons

It is entirely possible that the fast disappearing DuBay colony is the only Double-crested Cormorant rookery left in Wisconsin. Dan Anderson wants to find out, and is in charge of the Cormorant and Night Heron survey. Dan is working under J. J. Hickey on a pesticide study involving the collection and chemical examination of eggs which fail to hatch in certain fish-eating birds, especially Cormorant, Black-crowned Night Heron and White Pelican within an area embracing several states and provinces in the mid-continent. Our primary objective is to learn the current distribution of Cormorants in Wisconsin, but Dan would be glad to get records of active colonies of these species, from Wisconsin to the Dakotas and the Prairie Provinces. His part of the tearsheet may be cut out and sent to him directly at the Department of Wildlife Management, Russell Laboratories, University of Wisconsin, Madison 53706, or send the whole sheet to Plainfield.

Sandhill Cranes

On a more cheerful note, there is reason to believe that Sandhill Cranes are increasing, both as migrants through Wisconsin and as nesters within the state. Richard A. Hunt, waterfowl biologist for the Conservation Department (mail address, Horicon 53032), is investigating this pleasant possibility. He would like nesting records, of course, but as very few people have ever seen a crane nest, his survey will depend mainly on information of other kinds. Do you know any places where cranes spend the summer in Wisconsin? Have cranes appeared in new areas or disappeared from familiar ones? Do you see them on migration in greater, lesser, or the same numbers as formerly? If you have information which would answer any of these questions, write Dick directly or make a notation on the tearsheet and send it to Plainfield.

Please note that **each** of the three parts of the tearsheet has a place for your name and address and a deadline for your reply. Please give your name and address for each part that you answer. That part can either be mailed directly to the appropriate person, or, if the whole sheet comes to Plainfield, we can divide it up without danger of miscopying your name or losing it altogether. The deadline for reporting is a compromise: if late enough for complete information on the 1966 season, it would be too late to allow effective field checks this year; nevertheless, we would like as much 1966 information as we can get. Please note the deadline of June 20 on the tearsheet and report accordingly.

We are counting on your help!

WSO Research Committee

Daniel W. Anderson

Richard A. Hunt

Charles Sindelar, Jr.

Fred and Fran Hamerstrom, Co-chairmen



A Three Month Visit of Yellow-crowned Night Herons

By BETTY and BILL PUGH

On May 7, 1965, two strangers to us appeared in the trees by our home, which is in an oak grove in suburban Racine. A quick look through Gromme's book convinced us they were Yellow-crowned Night Herons.

After a few days, it was apparent they were building a nest, forty feet up in a large oak. One adult would get a dead twig from a nearby tree, rather than the ground, and at the nest site would pass it on to its mate (see photo). This appeared to be part of the courtship behavior.



ADULT YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERONS.

PHOTOS BY THE AUTHORS

The nest was soon completed enough for the start of incubation. However, the adding of twigs was constantly going on until they left in August.

On May 13 they started incubation. Both adults took turns at this. They apparently got their feed at nearby Root River, about one-half mile away.

On June 11 it was apparent that there were young in the nest. We never saw the nest from any angle but the ground level. At first it seemed like two young, but by the 22nd of June, we were sure there were four. It was evident that all did not hatch at the same time. Incubation apparently began as soon as the first egg was laid. Eggs could not stay

in the nest without an adult on it as it most certainly would bounce out in a wind.

In fact we found an egg without a crack below the nest after they left in August. It fell the forty feet into tall, but soft grass.

Activity was now at a high pitch. One adult would always be at the nest while the other was after food. The young were not fed by dropping food into their mouths, but by regurgitation into the nest where it was quickly taken by the youngsters.

The limb on which the nest was built began to bend down noticeably. Whether this was because of left over food in the nest or weight of the youngsters would not make much difference. The adults built



IMMATURE YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERONS.

another platform on the same limb nearer the tree trunk, which was used as a restaurant.

In mid-July the young were climbing all over the branches of this oak. One day they lined up (see photo). After July 23 the young would leave the tree for the day, but would return in the evening. One adult always was on hand with them. The young would perch on our roof and leave telltale white streaks. On August 5 they all left and were to be seen no more.

When the adults were first seen in May until they left in early August, another smaller heron was a tree or two away looking over the activity. This was an immature from the year before.

We wish to thank the members of the Hoy Bird Club for the many suggestions and the many visitors for their restraint in not disturbing the nesting site. These birds were photographed hundreds of times by dozens of people from their arrival to departure.

Racine, Wisconsin



By the Wayside...

An Albino Cowbird. On July 11, 1965, as I was traveling toward the home of the Hamerstoms on Waushara county highway W where I was going to help them with some study work on Marsh Hawks (*Circus cyaneus*), I noticed a different colored Cowbird, (*Molothrus ater*). The bird was the same size as the rest of the cowbirds in the flock but it appeared to be a yellow-gold color. I had just turned to the south off of "W" and the sun was to my left and the bird was to the right. I didn't know if it was a mutant or not, and since I have a state collectors permit, I was going to collect this unusual bird. I went to the farm and obtained permission from the landowner to get the bird. I didn't go after it immediately however, but continued to the Hamerstoms and had stopped to watch a male Marsh Hawk on the wing for about a half an hour. I had been there about five minutes when I told Fran about the bird and she reminded me that we had been notified about many of the blackbird family that were being color marked and released in the east and that anyone seeing any of these birds was to notify the releasers immediately. We, accompanied by Paul Drake Jr., went to get the bird and found it to be an albino cowbird (*Molothrus ater*). The bill was pink and the body plumage was a grayish white, but mostly white and probably just dirty. At any rate we failed to collect the bird. Any albinism is most interesting and I thought this would be of interest to others.—Don G. Follen, Sr., Arpin.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo Nursed Back to Health. At 12:40 p. m. on May 27, 1965, I was driving on Nash Street near 73rd in Milwaukee, just north of Wanderer's Rest Cemetery. It was a windy, overcast day. Lying in the middle of the road was a bird, feet up and motionless. As I slowed down to observe it with thoughts of picking it up to skin and preserve the carcass, I noticed circular white spots on the underside of its long tail feathers. I had seen markings like that only once before, on a bird near George Hansen's golf course in Wauwatosa. It was a Yellow-billed Cuckoo.

Standing over the bird, I noticed eye movements and respiratory activity. As I attempted to pick it up, it flapped uncontrollably on the pavement. After examining it and finding no blood, I put it in a large paper bag and placed it on the back seat of the car. I didn't give it much chance to survive. At the end of the teaching day at John Marshall Jr.-Sr. High School in Milwaukee, I returned to the car and looked into the bag expecting to see an expired bird. Instead it was upright and alert, although extremely emaciated.

After I arrived home, my wife, Pam, called June Schmael for assistance. She referred us to Mary Donald who referred us to Ann Egger. We brought it to her, and after two days of her tender care, we returned to find it eating force-fed raw beef while perched on her finger. The only visible mark was a flaky area above its right eye.

The experience was valuable for our children, Karen, 6, and Scott, 3, and heartwarming for Pam and myself to find so many wonderful people willing to cooperate to help save one cuckoo, "our friend from the south."—Richard L. Dawley, Wauwatosa.

Pigeon Hawk at Antigo. On January 24, 1965, a female (or immature) Pigeon Hawk flew into a large elm in our backyard at Antigo. It sat there for about 30 minutes before it darted over the house and returned with a small bird in its talons. While tearing away feathers, the prey fell and the falcon tried to catch it in midair but missed. Because the snow was powdery, the prey dropped out of sight. The Pigeon Hawk stood quietly in the snow for about five minutes, apparently awaiting some movement, but nothing happened. It then flew off into a tree in a neighbor's yard. All of the local sparrows were sitting tight in coniferous trees. The Pigeon Hawk flew off and returned several times during the three hours that it was observed. There is no doubt in my mind after watching this long that it was, indeed, a Pigeon Hawk.

I saw it again at intervals during the next three or four weeks. It evidently stayed around town feeding off the local congregation of birds at feeders.—Lynn Schimmels, Antigo.

Cattle Egret in Winnebago County. On May 8, 1965, while participating in the May count in Winnebago county, my companion, Walter Gilles, spotted a white bird standing in an overgrazed woodlot on Reighmore Road near Omro. I stopped the car and was immediately able to identify it as a small egret. When I focused my binoculars on the bird, which was about 50 yards away, I noted its red-orange beak and a warm, pinkish-brown wash on the crown and back. It became obvious that we were viewing a Cattle Egret. We watched excitedly for 5 or 10 minutes. Wally began to take photographs with hopes of them at least showing the brightly colored beak. (This was to no avail, for the slides showed only a white speck of a bird.)

The culmen was red-orange, as already noted, and the tarsus was a dirty, greenish-yellow color. We also noted the ruffed feathers on the throat, which is characteristic of the species.

I am familiar with the Snowy Egret as I have seen them in South Carolina and a single bird at Horicon Marsh on July 22, 1956.

I will never forget this most impressive bird or the thrill Mr. Gilles and I experienced at seeing such a bird on the most important day on the bird enthusiasts' calendar.—Rockne A. Knuth, Fond du Lac.

Anhinga at Cedar Grove. On May 11, 1965, Kenneth Stoll and the undersigned were watching migration from the hawk-trapping blind at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station. At 1355 hours Mr. Stoll called our attention to a "hawk" soaring in circles high off to the west. Shortly thereafter he stated that the bird looked more like a "goose." At this time we all saw the bird. It had a long, outstretched neck and a long, rounded tail, and it appeared to be dark brown or black in color. The bird alternately flapped and sailed, soaring in circles. It drifted eastward to just over our station, then turned and disappeared to the north, soaring in circles all the while. It was observed for about four minutes

with 7- and 10-power binoculars and a 30-power spotting scope. The bird was flying so high that it was barely visible to the unaided eye.

Our first idea was that the bird was a Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax* sp.), but the tail was too long and it was rounded, not wedge-shaped. We have never observed a Cormorant circle-soaring, hawk-like, as this bird did. We believe that the bird was an Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*), a bird that we have observed in Florida. Anhingas commonly soar in circles at great heights.

There are two previous records of the Anhinga for Wisconsin, both of them dubious and unsubstantiated by specimens:

- (1) At Kelley Brook (presumably Oconto county), in the spring of 1899. (Bent, *Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus.* 121:236, 1922.)
- (2) In Dodge county, about 1882 (Snyder, *Bull. Wis. Nat. Hist. Soc.* 2:109, 1902.)

The Anhinga is not listed as occurring in Wisconsin in any edition of the American Ornithologists' Union Checklist nor is it listed in the checklist published by the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology.—Helmut C. Mueller, Madison, and Daniel D. Berger, Milwaukee.

Spring Seasonal Editor's Note: Although this report must be considered hypothetical (in the absence of a specimen or photograph), there is little reason to doubt its validity. High as the bird was, the shape and manner of flight observed are distinctive enough to make the identification the most reasonable one possible, if not 100% certain.

Cattle Egret in Western Wisconsin. At about midday of May 29, 1965, my father and I were driving south from the end of a dead end road about one mile west-northwest of Midway, La Crosse county, Wis. My father saw a white bird on a fence post in a flooded field a little over 300 feet from the road. It was a white egret with buff on the head and back. The buffy back seemed to be more conspicuous when the bird flew to another fence post. As we continued to watch, the bird flew farther away from us to a lowland pasture where cattle were present. It started to feed. This egret was smaller than the Common Egrets that we had seen earlier that same morning. In the following two days we noticed that the Common Egrets were more common than usual in the Mississippi valley between Redwing, Minnesota and Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. —Kenneth H. Kuhn, Athelstane.

Strange Behavior of Black-crowned Night Heron. Just before dusk on May 16, 1965, I was returning to my car at Wind Point when the very unmusical squawk of a Black-crowned Night Heron came from directly above. The bird was flying straight out toward a lighthouse in Lake Michigan which was about 3 miles distant. For about 1,000 yards it flew . . . then circled and came directly back toward me. When about 50 yards from shore it stopped and hovered about 30 feet above the water with its legs dangling and its bill pointed down in the manner of a tern. After apparently spotting something, it folded its wings partially and dropped straight downward. Just before its legs touched the water, it began flapping to break its fall. My first thought was that it was going to alight on the water, but it stopped just above it and hovered for 3 or 4 seconds. Then with a quick stab of its bill it struck at something unsuccessfully.

It repeated the process starting from about 30 feet up a second time and was successful in nabbing a 4-5 inch alewife. Two days later I saw the bird do the same thing at about the same time of day.—Bill Weber, Racine.

Thrilling View of a Swallow-tailed Kite. On Memorial Day, May 30, 1965, my wife, three sons, and another couple and their two children accompanied me on a picnic outing to Blue Mound State Park. We had just arrived at the picnic area, situated on the top of Blue Mound and comprised of a large open play area surrounded by picnic tables, when we saw the kite. I was unloading our picnic supplies when my wife and one son asked me to identify the odd looking bird soaring lazily over the play area. They know our common hawks and larger birds quite well so I assumed something was wrong with their eyes or they really had something. When I turned and saw the bird I realized they **did** have something. A genuine, flesh and blood Swallow-tailed Kite!

The bird was soaring only 50 or 60 feet above the ground and very near some ball players, who also were watching it with mouths agape. Even they were stunned by its grace and beauty. It was so stable and easy on the wing that I had the uncomfortable feeling that it was a manmade bird kite like the Japanese fly and I found myself looking for a kite string leading from the bird to someone on the ground! I saw no string! The kite gradually gained altitude, and since it was a beautiful day with light breezes and fair "thermals," it took the bird two or three minutes to reach an altitude of perhaps 250-300 feet. As this altitude was reached the bird set its wings and went into a long, easy, straight-line descent toward the TV tower on the mound. It passed the tower, heading northeast, and continued down the north slope of the mound above the woods and disappeared from view.

We watched the kite for well over three minutes and everyone was hypnotized, even the youngsters. When I told everyone just how rare a sighting of a Swallow-tailed Kite was in Wisconsin, they were elated beyond description. I assured them they would never see another in this state.

On arriving home I thought I would see just what kind of an impression the kite left on my family's individual minds. I called each boy into the den, one at a time, and held up the plate in Peterson's field guide containing the Swallow-tailed Kite in flight. Keeping the boys a good six to seven feet away, so they could not read the label, each one immediately identified the right silhouette on the plate.

This was quite a day, and in all my days of bird watching it stands out as one of the most thrilling.—George Knudsen, Madison.

Lucky Plover Eludes Falcon. On May 31, 1965, I was checking on the Black-bellied Plovers about 7 o'clock in the morning. They were at the far end of the field. As I watched them a Peregrine swept into the field, and the plovers took flight. Before they were 10 feet in the air the falcon was in among them. He scattered the flock, brought down one plover, and sat on it. After about a minute the plover somehow became untangled and darted off with the Peregrine right behind. In the even

race the twisting plover won and the Peregrine returned to the field. It left several minutes later.—Thomas Erdman, Green Bay.

Avocet in Pierce County. On the morning of May 6, 1965, the Rev. Willard Sherman of Ellsworth and I drove slowly along the Highway 63 causeway between Hager City, Wisconsin, and Redwing, Minnesota, watching both for birds and for evidences of flood damage along the Mississippi River. We sighted a peculiar looking bird on the gravel shoulder just ahead of us, and pulled off for a closer look. Even before the car was stopped, even before binoculars were used, it was obvious that this was an Avocet—large white body, long bluish legs, black wing markings, buffy head and neck, long up-turned thin bill. The bird was watched leisurely at less than 100 feet, and was subsequently seen in flight as well.—Sam Robbins, Roberts.

A Woodpecker of Very Strange Plumage. Perhaps someone . . . can identify an unusual bird that has occasionally come to my feeder during the past year, regardless of season. He is the size of a flicker and acts like one. His whole head and neck is bright red. His back and wings are the slate gray color of the flicker's neck and he has no white or other markings. His breast is white. He is **not** a Red-headed Woodpecker or

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a Red-bellied. Could he be the product of "mixed marriage"? The feeder is about 15 feet from the house, and I have been able to observe the bird with glasses as well as without. Could he be a mutation of some sort?—Irene Luethge, Kiel.

Observation of a Violet-green Swallow. On May 1, 1965, at Rice Lake, located in Mead Wildlife Area in Portage county, Richard and I were on a general bird watching hike. The temperature was about 50° and the sky was mostly clear. At about 8:00 a. m. we observed about 15-20 Tree Swallows feeding over a shallow pond. One of the birds came within about 25 yards of us, and upon observation with 7x35 binoculars we noted that this swallow had white patches on its greenish back just anterior to the tail. This immediately brought the picture of a Violet-green Swallow to my mind that I had once seen in a western field guide. Paging to the back of my Peterson field guide, I looked up this swallow and noted its characteristics. This swallow fits the description very accurately, for we were able to get enough sightings to confirm this. The first sighting of the swallow lasted about two minutes as it flew back and forth over the pond. Gradually it flew out of sight with the rest of the swallows. Following along the pond's edge we came upon the birds again and were able to make sightings of it for short periods of time. Finally the flock of swallows disappeared from the area.—Howard Lorenz and Richard Duchrow, Plymouth.

Spring Seasonal Editor's Note: Several facts point to the possibility that this bird was indeed a Violet-green Swallow: the greenish color of the back and the presence of the two white rump patches. Nevertheless, identification of this species is potentially tricky, especially for observers to whom it is not familiar. The exact color of the iridescent backs of Tree and Violet-green Swallows is ill-defined, and it varies from bird to bird and with lighting conditions. Also, Tree Swallows sometimes display white patches in the rump area similar to those which occur regularly in the Violet-green Swallow, although those of the Violet-green are considerably more extensive. Two other facts require us to consider this report hypothetical: the fact that the closest normal range for the Violet-green is in the western Dakotas, and the lack of mention by the observers of perhaps the most diagnostic field mark of all: the position of the white of the face relative to the eye—partly encircling the eye in the Violet-green, not touching the eye in the Tree.

Robin in Unusually Striking Partial Albino Plumage. On the . . . grass was a bird with a white head, at a distance I thought perhaps a pigeon. When I looked with the binoculars, it was a Robin, plumage seemingly normal except that where the head is usually black, he was all white, from the neck up. April 6, 1965.—Louise Erickson, Racine.

How's This for a Nondescript Bird? We also saw a warbler—several times—at distances down to 3 feet—and with 7- and 10-power binocs—that I cannot identify. We tried our best to collect the bird but failed. It resembled nothing in the Eastern, Western or European field guides, spring or fall plumage. It was house wren brown, somewhat lighter below, with a very faint suffusion of yellow on the breast. It was small, only slightly larger than a kinglet. It had no distinctive markings anywhere.—Helmut C. Mueller, Milwaukee.

University Arboretum Hosts Rare Visitor from the Southwest—A Painted Redstart. Thursday (April 22, 1965), being a warm, sunny day,

filled with the song and flutter of many birds, prompted me to set out into the woods of the Arboretum. With me were two neighbor children: Robin Gates, age 13, and Ross Miller, age 13. My daughter, Beth, age 11, also accompanied us. (All dedicated bird watchers!)

We entered Gallistel Woods and followed a pathway to a small frog pond. This pond is surrounded by many kinds of trees and shrubs, including the tall cottonwoods. Many birds, Goldfinches, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Myrtle Warblers, and a Sapsucker or two were flitting about these trees catching the small insects on the newly emerging buds.

As we turned to go back down the path, I caught the flurry and color of a bird which at first glance seemed to resemble a Rose-breasted Grosbeak, but putting up my glasses, I immediately realized that what I was seeing was some kind of warbler (because of size, actions and body contour). The bird moved quickly through the branches, down swiftly into the underbrush, back up into the tree tops. At times, it seemed that he wanted us to take special notice of him and sat still long enough for us to note the positive field marks including the white belly and white patches under the tail and wings, the white wing band and eye ring, and, of course, the breast, so beautifully brilliant that it could never be reproduced in like color.

We could not identify him from our Peterson field guide. A man who also happened to be nearby, after confirming our field marks, seemed as perplexed as us!

The bird came within 15-20 feet of us at times and did not seem to mind our presence. We watched it for 10-15 minutes and then, regretfully, we watched it fly off into the tree tops! This took place between 2:30 and 3:00 p. m.

We were all so happy to think we had seen a new bird, but little did we realize, (until) . . . checking my **Song and Garden Birds of North America** (Natl. Geographic) page 289 at home, that this was indeed a rare occasion.

I notified several members of the Madison Audubon Society, but our weather changed so abruptly that any chance of seeing the bird seemed an impossibility. I went back again on Saturday, in a slight mist, but only found one lonely Mallard complaining about the weather at the Frog Pond!

I know that this sighting can only be considered hypothetical, but I did want to share this very special experience, for it was truly enjoyed and appreciated by all of us. I know I and the children will always consider this a most memorable occasion.—Mrs. Robert J. Sutherland, Madison.

Aberrant Tanager (?) is Anybody's Guess. This morning (May 27, 1965) I got a frantic phone call from Mrs. Dietsch who lives just north of Plymouth . . . She said she had seen a strange bird which could be a Western Tanager and she would call me again if she saw it. Right after dinner she called me and I made the mile or two in nothing flat.

Within minutes after I got to her home the bird was in a mulberry tree and we watched it for about ten minutes at a distance of about forty feet. When first seeing it, I, too, thought of the Western Tanager. This bird had a bright orange head and breast with yellowish orange underparts and bright orange back. The wings and tail were dark, almost black. There was only a trace of wing bar, and according to Peterson's guide the back should be black and the wings should have wing bars.

This bird did not seem to me to be an immature nor did it give any hint that it might be a moulting Summer (Scarlet?) Tanager. What is it? The closest I can get to it is the Western Tanager. Just about two days ago tornado weather in the Chicago area.—Harold Koopmann, Plymouth.

Martin Pursues Tanager. The Summer Tanager was seen at approximately 8:00 a. m. on May 17, 1965. I was conducting an ornithology class field trip at Forest Hill Cemetery and saw the bird perched five or six feet from the ground, near the south end of the cemetery, close to the golf course. It was at a distance of 12-15 yards. The bird was an immature male, with nape and cheeks almost entirely red, but with yellowish-olive interspersed with red over the rest of the body (the typical immature male "tanager"). The wings had **no** trace of black on them, and were generally a gray-olive color, much the same as a female Summer Tanager's wings. Because of the light colored wings there is no doubt the bird was a Summer Tanager. I approached alone to approximately 10 yards, and the bird flew east over the ridge and was not seen again, although I returned a number of times hoping to photograph it.—Steve Martin, Madison.

Belated Report of a Large Flock of Willets in Western Wisconsin. I thought that this item, published by Fred Leshner in *Iowa Bird Life* 34:72, 1964, would be of interest to you. It is complete with photography, and I'll quote in case you do not have the periodical handy: "On May 4, 1963, I observed a flock of Willets at the Genoa Fish Hatcheries near Genoa, Wisconsin . . . Not only was this the largest flock of Willets I have seen, but there was also an albino Willet in the flock." Fred is formerly from Iowa (now from Minneapolis) hence the note in their publication. The albino shows up nicely in the photo.—Janet C. Green, Duluth, Minnesota.

Prairie Chicken vs Pheasant. After checking some Broad-winged Hawk nesting areas near here today, (June 3, 1965), I was enroute back to Arpin with two of my helpers. I had just crossed the south boundary of the township and getting close to my Prairie Chicken booming area. I glanced over to see if they were on the booming ground, as I had observed them for 15 minutes the previous morning on the way to school. A flash of wings near the booming ground caught my immediate attention and I came to a sudden halt. I tore out the 20x scope and glassed the area. I saw three booming male Prairie Chickens. A movement in the grass about twenty feet from one of the cocks caught my attention as it appeared to be very red. It was a rooster pheasant. This is not

too unusual in the area, but it appeared to be acting strangely. It acted like a cat sneaking after a mouse. He was moving toward one of the booming cocks. When he got to within 20 feet, he charged, and chased the Prairie Chicken for about 50 yards. The chicken then flew up and returned to the dancing area and again commenced to boom. The pheasant was back in the grass. The "sneak up" activity started again. This time he centered his attention on a different cock, followed by the mad rush and run for about 20 yards.

Then a sudden surprise—the rooster started to "boom" on his own! He crowed repeatedly four times and beat his wings furiously (a normal display of crowing roosters). After his performance he stalked and made another charge, and just as suddenly he changed his mind again.

Just south of the booming ground is a small creek and the rooster headed towards it at a slow, deliberate pace. This is when I left the scene. This story sounds like an hour's observation but it actually took only nine minutes. The exact time was from 8:27 to 8:36 a. m. The sky was partly cloudy and the wind was from the WNW at 10 to 15 mph and the ground was wet. The booming ground is located approximately 300 yards west of the highway.—Don G. Follen, Sr., Arpin.

Fred Hamerstrom has this to say about the pugnacious attitude of the pheasant: "There are a number of instances (not all of them published) of cock pheasants on booming grounds of prairie chickens. Sometimes there is fighting, sometimes not. We have seen a booming ground completely cleared of its chickens by one pheasant for a morning or so, and we have instances in which there was no trouble. Ward M. Sharp ("Social and range dominance in gallinaceous birds—pheasants and prairie chickens" *J. Wildl. Mgmt.* 21(2) 1957: 242-244) concluded that this sort of competition 'could eventually eliminate isolated pockets of prairie chickens.'"

Artic Three-Toed Woodpecker at Oshkosh. On January 14, 1965 at about 1:10 p. m. while working in the Wisconsin Conservation Department headquarters, Oshkosh, a conservation aid expressed the fact that a very large hairy woodpecker was just outside the window on a Norway maple. I immediately looked and realized it was an artic three-toed by its coloration.

From the activity within the bird flew across the street and landed in a very large dead American elm. Jerome Rieckhoff and myself then took a pair of binoculars across the street and positive identification was obtained. It was either a female or immature as the yellow head patch was lacking.—Douglas Morrisette, Oshkosh.



The North American Nest-record Card Program for 1966

The first year of the North American Nest-record Card Program went very well. The Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, mailed out over 45,000 cards to individuals and regional centers from Florida to Alaska. WSO served as a regional center for Wisconsin.

Response to this program was most encouraging; over 23,000 completed cards were received by the Laboratory from 700 individuals. Over 500 cards were accumulated for several species; among these are Eastern Bluebird, Red-winged Blackbird and Common Grackle. The Red-winged Blackbird has been selected for a trial run on the computer, and the data from the 2,300 cards on that species are now being punched onto IBM cards.

The principal aim of the program is to accumulate a large amount of data on the breeding biology of birds of the entire North American continent. This data will be stored on IBM cards in a form ready for analysis. This data, once processed, will be available to researchers interested in many areas of avian biology, such as annual and geographical variations in breeding seasons, clutch size, fledgling periods, and nesting success. It is hoped that the program will also play a key role in the study of man's modification of his environment through marsh drainage, urbanization, and the use of pesticides.

Data is needed from all parts of the country. Observations from city parks and back yards, of the commonest species, are as important as those from remote parts of the continent. Cooperation is needed from all competent field observers.

WSO will again sponsor the nest-record card program this year and will distribute cards to members through the cooperation of the Biology Department, Wisconsin State University, Stevens Point.

If you participated in the program in 1965 and need additional cards, or if you want to start this year, send your request to: Arol C. Eppler, Wisconsin State University, Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54481.

The cards for the 1966 nesting season have been redesigned to eliminate the need for hand editing. But the 1965 cards may be used (if you have some left over) if they are filled out in a specific way. However, you should write to Mr. Eppler for an instruction sheet on how to fill out the old cards.

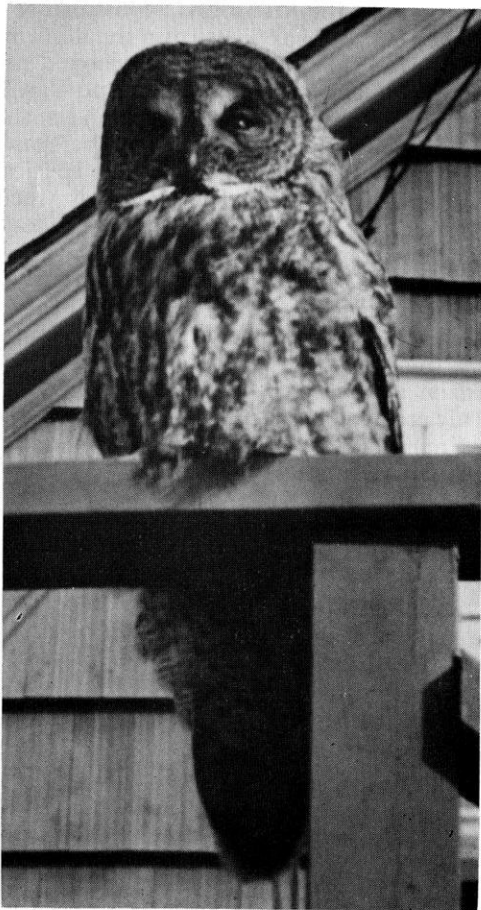


A New Record of the Great Gray Owl in Wisconsin

By RICHARD F. BERNARD and BERNARD KLUGOW

According to Barger, Lound, and Robbins (*Wisconsin Birds—A Checklist With Migration Charts*, 1960:26) the Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*) has not been recorded in Wisconsin for over fifty years. Specifically, the authors list 1891 as the year of the last report for this species in our state.

Kumlien and Hollister (*Birds of Wisconsin*, 1951:58) list this species as a rare winter visitant and note that the Great Gray Owl was formerly more common before the heavy timber was cut. This species was recorded as far south as Racine by Dr. P. R. Hoy in 1848 and two specimens were taken in Jefferson county at about the same time. Two others were collected at Iron River (Bayfield county) in November, 1891. The latter apparently were the last specimens recorded for the state. Kumlien and Hollister also state that "deer hunters from the northern counties sometimes bring down specimens; probably half a dozen reached Thure Kumlien from this source during many years." Unfortunately, no dates or localities are provided to support the statement. Of particular interest is their comment that, "If we could trust reports from hunters and residents in the Lake Superior region we could say that it is not rare in winter in that section, particularly during severe weather."



GREAT GRAY OWL.

PHOTO BY JOHN WARD

During the past three years we have received a few reports of the presence of this rare owl in northwestern Wisconsin. However, upon investigation we were unable to locate the birds.

On November 1, 1965, a Great Gray Owl was found dead by Forest Ranger George Gillette east of the Cedar Island Gate in Douglas county, Wisconsin (Sec. 14, T46N, R10W). The bird apparently was killed when it hit a high tension line. One wing was damaged but the specimen was in very good condition and the carcass was fresh when picked up. The specimen, an adult female, was donated to us and is now on deposit in the Wisconsin State University-Superior bird collection, SSU-514. The 2.5 lb. bird was picked up in an area of predominantly jack pine and aspen. Examination of a pellet from the stomach showed that the owl had recently fed on a pocket gopher (*Geomys bursarius*). To my knowledge, this represents the first specimen of a Great Gray Owl in Douglas county and the first for Wisconsin since 1891.

A survey of reports from neighboring states indicates that the Great Gray Owl may have been overlooked as a winter visitant in Wisconsin.

In Michigan, Zimmerman and Van Tyne (A distributional check-list of the Birds of Michigan, 1959:29) list the Great Gray Owl as a very rare fall and winter visitant in the Upper Peninsula and in the northern counties of the Lower Peninsula. The species was recorded once (1923) south to Saginaw. Four positive records since 1928 exist for Michigan with the most recent being that of a male bird collected near Gould City on February 25, 1951, by J. Fisher.

The Great Gray Owl is apparently of more common occurrence in Minnesota for Roberts (*Birds of Minnesota*, 1932:624) lists the species as a winter visitant. There are several specimens from Minnesota and the most southern record for the state appears to be that of a bird taken in Steele county in December, 1902. Some spring reports and a July record for this owl suggests that it may occasionally breed in northern Minnesota. There are also many recent Minnesota sight records for this owl. The latest is that of a bird observed on June 27, 1965, at Marsh Lake in Cook county (*Audubon Field Notes*, October, 1965).

The occurrence of this species in both Minnesota and Michigan in recent years supports the idea that careful observation may disclose the Great Gray Owl as an occasional visitant in the northern part of our state. Perhaps the credibility of reports from Lake Superior residents may even be restored by future observations. At least, it is hoped that we do not need to wait another 74 years before this rare owl is recorded again in our state.

Wisconsin State University
Superior, Wisconsin 54881
and Brule, Wisconsin 54820

Richard Bernard did not have to wait 74 years to record this species again. He reports: "Since sending you a paper dealing with the Great Gray Owl, we have been fortunate enough to see one in Superior. Fortunately, the photographer from the Superior Evening Telegram got there in time to take a picture (see photo).

"The bird was seen on March 14, 1966, in Superior, and Dave Snarski (one of my students) and I watched it for about an hour. At first we used binoculars but later approached to within 10 feet of the bird. Before long a number of people came along and looked at the owl . . . Finally with the buildup of people the owl flew off and perched on the pole supporting the backyard clothesline . . . From there it went off to the next block and we have not seen it since." Editor.

book reviews

THE BIRDS OF KENTUCKY. By Robert M. Mengel. The American Ornithologists' Union (address for inquiries re this book: Mr. Burt L. Monroe, Sr., Ridge Road, Anchorage, Ky.), 1965. 581 pp., \$10.00.

This weighty volume was written by a professional ornithologist, intended for use by his colleagues. A description of the environmental features of Kentucky is followed by a detailed account of the distribution of birds breeding in the state. The account of species observed in Kentucky is a statistical compilation of arrival, departure and breeding data. Because of the summations given here, this book will be a most valuable reference to birders in Kentucky and its bordering states. Information descriptive of individual species is limited to size and color variations. The quality of the ten black-and-white vignettes and four water colors by the author, and the style of writing in the few places where the restrictions of technical language can be overcome, lead to the belief that the author, if so inclined, could contribute well to popular, as well as scholarly, ornithological literature.—F. T. Ratliff.



FIELD NOTES

By THOMAS K. SOULEN

Spring Season

March 1-May 31, 1965

The spring of 1965 and the latter part of the winter preceding it were marked by a wide variety of quirks of weather. The heavy snows of late winter, coupled with about the worst icy conditions in the memory of many a person, served to slow migratory birds as well as wary pedestrians. Colder than normal temperatures prevailed throughout most of the spring, also. The icy blanket lying under the heavy snows of March served to create conditions of flooding more marked than many had ever witnessed, especially along the St. Croix and Mississippi Rivers. Along with swelling of the rivers, of course, there was more flooding of fields than usual. Some severe weather systems moved across the area. Tornadoes swept northern Illinois on April 11 and eastern Minnesota May 6, and although wind damage in Wisconsin did not begin to compare with

that suffered elsewhere on those dates, there was a very pronounced movement of birds in much of our state which could be traced to those weather systems.

A Slow Spring

Only with regard to the approximate dates of those tornadoes, however, is there unanimity among Wisconsin's amateur ornithologists regarding specific periods of especially marked migratory movement. There was a noticeable drop this year in the number of dates which people could identify as "peaks" of migration for various species, and indeed, many observed that there were few if any really good days of migration in their areas. Most birders remarked on the late arrival of many species, especially during March and April; only a few people in southern counties disagreed with this opinion. It is easy to understand why migration in central and northern Wisconsin was delayed. With a heavy snow March 17 over most of the state and another in some areas March 28, food would have been scarce for any hapless migrant returning that early. The period between these two dates was also a very cold one. According to Mrs. Raymond Caldwell of Grantsburg, the average minimum temperature from March 20 through 24 was about -15° . Even as far south as Madison there were several days of subzero weather at that time. The particular weather system which brought the state its heavy St. Patrick's Day blanket of snow also produced an influx of icterids at the home of the Stockings in Rock county. Mrs. Stocking writes: "18 March was a bitter, blustery day (18°F), but we were **inundated** with grackles, [male and female] Cowbirds . . . Redwings . . . Rusty Blackbirds . . . and a few Brewer's. They were all over the lawn, right up to the windows, so identification of the Brewer's and Rustys was easy. We never had another flock of **any** of these species to compare with 18 March. Snow in drifts all over after soggy blizzard on 17 March. Lots of Tree Sparrows, too—a whole new crop, not banded."

If one consults the Weather Bureau's publication "Climatological Data" for Wisconsin, April 1965, one discovers that the frost situation also was rather unusual. Quoting Marvin W. Burley, Weather Bureau State Climatologist: "On the last day of the month [April] there was still frost in the ground in north-central counties and in protected areas as far south as Madison. On April 16 frost depths' averages ranged from 25-36 inches in a 40-mile-wide band from Pierce County to the middle of Marathon County, to 1-6 inches in the northern counties to less than 1 inch in the southern third of the State. Most of the northern lakes are still covered with ice, although rivers and streams are open and flowing freely. There were reports of ice fishing during the last week of April. Spring was from 2 to 3 weeks late in the north and from 10 days to 2 weeks in the south."

General Comments on the Season

The overall impression which I gained from the reports submitted was that many observers thought the season as a whole to be lacking in numbers of individuals of many species over the entire season, as well as devoid of dates of heavy migration. Practically everyone who commented

on warblers felt that they were definitely down in numbers, except for Richard Bernard in Douglas county and Janet Kozlowski in Bayfield county; they both thought that the warbler migration was exceptionally good for that area. Waterfowl as a group seemed to elicit more comments of abundance than any other birds, perhaps due to the greater than average number of flooded fields and potholes in many areas. Shorebirds caused less comment than other groups of birds, and one cannot generalize what comments there were. Perhaps the only individual species to cause widespread notice was the Purple Finch; several observers remarked that the flight was one of the best ever. Charles A. Kemper in Chippewa county thought that although Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were abundant, numbers of birds generally seemed way down. His banding success was just fair. There was one additional species present in numbers: he notes that it "was a tremendous spring for wood ticks."

A Few Observations of Spectacular Flights

Despite the general characterization of the season as mediocre, there were three observers at least who witnessed exceptional migrations. Such flights are always fascinating to read about, since many of us have never had the good fortune to see any. That such massive movements are likely correlated with rather localized weather conditions is evident from the scarcity with which such flights are recorded. Indeed, all three of this spring's reports constitute isolated observations of large scale movement on the respective days involved. In two cases the area of observation is one which can be particularly favorable for "channeling" migrants along a water-land boundary, and in the other the movement witnessed is correlated precisely with a thunderstorm. Here are the reports:

Bill Weber, Racine (April 12): "Yesterday and the day before I saw no major migration because it was too cold and the wind was easterly. Suddenly yesterday afternoon the weather changed drastically. Winds to fifty m. p. h. and heavy rains brought . . . warm air. About 5:00 p. m. yesterday I went out and sat on a hill near Root River. Tree Swallows which had not been common up till then were flying north at about 10 per minute. They were flying uncharacteristically in a straight rapid flight. This continued until after sunset. This morning I arrived at Wind Point about 5:00 a. m. Immediately I noticed large numbers of redwings, cowbirds and rustys flying over. In about an hour, walking a distance of about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile, I recorded the following: 14,000 blackbirds flying, approximately 15:4:1 (redwings: cowbirds: rustys), 46 Sapsuckers, 13 Brown Creepers, 2,700 Slate-colored Juncos, 50 Tree Swallows, 1 Short-eared Owl (flying over lake), 1 Barn Owl (in spruce tree), 1 unidentified owl (probably Short-eared), 30 White-throated Sparrows, 60 Hermit Thrushes."

Richard Bernard, Superior: "On 29 April . . . we had a fantastic flight of flickers and cowbirds as well as good numbers of ducks (many species), hawks: Broad-winged (200), Sharp-shin (97), Red-tail (54), Cooper's (19), Rough-legged (9), and Marsh (17). I counted these during a single hour to get an approximation of numbers involved in this wave. The flickers and cowbirds, however, were impossible to count. To put it mildly, all the flickers and cowbirds in Wisconsin must have been flying

across Wisconsin Point. I have never seen that many anywhere at any time."

Janet Kozlowski, Bayfield county (May 7): "At 12:00 noon, the storm was over. . . . I noticed quite a few warblers, mostly Myrtle, Orange-crowned, etc. By 12:30, it was becoming quite apparent that something unusual was happening. Warblers were going overhead at the rate of 7-10 per minute, some stopping to feed in the willows and cedars and maples only briefly. Another thunderstorm was approaching from S-SW, and all these warblers were moving from the north **directly** into the storm. This continued all through the storms which did not stop until 3:30. Mr. Carlson called and asked if I had noticed this movement and we watched it together for awhile. The birds at times numbered . . . 30 per minute over a half-mile front. I had no car at the time to determine the exact width of this movement, and it could have been even wider. By 4:30 the movement had stopped altogether. At 6:00, I went out in my car to determine whether any of these warblers had stopped anywhere to rest. None of them did, at least in the immediate area, radius of about 15 miles. The whole thing was fantastic to watch. Most were Myrtles, Orange-crowned, Palm, Black-throated Green, with a smattering of Black-and-whites, Nashvilles, Ovenbirds, and Chimney Swifts."

The Seasonal Summary

The season produced its share of rarities, including a few real exotics. Details of these are in the following summary and in "By the Wayside." Particularly interesting were first reports for the state of Anhinga, Violet-green Swallow, and Painted Redstart.

Common Loon: Appeared April 3 in Dane county (William Hilsenhoff), in three more southern counties the next day. The period from April 14-17 saw progress northward to the central counties, and the push to the northernmost parts of the state occurred April 24-26. Several observers commented on an unusual abundance of this species.

Red-throated Loon: Five reports, more than in some years. Daryl Tessen carefully counted 127 at Loon Bluff in Ozaukee county April 19. John Bielefeldt saw one well in Waukesha county the same day. On May 17 Sam Robbins spotted a winter plumage bird in St. Croix county, the first he has found in the county; he comments that he has never seen a breeding plumage bird in the state. There are two more records, neither one documented; Wood county April 21 (Don G. Follen, Sr.) and Winnebago county May 4 (Hilsenhoff). The number of reports away from Lake Michigan is surprising.

Red-necked Grebe: Seen in six counties: Waupacka April 17 (Florence Peterson), Waukesha April 18 (John Bielefeldt), Burnett county April 16 (Stone) and Lincoln (first county record, Donald J. Hendrick) April 24, Douglas April 27-29 (several birds, one dead, which was collected, Richard F. Bernard), and St. Croix April 29 (first county record, Robbins).

Horned Grebe: Noted in Waukesha county April 2 (Ed Peartree), in several more southern locales the next few days. Seen in Burnett county April 16 (Stone), but not elsewhere in the north until April 25-26. Nearly all peaks mentioned were April 26-30. Scattered reports the first week of May, few thereafter. Last seen in Racine county May 28 (Bill Weber).

Eared Grebe: An undocumented report from Muskego Lake in Waukesha county April 26 (Mary Donald); one bird described well by Robbins (St. Croix county May 9) was only the second ever seen in the county.

Western Grebe: Rarely reported in spring, this species was seen in Douglas county May 1 (Jim Stephenson fide Bernard).

Pied-billed Grebe: Reported March 23 in Dane county (University of Wisconsin Zoology Department migration charts which generally include only reliable, well screened records) and March 28 in Rock county (Rudy and June Ohm). Many observations April 2-4, mostly in southern counties but including Lincoln county (Hendrick). Further progress northward was ill-defined, with first observations in the central and northern part of the state ranging from April 8 until nearly the end of the month.

Double-crested Cormorant: Appeared in seven counties (Brown, Buffalo, Burnett, Dane, Douglas, Marinette, Winnebago), about on a par with observations in the past five spring seasons. Noted earlier in Buffalo county April 12 (Kenneth Krumm), and near the end of May only in Marinette (Harold Lindberg) and Douglas (Bernard) counties.

Anhinga: From Cedar Grove comes the amazing report of a high-flying bird whose shape and manner of flight point with a very high degree of probability to an identification as this species of the southern swamps. The May 11 account of Daniel D. Berger, Helmut C. Mueller and Kenneth Stoll appears in "By the Wayside."

Great Blue Heron: Noted first in Waupaca county, March 27 (Peterson), in four other eastern counties before the end of the month, including Oconto (Carl Richter). Had reached most areas of the state by April 10.

Green Heron: An extremely early bird was seen in the University Arboretum in Madison April 11 by Douglas Flack and the very next day by Steve Martin. Next seen April 22 in Columbia county (Mark Tomlinson), in seven more counties before the end of the month. A number of observers, particularly some in central and northern counties, saw none until May 7-10.

Little Blue Heron: One seen in Sheboygan county May 29 (Harold Koopmann).

Cattle Egret: Three observations: Dodge county May 3 (W. D. and Lynn Carter); Winnebago county May 8 (Rockne Knuth, exceptionally well documented, complete with sketch: "... brown wash on head and back was very outstanding. Then it turned its head to the side showing us its brilliant red-orange bill. Under the bill was a puff of feathers as though its throat were expanded. Its legs were a pale yellowish-green. It was feeding on what we presumed to be insects. It fed in the same manner as a heron eating aquatic life, that is by staring fixedly toward the ground then thrusting at the insect. Its crest was not raised giving it a very sleek appearance rather than the much pictured shaggy plumage appearance."); La Crosse county May 29 (Kenneth and Herbert Kuhn). See "By the Wayside."

Common Egret: Seen in 17 counties, earliest in Rock county April 7 (Mrs. Joseph Mahlum), with a decided movement into other southern counties April 13-14, into some more northern counties in the western part of the state April 17-20. The only other northern reports were from Lincoln county April 30 (Hendrick; first time seen in the area) and Brown county May 12 (Ed Paulson).

Black-crowned Night Heron: Noted first in Milwaukee county April 12 (Elmer Strehlow) and just two days later much farther north, in Marinette county (Lindberg). Other arrival dates rather diffuse, stretching from mid-April to mid-May.

Yellow-crowned Night Heron: Birds returned to the Racine-Kenosha county areas this year, being found there first May 7-8 (Louise Erickson et al.). An immature bird was present during the spring, as many as four different birds were noted, and two young were raised. Also noted in the Cedarburg area of Ozaukee county (Donald, May 18).

Least Bittern: Rather surprisingly, this species was reported from no less than 11 counties. It was first seen and heard April 29 in the University Arboretum in Madison (John C. Snelling) and was subsequently trapped, banded, and released there. The period May 6-8 found birds in several other areas.

American Bittern: The first observation of this species was from Burnett county in the north April 19 (Stone), with reports from three southern and central counties the next day. Birds had reached most areas of the state by the end of the following week.

Glossy Ibis: One bird was seen along the main dike in Horicon Marsh, Dodge county, on May 26. It was at times only 15-20 feet from the road. It was seen inde-

pendently by the W. D. Carters and by Emilie and Austin Schraudenbach and Leta D. McMaster. Mrs. McMaster provided a very nice set of details of their observation.

Whistling Swan: Observed first in Racine county March 21 (Mr. Stoffel), next in Brown (Paulson) and Waukesha (Peartree) counties March 24. Moved into a few more areas during the last few days of the month. Peak dates mentioned in the south were April 7-10. General arrival in the north did not occur until about a week later. Still present in Bayfield (Janet L. Koslowski) and Douglas (Bernard) counties during the last week of May, although most departures elsewhere in the state had occurred April 19-24.

Canada Goose: Bob Fiehweg's February 22 report of migrating birds in Racine county is substantially earlier than any others. This species filtered into several other southern counties March 4-8, and during the period March 13-20 many observers (still mostly in southern counties) reported their first birds. Movement during the first week of April carried birds to a number of central counties and even as far as Burnett county (Stone). Substantial migration occurred April 27-29, a period which marked departures from a number of areas and which was characterized as a peak period by quite a few observers in northern counties. Southern peaks were April 3-4, 7-10, and 19.

White-fronted Goose: Nine birds noted April 7 in Racine county by Weber were subsequently seen for three days by a number of observers. Richard Hunt reported 13 birds in Green Lake county near Markesan on April 13.

Snow and Blue Goose: Reports from Brown, Burnett, Columbia, Dane, Douglas, Juneau, Pierce, Rock, and St. Croix counties, from March 30 until the end of the period.

Gadwall: Wintered in Dane county (Hilsenhoff). A few migrants in March, the first in Waukesha county March 21 (Peartree). Noted in a few central counties April 4-7, but not recorded from the far northern counties until May.

Pintail: Although a few birds wintered, the first movement of migrants apparently occurred about March 13-14, when the species was noted in three eastern counties. Except for Paulson's March 31 observation in Brown county, there were virtually no further observations until April. Lindberg found a nest containing 8 eggs in Marinette county May 23.

Green-winged Teal: A report from Dane county March 28 (Tom Ashman) precedes others by several days. The first week of April brought birds to several other southern counties. No birds were observed in far northern counties until April 24-25.

Blue-winged Teal: The only well marked aspect of the migration of this species was its appearance in three far northern counties April 23-24 (Burnett, Stone, Bayfield, Kozlowski; Douglas, Bernard). First arrival March 31, in Rock county (Mahlum).

Cinnamon Teal: A bright male seen May 8 in Burnett county (Stone) was described in detail to Sam Robbins barely 10 minutes after the observation; Robbins indicates that Stone saw all field marks very well.

European Widgeon: Tessen observed a male of this species under good conditions for 15-20 minutes at Menasha on April 4.

American Widgeon: One female wintered in Madison (U.W. migration charts). First migrants were noted March 28 in Ozaukee and Milwaukee counties (Tessen), with a rather gradual spread over southern counties through the first 10 days of April, most reporting central counties and a few northern ones by the middle of the month. The two peaks reported from southern counties were in the period April 17-20.

Shoveler: Bielefeldt saw one very early in Waukesha county February 27 (wintering?). The next report was from Rock county April 1 (the Ohms), with a subsequent movement statewide similar to that of the preceding species.

Wood Duck: Mardi Stoffel saw one in the snow on her lawn March 21 (Racine county). A few wintered in Madison (U.W. migration charts). The first few days of April brought the birds into a few counties, as far north as Brown (Tom Erdman). More widespread movement across the state was gradual through the rest of April, some northern observers reporting none until the last few days of the month. Richter found a nest with 16 eggs on May 11 in Oconto county.

Redhead: Present in Racine county March 1 (Erickson). The pattern of migration was not clear cut. Arrivals in southern counties generally were during the latter half of March, with birds reaching central and some northern areas by mid-April,

not being noted in some areas until almost May, by which time some southern observers had recorded departures.

Ring-necked Duck: Arrivals much as with the preceding species, except that birds tended to be a little earlier. Alfred S. Bradford, (Outagamie county) commented on a large flight, while Bernard (Douglas county) said he had "never seen so few."

Canvasback: Migration pattern much as with the two preceding species. Tessen (Outagamie county) reported them as very abundant. Peaks in the south April 7-17, in the north April 24-29.

Greater Scaup: Only five out of fifteen counties reporting were away from one of the "big" lakes.

Lesser Scaup: The first observations in northern counties were April 10 (Bayfield, Kozlowski; Oconto, Richter) and the few days following. Richter noted large numbers leaving the bay for the northwest at sundown on April 21.

Common Goldeneye: There were departure dates from four southern counties May 22-27.

Bufflehead: Migrants appeared March 7 in Brown (Paulson), Jefferson (Richard Sharp), and Milwaukee (Strehlow) counties. Not many additional birds were observed until the first week of April. Northward progress of this species was not well marked.

Oldsquaw: The most interesting report is of a small group of birds seen on the Elk River in Price county April 27 through May 5 by Alice Vincent; the birds were seen very well on a number of occasions. The only other northern report is from the Ashland-Bayfield county region (Kozlowski), where two birds were seen April 13.

Harlequin Duck: One female seen well in the Port Washington harbor, Ozaukee county, March 28 (Tessen) had spent several months in the area.

White-winged Scoter: One found dead in Ozaukee county March 13 (Erickson); 14 birds counted in the same county at Loon Bluff April 19 (Tessen); last noted in Milwaukee county April 24 (Donald).

Ruddy Duck: Thirty on March 6 in Ozaukee county, where they winter (Tessen). Migrants filtered into a few southeastern counties April 2-7. Very few reports from northern counties, and those were after mid-April. Many present in Fond du Lac (Knuth) and Winnebago (Tessen) counties in April.

Hooded Merganser: A pair in Milwaukee county March 7 undoubtedly wintered (Tessen). Migrants appeared March 20 in Jefferson (Sharp) and Waukesha (Peartree) counties. By the end of the first week of April most observers in southern counties has seen this species, and some noted departures by then or shortly thereafter. Central and northern arrivals were generally April 14-15 and later. One female in Racine county June 5 is of interest (Fiehweg, Weber).

Common Merganser: One female in Racine county June 5 (Fiehweg). The latest departure otherwise in southern counties was May 8 in Winnebago county (Tessen).

Red-breasted Merganser: As is usual, this species lingered generally later than the preceding, being reported from three southern counties during the last half of May, last in Columbia (Tomlinson).

Turkey Vulture: Noted first April 7, in Dane (U. W. migration charts) and Waukesha (the C. E. Nelsons) counties. There were no reports from other counties until May except Rock county April 19 (Brakefield). The scarcity of observers in northern counties normally makes for few reports of this species from that region. This year birds were seen May 20-30 in two counties there; Lincoln (Hendrick) and Vilas (Mrs. Herbert Sell).

Swallow-tailed Kite: The family and friends of George Knudsen had a breathtaking 3-4 minute view of a gracefully soaring bird of this species at Blue Mounds State Park (near the Dane-Iowa county line) on a Memorial Day picnic. See Mr. Knudsen's account in "By the Wayside." Although the writeup contains no specific reference to the field marks of the bird, it is hard indeed to imagine mistaking the size, shape, and color pattern of this species.

Goshawk: A repeat of last year's widespread reports, with observers seeing this species in a total of eight counties this year: Brown May 9 (Erdman, no details), Burnett all season (Stone), Dane April 10 (Tessen), Douglas March 22 (Bernard), Marathon April 8 (Joan Williams), Milwaukee April 9 (Strehlow), Portage (Hamerstrom, lots in late winter), and St. Croix March 7 (Robbins).

Red-tailed Hawk: Seen in St. Croix county March 5 (Robbins) and in Brown county March 21 (Paulson) but not in counties farther north until April 3-9. Nests were found March 13 in Lincoln county (Hendrick) and March 15 in Winnebago county (Mrs. Edward Natzke).

Red-shouldered Hawk: No well defined movement of these birds occurred. Most reports are from southern counties, with none from the far north.

Broad-winged Hawk: There are two undocumented reports from the first week of April. Two independent observers noted birds in Dane county April 10 (Hilsenhoff, Tessen). The next reports begin April 16, with arrivals noted from then until April 29 across the state. Peak in northwestern counties April 29.

Swainson's Hawk. One in Burnett county April 3 (Stone, no details); noted May 7 and 12 in St. Croix county (Robbins, third straight year of observations in the county); noted May 28 and 29 at Cedar Grove (Berger, one bird banded).

Rough-legged Hawk: Some movement in March. Lindberg found birds in Marinette county at the beginning of the period, and Soulen found three birds in Langlade county March 13. Birds had left many southern and central counties by the end of April, but Erickson describes very well a black-bellied, hovering bird seen in Racine county May 20.

Golden Eagle: The first spring record of this species in over 20 years comes from Bayfield county, where on March 19, Bernard Klugow and Mark Baillie saw a bird at close range, sitting and flying.

Bald Eagle: Four southern reports: Racine county April 8 and Kenosha county May 8 (Erickson), Buffalo county April 12 (Kenneth Krumm), and Vernon county May 30 (Viratine Weber). Seen in six additional counties.

Marsh Hawk: Except for birds present at the beginning of the period in Brown county (Erdman), the earliest report north of central Wisconsin was in Clark county March 11 (Soulen). The arrival dates of several observers in widely scattered localities indicate possible slight movement March 20-24, with no more until April, when the first half of the month saw a push across the entire state.

Osprey: One in Dane county April 10 (Tessen), with others in a number of areas within the following week, including Lincoln county April 12 (Hendrick).

Peregrine Falcon: Close to an average number of reports: Waukesha county April 18 (Peartree); Pierce county May 6 (Robbnis); Dane county May 7 (U. W. migration charts); Columbia county May 21 (Peartree); Brown county May 31, chasing Black-bellied Plovers (Erdman, see "By the Wayside").

Pigeon Hawk: Less spectacular than the preceding, this species has been reported somewhat less often in spring than its larger relative in recent years. This year there are four observations: Milwaukee county April 7-13 (Strehlow); Lincoln county April 30 (Hendrick, bird roosting in tree); Winnebago county May 8 (Oshkosh May count); Brown county May 9 (Erdman).

Sparrow Hawk: No easily detectable periods of migration except for April 10, when a fair number of observers recorded their first birds of this species, including several in northern counties.

Spruce Grouse: After a number of years of no spring observations of this species, we have for the second year in a row a single observation, in Iron county May 15 (Phil Vandershaegen fide Bernard).

Greater Prairie Chicken: For the third year in a row Lindberg reported birds in Oconto county.

Sharp-tailed Grouse: Noted only in the favorable habitat provided by the Crex Meadows area in Burnett county, with a peak number observed on April 19 (Stone).

Bobwhite: Recorded only in five counties: Columbia (Tomlinson), Grant and La Crosse (May counts), Marquette (Ashman), and Vernon (Margarette Morse, V. Weber).

Gray Partridge: Donald reports none in Milwaukee county. A Grant county May count report is unusual.

Eastern Turkey: Seven seen near Necedah April 12 (Bernard), and one almost hit by a car there April 24 (Hilsenhoff).

Sandhill Crane: Milwaukee county March 31 (Donald); reached Burnett county by April 13 (Stone). Birds noted in Burnett, Ozaukee, and Racine counties and near the Jefferson-Waukesha county line late in May and into June were likely summer residents.

King Rail: One bird seen well at a distance of eight feet in Racine county May 8 (Weber); also noted in Brown county May 30 (Erdman) and Dodge county May 31 (the Carters).

Virginia Rail: There is an undocumented record from Horicon Marsh April 16 (the Carters). Birds arrived April 28-30 in Dane (U. W. migration charts), Marinette (Lindberg), and Racine (Fichweg) counties. Richter found nests in Oconto county as follows: one containing 11 eggs on May 24, one one with 4 fresh eggs May 31.

Sora: The widespread movement of many species into Wisconsin April 10-11 brought one of these rails to Racine county (Mrs. Mildred Rowley et al.). This species appeared next in Burnett county, oddly enough, on April 23 (Stone). Beginning April 27, birds spread into 7 additional counties in a 5-day period, and by May 4 there were reports from Marinette (Lindberg) and Oconto (Richter) counties. Only four more days were needed for most of the remaining observers in far northern counties to note first migrants. Birders on the Kenosha May count May 8 counted 32 of these birds, and Richter found nests as follows: Oconto county May 29 (13 eggs, 9 eggs) and Marinette county May 31 (10 eggs).

Yellow Rail: Two found in Oconto county May 4, with at least one bird still present May 21. One in Marinette county May 31; the nest was located subsequently. All observations by Richter.

Common Gallinule: Paulson reports the earliest of these, April 24 in Brown county. The remaining observations (12 in all, from only 7 additional counties) stretched from the last 4 days of April well into May. Erickson reports that **none** were observed all spring in Racine county. This species almost certainly is much less common than it was 10 years ago.

American Coot: Wintered in Dane and Ozaukee counties. A March 16 bird in Eau Claire county (Robbins) may have wintered. Migrants appeared March 28 in three southern counties. Succeeding first dates form little pattern.

Semipalmated Plover: Noted April 29 in Dane county, with no further reports until May 8, on which date Bernard found the species in far northern Douglas county. By the end of the following week, birds had appeared in most reporting southern areas, as well as a few central and northern ones. Peaks were late (May 16-22 in Dane county, Hilsenhoff; May 30-31 in Brown and Marinette counties, Erdman, Lindberg). Present in eight widely scattered counties at the end of the month, and in three counties June 6-10: Columbia (Hilsenhoff), Racine (Erickson), and Winnebago (Tessen).

Piping Plover: Lake Superior again produced records of his pale shorebird; Bayfield county May 6 (Kozlowski) and Douglas county May 8 (Bernard). Bernard saw birds throughout the rest of May in Douglas county.

Killdeer: March 2 (Marinette county, Lindberg) was the earliest date. There were observations March 15-20 in four more counties, but the first major influx occurred March 28, with birds spreading over much of the state, including far northern counties, within the following week. Very few observers had found none by April 5.

American Golden Plover: Three observations April 27-30, with no more until May 7. Tessen found 40 in Winnebago county May 7, and the Kenosha May counters 70 on May 8. Still present in Brown, Columbia, and St. Croix counties at the end of the month.

Black-bellied Plover: Noted first May 7, in Dane county (Ashman), in a number of areas within a few days, including Marinette county (Lindberg). Peaked in Brown and Marinette county May 23 (Erdman, Lindberg). Present in seven counties statewide May 31.

Ruddy Turnstone: Bernard's May 8 observation in Douglas county was a full week earlier than any others. Peak dates May 22 (several counties), 28, and 31. Tessen saw the "most ever" in Winnebago county (400 on May 22).

American Woodcock: Arrived in Dodge county March 28 (the Carters), in quite a few other localities within a week. The first non-southern area reporting was Mara-

thon county (April 7, Williams), and many central and northern observers noted none until after mid-April. A "migration" in Waupaca county April 8 (Rill), and a peak in Marathon county April 9 (Williams).

Common Snipe: First noted in Dane county March 29 (U. W. migration charts), next in three more southeastern counties April 3-5. Birds had reached Douglas (Bernard) and Marinette (Lindberg) counties by April 8-9, but not other central and northern areas until April 18 and after.

Whimbrel: There were two reports, neither one supported by much in the way of details, unfortunately, although the species is not an easy one to mistake. Ed Prins found one on the Racine May count May 22, and Lindberg and Frank King saw three in Marinette county May 31.

Upland Plover: Observed first in Dane county April 14 (John A. Wiens), next in Winnebago county April 18 (Tessen). Birds arrived in 6 more counties April 28-30.

Spotted Sandpiper: Of 32 reports (from 23 counties), 13 arrival dates (9 counties) were in April, the first April 22 in Waukesha county (Bielefeldt).

Solitary Sandpiper: A very early bird in Racine county April 15 (Weber, no details) was a full week ahead of other arrivals, with only five more total appearing during April. Most observers noted departures by May 22.

Willet: There were observations in these six counties: Dane April 29 (Ashman), Bayfield April 30 through May 7 (Kozlowski), Winnebago May 16 (Tessen), Douglas May 18 (Bernard), St. Croix May 19 (Robbins), and Marinette May 30 (King fide Lindberg).

Greater Yellowlegs: First in Dodge county April 4 (the Carters), next in seven more counties April 10-18. General penetration of the north began April 23-25. Still present at the end of May in Brown and Douglas counties.

Lesser Yellowlegs: Racine county April 5 (Dorothy Kuehn), a few more by April 10-11. Something of a movement may have occurred April 17-19, and there was a decided influx in the week beginning April 23, reaching all parts of the state. One bird still in Columbia county June 7 (Hilsenhoff).

Knot: Single birds were observed in three counties: Sheboygan May 22 (Harold Koopmann), Marinette May 23 and 31 (Lindberg, King), Racine May 28 (Weber).

Pectoral Sandpiper: St. Croix county April 21 (Robbins). Still in Dane, Dodge, and St. Croix counties at the end of May, and in Columbia county June 7 (Hilsenhoff).

White-rumped Sandpiper: Only two reports before mid-May: Dane county May 8 (Hilsenhoff) and Oshkosh May count May 12. Birds were present the last few days of May in 7 of the 8 counties providing records of this species, and some were still to be seen June 6-7 in Columbia (Hilsenhoff), Racine (Prins, Fichweg), and Winnebago (Tessen) counties.

Baird's Sandpiper: Noted in Columbia county May 14 (U. W. migration charts) and in Douglas county the next day (Bernard). Five more reports, the last in Winnebago county June 6 (Tessen).

Least Sandpiper: After Paulson's April 27 observation in Brown county, birds of this species spread rather irregularly over various parts of the state. Relatively few observers from northern counties recorded migrants, and what ones were noted were seen later in May.

Dunlin: Arrival dates form no pattern. First date April 27 (Racine county, Weber), with peak dates May 8-9, 12-13, and 22, and three June reports, the last June 13 (Racine county, Fichweg).

Dowitcher sp.: Robbins identified by call notes the Long-billed species on several dates between April 28 and May 12, and Short-billed during the period May 6-19. Hilsenhoff recorded both species on May 16 in Dane county. Other observations (all of birds not specifically identified) fell within the period May 6-31. Robbins found 75 in St. Croix county May 12, the only date on which he saw more than 6 individuals. Tessen noted a peak of 22 in Winnebago county on May 15.

Stilt Sandpiper: Noted in these four counties May 21-31: St. Croix (Robbins), Columbia (U. W. Ornithology class), Dane (Wiens) and Douglas (Bernard).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: The only April observation was in St. Croix county the 27th (Robbins). The period May 7-9 brought birds to a number of areas. As usual, quite a few observers noted late departures; birds lingered in nine counties through the last few days of May, and 30 were still in Columbia county June 7 (Hilsenhoff).

Western Sandpiper: Single individuals were seen under excellent conditions in St. Croix county May 25 and 31 (Robbins); the "distinctive decurved bill was well seen in both instances."

Marbled Godwit: Single individuals noted on four dates between May 3 and 21 in St. Croix county, with four present May 17 (Robbins); in several cases birds were seen "sufficiently close to a Hudsonian Godwit to see the size comparison." Paul Kromholz and Paul Miller found one bird at Goose Pond May 13, passing close enough to it to see it under very good conditions and presumably in flight. Two birds seen in Portage county May 19 by Dewitt W. Keach were observed under good conditions but not seen in flight, and no mention was made of size comparison of these birds with four Hudsonians seen the same day. Helmut Mueller sends an account of a sighting of a flock of 30 in flight at Cedar Grove in Sheboygan county May 23.

Hudsonian Godwit: For the first time in quite a few years, there were no more reports of this species than of the last. Observations were as follows: St. Croix county April 30 through May 20, with one flock of 25 on May 14 (Robbins); Portage county May 19, four birds, seen very well (Keach); Columbia county May 21 (U. W. migration charts); Dane county May 22 (Ashman).

Sanderling: Fewer reports than in several years, from only eight counties. Strehlow's May 4 observation in Milwaukee county is the earliest, with all other arrivals May 15 and later. Still present June 6 in Winnebago county (Tessen).

American Avocet: The first spring record in four years was a bird seen May 6 in Pierce county by Robbins and Rev. Willard Sherman. See "By the Wayside."

Wilson's Phalarope: St. Croix county April 30 (Robbins); three southern counties the next day. A pair noted in Winnebago county June 6 (Tessen).

Northern Phalarope: One female in St. Croix county May 24 (Robbins).

Glaucous Gull: The wintering bird in the Port Washington harbor was last seen March 28 (Tessen). The last of several which wintered in Superior departed April 23 (Bernard). Birds were found also as follows: Bayfield county March 19 (Klugow, Baillie), Racine county April 5 and 11 (Erickson, Prins), Brown county April 7 (Erdman). This is a remarkable number of spring records of this species.

Iceland Gull: From Mary Donald comes an account of an all white gull in the Port Washington harbor April 25. The bird was slightly smaller than Herring Gulls and harrassed by them. Lacking further information, we must consider this record hypothetical, since size alone is insufficient to distinguish this species.

Herring Gull: Aside from the observations of several dozen in Bayfield county March 19 by Klugow and Baillie, the first penetration into northern counties apparently occurred April 7-8.

Ring-billed Gull: The first well marked movement probably took place April 2-3, but no birds reached far northern counties until 2-3 weeks later except for Marinette county April 8 (Lindberg). Erickson noted a peak of nearly 1,600 in Racine April 3.

Laughing Gull: It's getting to be a regular thing to have reports from Racine of this species in spring and early summer. Again this year birds were noted there, beginning May 30 (two birds, Weber) and June 5 (one bird, Erickson). Despite rather good descriptions by the Racine observers, your Spring Seasonal Editor would feel more comfortable about these reports if they could be accompanied by good photographs. Both Laughing and Franklin's Gulls take several years to attain fully mature plumage, and intermediate stages can be mistaken fairly easily because they appear to be adult when in fact they are not. See 1965 Passenger Pigeon 65-66.

Franklin's Gull: Four were noted June 3 in a flock of Bonaparte's Gulls in Brown county; the white band in the wing was seen well (Erdman).

Bonaparte's Gull. Three in Racine county April 6 (Erickson) were over a week earlier than other arrivals, which began April 15 and stretched through April in southern counties (and including Brown county April 19). Birds did not reach far

northern areas until May 6 (Bayfield county, Kozlowski) and the following two days. The only southern peak mentioned was in Racine county April 27 (4,300, Erickson), and three northern peaks were May 12-13.

Forster's and Common Tern: Until we can get observers to pay closer attention to their first white terns of the year, your Spring Seasonal Editor may well have to lump these two species. In too many instances independent observers report different species from the same locality on the date of first arrival of a white tern. Whenever people provide details, the Forster's is invariably the earlier species reported. But every year there are up to a half dozen April dates given for the Common from mid-April on (and not once in five years has any of these reports been documented!) There were six arrival dates April 16-21 this year for the Forster's, the first from Waukesha county (Bielefeldt); several of these were supported by details. There were six additional April reports of Forster's, including a peak April 26-28 in Dane county (Hilsenhoff). Again this year, none of eight April reports of Common Terns was accompanied by details.

Caspian Tern: Two mid-April records are remarkable: a tern seen flying over the University Arboretum in Madison April 15 had a slightly forked tail and was presumed to be this species (Krombholz, Gerald Mick); a bird was seen in Racine April 17 (Erickson). All other arrival dates are in May; they come from five individual counties. Lindberg noted 50 in Marinette county May 12. Tessen found none in Outagamie or Winnebago county. Birds were still present June 13 in Racine county (Fichweg).

Black Tern: First arrivals were April 29-30 in Brown (Paulson) and Winnebago (Hilsenhoff) counties. There were a few more reports the next few days, but generally birds did not appear until May 8, reaching Burnett county that day (Robbins, Stone). Most northern observers saw none until the last half of the month.

Mourning Dove: April 4 was an extremely obvious day of movement of this species, with a peak and six arrivals noted that date, literally from all corners of the state.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Observed May 4 in Waupaca county (Peterson), in three southeastern counties May 8-9. All other dates were after mid-May. Only a few were noted in Racine and Kenosha counties during the spring, where 30-40 is a more normal number (Weber).

Black-billed Cuckoo: Two in Sauk county May 6 (Mrs. Henry Koenig) were two days earlier than other arrivals. The bulk of the observers reporting encountered none until mid-May and later.

Barn Owl: One April 12, two May 22 in Racine county (Weber).

Screech Owl: Noted in only five counties. Mrs. Earl Schmidt found many during the season near Monterey (Waukesha county).

Snowy Owl: More reports than in at least five years, all from eastern counties except for Dane through March 31 (Ashman, Hilsenhoff), St. Croix April 1 (Robbins), and Douglas March 15 through April 10 (Bernard). Noted in 11 counties in all, latest April 25-27 in Marinette and Oconto counties (Richter, different birds).

Long-eared Owl: Reported from eight counties, mostly southeastern, as late as April 29 (Waukesha county, Mrs. Paul Hoffman) and May 1 (Racine county).

Short-eared Owl: Observers found this species in these six counties: Burnett (latest, April 19, Stone), Dodge, Milwaukee, Outagamie, Portage, and Racine.

Saw-whet Owl: Rock county March 12 (the Ohms) and Douglas county April 17 through the rest of the season (Bernard).

Whip-poor-will: This species appeared in four counties May 1 as far north as Marinette (Lindberg). During the following week and a half observers in most sections of the state encountered birds.

Common Nighthawk: After the Carters' May 2 report (Dodge county), there were no further arrivals until May 6, when birders in three more counties saw or heard this species. By May 9-11 birds had appeared in all but a few far northern areas, where they arrived May 16.

Chimney Swift: Melva Maxson provides this season's first report (Rock county April 18), with several other scattered observations in southern counties within the

next four days. During the period April 26-May 2 there was general penetration statewide. All peaks mentioned fell in the second week of May.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Three arrivals May 2, including Waupaca county (Peterson). May 8 marked movement as far north as Burnett (Stone) and Marinette (Lindberg) counties. Most observers had seen this species by mid-May.

Belted Kingfisher: A few scattered observations during the first three weeks of March probably were of wintering birds. There were arrival dates from six counties March 27 through April 3, but no general influx was apparent until April 10, and that was restricted to southern and a few central counties except for Marinette (Lindberg). Most arrival dates in the north were during the last half of April.

Yellow-shafted Flicker: Wintered in about half a dozen southern counties. A few arrival dates at the end of March and first few days of April probably represent the first trickle of migrants. Through the first nine days of the month scattered birds appeared progressively farther north. April 10 was the first day of massive movement, when observers from 10 counties saw their first migrants. Within the next few days birds had been noted in all but the extreme northwestern part of the state. Peaks noted in southern counties were April 10-21, and in northern areas April 16-29.

Pileated Woodpecker: An observation May 13 in Jefferson county (Sharp) is unusual.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: A bird which wintered at a feeder in Lincoln county lingered until March 2 (Hendrick). Noted on the Antigo May count.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Relatively few reports of wintering birds, the northernmost in Juneau (the Tom Souless) and St. Croix (Robbins) counties. Migratory movement was not well defined, most of it having occurred by May 6-7, and a fair proportion of arrival dates falling within the first week of May.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: The period of April 7-8 marked a decided influx into the southern part of the state, even reaching Marathon county (Williams). Within the next 2-3 days the species had been seen by virtually all reporting observers in southern counties. In contrast, the spread northward was slow, arrival dates stretching over the period April 14-24. Birds had left most southern and central areas generally by the end of the first week of May. Still in Vernon county May 30 (V. Weber). Erickson, Fiehweg, and Weber found 80 in the Racine area on April 12. A few northern observers mentioned a scarcity of this species.

Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: Beatrice Bailey (Washburn county) observed a male on their farm April 30, noting its "black back" and "ladders" and finally the "yellow on the head." She had a good, long (20 minutes) look at the bird.

Eastern Kingbird: A fantastically early bird appeared in Horicon Marsh April 18 (the Carters; "no doubt . . . saw him two days in a row"). An even earlier arrival was reported in Kenosha county March 31 (Mrs. Anton Crema). Neither of these records, unfortunately, was supported by good descriptive details, although the species should not be an easy one to confuse. Beginning April 29, there were additional single arrival dates reported daily until May 2, when birds appeared in four new areas, including Shawano county. The next bird seen was May 5 (Dunn county), and many appeared the next day (nearly a dozen observers in six counties). The period May 6-10 brought the species to virtually all reporting areas statewide.

Western Kingbird: Robbins reported these present May 14 in two places in St. Croix county where they probably nested in 1964. The first bird ever recorded in Chippewa county was photographed there by Dr. C. A. Kemper on May 19.

Great Crested Flycatcher: Racine county April 30 (Erickson): arrived in one or two new areas daily through May 3. The next push, a mild one, occurred May 6, with appearances in four new counties, including some central ones. Spread more generally over southern and central sections in the next few days, but not widespread in the north until May 11-15. Richter found a new nest (not completed) in Marinette county May 31.

Eastern Phoebe: This species appeared April 4 in Rock county (Frances Glenn, Bernice Andrews, and the R. A. Dougans; the Ohms). Just a few more noted until April 8, when birds were observed as far north as Lincoln (Hendrick) and Marinette (Lindberg) counties. Recorded in five more widespread areas April 9-10, with very few observers missing them after mid-April.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: A May 10 observation in Milwaukee county (Strehlow) is rather early. The next batch to appear arrived May 15-18, in seven counties. Present in a number of areas near or at the end of the period, as is usual.

Acadian Flycatcher: A May 15 bird in Jefferson county (Bielefeldt) was seen and heard well. Noted also in Dane (N. R. Barger), Racine (Erickson), Sauk (Peartree), and Vernon (Barger) counties May 20-23.

Trail's Flycatcher: General arrival of this species certainly did not occur until after the middle of May, but there were a few scattered reports up to a week earlier, all except one undocumented (TV kills in Chippewa county), in the following counties: Kenosha, Chippewa, Rock, and Outagamie.

Least Flycatcher: The April 10-11 wave apparently brought one of this species into the state somewhat over two weeks earlier than in any preceding year. Fichweg provides quite good details (including close observation under good conditions, song) of his April 11 record from Racine county. The next report is from Lincoln county April 28 (Hendrick). During the first week of May birds pushed unspectacularly northward, reaching extreme northwestern counties by May 8.

Eastern Wood Pewee: Erickson heard and saw one in Racine county April 30, and one appeared a day later in Waukesha county (Dale and Era Van Denburg). The period May 6-9 brought birds to an amazing number of areas (eight counties, representing all but the very northernmost parts of the state), far more than is usual this early in the month. General penetration of the state did not occur until after mid-May, however, with the usual significant number of arrival dates being after May 20. All in all, though, this would seem to have been a somewhat early year for Pewees.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: A Rock county bird May 2 is two days earlier than this species has previously been seen in the state (Maxson). Two more reports May 8-9, four more May 16-18, with the rest (five) from May 22 to the end of the month.

Horned Lark: First appeared in northern areas about March 5-7. Nearly all peaks reported were during the last half of March.

Violet-green Swallow: A bird seen in Portage county May 1 by Howard Lorenz and Richard Duchrow (see "By the Wayside") had some characteristics of this species, but identification was not conclusive.

Tree Swallow: First noted in Winnebago county April 4 (Tessen), with many reports April 6 in southern counties. The species reached a number of central and a few northern counties April 10-12, but general coverage of the state did not occur until the last 10 days of the month.

Bank Swallow: Arrivals April 15 (Winnebago county, Tessen) and 16 (Dane county, U. W. migration charts) preceded another group April 20-23 which reached Douglas county (Bernard). By the end of April over a third of the observers who reported this species had seen their first birds. Hendrick found none in normal areas in Lincoln county.

Rough-winged Swallow: Winnebago county again provided the first observation, April 17 (Tessen). More birds entered the state April 20-23, in southern counties only except for Pierce and St. Croix (Robbins). Another push occurred the last few days of the month, and by May 4 Bernard noted the species in Douglas county, the only far northern report.

Barn Swallow: Appeared April 10 in four counties (Columbia, Fond du Lac, Lincoln, and Racine). There were scattered further observations until 18-23, probably reflecting what Bielefeldt noted in Waukesha county; a few individuals April 19-20, a definite influx the 21st. A definite movement generally into northern counties took place April 29-30.

Cliff Swallow: The first reports were rather northern: Price county April 25 (Hilsenhoff) and Burnett county April 29 (Stone). There was no migratory pattern discernible from arrival dates. Many reports came from the last week in May (e.g., none in Lincoln county until then, subsequently common; Hendrick).

Purple Martin: Appeared April 3 in Jefferson (Sharp) and Winnebago (Tessen) counties, the next day in Waukesha county (Peartree). A fair number of other arrivals were noted April 6-8, as far north as Marinette and Oconto counties. Richter (Oconto county) found a few birds April 6, but no numbers until the 10th. The species was noted generally in northern areas until April 26-29.

Gray Jay: Nine in Forest county March 12 (Soulén); two in Iron county April 13 (Bernard); Vilas county April 26 (Brakefield); Forest county May 31 (Mrs. Russell Rill).

Common Raven: Noted in 15 counties altogether, the southernmost being Waupaca (Peterson).

Common Crow: Kozlowski reports these from Bayfield county in February, but other first northern reports were March 5-6.

Black-capped Chickadee: Considered less common than usual in Lincoln (Hendrick) and Rock (Maxson) counties.

Boreal Chickadee: One at a feeder in Lincoln county March 2 (fide Hendrick); five in Forest county March 12 (Soulén); several in Price county April 19 (Hilsenhoff, nest).

Tufted Titmouse: Noted in Marathon (Williams), Waupaca (Peterson) and 10 other counties.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: Observed in only 11 counties. There was little evidence of wintering birds. Departures generally took place by the end of the first week of May.

Brown Creeper: A few wintered. A fair number of arrivals were noted April 2-3, with more general movement into southern counties April 10-12, into northern counties April 23-24. A nest found May 11 by Richter in Oconto county was only the second creeper nest he has ever found containing a Cowbird's egg; the nest was later abandoned. Latest departure was in Waupaca county May 15 (Peterson).

House Wren: Rock county April 15 (Brakefield); three more observations within four days. More generally observed April 21-23, and in the north a few days later. It was not until the first few days of May, however, that truly widespread penetration of the state occurred.

Winter Wren: Tessen's and Hilsenhoff's April 10 report from Madison was followed within a few days by several others. The species reached a few central counties about April 18, but no northern counties until May. Latest departure: Racine county May 22 (Fiehweg), except in northern breeding areas.

Bewick's Wren: For the fourth year in a row, Robbins found this species in the same area of St. Croix county, first May 7. He found one also May 6 in Buffalo county.

Carolina Wren: Robbins located his first St. Croix county bird ever on May 3.

Long-billed Marsh Wren: Arrived April 27 in Waupaca county (Peterson) and three days later in Dane county (U. W. migration charts). There were no further observations until May 6-9, when swift movement of the species blanketed the state.

Short-billed Marsh Wren: Only half as many reports as last year. Perhaps indicative of this phenomenon was the fact that none of the active birders in the Racine area found any during the season. Follen found his earliest ever in Wood county April 21. The next report was much farther north, in Burnett county April 29 (Stone). Most arrivals were noted during the last half of May. Richter found nests in Oconto county as follows: May 24 (4 eggs), May 29 (6), May 30, (8, 7, 7).

Mockingbird: One in Douglas county May 15 (Baillie fide Bernard); two in Fond du Lac county May 19 (Knuth). Neither report was particularly well documented, unfortunately. (There was also a report from Duluth, however).

Catbird: One April 5 in Racine county may have wintered (Fiehweg). The Carters provide the next observation, April 30 (Dodge county). The first eight days of May carried birds northward, although the major movement probably occurred about a week later, by which time all northern observers had noted arrivals. Most peaks fell in the period May 13-16. Richter located a nest with one fresh egg May 30 in Marinette county.

Brown Thrasher: Noted March 4 in Shawano county (Rill). Also wintered in Racine county (Stoffel); Erickson found birds there April 2 and 4 which were thought to be migrants. There were a fair number of scattered reports April 12-20, but the usual annual influx occurred April 21-23, with a second major movement (which reached most central and northern areas previously not reached) April 28-30.

Robin: There was brief but extensive (several widely scattered northern and central counties) penetration March 3-5. By mid-March a few more migrants had put in

an appearance, but the next general movement apparently occurred around March 20. Those observers who had found none by then encountered their first birds during the first 10 days of April. Tessen observed a pronounced migration in Madison March 27. Many peaks fell in the period April 3-11.

Varied Thrush: A bird at the feeder of Mrs. James Clark in Winnebago county remained at least until March 14. Another daily feeder visitor stayed just as long at the home of Helen Northum and Connie Strang in Burnett county (Stone); it had been there since November 12.

Wood Thrush: One in Racine county April 29 (Stoffel); found in Fond du Lac, Waupaca, and Marinette counties May 1. General arrival in the south May 4-6, with all other reports by mid-May. Very scarce in Rock county (Maxson).

Hermit Thrush: Noted in Milwaukee (Donald) and Racine (Stoffel) counties April 6, in six more counties in the next three days. Several more counties had reports April 11. There were enough arrivals April 18-23 to suspect this period as one of further general movement. General departure in the south took place during the first week of May, although there was a report (undocumented) from Racine county May 22 (May count).

Swainson's Thrush: Erdman saw one at a distance of a few feet in Brown county April 18, but he found no more until May 1. One in Milwaukee county April 28 (Strehlow). By May 8-9 most observers had noted arrivals. Lingered into June in several areas, until the amazingly late date of June 17 in Racine county (Fiehweg, Weber).

Gray-cheeked Thrush: There was an undocumented April 15 observation in Racine county (Weber). The next arrivals were April 28-29. The major period of movement subsequently was May 6-9. There were no June reports, but quite a few the last few days of May.

Veery: Erdman saw and heard one in Brown county April 23; there were no other April observations. General arrival in southern areas had occurred by May 8, but several northern observers saw or heard no birds until May 23.

Eastern Bluebird: Appeared first in Rock county March 31 (Mahlum), in several more southeastern counties April 2-4. By April 8-9 some movement northward had occurred, but most observers did not see birds until mid-April and later. Any peaks mentioned were in the first half of May. There were four comments on scarcity, plus a few statements that no birds had been seen. The only optimistic note comes from Tessen, who found numbers up in the western half of Outagamie county, an area where they have been holding up better than in other parts of the state.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: This rather inconspicuous species was observed in 14 counties in all, south of a line between St. Croix and Outagamie (one of few ever seen in the area, Tessen) counties except for a rather unusual sighting of a pair with a nest in Marathon county May 23-24 (Williams, Emily Bierbrauer). Banded April 23 in Rock county (David and Marion Stocking), but most other arrivals were in May.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: Present at the beginning of the period only in Milwaukee county (Donald). The first migrants appeared rather late for this species, on April 1 in Kenosha county (Erickson et al.), with no others until April 6-7. There was very obvious migratory movement during the few days beginning April 10. No observers in northwestern counties noted any until April 21 or later. Robbins found only one in St. Croix county, while Schmidt in Washington county thought there were more than usual. Birds were still in several southern counties April 28-30, but there was no documented observations after Barger's May 1 in Madison.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Noted first in Kenosha county April 1 (Erickson et al.), next in Milwaukee county April 5 (Strehlow). There were a few more arrivals elsewhere the next few days, including Brown county (Paulson), with widespread coverage of southern counties by mid-month. Penetration into more northern areas did not occur until the last week of April. Just about all peaks reported from southern and central counties occurred between April 21 and May 2, with most falling in the last few days of April and first few days of May. Most departures from southern counties took place by mid-May, with birds lingering a week later in a few areas. A very interesting observation is that of Mrs. Rill, who found numerous birds singing in northern Forest county May 31; this sounds like an excellent place to look for nesting birds.

Water Pipit: Noted between April 29 and May 22 in four counties: Pierce and St. Croix (Robbins), Racine (Weber), and Rock (the Ohms).

Bohemian Waxwing: Two were seen in Outagamie county March 5 (Mrs. Alfred Bradford). Lindberg found birds in Marinette county March 23-April 9, with a peak of 14 on March 24.

Cedar Waxwing: There were arrival dates from five east-central counties March 10-21, indicating possible migratory movement in that part of the state at that time. The next well-defined movement occurred during the last half of May, as is usual, with observers in five different areas noting arrivals or peaks the last few days of the month.

Northern Shrike: Birds lingered in March in eight counties, and until April 7 in Marinette county (Lindberg).

Loggerhead Shrike: Appeared in Rock county April 4-8 (several observers), a week later in Outagamie county (Tessen). Reported from only six additional counties, all observations being in May. Robbins noted that they were "much scarcer" in St. Croix county.

White-eyed Vireo: A bird banded and photographed April 23 in Rock county (the Stockings, Dave and Hazel Cox) is as early as this species has ever been found in Wisconsin. There were three May observations of different birds in Dane county May 1-21 (Barger, Hilsenhoff, Martin, Wiens).

Bell's Vireo: Lafayette county May 8 (Barger); Cedar Grove, Sheboygan county May 16 (the first ever banded there, Mueller); Dane county May 23 (Ashman) and May 30 (the Ohms).

Yellow-throated Vireo: Erickson saw one bird very well April 30 in Racine county. By May 8 birds had reached Douglas county (Bernard) and most other sections of the state, although general arrival was not noted until about a week later.

Solitary Vireo: One in Racine county April 30 (Erickson), with birds as far north as Douglas county by May 6. The latest southern report was May 24, in Milwaukee county (Strehlow); most departures had taken place by mid-May.

Red-eyed Vireo: Four reports May 1-3 were very early. In southern counties most arrivals appeared during the second week of May, and in northern counties generally 1-2 weeks later. A fair number of observers noted no birds prior to the last third of the month.

Philadelphia Vireo: Noted in 14 counties between May 3 (Racine county, Erickson) and May 28 (Manitowoc county, John Kraupa).

Warbling Vireo: Appeared in six counties May 1-2, with penetration of most areas of the state by May 6-8.

Black-and-white Warbler: Spread throughout the state during the week from April 30 to May 6. Still present in a few southern and central counties May 28-29.

Prothonotary Warbler: This species was found in eight southern counties. It appeared for the third straight year at the Germania Marsh in Marquette county (the Fred Shepherds).

Golden-winged Warbler: Arrivals were observed May 1 in Dane (Hilsenhoff) and Sauk (Pearlree) counties, in several more counties including Brown (Rev. Melvin Wierzbicki) during the next two days. The following week carried birds to all but the northern tier of counties.

Blue-winged Warbler: An April 30 bird in Rock county (Maxson) is a day earlier than Wisconsin's previous earliest arrival. Birds appeared in four other southern counties May 2. All reports came from southern counties except St. Croix (Robbins). Donald found a bird in Columbia county May 16 which she says looked like a cross-over type (from a discussion in the March 1951 **Wilson Bulletin**); it resembled a Blue-winged but had yellow wing bars.

Brewster's Warbler: Martin saw a bird in Sauk county June 6 of the following description: black eye line, yellow forehead, throat and breast white, yellow wing bars.

Tennessee Warbler: Vernon county April 27 (V. Weber) and Rock county April 29 (Maxson); next reports May 2-3, from four more counties. A surprising number of observers noted none until a week or more later, and there were very few reports in northern counties. Still to be found in Pierce and St. Croix counties May 29 (Rob-

bins) and in Dane county May 30 (Hilsenhoff). Peak periods mentioned were May 8, 12-16, and 23.

Orange-crowned Warbler: Appeared in four counties April 29-30, as far north as Marinette (Lindberg). Progress northward generally was fairly gradual and took about a week. No birds were seen after May 22.

Nashville Warbler: Ten were noted in Racine county April 30 (several observers), and there were arrivals the next day in four other areas. Penetration of most of the state probably occurred within the following two days, although a few observers in the north did not note arrivals for a week or two. Birds were present during the last week of May in a fair number of areas where they do not summer.

Parula Warbler: Reported from 20 counties, twice as many as last year. Earliest was one seen well in Racine county April 30 (Erickson). Arrivals had reached most sections by May 8, as far north as Price county (Hilsenhoff). Noted in Wood county May 29 (the Ohms).

Yellow Warbler: Three observers saw a bird in Racine county on the incredibly early date of April 21 (Wierzbicki). Documentation is skimpy, but they did see the chestnut streaks on the breast. Noted in three areas April 30, and by May 6-9 nearly all observers statewide had recorded arrivals.

Magnolia Warbler: Strehlow found the earliest of these, in Milwaukee county May 2. Movement northward began May 5 and was virtually complete by May 9, at least of the first groups of birds. During the following week came the latest arrival dates mentioned. This species lingered unusually late, being found in eight central and southern counties during the last week in May, and until June 4 in Outagamie county (Tessen).

Cape May Warbler: Appeared first May 2 in Brown county (Wierzbicki) spreading slowly northward for the next week. Peaks May 8-9 and 16 were mentioned. Latest departure: May 22 (Racine May count).

Black-throated Blue Warbler: Observed in only nine counties, first (May 4, Donald) and last (May 25, Strehlow) in Milwaukee.

Myrtle Warbler: The earliest arrivals were in Dane (several observers) and Milwaukee (Donald) counties April 12. The species moved across the state in an ill-defined fashion, taking from one to two weeks to reach various central and northern areas. There also was no easy to discern pattern to comments on scarcity or abundance. Most peaks were May 5-8, with others mentioned on a few other dates May 1-12. Although the last departures generally occurred May 18-22, there were reports May 29 in Douglas county (Bernard) and Brown county May 31 (Erdman).

Black-throated Green Warbler: Two birds were heard, then seen in Madison on April 28 (Jean and Steve Martin); one in Racine county April 30 (Fiehweg). There were many reports the next few days, and by May 6-8 the species had spread over the entire state. Still present May 29 in a number of areas, including three southern and central counties.

Cerulean Warbler: Noted first in Milwaukee county May 3 (Strehlow). There were four more observations within the following week, but the remaining seven reports were mid-month and later. The most interesting record comes from Marinette county, where Lindberg heard and saw well a bird on May 22 and 25. This is the northernmost observation of this species in some time. Noted again in St. Croix county on May 29 (Robbins).

Blackburnian Warbler: A Rock county report April 30 (Maxson) is three days earlier than others. Birds had reached some central and northern areas by May 8, but not others until about a week later. There was some evidence for movement May 18-19, and as is frequently the case, birds remained in a number of localities until almost the end of the month.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: Appeared May 1 in Milwaukee (Donald) and Rock (Maxson) counties and in several other areas within the next few days. The first major influx occurred May 6-8, reaching Douglas county (Bernard). Quite a few observers, however, found none until up to a week or more later. Peaks in the south were May 9-15, in the north May 16-25. Two nesting in Rock county (Maxson) and summering again near the Waukesha-Jefferson county line (Peartree).

Bay-breasted Warbler: Milwaukee county May 4 (Strehlow). After two more reports May 6, there apparently was general movement May 8-9, reaching a few central coun-

ties. Major movement did not occur, however, until mid-May and later; nearly half the arrival dates were in the last half of the month. Last noted May 29 in Brown (Wierzbicki) and St. Croix (Robbins) counties.

Blackpoll Warbler: Noted May 2 in Sauk county (Peartree), in three other areas the next day. Subsequent arrival dates fell pretty much during the following two weekends. All peaks were during the last half of the month. Abundant in Rock county, where the Stockings banded 24. Still in Dane county June 3 (Hilsenhoff).

Pine Warbler: Peterson saw one in Waupaca county April 23. Other observations came from eight additional counties, all in May.

Palm Warbler: Appeared first in Rock county April 21 (the Stockings), in three more areas with three days, in seven additional counties April 28-30. Peaks were as follows: April 30, May 3, 6-9, 16. Latest departures May 24-25 in Milwaukee (Strehlow) and Brown (Paulson) counties.

Ovenbird. Noted in Racine (Erickson) and Rock (banded, the Stockings) counties April 30. Reported from most southern and central counties during the first week of May and from northern areas May 6-8. Richter found a nest almost completed in Oconto county May 17, and by May 26 it contained five eggs plus one Cowbird egg. Peaks were May 12-22.

Northern Waterthrush: Dane county April 23 (Ashman); three additional April observations. Except for a May 2 report from Bayfield (Kozlowski), progress northward was well-marked, with birds reaching central counties May 5-6. Present May 29 in St. Croix county (Robbins) and at the end of the month in Outagamie county (Tessen).

Louisiana Waterthrush: Grant county April 17 (U. W. migration charts); Pierce county (Robbins) and Cedar Grove (Mueller) April 21. The Cedar Grove bird was banded and was only the second authenticated Louisiana record from there in a thousand Waterthrushes banded over a seven-year period. No other reports from eastern Wisconsin were documented (and there were few). Peartree found a nest in Sauk county May 23. Reported from 14 counties in all.

Kentucky Warbler: Well documented reports from Dane county May 6 (Martin) and Jefferson county May 23 (Sharp); also noted in Racine county May 21-22 (Judge Simpson, Joy Joslyn).

Connecticut Warbler: Noted in Brown county May 9 (Erdman), in three other areas the next day. All other reports were after mid-May. Still present into June in three counties, latest June 5 in Dane county (Hilsenhoff), where they had been more common than usual (16 noted during season).

Mourning Warbler: Dane county May 8 (U. W. migration charts); one new arrival date daily May 11-17. Many arrival dates fell in the last week of May. Eighteen on the Racine May count May 22, and one still there June 5 (Fiehweg, Weber).

Yellowthroat: Noted first April 30, in Dane (U. W. migration charts) and Milwaukee (Strehlow) counties. By May 6-8 birds had reached all central and some northern counties, and within a few days nearly everyone had observed arrivals.

Yellow-throated Chat: Milwaukee county May 3-19 (Strehlow, Donald); Racine county May 7-22 (Fiehweg, Erickson, Dick Garber); Kenosha (Weber) and Rock (Maxson, the Ohms) counties May 8; Sheboygan county May 9 (Gordon and Carol Bly).

Hooded Warbler: There were reports May 12 from Dane (Ashman) and Jefferson (Sharp) counties.

Wilson's Warbler: Dane county May 1 (Hilsenhoff); few other reports until May 8, and from then on there were arrivals scattered through the rest of the month. Many birds were present near the end of the month, and a near-record departure was reported from Racine county June 17 (Fiehweg).

Canada Warbler: Noted in four counties May 8-11, earliest in Kenosha (Erickson et al.), farthest north in Brown (Wierzbicki). Most arrivals were the last half of the month, with over a third in the period May 15-21. Many observers found birds at the end of the month, and Erickson noted one in Racine county June 5. Williams found several dead birds in Marathon county May 17.

American Redstart: Appeared May 1 in Dane (U. W. migration charts) and Racine (Erickson) counties. Further movement was noted May 2-3, then none until May 5-6, when birds reached many central counties. Within a few more days most observers in the north also had found this species.

Painted Redstart: A bird far from its normal range was seen well in the University Arboretum in Madison April 22 by Mrs. Robert Sutherland et al. With neither specimen nor photograph, we must of course consider this record hypothetical, but this bird is nevertheless a first for the state. See details in "By the Wayside."

Bobolink: Dane county April 30 (U. W. migration charts); four additional counties the next day. By May 9 observers from most parts of the state had observed their first arrivals, although some in the north found none until May 20 and later.

Eastern Meadowlark: Wintered in a few southern counties, as usual. Two birds were seen and heard in Waukesha county March 16 (Soulen); observations in several other areas followed within a few days. By the end of the month most observers in southern counties had noted their first birds; those who had not did so in the first few days of April. Between April 4-8 birds pushed into several far northern counties, and within another week complete penetration of the state had occurred.

Western Meadowlark: Arrived March 10 in Rock (Mahlum) and Waupaca (Peterson) counties, in a few more areas during the next few days. There was a gap of 1½-2 weeks before other birds appeared, and then a further gap until into the first week of April, when the first fairly general influx occurred, reaching seven counties, among them some in the central part of the state. General arrival in the north was still later, however, with first dates from April 18 into May being reported.

Yellow-headed Blackbird: Appeared April 18 in Fond du Lac (Tessen) and Waukesha (Bielefeldt) counties, in two more areas within four days. There were five further arrivals April 28-30. The few comments on abundance indicated even or increasing numbers.

Red-winged Blackbird: A fair number of observers reported wintering birds. There were five arrival dates March 6-8, indicating the first noticeable migratory movement. More movement occurred around March 15-16, reaching Oconto county (Richter). After a few scattered arrivals elsewhere, considerable penetration of the state took place March 26-30, and by April 8 very few observers had encountered none. First dates for females were April 27 in Dodge county (the Carters), May 1-6 in Bayfield (Kozlowski) and Lincoln (Hendrick) counties. Many peak dates were reported, as follows: March 29, April 3-4 (many flocks of 5-100 going north on the 3rd in Winnebago county, Natzke), April 8-10, and farther north, April 13, 15, 21 and 29.

Orchard Oriole: No less than 10 reports from eight counties: Rock (Mahlum, the Stockings), Milwaukee (Strehlow), and Racine (Stoffel, Simpson) on May 3; Brown (Paulson) on May 4; Kenosha (May county) on May 8; St. Croix (Robbins) and Ozaukee (Donald) May 17-18. Still in several of these areas May 19-24.

Baltimore Oriole: Appeared May 1 in Dane (Hilsenhoff) and Racine (Weber) counties. There were arrivals the next day in six additional counties including Bayfield (Kozlowski). Virtually all other arrival dates fell into the period May 3-8. All southern and some central peaks (six in all) were May 7-8, all northern ones May 12-18.

Rusty Blackbird: There were slightly more than half the observations this spring that there were in spring 1964. Birds arrived March 18-19 in Rock (the Stockings) and Brown (Paulson) counties. All other arrival dates were scattered in the period April 1-21. Departed May 1 from St. Croix county (Robbins). Erdman is certain of his identification of this species among some Brewer's in Brown county June 1, but he provides no details of the sighting.

Brewer's Blackbird. Noted March 18 in Rock county (the Stockings), not elsewhere until well into the first week of April. Most arrivals in April were April 13-23. Two peaks in central counties were April 22-24.

Common Grackle: Noted in Dane (Ashman) and Rock (Maxson) counties March 2, in a very few additional areas up to mid-March. A very decided influx occurred March 27-30, restricted to southern counties. The first three days of April carried birds into several central counties, and during the period April 8-10 several northern observers saw their first grackles. As numbers built up during the next two weeks, the remaining northern stations reported birds. The only southern peaks mentioned were April 1-10; other peaks were April 24-25.

Brown-headed Cowbird: Some migrants may have moved into the state during the first week of March, but pronounced movement occurred March 15-20, although it was fairly limited. Beginning March 31, general entry of the species into the state took

place, without discernible pattern but more or less complete by April 20. The few peaks mentioned were April 17-19 and 24-29.

Scarlet Tanager: Fond du Lac county May 1 (Knuth); five more counties May 3, including Brown. It took about one week for the species to reach most central areas of the state, an additional week to penetrate the north. Peaks were mid-May and later.

Cardinal: One found dead and two others seen March 6 in Douglas county are very unusual (Bernard). The northernmost report in the east was Marinette county April 24 (Lindberg).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: Noted April 30 in Dane (Barger) and Racine (Erickson) counties. Birds moved into most central areas by May 5-6, into the rest of the state by May 8. Considered more common than usual by Barger (Dane county) and Kemper (Chippewa county), few in number by Maxson (Rock county). Southern peaks were May 7-11, more northern ones May 16-18.

Indigo Bunting: Brown county April 29 (Erdman), with only a few scattered other arrivals before May 6-8, when birds reached many areas, including some central ones. Most far northern arrivals were during the last week of May. All peaks came after mid-May. Said to be abundant in Rock county by several observers.

Dickcissel: Rock county May 2 (the Ohms); three reports May 6-9; four reports May 15-16. The remainder came during the last week of May or later. Buildup to summer numbers occurred by anywhere from June 6 to 20, depending on the area.

Evening Grosbeak: There were very few reports outside of northern counties, and the southernmost of these was Outagamie county March 10-April 5 (Tessen). A fair number of observers noted departures during the last half of April, with the latest being May 18 in Bayfield county (Kozlowski). This species nested at Brule in Douglas county (Klugow) for the second year in a row.

Purple Finch: 1965 was a good spring for these, with reports from all corners of the state and comments of abundance in many places. Present in good numbers the first half of March in northern counties. There was a large buildup in Marathon county March 24-26 (Williams). Heaviest movement in southern counties was April 3-5, a period of a number of peaks and some departures. Most departures in the south were in the last half of April, although Knuth found them present in Fond du Lac county May 16.

Pine Grosbeak: Reported from only two counties: Bayfield March 6 (Kozlowski) and Douglas March 6-20 (Bernard).

Common Redpoll: Noted in only six counties: Bayfield, Brown (latest, April 13; Paulson), Douglas, Forest, Langlade, and Waupaca (earliest, prior to March; Peterson). What little movement was noticed probably occurred March 10-13.

Pine Siskin: The first spring report is from Douglas county March 6 (Bernard), with four more counties reporting within the following week. (In at least some of these, of course, the birds may have wintered.) Few reports overall, from only 11 counties. Kozlowski recorded a heavy invasion the last week of April to the second week in May in Bayfield county. Other May movement was reflected in a May 15 departure from Douglas county (Bernard) and appearance of the species in the restricted period May 19-25 in Price county (Vincent).

American Goldfinch: With birds wintering statewide, it's a little difficult to determine migratory patterns. The few peaks mentioned (and no two observations agreed) were March 27, April 12 and 29, May 3, 7, and 9.

Red Crossbill: Outagamie county March 2 (Bradford); Florence (12) and Forest (2) counties March 7 (Richter).

White-winged Crossbill: Bayfield county March 9-19 (Carlson fide Kozlowski; Klugow, Baillie); Forest (5) and Langlade (8) counties March 12 (Soulen); Price county April 9 (Hilsenhoff; many less than in December).

Rufous-sided Towhee: First observed in Waukesha county March 31 (Hoffman), in two more southeastern counties the next two days. A few more appeared April 6-11, and then for the rest of the month birds pushed gradually through most southern and central counties. Arrival in northern and some central counties was delayed until the end of April or the first week of May. April 23-24 may have been a period of major

movement, being mentioned by a few observers with respect to either a peak or an influx. The few northern peaks noted were in May.

Savannah Sparrow: Noted in three areas April 9-11, earliest in Racine county (Weber). From April 15 to 19 birds reached other southern and some central counties. There were few reports from the far north, and those were at the end of April or in early May.

Grasshopper Sparrow: Observed in Racine county April 21 (Erickson) and in a few more areas the rest of April. Arrival dates are very scattered; about all we can say is that birds reached St. Croix county by May 1 (Robbins), other central counties May 8-9, and Bayfield county May 17 (Kozlowski), for the only report from a northern county.

Le Conte's Sparrow: Noted for the fourth spring in a row in St. Croix county, on April 28 and May 30 (Robbins).

Henslow's Sparrow: The first observations of this species were in St. Croix (Robbins) and Dane (Ashman) counties May 1-2. Other southern arrivals were May 6-9, and all remaining arrivals were mid-May or later. The only northern report comes from Bayfield county May 31 (Koslowski).

Vesper Sparrow: Donald's April 3 observation in Milwaukee county is the earliest, but by April 11 birds had put in an appearance in a considerable number of southern and central counties. Most northern reports were late in April or in May.

Lark Sparrow: Wood county April 22 (Follen); Pierce county April 29 (Robbins); Dane county May 2 (Ashman); Beloit May count (for the 4th straight year).

Slate-colored Junco: The first big push into northern counties occurred April 7-10, and the period April 10-13 was mentioned by nine southern and central observers as one of peak numbers (including a report of 4,400 in Racine county April 12; Weber). During the last third of April birds peaked in a few central areas and left a number of southern and central counties, at least in bulk. Most stragglers had departed by the end of the first week of May. There were about a half dozen reports from mid-May, representing the last holdouts.

Oregon Junco: There were reports from 11 counties scattered over much of the state. What "arrival" dates were reported were mostly in the period April 2-10, and departures were through the month of April, latest the 28th in Outagamie county (Tessen).

Tree Sparrow: March 27-30 was mentioned by six observers as a peak or arrival time. Departure dates range throughout the last half of April. There are two early May stragglers reported from central counties, and a very late bird in Douglas county May 15 (Mary Brashier fide Bernard).

Chipping Sparrow: Columbia county April 8 (Tomlinson). The big influx of birds generally statewide April 10 brought this species to two more counties, and within the next week there were two additional reports. The movement April 20-21 must have been substantial, reaching most corners of the state, including Bayfield county (Kozlowski). Hendrick (Lincoln county) commented that on those two days they "poured in like . . . stopper had been pulled to release them." Those observers who had found none by then reported arrivals from April 23 through May 5.

Clay-colored Sparrow: Dane county April 20 (Ashman); Chippewa county April 21 (TV tower casualty; Kemper); St. Croix county April 30 (Robbins). There were May observations from nine additional counties.

Field Sparrow: Appeared April 3 in Dane (Hilsenhoff) and Racine (Weber) counties, in only two more localities prior to the migratory period beginning April 10. From April 10-13 the species reached five more areas, all southern except Burnett (Stone), and during the period April 15-21 the remainder of the arrivals appeared. The only northern reports came from Burnett and Marinette counties.

Harris' Sparrow: An amazing number of reports, from 14 counties. A bird which spent the winter at a feeder in Bowler, Shawano county, left April 7 (Lawrence Schultz). Migrants appeared within a rather short stretch of May, from the 3rd (Burnett county, Caldwell; Waukesha county, the Nelsons) through the 10th. Departures noted were May 12-18, last in Douglas county (Bernard). Eighteen were seen on the Superior May count May 8.

White-crowned Sparrow: An immature, possibly wintering bird was noted in Racine county March 14 (Erickson). An April 10 bird in Bayfield county (Kozlowski) might also have wintered. Birds April 23-24 in Waupaca (Peterson) and Brown (Paulson) counties were more possibly migrants, although still early. The first week of May brought birds to virtually all parts of the state, and most peaks mentioned were May 4-9. Thought to be scarce by at least four southern or eastern observers, rather common by two northwestern ones. Southern departures took place generally by May 20, and central and northern ones by May 27 (the last from Douglas county; Bernard).

Golden-crowned Sparrow: Mrs. Kozlowski reports her "mystery bird" which sings the song of this species for the third year in a row in Bayfield county, this year on four dates between May 10 and 17. No one has yet been able to see the songster, thus we have no proof of this tantalizing possibility. See the discussion in the spring field notes for the Spring 1963 and 1964 issues of **The Passenger Pigeon**.

White-throated Sparrow: There are reports from seven counties prior to April 20, the first from Vernon county April 8 (V. Weber), the northernmost from Brown county (several observers). Birds arrived April 20-22 in eight counties, including some northern ones, and within four more days penetration of the entire state was virtually complete except for northwestern counties. Peaks fell into two periods, April 22-30 and May 2-8, with the great majority in the latter. Most birds left southern and central counties by May 23, but there were three later departures, the last a singing bird in Rock county June 2 (Maxson). There were few comments of a good migration; three northern observers, on the other hand, mentioned that the movement of this species this year was poor.

Fox Sparrow: Appeared in four southern counties April 1. Movement into other southern and some central counties was largely accomplished by April 8-10, and during the period April 13-16 birds reached most northern areas. Peak dates ranged widely, from April 9 through 20 in the south, from April 21 through 29 farther north. Especially large peaks at Madison April 8 (200 on Picnic Point, Krombholz) and 10. Many left the southern half of the state by April 22, and the last of the healthy stragglers in the state departed May 1 from St. Croix county (Robbins). A bird which was possibly injured remained until the May count in Brown county (Edwin Cleary, May 16).

Lincoln's Sparrow: One banded April 12 in Rock county (the Stockings) is as early as this species has ever appeared in the state; another was banded there April 22. There were four more arrivals April 29-May 1. Last noted May 26 in Douglas county (the Ohms).

Swamp Sparrow: Racine county April 3, two birds (Weber); four more reports April 8-11, as far north as Marinette county (Lindberg). General movement was about a week later, with the last arrivals coming in April 22-26.

Song Sparrow: Three reports (two of singing birds) March 10-13 might have been of migrants. The first definite evidence of migration was March 26-29, when arrivals were noted in five areas. Birds spread into the state rapidly thereafter, reaching most southern areas in less than a week, being seen or heard by most northern observers by April 8-16. Most peaks mentioned were in the period April 3-23.

Lapland Longspur: Noted in 13 counties, in fairly sizable flocks in some areas during March. Only three May reports, the latest from St. Croix county the 12th (Robbins).

Snow Bunting: There were reports for 15 counties in all. Peartree's March 27 observation of large flocks in Waukesha county was the last in the south. Most departures farther north took place during the first week of April, except for three dates April 18-27, the latest in Douglas county (Bernard). One of two birds Soulen saw in Forest county March 12 perched in a tree for several minutes.



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