
THE FLICKER

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MINNESOTA BIRD CLUB

President, Charles Evans, 701, 15th Ave., SE, Minneapolis, Minn.
Vice-President, Robert Turner, 1005 University Ave, SE, Minneapolis
Secy-Treas., Robert Upson, 4405 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis
Editor, George Rysgaard, 1400 Capitol Ave., St. Paul, Minnesota
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At the January meeting of the Minnesota Bird Club on the ninth of the month, Mr. William Kilgore, curator of the University Museum of Natural History, gave the most interesting and entertaining talk on the history and preparation of the Pipestone Prairie and Heron Lake bird groups.

His talk commenced with a historical outline of the discovery of the sacred Indian Pipestone quarry by the white man and a descriptive sketch of the environmental conditions of the locality.

He concluded his talk with a few brief accounts of experiences at Heron Lake during years past.

"Life in the North", was the subject of the very enjoyable talk given at the January club meeting by Dr. M. C. Tanquary, zoologist with the MacMillan Expedition to the Arctic region.

Dr. Tanquary did not restrict his illustrated lecture to bird life alone, but he depicted the life and customs of the quaint tribes of Eskimos inhabiting Greenland.

SCOUTING ALONG THE MISSISSIPPI

by Charles Evans

It was on the twelfth of January 1936 that six young bird enthusiasts started out in the darkness of the winter morn to spend the day seeking birds in the vicinity of Hastings, Minnesota. After a morning spent in rather fruitless but never-the-less delightful search about the open springs of Spring Lake, we went to town and, with the usual merriment and jocosity on such occasions, invaded a restaurant for our noon-day meal.

Most of the afternoon was spent along the river below the town of Hastings where American Mergansers and Golden-eyes were found in considerable numbers. Among them was an occasional Red-breasted Merganser, about five or six of the latter in all. No eagles were seen, but a Red-tailed Hawk came sailing over the tree tops just as we started back to the road.

On the way home we wished to see the White-crowned Sparrow that George Rysgaard had previously seen near Invor Grove; and with this end in view, we turned off on to a country road which followed the west bank of the river. We precariously made our way along this narrow, slippery road bordered on one side by a sheer rock formation and on the other side by a steep precipice. This led to the shack where the sparrow had been known to take shelter. Although we were unable to find the White-crowned Sparrow, our efforts were well payed; for in its stead was a White-throated Sparrow, which permitted us all to get an excellent view of it. This was a fine climax for the day's birding, and we proceeded homeward amidst much vocalization of a more or less musical nature. Leander Fischer, Benny Rogers, Alden Risser, George Rysgaard, Robert Turner, and the writer constituted the personnel of this expedition.

It may be of interest to note here that a White-throated Sparrow was seen several times by Gustav Swanson and the writer during the winter near Fort Snelling five or six years ago.

--- Minneapolis, Minnesota

A BANDED CROW

Biological Survey band, 453099, was worn by a Crow found drowned in a water trough on October 21, 1935, by a Roseau County farmer who turned the bird over to Mr. P. O. Fryklund.

Mr. Fryklund sent the band to the Biological Survey Bureau for identification. The Bureau records disclosed that the Crow had been banded October 10, 1935 by William Rowan at Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, Canada.

Mr. Fryklund believed the Crow had been kept in captivity because of the soiled appearance of the bird's feathers.

--- Roseau, Minnesota

BIRDING ALONG THE NORTH SHORE

by Marius Morse

My wanderings during the past three months have led me along the North Shore country from the Cloquet Valley State Forest, which is located a short distance north of Duluth, to Grand Marais and vicinity. Perhaps the one thing that impressed me more than anything else is the apparent scaracity of nearly all species of birds.

The white-robed forests -- far from being alive with winter bird residents -- are usually silent except for the occasional chattering of a red squirrel or the sudden outburst of belated screeches from the throat of a "whiskey-jack" or Canada Jay. Even the friendly little chickadees seem to appear on the scene all too seldom. And rivaling the Canada Jays in boldness, they will often come to the hand to snatch a prized tidbit of bread.

Once, while driving along the North Shore, I had the rare opportunity of seeing a Northern Shrike fly across the road with its pray, a small bird. The swift-flying Goshawk seems to be one of the more common birds of the region, according to the reports from here and there. Bird life of the North Shore has been represented, during the past three months, by the species listed below in order of their abundance as based on my limited number of observations:

Snow Bunting
Lapland Longspur
Ruffed Grouse
Canada Jay
Pine Grosbeak
Downy Woodpecker
Sharp-tailed Grouse
Goshawk
Blue Jay
Horned Owl
Redpoll
Northern Shrike
Pileated Woodpecker
Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker

Of probable interest to most bird students, is the recent marked decrease in the number of the Ruffed Grouse, coincidental with the sudden dropping of the snowshoe rabbit population. Since April of 1935, there is good reason to believe that partridge in Lake, Cook and St. Louis Counties have dropped off in numbers at an alarmingly high rate. Reports from various "natives" woodmen, and my own personal observations tend to indicate that the Ruffed Grouse, at the present writing, is very scarce and much reduced in numbers, even from the comparatively high population which characterized most of the potential grouse environment of last April.

A reliable census method devised specifically for the species has been used by the Minnesota State Forest Service in counts of Ruffed Grouse on different representative forest areas. All censuses seem to point toward a definite downward trend of the partridge population, which may possibly be expected to reach a "low" within a comparatively short period of time. A cyclic game species, our Ruffed Grouse is of more than passing interest to the nature lover and bird student because of the peculiarly characteristic behavior of its ever fluctuating populations. Who can tell what the future may yield relative to the discovery of the cause or causes basically important to these unusual population variations?

— Cloquet, Minnesota

VISITORS OF THE FEEDING BOX

by Alden Risser

We have a feeding box outside the parlor window in the very heart of St. Paul. It contains sunflower seeds and Indian corn, and right outside the tray is a piece of suet tied to the branches of the lilac bush. Our regular visitors are Blue Jays, Chickadees, White-breasted Nuthatches, Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers, though the latter come only occasionally. On New Year's Day, when I looked out of the window, I was pleasantly surprised on seeing a Red-breasted Nuthatch blissfully pecking away at the suet. Though I get home on Sundays and holidays only, my parents tell me that the Red-breasted Nuthatch was one of the regular visitors from the first until the twentieth of January; since then she has not been seen. Suet was the supreme food for this little creature, and she was never seen to partake of the free seeds. White-breasted Nuthatches only occasionally took suet but habitually ate of the sunflower seed supply.

The Chickadee also prefer sunflower seeds, but occasionally eat a little suet. They hold the seed on a nearby horizontal branch with both feet and peck away at the shell until they reach the coveted seed. Once I observed a Chickadee hide a seed in a different crack in the bark on three consecutive trips. The woodpeckers, of course, eat only suet. The Blue Jays show a preference for Indian corn, which fortunately is very cheap, for they sit in the box, swallowing the grains whole, for many minutes at a time. When they arrive at the box, the other birds hurriedly leave.

Then, of course, we have the English Sparrow; but when they come to the bush, we frantically rap on the windows and violently shove the curtains about. As a result, they have become much more wary than the other birds; and when other birds are feeding along with the sparrows, we gently draw back the curtain, and the "English dogs" retreat, leaving the other birds in full possession of the feeder.

— St. Paul, Minnesota

THE M. B. C.'S CHRISTMAS TRIP

by George Rysgaard

For many years it has been the custom of the Minnesota Bird Club to conduct an annual trip during the Christmas season to list, as accurately as possible, the bird status in some given portion of the state.

One day of the trip is devoted specifically to a census survey for the Bird-Lord Magazine. The rules governing this census stipulate that the survey must be conducted between December 22nd and 27th, the area covered must not exceed 15 miles in diameter, and the report must include one day's record only, any number of individuals being permitted to participate.

With high-riding spirits and hearts bent on equalling last year's census record, the first group of zealous ornithologists headed southward early Saturday, December 21st for the "promised land" of Frontenac, Lanesboro and Carimona.

Daybreak found us on the shore of Lake Popin stretching our legs after the long ride. The country was blanketed with several inches of glimmering white, and a moderate wind was blowing from the west; the temperature tenaciously clung at six degrees.

The party immediately separated into groups of two or three and set out in various directions in search of bird life for which the district is noted.

Alden Risser and the author were making their way along the edge of a wooded section taking careless notes of the acrobatic Chickadee and Nuthatches when suddenly the cheery "chip" of the Cardinal pierced the air. This was followed soon by another and another until the atmosphere reverberated with their notes; the while, they flitted from bush to bush, appearing as stains of blood against the snowy background. The entire flock numbered perhaps twenty-five.

On our way to the lodge for a "snack" of lunch, we were met by two car loads of enthusiastic club members who had deferred in the vicinity of Hastings to take note of the ducks on the open river. With no little fervor, they recounted the tale of their observations which included two Bald Eagles, two Mallards ten American Mergansers, and some three hundred and fifty Golden-cygs.

During the lunch hour, a round-table discussion of the morning's observations disclosed that a Herring Gull and a Bald Eagle had been seen flying over the frozen river near the lodge, indicating, perhaps, that there was open water not far distant. Nourishing the idea, Robert Upson, Alden Risser, and this writer headed up river in search of the hypothetical open water immediately upon finishing lunch. During the entire trip, we kept a careful eye over head in hopes of catching a glimpse of the Bald Eagle but were not so rewarded. However fate did

remunerate us with a fair view of a Goshawk which flew into our field of vision from behind the rocky ridge bordering the river.

Near dusk, we reached our destination, a small area of open water in the middle of the river on which seven Ring-necks and Lesser Scaups were dipping. Nearby on the ice stood a lone Lesser Scaup duck which, apparently crippled, made for the thicket on the opposite bank of the river.

We returned to the cabin in time to partake of a hot pot of pork and beans. Songs and stories, traditionally, concluded the day's activities. The list of birds seen during the day are as follows:

Mallard	Red-headed Woodpecker
Ring-necked Duck	Hairy Woodpecker
Lesser Scaup Duck	Downy Woodpecker
Golden-eye	Blue Jay
American Merganser	Crow
Goshawk	Black-capped Chickadee
Red-shouldered Hawk	White-breasted Nuthatch
Bald Eagle	Brown Creeper
Bob-white	Red-winged Blackbird
Ring-necked Pheasant	Cardinal Grosbeak
Herring Gull	Goldfinch
Barred Owl	Slate-colored Junco
Pileated Woodpecker	Tree Sparrow
Red-bellied Woodpecker	

We arose about five a.m. on Sunday and set our course for Lanesboro. Motor trouble delayed Gustav Swanson until he secured the service of a garage employee to remedy the trouble. The remainder of the party, however, continued on its way to Lanesboro.

The party divided into groups and scattered in various directions as done the previous day at Frontenac. All the members returned to a designated restaurant at noon to lunch and compare notes before heading for Carimona.

Enroute to Carimona and Forestville, we were fortunate to observe a Marsh Hawk winging its way across an open field. At Forestville we were greeted by half a dozen Mourning Doves perched on snow covered fence posts in a farm yard.

At the close of the day, the enthusiastic, though tired, bird lovers congregated at Forestville. The personnel of the trip included Alden Risser, Ralph Woolsey, John Wilson, Robert Upson, Robert Turner, Gustav Swanson, Milton Sorem, George Rysgaard, Horace Paul, John O' Leary, Nathan Mahon, Donald Mahle, Axel Hanson, Charles Evans, Arnold Erickson, Ralph Eisele, H. Dhesi, Kenneth Garlander, Albert Buzicky and Fritz Bell.

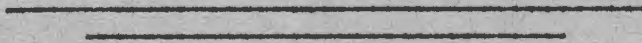
A final check-up of the birds seen during the day at Lanesboro, Carimona and Forestville revealed that the previous day's list had been surpassed by the addition of sixteen species giving a total of thirty-four species and one thousand four hundred and sixty-eight individuals.

The list of birds as sent to the Bird-Lore Magazine is as follows:

Mallard -----	12	Blue Jay -----	88
Red-tailed Hawk -----	7	Crow -----	3
Rough-legged Hawk -----	1	Black-capped Chickadee -----	13
Marsh Hawk -----	3	White-breasted Nuthatch --	54
Ruffed Grouse -----	2	Brown Creeper -----	12
Hungarian Partridge --	1	Tufted Titmouse -----	1
Ring-necked Pheasant -	8	Golden-crowned Kinglet --	3
Mourning Dove -----	6	Ruby-crowned Kinglet -----	1
Great Horned Owl -----	3	Starling -----	1
Barred Owl -----	2	Cardinal -----	127
Belted Kingfisher -----	7	Purple Finch -----	14
Flicker -----	4	Goldfinch -----	56
Pileated Woodpecker --	4	Vesper Sparrow -----	1
Red-bellied Woodpecker	24	Slate-colored Junco -----	328
Red-headed Woodpecker+	24	Tree Sparrow -----	485
Hairy Woodpecker -----	24	Lapland Longspur -----	7
Downy Woodpecker -----	28	Snow Bunting -----	4

Total Species - 34

Total Individuals - 1468



A TAME ROBIN

by C. Evans

Behind the botany building at the University of Minnesota is an old stone quarry which has been converted into a modest botanical garden with a pond for frogs and turtles; a stream, paths, and a greenhouse which is a favorite lunching place for many members of the Minnesota Bird Club.

It was a clear and warm day about mid-April. Alden Risser and I were enjoying the warmth of the sun and watching the flexuous little stream while finishing our lunch. A black-bird sang from the tip of a slender poplar; a Phoebe called from its perch on the far side of the pond. As I settled back on the grassy slope to enjoy a rest in the spring sun, I heard the call of a waxwing. Alden and I were both heading down the path toward the river when Alden called in a stage whisper, "stop".

I froze to the spot. Looking down, I saw a Robin not six feet away searching for food on the path. It seemed entirely indifferent to our presence. It ran about pecking the ground in search of bugs of various kinds and swallowing an occasional angleworm, but it seemed to prefer the former kind of food. Soon it was pecking at the ground so close to my foot that it throw aside a leaf which was touching my shoe. It then ran across the path and glanced back at Alden, who was standing motionless with a sandwich held in one hand just in front of his mouth, from the other hand dangled a large paper bag, and in his eye was the gleam of a true bird-lover experiencing an ornithological thrill.

In a moment the robin was back at my foot pecking away in search of edible morsels. Stopping about a foot in front of me, it looked straight up at my head and then flew to alight on a sumac a few feet away. From there it flew to the greenhouse, but we had no sooner relaxed and begun to talk when it again appeared and resumed its search for food about our feet. At one time it perched upon a twig partially covered by my heel. I slowly moved my heel, and the bird tossed the twig aside uncovering a squirming angleworm.

I had to leave at this time and did so slowly that I might not frighten the Robin. Alden was sprawled out on the path holding forth a sandwich for the bird. The Robin ran between the arm which supported his head and his body and even stopped to peck at a shiny button on Alden's coat. This was one time when a common bird provided a rare thrill for a couple of "bird-chasers."

--- Minneapolis, Minnesota

NATURAL HISTORY NOTES FROM RED LAKE

by Gustav Swanson

Mr. W. J. Breckenridge and the writer spent the week immediately preceding Thanksgiving of 1935 in Northern Minnesota, chiefly in the Red Lake Game Refuge; and these few notes are designated merely to report on conditions as we found them. The primary purpose of the trip was to locate, and if possible, photograph the few remaining caribou which are to be found in that area. We failed in this primary purpose, but an account of the trip may be of interest.

On November 21st we stopped at Itasca Park to participate in a deer drive which the C.C.C. camp was conducting for the purpose of determining the actual deer population of the park. The procedure of these deer drives is to surround an area of land, 640 acres usually, so completely that all deer which leave will be seen and recorded by one of the participants. One group of men proceeds slowly through a given area driving out the deer, and each animal is recorded when it leaves. One hundred and thirty men participated in the present census, and the number of deer recorded on this one square mile totaled fifty. By stationing himself at a favorable location, Mr. Breckenridge was able to take some fine moving pictures of one deer as it came out of the census section. Censuses of similar nature were conducted in two other sections of the park during the next two weeks, an average of the three indicated that the park area of 31,000 acres is supporting the largest deer population of any area of equal size in the state. That the population is too great, and has been too great for several years, is a fact that has been recognized for some time. The exact size, however, of the population has been estimated before by only the roughest means.

In the afternoon of this same day, Mr. Breckenridge and I photographed a few elk in an enclosure in the park. These were elk which were being released to restock the Red Lake Game Refuge a part which had hitherto supported many wild elk. These animals had been extinct for many years in Minnesota, however; and the present attempt to re-introduce them in favorable areas was the first which was done on a scale large enough to prove successful. Several times previous to the present attempt, three or four elk had been introduced in various parts of the state, but during November 1935 twenty-seven of the animals were released in the same area. At this writing, March 1st, the whereabouts of most of the animals are still known, and they are apparently in excellent condition. They have wandered over considerable area since they were released.

The birds seen at Itasca Park on November 21st were all the usual species, Redpolls, juncos, Hairy Woodpeckers, and Blue Jays. In addition, one Goshawk was seen at the entrance of the Park, and along the highway, flocks of Snow Buntings were seen from time to time.

That evening we stayed at Bemidji and the next morning continued northward toward the game refuge. The temperature was rather low at this time, as the northern part of the state was experiencing its first cold snap of a winter which proved to be the most severe in decades. The temperature the morning of November 22nd was 14 degrees below zero in Bemidji.

The trip between Bemidji and Waskish was interesting to us in that a number of rather unusual birds were recorded. Ten Pine Grosbeaks were among them, and we both made efforts to photograph these birds for they proved to be quite tame. Throughout the northern part of the state, Goshawks have been more common than usual this winter, and three were recorded between Bemidji and Waskish, a distance less than seventy miles. Many Redpolls and one flock of Prairie Sharp-tailed Grouse were seen as well, but the two most interesting records, a Hawk Owl and a Sparrow Hawk. The latter bird, seen at Kelliher, is certainly a late record for this far northern town. It seemed to be in the best of health, and when we saw it, it was hunting mice. A number of Hawk Owls had been seen earlier in the fall, but this was the only individual seen during this trip.

Upon our arrival at Waskish, we immediately drove along the edge of Upper Red Lake until we had reached a point directly south of the caribou range. Here we stayed overnight at an abandoned trapper's cabin, and we were joined at this point by the man who was to be our guide for the next few days, Mr. Fred Potrowske. Fred is in the employ of the State Game and Fish Division and is occupied trapping wolves in the game refuge, especially in the area frequented by the caribou. He knows the enormous 400,000 acres of refuge thoroughly and proved to be an excellent guide.

In the morning of November 23rd, we left all semblance of civilization behind us and began the wearisome trek on snowshoes to the next overnight cabin, about seven miles to the north. Our equipment, cameras, food, and extra clothing was pulled by a team of strong dogs on a toboggan. Without the efficient aid of the dog team, the trip would have been practically impossible; and on several occasions, we thanked our lucky stars we did not need to carry all of our luggage on our backs.

On the trip northward, another Goshawk was seen, and Redpolls were very abundant. The prize record, however, was of a young Golden Eagle. This bird is difficult to identify in the immature plumage but we were able to see the tell-tale white patches of the wings with no difficulty whatever.

The next three days were spent in covering as large a portion of the refuge as possible on foot. Walking was difficult; there was not enough snow to smooth out the irregularities in the huge Muskeg bog, but yet there was enough to make snowshoes a necessity. On several occasions caribou tracks were located, but none of them were fresh enough to make trailing seem advisable. Nowhere did we locate the tracks of more than three animals in one place, but we felt sure that five or six individuals were represented. On one occasion, Mr.

Petrowsky found the remains of a young caribou calf of the year which had been killed and eaten by wolves. Perhaps it is assuming too much to say that the calf was killed by wolves, but the tracks and additional signs showed definitely that it had been eaten by wolves, and very likely they were also responsible for the kills.

Failure to see the caribou was a great disappointment, but it seemed foolish to remain any longer. We were both expected in Minneapolis for Thanksgiving celebrations on Thursday, and when a snowstorm developed on Tuesday, we decided that the photographing of the caribou would have to be postponed until some future trip.

Nearly every day we spent in the field we saw at least three Goshawks, and on another day we saw the Golden Eagle again. Other birds which we added to our list for the trip were Hudsonian Chickadees and Canada Jays. One of the most surprising records was that of the Rusty Blackbird seen in the most desolate part of the Red Lake Game Refuge on November 25th. Why this bird should have been so far north, we were at a loss to determine because it, like the Sparrow Hawk seen a few days before, was apparently in perfect health and could have migrated south.

All in all we both decided that we had enjoyed a most profitable trip, even though the caribou had not deigned to show themselves. The initial stiffness and fatigue which we experienced the first days gradually passed away, and by the end of the trip, we were hardened to the vigorous type of travel which was necessary. Our only regret was that it was necessary to leave without having accomplished our chief purpose.

--- Minneapolis, Minnesota

SWANSON ACCEPTS POSITION WITH UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

Gustav Swanson, present state biologist, has announced his plans of resignation from the Minnesota State Conservation Department to accept a position at the University of Maine. His duties at the University of Maine will involve both teaching of game management and carrying on research on the same subject.

NOTES OF INTEREST

Red-winged Blackbird: A flock of fifteen of mixed sexes were observed in a farm yard near Long Meadow by Bert Hawkins on January 12th.

White-crowned Sparrow: One individual was seen feeding on the earth floor of an abandoned machinery shed near Inver Grove on December 26th by James Kimball and George Rysgaard.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: A female of this species was seen off and on from January 1st to January 19th at a feeding box maintained in St. Paul by Alden Risser. (see article by Risser in this issue)

Ring-billed Gull: One bird of this species was seen in flight above the Mississippi River near Pine Bend on January 9th by Albert Buzicky.

White-throated Sparrow: On January 12th the following members of the M. B. C. observed this bird near Inver Grove in the same location as the White-crowned Sparrow; Alden Risser, Charles Evans, Benny Rogers, Leander Fisher and George Rysgaard.

Evening Grosbeak: Robert Upson reports seeing two of these beautiful birds on January 25th at the Lake Harriet Bridle Path.

Brewer's Blackbird: One individual was recorded at Nine Mile Creek on January 26th by Robert Upson.

Great Gray Owl: These birds are reported to be quite numerous in the Roseau County this winter by P. O. Fryklund.

Black Duck: This bird was noted on Lake Harriet on December 9th by Bob Upson.

Snowy Owls: P. O. Fryklund reports that this species is very scarce in Roseau County this winter. He has seen none and has received but one specimen.

Hawk Owls: Gustav Swanson and William Breckenridge saw one individual near Bemidji on November 22nd and reported having seen several during early fall. P. O. Fryklund writes that these birds are numerous in Roseau County.

Rusty Blackbirds: One bird was seen on the Red Lake Game Refuge on the 25th. of November by Gustav Swanson and W. J. Breckenridge. A. C. Rosenwinkel reported four of these birds seen at the Fish Hatchery on December 31st.

Bohemian Waxwing: Eighteen of this species of waxwings were seen on January 26th at Nine Mile Creek by Robert Upson.

Short-eared Owl: On December 27th, Robert Upson saw this bird at Highway #5 and France Avenue in Minneapolis.

BOOK REVIEW

by Gustav Swanson

MUSHROOMS AND TOADSTOOLS, by H. J. Gussow and W. S. Odell. This fine book is again available after having been out of print for several years. It is a well-illustrated, carefully written 274 page book on all of the common species of mushrooms, a group difficult to find material on. This book is published and for sale by the King's Printer, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, for the price of \$1.00

BIRDS OF CANADA, by P. A. Taverner. In a fine book which combines the information and illustrations from his two previous volumes, Birds of Western Canada and Birds of Eastern Canada, the author considers the avifauna of the entire Dominion. This book is for sale by the Department of Mines, Canadian National Museum, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, at the price of \$2.00, and is being distributed at less than cost, one may be certain. The library of every bird-lover should include this volume.

THE HAWKS OF NORTH AMERICA, by John B. May. National Association of Audubon Societies, Publisher, 1775 Broacway, New York City, N. Y. Price #2.00, 1935. This fine volume is a boon to bird-students, all of whom have some difficulties in the and identification of hawks. Dr. May brings Dr. Fisher's data on the food habits of the various species of hawks up to date by summarizing all results published since Fisher's early work. In addition, he has excellent biographies of the birds considered, and the thirty-seven colored plates by Allan Brooks, together with the few wash drawings of the hawks in flight, by George Tory Peterson are among the finest illustrations of these birds available to the student in a reasonably-priced volume.

Each reader of The Flicker who does not already have a copy of this book should make haste to purchase it at once and to try to place it in the hands of those ill-advised individuals who persecuting our hawks and owls under the guise of war on "vermin". It is to be hoped that this fine volume enjoys a wide sale and it reaches the readers whom it is hoped will be educated to a better appreciation of the value of hawks, as well as those who are already fond of these interesting birds. Dr. May is to be congratulated upon producing this praiseworthy volume.

MICHIGAN WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT, by Dr. Niels D. Pirnie. This publication is for sale by the Michigan Department of Conservation Lansing, Michigan, at \$1.50. Dr. Pirnie has summarized the known information about the food preference, habits, migrations, and destruction of waterfowl in Michigan and has done a very creditable piece of work, but the main purpose of his book was to point out methodist of providing habitats, food and protection so as to increase the numbers of waterfowl. In this main purpose, he has succeeded admirably, and here, at last, we have a fund of information, much of which has been available before only in scattered and unavailable pamphlets and technical papers. To every person who is

interested in any waterfowl refuge and inducing it to produce more ducks, the book is a veritable godsend. Dr. Pirnie has not introduced the book to be all-inclusive or highly technical, and it is not. The general reader will peruse it with enjoyment and profit as well as the technician in the field who actually has an opportunity to test many of Dr. Pirnie's suggestions.

INTERNATIONAL WATERFOWL CENSUS. The much publicized first international waterfowl census conducted by More Game Birds in America, a Foundation, 500 Fifth Avenue, New York City, has appeared in bulletin form and is available free of charge. The accuracy of this estimate is open to argument, and certainly "estimate" rather than "census" would have been the proper word. However, the bulletin is well illustrated, and offers much interesting information for the reader to consider and evaluate to his own satisfaction.

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All members are urged to accurately tabulate their Minnesota nesting records for the year 1936. These should be mailed to the editor no later than August 15th to allow time for compilation for the October issue of The Flicker. The records should indicate species, number of eggs or young, date, locality, and special notes of interest.

The regular meeting of the Minnesota Bird Club was held March 12th. Mr. Gustav Swanson gave an informal talk on the deer problem of the Itasca State Park area. In the park area the deer population has increased, under protection, in numbers surpassing the food supply; the result being general starvation of the herd. In the January Flicker, page 9, Gustav Swanson has written a brief paragraph regarding this problem.

Speaking on the subject "Bird Photography" at the April meeting of the Minnesota Bird Club, Dr. A. P. Henrici showed moving pictures of shorebirds.

Dr. R. G. Green, noted authority on diseases among wild animals, spoke to the Minnesota Bird Club group on May 14th. After briefly indicating the various diseases affecting wild animals of this part of the country. Dr. Green discussed various phases of his work with tuleremia.

By vote of the club members Linwood Lake was chosen as the site for the annual spring outing.

BIRDS OF THE BIG STONE LAKE AREA

by John Wilson

Conditions in the Big Stone Lake region on the eleventh and twelfth of April were not the most favorable for many species usually observed there in early spring. The spring break-up had been extremely slow; the only bodies of open water were the ponds and Lake Traverse had just commenced to clear of ice.

A noteworthy number of hawks were seen on the trip. The different stages of development and phases of coloration were of interest. Of the number of Swainson's Hawks observed, a minority only could be said to be typical adult representatives of the species; a majority being either immature individuals or specimens displaying varying degrees of melanism. Melanism was particularly of notice in the American and Ferruginous Rough-legged Hawks; one of the latter was observed which appeared nearly black.

On the mud flats six miles southeast of Ortonville five Lesser Snow Geese and eight Blue Geese were discerned. Associated with the geese was a flock of ducks composed chiefly of Pintails, Canvas-backs and Redheads.

While driving to Brown's Valley at the north end of Big Stone Lake, we saw a flock of fourteen White-fronted Geese on the ice near the far side of the lake. The following day we observed a large flock of White-fronted Geese, numbering perhaps thirty or more, flying in perfect formation.

Members on the trip were Kenneth Carlander, John Wilson, Lester Carlander, and Donald Hobbs.

The following birds were observed on the two day trip:

Great Blue Heron	Swainson's Hawk
White-fronted Goose	Am. Rough-legged Hawk
Lesser Snow Goose	Feruginous Rough-legged
Blue Goose	Marsh Hawk
Mallard	Pigeon Hawk
American Pintail	Sparrow Hawk
Redhead	Ring-necked Pheasant
Canvas-back	Sandhill Crane
Lesser Scaup Duck	Killdeer
Golden-Eye	Herring Gull
Hooded Merganser	Ring-billed Gull
American Merganser	Mourning Dove
Goshawk	Great Horned Owl
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Short Eared Owl
Cooper's Hawk	Flicker
Broad-winged Hawk	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Arkansas Kingbird	Western Meadowlark
Phoebe	Western Meadowlark
Horned Lark	Red-winged Blackbird
Crow	Brewer's Blackbird
Black-capped Chickadee	Bronzed Grackle
Robin	Cowbird
Bluebird	Slate-colored Junco
Migrant Shrike	Tree Sparrow
Starling	Song Sparrow

Robert Upson spent three days, September 27th to 29th of last year, birding at Lake Traverse. Due to limited space in issues previous to this, the worthwhile list of birds seen was not printed. The list is as follows:

White Pelican	Baird's Sandpiper
Double-crested Cormorant	Least Sandpiper
Black-crowned Night Heron	Semipalmated Sandpiper
American Bittern	Long-billed Dowitcher
Great Blue Heron	Marbled Godwit
White-fronted Geese	Sanderling
Snow Geese	Herring Gull
Blue Geese	Franklin's Gull
Mallard	Short-eared Owl
Black Duck	Nighthawk
Gadwall	Flicker
Pintail	Downy Woodpecker
Blue-winged Teal	Barn Swallow
Scaup	Blue Jay
American Merganser	White-breasted Nuthatch
Red-tailed Hawk	Prairie Marsh Wren
Swainson's Hawk	Short-billed Marsh Wren
Marsh Hawk	American Pipit
Prairie Falcon	Sprague's Pipit
Duck Hawk	Myrtle Warbler
Coot	Western Meadowlark
Semipalmated Plover	Red-winged Blackbird
Killdeer	Brewer's Blackbird
Golden Plover	Cowbird
Black-bellied Plover	Savannah Sparrow
Wilson's Snipe	Nelson's Sparrow
Willet	Vesper Sparrow
Greater Yellow-legs	Lark Sparrow
Lesser Yellow-legs	Slate-colored Junco
Pectoral Sandpiper	Lapland Longspur

— Minneapolis, Minnesota

A MIGRATION OF MONARCH BUTTERFLIES

by Charles Evans

Migration, a phenomenon most highly developed in birds, is also noted among mammals such as the bats and Newfoundland Caribou; is also a characteristic trait shared by certain types of insects, notably the Monarch butterfly. On several occasions while hiking near Minneapolis, I have seen large numbers of these gathering about a group of trees in the fall of the year in much the same fashion as mobilizing swallows preparatory to migration.

In the fall of 1935 I was fortunate enough to witness a large migration of these butterflies along the shore of Lake Michigan about twenty miles north of Milwaukee. On the morning of the fifth of September, I became aware of the fact that these insects, which I had previously noted were so common in the locality, were moving in a steady southward direction. They hurried along, pausing only a moment here and there to sample the nectar of a wayside blossom. From the point where I stood on the hillside, some nineteen feet from the lake shore, I counted two hundred pass by in ten minutes and twenty seconds. In the afternoon on my return to the spot I found them traveling at approximately the same rate.

I do not know the width of the migrating band of insects, but at the laboratory site, a quarter of a mile from the shore of the lake, they seemed as numerous as near the lake itself. Calculating the number that passed between the laboratory and the lake shore between nine o' clock in the morning and five o' clock in the evening on the basis of the former census, I believe the number to be well over half a million. The migration lasted for four days or more, the numbers gradually tapering off until September ninth when I did not observe a single specimen.

The following day I noted one lone individual frantically beating his wings against a wire fence trying vainly to pass through. As I watched his fruitless efforts, I wondered whether he would discover that he could easily fly over the low obstacle.

Brother Hubert Lewis, who is now living in St. Louis, Mo., wrote to the editor some while ago telling of a few interesting experiences on winter bird hikes during the last year. Brother Hubert writes that the Myrtle Warblers were observed on several occasions during the winter in the dense woods along the Missouri River. "On one of our weekly hikes," writes Brother Hubert, "we were preparing to build the fire in our accustomed place when we heard the sound of scratching come from a discarded can. We prepared to capture a mouse when out popped a Myrtle Warbler to join the chorus of chickadees and titmice."

NOTES ON THE BIRDS OF THREEADJACENT AREAS IN SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS

by Arnold Erickson

For the past four years I have studied the birds occurring on three adjacent areas in South Minneapolis. Although these areas are contiguous, they differ enough ecologically so that each of the areas supports certain species of birds. Some species are restricted more or less to one area; others are found on all three areas. Not all of the birds occurring at each locality will be mentioned; only those birds most typical of the locality or particularly outstanding will be dealt with at any length.

The first of these communities is a large prairie or pasture stretching from 31st Avenue South to 36th Avenue South and lying between the Milwaukee railroad tracks and 28th Street, locally known as Seierson's Prairie. This tract has, for the past eighteen years, been utilized as a pasture for the Sierson herd of cattle. In spring a fairly large pond graces the center of the pasture, and formerly it persisted throughout the year and contained a few small fish. Quack grass, timothy, and some clover go to make up the vegetation of the western end of the pasture. In late years Canadian Thistle has well established itself in the center of the field near the pond. Fodder corn has been planted annually for many years in the south half part of the eastern third of the field; the north half produces a crop of grass similar to that of the western end. Bordering the eastern edge of the prairie are five Burr Oak trees.

The second community, Brackett Park, lies just across from Sierson's Prairie, extending from 36th Avenue South to 39th Avenue South with the Milwaukee railroad as its northern boundary. The northern border is thickly grown with shrubs; on its eastern border is a Burr Oak grove.

Three blocks northeast of Brackett Park the railroad meets and crosses the Mississippi River. This is the site of the third of the communities. It extends from the train bridge to the Lake Street River Road. The lower river bank supports a heavy growth of small Sugar Maples together with some large Basswood and Elm trees. Between the lower and upper banks runs a silvan path, and water, continuously seeping from the limestone base of the upper bank, keeps the vegetation green and cool. Red and Scarlet Oaks dominate the upper, dryer ridge.

This completes the description of the three areas. Now we turn to consider the bird population and its distribution. The Killdeer is, without a doubt, the most typical and prominent bird occurring on Seierson's Prairie. By the third week in March, when most of the snow has melted and the pond is at its acme, the Killdeers return.

At once they set about on an inspection tour, flying up and down the field filling the air with their sturdy cries. Their interest is centered, for the most part, on the plowed portion of the field which will later be seeded into fodder corn; for here they lay their eggs and hatch their young before planting activities begin. The four or five pairs of birds nesting here seem to have sufficient range, for I have never seen them quarrel or try to drive one another away.

In the late afternoon and early evenings of the long summer days the Killdeers take off on special flights, flights that seem to be indulged in for exercise and pleasure. The birds mount to a great height, and frequently it is impossible to see them against the light blue of the sky. But by the sound of their voices, one knows that they are directly overhead or far down the field. Minute after minute they cut wide arcs in the sky; they are never silent. Sometimes it is only after ten or fifteen minutes have elapsed that they seek the earth again. The coming of the night does not still their voluble tongues, for when they are frightened or suspicious, they call in low tones, frequently with considerable intervals between the dee, dee notes.

The activities of the Killdeers of Seierson's Prairie during the spring and summer, varied and interesting as they are, are but forerunners of a remarkable series of performances held nightly during the chill autumn weather. The entire flock, numbering twenty or so, assembles shortly after sundown along the pasture's western edge. In a highly agitated state, they run quickly back and forth, sometimes throwing their wings over their backs, but always clamoring in an unending series of killdeers and killdees and frequently de, de, de.

As the night grows darker, they become more vociferous, and every now and again several birds take short flights of thirty yards or thereabouts but soon join again with the flock. By nine o'clock they have become, if anything, even more clamorous and agitated. The still, night air rings with their calls. But as the night advances, they become more loquacious in a softer and more companionable way. How long this confabulation lasts, I do not know; however, on many a night I have awakened at one or two o'clock and still their voices, mellowed by distance, have come floating in my window. Night after night they keep this up until the morning we find that they have all flown to warmer climes. Then, indeed, the field seems bare and dull.

The Horned Larks which make this prairie their abode leave later and return earlier than do the Killdeers. During the first of March, when the black field is mottled with patches of unmelted snow, they come seeking food and nesting sites. On cold windy days they stay close to the earth, and frequently, while picking up small particles of food, they step into the protecting lee of a boulder.

Yet, they do not always, as I one day discovered, stay close to the earth even though the wind may be sharp and the sky sullen. Prompted by some inner urge, such as a hormone perhaps, the male lark

sometimes soars to a great height. Starting his flight from some low perch, he flies parallel to the ground for a very short distance, almost immediately mounting at right angles to the earth's surface. He rapidly gains altitude, climbing, perhaps, to a height of two hundred feet or more. Almost invisible now, he performs a series of gentle undulating dives, all the time maintaining this approximate height in the air and whistling in a clear tinkling notes. At the crest of one of the undulating movements, he closes his wings and plunges earthward at a terrific speed. When just a few feet from the ground, he opens his wings slightly, turns parallel to the earth, and gracefully alights on a frozen clod or the lowest wire in a barb wire fence.

Of all the birds found on this prairie, the Robins are the most abundant. In the mornings and evenings they are present by the hundreds busily quartering the ground. When taken with song, the male mounts to the top of a telegraph pole and pours out his rollicking tune. Because of lack of suitable nesting sites, most of these Robins build in the large trees that line the boulevards of the near-by avenues. A few of them, however, nest in low trees along the edge of the field; but due to mischievous youngsters, they seldom bring off the young. One pair actually built atop a fence post. Needless to say, the nest and eggs did not survive long.

The Bronzed Grackle seems to be partial to parks and large shady lawns. In Brackett Park the grackles haunt the oak grove; they stide around on stiff legs like people with rheumatism. While they are not shy birds, they are circumspect and tend to distrust everyone. One fall day I watched a group of them at their favorite spot, the oak grove. One bird that I especially noticed placed an acorn away back in the corner of his mouth and then gently compressed his bill carefully testing the strength of the nut. After shifting the nut around several times, he cut through the shell. He dropped the acorn on the ground, placed his foot upon it and tore the shell off with his beak. Without further ado, he swallowed the nut. Despite the fact that the ground was already strewn with mast, other grackles sat in the tree biting at acorns causing them to fall to the ground.

Anyone of a half dozen or more birds could be cited as a typical or outstanding member of the river area community. Some of these, as the Yellow-billed Cuckoo, are quiet and retiring; some, as the chickadee, are omnipresent and friendly; some, as the sparrow, are blatant and pugnacious; and some, as the Blue Jay, are cunning and thievish. But none of them, except the Blue Jay is retiring, blatant, and thievish by turns. He, above all the other birds, outwardly affects the equanimity of the community the most.

On one eventful occasion I witnessed a comic scene enacted by a roughish Blye Jay and a Screech Owl. Over the tree top the jay came on leisure wings. Gliding down to the top of an elm tree, he made ready to perch. His feet just hit what appeared to be a shrunken gray stub when a hiss and the flash of yellow eyes indicated that it was an owl. Rising quickly, the jay feigned surprise; ruffling

his feathers, the owl regained his composure. I like to imagine that the jay landed on the owl by accident, all the while considering the bird a piece of rotten wood. But I am sure his sharp eyes perceived the true significance of the "stub", and he landed there by design.

About the middle of September the Ring-billed Gulls begin to gather at their old fall and spring rendezvous along the Mississippi. Here on any day they may be seen patrolling the river between the Franklin and Lake Street bridge. These omnivorous gulls are attracted by the large sewers which pour much ordure into the river. Up and down the river they course, now flying into the wind, now borne along by the wind, now resting on the surface of the water. As they float along duck-like, one can see them pick up, pick apart, and devour food. They are most beautiful on the wing, especially when the sun strikes the white lower plumage and silver-gray feathers of the wings and back. Later in the season when the rain falls for days on end and cold winds blow from the northwest, they gather in great numbers on the abandoned locks above the Lake Street bridge. There they stand with their heads to the wind, row on row, all silent, all waiting.

--- Minneapolis, Minnesota

A GOOD DAY AT THE TAMARACK SWAMP

by Donald Mahle

I have been to the famed tamarack swamp several times, but I was always disappointed in what I found. It never seemed to quite live up to its reputation as presented by Robert Upson.

On May 2nd of this year Charles Evans, Mr. Dhoci, Mrs. Mahle and I went out to the swamp specifically to see the Long-eared Owl's nest which Robert Upson had discovered some while previously.

We found the nest with little difficulty; it contained five downy young and one pipped egg. We had a wonderful view of the very angry and ferocious adults which came within two or three feet, uttering harsh squacks which would be terrifying to even the bravest soul.

Our finds of the day also included the nests of a Cooper's Hawk and a Marsh Hawk, each of which contained one egg. Both of these hawk nesting records are early according to Dr. Roberts' works.

My faith in the tamarack swamp is on the up grade!

--- Minneapolis, Minnesota

NESTING BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHERS

by Donald Mahle

On May 16th Mrs. Mahle and I made a short excursion into the woods about the back-waters of the Mississippi River below the city of South St. Paul. We had been out for but a short while when we discovered a Cooper's Hawk nest containing four eggs. I had just descended from the nest which was located in a tree crotch some twenty feet or more from the ground, when I heard a beautiful little song. It was quite a varied song; one entirely strange to me. Tracing the song to its source, we discovered a pair of gnatcatchers.

These creatures are beautiful little fellows with body and outline similiar to a miniature catbird. It was thrilling to watch them flit from tree to tree singing their beautiful song. Imagine our surprise when we saw one of the birds sit down in what appeared to be a mere crotch of a dead branch. Looking closely we discovered that the crotch contained a dainty little lichen-camouflaged nest.

I hastily scrambled up the tree to find only an empty nest, but I was sure it had been just completed and ready for a family. We marked the tree, a red oak, and planned to return at some later date.

Just a week later, Wynn, Alden Risser, Arnold Erickson, George Rysgaard and I visited the spot on our way to Frontenac. Risser and Rysgaard climbed the tree and viewed the nest; both counted four eggs as the contents. In the meantime I took a few pictures of the Cooper's Hawk nest, and upon finishing climbed to the nest of the gnatcatcher. The female had been sitting upon the nest for several minutes before I disturbed her to take a snap shot of her home. To my surprise, when I gazed into the nest, I saw five eggs. I questioned both Alden and George, and they insisted there were but four eggs when they examined the nest. I therefore concluded that one of the eggs at which I was looking must be strictly fresh!

While attempting to snap a picture of the nest, the adults came so close to the scene, I dediced to wait hoping to get a photo of both adults and the nest. As if purposely tantalizing me, they darted back and forth through the foliage, refusing to approach within range of my camera. I sat patiently waiting for the gnatcatchers to come within camera-shot, when a Cooper's Hawk suddenly dove at me, missing me by less than a foot. Had not the foliage been so heavy, he would have undoubtedly hit me on the head. The incident was quite a surprise to me, because I always considered the Cooper's Hawk as a shy bird.

--- Minneapolis, Mimesota

WHISTLING SWANS AT LONG MEADOW SLOUGH

by Arnold Erickson

Cedar Avenue, cutting as it does the upper from the lower Long Meadow Slough, affords a fine view of both bodies of water to their extremities. Standing there on April nineteenth of this year, I saw a flock of swans at the far end of the slough. Following the west bank for about a mile, I came to a point of land from which the birds could be excellently observed. I counted eighty-two of these beautiful white swans as they fed. As I slowly sneaked through the tangle of Quill Reed toward the flock, the crackle of marsh plants underfoot frightened numbers of ducks from the shore. Some of the swans ceased feeding, looked around, but were not greatly disturbed. By careful stalking I was finally within a hundred and fifty yards of the birds. I now counted one hundred and twenty individuals; the majority garbed in the white adult plumage, but a few wore the gray dress of immaturity. A good number of the adults had rust stains on the head and hindneck.

The Whistlers fed in two ways, depending on the depth of the water. If they fed in the shallow water, they merely thrust their heads and lissom necks to the bottom, their bodies resembling large white rocks projecting above the surface. If they fed in deep water, they tilted their bodies so that their tails pointed skyward. They paddled gently with their feet to maintain their balance while tilted in this manner.

This flock was by no means silent and continued to shout and call all the while I watched them. Their most unusual call was like a high-pitched bark. Perhaps the words "how, how, how" given quickly and sharply best represent it.

--- Minneapolis, Minnesota

EDITOR'S NOTE

Many members of the club, we realize, are so busy they do not have much time for hiking and birding during the year; and for that reason do not have material to envelope into a fair sized story for The Flicker.

However, many of the most interesting notes on bird-life are taken at casual moments. Too often these are laid aside because they are believed to be too brief for publication.

In the last issue of The Flicker a page was devoted to just such notes. For this issue, there was not a sufficient number to justify printing. It is hoped that the members will mail in such notes of this type for future issues. They are of value.

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MINNESOTA BIRD CLUB

President, Charles Evans, 701-15th Ave., S.E., Minneapolis, Minn.
Vice-President, Robert Turner, 1005 University Ave., S.E. Minneapolis
Secy.-Treasurer, Robert Upson, 4405 Lyndale Ave., S., Minneapolis
Editor, George Rysgaard, 1400 Capitol Ave., St. Paul, Minnesota
Dues, active members, \$1 per annum; associate members, \$0.50

The editor wishes to apologize to the club members for the tardiness of this issue of The Flicker. Not fully realizing the great amount of work involved in compiling the fund os nesting reports, I allowed myself to delay the beginning of the task. With this humble and feeble excuse, the editor submits this issue which is devoted totally to the publication of Minnesota nesting records submitted by members of the Minnesota Bird Club.

At the first autumn meeting of the Minnesota Bird Club hold on October 8, 1936 at eight p.m., various members narrated to the group their interesting bird observations and finds that they had made during the summer months.

In the absence of Charles Evans, president, whos is in the confines of the University Hospital, Robert Turner presided.

THE 1936 NESTING SEASON

Compiled by George Rysgaard

The nesting records submitted by twenty-eight members of the Minnesota Bird Club have been condensed in the following pages in similar fashion to precedent compilations in the club publication.

A total of 128 species are included in this year's report, the large majority of which represent records of findings of actual nests. The nesting report of this year nearly equals last year's record of 129; but it falls short of the 1934 season when the record included 146 species.

Of the unusual reports for this season, the prize find of the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher's nest by Donald and Mrs. Mahle is the most interesting. Others as the Western Grebe nests found by Robert Upson, the Red-breasted Nuthatch, the Olive-backed Thrush, and the Grinnell's Water Thrush nests found by E. D. Swedenborg, and the nesting Piping Plover noted by Charles DuToit are all of exceptional interest to the bird student.

In each case the species, locality, date and contents of the nest found have been listed. When no locality is given, the observation was made in the Twin City area.

COMMON LOON

The first and only nest of this species found and reported by a club member was that located by Marius Morse on June 24th on a small island in Bear Lake, Cloquet Valley Forest. The nest contained two eggs. On July 4th Alden Risser and Olio Fischer saw two broods of two small young on Saganoga Lake. One large young was seen near Excelsior on August 15th by E. Swedenborg.

WESTERN GREBE

Nine nests of this interesting "Swan-necked Grebe" were found by Robert Upson on May 23rd. One nest contained two eggs, five nests held on egg each, and three nests were empty. The 1935 nesting report of the T. S. Roberts Ornithological Club named their find of the Western Grebe's nest as the "prize find", it being the first reported since 1899.

HORNED GREBE

Ralph Woolsey located eight nests with four to six eggs apiece on June 10th in Becker County. Aiden Risser, Leander Fischer and their party of canoeists observed a brood of small young July 9th at Lac La Croix.

PIED-BILLED GREBE

Of the four "Hell-divers" nests reported, the two earliest were found by Robert Upson. The first, found on May 12th, contained seven eggs. Arnold Erickson reported seeing three young with adults on June 25th and another brood of two with parents at St. Croix National Park on the thirtieth of the same month.

GREAT BLUE HERON

J. P. Jensen reports nests numbering between 150 and 175 in the heronry on Sioux Lake near Dassel. On June 22nd the young herons were two-thirds grown and had commenced to climb about in the tree tops.

GREEN HERON

On May 24th a nest built in a boxelder grove on the Sioux Lake shore contained five eggs as reported by Jensen. W. J. Breckenridge discovered young on wing still showing traces of down on its body.

AMERICAN BITTERN

An empty nest of this stealthy creature of the marsh was found by Paul Highby in a blueberry swamp in St. Louis Co. May 26th.

LEAST BITTERN

Robert Upson reports seven nests of this diminutive bittern as proof of their breeding in numbers in the Twin City area. Two nests contained two eggs each, one nest held three eggs; one nest had four eggs, and the seventh housed five eggs.

MALLARD

The first nest, which contained eleven eggs, was discovered by E. D. Swedenborg on May 9th; the following day a nest containing twelve eggs was found by George Rysgaard. Marius Morse's huntings disclosed a nest of ten eggs in a nest at Cloquet. Milton Thompson found a nest of ten eggs on May 26th near Eveleth.

BLACK DUCK

The only report for this species was submitted by Alden Risser and Olie Fischer. On July 9th they saw a brood of large young on the Malinge River.

GADWALL

Robert Upson saw seven or nine downy youngsters on May 23rd with an adult female on Lake Traverse. The young swam about such a great deal and so rapidly that he could not be sure of the number in the brood.

PINTAIL

The lone record for the American Pintail is that which Robert Upson, high-point nest finder, reported. He saw a female leading a brood of six downy young on Lake Traverse on May 24th.

BLUE-WINGED TEAL

The earliest record comes from W. J. Breckenridge who located a nest of six eggs in Ramsey County on June 4th; four days later he noted ten downy young in Hennepin County. Alden Risser saw a brood of downy young near St. Paul on June 21st. E. D. Swedenborg and Arnold Erickson both saw half-grown young on July 19th.

WOOD DUCK

Kenneth Carlander submitted two dates for this species. On the twenty-fourth of June he saw nine nearly full grown young with a female at Hackensack; four days later he sighted another set of eight small young in the same region. Arnold Erickson saw fourteen young yet unable to fly at the St. Croix Nat'. Park.

RING-NECKED DUCK

Two broods of ten each were seen by J. P. Jensen in Meeker County near Dassel on June 3rd.

AMERICAN GOLDEN-EYE

E. D. Swedenborg saw a female with seven young June 4th at Lake Christeen, Cook County. Alden Risser and Olie Fischer's party saw several broods of small young north of Ely on July 7th.

HOODED MERGANSER

Alden Risser and Leander Fischer and party saw two broods; the first brood was seen July 7th, the second on July 9th north of Ely.

AMERICAN MERGANSER

The first reported nest was that submitted by Dr. Hagie who located a nest of twelve eggs in a hollow stump at Lake Vermillion on June 14th. E. D. Swedenborg saw a female with seven very small on Caribou Lake on June 25th. Risser and Fischer saw many broods of these fish-eating ducks on Junter's Island, north of Ely from July 5th to 11th. Don Mahle reported seeing a brood of eleven half-grown young on Burntside Lake on July 24th.

EASTERN GOSHAWK

A young of the "Big Blue Darter" was brought into the Arrowhead Museum alive after the nest had been destroyed and the female killed.

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK

The only record for this species was a nest of unknown contents at Sturgeon Lake which George Rysgaard found on July 12th.

COOPER'S HAWK

The first reported nest was found on May 2nd by Charles Evans, Dr. and Mrs. Mahle, and H.S. Dhesi in a tamarack swamp near Minneapolis. At this time the nest held one egg; the following day Robert Upson viewed it when it held two eggs. Dr. Risser found a nest of four eggs near Frontenac on May 10th. A nest of four eggs was located near So. St. Paul by the Mahles on May 16th.

RED-TAILED HAWK

On April 26th Robert Upson discovered a nest with two young clad still in down. W. J. Breckenridge saw an occupied nest on the thirtieth of April in Anoka County. Arnold Erickson reported three occupied nests in Pine County; the first on May 29th held a young in natal down and a partly eaten snowshoe rabbit. In a Norway Pine on June 11th he discovered a nest which held triplet young, half-grown. A. Erickson found a nest which held two three week old youngsters on June 16th. Charles DuToit saw a nest of unknown contents on July 1st.

BROAD-WINGED HAWK

A nest of two eggs was found by Robert Upson, A. Berthal and Robert Turner on May 14th. Paul Highby and Milton Thompson also found a two egg nest on May 20th in St. Louis County. On July 20th William Zaleznikar found a nest of four young in a nest in the Arrowhead country at Aurora.

BALD EAGLE

In Itasca State Park, Kenneth Carlander found a nest on May 29th which was occupied and probably held eggs or small young.

MARSH HAWK

Kenneth Carlander has the earliest date for the Harrier, April 11th, when he saw the bird building near Delano. On May 2nd Chuck Evans, Don and Mrs. Mahle, and H. S. Dhesi found a nest with a single egg in the tamarack swamp near Minneapolis. The following day this nest was chanced upon by Upsen; it then held two eggs. The nest was later destroyed. On May 14th Robert Turner, R. Berthel, and Robert Upsen found another nest approximately in the same spot; it held four eggs, the last of which hatched on June 8th when the nest was visited by George Rysgaard. A nest of five eggs was reported from Ramsey County by W. J. Breckenridge on May 19th. A clutch of eight eggs was found in Pine County by Arnold Erickson on June 8th. The latest nesting report comes from Arnold Erickson who discovered a nest of five eggs on the twenty-second of June in Pine County.

OSPREY

The only report comes from faithful Marius Morse in Cloquet. A nest of unknown contents was viewed by Marius May 4th. This lone pair of fish hawks chose a forty foot birch snag adjacent to the Cloquet River as their home. The C.C.C. camp has erected two signs on the roadside and on the river in an effort to protect this breeding pair.

SPARROW HAWK

W. J. Breckenridge reported four young on wing in Anoka County on July 2nd. On July 23rd George Rysgaard saw five young on wing at Sturgeon Lake.

SPRUCE GROUSE

On July 27th at Lake Burntside Dr. and Mrs. Mahle observed several flocks of half-grown young with adults. When Don Mahle did an imitation distress whistle of a bird, the female would fly at him, stopping a few feet before him "clucking" and snapping its tail open and shut like a collapsible fan.

RUFFED GROUSE

Arnold Erickson observed a female and ten small chicks in Pine County on June 7th. On June 13th an adult with one chick was seen by Zeleznikar; on June 29th he saw another brood of ten near the town of Aurora. Milton Thompson flushed a covey of ten young

at Eveleth. On July 26th Dr. Mahle saw six young able to fly at Burntside Lake.

SHARP-TAILED GROUSE

Arnold Erickson spied a covey of eleven small young on June 25th in Pine County. On July 15th he saw two coveys of half-grown in Pine County.

RING-NECKED PHEASANT

The first to find a nest of this species this season was Upson who discovered on June 4th one containing thirteen eggs. The next to make observations on the pheasant was E. D. Swedenborg who saw two broods of small young, the first on July 5th was a brood of seventeen, the second seen on July 19th embraced eleven. Mrs. C. E. Peterson of Madison saw several young there on July 14th.

VIRGINIA RAIL

E. D. Swedenborg located a nest of nine eggs on May 28th. A nest completed but empty was found two days later by Swedenborg. A nest containing six eggs was found on May 31st by Robert Upson.

SANDHILL CRANE

The sole report for this species comes from Arnold Erickson. A pair of adults and two young were seen by him on September 16th as they winged their way across the St. Croix River in Pine Co.

SORA RAIL

On May 30th, E. D. Swedenborg discovered three nests of the noisy marsh resident near Minneapolis; they contained nine, thirteen, and eleven eggs respectively. A dead downy young was found in a nest at St. James on June 26th by Paul Highby.

FLORIDA GALLINULE

An adult with five young was observed on July 19th by E. D. Swedenborg at Shakopee.

AMERICAN COOT

On May 12th the first nest was found by Robert Upson. On this day it held four eggs. On the 23rd of the same month Upson

found six nests at Lake Traverse. The nests held from one to nine eggs each. The latest nest was found on June 14th at Linwood Lake by the club members and contained six eggs.

PIPING PLOVER

Charles DuToit reports the only record for this species. Four small young were seen by Charles at Lake Ida on July 17th. Two days later he saw another small young at Lake Carlos.

KILLDEER

The earliest report comes from Mary Voiovich who discovered a nest on May 25th containing four eggs at Aurora. W. J. Breckenridge found a nest of four eggs in Ramsey County on June 4th. A nest was found by Alden Risser and George Rysgaard near Saint Paul on June 7th at which time it held two eggs. On July 8th W. J. Breckenridge saw downy chicks in Hennepin County.

WOODCOCK

No records for Minnesota were submitted, but Kenneth Carlander, Donald Hobbs and Robert Turner reported a nest which was built on the Wisconsin side of the Taylor's Falls Inter-state Park. The bird-chasers flushed an adult from the nest of two eggs.

WILSON'S SNIPE

Dr. Breckenridge discovered two downy young on June 7th at Birch Lake, Ramsey County.

UPLAND PLOVER

On June 27th Robert Upson noted an adult with two-thirds grown young. Mrs. C. E. Peterson at Madison reported young with adult on June 5th.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER

Highbly located two nests at Aurora, the first on June 5th hold a set of four eggs, the second on June 11th also held four eggs. A nest was found by the club members on June 13th at Linwood Lake containing four eggs. Between July 19th and 24th George Rysgaard saw young feeding with adults daily on the shores of Sturgeon Lake.

HERRING GULL

Dr. E. D. Swedenborg reports eleven nests found near Grand Marais on June 23rd. Five nests held three eggs each, five containing two eggs each, and one nest held one egg. On July 10th Alden Risser and party saw small young at Crooked Lake.

COMMON TERN

Charles Evans' find of some one hundred nests at Mille Lacs on June 19th is the only reported record for this species for this year. The nests contained from one to three eggs each.

BLACK TERN

Turner and Upson located a nest containing one egg on May 27th. At Lake Independence on July 5th, Dr. Swedenborg located a nest of three eggs.

MOURNING DOVE

Mrs. C. E. Peterson observed a nest under construction on May 27th. The first reported nest with eggs was found by Robert Upson on May 9th; the nest held one egg. On May 26th Mrs. Peterson reported young out of the nest at Madison. Mrs. Peterson also reported the latest nest, a nest containing two young on July 20th at Madison.

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO

The only report for the "Rain Crow" was that turned in by George Rysgaard. Near Minneapolis a nest containing three eggs of the Yellow-billed and one of the Black-billed was found on June 7th.

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO

E. D. Swedenborg found three nests in the Minneapolis region. Each held two eggs and were located on May 28th, June 13th and July 7th respectively. On June 7th, George Rysgaard found a nest of two eggs. The bird club members found a nest at Linwood on June 13th; it held three eggs.

BARRED OWL

Two ~~sawing~~ young were discovered at Linwood Lake by the members on June 14th.

LONG-EARED OWL

Robert Upson takes the first prize again for finding the early nest. He found a nest of six eggs on April 26th. Dr. Breckenridge saw five newly hatched young in Ramsey County on May 19th. A nest with two large young was discovered by E. D. Swedenborg on May 17th.

NIGHTHAWK

The earliest date comes from Bert Hawkins at Whitefish Lake. He found a nest of two eggs. Arnold Erickson saw two large

young in Pine County on June 15th. On June 22nd he found a nest of two eggs.

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD

J. P. Jensen found a specimen of that gem among nests on June 18th at Dassel. It held two eggs at this time. Upson found a nest (contents unknown) on June 24th. Mrs. Petersen at Madison observed young out of the nest on July 20th.

BELTED KINGFISHER

A nest of four eggs in the side of a gravel pit was found by Marius Morse on June 10th at Cloquet.

FLICKER

A great number of nests of this species were reported. Highby and Thompson found two nests on May 25th at Aurora, one contained four eggs and the other two eggs and two young. Robert Upson reported the latest nest which he found on June 27th when it housed three quilled young.

PILEATED WOODPECKER

Dr. Swedenborg sought out a nest of two eggs on May 31st. J. P. Jensen found a nest with female incubating on June 22nd in Meeker County. Five young able to fly were seen by Charles DuToit on June 28th in Douglas County.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER

On July 5th a nest of small young was found by E. D. Swedenborg near Minneapolis; on the same date he observed young just out of the nest. Mrs. Peterson at Madison reported young just out of the nest on July 11th.

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER

Kenneth Carlander located a nest with eggs in Itasca State Park on May 30th. Robert Upson, on June 24th, found a nest of young. A record from Thompson at Aurora reports found young out of nest on June 28th.

HAIRY WOODPECKER

The only two nests reported were located by Swedenborg. Small young occupied the first nest found on May 20th. On June 23rd he found the second nest at Brule River; it held small young.

DOWNY WOODPECKER

A nest of small young was found by E. D. Swedenborg June 13th. An adult feeding three fledglings near a nesting hole was seen by Robert Upson on June 24th. Three young just out of the nest were seen by Kenneth Carlander at Hackensack on July 16th.

EASTERN KINGBIRD

Kenneth Carlander observed building operations at Itasca Park on May 28th. A nest of four eggs was found by Zeleznikar near Aurora on June 5th. Paul Highby found a nest in the same area on June 11th when it held one egg. Arnold Erickson found small young in a nest in Pine County on June 22nd. Alden Risser, Olie Fischer, and party found small young on Birch Island on July 3rd.

ARKANSAS KINGBIRD

A partially completed nest was found by Robert Upson at Lake Traverse on May 23rd. Mrs. Peterson at Madison reported a nest completed on June 19th, female incubating on June 24th, and young out of the nest on July 13th.

CRESTED FLYCATCHER

Kenneth Carlander saw young on June 21st at Hackensack.

EASTERN PHOEBE

The earliest record comes from Kenneth Carlander who observed adults building at Lake Independence on April 19th. Swedenborg reported several nests; one found on May 17th held but one egg, while a nest found by him three days later held five eggs. As well as reporting the earliest date for the "Bridge-bird", Ken Carlander reported the latest nest which held young ready to leave the nest on August at Hackensack.

ALDER FLYCATCHER

Mrs. Peterson located two nests at Madison. Three eggs made up the contents of the first, and the second contained a set of four eggs. Both nests were built in upland groves, an uncommon nesting site for the little Alder. On July 14th a nest with one egg and one nestling was found in the same area.

LEAST FLYCATCHER

Bird club members at Linwood Lake discovered an early nest of the diminutive Chebec on June 14th when it held one snow white egg. Three days later the ever active Robert Upson located a nest of three eggs. George Rysgaard found a female incubating a nest of eggs on July 7th at Sturgeon Lake.

HORNED LARK

George Rysgaard reported the only nest. On April 29th a nest, but little more than an excavation in the cinder track of the Hamline University athletic field, contained three half-grown young. The editor placed stakes about the nest; the parents continued the care of the young, raising two to maturity despite continual disturbance of practicing track men.

TREE SWALLOW

On May 22nd Robert Upson found a pair industriously building a nest in a roadside mailbox near Minneapolis. George Rysgaard found a pair incubating eggs in a deserted woodpecker hole at Long Meadow on May 30th. On June 28th E. D. Swedenborg saw young being fed out of the nest.

BANK SWALLOW

Kenneth Carlander found the "Sand Martins" already nesting on May 10th on which date they were incubating eggs. E. D. Swedenborg observed them building on May 17th; he also found nestling Bank Swallows on this date.

ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW

The records for this species are limited to two. E. D. Swedenborg observed this species building on May 17th; George Rysgaard found a nest of six eggs on June 8th.

BARN SWALLOW

June 7th, the earliest reported date for the nesting of the beautiful member of the swallow family comes from Rysgaard who saw a pair incubating at Long Meadow; the nest was inaccessible. A group of nests with young was found by Kenneth Carlander June 30th at Hackensack. On August 3rd Kenneth Carlander saw six young ready to take wing at Hackensack.

CLIFF SWALLOW

E. D. Swedenborg again captures the early date, when this time he observed four nests of the Cliff Swallow under construction on May 8th at 62nd, and Penn Avenue. On May 17th these birds were incubating. Robert Turner located two occupied nests south of Minneapolis on May 14th. Three pair were observed by Robert Upson carrying feathers into completed nests built at Benson beneath a bridge.

PURPLE MARTIN

A good number of nests of this species were reported. On May 28th a nest at Itasca State Park containing eggs was discovered by Ken Carlander. A. C. Rosenwinkel saw young ready to fly at Giese on July 10th. Nests containing young were reported by Kenneth Carlander for July 21st.

BLUE JAY

May is the early date for this gaudy, vociferous marauder. Robert Upson discovered a nest of two eggs near Minneapolis on this date. E. D. Swedenborg found a nest containing four large young on June 21st near Minneapolis.

EASTERN CROW

Seven nests of the crafty and cunning crow were discovered. Five eggs was the contents of a nest discovered by Robert Upson April 26th; the following day he found a nest of four eggs. Swedenborg's discovery of a nest on May 7th revealed small young. George Rysgaard saw young birds just out of the nest on June 8th.

BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE

The Bird Club members found a nest of three large young on June 14th at Linwood Lake. Mrs. Peterson saw young out of nest June 19th.

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH

A nest containing eggs was found at Fort Snelling by Kenneth Carlander on April 25th. Alden Risser, Mr. and Mrs. Mahle, Arnold Erickson and the editor found a nest of unknown number of young at Frontenac on May 24th. Swedenborg saw young being fed out of their nest on June 11th.

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH

The only record comes from E. D. Swedenborg at Brule River where on June 23rd he found a nest of small young.

HOUSE WREN

The first reported nest of this cheerful and welcome little songster was found by the Minnesota Bird Club members at Linwood Lake on June 13th and contained three eggs and one young. Mrs. Peterson reported two broods being fed in their nests at Madison June 28th. The latest date comes from the Mahles at Plainview who found five eggs being incubated on August 4th.

LONG-BILLED MARSH WREN

On May 31st Robert Upson found a number of nests and submitted this report: "I located several nests, but apparently all I investigated were dummies. May be I was the dummy." Risser and Rysgaard did some what better; they found four nests at Long Meadow on June 7th. The nests held one, one, three, and two eggs respectively. E. D. Swedenborg locatet five unlined nests on July 5th at Lake Independence.

CATBIRD

Risser, Don and Mrs. Mahle, Erickson and Rysgaard located a sum of twenty nests of this dull-colored mimic at Frontenac on May 24th. Twelve nests held four eggs each, five contained three eggs each, two nests had five eggs apiece, and two eggs were found in the twentieth nest. Paul Highby found a nest with one egg at Aurora on July 29th.

BROWN THRASHER

A large numbef of nests of this northern rival of the Mockingbird were reported. On May 5th a pair were observed building in St. Paul by George Rysgaard. On May 9th a nest containing one egg was found built on the ground. On May 23rd Alden Risser and George Rysgaard found a nest built on the ground in a brush thicket at Frontenac. It held three eggs of the native bird and one Cowbird egg when it was found with the aid of a flashlight in the middle of the night. Incidentally the two discoverers were seeking firewood at the time of the discovery and were not intentionally hunting Brown Thrasher nests. The latest nest was found at Madison by Mrs. Peterson on June 28th at which time it held young nestlings.

EASTERN ROBIN

On April 27th a nest at Madison was noted to be under construction. A completed nest was found by Kenneth Carlander April 28th in Minneapolis. The first nest with eggs was found May 6th by Arnold Erickson in Hennepin County; the nest held four oggs. The latest report comes from Robert Upson who located a nest of small young on August 13th.

WOOD THRUSH

On May 22nd a nest found by Swedenborg held two eggs. Robert Upson discovered two nests on May 22nd; one held three eggs; a Cowbird's egg and three eggs of the owner were found in the second nest.

HERMIT THRUSH

Marius Morse was the sole reporter of this species. At the Cloquet Valley State Forest he found two nests. That found on May 18th held four eggs, while the other found May 22nd held two eggs.

OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH

E. D. Swedenborg found a nest of one egg June 25th at Caribou Lake. This is the only reported record for this species.

WILLOW THRUSH

The first reported nest was found on June 7th at Excelsior by E. D. Swedenborg; the nest held three eggs. The members of the Minneapolis Bird Club found a nest sheltering three young and one egg on June 14th at Linwood Lake. Kenneth Carlander, Mrs. Peterson and George Rysgaard reported nests for late June. The latest report comes from Carlander who found adults feeding young Cowbirds out of the nest on July 24th.

BLUEBIRD

Thompson at Aurora reports a nest with five eggs on May 28th. A nest was shown George Rysgaard at North Branch which had, at that time, two young and one infertile egg. On June 8th Robert Upson and George Rysgaard found a nest of five eggs, one of which was infertile. July 19th E. D. Swedenborg reported a nest containing four eggs.

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER

One of the year's prize finds was the nest of this graceful little body by Dr. and Mrs. Muhle. The nest was discovered on May 16th near South St. Paul and at this time held no eggs. On May 23rd when viewed by Alden Risser, Arnold Erickson, Don and Mrs. Mahle and George Rysgaard, it held a total of five eggs. Since 1894 but one other actual nest has been reported, that being found at St. Cloud on June 17, 1934 by Jack Hanson and Nester Hiemenz. The nest contained three addled eggs and two young.

CEDAR WAXWING

In Pine County on June 11th Arnold Erickson saw adults building. E. D. Swedenborg found a completed but empty nest at Caribou Lake on June 21st. Construction of a nest was begun at Sturgeon Lake on July 7th as reported by G. Rysgaard. The first and only nest with eggs reported was that found July 29th by Paul Highby at Aurora. The contents were four eggs.

MIGRANT SHRIKE

Alden Risser and Charles Evans captured the early date for the "Butcher-bird" when they located a completed nest April 19th at Rushford. A nest of six eggs was found on May 10th by E. D. Swedenborg. On May 24th both Bob Upson and Swedenborg found nests. Upson's nest at Lake Traverse held five large young; Swedenborg's discovery was of small young. Mrs. C. E. Peterson at Madison observed three grown young June 14th.

STARLING

Three nests of this western advancing, unwelcome individual were found by club members. At Frontenac E. D. Swedenborg located a nest in a telephone pole. Thompson reported seeing adults carry food to young in nest located near the top of a telephone pole on May 29th at Aurora. A nest containing one young was found by Thompson on June 15th at Aurora.

RED-EYED VIREO

Twelve nests were reported for this species. Credit goes to Dr. Swedenborg who found adults constructing a camouflaged nest on June 7th at Excelsior. Kenneth Carlander discovered a nest with one young and two eggs at Hackensack on July 18th. The following day Mrs. C. E. Peterson reported young out of the nest at Madison, and Robert Upson found a nest containing two vireo eggs and three Cowbird eggs. The latest date was August 5th at which time Ken Carlander saw adults feeding young Cowbirds just out of the nest.

WARBLING VIREO

Mrs. C. E. Peterson at Madison observed an adult feeding a Cowbird young just out of the nest.

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER

A sole record for this warbler comes from Aurora where its nest was discovered by one of Thompson's aids; the contents was three eggs. This nest was found June 8th.

NASHVILLE WARBLER

One nest containing three eggs was discovered on June 14th at Whitefish Lake by Bert Hawkins.

YELLOW WARBLER

E. D. Swedenborg was on his toes to find the Yellow Warbler building on May 16th near Minneapolis. The first nests with eggs were found by Don and Mrs. Mahle, Alden Risser, Arnold Erickson and George Rysgaard on May 24th at Frontenac. Two

of the three nests held two and four eggs respectively; the contents of the third is unknown. A nest of four eggs was found by George Kuntz at Stillwater June 11th. Many members reported nests for this common little warbler. The latest nesting date was July 8th when George Rysgaard located a nest of three eggs at Sturgeon Lake.

OVENBIRD

A nest of five eggs of the "Teacher Bird" was found by Ken Carlander on May 28th. E. D. Swedenborg saw adults carrying food on June 14th. The following day Erickson discovered a nest of four eggs in Pine County.

GRINNELL'S WATER THRUSH

Swedenborg saw a nest of three large young June 21st at Caribou Lake.

NORTHERN YELLOWTHROAT

On June 7th Alden Risser and George Rysgaard found three nests near Long Meadow. The nests held five eggs, four eggs, and a Cowbird's egg, and one egg and three young respectively. The club members discovered a nest at Linwood Lake June 14th which held two eggs. W. J. Breckenridge located two nests. A nest found in Hennepin County on June 15th held four eggs; a nest in Anoka County on July 2nd held three eggs.

AMERICAN REDSTART

A five egg nest was found by Swedenborg at Excelsior on June 7th. Also on June 7th George Rysgaard found a nest containing a set of two eggs near Long Meadow. On June 14th a nest containing two small young and one large young Cowbird was located at Minnetonka Mills by Swedenborg. The latest nest was that found by Kenneth Carlander on June 30th at which time the nest held newly hatched young.

ENGLISH SPARROW

For the sake of the record, an English Sparrow's nest record is included. On May 2nd Kenneth Carlander found a nest of six eggs in Minneapolis.

BOBOLINK

The two earliest nests were found on May 30th by E. D. Swedenborg. The first held four eggs; the second held three small young. Robert Upson flushed a female from a nest of six eggs.

on June 8th. A nest of five young was discovered by Rysgaard on June 10th.

EASTERN MEADOWLARK

The only nest reported was found by Dr. and Mrs. Mahle, Dr. Risser, Arnold Erickson, and George Rysgaard on May 24th near Frontenac. The nest held two eggs of the native and two of the parasitic Cowbird.

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD

At Lake Traverse on May 23rd Robert Upson found a nest which held one egg. Nine nests were found by E. D. Swedenborg on May 30th. Four of the nests held eggs: the remainder contained small young. Three nests holding four eggs, three young and one egg, and two nearly fledged young respectively were found on May 31st by Robert Upson.

RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD

Robert Upson found a nest of three eggs on May 2nd. Robert Upson found another nest on May 12th which held one egg. Carlander found a nest of five eggs at Snail Lake on May 19th. On July 8th Rysgaard observed young just out of nest at Sturgeon Lake.

ORCHARD ORIOLE

Mrs. E. O. Wilson saw adults feeding young at Graceville on July 12th.

BALTIMORE ORIOLE

The club members found a nest at Linwood Lake on June 14th. A female was seen feeding large young on June 24th by Robert Upson.

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD

A three egg nest was located by Robert Upson on May 12th. In Pine County on June 17th Arnold Erickson saw three young able to fly. On the same date Charles DuToit discovered a nest of four young at Alexandria.

BRONZED GRACKLE

On May 22nd Robert Upson saw a female leave a nest constructed in a vine in the yard of a resident at Benson. He didn't investigate. On May 27th Thompson at Aurora saw adults feeding young. Robert Upson saw adults feeding large young a-wing on June 19th.

EASTERN COWBIRD

Twenty reports for the nesting of the Cowbird showed a parasitism of fifteen species. The earliest date was May 24th; a Field Sparrow's nest containing two Cowbird's eggs was found at Frontenac by Risser, Don and Mrs. Mahle, Erickson and G. Rysgaard. The latest date was June 30th when Rysgaard found a Chipping Sparrow's nest with one Cowbird egg. A list of the species parasitized is as follows; Brown Thrasher, Wood Thrush, Yellow-throated Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Yellow Warbler, Louisiana Water Thrush, Northern Yellow-throat, Redstart, E. Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow and Song Sparrow.

SCARLET TANAGER

Bert Hawkins found a nest of four eggs on June 14th at Whitefish Lake.

EASTERN CARDINAL

A nest of four eggs was found by Risser, Erickson, Don Mahle, and Rysgaard at Frontenac on May 24th.

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBREAK

Kenneth Carlander saw adults building on May 14th. The first nest with eggs was found at Frontenac by Risser, Don and Mrs. Mahle, Erickson and Rysgaard; the nest held four eggs on May 24th. The latest nest was found by Upson on June 24th and held one egg. On July 9th Mrs. Peterson saw young out of nest near Madison.

INDIGO BUNTING

On June 7th George Rysgaard and Alden Risser found two nests at Long Meadow. One held three eggs, and the other held two eggs and one young.

DICKCISSEL

The only reports were those of Mrs. C. E. Peterson. At Lac qui Parle on July 28th she saw three young out of nest. Again on August 5th she observed adults feeding young out of nest.

EASTERN GOLDFINCH

Swedenborg found a nest of four eggs on August first. This was only nest for this species reported.

LARK BUNTING

Adults were seen feeding young at Lac qui Parle by Mrs. E. O. Wilson on July 19th. The following day Mrs. C. E. Peterson at Madison found a nest of four eggs. On August 5th Mrs. Peterson saw two broods of young being fed out of the nest.

SAVANNAH SPARROW

Marius Morse found a nest of four eggs well concealed in the grass clumps on a bushy upland at Finland on June 20th.

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW

Mrs. C. E. Peterson reported young out of the nest at Madison on July 23rd.

EASTERN VESPER SPARROW

The earliest nest was located on May 12th in Anoka County by W. J. Breckenridge. It held three eggs on this date. Erickson found a nest on June 10th in Pine County which held four eggs. Another nest found by Erickson on June 18th in Pine County held three young. Young birds were seen out of the nest by Mrs. C. E. Peterson at Madison on July 23rd.

SLATE-COLORED JUNCO

At Lake Caribou on June 22nd E. D. Swedenborg located a nest of one egg.

CHIPPING SPARROW.

George Kuntz reports the earliest nest which he located near Stillwater on May 11th; the nest held one egg. A five egg nest was found by Paul Highby at Aurora on May 25th. The latest nest was found July 10th by A. C. Rosenwinkel at Finlayson and held young ready to leave the nest.

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW

Arnold Erickson found a nest of three eggs in Pine County on June 11th. On June 15th he found another nest in Pine County which held four eggs. A nest of two young and one egg found June 13th in Pine County by Erickson is the latest record.

EASTERN FIELD SPARROW

Arnold Erickson saw adults feeding young in Pine County June 14th. Swedenborg saw young being fed out of nest on June 28th. Risser, Bon and Mrs. Mahle, Erickson, Rysgaard located a nest of two native eggs and two Cowbird's eggs at Frontenac on May 24th.

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW

Milton Thompson found a nest of four eggs at Aurora on May 24th. E. D. Swedenborg saw young just out of the nest at Brule River on June 23rd.

SWAMP SPARROW

Marius Morse found a nest of three eggs at Cloquet May 26th. Two nests were found on June 7th by Risser and Rysgaard. One contained three young; the other four young.

SONG SPARROW

A great many nests of this species were found and reported. A nest of four eggs found by Ken Carlander at Bloomington Ferry on May 12th. Carlander found a second nest on May 20th at Hackensack; it held four eggs. Many nests of eggs and young were reported for the month of June. The latest nest was located by Swedenborg on July 19th and held four eggs.

--- St. Paul, Minnesota

NOTICE TO BUTTERFLY COLLECTORS

Dr. Ralph W. Macy of the St. Thomas College biology department is making a survey of Minnesota Lepidoptera to be published sometime this coming year. Collectors having data for species taken in Minnesota may greatly aid by submitting their records.

Records may be sent directly to Dr. Ralph Macy, St. Thomas College, St. Paul or to the editor of The Flicker.

APPEAL FOR COOPERATION IN COLLECTING LOCAL NAMES OF BIRDS

Editor's Note: The following statement has been issued by the Bureau of Biological Survey in hopes of securing, through the co-operation of ornithologically-minded students, the local vernacular names for publication.

"The Biological Survey has long been compiling the vernacular names of A.O.U. Check-list birds with a view to preparing a dictionary of them. These names consist of two groups: (1) Those available from literature of ornithology, which is largely accessible in Washington; and (2) those that must be collected in field. Only by thorough coverage of the country can the compilation of vernacular names attain anything like completeness, and that coverage can be achieved only through co-operation.

It is hoped that all recipients of this memorandum may have some local names to contribute and that some may be in position to spend time in search of vernacular names. Accurate identification is of prime importance. In gathering local names by the method of interviewing, it is suggested that use be made of good colored pictures of the birds concerned as well as of questions regarding their identity.

The recording of the locality where a name is used is of great value in the study of the origin and migration of these terms, and the record of names actually employed by the people, even for most common as well as for more unusual species of birds, is highly desirable as an aid in appraising usage. The information requested may be conveniently recorded under either the standard scientific or the vernacular name, or both, followed by the locally used terms and designation of the place of use.

Example: Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus luteus*).
Flying auger, Marthas Vineyard, Mass."

THE FLICKER

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MINNESOTA BIRD CLUB

President, Charles Evans, 701-15th Ave., S.E., Minneapolis, Minn.
Vice-President, Robert Turner, 1005 University Ave. S.E., Mpls.
Secy.-Treasurer, Robert Upson, 4405 Lyndale Ave. S, Minneapolis
Editor, George Rysgaard, 1400 Capitol Ave., St. Paul, Minnesota

The Minnesota Bird Club held its regular November meeting on Thursday, the 12th of the month, in the Zoology Building at the University of Minnesota.

William Webb, who has been working with the Emergency Conservation Works at Orr, Minnesota as game manager, addressed the group and gave an interesting and enlightening account dealing with the methods of a game manager.

The December meeting of the Minnesota Bird Club called to order at 8 p.m., Thursday, December 10th, 1936 by Robert Turner, vice-president, concluded the eight year of its existence.

The speaker of the evening was W. J. Breckenridge, curator of the University of Minnesota, Museum of Natural History. W. J. Breckenridge assembled the group in his office where he demonstrated and explained the technique in preparing museum exhibits. Mr. Breckenridge followed his talk with colored motion pictures of birds in various activities of life.

A FEW INTIMATE NOTES ON SOME COMMON BIRDS

by Kenneth Carlander

While acting as nature study counselor at Camp Hills-way-on Ten Mile Lake near Hackensack, Minnesota, I noticed many queer little incidents in the lives of various birds---small individual traits of the type which rarely find their way into pages of our bird books.

As a whole, they were comparatively few birds. During the summer, I saw few more than sixty species. The only record of unusual interest was that of a King Rail seen on August 5th in a swamp near camp.

On June 25th, we found a Chipping Sparrow's nest located in a two foot spruce in the front yard of the lodge. At this time the young were nearing the age to leave the nest. Although the campers had been playing around this tree for nearly a week, the nest remained undiscovered all the while. The parents continued to feed the young fledglings while we came and went by the tree; they would even carry food to the young while we stood within five or six feet. On June 30th, the young left the nest. On July 2nd, I saw the pair commencing to build again. (I feel sure that it was the same pair, as there were but a few pair in the camp). This time they built in a Norway pine near the first nest, but the nest was located safe from interference some forty feet above the ground.

Flycatchers were common throughout the woods, Phoebe being most often noticed. However, there was one Least Flycatcher that I watched in particular. He was invariably to be seen perched on a twig over-hanging the garbage pit, taking advantage of the flies attracted there.

Cowbirds were extremely abundant. Red-eyed Vireos and Willow Thrushes were most often victimized. The young birds appeared unusually tame, allowing a person to approach them closely without showing alarm. I succeeded in touching one several times, but I was unable to catch him to band. On several occasions I attempted to catch them with butterfly nets, but seemingly sensing the danger, they would fly into the trees just out of reach. One day I observed a Willow Thrush attempting to teach a young Cowbird to hop rather than to walk. The Thrush stopped the Cowbird and hopped in front of him. Seemingly paying little attention, the Cowbird soon continued to walk on---only to be stopped again and again, all to no avail.

From the middle of June until the middle of July, a Whip-poor-will would begin his calling nightly at 9:15. In our cabin was an alarm clock which ran about fifteen hours, and we usually found it stopped by evening on our return. We would listen for the first calls of the Whip-poor-will by which we would set our time-piece.

On the 26th of July, O observed a Cedar Waxwing tearing apart a discarded nest of a Yellow Warbler. He extracted the long strings, evidently to use them in his own nest.

While examining an abandoned Bank Swallow nesting colony on August 5th, I frightened three young birds from one of the burrows. They still had stubby tails but could fly well enough to get along. When I returned two hours later, at 7 p.m., I put my hand in the same hole; I could feel nothing. The moment that I withdrew my hand, the three birds flew out. This time I noted them closely. They were young Tree Swallows! Were they birds which had sought refuge in the Bank Swallow's burrow—it was too early for roosting—or had the Tree Swallows turned to earthen holes for nesting? When I returned one hour later, the burrows were apparently empty.

--- Hackensack, Minnesota

THE IMMIGRATION OF THE STARLING IN NORTHEASTERN MINNESOTA

by Milton Thompson

The Starling is now firmly established in St. Louis Co., at least from Aurora to Mountain Iron. It seems to make little difference where I go I rarely fail to see one or more during a short trip afield.

The first nest of last season was located by myself in a telephone pole about ten feet above the ground on May 14th, 1936. On the 29th of the month Mr. Highby observed an adult carrying food to the nest and could hear the young birds, although he did not see them. Two other nests were located in the immediate vicinity of Aurora during the summer, 1936. On June 8th Edward Zeleznikar located a nest in a dead birch some twenty feet above the ground in a burned-over-tract. One adult was taken, and the skin is now in the Arrowhead Museum.

The Starlings on the range have inhabited the rural regions and are only occasionally seen in the town limits. I also find the birds very wary in extreme contrast to their Chicago relatives who walk about in the crowds of people in utter disdain of them. I waited concealed beneath a willow bush for forty-five minutes within 65 feet of the nest before the adults, which were all the while only one hundred yards or so from the nest, ventured to light in the hole.

They gathered their nesting material from the numerous open fields, and their flight and actions resemble much the mannerisms of Bobolinks.

--- Aurora, Minnesota

MINNESOTA NESTING RECORDS OF THE RING-BILLED GULL

by Milton Thompson

On July 5th, 1936 in Cook County, Minnesota, one-half mile west of Cascade Park on a rocky point jutting into Lake Superior, Dr. Hagie collected two nestling Ring-billed Gulls. They were in downy plumage and their dark bills had white tips. They were identified by myself and are now in the Arrowhead Museum.

Dr. Hagie's description of the collecting of the nestling Ring-bills is as follows: "The two young Ring-billed Gulls were found on a low ledge of rock jutting into Lake Superior, approximately one-half mile west of the mouth of Cascade Creek, a short distance west of Grand Marais. They were not more than two or three feet above the level of the lake, and they were protected by a large slap of rock supported on smaller pieces about ten inches above the floor rock. The adult gulls were soaring overhead and would from time to time swoop down close to me in an effort to drive me away."

--- Aurora, Minnesota

ERRORS NOTED IN THE 1936 MINNESOTA NESTING RECORDS

The editor's attention has been drawn to several mistakes made in collaborating the Minnesota nesting records which appeared in the last issue of The Flicker.

The location of the find of Robert Upson's nine nests of the Western Grebe was omitted. These nests were discovered at Lake Traverse on May 23rd.

The account of the nesting Wilson's Phalarope was entirely omitted. The account should read as follows:

"At Linwood Lake two nervous adults disclosed the whereabouts of their downy young to several members of the Minnesota Bird Club on June 13th. One chick only was seen."

NOTES OF INTEREST

AMERICAN ROUGH-LEGGED BUZZARD: Near Zumbro River, Don Mahle and his wife watched a "Black Hawk" capture a mouse for its meal. The bird consumed his meal atop a near-by fence post, allowing his observers a wonderful view. November 15th.

EUROPEAN STARLING: Robert Upson observed a Starling in the vicinity of the Walker Art Gallery on September 4th.

MOCKING BIRD: Dr. Donald Mahle observed a single individual at Zumbro River on November 22nd.

SHORT-EARED OWL: Three Short-eared Owls were seen hunting prey in a grassy lowland near Stewartville by George Rysgaard and Alden Risser on December 19th.

BOHEMIAN WAXWING: About forty individuals were noted at Harriet Lake by Robert Upson on November 18th.

PIGEON HAWK: On each of two days, October 2nd and October 20th, Bob Upson observed individuals near Minneapolis.

WIDGEON: Ralph Woolsey reported seeing a single individual in a flock of Mallards at White Bear Lake on December 26th.

NORTHERN SHRIKE: On November 11th a Northern Shrike was seen on a fence post near Minneapolis watching for prey by Robert Upson.

BONAPARTE'S GULLS: Robert Upson reports viewing a very loosely formed flock near Minneapolis on October 4th. The flock, which was moving westward over Minneapolis, was observed for nearly an hour, in which time the maximum and minimum number of individuals in sight at any given time was eleven and four respectively.

GOLDEN-EYE: A female was observed associating with a company of Mallards on White Bear Lake by Ralph Woolsey on December 26th.

GREEN-WINGED TEAL: Three individuals were seen by Ralph Woolsey at White Bear Lake on December 26th.

CANADA GEESE: Arnold Erickson saw two Canada Geese at Long Meadow on October 10th, the opening date of duck season.

SNOW GEESE: On October 14th a flock was seen near New Brighton by Kenneth Carlander.

ENGLISH SPARROW: A partial albino English Sparrow was observed by George Rysgaard in St. Paul on October 21st.

BOOK REVIEWS

by George Rysgaard

WILDLIFE REVIEW: a mimeographed publication by the Bureau of Biological Survey, edited by W. L. McAtee, principal biologist, made its first appearance in issue number one in September, 1935. Since that date, seven issues have appeared in irregular sequence.

The function and purpose of this valuable publication is to abstract articles pertaining to wildlife management and to supply brief informative sketches, bibliographies, and similar useful features.

This publication serves admirably as an index to recent articles and manuscripts dealing with the managing of wildlife in all its phases.

The WILDLIFE REVIEW may be obtained free of charge from Bureau of Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

MIGRATIONS FROM LAND TO SEA, by A. S. Pearse, a recent publication by the Duke Press, deals with the evolutionary migration of salt-water forms to fresh water and land existence.

This one hundred and seventy-four page volume presents itself to the individual interested in ecology, indeed, as a most noteworthy piece of scientific literature. The forty-three page bibliography awares one of the vast volume of data drawn upon in the writing of this compact and concise work. The author discusses the routes taken, the causes for, and the organic changes incurred in the peregrination from sea to land.

This book is published and for sale by the Duke Press at the price of \$3.00.

AUDUBON, by Constance Rourke, is a handsome biography of America's greatest artist-naturalist. The biographer has captured the spirit of John James Audubon, colorfully and authentically portraying him as naturalist, artist, explorer, husband--in all the walks of life. In the words of Henry Seidel Canby, this biography is "a narrative essay upon the life of a wanderer of genius."

The volume contains twelve full page color prints from Audubon's, "Birds of America" and many black and white drawings by James Macdonald.

This book is published by the Harcourt, Brace and Company, 383 Madison Avenue, New York City at \$3.00

(Completed September 20, 1961)