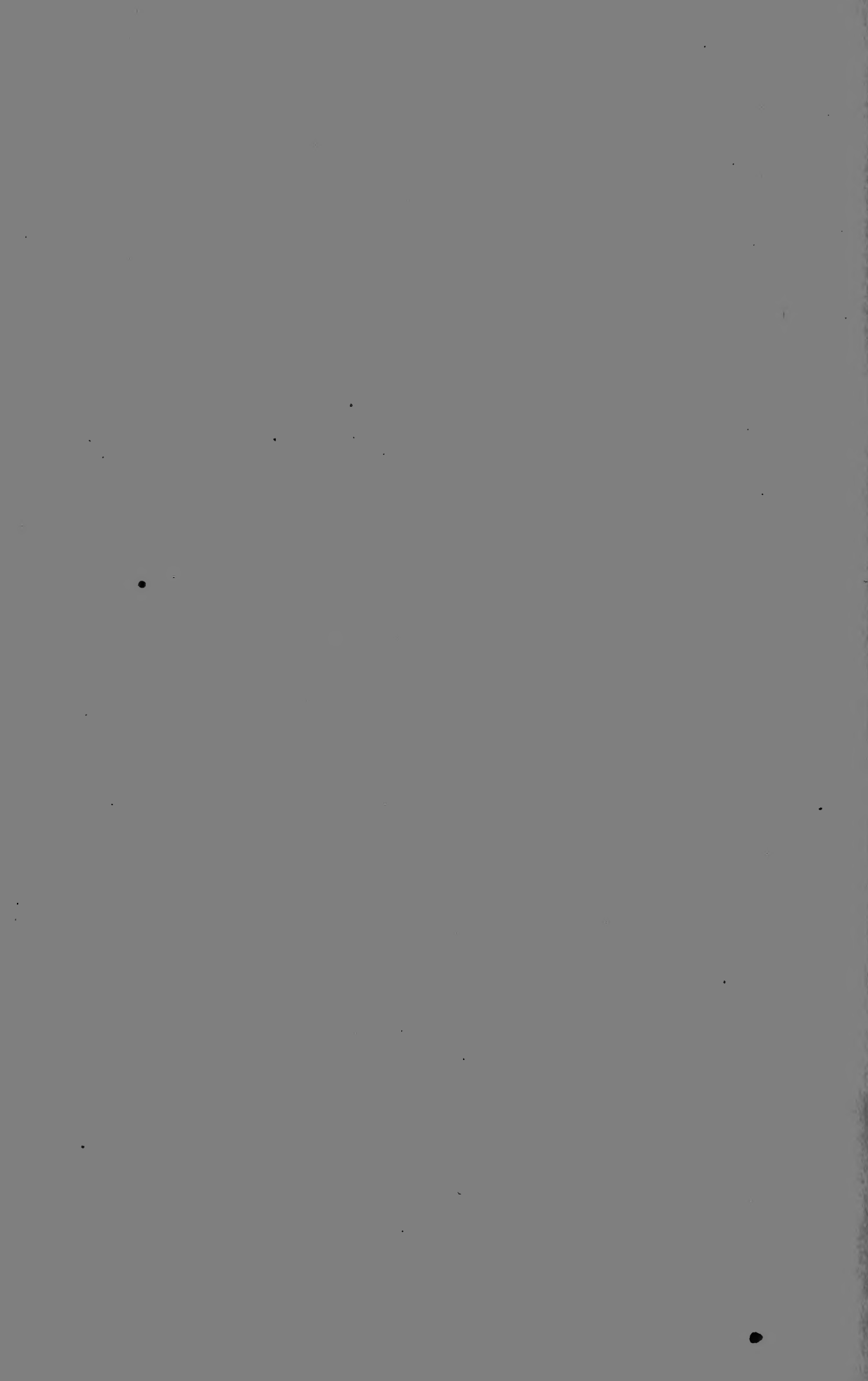




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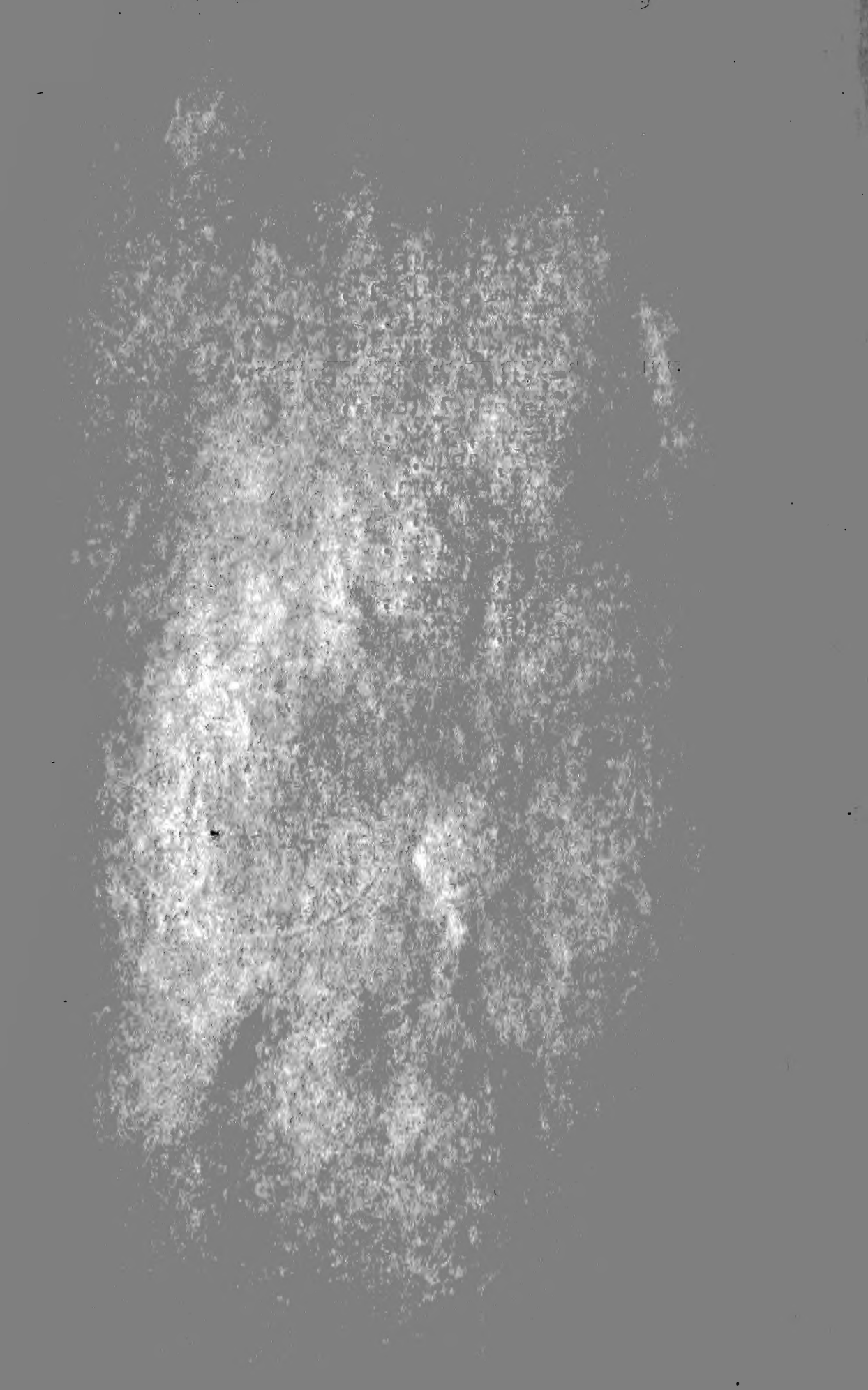
The Audubon Bulletin.

Complete set to date consists of

135-

- Spring, 1916.
- Winter, 1916-17.
- Spring, 1917.
- Winter, 1917-18.
- Spring and Summer, 1918
- Winter, 1918-19.
- Spring, 1920.
- Fall, 1920.
- Spring, 1921.
- Fall, 1921.
- Spring, 1922.
- Fall, 1922.
- Spring, 1923.
- Fall, 1923.





The
Audubon Bulletin
Spring-1916



Published by
The ILLINOIS
AUDUBON
SOCIETY

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Why not associate yourself with others who are like-minded on the bird question?

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If you have the means and the inclination you can help five times as much by becoming a Contributing Member at \$5.00 per year.

Or if you insist you can finish the matter once for all time by becoming a Life Member upon payment of \$100.00. However, this gives you no privileges not enjoyed by active or contributing members.

Sign the application blank on page 35 and send to the Treasurer with your remittance.

Illinois Audubon Society

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10 South La Salle Street, Chicago

Vice-President

Mr. John M. Blakeley
19 South La Salle Street, Chicago

Secretary

Mrs. Frederic H. Pattee
2436 Prairie Avenue, Evanston

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Illinois Audubon Society

FOR THE CONSERVATION OF BIRD LIFE

ESTABLISHED IN 1897

CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES**MEETINGS**

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PRINTINGMR. FREDERIC H. PATTEE,
2436 PRAIRIE AVE., EVAN**LECTURES AND SLIDES**

MR. JESSE LOWE SMITH, HIGHLAND PARK

June 23, 1916

This is to direct your attention to the activities of an organization calling itself the Inter-state Sportsmen's Protective Association which is at present making a vigorous attack upon an item in the Agricultural appropriation bill in which the sum of \$50,000.00 is allotted to the U. S. Biological Survey to be used in enforcing the provisions of the Federal Migratory Bird Law. This organization of which Mr. J. H. Aldous of Alton is president is made up of a small group of hunters in and about St. Louis who wish the above-named law amended to permit of Spring shooting of ducks and geese. As they have not been able to accomplish this, they are trying to cripple the work of the Survey by defeating the much-needed appropriation. They have even attacked the Survey directly. In the columns of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat Mr. Aldous has announced that if the Biological Survey persists in enforcing the regulation concerning Spring shooting his organization will "put the Survey out of business."

Now in all this activity, these shotgun hunters of St. Louis and vicinity claim with astonishing effrontery to represent the people of Illinois. They list the following Congressmen from Illinois as favoring the amendment of the Migratory Bird Law to permit shooting until March 31:

W. A. Rodenberg
B. M. Chipfield
E. E. Dennison
Edward J. King
L. E. Wheeler

Martin B. Madden
C. U. Stone
Thos. Gallagher
C. H. Tavenner
Charles E. Fuller
James D. McDermott

F. A. Britten
John C. McKenzie
T. S. Williams
John A. Sterling
W. B. McKinley
J. G. Cannon.

In commenting upon the above it is hardly necessary to say that the great majority of the people of Illinois that have any information at all upon the subject are strongly in favor of the rigid enforcement of the regulations proposed by the Biological Survey. These regulations look to the accomplishment of the purpose of the Federal Migratory Bird Law, namely, to prevent the extermination of certain species of birds; to secure an increase in numbers of certain desirable species; to equalize as far as may be opportunities for using certain species for recreation shooting and food purposes. They should be supported by the Congressmen from Illinois and from her Senators as well. Shall we not urge them to do so?

The item in the appropriation bill referred to has passed the House. It is now before the Senate. It would seem that now is the time for all of us in Illinois who favor the conservation of bird life to rally to the support of the U. S. Biological Survey and repudiate unsparingly the efforts of the small minority who in their attacks upon the Survey claim to represent the people of Illinois.

Let us do this and do it at once, and in the following manner: Write Senators Lewis and Sherman urging their active support of the item of \$50,000.00 in the appropriation bill. Write to the Honorable D. F. Houston, Secretary of Agriculture, protesting against any amendment permitting the shooting of birds on their northward migration, or anywhere on the continent after February 1. Do it now.

THE ILLINOIS STATE AUDUBON SOCIETY.
Per Orpheus M. Schantz, *President*

Mrs. Frederic H. Pattee, *Secretary*
2436 Prairie Avenue, Evanston, Ill.

CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES



MEETINGS

OFFICERS

The Aims and Principles of the Illinois Audubon Society are:

- 1st. To encourage the study of birds, particularly in the schools, and to disseminate literature relating to them.
- 2nd. To work for the betterment and enforcement of State and Federal laws relating to birds.
- 3rd. To discourage the wearing of any feathers except those of the ostrich and domestic fowls.
- 4th. To discourage, in every possible way, the wanton destruction of wild birds and their eggs.



SHAD-BUSH

"When the shad blossoms trilliums are specking the woods with white, violets have come in place of hepaticas, and warblers keep the thickets rustling. The woods, which soon will be closed with masses of green, are still open. It is a moment when such fragility as the beauty of the shad blossom gets the setting it needs. It is a flash of beauty in the woods, an evanescent delight which touches the earth and is gone." Thus far the poet, but the birds know how the blossoms are in due time transmuted into purple berries, rich and juicy and sweet, which are good to drop into the mouths of greedy offspring.

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN

SPRING, 1916

Published by the
ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
(For the protection of wild birds)

Greetings from the President of the Illinois Audubon Society

To the members of the
Illinois Audubon Society.

The Directors of the Audubon Society long ago realized that its members who have so generously supported it from year to year, have had no way of knowing how the income of the Society has been spent except through the reports of its officers which have been read at the annual public meeting in May. It was recognized that while the real activities of the Society would naturally be determined and controlled by the Directors, the members should have a more definite knowledge of how the bird conservation work has been carried on and with what measure of success. Accordingly the Directors have committed the Society to the publishing of stated bulletins which shall give the activities of the Society publicity, as well as contain items of interest to bird lovers, notes on the status of both State and Federal laws for bird conservation and protection, and any bird news of importance from other organizations, State or National, that have the same object as the Illinois Audubon Society.

It is planned to publish three a year, a Spring Bulletin, an Autumn Bulletin, and a Winter Bulletin.

This Spring Bulletin for 1916 is the maiden issue. It is hoped that through it and the succeeding bulletins the Illinois Audubon Society will be able to create a wider interest in bird life, increase its membership and resources, and furnish a center of influence for the work of bird conservation in Illinois.

There are doubtless many bird lovers who would be willing to assist materially in organized work of this kind who are not even aware of the fact that there is an Illinois State Audubon Society and that it has been more or less actively at work for eighteen years. This is explainable in large part by the Society's limited resources and inadequate means of publicity. However the Directors are willing to admit a measure of responsibility for the somewhat limited rôle the Society has hitherto played. They realize that theirs should have been a wider appeal, and that they have not been quite courageous enough to assume for the Society the leadership which its name and its position entail. Let us hope that this bulletin and those which are to follow will serve to foster a truly state-wide organization and help to make possible whenever necessary, a union for efficient effort of the Illinois State Audubon Society and all organizations of similar aims in the state.

This Spring Bulletin has been put together hurriedly, yet in its preparation thirty or forty individuals and seven organizations have given cheerful co-operation. The response has been immediate. It has come from various parts of the state. Doubtless even a larger number of organizations would have been represented had our Secretary possessed a comprehensive list of bird clubs, nature study clubs, local Audubon Societies, etc. to which to send out the invitation to co-operate. We apologize to all clubs and organizations of this kind that we failed to include on our mailing list. We hope that before we issue the Autumn Bulletin we may have all such organizations on our list.

We are sending out two thousand copies of this bulletin. It would seem possible for our Society so to increase its resources that it could afford to issue a much larger edition and instead of a forty-eight page bulletin like the present one, send out a seventy-two page bulletin, well illustrated and attractively printed. There will be no trouble to secure valuable articles for publication. The range and wealth of bird life in Illinois insure us material of the right sort. Elsewhere are suggestions for co-operative work which we trust will appeal to bird observers in every part of the state. The big word is CO-OPERATE. Our membership is 450. Let's make it 1,000.

Now then Fellow Members, all together!

ORPHEUS M. SCHANTZ,
President Illinois State Audubon Society.

The Present Bird Protection Laws in Illinois and Their Enforcement

(Editor's note: In response to a request for some notes for editorial use on the present status of bird protection in Illinois, Mr. Millard submitted the following article which he characterized as a "dry, formal statement to be worked over and made interesting by the editor." To the editor it seems unusually clear and clean-cut. It appears here unchanged except for the decorations in the way of Italics, for which the editor is responsible.)

The present Illinois statute protecting bird and fish life in the state is known as the Game and Fish Act, and went into effect on July 1, 1915. It provides that the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint three persons, to be known as the State Game and Fish Commission, one of whom is the President and Executive officer of the Commission. It is the duty of the Commission to conserve and propagate the game, birds and fish of the State, enforce the statutes and bring action in the name of the people, to prosecute violators of the statutes. The Commission appoints seven wardens and 78 deputy wardens, who give all their time to the offices. They are under the control of the Commission, and, in addition, all constables of the state are ex-officio special deputy wardens, without salary or expenses as such, but receiving one-half of all the fines recovered for violation of the statute, in cases where they file the complaint.

The President receives an annual salary of \$4,000.00; the other two Commissioners \$3,000.00 each; the seven wardens receive \$1,500.00 each and the 78 deputy wardens \$1,200.00 each, besides actual traveling expenses. There are offices in Springfield, as well as in each of the six districts provided. The law protects various kinds of animal life for all or part of the year, and provides a penalty of from \$15.00 to \$50.00

for violation. It prohibits selling or having in one's possession in the State any of the animals protected. The ownership of wild game and birds is declared to be in the State, and the destruction of nest or eggs of wild birds or having them in one's possession is subject to fine, except in the case of persons holding a certificate giving the right to take birds, their nests and eggs, for scientific purposes. These certificates are granted by the Commission upon testimonials from two scientific men certifying to the good character and fitness of the applicant, and are issued upon the payment of \$5.00 and the execution of a \$200.00 bond. A license to kill game must be secured from a county, city or village clerk, upon application. The fee to citizens and residents of the State is \$1.00. *If issued to non-residents of the State or to aliens, the total fee is \$10.50.*

The Commission has the power to establish game and bird reservations in any county for song and insectivorous birds, the land being leased at the nominal rental of \$1.00 a year for each tract, with power to use five acres in each such tract for planting grain, and to pay therefor the usual rental of such land.

There are also careful provisions protecting the fish of the state, providing for state fish hatcheries, etc.

Considerable information as to the work of this commission is given in its printed annual report for the year ending July 1, 1915, which can be obtained from the Commission at Springfield, or its office at 130 North Fifth Avenue, in Chicago. *It is evident from the report that the chief interest of the Commission is in protecting and increasing game, and the necessity of protection of song-bird life is not emphasized. This is undoubtedly owing to the activities of the game clubs and professional hunters who have always taken an energetic interest in the passage and administration of the law, while the Audubon Society and those interested in song bird and game protection, for love of the birds or for economic reasons, have not made their interest felt in the same degree.*

The first district comprises ten of the northern counties and has three deputies in Chicago, with seven more in other northern counties of the state. The report for this district shows 158 arrests during the year covered, with total fines of \$887.50. These comprise both fish and game violations, and are not separated in the report. They are mostly for selling undersized fish, and ducks and rabbits out of season. The other five districts contain varying numbers of counties, similarly patrolled by deputies. The reports from the district wardens of each of these districts discuss game and fish protection almost to the exclusion of song bird protection. Some of them are of considerable interest. The district warden at Carbondale, in the sixth district, for example, recommends amendments to be made to our present law, to prohibit bird dogs running at large from April 1 to November 1, and to prohibit the use of pump and automatic and all other repeating or machine guns, whereupon he believes that our game, birds and animals will increase very rapidly.

The wardens are said to be under civil service. *The constables of the state are reported to be quite inactive in enforcing the statute in general, although there are a few exceptions.*

The State had a propagating farm at Auburn, Illinois, but it was given

up in July of last year because it was not deemed by the Commission to be worth the expense. There are a number of reservations, however, including four in the first district, running from 600 to 3,000 acres each. That at Moosehart is the largest.

It is obvious that the enforcement of such laws as we have is fully as important a matter as having secured their passage. In securing good appointments by the Governor to the Commission, and by the Commission to the offices of warden and deputy warden, the Audubon Society could rightly take an aggressive interest, and accomplish much good. It would seem feasible to familiarize the constables with the law, and their opportunities to make money under it, and so arouse their dormant interest in bird protection.

The Federal Migratory Bird Law prohibiting Spring shooting is enforced by the national authorities but not by the state. It is in force and will be unless declared unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court. No decision on this is expected for some time.

·EVERETT L. MILLARD.



R. A. WAGER - PHOTO

THE CATBIRD

The catbird sings from the syringa thicket his colloquial "ode to ripening summer," but, more important still for the good of his race, his mate hovers beneath her breast the bluish green eggs which

Will soon have wings and beak and breast,
And flutter and fly away.

An Opinion of Great Significance

Note: While a combination of circumstances was unfortunately delaying the appearance of this issue of the Bulletin, the following correspondence came to hand, and because of its importance it is printed just as received. The significance of the last sentence is apparent. During the past winter months representatives of the Audubon Society collected advertisements of certain State Street Department stores of Chicago in which aigrettes were offered for sale. These are on file. Possibly our readers know of similar violations of the law quoted below. All such are invited to write to the Secretary of the Society.

April 22, 1916.

Game and Fish Conservation Commission,
Springfield, Illinois.

Gentlemen: Under date of the 19th inst., Mr. Everett L. Millard, 69 W. Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois, submitted the following proposition to this department:

"As a director of the Audubon Society, I inquired of the State Game and Fish Commissioners whether they felt themselves in a position legally to prosecute vendors of aigrettes in Chicago, contrary, as I look upon it, to the statute. They inform me that they are in doubt as to the law, and that you will give me your opinion. Will you kindly inform me whether, under Section 6 or any other portion of the statute, you consider having possession of or selling aigrettes to be a punishable violation?"

In view of the nature of the proposition submitted, I deem it advisable to direct my reply to the Game and Fish Conservation Commission and to send Mr. Millard a copy of this letter.

In answer to the inquiry I will say that said Section 6 of the amended Game act of 1915, laws of 1915, page 450, in part provides:

"Any person who shall, within the State, kill or catch, or have in his or her possession, living or dead, any wild bird, or part of bird, other than a game bird, English sparrow, crow, blackbird, bluejay, chicken hawk, cormorant, or who shall purchase, offer or expose for sale any such wild bird, or part of bird, after it has been killed or caught; shall, for each offense, be subject to a fine. * * * This section shall not be construed to apply to any part or parts of birds actually used and in the possession of any person as decorations or ornaments."

Under this provision of the statute it is provided that this section shall not be construed to apply to any part or parts of birds actually used and in the possession of any person as decorations or ornaments. The exception does not extend to possession of any part or parts of birds *to be used* as decorations or ornaments but only those parts that have been *actually used*. The language indicates that the object of the exception was to exempt from fine a private user of such ornaments but not a dealer.

It is, therefore, my opinion that vendors of aigrettes in Illinois may be prosecuted for selling them or having them in possession for the purpose of sale.

Very respectfully,

P. J. LUCEY, Attorney General.



MALLARD GROUP

The Habitat Groups at the Chicago Academy of Science

(Note: The attention of all bird students is directed to the work being done at the Academy of Sciences in Lincoln Park, Chicago, in preparing habitat groups of birds of Illinois. Here the birds with their nests and young are placed in a facsimile reproduction which includes actual material from the environment in which the bird is found—soil, stones, leaves, branches, etc., and behind this is a background in color photographed from nature. This background is so skillfully blended with the foreground that it is not easy to tell where the one leaves off and the other begins. The large photographic backgrounds which have been colored by hand are remarkable pieces of work. As seen in the accompanying illustrations the illusion of reality is almost perfect. Mr. Woodruff, who has had charge of the preparation of these habitat groups has kindly furnished the following notes).

Through the generosity of Mr. LaVerne Noyes, the Chicago Academy of Sciences has been able to construct a series of groups illustrating not only the life habits and food of the native birds but the flowers, trees and physiographic features of this region as well. The superiority of the photographic background over the painted one is universally admitted, for in the latter the paint is in evidence at all times and the infinite detail

cannot be reproduced by the artist except by years of work.

We now have sixty bird groups finished and forty of animals, fish and reptiles. A few illustrations are shown as follows:

The Mallard group is a day-break scene on the Grand Cal-



BLACK TERN GROUP

umet River at Millers, Indiana. The birds have been feeding on the acorns along the bank and are arising through the tree tops in the foreground.

The Black Tern group is one that has the painted background. This scene is taken on the Sag, at Worth, Illinois. As this region is now drained the remaining locality at which these birds can be studied is at Fox and Grass Lakes, Illinois. On the right is a muskrat house with the family sunning themselves on the top. At the left among the flags may be seen a Black Tern's nest with two downy young. The parent bird may be seen flying over the lily pads.



BANK SWALLOW GROUP

The Bank Swallow scene is taken on the beach at Millers, Indiana, and shows the character of bank that these birds burrow in. The nests are usually placed among the small rootlets as these prevent the sand from caving in upon them.



CORMORANT GROUP

Lovers' Leap at Starved Rock forms the background for the Cormorant group. Occasionally in April a number of these birds can be seen in the

tall, dead trees along the islands, but navigation on the river frightens them away and they are driven to the region about Havana, Illinois, where the young birds in this group were taken.



BEACH BIRDS GROUP

The background of the Beach Birds group is a scene taken east of Millers, Indiana, and is a typical scene during the migration of our *Limicolæ*. Twenty years ago these birds could be seen during the month of August in far greater numbers than our group shows. The birds are the Willet, Turnstone, Robin Snipe and Sanderling.

Robin Snipe and Sanderling.

For years we have been assisting bird students in identifying the Gulls, Terns, Ducks, Hawks and Owls. As a rule these birds are only seen flying. The specimens mounted standing do not offer a fair means of identification. Hence our decision to mount all of these birds in an attitude of flight. This has proven very satisfactory. The group of Spoonbill Ducks are mounted as they arise from



CANVAS BACKS

the marsh. The Scaup are just dropping their legs preparing to alight on the water. The Canvas-back are twisting and turning as they do when alighting.

FRANK M. WOODRUFF.



SCAUP AND SPOON BILLS

Training the Chickadees

From widely separated places in Illinois come reports of the abundance of chickadees during the past winter months. It has been a good time to try one's luck at luring chickadees to eat from one's hand. The secretary of the Illinois Audubon Society has been very successful at doing this at her home in Evanston and one of her pet chickadees has learned to fly down at her call in whatever part of her yard she happens to be. Mrs. Pattee has not been able to get any photographic record of herself and "bird guests," but Miss Grace Putnam of Moline has been more successful in that respect.

The two pictures reproduced herewith show the earliest and the final stages in training a chickadee. Miss Putnam writes.

"For several winters the chickadees and nuthatches have eaten from one of our window-sills, but this last winter I determined to get the chickadees to eat from my hand. So, all unconsciously they have been put through a graded course of study.

First, sitting inside the room, I put my hand on the window-sill outside, lowering the sash on my wrist. After a few frights the chickadees became used to the motionless white object and finally took the nuts from my hand. Then day after day I gradually raised the sash a little higher until I was able to sit on the window-sill and coax them to fly down by whistling their sweet "pee-wee" call. They became so tame that I could call them from any door or window in the house or even out on the walks, and they would fly down for the nuts I had.

They showed plainly which kind of food they liked best. Their first choice was the fat grubs we found in some hickory nuts. They liked English walnuts next best. Hickory nuts were tabooed. Several times one of the birds, the tamest one of all, deliberately picked up one hickory nut meat after another from my hand and dropped it on the ground. But when I held out some English walnut meats and whistled to him, he would come back and eat greedily. We are hoping a pair of them will choose the new Berlepsch nesting box we have just put up in the suet-tree."



A Word from the Secretary

It is somewhat difficult for the Secretary to find time at this busy season of the year to write even a brief word for print. The usual busy round of writing letters, sending out literature, lantern slides and libraries and arranging dates for lectures reaches its maximum in April and May, and leaves few spare minutes for anything else. One might even miss the arrival of the song sparrow were it not for the open window.

Any message from the Secretary naturally reflects to a certain extent the monotony of this everyday work. She is always glad, however, to help give publicity to this continuous effort that is carried on by the Society, and it is an especial pleasure to make use of the opportunity afforded by the Bulletin. In this new seasonal publication, she feels she has found a new voice which will reach every portion of Illinois. So at the risk of being tedious to those familiar with our endeavors, she will use it on this occasion to repeat the details of our more important activities for the benefit of such readers as are not already acquainted with our work.

While the Society desires to be in touch with everyone who is interested in birds and their conservation, it wishes especially to reach the teachers, since it is largely through their influence that the ideas and ideals of the rising generation will be formed. We send to teachers on request a liberal supply of literature on bird topics consisting of illustrated Educational Leaflets issued by the National Association of Audubon Societies, and special leaflets concerning the economic value of birds, methods of attracting and protecting birds and other similar topics. We also provide a complete list of birds found in Illinois arranged as a migration record. Our traveling libraries consisting of ten books on bird subjects are available for a month's use by any teacher who will ask for them.

Perhaps our most important educational aid is the illustrated lecture. We have a number of sets of beautifully colored stereopticon slides of birds and their nests. These slides are new and much superior to those we loaned in former years, nearly all of them being made from photographs of the living bird in its natural surroundings. Each set is accompanied by a typewritten lecture. The lantern slide lectures are also available for clubs, churches and other organizations. The use of libraries and lantern slides is free, but the borrower pays express charges both ways. On occasion, we are also able to furnish a lecturer who will give a bird talk with the slides, for a very moderate recompense. It is hardly necessary to add that such a talk is much more interesting and valuable than any typewritten lecture.

Two years ago, Mr. Henry Oldys of Washington, made two lecture tours in Illinois in the interest of both State and National Audubon Societies, one in the fall and another the following spring. You may have enjoyed his very interesting imitations of bird music, or have been impressed by his presentation of the remarkable economic value of these feathered friends. One of the objects of Mr. Oldys' trip was to awaken an interest in the formation of Junior Audubon Clubs in Illinois. As a special stimulus to these organizations, Mr. Oldys conceived the idea of offering prizes to clubs doing the best work. This suggestion met with generous response from one of our directors, for many years an ardent bird lover

and supporter of the Audubon movement, who supplied the necessary funds. It was decided to offer two prizes, the first consisting of ten pairs of bird glasses and the second of six standard Bird books. The contest was open to clubs affiliated with either the State or National organization, and the results showed some excellent work.

The first prize was awarded to the Seventh Grade Audubon Club of Lagrange, whose leader was Miss Esther Craigmile. This club sent in a very remarkable record of bird identification as well as a good report of activities in feeding and sheltering birds. The award of the second prize was made to the Sixth Grade Audubon Club of the Gary School of Chicago, Miss Lillian Wiggins, leader. These pupils submitted the manuscript of an original play, "Our Audubon Society," bound into book form by themselves, and also a set of drawings of birds. It is interesting to note that nearly all the members of this club bear foreign names, and that in their location they had a comparatively poor field for first hand bird knowledge.

Our president, Mr. O. M. Schantz, presented the prizes to the winning clubs, and gave them a talk on birds, with lantern slides. He was greatly pleased with the reception accorded him and by the fine spirit shown by the boys and girls who had given such a good account of themselves in bird study and its practical application.

The donor of the prizes has made it possible to repeat the prize offer this year, and it is a pleasure to report that a much more widespread interest is being shown. In fact a greater interest is manifest all along the line—continuous inquiries for literature, libraries and stereopticon lectures are received, not only from grade teachers,—many of whom conduct Junior Audubon Clubs—but from principals and superintendents of schools as well. Requests for lectures are also frequent from women's clubs, boys' clubs and other organizations.

The secretary may complain of being busy; nevertheless she is most happy when work is at flood tide. BERTHA TRAER PATTEE, Secretary.
Address Mrs. Frederic H. Pattee, 2436 Prairie Avenue,
Evanston, Illinois.



R. A. WAGER—PHOTO

YOUNG BLUEJAYS

The callow offspring of the bluejay, solemn, suspicious, helpless, beset upon this their formal entry into active life with a fathomless longing for food.

Something to Do—A Few Suggestions

It is the purpose of this article to suggest certain activities and first-hand studies and to invite the co-operation of bird students whether members of the Illinois Audubon Society or any similar organization. The columns of the Autumn Bulletin which will go to press about October 15, will be open for reports from such activities. Photographs of birds and their habitats, of bird nests, census diagrams, range maps, etc. will be very welcome.

All bird students need to be reminded that nothing like adequate data for comprehensive life histories of many birds, even of those more or less familiar, is available. In the collection of this data for life histories, it is possible for almost any painstaking observer to have an honorable part. For every locality and for every county or convenient unit of area there should be nesting data available from which a trustworthy list of resident birds could be made. With such facts at hand, for example, a definite basis for a plan for encouraging the increase of birds of unusual economic importance might be possible.

TOWN OR CITY CENSUS.

Suppose, then, that readers of the Bulletin co-operate in a spring and summer survey of nesting conditions in areas of convenient and definite size. Our first suggestion is for a nesting census for a city block. Below is copied from Hodge's Nature Study and Life published by Ginn & Co. (2301 Prairie Avenue, Chicago), a report of a census of nests made at Worcester, Massachusetts. Can we not have similar pieces of work carried on in Illinois during the season now beginning and reports carefully summarized for the Autumn Bulletin?

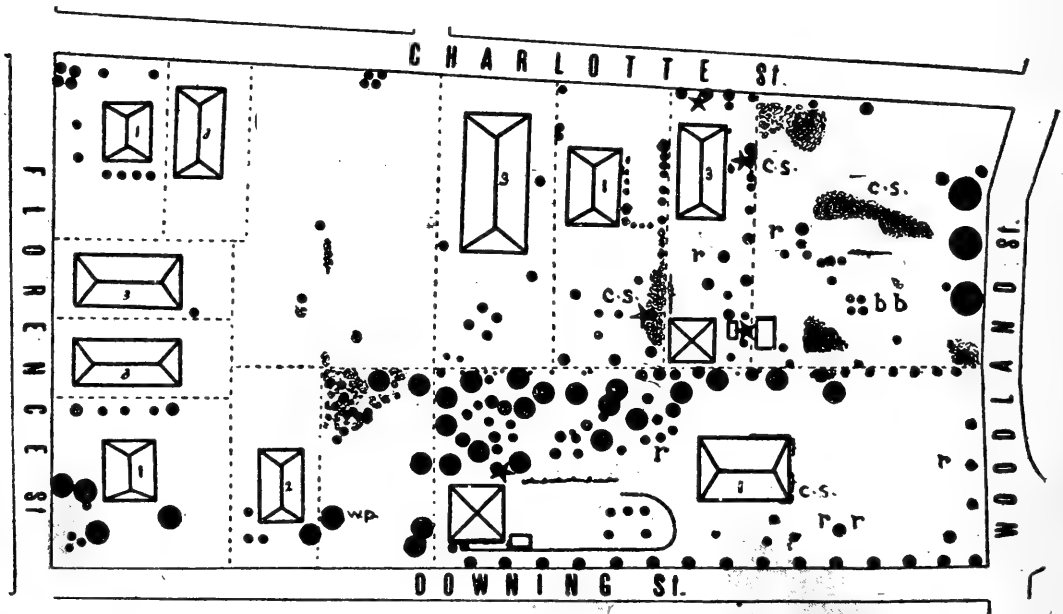


FIG. 122.

Chart and census of a city block, Worcester, Mass., for 1898 and 1901. Stars signify nests in 1898, viz., two robins, one oriole, one chipping sparrow, and one downy woodpecker. Initial letters stand for nests in 1901. Note the gain, 300 per cent, in three years. Houses, trees, and shrubbery are appropriately indicated; *r.*, robin; *o.*, oriole; *b.b.*, bluebird; *w.p.*, wood pewee; *c.s.*, chipping sparrow. The trees are:

Apple	5	Maple— one robin (two robins, 1900) .	45
Ash, Mountain	2	Oak — (one robin, 1900)	55
Birch	13	Peach	5
Cherry— (one redstart, 1900)	9	Pear— one robin, one oriole	38
Chestnut— one woodpecker (one oriole, 1900)	29	Pine, etc.	95
Elm	5	Plum	7
Hawthorn— one chipping sparrow .	1	Others	6
Hickory	4	Total number of trees	319
		Bignonia vines— (three chipping sparrows, 1900)	10

FARM AND ORCHARD SURVEYS.

Another suggestion of a similar nature would apply to rural areas, farm and orchard surveys, etc. In this connection attention is directed to an article in *Bird-Lore* for March-April, 1916, by Gilbert Grosvenor, editor of the *National Geographic Magazine*, who writes about the bird life on his farm in Montgomery County, Maryland, about ten miles from Washington. The article is entitled "The World's Record for Density of Bird Population." This Mr. Grosvenor claims for his farm. He found fifty-nine pairs of birds with young or eggs in the nest in one acre adjacent to the house and barns on his farm and this, he says, is the highest number of land birds inhabiting one acre that has ever been reported to the Department of Agriculture or to any Audubon Society. The details of this census are presented below:

(Only pairs whose nests were located with young or eggs in them are counted).

Flicker	1 pair	House Wren	14 pairs
Bluebird	1 pair	Robin	7 pairs
Yellow Warbler	1 pair	Kingbird	1 pair
Orchard Oriole	2 pairs	Martins	26 pairs
Catbird	2 pairs		
Song Sparrow	1 pair	Total	59 pairs
Chipping Sparrow	2 pairs	English Sparrows	0
Phoebe	1 pair		

Our members are invited "to go after" Mr. Grosvenor's record. They will doubtless have "to go some" to surpass it but it is worth trying. The reports from all such efforts will make interesting reading in the *Autumn Bulletin*. It might be well to profit by Mr. Grosvenor's experience which he freely gives in the article quoted. (If you haven't it, send 20 cents to *Bird-Lore*, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, for the March-April number or, better still, send a dollar and receive the regular issues of the magazine

for a year.) Note what he says about sparrows and cats and pieces of oil paper and puddles of mud, and about putting up boxes and keeping fresh water handy at all times, etc. Then go and do likewise.

STUDY OF "PRIMITIVE" AREAS.

Still another suggestion of a similar nature has to do with the study of more or less undisturbed areas where man has yet done little harm or, what usually amounts to the same thing, made any "improvements." Here is included remnants of prairie and forest, areas of virgin forest, swamp areas, etc. As a model for a study of this kind we may cite a Bulletin of the Illinois State Laboratory of Natural History for September, 1915, the author of which, Mr. Thomas L. Hankinson, is head of the department of biology in the Eastern Illinois Normal School at Charleston. The complete bulletin can doubtless be obtained by addressing the State Laboratory at Urbana. Through the courtesy of Mr. Hankinson and of Professor S. A. Forbes, Director of the Laboratory, Mr. Francis G. Blair, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, was permitted to reprint the major portion of this under the title of "Notes and Observations on Birds" in Circular No. 97, entitled "Arbor and Bird Days, Illinois, 1916." This circular which is of recent issue has been widely distributed among the schools of the state. Copies may be obtained by addressing State Superintendent Blair at Springfield.

As noted by Mr. Blair, the plan Mr. Hankinson followed in making these observations can be used by any teacher in the public schools (and by a great many other people, too, let us add). Two areas were chosen by Mr. Hankinson, a prairie area which is a bit of the right-of-way of the T. St. L. & W. R. R. near Charleston, and a forest area composing a part of a farm, also near Charleston. These areas were not unusually favorable for bird study and the interest in the article is in the suggestive way in which observations are recorded and correlated.

COMPARISON OF NESTING RECORDS.

In adding to what was said in the beginning about nesting records and resident birds, reference might be made to an article in the Wilson Bulletin for December, 1915, entitled "A Two-Year Nesting Record in Lake County, Illinois," the authors of which, Colin Sanborn and Walter Goelitz, were, at the time of collection of the data, high school boys at Highland Park. The nests of 71 species are there described. The material in the article is of unusual value and the manner of making the records is worthy of imitation. Two specimen records follow:

34. Cowbird, May 14, 1914. A towhee nest found on this date contained one towhee egg and eight cowbird eggs. About fifty of the (various kinds of) nests found during 1914 and 1915 held cowbird eggs.

37. Meadowlark, May 5, 1914. Nest and six eggs found in the Skokie Valley. All nests found here have had the entrance on the south side. (8 nests examined.)

It can readily be seen that nesting records fairly representing the several areas into which, through variations in climate, topography, plant life, etc., the state of Illinois might be divided, would be very interesting for purposes of comparison. Such records would show to what extent, for example, certain western birds are extending their range eastward into Illinois.

THE INVASION OF NEW AREAS.

Elsewhere in this Bulletin under the head of Spring Migrating Records, Mr. T. E. Musselman, reporting for Quincy, notes the appearance within the Quincy area during the last three years of such typical western birds as the white-headed woodpecker, the western grebe and the Harris' sparrow. From Ogle and DeKalb counties come reports of the western meadowlark. Here is an interesting lead to follow up. Observers in any part of Illinois thus "invaded" can be sure of a welcome for reports of occurrences for this season and past seasons and for nesting records of the above named birds. Mr. Musselman will be invited to edit such data and he will doubtless welcome correspondence on that subject.

Birds of central and southern Illinois that seem to be extending their range northward might come in for particular attention at their north limits. The cardinal grosbeak, for example, has been nesting for the past three years at Highland Park, which is on a wooded ridge along Lake Michigan, twenty-three miles north of Chicago. Prior to that time the cardinal's "farthest north" was Riverside, Illinois, ten miles southwest of Chicago, on the DesPlaines River, and it was only eight or ten years ago that it was first recorded there.

The tufted titmouse has apparently appeared for the first time within the Chicago area during the last two years, observers reporting it from Hinsdale, about sixteen miles southwest from Chicago. Observers likely to be within the northward-tending range of the cardinal and the titmouse or of the eastward advance of the western birds named above have a chance to get honorable mention in mapping out the new habitats of these birds.

Other birds might come in for mention here. Where are the north limits of the mocking-bird? Of the red-bellied woodpecker? The prothonotary warbler? Where does the yellow-headed blackbird nest in Illinois? In Lake County in extreme northeastern part of the state, which has many lakes with marshy margins, the yellow-heads return year after year to nest only at Butler's Lake near Libertyville and, possibly, at Fox Lake. (Goelitz has an interesting article on the bird life of Butler's Lake in the number of the Wilson Bulletin named above. Upon receipt of thirty cents Professor Lynds Jones of Oberlin, Ohio, will send a copy to any address.) Other birds might be referred to but enough has been said, perhaps, to "start something." It is hoped that no one will hold back his record because it is imperfect or incomplete. It will at least be suggestive. Let the readers of the Autumn Bulletin have the benefit of it.

FOR THOSE WHO FEEL AND THRILL BUT DO NOT ACT.

In an article on bird protection laws by Everett L. Millard to be found in another part of this Bulletin it appears that there are seven game

wardens and seventy-eight deputy game wardens in Illinois who give all their time to their duties, which include the enforcement of the statutes relating to game and other birds and the prosecution of violators of those statutes. It is also shown that the statutes make all constables of the state ex-officio special deputy game wardens, without salary or expenses, as such, but receiving one-half of all fines recovered for violation of the statute, in cases where they file the complaint. Think what this last statement means! It means that there are several thousand potential friends and protectors of the song birds in the state whose legal authority to arrest violators of the law relating to bird protection is immediate and unquestioned. It means that no bird flying over the state or nesting within its borders is at any time remote from a possible protector and avenger. Suppose there were no such law and some one should propose that the Audubon Society advocate one. What fine talking points one could bring up in its favor! The writer could say, for example, that the nearest state game warden is twenty-three miles from where this is being written but that there are three constables within fifteen minutes walk from the same place and that any one of them may be reached by the phone on this desk in less than a minute! Well, it is almost too good to be true, but we actually have such a law and it creates guardians of song birds in every community. Truly, as Mr. Millard says, "It is obvious that the enforcement of such laws as we have is fully as important a matter as having secured their passage."

And so we come to a final (and inevitable) suggestion (or two). It is that each of us endeavor to make the acquaintance of the warden in our particular district. Make friendly inquiry as to what he is doing or stands ready to do for bird protection and encourage him by showing interest in his work. Then get personally acquainted with each of the constables in your immediate territory and ascertain whether they are fully informed as to their powers as special deputy game wardens. Encourage them to be vigilant and compliment them when they are. Invite them to join the Audubon Club or other organization of that kind nearest at hand. They should be ex-officio members of the Illinois Audubon Society, anyway.

For our Autumn Bulletin let us have reports from our members of interviews with wardens and constables (the Board of Directors of the Audubon Society will give a prize to the person submitting the largest list of such officials she or he will have interviewed before October 1st). Write up in detail any official who does praiseworthy service and send in his photograph for publication. As an incentive for doing work of this kind, fellow Audubonites, please remember that one efficient constable in a district where wild life is held in cheap regard may be of far more service to bird life than a dozen persons who feel and thrill but do not act.

JESSE L. SMITH.

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN

SPRING 1916

Published by the

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For the Conservation of Bird-LifeCOMMITTEE
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THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Illinois Audubon Society Annual Meeting for 1916 took place Saturday, April 29, 2:00 p. m., at Fullerton Hall, the Art Institute, Chicago. Mr. Orpheus M. Schantz, President of the Society, was in the chair. Mrs. F. H. Pattee, Secretary of the Society, read her report for the year. Mr. Schantz, after some preliminary remarks introduced Mr. Norman McClintock of Pittsburgh who gave a lecture entitled "American Bird Life in Moving Pictures." The lecture was illustrated with five reels of film taken in various parts of the country, showing the natural activities and home life of some of our most interesting species.

Judging by the expressions of interest and delight made by the bird-lovers during the lecture, the Audubon Society is to be congratulated on its selection of Mr. McClintock from among the numerous lecturers available for this occasion. The remarkable pictures of the great bird colonies in the south, and the reel showing the intimate and fascinating view of the birds on Judge Shiras' grounds, held the audience spellbound for an hour and a half. Mr. McClintock's patience and skill as a photographer of wild birds was evidenced by his wonderful pictures, and

the delightful manner with which he described his experience in securing the pictures, together with his descriptions of the birds and their habits, settled his standing and reputation among bird lovers there assembled.

For the first time at an annual meeting, Fullerton Hall overflowed. Audubon Society members and their friends not only from Chicago, but from Joliet, Elgin, Oregon, Lake Forest, and many other towns outside of Cook County assisted in making the 1916 annual meeting the most successful of the Society's history. As a result, many new applications for membership have been received.

INTEREST OF FARMERS
IN BIRD LIFE

One of the most encouraging signs of a wider interest in birds is the fact that the State Farmers' Institute has in its program both in 1915 and 1916, a place for an address on "Beneficial Birds."

The farmer is fast learning that birds are a very practical and efficient check on both noxious insects and weeds, and that the birds that nest in his orchard and garden, which he formerly scarcely noticed except to object to their helping themselves to berries, are a very valuable asset.

The principal address at the session of the Department of Household Science, on Thursday, February 24, during the annual meeting of State Institute in Decatur, was an illustrated talk on birds by a prominent educator of Southern Illinois, Professor J. P. Gilbert of Carbondale. The addresses given at such times are included in the annual report of the Farmers' Institute which is published and distributed to farmers all over the State. This will give desirable publicity to the message Professor Gilbert brought to the Decatur meeting.

As a result of the awakening interest in bird life in the country, farmers in many localities are establishing local bird protection organizations.

BIRDS AND THE MOVIES

In a recent issue of "Bird-Lore," the Secretary of The National Audubon Society advises people to have the managers of local moving picture shows secure the film entitled, "The Spirit of Audubon." This is a two reel film. It is, in part, a story of how a destructive boy was shown in a dream the beauty of bird life, and how he reformed. It works in a number of spectacular pictures taken by Mr. Herbert K. Job who has done some of the most remarkable photography of wild birds of the present day. The film shows great concourses of birds in the rookeries of Florida and Louisiana, Colonel Roosevelt appearing in some of the Louisiana scenes. This film can be secured from the Mutual Film Corporation in New York.

Our readers may be interested to know that Mr. Job is about to get out another film in one full reel or two short ones, entitled "Where Wild Fowl Winter." This one shows great concourses of wild ducks and geese on the Louisiana refuges. United States Senator George P. McLean was in the party with Mr. Job on the trip in which the pictures were secured and he appears in the film. The Educational Film Corporation of New York City will issue this film. In this connection an even more interesting piece of news is that Mr. Job expects to work up other films soon, on our common birds.

All members of The Audubon Society should make sure that the communities in which they live have the benefit of these very interesting films.

THE TRAVELS OF THE LANTERN SLIDES

The sets of colored lantern slides owned by The Illinois Audubon Society and which are loaned to any school or other organization in this state free of charge have travelled about in various directions of late. Since January 1 and up to April 15, the slides have been to the schools in Batavia, Highland Park, Mironk, Elkhville, Atkinson, Danville,

Evanston, Hinsdale, Gilman, Joliet, Rossville, Roseville, Deerfield, Richmond, Galesburg, and Peoria. They have also been used by various lecturers, some of the organizations addressed being the Bird Club at Freeport, the Evanston Woman's Club, the Illinois Farmers' Institute at Decatur, the Englewood Woman's Club, Boy Scouts of St. James Church (Chicago), the Chicago Heights Woman's Club, Juvenile Court Detention Home of Chicago, the Boys' Club of Lincoln Center, Chicago; the Bernard, Vanderpoel, Gary and other public schools in Chicago, etc.

BIRD SONG RECORDS

Persons interested in reproduction of bird songs for use on the phonograph may be interested in the result of an investigation of such records by a committee of directors of The Illinois Audubon Society. This committee recommends two Victor records reproducing bird songs, the one, No. 55049, by Charles Kellogg, and the other, No. 17735, by Charles Gorst. These records are, on the whole, excellent and give a good idea of the songs of twenty or more common native birds. Among actual songs of birds taken in the aviary of Carl Wright of Bremen, the Victor record No. 64161, reproducing the actual song of a nightingale, is considered the best.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE BULLETIN

The Publication Committee invites bird lovers to contribute accounts of their interesting experiences and observations, for publication in future issues of the Audubon Bulletin. Good photographs of birds, nests, nesting boxes, baths, feeding shelves, etc., are especially desired. Local bird clubs are requested to send reports of their activities, and any item of news having a bearing upon the bird question will be welcomed, from any source. Material for the fall number should be received by Sept. 15. Address Jesse L. Smith, Highland Park, Ill.

A Suggestive List of Bird Books

There have never been available so many well-written books and periodicals for the guidance of bird students as at the present time but this does not make it easy to select the most representative books for a small library. Selecting a bird book is frequently a very serious question for the beginner, for example, as some books are much better adapted to beginning bird-study than others. Again, many delightfully written books are not the best guides for identification, and are intended for the use of those who already know the birds by sight and who wish a more intimate knowledge of their songs and habits. Other books have been written for the express purpose of emphasizing the economic value of birds, and still others have been written about a particular family or group of birds or of the general bird life of a certain locality. Then, too, there are other books that have only a chapter or two devoted to birds, yet frequently containing invaluable additions to bird literature.

It will therefore be readily seen that it is impossible to prepare a limited list of books like that printed below which will meet all needs and not exclude many of value. For that reason the list is well labeled "Suggestive." It contains more books than most of the smaller libraries can afford and omits many that our readers might prefer to see listed. Everyone is invited to enter complaint about our omissions. The list is only tentative, anyway, and in another issue of the Bulletin it may be possible to print a more complete and a much more carefully prepared list, in the preparation of which our readers are invited to assist.

Inquiry is sometimes made for a "five dollar list" or a "ten dollar list" of bird books for school libraries. In the preparation of such a list hardly two persons will agree. Perhaps the needs of no two school libraries will be exactly the same. Nevertheless two lists of that sort are ventured herewith, the description of the books, prices, etc., being given in the detailed list printed below. For the first list Mrs. C. E. Raymond is responsible and Mr. O. M. Schantz is to blame for the second.

FIRST LIST

A. Collection to cost about five dollars: Reed's Bird Guides, Part I and Part II; Citizen Bird by M. O. Wright; Bird Stories from Burroughs; The Sport of Bird Study by Job.

B. Collection to cost about ten dollars. To the above list add Chapman's Handbook of Birds of Eastern North America, and Birds in Their Relation to Man by Weed and Dearborn.

SECOND LIST

Collection to cost about ten dollars: Reed's Bird Guide, Part II; Bird Craft by M. O. Wright; Wild Bird Guests by Baynes; American Birds by Finley; Chapman's Handbook of Birds of Eastern North America; Walter's Wild Birds in City Parks.

THE LIST

Bailey, Florence Merriam *Birds of Village and Field*. A bird book for beginners; with a color key to 154 birds and 300 illustrations. 12mo. \$2.00

-----*Handbook of Birds of Western North America*.
Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 33 full plates by Fuertes; 600 illustrations in text; 570 pages. 12mo. Includes the Great Plains, Great Basin, Pacific Slopes, and lower Rio Grande Valley. This book does for the West what Chapman's Handbook does for the East. \$3.50

Barrows, Walter Bradford *Michigan Bird Life*. Michigan Agricultural College. (Address Sec. A. M. Brown, East Lansing, Michigan). 70 uncolored plates, 152 text figures, 822 pages. 8vo. Cloth, 60 cents plus postage (package weighs

over four pounds). In many respects a superior work. Sold at cost. Price negligible. Its reference to Michigan localities does not prevent it from being a valuable book for use in Illinois. 60 cents

Baynes, Ernest Harold *Wild Bird Guests*. E. P. Dutton & Co. An unusual book combining charming description and thoroughly practical directions for the bird lover who wants to know how to attract and protect the birds. It is especially valuable for its definite instructions for forming bird clubs. \$2.00

Blanchan, Neltje *Bird Neighbors*. Doubleday, Page & Co. An introductory acquaintance with 150 birds commonly found in the gardens, meadows and woods about our homes. Introduction by Burroughs. 48 colored plates. \$2.00

Burroughs, John *Bird Stories from Burroughs*. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 8 full page illustrations by Fuertes. 174 pages. 12mo. 60 cents

Chapman, Frank M. *Handbook of Birds of Eastern North America*. D. Appleton & Co. Over 200 illustrations. 530 pages. 12mo. This book heads the list of all the bird books. It is easily the most useful for study or reference. Pocket edition, flexible cover, \$4.00. Library edition \$3.50

-----*The Warblers of North America*. D. Appleton & Co. 24 full-page colored plates illustrating every species and half-tones of nests and eggs. Drawings by Fuertes and Horsfall. 306 pages. 8vo. Prepared with the co-operation of 30 other naturalists. Contains valuable migration records, nesting dates, and biographical references. An indispensable book for a study of the warblers. \$3.00

-----*Camps and Cruises of an Ornithologist*. D. Appleton & Co. With 250 photographs from nature by the author. 432 pages. 8vo. A fascinating story of various expeditions to obtain material for the "Habitat Groups" of North American Birds for the American Museum of Natural History. \$3.00

----- and Reed, Chester A. *Color Key to North American Birds*. Doubleday, Page & Co. 800 drawings by Reed. 312 pages. 8vo. Excellent reference for identifications. Very brief notes. \$2.50

Dugmore, A. Radcliffe *Bird Homes*. Doubleday, Page & Co. 183 pages. 16 colored plates and 50 half-tones. 8vo. A useful book. \$2.00

Finley, W. L. *American Birds, Photographed and Studied from Life*. Charles Scribner's Sons. 256 pages. Large, 12mo. Each of the twenty-one chapters of this book represents one bird family, the selections being nation-wide in scope. The book is entertainingly written and is illustrated with unusually good photographs taken in the field. A splendid work. \$1.50

Forbush, Edward H. *Useful Birds and Their Protection*. Massachusetts Board of Agriculture, Boston. Many illustrations. 437 pages. Large, 8vo. Contains brief descriptions of the more common and useful species of birds with rather full accounts of their food habits. One of the most valuable bird reference books ever published. Sold at cost. Postage extra. \$1.00

-----*Game Birds, Wild Fowl and Shore Birds of Massachusetts and Adjacent States*. Massachusetts Board of Agriculture, Boston. Many illustrations. 622 pages. Large, 8vo. A comprehensive description of all resident and migratory game birds with suggestions as to their conservation. Also a history of such birds as have been driven out or exterminated. Local and common names given. Very valuable book. Sold at cost. Postage extra. \$1.00

Herrick, Francis Hobart *The Home Life of Wild Birds*. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 255 pages. 8vo. A popular story of birds in action. Chiefly concerned with homes or nests and their occupants. Very valuable photographic records. \$2.00

Job, Herbert K. *How to Study Birds*. Outing Publishing Co. 272 pages. Large, 12mo. Chapters on method of bird study, equipment (cameras, etc.), identification, learning bird calls and notes, migration, nesting season, etc. \$1.50

- The Sport of Bird Study.* Outing Publishing Co. 134 half-tones. 8vo. Book designed especially for the beginner at the study. Wonderful display of photographs from life. \$2.00
- Wild-Wings.* Outing Publishing Co. 341 pages. Square 8vo. Profusely illustrated from photographs. Adventures of a camera hunter among the larger wild birds of America on land and sea. Introductory letter by Theodore Roosevelt. \$3.00
- Matthews, F. Schuyler** *Field Book of Wild Birds and Their Music.* G. P. Putnam's Sons. 262 pages. 16mo. 38 colored and 15 other full-page illustrations and numerous musical notations. A description of the characteristics and music of birds and intended to assist in the identification of the species common in Eastern United States. Can be carried a-field in one's pocket. Flexible leather \$2.50. Cloth \$2.00.
- Ladd, Neil Morrow** *How to Attract Birds about the House.* Greenwich Bird Protective Society, Greenwich, Conn. 68 pages, 40 illustrations mostly from photographs. Paper cover. Valuable pamphlet. 60 cents
- Reed, Chester A.** *Bird Guide.* Doubleday, Page & Co. In two parts. Pocket size. Illustrations in color.
Part I. Water and Game Birds; Birds of Prey East of the Rockies. Flexible cloth \$1.00; flexible leather \$1.25.
Part II. Land Birds East of the Rockies from Parrots to Bluebirds. Flexible cloth 75 cents; flexible leather \$1.00.
These well-known Bird Guides are of great service in identification of birds. They are the first books in which the beginner should invest. The two Guides may be obtained bound in a single volume, flexible leather, for \$2.25
- North American Birds' Eggs.* Doubleday, Page & Co. 356 pages. Numerous illustrations. 8vo. The eggs of nearly every North American bird appear life size in half-tone illustrations. An accurate description of each bird and its range are given. \$2.50
- Trafton, Gilbert H.** *Methods of Attracting Birds.* Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 171 pages. 16mo. A handbook of the most approved methods of attracting wild birds about houses and providing for their nests in summer and homes in winter. Chapters include such topics as nesting sites, bird houses, attracting winter birds, drinking and bathing fountains, lists of trees, shrubs and vines for planting to attract birds, etc. \$1.25
- Walter, Herbert E. and Alice H.** *Wild Birds in City Parks.* Pocket edition with chart showing migration of birds. Written for use in Chicago Parks but very useful elsewhere. The very brief characterizations are of unusual value. 40 cents
- Weed, Clarence M. and Dearborn, Ned** *Birds in Their Relation to Man.* J. B. Lippincott & Co. 390 pages. Large, 12mo. The subject is set forth in a most readable style and the scientific data covered by the authors (for the most part first-hand) is of great practical value. A very useful book. \$2.50
- Wheelock, Irene Grosvenor** *Birds of California.* A. C. McClurg & Co. 578 pages. 12mo. An introduction to more than 300 common birds of California and adjacent islands. Illustrated by Bruce Horsfall.
- Wright, Mabel Osgood** *Birdcraft.* A field book of two hundred song, game and water birds. 80 full-page plates by Fuertes. 317 pages. Small, 4vo. \$2.50
- Wright, Mabel Osgood and Coues, Dr. Elliot** *Citizen Bird.* MacMillan Co. 430 pages. 12mo. Scenes from bird life in plain English for beginners. One of the best introductions to the study of bird life. Profusely illustrated by Fuertes. \$1.50



AN ATTRACTIVE BIRD-BATH

The shrubby background is of our native dog-woods—panicked and red-osier; the sturdy tower of the "mullein stalk" contrasts agreeably with the slender spires of the Turk's Cap Lilies, while a fringe of forget-me-nots borders the cement bowl.

The Bird's Bath

A shallow pool of water, even in a city back yard, is an unailing attraction to the birds, as many bird lovers know from experience. Water is as prime a necessity as food, for birds as for men; and most birds, thirst being satisfied, proceed to bathe. Many of our insectivorous birds prefer to live in neighborly relations with human kind, and find abundant food on our lawns, shrubbery and trees, which seem to harbor more insect life than the uncultivated fields and woods. But where no water is provided they sometimes have to travel long distances for the necessity of a drink or the luxury of a bath.

The picture on the opposite page shows a bird bath of the most simple type. It is placed against a clump of shrubbery in a small suburban yard. Although but ten feet from the sidewalks at a corner, with people continually passing and automobiles rushing through the adjoining streets, it is very popular with the robins, catbirds, orioles and wrens, and other birds that nest in the vicinity, and is usually discovered by the migratory thrushes and warblers that linger a few days on their spring and fall journeys. The charm of watching the catbird at his morning bath, or of seeing one of the rarer warblers taking a drink or an entire dip—as suits his fancy—is irresistible to the human folk who live in the vicinity, to say nothing of the satisfaction of having provided a much needed refreshment on a hot day.

Where the shrubbery is thick and there is danger of lurking cats it is wiser to have the water basin set on a pedestal. But when danger from the feline tribe is eliminated there is nothing so attractive as a pool of water on the ground. This may be one of the commercial variety, such as the illustration shows, which may be purchased from the department stores at a reasonable price. Or it may be a kitchen pan of suitable size and shape, but in any case it must not be too deep.

A permanent cement pool of good dimensions can be constructed with but little trouble and expense, and can be made an attractive feature of the grounds. If possible, locate it where it can be easily seen from the porch or the living room windows, and where it will be backed by shrubbery. A little irregularity in shape will add to its attractiveness. If the job is done by a professional cement worker, caution him not to make it too smooth and workmanlike; a little roughness to the surface gives a much better footing for the bird bathers.

A handy man with no knowledge of concrete work could do the job and it might even be tackled by a handy woman. The local dealer in building materials can supply the cement, and furnish instructions for mixing it. Scoop out the earth where the pool is to be built, carefully shaping the opening to the shape you have in mind. Remember that the greatest depth of water should not be over four inches, and that the slope of the edges should be very gradual so as to provide shallow water for the smaller birds. Make the excavation deep enough to accommodate about a three-inch thickness of cement, shovel the mixture into the hole and spread it around in shape with hoe or trowel and finish the moulding of it with your hands.

But if you do nothing else, put out the pan of water, and the birds will be grateful.

News From The Field

ALTON: A club known as the Alton Bird Club was organized in March of this year, Mr. L. D. Yager being President and Mr. W. D. Armstrong, Secretary. An advisory board of twenty members was selected to assist the officers of the organization. Articles have been published in the local press and encouragement given the public schools to organize Audubon Societies and to design bird boxes to be placed among the trees bordering the school yard.

CHARLESTON: The call for material for the Spring Bulletin reached Prof. T. L. Hankinson's field class at the Eastern Illinois Normal just as its members were leaving for spring vacation. However, their leader and a few of the members managed to get out for an hour or so in early morning of March 31, and thus Charleston is on the roll of the Census and Migration Records. Of especial interest at this time at Charleston, it seems, is the work in Bird Protection by the Boy Scouts under the leadership of their Scout Master, Mr. Clarence Huffman. It is hoped to publish a detailed report of some of their activities in the Autumn Bulletin.

CHICAGO, *James H. Bowen High School*: In this High School there is a club of eighty-five members organized among the students of Zoölogy, which is known locally as the "Bowen Bird Boosters." This is the second year of its existence. It has a constitution and a corps of officers and members pay dues of ten cents a month. Well attended meetings have been held every two weeks at which time the club has taken up current happenings in the bird world, life habits of strange and interesting birds, causes and routes of migration, reports of birds seen, etc. On March 31st, the club had a "Bluebird Day," all the members on the program dealing with the Bluebird. Riley's poem on the Bluebird was recited, the life habits of the bird discussed and a paper entitled "Why the Bluebird" telling why it is so popular, etc., was given. The club ends its year's work with a grand bird picnic. Miss Helen A. Loomis is instructor in Zoölogy.

CHICAGO HEIGHTS: The Boy Scout Troop of Chicago Heights has done a conspicuously "good turn" for the birds in that city and vicinity. For several years Italian hunters have gone about shooting birds or catching them in snares and nets. These law-breakers have been so bold as to threaten "to get" possible informers, and people have been afraid to inform on them. Last Spring the Scout Troop, deciding to invoke the law, sought out a policeman with courage enough to go with them beyond the city limits, if necessary, and sallied forth. Two hours later, three offenders were in court, caught red-handed with nets, bags and birds as witnesses. The sentence, "Ten dollars each and costs and I'll give you the limit next time," stopped bird killing last year, and our Scouts are alert to make an example of the first offender this season.

In addition to this police work, the boys have made boxes for trees on school grounds and have furnished scores of boxes for citizens who wished them for their own premises. It is due the Woman's Club in Chicago

Heights to say that its members have been liberal patrons of the scouts in the purchasing of bird houses. Mr. F. M. Richardson is Scout Master of Troop No. 1.

DE KALB: Thus far this Spring there has been the usual keen interest in bird work among the students taking nature study courses at the Normal School. This interest is also shared by the schools and various groups of citizens of DeKalb. A cardinal distinguished himself by living on or near the campus all winter, which is a rare event for DeKalb. The red-bellied woodpecker seems to be unusually common.

EAST St. LOUIS: The schools have for years emphasized bird study and in each school there are excellent bird charts, books, etc. The boys in Manual Training have built many bird boxes, the East St. Louis Park Board purchasing a supply of them from the school. The Women's Civics Club has a committee which co-operates with the schools, increasing the interest in bird life. The children in the schools have contributed liberally to the support of bird propaganda. This direct effort on the part of the children is giving them a personal and abiding interest in the subject and the interest has been growing from year to year.

FREEPORT: The Freeport Bird Club has thirty-five members and meets twice a month for the study of some one bird, the special papers presented being supplemented by quotation or comments from each of the active members. In summer the Club has picnics and picnic breakfasts where bird life is studied at first-hand. The Club furnished an interested audience for Mr. O. M. Schantz when he came out from Chicago in March to deliver an illustrated lecture. A prominent nurseryman of Freeport has permitted the Club to establish a bird-sanctuary on his grounds where there are big trees and masses of every kind of shrubbery. In this splendid home the birds are given food and shelter. During the past winter it was discovered that the cardinal is very fond of hickory nuts and that he would come back again and again to a window for a supply. The Club has bought 300 "Protect the Birds" signs and is setting them up in Freeport and the surrounding country. Mrs. Leila Hyatt is Secretary.

GRANITE CITY: A very interesting article in Bird Lore by Doctor A. E. MacGilliard has helped to place Granite City on the map of Audubon centers. The article which appeared in the September-October 1915 number of Bird-Lore was entitled "A Ruby Throated Refugee" and contains some very interesting first-hand data. It was accompanied by a photograph showing a ruby throat, perched on the rim of a glass beaker, being fed by hand, the bird apparently innocent that it was setting at naught the dictum of certain natural histories that the "hummer" feeds only while on the wing.

JACKSONVILLE: At Illinois Woman's College there is a class of sixteen doing regular field work in ornithology and very much interested in the work. The college furnishes field glasses for the students. Colonel G. O. Shields gave an illustrated lecture on bird conservation on March 13th which was much appreciated. Miss Alma Hollinger is instructor in biology at the College.

JOLIET: Since the first of March the colored lantern slides of the Illinois Audubon Society have made three visits to Joliet, being used in the schools and at nature study clubs during a total period of two weeks. If the demand for bird talks and pictures is an indication, Joliet should be one of the banner cities in Illinois for general knowledge of bird life. President O. M. Schantz of the Illinois Audubon Society lectured on bird life before the Science Club of Joliet on the evening of March 23. The activity and intelligent guidance of City Superintendent R. O. Stoops and his assistants is shown in the increased interest in bird study from year to year.

LAGRANGE: For years bird study has been popular with both old and young at Lagrange. It is this city that has had "bird breakfasts" during migration time, when groups of enthusiasts, early a-field, finish their morning survey with a breakfast at the home of one of the members of the Club. Superintendent F. E. Sanford of the public schools has been influential in awakening interest not only at Lagrange but among other suburban towns of the Chicago region. A seventh grade class of the Lagrange schools, Miss Esther Craigmile, leader, won the first prize in the state-wide Junior Audubon contest last year. This is spoken of in the Secretary's report elsewhere in this Bulletin. The sixth and seventh grade classes in the schools have Audubon clubs with their own officers, hold monthly meetings, and prepare and conduct their own programs. A Mothers' Bird Club under Miss Kavanagh's leadership is co-operating well with the children's clubs at the schools.

MOLINE: Look under the heading, "Rock Island and Moline."

QUINCY: Interest in bird life in Quincy has been greatly stimulated through the columns of the local press. The Quincy Journal has been printing daily articles, popular in style, containing notes on migration and interesting facts in general about bird life. These articles have been furnished by Mr. T. E. Musselman, Secretary of the Gem City Business College. The special note of emphasis has been bird protection.

ROCKFORD: The Nature Study Society of Rockford has been in existence for five years and among its other activities has an organized bird club. A list of migration dates has been completed of the movements of the avifauna locally and this list is constantly added to and will be ready for publication within the next year or two. The list now contains the names of 265 species in this vicinity but data on many of these is still incomplete. Some excellent notes from this club are printed elsewhere under the head of Census and Migration Records. Mr. Paul B. Riis, Superintendent of Parks, is president of the Nature Study Society.

On Mr. Riis' personal petition, the Board of Directors of the West Side Cemetery have recently appropriated \$150.00 for this year to make a bird sanctuary out of their beautiful fifty acre cemetery. It has many fine evergreens fully grown and is ideal as a bird refuge. Seventy-five Von Berlepsch boxes have been set up there and feeding stations, drinking fountains, and other paraphernalia will be added as fast as the plans can be matured. The 250 acres of public parks in Rockford under Mr. Riis' supervision are already bird sanctuaries. Steps have been taken to secure action looking to that end from the country club and from the cemeteries

adjacent to the city. Ultimately Rockford, the "Forest City," will be a community sanctuary.

ROCK ISLAND AND MOLINE: There have been enthusiasts and newspaper publicity in Moline and Rock Island for years and these together with the facility with which bird study can be carried on at the Arsenal and "The Watch Tower" along the Mississippi have made for widespread interest in both cities. The big thing this year has been the organization of the Rock Island County Bird Club by Burtis H. Wilson, the "Bird Man" of Rock Island, and others, including Mr. E. C. Fisher, Superintendent of Schools at Rock Island, Mr. L. A. Mahoney, the Superintendent at Moline, and Miss Lou Harris, County Superintendent of Rock Island County. The latter has asked that a bird club be organized in each of the schools in the county and has especially invited each teacher to join. Adult memberships are twenty-five cents and child memberships ten cents. The school clubs are taken into the county club on the payment of one adult fee. Mr. Wilson has given lectures with lantern slides in both cities and in many of the rural schools. Up to April 10 nearly one thousand members were enrolled in the county club. Adults and children alike are planning to make the whole county a bird preserve.

About seven years ago Mr. Wilson became editor of the Daily Union "Bird Corner," a strictly "honorary" job. The first bird-house building contest in Rock Island was started in accordance with suggestions from the "Bird Corner." This year the contest was omitted because, since there are so many bird-houses now in Rock Island, it was thought that with the normal increase there would be more than would be used. Mr. Wilson complains that when any bird house remains unused the citizens of Rock Island "blame it onto" him. This year the Moline Dispatch and the Greater Moline Committee raised fifty dollars for prizes for bird-houses under the direction of the County Bird Club. Seventy houses were entered and the contest was a success.

URBANA: Professor Frank Smith has a class of sixty-six members in ornithology at the University of Illinois, which goes a-field three times a week in eleven divisions of six members each. The thoroughness with which they cover the field can be seen from the census report printed elsewhere in this Bulletin. Professor Smith has very valuable migration data covering the last fourteen years and it is to be hoped that this can be printed and made available for students in Illinois and elsewhere.

WHEATON: There is an Audubon Society of about one hundred members at Wheaton, including the Junior Society. Special stress has been laid upon the work of the young people and the society has been ably assisted by the teachers in the public schools. A contest among members of the high school manual training classes under the supervision of S. C. Berry is concerned with the building of bird-houses. The houses are to be judged from the viewpoint of design and construction and prizes ranging from one to five dollars will be awarded. A number of stereopticon lectures have been given in Wheaton during the past year. One is scheduled for the present month. These lectures are free to the public and are given to audiences which crowd the capacity of the hall. Miss Ruth Patrick is secretary of the society.



SCENE FROM "SANCTUARY" — THE BIRD MASQUE

“Sanctuary” as a Chautauqua Offering

The growth of popular interest in the bird question is definitely indicated in the decision of the Redpath Chautauquas to present Percy Mackaye's Bird Masque “Sanctuary” as one of the principal attractions during the current season.

Mr. Ernest Harold Baynes, whose name is familiar to everyone interested in birds as the founder of the Meriden (N. H.) Bird Club, and as author of “Wild Bird Guests,” will take one of the principal parts in the play, and in addition will give illustrated lectures on bird topics at the afternoon sessions.

“Sanctuary” was written by Mr. Mackaye primarily for the presentation by the Meriden Bird Club and was dedicated to Mr. Baynes. The original performance was given in a beautiful outdoor setting, the cast being composed of distinguished members of the colony of authors and artists who make their summer home in the vicinity of Cornish and Meriden, New Hampshire. Mr. Baynes assumed the character of Shy, the Naturalist, and takes the same role in the present production.

It is a pleasure to know that this beautiful and convincing plea for the birds is to reach so wide an audience as the patrons of the Redpath Chautauquas throughout the country. The list of the Illinois towns where the Masque will be presented is not available at this writing, but can be obtained by addressing the Redpath Lyceum Bureau, Chicago. Local Audubonites should strive to have every actual and potential bird lover attend this unique and appealing dramatic performance.

To those who have no opportunity to see the performance of the Masque, there is still available the pleasure of reading this charming poetic composition, with its delightful lyrical quality and its quaint humor. It should be in the library of every bird lover.



A CITY GARDEN WHICH ATTRACTS MANY BIRDS

List of Birds Found in Illinois

This list includes practically all birds to be found in Illinois, either resident or migrant. Owing to the length of the State, there is naturally some variation in the species observable in different sections. Birds common in the southern portion may rarely appear in the north, and the reverse is equally true. For example, the American Egret is a summer visitor to the southern counties, but is practically unknown in the north. Again, the Snowy Owl may be found in the northern district, but is seldom found in the south.

GREBES

Horned Grebe
Pied-billed Grebe

LOONS

Great Northern Diver
Red-throated Loon

GULLS AND TERNS

Herring Gull
Ring-billed Gull
Bonaparte's Gull
Caspian Tern
Foster's Tern
Common Tern
Black Tern

ANHINGER

Snake Bird

CORMORANTS

Double Crested Cormorant
Florida Cormorant

PELICAN

American White

DUCKS, GEESE, ETC.

American Merganser
Red-breasted Merganser
Hooded Merganser
Mallard
Black Duck
Gadwall
Baldpate
Green-winged Teal
Blue-winged Teal
Shoveller
Pintail
Wood Duck
Redhead
Canvas-back Duck
Lesser Scaup Duck

Ring-necked Duck
American Golden-Eye
Buffle Head
Old Squaw
White-winged Scoter
Ruddy Duck
Lesser Snow Duck
Blue Goose
White-fronted Goose
Canada Goose
Hutchin's Goose

SWAN

Whistling Swan

BITTERN, HERONS AND CRANES

American Bittern
Least Bittern
Great Blue Heron
American Egret
Snowy Heron
Little Blue Heron
Green Heron
Black-crowned Night Heron
Yellow-crowned Night Heron
Sandhill Crane

RAILS, GALLINULES AND COOTS

King Rail
Virginia Rail
Sora Rail
Yellow Rail
Purple Gallinule
Florida Gallinule
American Coot.

PHALAROPES

Northern Phalarope
Wilson's Phalarope

SNIPE, SANDPIPERS, ETC.

Woodcock
 Wilson's Snipe
 Short-billed Dowitcher
 Long-billed Dowitcher
 Stilt Sandpiper
 Pectoral Sandpiper
 Baird's Sandpiper
 Least Sandpiper
 Red-backed Sandpiper
 Semi-palmated Sandpiper
 Sanderling
 Greater Yellow-legs
 Lesser Yellow-legs
 Solitary Sandpiper
 Western Willett
 Bartramian Sandpiper
 Spotted Sandpiper
 Black-bellied Plover
 American Golden Plover
 Killdeer
 Semi-palmated Plover
 Belted Piping Plover
 Turnstone

BOBWHITE, GROUSE, ETC.

Bobwhite
 Ruffed Grouse
 Prairie Hen

DOVE

Mourning Dove

VULTURES

Turkey Vulture
 Black Vulture

HAWKS and EAGLES

Swallow-tailed Kite
 Marsh Hawk
 Sharp-shinned Hawk
 Cooper's Hawk
 Goshawk
 Red-tailed Hawk
 Red-shouldered Hawk
 Broad-winged Hawk
 American Rough-legged Hawk
 Bald Eagle
 Duck Hawk
 Pigeon Hawk
 American Sparrow Hawk
 Osprey

OWLS

Barn Owl
 American Long-eared Owl
 Short-eared Owl
 Barred Owl
 Saw-whet Owl
 Screech Owl
 Great Horned Owl
 Snowy Owl

*CUCKOOS AND**KINGFISHERS*

Yellow-billed Cuckoo
 Black-billed Cuckoo
 Belted Kingfisher

WOODPECKERS

Hairy Woodpecker
 Downy Woodpecker
 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
 Pileated Woodpecker
 Red-headed Woodpecker
 Red-bellied Woodpecker
 Northern Flicker

*WHIP-POOR-WILL, SWIFT
AND HUMMING BIRD*

Chuck-will's-widow
 Whip-poor-will
 Nighthawk
 Chimney Swift
 Ruby-throated Hummingbird

FLYCATCHERS

Kingbird
 Crested Flycatcher
 Phoebe
 Olive-sided Flycatcher
 Wood Pewee
 Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
 Traill's Flycatcher
 Least Flycatcher

LARKS

Horned Lark
 Prairie Horned Lark

CROWS and JAYS

Blue Jay
 Crow

BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES, ETC. SWALLOWS

Bobolink	Purple Martin
Cowbird	Cliff Swallow
Yellow-headed Blackbird	Barn Swallow
Red-winged Blackbird	Tree Swallow
Meadowlark	Bank Swallow
Orchard Oriole	Rough-winged Swallow
Baltimore Oriole	
Rusty Blackbird	
Bronzed Grackle	

WAXWINGS

Bohemian Waxwing
Cedar Bird

FINCHES, SPARROWS, ETC.

Evening Grosbeak
Pine Grosbeak
Purple Finch
House Sparrow
American Crossbill
White-winged Crossbill
Redpoll
American Goldfinch
Pine Siskin
Snowflake
Lapland Longspur
Smith's Longspur
Vesper Sparrow
Savannah Sparrow
Grasshopper Sparrow
Henslow's Sparrow
Leconte's Sparrow
Lark Sparrow
Harris' Sparrow
White-crowned Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Tree Sparrow
Chipping Sparrow
Field Sparrow
Junco
Song Sparrow
Lincoln's Sparrow
Swamp Sparrow
Fox Sparrow
Towhee
Cardinal
Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Indigo Bunting
Dickcissel

SHRIKES

Northern Shrike
Migrant Shrike

VIREOS

Red-eyed Vireo
Philadelphia Vireo
Warbling Vireo
Yellow-throated Vireo
Blue-headed Vireo
White-eyed Vireo
Bell's Vireo

WOOD WARBLERS

Black and White Warbler
Prothonotary Warbler
Worm-eating Warbler
Blue-winged Warbler
Golden-winged Warbler
Nashville Warbler
Orange-crowned Warbler
Tennessee Warbler
Parula Warbler
Cape May Warbler
Yellow Warbler
Black-throated Blue Warbler
Myrtle Warbler
Magnolia Warbler
Cerulean Warbler
Chestnut-sided Warbler
Bay-breasted Warbler
Black-poll Warbler
Blackburnian Warbler
Sycamore Warbler
Black-throated Green Warbler
Kirtland's Warbler
Pine Warbler
Palm Warbler
Prairie Warbler
Oven-bird

TANAGERS

Scarlet Tanager
Summer Tanager

Water-Thrush
 Grinnell's Water-Thrush
 Louisiana Water-Thrush
 Kentucky Warbler
 Connecticut Warbler
 Mourning Warbler
 Maryland Yellow-throat
 Yellow-breasted Chat
 Hooded Warbler
 Wilson's Warbler
 Canadian Warbler
 American Redstart
WRENS, THRASHERS, ETC.
 Mocking Bird
 Catbird
 Brown Thrasher
 Carolina Wren
 Bewick's Wren
 House Wren
 Parkman's Wren
 Winter Wren
 Short-billed Marsh Wren
 Long-billed Marsh Wren

CREEPERS
 Brown Creeper
NUTHATCHES and TITS
 White-breasted Nuthatch
 Red-breasted Nuthatch
 Tufted Titmouse
 Chickadee
KINGLETS AND
GNATCATCHERS
 Golden-crowned Kinglet
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
THRUSHES, BLUEBIRDS, ETC.
 Wood Thrush
 Wilson's Thrush
 Gray-cheeked Thrush
 Olive-backed Thrush
 Hermit Thrush
 Bluebird
 Robin

The Conrad Slide and Projection Company of 4028 Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, has gotten out a series of 150 lantern slides of photographs of wild birds, their nests, eggs and young. Most of the photographs were taken by Dr. Robert M. Hegner of the University of Michigan, many of them by unique methods of bird photography. The set is one that should strongly appeal to Audubon lecturers and all lovers of wild bird life.

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
Application for Membership

Understanding the aims and principles of the Illinois Audubon Society, and being in sympathy with them, I wish to become a..... member of the Society.

Name.....

Address.....

Date.....

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

Life Memberships	- - - -	\$100.00.	No annual dues
Sustaining memberships	- - - -	\$25.00.	No annual dues
Contributing memberships	- - - -	\$5.00.	Annually
Active memberships	- - - -	\$1.00.	Annually

All members receive the publications of the Society.

Please sign this card and send it with the fee to the Treasurer, Miss Amalie Hannig, 800 South Halsted Street, Chicago.

Spring Census and Migration Records for 1916

Note: On March 20 the chairman of the Committee on Publications sent out a number of invitations to take part in a "Springtime Bird Reconnaissance" to be carried on simultaneously in widely distant places in the state, this to cover as nearly as possible the last days of March and the first day or two of April. The Committee is highly gratified at the number and nature of the responses and takes great pleasure in printing these just as they were submitted. The observers in several instances modified the instructions sent them because of exigencies in field work and others submitted notes covering the record to date. The Committee considers the total report of great value and believes that students of bird life will wish to file it away for use another year. The Committee wishes especially to commend observers that had "hard luck," as for example the observer at our "farthest south" in Cairo who struck bad weather and could not get beyond the city limits. His report and all others made under unfavorable conditions are of value as incidents of early migration time.

CAIRO: April 8, 12 to 2 p. m. Cloudy, rainy with little snow; wind moderate; temperature 35 degrees. Ducks 25; Geese 11; Robin 5; Sparrow 19; Mourning Dove 3. Observations taken within city limits. Weather conditions unfavorable for birds. Total, 5 species, 63 individuals.

L. C. MORGAN.

CARBONDALE: Field Notes of the Ornithology Class of the Southern Illinois State Normal School; March 28, 7:00 to 8:00 a. m. Weather fair; temperature 50; wind southwest; thicket and orchard. Bluebird 7; Robin 10; Tufted Titmouse 4; Bewicks Wren 3; Brown Thrasher 9; Cardinal 2; Towhee 3; Fox Sparrow 2; Junco 53; Field Sparrow 2; White Throated Sparrow 1; Bronzed Grackle 15; Meadowlark 2; Cowbird 2; Blue Jay 17; Mourning Dove 4. Individuals 136, species 16.

March 30; 7:00 to 8:00 a. m. Weather cloudy; temperature 55; wind southwest; Locality: Border of grove, orchard and 60 acre lake with thickets. Bluebird 6, one nest; Robin 15; Tufted Titmouse 8; Brown Thrasher 22; Myrtle Warbler 4; Black Duck 1; Cardinal Grosbeak 6; Towhee 4; Fox Sparrow 1; Swamp Sparrow 23; Junco Sparrow 38; Field Sparrow 3; Tree Sparrow 3; Bronzed Grackle 13; Meadowlark 9; Red-winged Blackbird 25; Crow 3, one nest; Blue Jay 21; Flicker 13; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 6; Downy Woodpecker 2; Mourning Dove 2. Individuals 228, species 22.

April 4; 7:00 to 8:00 a. m. Weather clear; temperature 50; wind southwest; locality: Bordering grove, orchard and lake. Bluebird 2; Robin 13; Brown Thrasher 9; Barn Swallow 7; Purple Martin 3; Cardinal Grosbeak 4; Towhee 2; Song Sparrow 20; Junco Sparrow 24; Field Sparrow 5; Tree Sparrow 1; White Throated Sparrow 1; Bronzed Grackle 36; Rusty Blackbird 6; Meadowlark 7; Red-winged Blackbird 25; Blue Jay 5; Flicker 2; Kingfisher 1; Mourning Dove 1; American Herring Gull 7. Individuals 190, species 21.

April 6; 7:00 to 8:00 a. m. Weather clear; temperature 40; wind northwest. Locality: Bordering grove, orchard and lake. Bluebird 4; Robin 6; Golden-crowned Kinglet 1; Chickadee 4; Brown Thrasher 7; Migrant Shrike 1; Barn Swallow 9; Purple Martin 20; Black Duck 3; Black-winged Teal 2; P. B. Grebe 1; Coot 1; Cardinal Grosbeak 4; Towhee 4; Song Sparrow 9; Junco Sparrow 25; Bronzed Grackle 39; Meadowlark 4; Red-winged Blackbird 30; Crow 2; Blue Jay 7; Flicker 4; Mourning Dove 3. Individuals 190, species 23.

April 10; Weather, rain; Temperature 60; Wind south; 20 acre campus of S. I. S. N. U. Bluebird 1; Robin 25, two nests; Golden-crowned Kinglet 7; Tufted Titmouse 1; White Breasted Nuthatch 1; Brown Thrasher 1; Cedar Waxwing 4; Purple Martin 1; Great Blue Heron 9; Cardinal Grosbeak 1; Towhee 1; Junco Sparrow 2; Chipping Sparrow 4; Bronzed Grackle 12; Blue Jay 10; Chimney Swift 1; Flicker 4; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 6; Downy Woodpecker 2; Kingfisher 1; Mourning Dove 5. Individuals 99, species 21.

J. GILBERT, Department of Biology.

BIRD DATA, SPRING, 1916, JANUARY TO APRIL 14.

CARTHAGE: Location, 13 miles east of the Mississippi River at Keokuk. Highland, the source of rivers. Between the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers, so between the major lines of

migration. Country, largely prairie (now in cultivation), few trees, except in towns. Generally speaking, relatively few birds in comparison with Keokuk, Quincy, Urbana, Peoria, etc.

AOU		First Seen	Number of Days Seen			
			Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
172	Canada Goose	March 20	--	--	1	--
273	Killdeer	April 5	--	--	--	1
289	Bobwhite	March 25	--	--	1	2
305	Prairie Hen	April 5	--	--	--	1
316	Mourning Dove	March 18	--	--	9	14
337	Red-tailed Hawk	March 18	--	--	1	1
360	Sparrow Hawk	March 9	--	--	2	2
373	Screech Owl	Winter resident	3	3	1	5
390	Kingfisher	April 5	--	--	--	1
393	Hairy Woodpecker	March 10	--	--	5	3
394c	Downy Woodpecker	Winter resident	17	29	31	14
402	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	March 31	4	--	1	4
409	Red-bellied Woodpecker	March 4	--	--	5	4
412a	Flicker	February 15	--	4	18	14
456	Phoebe	March 23	--	--	4	4
474b	Pr. hrnd. Lark	Winter resident	1	--	4	2
477	Blue Jay	Winter resident	18	29	31	14
488	Crow	Winter resident	6	1	15	6
495	Cowbird	March 11	--	--	2	2
498	Red-winged Blackbird	March 11	--	--	6	5
501	Meadow Lark	March 11	--	--	15	14
501-1	Western Meadow Lark	March 10	--	--	7	4
511b	Bronzed Grackle	February 16	--	1	16	14
540	Vesper Sparrow	March 25	--	--	1	--
558	White-throated Sparrow	April 14	--	--	--	1
559	Tree Sparrow	February 12	--	2	2	--
560	Chipping Sparrow	March 25	--	--	1	10
563	Field Sparrow	March 25	--	--	1	--
567	Junco	Winter resident	18	27	29	14
575a	Bachmann's Sparrow	March 18	--	--	9	--
581	Song Sparrow	February 27	--	1	29	9
584	Swamp Sparrow	April 5	--	--	--	1
585	Fox Sparrow	March 23	--	--	2	3
587	Towhee	March 18	--	--	4	5
593	Cardinal	Winter resident	3	24	31	14
619	Cedar Waxwing	February 29	--	1	--	--
622e	Migrant Shrike	March 25	--	--	1	--
726	Brown Creeper	March 30	--	--	1	3
727	White-breasted Nuthatch	Winter resident	1	--	4	3
731	Tufted Titmouse	February 25	--	4	25	14
735	BC Chickadee	Winter resident	17	29	31	14
748	Golden-crowned Kinglet	March 30	--	--	1	6
749	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	April 11	--	--	--	3
759b	Hermit Thrush	March 31	--	--	1	3
761	Robin	January 26	1	10	31	14
766	Bluebird	February 16	--	7	25	14

FRANK C. GATES.

CHARLESTON: March 31, 1916. 8 to 9 a. m. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 1; Red-bellied Woodpecker 1; Northern Flickers, several; Bronzed Grackles, many; Juncos, many; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1; Golden-crowned Kinglets, many; Bewick's Wren 1; Brown Thrasher 1; Mockingbird 1; Robins, many.

T. L. HANKINSON and class of twelve students.

CHICAGO: Lincoln Park, April 1; 6:50 to 7:30 a. m. Pied-billed Grebe 2; Herring Gull 35; Ring-billed Gull 25; American Merganser 1; Lesser Scaup Duck, 4; American Golden-eye 6; Kingfisher 1; Flicker 1; Bronzed Grackle 20; Junco 8; Song Sparrow 2; Fox Sparrow 3; Brown Creeper 1; Chickadee 2; Robin 15. Total, individuals 126, species 15.

CHICAGO: Lincoln Park, April 2; 8:00 to 8:50 a. m. Pied-billed Grebe 2; Herring Gull 8; Ring-billed Gull 3; American Merganser 4; Lesser Scaup Duck 4; American Golden-

eye 4; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Downy Woodpecker 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 2; Flicker 3; Phoebe 4; Bronzed Grackle 50; Crow 1; Red-winged Blackbird 2; Song Sparrow 2; Junco 3; Towhee 1; Robin 20; Bluebird 2; Total, individuals 117, species 19.

WILLOW SPRINGS: A stretch from bridge for about a mile southwest along Drainage Canal, and also a walk through the wooded hills on the mainland. April 2; 2:30 to 6:30 p. m. Herring Gull 50; Woodcock 1; Sparrow Hawk 1; Screech Owl 1; Kingfisher 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 1; Flicker 2; Phoebe 10; Crow 10; Cowbird 5; Rusty Blackbird 3; Red-winged blackbird 2; Meadowlark 20; Tree Sparrow 2; Field Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 5; Vesper Sparrow 2; Junco 200; Fox Sparrow 1; Winter Wren 2; Chickadee 2; Brown Creeper 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 10; Robin 30; Hermit Thrush 1; Bluebird 2. Total, individuals 377, species 26.

HAROLD R. WANLESS.

CHICAGO: Jackson Park, 9:00 a. m. to 12:30 p. m. Clear, partly cloudy in early hours; wind north, moderate; temperature 50 degrees. Pied-billed Grebe 12; Ring-billed Gull 30; Herring Gull, many; American Merganser 10; Red-breasted Merganser 250; Baldpate 6; Lesser Scaup 150; American Golden-eye 8; Coot 15; Saw-whet Owl 1; Kingfisher 2; Downy Woodpecker 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 4; Flicker 1; Phoebe 1; Blue Jay 2; Crow 18; Cowbird 2; Meadowlark 4; Bronzed Grackle 75; Tree Sparrow 3; Junco 25; Song Sparrow 8; Fox Sparrow 2; Brown Creeper 1; White-breasted Nuthatch 2; Chickadee 12; Robin 40; Blue Bird 2. Individuals 687, species 29; Herring Gulls not counted.

SIDNEY WADE.

CHICAGO: Jackson Park, March 31; 8:00 to 9:00 a. m. Southwest wind, temperature 55; sky overcast. Pied-bill Grebe 15; Herring Gull, innumerable; Ring-billed Gull, innumerable; American Merganser 8; Red-breasted Merganser, 60 approximately; Baldpate 6; Lesser Scaup 37; Ring-necked Duck 3; American Golden-eye 8; Old Squaw 1; Coot 5; Kildeer 4; Kingfisher 3; Blue Jay 2; Crow, a very large flock, uncounted, flew over; Bronzed Grackle, very numerous, uncounted; Junco, numerous; Song Sparrow 12; Fox Sparrow 20; Brown Creeper 1; Chickadee 4; Golden-crowned Kinglet 5; Robin, very numerous, uncounted; Blue Bird 4.

After 5:30 p. m. slight sprinkle of rain, I added to the above list: Canada Goose 30; Marsh Hawk 3.

CHICAGO: April 3, 1916; Dune region and Lake Michigan. North of Porter, Ind. Clear; Northeast wind; temperature 40 to 43. 11:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m. Herring Gull 3; Canada Goose 25; Ruffed Grouse 2; Mourning Dove 2; Marsh Hawk 2; Kingfisher 1; Downy Woodpecker 3; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 5; Flicker 2; Phoebe 6; Crow, innumerable; Red-winged Blackbird 1; Meadowlark 7; Field Sparrow 2; Junco, innumerable; Song Sparrow 30, approximately; Fox Sparrow 20, approximately; Chewink 1; Cardinal 1; Chickadee 7; Golden-crowned Kinglet 30, approximately; Robin 10; Bluebird 4.

The north wind had filled the southern portion of the lake with ice; hence the scarcity of waterfowl. It is difficult to account for failure to observe the Grackle, which has been in the city in large numbers for over a week.

DR. ALFRED LEWY.

CHICAGO: Members of the Chicago Ornithological Society report the following notes:

February 22. River Forest. Temperature 50. Blue Bird 2; Kildeer 1; flock of Lapland Longspurs.

March 11; Mineral Springs, Indiana; temperature 35 to 40; wind southwest. Marsh Hawk 5; Red-tailed Hawk 4; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Pigeon Hawk 1; Great-horned Owl 2; Ruffed Grouse 3; Bobwhite 12; Cardinal 1; large flock of Redpolls; Juncos 8 to 10; Downy Woodpecker 10; Chickadee 10; Blue Bird 2; Meadowlark 2; On same date three Robins observed in Jackson Park, Chicago.

March 12; from Eggers Woods and Wolf Lake. Crows active and noisy; Sharp-shinned Hawk 3; Marsh Hawk 1; Fox Sparrow 1; Blue Bird 3; Kildeer 1; Prairie-horned Lark 2; Song Sparrow 2.

March 12; Mineral Springs, Indiana. Blue Bird; Song Sparrow; Robin; Canada Goose; Ring-necked Duck; American Merganser; Marsh Hawk; Red-tailed Hawk; Kildeer; Crow; Tree Sparrow.

March 13; Jackson Park, Chicago. Kildeer; Chickadee 2; Robin 4; Lesser Scaup Duck; Golden-eye 3; Old Squaw 1, male; small flock of Red-breasted Merganser.

River Forest: Meadow Lark 1; Blue Birds; Robins.

Mineral Springs, Indiana: Red-winged Blackbirds and Bronzed Grackles.

March 13 to 19; cold Northerly winds; practically no migration; Jackson Park, Chicago: Large flocks of Herring and Ring-billed Gulls on ice in lagoons; observed Chickadees in the Park on several days.

March 16; Jackson Park: Robins; Sharp-shinned Hawk 2.

March 18; Dune Park to Miller's, Indiana, along the shore of Lake Michigan: Lapland Longspurs; Juncos; Cardinal 3; many Tree Sparrows; Chickadee 25; Downy Woodpecker 3;

Canada Geese 30 to 40; Golden-eye 20; Lesser Scaup Duck 15; Mallard 10; Great Horned Owl 1; Screech Owl 1.

March 19; Egger's Woods and Wolf Lake region; Many Blue Birds paired and selecting nesting sites; several Prairie Horned Larks; Meadowlarks in numbers; small flock of Juncos; many Cowbirds; Hawk 1; remarkably few species.

Jackson Park same date; Kingfisher 1.

March 20; River Forest: Meadowlarks; Blue Birds; Robins; Kildeer.

March 21; River Forest: 1 Coot observed on Des Plaines River. Evening of 21st heavy rain storm accompanied by severe lightning and thunder. On 22nd high wind; rain turning to snow; during the night the ground was covered with a heavy blanket of wet snow. This storm stopped all migration.

March 23 and 24; warmer; two warm days followed by a heavy rain storm lasting 36 hours. Temperature on 24th, 65; on 25th, 71; on morning of 26th, wind turned north and during the day increased in violence, resulting in a gale of wind and rain which lasted for the greater part of two days and nights.

March 24, the following birds were observed in Jackson Park: Large flocks of American Herring and Ring-billed Gulls; also large flocks of Red-breasted Merganser; American Merganser 5 or 6; Golden-eye 5; Lesser Scaup Duck 15 to 20; Redhead 3; Coot 2; Pied-billed Grebe 2; Bronzed Grackle 5; Rusty Blackbird 1; Kingfisher; Phoebe; Downy Woodpecker; Kildeer; Meadowlark; Longspurs on Lake front; Red-tailed Hawk; Cooper's Hawk; Sparrow Hawk; many Robins and Blue Birds; Blue Jay; Crows; Juncos; Song Sparrow 5; Fox Sparrow 6; Bonaparte Gull 1.

March 29; Milder; several flocks of Grackles in Jackson Park, arrived this morning. Kingfisher 3; large flocks of Red-breasted Merganser and Lesser Scaup Duck in lagoon; also large flocks of Gulls; ice all gone from lagoons. Grass in Park showed tint of green and a decided Spring color. Observed also in Park on 29th: Sharp-shinned Hawk 2; Robins; Song Sparrows in song; Golden-crowned Kinglet 5 or 6; American Coot 6; Pied-billed Grebe 1; Hermit Thrush 1; Flicker 1; Towhee 1; Brown Creeper 1; Juncos 5 or 6.

March 30; Jackson Park; In addition to the above named Ducks: Baldpates 5; Coot 8 or 10; Old Squaw 1; Meadowlark 3; Brown Creeper 1; Tree Sparrow 1; Golden Kinglet; Chickadees; Hermit Thrush 6; about 8 American Mergansers; about one-half dozen Fox Sparrows.

March 31; Jackson Park: Ring-necked Duck 3; flock of Canada Geese flying west over the Park.

April 3; Mineral Springs, Indiana: Crows moving north; observed many Song Sparrows; Fox Sparrows 8; Towhee 3; Cardinal; Field Sparrow; Swamp Sparrow; Red-wing; Bronzed Grackle; Canada Geese; Herring Gulls; Phoebe; Marsh Hawk; Downy Woodpecker; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker; Flicker; Ruffed Grouse; Kingfisher.

April 4, Jackson Park: Hermit Thrush and Winter Wren.

April 7, Jackson Park: Loon and Tree Swallow.

April 9, Horned Grebe; Cedar Wax-wing; Cowbirds.

April 10, wind turned south and on morning of April 11, the following arrivals noted: Myrtle Warbler 12 to 15; Purple Martin 1; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, large number; Golden-crowned Kinglet; Phoebe; Hermit Thrush; Fox Sparrow and Juncos.

SUMMARY OF ARRIVALS

	First observed	Compara- tively common		First observed	Compara- tively common
1 Blue Bird	Feb. 22	Mar. 11	22 Rusty Blackbird	Mar. 24	
2 Kildeer	" 22	" 11	23 Bonaparte Gull	" 24	Apr. 11
3 Meadowlark	Mar. 11	" 19	24 Golden-crowned Kinglet	" 29	" 11
4 Marsh Hawk	" 11		25 Hermit Thrush	" 29	" 11
5 Sharp-shinned Hawk	" 11		26 Flicker	" 29	" 11
6 Sparrow Hawk	" 11		27 Towhee	" 29	
7 Robin	" 11	" 24	28 Brown Creeper	" 29	
8 Fox Sparrow	" 12	" 24	29 Field Sparrow	Apr. 3	
9 Song Sparrow	" 12	" 24	30 Mourning Dove	" 3	
10 Junco	" 11	" 24	31 Tree Swallow	" 7	
11 Bronzed Grackle	" 13	" 29	32 Horned Grebe	" 9	
12 Redwing	" 13	" 29	33 Cedar Waxwing	" 9	
13 Lesser Scaup Duck	" 13	" 24	34 Myrtle Warbler	" 11	
14 Red-breasted Merganser	" 13	" 24	35 Purple Martin	" 11	
15 Mallard Duck	" 18		36 American Bittern	" 11	
16 Cowbird	" 19	" 24	37 Ruby-crowned Kinglet	" 11	
17 Swamp Sparrow	" 19	" 31	38 White-throated Sparrow	" 11	
18 Kingfisher	" 19		39 Green Heron	" 16	
19 Phoebe	" 19	" 31	40 Spotted Sandpiper	" 11	
20 Coot	" 21		41 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	" 11	
21 Pied-billed Grebe	" 24				

A decided wave of migration on April 11 brought large numbers of Fox Sparrows, Juncos, Myrtle Warblers, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, and especially great numbers of Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers.

J. L. DEVINE, President, Chicago Ornithological Club.

DE KALB: March 12; Weather, mild; 9:30 to 11:00 a. m. Blue Birds in flight, 2; Cardinal, 1, which has been about all winter; Tree Sparrows, very numerous; Song Sparrows, relatively numerous, singing freely; Goldfinches, flock of 8 or 9, both sexes, partial winter plumage, males show some change; Junco, in large numbers everywhere in thickets; Robins, numerous, migration well on; Downy Woodpecker, single individual; Kildeer, in flight; Horned Lark, calling over the fields, common; Crows, increasingly common.

Record to date. April 12. In addition to the winter residents, the following migratory birds: Bronzed Grackle, March 11; Red-winged Blackbird, March 12; Robin, all winter, common by March 12; Blue Bird, March 12; Meadowlark, March 19; Red-bellied Sapsucker, April 4; Marsh Hawk, March 19; Sparrow Hawk, April 2; Fox Sparrow, March 29; Vesper Sparrow, April 9; Cowbird, April 2; Mourning Dove, April 6; Phoebe, March 24; Cedar Waxwing, April 7; Golden-crowned Kinglet, April 4; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, April 10; Kildeer, March 12; Song Sparrow, all Winter, common by March 12; Flicker, March 29; Coot, April 13; Brown Creeper, April 7; Hermit Thrush, April 10; Black-crowned Night Heron, April 8; Winter Wren, April 9; Kingfisher, April 11; Myrtle Warbler, April 11; Black Duck, April 12.

RALPH E. WAGER, Head of Department of Biology, N. I. S. N. S.

EVANSTON: March 31; April 1; April 2; Grackles, many; Junco, many; Song Sparrow, several; Meadowlark, many; Fox Sparrow 2; Blue Birds, many; Phoebe, several; Flicker, several; Brown Creeper 1; Cedar Waxwing 10 or more; Chickadee, many; Robins, many; Nuthatches; Downy Woodpeckers; White-throated Sparrow 2.

MRS. H. G. CAMPBELL.

Northern part of Evanston and open woods near Glenview Golf Club; April 2; 10:30 a. m. to 1:30 p. m. Clear; light east wind; temperature 40 degrees. Herring Gull 3; American Sparrow Hawk 2; Hairy Woodpecker 2; Flicker 5; Phoebe 3; Blue Jay 1; Crow 2; Meadowlark 6; Bronzed Grackle 7; Junco 6; Song Sparrow 4; Swamp Sparrow 1; Cedar Bird 7; White-breasted Nuthatch 1; Chickadee 5; Golden-crowned Kinglet 2; Hermit Thrush 2; Robin 6; Blue Bird 3; individuals 63, species 19.

MR. and MRS. FREDERICK H. PATTEE.

GLEN ELLYN: March 31; 9:00 to 12:00 a. m. Cloudy with light rain; Temperature 57 at 2:00 p. m. Wind southwest. Blue Bird 2; Duck 1; Wilson Snipe 1; Sandpiper 8; Kildeer 2; Mourning Dove 2; Red-shouldered Hawk 2; Kingfisher 1; Downy Woodpecker 1; Flicker 12; Phoebe 4; Blue Jay 5; Crow 15; Cowbird 1; Red-winged Blackbird 30; Meadowlark 4; Rusty Blackbird 4; Bronzed Grackle 20; Junco 3; Song Sparrow 11; Fox Sparrow 12; Golden-crowned Kinglet 1; Robin 20; Blue Bird 4. Twenty-three species, 164 individuals. Frogs very noisy at a little pond in the woods.

GLEN ELLYN: Diary Notes from B. T. Gault. January 23, 1916. Cloudy; wind southwest; temperature 45; 2 p. m. In woods and about the lake and to springs; 10:00 to 11:45. Several crows feeding about the lake and among weeds near slough, north of dam; a good many Tree Sparrows present. Some were out among the weeds in the ice along Lake shore. Quite a number singing, adding a springlike effect to the occasion.

February 2. Clear and cold; temperature 5 at 9:00 a. m. and 13 at 2:00 p. m. Wind west by northwest. During a short walk in woods near lake this afternoon, a flock of 7 Purple Finches was seen. Also the Downy and Hairy Woodpecker, 1 each. Not a Jay or Crow in evidence. (My first Winter record for purple Finches in Glen Ellyn).

February 16. Clear; wind southwest; temperature 42 at 2:00 p. m. Four Black-capped Chickadees and three Crows seen during a one-half hour's walk in woods this morning.

February 22. Heard Song Sparrow singing during a short walk near the Lake this morning. Several spiders were sunning around in the matted grass near the springs. Fair and pleasant in the morning, cloudy afternoon and raining this evening. Wind shifting from southwest to northeast. Temperature 50 at 2:00 o'clock.

February 25. Cloudy; wind northwest; temperature 28 at 2:00 p. m. During a short walk this morning to the woods on west shore of Glen Ellyn Lake the following bird observations were made: Black-capped Chickadee 1; White-breasted Nuthatch 1; Downy Woodpecker 3; Gold Finch 6; Song Sparrow 1, in song.

February 27. Clear; brisk northwest wind; temperature 23 at 2:00 p. m. During a walk into the fields northwest of village this afternoon 2 male Horned Larks, also 2 Prairie Hens, the latter in a cornfield where corn stalks were left standing.

February 29. Clear; wind westerly; temperature 28 at 2:00 p. m. Heard another Song Sparrow in song this morning near the springs. In woods Tree Sparrows 6; Black-capped Chickadees 2; and Nuthatches 2; the Chickadees and Nuthatches together.

March 7. Cloudy; rather brisk west and northwest wind; temperature 31, at 2:00 p. m. Light snow flurry in afternoon. Robin calls from a tree in our front yard at 6:30 a. m. In woods this forenoon, saw a mixed flock of 15 to 20 Tree Sparrows and three or four Juncos.

March 11. Clear; wind southwest; temperature 39 at 2:00 p. m. Heard Blue Bird and Robin near our house this morning, and later some 4 Blue Birds near the springs. Song and Tree Sparrow 1; each in song near Lake.

March 12. Clear; wind southwest; temperature 55 at 2:00 p. m. Following is a list of birds seen during a four mile trip into the fields northwest this afternoon: Robin 2; Meadowlark 2; Crow 6; Horned Lark 12; Song Sparrow 3; Red-winged Blackbird 3; flock of 50 going northwest; Marsh Hawk 1; Prairie Hen 1; Canada Goose, flock of about 75 in V shape going south this evening. Blue Bird, heard 1.

March 18. Cloudy morning and clear afternoon; wind northeast; temperature 43 at 2:00 p. m. Male Bronzed Grackle calling on our place this morning and heard again this afternoon.

March 19. Clear; cool northwest wind; temperature 39 at 1:00 p. m. Made two birding trips today. First to the springs where a Red-winged Blackbird and Meadowlark were singing. Phoebe called and several Robins were singing in village. The walk of the afternoon was an eleven mile affair into Bloomington Township and return via Wheaton. Apparently not a good day for birds though the fields were not traversed much. Following is the list: Sparrow Hawk 2; Rough-legged Hawk 1; Robins, several; Bluebirds; Meadowlark 1; Song Sparrow 1; Bronzed Grackle 2; Red-winged Blackbird 2; Horned Lark, several; Tree Sparrow, several; Crows.

March 21. Cloudy; wind northwest; temperature 36 at 2:00 p. m. Sapsucker 2; fully a dozen Bronzed Grackles on our place and at least one pair mated, the female gathering nest material.

March 29. Cloudy for the most part; wind northeast; temperature 44 at 2:00 p. m. Flicker calls in village this morning. Heard Sapsucker call in woods this forenoon. A few frogs croaking in small pond near the dam at lake. Mourning Dove calling on our place this afternoon.

March 30. Clear; wind northwest; temperature 57 at 2:00 p. m. Mourning Dove on our place this morning. Two Ducks (Bluebills) in the lake this morning. Also a pair of Red-shouldered Hawks present in woods near by. The latter noisy.

GRANITE CITY: March 25; Daybreak to 8:30 a. m. Swampy timber three miles from town; clear; wind northwest; temperature 40 degrees. Song Sparrow 26; Meadowlark 15; Red-winged Blackbird 75; Crows, 2 large flocks estimated 200; Hell Diver 2; Mud Hen 8; Blue-winged Teal 6; Blue Heron 8; Cardinal 3; Robin 17; Blue Bird 5; Hawk 2; Mourning Dove 2.

A. E. MACGALLIARD.

HARVEY: March 31; 12:30 to 3:30 p. m. Cloudy; wind southwest, moderate. Meadowlark 8; Robin 13; Cowbird 4; Purple Grackle 6; Blue Bird 7; Prairie Horned Lark 2; Red-winged Blackbird 3; Crow 4; Junco 75; Song Sparrow 4; Fox Sparrow 1; Downy Woodpecker 2; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 2; Total, individuals 130, species 13. This vicinity is not favorable for birds because of the factories.

C. W. LANTZ.

HINSDALE: April 3; 9:00 a. m. to 5:00 p. m. Clear, fairly strong east wind, temperature 45 to 50 degrees. Pied-billed Grebe 4; American Coot 10; American Woodcock 3; Wilson Snipe 1; Hairy Woodpecker 2; Downy Woodpecker 4; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 1; Flicker 9; Phoebe 4; Horned Lark 2; Blue Jay 5; Crow 23; Cowbird 128; Red-winged Blackbird 172; Meadowlark 100; Rusty Blackbird 1; Bronzed Grackle 100; Goldfinch 2; Vesper Sparrow 1; Tree Sparrow 50; Field Sparrow 1; Junco 450; Song Sparrow 28; Swamp Sparrow 1; Fox Sparrow 10; Chunk Sparrow 4; Cedar Waxwing 66; Brown Creeper 1; White-breasted Nuthatch 2; Crested Titmouse 2; Black-capped Chickadee 10; Golden-crowned Kinglet 8; Hermit Thrush 2; Robin 150; Blue Bird 10; Total, individuals, 1378, species 39.

MRS. C. E. RAYMOND, MISS ELLA WARREN.

JACKSONVILLE: February 19. Robins 2; Cardinals 3; Blue Jay; Black Shafted Flicker.

February 20. Chickadee; Rusty Blackbird; Blue Bird; Meadowlark; Song Sparrow; Crow.

March 6. Brown Creeper 8; Phoebe.

March 12. Downy Woodpecker; Tree Sparrows.

March 13. Red-winged Blackbirds; Bronzed Grackle; Kildeer 2; Wild Ducks migrating; Loggerhead Shrike 1; Fox Sparrow.

March 26. White Breasted Nuthatch.

March 30. Brown Thrasher; Towhee.

March 31. Golden Crowned Kinglet.

April 2. Chipping Sparrow; White-crowned Sparrow; Clay-colored Sparrow; Field Sparrow; Mourning Doves 3; Kingfisher 1; Hermit Thrush 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 4; Phoebe 2.

April 3. House Wren; Palm Warbler; Lincoln Sparrow; Henslow's Sparrow.

April 5. Cedar Waxwings 12.

Note: The Henslow's Sparrow was first heard creeping through the dry grass in a meadow. We stepped up to it, where it remained motionless for several minutes. I bent over it yet it remained quiet and did not move till I put out my hand to touch it and then it crept off into thicker grass. I followed it; it did not fly till forced to, then only about six feet to where it crept down into the grass again.

Ornithology Class of Illinois Woman's College, ALMA HOLLINGER, Instructor.

LA GRANGE: April 1; 2:00 p. m. to 5:00 p. m. Blue Jay 2; Downy Woodpecker 2; Chickadee 4; Crow 20; Brown Creeper 2; Tree Sparrow 7; Cedar Waxwing 60; Robin 200; Prairie Horned Lark 1; Flicker 8; Screech Owl 1; White-breasted Nuthatch 1; Junco 400; Cardinal 2; Bronzed Grackle 300; Golden-crowned Kinglet 4; Song Sparrow 40; Meadowlark 30; Blue Bird 20; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 2; Red-winged Blackbird 100; Kildeer 6; Phoebe 4; Mourning Dove 6; Rusty Blackbird 50; Cowbird 30; Fox Sparrow 10; Towhee 2; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1; Field Sparrow 1; Hermit Thrush 1; Marsh Hawk 1. Total number of individuals, 1336.

EDMUND HULSBURG.

LA GRANGE: April 4; Herring Gull; Mourning Dove; Marsh Hawk; Red-shouldered Hawk; Flicker; Phoebe; Horned Lark; Crow; Cowbird; Red-wing Blackbird; Meadowlark; Rusty Blackbird; Bronzed Grackle; Vesper Sparrow; Tree Sparrow; Field Sparrow; Junco; Song Sparrow; Fox Sparrow; Chewink; Brown Creeper; White-breasted Nuthatch; Golden-crowned Kinglet; Ruby-crowned Kinglet; Hermit Thrush; Robin; Blue Bird. Total 27.

MRS. KAVANAGH'S Bird Class.

NORMAL: March 25; 8 to 10:30 a. m. and 3:00 to 5:00 p. m. Fair; temperature cool; wind moderate; Blue Jay 12; Cardinal 5; Chickadee 14; Down Woodpecker 3; Flicker 24; Hairy Woodpecker 2; Red-bellied Woodpecker 1; Song Sparrow 2; Brown Creeper 3; Junco 20; Mourning Dove 8; Myrtle Warbler 1; Screech Owl 1; Northern Shrike 1; White-breasted Nuthatch 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 12; Blue Bird 7; Bronzed Grackle 128; Kildeer 3; Meadow Lark 8; Red-headed Woodpecker 3; Yellow-bellied sapsucker 3; Sparrow Hawk 3; Robin 120.

April 1 and 2; 7:00 to 12:00 a. m. Cloudy; temperature 50 to 60 degrees; wind northwest. Blue Jay 6; Cardinal 2; Chickadee 2; Downy Woodpecker 3; Flicker 8; Hairy Woodpecker 4; Song Sparrow 8; White-breasted Nuthatch 1; Brown Creeper 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 16; Junco 3; Blue Bird 6; Bronzed Grackle 100; Brown Thrasher 2; Chipping Sparrow 2; Field Sparrow 2; Green Heron 1; House Wren 4; Kildeer 2; Meadow Lark 3; Mourning Dove 12; Red-headed Woodpecker 3; Robin 100; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 2; Hermit Thrush 1; Goldfinch 1; Purple Finch 3. Field Class in Ornithology.

ALICE JEAN PATTERSON, Instructor.

QUINCY: Spring report of T. E. Musselman, at Quincy, Adams County, Illinois, six miles south of the 40th parallel.

Report of bird arrivals thus far in 1916 follows:

February 9. Robins; Pintail Ducks; Golden-crowned Kinglet.

February 20. Canada Geese; Turkey Buzzard; Cedar Waxwings; Kildeer Plover; Herring Gull; Franklin Gull; and Bluebird.

February 22. Meadowlark.

February 27. Coot.

March 2. Mallards.

March 12. Purple Finch; Fox Sparrow; Winter Wren; Migrant Shrike; Cooper's Hawk; Phoebe; Broad-winged Hawk; Green-winged Teal; Kingfisher; Chewink.

March 18. Long-billed Marsh Wren; general movement of Sparrow Hawks, Kildeer and Song Sparrows.

March 22. Cowbirds, Red-winged Blackbirds and Grackles migrate in large flocks—scattered records before.

March 23. Flickers and Mourning Doves appear in numbers.

March 24. Field Sparrow; White-throated Sparrow; Brant.

March 25. Chipping Sparrows.

March 28. Large movement of Goldfinches and Kinglets. Trees full of the former.

March 31. Hermit Thrush; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker; Brown Thrasher.

April 1. Purple Martin.

April 2. Red-headed Woodpecker; Bachmann's Sparrow.

In the last three years, I have seen several typically western birds. The Western Grebe, the White-headed Woodpecker, and Harris Sparrow; which records are unique for this locality.

RANTOUL: This report covers the period of the spring migratory season up to, and on, April 2, 1916. The weather has been very unfavorable for birds, because of the small number of fair days and the frequency of cold rains, which is ever a cause for tardiness in arrival of the birds.

1. Robin, arrived February 22, in very small numbers, increasing on March 6, when the full volume of migration began, but is now falling. Earliest date of arrival February 6; latest March 5.
2. Bluebird, arrived February 22, migration now decreasing. Earliest date February 13; latest March 18.
3. Hermit Thrush, arrived April 1; much earlier than ordinary; former earliest date, April 6; latest April 24; six were seen on April 1 in one flock.
4. Ruby-crowned Kinglet, March 31; earliest date of arrival March 20; latest date of arrival April 12.
5. Golden-crowned Kinglet, March 27; earliest date of arrival February 13; latest April 5; height of migration is now present.
6. Chickadee. Several chickadees have been steady and contented winter residents the past winter. First winter record in the past few years. Earliest February 21; latest March 20.
7. Winter Wren. But one record so far this record, on February 14. Further records are expected during the first of April, according to former years. Earliest February 21; latest April 19.
8. Bewick's Wren. March 21; earliest March 6; latest April 6; record is quite usual, though.
9. Brown Thrasher, March 31; March 12 is the earliest date of arrival; latest April 13. Migration is thus but beginning.
10. Migrant Shrike, March 8; full tide of migration from March 22 to March 25. Earliest date, February 28, 1910; latest March 24.
11. Cardinal. Permanent resident in this region.
12. Towhee. March 21 was the first record of this year, and it was a cheery one at that. No more records were observed till April 1. The bulk of the migration is now due. Earliest date February 20; latest April 19.
13. Fox Sparrow. March 31. Full migration is now in force. Earliest date March 5; latest March 28. This year's record is extremely late; in 1913 they were even a winter resident.
14. Swamp Sparrow. March 21. Earliest date of arrival March 5; latest April 3.
15. Song Sparrow. Permanent resident.
16. Junco. Though a regular winter resident, the migrations of those which winter further south is now at the high tide.
17. Field Sparrow. March 21. Migration at its height. Earliest March 3; April 6 is the latest.
18. Tree Sparrow. Winter resident. No movement has yet been observed.
19. Lapland Longspur. Winter resident. Apparently all residents to have moved north.
20. Vesper Sparrow. March 7. Full migration started on March 31. Earliest date March 3; latest April 12.
21. Bronzed Grackle. February 20. Full migration started about March 12 and is now ebbing. Earliest date February 11; latest March 17.
22. Meadowlark. March 7; full tide of migration dated from March 10 to March 25. Practically no further movements will be recorded. Earliest January 30; latest March 17.
23. Red-winged Blackbird. February 20. Migration is still going on. Earliest date February 18; latest date of arrival March 18.
24. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. April 1. Earliest date of arrival March 29; latest April 9. One of the migrants noted for appearing on almost regular time.
25. Kildeer. February 22. Heavy migration started March 19 and ended March 25, in one wave, and another wave which started March 29 is now in progress. Earliest date February 16; latest March 14.
26. Golden Plover. April 2. Migration started, earliest date March 30; latest May 1.

Other birds which are permanent residents, but which seem still to have waves of migrations are (27) Crow, (28) Flicker, (29) Blue Jay, (30) Prairie Horned Lark, (31) Downy Woodpecker, (32) Mourning Dove, (33) Red-tailed Hawk, (34) Sparrow Hawk, all of these birds seem to have finished their final wave of migrations.

Another group, those which are permanent residents with no apparent migratory characteristics, include (35) Bobwhite, (36) Prairie Hen, (37) Screech Owl, (38) Cooper's Hawk.

There are a few occasional records of peculiar import and classification is difficult for these. These are, for this season, (39) Great Horned Owl on March 31 and (40) Brant on March 10.

Very few wild ducks and no wild geese have been observed. In former years there has never been such a dearth of these, though they are never by any means plentiful. Practically all birds which have been recorded in these recent years before this time have been recorded this

year, so there is apparently no marked distinction in this locality in any way, beyond, possibly, a less number of every kind on account of the weather.

Winter records of interest center around the attendance in this vicinity of the Short-eared Owl, the White-tailed Kite, the Chickadee, all of which have been observed often and of the Bronzed Grackles, two in number, which have been observed twice during the winter.

GEORGE E. EKBLAW.
EDDIE L. EKBLAW.

RIVER FOREST: *Waller's Park*, 80 acres in River Forest; April 3; 12:30 to 2:30 p. m. Bluebird 7; Robin 70; Cedarbird 75; Junco 238; Song Sparrow 4; Chipping Sparrow 3; Cowbird 28; Meadowlark 17; Flicker 11; Sparrow Hawk 3; Bronzed Grackle 9.

Hyde Lake: April 2; 8:00 to 11:00 a. m. Temperature 40 to 50 degrees. Robin 2; Bluebird 10; Fox Sparrow 25; Junco 100; Song Sparrow 15; Redpoll 1; Red-winged Blackbird 20; Cowbird 26; Winter Wren 1; White-breasted Nuthatch 1; Meadowlark 10 to 15; Kingfisher 1; Marsh Hawk 1; Kildeer 3-4; Flicker 1; Woodcock 1; Horned Lark 1; Great Blue Herring 3; Ducks 1 flock.
C. W. EFRIG.

ROCKFORD: April 2; Fair; 5:00 to 6:00 a. m. Sapsucker 11; Downy Woodpecker 11; White-breasted Nuthatch 4; Phoebe 2; Meadowlark 2; Flicker 1; Chickadee 2; Goldfinch 1; Junco; Robin; Purple Grackle; Red-winged Blackbird 1; Fox Sparrow; Field Sparrow; Song Sparrow; Golden-crowned Kinglet; Hermit Thrush; Cowbird, flock; Kildeer; Blue Jay; Bluebird; Tree Sparrow; Mourning Dove.
MRS. A. S. T. OGILBY.

ROCKFORD: April 2; Clear; Moderate wind; temperature mild. Herring Gull 1; Mourning Dove 5; Belted Kingfisher 4; Hairy Woodpecker 3; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 2; Flicker 5; Phoebe 1; Blue Jay 2; Crows 4; Red-winged Blackbird 6; Meadowlark 2; Bronzed Grackle 12; Tree Sparrow 3; Field Sparrow 2; Slate-colored Junco 50; Song Sparrow 18; Fox Sparrow*2; Black-capped Chickadees 5; Robin 38; Bluebird 10. Total species 20, individuals 175.

BIOLOGY CLUB, ROCKFORD HIGH SCHOOL.

ROCKFORD: March 28; 8:30 to 6:00 p. m.; Black Hawk Park. Crow 6; Tree Sparrow 2; Slate-colored Junco 20; Fox Sparrow 2; Hermit Thrush 1; Robin 10.

April 1; West-side Cemetery, Harlem Park, Spring Creek. Mourning Dove 1; Kingfisher 1; Downy Woodpecker 2; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 3; Flicker 3; Phoebe 2; Crow 4; Blue Jay 2; Cowbird 12; Red-winged Blackbird 3; Meadowlark 3; Bronzed Grackle 50; Field Sparrow 1; Slate-colored Junco 100; Song Sparrow 6; Fox Sparrow 6; Winter Wren 1; Brown Creeper 3; Chickadee Black-capped 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 5; Robin 12; Bluebird 2.

EDITH P. SOVEREIGN.

ROCKFORD: March 31. Crow 2; Bluebird 2; Robin 10; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Flicker 4; Bronze Grackle 25; Junco 1; Chickadee 2; Song Sparrow 4; Tree Sparrow 50; Fox Sparrow 7; Golden-crowned Kinglet 10; Winter Wren 1; Kildeer 1.

April 1; West-side Cemetery. Crow 17; Bluebird, 8; Hairy Woodpecker 2; Robin 30; Flicker 5; Bronze Grackle 25; Junco 65; Chickadee 2; Song Sparrow 8; Fox Sparrow 3; Kildeer 1; Downy Woodpecker 2; Red-tailed Hawk 1; Phoebe 1; Hermit Thrush 2; Sapsucker 1; White-breasted Nuthatch 1; Field Sparrow 4; Sparrow Hawk 1; Brown Creeper 1; Red-winged Blackbird 2.

LOTTIE B. GREGORY.

ROCKFORD: March 28; 5:40 to 7:00 a. m. By canoe through the flooded land along Rock River to Love's Park and adjoining marshes. Light north wind; heavy clouds and some rain; temperature 40 degrees. 2:15 to 2:30 p. m.; Black Hawk Park; temperature 50; other conditions same only no rain. 3:00 p. m. to 5:00 p. m.; woods on east side of Spring Park; conditions same as above. Herring Gull 1; Belted Kingfisher 2; Hairy Woodpecker 2; Downy Woodpecker 1; Phoebe 2; Blue Jay 6; Crow 5; Red-winged Blackbird 12; Meadowlark 2; Goldfinch 1; Slate-colored Junco 6; Song Sparrow 15; Fox Sparrow 20; Winter Wren 1; Chickadee 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 20; Robin 10; Bluebird 7.

March 30. By canoe up the flooded Rock River about three miles, practically all of the way through flooded woodland, marshes and meadows; 9:00 a. m. to 12:30 p. m. Fair; temperature 60; calm to light north wind. Herring Gull 1; Mallard 1; Scaup Duck 5; Ring-necked Duck 6; Kildeer 3; Mourning Dove 3; Sharp-shinned Hawk 2; Belted Kingfisher 3; Hairy Woodpecker 2; Downy Woodpecker 4; Flicker 3; Phoebe 4; Blue Jay 4; Crow 18; Cowbird 1; Red-winged Blackbird 31; Meadowlark 5; Rusty Blackbird 14; Bronzed Grackle 3; House Sparrow 2; Tree Sparrow 2; Slate-colored Junco hundreds; Song Sparrow 28; Fox Sparrow 1; Chickadee 12; Robin 19; Bluebird 16.

Birds first seen: Herring Gull January 26; Mallard March 30; Scaup Duck March 12; Ring-necked Duck March 30; Kildeer March 12; Mourning Dove March 30; Sharp-shinned Hawk March 30; Belted Kingfisher March 25; Hairy Woodpecker January 10; Downy Woodpecker January 10; Flicker March 25; Phoebe March 25; Blue Jay January 1; Crow January 1; Cowbird March 30; Red-winged Blackbird March 18; Meadowlark March 25; Rusty Blackbird March 30;

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Bronzed Grackle March 18; House Sparrow January 1; Goldfinch March 28; Tree Sparrow March 12; Slate-colored Junco January 10; Song Sparrow March 12; Fox Sparrow March 28; Winter Wren March 28; Chickadee January 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet March 19; Robin February 29; Bluebird February 24.

J. C. VAN DUZER.

March 28; 9:00 to 11:00 a. m. Wind northwest, moderate; Cloudy; temperature 50 degrees. Pied-billed Grebe 1; Killdeer 1; Hairy Woodpecker 2; Downy Woodpecker 3; Phoebe 4; Prairie Horned Lark 2; Blue Jay 6; Crow 4; Meadowlark 2; Purple Grackle 12; Henslow Sparrow 5; Tree Sparrow 22; Slate-colored Junco 116; Winter Wren 1; Brown Creepers 2; White-breasted Nuthatch 4; Chickadee 16; Hermit Thrush 2; Robin 20; Bluebird 8. 20 species, 233 individuals.

April 2; 11:00 a. m. to 1:00 p. m. Clear; wind northerly; temperature 60 degrees. Red-shouldered Hawk 1; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 1; Flicker 5; Phoebe 4; Prairie Horned Lark 1; Blue Jay 2; American Crow 6; Meadowlark 2; Bronzed Grackle 12; Tree Sparrow 2; Field Sparrow 3; Slate-colored Junco 150; Song Sparrow 5; Fox Sparrow 4; Cedar Waxwing 10; White-breasted Nuthatch 2; Chickadee 6; Golden-crowned Kinglet 14; Hermit Thrush 2; Robin 33; Bluebird 2. 22 species, 268 individuals.

The winter of 1915-16 has brought many delightful surprises to bird lovers. The weather predictions pointed to a winter of unusual severity and this apparently was borne out by the arrival of an unusual number of Chickadees in early October. Every bird lover counted this species among his guests this winter. This was shortly followed by the almost total departure of the Slate-colored Junco and Brown Creepers.

The acorn crop averaged less than 30 per cent and this unquestionably induced the red-headed woodpecker to a feather to go farther south and perhaps influenced the blue jay in a measure to follow suit. The winter previous, the blue jays were almost entirely absent, while this winter a good 25 per cent remained. But right on through the entire winter bird lovers of authority recorded from one locality one red-bellied woodpecker (*Centurus Carolinus*), from two other localities a cardinal (*Cardinalis*, *Cardinalis*, *Cardinalis*) and from still two other places

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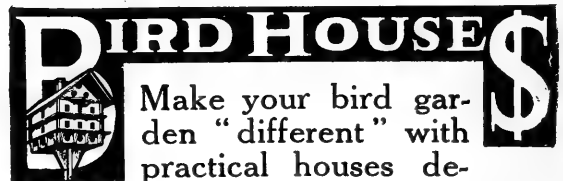
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several tufted titmice (*Baelophus bicolor*). Red-breasted nuthatches also came here and remained for the winter for the first time. At least such is assumed by looking over the data on hand.

The first robins were recorded early in January and quite regularly up to their regular date of arrival. The western meadowlark which migrated to these parts and nested here for the first time in 1915 again returned this spring and it is hoped that they can be included in our regular summer residents.

The following list gives comparative dates of the arrival of birds this Spring so far and the earliest arrivals recorded during the past fifteen years.

	Earliest	Previous Arrival.	1916.
Kildeer	Mar. 16	Apr. 8	Mar. 16
Phoebe		Mar. 14	Mar. 22
Meadowlark		Mar. 4	Mar. 12
Purple Grackle		Mar. 9	Mar. 22
Henslow Sparrow		Mar. 26	Mar. 25
Hermit Thrush		Apr. 3	Mar. 28
Bluebirds		Feb. 18	Feb. 25

PAUL B. RUS

ST. CHARLES: March 31; 9:30 a. m. to 12:45 p. m. Cloudy, light rain part of the time; wind southeast; temperature 45 degrees. Robin 36; Grackle 32; Kildeer 5; Junco 155; Jay 12; Song Sparrow 26; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 8; Orange-crowned Kinglet 7; Brown Creeper 1; Phoebe 8; Meadowlark 17; Red-winged Blackbird 9; Crow 47; Bluebird 20; Black-capped Chickadee 11; Golden-winged Woodpecker 14; American Herring Gull 3; Tree Sparrow 16; Red-shouldered Hawk 1; Purple Martin 3; Wilson's Snipe 1; Fox Sparrow 2; Mourning Dove 2; Hermit Thrush 1; Cowbird 2; Field Sparrow 1; American Merganser 3; Richardson's Owl 1; Little Blue Heron 1; Kingfisher 2; Downy Woodpecker 3; Goldfinch 1; Vesper Sparrow 1; Mallard Duck 8. Total, 34 species, 460 individuals.

HARRIETT BROWNELL.

URBANA, ILL., and vicinity, March 25 to April 2, inclusive. The numbers show the largest number of individuals recorded by a single observer on a single trip during the above period.

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Pied-billed Grebe 3; Red-breasted Merganser 1; Mallard 3; Lesser Scaup Duck 1; Blue Heron 2; Black-crowned Night Heron 1; Coot 1; Wilson's Snipe 1; Killdeer 3; Bobwhite 12; Prairie Chicken 1; Mourning Dove 8; Marsh Hawk 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Cooper's Hawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 4; Broad-winged Hawk 1; Sparrow Hawk 5; Barn Owl 4; Long-eared Owl 2; Barred Owl 1; Screech Owl 1; Belted Kingfisher 4; Hairy Woodpecker 2; Downy Woodpecker 6; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 25; Red-headed Woodpecker 6; Red-bellied Woodpecker 4; Northern Flicker 20; Phoebe 4; Prairie Horned Lark 6; Blue Jay 3; Crow 30; Cowbird 8; Red-winged Blackbird 40; Meadowlark 12; Rusty Blackbird 11; Bronzed Grackle 300; Vesper Sparrow 2; White-throated Sparrow 4; Tree Sparrow 2; Chipping Sparrow 2; Field Sparrow 20; Slate-colored Junco 120; Song Sparrow 25; Swamp Sparrow 1; Fox Sparrow 40; Towhee 2; Cardinal 5; Cedar Waxwing 7; Migrant Shrike 4; Brown Thrasher 2; Bewick's Wren 3; Winter Wren 3; Brown Creeper 8; White-breasted Nuthatch 3; Tufted Titmouse 4; Chickadee 3; Golden-crowned Kinglet 15; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1; Hermit Thrush 4; Robin 50; Bluebird 8. Water Thrush, exact species uncertain, reported by two observers.

Several other species reported earlier, including: American Woodcock, Short-eared Owl, Saw-whet Owl, Goldfinch, and Purple Martins.

Nests with eggs noticed as follows: Red-tailed Hawk, March 18; Red-shouldered Hawk, March 18; Barred Owl, February 27; Screech Owl, April 2; Crow, March 25 and April 2.

Some of the more interesting "first seen" records are as follows: Killdeer, February 22.; Belted Kingfisher, March 11; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, March 23; Cowbird, March 12; White-throated Sparrow, March 10; Chipping Sparrow, March 28; Field Sparrow, March 23; Fox Sparrow, March 6; Towhee, March 7; Migrant Shrike, March 9; Brown Thrasher, April 2; Bewick's Wren, March 30; Winter Wren, March 23; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, March 31; Hermit Thrush, March 25; Bluebird, February 20.

Compiled from the records of W. A. Goelitz, H. J. Van Cleave, Mrs. Percy Ash, Miss Bessie R. Green, and F. Smith by Professor Frank Smith. University of Illinois.

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Winter • 1916 - 17



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THE WINTER WOODS

To many the thought of the deep woods in winter is one of utter desolation and solitude. But a tramp through their snowy aisles will usually reveal a few furred or feathered inhabitants who do not seem depressed by their cheerless surroundings. A rabbit may scurry away in a panic of fright, or a squirrel scold from an adjacent tree at your intrusion. Overhead may be heard the call of the bluejay, his color doubly brilliant in the neutral tones of the woods. Perhaps a vigorous tapping above you may enable you to discover a downy or a hairy woodpecker at his work; again, it may be the quiet complacent "quank" of the nuthatch as he inspects the tree trunks for larvae, or a group of chickadees may be discovered, searching the twigs for insect eggs, chatting the while in the appealing chickadee tongue.

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN

WINTER 1916-1917

Published by the
ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
(For the protection of wild birds)

Winter Birds in Illinois

As this Bulletin goes to press, the record for winter birds in Illinois is being made up. As early as October 15, a flock of thirty American Cross-bills arrived at Highland Park in Lake County, north of Chicago, and for several days spent much of their time in a clump of Scotch pines at the corner of an open lawn, fronting a busy street. A hundred or more school children were able to get frequent views of these birds as they twisted open the pine cones and disported themselves fearlessly down on the ground or on the cone-laden branches. A flock of evening grosbeaks appeared on November 21st. Snow buntings were present in large flocks on the Waukegan flats.

In anticipation of the peculiar pleasure bird lovers may have in the approaching winter in searching for birds in the barren wintry landscapes, the following regional notes have been obtained: Prof. T. E. Hankinson writes for the Charleston, Ill., region; T. E. Musselman for the Quincy region and O. M. Schantz for Northern Illinois.

COMMON BIRDS OF THE CHARLESTON REGION.

Prof. Hankinson reports having seen thirty-seven or more species of birds in winter in the neighborhood of Charleston, and it is probable that as many as a dozen others occur there at that season. Of these forty or more species, twenty-four may be called common winter birds, and found quite regularly in their favorite habitats during the winter. These are: English sparrow, downy woodpecker, crow, bluejay, sparrow-hawk, northern flicker, red-headed woodpecker, red-bellied woodpecker, hairy woodpecker, tufted titmouse, chickadee, brown creeper, golden-crowned kinglet, goldfinch, screech owl, song sparrow, horned lark, tree sparrow, junco, Carolina wren, bob-white, cardinal, mourning dove and purple finch.

From an examination of the favorite habitats of birds in winter it appears that a walk at this season for the purpose of studying them should be taken when possible on a piece of low ground like a stream valley. High regions and open field had better be avoided except covered hill-sides with southerly exposures. Courses along edges of bush patches ought to be taken and such places traversed when possible. Streams, roads and fences can be advantageously followed when these are bordered with high, dead grass, tall weeds, bushes or trees. Low woodlands with rather dense tree growths and some underbrush are pretty sure to yield good

results. Birds will not be found at all places that seem favorable for them in winter, and they may be abundant at a particular locality at one time and be entirely absent at another. They can often be located by their calls; and for this reason it is desirable to stop and listen now and then. When birds are found, it is a good plan to follow them if their movements are progressive in any particular direction. The observer should move as slowly, quietly, and steadily as possible. When such precautions are taken much can often be learned about the ways of winter birds for they are not usually hard to approach at this season. Good field or opera glasses give the student a great advantage in making observations. All interesting and important actions of the birds should be noted; and whenever they are seen to eat, the nature of the food ought to be determined if possible. When there is snow on the ground, much can be found out by examining bird tracks.

THE WINTER BIRD RESTAURANT AND WINTER VISITORS AT QUINCY.

Mr. T. E. Musselman, writing from Quincy, says:

No doubt all lovers of bird life wish to surround themselves with everything which will attract birds. I suggest the selection of a site for a bird restaurant on some tree which is near enough the house to allow the study of birds. To attract the birds a careful distribution of foods must be made so as to tempt birds of every kind.

First suet should be placed about six feet up the tree trunk in a suet bird feeder, or it should be nailed to the tree and a piece of one inch mesh chicken wire put over it to prevent squirrels or jays from indulging too freely. About a foot beneath this, a shelf or box should be fitted to the tree to catch the suet chips which fall while birds are feeding.

On the shelf a variety of foods should be given. Supply finely chopped acorns, cracked hickory nuts, also bread crumbs and fine grain.

During the season when grasshoppers are numerous I collect a large number of these insects and dry them. The birds are very fond of them.

I also suggest the nailing of an entire sunflower to the tree. Birds like the seed and will work busily all day about the huge head.

I have experimented with elm and maple seeds which are so numerous in the gutters in some seasons of the year. The squirrels like these better than the birds, although by dampening them and covering them with a moist cloth, I find that upon swelling, they make good green food which the birds relish. Also, should any robins remain during the winter, apple cores and wormy raisins are greedily picked at and eaten.

Juncoes and some other varieties of sparrows will seldom rise to the shelf but prefer to glean what few tidbits are scattered on the ground by the hungry feeders above. During the winter place some sweepings from the hay mow in the shelf box and scatter the other food therein. I also scatter an abundance of this, together with cracker crumbs, at the base of the tree.

The result is that throughout the winter I have a dozen varieties of birds or daily boarders and the occasional stray bird which drops in for a hand-out makes the study that much more interesting.

The regular boarders in Quincy during the winter are: The white-breasted nuthatch, tufted titmouse, blackcapped chickadee, little brown creeper, downy, and hairy woodpecker, junco, red bird, blue jay, English sparrow, tree sparrow, red-bellied woodpecker, with an occasional red-breasted nuthatch, red-headed woodpecker, song sparrow, and yellow-bellied sapsucker.

WINTER VISITORS AND RESIDENTS OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS.

Mr. O. M. Schantz of Chicago, comments as follows:

After the fall migration is over do not think that there are no more birds to be seen until spring. There is a constant bird population well worth a further acquaintance. Before the snow comes the great stores of weed seeds attract many members of the sparrow family to stay as long as the weather is not too severe, and some of them to stay with us until spring. The whitethroated sparrows are probably the most numerous of these late visitors, but the junco, tree sparrow, pine siskin, and goldfinch are also often to be seen until quite late in autumn. The towhee frequently stays "till the last minute." The downy and hairy woodpeckers, white and red breasted nuthatches, the chickadee, cardinal and in favored localities where evergreens abound the cross bills, pine finch and evening grosbeak, are all quite likely to be found in the woodland all winter. Crows, varieties of owls, the snowflake, an occasional shrike, and possibly a partridge, and the ever present and never silent bluejay make a very interesting and varied winter bird population.

It is not always the severe cold alone that drives the birds south. Many birds could get along reasonably well if their food was at all times available. Many instances can be cited where injured birds have survived even a severe winter when provided with sufficient food. Bird tables may bring surprises among their visitors. Try one and find out for yourself.



A SUCCESSFUL FEEDING SHELF

EVERY LOCAL BIRD you keep from starving, when cold weather, snow, and ice shut off its natural food supply, will repay you by destroying hundreds of caterpillars, grubs, borers, beetles, and insects that would prey on your flowers, vegetables, fruit, foliage, or field crops. Birds more than pay for their keep. It is better to feed birds a little now than to grow crops for insects later.



FEEDING BIRDS IN WINTER costs little in time, food, or equipment. It attracts birds all winter to fill and chirp around your downy nest. It is one of the important means of preserving birds. An increase in the number of birds means that more of them will nest in your trees next spring and become your summer companions. They will sing their hearts and contribute to the beauty and charm of your neighborhood.

Feeding birds in winter is a delightful and inexpensive recreation as well as an excellent investment. Children particularly enjoy and benefit from this form of applied nature study.

Feed the Birds this Winter

They will repay you by destroying thousands of insects that harm gardens, trees, and crops



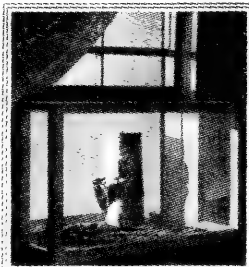
How to Help Birds in Winter

1. Supply food frequently, especially during and after storms.
2. Provide feeding shelters when birds can find food and get comfortably during snow and storm storms.
3. Protect feeding stations against cats which will kill or frighten the birds.



Every Destructive Insect is on the Bill of Fare of One or More of Our Native Birds

BIRDS feed upon insects that are most destructive. They had some time and means to collect. A single bird can destroy many insects in a day. It is a fact that birds are the most effective means of insect control. They are the only creatures that can destroy insects in their natural haunts. They are the only creatures that can destroy insects in their natural haunts. They are the only creatures that can destroy insects in their natural haunts.

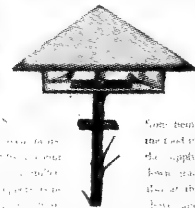


FEEDING BIRDS will help birds with food that will keep them from starving. It is a fact that birds are the most effective means of insect control. They are the only creatures that can destroy insects in their natural haunts. They are the only creatures that can destroy insects in their natural haunts. They are the only creatures that can destroy insects in their natural haunts.



The Best Winter Foods for Birds

The best winter foods for birds are those that are high in fat and energy. These include suet, seeds, and nuts. Birds will also eat bread and other grains, but these should be supplemented with high-energy foods.

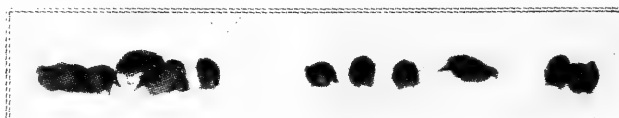


Some birds, blown off their feet by a storm, will perch on the top of a birdhouse. This is a good place to put a small amount of food. It will keep the birds from starving.

Full information as to feeding and attracting birds and providing nest boxes, houses, and shelters for them will be furnished on receipt of a postal card addressed to

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C.



Begin to Feed the Birds To-day—The Singing Laborer is Worthy of His Hire

Uncle Sam and the Birds

On the opposite page is a reduced facsimile of a poster now being distributed in large quantities by the United States Department of Agriculture. This is merely one of many evidences of the importance of bird conservation in the eyes of the wise men at Washington who look out for Uncle Sam's farming interests. The small type, lost in reproduction reads, in part, as follows:

Birds feed upon almost all kinds of injurious insects. They lead active lives and require much food. A single bird often eats more than 100 insects at a single meal and sometimes consumes several thousand small insects. Birds on a 200-acre farm in North Carolina destroyed a million green bugs or wheat aphids daily. There are many localities where birds have saved certain trees, garden crops, or farm fields from total destruction.

Encourage all kinds of birds, as the various species prey on different kinds of insects. For example, the hairy and downy woodpeckers render a special service in the protection of trees. They glean pests from beneath the bark and from within the wood. They account yearly for many a scale insect, bark beetle, borer, caterpillar, and ant. The bobwhite, one of the most important of our game birds, renders particular service in cultivated fields by destroying large numbers of potato beetles, wireworms, clover weevils, bollworms, cutworms, army worms, and other crop pests. The bobwhite suffers particularly from hard winters. A little suet or a little cracked corn and grain will keep these valuable feathered servants in your employ.

For bobwhites, build low hutches with roofs that will keep out snow, or make wigwam-like stacks of grain sheaves with openings below. Keep the entrances free from snow and scatter within cracked corn or small grains or seeds. Putting out food on a bare spot on the ground is an easier method, but not so useful.

For woodpeckers, place suet under wire netting on trees; pour a melted mixture of suet and grain seed in cracks in bark or in large holes bored in thick pieces of wood accessible to the birds; or make a 2-inch hole in a coconut and fill the interior with chopped suet and nuts and suspend from a branch.

For small birds in general, make food shelves at windows or on trees, sheltered from the wind, and with raised edges to keep food from being blown off. Better still, put the food in a hopper, which will protect the supply from the weather and let it down gradually. Small birds will feed also at the coconut larders mentioned above and upon the suet mixtures.

Aigrettes and Other Feathers of Wild Birds Withdrawn from Sale in Chicago

The Audubon Society has secured a complete victory in its efforts to stop the sale of aigrettes, bird of Paradise and goura feathers in Chicago stores. In the Illinois Audubon Bulletin for Spring 1916, it will be remembered, there was printed an opinion rendered the Fish and Game Commission by the Attorney General of the State of Illinois, at the request of this Society, holding that the law forbidding dealers having such feathers in their possession or offering them for sale is valid.

In November last, two directors of The Illinois Audubon Society found, on investigation, that the law was being generally violated in Chicago, and they took specific note of a number of stores thus engaged. Thereupon the Attorney for the Society, Mr. Everett Millard, wrote a letter to each of these stores, which stated the position of the Society as follows:

"As attorney for the Illinois Audubon Society, I beg to inform you that the representatives of the Society, by personal investigation, have found that your store has in its possession, and is offering for sale and selling aigrettes, as well as Paradise feathers and goura feathers, in violation of Chapter 56 of the Illinois Revised Statutes, the Fish and Game Act. This act provides for a fine and imprisonment until the fine or costs are paid, for violation thereof.

I attach hereto a copy of an opinion by P. J. Lucey, attorney general of Illinois, rendered the Game and Fish Conservation Commission, holding that vendors of aigrettes in Illinois may be prosecuted for selling them or having them in their

possession for the purpose of sale. This opinion would apply to parts of any wild birds.

I call your attention to this law, and your violation thereof, for the purpose of asking whether you will voluntarily discontinue the sale of all such feathers and parts of wild birds. The Society has confidence that you will see, as other stores have, that as public spirited citizens you do not wish to take the attitude of defying or evading the law, or of lending your store, for purposes of small private profit, to aid in the ruthless slaughter and extermination of these beautiful wild birds which are many times more valuable alive than dead, and whose destruction in the breeding season is accompanied by the wanton and unspeakable suffering of their young.

The Society does not wish to take any public action in regard to the matter, if you wish to immediately cease the violation.

Thanking you for prompt information as to your attitude,
I am

Yours very truly

EVERETT L. MILLARD.

All the stores thus addressed showed an immediate desire to comply with the provisions of the law and with the spirit of this letter. One or two of the stores had not been selling aigrettes for some time, but were selling other contraband feathers. Several of them asked for a little time in which to dispose of or reduce the stock they had on hand, promising meanwhile to purchase no more of such feathers. Owing to their fair attitude and prompt compliance with the request of the Society, they were informed that no action would be taken in making complaint to the Fish and Game Commission, except for violations found after February 1, 1917, although no action of the Audubon Society, could of course, bind the official Commission in any way as to action they might take of their own accord. Most of the stores had little or no stock of aigrettes, but considerable of Paradise and goura feathers, and it was felt that a sufficient victory had been won in getting the honest coöperation of the dealers, without putting them to undue hardships.

Public mention was made of the enforcement of the law in the news columns of the daily papers, and an editorial appeared in the Chicago Herald, January 21, commending the Society for the result. The Fish and Game Commission have shown that they are officially interested in the matter, in coöperation with the Society's representative, and it is understood they have notified the stores that the sale of such feathers will be stopped after February 1, in harmony with the plans of the Society.

The Directors of the Society feel that the results secured are important, not only for the actual protection of wild birds and in the moral effect resulting from the enforcement of the law, but in the public attention thereby secured to the principle involved. It remains now to move against violators of this law in other cities of our state. Readers of this Bulletin can take the initiative in this matter by warning violators wherever found and at the same time by sending in data to the Secretary of this Society relating specifically to such violations.

The Attack on the Federal Bird Law

There were stirring times for Audubonites during the recent session of Congress, the story of which should be interesting reading. It might be styled a "thriller" with a happy ending. It is summed up in the single statement that certain organizations conducted both in the House and the Senate a vigorous campaign against the enforcement of the Weeks-McLean Federal Migratory Bird Law, and lost their campaign, and that a treaty negotiated between the United States and Canada and signed by President Wilson, which virtually embodies the chief feature of the Weeks-McLean bill, was ratified by the Senate with only eight dissenting votes. Some of the details of these contests are set forth below and their significance noted. It is hoped that all our readers will follow the story through, for it suggests much work yet to be done in Illinois.

THE WEEKS-MCLEAN LAW.

It should be remembered that the so-called Weeks-McLean Bill passed through Congress in the closing days of the session ending March 4, 1913, and that President Taft signed the measure only a few hours before he retired from office. The struggle for the passage of this bill is said to have been the most gigantic single campaign ever waged for a bird protective bill. In this Federal Migratory Bird Law, as it now became known, the government of the United States assumed custody and protection of all migratory game and insectivorous birds and empowered the Agricultural Department to adopt and enforce regulations governing the "destroying or taking" of such birds. Under this provision of this law the United States Biological Survey representing the Agricultural Department has issued each year "regulations prescribing and fixing closed seasons, having due regard to the zones of temperature, breeding habits, and times and lines of migration, flight, etc."

QUESTIONING THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF THE LAW.

From the very outset these regulations have met with strong opposition from some of the sportsmen in the middlewest area centering about St. Louis and Kansas City, and the constitutionality of the law has been attacked in several instances. In two of the federal districts, those of Arkansas and Kansas, and in the Supreme Court of Maine, decisions adverse to the law have been made. An appeal from the decision made in Arkansas has been pending for two years in the United States Supreme Court. Last spring when a declaration was expected the court ordered a re-argument of the case, much to the surprise of some of the friends of the law who supposed this to be evidence of an even division of the eight members of the court. It now appears that the action was due to a wish to have a full bench consider the matter because of its great importance.

OPPOSITION TO THE REGULATIONS OF THE SURVEY.

Meanwhile the law has been operative, and law-abiding and conscientious citizens all over the country "have accepted and observed both the letter and the spirit of the law." However the disaffected element, an

"energized minority," as it were, has conducted highly organized efforts to prevent the enforcement of the law. These have taken the form of opposition to the appropriation for enforcing the regulations of the Biological Survey. In February 1914 the Interstate Sportsmen's Protective Association was organized in Kansas City for the avowed purpose of either securing a special dispensation for Spring shooting or of killing both the federal migratory bird law and the proposed international treaty. During the recent sessions of Congress this organization has led off in a fight to strike out of the Agricultural Appropriation Bill an item of \$50,000 for the use of the Biological Survey in enforcing the law. The publicity man of the opposition has been Mr. E. T. Grether of St. Louis who edits the Rod-and-Gun department of the St. Louis Globe Democrat and the columns of this paper have been freely used for attacks upon the Biological Survey itself. In this paper the boast was made that "unless the Biological Survey granted their petition for shooting ducks and geese until March 31, they (the Opposition) would "put the Survey out of business."

Mr. A. D. Holthaus of St. Louis and one of our Illinois citizens, Mr. J. H. Aldous of Alton, lobbied in Washington to defeat the appropriation. Mr. Aldous is quoted as asserting that the people of Illinois were in favor of amending the regulation so as to permit the shooting of ducks and geese until March 31. He is said to have given out a list of seventeen Illinois Congressmen whom he is supposed to have tied up to his proposition. These congressmen will be referred to in a succeeding paragraph.

THE CONTEST IN THE HOUSE.

While the contest over the appropriation for the enforcement of the regulations was on in the House, Hon. Wm. E. Williams of Pittsfield, one of the two congressmen at large for Illinois, made on April 24th, a speech in opposition to the appropriation. He stated that "the law, believed by many to be unconstitutional is practically harmless, for all it does is to authorize the Department of Agriculture to adopt rules and regulations for the preservation of wild game." "The whole mischief," he said, "arises in the department which promulgates the rules." He then cited the rule closing the Mississippi from Memphis to Minneapolis for killing migratory birds from "any boat, raft, or other device, floating or otherwise, in or on any of such waters," and declared his opposition to it on the ground of its unfairness to Illinois sportsmen. South of Memphis and north of Minneapolis no embargo is laid upon the hunter, while on the five hundred or so miles of the course of the Mississippi along Illinois, comprising the greater portion of the area between Memphis and Minneapolis and forming the chief migration route of the water fowl, hunters are forbidden to kill game. It may be said in passing that there is no evidence in Mr. Williams' published address that he was aware of the fact that the restriction had been placed on the shooting of ducks, for example, on the Mississippi River because the states bordering the river permitted the use of motor boats in hunting, and of the additional fact that the Biological Survey offered to remove the restriction the moment the states concerned passed laws stopping the pursuits of wild fowl with power boats.

(Illinois game laws of 1915 prohibit shooting from power boats on the Mississippi. The restrictions have been removed since Mr. Williams' speech was made, the latest regulatory announcements of the Biological Survey under date of Aug. 21, 1916, omitting any specific reference to hunting on the Mississippi.)

THE MEMORIAL OF THE SPORTSMEN'S PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATIONS.

Upon concluding his address, Mr. Williams had incorporated into the Congressional Record (See pages 7993 and 7994) a memorial addressed to the Senate and House of Representatives on the part of the Illinois Sportsmen's Protective Association and the officers of the Interstate Sportsmen's Protective Association and others interested.

Some of the important assertions in the memorial are as follows:

1. The seasons for hunting migratory birds have been so arranged by the Biological Survey officials that hunters residing in the middle western states are authorized to hunt migrating game only during those seasons of the year when the migrants are practically absent, and are forbidden from hunting during seasons when the migrants are present.

2. Positive physical evidence has been offered the Biological Survey showing that the game birds are not even approximating the breeding or nesting period in February and March, nor do they at any other season breed in this section of the North.

3. The ideal season for hunting waterfowl begins February first and ends March thirty-first at which opportune time such hunting is legally prohibited.

4. In the dry fall season the large water courses afford the main resort for the fowl, but the Biological Survey officials prohibit hunting wild fowl on the upper Mississippi. They do not prohibit such hunting south of Memphis.

5. The officials of the Biological Survey have refused to prosecute violators of the law, thus placing at a disadvantage the better element who are conscientious about observance of law.

6. The petitioners are deprived of their rights without any compensation on behalf of wild life conservation.

The memorial closes with the statement that the game laws of the states represented by the petitioners are the most perfect and restrictive legislation of any of the states, and that the Federal regulations produce such conditions in conflict with these laws as to sadly deplete the hunting-license revenue necessary to protect not only the wild fowl game birds but the non-game song and insectivorous birds, etc. (How restrictive the legislation of Missouri, for example, is, appears in the law permitting duck shooting until May 1. Compare Dr. Field's report on the nesting of ducks in Missouri. See later paragraph).

Our principal interest in the signatures to this memorial is in the list of Illinois organizations and their officials there given. The list is as follows:

H. C. Norcross, Carlyle, Ill., president Illinois Sportsmen's League.

James H. Aldous, Alton, Ill., president Madison County Sportsmen's League.

F. L. Pfeiffer, Centralia, Marion County Sportsmen's League.

Robt. Bethmann, East St. Louis, St. Clair County Sportsmen's League.

W. A. Jacobs, president Johnstone City Sportsmen's League.

John Loos, president St. Clair County Sportsmen's League, Belleville, Ill.

Jas. N. Browne, president Illinois Sportsmen and Game Protective League, Quincy, Ill.

T. V. Brannan, president Cass & Schuyler Counties Association.

F. I. Trunnell, White Hall, Ill., Greene County.

W. T. Gordley, secretary Cass & Schuyler Counties Association, Virginia, Ill.

The appropriation for the Agricultural Department including that contested item for the Biological Survey passed the House by a good majority, but the fight was renewed in the Senate.

THE CONTEST IN THE SENATE.

May 9, 1916, Senator Sherman presented a memorial of sundry citizens of Centralia, Bloomington, Nashville, Valmeyer, New Baden, and Breese, remonstrating against the appropriation for enforcing the regulations concerning Spring shooting. May 16, 1916, Senator Sherman presented petitions of sundry citizens of Quincy and Oquawka, praying for the adoption of certain amendments to the Bird Law.

The Hon. James A. Reed, Senator from Missouri, led the opposition to the enforcement of the rulings of the Biological Survey as he had done in the Senate years before. This is the statesman who in the debate in August, 1916, over the "Feather Proviso," speaking of the killing of egrets, unburdened himself as follows:

"I really honestly want to know why there should be any sympathy or sentiment about a long-legged, long-beaked, long-necked bird that lives in swamps, and eats tadpoles and fish and crawfish and things of that kind; why we should worry ourselves into a frenzy because some lady adorns her hat with one of its feathers, which appears to be the only use it has." And, again: "If the young are then left to starve, it would seem to me the proper idea would be to establish a foundling asylum for the young, but still let humanity utilize this bird for the only purpose that evidently the Lord made it for, namely, so that we could get aigrettes for bonnets of our beautiful ladies."

On July 10, the contest culminated over the motion of Senator Reed to strike out the entire appropriation, \$50,000, for the enforcement of the law. For two hours Senator Reed occupied the attention of the Senate by a bitter denunciation of the law, its supporters, the Biological Survey, Dr. W. T. Hornaday and others. Senator McLean replied in a dignified logical and forceful speech fifteen minutes long, and the vote to sustain the law and retain the appropriation was fifty-two to eight. The appropriation was safe. Two years before Senator Reed had been able to muster seventeen votes. He and his following could now count but eight votes. Of the two senators from Illinois, one, Senator Sherman, voted to retain the appropriation. Senator Lewis was present but did not vote.

WHAT ABOUT THE BIOLOGICAL SURVEY?

While its investigators were in the field collecting data about the breeding season in the middle western states, the Survey seemed to wobble a little on the subject of Spring shooting. Under date of May 13 it sent out "Proposed Regulations for the Protection of Migratory Birds." These were "made public for examination and consideration before final adoption." One of these regulations had a bearing on the controversy then on in the Senate. For the middle west area, it provided an open season for shooting waterfowl between September 15 and November 16 and another between February 9, and March 11. It may be said in passing that this concession to those who favored Spring shooting was ungratefully received by them and that it met with determined opposition by those favoring the bill and opposed to all Spring shooting.

REPORTS FROM THE FIELD.

The investigators of the Survey had gone out early into the field and the reports that came in developed the important fact that wild fowl were actually breeding in Kansas and Missouri in the early days of March. One of the investigators, W. F. Bancroft, was a visitor in Atchinson, Kansas, on March 14th and accompanied Eugene A. Howe, Editor of the Atchinson Globe, on a trip to several of the Missouri lakes in that vicinity. They found as reported by Mr. Howe that eighty per cent of the ducks common to that section from the blue winged teal to red heads and mallards were mated. Mr. Howe has personally observed wild mallards mating the first week in February.

Dr. Geo. W. Field of Boston, visited during June, many points in Kansas and Missouri and from his observations concluded that the main hatching periods during 1916 for pintails and both greenhead and dusky mallards, which breed earliest, was the first week in May, and egg-laying must have begun about March 15. As late as June 20th many blue-winged teal were still incubating. Between these dates "broad bills" and gadwalls breed abundantly and redheads, canvas-backs, ruddies, wood ducks, hooded mergansers, and green-winged teal occasionally. These observations, quite at variance with the statements of the League of Sportsmen previously quoted, make the demand for an open season for wild fowl in March seem entirely unreasonable.

FINAL REGULATIONS OF THE BIOLOGICAL SURVEY.

The outcome so far as the Biological Survey is concerned is that the proposed regulations issued on May 13, were withdrawn and the final regulations issued August 21, provide a closed season for waterfowl in fifteen states between January first and September fifteenth, next following. Among these fifteen states are Illinois, Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska! All this means that the birds are coming back if—no, there seems to be no *if* about it. The constitutionality of the Federal Migratory Bird Law seems no longer to be in question since the ratification of the Treaty with Canada—which is another story. It follows this.

Treaty for the Protection of Migratory Birds in the United States and Canada

A treaty for the federal protection of all the migratory birds of North America, north of Mexico, has been ratified by Congress and is to be a law of the land. It is believed that this is the first treaty dealing with the fortunes of birds ever consummated. It was initiated over two years ago by Senator George P. McLean in a Senate resolution. At that time President Wilson wrote a letter to Secretary Bryan, approving the idea and requesting its advancement. Concerted action by the two governments was necessary to insure the carrying out of the principle of the McLean Federal Migratory Bird Law. Bird conservationists in the two countries have put forth continuous efforts during these two years to secure the happy consummation. Dr. C. Gordon Hewett of the Canadian Department of Agriculture played an important part in securing the coöperation of the Canadian Government. The treaty was finally sent down from Ottawa early in August and on August 16 it was signed at Washington by Secretary Lansing and Sir Cecil Arthur Spring-Rice, the British Ambassador.

It was transmitted by the President to the Senate on August 22 where Senator McLean had for some months been preparing the way for its smooth passage. It went to the Committee on Foreign Relations and "passed through" in a few hours, and Senator Jas. A. O. Gorman was designated to take charge of it on the floor of the Senate.

On August 29, it was brought before the Senate and quickly ratified by a two-thirds' majority. The United States Senate had with remarkable celerity added to its fine and quite unbroken record in the enactment of sane and reasonable wild life protection laws. Let it be said again that the ratification of this treaty is the most important and far reaching step in the protection and increase of birds that has yet been taken in any country. It extends the strong arm of federal protection over about 1,022-species and sub-species of the most valuable and interesting birds of North America.

Official procedure requires that the treaty be sent to England for ratification and its return for exchange of ratifications. This is a mere form, however, and will be accomplished long before Congress convenes again in December. Congress will then be asked to pass an enabling act for the enforcement of its provisions and the work will be complete.

What effect will the treaty have upon the Weeks-McLean Migratory Bird Law? The report of the Interstate Sportsmen's Association in Kansas City, February 2, 1914, shows that the Missouri Senators and Representatives in Congress "were also asked to vote against the treaty with Great Britain which if passed will make it impossible for the Courts to declare the Weeks-McLean Law unconstitutional." This opinion of the effect of the treaty by its opponents is shared by its friends. It is pointed out that the agreements in the present treaty are practically identical with the regulations under the federal migratory bird law. The treaty contains an express agreement that the two nations will enforce it by necessary measures. We have in the migratory bird law, legislation which will carry the treaty into effect.

The treaty ratifies an act of Congress for the protection of migratory birds. The two must be construed together and the provisions of both enforced by the courts. Now that this law is required to carry into effect the treaty agreements, many think it is highly improbable that any court will declare it unconstitutional.

All this seems to mean no Spring shooting on this continent. And that in turn means that birds will be permitted to shorten the northward migratory flight and to stop to breed within our borders in such places as promise to be suitable and undisturbed. There is said to be no question that such of the migratory ducks and geese as do not pair for life pair and mate during the northward migration. "During the flight mated pairs drop out of the flock and start house hunting in favorable localities, and, having successfully reared a brood in a special location, the foundation for a new colony is laid. The original pairs or their descendants, doubtless with the addition of new migrants, return to the same place as long as they survive and conditions remain favorable." And the cessation of Spring shooting is one of the most important conditions for making localities "favorable."

(The latest Bulletin of the National Audubon Society reports that the test case in the United States Supreme Court under the migratory bird law came up for a hearing on October 23, 1916, and at the request of the legal representative of the United States was indefinitely postponed.)

LATER

The ratifications referred to above were exchanged December 7, 1916, and a bill to give effect to the treaty with Canada for the protection of migratory birds has just been introduced into the Senate by Senator Hitchcock. This is known as Senate Bill 7858. In the House, a similar bill, designated House Bill 20080, has been introduced by Congressman Flood of Virginia. It makes good certain deficiencies in the Migratory Bird Law. For example, possession of migratory birds during the closed season is made unlawful and inspectors or wardens are invested with power of arrest. This insures adequate enforcement of that portion of the migratory bird law. Further, the passage of the bill will accomplish what is referred to above, and will put the federal regulations for the protection of migratory birds above the review of any court in the United States. Here is a splendid and urgent opportunity to do some concrete Audubon work. Let everyone who believes in the protection of birds write Senator J. Hamilton Lewis, and Senator Lawrence Y. Sherman at Washington, urging them to give immediate and determined support to this measure. Then the congressman from one's district should be written to, and legitimate pressure brought upon him and other congressmen also to see that the entire Illinois delegation votes right on this important measure.

Conservation and Forest Preserves

Every movement for forest preservation is in the interest of bird life. Every bit of landscape set aside for its natural beauty is accepted by the birds for utilitarian purposes. They profit automatically by our enthusiasm for undisturbed landscape, forest or prairie or marsh or dune. So the following reports on conservation projects are of good cheer for bird lovers although no mention is made of birds.

CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT OF THE ILLINOIS FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

The work of the Conservation Department of the I. F. W. C. has been very gratifying during the past year. In many places through the efforts of Women's Clubs, Audubon societies have been formed in schools. Prizes have been given for bird houses built by school children and great interest has been shown. Bird houses are in evidence everywhere and that the interest is bringing results is proven by the increase of song and migratory birds, particularly in the southern part of the State. Vacant lots have been secured by many clubs to be used for gardening. The applicants were so numerous that it was sometimes impossible to supply the demand. The work of protecting wild flowers has been pushed with splendid results. Men and women as well as children have awakened to the fact that wild flowers must be preserved for the future generations. Many rural school yards and the roadside in front of the school houses have been beautified during the summer, and trees have been planted along many highways, which is a step toward Making Illinois Beautiful.

MRS. CHARLES W. IRION, Chairman of Conservation I. F. W. C.

THE CONSERVATION COUNCIL

The Conservation Council was proposed at a meeting called by the Chicago Chapter of the Wild Flower Preservation Society of America at the City Club Dec. 9, 1914. Among those present were members of societies and nature lovers including Dr. H. C. Cowles of the Geographic Society, Thomas W. Allinson of the Prairie Club, O. M. Schantz of the Audubon Society, Mrs. John Worthy and Mrs. Edward Reininger of the Outdoor Art League, Mrs. Julius Rosenwald of the Friends of Our Native Landscape, Mrs. Jean Ellis Driver of the Forestry Class of the Chicago Woman's Club, Miss Lena M. McCauley of the Horticultural Society, Mr. E. K. Warren of Warren's Woods, Three Oaks, Michigan, and the hostesses Mrs. D. Harry Hammer, Mrs. F. W. Blocki, Mrs. A. A. Michelson, Mrs. L. A. Walton, Mrs. C. F. Millspaugh, Miss Catherine Mitchell, and Huron H. Smith and C. F. Millspaugh of the Wild Flower Preservation Society.

At a final organization meeting, the body assumed the name The Conservation Council, and the following objects set forth: namely, to serve as a "Clearing House" for its component societies, assist their aims, act in any matter requiring concerted action, hold property dedicated to common interests, and refer to the society most interested any new motion presented to the Council.

In the year and one-half of its existence, the Conservation Council has enrolled the following societies in its organization: The Geographic Society of Chicago, The Prairie Club, The Horticultural Society, The Municipal Art League, The Wild Flower Preservation Society of America, Chicago Chapter, Riverside Chapter; The Illinois Audubon Society, The Outdoor Art League, The Second District Women's Clubs, The West End Woman's Club and The Ridge Woman's Club.

It has given moral support to the Geographic Society and the Prairie Club in their efforts to Preserve the Dunes, to save Stony Island, to protect Starved Rock, the White Pine Forest, and Black Hawk Park. Both delegates and Secretary have written letters to various authorities in this work. It published and distributed 15,000 "Save the Wild Flower" leaflets with the aid of the Outdoor Art League. At its meetings it has urged delegates to keep the aims of the Friends of Our Native Landscape, the Audubon Society, the Wild Flower Preservation Society and the Outdoor Art League before their members. It has inspired editorials in the newspapers and there is no question but that the attitude of railroads toward wild flowers, and the public toward the dunes was influenced by The Conservation Council.

LENA M. McCAULEY, Secretary.

WHAT HAS THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY DONE UP TO DATE?

Chicago, Jan. 15, 1917.

It has examined by the inspection of the members of the Commission and the Plan Committee over 21,000 acres of forest. It has had drawings or recommendations made for over 15,000 acres, all of which have been definitely recommended by the Plan Committee for purchase. The Forest Preserve District—the official body—has accepted and concurred in these recommendations and is now having the various legal and real-estate and surveyor committees at work. Records of ownership and formal surveys upon which legal descriptions can be based are being made for practically all of the 15,000 acres as fast as the work can be taken up and pushed along.

In some instances the Commissioners are able to proceed by direct negotiation and find themselves able to agree with the owners of certain pieces of property upon the value of their holdings. Within this character of dealings may be placed over 900 acres in the center of Deer Grove, which is Forest Preserve No. 1 and is situated in the northwest part of the County, about three miles north of Palatine. For more than two months at this writing the people of Cook County have been in legal possession of these 900 acres of beautiful hill, ravine and forest. The remaining portion of the 1,100 acres of this preserve will become publicly owned within a short time. Some of it is, like the first, under direct negotiation and some of it will have to be acquired by condemnation.

Forest Preserve No. 2 is along the Desplaines River extending about three miles south from the north County line. Of this, over 400 acres in Wheeling is acquired and owned by the public. Other portions of this district will be acquired by negotiation.



VIEW ON THE DESPLAINES RIVER IN THE FOREST PRESERVE

The Thatcher Grove in River Forest and the wooded area south of Lake Street and north of Madison will probably be acquired by condemnation, as the Commission and the owners are not able to agree on the price.

The Commission has already accepted within the 15,000 acres mentioned above a recommendation for a large tract south, east and west of Willow Springs in the Township of Palos. Some 4,000 or 5,000 acres more will shortly be submitted to them for negotiation, in addition to what they have already acted upon.

A recommendation of 3,500 acres has just been made and accepted by the Commission along the Chicago River from Crawford Avenue up to and including the woods in Glen View, and orders have been given for a definite plat and recommendation along this same river from Glen View to the north County line. The Commission has also given orders for detailed reports along the Calumet region, Calumet River, the woods south of South Chicago and Burnham and from that on to the south County line. The Commission will very shortly take definite action upon reservations which shall have value and relation to the residents of South Chicago, Pullman and Blue Island.

It is also the intention, if funds permit, to continue the work along the Desplaines River from the portions already covered by recommendations to its junction with the Drainage Canal.

The Commission is actively engaged in the promotion of the Forest Preserve enterprise and has already accumulated thousands of dollars' worth of plats, descriptions, surveys and other information necessary before actual purchase of property can be made.

D. H. PERKINS.

FRIENDS OF OUR NATIVE LANDSCAPE

"If the Friends of Our Native Landscape go down to history with no other record to their credit than that they have led a band of nature lovers to the country, given joy to some, and opened the eyes of others, they will not have lived in vain." The primary purposes of the society, however, are twofold: First to secure and preserve for the people of today and all future generations examples of landscape types which are fast vanishing before the encroachment of industry: Second, to cultivate in every individual a love for the world of the open with an understanding of how it may be enjoyed in a social way without destroying those things we want to preserve.

To create an interest in the first object, an annual meeting of all members of the society is held in June in some bit of primitive landscape worthy of preservation by the state. The first of these "annual pilgrimages" was to the White Pine Forest near Oregon, Illinois, where an original masque by Kenneth Sawyer Goodman was enacted with a bend in the flood plain of a picturesque creek for an amphitheater. This was in June, 1913. Succeeding pilgrimages have been to the Warren Woods near Three Oaks, Michigan; to the Illinois Canyon near Starved Rock, and to the Warren Dunes at Lakeside, Michigan.

But when "Autumn has flung her crimson splendor abroad," the Friends gather and go to the blazing dunes for the refreshment of spirit which only broad horizons and wind-swept hill tops can give. At night they light an enormous campfire and listen to reports from committees that have been continuously active in promoting such work as state survey, county reservations, city reservations, public highways, school propaganda, and publicity work.



A GROUP OF "FRIENDS" ON AN OUTING

The organization as a whole through its leading spirits is in touch with the conservation movement throughout the entire country, even pointing the way to new efforts and urging and encouraging every great act from the acquirement of National Parks, to the preservation of Stony Island, and of wild flowers along the railroad right-of-ways. It has chapters doing similar work in various parts of the country. The local body in Chicago is made up of men and women from every profession and rank of life, many of whom are prominent in the world of art, in the Universities, and in business circles commanding wide interests, and all are determined that the commercial vandals shall not control as amusement parks, the wooded dunes with their rare and marvelous floral carpet, the streams with their adjoining bluffs and headlands, ravines and canyons, the ponds and swamps where water birds make their haunts, and all places of beauty.

The midwinter festival held by the Friends is a revelation of the beauty of the woods at sunset in January, to many present, and in April the pilgrimage to the crab-apple trees in blossom time is made with harp and flute and birds, and dancing on the green.

The Board of directors recently enjoyed a trip to Savanna, Ill., on the bluffs above the Mississippi, where they were received and entertained by the Mayor and other public spirited citizens, and plans were made for the organization of a new chapter to preserve the bluffs and floodlands along the Mississippi which at that point are famous in Indian history.

The society was organized in Chicago at the City Club, April 7, 1913 and incorporated May 15, 1913. Mr. Jens Jensen has been the president untiring throughout the three years of active propaganda work. Mr. Eames MacVeagh is the treasurer. Mr. Sherman Booth was the first secretary, later resigning to be succeeded by Mrs. Charles F. Pearce.

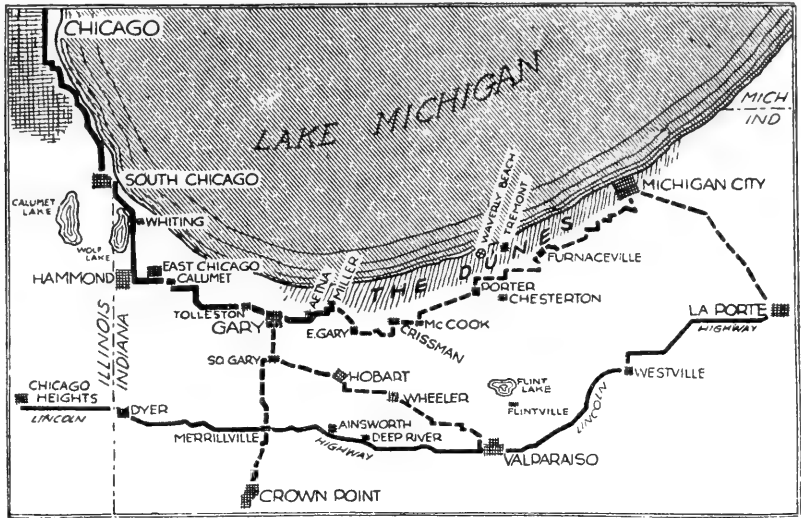
GENEVRA M. PEARCE.

THE CONSERVATION OF THE INDIANA DUNES

The movement for creating a park, state or national, to include within its boundaries some of the most beautiful sand dune areas of Northern Indiana, has been given considerable valuable publicity during the past few months, and is attracting the attention of bird lovers all over the country. Senator Thomas Taggart of Indiana, has taken an active interest in the movement and the seventh of last September, submitted a resolution in The United States Senate which is already bearing fruit. The resolution directed the Secretary of the Interior to investigate and report to Congress at its next session, the advisability of securing, by purchase or otherwise, all that portion of the counties of Lake, La Porte, and Porter, in the state of Indiana, and bordering upon Lake Michigan and commonly known as the "Sand Dunes," with a view that such lands be created a national park. The secretary was also directed to report the cost of acquiring such lands and the probable expense of maintaining them as a part of The National Park System.

The Secretary of the Interior has taken prompt action in accordance with this resolution and on October 30, Mr. Steven T. Mather, Assistant to The Secretary of the Interior, gave a public hearing at the Federal Building in Chicago to all persons and organizations interested in the sand

MAP OF THE
DUNE REGION
AND
VICINITY



dunes. An entire day was given to the hearing, which attracted wide-spread attention.

The various significant features of the Dunes, scenic, scientific and recreational, were set forth by representatives of Chicago University, The Academy of Sciences, and various organizations such as The Geographic Society of Chicago, The Friends of Our Native Landscape, The Prairie Club, and others, including, of course, The Illinois Audubon Society. The hearing was very friendly to the project, Mr. Mather himself being thoroughly acquainted with the dune topography, and personally very much in sympathy with the preservation of the area as a public park.

To assist in the accomplishment of this end, a National Dune Park Association has been organized and articles of incorporation were taken up at Gary, Indiana, October 15th, which have been sent to the Secretary of State of Indiana. The following directors were elected to serve for one



A MOVING DUNE



A TYPICAL DUNE LANDSCAPE

year: A. F. Knotts, T. R. Cannon, Mrs. Frank Sheehan, J. O. Bowers, G. Pinneo, Gary; Dr. Stoltz, South Bend; Prof. Bennett, Valparaiso; T. W. Allinson, Dr. H. C. Cowles, D. W. Roper, Jens Jensen, E. L. Millard, C. A. Mitchell, Z. Baber, and E. M. Winston, Illinois.

Mr. O. M. Schantz represented The Illinois Audubon Society at the hearing. A portion of his address is herewith appended.

BIRDS AND THE DUNES

The Mississippi Valley each spring and autumn, is the favorite route for the migration of countless thousands of both land and water birds. Probably nowhere on the North American continent does there take place a greater movement of bird life than in the region tributary to the Dunes. Thirty years ago, when the region south and east of the City of Chicago was still a vast uncommercialized and uninhabited area, this region was a paradise for the sportsman and market hunter. Calumet Lake, Wolf Lake, the Big Calumet and the Little Calumet rivers and all the streams and ponds of the region were alive with waterfowl.

Today much of this wonderful bird life is gone never to return and where once could be seen thousands of ducks, geese and other waterfowl, small flocks of game birds are a novel sight. While the larger land birds have never been in as great numbers as the water birds they were once very plentiful in the Dune region and its outskirts. Ruffed grouse, quail and prairie chicken have been driven out by the ruthless hunter.

Nature has been very kind to the Dunes in providing a peculiarly favorable climate for the propagation of both plant and bird life. The temperatures are never extreme either summer or winter, and except on the exposed lake beach the winds are also moderate.

The abundance of fruit-bearing plants in the Dunes makes them particularly attractive to the thousands of the smaller migratory birds that are so important a factor in the destruction of injurious insects. The Depart-

ment of Agriculture at Washington, and those of the great states of Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan, are continually issuing bulletins urging bird conservation, and are instructing farmers and fruit growers as to the incalculable value of our native birds, as checks on injurious insects and weeds. In connection with this education the creation of bird havens is urged wherever possible, to be made as attractive and safe as necessary for the re-establishment of many of our fast disappearing birds.

The present game laws in Indiana, Michigan and Illinois are no doubt broad enough to protect the birds, if enforced. The enforcement of game laws in many communities is, however, a dead letter, and the selling of hunting licenses a very profitable and jealously guarded part of political patronage. The creation of a forest preserve under Federal supervision, automatically prohibits shooting in the territory set aside, and the Illinois Audubon Society realizes that the creation of a National Forest Reserve in the Dunes, would go farther to protect and conserve bird life at the head of Lake Michigan, than all the legislation enacted by the individual states for that purpose.

It has been demonstrated that in a remarkably short time, wild life recognizes protection. The establishment of a Forest Reserve in the Dunes would unquestionably restore much of the bird life that under present conditions is falling an easy prey to the lawless shooter with his pump gun and other destroying devices.

The list of birds regularly visiting the area comprising the Dunes and the adjacent regions, is a very large one, well over 300 varieties, and the list is often swelled by wandering visitors who are attracted by the wonderful food supply, and the favorable climatic conditions.

While there have been set aside vast bird havens in the south and west and on the Atlantic seaboard, for the protection of our larger waterfowl, there is no large area in the middle west or Mississippi Valley, where the marvelous throng of land birds whose annual migrations are among the most wonderful phenomena of nature, can find secure resting and feeding places while passing through our region.



THE BEACH AT THE DUNES

Bird study is fast becoming a recognized and important part of the nature study in our primary and advanced education. Adults are becoming more and more interested in bird study as a recreation. Constantly increasing demands are being made for illustrated lectures on birds and their economic value.

At the head of Lake Michigan, where has grown up one of the greatest centers of population in the world, destined to become the greatest factor in the industrial life of the middle west, here at almost the center of population of the United States, are we not entitled to this breathing spot and out-of-door school of nature for the children and adults of the future, a school in which can be studied the botany, geology, ornithology and the history of this great region whose physical beginnings are inseparably linked with the glacial period of America, and whose history goes back to the time of La Salle, Marquette and Joliet?

Give to us and the birds, the Sand Dunes of Indiana as a place of peace, rest, recreation and national protection, where we may go to enjoy the things that are the inherent right of both the wild life and the human population. Where we can be invigorated by the clean north wind sweeping down across over 300 miles of Lake Michigan and where we may watch the sun rise and set without a veil of dust and smoke to hide its glory.



THE SURF ON THE DUNE SHORE

Refuge

(The Bird Sanctuary at Cornish, N. H.)

Every wild wing of the hunted, the harried,
Every fleet foot of the stalked, the pursued,
Every bright eye of the fearful, the followed,
Solace may find in this blithe solitude.
Here the wings fold by the peace of the water,
Here the feet pause in the woodland's deep calm,
Here the eye rests; for the woods and the waters,
Friendly and welcoming, offer their balm.

Where the trees dip to the wide placid water,
Where the reeds bend to the stately slow tide,
Where the moon rises o'er leagues of dim woodland,
Glimmering greenly—here may they abide.
Hither they speed over moorland and mountain,
Wary and valiant, far-sighted and brave;
Hither they come at the call of compassion,
Here may they rest in the wood, on the wave.

Beautiful wings of the air and the river,
Wonderful eyes of the forest and glade,
Marvelous voices a-tune with the dawn-wind,
Welcome, ah, welcome, to sun and to shade!
Here you may have the desired, the cherished—
Only the longing in freedom to live—
Here in this happy place stayed is the hand of man,
Opened the heart of man—refuge to give!

—ARCHIBALD RUTLEDGE in the *Outlook*.

Sportsmen, Congressmen, Audubonites and Others

In the story of the recent campaign in Congress, given elsewhere in this Bulletin, a list of sportsmen's organizations in Illinois opposed to the enforcement of the regulations of The United States Biological Survey appears. From a memorial spread on the records of the United States Senate, it seems that there is an Illinois Sportsmen's League and an Illinois Sportsmen and Game Protective League, and that there are Sportsmen's Leagues for Madison, Marion, St. Clair, Greene, and Cass and Schuyler counties of Illinois. These various organizations have a weekly publication known as The Illinois Sportsman of which H. C. Norcross of Carlyle is editor and publisher. The editorials in this paper are temperate in tone and with the editor's conviction that the sportsmen he represents have a just grievance this paper and its influence will have to be reckoned with in the near future.

"THE ROUND-UP."

The Illinois Sportsman is agitating a "round-up" of sportsmen from all parts of Illinois to take place at Springfield early in January. This is for the purpose of effecting an organization and mapping out a program to urge upon the attention of the legislature in the present session. Editor Norcross contends that "the several state bodies, many county leagues and associations, and hundreds of clubs, ranging in membership from five to one hundred or more, all interested in either hunting or fishing," should send delegates to Springfield to form a compact organization, the members of which should, after due consideration, frame a bill embodying its particular demands. With an organization of that kind behind it, he believes that this bill would go thru the general assembly without a single solitary change. He makes the point that in framing a measure "everything possible must be done along the line of conservation of our wild life," while at the same time no effort must be spared "to try to give the sportsmen a square deal."

Audubonites will naturally be interested in the "round-up" at Springfield, for it cannot but be a matter of concern to them what the interests and activities of Illinois sportsmen are. They may well consider also the conditions that make such a "round-up" possible—the existence of many active associations all over the state. If The Illinois Audubon Society should call for a similar "round-up" of Audubonites, where are the "many active associations" upon which it could call? Truly, the advantages of the aggressive program are at present with the sportsmen and the moral is plain to Audubonites. There should be organizations in every county in the state in working relations with the State Audubon Society. This society then, and its branches, should be prepared to coöperate with sportsmen's organizations whenever such organizations stand for "conservation of our wild life and the square deal to sportsmen."

THE "SQUARE DEAL."

In interpretation of what a "square deal" to sportsmen should be, the Audubon Societies may be unable to agree with the sportsmen and they

should also be prepared for such a contingency. The support Audubonites in general have given to the program of the United States Biological Survey where the enforcement of the Migratory Bird Law is concerned, and the active opposition of the sportsmen's organizations above named to this same program, do not seem to promise unanimity of effort for the future. But it still remains that some of the most important contentions of the group of sportsmen under consideration are of unquestionable value, and merit the support of Audubonites. It is true that the stand of these sportsmen in Illinois and adjoining states in securing the enactment of laws prohibiting the sale of game and limiting the "bag" of the hunter, has been wholly admirable, and has made for the conservation of bird life. They have insisted upon reserving the game for those who hunt it, and who pay license fees to maintain the game departments of the state. Before the sportsmen of Illinois and Missouri made it illegal to sell game in those states, there was considerable rivalry between commission dealers of Chicago and St. Louis as to which city was the greatest game market in the world.

The sportsmen of the middle west want federal laws restricting the activities of hunters and prohibiting the sale of game, so that in those states which have not yet enacted such laws the wholesale slaughter and shipment of game birds must cease. They claim that the marketmen of the nation congregate in the South when the game birds have arrived there for their winter sojourn, and that these marketmen, together with the wealthy class of citizens that can afford to go there for sport, can kill and ship fowl to those states which permit the importation of game, "when killed in other states," etc. One single shipment of one hundred thousand mallard ducks sent to market, is cited together with the killing of eighty thousand ducks in one single game resort during the federal season. In opposing such conditions, Audubonites and sportsmen may well make common cause. It can be only gratifying to Audubonites that there is no controversy between them and sportsmen's organizations over the principle of bird conservation and it is hoped that they can arrive at some common agreement as to the exact methods of attaining such conservation.

To promote clearness of statement it should be added that in the controversy over Spring shooting, organizations of sportsmen of northern Illinois worked aggressively in opposition to the various groups represented by the Illinois Sportsman. The Fish and Game League of Illinois for instance, should be mentioned in this connection as effective supporters of the program of the Biological Survey. This latter organization had an important part in the preparation of the present state law relating to the sale of game and the limiting of the "bag" of the hunter.

CONGRESSMEN AND AUDUBONITES.

Here is the place to refer to the list of seventeen congressmen from Illinois who were named as friendly to those who opposed the regulations of the Biological Survey. Knowing that one can easily get a great deal of "information that ain't true," the editor of this Bulletin wrote each of the seventeen congressmen for a statement of his position. A few replies have been received to date, which are of value. Doubtless the strenuous

campaign of the past few months accounts for the neglect of some of the congressmen to reply.

Congressman John C. McKenzie, writing from Elizabeth, Ill., declares himself as strongly in favor of protecting bird life and wild fowl and willing to support any reasonable measure at any and all times. Congressman Frank Buchanan of Chicago, makes a similar declaration and while frankly admitting that he is not as well informed on the details of the movement as he should be, offers the important suggestion that when matters of particular interest to our society are scheduled to appear before Congress, we drop a note to the members of Congress, explaining the proposition and its merits. Congressman E. E. Denison of Marion, Ill., makes a similar admission as to his lack of familiarity with the subject and explains that his vote was the result of appeals from his constituents who knew more about the subject than he did. There is the same implication that our organization has not furnished him with information as to the merits of the proposition, all of which is true. Congressman C. U. Stone of Peoria, writes a friendly letter, showing that he approved of the appropriation for the enforcement of the Migratory Bird Law, and Congressman B. M. Chipfield of Canton, expresses his resentment that he should be quoted as opposing the appropriation for the Survey. Congressman M. B. Madden of Chicago, states that he voted for the appropriation and assures us of his great interests in the conservation of bird life.

From all this, it is plain that, fortunately, some of our information "ain't so." As Congressman W. E. Williams of Pittsfield made a speech in opposition to the Survey, there is no question as to his position. The Illinois Congressmen still to be heard from as to their alleged opposition to the appropriations are: Thos. Gallagher of Chicago, T. S. Williams of Louisville, Chas. E. Fuller of Flora, L. E. Wheeler of Springfield, F. A. Britten of Chicago, J. A. Sterling of Leroy, E. J. King of Galesburg, J. D. McDermott of Chicago, W. A. Rodenberg of Chester, C. H. Tavenner of Cordova, J. G. Cannon of Danville, W. B. McKinley of Petersburg, and W. W. Wilson of Chicago.

Here is something for friends of bird conservation in the districts represented by these Congressmen to do. Let us secure from the Congressmen a statement of their position and show what is involved in the controversy. In the coming session, Congress will be asked to pass an enabling act to put into effect the provisions of the new Migratory Bird Treaty with Canada. Here will be a good chance to secure federal legislation of the kind we want to correct any inequality that has been the subject of just complaint. Our Illinois Congressmen must not be quoted again as opposing the program in which Audubonites are interested. Let us give them information so that they can vote right.

We are sending to each of the Congressmen from Illinois a copy of this Winter Bulletin, with the compliments of The Illinois Audubon Society. We invite their careful consideration of the position taken by The Illinois Audubon Society, as set forth in the preceding articles.

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN
WINTER 1916-1917

Published by the
ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
For the Conservation of Bird-Life

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LOOKING FORWARD

Looking forward, for one thing, to the Audubon Bulletin for Spring, 1917! The Spring, 1916, Bulletin came out so late that some of the readers for whom it was intended had set about their summer vacations! We had unfortunate experiences with that Bulletin and some more of the same kind with the one now in our readers' hands, but we have profited by all this and we think we can safely promise the next Bulletin on time. We are now more certain of the problems in preparing the Bulletins. We believe more help will be available and that more resources will be at hand for the coming year.

* * *

The problems? Well, one of the hardest ones is to uncover even a fraction of the lights that, so far as the Publication Committee is concerned, are hidden away under bushels. There are many good deeds done in Illinois in an Audubon way which we would like to set forth in the Bulletin, but our intelligence department is not sufficiently well equipped to catch their glow. The Bulletin itself is the supreme effort of the Illinois

Audubon Society to see how far its little candle can throw its beams, and it sometimes seems that the metaphor of the light and the bushel applies to it also. For note what follows. During the nearly twenty years of the existence of the Illinois Audubon Society, practically all of its directors' meetings have been held in Chicago. Its annual meetings have all taken place there (in recent years at the Art Institute), and the daily papers have noticed the event and given space to comment upon the open lectures. Yet it is a not infrequent occurrence that right in Chicago, the Illinois Audubon Society and some newly organized association with an almost identical program, discover each other and are mutually surprised at the other's existence! No harm is done, of course, since the field is big enough for all comers, but we should be permitted to remark that if the bushel obscures the light (of the Illinois Audubon Society) so near at hand, how dim it must appear, say, at Danville or Centralia!

More publicity, that's all, and more, *many more members!* The Bulletin must have more readers and contributors in Chicago and Danville and Centralia and at all other strategic points in Illinois. (All places in Illinois are equally strategic, if not more so). The Society must find active workers to represent various portions of the state on the Board of Directors. Not only must we secure individual memberships, but we must endeavor to enroll on our membership list every organization whose interest we can represent. This means women's clubs, conservation leagues, garden clubs, nature study clubs, boy scout organizations, campfire girls, etc. It would be fine indeed if every school had a membership and at least one wide-awake pupil to serve as our special agent and reporter.

* * *

Let us get behind every movement for state parks, bird refuges, forest preserves, etc. As pointed out elsewhere the birds

are innocent beneficiaries of every such movement. Some have objected to the original name of Audubon Society as being too limited in what it implies. Very well, let us make it imply conservation leagues, out-door leagues, leagues for the conservation of wild life, etc. The birds will share in all the benefits and find their way into the foremost affections of the lovers of wild life and of forest solitudes.

In this issue of the Bulletin there are reports from the Conservation Committee of the Federation of Women's Clubs, from the Conservation Council of Cook County, The Cook County Forest Preserves, and the Association for the Preservation of the Indiana Dunes. It is proposed to publish reports of a similar nature in every issue. In the Conservation Council referred to, there has been frequent expression of a desire to have a publication to represent the interests of the various organizations thus associated. The Illinois Audubon Society invites the Council to use the columns of the Bulletin and it extends this invitation to all organizations of Illinois having similar aims.

* * *

A survey of our State showing its scenic assets should be under way. If a group of discriminating nature lovers in each county would undertake the local survey, the combined reports would make valuable and very interesting reading. For note the significance of all this when the state law permitting counties to organize forest preserve districts is brought to mind. A bond issue of one-tenth of one per cent of the assessed valuation is authorized and a maintenance tax provided for. Cook County is the first county to avail itself of this privilege and a report elsewhere in this Bulletin shows the beginning of an expenditure of \$12,000,000 for forest preserves in that county alone! Lake County will vote in April on the question of issuing bonds to the extent of \$150,000 to begin the purchase

of forest lands in the Skokie Valley, a portion of the "Waukegan Flats," the Grass Lake area with its lotus beds, etc. With similar action of this kind McLean County might possibly make a forest preserve of Funk's Woods; Carroll County might possess itself of the towering bluffs north of Savanna and of the forested valley near Mount Carroll; Jo Daviess County might preserve some of its fine scenery including Charles' Mound, the highest spot in this state. Ogle County might purchase the famous white pine forest near Stratford and the beautiful open canyon of Pine Creek, and Joliet and Will County might own Higginbotham's Woods and the valley of Hickory Creek, etc., etc.

* * *

Mr. Theodore Jessup in a paper read before the Chicago Literary Club, April 10, 1916, calls attention to the specific instances just given and then shows how through county action the great highways of the state might in many instances pass through continuous county parks. He says, for instance: "If we begin with the Fox River in Lake County and follow it in its windings in McHenry, Kane and Kendall to its mouth at Ottawa in LaSalle County, we find the roads follow the stream. Sometimes they are only a few feet away and at others a quarter of a mile distant. Often the roads are twenty to fifty feet above the stream. The space between the roads and the river was originally forested and some surviving or second-growth trees still mark every mile of the hundred and fifty included. A county park scheme would permit utilizing this river bank. Under a forester's care it would soon come back to true forest conditions. State roads are now under way; and soon we would have without excessive taxation a boulevard at small cost, beautiful every mile of the way. The same principle could be applied from Ottawa all down the Illinois Valley to St. Louis. Almost identical conditions exist in the

Rock River Valley, along the Kankakee, the Sangamon, the Vermilion, and many other streams.

It would transform the state highways from places one wanted to get over as quickly as possible into one long succession of delightful views, and make lingering and slow motoring a thing to be desired."

* * *

Our readers are invited to report for the Spring Bulletin the significant areas in their respective counties that might well be preserved and what funds the authorized levy would make available for that purpose. There might also be reports of areas that could at least be set aside for bird refuges. Perhaps some one can write us about the very interesting Ozark region of southern Illinois. Who can furnish detailed information as to the government "zone" through which the Illinois and Mississippi Canal runs? This canal connecting the Illinois River with the Mississippi is 75 miles long and has a feeder 29 miles long. It would seem possible to make this zone a bird refuge. This would be a fine achievement for Audubonites living along the canal zone.

* * *

The legislature is now in session. The State Park Commission may at this time ask for the purchase of additional park areas. This Commission now controls 855 acres in the Starved Rock Park and ten acres at Fort Chartres in Randolph County. It has urged past legislatures to purchase the Cahokia Mound area and also the white pine forest in Ogle County. It may renew its request and recommend additional areas. As soon as its program is announced the members of the Illinois Audubon Society will be invited to back up that program by individual work with our legislators. A bill appropriating \$30,000 for the purchase of the white

pine forest in Ogle County passed both houses of the legislature in 1903, but Governor Yates' veto killed it. Governor Dunne's express statement that he would veto any bill for the purchase of this tract has prevented any action during the past four years. Our new governor has been conspicuous for his interest in the preservation of places of scenic beauty in the Rock River country where his Sinnissippi farm is located. We can be sure that Governor Lowden will give a sympathetic hearing to any well-considered plan for conserving the scenic assets of our state.

* * *

Another March bird-census is promised for our coming Spring Bulletin. Suppose our contributors report for the period between March 1 and March 15. Last year's list was very interesting and will prove of value for use during the corresponding period this year. For the Bulletin we also wish reports from all over Illinois of the results of field observations during these winter months. Especially welcome will be reports upon success in winter feeding and attracting of birds. Our readers are invited to send in criticisms of the bird list printed in the Spring, 1916, Bulletin. This was a copy of one our Society has been distributing as a separate print. Two hundred and sixty-four different species are therein listed with no effort to separate the more common from the rare. Possibly our readers will wish to add other names to the list. As this list is now arranged it is somewhat technical and not easy to consult. Possibly a new list can be prepared with the 100 commoner birds of the state named first and the remaining species arranged as comparatively rare or limited in range, etc. Our readers are invited to suggest ways to make this list more helpful.

* * *

Boy Scouts as Conservationists

The rapid growth of the boy scout movement in the State of Illinois is worth considering in its relation to the conservation of wild life. Almost any intelligent boy is easily persuaded as to right and wrong of the destruction of life, and can be enlisted with very little effort as a guardian instead of a destroyer. That is what the teachings of the leaders in this movement seem to accomplish.

In the sixth annual report of the boy scouts of America, a comparative statement is given of merit badges issued. The interest in bird study is shown by the following figures: Badges given for bird study: 1911, 0; 1912, 2; 1913, 4; 1914, 36; 1915, 162.

In another part of the report is a picture of two hundred or more bird houses, under the heading, "Scouts become Practical Wild Life Protectors." The last edition of "The Scouts' Hand-book for Boys," devotes eight pages to bird identification, protection, photography, and the feeding of wild birds, written by a member of The National Association of Audubon Societies. To this is also added a strong plea for bird protection, by W. T. Hornady, the famous naturalist.

The boy scout movement is receiving the substantial support of thinking men and in Chicago and its environs, there are more than five thousand scouts. The membership in the state is about fourteen thousand, and is increasing rapidly. Each of these bright, intelligent boys has an influence over other boys which should result in a wide-spread interest in bird protection.



Prize Contest for Junior Clubs

In the hope of inspiring Junior Clubs with zeal for extra effort, the Illinois Audubon Society, in 1916, again offered valuable prizes for the best work of such clubs and met with much better response than the year previous,—though still disappointing as a representative State Contest.

In reviewing the matter it is interesting to note that the clubs entering the contest varied in size from seventy to seventeen members and that the age of the individuals in the various clubs ranged from pupils of second grade to those in Grammar School.

One club represented a large city school in the heart of a foreign district. Another came from an exclusive private school in a cultured and wealthy suburb,—while a third contrast is provided by a club consisting of an entire Country School of pupils of all ages.

Each one of the competing clubs sent in something interesting and worth while.

One leader from Streator reported a wigwam constructed for a feeding station in winter by her Juniors and set up by permission of the authorities in a public park. Another club which failed of a prize sent in such excellent individual lists of birds identified that they deserve special mention. These boys and girls live in St. Charles and had lists varying from fifty-two to eighty-five. The leader of the Junior Audubon in Hinsdale, where they won a first prize last year, submitted a fine migration list as usual and she said that she had never had such early reports of so many species identified from so many individuals as in 1916.

After most careful consideration of all reports and work submitted, the committee decided that the first prize consisting of ten pairs of Bird-glasses would have to be divided between the Roycemore School Club of Evanston, Miss Julia Henry leader and the Junior Audubon Club of the Gary School, Chicago, Miss Lillian Wiggins leader. The work of both of these schools was so excellent and along such entirely different lines, that it seemed necessary to honor them equally.

In the award of the second prize the committee met with a similar condition. Two clubs seemed equally deserving. This difficulty was met, however, by the generous offer of the original donor to duplicate the second prize, which consists of ten dollars' worth of Bird books. These two prizes will go to the Junior Audubon Club of Peoria, Miss Mildred Foster leader, and the Buffalo Prairie Audubon Club, Mr. W. C. Harris leader.

The club from Buffalo Prairie submitted an excellent general report but failed to supplement it with written work of any kind. One very good idea of the leader there is to have the members of his Junior Club study the relation of insects to bird life. They have a case of mounted insects specimens for reference.

The Peoria Club is a very large one and in their report showed good general work both in study and practical efforts. They also gave an especially gratifying report of their work as "Bird-Police." Peoria should become a bird refuge if these boys and girls continue their efforts.

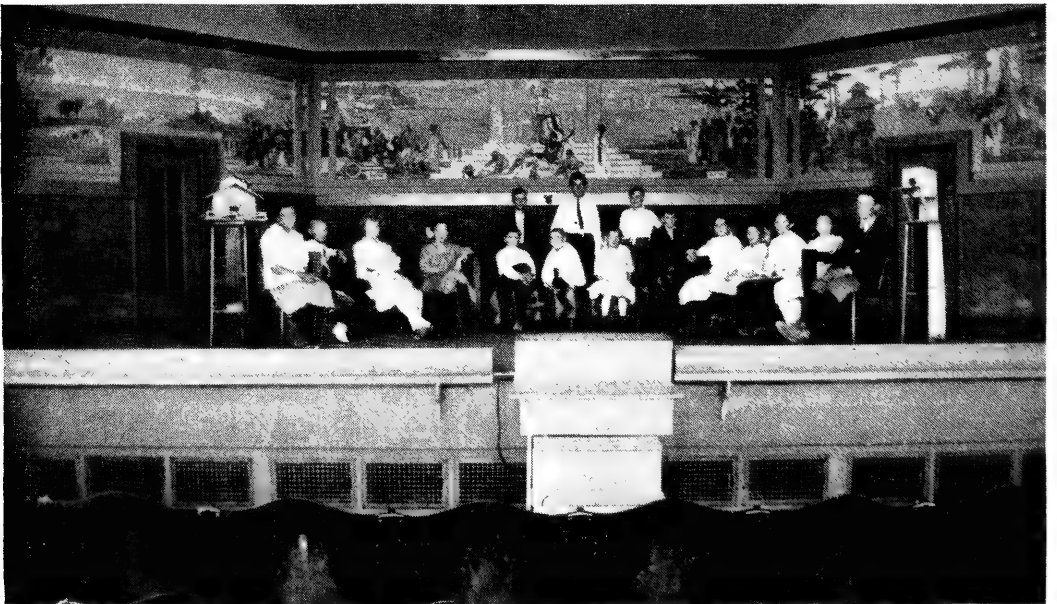
The bird identification record of the Roycemore School is so unusually good as to make city bird lovers envious. These lads and lasses had the



EXHIBIT OF THE GARY SCHOOL JUNIOR AUDUBON CLUB

advantage of suburban surroundings with woods and hills and swamp not far away. They took advantage of their opportunities and compiled such a migration record that they stood highest in this particular. This club also sent in the best specimens of literary effort yet received.

The Gary School Club of Chicago, which won the second prize in the previous contest, made another big effort this time and as a result tied for the first prize. The work of this club is remarkable considering their handicap of situation, the school being located in a densely populated foreign district of Chicago. Their migration record is somewhat meagre compared to those from more favored localities, but it is good considering.



SCENE FROM PLAY BY GARY SCHOOL JUNIOR AUDUBON CLUB

their surroundings. This club again submitted a play about the value of birds, more ambitious in form and idea than the previous one and very good too. Photographs were also taken of the play this time and inserted in their record book. There were also some attempts at outdoor photography of birds presented. They made a scrap book consisting of clippings from all sorts of papers and magazines, of bird articles or poems or current news, which showed that the members of the club are alert to everything of interest concerning birds that comes within reach. Another thing worthy of mention is the fact that this club sent its report bound into attractive book form with an effective cover design. Perhaps most noteworthy of all is their modest report of missionary efforts on their part, not only with individuals but in helping to form bird clubs in other schools.

Honor is due to all the clubs that competed for the prizes. Their reports show good work and prove most interesting. But the committee regrets to announce that the interest created by the offer of the prizes has not been sufficiently widespread to justify the expenditure in this direction again, and it has been decided to discontinue the prizes.

BERTHA TRAER PATTEE, Secretary.

Juvenilia

Among the material submitted in the Prize Contest by the Roycemore School Club, were the following compositions which seem worthy of reproduction here. Too long to print was a story "The Oriole" by Margaret Kelley (age 8 years), remarkable for its imaginative quality and its composition.

The Yellow Warbler's Nest.

PAULINE D. RUDOLPH. (Age 11 Years)

On June 14, my brother brought home a yellow warbler nest with a cowbird's egg in it and a yellow warbler's. He brought it home because the birds had gone away from it and the eggs were cold. He was going to put it in his egg collection. In doing so he squeezed it a little bit and he heard something crack. He took the nest apart and found a layer of cowbirds eggs and yellow warbler eggs. Then another layer of cowbird's eggs and yellow warbler eggs and then the bottom and that had some cowbird's eggs and yellow warbler eggs.

The statements in this account are confirmed by Mrs. Franklin Rudolph who saw the nest with four layers of eggs.

JULIA HENRY.

In the Evening

By BETTY SARGENT. (Age 9 Years)

At night the birds sing softly,
To lull their babies to sleep,
And in their nests so lofty
They sing, "Peep, peep, peep."

The bluebird sings a lullaby
Of flowers gay and bright,
The Robin in her nest so high
Sings, "Sleep, it is now night."

Each bird has a lullaby,
And if you'll listen you'll see
That birds whether low or high,
Sing, "Chee, chee, chee."

The Canoe as an Aid to Bird Study

I wonder how many of the rank and file of Nature lovers realize what a valuable aid to bird study the canoe is?

In addition to its own peculiar charm to the lover of the out of doors, it has as many or more advantages over other water craft as a saddle horse has over other land conveyances. Like the horse it will go easily to places where others of its own field would not even be considered. One would not be able to employ the heavy skiff or power boat to explore shallow, winding creeks or river bottoms (where a light portable boat is needed to get around fallen timbers and through short stretches of woodland to nearby sloughs) any more than one would use an automobile, wagon or bicycle to reach the summit of a steep hill in a broken and trackless wilderness.

Any student of bird life knows that in just such places as those mentioned above, are to be found the greatest number of our birds. A strong, active man, who is not afraid of a little physical exertion, can, alone and unaided, explore, with a canoe, every slough, bayou and creek in a certain strip of river bottoms, where it would require at least two men and a team of horses to portage a row boat, and a power boat would be useless.

To get a great deal out of one's canoe, however, it is not necessary to do any portaging to otherwise inaccessible places. It is especially easy on small streams to glide along close to the willows, and observe the birds along the edge, almost before they are aware of your presence and on open water the birds may be approached very closely before they take alarm, if care is exercised in paddling. If one wishes an observation blind, the boat may be easily covered with suitable vegetation (where it would be impossible to build a shore blind) thus giving new opportunities for observation. Another great convenience is: one can carry along as much, or as little, as he wishes to add to his comfort or efficiency as a Naturalist. The real canoeist has solved the problem of being more comfortable on the least amount of comforts than any of the outdoor people unless it is the fellow who carries all his camping supplies on his back when he takes to the wilderness. The bird student may thus carry with him only his day's supplies and necessities, or he may go out for a few days, or a month, camp near his chosen territory, and with his canoe, camera and note book, explore every bit of river, swamp and woodland within a wide radius of his base of supplies. In the spring, when the rains swell the rivers until they flood the adjacent woodlands, marshes and meadows, one may float on the flood among the trees where the ducks are feeding, through the thickets where the chickadees and the tree sparrows are singing, as silently as our dear neighbor's cat stalks the robin whose nest is just outside our bed-room window. A canoe will also carry a rifle very conveniently, and will approach just as noiselessly, the cat with a taste for birds as it will the birds themselves. I have found that a rifle shot when used to the best advantage, will frighten a bird away from an impending cat without the cat ever knowing anything about it.

I doubt if there is a more slandered object in America than the canoe. There is a large class of people who would like to read a funeral service



over everyone entering a canoe, for they never expect to see his body again. Even a fool in a canoe has a better chance of returning than a wise man in an automobile, for the one in the boat has only himself to look after while the one in the auto is as much in danger from his fellow autoist as from his own action. What is a fool in a canoe? Primarily, he is the same fool who goes out in a small boat of any kind, on deep or dangerous waters, alone, without first learning to swim. If he cannot swim, he is as safe in a canoe as in an auto. I have been an active canoeist for eleven years and have had to swim for self-preservation but three times. Two of these times I was sailing my canoe in half a gale, the other time was in a wind storm where even an expert should have stayed ashore.

On September 2, 3 and 4, while taking a trip from Pecatonica to Rockford, Ill., on the Pecatonica and Rock rivers, I observed without the use of a glass, while passing by without stopping to study them, the following: Black Tern, two species of Ducks, three species of Herons, species of Sandpipers, Killdeer, Mourning Dove, two species of Hawks, Screech Owl, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Kingfisher, four species of Woodpeckers, Night Hawk, Chimney Swift, Kingbird, Phoebe, Blue Jay, Crow, Baltimore Oriole, Bronzed Grackle, Goldfinch, Chipping Sparrow, Cedar Waxwing, Grinnell's Waterthrush, American Redstart, Catbird, White-breasted Nuthatch, Chickadee and Robin. A good share of the time the weather was dubious and we were so pressed for time, that I could not stop to observe and identify them as I would have liked to do. With a glass and a little spare time I could have swelled this list to fifty or sixty as there were many warblers and other small birds that could not be classified under existing conditions.

J. C. VAN DUZER.

The Western Meadowlark at Rockford

The western meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*) up to a few years ago was entirely unknown in the region around Rockford. A few bird lovers, who had seen this bird in their travels, recognized it by its notes here two or three years ago and it became almost a point of honor to travel north of town to hear this very desirable songster. When silent, it still remained a difficult matter to distinguish between the local meadowlark and the newcomer, and even now few of us care to make definite identification without the telltale song.

One, who speaks with authority and enjoys the third decade of life, however, avers that the western meadowlark was a familiar summer resident around Roscoe, also on Rock River and twelve miles north of Rockford. This meadowlark was known there for many years and predominated over *Sturnella Magna Magna*. However, the newcomer in these parts had made a deep impression and found favor with local bird lovers and many returned from their field trips with data, establishing this bird in new fields.

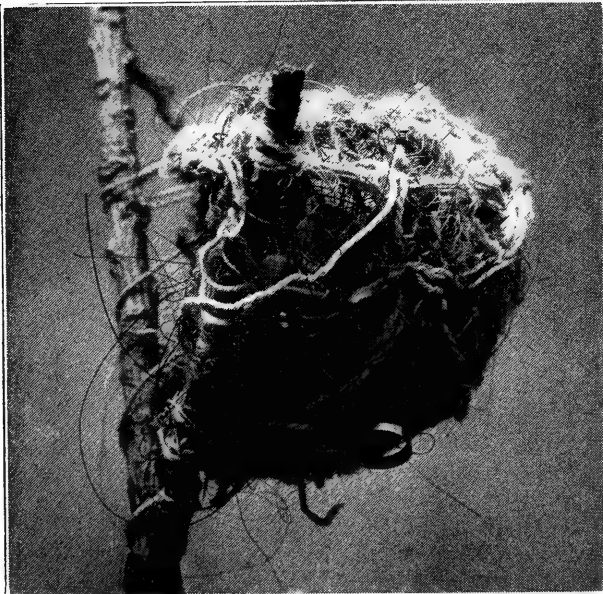
The first authentic nesting site was found just north of Love's Park, on Rock River, and three miles north of the city limits of Rockford, and later on at the Country Club, and one mile north of our city. The notes of the western meadowlark were next heard just south of the city limits. This spring resident birds were located in all of these places, also one mile due east of the city, one-half mile south of the city limits, four miles southwest of the city on the west side of Rock River and a little later on several birds were heard during the nesting season twenty-two miles southwest of Rockford.

Thus it can be seen that this species is spreading rapidly. The extremely wet season unquestionably has checked the spread to a certain extent. Last year the notes of the western meadowlark were heard November 7 and a personal impression prevails that this species has a long season of song.

North of the city it is a common occurrence to see two meadowlarks sitting on neighboring fence posts, one singing the old familiar song, which is immediately entirely drowned out by the explosive and resonant notes of its western relative.

PAUL B. RIIS,

President Nature Study Society of Rockford.



Oriole's Nest and Baby's Ring.

Photo by W. B. Howe.

The baby's ring was found by a Baltimore oriole, probably on a sidewalk where it had been dropped out of the baby's cab. The bird was attracted by the string attached to the ring. This had been tied about the baby's wrist to hold the ring in place but had become unfastened, and the ring had dropped off. The oriole picked up the string and wove it securely into the side of the nest, allowing the ring to swing free. After the birds left the nest the nest was removed from the tree to be preserved as a curiosity.

Unusual Birds Along the Mississippi River Near Quincy

For a number of years I have been keeping a record of birds which visit this vicinity and my efforts have been rewarded and my interest increased by the occasional appearance of some arctic, tropical or western visitor which seldom is or which never before has been reported.

Probably the most unusual northern bird recorded in this vicinity was the Labrador Duck. A number of years ago, when ducks were hunted for and sold openly in the market, a collector from the Smithsonian Institute happened in a duck shop and found a rarity—a Labrador Duck hanging, ready to be sold.

"Got any more like this one?" anxiously inquired the collector.

"Had three but just sold two beauties to a couple of fishermen who live in a shanty-boat down two miles on the point," was his reply.

The collector rented a launch which rapidly chugged its way to the fishermen's shack. In he rushed to find the latter standing before a stove frying two carcasses which had been the much desired specimens.

"Are those the ducks you just bought up town?" inquired the Smithsonian man.

"Yep," was the reply.

"Well, I'm sorry, for you are eating up \$1,000 worth of ducks which Uncle Sam wants, but I can't pay you unless the carcasses have feathers on. Good day."

From the far Southland appeared the Roseate Spoonbill which was first reported by Mr. Otho Poling of Quincy. This bird appeared about eight years ago after a number of days of continual strong south wind. It was seen by a number of local sportsmen but never has it reappeared. No doubt the continual south wind forced it this far north.

From the westland we have recorded the Oregon Junco, and White-headed Woodpecker, Harris Sparrow, and one fall the beautiful Western Grebe was much more numerous than our common "Hell Diver," or Pied-billed Grebe.

Another unusual guest appeared last week. I was in the densest of our lowland oak woods when far away—nearly a mile—I heard the tattoo of some large woodpecker upon a particularly resonant hollow limb. My companion remarked that if he were near town he would think it a trip hammer.

I had an idea of what it was, for hunters had told me of a huge woodpecker up in the islands the previous winter. After the big noise occurred, dozens of smaller members of that family would nearly bounce their little heads off trying to rival the noise made by the larger bird. Naturally these conditions appealed to me as a bird lover—and imagine my added delight upon coming near a huge oak tree to discover a beautiful Northern Pileated Woodpecker, a huge bird which would have measured from my elbow to my finger tips, perched on a limb, high in the tree and as I approached, he beat a challenging tattoo, his red-crested head bouncing back and forth like a trip hammer for sure. He was the first I had ever seen and the first to be reported in Illinois, I believe, in a number of years.

Other birds come here as irregular migrants such as: the Bohemian

Waxwing, Evening Grosbeak, and many rare Warblers, so the student along the Mississippi River may at all seasons expect unusual migrants if he will but watch for them.

T. E. MUSSELMAN.

From the Wilson Bulletin

In the Wilson Bulletin for December, 1916, there are some interesting notes on the fall migrations of 1916 in the Chicago area by Jas. D. Watson and Edmund Huesberg, from which the following excerpts are taken.

There are several birds which are on a decided increase in this region, these being the Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Wren, and Cardinal. The Titmice were first noted in any great numbers during the winter of 1915-16, and since then have been seen very often. On August 14, 1916, eight of these birds were observed at Riverside, two or three from all appearances being young birds. This leads to the conclusion that they may have nested in the vicinity.

The Carolina Wren, although it has been of regular occurrence in the past, did not become common until August of this year. Since then we have noted it in many different localities, chiefly on account of its being in full song. The Cardinal has been very common this year and is undoubtedly increasing in the Chicago area. These three birds are clearly extending their range northward.

Among the strictly migrants, the Red-breasted Nuthatch, Myrtle Warbler, and Rusty Blackbird have been more abundant than usual this fall.

On September 1st the American Crossbills appeared and have been numerous since that time. On October 21 the Redpolls put in an appearance, which is unusually early. Last Saturday, November 4, a flock of ten were watched for a long time at Riverside. They were exceedingly tame. White-throated Sparrows have been entirely absent this fall.

The Bachman Sparrow and Lark Sparrow were both found to be breeding here this last summer (1916).



Shrike's Nest.

Photo by W. B. Howe.

This is typical of the nests the loggerhead builds in thickets along country roads. The one shown was built in a bit of osage-orange hedge and the usual lining of white chicken feathers can be seen in the picture. On account of such prickly locations few photographers have tried to picture the interior of the nest of this species.

Concerning the State Game and Fish Commission

An article in the Spring Bulletin on the enforcement of the bird protection laws in Illinois has called forth a friendly protest from the State Game and Fish Commission and a statement of the attitude of the Commission toward the work of the protection of the non-game birds which should encourage all interested in Audubon work. In its statement the assertion is made that no other agency has done so much for the non-game and insectivorous birds of Illinois as has this Commission, and it cites as evidence of this, its inauguration of the plan of creating refuges for non-game, as well as game birds. It therefore protests against the impression given in the article mentioned that the Commission is not doing as much for the non-game birds of the state as it might do or should do. That that criticism was implied in the article must be admitted, but it was explained in that connection that such a state of affairs was due to the lack of energetic interest shown by Audubonites in the passage and administration of bird protection laws, one criticism thus offsetting the other.

It is evident from the statement of the Commission that it is unwilling that its activity in looking after the protection of non-game birds should be gauged by its published reports which contain but slight reference to that work. This is a matter entirely within the hands of the Commission, but since Audubonites as well as sportsmen are reading its reports and looking therein for matter of particular interest to them, it would seem well for the Commission to give publicity to the wider activities which have in view the protection of all the feathered wards of the state. Anyway, the protest of the present Commission against implied criticism of lack of interest in the welfare of song birds is encouraging. It indicates that the song and insectivorous birds, as well as the game birds, have friends at court.

With reference to the claim of the Commission of having advanced constructive measures, it should be said that the Commission should be given credit for the bird sanctuary provision in the law which went into effect June, 1915. This law places Illinois in the front rank with such states as Pennsylvania, and Minnesota and two or three others which have passed legislation of this sort.

The measure referred to confers upon the Commission, power and authority to establish bird and game reservations or refuges in any county in the state where it shall be deemed necessary for protection and propagation of game and as a refuge or sanctuary for song and insectivorous birds, the land for such reservations to be leased at a nominal rental of one dollar per year for each parcel. On such reservations the commission may have planted any suitable grain for bird and game food, not to exceed five acres for each one thousand acre reservation, and may pay a rental usual and customary for similar lands in the vicinity. It will thus be seen that The Game and Fish Commission of Illinois has performed an important service for the song and insectivorous birds, as well as the game birds of Illinois. As yet only a few such reservations have been established. It has been necessary to move slowly in order to get a useful body of experience in such work, but it is believed that these reservations will be found practical for both game and non-game birds and that a further development of the

project will be simple. The reservations established nearest Chicago include one of one thousand acres in Cook County between Oak Park and Harvey, one in Lake County near Round Lake, and one each in Will and Kankakee Counties.

The actual results already accomplished by the Commission are, according to the commissioners themselves, really insignificant when compared with the worth of the foundation laid for future activities. If the plan of conservation already initiated shall be locally developed, Illinois will have in time, an effective and economic system for the protection of non-game birds.

As the Commission points out, this bird reservation plan is peculiar in its radical departure from other plans of bird reservations. Instead of having a few large and expensive reservations, the plan contemplates a reservation in each county. It is found to be a simpler matter to establish these state bird reservations than might be supposed. Farm owners find it of value to have the state post their land, and place it under the surveillance of game wardens. Much as the farmer may want to keep people off his land, he is slow to risk a quarrel with his neighbors who like to wander about with a gun, but when his land is leased to the state, he can truthfully say that the matter is entirely out of his hands.

The State Game and Fish Commission regards these state sanctuaries as great opportunities for Audubonites. It calls attention to the fact that a local organization in each county of the state where there are reservations could promote the propagation of birds in that county. This work might be enlarged to take in the forest preserves of the state. Officials in charge of such county forest preserves as have been established could no doubt be encouraged to plant suitable trees and shrubs that furnish food for the birds. They would most likely encourage the putting up of bird houses in such reservations. All this work of providing food and assistance in propagation would require the expenditure of considerable energy but of very little money. It is largely a matter, according to the Commission, of good organization. County organizations could be federated into a state organization and the work carried on in a systematic manner at a comparatively small cost. Moreover such an organization could influence further desirable legislation.

The suggestion of the Commission as to organization and federation among Audubon Societies is timely. Organization and federation are just what this Bulletin advocates. That is why it exists. The members of the Commission can be sure, on the other hand, of the friendly interest of the Bulletin and its readers in all their activities. Audubonites will welcome further suggestions from the Commission.

News From the Field

ALTON: The Alton Bird Club, one of the three largest organizations of this kind in the state, affiliated with the Illinois Audubon Society, has been responsible recently for an active campaign for bird interest in the public schools of Alton.

A lecturer was engaged for a week to arouse interest in the subject and talks were given in every school. As a result many Junior Audubon Clubs have been formed, and a large number of members enrolled. Memberships in the Illinois Audubon Society were presented to sixteen principals of the local schools by the Bird Club.

This was an unusual piece of constructive work, generously and wisely done, which ought to spread information and promote interest in a rapid and systematic manner. The directors of the Alton Bird Club are evidently a progressive and wide awake group of people. Miss Eunice C. Smith is one of the most devoted supporters of the movement.

CHARLESTON: The forty boys that belong to Troop I, of the Charleston boy scouts under scoutmaster, Clarence Huffman, in their frequent hikes, have learned to know many of the birds. Last June they took a one hundred and forty mile trip in boats down the Embarrass River (pronounced am-braw, gentle reader) to the mouth and then up the Wabash to Vincennes, and on the way they learned much about the life of birds along the river. Their scoutmaster expects to have an exhibition of bird-houses next spring.

A bulletin issued some years ago by the Eastern Illinois Normal School at Charleston entitled "Bird Study in the Rural School," by Professor T. L. Hankinson, has gone through two editions and the demand for it continuing, a third edition has been authorized. Professor Hankinson has taken this opportunity to revise and enlarge the bulletin for the new issue which is now going through the press. Anyone desiring a copy of the bulletin should address the Eastern Illinois Normal School.

CHICAGO: An organization calling itself "The Chicago Bird Conservation League," with its activities centering about Rogers Park, numbers among its members some unusually enthusiastic workers and is doing efficient work. One of the Directors of the Illinois Audubon Society was on the program at one of its recent meetings in the auditorium of the Armstrong School.

The Wilson-Ornithological Club held its annual meeting at the Morrison Hotel, Chicago, on December 27 and 28, 1916. Among the Illinois members present were Prof. Frank Smith of Urbana, Prof. T. L. Hankinson of Charleston, Mr. Ruthven Deane of Chicago and Prof. R. E. Wager of De Kalb. T. C. Stephens of Sioux City, Iowa, is president of the Club. The official organ is the Wilson Bulletin, published quarterly, Prof. Lynds Jones of Oberlin, Ohio, editor.

At the Chicago meeting, Prof. Frank Smith read a paper entitled, *The Relation of Migratory Flights of Birds to Weather Conditions*. Prof. Wager gave some observations on the *Breeding Habits of the Night Heron*. Miss Charlotte Weatherill of Elgin reported on an ecology trip on the coast of Washington and Prof. Eifrig of River Forest gave a record of field observations in the Chicago area for 1916.

ROCKFORD: The Nature Study Society has published a well planned program, varied and interesting, with meetings running through the year. It is so suggestive that we venture to reprint a portion of it, believing it may be inspiring to other organizations.

January 6, Field Trip to Black Hawk Park—"Winter Birds."

January 15, 7:30 p. m., Stereopticon—"Bird Lecture." O. M. Schantz.

February 3, Field Trip to Sinnissippi Park—"Winter Buds." Agnes Brown.

February 19, 7:30 p. m.—"Indian Relics of Our Region." Frank E. Pell.

March 3, Field Trip to Keith Creek—General Interests.

March 19, 7:30 p. m.—"Origin of Birds." Paul B. Riis.

April 7, Field Trip to West Side Cemetery—"Bird Migrations."

ROCKFORD: The most noteworthy action of the Nature Study Society of Rockford this year was to form a bird club, to be known as the "Audubon Society of Rockford." This club supersedes the former bird committee, which was previously a division of the Nature Study Society. It enables bird lovers to join this Audubon Society alone but also entitles them to an associate membership in the Nature Study Society.

It is hoped to complete the organization with the advent of cold weather. This Audubon Society contemplates to finish the migration data now under preparation and also add the nesting dates for this region. Further, they hope to open an educational campaign among the school children to protect birds and build bird boxes. The Society also expects to get back of every move in the interest of bird life, local, state or national and support it. Individuals and corporations will be encouraged and supported in establishing bird sanctuaries. A bird exhibit will be arranged for later on, for which an adequate display room has already been engaged.

The work is to be carried on entirely along constructive lines and with a membership composed of the foremost local authorities on bird life, the success of the Society is assured. Mr. J. C. Van Duzer is chairman.

PAUL B. RIIS,

President Nature Study Society of Rockford, Ill.

ROCK ISLAND: On the program of the annual Institute for Rock Island County teachers, space was reserved for the work of the Rock Island County Bird Club. The President of the Club, Mr. Burtis H. Wilson, gave an address before the six-hundred teachers in attendance. Nearly all of the teachers are members of the Club. Its members are preparing for an active winter. They are hoping to establish many new feeding stations all over the county. This Club wired both of our Senators urging them to vote for the ratification of the bird treaty with Canada.

SOMONAUK: The pride of the countryside in this area is an almost continuous belt of woodland which extends along Somonauk Creek for a distance of fifteen miles or more. There is typical bottom-land timber with fine large trees and on the higher ground there are occasionally almost pure stands of hickory in fine, healthy condition. Some of the property owners and other interested persons are trying to work out a plan for the permanent preservation of the woodland and its formal incorporation into a bird sanctuary. Mr. O. M. Schantz, President of the Illinois Audubon Society was invited to help in arousing public interest and on Nov. 23, he addressed a large audience at Somonauk, his theme being the economic value of bird life and the preservation of forest areas.

STREATOR: A keen interest in birds, which has long existed in this community has been especially evident recently. Miss Marion Hoadley lends enthusiasm to Junior Club work in the schools, and through her enterprise a stereopticon lecture on birds was recently given in the High School, with the aid of the Society's slides.

The Parent-Teachers Club of the Plumb School, of which one of the leading spirits is Mrs. Roy Sexton, has planned an interesting and comprehensive program of Nature Study. Trees, shrubs, flowers, ferns and birds all have a special place on the program, and the enterprise should prove a most profitable one for the community. The January meeting was devoted to birds, and the large audience which assembled found much pleasure in the beautiful bird portraits thrown on the screen with the assistance of the Society's slides.

SYCAMORE: Rev. G. H. Ashworth, the enterprising pastor of the Universalist church of Sycamore, gave two Sunday evening programs to the subject of birds, using the slides furnished by the Illinois Audubon Society. He is endeavoring "to make his community better acquainted with the birds and the nature of their service to man."

VIRDEN: A feature of the very successful "institute" conducted by the Woman's Club and the Corn Clubs of Virden was a lecture on bird life and its economic importance by Mr. O. M. Schantz of Chicago. This was illustrated by lantern slides selected from the "traveling sets" owned by the Illinois Audubon Society. Virden is in the midst of a very fine farming country in "the corn belt" where Osage orange hedges and trees planted for wind breaks and for shelter about houses constitute most of the refuges for birds that haunt wooded areas.

WAUKEGAN: A lecture by Harold Baynes here early in September awakened fresh interest in organized work which has resulted in a permanent organization with Mrs. Elam Clarke as President and Mr. W. F. Lyon as Secretary-Treasurer. A Board of Directors has been named and by-laws for the club adopted. The club has set itself two special tasks, one having to do with the organization of Junior work in all the schools of Waukegan. As a "starter" a copy of Baynes' "Wild Bird Guests" has been presented to each of the schools to be used as a sort of textbook for

this work. The co-operation of the Superintendent of Schools and of each of the Principals has been promised. The other special task referred to is concerned with the incorporation into a bird sanctuary of a portion of the "Waukegan Flats" and of the wooded ridges overlooking the Flats. This is an unusually interesting beach-plain area which is bordered by low sand dunes and corrugated by sand ridges which represent bar deposits left by the ancient glacial Lake Chicago. Here is a marsh and prairie flora coming right up to a sandy area dotted with pines, all of this within easy reach of the city. The Waukegan Bird Club is fortunately situated.

WELDON: Miss Margaret Isenhour, an enthusiastic teacher of Weldon, is tireless in her efforts to encourage bird and nature study among her pupils. She has borrowed one of the traveling libraries of bird books, and one of the sets of color prints of one hundred Illinois birds from the Society. She secured a duplicate set of the color prints, which were mounted by her energetic pupils and herself, for the permanent use of her school. An Arbor and Bird Day program and exhibition was given in October, for which a small admission fee was charged. Enough money was realized to buy a new Victrola for the school, and they secured with it a number of good bird song records.

Recent Bird Literature

NEW BIRD BOOKS

- "Birds and Man," Hudson, \$2.25.
 "Birds in Their Relation to Man," Weed and Dearborn, \$2.50.
 "Study of the Structure of Feathers with Reference to Their Taxonomic Significance," Chandler, \$2.00.
 "Travels of Birds," Chapman, \$0.40.
 "Structure of the Fowl," Bradley, \$1.25.
 "Plantation Bird Legends," Martha Young, \$1.50.
 "The Bird House Man," Walter Prichard Eaton, \$1.35.
 "Chickadee-dee and His Friends," Lyle Ward Sanderson, \$1.25.
 "Little Bird Blue," W. L. Finley and I. B. Finley, \$0.75.
 "Little Gray Sparrow," E. B. Stuart, \$0.35.
 "Bird Friends," G. H. Trafton, \$2.00.
 "Year with the Birds," A. E. Ball, \$3.00.
 "Field Ornithology of Birds of Eastern North America," C. J. Maynard, \$2.15.
 "Bobby, A New York Robin," H. C. Denslow, \$0.50.
 "Bird Poems," M. A. Davis, \$1.00.
 "Bird Houses Boys Can Build," A. F. Siepert, \$0.50, Manual Arts Press.
- ARTICLES IN MAGAZINES AND JOURNALS, MAY—SEPTEMBER, 1916
- "Among the Winged Builders with a Camera," S. M. Kane. II. Country Life, 30:62, July, '16.
 "Are Our Birds Decreasing or Increasing?" Henry Oldys, Amercian Music Journal, '16.
 "Bird Day," Alabama Dept. of Game and Fish, '16.
 "Birds' Feet and Legs," Home Progress, 5:413-14, May, '16.
 "Bird Garden," F. Biehler. II. Woman's Home Companion, 43:26, May, '16.
 "Bird Neighbors; How to Study Birds," T. G. Barson. II. Country Life, 30:52, May, '16. Monthly beginning in May.
 "The Birds of North and Middle America," Ridgway.
 A—Part VII; Bulletin of U. S. National Museum, No. 50.
 "Bird Protective Laws and Their Enforcement," T. G. Pearson, American Mus. Journal, May, '16.

- "Birds to Save Countless Dollars a Year," R. H. Moulton. Il. St. N. 43:651-3, May, '16.
- "Birds' Tails" Home Prog. 5:506-7, Jan., '16.
- "Birds' Wings," Home Prog. 5:461-3, Jan., '16.
- "Birds as Travelers," F. M. Chapman. Il. St. N. 43:846-9, July, '16.
- "Bird Notes from the Chicago Area," H. L. Stoddard. Il. Auk. 33, P. 328, July, '16.
- B—"Bobolinks' Journey," E. G. Chapin, Home Prog., 5:405-6.
- "Bird Watching and Biological Science."
- "Some Observations on the Study of Courtship in Birds," J. S. Huxley, Auk. 33, P. 256, July, '16.
- C—"Changes in the A. O. U. Check List of N. A. Birds," Auk. 33, P. 425, Oct., '16, May, '16
- "The Chipping Sparrow," N. Miller, Bird Lore, May, '16.
- "Chipping Sparrow," C. J. Stanwood. Il. Country Life, 30:52, July, '16.
- "College Graduation Thesis as a Method of Bird Study," Henry J. Fry, Bird Lore, July, '16.
- "Breeding of the Prairie Horned Lark," H. Mowsley. Auk. 33, P. 281, July, '16.
- "Control of Cats in Montclair, N. J." Bird Lore, May, '16.
- "Cultivating An Acre to Birds," O. Crooker. Il. Garden, 23:328-9, July, '16.
- "A Domestic Tragedy," Julia Moesel, Bird Lore, May, '16.
- "The Domestic Cat," E. H. Forbush, Economic Biology, Bull. No. 2, Mass. State Board of Agriculture.
- "Dissemination of Virginia Creeper Seeds by English Sparrow," Bartle T. Harvey, The Plant World.
- "Economic Ornithology in Recent Entomological Publications." Auk. 33, P. 448, Oct., '16.
- "English Sparrow," Ishmael H. Whipple, Country Life, 30:122. May, '16.
- "The Glory of a Man Who Has Killed over 4,000 Hawks in His Lifetime," J. W. Jacobs. (Strong exploitation of the value of hawks.)
- "The Hermit Thrush," E. H. Crosby, Bird Lore, May, '16.
- "The Hills," C. W. Beebe, Atlan., 117:774:83, July, '16.
- "Hummingbirds' Home," F. A. Merriam, Home Prog. 5:409-11, May, '16.
- "Insect Migrations as Related to Those of Birds," H. J. Shannon, Scientific Monthly, Sept., '16.

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

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All members receive the publications of the Society.

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- "Making Birds at Home in a Museum," R. H. Moulton, *Ils. Craftsman*, 30:325-9, July '16.
- "Nesting Days," G. T. Pearson, *Country Life*, 30:52, June, '16.
- "Official List of Generic Names," *Smithson, Inst. Publ.* 2409.
- "Our Bird Architects," R. L. Honeyman, *Ils. St. N.* 43:655-6, May, '16.
- "Pete, Story of an Adopted Robin," W. H. Munson, *Bird Lore*, May, '16.
- "Publications on Bird and Game Preservation." *Auk*, 33, P. 450. Oct., '16.
- "Proposed Regulations for the Protection of Migratory Birds." *Forbush 8th Annual Report as State Ornithologist of Mass.*
- "The Redstart," F. G. Pearson, *Bird Lore*, May, '16.
- "Robins at Home," D. L. Fish, *Bird Lore*, May, '16.
- "Shakespeare as a Bird Fancier." *Ils. Lit. Digest*, 52:1632-3, June, '16.
- "Snapping the Backyard Birds," P. H. Dowling, *Bird Lore*, May, '16.
- "Snapping Baby Birds; Photographs." *Outing*, 68:243-7, June, '16.
- "Some Experiences in Attracting Birds—The Nesting of a Red-breasted Nuthatch," H. S. Shaw, Jr., *Bird Lore*, May, '16.
- "Some Stories of the Parasitic Cowbird," *Country Life*, 30:68, June, '16.
- "Some Experiments on Protective Coloration," R. T. Young, *Jour. Exper. Zool.* XX.
- "Some Tiny Eggs," W. K. Putney. *Ils. St. N.* 43:657, May, '16.
- "A Successful Bird Exhibit," F. Greenwood, *Bird Lore*, July, '16.
- "Ten Excellent Birds—Good Friends of the Farmer." *Craftsman*, 30:220-1, May, '16.
- "The Veery," T. G. Pearson, *Bird Lore*, July, '16.
- "Welcome the Thrushes, Robins and Bluebirds," *Garden Magazine*, 23:272, May, '16.
- "Wild Bird Music; Individuality of Bird Songs," H. Oldys, *Home Prog.*, 5:453-5, June, '16.
- "Word on the Nesting Habits of Nuthatches," *Home Prog.*, 5:412-13, May, '16.
- "The Years Junior Audubon Results." *Bird Lore*, July, '16.

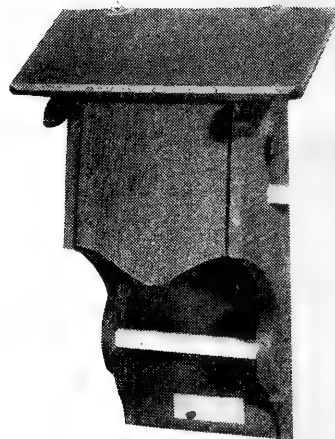
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- 2nd. To work for the betterment and enforcement of State and Federal laws relating to birds.
- 3rd. To discourage the wearing of any feathers except those of the ostrich and domestic fowls.
- 4th. To discourage, in every possible way, the wanton destruction of wild birds and their eggs.



AN INCIDENT OF SPRING

The long arranged-for rendezvous and spring-opening of the hepaticas is near when the fox-sparrow arrives for his brief dalliance, as he fares northward, and, though sparingly musical, he does not wholly conceal his elation as he scatters the leaves recklessly about. The towhee soon joins him, more vigorous still, more joyous and open hearted, with an air of proprietorship and domesticity well befitting a summer resident. The sunlight then awakens the hepatica buds and from a cluster of mottled leaves with fuzzy brown stems the blossoms, white and pink and lavender tinted, appear. It is the earliest votive offering of the woods.

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SPRING 1917

Published by the
ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
(For the protection of wild birds)

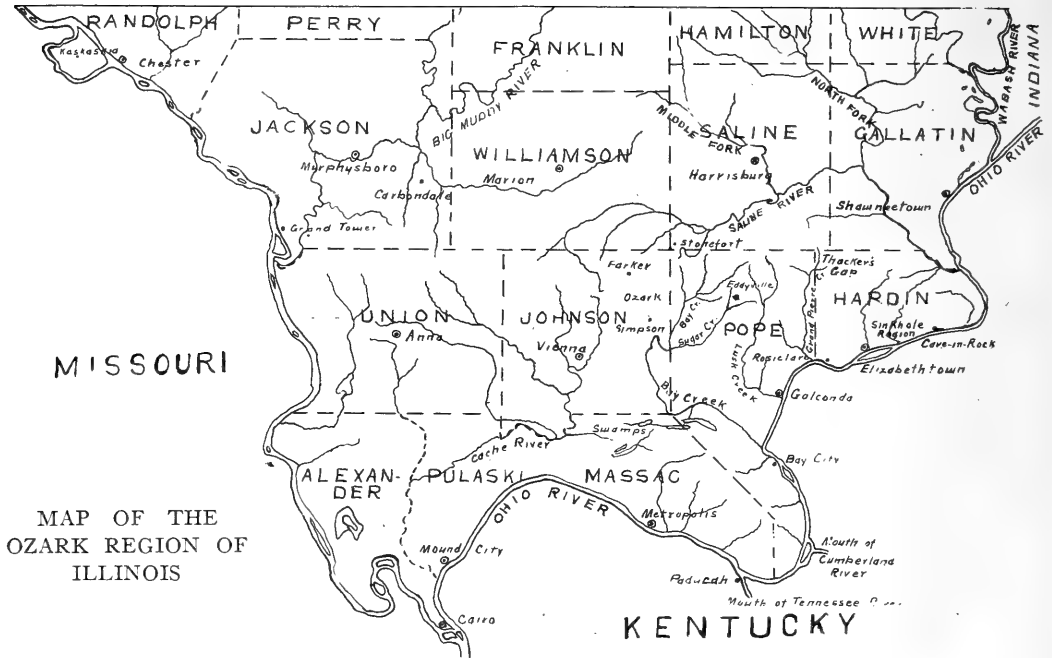
The Ozark Region of Illinois

A friend whose work has always kept him in the northern part of Illinois was condoling with me over what seemed to him my ill luck in finding employment in the extreme southern end of the State; in Egypt, as he expressed it. I told him that I was beyond Egypt. "Then in Ethiopia," he said.

This incident illustrates the view of many who are strangers to that extensive and interesting part of the State extending over several counties and known as the Ozark region of Illinois. Perhaps a majority of the people do not know that such a region exists. I recall two men who rank high among the scientific people of the State who, after listening to an illustrated talk on this locality, expressed surprise on learning that rock outcrops at any point in these counties farthest south.

Among those who have passed through but have not stopped, or those whose sojourn has been in but one locality, the mental pictures are as different as were those of the proverbial blind men who saw the elephant; so much depends upon the place of contact and the season of the year, for the variety of natural features is great and the daily, weekly, and seasonal changes of climate are more varied than in any part of the State, Chicago not excepted. The picture may be one of swamps, mountains, floods, high walled cañons, railway tunnels, rich farm lands, sooty mining towns, rocky hills, hardwood forests, cedar crowned hill tops, rushing torrents and cascades, meandering streams, drought stricken fields, rain unceasing, perfect autumn weather, fruit killing frosts of early April, or fruit laden orchards in July, revealed in the order in which the interviews may be obtained. Such is the medley of ideas, all depending upon when and where the observer got his glimpse of this varied and somewhat neglected part of the State, popularly supposed to be made up almost exclusively of monotonous prairie varied occasionally by muddy streams, bordered with a fringe of forests, with several counties of malarial swamps in the extreme south end.

Here, the climatic conditions and variety of geographic phenomena contribute to a wonderful variety in forms of life. Here, in the two southern tiers of counties of Illinois, the storms from the Gulf and the cyclones from the northwest, at times, exert their influence at once, then alternately, with sudden and unexpected changes that baffle the weather man to explain, much less to predict. Here grow the cypress, the magnolia, the mistletoe, and the cane brakes of the farther south by the side of the cedar, the hardy oak, and almost every other tree and shrub that grows near the northern border of the State. Here, the gooseberry thrives in the shade of the persimmon, the violet occasionally blooms in January, and



MAP OF THE
OZARK REGION OF
ILLINOIS

the wild duck sometimes makes its winter home. The wild turkey was hunted till within the last few years and may not yet be extinct. Only a few years ago I found an old turkey trap in a secluded spot, which would yet be standing if woods fires had not destroyed it. The wild cat is yet found in out of the way places, and occasionally an otter. The ground hog is so common that there is a reward for his scalp in at least one county. Foxes are common in the hill country and are hunted with hounds.

The distinguishing physical feature of these southern counties is the Ozark hills or mountains stretching across from Grand Tower on the west to near Shawneetown on the east, with the crest in Union, Johnson, Pope, and Hardin counties and the ridge overlapping onto the lower lands of Jackson, Williamson, Saline and Gallatin counties on the north, and onto Alexander, Pulaski, and Massac counties on the south. It is a spur of the Ozarks of Missouri and, after crossing the Ohio, is lost under the coal beds of Kentucky. These are not mere erosion hills such as occur in Pike and Calhoun counties along the western border of the State, but are the remains of an upbended ridge more than twenty miles in width at places. Erosion of this ridge has made it a region of round topped hills having a fairly even sky line. The ascent from the lower lying lands of Saline and Gallatin counties on the north, and from those of Massac and the southern part of Pope counties on the south, is abrupt. An elevation of several hundred feet from the starting place is attained in some localities in a half-hour's climbing. The erosion valleys are so deep and the ridge stands so high above the bordering lands that these hills are locally called mountains.

The Ohio cuts through the ridge at the eastern border of Hardin and Pope counties and affords scenery of rare beauty and charm; a fair sized river as it passes historic Shawneetown protected from its might by the levee, it sweeps on past Elizabethtown half asleep in its security, safe and dry but not very high above the river, and on past the lovely little city of

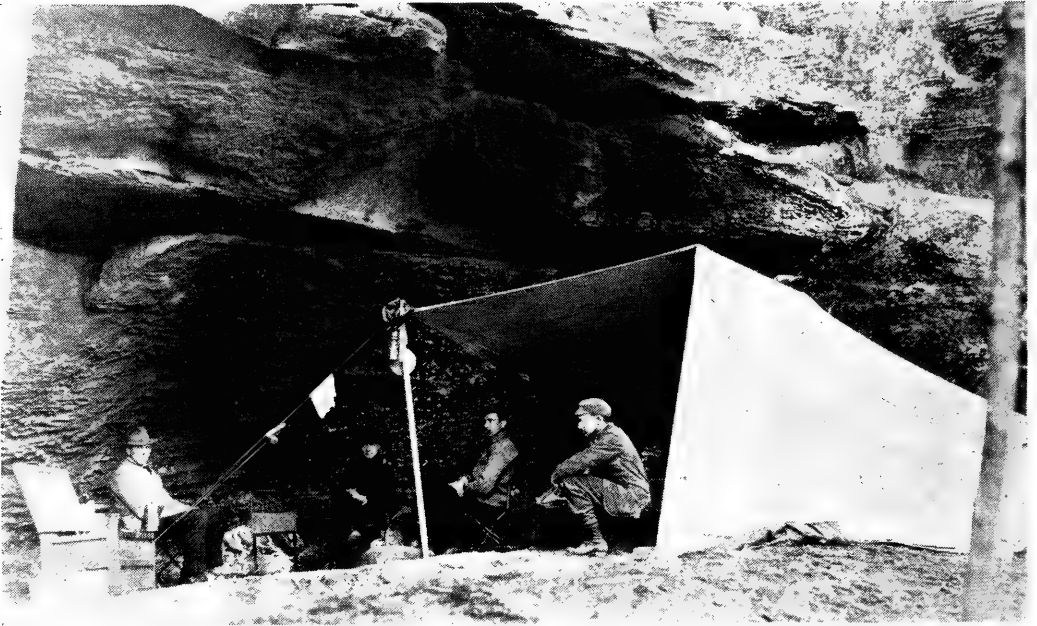


TYPICAL OZARK UPLAND SCENE W. W. Rathbone—Photo.

Golconda nestling in a deep valley at the mouth of a tributary of the Ohio and spreading out onto the adjoining hills from whose bluffs the view of the main river is unsurpassed. Not far below, the Cumberland joins it, and the Tennessee at Paducah, forming a stream that rivals the Mississippi in size. Such is its magnitude that the great bridge now being built at Metropolis is given by one authority as one of the ten greatest engineering projects of the present decade.

Bay creek, rising in Pope county, has a fall of three hundred feet during the first seven miles of its course and is confined within rocky walls. For the other thirty-three miles it drops but a few feet for it has emerged into an old river bed. This river bed is marked by the course of the lower Bay (beginning at the mouth of the Bay creek), extends westward through the swamp to the north of Massac county, and is occupied in its lower course by the present Cache river which joins the Ohio above Cairo. This old river bed could contain the upper Ohio of today and no doubt did once contain it. Its width and high bluffs thruout its length indicate that. Probably the Cumberland and Tennessee have always followed the course of the lower Ohio, but the upper Ohio must surely have remained apart and followed the path nearer the hills through which some of its waters still flow at flood time, thus making of the greater part of Massac county, temporarily, an island. Extensive cypress swamps at one time occupied the connecting lowland between the Bay and the Cache proper at the foot of the Ozark bluffs. Immense drainage ditches and the lumbering industry have turned much of this into rich farm land. It was here that the wild turkey lingered longest and the water fowl stayed in countless numbers. Here was the haunt of the wood duck and here lingered some ducks throughout the winter. There is evidence indicating that ducks often go from here in the morning to feeding grounds as far as Arkansas and return at nightfall. It must be remembered that on this southern side of the Ozarks, spring comes a month earlier and winter a month later than in the counties farthest north. The ferns in sheltered nooks stay green all winter, the violet sometimes is found in midwinter, and the strawberry ripens for the early Chicago market.

The Saline river moves sluggishly from west to east across the lowlands of Saline and Gallatin counties, often flowing five miles to go two,



CAMP UNDER THE CLIFF NEAR CLARIDA SPRING W. W. Rathbone—Photo.

and at a level so near that of the Ohio that back water in flood time reaches from Shawneetown to Harrisburg, twenty-five miles away. The Saline river and its tributaries display the same sluggishness as the lower Mississippi.

In the counties of Saline, Gallatin, Hardin, Pope, Massac, and Johnson, the variety of physical phenomena is not equaled by any equal area in the State. Two or three other counties to the west are probably of as much interest but their features are not so familiar to the writer.

The southern limit of glaciation in Illinois coincides roughly with the course of the Saline river. The drift is not very apparent at this limit but it gives the student a thrill such as he feels when he first stands on some famous battle ground, to stand where the great ice sheet made its last advance and to say: "This is historic ground."

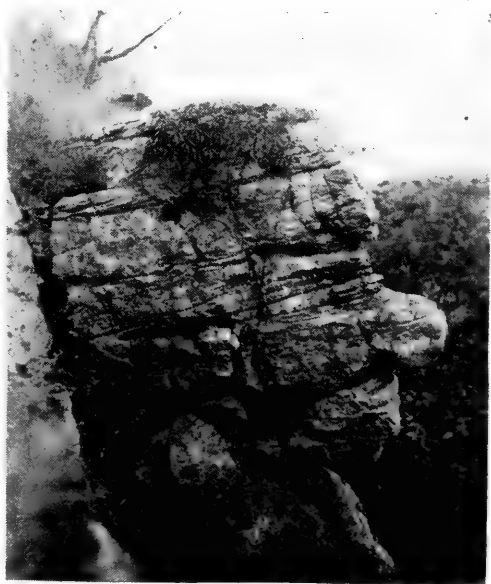
Reference to the geological map of Illinois reveals several fault lines, of which the Gold Hill axis is the most prominent in the region under discussion. A slip of several hundred feet along this axis in southeastern Saline county, for a distance of several miles, has left a vertical cliff facing the northwest, known as Eagle Cliff. Its magnitude is indicated by the fact that, although an extensive talus slope lies at its base and the top extends to but a small fraction of its height before erosion began, it can be seen for more than twenty miles from the northwest. The slope is gradual from the top toward the southeast. It is a typical "block mountain." A limestone cave, extending in each of two directions not to exceed a quarter of a mile from its mouth, near the top of the cliff, is explored without danger that the wanderer will become lost. He needs but to remember that the strata in this "mountain" all slope down to the southeast. Much unfounded tradition still lingers in the minds of many of the native population concerning the nature and extent of this cave. Many believe that this cavern is continuous with the one at Cave-in-Rock some twenty-five miles away. This is impossible from geological considerations. I and others, some co-operating and some working independently,

have proved to our own satisfaction that this cave, though remarkable in many ways, is limited in extent and without the "bottomless pit" and other impossible features. It is peculiar and offers us a problem to solve, in that the air comes *out* from the one discoverable opening at all hours and at all seasons, which is not the way a limestone cave should behave. It is popularly supposed, by those who do not distinguish between bats and other kind of birds, to be inhabited by birds. Another peculiarity is the elevation of the cave mouth which commands a view of the greater part of two counties.

Standing here on the sub-carboniferous formations above the cave mouth, the view for twenty miles to the northwest is of a rolling plain lying several hundred feet below—a plain covered with glacial drift almost to the foot of the hills and underlaid with two thick coal seams and several thin ones, the true coal measures, the richest in the State. Frequent slips, revealed in almost all of the nearly two score mines whose smoke darkens the sky as seen from this eminence, testify to the wide extent of the disturbance which heaved this and other mountains of rock from their beds in this region, to look out upon the advancing glacier as it came to the very foot of the mountain, wavered, and then retreated, leaving a thin sheet of drift and small boulders, small as compared with those scattered over the prairies of northern Illinois, but glacial material, nevertheless.

Sometime, a "sky line drive" will be constructed along the top of the cliff, the magnificent view from which is now obtained only by tiresome climbing. A few miles south from the cave, the vertical cliff is broken by the picturesque Stillhouse Hollow, down which a great volume of water flows from the summit which here is broad enough for fertile fields. The name is due to moonshining operations in the early days.

About a quarter of a mile further south along the fault cliff, I discovered, more than a year ago, a very remarkable profile of a human face, twelve or fifteen feet high and directly overlooking the more level country below. It is all the more remarkable in that I had been that way several times before and had not seen it, and that no one claims to have noticed it before, though the lands below were the earliest to be cleared and settled. Fancy may here be employed to add interest to local geology. Hawthorne had Ernest become like the unapproachable face in the distance. This face is near and full of sympathy. It is that of an old woman with wrinkled features. Once the face was young with bold outline. Her birth was when the mountain was heaved into view by the forces within. In youth she saw the beginning of the eroding forces that have shaped the valley below. Here roamed prehistoric beasts whose bones we find in the swampy lands along the Saline river. The ice sheet of the



Clarence Bonnell—Photo.
THE "GREAT STONE FACE" OF
SALINE COUNTY

glacial period came to her very feet, wavered, and then retreated. Pre-historic man, whose mounds stand high above the lowlands of Pope county, passed up and down this valley as did the Indian, whose stone walled graves lie in the ridge a few miles away. The white pioneer cleared the forest, drove the Indian away, and developed the farms and the mines. She saw it all, and grew old and wrinkled watching the strivings and follies of men. She reflects the struggles of men and knows the true philosophy of life.

Emphasis is added to the above when we remember that less than a fourth of a mile below, there is the "silver mine," an abandoned shaft sunk years ago by a stranger who came and put his small fortune into it, searching for a greater fortune which was not there. Another feature which adds interest to the scenic features of this limited region is a small sandstone cave under the cliff a few hundred feet away. This is merely the result of weathering of the softer under-portions of the stone, but is typical of much more extensive caverns elsewhere, one of which I shall describe in detail later.

Perhaps, nowhere in the State, is the enormity of Nature's work in depositing and then removing great quantities of rock better shown than in this vicinity three or four miles to the southwest at Womble Mountain, a mesa-like rock of red sandstone having an area of about ten acres, being split diagonally across, displaying fore-set beds and other evidences of shore lines, and standing far above the surrounding valleys. The even sky line as seen looking from it across twenty miles of the Ozark hills into Kentucky, together with the corresponding strata across the valleys, make it clear that these same valleys once filled with stratified rock laid down under the sea and then elevated, have been carved out by running water and that the process still continues.

The perpendicular walls of this mesa show two degrees of weathering, one of long continuance giving a long talus slope on all sides with "slide rock" such as Hornaday describes in the Canadian Rockies, and another more recent where huge blocks have fallen off and rolled down the talus slope. One of these is two hundred and twenty-five feet in circumference and thirty-five feet high, locally known as "Table Rock," has slid down a hundred feet, remaining horizontal. The east and south sides show



Clarence Bonnell—Photo.
TABLE ROCK

little weathering as does, also, the corresponding niche in the cliff above from which it came, while the west and north sides are rugged as is the undisturbed portion of the cliff. Large trees grow between this block and its former position. There is nowhere much evidence of gradation between these two stages of weathering over a carefully studied region ex-



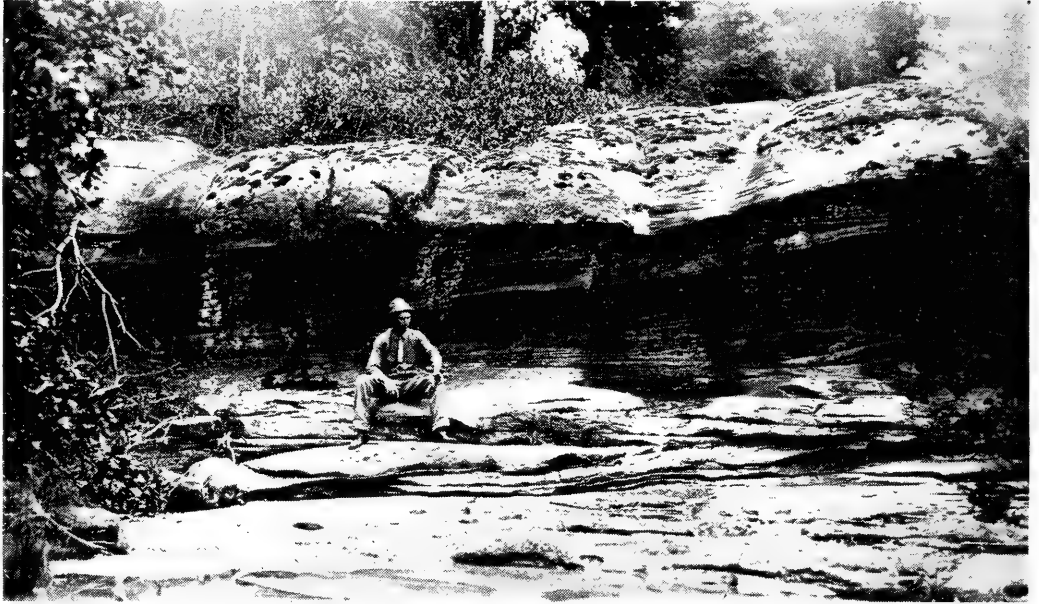
W. W. Rathbone—Photo.

UNWEATHERED CLIFF NEAR SAND CAVE

tending over three counties. Examination of many blocks rolled off from the cliff, shows there is always the absence of weathering of the side where the cleavage occurred while the old outer side is always badly worn. In nearly all cases, trees as much as ten to fifteen inches in diameter are standing in the path taken by the fallen rock, which indicates that these falls occurred sometime before these same trees began to grow. In this hill region of Illinois, and nowhere else in the State so far as has come to my knowledge, there is common knowledge, of a traditional nature, among the native stock of hill dwellers, of the great New Madrid earthquake of 1811-12. This has led me to question whether there might not be some connection between that earthquake and these huge falls of rock.

Under the southeast corner of the mountain, the lower layers have rotted out from under the cliff, leaving an overhanging portion. A number of years ago, four of us who were caught on the mountain in a rain, took refuge here, hoping to complete our picture making after the rain. The clouds drifted so low in the valley that we were above them when the sky partially cleared and we were, momentarily, now in them ourselves. We stayed all day in the dry, cooking by a smoky fire and catching drinking water in a bottle from the dripping cliff, much to the annoyance of a phoebe who had her nest far back under the roof. At night, being destitute of dry fuel, covers, and food, we braved the cold drizzle, and tramped around the mountain and down the slope through the dense undergrowth to a farmhouse a half mile away and slept on feather beds on the floor before an old-fashioned stone fireplace. Whenever I have returned in June, the phoebe is on her nest in the same place. I have observed, elsewhere, this habit of the phoebe of using the same nesting place year after year.

The roads in the valleys on either side of Womble Mountain converge,



W. W. Rathbone—Photo.

ON THE TERRACE ABOVE THE HEAD OF CLARIDA BRANCH

a little to the south, and lead through Thacker's Gap out of Saline county toward Hardin county by way of Grand Pierre lake, a deep, wide portion of Grand Pierre creek, lying near the water's head between the Ohio and the Saline. Beyond the cliff, which is across the valley to the east of Womble, is Eagle Creek valley, wide and occupied by fertile farms. Within the memory of men now living in the vicinity, an extensive area of heavy woods was ruined by becoming the roosting place of the passenger pigeons whose great numbers broke the limbs from the trees. I have not the exact date of this event, but it was near the time of the last appearance of these birds in Illinois in great numbers. I hope to photograph the locality and any traces of the event that remain and get the accounts of eyewitnesses, during the coming summer.

Before leaving Saline county, we should cross the next ridge to the west of Womble and go down into Beech Hollow. It and Mud Spring Hollow just across the next ridge to the west, both extend north and south from the divide in the north part of Pope county and include with the separating ridge an area averaging a mile or two wide and four miles long. The large timber of oak, poplar, and beech has all been removed, some of it only recently, but there is much second growth of good size. Aside from the timber, the rocky land is of little value. These narrow valleys are deep with perpendicular walls and the rocky stream beds, which also serve as highways, carry a torrent in time of rain. When it is not raining numerous springs keep the pools full. This little spot is typical of many throughout the Ozarks, which could be retained in most of their natural beauty as a refuge for wild life, and the timber, if protected, would soon pay for the price of the land at present figures. Numerous railway surveys have gone up these outlets to the south, they being the easiest approach to the top of the Ozarks, but no railroads. Eventually, trolley lines will go through this region, for there are fine farms on the level tops of the main ridges and down in the larger valleys from which the timber was removed years ago. Then there are rich fluor spar and

lead and silver and iron deposits too far from the river or railroads to be worked profitably. There are well-to-do farmers who frequently come sixteen miles from the very top of the Ozark ridge to market farm products at Harrisburg. Automobiles get on well on some of the main roads. On the ridge top there is one school district in particular, which I call to mind, that takes great pride in its excellent country school and in counting the number of professional and business men who have made good in the outer world. The speech of the older people in the remote neighborhoods bears resemblance to that of the descendants of the East Tennessee Mountaineers. We hear, "The coon, hit uses along this creek."* The spinning-wheel may yet be found in use by some older women. Evidences of backward conditions are fast disappearing in the most remote districts. The straight-forward, truly American spirit of the native stock more than compensates for any lack of modern accomplishments on their part.

The fault cliff, which is described above, loses itself in the hills in this vicinity, but the same axis of upheaval appears again at a point about three miles southeast of the village of Stonefort in the southwestern part of Saline county. Here the cliff faces the south and is prominent only for a short distance, where the Little Saline river, coming in from the south, makes a U shaped curve as it comes to the base of the cliff and turns. The fault line may be traced by the upheaved rock face for quite a distance, but the point of interest is the site of the Old Stone Fort, a prehistoric work which stood on the top of the cliff. The face of the cliff next the stream is almost vertical and so steep and high that it forms a natural fortification on that side. The old stone wall, several feet in width and several feet high, surrounds a semi-circular enclosure on the top of the cliff. The slope down to the north, made such a wall an excellent defense against attack from all sides except from the south, where the cliff is almost an insurmountable barrier. The sandstone blocks of which the wall was made were so convenient for building fireplaces and chimneys that the greater part of the wall has been removed and scattered over the country in every direction for such purposes. Enough rocks remain to mark clearly the outline of the wall through which trees and brush are now growing. The acre or two of level space within is cultivated as a cornfield. The view from the south, looking over the valley of the Little Saline, is a beautiful one. It is a matter of regret that the old wall was not left. But some means should be found to preserve the traces that are left. No adequate explanation of who built the wall has been



W. W. Rathbone—Photo.

COMING UP FROM CLARIDA SPRING

*Compare the expression, "Where never foot did use," in Spenser's *Faerie Queene* where the old meaning "to frequent" of the word "use" occurs.



Clarence Bonnell—Photo.
TYPICAL CAVE NEAR STILL-HOUSE HOLLOW

found, but everything points to the fact that the site had been chosen and the wall had been erected as a means of defense by the predecessors of the Indians.

Leaving Saline county, a section in Hardin county between the towns of Elizabethtown and Cave-in-Rock, is of special interest. Following the old stage route which was a star route for

the United States mails until about ten years ago, the site of the old iron furnace is passed. Iron was smelted in considerable quantities at one time and pigs of iron are yet found in the region used to weight down harrows or lying about barnyards. Want of transportation facilities was the death of this once prosperous industry.

Leaving Elizabethtown, the county seat of Hardin county, two roads lead to Cave-in-Rock, a few miles up the river. The upper road, the one furthest from the river, should be taken. This is a limestone region and is evidently honey-combed with subterranean passages. For several miles along the road almost every field is punctured with sinkholes where the roof of the cavern below has fallen in. In some of these, the opening is clear so that the water goes through at once, in others the passage has become blocked and ponds are formed. At one place the roadway has been built across one of the larger of these ponds. Another which I visited had a pond in the edge of a cornfield. A number of years before, the hole was a dry one. After a season of heavy rains the sink was found filled with water and so remained, the opening having been clogged so as to prevent further drainage. The fence which was built through the sink when it was dry still remained, mostly submerged.

Caves of considerable extent and fabulous reputation are said to exist near but I have not had a chance to explore them. One such passage opens into the river bluff at Cave-in-Rock and forms the famous cave about which clusters so much tradition and some of the early history of the region. The enterprising manufacturers of St. Jacob's Oil, years ago, painted their sign in six foot letters above the entrance to attract the eye of the traveler on passing boats. Though obstructed by a sink hole one hundred and fifty feet from the mouth, the arched entrance and rocky walls make it a wonder to those who do not read among the names carved and painted on the walls the deeper written story of its origin.

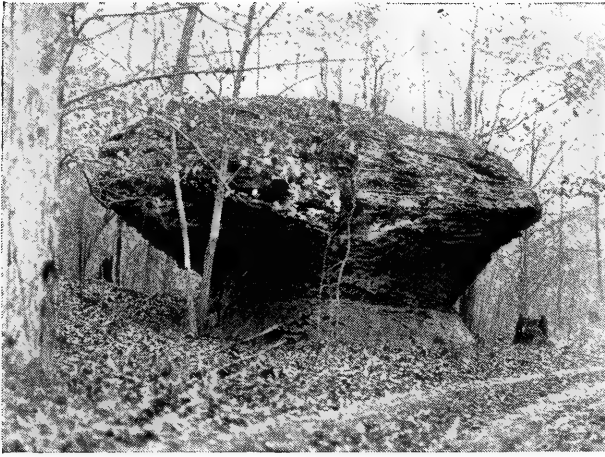
It is said of this cave that it was the headquarters of bands of river pirates and horse thieves who once infested the region. Tales are told of flat-boat men who mysteriously disappeared here and it is certain that notorious bands of horse thieves made their headquarters in the vicinity. Within the roof there is an opening, leading to a chamber above in which booty could well have been hidden. Last summer a stockade had been built across the mouth and timbers were cluttering the passage. The whole idea seems to have been to charge an admission fee, whereas the inquisitive wayfarer heretofore had come and gone as he chose.

Further down the river at Rosi Claire and Fairview the most extensive fluor spar mines in the country exist. Lead and silver are found with the spar. Deposits are found further back from the river in many places and some of them would no doubt be profitable to work if they were near a river or railroad.

Let us shift the scene to an especially interesting area in Pope county about three miles west of Eddyville. Follow me for a day for an eighteen miles drive starting before daylight from Stonefort or a ten mile drive from Ozark or Simpson to the vicinity of the Belle Smith Spring, which is not remarkable except that it is near a popular camping place. The shortest approach from the North or West is by way of Hunting Branch for three or four miles, which is a tributary of the upper Bay Creek. Hunting Branch is the vertex of a V shaped valley and is very rocky and constitutes the only public highway in that direction. There is no room on either side for a road and the grade is so steep that it is a rushing torrent after a rain, but the water soon runs out. A better way is to drive over a good road to the head of Clarida Branch and pitch camp near the cool waters of Clarida Spring which is only a few hundred feet from the head of the valley. Here, the water, for a few minutes only after a rain, flows in a cataract from an extensive rock basin above, over the cliff which overhangs as much as thirty feet. Just beyond this cascade, we climb upon fallen rock masses onto the "Indian Ladder," a cedar trunk which has, upon well authenticated evidence, remained loose in this position for three generations and, according to tradition, was there when the first white men came. At one place the cliff overhangs a distance of seventy feet due to the rotting away of the softer layers of rock beneath. Where Clarida Branch comes down over the cliff the undercutting is as much as thirty or forty feet. We tried to photograph a phoebe upon her nest in the roof back of the waterfall. It was too dark to accomplish much in daylight so we attempted a flashlight. After arranging a battery of cameras and making elaborate preparations for a good picture, the bird became alarmed and refused to stay upon her nest. She refused to go back and the attempt had to be abandoned after some hours of waiting.

A few hundred feet from here Clarida Spring emerges from under the cliff. Its waters are cool and abundant and pleasant to taste. I have camped under the overhanging cliff near it on several occasions. One June morning on my first trip to the place, when my friend, Rathbone, who first led me here, and I, were crossing the lichen covered glade on the cliff above, a nighthawk suddenly left her nest at our very feet feigning a broken wing. Our camera was ready but we lost our opportunity. Hoping that she could be coaxed back to the nest we let her get away without a picture. We hoped she would return. She did not that afternoon nor the next day. We have not seen her or one of her kind since. We marked this as the greatest "bone head" play of our camping experience. A picture of the eggs and nest, if a bare spot among the lichens by the side of a piece of cedar wood may be called a nest, is our only consolation.

Come with me over the ridge to the left of Clarida Branch to another valley and enter the great Sand Cave, a dome shaped room in the solid sandstone cliff, whose interior dimensions are one hundred forty-two feet by one hundred sixteen feet and whose arched roof is fifteen feet high. A large drove of horses, mules and cattle finds shelter here from cold in



W. W. Rathbone—Photo.
TOADSTOOL ROCK

winter and from heat in summer. Situated near any large city, it would yield a small fortune as a dancing hall, always dry, always cool, but never cold. Along the curving cliff in which this cave is situated, in most places the softer rocks below have disappeared leaving an overhanging cliff. But close to the cave opening, the overhanging cliff has fallen and lies a crumbling mass on the slope below leaving the new face of the cliff smooth and unweathered. Apparently

these recent falls were due to the earthquake of over a hundred years ago. And the trees have grown since the cliff broke away.

In another nearby valley, an undercut cliff shelters livestock, a great assortment of farm machinery, and a winter's supply of corn fodder.

Back over the ridge and on down Clarida Branch toward Bay Creek we pass toadstool formations imitating those in the Garden of the Gods, but mostly hidden in the thick brush. A balanced rock forty feet by fifty feet and thirty-five feet high stands on a triangular base only twenty by twenty by ten feet, but is too densely hidden by trees and shrubs to be photographed.

Clarida Branch joins Bay Creek near the Belle Smith Spring. Bay Creek, after it leaves the hills and enters the old river valley, for thirty-three miles, is very sluggish and muddy and has a current up stream in flood time as mentioned before. A few hundred feet above where it is forded at the mount of Clarida Branch, the bank has a steep slope to one of the characteristic curving bluffs. At one place this bluff was deeply undercut as was the bluff at the "Sand Cave," at Clarida Spring, and at many other places near. In fact, a cave had formed: But the roof of the cave fell in and most of it was washed away so that the water from the slope above now falls over a new cliff further back and runs under a natural bridge whose arch is twenty-six feet wide, sixteen feet thick, and whose under surface is twenty-four feet from the bed below. The span is one-hundred fifty feet in the clear. On three occasions we have tried to make the picture of this bridge. Though armed with the best of cameras, we have failed of very great success, for it is too big and too high up the slope and has too many trees in front to be successfully photographed.

I have given in detail some of the most interesting features in three somewhat widely separated regions of the Ozark region. There are many more matters of natural and historical interest which add charm to this somewhat misrepresented area. The archeologist finds much in every county telling of the busy life of the red men and their predecessors. Shawneetown is built upon the remains left by the former inhabitants. This is made evident by the wealth of stone implements and pottery unearthed in that vicinity. Indian graveyards marked by stone mounds beneath which



Dr. W. S. Swan—Photo.

OLD FORT MASSAC

are stone walled graves, are not uncommon. In the lowlands of Pope County near the Bay Creek, mounds of large size yield pottery and other pre-historic remains in great abundance. Only last summer the Ohio river by a shift of current was cutting away an Indian burying ground bringing to view portions of skeletons.

The Old Fort Massac at Metropolis is the only one of many places of permanent interest in this end of the state over which the state has taken control. What was a few years ago a brush covered bluff being encroached upon by the current of the Ohio is now a beautiful park in which are marked the ramparts of the old fort. I remember when I was unable to find the outline of the fort for the undergrowth and when an old wooden drain which led from the interior was projecting from the receding river bank and was being carried away by piece-meal by relic hunters. The route of Clark and his men from Fort Massac to the northwest is now marked. A monument marks the place where he emerged from the swamps of the Cache river at Indian Point in the southern part of Johnson County. A branch of the Logan-Lee Highway is marked to cross the Ozarks. Further than this, little has been done to even mark the site of features for which future generations will search in vain. The old stage routes are being forgotten and lost. The rich soil and valuable mineral deposits insure much greater density of population and more intensive development of the country in the future. In but a short time these almost inaccessible points of beauty and interest will be reached by good roads and trolley lines. In the present decade some effort should be made to put a number of these most attractive tracts under the public care at a time when their purchase would incur but little expense. There is no reason why the Illinois Audubon Society should not find here a field awaiting recognition of its value as a refuge for wild life and for preservation as a source of pleasure to the coming generations.

CLARENCE BONNELL.

The Bird Bath

There are numerous ways with which to attract birds. The two most common forms are the feeding shelf with its hunk of suet which attracts during the winter months, and the bird bath—the chief summer attraction.

Too many of us feel that a lovely bird bath is alone the pleasure of the rich man or woman. As we scan the beautiful illustrations of many of the expensive monthly magazines, we see exquisite marble and concrete bird baths advertised for sale. Often, because we cannot afford one of these artistic yard decorations we make no effort at all to supply our neighborhood birds with a drink of good, cool water and a refreshing bath.

If you can do no better, secure a shallow crock and keep it well supplied with pure fresh water. You will be surprised at the number of visitors you will receive.

Several years ago I noticed an old metal kitchen sink in the yard of a junk dealer. At once the thought came to me that there lay the making of a bird bath both useful and artistic. I had the sink hauled home and placed in my back yard not too close to a hedge of lilacs and snowball bushes, for I feared the ever sneaking cat, yet close enough to secure this as a suitable background. I had it placed so that a pear tree cast a partial shadow upon it during the afternoon.

I fitted a large cork in the drain and then mounted the entire sink on a solid foundation of six bricks, set three to a side. This left the bottom clear of the ground and allowed a free drainage of the water in the bath. Next I collected geodes and glacial boulders selecting them from the size of a cantaloupe to that of a man's head and these I terraced up to the sink entirely hiding everything but the interior. Next I secured some black enamel and thoroughly surfaced the interior to prevent rust and to add to the general appearance. The bottom of the bath was next covered with light colored pebbles and a large flat rock was placed over the cork and drain, and here it was that the birds best enjoyed themselves when the water was turned in.

I secured an umbrella plant and started it growing in one corner while I started a small water hyacinth near the middle. I secured four slips of various willows; the common yellow, the weeping, the common riverside and the pussy willow. These I started growing upon three sides of the bath. The common yellow willow was an inch in diameter and had many small branches which extended over the water thus giving the birds a good place to perch as they prune themselves after their bath.

As soon as I turned in the water, the success was immediate. Birds came in numbers and because the environment was so natural, I was more than repaid for my effort by the numbers of my callers. This year I expect to add cattail grass and arrowwort to the side where I draw my water and I believe I shall have even more bird visitors than last year. Not only am I ahead the bird bath but I enjoyed the planning of each minute detail. I advise you to try the same experiment, but, REMEMBER, make a finished job of it and keep the bath away from heavy shrubbery or you invite cats as well as birds.

There are other features of interest also. A toad took refuge under my sink and many were the cool, comfortable hours which she spent there while the rest of the world sweltered. An occasional stray pup stopped long enough in his haphazard chase of excitement to lap a few mouthfuls of cooling water only to be chased from the yard by a bevy of busy scolding robins—This and more, I promise of interest to you if you turn “good fellow” and help the birds.

T. E. MUSSELMAN.

The Migratory Bird Treaty

A letter from Mr. T. Gilbert Pearson, Secretary of the National Association of Audubon Societies, contains timely information about the enforcement of the Migratory Bird Treaty. It is printed herewith:

“In December, 1916, the Migratory Bird Treaty between United States and Great Britain, in reference to birds that migrate between Canada and United States, was ratified and became a fact. Before such treaty could become operative, however, it was necessary that Congress should pass a law empowering some department of government to enforce the treaty and provide funds for this purpose. On January 13, 1917, a bill was introduced in the United States Senate by Senator Gilbert M. Hitchcock of Nebraska, and a bill of identical character was introduced in the House by Congressman Henry D. Flood of Virginia.

The National Association of Audubon Societies, which has always taken a very active part in Federal legislation for the conservation of wild birds and animals, immediately became active. As Executive Officer of the Association I prepared and sent out thirty thousand circulars urging voters to write to their Congressmen. As a result of this, many thousands of letters were written to Senators and Congressmen, urging their support of the bill. I went to Washington, where for about six weeks I spent most of the time lobbying with Senators and Representatives in the interest of the bill, working in close co-operation with the officials of the State Department and the Biological Survey of the Agricultural Department.

Whenever I found a Congressman or Senator who was opposed to the measure, or who was lukewarm, I wired to our representatives in his State and authorized them to get at least forty influential constituents to telegraph him urging his support, and asked that bills for these messages be sent to us. I also brought to Washington at our expense, two men from distant parts of the country, who were well acquainted with some of the members of Congress who had not become fully cognizant of the desirability of passing the measure.

With some amendments the bill was reported favorably both in the Senate and the House, and we had abundant votes to pass it, but you will recall that in the closing days of Congress, by the reprehensible action of the “wilful twelve,” all administrative bills were held up. The Migratory Bird Treaty Bill was regarded as an administrative measure and it shared the fate of the Armed Ships Bill and others.

Congress will convene again on April 2 and the Migratory Bird Treaty Bill will be reintroduced.”

T. GILBERT PEARSON.

Czar Red-Head

Among our winter visitors this year the most entertaining has been a lone red-headed woodpecker. We have called him the Czar as he has been absolute monarch of his domain.

The Czar's winter sojourn with us was evidently premeditated for during the fall we noticed him every day as he worked most diligently from daylight to sun-down, carrying suet from our food table to two trees on opposite sides of the house—one a large swamp white oak and the other a red maple, whose top had been cut off years ago and whose trunk had died for about a foot below the cut end.

Soon after the woodpecker began to put away his winter stores the autocratic way in which he guarded these two trees first attracted our attention to him. If a squirrel or a bluejay visited either tree, the Czar would suddenly appear from some unseen quarter, although perhaps we had not noticed him for several days, and make things so uncomfortable for the intruders, flying savagely at them at the same time uttering his loud scolding note, that they would quickly beat a retreat. No other regular winter visitors seemed to annoy His Majesty excepting the ever present English sparrows and they soon learned to keep away from his property.

On close examination of the oak we were surprised to find pieces of suet tucked securely under the rough edges of the bark and very close together from the ground up the entire length of the trunk. The empty top of the maple seemed to be the portion of that tree utilized as a larder. We have never seen him hide food to any extent in any of the other trees altho we have a number of large oaks in other parts of the yard,—neither have we seen him take exception to the presence in any of the other trees of either bluejays, squirrels or sparrows, a number of which have come daily to the feeding table, which is in a large oak between the two selected by the red-head. One very cold day in midwinter a wandering crow alighted on top of the maple tree treasure house. We imagine that the Czar has wintered in this treetop surrounded by the fruit of his labors and it took only a second for him to appear in defense of his possessions. Such a scolding as he administered to his unwelcome guest and such courage as he displayed in his frantic efforts to dislodge him from the tree were remarkable—flying at him again and again in the greatest wrath. The crow seemed astonished at first at such unhospitality but soon decided that "discretion was the better part of valor" and finally took his departure cawing loudly his protests but even louder sounded the victorious scolding notes of the woodpecker.

We trust that the Czar may bring his bride this spring to the home in the maple tree. If he does they are assured of a hearty welcome and, in spite of the high cost of living, of all the suet which the family can possibly use.

MARION L. MOSELEY, Highland Park.

[As to the activities of other red-headed woodpeckers, see Mr. Schaefer's article entitled "Winter Birds on a Rock Island County Farm." Editor].



A School Conservation Project

To the Northern Illinois State Normal School belongs the distinction of initiating and maintaining a conservation project and thus establishing what may prove a happy precedent for other schools. This, as is believed, the only school-supported project of the kind in the country, is a large heronry situated in Ogle county near the village of Egan. A grove of Norway spruce and European larch furnishes the nesting sites, the spruce, however, being occupied to the well nigh total disregard of the larch. About one-half acre of the grove consists of spruce trees and nearly every tree is occupied when nesting is at its height. This means between seventy-five and ninety pairs of birds.

Some years ago gunners were accustomed to shoot off numbers of the birds simply as a pastime. Through the co-operation of Mr. W. W. Jones of Sunnyside Farm, the present owners of the farm where the Heronry is situated were interested in the plan proposed whereby through mutual assistance and co-operation with the Normal School the grove and its inmates should be permanently protected. A contract was drawn up signed by President John W. Cooke of the Normal School and by the owners of the land which showed the interest and generous spirit of helpfulness with which the owners and administrators of the property entered into the undertaking.

The last sentence of the contract reads: "This contract is to extend over a period of five years with no compensation for the owners other than the right of co-operating with such measures as lead toward the protection of birds and the properties concerned."

For two years now the plan has been in operation. A warden is employed to warn off intruders with hostile intent, but genuine bird lovers are welcomed. Mr. Jones has recently undertaken to have the whole farm of three hundred and twenty acres and neighboring farms incorporated

into a bird refuge to be under protection of the Illinois State Game and Fish Commission.

The students of biology at the DeKalb Normal School under the leadership of Prof. Ralph E. Wager are doubtless entitled to the honor of identifying that school with so worthy a project. An especially valuable aspect of the matter is its suggestiveness. Surely there are other educational institutions, small as well as large, that can perform a similar public service, the conspicuousness of which attract attention to the importance of the conservation of wild life.

A Few Notes From Gresham, Wisconsin

The town of Gresham is about three hundred miles north of Chicago. It is close to the Menominee Reservation where there still are acres upon acres of uncut timberland, where the Nature-lover can follow the moss and fern-covered path of the deer and other game which leads between century-old birch, hemlocks, and pines down to the green-fringed shores of the Red River, that rapidly flows over the many rapids and winds its way along the edge of the woods. From the midst of a cluster of shrubbery comes the faint "meow" of the cat bird bringing food to its never-satisfied young. Near the shore the brown thrasher bathes in the cooling waters of the stream, while the kingfisher sounds his clattering call in skimming over the water's surface. Coming away from the river and going up the hillside you are greeted with the jubilant sounds of music pouring forth out of the throats of so many cheerful creatures. Deeper in the woods you may hear a mysterious sound above you, similar to "klunk," "klunk." Looking up, you behold at the very top of a dead tree the pileated woodpecker. He is easily distinguished from others of his kind by his longer tail, his black body, and his long neck, on both sides of which runs a broad, white stripe. As headdress he wears a conspicuous crimson crest, which he usually raises when angry. He does not mind the soundness of a tree but will tackle it in search for food. While you are still watching him he is steadily hammering away at the tree, and every now and then a piece of wood drops down which he has chopped off. It often happens that while one bird is peacefully feeding, another hungry one comes to share the food with his friend. Now the quarrel begins during which they fly from tree to tree and are lost to your sight.

Passing on you may see the brown creeper in his protectively colored dress, searching the bark for the larvæ of some noxious insect. The warblers are some of the most common birds in this territory. The northern Parula, Chestnut-sided, Bay-breasted, Blackpoll, and a few other warblers I found to be quite common.

One of the most beautiful birds is the Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*). Its nest, which consists of dry grass, at times lined with horse-hair, is generally built in low maple trees, about four feet from the ground. Four pale-blue eggs are usually laid, but at times you may find five in a nest. I found a few nests with eggs in them as late as August 23rd. The Indigo Bunting is one of the jolliest songsters in the northern woods. His call is a sharp chirp which you can always hear upon approaching his nest.

On one of my hikes thru the woods, while studying the various ferns and lichens, I suddenly saw a whippoorwill flying up a few feet in front of me, and alighting on a limb close by. Concluding that its nest was near, I thoroly searched the dry leaves that covered the ground. In a short time I came upon the two protectively colored eggs, which lay on the bare ground with a few leaves surrounding them, close to a partly decayed log. During this time the bird did not move from its place, but seemed to be watching my every step. Having my camera at hand I decided to attempt taking a picture, focusing my camera, and stepping several feet nearer, I snapped him. Since he did not move I stepped closer still and succeeded in taking his picture once more before he flew away. Many more interesting events of bird-life could be described, but space will not permit me to do so.

WALTER G. GERTH.

Boy Scouts on the Embarras River

The following extracts are taken from the "log" of a trip by scoutmaster Clarence Huffman of Charleston and a group of boys who last summer explored the Embarras River from near Charleston to its mouth where it empties into the Wabash. They then rowed up to Vincennes and returned to Charleston by train. The Charleston scouts are planning a trip down the Kaskaskia River the coming Summer.

"We had spent the morning loading our two boats, the Wanderer and the Adventurer, and after a hasty dinner we pushed out into mid-stream and let the current send us southward. It was Wednesday afternoon, June 7, and school had closed only that morning. It was a grand beginning of vacation for the boys and we threw aside all memories of troubles and worries, and just lived. Sunshine and clouds alternated that afternoon and now and then it sprinkled, but we kept on. We went under two suspension bridges and at 4 P. M. were down in Cumberland County not far from Jonesville and at the spot we had camped the year before. Suddenly the sky grew black and lightning flashed. Fortune was with us for we saw a big barn near and, as the rain began to fall in sheets, we shot into land with such force that, as a bright streak of lightning seemed to strike at my feet and a big fish jumped into our boat and fell at the feet of one of the boys, I heard a splash and looking around saw one boy coming up to the surface, grabbing for his hat! I had made the boys go barefoot in the boats and they could all swim in their clothes so we all laughed while the boy swam out. Then I sent our ambassador scurrying up that rocky hill to ask for shelter while we began to unpack. (One boy always went to the farmhouses for water, milk and eggs, and asked if we could camp or sleep in the barn, if it happened to be stormy, two helped me cook, two cleaned and packed the boats, put up the tents, and fixed our beds, while another got wood and made fires). The farmer gave us permission to stay all night and soon we had our cargoes safe in the barn or drying on the rail-fence, for the rain soon ceased while we put on dry clothes and hung our wet ones out. The barn proved to be granary and garage combined and that night part of us slept in the granary while two took the garage. The farmer



broke up several bales of hay for our beds and we surely slept warm that night. Before going to bed the boys pole-vaulted, threw the discus and javelin, and visited a suspension bridge near. Nora had cooked a delicious supper for us as I was afraid it might rain our first night and this we spread in the grassy barn-lot overlooking the river. Then the farmer and his hand came down and we all went swimming near the boats. It was an ideal "first night." Grayson was right in "The Friendly Road" when he speaks of the warm friends one makes on a trip like this. It seemed to me I had known these people all my life and they treated us royally. The next morning we cooked breakfast at the landing, telephoned home, took some pictures, and then pushed the boats out again into the middle of the river and started on around Scouch Bend.

"Scouch or Horseshoe Bend extends for eight miles and when one has gone around he is just half a mile from the starting point. The bluffs and the wild-roses are a thing never to be forgotten. I was proud of Illinois before I took this trip, but I am prouder than ever now for I have just begun to find how beautiful and magnificent it is.

"Just before noon we reached Greenup, were met at the bridge by the scouts, and all went up town to buy groceries, write home, and inspect the tennis court. Do you remember the town Dickens describes in "Old Curiosity Shop" that was so sleepy? That's Greenup. It's a lonely place among the hills—a place of peace and quiet, a place to live and grow strong in strength of body and goodness of soul, a place to prepare for Heaven in. And so is Newton. I wonder if wrong can ever be done in these two towns.

"We cooked dinner near the railroad bridge and then started around the bend to meet the two tennis players I had promised to meet at another railroad bridge. It began to rain, in fact it just poured, and twice we stuck upon sand-bars, but we jumped out, pushed and pulled, and soon were on our way again. At the second bridge we built a big fire under the maples, dried clothes and bed-clothes, ably assisted by the Greenup scouts, who had come out with our tennis team. The Greenup boys in

drying Arthur Van Camp's favorite quilt let it catch fire and for a time we had hard work to save its life. You would have laughed had you seen our clothes-line. At five the rain ceased and under gray skies we started down again, looking for a place to sleep. When it was growing dark Arthur heard a mule—it proved to be a cow—and we knew help was near. We saw a big barn across a big field and soon our messenger was speeding with jugs and buckets to the farmhouse, quickly returning with the joyful news, "We can stay." Before long supper was cooking and we were hiding all the valuables we could in the weeds and bushes as we did not want to carry all that load so far. We did take our suit-cases and late that night we climbed up into Mr. Scherrick's big hay-mow. I found Mr. Scherrick spreading hay for us and promising the boys all the popcorn they wanted from the store in the loft.

"Some of the boys talked in their sleep that night, but that was not the only noise. The "mule" lowed, so did a calf, pigs squealed, a dog barked and chased the pigs whenever they put their noses out of the barn, four roosters beneath us crowed every five minutes to announce the coming of morning, while mice nibbled around in the hay and sparrows twittered and pigeons cooed around the eaves. It was not a very restful night, but we laughed so much over the racket nobody felt tired when four o'clock came and we all waded that plowed ground again to breakfast on the river.

"That morning we saw the men putting in the new breakwater near Hidalgo, visited "Mr. Used-to-Did," an old friend of ours we had met the year before and who had amused the boys by his lack of grammar. At noon we camped upon a big sand-bar for dinner and in the afternoon reached Newton where the boys played tennis with the West End Tennis Association, and visited the stores. Late that night we went into camp in a barn some miles below Newton. It was an immense barn, and supper that night at nine o'clock in the big hay-mow was delicious.

"At noon the next day we reached the pretty little village at Ste. Marie. We took pictures of the old Catholic Church, saw the hospital, visited the post-office—it closes for the noon-hour, and part of the crowd went to one of the saloons—I mean it used to be one, and bought sodas. Gen. Custer's last battle was on a poster on that building and the boys never got through describing the scalping scenes. We ate dinner in a beautiful grove below Ste. Marie and then began the most beautiful part of our journey.

"Dark Bend extends for nearly twenty miles and is just one curve after another. The beauty of this land nobody can fully describe. It is like Fairyland with its forests, big bluffs, old log cabins and shanties, and sparkling water. It was a perfect June afternoon when we went through it and once we heard the chimes from the distant Catholic Church at Ste. Marie. We stopped for a swim, but I took no pictures in the Bend for I knew they could never satisfy me.

"The North Fork pours into the river here and from that place on the river is much wider and deeper. It seemed odd to hear the boys in the boat ahead of us and not be able to see them, but the curves were so frequent we soon became used to that. Our voices echoed back from



bluff to bluff and yet the boys did not talk loud for the spirit of the place was over us. We camped out that night in Dark Bend, put up an army tent, popped corn around the camp-fire, discussed robbers, listened to the kingfishers in the bluff across from us, and then reluctantly went to bed. That night Martin tried to climb out of the top of the tent, but I got hold of his foot just in time to keep him from bringing the tent down upon our heads.

“Sunday morning we stopped at the little village of Lafetown for water, made the curve in Richland County, shot our second dam, saw many campers along the way, passed the beautiful Tithian Club-House, and ate dinner among the sawmills.

“That afternoon we heard a chugging noise which meant we were near the oil-fields. Soon we came to the Ohio Oil Company’s wells, and stopped to visit them. One boy had visited the wells near Casey so told us all about the machinery.

“That night we climbed a big bluff, found to our great joy a big barn up there, and soon with the farmer’s consent were preparing supper and making ready to sleep there for that night. I shall never forget how that night the sound of the church bells came across the river to us—it was one of the heavenly things on earth. The farmer did not stop his kindness to us with letting us sleep in his barn, but told the boys to go into his garden for June berries and mulberries for breakfast. We bought home-made bread here, which was a great treat to the boys.

“At nine that morning we reached the little village of Westport after passing several ferries and some big cliffs. Here the boys visited an old woman’s shop, bought me a kettle in which to cook, and tried to get bread, but none was to be had in the village.

“We ate at noon near the dredge-ditch leading to Lawrenceville, then went swimming at a big sand-bar over five acres in extent. So much fun

did the boys have there it was hard for us to go on, but hasten on we did and at four, as we rounded a bend, we were met by the Lawrenceville scouts, who had been there all day at "Camp Beanery" expecting us. They had their tents and soon we were busy putting up ours. I don't know what those Lawrenceville scouts thought of me as a scoutmaster when I stepped out of the boat, barefooted, spattered with mud, with a big straw hat on the boys had bought me at Ste. Marie, (for Arthur had stepped upon my other one at Greenup), but soon they were all clustered around me telling me all their scout happenings while I tried to shave and hold a round mirror upon my knees at the same time. I sent one boat down to Lawrenceville for water, milk and bread—the oil makes the river water unfit to drink there and no well is near, while the scoutmaster, who is deputy county clerk, rowed the second one down on an errand. When the boats came back we had supper and I wish you could have seen the picture! Big sycamores with white tents gleaming here and there in the moonlight, a dozen fires blazing, the big sand-bar in front, the boys cooking or putting up tents. After supper we rowed and swam, sat around the fires and told stories—while I wrote letters home by snatches. Camp Comradeship I would have called it and in my heart there will always be warmly cherished those Lawrenceville scouts and their scoutmaster, a man of lovely character and of great ability.

"The next morning we rowed down to the city and landed at the high school campus. The building itself is on a high bluff while the lower campus is a grassy meadow. Here we had a field meet with the Lawrenceville scouts. After a dinner with the scoutmaster at the circuit clerk's home he took me through the courthouse and together we climbed up into the old tower and he pointed out the smoke of Vincennes to me. Then he came down to the boats with me to see us off and once more we were on our way. That afternoon we saw many oil-wells and in places the water was black with oil. Many of the trees and bushes had been killed by the oil and the smell was sickening.

"We knew we were approaching the mouth because the river was getting so wide and deep and the sycamores were to be seen everywhere. We saw a forest fire raging, then passed an old barn, and ahead saw an immense open space. The boys in the boat ahead had landed and were waving branches of willow, not as a sign of rejoicing, but to keep off the mosquitoes, which were in swarms in the willows on the bank. The boys soon embarked again and together we sailed out into the Wabash. I wonder if you can realize the thrill that came to us when we knew we had really reached the mouth. The river seemed immense in the June twilight, but fearlessly we turned toward Vincennes rowing only a few moments and then landing to camp for the night.

"I called the boys at four next morning and soon we were busy packing and getting breakfast. We rowed only half an hour at a time going up the Wabash as the current was so strong, but soon I saw at the rate we were going we would miss our train so I called to a mussel-hunter with a row boat with a motor in it and asked him to take us up to Vincennes. Soon we were fastened to his boat and speeding through the water. We stopped to visit his camp, passing house-boats and mussel-boats by the dozens. At last we caught a glimpse of the spires of Vincennes, and soon we were at our journey's end."

As to the Boy Scouts of America

People over the country have been asking on every hand what the Boy Scouts of America will do in the event of war. This concerns every neighborhood and more so because boys themselves are anxious to do something to serve their country.

Every organization has its particular function or activity as related to the public or cause of humanity. The Boy Scout Organization has its objects and to that end has developed and trained its boys for civic service. One of the most outstanding accomplishments is its personal service. Doing a good turn daily, courtesy, helping others, man or beast, in distress, are the things that Boy Scouts are taught to do and practice.

Service of this sort is therefore the function of the organization and its individual members are always ready to offer their services. The Scout motto, "Be Prepared" is indicative of the training and practice of Boy Scouts.

Newspaper articles and statements of uninformed persons are liable to be inaccurate. The activities of a small military organization known as the United States Boy Scouts should not be confused with those of the Boy Scouts of America, whose policy is expressed in the following statement by the National Council:

"There must be no violation of the trust reposed in us by parents who have permitted their boys to enroll with us for character and citizenship training. No Scout Organization under our control may take part in any military operations. Our program and policy which have been followed since the foundation of Scouting will not be changed."

Boys who are members of the Boy Scouts of America, as you doubtless know, cannot be required by reason of his Scout membership to do any duty whatever of a military character.

It is possible however, that there may be ways in which the Scouts, without interfering with home or school duties, can be of aid locally to the nation. Definitely, Scouts might be asked to volunteer with the consent of their parents for such work as:—

Gathering statistical information as to supplies, etc. for the use of civic or military authorities.

Acting as messengers and orderlies, thereby releasing men needed for military duties.

Co-operating with the Red Cross Society and other proper agencies for various kinds of relief work.

A Scout's first duty is his home. He may there take upon himself the duties of an older brother or a father who has accepted the call to the colors. A Scout is thus fulfilling his Scout Law of Loyalty in a double sense, viz., to his home and his country.

At Allendale Farm

Allendale Farm at Lake Villa, Illinois, is a place to live and a school besides where city boys that have not had a good chance are sent to be given the best of chances, beautiful cottage homes on a picturesque lake, real homelife on a real farm of their own, genuine friends, and inspiring leaders. It is an Arabian Nights transformation for a homeless boy in a crowded city to wake up and find himself at Allendale!

The Allendale boys make and sell bird houses as one of their ways of doing a good deed while supporting themselves for, as they say in their Bird House Leaflet, "It is not our words, but our work that must count for bird conservation." Mr. Lawrence Buck of Ravinia, a noted architect, designed some of their models, and they offer for sale the St. Armand Model Martin House, the Lawrence Buck Model, the Quincy Model, the Jens Jensen Model, etc. However, notwithstanding the modest disclaimer quoted above, the words of these boys must also count for bird conservation as the following selections from issues of the Allendale Chap Book will show:

THE BURIAL OF A BIRD.

By George Franklin (Fourth Grade).

One day, while I was walking along the lane near the bridge, I heard a noise, and I turned to look, and there I saw a man with a gun in his hand. I ran up when he fired the shot. I looked around for a half an hour, until I found something hopping around on the ground. Then I saw a Blackbird.

He hopped slower and slower until he dropped dead, and then I picked him up. I brought him to Miss Willie, and she gave me a box to bury him in. Then I buried him in Shelter Garden, in the corner, and then I built a cross, and made a wreath of flowers, and I put some flowers on the grave. Then some other boys said the Lord's prayer, and then we went away sad.

PRIMARY NATURAL SCIENCE.

By Harry Posé (Fourth Grade).

At Allendale Farm, we have a natural science department. We try to help the birds, to study the birds and flowers, to feed the birds in winter, and to see that the flowers are not all picked at Allendale, and, when the birds are hurt, to keep them, and fix up their wounds, and study their nature.

The Yellow-headed Blackbird we have never had before this year. The least bittern is a bird that roams around in the marsh, and once in a while they come in to the shore and we can see them, and also the Sora

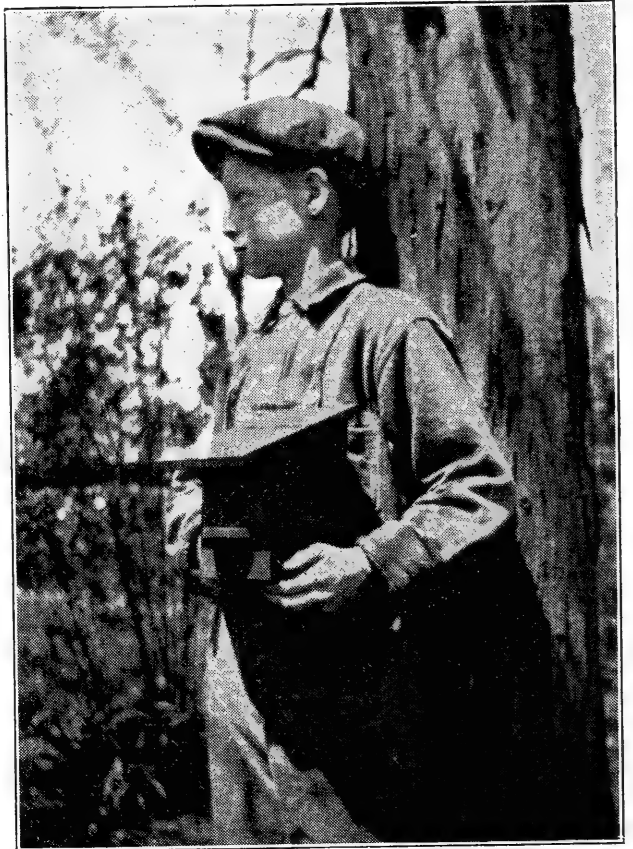
Rail and the King Rail. The Yellow-headed Blackbird builds its nest of reeds from the marsh.

After the birds have left their nests we collect a few bird nests, and describe them, and tell what kind of a bird builds them.

THE STORY OF A ROBIN.

By Louis Dirden-Groff (Fifth Grade).

One day in early spring, as I was going fishing, I saw a small robin fly upon a sail-boat which belonged to one of the Allendale boys. The robin was young, so it could not take care of itself. It had something wrong with its foot, so I tried to catch it to see what was the matter, but it flew out into the swamp and was drowning, so I went after it. I waded in up to my knees to get it. When I got it, it was chirruping for want of food, so I took it down to the pond near the lake and dug a few worms for it. It was so wet that I took it to the school house, and put it by the radiator, which dried its feathers. Then I took it to a pear tree, where I put it on a limb and stood on the porch to watch what it would do. But the school bell rang and I went to study my lessons. At four o'clock I was let out of school, and I went to look to see what had happened and guess what had! It was gone. But I was glad.



AN ALLENDALE BOY

Wild Geese and Ducks at Hinsdale

Mrs. Carrie E. Raymond reports that within a short distance of Hinsdale is quite a large swamp where only a few ducks have been seen in former years. The hunters of this section have been obeying the Federal Law and as a consequence the bird lovers have been having an unusual opportunity to observe the ducks. As many as seven kinds have been there at one time and there have been a goodly number of each kind—Mallards, Pintails, Shovellers, Baldpates, Scaup-Ring-necks and Green-winged Teal.

One White-fronted Goose was kind enough to allow close enough approach so that all his markings could be seen.

Four Blue Geese spent several days in the corn fields near Hinsdale—the first record for them in Du Page County.

Recent Activities of the Illinois Audubon Society

Since the publication of the Winter 1916-17 Bulletin, the Society has conducted a series of three lectures at Central Music Hall in Chicago which have given a decided impetus to Audubon work in the Chicago area. William L. Finley of Portland, Oregon, gave the first lecture of the series on March 11, his subject being, "Nature's Children in Moving Pictures." This lecture greatly impressed an audience which practically filled the hall, and it was at once evident that in bringing lecturers with so valuable a message to Chicago, the Illinois Audubon Society was performing an important public service. The second lecture was by Ernest Harold Baynes of Meriden, N. H., on March 24. It was entitled, "Wild Birds and How to Attract Them." This widely known naturalist and author is a very gifted speaker and wherever he goes, he arouses a far reaching interest in bird life and its protection which expresses itself in bird clubs and other forms of practical activity. Norman McClintock of Pittsburg gave the third lecture on April 14 entitled, "American Birds in Moving Pictures." It was a wonderful display of pictures and it is no reflection upon other lecturers to state that no one has brought within the moving picture field so much of the intimate life of the common as well as the more unusual birds as has Mr. McClintock. This is his second appearance in Chicago under the auspices of the Audubon Society, and it is hoped that his appearance and that of Mr. Baynes and Mr. Finley shall be annual events. It is also the hope of the Directors that a circuit can be planned for these lecturers so that their inspiring message can be delivered throughout the state.

* * *

The Audubon Society has just printed notices of post card size warning possible violators of the bird law of Illinois and the United States. A facsimile of the addressed side of the card appears below. On the reverse side appears the following statements.

NON-GAME BIRDS.

The laws of Illinois forbid killing, catching, or having in one's possession, living or dead, practically all the non-game birds of the State. The birds thus protected by law include robins, bluebirds, meadowlarks, bobolinks, sparrows and finches, swallows, wrens, owls, thrushes, nearly all the hawks and a long list of other birds. Any person who shall kill or catch or have in his possession, living or dead, any such wild birds, or part of a bird, shall for each offense be subject to a fine of \$5.00 and cost for each bird killed or caught or shall be imprisoned not to exceed ten days.

GAME BIRDS.


The laws of the United States also protect the wild birds named above, and permit the killing of game birds, such as geese, ducks, brants, coot, snipe, plover, etc., only between September 15 and December 31, inclusive of each year. THIS MAKES ALL SPRING SHOOTING ILLEGAL. Anyone violating the United States Law may be fined not more than \$100 or imprisoned not more than ninety days.

CONSTABLES.

All constables in Illinois are by virtue of their office special deputy wardens for the protection of birds and shall receive in addition to the fees and mileage provided by law, one-half of all the funds recovered for violation of the State law in cases where they have filed the complaint.

An edition of this card translated into Italian has also been printed. Copies of these cards in either English or Italian can be obtained by writing the Secretary of the Society. It is recommended that a mailing list of violators of the law in each community be prepared and copies of the card sent those on the list. A friendly visit to the local constables and the presentation to them of a copy of this card might be of valuable service. Upon request the Illinois Audubon Society will mail cards directly to addresses furnished the Secretary.

ONE
CENT
STAMP
HERE



Protection of Birds

Read on the other side of this card how the Illinois and the United States laws recognize the right of birds to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Report violations of the law to the nearest constable. Also report violators to the State Game and Fish Commission, Springfield, Ill. Write the Illinois Audubon Society, 1649 Otis Bldg., Chicago, for advice.

(Non-Game Birds)

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ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

OFFICERS

President Mr. George M. Sloan 5213 W. 24th St., Glen	Vice-President John L. Cook Highland Park
Secretary Mr. Fredric H. Pundt 2436 Prairie Ave., Evanston	Treasurer Mrs. Annie Francis 800 So. Halsted St., Chicago

* * *

The officials of the Exmoor Country Club at Highland Park recently invited the Illinois State Audubon Society to suggest plans for making a bird sanctuary of the Club Grounds and set aside a generous appropriation for carrying out the plans. A committee representing the directors of the Audubon Society and consisting of Mr. Ruthven Deane, Mr. Everett Millard, and Mr. Jesse L. Smith, has taken direct charge of the work. About eighty nesting boxes including three colony nests for Martins have been set in place. Six feeding stations and three bathing pools complete the present equipment. Nesting boxes of three different types, including the Berlepsch Box, are being tried out. Each box is numbered and has a removable cover, and it is planned to inspect these boxes at least once a month during May and June.

The Club House stands on a wooded ridge from which the grounds slope down gently to the Skokie Valley. A thin screen of woods follows down the slope opening out here and there to make room for the golf course. There are several areas where heavy tangles are to be set with fruit-bearing shrubbery. A pond near the edge of the course has a colony house hard by, which the Martins filled last summer. Bordering on the west is a marsh area traversed by the Skokie slough, and dotted with wooded islands, the whole area including about two hundred acres.

Acting for the Country Club the Audubon Committee petitioned the State Game and Fish Commission to declare the Exmoor Country Club Grounds a State Game and Bird Refuge. The petition has been granted, and steps are now being taken to include within the reservation the adjoining

marsh area. With this accomplished there will be a reservation of about three hundred sixty acres where protection will be given to birds of forest, marsh and meadow. It is needless to add that the attitude of this Country Club toward bird life is greatly appreciated by the Audubon Society and that the action taken will doubtless be a precedent for similar undertakings elsewhere.

A Bird House Exhibition in Peoria

From February 26 to March 2 the first bird house exhibit ever held in Peoria, Illinois, was opened to the public. The various conditions of the exhibit were carefully organized, giving everyone interested an opportunity to participate on terms that were fair to all. The following were the most important points covered as published in the *Manual Training Magazine*:

Exhibitors:

- Class A. School pupils not taking shopwork (boys below the seventh grade, girls of all grades).
- Class B. Seventh grade boys in the public or parochial schools.
- Class C. Eighth grade boys in the public or parochial schools.
- Class D. First year boys of the high schools and Bradley Institute.
- Class E. Any friend of birds.
- Class F. Commercial manufacturers of bird houses, baths, etc.

Kinds of Houses:

- Group I. Sawed lumber, (painted, stained or natural).
- Group II. Sawed lumber covered with bark, twigs or shingles.
- Group III. Rustic houses made of parts of tree trunks, limbs.
- Group IV. Stucco and concrete houses.
- Group V. Nesting shelves.

Accessories:

- Group VI. Food shelters.
- Group VII. Baths, (wood, concrete, metal).
- Group VIII. Sparrow traps.

Kinds of Birds:

Bluebirds	Robins
Chickadee	Swallows
Martins	Woodpeckers
Nuthatch	Flickers, Wrens
Owls	

First, second and third prizes were awarded in classes A, B, C and D under Kinds of Houses (Groups I to V), Accessories (Groups VI to VIII), and Kinds of Birds. Honorable mention was awarded in classes E and F. First and second prizes were offered as follows:

(a) For the best essays on the value of birds and the methods of attracting them to the city, open to high school and Bradley Institute (Academy) students.

(b) For the best stories on "The Birds that Built in My House" open to classes A, B and C and closing October 1, 1917.

(c) For the best essays on "Bird Enemies and How to Guard Against Them" (sparrows, cats, snakes, etc.), open to classes A, B, C and D, and closing October 1, 1917.

A first prize was offered to the first person reporting a nesting house occupied by any bird except English Sparrow, open to classes, A, B, C and D. A banner was awarded to the school entering the most houses.

There were 603 bird houses exhibited, many of which showed an unexpected degree of skill and artistic merit. In extent of interest the exhibit was a civic event, visitors coming even from the nearby towns, and plans are already being made for a larger and better exhibit next year.

Great Horned Owl



On one of its early trips this spring, one of the bird classes of Carthage College discovered this little Owl's home. It was high up in an oak tree. A week later the nest was almost destroyed. We do not know by what—or by whom. A third trip in that vicinity showed the nest built up again and the mother Owl sitting on four eggs. Two weeks later we visited it and found three babies. The following week we brought back one to the college—taking the accompanying pictures of it. It was perhaps three weeks old. One of the girls carried it close to her with her muff as a shield and the little Owl was quite content. Its amusing way of looking about from one to another of us while having its picture taken kept us all

laughing, but a piece of beefsteak was more to the satisfaction of the little Owl.

MRS. F. C. GATES.

Seed Planting for Birds

A timely suggestion from Mr. Musselman is that those who wish an abundance of birds both in numbers and varieties should begin to prepare in the spring for the growing of feed for the next winter's restaurant.

Most important for those who desire nuthatches and goldfinches will be the planting of the large sunflower. A dime's worth of seed properly planted will supply a large harvest of fine heads for next winter. Plant them near your tennis court wires so that when the heads are heavy you can help support them.

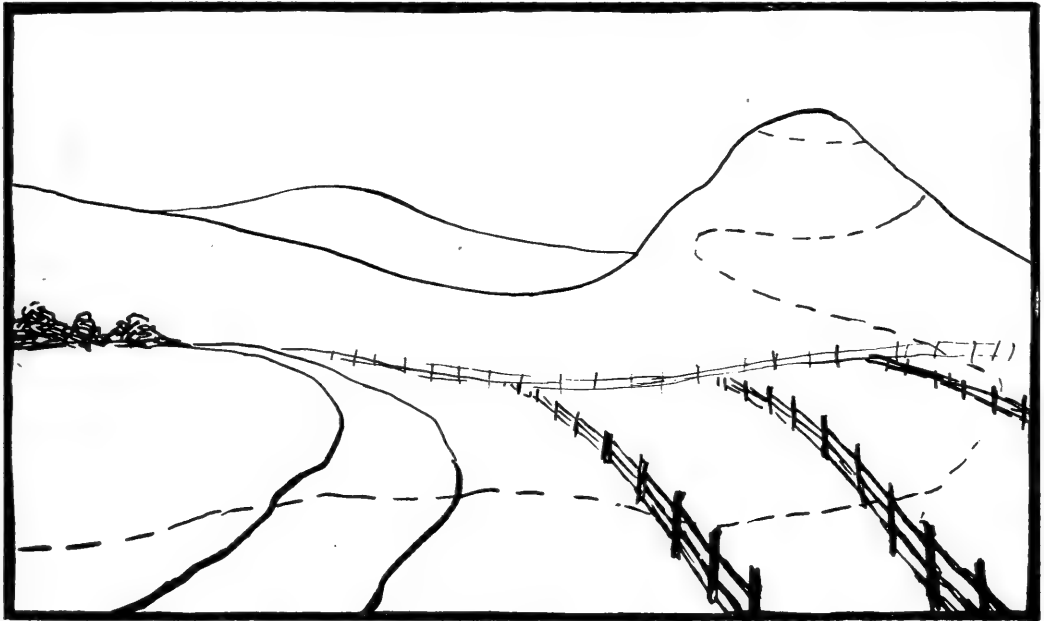
Those wishing to attract tree sparrows and juncos should plant a supply of large headed grass such as millet, and this should be cut when ripe and laid away until the winter days. Then let it be dropped at the base of your feed box tree with small particles of bread crumbs and ground suet.

Broom corn and maize both are good to be cut and reserved for the winter seed feeding. Blue grass when ripe may be cut and laid away also. This makes a good scratching bed for the birds, supplying feed and when placed over packed snow acts as a carpet. If this is not convenient, remember that the sweepings from the hay mow make attractive gleaming for all ground-feeding birds. You can increase your winter bird visitors by planning and planting now.

Bird Contest in Zoology Classes

In a letter from Mr. Harold B. Shinn of the Karl Schurz High School, Chicago, there is an interesting reference to the scheme he has been using to stimulate bird observations among the two hundred fifty zoology students of that school by utilizing their play instinct. If this is of value in a large city high school it would seem to be of all the more value where conditions are more ideal for bird study. We take the liberty of copying Mr. Shinn's memorandum.

"Over a large board, about 18 x 48 inches, we tacked a white cheesecloth. The pupils in the drawing department made on this a colored chalk picture of a landscape having fields and a river in the foreground and mountains in the background. Crossing the river is a road which winds into the distance and climbs the mountain side. When a pupil has reported 5 birds his name is written on a small pennant (paper) and he is



started on the trail. 10 birds carry him over the river and into the second field; 20 birds carry him over the fence into the third field, 30 birds into the next field, etc. We have seven sections of pupils and therefore use seven different colors of paper for the pennants and these are affixed by means of small pins stuck through the cheesecloth."

"The landscape is quite well done and large enough to attract attention. The parti-colored pennants add to the interest of the picture. The climax is gained by the rivalry between sections and between pupils as they watch their pennants progress across the board. We have used the board two seasons and it has put more life into the reporting of field work than anything else I have ever tried or seen others try."

"Various means of getting the reports can be used. We give the pupils large sheets, each printed into 8 blank records. The pupil colors the printed diagram of the bird with his own crayons, fills in the data and hands in each record as he makes it. The records are kept and tabulated, then returned to the pupil who now pastes them into his laboratory note-

book as his record of field work. We demand 15 of these and 10 others from laboratory study. When these are carefully colored the pupil has his own color key and is ready for the class examination."

A Bird Talk in the Movies

Mr. Orpheus M. Schantz, President of the Illinois Audubon Society, claims to know of a new method of getting an audience for a bird lecture and he bases his claim upon his recent experience at Sheffield where he went to give a bird talk. "As every one knows," says Mr. Schantz, "with the coming of the movies, great difficulty is found in many communities in getting any kind of a crowd to attend a lecture of an educational character. It was a woman who discovered how to get a crowd to attend the bird lecture in Sheffield. Arrangements were made with the picture house to run several reels and then allow an hour for the lecture. As the result of this strategy, the house was crowded, with standing room only, and whether persons wished to or not, they heard an illustrated talk on the economics of bird life.

"It is hoped that some of the 500 people in attendance will have realized as a result of the missionary work, something of the relation of our bird life to farm economics."

After the lecture Mr. Schantz went to the Sheffield House to spend the night. It was late and the proprietors of the hotel were about ready to close up for the night. Some one noticing his case of slides asked him if he was the "bird man," and on acknowledging the implication, he was asked whether he knew Robert Ridgway. When Mr. Schantz stated that he knew Mr. Ridgway by reputation and was an admirer of his writings about birds, he made the interesting discovery that the landlady was a cousin to the famous ornithologist, and that she and her husband were very proud of their relationship. After this discovery Mr. Schantz visited for nearly two hours with these charming people and learned from them many delightful and interesting anecdotes of our great Illinois ornithologist.

It seems Mr. Ridgway as a boy became intensely interested in bird study, gathering much data and many specimens from his home locality at Mt. Carmel, Ill. When about 17 years of age, he decided to take his collection to Washington and show it to the scientists at the Smithsonian Institution. As a result of this visit he never returned to Illinois to reside permanently, and he has given 50 years of active service to ornithology. He has repeatedly refused offers of positions in other lines of work with larger salaries, because of his love for the field of work he chose when a boy.

Mr. Ridgway now spends a portion of each year at Olney, Ill., where he has an eight acre tract of woodland which, out of the richness of his knowledge, has been adapted to the requirements of his bird friends. There he labors toward the completion of his great work, "Birds of North and Middle America," which when finished will be the most complete work ever written on the bird life of this continent.

It was a very pleasant experience to learn of the appreciation of those who prize him both for his delightful personality and his marvelous knowledge of birds.

A Working Library of Bulletins

Readers of the Spring Bulletin are here reminded of the aid which the U. S. Government gives in the way of carefully prepared bulletins setting forth the economic importance of birds and detailing methods of attracting and feeding them. As to schools availing themselves of these bulletins it is suggested that the teachers write for these bulletins and distribute them rather than encourage indiscriminate application by children who may not realize the value of the material thus freely given away.

Farmers' Bulletin No. 621, *How to Attract Birds in Northeastern, United States*, by W. L. McAtee, describes bird shelters and methods of feeding birds, and contains a very complete list of fruits attractive to birds. Farmers' Bulletin No. 609, entitled, *Bird Houses and How to Build Them*, by Ned Dearborn, has numerous detailed drawings and covers the subject completely. With these two bulletins at hand, one of 15 pages, the other of 19, one has a good working library to start with. Farmers' Bulletin No. 493, *The English Sparrow as a Pest*, by Ned Dearborn, (24 pages, 17 illustrations) treats the subject authoritatively and completely. It should be studied and its suggestions followed up everywhere in our state. Bulletin No. 630, *Some Common Birds Useful to the Farmer*, by Beal (27 pages with illustrations), treats of 25 groups of birds. This Bulletin together with Farmers' Bulletin No. 497, *Some Common Game, Aquatic and Rapacious Birds in Relation to Man*, (30 pages, 14 illustrations), by McAtee and Beal, and Farmers' Bulletin No. 506, *Food of Some Well Known Birds of Farm, Forest, and Garden*, (35 pages, 16 illustrations), by the same authors, should be added to one's working library. All the bulletins mentioned above are to be had free of charge, by writing to the Department of Agriculture at Washington.

As an addendum to this list mention might be made of Farmer's Bulletin, No. 513, entitled "Fifty Common Birds of Farm and Orchard." This has 31 pages and 50 colored illustrations. All but nine or ten of the birds there pictured and described nest in Illinois and it would be very desirable if an unlimited supply of this valuable bulletin were available for reference and for class study in Illinois. As it is not given in the March 1917 circular of the U. S. Biological Survey in the list of publications available for general distribution, no statement can be made here as to the method of securing it.

The State Board of Agriculture of Massachusetts has in its employ the distinguished ornithologist, Edward Howe Forbush, and the bulletins issued under his supervision are of unusual value. Two of the special reports that Mr. Forbush has issued as bound volumes are entitled, *Useful Birds and Their Protection*, and *A History of the Game Birds, Wild Fowl and Shore Birds of Massachusetts*, etc. These are described elsewhere under the head of Suggestive List of Bird Books. These are sold at cost for \$1.00 plus postage.

The annual reports prepared by Mr. Forbush are of interest far beyond the boundaries of Massachusetts. The Eighth Annual Report for the year 1915 has some unusually valuable material relating to nesting boxes with reports of success obtained with different types of boxes in various parts of Massachusetts. The Ninth Annual Report for 1916 contributes additional material of this kind. These reports are beautifully printed and illustrated.

Circular 47, February, 1917 edition, by Mr. Forbush, entitled, Bird Houses and Nesting Boxes, (24 pages with 44 illustrations) embodies the best and most recent information obtained by experiments in Massachusetts. Circular 49, Food Plants to Attract Birds and Protect Fruit, by Forbush, (21 pages, 7 illustrations), includes most of the material in Farmers' Bulletin No. 621 by McAtee referred to above and much valuable comment and additional material. Then there are three bulletins of Economic Biology also by Mr. Forbush, which are very important contributions to the literature of bird protection. Bulletin 1, Rats and Rat Riddance, (87 pages, 35 illustrations), and Bulletin No. 2, The Domestic Cat, Bird Killer, etc., (112 pages, 46 illustrations), and Bulletin No. 3, The Natural Enemies of Birds, (58 pages, 13 illustrations), are really indispensable aids. These and the annual reports and the circulars named above, may be obtained free of charge, by addressing the State Board of Agriculture, Room 136 State House, Boston.

A Challenge

A large and influential wing of the scientist army, led by some very able ornithologists (including the well-beloved Burroughs) refuse absolutely to credit birds with the power of memory. According to their theoretical arguments, all actions displaying symptoms or even suspicions of memory upon the part of birds are merely the results of instinct.

What is meant by the term "instinct," or just how nearly this hidden power approaches memory, has never been lucidly explained.

I have just given a company of birds including members of two species, a test that I challenge the world to explain without using the term "memory" in itself or a synonym. I have enjoyed an exhibition as logically convincing of the gift of memory possessed by our feathered friends, true as any form pervading the human mind.

One afternoon a large barred owl was brought me for mounting. I stretched it upon a table back of my store and left it. Something less than an hour later, five jays and twenty sparrows had congregated around my table and were making the air hideous with their protests. This well known action of birds might very properly be called "instinctive action," for the hate of owls is either born in each feathered form or instilled at an early age.

At dusk when the non-pacifist gathering had dispersed, I carefully wrapped the owl in a newspaper and turned over him a large box tray used for picture washing. The owl was completely covered—not a feather in sight—and left through the night.

Next morning when I returned to the store the protesting congregation was already present with the exception of one absent jay. The sparrows were all there. The noise of the protest was fully as convincing of their displeasure. My question follows:

Why were these birds present upon the second occasion if they were not possessed of memories?

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN
 SPRING 1917

Published by the
 ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
 For the Conservation of Bird-Life

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A gratifying interest in bird life shown by construction of bird houses, feeding shelters, etc., has recently manifested itself in various parts of Illinois. Several weekly and monthly publications of national circulation such as *The Ladies' Home Journal*, *Country Gentleman*, *The Farm Journal of Philadelphia*, etc., have printed excellent pictures of bird houses and information as to their construction, and these have doubtless helped Audubon Societies and bird clubs to awaken public interest. Elsewhere in this bulletin are references to activities of this sort at Edwardsville, Peoria, Hinsdale and other places. It is hoped that the building and placing of bird houses will be followed up by a careful study of what happens.

* * *

It is one thing to get up enthusiasm for building of bird houses, it is quite another thing to secure intelligent placing of the houses and the right kind of supervision to make sure that the houses are not put to uses quite foreign to the intent of the builder. In the Eighth Annual Report of State Ornithologist Forbush of Massachusetts which is referred to in

this bulletin under the heading of "A Working Library of Bulletins," the story of what happened in the public parks of Hopedale and Brookfield, Mass., is given and this illustrates what may happen elsewhere. Some years ago the park commissioners at Hopedale had put up one hundred five bird houses and nesting boxes in their beautiful forest park of several hundred acres. In the summer of 1914 examination showed twenty-six empty boxes, sixty-four occupied by squirrels, three by mice, seven by hornets, wasps, etc., three by undesirable birds, and only two by birds for which they were intended. In 1915 the town of Brookfield set in place large numbers of nesting boxes of various patterns. In July a census of some of these showed seventy-six used by English Sparrows, nineteen by squirrels, ten by caterpillars of the gypsy moth, one by Bluebirds and one by the blue-crested fly-catcher—only two families of useful nesting birds out of one hundred five nests.

* * *

Mr. Forbush's own experiments were especially concerned with 25 board boxes set up on poles on his estate. By warring on English Sparrows, either by killing them outright or removing their nests when the eggs were laid, he managed to secure peace for the occupants of the nesting boxes and the result was an "output" of fourteen Bluebirds, thirteen Chickadees, nine Flickers, and ninety Swallows—these on an area of about eight acres where prior to 1914 not one bird of any of these species was reared.

* * *

For further details the reader is referred to the Bulletin previously described and the others in the list given. A study of such bulletins and of the books relating to this same subject referred to in "A Suggestive List of Bird Books" printed elsewhere, may help workers to control nesting conditions in the areas under inspection.

In the Spring Bulletin of one year ago, reference was made to an article in Bird-Lore for March-April, 1916 by Gilbert Grosvenor, editor of the National Geographic Magazine who wrote about bird life on his farm in Montgomery County, Maryland, about ten miles from Washington. Mr. Grosvenor found fifty-nine pairs of birds with young or eggs in the nest on one acre adjacent to the house or barn on his farm. The readers of this Bulletin are once more advised to emulate Mr. Grosvenor's example by placing nesting boxes, feeding stations, etc., about their homes, furnishing building material, (Pieces of oiled paper, string, puddles of mud, etc.) bird baths, etc., and by fighting off English Sparrows and cats. They are also requested to furnish in due time a detailed report of success or failures with nesting boxes and comments thereon. This will be of decided value for our Fall-Winter Bulletin.

* * *

The Publication Committee of the Illinois Audubon Society might as well admit at the outset that it is proud of the co-operation from so many sources that has made this Spring Bulletin possible. It considers it a praiseworthy feat to introduce the Ozarks of Southern Illinois to Illinoisans in general, and for this special acknowledgment is due Mr. Clarence Bonnell of Harrisburg, who writes from a full knowledge of that picturesque and historic region. Then there is the check list of birds of Illinois with special reference to those nesting within the borders of the State. This is surely an achievement of the first rank since it is the outcome of the separate efforts of Ridgway and Gault and Hess and embodies their critical and authoritative judgment. This list, as Mr. Gault suggests elsewhere, is somewhat tentative owing to insufficient data relating to the life history of a number of the birds, but this rather gives it added interest. Here is a chance to check up one's area of observation and also, it may be, to fur-

nish important data for the revision of the list itself.

Special mention, likewise, might be made of the many field notes that appear in this issue. Coming as they have, not only from experienced observers but also from those whose keenness of interest makes up in part for lack of experience, these notes have all been welcomed and printed in the alphabetical order of the localities. Naturally there may be errors in observation where the best of intent to be accurate is evident. For such errors, of course the Bulletin disclaims responsibility. It is simply suggested that criticisms and corrections be sent in to the Bulletin and that observers correspond with one another in an endeavor to check up and test their lists. The outcome of such correspondence would no doubt be valuable material for a succeeding issue of this Bulletin.

* * *

The Spring shooting season as defined by the laws of Illinois has come and gone. These laws provide for an open season for wild fowl from February 15 to March 31, and, as all our readers know, are in conflict with the Federal regulations which prohibit all Spring shooting. While in many places in Illinois the Federal regulations were respected during the weeks just past, there is little doubt that over large areas no attention was paid to them. When a hunter was reminded of the illegality of Spring shooting, he invariably produced his state license to justify his sport. This unfortunate conflict between Federal and State laws is, let us hope, nearing an end. As this Bulletin goes to press, Senate Bill No. 542, containing among other provisions, one making the laws of Illinois conform to the Federal regulations is about to come up for second reading. This provision of the bill should be the special concern of Audubonites and every legislator should be urged to support it.

* * *

During the interval mentioned above when the Federal regulations were being

disregarded, inquiry was often made as to what the Biological Survey was doing to enforce these regulations. The answer seems to be that the Federal officials were obliged to assume an attitude of observation rather than of enforcement. For one thing there is the question of the constitutionality of the migratory bird law which has been pending before the U. S. Supreme Court for over two years. Then this same law as it stands is imperfect in that it does not give agents of the Biological Survey power of arrest even when the law is violated in their presence, and there is no provision whereby possession of birds out of season is made evidence of violation of the law. All the agents can do is to secure the name of the violator and the necessary evidence. This, we are privately informed, these

agents have been doing, and a large number of cases have been accumulating in the office of the Biological Survey.

Relief, however, is in sight in the enabling act to put into force the migratory bird treaty. Elsewhere in this Bulletin, Mr. T. G. Pearson, Secretary of the National Audubon Society, tells of the failure of this act to receive consideration in the Congressional term that ended March 4. The act has been introduced in the present Congress and once more all who are interested in this important measure should again urge its passage. In this act there will doubtless be provisions clothing agents of the Survey with needful powers, establishing a uniform bag limit throughout the United States, and outlawing the sale of game birds.

A Suggestive List of Bird Literature

- Bailey, Florence Merriam** *Birds of Village and Field*. A bird book for beginners; with a color key to 154 birds and 300 illustrations. 12mo. \$2.00
- Handbook of Birds of Western North America.*
Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 33 full plates by Fuertes; 600 illustrations in text; 570 pages. 12mo. Includes the Great Plains, Great Basin, Pacific Slopes, and lower Rio Grande Valley. This book does for the West what Chapman's Handbook does for the East. \$3.50
- Ball, Alice E.** *A Year With the Birds*. Gibbs and Vlecek, Inc. 8vo. pp. 191. Fifty-six colored plates after Horsfall's drawings. Written in delightful rhythmical verse. Author has also drawn freely upon the standard poems of bird life. Illustrations unusually fine. \$3.00
- Barrows, Walter Bradford** *Michigan Bird Life*. Michigan Agricultural College. (Address Sec. A. M. Brown, East Lansing, Michigan). 70 uncolored plates, 152 text figures, 822 pages. 8vo. Cloth, 60 cents plus postage (package weighs over four pounds). In many respects a superior work. Sold at cost. Price negligible. Its reference to Michigan localities does not prevent it from being a valuable book for use in Illinois. **60 cents**
- Baynes, Ernest Harold** *Wild Bird Guests*. E. P. Dutton & Co. An unusual book combining charming description and thoroughly practical directions for the bird lover who wants to know how to attract and protect the birds. It is especially valuable for its definite instructions for forming bird clubs. \$2.00
- Blanchan, Neltje** *Bird Neighbors*. Doubleday, Page & Co. An introductory acquaintance with 150 birds commonly found in the gardens, meadows and woods about our homes. Introduction by Burroughs. 48 colored plates. \$2.00
- Burroughs, John** *Bird Stories from Burroughs*. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 8 full page illustrations by Fuertes. 174 pages. 12mo. 60 cents
- Chapman, Frank M.** *Handbook of Birds of Eastern North America*. D. Appleton & Co. Over 200 illustrations, 530 pages. 12mo. This book heads the list of all of the bird books. It is easily the most useful for study or reference. Pocket edition, flexible cover, \$4.00. Library edition. \$3.50
- The Warblers of North America*. D. Appleton & Co. 24 full-page colored plates illustrating every species and half-tones of nests and eggs. Drawings by Fuertes and Horsfall. 306 pages. 8vo. Prepared with the co-operation of 30 other naturalists. Contains valuable migration records, nest-

ing dates, and biographical references. An indispensable book for a study of the warblers. \$3.00

-----*Camps and Cruises of an Ornithologist.* D. Appleton & Co. With 250 photographs from nature by the author. 432 pages. 8vo. A fascinating story of various expeditions to obtain material for the "Habitat Groups" of North American Birds for the American Museum of Natural History. \$3.00

-----and Reed, Chester A. *Color Key to North American Birds.* Doubleday, Page & Co. 800 drawings by Reed. 312 pages. 8vo. Excellent reference for identifications. Very brief notes. \$2.50

Dugmore, A. Radcliffe *Bird Homes.* Doubleday, Page & Co. 183 pages. 16 colored plates and 50 half-tones. 8vo. A useful book. \$2.00

Finley, W. L. *American Birds, Photographed and Studied from Life.* Charles Scribner's Sons. 256 pages. Large, 12mo. Each of the twenty-one chapters of this book represents one bird family, the selections being nation-wide in scope. The book is entertainingly written and is illustrated with unusually good photographs taken in the field. A splendid work. \$1.50

Forbush, Edward H. *Useful Birds and Their Protection.* Massachusetts Board of Agriculture, Boston. Many illustrations. 437 pages. Large, 8vo. Contains brief descriptions of the more common and useful species of birds with rather full accounts of their food habits. One of the most valuable bird reference books ever published. Sold at cost. Postage extra. \$1.00

-----*Game Birds, Wild Fowl and Shore Birds of Massachusetts and Adjacent States.* Massachusetts Board of Agriculture, Boston. Many illustrations. 622 pages. Large, 8vo. A comprehensive description of all resident and migratory game birds with suggestions as to their conservation. Also a history of such birds as have been driven out or exterminated. Local and common names given. Very valuable book. Sold at cost. Postage extra. \$1.00

Herrick, Francis Hobart *The Home Life of Wild Birds.* G. P. Putnam's Sons. 255 pages. 8vo. A popular story of birds in action. Chiefly concerned with homes or nests and their occupants. Very valuable photographic records. \$2.00

Job, Herbert K. *How to Study Birds.* Outing Publishing Co. 272 pages. Large 12mo. Chapters on method of bird study, equipment (cameras, etc.), identification, learning bird calls and notes, migration, nesting season, etc. \$1.50

-----*The Sport of Bird Study.* Outing Publishing Co. 134 half-tones. 8vo. Book designed especially for the beginner at the study. Wonderful display of photographs from life. \$2.00

-----*Wild-Wings.* Outing Publishing Co. 341 pages. Square 8vo. Profusely illustrated from photographs. Adventures of a camera hunter among the larger wild birds of America on land and sea. Introductory letter by Theodore Roosevelt. \$3.00

-----*Propagation of Wild Birds.* Doubleday, Page & Co. 276 pages. 121 photographs from life by the author. A manual of applied ornithology, treating of practical methods of propagating quails, doves, waterfowl, etc. There are four chapters on methods of attracting and increasing smaller land birds, including aids to nesting, making surroundings attractive and artificial feeding.

Ladd, Neil Morrow *How to Attract Birds About the House.* Greenwich Bird Protective Society, Greenwich, Conn. 68 pages, 40 illustrations mostly from photographs. Paper cover. Valuable pamphlet. 35 cents

Matthews, F. Schuyler *Field Book of Wild Birds and Their Music.* G. P. Putman's Sons. 262 pages. 16mo. 38 colored and 15 other full-page illustrations and numerous musical notations. A description of the characteristics and music of birds and intended to assist in the identification of the species common in Eastern United States. Can be carried a-field in one's pocket. Flexible leather, \$2.50. Cloth \$2.00.

Miller, Olive Thorne *The First Book of Birds*. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 12mo. 149 pages with 8 colored and 12 plain plates and 20 figures in the text. This book has long been highly prized by experienced leaders of children's bird clubs. \$1.00

-----*The Second Book of Birds*. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 12mo. 209 pages with 8 colored plates from designs by Fuertes and 16 other illustrations. This stimulating book is about bird families, explaining why the birds are thus grouped and how the families may be distinguished, etc. \$1.00

Pearson, T. Gilbert *The Bird Study Book*. National Association of Audubon Societies. 12mo. 258 pages. Color frontispiece. Pen and ink drawings by Simmons and 16 photographs. An excellent book for beginners and also of great interest to experienced observers. But recently published and contains latest information as to progress of movement for bird conservation, etc. The author as Secretary of the National Association of Audubon Societies is a well informed writer on birds in America.

Reed, Chester A. *Bird Guide*. Doubleday, Page & Co. In two parts. Pocket size. Illustrations in color.

Part I. Water and Game Birds; Birds of Prey East of the Rockies. Flexible cloth \$1.00; flexible leather \$1.25.

Part II. Land Birds East of the Rockies from Parrots to Bluebirds. Flexible cloth 75 cents; flexible leather \$1.00.

These well-known Bird Guides are of great service in identification of birds. They are the first books in which the beginner should invest. The two Guides may be obtained bound in a single volume, flexible leather, for \$2.25

-----*North American Birds' Eggs*. Doubleday, Page & Co. 356 pages. Numerous illustrations. 8vo. The eggs of nearly every North American bird appear life size in half-tone illustrations. An accurate description of each bird and its range are given. \$2.50

Trafton, Gilbert H. *Methods of Attracting Birds*. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 171 pages. 16mo. A handbook of the most approved methods of attracting wild-birds about houses and providing for their nests in summer and homes in winter. Chapters include such topics as nesting sites, bird houses, attracting winter birds, drinking and bathing fountains, lists of trees, shrubs and vines for planting to attract birds, etc. \$1.25

Walter, Herbert E. and Alice H. *Wild Birds in City Parks*. Pocket edition with chart showing migration of birds. Written for use in Chicago Parks but very useful elsewhere. The very brief characterizations are of unusual value. 40 cents

Weed, Clarence M. and Dearborn, Ned *Birds in Their Relation to Man*. J. B. Lippincott & Co. 390 pages. Large, 12mo. The subject is set forth in a most readable style and the scientific data covered by the authors (for the most part first-hand) is of great practical value. A very useful book. \$2.50

Wheelock, Irene Grosvenor *Birds of California*. A. C. McClurg & Co. 578 pages. 12mo. An introduction to more than 300 common birds of California and adjacent islands. Illustrated by Bruce Horsfall.

Wright, Mabel Osgood *Birdcraft*. A field book of two hundred song, game and water birds. 80 full-page plates by Fuertes. 317 pages. Small, 4vo. \$2.50

Wright, Mabel Osgood and Coues, Dr. Elliot *Citizen Bird*. MacMillan Co. 430 pages. 12mo. Scenes from bird life in plain English for beginners. One of the best introductions to the study of bird life. Profusely illustrated by Fuertes. \$1.50

News From The Field

BLOOMINGTON: With reference to the Park owned by McLean County, Mr. Spencer Ewing of Bloomington writes:

"West Park, a tract of forty acres, was given to McLean County by Simeon H. West a few years ago and accepted by the board of supervisors as a County Park. It consists of a tract of rolling land, heavily wooded with the original forest timber which has never been cut over. It has been put under the State law as a game preserve in order to make it a sanctuary for bird life. Nothing has been done to the tract except for its protection and I do not know of any movement on foot to do anything with it except to keep it as a County Park. It is about sixteen miles from Bloomington and is not very frequently visited; but in my opinion should have some sort of expert supervision in regard to the preservation of the timber."

Perhaps some of our readers in McLean County will be able to prepare for publication in our next Bulletin a check list of trees and shrubs in West Park and a list of birds found nesting there. Would it not be feasible to organize a McLean County Bird Club representing every Township in the County? Such an organization might well give special attention to West Park and its possibilities in adding to the wealth of bird life in the area.

EDWARDSVILLE: Members of the Monday Club, several hundred school children and others composed a very interested audience at the Wildey Theatre one afternoon in February when Prof. T. E. Musselman of Gem City Business College, Quincy, Ill., gave an illustrated talk of birds. The enthusiasm occasioned by this lecture carried over into the practical activity of bird house building. Representatives of several of the churches formed a committee to interest the boys in the study of the birds and assist them in providing more comfortable homes. At the suggestion of Mr. Alton L. Logan, a contest in bird house building was inaugurated. Blue prints were made of birds houses suitable for the different birds that nest in and near Edwardsville and were posted in the Sunday-schools and some of the business houses. One of the hardware stores gave up a show window for the display. Prizes were offered and the newspapers of the city gladly gave publicity to the contest. The contest came to a close on April 7th and cash prizes and prizes consisting of a tool chest, a camera, etc., were awarded to the winners. Already plans for a contest for another year are being matured.

CARTHAGE: The head of the department of Botany at Carthage College, Prof. Frank C. Gates, offers an extra course in bird study which is proving a popular feature of college work there. A group of twenty-seven students is taking the work, one of whom is beginning major work in birds this year. A report of field observations made by members of this class appears elsewhere in this Bulletin.

HINSDALE: The Hinsdale Bird Study Club (Junior Audubon) is endeavoring to do its share in the good work by putting up notices and providing baths for the birds in summer, and feeding stations and shelters in the winter, and by interesting others in this same work. The members

meet every fortnight for study; a regular program is followed, one time a new bird is taken up, the next, a special subject, such as migration, molting, etc.; or, occasionally, a radiopticon lecture is given. The ten-room martin house shown in the accompanying picture was designed and constructed by the members, who are of the sixth and seventh grade ages.

The boys built the house and the girls paid for the materials. They bought the rough material, cut it, worked it out themselves, etc., all without any help from any adult. In fact, no one knew anything about it until it was far advanced. The idea of hinges to open the top was all their own.



The class uses Miller's First and Second Book of Birds as texts and supplements them with the Audubon leaflets and pictures, and clippings from various sources, etc. Three members take Bird Lore, and each child has at least two bird books of his own. They are active in sending for government publications on birds, etc. Hinsdale has many bird houses in its trees, and also a good many bird baths of various sorts. The Club is trying to get all the schools of the town interested in a large exhibit. Miss Edith M. Adams is the leader.

JACKSONVILLE: Interest in bird study has shown itself among adults as well as the public school pupils and college students. At the Illinois Woman's College, Mrs. Alma Hollinger has a class interested in all phases of bird study. This class has field work in two sections on Mondays, Miss A. Alexander of the Biology department leading one of the sections. The Illinois Audubon Society's bird slides were enjoyed by the college students, then shown several times, in the public schools, including the manual training departments and also in the State School for the Deaf and Dumb. Another program was given in the School of Music. Miss Lazelle sang bird songs and Miss Alexander explained the slides. About 250 pupils and friends enjoyed the program.

OREGON: At the "story hour" given every other Saturday at the public library, Mrs. Augusta De Lhorbe makes it a point to have a bird story on the program and then permit children to talk about the birds they have seen since their last report. The story of John Muir's life together with bird, animal and tree stories made up a recent program.

RANTOUL: Mr. George E. Ekblaw writes as follows:

"Mr. Musselman's report of the Pileated Woodpecker along the Mississippi River reminds me that many years ago one was observed in this vicinity. He was discovered near the top of a pine tree standing on a lawn. His flashing crest and brilliantly contrasted colors surely identified him. With his strong beak he was actively engaged in tearing off large pieces of the loosened bark. His stay was of very brief duration, only a few minutes. This is one of the welcome occasional surprises that gladden the heart of an observer."

STREATOR: The Spring campaign is proving successful in the highest degree. The two clubs organized by Miss Marian Hoadley and Mrs. Benalleck have increased to twenty with a total membership of about 500. Through the influence of the ladies mentioned and of other Audubon workers a majority of the various parents' and teachers' associations of the city exploited birds in their programs. One of these associations, that of the Plumb School, organized five Audubon clubs. One outcome of activity of this sort was a bird house contest which ended April 2 with an exhibit of 300 houses. These were set up in the long corridor on the first floor of the Grant School. This was lined along its entire sides and there was a double row through the center and still there were more bird houses, so one room was vacated and given over to the exhibit. Included in it were the hand-made booklets worked out by two Audubon clubs showing the work done by them during the past few months. The Commercial Club, Civic League, two of the newspapers, two literary societies, and several teachers and other interested individuals had furnished thirty-seven prizes and as the work was of unusual excellence the judges had no easy task in making the awards. Throughout the afternoon and evening of the day the houses were on exhibition great crowds came and went and all were unanimous in declaring the exhibit one of the most interesting ever displayed in the Streater schools. In connection with the exhibit the Grant Parents'-Teachers' Club gave a program at which time City Attorney T. G. Essington gave a very interesting talk on how to study birds in the field. The bird slides loaned by the Illinois Audubon Society were used in Streater during the progress of the contest and helped to create and increase public interest.

VANDALIA: This city also reports a bird house contest which has attracted attention throughout that part of the state. The contest was promoted by the publishers of the Vandalia Union and was open to all children under sixteen living in Fayette county, of which Vandalia is the county seat. On March 24 two hundred contestants from various school of the county were present with their nesting boxes and the public display in front of the courthouse was witnessed by hundreds of people. At a gathering of



W. W. Rathbone—Photo.

COOPERS HAWK

the contestants and their friends in the Dixey theater, in the afternoon prizes were awarded to eighteen pupils. Rev. J. W. Ramsey who awarded the prizes gave a fine talk to the young people about the value of birds and how to attract them. The publishers of the Union gave much newspaper space to notices of the contest and in addition they obtained a supply of government bulletins which were distributed to good advantage.

Spring Census and Migration Record

CARTHAGE, ILLINOIS.

Winter of 1916-17 to March 27, 1917.

AOU	First Seen	AOU	First Seen
132 Mallard Duck	March 8	498 Red-winged Blackbird	March 14
171a Amer. White-fronted Goose	Mar. 12	501 Meadowlark	March 9
172 Canada Goose	Feb. 22	501.1 Western Meadowlark	March 24
273 Killdeer	March 21	509 Rusty Blackbird	March 10
289 Bobwhite	Feb. 26	511b Bronzed Grackle	Feb. 12
316 Mourning Dove	March 18	517 Purple Finch	Feb. 22
331 Marsh Hawk	March 17	528 Redpoll	Abundant Winter Res.
334 American Goshawk	March 24	529 American Goldfinch	Winter Res.
337 Red-tailed Hawk	Feb. 3	559 Tree Sparrow	Winter Res.
343 Broad-winged Hawk	March 24	560 Chipping Sparrow	March 17
347a Amer. Rough-legged Hawk	Feb. 3	563 Field Sparrow	March 21
360 Sparrow Hawk	Winter Res.	567 Slate Colored Junco	Winter Res.
366 Long-eared Owl	Winter Res.	581 Song Sparrow	Feb. 15
367 Short-eared Owl	Winter Res.	585 Fox Sparrow	March 10
373 Screech Owl	Winter Res.	587 Towhee	March 21
375 Great-horned Owl	Winter Res.	593 Cardinal	Winter Res.
376 Snowy Owl	Winter Res.	617 Cedar Waxwing	Feb. 12
393 Hairy Woodpecker	Winter Res.	622c Migrant Shrike	March 22
394 Downy Woodpecker	Winter Res.	726 Brown Creeper	Winter Res.
409 Red-bellied Woodpecker	Winter Res.	727 White-breasted Nuthatch	Winter Res.
412 Northern Flicker	Feb. 26	728 Red-breasted Nuthatch	Jan. 25
456 Phoebe	March 20	731 Tufted Titmouse	Winter Res.
474b Prairie Horned Lark	Feb. 3	735 Chickadee	Winter Res.
477 Blue Jay	Winter Res.	759b Hermit Thrush	March 10
488 Crow	Winter Res.	761 Robin	First seen Feb. 14
495 Cowbird	March 15	766 Bluebird	Feb. 22

Compiled by Luella Strauch from the records of Earl L. Lambert, Frank C. Gates and students in the bird class at Carthage College.

CHARLESTON WINTER AND SPRING NOTES.

An open winter with little snow has been favorable for bird life. Downy Woodpeckers and Chickadees have seldom come to the suet except during the few short spells of wintry weather, which makes it appear that they were finding plenty of natural food. A few robins have remained over winter. A female Baltimore Oriole remained till December 1, making daily visits to a feeding shelf maintained by Mrs. C. L. Lee. All of our regular winter birds appeared in their usual numbers, and two species, usually scarce in the region, were quite common. These are the Short-eared Owl and the White-breasted Nuthatch. Raptorial birds have been unusually in evidence this last winter and early spring, which may be partly accounted for by the open weather, an unusual abundance of rabbits and perhaps by the high cost of shot gun shells, making many gunners shoot only those creatures that yield returns in the form of meat; and the high cost of this meat has caused an unusual amount of pot-hunting.

The early spring birds arrived unusually early this season. The following is a list of them with dates when they first appeared and became common.

	First seen	Became common		First seen	Became common
Robin		Feb. 25	Turkey Buzzard	Mar. 22	
Bluebird	Feb. 17	Feb. 26	Red-winged Blkbrd	Mar. 16	
Bronzed Grackle	Feb. 26	Mar. 15	Cedar Waxwing	Mar. 17	
Killdeer	Feb. 21		Bewick's Wren	Mar. 25	Mar. 26
Meadowlark	Feb. 25	Feb. 25	Brown Thrasher	Mar. 26	
Phoebe	Mar. 11		Vesper Sparrow	Mar. 26	
Towhee	Mar. 20		Cowbird	Mar. 28	
Song Sparrow		Mar. 11	R. C. Kinglet	Mar. 28	
Fox Sparrow	Mar. 22		Y. B. Sapsucker	Mar. 28	
Mourning Dove	Feb. 25		Wilson's Snipe	Mar. 28	

Normal School, Charleston, Ill.

T. L. HANKINSON.

Chicago, Graceland Cemetery, April 1. Cloudy. Cold Northeast Wind. Temperature about 35 degrees. 6:00-7:30 A. M.: Robins, 18; Flickers, 10; Sapsuckers, 11; Ruby-crowned Kinglets, 8; Hermit Thrushes, 7; Chewinks, 2; Juncos, 20; Golden-crowned Kinglets, 10; Brown Creeper, 1; House Wren, 1; Field Sparrows, 3; American Golden-eye, 1. April 6, moderate northwest wind. Temperature 43 degrees. 7:00-8:45 A. M.: Robins, 31; Grackles, 21; Song Sparrows, 4; Flicker, 1; Phoebes, 4; Downy Woodpeckers, 3; Fox Sparrow, 1; Sapsuckers, 4; Chickadees, 3; Brown Creepers, 4; King Fisher, 1; Junco, 1; Field Sparrows, 5.

River Forest, first seen dates: February 22, 1917. Prairie Horned Larks, 5. March 9, 1917, Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1. March 10, 1917, Quail, 2; Juncos, 20; Flicker, 1; Meadowlarks, 2; Killdeers, 8. March 11, 1917, Robins, 5. March 19, 1917, Song Sparrow, 1; Cowbirds, 5; Junco, 1; Bronze Grackles, 8; Crows, 2. March 21, 1917, Tree Sparrows, 5; Bluebird, 1; Nuthatches, 2; Blue Jays, 2; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Red-winged Blackbirds, 12. March 23, 1917, Juncos, 200; Sparrow Hawk, 1. March 26, 1917, Golden-crowned Kinglets, 8; Brown Creeper, 1; Blackbirds, 50. March 28, 1917, Hermit Thrush, 1.

WALTER G. GERTH.

EQUALITY.

April 1. List of Birds observed by Mrs. M. I. Maas: Robin Titmouse (tufted); Towhee; Downy Woodpecker; Red-headed Woodpecker; Flicker; Cardinal; White-crowned Sparrow; Lincoln Sparrow; Carolina Wren; House Wren; Bluebird; Mockingbird; Brown Thrasher; Grackle.

GLEN ELLYN.

The spring season of migration seems to have come into being here on the ninth of March, when a single migrant Shrike was seen. That evening two Robins were heard and seen, though a single individual of the latter probably has remained in the village all winter. Several Juncos and Tree Sparrows were singing among the willows at upper end of lake. These, too, have been with us all winter. The day was cloudy for the most part, but clearing in the afternoon; wind southwest, temperature 43 degrees at 2:00 o'clock.

March 10: Cloudy and threatening; thunder showers in the morning; wind southwest, temperature 45 degrees at 2:00 o'clock. A single male Red-winged Blackbird was seen in a small slough east of Sanford; also a Rough-legged Hawk flying over the fields near Bellewood, farther east.

March 11: Cloudy; wind southwest shifting in the afternoon to northwest, temperature 43 degrees at 2:00 o'clock. Thunder shower during the night. Robin on our place this morning. Flock of 15 Red-wings in willow near springs. Red-shouldered Hawk circling over woods and calling. One Song Sparrow, several Juncos and a number of Tree Sparrows singing. Three Goldfinches seen. Crows noisy. A neighbor reports hearing and seeing at least one Meadowlark today.

March 15: Fair for the most part; wind northwest, temperature 37 degrees at 2:00 P. M. A Bronzed Grackle calling on our place at 6:30 A. M. Must have been a transient, as not heard or seen later in the day.

March 16: Light snow and hail during the night; light rain and hail about noon today; wind westerly; temperature 35 degrees at 2:00 o'clock. Bronzed Grackle pursuing a Crow over our place about 7:00 A. M. Several Tree Sparrows near the lake—one or more singing, and at least one Robin among the willows.

March 18: Partly cloudy; snow flurries at times; wind west and southwest, shifting to northwest, temperature 29 degrees at 2:00 P. M. Several Tree Sparrows in song among the willows of south end of lake. No other birds heard or seen, though it was thought the call of the Bluebird was heard in early morning before arising; large snowflakes were falling, with driving wind from southwest at the time.

March 19: Clear; brisk southwest wind; temperature 44 degrees at 2:00 P. M. Two Bronzed Grackles on our place.

March 20: Clear; wind west and southwest, temperature 51 degrees at 2:00 P. M. Early migrants really were in evidence today. Pair of Bronzed Grackles on our place. During a trip to woods, lake and springs the following noticed: Song Sparrow, two singing; Juncos, one; Tree Sparrow, several; Bluebird, two males seen and possibly two more heard. Red-tailed Hawks pursued by Crows circling off northwesterly. Heard the call of the Red-shouldered Hawk; Cedar birds, flock of fifteen among large willows near the springs. Meadowlark, two singing; Killdeer—heard one call at the lake. Several Robins singing in the villages, two going north at 9:00 A. M. were evidently migrating. At 8:15 A. M. a flock of twenty-one Canada Geese was seen flying northeast.

March 21: Clear; wind westerly; temperature 54 degrees at 2:00 P. M. About a dozen Bronzed Grackles on own place and one Bluebird singing. This evening frogs were heard croaking for the first time.

March 24: Clear; wind southwest, temperature 56 degrees at 2:00 P. M. Robins numerous in village, two Bluebirds seen, and flock of about 20 Bronzed Grackles about our place.

March 25: Clear in early morning, cloudy for the most part later; wind southwest, temperature 60 degrees at 2:00 P. M. Visited woods, lake and springs 9 to 10 A. M. Bluebill Ducks—flock of 22 and more in centre of lake; Northern Flickers, 3; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Golden-crested Kinglet, 2 males; pair of Red-shouldered Hawks, flying over and through the woods calling. Tree Sparrows, 3; Juncos, 3; White-breasted Nuthatch calling its mating-note, but remained quiet when imitated. Frogs calling loudly from a little pond in woods.

March 27: Cloudy and cool; wind northwest, temperature 38 degrees at 2:00 P. M. Visited lake and woods for a short time this afternoon. 2 Fox Sparrows in song; Phoebe—a pair, (together on same branch of tree) on shore of lake. Red-shouldered Hawks still present and noisy. There is decided difference in the male and female calls. Sapsucker, 1 due, and later another on our place. Also a Brown Creeper on our place. Several Juncos in woods.

March 28: Fair; wind southwest, temperature 56 degrees at 3:00 P. M. Visited lake, woods and springs again—9:00 to 10:00 A. M. Several Juncos in woods. One Fox Sparrow singing. Winter Wren, 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 1; Pied-billed Grebe, two (2), together, and possibly a pair in lake; Phoebe, two pairs, one being at same stand as yesterday. Bluebird, 1 male. Later several juncos appeared on our place.

March 29: Cloudy; wind northeast, temperature 47 degrees at 3:00 P. M. Visited lake and woods again, but evidently no change had taken place from yesterday. Same species present.

March 30: 2:00 o'clock, a single Coot in lake this morning. Was very tame and allowed a near approach. Juncos, common, at a little wet run in village where they were bathing and feeding.

March 31: Slight thunder shower in early morning. Cloudy and threatening later. Brisk southwest wind, shifting in evening to northwest, temperature 73 degrees at 2:00 P. M. First Mourning Dove arrived on our place this morning though it was thought one was heard yesterday. Visited lakes, springs, creek, bottom and woods. A male Cooper's Hawk was observed near the Springs, flying within easy range of me, while talking with a friend, and passed rapidly in a northwesterly direction through the woods and just below the tree-tops. Was evidently foraging and migrating at the same time. The first Cowbirds also noticed on this trip—a flock of 5 trailing a scattered flock of Red-wings going northwest; later in the day a Cowbird was heard calling near our place.

Glen Ellyn, April 2, 1917.

B. T. GAULT.

HINSDALE.

March 25, 4:30 to 6:00 P. M. Clear, no wind; temperature 70 degrees. Sanitarium and Highland woods with adjoining eastern meadow.

Killdeer, 1; Short-eared Owl, 1; Red-headed Woodpecker, 2; Flicker, 1; Phoebe, 2; Prairie Horned Lark, 2; Blue Jay, 1; Crow, 30; Cowbird, 2; Red-winged Blackbird, 100; Meadowlark, 6; Bronzed Grackle, 50; Tree Sparrow, 15; Junco, 50; Song Sparrow, 10; Fox Sparrow, 18; Towhee, 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 5; Robin, 100; Bluebird, 4. Species 20, individuals, 400.

ESTHER A. CRAIGMILE.

Jacksonville, February 26, 8-10 A. M. and 4:30-5:30 P. M., clear, cool, light wind. Song Sparrows, 6; Meadowlarks, several; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 1; Flicker, 1; Brown Creeper, 1; Tufted Titmouse, 4; Cardinals, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Rusty Blackbird, 1; Bluebirds, 2; Crows, several; Blue Jay, 1; Fox Sparrows, 3; Migrant Shrike, 2; Chickadee, 1; Juncos, many; Robins, 4; English Sparrows, many. March 26, 6-9 A. M., clear, warm, light wind: Robins; Meadowlarks; Bluebirds; Song Sparrows; Tufted Titmouse; Chickadees; Cardinals; Blue Jays; Turtle Doves, 2; Crows; Phœbes, 2; Red-winged Blackbirds; Downy Woodpecker, 3; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 4; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 2; Bronzed Grackle; Cowbird, 2; Flickers, many; Brown Thrasher, 1; Golden-crowned Kinglets, several; Juncos, many; Field Sparrows, 4; Screech Owl, 1; Brown Creepers, 6; 2-4 P. M. Baird's Sandpipers, 19; Killdeer, 2.

ALMA HOLLINGER.

LAGRANGE.

March 21; clear; bright sun; temperature 45 degrees; light northwest wind. 9:00 A. M. to 12:00 A. M. Along Salt Creek, north of LaGrange.

Juncos, 5; Song Sparrow, 6; Swamp Sparrow, 1; Cardinal—male and female, 2; Marsh Hawk, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 2; Red-headed Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 1; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Crows, 9; Rusty Blackbirds, 50; Red-winged Blackbirds, 10; Meadowlark, 10; Bluebirds, 15 (male and female); Robins, 8 (males); Goldfinch, 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 1; Bronzed Grackle, 1. 18 varieties, 123 individuals.

MRS. A. E. TAYLOR,

MRS. J. M. KAVANAGH.

On the whole, the Spring Migration so far has been quite fruitful in the line of good dates and a few rare records.

The Snowflake was seen on the second of February. Flocks of Cedar Waxwings were observed occasionally and I might also mention that the Bohemian Waxwing was reported by reliable observers. During one of my Saturday afternoon sojourns to the near-by woods, I almost stepped on a Ruffed Grouse (this is my first record for LaGrange). The date was February 17th. The Robin was first noted on the 24th of the last named month and was seen every day from then on. On the 16th of March I saw a flock of 30 Redpolls. They are still lingering here (March 25th). Following are some of my dates for the migrants which have arrived up to now (March 25th):

Green-winged Teal -----	March 10	Goldfinch -----	March 25
Bluebird -----	March 10	Kingfisher -----	March 25
Killdeer -----	March 10	Fox Sparrow -----	March 25
Red-winged Blackbird -----	March 10	Sharp-shinned Hawk -----	March 25
Bronzed Grackle -----	March 10	Vesper Sparrow -----	March 25
Meadowlark -----	March 10	Towhee -----	March 25
Northern Flicker -----	March 10	Golden-crowned Kinglet -----	March 25
Rusty Blackbird -----	March 16	Winter Wren -----	March 25
Lapland Longspur -----	March 18	Sapsucker -----	March 25
Coot -----	March 24	Cedar Waxwing -----	March 25
Sparrow Hawk -----	March 24	Cowbird -----	March 25
Wilson's Snipe -----	March 24	Migrant Shrike -----	March 25
Rough-legged Hawk -----	March 24	Tufted Titmouse -----	March 25
Sandhill Crane -----	March 24	Ruby-crowned Kinglet -----	March 25
Purple Finch -----	March 25		

There are some species of birds that arrived a few days earlier but I have given my dates.

I suppose I will have to tell the story of the Sandhill Crane. I was just returning home from the Clarks' at Hinsdale when my attention was called to some ducks which were flying over. One boy scout called out, "Look at the ducks." What they supposed were ducks, turned out to be a very rare record, such are the chances of an observer. They were flying in a northerly direction at a moderate rate of speed and up in the air at a height until they were about twice the size of a crow. It was at 5:15 P. M. The sun was shining on them but they looked black as far as I could make out. What first attracted my attention was the flying of the birds in single file with the long necks and feet stretched out horizontally. Three individuals were in the flock.

EDMUND F. HULSBURG.

March 1. A flock of 15 Canvas-back in Jackson Park in a small patch of open water. Also several Old-squaw. A flock of 25 Redpolls at Riverside.

March 4. The same ducks at Jackson Park. The "Phœbe" note of the Chickadee heard this afternoon. Red-wings and Robins reported.

March 9. Red-wings and Meadowlarks here in full song. Cardinal and Tree Sparrows singing at Riverside. 17 species observed.

March 10. Very warm day. Heavy migration lasting through the day. Crows migrating. All the birds are singing. Cowbird, Bluebird, Rusty Blackbird, Longspurs, Robins, Killdeer, Sparrow Hawk, Bronzed Grackle, Marsh Hawk, Red-shinned Hawk and Mallard Duck arrived.

March 11. Green-winged Teal and Fox Sparrows seen at Summit. Song Sparrows abundant and in full song.

March 15. The river is rising rapidly. Sharp-shinned Hawk observed at Riverside. The Tufted Titmouse also seen with a flock of Chickadees. Juncos numerous and singing.

March 18. Snowing and cold at Riverside this morning. Titmouse calling and a Red-tailed Hawk seen. A male Wood Duck in full plumage observed. We watched him walk along the bank for a few yards before he flew. A beautiful bird.

March 20. Tree Sparrows and Juncos increasing. Their full song is heard everywhere. Red-wings passing in large flocks.

March 21. Very warm. Ring-billed and Bonaparte Gulls observed on lake front.

March 22. Another heavy migration. South wind. Fox Sparrows everywhere and in full songs. Other birds increasing. Coot, Kingfisher, Vesper Sparrow, Woodcock, Towhee, Phoebe, Lesser Scaup Duck, Ruddy Duck, and Golden-crowned Kinglet observed for first time.

March 24. Very good day for birds. 44 species observed including Carolina Wren, Rough-legged Hawk, Wilson Snipe, Blue-winged Teal, Pigeon Hawk and Cooper's Hawk. Rusty Blackbirds are exceedingly abundant.

March 26. Hermit Thrush and Grebe at Jackson Park. A large flock of Pectoral Sandpipers observed at Riverside. Sparrow Hawks flying over.

March 28. Cold and snow. Woodcock on wooded island in Jackson Park. Grebes common.

March 29. Mourning Doves and Sapsucker seen. Juncos the most common bird now.

March 30. Winter Wren, Red-headed Duck, and Golden-eye seen for the first time. Tree Sparrows going north rapidly. Swamp Sparrow seen.

March 31. Jackson Park, Riverside and Millers. Very warm and birds abundant. The following birds seen during the day: Bluebird, 6; Robin, 75; Hermit Thrush, 4; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 7; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 45; Chickadee, 7; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Brown Creeper, 10; Cardinal, 6; Towhee, 25; Fox Sparrow, 85; Song Sparrow, 85; Junco, 525; Field Sparrow, 15; Tree Sparrow, 50; Vesper Sparrow, 2; Redpoll, 1; Purple Finch, 1; Bronzed Grackle, 150; Rusty Blackbird, 175; Cowbird, 50; Crow, 40; Blue Jay, 4; Swamp Sparrow, 2; Phoebe, 5; Flicker, 20; Sapsucker, 25; Downy Woodpecker, 3; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Kingfisher, 3; Red-shinned Hawk, 2; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Marsh Hawk, 1; Turkey Vulture, 1; Golden-eye Duck, 1; Green-winged Teal, 3; Ring-necked Duck, 10; Killdeer, 5; Coot, 25; Black-crowned Night-Heron, 2; Great Blue Heron, 2; Lesser Scaup Duck, 110; Greater Scaup Duck, 1; Redhead, 3; Baldpate, 7; Mallard, 6; Herring Gull, 75; Ring-billed Gull, 4; Bonaparte Gull, 4; Piedbill Grebe, 15. Total, 52 species.

The following were observed by others during day: Greater-yellow leg, Wilson Snipe, Blue-winged Teal, Red-tailed Sparrow Hawk, Screech Owl, Prairie Horned Lark, Goldfinch, Sparrow Hawk, Tree Swallow, Winter Wren, Longspur. Grand total for day, 63 species.

JAMES D. WATSON AND MAX DE LAUBENFELS.

METROPOLIS.

March 29: Junco; White Throated Sparrow; Field Sparrow; Chipping Sparrow; Meadowlark; Brown Thrasher; Downy Woodpecker; Hairy Woodpecker; Mockingbird; Cardinal; Black and White Creeper; Bluebird; Bronzed Grackle; Northern Flicker; Pine Warbler; Bewick's Wren; Carolina Wren; Tufted Titmouse.
MRS. J. C. COURTNEY.

March 29: Brown Thrasher; Field Sparrow; Song Sparrow; Chipping Sparrow; Meadow Lark; Red-headed Woodpecker; Mockingbird; Cardinal; Bluebird; Bronzed Grackle; Bewick's Wren; Cowbird; Robin; Turtle Dove; Blue Jay; Junco; Carolina Wren.

This winter when the snow was heavy, there were large flocks of Lapland Longspurs around my house. I fed them from the porches. They were the first I ever saw in this county. I know of no other record.

MRS. P. O. JOHNS.

MUDDY.

Birds reported April 5 as follows: Blackbirds; English Sparrows; Meadow-larks; Juncos; Robins; Field Sparrows; White-crowned Sparrows; White-throated Sparrows; Song Sparrows; Clay-colored Sparrows; Crows; Towhees; Vesper Sparrows; Red-winged Blackbirds; Red-headed Woodpecker; Fox Sparrow; Townshend Sparrow; Tree Sparrow; Blue Jay; Sapsucker; Cardinal Grosbeak; Brown Thrasher; "Jack Snipes"; Bluebirds; Flicker; "Bob-White"; Chickadees; Tufted Titmouse; Mourning Dove; Sparrow Hawk; Chicken Hawk; Barred Owl; Screech Owl; Downy Woodpecker; Hairy Woodpecker; Phoebe; Chipping Sparrow; House Wren; Brown Creeper; White-breasted Nuthatch; Golden-crowned Kinglet; Purple Finch; Shrike; Mockingbird; Winter Wren; Carolina Wren; Marsh Wren. These are mostly birds that remain with us during the winter.

W. E. JAYNER.

OREGON.

Oregon, on Rock River, in Ogle County. Bird Census, March 1-15. Taken in Oregon and vicinity, with the assistance of other observers.

Mrs. E. A. Laughlin, one mile north, west side: Barn Owl, 1; Winter Wren, 1; Robin, 12. Elizabeth Laughlin: Downy Woodpecker, 1; Blue Jay, 5; Crow, 10; Red-winged Blackbird, 3; Chipping Sparrow, 2; Chickadee, 6. Miss C. M. Barg: Bluebirds, 6.

Mrs. Mary B. VanInwegen, three miles north, west side: Bluebird, 2; Blue Jay, 2; Crow, 3; duck, 9 (not identified), flying up the river; innumerable English Sparrows seen day after day; Chickadee, 1; Bluebird, 3 flocks, 12 in all; several groups of Robins, about 20.

Mrs. J. L. Schaeffer, Sinnissippi Farm, home of Governor and Mrs. Lowden, four miles south, east side, duck 10, on river (not identified). Usual observer is at Springfield, so the great number and variety of birds at Sinnissippi Farm could not be reported, but Mrs. Schaeffer had "beginner's luck," and found American Three-toed Woodpecker, 1, March 10 (not listed by the Illinois Audubon Society); Blue Jay, 5; Crow, 10; English Sparrow, 50; Field Sparrow, 1, March 10; Chickadee, 1; Robin, 3; Bluebird, 1.

Fred Maysillis, five miles south, west side: Meadowlark, 1.

Dr. Pankhurst, Grand Detour, ten miles south, west side, March 6: Bluebird, 2; Robin, 6; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2; Cardinal, 2; hundreds of Mallards, Pintails and Shelldrakes near the river.

Conductor Huntley along or near right of way of the C. B. & Q. R. R. Branch from Oregon to Forreton. Near Oregon: Prairie Chicken, 20. Scattered along as far as Maryland Station, 12 miles northwest, 5 flocks of Quail (Bobwhite), about 15 in each flock.

Mount Morris College; observers, five students, Merlin G. Miller, Chas. Seeley, LeRoy Emmert, Paul Wingerd and Russell Dierdorf; Mount Morris seven miles northwest. Localities, Mount Morris and vicinity; Pine Creek from the "Old Mill" south three miles and the "White Pine Woods of Ogle County," five miles southwest, and south of the main line of the C. B. & Q. R. R. to St. Paul, but nine miles directly west of Oregon. Weather prevented observations on March 10, as planned, on account of cold week, so census was taken March 17, as the students could use only Saturday. However, census shows, in the main, the winter birds. Mount Morris: Horned Lark, 10; Bronzed Grackle, 200; Redpoll, 1. Mount Morris and Pine Creek, Robin, 11. Mount Morris and Pine Woods, Blue Jay, 24. Pine Creek and Pine Woods, Crow, 157. Pine Creek, Killdeer, 4; Downy Woodpecker 2; Tree Sparrow, 1. Pine Woods, Red-headed Woodpecker, 3; Junco, 6; Cedar Waxwing 250; Chickadee, 48; Bluebird, 15. Number in large flocks, notably Blackbirds, Crows, Waxwings, estimated. 3 Hawks seen, but not identified. Total number of species identified, 14; number of individuals, 722.

Mrs. Alec Smith, Liberty Hill (Oregon), north, west side: Cardinal, 2; Bluebird, 4; Junco, 20; Blue Jay, 3; English Sparrow, 40.

Mrs. J. Swingley, on river, north, west side, flock of Geese at night on Margaret Fuller Island; Tree Sparrow, 15; Robin, 2; Bluebird, 6; Blue Jay, 2; Cardinal, 1; Crow, 5; Flicker, 1.

Miss Lillie Lindsay, near Fair Grounds, north, west side, Tufted Titmouse, 2; Blue Jay, 25; Robin, 12; Cardinal, 1.

P. E. Hastings, Oregon, north, west side, on river, Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Blue Jay, 2; Chickadee, 1; Robin, 1.

Mrs. William DeLhorbe, Oregon, south, west side, Evening Grosbeak, 1.

Mrs. C. F. Thayer, Oregon, south, west side, February 15, Bluebird, 1. (Put in because of early arrival).

George Etnyre, Oregon, south, west side, Crow, 1; White-breasted Nuthatch, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Blue Jay, 2; Brown Creeper, 1; Evening Grosbeak, 15, (1 dead), feeding on seeds of American Linden Trees. The Evening Grosbeak is very fond of the Hackberry seed dried, but the Hackberry Trees about here had no fruit on them this last year. Suet kept in box on tree for birds at this home, and at other homes. One meat market man says suet is scarce here on this account. Cedar Waxwing, 1.

Sammis Betebeener, near railway bridge across river, south, Geese, 50; Mallard Duck, 30.

On road south across Kyte Creek, east side, three miles, March 5: Chickadee, 3; Robin, 1; Redpoll, 9; Junco, 11; Cardinal, 2, near their last year's nest in overgrown roadside hedge; Tree Sparrow, 23; English Sparrow, 175, in several flocks; Crow, 7. Near my home, March 7, Screech Owl, 1; Blue Jay, 1; Cardinal, 1; Flying low over house, March 12, Geese, 5. From train to Mount Morris, March 15, Robin, 15; Crow, 9; Wood Pewee, 1; Wilson's Snipe, 10, about to alight on a slough; covey of 20 Prairie Chickens seen earlier by Conductor Huntley. These birds had already mated. About my suet box and feed on ground under suet box tree, from March 1-15, Brown Creepers, 3, (1 dead under tree, one cold morning); Blue Jay, 7; Robin, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 4; Downy Woodpecker, 6; Whitebreasted Nuthatch, 2; English Sparrow, 50, (My English Sparrows are lowly creatures, and only what is on the ground is eaten by them); Bronzed Grackle, 1; Chickadee, 6. 2 Red-bellied Woodpeckers came regularly for suet till end of February, then stopped; and usually Red-breasted Nuthatches, but not this winter, come for suet every day. Eagles' Nest Camp, the summer home of the Artists' Colony, has many birds, and I planned to make a tramp up there, before the period was over, but other matters prevented. However, on this side of the river, about opposite the Camp, I came across last year's nest of a Ruby-throated Hummingbird, in the crotch of a young elm tree on the far side of the river roadway, looking, for all the world, as Mr. John Burroughs says, like "a wart on a limb," and waiting for the May coming of the tiny fliers.

REBECCA H. KAUFFMAN.

PORT BYRON.

The following bird censuses were taken out in the country, from 3 to 5 miles southeast of Port Byron. Feb. 25, 9 to 10:30 A. M.; 1 to 4 P. M., partly cloudy; fields and pastures nearly bare, ice in the sloughs and creeks, some snow in the woods; wind southeast, shifting to south, brisk temperature 31 degrees to 50 degrees.

Rough-legged Hawk, 5; Hairy Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 9; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 3; Prairie Horned Lark, 6; Blue Jay, 2; Crow, 11; Redpoll, 2; Tree Sparrow, 35; Junco, 30; Song Sparrow, 1; Cardinal, 3; White-breasted Nuthatch, 10; Tufted Titmouse, 2; Chickadee, 16. Total, 15 species, 143 individuals.

March 4; 9 to 10:30 A. M.; 12:30 to 3:45 P. M., partly cloudy; ground partly covered with snow and ice; wind north brisk, temperature 13 degrees to 27 degrees.

Great Horned-Owl, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 6; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 3; Prairie Horned Lark, 2; Blue Jay, 4; Crow, 3; Rusty Blackbird, 10; Bronzed Grackle, 7; Tree Sparrow, 180; Junco, 85; Song Sparrow, 1; Cardinal, 3; Brown Creeper, 1; White-breasted Nuthatch, 6; Chickadee, 17; Robin, 1; Bluebird, 25. Total, 18 species, 358 individuals.

March 11; 8:20 to 10:30 A. M., 12:15 to 4 P. M., cloudy and hazy; ground bare, thawed about one inch deep, rain during night made it very wet; wind northwest, brisk, temperature 39 degrees to 47 degrees. Pintail, 18 (one flock, flying over); Killdeer, 1; Bobwhite, 15; Rough-legged Hawk, 2; Great-Horned Owl, 1 (heard before sunrise); Hairy Woodpecker, 5; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 4; Prairie Horned Lark, 2; Blue Jay, 3; Crow, 8; Red-winged Blackbird, 60; Meadowlark, 10; Rusty Blackbird, 50; Bronzed Grackle, 3; Redpoll, 5; Goldfinch, 25; Tree Sparrow, 300; Junco, 185; Song Sparrow, 4; Cardinal, 8; Brown Creeper, 1; White-breasted Nuthatch, 7; Tufted Titmouse, 1; Chickadee, 22; Robin, 130; Bluebird, 25. Total, 27 species, 904 individuals.

March 18; 8:15 to 10 A. M.; 12:15 to 4 P. M. Partly cloudy, ground bare, ice in the sloughs; high northwest wind, temperature 23 degrees to 30 degrees. Marsh Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Rough-legged Hawk, 2; Screech Owl, 1 (heard after sunset); Great-Horned Owl, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 4; Downy Woodpecker, 7; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 5; Blue Jay, 1; Crow, 4; Rusty Blackbird, 100; Redpoll, 1; Goldfinch, 12; Tree Sparrow, 285; Junco, 300; Song Sparrow, 5; Fox Sparrow, 2; Cardinal, 4; Brown Creeper, 2; White-breasted Nuthatch, 7; Tufted Titmouse, 3; Chickadee, 15; Robin, 10; Bluebird, 20. Total, 24 species, 793 individuals.

Birds first seen: February 25, Song Sparrow; February 26, Bluebird; February 27, Robin; March 4, Rusty Blackbird, Bronzed Grackle; March 10, Killdeer, Red-shouldered Hawk, Meadowlark; March 11, Pintail, Red-winged Blackbird, Goldfinch; March 18, Marsh Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Fox Sparrow. Total, 14 species.

J. J. SCHAFER.

RANTOUL.

The steady weather of the past spring has been extremely good for birds, as their migratory movements have been very steady. This report covers a period from March 1 to March 25, inclusive:

(1) Bluebird arrived February 21; observed March 1, 3, 9 and daily thereafter. Highest record is 50, approximate, on March 18. (2) Robin arrived February 17; recorded daily during this period; highest record 500, approximate, on March 11 and March 20. (3) Golden-crowned Kinglet, 1 on March 25. (4) Tufted Titmouse, winter resident, March 11 and March 25, 2. (5) White-breasted Nuthatch, winter resident, March 18, 1; March 25, 2. (6) Brown Creeper, March 10, 1. (7) Winter Wren, March 25, 1. (8) Bewick's Wren, March 20, 1; March 25, 2. (9) Brown Thrasher, March 23, 1 (this date of the first arrival is same as last year). (10) Migrant Shrike. First recorded on March 6, and daily thereafter. High records, 10 individuals on March 11, 20 and 25. (11) Cedar Waxwing, winter resident, March 14, 11; March 18, 18; March 20, 12. (12) Cardinal (permanent) March 11, 2; March 25, 2. (13) Fox Sparrow: arrived February 27; March 11, 6; March 25, 20. (14) Song Sparrow (permanent resident), recorded March 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 11, 15, 16, and daily after March 19: high record March 20, 50. (15) Junco (winter resident): daily recorded. High record, March 11, 100, approximate. (16) Tree Sparrow (Winter resident), Daily recorded. High record March 11, 300, approximate. (17) Vesper Sparrow, March 24, 6; March 25, 2. (18) Bronzed Grackle: recorded February 26, 1. Recorded March 2, 1; March 7, 5. Daily after March 9. High record March 10 and 17, 50, approximate. (19) Meadowlark arrived February 22. Daily observed. High record March 12 and 20, 60, approximate. (20) Red-winged Blackbird, March 2, 1; daily after March 9; high record March 11 and 20, 30, approximate. (21) Cowbird, February 13, 1; daily recorded after March 10; high record March 17, 80. (22) Crow (permanent resident); daily recorded in estimated counts from 100 to 1,000. (23) Blue Jay regularly observed from 2 to 10. (24) Northern Flicker (permanent resident). Numbers are increasing; high record March 25, 12. (25) Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, March 9, 1. (26) Downy Woodpecker (permanent resident). Daily recorded on March 2, 3, 6, 10 and 11. (27) Screech Owl (permanent resident). One daily recorded by calling of bird. (28) Sparrow Hawk, one or two recorded daily. (29) Red-tailed Hawk, one recorded on March 16 and 20. (30) Killdeer arrived February 26; one recorded daily after March 7. High record March 11 and 15, 20. (31) Solitary Sandpiper, 1 on March 24. (32) Blue-winged Teal, March 14, 20; March 15, 500; March 17, 500; March 18, 200; March 19, 50. (33) Mallard (positively identified) March 17, 150. (34) Wild Geese arrived February 24: March 1, 10; March 2, 8; March 8, 60; March 9, 52; March 23, 3. (35) Wild Ducks arrived February 21. March 6, 22; March 7, 18; March 8, 70; March 9, 62; March 14, 23; March 15, 20; March 17, 3,000, approximate; March 18, 1,000, approximate; March 19, 300; March 20, 20. (36) Prairie Hen (permanent resident). (37) Rough-legged Hawk (Winter resident): March 3, 1; March 9, 3; March 16, 1; March 19, 1; March 20, 2. (38) Redpoll (Winter resident). Daily recorded till March 20. High record March 11, 300, approximate. (39) Lapland Longspur (Winter resident). Daily recorded. High record on March 20, 1,000, approximate. (40) Marsh Hawk, March 23, 24 and 25, 1. (41) White-tailed Kite, March 1, 6, 8, 9, 10, 20, 1. (42) Cooper Hawk, March 22 and 24, 1.

These records were made while about ordinary labors in the immediate vicinity about the lawn, orchard and farm.

GEORGE E. EKBLAW.

RIVER FOREST.

March 1, Robin; March 2, Song Sparrow; March 9, Cooper's Hawk White-breasted Nuthatch; March 10, Killdeer, Bob-white, Northern Flicker, Red-winged Blackbird, Meadowlark, Lapland Longspur, Junco; March 12, Bronzed Grackle; March 14, Cowbird; March 15, Red-headed Woodpecker, Blue Jay; March 20, Hairy Woodpecker; March 21, Mourning Dove, Downy Woodpecker, Marsh Hawk; March 23, Phoebe, Crow, White-crowned Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Brown Creeper, Chickadee, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet; March 24, Wilson's Snipe, Goldfinch, White-throated Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Red-breasted Nuthatch; March 25, Vesper Sparrow, Towhee, Hermit Thrush; March 26, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker,

Dr. Doehmling Natural History Society.

Per WALTER G. GERTH.

ROCKFORD.

March 3, 1917, Spring Creek, Rockford, Ill., 32 degrees, wind north. Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Red-headed Woodpecker, 6; Prairie Horned Lark, 2; Blue Jay, 6; Crows, 3; Red Poll, 60; American Goldfinch, 2; Tree Sparrow, 50; Slate-colored Junco, 12; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Chickadee, 8. 12 species, 154 individuals.

PAUL B. RIIS.

March 7, 1917, Black Hawk Park, Rockford, Ill., 40 degrees, wind south. Herring Gull, 1; Red-head Duck, 12; Rough-legged Hawk, 1; Screech Owl, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 6; Downy Woodpecker, 9; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Blue Jay, 7; Crows, 50; Redpoll, 2; Tree Sparrows, 54; Montana Junco, 6; Slate-colored Junco, 60; White-breasted Nuthatch, 7; Chickadee, 23; Brown Creeper, 1; Bluebird, 1. 17 species, 241 individuals.

J. C. VAN DUZER AND PAUL B. RIIS.

March 9, 1917, Highbridge to Roscoe, 8:45 A. M. to 5:00 P. M.

Dark in the morning to clear in afternoon, 30 degrees to 36 degrees; wind, light, south shifting southwest; ground frozen in morning, soft later in day.

Herring Gull, 2; Mallards, 5; Pintails, 44; American Golden Eye, 6; Short-eared Owl, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 9; Downy Woodpecker, 7; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Prairie Horned Lark, 12; Blue Jay, 45; Crow, 83; Red-winged Blackbird, 1; Redpolls, 67; Tree Sparrows, 82; Slate-colored Junco, 32; Song Sparrow, 3; Brown Creeper, 3 (one singing); White-breasted Nuthatch, 5; Chickadee, 23; Robin, 8; Bluebird, 2. Total, species 21, individuals 441.

J. C. VAN DUZER.

March 21, 1917, Willow Creek, clear, temperature 50 degrees, wind west, ground soft.

Mallards, 2; Canada Geese, 10; Killdeer, 2; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; (6 hawks migrating in loose flocks, not identified); Sparrow Hawk, 2; Belted Kingfisher, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpeckers, 3; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Phoebe, 3; Prairie Horned Lark, 16; Blue Jay, 3; Crows, 15; Red-winged Blackbird, 12; Meadowlark, 15; Western Meadowlark, 5; Rusty Blackbird, 2; Purple Grackle, 42; Purple Finch, 1; Redpolls, 3; Lapland Longspur, 1; Tree Sparrows, 31; Field Sparrow, 1; Slate-colored Junco, 5; Montana Junco, 1; Song Sparrow, 8; Brown Creeper, 1; White-breasted Nuthatch, 3; Chickadee, 7; Robin, 15; Bluebird, 5. 31 species, 218 individuals.

J. C. VAN DUZER AND PAUL B. RIIS.

ROCK ISLAND.

List of birds seen from March 20 to March 30, 1917: Phoebe; Tufted Titmouse; Chickadee; Goldfinch; Brown Creeper; White-breasted Nuthatch; Downy Woodpecker; Red-head Woodpecker; Meadowlark; Bluebird; Robin; Purple Grackle; Fox Sparrow; Field Sparrow; Chipping Sparrow; Song Sparrow; Cardinal; Winter Wren; Golden-crowned Kinglet; Red-winged Blackbird; Cowbird; Herring Gulls.

URBANA.

Urbana and vicinity, March 21 to 26, inclusive. The numbers show the largest number of individuals recorded by a single observer on a single trip during the above period. Pied-billed Grebe, 2; Blue Heron, 1; Coot, 1; Killdeer, 2; Mourning Dove, 4; Turkey Vulture, 2; Marsh Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 2; Long-eared Owl, 3; Screech Owl, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 3;

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 2; Flicker, 8; Phoebe, 1; Prairie Horned Lark, 4; Blue Jay, 4; Crow, 12; Cowbird, 9; Red-winged Blackbird, 25; Meadowlark, 15; Rusty Blackbird, 4; Bronzed Grackle, 75; Redpoll, 20; Vesper Sparrow, 2; Field Sparrow, 4; Slate-colored Junco, 125; Song Sparrow, 4; Fox Sparrow, 5; Towhee, 2; Cardinal, 4; Cedar Waxwing, 1; Migrant Shrike, 5; Brown Thrasher, 1; Bewick's Wren, 2; Winter Wren, 4; Brown Creeper, 12; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Tufted Titmouse, 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 30; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 2; Hermit Thrush, 6; Robin, 65; Bluebird, 8.

Several other species reported earlier, including: Mallards, Bobwhite, Red-tailed Hawk, Barred Owl, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Goldfinch, Tree Sparrow.

Nests with eggs noticed as follows: Red-tailed Hawk, February 17; Crow, February 25.

Some of the more interesting "first seen" records are as follows: Killdeer, February 25; Belted Kingfisher, March 10; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, March 25; Phoebe, March 25; Cowbird, March 23; Meadowlark, February 25; Field Sparrow, March 23; Fox Sparrow, February 25; Towhee, February 26; Migrant Shrike, March 24; Brown Thrasher, March 25; Bewick's Wren, March 23; Winter Wren, March 25; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, March 25; Hermit Thrush, March 26; Bluebird, February 24.

Compiled from the records of W. A. Goelitz, H. J. VanCleave, Mrs. Percy Ash, H. S. Grindley, Bessie R. Green and F. Smith, University of Illinois.

Winter Notes

RANTOUL—WINTER RECORD.

List of birds which were wintering in vicinity, but were observed only on days when their special winter home was visited:

1, Cardinal; 2, Chickadee; 3, Tufted Titmouse; 4, White-breasted Nuthatch; 5, Brown Creeper.

Additional list of those which were regularly, if not daily recorded during the winter; 6, Junco; 7, Tree Sparrow; 8, Crow; 9, Prairie Horned Lark; 10, Downy Woodpecker; 11, Hairy Woodpecker; 12, Screech Owl; 13, Rough-legged Hawk; 14, Lapland Longspur; 15, Redpoll.

Additional list of those occasionally seen: 16, Song Sparrow; 17, Goldfinch; 18, Blue Jay; 19, Northern Flicker; 20, Sparrow Hawk; 21, Red-tailed Hawk; 22, Prairie Hen; 23, White-tailed Kite; 24, Cedar Waxwing.

Additional list of rarer occurrences with dates of record, and number for each record:

25, White-throated Sparrow, December 25, 1; December 31, 2; 26, Vesper Sparrow (No doubt late southbound migrant), December 27 and 28, 1; 27, Bronzed Grackle (Also a procrastinating migrant), December 11, December 12 and December 23, 1; 28, Meadowlark (Same as above), December 1, 1; 29, Barred Owl, December 30, 1; 30, Morning Dove, December 9, 1; 31, Pigeon Hawk, December 3, 1; 32, Goshawk, January 4, 1; December 13, 1; 33, Broad winged Hawk, December 25, 1; 34, Purple Finch, January 13, 1; January 29, 6; February 22, 1; February 27, 2; 35, Herring Gull, January 5, 2; 36, Bohemian Waxwing (No doubt often intermingled with Cedar Waxwings but definitely identified only as below, February 15, 20; 37, Bobwhite, February 10, 4.

Special attention is directed toward numbers 15, 24, 32 and 35. The Redpoll has not been observed here for years, and the others but very rarely. Attention is desired toward 37. The Bobwhite is rapidly decreasing in this vicinity. In former years it was regularly observed. This winter it has been seen but once, and not because of lack of effort to discover it. Even so, the few that are here are assiduously hunted by those who pride themselves as being "sportsmen."

GEORGE E. EKBLAW.

BIRD OBSERVATIONS OF ROCKFORD AND VICINITY FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1917.

Rockford, Ill., (Pop. 57,000), Winnebago County, is situated on the beautiful Rock River, 92 miles northwest of Chicago, 18 miles south of the Wisconsin State line.

The field here offers good opportunities for bird study, with the exception that water birds must be sought in remoter parts of the county, as marshes and pools are insignificant. The bird life in our vicinity during the year just passed has been more abundant and richer than heretofore.

The earliest migrant in order of its arrival of the season and never recorded here before was the Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*). But the brightly colored bunch of feathers near the point of observation a day later clearly indicated the tragic end met by this beautiful visitant.

The Western Meadowlark arrived March 25th in partial song and continued to perform continuously until October 21st. The season previous their last notes were heard November 7, and am quite sure that even a later date should have held last year if other observers had assisted in making observation. The Western Meadowlarks as noted before are spreading through this region quite rapidly and are becoming less of a curiosity.

The first flock of Redpolls (*Acanthis linaria linaria* L) were seen by the author November 4th, and since that time have become very abundant. Flocks of from 100 to 500 birds were seen personally on several occasions.

On November 22nd for the first time according to local records there came to notice here a Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator leucura*—Müll). This bird had found a snug retreat in a quiet residential district, feeding freely on the red berries of the matrimony vine, alternating the fare with buds of the bush honeysuckle. There it remained for a week unafraid of its inquisitive callers.

The first flock of Evening Grosbeaks (*Hesperiphona vespertina vespertina* W. Coop) came to notice January 22nd composed of four birds, and a few days later eleven were seen in the same place. Other flocks of from seven to nineteen birds were seen about various parts of the city and to date, March 1st, are still here.

A flock of purple finches (*Carpodacus purpureus purpureus* —Gmel), composed of twenty-five birds, were observed repeatedly during the latter part of February.

One male Kingfisher also was noted, which in spite of the severity of the season remained here, (and is here today) making use of his burrow for a retreat from the cold. The river froze over entirely and his range lay along a small creek, which opened up but little here and there, during the severest part of the winter.

Red-headed Woodpeckers in fair numbers remained with us all winter, among them an immature bird.

The American Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra minor*—Brehm) arrived here November 1st and other flocks were reported from time to time, however they soon passed on.

Tree sparrows (*Spizella monticola monticola*—Gmel) were especially numerous, large flocks being present in many of the shrub-grown pastures. In other seasons these birds were almost entirely absent until late winter or early spring.

Several Song Sparrows and one male Red-winged Blackbird also wintered here.

The Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis cardinalis*—Linn) was again reported here, two females at one time and a single female at others. The one bird especially became a regular guest at a local feeding table.

Cedar Waxwings (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) with the vague record of transient visitants, last summer nested in the outskirts of this city in two widely different places and in one instance within the city limits. The author was fortunate enough to have under observation one nest near his home. Scotch Pines (*Pinus sylvestris* L) and Norway Spruce (*Picea abies* L) served for their nesting sites, the nests being placed eight and twenty-five feet above the ground respectively. The decoy nest, which is usually built by this specie, in advent of the real one, also was noted. Two fledglings resulted from one and four from the other nest.

The Winter Wrens, of which several were generally found around here, left for points unknown late in December.

The Red-breasted Nuthatches (*Sitta canadensis*—Linn) were unusually abundant early in the winter but since have settled down to their normal number.

The fall migration of Chickadees was not as marked as the year before. However, I have been able to establish quite definitely the permanent residence of members of this species by banding six nestlings, each one around the left leg. Banding is practiced here by two operators only, and by agreement on opposite legs, therefore we found Chickadees banded on the left leg feeding on suet but twenty-five feet from the box where six Chickadees had been banded around the left leg.

The Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*—Gmel) also showed that they had extended their range through the thickly populated part of the city, eight pair nesting here against two of the year previous. One pair especially noted for years has built within six blocks of the busiest corner in the city.

PAUL B. RIIS.

WINTER BIRDS ON A ROCK ISLAND COUNTY FARM.

Following are two lists of birds seen by the writer during the last two winters on a farm of 103 acres, 3 miles southeast of Port Byron, in the upper end of Rock

Island County, Illinois. Several bird walks were taken through the near-by fields, pastures, timber and brush land.

Birds seen during December, 1915, and January, 1916: Bobwhite, common; Marsh Hawk, one seen December 26, 27 and 28, was chasing some Bobwhites which took refuge in a hedge fence. Cooper's Hawk, rare during the winter; Rough-legged Hawk, common, not here when the snow was deep; Bald Eagle, one seen flying over on December 29; Screech Owl, common; Great horned Owl, common; Hairy Woodpecker, common; Downy Woodpecker, common; Red-headed Woodpecker—three remained over winter, two stayed in some woods one-half mile north, and one in the timber two miles south of where we live; Red-bellied Woodpecker, common; Northern Flicker, two seen December 26; Prairie Horned Lark here whenever the ground was bare; Blue Jay, common; Crow, common; Meadowlark, one stayed here near-by all winter; Tree Sparrow, abundant; Junco, abundant; Song Sparrow, one seen January 30; Cardinal, tolerably common; Brown Creeper, rare during the winter; White-breasted Nuthatch, common; Tufted Titmouse, rare permanent resident; Chickadee, common. Total, 24 species.

Birds seen during December, 1916 and January, 1917: Merganser, flock of about 100, flying over, December 2; Bobwhite, common; Mourning Dove, 1, December 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1, December 17, seen flying from the ground and carrying a bird about the size of a Bobwhite; Cooper's Hawk, 1, December 11; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1, December 31; Rough-legged Hawk, here all winter; Barred Owl, 1, December 25; Screech Owl, common; Great-horned Owl, common; Hairy Woodpecker, common; Downy Woodpecker, common; Red-bellied Woodpecker, common; Prairie Horned Lark, here all winter; Blue Jay, common; Crow, common; Purple Finch, four females, December 10; Redpoll, first seen November 5, then none were seen until December 17, after which they were here near-by every day this winter. Some days a flock of about 50 came into the garden; Goldfinch, last seen December 10; Tree Sparrow, abundant; Junco, abundant; Cardinal, common; Brown Creeper, rare; White-breasted Nuthatch, common; Tufted Titmouse, rare; Chickadee, common. Total, 26 species.

For feeding the birds we have two suet holders fastened to the south side of two posts at the south end of our vineyard, and about forty feet from one of the kitchen windows. About a foot below one of the suet holders, we fastened a shelf, on which we put cracked walnuts and butternuts every morning. Last winter we scattered ground popcorn and sweetcorn on the ground for the Tree Sparrows and Juncos. This winter we used ground corn. We also fastened a few ears of corn to the tops of some of the posts in the vineyard for the Cardinals.

The same birds that came to our feeding station during the winter of 1915 and 1916 came again this winter, and were as follows: Hairy Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, one pair; Red-bellied Woodpecker, one pair; Blue Jay, 3; Tree Sparrow, first winter, a few, second winter, many; Junco, first winter, many, second winter, large flock; Cardinal, 3; White-breasted Nuthatch, one pair; Chickadee, 4.

All of the birds were very fond of the cracked walnuts and butternuts. The Nuthatches and Chickadees would carry off all the loose kernels, the Woodpeckers and Blue Jays ate at the large pieces of shell in which there were yet kernels, and the Juncos and Tree Sparrows would eat the fine crumbs. Sometimes when the Woodpeckers were eating suet, the Juncos and Tree Sparrows would watch for the crumbs that fell upon the feeding shelf and the ground. This winter several of the Juncos learned to hang on the suet holders like a Chickadee does sometimes, and eat suet. The Cardinals, Blue Jays, and also sometimes the Woodpeckers, would take kernels from the ears of corn which were fastened to the tops of the posts.

During the latter part of April, and the fore part of May, 1916, several Chipping Sparrows, and one Catbird came to the feeding shelf to eat walnut kernels and crumbs. About the 10th of April, 1916, a pair of Red-headed Woodpeckers took possession of our feeding station, and chased all the other Woodpeckers away. They were especially vicious toward the Red-bellied Woodpeckers. During January, February and March, 1916, whenever there was snow on the ground, a flock of Bobwhites came to our garden, where we fed them corn at the north end of the vineyard. This winter not a single Bobwhite came on the place, but several of our neighbors reported having flocks come to their barnyards when the snow was deep.

The Redpolls, which were here all winter, would never eat at our feeding place. They were often seen sitting on the pear trees near the feeding station, but they would never fly down on the ground where the Juncos and Tree Sparrows were eating. I saw them quite often in the pastures, eating ragweed seed.

March 24, 1917.

J. J. SCHAFER, Port Byron, Ill.

Check List of Illinois Birds

The following check list of birds found in Illinois is a revision, with annotations and additions, of the one printed in the bulletin a year ago. The material for the revision and additional records has been furnished by Mr. Robert Ridgway of the United States National Museum, Mr. Benjamin T. Gault, of Glen Ellyn, Mr. Isaac Hess of Philo, and Mr. C. E. Vandercook of Odin. The records and observations of Mr. Gault have for years been regarded as standard for Illinois by Government experts such as Wells W. Cooke, and by Frank Chapman and other writers. Mr. Ridgway is one of the most eminent ornithologists America has produced. The Illinois Audubon Society is honored by his friendly co-operation in the preparation of this Bulletin. Mr. Hess is a business man of Philo who has for years been a discriminating field student of birds. His list of 108 species of birds whose nests he has visited within a ten mile radius of his home in Champaign County should greatly stimulate the interest of bird observers in Central Illinois. Mr. Vandercook's list of 95 species from Clinton County in Southern Illinois is entitled to the same honorable mention. A copy of his original notes, as well as those of Mr. Hess, showing nesting dates, is in the files of the Illinois Audubon Society. It was not possible to print all this data at this time, but the Society will be glad to furnish information therefrom to anyone writing for it.

The check list has been prepared as follows: Mr. Gault's list with comments and accompanying initial letters, referring to Northern, Central and Southern Illinois is printed as sent in. Mr. Ridgway's list for Southern Illinois and Mr. Hess' list for Central Illinois have been embodied in this by the use of asterisks and daggers. The asterisks refer to nesting records in Southern Illinois, double asterisks showing that the record was made in Richland County in which Mr. Ridgway's farm home is located and where his special observations have been made. Mr. Hess' records of nesting birds for Central Illinois are readily distinguished by the dagger marks. Mr. Vandercook's records being like those of Mr. Ridgway's from Southern Illinois blend with those records and do not require special notation but are referred to in the appended notes.

Mr. Ridgway's notes show that the southern form of Hairy Woodpecker, Meadowlark, and Robin occur in Southern Illinois as given in the list above. He also considers it likely that the southern form of the Downy, Pileated Woodpecker, Blue Jay and Crow prevail in Southern Illinois. Mr. Ridgway adds that the following species which breed in Central Illinois do not breed in Richland County, namely the Bobolink, Song Sparrow, Red-breasted Nuthatch, and Chickadee. The latter, (not the Carolina Chickadee), Mr. Ridgway has not been able to find nesting in seven counties of Southern Illinois.

Mr. Vandercook's notes are with special reference to Clinton County. The Wood Duck was common a few years ago along timbered creeks but now seems to breed only in secluded wooded bottoms. The Great Blue Heron now rarely nests. The Turkey Vulture is greatly on the decrease. Ruffed Grouse are not to be found now. The Pileated Woodpecker once common is now rare. In 1890 a Saw-whet Owl nested, but no other record has been made. The least Fly Catcher nested in 1888. There is one record for the Rose-breasted Grosbeak in 1888, and one for the Logger-head Shrike in 1890.

Accompanying Mr. Gault's notes was a letter in which he stated that he had tried to make it a complete breeding list of the birds of our state. A few names could have been left off altogether perhaps, but in order to make it a finished job it was thought best to let them go in. The nesting data for a great many of our birds is far from being complete and necessitates more or less speculation as to their probable breeding ranges. In other words, we are considerably in need of more accurate details and much might be attempted along these lines.

It is hardly necessary to remind readers of the Bulletin that of the names of birds on the check list, by far the most significant are those of the nesting birds. The occurrence within an area of a visitant rightly excites interest because of the very casualness of the visit, but one's abiding interest should be in the birds that nest and prove their worth within the limits of one's area. For this reason the annotations on the following list should be of great value. For example, a resident of Southern Illinois by looking for those names in the list marked with an asterisk can at once select from the greater list for the whole state those in whose life history he is more vitally concerned, and he can have the authority of Mr. Ridgway for his selection. Similarly those living in Central Illinois have but to look for names marked with a dagger and they have Mr. Hess' list which he checked off for himself in a typical corn-belt county. The initial letter N. represents Mr. Gault's special contribution for bird students of Northern Illinois. It is of interest to compare Mr. Gault's lists for Central and Southern Illinois marked with the initial letters C. and S., with those of Hess and Ridgeway distinguished by asterisks and dagger marks. One list usually corroborates another but not always. As in the preparation of the lists none of these gentlemen conferred with the others, each will doubtless be as interested in this composite list as will be the general readers. It is hoped that these lists will stimulate a wider interest in the study of bird populations, nesting dates and occurrences, etc., and that the records, additions, and revisions occasioned by this study will be sent in to this Bulletin for future publication.

EXPLANATORY.

The initial letters, N, C, S, refer respectively to Northern, Central and Southern Illinois. Where no such initial letter appears there is no record of the species breeding in Illinois, and such species are pure migrants or occasional visitants. The asterisks mark birds as nesting in Southern Illinois, the double asterisks referring especially to Richland County. The dagger mark refers to Central Illinois, the special reference being to Champaign County. The order in which the names appear is that of the AOU check list employed by all ornithologists. In using this check list many of our readers, like the editor, may find it more convenient to begin at the end of the list where the more common birds appear and work backwards.

The abbreviation S. R. refers to summer residents.

Grebes

- Holboell's Grebe.
 Horned Grebe. N.
 Eared Grebe.
 Pied-billed Grebe. N. C. S.

Loons

- Great Northern Diver. N.
 Black-throated Loon.
 Red-throated Loon.

Jaegers and Skuas

- Pomarine Jaeger.
 Long-tailed Jaeger.

Gulls and Terns

- Kittiwake Gull.
 Glaucous Gull.
 Iceland Gull.
 Great Black-backed Gull.
 Herring Gull.
 Ring-billed Gull.
 Laughing Gull.
 Franklin's Gull.
 Bonaparte's Gull.
 Sabine's Gull.
 Gull-billed Tern.
 Caspian Tern.
 Royal Tern.
 Forster's Tern. N.
 Common Tern.
 Least Tern.
 Black Tern. N.

Anhingas

- Snake Bird. S.

Cormorants

- Double-crested Cormorant. C.
 *Florida Cormorant. S.
 Mexican Cormorant.

Pelican

- American White.
 Brown Pelican.

Ducks, Geese, etc.

- American Merganser.
 Red-breasted Merganser. N.
 *Hooded Merganser. N. C. S.
 Mallard. (Probably confined as a breeder to Northern half of State.)
 Black Duck. N.
 Gadwall.
 European Widgeon.
 Baldpate. A possible breeder in N. Ill.
 Green-winged Teal. N.
 *Blue-winged Teal. N. C. S.
 Cinnamon Teal.
 Shoveller. Nested formerly in N. Ill. and may do so now.
 Pintail. N.
 †*Wood Duck. N. C. S.
 Redhead.
 Canvas-back Duck.
 Greater Scaup Duck.

- Lesser Scaup Duck. N.
 Ring-necked Duck. N.
 American Golden-eye.
 Barrow's Golden-eye.
 Bufflehead.
 Old Squaw.
 Harlequin Duck.
 American Eider.
 King Eider.
 American Scoter Duck. Common winter visitor on Lake Michigan.
 White-winged Scoter.
 Surf Scoter. Abundant fall and winter visitor to Lake Michigan and interior waters of State.
 Ruddy Duck. N.
 Lesser Snow Goose.
 Greater Snow Goose. Not uncommon during migrations.
 Blue Goose.
 White-fronted Goose.
 Canada Goose. N.
 Hutchin's Goose.
 Cackling Goose.
 Brant.

Swan

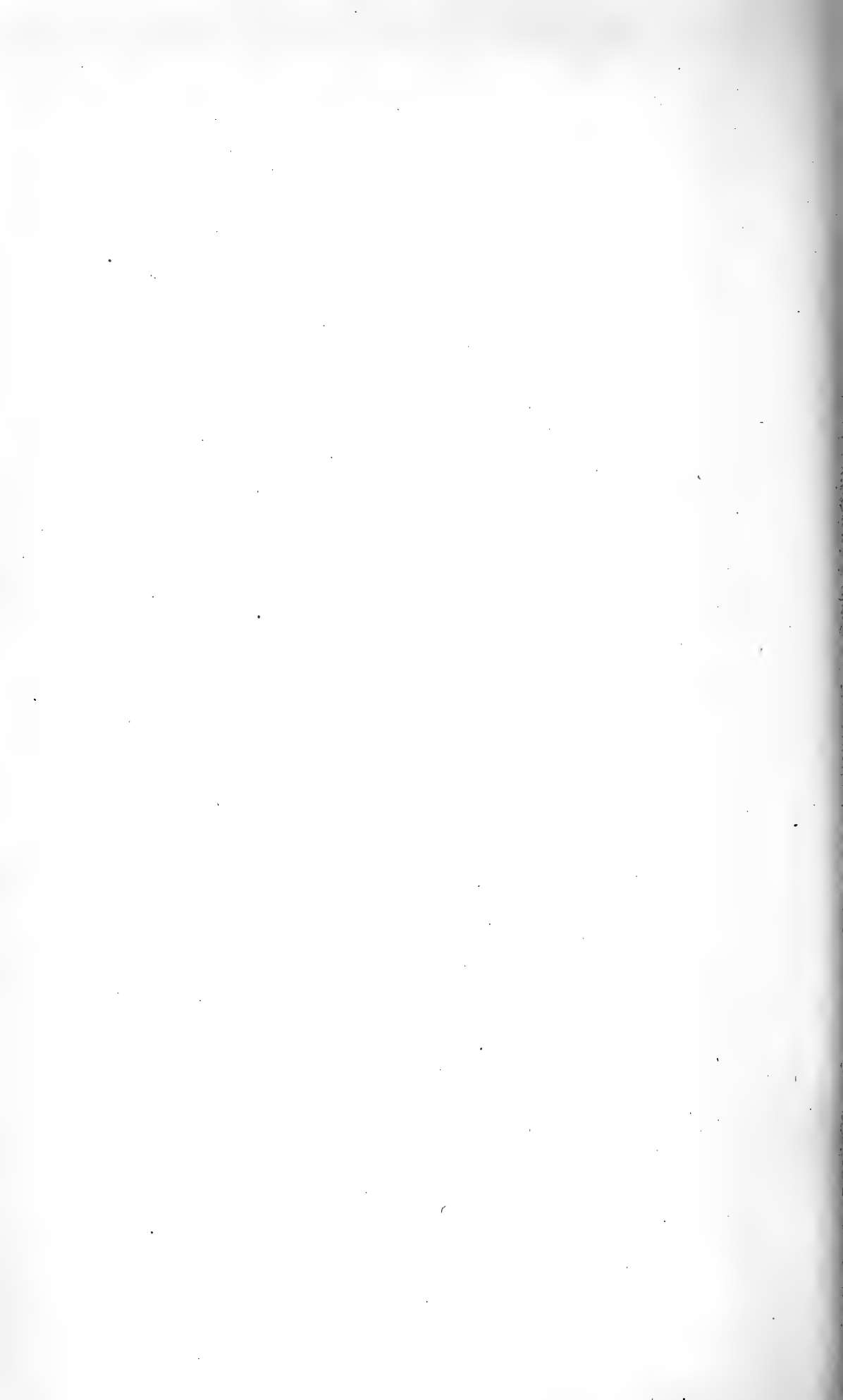
- Whistling Swan.
 Trumpeter Swan. No recent records.

Bitterns, Herons and Cranes

- Roseate Spoonbill. (?)
 White Ibis.
 Glossy Ibis.
 Wood Ibis. Not uncommon late summer visitor to Southern and Central Illinois.
 *American Bittern. N. C. S.
 *Least Bittern. N. C. S.
 Cory's Least Bittern. A peculiar color-phase of the Least Bittern —one record.
 †*Great Blue Heron. N. C. S.
 *American Egret. (?) Probably not nesting now. S. Ill.
 Snowy Heron.
 Reddish Egret.
 Little Blue Heron. Late S. R. in S. Ill.
 †**Green Heron. N. C. S.
 †*Black-crowned Night Heron. N. C. S.
 *Yellow-crowned Night Heron. S.
 Whooping Crane.
 Sandhill Crane. Nested formerly, but doubtless not now.
 Limpkin.

Rails, Gallinules and Coots

- †**King Rail. N. C. S.
 Virginia Rail. N. C. S.
 †Sora Rail. N. C. S.
 *Yellow Rail. N. C. S.
 †Black Rail. N. C. and possibly in S. Ill.



Grebes

Holboell's Grebe.
Horned Grebe.
Eared Grebe.
Pied-billed Grebe.

Loons

Great Northern Diver. N.
Black-throated Loon.
Red-throated Loon.

Jaegers and Skuas

Pomarine Jaeger.
Long-tailed Jaeger.

Gulls and Terns

Kittiwake Gull.
Glaucous Gull.
Iceland Gull.
Great Black-backed Gull.
Herring Gull.
Ring-billed Gull.
Laughing Gull.
Franklin's Gull.
Bonaparte's Gull.
Sabine's Gull.
Gull-billed Tern.
Caspian Tern.
Royal Tern.
Forster's Tern.
Common Tern.
Least Tern.
Black Tern.

Anhingas

Snake Bird. S.

Cormorants

Double-crested Cormorant.
Florida Cormorant.
Mexican Cormorant.

Pelican

American White.
Brown Pelican.

Ducks, Geese, etc.

American Merganser.
Red-breasted Merganser.
Hooded Merganser.
Mallard.
Black Duck.
Gadwall.
European Widgeon.
Baldpate.
Green-winged Teal.
Cinnamon Teal.
Shoveller.
Pintail.
Wood Duck.
Redhead.
Canvas-back Duck.
Greater Scaup Duck.

Lesser Scaup Duck.
Ring-necked Duck.
American Golden-eye.
Barrow's Golden-eye.
Bufflehead.
Old Squaw.
Harlequin Duck.
American Eider.
King Eider.
American Scoter Duck. Common winter visitor on Lake Michigan.
White-winged Scoter.
Surf Scoter. Abundant fall and winter visitor to Lake Michigan and interior waters of State.
Ruddy Duck. N.
Lesser Snow Goose.
Greater Snow Goose. Not uncommon during migrations.
Blue Goose.
White-fronted Goose.
Canada Goose. N.
Hutchin's Goose.
Cackling Goose.
Brant.

Swan

Whistling Swan.
Trumpeter Swan. No recent records.

Bitterns, Herons and Cranes

Roseate Spoonbill. (?)
White Ibis.
Glossy Ibis.
Wood Ibis. Not uncommon late summer visitor to Southern and Central Illinois.
*American Bittern. N. C. S.
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Cory's Least Bittern. A peculiar color-phase of the Least Bittern —one record.
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Snowy Heron.
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Little Blue Heron. Late S. R. in S. Ill.
†**Green Heron. N. C. S.
†*Black-crowned Night Heron. N. C. S.
*Yellow-crowned Night Heron. S.
Whooping Crane.
Sandhill Crane. Nested formerly, but doubtless not now.
Limpkin.

Rails, Gallinules and Coots

†**King Rail. N. C. S.
Virginia Rail. N. C. S.
†Sora Rail. N. C. S.
*Yellow Rail. N. C. S.
†Black Rail. N. C. and possibly S. Ill.

Purple Gallinule.

*Florida Gallinule. N. C. S.

American Coot. N. C. S.

Phalaropes

Red Phalarope.

Northern Phalarope.

Wilson's Phalarope. N.

Avocets and Stilts

American Avocet.

Black-necked Stilt.

Snipe, Sandpipers, Etc.

†**Woodcock. N. C. S.

Wilson's Snipe. N.

Short-billed Dowitcher.

Long-billed Dowitcher.

Stilt Sandpiper.

Knot. Occurs sparingly.

Purple Sandpiper.

Pectoral Sandpiper. A few S. R. but do not nest.

White-rumped Sandpiper.

Baird's Sandpiper.

Least Sandpiper. May have nested very rarely in former years.

Red-backed Sandpiper.

Semi-palmated Sandpiper. Occasional S. R., but do not nest.

Western Sandpiper. Common during migrations.

Sanderling.

Marbled Godwit.

Hudsonian Godwit.

Greater Yellow-legs. Occasional S. R. and may breed in N. Ill.

Lesser Yellow-legs. N. Very rare breeder.

Solitary Sandpiper. Casual S. R. but never found breeding.

Willet. (?)

Western Willet. N. Authority—W. W. Cooke.

†Bartramian Sandpiper. N. C. S.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper.

†**Spotted Sandpiper. N. C. S.

Blackbellied Plover. A few non-breeding birds are S. R.

Long-billed Curlew. Authority of Nelson who once found it nesting in N. E. Ill.

Hudsonian Curlew.

Eskimo Curlew.

Plovers

Black-bellied Plover.

American Golden Plover.

†**Killdeer. N. C. S.

Semi-palmated Plover. A few remain S. R. and may breed in N. Ill.

Belted Piping Plover. N.

Turnstones: Oyster-Catchers

Turnstone.

Bob-White, Grouse, Etc.

†**Bob-white. N. C. S.

**Ruffed Grouse. N. C. and possibly of rare occurrence in S. Ill.

Willow Ptarmigan.

†**Prairie-Hen. N. C. S.

Prairie Sharp-tailed Grouse. Nested formerly in N. E. Ill.—Once at Waukegan.

Wild Turkey. S.

Dove

(Passenger Pigeon once nested sparingly in N. E. Ill. Now extinct).

†**Mourning Dove. N. C. S.

Vultures

†**Turkey Vulture. Chiefly C. and S. Rare S. R. in N. Ill.

**Black Vulture. S.

Hawks and Eagles

**Swallow-tailed Kite. S.

White-tailed Kite.

Mississippi Kite. S.

†Marsh Hawk. N. C. and said to be uncommon if not rare. S. R. in S. Ill.

†**Sharp-shinned Hawk. N. C. S.

†**Cooper's Hawk. N. C. S.

Goshawk.

Western Goshawk.

†**Red-tailed Hawk. N. C. S.

Krider's Red-tailed Hawk.

Western Red-tailed Hawk. Casual.

Harlan's Hawk. Casual.

Mexican Goshawk.

**Red-shouldered Hawk. N. C. S.

†Swainson's Hawk. C. S. and possibly N. Ill.

†Broad-winged Hawk. N. C. S.

American Rough-legged Hawk.

Ferruginous Rough-legged Hawk.

Golden Eagle. Formerly nested in different parts of state.

*Bald Eagle. N. C. S. but now rare.

Prairie Falcon.

Richardson's Pigeon Hawk.

*Duck Hawk. S.

Pigeon Hawk. Rare S. R. and may nest.

†**American Sparrow Hawk. N. C. S.

**Osprey. N. C. S.

Owls

†**Barn Owl. C. S.

†*American Long-eared Owl. N. C. S.

Short-eared Owl. Possibly confined as a breeder to N. Ill.

†**Barred Owl. N. C. S.

Great Gray Owl.

Richardson's Owl.

Saw-whet Owl. No breeding records for Ill., but a S. R. in N. W. Indiana (Lake Co.).

†**Screech Owl. N. C. S.

†**Great Horned Owl. N. C. S.

Arctic Horned Owl.

Snowy Owl.

American Hawk Owl.

Paroquets

Louisiana (Carolina) Paroquet. Long extinct.

Cuckoos and Kingfishers

†**Yellow-billed Cuckoo. N. C. S.

**Black-billed Cuckoo. N. C. S.

†**Belted Kingfisher. N. C. S.

Woodpeckers

Ivory-billed Woodpecker. Probably extinct in Illinois.

†*Hairy Woodpecker. N. C. S.

**Southern Hairy Woodpeckers. Probably replaces former in extreme S. Ill.

†**Downy Woodpecker. N. C. S.

Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, N.

*Northern Pileated Woodpecker. N. C. S. Rare in C. and N. Ill.

†*Red-headed Woodpecker. N. C. S.

†*Red-bellied Woodpecker. N. C. S. but rare in N. Ill.

**Flicker. S.

†Northern Flicker. N. C. S. Probably replaced by Flicker in extreme S. Ill.

Whippoorwill, Swift and Humming Bird

**Chuck-will's-widow. Casual S. R. in S. Ill., and probably nests.

†**Whippoorwill. N. C. S.

†**Nighthawk. N. C. S. and probably replaced largely in N. and C. Ill. by Sennett's Nighthawk.

Sennett's Nighthawk. N. C.

†**Chimney Swift. N. C. S.

†Ruby-throated Hummingbird. N. C. S.

Flycatchers

†**Kingbird. N. C. S.

†**Crested Flycatcher. N. C. S.

†**Phoebe. N. C. S.

Say's Phoebe Flycatcher.

Olive-sided Flycatcher.

†**Wood Pewee. N. C. S.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher.

†Acadian Flycatcher. N. C. S.

†**Traill's Flycatcher. N. C. and probably in S. Ill.

Alder Flycatcher. Not common migrant.

Least Flycatcher. N.

Larks

Horned Lark.

†**Prairie Horned Lark. N. C. S.

Crows and Jays

American Magpie.

†**Blue Jay. N. C. S.

Northern Raven.

†**Crow. N. C. S.

Clarke's Nutcracker.

Blackbirds, Orioles, Etc.

†Bobolink. N. C.

†**Cowbird. N. C. S.

Yellow-headed Blackbird. N.

†**Red-winged Blackbird. N. C. S.

Arctic Red-winged Blackbird. Authority of Oberholser.

†Meadowlark. N. C. S. But questionable in N. W. and S. Ill.

**Southern Meadow Lark. Breeding status not fully determined.

Western Meadow Lark. Same comment as above.

†**Orchard Oriole. N. C. S.

†**Baltimore Oriole. N. C. S.

Rusty Blackbird.

Brewer's Blackbird.

†**Bronzed Grackle. N. C. S.

Finches, Sparrows, Etc.

Evening Grosbeak.

Pine Grosbeak.

Purple Finch. N.

†**House Sparrow. N. C. S.

American Crossbill.

White-winged Crossbill.

Hoary Redpoll.

Redpoll.

Holboell's Redpoll (?).

Greater Redpoll.

†**American Goldfinch. N. C. S.

Pine Siskin.

Snow Bunting.

Lapland Longspur.

Smith's Longspur.

Chestnut-collared Longspur.

McCown's Longspur.

†**Vesper Sparrow. N. C. S.

Savannah Sparrow. N.

†**Grasshopper Sparrow. N. C. S.

**Henslow's Sparrow. N. C. S.

Leconte's Sparrow. Recorded breeding in N. E. Ill., but record questioned.

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow a possible breeder in N. Ill.

†**Lark Sparrow. N. C. S.

Harris' Sparrow.

White-crowned Sparrow.

White-throated Sparrow.

Tree Sparrow.

†**Chipping Sparrow. N. C. S.

- Clay-colored Sparrow. Classified as S. R. in N. Ill.
- †**Field Sparrow. N. C. S.
Slate-colored Junco.
Montana Junco.
Shufeldt's Junco.
- †Bachman's Sparrow. N. C. S. but chiefly S. Ill.
- †*Song Sparrow. N. C. S. Rather rare S. R. in S. Ill.
Lincoln's Sparrow. N.
- †Swamp Sparrow. N. C. S.
Fox Sparrow.
- †**Towhee. N. C. S.
Arctic Towhee.
- †**Cardinal. N. C. S.
†Rose-breasted Grosbeak. N. C.
Blue Grosbeak.
- †**Indigo Bunting. N. C. S.
Painted Bunting. Authority of Ridgway.
- †**Dickcissel. N. C. S.
- Tanagers**
- †**Scarlet Tanager. N. C. S.
†**Summer Tanager. N. C. S. Rare S. R. in N. Ill.
- Swallows**
- †**Purple Martin. N. C. S.
†**Cliff Swallow. N. C. S.
†**Barn Swallow. N. C. S.
†*Tree Swallow. N. C. S.
†**Bank Swallow. N. C. S.
†**Rough-winged Swallow. N. C. S.
Northern Violet-green Swallow.
- Waxwings**
- Bohemian Waxwing.
†**Cedar Waxwing. N. C. S. Probably rare as a breeder in S. Ill.
- Shrikes**
- Northern Shrike.
Loggerhead Shrike. C. S.
†**Migrant Shrike. Possibly confined as a S. R. to northern half of State.
- Vireos**
- †**Red-eyed Vireo. N. C. S.
Philadelphia Vireo. Possibly S. R. in N. Ill.
†**Warbling Vireo. N. C. S.
**Yellow-throated Vireo. N. C. S.
Blue-headed Vireo.
†**White-eyed Vireo. N. C. S. Not common S. R. in N. Ill.
†**Bell's Vireo. N. C. S. Not common S. R. in N. Ill.
- Wood Warblers**
- **Black and White Warblers. A possible S. R. in N. Ill.
†*Prothonotary Warbler. N. C. S.
- Swainson's Warbler. Rare S. R. in S. Ill.
- †*Worm-eating Warbler. N. C. S. Rare S. R. in N. Ill.
- *Blue-winged Warbler. N. C. S.
†Golden-winged Warbler. N. C. S. but chiefly N. Ill.
Nashville Warbler. N. Authority of Ridgway.
Orange-crowned Warbler.
Tennessee Warbler.
- *Parula Warbler. N. C. S.
Cape May Warbler.
- †**Yellow Warbler. N. C. S.
Black-throated Blue Warbler.
Myrtle Warbler.
Magnolia Warbler.
- **Cerulean Warbler. N. C. S.
Chestnut-sided Warbler. N. May nest in S. Ill., as there is a breeding record for S. E. Missouri..
Bay-breasted Warbler.
Black-poll Warbler.
Blackburnian Warbler.
- *Sycamore Warblers. Apparently confined as S. R. to S. Ill.
Black-throated Green Warbler. N. Authority of Nelson.
Kirtland's Warbler.
- *Pine Warbler. N. C. S.
Palm Warbler.
*Prairie Warbler. N. C. S., but uncommon in N. Ill.
- †**Oven-bird. N. C. S.
Water-Thrush.
Grinnell's Water-Thrush. Quite likely a S. R. in N. Ill.
- †**Louisiana Water-Thrush. N. C. S. but chiefly C. and S.
- †**Kentucky Warbler. N. C. S. But rare in N. Ill.
Connecticut Warbler.
Mourning Warbler.
- †**Maryland Yellow-throat. N. C. S.
†**Yellow-breasted Chat. N. C. S.
†*Hooded Warblers. N. C. S. Rare S. R. in N. Ill.
Ill.
Wilson's Warbler.
Canadian Warbler.
- †**American Redstart. N. C. S.
- Wagtails and Pipits**
- American Pipit. Common migrant. Spring and fall.
- Wrens, Thrashers, Etc.**
- †**Mocking Bird. N. C. S. Rare S. R. in N. Ill.
- †**Catbird. N. C. S.
†**Brown Thrasher. N. C. S.
†**Carolina Wren. N. C. S. Not common S. R. in N. Ill.
†**Bewick's Wren. N. C. S. Rare S. R. in N. Ill.

†*House Wren. N. C. S.

**Parkman's Wren. Apparently more common than the preceding but breeding status not fully determined.

Winter Wren.

Short-billed Marsh Wren. N. C. S.

†**Long-billed Marsh Wren. N. C. S.

Prairie Long-billed Marsh Wren. N., but breeding status not fully determined.

Creepers

Brown Creeper. A possible breeder. N. C. S.

Nuthatches and Tits

†**White-breasted Nuthatch. N. C. S.
Red-breasted Nuthatch. N. C.

†**Tufted Titmouse. N. C. S. Uncommon S. R. in N. Ill.

†Chickadee. N. C.

**Carolina Chickadees. Apparently confined to S. Ill. as a S. R. Hudsonian Chickadee.

Kinglets and Gnatcatchers

Golden-crowned Kinglet.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet.

†**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. N. C. S.

Thrushes, Bluebirds, Etc.

Townsend's Solitaire.

†**Wood Thrush. N. C. S.

†Wilson's Thrush. N. C.

Willow Thrush. The common form in Northeastern Illinois.

Gray-Cheeked Thrush.

Bicknell's Thrush.

Alaska Hermit Thrush.

Olive-backed Thrush.

Hermit Thrush.

†Robin. N. C.

**Southern Robin. S.

†**Bluebird. N. C. S.

The Secretary Has the Last Word.

The Secretary would like to call attention once more to the resources of the Society which are always at the command of its members. While the Society desires to be in touch with everyone who is interested in birds and their conservation, it wishes especially to reach the teachers, since it is largely through their influence that the ideas and ideals of the rising generation will be formed. We send to teachers on request a liberal supply of literature on bird topics consisting of illustrated Educational Leaflets issued by the National Association of Audubon Societies, and special leaflets concerning the economic value of birds, methods of attracting and protecting birds and other similar topics. We also provide a complete list of birds found in Illinois arranged as a migration record. Our traveling libraries consisting of ten books on bird subjects are available for a month's use by any teacher who will ask for them.

Perhaps our most important educational aid is the illustrated lecture. We have a number of sets of beautifully colored stereopticon slides of birds and their nests. These slides are new and much superior to those we loaned in former years, nearly all of them being made from photographs of the living bird in its natural surroundings. Each set is accompanied by a typewritten lecture. The lantern slide lectures are also available for clubs, churches and other organizations. The use of libraries and lantern slides is free, but the borrower pays express charges both ways. On occasion, we are also able to furnish a lecturer who will give a bird talk with the slides, for a very moderate recompense. It is hardly necessary to add that such a talk is much more interesting and valuable than any typewritten lecture.

It seems worth while to print below suggested collections of bird

books for small libraries. The books listed here are described elsewhere under the caption, "A Suggestive List of Bird Literature."

FIRST LIST

A. Collection to cost about five dollars: Reed's Bird Guides, Part I and Part II; Citizen Bird by M. O. Wright; Bird Stories from Burroughs; The Sport of Bird Study by Job.

B. Collection to cost about ten dollars. To the above list add Chapman's Handbook of Birds of Eastern North America, and Birds in Their Relation to Man by Weed and Dearborn.

SECOND LIST

Collection to cost about ten dollars: Reed's Bird Guide, Part II; Bird Craft by M. O. Wright; Wild Bird Guests by Baynes; American Birds by Finley; Chapman's Handbook of Birds of Eastern North America; Walter's Wild Birds in City Parks.

For the circulars referred to above, and for slides, lectures, etc., please address the Secretary,

MRS. FREDERIC H. PATTEE, 2436 Prairie Ave., Evanston, Ill.

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

Application for Membership

Understanding the aims and principles of the Illinois Audubon Society, and being in sympathy with them, I wish to become a..... member of the Society.

Name.....

Address.....

Date.....

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

Life Memberships	-	-	-	\$100.00.	No annual dues
Sustaining Memberships	-	-	-	\$25.00.	No annual dues
Contributing Memberships	-	-	-	\$5.00.	Annually
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All members receive the publications of the Society.

Please sign this card and send it with the fee to the Treasurer, Miss Amalie Hannig, 800 South Halsted Street, Chicago.



The
Audubon Bulletin

Winter · 1917-18



Published by
**The ILLINOIS
AUDUBON
SOCIETY**

Do you know what the birds of America mean to food production?

Do you realize that without the efficient aid of these feathered allies we could not possibly produce the food to win the war?

Read the article on page 17 and see what authorities like Herbert Hoover and Senator McLean think of the importance of bird conservation.

The efforts of organizations like the Illinois Audubon Society must not be curtailed because of other war activities. Join your local "bird club" and the

Illinois Audubon Society

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10 South La Salle Street, Chicago

Secretary

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The Aims and Principles
of the
Illinois Audubon Society are:

First

To encourage the study of birds, particularly in the schools, and to disseminate literature relating to them.

Second

To work for the betterment and enforcement of State and Federal laws relating to birds.

Third

To discourage the wearing of any feathers except those of the ostrich and domestic fowls.

Fourth

To discourage, in every possible way, the wanton destruction of wild birds and their eggs.



ROBERT RIDGWAY

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN

WINTER, 1917-1918

Published by the

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

(For the protection of wild birds)

Robert Ridgway, Ornithologist

A series of sketches is planned for the Bulletin to make its readers better acquainted with Illinoisans that have done productive work in ornithology or that have been of conspicuous service in arousing an interest in the study of bird life. The dean of them all, Mr. Robert Ridgway, is naturally the subject of the first of the series, and through him Southern Illinois takes precedence over other portions of the state. It was as a boy of 14, living at Mt. Carmel on the Wabash River, a community far removed from railroads, that the future ornithologist learned that there were in the outside world scholarly men devoting their lives to the study of the very things that interested him most. Three years later he was in the employ of the United States Government as a zoologist and was entering upon the career that has placed him in the foremost rank of living ornithologists. Access to some autobiographical notes has made it possible to give here an intimate glimpse of those early days in which a new heaven and a new earth unfolded themselves before the wondering gaze of the young naturalist.

Referring to his school days, Mr. Ridgway has written:

"I was not a very good boy; was too fond of play and especially of running off to the woods and fields. Most of my whippings were for the latter; but I must say, in justice to my parents, that I never received a whipping at home that I did not thoroughly deserve, and that I surely deserved many a one that I was fortunate enough to escape! [The only whipping I ever received that I did not deserve, and much the worst, was at school. The teacher (a man) was a very strict disciplinarian, and so far as I have been able to figure out his only reason for whipping me was that I was about the only boy in school that he had not whipped and he didn't want any "left-overs"; this, plus a bad temper. My back was crossed by green stripes for six weeks afterward.]

"I was exceedingly fond of sports, especially those involving action, as ball-playing, running, jumping, swimming, etc., but was always ready to forsake *any* game in order to go to the woods. I never cared for sedentary games, such as checkers, puzzles, etc., and never could become interested in cards, which always seemed to me dull and tedious, and a waste of valuable time.

"The only study which interested me at school was geography, especially physical geography; grammar I detested, and arithmetic was too much for me, as I could comprehend only the rudiments of mathematics.

"Of all pleasures, not only during my boyhood but during later years, by far the greatest to me was that of going to the woods and fields to observe birds, trees, and nature in general, and in order to do this I would take any chance, even with the certainty of punishment.

"My love for the country and taste for natural history were inherited from both my parents. It was my father's custom to take walks to the woods and visit friends in the country whenever he could spare the time from business (he was a druggist). On these occasions I was usually his companion, and a delighted one, too, for he possessed an unusual knowledge of birds and other animals, knew nearly all the trees and other plants, and thus I learned many things from him that otherwise I could only have learned much later in life.

"Of course it was necessary for me, when old enough, to carry a gun with me during my excursions, in order to secure specimens of such birds as were new to me, but I can truthfully say that I never shot a bird out of mere wantonness or for 'sport.' The specimens obtained were taken home and carefully studied and colored drawings made of them. It was through these colored drawings of birds, and not through a collection of birds, that I became known to Professor Spencer Fullerton Baird, then Assistant Secretary, later Secretary, of the Smithsonian Institution."

In a memorial to Professor Baird, read before the American Ornithologists' Union in January, 1888, Mr. Ridgway tells how that eminent scientist encouraged him and gave him valuable direction in his work. Referring to himself as "the writer," Mr. Ridgway says:

"Until the middle of the year 1864, the writer, then a lad in his fourteenth year, was unacquainted with the name of any living naturalist, or with any books on natural history except such general or superficial compilations as Goldsmith's 'Animated Nature,' a history of the United States (author forgotten) which included a chapter or two on the natural history, and Goodrich's 'Animal Kingdom'—works which, although supplying much valuable information to the general reader, were of course wholly inadequate to the wants of a special student. A lady resident in the town learned of his difficulties, and suggested that by writing to the Commissioner of Patents in Washington he might be able to obtain the correct names of birds, supplementing her fortunate suggestion by the gift of an envelope bearing the printed address of a former Commissioner of Patents. A letter was written, and with it was enclosed a colored drawing, life size, of a pair of Purple Finches ("Roseate Grosbeak, *Loxia rosea*," of the incipient ornithologist) perched upon a dry stalk of the great ragweed (*Ambrosia trifida*), the seeds of which in winter constitute the principal food of the bird in that locality. An answer was awaited with great impatience, but in due time was received, the following being an exact copy:

"Smithsonian Institution.

"No. 5664 Washington, D .C., June 23, 1864.

"Dear Sir:—The present Commissioner of Patents (Mr. Holloway, not Mr. Bishop), has sent me your letter, as more conversant with the subject of North American Birds than himself. I have read it with interest and much pleasure, as showing an unusual degree of ability as an artist, and

of intelligent attention to a scientific subject. I had no difficulty in recognizing the bird you sent, and was much pleased to see that you had given all the essential features of form and color with much accuracy.

“The bird is the Purple Finch (*Carpodacus purpureus*). I sent you a catalogue of the birds of North America, and some other pamphlets. If you can procure the 9th volume of the Pacific Railroad Reports, you will find descriptions of all the North American birds, by myself.

“I will be glad to hear from you and to render you any aid by naming your drawings, or in any other way. You must learn the scientific names of the birds, and thus be able to talk and write about them with persons not knowing the English names used in your part of the country.

“Let me know what kind of eggs you have.

“Very truly yours,

“Robert Ridgway,

(Signed) “SPENCER F. BAIRD,

“Mt. Carmel, Illinois.”

“Asst. Sec. S. I.”

(The pamphlets referred to were the various circulars of instruction for collecting and preserving specimens of natural history, published by the Smithsonian Institution, and well known to naturalists in this country.)

“The above letter was a revelation to the recipient, who, in his isolation, was ignorant of the existence of any one but himself engaged in the study of birds. He had read of Audubon and Wilson, and Nuttall, and Bonaparte, but these he knew were all dead. The profound impression produced by the letter and the hope that it gave may be imagined. From this commencement arose a correspondence which to the present writer was a constant source of delight and instruction, and to which he looks back with feelings that cannot be expressed. It was not until the early part of 1867, nearly three years later, that the writer obtained a copy of the text of ‘Birds of North America’ (Volume IX, Pacific R. R. Report), and it therefore became necessary for him to continue the sending of drawings and descriptions in order to obtain the much desired identifications. In replying to the writer’s numerous letters of this character, Professor Baird always wrote most kindly and encouragingly, replying to multitudinous queries as fully as the arduous duties of his official position would allow. To mention all the useful hints which he gave would require too much space here, but the following is selected as a sample:

“I would advise you to spend most of your leisure time in practicing drawing of birds and mammals from nature and from life, so as to acquire a facility in seizing a temporary attitude and transferring it to paper. Make these sketches continually whenever you have the opportunity, so as to secure the more practice. A certain number of these drawings you may work up in their minutest details, and it will be a good exercise to draw the feathers of a single wing, as well as bill, feet, etc., and skulls of mammals. The object should be in drawing form to secure artistic elegance and at the same time a minute, almost microscopic, accuracy in matters of detail, as far as they can be represented.’”

From the notes previously referred to, the story continues:

“I first went to Washington in April (the 17th or 18th, I think), 1867, having received, through Professor Baird, the appointment as zoologist to

the U. S. Geological Exploration of the Fortieth Parallel, in charge of Clarence King, U. S. Geologist. The purpose of this expedition was to explore, and ascertain the resources of the country adjacent to the route of the projected but then unbuilt Pacific Railroad. A little while later I was asked by Major Powell to join his expedition to explore the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River, but, of course, could not accept the invitation.

"I remained in Washington for about a week, studying the bird collection of the Smithsonian Institution, in order to familiarize myself with the western species, then proceeded to New York City (alone), when I joined the party and embarked, May 10th, on board the steamer Henry Chauncy for Aspinwall (now Colon), Panama; crossed the Isthmus by rail, and at Panama embarked on the steamer 'Constitution' for San Francisco, when, after a very brief stay, we proceeded, by steamboat, to Sacramento. Here our 'outfit' was assembled, and on July 4 (1869) our party started on horseback for the deserts of the interior, via Donner Lake Pass in the Sierra Nevada. During the field work of the expedition we traversed the country from Sacramento, California, to the Uintah Mountains in Utah, on horseback, besides making numerous side trips; indeed, even when camps of several weeks' duration were established, almost daily excursions were made into the adjacent mountains. The winter of 1867-68 was spent in Carson City, Nevada, that of 1868-69 in Washington, the trip from Salt Lake City to Green River Station, Wyoming, then the western terminus of the Union Pacific Railroad, being by stagecoach. Returning in May, 1869, by rail, to Ogden, Utah, thence to Salt Lake City on horseback, we spent the summer of that year in Salt Lake City and the neighboring Wahsatch Mountains, and eastward into the Uintah range.

"It may be of interest to say that previous to this long trip by rail, ocean steamer, and on horseback, the writer had never been more than eighty miles from home, had never seen a railroad train, and, of course, had never been inside a car!"

The story of the expedition was published under the title, "Report of Geological Explorations of the Fortieth Parallel," and in Volume IV, Part III, Ornithology, Pages 309-313, the itinerary of Mr. Ridgway's winter field work while connected with that expedition is given.

With the return from the Western field began Mr. Ridgway's career as an author. The period from 1870 to 1915, inclusive, was passed mostly in Washington, at first preparing a report on the ornithology of the Fortieth Parallel Expedition and in assisting Professor Baird in the preparation of "A History of North American Birds" (3 vols., published in 1874), and "The Water Birds of North America" (2 vols., published in 1884); later as Curator of the Division of Birds, U. S. National Museum, in connection with which office more than 500 monographs and special papers and seven volumes of "The Birds of North and Middle America" were written and published. Separate works, prepared during the author's own time, during this period, are: "Nomenclature of Colors for Naturalists and Compendium of Useful Knowledge for Ornithologists" (1886); "A Manual of North American Birds" (1887); "Ornithology of Illinois" (Vol. I, 1889, Vol. II, 1895); and "Color Standards and Color Nomenclature" (1913).

Part VIII of the great work, "The Birds of North and Middle America," has been completed and will soon be in press; two additional volumes will be required to complete the series. Some idea of the extent of this work may be conveyed by the statement that the seven volumes already published comprise more than 5300 printed octavo pages (not counting indices in which are described, with full synonyms, more than 2300 species and sub-species of birds.)

Of the endeavor to secure accuracy in this work, interesting stories might be told. For instance, the measurement of certain dimensions of a series of specimens of every species of birds must be made and recorded with utmost accuracy in order to determine the difference between the more closely related kinds, and in this way and as a necessary aid to the preparation of Volume VIII, 3500 specimens were measured. Since definitions of color have of necessity to be absolutely exact, and there being no adequate standards of colors to draw from, Mr. Ridgway compiled the book of standard colors referred to above in order to give definite names to every color tone of every bird described by him. The volume contains over 1100 names of colors and is said to have become the standard of colors and of color nomenclature for the world. All this indicates the great perseverance and patience which have made Mr. Ridgway's scientific achievements possible.

During the progress of the work on the "Birds of North and Middle America," it became necessary for Mr. Ridgway to make several field trips in order to secure material not contained in the National Museum or other collections in this country. Several visits were made for this purpose to Southern Florida, one along the coast of Alaska (as far as Unalaska Island), and two to Costa Rica in Central America.

Since 1910 more or less of each year has been passed by Mr. Ridgway at Olney, Illinois, the scene of some of his earlier bird studies and a field which to him has lost none of its interest, though, sad to say, much of its former attractiveness is gone forever. Here he has established a home where opportunity is afforded for out-of-doors employment as a relief from nervous strain of literary labors, such portions of the work on birds of North and Middle America as do not require the handling of large series of specimens being as conveniently done there as in Washington.

Near Olney Mr. Ridgway purchased a tract of land intended both as a home and a bird preserve, named by Mrs. Ridgway, Bird Haven; but unforeseen conditions prevented its use as a home, so another place (this one in the town itself) had to be acquired for a residence. Here his recreation is horticulture, the pursuit of which he confesses he finds so fascinating that his only regret is that more time cannot be given to it. He is conducting experiments with trees and shrubs (both ornamental and useful) never before planted in this section of the country, and with most interesting results. "Bird Haven" was selected, after careful search, on account of the very unusual number of species of native trees growing on a small area (18 acres). The fifty-eight native species found growing naturally there form a good nucleus for a state arboretum and gradually other species native to Illinois are being added to the number, a careful record of the plantings being kept. To the fifty-eight species of trees growing naturally on Bird Haven twenty-four additional Illinois species have been added, while fifteen more are in the nursery at Larchmund; to

the original ten woody climbers three have been added and six more are in the nursery. Mr. Ridgway hopes that when more time can be allowed this matter that the representation of woody plants native to Illinois may be made nearly complete on "Bird Haven."

As stated above, eight volumes of the truly monumental work on the birds of North and Middle America have been completed. Two more volumes are needed to complete this task, upon which Mr. Ridgway has centered his great powers of research for so many years. It is the sincere hope of all interested in the advancement of science that he may carry along this work without interruption to its full fruition. Next April he will celebrate his fiftieth anniversary of service in the United States National Museum, an event that is anticipated with interest by all who have profited by his labors in the field of ornithology.

Legislation

The new administrative code bill for Illinois that went into effect July 1, 1917, assigns the work of administering the game laws of the state to a branch of the Department of Agriculture known as the Division of Game and Fish. Instead of three "commissioners" as in the past, the law provides for a division head known as the Chief Warden and for five inspectors, five investigators, and sixty or more employes. Mr. Ralph F. Bradford of Pontiac was appointed Chief Warden. The new plan of administration has as yet been in operation less than six months and the work of reorganization is probably still under way. Mr. Bradford, however, has announced that the Division of Game and Fish will enforce to the best of its ability the laws for conserving the game of the state and for protecting non-game and insectivorous birds. The Division has shown active interest in the organization of bird refuges. There are already thirteen such refuges in the state, and the work of organizing additional ones will doubtless receive fresh impetus.

Another of the new state departments known as the Department of Public Works is of especial interest to conservationists because the Division of State Parks is under its jurisdiction. At the head of this Division is a Superintendent of Parks, Mr. Frank Lowman of Sandwich having been appointed to that position. The Division superseded the Illinois Parks Commission which had been in existence for six years, during which time it had secured for the state the Starved Rock reservation amounting to 855 acres and an area of about 10 acres in southwestern Illinois, which includes the site of old Fort Chartres. Prof. James A. James of Northwestern University was chairman of the Commission during its entire existence. The new Superintendent has associated with him a commission to assist in shaping the affairs of the Park.

The attempt to amend the state game and fish laws at the last session of the legislature brought to Springfield representatives of all opposing factions of sportsmen in the state. A bill embodying as a compromise measure some of the features especially desired by the contestants passed the legislature but failed to secure Governor Lowden's approval. Attorney General Brundage furnished the report upon which Governor Lowden based his

unfavorable decision. From the standpoint of Audubonites the proposed legislation contained some features considerably in advance of the present law. It made the state game laws conform as to closed seasons with the regulations of the U. S. Biological Survey. It increased the penalty for killing of non-game and insectivorous birds and clothed with additional powers field officers seeking to enforce the law. Unfortunately there were serious defects in the phraseology of the bill when it reached the governor's desk, and for these and other reasons the veto was applied. With one exception, the old game laws, therefore, remain unchanged, the manner of their administration only being affected, as previously pointed out, by the administrative code. The exception relates to House Bill 312, approved by the Governor June 25, 1917, which forbids roadside hunting. The new law forbids the discharge of fire arms upon any public highway by any one other than an officer of the law and provides a penalty of from five to twenty-five dollars for each and every violation of this law. This will doubtless prove a very useful law and one not difficult to enforce.

As reported in the Spring Bulletin, the enabling legislation necessary to make effective the migratory bird treaty with Canada failed of enactment in the session of Congress that came to an end on March 4th. When the special session called by President Wilson met to consider legislation relating to war activities, the enabling act was brought up in the Senate and pushed to a successful conclusion. Consistent with his previous attitude on the same question, Senator Reed of Missouri opposed its passage with every obstacle he could bring up. The bill properly came from the foreign affairs committee and when Senator Reed opposed its presentation at that time on the ground that the special session was to confine its attention to war matters, Senator McLean declared it a war measure and announced his intention to offer the bill as an amendment to the Hoover Food Conservation Bill, if necessary, in order to secure its consideration. Senator Marcus A. Smith of Arizona was unusually active in supporting the bill and successfully maneuvered it to a final vote which was forty-three to seven in its favor. Of the two senators from Illinois, Senator Lewis voted for it, Senator Sherman refrained from voting. Unfortunately no action was taken on this measure in the House. The Bill went to the foreign affairs committee of that body of which Representative Flood of Virginia is Chairman and was still in the hands of that committee when Congress adjourned. It now remains to secure the necessary action by Representative Flood's committee to put it before the House during the present session. Then there must be the line-up of friends of bird conservation from every part of the country to insure its passage.

Canada has already passed similar legislation. With its passage through the House of Representatives there will no longer be any question as to uniformity and fairness of regulations to conserve bird life in every section of our country.

Birds' Nests on the Campus at Macomb

Editor's Note—Attention is called to Normal School Quarterly, Number 30, entitled "Birds of the Campus," issued by the Western Illinois State Normal School at Macomb, in June, 1917. This reports the result of migration records and of studies of nesting habits and conditions made by the students and faculty of the school in 1916 under the leadership of Mr. Charles W. Finley, instructor in Biology. It is a valuable report in many ways, not the least in being a model which individuals or groups of observers may follow with great profit. The Bulletin can be of no greater service to its readers than by giving publicity to such reports. Permission has been secured from President W. P. Morgan and Mr. Finley to quote extensively from the report, and portions relating to nesting observations have been selected. It is hoped that excerpts thus presented will not lose unduly by removal from their context. Mr. Finley and the institution he represents are to be congratulated upon this practical bit of nature study. The editor has been informed that Mr. Finley and his assistants have made similar studies of the bird life on the campus at Macomb during the past season, and with even greater success than during the preceding year. It is hoped that these studies will be published and available for distribution by spring, 1918. Since September, 1917, Mr. Finley has been serving on the staff of Lincoln School of the Teachers' College at Columbia University.

THE CAMPUS

"For many years prior to 1900, the campus had been a pasture, the soil being too poor for profitable cultivation. The central part, where the main buildings now stand, was a brickyard and the repeated removal of the soil exposed a yellow clay subsoil which had to be enriched before it would even grow bluegrass. The removal of the soil was accompanied by the removal of all vegetation so that the shrubbery and trees on most of the campus have been planted there in the last fifteen years. Beginning at the southeast corner of the campus and running across it in a northwest direction is a deep, well-wooded ravine. In this ravine are many large native trees among which are white oaks, red oaks, black oaks, burr oaks, laurel oaks, shellbark hickories, river birches, basswoods and others. Among these trees



are such shrubs as sumach, blackberry, gooseberry, black haw and others. For the greater part of the year the little creek in this ravine has running water in it. To the east of this ravine is a strip of about six acres of rather level land given to a growth of timothy and bluegrass. North of our athletic field is a two-acre thicket of small saplings of various trees, berry briars and many shrubs. The rest of the campus so far as environment is concerned is a well-kept park. The only marsh near the campus is a strip of about two acres adjoining it near the southwest corner. Although strictly speaking not a part of the campus, notes on the birds nesting in this strip are included in this report. It will be seen from these remarks that the campus is varied enough in topography and vegetation to appeal to birds of widely varying nesting habits."

SUMMER RESIDENTS

"Between the dates of February 21st and July 22nd, 1916, one hundred ten species of birds were seen on our Normal School campus. Twenty-four of these species nested here. In all, two hundred eight nests were built, in which were deposited four hundred sixty-seven eggs, two hundred sixty of which hatched. Sixty-three of the young birds were destroyed before they were old enough to leave the nest, which leaves one hundred ninety-five successfully reaching that age. As the data concerned an area of about sixty-three acres, there were on average about three and a half nests per acre.

"The species of birds building these nests and the number of nests built by each species is as follows :

Robin	64	Field Sparrow	3	Bronzed Grackle	2
Brown Thrasher	30	Orchard Oriole	2	Kingbird	1
Mourning Dove	29	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	2	Yellow Warbler	1
Catbird	21	Cardinal	2	Bobwhite	1
Meadowlark	15	Screech Owl	1	Cedar Waxwing	1
Flicker	9	Towhee	1	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1
Blue Jay	7	Chipping Sparrow	1	Unidentified	3
Bluebird	5	Baltimore Oriole	1		
Red-Winged Blackbird	4	Tufted Titmouse	1		
					208

"Cowbirds' eggs were found in five of the nests and, should they be counted as 'nesting on the campus,' it would raise the number of species to twenty-five.

"In order that data might be kept on this large number of nests, the campus and the two-acre strip adjacent to it were divided into ten sections, each of which was assigned to two or more students who were responsible for the data concerning the nests in it. These data were to embody :

1. Kind of nest. (Species of bird.)
2. Position and location of nest.
3. Date on which first egg was laid.
4. Date on which each successive egg was laid.
5. Date on which each bird was hatched.
6. Dates on which the young left the nest.
7. Duration of egg incubation (from 4 to 5.)
8. Duration of brooding of young (from 4 and 5.)

"Unfortunately, however, only in few instances were all these data obtained. In order that the data might show the duration of egg incubation



it is necessary that the last date on which the eggs were in the nest be recorded. This is shown by the following record:

SECTION FIVE, NEST ELEVEN
CATBIRD

Shrubbery at right of walk, 8 feet from ground.

May 21, one egg. May 22, two eggs. May 23, three eggs. May 29, three eggs. June 6, three birds. June 17, birds gone.

"It cannot be told from the data whether the birds hatched on June 6, or before. Had the record been, 'June 5, three eggs,' then there would have been no doubt as to the day on which the birds hatched. Likewise for the data to show the duration of brooding of young, which in this paper is taken as the time interval between the hatching of the first bird and the leaving of the nest by the last one, it is necessary that the last date on which the young were still in the nest be given. It may be that in obtaining the above record the nest was actually visited each day and that the birds were seen to leave the nest, but so far as the record goes one cannot tell but that the birds might have left the nest at an earlier date than June 17. The following sample records illustrate the correct method of procedure:

SECTION FIVE, NEST TWO
MEADOWLARK

Hillside near track, runway N. E. down slope.

April 18, one egg. April 19, two eggs. April 20, three eggs. April 21, four eggs. April 22, five eggs. May 3, four eggs (one gone). May 4, two eggs, two birds. May 5, four birds. May 15, two gone, others left nest at approach of observers. May 16, birds gone.

SECTION ONE, NEST SEVEN

CATBIRD

Shrubbery near road, seven feet high.

May 16, one egg. May 17, two eggs. May 18, three eggs. May 19, four eggs. May 20, five eggs. May 31, five eggs. June 1, two eggs, three birds. June 2, five birds. June 11, two birds, three in near-by elm. June 12, birds gone.

ROBIN

More than twice as many robin nests were built on the campus as any other one kind. Some of these nests were built in small trees, some in large ones, some in the ravine, some on the upland, and some at the edge of the marsh. Complete data on many of the robin nests at the first of the season were not obtained, due to the amount of time required to climb the trees daily in order to get the facts. Later in the season an apparatus was devised, which consisted of a large, adjustable mirror mounted on a bamboo pole. With this apparatus it was possible to study nests to a height of 30 feet without climbing the trees, hence the data on the later nests were more complete. As regards height from the ground, the nests ranged from two and a half to forty feet. The distribution of the nests regarding this point is as follows:

Under 6 feet, 4; 6 to 10 feet, 28; 11 to 15 feet, 8; 16 to 20 feet, 10; over 20 feet, 4; no data, 10.

The number of eggs in the nests in which the young were hatched ranged from two to five. More than half the nests had in each, three eggs. All save two of the nests recorded were in trees.

Of the fifty nests located in trees, thirty-six were on top of a main branch and against the side of the main trunk, in other words, a crotch formed by a main branch and the trunk. Six nests were on top of a horizontal limb, two were in crotches formed by the junction of branches, and no data were recorded on six of them other than recording them as located in trees.

At one time there were thirteen robin nests in the trees along the walk between the writer's home and the main entrance of the building, a distance of three and a half blocks.

So far as the data may be relied upon there were 128 robin eggs in these nests, of which 85 hatched. 35 of these young birds were killed or died before they were old enough to leave the nest, which leaves 50 as the recorded number of young robins successfully passing the brooding period.

BROWN THRASHER

The first nesting date of these birds on the campus was May third, and the last, June twenty-ninth. Almost half of these birds nesting on the campus began their nesting activities between the middle of May and the first of June.

Twenty-three of the nests were built in shrubbery, five were built in climbing roses and Virginia Creeper on the walls of the main building, and two were built on the ground. One of these ground nests was located at the base of an elm tree, the other at the foot of a small crabapple sapling. In two previous instances the writer has found nests of brown thrashers on the ground; in each case the nest was located in a bunch of mandrakes.

Inasmuch as the data concerning brown thrasher nests was more easily obtained, the following statistics are of more significance than those concerning the robin. Of the thirty nests, three were destroyed during the egg-laying period, one before any eggs were deposited in it and the other after two eggs had been laid.

In these nests there were seventy-three eggs, fifty of which hatched, forty-three young birds successfully leaving the nest.

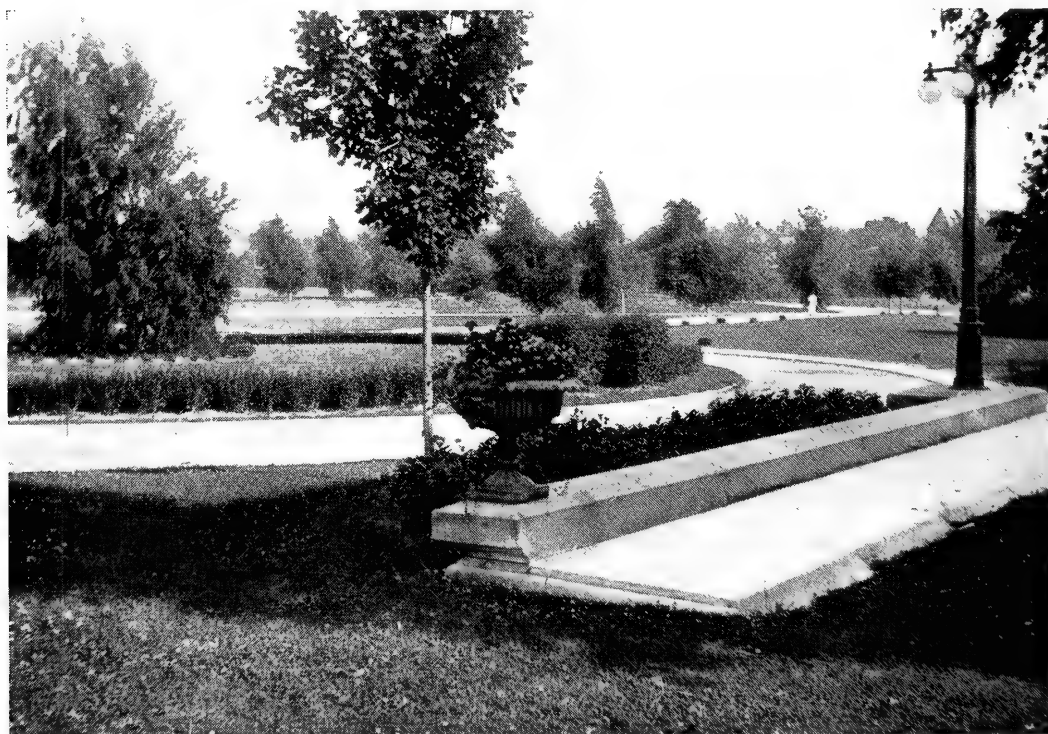
MOURNING DOVE

Of the twenty-nine mourning dove nests found on the campus, five were destroyed before any eggs were placed in them. Two eggs were found in each of twenty-two of the remaining twenty-four nests. In the other two nests there was one egg each.

The first date on which a nest was found with eggs in it was April 20, and the last date was July 20. There was a wide range as regards the nesting site. Two nests were on the ground, some were on horizontal limbs of trees, some were in crotches of trees, some were platforms placed on many fine twigs, and two were built in deserted robin nests. The writer has seen mourning dove nests in deserted bronzed grackle nests and one in a deserted brown thrasher nest. Judging from the nests of this species on the campus, the mourning dove seems not yet to have found out the meaning of nest sanitation. Of the forty-six eggs laid in the nests, thirty-seven were destroyed before they hatched and of the nine hatched, one died before it was old enough to leave the nest.

CATBIRD

From the point of view of successfully rearing the young to the age of being old enough to leave the nest, catbirds seem better fitted to our campus environment than either of the above species. These birds were found





nesting from May 5 to July 11. The climax of the nesting period was from the middle of May to the middle of June, eleven of the seventeen nests being recorded within these dates. More than half the nests recorded had three eggs each, five had four each and three had five each, no nest contained more than that number.

SCREECH OWL

On the twentieth of April a screech owl and its nest were found in a hole which for at least two years previous had been the nesting place of flickers. Flickers and fox squirrels spent much time in molesting this owl and it was through their excitement that the nest was located. In trying to find out what was in the nest an awful odor was discovered, which proved to be from a semi-decayed fox squirrel on top of which the owl had deposited its three eggs. The squirrel, owl, and eggs were removed and eggs replaced, but a few days later the nest was deserted.

SUMMARY

It was a surprise to the writer to find that so far as the records obtained in this paper are concerned, about sixty percent of the eggs laid, failed to produce young which lived to the age when they were ready to leave the nest. In other words, the number of young birds successfully reared was about forty per cent of the number of eggs produced. As there were two hundred eight nests recorded and one hundred ninety-five young birds which left the nest successfully, there was an average of less than one young bird to the nest. How many of the young birds were killed after they had left the nest is not known. Judging by observations made on cats as bird destroyers we have a right to believe that many were so destroyed. In addition to cats, snakes, skunks, squirrels, hawks, many other predacious animals, weather and disease tend to increase the mortality list of young birds. Below are some data concerning the destruction of eggs and young:

	Eggs Laid	Eggs Destroyed	Young Hatched	Young Left Nest	Young Destroyed
Catbird	65	20	45	42	3
Brown Thrasher	73	23	50	43	7
Robin	128	22	85	50	33
Meadowlark	49	22	27	11	16
Mourning Dove	44	35	7	6	1
Bob-white	15		15	15	
Blue-Jay	11	6	1	1	
Red-winged Blackbird ..	11		11	10	2
Bluebird	8	2	5	5	
Chipping Sparrow	2		2		2
Field Sparrow	5	5			
Orchard Oriole	5	5			
Kingbird	3		3	3	
Yellow Warbler	3		3	3	
Cedar Waxwing	5	5			
Screech Owl	3	3			
Cardinal	11	11			
Rose-Breasted Grosbeak	7	7			
Baltimore Oriole	3			3	
Bronzed Grackle	2	2			
Towhee	3	3			
Cowbird	11	8	3	3	
Totals.....	467	179	260	195	64

According to the above data, the catbirds made the best record in average young bird production per nest of all those species, building five or more nests, two young per nest. Likewise the mourning doves did the poorest, averaging about one successful young to each five nests.

Some of the eggs were crushed, some were apparently eaten by birds, and many were thrown out of the nest by storms. The towhee nest, mentioned above, was, according to report, destroyed by a boy who was making a collection of bird's eggs. One robin nest was destroyed by a cat.

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Prof. T. L. Hankinson: "I am much pleased that there is such a good publication to instruct all people about the birds of this state and stimulate an interest in bird study. I hope you will advertise the Bulletin well for it ought to have a wide circulation. It should be in every school library."

Mr. T. Gilbert Pearson, Secretary of the National Audubon Society: "I think your bulletins are magnificent; quite the best thing ever done by a state Audubon Society."

Mr. E. W. Nelson, Chief of the U. S. Biological Survey: "I wish to congratulate you on the idea and the members of your organization in having produced such an attractive and valuable report. It is filled with interesting and valuable matter and should serve to stimulate interest in your work throughout the state."

Conservation of Food and Conservation of Bird Life

When Senate Bill 1553, which is the enabling act for putting into force the Migratory Bird Treaty between the United States and Canada, came up before the Senate, June 28, 1917, Senator Reed of Missouri opposed its consideration. He said that he had understood that the legislation of the present session was to be confined to war measures and that nothing was to be done with that kind of legislation. Whereupon the following dialogue took place as printed in the Congressional Record:

Senator Overman: "I wish to inquire of the Senator from Connecticut if this is a war measure."

Senator McLean: "It is a food-conservation measure; and I will say to the Senator from North Carolina that if it is not disposed of in any other way I shall offer it as an amendment to the pending bill (referring to the Hoover Food Conservation Bill) because, if there is anything in statistics, I can demonstrate that the operation of this proposed law will tend to conserve the food of the country to quite as liberal an extent as anything contained in the pending bill."

The above dialogue may well be set down as historic. The records of the United States Senate here contain the deliberate statement of one of the most aggressive members of that body to the effect that the conservation of bird life is one of the important problems before the American people. What Mr. Herbert Hoover has to say on this same subject, referred to elsewhere in this issue, will bear repetition here. Writing to the publisher of the People's Home Journal, he says:

"I have noted with much satisfaction the information which your Journal is giving to the public in its columns devoted to home economics and, primarily, the conservation of food, and I hope the people of the United States realize how closely related to this whole question of food saving is the question of the protection and encouragement of insectivorous and migratory birds."

It has thus come about that in the midst of a great national crisis we have the authoritative assertion of men high in public station that the bird life of our country is one of its important assets. Such an assertion is a challenge to all who have interested themselves in bird life, a challenge to take courage and renew their activities. Esthetic considerations are now reinforced as never before by considerations of economic needs. It has become a patriotic act to work for the conservation of bird life. So one may say it is patriotic to offer shelter and food to birds in winter, to set up nesting boxes, to provide bird baths, to make war on the animal life that preys upon useful birds.

The duty of the members of the Illinois Audubon Society is plain. It is to support the propaganda of the Society and to seek to extend its membership and influence. The Society has a right to be heard even amidst the numerous appeals for help which every day brings forth. Conservation is a weapon which will not lose its significance when peace shall come. Our country has everything to gain, in war or in peace, from our propaganda.

The Maywood Bird Club

The Maywood Bird Club, organized in March, 1917, has accomplished so much in the few months of its existence that a summary of its activities should prove of value. A vigorous publicity campaign marked its beginning. It started off with a live membership of adults and with business and professional men among its list of officers. During the first six months of its existence it had several interesting public gatherings, conducted bird hikes on Saturday afternoons, enrolled twelve teachers and three hundred children in Junior Audubon classes, pushed through the Village Board a "Cat Ordinance," appeared, through its representative, before a circuit judge in defence of the ordinance and received much free advertising in the Chicago papers. It had enrolled as a member of the National Audubon Society and had become a contributing member of the Illinois Audubon Society.

It is worth while examining the methods through which the Club was able to accomplish so much in so short a time. At the time of its organization the Club distributed handbills to attract attention to its program. A copy of one is here reproduced.

It held its meeting in the Village Hall, which it filled to overflowing, and it reported its activities fully in the columns of the local papers. A circular stating the specific aims of the Club was sent out. This included

carefully prepared instructions as to building and placing bird nesting-boxes, suggestions as to suppressing the activities of cats and English sparrows, and blank spaces were provided for a bird census, the latter to be published in the local papers at the end of the season.

Mr. Samuel A. Harper, a lawyer with offices in Chicago, was chosen President of the Club and for its Secretary it has had Mr. Roy Langdon, an energetic young business man with a genius for organization. Mr. Harper is the author of a work just coming from the Alderbrook press entitled "Twelve Months with the Birds and Poets."

With the co-operation of Supt. LaRowe of the city schools, the "Burroughs Association of Junior Audubon Classes" was organized in the schools on Burroughs' birthday, each class taking for its name that of some favorite

Join the MAYWOOD BIRD CLUB

Have you ever considered how fortunately our village is located along the wooded Desplaines Valley for the attraction of a great variety of wild birds?

Do you know that 150 or more species of birds can be seen in Maywood during a season? What a wealth of song and beauty they bring into our community!

The purpose of the Maywood Bird Club is to arouse an interest in bird life and to encourage birds to come and stay, by protecting them against their enemies, by putting up bird houses, bird baths and feeding stations.

Why not lend your influence to this movement by becoming a member and attending a special meeting of the club to be held in the Village Hall.

**Next Monday, April 2nd
AT 8:00 P. M.**

Children are entitled to membership from date of enrollment until fifteen years of age upon payment of 10 cents. The fee entitling adults to active membership is 50 cents per annum.

REMEMBER THE DATE AND PLACE. THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST CHANCE TO ENROLL AS A CHARTER MEMBER.

Roy M. Landon, Sec.,
Telephone 804J 709 N. Third Ave.

Maywood Herald-Recorder Printers

bird. These Junior classes celebrated their organization by sending through the secretary of the Club, an affectionate letter of birthday greeting to John Burroughs. The Club furnished the Juniors with study leaflets and encouraged their organization under the Junior plan supported by the National Audubon Society.

In May the Club began to give "special attention" to the cat, and an ordinance declaring stray cats a nuisance and providing for the restraint of cats between the hours of 7:00 p. m. and 9:00 a. m. from April 1st to September 30th both inclusive was prepared. This ordinance met with the unanimous approval of the Village Board. Because of the special interest in the matter, the President of the Village Board, Mr. H. W. Tolsted, wrote Dr. C. St. Clair Drake, Secretary of the State Board of Health, a letter from which the following quotation is made:

"It is gratifying to note the splendid work which the State Board of Health is doing in its efforts and determination to check and minimize the spread of contagious disease. Practically every issue of the monthly bulletin, "Illinois Health News," takes up some line of this most important matter, and the State Board of Health is certainly deserving of the highest praise for this work.

"But may I be permitted to suggest that what I believe to be one prolific source of spreading contagion has not thus far been touched upon, namely the domestic cat. These animals often prowl about all night, getting into all sorts of places and rubbish, and during the daytime they become the pets of little children to be hugged and kissed.

"I understand that very often these cats are tubercular or otherwise diseased. If my understanding is correct, wouldn't it be well to devote some attention to the subject in an early number of the Illinois Health News?"

To this Dr. Drake replied as follows:

Springfield, June 30, 1917.

Hon. Henry W. Tolsted, Village President,
Maywood, Illinois.

Dear Sir: Your suggestion as to the rôle in disease of domestic animals, especially cats, is worthy of the most careful consideration.

We have referred it to our expert in tuberculosis for special attention.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) C. St. Clair Drake, M.D., Secretary.

The Club wrote Dr. W. A. Evans for his views as to the spread of contagion by cats, and his reply, occupying about a column of space, appeared in the Chicago *Tribune* of August 14th. The Doctor had little to say in favor of cats. On the contrary, he charged them with spreading tapeworm, and other forms of parasites, and claimed they were in part responsible for the spread of hydrophobia. He quoted authorities to show that cats spread something akin to human diphtheria and often infect persons with whom they come in contact.

"The ordinance was passed by the village board on June 14, 1917, becoming effective on and after July 2. It immediately encountered opposition.

The validity of the ordinance was called in question by fifteen citizens of Maywood, who, on September 19, filed a bill praying that the circuit court restrain the village board from enforcing the cat ordinance, basing their petition upon the charge that the law was unconstitutional. It is probable that this is the first time in the history of Illinois that such action has been brought before one of its courts of record. On October 20, when the case came up for final disposition, Judge Merritt W. Pinckney gave both sides a hearing but dismissed the case on the ground that the ordinance, by its own terms, applies only to the period from April 1 to October 1 of each year, and, as at the time of the hearing the ordinance was inoperative, the question of its validity was not properly before the court. Another attack will probably be made upon the ordinance the coming spring, but this will find the Maywood Bird Club ready to defend its position."

General interest in the subject justifies the reproduction below of the original text of the Maywood's Bird Club Ordinance. It is suggested by Mr. Langdon that the word "adult" be inserted in section 6 before the word "persons."

CAT ORDINANCE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF MAYWOOD, AS FOLLOWS: Sec. 1. THAT WHEREAS stray and unrestrained cats wandering about the Village of Maywood have become a menace to the public health and a source of damage to gardens, and have been and are destroying large numbers of birds living and nesting within the limits of the Village, therefore the permitting or keeping of any stray or unrestrained cats within the limits of the Village of Maywood, contrary to the terms of this ordinance, is hereby declared to be a nuisance and any such cats shall be dealt with as hereinafter provided, and the owners and keepers thereof shall be subject to the fines hereby imposed for any violation of this ordinance.

Sec. 2. STRAY CAT. The term, stray cat, as used in this ordinance shall be held and construed to mean any cat within the limits of the Village of Maywood and not on the premises of the owner or keeper thereof.

Sec. 3. UNRESTRAINED CAT. The term, unrestrained cat, as used in this ordinance shall be held and construed to mean any cat not controlled or kept in proper confinement by the owner or keeper thereof as hereinafter provided.

Sec. 4. CONTROL AND RESTRAINT OF CATS. No person shall cause or permit any cat or cats owned or kept by him or her to run at large on any street, alley or other public place, or upon the premises of any other person, within the Village of Maywood between the hours of 7 P. M. and 9 A. M. of each and every day during the breeding season of the birds, to-wit: from April 1 to September 30, both inclusive, of each and every year.

Sec. 5. POLICE CONTROL. It shall be the duty of the Village Marshall, his assistants, and all policemen of the Village to warn any owner or keeper of any cat who violates any of the provisions of this ordinance that upon a second violation the cat will be killed, and if after such warning any such owner or keeper again violates the provisions hereof by neglecting to restrain his cat as herein provided, such cat shall be forthwith killed by such officer in some humane manner.

Sec. 6. TRESPASS. All persons shall have the right to kill any and all stray or unrestrained cats trespassing upon their premises at any and all times, and the owners or keepers of such cats so killed shall have no right of redress therefore.

Sec. 7. PENALTIES. Any person violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be subject to have his or her cat taken up and killed as herein provided, and shall also be subject to a fine of not less than \$2.00 or more than \$5.00 for each violation of this ordinance.

Passed June 14th, 1917.

Approved: Henry W. Tolsted, President.

Attest June 14.

Edw. J. Thelin, Village Clerk.

Rock River Game Preserve

Deputy Game Warden Mrs. Rebecca H. Kauffman, of Oregon, Illinois, has written so intimately and entertainingly of the Rock River Game Preserve, that the Editor takes the liberty of printing the letter in full. Mrs. Kauffman has long been active in the work of arousing interest in the conservation of wild life, and when the opportunity to continue under an official title the work which her son was obliged to lay aside, she accepted the title and duties of deputy game warden as if they were "all in a day's work." The newspapers, however, thought differently, and Mrs. Kauffman, as "the first woman game warden of the United States," has had to submit to considerable newspaper publicity. Below is a reproduction of a snap shot taken for a Philadelphia press bureau, showing Mrs. Kauffman standing by her pheasant coop at Cedar Lawn, on the Rock River Game Preserve.

"The Rock River Game Preserve had its beginning in December, 1913, when Colonel Frank O. Lowden learned that the Game and Fish Commission of Illinois, of which C. J. Dittmar, of Freeport, was the head, would pay a nominal sum an acre per year to any land owner in the State who would set aside his land as a game preserve under the law enacted the previous winter by the General Assembly. The now Governor said at once he would make Sinnissippi Farm a game preserve immediately, without any pay at all. Then, later, when Mr. and Mrs. Medill McCormick purchased the 1,200 acres of land they have now made into their estate of Rock River Farms, near Byron, at the northern end of Ogle County, they, too, at once wished to make a game preserve of it, especially since a herd of fine deer are running wild in that part of Ogle County. Mr. McCormick has offered a reward of \$500 for the arrest and conviction of anyone shooting one of these deer. There are about forty of these handsome creatures in the herd. Years ago a man living near the Kishwaukee River owned several, which bounded out and away one fine day, and ever since that, deer have been "running wild" in the north end of the county. One recently was found in the barnyard with the stock at the farm of Mr. Robert Newcomer, at the north edge of Mount Morris. The increase would have been more than the number now seen, but it is said (sub rosa, if you please) that there is scarcely a farmer in the deer neighborhood who does not know the taste of venison.

"My son, Harlan B. Kauffman, was appointed deputy game warden in February last, having the April previous taken the Civil Service





VIEW IN PINE CREEK VALLEY NEAR ROCK RIVER GAME PRESERVE

Examination, and standing first in the list of 300, was given charge of the territory of Ogle County and especially the Rock River region, which so much needed looking after as to game and fish, and everything wild found in nature hereabout. Having grown up by, in, and on Rock River, he thoroughly understood the situation, and knowing personally the ones already interested in the game preserve, he at once took up the matter with Mr. Dittmar, who was quite ready to initiate steps for the establishment of the Rock River Game Preserve. I enclose you a sample lease. You may want to publish it in the Bulletin to show just what the landowners have agreed to. The leases begin with the first of March, 1917, and run for five years, with the nominal rental by the State to the owner of one dollar a year. My son started to include the lands on each side of the river for a half mile, extending from the southern boundary line of Ogle County to the northern line. But some of the farmers who own more than the land this close to the river, want their other lands in the preserve. One man being away six miles is signing a lease because he desires the protection to his place. Others include as many as three farms, or all they own. But, of course, there are those who will not sign. Some because they think their rights are being taken away, and others because they want to keep on shooting on their own land. There are now a number of summer homes along Rock River; and, to the credit of our summer residents be it said, they all want the preserve established.

“Before my son left for the Second Officers’ Reserve Training Camp at Fort Sheridan, August 27, 1917, he arranged with Mr. Ralph E. Bradford, the present Chief Game and Fish Warden, that I should continue in

his place the work of conservation for the Rock River Game Preserve. I will not be able before winter sets in to go to see all the owners. I must go in an automobile, and it requires considerable time sometimes to talk the matter over with the landowner. Even when he is willing, he naturally desires to know all about it. There are now about a hundred who have signed leases, and perhaps half of these my son had secured before his leaving. I desire to post these places, if possible, before snow is deep, or it is too cold. The Chief Game and Fish Warden will supply the 'No hunting or trespassing' signs.

"It is part of the plan to have those who are willing, to take some quail, to be sent up by Mr. Bradford from the southern part of the state, and care for and feed them over winter. And, in the spring, to take some English pheasant eggs to place under a chicken hen,—the pheasant eggs being procured by the State for this purpose from the Wallace Evans Game Farm at St. Charles, Illinois. My son bought a half dozen for me this last spring,—they sent seven for good luck! Out of four fertile eggs, three were hatched. Unfortunately they got their feet wet before they were red around their eyes, and only one is left to show his ringneck and handsome iridescence,—and incidentally, to greedily eat all the angle worms I have time to get for him.

"It will be of interest, I know, that the establishing of the Rock River Game Preserve has gone the rounds of the newspapers in different parts of the country. It is a help to others who have a similar plan in mind, and wish successfully to carry it out. The State of Oregon has these preserves. When we were at Hood River, Oregon, in 1912, Mr. William L. Finley, then State Game Warden, sent to me some blanks for use in the Hood River Valley, desiring me to secure the signers. I had arranged for a talk at Hood River, with slides, by Mr. Finley, in this connection, but we were leaving for our return to Illinois a day before, and others had to attend to the nature talk for me. So, I missed meeting and hearing this very brilliant nature worker and writer. He is now State Biologist of the State of Oregon. The Illinois Audubon Society gave bird lovers in Chicago a chance to hear Mr. Finley last March.

"Under the present State arrangements, there are five inspectors in Illinois for game and fish matters. One of these is Mr. C. M. Myers, of Oregon, for this part of the State. Mr. C. L. McDowell who has Ogle County as his warden work, aside from my conservation part, is also from Oregon. So, we should surely get on with our preserve,—but, please note, it takes vigilance. 'Eternal vigilance' is the price of anything that is made to succeed!

REBECCA H. KAUFFMAN.



A Commissary for Winter Birds

A window near a sheltered corner looks out upon shrubbery and the open spaces of a lawn. A heavy "north-easter" blowing from the lake has banked up the shrubbery and piled house roof and branches with snow. But there is good cheer within and without. At the clean swept feeding shelf on the window ledge, back of the snow laden shrubbery, there is food for all comers. The standard ration is hemp and chick feed and sunflower seed. A thud plainly heard by one sitting at the fireside within means that a nuthatch has dropped down for a sunflower seed. Grabbing it quickly, he flies over to the nearby tree to wedge it into the bark where he can attack it in approved nuthatch fashion. Chickadees in mellow note and juncos share in the feast as does an occasional jay. The cardinal flashes down, cheeping loud and cheerfully, his female companion and all other species of birds remaining discreetly apart until the male has had his fill. Birds sit in the evergreen close at hand and await their turn. This tree favors the approach of timid birds to the shelf and the tall ferns of the window-box within doors screen the observer, and seem to be a part of the out-of-doors. So successful is this in-door-out-of-door setting of the shelf that it is frequently overcrowded and an extra supply of food has to be scattered on the ground. It is at the home of Everett L. Millard in Highland Park.

Three Orioles

It was during a cold, rainy spell in the middle of July that we adopted our three baby orioles. Since they had been calling for a day and a half, as if cold and hungry, we climbed up high into a cottonwood tree, broke off the branch to which the nest was fastened and brought them down. The parents seemed to have been killed or to have abandoned them so that we felt perfectly free to adopt the nestlings and the rites were confirmed when we took them into the house and fed them.

One by one we disentangled their feet from the hair and string of the

nest and placed them upon the table. Such a sorry, cold little group they made. I must confess we were somewhat disappointed for they were still dressed in the solemn yellow and greenish brown of their mother and did not show any of the orange and black of their father. On each side of their heads was a tuft of yellow down, while the feathers were about half formed.

Before starting to feed them we consulted a bird book and discovered that Baltimore orioles ate "small insects and caterpillars," but as we could not possibly find enough for three hungry babies, we tried small pieces of raw steak. We put a little bit on a toothpick and held it out toward the liveliest baby. Immediately his beak flew open, his clumsy little wings fluttered, and he called loudly, or shall I say screeched loudly, for it. We put it down below the inverted fork on his tongue and he swallowed it readily. The others were fed in the same way and we gave them as much as we dared.

They stayed in a strawberry box, lined with flannel, for a day and then began to fly. As we feared they might hurt themselves on some piece of furniture, we put them in a large ring dove cage on a screened porch. For two and a half weeks they stayed there, being allowed to fly around the porch most of the time.

The feeding question still bothered us. At first, for fear of over-feeding them, we gave only small bits at intervals of fifteen minutes, but they seemed to be continually hungry. After watching young canaries being fed we tried the "cramming" method with more success for they seemed to be happiest when their crops were full. Their favorite food was raw meat and we gave them chiefly this, but added insects when we could find them, bits of lettuce, dry bread, sand or ground egg shell. As soon as they were fed they would go to sleep on the perch with a peculiar rocking or rolling motion.

In anticipation of the time when they would be flying out of doors before they could feed themselves, we trained them to come for food whenever we gave a certain whistle. Then too, as they grew older, we had to teach them to pick up their food instead of waiting to have it forced down.

While still on the porch they became perfectly tame and would alight anywhere on any of us. Indeed one time the three of them went to sleep on my sister's hair. Perhaps the funniest sight was one taking a bath in a muskmelon shell half filled with water. He had been pick-



ing at its edge and when we filled it with water he began splashing in great glee. After the meal was over they would pick the crumbs off the table and even eat from our forks. Indeed, every movement, such as throwing away a currant worm with a quick toss, investigating every crack, pulling leaves off a Boston fern, hanging on an electric light cord upside down and pecking gently at our ears, was worth watching.

As we continued to watch them, the individual characteristics of the birds became more apparent. One especially, was always first to come to be fed, while another one was unusually stupid or timid.

After two and a half weeks they were given their freedom out of doors. One did not come back after the first night but the others still came to be fed when we whistled for them. I shall never forget the sight of their little yellow wings spread out above me as they dropped straight down from a tree overhead to take a bit of food from my hand. They stayed for two weeks longer, swimming in the bird bath during the hot part of the day and hunting over the bark of trees for insects.

When they did leave, about the last of August, we wondered if they had started on their long journey to South America and if they would get there safely. Certainly no wild friends could have been more attractive and interesting than our little orphaned orioles and we are only hoping that they may come back next year.

LOIS GREEN, Highland Park.

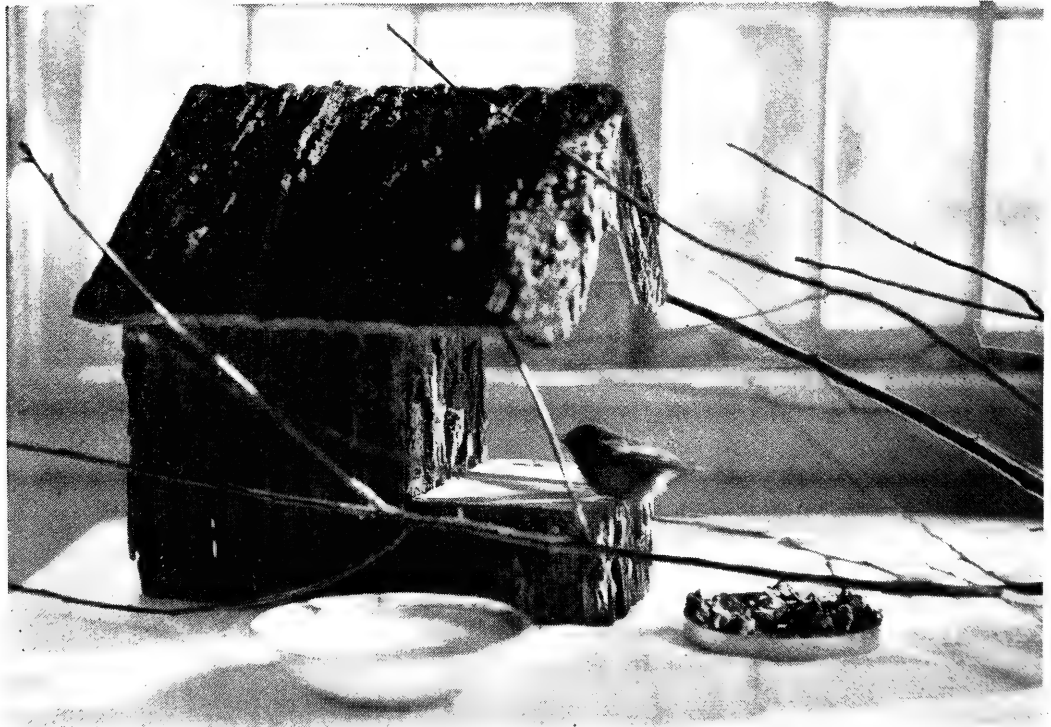


Photo by R. A. Worstall

CHICKADEE AT FOOD TABLE

This chickadee, having satisfied his hunger at the liberal supply of nuts provided by a thoughtful host, is about to satisfy his curiosity as to the interior of the rustic bungalow, doubtless having in mind the need of a residence of his own when spring returns.

Advertising Bird Conservation

Two monthly journals of wide circulation are, with commendable enterprise, carrying on a very successful propaganda for the organization of bird clubs and for the establishment of bird sanctuaries, and are doubtless profiting financially from their enterprise. The Farm Journal of Philadelphia has, for the past two or three years, been organizing Liberty Bell Bird Clubs among its readers, youthful and otherwise, assuming all expenses of organization. So, for the members, there are no dues, no fines, no assessments. They simply sign the bird pledge, and then a Club button and a twenty page Guide is sent them free. The Club memberships in September numbered 809,000! The literature sent out by these clubs and the installment in each monthly issue of the Journal seem to be uniformly of high grade.

The Peoples' Home Journal of New York is carrying on a Sanctuary movement and has thus far secured over 1300 pledges of estates and farms as perpetual sanctuaries for birds, more than 184,000 acres being thus included. The Green Meadow Clubs organized by this Journal are active in securing pledges of this sort. Forty-one pledges are reported from Illinois covering an area of 8,367 acres. To the publisher of this Journal, Mr. Herbert Hoover sent a letter of commendation in which he expressed the hope that the people of the United States would realize how closely related to this whole question of food saving is the question of the protection of insectivorous and migratory birds.

To everyone creating a bird sanctuary of his estate, the Journal sends as many warning notices as is required to post the land thoroughly. These notices are printed on stout canvas. They read as follows:

GREEN MEADOW CLUB BIRD SANCTUARY
HUNTING ON THESE PREMISES FORBIDDEN
UNDER PENALTY OF LAW. ANY PERSONS MO-
LESTING BIRDS OR NESTS ON THIS PROPERTY
WILL BE PROSECUTED. BIRDS ARE OUR BEST
FRIENDS.

The two journals above mentioned with their large circulation reach homes in every part of our country and their propaganda must surely make for a greatly increased interest in bird life and its protection among their clientele. The business advantage involved in this need not be held to discount the good results. They advertise a good cause.

The Audubon Society's Bird Slides

Mr. R. O. Stoops, Superintendent of City Schools, Joliet, writes under date of Nov. 24, 1917, as follows:

"We used the Audubon Society's bird slides in all of our twenty-three schools last Spring. We kept these slides moving from school to school over a period of two weeks.

"All told, the slides were viewed by 5,600 pupils, and the pictures were explained by principals or teachers who were especially interested in bird study. All of the schools reported keen interest, and many excursions to the woods for the purpose of studying birds resulted. We found the slides so helpful that we wish to have the privilege of using them again next spring."

The Forest Preserve of Cook County

The Board of Commissioners of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County has made great progress in the past year in perfecting its plans and developing the organization of the new territory continually being acquired. It is a wonderful work and Mr. Peter Reinberg, president of the Board, and his fellow commissioners seem to have entered upon it with a fine sense of the opportunity for public service that their official position has afforded. At the start they selected five of their Board for a plan committee and chose four others outside of public life as additional members. The four are Charles H. Wacker, President of the Chicago Plan Commission, Dwight H. Perkins, a noted architect with a great fondness for the out-of-doors, and J. C. Vaughan and William A. Peterson, widely known nurserymen. This plan committee has had great visions, and it is pleasant to report that the visions are growing into reality from day to day. Through their recommendation, the Board of Commissioners has already acquired 10,000 acres of land, and 15,000 additional acres are under consideration. It is hard to overestimate the future significance of this work. Chicago is now famous the world over for her small parks. Cook County will be famous for her belt of protected woodlands and lakes and shady watercourses free of access to the population of the great city nearby.

The first of the Forest Preserve areas to be set aside was that near Palatine and formerly known as Deer Grove Park. The formal dedication of this area, which includes 1195 acres, took place June 16, 1917, under the auspices of the Forest Preserve District and the County Superintendent of Schools. The schools in the townships of Barrington, Palatine, Wheeling and Elk Grove had a prominent part in the program, and County Superintendent Edward J. Tobin availed himself of the occasion to conduct the graduating exercises of the eighth grade pupils of those townships. Games, field meets, drills by Camp Fire Girls and speeches by prominent men were a part of an all-day program which came to a close with the dedicatory parade to the "Undiscovered Lake."

Further reference to the area above named, known now as Forest Preserve Number One, is pertinent here. In this preserve the work of organization has been carried along far enough to show the possibilities of a continuation of such enlightened procedure in other preserves yet to be developed. Mr. Ranson Kennicott, whose title of Forester makes him executive head of the field organization, has been able to mature several very interesting projects here. Advantage was taken of two small creeks to divert their course into a spring fed lake. Then with the protection of a dam this lake was enlarged to cover an area of thirty acres. It is irregular in outline and nestles among the wooded hills in a most natural manner. A small island adds to the charm of this lake.

This lake and its surroundings furnish Mr. Kennicott and his associates a much desired opportunity to attract wild fowl to the area. Immediate success has attended their efforts. All this past summer members of the snipe family have been numerous there, "yellow legs," "tip-ups," and others. Three mallards arrived in August and by September their num-



A TYPICAL SCENE IN THE COOK COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE

bers had increased to thirteen. These soon became comparatively tame and when by November 1 the total of mallards and other varieties of fowl had reached at least 500, the original arrivals furnished a nucleus of tame birds that remained rather easy of approach.

Mr. Kennicott intends to plant suitable portions of the lake with wild rice and other duck foods. Live decoys will be maintained to attract visitors. A more secluded area in this same preserve is to have a small lake to which the public will not have access during the breeding season of the water birds.

This preserve has quite a few pheasants at large and one covey of quails has become well established. The forester is saving all hollow trees and adapting them wherever necessary to the needs of birds that build their nests in such situations. It is Mr. Kennicott's plan to assign a portion of the wooded area to each of the nearby schools, rural and village, and allow the children to supply and set in place bird nesting boxes and shelters of approved types.

The Forest Preserve District looms up large on the map. Nearly all of the picturesque portions of the north branch of the Chicago river and of the DesPlaines river within Cook County have already been acquired or are under consideration. In the Mount Forest area there is a depression within the folds of the morainic upland which will shortly become a lake of the same character as the one in Forest Preserve No. 1. The dam is under construction and when completed will raise the water level over twenty feet and give the lake an area of more than sixty acres. These protected lakes and river courses in Cook County will doubtless become the nesting home of countless numbers of birds representing many species whose appearance in all this area is now only a brief incident of their migration flight.



THE RAIL FENCE AT THE MARGIN OF THE WOODS

When we destroy an old rail fence, we destroy the nesting facilities of various species of birds. Long may this old fence and its forest companions endure.

ALONG SALT CREEK

A resort of the spotted sandpiper who goes "tee-ter-ing" along the way. In the near-by woodland the cardinal, the chickadee, and the song-sparrow can be found all the year round.



Notes From LaGrange

Mr. Edwin Hulsberg writes of observations made during the past summer at LaGrange and includes field records for the past few months. He says in part:

"During the past summer the larvæ of the tussock moth were very numerous in this region and I endeavored as far as possible to see to what extent the various species of birds were helping to exterminate the pest. A parasitic wasp seemed to be working havoc among the larvæ but I found to my satisfaction that the birds were helping materially to rid our suburb of the pest. Cuckoos were more numerous, which sustains the theory that this bird resorts to places where larvæ are most abundant. From my records of birds, both seen and heard, which I have kept for every day of the past four years, I might show the wave of increase in the number of cuckoos for the past summer, but it is sufficient to say that both species were numerous. I studied one pair of black-billed cuckoos during the nesting period.

"It is a great pleasure to hear the call of the cuckoo. Even in the night, as they doze, one can distinguish their call-note. These birds should have the fullest protection. Another bird which I saw at the work of destroying the tussock moth was that happy-go-lucky sprite, the chickadee. This particular bird was feeding on the egg masses. The robin eats the egg masses also but not to a great extent. Other birds such as the rose-breasted grosbeak, the Baltimore oriole, the red-eyed vireo, and the blue-jay were friendly co-operators in this work of extermination.

"My notes show that downy woodpeckers were coming into town by September 1. A long-eared owl was seen on Sept. 9. I saw a red-tailed hawk, a woodcock, a bob-white and a golden-winged warbler on Sept. 3. A Carolina wren was caroling away on Sept. 1 and 4. Winter wrens seemed more numerous in the dense shrubbery than usual. I recorded them on seventeen days in October.

"One of the most unusual incidents this Fall was the big day for geese, October 24. Coming just after our first snow storm, they occasioned much argument and prophecy. One heard the old predictions about changing weather and that we were to have piercing cold weather soon, etc. The flight involved very large numbers of geese. I, myself, counted three hundred and twenty-five in one hour's observation. Most interesting to me was one flock of fifteen snow geese flying moderately high. Their honking reminded me of the noise of school children in the distance.

"On October 27 a short-eared owl was disturbed in its slumber and a late date for the bittern was secured. Myrtle warblers seemed to be more numerous this Fall. Pipits were seen on Nov. 4. Lapland longspurs were seen in great flights for several weeks. I saw jacksnipe as late as Nov. 22, 23, and 24, along Flag Creek. On Nov. 23 a saw-whet owl was observed. The same day a marsh hawk was seen cruising about for mice. On the following day I secured a record for the fox sparrow."

A Working Library of Bulletins

Readers of the Spring Bulletin are again reminded of the aid which the U. S. Government gives in the way of carefully prepared bulletins setting forth the economic importance of birds and detailing methods of attracting and feeding them. In the following paragraphs material printed in the Spring, 1917, Bulletin under the same heading as above, is reproduced with revisions and additions, the value of the material being deemed of sufficient importance to justify its reappearance in this if not in succeeding issues of the Bulletin. As to schools availing themselves of these bulletins it is suggested that the teachers write for the bulletins and distribute them rather than encourage indiscriminate application by children who may not realize the value of the material thus freely given away. All the Bulletins mentioned with one exception to be noted, are to be had free of charge by writing to the Department of Agriculture at Washington. When the limited supply of free publications is exhausted, applicants are referred to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., who has the publications for sale at a nominal price.

Farmers' Bulletin No. 621, "How to Attract Birds in Northeastern United States," by W. L. McAtee, describes bird shelters and methods of feeding birds, and contains a very complete list of fruits attractive to birds. Farmers' Bulletin No. 912, "How to Attract Birds in the East Central States," in press at the date of issue of this Winter Bulletin, will doubtless prove of peculiar interest in this area. Farmers' Bulletin No. 609, entitled, "Bird Houses and How to Build Them," by Ned Dearborn, has numerous detailed drawings and covers the subject completely. With these two bulletins at hand, one of 15 pages, the other of 19, one has a good working library to start with. Farmers' Bulletin No. 493, "The English Sparrow as a Pest," by Ned Dearborn (24 pages, 17 illustrations), treats the subject authoritatively and completely. It should be studied and its suggestions followed up everywhere in our state. Bulletin No. 630, "Some Common Birds Useful to the Farmer," by Beal (27 pages with illustrations), treats of 25 groups of birds. This bulletin together with Farmers' Bulletin No. 497, "Some Common Game, Aquatic and Rapacious Birds in Relation to Man" (30 pages, 14 illustrations), by McAtee and Beal, and Farmers' Bulletin No. 506, "Food of Some Well Known Birds of Farm, Forest, and Garden" (35 pages, 16 illustrations), by the same authors, should be added to one's working library. The following bulletins are recommended in addition to the above:

DEPARTMENT BULLETINS.

- 205. Eleven Important Wild-Duck Foods.
- 465. Propagation of Wild-Duck Foods.
- 619. Food Habits of the Swallows (In press).
- 621. The Crow and Its Relation to Man (In press).

SEPARATE REPRINTS FROM YEARBOOKS.

- 504. Plants Useful to Attract Birds and Protect Fruit.
- 642. Our Shore Birds and Their Future.

Biological Survey Circular No. 17, Bird Day in the Schools, will prove helpful to program makers.

As an addendum to this list, mention might be made of Farmers' Bulletin, No. 513, entitled, "Fifty Common Birds of Farm and Orchard." This has 31 pages and 50 colored illustrations. All but nine or ten of the birds there pictured and described nest in Illinois and it would be very desirable if this valuable bulletin were generally available for reference and for class study in Illinois. It is for sale by the Superintendent of Documents at fifteen cents a copy.

The State Board of Agriculture of Massachusetts has in its employ the distinguished ornithologist, Edward Howe Forbush and the bulletins issued under his supervision are of unusual value. Two of the special reports that Mr. Forbush has issued as bound volumes are entitled, "Useful Birds and Their Protection," and "A History of the Game Birds, Wild Fowl and Shore Birds of Massachusetts, Etc." These are described elsewhere under the head of Suggestive List of Bird Books. They are sold at cost for \$1.00 plus postage.

The annual reports prepared by Mr. Forbush are of interest far beyond the boundaries of Massachusetts. The Eighth Annual Report for the year 1915 has some unusually valuable material relating to nesting boxes with reports of success obtained with different types of boxes in various parts of Massachusetts. The Ninth Annual Report for 1916 contributes additional material of this kind. These reports are beautifully printed and illustrated.

Circular 47, February, 1917 edition, by Mr. Forbush, entitled, "Bird Houses and Nesting Boxes" (24 pages with 44 illustrations), embodies the best and most recent information obtained by experiments in Massachusetts. Circular 49, "Food Plants to Attract Birds and Protect Fruit," by Forbush (21 pages, 7 illustrations), includes most of the material in Farmers' Bulletin No. 621, by McAtee, referred to above and much valuable comment and additional material. Then there are three bulletins of Economic Biology also by Mr. Forbush, which are very important contributions to the literature of bird protection. Bulletin 1, "Rats and Rat Riddance" (87 pages, 35 illustrations), and Bulletin No. 2, "The Domestic Cat, Bird Killer, Etc." (112 pages, 46 illustrations), and Bulletin No. 3, "The Natural Enemies of Birds" (58 pages, 13 illustrations), are really indispensable aids. These and the annual reports and the circulars named above, may be obtained free of charge, by addressing the State Board of Agriculture, Room 136, State House, Boston.

News From The Front

The Secretary of the Maywood Bird Club writes: I am enclosing check for five dollars in payment of dues of the Maywood Bird Club as a Contributing Member of the Illinois Audubon Society.

The Maywood Bird Club regards it a duty and an achievement in the accomplishment of its purpose to become a member of the Illinois Audubon Society and is glad to be one of a large company of bird lovers and defenders joined in thought and purpose by one of the oldest state Audubon Societies in the United States.

The watchword of the Club is FORWARD WITH THE ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY.

ROY M. LANGDON.

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN

WINTER 1918

Published by the
ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
For the Conservation of Bird-Life

COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION

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Reference should once more be made to the warning card relating to bird protection which the Illinois Audubon Society publishes and distributes free of cost. This card, which was reproduced in facsimile in the Spring, 1917, Bulletin, is of suitable size for mailing or for direct distribution. An illustration on the front of the card calls attention to its purpose and tells where to apply for assistance in securing the prosecution of violators of the law. The reverse side of the card summarizes the laws, state and national, for the protection of birds and calls the attention of constables to their duties and opportunities under the law. The editor of an Italian newspaper has kindly furnished a version of it in Italian and an edition in that language has also been printed.

The Directors of the Illinois Audubon Society believe that these warning cards can be used effectively by those who are willing to take a positive stand for law enforcement in their community and will work to arouse a public sentiment which will demand such enforcement. There are many areas in Illinois where very important results will surely follow from work of this kind. It is advised that workers make friendly calls upon each constable and present him with a copy of the warning card. Friendly calls upon hunters for a similar

purpose might frequently result in co-operation and greatly reduce the number of violations of the law. The local papers will print the contents of the warning card in their news columns upon request. The Illinois Audubon Society can loan an electrottype if it is desired to print a facsimile. In some instances it may seem best that warning notices be mailed to offenders directly by the President of the Illinois Audubon Society and this will be done whenever plainly written mailing lists are sent to him.

One does not get far these days without some reference to the Great War and so the statement is pertinent that the war is revealing the economic importance of bird life to many who have hitherto given the subject little or no consideration. The necessity which war conditions create of making a close inquiry into our national assets and the best methods of conserving them is bringing out clearer than ever the fact that bird life is a national asset and that its conservation is of national significance. All who have been working for bird protection during these past years have really been working for national preparedness, for conservation of national resources. Protection of the insectivorous birds, let it be said therefore, is one way of increasing our national assets, it is a way of conserving food products.

During the winter months ahead of us it will be contributing to economic preparedness to see that our winter bird visitors do not lack food. Feeding shelves should be set up and kept inviting for bird guests. There should be cornstalk wigwags for the quails, suet, and chunks of meat fastened to trees for the nut-hatches and their kind, and cleared spaces maintained for scattering food for all sorts of bird visitors. Farmers' institutes will be in session during these coming months and there will be valuable opportunities to acquaint people with the relation between crops and the bird life on the farms. There will be opportunities to advertise the work of the Illinois Audubon Society and to enroll organizations and individuals on its membership list. It will be a good time to make use of the traveling libraries of the Illinois Audubon Society and of its collections of colored lantern slides.

Officers and Directors of the Illinois Audubon Society

President: MR. O. M. SCHANTZ, 10 S. La Salle St., Chicago.

Vice-President: MR. JESSE LOWE SMITH, Highland Park.

Treasurer: MISS AMALIE HANNIG, 800 S. Halsted St., Chicago.

Secretary: MRS. FREDERIC H. PATTEE, 2436 Prairie Ave., Evanston.

Directors, Terms Expiring in 1918

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MR. R. J. H. DELOACH, 6605 Harvard Ave., Chicago.

MR. C. W. G. EIFRIG, River Forest.

MISS AMALIE HANNIG, 800 S. Halsted St., Chicago.

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MR. EVERETT MILLARD, 69 W. Washington St., Chicago.

MRS. A. B. PORTER, 1024 Lake Shore Drive, Evanston.

MR. PAUL B. RIIS, Rockford.

MR. O. M. SCHANTZ, 10 S. La Salle St., Chicago.

MR. JESSE LOWE SMITH, Highland Park.

Those who have long been familiar with the work of the Illinois Audubon Society will notice that in the list of Directors printed above there are some new names together with the names of several who promoted the earliest organization of the Society and whose steadfast support of it during its many "lean years" has made possible its present-day promise. Among these latter are the names of Miss Mary Drummond, so long the devoted Secretary of the Society, Mr. Ruthven Deane, President of the Society for many years, Mrs. Emma S. Adams, and Rev. George B. Pratt. The members of the Society will be gratified to note their participation in the current work of the Society. The new members of the Board of Directors are presented for introduction in the paragraphs that follow.

Mr. R. J. H. DeLoach is head of the Bureau of Agricultural Research and Economics of Armour & Co. Upon learning of his transfer from Atlanta to Chicago during the past year, Mr. T. G. Pearson, Secretary of the National Association of Audubon Societies, wrote to the Illinois Audubon Society, advising that Mr. DeLoach be enlisted in the work in Illinois. Mr. Pearson regarded him as one of the most efficient workers for bird conservation in this country. A graduate of the University of Georgia, Mr. DeLoach has served in important educational positions, such as Botanist of the Georgia Experimental Station, Professor of Cotton Industry, Georgia State College of Agriculture, and Director of the Georgia Experiment Station. He is the author of bulletins on plant breeding and diseases, and of works such as "Rambles with John Burroughs," "Agriculture for Common Schools," etc.

Prof. C. W. Gustave Eifrig, a member of various scientific organizations and President of the Chicago Ornithological Society, is the author of numerous articles and notes for the "Auk," "The Ottawa Naturalist," the "Wilson Bulletin" and other publications. Professor Eifrig was formerly a resident of Ottawa, Canada, from whence he came to River Forest

a few years ago to serve as instructor in Geography and Nature Study at Concordia Teachers' College, a Lutheran Normal School. At this institution he avails himself fully of the opportunity to point out to the future teachers the value and importance of birds and the necessity of bird protection. He is an excellent field naturalist and his lectures are attractive and stimulating.

Mrs. J. M. Kavanagh is a prominent club woman of LaGrange, Ill. She has been a great force in that community and in other western suburbs of Chicago in arousing interest in bird life. The past few years she has conducted various bird classes. Her field observations and reports have appeared in previous numbers of the Bulletin.

Mr. Ranson Kennicott of Des Plaines, who holds the important position of Forester for the Cook County Forest Preserve District, comes from a family noted for its deep interest in nature. His grandfather, Dr. Kennicott at one time edited the *Prairie Farmer* and served for a time as curator of the Academy of Sciences. His uncle, Robert Kennicott, was one of the earlier ornithologists of this country. He went on three scientific expeditions to Arctic regions, his death occurring while the last expedition was in progress. Reference to Mr. Ranson Kennicott's work appears elsewhere in the report upon the work of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County.

Mrs. A. B. Porter has long been active in the work of the Illinois Humane Society. It is because of this activity that the police officials in Evanston came to consult her about violation of bird laws. A farmer from Niles Center pounced upon an offender who had in his bag twenty or more robins, flickers, and bluebirds, and brought him into Evanston and turned him over to the police. Mrs. Porter was called up and she readily swore out the warrant for the man's arrest. His two associates were later on convicted and received a heavy fine, and out of this two other cases were brought to notice and successfully prosecuted. From the published reports of Mrs. Porter's activities, the Board of Directors of the Illinois Audubon Society rightly concluded that she would be a valuable member of that Board.

Mr. Paul B. Riis, Superintendent of City Parks at Rockford, is a leader in nature study and field excursions in that city. He has been influential in the founding of the Rockford Nature Study Club. He and his associates are preparing a check list of the birds in that area which will be issued as one of the publications of the Nature Study Club.

The Chicago Ornithological Society

To such members of the Illinois Audubon Society who, beside wishing to learn how to protect and attract birds, also have a desire to learn to know and study birds in their natural haunts, and for this purpose would like to meet some congenial spirits, the Chicago Ornithological Society may be pointed out as an organization in which such desires may be realized. This club was organized about seven years ago by Dr. R. M. Strong, then of Chicago University, and in one of the lecture rooms in the anatomy building of this great institution the meetings were held during the first years. To accommodate members from the north and west sides, the meetings are now held in the loop district, as a rule in the city office of a member. The membership is not large—it must seem strange that a society of this kind finds so little support in so large a city as Chicago—but what it lacks in

size it makes up for in enthusiasm. The meetings are held on the first Tuesday evening of each month, excepting July and August, with two meetings in April, May and June, the main migrating and nesting season. Papers are read, talks given by members or guests, often illustrated, but probably the most attractive feature of the meetings are the informal reports of the members, in which not only statistics as to what and how many species and individuals have been seen since the last meeting, but intimate observations of habits, peculiarities, etc., are given. It is this feature which always kindles enthusiasm anew and urges the members to make expeditions singly, or in conjunction with one or more of the members, into the parks, beaches, dunes, prairies and woods of our much-favored area. Any member of the Audubon Society wishing to join this club, may send his or her name to the secretary, Miss Marian Fairman, 4744 Kenwood Avenue, Chicago.

G. EIFRIG, President.

The Lincoln Highway

The work of planting and beautifying the Lincoln Highway from coast to coast has been undertaken by the two million club women of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. The comprehensive plan for the planting of the Lincoln Highway from New York to San Francisco, prepared by Mr. Jens Jensen, was adopted by the General Federation of Women's Clubs. Each state through which the Highway passes is to be responsible for its roadside planting. The plan in detail for the Lincoln Highway planting in Illinois, also prepared by Mr. Jensen, was adopted by the Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs at the Annual Meeting, November, 1917. The club women of Illinois are indebted to Mr. Jensen for his generous services which have involved expenditure of time and means. The plan which he has given is not only for today, but for all time and is his contribution to the memorial to President Lincoln, the Lincoln Highway.

I quote the following from Mrs. John D. Sherman, Chairman Conservation, General Federation of Women's Clubs:

"In connection with the Roadside Planting of the Lincoln Highway by the General Federation of Women's Clubs, it is the ambition of the Conservation Department to make the way a Bird Reserve from coast to coast—a Bird's Continental Divide of Safety—where these friends of man may find a refuge and a nesting place.

It is also the ambition of the Conservation Department to have the Lincoln Highway one great national road that shall be unspoiled by advertising signs. The Lincoln Highway, made simply and naturally beautiful with native trees and shrubs and flowers and a permanent home for the birds, will then be splendidly akin to our national parks which are public playgrounds set apart for the recreation and spiritual uplift of our people."

It is the determination of the Federation of Women's Clubs that Illinois shall stand second to no other state in the planting and beautifying of the Lincoln Highway, which covers a distance of one hundred and seventy miles and passes through the following counties—Cook, Will, Kane, DeKalb, Lee, Ogle, and Whiteside.

The planting plan for Illinois is in the hands of the State Conservation Committee. Women's Clubs, other organizations and individuals wishing to be responsible for some portion of the roadside planting are requested to communicate with the Chairman of this Committee.

MRS. W. L. ARNOLD,
5427 Hyde Park Blvd., Chicago.



Photo by J. V. Needham

Winter Woods

Now that Nature's lavish mood has gone, she can invite you to a more intimate companionship with her. Those who really love her will seek her when she is at leisure. They will discern the beauty of bare branches, which make such exquisite etchings against the Winter sky; of wind-swept hills, keen in outline; ragged, undraped bushes casting violet shadows on the snow; the gleam of blue ice, showing reflections of swamp grass on its surface.

A sunset in such woods is a never-to-be-forgotten glory. How glad you are that there are no heavily foliated trees, rimming yonder hill, to dim your vision. Mayhap there is the flash of a gorgeous red-winged spirit, who sits with raised crest on yonder bough, cutting the stillness with the richest and most joyous whistle ever heard from a bird's throat,—the cardinal, monarch of all he surveys, subsisting on the few seeds left in last year's supply of weeds or the chick-feed you scatter about the coop. His voice stands out matchless, for there is no other to interrupt him, except, perhaps, the flute-like call of the titmouse, who wishes very much to be heard right now. He is a mouse-colored bird, and "pomps" his hair in quite the same style as the cardinal.

On the very coldest days, you might hear the chickadee. A more friendly little body could not be found. A few cracked nuts and bits of suet, accompanied by your coaxing "do-ti" will bring him right to your feet. And he will thank you by day-day-ing above your head or whistling his two little Spring love notes.

A downy woodpecker beats a tattoo on the old oak across the way, a

black-and-white checkered bird, wearing his wee red cap on the back of his head. His sharp eye and auger-like bill make him a useful citizen, as no injurious grub escapes his vigilance. While he is at work below, chickadee swings on a trapeze above his head, and spears quite as many with his needle-like bill.

Their first aids are the nuthatches and brown creepers. The former is a notorious acrobat, coming down a tree head first, without losing his balance, a feat no other feathered being can do. We have two varieties here, the white-breasted and the red-breasted. Both have blue-gray backs, with black heads, but the latter is the tinier and daintier of the two, and has a clear tawny breast, with the shortest of tails to balance him. The brown creeper, who can scarcely be distinguished from the bark of the tree, creeps spirally around the trunk, and when he reaches the top, flies down to the bottom of the next tree and begins all over again. Such a lonesome little fellow as he is—never playing tag like the chickadees or running races like the nuthatches. However, he fills a quiet little niche, doing his share in ridding the trees of their destroyers.

GENEVIEVE ZIMMER, Rock Island.

Book and Magazine Notes

TWELVE MONTHS WITH THE BIRDS AND POETS

This book embodies the observations of one who has lived much afield and who reports the sights and sounds of our own hedge rows and thickets. Northern Illinois and the sand dunes of Indiana come into the story and all this seems appropriate when one learns that the author is President of the Maywood Bird Club and a member of the Illinois Audubon Society. To an intimate knowledge of out-of-doors, the author adds a fondness for good books, a discriminating fondness for poetry and a wide acquaintance with it. Quotations from poets of the past and of our own day appear so naturally in the narrative of the months that it is only as one is well through the book that one realizes what a wealth of poetic material is available, and appreciates the wide acquaintance with poetry involved in bringing together in this way so many fine selections. The author chooses April as the first month of the bird year and shows that from month to month how rich in observation or in the materials for reflection every varying phase of the passing seasons may be. Even when winter strips the landscape and leaves only the occasional birds that hover about feeding shelves, the fewness of observations to record gives opportunity to review events when actors crowded every stage. There is an introduction by Jean Stratton Porter which adds to the attractiveness of the book. The illustrations are by Ralph Fletcher Seymour and the book comes from the Alderbrook Press.

BIRD-LORE

Bird-Lore for November-December, 1917, has the usual number of interesting general articles with excellent illustrations, together with notes from field and study, book news, etc. The school department, edited by Mrs. Alice Hall Walter, includes among other valuable material a bird masque for children by Ella Florence Padon which the author has successfully staged at Fort Smith, Arkansas. The announcement is made that

the important studies of bird migration begun by the late Professor Wells W. Cooke are to be continued by Dr. Harry C. Oberholser of the U. S. Biological Survey. The annual report of the National Association of Audubon Societies which follows includes very interesting reports by the Secretary and by the various field agents and the secretaries of state societies, etc. Mrs. Frederic H. Pattee furnishes a report of the past year's activities of the Illinois Audubon Society and this is accompanied by the portrait of President Schantz. The price of *Bird-Lore* has been raised to \$1.50 a year. Even this increased price is a small sum to pay for so valuable a magazine. It is greatly worth while for all interested in Audubon work in Illinois to read *Bird-Lore* regularly and to aid in securing a large subscription list for it in the state.

NATURE STUDY REVIEW

The Nature Study Review, the official organ of the American Nature Study Society commends itself to all lovers of out-of-doors. The October number was a Butterfly Number gotten up especially for those who had wished to know the names and something about the feeding habits of some of the commoner butterflies. The November number was a Brook number, with studies of actual brooks, their life histories, plant and animal life, etc. The illustration of the Brook used in this number of the Bulletin is from the November number of the Nature Study Review. The Winter Bird Number is the title of the December number and it is given over to detailed experiences with feeding birds in winter. Of particular importance is an article entitled "What Birds Feed on in Winter" by Harriet Reynolds. The price of the Nature Study Review is \$1.00 a year for nine issues. Mrs. Anna B. Comstock is editor and it is published by the Comstock Publishing Company, Ithaca, N. Y.

The Fall Migration

Beginning with 1914, the writer has been keeping a yearly record of the spring and fall migrations, also a record of the breeding birds in this part of Rock Island County, for the U. S. Biological Survey. The territory on which the following records of the fall migration were made, is situated from three to five miles southeast of Port Byron, and consists of a strip of bluff land about one-half mile wide by two and a half miles long, the south part extending to the edge of Rock River Bottom. The surface of the land is partly level and rolling, some sloughs, and a good many hills and hollows. There is yet much timber and brush land on this area. The trees are mostly red, white, black, and burr oak, a good many elm, and some hickory, poplar, wild cherry and willows. On weekdays my observations are made while at work on a farm of 103 acres. On Sunday nearly the entire day is spent observing on our own farm, and also in the timber and brush land of twelve other farms. My records for the first two years are not as good as for the last two, because I was at that time not yet acquainted with some of the birds.

Breeding Birds	Dates when last seen			
	1914	1915	1916	1917
Killdeer			Sept. 25	Oct. 18
Mourning Dove	Oct. 3	Oct. 21	Sept. 22	Nov. 4
Marsh Hawk	Nov. 18	July 30	Sept. 17	Nov. 18
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Aug. 30	Oct. 18	Oct. 6	Oct. 14
Cooper's Hawk	Nov. 19	Nov. 13	Oct. 25	Nov. 4
Red-tailed Hawk	Nov. 4	Nov. 21	Oct. 15	Oct. 21
Red-shouldered Hawk		Oct. 17	Nov. 12	Sept. 23
Sparrow Hawk	Sept. 17	Nov. 21	Sept. 23	Nov. 16
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Sept. 17	Sept. 13	Sept. 24	Sept. 23
Black-billed Cuckoo		Sept. 18	Sept. 17	Oct. 21
Red-headed Woodpecker	Oct. 2		Sept. 24	
Northern Flicker	Oct. 23	Oct. 21	Nov. 5	Nov. 11
Whip-poor-will	Aug. 16	Sept. 19	Sept. 24	Sept. 2
Chimney Swift	Sept. 21	Aug. 15	Sept. 11	Sept. 8
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Sept. 23	Sept. 28	Sept. 24	Sept. 19
Kingbird	Aug. 30	Sept. 14	Sept. 11	Sept. 14
Crested Flycatcher	Sept. 13	Sept. 5	Sept. 17	Sept. 11
Phoebe	Oct. 12	Nov. 7	Oct. 8	Oct. 21
Wood Peewee	Sept. 17	Sept. 19	Sept. 24	Oct. 14
Traill's Flycatcher			Aug. 20	Sept. 2
Prairie Horned Lark	Nov. 8	Nov. 22		
Cowbird	Oct. 18	Oct. 17	Sept. 21	Sept. 2
Red-winged Blackbird	Nov. 18	Nov. 22	Nov. 17	Nov. 17
Meadowlark	Nov. 8	Nov. 7	Oct. 26	Nov. 10
Orchard Oriole	Aug. 9	Aug. 8	July 22	Aug. 1
Baltimore Oriole	Sept. 6	Sept. 6	Sept. 5	Sept. 2
Bronzed Grackle	Nov. 8	Nov. 15	Oct. 22	Nov. 4
Goldfinch	Nov. 29	Nov. 27		
Vesper Sparrow	Oct. 18	Oct. 10	Oct. 29	Oct. 21
Grasshopper Sparrow	Aug. 30	Aug. 29	Oct. 11	Sept. 23
Lark Sparrow		June 18	July 7	June 10
Chipping Sparrow	Oct. 7	Oct. 14	Oct. 11	Oct. 14
Field Sparrow	Oct. 19	Oct. 17	Oct. 29	Oct. 28
Song Sparrow	Nov. 8	Nov. 14	Nov. 26	Nov. 18
Towhee	Nov. 8	Oct. 24	Oct. 22	Oct. 31
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Sept. 20	Sept. 13	Oct. 1	Oct. 7
Indigo Bunting	Sept. 27	Oct. 24	Oct. 1	Sept. 23
Dickcissel	Aug. 23	Aug. 29	July 25	Sept. 9
Scarlet Tanager		Oct. 3	Sept. 10	Sept. 9
Purple Martin	Sept. 16	Sept. 16	Sept. 11	Sept. 15
Cliff Swallow	Sept. 14	Sept. 14	Sept. 11	Sept. 5
Barn Swallow	Sept. 9	Oct. 8	Sept. 15	Sept. 8
Bank Swallow	Sept. 14	Sept. 14	Sept. 11	Sept. 5
Migrant Shrike	Aug. 16	June 20	July 5	July 5
Red-eyed Vireo		Sept. 12	Oct. 1	Sept. 30
Warbling Vireo	Sept. 10	Sept. 12	Sept. 14	Sept. 5
Yellow-throated Vireo		Sept. 19	Sept. 11	Sept. 2
Bell's Vireo		Aug. 22	Sept. 1	Aug. 19
Blue-winged Warbler	Sept. 13	Sept. 12	Sept. 3	Sept. 5
Yellow Warbler	Aug. 6	Aug. 22	June 25	July 3
Oven-bird	Sept. 20	Oct. 9	Sept. 24	Sept. 16
Maryland Yellow-throat		Oct. 3	Sept. 3	Sept. 27
Yellow-breasted Chat			Aug. 20	July 26
Redstart	Sept. 13	Sept. 19	Oct. 1	Sept. 23
Catbird	Sept. 26	Oct. 3	Sept. 17	Sept. 27
Brown Thrasher	Oct. 8	Oct. 3	Oct. 1	Sept. 23
House Wren	Sept. 28	Sept. 22	Oct. 15	Sept. 30
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher			July 30	July 22
Wood Thrush			Aug. 20	Aug. 15
Robin	Oct. 28	Nov. 14	Nov. 20	Nov. 16
Bluebird	Nov. 1	Nov. 17	Nov. 3	Nov. 4

The Marsh Hawk probably breeds on Rock River bottom; it is occasionally seen here, flying low over the fields, hunting for its prey. They are sometimes seen during the winter, as are also some of the other hawks. The Red-headed-Woodpecker stayed here during the winter of 1915-1916; there are many of them here at the present time, and will probably stay all winter. The Prairie Horned Lark stayed here last winter, and are also here at the present time. In 1916, the Goldfinch remained until Dec. 10; they yet can also be seen and heard nearly every day. a

Migratory Birds	Dates when first seen			
	1914	1915	1916	1917
Loon		Sept. 24		
Wild Ducks		Oct. 5	Nov. 8	Sept. 6
Snow Goose			Oct. 18	
Canada Goose	Nov. 11	Nov. 22		Oct. 23
Brant	Oct. 16	Oct. 9	Oct. 16	Oct. 16
Heron		Aug. 3	Sept. 17	Aug. 24
Solitary Sandpiper			Aug. 14	Aug. 28
Turkey Vulture		Nov. 20		
Goshawk		Oct. 29		Oct. 27
Rough-legged Hawk	Oct. 15	Oct. 5	Sept. 24	Oct. 21
Bald Eagle	Nov. 13			Oct. 24
Barred Owl		Oct. 31		
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Oct. 3	Oct. 2	Oct. 8	Sept. 27
Nighthawk	Aug. 19	Aug. 20	Aug. 25	Aug. 21
Olive-sided Flycatcher		Sept. 12	Aug. 20	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher		Sept. 12		
Acadian Flycatcher	Aug. 9	Aug. 8	Aug. 27	Aug. 26
Least Flycatcher	Sept. 6	Sept. 12	Aug. 27	Sept. 2
Bobolink		Oct. 31		
Rusty Blackbird	Sept. 20	Sept. 11	Sept. 20	Oct. 25
Purple Finch		Oct. 24	Oct. 8	Oct. 21
Redpoll			Nov. 5	
Lapland Longspur				Nov. 4
Savannah Sparrow	Oct. 3			
Leconte's Sparrow			Oct. 1	Oct. 14
Nelson's Sparrow				Sept. 23
Harris's Sparrow				Oct. 28
White-crowned Sparrow				Oct. 14
White-throated Sparrow	Sept. 27	Sept. 19	Sept. 24	Sept. 23
Tree Sparrow	Nov. 1	Oct. 17	Oct. 29	Oct. 28
Slate-colored Junco	Sept. 27	Sept. 29	Sept. 24	Oct. 1
Swamp Sparrow	Sept. 20			Sept. 30
Fox Sparrow	Oct. 25	Oct. 10	Oct. 1	Sept. 30
Tree Swallow	Sept. 6	Aug. 27	Sept. 6	Aug. 24
Cedar Waxwing	Aug. 23	Oct. 12		Sept. 14
Blue-headed Vireo			Sept. 3	Sept. 30
Black and White Warbler	Aug. 16	Aug. 22	Aug. 25	Aug. 29
Golden-winged Warbler		Sept. 5	Sept. 3	Aug. 29
Nashville Warbler		Sept. 12	Aug. 27	
Orange-crowned Warbler		Sept. 12	Aug. 27	Sept. 30
Tennessee Warbler	Aug. 16	Aug. 27	Aug. 13	Aug. 26
Myrtle Warbler	Sept. 30	Sept. 24	Sept. 24	Sept. 22
Magnolia Warbler	Sept. 13	Sept. 5	Aug. 25	Sept. 2
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Aug. 30	Sept. 12	Aug. 27	Sept. 2
Bay-breasted Warbler		Sept. 19	Aug. 30	Sept. 7
Black-poll Warbler	Sept. 13	Sept. 12	Aug. 27	Sept. 2
Blackburnian Warbler			Aug. 27	Aug. 29
Black-throated Green Warbler			Aug. 27	Aug. 24
Palm Warbler				Sept. 23
Northern Water Thrush		Sept. 11	Sept. 8	
Connecticut Warbler		Aug. 22		

Migratory Birds	Dates when first seen			
	1914	1915	1916	1917
Mourning Warbler			Aug. 30	Sept. 2
Wilson's Warbler	Sept. 6	Sept. 12	Sept. 8	Sept. 7
Canadian Warbler	Aug. 30	Aug. 22	Aug. 25	Aug. 26
Bewick's Wren	Oct. 25			
Winter Wren	Oct. 4	Sept. 21	Sept. 24	Sept. 30
Brown Creeper	Oct. 1	Sept. 19	Oct. 1	Oct. 14
Red-breasted Nuthatch	Oct. 9			
Golden-crowned Kinglet	Oct. 8	Oct. 2	Oct. 1	Oct. 14
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Sept. 25	Sept. 15	Sept. 17	Sept. 30
Veery			Sept. 3	Sept. 2
Gray-cheeked Thrush		Sept. 12	Sept. 10	Sept. 2
Olive-backed Thrush	Sept. 20	Aug. 29	Aug. 27	Sept. 2
Hermit Thrush	Oct. 4	Oct. 10	Oct. 1	Oct. 28

The only water birds on my list are those which were seen flying over. The Solitary Sandpipers were seen in a slough near the farm buildings. On October 23, thousands of Brant were seen flying southward; they were evidently fleeing from the early cold weather and snow which we had this Fall. Many species of water birds could be seen in this county if one lived along the Mississippi or Rock River or on Rock River Bottom. I have four new records on my list this fall. A flock of about 50 Lapland Longspurs were seen in one of our fields on Nov. 4; they were also seen and heard Nov. 11, 18, and 19. One Nelson's Sparrow was seen Sept. 23, and one White-crowned Sparrow Oct. 14. Four or five Harris's Sparrows were seen on Oct. 28, while observing three different flocks of sparrows in some timber and brush land; there was one with the first flock, two or three with the second, and one with the third. Harris's Sparrow is easy to observe, as it is not so restless as other sparrows are. While observing the second flock, I had the pleasure of seeing a Harris's Sparrow, and a Fox Sparrow, sitting about a foot apart. The next day, Oct. 29, it snowed all day from the northwest. The Golden-winged Warbler is a regular visitor here in the fall, but I have never seen any in the spring. It is remarkable that I have never seen any of the blue colored warblers, neither during the spring or fall migrations. On October 25, 1914, I saw a small bird in the brush, which was entirely blue on the back, but when I tried to observe it with my field glass, it had disappeared. It probably was a Black-throated Blue Warbler.

J. J. SCHAEFER.

Port Byron, Ill., Nov. 23, 1917.

Check List of Illinois Birds

The following check list of birds found in Illinois is a very careful revision of the one printed in the Spring 1917 Bulletin. For this the members of the Illinois Audubon Society and all who may have occasion to use this check list are greatly indebted to Mr. Benjamin T. Gault of Glen Ellyn. It has been his somewhat trying task to sift out fully verified records from the hazy or uncertain ones, and to deal with not yet clearly determined matters relating to the variation between northern and southern representatives of certain species of birds which make the work of editing a check list rather perplexing. All this and the prosaic but important work of correcting nomenclature and errors of spelling have doubtless made Mr. Gault's task a heavy one, but it surely has been worth while. The list as now published is authoritative for Illinois as

far as available data can make it, and the Illinois Audubon Society may well be proud to send it out as the work of one of its members.

In this final revision Mr. Gault corresponded with Mr. Ridgway and Mr. Vandercook and profited by their cordial co-operation. Certain additions to and revision of the data furnished by them for the Spring Bulletin have been made with their approval. For the benefit of new readers of the Bulletin certain items of interest that accompanied the presentation of the check list in the Spring Bulletin are here repeated.

The material for the revision and additional records embodied in this check list has been furnished by Mr. Robert Ridgway of the United States National Museum, whose summer home is at Olney, Richland County, Mr. Benjamin T. Gault of Glen Ellyn, Mr. Isaac Hess of Philo, and Mr. C. E. Vandercook of Odin. The records of observations of Mr. Gault have long been regarded as standard for Illinois by government experts such as the late Wells W. Cooke, and by Frank Chapman and other writers. Mr. Ridgway is one of the most eminent ornithologists America has produced. Mr. Hess is a business man of Philo who has for many years been a discriminating field student of birds. His list of 108 species of birds whose nests he visited within a ten-mile radius of his home in Champaign County should greatly stimulate the interest of bird observers in Central Illinois. Mr. Vandercook's list of 95 species from Clinton County in Southern Illinois is entitled to the same honorable mention.

The check list recently revised by Mr. Gault was prepared as follows: Mr. Gault's list was printed with initial letters referring to Northern, Central and Southern Illinois. Mr. Ridgway's list for Southern Illinois and Mr. Hess' list for Central Illinois were embodied in this by the use of asterisks and daggers. Asterisks refer to nesting records in Southern Illinois, double asterisks showing that the record was made in Richland County in which Mr. Ridgway's farm home is located and where his special observations have been made. Mr. Hess' records of nesting birds for Central Illinois were distinguished with dagger marks. These special designations have been preserved in the final revised list as printed herewith.

EXPLANATION

The initial letters, N.C.S., refer respectively to Northern, Central and Southern Illinois. Where no such initial letter appears there is no record of the species breeding in Illinois, and such species are pure migrants or occasional visitants. The asterisks mark birds as nesting in Southern Illinois, the double asterisks referring especially to Richland County. The dagger mark refers to Central Illinois, the special reference being to Champaign County. The order in which the names appear is that of the AOU check list employed by all ornithologists. In using this check list many of our readers may find it more convenient to begin at the end of the list, where the more common birds, such as the blue bird and robin, appear. The abbreviation S.R. refers to summer residents.

Grebes

- Holboell's Grebe.
- Horned Grebe. N. Probably very rare, if not questionable, as a breeder at present day.
- Eared Grebe
- Pied-billed Grebe. N. C. S.

Loons

- Loon. N. No recent nesting records, so far as known.
- Black-throated Loon.
- Red-throated Loon.

Jaegers

- Pomarine Jaeger.
- Long-tailed Jaeger.

Gulls and Terns

Kittiwake Gull.
 Glaucous Gull.
 Iceland Gull.
 Great Black-backed Gull.
 Herring Gull.
 Ring-billed Gull.
 Laughing Gull.
 Franklin's Gull.
 Bonaparte's Gull.
 Sabine's Gull.
 Gull-billed Tern.
 Caspian Tern.
 Royal Tern.
 Forster's Tern. N.
 Common Tern.
 Least Tern.
 Black Tern. N.

Anhinga

Water-Turkey. S.

Cormorants

Double-crested Cormorant. C.
 *Florida Cormorant. S.
 Mexican Cormorant.

Pelicans

White Pelican.
 Brown Pelican.

Ducks and Geese

Merganser.
 Red-breasted Merganser. N.
 **Hooded Merganser. N. C. S.
 Mallard. N. Probably confined as a breeder to Northern half of State.
 Black Duck. N.
 Gadwall.
 European Widgeon.
 Baldpate. A possible breeder in N. Ill.
 Green-winged Teal. N.
 *Blue-winged Teal. N. C. S.
 Cinnamon Teal.
 Shoveller. Nested formerly in N. Ill., and may do so now.
 Pintail. N.
 †**Wood Duck. N. C. S.
 Redhead.
 Canvas-back.
 Scaup Duck.
 Lesser Scaup Duck. N.
 Ring-necked Duck. N.
 Golden-eye.
 Barrow's Golden-eye.
 Buffle-head.
 Old-Squaw.
 Harlequin Duck.
 Eider.
 King Eider.
 Scoter.
 White-winged Scoter.
 Surf Scoter.
 Ruddy Duck. N.
 Snow Goose.
 Greater Snow Goose.
 Blue Goose.
 White-fronted Goose.

Canada Goose. N.
 Hutchin's Goose.
 Cackling Goose.
 Brant.

Swans

Whistling Swan.
 Trumpeter Swan. No recent records.
 Extremely rare and possibly extinct in state.

Bitterns, Herons and Cranes

Roseate Spoonbill (?)
 White Ibis.
 Glossy Ibis.
 Wood Ibis. Not uncommon late summer visitor to Southern and Central Illinois.
 *Bittern. N. C. S.
 *Least Bittern. N. C. S.
 Cory's Least Bittern. A peculiar color-phase of the Least Bittern—
 one record.
 †**Great Blue Heron. N. C. S.
 *Egret. (?) Probably not nesting now. S. Ill.
 Snowy Egret.
 Reddish Egret.
 Little Blue Heron. Late S. R. in S. Ill.
 †**Green Heron. N. C. S.
 †*Black-crowned Night Heron. N. C. S.
 *Yellow-crowned Night Heron. S.
 Whooping Crane. Very rare and possibly now extinct in state. No recent records.
 Sandhill Crane. Nested formerly, but doubtless not now.
 Limpkin.

Rails, Gallinules and Coot

†**King Rail. N. C. S.
 Virginia Rail. N. C. S.
 †Sora. N. C. S.
 *Yellow Rail. N. C. S.
 †Black Rail. N. C. and possibly in S. Ill.
 Purple Gallinule.
 *Florida Gallinule. N. C. S.
 Coot. N. C. S.

Phalaropes

Red Phalarope.
 Northern Phalarope.
 Wilson's Phalarope. N.

Avocet and Stilt

Avocet.
 Black-necked Stilt.

Snipe, Sandpipers, Etc.

†**Woodcock. N. C. S.
 Wilson's Snipe. N.
 Dowitcher.
 Long-billed Dowitcher.
 Stilt Sandpiper.
 Knot.
 Purple Sandpiper.
 Pectoral Sandpiper. A few S. R., but do not nest.

- White-rumped Sandpiper.
 Baird's Sandpiper.
 Least Sandpiper. May have nested very rarely in former years.
 Red-backed Sandpiper.
 Semipalmated Sandpiper. Occasional S. R., but do not nest.
 Western Sandpiper.
 Sanderling.
 Marbled Godwit.
 Hudsonian Godwit.
 Greater Yellow-legs. Occasional S. R. and may breed in N. Ill.
 Yellow-legs. N. Very rare breeder.
 Solitary Sandpiper. Casual S. R., but never found breeding.
 Willet. (?)
 Western Willet. N. Authority—W. W. Cooke.
- †**Bartramian Sandpiper. N. C. S.
 Perhaps absent in extreme S. Ill.
 Buff-breasted Sandpiper.
 †*Spotted Sandpiper. N. C. S.
 Long-billed Curlew. Authority of Nelson, who once found it nesting in N. E. Ill.
 Hudsonian Curlew.
 Eskimo Curlew. No recent records.
 Possibly extinct in state.
- Plovers**
 Black-bellied Plover. A few non-breeding birds are S. R.
 Golden Plover.
 †**Killdeer. N. C. S.
 Semipalmated Plover. A few remain S. R. and may breed in N. Ill.
 Piping Plover. N.
- Turnstone**
 Ruddy Turnstone.
- Bob-White, Grouse, Etc.**
 †**Bob-white. N. C. S.
 **Ruffed Grouse. N. C. S.
 Willow Ptarmigan. (?)
 †**Prairie Chicken. N. C. S.
 Prairie Sharp-tailed Grouse. Nested formerly in N. E. Ill.—Once at Waukegan.
 **Wild Turkey. S.
- Pigeon and Dove**
 Passenger Pigeon. Once nested sparingly in N. E. Ill. Now extinct.
 †**Mourning Dove. N. C. S.
- Vultures**
 †**Turkey Vulture. Chiefly C. and S. Rare S. R. in N. Ill.
 *Black Vulture. S.
- Hawks and Eagles**
 *Swallow-tailed Kite. S.
 White-tailed Kite.
 Mississippi Kite.
 A summer visitant to S. Ill.
 †Marsh Hawk. N. C. and questionable in S. Ill.
 †**Sharp-shinned Hawk. N. C. S.
 †**Cooper's Hawk. N. C. S.
- Goshawk.
 Western Goshawk.
 †**Red-tailed Hawk. N. C. S.
 Krider's Red-tailed Hawk.
 Western Red-tailed Hawk.
 Harlan's Hawk.
 **Red-Shouldered Hawk. N. C. S.
 †Swainson's Hawk. C. S. and possibly N. Ill.
 †Broad-winged Hawk. N. C. S.
 Mexican Goshawk.
 Rough-legged Hawk.
 Ferruginous Rough-legged Hawk.
 Golden Eagle. Formerly nested in different parts of state.
 *Bald Eagle. N. C. S., but now rare.
 Prairie Falcon.
 *Duck Hawk. S.
 Pigeon Hawk. Rare S. R. and may nest.
 Richardson's Pigeon Hawk.
 †**Sparrow Hawk. N. C. S.
 *Osprey. N. C. S.
- Owls**
 †**Barn Owl. C. S.
 †**Long-eared Owl. N. C. S.
 **Short-eared Owl. N. C. S. But now rare in Southern portion of State.
 †**Barred Owl. N. C. S.
 Great Gray Owl.
 Richardson's Owl.
 **Saw-whet Owl. S. One breeding record (Vandercook), so far as known, but a probable breeder in N. C. Ill.
 †**Screech Owl. N. C. S. Questionable in S. Ill.
 *Southern Screech Owl. S.
 †**Great Horned Owl. N. C. S.
 Arctic Horned Owl.
 Snowy Owl.
 Hawk Owl.
- Paroquet**
 Louisiana (Carolina) Paroquet. Long extinct.
- Cuckoos and King Fisher**
 †**Yellow-billed Cuckoo. N. C. S.
 **Black-billed Cuckoo. N. C. S.
 †**Belted Kingfisher. N. C. S.
- Woodpeckers**
 Ivory-billed Woodpecker. Probably extinct in Illinois.
 †**Hairy Woodpecker. N. C., but questionable in S. Ill.
 *Southern Hairy Woodpecker. S.
 *Southern Downy Woodpecker. S.
 †**Downy Woodpecker. N. C. S. Questionable in S. Ill.
 Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker.
 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. N.
 **Pileated Woodpecker. S.
 Northern Pileated Woodpecker. N. C. Rare in C. and N. Ill. Very doubtful as a breeder at present time.

- †**Red-headed Woodpecker. N. C. S.
 †**Red-bellied Woodpecker. N. C. S.
 but rare in N. Ill.
 **Flicker. S.
 †Northern Flicker. N. C.
- Whippoorwills, Nighthawks, Swift and Humming Bird**
 *Chuck-will's-widow. S.
 †**Whip-poor-will. N. C. S.
 †**Nighthawk. N. C. S., but probably replaced largely in N. and C. Ill. by Sennett's Nighthawk, and by the following in S. Ill.
 *Florida Night Hawk. S.
 Sennett's Nighthawk. N. C.
 †**Chimney Swift. N. C. S.
 †**Ruby-throated Hummingbird. N.C.S.
- Flycatchers**
 †**Kingbird. N. C. S.
 †**Crested Flycatcher. N. C. S.
 †**Phoebe. N. C. S.
 Say's Phoebe.
 Olive-sided Flycatcher.
 †**Wood Pewee. N. C. S.
 Yellow-bellied Flycatcher.
 †**Arcadian Flycatcher. N. C. S.
 †**Traill's Flycatcher. N. C. S.
 Alder Flycatcher.
 **Least Flycatcher. N. C. S. Possibly absent as a breeder in extreme S. Ill.
- Larks**
 Horned Lark.
 †**Prairie Horned Lark. N. C. S.
- Crows, Jays, Magpie, Etc.**
 Magpie.
 †**Blue Jay. N. C. S., but questionable in S. Ill.
 *Southern Blue Jay. S.
 Raven. Formerly resident, but now very rare if not absent entirely.
 Northern Raven.
 †**Crow. N. C. S., but questionable as a breeder in S. Ill.
 *Southern Crow. S.
 Clarke's Nutcracker.
- Blackbirds, Orioles, Etc.**
 †Bobolink. N. C.
 †**Cowbird. N. C. S.
 Yellow-headed Blackbird. N.
 †**Red-winged Blackbird. N. C. S.
 †Meadowlark. N. C. S. But questionable in N. W. and S. Ill.
 **Southern Meadowlark. Breeding status not fully determined.
 Western Meadowlark. Same comment as above.
 †**Orchard Oriole. N. C. S.
 †**Baltimore Oriole. N. C. S.
 Rusty Blackbird.
 Brewer's Blackbird.
 †**Bronzed Grackle. N. C. S.
- Finches, Sparrows, Etc.**
 Evening Grosbeak.
 Pine Grosbeak.
 Purple Finch. N.
 †**House Sparrow. N. C. S.
 Crossbill.
 White-winged Crossbill.
 Hoary Redpoll.
 Redpoll.
 Holboell's Redpoll. (?)
 Greater Redpoll.
 †**Goldfinch. N. C. S.
 Pine Siskin.
 Snow Bunting.
 Lapland Longspur.
 Smith's Longspur.
 Chestnut-collared Longspur.
 McCown's Longspur.
 †**Vesper Sparrow. N. C. S.
 Savannah Sparrow. N.
 †**Grasshopper Sparrow. N. C. S.
 **Henslow's Sparrow. N. C. S.
 Leconte's Sparrow. Recorded breeding in N. E. Ill., but record questioned.
 Nelson's Sparrow.
 †**Lark Sparrow. N. C. S.
 Harris's Sparrow.
 White-crowned Sparrow. Possibly a rare breeder in extreme N. Ill.
 White-throated Sparrow. Probably nests sparingly in the northern counties of the State.
 Tree Sparrow.
 †**Chipping Sparrow. N. C. S.
 Clay-colored Sparrow. Classified as S. R. in N. Ill.
 †**Field Sparrow. N. C. S.
 Slate-colored Junco.
 Shufeldt's Junco.
 Montana Junco.
 †**Bachman's Sparrow. N. C. S., but chiefly S. Ill.
 †**Song Sparrow. N. C. S. Rather rare S. R. in S. Ill.
 Lincoln's Sparrow. N.
 †Swamp Sparrow. N. C. S., but questionable in extreme S. Ill.
 Fox Sparrow.
 †**Towhee. N. C. S.
 Arctic Towhee.
 †**Cardinal. N. C. S.
 †**Rose-breasted Grosbeak. N. C. S., but rare or wanting in extreme S. Ill.
 Blue Grosbeak.
 †**Indigo Bunting. N. C. S.
 Painted Bunting.
 †**Dickcissel. N. C. S.
- Tanagers**
 †**Scarlet Tanager. N. C. S.
 †**Summer Tanager. N. C. S. Rare S. R. in N. Ill.
- Swallows**
 †**Purple Martin. N. C. S.
 †Cliff Swallow. N. C. S.
 †**Barn Swallow. N. C. S.
 †Tree Swallow. N. C. S.

- Northern Violet-green Swallow.
 †**Bank Swallow. N. C. S.
 †*Rough-winged Swallow. N. C. S.

Waxwings

- Bohemian Waxwing.
 †*Cedar Waxwing. N. C. S.

Shrikes

- Northern Shrike.
 Loggerhead Shrike. S. (?)
 †**Migrant Shrike. N. C. S.

Vireos

- †**Red-eyed Vireo. N. C. S.
 Philadelphia Vireo. Possibly S. R. in N. Ill.
 †**Warbling Vireo. N. C. S.
 *Yellow-throated Vireo. N. C. S.
 Blue-headed Vireo.
 †**White-eyed Vireo. N. C. S. Not common S. R. in N. Ill.
 †*Bell's Vireo. N. C. S. Not common S. R. in N. Ill.

Warblers

- *Black and White Warbler. S. A. possible S. R. in N. C. Ill.
 †*Prothonotary Warbler. N. C. S.
 Swainson's Warbler. Rare S. R. in S. Ill.
 †**Worm-eating Warbler. N. C. S. Rare S. R. in N. Ill.
 **Blue-winged Warbler. N. C. S.
 †Golden-winged Warbler. N. C. S., but chiefly N. Ill.
 Nashville Warbler. N. Authority of Ridgway.
 Orange-crowned Warbler.
 Tennessee Warbler.
 *Northern Parula Warbler. N. C. S.
 Cape May Warbler.
 †**Yellow Warbler. N. C. S.
 Black-throated Blue Warbler.
 Myrtle Warbler.
 Magnolia Warbler.
 *Cerulean Warbler. N. C. S.
 Chestnut-sided Warbler. N. May nest in S. Ill., as there is a breeding record for S. E. Missouri.
 Bay-breasted Warbler.
 Black-poll Warbler.
 Blackburnian Warbler.
 *Sycamore Warbler. Apparently confined as S. R. to S. Ill.
 Black-throated Green Warbler. N. Authority of Nelson.
 Kirtland's Warbler.
 *Pine Warbler. N. C. S.
 Palm Warbler.
 **Prairie Warbler. N. C. S., but uncommon in N. Ill.
 †*Oven-bird. N. C. S.
 Water-Thrush.
 Grinnell's Water-Thrush. Quite likely a S. R. in N. Ill.
 †**Louisiana Water-Thrush. N. C. S., but chiefly C. and S.

- †**Kentucky Warbler. N. C. S., but rare in N. Ill.
 Connecticut Warbler.
 Mourning Warbler.
 †**Maryland Yellow-throat. N. C. S.
 †**Yellow-breasted Cat. N. C. S.
 †*Hooded Warbler. N. C. S. Rare S. R. in N. Ill.
 Wilson's Warbler.
 Canada Warbler.
 †*Redstart. N. C. S.

Pipit

Pipit.

Mocking Birds, Wrens, Etc.

- †**Mocking Bird. N. C. S. Rare S. R. in N. Ill.
 †**Catbird. N. C. S.
 †**Brown Thrasher. N. C. S.
 †**Carolina Wren. N. C. S. Not common S. R. in N. Ill.
 †**Bewick's Wren. N. C. S. Rare S. R. in N. Ill.
 †**House Wren. N. C. S.
 *Western House Wren. Apparently more common than the preceding, but breeding status not fully determined.
 Winter Wren.
 Short-billed Marsh Wren. N. C. S.
 †*Long-billed Marsh Wren. N. C. S.
 Prairie Marsh Wren. N., but breeding status not fully determined.

Creepers

Brown Creeper. A possible breeder. N. C. S.

Nuthatches and Titmice

- †**White-breasted Nuthatch. N. C. S., but questionable as a breeder (resident form.) in S. Ill.
 *Florida White-breasted Nuthatch. S. Red-breasted Nuthatch. N.
 †**Tufted Titmouse. N. C. S. Uncommon S. R. in N. Ill.
 †Chickadee. N. C.
 **Carolina Chickadee. S. Apparently confined to S. Ill. as a S. R.
 Hudsonian Chickadee.

Kinglets and Gnatcatcher

- Golden-crowned Kinglet.
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet.
 †**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. N. C. S.
Thrushes, Bluebird, Etc.
 Townsend's Solitaire.
 †**Wood Thrush. N. C. S.
 †Veery. N. C.
 Willow Thrush. The common form in Northeastern Illinois.
 Gray-checked Thrush.
 Bicknell's Thrush.
 Olive-backed Thrush.
 Alaska Hermit Thrush.
 Hermit Thrush.
 †Robin. N. C.
 **Southern Robin. S.
 †**Bluebird. N. C. S.



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The
Audubon Bulletin

Spring and Summer
1918



Published by
The ILLINOIS
AUDUBON
SOCIETY

This issue of the Audubon Bulletin has been seriously delayed by a strike affecting the printing trades in Chicago

THE CHICAGO JOURNAL

JOHN C. EASTMAN.
Office, 15 SOUTH MARKET STREET.

Our Feathered Allies

A bird loving society recently based an appeal for its feathered friends on the war need for big crops. Only the birds, the appeal ran, can save us from the ravages of insects. Therefore, spare the birds, encourage them to nest in your fields and woods, protect them from their natural enemies, feed them in winter, and thus insure their aid in raising a crop that will save the liberties of the world.

It is wise counsel, and not at all far fetched. The Journal is well-nigh weary with saying that the one permanent and unending war on this planet is the war between man and the insects, and that without the aid of the birds, the insects would soon win the struggle. At the present moment, this permanent war has taken a yet more peculiar turn; everywhere outside the central empires, destructive insects are champions of kultur and birds are allies of civilization. It behooves us to deal well with such allies.

A Page from the Financial Primer

At least 20,000,000 Americans are now owners of United States government bonds. Probably there are not a million of them who a year ago, had even owned a bond.

The efforts of organizations like the Illinois Audubon Society must not be curtailed because of other war activities. Join your local "bird club" and the

Illinois Audubon Society

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Mr. Orpheus M. Schantz
10 South La Salle Street, Chicago

Secretary

Mrs. Frederic H. Pattee
2436 Prairie Avenue, Evanston

Vice-President

Mr. Jesse Lowe Smith
Highland Park

Treasurer

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1649 Otis Bldg., Chicago

The Aims and Principles of the Illinois Audubon Society are:

- 1st. To encourage the study of birds, particularly in the schools, and to disseminate literature relating to them.
- 2nd. To work for the betterment and enforcement of State and Federal laws relating to birds.
- 3rd. To discourage the wearing of any feathers except those of the ostrich and domestic fowls.
- 4th. To discourage, in every possible way, the wanton destruction of wild birds and their eggs.



Photo by Frederic H. Pattee

A BIRD SANCTUARY

This photograph, made on one of the streams in the Cook County Forest Preserve, is typical of the thirty miles of watercourses along which lie the forests included in this magnificent project. The Forest Preserve is a bird sanctuary, even the carrying of firearms being prohibited.

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN

SPRING AND SUMMER 1918

Published by the

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

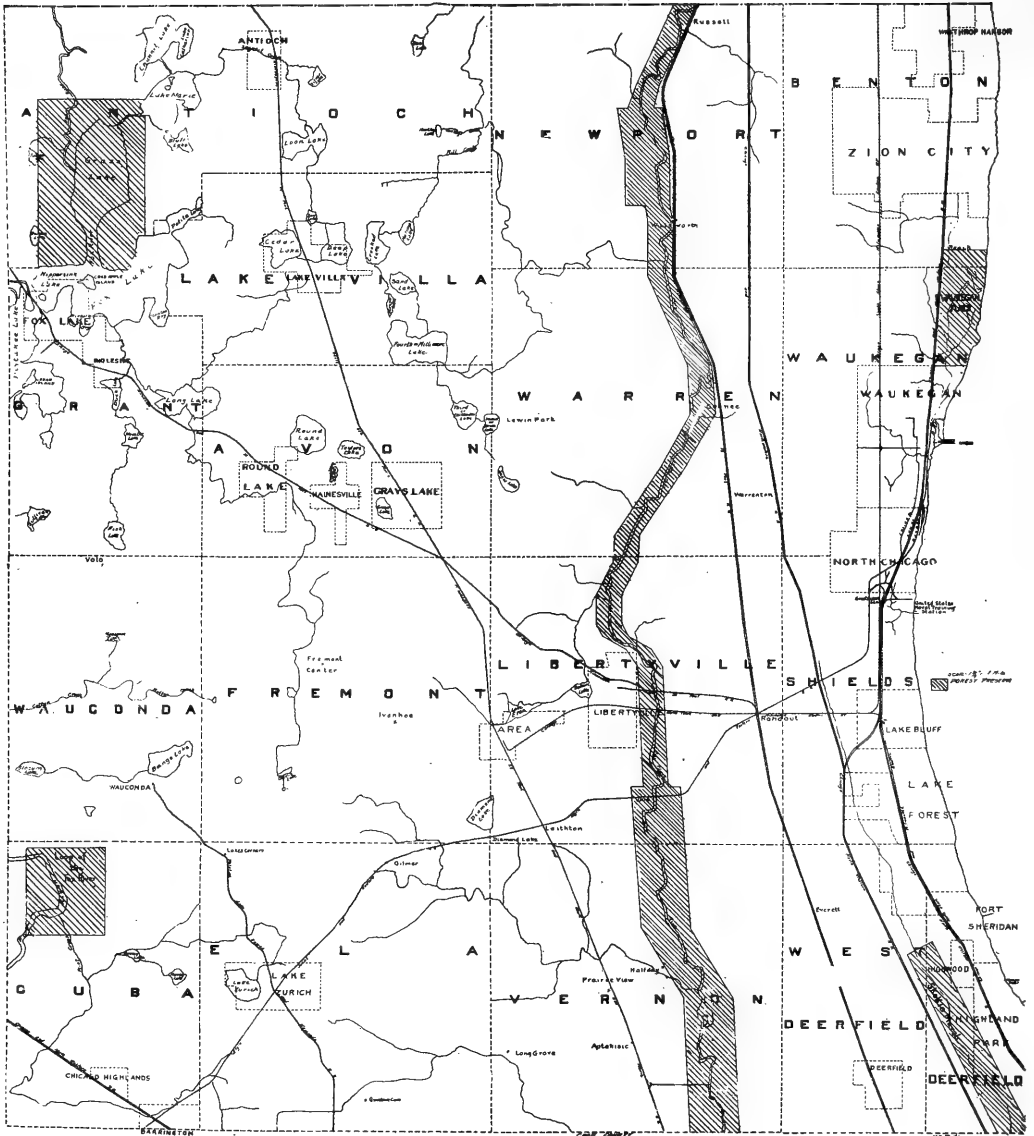
(For the protection of wild birds)

Proposed Forest Preserve Districts of Lake County

In previous numbers of the Bulletin extended reference has been made to the conservation work going on in Cook County whereby already more than 12,000 acres of woodland and prairie and water-course have been incorporated within forest preserve districts. The spread of this movement adjoining into counties is now assured. DuPage County has a forest preserve district and has already acquired important tracks of woodland along Salt Creek continuous with those along the lower course of the same creek within the Forest Preserve District of Cook County. Logically the forest preserve projects along the DesPlaines River and the Skokie in Cook County should be extended northward along the same natural geographic units into Lake County, and a program of this kind with a strong committee behind it is developing in Lake County. Representatives from various portions of the county have held conferences at Waukegan and an organization has been perfected with W. Scott Keith of Waukegan as President and Treasurer. Jens Jensen of Highland Park is Vice-President, Paul Willis of Waukegan, Secretary, with E. L. Ryerson of Lake Forest as Chairman of the Finance Committee. Attorneys E. L. Millard of Highland Park, E. L. Clarke of Waukegan, and Paul MacGuffin of Libertyville are counsel.

Lake County is the northeasternmost county of Illinois, its eastern boundary including thirty or more miles of shore line of Lake Michigan. Because of the diversity of its geographic features its landscape is of unusual interest. The Valparaiso morainic system occupies much of the western half of the county and is characteristically undulating upland with pronounced morainic expression in the form of knobs, steep hills, kettle holes, sags and winding sloughs, etc. Within its borders lie most of the many lakes whose fame is embodied in the name given to the county. The accompanying map shows fifty of the larger lakes.

Other interesting geographical features of the county include the valley of the DesPlaines River, the rolling upland between that river and Lake Michigan, the shore line with the lake plain developed along its northern portion, and the numerous ravines that intersect the high-walled upland. Nature has done her part and only the financial resources available and the willingness of the voters to permit of their use condition the establishment of forest preserve districts rivaling in



PROPOSED FOREST PRESERVES IN LAKE COUNTY
(Indicated by shaded areas)

beauty the finest areas in the forest preserves of Cook County. The state law authorizing the establishment of forest preserves provides for a bond issue not to exceed one percent of the assessed valuation of each county and an annual maintenance tax of not to exceed one tenth of one percent. When Lake County organizes under the forest preserve act there will be available at once a fourth of a million dollars for land purchases and more than ample funds for maintenance.

With such resources to begin with, a comprehensive plan for forest preserves could be inaugurated looking to a steady development as from time to time additional resources become available. Mr. Jens Jensen, widely known as a landscape architect, who is an enthusiastic supporter of the movement, favors the simultaneous opening up of projects within easy reach of every portion of the county. His suggestions relate specifically to reservations to include Grass Lake and adjacent

area, the Waukegan Flats, the Skokie Marsh, the loop in the Fox River in the southwestern part of the county, and areas bordering upon the DesPlaines River for its entire course across the county from north to south. These projects are indicated upon the accompanying map though, of course, without any attempt at preciseness of location.

A review of the projects proposed might properly begin with that of the DesPlaines River as being on the largest scale. The DesPlaines lies in a gently sloping valley beautifully diversified with woodland and meadow. The river has its source in Wisconsin in a flat swamp or slough where drainage is so imperfect that in wet weather part of the marsh discharges northward to Root River and part south to the DesPlaines. From this ill-defined divide the river flows south and southwest a distance of one hundred and twenty miles and joins the Kankakee twelve miles below Joliet to form the Illinois River. Where it crosses the Wisconsin boundary into Lake County the river is six miles from the shore line of Lake Michigan. At the latitude of Waukegan it is five miles distant from the lake, and it crosses over the boundary into Cook County only eight miles from the shore.

Plans already maturing look to the ultimate ownership by the county of a strip varying from one fourth to a half mile wide the entire length of its course within the county. This would insure the preservation of the pastoral beauty of the river, with forests opening out into prairie-like meadows and grassy flood plains dotted with hawthorne and wild



Photo by John Baird

IT IS FITTING THAT IN A DEMOCRACY SUCH AS OURS JOINT OWNERSHIP OF THE BEAUTIFUL PARTS OF OUR COUNTRY SHOULD BE VESTED IN EACH CITIZEN. WE NEED WILD BEAUTY FOR OUR SOUL AS MUCH AS WE NEED THE FERTILE PRAIRIES FOR OUR MATERIAL WELFARE.—JENSEN.



HERE UNDER THE SHADE OF VENERABLE TREES UNDER WHICH OUR FORE-
FATHERS FOUND SHELTER, AND THE INDIAN BEFORE HIM, CITY-BRED
AND FARMER ALIKE FIND WHOLESOME MEETING PLACE
IN A WORLD NOT OF THEIR MAKING

crab apple trees. Picnic grounds and camping places could be set aside here and there along the valley with connecting driveways and convenient foot and bridle trails. The DesPlaines woods are especially rich in spring flora and the flood plains are a notable sight when the smaller flowering trees are in full bloom. The forests are of the typical oak, hickory, elm and maple type, with linden, ash, hackberry, walnut, and various other trees well-represented. A rich undergrowth of witch-hazel, gray dogwood, viburnums, bladdernut, osier dogwood, hazelnut, and other interesting shrubs contribute greatly to the charm of the woodland.

The area lying between the DesPlaines River and Lake Michigan is traversed throughout much of its extent by morainic ridges parallel with the river and Lake Michigan. These belong to what is known geologically as the latter Wisconsin morainic system and they mark the last successive stages of the retreat of the ice mantle which finally withdrew into the basin now occupied by Lake Michigan. The last of these morainic ridges formed in the way mentioned fronts the shore line of Lake Michigan and has located upon it such cities as Highland Park, Lake Forest, Lake Bluff, North Chicago and Waukegan. Between this ridge and the parallel ridge immediately to the west is a



Photo by John Baird
IN CAMP ALONG THE DES PLAINES RIVER

shallow valley known as the Skokie. This is drained by the Skokie stream which can be traced southward from near the latitude of Waukegan to a point within Cook County, seventeen miles away, where it discharges into the north branch of the Chicago River. During the last five or six miles of its course in Lake County

this stream traverses the so-called Skokie Marsh which varies from a half to one and a half miles in width.

In this marsh are winding lagoons dotted with lily pads, and hemmed in by walls of rushes and sedges, of cattails and bur reeds and sweet flag, and there are wide-open expanses swept over by marsh-loving grasses. In due season marsh marigolds and iris, the cardinal flower and the closed gentian

appear on the border of the marsh, and the low bordering prairies that dip down to it are covered with asters and golden rod and blazing star. "Wooded Islands" fringed about by willows and aspens and shrubs like the ninebark, elder-berry and osier dogwood stand out in the marsh and at intervals advancing tongues of woodland from the forested slopes facing the Skokies extend down into it.



Photo by Walter Goelitz
NEST OF GREEN HERON IN THE
SKOKIE



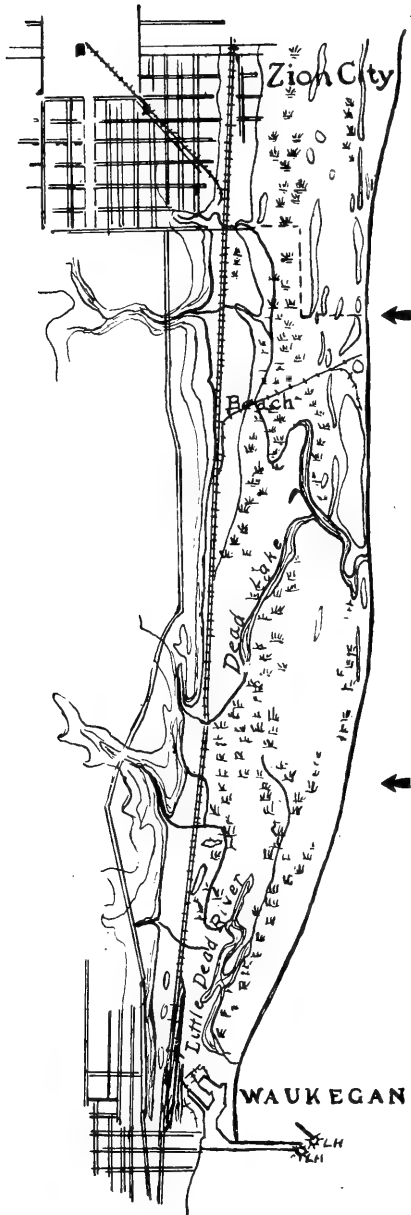
Photo by Walter Goelitz
A NATIVE SON OF THE
SKOKIE

The marsh with its wooded islands affords shelter and nesting sites for a great variety of bird life. Typical nesting birds of the area are the American Bittern, Blue-winged Teal, Green Heron, King Rail, Sora Rail, Virginia Rail, Florida Gallinule, Red-winged Blackbird, Swamp Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Short-billed Marsh Wren, Long-billed Marsh Wren, Woodcock, Killdeer, etc. A strip of land five miles from north to south would include the most beautiful portions of the Skokie. Within this would occur such notable woodlands as those held by the Sweeney estate west of Fort Sheridan and Copp's Wood's west of Ravinia station.

For the Waukegan area a portion of the beach plain north of the city and known as the "Waukegan Flats" has been suggested for reservation. This plan recognizes the importance of saving for public use and enjoyment for all time to come a portion of Lake County's valuable frontage on Lake Michigan. From the southern boundary of Lake County northward to Waukegan only a narrow strip of beach lies between the foot of the bluff and the shore line, but from the south limits of Waukegan northward the bluffs swing away from the shore, and the beach plain rapidly broadens until it is nearly a mile



Photo by Walter Goelitz
A MANDRAKE CANOPY AND A BROWN
THRASHER'S NEST



MAP OF THE "WAUKEGAN
FLATS"

wide continuously to the state line. This is really an ancient terrace corrugated by sand ridges which represent sand bars of the glacial lake whose waves lapped against the cliff walls and spread out the materials for the beach plain of today. For much of its extent this sandy beach is bordered by low but more or less active sand dunes which form a belt sometimes one hundred yards wide. Behind the dunes the terrace for several miles is more like a marsh broken by low sand ridges. Sloughs or lagoons of more or less stagnant water alternate with these ridges while occasional water courses drain at high water into the lake. Dead River is one of the largest of these sloughs and into it the overflow from Dead Lake pours. It should be added that these names are distinctly libelous and should be suppressed.

On the accompanying detail map of the region being described the arrows pointing shoreward indicate respectively the northern and southern limits of the proposed reservation. This includes all the area that has its drainage through Dead River. Native alders and birches occur in this particular area with a creditable showing of tamarack and white pine and there is a scattered but interesting grove of introduced pines which represent a nursery experiment undertaken many years ago by Robert Douglas of Waukegan. There are many delightful spots suitable for camp sites here and it is easy to imagine what this

area with recreation facilities developed might in time come to mean to the inhabitants of the near-by manufacturing city alone.

The flora of the Flats has many of the features that characterize that of the more widely known sand dunes of the southern end of Lake Michigan. Certain plants such as the buckbean, the alder, bog willow, dwarf birch, trailing juniper, tamarack, and kinnikinnik give it a rather northern aspect while the prickly pear cactus and false wormwood suggest the cactus and the related sage bush of the western plains. Hosts of water-loving plants grow here and prairie-like expanses dis-

play coreopsis, and turk's - cap and Philadelphia lilies in abundance and prairie orchids, such as calopogon and the rose pogonia. The royal fern and other members of the fern family flourish here, and here and there are fields that display fringed gentians and purple gerardias in season. Black oaks grow on the higher ridges and shrubs such as ceanothus, St. John's-wort, potentilla, sand cherry, high-bush cranberry, and red osier dogwood are abundant.

A great variety of bird life resorts to this region but owing to the activities of persons with firearms the actual summer residents probably represent a very small proportion of the bird life that would maintain itself here if the area were protected. In winter northern visitors are likely to appear here first—the Snow Bunting, the Longspur, the Pine Siskin, the Redpoll, the Pine and the Evening Grosbeak, the Crossbill, etc. The more conspicuous summer residents include the prairie birds such as the Meadowlark and Bobolink, the Red-winged Blackbird, the Marsh Wren, the Yellow Warbler, Maryland Yellowthroat, shore birds such as the Belted Piping Plover and Rails, Grebes, etc.

It remains to refer briefly to two other areas in Lake County that have been suggested for preservation. The one to include the loop in the Fox River valley suggests the use that might well be made of the river itself. From recreation centers here canoe trips up and down this charming valley would easily be made. The other proposed area, that of Grass Lake and its environs, also suggests recreational activities on or about the water. This lake is a little more than two miles long and a mile or more wide. From the accompanying map it will be seen that Fox River flows into the lake midway of the western shore and that it emerges through a broad channel at the south end of the lake. The lake is saucer-like in its shallowness and the gentle current through it has permitted rich silt to accumulate and furnish anchorage for the roots of plants that flourish in the ooze. Tall grasses flourish here, including the wild rice, the most beautiful of all the grasses, and here is a splendid colony of the American lotus or



Photo by Jesse L. Smith

LARGE TRACTS IN THE WAUKEGAN FLATS ARE COVERED WITH MATS OF THE TRAILING JUNIPER



Photo by Jesse L. Smith

BUD, BLOSSOM AND FRUIT OF THE AMERICAN LOTUS



Photo by Jesse L. Smith

IN THE GRASS LAKE COUNTRY

water chinquapin. These lotus beds attract hundreds of visitors during August when the blossoms are open. A few years ago the plants occupied more than half of the area of the lake. There were literally millions of blossoms in sight at one time. Later on the extent of the colony was greatly reduced by natural causes, these including probably the upheaval of roots by the ice when a severe winter found an unusually low water level in the lake, but the area occupied is again increasing.

The fame of the lotus beds in Grass Lake is equalled by its fame as a place to shoot water fowl. As a possible sanctuary for bird life the whole region appeals greatly to all interested in birds. With its abundant aquatic plant and animal life and the fine nesting sites along its marshy fringes and on its reedy islets it could support an immense summer population of bird life. A few years of protection would be sufficient to insure such a population made up largely of species that now make their way to nesting places far to the north.

Lake County has great opportunities in the way of preserving the primitive beauty of its landscapes. The progress of the movement looking to this end will be watched with interest in other counties of the state.

HARBINGERS OF SPRING

By W. C. Harris

(BLUEBIRD'S WARBLE)

Truly, surely, truly,
Spring is here,
This new year.
Fragrance rare,
In the air,
Lovely, lovely, lovely.

(ROBIN AT DAY-BREAK)

Cheerily, cheerily, I am here,
Chanting morning warbles clear.
Bring good cheer, cheer, cheer.
Cheerily—cheerup,
Cheerily—cheerup,
Up, up, up!
Day is here—here, here!
Up, up!

(BROWN THRASHER'S SONG OF VICTORY)

Look, look!
Look, look!
High up in the tree,
I won victory!
Sun is shining, sun is shining;
I am happy, I am happy.

See me! Listen to me!
Look at me!
I am useful,
Don't deny it!
My nest is ready,
I must work!



Photo by J. Evelyn Ridgway

My Winter Guests

For, lo, the winter is past, the rain (in this case snow) is gone: The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle dove is heard in our land.

Spring is, indeed, now well advanced and seems the more glorious by contrast with a winter of unprecedented duration and severity. The grass is brilliantly green, and the lawn-mower has twice gone over our place; many shrubs and trees are putting forth their new foliage, pears and other fruit trees in bloom and many birds nesting. Doves have been hovering their eggs for a week or more. Blue birds are setting, and Robins, Blue Jays, Brown Thrashers, Cardinals, Chickadees, Tufties, Downy, and Red-headed Woodpeckers, Flicker and Carolina and Bewick's Wrens, either have nests or are building. (A Robin was seen with its mouth full of building material on March 15.)

Snow covered the ground continuously from December 8 to about February 9, the snowfall for January alone being $23\frac{1}{2}$ inches. There were fifteen days in January when the mercury fell to or below zero, and twice it reached 18 degrees below.

I might continue to write of the miracle of spring, but at this time I am going to tell of my experience in feeding the birds during the past winter.

I have always, as long as I can remember, had bird guests, but never in such large numbers. Food was bought in quantity and of various kinds as there were birds of many different tastes to cater to. The list includes Juncos, Cardinals, Flickers, Hairy (both Northern and Southern) and Downy (ditto) Woodpeckers, White-breasted Nuthatch, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Chickadee, Mocking Bird, Blue Jay, Carolina Wren, Tree Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Field Sparrow and Brown Creeper. At times, the hawks were attracted by the numerous

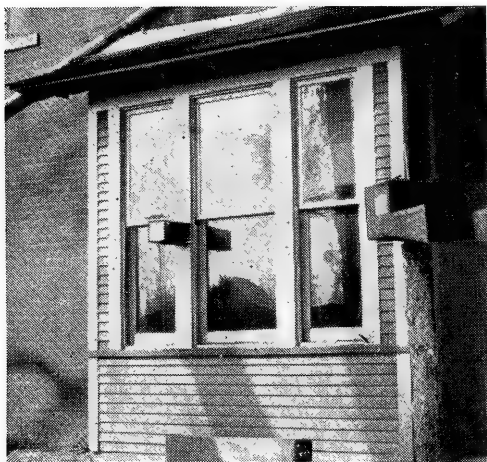


Photo by J. Evelyn Ridgway

birds, those seen being Cooper's, Sharp-shinned, Sparrow Hawk and Red-shouldered Hawk. The last, however, did not molest the birds, though all the others did.

The daily menu consisted of chick feed, sunflower seed, and a mixture of cracked corn, hemp seed and oats, together with suet, nuts and raisins; the latter being the corinth raisin, or so-called dried currants, six pounds costing fifty cents. I still have a few left. The mixed grains were scattered broadcast, sunflower seeds in special feed-

ing boxes for the Cardinals who preferred those to the mixed grains; the chick feed was eaten by Juncos, White-throats and other sparrows. The nuts were relished by Tufted Titmice and Chickadees. Raisins were (and still are) enjoyed by the Mocking Bird exclusively. Suet attracted the Woodpecker family.

All the birds were very fond of nuts; as I have only the two nut boxes, my "Tufties" and Chickadees, for whom the nuts were specially intended, were often crowded out by the little Juncos who were very persistent in appropriating the boxes. It was amusing to see one Tufted Titmouse bar the way to his particular nut box, and I was glad to see him assert himself.

The nut boxes are close to the dining room windows, one, in fact is secured on the side of one window, the other is on a post, two feet from the windows; we often stand very near the windows, the birds not objecting to our presence in the least; the whole "bird dining room" is within a radius of twelve or fifteen feet of our dining room windows. It was wonderful to hear the Cardinals, Mocking Bird and Carolina Wren singing their very best after a hearty breakfast, when the thermometer registered near zero, with deep snow covering the landscape.

Mr. Ridgway has just quoted to me from his diary the exact date and time of one the "grand operas": January 21, at 7:45 A. M.; thermometer registering 1 degree above zero.

We felt well repaid for all the work of keeping "open house."

During the coldest weather I have counted as many as seventeen Cardinals feeding at one time, including a nearly equal number of males and females; it was a most lovely sight. I was much surprised to see my "Tufties" and Chickadees bathing the latter part of February when it was 33 degrees above zero; they seemed to enjoy it as much as they do in mid-summer. Several birds which are ordinarily with us all winter this year disappeared during the coldest part of the season. They are the Robin, Grackle, Meadowlark, Dove, Killdeer, Blue Bird and Chewink. Two doves came for two consecutive days during the coldest weather, but then disappeared.

When the weather moderated early in February, all these species returned. Robins came February 9, Killdeers February 13.

As I write (March 27) Bewick's Wren is building in a box on the kitchen porch. When the House Wren comes (he is due by the middle of April) Bewick's will have to vacate, and take to the woods.

The Mocking Bird divides his time between singing and chasing Robins clear off the place, especially if he sees one eating raisins, which Robins like, too; he evidently considers this place his own special domain. I have put raisins at the base of the elm on the east side of the house, and some under a maple on the west side, and as Mr. Mocker cannot be in two places at one time, the robins do succeed in eluding him occasionally.

It does my heart good to see some (in fact a majority) of the birds feeding in harmony; have seen all the varieties of woodpeckers mentioned, Cardinals, Juncos, and Mocking Bird feeding at the base of the elm tree at one time; yesterday I was within ten feet of the elm, and the following birds were seen on the trunk or at the base: Tufted Titmice (a pair), Chickadee, Chipping Sparrow (singing), Blue Birds (a pair), Mocking Bird and little Downy.

That elm, a magnificent giant of its kind, is my shrine; I have an intimate acquaintance with it. It could have some exceedingly interesting things to tell about bird life, if it was endowed with speech. We had for a while a covey of 22 Quail which we fed every day. They found shelter in a brush pile in our little piece of woodland; the number finally grew smaller until all disappeared, probably killed unlawfully by some hunter.

It may surprise some bird lovers to know that I provide nuts and suet for the birds the whole year; it keeps the birds near the house and they become very tame. Quite a number of the birds which came during the winter are our permanent guests. Besides thirty odd nesting boxes on this place, it is most gratifying to see the large number of nests built in the trees and shrubbery, when the leaves fall in the Autumn. It delights me to see so many birds bring their entire young families to feed at the nut boxes. When it happens that we have been away during the greater part of the day, the food supply becomes exhausted long before our return—no doubt by the help of the ever-watchful House Sparrow. On such occasions, when we return in the late afternoon Tufties and Chickadees are always watching and waiting for us, in fact meet us at the gate, and follow us to the house, expressing in unmistakable language their pleasure at our return, and at the same time their eagerness to be fed.

I feel that we have probably saved the lives of many birds, which would have perished from hunger during the period of deep snow and bitter cold had we not fed them; and that preservation of bird life is a



Photo by J. Evelyn Ridgway

very important part of food conservation which has been fully demonstrated on our own place, where, as yet, no spraying has been necessary. Currant worms and other insect pests do not more than get started than they are discovered by the birds and promptly exterminated.

J. EVELYN (MRS. ROBERT) RIDGWAY, Olney.

Conservation in Iowa

A copy of the Iowa Fish and Game Laws sent out by Warden Hinshaw contains the text of a very interesting law which may prove suggestive for Illinois. Section I of the Act entitled, "Public State Parks and Their Beautification," reads as follows: "The State fish and game warden, by and with the written consent of the executive council, is hereby authorized to establish public parks in any county of the State, upon the shores of lakes, streams or other waters of the State, or at any other places which have by reason of their location become historic or which are of scientific interest, or by reason of their natural scenic beauty or location become adapted therefor, and said fish and game warden, under the supervision of the said executive council, is hereby authorized to improve and beautify such parks. When so established they shall be made accessible from the public highways, and in order to establish such parks said executive council shall have the power to purchase or condemn lands for such purposes and to purchase and condemn lands for said highway purposes.

Section 9 of the same Act provides that the executive council of the state shall designate three persons who, with the curator of the historical department, shall constitute a board of conservation. This board is to investigate places in Iowa valuable as objects of natural history or for forest reserves and shall consider such problems as maintaining and preserving animal and bird life in the state, etc. Other provisions in the Act relate to the acceptance on the part of the state of gifts of land for park purposes or of donations for enlarging such areas. It also provides that the sum of \$50,000 a year shall be expended for such purposes. While it is probable that the present measure hardly makes adequate provision for any extensive undertakings, it is a very valuable forward movement and can not fail to prepare public interest that will support far-reaching undertakings.

Editorial Note

This paragraph, the last to be set in type for this number of the Bulletin, must suffice for some general references. First, there is the disappointing fact that the House of Representatives has not yet passed the Enabling Act to put into effect the Migratory Bird Treaty with Canada. The Act passed the Senate ten months ago! And this is a treaty with one of our allies! Our Illinois delegation is believed to favor the Act. If certain interests do not prevent its consideration, which has

been promised for early in June, there will be a good chance for Illinois congressmen to help in a great national service.

Another reference is to the fact that this Spring Bulletin celebrates with good will the scenic virtues of Lake County. A year ago it was the eastern Ozarks of Illinois. A following number is to have a description of the Big Grassy Lake Country in southwestern Illinois. Material of this sort the Publication Committee takes pleasure in presenting.

Bird Migration and the Weather

Just as the daily constitutional may become far more interesting by acquiring a knowledge of the birds and making it a daily bird trip, so the daily bird trip may become more interesting by having some definite problem which requires for its solution the records of the daily trips. Such a problem is involved when one attempts to determine what relation there may be between bird migration activities and the weather. Anyone so situated that he can make such daily trips may expect some degree of success in attempting the solution of the problem for himself. Records should be made that show as complete a list as possible of all the kinds of birds seen and an approximately accurate record of the numbers of each of such species as are migratory. The more complete the records, and the more accurate the correspondence between the records of "first seen" and the actual first arrivals, the more consistent will be the results obtained when one compares the weather conditions that prevail at the times of great migration activity. It is evident that the results would be confusing if there were actually ten new arrivals in one night and only five of them were recorded the next day and the others a day or two later, when very different weather conditions might prevail. Cooperative effort in such a study has obvious advantages. The combined results of several workers are quite sure to be more complete than those of any one of them.

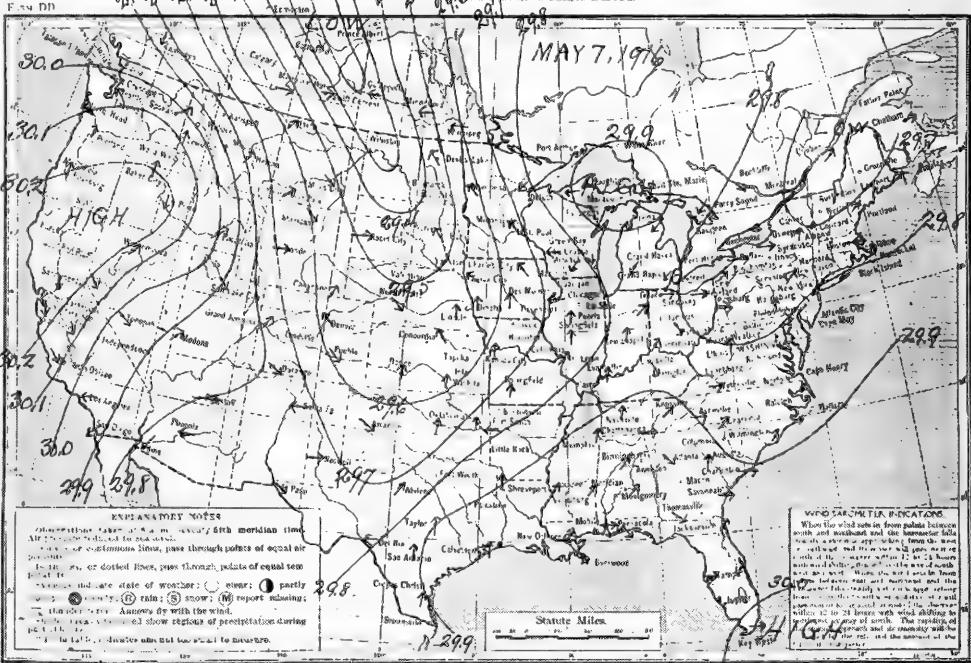
An outline is here given of some of the results obtained from a study of this kind, made in the vicinity of the University of Illinois during the Spring migration periods of the years 1903-1917. The records used are the combined results of the observations of various persons and include the records of the classes in ornithology, additional records of the instructors, and of other competent observers in the community. The appearance of species not previously reported for the season is taken as an evidence of migration, and the records usually show that the appearance of any considerable number of these "firsts" at one time has been accompanied by extensive movements among certain other migratory species previously recorded.

The average Spring migration season for the fifteen years has had 89 days, and the average number of "firsts" considered has been 119; but these have been so bunched that when we select for a season the records which show the greatest number of "firsts," we find that, on the average, 61 of them have been recorded on 9 days. The extremes were in the season of 1907 when it took 14 days to record one half of the "firsts," and in 1912 when one half of them were bunched in 5 days. This lack of uniformity in distribution is still more apparent when we examine the records of the last 30 days of each season, during which three fifths of all the arrivals make their appearance. On the average, 73 "firsts" are recorded in these 30 days and 39 of them are bunched on 4 or 5 days. Extremes occurred in 1915 in which it took 8 days to record one half of the "firsts" of the last 30 days, and in the years 1909 and 1916 in each of which it took but 2 days. One half of all the "firsts" of those 15 seasons of 30 days each were recorded on a total of

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WEATHER MAP.

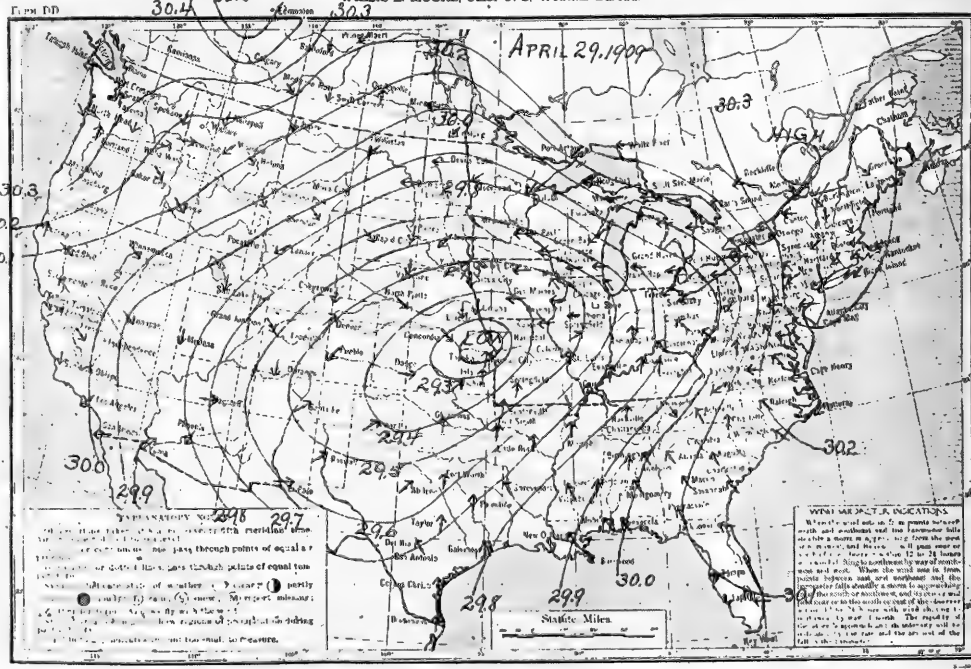
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE
WILLIS L. MOORE, Chief, U. S. Weather Bureau.



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WEATHER MAP.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE
WILLIS L. MOORE, Chief, U. S. Weather Bureau.



68 days, and we have now to examine the weather conditions which prevailed on those days.

A series of weather maps issued at Washington, D. C., which appeared on Sundays and holidays, has been used for the comparison, and an examination shows that on 59 of those days there were approaching areas of low pressure, with south winds which had been effective during the preceding night. On 5 days there were southerly winds, or had been at points further south in the state during the preceding night, although an approaching "low" was not well defined. On 3 days the winds were light and either due East or West. On one night, April 30, 1907, there was a rather light northerly wind and yet 5 "firsts" were recorded on the morning of May 1st.

Since an examination of the records for these 68 days shows that they also include the heaviest of the bulk movements of many species, as well as the "firsts" of others, there seems ample justification for the statement that there has been a high degree of correlation between the flights of night migrants and the meteorological conditions involved in the near approach from the West, of an area of low barometric pressure with the accompanying rise in temperature and southerly winds. The determination of the relative importance of temperature and wind direction is yet to be made.

Weather maps are reproduced of two dates on which our records show that particularly heavy movements took place during the preceding nights. On April 29, 1909, over 100 species were recorded, of which 32 were "firsts." On May 7, 1916, there were 14 "firsts" and the total number of species again exceeded 100. Of these, 95 species were seen by the writer.

FRANK SMITH, Urbana.

Lecture Course of Illinois Audubon Society

The second spring lecture course of the Illinois Audubon Society was held at Central Music Hall, Chicago, at 2:30 on the Saturday afternoons of March 9, 16, 23 and 30. The first lecturer was Ernest Harold Baynes of Meriden, N. H., his subject being "Birds in the Nesting Season." Norman McClintock of Pittsburg gave the second lecture entitled, "American Birds and Animals in Motion Pictures." The third lecture was by Edward Howe Forbush of Boston, Mass., and entitled, "How Birds Help Us to Win the War." A lecture by Louis Agassiz Fuertes of Cornell Heights, Ithaca, N. Y., entitled, "Birds and Their Conservation," concluded the series. These lectures constituted an impressive symposium on the value of bird life with the last lecture as the fitting climax of the series. Even more strongly than last year the directors of the Illinois Audubon Society felt that the effort spent in promoting these lectures and the financial sacrifice involved were exceedingly worth while. The significance of these lectures was recognized by the press of the city and the audiences were in a peculiar sense representative people who will carry the message of the lecturers far afield. The directors hope to arrange a schedule so that another year other sections of sufficient population in Illinois may share with it the series of lectures.

Criticising the Cowbird

(Copied from Mr. T. E. Musselman's notebook.)

April 20. A pair of house wrens have taken possession of the south compartment of my hanging barrel.

April 22. The pair of robins which have a nest in the upper branches of the pear tree, object to the wrens in the hanging box below. Often when one of the wrens is struggling to get a long stick thru the entrance hole, the robins fly down and frustrate the effort, the wren lodging itself in a nearby lilac bush where he scolds and no doubt swears and says some very caustic things about his neighbors up above.

May 1. Believe the wrens have finished building.

May 2. It rained last night. Many new migrants here. I dug in the garden and my pair of robins enjoyed a feast of earth worms. I took several worms and hung them on the step before the wrens' nest. The wrens did not like the intrusion, and the male bird seized the morsels and flew to a neighboring elm tree where he dropped them.

May 4. Robins have a full set of eggs. Believe the female wren also has started laying.

May 6. I heard the wrens complaining and chattering. Fearing a cat, I hurried onto the back porch with my rifle, but could see no reason for the commotion. Suddenly the mother robin left her nest up in the pear tree and flew headlong toward a clump of long grass at the base of the syringa bush. A female cowbird had been hiding there and flew away with the robin in hot pursuit. Again the wrens demonstrated their ability to say mean things—evidently this time about the cowbird.

May 8. Heard the wrens talking spiritedly. I took up my station on the porch but could not see anything. Quiet was finally restored, and the wrens began their busy duties. Both disappeared in a neighboring yard and I also noticed that the robins were not on guard.

From the base of the syringa crawled forth a sneak—a female cow-

bird. She took half a dozen steps and then stopped. She peered upward, then suddenly crouched by a leaf, and without motion she waited. One wren busily flew to the box, then was gone. Closer and closer crawled the "sneak." Again she squatted and again she was unseen. When the wrens were gone she rose and stretched herself in all directions to see that the way was clear. Again she squatted and waited. Immediately upon the disappearance of the wren she flew to the box and in went the dirty blackish head but the hole in the box is just the size of a quarter so she could not get in.



YOUNG COWBIRD IN REDSTART'S NEST

A sudden flash thru the air startled me and one of the robins pounced pell-mell on the cowbird whose head was inside the entrance of the wrens' house. The shock and wrench upon the cowbird's neck must have been terrible for she escaped with difficulty and dropped clumsily in the high grass in Mr. Blank's yard.

I cannot help thinking that this bird planned her invasion with the care of a safeblower and her sneaking actions showed she appreciated she was doing wrong.

May 13. Tramped twenty-three miles today, out past the Old Stone Bridge. In the creek above Dyer Springs I scared a mother towhee off her nest. She played cripple, but I quickly found the nest slightly covered with an arch of grass. There were three native fresh eggs and one cowbird egg. Discovered a cardinal red bird nest near the cress beds in a clump of buckbrush with one native egg, two cowbird eggs. Found a cardinal nest in a small juniper tree. A solitary cowbird nearly grown was the only occupant of the nest. Found a deserted phoebe's nest at the cliff at Pape's mill with one cowbird egg in it. Found one cardinal nest in buckbrush on top of Buzzards' Roost cliff with three native eggs and one cowbird. Found one deserted nest of a chipping sparrow in a juniper tree with a solitary cowbird egg. Flushed a mother field sparrow from her nest in the lowly fork of a tiny sassafras tree. She acted like a cripple. Upon looking at the nest, I found two native eggs and a cowbird egg.

Summary. Altho I do not collect eggs or nests, yet upon my Sunday tramps I discover many nests and take many pictures. On this particular day I found more than my average quota of nests but without exception they contained the eggs of the cowbird. In all, there were nine native and seven cowbird eggs. This is a dangerous percentage. Scarcely ever do I find a cardinal's nest without at least one parasitic egg, while it is also a very common occurrence to find this spotted egg in the nest of the field and chipping sparrow. I always remove the cowbird's egg when I find it. Generally, I have found, it does not interfere with the continuance of incubation to remove this egg. When it does, I feel that it is better for the parents to desert and build another nest than to have them act as foster parents for the young cowbird which crowds out and starves the rightful offspring.

Commending the Cat Circular

Mr. T. Gilbert Pearson, secretary of The National Association of Audubon Societies, New York, in a letter addressed to Mr. Langdon on May 23, says of the Maywood Bird Club's cat circular:

"Thank you for your letter and the broadside on the cat. I have read this and it seems to me it is a most convincing publication. I was exceedingly pleased to find the moderation which runs through it all, for there are many lovers of cats in the country, and it is always well in dealing with this subject not to offend them unnecessarily. This I think you have done admirably, and I hope it may be given wide circulation."

Starved Rock Park and the Concessionaries

The Board of Directors of the Friends of Our Native Landscape, of which organization Jens Jensen is President, has addressed a memorandum and petition relating to Starved Rock State Park to the Department of Public Works and Buildings of Illinois the purport of which should attract the attention of citizens of Illinois in general. The petition is signed by Spencer Ewing of Bloomington, J. H. Austin of Oak Park, Everett L. Millard of Highland Park, Genevra M. Pierce of Glencoe, Lena McCauley, Eileen Ahern, Jens Jensen, George Hooker and others of Chicago, all known in their respective localities for their interest in the conservation of all that is best in our natural resources.

The memorandum characterizes as "unfortunate" certain conditions existing at Starved Rock Park said to be due to the practice of giving out concessions by the State to various forms of entertainment not in keeping with the surroundings nor in harmony with the purpose for which the Park was created by the State. It appears that from the establishment of the Park to the present time funds for its maintenance have been obtained largely from fees paid by the concessionaires. This policy the petitioners above named strongly deprecate and they urge that as soon as financial arrangements can be made the State operate every form of service directly. At present it seems that the lessee of the hotel is the most important factor in the situation at the Park and that he is endeavoring to "develop" the Park as a summer resort of a type that can be created near almost any city of some size. An unsightly dancing pavilion has been set up where it obstructs the view across the flood plain to the river from the trail leading towards French Canyon. Refreshment stands and the usual sign boards are by no means inconspicuous. Rows of bath houses have been set up about an artificial pond back of the hotel and deep wells have been driven to furnish mineral water for the "baths." The Park is advertised much after the fashion of amusement parks elsewhere. Sign boards up and down the Illinois Valley announce the "Grand Spring Opening of Starved Rock State Park. Finest dancing pavilion in Illinois, etc., etc."

In contrast with this rather cheap program of commercial exploitation, the petitioners urge a policy of keeping the Park in its original condition, so far as possible for utility, so that nothing divert attention from its characteristic and distinctive beauty or from the historic interest which centers about this singularly attractive region. It is urged that in suitable areas sites be set apart for camps, that camping facilities be provided, and the public encouraged to make use of them. It would be quite in character for tepees to dot the wooded uplands back from and overlooking the river and the gleam of camp fires at night time would awaken interest in stories of the romantic past.

The affairs of Starved Rock State Park had until a little over a year ago been administered by the State Park Commission consisting of three members. The last printed report of this Commission dates back to 1913. No formal report of its activities since then seems to be available. When the new civil administrative code went into effect

the Commission passed out of existence and the state parks came under the control of the Department of Public Works and Buildings. The Acting Director of this Department is Thomas G. Vennum and Frank D. Lowman is Superintendent of Parks. Governor Lowden appointed a Board of Parks and Buildings Advisors consisting of Charles L. Hutchinson, N. Max Dunning, Frank E. Davidson, Julius W. Hegeler, and S. R. Lewis. A board composed of men of this type can but inspire confidence in its work. Acting Director Vennum has made an excellent record for his Department during his brief control of affairs. It is Mr. Vennum and the Advisory Board that will pass upon the petition presented by the Friends of Our Native Landscape. They have before them as a legacy from the former State Park Commission a number of contracts with concessionaires purporting to commit the state to the maintenance of concessions as far in the future as 1925. Offhand one would venture the opinion that no appointive commission has the power to determine policies beyond the legislative term that gave it existence. The decision of the Director and his advisers in this matter will be awaited with much interest.

A Confession

I've been down to the city, and I've seen the 'lectric lights,
The twenty-story buildin's an' the other stunning sights;
I've seen the trolley cars a-rushin' madly down the street,
An' all the place a-lookin' like a fairy land complete.
But I'd rather see the big trees that's a growin' up to home,
An' watch the stars a-twinklin' in the blue an' lofty dome;
An' I'd rather hear the wind that goes a singin' past the door,
Then the traffic of the city, with its bustle an' its roar.

I reckon I'm peculiar an' my tastes is kind o' low;
But what's the use denyin' things that certainly is so?
I went up to a concert an' I heard the music there;
It sounded like angelic harps a floatin' through the air,
Yet spite of all its glory an' the gladness an' acclaim,
If I stopped to think a minute, I was home-sick jes' the same;
An' I couldn't help confessin', though it seems a curious thing,
That I'd rather hear a robin sweetly pipin' in the spring.

1918 Invasion of Central Illinois by the Snowy Owl

When very young, I was always fascinated by a fine specimen of a Snowy Owl which sat perched on a bookcase in one of the Quincy law offices.

The naturalist who mounted it kindly answered my many questions about it and one thought maintained itself in my mind. He said that every fifteen or twenty years this bird deserted its Arctic haunts and came South. He stimulated my interest by saying that no doubt I should see the bird a number of times if I were to keep up my interest in ornithology.

Several years after this inquiry, in the year 1905, one of my friends who was duck hunting reported to me that he had seen two of these Snowy Owls. Others were reported that season. However, not until this 1918 season have I come in direct contact with this Arctic visitor.

Imagine my surprise one day in December at seeing a young street urchin, with his face apparently glued to the outside of a store window, fall back as if hurt. As I approached, I found a live Snowy Owl within. It was on a perch and as the lad had been teasing it, it made a counter-attack and dashed at the boy who was only saved injury by the presence of the window glass. The ferocity of the captive quickly indicated why the lad had retreated. Upon inquiry, I found that the Owl had been wounded by a farmer over in Missouri, who brought it over to Quincy for inspection.

The appearance of this one owl made me feel certain that others were or would be here. No doubt the terrifically cold winter encouraged the general flight to our warmer clime. In January, I read of a farmer north of town who had shot a huge white owl. The wounded bird looked so innocent that the man reached carelessly to lift it. Like a steel trap, the bird seized his wrist and sank its sharp talons into the flesh being stopped by the wrist bone. A companion killed the bird before its grip could be released.

My next acquaintance with the owl lay in the receipt of several pictures which illustrate this article. They were taken by Professor Frank Smith and Mr. Walter Goelitz of the University of Illinois. I shall not go into any great detail concerning this capture as I hope Professor Smith will issue a university pamphlet giving minute detail of his valuable experiences with this bird.

Professor Smith reports that in 1905 (which is the same year these owls were seen and killed by hunters in Quincy) that the bird was recorded as follows in Champaign, Urbana and vicinity: Nov. 18, 1905, one male, four miles S. W. Champaign; Nov. 23, 1905, one female near Danville; Dec. 1, 1905, one female on East Oregon St., Urbana; Dec. 1905, near St. Joseph, Michigan, one male was reported.

Since that time until 1918 no specimen has been recorded, I believe, in or along the 40th degree in Illinois.

In the March edition of *Guide to Nature*, a magazine published in Sound Beach, Connecticut, is an article from an eastern source in which an observer records seeing crows chasing "a huge white hawk or owl."

I believe he determined it a hawk because of the fact that it was hunting in the day time. To me this suggests the presence of the Snowy Owl in the East, as this owl hunts throughout the day as do the hawks. The article mentioned the great size of the bird. This together with the known enmity of the crow for all owls leads me to believe it a Snowy Owl rather than a hawk. This is not an authentic record, but suggests a wide distribution of the visitor, if such it chanced to be.

What I wish to say of the local habits of the migrant, has been obtained from hunters and farmers who have seen it hunting, and have

killed specimens, thus making authentic the identification of the bird.

Mr. J. P. Behrensmeyer reports killing two in 1905. Both were found near water in the Mississippi bottom lands above Quincy. One was flushed from the grass and slashes where it had alighted, evidently to eat its prey or to watch for game. The other was perched on a small stump where he could observe the surrounding ground while waiting for unsuspecting mice or rabbits. Both were hunting in the day time.

Another hunter reports flushing a Snowy Owl which he did not shoot. It rose from a willow stump at the edge of an ice covered pond. This was in early February 1906. Its flight was very rapid, steady and quiet. He commented particularly on the speed with which it travelled. It resembled the snowy surroundings so much that he did not notice the bird until it rose in flight.

Nuttall in his Ornithology of Eastern North America says, that this owl inhabits both continents being common in Ireland, Greenland and Hudson Bay, where its white plumage makes it almost indiscernable in the white surroundings. It is known to eat fish and carrion as well as grouse and rabbits.

Wheelright in his Spring and Summer in Lapland says, that it lives and nests within the arctic circle. The eggs (four in number) are white, $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length and $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches in breadth and are deposited in nests made of reindeer moss.

Little more is known of its nesting habits. Its eggs are collected and are considered very delicate by the native Laplanders. Authors

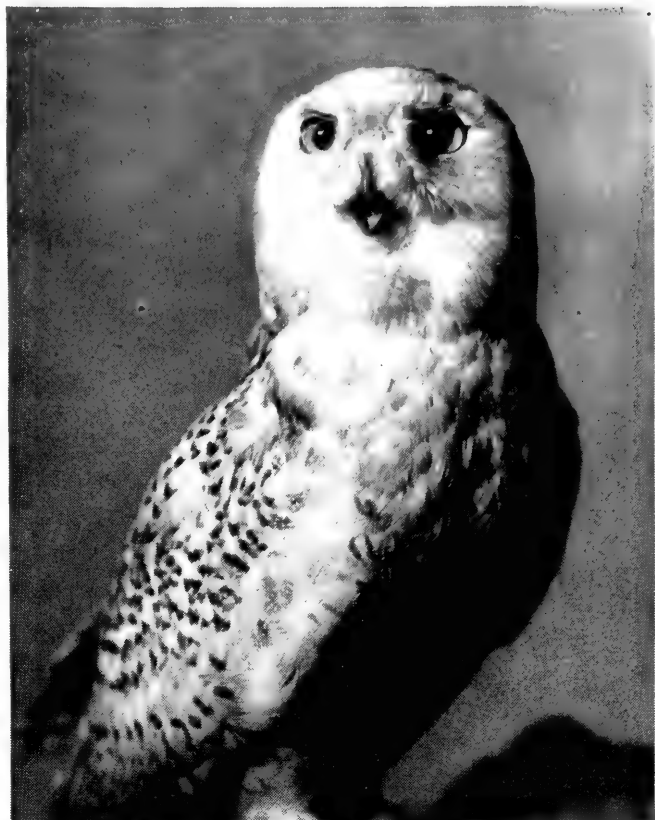


Photo by G. A. Eldredge



Photo by G. A. Eldredge

agree in writing of the Snowy Owl's actions, saying that it hunts by day and has a very swift flight, being able to overtake grouse and even wild ducks, which together with rabbits afford its principal diet.

In the Northern States, some authors recognize the Snowy Owl as a yearly visitor where it appears irregularly in small numbers. However this far South we regard its appearance as an invasion or migration, and we herald it as unusual.

Not since 1905-06 have we seen it. In 1918, after twelve long years, we again know it has been here largely because of a few mounted specimens, some very fine pictures and the records of a few faithful students. I hope our "Snowy Friend" will come again and that when next he comes that he may be greeted with the training of field glasses on his wonderful plumage and not with belching pump guns which destroy his greatest beauty—life.

T. E. MUSSELMAN, Quincy.

A Snowy Owl in Captivity

A Snowy Owl came into the possession of the writer, November 30, 1917. It had been slightly wounded and captured, about twelve miles south of Urbana, Illinois. The opportunity for securing photographs and learning something of its characteristics seemed unusual enough to warrant the trouble required in caring for it for a short time. The bird has proven to be so unexpectedly gentle in disposition, and easily cared for, that, after four months of ownership and companionship, the idea of converting it into a museum specimen is entertained with great reluctance. Kidneys from the butcher shop constitute the favorite food and if a sufficient amount for a meal is given in shape so that it can be bolted whole, it is disposed of in that way; otherwise it is torn to pieces in the ordinary fashion. A hunger strike greets every effort to substitute liver for the accustomed ration. An English Sparrow was disdained; but mice are bolted whole without any attempt at orientation, regardless of the way in which they happen to be seized.

The gentleness of the bird can be judged from the photograph, and, aside from a fresh piece of kidney nothing seems to please it more than posing for a camera. The first photographs were made outdoors on a bright, cold December day, soon after its capture, but subsequent to the recovery from its injury. They show the strong contrast between the

actual behavior and that which was anticipated by the owner, whose memories of encounters with a savage Horned Owl and obstinate specimens of other owl species, had led him to protect his hands with a particularly invulnerable outfit. The actual behavior is well illustrated by the photograph which shows the bird sitting peacefully on the bare hand of Mr. Goelitz, who participated in the photographing activities. Friend Owl seems not only to tolerate, but actually to enjoy human companionship, and, if brought up to the sitting room after its evening meal, will sit on its perch by the hour without making any disturbance, although entirely unrestrained.

FRANK SMITH, Urbana.

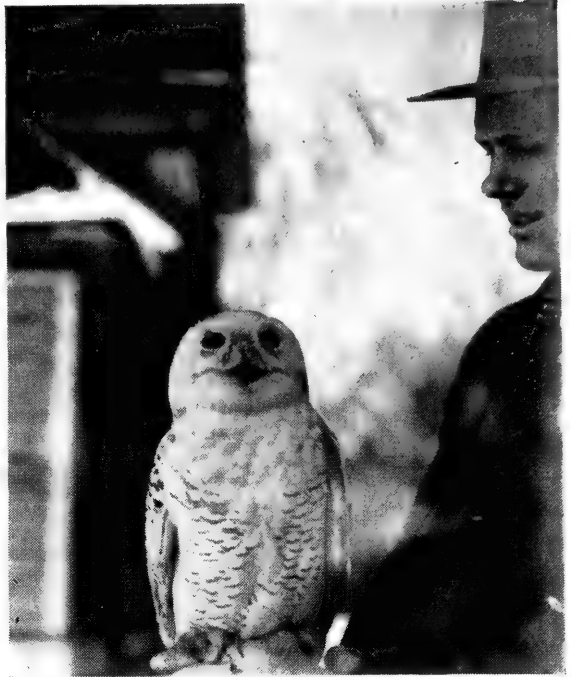


Photo by G. A. Eldredge

The Snowy Owl in Illinois

A limited number of Snowy Owls probably occur in Illinois every winter, but unusual incursions visit us only at irregular periods. We used to think that very severe cold was the cause of large southern migrations, but it is now generally conceded that the scarcity of food is the more logical cause. In 1905 they were abundant in the Northern counties of Illinois, the earliest record being Oct. 31¹, and by December 9th, I had examined twenty-eight specimens received by two taxidermists in Chicago, principally from Illinois. Later investigation brought records as far south as Albion, Ill., and St. Louis, Mo.² The past winter of 1917-18 these beautiful birds have again been quite abundant. While I have not made any extended investigation over this section of country, I have known of several received by Chicago taxidermists, and an unusual flight has been reported from Iowa. Another large flight of Goshawks has been reported from different states, and Great Horned Owls have been very abundant. One taxidermist in Toronto has received about forty specimens.

¹Auk Vol. XXIII, 1906, P. 101.

²Auk Vol. XXIII, 1906, P. 298.

RUTHVEN DEANE.

Rare Birds in the Chicago Region

During the last year or two some noteworthy additions to the list of birds found in the Chicago area have been made, mostly by Mr. H. L. Stoddard of Harris' Public School Extension of Field Museum, who has turned his attention primarily to that most interesting part within our area, the dune region in northwestern Indiana. The following notes relate to the new list:

Horned Grebe, seen on April 3rd and 15th, 1916, at Millers, Ind.

A Long-Tailed Jaeger, a fine male, was seen Sept. 21, 1915, at Dune Park, Ind. It turns out, on close observation, that Caspian and Forster's Terns are common on Lake Michigan at certain times.

A specimen of the Roseate Tern was seen between Millers and Dune Park, Aug. 14, 1916. This seems to be the first clear record for the Great Lakes.

On October 21st a flock of 40 Blue Geese and six Snow Geese (species doubtful) was seen on the lake shore off Gary.

From among the swamp birds three Sandhill Cranes were seen near Dune Park, April 7, 1917.

Among the many large and small flocks of shore birds that visit the shores of Lake Michigan annually in Spring and Fall the following varieties have lately been seen; the Knot, Baird's Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper; the last once only, Aug. 30, 1916. Also the formerly abundant Golden Plover has been seen in various plumages, and the dapper little Piping Plover still nests in several places on the beaches.

The thunderous wing whirr of the Ruffed Grouse may still be heard and the flying bird seen at certain places in the dunes, but unfortunately its ancient enemy, the Great Horned Owl, is also to be found right there, nesting not uncommonly.

An immature specimen of the Bald Eagle was seen at Millers Oct. 15, 1916. Perhaps it wanted to visit the former stronghold of its ancestors, as this species nested here, years ago. The fierce northern marauder, the Goshawk, was seen by Mr. Stoddard and the writer at Mineral Springs, Feb. 17, 1917, carrying a cottontail in his talons.

It has turned out that the rare northern winter visitor, the Evening Grosbeak, about whose appearances so much is reported of late in "Bird Lore," the seeing of which is considered such a rare treat and privilege by most ornithologists, is a rather regular and almost common winter resident in certain parts of the dunes region, where it has been seen, sometimes in flocks of up to 75 individuals from November to the end of March, and some were seen in Highland Park as late as May 21, 1917; certainly a late date for these parts!

Also that other more or less eccentric visitant from the north country, the Redpoll, has been abundant the last winter or two in the dunes, where even a small flock of the very rare Hoary Redpoll was seen, Dec. 23, 1916.

On March 11, 1917, an Arctic Three-Toed Woodpecker was seen at Millers.

In some ancient lists of birds of the Chicago region the Swainson Hawk is given as a possible nester here. This is as wide of the truth

as can be. It does not nest here and is rare even as a migrant. Occasionally, however, many are seen at once, as on last September 28th, when Mr. K. W. Kahmann saw a flock of fifty or more mingling their graceful circles of flight in a bewildering way. One was taken and thus identified. Mr. Kahmann, who gets many hawks, etc., to mount, states he does not recollect ever having received one of these voyagers from the Northwest before.

Finally, on last Thanksgiving Day, several hunters secured several young King Eiders from a flock of several dozen, flying over the lake off the Municipal Pier. Probably these and similar birds from the north would be oftener seen if observers were out on the lake during the stormy days of late fall.

From this it can be seen that we must not be keen and alert in watching for birds in spring only, but in winter. Any day and any tree or shrub in winter may bring or harbor a rare visitor from the far north, and perhaps one not heretofore recorded from here.

C. W. G. EIFRIG, River Forest.

Bird Conservation in the Sanitary District of Chicago

The Board of Directors of the Illinois Audubon Society at the regular meeting for march instructed President Schantz to address a letter to the President and each of the members of the Board of Trustees of the Sanitary District of Chicago calling attention to the possibilities for conservation of bird life within certain areas under the control of the Sanitary District. The map which is reproduced herewith, together with a copy of the letter, shows the Forest Preserve District of Cook County and the drainage channels of the Sanitary District.

The North Shore Channel referred to in the letter begins at Wilmette on Lake Michigan. Its right of way, 660 feet wide, extends to Lawrence Avenue, a distance of eight and one-third miles, where the channel discharges into the North Branch of the Chicago River. The District owns a twenty-acre park of "made land" at the Wilmette end, and it has been computed that along the channel there are 500 acres more of land thus owned available for park purposes. An association of north shore citizens was formed four years ago to try to influence the trustees of the District to create a park of this land but the movement has not as yet met with success.

The main channel of the Drainage Canal extends from the intersection of Robey Street and the Chicago River to Joliet, a distance of 39 miles. The Calumet-Sag Channel referred to in the letter is under

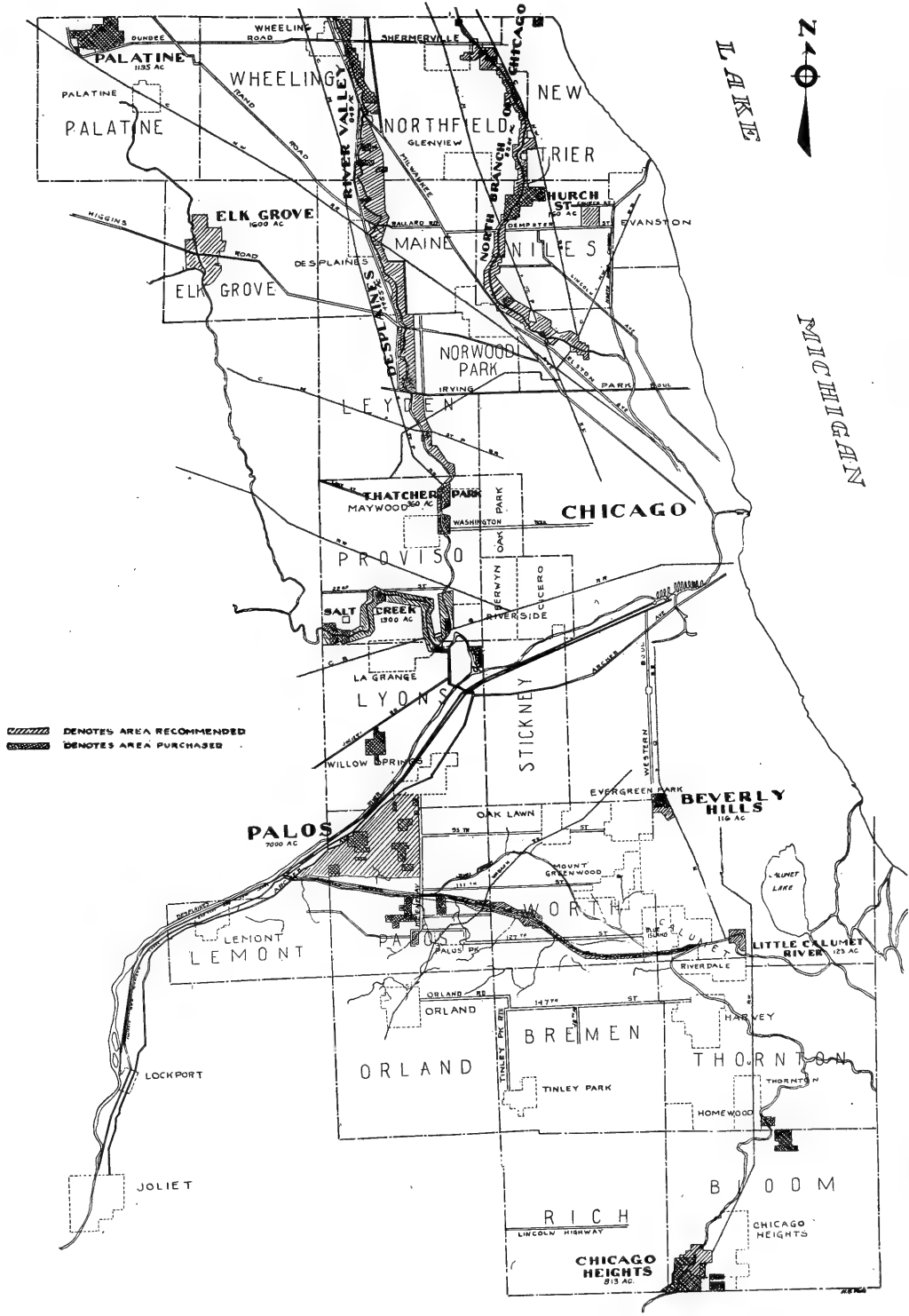


Photo by Geo. D. Fuller

A ROCK-WALLED GLEN IN THE CALUMET-SAG REGION

FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

SCALE OF MILES
-1917-



construction. When completed it will be 16 miles long. On the map before referred to the shading along this canal is the same as that used to designate areas within the Forest Preserve District, but the area so marked is the property of the Sanitary District. The right of way along this particular channel is in places nearly half a mile wide and contains many interesting natural features. The letter sent out by Mr. Schantz to Mr. Sergel, President of the Board of Trustees, follows:

Mr. Charles H. Sergel,

President of the Sanitary District of Chicago,
The Karpen Building, Chicago.

DEAR SIR: I am addressing you in behalf of the Directors and members of the Illinois Audubon Society and with reference to the conservation of wild life within the territory under the control of the Trustees of the Sanitary District of Chicago.

The Illinois Audubon Society, as you probably know, has been actively engaged for twenty years in the effort to interest the public in the conservation of our native song birds and other birds of economic importance. The Society has been quick to recognize the significance of parks and of protected woodlands and meadows as affording shelter and inviting nesting sites for birds, and its officers and members have been active in the work of incorporating such areas wherever opportunity offered. It has regarded with great enthusiasm the rapid growth of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County and anticipates for the near future a very appreciable increase in bird life in the Chicago area because of the protected watercourses and long stretches of woodland already included within the boundaries of the District and because of the artificial lakes now being created in favorable locations in the District.

In view of the fact that the Sanitary District of Chicago controls land, both wooded and prairie, in direct connection with or adjacent to certain portions of the Forest Preserve District, it occurs to the members of the Illinois Audubon Society to call your attention to the opportunity your Honorable Body has to co-operate with the Forest Preserve District by extending over the waterways and adjacent areas of the Sanitary District the same rigid restrictions as to hunting that prevail in the Forest Preserve District. It is a matter of common knowledge that on holidays and Sundays throughout the year great numbers of men and boys, with and without dogs, go out from Chicago in every direction to shoot anything they may find. Wherever there are areas in which the officials are not especially concerned the laws relating to bird protection are flagrantly violated. This irresponsible army deploys along the North Shore Channel of the Sanitary District to the annoyance and even apprehension of people living near that channel. This same condition of affairs occurs along the other stretches of waterway in the District and especially along the Sag and Calumet channels where the forest and marsh land included in the wider area there under the District's control increases the opportunity for hunting game birds in season and out of season. The fact that hunters resort so persistently to these areas establishes the existence of valuable bird life there and it is beyond question that the number and variety of birds there would greatly increase if molestation by hunters were to cease.

The trustees of the Sanitary District do not need to be reminded of the economic importance of bird life nor of the great service it renders in helping to protect from the ravages of insects the native woodland and the meadows and cultivated fields as well. The members of the Illinois Audubon Society believe that it is within the power of you and your colleagues of the Sanitary District Board to enforce thoroughly a rule prohibiting hunting or the bearing of firearms upon the territory within your control. We believe that in so doing you would perform a great public service and that your action would meet with the peculiar approval of the taxpayers of the District. Accordingly we respectfully petition that at the earliest opportunity your Honorable Board pass suitable rules and regulations and take such other action as is necessary to make safe for bird life the areas of the drainage channels throughout their entire extent.

Respectfully submitted for and in behalf of the Illinois Audubon Society,

ORPHEUS M. SCHANTZ, President.

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN
 SPRING AND SUMMER 1918

Published by the
 ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
 For the Conservation of Bird-Life

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Editorial

Let us indulge in a bird lover's homily appropriate for the spring-summer season before us and discreetly arranged about four sub-headings, of which the first is:

I—The Cat Nuisance. Fight it, and thus help to make the world safe for the birds, our allies. Read over carefully the Maywood Bird Club's Cat Circular, a copy of which was enclosed in this bulletin before mailing, and post it up where it can do good to others. Write for more copies if you can use them. If you haven't a copy of Forbush's Bulletin entitled "The Domestic Cat, Bird Killer, etc.," write to the Massachusetts State Department of Agriculture for a copy. One is always in the proper frame of mind to do one's bit after reading the Forbush Bulletin.

II—Prevent the Increase of the English Sparrow. Farmers' Bulletin 493, revised in April, 1917, entitled "The English Sparrow As a Pest," will stimulate one to do the English Sparrow a bit. In this bulletin Mr. Ned Dearborn says, "The most effective method

of preventing the increase of sparrows in a locality is to destroy their nests at an interval of ten or twelve days throughout the breeding season. In a town of 4,000 inhabitants where this method of attack was practiced for four years, 20,000 eggs were destroyed and the number of sparrows was greatly reduced. Occasionally they build large covered nests in trees, but as a rule they build open nests in bird houses, electric-light hoods, cornices, waterspouts, and similar places. While it is often difficult to reach nests by hand, they can easily be torn down by means of a long pole having an iron hook at the tip. By concerted and continuous efforts to destroy every nest after the eggs are laid, the number of English Sparrows in any locality may be rapidly reduced." The Bulletin would like to have reports of concerted efforts of this kind for publication in the next issue.

III—Drinking Fountains for Birds and Bird Baths. This paragraph is not meant for those who keep cats. Birds should be discouraged from visiting premises where cats are harbored. It is extreme cruelty to lure birds to one's premises where destruction of that sort awaits them. Let us make a wise choice and let it be bird baths, and bird companions. Little puddles of mud, scraps of cloth and string, a brush pile in the backyard, if possible, and a nicely graduated bird pool, that is the type of hospitality to maintain.

IV—It is worthy of comment that practically every report from those who are successful in maintaining well patronized feeding stations for birds in winter are those who keep up the practice the year around. Let us keep the suet supply replenished and dole out from time to time sunflower seeds and other choice supplies for the birds so that our home grounds to the extent of their natural fitness will be bird havens indeed. Every home where there are facilities for bird shelter and feeding and where persistent warfare upon the English sparrow and the prowling cat is carried on will profit financially and spiritually from that fact. There will be ample protection from most of the insect pests. There will be the quickening and elevating of human sympathies sure to come from sustaining intimate relations with the birds.

Illinois Game Preserves

Mr. Ralph F. Bradford, Chief Warden, Division of Game and Fish of the Illinois State Department of Agriculture, has kindly furnished the Bulletin a list of the Illinois game preserves that have been organized up to the present time. It will be seen by reference to the list, which is printed below, that these preserves represent the work of the Game and Fish Commission which went out of existence over a year ago. It is rather disappointing that the first year's activities of the new administration include very little progress in this direction. This is probably due in part to the readjustment to new conditions which unfortunately interfere with continuity of policy when political changes occur. Then there has been delay in the issuing of forms of leases. It was decided to discontinue the old form but the revision was not accomplished for several months so that the revised form was not available until March of the present year. The Skokie Valley project north of Chicago, which is to include the Exmoor Country Club Grounds Game Preserve, has been delayed for this reason, but now further development of the plan is possible. Then, too general interest in war matters has probably diverted attention from conservation matters of this sort, but it would seem to be the duty of Audubonites at this time to urge such work as a form of war preparedness. They will find Warden Bradford interested and ready to co-operate. The following quotations from a letter from Mr. Bradford are worthy of careful attention.

He says, "There are many ideal localities throughout the state which may be set aside as intended by the framers of our game laws as preserves or sanctuaries in which the birds may be protected to the extent required for their natural increase against the elements of destruction which operate against them. Such tracts should be made permanent, and nature given a chance to restore the coverts needed for the protection of bird life, their undisturbed nesting, and the providing of their natural foods. These contemplated preserves should not be isolated and of small extent, but should be as extensive as reasonable circumstances will permit."

"After their formation as suggested, it should not be left for an over-burdened and widely scattered force of game wardens to give them the protection needed against inconsiderate and oftentimes lawless hunters who kill for the mere sport of killing, but interested citizens should regard it as a part of their duty to aid in the enforcement of the protective laws by swearing out warrants for the arrest of violators, and see to it that prosecution is pushed. An active public influence for the enforcement of law is not without its restraining power over the lawless element."

Following is the list of game preserves as filed in the office of the Chief Warden:

ILLINOIS GAME PRESERVES

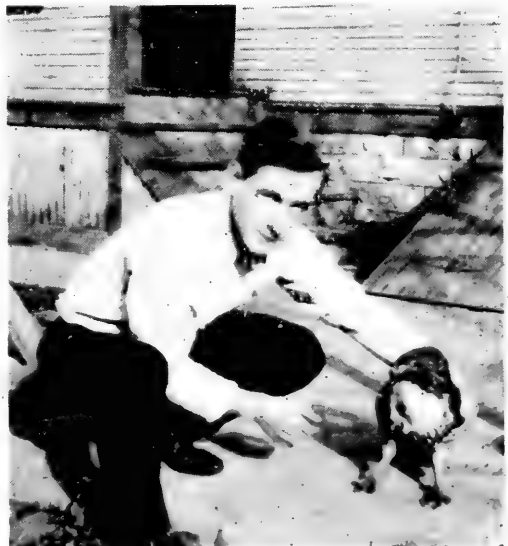
1. Quincy Bay Game and Fish Preserve, November 12, 1913. No exact limits.

2. Cook County Game Preserve, December 31, 1913. No exact limits.
3. Lake County Game Preserve, December 31, 1913. No exact limits.
4. Kankakee County Game Preserve, December 31, 1913. No exact limits.
5. Will County Game Preserves, December 31, 1913. No exact limits.
6. Crane Lake, Mason County Game Preserve, September 23, 1915. Time limit of two years. Made Fish Preserve permanently.
7. Logan County Game Preserve, 1,452 acres, belonging to Mrs. R. J. Oglesby and H. G. Keays, October 14, 1915.
8. Mooseheart Game Preserve, Kane County, 1,051 acres, belonging to the Royal Order of Moose, October 14, 1915.
9. Sinnissippi Farm Game Preserve, 5,000 acres, Ogle County, belonging to Frank O. Lowden, October 14, 1915.
10. Lands of Charlotte Gillette Barnes, and Jessie D. Gillette, Logan County, made a part of the original Oglesby Game Preserve, December 8, 1915.
11. Lands of Henry Dixon, adjoining Sinnissippi Farm Preserve, February 9, 1916.
12. Medill McCormick Game Preserve, 800 acres, Ogle County, May 10, 1916.
13. Eastern Illinois Game Preserve, Symmes Tp., Edgar County, September 22, 1916.
14. Rainey Game Preserve, neither location nor acres given, September 22, 1916.
15. Funk Game Preserve, McLean County, acres and exact location not given, September 22, 1916.
16. Hamilton County Game Preserve, Mayberry and Broughton Tps., acres not given, August 11, 1916.
17. Rainey Game Preserve, Greene County, to include the lands of the Greene County Fair Association.
18. Hazelwood and Lowell Park Game Preserve, State Epileptic Colony, extent not given, leases forwarded, March 14, 1917.
19. Public Utilities Game Preserve, Dixon, Illinois, leases forwarded, March 16, 1917.
20. Exmoor Country Club Grounds Game Preserve, Lake County, resolution adopted, March 20, 1917. Leases to be drawn.
21. Illinois Northern Utilities Co. Game Preserve, created extending from March 1, 1917, to March 1, 1922.
22. Sudduth Game Preserve, Warden Luther Dodd to confer with owners. Not completed.

The Story of a Broad-Winged Hawk

(*Buteo platypterus platypterus*-Viëill)

One evening I got a telephone call from a man who works with me at times, stating that he had shot what he supposed was a Chicken Hawk. That was in the evening very early in October. The next morning I took my bicycle and beat it up to his place, which lies on the border of Salt Creek in an ideal place for birds and in a place where the Indians used to stop in their travels. Billy Meyers told me that there was a "critter" in the corn-crib for me. The hawk was crippled in the wing but still very much alive and ready to dig his talons into anything which would disturb his peace of mind. I felt a little shy in handling the fellow but I managed to tie his feet together with my handkerchief and rode home, with him under my arm. (Can you imagine riding with one hand on the bicycle and the other hand having my time with the hawk). He behaved pretty well though, much to my surprise and elation. On arriving home I put him in a big screen cage which I had used during the summer months for raising larvae in. Here he thrived pretty well for a time on water, grasshoppers, frogs, English sparrows, which I captured at night in their roosting place in the vines. When the weather became severely cold in the shop, I put him in the basement. Once in awhile I bought a piece of liver, or a scrap of meat of some sort, or captured an English sparrow or two under the old method of pulling a string and dropping a screen over them. It was extremely interesting to watch him pluck the feathers off of the body of the sparrows. He used his beak just as we mortals use our fingers. The bird was left loose in the basement after a time and got very tame and confiding. One time I gave him the carcass of a muskrat, which he ate very greedily. Water seemed to be the essential thing in feeding. The bird after a few months became better and would fly from one end of the basement to the other and became very expert in flying but here is the most remarkable of all. He became so tame, so unsuspecting and confiding that we could pet and stroke him very readily. When my mother was washing he would sit for hours on the wash-ringer as the ringer was turned. I wish I could have taken a picture of him in that amusing position but may it be sufficient to say that it is no fish story. When we went up stairs he would fly over to the steps and could not seem to understand where we disappeared to. When we came down later he would be waiting and almost always perching on one leg. The only note which I heard was a note which I would call a peeping note, very much like the note



of a dog when he is whining for something. I secured one picture outside showing how tame and how attached he had become to me. He did not fly away until one day early this Spring when the weather became balmy and his spirit moved him to be going. One of the boys left the basement door open and he disappeared. He was seen nearby for a while by my Dad and he informed me that he was capable of flying easily and correctly. So ended the experience of healing a bird.

I just wish to state that the bird has a lot of asphalt on his tail. If you should come across him let me know but I presume it will disappear in time. It would be interesting to see if a bird if kept in captivity would have the instinct to again journey south in the migration time.

EDMUND F. HULSBURG, La Grange.

Notes from Lake Forest

My observations are pretty generally limited to what I observe from my study window; and that that may not seem too narrow a field, may I say that in just three years of residence in Lake Forest, I have seen just 70 species from my windows, and have entertained 41 at either the food-shelf or the bird bath; while I have caught in an enclosed porch in through whose door they occasionally fly when scared suddenly from the shelf, 13 species, including the evening grosbeak. But this winter tells no such story. The winter began with the early and sudden departure of robins and grackles and song sparrows on the arrival of the heavy fall of snow, October 31st, nearly two weeks earlier than my dates of the preceding years. The white throats left the next day. Since then all I have to report is the occasional visit of a hairy woodpecker, and only slightly less occasional visits of the downy, the jay, the white-breasted nuthatch, and the junco,—the latter being most frequent, but much less than previously. Those cheerful residents the chickadees were with me a scant week; the evening grosbeaks have been seen but twice, the redpolls and the red-breasted nuthatches not at all,—and the latter never missed a day from November 9th to early in May, disappearing entirely on May 24th. The cardinals were also daily visitors, a pair of them, from January 22nd to March 21st. This year "nary" a cardinal has been near my place, though a neighbor, half a mile or more away, has seen as many as eight at one time; they seem to have flocked together this winter; last year the four pairs were scattered over the town. The brown creeper has paid a visit to my restaurant a few times, the red-headed woodpecker not at all, the Hudsonian Chickadee not at all, nor the white-crowned; and even the kinglets have been rare. I can only account for this by the severe cold of December and the heavy snows of January. But I have missed them all sorely.

As others have reported a similar dearth I do not believe my misfortune is due to any bad management of my shelf, but to conditions, which after all may be unaccountable.

GEORGE ROBERTS, Lake Forest.

Notes from Hinsdale

The winter was not fruitful in the line of rare northern birds, but still we found some interesting things. Redpolls were absent, but some snowflakes were observed, which makes up for their absence. Blue Jays were in isolated pairs here and there, a few always remain in the village. Downy Woodpeckers were common, three pairs remaining near my place to feed on the suet almost every day. Crows were less frequently seen than in former years. A few Brown Creepers stayed among the pines at the Clarke's at Hinsdale. Tree Sparrows were not seen in big flocks as usual. Once in a while a Hairy Woodpecker, a Junco, a couple of Cardinals or some Gulls would be seen, otherwise the woods were dreary and solemn. A few Song Sparrows, a couple of Robins and a Flicker were seen at Riverside all Winter. Prairie Horned Larks can always be found on the La-Grange Country Club golf grounds and occasionally a Lapland Longspur. Chickadees were seen in the town proper hardly at all but the woods had a few scattered bands. Screech Owls were found in the town quite commonly. They seem to show themselves more in the early Spring. A pair of Titmice was seen on the 24th of February. There seemed to be a decided northward push in the migration on the last named date when I took a long hike along Salt Creek and west of Fullersburg, which lies in a northwesterly direction from here. About twenty-three varieties were seen, among some of the most noteworthy ones being the first Bluebird, a Robin, about two hundred Snowflakes (a wonderful sight) a flock of fifteen Cedar Waxwings which have wintered at Hinsdale and a lone Bohemian Waxwing with the flock of Cedar Waxwings. Three hundred and forty-one individual birds not counting the English sparrows were seen on this trip which I consider pretty good for so early in the season. One of the most surprising things which was brought out this last winter was the total absence of White-breasted Nuthatches.

Some of the first records in the real migration are the following: Robins, March 1; Bluebird, March 2; Canada Geese, March 2; Marsh Hawk, March 2; Sparrow Hawk, March 2; Bronzed Grackle, March 2; Killdeer, March 5; Red-winged Blackbird, March 10; Meadowlark, March 17; Mourning Dove, March 18; Cowbird, March 18; Fox Sparrow, March 18; White-throated Sparrow, March 18; Golden-crowned Kinglet, March 18; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, March 20; Goldfinch, March 24; Kingfisher, March 24; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, March 31; Vesper Sparrow, March 31; Woodcock, March 31; Wilson Snipe, March 31; Pectoral Sandpiper, March 31.

So far the birds are arriving rather early.

ESTHER CRAIGMILE, Hinsdale.

Letter from Henry K. Coale

The Winter 1917-1918 Bulletin called forth a letter of congratulation from Mr. Henry K. Coale of Highland Park, an ornithologist as well as a business man, who has for many years been a frequent contributor to the Auk. In the early days of the Field Museum Mr. Coale as a member of the staff had an important part in building up the ornithological collection and his correspondence with and contributions to museums in various parts of the world since that time have given him a rather unique place among the ornithologists of this country. Mr. Coale writes:

Thank you very much for the Winter Bulletin of your society. I was especially interested in your article on Robert Ridgway, whom I have known for over forty years; also in the list of birds of Illinois by Mr. Gault.

I thought you might like to know what the Australian Ornithologists think of the Society, and quote from J. A. Leache's "An Australian Bird Book," published in Melbourne 1912, page 114 as follows:

"In America the Audubon Society has done splendid work by disseminating knowledge about American birds, and arousing public interest in the value of birds. There, also, thorough scientific investigation has been made of the value of insect-eating and seed-eating birds. It has been stated, as the result of full research, that one wild pigeon, in whose crop over 7000 weed seeds were found was as efficacious in destroying weeds as two farm laborers."

"On the lines of the American Audubon Society, the Gould League of Bird Lovers has recently been established. Just as Audubon was the great father of American ornithology, so "John Gould, the bird man," was the father of Australian ornithology, hence his name has been associated with this movement to save our birds. The movement is progressing by leaps and bounds.

The Victorian branch has a very large body of members, about 40,000 certificates having already been issued to adults and children. Tasmania has a branch in full operation. In South Australia bird clubs are doing excellent work, especially amongst the young people, and Queensland and New South Wales bird-lovers have taken active steps to develop the movement in their States. A Bird Day, by order of the Minister of Education, Hon. A. A. Billson and the Director, Mr. F. Tate, was observed in Victorian schools in 1909 and 1910, with gratifying results. Bird-nesting, for the collection of eggs, has practically wholly disappeared from our schools, while at most country schools native birds can be seen nesting on the school grounds, the children keeping observation notes of nesting and feeding habits of the birds as part of their work in Nature-Study. What study is of greater economic importance to this wealthy, though occasionally insect troubled, land?"

School Members of the Illinois Audubon Society

It is good news to be able to report that schools here and there in the state are enrolling as members of the Illinois Audubon Society. Among those recently enrolled are the Ravinia School at Highland Park, the Rockford High School, the Central School at Wilmette and the Oak Terrace School at Highwood. A picture of the latter, an attractive one-story building, is herewith presented. A photograph of the special certificate issued to school memberships and filled out to indicate the membership of the Oak Terrace School is also reproduced. It would not seem to be a difficult matter for every school to take out at least a one dollar membership and thus have a definite part in the bird conservation movement in Illinois.



THE OAK TERRACE SCHOOL

A photograph of the special certificate issued to school memberships and filled out to indicate the membership of the Oak Terrace School is also reproduced. It would not seem to be a difficult matter for every school to take out at least a one dollar membership and thus have a definite part in the bird conservation movement in Illinois.

For every bulletin sent out to its membership the Illinois Audubon Society distributes at least three free of charge, including postage. Its publication expenses alone usually greatly exceed the membership fees and it has been found necessary to draw upon friends of the Society to make good the deficit in the yearly budget. The work of bird conservation in Illinois and the importance of a state organization for furthering that work are worthy of liberal financial support. As has been intimated before, Audubon work is really war work and its significance should be recognized along with other war measures. The schools might well have a part in the state work and the consciousness that their contribution is significant in results.



From the Publication Committee

The publication committee of the Illinois Audubon Society has carefully considered the problem of putting into convenient form for ready reference the valuable check list of Illinois birds printed in the Winter 1917-18 Bulletin. A few years ago a check list printed for wall display and with blank spaces for entering dates and names of localities was issued by the Society and this proved to be very useful in schools and homes. The revised check list, however, is by reason of its very completeness and careful discrimination among species somewhat technical for use by school children. So, a wall list including 200 of the more common birds of the state has been printed on heavy paper with convenient blank spaces for notes as before. The complete check list which Mr. Benjamin T. Gault is editing will appear in the form of a handbook which will slip readily into a side pocket. A colored map of the state showing regional distribution of birds is being prepared for this handbook and Mr. Robert Ridgway will furnish the introduction. The wall list referred to above is ready for distribution but the preparation of the complete check list has met with delays which it is hoped soon to overcome. It will be necessary to charge a small price for each of these to cover printing expenses and postage.

The Society now has a good supply of the special warning notices in postcard form and these can be furnished in either English or Italian language. The Society has received but one request as yet for these cards. It is hoped that these cards may prove of great help where campaigns for bird protection are carried on in strategic areas.

Commenting Upon the Winter 1917-1918 Bulletin

Commenting upon the Winter 1917-1918 Bulletin, Mr. George Roberts, Jr., of Lake Forest writes:

I am particularly interested in the "dates of last seen" of the breeding birds of Rock Island County, especially the dates for the hummingbird, which are put at September 19, 23, 24 and 28. These agree with Dr. Chapman's date for Glen Ellyn of September 22. But in 1916 I saw one in my yard every day up to and including October 7th, and in 1917 I saw one at some salvia in a yard in Waukegan on October 1st.

Both Rock Island County and Glen Ellyn are a trifle south of, and much inland from, these two towns on the Lake, and it seems curious to me that the hummingbird should be found with us so much later than with the other two places. Furthermore my journal notes that in 1916 the nights were becoming quite cold as early as the last of September. A closer observer than myself might have found the bird here even beyond the dates I have given; my observation consisting almost entirely of what comes immediately under my eye, as I have little time for going out to see what I can see.

I may just add this, too: Rock Island reports October 22nd for the last date that the Bronzed Grackle was seen; I saw them as late as November 12th that year, 1916.

DECATUR: News From the Field

Mr. W. B. Olds, a member of the staff of the James Milliken University of Decatur, Illinois, has issued through the press of G. Schirmer of New York a very attractive collection entitled, "Twenty-Five Bird Songs for Children." Both the words and the music are furnished by Mr. Olds. Mr. Olds has obtained his material in the field where he has studied the habits and characteristics of the birds and noted their melodies and calls. The result is a very pleasing collection of melodies where the musical themes have received a great variety of treatment.

Mr. Olds uses much of this material in lecture recitals which have been received with appreciation at various places in the state.

EDWARDSVILLE:

From Edwardsville comes the report of an unusually successful spring "drive" to widen the circle of bird friends in that city. The Illinois Audubon Society's lecture was given on the night of March 30, the Rev. James R. Sager having charge of the program. At that time Mr. Alton L. Logan announced the terms of a bird house contest and gave all those present who were interested preliminary instructions as to dimensions of bird houses, etc. Then followed a month of great activities among certain of the youths of Edwardsville. Mr. George L. Mooreman shared the responsibility of the undertaking with Mr. Logan. The contest came off April 6th, at which time prizes consisting of thrift stamps were given to the eight prize winners. All the houses together with a series of bird pictures donated by Mr. Charles Fangenworth, Sr., were attractively displayed in the large show windows of the E. A. Keller Company's Store. More than a thousand people visited the collection. The Secretary of the Illinois Audubon Society has received very enthusiastic reports of the success of this undertaking.



Photo by Alton L. Logan

MAYWOOD:

The Maywood Bird Club has been doing important constructive work relating to the cat nuisance. The Secretary, Mr. Roy Langdon, has collected a great deal of material on the subject and with the encouragement and co-operation of the Illinois Audubon Society has prepared a very convincing circular of information which the Club and the Illinois Audubon Society jointly are giving wide circulation. A copy of this circular is enclosed in this number of the Bulletin. Additional copies will be sent in reply to requests accompanied by the necessary postage. The Illinois Audubon Society takes great pleasure in giving publicity to the work of the Maywood Bird Club and in sharing in the support of this important campaign.

On Rendering Cats Harmless

From the National Humane Review.

The eminent ornithologist and nature lover, Dr. R. W. Shufeldt, of Washington, D. C., has brought to the attention of the Review a scheme for rendering cats harmless as bird destroyers. Dr. Shufeldt's thorough acquaintance with animal life makes his suggestion worthy of more than passing notice and the editor of the Review would be pleased to have an expression of opinion from its readers regarding the practical features of the plan.

The Review quite agrees with Dr. Shufeldt's notion, as practically all the anticruelty societies do, that unclaimed, homeless cats should be collected as far as possible and humanely destroyed. As a step in this direction, animal rescue leagues and humane societies spend large sums of money each year in collecting these unwanted animals and painlessly putting them to death. Dr. Shufeldt, however, points out that many pet cats will kill small birds. It is regarding them that he advances the following suggestions:

"Dr. Wm. H. Dall, of the United States National Museum, recently pointed out to me a method that will save our cats and thoroughly protect the birds against their attacks. It is a well-known fact that these animals only seize their prey through the use of the claws on the forefeet. These claws are, as we know, so organized anatomically that when at rest they are retracted, but when brought into play they are thrown forward, so that their sharp points may be instantly employed in the act of seizure. No cat ever attempts to catch a wild bird in the open by employing its hind feet, or the claws upon them. No lion, tiger, leopard, or any of the rest of the big felines in nature ever do. This also holds in the case of pet cats who kill the canary in its cage, or capture the fish in the globe or aquarium.

"When one comes to think this over, it soon becomes clear that, were cats deprived of their claws on their forefeet, they could not catch a bird of any kind, however hard they tried. The claws have no more feeling in them than have our finger-nails, to which they really correspond. Cat-claws can be trimmed just as we trim our nails, and the best tool to do it with is the small cutting pliers used by jewelers. Anyone can use such a tool, and, with a little practice, anyone owning a pet cat can readily trim all the claws on its forefeet. All there is to be done is to gently press the foot from above, downwards, between your thumb and forefinger, when the claws will be thrown forward. They should be snipped off a trifle back of their middles applying the cutting edges of the nippers to their sides. A little dressing with delicate file afterwards will also prove advantageous. A cat so operated upon cannot possibly catch and kill a wild bird, or a pet bird in a cage; nor can it destroy fish in any receptacle in which we may keep them. Moreover, a cat with its claws so trimmed cannot climb a tree; it is up in trees that they catch many birds, as they likewise do by running up poles topped with bird-boxes and bird-houses of every description. After

the claws are trimmed, the foot looks precisely as it did before the trimming was performed—that is to say, nothing unsightly results.

“Some will say that it prevents the cat from catching mice. Well, what of it? There is not one cat in a hundred that catches mice for any purpose; moreover, a few mousetraps of modern models will very quickly rid house, barn, and outhouses of all description of mice. Any of the ‘cyclone’ pattern of traps will do it in a few weeks. Cats with trimmed claws can enjoy their milk and other food just as well as with untrimmed ones, so there is no cruelty done along such lines.

“Finally, were we to trim the claws in the manner indicated of all claimed cats, and destroy all cats not claimed by anyone, we would save thousands of insectivorous birds annually; and surely the country has by this time begun to realize what the insectivorous birds mean to the farm and agriculturist generally. A federal law should be enacted to enforce what is indicated in this matter, and be so framed that, when passed, it would be in the highest degree effective.”

Winter Notes from Port Byron

Following is a list of birds seen by the writer during December 1917 and January, 1918. Also a record of one species seen the first four days of February:

Bob-white, a good many coveys were seen last fall, but they were badly shot up by hunters during the open season. The last ones seen by me during the winter was on December 23; Rough-legged Hawk, only a few were seen during the winter; Sparrow Hawk, one was seen flying from a telephone pole along the public highway, December 22; Screech Owl, common; Great Horned Owl, common; Snowy Owl, one seen February 1, 2, 3 and 4, always after sunset or before sunrise, flying back and forth in a pasture near the house, probably trying to catch mice, as quite often she would fly down and appear to be trying to catch something on the surface of the snow, which was then about two feet deep. Before sunrise on February 4, when about 200 Juncos and Tree Sparrows began to arrive at the house to be fed, the Snowy Owl came flying along close to the surface of the snow and alighted behind an elder patch about 40 feet from the house. The owl probably was trying to catch one of the Juncos or Tree Sparrows, and when I stepped outside to see what she was doing, she flew rapidly away. The next day the weather moderated, and the Snowy Owl was not seen again. The weather was very severe during the time the owl stayed here.

On the mornings of February 1 and 4, the thermometer registered 18 degrees below zero; Hairy Woodpecker, common; Downy Woodpecker, common; Red-headed Woodpecker, common; Red-bellied Woodpecker, common; Northern Flicker, one was seen December 2, and two on December 23; Prairie Horned Lark, two were seen January 25. This was the first day in January that any snow melted on the roofs facing south; Blue Jay, common; Crow, common; Bronzed Grackle, one came into the garden and houseyard on the morning of December 21. A Downy Woodpecker that had been eating suet, was

trying to chase the Grackle away; Goldfinch, several flocks were seen flying south December 21; Lapland Longspur, several were heard December 3; Tree Sparrow, abundant; Junco, abundant; Cardinal, only a few were seen; Brown Creeper, rare, none seen since December 23; White-breasted Nuthatch, common; Tufted Titmouse, rare, slowly increasing; Chickadee, common. Total, 24 species.

Following is a list of birds that came to our feeding station:

Hairy Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 3; Red-headed Woodpecker, 2; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2; Blue Jay, about a half dozen; Tree Sparrow, about 200; Junco, about 50; White-breasted Nuthatch, 2; Tufted Titmouse, 2; Chickadee, 3. Total, 10 species. Two suet holders were kept filled with suet, and on a feeding shelf below one of the suet holders we kept a good supply of cracked walnuts and hickory nuts. For the Tree Sparrows and Juncos, we kept a place on the east side of the house clear from snow, where we scattered plenty of weed seed, which we obtained last fall by cleaning some wheat with a fanning mill. The Tree Sparrows liked the weed seed better than anything else, and during the coldest weather about 200 were sometimes seen eating together on a small space of ground. A good many Juncos also ate weed seed, but were oftener seen on the feeding shelf. On November 27, the first Red-headed Woodpecker was seen on the feeding shelf, and after that came nearly every day, and most always before sunrise. He never touched the suet, but would always take a large piece of walnut shell and fly to a large old burr oak tree near the garden, where he would eat the kernels from the shell. He would do this several times, and then not be seen again that day. When the Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers were about, and would see the Red-head coming, they would fly to some nearby tree or post, and remain on the opposite side until the Red-head was gone. Once I saw a Hairy hide under the feeding shelf, when a Red-head came and lit on the top of the post, backed down on to the shelf, took a nutshell, and flew away. On January 10, a male Red-bellied Woodpecker came for the first time and ate suet, and after that would come nearly every day at noon, or when the Red-head was not about. January 22, a Tufted Titmouse came with the Chickadees, and on January 27, two Tufted Titmice came to the feeding shelf, and after that were regular visitors, sometimes coming two and three times a day. January 30, another Red-headed Woodpecker came to the feeding shelf. The Red-head that came first did not like this very well, and sometimes would chase him away.

The Red-headed Woodpeckers quit coming about March 10, and then on March 16, a female Red-bellied Woodpecker began to come to the feeding shelf. This was probably the male Red-bellied Woodpecker's mate, as they quite often came at the same time. I think the female Red-belly was afraid to come as long as the Red-heads came. Several times a little Downy undertook to be boss of the feeding shelf. A big Hairy would be sitting on the shelf eating, when the Downy would begin to chatter and dart back and forth past the Hairy, but the Hairy just kept on eating and paid no attention to the Downy.

Port Byron, Ill., March 29, 1918.

J. J. SCHAFER.

Spring Notes From a Seventh Grade Class

The following remarkable list is the work of the 7th grade of LaGrange, Ill., Miss Esther Craigmile, leader.

Pied-billed Grebe, March 16, Jackson Park; Red-throated loon, March 16, Jackson Park; Ring-billed Gull, January 24, Chicago; Herring Gull, January 24, Chicago; Bonaparte's Gull, March 30, Jackson Park; Red-breasted Merganser, March 16, Jackson Park; American Merganser, March 16, Jackson Park; Scaup Duck, March 29, Jackson Park; Ringnecked Duck, March 30, Jackson Park; American Golden Eye, March 16, Jackson Park; Canada Goose, March 8, LaGrange; Wilson's Snipe, March 29, Hinsdale swamp; Killdeer, March 9, LaGrange; Mourning Dove, March 17, LaGrange; Marsh Hawk, March 18, LaGrange; Red-tailed Hawk, March 17, LaGrange; Red-shouldered Hawk, March 2, Hinsdale; Broad-winged Hawk, March 4, LaGrange; Screech Owl, January 16, Riverside; Kingfisher, March 30, Jackson Park; Hairy Woodpecker, February 23, Riverside; Downy Woodpecker, February 1, LaGrange; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, March 24, LaGrange; Red-headed Woodpecker, March 5, LaGrange; Northern Flicker, Feb. 16, LaGrange; Phoebe, March 20, Fullersburg; Prairie Horned Lark, Feb. 23, LaGrange; Blue Jay, January, LaGrange; Crow, Feb. 23, Riverside; Cowbird, March 19, LaGrange; Red-winged Blackbird, March 4, LaGrange; Meadowlark, March 4, LaGrange; Rusty Blackbird, March 8; LaGrange; Bronzed Grackle, Jan. 9, LaGrange; American Goldfinch, March 17, LaGrange; Tree Sparrow, March 2, Hinsdale; Field Sparrow, March 17, LaGrange; Junco, January, LaGrange; Song Sparrow, March 17, LaGrange; Swamp Sparrow, March 20, Fullersburg; Fox Sparrow, March 9, LaGrange; Towhee, April 1, LaGrange; Cardinal, Feb. 23, Riverside; Cedar Waxwing, March 9, LaGrange; Migrant Shrike, March 30, LaGrange; House Wren, March 24, LaGrange; Winter Wren, March 29, LaGrange; Brown Creeper, Jan. 25, LaGrange; White-breasted Nuthatch, March 4, LaGrange; Red-breasted Nuthatch, March 22, LaGrange; Tufted Titmouse, March 12, LaGrange; Chickadee, March 2, Hinsdale; Golden Crowned Kinglet, March 15, LaGrange; Ruby Crowned Kinglet, March 26, LaGrange; Robin, February 24, LaGrange; Bluebird, March 2, LaGrange.

Spring Records at Port Byron

Following is a record of my bird walks taken this spring, from February 24, to March 31:

February 24; 9 A. M. to 3:30 P. M., partly cloudy; ground bare, snowbanks on north side of woods, and along fences and hillsides; wind west, light; temperature 46° to 60°. Rough-legged Hawk, 2; Great Horned Owl, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 4; Red-headed Woodpecker, 12; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 6; Prairie Horned Lark, 12; Blue Jay, 15; Crow, 25; Tree Sparrow, 55; Junco, 70; Cardinal, 4; White-breasted Nuthatch, 8; Tufted Titmouse, 5; Chickadee, 15; Bluebird, 7. Total, 16 species, about 244 individuals.

March 3; 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. Clear; ground bare, a few snowbanks, also some ice in the sloughs and creeks; wind east, brisk; temperature 35° to 45°. Pintail, (one flock, flying over) 15; Rough-legged Hawk, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 8; Red-headed Woodpecker, 7; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 6; Prairie Horned Lark, 4; Blue Jay, 15; Crow, 6; Red-winged Blackbird, 25; Tree Sparrow, 100; Junco, 175; Cardinal, 4; White-breasted Nuthatch, 11; Tufted Titmouse, 3; Chickadee, 20; Robin, 2; Bluebird, 14. Total, 18 species, about 419 individuals.

March 10; 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. Clear; ground bare, ice in the sloughs and creeks; wind variable, light temperature 20° to 35°. Pintail, (one flock, flying over) 10; Rough-legged Hawk, 3; Hairy Woodpecker, 4; Downy Woodpecker, 9; Red-headed Woodpecker, 11; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 10; Flicker, 1;

Prairie Horned Lark, 2; Blue Jay, 14; Crow, 8; Red-winged Blackbird, 100; Goldfinch, 3; Tree Sparrow, 100; Junco, 120; Song Sparrow, 1; Fox Sparrow, 1; Cardinal, 3; White-breasted Nuthatch, 11; Tufted Titmouse, 5; Chickadee, 16; Robin, 15; Bluebird, 10. Total 22 species, about 459 individuals.

March 17: 8:30 A. M. to 3:30 P. M. Clear; ground bare; wind west, moderate temperature 42° to 60°. Pintail, 85 (3 flocks flying over); Killdeer, 5; Bob-white, 10 (one covey); Coopers Hawk, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 5; Red-headed Woodpecker, 10; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 7; Flicker, 1; Prairie Horned Lark, 4; Blue Jay, 10; Crow, 7; Red-winged Blackbird, 15; Meadowlark, 6; Goldfinch, 2; Tree Sparrow, 130; Junco, 400; Song Sparrow, 4; Fox Sparrow, 7; Cardinal, 4; White-breasted Nuthatch, 8; Tufted Titmouse, 8; Chickadee, 11; Robin, 14; Bluebird, 22. Total, 25 species, about 779 individuals.

March 24; 9 A. M. to 3 P. M. Clear; ground bare; wind north, brisk; temperature 40° to 55°. Killdeer, 2; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Rough-legged Hawk, 2; Screech Owl, 1 (heard at 8 P. M.); Hairy Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 5; Red-headed Woodpecker, 16; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 6; Flicker, 6; Prairie Horned Lark, 2; Blue Jay, 10; Crow, 6; Red-winged Blackbird, 1; Meadowlark, 5; Bronzed Grackle, 2; Goldfinch, 1; Tree Sparrow, 125; Junco, 385; Song Sparrow, 2; Fox Sparrow, 16; Cardinal, 7; White-breasted Nuthatch, 5; Tufted Titmouse, 5; Chickadee, 7; Robin, 15; Bluebird, 8. Total, 26 species, about 644 individuals.

March 31: 8:30 A. M. to 4 P. M. Clear; ground bare; high southwest wind, very difficult to observe; temperature 58° to 74°. Killdeer, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Rough-legged Hawk, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 4; Downy Woodpecker, 5; Red-headed Woodpecker, 4; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 6; Flicker, 7; Phoebe, 1; Prairie Horned Lark, 4; Blue Jay, 11; Crow, 3; Cowbird, 4; Red-winged Blackbird, 2; Meadowlark, 8; Western Meadowlark, 3 (heard singing); Bronzed Grackle, 2; Goldfinch, 1; Vesper Sparrow, 9; Tree Sparrow, 3; Field Sparrow, 2; Junco, 70; Song Sparrow, 5; Fox Sparrow, 7; Towhee, 1; Cardinal, 1; Purple Martin, 1; White-breasted Nuthatch, 5; Chickadee, 10; Robin, 11; Bluebird, 9. Total, 31 species, about 202 individuals.

Following is a list of the early spring birds, and the dates when first seen: Jan. 25, and Feb. 6, Prairie Horned Lark; Feb. 6, and March 6, Goldfinch; Feb. 12, Pintail; Feb. 14, Bluebird; Feb. 25, Robin; March 2, Marsh Hawk; March 3, Red-winged Blackbird; March 4, Killdeer, Rusty Blackbird; March 5, Meadowlark; March 7, Bronzed Grackle; March 10, Flicker, Song Sparrow, Fox Sparrow; March 17, Cooper's Hawk; March 21, Sparrow Hawk, Western Meadowlark, Vesper Sparrow; March 24, Red-tailed Hawk; March 26, Purple Martin; March 29, Phoebe; March 30, Cowbird; March 31, Field Sparrow, Towhee; April 1, Mourning Dove; April 2, Great Blue Heron; April 3, Chipping Sparrow.

Some of the noteworthy features of the spring migration are as follows:

1. The disappearance of the Great Horned Owl, none seen or heard since Feb. 24.
2. The absence of the Brown Creeper, none seen since Dec. 23, 1917.
3. The many flocks of Pintail ducks seen flying north during March.
4. An abundance of sunshine and dry weather. On March 30, a Prairie Horned Lark nest was found in a pasture, with three young in it. The young already had good sized feathers.

Port Byron, Ill., April 4, 1918.

J. J. SCHAFER.

“First-seens” by Members of the Chicago Ornithological Club

This is a composite list of the observations of Mr. E. R. Ford, Mr. M. W. DeLaubenfels of LaGrange and Marian Fairman, representing the Chicago Ornithological Club:

Pied-billed Grebe, March 23; Loon, March 24; Herring Gull, January 3; Coot, March 21; American Merganser, January 25; Mallard, March 13; Black Duck, March 24; Green-winged Teal, March 19; Blue-winged Teal, March 31; Pintail (Dunes, March 3), March 24; Lesser Scaup, January 30; Ring-necked Duck, March 24; Golden-eye Duck, March 23; Woodcock, April 7 (breeding); Wilson Snipe, March 31; Killdeer, March 18; Ruffed Grouse, March 24 (Dunes); Prairie Chicken, March 31; Mourning Dove, March 23; Marsh Hawk, March 21; Cooper's Hawk, March 26; Red-tailed Hawk, March 3 (Dunes); Red-shouldered Hawk, March 10 (Dunes), 31 (Lake Co.); Rough-legged Hawk, March 17; Sparrow Hawk, January 3; Screech Owl, January 17; Great Horned Owl, March 3 (Dunes, breeding); Kingfisher, March 26; Hairy Woodpecker, January 1; Downy Woodpecker, January 1 (fed all winter from suet); Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, February 24 (Dunes), March 31 (Cook Co.); Flicker, January 20; Phoebe (Dunes), March 24; Prairie Horned Lark, January 6; Blue Jay, January 1; Crow, January 1; Cowbird, March 18; Red-wing Blackbird, March 3; Meadowlark, March 7; Rusty Blackbird, March 3 (Dunes); Goldfinch, March 31 (Lake Co.); Snowflake, February 18; Lapland Longspur, January 26; Vesper Sparrow, March 21; Tree Sparrow, January 14; Chipping Sparrow, March 20; Junco, January 14; Song Sparrow, January 1; Swamp Sparrow, March 22; Fox Sparrow, March 20; Towhee, January 1; Cardinal, January 1; Cedar Waxwing, March 24 (Dunes); Northern Shrike, February 24 (Dunes); Carolina Wren, March 31; Brown Creeper, January 27; Tufted Titmouse, March 3; Chickadee, March 31 (Lake Co., excavating nest hole); Golden-crowned Kinglet, March 31; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, March 31; Hermit Thrush, March 31; Robin (migrating), February 26; Bluebird, February 24.

Spring Records at Glen Ellyn

The natural inference in connection with the cold arctic weather recently experienced would be that a number of far northern representatives would at least visit us this winter. Such seems not to have been the case, however, while those ordinarily regular during the winter season were either lacking entirely or much reduced in numbers. The Blue Jay was less numerous for example, while the Chickadee and White-breasted Nuthatch seem to have disappeared altogether. Now and then a solitary Junco put in an appearance, occasionally a Downy, while a pair of Jays came as regular visitants to our place. Even the Crows were not as much in evidence, either.

Recently the writer has been informed of a female Cardinal having visited the feeding box of a neighbor off and on this winter. Quail are reported as having wintered well and apparently massed for the most part in one large flock of fully 75. Prairie Chickens were less plentiful than ordinarily, but doubtless the cold wet Spring of 1917 may account for that in a great measure.

Following are some of the Diary Notes made during March and early April of the present year. No apparent movement of the birds was noticeable before the 5th of March when on that day and at 9:30 A. M., the first call of the Bluebird was heard, and at 12:30 a Robin

was seen at Forest Park while the writer was on his way to the city. The day generally was cloudy; wind southwest, temperature 60 degrees at 2 o'clock.

March 7: Clear A. M., cloudy P. M., wind southwest; temperature 38 degrees at 2 o'clock. Male robin in our yard this afternoon.

March 8: Partly cloudy with wind northeast; temperature 48 degrees at 2 P. M. Bluebird singing near our place while a male Bronzed Grackle was putting forth his best efforts from the top of a silver leaved poplar; not far away a Robin was twittering, the combined effort being decidedly spring-like.

March 9: Cloudy with light rain in late P. M., wind west shifting to high northwest; temperature 47 degrees at 2 o'clock. A single Bronzed Grackle about our place.

March 10: A sudden change of weather conditions took place during last night, commencing about 8 o'clock, temperature dropping more than 30 degrees, water forming into ice and thermometer registering 15 degrees above this A. M. The day proved clear and crispy, wind northeast. A Robin was seen at 52nd Ave., Chicago, while on my way to city.

March 11: Fair A. M. and cloudy P. M. Brisk southwest wind; temperature 48 degrees at 2 o'clock. Visited woods, lake and creek-bottom this forenoon, but absolutely nothing in the way of birds in sight. Heard a Crow or two, and also one Robin, while later in day a single one was seen on our place, and a solitary Bronzed Grackle closeby.

March 12: Partly cloudy with warm westerly wind; temperature 60 degrees at 2 P. M. Several Robins in village and two Bronzed Grackles on our place, both males.

March 13: Cloudy with heavy rain in forenoon; misty P. M. cool northeast wind; temperature 37 degrees at 2 o'clock. Thunder and rain again tonight at 11:30. Registered nothing new in bird life.

March 15: Fair; cool northeast wind; temperature 31 degrees at 2 P. M. Visited lake, woods and springs, 10:30 to 11:30 this A. M. Lake nearly frozen over and in the center on the ice a single Herring Gull was standing. Nearby was a dark object, the remains of a catfish, as later it was ascertained that many were dead beneath and in the ice of the shallow water all long the shore. The water in lake was very low when winter came on, thus accounting for the destruction of fish which could not very well have escaped the unusual depth of ice. Many were of fair size for this locality. A single Tree Sparrow was among the willows at lake and a pair of Red-shouldered Hawks at the old stand evidently settled for the season. Were quiet compared with last year, the male calling but a few times.

March 16: Clear; brisk southwest wind; temperature 46 degrees at 2 P. M. Several Robins in village but quiet. Bronzed Grackles increasing, small flocks of 3 and 5 seen with a few additional singles. Two Meadowlarks came near our house this P. M. singing. Bluebirds quiet since cold spell of Saturday and Sunday last.

March 17: Clear fine day with warm southwest wind; temperature 56 at 2 o'clock. Many people discarded their heavier outer garments in taking their Sunday afternoon walk. Robins and Meadowlarks singing vigorously this morning, the larks continuing through the day and the Robins this evening. Several Bluebirds, too, were heard singing. Ice in lake has disappeared. 7 or 8 Red-winged Blackbirds (males) in Creek bottom and two in song. Were singles as they left separately, going in a northwesterly direction. Four Juncos seen, three of them in song. Bronzed Grackles still increasing.

March 18: Clear and warm; brisk southwest wind; temperature 70 at 3 P. M. Several Bluebirds singing in village and one observed inspecting a hole in a telephone pole. Heard a Killdeer call at 9:45 A. M., and a Flicker at 11:15. First Butterfly of season on our place at 11:30 A. M.

March 19: Misty, fair and partly cloudy the greater part of the day. Wind southwest, temperature 63 degrees at 2 P. M. Excursion varied this morning by going into the fields and along hedge-rows northwest of town.

Birds quite plentiful; at least 4 Song Sparrows were singing and twice that number of Red-wings. Juncos numerous in hedges and a single Fox Sparrow seen. A few Tree Sparrows were there also and a Killdeer flew over calling. One Bluebird listed. Frogs croaking this evening for the first time.

March 20: Misty, fair, with southwest wind; temperature 65 degrees at 2 o'clock. Visited woods and lake this forenoon—8 to 8:30. Many Juncos and five Fox Sparrows noted, one of the latter singing. Several Redwings go over in a northwesterly direction. For three days past Robins have been singing merrily during the early morning hours.

March 21: Misty, fair; wind southwest; temperature 72 at 3 P. M. Visited fields and hedges again this A. M. Heard Fox Sparrows singing and another seen. Killdeer calls. Many Juncos and at least three Tree Sparrows in hedge. Juncos singing merrily. Male Cooper's Hawk skims low over fields, going north. Song Sparrows mated and several males in song. Thought I detected song of Vesper Sparrows.

March 22: Cloudy for the most part with cool northeast wind; temperature 40 degrees at 3:30 o'clock. What was taken for a Loon was seen in lake this A. M., but only a limited inspection given from far end of lake. Too large for a Grebe and certainly a diver of same kind. Many Juncos present in woods. Robins quiet. On the other hand frogs were calling loudly from a little pond in woods.

March 23: Cloudy for the most part and wind still cool from the northeast; temperature 41 degrees at 2 P. M. The diver was not seen in lake this A. M. One Red-shouldered Hawk and a Flicker were calling. Some Juncos present on outskirts of woods also a pair of Chickadees. No Tree or Fox Sparrows in evidence.

March 24: Clear. Wind still northeast; temperature 49 degrees at 4 P. M. No bird life in sight about the lake this A. M. Visited fields and hedge-rows north of village. From 1 to 4 P. M. Pair of Marsh Hawks circling about a field where a brood of four was raised last year. Male in gray or adult dress. Some Tree, Fox and Song Sparrows in hedges. The two last in song. Several Meadow Larks singing, one in flight song. Vesper Sparrows—two in song. Bluebird, one. Several Robins and a number of male Redwings, in evidence. A male Rusty Grackle alone in top of willow tree. Although a likely field was visited no Prairie Chickens were seen—Prairie Horned Larks were scarce, too, two only being listed.

March 25: Fair A. M. but partly cloudy P. M. Wind northeast shifting to northwest. Temperature 55 degrees at 2 o'clock. Winter Wren among willows and brush on shore of lake this A. M. Pair of Red-shouldered Hawks still at stand; quiet. Fox Sparrows in song. Three butterflies were seen along pathway in woods and frogs calling loudly.

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- 2d. To work for the betterment and enforcement of State and Federal laws relating to birds.
- 3d. To discourage the wearing of any feathers except those of the ostrich and domestic fowls.
- 4th. To discourage, in every possible way, the wanton destruction of wild birds and their eggs.
- 5th. To restore to our wild birds wherever practicable, the natural environment of forest and shrubbery which gave them food, protection and seclusion.

March 27: Clear and cool; wind northeast; temperature 39 degrees at 2 o'clock. Heavy hoar frost this A. M. Bronzed Grackles were gathering nest material early, some straws and weed stalks they were carrying being heavily laden with the frost. Seems they can not wait for warmer weather to come. Are also here in more than usual numbers, 30 being counted on our place this P. M. and about equally divided as regards sex. A Redwing evidently to show its sociability dropped into the orchard about noon today and contributed its calls and song to the Grackle medley.

March 28: Clear and cool. Wind northeast; temperature 46 degrees at 2 P. M. Again the hedges and fields west were visited this A. M. Nothing of importance, noticed, however. Conditions about as before, but perhaps fewer Juncos present. A few Fox Sparrows on hand and Song Sparrows evidently settled for the season. A Flicker calls.

March 29: Clear A. M., but sky misty overcast in P. M. Wind northeast; temperature 50 at 2 o'clock. A slight change in the present bird fauna noticed. 3 Pied-billed Grebes and a female Scaup were in the lake this A. M.

March 31: Fair to clear A. M., misty in P. M., temperature 71 degrees at 3 o'clock, with high southwest wind blowing. 6 Pied-billed Grebes and the female Scaup in lake. 3 Tree Sparrows seen, also a Golden-crested Kinglet. Crow on nest. Several western painted turtles were perched on brush drift and wood about the lake.

April 1: Partly cloudy and threatening; wind westerly, temperature 63 degrees at 2 P. M. 2 Pied-billed Grebes and the female Scaup still in lake. An exceptionally good songster of the Fox Sparrow was heard. Flickers are increasing and mating. Was interested in finding the Red-shouldered Hawk on the occupied nest of last year and with head facing same way, which was very convincing of its being one of the pair of the preceding year. Some bits of down were clinging to the nest thus showing its probable occupancy for several days past.

April 2: Cloudy for the most part with brisk and cool northeast wind; temperature 49 degrees at 2 P. M. A single Grebe in lake.

Our orchard was alive with Grackles this evening between 5 and 6 o'clock. 160 were counted and there might easily have been more. Some Rusties were among them and all appeared to be singing and calling their level best. A stiff breeze blowing caused them to face the northeast, and some with difficulty maintained their perch.

April 3: Rain during the night and changing to sleet before morning. Cloudy for the most part in A. M., but clear in P. M. Wind still cool from the northeast, temperature 41 degrees at 2 P. M. A few spring beauties were found blossoming in warm sunny spots in woods and 2 Hermit Thrushes—probably a pair—were on hand.

B. T. GAULT, Glen Ellyn.

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

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All members receive the publications of the Society.

Please sign this card and send it with the fee to the Treasurer, Miss Amalie Hannig, 1649 Otis Bldg., Chicago.

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The
Audubon Bulletin

Winter 1918-1919



Conservation Number

Published by
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- 3rd. To discourage the wearing of any feathers except those of the ostrich and domestic fowls.
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The Aims and Principles of the Illinois Audubon Society are:

- 1st. To encourage the study of birds, particularly in the schools, and to disseminate literature relating to them.
- 2nd. To work for the betterment and enforcement of State and Federal laws relating to birds.
- 3rd. To discourage the wearing of any feathers except those of the ostrich and domestic fowls.
- 4th. To discourage, in every possible way, the wanton destruction of wild birds and their eggs.



Photographed by Jesse L. Smith

AN INTERVIEW

It is July 2, 1918--in the morning. A Great-crested Flycatcher has arrived at a Packard house which he and his mate are occupying for the season for domestic purposes, and, plunging head and shoulders into the opening, has deposited a reluctant offering where it will temporarily divert a confirmed appetite. Withdrawing his head, he pauses to bestow a side-long glance upon a creature seated on the grass below who does not appear in the picture and who is nervously clutching the bulb end of a long tube. At this moment appears at the portal one of the forward offspring who seems to contemplate the possible advantages of life in the open. Then the shutter clicks.

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN

WINTER, 1919

Published by the
ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
(For the protection of wild birds)

The President of the Illinois Audubon Society Writes:

CONSERVATION is an old word. When Theodore Roosevelt connected with it the words, OF NATURAL RESOURCES, he gave the word a new meaning destined to go with it to all peoples for all time to come. The underlying principles of conservation as enunciated at that time were that the natural resources of the earth belong to posterity quite as much as to us and that it is our sacred duty both to use and to save them that our requirements may be met and that those for whose bringing forth we are responsible may live in peace and plenty. The ending of the world war gives still greater significance to the word, the duty to use without wasting and to save that our starving, stricken contemporaries may be fed and clothed and housed.

The purpose of the Illinois Audubon Society is The Conservation of Bird Life. Years of strife, which we hope are gone forever, have made conservation a very common but all important word in our everyday life. The world situation makes it imperative that we conserve the necessities of life to the limit of our ability. That means we must conserve in every way possible, however small or however great that may be. To do less than the most we can is to fail grossly in our duty to humanity and to ourselves. We must seize opportunities to direct conservation efforts according to our varied abilities and means. Food was one of the most important factors in winning the war for democracy. Food will be the greatest factor in saving the world for democracy. **There are no more effective food conservationists in the world than the birds,** a fact too little known and appreciated. It happens that the Illinois Audubon Society is fitted to serve in this reconstruction period not only by making known and appreciated the vast economic importance of bird life to food conservation, but also by putting into practice its stated purpose, the protection of bird life in Illinois. This Society cannot justify its continuance if it permits to pass unheeded the opportunity of today to become an active, effective conservation force. It must be in the vanguard of the reconstruction hosts.

The world has entered upon a new era—so has the Illinois Audubon Society. With conservation the watchword of the hour throughout the world, the Society felt it necessary to take steps to become more aggressive in the protection of bird life for the saving not only of birds but also of food. As an earnest of its policy of action, it has recently elected to the offices of secretary and treasurer a young man of enthusiasm

and ability. The Society very much wishes to be able to command his entire time and to have him make the promotion of the objects of the Society his sole occupation. The plan of employing a secretary and treasurer on this basis has been adopted by some of the other state Audubon Societies with marked success and the directors of this Society are confident the same result would follow its introduction in Illinois. To make it possible to adopt the plan, it will be necessary that the receipts of the Society for this year be increased by at least \$3,000. The Illinois Audubon Society appeals to its members and friends to signify their willingness to enter a class of membership paying higher dues, or to contribute toward the carrying out of this plan, with the understanding, if desired, that the offer to do so shall not become binding unless enough others also signify their willingness to make the aggregate of increased dues at least \$3,000. This would mean an increase of 30 in the number of Life Members at \$100 each, 120 in the number of Sustaining Members at \$25 each, or 600 in the number of Contributing Members at \$5 each. Once established, it is certain the work of the secretary and treasurer under the new plan will bring to the Society an increase in its revenue which will in future years much more than meet the added expense of his employment on the basis proposed.

Those who know the value of bird life and rightly desire to have it conserved must give their moral and financial support to this movement if the birds of Illinois are to receive the fullest measure of protection. Spring, which is fast approaching, calls for action, as it is then the birds come back to us in great numbers. The secretary of the Illinois Audubon Society should be devoting all his time to his tasks right now. Your early attention to this appeal will therefore be very much appreciated.

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY,

ORPHEUS M. SCHANTZ, *President*,

Law for Migratory Birds Safe

The following paragraphs from the last issue of Bird-Lore answer very concisely the many inquiries raised by the publication by various papers recently of a report that the Migratory Bird Law had been declared unconstitutional. The quotations follow:

"A news dispatch, recently sent out from Washington, D. C., stating the government had dropped the case of appeal before the Supreme Court in reference to the constitutionality of the Migratory Bird Law, has led many people to understand that migratory birds are no longer protected by the Federal statute. Such is not the case, however. What really happened was this:

"The old Shauver case which had been pending for several years before the Supreme Court was finally disposed of merely for the purpose of clearing this dead issue off the docket. The treaty between the United States and Great Britain affecting migratory birds in the United States and Canada is much more comprehensive than the old Migratory Bird Law and as the Enabling Act, making the treaty operative, was enacted by Congress July 3, 1918, those engaged in bird protection took no further interest in the fortunes of the Migratory Bird Law. The action of the Supreme Court, therefore, does not adversely affect in the slightest the Federal guardianship of migratory birds."

The Need for Forest and Game Preserves in Southern Illinois

For many years it has been plainly evident to observing people that in Southern Illinois there has been a steady decrease in wild life of all kinds. Lovers of Nature, of whom there are very many more than those who are indifferent to Nature's charms suppose, are deeply impressed and greatly troubled by the knowledge of this fact, and it is in behalf of this too much ignored part of our population that this article is written. Within my own recollection many kinds of birds and four-footed animals have utterly disappeared; others are now on the verge of extirpation, and scarcely a trace remains of our once splendid virgin forests. At least one species of tree (the linden) is no longer to be found in my home county except where planted, and many of our ornamental plants, beyond all others prized for two centuries or more in European gardens, listed by practically all American nurserymen, and once the glory of our prairies and more open woodlands, have either totally disappeared in the wild state or are restricted to small and widely separated patches along roadsides and the right-of-way of railroads, where through annual cutting and burning, they are becoming each year more scarce and must soon vanish altogether if present conditions continue. The wooded areas that remain, although numerous, are despoiled of their best and largest trees, and all of them, through pasturage (some of them also through fires set by hunters), show little, often none, of the luxuriant undergrowth which formerly gave them a distinctive character and afforded food, shelter, and nesting places for thousands of birds, which, deprived of these necessities, are no longer to be found there. So far as I have been able to ascertain, it is now impossible to find anywhere in this and other counties which I have visited a single piece of woodland where the thickness of the stand, the grandeur of the trees, luxuriance of undergrowth and vine-drapery, and abundance of bird-life more than feebly recall those of forty or fifty years ago. This is more particularly true of bottom-land forest, the most distinctive type of Southern Illinois.

That deterioration of remaining woodlands can easily be checked and original conditions, except as to replacement of mature trees, be restored, has been convincingly demonstrated by my own experiment on a small scale. Of course the forest giants are gone forever, for their growth is a matter of centuries. All the money in the world cannot replace a single one of them. The most ambitious work of man, no matter what its cost, if destroyed can be restored, for its restoration is merely a matter of money; but ten times the cost of the Panama Canal will not suffice to replace a single tulip tree, black walnut, or oak of mature growth.

The advance of civilization has up to date been too much one-sided, having only the "practical" in view, and therefore the so-called "development" of the country has resulted in destruction of much that is attractive or beautiful. Indeed to such an extent is this true that it really seems as if man's efforts have in large part been expended in striving to make



Photographed by Robert Ridgway.

A bit of Bird Haven, Mr. Ridgway's forest preserve near Olney, Ill., showing rich growth of wild flowers which appeared after grazing animals were excluded. The flowers shown here are a bright orange-yellow composite, *Krigia Dandelion*.

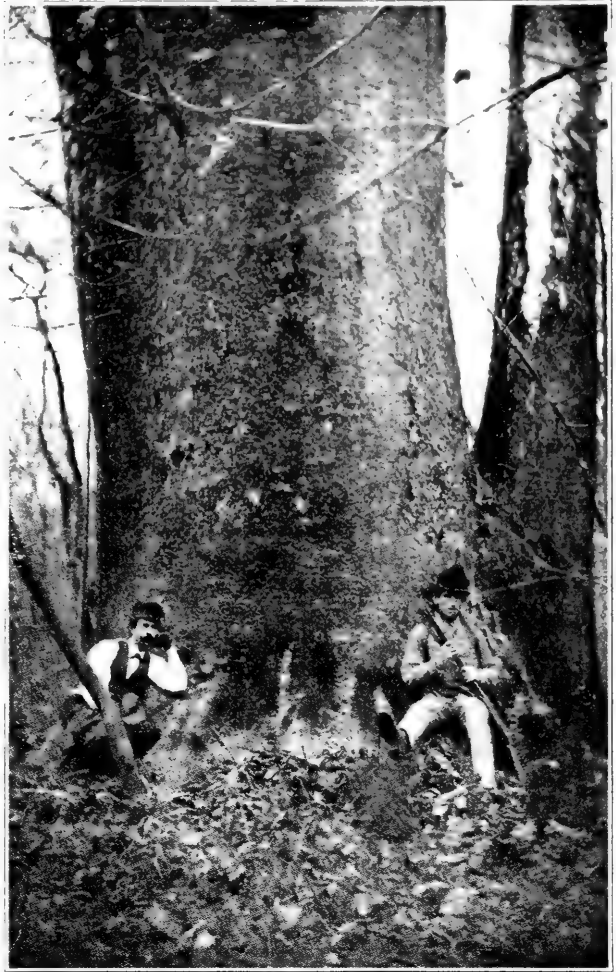
the country as ugly as possible. Of course those who have lived all their lives under such conditions do not realize this as do those who come from more favored sections.

Southern Illinois has, unfortunately, rather a bad reputation among "outsiders;" but this has been brought about almost entirely by man's abuse, misuse, waste, and neglect, and there are particular sections, even occasional localities or individual properties within areas which deserve, more or less, the prevalent outside opinion, which are fairly above criticism. As a whole, however, Southern Illinois—"Darkest Egypt" as it is sometimes contemptuously called—is susceptible of great improvement in many ways. Unquestionably the dominant impression received by a visitor from one of the more advanced sections of the United States is that of ugliness of the landscape, untidiness of farm-house surroundings, wretched roads (made worse by long stretches where most if not all of the trees have been removed and the few that are left disfigured by those ubiquitous "eyesores," advertising signs), and a general air of shiftlessness and backwardness. The land itself, while in general less fertile than that of many other sections, is susceptible of very great improvement and has been brought to its present condition by misuse and neglect—in other words, has simply been worn out. All these conditions, however, are gradually if slowly being changed for the better, excepting only the matter of roadside trees, which are still at the mercy not only of irresponsible road bosses and telephone linemen but anyone who chooses to fell, mutilate, or disfigure them.

That Southern Illinois was once beautiful as well as fertile is attested by many early writers, who, while outspoken and often unsparing in their

criticism of the people, all refer to the park-like beauty of the semi-prairie sections and gigantic size of some of the forest trees. For confirmation of this one has only to consult the journals of those Englishmen¹ who, early in the 19th century, came over to investigate conditions in the English Settlement (now Albion), in Edwards County.

In one respect Southern Illinois stands, or did stand, in the very front rank. That is in the great variety of forest trees and the size to which these grew in the original forests. No less an authority than Professor Sargent, Director of the Arnold Arboretum (Harvard University), author of the *Sylva* of North America, and for many years the first authority on the subject, says, in a review of the present writer's paper on the trees of the Lower Wabash Valley,² that "until some other forest containing a greater variety of trees and larger individuals can be found, that of the



Gigantic Sycamore (*Plantanus occidentalis*). Wabash Bottoms opposite Mt. Carmel, Illinois. Diameter, 15 x 10 ft.; spread of top, 134 x 112 ft.; height, 160 ft. The figure on the left is Mr. Ridgway. (December, 1875.)

Lower Wabash Valley must be considered the most remarkable aggregation of trees in the north temperate zone." The forest giants are no more, but there remains much the same wonderfully rich aggregation of species on limited areas, and tracts representing the several types of forest growth should be secured for preservation before it is too late.

In asserting that by proper action original forest conditions can be restored, my evidence consists in the results attained on a tract of eighteen acres purchased by me in October, 1906. This property, located on the East Fork of Fox River, near Olney, was originally very heavily timbered but had been cleared and was under cultivation up to within thirty-five years of the time of purchase. After cultivation ceased (from "wearing out" of the soil on the uplands) the land grew up with a second growth which, in 1906, had reached considerable size. For many years previous to its purchase by me the land had been pastured, and this of course prevented the reproduction of tree species or other underwood; only closely-cropped grass and a

¹Faux, Fordham, Hulme, Welby, et. al.

²Proceedings of the U. S. National Museum, V, 1882, pp. 49-88.



Photographed by Robert Ridgway.

Several hundred acres as here are now being cleared (Nov. 14, 1918). Here grew *Acer Drummondii*, *Ulmus serotina*, *Ilex decidua*, *Quercus lyrata*, *Quercus Michauxii*, *Populus heterophylla*, etc.

few weeds grew between and beneath the trees. Within two years after fencing and the exclusion of stock the ground had, as if by magic, become covered with an herbaceous growth in great variety, including several species of ferns and many kinds of flowering plants, and these have increased from year to year. At the same time seedlings of different kinds of trees sprang up, including several species which were not included among the trees already growing on the place; in fact additional species are being discovered almost every year.

This place was selected by me, after careful inspection of a considerable portion of the county, on account of the extraordinary number of species of trees growing there, the number far exceeding that of any other equal area in the North Temperate Zone so far as the records show. The species thus far identified on the eighteen acres number sixty-two, which exceeds the number of broad-leaved trees native to the entire Pacific Coast, from southern California to Alaska (inclusive); and the twelve species of oaks are one more than grow, naturally, in the whole of New England! Not one of the sixty-two species is present as the result of man's agency, but all are of natural or spontaneous growth. This fact, together with the known age of the larger growth and other historical data, renders the place of special interest and value.

Few people realize how rapidly trees may grow. In September, 1918, I had the trees growing along the banks of a small stream on the tract above referred to cut down, because they intercepted the view from hill to hill across a narrow, mostly open valley, and to make room for shrubbery to grow. With one exception these trees had all grown up since 1910. One of them, a "sycamore" (*Platanus occidentalis*) was measured after felling and found to be forty feet and seven inches tall and ten inches in

diameter across the top of the stump. Many of the other trees (mostly American elms) were nearly if not quite as tall. The ten-year old tree (also a "sycamore") measured fifty-one feet two inches in height and twelve inches across the stump. Had it not been for two consecutive seasons of severe drought the dimensions would have been greater, for those two years (1913 and 1914) were easily identified by the very narrow rings representing their growth. Another sycamore tree felled in May, 1908, and known to be nineteen years old (confirmed by the rings of growth) was seventy-two and a half feet in length and eighteen and a half inches across the stump. All these trees grew in deep and moist but not very rich soil, in bottom-land. A fourteen year old tree of the same species growing on dry, poor upland, also cut in May, 1908, measured only forty feet in length and nine inches in diameter—a little less than the eight-year-old bottom-land tree.

I know of another tract of woodland in this (Richland) county which is also of much interest. This is a ten-acre tract along Gentry Creek. A remarkable feature of this woods consists in the fact that while oaks of different species are usually the predominant trees, there are here only four kinds of oak in a total of forty species, and two of these are represented by a single specimen each, while only one of the four is at all common. On the other hand all the species of elms growing north of Mason and Dixon's Line are represented, including the southern red elm (*Ulmus serotina*) and the winged elm (*U. alata*), and there are two hackberries (*Celtis crassifolia* and *C. mississippiensis*). This bit of forest is less than seventy-five years old, for in 1885, while taking some photographs there, a relative who was present told me that just forty years before he had



Photographed by Robert Ridgway.

This is the "wood-lot" of a farm on Gentry Creek, Richland County, Illinois (Nov. 14, 1918.) Here are four species of elms in one group, *Ulmus fulva*, *U. thomasi* (?) *U. serotina*, and *U. americana*.



Sweet Gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*). Near Mt. Carmel, Ill. Circumference, $12\frac{1}{2}$ ft.; clear trunk, 78 ft.; spread of top, 85 ft. Several feet of the base are hidden from view, the tree standing in a low swale. (October, 1875).

cultivated the land in corn. Yet the larger trees are about equal in size to the largest of the same kinds that remain in our forests, and the larger sycamores (a tree of rapid growth) are more than one hundred feet high and four or five feet in diameter.

My opportunities for investigating the woodlands hereabout have been very limited — indeed I have never even been inside of more than one out of fifty—and consequently some tracts in this county may exist of even greater interest that are as yet unknown to me. There is one more, however, which may be mentioned. This is an eighty-acre body of fine timber which approaches more closely to the original forest conditions than any other I have seen. Relatively few of the larger trees have been cut, and there has

been very little change in the character of the undergrowth. I have not had the time to explore this tract thoroughly nor to make a list of the species, but the number must be very large, as the surface includes both upland and bottoms. Should this tract be purchased for a preserve (and it is well worth preservation, in fact it should be preserved) action would have to be taken soon, as all the merchantable trees have been marked for sacrifice by a timber cruiser who surveyed it for the purpose a few months ago.

In this matter of dealing with the remaining woodlands of Southern Illinois, one of two things should be done at once: either their thorough investigation by trained botanists or the purchase for preservation of a sufficient number of tracts to embrace all the types. The necessity of botanical investigation before it is too late is shown by the fact that on a tract which is now being cleared the present writer found growing the Southern Red Maple (*Acer Drummondii*) and Southern Red Elm (*Ulmus serotina*) the former new to the Illinois flora, the latter collected only once before (many years ago) within the State, in Union County; and in the same locality a climbing rose which is probably new, and a green-brier

(*Smilax*) which Professor Sargent thinks may be new. Another species was added to the state sylvia from a different locality, namely, the pumpkin ash (*Fraxinus profunda*), which, although long known to me as growing in Southern Illinois had not previously been actually collected and its occurrence properly verified. The writer has also added, from time to time, to the sylvia of Richland County the Washington thorn (*Crataegus cordata*), Southern hawthorn (*C. viridis*), deciduous holly (*Ilex decidua*), woolly-leaved hickory (*Hicoria villosa*), Chickasaw Plum, (*Prunus angustifolia*), and Biltmore ash (*Fraxinus biltmoreana*), while the additions among herbaceous plants, including grasses and sedges, have been numerous. When it is considered that all these additions to the flora are the result of a very few collecting trips and nothing even approaching systematic or continued work in that line, it may be seen that the field is really a very promising one for the experienced botanical collector.

Of vastly greater importance, to the general public at least, than the scientific value of the proposed establishment of forest and game preserves and like measures for the improvement of Southern Illinois, is the direct benefit which would result in improving the appearance of the country. Attractiveness from the æsthetic point of view is an asset which has been far too much underestimated or ignored. Hitherto only so-called "practical" matters have been considered, and with a short-sightedness that is little less than amazing, the work of vandalism in the way of tree-destruction has been wholly unrestrained, and many localities thereby rendered repellent in their ugliness. No reasonable person can, or will, object to the cutting down of a tree when there is good cause for doing so, nor to clearing of woodlands when necessary; but altogether too much freedom has been allowed to those who ruthlessly destroy trees which shade the roadside and beautify the landscape, with no other excuse than that such trees stunt the growth of a row or two of corn for a space of a few rods, or that they prevent the road from drying out. The first excuse has some basis, because the feeding roots of the tree do draw the moisture from the soil (and perhaps more or less of the fertility also), but the second has none whatever, for if the tree dries up the ground on the one side of it, it must, of course, do the same on the other. The essential matter of proper drainage of the road is in such cases entirely overlooked.

There are, of course, many people whose minds are so constituted that they cannot see anything to admire in Nature, and who have a certain contempt for those who can. But these should remember that there are many people who do admire and appreciate God's handiwork, and that they as well as themselves have rights in the matter of road-sides, which belong to one class as much as the other; and of this fact the laws, thus far favoring only the former class, should take cognizance. There is very much in this life besides the "practical," which too often means the exploitation rather than the true development of the country. The waste of natural resources, with utter disregard for the future, is natural and defensible under pioneer conditions; but these have long ago ceased to exist, and it is now time to install a new era in the development of our State. No civilization is complete or real unless it combines the æsthetic with the practical. Jesus said: "Man cannot live by bread alone," which, rightly interpreted, means that he must have food for the mind and soul, as well as for the body.

ROBERT RIDGWAY.

Illinois Should Establish Game Preserves

I am what some people call a "nut" on the outdoor life proposition, and you can hardly blame a fellow for getting the fever in a place like Carlyle. This picturesque and rather historic little city, of which I have the honor of serving my third consecutive term as Mayor, lies on the west bank of the Kaskaskia river, one of the longest and crookedest streams in the state. As some of the boys say, "You hardly know whether you are going or coming when you navigate it." The people cross the river on a suspension bridge built in 1859, or just sixty years ago, and the original wire cables are still in use.

When I was a "kid" there was an old watermill just below this bridge, with a wooden dam, with a big floodgate, etc. This was some fishing place. No trouble at all to catch all the crappie we wanted with a dinky pole and line off the floor below the dam. It was great for channel cats, and we also caught many salmon and bass, but we left this part of the game for the high brows of the piscatorial fraternity from Carlyle and abroad. But the mill was destroyed by fire many years ago, and since, the angling game has not been so good. We still have a brushdam, but the water below it is not deep enough to make it attractive for the finny tribe.

A block west of the river is the Hunter's Home, a big two story frame building. During the early days this place was conducted by James Baxter, an old Englishman. It was a great resort for wealthy sportsmen of New York, Cincinnati, St. Louis and other big cities. Occasionally they came here from England. The attraction was mainly waterfowl, prairie chicken and turkey hunting. The visitors loved to shoot snipe, and the Sante Fe bottom country south of here seven miles was a great place for this sport. The chickens could be found in abundance within a few miles of Carlyle, ditto the wild turkeys.



SUSPENSION BRIDGE OVER THE KASKASKIA AT CARLYLE, ILLINOIS.

So, under the conditions, if a youngster had any inclination whatever for outdoor life, these natural surroundings would certainly develop it. I have been a resident of Carlyle all my life, started at the hunting and fishing game for amusement when I was a boy, and today finds me an enthusiast. I spend most of my spare time either hunting or fishing, but neither is as good as it used to be.

I give the above resumé for the purpose of qualifying for a few remarks and suggestions to follow on game and fish conservation—one will naturally follow the other, that is if the state takes over certain territory, homes will be preserved for both. Furthermore, permit me to state, that I served fourteen years as game warden of my county, and this gave me the opportunity to study conditions in other parts outside of the vicinity of Carlyle. During that period I had the chance to get in touch with the game conditions in each and every one of the fifteen townships. One season quail, or rabbits, or squirrels, might be plentiful, then scarce the next. They seemed to come in waves, so to speak, depending largely upon the weather conditions both in winter and during the breeding season. It was only a few years ago that the river bottoms only a few miles northeast of Carlyle—from two to three miles—were full of quail. Plenty of birds were left over, remaining in the timber, but the water came up during the nesting time, and the birds have never been plentiful in the timber since. The high water also affects the rabbit and squirrel crop, as the severe winters do the quail.

At every session of the legislature we may expect to hear of the great destruction of our game, especially the quail, by the hunters. From some of the talks a person would imagine the sportsman to be the inveterate enemy of wild animal and bird life, but they forget that we are the fellows who are putting up the money for the only protection that they get, and constantly on the alert for new schemes to increase the supply.

We are spending thousands of dollars every year for game and fish conservation in one way or another, but we seem to have hit the wrong trail. We need an efficient warden system at all times, but more work ought to be provided for them, for example giving them some game preserves to look after. I suggest the following:

First—The enactment of a law giving the state the right to acquire land to be set aside as game preserves on which no hunting shall be permitted at any time.

Second—This having been done, some means should be provided for making a study of such a system in other states, for example Pennsylvania. If necessary appoint a special Commission of competent persons (not politicians) to make a study of the proposition.

It should be evident to every student of wild life that we can never hope to maintain the supply by permitting the indiscriminate destruction of the natural homes of the same. It is indeed a pity that the state did not take the matter in hand years ago. There are thousands of acres of land, especially in which there was timber, which should have been kept by the state and the timber cut off in a systematic manner. This would have served a double purpose—conserved the hardwood supply, and conserved the game by maintaining homes for the same under state supervision.

There is still the opportunity to get hold of a lot of this bottom land, much of it practically useless for farming purposes, and I am heartily in favor of its being taken over either by purchase or condemnation proceedings.

If I were a millionaire I would immediately purchase a few thousand acres of the timber land northeast of Carlyle, cut out tracts here and there on which no hunting would be permitted, thus allowing the game to breed and drift out, and deed the same to the City of Carlyle to be maintained forever as a natural park for the use of the people. I would stipulate that certain things should be done, else the deed would be null and void. That's how strong I am on this proposition. It's all right to promote agriculture by cleaning off and cultivating waste land, but people should remember there is something else in life besides the dollar. We must have recreation, and what is there to beat hunting, fishing, camping and kindred sports? So I say Illinois must take radical action. We're expecting to spend millions on hard roads, but are neglecting the outdoor attractions for those who will use them.

It pleases me very much to receive assurance from the Illinois Audubon Society that they will co-operate with the Illinois Sportsmen's League, of which I am the president and one of the originators. It's a shame that the sportsmen do not take more interest in proposed legislation. Lots of them make a great howl about what's happened after the legislature adjourns, but are too busy to be on the job when needed. Our organization has been on the firing line at the two last sessions, and we will be there again this year.

H. C. NORCROSS,
Editor, The Illinois Sportsman, Carlyle, Ill.

The Barn Owl

A note on the unusual abundance of the Barn Owl (*Aluco pratincola*) in Illinois and Adjoining States:

This owl is by no means a rare occurrence with us, individuals being seen by observers every year, yet we have not heard of any previous unusual flight as occurs in certain years with some of the larger and more northern species. This year I have records of over twenty-five specimens that were received by Chicago taxidermists between September 18th and November 29th, the larger number being males. The Illinois specimens received were from Fox Lake, Henry, Genoa, St. Charles, Cardiff, Palatine, Momence, and other localities, while others were sent from Southern Wisconsin and Northern Indiana. Other species, as the long-eared and barred owls, have also been received in larger numbers than for several years, while there seems to have been no unusual flight of the snowy owls this winter and I have heard of only a dozen or fifteen species having been received by the taxidermists. As the food of the barn and long-eared owls consists largely of injurious rodents, and as both species are under protection of our laws, these birds should not be killed for objects of ornamentation. I am indebted to Richard A. Turtle, Henry Nussbaumer and Karl W. Kahmann for information and examination of specimens.

RUTHVEN DEANE, *Chicago.*



Photo Madsen Bros.

The Palisades of the Mississippi at Savanna

To the people of Savanna and vicinity has come the idea of conserving the beautiful natural setting in which they live and of safeguarding jealously for all time to come their magnificent river front which curves along wooded flood plains and past palisaded heights that look far out over the broad island-dotted expanse of the Mississippi River. A great state park should be created here to include two miles or more of palisades along the river and four or five miles of frontage along the flood plains. This should include fine wooded ravines back of the palisades, some of them almost untouched as yet, a few extending back to the old Indian trail which follows the windings of the Mississippi. Several thousand acres should be brought into this preserve including the many picturesque islands in the river within sight of the palisades. These islands would prove wonderful bird refuges. As the Iowa line comes near the Illinois shore, and most of the islands belong to Iowa, a preserve of this sort will require the joint action of both states.

A local committee to prepare plans for such a park and to arouse state-wide interest in it has been formed with F. J. Stransky, Colin Higgins, F. S. Greenleaf, C. K. Miles, and C. H. LeVitt as members. Cooperating with it is Jens Jensen of Chicago, President of The Friends of Our Native Landscape, who voices the enthusiastic interest of that organization in the project. It is the good fortune of the school children of Savanna to have teachers that direct their attention to the beauty of their immediate surroundings. The following illustrated paragraphs representing the work of some of the children were kindly furnished by Superintendent C. H. LeVitt.



Photo Madsen Bros.

THE "THOUSAND ISLANDS" OF SAVANNA.

As we ride along the river road to the north of Savanna, the scenery becomes most delightful. Stop near the "Indian Head" and look across the river to the Iowa side. There we see many beautiful islands surrounded by the calm blue waters of the Father of Waters. The bright green color of the plant life is very pleasing to the tourist. Between the islands may be found a paradise for fishermen, and on the islands, ideal sites for camping.

Jennie Dent.



Photo Madsen Bros.

THE INDIAN HEAD.

About two miles north of Savanna is the famous Indian Head. It is a rock formation about seventy-five feet high. Its aquiline nose and prominent cheek bones make it visible for miles.

Two small trees growing upon its crown, give it the appearance of wearing the feathered head-dress of the Indian.

When viewed from below, it is just a jumble of rocks; but looked at from a distance it is the image of an Indian.

In summer, tourists drive along the river road and gaze at the Head which appears to a great advantage against a background of green trees and shrubs.

Ruth Haven.



Photo Madsen Bros.

THE PALISADES.

How little we realize what a treasure we possess along our beautiful Mississippi River. Some do not know that our bluffs are among the most wonderful creations of Nature. Those who have seen the Palisades of the Hudson come back and declare the superiority of the Palisades of Savanna.

They begin at the outskirts of Savanna and extend north for miles. Their rocky sides, covered with trees and ferns and mosses, are about two hundred and fifty feet high.

Evangeline Day.

THE TWIN SISTERS.

The Twin Sisters are a rock formation on the River and north of Savanna. They resemble each other very closely. The general outlines are those of human beings, although their faces cannot be distinguished. They stand on a huge rock platform apart from the other bluffs.

When viewed at a distance they seem but a shapeless mass of rock; but when seen in the proper way, it is not difficult to imagine that they were once two shy maidens who were changed into stone by the order of some Indian God.

Norma Bahne.



Photo Madsen Bros.



IN THE WHITE PINE FOREST OF OGLE COUNTY.

The White Pine Forest of Ogle County

The highway running from Oregon (9 miles) to Polo (7 miles) by the Pine Creek Town Hall bounds the White Pine Forest Tract of Ogle County on the south; another highway runs by its east side north to Mount Morris; the St. Paul line of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad goes by on its northern edge; to the west and southwest it reaches out irregularly towards Stratford and over the charming Spring Valley Branch,—these boundaries including about seven hundred acres. The tract is owned by a number of individuals, many of whom purchased their holdings years ago in small timber lots of from five to sixty acres, it being the custom in an early day thus to divide up the forest area for use in connection with the more fertile farming land near, for pasture, firewood, and the various needs of the work and life on the farm. The tract is traversed by Pine Creek, which rises farther to the north, flowing in a winding course, and entering Rock River near the curious bend at Grand Detour. This creek is a most picturesque stream along its course in other spots than where it cuts through this forest, but here it reaches the height of its picturesque beauty and variety, as it runs by the high, rocky, vine-and-flower-covered banks, mirroring them in its clear ripples as it eddies by. The creek just before it enters the tree tract was deflected from its course in 1885, by the railway company in extending the road to St. Paul. To avoid washouts in time of heavy rains, the rocks were blasted out and made as a natural support for a bridge over the waters of the stream flowing far beneath, being barred out of the former bed by the high embankments and grade of the track. The name of this stream would indicate that pine trees prevailed along the creek at the time it received its appellation. Old settlers who came to the region about 1840, say that white pines were found then pretty much all along the east bank of the creek and extending out to a breadth of sometimes a half mile and more. It is chiefly on this bank that the white pine is found now. The red cedar is found in this tract mainly on the west side. The American yew, or ground hemlock, the third evergreen growing in this tract, is found mostly on the east side of the stream, creeping and hanging in long dark festoons over far stretches of the rocky wall.

In October, the brilliant colors of the hardwoods (which are intermixed with the evergreens over most of the tract) mingled with the soft, rich green of the white pines and the young growth, make a picture of entrancing loveliness. The white pine and red cedar, procured from along Pine Creek, were planted around the early homes of the settlers, both in town and country, to protect them from the fierce storms, and for their beauty, too, for the people who made up the body of sturdy pioneers had not lost their appreciation of the beautiful things in life, even though they were struggling with the stern asperities of the new situation. The groups of these evergreens, as they surround the homes and dot the landscape, are today an evidence of the houses in which once lived a pioneer family.

Mr. Robert Ridgway, the great naturalist, has shown that in Illinois the "lower border lands were once the cream of the country and a big tree

region second only to the Pacific Coast"; and in 1880, sixty-two of the one hundred and two counties in the state were from fifteen to twenty-five percent in forests and the remaining forty of them had from six to eight percent. Now it is estimated that the forest area is only five and one-half percent of the entire land area. The people of the United States awoke too late to the need of forestry regulations; the wealth of timber in our country seeming to be inexhaustible, it did not come into the minds of those in authority that it was necessary to make permanent reservations of our bountiful tracts of trees. Now we have the pitiful spectacle of the once beautiful regions of the Blue and Alleghany Mountains a series of barren slopes, and the forest sections in every one of the states largely denuded of their useful and handsome growth. What would France have done in this World War if she had not long, long ago, turned her attention economically to the protection and growing of trees, so that she was able by her great *state-grown* forests to provide in enormous quantities the various kinds of wood and timber for the needs of *all* the Allies in almost every manner? And, what is more serious, what would America and the other allied countries have done without this marvelous and *husbanded* supply?

At the beginning of the twentieth century, our then President, Theodore Roosevelt, turned his attention with his characteristic thoroughness, to this problem, being ably assisted by Mr. Gifford Pinchot, the enthusiastic and capable head of the Government Forest Service, and measures to arouse people to the seriousness of the situation were taken. The General Assembly of the State of Illinois in 1903 passed a resolution asking the U. S. Department of Agriculture to make an examination of the forests of the State, with recommendations as to preserving and propagating them. Mr. R. S. Kellogg, of the U. S. Bureau of Forestry (now Forest Service), had charge of this examination with headquarters at Roodhouse, during the summer of 1904. Under the direction of himself and Mr. E. A. Ziegler, later of the Mount Alto Park (Pennsylvania) Forest Reserve and School, an examination and report were made of the White Pine Forest of Ogle County, from which the following is quoted:

"The piece of land should be made into a State Forest Reserve, since it is the only White Pine Grove in the state and shows excellent prospects of enlarging itself by natural seeding—in time, perhaps over-running the greater part of the tract—if a little care is taken to cut out a little oak, now and then, as the young pines become larger and denser. The natural beauties are exceptional. Natural conditions are favorable to good tree growth. The present forest is young, and evidently very few of the trees in it are over 75 years old. In a rather hurried survey the following species were noted: red oak, white oak, burr oak, scarlet oak, chinquapin oak, white elm, slippery elm, largetooth aspen, quaking asp, sugar maple, box elder, hornbeam, hop hornbeam, red mulberry, black walnut, butternut, shagbark hickory, pignut hickory, mocker nut hickory, sycamore, white ash, black ash, choke cherry, black cherry, wild plum, basswood, hop tree, black willow, Juneberry, white pine (*Pinus Strobus*), red cedar.

"The interesting feature of the proposed reserve is the small forest of white pine which is unique for Illinois and represents the southernmost extension of the species in this section of the United States. The maximum height of the pine is 90 feet, and the largest diameter, breast high, about



Pine Creek flows by high, rocky, vine-and-flower-covered banks, mirroring them in its clear ripples as it eddies by.

30 inches. A long distance, in the tract, from the nearest pine tree one finds patches of young pine so dense as to be almost impenetrable, while smaller numbers and individual young trees are scattered about everywhere. A few years of care and good management would make this tract a beautiful spot and a fine object lesson in forest preservation and regeneration."

The purchase by the State of 700 acres, or even more, of this evergreen tract would make it possible to have there a forest station for replanting places over the state that have been made bare of trees, of whatever sort, and of foresting unsightly lands and growing, in time, timber all over the State on many acres of the lands not now good for any regular cultivation,—growing forests both for commercial, practical use and for beauty. Then, too, it is a region of all sorts of native plants, flowers and shrubs; and contains a complete flora of the State. An instructor in botany, Miss Mildred Hinds, in Mount Morris College, in studying there with her classes recently, made the following report: "I was surprised not only at the great variety of flowers to be found, but also at the small area in which each kind is found, this, in my opinion, being one of the strongest arguments in favor of wild flower preservation." A large water elm found there by the examining foresters in August, 1904, measured fourteen and a half feet in circumference, and 115 feet in height.

An effort to have the State purchase the White Pine Forest has been made with each General Assembly since the one that passed the first bill in 1903, excepting the last on account of war conditions, and the bill has nearly every time had added to the arrangement for a State Park clauses for establishing therewith a forestry experiment station. Illinois

has laws offering inducements for farmers and other land owners to plant trees, but experience has shown the only way to preserve, secure and maintain forests for permanency is to do it under the thorough, firm control and supervision of the State, whether national or State.

MRS. REBECCA H. KAUFFMAN.

To the foregoing description by Mrs. Kauffman should be added some account of the efforts that have been made to include all this notable area under the permanent protection of the State. The White Pine Forest has many devoted friends but none more so than Mrs. Kauffman who has been able to enlist in its support workers from various portions of Illinois.

In 1903, the Oregon Woman's Council, under the lead of Mrs. Kauffman, its President, assisted in the work by many interested friends, who came enthusiastically to its support from all over the State, secured the passage of a bill for the purchase of 300 acres, carrying an appropriation of \$30,000 for that purpose. Attorney Horace G. Kauffman and Mr. Charles Walkup, then of Pine Creek, had called upon all the owners of the land and secured options from them on its sale for six months. The measure had been ably managed in the General Assembly by Representative James P. Wilson, of Polo, assisted by Representative Johnson Lawrence, also of Polo, in the House, and by Senator Henry Andrus of Rockford, in the Senate. Governor Yates, however, vetoed the bill, assigning the always-ready reason of economy. Another reason, however, might be found. Every one now knows how land has gone up in price, and that it would have been *economy* to have invested this comparatively small sum at that time, adding more land to the tract as soon as possible, as has been done with the Starved Rock Park.

In 1903 Mrs. Kauffman also became a member of the newly-organized Forestry Committee of the Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs, and later its chairman, thus securing the interest of one of Illinois' most practical and ardent nature lovers, Mrs. P. S. Peterson of Chicago, and of all the club women of the State in the preservation of this white pine region,—and they have worked unceasingly for its ultimate purchase. Meanwhile the tract has become famous, and has been visited by many of the best known nature lovers. It is the mecca of automobile parties from everywhere. Being wholly unprotected, the gates of the forest "wide open," there is ever-present danger of its destruction from fire, or other carelessness. In 1911 the White Pine Forest Association was formed, with Mr. A. W. Brayton of Mount Morris as president,—Mr. Brayton who is now the head of the Illinois State Horticultural Society. This tract has been inspected at different times by members of the State Park Commission and Mr. David Shanahan.

Under the leadership of Mr. Jens Jensen, the Friends of Our Native Landscape came to the Forest on one of their annual summer pilgrimages. On this occasion an original Masque written by the late Kenneth Sawyer Goodman was given in the glen of Pine Creek and Nicholas Vachel Lindsay recited his poem to the memory of Black Hawk.

Inspired by this splendid wildwood, Mrs. Elia W. Peattie, one of the

able writers of the "Chicago Tribune," has written a fine poem entitled "The Pine Forest of Illinois Speaks,"—

Above your acres of corn and grain,
 We stand a living choir,
 To put life's prose into rhyme again,
 While the dreams of youth suspire.

* * * * *

Oh fend for us, that we may still
 Sing on in shine and rain—
 Thrive by your love, live by your will,
 The guardians of your plain.

And we will coax reluctant skies
 To shed their showers for you,
 And make it our benign emprise
 To store the dripping dew.

Your children's sons shall visions see,
 A dream beneath our shade;
 So shall our debt of fealty
 To you and yours be paid.

Governor Lowden on Re-Forestation

On New Year's Day newspapers printed an informal message from Governor Lowden entitled, "A Vision of 1919." Among other various significant paragraphs those printed below are selected as peculiarly appropriate to accompany the conservation articles in this issue of the Bulletin. It would be fortunate if every paper in Illinois would reprint the quotations with the explanation that the Governor's suggestions as to the encouragement of re-forestation can be realized only if at the forthcoming constitutional convention the necessary provisions are written into the constitution.

Governor Lowden says:

"I know of no single acre of land in the state, even though it be not suited to cultivation, that cannot be made to produce trees successfully. We shall, if we are wise, make laws whereby every acre which will not produce wheat or corn will be made to grow trees.

"It may be that we shall be wise enough to exempt these lands from taxation, saying to the owner: 'Plant this little tract to trees and we shall tax you nothing, requiring only that when your children or your grandchildren harvest them they shall pay a fair percentage of the proceeds into the treasury of the state.'

"You would not only thus set these idle acres to work for the profit of both the state and the owner, but the little growing forest upon the farm will help to tie the children to the farm."

Theodore Roosevelt, Conservationist

Death comes unannounced and takes the mighty among men with as little concern for human welfare as it shows in taking the lowly. Just before daybreak on January 6, Death silently stole away from a sleeping nation its indispensable citizen, a man whose vision, wisdom, counsel and dynamic force are most needed at this dawning of a new era. In the untimely passing of Theodore Roosevelt, mankind suffers an irreparable loss. The world is much better, however, for his having lived—his good works for the physical, moral, mental and spiritual welfare of man will be felt and appreciated as long as man, in the image of God, inhabits the earth.

Among the many achievements, mental and physical, by which our myriad-minded, omniactive Roosevelt attained the pinnacle of fame, none is greater or more enduring than his attainments as conservationist. The first chapter of the history of conservation of natural resources cannot be written without the name of Roosevelt. Whatever may be said for others, it was Roosevelt who grasped the big idea of conservation and made it a national and then a world movement.

Forests, waters, soils, minerals, birds and animals were embraced in the thoroughgoing Roosevelt conservation program. As governor, Roosevelt took measures to protect the forests and wild life of New York. As president of the United States of America, he made the nation understand that Nature's store of the essentials to life on this globe is not unlimited and that every generation owes a duty to posterity to use this limited store with scientific economy that its benefits may be extended into the future as far as possible. Simultaneously with establishing the principles of conservation, Roosevelt set about putting them in practice, of course. He increased the national forest areas from a little more than forty-six millions to one hundred ninety-four and one-half millions of acres, opened to regulated use the natural resources in these forests, saw to it that every part of the land in these reserves was put to its most efficient use, and opened to farm settlement nearly one-half millions of forest lands best suited to that purpose; he put under national regulation and control the use of water power in the national forests, on the public domains and in the navigable rivers, withdrew from private entry many water power sites on twenty-nine streams, and established the practice of making a charge for value received in granting water power rights; he caused the proceeds from the sales of public lands to be set aside for reclaiming arid lands by irrigation, began twenty-eight projects for the irrigation of more than three millions of acres and the watering of more than thirty thousand farms, built great dams, many of them the greatest in the world, and constructed more than seven thousand miles of main-line canals to hold and distribute water for irrigation purposes; he withdrew from all forms of entry, for classification and scientific and economic disposition, more than seventy-five millions of acres of coal lands, established the principles of the retention of federal title to all minerals in lands of unceded territory and the lease of same for a fixed rental, and the separation of surface title from title to minerals in coal and oil lands, and withdrew from private entry almost five millions of acres of phosphate rock, all the phosphate rock area



then known to exist in the West; and he created five national parks, four big game refuges and fifty-one bird reservations, and secured the enactment of laws for the protection of wild life. It is safe to say that more was begun and done to conserve natural resources during the presidency of Roosevelt than during all time before and after that brief seven and one-half years.

Roosevelt grasped the big ideas of men with a swiftness that was marvelous. Being a broad-minded, practical man, he put into the hands of men the means for developing their ideas and by his enthusiasm, public spirited example and unflinching support inspired them to great achievements. A man imbued with the conservation idea brought his idea to Roosevelt. Roosevelt saw immediately. He called the governors together—the first time in history—to consider, with federal officials, scientists and others, a national problem, the conservation of natural resources. As a result of this memorable conference he appointed the National Conservation Commission, with the man of the idea as its chairman. This Commission made the first natural resources inventory known to history. He called the North American Conservation Conference, at which the United States, Canada, Newfoundland, and Mexico got together on this problem. And finally, he

invited all the nations of the world to meet at The Hague to confer on the natural resources of the entire globe. Although this last project lapsed when Roosevelt left the presidency, the effects of his efforts were far-reaching. Some day this conference will come and it will be guided by the spirit of Roosevelt. This greatest of conservationists, this man of the Square Deal, has recorded in his own writing that from the beginning to the consummation of his conservation work, his inspiration and guide was the man imbued with the conservation idea, Gifford Pinchot. His magnanimity makes his enduring fame more brilliant.

It is fitting that the people of the country Roosevelt loved so well and did so much for should name their great forest of giant trees after him. It is indeed fitting that the people of Cook County should name its forest preserve after him, as has been suggested, and that in it should be erected a monument visualizing the man and his deeds. As time rolls on and on and the store of natural resources becomes less and less, conservation will become more and more vital to the human race. In depicting his works let us not forget that historians of all the future will record that Theodore Roosevelt, American, inspired and inaugurated on a vast scale a world movement for staying waste and for saving those things of earth, of sea and of sky upon which depend absolutely the permanence, well-being and happiness of man.

ROY M. LANGDON.

Roosevelt Memorial Fountain

A Call to the Nature-Lovers of America

The great spirit of Theodore Roosevelt, an inspiration to naturalists, bird-lovers, conservationists and sportsmen, today rests upon the nation like a mighty benediction. Men of the open loved him and the faces about his campfire, whether black or yellow, white or copper, bent their gaze upon him with that respect and affection which men of towering nobility have ever inspired.

He was a scientific collector of birds in his youth and in manhood sought the fiercest animals of the jungle and brought his trophies to museums where the public might look upon them and learn. As President he established the principle of government bird-reservations, and created thirty-eight of these national wild-life sanctuaries. He awoke the nation to the need of saving its forests and other natural resources.

He taught and practiced clean, straight sportsmanship with a power that has caused thousands of men afield to walk in straighter paths.

He discussed questions understandingly with our greatest technical naturalists and at the same time was president of the Long Island Bird Club that feeds the wild birds in winter and teaches little children to love them.

The man or woman who is wedded to the open knows these facts and many others. It is because of this knowledge and of a desire to give some tangible expression of esteem in which his memory is held that the plan has been formed to erect at some appropriate spot a memorial that speaks of the wild bird-life in which he was so deeply interested.

The National Association of Audubon Societies and affiliated organizations of various kinds throughout the United States, therefore, call upon the friends of their great fallen leader to erect a **Roosevelt Memorial Fountain**.

The possibilities of such a work of art are boundless and in the hands of some great American sculptor there can be wrought a fountain of such beauty and appropriateness that it will become one of the land-marks of our country; and ever serve as a reminder of the great American Nature Lover.

A National Committee cooperating with the officers and directors of the Association has been formed to aid in the collection of funds and in the ultimate selection of a proper work of art.

The books are now open for subscriptions and contributions may be sent to Dr. Jonathan Dwight, Treasurer, 1974 Broadway, New York City, or to any member of the Committee. In addition to the usual receipt all subscriptions of one dollar and over, unless otherwise requested, will be published in the magazine **Bird-Lore**.

T. GILBERT PEARSON,
Chairman.

The Rockford Nature Study Club

Bulletin No. 4 of the Nature Study Society of Rockford recently issued under the title of "Birds of Rockford and Vicinity" is in booklet form and contains besides title pages, introduction, etc., a check list of birds covering 32 pages. It is dedicated to Ruth A. Conklin "whose ruling passion was a love of the out-of-doors, and whose devotion to the Society is a cherished memory," and her likeness appears on the dedicatory page.

The Bulletin is noteworthy for the nature study club of a single city and is evidence of an abiding enthusiasm for the observation of bird life in the Rockford area. Of special interest are the observation dates which appear beside the names of 229 different species. For such extensive records involving, of necessity, years of patient observation, the highest commendation is due various members of the club, and especially the collaborators, Mrs. Chas. T. Sackett, Paul B. Riis, and Sergeant J. C. Van Duzer. Opposite the last named now appears the gold star of supreme devotion to his country.

The introduction explains the two-fold purpose of the publication of *Birds of Rockford and Vicinity* to be to aid the bird student in his field work and to stimulate the collection of more complete data than have hitherto been offered. It is expressly stated that the bird-list is a copy of one which appeared in the Winter 1917-18 Illinois Audubon Society Bulletin and due credit is given the compilers of the original records. Examination of the list, however, shows a few additions, for example, the Clapper Rail, the Starling, the Whitewinged Junco, and the Western Tanager. These latter are indeed exceptional out-of-state records and the evidence for including them in the list would doubtless be examined with great interest by the compilers of the Illinois Audubon Society's check list.

J. L. S.

Bird Protection in Illinois

The Directors of the Illinois Audubon Society believe that the present time is opportune for a candid discussion of the situation as to the protection of wild birds in Illinois and the writer has been delegated to open the discussion. A mere outline of the situation involves so much that added comment and discussion will certainly make this article somewhat formidable in length. To mitigate this state of affairs sub-headings will be inserted at intervals so that the canny reader may slip from time to time from one of these headings to another considerably removed and shorten his task with probably little loss to himself. As a preface to the first sub-heading it may be stated that the officials of the Illinois Audubon Society are in frequent receipt of reports of wrongs committed upon bird life by boys and men and cats, and there is apparently the implication, "uttered or unexpressed," that the Illinois Audubon Society should be able to intervene. In a letter recently received one of our friends writes: "My observation for a considerable number of years has thoroughly convinced me that the Audubon Societies, both state and national, really accomplish very little indeed in the matter of bird protection so far as the country at large is concerned. Within a very limited field such as the establishment of reservations or preserves (mostly for the protection of certain sea birds and other waterfowl) and in a few localities favored by an efficient police force and rigid enforcement of the laws, these societies have undoubtedly accomplished something toward bird protection. But for approximately nine-tenths of the area of the United States, the laws for the protection of birds are practically a dead letter, and might just as well not exist. I am sorry I have to write so pessimistically, but my experience covering many years and many localities, certainly justifies my conclusion."

For this plain speaking let us be thankful—for it is well-meant—but let us admit only that we "are baffled to fight better." To that end let us take stock. What have we? The General Assembly of Illinois is now in session. If we need more or better laws, now is the time to ask for them.

THE ILLINOIS LAW RELATING TO NON-GAME OR INSECTIVOROUS BIRDS

Section 6. Any person who shall, within the State, kill or catch, or have in his or her possession, living or dead, any wild bird, or part of bird, other than a game bird, English sparrow, crow, blackbird, blue jay, chicken hawk, or cormorant, or who shall purchase, offer or expose for sale any such wild bird, or part of bird, after it has been killed or caught, shall, for each offense, be subject to a fine of five dollars for each bird killed or caught or had in his or her possession, living or dead, etc.

AN UNFORTUNATE OMISSION

Now this Section 6 just quoted lacks a certain expression which was carefully written into Section 4 and all other sections of this law which relate to game birds, namely, the words "or attempt to kill or catch." Because of the occurrence of these words in Section 4, if one attempts to kill a game bird, one is liable in law even if one's aim is faulty. But one

may shoot at non-game birds and go free provided one's markmanship is amiss because Section 6 of the law does not offer a penalty for the "attempt to kill or destroy." In one notable instance, that of a hunter caught shooting at goldfinches, the judge ruled that according to the law the man had committed no offense since he had apparently failed to kill any of the birds. Of course, this defect of the law must be remedied. With this weak point removed, the boy (or man) with the sling shot or the air gun can be held liable even for his futile effort to kill birds. As the law does not specify means of killing or destroying, sling shots and air rifles are, of course, to be reckoned with as are guns or rifles.

OUTLAWS

What do you think about the list of unprotected birds given in Section 6 above: the English sparrow, crow, blackbird, blue jay, chicken hawk, or cormorant? Audubonites are by no means unanimous in condemning any of these except the English sparrow. The writer believes that he voices conservative views in saying that the crow is a local problem and that it should be warred against only where its numbers and the local conditions make it a menace. This idea is elaborated on another page of this bulletin where the shot gun propaganda of a powder manufacturer is examined and duly characterized. Of the blackbirds only the grackle is commonly held in bad repute and that only locally. Think of a state law banning the red-wing and the yellow-head! In a way, the grackle or crow blackbird and the jay are local problems also. In very few communities are they a menace. As to the chicken hawks, everyone acquainted with the hawk family knows that the large and conspicuous hawks which the ignorant hunter goes after are not really chicken hawks at all and they are too valuable assets of agricultural life to be outlawed. It is the smaller hawks, the Cooper's, the sharp-shinned, the pigeon hawk, (the sparrow hawk excepted), and the goshawk which should be exterminated and not the fine big hawks, the marsh hawk, red-shouldered, broad-winged, and the rest. "Of 65 stomachs of broad-winged hawks examined, Fisher reported 2 containing small birds; 15, mice; 13, other mammals; 11, reptiles; 13, batrachians; 30, insects; 2, earth worms; 4, crawfish; and 7 were empty!" The vicious goshawk and the pigeon hawk are very rare in Illinois. The cormorant is also rare and probably does very little harm. By way of compromise (and with mental reservations) it might be well to offer no protest to a list that outlaws the English sparrow, crow, jay, crow-blackbird or grackle, Cooper's hawk, sharp-shinned hawk, pigeon hawk, and goshawk.

WHAT ABOUT THE OWLS

Two years ago a bill revising the fish and game laws went through the legislature in one of the provisions of which the owls (except the "screech owl") were placed on the list of outlawed birds. The bill was vetoed for certain structural weaknesses and need not be considered here, but the astonishing fact remains that it was drafted by intelligent persons who were yet in ignorance of the great economic value of the owl family. With the exception of the great horned owl which is very rare in Illinois and

which might well be exterminated the owls are to be sought after for their nightly and very efficient forays among mice and other destructive rodents. Mr. Deane's paragraph appearing elsewhere in this Bulletin relating to the unusual occurrence of barn owls in Northern Illinois this winter reveals the fact that hunters at the places in Illinois therein mentioned have not only been violating our present state law, which protects the owls, but that they have also been committing acts of great stupidity. As Secretary Langdon says, "Instead of greeting this valuable aid with a shot gun, every farmer favored with his presence should give a barn dance and feast in honor of his coming and taking up his abode on the farm." Here properly belongs mention of a certain man, a champion among stupid, who hunted screech owls in Jackson Park, Chicago, in order to remove "the nuisances."

THE LIST OF GAME BIRDS

Audubonites do not like the provisions in Section 4 by which the mourning dove is included in the list of game birds and made to run the gauntlet of an open season. To be sure it can be taken only from August 15 to August 29 of each year, both inclusive, but it seems a crime to shoot so useful and charming a bird. As to open seasons, the Audubon Society favors the amendment of the law to make its provisions identical with the regulations issued by the Biological Survey under authority conferred by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. This would do away with the open season from February 15 to March 31, both inclusive, on ducks, geese, brants, etc. Warden Bradford has instructed his staff to urge strict conformity wherever the state law does not conform to the provisions of the national law. This is wise attitude on the part of the Warden and it should be confirmed by necessary revisions of the law.

WHO ENFORCES THE LAW?

The Division of Game and Fish of the State Department of Agriculture is especially charged with the duty of securing "the enforcement of the statutes of the state for the preservation and propagation of game, wild fowl, birds, and fish," and of bringing, or causing to be brought, "actions and proceedings. . . . to recover any and all fines relating to game, wild fowl, birds, and fishes and to prosecute all violators of said statutes." Besides the specific responsibility laid upon the officers and employes of the Division the law provides in general that **"It shall be the duty of all sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, coroners, constables, police officers, and all other conservators of the peace to enforce the provisions of this Act."**

Now the staff of the Chief Warden consists of five inspectors, five investigators, and sixty or more "employes." This force is, of course, too small in itself to cover the commonwealth of Illinois, and there are within the state many large areas which necessarily have not received any personal attention by an official of the Division. It is possible for those of us who are especially interested in the protection of non-game birds to get the attention of an agent of the Division, but this is not, and probably can not be, the general rule.

CONSTABLES AS DEPUTY WARDENS

Section 2 of the law enlists several thousand constables of the state specifically in its enforcement. It provides that "all constables in this state shall be ex officio special deputy wardens, who shall receive no salary per diem or expenses as such, but who shall receive in addition to the fees and mileage provided by law, one-half of all the fines recovered for violation of this Act in any case where they have filed the complaint."

It should be noted that the fees and mileage provided by law plus the share of the fines make it decidedly profitable for a constable to run down violations of the law. For other officials such as police officers enforcement of the provisions of the Act is all in the day's work but has no direct relation to official salary. It would seem that this law should be amended to put police officers upon the same footing as constables with fees and mileage and one-half of the ensuing fines when they have filed complaints. The law should even go farther and provide that any one who shall file a complaint upon which there shall be a conviction shall receive one-half of the fine received.

WHO SHALL HUNT

Almost any one may hunt, it seems. The law provides that "no person may hunt, pursue, or kill with a gun, rabbits or any of the wild animals, fowl or birds that are protected during any part of the year" without first having procured a license from a county, city or village clerk, but practically whoever has the price may secure a license. There are no specific restrictions as to age, sex, or "previous condition." One simply makes out an application and pays the fee of one dollar required of residents of Illinois and citizens, or prospective citizens, of the United States. A non-resident of the state or an alien pays a fee of ten dollars and fifty cents. These licenses expire on the 31st day of March of each year. License No. 202730 issued in the County Clerk's office in Lake County authorizes the nine year old boy holding it to "hunt, pursue, or kill with a gun, rabbits or any of the wild animals, fowl or birds that are protected during any part of the year." The Clerk was acting within the law when he invested young Master Tompkins with such authority. Eleven other Lake County boys under fifteen years of age hold licenses issued at the County Clerk's office and doubtless the names of many others would be obtained if the records of the city and village clerks throughout that county were examined. Reference is made to Lake County only because the home of the writer is in that county. Possibly readers of this article would profit by conducting an investigation of this sort in their respective counties. Surely we are all agreed that it is unwise to clothe such youthful Nimrods with so great a power over wild life. There is to be reckoned with not only the menace to human life from the careless handling of firearms, but the almost certain temptation to the heedless child to accept any chance bird as a target upon which to test his prowess. The law wisely sets the minimum age limit at eighteen for those applying for a license to take birds' eggs for scientific purposes. Why not the same for hunting licenses?

WHERE AND WHEN NOT TO HUNT

Not along the roadsides in Illinois. House bill 312, approved by Governor Lowden June 25, 1917, forbids the discharge of firearms upon any public highway by anyone other than an officer of the law and provides a penalty of from five to twenty-five dollars for each and every violation of the law. This useful law should not be difficult to enforce. It is unlawful to hunt **“within or along the premises of another, or upon the waters flowing over or standing on said lands or premises, without first obtaining from the owner, agent, or occupant of said lands or premises, his, her or their permission so to do.”** Violation of this provision involves the forfeiture of the hunter's license and a fine of from five to fifteen dollars. There is nothing to hunt after February 1 anyway. There is no Spring shooting, unless outlawed birds are a target. There is no real hunting until September 1 when the open season for certain game birds begins. There is really no legitimate excuse for anyone roaming the countryside, Spring or Summer, with a weapon in hand. Anyone doing that may well be suspected of indulging in surreptitious shooting at forbidden targets.

A CONSTRUCTIVE PROGRAM

Let us work for the amendment of our present law, (a) to strengthen its phraseology, (b) to give policemen the same powers and privileges as constables, (c) to reward those who file complaints from which convictions follow, (d) to revise and restrict the list of outlawed birds, (e) to fix a minimum age limit for the holders of hunting licenses. The legislative committee of the Illinois Audubon Society has the matter of amendments in hand and at the proper time will inform our membership of the completed program and advise as to lending our combined support in the most effective way. The prospect of accomplishing much of its program seems good. Organizations such as the Illinois Sportsmen's League favor the strict protection of non-game and insectivorous birds and can even be counted upon to push through laws making it easier to afford such protection. Audubonites are bound to stand for the amendment of the state law to make it conform to the national regulations forbidding Spring shooting and here they are obliged to part company with some of the sportsmen's organizations. While they do this, it seems proper to express the hope that with the ultimate victory of the national government's contentions as to closed seasons there may be found some way to mitigate the conditions which seem to constitute a real grievance in some parts of the middle West.

A DRIVE

After all is said and done, is not the big thing the arousing of widespread interest in bird life, its charm, its human appeal, its economic significance? This is what bird clubs and Audubon Societies are doing with signal success. Are they not directly or indirectly behind much of the publicity given to bird protection in our widely circulated magazines and papers and farm journals? Their efforts appear in programs of farmers' institutes, in class rooms in the schools and in books which children read.

The situation surely does not warrant pessimistic conclusions. It is just bad enough and good enough to spur us on to better effort. So, why not each of us, "Each in his separate star," or field of effort, start a great drive to make his part of the map safe for bird life? We can stimulate the enforcement of the law by organizing committees of tactful persons to call on each of the local constables and policemen and make sure that each is familiar with the provisions of the law and his duties thereto; to secure a list of all holding hunting licenses in that area and then to call on each hunter and make sure that he is familiar with the provisions of the law and invite his complete cooperation in law enforcement; to give each hunter of Italian origin a copy of the Illinois Audubon Society's special card of instructions in the Italian language. This same committee might report fully in the local papers as to the law, and as to the data secured in this investigation. Names and addresses of constables as well as policemen should be printed together with advice as to filing complaints.

There is no limit to the activities we can set in motion which have to do with the constructive side—with stimulating interest in bird life. Some might be listed as suggestive: Organize a "parent" Audubon Society to take in people of all ages and to have branch Societies in the various school rooms. Have Junior Societies enroll with the Illinois Audubon Society and study such texts as Farmers' Bulletin, No. 513, entitled, "Fifty Common Birds of Field and Orchard" (Fifty colored pictures, 15 cents); or enroll with the National Audubon Society,—Broadway, New York, and study leaflets furnished by that Society; or provide each of the members of these groups with a copy of Chapman's "The Travel of Birds" (45 cents, less in quantities), etc. Have exhibits of bird books and magazines, bird pictures, and stimulate the purchase of the same. Build nesting boxes and shelters and display them at public exhibitions. Have conferences to report upon success with the various kinds and styles of nesting boxes and nesting materials. Reports upon success with feeding shelves, etc. See that each school room has a liberal supply of the best bird pictures mounted artistically. Write to the Secretary of the Illinois Audubon for help in this work. Provide each room with one of the wall lists of Illinois Birds published by the Illinois Audubon Society. Have the lantern slides and printed lectures of that Society visit your town. Use the columns of the local papers to good advantage. Extend this list at your pleasure.

JESSE L. SMITH.

Bird and Nature Clubs

Your memberships in the Illinois Audubon Society will prove of great benefit both to yourselves and to the Society. You will profit by association with each other through a central organization—by using the Illinois Audubon Society as a clearing house for the interchange of ideas and reports of results and observations, you will be stimulated to greater and more effective activities. The society will profit by the acquisition of organized agencies through which to spread propaganda and achieve results. There is everything to be gained and nothing to be lost by membership in the Illinois society of bird lovers and defenders.

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN WINTER 1919

Published by the
ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
For the Conservation of Bird-life

COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION

Jesse Lowe Smith *Chairman*

Roy M. Langdon	Miss Catherine Mitchell
Miss Mary Drummond	Mr. O. M. Schantz
Mrs. Frederic H. Pattee	Mr. Frederic H. Pattee

From several sources come expressions favoring some form of publication under state auspices which will give the departments of our state government concerned with the conservation of natural resources an opportunity to set forth their accomplishments and to arouse public interest in an extension of their fields for effort. This would concern especially the division of Game and Fish, Ralph T. Bradford, Chief Warden, and the Department of Public Works and Buildings of which Frank I. Bennett is Director. A number of states, notably California, Oregon, Iowa and New York, publish bulletins or quarterly reports in magazine form advertising the work of the Game and Fish commissions and attempting to arouse in each locality an interest in the protection of wild life. The California publication, issued from Sacramento, is entitled, "California Fish and Game". The motto printed on the front page is "Conservation of Wild Life through Education". The last number consisting of fifty three pages, contains six special articles with twenty-six illustrations, together with excellent editorials, a number of special reports, etc. The publication must surely be an inspiration to good work on the part of wardens and other officials and a source of great interest to all lovers of out-of-doors in the state. The editor of the publication in question, has, at his request, been placed on the mailing list of the Illinois Audubon Society.

* * *

What about such a publication for Illinois? Surely Illinois can have it if our officials and all of us who are interested as well can get to-

gether and can show that there is an intelligent demand for it. The Illinois Sportsmen's League has more than once through its official publication expressed a great interest in the matter. There will be several hundred interested readers from the ranks of that organization. The Illinois Audubon Society will guarantee many hundred more and the various Audubon Societies and Nature Clubs of Maywood, Elgin, Joliet, Rockford, Rock Island, Alton, and scores of places besides are to be reckoned with. The right sort of publication will find a large and enthusiastic constituency "spring up over night."

* * *

By way of constructive criticism, let us see what the proposed publication could do to advance the program to which the Illinois Audubon Society is especially committed. First of all it could report in detail what the Division is doing to enforce the laws relating to song and insectivorous birds and it could set forth the limitations in its work necessitated by inadequate support or cooperation or whatever that might be. It could publish a directory revised to date of each issue of all officials directly concerned with this part of the work of the Division so that any interested person could readily find the name and address of the nearest official. It could give specific reports of activities so that officials with meritorious records to their credit might receive public recognition. It could give special attention to the part constables might play in the enforcement of the law. Each investigator or inspector might be encouraged to organize the constables in his district, and wherever constables responded in this specific way they might receive deserved publicity. It could give reports from the game preserves and bird refuges in the state. The excellent work of organizing bird refuges inaugurated by the previous administration has apparently come to a standstill under the present one. The proposed publication could explain the change in the situation. It might contain special reports from field agents of the Division sent out to investigate areas that may well be set apart for wild life protection under the auspices of the state. In this way the Division would have an excellent chance to take the lead in

such important work instead of waiting for the uncertain initiative of unorganized leaders of public sentiment.

* * *

The proposed publication might well report for the Division of Parks. Every state park adequately protected will automatically become more or less a wild life refuge. The Division of Parks comes under the Department of Public Works and Buildings of which Frank I. Bennett of Chicago is Director. Frank D. Lowman of Sandwich is Superintendent of Parks. There is also a Board of Parks and Building Advisers of which Charles L. Hutchinson of Chicago is Chairman, the other members being George W. Maher and Frank E. Davidson, also of Chicago, Julius W. Hegeler of Danville, and S. R. Lewis of Marseilles. This Board is supposed to represent the old Park Commission which, under Prof. James A. James as Chairman, arranged for the purchase and organization into state parks of the Starved Rock area, 855 acres, and the Fort Chartres area, 10 acres. This same Commission reported favorably upon the purchase of the Cahokia Mound and the White Pine Forest of Ogle County, but the opposition of Governors Yates and Dunne prevented the purchase of these areas. The report of that Commission, dated 1913, is the last official reference to the organization of state parks in Illinois.

* * *

The new Board of Parks and Building Advisers above referred to went into existence in 1917. This Board does not seem to have inherited the program of the former Park Commission which was to study significant areas in Illinois with reference to their suitability for state parks and from time to time make formal reports thereon to the General Assembly. The present Board is made up of men of influence and of large experience in public affairs, but it has made no report or recommendation upon this subject of the extension of state parks. An inquiry into the matter reveals the fact that the Board is not supposed to act until called upon by the state authorities and then it can act only in an advisory capacity. It possesses no power of initiative. Unfortunately also, there are no state authorities directly

charged with the task of surveying the natural resources of the state. It would seem that in the process of consolidating the various state commissions into administrative departments the old Park Commission lost its significance. This should not be. If there had been adequate facilities for publicity, the present Board could have called attention to its lack of power of initiative. This number of the Audubon Bulletin with Robert Ridgway's stirring appeal for forest and game preserves in Southern Illinois and with the special articles on the White Pine Forest and the Palisades of the Mississippi is intended to visualize the type of park areas our state can well afford to preserve. A state with such imperial resources as those of Illinois need not hesitate to invest liberally in areas whose despoliation would be an irreparable loss, material and spiritual, to the state.

* * *

We may well ask leadership of our state officials but we must give them channels of publicity. What chance is there for arousing the interest in the important work of the Division of Game and Fish, for example, and for encouraging excellence on the part of various officials in the discharge of the duties of the Division unless there is some opportunity to let those who are well served know the facts? It is probably true that the Division has far too small a staff of field agents to make its influence felt generally in the state and this accounts for the complaint that comes in from various parts of the state relative to inactivity of game wardens. This is unfair to those who are serving the state well. We feel impatient that the Division of Parks announces no far-reaching program until we find that no one has the initiative. It is nobody's express business, as it were, but surely there should be a way to expose this weakness in our administrative organization. The remedy, again, is publicity, and to this extent the divisions concerned are responsible—they should make such an outcry for more adequate support that the rest of us would be thoroughly miserable until we had come to their assistance. Publicity's the thing whereby—we get somewhere.

The Crow

Caw! Caw! Caw!



Kill the Crows

These "caws" are the cause of wholesale destruction of grain and useful bird-life.



National Crow Shoot

Contribute your share to the increased production of grain and the protection of game and insectivorous birds by destroying some of these pests during 1919.

Ask Your Dealer

for particulars or write direct to the Sporting Powder Division, Du Pont Company, Wilmington, Delaware.

1919 JANUARY 1919						
SUN.	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

REMOVE THE "CAWS"

The picture on the calendar opposite is taken from United States Department of Agriculture Bulletin No. 621, "The Crow and Its relation to Man," by E. R. Kalmbach, Assistant Biologist, Bureau of Biological Survey. At the end of this economic study of the crow, the general conclusions are, in part, "The misdeeds of which the crow has been convicted greatly outnumber its virtues, but these are not necessarily equal in importance. Much of its damage to crops and poultry can be prevented, while the bird's services in the control of insect pests can ill be spared. . . . As the capabilities of the crow for both good and harm are great, it is believed that an extermination of the species would have ultimate consequences no less serious than an overabundance. . . . It is well that no protection be afforded the bird and that permission be granted for shooting it when it is actually found doing damage. Bounties can not be recommended, neither can a campaign of wholesale destruction where complete extermination is the object sought. However a reasonable reduction of numbers is justifiable in areas where there is an overabundance of the birds. The attitude of the individual farmer toward the crow should be one of toleration when no serious losses are suffered, rather than one of uncompromising antagonism resulting in the unwarranted destruction of these birds

which at times are most valuable aids to man."*

Where can be found an excuse for the words accompanying the picture on this calendar.

What appears to be a circular letter to ammunition dealers, on E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company letterhead, dated January 29, 1919, contains the following under the caption, DU PONT NATIONAL CROW SHOOT, "Here is a plan that will help to increase the sale of loaded shotshells during 1919." Do not these words reveal a motive behind the "National Crow Shoot" campaign?

Both on the calendar and in an eight page pamphlet announcing the proposed "National Crow Shoot," only the vices, exaggerated for the most part, are mentioned, no consideration whatever being given the crow's virtues as an economic asset. This is manifestly unjust.

*The heavy type is ours.

Mr. Shooter, show your fine American trait of fairmindedness in this matter. Give the crow a square deal. Do not allow yourself to be prejudiced blindly. Before you decide to become a participant in this "National Crow Shoot," send fifteen cents to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., and ask for a copy of Department Bulletin 621, "The Crow and Its Relation to Man." This is the last word on the crow, and it comes from your Uncle Sam who decides these matters in favor of his people regardless of consequences to the birds. It is an exhaustive study of the stomach contents of 2,118 crows, old and young, taken in all parts of the country and at all times of the year, and of many other crows observed in the fields and woods.

When you have read this ninety page pamphlet, weigh the good traits of the crow against the bad and decide for yourself whether, in the words of the "National Crow Shoot" leaflet, "It is certain that some concerted action on the part of farmers and sportsmen to reduce the number of these pests will conserve a large quantity of grain and thus prove an important factor in meeting America's obligation to feed the world during these critical years," or whether the killing of crows is a matter for the individual farmer to take care of according to local conditions if the greatest net conservation of food is the purpose of such action; and whether your conscience will permit you to wear medals or exhibit trophy cups, which have the same effect as bounties, advertising to your fellow men that you have killed stated number of crows, which in concert with other shooters means wholesale destruction, or whether your common sense leads you to believe with your Uncle Sam that **"Bounties can not be recommended, neither can a campaign of wholesale destruction where complete extermination is the object sought."**

As the crow has no legal status in Illinois, the matter is entirely in your hands, Mr. Shooter. We are certain your intelligence and patriotism will guide you aright in your attitude toward the crow.

R. M. L.

Progress

Mr. Howard E. Rinehart of 425 Sinnissippi Avenue, Rockford, a deputy game and fish warden, is reported as being a very efficient and capable official. He has taken an active part in protecting the song and insectivorous birds in the area under his jurisdiction. The records of his arrests and convictions for one month, September 6 to October 8, are instructive:

	Fine
Dominic Vinctella, 2 robins	\$17.90
Pete Paris, 3 robins, 3 flickers, 1 bluebird, 1 goldfinch.....	47.90
Anton Lerso, 5 robins	32.90
Tony Gepani, 5 song sparrows.....	17.90
Jack Tombroni, 2 song sparrows.....	12.60
John Palmeri, 5 song sparrows	12.60
Gus Benati, 7 song sparrows	27.50

John Briscoe, no license	12.90
A. C. Gibbs, 1 brown thrasher	12.60
Emery Miller, 2 woodpeckers	12.60
Fred Holtz, 2 robins, joined the army and not prosecuted.....	
Pete Palmeri, no license	27.60

A glance at the list shows the prevailing ancestry among the offenders and reveals the necessity of a campaign of instruction in the Italian language. Mr. Rinehart found that the item in the hunting license permitting the killing of English sparrows was usually offered as an excuse for killing any other species of sparrow.

Roy Monroe Langdon— Secretary-Treasurer

The new Secretary-Treasurer of the Illinois Audubon Society, Mr. Roy Monroe Langdon of Maywood, was born in Chicago on January 2, 1887, and educated in the schools of his native city and state. After graduating from the University of Illinois in 1911, he entered the employ of Butler Brothers, wholesale merchants, where for three and one-half years he worked for his fellow alumnus, the late Homer A. Stillwell, then president and general manager of that concern. In 1915 he gave up that position to become assistant superintendent for the Committee of Fifteen in Chicago, which office he has recently resigned.



Mr. Langdon attracted the attention of the Illinois Audubon Society by his effective work as secretary of the Maywood Bird Club. The Winter Bulletin, 1917-1918, had a three page description of the work of that Club and gave some of the details of its activities in order to show other clubs how to maintain a successful organization. Under Mr. Langdon's leadership the Maywood Bird Club not only grappled with local problems but undertook to help solve problems national in scope. The "cat problem" was one of these. The "cat circular" which Mr. Langdon wrote and which the Illinois Audubon Society printed and circulated for the Maywood Bird Club was the outcome of Mr. Langdon's efforts to direct the activities of the latter club into practical channels. A copy of this circular was sent out to each of the members of this Society with the Spring and Summer, 1918, Bulletin. From various places in the United States have come expressions of outspoken approval of the circular and numerous requests have been made for copies of it. The Illinois Audubon Society was glad to elect Mr. Langdon a Director in June, 1918, and on December 4, 1918, he was elected Secretary-Treasurer, in order that the Society might avail itself of his aggressiveness and enthusiasm for Audubon propaganda to do greater and more effective work for the conservation of bird life in Illinois.

In Memoriam

JOHN L. DEVINE

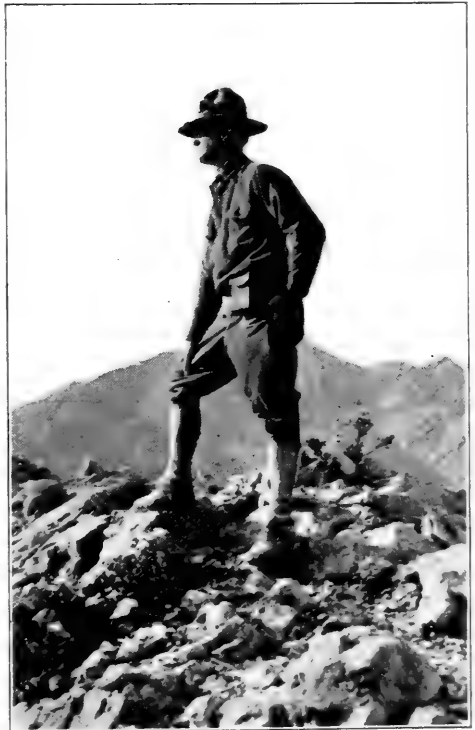
Mr. John L. Devine, for many years a director of the Illinois Audubon Society, and widely known in the middle west among those interested in the study of ornithology, died at St. Luke's Hospital, Chicago, January 11th, after an illness of four months.

Mr. Devine was a native of Ohio but spent most of his boyhood and early manhood in Hardin County, Iowa. He was educated at West Point and at Ann Arbor and he first came to Illinois as Superintendent of the Evanston Schools. He held that position for five years and then went into the real estate business which engaged his attention until his appointment on the staff of the Interstate Commerce Commission in 1916. He was serving in this capacity when his last illness came upon him.

Mr. Devine had a lifelong interest in birds and was a discriminating student of bird types, the economic significance of birds, etc. He was the second president of the Chicago Ornithological Society and for many years an Associate Member of the American Ornithologists' Union. He was long identified with the Illinois Audubon Society and for years was a valuable member of the Board of Directors, his service as a director terminating only two years ago when his business duties called him away from the city. His associates and even those who came only into casual relationship with him felt the force of his kindly personality. This seems to have been the reflex of his contact with books and men and with the great out-of-doors. His loss will be deeply felt by his many friends.

J. C. VAN DUZER

The Rockford Nature Study Club has suffered a great loss in the death of Sergeant J. C. Van Duzer which occurred at Fort Bliss, New Mexico, in October. He had enlisted as a photographer expecting to go to France, but instead he was sent to El Paso, Texas, where he remained on border duty for eighteen months. At the time of his death he was serving as a member of Company C, 9th Engineers Mounted. He had accepted his assignment on the border in good part and in time his photography and topographic work took him to the mountains of New Mexico, and this enabled him to enrich his knowledge of bird life of the Southwest. Lack of time and proper equipment prevented a more intensive study of the birds in his new environment but he found much of interest, and usually identified strange birds by verifying his notes with books in the public library at El Paso. These records were all sent home and entered in his "log."



Commercial photographer by profession, he possessed an artistic sense and patience so essential in the successful photography of wild things. Most of his life was spent in Rockford, Ill. and he had a fine collection of original photographs of birds and of nest life in the Rockford area which he had hoped ultimately to publish. He retouched the colored plates in his bird guide to conform to reality. This comprehensive bird log was at once original, simple and complete. Work of this sort carried on in his consistent, unflinching way should in time have proven a valuable record for the Rockford region. His life's journey brief, as years go, was well rounded out by pleasurable throbbing response to Nature's alluring beauties. Probably few people have derived more pleasure from the beautiful things out in the open, or brought more joy of living into the lives most closely associated with his. A formal memorial of his life work has been recorded in the minute book of the Nature Study Society of Rockford, and from this the data in the foregoing sentences have been obtained.

Mid-Winter Field Notes

Judging from reports that came in as late as January 15 the present winter season has been a lean one to most observers and to a favored few one of rich experiences. There has been an unusual "flight" of barn owls in northern Illinois, it seems, and now and then a snowy owl has been reported. In favored places flocks of evening grosbeaks have appeared. Pine Grosbeaks, Redpolls, Crossbills and Pine Siskins have been variously reported in northeastern Illinois.

Most of the observers comment on the very mild weather up to Christmas time. Mr. Benjamin T. Gault, writing from Glen Ellyn, reports dandelions in blossom, Dec. 19, and angle worms strolling on the village sidewalks, Dec. 21, a truly remarkable record for northern Illinois. Brown Creepers, Jays, Crows, White-breasted Nuthatches were usual visitors at that time. For Dec. 27, Mr. Gault writes: "Temp. 23 degrees at 2 p. m. Wind N. W. Wallace Grange of Wheaton who was out taking a bird census, called and reported seeing a Mourning Dove today on his uncle's farm south of Wheaton. Was feeding near a barn where some corn had been spilled. Identity positive. This is interesting as it makes the first winter record of the bird for these parts so far as I'm aware.

"Dec. 29—A single Brown Creeper put in an appearance about 3 p. m. on one of the large poplars making but a hasty inspection of the trunk and was off. It passed rapidly from the base upwards and then took wing alighting again 10 to 15 feet higher up. This struck me as being an unusual performance, as ordinarily in flying from the tree they drop down and start over again and if not on the one they left, the tree adjoining. No mention is made here of the Blue Jay and Downy Woodpecker, both of which visit our grounds regularly.

"Jan. 10—I visited woods and lakes again in afternoon, but saw only one Tree Sparrow and three Crows. Marks in the snow showed much recent activity on the part of rabbits, squirrels, ground mice and shrews, also where a Screech Owl had lately secured its prey. The day was clear. Wind S. W. Tem. 31, 2 p. m.

"Jan. 12—I also visited woods for a half hour, finding during that time a company of from 3 to 10 Blue Jays and one Downy. Shortly before a White-breasted Nuthatch was heard calling. No Crows were in evidence. Day fair, wind southerly. Tem. 37, 2 o'clock."

"Lean" observations seem to be the rule at Rockford this winter, much to the disappointment of the Nature Study Club there. Mr. Paul Riis writes: "It is rather remarkable that bird life this winter is as little represented. The weather conditions have been ideal, but it finds no reflection in the birds wintering here. Not only are many winter residents totally lacking, other old standbys are numerically weak. The Chickadees, so numerous two years ago, are of course with us but in small number, and there are but few Juncos, Tree Sparrows, Brown Creepers, Red-breasted Nuthatches and Blue Jays. On the other hand we are enjoying the visits of a pair of Tufted Titmice (with one report in 1914 of nesting record), a pair of Cardinals, male and female (with also but one nesting record for this vicinity), a few Redpoll, and Evening Grosbeak, singly and in flock. Unusually large flocks of Goldfinches were noted in the fall and owing to the mild weather the White-throats stayed a long period, offering snatches of song more than is their wont. One lone Red-headed Woodpecker also cast his lot with us this winter."

Mr. J. J. Shaefer reports from Port Byron under date of January 15:

"A Marsh Hawk was seen several times during the first week in December. Rough-legged Hawks were here until we had the big snowstorm, December 24. A Short-eared Owl stayed in a mouse-infested stubble field from about December 1 to December 14. Goldfinches were last seen December 16. A Robin was seen in our garden on the morning of December 7. There are more Brown Creepers here this winter than last winter. There are more Red-headed Woodpeckers staying here than ever before. On December 22, I saw about 40, and think they are all here at the present time. A lone Canada Goose was seen flying south on the evening of January 2, fleeing before the terrible cold wave.

"The same birds that came to my feeding station last winter are coming again this winter but there is one new boarder, a Brown Creeper, and it certainly is a fine sight to see this little bird alight at the bottom of the post and climb up to where the suet is. There are a good many coveys of Bobwhite left, and if we do not get any more big snowstorms, they will get through the winter all right. During the severest weather they always come into the barnyards in search of food. The Prairie Horned Larks are also staying here this winter; I heard them calling today as they flew over. To sum up, the usual numbers of the following species are staying here this winter: Screech Owl, Great Horned Owl, Hairy, Downy, and Red-headed Woodpecker, Blue Jay, Crow, Tree Sparrow, Junco, Cardinal, Tufted Titmouse, and Chickadee."

Readers of the last issue of the Bulletin will recall the interesting feeding-shelf reports from Lake Forest by Mr. George Roberts, Jr. Unlike most who are interested in birds, bird-life and conservation, Mr. Roberts seldom goes to see the birds but he lets the birds come to see him.

He writes: "My observations are limited almost entirely to what is

visible (and audible) from my study window, which looks out upon a hedge, some trees and bushes, and a shelf kept well stocked with seeds and bread crumbs, and always supplied with a generous piece of suet. This is my fourth winter, and is notably the best one—not least in contrast with the dull winter of 1917-18. Since I began keeping the shelf supplied on September 18th it is safe to say (in fact it is probably a conservative estimate) that not thirty minutes from sunrise to sunset has passed without some bird appearing for food, and oftener the number is from three to ten than otherwise. At the present writing (January 15th), the following are with me regularly, and have been for many weeks: Jays, Juncos, Chickadees, White-breasted Nuthatches and Downy Woodpeckers. These appear in numbers. Since November 11 a Tuffed Titmouse has hardly moved one hundred yards from the neighborhood of my window, but, so far as I can see, is the only one of his species to be here, and perhaps the only one to be found in northern Illinois. He has been in Lake Forest since April. A pair of Red-breasted Nuthatches are regular visitors at the shelf; a pair of Cardinal Grosbeaks have been with me since Christmas Day, and occasionally a Brown Creeper takes a few mouthfuls of suet.

“To go back: The White-throated Sparrows were here until October 24th; and shortly afterwards, with the advent of cold weather, the Grackles and Robins left for the south (October 31st and November 9th respectively, the latter date applying to a lone Robin who lingered beyond the departure of the majority). An occasional White-crowned Sparrow visited the shelf in October, and two flocks of evening Grosbeaks drank from the bird-bath. There have been fewer flocks of these erratic visitors this year than heretofore. On November 12th I picked up the dead body of an American Merganser on the beach of Lake Michigan. On December 2nd a companion and I approached within six feet of a Screech Owl (in the gray phase of plumage) who was perched near the bridge that spanned a ravine; when disturbed he flew silently down into the ravine and perched there till we went on. On the fifth I found a Jay caught in the trap set for rats; he had evidently tried to eat the cheese! From the 7th to the 20th a single Myrtle Warbler ate from the shelf daily, and on the 23rd (the day before the blizzard) I saw one at Highland Park.

“Beyond my own observations there may be added the appearance of a Turkey Vulture in November; and that ‘my’ Cardinals are one of four (five?) pairs that stay in Lake Forest the year around. This is the second winter that one pair has left the others to live near me, and the two are almost always to be seen eating from the shelf or sitting quietly on the hedge near by.”

Mr. C. W. G. Eifrig of River Forest, one of the Directors of the Illinois Audubon Society, spent three days in November and December scouting in that wonderland of the Chicago region, the Sand Dunes near Gary and Millers, Indiana. He writes of his experiences as follows: “We were surprised and delighted to find on each of the three excursions numbers of that northern and aristocratic member of the finch and sparrow family, the Evening Grosbeak. The first time we saw eighteen of them. They were busily budding in oak trees. The second time we saw two flocks of twenty-five to thirty each, one again budding, the other hurriedly flying

over. The third time we missed the main flock, only seeing four, which we scared out of their sleeping quarters for the night in dense junipers, as it was getting dark on that short December day. On November 30th we also saw two Pine Grosbeaks, which are even rarer here. December 27th we added about twenty-five Redpolls to our list. All three species breed far north in Canada. To show what is possible in this region, where the north and south meet, and where, usually at this time, but few species of birds can be seen in most places in this latitude, I will list what additional species we saw: Herring Gulls, Red-breasted Mergansers, one Hooded Merganser, one Rough-legged Hawk, Crows, Blue Jays, Bronzed Grackles, Juncos, Tree Sparrows, Cardinals, Red-headed Woodpeckers, one Downy Woodpecker, White-breasted Nuthatches, Chickadees, and one Tufted Titmouse. Frogs were still piping on December 21st, showing the mildness of the season until then, and still the northern visitors were there. They may be looked for in other places of our region, all the more since the weather has now turned colder. The Evening Grosbeaks are extremely fond of the seeds of box-elder or ash-leaved maple, the Pine Grosbeaks prefer mountain-ash berries, pine seeds and buds, and the Redpolls, seeds of birch, alder and also weeds. Who will add the Crossbills and the Bohemian Waxwing to the list?"

The western border of our state is represented by Quincy. Mr. T. E. Musselman writes from there: "During my Sunday trips thruout the winter I have never failed to record less than fifty Redbirds (Cardinals). They began singing January 7. Our winter has been mild enough to allow Kingfishers to remain. For four Sundays of December and January I have recorded several. Quail have wintered well. During the heavy December snow I disturbed a covey one afternoon at 5. I slid down a steep bank where a bush heavily overhanging with its weight of snow made an excellent cover. Beneath this a covey had gathered for the night. I found their tracks in an adjacent corn field and found that they had not lacked for food as they had clustered about the occasional ear that squirrels had dragged from the shocks and deserted. Many good coveys are in evidence.

"The Quincy Country Club has just leased, for forty years, a one hundred-acre tract for golf purposes. It has allowed the land to be made a bird sanctuary and the landscape gardening and planting will be to produce cover and food for our bird friends."

From Olney in Southern Illinois Mr. Ridgway writes: "The dominant fact is that there are far fewer birds this winter than last, notwithstanding the latter was far colder, in fact the coldest ever known here. Today a beautiful adult white-crowned sparrow has been feeding with the juncos, cardinals, etc. Last winter we had seventeen cardinals, this winter only nine! and a pretty sight it was to see the beautiful white-crown, a male cardinal and a junco feeding close together but in perfect peace under an upturned cheese-box lid which, fastened to the top of a short post, served as a feeding table. A discordant note was later added by the addition of an English sparrow to the group.

"Yesterday (January 4th) Mrs. Ridgway called my attention to a strange bird, the sight of which at first fairly startled me, for I had never seen one like it before but a nearer view showed it to be a partial albino of the

common junco with the whole throat, the side of the head, and a spot on the nape, white. The pattern was so symmetrical (both sides being colored exactly alike) that the illusion of an entirely new bird was hard to overcome. A significant fact in connection with this bird is that according to Mrs. Ridgway it was here last winter, proving that migratory birds do return to the same place each succeeding year. This we have long believed because each winter the juncos on their arrival go at once to the feeding boxes at the dining room bay window, while the first winter we were here they were a long time in finding these boxes.

"There are no doves this year and I fear it will not be long before there are none at any season. There were not one-tenth as many doves nesting on our place last summer as there were five years ago. Can not the Illinois Audubonites make a strong effort to have this wholly inoffensive, useful and beautiful bird removed from the list of game birds? I do not see how any community that tolerates dove shooting can claim to be civilized.

"The mockingbird that spent the whole of last winter with us put in the last few days of his stay in chasing robins off the place. One day (April 22d last) he had just returned to his favorite perch from a diversion of this kind when a brown thrasher alighted in a small tree nearby and scolded him. He disappeared at once and we never saw him again until October 26 when he returned."

Mrs. Ridgway adds under date of January 24th: "While I was down at the mail box this morning I was listening to the different bird notes and it seemed as if spring must be here, Bluebirds and Cardinals singing, Tufted Titmice, Flickers, Carolina Wrens, Downy, Hairy and Red-headed Woodpeckers calling, also a Meadowlark singing, Blue Jay whistling in the woods, and Crows cawing overhead!"

A Day Among the Waterfowl and Its Sequel

Several years ago a friend and the writer decided to take a walk from Arlington Heights to Elk Grove and back, to see what birds we would meet with. The day fixed, May 30th, 1914, came and we started at five in the morning. It was one of those rare, perfect days, and we commenced seeing things from the very threshold of the house. We saw fifty-six species of birds that day, or rather till about three in the afternoon. Beside the common birds, such as Robins, Bluebirds, Thrashers, House Wrens, Bobolinks, Meadowlarks, Mourning Doves, Redwings, Grackles, etc., we saw Henslow's Sparrows, Grasshopper Sparrows, Indigo-birds, Dickcissels, Migrant Shrikes, Traill's Flycatchers, Cerulean and Blackpoll Warblers, and many more. After awhile we came to a large "slough," i. e. a swamp with much open water, shallow on the sides but three to four feet and more deep in the centre. While we were hearing and seeing King Rails, Spotted Sandpipers, Killdeer, Bitterns, Redwings, Red-shouldered and Marsh Hawks, a Short-eared Owl, Prairie Chickens and a multitude of other sights and sounds—nature was at her best that day—I suddenly spied several Yellow-headed Blackbirds flying into the marsh. That made me excited, as they are becoming rare in our parts, and, throwing aside all impediments, I walked, with clothing on, after them into the water, not any too warm then. I wanted to see the nests of the Yellow heads. When the water reached up to the hips, I suddenly saw a circular, compact mass of

old cat-tail before me, and looking more closely saw seven large whitish eggs on it, finely sprinkled with black. It was the nest of a Coot or Mudhen. Nearby was another one. Then a Black Tern or Sea Swallow arose from the marsh nearby, circled around us, uttering cries of apparent displeasure at our trespassing on her watery domain. Keeping the yellow heads in view, I pushed on. A rod or so farther on, I saw another floating mass of cat-tail before me, heaped up with freshly put on material. Knowing the tricks of the Pied-billed Grebe or Dipper, I recognized it as one of her nests, and lifting off the moist cat-tail from the top saw the seven buffy eggs of this well-known denizen of open swamps. The bird had heard our approach, had hastily put on the concealing vegetation, making the nest look like many of the other masses of similar material to be seen on all sides, and had slunk off. Nearby was another with two eggs, camouflaged the same way. By this time I had lost my Yellowheads, and could not locate the nests, especially since the water was getting deeper, and cooler, and wetter, as it seemed to me. There were nests of the gaudily dressed Redwing on all sides, also the queer globular ones of the Prairie Marsh Wren, who protested vigorously against our intrusion. So we turned back toward shore, but not before we had seen a Blue-winged Teal, with its white crescent on each cheek, which no doubt had a nest in there somewhere. I was told that in some years quite a number of wild ducks had nested there. Coming to shore, we noticed that our wet clothes did not improve our appearance, or our feeling of comfort, but we did not get time to mind it, because new things turned up right along such as Little Green Herons, Upland Plover, Black-crowned Night Herons, and, to cap these experiences with a climax, we flushed a Prairie Hen from her nest of thirteen eggs. It was in a clump of alfalfa, about ten feet from a road where many autos passed daily. Some of our clothing had dried on us, and we kept on talking about our experiences in the water. Such is the wonderfully rich and interesting life of the marsh. There, life is fairly piled up, flora and fauna display themselves more lavishly than in most places on dry land.

Now comes the sequel. August 19th of the following year, we went over the same route, to the same place. But imagine my surprise when instead of seeing the graceful *scirpus Lacustris*, wild rice, cat-tails, etc., and hearing the cries and calls of marsh and water birds, we saw cows peacefully browsing, looking at us with mildly inquiring eyes—not even a trace of marsh or water flora and fauna remaining. The beautiful slough had been drained by the owner of the farm, who had no eye for the beauties of wild life, but only for the coin, the milk from the kine, and later the crops the newly won field would bring him.

The moral of the tale is plain. If we want to retain the native birds of such areas, and enjoy in the open the varied form, voice and color, we must set aside preserves before it is too late. Nor should we then think only of the birds of the forest, grove and prairie, but also of the water birds. They are suffering more and more by the increasing cultivation of the soil, which is necessary to feed us humans. They have to leave us, not of their choice, but because they are compelled by being deprived of their nesting sites and conditions.

Recently the writer read Mr. E. W. Nelson's "Birds of Northeastern Illinois," written in 1876. I was astounded at the difference in conditions as

regards the bird life of Chicago then and now. Of the pretty and interesting Wilson's Phalarope he says: "Very common summer resident in this vicinity." It is almost absent now. He gives many shore-birds and wild ducks and others as breeding in the Calumet and Sag regions and in other places, that are now hardly seen here, let alone being found breeding here. Their haunts, so full of rich and interesting life, have now largely been turned into fields and factories, some chemical factories with their evil smelling effluvia and smoke. It may be necessary, but how one hates to see such changes!

Who of the readers of this Bulletin, owning a large or small slough or marsh, perhaps undrainable and therefore useless to him or her, will communicate with the Illinois Audubon Society, with a view of making this a swamp bird-sanctuary? Should we not preserve some of these natural monuments and remainders as well as reminders of what this region once was, and not force them to leave us forever? Let us do it, and do it soon.

River Forest, Illinois.

G. EIFRIG.

A Successful Contest at Savanna

Mrs. Margaret Greenleaf of Savanna and her children have for many years derived great pleasure and learned much of interest from their bird neighbors. Wishing to interest other children in birds, Mrs. Greenleaf planned last April a contest in the erection of bird houses, shelters, etc. This was to be open to any pupil in the graded schools of her city. Prizes of five, three, and two dollars were to be given for the most meritorious work. Mr. C. H. LeVitt, Superintendent of the city school, cooperated heartily and procured plans for bird houses from various sources for the use of the contestants. It is putting it very mildly to say that the pupils of the upper grades were very enthusiastic. They scoured near-by woods for material for rustic houses. Some of the parents of children who were participating in the contest said that at their homes the building of new and suitable homes for the birds had for the time being eclipsed everything else of importance. The manual training teacher gladly gave aid and suggestions. One lad who had built an elaborate and beautiful martin house asked for permission to enter another one and this being granted built a beautiful wren house of rustic design.

The bird houses were to be judged at an evening meeting of the Parent-Teacher Association and when the room in which the bird houses were on exhibition was thrown open it was indeed a pretty sight. While the judges were making the awards, an interesting and instructive program was given on "Birds of our Vicinity, Their Habits, etc.", placing especial emphasis upon their friendliness and their willingness to become tenants of houses provided for their occupancy. The enterprising youngsters had placed prices upon their creations and the men and women of the Association had become so imbued with enthusiasm for bird neighbors that nearly all of the houses entered in the contest were sold and orders were given for many more. One lad later on sold eleven wren houses alone. Prices ranged from three dollars down to twenty-five cents. They varied greatly in architecture, size, and material used. It is a conservative estimate to say that more than

two hundred bird houses and shelters were built last season as a direct result of the contest. The most beautiful home in our city cuddles as lovingly the tiny wren house nestled under the porch or pergola as does the less pretentious cottage. Surely no pair of wrens needed to choose a home that did not exactly suit them as they had many styles from which to choose. "Is your bird house occupied yet?" became quite a familiar salutation with grown-ups as well as with boys and girls.

It has been noticeable that the boys and girls feel it a personal duty to feed and protect the birds more than ever before. The children who built the tiny houses experienced great pleasure in creating homes for the birds and also a gratification in that they could produce something that people were desirous of buying. It has been found that birds much prefer to build in houses that are not too ostentatiously new. They like a house that is weather-beaten or that has at least the newness worn off. So the late Fall and Winter is the best time to build one's bird houses and shelters for one will then have time to find the most suitable location for them. Every human habitation should have near it at least one home or shelter for the birds, built and placed there by human hands. It is an investment that repays a thousand fold in the privilege of having near us the beautiful, dainty, sweet-voiced singers and in the enjoyment of their comradeship.

KATHRYN WIRE HAMMOND.

Indorsements of Cat Circular Issued by the Maywood Bird Club and the Illinois Audubon Society

It is only recently that the cat has come to be considered a serious menace to bird life and farm interests. The original investigations of Edward Howe Forbush, State Ornithologist of Massachusetts, opened the eyes of the people to the truth about the cat. A rapid change of attitude toward this domestic animal is taking place in various states. New York recently passed a state cat law. Michigan, we have recently heard but not yet verified, has a law. Massachusetts is agitating for such a law. There is a bill now before the Connecticut legislature for a law to control the cat.

The Illinois Audubon Society's Committee on Legislation is now preparing draft of a bill for a law to solve the cat problem in Illinois. It is to be believed the people of this great state will face the truth and secure the passage of a model law. Other states are sure to fall in line in rapid succession.

That the movement is spreading to other parts of the country is evidenced by the increasing demand for the circular on the cat problem written by Secretary Langdon for the Maywood Bird Club and distributed by the Illinois Audubon Society. This circular tells the truth in very conservative terms. The testimonials printed below explain the growing demand for the document.

"There is no question that the elimination of the wandering house cat, especially those homeless animals of which many live a half or completely wild life in the woods surrounding towns in various parts of the United States, will be an important step toward conserving wild bird life. The more definite control of house cats, particularly in small towns, suburban localities, and on farms, would result in a marked increase in the numbers of our feathered friends." Edward W. Nelson, Chief, Bureau of Biological Survey, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

"I believe this is the best circular on the cat issued so far. The material is very well arranged and is presented in an attractive form. I have never been quite sure that cat licensing would cure the evil, but there seems to be no other way to provide the means for enforcing a law, and I hope to see the plan tried widely. Certainly you are doing a good work." Edward Howe Forbush, Massachusetts, State Ornithologist, Boston.

"Thank you for your letter and the broadside on the cat. I have read this and it seems to me it is a most convincing publication. I was exceedingly pleased to find the moderation which runs through it all, for there are many lovers of cats in the country, and it is always well in dealing with this subject not to offend them unnecessarily. This I think you have done admirably, and I hope it may be given wide circulation." T. Gilbert Pearson, Secretary, The National Association of Audubon Societies, New York.

"Please accept my thanks for the copy of your Cat Poster. You have chosen a very opportune time for taking up the cat problem and I wish you success in your campaign. I was very glad to see the Maywood and Montclair cat ordinances printed side by side. Your poster will be very useful in calling attention to the cat question and in paving the way for future legislation." T. S. Palmer, Secretary, American Ornithologists' Union, Washington, D. C.

"Thanks for your letter and the poster on the handling of the cat problem. I am going to mark it, write a brief note to go with it to the Editor, and ask for publication in our local daily papers of certain excerpts, including the Maywood ordinance in full. Perhaps it could be cut up, and run piece-meal as a serial till the whole poster is brought before the public. I think we might get a cat ordinance through in that way. I am greatly interested in your cat campaign. It is a great work. It seems to me if the nation can get rid of booze with such flying colors, it ought to be able to stagger the cat out some day." Louis Agassiz Fuertes, noted painter of birds and animals and a naturalist of wide reputation, Ithaca, N. Y.

"All the intelligent cat and dog legislation that can be had in this country is just that much good toward preserving the birds. I shall be on the lookout for every opportunity to back up this movement, as it is very much needed to conserve our wild life, particularly the insectivorous birds, which mean so much to agriculture and the increase of our crops. All cats and dogs should be licensed by Federal Law. The owner should pay a fair tax for any dog or cat in his possession." Frederic C. Walcott, United States Food Administration, Washington, D. C.

"You have prepared a very sane and effective folder on the cat. It avoids extreme statements and unreasonable methods of control. I believe it will appeal to thinking people. I wish you the best of success in your efforts for bird protection. It is such campaigns as yours that will eventually awaken the people to a realization of the situation." Gilbert H. Trafton, Professor of Nature-Study, State Normal School, Mankato, Minnesota.

"Your 'Cat' Circular is great and certainly does not overrate the destruction to bird life from this cause. I am inclined to believe that the statements therein are very conservative." W. Scott Way, Secretary, Florida Audubon Society, Winter Park, Florida.

"Commissioner Pratt has recently come into possession of one of your Cat circulars which he regards as a very fine piece of educational work."

"This Commission (Conservation Commission, State of New York) is at present engaged in a strenuous campaign against Vermin in this State, which is proving so destructive to our valuable insectivorous and game birds. Commissioner Pratt is using some of the figures from your circular in his lectures." Clinton G. Abbott, Confidential Secretary and Editor, Conservation Commission, State of New York, Albany, New York.

HOW?

REPORT all violations of bird and game laws to wardens, constables and other officers of the peace. Acquaint yourselves with these laws.

REPORT violations, your action, and results or failures to get results, to *the Illinois Audubon Society*, giving names, ages, nationalities, dates, places, species of birds, the evidence and the sentences.

REPORT efficient work of officers as well as inefficiency, giving names, official titles, locations and all other details.

REPORT tracts of land and lakes which you believe should be set aside as bird and game sanctuaries.

REPORT your activities in encouraging birds to nest about you, in giving them shelter from weather and cats, and in feeding them in winter. Send in items concerning your experiences, illustrating them with pictures, if possible.

REPORT all unusual observations as to migration, flights, nesting, numbers, markings, environment, economic services, and habits.

MAKE the Aims and Principles of the Illinois Audubon Society *your* Aims and Principles. Make the Illinois Audubon Society your information clearing house. Make this a bigger, better and more frequently occurring magazine by contributing items as above indicated. Make the work of the Illinois Audubon Society more extensive and effective by giving your moral and financial support to it. A membership certificate will record your interest in birds and their protection.

Show Your Interest!

Show Your Interest!

ILLINOIS

Do you know —

ILLINOIS is the **1st** state in **crop value**?

ILLINOIS is the **3rd** state in **population**?

ILLINOIS is the **6th** state in number of species of **wild birds**?

ILLINOIS was the **3rd** state to claim an **Audubon society**?

ILLINOIS is the **home** of one of the **world's greatest ornithologists**?

ILLINOIS gave the **United States Biological Survey** its present **chief** and one of his **most able assistants**?

ILLINOIS, because of its wealth, population, variety of birds, early concern for the welfare of its birds, and contributions of men and knowledge, **should rank 1st in effective activity in behalf of its valuable bird life**?

ILLINOIS will contribute to the nation its **greatest state Audubon society** and one of its **most effective conservation bodies** if you give your moral and financial support to the

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY?

(See page 3)

The
Audubon Bulletin

Spring 1920



Published by
The ILLINOIS
AUDUBON
SOCIETY

Illinois Audubon Society Service

The Society has two collections of hand-colored lantern slides of bird life, each with an accompanying printed lecture. These are loaned free of charge to any school or organization in the state but borrower pays express charges both ways.

The Society has travelling libraries of bird books which are loaned to schools or organizations for a reasonable length of time, the borrower paying express charges both ways.

The Society publishes wall charts listing 200 typical Illinois birds and providing suitable spaces for recording migration and nesting data. Schools, Boy Scout organizations, and individuals as well find these of great service. Price ten cents each.

The Society has in press a pocket check list of birds with colored zonal maps. This list records every known species of birds that visits Illinois or nests within its borders. Send in applications for copies of the first edition.

The Society publishes the Langdon Cat Circular which is invaluable in arousing interest in the question of protecting birds from marauding cats. Price five cents each.

The Society issues an illustrated postal in the Italian language warning against violation of laws for bird protection. Price two cents each.

Address The Illinois Audubon Society,
1649 The Otis Building, Chicago

President

Mr. Orpheus M. Schantz
10 So. La Salle Street, Chicago

Acting Secretary-Treasurer

Miss Catherine Mitchell
Riverside

Vice-President

Mr. Jesse Lowe Smith
Highland Park

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

Application for Membership

Understanding the aims and principles of the Illinois Audubon Society, and being in sympathy with them, I wish to become a member of the Society.

Name.....

Address.....

Date.....

Classes of Membership

Active memberships	.	\$1.00.	Annually
Contributing memberships	.	\$5.00.	Annually
Sustaining memberships	.	\$25.00.	No annual dues
Life memberships	.	\$100.00.	No annual dues
Benefactor	.	\$500.00.	No annual dues
Patron	.	\$1000.00.	No annual dues

All members receive the publications of the Society.

Please sign this card and send it with the fee to the Illinois Audubon Society, 1649 Otis Bldg., Chicago

FORM OF BEQUEST

I do hereby give and bequeath to THE ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF WILD BIRDS (Incorporated), of the State of Illinois

(OVER)

To carry out its aggressive program, the Illinois Audubon Society must increase its membership. Out of a population of nearly six millions, Illinois should have at least ten thousand people who are enough interested in bird life to help the Society in its conservation efforts. Will you not help us expand our usefulness?

I suggest for membership in the Illinois Audubon Society the persons whose names appear on the other side of this sheet.

Signed.....

Member of the Illinois Audubon Society

May we use your name? } Yes
 } No

The Aims and Principles of the Illinois Audubon Society are:

- 1st. To encourage the study of birds, particularly in the schools, and to disseminate literature relating to them.
- 2nd. To work for the betterment and enforcement of State and Federal laws relating to birds.
- 3rd. To discourage the wearing of any feathers except those of the ostrich and domestic fowls.
- 4th. To discourage, in every possible way, the wanton destruction of wild birds and their eggs.
- 5th. To restore to our wild birds wherever practicable, the natural environment of forest and shrubbery which gave them food, protection and seclusion.

Needs

The Illinois Audubon Society depends for its support upon the contributions of its members and friends. It should have an income from a moderate endowment sufficient to meet all fixed expenses.

☞ The present income is totally inadequate to meet the urgent and incessantly growing demands.

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.
1649 OTIS BUILDING :: :: CHICAGO

(OVER)

Name

Address

Name

Address

Name

Address

Name

Address

Name

Address

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Photos by Jesse L. Smith

No Place Like Home

The top of a fence post with a cleat extending up to carry additional wires seemed to meet the requirements of a pair of robins. Two or three sequels appear in the view but not the two or three hundred school children who watched from day to day the evolution of a nursery.

To another pair of robins the fire-escape on a large school building commended itself as airy, yet substantial, and commanding a considerable view. The view was very satisfactory to the school children also and drills involving the use of the fire-escape went out of fashion for a time.

A beacon no longer functioning fell into disrepute. Its metal cap, torn off, was thrust inside through a broken pane for safe keeping. A pair of wrens saw possibilities there. The picture shows one of the wrens on the job.

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN

SPRING 1920

Published by the
ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
(For the protection of wild birds)

The President of the Illinois Audubon Society writes:

This number of the Bulletin reviews the progress made during the year since the last preceding issue, the Conservation Number, appeared. It tells of the revision of the state laws in the interest of better safe-guarding of bird life, and reveals the honorable part the Illinois Audubon Society had in this work. The concerted campaign on the part of the state game wardens to interest the school children in their respective districts and the public in general in protecting bird life is described. There is a story of activity in law enforcement in certain districts. The history of Fox Lake refuge is told. Experiences with bird houses are given. A constructive program for state parks is outlined and bird study in the schools is given concrete exposition. There are idylls of boyhood on stream and prairie and following all these are field notes from widely sundered posts of observation within the state. A hopeful note runs throughout all the following pages and it is left for a single paragraph of this page to refer to things not of the brightest hue.

The campaign to finance greatly expanded activities of the Society which was outlined one year ago has met with limited success. All to the good is the wide publicity it gave to the aims and possible accomplishments of the Society, but it remains true that the occupation of certain promising fields of endeavor by the Society must await resources of membership and finance not yet at hand. Perhaps our campaign should have centered more directly upon the co-operation of our members in greatly expanding the membership list with the point of view, as a down-state member expressed it, that "active support and co-operation is worth more to our Society than a donation." This suggests the need of closer contact between the Directors of the Society and individual members. Someone advocates issuing each year nine monthly news bulletins and one illustrated "annual." Another favors holding an annual convention and "field meet." The Indiana Audubon Society has done this for some years with marked success. Anyway, the subject is open for discussion. The Directors of the Society will appreciate a very general response.

ORPHEUS M. SCHANTZ, President.

Bird Protection in Illinois

The Bulletin published one year ago gave much space to a discussion of the defects in the then existing laws for bird protection and forecast a program for revision to be brought up at the session of the legislature which was at that time well under way. This issue of the Bulletin may fittingly concern itself at some length with the outcome of that legislative session. First of all the very gratifying assertion can be made that nearly everything outlined in the Audubon Society's program for law revision one year ago was embodied in the revised Game and Fish Code for Illinois that passed the legislature, was approved by Governor Lowden, and went into effect July 1, 1919. Notable changes were made in the provisions relating to law enforcement and to the issuing of hunting licenses, the list of birds without the protection of law was improved by certain omissions, and the law was expressly amended to make its provisions identical with the regulations issued by the United States Biological Survey under authority conferred by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

It was a famous victory but there was little opposition. Representatives of sportsmen's organizations, state officials, and members of the legislature all worked in more or less accord to effect desirable changes. The President and the Secretary of the Illinois Audubon Society made one visit to Springfield to confer with state officials and by invitation to present the program of the Society to a gathering representing the Illinois Sportsman's League, Mr. Ralph F. Bradford, Chief Game and Fish Warden, invited the Illinois Audubon Society to present detailed suggestions as to desirable revisions as did Mr. J. H. Vickers, Chairman of the House Committee on game legislation. This committee as well as that of the Senate worked in close accord with Mr. Bradford and his assistants and the law as it stands today represents, as is very fitting, the cooperation of law maker and administrative officials. What we now have on the statute books to invoke for the protection of our feathered folk appears in the following inventory.

The Illinois Law Relating to Non-Game or Insectivorous Birds.

Section 17. Non-Game Birds. It shall be unlawful:

(a) For any person to shoot, kill, destroy or catch, or attempt to shoot, kill, destroy or catch, or have in possession, living or dead, any song, insectivorous or non-game seed-eating bird, or part of such bird, other than an English sparrow, crow, blackbird, blue-jay, Cooper's hawk, sharp-shinned hawk, goshawk, duck hawk, pigeon hawk, great horned owl or cormorant.

(b) For any person to take or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any song, insectivorous or non-game seed-eating bird, or have in his or her possession the nest or eggs thereof.

Comment on Section 17.

It will be noticed that the list of outlawed birds set forth in (a) above includes five of the hawk family, all but one being small hawks and all of deservedly bad reputation. On the other hand the big hawks, commonly called hen-hawks, conspicuous as targets but very generally useful members of society,—the red-tailed hawk, red-shouldered hawk, broad-winged hawk, marsh hawk, etc., are no longer on the list of outlaws and are entitled to the same protection as the bluebird and the wren. This is also true, now, of all the owls, except the great horned owl which is more or less rare in Illinois

anyway. The representatives of the Illinois Audubon Society were not successful in their plea for the blackbirds. The law remains as of old, and red-wings and yellowheads, surely without evil records in Illinois, are left to take their chances with that dignified pirate of a bird, the grackle, who, it is believed by many observers, is not generally an evil bird but only locally and now and then. Anyway, what is the evidence against any and all of the blackbirds in Illinois? Let us find what there is and examine it and be ready when the legislature meets again to speak with certainty for the yellowhead and the redwing, at least, if not for the grackle.

Who Enforces the Law.

Section 75. It shall be the duty of all duly accredited officers and employees of the Department, and all sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, constables and other police officers to arrest any person detected in violation of any of the provisions of this Act.

It shall further be the duty of all such officers to make prompt investigation of any violations of the provisions of this Act reported by any other person, and to cause a complaint to be filed before a court having jurisdiction thereof in case there seems just ground for such complaint and evidence procurable to support the same.

Upon the filing of such a complaint, it shall be the duty of such officers to render assistance in the prosecution of the party complained against.

Sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, constables and other police officers making arrests and serving warrants under the provisions hereof shall receive the same fees and mileage as constables are entitled to in similar cases, under the provisions of the statutes of the State, and shall also be entitled to one-half of the fines imposed and collected for violations of the provisions hereof in cases where they have filed complaints.

Comment on Section 75.

Notice the various officers of the law whose duty it is to arrest persons detected in violation of any of the provisions of this Act. Note further that it is the duty of these same officers to make prompt investigation of any violations of the provisions of the Act *reported by other persons*, and if there seems just ground for complaint *the officer is to file a complaint* before a court of jurisdiction. Then after filing such a complaint it is the duty of the officer to render assistance in prosecutions. Lastly all such officials including police officers are to receive fees and mileage and one-half of the fines imposed. It is an open secret that the officer who "works" an area frequented by violators of the game laws has an opportunity to swell his normal income perceptibly.

Who Shall Hunt.

Only those who have hunting licenses may hunt and that only during the respective periods of the year when hunting shall be lawful.

Section 40. Hunting licenses will be issued to no person under the age of sixteen years, without the written request of the father or mother or legally constituted guardian of such person. Hunting licenses will be issued (a) to residents of the State of Illinois and citizens of the United States; (b) to non-residents of the State of Illinois, but citizens of the United States; (c) to foreign born per-

sons who have procured their final naturalization papers, and to the minor children of such persons.

Comment on Section 40.

It will be seen that aliens may no longer hunt within the state of Illinois. They cannot procure a license and therefore can be arrested on general principles when seen with a hunting weapon of any kind, gun or net. Our laws still permit children to secure hunting licenses but set up a slight safeguard as to issuing licenses to those under sixteen. The contention of the Illinois Audubon Society was that sixteen should be the minimum age requirement for the holders of hunting licenses.

When not to Hunt.

House Bill 312, approved by Gov. Lowden, June 25, 1917, makes unlawful the discharge of firearms upon a public highway by anyone other than an officer of the law and provides a penalty of from five to twenty five dollars for each and every violation of this act. Section 38 of the Game and Fish Code reads:

It shall be unlawful:

(a) To hunt, kill, take or destroy, or attempt to hunt, kill, take or destroy game birds, rabbits, squirrels, or fur-bearing animals from any automobile or vehicle of any kind propelled by mechanical power, by the use of the lights thereof or any light used from such vehicle.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to trap or hunt with a gun or a dog, or allow a dog to hunt within or upon the land of another, or upon waters flowing over or standing on the land of another, without first obtaining permission so to do from the owner, agent or occupant of such land, and it shall be further unlawful for any person to wantonly or carelessly injure or destroy, in any manner whatsoever, any real or personal property on the land of another while engaged in trapping or hunting thereon.

Further and Final Comment.

There is no lawful hunting on highways or roadsides nor may one hunt on private property without permission. These two provisions should be easy to enforce. The penalty for violation of Section 38 is a fine not less than fifteen dollars for each offense. Here it might be stated that the penalty for killing protected birds is ten dollars for each and every offense. All these penalties are coupled with jail sentences where the fines are not paid, so that there is no default because of inability to pay a fine.

It should be noticed finally, that no chance for subterfuge is left to those who violate the rights of birds to life and the pursuit of happiness. Section 17 explicitly states that it is unlawful to shoot, kill, destroy or catch, or *attempt* to shoot, kill, destroy or catch, and thereby sling-shot, air rifle, club, stone, or net are outlawed with other weapons when an attempt on birds on the protected list is made. The illicit hunter has sometimes an unarmed companion to carry the bag and to hold the attention of the officer while the weapon bearer may escape. The innocent story of carrying the bag to oblige an unknown person or of having picked up the game along the way is barred out by this same Section 17 which declares it unlawful to have in one's possession, living or dead, birds on the protected list.

On the whole the bird protection laws of Illinois are adequate to a high degree. As to their enforcement, that is up to the final source of authority, the gentle reader and the rest of the people.

JESSE L. SMITH.

Constructive Work

There is much evidence to show that the Division of Game and Fish of our State Department of Agriculture is not only making a very honorable record for law enforcement but that it is taking the lead in constructive measures that are full of promise for the accomplishment of some of the objects to which the Illinois Audubon Society is committed. This appears in Warden H. C. Norcross' letter published elsewhere in this issue which tells of the special drive for the protection of birds which was made last April by the various employes of the Division of Game and Fish under instructions from Chief Warden Ralph F. Bradford of Springfield. Interesting children in the conservation of bird life and acquainting them with the laws relating to bird protection has apparently become a feature of the work of the Division. This the Illinois Audubon Society cannot commend too warmly. Each warden in his particular district. (Every warden in Illinois has far more territory than he can adequately cover unaided) is to stimulate the growing influence of the youth in behalf of bird protection and to visit constables, policemen, and other officials and encourage them to play up to the important part they may and should have in this same work.

In the issue of one year ago the value of a state publication showing activities of wardens and inspectors was pointed out. It is now announced that such a publication is planned for the near future. Unfortunately for the purpose of this article the data such a publication would furnish are not at hand as this goes to press and interesting details of the work just outlined are not generally available. It should be said here and at this time that no material for the columns of this Bulletin would be more interesting to its readers than records of arrests and of other constructive activities of the Division of Game and Fish.

Let the writer tell what he knows at first hand assuming this to be typical of the service our wardens are now giving us. It relates to Henry Kern of Waukegan, one of the two wardens whose task it is to cover Lake County with its 52 lakes, its areas of marsh land and sand flats and more than 30 miles of shore land along Lake Michigan. Mr. Kern appeared at the Elm Place School in Highland Park one day and displaying as his credentials a copy of Reed's Bird Guide and the Conservation Number of the Illinois Audubon Society's Bulletin made friendly inquiry about the status of bird study in the schools. In this way Mr. Kern went about his territory visiting rural and city schools, making simple talks where this seemed desirable and explaining the principal features of the laws for the protection of wild life.

His next appearance in Highland Park was to escort a violator of the game laws to Justice Winter's court and stand by until the full penalty of the law was administered. The records of Mr. Kern's arrests and those of his colleague for Lake County, Mr. William Stratton of Ingleside, if available, would make good reading. With Inspector St. Clair in command they patrolled the lake district and on the first day of the open season arrested 22 persons for hunting before sunrise. Each of these persons was fined \$25.00 and costs. Warden W. W. Schultze of 5114 Southwestern Avenue, Chicago, has a record that reads very well. One of his most interesting exploits was gathering in a Chicago policeman who was celebrating a day's



WATERFOWL ON FOX LAKE

Photo by Edward St. Clair

Mallards, Teal and other waterfowl in informal assembly demonstrating their approval of the setting aside of Fox Lake as a "refuge" or "resting place" for webfooted and other travelers. Within six weeks of the establishment of the refuge, waterfowl were avoiding nearby lakes where shooting was permitted and maneuvering their squadrons without fear upon the open stretches of water in Fox Lake.



THE MILITANT MARY LOUISE IN A NON-MILITANT MOOD.

vacation by filling his game bag with slaughtered song birds. It cost the policeman in fines \$190.00 plus court fees. For the five months beginning September, 1919, the fines accruing from arrests made by Warden Schultze totaled respectively \$290.00, \$345.00, \$120.00, \$240.00 and \$200.00. It is easy to believe that Schultze made good use of the tin Lizzie furnished him by the Division. It is hinted that two additional machines are to be used in the Chicago District this Spring.

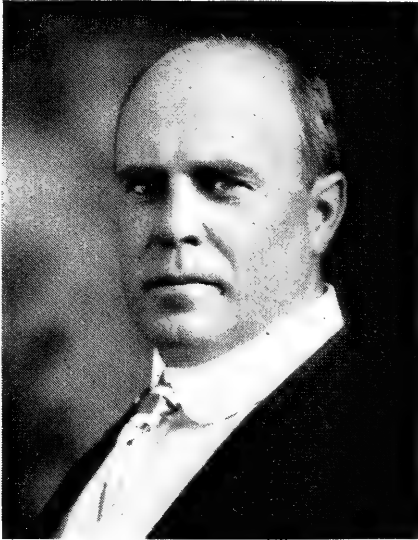
The efficient wardens named above are three of the fifteen wardens in the district of which Inspector Edward St. Clair is in charge. This includes, Lake, Cook, McHenry, DuPage and Kankakee Counties. Inspector St. Clair's office is in the Kimball Building at 25 E. Jackson Blvd., Chicago. A splendid collection of mounted specimens with photographic backgrounds has been installed here and the office is fast becoming headquarters for information about bird life of the area. Mr. St. Clair is proud of the record of law enforcement his district has achieved and with good right. The most notable achievement of the year in his district was the setting aside of Fox Lake as a refuge or rest for water fowl and other birds. In August the Inspector and his associates secured the necessary signatures of residents of the Fox Lake area to a petition and Chief Game Warden Bradford proclaimed the lake a Refuge, September 1st. Now Fox Lake is about five and one-half miles long and two and one-half miles wide and it must have been a great surprise to the migratory host of wild fowl to find that they could float anywhere on this fine stretch of water or feed along its margin without molestation. The record of what happened soon after the area was placarded and the Warden's motor boat, the Mary Louise, began to cruise about the lake is remarkable, to say the least. The accompanying photograph taken within twenty feet of wild birds tells the story. These birds avoided nearby lakes—Grass, Channel, Marie and others where hunting was legal and lingered long in the Fox Lake refuge. A new sport was then inaugurated on Fox Lake, that of hunting without a gun. As many as four hundred canoes and motor boats filled with sight-seers would be out on the lake at one time threading their way among squadrons of wild fowl and enjoying the rare spectacle of wild life at close-up range.

Publicity should be given throughout the state to what has happened at Fox Lake. The division of Game and Fish has shown in the most con-

vincing manner what "rest areas" mean to migrating birds. There are various favored areas in our state which should be set apart in a similar way for refuges of this kind. There should be a chain of these areas the entire length of the state. It is to be hoped that local sentiment in these areas will be stimulated and public support assured that will justify Chief Warden Bradford in taking the decisive steps.

ORPHEUS M. SCHANTZ.

Elgin Audubon Society

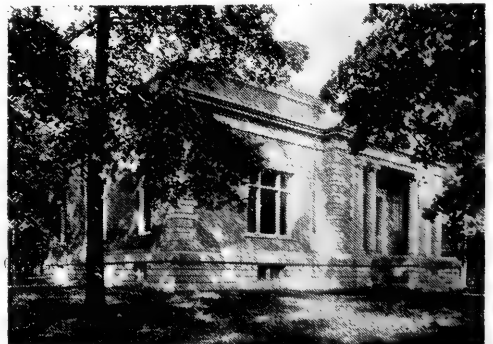


Mr. B. F. Berryman

The Elgin Audubon Society will celebrate its sixth birthday next June. It has recently taken out incorporation papers and is entering upon a most promising phase of activity. The City of Elgin has recently turned over to the Society for its exclusive use the Museum, a large handsome brick building situated in one of the city parks. This is being remodeled and furnished and here will be housed the specimens belonging to the City and the Society. The Society has performed an important educational service each year by its annual exhibits where photographs, stuffed specimens, nests, eggs, grasses, ferns, fossils, etc., are displayed. Large crowds are attracted in this way and the Society has demonstrated its fitness to

make good use of the Museum building. For the last three years Mr. B. F. Berryman has been President of the Society and it was under his leadership that the Museum has been acquired. Through his efforts the City Council passed an ordinance making it a misdemeanor to molest birds, their nests or eggs in the city limits. The Society is now planning a campaign to make all of the country within five miles of Elgin a bird sanctuary by securing pledges of land owners to protect bird life on their farms, and prohibit hunters from trespassing. Meetings of the Society are once a month at 6:30 P. M. beginning with a buffet supper followed by a business meeting and an interesting program. It now has a membership of two hundred thirty-one and at its monthly meetings there is an attendance from sixty to seventy-five.

Mr. Berryman is strongly in favor of an Audubon Society in every city and an annual meeting of delegates from these societies to interchange ideas and thus build up a strong and powerful state organization that will have a wide influence for the protection and conservation of wild life.



Elgin Museum

The National Association of Audubon Societies

There is a national conscience as well as a local conscience and along with the local aspect of bird protection there is a national aspect of the same question which is at all times of great importance. Because the National Association of Audubon Societies has for so many years functioned so opportunely and so forcefully in campaigns for state and national legislation, and has all this time steadily widened and intensified its activities while state and local associations have passed through widely varying phases of influence, it has become very natural for those engrossed in local or state-wide campaigns to take the National Association for granted or forget it altogether. But this service of the National Association, effective and vigilant, has its claim upon us. It is a just claim for moral and financial support, and it would seem that the Illinois Audubon Society might well include among its most important working objectives the active support of the National Association.

The Fifteenth Annual Report of the National Association submitted October 20th, 1919, shows the total receipts for the year of \$137,386.84 and the total disbursements of \$123,201.26. These statistics begin fairly to talk to us when we note such summaries of expense as that of Educational Effort at \$33,212.52 and that of the Childrens' Educational Fund at \$55,-147.52. This latter expenditure meant the organization of hundreds of thousands of children into classes for bird study. There were 6,204 such classes last year in the United States and Canada, two hundred fifty-nine of them in Illinois alone, these latter enrolling 8,714 children. So strongly has this work appealed to those familiar with it, that one "unnamed benefactor" alone contributed \$20,000 to the Fund for the expenses of the year.

The National Association has 100 different Educational Leaflets which circulate everywhere in the United States and Canada disseminating authentic and well-balanced information about bird life and its significance, economic and aesthetic. Reprints of these leaflet units to the number of 3,524,500 were made last year. Nearly a half million circulars, announcements to teachers, etc., were distributed.

The Annual Report takes up 107 pages of the November-December number of Bird-Lore. It includes the report of T. Gilbert Pearson, secretary, the reports of Field Agents and those of State Societies and Bird Clubs. A note of optimism pervades Mr. Pearson's report because of the great advances that have been made in state and federal legislation for the protection of America's wild birds and animals. No one can speak with so much authority of the long years of struggle which have led up to this accomplishment as can Mr. Pearson. As Executive Secretary of the National Association he has directed in person many legislative campaigns at Washington and appeared before the legislatures of various states as a courageous and persistent advocate of the conservation of wild life. Today he is pressing upon the attention of Audubon Societies the importance of conducting an intense campaign in support of these bird laws and of working for the creation and maintenance of greatly increased numbers of bird-reservations.

What happens at Mr. Pearson's office may appear in a typical cross-section quoted from this report:

"More than 60,000 letters at the New York office alone have claimed the attention of the Executive Officer and the office force, and the Secretary has personally engaged in such widely diversified activities as attending a legislative hearing on the Deer Law in Albany; supplying material on conservation to the Czecho-Slovak Republic; investigating a reported sale of American Woodpeckers in a New York bird-store, which turned out to be South American Parrots; and explaining to a correspondent why the Association could not immediately raise a fund of one million dollars to exterminate English Sparrows."

During the past year the Association employed thirty-six wardens on bird reservations and the number of birds guarded in the various Audubon colonies during the breeding season must have numbered close to two millions. The society maintained three patrol boats, one on Lower Klamath Lake, Oregon, another on Pelican Island Reservation, Florida, and the third on Breton Island Reservation, La. This service as well as that of the wardens was given in cooperation with the United States Biological Survey. However the Survey has now taken entire charge of the employment of wardens and the Association in withdrawing has leased its patrol boats to the Biological Survey for an indefinite period at a nominal rental.

The reports of the special field agents and of the state societies repay careful reading. Especially notable is that of Wm. L. Finley, Field Agent for the Pacific Coast States, which tells of the approaching destruction of the two large federal wild-bird reservations, Lower Klamath and Malheur Lakes. The former has been accomplished by the Reclamation Service cutting off the flow of water from the Klamath River. The diversion of water for irrigation purposes is likewise threatening the destruction of Malheur Lake. It is a melancholy story of the "commercialism that would destroy everything of beauty in the hope of turning it into money."

Among the state reports, that of Illinois prepared by our former Secretary, Roy Monroe Langdon, is naturally of especial interest to us. In this well prepared report the activities in our state are seen to compare very favorably with those of other states. The very substantial achievement of legislation during the past year is rightly emphasized. Among affiliated organizations the Elgin Audubon Society presents a remarkable showing which is commented upon elsewhere in this issue.

The National Association of Audubon Societies is evidently covering its great field with a success more than commensurate with its resources. It is maintained in part from interest on endowment funds but in larger part from contributions and membership dues. Contributions from one dollar up are gladly acknowledged. Sustaining members pay five dollars a year. All members receive free Bird-Lore and the publications of the Association as they appear. It is good to invest in a national organization of this kind.



NEAR BYRON, ILLINOIS

A Boyhood on Rock River

The readers of the Audubon Bulletin would, perhaps, be interested in a boy's reaction to a Rock River environment. To get the setting, imagine a great shallow bowl about two miles across, not much over a hundred feet deep, very gently sloping sides and a level bottom about a mile wide. On this level bottom lies a sleepy little village, on a terrace well above even the flood waters of the stream which has been trenching the valley ever since the time of an earlier glacier.

To the boy mind the rim of the bowl was the boundary between the seen and known, and the great world beyond. The second-growth forest which topped the rim, its irregularity softened by distance, gave a somewhat wavy but nearly even sky line. To the east the rim was sharply notched where the trees had been felled to make way for the steel rails tying the little community to the metropolis more than eighty miles away. Day after day the boy looked from the doorstep at this gateway notch, its vertical sides as high as the forest trees, and watched for the swift emerging of the smoking iron horse with its train of coaches bringing strangers and messages from the cities and people beyond the rim.

To the north and to the south were other notches where wagon roads had long ago been cut thru the timber, notches whose sides were softened in outline by the healing growth of shrubs and saplings. Thru these came the wagons of friendly folk with their burdens of farm produce. The bowl sagged to the west and opened in a deep notch cut, not thru the trees by the hand of man, but deep in the hills by the gnawing tooth of the river. From points of vantage you could get glimpses of the shining water as it turned around a rocky point and was lost behind a bluff it had made.

The boy never dreamed that hundreds of thousands of years ago, before the time of the glaciers, this wide valley had been made by the slow down cutting of a stream which flowed east to join the master stream lying seventy-five or eighty miles west of Chicago, and by the still slower weathering of rain, wind and frost; that a great glacier had filled the valley of

this master stream with rock, sand and clay and completely changed the course of drainage. Yet such is the story we can read if we have skill to interpret the legend etched on the surface of the earth. After the drainage had been thoroly blocked by the action of the glacier, the new streams in places cut across the sides of the old valleys making deep gorges in the rock walls; in places they ran thru the preglacial valleys in a direction opposite that held by the original stream. As the new streams cut thru the rocky gorges they rushed with a force that carried the stony fragments from the glacial wear and their own cutting out into the old valley beyond, where the more gently flowing water dropped the sediment and spread it out over the floor of the valley to the depth of a hundred feet, more or less. The gravel and sand left by the earlier flood waters was later covered by a thick bed of clay which has since weathered into a most excellent soil. The present river has cut this broad gravel plain by a deep trench, leaving most of the plain as a convenient terrace for the home of man. The early settlers were quick to take advantage of this provision of nature. They cleared away the forest and built their houses on this level, fertile land. And that is how the boy came to live in this beautiful, wide valley.

As the boy watched the neighbors build their houses of sawed pine lumber brot on the cars from Chicago, he began to wonder why the house he lived in had hewed oak logs for sills and joist, why the studding and rafters and roof boards were oak, why the clapboards, doors and window frames were walnut, and the shingles huge hand-riven strips of wood. Then he learned that before the days of the railroad, before even lumber was brot in rafts down the river, the earliest houses had been built of the timber that grew on the valley sides. When he became old enough to prepare the fuel for the kitchen stove the boy sawed up cords of walnut fence rails. Now-a-days the walnut logs from which the rails had been split would be worth a fortune. A few late survivors of the walnut forests, so abundant in the early days, have recently been cut down and made into gun stocks.

This beautiful valley, small portion of the environment of the grown-ups, was a world of wide boundaries and rich experiences to the boy. The remnants of the forests that once filled the valley were still abundant on the sides and crests of the slopes. In them were found the berries in summer, the nuts in autumn, rabbits and squirrels and grouse in winter. The river, tho it sometimes caught a boy in a treacherous current running off a point and carried him away to an untimely death, was a welcome refuge on a hot summer day, a meeting place of all the urchins innocent of bathing suits and unsuspecting of the blistering effects of a blazing sun. In winter its frozen surface was a highway for wood-laden bob sleds, and its smooth stretches offered the adventurous skater an avenue for extended exploration, and to the boys and a few girls a crystal floor for winter sport. A bonfire of driftwood on the sandy point of the island made a cosy center for warming the tingling fingers and toes of the youth whom a bright moon and crisp air had lured to the joys of a skating party. The sides of the valley supplied a long gentle slope for coasting; and tho toboggans were unknown the village blacksmith could put steel shoes on home-made sleds that would make them swift and durable.

In spring the friendly river became a raging monster. The copious rains and melting snow brot such floods that the ice crust of the stream was lifted bodily and borne down the racing torrent. Ice jams were formed,



FROM THE BLUFF ABOVE BYRON, ILLINOIS

and the stream rose ten or fifteen feet above its common level, flooding the bottoms. Great cakes of ice were thrust up the bank gouging and tearing it away. They stood on edge and piled up in huge, formless barricades. They cut the bark from trees. They rode down the bushes and covered the fields with their fragments. Then the ice jam broke and the flood hurled the ice masses with terrific violence against the bridge. Stone piers were ripped out and great timbers snapped like twigs and carried away in the seething waters. The agent of summer refreshment and winter sport became an irresistible giant, threatening, filling its beholders with awe.

The cut made by the river in the old preglacial divide two miles north of the village formed a picturesque spot for picnics, a wonderland of rocks and canyons for the children. The river had cut a deep gorge with rocky walls now veiled by trees and shrubs thru whose meshes the grandeur of the towering buttresses was enhanced. A spring brook had worn a side canyon narrow and deep, shady and cool on the hottest summer afternoon. The trickling water stepped daintily down from ledge to ledge. Its bed was softened by mosses. Its sides were greened with liverwort. In spring the rich soil of the hillsides above the rocks was purpled with hepaticas clustered about the roots of trees. This was the home land for shy, retiring birds. The quiet, the cool, the gentle moving, the strange life gave an atmosphere to the glen which might have made a more imaginative child people it with fairies; in the boy it aroused an unusual feeling. It made him step more softly, listen more keenly, look more intently. It impelled him to explore. Is that an eagle's nest in the high tree? Perhaps a wolf lives in that cleft in the rock; a beaten path leads to it.

From the top of the bluff one looks down nearly a hundred feet at the river rippling over its rocky bed. To the north are other rocky points and steep, tree covered hillsides. To the south is the wide valley with the sluggish stream half obstructed by sediment islands. In the morning the long shadow of the great hill on the opposite side of the river darkens the foreground and the light spreads over the active valley in the distance. At noon the sun dazzles up from the broad expanse of water below and in contrast seems to haze the fields and trees half a mile away, yet lights up the opposite rim of the valley far in the distance. At evening the shadows lengthen over the fields from the tree covered ridge in the west; the river sheen, a broad ribbon between its green banks, reaches into the dusky distance. At all times of day or moonlit night this is one of the beautiful spots of Illinois. The most beautiful outlook, I think, along the beautiful Rock River.

RALPH E. BLOUNT.

Ellen Drummond Farwell

The distribution of privately printed copies of Mrs. Ellen Drummond Farwell's "Bird Observations near Chicago" has earned for her husband, Mr. John V. Farwell of Lake Forest, the grateful appreciation of the many friends of Mrs. Farwell, particularly those who shared with her in her favorite pastime of bird study. Mrs. Farwell was one of the group including her sister, Miss Mary Drummond, and Mr. Ruthven Deane, who organized the Illinois Audubon Society in April, 1897, and she served either as Director or Vice President until her death which occurred August 6, 1912. Her field notes covering a number of years and relating principally to observations in the vicinity of Lake Forest were made with no thought of publication. This enhances instead of detracts from their value. Each bird listed has its own page or succession of pages and the notes follow in chronological sequence. Thus it is that the portrait of each bird grows before the reader very much as it did in the mind of the observer. Best of all, each observation is made as if it were a matter of ethics to set it down with fidelity and without concession to what might have been reported elsewhere and by anyone else. Painstaking observation, accuracy of statement, and abiding love for the birds, characterize these notes. No one can read them without a quickened interest in the study of birds and the preservation of faithful records of field observations. The sincerity and unstudied simplicity of Mrs. Farwell's writings reveal even to those who did not know her something of the worth and charm of her personality. The publication of the notes, a labor of love wrought out with the best art of the printer, is a most fitting way to extend the influence of their author.

The Bluebird

BY THOMAS BAILEY ALDRICH.

Hark 'tis the bluebird's venturous strain
 High on the old fringed elm at the gate—
 Sweet-voiced, valiant on the swaying bough,
 Alert, elate,
 Dodging the fitful spits of snow,
 New England's poet-laureate
 Telling us Spring has come again!

Bird Study in Public Schools



During my last years in college the opportunity came to get acquainted with our native birds in the classes of Dr. Lynds Jones of Oberlin College. It was such a delight to have this door to birdland opened to me, I resolved to pass on the inspiration to the youngsters who might fall to my lot in school work. Sharing with them has been a real pleasure since their enthusiasm is so marked.

During the autumn months not much is attempted in bird study. A review of summer experiences is sometimes worth while for most children get close to Nature's heart on summer outings. Some slight attention is given to fall migration but no census is ever taken. The immature birds are often so unlike the adults and the fall plumage less brilliant than that of spring, so that careful identification would be difficult.

In November a profitable period may be spent in discussing and demonstrating bird counters, shelters and feeding stations. The National Audubon Society for Juniors has some very suggestive circulars illustrating these topics. I glean the best suggestions from this material and give copies of hints to the pupils. In December we acquaint ourselves with the winter residents and await guests at our bird counters. The bird friends do not always accept our friendly invitations at first but some interesting reports come in.

In January intensive study begins. I have prepared typewritten lists, compiled from my records since 1900, of the birds which are commonly found here as winter residents or visitors. Such a list is prepared for each grade studying so pupils may know what to expect to find. "Never expect to see what your judgment tells you should not be seen," was a wise proverb Mr. Frank E. Sanford, a pioneer in the study of Cook County birds, used to tell his bird pupils in LaGrange. This wards off the possibility of children reporting swallows and warblers in January. I have similar lists posted for the spring arrivals in March and early April. Children soon learn to be accurate in reporting and say diplomatically, "Is it too early to see the bobolink yet?" About May first I assure them I shall not be skeptical about any report.

Pupils are encouraged to keep their own lists for the year, making careful records of the date and place of the birds observed. Beside these individual lists a group list for the whole room is worth while. The Illinois Audubon Society has prepared a wall chart of 200 birds to be found in Illinois. This chart has the birds arranged in families so the pupils are getting a fine idea of the relationship. Blank spaces occur for the date and name of the first observer of each bird. This chart becomes an object of increasing interest as the season advances. My classes in the Grammar Grades usually record about 160 birds identified by the end of June. My Second Grade, where sense perception is keen, often report as high as one hundred. The joy these youngsters find in this work can hardly be described. Generally I challenge a whole group to compete with my individual list for the year. If I am fortunate to get out on sufficient trips

alone I can sometimes outstrip them. Yet I always share the best trips with some of the pupils so that frequently the group list outnumbered mine.

Pupils of the various grades take real pride in joining the Junior Audubon League. I can never express to Mr. T. Gilbert Pearson the far reaching results in bird protection that come through this channel. The buttons, the colored and uncolored plates, and the pamphlets make a special appeal to each child. Best of all is the promise they make to protect the birds and hold a meeting once a month. In the lower grades these are very simple programs. The motive with the little people is of course aesthetic while with the Grammar Grades it is economic. The following topics I have found of special interest with older pupils: Tree Trunk Patrol, Seed Eaters, Migration, Bird Sanctuaries, Value of Hawks and Owls, Work of Warblers and Vireos, Nests and Nesting, Food of Nestlings, Bird Houses, Life of Audubon, etc. Various bulletins from the Department of Agriculture are invaluable for these topics. Weed and Dearborn's "Birds and Their Relation to Man" is frequently consulted. Bayne's "Wild Bird Guests" we once used as a text with real profit. Burgess Bird Book is of special interest to younger pupils now. I find pupils quoting from Mrs. Bailey's "Birds of Tree Top and Meadow." I saw a class using Mr. Pearson's book for Juniors with profit last spring. Mr. Frank Chapman's recent books "Our Winter Birds" and "Travels of Birds" are both attractive and helpful in this work.

Whenever a dead bird is brought in we make it a special object of study. The characteristics of different orders and families are thus learned. Great profit has come from this source. In February or early March the Audubon Bird Slides make a delightful diversion to the work. While a well written lecture accompanies the 90 carefully selected slides in each set. I always prefer to explain the pictures as they appear on the screen. The society has three sets of these slides, so a different one may be obtained each spring.

I encourage pupils to visit the Academy of Science to enjoy the habitat studies. These are not so pretentious as those in the Natural History Museum in New York but they are most accurately arranged. Those who know the original haunts of Illinois birds are proud of these reproductions. The Bird House at Lincoln Park is a profitable place for study as also the exhibit of Illinois birds at Field Museum, while the lagoons and lake at Lincoln and Jackson Parks abound in rare individuals in migration. Just last week a Fourth Grade boy told his class of the pleasure he had recently in seeing the bird plates of Audubon at the Crear Library in Chicago.

Pupils are urged to use Reed's Bird Guide and field glasses in field work. When they have learned the method of field study their real joy begins. Then large groups can be taken out with profit. A swamp trip, a wood trip and one all day outing, make a fine program for pupils who have caught the spirit of individual study. Having first gotten acquainted with the birds in the lower grades and later studying them from the light of biological department at Washington, the pupils in the public schools today should have a sane appreciation of the harm or value of our bird life. To protect the desirable and to eliminate harmful birds should be the future program.

ESTHER CRAIGMILE.

A Federal Warden in Action

From the records obtained from the office of the Federal Game Warden, B. G. Merrill, Hinsdale, Illinois, this memorandum of arrests during the past season has been compiled. The following persons appeared before Judge Louis FitzHenry and were each fined \$50.00 and costs for killing wild ducks during the closed season: Samuel Bishop, Havana; Claude C. Stillwell, Liverpool; Walter B. Hess, Liverpool; Louis Springstein, Oquawka; Herman B. Rebman, Frederick. For the same charge and before the same judge, Frederick H. Sharpe, Jacksonville, was fined \$75.00 and costs; Fred C. Barnes, Washburn, \$25.00 and costs; H. W. Packard, Washburn, \$25.00 and costs; Rex Curless, Bluff City, \$10.00 and costs and Clifford J. Rose, Bluff City, \$10.00 and costs. For the same offense Edward H. Alexander, Centralia, and Clarence DuMontel, Kankakee, appeared before Judge George W. English and were each fined \$1.00 and costs.

In Judge George A. Carpenter's court John Vander-Meier, Kensington, was fined \$50.00 and costs for selling and killing Coots; Angelo Incianpi, Kensington, was fined \$25.00 and costs for killing Killdeer and Sand Pipers; Alexander Arrivo, Kensington, was fined \$25.00 and costs for killing Killdeer Plover; Frazero Conterato, Kensington, was fined \$50.00 and costs for killing Warblers; Tony Pissito was fined \$25.00 and costs for killing Killdeer Plover. Tony Winco, Kensington, charged with killing Woodpeckers, Robins, Flickers and Cuckoos, was discharged by United States Commissioner Louis F. Mason upon payment of \$25.00 to the government conscience fund. John Mettifogo and John Guzzette both of Kensington charged with a similar offense were discharged by Commissioner Mason upon payment of \$20.00 to the government conscience fund.

Six citizens of Fort Madison, Iowa, are under bonds to appear for trial on charge of killing wild ducks from a motor boat. Fifteen other persons charged with violation of the game laws are awaiting trial.

Resignation of Secretary Langdon

One year ago the Bulletin announced the election of Mr. Roy Monroe Langdon to the position of Secretary-Treasurer of the Illinois Audubon Society. The publication of this number will bring to his many friends the much regretted announcement of his retirement from the position. In order to qualify for a very promising opening in Denver Mr. Langdon was obliged to present his resignation at the January meeting of the Board of Directors. Unfortunately Mr. Langdon, while making preparations for his departure, was taken seriously ill and has been for some time a hospital case in Chicago. His friends will be glad to learn that the latest report is that his condition has greatly improved and that he will soon be able to resume active work.

Mr. Langdon has made his influence felt in Audubon circles in many ways but his big contribution has been the arousing of public attention to the common domestic cat as a very concrete obstacle to the conservation of bird life. Several thousand copies of his "cat circular" have been distributed, not only in Illinois but in various parts of the United States. Applications for it for distribution in quantities have been nation-wide

and its influence is steadily increasing. It is to be hoped that whatever Mr. Langdon's duties in his new surroundings may involve, he will reserve time to promote the campaign for the elimination of the harmful unnecessary cat.

A Few King Birds



The above reproductions of photographs by F. N. Whitman represent certain aspects of life as it appears to kingbirds. The upper clearly sets forth the familiar story of the drowsy acquiescence of the young in the rapid transformation of carbohydrates into bird tissue, feathers, etc. It is passive reciprocity with its zero of urge.

Below the young are seen registering the discrepancy between supply and demand, the pensive if not concerned look of the parent on the right suggesting inability to function as to supplies at this particular time. The sudden appearance of an insect within a convenient radius would no doubt put a severe strain upon the feelings of a parent. It might prove embarrassing to the insect.

An Illinois Boy Among Illinois Birds

"A boy's will is the wind's will, and the thoughts of youth are long, long thoughts."

Adam was assuredly the first boy who studied birds and collected their eggs. I am sure that he knew all the birds in the Garden of Eden, and all about them; hidden away in some corner of his ancestral cave his collection of bird's eggs would have done credit to a modern museum. I can readily fancy his joy upon finding his first clutch of eggs of the bird-of-paradise.

And ever since then, this primal passion for bird-study and the collection of birds' eggs has been part of every real boy's character. Like the inherent wanderlust that sends a boy far afield, his love for birds has kept his heart clean and his mind stimulated, all through the ages. He has to pass through the egg-collecting stage, but it is only temporary—and thank goodness it is, for else there would long ago have been no birds left.

As a boy I grew up on a prairie farm in Central Illinois, and almost before I had donned trousers I had become a lover of birds. I remember very well how my father carried me out into the yard one late fall evening to see the hundreds of wild pigeons that had settled to rest in the Norway spruces. It must have been in 1885 or 1886 that this happened and I never saw them again. It was about the time of their extinction, I think, and they never returned.

About the same time another experience with birds happened which I never forgot. The sapsuckers on their spring migration north were tapping the spruces and I tried very hard to catch some of them. My father, who saw me at it, advised me to go to the salt-barrel, get some salt, and put it on the birds' tails. In all confidence I tried for a long time, before I finally gave up the futile pursuit.

Still another experience of my very early days taught me that the shrike is a "butcher-bird." The snow lay heavy upon the ground and hundreds of juncos and tree sparrows were feeding about the garden and the millet and haystacks. While I stood at the window watching the storm and the bird-life a shrike dashed into the flocks of small birds in pursuit of a junco. The poor junco had no way of escape. He flew against the window-sill, and was at once pounced upon and carried off by the shrike.

In my boyhood, most of the sloughs of the prairie counties were as yet undrained, and the great migration of ducks, geese, and snipe still followed the Illinois prairie route. In the spring especially the great flights swept northward and I distinctly recall wedges of ducks, geese, and brant, miles in length. The cornfields were filled with feeding waterfowl, and the musical honk of the Canada goose was common for weeks. The last wild swans that I saw on the prairie alighted in a small creek not far from the country-school that I attended, and I remember well how all the pupils wondered what the big birds were.

Then as I grew older my interest and my knowledge grew by leaps and bounds. I did not have any way of learning the right names for most of the birds, so I named them myself. The marsh wrens I called "cat-tail birds," the woodcock I called "scare-birds" because they always startled me when I flushed them; I named the Maryland yellow-throat the "Little slough-meadowlark," an obvious enough name; and so, except for the com-

monest birds, I had my own system of nomenclature, which still remains potentially dominant in my mind.

The habits of the birds always interested me; the way the quail, and kill-deer, and meadowlark tried to entice me away from their nests by feigning injury; how the prairie horned lark nested so early in the season that snow covered the nest and the mother bird had to dig her way out; how the wren tried out several nesting-places before finally deciding upon the permanent home; the antics of the mating woodcock; these merely illustrate how I was daily acquiring at firsthand a vast store of bird-lore.

I summarize this early history of my bird-study because I wish ardently to plead the cause of the Audubon Society and the work that it is doing. And more ardently I wish to plead the cause of the boys in relation to the birds. I know from my own experience that my whole boyhood would have been richer and pleasanter even than it was, could I but have had the help of the society. As education and training in nature and in citizenship, bird study and bird discipline as outlined by our State Audubon Society can not be surpassed.

The common schools of the state should be the skirmish line for a more vigorous campaign in the study and conservation of our bird life; in the beginning of all kinds of self-discipline and national thrift. The entire boy-scout army should be enlisted actively in the movement. The field is splendid. What a magnificent army of local observers in every branch of natural history and science could be thus developed! What renewed and extended interest there would be in the natural life of this good old world of ours! And how much broadened and brightened would be the horizon of every boy and man in this whole state! The Audubon Society has a great opportunity to do a splendid bit of work, and we bird lovers have a great opportunity to help effectively.

W. ELMER EKBLAW,
The University of Illinois.

SETS ARBOR AND BIRD DAYS

Lowden Proclaims April 23 and Oct. 22—Sees "Intangible Wealth."

[By *The Associated Press.*]

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 26.—In a proclamation just issued Gov. Frank O. Lowden fixed Friday, April 23, and Friday, Oct. 22, as Arbor and Bird days.

The proclamation is as follows:

"There is a kind of wealth in birds and trees that defies appraisal, and yet there is a sense in which they constitute a very real and a very tangible source of public wealth. The practical utilities which they serve are so great as to make their conservation and protection matters of grave public concern. Any nationwide instruction in thrift must provide for an effort to correct our habits of profligacy and waste of these great natural resources.

"An intelligent sentiment for the planting and culture of trees and forests must be encouraged. It may prove to be a sound state and national policy to exempt

all timber-growing lands from taxation. The constant menace of insect pests to an agricultural state like ours makes necessary the protection of our wild birds through the creation of sentiment and the enactment and enforcement of wise laws.

"With these objectives in view it was an expression of practical wisdom and sound statesmanship on the part of the general assembly to provide by law for the setting aside each year of a day or days when these important matters should be brought to the attention of the people of the commonwealth in an especial manner through programs given in our schools, churches, civic and social centers.

"Therefore, under the acts of the general assembly passed to encourage the planting of trees, shrubs and vines about the homes, along the highways and around public grounds, I, Frank O. Lowden, governor of the state of Illinois, do hereby designate Friday, April 23, 1920, and Friday, Oct. 22, 1920, as Arbor and Bird days."

State Parks for Illinois

In the issue of the Bulletin one year ago attention was directed to the fact that there has been no official reference to the organization of state parks in Illinois since 1913 and that although there is a Division of Parks under our state government it does not seem to be charged with the task of studying significant areas in Illinois with reference to their suitability for state parks and reporting thereon from time to time to the General Assembly. The old Park Commission had this particular function and it was in accordance with its successive recommendations, that the Starved Rock Park was first acquired and later enlarged, and the Fort Chartres area set apart as a State Park.

In contrast with the official inactivity in Illinois during the past six years, there is a record of progress in Iowa that is inspiring and full of promise.

The thirty-seventh General Assembly of Iowa authorized the creation of state parks out of funds from fees obtained from hunters' license fees. Although the funds available have not been large, two state parks have resulted from this action. A 1200 acre park along the Muskoqueta River, embracing one of the few type streams left in Iowa, containing also some magnificent old white pine, was dedicated last October. A second state park has recently been established in the horseshoe bend of the Des Moines River near Keosauqua. This area of 1,123 acres contains a large number of interesting native trees, especially oaks, and shrubs. Some of the rarer species of Iowa birds, such as the drumming pheasant, are found here.

The state is receiving generous gifts. The Brandt sisters of Davenport donated 57 acres of what is known as "Wild Cat Den," an area containing some rare ferns and interesting from an ecological standpoint. The citizens of Farmington and Van Buren county purchased outright 100 acres containing a lotus pond of 40 acres. The thirty-eighth assembly appropriated \$100,000 annually for the creation of these parks.

Fortunately all this time public interest in Illinois in state parks and the conservation of forest areas has been steadily growing. The forest preserve established in Cook County, an area almost imperial in proportions, has had a significant influence. Various conservation groups have been considering particular phases of the situation. Up to the present time the most significant bit of work has been that of the Illinois State Park Committee of the Friends of Our Native Landscape. This Committee has for several months been making a survey of the state to include the following objectives: areas suitable for state parks and state forest land areas. This committee has no official relation to the state government but its organization met with Gov. Lowden's approval and the peculiar fitness of its members to undertake a work of this kind will insure respectful consideration for its recommendations. A subcommittee consisting of Prof. S. A. Forbes of Urbana and of Mr. Jens Jensen and Prof. H. C. Cowles of Chicago has recently presented to the full committee a detailed report with recommendations which while tentative in its nature is big with constructive significance. This committee favors for state parks areas of not less than one thousand acres—and the distribution of such park areas over the state with reference to population centers where possible. The com-



Photo by John Baird

IN THE COOK COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE

mittee reported unanimously in favor of eight park propositions—five major and three minor—as follows:

1. Mississippi River bank in Jo Daviess and Carroll Counties (major). This park should extend through both counties along the river, including islands, down to the Savanna region with a possible extension to the Apple River canyon in Jo Daviess County.

2. Rock River Bluffs (minor), to include the bluffs on both sides of the river from the Mississippi, through Rock Island, Whiteside and Lee Counties and well into Ogle County with a possible extension to the White Pine Grove of that county.

3. Enlargement of the Starved Rock reservation (major) to include Deer Park and the banks of the Fox and Vermillion Rivers in LaSalle County.

4. Illinois River banks in Mason and Fulton Counties (major), this to include the banks on both sides of the Illinois and Spoon Rivers and lakes and dunes in the vicinity of Havana.

5. Mouth of the Illinois (major), this to include both sides of the mouth of the Illinois with areas in Calhoun and Jersey Counties.

6. Danville region in Vermillion Co. (minor), a park in the prairie country.

7. Effingham region (minor), an attractive park also in prairie country.

8. (a) Mississippi River bank in Jackson and Union Counties (major), or (b) Wabash River bank in Gallatin County (major), both notably scenic regions. The committee proposes to name one of these two areas after further consideration of their significance.

No recommendations have as yet been made with reference to state forest land areas. The development of the plans for the new state highway system may suggest extensions or alterations of park boundaries but even the tentative outline of a system of state parks as proposed must make a profound appeal to all who give thought to the future welfare of our state. It is unnecessary to dwell upon the significance of a program of state parks and state forest-land areas for the conservation of bird life.

FREDERIC H. PATTEE.

Making Game Wardens of School Children

I am supposed to write something about the enforcement of the laws protecting song birds. First of all I wish to say that as Editor of the Illinois Sportsman and an active member of the Sportsmen's League I speak with authority when I assert that contrary to the opinion of some people the sportsmen are the friends of our little feathered friends and are heartily in favor of any law that will serve to keep up the supply. This will apply to an overwhelming majority of those who use a gun in the field, the few exceptions being mostly those who are lacking in education on the importance of conserving our wild birds. At the last big conference of sportsmen held in Springfield, which was during the 1919 session of the General Assembly, among those present were representatives of the Illinois Audubon Society, all of whom received a cordial reception and were invited to take part in the proceedings. If they did not get what they wanted from the legislature it was not the fault of the sportsmen.

I am connected with the Illinois Division of Game and Fish. Last April Chief Warden Ralph F. Bradford, of Springfield, conceived the idea that it would be a splendid plan to have the various employees go out and make a special drive for the protection of the birds. My instructions were to visit the police officers and others in authority in my district asking them to report any cases where song birds were killed or nests robbed. I was to call on the school teachers, especially the superintendents, asking their co-operation in the work. My territory consists of Clinton, Bond and Montgomery counties. I started out with the expectation of getting by without doing any direct talking to the children, being under the impression that perhaps the teachers might not want to give the time, but it did not take long to convince me that the people were practically 100 per cent. in favor of preserving our song birds. The officers of the law, school teachers, newspaper editors, all declared that it was one of the best moves ever made and promised to co-operate in every way. One newspaper editor who is among the leaders of his profession in the state, gave my hand a vigorous shake and said: "Let me congratulate your department. I have been a wild life conservationist for many, many years, and of song birds in particular. It is one of the best moves ever made by the state. Educate the boys while they are in school to the importance of protecting our birds and you've won more than half the battle. I am with you, ditto my paper." This was a sample of the greetings I received.

In Litchfield we had a real bird day celebration. On my first visit the superintendent of the public schools suggested that we make a big time of it, so he arranged for the use of the movie theatre building. That morning we had two lectures by Prof. J. D. Gilbert, of Carbondale, who spoke to almost a thousand pupils from all the schools of the city. It was illus-

trated with his own slides and was highly entertaining and instructive to the school children and teachers alike. Since Prof. Gilbert did the heavy work I made only a few closing remarks.

In my own lecture work I used three colored charts obtained from the National Audubon Society of New York. After a short preliminary talk on the benefit of the birds, and calling attention to the laws protecting the same with certain exceptions, I would ask the pupils to name either twenty-five or fifty of our native song birds, the number depending upon the age of the pupils to whom I was talking. In questioning the children, I found them quite ready in identifying birds from the charts. Some schools made a much better showing than others, and I found individual pupils exceptionally well posted on birds and their habits. I always asked the boys, at least old enough to handle an air rifle, to name the birds permitted to be killed by law, and most of them named the list completely.

As a rule I found both teachers and pupils very much interested in the study of birds, but one important thing was lacking, and that was a text book on the subject, or charts, etc., to work with. Both the superintendents and teachers were of the opinion that the colored charts were of vital importance in the study of the birds, being the most effective method of familiarizing the pupils with the different species. The sentiment seemed to be unanimously in favor of better and more instruction on the birds.

I am not familiar with the courses of study in the various schools, or the state requirements pertaining to the same, but my brief experience as a bird lecturer convinced me that a regular course should be established and made compulsory to give instructions on the values of our feathered friends. Start with the primary grades where the youngsters can be taught to identify the different species of the birds by means of the charts, and other details may be added as the children advance. In making my rounds I found one primary teacher who had been giving much attention to the birds, and it was surprising how easy it was for many of these "infants" to name the common ones shown on the chart.

In every school I found some attention had been given to the birds, but mostly in a desultory manner, due to the lack of a fixed program and proper material. It is true that we have laws protecting the beneficial birds of our country, but I believe we can do more real good by instilling in the hearts of the people a love for them, and the place to start is in the schools. If it were left for me to say, I would go further and make it compulsory to study our wild life in general. I would teach the pupils why it is necessary to protect our game and fish and explain the state and federal laws. The state could provide a corps of special lecturers to help spread the wild life propaganda.

In addition to the schools we ought to seek publicity through the newspapers, magazines and movie theatres. I have found that the editors of the newspapers are always willing to give space to short articles on the value of the birds, and perhaps they might be induced to have a department on this subject, the matter to be furnished by a regular press bureau. To make it all the more interesting items pertaining to our game and fish should be included. For the purpose of getting the boys especially interested Wild Life Clubs could be organized, and Bird Clubs for the girls, which would mean frequent hikes to the "Tall Timber," with a good lunch on the side.

When Chief Warden Bradford started the system of spreading the bird

propaganda by having the employees of the department make special and direct appeals to the school children I think he hit the right trail. I know it has done a lot of good. With a few exceptions I have found the boys willing and anxious to protect our song birds, and through these lectures I was able to reach the "exceptions." In a number of instances boys have been induced to change their ways, and in addition thereto it has caused the older shooters to be more careful about killing woodpeckers, robins, etc. That possible state and federal fine makes the elders think twice before they shoot.

I might sum up by quoting the substance of a portion of an interview with one school superintendent, who said:

"The work you are now engaged in is meritorious, and your department is entitled to congratulations for manifesting an interest in our little feathered friends, but I prefer to let you do the talking to the pupils. We'll arrange to give you time in each room. I believe that a short talk by you will have a much better effect than a long one by me, because you are an official and will not make any mistakes, especially on the law end of it. The subject is a very important one, and more attention should be given it."

H. C. NORCROSS, Carlyle, Ill.

Nesting Boxes and Nesting Sites

It is an encouraging sign of the times to find so much interest among the children to protect the native bird life. Much of this is due to courses of education given in schools and much more to the efforts of the junior Audubon Societies. The interest is forcibly demonstrated in many spirited bird house contests, in which the zeal and patience displayed in making attractive bird dwellings is truly inspiring.

In looking over a bird house exhibit, as spectator or judge, the impression has ever prevailed that somehow the instructors had given full rein to the fancy of the individual to build according to his artistic temperament. In consequence among many practical boxes there are found perfect imitations of bungalows, complete in every detail with doors and windows, lapped siding, shingled roof and a chimney, intended to house a family of bluebirds. Now bluebirds have been known to occupy such a building successfully where nothing else offered, but a smaller and simpler nesting box would have proven more satisfactory and safer for the purpose on hand. The greatest criticism centers on houses too large and too deep for any purpose, with openings that would with equal comfort admit a wren, a squirrel or a cat. Other conspicuous designs noted represent straw-covered tepees, chickadee apartment houses, triangular and pyramidal structures for wrens, batteries of pendent logs, graduated for one, two or three apartments, Dutch windmills, covered strawhats, tin crescents, flower pots, vinegar jugs and tin cans, plain and ornamental.

The spirit which prompts this lavish outlay of time and material is commendable, but the same amount of labor and material would produce twice as many nesting boxes if the efforts were directed along practical lines. The absence of suitable nesting sites has induced many birds to accept the substitutes offered by man; a fact greatly instrumental in increasing our bird population. The success met with in the initial attempts

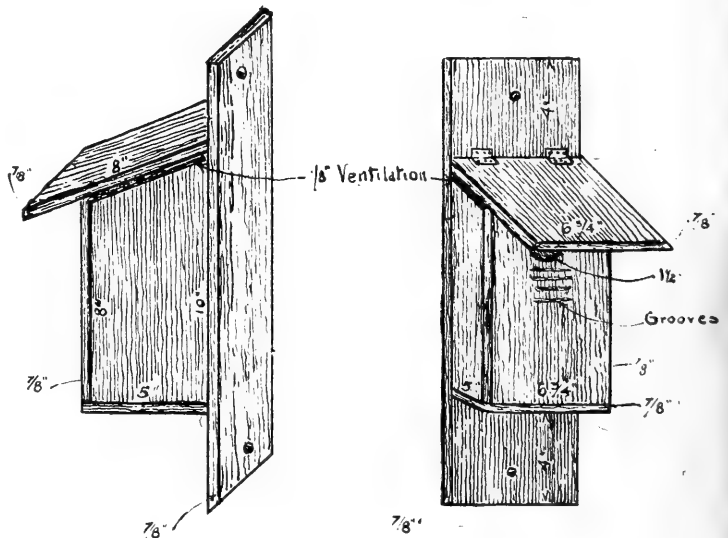
brought about a great demand for nesting boxes, which induced business men to venture into the bird box game commercially. Their products are in evidence everywhere.

The types, while differing considerably in design and workmanship, however, are easily grouped into two classes, one known as the Von Berlepsch bird box constructed from hollowed-out logs and the other as the square type made of boards. The Von Berlepsch box is by far the more attractive, fitting into its surroundings inconspicuously and naturally. The report of E. H. Forbush, with reference to this box has not been favorable, but here in Rockford it has been found the favorite nesting box with the birds.

The needs of each species of birds has been met by well studied, simple, practical, roomy, sanitary and safe nesting boxes. The proportions of these have been painstakingly worked out by authorities on bird life and little or no improvement can be made except as individual fancy may dictate. The Von Berlepsch box can be bought so much cheaper than one could make it that measurements of this type will be omitted. It can be bought of Phillip E. Perry, P. O. Box 275, Boston, Massachusetts. The Audubon Bird House Company, of Meriden, New Hampshire, manufacture a slightly modified form of the Von Berlepsch box, the changes being intended to meet the special requirements of American birds.

Materials for the square box type are easily obtained and its construction is so simple that by following a few important rules any one is in a position to turn out very satisfactory houses. Labor being the greatest item of expense, the lumber should be selected with a view to its lasting qualities. Weathered lumber is to be preferred to newly planed boards and a coating of paint well dried in, especially if applied in the fall, will be no detriment.

Lumber less than $\frac{5}{8}$ " in thickness should not be used and boards $\frac{7}{8}$ " thick for anything larger than a wren box are preferable. The board forming the back of the box may project four inches above and four inches below the box proper. This permits of a secure and easy fastening to pole, building or tree. The roof should have a slope toward the front of two inches, with a projection of three inches over the front of the box. By placing the entrance hole one and one-half inches below the overhang, the roof will act as shelter against driving rains and also prevent cats and squirrels from reaching the nest from the roof. The two sides should reach to but $\frac{1}{8}$ " of the sloping roof, giving much needed ventilation to stifling nestlings. The board composing the front of the box must



be considerably roughened or grooved both inside and out to give the birds a chance to climb in and out. Projecting bottom boards and perches must be entirely omitted. They offer foothold to bird enemies, enabling them to annoy and drive away rightful tenant. The bottom board should be perforated with gimlet holes for drainage from entering rains. The entrance, carefully corresponding in size to the size of the box, may be encircled with a zinc collar to prevent woodpeckers and squirrels from enlarging the opening. A hinged roof, fastened with a small hook, will be found a great convenience. It greatly facilitates ejecting undesirable tenants, bird enemies, cleaning out old nests or nest photography. A hinged roof is not desirable where boxes are exposed to public abuse and covers fastened down with screws or dummy nails should be given the preference.

The merits of the many substitutes used in place of lumber, such as cigar boxes, gourds, jugs, tin cans, tarpaper, flower pots, will not be discussed here. They are make-shifts at the best, tho they often serve their purpose. Anything worth doing is worth doing well, and greater enjoyment is commensurate with greater effort. Farmers Bulletin No. 609 "Bird Houses and how to build them" publishes a practical list of the various boxes with full dimensions of house, size of entrance and distance to be placed from the ground.

By applying the fundamental principles of construction, as outlined above, one cannot go wrong in providing a simple, practical home for his bird friends. The size of the wren house, as given above, is somewhat large; a box 4x6 will be found more than sufficient. It matters little if the box is made vertical or horizontal, the bird's nest will always be found farthest from the entrance. Any one who has watched the tiny bird in its endlessly tedious task carrying in the material for the nest foundation, only to be confronted with the alternative of seeking a new home or cleaning out the old for its second brood, will gladly remember to build large enough but not too large.

As much depends upon proper placing of a bird house as upon proper construction. The greatest error is made in placing too many boxes for a given area, which always sets the bird to quarreling, excepting the companionable swallows and martins. Boxes for a certain species are best placed at least one hundred feet apart. Dense woods and trees are generally to be avoided. A tree trunk is a highway of travel for flying squirrels, chipmunks, squirrels and cats. However, boxes suspended from a limb by a wire overcomes this objection and homes for wrens, nuthatches, chickadees and woodpeckers may be placed about shade trees and orchards. Extensive experiments have clearly demonstrated that nesting boxes placed on poles are preferred by the birds. These poles may be cat and squirrel proofed by a two foot strip of galvanized tin, six feet above the ground. Pergolas, porch pillars and buildings often offer desirable and safe location for bird boxes. The entrance of the box should be placed opposite to that of the prevailing winds, which in Illinois are mostly from the south west.

Equal in importance to proper construction, dimension and placing of a bird house is the strictest vigilance over its occupant. Close observations and bi-monthly examinations will often reveal such tenants as mice, chipmunk, flying squirrel, squirrel or English sparrow. These bird enemies are responsible for the greatest part of all failures in successfully attract-

ing birds. The success attained by individuals will be measured by the amount of intensive protection accorded. Cats also must be dealt with relentlessly. No sensible person will expect to reform this animal instantly by an unkind word, cuff or severer punishment after considering that its impulses are those of countless ages and its diet of birds date back almost to the beginning of time.

Nesting boxes with openings of one and one-half inches and upward will ever remain the legitimate prey of the house sparrow. I have found it expedient to place many of these boxes in low down and convenient places for the sparrows' own use. A little observation soon records the home life of each and when the female bird has been brooding her eggs for two days, no disturbance will induce her to leave. This is the logical time to act; the male usually nonchalantly taking the place of the defunct female within half an hour, immediately meeting the same fate. The box is then cleaned out ready for the next victim. At one time I took six males before the wily female fell a victim. The house sparrow is persistent, adopting abandoned eggs or young with frequency and mating alternately time and again as one or the other falls a victim. This method of duping them has helped to relieve the martin colony from their unwelcome attentions and never more than one or two birds a season have preferred the disputed martin house to an undisputed home of their own.

Now for a brief reference to those birds affected by the spread of civilization who find sufficient food in the changed country but no suitable sites to build their nests. The ever thinning ranks of woodlands and forest, the scrupulous mandates of civilization to tidy up, automatically and unconsciously deprive them of safe nesting sites. The towhee, catbird, thrushes, brown thrashers, grosbeak, tanager, and others must still build in brushwood, undergrowth and tangle, and, their existence depends on the presence of shrub and tree growth. Think of a region having become silent for the want of a brushpile; think of the same region enriched by the incomparable song of the brown thrasher, simply because of the presence of a brush pile.

While the woodlands are vanishing, the bird population is also vanishing in proportion. Therefore, one should make necessary provisions to offer them a substitute. Here in the City of Rockford, with a population of 80,000, we listened to the flute-like notes of the wood-thrush but six blocks removed from the busiest corner of the city. A year later another woodthrush cast her lot with the dwellers of the "Forest City" and last year no less than eight pairs of these thrushes resided in various parts of the city, the initial bird still holding forth at its old site.

Sinissippi Park in Rockford covers 124 acres. Of these 60 acres are in fine timber, but the early management fell into unsympathetic hands. In consequence it was robbed of much of its natural beauty by denuding it of its undergrowth. It no longer knew the song of the brown thrasher, the mocking bird of the north. How eagerly the few initial brush heaps, composed of fallen twigs and limbs and disposed of in out of the way places, found ready takers. Again the carols of ecstasy rang forth from liquid throats. The brown thrasher had accepted the substitute. Black Hawk Park, 80 acres, presenting the typical Illinois scenery, is adding annually to its abundant bird population. Nests of rose-breasted grosbeak,

robin, American goldfinch and catbird in one instance all occurred in a radius of 15 feet.

Suitable bird boxes, drinking dishes, bird baths, systematic winter feeding, new plantations of wild fruits, shelter belts, annual pruning of crotches, checking the spread of natural enemies, will, in a measure restore natural conditions. This, together with tireless love for the work, will bring to us many birds and a never ending source of new delight.

PAUL B. RIES.

Withdrawal of Professor Hankinson

Announcement is made with regret of the withdrawal of Professor T. L. Hankinson, one of the active supporters of the Illinois Audubon Society, who resigned his position on the staff of the Eastern Illinois Normal School last June to take the position of Ichthyologist at the New York State College of Forestry. His work will be in the department known as the Roosevelt Wild Life Forest Experiment Station. As fish will be studied from the ecological standpoint the complex environment will have to be dealt with and this will involve much work with other subjects than ichthyology. For this reason Professor Hankinson hopes to continue his bird studies and other lines of natural history in which he is interested. He has a varied collection of ornithological studies made in Illinois and it is hoped that in time some of them at least will be available for publication in the Bulletin.



Photo by W. D. Richardson

CASPIAN TERNS

View of a breeding colony on a small gravel-covered island at the north end of Lake Michigan. Caspian terns obligingly "wheeling about" and posing for a member of the Illinois Audubon Society who sojourns temporarily in an umbrella tent.

Experiences with Bird Houses

I have had the following birds occupy artificial bird houses which I have constructed: Bluebirds, House Wren, Bewick's Wren, Chickadees, Tufted Titmice, Flicker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Purple Martin, Great-crested Flycatcher, Screech Owl, and English Sparrow, while a neighbor who has a small shelf built on his porch yearly enjoys the return of a Robin to this protected nook where it nests. Another neighbor has an open nesting box with roof upheld by four rustic sticks. This is on top of a trellis and twice a Brown Thrasher has filled it with sticks and made it her nesting site for two years. This is a list of thirteen varieties which have nested in artificial houses in one neighborhood.

For Bluebirds and Wrens I use boxes of the type described by Mr. Riis in the foregoing article. Practically all the other birds mentioned above require houses made from logs, the Martins and Swallows, of course, excepted, these birds being community dwellers and requiring spacious boxes with sufficient nests to encourage the community instinct. I have had marked success with log houses of my own making but space will not permit giving details of construction at this time. Perhaps mention of some of my experiences will be worth while.

I once had a box which was attached to the tree by a hook. The metal of the screw which held the log, unknown to me, pierced the inner cavity of the log. As the log was a long one and was placed 12 feet high in a chestnut tree, it met the approval of a pair of Red-headed Woodpeckers. The point of metal irritated the male bird. Even after the mother bird had eggs, he would reach through the entrance hole and peck away at the objectionable metal. Gradually he released the wood about the retaining hook and one day as he pecked, the log's weight released the hook and down fell the log killing the Red-head family. For this reason I warn you to be careful of the way you attach your boxes to the trees. Have the interior smooth, and all screws or hooks needed to attach the box to the tree should be carefully placed.

Having noticed that the Great-crested Flycatchers sometimes built their nests in horizontal hollow limbs, I easily blocked up one end of a cut hollow limb, and partly blocked the other end with a crescent shaped plug. This nest was perhaps 12 inches in depth. I suspended it to a maple tree which stood close to a large tennis court. One end of the nest was nailed to the tree, and all evidence of artificiality at the opening was obliterated by use of patch work with bark. This end faced the court so the bird could watch for flying insects from his home entrance. This box was horizontal or parallel to the earth's surface. I have been fortunate in having Great-crested Flycatchers in this nest for two successive years. The two years following this occurrence, I had a pair nest in an upright hollow log in my tulip tree. In the last case the cavity was four inches across and nine inches deep.

Many persons wonder why the Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers do not nest in box nests. Both varieties seem to desire a clean nest chiseled out by themselves yearly. Several years ago, during the winter, I found a well chiseled hole in a willow stump. I broke off the rotten limb and brought it home and attached it to the elm tree. Instead of accepting this fine site, a

Downy Woodpecker started a new excavation at once, six or eight inches below the other. Just as he had about completed it, March arrived with its abundance of Bluebirds. A pair of the latter tried to take possession of the upper hole while the downies down below took violent exception to this intrusion of the flats above. The suggestion, however, was a good one and yearly I have since brought in several good soft willow logs about the size of my arm and attach these to a tree in my yard or to the trees in the park across the way. The Woodpeckers do their share and I often have them as residents, however, if by accident the Woodpeckers are scared away, I know that I'm nearly sure of a pair of Titmice, Chickadees, or Bluebirds.

Many may object to the above program as too much work. Secure a nest of Greatcrested Flycatchers, a Titmouse or Chickadee once and you will never begrudge the several hours spent on making the right kind of a house.

T. E. MUSSELMAN.

A Unique Exhibit

The Chicago Chapter of the Wild Flower Preservation Society of America is to be congratulated upon a unique exhibit held during the month of January at the Art Institute in Chicago. Although the exhibit was arranged to further the particular interests for which that Society stands, its scope was so broad that it might well have been called a natural history exhibit. Dried specimens of grasses, reeds, seed pods, insect galls, ferns, mosses and lichens, were displayed in close proximity to photographs of birds and spiderwebs, and there were displays of photographs of flowers, blueprints of plant life, collections of insects, shelf mushrooms, etc. No emphasis was laid upon things purely scientific and the members of the exhibit committee and their friends simply brought their "treasures" to the exhibit. This accounts for the wide diversity of subjects and explains the great interest the exhibit aroused. A very satisfactory result was the keen and intelligent interest shown by school children. One teacher of biology made fifteen consecutive visits, each time bringing a group of children. Another interesting result was the bringing to light of many unsuspected hobbies among business men and women and the occasional revelation of great interest in, or unusual scientific knowledge of, some plant or flower. During the time the exhibit was in place over 30,000 admissions to the Art Institute were recorded and of these only a small proportion failed to visit the gallery where the exhibit was displayed. Someone from Peoria "happened in" and later on the Chamber of Commerce of that city requested that the whole exhibit be packed and shipped there at its expense for a two weeks public display. The success of the exhibit in Chicago has been so great and its educational value so important that the management of the Art Institute have offered double space for next year's exhibit. Mrs. Charles Hutchinson is President of the Society and Mrs. C. S. Eaton of 5744 Kimbark Ave., Chicago, is Secretary.

O. M. S.

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN
 SPRING 1920
 Published by the
 ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
 For the Conservation of Bird-Life

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This page is given up to suggestions to Audubon societies, nature study clubs, and similar organizations. For these organizations the adoption of some project or concerted activity is an essential to well-being.

* * *

Select a given area for intensive study of bird visitors and bird residents. A specially suitable area should be partly wooded, have a dwelling house and orchard, meadow, etc., and contain twenty or more acres. Address E. W. Nelson, Chief of the United States Biological Survey of Washington, D. C., for printed forms to be used in a similar study of an area under his directions. In a general way a nesting record for a given locality worked out in as much detail as possible constitutes an excellent club project and is of permanent value. Lists such as that made by Mr. Isaac Hess of Philo of one hundred eight birds found nesting within a ten mile radius of his home in Champaign County, that of Mr. C. E. Vandercook of Odin of ninety birds found nesting in Clinton County, or that of the Rockford Nature Study Club are valuable contributions to the study of bird life in Illinois.

A complete cat census for one's locality. This usually reveals a much larger cat population than ordinarily supposed. This census should be supplemented by cumulative data, as accurate as possible, of the destruction of birds by cats during the season. The effect upon public sentiment in a locality thus studied is always very favorable—to the birds.

* * *

A drive to extend the interest in organization. Get up a big display of nesting boxes, pictures, photographs, books on birds, etc. Offer prizes for exhibits. Have the lantern slides of the Illinois Audubon Society visit the town or city.

* * *

Study the laws for bird protection printed elsewhere with comment in this Bulletin. Let committees call on each constable and policeman in the area and sheriffs and deputy sheriffs wherever at hand and point out in a friendly way their duties under the law. Do not forget to remind them of the fees involved. Visit every hunter and invite his cooperation in securing law enforcement. Publish the synopsis of the law in the local paper. The Illinois Audubon Society will send free of charge sufficient copies of this Bulletin to give one to each officer interviewed. Write to Chief Warden R. T. Bradford, Springfield, for copies of the game law. Ask for the address of the nearest inspector and warden. Report law violations to these latter or to Springfield if local officials are inactive. Secure from the Illinois Audubon Society a supply of postcard warnings in Italian to give to hunters of that nationality.

* * *

Help the schools to become one hundred per cent Audubon Societies or bird clubs. (Every grade room in Batavia is an Audubon Club.) Address the National Association of Audubon Societies, 1974 Broadway, New York City, for Junior club literature. For details see inside of the back cover of this Bulletin. Raise a supplementary fund for each teacher so that every pupil may join the Audubon Society. The Illinois Audubon Society will send free of charge a copy of this Bulletin to every teacher organizing a bird class.

Mid-Winter Notes 1919-1920

Below appear the annual mid-winter notes from correspondents of the Bulletin. Some of these were brought up to February 1, others three weeks later. With one exception the observations have to do only with Illinois areas. That exception is the report from Sioux City, Iowa, which Professor Stephens kindly furnished at the request of the Editor. It was desired to check up the extent, east and west, of the "invasion of Bohemian Waxwings." This invasion seems to be the only event of unusual interest to mark the somewhat severe and sustained winter period. In the notes there is the usual sharp contrast between the bird census of a southern Illinois area represented by Olney and a northern area like that covered by the Rockford Bird Club. Mr. Stoddard of the Field Museum of Natural History is able to furnish the most complete report upon the flight of Waxwings. Mr. Nordenholt of Oak Park had the most thrilling visit with ducks off the shore line of Lake Michigan. His report of seeing a few specimens of the Harlequin Duck aroused the close attention of ornithologists and other observers such as Ruthven Deane, Professor Eifrig, Larry St. John and others, and there has been some questioning and much exchange of notes because of the lack hitherto of authenticated records for the Harlequin in the Chicago area. Mr. Nordenholt stands pat, however, and seems to have made a "new" report for the area. The stray robin made himself conspicuous at Waukegan, Lake Forest and other northern points about February 1 and the metropolitan papers presented the usual report of the "first robin." It seems that flickers and meadow larks represented by solitary specimens are each winter not uncommon even as far north as the latitude of Chicago. The northward flight of bluebirds was evident at Quincy as late as February 20. They had not been reported in northern Illinois as the last copy went to the printer, March 1.

Belvidere

This is a feeding-shelf report and relates first of all to our chickadee guests.

We have not seen more than three at once, but they are so gay and spirited that they make our sumach bushes seem full of joyous fluffs of down. Their swinging food shelf is not a yard from the window beside my desk, and there is really only one so tame that he *pretends* I am not there when he finds me just inside the window. One flies off in a panic, shrieking, if he alights on the shelf before he sees me, and will not venture back while I am at the desk, but the third one *will* come, only he never ceases making most uncomplimentary remarks, occasionally flying to the porch roof where he will do justice to his feeling of injury by jerking out a rapid succession of "dee-dee-dees" delivered in a very rasping voice! Of course we love the chickadees most, and never tire of watching them make their dainty meals of crushed peanuts, but a solitary red-breasted nuthatch certainly affords us most amusement. We call him "The Clown," for he takes the greatest delight in terrifying the chickadees by casting himself, apparently in the most abandoned and careless acrobatic manner, from all manner of angles, upon the food-shelf, seizing a bit of nut and diving off

the shelf, flinging himself directly *at* any chickadee who may be in the neighborhood—frequently curving off after a second one with his bit of nut still in his bill. When he comes to the shelf and there are no chickadees about, his manner is entirely different. He really acts like a contented little chick, and is most deliberate. But the chief joy of his existence appears to be teasing chickadees.

This winter, also, for the first time in all these years, we have brown creepers as guests for our food shelf. Strictly speaking they do not come to the shelf, but carefully investigate the stalk of trumpet-creeper vine where the nuthatch is very fond of storing choice bits. Occasionally the creeper will alight on the porch floor, and he looks so funny in that unnatural position—like an animated little *rug*, or bird-skin—he flattens himself out so. This very noon we saw him *on* the shelf for the first time. He seemed much surprised to have come upon the source of supply and took a bit of nut in his bill, but appeared to find it impossible to *swallow* it until he flitted to the trumpet-vine stalk where he seemed to consider himself in a *natural* position, and swallowed it with great satisfaction. A blue-jay comes to the shelf, too. He rarely fails to make sure that the “coast is quite clear” by shouting lustily, first from a cedar tree, some little distance from the house, gradually coming nearer, in the sumach, and at last, when no one has appeared at the windows, softly and most quietly and lightly balancing himself upon the shelf. Downies come to our suet sacks also.

MURIEL LAMPERT.

Chicago Area

Almost every winter presents us with something of exceptional interest in bird life, some rare northern visitors flooding our country in unusual numbers. One year it may be the fierce Goshawks, another Crossbills or Redpolls and so on down the list. The present season, 1919-20 will be long remembered for its great flight of Bohemian Waxwings, one of the most aristocratic and beautiful of birds. Few birds excel this stranger from the north in beauty with its richly colored coat of exquisite texture, long crest and scarlet wax-like wing tips.

An unusual flight of these birds was observed by Mr. Colin Sanborn and the writer on Nov. 30th, 1919, five miles north of Waukegan, Illinois, on the Waukegan Flats, a region justly famous for its winter birds. The wind was blowing a gale from the northwest, with snow squalls, the first day of real winter weather, but our hopes ran high as waxwings had been reported a day or two before. Nor were we disappointed, for soon after daylight they appeared, flock after flock of them, whirling southward before the wind, following the same general course, a couple of hundred yards from the Lake Michigan shore line. Along towards ten o'clock some of the flocks would stop a few minutes to feed, swarming into some small dead tree till it was full to overflowing with feathered beauties, while hungry members of the flock fed on the berries of nearby junipers. These flocks were the very spirit of restlessness, as is so often the case with winter birds on a blustery day, in marked contrast to their behavior on other occasions.

One large flock swarmed down on to a stretch of bare ice, the last no sooner arriving till the first were up and on their way. Altogether, on

this never to be forgotten day, we saw at least twelve hundred waxwings, probably a good many more. The flocks contained from thirty to perhaps a hundred birds each, sometimes appearing every few minutes, at others an hour or so elapsing between arrivals. They were not wandering flocks, searching the countryside for food, but in full migration, the flocks following one another as if on a beaten path.

On this and two preceding days large numbers had appeared in Jackson Park, Chicago, and a few lingered throughout the first week in December, small flocks being seen almost daily. Here they were very tame and allowed a close approach as they fed on various dried berries. This food supply being limited the birds soon disappeared.

The next Bohemians seen were at Gary, Ind., in a dead tree top of a dune, at sunrise Dec. 21st. On subsequent trips to the Dunes I failed to locate them till Mr. Edward R. Ford and I found them on Jan. 18th. Many small flocks and one of thirty or forty were seen feeding on the dry, currant-like berries of the chokeberry, which are found in great quantities in the low country in the south part of the Dunes proper, between Dune Park and Mineral Springs. Scattered here and there in these great feed patches are small dead trees where part of the birds rest while others feed nearby. Their love of companionship is shown clearly here, the birds frequently lining up on some small limb till it will hold no more, others equally desirable nearby remaining bare. A flock of twenty-two were seen in this same region on Feb. 1st.

Towards evening on Jan. 18th, four Evening Grosbeaks were seen in the swamp at Mineral Springs. Although only four o'clock in the afternoon the birds had already gone to roost, being found sitting bolt upright, half resting against the trunks of thick cedar trees, well scattered. One female was found about fifteen feet up a small cedar, and a few feet higher sat a blue jay, also close to the trunk, a position that may prove very advantageous in case of an attack by an owl. Hulls of poison sumac berries scattered about on the snow indicated that a larger flock had been feeding nearby, but no more could be located in the deepening gloom. Two were seen at Dune Park on Feb. 1st. Although of regular occurrence in the dunes they have been rare this year.

Redpolls are also rare this winter compared to some seasons, though a few have been seen on each trip to the Dunes. A flock of about forty were seen feeding on alder seeds in the swamps of Mineral Springs on Dec. 7th. This swamp is a favorite resort of the winter birds of the Dune region. Wild grapes, woodbine, poison sumac, alder and hundreds of acres of weeds nearby furnish abundant food, while the tangle of shrubs and evergreens furnish ideal shelter.

Pine Siskins appeared in immense numbers around the swamp in early October, spending their time in the tamaracks and nearby weed fields. On October 9th, literally thousands were seen in whirling flocks, streaming back and forth between the weeds and trees. A few lingered till Nov. 9th, after which none were seen. They were also seen in Jackson Park, Chicago, in small numbers.

Snow Buntings, as usual, were common on the lake shore near Dune Park for a short time in early November. At sundown on Nov. 2nd three large flocks of from thirty to fifty birds each were seen and studied at close

range, the birds being extremely tame even for this species. One flock of eleven and another of about thirty were seen on Nov. 9th.

White-winged and American Crossbills have both been present in small numbers, two of the former being reported from Dune Park, Nov. 9th, by Mr. L. L. Walters, and a few of the latter were seen at the Waukegan Flats on Nov. 30th.

Flickers and Goldfinches are wintering in small numbers in the Dunes, both species and a Northern Shrike being seen in a small swamp near Dune Park on Feb. 1st, by Mr. Sanborn and me.

Ruffed Grouse are much more numerous in the Dunes this year than usual, as many as eight being seen in one day's tramp, two individuals being noted within a half mile at the Gary Steel Mills. They have also been reported as on the increase from various points in southern Wisconsin, perhaps due to a favorable breeding season.

HERBERT L. STODDARD,
Field Museum of Natural History.

Chicago Area



Photo by F. N. Whitman

SONG SPARROW

The past shooting season was one of great interest to both sportsmen and bird lovers. Of course the big feature was the abundance of waterfowl although one must look upon this with a little caution and without too much optimism. It should be remembered that with the increased drainage now going on at an alarming rate (from the viewpoint of the hunter and bird man) the ducks are forced to concentrate in certain places.

However, there is no doubt in the minds of the observing that our waterfowl on the whole are increasing and it can be attributed only to the migratory bird treaty act. An unusually large number of teal and mal-

lards bred in Illinois the last spring; these were reinforced by early flights from the north and with them came many widgeon—unusually early last fall; blue bills came down earlier than usual, too.

Most gratifying is the marked increase of wood ducks. These handsome birds literally swarmed in the overflowed timber along the Illinois and hunters as a class did not attempt to shoot them. It is a fine object lesson on what a few years protection will do toward saving a species.

Exceptionally large flights of Dusky Ducks (Black Mallards) were also noticed by Illinois sportsmen last fall; they were in wonderful condition which may also be said of all waterfowl last season. The inland duck shooting closed abruptly with the first heavy freeze but it continued

on Lake Michigan up to the last day, December 31st. Bluebills (Scaups), Whistle Wings (Golden Eyes), Fish Ducks (Hooded Mergansers) and Old Squaws were the principal varieties found, although occasionally someone got a few Redheads or Canvas Backs. An event in local bird affairs was the arrival near So. Chicago of an immense flight of Golden Plover, in October—weeks behind schedule. I believe they got through without losing a member of the flock. I hope so at any rate, as they are not game birds.

I have not been afield a great deal of late but I have seen a number of Cardinals and on my way to the loop I always see numbers of Herring Gulls in the north branch of the Chicago river and plenty of "Downies" busily at work on the bare trees. Several correspondents who live in the suburbs report seeing quite a number of Purple Finches and Evening Grosbeaks.

LARRY ST. JOHN,
Editor of "Woods and Waters" Chicago Tribune.

Highland Park

Four years ago this winter we had the pleasure for the first time of having a pair of Cardinals come daily to our feeding shelf. In the spring they disappeared and altho there have been several pairs living in different parts of the town we have seen none in our yard since, until last March when a beautiful male was seen in an oak tree near the house. We immediately added sunflower seeds to the supply of grain and suet with which the feeding shelf was always bountifully provided and in a few days had the great pleasure of having him return with his less brilliant but equally beautiful mate. They came every day and many times a day and we were able to observe them quite closely as the feeding shelf is built on the window sill of a south window in an upstairs sitting room which we use a great deal.

One day in May we saw quite an acrobatic performance between two gorgeous male birds; they tumbled over and over in the air darting at each other in a most warlike manner but finally the intruder was driven out and our own brave soldier came back a victor but rather out of breath and with feathers considerably awry.

From this time on the domestic life of our Cardinals seemed to run very smoothly. Mr. Cardinal was most devoted to his pretty wife during the entire nesting season. They came together to the feeding shelf every day and he was very faithful and untiring in cracking sunflower seeds and feeding them to her. At times she was a bit coquettish and would refuse to come to the shelf preferring to remain in a bush or tree some distance away. When this occurred the faithful husband would crack the seeds and carry them to her; she always accepted them but many times in a very indifferent manner.

After awhile we seldom saw Mrs. Cardinal; Mr. Cardinal appeared regularly, ate his meal, then filled his bill with seeds and flew away, presumably to feed her on her nest. One day we were much interested in seeing him add a salad course to his dinner. He flew onto the shelf with his bill full of inch pieces of green. They looked like the tips of young grass. He laid them carefully on the board, ate several sunflower seeds, then a

mouthful of his salad, then more seeds followed by more salad. He then filled his bill with seeds and last of all picked up the remainder of the green—about half of it—and flew away in the direction of a ravine north of us, where we imagine he had his nest, but which we were never able to find.

One hot July day I heard a peculiar lispng sound in a tree near one feeding shelf, soon father Cardinal appeared on the shelf and in a most persuasive way tried to call attention to the tempting array of food displayed there. He would take a mouthful then seemed to say something. We could not see to whom he was speaking but the lispng sound became louder and more continuous; he finally flew to the tree with his mouth full of seeds and thru my glasses I soon discovered several fluffy brown balls among the green leaves of the oak, which proved to be four baby Cardinals. This coaxing and feeding the young in the tree continued for several days when one morning the father flew onto the shelf followed by the four baby birds; the cunningest fluffiest little brown balls you ever saw, with black bills and very large mouths which they seemed unable to close. Such a proud and busy father one seldom sees! He arranged the children in a row on the edge of the shelf and proceeded to feed them in order. A less industrious and enthusiastic parent would have been discouraged at the black bottomless pits which those four open mouths seemed to indicate, for no matter how many times they were fed, the mouths were always wide open begging for more. Their little monotonous story told over and over again sounded more like a number of grasshoppers than anything else we could think of. We never saw the mother feeding her children nor were they allowed to remain on the shelf when she was there. Whenever she appeared the father would fly at the young frightening them away, and then proceed to feed her. When she had finished her meal and had flown away the little birds would come back from a nearby tree and the father would continue feeding them. The whole family came every day and many times a day. All of the young birds looked very much like the mother with the exception of their bills which were black. They grew rapidly and were soon very independent in feeding themselves whenever the father was not around but just as soon as he appeared they would all open their mouths, and childlike, beg to be waited on. On Labor Day father Cardinal appeared with two new little fluff balls who soon grew to be as independent as the first lot. Their bills very gradually turned red, in fact it was well along in December before they seemed as red as the parents'. Among the six young there was only one male. It has been a wonderful treat to have eight Cardinals at our feeding tables most of the winter!

In addition to our Kentucky friends we have had daily calls from a number of chick-a-dees, a pair of white breasted nuthatches, a pair of downy woodpeckers and a number of Jays. Early in the winter we had visits from a hairy woodpecker.

A large flock of Cedar Waxwings, from one hundred and fifty to two hundred were in the yard for two days. They have a special liking for Japanese Barberries of which we have a good many and on January 10th we discovered about fifty Bohemian Waxwings in an Ash tree and on a stone wall near the house feeding on the berries of a Bittersweet vine. This was an event, as we had never seen the Bohemian Waxwings before. On January 24th we saw a solitary one near the Bittersweet vine.



Photo by F. N. Whitman

APPETITES FOR FRUIT

The cedar-bird is estimating the depth to which food should be deposited to insure successful response of muscles used in swallowing. Some nicety of calculation is involved as to the force necessary to impart to the food mass to get it well under way without toppling the beneficiary off the perch. The whole undertaking is probably not so simple as it looks.

I should not forget to mention the solitary White-winged Crossbill I "met" on December 4. Among the chattering notes of some English Sparrows in the shrubbery I thought I detected snatches of a song strangely canary-like. A nearer approach brought only closer views of sparrows when suddenly the song occurred again and just at hand. Looking up I found myself within but a few feet of a bird scarcely larger than a sparrow, apparently olive-green in color and with conspicuous white wing bars. Another look revealed the crossed tips of its mandibles and readily established the identity of the bird. I had time for a good visit with it before it disappeared. I could find none of its companions.

Bird guests add great interest to our shut-in days and make the winter season pass more quickly.

On February fifth we heard the Cardinal's song for the first time this season and later in the day discovered that several of the pussy-willow buds, in a sheltered corner, had burst their hard, brown shells and were pushing their little soft gray bonnets out into the cold world, unfailing harbingers of spring. (MRS.) MARION MOSELEY.



Photo by F. N. Whitman

TREE SPARROW

Lake Forest

Whatever may have been the delights, new or old to those who can take more or less frequent tramps afield for the purpose of observing and studying birds, for one who is limited to watching them from his window, as they come to a shelf, kept well supplied, the Winter has been a very common-place one. To go back, a humming bird was seen as late as September 27th, and on the same date the white-throated sparrows came and stayed through November 4th, unaccompanied, this year, by any of the white-crowned sparrows. An oven-bird was seen on the 30th, while grackles left on October 20th and the robins a week or so later. Since then the white-breasted nuthatches, downy woodpeckers, and juncos (which first came on October 16th) have been the chief feeders at the shelf, with, of course, jays and English sparrows. On November 13th, the pair of Cardinals came and have been regular visitants ever since. I call them "the" pair because, though I have not been able to band them, I assume that they are the same pair that have visited me every Winter (staying until March). I do not know whether they are a pair that leave the three or four others that live and nest in another part of town or an entirely different pair that visit me alone on a northbound trip. Suffice to say that they are most welcome guests. To look out of one's window and see the red male and a blue jay sitting on dead branches a few feet above white snow is a sight to delight the eye of any one.

Evening grosbeaks have been seen but twice, and then in small flocks. Heretofore they have been seen probably eight or ten times by this date (January 27th). It was my misfortune to miss the flock of Bohemian waxwings which spent several days in the neighborhood. The tufted titmouse, whose tragic story has, I think, been told before, left the neighborhood entirely some time in the early Fall. A hairy woodpecker occasionally comes to me for a meal of suet, and, still less frequently, a brown creeper. The red-breasted nuthatches have not been seen at all, and, curiously, they have visited me only on alternate years.

On November 19th the friendly chickadee was heard and seen, and for several days after that date. Three or four years ago they were the commonest of all my friends (a place now taken by the juncos); since then there have been practically none of them. Others, too, have noticed this inexplicable chance. After that week in November they were seen and heard no more, until the heavy storm of January 23rd, when first one and then another appeared. These two have been constantly at the shelf since then.

GEORGE E. ROBERTS, JR.

Normal

The usual birds have been seen in this vicinity this winter. Of the migrants from the north the golden crowned kinglets were numerous during the latter part of November and early December. Juncos have not been as plentiful as usual this year. A few flocks were seen during December. Brown creepers have been here in larger numbers than we ordinarily see. On the seventh of February three were feeding on an elm tree in the back yard at the same time. A red breasted nuthatch has been feeding upon suet

in the same elm tree all winter. This is the first record I have of this bird staying all winter. I have seen the species other years as late as the twentieth of December and as early as the twentieth of March, but never during January and February.

The permanent residents have been as numerous as usual. White breasted nuthatches, hairy and downy woodpeckers and a few chickadees have fed off and on in the yard during the entire winter. A few cardinals have been here and for the last week have been whistling most delightfully. We have had at least one robin in the town all winter. From reports it is possible that two or three have been here. I have known this to happen before. Three years ago a robin stayed in the vicinity of a chicken yard all winter taking shelter during the most severe weather in an old shed.

Other birds that are common now are blue jays, crows, bob whites and sparrow hawks. These hawks have nested for years on a corner of one of the University buildings. They always remain here over winter and frequently fly around half the day, screaming as they fly.

MISS ALICE JEAN PATTERSON.

Oak Park

On the 25th of January, 1920, a naturalist friend and I drove out to the Lake Shore south of Chicago in an endeavor to get a closer view of the ducks on Lake Michigan. We had considerable equipment consisting of a dozen wooden decoys, blankets and a white sheet which was to be thrown over us while we waited for the birds to come to our decoys. We walked out over the ice floes now frozen solidly together a distance of two miles or more. This was no easy task because we encountered some hard walking and were carrying the cumbersome decoys, heavy blankets, etc. I climbed to the top of a large mass of ice and found open water far ahead with here and there a flock of ducks. As we came closer, though still at considerable distance, flight after flight of ducks left us going farther out into Lake Michigan. We finally reached the margin of the ice and saw a small flock of Lesser Scaups settled far out from shore.

We halted to construct a rude blind out of ice to conceal ourselves from view. We made things as comfortable as possible, placing our blankets on the ice and throwing the white sheets over us to conceal our movements. Hardly had we been comfortably settled when seven large Saw-Bills or American Mergansers settled down just outside our decoys. They were satisfied with their wooden friends and seemed at ease. These birds are certainly beautiful with their bright green heads and snow-white feathers. Soon I noticed a flock of nearly a hundred birds high overhead. They were calling in their peculiar manner and making a great deal of noise with their wings. I knew immediately that they were Old-Squaws. They circled, coming lower in their noisy way, and soon were on the water just outside the decoys. A minute passed and eleven Hooded Mergansers came in with a rush and alighted on the water not twenty feet away. The drakes were a beautiful sight with a large crest of feathers on their heads. These birds have a peculiar habit of giving grunting sounds to one another. While I was watching these birds my partner whispered an inquiry about some peculiarly marked birds that had just settled down near the American Mergansers. I looked in that direction and found them to be Harlequins, three drakes and one female. I have seen these birds every year but never

in great numbers. They are one of the most beautiful of the North American ducks. As we had not seen them fly into the open water they must have swum in from the Lesser-Scaups that were out farther in the lake.

I started to purr, mimicking the peculiar call of the Lesser-Scaups. The birds farther out in the lake slowly swam towards our decoys. Now already we had over one hundred and fifty ducks not over sixty yards away. Slowly the Blue-Bills came in from the Lake. About twenty birds rose from the water and flew in and settled down near the large bunch of Old-Squaws. Soon the other Scaups were within fifty yards of us. Among them I noticed some Golden-eyes and Hooded Mergansers. Ten Canvas-backs came in from the north, made two large circles over the birds in front of us and turned and flew out into the lake and were lost in the distance. Turning in another direction I noticed four ducks coming in from the south. They flew over within fifteen feet of our heads and alighted with a terrific splash. They were Red-breasted Mergansers. We waited until four o'clock and then began to sack our decoys. As we rose from our ice shelter the ducks flew in all directions, probably surprised that they had not been scattered with a volley from a shotgun. We observers both regretted that we did not have a camera with us.



Photo by F. N. Whitman

NUTHATCH

prise it flew out of a hollow tree stub. I watched it for some time and might report that I found a Flicker on the 11th of January. To my surprise it returned again to the hollow stub. This was probably its only source for obtaining food. On the 16th I flushed a Meadowlark which came from a large and dense patch of sweet clover. I followed this bird from tree to fence post and it at length returned to the sweet clover patch. This seemed to be the bird's only shelter. I frequently visit during the winter months a deserted farm near Oak Park to watch the birds that seem to know they can spend the winter months here without being molested. A Hairy Woodpecker stays here and profits by the enormous

Today there are ornithologists in Chicago who look out over the vast stretches of ice on Lake Michigan without knowing what prizes lie there on the open water beyond. I enjoy watching these birds and have spent the entire day watching ducks in Florida at a distance of only ten feet and have mastered their calls to very good advantage. These birds today on Lake Michigan are feeding on minnows and small perch; the large American Mergansers feeding mainly on perch. The Old-Squaws are very ardent divers and are extremely graceful on the water. They resemble the Pintails in that both species have the elongated tail feathers. Among my observations made during the month of January I

dead trees which offer an abundance of food. A hay shed that has only two closed ends and a roof has a large quantity of hay seed on the floor. A Mourning Dove has been living in this barn ever since the winter has set in. I have taken feed in several times but I imagine most of this is consumed by the English Sparrows.

I know of a spring fed creek back from Geneva, Wisconsin, which remains open the entire winter. I can go there tomorrow and find large bunches of Mallards which have been there all the fall and winter. No hunting was permitted on the farm last fall and the birds became very tame. Our new Fox Lake Preserve certainly is a success. Thousands of ducks stayed on the Preserve, never leaving it, as it took them only a very short time to know the boundary lines. Gunners by the score waited patiently for the birds to go inland, but this does not happen after the birds become educated.

WALTER NORDENHOLT.

Olney

A "spell" of cold weather, with much snow and ice, from January 6th until about February 3rd, greatly augmented our family of bird-guests, especially the cardinals, of which an average of 15 and 20 congregate several times each day at the feeding boards just outside the dining room window. Sometimes there are between 25 and 30 present at one time, but we are unable to count them accurately because they move about or change positions so often that we get "mixed up" in trying to count them. I think I wrote you about a most beautiful semi-albino female cardinal which first visited the feeding place on January 14th, and has been there several times a day ever since. If you happen to have a copy of my "Color Standards" to refer to I can describe her so that you may have a pretty good idea of her appearance. Her crest and the greater part of her wings and tail are a clear pinkish red (nearly "eosene pink," Plate I, d); the rest of the upper parts are soft "pallid quaker drab" (Pl. LI, f) the under parts being intermediate between the latter color and white.

No other birds worthy of special note have occurred on our place this winter, except a pair of barred owls, which roost during the day hidden in the dense foliage of a large white pine tree or, sometimes, that of a hemlock or spruce. At first there was only one bird, but about a week ago it was joined by another, and I think they have paired. We often hear them at night, hooting or "laughing." In order to ascertain, if possible, whether they were destroying any of our birds I examined a number of "pellets" picked up from the ground beneath their roosting places. Thus far I have been able to identify with certainty bones of ground mice, house rats, and rabbits. Consequently they have been allowed to remain, as they have become quite tame. The last pellet examined, however, contained some half digested remains suspiciously resembling part of a bird's wing; so it is possible I may have to drive them away. I shall be very sorry to have to do so, as they are evidently ridding the place of one of the worst of pests, namely, the common rabbit, of which they have caught at least two, as evidenced by the fur scattered over the grass, as well as by the bones discovered in the before-mentioned pellets.

After two months of steady winter—not extremely cold but the tempera-

ture continually below the freezing point—the weather has moderated and there are evidences that Spring will soon be here. Cardinals, meadowlarks, bluebirds, tufted titmice, Carolina chickadees, our mockingbird, and an occasional robin are singing, and even the juncos now and then emit their simple but pleasing spring trill. The average temperature for the first 10 days of February was as follows: Average maximum, 46 degrees, average minimum, 36.1 degrees, average mean 40.75 degrees, showing a remarkably small range for this time of the year.

Our mocking bird returned to us on October 7th, and will probably remain until the brown thrasher arrives (some four or five weeks hence), in the meantime amusing himself by chasing robins off the premises. When the brown thrasher comes, however, he realizes that he is no longer “boss,” and departs for some place unknown to us, probably to some favorite place in the country. This is the third or fourth consecutive winter that he has sojourned with us.

On January 9th a single crow blackbird (bronzed grackle) visited the feeding place and returned daily until the 14th, when he disappeared. On the same date one of our doves returned. I say one of *our* doves, because, after alighting on the snow it walked in a direct line to the spot where our doves were fed last summer. It made only the one visit, having probably been shot by some one of the numerous boys or men who hunt rabbits just outside our place (and some of whom would hunt them inside if they dared.)

There are no pink-sided Juncos (*J. Montanus*) this winter, and there were very few last year. Usually, they are present in the proportion of at least 1 to 10 of the common species. As during previous winters, we have this year only one song sparrow; and thus far not a single fox sparrow, white-crowned sparrow, nor Harris's sparrow has been seen this winter. Of course these remarks pertain to our home grounds alone, as I have not been able to get outside at all.

ROBERT RIDGWAY.

Port Byron

On the afternoon of February 1st, I took a walk to the rapids of the Mississippi at Rapids City, about one and one-half miles below Port Byron, to observe the many Mergansers which are staying there. I observed them from the shore at a distance of about one-fourth of a mile, using a telescope with an object glass two and one-fourth inches in diameter. The species observed were the American, and Red-breasted Merganser, and I estimated their number at about 2,000. While observing the Mergansers, I also saw two Herring Gulls standing on the ice near the edge of the water.

There are many more Bob-whites, wintering here than on previous years. I am feeding a covey of about ten birds at a brush pile on the north side of our orchard.

The Cooper's Hawk was seen January 5th and on the afternoon of December 12th, I observed a strange hawk with my eight power field glasses which proved to be a Swainson's Hawk. I had one good view of the hawk when it turned its underparts toward the sun, and I could then see the large rufous patch on the breast and the white belly. Rough-legged

Hawks were here until Dec. 10th, then none were seen until January 6th and 25th. Screech and Great Horned Owls are sometimes heard calling in the evening and during the night.

The Hairy Woodpecker is rare, and the Downy Woodpecker is common. The Red-headed Woodpeckers left early last fall and I thought there were none left here this winter but was surprised to find two on December 28th, in a large piece of timber about two miles south of where we live. I also heard one calling near Rapids City, February 1st. The Red-bellied Woodpecker is tolerably common this winter. I was surprised to find three Flickers where there was some bare ground at the edge of a piece of timber, December 28th.

Prairie Horned Larks were seen and heard December 30th and 31st, January 21st, 22nd and 27th. February 1st, they were common, and were singing. Goldfinches are staying here all winter which is something very unusual. On January 7th and 8th a flock of about fifty came into the houseyard garden. Lapland Long Spurs were heard calling as they flew over on December 27th and 30th. There are not many Tree Sparrows and Juncos here this winter and Cardinals are rare. The last Cardinal was seen on December 30th, then none were seen until February 1st. Brown Creepers are very rare, and White Breasted Nuthatches, tolerably common. Chickadees are common. The Tufted Titmouse is very rare, only one was seen Dec. 21st and 28th. There are a few Prairie Chickens left on Rock River Bottom, about three miles south of here.

J. J. SCHAEFER.

Rockford

Rockford, Ill. The cardinal has stayed with us all the year, and the Tufted Titmouse seems to have elected to stay also, the number of birds steadily increasing during two or three years.

The Prothonotary Warblers came early in May and nested here, to the delight of all bird lovers. A Prairie Horned Lark's nest was found and watched for some time and three young Red-bellied Woodpeckers were seen in the season.

Our first record was made for the Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker which was seen early Sunday morning April 13th by two of our bird committee. The bird was low down on the tree and could be observed for some time and it was evident from the chips on the ground that it was not his first visit.

In August, in an immense flock of Purple Martins there was one entirely white Martin which was observed for a week or more.

Robins and Blackbirds have been reported at intervals all winter and a great prevalence of winter birds—Blue jays, Red and White-breasted Nuthatches, Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers and Chickadees have kept us busy supplying their needs, and Cardinals, Titmice, Tree Sparrows and Golden crowned Kinglets have also visited the local feeding stations.

Early in November a large flock of Pine Siskins came to the evergreen trees in South Rockford accompanied by a smaller flock of American Crossbills. They remained most of the month. About November 14 a female White-winged Crossbill visited us and a few days later was joined by her mate. They worked busily in the same trees some eight or ten days.

Rockford was especially favored in November for the 30th a flock of twenty Bohemian Waxwings came and have been reported from various places about the city ever since, the last date being January 30th.

Our list for the year contains 168 birds, not as large a list as in some previous years but it has been impossible to obtain a complete list of water birds.

Have Redpolls, Pipits, Longspurs or Snow Buntings been observed elsewhere in this vicinity? We have no record of them this winter.

EDITH VAN DUZER,
Of the Nature Study Club.

Sioux City, Iowa

Field Work in the Sioux City area has not been as diligently carried on during the winter of 1919-20 as in some other years. Although the season is not yet over, the most interesting records, so far, would include a number of Purple Finches, noted by Mr. A. F. Allen in November and December; and a small flock of Red Crossbills observed by Mrs. H. M. Bailey, early in November. A single Red-breasted Nuthatch has visited Mrs. F. W. Marshall's food shelf almost daily through the greater part of the winter. A flock of about two dozen Magpies were seen about ten miles from Sioux City, on the Nebraska side, and one specimen was shot and brought to our local taxidermist, Mr. Anderson, for mounting. This flock remained in the same general locality for some time.

No doubt the most interesting event in the bird field has been the marked flight of Bohemian Waxwings. They were first noted in the city parks on December 16, 1919. On several later dates flocks were seen in different parts of the city. These flocks varied in size from five to about fifty individuals. On the 23rd of December a large flock of about one hundred were seen. Mrs. Bailey also had forty-nine in her yard on the 5th of January.

On the 25th and 26th of December Miss Aiken saw a flock of thirty-two feeding on the frozen apples in an orchard at Carroll, Iowa. In this region the Waxwings feed much on the hackberries, which are native; they are also very fond of the Russian Olives, which have been introduced in the city parks, and which afford a very abundant food supply. This season these birds have been observed to feed on the asparagus fruit. They are also fond of wild grapes, which, however, are not plentiful here.

While the Waxwings are not especially rare in our locality the point of interest this year was the "sudden onslaught" of the flight. Those who are familiar with the movements of the birds from year to year are quick to appreciate the difference between the arrival of a few individuals and a flight of considerable proportion.

This season we have had no Pine Siskins or Redpolls. The birds of prey, such as Goshawks, Western Horned Owls, and Snowy Owls, have also failed to appear.

PROF. T. C. STEPHENS,
Morningside College.

THE Illinois Audubon Society recommends the organization of Junior Audubon Societies under the auspices of the National Association of Audubon Societies. That Association desires to call your attention to the offer it is able to give this year to teachers and pupils in helping them to become better acquainted with our wild bird population.

The pupils will be given a new set of ten Educational Leaflets, with colored pictures and outline drawings for coloring with crayons. In addition to the set of Leaflets, we will give each member the beautiful new Audubon button of the RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD, which represents a badge of membership in a Junior Audubon Class. Each teacher who forms a class of twenty or MORE receives a year's free subscription to the well-known bird magazine, "BIRD-LORE," the official organ of this Association.

As our birds are the protectors of our crops, and so important to the successful part we must now play in helping to feed the people of the world, do you not think it desirable for teachers to form classes and teach the children the value of bird protection? If so, write to the Secretary of the National Association of Audubon Societies, 1974 Broadway, New York City, for a sample of the Educational Leaflets.

The
Audubon Bulletin
Fall 1920



Published by
The ILLINOIS
AUDUBON
SOCIETY

Illinois Audubon Society Service

The Society has two collections of hand-colored lantern slides of bird life, each with an accompanying printed lecture. These are loaned free of charge to any school or organization in the state but borrower pays express charges both ways.

The Society has travelling libraries of bird books which are loaned to schools or organizations for a reasonable length of time, the borrower paying express charges both ways.

The Society publishes wall charts listing 200 typical Illinois birds and providing suitable spaces for recording migration and nesting data. Schools, Boy Scout organizations, and individuals as well find these of great service. Price ten cents each.

The Society has in press a pocket check list of birds with colored zonal maps. This list records every known species of birds that visits Illinois or nests within its borders. Send in applications for copies of the first edition.

The Society publishes the Langdon Cat Circular which is invaluable in arousing interest in the question of protecting birds from marauding cats. Price five cents each.

The Society issues an illustrated postal in the Italian language warning against violation of laws for bird protection. Price two cents each.

Address The Illinois Audubon Society,
1649 The Otis Building, Chicago

President

Mr. Orpheus M. Schantz
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Secretary-Treasurer

Miss Catherine Mitchell
Riverside

Vice-President

Mr. Jesse Lowe Smith
Highland Park

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

Application for Membership

Understanding the aims and principles of the Illinois Audubon Society, and being in sympathy with them, I wish to become a member of the Society.

Name.....

Address.....

Date.....

Classes of Membership

Active memberships	\$1.00.	Annually
Contributing memberships	\$5.00.	Annually
Sustaining memberships	\$25.00.	No annual dues
Life memberships	\$100.00.	No annual dues
Benefactor	\$500.00.	No annual dues
Patron	\$1000.00.	No annual dues

All members receive the publications of the Society.

Please sign this card and send it with the fee to the Illinois Audubon Society, 1649 Otis Bldg., Chicago

FORM OF BEQUEST

I do hereby give and bequeath to THE ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF WILD BIRDS (Incorporated), of the State of Illinois.

(OVER)

To carry out its aggressive program, the Illinois Audubon Society must increase its membership. Out of a population of nearly six millions, Illinois should have at least ten thousand people who are enough interested in bird life to help the Society in its conservation efforts. Will you not help us expand our usefulness?

I suggest for membership in the Illinois Audubon Society the persons whose names appear on the other side of this sheet.

Signed.....

Member of the Illinois Audubon Society

May we use your name? } Yes
 } No

The Aims and Principles of the Illinois Audubon Society are:

- 1st. To encourage the study of birds, particularly in the schools, and to disseminate literature relating to them.
 - 2nd. To work for the betterment and enforcement of State and Federal laws relating to birds.
 - 3rd. To discourage the wearing of any feathers except those of the ostrich and domestic fowls.
 - 4th. To discourage, in every possible way, the wanton destruction of wild birds and their eggs.
 - 5th. To restore to our wild birds wherever practicable, the natural environment of forest and shrubbery which gave them food, protection and seclusion.
-

Needs

The Illinois Audubon Society depends for its support upon the contributions of its members and friends. It should have an income from a moderate endowment sufficient to meet all fixed expenses.

☪ The present income is totally inadequate to meet the urgent and incessantly growing demands.

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.
1649 OTIS BUILDING CHICAGO

(OVER)

Name.....

Address.....

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Photo by John Baird

IN THE FOREST PRESERVE

VINES THAT TRAIL AND FESTOON FROM SWEEPING BRANCHES, THICKETS OF SHADE, AND A BROODING CHARM THAT DOMINATES THIS SPECTACLE OF WOODS AND WATER.

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN

FALL 1920

Published by the
ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
(*For the protection of wild birds*)

The President of the Illinois Audubon Society writes:

Forestry affairs are again given a prominent place in this number of the Bulletin. Here is revealed a truly co-operative beneficence: forests mean bird-life and bird-life means forest protection. The peril which our National Parks System faces is outlined and an appeal made for a concerted registry of protest against the attempt to divert our Parks from the noble purpose for which they were originally set aside. Encouraging news from forest preserves and bird refuges is stressed. There are suggestive studies of bird behavior, those particularly from Olney and Port Byron revealing problems of bird conduct that perplex the promoters of bird sanctuaries. The announcement of the enrollment of local secretaries of the Illinois Audubon Society at various points in the state is a forward-looking event of especial significance. The story of earlier days of the Illinois Audubon Society is told by our honored "Secretary-Emeritus," Miss Mary Drummond, and an appreciative sketch of her services to the Society is contributed. Summer experiences of members of the Society are attractively reported. A revised book list is printed for the convenience of workers, new and otherwise, in the Society.

The enthusiasm and resourcefulness of the new Secretary, Miss Catherine A. Mitchell, bring in to the Society's activities a very welcome advance in our educational work. The possibilities for more prompt and direct service, by reason of having an office in the City, are greatly increased, and the sending out of literature, slides and other material is much facilitated.

Miss Mitchell is also active in general conservation, such as the saving of the Indiana Sand Dunes, and wild flower preservation. Through these varied interests and her close touch with the Federation of Woman's Clubs, the Audubon Society's interests receive wide publicity and much valuable assistance.

The secretary, more than any other officer, has the opportunity to keep the Society before the public and to impress the needs of active support and participation upon birdlovers.

Your earnest co-operation is solicited for the Secretary and the Audubon Society in making the work of the coming year show a marked advance in all its activities.

ORPHEUS M. SCHANTZ, *President*.

The Formative Years of the Illinois Audubon Society

It is probable that the first Audubon Society in Illinois was composed of a class of some nine boys in Oak Park and certainly the Rev. George B. Pratt of Grace Church in that town, who is still an "honorary" and honored member of the present Board of Directors, was one of the first members. This was in 1886 in connection with the "Forest and Stream" organization.

In 1890 a Chicago Society was started under the able presidency of Mrs. E. Irene Rood. About seventy persons joined and the Society was incorporated in 1893. Its most important work was that it inspired and largely managed the Audubon Congress held in Chicago during the Columbian Exposition in October, 1893. Dr. Elliot Coues, though unable to be present, was chairman of the Congress. About twenty-seven valuable papers, afterward published, were contributed by distinguished ornithologists, and letters of greeting came from various parts of the world. Unfortunately after this congress Mrs. Rood's work took her away from Chicago with the result that the Society's activity diminished and after a life of about four years its work was taken up by the Illinois Society. It should not, however, be forgotten nor should we fail to honor the names of certain of its workers. Mrs. Rood, Mrs. Oscar Oldburg, Mrs. Clara E. Buxbaum, the Rev. M. Pratt, Prof. David Swing and W. A. Mitchell, Rev. Mr. Johonnot and Mr. Edward B. Clark were good friends of the birds and helped lay foundations for the larger work that followed.

In 1896 and '97 another strong bird protection movement was started. Illinois was approached by the newly organized Massachusetts Society with the result that, through the efforts of such working bird lovers as Mrs. Sara A. Hubbard, Mrs. John V. Farwell, Jr., Mr. Ruthven Deane, Rev. George B. Pratt and Mr. Edward B. Clark to whom we largely owe the fact that there is an Illinois Audubon Society to have its story told—the work was organized and on April 1, 1897, the Illinois Society, the fourth of the State Societies, began its existence. A good Board of Directors, with Mrs. Henry W. King as President and Miss Emily S. Rumsey as Secretary-Treasurer took the reins, with the result that at the first annual meeting in 1898 Miss Rumsey could report a membership of 580 adults and 2800 juniors, the publication of several leaflets, a wide campaign of publicity among milliners, teachers, and newspapers and the fact that the Society was provided with constitution and by-laws and was incorporated. In 1898, the first President and Secretary-Treasurer having resigned, Mr. Ruthven Deane was elected President, a position he held with great honor and benefit to the Society for sixteen years. Miss Mary Drummond was elected Secretary-Treasurer and served for fourteen years. During these fourteen years many matters were taken up which are mentioned, not in order of time but of subject. Numbers of leaflets, warnings and notices were published. Among them "Birds in Horticulture" by Prof. Wm. E. Prager, "The Study of Birds" by Alice Hall Walter, a list of books by Mr. Deane, "John James Audubon" by Mr. Clark, etc., etc. Through the joint activities of the State Game Commission and the Society, notices of the state laws on birds with a warning against breaking them were placed in every post office in the state. Programs

for Bird Day were arranged for the Woman's Out Door Art League of Chicago for a number of years by Mrs. E. S. Adams and Mr. John M. Blakely. Articles for the Arbor and Bird Day Annual were furnished by the Secretary and others of our members and articles were furnished for many months to "School News" and other papers. Material was furnished for the "Illinois Course of Study" and the publication of a children's paper "By the Wayside" was carried on for many years in conjunction with the Wisconsin Society. Other important publicity work on these lines was the publication in the Ladies Home Journal—partly through the efforts of Miss Amalie Hannig and thanks to the great kindness and generosity of the Editor of the paper—a full page of copies of an English series of Egret pictures, and it also came about that the ladies in the charming fashion plates of that influential paper were permitted "ostrich feathers only." Through Miss Hannig's influence also an article by Baron von Berlepsch was written for and published by Bird-Lore. The educational work of the Society was carried on in various ways. Over 100,000 leaflets, our own and those of the National Association, were sent all over the State. Portfolios of pictures and leaflets of information were placed in libraries and other public places. Sets of mounted pictures and migration records were supplied to schools. Our first lecture, given by Mrs. Farwell, written by Mr. Clark and the slides furnished by Mr. Dugmore and others, began its work in 1902, a circulating library having antedated it about a year. Our second lecture, written by Mr. John L. Devine, with slides by Mr. Frank M. Woodruff, came in 1910. Largely through the efforts of the Society with the kindly aid of Hon. H. G. Hall and Hon. S. E. Erickson in the State Legislature, April 1893 saw the observance of Bird Day in conjunction with Arbor Day made a law in Illinois. The legal questions connected with our work have been largely managed by Mr. J. M. Blakely assisted in those earlier days by Mr. Deane and Mr. Clark. Through their efforts the bird laws have been much improved and bad laws generally have been defeated.

To our able President, with his large knowledge and well known name, we are indebted for most of the work accomplished with the millinery trade, in especial for friendship and help for the birds from Mr. Fredrick Bode, President of the Western Merchants Millinery World, which resulted in the publication in one number of the paper of some beautiful plates of featherless hats and the more important fact that the Association passed resolutions endorsing the work of the Audubon Societies and also sent warnings to the milliners against breaking the plumage laws. Through Mr. E. B. Clark of the Chicago Evening Post the battle against caging of our native birds was largely fought, in fact, Mr. Clark with his able pen, was a veritable St. George in fights against the many dragons we encountered.

The Illinois Society claims a goodly share in helping the cause of the birds with the General Federation of Woman's Clubs. Many letters passed between the officers of the State Federation and the Audubon Secretary and an arrangement was made for the associated work with the Forestry committee, all of which helped toward the good work accomplished by Mrs. Martha Decker, then President of the General Federation, and Mr. Dutcher, which culminated in the endorsement of the Audubon work

by the Federation in October 1906. This would be an incomplete report with no mention of the important work done by Mr. Sanford and Mr. Orville T. Bright and Mr. Jesse L. Smith among the schools and teachers of the State and by Mr. Smith in many other lines, such as furnishing two sets of slides of the English egret pictures for the use of our society.

The Illinois Society has been most fortunate in its Board of Directors, among whom we have counted Mrs. Sara A. Hubbard, Mrs. E. S. Adams, Mrs. Irene G. Wheelock, Mr. Frank S. Daggett, Mr. John L. Devine, Mr. Frank M. Woodruff, the Rev. George B. Pratt, Mr. John F. Ferry and others who, like these, deserve more than a mere mention and our warmest thanks. The Society received during these fourteen years one bequest, a thousand dollars from Miss Nancy Lawrence of Wasteka, Ill., whose name is never forgotten among us. Our money receipts, aside from the gift from Miss Lawrence were about \$5006.00 and our expenses about \$4300.00. No salaries or officers expenses were paid except a small sum for the care of libraries and lectures. In this report no mention can be made of the many helpers all over the State who aided us in countless ways, but without them we must have failed. May the Birds sing their praises.

MARY DRUMMOND.

Mary Drummond



MISS MARY DRUMMOND AS SHE APPEARED
IN THE EARLY DAYS OF THE ILLINOIS
AUDUBON SOCIETY.

The preceding article by Miss Drummond reviewing the earlier activities of the Illinois Audubon Society affords happily an occasion for an additional article where her name may appear in the title and the record of her devoted service to the Illinois Audubon Society furnish the context.

Diminishing strength necessitated Miss Drummond's resignation from the secretaryship in 1912 after fourteen years of service, but she has not been inactive in retirement. Her keen interest in the continuation of the work of the Society, her expressions of sympathetic approval from time to time of forward-looking plans, and her generous financial support have remained significant assets of the Society. Her home on Spring Lane at Lake Forest looks out over a setting of shrubbery and an open, flanking lawn into a deep wooded

ravine which invites the exploration of the shyest of birds who are thus led to venture to test the hospitality of the place. On a foggy December day in which these notes were collected the writer paused on the bridge leading across this ravine to visit with a flock of Golden-

Crowned Kinglets that may have decided to be winter guests in such favorable surroundings. In a home with such a setting and among books and paintings and other tokens of refinement, Miss Drummond keeps in touch with the organizations which especially in their formative periods owed so much to her untiring support—the Audubon Society, the Illinois Humane Society, etc.—and maintains close relations with the activities of the church in which she has long been an aggressive worker.

Miss Drummond was born at Galena, Illinois. Her parents were of Scotch ancestry though both were native-born Americans, the mother coming from Maine, the father, Thomas Drummond, having been born at Detroit. Thomas Drummond was educated for the law and came to Chicago in 1835 looking for an opening. He found then that the bar at Galena enrolled an abler and more influential membership than that of Chicago and so the young lawyer went on to Galena to secure better opportunities for association with men of eminence in his profession. Upon the maturity of his powers came his appointment as United States Circuit Judge which necessitated his removal with his family to Chicago. Mary Drummond was then eight years old and so was destined to spend her school days and her earlier womanhood among the interesting and rapidly shifting scenes of the Chicago of that day. In the volume of reminiscences entitled, "Chicago Yesterdays," edited by Miss Caroline Kirkland, Miss Drummond has furnished a chapter which entertainingly sets forth her impressions of the period.

When in his later years Judge Drummond retired from the bench he moved at first to his farm near Winfield and later to Wheaton where his death occurred. It was while living at Wheaton that Miss Drummond enrolled in the Illinois Audubon Society and began the work of the secretaryship. At that time the fields were conspicuously ripe for the harvest and the workers truly were few. A very considerable proportion of womankind in that day wore decorations of stuffed birds in their hats and the economic point of view for the protection of bird life had not yet been given much publicity. The game warden for Illinois, Mr. Charles H. Blow, reported to the Illinois Audubon Society in the first year of its existence that there was a great need for the education of teachers as well as pupils in the matter of bird protection. He had discovered many villages and some city schoolrooms decorated with strings of birds' eggs and had found that some of the teachers of the schools were in the habit of offering prizes to the scholars who in a given time would rob the most birds' nests. The defense of such actions was that nest-robbing was a proper practice because it "makes pupils observing."

All this seems ancient history now though it is not so very long ago. The great change coming about so rapidly in the attitude of young and old from heartless indifference and positive cruelty to bird life to that of general interest in birds and their protection speaks of the intelligent planning of educational work which engrossed the attention of Miss Drummond and her associates from the start. It has surely been a great privilege to participate in the campaign of education, state and national, of the Audubon movement which has accomplished so much in the twenty or so years of its history. Between the lines of Miss Drummond's compact summary of the activities of the Illinois Society during her secretaryship,

it is not difficult to read of the exacting labor and painstaking attention to detail the work of the secretaryship involved. All of Miss Drummond's voluminous correspondence was faithfully discharged by herself, all of it in long hand. The commonplace nature of an observation that prompted the letter of inquiry to the secretary did not fail to elicit a friendly and encouraging letter of reply which furnished incentive for future observation and interest.

What a good listener is to a speaker, Miss Drummond seems to have been to her correspondents. Her tact and appreciation were most alluring and although all this brought a staggering burden of correspondence, there were delightful compensations. There were glimpses of home life that the new interest in the out-of-doors was brightening. Between secretary and newly-aroused worker personal relations were frequently established. These were not always casual for to this day many correspondents still share with her enthusiasms that had their origins years ago and Miss Drummond faithfully responds as of old.

This seems to show that underlying her love for bird-life and the dumb creatures of her acquaintance has always been the love for humanity which, after all, gives the former real significance. Perhaps this is a real test for a good Audubonite anyway. "He prayeth best who," we all agree, —well, suppose we set it all down again:

"He prayeth best who loveth best
All things both great and small;
For the dear God who loveth us,
He made and loveth all."

JESSE L. SMITH.



Photo by Clarence Bonnell

A TYPICAL SCENE IN BETHEL'S HOLLOW, POPE COUNTY, ILL., WHICH IS A ROCKY GORGE BORDERED WITH HIGH BLUFFS. THE BEECH TREES SHOWN HERE ARE TYPICAL OF THE RICH FOREST GROWTH NATIVE OF THE AREA.

Concerning the War on the National Parks

The following circular letter sent out by Robert Sterling Yard, Executive Secretary of the National Parks Association, should be given the widest publication. Who is your congressman? Write him what you wish him to do when the affairs of the National Parks come up for consideration. Let us do what we can to make Illinois' delegation in Congress one hundred percent in favor of the complete conservation of our National Parks.

WHAT HAS HAPPENED

After forty-eight years of uninterrupted national parks conservation, the last Congress nearly passed a bill permitting irrigation reservoirs in the Falls River Basin of the Yellowstone National Park, and actually passed one creating a Federal Water Power Commission with power to lease all public waters, *including those of national parks and monuments*. Yet twenty-four consecutive Congresses had confirmed the purpose of complete conservation for national parks and had denied hundreds of attempts to commercialize them.

Neither of the last session's bills attracted any attention in Congress, and neither came to the knowledge of the public until nearly the session's end. A hastily gathered group of public spirited associations stopped the Falls River irrigation bill in the House on May 25th after it had slipped quietly through the Senate, but did not defeat it. *It will come up again this winter*. The Water Power bill passed both Houses before we discovered that it applied also to national parks and monuments, and became law. *A bill to amend the Water Power Act so that it will not apply to national parks* will be introduced at *this session*, under the auspices of the Department of the Interior.

Meantime a thoroughly organized and well financed movement was uncovered in Montana with the object of damming Yellowstone Lake, and *a bill is in preparation with that purpose* for introduction in this session of Congress.

Local irrigation interests behind these bills have combined with other irrigation interests in the hope that one or other of the projects will pass, thus creating the precedent for which many irrigation projects for other national parks are waiting. There is no doubt that local water power interests are concerned in this combination also. Already applications have been made to the Water Power Commission for privileges, including dams, power houses and transmission lines, in the Grand Canyon and Sequoia National Parks.

This combination of interests bordering on the parks is very powerful. It is entrenched in politics, and has strong leaders in both Houses of Congress.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN

If Congress grants *one* single irrigation privilege in *any* national park, no matter how inconspicuous the dam, or how little it injures the park, it *destroys the historic principle of Complete Conservation* which alone differentiates national parks from national forests. It opens the door. *Entire commercialization of all national parks* will follow logically and inevitably.

THE PURPOSE OF NATIONAL PARKS

National parks are popularly called Playgrounds, but that is not their definition. National forests are playgrounds, also, and of high degree. Irrigation, water power, forestry and hunting in season are permitted in national forests, but not in national parks.

National parks are NATIONAL MUSEUMS. Their purpose is to preserve forever, in their original untouched condition, certain few, small, widely-separated examples of the American Wilderness of the pioneer and the frontiersman, of the works and processes of Nature unblemished by man's hands; of our native wild animals living natural lives in the natural homes of their ancestors.

We can pass on to posterity no other gift of such pleasure-giving and profit-giving quality, combined with unique usefulness to history and science, as these Museums of Native America.

This Nation is rich enough to afford them. In area they are, altogether, *less than four per cent* of the National Forest and *LESS THAN ONE AND THREE-FIFTHS PER CENT* of the remaining Public Lands, the commercial water opportunities in both of which are less than ten per cent developed.

The relation of the national parks to the national forests may be likened to that of a museum of natural history to the great city park in which it stands.

HOW TO SAVE OUR NATIONAL PARKS

To save these unique National Museums (the world has no other like them) we must *personally insist* that our Senators and Representatives in Congress—

First, amend the Water Power Act so that it shall not apply to national parks and monuments. This will have the effect of throwing the power over them back in Congress where it has rested for half a century and where it belongs; and

Second, defeat the Falls River Basin Bill, the bill for the privilege to dam Yellowstone Lake, and any other bills of similar purpose affecting any national parks which appear before the next session.

Cook County Forest Preserve Zoological Gardens

The Forest Preserve of Cook County received on December 30, 1919 from Mrs. Edith Rockefeller McCormick the gift of a tract of 105 acres of land on condition that it be used for zoological gardens within five years. This land lies west of Riverside between the DesPlaines River and Salt Creek. Since the Forest Preserve Commissioners have no right under the Forest Preserve law to spend public money for such a purpose, the gardens will have to be established and maintained by a zoological society such as the one in New York which conducts the gardens in the Bronx, of which Mr. William Temple Hornaday is Director.

President Reinberg of the Forest Preserve Commission has called a preliminary meeting on November 30th for the formation of such a society. And there are ready for their use the reports made by the committee of the Forest Preserve Commission who made a trip last summer to visit Cincinnati, Washington, Philadelphia, New York, Buffalo and St. Louis to investigate the work and methods of their Zoological Gardens.

A Few Bird Notes from the Great Smoky Mountains

A short visit to the Great Smokies in eastern Tennessee, in May 1918 and another in June 1920, introduced the writer to a number of birds which rarely if ever come to northern Illinois, and to several others that are known only as migrants or occasional summer visitors.

The visit in 1918 being a month earlier found more birds in full song than were heard in 1920. Daybreak brought a most wonderful bird concert and it seemed as though the narrow valley of the Little Pigeon river must be literally alive with birds. Many of the songs were familiar, but there were many new voices most of which were later identified, and a few that on account of the shyness of the feathered vocalist I was unable to associate with any bird of my acquaintance.

The most striking song noted was that of the Carolina wren, whose ringing "tswee-udle, tswee-udle, tswee-udle" could be distinguished above all of the other bird songs. The Carolina's whistle is as characteristic and far sounding as that of the cardinal though not having as great a variety as does the song of the latter. The wrens, while very common, seldom came out into the open to sing, consequently were difficult to see. An entirely new song was that of the southern yellowthroat whose softly slurred "receiver, receiver, receiver" is quite different in quality and acceleration from the more spritely "wichity, wichity, wichity" of the northern yellowthroat. A pair of these black masked midgets evidently nested quite near the hotel for every afternoon they might be seen on the fence a few hundred feet from the porch.

A covey of quail across the road on a hillside were more often heard than seen, and one of the family invariably whistled "whi-i-te", possibly he had less respect for "Bob", and chose to use only his last name. The



Photo by O. M. Schantz

IN THE FOOTHILLS OF THE TENNESSEE MOUNTAINS. IN THE BACKGROUND, FORESTED TO THE VERY TOP, IS LE CONTE MOUNTAIN, THE HIGHEST IN THE STATE.

rest of the covey whistled the conventional bob-white that we are all so familiar with.

The lisping call of the Carolina chickadee was occasionally heard, and once in a "basement"—narrow valley,—the roll of the pileated woodpecker was heard but at so great a distance that we failed to see the drummer. In 1918 bluegray gnatcatchers were very common and sang almost as incessantly as chipping sparrows. Many of our well known friends, song, chipping and field sparrows, several vireos, the cardinal and indigo bunting were frequently seen and heard in the open spaces.

On the higher slopes and feeding in the tree tops, Cairn's warbler, the southern type of the black-throated blue warbler could be heard singing while feeding, with quite as much persistence as the red-eyed vireo, and one memorable forenoon while exploring a grove of giant tulip and buck-eye trees miles up Norton creek, I was discovered by a pair of gorgeous Kentucky warblers. They were not at all timid and showed a curiosity worthy of our chickadee. At intervals the male favored me with his rich ringing song. As I was not "really bird hunting", I no doubt missed seeing other warblers as it was ideal warbler country.

On the day of my one ambitious climb to the top of Rocky Spur, which is one of the higher peaks joining Le Conte mountain (6500 feet), and itself "up in the clouds", we passed through a great forest of southern hemlock, chestnut, oaks and buckeyes, up into the haunts of the black bear and the rattlesnake, through rhododendron "slicks", past wonderful flaming azaleas, and through acres of galax with its dainty spikes of tiny white blossoms, where tree trunks were so covered with moss that polypody and spinulose shield ferns grew freely on the perpendicular sides of the trees supported entirely by the moss.

Among the rocks were stalks of wood-lilies not yet in blossom, six to eight feet in height. Near the summit the vegetation became dwarfed and so dense that the last few hundred yards were only possible by crawling on hands and knees through the bear tunnels.

Almost the first thing noticed after reaching the summit of Rocky spur was a "joree bird,"—chewink—, then a baltimore oriole and three chimney swifts were seen, which completed the bird list for the day.

The great height of the trees makes bird identification difficult unless one is thoroughly familiar with their songs. On the lower slopes, in the clearings, and along the many mountain streams systematic bird hunting with binoculars would no doubt yield very satisfactory lists.

In the Smokies the rugged and isolated mountain regions will remain for all time an ideal home for many of our more rare birds.

The rough character of the country will keep out all but the hardy and vigorous out-of-door enthusiasts, even though highways may cross the higher mountains in the future. Nature has effectually protected this wonderful country for a time at least by her planning of the mountains.

ORPHEUS MOYER SCHANTZ.



Photo by John Baird

WHERE PRAIRIE AND RIVER MEET IN THE FOREST PRESERVE

Birds and the Forest Preserve

The Forest Preserve as a bird refuge is a success. Already we have noted a marked increase in the number of song birds visiting and inhabiting our woods. As we acquire more connected areas and can afford better protection, we expect much greater results. We are pleased to find that protection of birds is a very popular movement. We seldom have trouble with people molesting our birds,—I wish we could say the same in regard to wild flowers. Not only are the song birds increasing, but the quail and pheasants are here in much greater numbers. Where a few years ago we had three small coveys, there are now reported fourteen or fifteen coveys of considerable size. The water birds soon learn that they are protected on the Deer Grove lake and on the DesPlaines River, and they feel at home and stay on these waters a much longer time than was their former habit.

In our Nursery we are planting such trees as will provide feed for birds and also we are growing acres of broom corn, millet, hemp and sunflowers, which will be distributed to reliable caretakers for winter feed. The millet is left in bundles and will be fed in that way. Also, we have planted in two places wild grass to attract the water fowl.

The Women's Clubs of the Districts persuaded the schools to make bird houses in their manual training work. They gave an exhibit of these houses and they were donated to the Forest Preserve. This work was a great success and we have this year over 3000 houses which were placed on the Forest Preserve. Although these houses arrived late, seventy-five percent of them were occupied this year. As a whole they were exceptionally well made according to the principles of the best bird house building. Mrs. Welsch, Secretary of the State Federation of Women's Clubs, informs me that the Women's Clubs will continue the same policy of furnishing bird houses to the Forest Preserve District. We realize the value of the birds to the Forest Preserve not only because of the charm of their song and the delight they are to the eye, but also from the standpoint of material advantage of the trees—we know that without birds we would have no forests

in a few years. Through the Women's Clubs, the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts, the schools, and in every possible way, we are trying to teach the public the value of the conservation of our bird life. Without the cooperation of the public it would be impossible for us to protect our feathered treasures. The number of our Wardens is entirely inadequate to protect our forests at all times.

While very many people know and appreciate the birds of the summer time, comparatively few know the joy that may come to us from a study of the winter birds. In the winter the birds that are in the forests are more in evidence and appeal more strongly for food and for protection. We hope that the feeding which we are doing will not only be of benefit to the birds, but will be an example which be followed by other organizations and by very many individuals.

For protection of birds on the Forest Preserves I feel impelled to mention the cat. We feel bitterly towards any one who destroys two or three of our birds, and still we tolerate cats when it is certain that the average cat kills fifty birds every year. However fond we may be of cats, we should all be willing to have them properly restricted. The worst offender is the cat without a home and this cat should be killed; others should be licensed and belled.

The Forest Preserve is anxious to do its best for the birds. We look to the Audubon Society for advice and help in this work, and we are striving in every way to make the Forest Preserve District the real safe refuge and home of the feathered tribes.

RANSOM KENNICOTT, FORESTER.

Homes in a Forest Preserve

There was a building boom in the Cook County schools last Spring which culminated in an exhibit of bird houses at Marshall Field and Company's retail store during the week ending April 3. Each of 200 or more schools was represented by the specimen bird house which the pupils of that school had voted to be the best in their local contest. The exhibit at Field's aroused great interest and enthusiasm which should carry over into a permanent interest in the home life of birds. At the close of the exhibit the bird houses were turned over to Mr. Ransom Kennicott, Chief Forester of the Cook County Forest Preserve, and duly set up for the free use of patrons of such commodities. Mrs. Theron Colton of the Second District Conservation Committee of the Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs started the idea, Mr. Edward Worst of the Manual Training Department of the Chicago Schools set the pupils to work, and Miss Emma March of the Art Department of the schools started the work of making posters, this latter proving a splendidly educative feature of the exhibit. The exhibit as a whole was very suggestive. Almost every town or city has business houses that would be delighted to give space for setting up an exhibition of this sort. It is a splendid way to advertise and secure the good will of children as well as grown-ups.



The Elgin Audubon Society's New Home

The new natural history Museum in Lord's Park, Elgin, which is in the custody of the Elgin Audubon Society, was formally dedicated on Oct. 24th. Mayor Arwin E. Price made the presentation speech and gave the keys to the President of the Elgin Audubon Society, Mr. B. F. Berryman, who acted as chairman on the occasion. In response, Mr. Berryman pledged the Society to use the Museum properly for the benefit of the people. He outlined briefly some of the plans of the Society for the protection of bird life in the Elgin area. He then introduced Mr. Orpheus M. Schantz, President of the Illinois Audubon Society, who congratulated Elgin upon the possession of such a museum and upon the local interest in the study of nature which the Elgin Audubon Society is so successfully furthering. He expressed the hope that Elgin will become as noted for its natural history interest as for its watch factory and other commercial enterprises.

The local papers, particularly the Daily Courier, quoted extensively from Mr. Schantz' address. During the day more than 500 persons attended the exercises and visited the museum.

The initiative in the organization of the Elgin Audubon Society was taken by Mr. Carl F. Groneman, an artist, in June 1914, who attributed his inspiration to a chance copy of Bird-Lore which he picked up at a sale of miscellaneous books in Chicago. It was a good investment for Elgin, apparently, for an Audubon Society was organized there on June 14, 1914 with Mr. Groneman as its first President and Mrs. Barbara Culley, Secretary. The growth of the Society was gradual until its first public bird exhibition and bird lecture on April 21, 1917, Mr. Schantz lecturing at that time, when wide spread interest was aroused. Today the membership is over 200. Its bird exhibits are annual events widely attended and markedly beneficial in influence.

The Brown Thrasher

I first heard the Thrasher described as a brown bird with a long floppy tail. This description is not far from accurate, though given by a boy who had never studied birds. It is an interesting fact that this bird, only eleven and a half inches long, should have a tail over five inches in length.

My attention was first called to a Brown Thrasher one evening when I heard the sweet, exhilarating and peculiarly rich notes of one in the top of a tall oak tree in my back yard. The next day I noticed the birds carrying small twigs to some place in the back part of the yard. So I determined to find this Thrasher's nest if it were possible. I hunted all morning but was unable to find it, so clever were the two Thrashers in concealing their approach to the newly constructed nest. The day after I attempted again to find the nest but with no better results. That afternoon, a friend used to the habits of Thrashers and hiding places in which they conceal their nests, discovered their nest very cleverly and successfully camouflaged in a large pile of thorn apple branches that had been trimmed from the trees the fall before.

The nest was built in the center of the pile of branches about two feet above the ground. The outer part was made of coarse twigs, loosely laid together. Inside this was the nest proper, lined with the greatest care, with fine grasses and rootlets. Contrary to the habits of other related birds like the Cat-bird no foreign substances such as paper, string or cloth were woven into it.

The following day there was one long white egg, specked with fine chocolate colored spots, in this daintly lined nest. On the fifth day there were five eggs and the female then began her brooding, to the accompaniment of her mate's never ending, seemingly spontaneous song.

Thrashers are reported to be very shy, but the female Thrasher would stay on the nest even when I approached to within three or four feet of her. I tried several experiments with interesting results, the first one to see how close I could get to the nest without her leaving it. I did this by daily walking around the nest for about fifteen minutes, approaching nearer and nearer each time. At first she was startled and tried to hide as much as possible by flattening herself down in the nest. But by the third day she seemed quite used to me and did not even follow me with her eyes as she did when I first appeared.

One afternoon I sat down about five feet from the nest and began to whistle a waltz tune while I watched the female on the nest. The minute I began to whistle she cocked her head on one side to see where it was coming from. Then to my amazement, she began to tap her bill on a twig in front of her in perfect time to the music.

About two weeks later I went to the nest and found that all the eggs had hatched and that the little birds were knotted up in a compact mass in the bottom of the nest. They were perfectly naked, flesh colored, with abnormally large heads. I imitated the female's low whistle and all five heads consisting principally of mouths popped up. I withdrew to a little distance and watched the mother bird feed the babies. She would feed two of them one time and three the next and the male would do the op-

posite, each coming to the nest approximately once in every twenty minutes.

I was somewhat puzzled at first as to what the Thrashers were feeding their babies until early in the morning of the second day I noticed the female catch the owners of three large spider webs on a tree outside of my window. These spiders were immediately taken to the nest and fed to three of the nestlings. Later in the day I saw the same thing repeated, only this time she did not capture three but instead enough to go around once and still leave two spiders in reserve. On the third day the little birds were being fed larger and heavier insects, the most noticeable insect being the common black ground beetle. These beetles were brought to the nestlings by both Thrashers in ever increasing and astonishing numbers.

Five days later the young Thrashers had nearly all of their feathers unquilled, their backs being a soft red brown and their breasts sparsely covered with white, specked feathers. They were a very unusual sight with their oversized yellow bills and long yellowish legs which lent them the appearance of an overgrown boy dressed in his last year's outgrown clothes.

About this time the female Thrasher began to bring to her babies the first grasshoppers of the season along with a few fruits, such as wild strawberries. From then on to the time they left the nest the principal diet of the young birds consisted almost entirely of grasshoppers and a few berries.

Two weeks from the time they hatched, the young Brown Thrashers left the nest. They did not seem to want to fly, and stayed around on the ground and low bushes for several days, returning to the nest at night. At intervals of three or four days for about a month, I saw them, usually about twilight, flying or perching about their old nest. Finally, the two adult Thrashers having drifted away to another location to raise their second brood, the young Brown Thrashers disappeared and I have not seen them since.

JOHN H. SUTTER.



TWO MOODS.

IN THE FIRST OF THESE PHOTOGRAPHS OF A YOUNG BROWN THRASHER BY C. F. GRONEMAN, THE BIRD APPEARS BRACED AND EXPECTANT, WILLING TO UNDERGO THE ORDEAL OF BEING FED. IN THE NEXT HE HAS AN AIR BEFITTING ONE WHO HAS RECENTLY HAD A SATISFYING EXPERIENCE BUT WHO ALSO HAS AN EYE TO FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.



Photo by Clarence Bonnell

A CYPRESS SWAMP ALONG THE CACHE RIVER NEAR KARNAK IN JOHNSON COUNTY, ILLINOIS. THIS IS IN THAT PORTION OF ILLINOIS WHICH LIES WITHIN THE GULF COASTAL PLAIN

Our State Forester in Action

A recently published bulletin of the United States Forestry Service entitled, "Timber Depletion and the Answer," by U. S. Forester William B. Greeley, brings together and summarizes the latest data concerning a problem which is of significance for every home in our land. It is a growing significance, too, and it is of great importance that the information in this bulletin should receive the widest publicity. It is urged that public-spirited people everywhere acquaint themselves with the contents of this bulletin and distribute copies of it generally. Copies can be obtained of the Superintendent of Documents, at Washington, D. C., at a cost of five cents each (stamp not accepted).

What forestry work is being done in Illinois? Everything possible with the limited fund placed at the disposal of Professor S. T. Forbes and his colleagues of the Illinois State Laboratory of Natural History at Urbana. This will appear in a summary of the activities of our State Forester, Mr. R. B. Miller, who represents the department and who through publicity work, addresses, and field work is making a splendid beginning in arousing public attention and support to the forestry movement.

Two bulletins on forestry have been issued, Circular No. 1, "Forestry Survey for Illinois," and No. 2, "Fire Protection in Illinois Forests," now in press. Articles have also been written for the Illinois Agriculturist on

farm forestry, for the Arbor and Bird Day booklet, and for the press. Mr. Miller has given addresses before farmers' institutes, horticultural societies, the Tri-State Forestry Conference, the Arché Club of Chicago, the Biology Section of the Central Science and Mathematics Teachers' Association, the Prairie Club of Chicago, and elsewhere, emphasizing in some of the talks with slides the recreational side of the forest. Five lectures were given in the Department of Landscape Architecture at the University of Illinois and Mr. Miller has appeared before schools as opportunity has offered.

To this publicity work which might well alone tax the resources of one person, Mr. Miller adds field work, the demands of which are rapidly growing. He has been called upon to make estimates for farmers in various parts of the state, a recent instance being concerned with marking the trees in a 65 acre tract to be taken out so that the owner can realize on them and also improve the woodlot. The Forester looked after the planting of 6000 red pine and jackpine seedlings on "stripped lands" of the Electric Coal Company at Danville. He has just made a preliminary report upon a tract of 5000 acres of mining lands for one of the most progressive coal companies in Chicago, this company desiring to handle its timberlands so as to produce a perpetual supply of mine timber. This will probably mean the making of a scheme for planting so as to keep up the annual supply, and devising measures for fire protection, for better cutting, and disposal of slash after cutting. It is hoped to get other coal companies in southern Illinois interested in the same kind of work and thus there will be openings for trained foresters to go directly into the employ of the mine owners themselves.

The Soil Physics Department and the Geological Survey both assert that there are many thousands of acres of lands in southern Illinois which should not be cropped but which should remain in timber because when denuded of forest cover the land soon erodes and gullies very badly, making the raising of farm crops impossible. A thorough study of conditions in typical areas is being made to determine what kinds of trees should be used in re-planting, and this should ultimately mean the establishment of state nurseries to raise trees at cost for private owners.

The office of the Forester receives many inquiries of a varied nature on the uses of native woods, planting of trees, use of wood preservatives in prolonging the life of fence posts, etc. There are calls for the latest information upon subjects such as forest taxation, fire protection, forest policy, state and national, and other things necessary to introduce into legislation. Forestry exhibits, to attract the attention of schools and of farmers at their different meetings, engage the activity of the Forester also. In New York state there are five men working in the department of forestry extension alone, and it is evident that the work in Illinois will soon so far outgrow the power of one man to attend to it that some of it will have to remain at a standstill unless the department receives a larger measure of financial support.

Notes from Bird Haven, Olney, Illinois

Permission has been secured to reproduce a portion of a private letter from Mr. Robert Ridgway at Olney to a friend in Chicago. Here are given glimpses of infelicities and, indeed, harrowing tragedies among the feathered beings that have taken up their abode at Bird Haven in response to the generous and catholic invitation of its owners. Careful observations such as are herewith recorded are of special interest to those trying to maintain bird refuges. Mr. Ridgway writes:

"Through her (Mrs. Ridgway) efforts our place is a veritable paradise for birds. When we first came there were only Crow Blackbirds (a large colony), Bluejays, and House Sparrows on the place. This summer we have counted 37 species (not including any of those just mentioned) that are breeding on our eight acres, and the number of individuals is so great that anything like an even approximately correct census would be impossible. There is much sadness however connected with our feathered friends, for we frequently miss one that we have learned to differentiate from its companions by some peculiarity of voice or plumage. This year the Cardinals have suffered most, for the 25 to 30 that we fed all through the winter are now reduced to a single male. Bird enemies are legion, the worst here being hawks and snakes, next to these being cats, Bluejays and Grackles, gray squirrels and flying squirrels. The Bluejays, despite the fact that I shoot every one I can, destroy at least 75% of the eggs and many young, while the Grackle is a veritable scourge in its destruction of young birds. The flying squirrels have occupied most of the nesting boxes not already taken by wasps and bumble bees, and the squirrels (gray and fox) appropriate the larger boxes put up for Flickers. The white footed mouse is another pest. A short time ago I found a nest of this creature that was thickly lined with the feathers of a male Cardinal. The House-Wren, too, we have a "grudge" against, for while a lively, sociable little fellow, with a jolly though not very musical song, he is very fussy and quarrelsome, and there are so many of them (there are not less than a dozen pairs nesting on the premises) that no Chickadee or Tufted Titmouse has the slightest show. Most of all, Bewick's Wren, in every way a more lovable bird, every whit as tame, a charming songster, and absolutely tolerant of other birds, must go when T. ædon arrives. Bewick's spends the whole year with us and nests early. Every spring a pair build their nest in a box on our kitchen porch and incubation is in progress when the House Wren arrives. The very first thing the House Wren does after coming is to enter the box, impale the eggs, one at a time, on his bill and drop them to the floor porch. Then he proceeds to drive the rightful owners off the premises. The Chickadee (*P. carolinensis*) also an early breeder, is served in the same manner. I came near forgetting the Red-headed Woodpecker, also a tyrant, not permitting another woodpecker of any sort at the feeding places. He persecutes the young Flickers shamefully."

Notes from Port Byron

Port Byron, Ill., Nov. 15, 1920.

Last spring when the Red-headed Woodpeckers arrived, they ruined most of the Bluebird nests about our place. I had used a one and a half inch auger to make the entrance holes of the nesting boxes, which was just the right size for the Red-heads to get in and tear out the nests and eggs. Last year they ruined a Chickadee's nest in an old peach tree in the garden, when they enlarged the entrance and tore out the nest and young. Also during the summer of 1919, several of the Red-heads formed the habit of going into the chicken house and picking holes in the chicken eggs. They were sometimes seen on the roof of the chicken house looking down through some cracks, but they would never go in when anyone was watching them. Once I surprised one inside, but he escaped through an opening on the side. The holes which they picked in the eggs were not very large, and when we opened some of them it could be seen that they stuck their bill or tongue into the yolk, which was always mixed with the white. Some days when the chickens were on the nests all day, the Red-heads did not get a chance to puncture any eggs, and on other days there would be from one to three with holes picked through the shell. This year they did not bother us with such a bad habit.

At nine o'clock, on the forenoon of June 12th this year, while working in the garden, I was startled by a strange bird which commenced to sing in a plum tree in the northwest corner of the garden. It did not sing very long, when it commenced to imitate other birds, and I then recognized it as a Mockingbird. It did not stay in the plum tree, but kept moving from tree to tree along the west side of the garden, until it reached a raspberry patch, when it suddenly quit singing, and then in about half a minute afterwards a Brown Thrasher commenced to sing near the place where the Mockingbird was last heard. Evidently the Brown Thrasher was following the Mockingbird, and chased it away. During the time that the Mockingbird was heard singing it imitated the Flicker, Bluejay, Cardinal, Purple Martin, and Yellow-throated Vireo. On account of eye trouble, I could not see the Mockingbird, but am sure it was one, as I heard them sing in Florida several years ago.

The breeding birds about our place were very successful this year in raising their young, which I think was due to the dry weather we had during the summer. Sixty-five pairs of Cliff Swallows built their nests under the eaves of our barn. A good many years ago, before the English Sparrows were here, there were about 200 nests on our barn each year, but after the sparrows came, they became less and less every year, until there were none. In 1913, when I got interested in the study of birds and began to protect them, there were no Cliff Swallows at our barn. In 1914 one pair came and built a nest. I shot the English Sparrows that tried to take the nest and the swallows raised two broods of young. In 1915 there was again one nest. During the following years the number of nests increased as follows: 1916, 3; 1917, 12; 1918, 36; 1919, 55; 1920, 65. It is hard work to keep the sparrows out of the nests, the only way is to shoot and trap them. Most of the farmers do not pay any attention to the sparrows and leave them to breed as they please. One good thing about

the swallows is they always take their nests again, after we pull the sparrow's nest out with a wire hook.

For the first time we had two pairs of Baltimore Orioles on our place this year. One pair built their nest in a pear tree about 15 feet from the Martin house and the other pair built their nest in a large old burr oak near the garden about 50 yards from where the first pair built. The Orioles were very peaceful and never had any trouble with each other. One of them kept calling every day until Sept. 5. A pair of Orchard Orioles also built their nest in a pear tree about 15 feet from the Martin house and about 30 feet from the Baltimore Oriole nest. The Orioles seemed to like the Martins and never had any trouble with them. Mourning Doves were more plentiful again this year. One pair built in an apple tree in the orchard, but I did not watch them. Another pair built in a small plum tree in the garden and were successful in raising two young. Afterward they again occupied the same nest, but for some reason abandoned it. Dickcissels were scarce this year because most of the clover froze out last winter and there were no clover fields for them to breed in. This is the first year since 1914 that I did not hear the Yellow-breasted Chat sing. I often went to a piece of brush land where a pair nested in other years, but could not hear any. There are not many Bob-whites here this fall. Most of the early nests get destroyed when the farmers make their hay in June. There are also hundreds of other birds' nests destroyed by the mowers in haymaking time, such as the Meadowlark, Grasshopper Sparrow and Dickcissel.

JOHN J. SCHAFER.

The Yellow-Breasted Chat

Data relating to the occurrence and nesting habits of the Yellow-breasted Chat in the different portions of Illinois are none too plentiful. In notes from Rockford, printed elsewhere, Miss VanDuzer reports the identification of one as late as September 28th of this season. Mr. John Schafer in his notes from Port Byron near the Mississippi River in northern Illinois reports that this is the first year since 1914 that he did not hear the Yellow-breasted Chat sing. A pair had nested in his neighborhood during past years. In Mrs. Ellen Drummond Farwell's "Bird Observations near Chicago" under date of May 12, 1898, and May 12, 1902, she relates her experience with the Yellow-breasted Chat near Lake Forest. At both dates it would appear that there were nests of this species in that vicinity. Mr. Orpheus M. Schantz has volunteered a comment upon its habits and Mr. Vandercook writes from Odin in southern Illinois, where the bird is an established summer resident.

Mr. Schantz writes:—

"Among the many migrant birds that honor us with their presence in northern Illinois none has been more mysterious and elusive than the chat. Strikingly garbed, shy, and usually silent, this handsome warbler is probably as little known here as any of the warbler throng that pass through during the spring migrations.

Once many years ago, on a dripping June morning at Riverside, when the air was filled with bird songs, and the vegetation was still wet after an early morning shower, suddenly there came clearly and distinctly a new

note in the medley, and as suddenly there flashed out into the open with a peculiar dropping flight, a chat. This was my first introduction. The identification was not difficult for this versatile warbler is in a class by himself. His song, actions and coloration placed him beyond question. Each spring migration following had as part of its possibilities the further acquaintance—often not realized—with this fascinating cosmopolite. A friend who had studied the chat's choice of habitation quietly organized a personally conducted search for a nesting place, and finally discovered a pair breeding in an out of the way bottom land south of Willow Springs in Cook County. In later years we occasionally saw a single bird during migration, but its appearance would be casual and its stay short, as if it was entirely accidental and not likely to occur again if it could be avoided.

It will be easy to understand my interest and delight when in late June of this year I discovered the chat common and not at all shy, in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains of Eastern Tennessee. In fact he was familiarly known to the mountain people as the "mocking bird." Almost anywhere in the luxuriant growth along the fences one might hear the chat scolding, imitating, and then following with his own odd mellow whistling notes, the latter in rapid succession and all on the same pitch.

Here in the wonderful natural hedges of holly, stuartias, rhododendron, and blackberry brier, draped with muscadine grape and the viciously thorny catbrier, was the chosen home of this olive-backed, golden-breasted comedian, and here he might be seen and heard every day, self possessed, attractive and altogether beautiful."

Mr. Vandercook writes as follows:—

"This species arrives here at Odin usually early in May. I have observed them as early as April 26th and again none would be seen before May 15th. They no doubt depart for their southern winter home very early. I have never seen any after September 1st. They inhabit the dense thickets of underbrush and briars and are very hard to be observed. Were it not for the loudness and variety of notes, which this species has the ability to render it might be entirely overlooked. As it is, by hearing its notes one may by patiently watching locate the author and he may be seen flying from one perch to another, all the while moving with a peculiar jerking of the wings and tail and uttering some one of its notes.

It nests in very dense thickets, usually from two to three feet above the earth. The nest is a collection of tree leaves, weed stems, grass, grape vine bark with an outside depth of $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and diameter of 6 inches. I have found nests as early as May 18th and as late as June 7th. From three to five eggs are laid, usually only four. I have observed only two nests containing five. They are white, inclined to be glassy. Some have a pinkish coat with reddish brown or chestnut colored spots and specks. Some of these markings are thicker and larger on the large end, but generally they are distributed over the entire shell. The eggs vary some in size but are on an average about .70 inches in diameter by .90 inches in length. The food of the Chat consists of insects and berries. This species is imposed upon by the Cowbirds and I have found nests deserted with no other visible reason only the intrusion."

Other notes relating experiences with this most interesting bird will be very acceptable to readers of this Bulletin.

J. L. S.

Notes from Rockford

The first bird observations for the year 1920 which were of special interest to Rockford bird-lovers was an enormous flock of Snow Buntings seen Feb. 23. They were feeding on snow covered bare fields in company with Horned Larks. They were very restless and apparently just ready to leave. The Red-bellied Woodpecker was with us again all through the winter.

We have a fairly accurate record for the Worm-eating Warbler on April 30. It is an unusual record for us, but the bird was observed all day and described so minutely as to appearance and habits that it would seem to be unmistakable. Many White-crowned Sparrows were seen in company with White-throats during May and were reported from all parts of the city. The Prothonotary Warbler was here the latter part of May, but as far as I know we have no nesting record as we had last year.

August 30 an immense flock of Grebe covered the river. There must have been hundreds of birds as in a trip of eight or ten miles they were abundant all the way. They were unmistakably Grebes and crested with white and chestnut on their head and throat. The early date makes it difficult to identify the birds and we will await with interest any observations from others that may help to identify the flock.

This fall, a late date for a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was obtained—presumably because of the late fall, October 7. The Titmouse and Cardinal are both with us again this year. Other interesting birds which have been reported to me this autumn are a flock of Pipits, a flock of Purple Finches in full plumage and a Yellow-breasted Chat which was reported Sept. 28 in company with Orange-crowned, Black-throated Blue, and Green, and Baybreasted Warblers.

EDITH VANDUZEN.



Photo by Walter Loeritz

AT BUTLER'S LAKE. THE HIGH WATER RAFTS THE DEBRIS OF LAST YEAR'S REEDS UPON THE MUD SHOALS. HERE THE BITTERN TAKES HIS STAND. THE BUSY-BODY COOT WANDERS OVER IT AND PUSHES OUT INTO WATERY AISLES AMONG THE REEDS WHEN PRIVACY IS DESIRED.

The Thrushes

The robin flutes his old refrain,
 Singing through sunshine and through rain —
 The first to rouse the chorus, he
 So cheers the waking world with glee.

The veery's jingling music falls
 In circles—and the sound enthalls
 As through the darkening pines one strays
 And dreams of dear, departed days.

The wood thrush song is liquid gold,
 A perfect harmony supreme
 Of love and loving manifold;
 Making all sorrow but a dream.

The darling of the poet's lay,
 The blue bird's note sounds far-away,
 As if with heavenly color, clear
 Angelic voices mingled near.

But when the hermit sings—ah me!
 His three-fold chord of ecstasy—
 My spirit leaves my troubled breast
 And cradled, sinks to perfect rest.

MARY KAVANAGH.

The Whitethroat

The whitethroat when he comes in spring,
 On northern lodge-pole seems to sing
 To Indian mother weaving fleet
 A swinging cradle for small feet,
 A lullaby, serenely sweet,
 In "Killaleet, ah Killaleet."

But when in autumn's yellow haze,
 'Mid purpling grapes in sunlit days,
 His high clear note forever strays—
 (The wildest cry the woods within
 As if for long regretted sin—)
 Sounds "Pity me Lord pity me."

MARY KAVANAGH.

Bobbie of Park Ridge

While spading my garden in the Spring of 1919 I first noticed him following at a distance and picking great beakfuls of worms, then flying off to the next street and returning almost immediately to repeat the action. I began to encourage him by tossing worms toward him. At first he did not understand but gradually became bolder and always got them. He finally became so tame that he would pick his food not only close to me but would often follow my spading fork so close that I had to be careful for fear of hurting him; and when digging a hole for the burial of table refuse, he has actually hopped right into the hole, from the sides of which he would pull great worms that I had failed to see and secure for him.

My good wife enjoyed this friendly bird as much as I and suggested jokingly that he should bring his youngsters to our yard where we have trees, and he would not have to travel back and forth so much. Almost as though he had heard and understood, he followed the suggestion next day, for while I was digging, my wife discovered a young robin fluttering in the crotch of one of our trees and climbing on a lawn bench she released the little fellow to a more comfortable position and a few moments later "Bobbie" went to the little one with a mouth full of worms and fed it before our eyes. We later discovered that there was a pair of them which we immediately named Peter and Paul.

Bobby by this time held undisputed possession of our yard. He was a splendid provider for his brood and usually at the expense of the "sweat of my brow," not his. He fed those two youngsters until they were both larger than he, and they finally became so independent from their ability to care for themselves that I actually saw one of them refuse to accept food from him. Soon after this he did not appear so often and I thought he was deserting us, but one evening when I thought I was thru for the day I sat on the lawn bench under the trees with my wife, suddenly almost at our feet Mr. Bobbie lit on the lawn and looking up at us warbled a few low notes. Feeling that he wanted something I took my spading fork from the side of the house and started for the back of the garden—I guessed right, he was there before I was and I succeeded before dark in getting him several good meals which he carried away as of old and returned for more. We then decided that he had another brood and wondered if he would bring his new offspring to us. We were not disappointed, for some days later we found in the yard a new baby so small he could not fly a bit and we wondered how the old bird got him there. We called him Buddie and he soon grew big enough to fly around with Peter and Paul. They were with us most of the Summer. Peter and Paul used to fly around the neighborhood to feed but Buddie stuck to our yard until late in the Fall—long after the first frosts and all other robins had disappeared, and we feared he would not migrate with the others. Latterly, however, we occasionally saw old Bobbie in the yard with him and have always thought that he finally persuaded him to leave. We knew old Bobbie because he had worked his tail off taking care of the little ones and he had not succeeded in growing a new one up to the time he disappeared for the winter, but I hope not for good.

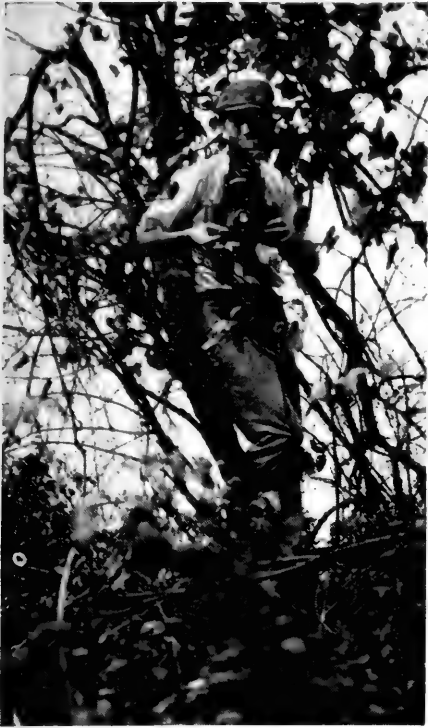
E. A. THOMAS.

A Modern Version

Whittier's barefoot boy possessed a "knowledge never learned of schools."

Flight of fowl and habitude
Of the tenants of the wood.

The modern counterpart of this boy fares forth in wading boots, armed with a graflex camera. He makes careful written notes of what he observes. He writes an essay when he gets back to school, illustrates it with his photographic prints, and gets credit on his high-school course. He may, indeed, win a cash prize for his effort. At least that is what happened to the New Trier High School boy shown in the picture. The boy is John H. Sutter of Winnetka.



Arctic Three-toed Woodpeckers in the Chicago Area

Last year we had the Bohemian Waxwings with us; this season, the much rarer Arctic Three-toed Woodpeckers are here. Although every few years a wandering individual is reported this seems to be the first season that they have appeared in any numbers. As they are very partial to pine and tamarack they may be looked for in the Indiana Sand Dunes with the greatest prospect of success. They were first noticed on October 3rd, when a fine male was found industriously digging insect larvae out of a dying scrub pine east of Dune Park. October 24th another was discovered west of Dune Park and another October 21st at Mineral Springs. Two more at least have been seen by others at the latter place. They have all been males—the beautiful golden crown patch being one of their most striking features. Mr. Colin Sanborn, however, reports a female from the evergreen grove at Beach just north of Waukegan, Illinois.

Their call, a rather loud, startling and rapidly repeated teck, teck, teck, would attract attention whenever heard. As a rule they seem to be silent, except for their persistent tapping as they strip the bark from some badly infested dead or dying pine. These freshly stripped trees, noticeable for a long distance in the woods, are one of the best indications of their presence, none of our other woodpeckers removing the bark so thoroughly. Three of the specimens observed were very tame, paying no attention to me while another was rather nervous and shy.

Although the number of stripped trees would indicate that there are quite a few of these northern visitors in the Dunes, a person in quest of them might have to cover many miles of country before seeing even one, as they are far from common.

H. L. STODDARD.

Bird Study at a Normal School

A letter of inquiry from a student at the State Normal School at Bellingham, Washington, as to bird sanctuaries or reservations, led to some correspondence with the teacher of nature study in that institution, Miss Ida Agnes Baker, who has written for the Illinois Audubon Society an informal memorandum of the work of bird study in her classes. Lack of space entails the presentation of only a summary of the report. Since the students are all prospective teachers, methods and illustrative material are constantly used that will readily carry over into school room work. The first study of the bird, for example, has to do with a chicken as usually the most available bird. A pet rooster was brought in for use in the class this Fall and after submitting to the indignity of a physical examination the "bird" climbed on his box and crowed to express his nervous reaction. Games stressing the quick identification of birds from pictures or the accurate observation of characteristics of form and outline are freely used. At the beginning of the course the students are given a list of standard books written by nature lovers from which they are to select at least six for careful reading. To this are added one half a year's numbers of *Bird-Lore* and the *Nature Study Review*. They have the quarter in which to do this reading. Miss Baker does not require written reviews of the students' reading. It is reading for inspiration, she tells them, not an English lesson. She prefers that they read more books rather than write reviews.

A lecture on the Economic Value of Birds introduces the use of government bulletins, the fact that the birds of the Pacific are not yet thoroughly known hampering this work to some extent. Bird sanctuaries are next treated and each member of the class is expected to investigate and report in detail upon some project of this sort. No two students in the same class may have the same topic and as there are 38 students in each class the whole range of the literature of bird conservation is covered to provide material for these reports, which are presented from time to time in the form of oral class room reports. A *Nature Study News Book* hangs on the class room wall and here are entered over the observer's signature the dated notes of special interest, migration and nesting data, etc. At the end of the quarter each student hands in a dated record of birds observed, occasionally illustrated with drawings and accompanied with written observations.

In the Fox Lake Preserve

Inspector Edward St. Clair reports enormous flights of wild-fowl in the Fox Lake Preserve during the past few weeks. Early in the season thousands of coots came into the protected area. Later mallards, red-heads, canvasbacks and other ducks appeared, sometimes in astonishing numbers. One hunter who was permitted to play only the role of innocent bystander reported sadly that he saw one flight of mallards "five blocks long and four blocks wide." Visitors came in auto loads to enjoy the unique experience of seeing several thousand wild ducks at close range in one day. November 21 a flock of 600 wild geese was on the lake at one time, this being the record visitation for a number of years. As late as December 10 a large flock of canvasbacks lingered in the area.

Entertaining a Hummingbird

A glass of sweetened water placed on the railing of a veranda seemed to a hummingbird that discovered it an extraordinary supply of unusually good flower nectar. Henceforth the bird's attention was for the nectar and all else was accessory, including the gentleman who held up the glass and moved about with it. Mr. William Deane sent the portrait, which was taken at Shelburne, N. H.



Meeting of the American Ornithologist's Union

The 38th stated meeting of the Union was held in Washington, November 9 to 12, 1920, and was one of the most successful gatherings the ornithologists have had in a number of years. To the lover of birds these annual meetings are looked forward to with keen anticipation as there are always new subjects presented, new ideas to discuss and new faces to meet, for every year some member appears who had only been known to the majority by his reputation or his writings.

The meetings were held at the U. S. National Museum. 140 members of all classes were in attendance. At the business meeting Dr. Witmer Stone was elected President, Dr. T. S. Palmer, Secretary and Waldo L. McAtee, Treasurer. On recommendation of the council one Fellow, thirteen Corresponding Fellows, four Members and three hundred Associate Members were duly elected. At the public meetings thirty-five papers were presented. Those which were illustrated with motion pictures were of especial interest, every year showing more improvement in this wonderful method of portraying the bird in all conditions of life and habits. At the adjournment of the first day's meeting the members visited the Library of Congress for an evening session to examine an exhibition of original drawings, paintings, photographs and prints of birds. The exhibit had been previously planned by the local committee, invitations having been sent to many of the well known bird artists throughout the country to send samples of their work, limiting to six original drawings or paintings and each photographer to two prints. The ready response resulted in a wonderful exhibit and during the week was largely attended by both members and the general public. On the evening of the second day the members gathered for the annual dinner which has always been a pleasant feature of

the program. At these social functions the members have opportunity to get together, get acquainted and compare notes, and later the local committee is always responsible for amusing the visiting members with some unusual program. On this occasion besides the distribution of jocose literature, a set of slides was shown representing various members of the Biological Survey while in the field on their various campaigns, "snapshots" taken in all costumes and under many conditions. As Dr. Fisher was appointed master of ceremonies on this occasion his descriptions and insinuations were the cause of much hilarity. The following morning many of the members met and were escorted to the National Zoological Park, where the officials conducted them to the various points of interest in the Park. The collections of animals and birds are of a very high order. The natural features of the locality, bordering on Rock Creek, up hill and down dale, make an ideal spot to display wild life. The following day such members as had remained after adjournment of the meetings, were invited for a field day at Plummer's Island, on the shore of the Potomac, some eight miles from the city where the Washington Biologists Field Club owns a most picturesque spot. Seventeen members took advantage of the Club's hospitality and they were made very much at home in their comfortable bungalow while the ladies cooked dinner for the party. The day was clear and cold. We climbed over the ledges which are conspicuous in the natural features of this high bluff rising abruptly from the river. We took pictures and watched the Kinglets, Cedar Waxwings, Cardinals and Juncos, and as we went into dinner a Bald Eagle flew over the island and sailed down river. These are the conditions under which the ornithologists and nature lovers, many of whom meet but once a year, when the A.O.U. holds its annual congress, can enjoy each other's company for there is a brotherhood among those mutually interested that is firm and true. The appreciation of the members who were entertained at dinner, receptions and other functions was most marked.

Following is the program of the three days' session:

Tuesday

1. Marriage Relations of the House Wren.
S. PRENTISS BALDWIN, Cleveland, Ohio. (20 min.)
2. In Memoriam—William Dutcher.
T. S. PALMER, Washington, D. C. (30 min.)
3. Some Additional Notes on Birds of Cape May, N. J.
WITMER STONE, Philadelphia, Pa. (20 min.)
4. Roosting Habits of Migratory and Winter Birds in Middle Tennessee.
A. F. GANIER, Nashville, Tenn. (20 min.)
5. The Later Flights of the Passenger Pigeon.
FRANK BOND, Washington, D. C. (10 min.)
6. Notes on the Eclipse Plumage of Certain Waterfowl.
ARTHUR A. ALLEN, Ithaca, N. Y. (15 min.)
7. The Use of Homing Pigeons in the World War. *Illustrated by lantern slides.*
ERNEST HAROLD BAYNES, Meriden, N. H. (30 min.)
8. The trained Fishing Cormorants of Japan. *Illustrated by lantern slides.*
H. M. SMITH, Washington, D. C. (20 min.)
9. The Temperate Zone in South America. *Illustrated by lantern slides.*
FRANK M. CHAPMAN, New York. (20 min.)

10. Published Figures and Plates of the Extinct Passenger Pigeon. *Illustrated by lantern slides.*
R. W. SHUFELDT, Washington, D. C. (25 min.)
11. Some Recent Experiences with Kirtland's Warbler. *Illustrated by lantern slides.*
WALTER B. BARROWS, East Lansing, Mich. (30 min.)
- Wednesday
12. The History and Purposes of Bird Banding.
F. C. LINCOLN, Washington, D. C. (25 min.)
13. Recent Returns from Trapping and Banding.
S. PRENTISS BALDWIN, Cleveland, Ohio. (20 min.)
14. Progress in Ornithology in 1920. (*Introduced by Harry C. Oberholser.*)
General Discussion by the Members. (60 min.)
15. The Desirability of a Definite Method of Indicating the Authorities for Scientific Names.
FRANK M. CHAPMAN, New York. (5 min.)
16. Birds of South Florida. *Illustrated by lantern slides.*
ARTHUR H. HCWELL, Washington, D. C. (30 min.)
All Papers Illustrated by Motion Pictures
17. Bird Life on the Audubon Reservation at Orange Lake, Florida.
NORMAN MCCLINTOCK, Pittsburgh, Pa. (45 min.)
18. Trumpeter Swans. *Presented by Major Allan C. Brooks.*
HOYES LLOYD, Ottawa, Canada. (10 min.)
19. Some Bird Studies in Motion Pictures.
THOS. S. ROBERTS, Minneapolis, Minn. (25 min.)
20. Notes on the Summer Birds of Southeastern Texas
T. GILBERT PEARSON, New York. (45 min.)
21. The Ornithology of the Peruvian Guano Islands.
ROBERT CUSHMAN MURPHY, Brooklyn, N. Y. (45 min.)
- Thursday
22. The Pterylosis of *Monias benschi*. *Illustrated by lantern slides.*
J. P. CHAPIN, New York. (20 min.)
23. The Pterylosis of the Avian Wing. *Illustrated by lantern slides.*
W. DE W. MILLER, New York. (30 min.)
24. Post Mortem Changes in the Colors of Birds' Feathers.
F. M. CHAPMAN, and L. A. FUERTES. (10 min.)
25. Sexual Dimorphism in *Sula nebouxi*. *Illustrated by lantern slides.*
ROBERT CUSHMAN MURPHY, Brooklyn, N. Y. (10 min.)
26. The Primaries of the Juvenal Plumage of Woodpeckers. *Illustrated by lantern slides.*
J. P. CHAPIN, New York. (10 min.)
27. Notes on New or Little Known Birds from Nicaragua.
W. DE W. MILLER, and LUDLOW GRISCOM. (20 min.)
28. Present Condition of Waterfowl Breeding Grounds on the Great Plains.
HARRY C. OBERHOLSER, Washington, D. C. (30 min.)
29. Some Notes on European Birds.
HENRY OLDYS, Silver Spring, Md. (20 min.)
30. Nuptial Habits of the Sage Cock.
FRANK BOND, Washington, D. C. (10 min.)
31. Nesting of Mourning Doves at Norman, Okla.
MRS. MARGARET MORSE NICE, Norman, Okla. (20 min.)
32. North American Shore Birds in Argentina.
ROBERTO DABBENE, Buenos Aires—Presented by FRANK M. CHAPMAN. (15 min.)
33. The Estimated Number of Long Island Shore Birds.
J. T. NICHOLS, New York. (20 min.)
34. Breeding of the Evening Grosbeak in Northern Wisconsin.
O. W. SMITH. (5 min.)
35. The Pronunciation of the Scientific Names of Birds.
FRANCIS H. ALLEN, Boston, Mass. (10 min.)

Local Secretaries

The Illinois Audubon Society, emulating a program very successfully carried out by the Massachusetts Audubon Society, has appointed local secretaries at certain strategic points within the state. These secretaries are invited to keep the Society informed as to news of bird clubs, nature study organizations, etc., and to send in newspaper clippings, and field notes as occasion serves. Each secretary will have on hand a supply of current publications of the Society and will receive from time to time special information relating to the work of the Society.

The list of those who up to the present time have consented to act as local secretaries for their respective areas is as follows:

- Belvidere—Miss Muriel Lampert.
- Carbondale—Mary M. Steagall.
- Champaign—W. Elmer Ekblaw.
- Decatur—Mrs. Benj. Bachrach.
- DeKalb—C. E. Montgomery.
- Elgin—Secretary of the Elgin Bird Club.
- Evanston—Miss Louise Whitehead.
- Golconda—Mrs. Lillian B. Phelps.
- Harrisburg—Clarence Bonnell.
- Kewanee—Dr. Hattie Melaik.
- Lake Forest—George Roberts, Jr.
- Mackinaw—Miss Mae Blair.
- Maywood—Secretary of the Maywood Bird Club.
- Odin—C. B. Vandercook.
- Olney—Mrs. Robert Ridgway.
- Philo—Isaac E. Hess.
- Port Byron—J. J. Schaefer.
- Rockford—Paul B. Riis.
- Rock Island—Nellie E. Peetz.
- Salem—Mrs. Sig Kaufman.
- Sullivan—Mrs. O. L. Todd.
- Waterloo—H. I. Featherly.
- Waukegan—Mrs. Elam H. Clarke.
- Winnetka—John H. Sutter.

The Audubon Society of New Hampshire

The office of the Illinois Audubon Society is in receipt of a friendly letter from Mr. George C. Atwell of Strafford, N. H., who is Secretary of the Audubon Society of New Hampshire. Mr. Atwell congratulates our Society upon the "splendid make-up of the Bulletin in its contents, typography, press work and illustrations." General Elbert Wheeler is President of the New Hampshire Audubon Society. In the list of honorary vice-presidents appear the names of Ernest Harold Baynes and Winston Churchill.

Well-Placed Confidence

In the May Bulletin of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, the editor, Mr. Winthrop Packard, published a letter from Brookline, Massachusetts, telling of the exploit of a mallard duck under escort of a traffic policeman. Mr. O. M. Schantz writes for this Bulletin of the Illinois Audubon Society of a wise mallard he met during his summer vacation. Both stories are printed below:

April 13, 1920.

My dear Mr. Packard:—

The following true story might interest your BULLETIN readers. Last week when traffic on Beacon Street was busiest, about eight o'clock in the morning a mother mallard (wild duck) led her five children from a pond on the Amory Street, where they had spread oil, across the field, under the fence, down the middle of Carleton Street, the traffic policeman holding up the electric cars and a hundred automobiles while she carefully led them along over the car-tracks across Beacon Street, then over the B. & A. Railroad to the Fenway Brook in safety. That is what I call common sense and devotion. I wonder if a hen would use as much judgment.

Yours truly,

(Signed) HARRY V. LONG.

Mr. Schantz spent a half day at Jack Miner's famous bird-haven at Kingsville, Ontario, in August. He writes: "On Mr. Miner's grounds there are two large ponds, one being a circular pond and quite near the country road but separated from it by a wire fence. The other pond, not visible from the road, is rectangular and almost surrounded by a thick hedge. The wild birds usually visit the more secluded pond first and after they have recovered from their natural shyness, they fly over the road, clear the fence and settle down on the exposed pond to be fed. There they become as tame as barnyard fowls. Canada geese, mallard and pintail ducks may be seen at almost any time in season on this pond. To this pond a mother mallard duck has frequently attempted to bring her little ones that were unable to fly over the wire fence. To do this she has had to lead her young out of the fields and upon the public throughfare in her efforts to get them through the fence into the pond where she knows that food and protection is given other wild life. Now the Canada geese are intolerant of the little ducks and would kill them if they were admitted. So the mother mallard and her little ones were carefully driven around to the sheltered pond where, if in danger, the ducklings could escape into the hedges. Jack Miner's kindly attitude towards the ducks and geese must have received wide publicity among feathered circles for they surely know about the treatment they will be given when they call at his refuge."

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN
FALL 1920

Published by the

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
For the Conservation of Bird-Life

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Editorial

By a bare margin of a day or so the title of this—the Fall Bulletin—becomes retrospective, since the first day of Winter, by the calendar, finds the Bulletin going through the press. In point of time of emergence from the mails it will be a Christmas number, and the delay which has brought this about permits the President and Directors of the Illinois Audubon Society to extend the greetings of the season to all their associates of the Society and to all others of kindred spirit who may see these pages. It is hoped that all thus included will extend their greetings to all those for whom Audubon Societies exist—to the various seed-eaters, bark-explorers, winter wardens of field and hedge-row, orchard and forest, those that haunt hollow trees and sit warming their five wits of wintry nights. We trust there will be good cheer to last through the wintry season—suet and nuts and table scraps, seeds of hemp and sunflower seeds, brush piles and fodder shocks for refuge when the snow eddies across the fields, and friendly clearings trampled daily where offerings of scattered grains are to be had.

* * *

The revised library list appearing elsewhere suggests how richly one may supplement the seemingly frugal offering of bird life which Winter brings one in these northern latitudes. Indeed as one re-reads one's copy of Bayne's "Wild Bird Guests," the zest to play the part of host makes one almost believe winter has charms and opportunities for the bird lover that Summer does not possess. Read Mr. Bayne's chapter on "Entertainment of Birds in Winter" and then admit that one great winter sport is open to most of us even if we can not go far afield. Chapman's book for youthful readers, entitled "Winter Birds," tells in an entertaining way most of what is known about how birds pass the winter months and how we can minister to their welfare. There is no greater fun than playing the role of good-fellow to such piquant personalities as Chick-a-dees and Nuthatches.

For those who can lay aside books and go afield in "winter and rough weather," there is always a chance, at least in northern Illinois, of meeting an Evening Grosbeak, or a Red-poll, or a Bohemian Waxwing, or a Purple Finch, a Pine Siskin, a Cross-bill, an Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker, a Lapland Long-spur, a Snow Bunting, or what you will. Perhaps on some biting day in February the Horned Larks will fly up about you as you crunch your way over the glazed crust of the meadow, and when you halt on the sheltered side of the forest and listen intently, there will be the tiny lispings of Golden-Crowned Kinglets preliminary to the emergence of the flock which has come to explore the hazel clump on the clearing's edge. It is worth trying.

* * *

This is the "open season" for Congressman and Members of the Illinois General Assembly. Let us each improve it. Our Congressmen are to be asked to defend staunchly a program for placing the National Parks forever out of the reach of designing private interests. This matter has been vigorously presented in another column. Our Illinois legislators will be called upon to approve a comprehensive system of state parks and inaugurate a plan for re-foresting certain areas in Illinois. These are Audubon measures.

A Distinguished Resident of Mt. Carmel

The people of Mt. Carmel have recently conducted a successful campaign to save from destruction a giant sycamore near that place. This was one of twelve of the same species growing in 1875 on an area not exceeding one-half a mile square, which averaged $23\frac{1}{2}$ feet in circumference and 127 feet in spread of top by actual measurements and about 150 feet in height. This present day survivor of the notable group now measures 30 feet in circumference. A photograph of its immense bole is reproduced herewith. The tree stands near the site of the new levee



soon to be constructed along the bank of the Wabash River and it is reported that the persons having charge of the work intended to cut it down. When news of this threatened disaster reached the State Foresters of Indiana and Illinois and organizations such as the Friends of Our Native Landscape, letters were sent to citizens of Mt. Carmel proffering aid in securing the preservation of the tree. It seems that the local pressure of opinion was sufficient to accomplish the purpose. According to a late issue of the Mt. Carmel Register, the engineers in charge of the levee construction have agreed to make a detour if necessary to save the tree. The citizens of Mt. Carmel are to be congratulated upon the preservation of this giant "aborigine" of the Wabash Valley.

A Contest at New Trier

Pupils of the New Trier Township High School at Kenilworth took part last May in a prize essay contest instituted by a patron of the school, Mr. F. R. Barnett of Glencoe, who offered prizes of ten and five dollars respectively for the two best essays on themes relating to bird life. Conditions of the contest emphasized the value of original observations and these were pleasingly reflected in the papers that resulted. The manuscript of Paula Otten of Kenilworth was awarded first prize, that of John H. Sutter of Wilmette, second prize. The latter's paper was selected for reproduction in this number of the Bulletin because of the value of the data relating to the nesting activity of a brown thrasher and also as a good illustration of method of intelligent observation. New Trier High School and the head of the Department of Biology, Mr. L. E. Hildebrand, are to be congratulated upon the evidence that the pupils of that school go afield for the acquiring of knowledge.



Photo by F. N. Whitman

A RED-EYED VIREO ON ITS NEST, NEITHER INVITING PUBLICITY NOR SHRINKING FROM IT.



Photo by F. N. Whitman

A CATBIRD POISED FOR A MUSICAL REACTION OF SOME SORT.



Photo by F. N. Whitman

A CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER ON ITS NEST. A BIRD WHICH DELIGHTS IN SCRUB AND SECOND GROWTHS.

Forestry Legislation

A conference of state forestry officials was held at Atlantic City, November 12th to 13th, 1920, for the purpose of considering the question of National Forestry Legislation and was attended by officials from sixteen of the thirty-four state forestry departments. Colonel Greeley and two others represented the Forest Service.

At this meeting a resolution was passed fully endorsing the recommendation of the U. S. Forest Service relating to cooperation with states in fire protection and forest renewal, as embodied in the report on Senate resolution No. 311, known as the "Capper Report." A brief summary of the Capper Report called "Timber Depletion and the Answer" may be obtained free by writing the U. S. Forest Service or the longer report can be obtained for 25 cents in coin from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C.

These officials further urged upon Congress the enactment of the legislation necessary to make those recommendations effective, accompanied by suitable annual appropriations, which for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1922 should be not less than one million dollars, this to be expended by the Secretary of Agriculture in cooperation with the several states for forest fire prevention and control, forest investigation, and timber production including forest planting.

Colonel Greeley's opinion is that about 75% of the difficulty in keeping timber crops productive can be solved by efficient fire protection, so that for the first few years this part of the program will be stressed. States which can show that their fire protection is efficient can receive a certain per cent of Federal funds, just as some of the states receive co-operation in agricultural education under the Smith-Lever Act. Those states where fire production is not important, receive Federal Aid for the establishment and maintenance of State Nurseries for distributing planting stock at cost. The passage of such an appropriation bill would give many of the states substantial aid in perfecting and carrying out their forestry programs. Most states will ask their legislatures this winter for increased appropriations for fire protection. About \$250,000 is available under the Weeks bill now for co-operation in fire protection but with many states co-operating the sums received by each are not large enough and the bill limits expenditures in the state to the protection of watersheds of navigable streams.

Another important forestry meeting was held at Harrisburg, Pa., Dec. 8 and 9 under the auspices of the Pennsylvania Forestry Commission, this meeting being called by Gifford Pinchot, Forestry Commissioner for that state. With the various organizations now seeking extension in forestry, such as the American Pulp and Paper Association, which met in Chicago Nov. 12 and 13, the Council of Non-Using Industries, the National Lumber Manufacturers Association and the Society of American Foresters, it is believed that the next few months will see something of very great importance done. The Forest Service, if given more funds, is willing to co-operate in studies of land classification, forest taxation, legislation, and other problems which have been giving difficulty to state foresters for years.

It would seem that any state desiring to advance most rapidly in matters of this kind should keep in close touch with the U. S. Forest Service and this is the idea in Illinois at the present time. This means, however, that to get the benefit of such assistance and cooperation, the state must do as much as possible itself in securing appropriations and building up a safe and sane forestry sentiment. This means education of the public in forestry matters, in which all clubs with conservation departments can be very useful, since they can disseminate such information.

R. B. MILLER, *State Forester.*

Exhibit of the Wild Flower Preservation Society

The Chicago Chapter of the Wild Flower Preservation Society of America has sent out invitations to its Third Annual Exhibition of Nature Studies to be held in the East Galleries of the Art Institute from December 18, 1920, to January 18, 1921. Programs of particular interest to children are planned for Saturday afternoons during the month at three o'clock. Beginning January 1, every afternoon at four, one of the Collectors will give an informal talk and answer questions.

Six illustrated lectures on Nature Study will be given in the Club Room at the Art Institute on the following dates at four o'clock.

- Tuesday, Jan. 4—Birds and Flowers Through the Seasons
Mr. W. D. Richardson
- Thursday, Jan. 6—Trees in Winter Form
Mr. Willard N. Clute
- Friday, Jan. 7—Ferns of the Chicago Region
Miss Ruth Marshall
- Monday, Jan. 10—Milk Weeds and Their Insect Guests
Mr. Jesse Lowe Smith
- Wednesday, Jan. 12—Birds and Flowers of the Chicago Region
Mr. Orpheus M. Schantz
- Friday, Jan. 14—The Wonders of the Dunes
Mr. Henry C. Cowles

The exhibit of the Chicago Chapter last year was a tremendous success and the interest aroused in the exhibit carried over into other cities of Illinois. The Directors of the Art Institute were so favorably impressed that they offered the Chapter gallery space greatly in excess of that used last year and granted an extension of time for the exhibit to a month. The lectures and programs are to be open to everyone interested.

Mrs. Charles L. Hutchinson is President of the Society, Mrs. Charles S. Eaton, Secretary, 5744 Kimbark Avenue, and Mrs. Frederick W. Blocki, Recording Secretary, 822 Buena Avenue.

The Wilson Ornithological Club

As the Bulletin goes into the mails the members of the Wilson Ornithological Club are on their way to Chicago to attend the annual meeting which is to take place in conjunction with the meetings of other biological societies, all affiliated with the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The officers of the Club for 1920 are as follows: President, R. M. Strong; Vice-President, H. C. Oberholser; Treasurer, G. L. Fordyce; Secretary, A. F. Gainer; Editor, Lynds Jones.

The meetings of the Club will be held at the University of Chicago. The members of the Chicago Ornithological Society and the Directors of the Illinois Audubon Society will entertain visiting ornithologists on Monday evening. The program for the two days session is as follows:

Program

MONDAY, DEC. 27th, ROOM M 11, HARPER LIBRARY

- 9:30 A. M. Conference of Officers.
 Business Meeting of the Club.
 The New Standard Catalog for Zoological Exchange,
 B. R. Bales, Circleville, O.
 Ornithological Pot-Pourri—Members.
 President's Address.
- 12:30 A. M. Buffet Luncheon, Men's Cafe, University of Chicago
 Campus.
- 2:00 P. M. Harper Library—Bird Banding; Purpose, Methods and
 Results.
 (Slides)—S. Prentiss Baldwin, Cleveland, O.
 Bird Banding in the Douglas Lake Region of Northern
 Michigan.
 (Slides)—Dayton Stoner, Iowa City, Iowa.
 Address by Lynds Jones, Oberlin, Ohio.
 Bird Notes from Eastern Florida (Slides)
 Gerard Alan Abbott, Gallipolis, O.
 Glimpses of Bird Life from the Chicago Areas (Slides)
 Wm. D. Richardson, Chicago, Ill.

MONDAY EVENING

- 6:30 P. M. Annual Dinner at the City Club, Plymouth Place near
 Van Buren.
- 8:30 P. M. Moving Picture Exhibition.

TUESDAY MORNING, DEC. 28th, ROOM 14,

ZOOLOGY BUILDING

- 9:00 A. M. Impressions of a Nature Lover in the Appalachian
 Mountains.
 (Slides)—O. M. Schantz, Cicero, Ill.
 June Bird Notes from the Great Smoky Mountains of
 Tennessee—
 Albert F. Ganier, Nashville, Tenn.

Paper by C. W. G. Eifrig, Oak Park, Ill. No title.
 The Great Horned Owl—Herbert L. Stoddard, Milwaukee,
 Wis.

2:00 P. M. Reports of Committees and Conclusion of Business. Room
 10, Classics Building.

Songs and Call Notes of Wild Birds

George R. Mayfield, Nashville, Tenn.

Symposium of Bird Notes from the Nebraska Region

Myron H. Swenk, Lincoln, Neb.

Notes on Birds of the Cape Fear Region of the North
 Carolina Coast (Slides)—Z. P. Metcalf, West Raleigh,
 N. C.

From Vermont to Lake George (Slides)

Gerard Alan Abbott, Gallipolis, O.

Adjournment.



THE BRIDGE OVER "MOSQUITO CREEK" NEAR BYRON BLUFFS. THIS IS ON THE
 BEAUTIFUL RIVER ROAD FROM BYRON TO ROCKFORD.

Wild Ducks Come Home to Roost

The following very suggestive report of the success Mr. Jack Miner of Kingsville, Ontario, has had in harboring wild fowl and banding them, thereby securing valuable migration data, is copied from the issue of the Illinois Sportsman for Dec. 16, 1920:

Several years ago Mr. Miner set some wild duck eggs under an old Plymouth Rock hen and reared to maturity four mallard ducks. He named these Polly, Delilah, Susan and Helen. On the leg of each one he placed an aluminum tag, on which were printed the words "Box 48, Kingsville, Ontario." This was in the year 1912. That fall the birds migrated and in December Helen was killed in Mitchell Bay, Lake St. Clair. On March 14, 1913, Polly came back to Jack Miner's pond, where she was raised. On March 18 Delilah came home and on March 30 Susan, though wounded in the wing and foot, found her way back. They migrated again that autumn and next year Polly came home on exactly the same date, March 14. On March 21 Delilah came home for the second time. Each year these birds raised a brood. They migrated for the third time and in the spring of 1915 Delilah reached home first on March 13 and Polly arrived on March 16. This time Polly was wounded, having had the top of her bill shot away, and she did not migrate that fall. Delilah, however, left on time and returned for the fourth time the next spring. In 1916 she again migrated and returned in the spring. Again in 1917 she left with her brood for the South and returned in the spring, 1918, completing her sixth round trip without mishap. That fall she again raised a brood which she took south with her. In the spring of 1919 Delilah was seen by members of Mr. Miner's family, which makes the seventh time she returned after spending her winters in the South. However, before it was possible to trap her to record the absolute evidence from the tag on her leg, she disappeared and Mr. Miner has reason to believe that she was illegally killed by a man living near him.

Not only did these ducks return home each year, but many of those which they raised also returned with them. All the ducks raised by Mr. Miner were banded and each spring when they come back they are trapped and a record is kept of each one that has returned, at which time Mr. Miner bands any other birds caught that have alighted with his birds as visitors. In this way many hundreds of aluminum bands have been sent broadcast over the country and much has been learned as to their lines of flight from the records obtained when these birds have been killed.

Mr. Miner has in preparation a book dealing with his experiences with wild ducks and geese, illustrated with maps, showing their lines of migratory flight, as proved by his activities in banding and releasing these birds. We feel sure that this work will prove interesting to all lovers of wild life.

These records prove two things conclusively—that birds do return to the place where they are hatched and that they know their friends and quickly recognize where they are safe. In less than two days after these birds returned to Jack Miner's concrete ponds immediately adjacent to his dwelling house in Kingsville, Ontario, he was able to get his hands on them. Imagine such a thing being possible after these birds had been shot at from practically every damp spot that they crossed in their migration to the South and their winter sojourn there!



THE YELLOW-HEADED BLACK-BIRD, A "DOMINANT BIRD OF THE REEDS" HERE APPEARS VERY MUCH AT HOME. THERE IS IN SIGHT A PLETHORA OF MATERIAL FOR ITS COARSE BULKY NEST WHICH IT LASHES TO THE REEDS THREE OR FOUR FEET ABOVE THE WATER.

Photo by F. N. Whitman

THE YOUNG FLICKER, NEEDING A GOOD DEAL OF ROOM IN WHICH TO MANEUVER, ALIGHTS UPON THE GROUND. HIS OPEN MOUTH SIGNIFIES NERVOUSNESS RATHER THAN A DISPOSITION TO CONVERSE.

Photo by John Sutter



THE PHOTOGRAPHER'S ASSISTANT. HE ALSO SERVES WHO ONLY STANDS AND HOLDS THE BRANCHES BACK SO THAT THERE WILL BE AN UNOBSTRUCTED VIEW FOR THE CAMERA. WADING OUT INTO DEEP WATER IS A SIMPLE DETAIL.

Photo by L. E. Hildebrand

The Appreciation of Nature in the School Program—A Memorial

(The following Memorial from the Friends of Our Native Landscape, addressed primarily to the Board of Education of the City of Chicago, was sent last September to all school officials of that city and to the heads of school systems in various parts of the country):

The undersigned respectfully invite your attention to this memorial and petition which is concerned with the promotion of a greater appreciation of our heritage of natural beauty and with the bringing about of a greater appropriation of its influence into the lives of the present generation and of those to come. We beg to present certain considerations which seem to indicate the importance of action at this time on the part of your Honorable Body looking to the accomplishment of such ends.

Never more than today have our national ideals seemed so tangible a possession. Every national asset, spiritual as well as material, is receiving thoughtful appraisal, and everywhere among our citizenship jealous efforts are being made to guard against any word or deed that may blunt or impair the national aspiration. The public mind is prepared as hardly ever before to give consideration to spiritual values in citizenship and in its training, and this would surely appear to be a most opportune time to give public appraisal of the value to our citizenship of a love of out-of-doors.

As, with the inspiration and the challenge of the present crisis upon us, we look out upon the many industrial waste places within our city where large numbers of our people have their homes, we might well quicken our resolve to work for the upbuilding of a generation that will not permit the smothering out of nature from its surroundings; a generation that will rather see to it that nature more and more invades the city, and that outposts from surrounding prairie and woodland are maintained as significant and beneficent possessions within areas of urban life.

We cannot begin too soon to bend every possible energy toward a greater diffusion of the sentiment for natural beauty and its preservation. The multiplication of our small parks and, especially, the rapid development of our forest preserve district, movements fraught with spiritual significance, find us as a public ill-prepared to enter upon such inheritances. It is with a certain amount of misgiving that the treasures of forest and countryside and of winding watercourse, which obtain in the newly opened preserves, are being thrown open to those to whom they rightly belong. Will the people, invited to these scenes of sylvan loveliness, come unsympathetic and as aliens, and with crudeness of taste begotten in harsh surroundings, mar and deface the landscape? Or will they come joyfully as into a spiritual inheritance and cherish intimately and with reverence each of the natural gifts opened up to them? As with the increasing facilities for transportation the rich territory environing our city becomes more accessible to masses of its people—the duneland with its charm and variety, the Skokie, the ravines of the North Shore, the forested uplands, the cliffs that front the crescent shore of Lake Michigan—will the coming of our people to these domains of natural beauty be a source of dread to those upon whom

their stewardship devolves? In seeking answers to these questions we apply a searching test to our standards of civilization.

It is at such times that we turn hopefully to the youth in our schools and are encouraged to plead for larger opportunities for their enlightenment as to their natural heritage. We believe that the setting of our school building and its surroundings should bid smiling defiance to all that may be harsh and forbidding in the environment. Each school should have its ample playgrounds screened with native trees and shrubs. There should be grass plats dotted with wayside flowers. There should be school gardens where vegetables and flowers can be grown and small plats devoted to grains and grasses and other plants of commercial importance to the end that the children may visualize the varied wealth of our soil.

We believe that generous provision should be made without delay for enriching the work in nature study in our schools. For every building there should be a special director of nature study to encourage and assist the teachers in their nature study work, to lead in field excursions, to have charge of equipment, to be curator of specimens, etc. Equipment for this work should be varied and abundant. There should be a plant house for every school where the children's active participation in propagation by seed and bulb and cutting would be under way all the year round and where the life histories of plants would be revealed. There should be aquaria and equipment for keeping alive insects and other forms of animal life including domesticated animals.

We believe that the teachers that come from our training schools should all have had generous courses in natural science based very largely upon field trips and they should gather inspiration for themselves and for their pupils from field and forest and from the nightly panorama of the stars.

Finally, in order that the possession of our great natural assets with their innate possibility for exalting the ideals of our citizenship may be brought impressively to the minds of each pupil and teacher, each supervisor and administrator in our system of schools, and thus to the attention of the great public as well, we the undersigned respectfully petition that your body set apart at least two days in the school year to be dedicated to pilgrimages out-of-doors. One of these may well be a festival at the height of Autumn coloration, another a fete to mark the high tide of Spring. At such times these pilgrimages made in holiday mood but with serious intent to spots of treasured beauty, whether of park or of boulevard or of countryside, would produce a lasting impression for good, equally in the minds of those who participate and of those who view the spectacle. We do not presume to dictate to your Honorable Body, nor, through you, to the staff of teachers of our schools, the details of such nature festivals and excursions. We plead only for the permanent establishment of such events upon the school calendar as will show that a great city gives formal and impressive recognition to the value of a love for natural beauty in refining and exalting its citizenship.

JESSIE L. SMITH
EVERETT L. MILLARD
JENS JENSEN

A Suggestive List of Bird Literature

The following list of books about birds is offered for the assistance of those who are new in the field of bird study and for the convenience of others who may be looking for titles of the latest bird literature. The list is concerned almost wholly with books to be used in the Illinois area. Owing to conditions of the publishing business the retail prices indicated must be regarded as tentative only. Unfortunately it is necessary to report that several notable state publications are no longer available. Forbush's "Useful Birds and Their Protection" and "Game Birds and Their Protection, etc." are both out of print. This is true also of Eaton's "Birds of New York" issued in two large volumes with Fuertes' superb illustrations and published by the State of New York. Barrow's volume entitled "Michigan Bird Life," valuable for Illinois students as well, can now be obtained only in paper covers at one dollar a copy, postage extra. It is very much to be hoped that new editions of the important works above mentioned will ultimately appear.

- BAILEY, FLORENCE MERRIAM *Birds of Village and Field*. A bird book for beginners; with a color key to 154 birds and 300 illustrations. 12 mo. \$2.00
- BAYNES, ERNEST HAROLD *Wild Bird Guests*. E. P. Dutton & Co. An unusual book combining charming description and thoroughly practical directions for the bird lover who wants to know how to attract and protect the birds. It is especially valuable for its definite instructions for forming bird clubs. \$2.50
- BLANCHAN, NELTJE *Bird Neighbors*. Doubleday, Page & Co. An introductory acquaintance with 150 birds commonly found in the gardens, meadows and woods about our homes. Introduction by Burroughs. 48 colored plates. \$2.00
- BURROUGHS, JOHN *Bird Stories from Burroughs*. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 8 full page illustrations by Fuertes. 174 pages. 12mo. 60 cents
- BURGESS, THORNTON W. *The Burgess Bird Book for Children*. Little Brown and Company. 353 pages with 60 full page illustrations in color by Fuertes. Written for little children and in story form. It aims to be an authoritative handbook on the appearance, habits, and characteristics of the birds a child is most likely to see. A beautiful book and very popular with children. \$3.00
- CHAPMAN, FRANK M. *Handbook of Birds of Eastern North America*. D. Appleton & Co. Over 200 illustrations, 530 pages. 12mo. This book heads the list of all of the bird books. It is easily the most useful for study or reference. Pocket edition, flexible cover. \$5.00
Library edition. \$4.00
-*The Warblers of North America*. D. Appleton & Co. 24 full-page colored plates illustrating every species and half-tones of nests and eggs. Drawings by Fuertes and Horsfall. 306 pages. 8vo. Prepared with the co-operation of 30 other naturalists. Contains valuable migration records, nesting dates, and biographical references. An indispensable book for a study of the warblers. \$4.00

-*Camps and Cruises of an Ornithologist.* D. Appleton & Co. With 250 photographs from nature by the author. 432 pages. 8vo. A fascinating story of various expeditions to obtain material for the "Habitat Groups" of North American Birds for the American Museum of Natural History. \$4.00
-and REED, CHESTER A. *Color Key to North American Birds.* Doubleday, Page & Co. 800 drawings by Reed. 312 pages. 8vo. Excellent reference for identifications. Very brief notes. \$3.50
-*The Travels of Birds.* D. Appleton and Co. 160 pages with maps and drawings. Chapters entitled Birds as Travelers, Preparing for the Journey, Birds' Air Line, Birds' Time Table, Day Fliers, Night Fliers, Dangers by the Way, Why Birds Travel, etc. Very entertaining summary of latest information about bird migration told in language within comprehension of pupils of intermediate grades. 72 cents
-*Our Winter Birds, How to Know and How to Attract Them.* D. Appleton and Co. 12mo. 180 pages. Illustrated. "Serves as an excellent textbook for those who begin bird-study in winter and contains such information as is desired by persons who find pleasure in having birds about their homes in the bleaker months". Two color plates picture 42 species of winter birds. 80 cents
-*What Bird is That?* D. Appleton & Co. 144 pages. Every land bird east of the Rocky Mountains (301 species in all) appears in group pictures where are shown the color and markings and the relative size of the bird. The accompanying text describes the distinguishing marks, range, nest, eggs and song of each bird and the localities where and seasons when it may be found. The pictures though small are clear and accurate. The book is literally a "pocket museum" of birds. \$1.50
- DUGMORE, A. RADCLIFFE *Bird Homes.* Doubleday, Page & Co. 183 pages. 16 colored plates and 50 half-tones. 8 vo. A useful book. \$2.00
- FINLEY, W. L. *American Birds, Photographed and Studied from Life.* Charles Scribner's Sons. 256 pages. Large, 12mo. Each of the twenty-one chapters of this book represents one bird family, the selections being nation-wide in scope. The book is entertainingly written and is illustrated with unusually good photographs taken in the field. A splendid work. \$3.00
- GILMORE, ALBERT FIELD *Birds of Field, Forest and Park.* Foreword by T. Gilbert Pearson. Page and Co. 318 pages. Illustrations by Horsfall and Fuertes. A very readable book, familiar and conversational in style. Limited in its range to the east but of general interest. \$2.50
- HENSHAW, HENRY W. *The Book of Birds.* National Geographic Society. 200 pages. 250 subjects in full color; 58 other illustrations. Treats of "Common Birds of Town and Country," "The Warblers," and "American Game Birds," all beautifully illustrated from paintings by Louis Agassiz Fuertes. Additional valuable chapters by F. H. Ken-

nard, George Shiras, 3rd, and Welles W. Cook. A book of reference and a fascinating book to read. \$3.00

HERRICK, FRANCIS HOBART *The Home Life of Wild Birds*. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 255 pages. 8vo. A popular story of birds in action. Chiefly concerned with homes or nests and their occupants. Very valuable photographic records. "One of the best expositions of the scientific method in the observation of the life of the nest." \$2.00

JOB, HERBERT K. *How to Study Birds*. Outing Publishing Co. 272 pages. Large 12mo. Chapters on method of bird study, equipment (cameras, etc.), identification, learning bird calls and notes, migration, nesting season, etc. \$1.50

.....*The Sport of Bird Study*. Outing Publishing Co. 134 half-tones. 8 vo. Book designed especially for the beginner at the study. Wonderful display of photographs from life. \$2.00

.....*Wild-Wings*. Outing Publishing Co. 341 pages. Square 8vo. Profusely illustrated from photographs. Adventures of a camera hunter among the larger wild birds of America on land and sea. Introductory letter by Theodore Roosevelt. \$3.00

.....*Propagation of Wild Birds*. Doubleday, Page & Co. 276 pages. 121 photographs from life by the author. A manual of applied ornithology, treating of practical methods of propagating quails, doves, waterfowl, etc. There are four chapters on methods of attracting and increasing smaller land birds, including aids to nesting, making surroundings attractive and artificial feeding.

LADD, NEIL MORROW *How to Attract Birds About the House*. Greenwich Bird Protective Society, Greenwich, Conn. 68 pages, 40 illustrations mostly from photographs. Paper cover. Valuable pamphlet. 35 cents

MATTHEWS, F. SCHUYLER *Field Book of Wild Birds and Their Music*. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 262 pages. 16mo. 38 colored and 15 other full-page illustrations and numerous musical notations. A description of the characteristics and music of birds and intended to assist in the identification of the species common in Eastern United States. Can be carried a-field in one's pocket. Flexible leather, \$3.00; Cloth \$2.50

MILLER, OLIVE THORNE *The First Book of Birds*. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 12 mo. 149 pages with 8 colored and 12 plain plates and 20 figures in the text. This book has long been highly prized by experienced leaders of children's bird clubs. \$1.75

.....*The Second Book of Birds*. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 12mo. 209 pages with 8 colored plates from designs by Fuertes and 16 other illustrations. This stimulating book is about bird families, explaining why the birds are thus grouped and how the families may be distinguished, etc. \$1.75

PEARSON, T. GILBERT *The Bird Study Book*. National Association of Audubon Societies. 12mo. 258 pages. Color frontispiece. Pen and ink drawings by Simmons and 16 photographs. An excellent book for beginners and also of great interest to experienced observers. But recently published and contains latest information as to progress of

movement for bird conservation, etc. The author as President of the National Association of Audubon Societies is a well informed writer on birds in America. \$1.25

REED, CHESTER A. *Bird Guide*. Doubleday, Page & Co. In two parts. Pocket size. Illustrations in color.

Part I. Water and Game Birds; Birds of Prey East of the Rockies. Flexible cloth \$1.25; flexible leather \$1.50.

Part II. Land Birds East of the Rockies from Parrots to Bluebirds. Flexible cloth \$1.25; flexible leather \$1.50.

These well-known Bird Guides are of great service in identification of birds. The two Guides may be obtained bound in a single volume, flexible leather, for \$2.50

.....*North American Birds' Eggs*. Doubleday, Page & Co. 356 pages. Numerous illustrations. 8vo. The eggs of nearly every North American bird appear life size in half-tone illustrations. An accurate description of each bird and its range are given. \$2.50

TRAFTON, GILBERT H. *Bird Friends*. A complete Bird Book for Americans. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 336 pages. Aims to gather within one book a brief discussion of essential facts concerning bird life that are of general interest. Contains much carefully edited material from government bulletins. \$3.00

WALTER, HERBERT E. AND ALICE H. *Wild Birds in City Parks*. Pocket edition with chart showing migration of birds. Written for use in Chicago Parks but very useful elsewhere. The very brief characterizations are of unusual value. 40 cents

WEED, CLARENCE M. AND DEARBORN, NED *Birds in their Relation to Man*. J. B. Lippincott & Co. 390 pages. Large, 12mo. The subject is set forth in a most readable style and the scientific data covered by the authors (for the most part first-hand) is of great practical value. A very useful book. \$2.50

WHEELOCK, IRENE GROSVENOR *Nestlings of Forest and Marsh*. 12 photographs and other illustrations by Harry B. Wheelock. 12mo. Written in a most pleasing style by a patient and careful observer.

WHITMAN, F. N. *Familiar Studies of Wild Birds*. Richard C. Badger. 85 pages with 72 photographs by the author. Contains a chapter of descriptive material with excellent photographs for each of eleven species of birds. Additional chapters on "Notes from the Indiana Sand Dunes" and "the Photography of Birds." \$3.00

WRIGHT, MABEL OSGOOD *Birdcraft*. A field book of two hundred song, game, and water birds. 80 full-page plates by Fuertes. 317 pages. 12mo. \$2.50

WRIGHT, MABEL OSGOOD AND COUES, DR. ELLIOT *Citizen Bird*. Mac-Millan Co. 430 pages. 12mo. Scenes from bird life in plain English for beginners. One of the best introductions to the study of bird life. Profusely illustrated by Fuertes. \$1.50

THE Illinois Audubon Society recommends the organization of Junior Audubon Societies under one or the other of the following plans:

First plan: Organize under the auspices of the National Association of Audubon Societies and take advantage of the special offer to pupils made possible by generous patrons of the Society. Each member paying ten cents will receive a set of six educational leaflets with colored pictures and outline drawings for coloring with crayons. Each member will also receive the Audubon button which represents a badge of membership in a Junior Audubon class. Each teacher who organizes a class of twenty or more receives a year's free subscription to Bird-Lore, the official organ of the Association. Address the Secretary, 1974 Broadway, New York City.

Second plan: Organize under the auspices of the Illinois Audubon Society. Each pupil is to pay fifteen cents for a copy of "Useful Birds and Their Protection" published by the United States Government, copies to be obtained either from the Secretary of the Illinois Audubon Society or by sending directly to the Superintendent of Documents at Washington, D. C. To each member of a group provided with this beautifully illustrated bulletin the Illinois Audubon Society will give without charge the Audubon button of membership in the Illinois Society and will send to the leader of the group for a period of one year all the publications and special notices of the Society together with an illustrated certificate showing that the group is a member of the Illinois Audubon Society. Teachers wishing to enroll pupils under local plans may obtain Audubon buttons for two cents each.

Address the

Illinois Audubon Society

10 South La Salle Street

CHICAGO



The
Audubon Bulletin
Spring 1921



Published by
The ILLINOIS
AUDUBON
SOCIETY

Illinois Audubon Society Service

The Society has two collections of hand-colored lantern slides of bird life, each with an accompanying printed lecture. These are loaned free of charge to any school or organization in the state but borrower pays express charges both ways.

The Society has travelling libraries of bird books which are loaned to schools or organizations for a reasonable length of time, the borrower paying express charges both ways.

The Society publishes wall charts listing 200 typical Illinois birds and providing suitable spaces for recording migration and nesting data. Schools, Boy Scout organizations, and individuals as well find these of great service. Price ten cents each.

The Society has in press a pocket check list of birds with colored zonal maps. This list records every known species of birds that visits Illinois or nests within its borders. Send in applications for copies of the first edition.

The Society publishes the Langdon Cat Circular which is invaluable in arousing interest in the question of protecting birds from marauding cats. Price five cents each.

The Society issues an illustrated postal in the Italian language warning against violation of laws for bird protection. Price two cents each.

Address The Illinois Audubon Society,
1649 The Otis Building, Chicago

President	Secretary-Treasurer
Mr. Orpheus M. Schantz	Miss Catherine Mitchell
10 South La Salle Street, Chicago	Riverside

Vice President
Mr. Jesse Lowe Smith
Highland Park

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

Application for Membership

Understanding the aims and principles of the Illinois Audubon Society, and being in sympathy with them, I wish to become a member of the Society.

Name _____
 Address _____
 Date _____

Classes of Membership

Active memberships . . .	\$1.00.	Annually
Contributing memberships .	\$5.00.	Annually
Sustaining memberships . .	\$25.00.	No annual dues
Life memberships	\$100.00.	No annual dues
Benefactor	\$500.00.	No annual dues
Patron	\$1000.00.	No annual dues

All members receive the publications of the Society.

Please sign this card and send it with the fee to the Illinois Audubon Society, 1649 Otis Bldg., Chicago.

FORM OF BEQUEST

I do hereby give and bequeath to THE ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF WILD BIRDS (Incorporated), of the State of Illinois.

(OVER)

To carry out its aggressive program, the Illinois Audubon Society must increase its membership. Out of a population of nearly six millions, Illinois should have at least ten thousand people who are enough interested in bird life to help the Society in its conservation efforts. Will you not help us expand our usefulness?

I suggest for membership in the Illinois Audubon Society the persons whose names appear on the other side of this sheet.

Signed _____
Member of the Illinois Audubon Society

May we use your name? } Yes
 No

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY, 1649 OTIS BLDG., CHICAGO

The Aims and Principles of the Illinois Audubon Society are:

- 1st. To encourage the study of birds, particularly in the schools, and to disseminate literature relating to them.
- 2nd. To work for the betterment and enforcement of State and Federal laws relating to birds.
- 3rd. To discourage the wearing of any feathers except those of the ostrich and domestic fowls.
- 4th. To discourage, in every possible way, the wanton destruction of wild birds and their eggs.
- 5th. To restore to our wild birds wherever practicable, the natural environment of forest and shrubbery which gave them food, protection and seclusion.

Needs

The Illinois Audubon Society depends for its support upon the contributions of its members and friends. It should have an income from a moderate endowment sufficient to meet all fixed expenses.

¶ The present income is totally inadequate to meet the urgent and incessantly growing demands.

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.
1649 OTIS BUILDING CHICAGO

(OVER)

Name

Address

Name

Address

Name

Address

Name

Address

Name

Address

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Photo by Isaac E. Hess

A FAMILY OF BROWN THRASHERS

A FINISHED MUSICIAN CONTENT TO REAR ITS YOUNG IN A SCRAMBLED NEST OF TWIGS, COARSE ROOTLETS AND LEAVES, LINED WITH FINER ROOTLETS.

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN

SPRING 1921

Published by the
ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

(For the protection of wild birds)

The President of the Illinois Audubon Society writes:

The Junco, the Fox Sparrow, and the Hermit Thrush still linger within our area, though north-bound for the summer, as the Spring Bulletin of the Illinois Audubon Society starts on its way. It has a varied message. The epic of bird migration unfolds itself in notes from widely separated areas, and in the story of the travels of Illinois birds. The testimony of bird-bands confirms the story of periodic flights and return. An intensive study of a bird of the hedge row and meadow is presented, and notes on the behavior of certain birds contributed. Once more and fittingly there is the appeal for refuges for wild life, for the preservation of bits of marsh and woodland and other significant forms of natural beauty. Arbor and Bird Day with planting and outdoor spectacles and pilgrimages to significant natural possessions is stressed. The shadow of the prowler on the life of fledglings again appears, and remedies are candidly discussed. The mounting and display of bird pictures is illustrated and various news items entered in their appropriate place. The President of the National Association of Audubon Societies is introduced, and his appearance as a lecturer before the society chronicled.

It is a pleasure to thank the many contributors to this number of the Bulletin for valuable co-operation. The Society is honored by such service. Recognition is due other workers who have appreciably augmented our list of new members and who have secured the additional revenue required to maintain the Bulletin.

The present condition of the Society is most promising. Its opportunity is great. Its usefulness is limited only by the support it can secure. Let us all constitute ourselves a membership committee. Legislation is pending which will soon require the united support of forward-looking people. To such the Illinois Audubon Society offers membership as a vantage ground for achievement.

ORPHEUS M. SCHANTZ

The National Association of Audubon Societies

The annual report for 1920 of the National Association of Audubon Societies impresses one as usual with the national import of the work of the organization. Thirty-seven wardens were employed, two of these in Michigan, the remainder on the coast from Maine to Louisiana. Seven field agents through lectures, published articles, correspondence, and personal work performed services of great value to the cause of wild-life protection. These agents were E. H. Forbush for New England; William L. Finley for the Pacific Coast; Winthrop Packard for Massachusetts; Mary S. Sage for Long Island, New York; Arthur H. Norton for Maine; Frances A. Hurd for Connecticut; and Herbert K. Job, in charge of the Department of Applied Ornithology. Two paragraphs from the report are herewith reproduced.

"In January, 1919, through the columns of *Bird-Lore* this association first advised the public of the Eagle Bounty Law in operation in Alaska. Since then we have continued to bulletin, from time to time, the results of this measure. The last report from our representative in Alaska showed that the official territorial records reveal the fact that bounties had already been paid on the feet of 8356 eagles. Nor does this tell the entire story of the appalling slaughter of the American eagle, for it should be borne in mind that to collect the fifty cents bounty it is necessary to bring in the feet to some territorial official and pay a fee for an affidavit to accompany them before the bounty can be collected. Men who secure only one or two eagles at a time, or who shoot their birds a very long distance from the place where the bounty is paid, of course never report their killings. Furthermore, many hundreds of eagles undoubtedly are wounded by gunfire and escape in the wilderness to die later from their injuries. We have filed the most vigorous protests against this law and for a time it appeared there were prospects of getting it repealed by the territorial legislature, but the latest reports are that a great majority of the people of the region, including Governor Riggs, have such fixed ideas of the destructiveness of this bird to fish and game that the Bounty Law is in no immediate danger."

All previous records in the organization of Junior Audubon classes were broken the past year. Before the spring had far advanced, the 200,000 sets of literature, bird pictures, and Audubon buttons prepared for the entire year's work became exhausted. Eighty thousand sets of leaflets and pictures left over from previous years were brought out of storage and were readily accepted by pupils and teachers in lieu of this year's material. By the middle of May all possible sources of supplies had been exhausted and regretfully we began returning to the disappointed children their ten-cent fees. Our ever-generous and unknown benefactor again gave \$20,000 to this cause for the past year. With a total of \$27,500 we enrolled and provided supplies to 280,963 children in the United States and Canada.

The report shows that in Illinois 375 classes for children were organized with a membership of 12,960. The Illinois Audubon Society recognizes with grateful appreciation the value of the work the National Society is doing within our state. It is the duty of the Illinois Society to carry on the work thus initiated and in turn to urge upon the citizens of our state adequate financial support for the National Society.

Concerning the Dickcissel of the Illinois Prairies. A Review

In the January, 1921, number of *The Auk* appears the first of a series of two articles on the Dickcissel of the Illinois Prairies by Dr. Alfred O. Gross, which, as the title indicates, should be of unusual interest to Illinois readers. The article treats of the geographical range, abundance and distribution of the Dickcissel in Illinois, migration, general activities and behavior, etc.



THE DICKCISSEL

A DETAIL FROM A MUMFORD PICTURE. REDUCED FROM PHOTOGRAPH WITH PERMISSION OF A. W. MUMFORD

The second article, to appear in April number of *The Auk*, will cover such topics as food and life history, nest, eggs, and plumage at different stages of growth. These two articles comprise a notable study which while somewhat technical has much in it of fascinating interest to the general reader. To give readers of the *Bulletin* some idea of the value of the series of articles, liberal quotations therefrom are here made, with the author's permission.

As a preface to the paragraphs quoted below, it may be said that Dr. Gross is Professor of Biology at Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine. In 1906, while still an undergraduate student at the University of Illinois, he and another student were selected by Professor Forbes to make an autumn bird survey across Illinois, from east to west. This they successfully accomplished, walking from Danville to Quincy in 53 days and making careful record of the bird life they found in a strip 150 feet wide and 192 miles long! The data secured was published by Professor Forbes in April, 1907, in a bulletin entitled, "An Ornithological Cross-section of Illinois in Autumn." In 1907 Dr. Gross with an assistant spent a month in each of the three sections of Illinois, making careful surveys of the bird life, and again in 1909 the work was repeated, this time ten days a month being spent in each section during the three summer months. In this way Dr. Gross secured valuable statistics relating to the comparative abundance of the common birds of the Illinois fields.

As a general introduction to his subject Dr. Gross writes:

"To one who journeys along the dusty roads of Central Illinois on a hot summer day, there is nothing that relieves the quiet monotony of the

sunny open landscape more than the earnest, incessant calls of the Dickcissel. Even the farmer and the layman, whose chief interests may be in the dollars and cents of the productive grain fields, cannot fail to have their attention attracted by this bird as it loudly and lustily announces its presence. The clear accented notes of the monotonous song at once suggest the bird's common name—Dickcissel. In the middle west it is popularly and generally known as the 'Little Meadowlark,' a name that has arisen because of its resemblance in miniature to the common Meadowlark. Indeed, some very intelligent farmers believe the Dickcissels to be merely small individuals of the larger and well known bird. The name Black-throated Bunting, so often met with in the writings of the older authors, is now less used by bird students. By the typical westerner who knows the Dickcissel intimately, he is often referred to as 'Dick.'

The Dickcissel contributes not only its beauty and song to its environment but does its bit in the economy of nature by consuming scores of destructive insects, as well as hundreds of seeds of obnoxious weeds, harmful to the crops. In Central Illinois where the Dickcissel is at its best, it ranks among the most abundant and important birds from an economic point of view. The ornithological writings contain many notes pertaining to the distribution of the Dickcissel, but very little has been contributed on the life history of this interesting and important bird, which deserves better and more general recognition. For this reason the author feels that no apology is necessary in presenting the results of this study."

Abundance and Distribution

In commenting upon the abundance and distribution of the Dickcissel in Illinois, Dr. Gross produces the following statistics obtained during the bird surveys mentioned above:

General Statistics Illinois Bird Survey—Summer, 1909.

Section	Time	Acres on which birds were counted.	No. of birds counted on 50-yd. strip.	No. of species.	No. of Dickcissels counted on 50-yd. strip.	No. of Dickcissels per sq. mile.	Order of Dickcissel abundance.
Northern Illinois	June 30	4794	7647	71	96	12.83	5th.
	Sept. 15						
Central Illinois	June 22	3807	6368	67	147	24.72	5th.
	Sept. 4						
Southern Illinois	June 8	3023	3973	81	110	23.28	7th.
	Aug. 26						
Totals		11624	17988	117	353	18.9	11th.

"The statistics of the above tables give us concrete evidence of the great abundance of the Dickcissel and emphasize the importance of the species in the economic ornithology of the middle west. In 1909, out of 85 species recorded for the whole state, the Dickcissel ranked fifth in the abundance of individual birds, and in 1909, among the 177 species observed, it stands eleventh. According to these data there are, during the summer months in the 56,000 square miles of the state, more than a million Dickcissels busily engaged in protecting valuable crops from the devastating grasshoppers. Surely such an army of useful workers is not to be ignored in these strenuous times of conservation.

The density of the Dickcissel population of southern Illinois is practically the same as it is in the central part of the state; whereas in the northern third of the state the number of Dickcissels per square mile is very much less. This marked difference is correlated with the fact that northern Illinois, about 42 degrees latitude is near the northern limit of the summer range of this bird."

One may well linger over the statistics embodied in Table IV below. This names the twelve commonest summer birds of Illinois and tells which one is the commonest. From this we can compute the percent of the total made up of English sparrows (31 percent) and that of blackbirds (35 percent.)

The twelve Commonest Birds with the Numbers of Each Species Seen Within the Fifty-Yard Strip On All Areas Included In The Survey of the State—Summer, 1909.

TABLE IV.

Order of abundance.	Common name.	Total No. seen.
1	English Sparrow	4239
2	Bronzed Grackle	2455
3	Cowbird	1845
4	Meadowlark	1434
5	Mourning Dove	670
6	Bobolink	631
7	Red-winged Blackbird	573
8	Flicker	419
9	Robin	417
10	Prairie Horned Lark	414
11	Dickcissel	353
12	Crow	287
	Total	13737

Space permits of only a brief reference to Dr. Gross' report upon the song of the Dickcissel. He says:

"The Dickcissel begins singing as soon as it arrives in the spring, indeed, the presence of the male newcomer is usually made known by his loud, characteristic call. During the nesting season the song can be heard nearly all times of the day, but it is by no means the first of the bird voices to be heard in the morning. During the early morning hours, while waiting in my blind for the coming of dawn, the weird call of the Pheasants, the booming of the Prairie Hens, the cooing of the Mourning Doves, the whistled Bob-White calls, and even the sweet songs of the Song and Vesper Sparrows were heard long before the Dickcissel added his voice to the chorus. As the day wore on and the heat increased the first voices were

silenced one by one, but the Dickcissel kept up his singing with an undiminished earnestness. Even in the middle of the day, when the waves of heat that rose from the fields to an almost unbearable intensity drove most birds to cover, the song of the Dickcissel was still in evidence. The earnestness and persistence of the Dickcissel is a trait we are compelled to admire."

The Society's Lecture Course

The annual spring series of bird lectures given in Chicago under the auspices of the Illinois Audubon Society has been under way as the final contributions to the Bulletin were reaching the printer. These lectures were held in the Louis XVI room of the Hotel Sherman and before audiences averaging four hundred or more people. As usual they have greatly stimulated local interest in bird life and the Society has had substantial increases in its membership list.

The first lecture of the series was given on Saturday, March 12th, by Mr. T. Gilbert Pearson, President of the National Association of Audubon Societies. It was Mr. Pearson's first appearance in Illinois and he at once established friendly relations which will doubtless increase Illinois' support for the National Association. Mr. Pearson reviewed the progress of the cause of bird protection during the past thirty years and then with the aid of lantern slides visualized for his audience episodes of the progress and incidents of bird life in general.

Mr. Robert Cushman Murphy of the American Museum of Natural History gave the second lecture of the course on Saturday, March 19th. His subject was Birds and Animals of the Peruvian Coast. The spectacular motion pictures which accompanied his fascinating lecture were secured during the recent expedition of the Brooklyn Museum to the Peruvian coast and islands. The films shown of the colonies of Cormorants, Pelicans and Gannets are among the most interesting natural history films ever taken.

The third and last lecture of the series was given by Mr. Norman McClintock and was entitled "American Birds in Motion Pictures." Mr. McClintock has appeared several times before the Illinois Audubon Society and he is regarded almost as an asset of the Society. He brought with him new motion pictures made during the past year, some of them concerned with the bird life of the Florida coast. In this lecture Mr. McClintock maintained the high standard of his previous lectures. His almost perfect motion pictures contribute strikingly to our knowledge of bird life.

The Indiana Audubon Society

The Spring 1921 Bulletin of the Indiana Audubon Society is at hand, compact with good material for all classes of readers. There are excellent articles embodying the experiences of trained observers in studying the habits of birds and there is an unusually valuable report of happenings at a bird sanctuary near Crawfordsville. News of activities from various parts of the state is presented and there are special articles designed to enlist the Women's Clubs and the schools of the state in the work. It is well edited, well printed, and the illustrations are attractive.

T. Gilbert Pearson

President of the National Association of Audubon Societies



T. GILBERT PEARSON

1873. While he was yet a small boy his parents moved to Florida and he grew up in the lake country of that State, where he was accustomed to associate with many plume hunters and alligator hunters that were rampant in those days. Influenced by his surroundings one of his early ambitions was to be an Egret plume hunter for the millinery trade in New York, but before he acquired the skill in the handling of a gun his interest in birds took another turn.

At the age of thirteen, Mr. Pearson became an intense collector of birds' eggs. Fortunately he started right and collected scientifically, keeping records of each set of eggs taken, etc. Just before he was seventeen he went to North Carolina to school and his collection of eggs was used to pay his tuition in the beginning. He worked his way through school and college and graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1899, then went to Harvard for a short course in science. For three and a half years Mr. Pearson was Professor of Biology in the State College for Women in North Carolina and while there organized the State Audubon Society, and in 1903 drafted a somewhat unusual game bill and induced the Legislature to adopt it. This measure not only protected all the non-game birds in the State, but provided a closed season on game birds, and prohibited the shipment of game out of the State. The most unusual feature of the bill was that it incorporated the State Audubon Society with the powers of a state Game Commission. For seven years following Mr. Pearson

Because of the recent appearance in Chicago of the newly elected President of the National Association of Audubon Societies, Mr. T. Gilbert Pearson, to deliver the first of the series of lectures in the annual spring lecture course of the Illinois Audubon Society, it is timely and fitting that this number of the Bulletin should present a sketch of the life and activities of the man. A vigorous speaker, an undaunted leader in campaigns for legislation and law enforcement, Mr. Pearson is one of the most forceful personalities the cause of bird protection in America has enlisted. The significance of his contribution to the cause appears in records of state and national legislation and in the awakened sense of the value of bird life as a national asset.

T. Gilbert Pearson was born in Tuscola, Illinois, November 10,

was the State Game Commissioner of North Carolina with all powers of such title. He operated as Secretary of the North Carolina Audubon Society.

He lectured throughout South Carolina and induced the Legislature of that state to adopt a similar law. When the National Association of Audubon Societies was incorporated in January 1905 he became Secretary and has been the one officer to devote his entire time to the work since. Six years after the Association was organized the President was stricken with paralysis and for the ten years following as Executive Secretary, Mr. Pearson attended to the duties of both Secretary and President. In October 1920, after the death of William Dutcher he was elected President. Under his management the past ten years the Association has greatly enlarged and its income has grown from about \$30,000 to \$150,000 a year. He is the originator of many phases of the Audubon work operating in America today, including the Junior Department which has enrolled in ten years, more than 1,500,000 (one million, five hundred thousand) children—one quarter of a million more than the Boy Scouts have enrolled during the same period.

Mr. Pearson has done a great deal of lecturing throughout the United States during the past twenty years, appearing before University audiences, Chautauquas, Audubon Societies, Legislative Committees, Women's Clubs and other groups of people. He has been actively connected with the more important national bird legislation during the past fifteen years, and is the author of many state and federal laws on the subject. He has done much magazine writing and his name appears on seven books devoted to the discussion of the habits and activities of birds.

Mr. Pearson is a member of the Explorer's Club of America, the Camp Fire Club of America in New York, and the Cosmos Club in Washington City. He is a Quaker, a democrat, and the father of three North Carolina children.

Concerning Prowlers

This number of the Bulletin will reach some parts of the state where already nestlings are being fed. Soon lawns and shrubbery and road-sides will be patrolled by anxious parents concerned for the welfare of willful offspring that have left the nest too soon, or that have had mishaps in their first venture abroad. Then the foraging cat will be true to its instinct. During the next few weeks, more harm will result to bird life from cats than will be produced by any other destructive agency, man included, in a year, weather conditions possibly excepted.

What restraint shall one put upon one's pet cats? Feed them well so that appetite will not prick the instinct to kill. Then plan for the control of their movements. One way is to tether them to overhead wires, which give them limited areas of activity. Another way that has proved satisfactory is to enclose spaces under porches with netting of some sort, as large cages, in which the family cats are confined during certain parts of the day, especially at night and during the early morning hours. A

Vermont woman writes in Bird-Lore, "We have solved the question of how to control our family cat. His days are spent under the south piazza, where he sits contentedly looking out through the netting in front, or curls up in a box in a shady corner. After the birds are quiet for the night he is released. The good supper that awaits him at nine o'clock never fails to bring him to the door, where he is captured and safely shut up for the night."

Cats should be licensed. Cat licenses would be doubly beneficial. Pet cats would be better cared for, and the stray cats would be reduced to the minimum. This would be a kindness to both and a blessing to man. There is no room anywhere for vagabond cats. The license fee need not be large, its chief purpose being to tag cats valued by somebody so that the proper village authorities may know what cats are homeless, and also pay a fee to some appointed person to trap stray cats and kill them in some humane way.

The department of game and fish of the state administration has been requested to draft a law which would permit municipalities to impose a tax on cats as well as dogs. A simple way to bring this about would be to insert four words in the revised statutes as they now are. This would make the eightieth item in paragraph No. 62 of article No. 5 read as follows, the changes being printed in italics: "The city council in cities, and the President and board of trustees in villages shall have the following powers:

"Eightieth: To regulate, restrain and prohibit the running at large of horses, cattle, swine, sheep, goats, geese, dogs *and cats*, and to impose a tax on dogs *and cats*."

Clothed with these powers, municipalities should adopt cat ordinances providing for the extermination of stray and unrestrained cats, and officers should be designated to collect and dispose of such cats in a humane way. All cats not bearing license tags should be designated stray and unrestrained cats and treated accordingly.

Cats should be tethered or confined from late afternoon to late morning during the bird nesting season; that is, from about April 1 to October 1. There is no logic or reason in passing laws to punish boys for killing birds and allowing their parents to keep, with impunity, cats which kill scores of birds in their life time.

A great deal of patient work will have to be done before the average community is brought to realize the significance of the cat problem. The same should be said of the average farm. A good way to awaken public sentiment is for a group of interested persons to take a census of the cats in their village or city. If a careful inquiry, during the census, is made as to the habits of these cats and their probable destructiveness, data will doubtless be collected that will astonish all who question the facts that are usually presented in making out a case against the cats. The Illinois Audubon Society wishes specific information as to the results of cat censuses and observations. Write for copies of the Langdon Cat Circular to use as campaign material.



Photo by Arthur A. Allen

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT AND YOUNG

CONCEDING THE NECESSITY OF A SUCCEEDING GENERATION THE YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT VENTURES WITH AN AIR OF SUSPICION WHERE THE ODDS ARE IN FAVOR OF THE CAMERA MAN.

The Yellow-Breasted Chat

Bird students are generally surprised upon first learning that the elusive Chat, almost as large as a Catbird, is a member of the Warbler family. All extensive families in Nature boast their giants and pygmies and the Chat is the big fellow among the Wood Warblers.

The Chat almost earns the title of Mockingbird except that his notes are decidedly individual and like unto no other sounds on earth. He is ridiculously funny but studiously inconspicuous. No bird in our varied list of American songsters is more noisy and yet at the same time so extremely difficult to locate. To hear him at his jeerings and whistlings and cacklings and sputterings is a real treat. His phonographic records however are all you may hope to enjoy for he steadily refuses to take his part in the movies. You may hear his resonant voice clearly across the twenty acre bramble patch but to stalk him in his haunts and slip upon him unawares requires the patience and ingenuity of a Holmes or a Burns or a Pinkerton.

How often have I interestedly, enthusiastically, excitedly made the effort to flank him in his retreat, only to find him always on his guard—trusting none but himself in the office of sentinel. Of all the aggravating teases among birds, I unhesitatingly pronounce the Chat, chief and leader. Birds, like human beings, are never so interesting as when we may not hope to prophesy their next movements. When it is possible to record a program of actions in advance of fulfillment, these objects of study cease to appear as animated personalities and drop into the list of uninteresting automatons.

Not so—the Chat—one never knows what to expect of this gay deceiver and invariably a patient observance of a part of his varied program, is followed by the exclamation, "Well what next." Consequently he is popular with the bird lovers. His very elusiveness inspires us with a determination to spy him out. The Chat's pretended modesty excites all the curiosity we may have inherited from our first respected female ancestor.

We have all sought him—some have found him and are anxious to tell on him. Provoked because he so successfully deceived us, our pride is piqued. However we have an excuse—that soothing lotion always so plentifully stocked in the human laboratory and so necessary for the healing of our lacerated egotisms. The Chat is a ventriloquist and at once we may excuse ourselves for being "made fools of." No class of people so quickly recovers from chagrin however as the bird lovers or so enjoy good jokes on themselves. Hence the Chat has been dubbed with numerous aliases.

Frank M. Chapman says he is "eccentric" and a mystery that evidently has a method in his madness. Ella F. Mosby names him "Nature's Grotesque." To Neltie Blanchan he is a "Rollicking Polygot." Ridgway speaks of him as a "Happy-Go-Lucky-Clown." Dugmore, the famous bird photographer says he does not fly in an "orthodox" manner but journeys in quick jerky flights like the moth and butterflies.

Should we succeed in approaching him unobserved, we may see him mount to the top of his bush or tree in short successive hops and launch into the air singing and chattering all the while. He may surprise us with a somersault or he may be content to flutter back to his beloved thicket in a tumbling flight that arouses a suspicion as to his sanity. I have seen the Chat perform such aerial contortions as would recall our childhood experiences in "skinning the cat" upon an invisible trapeze.

If neighbor Chat "spots" you



Photo by Isaac E. Hess

as you enter his domain, (he generally does), he will keep just a thicket ahead and as if to taunt you, will immediately call to acquaint you where he is hiding. A quick dash and run around the thicket may reward one with a fleeting view of his flirting tail as he disappears into the deep recesses of the next bower.

One lady in camp near a thicket where Chats were numerous had the following to say of the Yellow-breasted Disappearer:

"Here they reared their broods and not only all day but late in the evening and by moonlight they could be heard making the whole place ring with their medley of sounds, while not a feather of them could be seen."

The Chats are truly beautiful birds with their rich olive-green backs and bright yellow under parts. White lines about the eyes and the black beauty spot near the bill render him very attractive. He makes little effort to conceal his nest and if one be willing to force his way—briar disputed—through natural growing barb wires the bulky Chat nest may be found.

The home of so unique an outlaw should prove interesting and it does. The nest is usually placed from two to four feet from the ground in a tangled bush. Composed of grasses and stems and leaves, it is at first glance uninteresting but only a peep inside reveals one of Nature's beautiful secrets. The little owner has silently slipped away at your approach but her sharp beady eyes are sure to be watching you as you gasp in admiration over her egg treasures. Four in number they glisten with a porcelain whiteness and the cinnamon brown dot markings are so regularly distributed over the entire surface as to resemble jewels in a setting.

The home life of these birds is charming. Loyal to their mates year after year they also cling tenaciously to their favorite bramble homes. Neglected fields at the edges of woods and particularly adjacent to bottom

lands are the choicest haunts of the Yellow-Breasted Chats. Many are the tangled thickets along the Illinois, the Sangamon, the Kaskaskia and Salt Fork that ring each May and June with the voices of these Chat vaudevillians. Look for him at any time after May 1st, and when you have found him, we guarantee your money back if you are not satisfied with his entertainment.

It is said that a Chat courtship is a never to be forgotten episode for the fortunate observer. The writer has yet this anticipation to entice him each season to the tangled tortous haunts of the Yellow-Breasted Chat.



Photo by Arthur A. Allen

A YOUNG CHAT

A POTENTIAL VAUDEVILLEAN OF THE
TANGLED THICKETS

ISAAC E. HESS.

Indigo Bird

Dear bird, thy light, untiring little song
Comes tinkling to my ear the whole day long:—
Those days when life hath gained a richer tune;
When weedy hills, but ankle-deep in June,
Submerge the knee; and as we saunter down
Toward the stream, hip, waist, chest, shoulder, crown
Are duly lost below the rising tide,
Until beneath a roof of bloom we hide;—
Days when the meadow buzzes, chirps, and creaks,
As though pent sound had found a myriad leaks;
And when the night, from fireflies' fitful gleams,
An interweaving constellation seems.
These days are thine, thou handsome lake-blue mote,
Bound captive in thy slender, lisping note.

But when the sun in glory seeks its rest,
And earth hath most of Heaven on its breast,
'Tis then, light-hearted one, I love thee best.
For o'er the glowing mead I see thee rise
On mounting wing toward the lovely skies;
Then, motionless of feather, downward glide,
Spreading thy happy notes on every side.
This golden hour hath brought to thee and me
A taste of Heaven's own serenity;
And heart is linked to heart in silent sympathy.

HENRY OLDYS.

Field Sparrow

Thou humble little minstrel of the field,
Modest thy voice and innocent of art;
But the delight thy simple strain doth yield
Captures my heart.

HENRY OLDYS.

Bird-Banding at Waukegan

The migration of birds reads like a miracle of nature and most of us accept the theories advanced by our leading ornithologists. Some people, however, are always looking for absolute proof of an idea, so persons of this type conceived the idea of marking birds. Of course Audubon was the first to try it out. He fastened silver wire around the legs of a brood of Phoebes and the following year he observed two in the same vicinity wearing his silver rings. From this beginning the work has advanced, though chiefly in recent years, until now our government has undertaken the work under the guidance of Dr. E. W. Nelson, Chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey. This insures us that we shall have in the near future absolute proof where now we have only conjecture.

The most interesting account available of bird-banding experiments is that by S. Prentiss Baldwin and published by the Linnæan Society of New York in 1919 under the title of "Bird-banding by means of systematic trapping." I understand that reprints of this article can now be obtained by writing to the Biological Survey at Washington, D. C. Mr. Baldwin began in 1914 by placing bands not only upon young birds in the nest, but upon many adults secured from traps, and in four years had placed nearly 1600 bands. He reports having retaken by traps during that time more than sixty of these birds, some of them having been taken not only the second but also the third and fourth years.

The writer began trapping birds for this same purpose in 1914 and during the intervening years, with the assistance of his son, now seventeen years of age, has had some interesting experiences which parallel in some respects those described by Mr. Baldwin. Up to date we have banded 624 birds, some being nestlings but the great majority being full grown birds secured in our traps. Our highest record was that of last year (1920) with a total of 360 birds. The list included 44 Robins, 162 White-throats, 4 White-crowns, 55 Juncos, 20 Brown Thrashers, 4 Flickers, 8 Grackles, 6 Redwings, 9 Catbirds, 8 Mourning Doves, 19 Towhees, 8 Barn Swallows, 3 Red-headed Woodpeckers, 2 Ovenbirds, and one each of such birds as the Yellow Warbler, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Fox Sparrow, and Crow. I have been asked to write up for the Bulletin some of our experiences and I will do this, selecting for that purpose items here and there from our notes.

First, what is the use of all this work? This question is often asked. The answer is that the data secured is furnishing convincing replies to important inquiries such as the following:

Do birds return to the same nesting place? Ans. A Flicker was caught in a hole in an apple tree on our lawn, May 7, 1915, and band No. 34057 fastened to its leg. On May 27, 1916, this same bird was trapped in the very same hole, this time with five young.

Do young birds return to their birthplace? Ans. A Robin banded in its nest in our yard before it could fly on May 17, 1918, with the number 42790 on its band, was trapped in our yard, April 6, 1920, just 200 feet from where it was born. We hope to trap it again. Another robin banded July 21, 1917, was killed by a cat in June, 1919, less than a mile from its birthplace.



Photo by William I. Lyon

BANDING AN ADULT BIRD

Do birds winter at the same place each year in the South? Ans. Mr. Baldwin's trapping records at Thomasville, Georgia, prove the return of Chipping and White-throated Sparrows, Hermit Thrushes, Myrtle, Yellow and Palm Warblers to the same place each winter.

Do birds keep the same mates for life. Ans. Jack Miner's records with wild geese at Kingsville, Ontario, prove that they are mated for life and if one dies the other does not remate. Mr. Baldwin's records with House Wrens at Gates Mills, Ohio, show that these birds even change mates for the second brood in the same season.

The route of migration of the different birds and the distance a bird travels in a day during migration? Ans. Continual trapping and banding will eventually answer such questions conclusively. We are looking for persons living along the shores of Lake Michigan at points about fifty miles apart to do trapping and banding and keep in touch with one another by mail and by occasional meetings to compare notes.

Do birds stop to feed in the same places each year during migration? Ans. Jack Miner's geese always stop at his place on the north shore of Lake Erie for food, then go on to their nesting grounds. In the fall they stop again on their way south. We have noticed that birds come into our yard that had apparently not been there before for that season and make straight for the feeding place. I believe that birds know feeding points as well as we know certain restaurants.

The following is a list of our returns to date:

1915, May 16. Flicker, No. 34507. Caught in a hole in an apple tree in our yard and banded.

1916, May 27. Recaptured in the same hole with five young which were also banded.

Robin, No. 34062.

1915, May 16. Banded before large enough to leave the nest in our neighbor's yard.

1916, Jan. 17. Shot at Turkey Creek, Louisiana, 850 miles from birthplace.

Robin, No. 34065.

1915, May 19. Banded in nest on neighbor's porch.

1916, March 31. Shot at Milltown, Georgia, 900 miles from birthplace.

Robin, No. 42780.

1917, July 21. Banded in a nest in our yard.

1919, June. Killed by a cat. Some children saw the band and took the bird away from the cat and brought it to school. This was less than half mile from the bird's birthplace.

Robin, No. 42790.

1918, May 17. Banded in a nest in next yard.

1920, April 6. Trapped and released within 200 feet of its birthplace.

Robin, No. 42065.

1920, April 22. Adult male, trapped and released.

1920, Dec. 13. Shot at Kossuth, Mississippi, 550 miles from trapping ground.

Redwing Blackbird, No. 20626.

1917, June 16. Fledgling just learning to fly, caught and banded.

1918, Jan. 21. Shot at Centerville, Alabama, 700 miles from birthplace.

Bronzed Grackle, No. 42695.

1920, March 31. Adult male, trapped and banded.

1920, May 24. Found dead about three blocks away.

Slate-colored Junco, No. 29120.

1920, April 1. Adult male, trapped and banded. Repeated.

1921, Feb. 7. Trapped and released. Repeated.



Photo by William I. Lyon

BANDING A FLEDGLING

Trapping is not as difficult as it sounds. One can be successful with so simple a trap as a sieve trap. Nail together four boards, one inch thick and four inches wide so as to make a box three feet square and four inches deep. Tack some screen wire on the top. Prop it up with a stick about a foot high under one side. Attach a string to the stick and run it into your window. Put feed on the ground underneath your box and you have a feeding station. When you pull the string you have a trap. The ordinary trap for English Sparrows is more often used. This is described in detail

in Farmer's Bulletin 493, The English Sparrow as a Pest, and can be obtained from the Department of Agriculture. We have experimented with several traps of our own devising and with considerable success.

The accompanying illustration shows our most successful trap, which is an improvement over the ordinary sparrow trap in the shape of the funnels. The entrance opening being only two thirds of the height of the trap, more flying space is left on the inside of the trap. When a bird

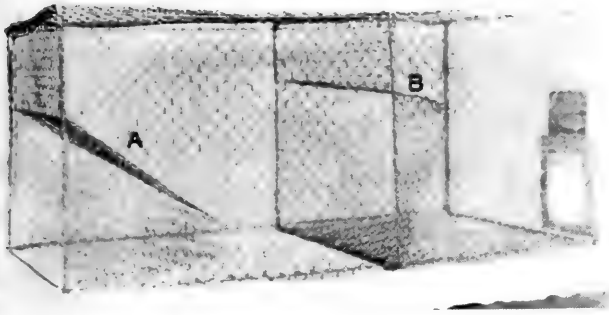


Photo by William I. Lyon

AN IMPROVED "SPARROW TRAP"

second funnel it usually finds a resting place on the flat top of the funnel at B and seldom escapes from the compartment. The old funnels extended to the top of the trap which made the slope much steeper and a poor resting place. They also took up much more room inside of the trap.

Birds are not as frightened at being trapped as many would expect. We had one bird that was taken out of the trap six times on the day it was first banded and this same bird was in the trap every day for twenty-one days. When it was first caught we noticed that its scalp was torn and the tail gone. It had evidently barely escaped from a cat's embrace. During the twenty-one days its scalp healed and a new tail grew to full length. Many other birds fed in the trap without being caught as we did not make the funnels small. We were after robins and the larger funnels gave the small birds a chance to go in and out.

Making of traps offers a chance to study each kind of bird and build a trap to conform to its particular habits. This winter we have experimented with traps for woodpeckers and were successful in catching two Downy Woodpeckers, and a Chickadee. We have two more traps for the sides of trees but they were made so late that there has not been time enough to prove their real value. We have still another idea in traps to try out and that is to put them on halyards and hoist them up into the tops of the trees to try for birds that do not feed freely on the ground.

Traps should always be in a permanent place that can be maintained for three or more years as only continuous work will get "returns." The position of the trapping station should be, for best results with migratory birds, along a lake shore, rivers or creeks, or a line of trees or hills, as birds follow these in their flights. Our own place is on the bluff overlooking Lake

finds it is captured, it nearly always flies up against the top of the cage and after fluttering around a while lights on the upper slope of the funnel at A. This being flatter than in the old styles of traps gives a larger and better resting place. While resting here it can see through the second funnel into the rear compartment of the trap. Once through the

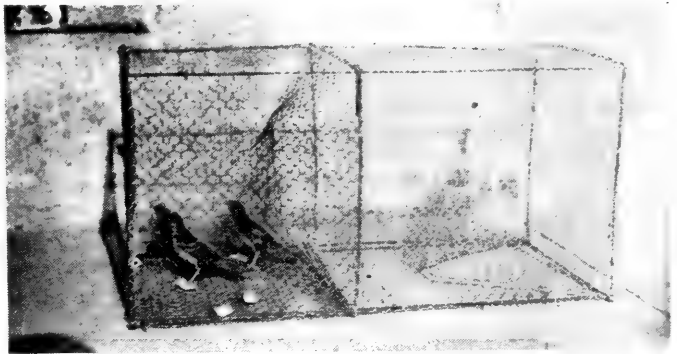


Photo by William I. Lyon

WAITING THEIR TURN

Michigan which is over a half mile distant. In spite of the fact that it is in a city with railroad tracks and factories near by, we get a fine variety of birds in our yard. All our present traps are within one hundred feet of our house so we can watch them from the windows. We are preparing to put some farther away with guard fences around them. We have been bothered by cats but never by the same cat twice. (Editor's note: !! ?? !!!). The guard fence should enclose a space of ten to fifteen feet in diameter.

We use small chick feed for bait and add plenty of bread in large and small pieces, hemp, canary seed, millet and sunflower seed. We also use a little suet. In the woodpecker trap we tried out a cafeteria lunch, offering them suet, pork sausage, hamburger steak, and meal worms, thinking we could get some new ideas about bait, but suet was the only food they seemed to prefer.

Formerly the American Bird-Banding Association furnished bands to observers but now the U. S. Biological Survey furnishes the bands and all reports must be sent in to them monthly. To become a collaborator in this work one must get the recommendation of two known ornithologists or other authorities when applying to the Biological Survey.

William I. Lyon, Waukegan.

Evanston Bird Club

Evanston has the distinction of being the first of Chicago's North Shore suburbs to possess a thriving local Bird Club.

This organization was launched by a small group of enthusiastic bird lovers about two years ago. It has weathered the usual discouragements incident to such a venture and now has attained a sizeable membership list of faithful quality, and enjoys the co-operation of other prominent Evanston clubs.

The event of the year on the program of the Bird Club is the Annual Spring Lecture which has brought to Evanston men of national reputation in the "bird world." Mr. William Finley of Portland, Oregon, and Mr. Norman McClintock of Pittsburg, both of whom present such remarkable pictures of wild life, have appeared in Evanston under the auspices of the club, to delighted audiences.

Recently the club took advantage of the presence in Chicago of Mr. T. Gilbert Pearson of New York, president of the National Association of Audubon Societies, and engaged him to speak in Evanston before a joint meeting of the Garden Club of Evanston and the Bird Club.

As a means of interesting people in birds and incidentally of gaining publicity for the club a weekly column in the local paper has been found most effective. Under the caption "The Bird Corner" a column appeared every Saturday during the Spring months of 1919. It was filled with notes and comments on the appearance of the birds; suggestions to those



just beginning bird study; local occurrences in bird life worthy of note and various informing items.

Last year the club conducted a series of Spring Bird Walks. This project was somewhat of an innovation, but awakened sufficient interest to repeat the plan this year.

These walks took place every Saturday and were announced in the local paper.

All those interested in becoming better acquainted with the birds of their own vicinity were invited to join the walks. Two convenient meeting places in different parts of town were arranged and definite time appointed. Here the walkers were met by leaders of experience and in small groups fared forth on their voyages of discovery.

Checking Up

It has been suggested that space be set aside in the Bulletin for checking up statements commonly made as to the habits and economic status of certain birds. As a beginning in this inquiry and for the purpose of inviting communications and discussions, our readers are asked to consider the following questions:

“‘The Loggerhead Shrike’ or the ‘Butcher Bird’ impales its surplus prey on a thorn, sharp twig, or barb of a wire fence.” Query: Did you ever see a Shrike do this? What different species of victims have you found thus impaled?

“The Rose-breasted Grosbeak is so fond of the Colorado potato-beetle that it has earned the name of ‘Potato Bug Bird.’” Query: Have you seen Grosbeaks eating Potato Beetles? Did you ever hear it called locally “The Potato Bug Bird?”

“The chief song of the Prairie Horned Lark is poured forth in the air as it soars aloft, like a Skylark.” (“Springing from the ground with rapid fluttering wings, the Skylark rises perpendicularly higher and higher, ’till he is almost lost to sight in the clouds though his song drifts to us in unaffected clearness; then in a spiral curve he slowly descends, the song ceasing as he reaches a spot within a few feet of where he rose.”). Query: Have you ever observed this song flight of the Prairie Horned Lark?

Mr. Jesse L. Smith writes:

“One morning in May, while driving across country on the way to Ottawa, I saw a Shrike fly out of a wild crab-apple tree along the roadside fence. I searched among the branches and found a mouse impaled on a thorn-like short twig. The mouse had been beheaded and blood was dripping from the body. I had disturbed the Shrike with a fresh victim. I suppose this was the Migrant Shrike which is the common summer resident of Illinois.

“One January morning, while scouting over Waukegan Flats looking for northern visitors, I found in a bush, a dead American Crossbill hanging by its neck from a forked twig. This, I suppose was the work of another northern visitor,—the Northern Shrike.

“I have only once heard the Horned Lark sing as it soared. This was one fine April morning when I was tramping across a meadow north of Joliet. A bird soared high aloft giving the same song one commonly hears from the stubble morning and evening. As I recall, this particular

performer literally dropped from his high altitude, stopping twice on his almost vertical descent to hover for a moment, his last stop being near the ground."

Mr. Isaac E. Hess writes:

"One fine April morning of last season, I was treated to a mid-air rendition from *Praticola* that surely would rival the best production of the far-famed English Skylark.

"I was first attracted by an unusually animated song which seemed directly above me. I soon discovered a Horned Lark, with rapidly vibrating wings, circling round and round, over a freshly plowed field. He seemed wholly carried away with the power of his song as he mounted higher and higher, until he passed beyond my vision. I could still hear him as the climax was reached, when with almost a scream of ecstasy he fluttered back to earth 'sliding down on the scale of his own music.' He dropped to the surface utterly spent by his violent exertions and the interesting performance was over."

Florence Boyd, a school girl of Highland Park, writes:

"Last spring as the potato bugs were very numerous on our vines, mother offered my brother and me a penny for each one we killed. We worked after school in the afternoons until it seemed that we would have plenty of pennies for thrift stamps, but we hadn't been working many days before Mr. and Mrs. Grosbeak visited our garden and then we lost our positions. Early in the morning—long before we were up—our little friends, the Grosbeaks, were busy devouring potato bugs. Even when the gardener was hoeing the potatoes the Grosbeaks would follow at his heels eating all the bugs they could find. In fact he had to be careful not to step on what he called 'bug birds.' The Grosbeaks nested in a syringa bush behind our barn and all summer they ate the potato bugs off two patches of potatoes, each about fifteen feet by thirty feet, and I will have to admit my brother and I didn't see one potato bug on our plants the rest of the summer."

With reference to the inquiry about the Grosbeak, Mr. Hess has some very interesting and conclusive evidence to give. This relates to a pair that selected a site for their nest in a tree in his yard where he could watch the daily progress.

Mr. Hess writes:

"The nest building covered a period of several days but the Grosbeaks were anything but idle. They were proving good citizens indeed. Two potato patches belonging to neighbors seemed to draw my tenants with a magnetic power. Curiosity impelled me to search for the cause of their frequent trips to the patches. Back and forth I found them walking through the potato rows, reaching up to gather the eggs of the potato beetle that were grouped on the under side of the leaves. When one of the older beetles was found, the captor flew to the limb of a nearby tree and with one blow cracked its shell. Keeping this up day after day the useful birds cleaned the patches thoroughly. Then those gardens farther away were visited and the owners, boasting that they were free from the pest of bugs, were surprised and deeply interested when told of the cause. Doubting Thomases were invited back of my store to see for themselves and my field glasses were in constant demand. Farmers who had heard

of the good news called me up over the telephone for verification of the reports. In short my pair of Grosbeaks aroused more genuine interest in the study of birds in this locality in one season than all the bird books hitherto published."

Mr. J. J. Schafer writes: A good many years ago the Northern Shrike used to come here and stay all winter, and was seen to kill and impale small birds on hedge thorns. One Shrike that stayed here one winter chased and caught English Sparrows. The Migrant Shrike comes here early in the spring and breeds. One spring a pair of Bluebirds built a nest in a box on a half-dead apple tree, and about the time the Bluebirds were incubating, a pair of Migrant Shrikes built a nest on a limb about six feet above the Bluebird box. From then on, I could often hear the Bluebirds complaining, and sometimes saw the Shrikes chasing them. The Shrikes finally killed the female Bluebird, but the male succeeded in raising their young. When the young Bluebirds came out of their box, the Shrikes killed them; they did not impale them, but left them lying on the ground after they had eaten some of the flesh from the neck. I never found the body of the female Bluebird, but her feathers were all lying on the ground below the tree. A dead Vesper Sparrow was also found lying on the ground near the Shrike's nest, with some of the flesh eaten from its neck. Once the Shrikes were seen to impale a piece of mouse skin on a dead limb. When the Shrikes first came in the spring, they would sit on clods and cornstalks to watch for earthworms and bugs while the ground was being disced for sowing small grain. It is my opinion that the Migrant Shrike only kills other birds when they get too close to the Shrike's nest during the breeding season. They are a bad bird to have near the house, as the other birds are greatly alarmed about them.

Forest Breemfield, Bethany, writes (in the "Decatur Herald"):

"While harrowing down cornstalks a few weeks ago, I watched a Shrike who would perch himself in some dead trees at the end of the field and watch for mice that were frightened from their nests by the harrow. The shrike would fly along behind and above me some 40 or 50 feet and every time a mouse was plowed out, the Shrike would get it. At one end of the field in some thorn bushes the Shrike had several mice impaled on the different thorns. There were two Shrikes that seemed to work the whole field. I am sure that mice constitute four-fifths of the food of the Shrike in early spring before the nesting time of small birds.

"A pair of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks paid daily visits last summer to my potato patch. They were very tame and I was able to get close to them and could easily see them getting the potato bugs. I was afraid to poison the bugs for fear of killing the birds which ate them. The Grosbeaks kept the bugs thinned down until they did not hurt the potato crop.

"The only place in central Illinois where I have ever seen the Horned Lark is three miles west of Blue Mound. I saw several of them in the spring of 1917 and 1918. They flew 25 to 30 feet into the air and descended on 'set wing' singing very beautifully. It took me two years to learn their name."

Mrs. W. B. Olds of Decatur fed a baby Grosbeak potato bugs to the evident pleasure of the bird. It thrived on the diet. She saw Grosbeaks apparently hunting for potato bugs in a patch free from the pest.

A Cardinal's Nest

(The following article written by a 7th Grade School Boy, is an excellent illustration of the value of patient and persistent observation. There is need for a great many observations of this kind, and the article is commended to the attention of observers of all ages).

If you remember, in the Spring Bulletin of 1920, Mrs. Mosely of Highland Park, told of a pair of Cardinals feeding on her shelf, but that she had never been able to find their nest. She thought it might be in a ravine north of her house. My home overlooks this ravine and I had been looking in vain for the Cardinal's nest for two years.

On Sunday morning, May 23, 1920, my mother, my sister, and I were walking in a neighbor's yard which also overlooks the same ravine, when we saw a male Cardinal fly from over the bluff's edge to the grass in front of us. After he fed for a while, he flew to some shrubbery near by and sang in low tones, then flew back to the grass again. I said to Mother, "There must be a nest there."

I walked to the bushes which were between two stretches of open lawn, and stumbled right on to the nest, frightening the female off. I was afraid to look into the nest for fear of frightening the birds more. The female then returned to her nest. Later Miss Cramer and I went back and I ventured to look in. I saw three little mouths wide open. The birds had apparently just hatched because I found the shells on the ground beneath the nest. We watched for more than an hour that forenoon and saw the male go to the nest several times. We thought he carried food. The female remained quietly on the nest. In the afternoon she left the nest once to feed. She flew to the ground chirping and the male immediately came to her. They sat for a time about six inches apart looking steadily at each other, then touched beaks. Later he seemed to have found food and she reached for it, then went off to feed for herself. After a rest on a near by tree she went back to the nest. Through the week the male seemed to do most of the feeding, altho I was in school and could do little continuous observing. May 31st, eleven days later, one fledgling left the nest in the morning and one in the afternoon. We observed the feeding for several hours in the forenoon. The fledgling outside the nest was fed by both parents. The female then stayed near the nest for some time, while the male did the feeding alone. At one time she coaxed the fledgling to a new perch. Neither bird seemed to be afraid although we sat in plain sight about six feet from the nest. The little bird stretched himself, yawned, and preened his feathers by turns. He slept between feeds but weakly chirped in answer to his father's call whenever he came near. The female always entered the shrub without chirping.

The babies' beaks were dark brown and very large in proportion to the bird's heads. In the afternoon, I was lying in a roll of wire about six feet away when I saw the male with his claws pick up the fledgling by the skin of his neck and carry it a few feet to a near by limb. The young bird fluttered, finally landing on my wire cage. Both birds were much excited and I was frightened for fear something would happen to the

little one. I was so cramped for space that I had difficulty in turning about to see everything. The old birds frequently approached the wire within a few inches but would fly back again in fright. After about five minutes the female took courage and picked the little bird up in the same manner and placed it on a branch above me. The male then carried it back to the shrubbery near the nest. I then saw that a second fledgling had left the nest. A little before six in the evening we saw that the third member of the little family had not yet left the nest. We scattered some chicken feed on the ground around the nest, but we did not see them eat it. The young have well-feathered wings, a little browner than the female, with no signs of red that we can see.

One day I was sitting on the roll of wire and overturned a sprinkling can at my feet which made a little pool of water. Very soon the male bird dropped down to the pool and drank. I had not been watching him and he took me by surprise. The can tipped back but he scarcely noticed it. Another time both adult birds were sitting on a limb facing opposite directions. They remained quiet for a while then faced each other and touched beaks. That seems to be a custom of theirs. June second we found the nest entirely empty. Soon, however, we saw the parent birds just over the edge of the bluff, and following we found first one fledgling, then all three. The male fed one young one. We were quite near for a while and the few little feathers on the top of its head were raised in a decided crest. It looked very comical in so young a bird. June seventeenth the male appeared in our chicken yard with the three fat babies, and after feeding them well took them away again. June twentieth my sister saw the male come to our feeding shelf for food. They came a few times during the summer, but since October they have come very regularly. Through these experiences we learned much about the actions and calls of the Cardinals while rearing young, and we hope to make use of these in finding our next nest.

EDGAR I. EISENSTADT,

Highland Park.

Unsolicited Advertisements

The Keystone View Co., of Meadville, Penn., manufacturers of lantern slides and stereographs, have recently published a set of one hundred stereographs on bird life, which can be recommended without reserve for use in the home and the school. The photographs were taken by Prof. Guy Bailey of Geneseo, N. Y., expert photographer of bird life, who furnished a number of the slides in the sets owned by the Illinois Audubon Society. The stereographs made from his photographs are hand colored and bring out all the possibilities of that form of photography. The home life of adult birds and fledglings, the nests and their environments are especially well brought out. Stereographs of this sort furnish a valuable and very definite way to study birds.

Illinois Birds As Travelers

Under this title Prof. Frank Smith of the Department of Zoology of the University of Illinois has contributed to the Illinois, 1921, Arbor and Bird Days an article of unusual interest and value. The state Department of Public Instruction is doing a fine service in sending such articles into every school in the state. Permission has been secured to reproduce the major portion of the article in this Bulletin.

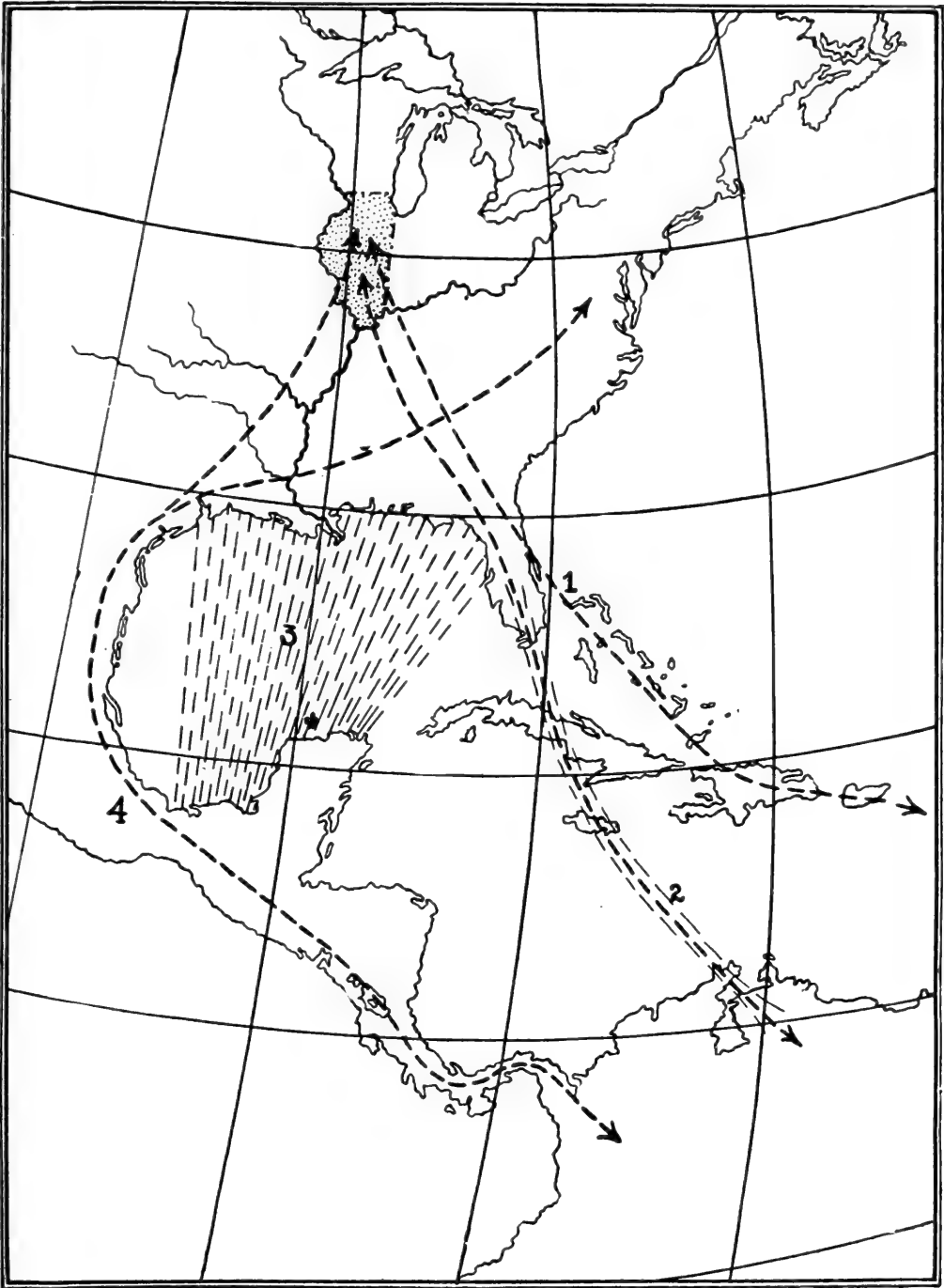
Professor Smith writes: "It is apparent that the birds of about seven-eighths of our different species are travelers, making annual journeys back and forth between their summer and winter homes. The regions occupied as such homes are now known for very nearly all of the three hundred and more different kinds of Illinois birds, and the principal facts are published so that anyone can look them up. Furthermore, the general routes followed by the birds in traveling back and forth between summer and winter homes are also known for most of the species. An examination of the published data shows that birds of nearly one-half (48%) of the species regularly found in Illinois have their summer and winter homes entirely separated, necessitating a migration of all of the individuals of those species over the intervening territory, annually, in each direction. For some species these may be journeys of but a few hundred miles, while for others they are thousands of miles. Summer residents of Illinois that winter in the states next south of us do not have far to travel, but birds that nest in or near Alaska and the Arctic regions, and have their winter home in the southern half of South America, make journeys of 8,000 or 9,000 miles twice each year.

The birds of more than one-third (36%) of our Illinois species journey beyond the boundaries of our country to reach their winter homes. A few kinds winter in the West Indies, others in Mexico, a greater number in Central America, and representatives of more than one-fifth (21%) of our Illinois species push on into South America for their winter feeding grounds. Among these are included many thrushes, warblers, swallows, tanagers, flycatchers, cuckoos, snipe, and sandpipers.

The accompanying map shows the migration routes followed by most birds that leave the United States for the winter season. It is similar to one in a bulletin of the United States Department of Agriculture (No. 185) on the subject of bird migration, prepared by W. W. Cooke who, when living, was a leading authority and writer on that subject.

Most Illinois birds which migrate beyond the boundaries of the United States doubtless follow route 3, which involves a direct flight across the Gulf of Mexico to the southeastern part of Mexico, and then travel overland into Central America, and many of them go still farther into South America. A few, like the cliff swallow, fly around the gulf through Mexico (route 4); and a few, like the bank swallows and bobolinks, follow route 2 via Cuba and the Caribbean Sea directly to South America.

It soon becomes apparent to those who make an effort to keep approximately complete records of the birds found in their localities, that



these migration flights with the consequent changes in the bird population are going on actively during the greater part of the year. In central Illinois, the arrival of birds from the south usually begins in February and often before the middle of the month. From this time on for nearly four months there is a continually shifting population, and not until some-time in June have the last migrants that hail from South America, taken their departure for more northern regions. In August the return journey is under way and birds on their way to the South American winter quarters are again with us for a brief time. Not until December have the last

autumn migrants left us again for the south. In the spring migration, the greatest number of new arrivals and the longest lists of birds seen on a single trip are usually recorded early in May or, less frequently, in the last week in April.

A knowledge of the locations of the winter homes of the different kinds of birds helps us to understand some things which might otherwise be quite puzzling. It helps explain why the hermit thrushes arrive in Illinois three weeks earlier than other kinds of thrushes; why the phœbes arrive five or six weeks before other kinds of flycatchers; and why the myrtle warblers can greet us several weeks before many other kinds of warblers have the opportunity. Illinois hermit thrushes pass the winter in the states situated between Illinois and the Gulf of Mexico, while the other thrushes winter in Central or South America. The Illinois phœbes in winter occupy about the same territory as do the hermit thrushes though some phœbes range through a considerable part of Mexico. The other kinds of flycatchers winter in Central or South America. Many myrtle warblers are found in winter in the same regions as the phœbes, although some go still farther into Central America. Most other kinds of warblers winter south of the United States and chiefly in Central and South America; but a few kinds, like the palm warblers, winter in the West Indies, and the pine warblers have their winter home in the United States along with the myrtle warblers. When the spring migration begins, the hermit thrushes, phœbes, and myrtle warblers have but very short journeys to make before arriving in Illinois. The following list shows data on times of arrival and on the location of the winter homes of a considerable number of the species mentioned above. The date given with each species is the average of the earliest dates of each of the years 1903-1920 on which that particular species was seen in the vicinity of Urbana Illinois.

Data on first records of certain kinds of birds at Urbana, Illinois:

Av. date 1st record	Number years		Winter homes.
		Thrushes.	
April 1	17	Hermit thrush.....	South. half of U. S.
April 24	18	Olive-backed thrush.....	Cent. and So. Am.
April 29	17	Gray-cheeked thrush.....	So. Am.
April 28	18	Wood thrush.....	Cent. Am.
April 30	17	Wilson's thrush.....	So. Am.
		Flycatchers.	
Mar. 19	18	Phœbe	South. half U. S.
April 27	18	Kingbird	Cent. and So. Am.
May 1	18	Crested flycatcher.....	Cent. Am.
May 2	18	Least flycatcher.....	Mex. to So. Am.
May 11	17	Olive-sided flycatcher.....	So. Am.
May 12	16	Acadian flycatcher.....	So. Am.
May 14	16	Yellow-bellied flycatcher.....	Cent. Am.
		Warblers.	
April 3	17	Myrtle warbler.....	South. half U. S.
April 22	18	Palm warbler.....	W. I.
April 22	17	Pine warbler.....	South states
April 24	18	Black and White warbler....	W. I. & Cent. Am.
April 30	18	Ovenbird.....	Fla. and W. I.
May 1	18	Magnolia warbler.....	Cent. Am.
May 4	18	Cape May warbler.....	W. I.
May 6	17	Black-poll'd warbler.....	So. Am.
May 10	16	Canada warbler.....	So. Am.

There are various interesting details connected with the migratory flights of birds which merit attention, but the limits of this article forbid more than a brief reference to a few of them. Among the questions which naturally arise when one thinks of these wonderful journeys are the following: At what time of the 24 hours do they fly? How fast and at what height? To what extent is their rate of progress influenced by food conditions? How potent are wind, temperature, and barometric conditions in determining their movements? Do they make fairly uniform progress of 30, 40, or 60 miles a day, or do they make longer single flights of several hundred miles and then tarry a few days before making another considerable advance? Do migrants return to their home of the preceding year? We will attempt to partially answer some of these questions.

Anyone who is on the watch at the right time of the year may see birds in migration, since many of the larger strong-flying birds are known to migrate by day, and so also do some of the smaller ones such as swallows, chimney swifts, and night hawks, that are especially expert on the wing. That very many travel by night is shown by their destruction at lighthouses, by observations through telescopes directed towards the moon, and they may often be heard in great numbers calling to each other when flying low on cloudy nights. Birds of most species migrate at night.

In 1905 Professor Stebbins and Dr. Carpenter of the University of Illinois, with the use of two telescopes directed towards the moon, succeeded in developing a method for determining the height of migrating birds which is far more accurate than any in use before. Their observations seem to show that most birds migrate at considerably less than a half-mile above the earth.

The speed at which birds fly while migrating has been accurately determined in but a very few instances. The results do not warrant conclusions that migrating birds often fly over 50 miles per hour, but indicate that the majority of our smaller birds average much less than that rate of speed.

A study of the daily records made in the months of February to May inclusive, during the years 1903—1918, at Urbana, Illinois, furnish ample evidence that there is a great lack of uniformity in the amount of migration activity on successive nights. On some mornings we have found large numbers of new arrivals belonging to as many as 15 or 20 species not previously seen that season, and such movements are very likely to be preceded and followed by several nights of very little activity. Such extensive movements or bird waves, as they are called, are evidently independent of any particular food conditions, since they commonly involve birds as unlike in food habits as are the green herons, black and white warblers, and flycatchers. Extensive bird waves commonly occurred with us, while records were being kept, at the end of February, soon after the middle of March, near the end of April, and early in May. The early May movement was the greatest of all, and at its height, we expected to list 70 to 80 different species per day and see multitudes of individuals. A study of the weather maps of such times of migration activity reveals a close correlation between bird waves and special weather conditions. The greatest flights of night migrants have taken place at times when the weather maps have shown the near approach from the west, of an area of low barometric pressure, with the accompanying rise in temperature, and southerly winds.

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Editorial

The observance of Arbor and Bird Day in Illinois is a fitting and timely theme for the editorial page of the Spring Bulletin. The time set by Governor Small in his proclamation is April 15 or "some other day or days in lieu thereof if that date does not conform to necessary climatic conditions." The proclamation phrases impressively the significance of the day. "The importance and the value of our possessions in trees and birds and the necessity for their conservation—matters affecting profoundly the welfare of our people at large. The influence of the beauty of trees and birds on our minds and characters as they form and develop. The importance of the propagation of trees, shrubs and vines, and the preservation of our native bird life."

This is surely the time when pilgrimages should be made "in joyous mood but serious intent to treasured beauty spots whether of park or boulevard or country side." It is the time to appraise the significant possession—the big tree of village or park or country side, the stream or river bank, the reedy pond, the roadside vista, the view from the hill-top, or what one has. As groups of children and, let us hope, of adults as well, go to chosen spots to tell over what the poets have said, from Emerson and Bryant to Joyce Kilmer and Bliss Carman, the value of each spot as ennobling the common lot should be emphasized. Note how the big elm enriches its surroundings. Consider how destruction or denudation or other disfigurement of a bit of beautiful landscape would impoverish the community. The clumps of shrubbery along the roadside may be shown to yield precious revenue

in bird life. There is the economic value to be noted, and even real estate values as result of preservation of natural settings are to be estimated, but the value to the life of the spirit—that is to be rated as above price.

One harvest from thy fields
Homeward brought the oxen strong.
A second crop thine acres yield
Which I gather in a song.

The Spring Bulletin of one year ago outlined in a tentative way the report on areas suitable for state parks which was being prepared by a special committee of the Society known as the Friends Of Our Native Landscape. This committee of which the executive members were Jens Jensen, Prof. S. A. Forbes, and Dr. Henry C. Cowles has made its final report to the Society and the publication of the report is now under way. The report is chiefly concerned with certain "major projects" such as the Palisades of the Mississippi from Savanna northward with an extension to take in the Apple River Canyon; the Rock River Valley Park including an extension of the valley of Pine Creek to take in White Pine Forest of Ogle County; the Deer Park and Vermilion River addition to Starved Rock Park; the Middle Illinois River Park below Havana; a park near the mouth of the Illinois River in Jersey and Calhoun Counties; a Mississippi Valley Park in Jackson and Union counties to include Fountain Bluff, and the Wolf Lake Country; the Effingham Prairie Park; a Wabash Valley Park in Gallatin County. These are the areas which the committee has been able to include in its of necessity somewhat cursory surveys. Other areas which the committee has had no opportunity to investigate directly, appear to the committee worthy of careful consideration and are referred to with favorable comment.

The work of the State Park Committee of the Friends of Our Native Landscape has aroused much interest in various parts of the state. The outcome has been the preparation of a bill relating to state parks and preserves, which was introduced in the legislature by Representative Harlan B. Kauffman. This bill provides for

the appointment of a state park board composed of five members, one of whom shall be the state forester. This board is to make an investigation of places which are of historic or scientific interest or natural scenic beauty and to formulate a comprehensive system of state parks, preserves and experimental stations. The board is to report to the department of public works and buildings and to recommend the acquisition of such tracts of land as may deem suitable. The powers of the board are purely advisory, the bill vesting within the department of public works and buildings, the control, supervision and management of all such parks and the power to purchase, lease, receive by donation or devise, or take possession of tracts of land suitable for public parks, forests, game and fish preserves, etc.

The bill carries with it an annual appropriation of \$250,000.00, which, while not at all liberal, might by careful management during a term of years be made to cover the purchase of specially significant portions of desired areas and thereby stimulate local interest in gifts of additional portions. However, at the time of writing this, the proposition to ask for so modest an annual appropriation seems futile. It appears that there is something almost sacred about the low tax rate established by the Lowden administration and the present administration is being besought by powerful organizations of various kinds to oppose on general principles any legislative enactment carrying an appropriation which may increase the sum total of state levy beyond the confines mentioned. Education, conservation, state pride in its spiritual possessions must not be ministered to for fear the forty cent rate will suffer.

Dear reader and Audubonite, how much state tax are you paying this year of grace? The writer finds that his state tax out of a total tax of about sixty dollars for all purposes is less than three dollars a year, or less than twenty-five cents a month. Now an appropriation for state parks called for above might possibly increase the writer's tax twelve cents a year or one cent a month. Figure out your own "burden" in proportion and tell it to your legislator.

Notes From The Field, Revised to March 15, 1921

Chicago Area: Prof. C. W. G. Eifrig of River Forest furnishes the following report upon the past season in the Chicago area.

"Ornithologically speaking the two outstanding features of the past season in the Chicago Area are the unusual mildness of the winter, and the presence of the Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker. You may say the former, the mildness, is something meteorological and not ornithological, but yet it is true, since meteorology, the weather, plays an intimate part in the lives of birds, although not always in the manner popularly supposed. The last fall and the present winter, at this writing hurrying to its end, are certainly notable for the high temperature, the great proportion of sunshine, the paucity of storms, and the small amount of rain and snow. Lest anyone say that this is only a little meteorological enthusiasm otherwise called imagination, as so many of our weather remembrances really are, let me quote from the official summaries of our Chicago weather bureau—it deserves to be here placed on record. To go back as far as October. "The mean temperature for the month, 61.9° was the highest October mean recorded since the station was established in 1871. Mild weather was continuous from the 3rd to the 27th. Precipitation was about three-fifths of the normal. Sunshine was above the normal. Of 19 clear days, 13 occurred in succession. As a whole, November was mild with only light precipitation. The mean temperature, 40.2° , was 1° above normal. In December moderate temperature prevailed throughout the first half of the month, etc. The maximum was 62° on the 3rd., the minimum— 4° on the 28th. No severe storms occurred, with the exception of a period extending from the 13th to the 15th. January, as a whole, was mild and dry, with no severe storms. Aside from one moderately cold period, 12th to 17th inclusive, every day was about the seasonal average in temperature, the excess ranging from 15° — 26° in 9 days. The total precipitation, amounting to 0.97 inch, was less than one-half, and the total snowfall, 3.2 inches, less than one-third of the normal. There was an unusually large amount of sunshine, 100% of the possible amount being recorded in 7 days. In February mild, dry weather prevailed during most of the month. The mean temperature, 33.4° , was 8° above normal, and this was the sixth successive month with a mean temperature abnormally high. The absolute maximum of 66° on the 15th exceeds all previous February records. The month ranks as the third driest February in 51 years, and the total snowfall, 0.3 inch is the least. However, the small snowfall for the entire winter to Feb. 28th, 9.4 inches, likewise breaks all previous records." All this is quoted with many omissions.

The second feature named above, the presence of the Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker, is also remarkable. Ordinarily he stays summer and winter in his northern home, rarely going as far south as this, because his food, the larvae of wood-boring beetles, is found in winter as well as summer. But this past season these woodpeckers have appeared in some numbers here. Last year we had the Bohemian Waxwing, another rare northern excentric visitor, the years before the equally erratic Evening Grosbeak, and now the Three-toed fellow, thus putting some excitement into the

lives of local ornithologists, making them ask:—"What's next?" The first one was noticed near Bowmanville in October, despite the mildness of the season, in November several were seen in Evanston by Mr. and Mrs. Pattee, others were seen by Mr. C. C. Sanborn, and at several places in the Dunes, at Mineral Springs and Dune Park by Mr. H. Stoddard, and at Millers (three) by the writer.

In such a mild winter as this last one, ushered in by an equally mild fall, one would expect some of our hardier summer residents such as Robins, Flickers, Meadowlarks, Blackbirds, Killdeer, and others to remain here in numbers, or at least their successors in the migration that take their places for a few days with us during fall, or that many of the hardier migrants such as the Myrtle Warbler, Fox and White-throated Sparrows, Rusty Grackles, etc., would do so. But this has not been the case to any marked degree, except in that favored corner of our area, at LaGrange, and Hinsdale to Willow Springs. Here, as in other years, "flocks" of Robins and numbers of Meadowlarks found it more congenial than just a few miles farther north, and stayed all winter—precisely why it is hard to say. The one exception, that is a species that this winter remained with us in some numbers, is the Song Sparrow. That has been reported by several observers from several localities. December 19th it was seen at Palos by Mr. Paul, January 8th in Jackson Park by Mrs. P. B. Coffin, on the 25th at River Forest by the writer, also on February 6th and 28th as well as on the 14th by Miss E. Craigmile. But this seems to be shared in by a large part of North America. The writer was struck by the frequent occurrence of the Song Sparrow in the last Christmas bird census published in "Bird Lore." He counted up and found that out of 78 reports from Canada, the New England states, New York, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, the Song Sparrow is given in 39 of the lists, from as far north as the Ottawa River in Ontario, Canada, where the writer in six years never found it in winter, although once a flock of Robins remained.

Among the birds that tarried longer than usual last fall, or intended to stay all winter, or that came here from the south much earlier than in other years, or are at least notable, the following have been reported: Two belated Black-bellied Plovers and a Pigeon Hawk were seen at Beach, by Mr. C. C. Sanborn. The latter rather rare in our area. A late Night-hawk was seen in the Dunes by Mr. H. Stoddard, who also saw several Harris Sparrows, a western migrant which lately seems to come thus far east more regularly than formerly. On December 26th Mr. Gregory saw a belated Lincoln's Sparrow at Beach, as well as a Northern Shrike. Beach is a great place for rarities, rivalling the Dunes in this respect. Here also the most unexpected find of the season was made, a Black-crowned Night Heron in immature plumage. This was shot January 4th by a would-be hunter who was promptly apprehended by the ever alert game warden of that district, Mr. J. F. Kern, who brought him to trial, and a fine of \$25.00 was assessed against him.

Willow Springs yielded another Northern Shrike, a Saw-Whet Owl and a Red-headed Woodpecker. Mr. DeLanbenfels of LaGrange reported the Brown Creeper for January 8th. This was also seen at River Forest, in Thatcher's Woods, February 6th and 20th. A Flicker stayed at Arlington

Heights throughout the winter, others were seen at Beach and Mineral Springs. The first evident migrant Flicker the writer has seen came sharp at noon on March 11th when he lit on a telephone pole above a Flicker nesting hole, calling lustily at the top of his voice, as if he wanted to say: "I am here!" The last Sparrow Hawk the writer heard were opposite his house on November 7th. The next one he saw was Feb. 12th at Lyons, the next was seen on the 22nd by Miss E. Craigmile at River Forest. Another unusual winter record for these parts is the Fox Sparrow, seen by the writer Jan. 18th at River Forest, in Thatcher's Woods, and again February 1st and 25th. Species like the Tree Sparrow and Junco were, of course, with us in somewhat greater number than usual, although why much larger numbers were not tempted by the mild weather to remain, is hard to tell.

Now comes the Robin. Not counting the "flocks" reported from LaGrange and Hinsdale, the first one was seen Feb. 1st at Beach by Mr. Douglas, the next at River Forest on the 5th, another at Oak Park on the 6th. These may have been stragglers from LaGrange. What appeared to be a little flock of real migrants was seen by the writer at River Forest Feb. 28th where they became common before March 10th. The Bluebirds were also earlier than usual. As early as Jan. 22nd two were seen in the Dunes by Mr. and Mrs. Coffin, no doubt winter residents there for once; February 15th one came into my garden at River Forest; on March 2nd more came, until now—this is March 13th—they are fairly common. The Meadowlark put in an appearance here Feb. 14th when I heard him sing. They were common by March 10th or before. The Redwing came here Feb. 22nd, the Killdeer March 5th, in other parts of our area no doubt even earlier. March 6th the Kingfisher was seen at Palos Park and Feb. 20th a Hermit Thrush in the Dunes. All this seems to show that this year's migration is in its earliest phase two to three weeks ahead of the average season. This does not mean that the entire migration will be pushed so far ahead, no, the chances are that by the time we reach April and May, the dates will be about the average again.

Finally, an interesting shifting of range may be noted. While a pair of Tufted Titmice has been reported now and then from the North Shore for two or three years back, three to four pairs appeared at once this winter in Thatcher's Woods, River Forest, where they were first seen by Miss E. Craigmile all through January and February, also by the writer. On Feb. 24th they were making the woods ring with their pleasing call. This species seems to be the only one making a short migration northward in winter, later withdrawing again a little further south. Let us hope that this new and desirable species will remain to breed and increase in our territory as the Cardinal has done in the last ten years."

Elgin: Mr. B. F. Berryman, President of the Elgin Audubon Society, reports that at the regular monthly meetings there have been from 30 to 75 persons in attendance.

"At these meetings," writes Mr. Berryman, "we always have what we call 'Local Bird Notes', and all the members are expected to tell any interesting things they know about birds. Every meeting during the winter

months Robins have been reported as coming to the feeding shelves. In January a Cardinal was seen in the grove north of Elgin. On January 22nd a flock of fifteen Blackbirds was seen west of Elgin in a Pine Grove. By March 2nd Robins had arrived in flocks, and Bluebirds were singing on March 5th.

Our Society is making every effort to complete the museum for the Spring Opening."

Decatur: Mrs. Benjamin Bachrach, local Secretary of the Illinois Audubon Society for Decatur, reports the organization of the Decatur Bird and Tree Club with over 100 adult members. George M. Proctor is President and Miss Rinnie Bean, Secretary. Mrs. Bachrach is Junior Superintendent and has charge of the organization of junior clubs, one for each school. Each of these clubs is represented in the Bird and Tree Club by four delegates, one parent, one teacher, and two children. Mr. W. B. Olds has given his bird song recital at the Parent-Teacher District Convention and Mrs. Bachrach has given bird talks at several schools, before the Decatur Woman's Club, and certain church societies. Mr. Proctor, who is the Y. M. C. A. Boys' Secretary, directed a bird house contest at the Y. M. C. A. which scored a great success. Seventeen prizes were awarded. The newspapers have given all this work full publicity. One of the papers gave a reproduction on its first page of the lecture announcements of the Illinois Audubon Society, including portions of an advance copy of the article entitled "Checking Up" in another part of this Bulletin. The latter article elicited much interest among bird observers and several interesting responses were printed. That sent in to the Decatur Herald by Forest Breemfield of Bethany is reprinted elsewhere.

Lake Forest: Mr. George Roberts, Jr., writes:

"I have nothing unusual to report for the winter months. My shelf continues to furnish me much delight, but, especially in an open winter such as this, it has brought me nothing but the regular and commoner birds; the Hairy Woodpecker, coming oftener this year to my suet than heretofore. A Robin visited my back door almost every day in January; a lone White-Throated Sparrow was around the house up to November 27th, fully a month after a flock of them suddenly left my yard; Geese flew northward in small flocks as early as the middle of January; and on December 4th, I saw two Doves by the road side a few miles west of here (the identification was unmistakable)."

Miss Alice Jean Patterson writes: I can not remember a winter when we have had so few birds in this locality. The Cardinals have been here all winter, have been singing since the first of February. We have had a few Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers off and on. February 16th, there was a Bluebird on our campus. The earliest date I have before this year is Feb. 22nd. A Robin was reported January 15th. A number of Robins have been reported the last ten days. There was one in our yard the 19th. Two Brown Creepers were seen Feb. 16. That is not unusual. I have seen them here before in February. A Bronzed Grackle arrived March 4th and a large flock, March 8th.

An interesting incident came to my notice the 28th of last September.

A large Blue Heron was brought in that was found dead by the roadside about five miles out in the country. It had broken its neck by striking a band of telephone wires. It was a magnificent specimen of an immature bird.

In regard to the birds that are of interest because of extending their range, I am sure that we have many more Cardinals nesting here than formerly. Ten years ago it was a rare occasion when one saw a Cardinal. For the last three or four years we have had several pairs nesting in the town. We always have numbers of Dickcissels in the open country here. They are among the most abundant birds that frequent the hedge rows along the roadsides. I have found the Yellow-Breasted Chat nesting in but one locality in this area, but have not been able to visit the spot in recent years.

Odin: Mr. C. B. Vandercook writes:

"In view of the fact we have had the mildest winter for a long time, bird life has been scarce. I missed the large flocks of Prairie Horned Larks, Purple Finches and Siskins which usually are here every winter. I saw my first Bluebird for the year Jan. 5th, met three individuals which finally passed on north; also saw six Meadowlarks the same day. I saw a Robin Jan. 7th, one male Bewick's Wren Jan. 13. On Feb. 2nd I saw 4 Robins, 3 Bluebirds and they remained. Feb. 12th the first Killdeer was heard, and has been heard frequently ever since. March 2nd 2 Bronzed Grackles were seen and since have become common. March 6th I saw two Finches, both males, and one Fox Sparrow. Bluebirds, Robins, Meadowlarks and Grackles are now common, (March 13). Other spring arrivals will soon appear as insect life is visible; some dandelions are in bloom and everything begins to look spring like.

I never have had the good fortune to observe the Shrike impale any of its victims. I have seen them catch grasshoppers and devour them, but never as yet a bird or mouse, although I have found quite a few Field Sparrows, short-tailed meadow mice, shrews and grasshoppers impaled on thorns and barbed wire fences, which I supposed the Shrike had placed there. In catching grasshoppers I have seen them hover in the air a few feet above ground and apparently drop down all at once and then fly away to a convenient perch and hold the victim by one foot and pick it to pieces with their bills. Several farmers claim to have seen them catch mice. I am enclosing the statement of one such person whom I believe to be a reliable observer.

The Rose-breasted Grosbeak is a very rare bird with me, it being seen more during spring migration than any other time. I have only found it here twice during the breeding season, so I can offer no information.

I have never observed the Horned Lark delivering his arrival song. The only notes I have been favored with are the ones uttered while perched upon a clod of earth or while flying from one place to another and while feeding in a flock in the winter."

My friend, Mr. W. J. West has the following to say about Shrikes:

"I have observed Shrikes catch mice by pouncing or dropping on them similar to the habit of the hawk and then fly to a near by thicket or brush

and hang its prey in the small fork of the sapling or bush. I have frequently found the prey of these birds hanging as I have above mentioned. My observations were made about the last of February and the first of March in the corn field when hauling out corn fodder."

Olney: Mr. Robert Ridgway sends the following winter notes from Olney: The winter of 1920-21 has been remarkable for its unusual mildness. While December was not notably warmer than the average (only 2° above the normal of 33.7° for thirty-one years), only two Januaries and two Februaries in the thirty-two years during which records of the weather have been kept here were warmer than these months in 1921; the average mean temperature for January being 40.7° in 1890, 37.6° in 1907, and 37.5° in 1921, the average for the thirty-two years being 31.3°; while that of February was 41.3° in 1890, 39.8° in 1892, and 39.4° in 1921, the thirty-two years average being 31.8°.

Compared with the winter of 1917-18, which was much the coldest on record, the average mean for December being 22.4°, that for January 13.2°, and for February 31.3°, the difference in bird life was very slight indeed, the only noteworthy features being the abundance of the White-crowned Sparrow, and the constant presence of small numbers of the Crow, Blackbird (Bronzed Grackle) and Robin.

Grass on lawns and pastures has been visibly green all winter, and on February 16th, I gathered, out-of-doors, flowers of the Forsythia, Yellow Jessamin, Japanese Witch-Hazel, and English (Sweet) Violet, some trees of the red and silver Maples being in bloom at the same time. Now (March 8) the Forsythia (*F. Suspensa*) is in full bloom, Jonquils and Fragrant Honeysuckle are in flower, and the flowers of the Red and Silver Maples and Common Elm are dropping. A flock of about thirty Canada Geese flew over, going northward, on February 4th. Hylas were piping on February 5th, and on the 13th Doves were cooing, Robins, Bluebirds, Cardinals, and Meadowlarks were singing and Flickers uttering their mating calls.

While Crow Blackbirds have been present in small number all winter, they did not arrive "in full force" until March 5th, on which date large numbers of Red-Winged Blackbirds came, the males in full song. The Blue Jay is unusually numerous, dozens infesting our grounds each day, and between them, the Blackbirds, and English Sparrows, I have a difficult problem before me, because these pests must be driven off or exterminated before the nesting season commences. Our troubles in this line are materially increased by the uninvited presence on our grounds of eight Albino Grey Squirrels (pure white, with pink eyes). I do not like to kill them, yet they must be disposed of in some way or we shall have no increase in the birds on our place. As a bird destroyer, the Gray Squirrel is near the head of the list, for no nest is secure from his discovery, and this means the devouring of eggs or young. (Last summer Mrs. Ridgway caught one of these rascals "red-handed," while engaged in the destruction of a brood of young catbirds).

The known history of these Albino Gray Squirrels may be of interest. Several years ago a brood of young Gray Squirrels, all perfect albinos (it is not known whether the parents were albinos or not) was discovered in the woods near Claremont, a village about six miles east of Olney. They

were brought to Olney, and eventually liberated in a small piece of woods at the north edge of town. There they thrived and increased to such an extent that they are now to be seen in all parts of the town, no less than eight having made their way to our grounds, on the opposite (south) side of Olney. The significant point about these Albino Squirrels is the fact that they "breed true." All that I have seen are complete albinos.

Returning to the subject of the Blue Jay, Crow Blackbird, and English Sparrow; I often wonder why it is that these birds, liked by few and persecuted by many, continue to increase in number, while birds beloved by all who care for birds at all, either barely "hold their own" or decrease in number. The Cardinal, for example, which was so numerous during the winter of 1919-20 that we fed, daily, between twenty-five and thirty, is represented on our place this year by less than half that number. The decrease was first noticed during the nesting season of 1920.

The presence throughout the winter, in large numbers, of a bird (the White Crowned Sparrow) that usually spends the cold season farther south, raises the question whether these birds could have possessed previous knowledge that the coming winter was to be a mild one. That some wild creatures are able to foretell changes in the weather, at least, has been proven to our satisfaction by a big Fox Squirrel whose "den" is in a hole high off in the big elm tree near our house. When he descends from his nest to the ground to feed, on friendly terms with the birds, he is in full view from our dining room window, from which we daily observe him. On several occasions he has been seen to gather mouthfuls of dead leaves from the ground and ascend the tree to his nest, evidently knowing that they would be needed to keep him warm, for invariably a "change" came the next day. We therefore look upon him as a "weather prophet" to be depended on.

Port Byron: Mr. J. J. Schafer reports as follows:

The coldest weather we had here this winter was on Dec. 28th, when it was 12° below zero. The rest of the winter was mild, the ground being bare most of the time. Last year the fall migration ended in December. The last Blackbirds and Goldfinches were heard December 1st and the last Meadowlark was seen December 7th.

Birds seen on the Mississippi River this winter were the Herring Gull, American Merganser, Red-Breasted Merganser and the American Golden-eye. The Mergansers were not as numerous as last winter. On Jan. 12th a flock of ducks was seen flying southeast; they were probably Mergansers or Golden-eyes. A friend of mine saw a pair of Mallards in a creek between Port Byron and Cordova, about Feb. 7th. On Feb. 10th the first flock of Pintails was seen flying north. Some people living on Rock River Bottom, reported seeing a large flock of Canada Geese flying north about Jan. 5th.

A Sharp-Shinned Hawk was seen Jan. 5th and a Sparrow Hawk was heard calling on Feb. 9th and 11th. A few Rough-Legged Hawks were here all winter. A neighbor reported seeing a very large hawk with a white head (Bald Eagle) circling above a piece of timber in which he was chopping wood, about Dec. 15th. Not many Bobwhites were seen. On Dec. 9th, a covey of twelve came into the houseyard, and Dec. 16th, the

same covey was seen in the garden. On Feb. 13th, while taking a bird walk, I found two small coveys.

This is the first winter that I did not frequently hear the Screech Owls call, and thought there were none about, but on the evening of Jan. 11th one was fluttering against a window in the attic of an old building near the house. I had left the door of the old building open on the previous day, and the Screech Owl had gone in during the night, and up the open stairway into the attic where we have our seed corn hanging, and was probably trying to catch some mice. I opened one of the attic windows and let it escape. Its plumage was rufous, and it certainly was beautiful. On the morning of Jan. 14 my brother found a dead Screech Owl in the basement of our barn. There is a trap door in the floor of the upper part of the barn, which was kept open all winter, until a few days before the dead Owl was found, when it was closed. The Screech Owl had been going up into the haymow to catch mice, and when the trap door was closed, it starved to death in the basement. This owl's plumage was gray. Great Horned Owls were common and could be heard hooting every night.

There were no Red-headed Woodpeckers here this winter, and we were glad of it. Hairy and Red-bellied Woodpeckers were common, and the Downy Woodpecker was abundant. On the afternoon of Jan. 20th, we were surprised to hear the mournful call of the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. The call came from a near-by walnut tree, and upon going to the tree, we found it to be a female Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, the first one seen here in the winter.

Prairie Horned Larks were common all winter, and were first heard singing Jan. 9th. The usual number of Blue Jays and Crows, never very many, were seen and heard. Tree Sparrows and Juncos were very rare, only two or three of each species came to my feeding shelf. A Tree Sparrow was heard singing the first time Jan. 6th and the Juncos commenced to sing Feb. 28th. Cardinals were rare; one came to my feeding shelf the first time on Jan. 23rd and was heard calling the first time on Feb. 3rd. Brown Creepers are always rare here during the winter. On December 16th one was seen on a maple tree beside our kitchen, but none was seen at the feeding shelf. White-breasted Nuthatches were common; one pair comes to our feeding shelf every winter. Only a few Tufted Titmice were seen and heard. On Feb. 1st and 4th I succeeded in calling one up to the house, but it would not go onto the feeding shelf. They are very easy to call if a person imitates them. Chickadees were common, and six of them came to my feeding shelf.

On the morning of Feb. 18th, the first Bluebird came to our place, and on the morning of Feb. 28th the first Meadowlark was heard. At dusk on the evening of March 1st, a Killdeer was heard calling, and the next morning one was seen in a near-by pasture. On March 2nd, a Blackbird was heard while flying over, and about six Robins were seen. On March 3rd, the temperature ranged from 22° to 37°, and on March 4th from 28° to 65°, but there were no new arrivals on those two days. As I finish these bird notes on the morning of March 5th, it is nice and warm, the temperature was 52° at 7 A. M. and the following named species were heard singing near the house: Prairie Horned Lark, Meadowlark, Tree

Sparrow, Cardinal, Tufted Titmouse, Chickadee, Robin, and Bluebird. Other birds heard calling were the Blue Jay, Crow, and Hairy Woodpecker.

Quincy: Mr. T. E. Musselman sends the following records, under date of March 4:

Our all-winter inhabitants were Downy, Hairy, and Red-Bellied Woodpeckers, Tufted Titmouse, Chickadee, Horned Lark, Blue Jay, Brown Creeper, Redbirds (a hundred a day was not unusual in a country trip). Long Island in the Mississippi sheltered Flickers, Red-Headed, and Northern Pileated woodpeckers, the first two in quantities. Quail, Juncos, Tree and Song Sparrows, Carolina Wren, and Golden-crowned Kinglets (which are uncommon during the winter time during most seasons), Sparrow, Red-tailed and Marsh Hawks were common. Crows used Quincy as a crow roost as usual, thousands coming in every night to roost. Mallards and Golden-eyes were on the river all winter. Feb. 10th Robins and Bluebirds arrived. Feb. 13th Meadowlark; Feb. 14th Killdeer; Feb. 15th Phoebe and many flocks of Robins numbering fifty to a hundred in each flock were flying over; Feb. 26th Cedar Waxwings. I find the season from three weeks to a month earlier than the average.

Rockford: From Rockford Mr. Paul B. Riis writes as follows:

"The open winter no doubt has deprived this region of the several interesting winter visitants, which of later years were wont to spend a few short weeks with us. Thus the American Crossbill, Horned Lark, Snow-bunting, Tree Sparrow, Purple Finch and Evening Grosbeak were not recorded with the exception of the last three mentioned. The Red-Breasted Nuthatch and Winter Wren, too, were little seen, and the Junco and Chickadee appeared less abundant. Naturally one would be led to believe that a mild season would induce other species of short migratory habits to stay on to fill the void. To the contrary, there are no reports of Song Sparrow, Redwinged Blackbirds, Red-Headed Woodpeckers or Kingfishers but the Blue Jays stayed behind in full force. There also appeared to be many Prairie Horned Larks at all times.

In the absence of the rarer winter visitants, one's attention centers on such species as remain to us. Thus it has been noted (with satisfaction) that the Cardinal is more generally distributed over our entire region, (Winnebago County) than ever before. This bird is a comparative newcomer here, dating its first appearance back less than a decade. The Tufted Titmouse, a contemporaneous arrival of the Cardinal (with one nesting record), has in the past been seen by a favored few. Reports this winter show single birds in many parts of the city, in fact their unusual prevalence has been a matter of considerable comment. The Red-bellied Woodpecker also has been continuously recorded for the largest part of the winter by one observer. Observations taken at all seasons excepting June, July and August, its repeated recurrence in central localities and at one time in September in company with two young birds, lead one to suspect this species to be a permanent resident. Dr. Ruth Marshall reports for February 7 several Evening Grosbeaks. One bird lover, especially favored by the gods, records from early December until a few days ago such regular boarders at the feeding station yard as a pair of Cardinals, a pair of Golden-crowned Kinglets, one Tufted Titmouse, one Red-Bellied Wood-

pecker and occasionally a Red-breasted Nuthatch, besides the many regular winter residents. Robins have been reported off and on for the last four weeks. There are a number of these as well as Bluebirds here now (March 5). The Fox Sparrow with the earliest local record of March 6th arrived this year February 22nd.

It is rather singular that with the proximity of the Wisconsin lakes, the nesting grounds of the Yellow-Headed Blackbird, that but three reports of this bird are a matter of record with the local Nature Study Society. There appears in the publication "Birds of Rockford and Vicinity" one each for May 6th, July 10th and October 7th. The first record is of a bird north of the city, apparently migrating and completely exhausted; another for July 10th by an observer now in California, and the last one by the author of "Three Migrating Birds," Oct. 7th.

Madison, Wis., is but 75 miles distant. The Yellow-Headed Blackbird is known to nest thereabouts, yet the species is rarely seen here, though sufficiently large and conspicuous to attract attention. No doubt our city is passed at night during the initial migratory flight south, but the northward movement nearing the end of the journey nets no more records and offers little whereon to base deductions.

The Western Meadowlark has been variously reported for this region for a number of years. Its early spring record is March 25th and fall, November 7th. Naturally the unusual song of the bird attracted early attention, the bird making its first known appearance north of Rockford, following its southward spread through the valley of the Rock River. Since the days of its advent in 1913, the bird has steadily spread east, west and south. We have noted it everywhere in Winnebago County, also have noted it in Walworth and Rock County, Wisconsin, Boone, Ogle and Stephenson County in Illinois, these counties surrounding our Winnebago County. It has been noted in these columns that this species is interbreeding with the Meadowlark, the resulting song clearly denoting the parental influence. This hybrid should furnish considerable interest to the scientist.

The Yellow-Breasted Chat of which there are a few scattering records for the past years appears to have been more numerous in years gone by. Mrs. Charles T. Sackett was so fortunate as to record its nesting here for many years up to 1909. The chosen nesting grounds were in close proximity to a clear running creek, heavily wooded, near a heronry of the Black-Crowned Night Heron. This bird paradise, known as the "Crows Nest," is situated 5 miles north west of Rockford and is little disturbed, though thousands of crows roost near by.

The Dickcissel has a local record of May 1st—August 24th. It is one of the latest arriving of all the Sparrows but is not especially abundant, many observers closing their field books at the end of the year without entering a single record.

Waterloo: Mr. H. I. Featherley, Teacher of Agriculture, writes:

"With the co-operation of the superintendent and teachers of the public school here, we have organized a Junior Audubon Society with 140 members. It is organized as a part of their regular nature study class work,

and the teachers have charge of the bird study in their respective rooms. The teachers and I have planned to take the pupils on several hikes for the purpose of identifying and studying the birds in their natural homes. There is a prize offered in each room to the pupil who builds the best bird house in his room and a prize to the one who builds the best bird house in the school. The members of the society are bubbling over with enthusiasm over the organization.

It seems to me that if every school would organize a Junior Audubon Society that we would soon see a marked increase in bird life. We can do more by educating the child than we can by reforming the adult.

Two House Wrens have remained here all winter and another some 20 miles north of here has also. I couldn't say positively whether the Blue Birds remained all winter, but there were some here in January."

Waukegan: Mr. Wm. I. Lyon writes: By March 10 practically all the earlier birds of the season had arrived. The first migrant observed was a Bronzed Grackle and the date was February 25. Two days later 6 Robins appeared together with a Flicker and a flock of Redwings. On the same day I saw the White-breasted Nuthatch for the first time, it having been absent from my feeding shelf all winter. March 2, Bluebirds and Song Sparrows were about. Meadowlarks and Killdeers were plentiful by March 5. Two or three days later I found a flock of Sparrows I could not identify. March 10 one member of the flock came into my banding trap and I identified it as a Savannah Sparrow.

Winnetka: John H. Sutter, reports the bird arrivals as much earlier than usual. Meadowlarks seemed to be in full force by March 6th with Robins, Bluebirds, and Golden-crowned Kinglets in evidence.

Bird Pictures and Picture Mounts

A library of bird pictures, each mounted separately and in attractive form, is a valuable asset for home and school room. On separate mounts the pictures are much more available for class reference and comparison than if bound together in a book, and they can be used with striking effect in a single frieze or a series of friezes during the weeks when interest in bird movements is at its highest. The pictures can be massed to good purpose on class room walls or on wide space in halls to serve as a sort of calendar of events. The following photographs show how Elm Place School of Highland Park accomplishes this.







Since the above lists are temporary only, by April 1 two other lists are begun, one for Summer Residents, and another for those gone North for the Summer, and to these transfers are made from time to time until they include all the birds that have been observed during the year.



In transferring pictures to the summer resident list there is a chance to encourage accurate observation and deduction, and to add from year to year to the authentic local list of resident birds, this to be framed up and placed in a permanent position. Such a list is sure to receive attention, whether it is hung in a school corridor or in the public library. The aim for each local list should be to record accurate nesting data with dates and specific details for each bird on the list.



The Mumford Pictures

The well-known Mumford bird pictures are the most widely known and usually the most available. Four hundred species of birds are represented each by a colored plate seven inches by nine inches. These are for the most part from photographs of stuffed specimens. Their publication began in 1897, since which time many millions have been distributed. Last year (1920) the publisher, Mr. A. W. Mumford of Chicago, sold three million copies, this being the 23rd year of their publication. It would not be easy to exaggerate the importance of the service these pictures have performed in awakening an interest in bird life. They have appeared as inserts in magazines and in standard works on bird life, and they have been distributed in practically every city and village in the United States and Canada. They are doubtless to be found in every country on the globe. In the course of publication more than \$60,000.00 was spent in plates and the business success of the enterprise does not lessen the credit due the publisher for so important a contribution to the study of bird life. The great usefulness of the pictures, however, does not justify overlooking some very serious defects. In many instances poorly prepared and mounted specimens were photographed against crude and inharmonious backgrounds and thus sorry looking portraits of some of the most beautiful forms of bird life have been produced and, as it were, standardized by their wholesale distribution. On the other hand pictures like that of the passenger pigeon are almost flawless representations of the living birds.

The N. A. A. S. Pictures

Some years ago the National Association of Audubon Societies began the publication of bird pictures in color to accompany the text of their educational leaflets. These pictures are five and one-half inches by eight and one-half inches and up to the present time one hundred of them have been published. These pictures are reproductions of water color studies of bird life by such artists as Fuertes, and Horsfall and Ned Sawyer, and with a few exceptions exemplify the highest achievement of printing in color. In contrast with the Mumford pictures these pictures show the

advantage the artist with brush and pencil has over the taxidermist in rendering the mood as well as the characteristic pose of the bird. They are portraits of living birds. As the N. A. A. S. places its emphasis upon the distribution of its leaflets with their accurate and fresh presentation of data relating to the habits and economic status of the birds, it is the policy of the Society not to sell the pictures apart from the leaflets. These with the pictures cost five cents each. They may be obtained by addressing the Society at 1974 Broadway, New York City.

The New York Pictures

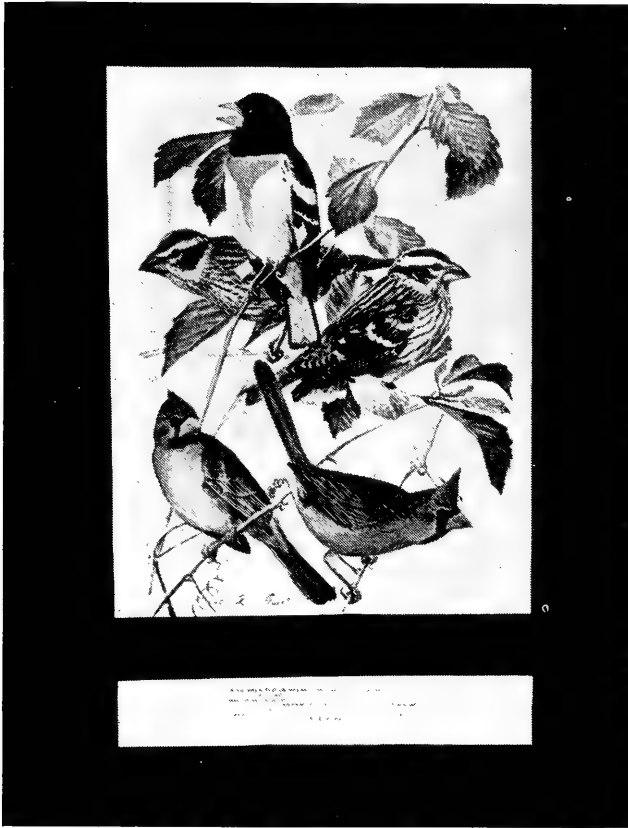
The New York State Museum at Albany issues portfolios containing 106 plates of bird pictures, these being reprints from the plates used in Eaton's large work entitled "The Birds of New York" published in two volumes by the state in 1916. Reproduced from original paintings by Louis Agassiz Fuertes, these plates represent the finest achievement of this, today, the foremost artist of bird life. The plates are nine inches by twelve inches and in the series are included the pictures of 320 birds that breed within or visit the state of New York. Each plate represents a group of birds of related species. For this portfolio of 106 plates the State Museum asks only one dollar. This is an extraordinary bargain. For purposes of study and comparison these group pictures are the best for the class room.

Below are reproduced photographs of each of the three prints described above. As these are on the same scale, the relative sizes of the prints are preserved. The photographs illustrate the style of mounting the prints.

Mounting Bird Pictures

An 8-ply olive-green cardboard mount is recommended. This color, or even a darker one, is good for a background and does not show finger prints. The margins of the pictures are trimmed away and the titles re-mounted below with due regard to correct spacing. Mounting board can be ordered from the printer or from a wholesale paper house. It comes in sheets 22 by 28 inches and should be cut at the printing office into 11 by 14 inch mounts for the New York pictures or 7 1-3 by 9 1-3 inch mounts for the Mumford prints and the N. A. A. S. prints.

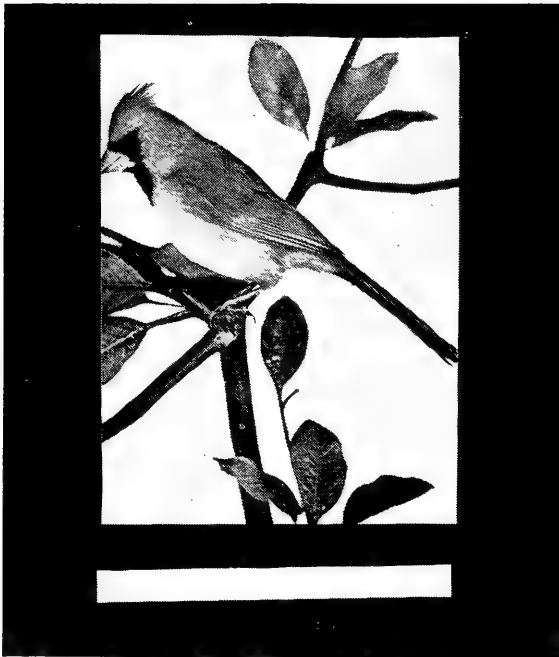
Flour paste can be used in pasting pictures to mounts. In the process one must not neglect to moisten the reverse side of the mount with a rag or a sponge. This forestalls the inevitable warping of the mount when paste is applied to one side only. The entire underside of the picture should be pasted to the mount. The best and quickest way of mounting pictures involves the use of mending tissue which is a sort of sheet gutta percha. It can be bought at a tailor's supply house and comes in yard widths and in any length desired. The wholesale price is around twenty-five cents a square yard. The picture to be mounted is laid on its face and mending tissue is spread over the back, leaving only a tiny margin exposed. The tissue can be in one piece or in any number of pieces laid side by side. With one's finger nail the tissue can be creased to make it adhere temporarily to the back of the picture. The picture is then placed on the mount in the desired position, a sheet of clear paper is spread over it, and the whole surface is smoothed with a hot iron. This melts the



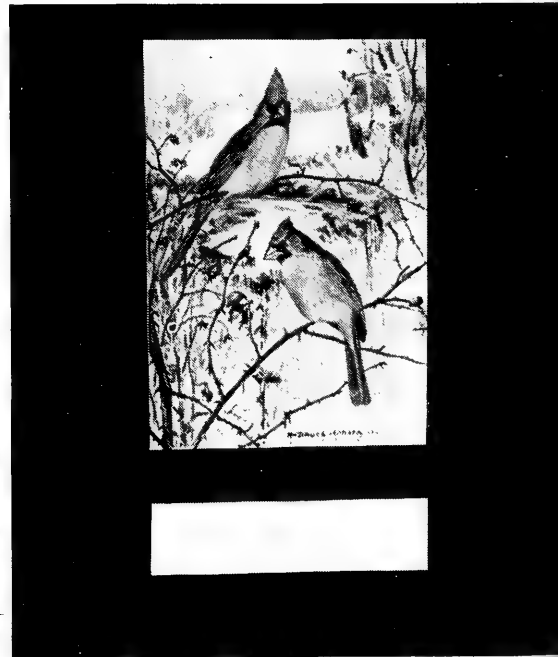
NEW YORK PICTURE

tissue and causes the picture to adhere firmly and smoothly to the mount. Allowing a fair price for tissue and mounting board, a set of the New York pictures can be purchased and mounted at a total cost of six cents each; a Mumford set at five cents each, and a N. A. A. S. set at eight cents each.

Photographs of the New York pictures, the National Association of Audubon Societies, and the Mumford pictures, reproduced on the same scale to show the relative sizes of the prints. The New York pictures are on mounts 11 by 14 inches. The two smaller mounts are $9\frac{1}{3}$ by $9\frac{1}{3}$ inches. Margins are trimmed away and titles remounted.



MUMFORD PICTURE



N. A. A. S. PICTURE

THE Illinois Audubon Society recommends the organization of Junior Audubon Societies under one or the other of the following plans:

First plan: Organize under the auspices of the National Association of Audubon Societies and take advantage of the special offer to pupils made possible by generous patrons of the Society. Each member paying ten cents will receive a set of six educational leaflets with colored pictures and outline drawings for coloring with crayons. Each member will also receive the Audubon button which represents a badge of membership in a Junior Audubon class. Each teacher who organizes a class of twenty or more receives a year's free subscription to *Bird-Lore*, the official organ of the Association. Address the Secretary, 1974 Broadway, New York City.

Second plan: Organize under the auspices of the Illinois Audubon Society. Each pupil is to pay fifteen cents for a copy of "Fifty Common Birds of Farm and Orchard" published by the United States Government, copies to be obtained either from the Secretary of the Illinois Audubon Society or by sending directly to the Superintendent of Documents at Washington, D. C. To each member of a group provided with this beautifully illustrated bulletin the Illinois Audubon Society will give without charge the Audubon button of membership in the Illinois Society and will send to the leader of the group for a period of one year all the publications and special notices of the Society together with an illustrated certificate showing that the group is a member of the Illinois Audubon Society. Teachers wishing to enroll pupils under local plans may obtain Audubon buttons for two cents each.

Address the

Illinois Audubon Society

10 South La Salle Street

CHICAGO

The
Audubon Bulletin
Fall 1921



Published by
THE ILLINOIS
AUDUBON
SOCIETY

Illinois Audubon Society Service

The Society has two collections of hand-colored lantern slides of bird life, each with an accompanying printed lecture. These are lent free of charge to any school or organization in the state but borrower pays express charges both ways.

The Society has travelling libraries of bird books which are lent to schools or organizations for a reasonable length of time, the borrower paying express charges both ways.

The Society publishes wall charts listing 200 typical Illinois birds and providing suitable spaces for recording migration and nesting data. Schools, Boy Scout organizations, and individuals as well find these of great service. Price ten cents each.

The Society has in press a pocket check list of birds with colored zonal maps. This list records every known species of birds that visits Illinois or nests within its borders. Send in applications for copies of the first edition.

The Society publishes the Langdon Cat Circular which is invaluable in arousing interest in the question of protecting birds from marauding cats. Price five cents each.

The Society issues an illustrated postal in the Italian language warning against violation of laws for bird protection. Price two cents each.

Address The Illinois Audubon Society,

1649 The Otis Building, Chicago

President
Mr. Orpheus M. Schantz
10 S. La Salle Street, Chicago

Secretary-Treasurer
Miss Catherine Mitchell
Riverside

Vice-President
Mr. Jesse Lowe Smith
Highland Park

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

Application for Membership

Understanding the aims and principles of the Illinois Audubon Society, and being in sympathy with them, I wish to become a..... member of the Society.

Name.....

Address.....

Date.....

Classes of Membership

Active memberships	.	\$1.00.	Annually
Contributing memberships	.	\$5.00.	Annually
Sustaining memberships	.	\$25.00.	No annual dues
Life memberships	.	\$100.00.	No annual dues
Benefactor	.	\$500.00.	No annual dues
Patron	.	\$1000.00.	No annual dues

All members receive the publications of the Society.

Please sign this card and send it with the fee to the Illinois Audubon Society
1649 Otis Bldg., Chicago

FORM OF BEQUEST

I DO HEREBY GIVE AND BEQUEATH TO THE ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF WILD BIRDS (Incorporated), of the State of Illinois.

(over)

To carry out its aggressive program, the Illinois Audubon Society must increase its membership. Out of a population of nearly six millions, Illinois should have at least ten thousand people who are enough interested in bird life to help the Society in its conservation efforts. Will you not help us expand our usefulness?

I suggest for membership in the Illinois Audubon Society the persons whose names appear on the other side of this sheet.

Signed.....
Member of the Illinois Audubon Society

May we use your name?

} Yes
} No

The Aims and Principles of the Illinois Audubon Society are:

- 1st. To encourage the study of birds, particularly in the schools and to disseminate literature relating to them.
 - 2nd. To work for the betterment and enforcement of State and Federal laws relating to birds.
 - 3rd. To discourage the wearing of any feathers except those of the ostrich and domestic fowls.
 - 4th. To discourage, in every possible way, the wanton destruction of wild birds and their eggs.
 - 5th. To restore to our wild birds wherever practicable, the natural environment of forest and shrubbery which gave them food, protection and seclusion.
-

Needs

The Illinois Audubon Society depends for its support upon the contributions of its members and friends. It should have an income from a moderate endowment sufficient to meet all fixed expenses.

¶ The present income is totally inadequate to meet the urgent and incessantly growing demands.

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY, Inc.
1649 OTIS BUILDING - - CHICAGO

(OVER)

Name.....

Address.....

Name.....

Address.....

Name.....

Address.....

Name.....

Address.....

Name.....

Address.....

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AN OUTLAW AND TWO OF HIS FRIENDS

Photo by A. A. Allen

THE INTELLIGENCE AND INFINITE VARIETY OF THE CROW MAKE HIM A VERY INTERESTING ADJUNCT OF THE HOUSEHOLD. AS A FREE CITIZEN OF OUT-OF-DOORS, HE IS CLASSIFIED DIFFERENTLY. THINK OF BEING PRESENT AT A SENATE OF THESE CHOICEST SPIRITS OF THE BIRD CREATION! WHAT INTRIGUES AND BANDYING ABOUT OF WISE SAWS AND MODERN INSTANCES THERE MUST BE! WHAT GRAND SPORT THEY HAVE IN WINTER WHEELING IN GREAT FLOCKS ABOUT THE SKY AND DROPPING DOWN THROUGH THE SUNSET GLOW INTO THE GLOOM OF THEIR NESTING PLACES IN SOME TALL PINES, ADDING SABLE TONES TO SOMBER. THERE MUST BE A GREAT EXCHANGE OF WIT TOGETHER WITH MUCH CAUSTIC COMMENT AND EVEN COLORFUL INVECTIVE AS THE PROCESS OF ADJUSTMENT TO POSITION AMONG THE TREE TOPS GOES ON, FOR HERE RANK AND DIGNITY AND OTHER INVIDIOUS, NOT TO SAY OFFENSIVE, DISTINCTIONS MUST BE CONSIDERED ALONG WITH GROSS BODILY COMFORT. BUT A PONDEROUS EQUILIBRIUM AT LENGTH IS REACHED AND REVEILLE AT EARLY DAWN FINDS THEM FORTH ON BRAVE ADVENTURE.

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN

FALL 1921

Published by the
ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
(For the protection of wild birds)

The President of the Illinois Audubon Society writes:

Although this Fall 1921 Bulletin appears so late that the winter birds are gathering about the feeding shelves and northern visitors like the pine grosbeak are venturing into Illinois territory, its appearance has an air of timeliness for it coincides with the opening of the Fourth Annual Exhibition of Nature Studies at the Art Institute in Chicago. In this exhibit the Illinois Audubon Society has a part and the opening lecture is being given by its representative, Dr. Thomas S. Roberts, who comes on from the University of Minnesota to give his lecture, "*Wild Life Studies in Motion Pictures.*" The full program of the Exhibition appears elsewhere in this Bulletin.

This, like preceding issues of the Bulletin, has its varied message. News from woodland, roadside and meadow is as usual given a large place. It is upon the detailed reports from good observers in the field that bird literature of originality and real worth must be based. Three pages are devoted to the school program and organization of bird clubs, and to announcements of aids to bird study. Another installment of notes about bird banding appears and fascinating glimpses of bird biography and travel are given. From one correspondent comes the very suggestive record of a local bird census which is worth careful study.

When the last issue of the Bulletin was mailed the legislature was in session and measures relating to state parks and to desirable amendments to the laws designed to increase the protection accorded to bird life were under consideration. Unfortunately the men of vision in the legislature were not able to control events and no action was taken but the measures advocated are gaining strength with each delay, as various indications in the following pages attest. We are baffled to fight better.

The Board of Directors of the Illinois Audubon Society take pride in calling attention to the membership leaflet which goes out into the mails with this number of the Bulletin. We give warmest welcome to the great number of new members who appear for the first time on our printed list of members.

ORPHEUS MOYER SCHANTZ.

The Illinois Sportsmen's League

In view of the discouraging outcome of the legislative campaign to establish a comprehensive system of state parks for Illinois, it is heartening to note the favorable and aggressive attitude which organizations like the Illinois Sportsmen's League are taking towards this question.

It is significant that a conference of wild life conservationists should be held under the auspices of the Illinois Sportsmen's League in Springfield, during the last session of the Legislature.

It was primarily a meeting of sportsmen but in view of the fact that the organizations of sportsmen there represented stand unequivocally for the protection of non-game and insectivorous birds and for the strict and impartial enforcement of the laws relating to game birds, the President and Vice-President of the Illinois Audubon Society attended the conference and took part in the proceedings. The sportsmen's official organ, known as the Illinois Sportsman and ably edited by the President of the League, Mr. H. C. Norcross of Carlyle, publishes valuable news items and reports relating to the economic importance of bird life. It gives much needed publicity to the conservation work of our game and fish wardens. There is no other agency in Illinois that is more active in enlisting the support of sportsmen for the enforcement of our laws relating to bird life. Mr. Norcross is local correspondent of the Illinois Audubon Society for Carlyle. It should be remembered that nearly every cent spent in Illinois for the protection of non-game birds comes from license fees paid in by sportsmen. The Audubonites are at no expense whatever. This should at least make for friendly consideration on their part of the point of view of the sportsmen when differences of opinion on classification of game arise.

The opening address of the conference delivered by Mr. Norcross emphasized the necessity of setting aside numerous areas in Illinois as refuges for wild life and urged the importance of establishing recreation grounds for the use of sportsmen under state supervision. The most important feature of the conference was the address by Prof. Stephen A. Forbes of the University of Illinois, who summarized the results of investigations of the past two years showing the cumulative and deadly effect upon the plant and animal life of the Illinois River of the systematic pollution of its waters by the wastes of the Chicago drainage canal and the discharges from the sewers along the valley. The statements of Prof. Forbes without comment on his part impressed his hearers with the importance and gravity of the problem of restoring the conditions of health and natural beauty that once prevailed in the Illinois Valley.

Among important resolutions adopted at the conference were the following:

"We favor the establishment by the state of recreation grounds which shall be open to the public for either hunting, fishing, camping, or other outdoor life sports, under proper supervision.

"We pledge our support to the Illinois History Survey and State Forester in their work for the conservation of what is left of our natural forests, and ask the Fifty Second General Assembly to provide the funds necessary for a complete survey of the state.

"We most heartily endorse the plans made for establishing state parks in Illinois as outlined and agreed upon at a conference held in Chicago, all of which has the approval of our Natural History Survey and State Forester.

"We stand for a system of game refuges and resting places for waterfowl, also for the establishment of public shooting grounds, following the Pennsylvania plan as far as possible.

"We ask for an amendment to the present laws which will give the state additional powers in dealing with the pollution of the rivers, streams and other bodies of water in our state, causing the destruction of our fish.

"We believe that wild life conservation should be taught in the public schools of our state and urge the Department of Registration and Education, and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction of Illinois to make provision for such instruction.

"We consider roving dogs and cats one of the greatest existing menaces to our wild game animals and birds, therefore we favor the enactment of a law regulating the same."

The Sportsmen's League had the friendly interest of a number of the legislators and it had some strong talking points in support of certain portions of its program. There was, for example, the report of Warden Bradford of the Department of Game and Fish. This showed that the receipts of the Division for the year ending June 30, 1920, exceeded the expenditures by \$49,486.00. This means that for the payment of salaries and other expenses of the Division not one cent of money obtained by general taxation is used, and that the Division is actually an appreciable source of revenue for the state. In view of this fact the League petitioned the legislature to authorize the use of this excess revenue for the purchase of suitable lands and waters for wild fowl refuges and for the propagation of fish.

The justice and wisdom of this plan are apparent. Only citizens who wish to hunt and fish are taxed to support the Division and it is unfair to them to divert any of the revenue from any other use than that of contributing directly to the hunting and fishing resources of the state. The wisdom of preserving natural areas for the purposes set forth is nowhere questioned.

Well, the best the League could get from the Legislature was a "resolution." Senator J. G. Bardill of Highland and Representative Frank Abbey of Biggsville, who sponsored the measures

of the League, had to be content with the passage of a joint resolution which consisted of four choice whereas-es and an urgent message to the next legislature to do something about it. No excuse was offered for not doing something about it at the time. The idea seemed to be the classic one of letting George do it. None of the other measures advocated by the Sportsmen's League got far enough along even to be referred to George, so there will need to be some more conferences of wild life conservationists and some more efforts to elect legislators who have vision and a love for the common weal.

Records, Regular *and* Periodic

Most of us are quite familiar with the "periodic," but I presume that the periodic bird enthusiast is something that is more uncommon. I can style myself such from the fact that I have frequently kept a very complete record for several months at a time and then made no records for a much longer length of time.

From a survey of my notebook, I find that I have identified approximately two hundred kinds of birds in northern Illinois, mainly in Whiteside County. A few of the entries that I consider to be worthy of note I will mention in the hope that someone may find them of interest also.

I have always found the Woodpecker family full of surprises. The record shows that in the year of 1907, the Red Head remained near Morrison, Ill., during the entire winter, as it did also in 1916. The same winter, the Sapsucker was seen on the tenth of January. The Flicker is frequently found in January and February in this part of the state.

Others that I have observed in winter include the Bronze Grackle, Robin, Song Sparrow, and Golden Crowned Kinglet.

The Blue Grosbeak and the Harris Sparrow both were seen northeast of Morrison, Ill., in the spring of 1909. The same spring gave me my most interesting record. On May 8th, I identified the Clarke Nutcracker. As far as I have been able to ascertain, this is the only record of its appearance in this state.

The analysis of dates when first seen reveals some curious information. May 8th leads by far as my "lucky" day. The tenth is a close second, while the eighteenth is third. This is a summary of the records for fourteen years. The average of dates also gives May 8th as the height of the migration of the Warblers.

I have offered the following dates of "First Seen" as an example of the regularity with which some birds appear:

Year—	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1915	1916	1918	1919
Baltimore												
Oriole—	5—2	5—1	5—8	5—11	5—6	5—11	5—8	5—2	5—1	5—5	5—5	5—8
					1920	1921						
					5—5	5—8						

H. A. MAXWELL, DeKalb.

Bird Geography in the Cook County Forest Preserves

A first entrance into Cook County over any one of the great railways from the south, cannot fail to give the impression of crossing a wide, level and uninteresting plain, at many places sadly in need of drainage. For miles one passes through a vast manufacturing district, ugly and monotonous, with an occasional cat tail or buttonbush swamp indicating the former wet and marshy character of much of the Chicago plain. Glimpses of Lake Michigan on the right relieve the tiresome monotony, but on the left Calumet Lake and its low shores fail to impress the traveler with any possibility of a different physiography.

As the objective of all the railroads is Chicago, unless the visitor goes beyond the city limits he may not be enlightened as to the wonderfully diversified topography of this great county with its 992 square miles of area. He might even live and die a resident of the city without realizing that the Chicago plain is but the entrance to one of the most interesting regions in the



MUD LAKE IN THE PORTAGE TRACT
Photo by O. M. Schantz

State of Illinois, containing within the confines of Cook County beautiful timbered lands and beautiful farms, well watered by two famous streams, the Chicago and Desplaines rivers, and their tributaries. He might never know that on the face of Cook County is legibly visible a unique physiographic history, telling of the successive stages that marked the development of the level plain on which much of the west and south sides of Chicago have been built.



IN THE SAG VALLEY
Photo by O. M. Schantz

The wide valley of the great river that was once the outlet of the ancient lake, the predecessor of Lake Michigan, is distinctly traceable, and it needs very little imagination when looking south from LaGrange to picture this mighty stream filling the present wide Desplaines valley from brim to brim. When the waters of the lake gradually receded to lower levels, the Desplaines and Chicago rivers were formed, and along these streams beautiful woodlands have

gradually grown up, containing a great variety of trees, shrubs, and woody climbing plants, as well as a bewildering carpet of annual and perennial herbaceous plant associations. The adjoining prairie lands have an equally interesting vegetation and on the ridges wonderful oak forests grow, consisting largely of the half dozen common varieties, with occasional specimens of three oaks that have worked their way up from farther south. The flood plains of the streams are timbered with a luxuriant growth of trees that do not mind occasionally having their feet in the water. In time the older ravines and certain favorable fertile lands acquired a fine growth of hard maples and other trees, that gradually come in as the forested areas progress in age and suitable soil. Compared with the total area of the county, it is not surprising that there are still more than 30,000 acres of woodlands. Of these acres 20,000 have become the property of the people for all time.

As bird population is largely determined by the shelter afforded by the forests, and by the available food supply, the wooded areas in Cook County indicate the possibility of an unusual resident and migrant bird life. While it is not probable that the former great flocks of waterfowl will ever be duplicated in the shallow lakes in and bordering the county in the southeast portion, the automatic creation into bird sanctuaries of all the forest preserves, and the construction of artificial lakes, has

attracted many water birds that for years have been almost unknown in this region. This condition and the protection afforded by the migratory bird law, have already made a noticeable difference in the number of birds to be seen. The birds evidently know that they are protected, for the water birds are much easier to approach than when found outside the preserves.

Each type of forest has its own individual attraction. There are prairie groves of many acres in extent, oak ridges, flood plains, marshy tracts bordered by willows and button bush, shallow lakes and ponds and heavily wooded ravines.

There are also large areas being naturally reforested whose copse-like thickets provide ideal conditions for bird life both as to shelter and food. During spring migrations the valleys of the Desplaines, Salt Creek and the north branch of the Chicago River are visited by myriads of Warblers, Vireos, and members of the Sparrow tribe. The Tufted Titmouse, Red-bellied Woodpecker, and Carolina Wren and occasionally the Mockingbird have been noted along the Desplaines river with increasing frequency. The rare Prothonotary Warbler has been found nesting at Riverside in recent years and doubtless nests each year in the county. The Skokie valley of which more than 2000 acres are being added by purchase to the Forest preserves, is particularly adapted to the wants of the Rails, Sandpipers and other shore and wading birds, and thousands of Redwings, Bobolinks, Meadowlarks and Sparrows. The Portage tract south of Riverside, which contains Mud lake, and as its name indicates, is the site of the old portage between the south branch

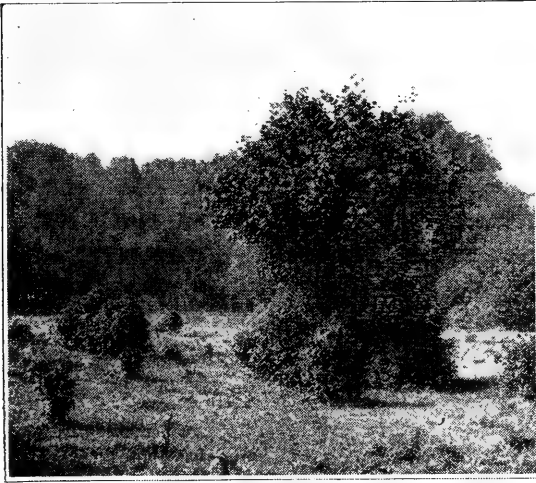
of the Chicago river and the Desplaines, used by pioneer Frenchmen and trappers more than 200 years ago, is an ideal Warbler country. A hawthorn orchard furnishes the insect life desired, and later in the summer the beehive and hourglass hawthorns house in their dense and thorny protection many nests of Thrash-



A PRAIRIE BASIN IN THE MOUNT FOREST AREA
Photo by O. M. Schantz

ers, Catbirds, and Sparrows.

The gorgeous Cardinal arrived from the south more than



HOURGLASS HAWTHORNS IN THE SKOKIE
VALLEY

Photo by O. M. Schantz

20 years ago, and evidently found conditions to its liking, for not only has it stayed on, but it may be found in almost all of the woodlands, along streams, and also in the ravines along the north shore of Lake Michigan, where deep ravines in the Chicago Heights preserve along Thorn Creek giant black walnuts and the northern ranging buckeyes, now peculiarly attractive to the Red Bird.

The famous swallow bank in the loess deposits in Palos Park proves the Bank Swallows' knowledge of a proper nesting site. The entire Sag valley from Palos Park to the Mount Forest ridge is a fertile feeding ground for all the Finches, for in its mucky bottom rag weeds, sunflowers, and other seedbearing weeds and wildflowers grow to perfection.



TROUT PARK, ELGIN, A RESORT FOR WINTER BIRDS

Photo by O. M. Schantz

Somewhere along Salt Creek, north or northeast of La Grange there is a populous Grackle roost, and the procession of birds wheeling in compact flocks on their way in at dusk is

a most interesting sight, frequently lasting without interruption for more than half an hour.

The woodlands on and adjoining the Mount Forest Preserves are the favorite home in summer of the Scarlet Tanager, Great-crested Flycatcher, Towhee, Woodthrush, Vireos and many of the small Flycatchers. In this region, on account of the unusual plant life, insect life is more than ordinarily plentiful. In the narrow strip of woods between the trolley line and the Alton Railroad are at least three spreading colonies of pawpaws, a southern tree here reaching its northern limit in the county. Here is also a large undergrowth of spice bush. In this restricted area are numerous trees of the chestnut oak, a fine specimen of the shingle oak, many walnuts, black ash, hawthorns, and an unusual growth of fine hard maples, besides wild grapes, woodbine, pokeberry, viburnums, prickly ash and other food bearing plants. Across the canal from this preserve and between it and the Desplaines river among the thickets of elderberry and prairie rose, the elusive Chat does its housekeeping. Along the river the Black-crowned Night Heron forages through the day, and at night retires to a secluded roost not far distant.

On the north shore of Lake Michigan the Chickadee nests sparingly. The planting of evergreens in certain suburbs north and west of Chicago in and adjoining Cook County bring down to us each year winter birds from the far north, Pine and Evening Grosbeaks, Crossbills, Bohemian Wax Wings, and the erratic Siskin. Out on the wind-swept cornfields flocks of Longspurs, Snowflakes, Redpolls, and Tree Sparrows rise and sail away when disturbed, like autumn leaves. Just across the county line in Dupage County, a sheltered prairie pond is visited each year by an astonishing number of ducks, geese, mudhens and other waterfowl. On its shores the Short-eared Owl finds good hunting, and Bitterns and Herons wade in the shallow water, finding food in abundance.

Within the scope of this article no effort has been made to enumerate the numbers of varieties of birds that may be identified in the county, but rather to set forth the diversified attractions caused by its topography, and its possibilities for bird conservation following the setting aside of the forests as public domain. This will be more evident from year to year, as has been proven by results so far. The opportunities for bird study are so unusual in Cook County, and the woodland tracts so beautiful and attractive to visit that all who go to the forest preserves should become acquainted with most of our most conspicuous birds, and develop sufficient interest so that their bird acquaintances would include many of the migrants that stop only in their passage between their summer and winter homes.

ORPHEUS MOYER SCHANTZ.

Some Varieties of Sport

When James Oliver Curwood wrote "The Grizzly King" he dedicated the book to fellow hunters with the confession of one who for years hunted and killed before he learned that the wild offered a more thrilling sport than slaughter. He expressed a sincere hope that in his writings he may make others feel and understand that the greater thrill of the hunt is not in killing but in letting live.

The open season again has started a nondescript array of licensed hunters to the fields and forests. With regret we note among them many boys, banded together with but a single rifle or gun among them. The procession loudly invades the unsuspecting landscape, and the wild things, grateful for the unintentional warning, seek cover. Result, poor hunting. But the youths are not to be thwarted. Their license entitles them to hunt, shoot, and kill; therefore, anything and everything must serve as a target. With rare persistence they overlook nothing crawling, running, or flying, and the war of extermination is on.

On a short ramble a few weeks ago along the banks of a picturesque pond we noted a few victims of just such a hunting expedition. Strewn along the wooded shores we found the lifeless bodies of a Yellow-billed Cuckoo, a Woodchuck, a Snapping Turtle, and a little Green Heron. The Cuckoo, invaluable to us because of its partiality to hairy caterpillars, was slain to prove the superiority of marksmanship. The death of the hapless marmot caught off his guard, an outlaw only by virtue of spreading civilization, could hardly atone for the death of the Cuckoo. Nor did it serve any purpose whatsoever to take the inoffensive life of the beautiful creature with the iridescent plumage, the Little Green Heron. How its rare presence along a water course lends the picture charm! It required no prowess or skill to tumble its sharp silhouette from a naked limb. The Snapping Turtle, too, would add to the interest of a limpid pool had its life been spared. The activities of its life cycle are not incompatible with the general scheme of nature.

Quite often our laws are at fault, and legitimize the taking of useful lives. Reference is made especially to that affecting the hunting of the Mourning Dove and Quail. The former with its splendid record as an eater of great quantities of weed seeds offers scarcely sufficient meat to offset its loss to agriculture. The Quail also, known as the greatest ally of the farmer, feeds on tons of grasshoppers, weed seeds, and many insect pests, and should be accorded the protection due its economic status.

However, in justice to the hunter it may be noted that the scarcity of Quail in many sections is due to lack of suitable cover such as thickets and woodlands afford. A Hawk after tasting Quail will linger over the territory until the last member of the covey has been wiped out.

In many instances the state laws defeat their own objects. For example, the Illinois State law in regard to the shooting of Quail declares an open season throughout the state from November 10 to December 10. In southern Illinois Quails are plentiful, and the natural law of reproduction maintains a fair average of birds. In central Illinois Quail is considerably less abundant, and in northern Illinois the bird is scarcely known. In this case, zoning for closed seasons would prove of great benefit to the Quail, to the farmer, and also to the hunter.

Contemplate the fascinating mystery of the migratory flight which brings to us strange visitors from far lands, filling our streams, meadows, and woodlands with interesting travelers and possible friends. Listen to the solicitous call of the waterfowl and the reassuring answer of its mate, and consider that their home ties are as strong, momentous, and sublime as our own. Can we afford to lose the enrichment our lives will receive from acquaintance with these gentle guests, or raise the weapon to sever home bonds of life only slightly less exalted than our own?

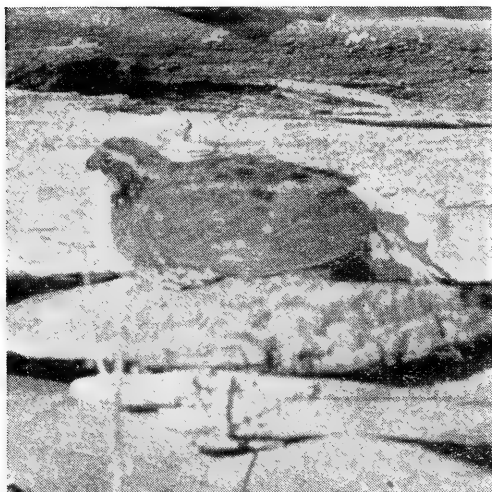
To the young hunter, the alien, the gentlemanly sportsman we suggest a more fascinating way of bagging game, one which knows neither closed season nor game laws. It works no hardships on your quarry, which becomes your prize without being stilled in wasteful death. On the preservation of your quarry's life depends your entertainment. The chase is exhilarating and full of intense excitement. Trespass signs are never placed against such hunters, and the daily bag may contain a dozen or a hundred birds without consequences. The seasons alone will dictate the number and species. You may meet old friends everywhere, often recognize individuals. Equipped with notebook, field-glass, and camera you may sally forth into the very sanctum sanctorum of nature to study, identify, and record its every form. Your harmless intrusion causes but momentary embarrassment, and the daily duties of the wild things soon go on.

PAUL B. RIIS, Rockford.

Another Brief for the Quail

For several years I have noticed in different sporting magazines and in the sport sections of our daily newspapers opinions concerning the increase or decrease in the number of Quails in different vicinities. Discussions of the subject often arise at clubs, and it is no uncommon thing in the barber shops to hear a game-bag artist declare that protection of Quail does no good, that in territory where protection has been maintained for several years the birds increase and then migrate to some other vicinity where there is no protection and are exterminated. The common remark is that winter, dogs and cats absolutely control the number of Quails, and that shooting has little or no effect upon the Quail population.

The past summer I spent a month in southwestern Iowa, where I have been going for a number of years. Quails have never been numerous there due to constant shooting, but recently the state has forbidden the shooting of Quail. Ever



HUNTED DOWN BY THE CAMERA

Photo by T. C. Musselman

since this law went into effect Quails have increased until they are very abundant throughout this whole district. Within a half mile of the cottage in which I resided I found three nests, and no doubt there were many more of which I did not know. Twenty feet from one of the nests was a brood of half-grown Quail which had been reared earlier by the mother who was now caring for a complement of seventeen eggs. Everywhere the clear call of the Bobwhite could be

heard, and I feel sure that the tremendous increase in numbers can be due to nothing else than the protection which that state has placed on the Quails.

Last fall two hunters asked me to accompany them into Missouri on a Quail hunting trip. As they possessed a very wonderful dog I accompanied them, for I enjoy watching the hunting of a good, keen-scented pointer. My weapon was a high-powered camera, and the picture which is enclosed shows that I was successful as the hunters with whom I traveled. I found the birds much more abundant in Missouri than in Illinois. I attribute this not so much to protective laws as I do to the fact that cover is more abundant. The country is cut with creeks and ditches which are filled with a heavy growth of brier, hazel, brush, and weeds, while the hills are covered with green fields of corn. The combination makes an ideal situation for Quail.

From the standpoint of Adams County I believe that, due to several mild winters and also to dry nesting seasons, the Quail population has increased during the last three years. Furthermore, a large number of farmers are now refusing to allow hunting on their farms, and this helps a great deal.

T. E. MUSSELMAN.

A Wreath and a Nest

Early in May of this year one of the caretakers of the Riverside Cemetery at Sterling informed me that there was a nest on a tombstone where he had been working. I immediately scented a good subject for a photograph and found the nest. It had been made in an artificial wreath which hung on the monument about four feet from the ground, and contained three eggs in plain sight of anyone within a hundred feet or more. It was very easy at that time to take a picture of the nest and eggs.

The eggs were more than half brooded, for in a few days two of them had hatched. It must have been three or four days before the third egg hatched, so long that I thought it was not fertile. The next time I visited the nest there were three nestlings, and I was unable to see any difference in them in size.

To get a picture of the birds feeding the young required several visits and much patience. I placed the camera on a tripod near the nest and focussed it on the nestlings, removing the slide, setting the shutter on 8 diaphragm 1/25 second, and connecting the release with a rubber bulb about fifty feet long. The ordinary camera bulb is not strong enough to release the shutter. Then I went to a considerable distance and watched for the return of the robins.



Photo by G. P. Perry



Photo by G. P. Perry



Photo by G. P. Perry

in no way disturbed or harried until the nestlings were large enough to fly away. The cemetery grounds are a bird preserve, and that may account for the fearlessness of these robins. Birds soon find out where they are safe.

I did not have to wait long, for the young birds are fed every two or three minutes, normally. There was no shrubbery behind which I could hide, and when I slowly stole up to where the bulb was lying on the grass I was in plain sight of the birds. However, they were so eager to feed their young that after a few trials they allowed me to get to the bulb.

I suppose hundreds of people visited the nest. It speaks well for the training and discipline of our boys that the nest was

GEORGE P. PERRY.



Photo by G. P. Perry



“There is nothing more exquisite in the realm of nature than a bird’s nest with its cluster of dainty ovals, each full of silent music, each dumb miracle waiting for the finger of God to awaken, to be alive and fill the air with blissful sound.”

CELIA THAXTER.

From “The Isle of Shoals”

* * * * *

Give to me the gospel of the fields and woods,
 The sermon written in the book of books:
 The sweet communion of the things of earth
 Fresh with the warm baptism of the sun:
 Give me the perfect offertory of bud and bloom,
 The perfect carolings of happy birds:
 Give me the creed of one of God’s fair days
 Wrought in the beauty of its loveliness:
 And then the benediction of the stars
 His eloquent ministers of the night.”

Securing Life Stories by Banding Birds

The use of numbered aluminum bands that are supplied by the U. S. Biological Survey for bird banding has proved some of Mr. Robin's family relations, and his repeated visits show how little fear he has of man.

On June, 1920, a full grown Robin was caught in a trap and band number 57617 placed on his leg. On his release he flew to a tree near by to examine his bright new ring, then flew away and was not seen or caught in any of those traps again that year.

He must have followed the migration to the southland to stay for the winter and as the warmer weather of the spring approached he journeyed slowly northward until he had completed his trip of a thousand or more miles back to his home town. Immediately on his arrival he went right back into the very same trap and was caught on March 31, 1921, for the bright little band with his number 57617 proved that he was the identical bird that had been there last year.

During the next ten days the same Robin was caught five times and each time in a different trap.

On May 10 a good looking Mother Robin was caught in the original trap, and when she went away she wore band number 18030. A few minutes later Mr. Robin 57617 was caught again in the same trap and released as soon as his number was read. Little was it suspected that Mother Robin 18030 was his wife. Mr. Robin 57617 was caught five more times in the traps during the next three weeks, and it is suspected that he was in the open traps for his meals many times when there was no one around to catch him.

During the trapping season a pair of Robins built their nest in a shelter within one hundred feet of all the traps, which made them appear to be some of the old friends, so a Robin shelter trap nest was built, and when the young birds were about half grown the old shelter was taken down and the nest with the young birds placed in the new shelter which was attached to the same spot in the tree. The old birds came soon and examined the nest. They knew something was wrong, and scolded and looked for a few minutes, but there were three mouths wide open begging for food in such an expressive manner that the old birds could not resist the appeal and were soon at work satisfying their offspring.

The next morning one end of a string was attached to the movable front porch of the trap nest and the other end taken behind a bush some distance away to await the return of the parents. When the mother bird came to feed the young a quick tug on the string closed the door. On examining the bird it was found to be the good looking Mother Robin 18030. A few

minutes later Father Robin 57617 was caught in the same way, so that now it is known that these two birds are a mated pair, and their three youngsters will be known to the world as 18036, 18037, and 18038.

After having been caught about a dozen times all told in six different traps Father Robin 57617 must have had great faith in people to have built his nest and raised his family within one hundred feet of those traps.

Now the Biological Survey is very anxious to hear from both of these birds next year to find out if they are still living peacefully together and how long their youngsters will live. Let us hope that Father Robin 57617 will be successful in piloting his family to the southland and back again to this vicinity for the season of 1922 so that more may be learned about his family record.

On June 21, 1920, a Brown Thrasher was trapped and banded number 57632. The next day he brought his mate and she was banded number 57633. Later the same day she came back with a fledgling and took it into the trap and it was banded 57634. The next day the two old birds came and brought two fledglings into the trap and they were numbered 57635 and 57636. On the following day another fledgling came and was made known as 57638. That completed the numbering of the Thrasher family.

There they camped and became an absolute nuisance. Thrashers, Thrashers, in the traps all the time until the traps had to be abandoned in order to make them go elsewhere for their food.



On April 24, 1921, the first bird trapped this season proved to be number 57633, who had returned to the old camping grounds. On April 26 two Thrashers were observed feeding very peacefully together. Gradually they approached the trap, still feeding so peacefully together that it was certain that they were a mated pair. They entered the trap together and were captured. The female 57633 had returned, and the new male with her was given L 92. Now the unanswered question is, divorced or fickle? Grass or sod?

WILLIAM I. LYON.

Waukegan

Cardinals at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin

On Thanksgiving Day, 1917, great was the excitement at Wychwood, Lake Geneva, to see a male cardinal feeding with the juncos where hemp seed had been thrown on the brick paths of the formal garden close to the house. A cardinal had been noted during the summer at Yerkes Observatory some three miles away.

All the following winter we kept food near the cottage windows and the cardinal came frequently to the bird table. In April I asked Mr. De Vry at Lincoln Park for a mate; he sent me, with full directions as to procedure, a Mexican female more brilliant in coloring than our own female cardinal. I carried her up to the Lake and, arriving at night, put her in a larger cage with water and food in my room. Early in the morning I heard the male cardinal's song; *so did she*, and beat frantically at her bars. I took her at once to the screened porch of the cottage and there kept her for a week. The male bird came almost immediately to see her; she was coy but interested. He fed on a window box just outside her screen and even brought bits of nesting material there,—dare we say to show her? She seemed contented and ate well. I do not know whether or not she was born in captivity but I think not. She answered his whistle with her own lovely notes and each day showed more progress in their acquaintance. Finally she became so restless that, although the weather was still cold and rainy, it was decided to release her and, taking advantage of the male bird's close proximity, the door was opened and the coquette flew to a tree top in the opposite direction. However, it was not long before they were seen together and their answering songs were heard. After the middle of May they left our woods but were reported at various places around the Lake. Each autumn since they have returned to Wychwood and during the winter have fed on the snow by the cottage.

This Thanksgiving morning, I heard a call a bit stronger than the junco's and looking out of my dressing room window saw on the trumpet-vine over the porch the brilliant male bird. He flew down to the terrace for hemp seed and on to the lawn. Later in the day the female appeared in an aralia bush close to the terrace. Mr. Frost at the Yerkes Observatory has a record of more than one nest this last summer. On another estate near by five birds were counted at once. We like to think that it is our original cardinal and his Mexican mate who spend their winters at Wychwood.

FRANCES K. HUTCHINSON.

Bird Notes of a Trip to Starved Rock

The morning of April 28 dawned bright and cool. A gentle breeze was stirring and just as the sun came over the horizon of Lake Michigan, a Robin sang the dawning song and was shortly joined by a Towhee. Thus with promise of a good day ahead, I left Chicago with two companions for Starved Rock.

As we paused for a detour, I heard my first house Wren of the season, although the others of the party had seen them a week earlier. As we went farther south these little birds increased in numbers and at the park itself they were abundant, being particularly fond of brush piles from which, as we approached, they would fly to the trees overhead and bubble out their lively song.

The roadsides that morning were replete with bird life. One of the most interesting birds we saw was the Horned Lark. They



A FIELD SPARROW'S NEST

Photo by George Crook

were new to me but I found them to be numerous over the entire journey, always being startled from the middle of the dusty road. The tail is black on each side of the center and, though a conspicuous mark, none of the bird books at hand mentioned this fact. We heard the song while the birds were chasing each other over the fields at great speed, and while not unmusical it was not so pretty as that of the bobolink, to which it is sometimes compared.

A little farther down the road we actually saw a Bobolink and as the car came to a sharp halt we heard him sing. I was agreeably surprised at seeing the rice-bird, as this was the first year I had ever seen him this far north in April.

Mourning Doves in twos and threes were continually frightened from the road. They made me wonder how they could be so numerous, with their careless nesting habits and rating as a game bird. Invaluable to the farmer, yet they are sacrificed to the lust of a few sportsmen at the cost of the entire, sleeping country.

We passed several Loggerhead Shrikes at intervals, every one sitting composedly on wires overhead. However, I have seen them just as often flying actively through shrubbery lining road-

sides, so that this was not a fixed habit of the species, but merely chance.

Before leaving home we were told that the country was "as flat as a pancake" on the way to the park and that we would be bored with the trip. This information did not dampen our enthusiasm, for it came from a lady who knew not how to see interesting things at every hand and her statement was continually disproved. We found many of the common birds very abundant and every tenth to fifteenth fence post had its perch. Every village had its avenues of different kinds of trees and even the country was rolling rather than flat. The road crossed several interesting streams, at one of which we identified a Greater Yellow-legs. The large bird was solitary and rather indifferent to our inquisitiveness although he wandered from our sight after a few moments. In the short one hundred miles to Starved Rock we saw thirty-three species of birds along the road.

I had often heard reports of Cardinals being seen, but until today I had not seen one myself and so was quite excited when I spied one, feeding under some cedar trees. Another halt was made while we watched the beautiful bird and listened to his three-syllabled song. By moving slowly we were able to approach within a few yards, and then with the field-glasses we obtained a view that would satisfy the most critical of us. Before the trip was over I had become well acquainted with this new friend, for I encountered others at Starved Rock and also at Deer Park. (At the time of writing this, a few weeks after returning to Glencoe from the trip, some friends reported that their cat had caught and devoured a Cardinal.)

Every bird we saw was interesting, but two of the noteworthy ones, seen on the way to the park, were a Kingbird, the first seen this year, and a White-breasted Nuthatch, creeping head downward over the trunk of a sycamore. Upon arrival at Starved Rock about noon, we saw for the first time many Tufted Titmice. They are easily identified by their crest and mouselike color. They utter a call



OCCUPYING A LONG-TIME LEASE
Photo by George Crook

which might easily be mistaken for that of their first cousin, the Black-capped Chickadee. Their song is a clear whistle, and though not easy to describe, I will know it every time I hear it. The songs of all birds should be heard to be learned; a description, at best, merely hints of the thing and does not tell much. A photograph hints of the beauties of a landscape or a group of flowers but they must be seen to get the true value and beauty of the original.

I was pleased to note some large, black water birds on an island in the Illinois River, and later identified them as Double-crested Cormorants. About twenty of them were perching in a bare tree overhanging the water, and now and then one would leave and fly with long neck outstretched to some point down the river and one or two others would come and take his place in the tree. Several of them were usually to be seen swimming and diving expertly, although when taking to the air from the water they did so with difficulty and caused a great splash.

That afternoon in the park was the most wonderful I have ever spent. Birds were to be found everywhere. A fragrant wild crab-apple tree in full bloom was the hiding place of a Field Sparrow and a Cottontail Rabbit. A shady canyon was the home of Bank Swallows and a Wood Thrush, and a more picturesque spot can hardly be imagined, especially when I add that a falls flowed over one end of the sandstone walls, which were harmoniously tinted by the iron with which the water is charged. Four or five Cardinals flew from one large tree to another and presented a gorgeous spectacle. As we saw a new bird we thought it was the crowning event of the day, but then another would be seen and it seemed a little more rare and beautiful than the last one. Rose-breasted Grosbeak was feeding in the treetops and made a pleasure picture. Farther on a covey of Quail ran in front of us, the only time I had ever seen this one time common bird. Thus it went on until sundown.

Then in the twilight we were attracted by a flash of crimson in the top of a tall tree. Our field-glasses showed us that it was a Scarlet Tanager, practicing the tactics of a Flycatcher. That event proved to be the climax, and we left this bird heaven only when the darkness shut out our view and with a promise to return at sun-up the next day.

GEORGE CROOK, Glencoe.

Bird Census of Waterloo, Illinois

One of the first things an observant person notices upon entering Waterloo is the great number of bird houses which have been built and put out to house the bird population of the town. Thinking that it would be interesting as well as instructive to take a bird census of the town, we formed a questionnaire and sent a copy to every house in town.

The task of circulating the questionnaires would have in-

deed been great had it not been for the hearty coöperation of the public school and St. Peter's and Paul's School.

The interest taken in birds here shows that as a whole the people are somewhat above the average in their knowledge of birds, but regardless of this, there are possible errors that the laity will make any time. A few of these errors are mentioned at the bottom of the tables.

It is hard to form a questionnaire that the laity can thoroughly understand, and yet ask all of the questions a scientist would desire. The following is the form of questionnaire we used and the following tables show some of the results. Waterloo, according to the 1920 census, has a population of 1930 people. The data is based upon the report of 181 questionnaires. The questionnaires were based on birds nesting last season.

Bird Questionnaire

I Bird Houses

- 1 Give number of houses on property.....
- 2 How many pairs of birds will the houses accommodate?.....
- 3 How many houses were occupied last season?.....
- 4 Give name and number of pairs of birds which occupied the houses.
- 5 Give name and number of birds which reared more than one brood last year.
- 6 Remarks:

II Nests not in bird houses.

- 1 Give name and number of pairs of birds nesting (not in bird houses) on your property last season.
- 3 Remarks:

III Miscellaneous

- 1 Number of cats on property.....
- 2 Number of English Sparrow nests last season.....
- 3 Remarks:

Data Secured

Number of bird houses	363
Number of pairs of birds they will accommodate	660
Number of bird houses occupied last season	250
Number of birds nesting in bird houses last season	876
Number of birds nesting (not in bird houses) last season	1372
Number of birds nesting in Waterloo last season	2250
Number of English sparrows nesting last season	928

Birds Living in Bird Houses

Bluebirds	54 pairs	Swallows*	69 pairs
Martins, Purple	143 pairs	Sparrows, English	53 pairs
Robins	6 pairs	Wrens	113 pairs

Birds Rearing More than One Brood

In Bird Houses		Out of Bird Houses	
Bluebirds	22 pairs	Bluebirds	1 pair
Martins	4 pairs	Brown Thrashers	2 pairs
Robins	1 pair	Robins	24 pairs
English Sparrows	17 pairs	English Sparrows	53 pairs
Swallows*	14 pairs	Swallows*	2 pairs
Wrens	30 pairs	Wrens	3 pairs
Chipping Sparrows		2 pairs	

Birds Not in Bird Houses

Bluebirds	13 pairs	Humming Birds	3 pairs
Bluejays	10 pairs	Mockingbirds	4 pairs
Brown Thrashers	11 pairs	Orioles‡	8 pairs
Catbirds	15 pairs	Redbirds	11 pairs
Chimney Swifts†	6 pairs	Robins	96 pairs
Doves	1 pair	English Sparrows	411 pairs
Flickers	14 pairs	Swallows*	5 pairs
Goldfinches	3 pairs	Woodpeckers§	11 pairs
	Wrens.....		56 pairs
English Sparrows in bird houses			53 pairs
English Sparrows not in bird houses			411 pairs
English Sparrows rearing more than one brood in bird houses.....			17 pairs
English Sparrows rearing more than one brood not in bird houses			53 pairs
Number of Cats			132

* The name of the swallow was not given.

† Chimney swifts were numerous. The number given is not accurate.

‡ Not named. The Baltimore and Orchard both nest here.

§ Not named.

H. T. FEATHERLY.



ONE HUNDRED SIXTY HOMES AND THEIR BUILDERS AT WATERLOO
Photo by H. T. Featherly

Three Really True Stories

I have often read of birds doing strange things to coax people and animals away from their nests when there are baby birds, and since I have had a unique experience of the kind I am sure that many of the stories are true.

One afternoon I was standing on the porch when I happened to look down and see a female Redbird fluttering in the grass. Both her wings were outspread and she seemed to be dragging them behind her, as she fluttered along, stopping now and then. In a few minutes I saw a squirrel not far behind her. As he

came nearer she would start off. I thought the squirrel might have injured her and went toward her, intending to catch her and see in what way she was hurt. When I came close to her she flew away into a tall tree. Then I thought of the stories I had heard and went back to the yard to see if there were any young birds on the ground. I could not see any, or any place which seemed suitable for her nest. At last, within six feet of a bird wash, was a small trellis about five feet high and six feet wide on which grew a small bushy grapevine. I pushed the leaves apart, and there was the nest with four beautiful young birds just ready to fly. I gathered up some sticks and scared the squirrel until he never came back. Had he found the birds he would have pulled them all out of the nest, but the mother bird prevented him by playing lame and coaxing him away from her treasure. You cannot have birds and squirrels in the same yard.

In 1920 a pair of Redbirds made their home in a big yard, containing all kinds of trees and flowers, in Shelbyville, Illinois. They were so happy there that when winter came they "moved in" with a young married couple, Mr. and Mrs. M.—Every night they came up on the porch to roost, one selecting a large nail on one side of the door and the other a piece of wood on the other side. They never exchanged places and were always there at a certain time. One day there was a terrible snowstorm, and when evening came "Madam Bronze," as the mother bird was called, came in alone. "Red Coat" was nowhere to be seen or heard. About ten o'clock that night a noise was heard on the front porch and when the door was opened Red Coat flew in, nearly frozen. Mr. and Mrs. M.—got him warm and then put him on the back porch with something to eat. He had come to the front porch because there was no light on the back porch. After that he was always at home and went to bed on time. Every morning Mrs. M.—gave the birds a slice of bread that had been dipped in warm water or milk.

The two birds slept on the porch until late in the spring, but one night Madam Bronze failed to come home, and not long after Red Coat disappeared. At times one could hear him singing, and I suppose he was happy over the little mud house he had built somewhere in the bushes or trees. Soon he was so busy hunting bugs for the little birds that he did not have much time to sing.

Then one day, several weeks after Red Coat and Madam Bronze disappeared, Mrs. M.—heard a noise on the back porch,—“such chattering,” as she called it. She opened the door and what do you think she saw. There was Mr. and Mrs. Red Coat and a baby just large enough to fly. They had coaxed him over with a big black pinching bug and then an unlucky accident occurred—they dropped the bug in a pail of

water and could find no way of getting it out. Mrs. M— brought out a slice of bread, wet it with water, fished out the bug and put it on the bread, and made the birds a bug sandwich.

Mr. and Mrs. Red Coat are still living in the yard and no doubt will spend the winter of 1921—22 on the porch with their friends.

In the yard where Red Coat and Madam Bronze lived a tray of food was put every morning about half past five o'clock on the top of a rose arbor. One morning the lady who fed the birds was watching to see who would be the first to come for breakfast. She saw three Bluejays fly from tree to tree and finally reach the tray of food. All three lined up. One was a baby jay who was just being taught to fly and eat. The father and mother birds ate of the good soft bread dipped in water, but the lazy little rascal would not eat. He would throw back his head, open wide his mouth and flutter his wings, begging them to feed him as they had done in the nest. They scolded him and would not give him one bite. The father and mother bird talked to each other, then they flew up into a big sycamore tree, where they sat side by side. The baby sat by the tray and cried and chirped until I think they felt sorry for him, since that was the first time he had been in that strange place. They both came back and one sat on each side of him. First one fed him and then the other till he could eat no more.

The next morning about the same time they came back. The baby had been learning how to fly, and it took him only a few minutes to reach the food. He acted just like some naughty boys that I have seen at the table. The three sat in a row around the tray and the baby bird would not eat. The father and mother scolded and coaxed and ate out of the tray so that he would learn, but he only threw back his head, opened his mouth, fluttered his wings, and squeaked. The father and mother bird flew up into the big sycamore, sat there a few minutes, then flew away and didn't come back. The baby sat there alone fluttering his wings and opening his mouth until he got tired, then all at once he began to eat. After he had eaten a good breakfast he flew away into the trees.

MRS. HOWARD J. HAMLIN.

Shelbyville

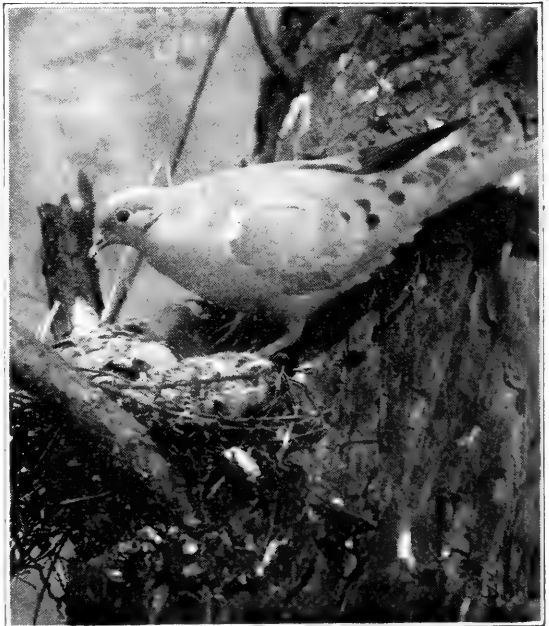


Photo by A. A. Allen

*The Loggerhead Shrike**By* ISAAC E. HESS

On the topmost twig of an Osage tree
Sounding his call notes merrily,
Is the first heard Shrike of the season;
Wholly ignoring the bleak March winds,
Joy in the leaden skies he finds;
(Exuberance out of all reason).

His bell-like calls are pleasant to hear;
A vocal improvement during the year,
Developed perhaps for his wooing;
Two clear sweet notes he has brought along
To replace his harsh, discordant song
For the courtship days ensuing.

And scarcely has he mastered his lay
Ere comes his mate, nor suffers delay
Through stormy threatening weather;
So closely follows the mistress, I
Perplexed have often wondered why
They do not journey together.



Photo by I. E. Hess

Through thorny thicket and hedge they scan
For suitable site where they may plan
A home near the old location;
Nor do they wait for balmy hours
Midst budding leaves and opening flowers
To begin the summer vocation.

Following wisdom gained through years —
Barricaded with thorny spears
They build to divert disaster,
Like scriptural structure built on rock
Able to stand the March wind's shock
And April's floods to master.

Laboring with an ardent zest,
The deep and prettily rounded nest
They firmly weave together;
Rootlets and thorny twigs en masse
Interwoven with strings of grass
And lined with fur and feather.

Here in Nature's cozy retreat
Savagery and innocence meet
Sans unlawful suggestion —
Violence is given full sway
Might rules in its dominant way
Nor needs its right to question.

Unassumingly dressed in gray
He does not in the least betray
The cruel hidden nature
That gives him questionable fame
And marks him with the vicious name
Attached in nomenclature.

While Mother Nature has decreed
That he should meet his every need
And has her approbation,
When he destroys birds that should live
We find it harder to forgive
His murderous occupation.

With mingled thoughts of sorrow and scorn
We see a bird impaled on thorn
And lament his disposition;
But willing still are we to forget
His faults when virtues greater yet
Are brought to our recognition.

The love and devotion he bestows
 Upon his mate and the care he shows
 The little ones in serving,
 Is markedly beautiful indeed;
 And should 'gainst criticisms plead
 For comment more deserving.

Oh little Shrike, thy strenuous life
 Is strangely mixed with love and strife;
 Thou hast a nature dual;
 Both war and peace with thee abide
 Thou "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde"
 Thou art both kind and cruel.

Two Bird Lovers in a City Block

We had heard and seen many birds in the early Springtime, for the "Mister" of the home had installed a bird bath with running water in our back yard and from my window I could see how our feathered friends appreciated it. The Robins, a Hermit and an Olive-backed Thrush, and all the Woodpeckers were daily visitors. A Scarlet Tanager and a Baltimore Oriole had stopped more than a week to take advantage of it. But one morning we spied an Oven-bird, bobbing his head with each step, as he made his way along the edge of the shrubbery, a short distance from the dining room window; then our hearts swelled with joy.

We had seen the Myrtle Warbler a few days before this, but the very next morning we heard the Red-starts, che-wee, che-wee, che-wee. I had gathered and piled up near the house a lot of brush and as we watched the Redstarts, they seemed especially happy to have found it. In the week they spent there, we found that they more than any of the migrants were very sociable. The one little fellow would follow me the full length of our lot if I too called che-wee, che-wee, che-wee. I kept a shallow pan of water on the ground near the bird bath and can you imagine how I felt when I saw a Redstart, a Pine Warbler and a Magnolia taking a drink at the same time?

They all came to call in Farwell Avenue between Clark Street and Ashland Avenue. The other Lover and I would find a quiet place in a neighbor's or our own yard, and in the month of May, in this city block we saw most of the Warblers that pass through Chicago on their way North.

The Yellow Warbler, the Black-throated Blue, the Chestnut-sided, the Bay-breasted, the Canadian with his lovely necklace, the Black Poll, the soul-satisfying Golden-winged, for whom we had long waited, and the Connecticut all were our colorful guests. The Parula, the Blackburnian, and the Cerulean, we found a short distance away, but we have always felt that they too had stopped to feast in the little "Woods" beside our house though we had missed seeing them there.

In a year's time we have seen more than seventy different birds in this block. Even a Whip-poor-will spent a day sleeping in a big maple beside the house. Since that time, (May 7, 1918), I have called him "My great big Warbler." Have you ever seen him wake up? No? I'll tell you about it. Just at dusk of that evening, he showed signs of being alive by stretching his right wing, then the left one, very much like both grown-ups and little folks stretch their arms when awakened from a sound sleep. But without further preparation, as far as I could see, he swooped down to a tree stump in the back-yard and called whip-poor-will, whip-poor-will, whip-poor-will, whip-poor-will. From this place of vantage he flew in complete circles, to the right and then to the left of the stump, catching an insect here and there just as a dainty warbler or the flycatcher would do. After repeating this a number of times, he flew swiftly around the yard several times coming so near me that I expected to be slapped in the face by his wings. He stopped in this wild pursuit of food to perch on a post nearby. From there you could hear three subdued calls—similar to the whirring of a whip through the air. Then with a clearly defined whip-poor-will, whip-poor-will he soared into the air until I could barely see him and flew toward the open fields west of Rogers Park.

"A bird in your heart brings a bird to your house" had been proved true again.

MRS. FREDERICK A. SMITH.
5902 Magnolia Avenue, Chicago.

A School Beautiful Committee

The Illinois Council of Parent-Teacher Associations has made an important move in appointing a School Beautiful Committee and approving a comprehensive program of activities. Mrs. Benjamin Bachrach of Decatur is chairman of the Committee, the duties of which are defined, "To see that the school grounds are made beautiful with native trees, shrubs, and flowers; that the school grounds are made bird sanctuaries; that definite time is given in class work to the study of birds."

The Committee has already a suggestive outline of bird work for schools the publication of which is expected at an early date. This outline lays emphasis upon concrete projects such as maintaining feeding shelves, building martin houses, and other houses, and under the head of landscape work stresses the planting of shrubs whose fruit furnishes food for birds. Suggestions for class study and lists of books and helpful charts and pictures are given.

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For the Conservation of Bird-Life

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Editorial

The abundance of good material sent in for this number of the Bulletin is a matter for congratulation. It automatically reduces the space to be filled with editorial comment. Again, congratulations! Doubtless this can not be better used, for one thing, than in echoing the regret at the inaction and lack of vision on the part of our legislators to which the President of the Illinois Audubon Society gives expression on the front page. The economic waste from neglect to conserve public resources of marsh land and waterways, of forest and significant scenic possession and the wild life such areas imply, who can compute? The sentiment against such waste is growing. The campaign initiated by Representative Harlan B. Kauffman in the last legislature will be renewed in advance of the primaries this time.

With this and related matters the next issue of The Bulletin is to be concerned. Material for it was fairly knocking at the door before this went to press. There will be the story of the mapping of forest areas by the state forester and his assistant. The story can now be convincingly told of the futility and wastefulness of draining such areas as the Kankakee marshes. Reports of successful grappling with the sparrow problem are coming in and will be given place. We are to have a new and better year.

An Exhibition of Nature Studies

The Fourth Annual Exhibition of Nature Studies is to be held at the Chicago Art Institute from December 17, 1921, to January 18, 1922. The Chicago Chapter of the Wild Flower Preservation Society of America originated these exhibitions which have aroused public interest far beyond the anticipations of the promoters. The success of the exhibitions so impressed the officials at the Art Institute that last year their staff of decorators was given charge of placing exhibits for the Wild Flower Preservation Society and the arrangement of the exhibits and the setting given them were artistic to a degree.

Too much can not be said in praise of the skill and energy with which the officials of the Wild Flower Preservation Society and their immediate associates have organized these exhibitions and promoted the campaigns of publicity in connection therewith. This year the Society has generously invited the Illinois Audubon Society and the State Microscopical Society of Illinois to share in this undertaking. The scope of the exhibits has been widened to include the fungus in every form from mildew to mushroom; grasses, sedges and mosses; weeds—our troublesome immigrants; shells of sea and land snails; fish—native and tropical; bird studies from life; rocks and fossils; and microscopes and what they show us. During the period of the exhibition there will be an informal discussion and study of exhibits each afternoon at four o'clock. Illustrated lectures will be given in the Club Room of the Art Institute at four o'clock each Monday and Thursday afternoon. Each Saturday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, in Fullerton Hall, nature subjects will be presented through motion films or by speakers of note. The opening lecture of the exhibition is furnished by the Illinois Audubon Society whose representative, Dr. Thomas Roberts, of the University of Minnesota, will talk on "*Wild Life Studies in Motion Pictures.*" The exhibition and all the lectures are open to the public free of charge.

The officers of the Wild Flower Preservation Society are as follows: Mrs. Charles L. Hutchinson, President; Mrs. Frederick W. Blocki, Vice-President; Miss C. B. Neeley, Treasurer; Mrs. Noble B. Judah, Secretary; Mrs. Charles S. Eaton, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. George A. Butler and Mrs. Alta S. Hendricks, Field Marshals.

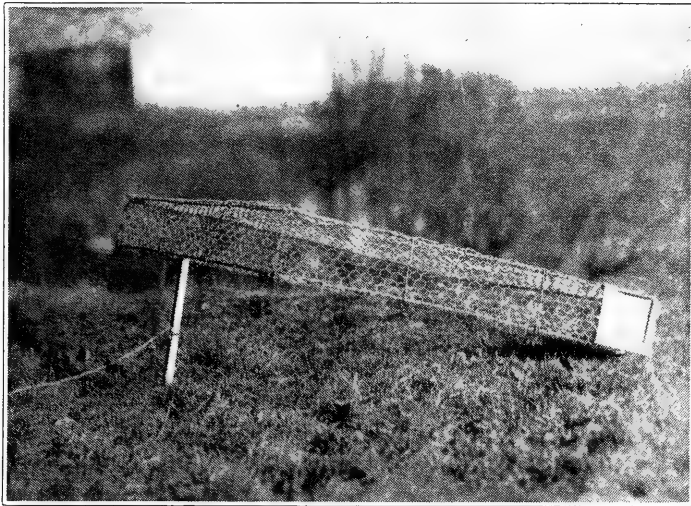
More About Bird Banding

In the Spring 1921 Bulletin Mr. Wm. I. Lyon published for the first time a report of the very interesting work he is doing at Waukegan in banding birds and tabulating material for migration records. In this issue he contributes some entertaining details of life histories from his rapidly growing collection.

Readers of the Bulletin do not need to be reminded of the importance of the work Mr. Lyon and other enthusiasts in bird-banding, as yet comparatively few in number in the United States, are doing. It is of immediate consequence that competent volunteers to cooperate in the work be forthcoming. For this part of the country Mr. Lyon has only two associates: one at Hobart, Indiana, and one at Sault Ste Marie. He is anxious to enlist workers between the latter place, and his home station, Waukegan, and from Chicago southward to Cairo and the Gulf.

Supplementing the description of an improved "sparrow trap," which Mr. Lyon gave to the last Bulletin, he now sends memoranda of more recent experiences. He writes as follows:

"When the birds began to mate it was apparent that the self-acting traps would soon have to be abandoned, as the traps could not be watched all the time and that would keep the captured birds away from their mates or from their nests when built, so the number of Sieve Traps or Drop Traps, as some may call



them, was increased. Details of our experiences with these traps are here offered.

"The original trap was just a box three feet square and four inches deep with three quarter inch mesh wire netting on the top. Two pegs were driven into the ground so that they would come into the back corners of the trap and hold it securely in place when the stick was pulled out from under the front to let the trap drop on the ground. The front stick should not be over eight to ten inches high. Then there was a door to drive the birds from the trap into a small carrying cage. The wood sides did not give the trapper a clear view into the trap and also kept the birds from seeing inside. So another trap was made of the same dimensions but all from wire. This was a good improvement and caught more birds but it was soon apparent that it could be improved. So next came a trap which was four feet square and four inches deep and made entirely from wire, and it worked much better as it covered more space. It appears in the accompanying illustration. From all these traps I run strings up through the trees to a window in my house. The traps are

kept baited at all times, so when no one is there to pull the strings, they serve simply as feeding stations and the birds grow used to getting their meals easily and come back for more.

"After a season's experience it is believed that this plan of trap has been the most successful all through the whole year. Certainly for any one who is just beginning it is very simple and the best feature is that it can be worked as little or as much as one desires."

The writer visited Mr. Lyon one bright morning this last October, and watched the operation of both the self-acting traps and the sieve traps worked by pulls. Within an hour Mr. Lyon trapped 27 visitors, Fox Sparrows and White-throats. Seven of these were "repeaters." They had been banded before, and their experience had not deterred them from re-visiting the scene of their adventure. It seemed easy to capture birds in the very simple device of the sieve trap. It requires only that one watch the trap and pull the string at the psychological moment.

The latest report received from Mr. Lyon as this number was being sent to the printer indicated unusual success with his tree traps. He had thus far banded 21 Chickadees, 5 Downy Woodpeckers, and a large number of Tree Sparrows. He had also banded 4 White-breasted Nuthatches which had hopped into a sieve trap on the ground.

J. L. S.

A New Lake and a New Sanctuary

From Decatur, Illinois, comes the news that the near completion of an important civic undertaking which is of great concern to that city because of its significance for sanitation and industrial purpose is anticipated with heightened interest by nature lovers generally for its possibilities in the way of an arboretum and bird sanctuary. Mr. C. A. Wait of the *Decatur Review* has kindly furnished us with the following data:

"Decatur, Illinois, has completed within the last month a water impounding dam which will create a lake of 4,000 acres immediately south and east of that city of 45,000 population. While the lake has been created primarily to insure the water supply of the city by damming the Sangamon river and flooding the area of the basin to the extent noted, there has already been started a vigorous movement in the community for the establishment of a bird sanctuary on this lake for the migratory water fowl. The lake will have a total length of about thirteen miles and will vary in width from three quarters of a mile down to the original channel of the river.

"The construction of the dam will cost the city about a million dollars and the purchase of the land, the raising of the bridges and bridge approaches have cost almost exactly another million. It is part of the city plan to create driveways and park

spaces about the lake and for this reason the possibility of attracting the beautiful waterfowl has interested the citizens of the community.

"This body of water will be the largest in that section of the state and it is the belief of those familiar with the habits of the migratory water fowl that the creation of a refuge there will result in the semi-annual visitation of thousands of wild ducks and geese. Recently O. M. Schantz, of the Audubon Society, visited in Decatur where he spoke before the Bird and Tree Club, and he found a considerable interest in the plan to ask the state to create a sanctuary on the lake which is about to be created there. The newspapers are taking an active interest in the campaign and the sentiment has been found to be very favorable to making Decatur's new lake, which is right at the city's door, a fully protected home for the water fowl. Offers of donations of money for the feeding of the birds have already been made up by citizens and plans to take the matter up with the state game department have met with assurances of support from a number of officials."

Notes from the Field Revised to Dec. 15, 1921

Carbondale

From the Normal School at Carbondale, Miss Mary M. Steagall writes of the truce that prevails there.

"We have a campus of about three acres where the students, about a thousand in number, come and go, the children of the Training School play, and the older boys play ball on several different diamonds; yet the last of May we counted on the campus two hundred of this year's bird nests. This count did not include any except the nests found in the trees. There were perhaps two or three dozen more Sparrows' nests in the vines and bushes around the buildings, and in the eaves.

"This year, we found, to our surprise, the Summer Tanager nesting in the woods and cliffs of our section more frequently than the Cardinal Grosbeak, which is supposed to be the 'red bird' of our part of the state.

"In a wooded ravine, on the eastern side of Big Hill, October 30, I saw the American Woodcock feeding. We do not often see them here, even in migration."

Decatur

The membership list of the Decatur Bird and Tree Club continues to grow rapidly. It now numbers 255 adults and 445 junior members. There is splendid co-operation and enthusiasm in Decatur in regard to bird protection. Mention was made in the last Bulletin of the assistance rendered by the Y. M. C. A. in planning and carrying out an exhibit of nesting boxes. The Library published a list of bird books to assist not only the student but the general reader and children as well. The lead-

ing book store had a window display of books the Club wished exploited. Under the auspices of the School Beautiful Committee each school has done some planting for the birds. The Dennis School has a martin house and a feeding shelf. The Pugh School has erected a bird fountain.

Professor W. B. Olds has been elected President of the Club to succeed Mr. George Proctor, resigned. At one meeting of the Bird and Tree Club teachers from the various schools were present and gave their experiences in bringing bird study before their pupils. The children preferred the hikes, it was reported, to any other form of bird study. Mrs. Benjamin Bachrach had been active in promoting the work of the junior groups and has given several lectures in schools, before Boy Scout organizations, etc. The School Beautiful Committee of Decatur, of which Mrs. Bachrach is chairman, with the co-operation of Mr. W. G. Hardy, acting president of the Decatur Art Institute, invited Mr. Myron H. West, city planner, to come to Decatur and address a large audience of teachers and patrons upon the subject of the school setting. His audience, which included country teachers as well as those of the city, was much impressed with his address.

Elgin

The interesting way in which the Elgin Audubon Society carries on is worth re-telling. The report of the monthly meetings, with the reading of interesting papers and exchange of local notes is very suggestive. The secretary, Miss Lillian B. Smith, writes:

We meet in the different homes at six-thirty for a covered dish luncheon, and have very enjoyable times eating together. When a home is not available we hold our meeting in the Y. W. C. A. rooms. The Society has a membership of 250 and we have an average attendance of fifty.

For over a year we have been heartily absorbed in our Museum project, and this summer we have been able to open the building to the public. We have many fine specimens, some donated and others purchased, and comments from visitors who know pronounce them to be the best. Of course, our exhibits are not all birds, but include minerals, shells, Indian relics, pottery, rare curios, and mounted animal heads. We also have some research books.

The museum has no regular curator, so the Audubon members volunteer their services. The average attendance for the summer was 200; the largest attendance was 700.

We are greatly in need of suitable cases to house the specimens for inspection, and it means proposed "drives," food sales, rummage sales, and so forth, to raise the amount of money required. As previously reported, the city of Elgin gave us the right to the Museum, but the building was sadly in need of

repair, since it had been neglected for a number of years. It required a large expenditure to put it in shape for use. The annual report of the Treasurer shows that the Society's income from all sources for the past year was \$1,104.09, and that its expenditures, chiefly for museum purposes, were \$1,082.78.

Audubon Day, or rather Bird Day, was recognized October 19, 20, and 21, when the citizens of Elgin who had specimens suitable for the Museum were asked to leave them at an appointed place where a special committee was in charge to receive them. A number of very fine specimens was brought in. Furthermore, movements of this sort tend to interest the public in the birds and in what Audubon societies are striving to accomplish.

Lake Forest

Rev. George R. Roberts, Jr., writes as follows:

In reply to the inquiry as to visitors to the bird shelf (which is just outside my study window) I can report that the interesting experience of this fall is the return of the Red-breasted Nuthatches. They have appeared almost regularly every other year. This year (after seeing none last winter) two of them came on September 30, and I can hardly look out of my window but one or both of them are at my shelf — not at it long, for they seldom eat from the shelf; they invariably take a seed and fly to a neighboring branch to "hatch" and eat it. I banded one of them, which flew into a glass-enclosed porch.

I have never seen so many Kinglets in my seven autumns as this year between September 14 and October 16. Both varieties were numerous, the Ruby-crowned as usual being the more so. I had a Bewick's Wren in my back yard all summer up to September fifteenth. So far as I could see there was only one of them. A female Black-throated Blue Warbler was in my yard as late as October 3, the White-throated Sparrows were here from September 18 to October 24, the Juncos appeared on September 22, and the Chickadees blew in on October 22, my earliest record for seven years. I might add that I seldom record the Kinglets so early as this year.

On the afternoon of November 22 I saw a small flock of Pine Grosbeaks feeding on the fruit of a highbush cranberry. There were seven in the flock: three males and four females and immature. They were as fearless as the books declare and I not only approached to within four feet of them but stayed watching them for at least ten minutes. I am told that it is several years since any of these birds have been seen in this vicinity. Since that time (I write under date of December 5) the Pine Grosbeaks have not been seen though three of us have been watching for them. A visit to the place where I saw them on November 22nd revealed that the ground beneath the bushes was covered with the skins of the berries out of which they

had eaten the fruit. At present writing, if they have stayed in our neighborhood, they have escaped our notice.

Port Byron

Mr. J. J. Shafer sends another valuable series of notes from Port Byron. Under date of November 15 he writes:

"I believe that as a result of the big snow and sleet storm of April 16 thousands of birds perished from the effects of cold and hunger. Up to the day of the storm I had noted the arrival of thirty-seven species. Among them were the Mourning Dove, March 30; Phoebe, March 18; Purple Martin, April 3; Vesper Sparrow, March 18; Field Sparrow, March 20; Chipping Sparrow, April 4; and Brown Thrasher, April 10, my earliest record for this species. On the day of the storm about a dozen Robins took refuge in our woodshed, in which a pair of Phoebes already had a nest with eggs. A pair of Robins also had a nest with eggs in a maple tree beside the kitchen, and one of the Robins was seen sitting on the nest during the storm. The day of the storm there was a high north wind, and the temperature ranged from 28° to 30°.

After the storm was over, two dead Robins were found near the house, and a neighbor reported finding one dead Robin and one dead Flicker. Eight Martins were in our Martin house during the storm, and I feared they would perish, but the next day, when the storm had subsided and the sun was shining, they came out of their house and began to fly around as if nothing had happened.

The largest bird wave during the spring migration came on May 8, when twelve arrivals were noted. Most of the Warblers were late, and arrived from May 12 to 29. The Myrtle Warbler arrived April 17, the day after the big storm. Several Black-throated Blue Warblers were seen and heard, also one each of the Prothonotary and Northern Parula.

The Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Traill's Flycatcher, Yellow-breasted Chat, and Bell's Vireo failed to arrive during the spring migration; the Chat and Traill's Flycatcher were not seen or heard here this year. This makes the second year that the Chat has failed to come, and the first for Traill's Flycatcher. Bell's Vireo is growing scarcer every year. Only one or two were heard singing this year, from June 21 to 26. The Yellow Warbler is also becoming scarcer each year; none have bred at our place since 1917. One Western Meadowlark was heard singing on March 11; during the summer of 1918 one pair bred here.

The Ruby-throated Hummingbird was not seen here until August 6, when my brother, Charles F. Schafer, saw one sitting on the houseyard fence, near a hollyhock. The next one was seen by the writer August 14, where in other years they were found breeding. The last one was seen at the same place September 11, my earliest date of departure for this species. Mr. Hugo H.

Schroder of Bettendorf, Iowa, writes that he took a picture of a Hummingbird in his yard on September 11, and saw them there several days later. Davenport and Bettendorf are about twenty miles southwest of Port Byron.

Mr. Schroder also took a picture of a Nighthawk nesting on a factory roof last summer. He reports that the Prothonotary Warbler has been breeding on Credit Island, near the lower end of Davenport, for the last two years.

This year a pair of Baltimore Orioles built their nest in a maple tree beside the kitchen, but something happened to the female Oriole about June 21. On June 22, the male Oriole stopped singing, and the female was never seen again at her nest. A pair of Sparrowhawks raised a brood in a Flicker box on a walnut tree beside the public highway, and we blamed the Hawks for killing the female Oriole. My brother saw where the Hawks had killed two birds near their nest, and one day a Killdeer was seen flying after one of the Hawks. We thought that probably one of the Hawks had taken a young Killdeer and was flying away with it. This is the first time that the Sparrowhawk has bred on our place; we hope it is the last time.

No Shrikes nested here this year. Only one was seen in the spring, and one during the summer. Mourning Doves were common; two pairs had nests at the same time on a large old burr oak, and several pairs nested in our orchard. The Cliff Swallows built ninety-one nests under the eaves of our barn, and we again had much trouble to keep the English Sparrows out of them. About July 15, all of the young Cliff Swallows were out of their nests, and on July 20 all the young Martins were out of their house. On July 21 the Martins began to gather in flocks and sit on the windmill. Those that bred here left for the south much earlier than in other years.

Following is my record of the arrival of migratory birds from the north:—Solitary Sandpiper, August 2; Marsh Hawk, August 9; Belted Kingfisher, August 21; Great Blue Heron, Nighthawk, August 23; Tree Swallow, August 28; Black and White Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Canada Warbler, September 4; Red-breasted Nuthatch, September 8; Blue-winged Teal, September 10; Pintail, September 11; Rusty Blackbird, September 16; White-throated Sparrow, September 18; Slate-colored Junco, September 22; Myrtle Warbler, September 23; Fox Sparrow, Philadelphia Vireo, Bay-breasted Warbler, Black-poll Warbler, Winter Wren, Brown Creeper, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Hermit Thrush, September 25; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, September 26; Rough-legged Hawk, Blue-headed Vireo, October 6; White-crowned Sparrow, October 16; Tree Sparrow, Golden-crowned Kinglet, October 23; Brant, October 24; Barred Owl, October 29; Canada Goose, October 31; Mallard, November 1; Lapland Longspur, November 5; Goshawk, November 4.

Mr. Schroder reported seeing about 300 Double-crested Cormorants, October 1, several Harris Sparrows, October 16, some Purple Finches during the week of October 9, and thousands of water fowl (species unknown) on October 7.

I have not yet observed the water birds on the Mississippi River this fall, but heard much shooting there Sunday, November 13. There are a good many ducks on Rock River Bottom this fall, and one hunter reported killing nine Wilson's Snipes on November 6.

Acorns were plentiful this fall, and during September there were thousands of Redheaded Woodpeckers in the woods, and there are many of them staying here at present. The first snowstorm for this fall came on the night of November 10, and the fall migration seems to be over. The last Bluebird was heard November 11, and some Blackbirds November 13."

River Forest

From the vicinity of the Cook County Forest Preserve comes Miss Esther A. Craigmile's interesting report:

Did you ever take a bird census on Christmas or New Year's Day? A sweep through the snow near Riverside along the Desplaines and the scouring of the woods and fields near Hinsdale usually results in a list of ten or twelve species during the day. Winter feeding of birds in the Cook County Forest Preserve makes the taking of a bird census a comparatively easy process. Feeding stations have been established in various sections of the preserves, usually remote from buildings, so that the English Sparrow factor is eliminated. Generous rations of corn are supplied for the Ring-necked Pheasants, millet seed for the desirable Sparrows, sunflower seed for the Chickadees, and suet for Woodpeckers, Brown Creepers, and Nuthatches.

An hour's walk just after sunrise is a delight. Flocks of contented Chickadees and Titmice declare their enjoyment of their breakfast with notes of gratitude. They peer at you fearlessly as you approach them. The suet counter is a popular place, where various birds await their turns and chirp with eager anticipation or with discontent at the greedy fellow who usurps more than his share of time, for only one bird feeds at a time. Numerous Cardinals and from twenty-five to one hundred Tree Sparrows and perhaps twenty-five Juncos frequent the millet quarters. Some Song Sparrows and one Fox Sparrow were often seen last winter. After light refreshments of millet they scour the Forest Preserve and adjoining territory for weed seed.

The crowing of the Cock Pheasants causes great consternation among the Crow family. The jargon of the Bluejays and the twitter of Tufted Titmice are heard far and near. Cardinal favors us with a number. One morning a busy flock of Red-

polls was discovered. A Robin or two and one lone Red-winged Blackbird wintered in Thatcher's Woods last year.

On Washington's Birthday, 1920, while in the woods I met Mr. Kennicott, who reported twelve species and 110 individuals observed in a walk through the Preserve. It gave me the greatest pleasure to learn from him of the splendid campaign in winter feeding of birds being carried out in all our preserves. The protection the birds afford our trees and their destruction of weed seed make the winter feeding well worth while.

Late in May I spent a Sunday on the edge of the wood south of Western Springs. Snatches of a Catbird's song attracted my attention during the morning. Several times I stepped outside for closer observation, only to find the singer quiet or out of sight. Suddenly it occurred to me that a Catbird could hardly be responsible for the medley of notes I heard, and a little later I caught sight of a beautiful Mockingbird. For two hours more he circled about the house, accompanying his song with all the aerial flights that make him so interesting, while his vocal exhibition rivaled that of the Western Mockingbird.

When I communicated the information to Dr. Eifrig of River Forest I learned that he had been favored with a similar visitation. Until the middle of June a pair of Mockingbirds were frequently seen on Williams Street. No nesting record, however, has been reported to me.

Rock Island

Local Secretary Nellie E. Peetz contributes the following interesting field notes:

In reading accounts of cases where Cowbirds deposited their eggs in the nests of other birds, I do not seem to recall any case where the victim chosen was not a smaller bird than the Cowbird,—usually one of the Warblers or a Sparrow.

Early this Summer, however, some friends told of having seen a Cardinal's nest containing two Cowbird eggs. I think I was somewhat skeptical, but all doubt was dispelled a few weeks later, when our own Cardinals (I call them our Cardinals because for several years the same pair of birds have been almost daily visitors at our feeding shelf) appeared one day with two young Cardinals and three Cowbirds!

The Mother Cardinal would have absolutely nothing to do with the Cowbird youngsters, and would not even come near the feeding shelf when they were there. The entire care, and such care as those greedy young Cowbirds demanded,—devolved on Father Cardinal, and he certainly did his duty by them.

One evening we noticed an amusing incident. Father Cardinal had not at any time fed the young Cardinals, but on this particular evening he noticed one of the Cardinal babies choking on a morsel too large to be swallowed. Deeply concerned,

he immediately flew to the rescue, and both father and mother tugged until the offending bite was removed. Satisfied that the youngster was all right he returned to the Cowbirds.

When a second family arrived, we rejoiced that this time they were *all* Cardinals.

EDITOR'S NOTE. It does not detract from the value of Miss Peetz' observations to state that the Scarlet Tanager and the Wood Thrush are also recorded as victims of the Cowbird's craftiness. Bird-Lore for July-August, 1921 has an important contribution to Cowbird literature by Harry C. Elder. Miss Peetz and Mr. Elder will doubtless be much interested in comparing notes.

Miss Genevieve Zimmer writes:

Our cafeteria is in full swing at the present moment. The first snowstorm sent all of our star boarders back. We fastened a large piece of suet up on the casing of the southeast window and nailed the lunch counter to the window-sill. Each day we put out bits of chopped suet, cracked corn, sunflower seeds, apples, and cracked nuts, which the children supply regularly. High prices do not seem to bother our feathered visitors, for they devour literally quarts of chick feed, pounds of suet, and bags of cracked nuts. All through the day we see these four birds,—the Downy, White-breasted Nuthatch, Chickadee, and Bluejay. The Brown Creeper never comes to the counter but pilfers from the storeroom, an old elm near the window. The four "steadies," as we call them, must like our bill of fare, for they have been with us eight years regardless of the fact that children play right under the window and automobiles and noisy wagons drive past at all times of the day. Each bird comes at least a dozen times a day and twice that often in colder weather.

How human they are! The Chickadee, like the aristocratic little lady she is, comes daintily to her place at table, eating with exquisite grace. She is so shy the children fairly hold their breath for fear she will fly away. Her little needle-like bill gets out every tiny crumb of nut meat from the shell. The White-breasted Nuthatch pounces greedily upon his food, eats with a vengeance and hugely enjoys every gustatory experience. He carries much suet away and has filled every crevice of the elm tree near the window.

A suet gourmand is the Downy. He "pieces" very often, attacking the suet every time as if he had never seen it before. Once in a while he misses his aim and comes to the wrong window, pecking stupidly at the brick and wondering why it doesn't yield to him. Finally he flies away to try it all over again and this time he stays long enough to make up for lost time.

We call the Bluejay the cock of the walk. All flee the premises when he alights. He looks like a dude in his stylish blue coat, but eats like a ruffian, scattering the food with both feet and carrying off the choicest bits clear up to the next

block, hiding it under the eaves or dropping it in some old woodpecker's hole across the street.

There was a little tussle on the counter today. The Downy had come out from under somewhere at the very same moment the Nuthatch appeared. The latter immediately turned about face and spread out his wings threateningly, jerking his head back and forth so rapidly that it frightened the Downy right off his perch. He chased him to the "Goody Tree," as the children call the elm that's crammed with food, where he disappeared and stayed hidden for a long time. Back came the conquering hero and settled himself in the middle of the counter, sampling every nutshell there and daring anybody to come near.

What delight the children have in watching them. Most of the children are only six and a half, yet can imitate their calls and know them anywhere at first sight. We have walks in the fields and woods on the brightest, mildest days in the winter, and are so happy when my whistle brings an answer from the chickadee.

Rockford

The past winter E. E. Bartlett, an active bird lover of this city, announced in his paper, *The Rockford Register-Gazette*, a bird house building contest with attractive inducements and prizes. He appealed to all the boys of the city, arranging three groups of entries,—the first group for grade school pupils, the second for high school students, and the third for all other boys not eligible to compete in the first two groups. The third group was made especially for boys out of school and out of work who were interested in birds. It also gave them an opportunity to earn a little money, since handsome cash prizes were offered to the winners in each division.

In order to eliminate waste of time and good material, *The Register-Gazette* published a series of photographs with detailed plans of such bird houses as had been tried out and found practical and successful. These plans were furnished by the Park Board office from its own patterns. They were in no sense arbitrary in restricting the ingenuity of the builder, but merely laid down simple fundamental principles of bird house construction. Every encouragement was held out to the builder to give his fancy full sway.

E. E. Lewis, Superintendent of Schools, Thomas Bjorge, Supervisor of Manual Arts in the high school, and Paul B. Riis, Superintendent of Parks, were chosen to act as judges. The houses were to be judged on their merits in workmanship, appearance, and originality of design.

Leo Lyon, Director of Physical Education, enlisted the services of the manual training department of the Boys Club with the result that 125 houses were put on exhibition at a prominent

downtown store for final judging. The designs covered houses for Wren, Chickadee, Nuthatch, Downy Woodpecker, Robin, Phoebe, Flicker, and Purple Martin.

The outstanding feature of the exhibit was the fact that almost all the houses were practical and meritorious. In fact, there were but six entries which disregarded construction principles entirely, and but two of these six proved valueless from the standpoint of the bird. The freak houses of former contests were entirely absent.

Every house not wanted at the builder's home found a ready sale or was donated to the Park Board.

PAUL B. RIIS.

A Mocking Bird Record at Rockford

So far as we know, there is no record of a Mockingbird which has stayed for any length of time in this vicinity.

In the summer of 1918 Miss Celia Whelpley, a Rockford visitor from the southern part of the state, declared that she had seen or heard a Mockingbird several times near her room in south Rockford. She said the bird was as familiar to her as a Robin is to the residents of this vicinity, and that she could not be mistaken. I passed the news on to various bird lovers, but we had never had a record before and it was, I think, given little credence.

April 18, 1919, Mrs. C. A. Nelson and her daughter, Betty, obtained another record, also in south Rockford. The bird was feeding near the ground and obligingly stayed while they examined and compared it with their bird books, establishing its identity beyond all doubt in their minds.

September 1, 1921, when I came home I found my mother quite excited because she had seen an entirely new bird on our bird bath. It had stayed for some time, so that she was able to get a full description. What she told me made me suspect its identity at once, but without saying what I thought I took the description of the Mockingbird and asked in detail as to its appearance. Everything agreed, and it seems to me, although none of the records are mine, that I cannot doubt the evidence of these three appearances.

May 18, 1921, Mrs. Sackett saw the Cerulean Warbler.

April 17, 1921, I have a record for a Ring-billed Gull and a Woodcock.

Recently Mrs. Ogilby has seen Pine Siskins.

May 18, 1921, Mrs. Kimball and I identified a Prairie Warbler.

EDITH VAN DUZER.

Junior Clubs

The work of the National Association of Audubon Societies in organizing Junior Bird Clubs is of far-reaching influence. Last year's records show that 220,787 children were enrolled in its club memberships. There were 320 such clubs in Illinois alone with a membership of 13,457 children. Through the generosity of certain of its patrons the Society has now for some years been able to make special offers to attract membership to its Junior Clubs, these being organized by teachers, scout leaders, or other interested persons. When 25 or more pupils have paid a fee of ten cents each, this money, together with the name of the Club and the name and the address of the teacher, is sent in to the National Society at 1974 Broadway, New York. The Society then sends the Club a supply of material so that each member is provided with a button and a set of six colored pictures of common birds, together with the accompanying educational leaflets. These leaflets contain accounts of the habits of the birds and outline drawings of the pictures for color work. In addition, the teacher receives a year's subscription to the magazine *Bird-Lore*, which contains many valuable suggestions for teachers. For the year 1921-22 the pictures and leaflets will be concerned with the following: Mourning Dove, Bronzed and Purple Grackle, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Brown Thrasher, Green Heron, and Great Horned Owl. The Society issues over 100 pictures with leaflets but the current offer to Junior Clubs includes only those mentioned above. All the other pictures may be obtained from the National Society for five cents each.

The Illinois Audubon Society has no large fund available for the promotion of Junior Clubs but it stands ready to use its good offices in their organization. As the offer of the National Society above described includes study helps for but six different birds, many groups will prefer a more comprehensive program. For these the Illinois Society offers the following suggestions:

The pupils might provide themselves with a copy of the government bulletin, "*Fifty Common Birds of Farm and Orchard*," all the illustrations being in color and the text clear and concise. The introductory essay on the economic importance of birds is of the highest value. Copies of this bulletin may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., at fifteen cents each.

In a similar fashion groups might take up the study of Forbush's bulletin entitled, "*Outdoor Bird Study*," which may be obtained for fifteen cents of the Massachusetts Audubon Society at 66 Newberry Street, Boston. This is a 51 page bulletin illustrated with drawings and is peculiarly helpful for outdoor work. Members of adult clubs will enjoy this as well as the bulletin previously mentioned.

Another suggestion is for each member of the Club to be provided with one of the Bird Notebooks published by the Comstock Publishing Company of Ithaca, New York. These notebooks contain for field use outlines for observations of bird colors, flight, nesting habits, haunts, foods, etc., and in addition, there are outline drawings on water color paper of the birds to be studied. Additional reference to these notebooks will be found elsewhere in these pages.

To each member of a group of ten or more provided with one of the above bulletins or notebooks the Illinois Audubon Society will send a supply of the Illinois Audubon buttons free of charge and will send the leader for a period of one year all the publications and special notices of the Society together with an illustrated certificate showing that the group is a member of the Illinois Audubon Society. Teachers wishing to enroll pupils under plans of their own may obtain the Illinois Audubon buttons for two cents each.

Bird Study in the School Program

The Illinois Audubon Society believes it quite feasible to place accepted aids to bird study on the official list of texts for use in schools. In this way pupils will buy reference texts on bird life in the same way that they buy dictionaries or spelling books. This has been successfully tried out in a number of places. One Illinois school, for example, asks its seventh and eighth grade pupils to provide themselves with a copy of Chapman's *What Bird Is That*, which they buy at the wholesale rate at the school book store. The sixth grade pupils buy the Comstock Bird Notebooks, etc. This seems very suggestive and so the Illinois Audubon Society offers the following program, the children to be provided with texts which are not so much books about birds as aids to bird study, this being an important distinction:

Grades one, two, three, and four. No text book recommended, the school to have a liberal supply of mounted pictures, a set of the Keystone stereographs on birds, etc., etc. See *Bird Pictures and Picture Mounts*, an illustrated seven-page leaflet published by the Illinois Audubon Society.

Texts for the fifth grade, Comstock Bird Notebook, No. 1; sixth grade, Comstock Bird Notebook No. 2; for the seventh and eighth grades, Chapman's *What Bird Is That*. Reading text to be supplied by the school, as follows: fifth grade, Chapman's *Winter Birds*; sixth grade, Chapman's *The Travels of Birds*; seventh grade, Forbush's *Outdoor Bird Study*; eighth grade, Henshaw's *Fifty Common Birds of Farm and Orchard*. The Chapman books are published by D. Appleton and Co., 2457 Prairie Ave., Chicago. The well-known Reed Bird Guides published by Doubleday, Page and Co., have long since proved their great usefulness, but preference is given to Chapman's *What*

Bird is That because it treats of both land and water birds in one volume and because its descriptive text is more complete and authoritative. The illustrations though small are accurate and reliable aids to identification.

Illinois Audubon Society Recommends:

The Nature Notebooks edited by Anna Botford Comstock are among the most useful and practical aids to successful work in nature study ever published. They include two bird notebooks and one each on trees, plants, insects, fish, and common animals. They combine field work and school work (or home work) under one cover. They are an inspiration to the teacher and the student. The Bird Notebooks contain for field use, outlines for observations of bird colors, flight, nesting habits, haunts, foods, etc., and in addition there are outline drawings on water color paper of 58 birds, 30 of these drawings in the first book and 28 in the second. These drawings were made especially for the books by Louis Agassiz Fuertes. The Tree Notebook and the other notebooks in the series can be recommended in unqualified terms. Each of the notebooks is pocket size, 4 7/8 by 7 inches, and they range from 123 to 150 pages. They sell for 35 cents each with special rates in quantity. They are published by the Comstock Publishing Company, Ithaca, New York.

"Have Birds About Your Place" is the title of one of the most accurate and most beautiful sets of bird cards ever issued for general circulation. They are printed on stiff, durable cardboard, 9½ by 11 inches in size. The 24 cards in the set illustrate 56 of our common birds in natural colors. In addition, there are several charts showing the food eaten, illustrations of insects upon which the birds feed, a brief description of each bird, its haunts and habits and outlines for bird study. Every bird lover should have a set. The cards were published by the Agricultural Extension Department of the International Harvester Company, Chicago, which offers them at \$2.50 for a single set or \$2 for 10 or more sets.

The announcement in the Spring 1921 Bulletin of the publication of a set of stereographs on bird life is of sufficient importance to warrant repetition here:

The Keystone View Co., of Meadville, Penn., manufacturers of lantern slides and stereographs, publish a set of one hundred stereographs on bird life, which can be recommended without reserve for use in the home and the school. The photographs were taken by Prof. Guy Bailey of Geneseo, N. Y., expert photographer of bird life, who furnished a number of the slides in the sets owned by the Illinois Audubon Society. The stereographs made from his photographs are hand colored and bring out all the possibilities of that form of photography. The home life of adult birds and fledglings, the nests and their environments are especially well brought out. Stereographs of this sort furnish a valuable and very definite way to study birds.

THE Illinois Audubon Society recommends the organization of Junior Audubon Societies under one or the other of the following plans:

First plan: Organize under the auspices of the National Association of Audubon Societies and take advantage of the special offer to pupils made possible by generous patrons of the Society. Each member paying ten cents will receive a set of six educational leaflets with colored pictures and outline drawings for coloring with crayons. Each member will also receive the Audubon button which represents a badge of membership in a Junior Audubon class. Each teacher who organizes a class of twenty or more receives a year's free subscription to *Bird-Lore*, the official organ of the Association. Address the Secretary, 1974 Broadway, New York City.

Second plan: Organize under the auspices of the Illinois Audubon Society. Each pupil is to pay fifteen cents for a copy of "*Fifty Common Birds of Farm and Orchard*" published by the United States Government, copies to be obtained either from the Secretary of the Illinois Audubon Society or by sending directly to the Superintendent of Documents at Washington, D. C. To each member of a group provided with this beautifully illustrated bulletin the Illinois Audubon Society will give without charge the Audubon button of membership in the Illinois Society and will send to the leader of the group for a period of one year all the publications and special notices of the Society together with an illustrated certificate showing that the group is a member of the Illinois Audubon Society. Teachers wishing to enroll pupils under local plans may obtain Audubon buttons for two cents each.

Address the

Illinois Audubon Society

10 South La Salle Street

CHICAGO

The *J. H. Riley*
Audubon Bulletin
Spring 1922



Published by
The ILLINOIS
AUDUBON
SOCIETY

Illinois Audubon Society Service

The Society has two collections of hand-colored lantern slides of bird life, each with an accompanying printed lecture. These are lent free of charge to any school or organization in the state but borrower pays express charges both ways.

The Society has travelling libraries of bird books which are lent to schools or organizations for a reasonable length of time, the borrower paying express charges both ways.

The Society publishes wall charts listing 200 typical Illinois birds and providing suitable spaces for recording migration and nesting data. Schools, Boy Scout organizations, and individuals as well find these of great service. Price ten cents each.

The Society has in press a pocket check list of birds with colored zonal maps. This list records every known species of birds that visits Illinois or nests within its borders. Send in applications for copies of the first edition.

The Society publishes the Langdon Cat Circular which is invaluable in arousing interest in the question of protecting birds from marauding cats. Price five cents each.

The Society issues an illustrated postal in the Italian language warning against violation of laws for bird protection. Price two cents each.

Address The Illinois Audubon Society,
1649 The Otis Building, Chicago

President	Secretary-Treasurer
Mr. Orpheus M. Schantz	Miss Catherine Mitchell
10 S. LaSalle Street, Chicago	Riverside
Vice-President	
Mr. Jesse Lowe Smith	
Highland Park	

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

Application for Membership

Understanding the aims and principles of the Illinois Audubon Society, and being in sympathy with them, I wish to become a..... member of the Society.

Name.....

Address.....

Date.....

Classes of Membership

Associate memberships	\$1.00.	Annually
Active memberships	\$2.00.	Annually
Contributing memberships	\$5.00.	Annually
Sustaining membership	\$25.00.	No annual dues
Life memberships	\$100.00.	No annual dues
Benefactor	\$500.00.	No annual dues
Patron	\$1000.00.	No annual dues

All members receive the publications of the Society.

Please sign this card and send it with the fee to the Illinois Audubon Society
1649 Otis Building, Chicago

FORM OF BEQUEST

I DO HEREBY GIVE AND BEQUEATH TO THE ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF WILD BIRDS (Incorporated), of the State of Illinois.

.....
.....
.....

(OVER)

To carry out its aggressive program, the Illinois Audubon Society must increase its membership. Out of a population of nearly six millions, Illinois should have at least ten thousand people who are enough interested in bird life to help the Society in its conservation efforts. Will you not help us expand our usefulness?

I suggest for membership in the Illinois Audubon Society the persons whose names appear on the other side of this sheet.

Signed.....

Member of the Illinois Audubon Society

May we use your name? } Yes
 } No

The Aims and Principles of the Illinois Audubon Society are:

- 1st. To encourage the study of birds, particularly in the schools and to disseminate literature relating to them.
- 2nd: To work for the betterment and enforcement of State and Federal laws relating to birds.
- 3rd. To discourage the wearing of any feathers except those of the ostrich and domestic fowls.
- 4th. To discourage, in every possible way, the wanton destruction of wild birds and their eggs.
- 5th. To restore to our wild birds, wherever practicable, the natural environment of forest and shrubbery which gave them food, protection and seclusion.

Needs

The Illinois Audubon Society depends for its support upon the contributions of its members and friends. It should have an income from a moderate endowment sufficient to meet all fixed expenses.

¶ The present income is totally inadequate to meet the urgent and incessantly growing demands.

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY, Inc.
1649 OTIS BUILDING - - CHICAGO

(OVER)

Name

Address

Name

Address

Name

Address

Name

Address

Name

Address

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Photo by Jesse L. Smith

THE LIBERTYVILLE ELM

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN

SPRING 1922

Published by the
ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
(For the protection of wild birds)

The President of the Illinois Audubon Society writes:

This time the theme is increasing the membership of the society and the more frequent issue of the Bulletin.

For several years the Illinois Audubon Bulletin has been distributed without cost to the members and friends of the society. It has made for itself a place among bird publications which is gratifying to all concerned. It has had recognition from influential sources in various parts of the country. It can still be improved and its influence widened. It is very desirable that it be issued more frequently. It has cost the society nothing but the actual printing expenses. All contributions and illustrations have been secured free of charge, and the work of putting the Bulletin together has been done gratis.

The problem of increasing the efficiency of the Bulletin and of its more frequent issue, together with certain proposed activities of the Illinois Audubon Society, have influenced the directors to plan a campaign for larger membership. After careful consideration it was decided to change the dues of active members to two dollars a year, and to create a new membership called associate for which the dues will be one dollar a year. All members now classed as active will remain so until the end of 1922, at which time they will be given the choice of joining the ranks of active members and paying the dues of two dollars or becoming associate members and continuing to pay dues of one dollar. All new members after this announcement will be classed under the new arrangement.

The directors of the society are planning a definite campaign among the schools. An effort will be made to enlist every schoolroom in the state in active membership in the society. Each room will be entitled to copies of the Bulletin and whatever literature is issued to members of the society. It is hoped by this means not only to increase the interest in bird conservation, but also to add to the available funds for education throughout the state.

ORPHEUS MOYER SCHANTZ, *President.*

Illinois Lumbering and Forestry

Reprinted by permission from Lumber World Review, Nov. 10, 1921

It is hard to trace the origin and development of the forestry idea in Illinois; but no doubt it started as early as 1873, when Dr. Burrill, of the Department of Horticulture, secured a small appropriation from the legislature to try out a planting of the various hardwood and softwood trees at Urbana, this tract being still known as "The Forestry," serving now more as a windbreak and small park than as an experimental plantation.

In 1908 forestry interest progressed so far as to result in a preliminary survey of the state, covering some twenty-five counties. It was carried out by a cooperative agreement between the U. S. Forest Service, which furnished two men for the field work, and the Natural History Survey. The results were published as a bulletin of the Survey, "*Forest Conditions in Illinois*," and reviewers speak very highly of this publication by Hall and Ingall, which unfortunately was not

accompanied

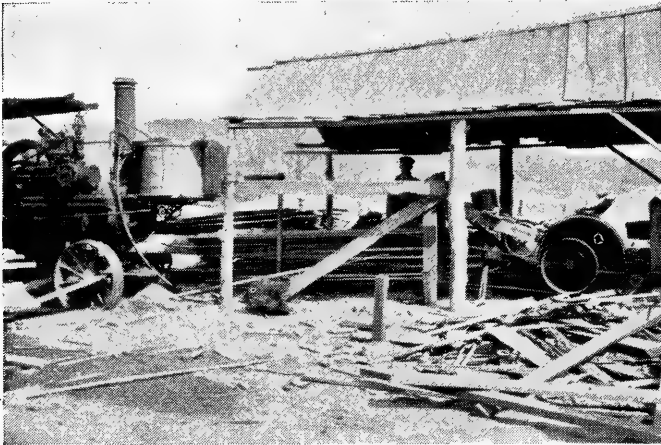


Photo by R. B. Miller

A SMALL PORTABLE MILL NEAR ALTO PASS

by a map of forested regions of the state, because of a lack of funds. The measures advocated as a forest policy for the state in this bulletin were fully ten years in advance of its time.

A forester has been at "large in the state" for two years, and by an addition to the last biennial budget of the Natural History Survey, three others have recently been added, with full authority to fall over the southern Ozarks providing they can bring back some detailed information about forest conditions there and elsewhere. For the information of any person who has never struck Illinois south of the corn belt, the original maps of the state show that at least thirty per cent of the state was once covered with trees. The timber belts and the rivers then formed the main lines of travel, the inhabitants living in the timber, developing woodlots there, and from these as base gradually they brought under cultivation the prairies which have since made us famous. Even now there are parts of the state where this combination should still prevail—timber in the hills, orchards on the slopes, and farming in the fertile and often narrow valleys.

In writing the story of forestry in Illinois, a consideration of lumbering in the state is of prime importance. Suppose we take first the timber in the southern hills, which at one time in the ravines contained a considerable percentage of white oak, tulip (yellow poplar), beech and maple. The evolution has been something like this: The small portable mill went in, cutting up the best of the oak and tulip and leaving the beech. During the past few years the beech has become valuable as a tie timber through the perfecting of the process of wood preservation, so that most of the product of these small portable mills has been beech railway ties or beech car stock. With the change in moisture conditions due to cutting out the beech, which is a shade-loving tree, more light has been admitted to the forest, and the black oaks and hickory have become the dominant trees in the stand.

At this stage the tie-maker enters the game, taking out the remaining white oak and the best of the black oak for railroad ties; and there follows him the mine-prop operator, who takes out the smaller trees for mine-props, legs and motor ties, the latter surfaced on only two faces. If fire is kept out of the forest, we will have another crop of timber, mostly white oak, black oak and hickory. If not, we will have conditions similar to those described in Forestry Circular No. 2 of the Natural History Survey, when fire takes its toll of mature trees and kills young growth of seedling and sprout origin. The ground, as in certain parts of the east, does not seem to be baked by these repeated fires, although the nitrogenous matter it formerly contained must be partly burned out and its water-holding



Photo by R. B. Miller

HAULING LOGS TO THE MILL

capacity in these hills greatly lessened by the destruction of leaf litter and humus. Our foresters in southern Illinois have

been impressed by the looseness of the hill soil, its fertility as compared with many forest soils on ridges, and consequently the greater chances for rapid growth if these annual fires can be prevented.

This can be done by carrying on a campaign of education among the people, by the formation of cooperative fire-protective associations, perhaps, or by the state acquiring a large acreage of land in regions where stream protection and future timber supply are especially important features.

Danger from fire is not so great in bottomland areas as in the case of hill timber, although no special precautions are taken about slash disposal or fire prevention. With better and more conservative handling, there is no reason why the smaller trees on a bottomland tract, instead of being sacrificed when of small value, might not soon form a second crop. In many cases, due to periodic flooding, such tracts, even when included in organized drainage districts, may not be cleared and farmed for several years. The census report for 1920 in Illinois shows that there are over 250,000 acres of such wet and swampy timber land in organized drainage projects, classed as "unimproved land," and failure to manage this conservatively until it is brought under cultivation represents a great waste. In some counties of southern Illinois this bottomland contains a considerable amount of cypress, as in the Cache river bottoms, either in scattered pure patches or mixed with gum, cucumber and so forth.

Coming down to facts and figures, the U. S. Census Report of 1920 gives the area of farm-woodlands in Illinois as 3,102, 147 acres, a reduction of about 45,000 acres in the last ten years. To prevent the useless whittling away of the old woodlot is quite a task, in view of the demand for land for grazing and farming purposes. A study of the situation reveals the fact that much woodland is cleared which should have been left in woods, especially on the steeper slopes, where it may be farmed for a few years until the surface fertility has been exhausted, then it reverts back to waste land, covered with briars and sassafras and persimmon bushes. This is simply increasing the number of acres of waste land without really adding very much to production of farm crops. The testimony of the Geological Survey in Hardin County is that land which has a slope of over 800 feet to the mile should be kept permanently in forest, while the Soil Survey of the state says that such land should never have been denuded of its forest cover. There are some 6,000,000 acres of this doubtful land whose character needs to be determined by soil experts, orchardists, and foresters, so that it can be devoted to its best and most economic use. We do not mean that this entire area of 6,000,000 acres should be put back into woods, but let us say that half of it is better adapted to forestry than to any other purpose.

This acreage, with the 3,000,000 acres of farm woodlands, would give us a total of six million acres of forest land, which should be kept in productive condition. Results obtained by the forest survey party in southern Illinois already show that in the case of the hill timber this is largely a matter of fire protection—this is about all that stands between us and a second crop of timber. Surely one-sixth of our total area devoted to timber is not too much—it is very much lower than advocated by European experts, who would raise the figure to twenty per cent of the total land area in order to maintain our forest industries and give us the necessary amount of protection forest.

This is a vision which we believe is not incommensurate with the ambitions of those who have tried for so long to impress upon the state the importance of this valuable resource. Many signs point to an awakening interest in forestry as a great state and national question. The organization of a forestry committee by the Union League Club of Chicago and the efforts of that committee to organize a Central States Forestry League are most encouraging, and their efforts in the direction of publicity and co-ordination of all interested in this question should bring results, slow as progress sometimes seems to be. The average legislator is not opposed to progressive forestry legislation—he is simply uninformed as to the true condition of things, and it is the business of a department which is entirely non-political, such as the Natural History Survey of the state, to bring together this information so that he can weigh and consider it.

R. B. MILLER, State Forester

Seven Years of a Food Shelf

For seven years I have had a food shelf just outside my study window, in the leafy town of Lake Forest (Lake County), on which has been kept constantly sunflower seed, hemp seed, millet seed and bread crumbs, with suet nearby. A careful record has been kept of the birds that have visited it, and the



Photo by George Roberts

HAVING THEIR PICTURE TAKEN THROUGH THE WINDOW DOES NOT EMBARRASS
THE REGULAR BOARDERS

results are here tabulated, not by way of presenting any record of success but rather as a proof that to many who cannot easily

get off to go a-birding there are compensations and opportunities in staying at home and letting the birds come to them. The list of forty-four different species (not of course including the English Sparrow that I would fain be rid of) is here added, with such comments as may be of value.

Twelve months of the year:

Downy Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
Red-headed Woodpecker
Bluejay

Cardinal Grosbeak
Tufted Titmouse (April 1918 to October 1919)

In the winter only:

Slate-colored Junco
Brown Creeper (eats suet only)
White-breasted Nuthatch

Red-breasted Nuthatch
Black-capped Chickadee
Purple Finch

Frequent feeders during one winter only, and not always the same winter:

Redpoll
American Goldfinch
Tree Sparrow

Montana Junco
Myrtle Warbler (into January)
Hudsonian Chickadee

Only in the winter and then most irregularly and occasionally:

Crow (suet only)

Golden-crowned Kinglet
Ruby-crowned Kinglet

In the summer, often bringing their young to the shelf:

Mourning Dove
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Cowbird
Baltimore Oriole
Bronzed Grackle
Song Sparrow

Rose-breasted Grosbeak
American Redstart
Brown Thrasher
Catbird
House Wren
American Robin

Rare feeders in the summer, some of them only seen once:

Flicker
Crested Flycatcher
Black-throated Blue Warbler

Black and White Warbler
Veery
Olive-backed Thrush
Hermit Thrush

In the migration seasons only:

Fox Sparrow } more numerous in the Spring than in the Fall
Towhee }

White-throated Sparrow
White-crowned Sparrow

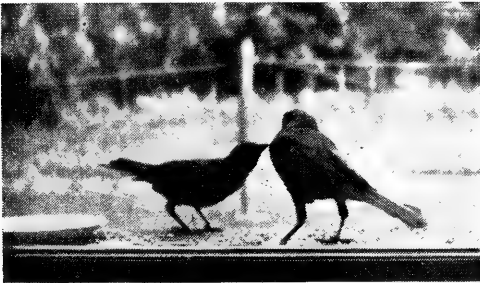


Photo by George Roberts
A RENDEZVOUS AT THE FOOD SHELF

To these forty-four may be added those which (1) have fed more or less frequently on the ground immediately beneath the shelf from seeds which fell from it, and those which (2) have bathed in or drunk from the bath which is not ten feet from the shelf.

- (1) and (2) Evening Grosbeak, Magnolia Warbler, Wood Thrush.
(1) Scarlet Tanager
(2) Solitary Vireo

There are also forty-two other species which have been seen in my yard, all the way from the Geese that have flown low over-

head to the Swifts that have nested in my chimneys (and, once, let fall a young one into my fireplace) and the sixteen other Warblers that have been seen from the same windows that look out on the shelf. Surely this is no mean record for one yard, and one that may perhaps give encouragement and pleasure to some who think that their opportunities are negligible.

GEORGE ROBERTS.

A Trip to the Apple River Country

It was not until the fall of last year that my friend and I gratified our long cherished wish to visit the beautiful Apple River country of Jo Daviess County. Its fame had reach us, and we knew that its friends were urging that it be set aside as a state park. Finally the time came when we were to see it for ourselves.

Protracted and heavy rains postponed our trip several days, for we had been advised to wait for dry weather. At last the

floods subsided and the sun shone out on a perfect fall day. So we boarded the morning train with our knapsacks, prepared for a two days' outing. A short ride brought us to Warren, the station nearest the Canyon. The citizens of the village are deeply interested in the park project and very attentive to visitors, for many are seeking to know the region. A car was waiting for us, and we drove some five miles or more to the entrance of the park. Here the two main branches of the Apple River join to form the main stream.

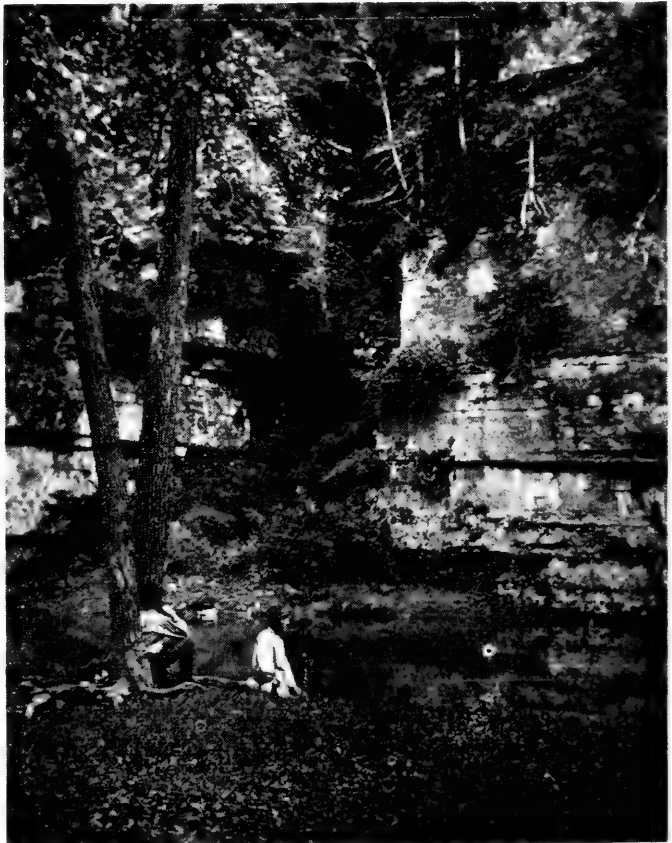


Photo by Miss Ruth Marshall

A NOONDAY REST IN THE SHADOW OF THE
GREEN-CLAD CLIFF

We found ourselves at noon on the site of the old village of Millville. Scarcely a trace now remains of the big mill and the homes of the two hundred people who once lived there. From

here the Apple River and its east and west branches have cut meandering courses through the Galena limestone. The cliffs rise high above the waters, which surge first upon one side and then upon the other at the base of the rocks. Cliffs, towers, islands, sometimes weather-scarred, sometimes clothed with luxuriant growth, alternate with little flats and meadows. A new vista comes into sight at every turn of the river, and alluring ravines are always beckoning one away from the main stream for new adventures. Everything promises a most enchanting country for the naturalist and the artist.

On a sunny flat near the bridge we stopped to eat our lunch and plan our hike. Again we found ourselves in good hands, for it so chanced that three other nature lovers were already on the scene, neighbors from the next village. We found that they had been visiting the canyon for years, that they knew every trail

and tree and bird in its season, the haunts of the lady slipper and the fringed gentian to cherish them, and all for the love of it. So it was our privilege to be allowed to join their party; by ourselves we should not have seen half of these delectable places.

All that glorious afternoon we tramped through the main canyon, up hill and over cliffs down into valleys, for the water was still too high to wade and the river is dangerously deep and swift in places. With the help of our new friends we even climbed to the top of Tower Hill, a great flat-topped sentinel

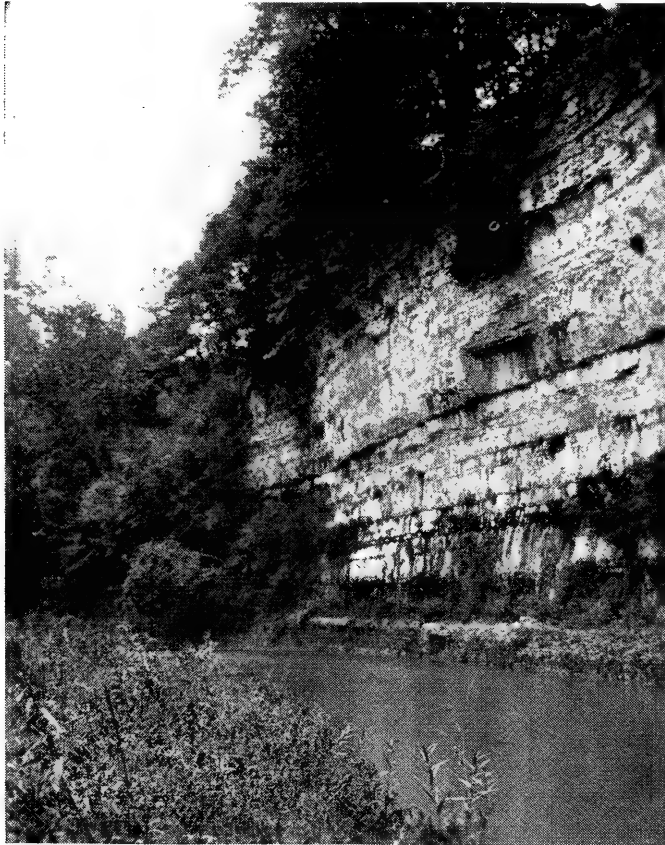


Photo by Miss Ruth Marshall

THE RIVER MEANDERS BETWEEN CLIFFS WHICH IN SOME PLACES ARE BARE AND WEATHER-SCARRED, IN OTHERS CLOTHED WITH VERDURE.

rock. From here we could see to the north and south the main canyon stretching out below us in a beautiful panorama with the dark river winding through it. Coming down from this dizzy height we wandered on to cool and shaded flats. Across the river rose an imposing cliff, a sheer wall of a hundred and fifty feet, with

Robbers' Cave in the face of it. Here the stream is narrow; beyond, it runs in little rapids, a prospect to please the fisherman.

Even more interesting to us was the field for the botanist. Whenever we stopped to rest we saw this. Some sixty kinds of trees grow here, we are told, such a variety as probably we could not find in another place in this section of the country. We found a long list of ferns, which grow in great luxuriance. The banks of the streams must be a paradise of blossom in spring. Here it came to us most forcibly that there was need of prompt action by the state, lest this rich collection of native plants be sacrificed before it is too late.

Already some of the trees near Rattlesnake Rock have been cut down, and sheep are pastured on the banks. One can never tell when some unappreciative and vandal hand will get control of the land. The canyon area contains some thousand acres, a large tract, to be sure; but this land is along the streams where it is rocky, exposed, and cut with ravines. Consequently it is practically useless to the farmer, but it would be of inestimable value as a public recreation ground in our rapidly developing state.

Time passed and the sun of the short September day was getting low in the west. We had reached Miners' Ravine. Here we left the main stream and followed to its head, a mile or more up country, a beautiful little canyon where a small tributary fell over and under the shelving rocks of limestone, alone worth the trip to see. But we had to admit that we were tired, and were glad that our thoughtful Warren friends had arranged for our lodging at a comfortable farm house.

Next morning we were out early and ready for more of it. We walked back to our starting place of the day before, this time, however, taking the three mile stretch of road on the uplands, to the bridge on the old Millville site. Asters and other fall flowers were in their splendor in the open ravines. We found a spring we had been told about. Then, following the directions of our guides of the day before, we started to explore the canyon of the West Branch. This is a smaller stream than the main river, but quite as picturesque and more accessible. Back and forth the stream runs from right to left at the foot of the cliffs, affording the same delightful views and the same profusion of vegetation. Here were possibilities for a week's excursion; but our visit had to come to an end. Clouds were gathering again, and before the last roll of films was exposed, the rain began to fall, and we were glad to see the car that came to take us back to Warren and our train.

We are going again; that was settled. And we are going to tell others of this beautiful spot. Moreover, we shall do what we can to urge our fellow citizens to see that our law makers appropriate the money necessary to purchase this rare country for a great state park while it is still unspoiled.

RUTH MARSHALL, Rockford College.

Personals

On March eighth, Mr. T. E. Musselman, secretary of the Gem City Business College, Quincy, and local secretary of the Illinois Audubon Society for Quincy, lectured at the Hannibal High School on birds. This was upon the invitation of the school board, who wish to revive interest in nature study at that institution. On April fifth Mr. Musselman is to give a general bird talk at the Illinois College at Jacksonville, and give an address before the science class of the college.

Mr. O. M. Schantz, President of the Audubon Society, has been in great demand in the lecture field during the last few months. He spoke on "Bird Migrations" on January 16 in Fullerton Hall in the Art Institute in Chicago, and on January 21 he participated in a bird program which occupied the entire morning session of the Lake County Teachers' Association at Waukegan. At the same time Mr. William I. Lyon gave a talk on bird banding, and Mr. Edwin Hulsberg gave imitations of bird songs. Other engagements included talks at the Chicago Latin School for Boys and the Chicago Latin School for Girls, the Oak Park Garden Club, the Princeton Woman's Club, the Sterling Woman's Club, and the Aurora Parent-Teachers' Association. In December he gave two lectures for the Decatur Bird and Tree Club. March 9 he gave a lecture on the dunes before the Woman's Club of Kendallville, Indiana, and afterwards assisted in organizing an Audubon Society.

Mr. Edwin F. Hulsberg of La Grange has given some very successful recitals in imitating bird songs. He appeared on one of the programs of the Wild Flower Preservation Society at the Art Institute in January. He assisted Mr. Schantz in a bird program at Waukegan in January, and on the first of March at a special meeting of the Oak Park Garden Club.

Suet Basket

From Mrs. Nelson I. Childs of Elgin comes this simple but effective device for suet container.

A very economical and practical suet basket may be made as follows: Buy a ten-cent wire teapot stand. Fasten one side to a tree with a staple, which will act as a hinge. Then drive another staple into the tree on the other side of the stand and about two inches from the stand. To this staple attach a hook which shall reach to the wire basket and hold it firmly in place. Thus the basket may be opened to be filled with suet, then fastened tight with the hook.

The English Sparrows very soon grow discouraged trying to get something to eat, since there is no place for them to stand. I have had Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers, Red-and White-Breasted Nuthatches, and Brown Creepers by the dozen all winter, so that I am sure this basket is a success.

Mrs. Robert Ridgway

A Sketch

Julia Evelyn Perkins was born in New York City, and until her fifteenth year lived in a house facing Central Park, where she first saw and became interested in birds. Her father was a wood-engraver, and at the time of moving with his family to Washington, D. C., was engaged in engraving wood-cuts to illustrate a "History of North American Birds," by Baird, Brewer and Ridgway—his removal to Washington being for the purpose of being more conveniently located for his work.

While residing in New York it was Miss Evelyn's custom to make frequent visits to Central Park to observe and feed the birds; thus from early childhood she developed a deep love for our feathered friends. She also took great interest in her father's work, and assisted him materially by making proofs from the blocks which he had engraved. This was a special pleasure to her, and I have been informed ("on good authority") that the pleasure became greater after she became acquainted with the junior author of the work which the engravings were to illustrate, and to whom she was married on October twelfth, 1875.

Mrs. Ridgway's love for birds has never flagged, and all her life she has been active, to the best of her opportunities, in their behalf. When we lived in a suburb of Washington she often returned from a visit to friends in the city or from a shopping trip with one or more "bean-shooters" or "nigger-killers," once with a pocketful, taken from boys who had been using these juvenile implements of destruction with birds as their targets. On one occasion she had taken three from some boys in one of the city parks, and on indignantly displaying them to a park policeman whom she hunted up, he said to her: "Madame, you ought to be appointed on the force. We uniformed policeman are helpless, because the boys know our beats and can easily spot us at a distance." On another occasion she attempted to take a bean-shooter away from a good-sized negro boy, who grabbed her by both wrists and held her in a vise-like grip until frightened by an approaching pedestrian.



MRS. ROBERT RIDGWAY

When the first Audubon Society was organized, Mrs. Ridgway was asked to act as local secretary. A little later the Audubon Society of the District of Columbia was organized. Of this she was a charter member, and was not only very active in increasing the membership, but was appointed one of a committee delegated to canvas the millinery establishments and department stores in Washington for the purpose of trying to induce the proprietors to discard birds and feathers as ornaments on women's hats. In this effort Mrs. Ridgway was successful to the extent of persuading one milliner, a Miss Henderson (who has since married), who faithfully kept her promise, and, I am glad to say, to her financial advantage; for at an exhibition of featherless hats, held under the auspices of the Audubon Society at the Arlington Hotel, Miss Henderson's hats were highly praised and gained her many new patrons.

Ill health, immediately following the death of her only son in his twenty-fourth year, has since prevented Mrs. Ridgway from taking an active part in Audubon Society work, but has not in the least diminished her interest in bird protection. Here at our home she has spared no effort to encourage the birds to stay with us, with results that are extremely gratifying. For more than a year past, however, this labor of love has been too much for her, and she has had to turn her charges over to me.

Mrs. Ridgway is a lover of her home, family, and friends and cares nothing for what is called "Society." Her life has been marked by such complete devotion to her husband and his interests that even Ruth of olden times did not say more truly than has she in practice: "Whither thou goest I will go; and where thou lodgest I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God." It has not always been easy for her, especially when she left old friends and familiar scenes for others untried; but she has become completely adjusted and reconciled to the change and does not regret it. Old friends are sadly missed, but new ones, some of them very precious, have been found; many things far more than compensate for what has been lost, and neither she nor I would return to city life except from the direst necessity.

In a letter just received from a very dear but distant friend to whom I had written of Mrs. Ridgway's illness, he says:

"Greetings, with love and sympathy: with my hope and prayer also for the restoration to health of Mrs. Ridgway, whose gracious influence I have been sensible of even at a great distance.

"One phrase she used in a letter crowns her with immortality: 'Where love is, there is no such word as sacrifice.'

"Learned first in time's dawn, the ages have taught nothing finer, nothing truer. Mrs. Ridgway compressed in a sentence all that Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll said in a long lecture, some of whose glittering phrases I recall even yet. . . . But all of it is ex-

pressed and better expressed in Mrs. Ridgway's single sentence.

"The reason is that she has lived what she professed.
In living a beautiful life she has taught a beautiful lesson; taught
many times before, but each revelation is as fresh as sunrise."

She is now taking treatment at the Washington Sanitarium,
Takoma Park, D. C.

In her enforced temporary absence from home, her birds and
everything that is dear to her, all miss her as sadly as she does
them, and are impatiently waiting to give her the warmest of
welcomes on her return.

ROBERT RIDGWAY.

The White Throats

When shadows lengthen as the sun goes down,
From out my garden comes a soft sweet call;
It is the white throats from a poplar tall,
Patrician sparrows clothed in suits of brown,
Like falling leaves they drop down from the sky
To visit us. Their stay is a delight,
And when they settle down to rest at night,
We wonder whence they came and question why.
They're resting here, for they have journeyed long
And still have far to go before they reach
Their winter home. We wish that they might teach
To us their softly whispered evensong.
No birds that come with songs more sweet than they,
And surely none more welcome while they stay.

ORPHEUS MOYER SCHANTZ.

Starling Invaders Arrive in Illinois

The most interesting ornithological happening of the season at Urbana has been the wintering of a flock of blackbirds which has included approximately thirty Bronzed Grackles, a dozen Cowbirds, and at least seven Starlings. These birds have lived within the city limits and kept in close proximity to dooryards in a somewhat thickly settled part of the city. In deference to city ordinances against the use of firearms and to a desire not to antagonize the citizens who are interested in the birds, no successful effort has thus far been made to secure specimens. The identification is unquestionably correct, however, in the opinion of a number of competent observers. Dr. Charles P. Alexander of the State Natural History Survey has seen the birds repeatedly and unhesitatingly asserts that Starlings are present. Dr. Alexander, who compiled Fulton County records for Eaton's Birds of New York, had become familiar with Starlings before leaving that state to take his present position. Mr. C. J. Telford of the state forestry service, who at New Haven and elsewhere has had experience with Starlings where they are well established and abundant, expresses entire confidence that the birds seen here are correctly identified as Starlings. Mr. Frank C. Baker, Curator of the Natural History Museum, has had frequent opportunities to study the birds at close range in his own dooryard and is similarly convinced. The writer on each of five occasions, February 4, 5, 11, 12, and 22, with a prism glass, studied the birds for a half hour or more with favorable light conditions and found them to correspond in detail with the descriptions and figures of the Starling in winter plumage. The numerous pale specks, especially on the under parts; the dark iris; tinge of yellow in the beaks of some specimens; and the short tail, together with the general coloration, were unmistakable.

Although the various kinds of birds keep in the same general flock, there is a very obvious tendency for individuals of the same kind to associate more closely with each other than with those of the other kinds. This is especially true of the Starlings. The Cowbirds seen by the writer have all been males, but one observer is confident that he has seen at least one female. No Rusty Blackbirds have been identified by the writer, although one observer is quite positive that he has seen one. This is the first winter record of Cowbirds in the vicinity, known to the writer. Grackles not infrequently pass the winter here, and less frequently Rusty Blackbirds are associated with them.

An examination of available published records of the Starling has emphasized the importance of having especial effort made to establish the authenticity of first records for any locality. In 1911 Bird-Lore contained an account of Starlings seen at Newberry, Michigan in 1909 and 1910. In a later number of the same year there is a note stating that the report was found

to be erroneous. In *Bird-Lore* of 1912, there is an account of a Starling seen November 30, 1911, in McLean County, Illinois. It was observed at a feeding tray along with English Sparrows. Considering the absence of trustworthy records at any point west of Pennsylvania until several years later, one naturally wonders whether the bird seen was actually a Starling; and, even if it were, whether it might not have been one that had been brought by someone from the East and had later gained its freedom.

From several well known ornithologists of Ohio and Michigan of whom inquiry has been made, the writer has been unable to learn of any well established records of the Starling west of the one made by Professor Lynds Jones in May, 1921, near Sandusky, Ohio, and mentioned in *The Wilson Bulletin*, 1921, page 102.

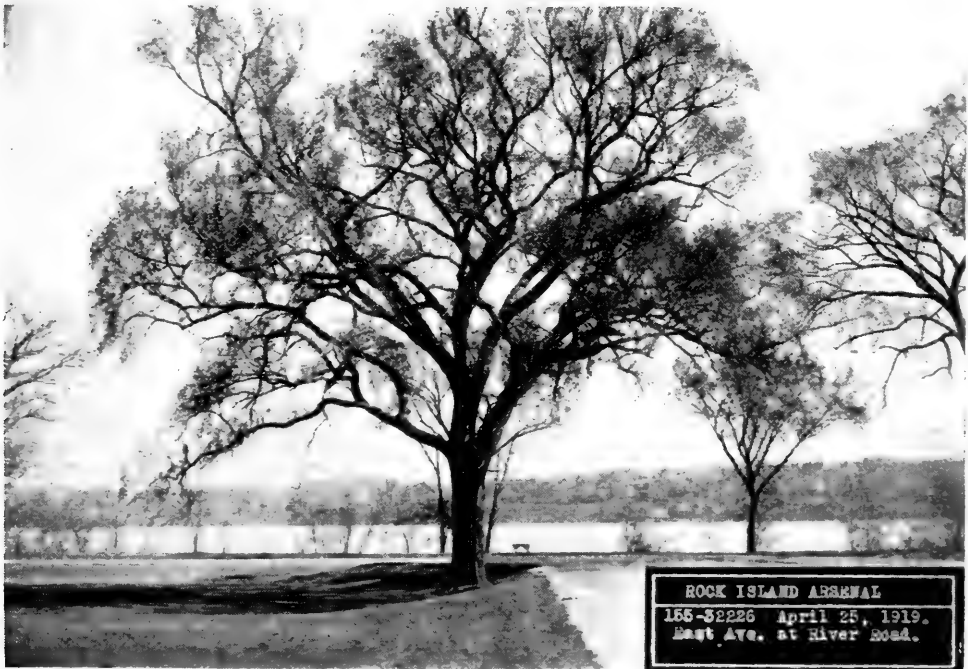
FRANK SMITH, University of Illinois

The Rock Island Arsenal Bird Preserve

Miss Nellie E. Peetz writes from Rock Island:

It is with a great deal of pleasure that we are able to announce that the Rock Island Arsenal, an island in the Mississippi River, situated opposite the cities of Rock Island and Moline, Illinois, is now added to our list of bird preserves.

The Island is about three miles in length and half a mile wide,—in some parts densely wooded and covered with a thick tangle of underbrush,—an ideal home for birds. And there certainly can be no one spot of equal size, anywhere in the country, where a greater number of species may be found du-





ring the year, due undoubtedly to its geographical situation, as the Mississippi River is the north and south guide to migration in the central states. A list of birds to be seen during the year would therefore include all permanent residents common to this locality, all summer residents, all winter visitants, and all migrants passing through on their way north or south.

As the Island is a United States government reservation, being used as a small arms and war supplies plant, it is more or less closed to the public. Only holders of passes are allowed admittance. Even in the past, therefore, the Island has in fact been a bird sanctuary, since no molestation or destruction of any kind is permitted, and the birds are not slow to realize where they may find safety and protection.

The present Commandant, Col. D. M. King, is fully in sympathy with the conservation movement and has expressed his willingness to cooperate in every way possible. It is through his courtesy that the accompanying photographs were obtained.

Bird Banding as an Opportunity to Study Characters and Dispositions

Birds and animals have as much character and disposition as people, and bird banding offers an excellent chance to study individuality in birds while they are actually in your hands, where you can make a close examination and note their actions. The Waukegan, Illinois, Bird Banding Station has studied the actions of the birds handled for the last five years and has en-

joyed watching some very interesting characteristics in the different birds.

The White-throated Sparrows arrived at our station about October 4 and kept coming until October 25, when the last new bird was banded. From that time on only a few repeating birds were trapped. These seemed to like our restaurant and became regular boarders. Early in November we noticed that a certain five were always together in some of the traps at night, and we handled them so often that it was plain that each had a different disposition.

There was the Fighter, a female that always fought as long as it was held in the hand, and when released invariably would turn back and take one last peck at the fingers before flying. The next was the Squealer, who squealed continually the entire time it was held in the hand. Then there was the Quiet One, who was just as gentle and quiet as a good little bird could be; sometimes she would take a little hold of your finger but never pinch. We were sure from her actions that she would be the kindest little bird mother that ever lived and we could not resist stroking her little head before releasing her. The Kicker never stopped wiggling and kicking as long as we held him. The last, the Common Person, was just ordinary bird; he tried a little of all the actions of the other four.

The fighter, the Squealer, the Quiet One, the Kicker, and the Common Person will long be remembered as the birds of distinct character that were always together, and we were relieved when it turned cold on November 20th, and they moved on to the Southland.

A Golden-crowned Kinglet was trapped and seemed so surprised that it just lay perfectly still and looked us over while we put the band on its leg and when released it just stood up, straightened out its feathers and then looked us over for a full minute before flying to the nearest limb. A female Downy Woodpecker trapped last

year squealed all the time it was held, and when trapped again this year squealed louder and longer than before. Other Downies would fight but make no noise.



Photo by R. S. Churchill
A CHICKADEE IN ACTION

The general question asked is, Are the birds frightened by being handled? In order to answer this question in an intelligent manner we have kept a careful record of the first flights of birds after being trapped and banded, and the observation is made by allowing the bird to become quiet in the hand, then releasing as quietly as possible, and carefully judging the distance it would fly before alighting. This study brought out the fact that when the same bird was caught the second time it would fly about twice as far as the first time, but if caught the third time the flight would equal about the same as the first flight, and if caught the fourth time the flight would be less than the first. If the bird still continued to be trapped the flight became less and less until some of the birds that were placed on the ground just hopped away, while others were always just as wild as at first.

For the study of those interested in this subject we are giving the following table of first flights recorded during the last few years.

Distance of First Flights Made on Release after Being Trapped and Banded:

Name	Distance	Action While Handled
Downy Woodpecker	200 feet	Fight and squeal
White-crowned Sparrow	100 feet	Quiet
White-throated Sparrow	50 feet	Majority fight
Song Sparrow	100 feet	Generally quiet
Lincoln Sparrow	125 feet	Quiet
Fox Sparrow	125 feet	Generally quiet
Harris Sparrow	100 feet	Generally quiet
Tree Sparrow	100 feet	Very quiet
Field Sparrow	100 feet	Quiet
Swamp Sparrow	100 feet	Quiet
Savannah Sparrow	100 feet	Quiet
House Sparrow	not released	Fighters
Junco	75 feet	Quiet
Towhee	100 feet	Kick and squirm
Myrtle Warbler	100 feet	Quiet
Catbird	100 feet	Quiet
Brown Thrasher	75 feet	Fight and squeal
House Wren	50 feet	Squirm
Nuthatch W. B.	100 feet	Half squeal
Brown Creeper	100 feet	Quiet
Chickadee	40 feet	All fight
Bluejay	200 feet	Generally quiet
Kinglet, Golden-crowned	20 feet	Very quiet
Wood and Hermit Thrushes	200 feet	Quiet
Bronzed Grackle	100 feet	Fighters
Mourning Dove	Flew out of sight	Quiet
Robin	150 feet	Generally quiet

The Mockingbird as a Northern Visitor

An unusual result of the open winter of 1921-22 has been the appearance of one or more Mockingbirds in the Chicago region. At intervals during twenty years or more of bird study this aristocrat from farther south has favored us with fleeting visits. About twenty-five years ago a "Mocker" spent a week in what is now known as Cicero, then called Morton Park, where morning and evening at the top of a tall flag pole in the grounds of the late Portus B. Weare at the corner of 52nd Avenue and 25th Street, he sang with true Southern hospitality. The Mockingbird was a source of much curiosity to the English Sparrows, but they did not seem to worry it for when they became too familiar a sudden charge from the Mocker would put them to flight.

Another visit of a Mockingbird during a spring migration was noted about 10 years later; at this time, however, it was not heard singing. At rare intervals since it has been authentically reported, last spring by Professor Eifrig at River Forest, and this winter Mrs. U. F. Cleveland of Downers Grove reported a Mockingbird as a regular visitor at a feeding shelf. Mrs. Cleveland first noticed the stranger about the middle of November, feeding on asparagus berries. She promptly moved the branch of berries to her feeding shelf, where the Mockingbird soon found them and she was then able to observe the bird closely. Later, friends who were familiar with "his highness," identified it for her.

After getting a taste of suet and later of peanut butter he—or she—seldom touched the berries. True to the Mockingbird's reputation it has driven all other birds from the shelf while feeding, the smaller birds not coming back, but a pair of Bluejays have refused to be intimidated and simply dodge him and keep on feeding. Mrs. Cleveland reports the bird coming regularly for meals during November, December, January and February. She obtained a good photograph of the bird feeding.

On February 27th another report was made of a Mockingbird in Rosehill Cemetery, by Mrs. Frederick Smith of 5902 Magnolia Avenue. Mrs. Smith had gone to the cemetery to find Redpolls and a Horned Lark that had been reported as being there. Being from Kentucky her delight at finding a Mockingbird and a pair of Cardinals can easily be understood. It is quite possible that the Mockingbirds have been seen by other observers and have not been reported. All such "high spots" in bird finds will be gladly reported if sent to the *Bulletin* Editor.—O.M.S.

Once More. *The English Sparrow*

Elsewhere appears the ominous report of the coming of the Starling to Illinois. A potential pest (there is said to be one for every fence post in some parts of rural England), its appearance is untimely and disconcerting when we are so little able to cope with the earlier importation, the English or House Sparrow. Although it is all an old story it should be repeated that we must focus more and more attention upon the Sparrow problem. He thrives in the role of outlaw without any of the picturesqueness and appeal that often goes with that. City blocks have been abandoned to him and as the disappearance of the horse from the city streets makes street sweepings less a source of revenue for the Sparrow he betakes himself in ever increasing numbers to the country. Rural districts are becoming densely populated and the farmers' barns are being transformed into huge caravansaries for Sparrows. Let us even now as we confer about it highly resolve to go forth at this the nesting season and with pole and hook dislodge these unwelcome tenants. We print herewith three welcome reports upon Sparrow extermination. The first is from Professor Frank Smith of Urbana.

"An attempt to reduce the English Sparrow population has been one of the pastimes of the writer during the past year. Beside the natural dislike of a bird lover for the pests there has been a desire to be better qualified to help others who might have similar dislikes and ask for information concerning methods of elimination. The first trap used was one of the type commonly known as the "Government" Sparrow trap with which 18 of the Sparrows were caught from March 17th to April 1st, inclusive. Better results would very probably have followed more painstaking and time consuming attention. Beginning with April 12, a trap advertised in Bird-Lore and known as the Ever Set Trap was used during the remainder of the year. One female Cowbird and 504 English Sparrows were caught in this trap from April 12 to December 31 inclusive. There were occasional periods of one to three weeks in which the trap was not in use. The number of birds taken and the amount of time which the trap was in use follow: In April (10 days), 1 Cowbird and 52 Sparrows; in May (10 days), 39 Sparrows; in June (28 days), 168 Sparrows; in July and August, by a neighbor, 164 Sparrows; in September (10 days), 6 Sparrows; in October (30 days), 40 Sparrows; in November (17 days), 17 Sparrows; in December (15 days), 18 Sparrows. Total with both traps: 1 Cowbird and 522 English Sparrows. Greatest catch in an interval of 24 hours, 23 birds.

The Ever Set Trap required no attention other than the provision of decoys and bait in the morning and the removal of the catch at night. The majority of the birds taken in June were juvenile. The trapping activities were carried on in an ordinary city backyard, in a residence district with no vacant

lots, poultry yards, nor stables in the block. The average size of each house lot is about four by nine rods. No other traps were in operation in the neighborhood."

At Waukegan Mr. W. I. Lyon, Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Morris and others have been very successful in trapping sparrows. Mr. Lyon used his modification of the U. S. government trap as described in the Spring, 1921, Bulletin. Mr. Morris uses a similar trap, his catch for the year being about 600. Both Mr. Morris and Mr. Lyon scored their greatest success during the summer months when the fledglings were acquiring experience. Mr. Lyon's record by months is herewith given, with the explanation that he was away most of the month of August.

January, 0; February, 2; March, 2; April, 6; May, 2; June, 78; July, 217; August, 131; September, 14; October, 17; November, 17; December, 18; total, 504.

Mrs. Benjamin Bachrach, Jr., reports of the work of the Bird Protection Committee of the Decatur Bird and Tree Club, this committee giving considerable attention to the extermination of the English Sparrow. The funnel-shaped trap recommended by the government has been used. The catch up to October had numbered 459 sparrows as reported by the chairman of the Committee, Mr. C. C. Caldwell. Of her personal experiences Mrs. Bachrach writes: "We have a bird garden and to the best of our ability have identified 75 or more varieties. As usual the bete noire of this garden is the English Sparrow. We have so many lures for our bird friends, our small sanctuary seems to be known to the feathered world as a safe retreat for nesting, for resting, for mating, and naturally the Sparrow, this gamin, this alien, so readily acclimatable, takes advantage of all this, and methods of extermination must naturally be sought, some way to outwit his keen little brain. We found the sparrow trap not so satisfactory.

"We tried shooting from ambush, but the city ordinances discouraged this method. So in the extreme cold weather we saturated corn or bread crumbs in a solution of strychnine, then baked it in the oven to kill the odor and make it look normal. We found they would not touch it when it was wet. Then commenced a vigil, for at no time was that pan permitted to stay outdoors unless it was watched for fear some useful bird might partake. We have killed as many as twenty in a few hours, and never another species of bird would go near the pan.

"In my talks to school children in large groups at schools or to Boy Scouts I do not hesitate to teach them that the Sparrow is a detriment. We do not consider him a bird but a pest. I tell them how they usurp bird houses sized for other birds, how they cruelly torture the Wren and the Bluebird for no reason. They are cruel and spiteful, unclean, noisy intruders."

A Suggestion

(A business man from DeKalb offers a very practical suggestion. We trust this will be an effective appeal to many of our readers and that reports of resultant experiences will be furnished the *Bulletin*.)

A few years ago I was a school teacher in the district school and from that experience, I would like to offer a suggestion.

The future of our song birds lies to a great extent in the hands of the boys and girls of the farm and any plan that is aimed to protect them must start with creating a love for the birds in the hearts of the coming generation. The school is the logical place to teach this love for our feathered friends but the teacher is limited in time and often poorly equipped as to knowledge.

My method when teaching was to give bird talks once in a while telling some facts concerning some common bird, and then asking the children to use their eyes and ears during the week. A few days later I would ask for any new information that had been picked up by the pupils about the bird subject. Beginning the first of the year, I would make an offer of a copy of Bird Guide to the one who kept the best record of birds seen. I did not say the most as that sometimes led to the habit of seeing things that were not.

The suggestion in brief would be like this. Any bird lover who feels that he or she is not doing all that should be done to protect the birds, let me appoint as a committee of one to do the following, filling in your own methods as to details:

First: Find some country school that has not had the benefit of a bird enthusiast as a teacher. (The County Superintendent of Schools in any county will gladly give you such information for the asking.)

Second: Form a coöperation with the teacher. If you can not do this personally, the mails will aid you.

Third: Plan your own form of campaign to win some of the boys and girls to a new love for the birds.

Suppose that you use an hour a week for this purpose. I will venture to say that you will find more pleasure for the time and money spent than for any equal amounts that you have spent in some time. Individuality is the thing that makes one person so much more valuable than another. In making the above outline I left plenty of room for each one's individuality; its value and success depend on the effort, and the raw material in the shape of the boys and girls that receive it.

The big idea as I see it at present is to awaken the interest of the children of the rural districts to the value of birds and the necessity for their protection. Your work may not show results at first but flowers do not grow until the seed is sown.

H. A. MAXWELL.

Erratum

—

By inadvertence the name *of* Mr. Edward Russel Ford, the author *of* Skokie Memories, was omitted.



Skokie Memories

Golden throated warbler tell me—
Or you, bittern, croak and tell—
Skokie memories compel me,
With desire ineffable,
To make question if its creatures
Fare as when I spake farewell.

Then, oh, rufous-coated sparrow—
Then, oh, joyous throated wren,
There were watery ways and narrow.
Where the silent water hen
Sought her ancient sanctuary.
Is she hidden now as then?

Does the swallow, like an arrow,
Skim along the Skokie's marge,
Iris-blue and white with yarrow?
Does the bobolink enlarge,
As of old, themes Hedonistic?
Comes Sir Redwing to the charge?

If such Junes as once befell me
Skokie wanderers yet may know,
It were very kind to tell me.
Do the winds of Skokie blow,
Spicy with the smell of flagroot?
Give me answer—I must go!

Birds in Busy Chicago

How much it would add to our joy in the glad springtime if we all knew the birds we have with us — right here in busy Chicago, especially during migration.

In our neighbor's small yard, which boasts of one syringa and a bridal-wreath bush, also a few feet of hedge, and even in the dirt of the alley on the other side of our premises, and within a radius of a block, I have seen 62 different species of birds. We live on a typical Chicago street and only a half block from Ridge Avenue.

Last spring my bird trips were somewhat limited because of my being on crutches, so eyes and ears were keener and constantly on the alert for the birds about us.

A wood thrush sang two evenings in a nearby yard! What was my surprise while lying in the hammock on the porch to see a warbler in the lower branches of a tree close to the porch railing — it proved to be that rare sprite, the Cerulean Warbler! On the 14th of September a yellow rail appeared in the middle of the street in front of our house and walked to the curb where it hid in a border of petunias!

The following is a list of the birds seen:

Evening Grosbeak, Wild Geese, Woodpeckers: Downy, Hairy, Red-headed, Flicker, Sapsucker; Crow, Bluejay, Junco, Bluebird, Robin, Grackle, Brown Creeper, Sparrows: Song, Swamp, White-throated, White-crowned, Fox, Chipping; Flycatchers: Phoebe, Pewee, Least, Yellow-bellied, Alder, Acadian; Purple Martin, Kinglets: Golden-crowned, Ruby-crowned; Catbird, Oriole, House Wren, Ovenbird, Thrushes: Hermit, Gray-cheeked, Olive-backed, Wood, Veery, Northern Water, Louisiana Water; American Bittern, Humming Bird, Night Hawk, Goldfinch, Scarlet Tanager, Black-billed Cuckoo; Vireos; Red-eyed, Philadelphia, Warbling, Warblers: Myrtle, Black and White, Yellow, Cape May, Canadian, Tennessee, Mourning, Ceurulean, Redstart, Nuthatches: White-breasted, Red-breasted; Brown Thrasher, Yellow Rail.

GLADYS FOWLER.

Decatur Lake

Decatur Lake has been created a state wild fowl preserve. A popular movement directed to this end led to an appeal to Chief Game Warden, Wm. J. Stratton of Springfield. He at once instructed the local game warden, T. A. Nolan, to secure the necessary data defining the area authoritatively and fixing the state's control through formal leases, etc. The state will post the area thoroughly and through the cooperation of warden and interested citizens it is hoped to make it a well-protected sanctuary.

Destruction of Lotus Beds

In October last the Waukegan Daily Sun reported that the fad for decorating homes with gilded seed pods was endangering the propagation of the lotus flowers in the Grass Lake area in Lake County. Commercial interests in Chicago were gathering seed pods of the lotus at Grass Lake and carting them away in great motor trucks. A large force of men was employed in placing these pods in crates and many tons of these crates were hauled into Chicago.

It was thought by some that the seeds would fall out of the pods before the pods were gathered but an examination of pods on sale during the past winter months showed that most of the seeds were still in place. The Waukegan Sun makes the grave prediction that because of this onslaught the lotus beds will be greatly depleted. It states that many Lake County residents are aroused over the danger that menaces these beautiful natural flower beds, and are endeavoring to find what can be done to halt the practice.

The Waukegan Sun, by the way, led the opposition in Lake County four years ago to the establishment of Forest Preserves and was influential in securing the defeat of the measure. The conservation program thus defeated specifically included Grass Lake and adjoining areas.

Federal Licenses and Game Refuges

We print with approval the following paragraphs from the latest Bulletin of the Massachusetts Audubon Society.

Passage of the New-Anthony bill to provide for Federal licenses to hunt migratory birds and for the establishment of game refuges and public shooting-grounds for such birds would affect about 5,000,000 American sportsmen, the Bureau of Biological Survey, United States Department of Agriculture, estimates. The bill has been favorably reported by the Senate committee on public lands and surveys. In the House the bill is in the committee on agriculture.

The bill provides that each hunter of migratory birds shall obtain a Federal license, at a cost of \$1 for the season, the licenses to be issued at any post office in the United States. Out of the proceeds not less than 45 per cent is to be spent by the Government, through a proposed Migratory Bird Refuge Commission, in buying or renting land suitable for the establishment of migratory game bird refuges which would serve as breeding and feeding places for birds during the period of their flight north, or the closed season, and as public shooting-grounds during the open season. An additional 45 per cent will be used for the enforcement of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Lacey Act, and the remaining 10 per cent for expenses in issuing licenses and other administrative expenses.

The bill provides that the Secretary of Agriculture shall be chairman of the Commission, and that other members shall be the Attorney General, the Postmaster General, and two members of each House of Congress. Rules and regulations governing the administration of the proposed refuges would be placed in the hands of the Secretary of Agriculture. The proposed measure does not in any way obviate the necessity of procuring a State hunting license. The National Association of Audubon Societies favors this act, believing it will exert a vast influence on the protection of Wild Life. T. Gilbert Pearson, President, has sent out a call for funds to finance the work of the Association in favor of this bill at Washington.

The Check List

The proposed pocket check list of birds of Illinois which this Bulletin has been promising for two years is soon to be an accomplished fact. Final proofs have been revised, page forms have been made up, and we are promised that the completed list will be in the bindery as this issue of the Bulletin reaches the mails.

For the convenience of the greatest number two different lists have been prepared. One is a working list of the more common birds and is similar to the wall list published by this Society. The other is the comprehensive list and is as complete as authoritative data at hand can make it. It represents the original observations and research of Mr. Benjamin T. Gault, the editor of the check list, generously supplemented by those of Mr. Robert Ridgway and other ornithologists for whose services credit appears on the pages of the check list. A key to birds' nests prepared by Dr. Arthur A. Allen of Cornell University, is included. Mr. Ridgway furnishes the introduction and Mr. Gault the foreword. A map of Illinois in color is included, this showing the three faunal zones which overlap in Illinois. Blank pages for notes are being bound within the same covers. A circular giving additional information will shortly appear. Advance orders for the list should be sent to the Secretary of the Society.

State Parks Report

The long delayed State Parks Report of the Friends of Our Native Landscape is going through the Press as this number of the Bulletin reaches the mails. It is a bulletin of nearly 100 pages, fully illustrated, and issued from the Alderbrook Press of Chicago. It contains carefully prepared reports upon the possibilities for state park purposes of certain strategic places in the state.

Professor H. C. Cowles writes of southern Illinois including the Ozark Uplift. Miss Caroline McIlwain describes the Monks Mound Area and Jesse L. Smith the Effingham area. The middle

Illinois River valley is treated by Morris Jessup; Professor U. S. Grant writes of a proposed extension of the Starved Rock area; Jens Jensen of the Savannah Headlands of the Mississippi; Dr. H. S. Pepoon of the Apple River Canon, and Frederick H. Pattee of the Rock River Country. A foreword by the President of the society, Jens Jensen, introduces this very interesting and valuable report to the public. Copies of this Bulletin may be obtained of Mr. Jensen by addressing him at Ravinia.

Alone in the Twilight

Alone, alone in the twilight,—alone with my thoughts. Thinking of mother at home, of the bird singing in yonder tree, of a girl I once knew, of many things, and of the setting sun.

Golden rays fleck the slender leaves of the drooping willows. A dead twig falls seemingly without sound into the quietness of the pool before me. All is hushed. Ripples, tiny ripples, grow wider and yet wider as they approach the shore. They, too, are flecked with gold, gold from the glowing sun. Everything is golden,—all is dream-like.

Far in the distance a tiny song sparrow is singing. He seems to twitter, "Peace, peace, peace, peace be unto you."

The sun, like a fiery plate, sinks lower. Little fleecy clouds, rainbow-hued, play hide-and-seek around their bigger brothers.

A faint breeze waves the willow leaves and their shadows move around in the water below.

Lower still sinks the sun until at last it touches the horizon. Shadows darken.

Somewhere near at hand a robin warbles an evening serenade to his brown-eyed mate. A thrasher pleads his cause; and the crickets chorus.

The sun sets; and its rays of rosy light blend into the haze of evening. Darkness is coming.

Out of the encircling shadows comes a plaintive cry, "Whip poor Will-l-l! Whip poor Will-ll-ll-l? Will-l! Will-l-l?"

From across the pool an owl calls, "Who-o-o? Who-o-o-o?"

A frog gurgles from the water and the crickets renew their chorus.

Night has come.

JOHN H. SUTTER

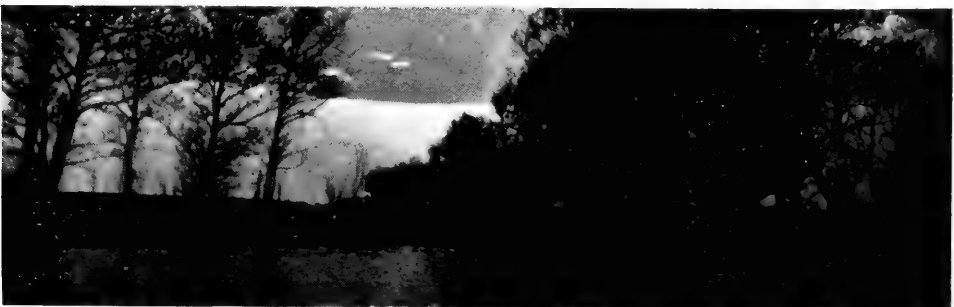


Photo by John H. Sutter

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WINNETKA

John H. Sutter

Editorial

The Bulletin goes to Press in Lake County, the northeasternmost county in Illinois. It is a pleasant corner, but it is the very last one in the state into which Spring looks as she invades the northland. As her successive isotherms loop their way northward they are retarded along the shore line of Lake Michigan and the bend of each isotherm is well up in Wisconsin before its influence is felt along Lake County's shore line. Thus it happens that our observers in southern Illinois are putting down nesting records and family flights while the Editor is thrilling at so early a stage of migration as the arrival of the Hermit Thrush and the Myrtle Warbler. Hazel catkins and the first hepaticas in northeastern Illinois, shadbush, sassafras and flowering dogwood in southern Illinois. To such climatic diversities does the Bulletin endeavor to minister. So here are Spring greetings of a kind to its readers whether they look out upon elms with swollen brown blossoms or in full leaf, whether they are following the rear guard of the warblers or anticipating the van. May there be good hunting with glass and notebook and camera.

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GOLCONDA

Mrs. Lillian B. Phelps

HARRISBURG

Clarence Bonnell

KEWANEE

Dr. Hattie Melaik, Quinn Block

LAKE FOREST

Rev. George Roberts

MACKINAW

Miss Mae Blair

MAYWOOD

Secretary of the Maywood Bird Club

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Miss Alice Jean Patterson, Ill., S. N. U.

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QUINCY

Mr. T. E. Musselmann, c/o Gem City Business College

RIVER FOREST

Esther A. Craigmile

ROCKFORD

Paul B. Riis, 301 Shaw St.

Belvidere

Miss Muriel Lampert writes of winter happenings at Belvidere.

The regular winter residents came as usual to food stations, the Chickadees in particular exhibiting a lively interest in the new stations provided them by new friends. The Chickadees, Downy Woodpeckers, Hairy Woodpeckers, Bluejays and Brown Creepers have been with us all winter. White-breasted Nuthatches appeared to be plentiful until early in January, but since that time I have not observed one. Red-breasted Nuthatches I have not seen or had reported to me this winter.

The White-breasted Nuthatches disappeared a few days after I had a peculiar experience with one, who came to the food shelf and spent an entire day thereon in an apparently dazed condition, allowing me to pick him up at intervals, when disturbed flying only a few feet away from the shelf into a sumach bush and immediately returning to the shelf. Part of the time he slept. I am entirely at a loss to account for his condition. The next few days the Nuthatches acted as usual—they had not been particularly tame—and then disappeared.

The red letter day in my winter was January 12, when a small flock, not numbering more than half a dozen, of Red-poll Linnets came to our yard to feast daintily on the seeds of wild asters and evening primroses, whose stalks were left above the light snow which hardly covered the ground. I had never seen any Red-polls before, and consequently was very much thrilled to have them come to my own dooryard. This small flock made two subsequent visits that I observed.

January 19, while taking a long walk, I saw my first Pine Grosbeaks, a magnificent pair, but I regret to say they were not in Boone county but just across the line in Winnebago. There were a few Red-polls with them also. They were in a small grove of splendid pine trees just getting ready to settle down for the night, as it was late afternoon, and casting about for material for an evening meal. They paid no attention to the two excited observers, and were very deliberate in their movements, keeping close to each other. When one flew to the ground near a patch of snow where we had an excellent view, the other closely followed, and they finally flew together to the top of a large pine, where we left them.

Evening Grosbeaks were reported, but I was not fortunate enough to see them.

Song Sparrows, Meadowlarks, Killdeer, Robins and Blackbirds have come at their usual times. Bluebirds are reported as being more than usually numerous, and I have seen pairs flying over. Juncos, which I saw on my January 19 walk, have been in my yard for the last few days.

Carbondale

Miss Mary M. Steagall writes under date of March 13 as follows:

The winter residents were numerous. There were the usual number of Bluejays, English Sparrows, Meadowlarks, Bobwhites, Slate-colored Juncos, Black-capped Chickadees and Field Sparrows. The Cardinal Grosbeaks averaged about one pair to each city block, as did also the Downy Woodpecker. The female Cardinal has not the reputation for song, yet she was often heard giving her "Tee-hew, tee-hew, tee-hew," back and forth with her mate.

Each mocking bird selected as his feeding ground a laden persimmon tree, and greedily guarded it against all intruders. They, too, were about as numerous as the bearing persimmon trees.

Pairs of Bluebirds seemed busy all winter selecting holes for their homes this spring. In these holes they began building about the first of February.

The Robins, who seemed to disappear with the last of the year, began their return by the first of February. On the fifteenth of February they averaged about six or eight to the city block, and by the last of the month they were building their nests. All early nests are placed in the crotches of the trees. Later when the leaves begin to appear they will build on the branching limbs.

During the winter an occasional Brown Creeper, Hairy Woodpecker, or White-breasted Nuthatch was seen in the trees. The Tufted Titmouse whistled melodiously from the treetops on all pretty days. The American Crossbills twittered daily from the evergreen windbreak south of the town.

The migrations were not followed as carefully as would have been most profitable, but a few facts have been observed.

The Canvas-back, which has scarcely been seen for the last five years, has been a very common visitor. On the twenty-sixth of December the first flock were seen. They were in company with a number of Redheads. By February hundreds of them were seen going north. One large flock seen at this time consisted of Mallards, Canvas-backs, Pintails and American Scaup Ducks. Beginning with the Mallards, their abundance is indicated by the order in which they are mentioned. Just now there are seen every day on the lake nearby hundreds of Mallards, Teals, both Blue- and Green-winged, Canvas-backs,

Pintails and an occasional Merganser. The kinds may sometimes be found separately, but they are usually mixed in the flocks and in their flights. Flocks of Canada Geese and an occasional White Pelican are seen.

About two weeks after the Robins began their return the Red-winged Blackbirds began to come. By the first of March they were flying back and forth to the lake daily by the hundreds. At the same time came also some Black Martins, Song Sparrows, Bronzed Grackles and Rusty Blackbirds. By March 8 were seen Crows, Turtle Doves, Flickers, White-eyed Vireos, Bewick Wrens, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks and on March 10 a Baltimore Oriole was heard.



Photo by Alvin R. Cahn
YOUNG BALTIMORE ORIOLE

Elgin

The Elgin Audubon Society has its program of monthly meetings, which continue through each month of the year as reported by the Secretary, Miss Lillian Smith. For March the program included a paper on Game Laws by Myron T. Foster and one on Sea Gulls by Miss Nellie Bond. Mrs. David C. Cook is to be the hostess for the April meeting and talks on Bird Banding by Fred Meister, on Owls by Mrs. E. J. Botsford, and Housing Birds by Howard Graves will be given. The calendar for the year shows a series of interesting programs concluded by the annual dinner, which occurs in January.

The Society is especially interested in the city of Elgin's new possession, Trout Park, with its arbor vitae and red cedar swamp and other residual vegetation harking back to the days of the receding of the glacier mantle from this area. The Bulletin is to have a special report on this area from Elgin members. It is hoped that the Elgin Society can make a careful nesting census of the Park during the present season for publication in the Bulletin.

Hinsdale

A note from Mrs. C. E. Raymond tells of another conservation project:

A short distance southwest of Hinsdale is a lake and a large area of swamp land which has given bird-lovers a great deal of enjoyment. Spring and fall ducks are quite plentiful, two

or three kinds nesting there, as well as many of the water birds.



Photo by Calvin R. Cahn
nized, their preservation will become a matter of course.

A hunting club has had the privilege of shooting during the season for many years. It has been the wish of the bird-lovers that this spot might be saved or protected for the birds and their wish has been granted. A Golf club has ben organized, leasing 160 acres from the estate of Mr. Arthur Dixon, the lake lying in the center of the property. The young men organizing the club have named the lake "Ruth Lake" after one of their friends who died in France. The birds are to be protected on the entire property including the lake.

Every such bit of wild landscape protected and made accessible for public enjoyment will be educative in its influence. When the beauty of a marsh and its significant revelation of wild life become generally recog-

nized, their preservation will become a matter of course.

Normal

Miss Alice Jean Patterson writes:

We have had an unusual number of Golden-crowned Kinglets in this locality all winter. They have been feeding around the clumps of shrubs on the campus. Cardinals also have been more numerous than usual. They have been singing continually since the last of January.

The Bohemian Waxwings were seen here the first week in January. A Red-breasted Nuthatch has been feeding in the yard of a neighbor all winter.

The first Robin I saw was on February first. On the same day in Bloomington six were seen together in a yard. My first Bluebird was recorded the twenty-fourth. I have reports of several seen the twenty-fifth. A Song Sparrow was heard the eighteenth.

The fifth and sixth grade children are starting on their bird houses. Some will be put up on the campus, some on home grounds. The seventh grade boys are planning a Martin box to be placed on the campus.

The Boy Scouts of the vicinity of Bloomington and Normal are getting ready for a bird house contest. They hope to have several hundred houses to put up.

We are much concerned about the problem of stray cats. Last spring we went to the mayor of the town to see if an ordinance could not be passed to legalize the killing of all cats found

on private grounds. The mayor said he could do nothing till there was a statute passed by the legislature. I do not know whether his position is warranted or not. However, I am hoping the Audubon Society may be able in time to get the requisite legislation on the question of getting rid of stray cats.

Odin

Mr. C. B. Vandercook writes from Odin as follows:

"While the winter of 1921-22 was a very mild one here in Southern Illinois, bird life was not so plentiful as would be expected. Some species which are usually observed on mild days were not seen at all. January 4 a Mockingbird paid me a visit, and has returned the call nearly every day since. He does not appear to take well to feed put out expressly for him, but prefers to pick up whatever he can from the grass in the garden. I have seen him at various places all over town, and he is apparently getting plenty to live on. Mocking-birds are frequently observed in sheltered quarters, and I think this one has found it comfortable in town.

January 9 I saw one Bluebird flying northeast. January 15 I saw two Robins who were perched in the top of a large shade tree. They finally decided that they were needed back in the South, so they left, and I saw no more until February 1. Since then they have been almost continually seen. January 20 I was in the east part of town and I heard the pleasant note of the Meadowlark, so I walked out into a pasture where the sound came from, and soon flushed fourteen in all. The next morning there were about three inches of snow on the earth, and the thermometer registered ten above zero. I had occasion to pass a piece of land in the west end of town which is grown up with wild blue stem grass and very thick at that. Here the Larks were having a good time singing and feeding. I counted twenty-six in this flock. I have seen or heard them daily ever since.

January 31 I saw my first Killdeer. It was flying north. I also saw three Bluebirds. The first of February was warmer, with a drizzling rain, and Bluebirds were to be heard



Photo by R. S. Churchill
ROBIN AT NEST

any time flying in all directions. February 21 I saw seven Killdeers and several flocks of Ducks. More were observed on the water but were not identified. I also heard a Grass Frog.

At 5:20 p. m. February 22 I saw a flock of several thousand Blackbirds flying northeast. They were over a quarter of a mile away, but as five of the Bronze species came back in a few minutes from the same direction the large flock took I believe they were Bronzes.

March 3 several flocks of Ducks were seen, also one Bewick Wren, the first one seen or heard since December 5. Usually they may be seen on any mild day during the winter, but they were entirely missing this winter. I have not seen any Mourning Doves, Red-tailed Hawks, or Marsh Hawks at all this winter. Juncos and Tree Sparrows were not nearly so plentiful as usual.

July 13, 1913, J. G. McKee, a farmer living five miles north of Odin, told me some boys were destroying Blackbird nests around a neighbor's orchard in the spring, and they came across one which contained four light blue eggs. I made inquiries, but could learn nothing more. Plain blue Grackle eggs are things I have never heard of. I was of the opinion that it might have been a stray Starling. I have not heard of any other occurrence, and do not wish to record this as a fact.

Rock Island

Miss Genevieve Zimmer tells of some pleasant walks around Rock Island.

Riverside Park and Cemetery in Moline, Illinois, is a veritable bird haven. For ten years I've climbed its hills, roamed its woods, sauntered along its creek, but never have I seen a lovelier sight than on February twenty-second of this year, a warm day with a moist wind blowing. Beyond the entrance gate is a stretch of wide meadow, where Meadowlarks usually congregate. I had passed it by and gone up the hill, with the full expectation of hearing my brave little Song Sparrow—already two weeks behind time—when to my ear came the lilt of spring's first Bluebird. A pair of them dropped down into the bushes in front of me, the beginning of a stream of them.

I thought I was "seein' things," but finally an immense flock flew over to that wide meadow, where they looked like a field of bluebells. I counted hundreds of them, as they flew up and then fluttered back again. The grass had recently been burned off, so no doubt they found plenty of insects that had awakened under the warm smile of the sun.

In all my journeys up there I had never seen so many and at such an early date. Usually a few pairs appear at a time, between the dates February 18-25, and then later small flocks. So perhaps this will be Bluebird year. A few days afterwards

a big snowstorm came and I'm sure they suffered, although I found no frozen ones anywhere about.

February 29, while it was still very cold and the ground was covered with snow, a huge flock of Redwings and Grackles flew over my head, steering their way down towards the marshes on Rock River. That was a little early also, as my records say March 3-10. Spring never seems to be really established, though, until I hear the shrill clarion call of the Meadowlark, heard March tenth, rather late. I also heard a number of Song Sparrows and a few pairs of Bluebirds, giving their little conversational song, always asking, "Do you—love me—truil-ly?" There were few Robins.

I had rather an interesting experience with the Tufted Titmouse that day. I could hear his "Peter! Peter!" on one side of me, and the echo "Beat it! Beat it!" on the other, so I whistled and walked along, and he followed me from tree to tree, answering me each time and finally lighting near me. I was delighted, since he always seems to be a haunter of the highest tree tops and continually fools me with his ventriloquistic powers.

Port Byron

Mr. J. J. Schafer sends in another of his interesting reports from Port Byron in the Mississippi river region.

The weather was very favorable for bird life here this winter. During December there was snow on the ground from the seventeenth to the twenty-ninth. After that the ground was bare until February twenty-sixth. During January there were twenty-four clear days, and January 24 was the coldest day of the winter the thermometer registering eight degrees below zero.

Herring Gulls were numerous on the Mississippi River during December, but there were not as many Mergansers and Golden-eyes as last winter. January 10 a V-shaped flock of about forty Canada Geese flew over our place towards the northwest. Many coveys of Bob-whites were left over from last fall, and on account of the fine weather this winter there will be plenty left for breeding next summer.

One Marsh Hawk was seen January 20, and Cooper's Hawks were here all winter. One succeeded in killing and eating one of our young chickens, but several weeks later it was shot when it was eating at a frozen chicken which was lying in the garden. It proved to be a male and was in very good flesh. Rough-legged Hawks were here until December 11. After that none were seen until February 1.

Screech and Great Horned Owls were not heard very often this winter. On the morning of January 14 a dead Screech Owl was found in the basement of our corn crib, where it evidently had starved to death.

Hairy, Downy and Red-bellied Woodpeckers were not as numerous as last winter, but the Red-headed Woodpeckers stayed here by the hundred. Prairie Horned Larks could be heard singing nearly every day. Bluejays and Crows were not very numerous.

December 11 a Bronzed Grackle was seen sitting on a tree near the house; it probably was crippled, as one of its wings hung down lower than the other. A small flock of Redpolls stayed here all winter; they were first seen December 14. Goldfinches were last seen December 11.

February 5, while taking a bird walk, I flushed a small flock of Longspurs, which I believe were Smith's Longspurs. They did not fly until I was very close to them, and when on the wing they uttered a sharp chirp or whistle, followed by a chatter.

Tree Sparrows and Juncos were scarce. Only one Tree Sparrow and about a dozen Juncos came to my feeding place. The first Tree Sparrow was heard singing February 25, and the first large flock was seen on the twenty-sixth. The Juncos began singing March 5. Cardinals, Brown Creepers, White-breasted Nuthatches and Tufted Titmice were scarce, and Chickadees were common.

February 21 we had the first thunder shower of the year, the temperature rising to forty-three degrees in the afternoon. This was followed by some more thunder showers on the twenty-second, the first warm day of the winter, the temperature rising to sixty-five degrees in the afternoon. This day brought the first bird wave from the south, and the following species were seen and heard: Pintail, Killdeer, Blackbird, Robin and Bluebird. On the following day the weather turned very cold, and the birds were seen fleeing southward. A Sparrow Hawk was seen for the first time on this day. February 25 a Rusty Blackbird was seen sitting on a maple tree beside the house.

On the evening of February twenty-sixth it began to snow and the next day there was about an inch of snow on the ground. On the morning of February twenty-eighth the thermometer registered zero, and March 1 some more snow fell, but by the evening of the fifth it was all gone, and on the sixth the Pintails and Bluebirds were again migrating.

Other spring arrivals were as follows: Mallard, Canada Goose, Meadowlark, March 7; Bronzed Grackle, March 9; Red-tailed Hawk, March 10.

J. J. SCHAFFER.

Quincy

Mr. T. E. Musselman reports as follows:

This winter has been one of the quietest that we have ever had in Quincy. The only unusual records were January records

of Winter Wrens and Wilson's Snipes (Jacksnipes). Just yesterday the first flock of Cedar Waxwings made their appearance, and we have had little else that was of interest.

My father-in-law, who lives near Beardstown on the Illinois River, has complained that his farms have been pestered with tremendous numbers of Wild Mallards all winter. A clipping from one of the Rushville papers recently told of one farmer who left a large number of ears of corn which he had shucked in the field over night. The next morning as he approached thousands of Ducks arose from the field and he found most of his corn very badly eaten. I think this speaks well for the Federal Migratory Bird Law. Such conditions as this have not been reported for a great many years.

The following paragraph from the Rushville, (Illinois) Citizen under date of March 9 has just reached me and fits in well with the above:

Ducks are to be seen in almost every field located north and northwest of Rushville, the number in some of the fields being estimated at many thousands. In the Crane Creek and Coal Creek Drainage District, the ducks are said to be more numerous than ever before and countless thousands can be seen in the fields adjacent to the public road between Frederick and the river. Fields seeded to wheat are now their favorite feeding grounds and if this continues, there is a probability that the growing crops may be considerably damaged.

Most of the hunters have observed the spring shooting law very well, although there are about three cliques of professional market hunters who are doing a big business, both in the fall and during the spring, and they are marketing their kill through several saloons. Naturally it does not make the honest hunters of this vicinity very happy to know that these men are breaking the law and getting by with it.

I might also report that the Quincy Whig Journal is carrying on a bird house contest to be finished March 18. The houses are limited to Bluebird boxes, Wren boxes and Martin boxes and a prize is given for the first and second best houses in each class.

Sunday, March 9, I took a hike and recorded the following birds: Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Bluejay, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Bronzed Grackle, Meadowlark, Purple Finch, Goldfinch, English Sparrow, Tree Sparrow, Junco, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Cardinal, Cedar Waxwing, Winter Wren, Little Brown Creeper, Crow,



Photo by T. E. Musselman

Horned Lark, White-breasted Nuthatch, Tufted Titmouse, Black-capped Chickadee, Robin, Bluebird, Herring Gull, Red-tailed Hawk, Pin-tailed Duck, Mallard Duck and Green-winged Teal.

River Forest

Field notes from River Forest are contributed by Professor G. W. C. Eifrig.

The outstanding feature of the past winter for our north-western suburb is the presence of that aristocratic erratic northern visitant, the Bohemian Waxwing. December 29 I saw a flock of about seventy-five flying over, uttering their "beady" note, like the Cedarbird. They then scattered in small flocks to look up the berries found so plentifully on hedges and plantings around the homes and in some of the large, park-like gardens of the village. Soon the berries of the high-bush cranberry (*Viburnum opulus*) and the privet were cleaned up. Flocks of ten or twelve were seen as late as Washington's Birthday and on March twelfth.

Some of our common birds seem to be getting used to our present mild winters. Thus I saw the Meadowlark—ours are mostly the small southern variety, the Florida Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna argutula*)—on January third, seven of them; and again on the twenty-eighth; and in February they were frequently seen and heard. They were common by the first week of the present month (March), a week or two before they normally are. The same holds good for the Robin. The only month in which I did not see any was January. The last one of 1921 I saw December 30, and they came in migratory flocks by February twenty-second. That exceptionally mild Washington's Birthday brought the contingent wintering right south of our area here. Flocks of from fifteen to twenty-five were seen on the twenty-third and soon after. The same day brought the Bluebirds, two being seen; they may be called common since March fourth, two weeks before their normal time to become so.

The Killdeer is even a greater surprise, the first ones coming here February 18, then on the twenty-second. They were common by March fourth, which is extremely unusual.

The Bronzed Grackles and Redwings, however, seem to have stuck more closely to their usual program. They did not turn up here before the end of the first week of March. In fact, the first Redwing, a lonely one, I saw on the twelfth, when also the first Sparrow Hawk was seen. Of course Juncos, Fox Sparrows, and Tree Sparrows are here, but I have so far not seen or heard a Song Sparrow.

The Ring-tailed Pheasant is in our parts becoming as common as the Meadowlark. One day I saw about thirty. The center of abundance for them is in "North Woods," a large piece of park-like real estate, surrounded by a high fence, where

they are unmolested. Thatcher's Woods also harbor a large number.

The mildness of the season will no doubt continue to prove the truth of the old experience that no two migrations are alike, and we can expect all kinds of new developments.

River Forest Bird Notes

A half dozen Short-eared Owls have wintered in the conifers at Vaughan's nursery near Western Springs. The abundance of rabbits in the vicinity made it a desirable place to locate. The same birds were reported to me in the open country north of River Forest where mice were probably abundant. Two or three records of the Barn Owl have been reported from Thatcher's Woods. February 26 a Great Horned Owl frightened some small bird enthusiasts in the same locality.

Most of the winter birds have resorted to the friendly shelter of the Forest Preserve, so few are found in trees and shrubbery about town. A large flock of Bohemian Waxwings have been about the only birds in evidence besides the omnipresent House Sparrow. Their fearlessness and fondness for high bush cranberries have made them delightful visitors.

The open winter has made the birds less dependent on the feeding stations, so observation has been difficult. The absence of Juncos and Tree Sparrows has been offset by the unusual number of Chickadees. Robins, Meadowlarks, and Mourning Doves in unusual numbers wintered here. The almost unprecedented high temperature of February twenty-second was naturally followed by the first wave of migration. Large flocks of Robins, Bronzed Grackles, Red-winged Blackbirds, Crows and Bluejays appeared February twenty-third. Geese, Ducks, Fox Sparrows and Bluebirds followed in smaller numbers.

Junior Audubon Observations

The other day Jack and I were out in the south woods, and we saw a Monkey-faced Owl. When we whistled he would cock his head from one side to the other.

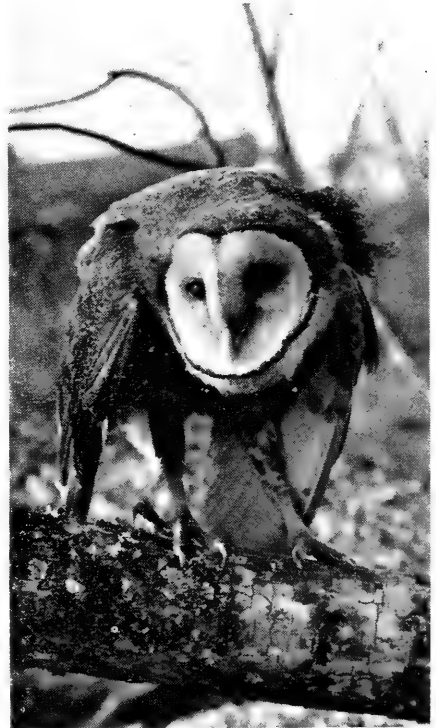


Photo by Alvin R. Cahn
THE MONKEY-FACED OWL IS AN
EERIE SORT OF FELLOW TO MEET
IN THE WOODS

The first week in March Irving Porter and I went over to the woods to see some birds. I was looking up into the trees for them. All of a sudden I saw a big something up in the tree. I said to Irving, "O, look at the Owl." But I thought it was too big for an Owl. I thought it was a cat. Some Bluejays were screaming about it. Then it flew. I knew then it was a Great Horned Owl. We chased it a long way, but finally gave up the chase.

JACK HAMMON

When I was walking to school February twenty-third I saw a whole flock of Robins where the new school is going to be. At first I did not know what they were. I scared a few of them up. I saw that they were Robins. A few of them were singing. Without any exaggeration there were hundreds of them.

CHARLES GOLDER

Rockford

Miss Edith Van Duzer writes from Rockford:

Last spring after the leaves and flowers were out and the birds had all come—April 16 and 17—we had a heavy drifting snow which remained eight and a half inches deep on the level. All winter we had been feeding birds just outside our window in feeding station, trees, and vines. After the storm we cut up meat, apples, bananas and suet, and threw them under the window on top of the snow, together with millet and sunflower seed. During the two days we fed Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers, Sapsuckers and Flickers, Cedar and Bohemian Waxwings, Ruby Crowned Kinglets, Juncos, Robins, Bluebirds, Hermit Thrushes and one Myrtle Warbler. Grackles and Rusty Blackbirds and Bluejays would come swooping down and frighten away the Chickadees and Sparrows, of which the Tree, Song, Chipping and White-throated came as well as the ever present House variety. Even a Crow ventured once within a few feet of the house—an unheard of procedure for this suspicious individual.

Late in the afternoon of the seventeenth a pair of Cardinals which had come all winter for sunflower seed came to add to our number. It was a wonderful experience and one which no one in the house will ever forget. Some of the birds which were not in the habit of coming to our feeding station were so tame that they would not fly when we came within a few feet of them. The top of the snow within a radius of 35 or 40 feet from the feeding station was crossed and recrossed with the prints of large and tiny feet. This happened where the birds had been fed for many years, though many of the birds mentioned had never visited us before. It is not so pleasant to add that, even so, many dead birds were found on the premises when the snow had disappeared.

This winter besides the birds which are always with us, Robins and Grackles have been reported at intervals, and the

Red-headed Woodpecker has fed every day at our foodsticks. A pair of Cardinals have lived in the south town, but neither they nor the Red-bellied Woodpecker, which visited us daily last year, has come this winter. A flock of twenty-five or thirty Bohemian Waxwings came March 3. These beautiful birds, singly or in flocks, visit us each year, I suppose because of the delectable berries hanging in the shrubbery of our neighbors. No Titmouse has been heard of this winter, though they were plentiful in 1921 and have been here for several seasons. March 5 I saw again a little Pigeon Hawk which lived in the south end of Harlem Park last spring.

February 22, which in this locality was a warm spring day, very wet and very soft underfoot, proved to three people, whom weather did not daunt, a most delightful occasion. We tramped many miles with the desire to see Horned Larks, and saw not only the Larks but huge migrating flocks of Bluebirds and Robins and some Grackles. A Killdeer flew over our heads and we watched a Red-tailed Hawk for some time. On returning to the woods late in the afternoon Bluebirds and Robins were all over the ground as we had never seen them before. A Broad-winged Hawk flew up before us as we went deep into the woods. These birds, together with Crows, Chickadees, Red-headed and Downy Woodpeckers, filled out our very successful winter walk. Of course after tramping those many miles and pulling up a smaller or larger portion of Mother Earth with each step we were weary when we reached home, but as the small boy says, "Gee! It was worth it."

Waterloo

H. T. Featherly tells an interesting tale of a Junco's winter bath.

On December twenty-seventh about four o'clock in the afternoon while on a field trip I was greatly surprised to come upon a Slate-colored Junco bathing in a small brook. Standing in water up to his black vest, feathers ruffled and tail spread out, he seemed very much at home as he splashed the water over his body with his wings. The fact that there was a considerable quantity of ice in the brook did not seem to make any difference in the amount of time consumed by his bath, which lasted at least two minutes after he was discovered. He neglected to bathe his head, but was very thorough with the rest of his body. When he had finished his bath he flew into the bushes out of sight.

December 27 I saw three Killdeers, one male Purple Finch, and two Barred Owls. December 25 and 30 I saw House Wrens. December 28 I flushed a flock of Mallard Ducks. January 5 and 6 I heard a House Wren singing.

January 24 I organized a Junior Audubon Society with one hundred sixty-five members.

Notes from Waukegan Bird Banding Station

The most noticeable event of the winter season was the behavior of our Regular Boarder, a Fox Sparrow, who came to our yard on November 12 and came back again on November 13, 14, 15 and 16. Then he was trapped twice and sometimes three times a day until his total was thirty-three at the end of the month, and still he stayed on, making a total of fifty-nine visits in December. During the last of January he skipped a few days but still held his attendance record up to forty-two times. February was warm and he got the spring fever and only came when the snow was on the ground or on stormy days. He made only thirteen visits for the month. In all his times of being trapped and released to March first totaled 149, but this does not count the times that he got his meals from the flat traps when no one was around to pull the string and catch him. We think he must have the record for the most trapped bird in the United States.

Tree Sparrows visited our traps during the past winter season for the first time. The two preceding years the traps were in the same places but for some reason failed to attract them, or they were not in the district to be caught.

Chickadees also made their first visit in numbers. Last year we trapped just one, but this year we trapped twenty-eight, mostly in November. These repeated right along through the winter, so the trapping and banding proved that they remained in one place for the winter.

Early last fall we observed a Nuthatch taking grain from under one of the traps and storing it under the bark of trees, just anywhere it found a place, but a few days later another was observed taking the grain and storing it in a knot hole. It made three trips. Then we pulled the string and trapped it, but a few days later we saw it again storing the grain in the same knot hole. We let it make twelve trips before it was trapped. On three more days the same bird made eight, ten and four trips to the same hole before we trapped it to read the number and release as before, so we are sure that it was the same bird and it was really storing grain in the same place every time.

During the mild weather there seemed to be hardly any birds around, but just as soon as a storm came they would be back to feed at the traps, so most of the trapping went by jumps. This applied to Juncos especially, but we were pleased by having two Juncos return with the old bands and one was back for the third time.

A Downy Woodpecker trapped and banded a year ago returned and was trapped again. Another Downy that was trapped and banded last year was found dead at the high school. We were successful in banding about a dozen more Downies.

W. I. LYON.

Cat Ordinances and State Laws

The President and the Secretary of the Illinois Audubon Society frequently receive letters of inquiry about possible legislation relating to the cat nuisance. Inquiries about the laws of Illinois having to do with the protection of non-game and insectivorous birds are also frequent. For these reasons it seems advisable to reprint a resume of the bird laws of the state as it appeared two years ago, and preface it with suggestions as to working out a possible solution for the cat problem.

Without amending the present laws of the state it does not seem possible to outlaw the stray cat. In several instances cat ordinances have been framed for adoption by city councils but expert legal advice has each time been to the effect that there is no foundation in state law upon which to base such ordinances. It has been pointed out before that the law granting power to municipalities to restrain certain animals from running at large might be amended to include cats. A simple way to bring this about would be to insert four words in the revised statutes as they now are. This would make the eightieth item in paragraph No. 62 of article No. 5 read as follows, the changes being printed in italics: "The city council in cities and the President and board of trustees in villages shall have the following powers:

"Eightieth: To regulate, restrain and prohibit the running at large of horses, cattle, swine, sheep, goats, geese, dogs, *and cats*, and to inpose a tax on dogs *and cats*."

Clothed with these powers, municipalities should adopt cat ordinances providing for the extermination of stray and unrestrained cats, and officers should be designated to collect and dispose of such cats in a humane way.

The attention of the State Department of Game and Fish has been called to this matter of amending the state laws and co-operation of the authorities has been promised. Chief Warden Wm. J. Stratton believes that there should be power to restrain hunting dogs during the breeding season of ground nesting birds. This is an important matter and it is hoped that this and the other items mentioned will be included in a bill which Audubonites and sportsmen alike can support at the coming session of the legislature.

In response to frequent inquiries the Illinois laws relating to non-game or insectivorous birds, they are here reprinted as they appeared in the Spring 1920 *Bulletin*, with explanatory comment. No changes were made in the law in the 1921 session of the legislature.

The Illinois Law Relating to Non-Game or Insectivorous Birds.

SECTION 17. NON-GAME BIRDS. *It shall be unlawful:*

(a) *For any person to shoot, kill, destroy or catch, or attempt to shoot, kill, destroy or catch, or have in possession, living or dead, any song, insectivorous or non-game seed-eating bird,*

or part of such bird, other than an English sparrow, crow, black-bird, blue-jay, Cooper's hawk, sharp-shinned hawk, goshawk, duck hawk, pigeon hawk, great horned owl or cormorant.

(b) For any person to take or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any song, insectivorous or non-game seed-eating bird, or have in his or her possession the nest or eggs thereof.

Comment on Section 17

It will be noticed that the list of outlawed birds set forth in (a) above includes five of the hawk family, all but one being small hawks and all of deservedly bad reputation. On the other the big hawks, commonly called hen-hawks, conspicuous as targets but very generally useful members of society,—the red-tailed hawk, red-shouldered hawk, broad-winged hawk, marsh hawk, etc., are no longer on the list of outlaws and are entitled to the same protection as the bluebird and the wren. This is also true, now, of all the owls, except the great horned owl which is more or less rare in Illinois anyway. The representatives of the Illinois Audubon Society were not successful in their plea for the blackbirds. The law remains as of old, and red-wings and yellowheads, surely without evil records in Illinois, are left to take their chances with that dignified pirate bird, the grackle, who, it is believed by many observers, is not generally an evil bird but only locally and now and then. Anyway, what is the evidence against any and all of the blackbirds in Illinois? Let us find what there is and examine it and be ready when the legislature meets again to speak with certainty for the yellow-head and the redwing, at least, if not for the grackle.

Who Enforces the Law

SECTION 75. *It shall be the duty of all duly accredited officers and employes of the Department, and all sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, constables and other police officers to arrest any person detected in violation of any of the provisions of this Act.*

It shall further be the duty of all such officers to make prompt investigation of any violations of the provisions of this Act reported by any other person, and to cause a complaint to be filed before a court having jurisdiction thereof in case there seems just ground for such complaint and evidence procurable to support the same.

Upon the filing of such complaint, it shall be the duty of such officers to render assistance in the prosecution of the party complained against.

Sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, constables and other police officers making arrests and serving warrants under the provisions hereof shall receive the same fees and mileage as constables are entitled to in similar cases, under the provisions of the statutes of the State, and shall also be entitled to one-half of the fines imposed and collected for violations of the provisions hereof in cases where they have filed complaints.

Comment on Section 75

Notice the various officers of the law whose duty it is to arrest persons detected in violation of any of the provisions of this Act. Note further that it is the duty of these same officers to make prompt investigation of any violations of the provisions of the Act *reported by other persons*, and if there seems just ground for complaint *the officer is to file a complaint* before a court of jurisdiction. Then after filing such a complaint it is the duty of the officer to render assistance in prosecutions. Lastly all such officials including police officers are to receive fees and mileage and one-half of the fines imposed. It is an open secret that the officer who "works" an area frequented by violators of the game laws has an opportunity to swell his normal income perceptibly.

Who Shall Hunt

Only those who have hunting licenses may hunt and that only during the respective periods of the year when hunting shall be lawful.

SECTION 40. *Hunting licenses will be issued to no person under the age of sixteen years, without the written request of the father or mother or legally constituted guardian of such person. Hunting licenses will be issued (a) to residents of the State of Illinois and citizens of the United States; (b) to non-residents of the State of Illinois, but citizens of the United States; (c) to foreign born persons who have procured their final naturalization papers, and to the minor children of such persons.*

Comment on Section 40

It will be seen that aliens may no longer hunt within the State of Illinois. They cannot procure a license and therefore can be arrested on general principles when seen with a hunting weapon of any kind, gun or net. Our laws still permit children to secure hunting licenses but set up a slight safeguard as to issuing licenses to those under sixteen. The contention of the Illinois Audubon Society was that sixteen should be the minimum age requirement for the holders of hunting licenses.

When Not to Hunt

House Bill 312, approved by Gov. Lowden, June 25, 1917, makes unlawful the discharge of firearms upon a public highway by anyone other than an officer of the law and provided a penalty of from five to twenty-five dollars for each and every violation of this act. Section 38 of the Game and Fish Code reads:

It shall be unlawful:

(a) *To hunt, kill, take or destroy, or attempt to hunt, kill, take or destroy game birds, rabbits, squirrels, or fur-bearing animals from any automobile or vehicle of any kind propelled by mechanical power, by the use of the lights thereof or any light used from such vehicle.*

(b) *It shall be unlawful for any person to trap or hunt with a gun or a dog, or allow a dog to hunt within or upon the land of another, or upon waters flowing over or standing on the land of another, without first obtaining permission so to do from the owner, agent or occupant of such land, and it shall be further unlawful for any person to wantonly or carelessly injure or destroy, in any manner whatsoever, any real or personal property on the land of another while engaged in trapping or hunting thereon.*

Further and Final Comment

There is no lawful hunting on highways or roadsides nor may one hunt on private property without permission. These two provisions should be easy to enforce. The penalty for violation of Section 38 is a fine not less than fifteen dollars for each offense. Here it might be stated that the penalty for killing protected birds is ten dollars for each and every offense. All these penalties are coupled with jail sentences where the fines are not paid, so that there is no default because of inability to pay a fine.

It should be noticed finally, that no chance for subterfuge is left to those who violate the rights of birds to life and the pursuit of happiness. Section 17 explicitly states that it is unlawful to shoot, kill, destroy or catch or *attempt* to shoot, kill, destroy or catch, and thereby sling-shot, air rifle, club, stone, or net are outlawed with other weapons when an attempt on birds on the protected list is made. The illicit hunter has sometimes an unarmed companion to carry the bag and to hold the attention of the officer while the weapon bearer may escape. The innocent story of carrying the bag to oblige an unknown person or of having picked up the game along the way is barred out by this same Section 17 which declares it unlawful to have in one's possession, living or dead, birds on the protected list.

On the whole the bird protection laws of Illinois are adequate to a high degree. As to their enforcement, that is up to the final source of authority, the gentle reader and the rest of the people.

JESSE L. SMITH.

THE ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY recommends the organization of Junior Audubon Societies under one or the other of the following plans:

First plan: Organize under the auspices of the National Association of Audubon Societies and take advantage of the special offer for pupils made possible by generous patrons of the Society. Each member paying ten cents will receive a set of six educational leaflets with colored pictures and outline drawings for coloring with crayons. Each member will also receive the Audubon button which represents a badge of membership in a Junior Audubon class. Each teacher who organizes a class of twenty or more receives a year's free subscription to *Bird-Lore*, the official organ of the Association. Address the Secretary, 1794 Broadway, New York City.

Second plan: Organize under the auspices of the Illinois Audubon Society. Each pupil is to pay fifteen cents for a copy of "*Fifty Common Birds of Farm and Orchard*" published by the United States Government, copies to be obtained either from the Secretary of the Illinois Audubon Society or by sending directly to the Superintendent of Documents at Washington, D. C. To each member of a group provided with this beautifully illustrated bulletin the Illinois Audubon Society will give without charge the Audubon button of membership in the Illinois Society and will send to the leader of the group for a period of one year all the publications and special notices of the Society together with an illustrated certificate showing that the group is a member of the Illinois Audubon Society. Teachers wishing to enroll pupils under local plans may obtain Audubon buttons for two cents each.

Address the

Illinois Audubon Society

10 South LaSalle Street
CHICAGO

The
Audubon Bulletin
Fall 1922



Published by
The ILLINOIS
AUDUBON
SOCIETY

Illinois Audubon Society Service

The Society has two collections of hand-colored lantern slides of bird life, each with an accompanying printed lecture. These are lent free of charge to any school or organization in the state but borrower pays express charges both ways.

The Society has travelling libraries of bird books which are lent to schools or organizations for a reasonable length of time, the borrower paying express charges both ways.

The Society publishes wall charts listing 200 typical Illinois birds and providing suitable spaces for recording migration and nesting data. Schools, Boy Scout organizations, and individuals as well find these of great service. Price ten cents each.

The Society publishes a Pocket Check List of Birds with a colored zonal map. This list records every known species of birds that visits Illinois or nests within its borders. Included with this is a very useful key for the identification of nests. The Check List sells for fifty cents.

The Society publishes the Langdon Cat Circular which is invaluable in arousing interest in the question of protecting birds from marauding cats. Price five cents each.

The Society issues an illustrated postal in the Italian language warning against violation of laws for bird protection. Price two cents each.

Address The Illinois Audubon Society,

10 South La Salle Street, Chicago

President
Mr. Orpheus M. Schantz
10 S. LaSalle Street, Chicago

Secretary-Treasurer
Miss Catherine Mitchell
Riverside

Mr. Jesse Lowe Smith
Vice-President
Highland Park

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

Application for Membership

Understanding the aims and principles of the Illinois Audubon Society,
and being in sympathy with them, I wish to become a.....

Name.....

Address.....

Date.....

Classes of Membership

Associate memberships	\$1.00.	Annually
Active memberships	\$2.00.	Annually
Contributing memberships	\$5.00.	Annually
Sustaining membership	\$25.00.	No annual dues
Life memberships	\$100.00.	No annual dues
Benefactor	\$500.00.	No annual dues
Patron	\$1000.00.	No annual dues

All members receive the publications of the Society.

Please sign this card and send it with the fee to the Illinois Audubon Society
10 South La Salle Street, Chicago

FORM OF BEQUEST

I DO HEREBY GIVE AND REQUETH TO THE ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF WILD BIRDS (Incorporated), of the State of Illinois.

.....
.....
.....

(OVER)

To carry out its aggressive program, the Illinois Audubon Society must increase its membership. Out of a population of nearly six millions, Illinois should have at least ten thousand people who are enough interested in bird life to help the Society in its conservation efforts. Will you not help us expand our usefulness?

I suggest for membership in the Illinois Audubon Society the persons whose names appear on the other side of this sheet.

Signed.....

Member of the Illinois Audubon Society

May we use your name? } Yes
 } No

The Aims and Principles of the Illinois Audubon Society are:

- 1st. To encourage the study of birds, particularly in the school and to disseminate literature relating to them.
- 2nd. To work for the betterment and enforcement of State and Federal laws relating to birds.
- 3rd. To discourage the wearing of any feathers except those of the ostrich and domestic fowls.
- 4th. To discourage, in every possible way, the wanton destruction of wild birds and their eggs.
- 5th. To restore to our wild birds, wherever practicable, the natural environment of forest and shrubbery which gave them food, protection and seclusion.

Needs

The Illinois Audubon Society depends for its support upon the contributions of its members and friends. It should have an income from a moderate endowment sufficient to meet all fixed expenses.

¶ The present income is totally inadequate to meet the urgent and incessantly growing demands.

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY, Inc.

10 SOUTH LA SALLE STREET - CHICAGO

(OVER)

Name

Address

Name

Address

Name

Address

Name

Address

Name

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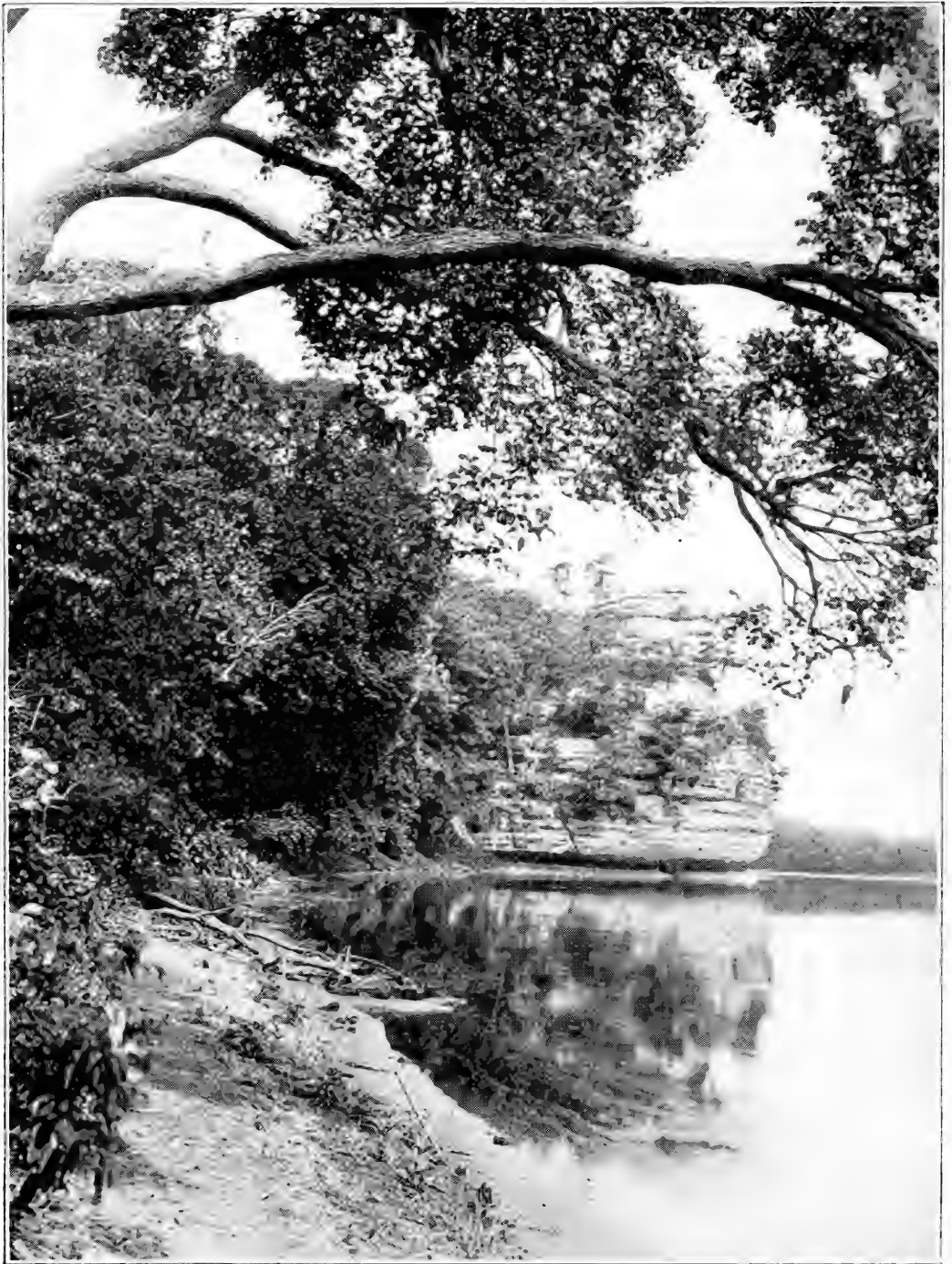


Photo by Orpheus M. Schantz

LOVERS LEAP
Starved Rock State Park

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN

FALL 1922

Published by the
ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

(For the protection of wild birds)

The President of the Illinois Audubon Society writes:

This number of the *Bulletin* gives publicity to one of the outstanding events of our year, the issue from the press of our long-delayed *Check List of the Birds of Illinois*. The immediate favor with which it was received, the approval of our enterprise by the President of the National Association of Audubon Societies, and items of interest relating to the preparation and publication of the Check List are told in the following pages. This number also records another event of special significance to the Illinois Audubon Society during the past year which was the A. O. U. meeting in Chicago at which time our Society assisted the authorities of the Field Museum and the Chicago Ornithological Club in the entertainment of the distinguished visitors. The notable collection of photographs, drawings and paintings of bird life brought together for this occasion and left on exhibition for some weeks after the close of the meeting has been significant in inspiring interest in no small portion of the area which the Illinois Audubon Society serves.

As is its wont, the *Bulletin* offers a variety of fresh and original material. One of the earliest of Illinois ornithologists is appropriately memorialized. One of our members permits the advance publication of a portion of a chapter of his forthcoming book on Mississippi Valley Birds at Home. The Morton Arboretum which is steadily taking shape is given space. This will be a notable refuge for bird life in the future. Among other good things in this number the valuable collection of notes from the field which follows the Editorial Page must not be left unmentioned. It is from such collections as these that students of bird life in Illinois will find rich material. The next step in field ornithology now that we have our scholarly and all-embracing *Check List of the Birds of Illinois*, is a check list of each county or groups of counties making a unit of bird fauna. To these lists the field notes of past issues of the *Bulletin* as well as those of the current issue will be valuable contributions.

To the Editor in his appropriate space is left the important task of reminding us of the forth-coming session of the Legislature and of what we may all have a chance to do in the way of enhancing the living conditions of our co-workers and faithful allies, the birds.

ORPHEUS MOYER SCHANTZ

Major Robert Kennicott



MAJOR ROBERT KENNICOTT

and Ruthven Deane went to Des Plaines where they were met by Ransom S. Kennicott, Chief Forester of the Cook County Forest Preserve, a nephew of the late Major Kennicott. They made a pilgrimage to Arlington Cemetery and then they proceeded to "The Grove," the original home of the Kennicotts. The house, which appears in our illustration, was built in 1845 and it was here that Major Kennicott spent much of his early life and wrote many of his reports. The death of this brilliant naturalist and explorer at the comparatively early age of thirty-one, cut short a career full of promise which had been signalized by numerous activities in laying the foundation of scientific surveys.

Robert Kennicott was born in New Orleans, November 13, 1838, and passed his boyhood at "The Grove." He acquired a taste for natural history at an early age, and while still little more than a youth his writing attracted the attention of some of the leading naturalists of the day. As a result he became for a while a guest and pupil of Doctor J. P. Kirtland of Cleveland, Ohio. In 1854 he accepted an invitation from Dr. P. R. Hoy of Racine, Wisconsin, where he pursued his studies in zoology. In 1855 the Illinois Central Railroad Company and the Illinois State Agricultural Society formed a combination for the purpose of making a Natural History survey of the state. Kennicott received the appointment for the work and the Smithsonian Institute furnished the outfit and the results of this expedition were worked up at "The Grove." In 1855-6 he rendered assist-

The American Ornithologists Union a few years ago organized a committee on biography and bibliography which is to make official note of the homes and last resting places of well-known ornithologists. This has involved considerable investigations but the work of the committee has been meeting with a good measure of success. This committee took the occasion of the recent meeting of the Union in Chicago to look up the home and last resting place of Major Robert Kennicott, the well-known pioneer in Illinois ornithology and Arctic explorer under the auspices of the National Government. A party consisting of Doctor and Mrs. T.S. Palmer, John H. Sage,

ance to Professor Agassiz in obtaining collections and information for his "Natural History of the United States." About this time he concluded to take up the study of medicine as a more lucrative practice but after two terms at the Rush Medical School, ill-health showed that he could not stand the close confinement. In 1856 he was again active in building up a Chicago Museum of Natural History. The same year he accepted a proposition from the United States Commissioner of Patents to write an account of the mammals of the northwest injurious to farming interests. This was published in the report for 1856. In 1857 he made collections to start a Museum of Natural History for Northwestern University and collected from Cairo, Illinois to the Red River of the North. In 1859 he collected in the region north of Lake Superior and from Hudson Bay to Behring Straits. In 1862 he explored the valley of the McKenzie River from its mouth to Fort Simpson. In 1865 he was selected to head an expedition organized by the Western Union Telegraph Company to Alaska and to collect objects of natural history for the Chicago Academy.

The party sailed from San Francisco March 21, 1865, and, later, was divided into two expeditions, Kennicott and his party going up the Yukon River. He arrived at St. Michael's, Morton's Sound, in September, and this spot was destined to be the base of his future operations in the Yukon Valley. In this country he had many disappointments and delays, and was weakened by extreme hardships and exposures which undermined his none too rugged constitution. Death overtook him when he reached



"THE GROVE", DESPLAINES

the post of Nulato, May 13, 1866, and his body was brought back to Chicago for burial.

The names of Kennicott's colleagues in his last expedition should be recorded here: Dr. Henry M. Bannister (1844-1920) of Evanston, Illinois; Charles Pease (1835-1875) Lakewood, Ohio; Henry W. Elliott, Lakewood, Ohio; and William H. Dall of Washington. Some of these records of Major Kennicott's career have been obtained from "The U. S. Biographical Dictionary and Portrait Gallery of Eminent Self-Made Men," published in 1876.

Ruthven Deane.

The 1922 A. O. U. Meeting

On October 24-26 inclusive occurred the fortieth stated meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union, the place of meeting being the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago.

This was the great event of the year in ornithological circles. It is always a great privilege to attend a convention of this most influential ornithological association, and those of the members of the Illinois Audubon Society living in or near Chicago who availed themselves of the privileges of the meeting were to be congratulated. It was the first meeting of the organization to be held in the middle west. The Illinois Audubon Society was honored in having the opportunity to meet and assist in the entertainment of the Union.

The Union was organized in 1883 and its ultimate aim was to make of ornithology an exact science in all its branches. It has held its meetings in rotation at Cambridge, New York, Philadelphia, and Washington. This year at the invitation of the Field Museum of Natural History, the Illinois Audubon Society, and the Chicago Ornithological Society, it came to Chicago. The local committee on arrangements consisting of Wilfred H. Osgood, of the Field Museum; Ruthven Deane, and Orpheus M. Schantz of the Illinois Audubon Society; and Percival B. Coffin, and Reuben M. Strong, of the Chicago Ornithological Club was most fortunate in the successful carrying out of the plans they had matured. The middle west members of the "A. O. U.", as it is called, were more than delighted with the attendance records of the meeting. 275 new associates were elected to membership—a record number. 167 members were in attendance—which was a record number. 131 were present at the annual dinner, which is looked forward to as one of the great events of the meeting. More papers were presented than could well be handled and more than forty of the members remained over the next day after the close of the session in order to take part in a field trip to the sand dunes of Indiana.

Dr. T. S. Palmer, the secretary, managed the details of the program with great success. The programs of the different sessions were so varied and interesting that it is not easy to single out members for particular emphasis. Reference might be made, however, to the bird banding program which occupied

the entire session on Wednesday morning, October 25th. Mr. W. I. Lyon, of Waukegan, Illinois, a prominent member of the Illinois Audubon Society, had one of the most interesting papers of the session on the subject of methods of trapping and general practice of bird banding. Another valuable paper was presented by Professor T. G. Ahrens, of Berlin, who read a paper on bird banding and bird migration at Rossitten on the Baltic Sea. This was illustrated by lantern slides. The presence of Professor Ahrens, who made the trip from Berlin expressly to attend the A. O. U. meeting, was an evidence of the spirit of friendly cooperation on the part of German ornithologists.

Professor Francis H. Herrick, of Cleveland, Ohio, gave a very interesting illustrated talk at one of the sessions on an eagle observatory. Unusually interesting material was presented by G. Finlay Simmons, of Austin, Texas, in his paper on the "Sea Bird Sanctuaries of Texas," and by Robert Cushman Murphy, of New York, on "The Whitney South Sea Expedition of the American Museum of Natural History."

The final program on Thursday afternoon included a very interesting talk on "A Summer in Ecuador" by Frank M. Chapman and an exhibit of unusually attractive and valuable motion picture films. Dr. Thomas S. Roberts, of Minneapolis, presented the subject of "Familiar Birds and Mammals in Motion Pictures." Louis Agassiz Fuertes, of Ithaca, New York, showed a film of "Flamingos of the Bahamas;" and Donald R. Dickey, of Pasadena, California, some exceptional pictures of wild life in New Brunswick.

Not the least important feature of the A. O. U. meeting was the special exhibit of pictures of bird life, which was set up in an unusually attractive form in one of the display galleries of the Museum. Practically all of the well-known illustrators of bird life were represented in a comprehensive way, and many bird photographers and amateur artists brought important contributions to the exhibit. This exhibit was left in place after the close of the meeting and during the past month has been a center of interest for visitors to the Museum. Members of the A. O. U. declared it was the finest collection of pictures of bird life that has been assembled in the history of American ornithology. The list of more widely known artists whose works were on exhibit included Louis Agassiz Fuertes, R. Bruce Horsfall, E. J. Sawyer, Ernest Seton Thompson, Allan Brooks, F. W. Benson, L. B. Hunt, and Courtenay Brandreth. Carl F. Grone-mann, a member of the Illinois Audubon Society, prominent in the Elgin Nature Study Club, was represented by several very carefully executed paintings of individual birds. W. D. Richardson, also a member of the Illinois Audubon Society, had a fine collection of photographs of bird life. Other notable collections of photographs were contributed by Professor Francis Herrick, Arthur Allen of Ithaca, Doctor A. H. Cordier of Kansas City, and Donald R. Dickey, of Pasadena.

The Morton Arboretum

In recent years the movement to conserve the wooded lands of the country from destruction, has resulted in many public and private efforts which are noteworthy in their success in preventing the further denuding of timbered lands. The finest example of public conservation is that of the forest preserves of Cook county. Already more than twenty thousand acres of magnificent woodland have been taken over and are being administered for the people of the county. Along the north shore of Lake Michigan are many fine tracts belonging to private estates, which are not free to the public. These timbered areas vary greatly both in their topography and the character of the tree growth, owing to varied natural causes.



Photo by Orpheus M. Schantz

APPROACH TO THE ARBORETUM

so much effect on the shaping of land contours in Illinois, had a tremendous influence in furnishing suitable soil for forest growth. North and west of Chicago the results of glacial action are clearly evident to the geologist, who will tell you that the eskers, kames and moraines with their varied gravel formations have made possible some of the finest forests in Cook, Dupage, Kane and Will counties. When, therefore, the gravelly glacial soils are watered by streams, even though small, conditions are ideal for the growth of luxuriant forests.

In the valley of the east branch of the Little Dupage river, in Dupage county, between the villages of Lisle on the Burlington Ry. and Glen Ellyn on the Northwestern Ry., the above described combination of glacial drift and stream has made a location ideal for the carrying out of a plan for an Arboretum on so large a scale that it will be, when completed, the greatest botanical garden in America. Joy Morton has set aside 400 acres of the finest land on his estate for this purpose, which occupies the center and both slopes of the Little Dupage valley,

In nearly all prairie regions the best forested areas are found bordering streams or contiguous to bodies of water. There are, however other natural causes which may from their effect on the soil conditions, result in great timber tracts away from waterways. The former glacial epochs which had



Photo by Orpheus M. Schantz
SUGAR MAPLE GROWING IN THE OPEN

merging on the east side into a wonderful primeval forest. The entire Arboretum tract will be landscaped so as to provide not only ideal conditions for plant growth, but with its scenic effects that will add greatly to the attractions of the project. During the spring of this year 138,000 plants and cuttings were set out and during the summer preparations for 100,000 more were made.

The main entrance to the Arboretum will be from the southeast by a winding road joining the new Chicago-Aurora highway via Ogden Avenue. Skirting the sharply defined eastern edge

of the forest the road enters into a magnificent first growth of ancient and dignified trees. Oaks, maples, ash, elm, walnut, basswood, black cherry and many other varieties, with a lower growth of hawthorns, wild crab and viburnum. At one low spot is a colony of red elm (slippery elm) festooned with great lianas of poison ivy, dangerous to touch but magnificent in its autumn coloring; farther on a dry north slope is carpeted with a dense growth of hepaticas, and everywhere the many varieties of hawthorn are loaded with their striking red fruit.

Passing from the eastern timbered higher ground down the slope to the roadway and across to the western boundary of the arboretum, one is impressed by the numbers of magnificent individual trees that have grown in entirely different manner from those crowded in the deep forest. One sugar maple, shapely and dense, stands alone among its neighbors, having a spread of almost 50 feet. Nearby is a wonderful elm, with a spread of 80 feet and a trunk diameter of $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet. In a hollow not far distant is a group of tall, straight-bolled walnuts, whose trunks if felled would furnish timber for furniture and veneer.

The study of plant life in its relation to our economic life has only begun. Although there are on many private estates collections of trees and other plant life of great interest, and

the greenhouses of many city parks contain notable collections of tropical and exotic plants, the Arnold Arboretum at Jamaica Plain, Mass., is the only ambitious out-of-door botanical garden in America. Kew Garden in England and its arboretum contain 253 acres of land. This is one of the most famous gardens in Europe and it is about 175 years old. The Arnold Arboretum is about 50 years old and contains nearly 270 acres. It is already famous for its wonderful collections of American and introduced plant life.



Photo by Orpheus M. Schantz
ENTRANCE TO PRIMEVAL FOREST

The best talent in the country is being enlisted to make of the Morton Arboretum as perfect a botanical garden as money and expert experience can make it and already an expedition jointly financed by the Morton and Arnold arboretums is on its way to explore the forests of the Canadian northwest for rare plants. The arboretum will be open to students of botany and plant economics, and the growth of this very great project will be fascinating to follow.

The inception of the arboretum no doubt has some connection with the success of Arbor Lodge, founded by Mr. Morton's father, the late J. Sterling Morton, at the Morton Home in Nebraska City, Nebraska. Joy Morton has had a vision which is now bearing fruit, in the founding of a great out-of-door garden in the midst of the fertile prairie lands of Northern Illinois. Within a few years it will be possible to see plants from all parts of the temperate world growing under ideal conditions, in close proximity to their North American relatives. In con-

nection with the Arboretum there will be a fine reference library, in which plant lore will be the predominating objective.

On the wall of the history room in a great school, in Northern New York, built by another Chicago man for the purpose of furnishing a rural community proper education, there hangs a tablet on which is inscribed the following sentiment:

"Constantly search your mind for its best thoughts, cultivate your highest ideals, for without vision the people perish."

The vision of such men as Joy Morton, W. H. Miner, and the founder of the Smithsonian Institution, when accompanied by the ability to carry out their ideals, puts the people of the United States under a lasting obligation of grateful appreciation.

The Morton estate is a favorite breeding ground for Vesper Sparrows, Bobolinks, Dickcissels and in a secluded field a pair of the rather rare Lark Sparrow was found in July. Killdeers and Sandpipers found the shores of the artificial lake very much to their liking, and showed their appreciation of the protection afforded by being very tame, only flying a short distance when flushed.

ORPHEUS MOYER SCHANTZ

The Sport of the Superior Being

We print, without comment, a copy of the letter which was sent to the *Chicago Evening Post*, on September 10, 1921.

The Editor of The *Chicago Evening Post*,

Dear Sir:-

A great many good people are joyous these days to have another shot at the partridge, the American pheasant, and the noblest bird of our Northern woods—perhaps the last one. The bird is reported plentiful in the woods of Wisconsin, but this is not true everywhere.

On our way home, the other day, a business man, who delighted to shoot partridges, said to me, "Judging by the hundreds that are going to hunt the partridge, there won't be a single bird left to tell the tale."

A week before we left our cabin in the Northern woods we had the pleasure of a visit from a foreigner. One day after tramping through the forest, he was touched by the silence of them. "Your woods are beautiful, but dead!" he exclaimed, "there is not a living thing in them." I told him that years ago these woods were very much alive, but just as our noble forests, so their denizens were ruthlessly destroyed.

The tiger kills when he is hungry; the Indian killed for food; but white man, who thinks himself a superior being, kills for lust and pleasure.

JENS JENSEN

Our Check List

The first copies of our new Check List of the Birds of Illinois came from the bindery the second morning of the A. O. U. meeting in Chicago, October 25, and the first copies to be distributed went to ornithologists such as Frank Chapman, T. S. Palmer, Lynds Jones, Harry Oberholzer, Arthur A. Allen, and others. Everywhere comment of the most flattering nature occurred. It was admired for its compactness of form, its authoritativeness, its unique contributions to bird study in Illinois and adjoining states, etc. A few days later a friendly reference in the Chicago Tribune by Bob Becker brought in mail orders for the List from every direction. From Mr. T. Gilbert Pearson, President of the National Association of Audubon Societies came a message of approval and congratulation.

The Illinois Audubon Society has reason to be proud of its accomplishment. The Check List is well-printed and attractively bound and its convenient size ($4\frac{1}{2}$ by $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches), its broad margins inviting pencil notes, its symbols of range, nesting habits and occurrence, make it an extremely useful handbook. The zonal map prepared by Mr. Gault and Mr. Ridgway is a valuable contribution to the geography of the bird fauna of the Mississippi Valley. The long delay in the final issue of the Check List from the press after the first announcement of its preparation has been due to the desire to make all of its details as accurate as possible. All of this has involved no little expense and the Society has been obliged to fix the price of the List at fifty cents, post paid. The distribution of the Check List is sure to stimulate the intelligent observation of bird migration and nesting occurrence in Illinois and our members can perform a most useful service by purchasing a copy and soliciting orders for copies from friends and acquaintances.

From the Preface to the Check List the following paragraphs are reprinted:

A tentative "Check List" of Illinois birds appeared in the Spring 1917 Bulletin of the Illinois Audubon Society and again with certain revisions in the succeeding number. The value of efforts of this sort was so evident that it was decided to undertake the preparation of a check list which would recognize as far as possible all authenticated data relating to the occurrence of birds in Illinois, and serve as a standard for the recording of bird notes in every section of the state. The so-called "Comprehensive Check List of the Birds of Illinois," which occupies the greater portion of this booklet, is the outcome. It is the work of Benjamin T. Gault, a member of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Audubon Society, and an ornithologist whose peculiar fitness for this task is known to all students of bird migration in the Illinois area. For many years an accurate and discriminating observer, he had accumulated private records which have

been of the greatest value in the preparation of the List. The project has involved an almost endless amount of work and a great deal of painstaking research. Mr. Gault's sole compensation for this is to be in the assistance which the Check List will render to observers and students of bird life everywhere in Illinois.

Elsewhere Mr. Gault acknowledges his indebtedness to Mr. Robert Ridgway and others whose contributions to the Check List have been of the highest importance, and who have cooperated in every possible way. To all these and to Mr. Gault likewise, the Illinois Audubon Society wishes to extend its thanks and the assurance of deepest appreciation of service rendered. The Society is honored in being permitted to put its imprint on this composite effort.

For some years the Illinois Audubon Society has furnished schools with a wall chart containing a list of two hundred of the more common birds of Illinois. It is purely arbitrary in its nature and represents a sort of compromise on the part of those who were asked to state their opinion as to the two hundred birds which are "more common" in Illinois. This list is included in this booklet with the hope that it will be of value for ready reference and that the beginner may look upon it as a satisfactory working list.

The key to birds' nests which is also included in this booklet is the work of Dr. Arthur A. Allen of Ithaca, New York, and has appeared in a recent issue of *Bird-Lore*. Doctor Allen has waived the copyright privileges for its use in this Check List and the Illinois Audubon Society is greatly indebted to him for this favor. The key should prove to be of great service to observers in the field.

Park Areas in Illinois

The Report on Proposed Park Areas in the State of Illinois which has been under preparation for some time by the publication committee of the Friends of Our Native Landscape has recently issued from the Alderbrink Press in Chicago. It is in every respect a splendid piece of work. It contains 120 pages with 13 maps and 53 halftone illustrations. No one can read this report without being thrilled at the possibility of dotting Illinois with spiritual possessions of this sort. The report has been prepared by nature lovers expert at appraising the natural beauty of the landscape and it should prove an inspiring appeal for the conservation of the primitive scenery of Illinois. Copies of this Report can be obtained at one dollar each postpaid upon application to the Secretary, Mr. E. L. Wheeler, 215 West Huron Street, Chicago.

A Feathered Caruso

(From a chapter on the Carolina Wren in Hess' forthcoming book entitled—*Mississippi Valley Birds at Home.*)

Carolina is the giant of the eastern branch of the Trogloditae or Wren family and a wonderful vocalist. Caruso-like in volume and melody, he also exhibits the nervous erratic temperament usually stamped so indelibly upon the stars of the stage world. Unlike the operatic stellars, however, our Carolina objects to the close scrutiny of his admirers.

Nothing suits him quite so well as to be heard at a distance. Even a glimpse of a bird spy stalking him for a nearer approach and he is gone with the sauciest flirt of his abbreviated tail. Just neough of his neat brown coat is seen to prove aggravating to the observer. For a brief period he darts out into the open but before the focus of the field glasses may be properly adjusted he is back in the brush pile or eclipsed by the old stump.

Perhaps none but the Chat provokes so many impatient exclamations from the bird lover so intent upon observing his many charms. One characteristic he cannot conceal however, his wonderful melodious song. It has never occurred to me that Carolina desires to hide this God-given talent under a bushel. Did he not thoroughly enjoy sounding out these perfect tones to reverberate through the woodlands, he would scarcely be so incessantly engaged in the pleasing pastime. Privately I think the gifted bird realizes his superiority over his feathered neighbors and takes a secret delight in silencing the feebler efforts offered in his vicinity.

Again I believe his exceptional modesty is only a bluff. I have very good reasons for thinking so. You may test it yourself the next time you meet Carolina in the woodlands. I have learned to take my share in the game of hide and seek when a Carolina Wren gives me the cold shoulder and disappears in the underbrush. I have found him saturated with that human weakness known as curiosity. It is rare fun to beat him at his own game when he offers this challenge. When he shows by his evident contempt, that the intruder of his domain is so far beneath his notice as to be ignored, stop suddenly and conceal your presence. Not many moments will elapse until is heard the quick flutter of nervous wings and soon the sharp eyes of the little feathered flirt will spy you out. Then again he disappears, but you understand him now and may laugh at his pretense.

As early as February you may hear him trying his vocal chords. Carolina does not hurry away to the gulf states at the approach of winter. He is another of the hardier birds that "pooh-pooh" at applying the term "north" to central Illinois. The mooted question as to whether the fortieth parallel of latitude lies in "Dixie" or north of that land of winter sunshine has never been settled by the members of the Wren family. The House Wren and Bewick's insist that the sunny south lies a day

and a night journey away, while the Winter Wren and Carolina argue by his presence that heaven is right in central Illinois.

Those acquainted with the warblings of his smaller cousins are surprised at the full toned whistle of the Carolina Wren. There are no bird notes of purer quality. His melodious trios may easily be set to the music staff. Three notes—starting with high “Do” and rapidly falling to “Sol” and then to lower “Do,” exactly duplicate his most common offering. Seldom have I heard even in his variations, other than a full true octave of eight notes in limit. Observing with such method so fine a rule in the laws of music, we must admit that the Carolina Wren is a remarkable bird. He is so enthused with his whistling talent that our Illinois days are not long enough for his rehearsals. At three in the morn before the eastern skies even hint of the approach of a new day, this sweet toned whistle rings out in the darkness.

The great secret of the ages is recognized by Carolina. Life is all too short to waste any of it in idleness and when this strenuous Wren is not singing for his own delectation he is busily attacking the hordes of bugs and worms—inimical agents of the Creator’s plan.

The erratic taste of the Wren family in the choice of nesting sites also prevails as characteristic in the Carolina. Any kind of cavity in stump, fallen log or box is good enough for him providing, of course, that the site is near unto his beloved woodlands. The first nest I remember seeing was stowed away upon the upper joists of a cabin in the woods. Another was in a fallen log while a most interesting home was in a deep cavity in the midst of a standing stump. I found this little female ensconced at the end of a tunnel in the center of the big stump which measured full nine feet in circumference. She felt so secure in this retreat that she would not leave when I peered into the entrance. She merely eyed me as though used to such proceedings.

The song of Carolina is variously interpreted. To some ears his ejaculations sound like “Jupiter-Jupiter-Jupiter.” Some one long years ago translated his song into “Te-kettle-Te-kettle-Te-kettle” and to my mind this version is about as nearly Anglicized as possible.

Food to his liking is plentiful, so Carolina follows literally the scriptural injunction to increase and multiply. He begins the arduous task of rearing families early in March and by the time the third family of six or seven youngsters appears in July, his particular part of the woodland might well resemble a Brigham Young estate when school was out. Dwellers near a small patch of woods and particularly when near a small running stream may be assured of a pair of these tenants if a can or small box or empty jug is wisely placed. Save that little patch of grove you had almost decided to raze and turn over to corn rows. Dollars are not the only needful blessings in this modern practical day.

ISAAC E. HESS

Characters and Dispositions II

The Owl and the Flicker

A pair of Flickers made a hole in a dead tree close to our house, and on June 20, 1920, the three young Flickers that were raised there were banded.

During the following winter the squirrels enlarged the hole and filled it with leaves.

The next spring a pair of Flickers came to the same hole and scolded for a while, then started a new hole about five feet lower down the tree. By making a folding perch just below the hole, they were trapped and banded as a mated pair, and on June 2, 1921 their four young were also banded.

In 1922 the Flickers came there about the middle of April and scolded as before, but finally started a new hole a little to one side of the tree, and about equal distance from each of the old holes.

On May 2nd a Blue Jay was observed making considerable fuss about the lower hole, which aroused suspicions, and with the aid of a ladder we reached the hole, and found a Screech Owl there. On removal we discovered she was sitting on five eggs which were all pipped ready to hatch, but fearing she would interfere with our Flicker family, we robbed the nest, banded the Owl and took her quite a distance from the tree before releasing her.

We had to be absent from home for about four weeks, and soon after our return we were ready to band the Flickers. We had observed that the old female wore a band but could not capture her to get the number, but the male kept his legs so well covered we were unable to see if he was banded.

On June 11th we started to band the young Flickers. Before we got our ladder, we watched the old Flickers feeding the young, and observed that the young were so old that the old birds did not enter the nest, just going to the hole and calling the young up for food, so there was no chance of capturing the old birds to see their numbers, so we climbed the ladder, and as we passed the lower hole, noticed four owl eggs of a second setting, were in the hole, but all broken.

It was necessary to saw out a piece of the tree to get our hand into the hole, and as we opened the hole, out came an owl. We were surprised and annoyed, and took out the four young Flickers and examined them very carefully, but they were not harmed in any way, so they were banded and replaced in the nest.

Our curiosity was aroused about the owl. The next morning, the 12th, we watched the old Flickers feeding same as ever, but finally decided to see if the owl was around. On reaching in the hole there was the owl, and we promptly threw her out. On examining the young Flickers, found they were unharmed.

On the 13th, everything happened just the same as on the 12th.

On the 14th the same thing was repeated, but on examining the young Flickers we found about half of some small bird which apparently the old owl had attempted to feed the young Flickers, and after putting the young back in the nest they were so far advanced that two objected to such treatment, and left the nest.

On the 15th the old Flickers were feeding same as ever, and investigation showed the old owl still brooding the young Flickers, but the remaining two also objected to the irregularities, and left.

For the next ten days we looked into all the holes, but the owl and the Flickers had all left. We have examined the holes occasionally since then, but have not found a trace of the owl.

In our experience with animals we have known cats and dogs taking other young when their own had been taken away from them, and have known chickens to hover most anything they could find, but this was the first experience with wild birds.

Grackles of Bad Repute

On Nov. 22, there were about two hundred Bronze Grackles that stopped for rest in their migration, in our yard while we were doing our morning trapping. A Junco had been trapped in one of the flat traps, and was hopping about trying to find an opening, when suddenly a Grackle made a dive from a nearby tree and tried his best to catch the Junco, then more followed until there were about twenty-five on the trap, all trying hard to catch the one poor little Junco, and one of the Grackles was successful in pulling out some of its feathers just as reinforcements arrived in the shape of a club thrown at the flock.

We believe if they had not been noticed they would have killed the Junco, as it was becoming tired from the constant dodging and surely the Grackles tried hard enough.

During the nesting season this year the Grackles spoiled nearly all the eggs of the Robins in our yard.

White Throats and Robins

In the spring 1922 issue of this Bulletin you were told about the Whitethroat Sparrows of 1921. This fall has brought some additional facts that are worth mentioning.

Number 17042 has shown an unusual disposition for tameness, and simply squats down and lets you pick it up to read its number, and is very quiet all the time it is held in the hand. Recently, when released from the trap she flew to a bush within six feet of the trap and stayed there quietly and watched while four new birds were taken out of the trap and banded, then, with a few twittering notes, flew to the ground in search of more food.

Number 17070 is a fighter of unusual ability and proclaims it in a very loud voice. As soon as the hand is put into the trap he starts his challenging, and when the hand gets near he advances to attack and springs on the hand, pecking with all his might, and never gives up a single instant while in the hand being examined, and after release flies to the nearest branch to sulk and scold.

The Whitethroats are acting just the same as last year; about a dozen staying around like regular boarders, and we expect we will have to feed them until a good storm comes and moves them southward.

The Audubon Bulletin for Fall 1921 contained an article on "Securing Life Stories by Bird Banding", which described how a male Robin that was trapped, banded and released in 1920 returned to be trapped again in 1921, and how a good looking Mother Robin was trapped and banded the same day, as 18030; later they were both trapped in a trap Robin Shelter, and proved to be a mated pair, and their family was also banded. The story ended with our hopes running high in expectation for returns in 1922.

Well, we were pleased of course when the good looking Mother Robin 18030 was again trapped in 1922, and we kept a constant watch for the Father Robin No. 57617, but we could not find him, or just where the Mother had her nest, but later the sad reason was discovered by the Park Policeman when he found a cat with a Robin, and discovered the band that proved the end of Mother Robin 18030. Now our work of proving Robin history must begin all over again, but some day we hope to be able to tell you if Robins keep the same mates through life.

WM. I. LYON

The Cahokia Mounds

A recent bulletin of the Illinois State Museum by A. R. Crook, Director, contains a noteworthy discussion of the theories relating to the origin of the Cahokia mounds and a summary of the most recent conclusions of investigators. Six years ago Professor Crook made some studies of Monks' Mound and was disposed to regard all of these mounds as of natural origin. More recent studies made in collaboration with Dr. M. M. Leighton, professor of pleistocene geology at the University of Illinois, who favored the theory that the mounds are artificial, have brought Professor Crook to support that theory. The discussion is accompanied by some very interesting photographs of the area made by aeroplane photography, the work of Lieutenant G. W. Goddard, of the Army Service. The bulletin is a valuable contribution to the study of primitive man in the Illinois area. Copies of this bulletin may be obtained upon application to the Illinois State Museum, Springfield, Illinois.

The Chickadee

A puff of snow-dust from the twig
And then appears the periwig
 Of shining black of chickadee.
He puts faint-heartedness to rout
Because he is himself so stout
Of heart—nay, were he twice as big,
 'T would pass belief of one so wee.
I've seen him oft—and so have you—
Pierce the dead mullein through and through
 To find some fat cold-storage grub.
He puts all daintiness to shame—
For daintier than that feathered frame
 There nothing is. Rub-dub-a-dub!
The feast is spread at his tattoo.
Most tender are the brave—ah, me!
When alder and witch hazel bloom,
 In all the woods is any room
For other wandering lover's plea
Save his who makes such sweet complaint
 That, were she twenty times a saint,
At last must melt his chickadee.

EDWARD R. FORD

Robin Snowball

During the last week of May, 1922, a lady living in Henry, seven miles from my home in Lacon, Illinois, hearing a commotion in her yard, glanced out of the window and saw a white baby robin on the lawn, fluttering its little wings and opening its mouth at every bird that went near it.

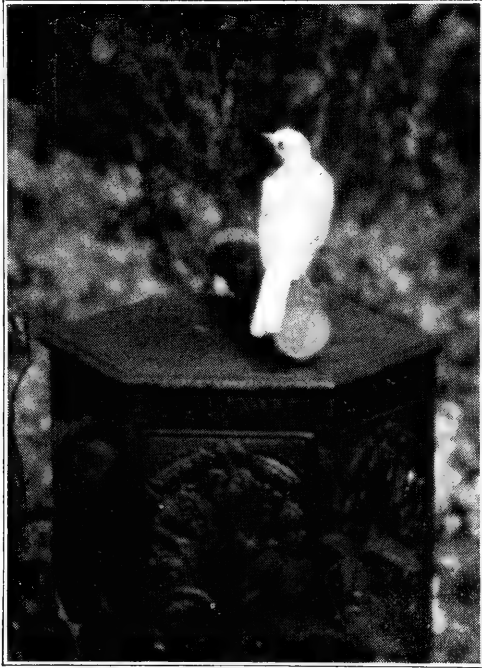


Photo by R. M. Barnes

The little fellow was too young to be able to fly, apparently very hungry, and seemingly deserted by its parents, for an observation extending over a considerable time disclosed no bird paying attention to this ghost-like robin. Being of kind heart, and fearing the conspicuous plumage of the helpless youngster would result in his destruction by boys or cats, she took him into the house and put him in a cage. The little fellow responded to kindness and feed, becoming very tame, taking most of his sustenance from her hand and when big enough flying over the house, following her from room to room, perched on her shoulder frequently. Later he was moved into a larger out door cage and on July 22nd was

given to me and brought to my home in Lacon. Here a cage three feet wide and four feet long and four feet high was built for him, and placed under a tree on the lawn. During the summer he was an object of much interest and curiosity to visitors and grew to be a normal robin in every respect except color, though for some reason he always maintained a dirty appearance.

During my absence in August, the little rascal slipped out of the door of his cage as it was opened to put in the feed and, quick as a flash, he was gone. He remained at large until the afternoon of the next day, about thirty-six hours, when he quietly permitted one of the family to pick him up and transfer him again to his cage quarters in which he appeared thoroughly satisfied and glad to get back.

About the 1st of October I moved the now adult bird into the house and turned him loose in a conservatory with glass sides and top 9 by 18 feet in which there are many dozen plants of all kind, and began feeding him prepared bird food such as is found in the bird stores for soft billed birds. The result was magical. Robin Snowball, immediately took to bathing once or twice a day, something he had declined to do while out in the yard except in very rare instances, which without doubt, accounted

for his dirty ill-kept appearance. His feathers at once cleared up and the entire bird except the bill, legs and feet, is of absolutely snowy whiteness. The eyes are a perfect bright pink, rather large for a robin. The bill, a very light ivory, and the feet and legs pinkish white with light yellow claws. Apparently this bird is perfectly normal in every way and well satisfied with his quarters. It is very tame, eats from the hand, will come at call, and seldom, almost never, ventures out of the conservatory, though large double doors continually open lead into the dining room. He is very active in his movements, cheery in his disposition. The first thing in the morning he greets the first riser with a continuous and lengthy volume of robin conversation. He does not appear to be quite as strong or vigorous as a normally colored bird, otherwise I can see no difference whatever except his color.

I have referred to this bird as "he", but I am not certain whether Robin Snowball is he or she.
Lacon, November 27, 1922.

R. M. BARNES

Complimenting the Check List

Miss Catharine Mitchell, Secretary of the Illinois Audubon Society, has recently received a letter from the President of the National Association of Audubon Societies from which the following paragraph is quoted:

"Your Check List is excellently prepared and should be a source of delight to the field bird students throughout the state and elsewhere. I prophesy you will have to have another edition prepared before a great while, for as soon as the publication becomes known undoubtedly there will be a great demand for it. It is very much along the line of something I have had in mind for a long time for the various states in the Union, and a year ago at the annual meeting of our Board of Directors, the minutes show that I spoke of the advisability of getting out just such a publication if we could take care of the matter financially. You have forestalled this for Illinois in a most splendid fashion. My heartiest congratulations.

Yours sincerely,

T. GILBERT PEARSON, *President*

Nature Studies in the Great West

Gulls were everywhere. They hung over us in great clouds; they swarmed about the rigging, fighting for position on the wireless aerial; they trailed the ship and circled about her, their raucous cries sounding even above the hoarse scream of the whistle as the S. S. Avalon left Los Angeles harbor bound for Catalina, the "Magic Isle." These Western Gulls certainly had ear-splitting abilities. However they were protected by law in the harbor because of their value as scavengers, and I, for one, enjoyed their humorous antics and graceful flight.

Although I live in Evanston, this bright June day found me 2000 miles from home with the blue, blue waters of the Pacific about me and the ship's engines throbbing underfoot. I was first impressed by the mountains on the island. They were low for the most part, the altitude ranging from 100 to 2400 feet. The mountainous character of the land is explained by the fact that Catalina is a volcanic isle, in fact the different layers of lava can still be seen on some of the bare cliffs facing the sea.

These steep precipices are also of interest in that they are the chosen eyries of the island's largest birds, the Bald Eagles. On the tops of these precipices one could usually descry the huge pile of sticks and rubbish in which, safe from the pillaging hands of man, the young had been raised to eaglehood. Well do I remember watching the spectacular dive of an old bird from the top of a 300 foot cliff to the water not ten feet behind our boat where he seized a fish and winged his way slowly upward again to devour it.

Many of the land birds are peculiar to Catalina and the surrounding islands. One of the strangest of these is the Catalina Raven who makes the lonely canyons echo with his hoarse, weird cries. I shall never forget the evening in a wild canyon when I first heard these ghoulish sounds. At that time I was not aware that they came from the throat of a bird and will have to admit of being thoroughly frightened.

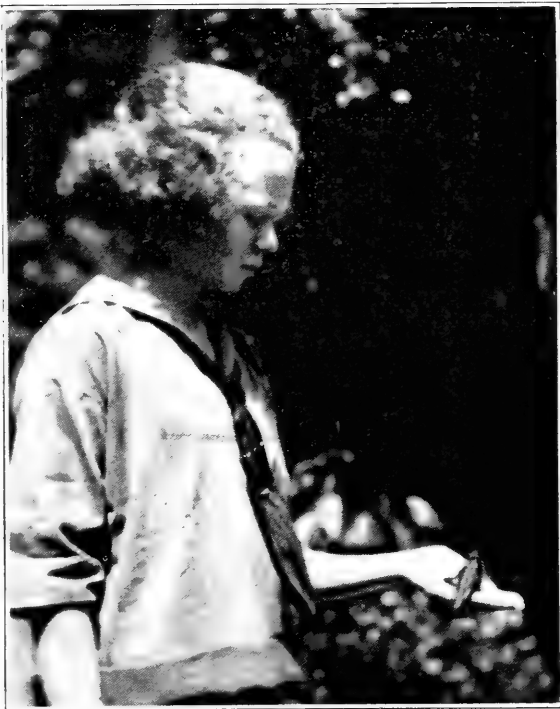
In the eaves of a summer-house, part of an unfrequented park on the mountain top, many House Finches or Linnets as they are popularly called had their nests. These were compactly woven structures composed largely of dried grasses. One of them contained five bluish eggs spotted with black; the others were occupied by young birds in all stages of development. I spent some exciting half-hours in trying to photograph these bantlings but without success.

The sweet voiced Linnet in the West replaces our brawling street gamin, the English Sparrow. How much better to see the cheery Linnet about our doorsteps than the bullying *passer domesticus*, for the former's scarlet head and breast are much more beautiful I am sure than the latter's dull plumage.

The House Finch was the commonest bird on Catalina Island, with the exception, perhaps, of the Western Mockingbird who was ever present with his remarkable repertoire, singing as jubilantly during the night as in day-time. We found the nest of one of these birds in a small tree at a height of about six feet. The bulky pile of rocks contained four greenish-blue eggs spotted with reddish-brown.

Numerous other birds were observed including the Canyon Wren, Cliff Swallow, Mourning Dove, Valley Partridge, Allen Hummingbirds, San Clemente Towhee, Man-o-war Bird. A trip to the isthmus of Santa Catalina afforded an opportunity to add two water birds to my list, namely the California Brown Pelican and the Brandt Cormorant.

On July 17 in Hollywood we picked up a tiny baby hummingbird which had evidently fallen from its nest in the Bougainvillea vine. The wee bunch of feathers regarded me doubtfully with his beady black eyes but finally deciding that I would do him no harm he settled down contentedly in the palm of my hand. The little creature was as yet unable to fly, so fearing that prowling pussies might here find a toothsome morsel we adopted him as our own. A small cage of fine wire with board bottom was immediately constructed. This we lined with cotton waste, placed our charge inside, and suspended it from the vines.



SHE FED HER BABY IN MY HAND and seemed very nervous. The entire top had been left open but she could not understand that there was an easy way of access. Finally, however, she alighted clinging to the side wires.

The baby seemed nearly starved so when I offered him a solution of sugar and water his needle like tongue was soon busily darting in and out licking the sweet liquid from my finger. However, when I offered this food a second time although he sipped a few drops he showed no further enthusiasm and began to cry loudly. Then as I seated myself to consider, the problem was suddenly and effectively solved. I heard a loud buzzing of wings a few shrill squeaks of delight from the youngster, and who should appear but mother hummingbird. She darted about the cage

The young bird, fluttering his wings came as close to his mother as the wire would allow. Then the old bird poked her long bill into the little fellow's widely opened one and shook him vigorously. After repeating this performance several times she darted away and the baby seemed thoroughly satisfied.

But it was growing dark and the nights were chilly so I removed the cage into the house, wrapped a piece of flannel about it and said good-night to my little charge. Next morning I found him shivering and very weak, in fact it seemed that he was about to die. However the sunlight and his mother's food soon revived him. Yes, we found her perched on the telephone wire anxiously awaiting the arrival of her child.

The task of identifying the youngster now confronted me. At the museum in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, we saw mounted over three hundred species of hummingbirds ranging in size from an inch to six inches and the state of California itself contains no mean number. But after a long process of elimination I came to the conclusion that this must be the Anna Hummingbird (*Calypte anna*) a plain species averaging about three and one half inches in length. From that time on my new pet's name was "Anna". I judged him to be about three weeks old for he showed signs of restlessness and seemed eager to try his wings. Deciding that these members might need exercise I removed him from the cage to the lawn swing to allow him to try his aerial powers. Although these proved to be quite weak Anna was no coward about trying and he attempted several short flights.

During the course of the day the mother made many trips to the cage, however, she was always nervous and always on the offensive. Many other hummers hung over the Bougainvillea, which seemed to be a favorite food vine, but she allowed these intruders no peace. In fact she had more tolerance for the human race than for others of her kind for she allowed us to approach her baby without protest whereas had any bird gone near the cage I am sure that he would have regretted it. In order to test her I seated myself on the lawn near the cage with little Anna in my hand wondering if his mother would come and feed him. After an hour and a half of almost motionless waiting during which mother hummer flew about anxiously I felt her feet clasp my finger. It was a wonderful sensation to feel the grip of those tiny toes and when I slowly turned my head and out of the corner of my eye saw her feeding her eager little one my joy was supreme. Time after time I held the baby in my hand and time after time she fed it there. On the fifth day she showed little or no fear coming promptly to my hand but starting nervously at the click of the camera.

During this time the baby's wings had been growing stronger and on the seventh day he took flight from my hand to a near by fig tree, where mounting higher and higher he finally reached

the top. There he was soon joined by his astounded mother and my last glimpse of the two showed them perched contentedly in the tree top and although Anna was certainly getting a thorough shaking the unpleasantness of this was doubtless offset by the good meal which he was receiving.

MARY ELIZABETH OSBORNE, Evanston

To a Butcher Bird

Come closer, let me see your glossy coat—
 You needn't fear a farmer boy like me,
 For truly I enjoy your company—
 Come, let me hear the song that's in your throat.
 Pick up the fattest grubs my plow throws out,
 And carry to that hungry brood I found
 In yonder nest, high off the ground,
 With feathers lined within, and twigs without.
 Your acts of cruelty I long have known;
 I've seen the meadow-mice, and sparrows too,
 Which you impale on barb or thorny snag.
 And yet, that hunter with the blood-stained bag
 Who passed a while ago—he's worse than you.
 You kill to live—he kills for sport alone.

WAYNE GARD

The Chicago Evening Post—Pillar to Post

A Humming Bird's Nest

From the *Decatur Junior Herald*, under the date of July 17th, we copy a letter concerning a humming bird:

I read a few weeks ago in *The Herald* of some of the Decatur people going out to see mocking birds. I wonder how many of the bird lovers have seen a humming bird's nest. I was lucky enough to find one this week. While digging bait as a lure for some of our finny friends in Kaskaskia river, I heard the peculiar whir of the humming bird's wings and stopped to watch.

She was just building, carrying tiny bits of cottonwood "cotton" and placing it to form a small round nest. She would fairly hammer it in place with her slender beak. This was on a Monday. On Saturday the nest was completed and the tiny mother was sitting on two eggs about the size of a hat pin head. The completed nest is about the size of the cup of a bur acorn, and it is so cleverly camouflaged with bits of green leaves as to be nearly invisible, even though it is placed on an almost bare portion of a maple limb. There the mother bird sits, perched on top of the tiny nest swaying with every breath of air, a sight that is worth going to see. Though I am 54 years old and a life long lover of birds this is my first view of a humming bird's home.

WILLIAM BULLOCK, Route 2

Natural Bird Haven Near Shawneetown

North of the quaint and interesting old town of Shawneetown, now the oldest town in the state of Illinois, lies a string of small lakes. It was my pleasure while camping there this Summer to discover a natural bird haven, in fact we found more different kinds of birds in this small area than in any other place of which we know. We camped at "Big Lake" which is the largest of these lakes and is just two and one half miles north of Shawneetown. About one hundred yards west of a row of cottages built here this summer, lies a thickly wooded area of not more than twenty acres through which runs a slough, and it was here that I spent the whole of my last afternoon, enjoying the bird life. Several varieties of warblers flitted along the slough and filled the air with their music. To a nearby bush came a Cardinal and trilled his beautiful song, some Purple Grackles came and quarrelled their way on. High in a tree the



Veery sang his song in queer conversational style. Bright patches of blue, (the Indigo Bunting,) flitted here and there. From under a brush pile hopped the Yellow-breasted Chat, and a tiny Ruby-throated Humming-bird perched himself saucily on a limb near by. We were able to identify eighteen different birds and there were several more which baffled us.

How long the conditions so favorable to the extensive bird life found here will remain undisturbed we do not know. A company bought the lake and adjoining land this Summer and have erected a hotel and cottages and have cut quite a lot of the fine cypress tree for building purposes. We took occasion to

plead with the management of the place for the protection of the birds, pointing out their value as protection for the trees and their added beauty and attractiveness to the resort.

R. V. RATHBONE

A Joke on an Ornithologist

The July 11th-17th issue of the *Rockford Republican*, tells an amusing story at the expense of some "professor-naturalist." This is the story:

Early this spring a woodpecker drilled a big, deep hole in a telephone pole which stands near Rock River, south of Rockford. A few weeks ago a lineman for the Central Union Telephone company came along and nailed a strip of tin over the entrance to the woodpecker's home.

A few days later Louis Stewart, who lives on North Second street, while fishing, heard a great commotion. Two woodpeckers were fluttering about the entrance to their home from which they had been evicted by the telephone lineman. Stewart believing in fair play for the birds, climbed the telephone pole and with a rock and a small nail managed to perforate the tin around the hole and removed it, leaving the portion of the tin about the hole nailed to the pole.

When the tin was removed the pair of woodpeckers moved into their home and again took possession. A few days later, the lineman who had evicted the birds, happened that way and saw that the tin had been removed. He thought the woodpeckers had done the job and he told his friends about it. A Rockford professor-naturalist heard of it and sought out the lineman.

The lineman guided the professor-naturalist to the woodpecker's home. The professor took a number of pictures of the nest and the pair of woodpeckers. Then he wrote a story about the unusual performance of the birds which he sold to a naturalist's magazine. The naturalist's friends are now waiting anxiously the publication of the story of how a pair of woodpeckers pecked through tin and beat a cruel landlord who evicted them from their home.

The Address is 1649-10 So. La Salle St., Chicago

Members and friends of the Illinois Audubon Society are reminded to send in orders for copies of the newly published Check List of Birds of Illinois. It sells for fifty cents a copy, postpaid. Why not buy several copies to sell to interested persons in your community? Every time you sell a copy you are doing a favor to the purchaser and helping to increase the number of intelligent observers of bird life.

Preservation of Natural Beauty

Miss Lena McCauley in the *Chicago Evening Post* for October 26th writes appreciatively of certain organizations which are working for the preservation of natural beauty. In reference to the autumn meeting of the Wild Flower Preservation Society of America, (Chicago Chapter) which took place at the Art Institute Saturday afternoon, October 28th, she observes that this society works tirelessly spring, summer and autumn, to save the wild flowers of the prairie and of the ravines of the Chicago region from destruction.

In the October sunshine the slave of the city, walled in by sky scrapers, kept from nature by the distances to the country, forgets that Illinois beyond the city limits, is a beautiful world with clear skies, handsome trees decked in crimson and golden foliage, and that even today wild asters and closed gentians are blossoming by the roadsides. Freedom, fresh air and liberty abide in the country.

The Wild Flower Preservation Society, Chicago Chapter, exists like a persistent band of missionaries in the heart of Chicago. Every little while it reminds citizens that the Lake Michigan region is one of the richest in wild flowers of the north temperate zone, of all the United States. Many of the plants of early spring, blood root, trilliums, spring beauties, mertensia, columbine and lady slipper are killed easily. If annuals are plucked there are no seeds for next year; if tender plants are uprooted that land knows them no more.

Less than a quarter of a century ago the lovely sky-blue fringed gentian, grew by the thousands between the sand hills near Edgewater Beach and Loyola, and near the South Shore Country club. South, west and north of the city, the shooting stars, Virginia cowslips, marsh marigolds, gerardias, spring beauties, trilliums, columbines, anemones and all the early flowers listed in books, made gay the spring on the prairies, while the wild crabapples and hawthorns blossomed in May, to be followed by the flowering shrubs and field flowers of midsummer and autumn.

Today, few come with the signs of spring. The city covers the land. Automobilists pluck those that are left, or tear them out by the roots. More and more city dwellers are born who know nothing of the beauty or inspiration of the country, and who are cheated of their birthright by artificial pleasures. If the devastation of roadside flowers continues, the next generation of children will hear of wild flowers only as things of the past, and their inspiration will be lost to them.

The Wild Flower Preservation society, Chicago chapter, has a junior membership, and instructs its children in friendship of the wild flowers by means of stereopticon pictures, exhibitions and pageants.

The fifth annual mid-winter exhibit will be held at the Art Institute of Chicago, Dec. 28 to Jan. 13. The program will include Saturday afternoon lectures in Fullerton hall by speakers of note, daily presentations of motion films of plant and animal life by the Society for Visual Education, and exhibits installed by the Chicago Aquarium society. It will offer interesting object lessons in the natural sciences.

The Wild Flower Preservation Society of America is very active in Massachusetts. Like the Chicago chapter, it endeavors to secure state legislation, making it a penalty to pluck the precious annuals, such as the columbine and fringed gentian, the tender orchids and plants, such as the bloodroot and trilliums, which are easily exterminated.

The Chicago chapter, Mrs. Charles L. Hutchinson, president, has supported a movement to save the wild flowers by colonizing them in suburban grounds and country estates. Some wild flowers thrive under protection and the right care. Nearly every suburb has its loyal wild flower friend, and River Forest has put up a decided fight to protect the forest preserves.

The Friends of Our Native Landscape, the Prairie club and Nature Study clubs co-operate with the Wild Flower society in hanging signs to "Spare the Wild Flowers" and endeavoring to educate the public to enjoy and not to destroy. Interested persons desiring to help in this national crusade to keep the earth as lovely as we find it, should join the Wild Flower Preservation society.

Seward School, Room 201,
4600 South Hermitage ave.

June 1, 1922

To the Illinois Audubon Society,

Dear Friends:

I am glad to belong to the Audubon Society. We put our pennies in a box and when we had a dollar, we sent it to the Illinois Audubon Society. The Membership card is hanging up in our room. We thank you for it.

We know sixteen trees. We have learned about trees by seeing the leaves and pictures. We know the shapes of the leaves and the different edges.

We have learned about wild flowers too. Our teacher, Miss Kelly, brings leaves and flowers to school. We love the song birds. We know 32 song birds from bird pictures. We love them for their beautiful songs. We love them for their beautiful colors. The birds contribute to our "Daily Bread" by eating bugs, worms and insects, and by eating weed seeds, too.

All the people must be very kind to birds. No boy in our room will ever harm a song bird.

Your little friend,

OLGA VRABLIK

Aged 9 years

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN
 FALL, 1922
 Published by
ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
 For the Conservation of Bird-Life

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Editorial

Three weeks after this number of the Bulletin appears we are to have another session of the state legislature. That may mean something in the way of increased bird protection and more favorable conditions for the propagation of wild life. So our legislative program should be made ready. First for a brief catechism. Gentle, reader, answer the following questions:

1. In what senatorial district do you live?
2. Give name and address of your state senator.
3. Give names and addresses of the three representatives from your district.

Answer from memory. No fair looking them up just now. The Editor offers a prize of one year's subscription to Bird-Lore to the first one to send in the correct answers to the three questions. Accompany your answers with the statement that you wrote them down from memory immediately upon reading this paragraph and without any assistance whatever.

Well, what shall we ask our senator and the three representatives to support? The law granting municipalities power to restrain certain animals from running at large should be amended to include cats. Inserting the words, "and cats", in two appropriate places in the 80th item in paragraph 62 of Article 5 of the revised statutes would do it. Ask your political friends to see to that.

The Illinois Game and Fish Division, William J. Stratton, Chief Game and Fish Warden, turned in receipts in excess of expenditures last year to the amount of nearly \$28,000. In the last five years there has been a net profit to the state from this source of over \$94,000. These profits have been used for other purposes than the conservation of game and fish. This should not be. They should be used to improve the service and to invest in areas where game and fish may thrive. Tell your political friends that.

Proposed Park Area for Illinois. Two years ago a bill was introduced by Representative Harlan B. Kauffman to provide for a state park board to formulate a comprehensive system of state parks, forests, etc., and an annual appropriation of \$250,000 was to be made available for the carrying out by the department of public works of this program. The bill failed of support in the House. A similar bill will doubtless be brought up at this coming session. Your political friends should be interested in that.

Other matters of moment to all lovers of wild life may come up. The pollution of the water courses in our state and destruction of potential food resources therein continue in spite of protest. The Urbana Gas and Electric Company has been indicted on the charge of permitting chemicals from their plant to enter the waters of Salt Creek. A corporation at Aurora is charged with polluting the waters of Fox River and killing the fish. Chicago continues to wash its filth down the Illinois Valley. Perhaps there is a legislative way to checkmate this.

There is a possibility that the friends of the Quail will propose a five year closed season at this time. Now that a Federal Court has ruled that the Mourning Dove is a migratory bird, there may be an effort to remove this bird from the list of game birds of Illinois. For sentimental reasons alone the Audubonites will wish to speak a word for these birds. The Quail is coming to be regarded as an economic necessity. Let us try to persuade sportsmen to join with us in protecting the Quail. Tell your political friends how you feel about that.

A New Edition

It is gratifying to be able to announce the appearance of the second edition of *The Birds of New York* by Elon Howard Eaton, and published and issued as a memorial of the New York State Museum. It is in two large quarto volumes, beautifully printed, and illustrated by excellent drawings and half tones and by 106 large color plates of birds after original paintings by Louis Agassiz Fuertes. The first edition has been out of print for some years and the appearance of the second edition is peculiarly welcome for that reason. This exceedingly valuable work is distributed by the state of New York at cost, this being six dollars for the two volumes plus the postage. The work can be obtained by addressing the New York State Museum, Albany, New York. It might be added that the colored plates can be obtained separately in a portfolio at the nominal cost of one dollar for the entire portfolio. The plates thus issued in separate form are not printed on as heavy paper as in the bound volumes and lose somewhat in value because of that, but even as it is, a portfolio of such valuable colored plates at the price mentioned is an exceptional bargain.

Belvidere

Mrs. Clara Lampert, Deputy Clerk of the Circuit Court, sent in an article which appeared in the *Belvidere Daily Republican* in early May, and together with some notes made in May by Alfred Engstrom, a young and enthusiastic observer whose reports are carefully made. Mrs. Lampert adds some September notes of her own. The newspaper article was by Mrs. Cleland and is as follows:

This is the list of birds seen by a Boone County, Illinois farmer's wife, who has never gone on a bird-hunt, but has seen these birds at her home or along the roads. Between January 1 and April 25, she has identified 35 species of birds, a few new ones, but mostly old friends:

All winter the crows flew past—east in the morning, west at night; the marsh hawk, easily identified by its ring tail, floated over the fields, the horned larks ran along the roads; the red headed woodpecker lived well on grains or corn from the silage wagon carrying them to an oak tree; downy and hairy woodpeckers ate suet from a maple tree near the kitchen door; the prairie chickens and blue jays stay the year around; a brown creeper was seen in Belvidere.

The first migrants seen were the wild geese, wild ducks, juncos and killdeer. Song sparrows, robins, grackles, red winged blackbirds and bluebirds were seen in March, and the hermit thrush picked up crumbs with the robin and song sparrow during the sleet storm. The "new" birds were the redpoll, which was seen twice, and the ruby crowned kinglet, seen several times during first week in April. The winter wren made his third annual visit, appearing at 5 a. m. under the bedroom window.

The house wrens are here, and the other two woodpeckers—the yellow bellied sapsucker and the flickers. The belted kingfisher, the solitary sandpiper and the great blue heron have come back to the stream. The loggerhead shrike is following the disc, getting worms. Vesper sparrow, white throat sparrow, brown thrasher, rusty blackbird and mourning dove complete the list to April 25, 1922.

Alfred Engstrom's notes were made on the ninth of May and consist of the birds he saw that day:

Magnolia, Chestnut-sided, Redstart, Yellow, Golden-winged, Canada, Nashville, Black-and-white Creeping, Cape May, Tennessee, Black-throated Green, Black-throated Blue, Oven Bird, Catbird, Red-headed Woodpecker, Robin, Bronzed Grackle, Cowbird, Baltimore Oriole, Blue Jay, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Screech Owl, Purple Martin, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Humming Bird, Phoebe, White-throated Sparrow, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Wood Thrush, Mourning Dove, Killdeer Plover, Brown Thrasher, Field Sparrow, Green Heron, Flicker, Bank Swallow, Belted

Kingfisher, Black-crowned Night Heron, Spotted Sandpiper, Kingbird.

Mrs. Lampert's list represents her observations in one day from a window looking out on a small city lot on a principal street:

Black-and-white Creeping, Black-throated Blue, Canadian, Cape May, Connecticut, Kentucky, Louisiana Water-Thrush Magnolia, Myrtle, Ovenbird, Palm, Prairie, Redstart, Tennessee, Yellow.

Other birds seen same day.

Carolina Wren, Catbird, Robins, Blue Jays, Olive-back Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Wood Thrush, Veery, Red-eyed Vireo.

Decatur

The Decatur Bird and Tree Club is entering enthusiastically upon the new year in the consciousness that the Decatur Lake is an accredited bird preserve by the action of the State of Illinois. The water impounding project just completed has thrown the old Sangamon river into a broad expanse of water ten miles long which promises much to the lover of bird life. Already Decatur people are seeing that ducks and wild geese arriving here are conscious of their protection.

The membership of the club last year numbered 262 Senior members and 517 Junior members, and the effort has been made to interest the public in the protection of bird life through the various activities of the organizations, lectures, hikes and junior organizations as well as through the study classes.

Mr. Henry Oldys of Silver Spring, Maryland, gave two interesting lectures, beautifully illustrated, afternoon and evening of May 16, 1921. In the fall Mr. Orpheus M. Schantz, President of the Illinois Audubon Society, gave an interesting and instructive talk to the club.

Mr. H. D. Spencer of our own organization gave an illustrated lecture on the growing of nut trees, specializing on the budding and grafting.

The Junior Department has organized clubs in eight of the Decatur schools in which birds are studied, the children taking great delight in the trips to the woods where the wild birds may be seen to best advantage. Drills from the chart are given the children by the teacher in recognition of the birds, one teacher allowing those who could name all the birds to act as hike leader, taking a group of children out for study. The Bird and Tree Club furnished each Junior Club a bird chart and literature.

The Decatur Club has the coöperation of the Decatur City Planning Commission and of the "School Beautiful" committee of the Parent-Teachers Association, which is shown in the planting, shrubbery for the school grounds being chosen which gives protection and food for the birds.

The Protection department of the club has had sparrow traps made which have been passed around over the city and are doing active service in getting rid of the English sparrow, one man having disposed of about 500 of these birds. An effort was made to get a city cat ordinance, but the city attorney reported that a cat law cannot be successful until there is a state law upon which to base enforcement.

The Club hikes have been an important feature in the club's bird study. Two hikes were taken each Sunday, morning and afternoon, from March 13 to May 20, all of the common birds having been seen and more rare ones were seen passing through our locality. It was learned that one member of the club has seen a pair of mocking birds every month in the year on his farm one mile north of Decatur. Few in our vicinity knew that the mocking bird nested in our locality, to say nothing of looking upon it as a permanent resident. The nest of a blue grey gnat catcher was found by two members of the club, the only ones of that variety reported in this vicinity.

The Decatur club has had a rare advantage in the bird song study that has proved fascinating. The President of the club, Mr. W. B. Olds, Professor of singing in the Millikin Conservatory of Music, has made a special study of bird songs, composing charming studies based on bird song themes. Mr. Old's recital of his songs was a much enjoyed program. These songs are sung effectively by several of the young women students and are used in Millikin kindergarten. The study of the bird song has given an added charm to the study of our feathered friends.

That the interest in birds is growing in Decatur is evidenced by the fact that many homes have become veritable bird sanctuaries, the drinking and bathing pan being always supplied with water and shrubbery is planted that gives the needful food and protection.

Report of the Committee on Trees of the Decatur Bird Club

This committee has concentrated its efforts along two lines, in addition to efforts to advance a general knowledge of trees among its members.

In the fall of 1920, The Bureau of Plant Industry, at Washington, sent forty-five slides for an illustrated address on the "Value of Nut Trees for Food and Shade." The address was delivered before the Macon County Farm Bureau. It was intended to show how the farm homes could be made more attractive by planting nut trees about the home, such as the Almond, Walnut, Filbert, Hazelnut, Chestnut, Pecan, Chinquapin, Hickory, Butternut and Persimmon, instead of the Box Elder, Soft Maple and the Poplars.

It was also shown that rough pasture land which is not capable of cultivation, could be made more profitable if planted to nut trees, than choice land planted to corn or wheat.

As a result of that campaign, one hundred fourteen (114) nut trees of various kinds were planted by citizens of Decatur,

In the fall of 1921, the same committee undertook the task of making planting plans for bird sanctuaries on small lots. Many city lots can be made attractive to birds in two ways. One is to have a group of food bearing shrubs and trees, so the birds may be supplied with the fruits and foods they enjoy. The other way of attracting the birds, is to have a group of thickly growing shrubs and trees so the nests of the birds may be concealed, the brooding mothers having a sense of safety and protection for their young.

A plan for a "Birds' Berried Corner" also a "Birds' Nesting Corner" was presented by the committee with diagrams and list of shrubs and trees suitable for that purpose.

In February, the Bureau of Plant Industry of Washington sent more than forty slides illustrating various methods of budding and grafting, also some typical plantings of trees for public highways.

Through the courtesy of Macmillan & Company, of New York, publishers of Dr. Morris' book on "Nut Culture", the committee was allowed to use the illustrations in that book, explaining new and important discoveries in budding and grafting, made by Dr. Morris.

Through the hearty co-operation of the Art Department of the James Millikin University, slides were made of some of the engravings in that book.

By this means the members of the Club had fully explained the latest methods of propagation of trees of various kinds.

The Committee on Trees feels much encouraged. So far this year, fifty different trees have been ordered for members. Four different landscape plans applied for and three different owners of farm lands are arranging to plant nut orchards on their holdings.

H. D. SPENCER, Chairman

Glencoe

Frederick W. Hill sends in the following note from Glencoe under date of August 9.

I took my little girl out this morning, to show her a Goldfinch's nest, which is on the outer end of the lowest limb (about head high), of a large hawthorn tree near my house. The tree is really in the back yard of a neighbor's place, but it is a large place and the nest is not near the house. The tree must be at least 30 feet in diameter, so the nest is 15 or 20 feet from the trunk. There are 4 young in it still in the hairy-downy stage.

The nest is the usual compact affair, perfectly round at the top and built of fine grasses of different kinds and lined with the usual thistle-down. The exterior is decorated with dabs of cotton from the cotton wood trees.

I did not go to the nest immediately, wishing to watch the mother bird. She was in a nearby tree, not particularly perturbed, but calling to her young in a very sweet, high note, that sounded rather ventriloquistic, a constant call that one could easily imagine was "baby, baby, baby, sweet baby, babe, baby." When I finally looked into the nest she stopped her call entirely and was silent, probably was more perturbed, but did not show it outwardly by sound or motion of any kind. The male was not in evidence. Perhaps it was a widow's home.

In the same tree, not ten feet distant was the nest of a cedar waxwing, about 15 feet from the ground. The bird was setting or at least covering her young. I could not see in. This nest also had the same cotton-wood cotton dabs on its exterior. In an adjoining hawthorn, about 20 feet up, is a robin's nest with the usual white rag in its make up. One parent bird was feeding angle worms to its young and the other was going to a nearby wild grape vine and gathering grapes, several at a time which it apparently swallowed, but perhaps it fed them to the young later, merely "half swallowing" them for the purpose of carrying them. I picked up a robin on the ground, not yet able to fly, as its feathers were not yet large enough, and I am sure it was one from the same nest, which had escaped a little earlier than its brothers.

On my way out I observed that the young from a cedar waxwing's nest in my back yard were just out of the nest. One of the young was sitting on a wire fence trying to balance itself. Its feathers were still too short for much flying. Its wings looked dark, its back was grayish, it had the black line through the eye, and the tip of its little tail (it was not a quarter of an inch long) showed golden. The mother was much worried at our presence and was hovering in front of it with a red berry in her mouth, (either one of my very ripe currants or a wild cherry not yet ripe) trying to induce it to fly to a safer place. I watched the construction of this nest which was started July second. It took a week to build, the birds being very leisurely about it, doing a little work every morning, and both assisting. Waxwings are real helpmates to each other, in all their married activities, always being close together, and one adult often feeding the other. There are no brawls or rolling pins in their home life and no back talk, unless it is in the sign language, for there is never a note out of them except the familiar beady one that is hardly audible. This nest also had the cottonwood dabs on its outside.

I noticed last Sunday, August fifth, that the first assembling of martins was being held on a telegraph wire in my back yard. Each year this occurs about this time and the number is about 32, I presume it is the adults and their families that live in the nearest martin house, say about five pairs and their newly raised young of about four or five per family. A little later

this group "on the wire" will be augmented to 60, being joined by the proceeds from another martin house a little further off. Later, over near the Skokie Club, there will be a group of several hundred on the wires, then I believe the grand gathering for all the martins in the towns adjacent to Winnetka is the roof of "Billie" Ott's house, on the edge of the seventh hole at Indian Hill Golf course, for there are literally thousands there. Then the final rendezvous for all the martins of the North side is a small woods on the west of Sheridan Road about one block south of Central street. This occurs about August 28th. There are literally tens of thousands there. The mere murmuring of their voices, (not their song) is a roar, as they get ready for the night's roosting. If you have not seen this flocking you ought to make it a point to take it in. It probably is the meeting of all the martins of Northern Illinois along the Lake, and they may all be there from all the way to the North Pole, for all I know.

FREDERICK W. HILL

Meeting of Indiana Audubon Society and Nature Study Club



SECRETARY EVANS IN ACTION

attended the second days meeting, at which time the program announced field trips, a pageant, and a chicken dinner to wind up the days entertainment.

The first day was devoted to business meetings followed by a lecture by our good friend Norman McClintock, who made his first appearance in Indianapolis. As in Chicago, Mr. McClintock's pictures captivated his audience, and the reception given him delighted him for he reported one of the pleasantest experiences of his lecture work. An informal reception was held following the lecture, when Mr. McClintock was given an opportunity to meet more than 200 of Indiana's ardent nature lovers.

The entire forenoon of the second day—Saturday—was devoted to field trips along the several waterways skirting the city, and through a beautiful private estate. After lunch all adjourned to a fine woodland outside the city limits to attend the

On May 12-13 a joint meeting of the Indiana Audubon Society and Nature Study Club was held in the City of Indianapolis, which proved that Hoosiers live up to their reputation for hospitality, talent and versatility. The reports brought back from previous meetings were so enthusiastic, that this year the writer decided to see for himself, and at-

pageant. The walk to the scene of the pageant was along a picturesque old canal, lined on either side with very interesting forest growth which made ideal cover for many birds. The pageant was given by handsome maidens large and small, the



THE PAGEANT

“little ones” being dressed to represent different birds. “Johnny Applesed” appeared later leading an old farm horse and scattering seed among the spectators and dancers. After the pageant, adjournment by another wooded path brought the hungry spectators to the place of the Chicken Dinner. This was a spacious farm house with a roomy porch across the front and on one

side. 75 members and guests sat down “and ate, and ate, and ate, until they couldn’t stuff another mouthful.”

For an hour after dinner, Mr. Evans, Secy. of the Indiana Audubon Society, acted as toastmaster. All of the responses were spontaneous, no subjects having been announced, and most of the speakers being unaware that they were to be called upon. A very delightful talk was given by Dr. Frank B. Wynn, of the Nature Study Club, who less than three months later lost his life while mountain climbing in Glacier Park. Dr. Wynn’s death is a great loss to Indiana as he was an enthusiastic and outspoken champion of all the things out-of-doors that needed protection.

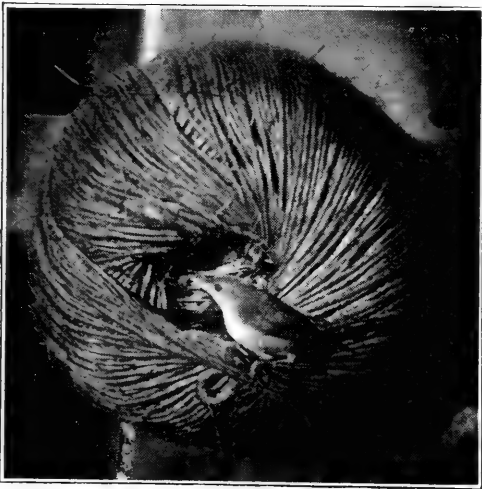
The writer was much impressed by the efficiency and enthusiasm of the joint meeting, and strongly recommends that next year’s Indiana meeting be attended by a goodly delegation
O. M. S.

Some Notes from Jo Daviess County

Last year at the close of the harvest season, a partly used ball of binder twine was hung upon a nail in a machine shed on the Cramer farm in Jo Daviess county. This spring a pair of wrens made it their home. Nesting material was brought until the hollow space in the ball was full enough to suit them. One long twig which was left to protrude from the doorway was used as a perch. The young were hatched when we attempted to photograph the nest, and both parents were making frequent visits with food. We tried several days before we succeeded in getting the accompanying picture. We were using only an ordinary 4x5 camera, and our problem was to take a snap shot in a rather darkly shadowed part of the shed. We procured

a large mirror, and one of us took up the task of trying to keep a patch of sunlight reflected on the nest, while the other stayed by the camera. After a time the parent birds ceased to have much fear of the queer looking object set up so near to their home, and we finally succeeded in getting this picture of a very alert, rather suspicious parent bird just ready to enter with a fat green worm.

After the nestlings had left the nest the twine ball was emptied, and we were much surprised at the coarseness of the lining. The material had evidently been gathered from a nearby plum thicket and consisted mostly of stout knotty twigs. Even the lining was scarcely any finer and it seemed a very rude home for such tiny baby birds.



July sixteenth an albino robin appeared in a bur oak grove remained for nearly a week feeding about. We saw it frequently, but saw no color excepting the pink of the eyes, beak and feet. It had a queer habit of standing on one leg, altho the leg appeared to be normal. It seemed to be continually tagging the other robins about rather than being a member of any flock. We had difficulty at first in identifying it as a robin, altho we were sure it was a thrush from its

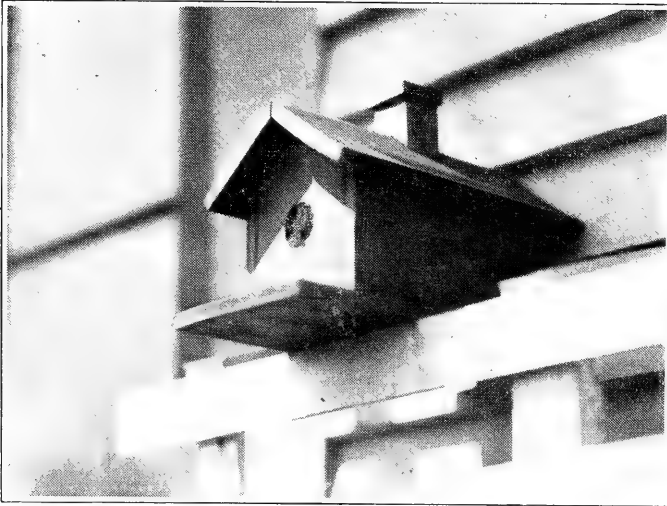
shape. We identified it of a surety by its voice and later we saw it frequently with other robins.

A neighbor found a gold-finch's nest in a tall common thistle. The nest was exquisitely made of fibres and lined with thistle down. There were five eggs and later five baby birds. The thistle plant stood alone in an open pasture field, but the nest, built into the heart of the bushy plant was quite well hidden.

EDGAR EISENSTADT
BERTHA CRAMER

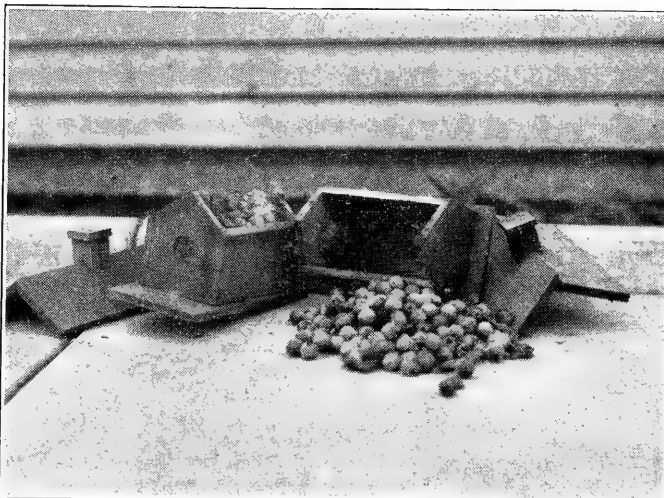
Moline

The fall migration brings to mind the interesting visit we had during the entire past winter with a red-headed woodpecker, unusual, too, in that these birds are seldom seen in our parts during the cold winter months. Early last fall this brightly colored fellow was busy about two wren houses I had placed over the rose trellis just outside the sun room windows and which had been without tenants, the echo of his tapping reverberating through the house. Thinking he was hammering at the house entrance to enlarge it that he might enter I went out one Sunday afternoon to investigate and found that not the



least tap had been made on the house itself. My curiosity becoming further aroused I secured a ladder and found on investigation bits of oak bark and acorns pushed through the small entrance. From this time on we gave the feathered beauty considerable attention and found he

was filling both houses and had the openings sealed with grass and mud. He stayed with us the entire winter coming often to sit upon the porch of the wren houses bathed in the winter's sun, but made no attempt to disturb his treasure, probably due to the fact that the winter was an open one and very little snow and to the fact that we provided a feeding place for such as desired to partake. This spring when Mr. Woodpecker seemed to have forgotten his treasure house and it was time to prepare for possible tenants I took down both houses, after photographing them in position, and found store or food provided by the bird. The contents of each house weighed a trifle over $12\frac{3}{4}$ ounces and contained 201 and 203 pieces of bark and acorns respectively, the acorns being quite dry due to the bark. Many folks to whom we related the incidents said it was the work of a squirrel but eye witnesses of several of the family easily disproved this as we would from time to time see Mr. Woodpecker bring some of his treasure and put it into the house then perched there continue pecking and hammering away until he had by repeated trips completely filled the houses as I discovered upon opening them in the spring.



I gave one of the houses to the Boy Boy Scouts Headquarters of this city for its bird exhibit and still retain the other although it has made several trips to various school rooms as an interesting lesson to the children of the provision the bird makes for an emergency (its thrift being in the

fact that he wasted no room in storing the crowns or caps which would have little food value but brought only the nut part, there being but one cap in one house and four in the other. The enclosed picture show how completely he had filled the houses and with what skill and cunning he had sealed them. We looked in vain for him to repeat his store gathering in two new houses placed in the trellis but he has already gone south.

Port Byron

Another interesting report from the Mississippi region in the vicinity of Port Byron is sent in by Mr. J. J. Schafer. Mr. Schafer writes:

With the exception of one bad storm on July 9th, the weather was very favorable for the breeding birds in this vicinity during June and July. Traill's Flycatcher and the Yellow-breasted Chat again failed to come, and only one Bell's Vireo was heard singing on May 27th. Killdeers were here all spring and summer but we never found any nests. Mourning Doves were common; three pairs nested in our garden, and two or three pairs in the orchard. One pair in the garden laid three sets of eggs, and were successful in raising several young. One nest in the orchard for some time contained one young and one egg and when the young was about half-grown, the remaining egg hatched.

Most of the early Bob-white nests were destroyed by mowers. One nest was found in the grass beside a fence post, but for some reason was abandoned. One nest with 16 eggs was found in the hay field after the mower had passed over it, but it probably was already abandoned, as the eggs were discolored by rain. They always have better success with their second nests. I noticed several large coveys during August and September, most of them being young birds.

In the spring a pair of Sparrow Hawks took possession of a Flicker house, but we took it down and scared them away; we did not want them here during the breeding season because they kill nestlings and other small birds.

A pair of Crested Flycatchers built a nest in an old willow limb which had been set up besides a fence post, but they soon disappeared, and some time thereafter I found where a cat had eaten one of them, nothing being left but the wings and some feathers.

A pair of Yellow Warblers—the first ones since 1917, built a nest in a peach tree in our garden and were successful in raising a brood of young; a pair of Cedar Waxings raised a brood of three young in a crab tree in front of the house.

Dickcissels were common this year. There were about six pairs in a 13 acre field of clover and timothy, but all of their nests were destroyed by the mower. Three nests were found

on June 14th along the public highway in front of our place; one nest was destroyed by the mower, the second nest was built in some poison ivy on a fence post and contained some shells of Dickcissels' eggs and one cowbird egg, and another cowbird egg was lying on the ground. The third nest was also built in poison ivy on a fence post; it was very well concealed and contained four Dickcissel eggs. Most of them built nests again and raised



Photo by Richard Churchill

some young. On August 3rd, a nest built in a weed under a barbed wire fence was found in which there were three large young, and another pair had built in the top of an apple tree in front of our house.

A pair of Grasshopper Sparrows raised a brood of three young after the mower had passed over their nest; the nest was built in a depression, and on a level with the surface of the ground. After we saw one of the birds fly from the nest, we

marked the location, and were careful not to drive over it with the haying tools. There were not so many Cliff Swallows here as last year; only about 75 nests were built, last year there were over 90. On June 23rd, many of the young Swallows were out of their nests and sitting on the telephone wires. On the night of July 7th, something broke and enlarged the entrances of about one third of the nests. It probably was a pair of Great Horned Owls that broke the nests, as they were heard hooting on a spruce tree in front of the house during the night, and they also sometimes sit on the top of the barn. The owls were probably attracted to the nests by the squeaking noise which the young Swallows made during the night. The next day no Swallows were about, and no young could be heard in the nests. Several days afterwards some of the Swallows returned and occupied some of the nests, and later on raised their second brood of young.

Our Martins raised many young this year, the first ones came out of their house on June 30th, and the last ones August 3rd. They began to flock and sit on our windmill on July 23rd and were all gone by the middle of August.

The weather was very hot and dry during August and September. The first half of October was also very dry, with a few days of cool weather. The first migrant to come from the North was a Solitary Sandpiper on July 17th, and on the evening of July 19th a Heron was heard squeaking as it was flying southward. On August 15th and 16th a Little Blue Heron stayed in the slough back of our barn. It was very tame, and came into the barnyard several times and alighted on the buildings.

Following is my list of birds "first seen" this fall: Night-hawk, August 22; Tennessee Warbler, September 3; Marsh, September 8; Red-tailed Hawk, September 9; Red-shouldered Hawk, September 16; White-throated Sparrow, September 17; Myrtle Warbler, September 18; Rusty Blackbird, September 18; Western Meadowlark, September 21; Winter Wren, September 24; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, September 28; Fox Sparrow, October 1; Rough-legged Hawk, October 3; Brown Creeper, October 6; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, October 7; Slate-colored Junco, October 10; Hermit Thrush, October 15.

I never saw so many Bluebirds migrating, as there are this fall. Every day during September and the first part of October they could be heard calling as they flew over. The Red-headed Woodpeckers left early and were nearly all gone by the first of September. Teals were reported to be numerous on the Mississippi River about the middle of September. One party said there were thousands. The coldest weather we had this fall was on the morning of October 12th, when the thermometer registered 32 degrees, and at the time of writing this, the leaves on the trees in the woods are nearly all green yet.

J. J. Schafer

River Forest

A Tiny Patient

September twenty-seventh a small lad rushed breathlessly into my room with a beating heart in a fluff of green feathers carefully treasured in his hand.

"This humming bird flew against the electric wires in front of our house and hurt one of its wings! I was so glad he was not killed," he exclaimed.

I took the tiny bird in my hand and directed the lad to purchase some sugar from the nearest grocery. When he returned I had placed the patient in a fish bowl on a bed of cotton, with a twig, in case it should be able to perch. It was pitiful to see the fright of the little thing. I quickly made a solution of sugar and water in a dainty white shell and dipped the slender bill into it. The delicate, needle-like tongue shot back and forth cleaning off the bill each time. I repeated the process several times during the morning but the creature was too frightened to feed naturally. By noon all fear had gone and when the bill touched the liquid, it voluntarily remained taking a generous portion. The tiny tongue darted in and out and it swallowed



Photo by Richard Churchill

eagerly. Several times during the afternoon it fed but with no movement of the wings.

Charles Hopkins, a twelve year old boy, took the bird home that night and I was unexpectedly called out of town for four days. Charles tells what treatment was given to the humming bird for the next six days.

“The first day of captivity the little bird had a second fright in the journey home in the fish bowl. Soon he gathered strength and flew out of the uncovered bowl to a height of two feet from the table on which it was placed, then fell heavily to the floor his strength being spent.

“For two days after this little incident, the bird was fed regularly about seven times a day with the sugar and water mixture, sticking out his long tongue but never perceptibly opening his bill. He seemed to enjoy feeding from the depths of a petunia, or gently sucking the end of a cloth-covered toothpick dipped in home-made nectar. Soon another article of food was added to his diet, some of the little aphids often found on the stems of asters.

“From the first he improved rapidly, particularly in the regaining of his equilibrium. Before many days had passed he was able to perch on a toothpick with perfect ease. His wings also increased in strength. The interior of the bowl was a splendid place for him to try wing practice. Often our entire family was startled by a hollow humming noise, better heard than described. Upon inspection he proved to be but moving his wings so rapidly through the air that a humming sound was produced, and made much greater by the shape of the bowl in which he was confined.

“One afternoon he opened his sharp beak for the first time to a width of half an inch. He seemed to want something to eat which we were unable to give him. His strength increased daily and he made repeated short flights about the room. Perching on a tiny twig after its bath, it hummed continually in its efforts to dry its silky green wings. I took him out among the salvia plants where he was very fond of sipping honey from them with his long beak. The tiny twig which was tightly held by his feet suddenly became very buoyant as his wing movements continued. Suddenly I let go of the stick intending to let the humming bird fly to the ground. The twig alone reached the ground for the little bird rose slowly and steadily through the air, looking precisely like a giant green and white bumble bee, with its tail turned straight down to the ground. Presently he rested on a twig about twenty feet high where the pleasant humming of his wings could plainly be heard. Here he rested for about five minutes, then suddenly flew like a streak, so fast I lost sight of him. I lingered about the spot for nearly half an

hour hoping to see him again but I did not. As October third was followed by three days of mild weather I trust the little fellow reached the sunny south without further accident."

ESTHER A. CRAIGMILE

Rockford

Five hundred bird homes were added to the public parks of Rockford, Ill., this year through the co-operation of Rockford Park District, manual training department of the city's public schools and Edgar E. Bartlett. Mr. Bartlett, who is a great lover of birds, conducts a public campaign each spring in the interest of bird life through his daily newspaper, *The Register-Gazette*. The campaign this year was the most successful yet held in point of practical bird homes obtained and interest aroused.

Details of the campaign were arranged at a conference early in March of the eleven manual training instructors, Thomas Bjorge, supervisor of Manual Arts; E. E. Lewis, superintendent of city schools; Paul B. Riis, superintendent of the park district, and Mr. Bartlett. The latter offered nineteen prizes, four for each manual training grade and three special ones, with use of the news columns of the *Register-Gazette* for stimulating publicity. Students receiving bird houses were to receive credit for the work.

Owing to a large number of the houses built in former contests being impractical bird homes and useless after the contest, it was decided to have all houses this year built according to plans and specifications prepared by Superintendent Riis of the park district. Each class of students was furnished with a set of plans and specifications for the houses to be built. Copies of *Bird Lore* were furnished each student to further aid him in his work.

In addition to the cash prizes awarded builders of the best entries in the campaign all boys building houses were the guests of the *Register-Gazette* and park commission on a boat ride on Rick river and wiener roast at Dr. Warren M. Miller's "Idlewild" farm on Memorial Day.

In order to establish a real competitive basis, restrictive classes were provided, confining the pupil to build wren, blue bird, flicker nesting box, or robin shelving box. Those who desired, could build martin houses. Several very fine types of these were built.

The plans furnished were not arbitrary, excepting as to dimensions of boxes, location and size of entrance holes, and such other items of construction necessary to the building of successful bird houses. In fact, every encouragement was held



TWO OF THE PRIZE WINNERS

out to the pupil, to give full rein to his imagination. The result exceeded the most sanguine expectations. Of the 500 boxes built, there were less than ten, which would prove impractical and only two of these, which were entirely useless. Thus every effort went into good constructive work for our feathered friends.

Furthermore, where it was to be expected that there would be little choice between the various exhibits, where all houses are built from the same stereotyped plans, a surprisingly large amount, in fact the greater percentage were artistic and tasty boxes, built according to the builders own perception of art, to be sure, plus the fundamentals of good bird house essentials fully incorporated.

The manual training instructors entered into the work in a fine spirit of enthusiasm, with the result that when the campaign closed on May 27 almost 500 neat little "Bird Bungalows" had been completed. Previous to their delivery to the park district the houses were placed on exhibition in the display windows of the Charles V. Weise dry goods store to further interest the public in the bird life movement and give an idea of the work being accomplished by the manual training department of the schools.

PAUL B. RIIS

A good library for the winter months: Baynes' Wild Bird Guests; Chapman's Our Winter Birds; Pearson's The Bird Study Book; The Check List of Birds of Illinois. Write to the Illinois Audubon Society, 10 South LaSalle St., Chicago.

Rock Island

A Home Made Bird Bath

Much has been said and written on the subject of attracting birds to our homes through supplying bird baths and drinking fountains, but because there is still room for more of them, I would like to describe the bath shown in the accompanying photographs.

We had observed so many interesting incidents when only small basins had been supplied, that we concluded a larger bath would multiply the pleasure of both birds and observers, but as the fountains offered on the market seemed too expensive, be-

sides the cost of installing pipes for running water, we decided to build a pool ourselves.

This particular bath did not even require a man to build it, but was made by the feminine members of the family. The pool measures five feet across, is about five inches deep in the center, and gradually slopes out toward the edge, as the birds will not jump at once into deep water. The fountain shown in one of the illustrations, is a small brass garden sprinkler, attached to a short length of hose, and was used only during extremely hot weather, to keep the water in the pool fresh and cool. The cost of the pool was \$2.25 for cement and sand, and \$.75 for the spray. The cost of the labor was fully compensated for when the first visitor arrived—a male Baltimore oriole.

The pool is just outside a screened porch, but our presence on the porch did not in the least disturb or frighten the birds, and being so close, we spent many delightful hours watching them.

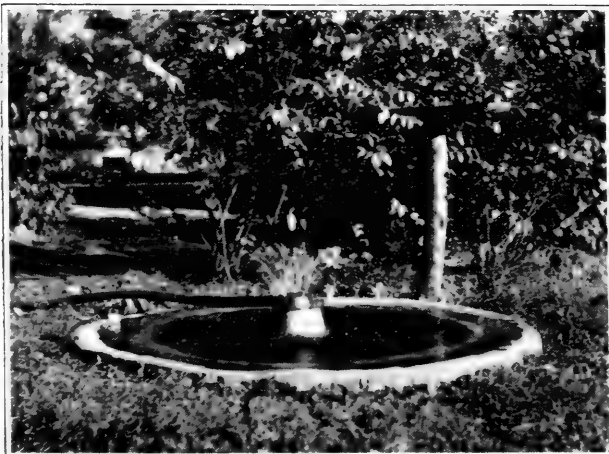
While not nearly all of the many species observed in our yard, visited the pool, still, during the season the bath was visited by Flickers, Downy and Redheaded Woodpeckers, Chebecs, Blue Jays, Baltimore Orioles, Grackles, Goldfinches, Chewinks, Juncos, Cardinals, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Red-eyed and Yellow-throated Vireos, Redstarts, Chestnut-sided, Bay-breasted and Blackburnian Warblers, Catbirds, Brown Thrashers, House Wrens, Chickadees, Kinglets, Veerys, Olive-backed and Hermit Thrushes, Robins, and even a pair of Screech Owls. Probably there were more that we did not happen to see.

Directly back of the pool, we erected a food shelf which rivals the bath in popularity. The pictures were taken too late in the season (October 21) to show anything but English Sparrows although a Hermit Thrush had been observed the last three evenings bathing, at 5:15, too late in the day to take a picture. Nor do the illustrations show the beauty of the foliage, since the frost has already destroyed the flowers, but this is a field where each can carry out his own ideas making the fountain an extremely attractive

as well as useful feature of any garden.

I am sure if more people knew the amount of enjoyment they would derive in return for the much needed water they would supply our feathered friends, the number of bird baths in a community would be greatly increased.

Nellie E. Peetz



In Memoriam--Edgar Lindgren



On August 12 last, United States game warden, Edgar A. Lindgren, while patrolling some woods north of Council Bluffs, Iowa, was shot down at close range by two Italians whom he had found with wild ducks in their possession in direct violation of state and federal game laws. These same Italians shot and seriously wounded their unarmed companion in an effort to prevent his giving evidence against them. The warden lived long enough to tell his story and the wounded Italian eventually recovered. The criminals were arrested and one has been given a long penitentiary sentence.

No report from the trial of the other two has been received.

Edgar A. Lindgren was a graduate of Bowen High School in Chicago. While at that school he had joined the bird club known as the Bowen Bird Boosters which has been in active existence for nearly ten years. This Club has affiliated with the Illinois Audubon Society and in that way young Lindgren was a member of our Society. It is said that in his earlier school years he had regarded birds as very useful targets for his marksmanship, but under the influences surrounding him at Bowen High School he became an enthusiastic protector of birds. He furnished his yard as a bird preserve and fed birds during the winter.

After his graduation from Bowen High School he joined the navy where he served for about a year. He returned to civil life with his old ambition to do something for the birds and began his work as a Federal Game Warden where his advancement was rapid. He was married about this time to Miss Leona Marble. His untimely death in the performance of duty brings forcibly home to all of us the realization of how much educational work remains to be done to secure co-operation to protect the best things in life.

Mr. Raymond Lussenhop, President of the Bowen Bird Boosters, informs us that it is the plan of his associates to have a framed picture of Edgar Lindgren in the zoology laboratory of the school. It has been suggested that the bird fountain to be placed in the school yard by the Club on its tenth anniversary be named the Lindgren Memorial Fountain.

THE ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY recommends the organization of Junior Audubon Societies under one or the other of the following plans:

First plan: Organize under the auspices of the National Association of Audubon Societies and take advantage of the special offer to pupils made possible by generous patrons of the Society. Each member paying ten cents will receive a set of six educational leaflets with colored pictures and outline drawings for coloring with crayons. Each member will also receive the Audubon button which represents a badge of membership in a Junior Audubon class. Each teacher who organizes a class of twenty or more receives a year's free subscription to *Bird-Lore*, the official organ of the Association. Address the Secretary, 1749 Broadway, New York City.

Second plan: Organize under the auspices of the Illinois Audubon Society. Each pupil is to pay fifteen cents for a copy of "*Fifty Common Birds of Farm and Orchard*" published by the United States Government, copies to be obtained either from the Secretary of the Illinois Audubon Society or by sending directly to the Superintendent of Documents at Washington, D. C. To each member of a group provided with this beautifully illustrated bulletin the Illinois Audubon Society will give without charge the Audubon button of membership in the Illinois Society and will send to the leader of the group for a period of one year all the publications and special notices of the Society together with an illustrated certificate showing that the group is a member of the Illinois Audubon Society. Teachers wishing to enroll pupils under local plans may obtain Audubon buttons for two cents.

Address the

Illinois Audubon Society

10 South La Salle Street
CHICAGO



The
Audubon Bulletin
Spring 1923



Published by
The ILLINOIS
AUDUBON
SOCIETY

Illinois Audubon Society Service

The Society has two collections of hand-colored lantern slides of bird life, each with an accompanying printed lecture. These are lent free of charge to any school or organization in the state but borrower pays express charges both ways.

The Society has travelling libraries of bird books which are lent to schools or organizations for a reasonable length of time, the borrower paying express charges both ways.

The Society publishes wall charts listing 200 typical Illinois birds and providing suitable spaces for recording migration and nesting data. Schools, Boy Scout organizations, and individuals as well find these of great service. Price ten cents each.

The Society publishes a Pocket Check List of Birds with a colored zonal map. This list records every known species of birds that visits Illinois or nests within its borders. Included with this is a very useful key for the identification of nests. The Check List sells for fifty cents.

The Society publishes the Langdon Cat Circular which is invaluable in arousing interest in the question of protecting birds from marauding cats. Price five cents each.

The Society issues an illustrated postal in the Italian language warning against violation of laws for bird protection. Price two cents each.

Address The Illinois Audubon Society,

10 South La Salle Street, Chicago

President	Secretary-Treasurer
Mr. Orpheus M. Schantz	Miss Catherine Mitchell
10 S. LaSalle Street, Chicago	Riverside
Mr. Jesse Lowe Smith	
Vice-President	
Highland Park	

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

Application for Membership

Understanding the aims and principles of the Illinois Audubon Society,
and being in sympathy with them, I wish to become a.....

Name.....

Address.....

Date.....

Classes of Membership

Associate memberships	\$1.00.	Annually
Active memberships	\$2.00.	Annually
Contributing memberships	\$5.00.	Annually
Sustaining membership	\$25.00.	No annual dues
Life memberships	\$100.00.	No annual dues
Benefactor	\$500.00.	No annual dues
Patron	\$1000.00.	No annual dues

All members receive the publications of the Society.

Please sign this card and send it with the fee to the Illinois Audubon Society
10 South La Salle Street, Chicago

FORM OF BEQUEST

I DO HEREBY GIVE AND BEQUEATH TO THE ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF WILD BIRDS (Incorporated), of the State of Illinois.

(OVER)

To carry out its aggressive program, the Illinois Audubon Society must increase its membership. Out of a population of nearly six millions, Illinois should have at least ten thousand people who are enough interested in bird life to help the Society in its conservation efforts. Will you not help us expand our usefulness?

I suggest for membership in the Illinois Audubon Society the persons whose names appear on the other side of this sheet.

Signed.....

Member of the Illinois Audubon Society

May we use your name? } Yes
 } No

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY, 10 S. LA SALLE STREET, CHICAGO

The Aims and Principles of the Illinois Audubon Society are:

1. To encourage the study of birds, particularly in the school and to disseminate literature relating to them.
2. To work for the betterment and enforcement of State and Federal laws relating to birds.
3. To discourage the wearing of any feathers except those of the ostrich and domestic fowls.
4. To discourage, in every possible way, the wanton destruction of wild birds and their eggs.
5. To restore to our wild birds, wherever practicable, the natural environment of forest and shrubbery which gave them food, protection and seclusion.

Needs

The Illinois Audubon Society depends for its support upon the contributions of its members and friends. It should have an income from a moderate endowment sufficient to meet all fixed expenses.

¶ The present income is totally inadequate to meet the urgent and incessantly growing demands.

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY, Inc.
10 SOUTH LA SALLE STREET - CHICAGO

(OVER)

Name

Name

Name

Name

Name

Address

Address

Address

Address

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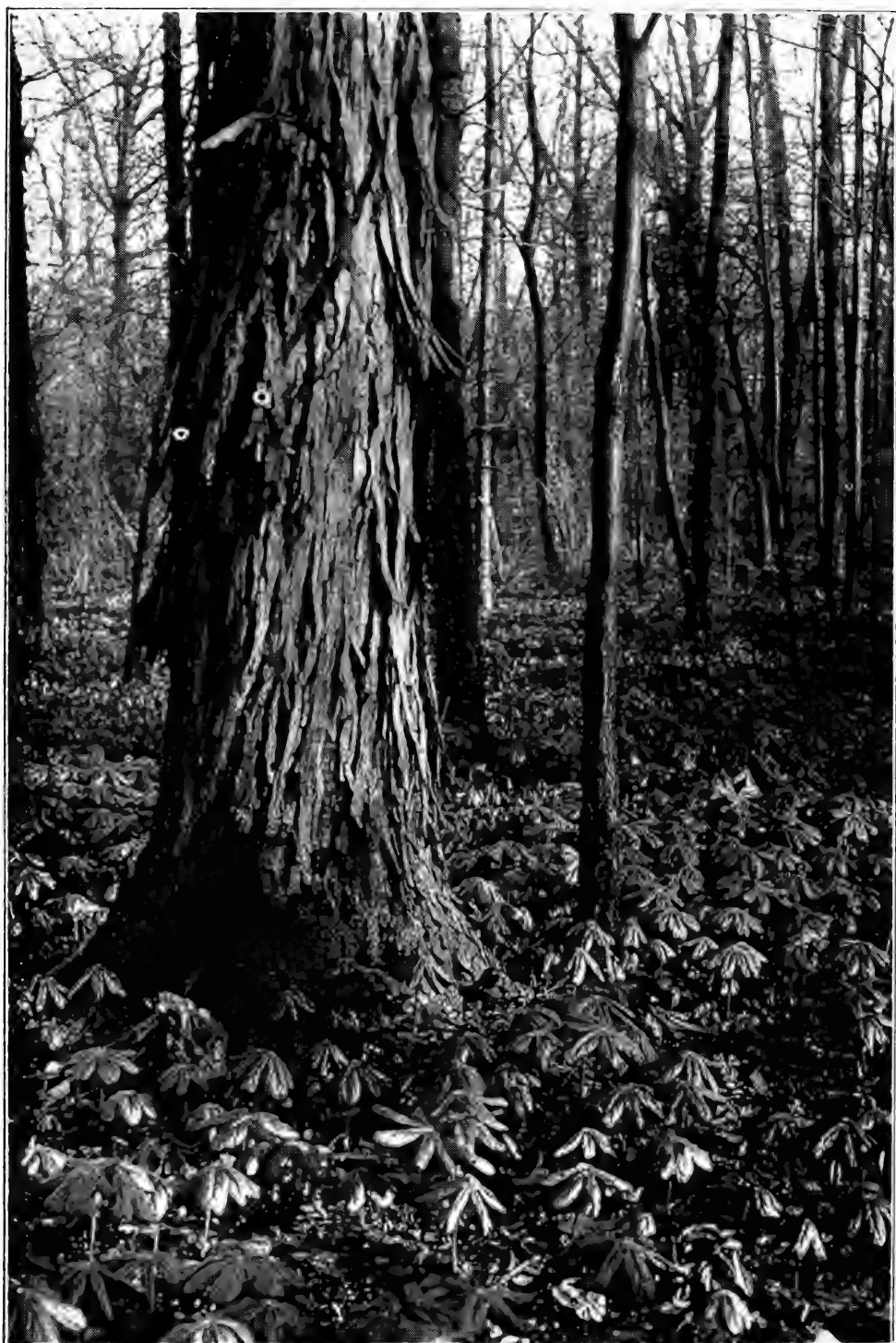


Photo by Jesse L. Smith

A SHAGBARK IN LOOSE GREAT-COAT AND A HOST OF MANDRAKES—A COMPANY
WELL-MET IN APRIL WOODS

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN

SPRING 1923

Published by the
ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
(For the protection of wild birds)

The President of the Illinois Audubon Society writes:

In the Chicago area where the Bulletin is put to press Spring is officially reported to be sixteen days late thus far. This Spring Bulletin is also late, more than sixteen days at that, but it is hoped that the season's untimeliness will mitigate a little the tardiness of the appearance of the Bulletin. The birds in their migration did not disappoint us greatly and the notes from the field arrived promptly enough, but "local conditions" have delayed an April issue until June.

This number of the Bulletin calls attention once more to the possibilities of bird-study which bird-banding reveals. An invitation to enlist in this work is extended by the secretary of the Inland Bird-Banding Association and interesting reports of progress in the work are furnished by our correspondents. The story is told of the thrilling success which has attended the efforts of lovers of wild life to attract the migrating hosts of waterfowl to the new bird haven of Decatur Lake. The enlarging of the park district areas of Joliet to include notable woodland areas still in a primitive state is also told. Note is made of the setting aside of a wild-life preserve for Carthage College.

Field notes show how comparatively uneventful was the chronicle for bird life during the past winter. From several places come unusually rich reports of experiences in attracting birds and providing adequate shelter and nesting opportunities. Those who have not had the sport of nest-hunting with mirrors will find instructions on how to prepare for it.

In due place brief mention is made of pending legislation and the final pages contain an amusing symposium on the quail, the contributions all being "lifted" from the columns of an influential agricultural weekly.

ORPHEUS MOYER SCHANTZ

A Protected Waterway



Photo by C. A. Waite

In the summer of 1920 the city of Decatur began work on the construction of a water impounding project, the object of which was to secure an ample supply of water for the growing city. After careful surveys had been made it was decided to construct a concrete and earth dam just above the present pumping station in the Sangamon river and to flood the valley of that river above this dam for a distance of about thirteen miles, creating a lake of that length varying in width from the width of the river itself at the upper end to a width of about a mile and a half at the widest part.

For this purpose nearly 4,000 acres of land were bought, the dam built, the land cleared, bridges and roads raised or rebuilt, with one handsome new bridge constructed outright, the total cost of the whole project running to about \$2,250,000.

By the fall of 1922 the dam had been finished, the basin cleared of timber, six bridges and the approaches to them raised, one bridge abandoned and a new one built, and with the advent of the spring rains in January 1923 the long visualized lake became an actual fact, the water running over the spillway of the new dam and the sheet of water above covering the basin.

About a year ago lovers of birds and others who were interested in the saving of the waterfowl took up the project of making Lake Decatur a refuge for these birds and a campaign of education was started to create sentiment in favor of such a plan.

This met with considerable opposition, the old frontier theory that wild birds are everybody's property and live only to be shot

being deeply imbedded in a community where the conservation policy had, up to this time, been a rather hazy sentimental idea applicable to others but not to ourselves—as many conservation theories seem to be held.

But through a steady campaign through the newspapers and by talks by those interested at dinners, clubs and other places, sentiment was gradually changed and the state was induced to make the lake a refuge for the migratory waterfowl.

For a time much adverse criticism was heard about this action but that too has died away being assisted quite materially



by the cordial co-operation of the state game officials and the local game wardens who do not hesitate to impose the penalties on anyone caught violating the law in regard to the shooting of the birds.

With the creation of the actual lake late this winter the flight of the water fowl soon demonstrated that they would sight this large body of water in this otherwise prairie and dry land territory and would come here.

At first the birds were timid, and rightly so, as they had had no protection, but as they continued to come and were not disturbed they remained on the lake in increasing numbers.

The necessity of providing some feed for the birds was soon realized by those most interested in having them stay with us as long as possible and Chauncey M. Powers took the lead in this matter, raising within a few hours one day, a fund for the purchase of feed. Fortunately for us, however unfortunate it may have been for the elevator concern, a large elevator had been burned here just a few days before this time and many bushels of grain had been watersoaked but not wholly destroyed.

Several tons of this grain was bought at a low price—a ton and a half was given by J. M. Allen, head of the elevator concern—and under the supervision of Mr. Powers was placed in the shallow water, from time to time, near the county bridge from which the citizens interested in seeing the birds could easily do so.

In an amazingly short time the Ducks found where the grain was located and, finding that they were not disturbed immedi-

ately made that place their feeding ground—as the pictures will show.

Within fifty to 150 feet of the bridge and its approaches these wild water fowl feed and play about in the water and thousands of Decatur citizens, as well as the outsiders who come to town, go to the bridge to watch these guests so friendly and unafraid.

It is a source of never ending wonder to visitors who see them. Only recently the famous naturalist, Dallas Lore Sharp, lectured in Decatur and learning of the interesting spectacle on the lake asked to be taken out there. A few days later in Chicago he was talking about the extraordinary spectacle on an inland lake. To Decatur citizens it is becoming accepted as a matter of fact—the interesting thing being the complete reversal of feeling of a year ago. Just one sight of those thousands of birds playing there in safety and friendliness does the work.

Because of the interest in the birds traffic rules have been made to prevent congestion on the bridge and approaches because of the number of cars and pedestrians who make it a point, particularly on Sundays, to travel that way. Without exception all stop to watch the birds—with the result that traffic jams became so numerous that the police department was compelled to take a hand.

What we will do next fall when the birds come this way again we have not yet decided but that we will find some method of feeding and planting feed in certain parts of the lake for them is almost a certainty.

Now that the making of friends of the wild water fowl has been demonstrated as a possibility our worst obstacles have been overcome.

It is no exaggeration to say that everybody—almost without any exception—is now with us. The hunters now realize that hunting away from the lake will be good as the birds will go out into the corn and wheat fields to feed next fall. Those who do not care for the hunting but do like to have the birds here now know that they can be induced to come here with a little showing of hospitality and friendliness.

From being a smiled-at theory the question has become an accepted settled subject and the man who would do anything to cause the birds to stay away would be even more unpopular than the man who started the plan a year ago.

The assistance of the newspapers in helping to create the right feeling was invaluable, of course. The swinging into line of the state game department and the active support of the local game wardens was the finishing touch.

The whole community is greatly pleased.

The photos tell the story. They were taken from the approaches to the county bridge, the camera actually being in a car when some of the photos were taken.

C. A. WAITE

The New Method of Bird Study

Do you know the fascination of trapping and banding wild birds? Have you held a bird in your hands, examined him carefully, released him, and then found that instead of being frightened away he comes back to your traps again and again; sometimes the same day, the same week; perhaps he reports to you nearly every day all summer; yes, and some of them year after year.

Professional or amateur ornithologist, you may by these methods handle hundreds of birds in a year, study the bird, his habits, his mates, and even keep a record of his children, or grandchildren. By these methods you may secure new kinds of facts, that were formerly so difficult to obtain.

“A trapping and banding station benefits and increases the number of birds as success requires that the locality be freed of the enemies; that food and shelter be provided, and the locality becomes in fact a bird sanctuary.”

This method of bird study has been adopted by the U. S. Biological Survey (Washington, D. C.) and Special Permits for Bird-banding are issued to those who will volunteer to place the bands which are furnished by the Survey.

“Permits for bird banding are issued only to persons over eighteen years of age who have sufficient experience and knowledge of birds to carry on the work with scientific accuracy.”

Within two years permits have been issued to six hundred persons in North America. In New England, some hundreds of bird students have formed a Bird-banding Association to cooperate with and assist the Survey in that region.

At Chicago, at the time of the meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union, on Tuesday, October 24, 1922, a bird banders' dinner and meeting was held; it was a large and enthusiastic meeting attended by many ornithologists, from many parts of the United States and Canada. At this meeting the Inland Bird-banding Association was formed, for the purpose of assisting and co-operating with the Biological Survey in organizing this work in Canada, and the Central States and the States of the Mississippi Valley, from the Appalachian Mountains to the Rocky Mountains and south to the Gulf of Mexico.

The purpose of this association is to bring together those who are interested in the study and protection of birds along the great migration routes in this area, and to assist in organizing trapping stations, to encourage local meetings of those who are interested, and provide a central office of exchange of information and ideas; members will be expected, when they file reports with the Biological Survey, as required by the Survey, to furnish quarterly a general report to this Association.

The scientific results of this method of bird study are many times multiplied by establishing permanent trapping stations;

for that reason institutional trapping stations are especially desirable. Bird Clubs, departments of Colleges, Audubon Societies, State and National Parks, Natural History Societies all should operate trapping stations, as well as individuals.

The memberships are: Active, composed of those interested in the work, and those who will trap and place bands, dues \$1.00; Sustaining, those wishing to help with the expense and promotion, \$5.00 or more.

If you are interested send in your application to the Treasurer.

HERBERT L. STODDARD

The Public Museum, Milwaukee, Wis.

Bird Banding Activities at Thomasville, Georgia

It was my pleasure to be selected as the middle west representative to take charge of the Bird Banding at the famous Inwood Plantation, where yearly Mr. C. Prentiss Balwin carries on his Bird Banding experiments. The plantation is a beautiful southern estate with occasional open fields and a great deal of tall, native pine protected by a keeper so that both migrant song birds and game birds are very numerous.

In forty days I was fortunate enough to trap more than four thousand birds. Of course, many of these were birds which had been captured in previous years, while the rest of them were new or repeats. On the legs of every new bird was placed an identification band of aluminum, while every bird which had been banded in former years was recorded and the 1923 life of the bird was forwarded to the Biological Survey at Washington to complete the bird's history which is kept on a card numbered to correspond with the number on the bird's band.

The smallest bird captured was a Ruby-crowned Kinglet which I captured twice. I have always understood this bird to be an insect eating bird and I caught it both times at trap "A" where only small grain and bread crumbs were distributed. This tiny bird escaped from one of my collecting traps, the mesh of which is three-fourths of an inch in size, which shows how very tiny it must be.

Most numerous of all birds were the Chipping Sparrows. In front of my house I had a drop trap made of a square frame, five feet across, covered with a string netting. On one side was a stick to which was attached a string. In the early morning the Chipping Sparrows would gather under this trap literally by the dozens. When the string was pulled the trap would descend, capturing a large number of these tiny birds. None was killed because the trap in descending did not fall to the ground. The distance between the board and the ground was covered by a heavy, brown, canvas cloth. My greatest catch with this trap was fifty-one birds, another trap similar to the common rat trap type of Sparrow trap was used to good

advantage and my catch covered such birds as: Redbird, Mourning Dove, Brown Thrasher, Song Sparrow, Mocking Birds, Towhee, Quail, Blue Jay, Red-bellied Woodpecker and others.

Many people asked what the advantage of Bird Banding is. The close study which the observer can make of individual birds, allows him to get an absolute knowledge of the colors of live birds. Eventually, when Bird Banding stations are maintained over the entire country, we shall be able to tell absolutely the course of their yearly migration. Many diseases of birds will be identified, the length of life can be determined; whether birds mate for life or change partners each year has in a great many cases already been discovered; and the speed with which they fly can be easily estimated.

This last year a hunter in Georgia killed a Mourning Dove. The bird was kept by the United States Game Warden, who arrested the hunter for shooting migratory birds. The lawyer for the defendant nearly cleared the culprit by saying that Mourning Doves do not migrate, that they are born, raised, and remain twelve months of the year in Georgia. Luckily the Game Warden had in his possession the band, taken from a Mourning Dove, killed in Georgia which had been originally banded in Canada. The little strip of metal secured a conviction.

The work is very new and many people ask me, "Do you ever catch the same bird twice? Do the birds get badly scared?" In answer to this I might say that the Towhee which is one of the most retiring of our bush birds, enters the traps freely and eats the food greedily. I caught one such bird eight times in one day. This bird sang while I held it in my hand and I believe I could have captured it dozens of times had I run my trap that often. I placed a Chipping Sparrow in the hands of one of the guests, who had come to witness the banding experiment, and much to her surprise the bird lay there for nearly three minutes before flying, and then she had to toss it out into the air to make it fly.

When we continue to capture birds in trap D less than one block away, imagine everybody's surprise, except mine, at finding the same bird waiting for us in the next trap. As this is a regular occurrence it shows very conclusively that what fear the birds have is quickly forgotten when handled properly and scientifically by the observer.

It is hoped that this great study and sport will be taken up by a large number of Illinois State Bird enthusiasts. In prosecuting this work, you will not only increase your own knowledge of birds, but your efforts will be of great value to science and consequently we should all do our best to be of service.

T. E. Musselman, Quincy, Illinois.

Hawthorns as Bird Sanctuaries



Photo by Orpheus M. Schantz

HAWTHORNS IN THE PORTAGE TRACT OF THE
FOREST PRESERVE

No tree family of the northeastern United States is more interesting, and at the same time more confusing to botanists than the many species of hawthorn. By reason of its varied forms of foliage, fruits, and growth its presence is always a picturesque addition to the landscape.

Extremely hardy, tolerant of many soils, it survives under conditions that are fatal to less hardy trees.

Because of the fondness of cattle for the leaves and tender twigs the young hawthorns in pasture lands have a hard time growing up as they should. The continuous browsing forces them to thicken into dense masses of twigs and thorns. These "beehives" eventually widen out at their bases so that cattle can no longer reach the tops, then a leader or perhaps several leaders shoot up and soon form a symmetrical top changing the beehive into the hour glass or sheaf form. The trees then begin to blossom and fruit. In the region around Chicago there are many hawthorn orchards sometimes containing a number of species. When the trees have not been molested in their youth by cattle, they form the typical broad-topped, sturdy tree that is characteristic of the larger members of this interesting group. Where they have been retarded in their growth by cattle, the dense masses of interlaced branches with their abundant thorns are ideal nesting sites for Catbirds, Sparrows and Thrashers. During the summer time the dense foliage completely hides the nests from view, but after the leaves fall a visit to a hawthorn orchard or thicket reveals a remarkable number of nests proving conclusively their value to the birds. The botanical name for the family—*Crataegus*—comes from a Greek word, *kratos*, meaning strength; the English name from the Anglo-Saxon *haegthorn*, meaning hedgethorn. There have been almost or quite one thousand variations discovered by botanists among the hawthorns, a very great number of which are hybrids and not distinct varieties. There are a few members of the family in other portions of the temperate world, but eastern North America is its typical home. The region about Chicago apparently is ideal for its growth and development, as it is found in profusion in all our woodlands, sometimes forming orchards of mature trees, in other localities it is the dominant



Photo by Orpheus M. Schantz

THE HAWTHORN AS A WINTER ASSET

pear shaped, others spherical, while still others are angled showing distinctly the number of nutlets contained. The seeds or nutlets are of extreme hardness, and being indigestible do not lose their germinating power when eaten by birds and animals. This accounts for their wide distribution and for their being found in unaccountable locations.

Because of the hawthorn's ability to recover and thicken up after being browsed by cattle, it is frequently used for a hedge growth. One prominent nurseryman predicted to the writer that the time would come when it would be the most widely used tree for that purpose in America. While ordinarily the hawthorn does not grow to great size, individual trees are known with trunks of

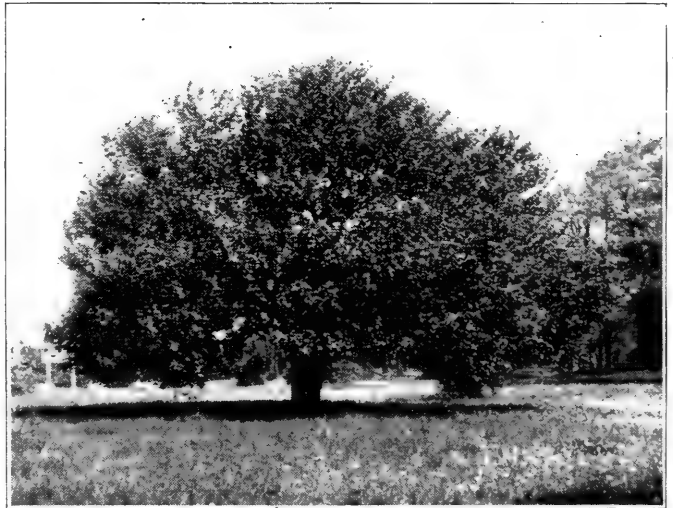


Photo by Orpheus M. Schantz

THE HAWTHORN AS A SUMMER ASSET

the diameter of two feet. Such trees have dense canopy tops and are wonderfully beautiful in spring, summer, autumn, and winter. In the denser forests among the taller trees, the form of growth is slender and irregular.

At all times, however, one is impressed by the appearance of strength, vitality, and ability to thrive under hard conditions.

growth at the forest edges. Where the soil is to its liking it frequently becomes a nuisance as from its remarkably prolific fruiting it springs up wherever there is an opening, often forming almost impenetrable thickets.

The coloring of the fruits runs from bright scarlet to dark red and from green to yellow, the shapes and size, too, vary greatly. Some

Occasionally trees are almost entirely free from thorns, and at times the thorns are so numerous and "pugnacious" looking that the tree is carefully avoided except by birds and squirrels. The long polished thorns of the cockspur thorn made convenient awls and needles for the Indians. The fragrant fruits of the mollis branch of the family are pleasantly edible and from them may be made a most delicious jelly which rivals the famous guava jelly of the tropics. Unfortunately the fruits are attractive to many insects and at times are very generally inhabited by a small white worm which though probably not injurious to the jelly making value, does not appeal to the taste of the average housewife.

The limestone formation of Cook, Dupage and Will counties seems peculiarly adapted to the growth of hawthorns, and they vie with the wild crabapple in occupying great areas. In Lincoln Park is a fine grouping of the lower growing varieties whose persistent fruits make them conspicuous and attractive far into the winter.

ORPHEUS MOYER SCHANTZ

To a Goldfinch

"Gold-finch, swinging in the silver birches
Truly would I know just what you are
Your wary flight, your golden song
I think is dust from lonely far off star.

Gold-finch, feeding on the dandelion
Does golden plumage come from petals bright?
You are a gem or bloom a-wing
You care free golden bird or happy sprite.

Gold-finch, singing sweetest song of love
Your call is sad, altho your life's a smile.
To me you are a poem, bird,
Poem of God to brighten earth awhile."

SOPHIE TUNNELL

Coincidence or Habit?

What does it mean to one who has stalked through the woods of New Hampshire in the summer time hoping to see a Hermit Thrush to be able to hold one of these rare songsters in the hand? If the latter is a privilege unusual, is not the repetition of the opportunity more than doubly such?



Photo by E. W. Burch

In September 1919, on driving into the garage in my garden, I was surprised at the sight of a bird flying against the window. Noting that it was a Hermit Thrush I closed the doors and called Mrs. Burch, thinking it a fine opportunity to study the migrant at close range. As the bird settled down upon the bench, however, the slowly approaching hand did not startle the bird, even when the hand closed about its little body. It was the obvious conclusion that some injury had occurred to wing or

limb, but inspection showed otherwise. When the camera was brought and the Thrush held loosely he seemed to accept the pitiless publicity with nonchalance, at length flying to and alighting upon the camera. So contented was our Hermit in our possession that we wondered whether the projected trip for that day must be abandoned in order to keep watch over the visitor. But just when that seemed inevitable, a sudden impulse expressed itself in a flight which took our little friend into the nearby oak.

The next September, when the incident had been almost forgotten, a Hermit Thrush was encountered in almost exactly the same way, but in my attempt to emulate the example set me by my fellow-bird-enthusiast I found that I was not such a bird-charmer and the Thrush fled the garage leaving me the only witness to his visit of 1920.

In September 1921, while the Fall migration was at its height, I found again, just alongside the wheel of my car, as I stepped out of it, a Hermit Thrush. Even then I did not dare say the Hermit Thrush, for one would need to have a leg band for evidence. But it was just such a Hermit Thrush as before. The picture submitted is the evidence of the repetition of the privilege of holding the rare deep-wood songster in the hand, for

this time I did not try my own powers of charm upon the Thrush.

The title question will be justified when I add that in September 1922 a Hermit Thrush was found lying in the garage, that we two bird-lovers looked at it as it perched upon a high ledge, but as this bird seemed already startled by the entrance of the car, we did not make an effort to handle it. But in September, 1923 I shall have a few leg bands in my possession, at least one of which will be designed to fit a Hermit Thrush.

ERNEST W. BURCH
Evanston Bird Club

Nest-hunting With a Mirror

Many times when out on bird trips, one has a great desire to look into certain birds' nests that are tantalizingly just out of reach. Not only to satisfy our curiosity but to stimulate interest in bird study and out-door observation, we use a simple device that has added much to our pleasure and our knowledge.

This device is a mirror 6x8 inches set in a light wooden frame which has a screw at the middle of each side. The end of a stiff wire about 12 inches long, is bent around each screw so that they will turn easily. They are then bent around the lower end of the frame and brought together at the middle, where they are fastened securely into the top of a light curtain pole about six feet long. Your mirror will now swing like the mirror of a dressing table and will remain at any desired angle. An extension is provided by having a tin sleeve added to a second pole, and, armed with this device, you may stand on the ground and look into nests from six to sixteen feet high, seeing the eggs or young birds perfectly without in any way injuring the nest or disturbing its occupants.

Try it this spring and see how much it will add to the interest and value of your bird study.

JESSIE R. MANN.
N. I. S. T. C. DeKalb, Ill.



Photo by C. A. Waite

AFLOAT ON DECATUR LAKE

The Joliet Arboretum

Photo by L. H. Hyde

Between park and school authorities the City of Joliet controls about 840 acres of park land, all a game and bird preserve, well policed. In nearly every instance a school building has at least a city block for a playground. One has 25 acres, another sixteen, another ten, another seven.

The Joliet park district covering more acreage than the city itself beginning with small playgrounds from three to seven acres each, has in the West Park forty acres in the hills well covered with native timber, a restful place for the weary. It has much natural beauty and is a favorite with the children. Here is the beginning of a greenhouse system with about 300 species of cacti and other attractive desert plants. The collections of native violets and ferns are also in this park. There is some good planting here in shrubbery but no formal decorative features—not enough to speak of.

The pride of Joliet lies along Hickory Creek east of the city, paralleled by the main line of the Rock Island railway. The stream in early days was called a river and still is so large and clean that the name should be continued. In the beginning forty acres were purchased in the hills nearest the city and decorated with formal planting and playground features. The late Harlow N. Higinbotham while director of the World's Columbian Fair, inspired by the native shrubs and plants so generously used for the Wooded Island and border planting of that enterprise, perhaps was inspired too, to collect the native trees and plants for his own birth place, the early Hig-

inbotham home at Joliet. This collection was named The Forest of Arden. It contained 327 acres of heavy forested land, a grist mill and dam.

With O. C. Simonds, the widely known landscape artist, and Homer C. Skeels, botanist, seed expert for the U. S. department at Washington, in charge, roads, dams, driveways and bridges were constructed and a vigorous collection of plants made and planted. After five years of this building and planting the land lay idle. Following the death of Mr. Higinbotham, one of our many "Joliet boosting merchants," Robert Pilcher, purchased the Forest of Arden one day and turned it over to Joliet the next day. To be maintained as an arboretum. "Nothing to pay," were the terms to the city.

The children of Mr. Higinbotham, Harlow D., Mrs. Joseph Medill Patterson and Mrs. Richard T. Crane, followed with the presentation for arboretum purposes of 240 acres of cut-over land containing rich soil and many springs. Thus "park-wise," Joliet is gloriously provided for and Joliet citizens are grateful and happy.

All of these lands are a game and bird preserve controlled by a park board governed by rigid ordinances of the Lincoln Park Board. The arboretum ambitions of Mr. Higinbotham will be carried on as fast as enthusiasm and cash will permit. A state fish-hatchery is promised for a secluded, yet accessible site on the edge of the forest; water and fish food are plentiful, the landscape pleasing. A little more land to square up these tracts and quiet the prevailing golf clamor is promised. Then we will have a real park system with hopes of making every resident of Joliet exceedingly proud and joyful.

Another secret: The outlying border of the Hickory Creek system is within four miles of that "world-beating forest preserve of Cook County." The landscape along Hickory Creek well up into Cook County is delightful, the atmosphere pure and all conditions restful and soothing, very appropriate for picnic and boulevard purposes. At an early date no doubt the people from the north side and all other sides of Chicago will visit our arboretums in their own machines without a break in boulevard or park shade and we shall be delighted to become better acquainted and return the visit.

The beginning of the Hickory Creek system from the Joliet side is at the Highland Park and the Red Mill boating and bathing entrance. Then in turn eastward, a driveway is platted to be bordered by bright colored mallows, iris, lilies, and lotus ponds. Next in order is an introduction to our greatest attraction, the deep and darksome forest of giant oaks, hickories, walnuts and maples of the Pilcher Arboretum.

Next eastward, up the creek, the valley boulevard will pass through collections of smaller trees, shrubs and small



Photo by W. N. Clute

WHITE OAKS AND SPRING BEAUTIES IN THE JOLIET AREA

plants, and perhaps collections of mosses and grasses, into the Higinbotham Arboretum, something more in the experimental and exotic lines, for here too, is an abundance of water and all sorts and conditions of soil. Here too is our prehistoric ruin, a fort unknown to history. The golf course is a secret but alive.

Now for the boulevard into Cook County. We are ever pleased with the bird and bug sort of citizens who come rambling into our woods, thus this sketch of our belongings and hopefulness. They are an interesting and an interested people. In our day dreams, always filled with pleasant memories, we see the woods and a straggling multitude with luncheons. At the Cherry Hill entrance to the Pilcher Arboretum the Rock Island railway has a milk station. Perhaps the "Cherry" name will be changed and more trains scheduled for stopping.

As a bird preserve these woods are somewhat noted. A grove of fifteen hundred sugar maples, as a canopy, covers one flat completely. Giant trees, dense shrubbery, hills, ponds, running streams and a little prairie are attractive to all tastes in birdland. A covey of Woodcock, two of Quail and seventy-five wild Mallard were included in our crop of 1922. The rabbits, however, are altogether too numerous for the welfare of young trees, and the annual drive is the program, with a hundred or more "bunnies" for the orphans and hospital unfortunates.

I am not an authority in the bird line, but from a list made by Messrs. Swarth, Dewey, Meenke and Skeels for the Field

Museum in 1908 and from the observations of Prof. Spicer, Everret Shaw and others of our city since, it is probable that our parks are visited by two hundred species. I found one rarity in my own door yard, the Florida Meadow Lark. It came here about thirty years ago, returning every spring, and sang from a tall tree top again yesterday. It is so dark in color that it is nearly black. In music perhaps this bird is an imitator. A rival of the Thrasher it has tones of its own. In the morning or evening concert we hear notes of the Wren, the Red Wing and our own Meadow Lark, with many others I do not recognize. The western Meadow Lark pours out a joyous, exultant greeting, but the Floridian is more modest, more refined, a violinist, not a horn blower. Come and hear him.

JAMES H. FERRISS

A Silly Wren, A True Story

A few years ago I spent the spring with a brother who lived on a farm. At that time I was doing transcribing for one of the large libraries for the Blind. I had put up two shelves on which to keep my books, writing materials and other things.

One morning I went to take down my writing case, and to my surprise, I found a bird's nest lying on top of it. I tossed it out of the window. Later on that morning I told my sister-in-law of it. She laughed and said it must be the work of a Wren she had seen in my room.

The next day I received a letter from a friend residing in a nearby town informing me that several families had mattress-making (my work) which they wished done at once.

I was away from home a week. The morning following my return, when I went to put on a pair of pants which I had hung under the shelves, I felt some dry leaves and twigs lying in the seat. I shook them up well. While I was doing so I felt two sharp blows on the side of my head. A moment later the family rushed into my room. They had heard a cry and thought it was one of the children. On the floor lay a torn bird's nest, while on a branch of a peach tree which grew near the open window was perched a Wren. She had built her nest in my pants during my absence. After breakfast I re-arranged my books being careful to leave a dark recess behind a small box in which I kept a few things which I could easily take out without making any noise.

A few days later I was told that the Wren was building another nest in my room. But this time she had selected a more suitable place. It was not disturbed and she hatched and raised her offspring in peace.

This contribution from Mr. W. F. Brown, of New Orleans, is sent in by Mrs. E. G. Trowbridge of Winnetka. This experience of Mr. Brown's is the more interesting because he has neither sight nor hearing, and therefore had to borrow the ears and eyes of others to supplement his sense of touch.

The Mourning Dove

A Mourning Dove in dress of modest gray,
 Had helped to save the crops in every way.
 She ate the worms and bugs and larva too,
 Carried an insect every time she flew
 Up to her nest to feed her hungry brood.
 Did no one harm, but surely lots of good.
 Now in return she only asks that she
 Shall not be shot, but may protected be.
 Protected, even though the laws proclaim
 That for a while she shall be legal game.
 She helped mankind and more than did her part.
 So spare her, hunter, please just have a heart.

Robin Redbreast

Robin, dear old Robin redbreast,
 Of all the birds I think I love you best;
 You come while yet the ground is white with snow,
 And in your happy notes you seem to say
 "Cheer up, cheer up, for spring is on the way."

Robin, dear old Robin redbreast,
 Who seeks for shelter and for food and rest,
 Beside the door or in the leafless bough,
 Though dreary be the day, you seem somehow
 To scatter beams of sunshine and to bring
 The joyous tidings "It is almost spring."

Robin, dear old Robin redbreast,
 I hope that you will come and build your nest
 Close to my door, and rear your brood so shy,
 Where I can watch you teach them how to fly,
 And hear you sing in notes so loud and clear,
 "Cheer up, cheer up, cheer up, the spring is here."

MRS. NELSON J. CHILDS

Advertising *The Illinois Audubon Society*

Doesn't it do your heart good! Not several girls with fancy complexions standing with coveting eyes on a window perhaps of hats which they could never have, but several men just as interested in a window full of information about our birds—pictures of our birds that they may have themselves, the first early morning they get out to take the picture! This is what you may see any minute of any day down in one of the busiest blocks of the loop in Chicago.

On the east side of La Salle Street south of Washington Street, the Harris Trust and Savings Bank have a window here in this busy world that may give every one on every day a few minutes of rest and pleasure. There are about a dozen bird nests of varied construction principles that have been loaned by the Chicago Academy of Sciences—Bobolink, Chimney Swift, Field Sparrow, Pin-tail Duck, Golden-crowned Kinglet; Grebe, Meadow Lark, Wood Pewee. There is a series of nine photographs of the nest, eggs and young at different ages of the Red-Tailed Hawk, also loaned by the Chicago Academy of Sciences, making a very interesting window altogether. Then there are copies of the Illinois Audubon Bulletin and of the Check List, as well as a copy of the statement of the purposes and principles of the Audubon Society.

Around the corner on Washington Street in the same building is another window calling attention to the work of the Wild Flower Preservation Society. All best wishes to these business houses with their windows so welcome to our eyes!

The Cardinal's Etiquette

From my observations I imagine that the male Kentucky Cardinal is an autocrat during all seasons except the mating time in early May, desiring to eat his lunch alone and consequently in peace. I have seen him drive Mrs. Cardinal away from the feed tray many times during the summer and fall months. Today the female came to the feeding tray and commenced to eat. In a few minutes the male joined her, both eating peacefully for a few moments. Then Mrs. Cardinal went out to the edge of the tray and looked longingly at the male who soon brought her a sunflower seed. He repeated the dose when she flew to an adjoining tree. He fed her three times there. She then flew to another tree where he fed her twice. Both birds then departed.

W. C. EGAN

The Izaak Walton League

The Izaak Walton League of America, incorporated as a national federation of angling clubs, held its second annual banquet at the Morrison Hotel on April the 21st, and over a thousand members heard most inspiring speeches by Henry Van Dyke and other well-known nature lovers. This new organization has started on a splendid work in a splendid way! They are working not only for the fish but for the forests and birds and every phase of the conservation of Nature.

The offices of the League, of which Will H. Dilg of Chicago is president, are at Suite 528-530, 326 West Madison St., Chicago. All success to its work!

A Simple But Effective Bird Feeding Station

A number of the members of the Evanston Bird Club have enjoyed the presence of winter visitors upon their window sills and porches through the use of the feeding tray herewith illustrated.

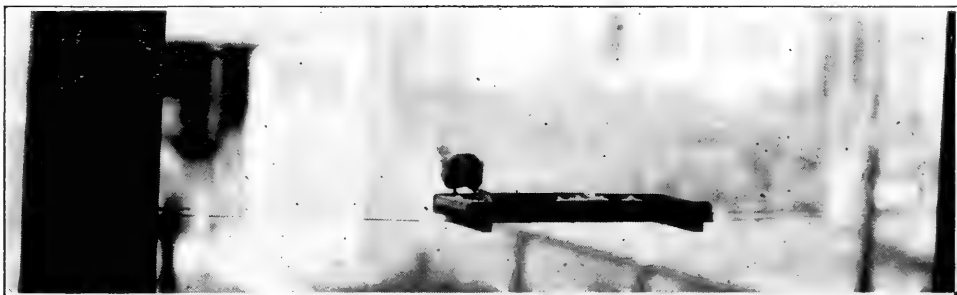
Its advantage lies in the slight degree of spring given to it by the supporting wires, making it seem not unlike the bough of a tree. In addition, the open nature of its construction enables the amateur photographer to get in his work while the bird is feeding. By selecting a sheltered window or porch the need of a wind screen is obviated.

There is much latitude possible in its design. The rim may be made of alder twigs, nailed with slender brads upon a narrow rim of wood, or the perch of alder (or other straight twig) may be nailed so as to divide the tray longitudinally. One tray that proved attractive had a long piece of alder that projected several inches from either end.

If screw eyes are used to hold the ends of the wires, it is best to tighten these wires before screwing the eyes in tight. This gives the desirable tension to the wires.

Chickadees and Nuthatches are fondest of these trays when furnished with sunflower seed, peanuts and suet, chopped fine, but Sammy Jay did not hesitate to drop in when passing our way. The Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers prefer the lump of suet tied to an oak branch or contained in a suet basket.

ERNEST W. BURCH



Bird Notes From Elgin

The Evening Grosbeak is an occasional visitor in this vicinity. Several years ago I discovered five feeding upon the ground among some underbrush near a wild black cherry tree in Lord's Park. I discovered them through the repeated, faint, cracking

noise which attracted my attention as I approached their feeding ground. I saw they were busily engaged picking something from the ground and cracking it with their stout bills. This proved later to be the seeds of the black cherry which they broke to get the kernels they contained.

In May, 1920, when my cherry trees were in bloom, I found a large number of the blossoms on the ground. Upon close examination I discovered that they had been nipped from the twigs. Numerous marks, apparently from the bill of some bird were found upon the calyx and in some cases the calyx had been removed entirely. I had noticed Orioles and Warblers, birds with slender bills probing the blossoms, apparently for nectar and insects and therefore con-

cluded that birds with a stout bill were the offenders. Later I heard a Rose-breasted Grosbeak singing in the cherry trees. Immediately my suspicion was directed toward him. Upon coming closer I discovered both male and female Grosbeaks picking the cherry blossoms; eating the calyx and letting the sepals and petals fall to the ground.



AFTER A WATER COLOR BY C. F. GRONEMANN



Photo by F. G. Paulus

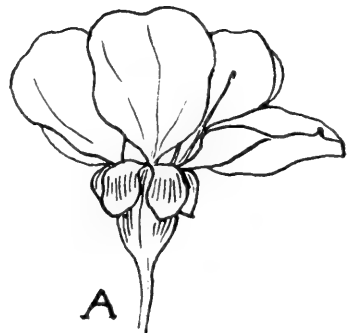
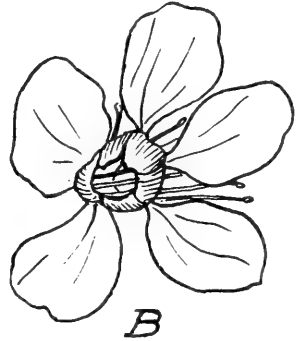
YOUNG ROSE-BREASTED GROSBK

away and flew to their nest with them.

The writer is anxious to know if this habit has been observed by other bird students.

CARL F. GRONEMANN

The Purple Martins returning in the spring to the house I have erected for them have adopted a curious nest-building habit. Besides collecting the usual material I have seen them fly to the nearest cherry and pear trees; tear the green leaves from the uppermost branches and carry them to their nest. In northern Wisconsin, in the spring of 1921, a pair of Martins occupying a nail barrel which had been erected for them, possessed the same curious habit. Here, however, they chose the leaves of the Balm of Gilead (*Populus balsamifera*) which they also picked from the topmost branches of a tree about 100 yards



Below—A—A perfect cherry blossom. Above—B—cherry blossom with calyx removed by Rose-breasted Grosbeak.

Bloomington

From Mr. Harold B. Wood, Health Director, of Bloomington, Illinois, come these notes under date of March 14th:

Your call for a list of wintering birds noted in today's paper.

The following have been common at Bloomington during the past winter: Blue Jay, Downy and Hairy Woodpecker, Cardinal, Chickadee, Tree Sparrow and Yellow-shafted Flicker. In December a Tufted Titmouse was occasionally in our yard. To the feeding box made by my son, Merrill Wood, and to the suet in the trees have come numerous Jays, as many as five Cardinals at a time, Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers and a Brown Creeper.

We have seen an occasional Marsh Hawk, and on Christmas three Evening Grosbeaks (undoubted).

I have heard three distinct and different calls of Owls but cannot identify the species.

Robins first appeared here the morning of March 2nd; we heard the first Meadowlark March 8th (we live near the edge of the city); Blackbirds first arrived March 9th; and on March 14th a Song Sparrow was heard.

Elgin

Mrs. N. I. Childs sends under date of March 5th the following:

I have been fortunate in having Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers, Creepers, Nuthatches and Chickadees come to my suet basket all winter.

Last summer the Downy had her nest in my yard and hatched two young ones. I think one of them was not normal for the mother took it when it was about a week old and flying high above the drinking fountain dropped it. I went to it immediately and found it still alive, but it died soon after.

For years I have had Wrens in my boxes, but last summer the Downy would not let them even stay in the yard. I love the Wrens very much and hope the Downy will not be quite so selfish this year.

Miss Gertrude Higinbotham writes:

We are enjoying your "Check List of the Birds of Illinois." Everyone interested in the study of our bird friends should certainly have a copy.

We first began the study of the birds in 1914, and have certainly considered our time well spent. By always keeping water and food (suet and seeds) where the birds can obtain them, we always see between sixty and seventy different kinds of birds in our yard, which is an ordinary city lot.

On October 26, 1922, we had the treat of seeing our first Red-bellied Woodpecker. (Notice the "Check List" says they are rare in this section) December 29, 1922, we saw him again and the Red-headed Woodpecker at the same time. Both were on our bathing pan. On a visit to Trout Park on January 19,

1923, we saw a Rough-legged Hawk twice, so we felt sure we could not be mistaken. The same day we saw the Chickadees, Tree Sparrows and a Hairy Woodpecker.

December 24, 1922, I saw a large flock of Geese going north. I succeeded in counting seventy-three. Last winter we had a number of White-breasted Nuthatches, but this year they did not return. This spring we have seen from our own yard, Hairy Red-headed and Downy Woodpeckers, Blue Jays, Juncos, Meadowlarks, Cedar Waxwings, Song Sparrow, Bluebirds, Hermit Thrush, Tree Sparrows, Robins, Grackles, flocks of Geese, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Red-winged Blackbirds, and Killdeer Plovers. We can hardly wait until our Warblers return as we usually have most of them right here at home.

Blue Island

Mr. Otto Bueter, an ardent devotee of out-of-doors, reports the following episode:

For several years our small "home made" birdhouse has been the home of Martins. The house is situated in the center of the back yard about eighteen feet above ground on a small post. Close by are telephone wires and electric light wires, affording very convenient perches.

The bird-house being on the hill gives it a prominence of about forty feet above buildings at the foot of the hill, with an open space to the south approximating one hundred feet, trees and shrubbery surrounding its base. As the capacity of the house seemed taken, from year to year upon storing it for the winter to avoid the sparrows filling it up, I added a story until it now contains three stories, totaling eighteen compartments. Last year I counted fifteen pairs of Martins nesting in it.

I put the house up on the tenth of April, taking it down on the tenth day of August, painting the house each year and making sure that all compartments are tight. The openings are placed to one corner on a level with the floor landing.

One Saturday morning a sudden strong wind blew down the house which fortunately landed on a tree, only a few landing shelves being broken. My neighbor phoned me what had happened, he having a seven compartment bird-house in his yard about seventy-five feet to the north, now containing two pairs of Martins.

Arriving home about noon, we hurriedly replaced the broken landing shelves and supplying a new post, started to put up the bird-house again. It had been raised no more than forty-five degrees when two Martins alighted on the house and remained until it was upright, and before we could put in the lag bolts a dozen or more Martins were back on the house, all lustily telling the world that "ALL WAS WELL". There are now eight pairs nesting in the house.

We are located about a block from the Blue Island Sag channel of the Sanitary District which of course supplies plenty of water and insect life. It is surely quite a pleasure to hear the pleasant chatter of the birds. It is noticeable that they seem to be a little nervous since the accident but are otherwise rather contented.

Carthage

Carthage College Will Conserve Wild Life.

Within the past few months a definite effort to conserve the local fauna and flora has been undertaken by the Biology Department of Carthage College. Lying within a mile from Carthage, and extending between the C. B. and Q tracks and a county road for a length of 1250 feet, is the tract of land which has recently been purchased for that purpose. Unlike the surrounding prairies, it combines an unusual range of soil with a very irregular topography, making possible the satisfactory growing of a wide range of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants. Two artificial ponds of many years' duration, together with the long, flat-bottomed ravine through which the ponds are fed during heavy rains, will provide for a highly varied water and lowland flora. The ponds furnish also a wide range of aquatic animal species for laboratory study.

The boys in the local high school are competing for prizes offered for the best houses made by them, such houses to be placed in the Wild Life Preserve. Hemp, broomcorn, and wild berry bushes are being introduced abundantly, to entice birds. Thickets are being established to lure them to their shelter.

A card catalogue of plant species of the county has been worked up during the past three years, by the head of the department, and a consistent and persistent effort will be made to introduce practically every species in the county into the Preserve. A similar list of trees and shrubs from elsewhere, suited to this climate, has been prepared. College and city clubs as well as faculty members, classes and private individuals have been urged to provide planting materials of species desired by the department. The response has on the whole been excellent, and a wide range of native and non-native material has been provided. Many further donations are expected.

An effort of this sort can not be the task of a single season. Only sturdy plants not requiring cultivation are being introduced. Young trees and shrubs are necessarily chosen. A benefit given by the department has supplied a small sum for the purchase of desired planting materials. Between two and three hundred evergreens will be planted as soon as the season is suitable. It will take many years to accomplish all the improving and beautifying desired. The tract has every qualification necessary to make it an ideal biological station, wild life preserve, and haunt for nature lovers, but its promoters are not impatient of the years required to bring up the plan to the plane of excellence which their ideals for it demand as a goal.

Carthage College Wild Life Preserve includes about seven and one-half acres of college land, to which has been added the adjacent right of way along the C. B. and Q. tracks, by free lease from that company. Students of the department have labored faithfully to help put the place into suitable condition. The old garbage dump of many years' standing has been graded, understanding trees and shrubs are being pruned, as time permits. Walks will be arranged throughout the tract. A neat fence is being put about it. Outdoor brick "stoves," or cooking devices, on beds of sand, will protect from fires set by picnic parties. Every tree and shrub group will be labelled with scientific and common names, and the names of the givers. Much has been begun, much must be done, to insure success. May the Preserve prosper.

ALICE L. KIBBE

Decatur

Under date of March twenty-ninth, Mrs. Benjamin Bachrach sends the following report:

Decatur bird lovers report that less birds were seen in these parts than in former years. The Cardinal seems to stay with us throughout the year. In my own garden we see the male and female together as early as February. Have observed this for the past three years.

Mr. Aiken, who has a farm near the city, has a Mocking Bird that spends the year near the house.

Birds observed during the winter are: Blue Jay, Downy, Hairy, and Red-bellied Woodpecker, Brown Creeper, Junco, and Tree Sparrow. The birds that have arrived from the south in the order of their coming are the Robin, Meadow Lark, Bluebird, and the Red-headed Woodpecker, Bewick Wren. A flock of Cedar Waxwings, twenty-five in number remained for a few days feeding on the berries of the High Bush Cranberry.

The interest in birds and food shelter and protection for them rapidly grows a more prominent movement in Decatur every season. All of the schools either study birds, make houses, posters, books, poems, or erect houses on the school grounds. Great numbers of Martin houses are erected every year. On our new lake wild Ducks have rested for a week at a time, and we have Sea Gulls and Sandpipers. Quantities of food was emptied in the lake for our interesting tourists. Our bridges were lined with cars and people who came out in delight to view these flocks who so quickly accepted as their own this fourteen mile of water that the vision and finances of Decatur, and the feat of engineering made possible.

Our enemy the cat still prowls fearlessly round the city. Do let us help the State Society to restrict this enemy of our feathered creatures. The sparrows we are rapidly trying to exterminate, as there must be at least two dozen sparrow traps working in the various sections of the city. The Decatur Bird

and Tree Club had a splendid exhibit which lasted a week, with lectures and slides and much educational propoganda. The Durfee school came off with the first prize for a school exhibit. It was quite a comprehensive exhibit, including fountain, feeding shelves, one with a protection that swings with the wind, a receptacle for nesting material, one for suet, a seed box, books, poetry, original, posters, Martin, Bluebird, Wren and other houses. Miss Lucia Mysch, teacher, and Mr. Piggot, principal of the school, deserve great credit for their effort in this direction.

Thomas Hart, one of our most active club members, reports that he kept a close watch for nesting birds last year, to find the earliest nest, and in 1922 it was a Robins' nest, April 12, a Cardinal, April 14. This year he has been observing, and so far reports no nest.

Evanston

I took a "Christmas Bird Census" on December 26th but the number of species seen was very discouraging. Herring Gulls were quite numerous; a dozen were seen during the course of the day. A flock of about a hundred Lesser Scaup Ducks was observed feeding off shore in the morning. At Skokie in the afternoon Crows were plentiful. A Hairy and a Downy Woodpecker were obliging enough to perch on the same limb offering an excellent opportunity for comparing their size.

On March 3rd in the Skokie Marsh we heard what I believe to have been a Brown Creeper. A flock of Chickadees were making the dreary day cheerful with their friendly notes.

February 25th was a red-letter day for my mother and myself. We were strolling past a neighbor's yard about a block from home when we heard a Cardinal's loud clear whistle and a splendid brilliant male flashed out of the tree whence the song had issued. Our friend told us that the bird had been in her vicinity all winter. The day after this he disappeared and we saw nothing more of him until March 21st when I am quite certain that I heard his call.

Another friend reports that a pair of very small Owls, one gray and the other rufous, visited her yard during the first week of January. From her description I feel sure that they were Screech Owls.

Still another friend says that one day last summer her cook came to her in great excitement complaining that an Owl had chased her. The lady, incredulous, went out into the yard to investigate. The Owl, she said, attacked her, actually alighting on her head and when she ran breathless into the house the wounds which the bird's claws had made in her head were bleeding profusely.

On March 11th, we took our field glasses in hand and went to a wooded spot on the outskirts of the town. The air fairly

rang with the songs of Meadowlarks, the low twitterings of Bluebirds, and the calls of Robins. Only one incident marred the morning but by its very ridiculousness it added a bit of fun to our sojourn. As I stood motionless, intently regarding a Meadowlark perched on a fence post some distance away I felt something rubbing against my legs. I glanced down and to my chagrin beheld two cats at my feet. These members of the feline family proved very friendly and very adhesive; in fact they stuck to me all morning. So you can picture me eagerly scrutinizing every bush and tree with two hungry and playful cats trailing along in my wake.

MARY E. OSBORN.



Photo by Alvin R. Cahn

BROWN PELICAN AT HER NEST

An Aside

Have you your copy of the Check List of the Birds of Illinois with the colored zonal map? Perhaps some of your friends will wish copies. Write the Illinois Audubon Society, 1649 10 South La Salle Street, Chicago. The Check List sells for fifty cents a copy.

Lake Forest

Reverend George Roberts reports under date of April 2, from Lake Forest:

My work with the birds has amounted to nearly nothing this winter and spring since there were not many here. The following dates may be of value merely to check up with others:

Robins, first seen March 3rd, (none here this winter); Bluebirds, the same date; Grackles reported March 10th (?), seen by me the 13th; Mourning Dove, the 28th; Juncos returned also on the 28th; Purple Finches here from March 16th to at least the 25th.

Myrtle Warblers common around the house through October 18th; Golden-crowned Kinglets first seen October 17th; Chickadees first seen November 7th and a few were here all winter, and almost the only bird I had around my place; saw one White-throat on November 8th; Purple Finches in a small flock the first two weeks in November.

I missed the Bohemian Waxwings by being out of town. Have killed 71 English Sparrows since the middle of September but still have a few around.

Moline

Mr. A. E. Hammerstrom has been using the Illinois Audubon Society's slides to good advantage in Moline and vicinity. He gave illustrated talks before the boys' department of the Y. M. C. A., at the opening of a bird house building contest. One evening he spoke before a newsboys' club. A whole afternoon was spent talking to one thousand school children who came in relays to the hall in which the pictures were shown. That evening he talked to one hundred boy scouts in East Moline who were preparing to take their examination in bird study.

A week later Mr. Hammerstrom lectured at Hampton in the community hall, his very appreciative audience being made up of representatives of the farming community and of seventy members of the Black Hawk Hiking Club of Moline who had walked into Hampton to eat a chicken supper at the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church and attend the lecture.

Morris

A Junior Audubon Society has been organized at Morris, Illinois, composed of a live group of sixth grade girls. They have been going on hikes to identify as many birds as possible and are very enthusiastic about their work. They have a lesson study around the camp-fire. Their first subject was the Robin, and they are taking up the other members of the Thrush family.

Up to the present time they have identified the following birds this year: Robin, Bluebird, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Olive-backed Thrush, Veerie, Wood Thrush, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Winter Wren, House Wren, Bewick Wren, Brown Thrasher, Catbird, American Redstart, Water Thrush, Oven Bird, Black-throated Green Warbler, Black-poll Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Black and White Warbler, Blue-headed Vireo, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Loggerhead Shrike, Cardinal, Cedar Waxwing, American Goldfinch, Bohemian Waxwing, Baltimore Oriole, Slate-colored Junco, Purple Grackle, Lincoln Sparrow, Rusty Blackbird, Song Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Tree Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Meadow Lark, Blue Jay, Phoebe.

Daisy Pool Woefel

• Normal

We have not had as many birds as usual in this region during the winter.

Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers and Flickers fed on the suet in the yard as usual, also Brown Creepers. We have had more Cardinals than ever. They seem to increase in numbers from year to year. Titmice have been singing since the middle of January.

Robins were reported three times in January but none in February. Several returned the first week in March. The first Bluebirds were seen the last week in February. One Brown Thrasher was reported in January.

We have had a number of Fox Sparrows since the seventeenth of March. We have had a large flock of Cedar Waxwings on the campus since March 23d. They are feeding upon the dried berries of the high bush cranberry shrubs and other seeds. There were twenty-five in the flock yesterday. They roost in a clump of hemlock, spruces and arborvitae. Golden-crowned Kinglets are here now but have not been as numerous during the winter as usual.

The first Grackles were seen March 10th, Redwings, March 24th.

I am wondering whether the number of Chickadees and White-breasted Nuthatches is on the decrease everywhere. We used to have many of them around every winter. I have not seen any this winter and very few for the last three years.

Alice Jean Patterson.

Olney

The winter which has just closed was not very remarkable, except for the unusual mildness of the month of January, which was far more springlike than March, the latter being the most stormy and unspringlike of any since we have lived here. Like every other, however, the winter has been more or less peculiar in respect to the birds which have or have not been with us. The Killdeer, usually here all winter, was entirely absent until the second of March. There were few White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows and Juncos; no Fox Sparrows, nor Chewinks. On the other hand there were more Grackles, Robins and Doves than usually winter with us. Other birds were present in about their normal numbers.

At this writing, March 22, Doves are nesting; they and the Flickers had paired by the seventh of the month. The Doves commenced cooing February 18; a male Cardinal was seen feeding a female, a sure sign that they had paired, on March 11. Bluebirds were inspecting the nesting boxes about March 15. The Brown Thrasher came about on schedule time, March 16.

While feeding, different species of birds present many peculiarities of behavior toward one another. When feeding together in numbers, only the English Sparrow and the Quail do so in perfect peace. All other kinds quarrel more or less, especially the "peaceful" Dove, one of which will not, during the mating season, allow another of the same sex to feed near by, persistently chasing it away, and if resisted, the two fighting savagely. But, when they are through feeding I have seen them all sitting on the ground together in perfect harmony. In the case of the Chickadee (Carolina) and Tufted Titmouse, I have



Photo by J. Evelyn Ridgway

BROWN THRASHER'S NESTING PLACE—BRUSH PILE COVERED WITH MORNING GLORIES

noticed, frequently, that when an odd number are present at the feeding place, the familiar saying "two are company, three a crowd" is well illustrated; the odd one is invariably persecuted by the other two to such an extent that in order to obtain any food it must do so after the others have gone, or else get it from a separate and far removed feeding box.

Excellent nesting and roosting places for Juncos, Cardinals and our Mocking Bird are the dense clumps of bamboos, the brush piles, and tangles of climbing roses.

We have a very interesting pair of Tufted Titmice; they are a devoted couple, being always together. They really dance, hopping back and forth on the walk in front of the south porch, facing each other, about two feet apart, and singing all the time. One of the pair also imitates the notes of other birds, especially the chirp of the English Sparrow, and the ordinary call-note of the Chickadees. This it does so perfectly that both Mr. Ridgway and I were at first completely deceived.

While writing of the Tufted Titmouse I must tell of an incident which occurred several years ago. I have an old Spanish mission chair, the seat and back being covered with a Puma skin, given to me by a Costa Rican friend. It was on the porch for several days. I noticed a pair of Tufted Titmice flying back and forth past the windows. Curious to know why they were acting thus I went out to investigate, and to my astonishment found that they were getting their bills full of the Puma hair, for nest building material. As they were making bare spots on the skin, I moved the chair inside the hall. The door was left open, however, and in a few minutes the birds were as busy as ever, having come into the house and found the chair!

A favorite building material with many birds is the Florida moss, which we festoon from the trees, when we have it; also pieces of old muslin, torn in strips about six inches long and half to one inch wide, and strips of soft paper. The muslin and paper is put on bushes and it is an amusing sight to see the birds flying with these strips streaming from their bills. A friend told me she put out hair combings; in that there is great danger, as I once found a bird whose feet were so entangled with the hair that it was perfectly helpless.

As to preference in the matter of food, all birds prefer black walnuts to any other kind of nuts. I have seen Cardinals, all the species of Woodpeckers, Juncos, Chickadees, Tufted Titmice, Bewick's Wren, and Brown Thrashers picking the nut meats from the cracked nuts put in the pans placed for the pair of Fox Squirrels who are also exceedingly fond of them, as they are also of sun flower seed. These squirrels each have a "den" in the old elm near the dining room and come down at least twice a day to eat. If there are no nuts they will eat slices of apple that are intended for the Robins. The birds feed with the squirrels, not seeming to mind them, although they keep at a respectful distance, often, however, as near as only two feet

apart. I saw the two squirrels playing among our covey of Quail, who were feeding under the Cornel bushes near the house. The Quail did not seem to be at all disturbed by them.

The main feeding places are near the dining room windows, from which we have a good view of all the birds, as well as the squirrels when they are feeding. The windows are of the "three in one" kind, giving a window space of more than six feet.

It is a beautiful sight to see, as we have, at one time, twenty-two Doves and fifteen Quail feeding together under and near a large Cornel bush, and twenty or more Cardinals together with many of the smaller birds; and the two fat sleek Fox Squirrels eating walnuts, each from his own pan; the Woodpeckers (sometimes all five kinds) extracting bits of suet from the holes bored in the post supporting one of the nut boxes, or pressed into crevices in the bark of the big elm; and Robins eating dried currants, sliced apple and crumbs of suet. I was surprised to observe that different Robins prefer different foods; some are partial to dried currants, others to suet while others prefer sliced raw apple, and one is very partial to finely ground peanuts, a favorite food of the Flickers also. Little Bewick's Wren, also, is fond of suet and nut crumbs. He has been with us all winter, but by the middle of April, when the House Wren arrives, will have to change his abode. What a pity for there is simply no comparison between the two birds in point of desirability. Bewick's song is far sweeter, he is equally tame, and strictly minds his own affairs; while the House Wren is not only "fussy," but a destroyer of the eggs of other birds. I have watched the home life of the House Wren for a number of years. It is a complicated affair, concerning which I may write some other time.

Birds have so many enemies; Hawks, Cats, Screech Owls, snakes (in summer), gray squirrels and flying squirrels, together with Blue Jays and Grackles, which like the snakes, systematically despoil the nests of both eggs and young. Consequently, we have to exercise "eternal vigilance" in order to give our birds needed protection.

Meadowlarks, Bewick's Wren, Cardinals and Mocking Birds sing here all winter, or rather at any time during winter. There are two Mocking Birds now. The one with us all winter is much lighter in color than the one who has recently come. The lighter one lost his tail feathers during the winter (as did two Cardinals and a Junco) and for a time only the long white feathers came in. The newcomer is very, very dark; he keeps from the box at the base of the elm tree, while the lighter one comes from the west side of the house and eats bits of suet. The newcomer has to watch his chance in eating, for if seen by the other he invariably chases him off. Mr. Ridgway says the dark one has the appearance of a hybrid between a Mockingbird and a Catbird, the underparts being quite as dark a gray as the back, while very little white shows in the wings when it flies.

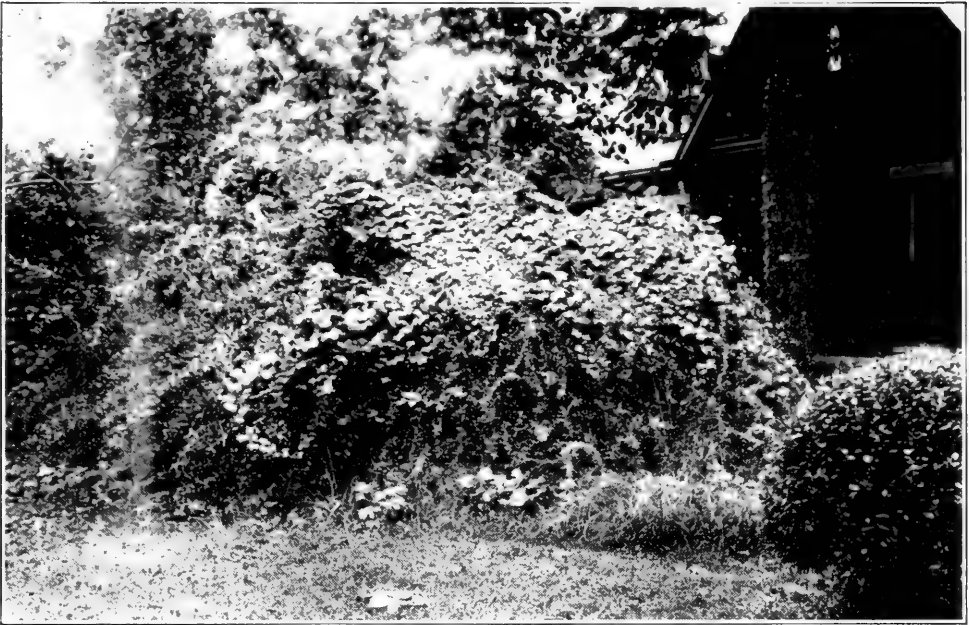


Photo by J. Evelyn Ridgway

ANOTHER THRASHER'S NESTING PLACE—SHRUBS CANOPIED BY VINE OF THE WILD PASSION FLOWER

As my bird family has grown, it is necessary to supply more food, which unfortunately attracts the undesirables such as rabbits, white-footed and field mice at night, and Blue Jays, Black-birds and hordes of English Sparrows by day.

Largely on account of these undesirables, especially the ever-hungry English Sparrow, the quantity of food consumed is enormous. Mr. Ridgway buys chick and scratch feed by the hundred pound bag and little raw Spanish peanut meats, twenty-five pounds at a time. Suet and sun flower seed in proportion. My grocer gave me a carton holding thirty-six boxes of dried currants, which had become slightly wormy, but enough to prevent the sale of them. Robins like them very much. When the ground was frozen, it was impossible for them to get their natural food and the currants proved an apparently satisfactory substitute.

Last fall, after the leaves had fallen from most of the trees and shrubs, Mr. Ridgway made a count of the nests of the season on the north portion of our grounds only, that is, from the open field south of the house to the northern end of the premises; an area of about three acres. The count did not—in fact could not include many nests hidden in the dense foliage of numerous large coniferous evergreens and in the tangle of climbing roses covering the enclosing fence. Several additional nests were found later, when certain shrubs that held their foliage until late in the season became bare, and a few but by no means all of them have been added to the original list. The total number of nests which were occupied during the season of 1922,

according to the count, is one hundred and seventeen, the species, and the number of nests of each, being as follows: Robin 26, Dove 20, Brown Thrasher 18, Catbird 18, House Wren 12, Chipping Sparrow 6, Cardinal 6, Flicker 3, Red-bellied Woodpecker 1, Bob-White 1, Indigo Bird 1, Great-crested Flycatcher 1, Orchard Oriole 1, Wood Pewee 1, Red-headed Woodpecker 1, Bluebird 1.

Besides the species named above, Mr. Ridgway says he is positive the following nested on our grounds, although we had not been able to discover their nests; Killdeer (in the open field,) Wood Pewee, Blue Jay, Meadowlark, Field Sparrow, Yellow Warbler, Maryland Yellow-throat. He had good reason for believing the following also nested on the premises; Green Heron (seen daily flying between our little piece of woods and a pond nearby), Screech Owl, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Humming Bird, Goldfinch, Cedarbird, Red-eyed Vireo, Tufted Titmouse, and Carolina Chickadee. All the above have nested here in previous years, also the Baltimore Oriole, Bewick's Wren, Chimney Swift (in a chimney of our house), Alder Flycatcher (one season only), Cowbird, Towhee, and Bronzed Grackle (each spring Mr. Ridgway declares war on this species, to prevent its nesting here, but a pair or two manages to outwit him).

The first summer we lived here, the only birds to be seen or heard on the eight acres were Crow, Blackbirds (Bronzed Grackles), Blue Jays, and English Sparrows, and a vigorous warfare against them was necessary before other birds could get a foothold.

Our seven years' experience on "Larchmound" has impressed us with the great importance of *water* as a means of attracting birds. Food they can easily find in abundance during the warmer months; but often water, unless provided for them, they can only find by flying a considerable distance; and water to drink and bathe in is not merely a luxury to them but an absolute necessity.

"If I can stop one heart from breaking,
I shall not live in vain;
If I can ease one life the aching,
Or cool one pain,
Or help one fainting Robin
Into his nest again,
I shall not live in vain."

MRS. JULIA EVELYN RIDGWAY

Odin

On New Year's Day I took a little stroll in the country to see what birds were present. I only saw Robin 1, Crows 3, Sparrow Hawk 1, European Sparrow numerous, Crested Chickadees 3, Flicker 1, Blue Jays 2, Cardinal 1, Juncos 10,— a very poor

representation of what ought to have been seen. I have taken several trips since but bird life was not very plentiful. Robins were observed every few days and I frequently saw a Mockingbird which I think got most of its eats off of persimmons and hack-berries as I saw it eating these on several occasions up to February 17 when it was seen in my garden here in town. I saw it catching some insect life in a bed of onions which I had mulched with straw. Wondering what it was I made a close examination and found by moving the straw there were quite a few grasshoppers about one half inch long. I think the Mockingbird caught them all for when I removed the straw the last of March I did not see any more hoppers.

Saw my first Bluebird January 28, also a Marsh Hawk and a Cooper's Hawk. February 2, Killdeer 1; March 1, Ducks flying over unidentified. January 19, saw first Meadowlarks, sixteen in all were seen continually the remainder of the winter. March 2, Bronzed Grackles, 8. March 4, Bewicks Wren put in its appearance. Usually they may be seen all winter but this was the first one that came my way. March 16, Brown Thrasher 1, Phoebe 1, Purple Finch 2, Towhee 2, Turkey Vulture 1. March 24, Kingfisher 1, Robin building in plum tree in my back yard. March 25, Mourning Dove 2, Brown Creeper 1, Barred Owl nest, 3 eggs, in post oak snag 36 feet up in about the only piece of timber which contains any such snags in this locality as the hunters have cut nearly all such down with a view of catching raccoons and opossums, and have as a consequence destroyed the breeding places for such mammals and the Owls. I also examined a Screech Owl nest in a shade tree here in town opposite my home. It contained 5 eggs. The opening of the cavity is towards my house and I very often see Mrs. Owl looking out during the day time but every evening just about dusk she will sit and look out for quite a while before leaving. She usually returns very early in the morning while it is yet rather dark. I can slip my hand under her just like a domestic hen. She only blinks her eyes and sits perfectly quiet. Saw several Crow's nests. Did not examine them as they were in trees rather hard to climb. Saw a flock of Red-winged Blackbirds probably sixty in all. April 1, Robin nest completed and contains one egg. Saw one Red-breasted Sapsucker this morning.

C. B. Vandercook.

Port Bryon

Following is my report of the winter birds and the spring migration up to April 2. Birds seen and heard during December 1922, January and February 1923, which were not permanent residents or regular winter visitants were as follows:

On December 25, while observing the birds on the Mississippi River with a telescope, I saw a Gull which was entirely black, except the underparts, which were partly white, and which I

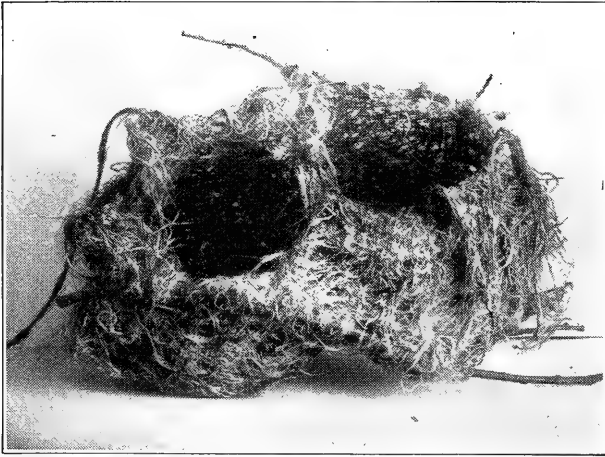


Photo by C. G. Groneman

DOUBLE-NEST OF ORIOLE. THE SECOND NEST WAS ADDED THE FOLLOWING SEASON

during Christmas week, but I did not get to see it when I took my bird census. About the middle of January one of the daily papers printed an article from Geneseo, which stated that two Bald Eagles were killed in Henry County that week. One of the Eagles was carrying away a pig when it was shot by a farmer. Residents of Rapid City told me three Bald Eagles stayed on or near the river at that place during the winter of 1921-22.

On January 13, a Flicker was seen with the birds that came to my feeding shelf, and on January 20, another one was heard. Goldfinches were seen or heard on December 3, 5, 13, 25, and January 16, and on December 25 a Smiths Longspur was heard calling several times while flying over. On December 24 and 25, a Short-eared Owl was flushed from some long dead grass in a dry pond not very far from our house.

Two Bluebirds were seen on December 10 and some Robins were reported to be staying on a farm three miles northeast from here on the same date. Towards the end of February the weather moderated, and the first migrants arrived. A Sparrow Hawk was heard February 25, and a few Pintails came February 27. Following is my record of the weather, and the arrival and movements of the migrating birds during March and up to April 2. March 1. Clear, 35 to 58; Goldfinches were heard in the garden. 2. Cloudy, 43 to 66; A Killdeer, some Meadowlarks and Blue birds were seen and heard. 3. Cloudy, rain and thunder in the evening, 33 to 42; Meadowlarks and Bluebirds were here again. 4. Partly cloudy, 32 to 37; A Flock of Red-winged Blackbirds was seen flying over, and six Robins were seen in the garden. 5. Cloudy, 17 to 37; A Bluebird stayed here all day. 6. Partly cloudy, 30 to 47; Meadowlarks were heard singing. 7. Clear, 19 to 32; a Great Horned Owl was hooting in the evening. 8. Partly cloudy, 25 to 43; a Robin was here in the morning. 9. Cloudy, rain and thunder; 40 to 40. 10. Clear, 26 to 42; Meadowlarks became common, and in the eve-

think was probably a Great Black-backed Gull. Three Mourning Doves were seen on December 4; two December 14; one December 23; and five on February 11. A farmer told me that four Doves came to his hog yard every day during the winter of 1921-22. Marsh Hawks were seen on December 1, 5, 20, and January 9. A Bald Eagle was reported to be staying on the Mississippi River below Rapids City

ning a Western Meadowlark was heard singing. 11. Cloudy, 28 to 42; Birds first seen and heard were the Flicker, Rusty Blackbird, Bronzed Grackle, and Song Sparrow. A large flock of Pintails was seen flying over in the P. M. In the evening there was thunder and rain, turning into a snowstorm accompanied by a high east wind.

12. Cloudy, dep wet snow on the ground, 32 to 48; a Mourning Dove came into the barnyard in search of food, and stayed all day. A few Blackbirds, Robins, and Bluebirds were flying about, and six Meadowlarks were seen sitting on a walnut tree in the P. M. 13. Cloudy, light snow, 25 to 38; Meadowlarks, Robins, and Bluebirds were all gone. 14. Cloudy, light snow in P. M. Snowstorm in evening, 8 to 37. 15. Cloudy, snow turned to rain in the morning and rained all day; some snow drifts, 31 to 38; a Fox Sparrow came and ate with the Juncos and Tree Sparrows where I had scattered some corn meal for them. Two Prairie Horned Larks came into the barnyard in search of food. 16. Clear, 8 to 23; a Robin was in the garden in the morning, and a Meadowlark came into the barnyard in search of food. 17. Clear, 21 to 44: a covey of eight Bob-white was seen along the public highway. 18. Snowstorm all day accompanied by a high north wind, 23 to 4; a covey of Bob-white were scattered about the place in the morning and were calling. A Prairie Horned Lark went in the Sparrow trap which I had baited with oats; it was in the front chamber, so I just lifted the trap and let it fly away. The birds were very hungry on this day, and we put our four large plates full of cracked butternuts on the feeding shelf to satisfy them. 19. Clear, 11 below zero in the morning, 15 above in P. M. 7 above in the evening; a Robin was here in the morning and a Bluebird in P. M. 20. Partly cloudy, 21 to 52; a Cardinal was in the garden—the first one this winter. 21. Cloudy, 34 to 53; two Gulls flew over and some Goldfinches were heard. Late in the evening a Bob-white was heard calling. 22. Cloudy and rainy, 40 to 31. 23. Clear, 15 to 36; enough snow melted to leave large patches of bare ground, and a good many Bluebirds were flying about. 24. Clear, 20 to 40; many large flocks of Pintails were flying about in every direction in the evening.

25. Partly cloudy, 38 to 40; a flock of about 30 Canada Geese flew over in the A. M. and a male Marsh Hawk arrived in P. M. A good many Blackbirds, Meadowlarks, Robins, and Bluebirds were flying about, and a Western Meadowlark was heard singing. A neighbor saw a covey of twelve Bob-white in the morning, and also reported finding two dozen frozen Meadowlarks in his straw stack. An article in one of the daily papers stated that some frozen Bob-white were found along the hedge fences near Albany. 25. Clear, 12 to 35; Marsh Hawk seen again. 27. Partly cloudy, 30 to 35; many Hawks were migrating most of them were Rough-legs, and a few Red-tails. 28. Partly cloudy, 17 to 39. 29. Partly cloudy, 27 to

52; a flock of about fifty Robins was in the garden in the morning and another flock came in the evening. 30. Partly cloudy, snow squalls, 22 to 24; a flock of Gold-finches was here in the morning and a good many Blackbirds were flying around. A Sparrow Hawk was seen sitting on a fence post near the house.

31. Clear, 8 to 31; early in the morning while going past our cemetery, my brother saw two birds about the size of English Sparrows sitting on the ground under a cedar tree and eating something, and which undoubtedly were American Cross-bills. He said one was red, and the other one was olive green, and that they paid no attention to him whatever, although he was only six feet away from them. The next day I went to the cemetery to find out what they had been eating, and found many small cones lying on the ground under the cedar tree.

April 1. Partly cloudy, 28 to 45; took a bird walk, but did not find any new arrivals. Some more farmers reported finding dead Meadowlarks.

J. J. SCHAFER

Robinson

Mr. Harvey L. Long of the Robinson Township High School reports the practical work being done in that school. He writes:

"The writer is an instructor in general science, having about 80 high school freshmen as students. In the study of foods an opportunity was offered for reports, (as reports are a part of the class work), on birds that help in food production. An outline was prepared for the student's guidance which you will find accompanying this sheet. Other reports such as 'The Feeding of Winter Birds,' 'How to Attract Birds' were assigned so that about 20 people out of the 80 have made some special study of bird life.

"Interest has been stimulated to the point where a bird club is to be organized the coming week. We have planned to have some of the best reports that were prepared for the general science class read before meetings of the club, and other reports and articles published in the local papers. Projects in general science for the bird club will be worked out by arranging or grouping different classes of birds and mounting the N. Y. pictures of them. The student may receive credit for this work in general science.

"Each member of the general science classes has been given one of the new Arbor and Bird Day Bulletins which have such excellent articles on birds in general.

"Not being familiar with this region I cannot be sure whether the individuals which follow are, permanent, or summer residents:

"The Song Sparrow was seen on March 24, the Hairy Woodpecker March 27, Robins were reported here all winter. Sev.

eral appeared around town about the middle of January during our mild weather. The Meadow Larks are everywhere abundant and have been common since the latter days of February. Students reported the arrival of Martins on March 29th.

"It is certainly gratifying to see so many Bob Whites. I had the rare privilege about the middle of February to be on a train stopped near here in the country when a covey of 28 birds walked up alongside the train about 10 feet away. I have not seen such a beautiful sight for some time. On almost every trip we take to the field we disturb a covey of 8 to 10 birds. Others of our winter and permanent residents that are very common and abundant are the Cardinals, Tufted Titmouse, and the Blue Jay. An Eagle was seen on one trip but it was impossible to identify it because of distance."

Rockford

Miss Edith Van Duzer sends the following records dated March 11.

January 3—Barred Owl; 5—Waxwings; 5—Tree Sparrow; 10—Bohemian Waxwings, a large flock probably containing 500 individuals passed through the parks; 16—4 Red-bellied Woodpeckers, apparently permanent; and February 24—Sharpshinned Hawk.

The season to most bird observers has, I think, been somewhat unsatisfactory since no regular winter birds have been reported—such as Horned Lark, Snowflakes, etc.

Many Owls have been seen, however. Two Long-eared Owls have been about here all winter, two Snowy Owls have been reported as well as the ever present Screech Owl and the Barred Owl already mentioned.

Three Marsh Hawks were reported on January 1st and were seen again later, a Sparrow Hawk has been reported by several people, and I have seen the Broad-winged within a day or two.

A flock of Bob-white has been seen and a number of birds seldom or never listed this time of year. A little Field Sparrow has passed the winter here with a flock of about seven Juncos. They have been observed for many weeks and always together. Some Robins and at least one Flicker and Grackle have stayed also.

A few Cardinals and Titmice have been here but not as many as we have been having for several years. The Red-bellied Woodpecker has not come to our feeding stations tho' he is about. Two years ago he came to my suet every day for months.

The information I can give you will not, I fear, prove especially interesting. The last week all migrating spring birds have been arriving on scheduled time.

An hour's walk this morning showed Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers, Chickadees, Bluejays, Blue Birds, Grackles, Rob-

ins, Killdeer, Scaup Duck, Broad-winged Hawk, Song Sparrow, and Red-winged Blackbirds. Meadow Larks were also reported today.

Urbana

Professor Frank Smith sends the following notes:

In The Audubon Bulletin Spring 1922, the writer announced the results of a warfare on the English Sparrow during 1921. More than 500 were captured in an ordinary city dooryard. There has been no truce, and the efforts to eliminate the pests have not been diminished, though during 1922 the total number captured was but 285. The number in the vicinity was greatly reduced in the latter part of the season and only 13 specimens were taken during November and the first half of December, although the traps were in constant readiness. The date of the last capture was November 17, and very few of them have been seen in the immediate vicinity since that date.

No Starlings have appeared since those reported last year, and, as far as I am aware, a lone Bronzed Grackle is the only representative of the Blackbird tribe that has passed the winter in the vicinity.

Mockingbirds seem now to be thoroughly established here, as permanent residents, and are seen all through the winter in several different places in Urbana and Champaign. Asparagus berries are eaten extensively by the individuals coming to the writer's dooryard during the winter.

Waukegan

April 18th, Mr. W. I. Lyon wrote: I have had a wonderful time with the Cedar Waxwings, they came in flocks as you will notice by the trap picture and in two weeks we banded about two hundred of them. It was very noticeable how quiet they were while being banded and held in the hand and flew only a short distance on being released and many of them repeated a number of times showing little fear of people. The main bait to attract them we found to be cut apples.

So far this year we have placed over five hundred bands and our big harvest is just starting when the White-throated Sparrows arrive.

How to Start Bird Banding

Begin the easiest way.

Trap only at convenient times.

Use a flat box trap with a stick under one side and a string to your window. Keep the ground underneath the trap always baited so that when you are not around it becomes a permanent feeding station.

The trap should be about three feet square and four inches deep, made entirely of wire netting or make the sides of light

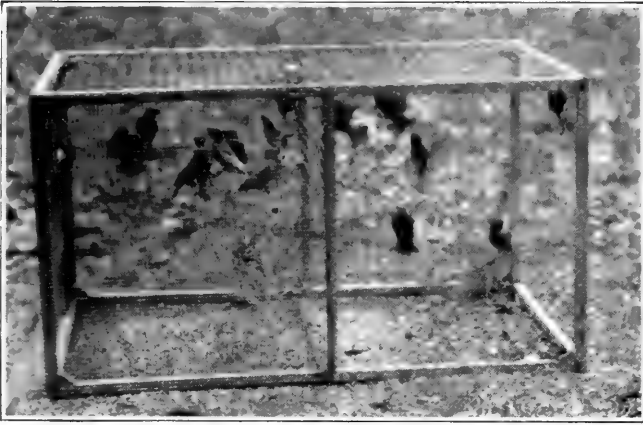


Photo by W. I. Lyon

CEDAR WAXWINGS TEMPORARILY DETAINED

between the trap as it will make the trap trip more easily. A small box or carrying cage is necessary. Drive the birds from the trap, through the door into the smaller box cage where they are easily handled.

Lyon's Improved Sparrow Type Trap gives more space for the birds to fly in the top of trap and the lower, flatter funnels give a better perching place where the bird can see the entrance to the second compartment, the funnel of second compartment has a flat top which makes a good resting place up off the ground and keeps the birds much quieter.

It is an all wire trap made with a fine mesh on the sides to protect the birds from injury by cats, owls, etc.

It is advisable to put a piece of tin or roofing over the rear funnel covering about one half of the rear compartment to protect birds from sun, rain and pests.

The top and funnels are made of three-quarter inch netting which is less visible to birds when entering traps.

These traps were the most successful in catching 2000 birds in 1922.

We are applying for patent on these traps but at present will give permit to any one holding Bird Banding permit to make these traps for their own use but not to sell.

WM. I. LYON

wood, cover the top with netting not larger than three-quarter inch mesh. If possible make these sides of wood and the front of netting, this will give a better view into the trap to see when the birds are underneath.

Make a door about three by four inches.

The stick should not be more than six inches high. Place a chip on the top of the stick

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN

SPRING 1923

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ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

For the Conservation of Bird-Life

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Editorial

The tardy appearance of this number of the Bulletin finds the tide of migration spent and the nesting affairs absorbing the time and interest of most of the feathered residents of Illinois. This is the time when painstaking observer can do his bit to add to the sum total of useful knowledge of his bird neighbors. It is the time to suppress the cat and to promote infant mortality among the house sparrow. It is a good time to undertake special problems for investigation. In a given area, what percentage of the nestlings of each species matures to successful flight? What per cent of the Blue Jays are law abiding? Is this species decreasing in the area? What species of birds in the area are imposed upon by the cowbird's depredations? There is always a place in the Bulletin for reports of such inquiries.

The legislature lingers in session as the Bulletin goes into the mails. What is to happen to the Wild Flower Preservation Society's bill to protect certain flowers? What about the Forestry Bill which looks to a future with waste lands once more covered with magnificent forests? What of the State Parks Bill so patiently promoted by unselfish lovers of the native beauty of our state? Let us question our friends in the legislature and move them to friendly action.

What About the Quail, Anyway?

The question of a closed season for quail has been very actively discussed of late because of proposed legislation to that effect. Farming sentiment seems to be strongly for a closed season of indefinite duration. The sportsmen representing the opposition have received much comfort from statements from E. W. Nelson, Chief of the U. S. Biological Survey and Mr. T. Gilbert Pearson, President of the National Association of Audubon Societies. Mr. Nelson concludes that quail thrive better under moderate persecution. Mr. Pearson's ideas are set forth in the following quotation from the Illinois Sportsman.

Quail as a Song Bird

A concerted effort has been made in several states during the last year to place bob-white on the song bird list. Every sportsman not only opposes this, but naturally resents it. The bob-white is the gamiest of game birds and the sportsmen are the men who have always protected and cared for him. To place him on the song bird list is not to protect him, but to abandon him. Long closed seasons on quail have been shown to be laws on paper only—non-enforceable laws that never bring the results hoped for.

We are very much pleased to receive a letter from T. Gilbert Pearson, president of the National Association of Audubon Societies, in which he makes it clear that the National Association of Audubon Societies does not desire to see the quail put on the song bird list. Mr. Pearson says in part:

“A law placing the quail on the song bird list, or in other words giving it perpetual closed season, is likely to have a tendency to defeat the very object for which the bill was enacted. The class of people who have taken most interest in this bird in the United States is the organized sportsmen. In many states these bodies, representing thousands of good, worth-while citizens, in order to perpetuate their opportunities to go afield with gun and dog, have expended much time and large sums of money in feeding quail during the periods of heavy snows and have also been responsible for the introduction of tens of thousands of quail for the purpose of restocking depleted coveys. Many of these organizations are also active in apprehending and reporting those who kill the quail by illegal methods or at unseasonable times.

“It is my opinion that especially in many of the northern and central states the quail today would be almost as rare as the passenger pigeon if it had not been for the efforts of the game protective organizations of sportsmen who have long been the chief active force in securing and encouraging the enforcement of laws for its preservation. If in attempting to protect quail the bird is removed for all time from the list of

birds that may ever be hunted, you virtually take from it the solicitous protective influences of the one large class of our citizens who have done most for its protection in the past.

“My experience has been that in most instances the fortunes of the quail may with a fair degree of safety be left in the hands of the game protective associations which have an intense personal interest in the preservation of the species.”

The sportsmen should appreciate the stand Mr. Pearson has taken on this subject.

What They Say About Quail

The following quotations show what some of them think. The quotations are taken at random from issues of the *Prairie Farmer*. The editor's comment appearing there is that of the Editor of that magazine.

M. E. Long, Lee Co., Ill.—Will Bro. Wilkerson please explain why when a man is walking without a gun and scares up a flock of quail they all fly away together, but if you shoot into them they scatter and never get together again? The answer is that they don't.

Morris Walton, Schuyler Co., Ill.—E. W. Nelson has some queer ideas on quail. He says he can allow a reasonable amount of hunting and still have a normal amount of quail left. It would probably make chicken raising more profitable if we would let city hunters come out and shoot part of them. The argument the hunters kill only male quails doesn't hold water. One wife is all a quail wants to bother with. If the males are killed there will be a lot of old maid quail left that will never reproduce themselves.

Emma B. Durston, Mercer Co., Ill.—Nature took care of inbreeding in quail before there were hunters and will continue to do so. That is just the excuse of a hunter who wants to keep on killing them.

O. W. Madeen, Kane Co., Ill.—Leave it to the quail to take care of themselves and keep out of the way of the hawks if the hunters will leave them alone. Farmers around here are going to get after the hunters. They will have to stop shooting quail or keep off our land.

D. Tait, Edwards Co., Ill.—I doubt if quail eat chinch bugs. The hunter naturally shoots the last bird to get up and thus kills off the older and lazy birds. Two-thirds of the quail killed are males.

Peter Schallom, Monroe Co., Ill.—Permanent protection will not cause quail to multiply enough to help the farmer. One hard winter will kill more than all the hunters. The real sportsman respects the law, but if you have a permanent closed season quail will get tame and the pot hunter will get them all.

Troy Burk, Moultime Co., Ill.—I saw a dozen quail at the edge of a cornfield last summer eating chinch bugs like a hog eats corn.

Earl Hawkins, Wayne Co., Ill.—A closed season will not give the quail eternal life. We have more here now than we have ever had before, although there has been more hunting. If we would provide cover for quail and feed them when necessary we would have more of them.

Frank Specht, Clay Co., Ill.—Quail will never be thick enough here to do away with the chinch bugs, even with a permanent closed season. I do not believe in their wholesale slaughter, but I like to shoot a few now and then in late fall.

J. T. Wells, Jefferson Co., Ill.—I have killed quail at all seasons of the year and never found a chinch bug in one yet. I do not believe they eat them.

Oran Wagner, McDonough Co., Ill.—One of my neighbors killed a quail when mowing stubble last fall. Its crop was so full of chinch bugs that it could hardly fly. Where is Mr. Wilkerson?

Roy Slater, Fulton Co., Ill.—I hope you succeed in your efforts to protect the quail. The skunk ought to be protected too, as he eats mostly insects and mice.

F. O. Kiefer, Stephenson Co., Ill.—Twenty years would not be too long to protect quail.

A. Kleinlein, Brown Co., Ill.—My boys saved 80 quail craws this year and did not find a single chinch bug. If God Almighty did not want us to kill quail He would not have fed the Children of Israel on quail in the wilderness. Let us not take all the sport away from the farm boys. Things are blue enough as it is.

Protect the Quail

I read a statement written by A. D. Wilkerson that the quail is not a chinch bug eater. He had better go way back and sit down. The chinch bug is practically the only bug that winters on top of the ground. He winters along the hedge rows where there is plenty of leaves and grass for shelter, and that is where the quail gets his daily rations. I wonder if Wilkerson ever saw a covey of quail busy along a sheltered fence row. If he did and passed up the chance to see what they were doing he had better investigate their means of getting a living the next chance he gets.

Wilkerson says to let the hunters stir them up once in a while to thin out the weak birds. Did you ever hear of a hunter that asked a quail if he felt good before he shot? I believe in protecting the quail not for one year or five years but for all time to come. At the rate they have been slaughtered in the last five years they will soon be like the prairie

chickens—you will see one in a blue moon. Wilkerson's theory is that inbreeding will play the mischief with the quail, but it can't be half as bad as an automatic shot gun.
 Montgomery Co., Ill. E. M. HULETT.

I notice in your issue of January 27 a letter on how to increase the quail supply written by A. D. Wilkerson of Cook County, Ill. He comes as near hitting the nail on the head as I have seen. The editor says he'd better get his \$100 ready that he offers anyone that will furnish positive proof that a quail will eat chinch bugs in their wild state. I believe he could make it \$500 and his money be as safe as in a government bond. I have examined hundreds of quail crops for chinch bugs and can say I have never been able to discover any chinch bugs in a quail's crop yet.

White Co., Ill.

WM. B. SHIPLEY.

Maybe your chinch bugs are specially trained to escape quail.—Editor.

That Inbreeding Theory

I was amused at the theory Mr. Wilkerson advanced when he said, "shooting among quails was a necessity" to avoid inbreeding. We first wonder if our brother Wilkerson really believes what he preaches. Turtle doves as we all are aware lay only two eggs. Nature has so arranged affairs that these two eggs hatch male and female mated for life, and if broken by death they remain unmated the remainder of their lives. I have heard it said if by an accident of nature they are of the same sex the mother will kill the weaker of the two. Pigeons are similar in natural habits, and propagation. The dove and the pigeon are as healthy and perfect as they were when Noah liberated them from the Ark and they have been inbred millions of times. Brother Wilkerson is in our estimation a pump gun and bird dog fanatic and did not know what else to say and consequently his article sounds absurd in the ears of all quail lovers. Hasten the time for a closed season on quail for all time to come.

White Co., Ill.

DONALD B. WEAS.

Well, Bro. Wilkerson, what have you to say to that?—

THE ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY recommends the organization of Junior Audubon Societies under one or the other of the following plans:

First plan: Organize under the auspices of the National Association of Audubon Societies and take advantage of the special offer to pupils made possible by generous patrons of the Society. Each member paying ten cents will receive a set of six educational leaflets with colored pictures and outline drawings for coloring with crayons. Each member will also receive the Audubon button which represents a badge of membership in a Junior Audubon class. Each teacher who organizes a class of twenty or more receives a year's free subscription to *Bird-Lore*, the official organ of the Association. Address the Secretary, 1749 Broadway, New York City.

Second plan: Organize under the auspices of the Illinois Audubon Society. Each pupil is to pay fifteen cents for a copy of "*Fifty Common Birds of Farm and Orchard*" published by the United States Government, copies to be obtained either from the Secretary of the Illinois Audubon Society or by sending directly to the Superintendent of Documents at Washington, D. C. To each member of a group provided with this beautifully illustrated bulletin the Illinois Audubon Society will give without charge the Audubon button of membership in the Illinois Society and will send to the leader of the group for a period of one year all the publications and special notices of the Society together with an illustrated certificate showing that the group is a member of the Illinois Audubon Society. Teachers wishing to enroll pupils under local plans may obtain Audubon buttons for two cents.

Address the

Illinois Audubon Society

10 South La Salle Street

CHICAGO

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN

Fall 1923



Published by
THE ILLINOIS AUDUBON
SOCIETY

Illinois Audubon Society Service

THE Society has two collections of hand-colored lantern slides of bird life, each with an accompanying printed lecture. These are lent free of charge to any school or organization in the state but borrower pays express charges both ways.

The Society has travelling libraries of bird books which are lent to schools or organizations for a reasonable length of time, the borrower paying express charges both ways.

The Society publishes wall charts listing 200 typical Illinois birds and providing suitable spaces for recording migration and nesting data. Schools, Boy Scout organizations, and individuals as well, find these of great service. Price ten cents each.

The Society publishes a Pocket Check List of Birds with a colored zonal map. This list records every known species of birds that visits Illinois or nests within its borders. Included with this is a very useful key for the identification of nests. The Check List sells for fifty cents.

The Society publishes the Langdon Cat Circular which is invaluable in arousing interest in the question of protecting birds from marauding cats. Price five cents each.

The Society issues an illustrated postal in the Italian language warning against violation of laws for bird protection. Price two cents each.

Address The Illinois Audubon Society

10 South La Salle Street, Chicago

President

Mr. Orpheus M. Schantz

Secretary-Treasurer

Miss Catherine Mitchell

Riverside

Mr. Jesse Lowe Smith

Vice-President, Highland Park

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

Application for Membership

Understanding the aims and principles of the Illinois Audubon Society, and being in sympathy with them, I wish to become a.....

Name.....

Address.....

Date.....

Classes of Membership

Associate memberships	\$1.00.	Annually
Active memberships	\$2.00.	Annually
Contributing memberships	\$5.00.	Annually
Sustaining membership	\$25.00.	No annual dues
Life memberships	\$100.00.	No annual dues
Benefactor	\$500.00.	No annual dues
Patron	\$1000.00.	No annual dues

All members receive the publications of the Society.

Please sign this card and send it with the fee to the Illinois Audubon Society,
10 South La Salle Street, Chicago

FORM OF BEQUEST

I DO HEREBY GIVE AND BEQUEATH TO THE ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF WILD BIRDS (Incorporated), of the State of Illinois.

(OVER)

To carry out its aggressive program, the Illinois Audubon Society must increase its membership. Out of a population of nearly six millions, Illinois should have at least ten thousand people who are enough interested in bird life to help the Society in its conservation efforts. Will you not help us expand our usefulness?

I suggest for membership in the Illinois Audubon Society the persons whose names appear on the other side of this sheet.

Signed.....

Member of the Illinois Audubon Society

May we use your name? { Yes
No

The Aims and Principles of the Illinois Audubon Society Are:

1. To encourage the study of birds, particularly in the school and to disseminate literature relating to them.
2. To work for the betterment and enforcement of State and Federal laws relating to birds.
3. To discourage the wearing of any feathers except those of the ostrich and domestic fowls.
4. To discourage, in every possible way, the wanton destruction of wild birds and their eggs.
5. To restore to our wild birds, wherever practicable, the natural environment of forest and shrubbery which gave them food, protection and seclusion.

NEEDS

The Illinois Audubon Society depends for its support upon the contributions of its members and friends. It should have an income from a moderate endowment sufficient to meet all fixed expenses.

The present income is totally inadequate to meet the urgent and incessantly growing demands.

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY, Inc.
10 SOUTH LA SALLE STREET - CHICAGO

(OVER)

Name.....

Address.....

Name.....

Address.....

Name.....

Address.....

Name.....

Address.....

Name.....

Address.....

**The Aims and Principles of the
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Photo by Orpheus Moyer Schantz

PINES IN THE WAUKEGAN FLATS
A FAVORITE FEEDING PLACE FOR WINTER BIRDS

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN

FALL, 1923

PUBLISHED BY THE
ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

(For the protection of wild birds)

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The Chicago Region

STUDENTS of geology, botany, and general geography at the University of Chicago and Northwestern University have exceptional opportunities for field work. The natural forces that carved out the great lakes, that wore down the Des Plaines River, Chicago River, and Salt Creek valleys and their smaller tributary streams, and that left the great marshes bordering on the dune land, the morainic ridges and other evidences of the ice age, built a wonderfully diversified and fascinating landscape.

This region, all tributary to Lake Michigan and strongly influenced by its tempering breezes, is called the Chicago Region. It is commonly supposed to include the Lake Shore from the dunes at Michigan City to Waukegan, and inland to include the Valparaiso moraine. Within this area before the coming of the white man and for many years after, there were conditions of forest, stream, lake, pond, marshland, and open prairie that made ideal breeding grounds for myriads of birds.

It is probable that nowhere in North America were there to be found greater variety or larger numbers of both land birds and waterfowl than on this vast and comparatively level plain.

North of the region were forests, many lakes, large and small, grassy meadows, and a marvelous system of rivers, tributary to the Mississippi.

South were the great prairies, the present corn belt, and below the prairies the beginnings of the Ozark Highlands that extend west across Missouri and Arkansas. To realize the multitudes of bird life that formerly visited Illinois, one should read Robert Ridgway's description of the Illinois Prairies as he saw them in 1871. This description is a part of the introduction to Part I of *Birds of Illinois*, published as a State Bulletin in 1889, now out of print.

While today many of the natural bird sanctuaries no longer exist, having been destroyed by settlement, drainage, and other equally destructive causes, there are still to be found bits of forest, marsh and dune areas that are visited by birds in considerable numbers each year.

A few of these "remainders" are peculiarly attractive to certain birds, that have very exclusive tastes in food. The frontispiece of the present number of the Bulletin illustrates a unique example of reforestation in the so-called Waukegan Flats in Lake County, that has not only proved the possibility of introducing a number of varieties of pine trees in the sandy soil of the flats, but has also furnished the coniferous seeds that are the favorite food of a number of northern birds that move south during the autumn and winter seeking new feeding stations.

Within the memory of many people in Lake County, the flats contained a stand of good-sized White Pine trees. These pines furnished

much of the dimension timber used in building many of the older houses in Waukegan.

After the destruction of the pines, the Douglas Brothers, nursery men of Waukegan, used the flats as a place for storage for their surplus stock of evergreens, until such time as they could deliver the trees.

Not all of the trees were sold, and a goodly number of young pines became acclimated and grew to maturity, among them being white, gray or jack, Scotch, Norway and Table Mountain pines.

Now, after sixty years, these mature trees are perpetuating themselves through their seedling offspring.

The pine groves and the adjoining marshes are favorite resorts of a numerous bird host throughout the year, both resident and migrant. Almost every fall and winter flocks of evening grosbeaks, pinefinches, waxwings, siskins, and crossbills visit the pinery.

On the day that the frontispiece picture was taken, a small flock of red crossbills was noted, all busily engaged in deftly snipping the pine cone scales and extracting the pine seeds. Occasionally a seed would be dropped and it would spiral down on the wind, landing point down at some distance from the tree, showing very clearly nature's wonderful method of distributing pine seed.

Many water birds nest in the marshy portions of the flats, and a great many shore birds stop during spring and fall migrations. Red-winged blackbirds, marsh wrens, and many sparrows find conditions to their liking for both nesting and food.

Owing to the isolation of the flats much illegal shooting takes place, but there is a possibility that in the near future this interesting old inlet bed will come under the protection of the Forest Preserve act, by a vote of Lake County.

Then arose a joyous clamour
From the wild-fowl on the mere,
And a voice within cried: "Listen!
Christmas carols even here!"
—*Charles Kingsley.*

Bird Protection in Europe

The following letter from Mr. T. Gilbert Pearson telling of the results of his study of the status of bird protection in Europe gives a very clear understanding of the necessity for a world wide campaign for bird protection

Dear Mr. Schantz:

MANY of the principles for bird study and bird protection which in this country we regard as rudimentary ones, have no place in European countries. For example, here no one may collect birds' eggs without securing state and federal permits for that purpose. In Great Britain there is practically no such restriction and the egg collecting craze like a scourge is sweeping the British Isles. Literally hundreds of men and boys in the employ of wealthy egg-collectors are searching fields and woods in spring for birds' eggs.

In western Europe the eggs of the Lapwing, Stone Curlew and Oystercatcher are collected in vast numbers and sold in the markets as food. Throughout southern Europe songbirds are widely eaten. The little Skylark, for example, which was immortalized by Shelley, and which has had a place in literature almost ever since there has been literature, is netted, trapped, caught by bird limes and shot in enormous numbers. More than 200,000 are known to have been shipped from Belgium to France for food in the winter of 1913-14. Nearly every land-owner in Belgium, I am informed, has an ingenious device with little mirrors which is whirled in the field and used in attracting Skylarks within range of the spoilers. In the fall and winter one may see long strings of these birds hanging in front of the markets in southern Europe.

We prohibit spring-shooting of wild fowl in the United States, but there is very little prohibition of this kind in Europe. The President of a bird protective society in Switzerland seemed surprised when I made this suggestion, and replied by asking a question. He said, "Why should we protect migratory birds in Switzerland for the benefit of people who kill them to the north and south of us?"

There is certainly need here for international bird protection conventions to be held. There are practically no convictions for violation of the bird and game laws in Hungary or Italy. In 1921 there were only sixty convictions in all of France for the illegal killing of birds. In New York State alone there were over 1,000 during the same period.

On the other hand, in England and Scotland there is a widespread personal interest in birds. The small birds there are very abundant. It seems to be part of the creed of every cultivated Englishman to have a personal knowledge of the names and appearances of flowers and

birds. At the present time under the leadership of Lord Edward Grey a songbird protection bill is pending in the British Parliament.

In many parts of Europe, especially England and Scotland, there are enormous numbers of upland game birds. This is because game is protected on an entirely different basis than in this country. It is all privately owned. My friend and host, Mr. Hugh Gladstone, told me there was not a place in all Scotland where there is "public shooting" except along the beaches "between tides." The game being privately owned and being more or less profitable to raise, there are naturally more game birds to the square mile than we find in this country.

Through our International Committee we propose to exchange publications so that those interested in bird-protection throughout the world may be kept closer in touch with what is going on in other regions. The Organization Committee is coming on very nicely. The French and British sections of the Committee have formally organized as National Committees for their countries.

The organizations in various countries that have been invited to endorse the principles for which we stand, and each to appoint two members to the International Committee, constitute not only bird-protective societies, but all leading scientific organizations and institutions. As an illustration I give below a list of the names of organizations which have joined the Committee and each appointed representatives making up the British Section. Among the members of this Committee such people as Lord Rothschild, Lord Buxton, Hugh Gladstone, Percy Lowe, Mrs. Reginald McKenna, William Sclater, Mr. Lemmon, etc. It is thought that organizing in this way, workers in various countries will be stimulated to greater efforts. Here are the names of the British Societies referred to:

National Trust (for places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty); Zoological Society of London; Royal Society for the Protection of Birds; The Royal Society; the British Ornithologists' Union; Royal Scottish Zoological Society; The Plumage Group; and Society for the Promotion of Nature Reserves. Sincerely,

T. GILBERT PEARSON,

President National Association of Audubon Societies

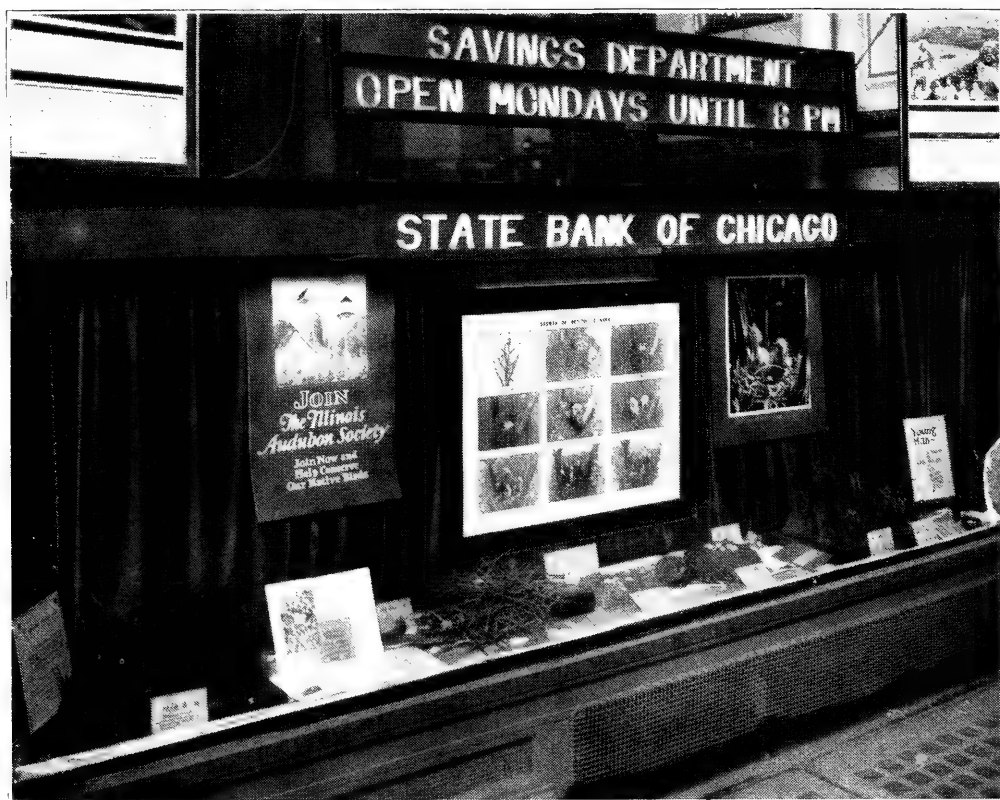
Overtones

I heard a bird at break of day
Sing from the autumn trees
A song so mystical and calm,
So full of certainties,

No man, I think, could listen long
Except upon his knees.
Yet this was but a simple bird,
Alone, among dead trees.

—*William Alexander Percy*

From "The Second Book of Modern Verse," edited by Jessie B. Rittenhouse.



Novel Publicity Methods

ONE of the large banks on La Salle Street has originated a series of window displays that has attracted much attention and favorable comment. The State Bank of Chicago, located at La Salle and Madison Streets, has exhibited many collections of rare curios, old books and prints, raw materials of different kinds and the finished products made from them, collections of minerals, etc.

These displays have been a source of interest to thousands of pedestrians going to or passing the bank, and during the noon hours each window has had a crowd of interested spectators.

The Illinois Audubon Society was asked to furnish material for a display, and its exhibit occupied the La Salle Street window for three weeks. The usual time given to an exhibit was two weeks but on account of the great interest shown, and the many requests for literature the Audubon exhibit was given an additional week.

As a result of the bank exhibit a great many business men asked to be directed to the office of the Audubon Society.

Recently the Transportation Bank at Dearborn and Harrison Streets, borrowed material for a window display, and reports show much interest in birds in that section of Chicago's downtown district.

Nesting Sites

By WILLIAM BARBER, Kenosha, Wis.

A NEST of the red-winged blackbird was found made of chufa and bayonet grass, attached to stalks of calamus, and containing three greenish, black-speckled eggs. The parent birds gave me a most vociferous and noisy reception when I approached the nest.

The next nest was that of a pair of blue birds in an old fence post. The mother bluebird was shy and tried to lead me away from her babes.

In a hawthorn tree nearby another pair of bluebirds was teaching their family of three to fly. This pair was more active, and fearlessly tried to drive me away.

The third nest was right out in the open, built on the ends of a couple of fence posts in a pile of posts only a few feet from a railroad, with no shelter above it. The bottom of nest was attached to the posts by a neat job of masonry, in construction quite similar to the mud construction of the barn swallow.



Photo by Wm. Barber, Kenosha, Wis.

REDWING BLACKBIRD'S NEST



Photo by Wm. Barber, Kenosha, Wis.

BLUEBIRD'S NEST

In the nearby meadows were a number of meadow larks' nests, but the tunnel approaches made the taking of pictures quite uncertain, and I did not attempt to take any.

At each nest the wounded-bird ruse was used to lead me away from the nest.

I checked all the nests up with the descriptions in our check list and found very little variation.



Photo by Wm. Barber, Kenosha, Wis.

ROBIN'S NEST

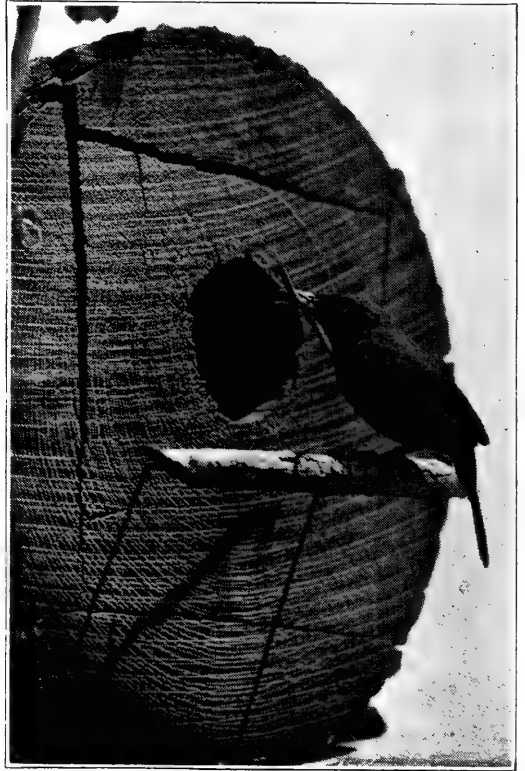


Photo by Walter E. Hastings, South Lyon, Mich.

WREN'S NEST

Cleverly Constructed Bird House

WALTER E. HASTINGS, 2nd Vice-President, Michigan Audubon Society, South Lyon, Mich., sends a picture and description of a very cleverly constructed bird house. He writes:

"The house is a prize bird house, built by a Boy Scout and presented to me by the maker. It is really a bluebird house, and bluebirds occupied it until a pair of wrens made up their minds to take it over. Then the trouble began, and the bluebirds were ousted bag and baggage, eggs and all,

Professor Norman A. Wood and I sat on the porch at my home, talking birds, and he wagered me that I could not take a good picture of the pair. Out of six pictures I managed to get one good one.

The house is made by taking an 18-inch length of a post, and splitting off the four sides as nearly alike as can be done, then sawing the center off at each end and nailing the four sides to the two ends. This makes a very fine house. I judged about sixty houses, and chose this one to be the best of the lot for workmanship, originality and practicality. I have had it for four years; seven broods have been raised in it and two have been destroyed.

Since I laid aside my gun for a camera, or cameras (I have four of 'em), I have come to look upon birds as almost human, and the human traits that I find are so numerous that I cannot believe that we are the only beings that will see heaven and hell.

Birds have many traits that are esteemed by us humans as marks of high character. They are patient, industrious, and nothing seems to daunt their courage or dampen their joy in living. In many ways man is not superior to his feathered friends.

Where the Meadow Begins

THE Greenwood Lumber Company is cutting the hemlock-maple timber along the shore of Lake Superior in the region west of Ontonagon, Michigan, at the rate of twenty million feet a year. Thirty carloads a day find their way to the sawmill in Ontonagon. A pitiful waste of land is left in the trail of the lumbermen, swept in turn by fire and wind. The Finns are following in this trail of the lumberjacks, transforming the waste areas into dairy farms. These immigrants are clean, thrifty and industrious. Rich soil, the absence of the common weeds and the prevalence of white clover make the transition a rapid one. The fragrance and beauty of these fields of clover and timothy, densely populated by the birds of our prairie, overlooking the beautiful waters of Lake Superior, is a thrill for anyone interested in outdoor life.

The bobolinks are more numerous to the square mile than on the Illinois prairies. The meadowlarks, too, are there. I heard only the song of the western one. Sparrows are omnipresent with few of the English brand. Savannas, which in migration hide behind hummocks and tufts of grass, perch on the fence posts in full song with no apparent fear of the passerby. Henslow's sparrow was heard. Goldfinches and song sparrows are numerous.

Swallows sweep over the fragrant clover fields or twitter from telegraph wires. The cliff swallows nest under the eaves of the Grange

at Green. Baby tree swallows perch on the fence posts, resting from their first attempts at flight. Barn swallows and purple martins are equally abundant. At times I caught glimpses of bank and rough-winged swallows skimming over.

Flycatchers are in evidence, kingbird, phoebe, pewee, alder, least and olive sided. Nighthawks patrol the beach and the adjacent region each evening. All these thrive on the mosquitoes which are plentiful in late June and July.

The cut over area with uprooted and fallen logs, with a wealth of strawberries, red raspberries, red elder, blackberries and blueberries, was a bird paradise. This is the home of the white-throated sparrows and their chorus was heard by day and night. They were friendly, too, and often sang from the top of a balsam beside Cedar Lodge. Lincoln sparrows preferred the most impenetrable haunts of uprooted trees. Dozens of them were in song at one time yet most careful searching could not locate a single one. The song is musical, varied and prolonged. An unusual melody for a sparrow. It required a month of the most careful stalking to be sure of its identity. In full song, perched on a pile of brush, on the edge of the dense hemlock-maple forest I finally met it face to face. I was walking on the Greenwood lumber tracks and saw it but a moment. In the heavy timber they sing on every side but are always out of sight.

Warblers were hard to identify. This is the home of the house wrens and they patrol the summer cottages so vigilantly that woe betides warblers or other feathered friends that make an approach. House wrens nest in every possible locality. *Patris carina* (father's boat) was left on the shore two days and a huge nest was built in it. A redstart approached one day but was quickly dispelled by the wren patrol. Maryland yellowthroat, Canadian, black-throated blue, ovenbird, and Northern water thrush were listed, and other unnamed songs were heard in the thickets.

Our four common woodpeckers were in evidence. Traces of the pileated were seen in the heavy timber near White Pine and Union Bay. In returning from the lumber camp on a flat car with the lumberjacks I discovered the huge pileated drilling the bark of a large tree. My first pileated!

Loons, spotted sandpipers and young, killdeers, herring gulls, great blue heron and crows were beach companions. The song of the red-eyed vireo and flocks of cedar waxwings were always present. Catbird, brown thrasher, chipping sparrow, purple finch, junco, hawks, bald eagle, mourning dove, bronze grackle, cowbird, red-wing and chickadee were listed. Thrushes were all observed but the hermit. The wood thrush is associated with the dark white-cedar bog where the large showy orchis blooms, and with the mottled sun and shade of the aspen-birch-bracken pioneer forest. Dense thickets and high perches

made thrush study difficult, but the music of the late afternoon was something to be remembered. It hardly seems that gray-cheeked and olive-backed can claim the glory of the flute-like chorus.

If the acres of red elder were the burning bushes, surely the ground was hallowed with mosses, fruiting marchantia, club mosses, trailing arbutus, partridge blossom and berry, wintergreen, bunch berry, small pink orchis, shin leaf, pitcher plant, tall yellow buttercup, twin flower, oak and maidenhair ferns. Sensitive ostrich, and lady ferns were the persistent garden weeds.

Be you botanist, Finn, geologist, or ornithologist, this is a region well worth investigation. Take "Michigan Bird Life" with you when you go. Walter Bradford Barrows is the author. It is a publication of the Michigan Agricultural College and is the most delightful, helpful and exhaustive state publication on birds I have seen.

—ESTHER A. CRAIGMILE

From the Illinois Sportsman

Shooting from sinkboxes and from artificial blinds is now prohibited in Minnesota.

* * *

Hunting in all state lands is prohibited in Alabama.

* * *

In Pennsylvania persons physically and mentally unfit to carry firearms are denied hunting licenses.

There is no open season on quail, prairie chickens, and turtle doves in Iowa.

* * *

Wild turkeys are protected until 1928 in Tennessee.

* * *

The closed season on quail, pheasants and doves has been extended to 1930 in Colorado.

Birds as Destroyers of Gall Insects

(Illustrations by Carl F. Groneman)

UNDoubtedly many bird students, while studying their feathered friends, have been attracted by the abnormal growths frequently found on trees, shrubs, vines and herbaceous plants, which are called galls.

These curious malformations owe their origin principally to insects such as midges, aphids, wasps, moths, beetles, and their close allies, the plant mites. Insect galls are the most common, and are often very conspicuous in form and color.



FIG. 1
PINE CONE GALL



FIG. 1-A
CROSS SECTION
PINE CONE GALL



FIG. 2—SUNFLOWER GALL

Galls have an attraction for certain birds. They have learned that they contain many a choice morsel.

The pine cone galls (Fig. 1), common upon the twigs of willows, are veritable food storehouses. I have seen chickadees and goldfinches in winter, perched upon them, tearing them apart to get at the insect food hidden within.

Fig. 1-A shows a cross section of the pine cone gall.

Besides the gall insects, the birds find grasshoppers' eggs underneath the scales of the gall. I removed 103 such eggs from a gall which had

previously been examined by a bird.

The apical galls on the woodland sunflowers (Fig. 2) are also subjected to close scrutiny by birds. These galls, too, are depositaries for grasshoppers' eggs.

Another gall which is common upon the branches of the white oak, is the oak bullet gall (Fig. 3). These spherical galls are of a corky substance, in the center of which is a small thin-walled chamber containing the gall insect. They are eagerly sought by the birds who open them to extract the fat larva or the mature insect.

The galls on the stem of the giant ragweed also attract birds. I have seen woodpeckers diligently tapping the walls of this insect domicile until the occupant was dislodged by the feathered raider.

Other galls attacked by woodpeckers are the goldenrod ball galls, and the twig galls on willows and poplars, the first caused by gall flies, the other two by beetles (Fig. 4).



FIG. 3—OAK BULLET GALL

Among mammals the squirrel is known to search the vagabond gall (Fig. 5) on the cottonwood tree, presumably for its sweet contents, honey-dew, produced by the aphids who in this case are the gall makers.

—CARL F. GRONEMAN.

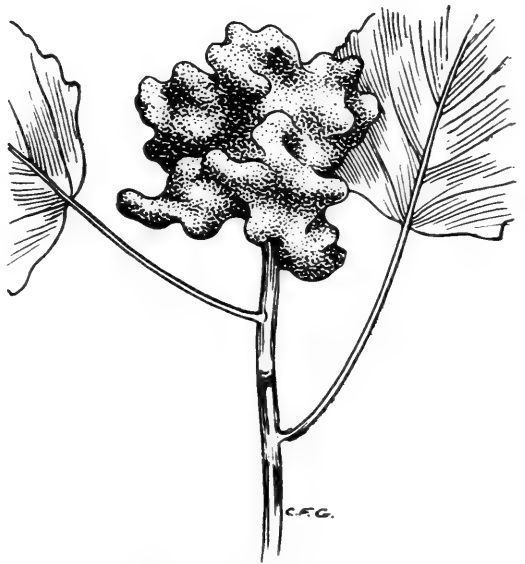
FIG. 4—GOLDEN ROD
BALL GALL

FIG. 5—VAGABOND GALL

THE AUDUBON BULLETIN

FALL, 1923

PUBLISHED BY ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

For the Conservation of Bird Life

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EDITORIAL

OWING to stress of other work, the real editor has been obliged to turn this number of the Bulletin over to understudies. Your kindly tolerance is therefore asked for whatever defects you may find, and for the lack of finished editorial judgment that has made the previous Bulletins so readable and so successful in presenting a varied program of bird news to our readers.

The present number of the Bulletin contains several articles of note, which we feel are of great value, as they give first-hand information as to progress in bird conservation, by men whose business it is to keep in touch with everything that concerns our bird life, for or against.

Mr. Pearson's resume of the European situation is a revelation of the need of further international conferences and coöperation.

Mr. Lincoln's article on "The Ducks of the Illinois River Marshes," is a valuable contribution to ornithology. It brings out the tremendous importance of the State of Illinois in relation to waterfowl, and the necessity of preserving the breeding places, which are later told about in Mr. Riis' article on drainage of the Upper Mississippi bottoms. Bird banding as a scientific occupation and pleasant pastime is rapidly gaining many enthusiastic supporters. Mr. Lyon tells of its success and how the difficulties in devising traps to catch the tree-climbing birds have been overcome. Mr. Ridgway's introduction to the "Birds of Illinois," which we are taking the liberty of reprinting, gives a vivid picture of the bird life on the Illinois prairies fifty years ago.

Protecting Birds Against Squirrels

By DR. B. H. WARREN, West Chester, Pa.

AS a general proposition in the East, squirrels—Gray, Black, Fox, Red or Pine, the Flying and the little striped Ground Hackey or Chipmunk, are all more or less given to destroying birds.

I have a farmer friend in Northern Pennsylvania who has a sugar bush of some 65 acres, many large maple trees, numerous big beech trees, some hickory trees, lots of hemlocks, etc. This wooded tract is locally famous for Gray Squirrels. Some years back I knew a farmer's boy who one season told me he killed about 75 grays in the place and I think he told the truth.

There are many Red and Flying Squirrels as well as considerable numbers of Ground Squirrels on the premises.

The farmer loves birds. Several years ago he made and placed on trees in the interior, and about edges, especially of this sugar bush, 100 wooden bird boxes. The first year several of them had tenants, viz.: bluebirds, crested flycatchers, woodpeckers and a couple of wren families. Since then practically no birds have nested in the boxes. Two or three years after the boxes were erected, an examination of a number was made and it was learned that a lot of them were inhabited by flying squirrels; some had gray squirrels as occupants, and a few had mice therein.

On one side of this sugar bush there is a grove of native chestnut trees which, before the blight killed nearly 100 or more of the trees, produced almost every year a large crop of nuts. At the present time I understand some of the trees still survive and bear fruit. These nuts were and are most desirable food for squirrels as are fruits of other trees in the sugar bush. The sugar bush is quite a good place for Ruffed Grouse in season, and in hunting them in winter I have often noticed there are very few old birds' nests to be seen in trees or shrubbery.

Boxes erected about the buildings on the same farm, where the family resides, have nearly every year a few visitors such as bluebirds, wrens and crested flycatchers as breeders. The squirrels do not harbor about the farmer's house and other buildings near to same.

Under date of October 1, 1923, Mr. W. B. Bell, Acting Chief, Bureau of Biological Survey, Washington, D. C., writes as follows:

"Dear Dr. Warren:

"Your letter of recent date relative to the carnivorous habits of the Fox Squirrel has been received.

"We have no definite original data respecting the destruction of birds or their eggs by the Fox Squirrel. Frank E. Wood, however, in the

Bulletin of the Illinois State Laboratory of Natural History, Vol. viii, 1910, page 518, in speaking of the Fox Squirrel of the Mississippi Valley, *Sciurus Niger Rufiventer*, makes the following statement: 'Both this species and the Gray Squirrel are great destroyers of birds' nests, and thus indirectly do considerable harm. Woodpeckers and other birds nesting in hollow trees seem especially liable to suffer from them.' E. W. Nelson in his account of 'The Smaller Mammals of North America' published in the Geographic Magazine for May, 1918, includes birds and birds' eggs among the items of food taken by the Fox Squirrel."

Bird boxes can be put up in woods where squirrels live, in such a way that these and other murderous intruders will not make headway in their attacks. Place box securely on brass or other smooth metal rod and fix other end of rod to top of post, which is planted in ground. Keep post far enough away from trees, bushes, etc., that enemies like squirrels, wood mice, weasels, snakes and cats, cannot jump or reach from same and get the boxes.

This kind of box, rod and post outfit is used by Henry Ford at his Bird Sanctuary near Detroit and is said to be a great success.

Inland Bird-Banding Association Meeting, Indianapolis, Ind., November 2-3

ON Friday and Saturday, Nov. 2 and 3, there was held in Indianapolis the first convention in America, if not in the world, that was called for the express purpose of discussing the future of bird banding.

Bird banding has been carried on in various countries by individuals, and organizations of scientific people as a side line and in a very desultory manner. Not until last year had there been a distinctive bird banding association in the West. The New England Bird Banding Association had been organized in 1921.

The Inland Association was organized at the meeting of the American Ornithologists Union held in Chicago in October, 1922. From this beginning there has grown an efficient organization which has in the year created a widespread interest in this comparatively recent phase of bird study.

The meeting at Indianapolis was successful far beyond the ambitions of its promoters, and no doubt will be the beginning of a very active interest in what has already proven to be one of the most important movements towards a more accurate knowledge of the value and life histories of our North American birds.

The selection of the meeting place was made by Mr. P. B. Coffin of the Chicago Ornithological Club, who knew of the keen interest in bird study in Indianapolis, and of the efficient and delightful hospitality of the Indiana Audubon Society and the Indiana Nature Study Club.

The Friday morning and afternoon sessions were devoted to the business of the Association and the election of officers for the ensuing year.

On Friday evening there was a public meeting in the Public Library building attended by 165 enthusiastic bird conservationists.

The meeting was addressed by Mr. Richard Lieber, State Chairman of Conservation, and by Mr. S. Prentice Baldwin of Cleveland, President of the I. B. A.



MEMBERS OF INLAND BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION

The Saturday morning meeting was addressed by Mr. Blatchley, former State Geologist, and Mr. F. C. Lincoln, who has charge of the bird banding work for the Biological Survey at Washington.

Saturday afternoon was given over to illustrated talks by Mr. William I. Lyon of Waukegan, on the methods and success of bird banding and a description of the important work done last year by Mr. T. E. Musselman at Thomasville, Georgia. Owing to Mr. Musselman's inability to attend the meeting, his pictures and work were presented by Mr. Baldwin.

On Saturday evening a dinner was given at the Lincoln Hotel, at which 52 guests gathered.

Mr. P. B. Coffin of Chicago, acted as toastmaster in place of Dr. Stanley Coulter who had been expected to preside. Dr. Amos Butler, one of the most widely known ornithologists in Indiana, and author of the "Birds of Indiana," was the principal speaker.

Short talks followed by Mr. F. C. Lincoln, Mr. Alden H. Hadley and others.

This ended a most successful meeting, and the future of bird banding has been set very far up in its career. There is no doubt that bird band-

ing has come to stay, and that it will immediately take its place as one of the most important branches of ornithological research.

To the kindly hospitality and enthusiasm of the Indiana Audubon Society and the Indiana Nature Study Clubs, the happy results of the meeting are largely due. The banding of birds does not in any way injure them, and it renders unnecessary to a considerable extent the collecting of birdskins for scientific investigation.

Not All Banded Birds Come from Washington

ABIRD bearing on its leg a band numbered 231,048 on one side, and stamped "Washington, D. C." on the other, was shot 30 miles west of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, on September 15 and the matter written up in an Edmonton paper under the heading "Washington Duck Shot in Alberta." That the bird was banded in Illinois instead of Washington, D. C., however, was learned from the Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture. When the files of that Bureau were consulted they showed that the bird so numbered was a mallard duck and that it had been banded by an assistant of the Biological Survey at the Sanganois Gun Club, Browning, Ill., on November 28, 1922, about ten months previously. The writer of the news article, not knowing the details of the bird-banding activities of the Government at Washington, concluded that the bird had been marked in that city.

When banded wild birds are found with a serial number and the abbreviation "Biol. Surv." stamped on one side and the abbreviated address "Wash. D. C." on the other, it does not mean that the bird so numbered was hatched in the American capital or that it was turned loose there. All bands bear this address in order that information regarding their recovery may be mailed to Washington, where, in the central office of the Biological Survey, records are kept of all birds banded by about 850 co-operators of the bureau stationed in various parts of the country and holding permits to engage in the work of banding.

Anyone is likely to come across a banded bird which has met with an accident, especially during the fall shooting season. The bands are so small that they can only show the number of the bird and indicate that the Biological Survey should be notified—preferably by mailing the band itself to Washington with information regarding the place and date of its recovery. The sender of the information receives a card in a few days, telling him where and when the bird was actually banded. Public co-operation in the matter is a great aid in studies of the migration of birds.

The Ducks of the Illinois River Marshes

By FREDERICK C. LINCOLN, Biological Survey,

United States Department of Agriculture

AMONG the celebrated ducking marshes of the United States there are few of greater importance than the bottom lands of the Illinois River and the contiguous territory. Naturalists, sportsmen, and conservationists generally are now fully awake to the importance of preserving such areas as breeding, feeding, and resting grounds for our wonderful wild life, not only for the preservation of those forms that require marsh or swamp associations, but also for the invaluable returns yielded in the form of health-giving sport and in the practical contributions to our national larder.

The marshes of the Illinois River, as here considered, refer to the region in the vicinity of the junction of the Sangamon River with the Illinois. Similar conditions are found, however, for many miles both above and below this point, including the famous Crane Lake territory, Grass Lake, and many other ponds and streams of minor importance.

To one familiar with the saw-grass swamps of the Gulf and South Atlantic coasts or with the great expanses of tules and cat-tails found in the West, these marshes are unique. The heavy growths of herbaceous vegetation are largely replaced by trees—oak, birch, ash, and pecan being the most numerous, although regularly interspersed with maples, elms, cottonwoods, and willows. Innumerable narrow sloughs wind their tortuous ways through the timber, frequently widening out to make ponds that are usually covered with lotus (*Nelumbo*) or arrow-head (*Sagittaria*). The banks of the sloughs, as well as many depressions, or sink-holes, through the timber, support large quantities of the nut-grass or chufa (*Cyperus*) so prized by all shoal-water ducks. This, with the acorns, smaller pecan nuts, wild millet, and to some extent the seeds of the lotus, constitutes the bulk of the natural food supply for the ducks that frequent the region. Supplemental feeding by the duck clubs is practiced on a large scale, however, and thousands of bushels of corn (both shelled and on the cob), together with cane seed, are fed every year. To my certain knowledge one club fed over 3,000 bushels of corn and 20 tons of cane seed during the open season of 1922.

Several years ago, in the days of spring shooting, large numbers of diving ducks, as redheads and canvasbacks, frequented this territory, and efforts were made to attract them by the feeding of corn and also by propagating various plants known to be favorites with them. These



Photo by H. Vincent Taylor

MALLARDS ON THE ILLINOIS RIVER

plantings were only partially successful, due probably to the large numbers of carp that infest not only the river proper, but also the sloughs and ponds.

The following observations on the abundance of the ducks in the region are based upon two official trips made for the Biological Survey, to the Sanganois Club, near Browning, Illinois, for the purpose of trapping ducks for banding. The first trip covered the period from February 28 to March 25, 1922, and the second from September 27 to December 15, 1922.

Merganser (*Mergus americanus*).—Reported as numerous at times but seen by me on only one occasion, November 21, 1922, when one drake and two hens were observed.

Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*).—As Mr. Bent has observed, this bird "is one of the handsomest of our ducks, a fit companion for the gaudy wood duck with which it is often associated in the watery woodlands." Several pairs and solitary birds were seen during March, usually in the wider portions of the sloughs. Early in November small flocks were noted daily, but they were almost all gone by the last of that month.

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*).—The mallard outnumbers all other ducks of this area by 100 to 1. When I arrived on the marsh early in the spring the timberland was overflowed, so that it was possible to go anywhere in a boat; in fact, it was impossible to go anywhere without one. The mallards were feeding in the shallow water on the pin-oak ridges, gleaning acorns and nut grass. A blow from a paddle on the side of the cutter would be met with a roar of wings, and in an instant the trees would seem to be literally alive with ducks. The water started to rise on March 12, and three days later had reached such a depth that the shoal-water feeders were forced out. On that date (March 15) not over 25 ducks of all kinds were seen.

The fall migration in 1922 was unusually late, due to an open season, and it was the middle of November before the flight was at its height. This was preceded by an infiltration of birds that probably represented the breeding grounds of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and the Dakotas. During the latter part of November mallards were present in very large numbers, every "bait hole" supporting literally thousands of birds. The freeze-up began about the 30th and the ducks left rapidly thereafter, the long lines flying toward the South being seen daily.

Black Duck (*Anas rubripes tristis*).—Not uncommon. In the spring I trapped several beautiful hybrids between this species and the mallard. Most of the black ducks seen in the fall were observed during the earlier part of the season, indicating that they arrive from breeding grounds considerably south of the regions used by the great bulk of the mallards.

Baldpate (*Mareca americana*).—Not seen during the spring, and it is

not a common species in the fall. The first were observed on October 13, and they were subsequently noted almost every day up to the last of November. A few beautiful specimens were secured by the members, one of which I mounted for the superintendent of the club.

Green-winged Teal (*Nettion carolinense*).—A few were seen during the first part of March, but they are not plentiful at that season. In the fall, however, they are at times very numerous. A few were seen for the first time on October 3, and by the middle of the month large flocks had gathered, usually frequenting small water holes in the timber. As the water at these places froze more quickly than on the deeper sloughs, they left for the South somewhat earlier than some of the other hardy species. By December 1, almost all had gone.

Blue-winged Teal (*Querquedula discors*).—Not seen at all in March as the weather was much too cold for them. A flock of 16 birds, first observed on October 1, increased in a few days to about 100. Despite the abundant supply of natural food and cane seed, the blue-wings could only be considered as birds of passage and by the 20th they were reduced to scattered pairs and single birds. The last one seen was on November 9.

Shoveler (*Spatula clypeata*).—Not seen by me in the spring, but a State game warden reported seeing a few near the club grounds on March 8. During the fall spoonbills were seen in small numbers from the first of October until the early part of December. They were usually noted as solitary birds, but one flock of 15 was observed on December 2.

Pintail (*Dafila acuta tzitzihoa*).—Ranks next to the mallard in point of numbers. The proportion was not so marked in spring, but at the height of the fall migration large flocks were seen constantly. Because of their preference for more open water these birds do not feed in the timber to the same extent as do the mallards. Early in November a feature of each morning was the large flocks of pintails to be seen flying south, generally maintaining a perfect formation.

Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*).—When I arrived at the club in the fall, the wood duck was almost the only member of the Anatidae present, but it was so plentiful as to make up for the temporary absence of other species. These birds appear to feed to a considerable extent on the seeds of the lotus (yawknot), and the areas covered by this plant soon become the gathering grounds for large numbers of birds. At the Sanganois Club they are most carefully protected and encouraged because of the fact that they serve as natural decoys for the other wildfowl. Many nest boxes are put up and the club imposes a fine of \$5 upon any member who may kill one accidentally.

Redhead (*Marila americana*).—Not seen by me either in fall or spring, but they have been reported on two or three occasions in spring.

Canvasback (*Marila valisneria*).—Although this used to be one of the principal game birds at the Sanganois Club, it is rarely seen now,

due either to the destruction of its natural food by carp or to a change in its route of migration. The latter reason receives credence among sportsmen. I saw three on March 18 and a flock of 25 on November 23.

Lesser Scaup (*Marila affinis*).—Common in spring, particularly on the Illinois River. A few were also encountered on some of the larger sloughs, but their center of abundance was near the docks at Browning, where they obtained the offal thrown out from the fish market. In fall they were decidedly rare. Three females were noted at one trap on October 16, one was seen on the 21st and another on November 16.

Ring-necked Duck (*Marila collaris*).—Plentiful in March but not seen at all in the fall. On March 18, I examined a "raft" composed mainly of this species, which I estimated to contain 3,000 birds. They are found on the sloughs more frequently than the lesser scaup, resulting in their local name of "timber blackjack."

Golden-eye (*Glaucionetta c. americana*).—Seen on three different days, all in spring, two on March 2, three on the 3d, and two on the 19th.

Buffle-head (*Charitonetta albeola*).—A flock of ten "butter-balls" flew over the club house on March 3, the only time this species was observed there.

Canada Goose (*Branta c. canadensis*).—Geese were heard on October 18, and on the 20th three flocks were observed flying over, the largest numbering about 75 birds.

Snow Goose (*Chen h. hyperboreus*).—Snow geese are almost unknown in this vicinity so I was much surprised to learn of a flock (estimated at 150 birds) that was observed on Crane Lake on October 27.

Washington, D. C., October 19, 1923.

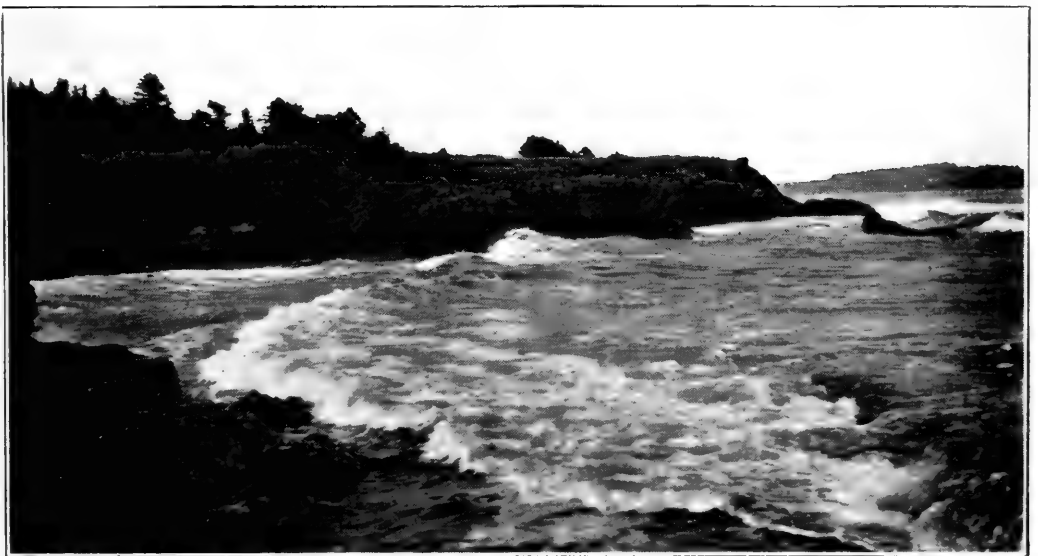


Photo by Ruthven Deane

SCARBORO BEACH, MAINE

The Case of Bob-white

By PAUL B. RIIS

MUCH interest has been centered upon quail in recent months, due to efforts of bird lovers in many parts of the country to accord this game bird the legal protection of song birds.

Each new effort is followed by the sportsmen with a call to organize to frustrate these attempts that would deprive them of one of their most important game birds. Each appeal is being accompanied with the statement that Gilbert Pearson, President of the National Audubon Societies, has declared quail a game bird pure and simple and not a song bird.

Dr. E. W. Nelson, of the Bureau of Biological Survey, United States Department of Agriculture, also held that quail should remain in the game bird list with reasonable allowance for hunting seasons and an occasional closed year when found necessary.

It would seem that every effort of bird lovers is destined to be futile in the face of such statements from our highest authorities in the land of bird-lore; at least, the sportsmen use these relentlessly in their arguments.

It is not a matter of record but rather of conjecture, that both of these gentlemen made the statements with keen regrets but in keeping with the existing facts. For does not your own heart quicken at the recollection of your childhood home, where the notes of Bob-bob-white gladdened its fields and meadows with its cadence of assurance? Or is not its cheery call in the sweet fragrance of meadows greater compensation over and above the victory-flushed moment, when a huddled mass of feathers falls to your aim, the little body torn and forever stilled in silent death?

The State of Ohio has given quail the legal protection accorded song birds since 1915. Sportsmen have made much capital of this fact, especially so, since reports from unauthentic sources brand the experiment a flat failure. Much of their case is being built around the Ohio experience. But the evidence, systematically supported by reliable census takers from all parts of the state, and compiled by Eugene Swope, Field Agent for the State, and submitted in his annual report to the National Audubon Societies, puts quail protection in an entirely different light, one from which the sportsmen should also profit. Mr. Swope states:

“Early in 1915, some of the Ohio conservationists and agriculturists were instrumental in having the Bob-white legally classed with all protected birds of the state. Ohio bird census takers, reporting Christmas observations to *Bird-Lore* six weeks prior to the enactment of this law,

do not mention even one Bob-white in their lists. Now it may be only a meaningless coincidence, but every Ohio Christmas census since 1914 mentions Bob-whites. It would seem that the birds are more numerous since they are not hunted. It is also likely that they are less shy and census takers find them in the open, when formerly hunting dogs were necessary to get them out. In every part of the state where conditions are at all suited to Bob-white's welfare, observing people declare that their numbers yearly increase."

A Christmas Census Report from the State of Ohio for the year 1915, taken by fourteen observers shows but 14 birds enumerated and those were all counted by one observer, making an average of one bird per observer. The 1922 census from the same state and over widely separated parts by seventeen observers yielded 850 birds or 50 birds to the observer. It is but fair to note that only twelve of the seventeen observers reported quail.

Please take note that the above report was made by Mr. Swope in all fairness, omitting nothing that might be construed to cloud the issue. Since the sportsmen's methods had been used prior to 1915 in Ohio, precipitating drastic quail protection there, then it follows that their logic is faulty somewhere along the line. If no more than the natural increase had been taken, protective measures would not have been necessitated.

This manifestly is not the case. The inroads made by civilization make life for many wild species precarious. Shooting in no wise increases vanishing flocks. The restoration and strict protection under natural conditions, however, will accomplish just such results as shown in Ohio.

The case of Bob-white, however, differs materially from that of all other game birds. Its field of labor places the bird at the head in a list of beneficial birds. Its diet consists of untold quantities of weed seeds and tons of injurious insects. It is aptly termed the farmer's best friend. Alive and active, its value to agriculture is many times in excess of its gastronomic value "en casserole."

Under natural conditions Bob-white found ample food and ample cover. Natural enemies checked its undue spread. Cover protected it from its enemies. Today's food supply is still ample or even greater. The fields are ravished by unchecked hordes of insects. Its enemies have greatly decreased, but the decrease has not been proportional with the greater decrease of natural protective cover. Then comes the hunter, who in a measure, makes up the decrease in natural enemies. Thus poor Bob-white is now exposed on three sides.

Common sense dictates a policy of strictest protective conservation in the case of Bob-white, particularly so in its game-bird status. Sportsmen the country over have everything to gain in supporting the efforts of bird lovers, who are not interested in the species from a standpoint

of personal gain, as found in recreative shooting and pounds of wild meat. Concerted action with these to effect protective measures, such as restocking of depleted areas, cover planting, winter feeding, long closed seasons, will primarily accrue to the sportsmen's benefit, as did the closed season on spring shooting.

Here is a splendid opportunity for bird lovers and sportsmen to get together in a common cause that will benefit them mutually. But would it be fair to ask the sportsmen to forego their pleasures without compensating them in measure greater than found in the protection of the present game laws? Should not the bird lover, individually or collectively, lend his efforts and combine forces with the sportsmen in an active and constructive program that will safeguard Bob-white from its natural enemies, by providing for it much needed natural cover? *Suppressio veri suggestio valsi.*

Plan to Save the Ducks

Audubon Society Would Make Bird Sanctuary of the Proposed Gulf Coast Shooting Club

From National Association of Audubon Societies, 1974 Broadway, New York.

NEW YORK, Nov. 27th.—Out of the storm of protest against the plan of E. A. McIlhenny and his associates to establish a gigantic hunting club in the midst of the Louisiana Wild Life Sanctuaries there has evolved a definite and constructive proposition for saving the wild fowl of that region from the guns of the hunters and at the same time protecting against loss those who invested in the Louisiana Gulf Coast Club.

This plan is brought forward by T. Gilbert Pearson, President of the National Association of Audubon Societies, who sees the possibilities for establishing one vast, solid chain of sanctuaries in the great territory of the Louisiana Coast where wild fowl winter. He dreams of a bird reservation extending from Cote Blanche Bay westward to the Mermentau River, a territory about 80 miles in length and from 10 to 15 miles in width.

“This plan concerning which I have been in correspondence with Mr. McIlhenny for some weeks,” said Mr. Pearson today, “contemplates the purchase of the 100,000 acre tract on which the Club has option, and adding it to the adjoining wild life sanctuaries.

“It was through Mr. McIlhenny's efforts originally that Mrs. Russell Sage and the Rockefeller Foundation purchased as bird reservations great territories in that region and Mr. McIlhenny states that he was very anxious to place the remaining territory in sanctuary, but saw

no means of getting the funds to do this. He declares that his present efforts to establish a hunting club in the region was his second choice and that he has been doing this in order that the wild fowl which came there so abundantly in winter might have a measure of protection which private game preserves usually afford.

"This being the case," continued Mr. Pearson, "there appears to be no logical reason why he and his associates should not be willing to sell the territory for reservation purposes. I know of one gentleman who tentatively approached Mr. McIlhenny on the subject some months ago and offered personally to be responsible for a sum of not less than \$50,000 toward the purchase price. This party has recently indicated to me his willingness to 'take off his coat and work for raising a fund to buy the land if it can be purchased at a reasonable price,' and there are others interested."

Mr. Pearson, who has personally examined much of the territory in this part of Louisiana, states, "I have reason to believe that a considerable portion of this proposed club property is at present unsuitable for ducks, but could doubtless be made a great haven for them by certain dredging and diking operations. On other parts of the territory wild fowl occur in myriads.

"Here and there in the marsh are ridges where cattle are run and where the soil is cultivated. If the land should be purchased and presented to the State of Louisiana as a wild life reservation I think the state would be glad to accept it. Furthermore, it is possible that an income might be derived by grazing and farming privileges on the ridges that would be quite sufficient to pay the running expenses of guarding the territory.

"If the people in this country can be made sufficiently interested to purchase this, and one other smaller tract of land, we will have a continuous wild fowl sanctuary of far greater extent than exists anywhere on this continent. It is the natural winter home of vast numbers of those waterfowl that annually swarm down the Mississippi Valley from Canada upon the approach of cold weather, and a reservation of this extent would be one of the most valuable moves that could be made toward preserving in numbers many species of our persecuted wild waterfowl."

NOTICE

*If you have any good bird news, send it in to the
Editor*

The A. O. U. Meeting

THE Forty-First Stated Meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union was held October 9-11 at Cambridge, Mass.

Chicago was well represented both in attendance and on the program. Those present from Chicago were—

Mr. Ruthven Deane

Mr. William I. Lyon

Miss Catharine A. Mitchell

Mrs. Lotta A. Cleveland

Mr. Nathan Leopold, Jr.

Mr. T. E. Musselman, a member of the Illinois Audubon Society, from Quincy, Ill., also attended the meeting.

Miss Mitchell spoke on the Status of Sanibel Island, Fla., as a State Bird Preserve, and Mr. Lyon gave his experiences in bird banding.

Next year the A. O. U. meeting will be held in Pittsburgh, Pa., and it is hoped that many more will attend from Chicago and vicinity.

Third National Conference on State Parks

THE Third National Conference on State Parks met at Turkey Run, Indiana, on May 7, 8, and 9, and there were one hundred and fifty delegates in attendance from twenty-two states. They had three days of sessions as enthusiastic as the sessions the birds were holding among the blossoms of the dogwoods and the redbuds, among the hemlocks and tulip trees, and the rocks and ferns of Turkey Run. Reports of problems and progress in all the states were discussed from every angle, and helpful suggestions and resolutions are now on the way back, all over the country, to everyone interested in the protection of our native landscapes.

The Drainage of the Upper Mississippi Bottoms

AGAIN the conservationist is confronted with a well-meant drainage project, primarily aimed to release useless lowlands and swamps that they may be made into tillable agricultural lands. The project is practically identical with all others that have been carried out in years past for the reclamation of sloughs, marshes, ponds, and lakes into fertile acres. The outcome of this, it has been predicted by those who are in a position to know, will also prove as flat a failure as have other similar drainage schemes of the past.

The project, however, differs this time from other drainage programs in its magnitude, as it involves a territory of more than 300 miles in length. The proposed area to be drained is that of the Upper Mississippi Bottoms, reaching from Lake Pepin, Minn., to Rock Island, Ill.

Seven million dollars have been pledged toward the work by land operators. The next National Congress will be asked to appropriate another fourteen million.

Wisconsin and Iowa are the states most vitally affected if this scheme goes through. For a beginning it is proposed to drain a strip of land on the east side of the river, between Lynxville and De Soto, a distance of twenty miles and known as the Winneshiek Bottoms. Unfortunately this work has been authorized by the War Department and sanctioned by Wisconsin Courts. The affected area covers about 14,000 acres on the Wisconsin side and 15,000 more on the Iowa side, that will also be drained shortly.

According to Dr. A. L. Bakke, of the Iowa State College of Agriculture, who has made an exhaustive study of the region, the land about to be drained is useless for farming purposes and serves humanity far better in its present state. He estimates that for fish alone its present value is \$1.00 per foot water frontage.

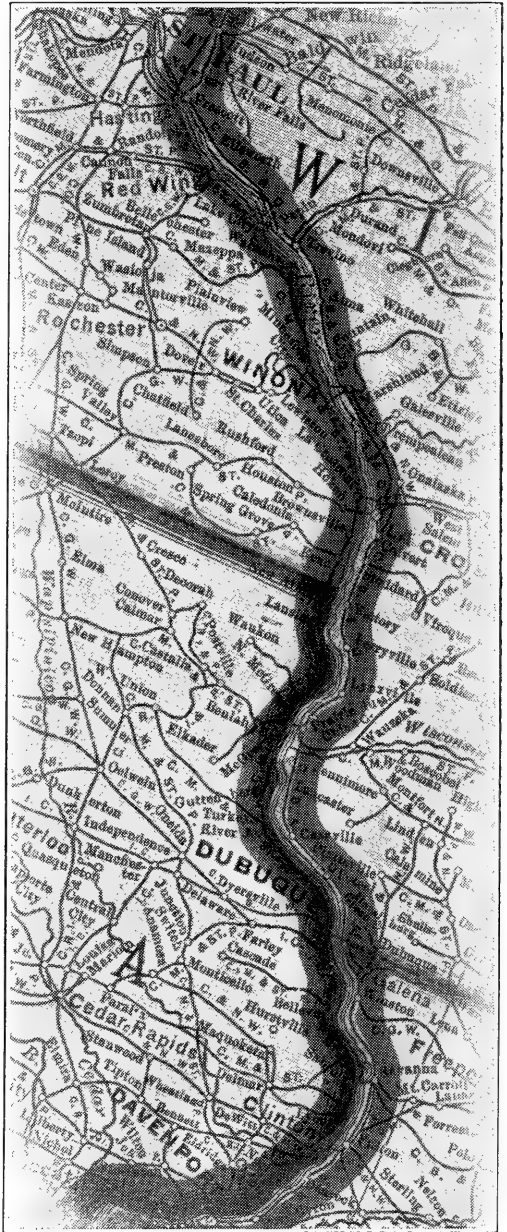
To the student of bird life this region is of particular interest. The Mississippi Valley is one of America's most important highways of bird migration, one which makes possible an easy flight from Central and South America via the Gulf of Mexico to large territories adjacent to the valley and to regions far beyond its headwaters, into Canada and the Arctic. Untold thousands of wild waterfowl are produced on these shallow waters while untold millions find the marsh lands invaluable retreats, assuring a safe journey, north or south. Practically all of the best duck food plants in the United States, such as wild rice, coontail, wild celery, duckweeds, pondweeds, and many other water plants are found growing here. The many advantages of so wide a character make the Bottoms a paradise incomparable to many aquatic game birds, waders, and insectivorous song birds. It would be hard indeed to find another range more richly blessed with a greater variation of bird life. Thus we note among the migrants and nesting birds, grebes, loons, gulls, terns, cormorants, ducks, geese, swans, herons, cranes, rails, gallinules, phalaropes, snipe, plover, hawks, cuckoos, kingfishers, woodpeckers, goatsuckers, swifts, humming birds, flycatchers, blackbirds, jays, orioles, sparrows, finches, swallows, vireos, warblers, wrens, thrushes, and bluebirds.

Here the birds also find the many protective elements so necessary during the migratory flight: food, water, cover, range, and sanctuary. The diversity of its terrain is particularly favorable to many species as nesting and breeding grounds. In its new status, however, the birds will be robbed of these natural advantages; the valleys no longer

will shelter and feed the millions that for ages have followed its course. They will be forced to seek other ranges for food and shelter at the expense of other occupants. Hardships and deprivation will be their lot henceforth. No longer will the erstwhile manna-strewn highway permit of easy migratory stages nor offer protection to those who pass there the most important period of life, the mating and nesting season. Its converted meagre farm lands will be unable to support the varied bird life dependent on them, nor can the lowlands and bottoms aid untold millions to reach safely their destination.

Said a land promoter to me recently: "The conversion of marshes into fertile agricultural lands justifies wholesale drainage. Furthermore, if you were to pay taxes on useless swamps, it could not be drained too quick to suit you." The point is very well taken, brother, were it not for the fact that you bought these worthless lands voluntarily and speculatively. We cannot be asked to sympathize with you on this self-imposed task.

There are other economic reasons why this area should not be drained. Its value as converted farm lands will be less than that in its present condition. An estimate made by the Bureau of the Biological Survey of the United States places the annual fish production in the land-locked waters at twelve million pounds. Reams have been written on their value as breeding grounds for all warm water food and game fishes or as breeding grounds of small fur bearers who find congenial habitat in the territory. Flood control, stabilizing of water levels and consequential conservation of soil productivity, its recreational value to the nation are each and every one weighty enough reasons why the Upper Mississippi Bottoms must not be



WINNESHIK BOTTOMS

drained. The Izaak Walton League and many other conservation bodies throughout the United States have risen in protest against this drainage project. They have asked Senator Medill McCormick to present to the next National Congress a bill authorizing the United States Government to set aside the islands and bottom lands as a National Reservation for recreational purposes. A word to your Senator or Congressman will assure him of the course to follow.

Trapping and Banding the Tree-Climbing Birds

THERE is a way to trap everything if you can only figure it out. Trapping and banding the tree-climbing birds at first appeared to be a very difficult proposition. The moment the birds would strike any obstruction they would fly away; so we began to try a number of different schemes of forming something around the tree so that as they climbed up the tree it would bring them into a trap. The only way one can be sure is to make an effort to place something and then watch and see how it affects the birds as they approach the trap. In the attempt to make a successful tree trap this

one was changed from fifteen to twenty-five times before we had one that was successful. Our first birds trapped were a few Brown Creepers, but when we attempted to take them out of the trap they escaped, until we finally found it was necessary to make arrangements so we could drive them into a receiving cage. Next, we were shocked and surprised to see the Brown Creepers go through $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch mesh wire. On capturing our first Creeper we found our Number One band would have to be lapped a little bit so that they could not slip their long, slim foot through the band.

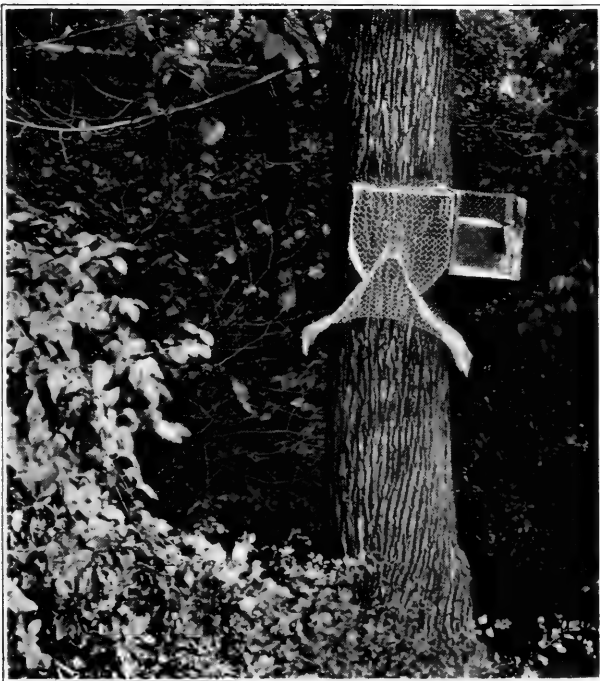


Photo by Wm. I. Lyon

TREE TRAP

A little later we were successful in making an unusual record by getting a few Black and White Creeping Warblers and found that they were very gentle and quiet if you held them a few moments quietly and stroked and petted them.

They would sit on your hand long enough to have their pictures taken.

We were successful in getting two Hairy Woodpeckers last fall in this trap; and this spring and this fall we took a number of Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers. Finally, in September and October, the Brown Creepers came back; and by careful watching and making more changes in the traps we finally got the successful model, and one

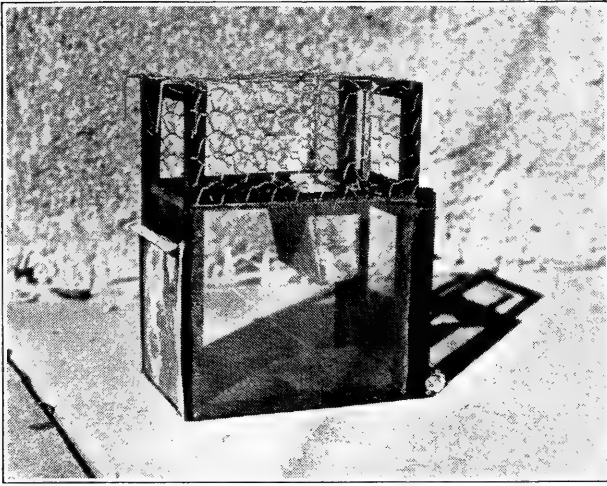


Photo by Wm. I. Lyon

RECEIVING BOX

day found ten Brown Creepers in one trap when we first took it down in the morning.

During the rest of that day we were successful in getting twelve more, so it made twenty-two Brown Creepers in one day, but we found there were a few more changes necessary in the receiving box of the trap; so we moved it again and now we are ready to show you what we call our 1924 model of Woodpecker trap.

The first illustration shows how it is placed around the tree but does not show the important feature that the opposite side begins much farther down the tree and comes up on a slant; that is, we noticed if the birds came up against an obstruction like a piece of wire crosswise to the tree they would fly away, but if it was on a slant they would keep away, but still continue up the tree on the far side, which

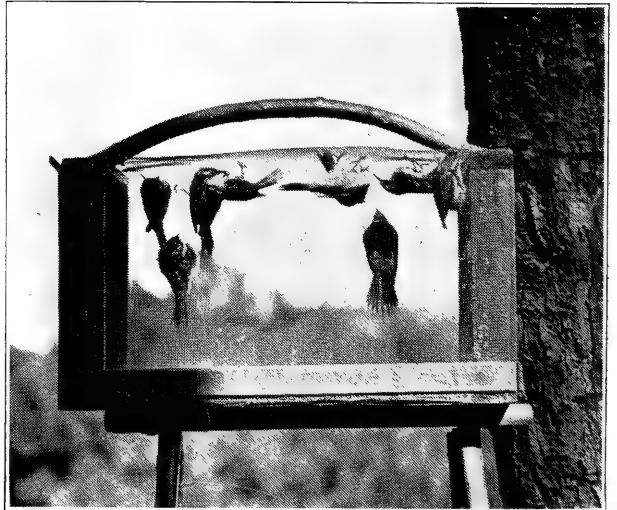


Photo by Wm. I. Lyon

BROWN CREEPERS

(The illustration shows the catch in a carrying cage, which is the largest number of Brown Creepers we ever had assembled at any one time.)



Photo by Wm. I. Lyon

BLACK AND WHITE WARBLER

would eventually bring them into the point of the funnel, taking them into the upper part of the trap. When they reached the top of the trap, there was an opening into the receiving box which appeared to have free access to the outside world; and when the bird attempted to fly through this it would come up against a piece of glass and while fluttering against the glass, would slide down the shute into the receiving box below. The receiving box is detachable so it may be taken down to conveniently handle the birds in banding. By close observation in the second picture you will notice the glass and the shute. The glass is 8x10 inches. The outside measurements of the trap are 12 inches long by 15 inches high and 10 inches wide. This leaves one inch of wood each side of an eight-inch glass and the upper deck has an opening of five inches, so that the ten-inch glass is five inches above and five inches below the floor in the upper part of the receiving box. We hope you will be able to follow this description and make a Woodpecker trap so that you may do some banding about your own place.

An interesting little stranger that comes to us each fall is the Tufted Titmouse. Last year was our first experience and we had just two of them in our traps. This fall again we have had two so far and they have been very interesting birds; one has repeated three or four times and we find that he is much more of a scrapper than the Chickadee ever thought of being. He bites and kicks and scratches all the time that he is in your hand, but by petting him considerably, we finally got him to sit still long enough to have his picture taken. The main part of getting him to sit still was to keep him from picking at your finger;



Photo by Wm. I. Lyon

TUFTED TITMOUSE

he seemed to be more interested in that than in escaping, but between times we were able to get one or two good pictures of him and thought it might interest you to get a good look at this shy bird.

The Fox Sparrow is again proving to be a regular boarder; so far this year there are three of them that have stayed behind the others and they are in the traps at least two times every day right along. Do you remember back in one of the other Bulletins we told you about the one that stayed all winter and was trapped 165 times? That record is likely to be broken by these three regular boarders.

During the fall we trapped another large number of White-throated Sparrows and the total number we have banded is over 1,000; of this large number and also of the number that the other bird-banders have succeeded in trapping there seems to be no returns on migratory points, yet Mr. S. Prentiss Baldwin has had repeated returns since 1916 up to 1923 at his banding station at Thomasville, Georgia, and this little group of birds that come to him every year occupy a certain portion of the shrubbery about the house and are seldom found in one of the other traps that are only a few hundred feet away. Mr. Baldwin has had returns from this little group continually during the past six years, yet he seems to be the only one successful with these birds. We hope we will be able to solve the mystery before long.

—W. I. LYON.

An Early Bird Day

A SUCCESSFUL bird-day program was given by the children of Carbondale, Ill., March 8, 1923. It was given under the auspices of the civic department of the Carbondale Woman's Club, which had offered prizes for the best bird-houses built by children.

Great interest was shown by the children, who tried to make the houses practical, sanitary, and beautiful; still, the real thing they considered was "will the bird for which I am building this house come to live in it?"

Several days before the program was given, the bird-houses were put on exhibit in the show windows of a book store. It was interesting to hear the comments made by the children who crowded around the windows.

Such remarks as these were heard, "Isn't that a pretty house?" "Huh? No bird would come to that house; it's too bright." "There's no way to get into that house to clean it."

Although it was a rainy day, nearly twelve hundred children gathered to hear the program. It consisted of old-fashioned recitations, readings, and bird songs.

After this came the exciting part—the awarding of the prizes. Each child came back for his own bird-house saying, “I want to put it up early so the birds will build in it; next year I shall try again and see if I can build a better house.”

—FLORENCE R. KING,
Bird Club, Sec’y, Carbondale, Ill.

Notes From Port Byron

AFTER an absence of three years, the yellow-breasted chat returned again to this locality, and was heard singing, the first time on June 10, the last time on August 19. No Bell’s vireo was seen or heard here this year.

In my bird notes which were published in last year’s Fall Bulletin, I told about the cliff swallow nests being ruined by some bird, and blamed the great horned owls. Last spring the mystery was solved when we caught a red-headed woodpecker in the act of pecking holes in the nests. The red-heads are quite a nuisance here but as there are many acorns this year, many of them will remain over winter.

I have a few late dates of “last seen or heard” for this year. A rose-breasted grosbeak was singing in the garden on the morning of September 30. A whip-poor-will was heard calling on the evening of September 27, and the same evening a vesper sparrow was heard singing. A ruby-throated humming bird was seen for the last time September 23. A cat bird was heard singing the whisper song on the morning of October 9. A red-eyed or Philadelphia vireo was heard singing October 14.

Migratory birds first seen or heard this fall by the writer, were as follows:

Solitary sandpiper, August 5
Marsh hawk, August 17
Sora rail, August 18
Night hawk, August 16
Blue heron, August 24
Yellow-bellied sapsucker, September 1
Winter wren, September 2
Blue-headed vireo, September 3
Slate-colored junco, September 5

Fox sparrow, September 7
Henslow’s sparrow, September 14
Hermit thrush, September 14
Ruby-crowned kinglet, September 14
White-throated sparrow, September 22
Myrtle warbler, September 26
Rough-legged hawk, September 30
Brown creeper, September 30

—J. J. SCHAFER.

The Bronzed Grackles’ Frolic

THE largest flock of grackles I ever saw alighted on my lawn to enjoy a bath under a fine-sprayed sprinkler then in action. There must have been between sixty and seventy birds in the flock. They seemed perfectly happy and frolicsome, running here and there, jumping up a few feet, having mock battles, and never still for a moment.

A torn piece of a bright red rubber bathing cap happened to lie on the grass, wet and shiny from the water. One bird would take hold of it and start to run, another some ten feet away would run and grab it, other birds would follow suit, and the big war commenced. They would finally tire of it, but another relay would seize it and have their share of fun.

Some were acrobatic in their frolic. A large beech tree with slender, pendulous branches within a foot of the ground, stood near them. The birds would give flying jumps and light on the tips, which, bending with their weight, brought them to the ground. The branches had hardly resumed their natural position before they were on them again.

They seemed to enjoy themselves so much that I wished I was a bird, tail, feathers and all.

At the feeding table was a mother grackle feeding its noisy child, who, like Oliver Twist, was always crying for more. The mother grackle would eat four or five grains of chicken feed and then give the babe one grain, returning to her four or five grains before her offspring received its single portion. She was evidently teaching her young that eating slowly aids digestion.

—WILLIAM C. EGAN.

A Good Samaritan

ON a cold night in late fall, the wind was howling about the house saying, "Winter is coming;" but we were all tucked snugly in bed and thought not of the poor, out-of-door children who were not prepared for the early cold weather.

When I awoke the next morning, the ground was lightly covered with snow. I started out for a walk to enjoy the fresh cool air, when, not far from the house, I heard the peep of a bird; and, going in that direction, I found a Robin half frozen, lying in the snow. I picked him up and carried him to the house where he was placed in a basket in some soft wool. After a few moments he was able to move about and soon began to eat the crumbs which were placed near. He lived in the house with us all winter; but when spring came and his relatives returned from the South, my Robin was eager to join them and soon disappeared with the rest of the birds. I saw nothing more of him until one day in the fall; while standing on the porch I heard a flutter of wings near, and turning saw my Robin, who alighted on my shoulder for several minutes for a farewell visit. He soon left for the South with the other birds. This happened six years ago; but every spring my Robin comes back and I meet him on the porch and feed him from my hand.

—ALICE ZARECK,

1522 5th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

The Flickers' Dance

TWO flickers stood on the lawn some three feet apart, facing each other. Suddenly they commenced nodding their heads up and down in a dignified, rhythmical unity, continuing some four or five times; and then, holding their heads up as high as they could, they turned their beaks sidewise but still pointed upward and held them there rigidly for a few seconds, when they resumed their nodding, again throwing up their heads and beaks.

Sometimes the beaks were turned to the right and then to the left. At times one beak would point to the right and the other to the left, and sometimes both pointed the same way.

They repeated this stunt some five times, when they disappeared in the woods, where, I presume, Mr. Flicker treated Mrs. Flicker to an ice cream cone.

—WILLIAM C. EGAN.

Favorite Lake for Birds Saved to Minnesota

SWAN LAKE, a valuable and unusual body of water about 10,500 acres in area, located in Nicollet County, Minn., has been saved to the State through the efforts of the State Game and Fish Commissioners, the Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture and landowners and local conservationists of the region. A movement to lower the level of the lake four feet, eventually draining it entirely, was successfully opposed and defeated at two hearings after an examination of the wild fowl and food plant value of the lake had been made by three representatives of the Biological Survey.

In deciding this case the District Court in Minnesota laid emphasis on the great importance to the public welfare of such bodies of water as Swan Lake. Its favorable location, its relatively shallow fresh water, and its abundant growth of vegetation suitable for cover, nesting sites, and food have made it an attractive resort for many kinds of waterfowl. Its margins and wooded islands are a valuable asset in the conservation not only of game birds but also of insectivorous birds useful to farmers. Among the water birds that breed on the lake are several species of ducks, including mallards, blue-winged teal, redheads, lesser scaup, and ruddy ducks; sora rails, Florida gallinules, American coots, four species of grebes, black terns, and black-crowned night-herons are also common.

At least 50 kinds of plants valuable as food for water birds grow in this lake, including practically all the best duck food plants of the United States. There is also an abundance of fresh-water snails of several species liked by water birds. Lowering the level of this lake materially would eventually cause the disappearance of its present kind of vegetation and gradually destroy its value as a waterfowl resort.

Items From Decatur

THE Decatur Bird and Tree Club has elected the following officers:

President—MR. C. W. MONTGOMERY

Vice-President—MRS. H. D. SPENCER

Secretary—MISS RINNIE BEAN

Treasurer—MRS. C. A. IMBODEN

Junior Superintendent—MRS. BENJAMIN BACHRACH

Every Saturday a different school publishes its bird notes in the evening paper. Never yet has any school contribution been without its bird news. The schools are affiliated with the Bird and Tree Club. The Welfare Home is a school for delinquent girls. The schools co-operate with our homes for civic responsibilities.

Here are a few of the amusing and interesting things that happen to a bird lover:

Finding dead birds on her doorstep.

Children bringing sick and injured birds.

One brought a baby English sparrow carefully tended in a box. (You can imagine what happened when the child left.)

Inquiries come every day during the spring migration describing birds that never existed and only could in the imagination of one unfamiliar with birds.

Request to band a lame waterbird.

Request to band a caged canary.

The older boys come to ask about game laws, and the children absorb every word of the stories that are told them about the birds and the necessity for their protection and conservation.

Children come from all over the city to see the bird houses and learn how to make and place them. Many people ask about bird fountains, ask to borrow field glasses, and request information as to how to present the bird work before the State Parent-Teacher's Convention.

I try to find time for everyone interested, no matter how urgent other duties may be.

—ELEANORE S. BACHRACH.

At the Forks of the Road: Real Preservation or Annihilation

TO ALL EDITORS:

Permit me to say to you, speaking briefly and without noting exceptions, that the American people of the 48 states are guilty of great folly in permitting their game birds and mammals to be slaughtered as game-slaughter now is going on. If you cannot believe this now, twenty years hence your sons *will* believe it, and regret it. The turning point has arrived.

The causes of the present wicked and foolish destruction are by no means obscure. (1) The slaughter of game is ordered and regulated by a very small minority, always consisting of hunters. (2) The many millions of good men and women who do not shoot, and do not kill "game," are as a mass ignorant, or heedless, or deadly apathetic. (3) Of the 5,500,000 men who annually kill game, about 90 per cent are heedless of the rights of wild creatures, and merciless toward game to the full extent of the law and of their ability to kill. (4) The other 10 per cent, consisting of humane and conscientious sportsmen, either try to lull their own fears to sleep by cultivating optimism (of a deadly kind), or else they do not feel impelled to become active reformers.

The non-migratory game species,—bob-white, quail, grouse, prairie chicken, wild turkey, squirrels, and deer, all are going to hell, through wicked engines of destruction, deadly bag limits and outrageous open seasons, aided by much illegal shooting. *Now the deadly automobile has added fifty per cent to the perils of the game:*

If you cannot awaken and arouse the millions of American voters who do not kill game, then we may as well give up this fight; for a majority of the hunters never will voluntarily give up 50 per cent of their killing privileges so long as killable game remains.

—WILLIAM T. HORNADAY.

News From Lake Decatur

RESTRICTIONS of boating to certain parts of the lake which will be reserved for the undisturbed possession of the ducks and geese when they start the fall migration to the south and stop at Decatur on their long journey, are being planned by the game wardens and others interested in having the wild waterfowl protected and made welcome on Lake Decatur. Five teal were seen on the lake Friday.

The open season on ducks and geese starts Sunday, September 16, and runs until December 31 and the need of reserving a section or so of the lake as an undisturbed resting grounds for the birds is being considered by those who take particular interest in having the wild waterfowl stay here as long as they can be induced to stay.

BOATING NEARLY OVER

"Boating as such will not amount to anything from this time on," said a man who is connected with the lake activities.

"Just as soon as the temperature drops here, boating interest languishes. We are not acclimated to cold days on the water."

For this reason it is not believed that any rulings about reserving sections of the lake for the exclusive play and resting grounds of the birds will cause much inconvenience.

A few fishermen may want to row about to places not otherwise accessible, but it is believed that these will be few.

Hunters are forbidden by the state to shoot on the lake; and birds are safe there at all times as far as lawful shooting is concerned, for the lake is under the specific care of the state game and fish department as a reserve or refuge.

If the hunters will obey this ruling, they will find that the birds will come in great numbers to the lake and will fly out into the fields and along neighboring water courses to feed, when the hunter will have his chance.

WARDENS TO ENFORCE LAW

The game wardens have served notice that the rule about shooting on the lake must be observed. The open season rule never applies to the lake itself. It is closed at all seasons to any kind of shooting.

The movement to keep even boatmen away from certain parts of the lake so that the birds may be wholly undisturbed is just along the line followed last spring when the birds became so friendly and tame in the area near the county bridge.

PENALTY HEAVY

The penalty for violations of the section of the act protecting the game preserves is a fine of not less than \$50 nor more than \$200, or imprisonment in the county jail for not less than thirty days nor more than sixty days, or both, in the discretion of the court.

With the public sentiment in this community so strong for the protection of the water fowl, the game wardens and other officials feel that their stand on enforcement of the law will be backed by both the people and the courts.

A Lecture Course and Correspondence Course in the Elements of Ornithology

THROUGHOUT New England there are many people who would like to study ornithology or at least take a first course in this science. This demand comes from members of bird clubs, ornithological clubs, the New England Bird Banding Association, etc. Few of our universities offer courses in this subject. To supply this need the New England Bird Banding Association has secured the services of Dr. Glover M. Allen, who will give a course in the Elements of Ornithology in Boston this coming winter. The Nuttall Ornithological Club, the Brookline Bird Club and the Essex County Ornithological Club have officially endorsed the project. Dr. Allen is an all-around naturalist,

President of the Nuttall Club, Secretary of the Boston Society of Natural History and a Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union.

The lectures will be ten in number and will be illustrated by lantern slides and study material. In addition, the lectures will be sent out to subscribers as a Correspondence Course. These lectures will treat the subject systematically, and while neither too technical nor too elementary, they will not be of a "popular" order. Those attending are expected to take full notes and at the close of the course to take a written examination, as are all those taking the Correspondence Course. A set of these lectures (100 pages or more) will constitute a valuable textbook on the subject.

At the close of Dr. Allen's course, an eleventh lecture will be given by Prof. Alfred O. Gross of Bowdoin College, for the purpose of indicating to bird-banders and bird-lovers how they can best assist the work in their respective fields.

The lectures will be delivered in the Lecture-room of the Boston Society of Natural History, corner Boylston and Berkeley streets, Boston, at 7:45 P.M., beginning Tuesday, January 8, and continuing on successive Tuesdays.

Price of Lecture Course	\$5.00
Price of Single Tickets75
Price of Correspondence Course	3.00

The promoters of this course are confident that those who take it will find an increased enjoyment in their field excursions and in bird-banding, and more important still, will gain an added appreciation of the great abundance of ornithological problems waiting to be solved, problems on one or more of which every bird-student should take delight in working. The New England Bird Banding Association offers this course not only for the pleasure it will give to bird-lovers but for the permanent profit to ornithology which it firmly believes will result from it. An application blank for the course is enclosed.

NEW ENGLAND BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION

Boston, Mass.

Laurence B. Fletcher, *Secretary*

50 Congress St., Room 941

IT is with great regret that we announce the sudden death at Philo, Illinois, on New Year's Eve, of Isaac Hess, the well-known ornithologist and an important contributor to the columns of this Bulletin. In the next issue of this Bulletin will appear a biographical sketch of his life, together with an appreciation of his scientific writings and of his contribution to the cause of protection of bird-life.

NEW ENGLAND BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION

Application for Lecture Course and Correspondence Course in Elements of Ornithology

Enclosed herewith is \$.....for.....

.....Subscriptions to Lecture Course.....at \$5.00

.....Subscriptions to Correspondence Course.....at \$3.00

Name..... Name.....

Address..... Address.....

Name..... Name.....

Address..... Address.....

Make checks PAYABLE to Charles B. Floyd, Treasurer, and SEND to L. B. Fletcher, Secretary, New England Bird Banding Association, Room 94I, 50 Congress Street, Boston 9, Mass.

Foundation Started for Public Shooting and Fishing Places

General assembly makes appropriation of one hundred thousand dollars. Movement started by the Illinois Sportsmen's League several years ago wins out. Will not cost taxpayers in general one cent. The Bill sponsored in House by one of our active and influential members

SENATE BILL NO. 68 AS AMENDED IN THE HOUSE

Provides as follows:

Section 1. There is appropriated to the Department of Agriculture, for Division of Game and Fish, the sum of \$100,000 for the following purposes:

For the purchase of lands in the northern, central and southern Illinois to be selected by and with the advice and consent of the Governor, for preserves for the breeding, hatching, propagation and conservation of game and fish.....\$50,000

For stocking such preserves and for breeding and hatching, propagating and conserving game and fish.....\$10,000

For conducting a campaign of education as to matters relating to fish culture and for constructing, equipping and maintaining three or more bass hatcheries.....\$40,000

Total.....\$100,000

Lord Grey's Bird Bill

IN the House of Lords yesterday the Committee stage of Viscount Grey's Bill for the protection of wild birds was completed. Though the Bill has been subjected to minor criticism and amendment, with the prospect of more alterations in the Report stage, little evidence was forthcoming in yesterday's debate to bear out Lord Crawford's contention on second reading that the Bill goes beyond the warrant of public sentiment. The Bill is intended to consolidate the confused state of the law about wild birds and to make it easier to administer. Discussion yesterday fastened, as might be expected, on the treatment of one or two species of birds which are often regarded as noxious and therefore not deserving of human protection. The Bill makes no mention of noxious birds as such, but it appears to leave sufficient means open to prevent any species from becoming a local plague.

Of the rarer British birds the Bill recognizes two categories—those which, with their nests and eggs, are to be protected at all times, and those which, with their eggs and nests, are to be protected only in a defined closed season. Towards the rights of both kinds of birds the public conscience has been for years growing more sensitive. The man who kills a rare bird simply because it is a rarity is now universally reprobated—humane opinion usually has no word bad enough for him; but rare birds have other enemies, none the less dangerous because they masquerade as servants of science. In the name of oology, which is, after all, only Greek for egg-collecting, a good many crimes are committed. A bird, frequent enough elsewhere, may be scarce and breed little in these islands; oologists, however, are often not content with a specimen of the egg, but insist that it shall be a home-laid egg—one, or several, perhaps, of only a few clutches laid in Great Britain. If the Bill discourages this particular form of egg-collecting, science will not suffer. In any case, there may justly be occasions where the interests of classificatory science ought to give way to those of life, the ornithologist's to the bird-lover's. It is as the lover of birds, their host and their entertainer, that Lord Grey appeals, as he has appealed before in public addresses and lectures, in this Bill, and there are many who would rather be assured, on hearsay alone, that such and such bird still breeds on our hills and shores than see a stuffed specimen, the last perhaps ever caught in England, through a glass in a museum. The future of many of the noble fauna of the earth, the irreplaceable products of æons of evolution, is bound to be doubtful as mankind advances upon their strongholds; the great cats, on account of their habits and conditions of life, may have but a few years before them and if they become extinct the blame will not wholly rest at man's door. But it is otherwise with the race of birds.

If men are imaginative enough and respectful enough of nature, if commerce and fashion can be humanized, there should be no reason why the bird life of these islands should not always remain rich and varied. It will be regrettable if Lord Grey's Bill fails, for want of time or other cause, to become law, because it agrees with the drift of opinion and harmonizes and tightens up the present rather unsatisfactory state of the law.

Birding in Autumn

When in autumn I go walking
Through the woods while birds I'm stalking,
Folks must wonder what I'm seeking
With my constant eager peeking.

If they knew the fun that's in it,
They would scarcely wait a minute
When they heard the redbird's whistle
Or saw goldfinch on a thistle;

Heard the song of chickadee
From the top of leafless tree;
Saw the red of downy's crown,
Nuthatch feeding upside down;

Friendly whitethroats on the ground
Black-bibbed juncos all around;
Hermit thrush in russet coat,
Brown tree sparrow's cheerful note.

Watch for cheeky scolding jay
Who will surely come your way;
Possibly you'll spy an owl
With its sober blinking jowl.

Come and try it, unbeliever;
Soon you too will have the fever.
Joy will be too great for words
When you learn to know the birds.

—O. M. S.

The Charm of Ravines

TO the uninitiated a ravine might well seem a place to be avoided. Steep sides, in rock formation frequently being almost or quite perpendicular, rough eroded bottoms generally crowded with a rank growth of vegetation, deep shade with perhaps a small stream or pools of water, all join to make physical objections to exploring ravines.

There are, however, many unique attractions in ravines that offset the objections and make of these deeply eroded portions of the landscape a source of pleasure to the lover of the out-of-doors, whether the quest is in search of trees, birds, wild flowers, insects, or animals.

Would you find maidenhair, fragile bladder or lady ferns, search first a ravine. If you would see rare wildflowers, and unusual trees and vines, a ravine will reveal not only many varieties but also a delightful perfection in those discovered. Plant life growing in ravines has many advantages over that growing in the level places: rich soil washed down from the sides or carried in by streams, shelter from the wind and the hot summer sun, protection from cattle and marauding people by reason of difficult access.

With these advantages it is also apparent why birds seek ravines for food, shelter, and nesting sites.

If you wish to find birds on a hot summer day, when apparently there are none about, go to the nearest ravine. If in winter you think there are no birds hardy enough to stand the cold, you will be surprised



Photo by Orpheus M. Schantz

SWALLOW BANK, PALOS PARK



Photo by Orpheus M. Schantz

MAPLE HILL RAVINE

and delighted to find numbers of birds feeding, and if you listen to their cheerful conversation you will discover that they are apparently quite comfortable, even in zero weather.

In many forested areas the surface is too level for ravine formation, but where the land is more broken or undulating, the ravines sink deeper and deeper and often are of such depth that the tops of tall trees do not reach the level of the rims.

The ravines on the shore of Lake Michigan north of Chicago, have long been famous for their treasures of plant life, and more recently, since the coming of the cardinal grosbeak to our region, they have furnished shelter for this hardy, year-round resident against the rigors of the wind-swept North Shore.

In the forest preserves at Chicago Heights is a deep ravine in which is found the only colony of buckeye trees in Cook County. An old ravine among the Palos Park hills has a wonderful growth of sugar maples, butternut, ironwood, and other interesting trees which are only found where the soil has reached a certain condition necessary to their requirements.

At the mouth of the Palos ravine is the famous swallow bank, where regularly each season a colony of bank swallows makes its summer home. This bank of loess is known to geologists and ornithologists.

To the geologist it tells a story of an ancient deposit of river silt under conditions that he understands, and it can be used as a chapter in his outdoor instruction book. To the bird lover the bank is of interest on account of the bank swallows, and the marvelous knowledge that they seem to possess as to its value to them as a nesting site.

The Sag ravine, not far from the junction of the Calumet drainage canal with the main drainage canal, within its short confines of stratified Niagara limestone, contains a bewildering company of plants, some of which are found nowhere else in Cook County, and are only found growing on rock surfaces. An approach to the ravine from the adjoining fields always disturbs robins and other birds that feed on wild fruits, for the ravine contains many plants bearing seeds or berries.

At Maple Hill station, on the Chicago-Joliet interurban, is the outlet of one of the finest ravines near Chicago. Here is a colony of wonderful, old, hard-maple trees that call to mind the "sugar bush" back east. Near the entrance on the west bank is a fine, lone specimen of the rare Blue Ash. In the wide fan-shaped mouth of the ravine stands one of the finest examples of the stratified hawthorn known in the region. Farther up the ravine there is a constantly increasing number of interesting plants. On the right bank is an ancient limestone boulder on whose accommodatingly pitted surface grow columbines, tiny ferns, and other rock-loving plants. On the steep sides grow maidenhair, lady and fragile bladder ferns, bloodroot, hepaticas, white baneberry, and many violets.

With all these attractions it is not strange that this ravine is a well-inhabited bird sanctuary. Here one can find the catbird, thrasher, scarlet tanager, great crested flycatcher, wood pewee, vireos, many sparrows, towhees, and the indigo bunting. In springtime the warblers stay until the very last minute of their schedule on account of the abundant supply of insects. In the narrow strip of lowland across the car line into which the ravine debouches, the character of the vegetation changes, and one may find jack-in-the-pulpit, green dragon, black and red haws, many members of the sun flower and wild lettuce families.

Spice bush, pawpaws, chestnut and shingle oaks, prickly ash, mulberry, soft and hard maples, cat briar and wild grapevines, many varieties of herbaceous plants, all contribute food and insects for the bird epicures. According to old settlers passenger pigeons formerly came to this region in great flocks, and every year flights of Bonaparte gulls may be seen following the course of the Desplaines River, drainage canal, and the old Illinois and Michigan canal, which here parallel each other only a short distance apart.

Over 7,000 acres of forest preserves are joined in the Mount Forest-Palos tracts. If sufficient control may be enforced against illegal shooting, this beautiful region with its many ravines may again harbor thousands of resident and migrant birds, as it no doubt did fifty or more years ago.

—ORPHEUS MOYER SCHANTZ.

The Department of Agriculture of the State of Massachusetts has issued many valuable bulletins which have to do with bird conservation.

Bulletin No. 112:

“Bird Houses and Nesting Boxes” contains 28 pages of text and illustrations which should be of great assistance to anyone desiring to provide homes for the birds.

Bulletin No. 117:

“Plants that Attract and Shelter Birds and Some that Protect Cultivated Fruits.”

In this bulletin there has been carefully compiled a list of plants that bear fruits, and it tells where they should be planted.

These bulletins may be purchased at 10 cents each from Illinois Audubon Society.

Are Birds Frightened or Injured Through Banding?

A WHITE-THROATED sparrow, after being trapped by Mr. Lyon, returned to the same trap and was caught eight times more on the same day.

A fox sparrow was trapped 165 times during a winter season, and scolded vociferously when taken out of the trap.

An immature male towhee was trapped over 100 times in 60 days.

There are a few accidents to birds in banding, but they are less than $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1%. The value of the information gained through banding is infinitely greater than that gained through collecting with a gun; and no birds are ever killed intentionally.



Photo by Ruthven Deane

OVERLOOKING SACO BAY, MAINE

Illinois Prairies in 1871

*Reprint from Introduction, Birds of Illinois,
by Robert Ridgway*

THE PRAIRIES. The author's personal acquaintance with the prairies, their vegetation and their fauna, is very limited. In his section of the State, there is no open or uncultivated prairie nearer to Mount Carmel than 25 miles, the nearest one being Allison's Prairie, opposite the city of Vincennes, Indiana.

In Jasper and Richland counties, prairies of considerable size occur. They are offshoots or arms of the Grand Prairie, although each particular arm or "bay" has its own distinctive name. A few miles west of Olney, Richland County, lies Fox Prairie; and to the southeast of this (the wooded bottoms of the Fox River and tributaries intervening) is Sugar Creek prairie. These two are the only prairies which the writer has explored ornithologically.

The first visit to Fox Prairie was made on the 8th of June, 1871, the writer and his companions arriving a little before noon. A rolling plain spread before us, the farther side bounded by timber, while the prairie itself was free from tree or brush, except where some intersecting stream was followed by a narrow line of thickets, interspersed with occasional fair-sized and gracefully formed elms; or along the edge, where the jungle of sumac, thorn-bushes, wild plum, hazel, etc., backed by young oak and hickory trees, showed plainly the encroachment of the woodland. Herds of horses and cattle scattered about over the prairie, and two or three neat farm houses, with their attendant orchards and cultivated ground, made us realize that we were yet within the bounds of comfortable civilization; otherwise, the landscape presented much of its primitive aspect. The day was a delightful one; for, although the heat ranged above 80°, the fresh prairie breeze tempered it to a delightful mildness. Resting upon the cool greensward in the shade of a large elm in the hollow, our ears were delighted by such a chorus of bird-songs as we have heard nowhere else. Among the leafy arches overhead the Baltimore Orioles whistled their mellow flute-like notes, accompanied by soft, contented warble and joyous carol of the Warbling and Red-eyed Vireos; the birds of the meadow were chanting on every hand their several ditties, while the breeze wafted to us the songs of various woodland species. In the scrubby jungle a Mocking-bird fairly filled the air with his rich medley of varied notes, the singer leaping in restless ecstasy from branch to branch, with drooping wings and spread tail, or flitting from tree to tree as he sang. A Brown Thrasher poured forth a ceaseless accompaniment as he sat perched sedately upon the summit of a small vine-canopied tree—a contrast in bearing to the

restive, sportive *Mimus*, his rival in vigor, and superior in sweetness, of song. Several Yellow-breasted Chats interpolated their loud cat-calls, vehement whistlings, and croaking notes. These three, loudest of the songsters, well nigh drowned the voices of the smaller birds; but in the brief intervals—"between the acts"—were heard the fine and sweet, though plaintive, song of the little Field Sparrow, the pleasant notes of the Chewink, the rich whistlings of the Cardinal, and the clear, proud call of Bob White. Upon proceeding to the thickets and thus interrupting the louder songsters, the wondrously strong and vehement notes of the "Chicky-beaver Bird" or White-eyed Vireo greeted us from the tangled copse, and soon a song we had never heard before—the gabbling, sputtering harangue of Bell's Vireo—attracted our attention and, of course, our interest. In the more open woods marking the border of the timber the several woodland species were noticed; there the Vermilion Tanager or Summer Red-bird warbled his Robin-like but fine and well-sustained song, the Blue-jays chuckled and screamed as they prowled among the branches, and gaudy Red-headed Woodpeckers flaunted their tri-colored livery as they sported about the trunks or occasional dead tree-tops.

On the open prairie, comparative quiet reigned. The most numerous bird there was "Dick Cissel" (*Spiza americana*), who monopolized the iron-weeds, uttering his rude but agreeable ditty with such regularity and persistence that the general stillness seemed scarcely broken; hardly less numerous Henslow's Buntings were likewise perched upon the weed-stalks, and their weak but emphatic *se-wick* sounded almost like a faint attempt at imitation of Dick Cissel's song. The grasshopper-like wiry trill of the Yellow-winged Sparrow; the meandering, wavering warble of the Prairie Lark (*Otocoris alpestris praticola*)—coming apparently from nowhere, but in reality from a little speck floating far up in the blue sky,—and the sweet "*peek—you can't see me*" of the Meadow-lark, completed the list of songs heard on the open prairie. Many kinds of birds besides those already described were seen, but to name them all would require too much space. We should not, however, omit to mention the elegant Swallow-tailed Kites, which now and then wheeled into view as they circled over the prairie, or their cousins and companions, the Mississippi Kites, soaring above them through the transparent atmosphere; nor must we forget a pair of croaking ravens who, after circling about for a short time over the border of the woods, flew away to the heavy timber in the Fox River bottoms.

Early in the following August we paid a second visit to the same spot, and found a material change in its aspect. A season of universal drought having passed, the prairie, which before was comparatively brown and sober in its coloring, was bedecked with flowers of varied hue. The Mocking-birds, Brown Thrashers, Chats, and most of the

other songsters, were silent, but the shrill screech of a large species of *Cicada* repeatedly startled us as we brushed against the weeds, while numerous grasshoppers were far more noisy than the birds. As we came well out on the prairie, however, a beautiful and unlooked-for sight appeared; in short, we were completely transfixed by the, to us, novel spectacle of numerous exquisitely graceful Swallow-tailed Kites floating about on bouyant wing, now gliding to the right or left, then sweeping in broad circles, and approaching so near that several were easily shot. Soaring lightly above them were many Mississippi Kites, of which one would now and then close its wings and plunge downward, as if to strike the very earth, but instantly checking the velocity of its fall by sudden spreading of the wings, would then shoot upward again almost to the height from which it had descended. When two or more passed one another at opposite angles—as frequently happened—the sight was beautiful in the extreme.

The total number of species observed during these two trips, within the bounds of the prairie itself, numbered about ninety-five on each occasion; while the surrounding woodlands, cultivated grounds and river bottoms added so many more, that a total of about one hundred and forty species were ascertained to, in all probability, breed upon an area five miles square, having for its centre the portion of the prairie where we made our investigations. Of this grand total, only twenty-five were water-birds, the remainder of one hundred and fifteen species of land-birds being, perhaps, as large a number of regular summer residents as any locality of equal extent in North America can boast.

A third visit to this prairie was made early in June, 1883—exactly twelve years after the first trip. The change which had taken place in the interval was almost beyond belief. Instead of an absolutely open prairie some six miles broad by ten in extreme length, covered with its original characteristic vegetation, *there remained only 160 acres not under fence*. With this insignificant exception, the entire area was covered by thriving farms, with their neat cottages, capacious barns, fields of corn and wheat, and even extensive orchards of peach and apple trees. The transformation was complete; and it was only by certain ineffaceable landmarks that we were able to identify the locality of our former visits. As a consequence, we searched in vain for the characteristic prairie birds. Upon the unenclosed tract of 160 acres—a common grazing ground for the herds of the neighborhood—Dick Cissels, Henslow's Buntings, Yellow-winged Sparrows, and the Meadow-larks were abundant as ever; and running in the road, now wallowing in the dust, then alighting upon a fence stake, were plenty of Prairie Larks (*Otocoris*); but—shades of Audubon!—equally numerous were the detestable and detested European House Sparrow, already ineradicably established. We searched in vain for Bell's Vireo, for all the thickets had been destroyed. Neither was a solitary kite, of either species, to be seen.

We left our beautiful prairie with sad heart, disgusted with the change (however beneficent to humanity) which civilization had wrought.

The same is the history of all the smaller prairies in many portions of the State; and it will probably not be many years before a prairie in its primitive condition cannot be found within the limits of Illinois.

Illinois Nature Study Society

THE Illinois Nature Study Society, Inc., of Elgin, has been organized for the purpose of studying natural sciences, and for the protection of our native flora and fauna.

The following sections have been created, each to be governed by a special committee:

Botany
Ornithology
Entomology
Geology.

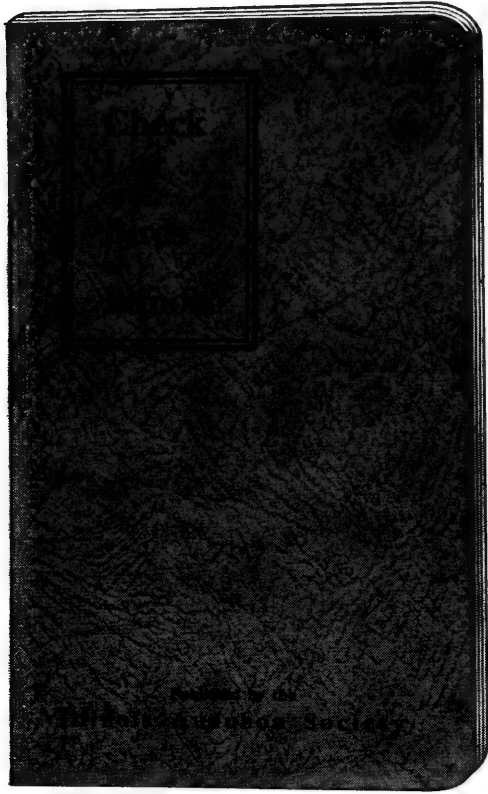
Eventually other sections will be added. The society also contemplates uniting similar organizations in this state into one central body, which shall further the study of nature, and especially use its influence against the further destruction of our natural resources, and for the active conservation of all classes of wild life.

The active interest and efficient work which have been so noticeable in Elgin, will insure the success of the new and broader organization from its inception.

Elgin Nature Lovers have a fine basis on which to build for the future. Trout Park with its unusual vegetation, the museum building with its fine collection, many private collections of note, added to an enthusiastic membership, will make of Elgin a center for this worthy venture.

A Sanctuary for Wild Life in Indiana

AT the last session of the Indiana Legislature a bill was passed setting aside a tract of 2000 acres along the Kankakee River, near Knox, Indiana, for a Wild Life Sanctuary. This wise protective action will save from destruction one of the greatest breeding-grounds for bird life in the state. Many species that would otherwise be driven out by reclamation of river bottom lands, will now be provided with a permanent home.



The ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY'S Check List is one of the first State check lists issued.

A unique feature of the list is the zonal map of Illinois in colors.

It is a decided addition to ornithological literature, and can be used in bird study in the adjoining states.

Price 50c postpaid

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THE Illinois Audubon Society recommends the organization of Junior Audubon Societies under one or the other of the following plans:

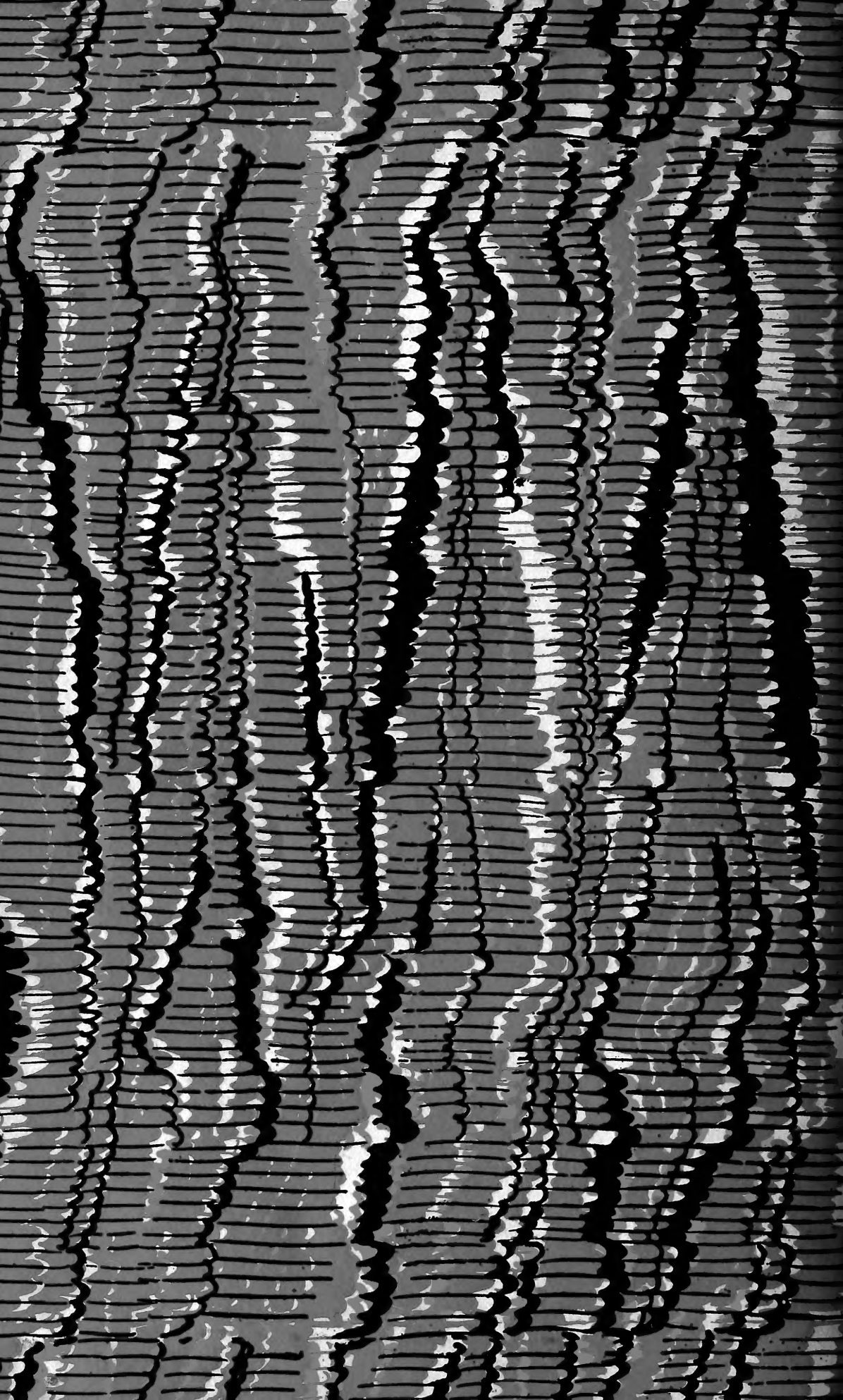
First plan: Organize under the auspices of the National Association of Audubon Societies and take advantage of the special offer to pupils made possible by generous patrons of the Society. Each member paying ten cents will receive a set of six educational leaflets with colored pictures and outline drawings for coloring with crayons. Each member will also receive the Audubon button which represents a badge of membership in a Junior Audubon class. Each teacher who organizes a class of twenty or more receives a year's free subscription to *Bird-Lore*, the official organ of the Association. Address the Secretary, 1974 Broadway, New York City.

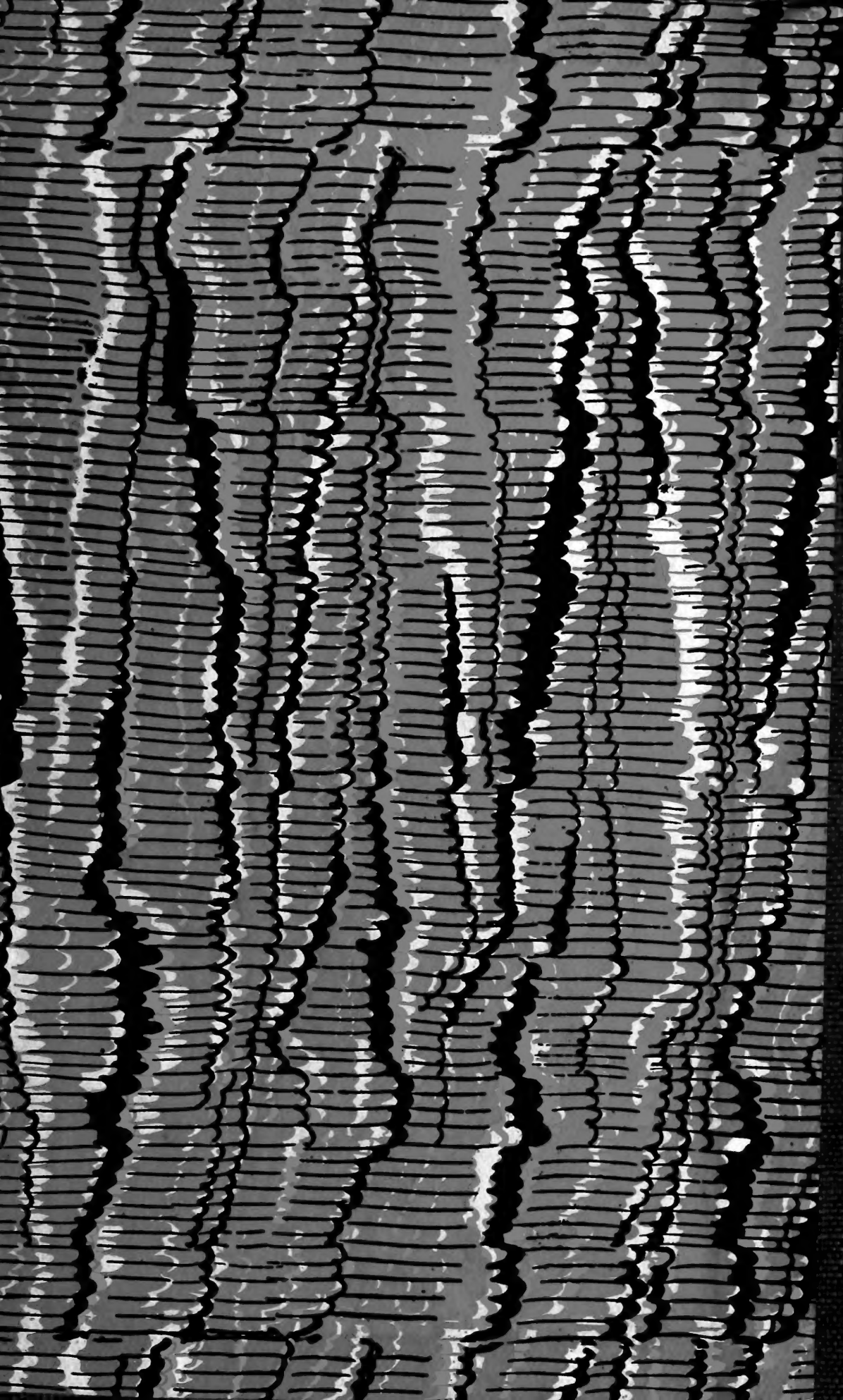
Second plan: Organize under the auspices of the Illinois Audubon Society. Each pupil is to pay fifteen cents for a copy of *Fifty Common Birds of Farm and Orchard* published by the United States Government, copies to be obtained either from the Secretary of the Illinois Audubon Society or by sending directly to the Superintendent of Documents at Washington, D. C. To each member of a group provided with this beautifully illustrated bulletin the Illinois Audubon Society will give without charge the Audubon button of membership in the Illinois Society and will send to the leader of the group for a period of one year all the publications and special notices of the Society together with an illustrated certificate showing that the group is a member of the Illinois Audubon Society. Teachers wishing to enroll pupils under local plans may obtain Audubon buttons for two cents each.

Address the
Illinois Audubon Society
10 South La Salle Street
CHICAGO

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