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HEADINGS: By Irving E. Hampe, Art Editor		

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1956 COUNTY BIRD LISTS

Richard L. Kleen

Once again a complete summary of the county lists, bird by bird, is included in Maryland Birdlife. These summaries were begun in 1954 and continued in abbreviated form last year. This year, owing to a number of requests, they are again expanded and presented in their entirety. All of us realize that a tabulation such as we are here presenting has many weaknesses. The fact that the coverage by counties is uneven is the most obvious fault. If all M.O.S. members would keep lists of all the birds they see in each county, this compilation would be much more indicative of the relative abundance and scarcity of the various species in the various geographic regions of our State. Only 37 species were recorded in all 23 Maryland counties. Many counties were covered only by birders passing through. This lack of systematic birding resulted in missing in some counties such ubiquitous species as Crested Flycatcher, Nighthawk, Wood Pewee, Grackle and Myrtle Warbler.

Perhaps this chart would be more valuable if it began during the spring migration. Then the relative intensity of winter invasions would be easier to compare. As an example, 12 counties reported the Evening Grosbeak as compared to 10 the previous year, and 12 in 1954. This would indicate that this bird is rather constant in its winter occurrence. Actually, most if not all of the 1956 reports occurred in the first five months. This past winter Evening Grosbeaks have been almost completely lacking in our State. If the next winter presents another invasion, the most complete perusal of these charts will not reveal the lack of winter birds this past season. However, there is a value in this work, and it is a value that will grow with the length of its continuance and the completeness of the coverage.

The total number of species observed in Maryland in 1956 was 287. This compares with 290 in 1955 and 279 in 1954. Worcester County led the county lists as it has done consistently during the past years. It is a section with a great variety of habitats, including the only ocean front area in the State. Only three other counties supplied lists that reached 200. Talbot had 225, Queen Annes listed 203, and Anne Arundel recorded 201. It was generally those counties with active chapters that presented the most meaningful lists. Talbot, Anne Arundel, Caroline, Harford, Frederick, Allegany, Baltimore and Montgomery all submitted lists which are very representative of the county. Those counties

	G a l r l	A l s e	W l l	F l l	C l l	B l l	H l l	M l l	P l l	A l l	C l l	C l l	S l l	C l l	K l l	Q l l	C l l	T l l	D l l	W l l	S l l	S l l	T l l
Common Loon			x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x			x	14	
Red-throated Loon			x							x			x			x	x				x	6	
Holboell's Grebe																x	x					1	
Horned Grebe	x			x		x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	15	
Pied-billed Grebe			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x					x	x	x	x	x		x	15	
Cory's Shearwater																					x	1	
Wilson's Petrel																					x	1	
Brown Pelican																		x				1	
Gannet																						x	1
Double-cr. Cormorant										x		x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	9
Great Blue Heron			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	21
American Egret			x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x					x	x	x	x	x	x	x	13
Snowy Egret						x			x							x	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
Louisiana Heron																			x		x	x	2
Little Blue Heron				x		x		x				x				x		x		x	x	x	8
Green Heron	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	19
Black-cr. Night Heron				x	x	x	x		x			x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	13
Yellow-cr. Night Heron									x													x	2
American Bittern			x	x		x	x		x	x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	14
Least Bittern			x			x	x		x	x	x						x	x			x		9
Whistling Swan			x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	17
Canada Goose			x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	19
Brant																x	x	x			x	x	4
Wood Ibis										x												x	1
Glossy Ibis																						x	1
White-fronted Goose																	x						1
Snow Goose										x	x					x	x	x			x	x	6
Blue Goose										x	x					x	x	x					5
Mallard			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	21
Black Duck			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	20
Gadwall										x	x	x	x	x		x		x			x	x	8
Baldpate				x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	16
Pintail			x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x		x	16
European Teal																						x	1
Green-winged Teal				x		x	x			x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x		x	14
Blue-winged Teal			x	x		x	x			x	x	x				x	x	x	x	x		x	13
Shoveller				x					x			x						x				x	5
Wood Duck	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	18
Redhead			x	x		x	x			x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x		x	14
Ring-necked Duck				x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x				x	13
Canvas-back	x		x			x	x			x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	17
Greater Scaup						x	x			x			x	x		x	x	x			x	x	8
Lesser Scaup	x	x	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	20
American Golden-eye						x	x	x		x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x			x	13
Buffle-head			x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x				x	x	x				x	13
Old-squaw										x	x		x	x		x	x	x				x	8
Harlequin Duck																						x	1
White-winged Scoter	x									x	x		x			x	x	x				x	8
Surf Scoter												x						x	x			x	4
American Scoter																		x	x			x	3
Ruddy Duck				x		x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	16
Hooded Merganser				x	x	x		x	x	x	x						x	x	x	x		x	12
American Merganser			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x			x	17
Red-breasted Merganser				x	x					x			x			x	x	x	x			x	10
Turkey Vulture	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23

	G	A	W	F	C	B	H	H	M	P	A	C	C	S	C	K	Q	C	T	D	W	S	W	T
	a	r		r	l	a	a	o	n	r	n	v	h	t	e	e	u	a	a	o	i	o	o	t
	r	l	s	e	l	l	r	w	n	i	n	t	a	M	c	n	e	r	l	r	c	m	r	t
Black Vulture			x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	18
Sharp-shinned Hawk			x	x	x		x	x		x	x	x		x			x	x	x	x			x	14
Cooper's Hawk	x	x	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	19
Red-tailed Hawk			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	20
Red-shouldered Hawk	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x		x	x	20
Broad-winged Hawk	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x								x	x	x				x	12
Rough-legged Hawk				x						x		x					x	x					x	6
Golden Eagle											x	x	x	x					x					1
Bald Eagle							x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	14
Marsh Hawk	x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	18
Osprey		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	20
Duck Hawk				x													x						x	3
Pigeon Hawk																	x		x				x	3
Sparrow Hawk	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
Ruffed Grouse	x	x	x	x													x	x	x					4
Bob-white	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
Ring-necked Pheasant				x	x		x	x	x	x							x							8
Wild Turkey				x																x				2
King Rail										x									x	x	x	x		5
Clapper Rail											x											x	x	3
Virginia Rail	x										x			x					x	x	x		x	6
Sora							x				x								x				x	4
Florida Gallinule							x												x				x	3
Coot	x	x	x	x		x	x	x			x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x			x	17
Oyster-catcher																							x	1
Piping Plover																							x	1
Semipalmated Plover							x				x	x					x	x	x				x	7
Killdeer	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
Golden Plover																							x	1
Black-bellied Plover																	x	x	x				x	4
Ruddy Turnstone																	x	x					x	3
Woodcock	x	x		x			x	x			x	x					x	x	x				x	12
Wilson's Snipe			x	x	x		x			x	x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x			x	14
Hudsonian Curlew																							x	1
Upland Plover					x	x	x																	3
Spotted Sandpiper	x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x						x	x	x	x	x	x	x	16
Solitary Sandpiper					x	x	x	x	x	x	x						x	x	x	x			x	13
Willet																	x		x	x	x	x		5
Greater Yellow-legs				x	x	x	x		x	x	x		x				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	15
Lesser Yellow-legs				x		x				x	x						x	x	x	x			x	9
Knot																	x		x				x	3
Purple Sandpiper																							x	1
Pectoral Sandpiper				x													x		x	x				4
White-rumped Sandpiper				x													x		x	x			x	5
Least Sandpiper				x	x	x				x	x						x	x	x	x			x	10
Red-backed Sandpiper																	x	x	x				x	4
Dowitcher				x													x		x	x			x	5
Long-billed Dowitcher																							x	1
Stilt Sandpiper																	x							1
Semipalmated Sandpiper										x	x						x	x	x	x			x	7
Western Sandpiper																	x	x	x				x	4
Sanderling																	x	x	x				x	4
Iceland Gull											x													1
Great Black-backed Gull						x	x			x			x	x			x	x	x		x	x	x	10
Herring Gull			x			x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	18

	G	A	W	F	C	B	H	H	M	P	A	C	C	S	C	K	Q	C	T	D	W	S	W	T
	a	a	r	r	l	a	a	a	o	r	n	v	h	t	e	e	u	a	a	o	i	o	o	t
	r	l	s	e	l	l	r	w	n	i	n	t	a	M	c	n	e	r	l	r	c	m	r	t
Raven	x		x																					2
Crow	x	x	x	x					x	x	.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
Fish Crow					x				x	x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x	x		x	x	17
Black-capped Chickadee	x	x	x										x											5
Carolina Chickadee				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	21
Tufted Titmouse	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
White-breasted Nuthatch	x	x	x	x					x	x	x	x		x			x	x	x	x	x		x	18
Red-breasted Nuthatch									x	x	x	x		x	x	x								12
Brown-headed Nuthatch														x	x		x						x	5
Brown Creeper					x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x			x	x	x	x	x		x	15
House Wren	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	20
Winter Wren				x		x		x	x	x	x			x			x	x	x	x	x		x	16
Bewick's Wren	x	x																						2
Carolina Wren	x	x	x	x					x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
Long-billed Marsh Wren									x					x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	14
Short-billed Marsh Wren													x							x				2
Mockingbird	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
Catbird	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
Brown Thrasher	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
Robin	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
Wood Thrush	x	x	x	x					x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
Hermit Thrush	x								x	x	x			x			x	x	x	x	x		x	15
Olive-backed Thrush	x								x	x	x			x	x		x	x	x				x	15
Gray-cheeked Thrush									x	x	x			x	x		x							12
Veery	x								x	x	x			x	x		x	x	x				x	16
Eastern Bluebird	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	19
Golden-crowned Kinglet									x	x	x			x			x	x	x	x	x		x	15
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	x	x	x	x					x	x	x			x			x	x	x	x	x		x	17
American Pipit									x	x				x			x	x	x					12
Cedar Waxwing	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x				x	18
Migrant Shrike	x	x	x	x					x	x	x			x			x	x	x	x	x		x	15
Starling	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
White-eyed Vireo									x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x		x	x	17
Yellow-throated Vireo									x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x			x	x	17
Blue-headed Vireo	x	x							x	x	x	x					x	x						10
Red-eyed Vireo	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
Philadelphia Vireo									x														x	4
Warbling Vireo									x	x							x	x	x	x			x	12
Black & White Warbler	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x			x	x	x	x		x	x	17
Prothonotary Warbler									x	x				x			x	x	x	x	x		x	12
Swainson's Warbler																							x	2
Worm-eating Warbler									x	x	x			x					x					11
Golden-winged Warbler	x	x	x	x					x	x	x	x	x				x				x	x	x	13
Blue-winged Warbler									x	x	x	x	x				x	x	x		x		x	14
Tennessee Warbler									x	x				x			x	x					x	10
Orange-crowned Warbler																			x					2
Nashville Warbler	x								x	x	x	x	x						x	x			x	12
Parula Warbler	x	x	x	x					x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x		x	19
Yellow Warbler	x	x	x	x					x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	19
Magnolia Warbler	x								x	x	x	x	x				x	x	x				x	14
Cape May Warbler									x	x	x	x	x				x	x	x				x	11
Bl-throated Blue Warblr	x	x	x	x					x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	17
Myrtle Warbler									x	x	x	x	x	x			x				x	x	x	20
Bl-throated Green Warbl	x	x	x	x					x	x	x	x	x				x	x	x		x		x	16

	G	A	W	F	C	B	H	H	M	P	A	C	C	S	C	K	Q	C	T	D	W	S	W	T
	a	a	a	r	l	a	a	a	o	r	n	v	a	h	t	e	e	u	a	a	o	i	o	o
	r	l	s	e	l	l	r	w	n	i	n	t	a	m	c	n	e	r	l	r	c	m	r	t
Cerulean Warbler		x	x			x			x															4
Blackburnian Warbler	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x			x	x	x			x	16	
Chest-sided Warbler	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x				x	x				x	15	
Bay-breasted Warbler	x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x			x				x			x	x	14	
Black-poll Warbler	x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x			x	x	x		x	x	16	
Yellow-throated Warbler										x	x	x		x			x	x	x	x	x		10	
Pine Warbler	x		x				x		x	x	x		x				x	x	x	x	x	x	14	
Prairie Warbler		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x			x	x	x	x		x	18	
Western Palm Warbler											x			x			x	x	x			x	6	
Yellow Palm Warbler			x	x		x	x		x	x								x	x				8	
Ovenbird	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x			x	x	x		x	x	19	
Northern Water-thrush	x	x		x		x	x		x	x	x		x				x	x			x	x	13	
Louisiana Water-thrush	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x				x	x	x	x		x	18	
Kentucky Warbler	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x			x	x	x		x	x	18	
Connecticut Warbler																	x	x				x	3	
Mourning Warbler				x			x			x	x											x	5	
Yellow-throat	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23	
Yellow-breasted Chat	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	20	
Hooded Warbler	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x				x			x		16	
Wilson's Warbler			x	x		x	x		x	x	x							x				x	9	
Canada Warbler	x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x						x	x			x	x	13	
American Redstart	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	19	
English Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23	
Bobolink	x	x		x		x	x		x	x	x		x			x	x	x	x			x	15	
Eastern Meadowlark	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23	
Yellow-headed Blackbird																						x	1	
Red-wing	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23	
Orchard Oriole		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	19	
Baltimore Oriole	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x			x	x	x			x	17	
Rusty Blackbird			x			x			x	x	x		x				x	x	x	x		x	12	
Brewer's Blackbird				x														x	x				3	
Boat-tailed Grackle											x										x	x	3	
Purple Grackle	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	22	
Cowbird	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	19	
Scarlet Tanager	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	20	
Summer Tanager							x			x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x			x	11	
Cardinal	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x				x	x	x		x	x	16	
Blue Grosbeak								x	x	x							x	x	x	x		x	9	
Indigo Bunting	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23	
Dickcissel										x	x					x						x	4	
Evening Grosbeak		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x				x				x	x			x	12	
Purple Finch	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x					x				14	
Pine Grosbeak			x	x																			2	
Pine Siskin		x	x			x			x	x	x							x					6	
Goldfinch	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23	
Red Crossbill									x	x		x										x	4	
Towhee	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23	
Ipswich Sparrow											x												1	
Savannah Sparrow	x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x		x				x	x	x	x		x	15	
Grasshopper Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x			x	x	x	x		x	18	
Henslow's Sparrow							x	x		x		x					x	x			x	x	9	
Sharp-tailed Sparrow																			x	x	x	x	4	
Seaside Sparrow																	x			x	x	x	6	
Vesper Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x				x	x	x	x		x	16	

	G	A	W	F	C	B	H	H	M	P	A	C	C	S	C	K	Q	C	T	D	W	S	W	T
	a	l	a	r	l	a	a	o	o	r	n	v	h	t	e	e	u	a	a	o	i	o	o	o
	r	l	s	e	l	l	r	w	n	i	n	t	a	M	c	n	e	r	l	r	c	m	r	t
Slate-colored Junco	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
Tree Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	10
Chipping Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
Field Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
White-crowned Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	14
White-throated Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
Fox Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	15
Lincoln's Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	4
Swamp Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	16
Song Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
Snow Bunting																								2
Lark Sparrow																								1
King Eider																								1

which have no active birders are represented by erratic lists which have little meaning. Note the lack of summer birding in St. Marys County, an area that is well covered in the winter.

Twenty-five species were recorded in only one county. Worcester grabbed the lion's share in this category, mainly because of its ocean front and extensive tidal flats. The 15 birds recorded only in Worcester include: Harlequin Duck, European Teal, Glossy Ibis, Holboell's Grebe, Gannet, Wilson's Petrel, Cory's Shearwater, Purple Sandpiper, Hudsonian Curlew, Golden Plover, Piping Plover, Oyster-catcher, Roseate Tern, Long-billed Dowitcher and Yellow-headed Blackbird. Anne Arundel contributed 4 unique species: Ipswich Sparrow, Kittiwake, Iceland Gull and Wood Ibis. Talbot birders recorded the White-fronted Goose, Long-eared Owl and Brown Pelican. Dorchester added to the list the Golden Eagle and Red-cockaded Woodpecker. Queen Annes County contributed the Stilt Sandpiper.

Special thanks are due to those observers who submitted lists of birds observed. They include: Harry Armistead, Charles Buchanan, Orville Crowder, Howard Dean, Dick Douglass, George Drumm, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Dubois, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Fletcher, Marvin Hewitt, Prof. and Mrs. David Howard, Richard L. Kleen, Gordon Knight, Seth H. Low, Michael Messix, Terry Moore, Lewis Oring, Dr. and Mrs. John Richaras, Wilbur Rittenhouse, Chandler S. Robbins, Dr. and Mrs. R. S. Stauffer, John Workmeister, Dr. and Mrs. Elmer Worthley and Grace Wright.

The total number of species observed in each county is listed below:

Garrett	115	Montgomery	169	Queen Annes	203
Allegany	119	Prince Georges	183	Caroline	156
Washington	155	Anne Arundel	201	Talbot	225
Frederick	183	Calvert	97	Dorchester	174
Carroll	91	Charles	128	Wicomico	130
Baltimore	179	St. Marys	137	Somerset	84
Harford	183	Cecil	68	Worcester	248
Howard	130	Kent	78	TOTAL	287

THE ANNUAL M.O.S. STATE CONVENTION will be held in Ocean City during the weekend of May 10-12. Register with Mrs. Conner at the Hastings by May 4.

MARYLAND NEST SUMMARY FOR 1956

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Fletcher

The number of nests reported from Maryland increased from 980 in 1955 to 2,525 in 1956. While mere numbers of nests are not particularly significant, this increase in interest is very welcome. However, a real challenge still remains; four counties were not heard from: Carroll, Cecil, Washington and Wicomico. Perhaps a great surprise is in store for the person who spends a few hours in a neighboring county. An outgrowth of the nesting study could be an extension of the Society's membership to completely cover the State; for the most useful data are accumulated by residents of an area who can observe the activities of the breeding birds over the entire span of reproduction.

Of the nineteen counties reporting (Baltimore City was included with Baltimore County), nine reported more than ten species. Some unusual species were reported from isolated spots in the State. Of course, we highly desire the data on unusual species, but we are likewise interested in the total ecology. A race to find 200 Black Vulture nests can yield 200 Black Vulture nests and little useful data. (Incidentally, has anyone seen one Black Vulture nest?) Counties with over ten species are as follows: Caroline, 49; Talbot, 46; Harford, 36; Prince Georges, 27; Montgomery, 27; Queen Annes, 23; Garrett, 20; Baltimore, 19; and Worcester, 15. There were 101 species reported in the entire study, an increase of twelve over 1955. It is interesting to note that three times as many counties reported over ten species as last year.

Only two new species were added in 1956, the Glossy Ibis and Ring-necked Pheasant, bringing the total recorded in the eight-year period to 162. Species for which only one nesting report was received in 1956 are Blue-winged Teal, Pied-billed Grebe, Ring-necked Pheasant, Virginia Rail, Black-billed Cuckoo, Horned Owl, Whip-poor-will, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Ruffed Grouse, Bald Eagle, Belted Kingfisher, Hairy Woodpecker, Cedar Waxwing, Warbling Vireo, Parula Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Pine Warbler, Yellow-throat, Goldfinch, and Sharp-tailed and Seaside Sparrows. The greatest number reported for a species was 365 Great Blue Heron nests, 350 being recorded by Kleen on Poplar Islands, Talbot County. The Maryland State Bird, the Baltimore Oriole, accounted for 8 nests this year--a respectable improvement over the single one in 1955.

Juniors, again, took a leading part in locating and reporting nests. Leaders were Harry T. Armistead (92 nests), Talbot Co.; Gordon Knight (67), Harford Co.; Robert Fletcher (33), Caroline Co.; and Wilbur Rittenhouse (32), Queen Annes Co. Runners-up were cousins Terry Moore and Michael Messix of Queen Annes Co. Altogether, 20 juniors took part--nearly a third of the 63 persons reporting. This represents approximately 10 percent of the membership of the Maryland Ornithological Society. Adults with 10 or more nests are Elsie Bilbrough, Mrs. Carroll Bright, Allen J. Duvall, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Fletcher, Richard Forman, Orville W. Crowder, Mrs. Carl G. Francis, Mrs. Katherine A. Goodpasture, Marvin W. Hewitt, Richard L. Kleen, Seth H. Low, Everett F. Mashburn,

Robert T. Mitchell, Sarah Quinn, Chandler S. Robbins, Carol Scudder, Robert E. Stewart and Mrs. Jean Worthley. The completeness of the data submitted by the observers this year is greatly appreciated.

PIED-BILLED GREBE - 3 eggs in Patuxent Refuge nest, June 4; 4 2/3-grown young from this nest fed by parent, July 24 (F. M. Uhler).

GREAT BLUE HERON - 350 nests on Poplar Islands, Talbot Co., 25 to 75 ft. high, Apr. 22 (Richard L. Kleen, et al.). 15 nests with large young 75 ft. up in sycamore trees on Black Swamp Neck, Prince Georges Co., June 8 (Robert E. Stewart).

AMERICAN EGRET - One nest found on Poplar Is., Talbot Co., on Apr. 22 about 50 ft. up in a loblolly pine (R.L.K., et al.). About 50 pairs with young at various stages on Mills Island, Worcester Co., on June 25 (R.E.S.).

SNOWY EGRET - Young in 100 Mills Is. nests, June 25 (R.E.S.).

LOUISIANA HERON - 25 pairs with young, June 25, Mills Is. (R.E.S.).

LITTLE BLUE HERON - 50 pr. with young, June 25, Mills Is. (R.E.S.).

GREEN HERON - 4 nests (3 containing 3 eggs, 1 with 1 egg) found in bushes at Nelson's Island, Talbot Co.; also 2 young. 3 nests in a duck blind at Bellevue with 3 young, 3 young and 2 eggs. All on July 2 (Harry T. Armistead).

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON - About 75 pairs with young of various ages on Mills Island, Worcester Co. on June 25 (R.E.S.).

EASTERN GLOSSY IBIS - Found nesting on Mills Island by Stewart. Details have been submitted to The Auk.

MALLARD - 2 females with a joint brood of 15 young, Patuxent Refuge, June 4 (F.M.U.).

BLACK DUCK - First Patuxent Refuge young hatched on Apr. 24 (F.M.U.). Robert Fletcher saw an adult with 10 ducklings on May 5 at Garland Lake, Caroline Co. Adult with 6 young seen at the same place on July 15. 2 nests at Nelson's Is. held 5 and 4 eggs on July 2 (H.T.A.).

GADWALL - Nest of 5 eggs found in Dorchester Co. by Stewart and Don Fankhauser on May 4--first record for Dorchester Co.

BLUE-WINGED TEAL - Female with 8 ducklings seen on July 2 at Blackwater Refuge, Dorchester Co. (H.T.A.).

WOOD DUCK - Female with 8 young, Garland Lake, Caroline Co., May 5 (Roberta B. Fletcher). Adult and 6 young, Greensboro, May 22 (M.Hewitt).

RED-SHOULDERED HAWK - 3 nests at Patuxent Refuge, Prince Georges

Co. Adult incubating on Apr. 15 and 4 young on limbs, June 3 (Fred Schmid). Stewart and Paul Springer found another nest on May 5 and Clark Webster found the third on May 8. One nest was not successful.

BALD EAGLE - In Calvert County near Cocktown Creek one nest was found about 60 ft. up in a pine, June 8 (R.E.S.).

OSPREY - Building had begun in dead tree near Trappe on Mar. 24 (R.L.K.). Another nest was being built on top of a 70 ft. radar tower at Fairbanks, Apr. 7. 16 nests on Poplar Islands on Apr. 22, ranging from 3 to 35 ft. (R.L.K., et al.). Talbot County had 8 nests with young in duck blinds, June 30 (H.T.A.).

RUFFED GROUSE - Mrs. Helen B. Miller found 4 eggs in a nest at 4H Camp in Garrett County, June 15.

BOB-WHITE - One nest reported with 15 eggs, July 4, Talbot County (Mrs. Ronald Nevius). 6 broods of small young seen in Caroline, Prince Georges, Queen Annes and Talbot Counties, July 9 to Sept. 3.

RING-NECKED PHEASANT - 6 young about 10 days old seen with hen one mile east of Norrisville, Harford Co., on May 29 (Orville W. Crowder).

VIRGINIA RAIL - In Elliott Island marsh, Dorchester Co., a nest of 4 eggs was found on May 25 (R.E.S.).

KILLDEER - 9 nests, 4 of which were successful. Eggs in nests from May 2 through June 22.

HERRING GULL - Kleen found 7 nests of dead grasses on Sharp's Is., July 1: 3 eggs; 2 eggs; 1 egg and 1 young; 2 infertile eggs; rest empty.

LAUGHING GULL - 27 young banded on July 25 on channel island off South Point, Worcester Co. (Everett F. Mashburn).

FORSTER'S TERN - 15 nests with eggs on Shelldrake Is., Chincoteague Bay, and 57 nests with eggs (1 small young) on Mink Tump, Chincoteague Bay, all on June 25 (R.E.S.). 49 of these nests held 3 eggs each.

COMMON TERN - 28 nests (4 with young) on St. Pierre Island, Somerset Co., June 12 (R.E.S.). 15 nests with eggs on Sharp's Island, July 1 (R.L.K.). On Nelson's Island, Talbot Co., 12 nests were found on July 2, all containing eggs (H.T.A.). 91 nests visited in Sinepuxent Bay had eggs on July 13 (Dr. Charles J. Stine, et al.).

LEAST TERN - Armistead found 4 nests with eggs on Nelson's Island, Talbot Co., July 2. 4 young banded at Ocean City, July 25 (E.F.M.).

ROYAL TERN - 31 young raised at the colony off South Point, Worcester Co. All were caught and banded on July 25 by Mashburn.

BLACK SKIMMER - Only eggs on July 13. 38 young banded on July 25.

MOURNING DOVE - Nest with young on Apr. 29 in Caroline County; same nest used for second brood, May 30 (Hewitt). Late nest with eggs at Millington, Kent Co.; Sept. 6 (Chandler S. Robbins). Nesting heights varied from 3 ft. to 12 ft.

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO - Adult carrying food, July 18, in Caroline County. One fledgling in Talbot County nest on Aug. 10 (H.T.A.).

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO - Gordon Knight found a Harford County nest $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. up in honeysuckle in a second-growth swamp with 2 eggs and a newly-hatched young, May 26; on June 4 nest contained only 2 dead young.

BARN OWL - 4 nests, one with 8 eggs in Talbot County (R.L.K.).

HORNED OWL - Schmid and party found a nest with eggs 55 ft. up in a loblolly pine near Chester, Queen Annes Co., Mar. 3.

WHIP-POOR-WILL - At Camp Mardela, Caroline Co., a nest with 2 eggs was found on July 7 (Bob Fritter).

CHIMNEY SWIFT - 3 young banded from a nest at Denton, Caroline Co., July 13 (Fletcher).

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD - Mrs. John C. Bauer reported a nest in West Ocean City, Worcester Co., about 17 ft. up on May 13.

BELTED KINGFISHER - One record in Talbot County.

FLICKER - Young in 2 Garrett County nests, June 8 and 13 (Ralph Folk, Jean Worthley).

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER - In Queen Annes County a male was seen at a new nesting site, Apr. 7 (Wilbur Rittenhouse). Dates of the 6 records submitted ranged from the above date to June 20, when nestlings were noted at Camp Mardela (W.R.). Heights ranged from 15 to 50 ft.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER - 2 Baltimore City nests by Lydra Gillespie: building 15 ft. up in sycamore, June 15; young 40 ft. up on June 30.

HAIRY WOODPECKER - A first nesting record for Caroline County at Henderson, June 14; adult feeding young in dead birch cavity (Hewitt).

DOWNY WOODPECKER - Young being fed in nest, June 1, at Easton; young in Garrett County on June 10. Records from Caroline, Harford, and Prince Georges Counties during same period.

EASTERN KINGBIRD - 5 nests, May 14 to July 1, at heights of 10 to 20 ft. All reported nests were near dwellings.

CRESTED FLYCATCHER - On June 1 a nest of 4 eggs was found in an Easton paper box (R.L.K.). Another, which was being built in a paper box at Greensboro, July 15, was unsuccessful (M.H.).

EASTERN PHOEBE - 121 nests reported. Earliest building was Apr. 13 at "Lost Valley" near Norrisville in northern Harford County (O.W.C.). Stewart recorded the latest egg date on file for Maryland: July 21 at Patuxent Refuge; one of the 3 eggs in the nest had hatched by the next day, the other 2 failed to hatch. One nest at Concord, Caroline Co., was in a barn; the bird had to fly in under the door where the sill was missing. This nest has been used for 7 years (Carol Scudder).

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER - 10 nests. One in Baltimore County, 6 ft. in a beech tree, had 2 cowbird eggs and 3 flycatcher eggs, June 9; only the cowbird survived (Mr. and Mrs. Albert Walker). Robert Fletcher found a nest at Camp Mardela, Caroline Co. with 3 young; the adult sat on the nest and allowed itself to be picked up and banded, July 11.

EASTERN WOOD PEWEE - 2 nests in Baltimore County, 1 with young on June 14 (Mrs. Carl Francis). One at Queen Anne was in the exact spot of a 1955 nest (W.R.). Also at Queen Anne parents were feeding 2 young that could hardly fly on the very late date of Sept. 10 (W.R.).

TREE SWALLOW - 2 records in Caroline County; birds built in boxes in fence rows, May 10, but were destroyed by predators. Young were in a Wood Duck box at Pleasant Valley, Garrett Co., June 10 (Lois McCullough).

BANK SWALLOW - 200 pairs building beside U.S. 50, 3 miles west of Bay Bridge, May 11 (Seth H. Low and Robbins). 4 young in Pasadena nest, June 22 (McCullough). Also reported from Talbot County.

ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW - Nest with 6 eggs at Ady Road bridge over Deer Creek, Harford Co., June 1 (O.W.C.).

BARN SWALLOW - Nests in Caroline and Harford Counties with eggs on May 20. Latest young were still in a Caroline County nest, July 30 (M.H.). One unusual nest with 4 young inside a front porch at Chester, Queen Annes Co. (M.H.).

PURPLE MARTIN - 18 pairs, which was about one-third, returned to boxes at Denton which had been raided by raccoons in 1955. The last birds left the nest, Aug. 2. Records also from Worcester and Talbot Cos.

BLUE JAY - Earliest nest in Baltimore County, under construction on Apr. 12, had 4 young, May 31; a cat killed these nestlings by throwing them from the nest (Walker).

AMERICAN CROW - 2 Patuxent Refuge nests: May 14 with well-grown young, and May 19 with eggs (Schmid).

CAROLINA CHICKADEE - 8 nests, heights 3 to 6 ft. 7 young were in a Denton nest, May 10 (R.B.F.). Young left a Greensboro nest, June 6 (Elsie Bilbrough). Young in Harford County nests, May 29 and 30 (G.K.).

TUFTED TITMOUSE - Building in dead oak cavity at St. Michaels, Apr. 19 (R.L.K.). One Denton nest in bird box, May 7 (Mrs. Carroll Bright).

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH - 5 eggs in Unity nest, Montgomery Co., May 20 (Seth H. Low). Young out of nest near Sycamore Is., Montgomery Co., May 29 (Katherine A. Goodpasture). Young in Garrett County nest, 15 to 18 ft. up in shagbark hickory, June 10 (G.K.).

HOUSE WREN - 14 nests, May 22 to Aug. 16. Allegany Co. nest had 7 eggs on June 17 (Leonard E. Llewellyn). Caroline County nest had 3 young on Aug. 16 (Bright).

CAROLINA WREN - 9 nests, Apr. 6 to June 29. One nest at Denton was in a cider press (Robert Fletcher).

LONG-BILLED MARSH WREN - Stewart found a nest with 2 eggs in Elliott Island marsh, May 25, 1½ ft. up in Spartina cynosuroides.

MOCKINGBIRD - 12 reports, May 1 (2 eggs) to Aug. 1 (young out).

CATBIRD - 35 nests, eggs May 6 to July 21, 3 to 10 ft. up.

BROWN THRASHER - 18 records with the first nest seen at Denton, May 4 (R.B.F.). Height ranged from ground level to 7 ft. One bird used 1955 Catbird nest in Caroline Co. (Bright). Latest young (half-grown) in Greensboro nest, July 28.

ROBIN - Most of the nests reported were found in April and May, fewer in June and July. Earliest dates (2 eggs) were Apr. 12 and 15 in Montgomery Co. (K.A.G.). Latest dates came from Caroline Co., where Scudder found a nest of 3 eggs, Aug. 12, and one of 4 on Aug. 19 (which hatched Aug. 23). A nest of 4 eggs was on the ground by a Denton fence post which was not near a tree or bush; the eggs were destroyed later (Fletcher). About one-third of the nests were built in woods or in trees along fence rows. About half the nests reported were successful.

WOOD THRUSH - All but 5 of the 26 nests were in deciduous trees. Heights varied from 2½ to 15 ft. 5 eggs were in a Harford Co. nest on May 30. Another Harford nest had 2 thrush eggs and a cowbird egg, May 31. A Caroline nest had cornstalks 1½ ft. long hanging from it.

EASTERN BLUEBIRD - The earliest record was from Caroline County, building on Apr. 7 (Elsie Bilbrough). All nests were in boxes except 2, one in a fence post and another in a dead tree. 16 nests reported.

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER - Building in Caroline (M.H.) and Montgomery (K.A.G.) Counties, Apr. 29, and in Baltimore County, May 5 (Erana K. Lubbert). Young in Harford County nest, June 4 (G.K.). 8 to 25 ft. up.

CEDAR WAXWING - An adult was carrying string put out for a Baltimore Oriole at Greensboro, May 8 (I. Bilbrough). This is the first time any nesting activity of this bird has been observed in Caroline County.

STARLING - The nesting records show that this species will use any available nesting site, such as chimneys, cavities and nail kegs. The

first building activity was reported Apr. 14. One Caroline County pair carried 72 white grubs to 5 young in less than an hour (Scudder).

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO - Nest 35 ft. up at Patuxent Refuge, where adult was feeding young on June 13 (Llewellyn). Adult feeding young cowbird at Henderson, June 25 (Hewitt).

RED-EYED VIREO - First egg laid May 18 in Harford County (O.W.C.), early. Adults feeding young cowbird at Greensboro, Aug. 29. Cowbird egg and 2 vireo eggs in Harford County, June 9. Nests 4 to 30 ft. up. Parent feeding flying young with incomplete head feathering at Queen Anne, Queen Annes County, Sept. 12 (W.R.).

WARBLING VIREO - Young out of nest, June 30, Talbot Co. (T. Moore).

PARULA WARBLER - Began building, May 5 at Kensington (K.A.G.).

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER - Knight found a nest with 2 eggs in a blackberry bush about 4 ft. from the ground in Garrett County, June 10.

PINE WARBLER - Young out of Bellevue nest, Aug. 12 (H.T.A.).

OVEN-BIRD - Parents feeding young out of Montgomery Co. nest, June 10 (K.A.G.). 3 eggs in a Garrett Co. nest, June 15 (Lois McCollough).

LOUISIANA WATER-THRUSH - 5 eggs in Kensington nest, May 5; newly-hatched birds dead, May 23 (K.A.G.). 1 young in Lost Valley nest, June 9.

YELLOW-THROAT - A nest of 4 young found at Pleasant Valley, Garrett Co., about 10 in. from the ground, June 11 (G.K.).

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT - 3 Harford County nests with eggs, May 22, June 3 and June 9; clutches of 5, 4 and 4; heights 2 to 5 ft. (O.W.C.).

AMERICAN REDSTART - 3 nests, 25 to 30 ft. up in deciduous trees in Baltimore, Montgomery and Garrett Counties, from May 20 to June 9.

ENGLISH SPARROW - Young out of Caroline County nest on May 21.

EASTERN MEADOWLARK - Eggs May 19 (Dorch. Co.) to July 7 (Garrett).

RED-WING - 75 percent of 174 Queen Annes Co. nests checked from June 7 to June 26 contained eggs (Richard Forman). 3 in. to 14 ft. up.

ORCHARD ORIOLE - 4 nests, May 24 to June 21. 10 to 45 ft. up.

BALTIMORE ORIOLE - Building in Talbot Co. began May 5 (T. Ambler). Young out of 4 nests in Caroline, Frederick and Allegany Cos. by June 25.

PURPLE GRACKLE - Nests were being built by Apr. 16 in Caroline Co. On May 17 Mitchell, Robbins and Duvall found that 77 percent of Queen Annes Co. nests examined held young; one nest contained 10 eggs. Young

out of the nest were still begging for food in Montgomery Co., July 29 (K.A.G.). Nesting heights varied from 3 to 18 ft.

COWBIRD - Eggs or young were cared for by Acadian Flycatcher, Wood Thrush, Yellow-throated Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Red-wing, Cardinal, Indigo Bunting, Red-eyed Towhee, and Chipping Sparrow.

SUMMER TANAGER - Building in Montgomery Co. on May 16 (K.A.G.). Female on Queen Annes Co. nest, May 28. Young left Denton nest, June 28.

CARDINAL - 3 eggs in Harford and Caroline County nests on May 10. The height of nests ranged from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 10 ft. Family of 3 short-tailed young able to fly short distances in Montgomery Co., Sept. 3 (K.A.G.).

BLUE GROSEBEAK - A nest with one young about 10 ft. up in a bush at Bellevue, July 7. Young with parent in Prince Georges Co., July 15.

INDIGO BUNTING - Female feeding a cowbird in Talbot Co., Aug. 7 (Armistead). Parents feeding 2 juvenile birds on Sept. 10 in Queen Annes Co. (Rittenhouse).

EASTERN GOLDFINCH - Nest about 20 ft. up in a red maple, Montgomery Co., female incubating, Aug. 5 (Goodpasture).

RED-EYED TOWHEE - Harford nest had 3 eggs on June 3, 3 young on June 9 (O.W.C.). Pleasant Valley nest, $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. up, had 3 eggs on June 13 (Ginny Killen). Anne Arundel nest, $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. up, destroyed by black snake, July 4 (McCollough). Young barely flying at Bellevue, Aug. 17 (H.T.A.).

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW - Immature on fence, Aug. 6, Caroline Co.

SHARP-TAILED SPARROW - 3 eggs in Elliott Is. marsh, May 25 (R.E.S.).

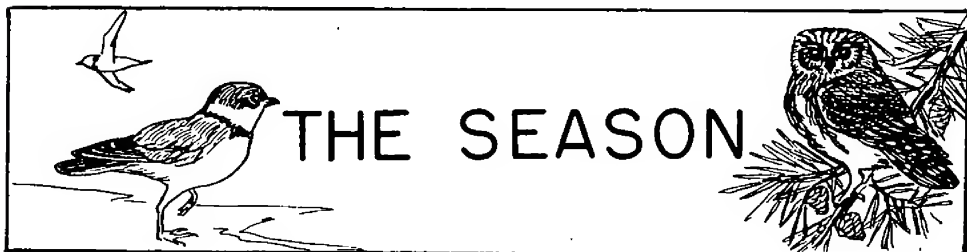
SEASIDE SPARROW - 3 eggs in nest in Elliott Is. marsh, Dorchester Co., May 25; rim of nest 4 in. above the ground (R.E.S.).

CHIPPING SPARROW - 32 nests were reported from Apr. 21 to Aug. 16. Nesting heights ranged from 4 to 30 ft. 4 of the nests were found in the woods and 8 of the records showed that conifers were used for nesting sites. A Harford Co. record showed that each of the 4 eggs in one nest was laid before 7:30 a.m., Standard Time (G.K.).

FIELD SPARROW - Young out of Harford Co. nest, May 26. Later nest in Caroline Co. hatched Aug. 3. One of the 6 nests reported was built on the ground; the others varied from 4 in. to $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft.

SWAMP SPARROW - 4 nests from Pleasant Valley, Garrett Co., 0 to 8 in. up. 3 eggs, June 10 (G.K.); 4 eggs, June 13 (G.K.); 4 young, June 10 (Gladys H. Cole); 4 eggs and 1 young, June 14 (Dick Wilson).

SONG SPARROW - Building near Greensboro, Apr. 22. 3 young in late Denton nest, Sept. 22; this nest was built in an old Robin nest (R.B.F.).



OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, 1956

Chandler S. Robbins

The late fall and early winter period was characterized meteorologically by locally heavy showers in October and November and unseasonably high thermometer readings in December. At Royal Oak in Talbot County 8.90 inches of rain fell on Nov. 2. Temperatures averaged slightly above normal in October and November; in December the average temperature of 46.5° at Baltimore (7.7° above normal) shattered the 140-year record, and favored the survival of southern stragglers. The scarcity of northern winter visitors, however, is not to be attributed to the locally mild weather--but rather to an abundance of natural food in eastern Canada and the bordering states.

Hérons. In addition to the usual wintering Great Blue and Black-crowned Night Herons, American Bitterns, and the occasional American Egret, there were reports of a Little Blue Heron and 2 Least Bitterns at Christmas time. The Little Blue was found near Ocean City on Dec. 27 by Dick and Martha Dubois; it was the first time this species had been observed on any Maryland Christmas Count, although our Cape May neighbors have found it in several recent years. Single Least Bitterns turned up near Easton on Dec. 9 (found dead by Nita Nevius), and in the Elliott Island marshes at the end of the month (John Terborgh).

Swans and Geese. A great influx of Whistling Swans reached Talbot County on Nov. 9. The peak movement, with an estimate in the thousands, passed Gibson Is. on Nov. 14 (Mrs. W. L. Henderson, Mrs. Gail Tappan). The majority of Canada Geese, on the other hand, arrived about three weeks earlier than this. Mrs. Austin L. Hoffman reported 18 flocks over Gambrill State Park from Oct. 10 to Nov. 10; she noted 3 flocks on Oct. 18 (also the peak date at Gibson Is.), 5 flocks (300 individuals) on Oct. 21, and 3 flocks on Oct. 24. On the latter date Lois Horn also counted 3 flocks over Patuxent Refuge, and others were seen over Baltimore by Mrs. Albert Walker and Donald McComas. A White-fronted Goose, the second Maryland record of the century, was closely observed at Oxford, Talbot Co., in mid-October by Sigmund Hersloff, whose waterfowl sanctuary has attracted as many as 15,000 Canada Geese at one time.

Ducks. Three Old-squaws at Gibson Island on Oct. 18 were the earliest arrivals there in more than ten years (Messdames Henderson and Tappan). An unusually large flock of American Scoters for the upper

Chesapeake was a group of 100 at Gibson Island on Nov. 9 (same observers); no others were reported from the Western Shore this fall. Rarities included a European Widgeon at Gibson Island, Dec. 31 (Mr. and Mrs. Dolf Swing), and an immature male King Eider on the Ocean City Christmas Count, Dec. 27 (David A. Cutler and party).

Gallinules, Shorebirds. The third winter record for the Florida Gallinule was established on the Ocean City Count, Dec. 27, when David Cutler saw one at the fresh water pond in West Ocean City. Shorebirds wintered in greater numbers than at any time in the past ten years. Fourteen species and 4,300 individuals of sandpipers and plovers were tallied on the Ocean City Count, nearly twice as many individuals as in any past year. Counts of the following birds were higher than ever before: Semipalmated Plover, 4; Black-bellied Plover, 200; Woodcock, 7; Wilson's Snipe, 32; Lesser Yellow-legs, 4; Red-backed Sandpiper, 2,150; and Sanderling, 1,500. A Golden Plover was identified at Denton on Oct. 15 and 16 by Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Fletcher and Marvin Hewitt, who found it feeding with a flock of Killdeer.

Gulls, Skimmers. Mrs. Henderson and Mrs. Tappan noted hundreds of Laughing Gulls around Gibson Island on Oct. 12; their last 10 were recorded on Nov. 27, a few days later than the usual departure time. The number of Kittiwake observations for this State was doubled during Christmas week. One was found dead on the Ocean City jetty on Dec. 27 by David Cutler and preserved by Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson. Another was watched at the mouth of the South River on the Dec. 30 Annapolis Count (Robbins). A flock of 11 Black Skimmers remained at Ocean City through Dec. 27 (Cutler and others).

Cuckoos, Owls, Swifts. A Black-billed Cuckoo identified in Baltimore on Nov. 4 by Dr. David E. Davis is the latest on record for Maryland. The Yellow-billed species left at the usual time, the last three occurrences being on the Eastern Shore, Oct. 3-6 (Wilbur Rittenhouse, Marvin Hewitt, and Mrs. A. J. Fletcher). This was the poorest winter in recent years for the Saw-whet Owl in Maryland; the only one reported was found at St. Michaels, Dec. 14. Final Chimney Swift observations followed the usual pattern: a scattering of single birds and small flocks from rural and suburban communities during the first 9 days of October, climaxed by an estimated 200 birds in Baltimore on Oct. 13 (Mrs. Albert Walker).

Woodpeckers, Swallows, Flycatchers. There was a good southward flight of Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers; as many as 7 were encountered at Gibson Island on Oct. 3. An unusual bird for Queen Annes County was a Pileated Woodpecker seen on Nov. 4 by Wilbur Rittenhouse near the town of Queen Anne. Caroline County, just across Tuckahoe Creek from Queen Anne, still has no record of this woodpecker. The Seneca Christmas Count turned in a total of 42 Red-headed Woodpeckers on the last day of the year. There were other reports of this species from the Piedmont, and a single individual (the 13th observation since 1940) was studied at Gibson Island on Dec. 30 (Mrs. Walter Hughson and Mrs. William Hughson). Tree Swallows, which usually leave Maryland in winter, were regular

throughout December in southern Dorchester County (Robert E. Stewart and others). A late Eastern Phoebe was seen at Monkton in northern Baltimore County on Dec. 5 (Stephen W. Simon).

Jays, Creepers. The fall migration of Blue Jays through Maryland was meagre indeed in comparison with recent years; this is further borne out by Christmas Counts near and east of the Chesapeake: Blackwater's 7 individuals were the fewest since 1952, and at Gibson Island fourteen participants spotted only one lone bird. The nine Christmas Counters who hiked the C & O Canal from Great Falls to above the Seneca swamp on Dec. 31 compiled a total of 48 Brown Creepers--twice as many as in any other area except Annapolis, which had 36.

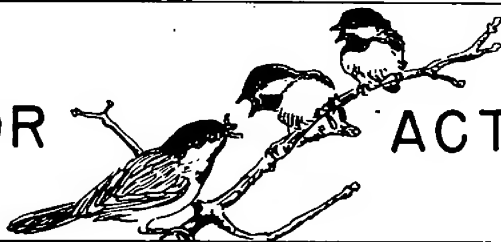
Wrens, Vireos. Hervey Brackbill, in his Jan. 1 column in the Baltimore Evening Sun, tells of a Bewick's Wren that visited the feeding shelf of Philip Myers in Baltimore on Dec. 3. Common as the Red-eyed Vireo is in summer and during the spring and autumn migration periods, we should expect to find late stragglers from time to time. And yet this seldom happens, although many scarcer species are more frequently seen weeks after their usual departure time. A year ago we commented upon a Red-eyed Vireo banded at Monkton on Oct. 25, 1955 as being "exceptionally late." One seen in the Pennyfield (Seneca) area on Nov. 9, 1956 by Ralph Lawrence and Bryant Tyrrell is even more so--just two days short of the State record. Less unusual but still noteworthy is a Blue-headed Vireo seen in Baltimore on Nov. 2 by Alice Kaestner.

Warblers. There were several late warbler reports. A dozen species in this family were seen in Caroline County alone during the late fall period. A Cape May Warbler visited Mrs. Katherine Goodpasture's suet stick in Kensington through Oct. 16; another, the second winter record for Maryland, was observed at a distance of six feet at Greensboro on Dec. 27 (Mrs. Fletcher). The last Yellow-breasted Chat presumed to be a migrant was found at Gibson Island on Oct. 3 (Mesdames Henderson and Tappan). Wintering individuals were located as follows: at Catonsville in the Piedmont from Dec. 10 on (Mrs. Polis Komianos), at Aberdeen on the edge of the Piedmont (Gordon Knight), and at Easton on the Coastal Plain (through Dec. 29, Terry Moore).

Orioles. Oct. 11 is a good late departure date for the Baltimore Oriole; one was seen on this date at Preston by Marvin Hewitt. A month and a half later, on Nov. 27, a wintering bird appeared at the Annapolis feeding station of Prof. and Mrs. David Howard. On Dec. 11, as related in Hervey Brackbill's Jan. 1 column, a male returned to the Waverly feeder of William O. Purcell, where a male had stayed from Jan. 14 to Apr. 9 last winter. Jane Offutt holds the record for hospitality to this species, with 3 individuals at her feeder, as related in her own words in the preceding issue of Maryland Birdlife.

Tanagers. Both species of tanagers were seen on unusually late dates at Gibson Island by Mrs. Henderson and Mrs. Tappan: a Summer Tanager on Oct. 2, 4 Scarlet Tanagers on Oct. 9, and 2 Scarlet Tanagers on Oct. 16.

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES



A TRIP TO BLACKWATER REFUGE

James Voshell

Five members of the Talbot County Junior Bird Club, Meade Lloyd, Herndon and Brian Steilkie, Ray Harrison, and I, met at Mr. Kleen's home on Saturday night, February 2. We planned to stay overnight and start out early Sunday morning for Blackwater Refuge. Although we overslept the next morning, we started for Blackwater at about 9 a.m. It was miserable weather. The sky was completely overcast and it rained on and off nearly the entire day. We did not expect to see very many good birds and thought most of our birding would be done from the car.

As we neared the refuge headquarters, we saw thousands of Canada Geese and just as many Pintails feeding in one of the refuge cornfields. We searched the area for Snow and Blue Geese but found none. After signing in at headquarters and eating our lunch, we walked to the first tower. We didn't have much luck there so we headed down a new trail that has just been opened. The most interesting bird we saw along that trail was a Winter Wren. It started raining harder so we headed back to the car and drove down to the dike. On our way we saw a small bird with white wing markings in a cornfield. We stopped and investigated. After chasing it around a bit, we found it was a Snow Bunting, a life bird for most of us.

A few minutes later we stopped the car and started on foot along the CCC dike road. We walked along, seeing a few ducks and a few sparrows, when all of a sudden a large bird flew up in front of us. It was an American Bittern. As we walked farther along the trail we noticed an eagle sitting on a tree. We thought at first it was an immature Bald Eagle but when we got close we saw it was an adult Golden Eagle.

In a little while we reached the tower. We found Barn Owl pellets under the tower, picked up as many as we could, put them in a bag, and saved them for future study. While we were at the tower we saw thousands of Canada Geese, and feeding with them were a few Snows and Blues. We watched them for awhile and then started out again. By the time we reached the car we were pretty tired. It must be three miles around the dike road. On the way home we counted up and realized we had observed 61 species. We never imagined we would see so many interesting birds on such a miserable day.

St. Michaels

THE FIRST DAY OF THE YEAR

Dan Gibson

On January 1, I left home at about 7 a.m. on my bicycle, bound to pick up a lot of species to start off my year's list. The bird I wanted most to find was a Short-eared Owl that I had seen several days earlier near Chestertown. I went to the field where I had seen it, but to no avail.

I went from there to Brice's Mill Pond. Here I picked up two drake Gadwalls swimming with some Baldpates. The Gadwalls were life-listers. Also at the pond, I saw Carolina Wrens, Tufted Titmice and Red-bellied Woodpeckers.

From here I rode on to finish my trip along the Chester River. When I arrived at the river, I saw Canvas-backs, Ruddy Ducks, a Great Blue Heron, and Ring-billed and Herring Gulls. When I got home after my morning's trip, I had seen thirty-five species.

After lunch my mother took me down to Quaker Neck Landing by car. There I saw Horned and Pied-billed Grebes, American Golden-eyes, Whistling Swans and a Sparrow Hawk. Then she took me to St. Paul's Church where I saw a Golden-crowned Kinglet in the pines, a Myrtle Warbler, and a pair of Ring-necked Ducks on a nearby pond. After this it was getting late so we headed for home.

On the way I tabulated my day's tally and found that I had seen fifty-one species, which is the best I've ever done on a winter day.

Chestertown

OUR TRIP TO THE GLENN L. MARTIN REFUGE

Michael Messix

We took our trip on March 3, 1957. My friend Terry Moore and his father and mother took Wilbur Rittenhouse and me to the Glenn L. Martin Refuge near Chestertown in Kent County.

We started about 12:30 for the refuge. On our way we saw many birds, including Red-tailed Hawk, Sparrow Hawk and Wilson's Snipe. We arrived at the refuge about 1:30. There we saw 20,000 Canada Geese, 9 Snow Geese, 4 Blue Geese, 100 Mallards, 2 Black Ducks and 100 Pintails. We watched them about a half hour, then we drove on. We turned around near a lake and saw a Canvas-back. We arrived home about 3 o'clock. We had about 44 birds at this time.

Terry and I looked for birds about two more hours, until we had 50 species for the afternoon.

Queen Anne

JUNIOR ACHIEVERS

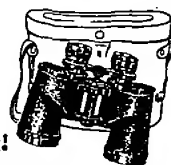
Richard L. Kleen

A new corporation is creating great interest in Talbot County. This organization is unusual in that none of its members is older than fourteen. It is called the Nature Construction Company and manufactures bird houses and bird feeders. The six boys who make up the company are all members of the Talbot County Junior Bird Club. The organization is sponsored as a junior achievement program by the Talbot club of the Maryland Ornithological Society. In order to raise money to begin the enterprise, twenty-six shares of stock were sold at one dollar per share. A 10 percent dividend has been declared and quarterly reports will be sent to all stockholders. The St. Michaels High School has kindly permitted the boys to use its shop facilities for the nominal charge of one bird house a month. Three designs have been created to date: a feeder, a wren house, and a bluebird house. Each sells for \$1.50. The company expects to have a selection of houses and feeders at the State Convention in May. We hope you all will visit the display and that you will feel free to ask questions of the juniors who have created this worthwhile enterprise. The members of the organization are:

Meade Lloyd, President	Herndon Steilkie, Production Manager
Ronald Soulsman, Treasurer	Ray Harrison, Research Manager
Brian Steilkie, Secretary	James Vosnell, Architect

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C O M I N G E V E N T S

May	3	Harford Club regular meeting, Bel Air Library, 7:30 p.m.
	4	Anne Arundel Club field trip to Sherwood Forest
	4	M. O. S. STATEWIDE BIRD COUNT. Send lists promptly to Mr. Percy Jones, 3504 Fairview Ave., Baltimore 16
	5	Takoma Park field trip to Pennyfield Lock
	8	Baltimore Club seminar, Natural History Society, 8 p.m.
10-12		MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY STATE CONVENTION at Ocean City. Register with Mrs. Conner, Hastings Hotel, Ocean City
	13	Takoma Park regular meeting
	15	Baltimore Club seminar, Natural History Society, 8 p.m.
	17	Talbot Club field trip to Tilghman's Island
	22	Baltimore Club seminar, Natural History Society, 8 p.m.
	25	Alleghany Club field trip to Blackwater Falls, W. Va.
	25	Baltimore Club field trip to Woodstock
	26	Baltimore Club field trip to Fortescue, N.J.
	26	Talbot Club field trip to Deep Neck
	29	Baltimore Club seminar, Natural History Society, 8 p.m.
June	1	Caroline Club annual picnic
	1	Baltimore Club field trip to Mrs. Gorsuch's
	6	Talbot Club annual picnic
	7	Harford Club regular meeting, Bel Air Library, 7:30 p.m.
8-9		Alleghany Club field trip to Cacapon State Park, W. Va.
	10	Takoma Park regular meeting
14-16		Alleghany Club weekend trip to Garrett County
17-21		Alleghany Club Junior Camp, Pleasant Valley, Garrett County