

1-1948

Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 24, no. 1)

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The . . . Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the,
sparkling, from the
dull, and the true,



from the false, is
the aim of
every Ornithologist."

Vol. XXIV

JANUARY, 1948

No. 1

THREE CASES OF PARASITISM BY COWBIRDS

By Walter Shackleton; Prospect

1. The WOOD THRUSH. On May 4, 1947, I observed a pair of Wood Thrushes (*Hylocichla mustelina*) carrying nesting material and soon discovered the nest 4 feet up in a crotch of a fallen limb about 3 inches in diameter. The site was a few feet from the black-top road which runs through the Sleepy Hollow area in Oldham County. Between visits of the Wood Thrush a female Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) was observed going to the nest and sitting down in it as if trying it on for size. She turned her body back and forth in the nest as if shaping it, much as a bird building a nest often does. On May 11 there were two Cowbird eggs and one Thrush egg in the nest. On the thirteenth there were 4 Cowbird eggs but still only one Thrush egg. If other Thrush eggs had been laid, they must have been removed by the Cowbird. On May 23 there were still the same five eggs, at which time several photographs were taken, but on the 25th the nest was empty and deserted. There was no evidence as to the identity of the predator. A search of the area failed to reveal any sign of egg shells. It was suspected that a crow may have carried off the eggs, as one was seen feeding young on the hillside below the nest.

2. The BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER. On May 1, 1947, I observed a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila caerulea*) building a nest 10 feet up in the vertical fork of a small sapling. The site was only eighteen feet from the same black-top road which runs through the "Hollow." The nest was very beautifully constructed and plastered on the outside with lichens. On May 7 there were as yet no eggs laid, but on the 11th there were two eggs; and on the 13th the female was incubating a full clutch of 4 eggs. On the



WOOD THRUSH NEST WITH 4 COWBIRD EGGS
Photo by H. B. Lovell

next day we discovered that a catastrophe had overtaken the nesting. There were only three Gnatcatcher eggs left and these were all punctured. In the center of this scene of desolation rested the much larger egg of a Cowbird. One of the Gnatcatcher's eggs was shattered, and each of the other two had a large puncture, through which part of the contents had run out. The fact that the Cowbird egg was not damaged would indicate that the damage to the other eggs was done by the Cowbird. This of course defeated the purpose of the egg-laying, since it caused the Gnatcatcher to desert. Whether the Cowbird damaged the eggs deliberately, or accidentally in attempting to remove an egg, could not be determined.

3. RED-EYED VIREO. The nest of a Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*) was discovered by Harvey Lovell in the "Hollow" on May 20, 1947. He noticed a Vireo carrying nesting material and located a nearly completed nest 18 feet up in a small tree about 15 feet below the road on the hillside. On May 25 the nest contained 2 Vireo eggs and 1 Cowbird egg. The author removed the Cowbird egg. The next day there were three Vireo eggs, but on May 28 there were again only two Vireo eggs and 1 of the Cowbird. One

of the Vireo eggs had evidently been removed by the Cowbird to make room for her egg. The Cowbird egg was again removed but with unfortunate results, for on June 1 we found the nest deserted. The eggs were cold, and no sign of the adults could be found.

There have been an unusually large number of cases of Cowbird parasitism in northern Kentucky, according to many observers, during the last 2 or 3 years. We do not believe, however, that there are any previously published records of the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher's being parasitized in Kentucky.

UNUSUAL BIRD RECORDS FROM A CALLOWAY COUNTY FARM

Grace Wyatt, Murray State Teachers College

A large farm, the Doran Farm, located one mile southwest of Murray on a county road leading off of Highway 121, yielded some interesting bird records on March 29 and 30, 1947. This farm consists of about 100 acres of open ground, bordered by a dirt road on the east, while the remainder of the field is flanked by deciduous trees and a wet-weather stream. The cultivated area contained the remains of a last year's tobacco crop, a thriving field of clover, a grassy meadow, and a field that was in the process of being plowed.

With a class of fifteen students belonging to the Field Biology Class at Murray State Teachers College, we searched this farm for birds from 8 to 10 A. M., on March 29. We soon discovered that, in spite of the cold west wind at nearly freezing temperature, the farm was occupied by a most interesting avifauna.

1. Pipit (*Anthus spinoletta rubescens*.) A flock of six found in these open fields, a habitat not too different from the Arctic tundra, which is their summer home. One week previously, March 22, I had recorded thirty of these interesting birds in the same plowed fields. I saw one on May 9 taking a dust bath at the Murray College Farm.

2. Upland Plover (*Bartramia longicauda*). Two Upland Plovers came flying in, gave their characteristic call, alighted with their wings held vertically, and then began to feed undisturbed by our presence. This is our first record for the Upland Plover in this vicinity.

3. Prairie Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris praticola*). We were fortunate to find a nest in a depression in the ground in a clover field. It contained 3 eggs. This is the first record of the breeding of this species from south-

western Kentucky, and there are only a few previous records of its nest being discovered in the state (See Lovell, 1947):

The Prairie Horned Lark is the earliest breeding bird of any small passerine species in this part of the world; so it was not surprising that it should be nesting so early.

4. Golden Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*): On this morning the most interesting migratory species successfully eluded us. A flock of birds circled around from one spot to another, but never allowed us to get near enough to get any definite markings or hear a note against the stiff breeze. A few Killdeers finally separated from the flock. That afternoon, determined to solve the mystery, I worked the farm from 2 to 5 P. M. The birds in the flock were still very wary, and again I had to leave without solving their identity.

The next afternoon I rushed back to the field and found the flock still there, but for some reason they were less wary than before. They would fly up, circle, alight, feed, or just stand there, and then repeat the maneuvers. Occasionally they separated into smaller groups, but in general they remained in one flock. They were brown with a light forehead, light area running back to the eye, dusky gray axillars, but no white in the wings. All had light-colored breasts with one exception. This one had the black plumage coming in large patches all the way from the throat to the undertail coverts. I was surprised that more of the flock did not have black bellies or at least were not in changing plumage. I also identified their call, which Ludlow Griscom describes as a hoarse *queedle*. One hundred and sixty-three birds were counted in this flock, the largest number of Golden Plovers I had ever seen. I am familiar with the species in late summer as they migrate southward in Nantucket, Massachusetts. There I have seen them on the mud flats and in the fields in all plumages with the Black-bellied Plovers.

In regard to plumage of Golden Plovers, Bent (1929, p. 181) says "The prenuptial molt of the body plumage begins in March and lasts until May in some individuals; many old winter feathers are often found in breeding birds." It seems, therefore, that March birds should still be largely in winter plumage.

At first it seemed that this must be an unusually early spring date for Golden Plovers this far north. Cooke (1888, *U. S. Dept. Agr. Bull.*, No. 2) gives the following early dates: Gainesville, Texas, March 17, 1885; St. Louis, Missouri in the market, March 26; and a flock at Hennepin,

Illinois, March 31. Bent (1929, p. 190) gives the following early dates for the Mississippi Valley: Fayetteville, Arkansas, March 20; St. Louis, Missouri, March 23; Sandusky, Ohio, March 26; Columbus, Ohio, April 4. Some of the late spring dates were Crab Orchard, Kentucky, May 10; Humewell, Missouri, May 18; Lebanon, Indiana, May 23; and Sandusky, Ohio, May 19.

Recent spring records in Kentucky are Wilson (1940) in Warren County: April 24 and 26, 1935, and May 15, 1937; and Chastain Frazer at Marion May 13, 1946, and May 11 and 12, 1945.

I returned the following day, March 31, to the same area, but the flock was gone, and I saw no more Golden Plovers during the spring.

Other birds observed on our field trip of March 30 were: Turkey Vulture, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Marsh Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Killdeer, Mourning Dove, Flicker, Downy Woodpecker, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, Bluebird, Cedar Waxwing, Migrant Shrike, Meadowlark, Redwing, Bronzed Grackle, Cowbird, Cardinal, Purple Finch (flock of 50), Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, Junco, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, White throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow.

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THE NEST OF A PRAIRIE WARBLER AT MADISONVILLE

By James W. Hancock, Madisonville

Since so little has been published in ornithological literature regarding the nests of warblers breeding in Kentucky, perhaps an account of the nest of the Prairie Warbler

(*Dendroica discolor*) would be of some interest. On May 16, 1947, I found a nest of this species. I was walking up a bush-grown hill on a former logging road when a female flushed from a maple sapling. She perched nearby, vigorously protesting, and I noted the yellow underparts, the black stripes on the sides, the dark line through and another below the eye, etc. The sapling was growing in the road (in which vegetation was again establishing itself), and the nest was placed a little above a fork, fastened between upright limbs, and concealed by the maple leaves, except on the east side, where it could easily be seen. The nest was made of plant stems and fibers, a little bark, and lined with horse-hair and tiny plant stems. It was scarcely two feet above ground and was not set perfectly straight, being placed at a slight angle. There were three eggs, which were spotted and blotched with reddish-brown and purplish markings, all with a wreath at the larger end and other scattered markings. Brasher C. Bacon, who now has the nest and eggs in his collection, reported that the eggs were advanced in incubation; so the set was obviously complete.

The Prairie Warbler generally arrives here shortly after mid-April, and my earliest record is April 13, 1945. Whether or not complete sets can be found here before the middle of May is a matter of conjecture. In North Carolina, according to Pearson, Brimley and Brimley (1942) "Nesting begins late in April. Eggs have been found as early as May 6 in Dare County and May 12 at Raleigh." The Prairie Warbler has been recorded at Raleigh as early as April 5. During a nesting study at Mammoth Cave National Park (Browning, 1946), K. O. S. members found two nests of the Prairie Warbler, as follows: "nests, one in persimmon with 3 eggs, 8 feet high, and one in a sassafras with 3 eggs 7 feet up, close to the road." Both of these were placed higher than the nest I am discussing. This Warbler is usually spoken of as a low-nesting species, but Pough (1946) says the Prairie Warbler "occasionally (nests) up to 20 feet."

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BRONZED GRACKLES FEEDING ON BEECH NUTS

by Leonard C. Brecher, 1900 Spring Drive, Louisville

On the afternoon of October 18, 1947, I was strolling through Cherokee Park, a 547 acre tract of wooded hills at the eastern end of the city of Louisville. As I climbed a long approach to one of the hills, I became aware that a large flock of birds was somewhere ahead and thought that perhaps robins, grackles, or starlings were establishing a roost. When I reached the crest and could overlook the valley through which Beargrass Creek flows, I could see through my glasses that the beeches (*Fagus grandifolia*), their yellowing leaves gleaming golden brown in the sinking sun, were filled with Bronzed Grackles (*Quiscalus versicolor*). I started down the hill and saw that the Grackles were confining themselves to the beech trees, which were the dominant species in this valley and the surrounding hillsides. I soon discovered that the birds were picking the triangular-shaped beechnuts from the spiny husks that were quite abundant this season. Sometimes the nuts were in reach of the birds' perch; but often the Grackles had to fly out a little way and seize the husk or extricate the nuts from the partially opened husks. This, of course, caused much fluttering of the wings. After the nut had been secured, the majority of the birds worked the nut between their mandibles to remove the shell covering the kernel. I observed one bird that cut off the branch bearing the nuts and placed this under foot. He then commenced pecking at it in the manner of a Blue Jay. Again I noticed two other birds place the nut in a crotch of a small branch to aid in holding it while the kernel was being extracted.

The procedure of obtaining these nuts from the tips of the branches involved a precarious balancing act, and I marvelled that many of the nuts were not dropped in the process. I then flattened myself against the trunk of one of these large beeches and listened to the rain of falling husks and shells through the leaves. During a period of five minutes I noticed only twice the dropping of sound, whole nuts. Picking these up, I ate them myself but found that they had not reached their full flavor. Although we had had several light frosts, the nuts were still slightly milky and had an unripe taste.

About this time several motorcycles (with cutouts open) speeded up the road bordering the creek in the valley, and this sudden noise caused the flight of two thousand or more of the birds, which took off over the hill in a south-

easterly direction. I judged that at least a thousand more Grackles remained in the trees farther up on the hill, and although I remained in the area for twenty minutes longer, there was no indication of these birds leaving. Further scanning of the tree tops revealed the presence of six Starlings and two Robins. I do not believe the Starlings belonged to the flock of Grackles, as Starlings can usually be found at this location throughout the year. A return visit was made to this hillside the next evening, but no Grackles were found.

Most of the authors writing on the feeding habits of Grackles do not mention them as eating nuts. Much stress is laid on their destructiveness to corn, but on the other hand much praise is given for the good they do in destroying cutworms, caterpillars, and insect pests. Bendire (1895) states, "Beechnuts are also eaten by them, and they have been observed catching bees." Alexander Wilson is silent on the subject, but Audubon (1831), speaking of his "Purple Grackle" before the present species of the Bronzed Grackle was separated from it, and to which bronzed species he undoubtedly referred, says, "They reach Louisiana and all the southern states when Autumn has not yet retired, when the weather is still mild and serene, and the yellow foliage of the woods gives shelter to myriads of birds. . . . Beechnuts and acorns are now abundant in the woods, having by this time fallen from the trees, and the Grackles roam in quest of them in immense bodies, rising on wing when disturbed, uttering at the same time a tremendous noise, then making a few rounds, and alighting again." Likewise Nuttall (1832) writing of his Common Crow Blackbird (*Q. versicolor*) and again referring to birds that probably now would be known as the bronzed species states, "In winter they collect the mast of the Beech and Oak for food, and may be seen assembled in large bodies in the woods for this purpose." Note that Audubon infers the nuts are eaten from the ground, which is likely to be the case in Nuttall's account, as the nuts seldom remain in the husks during the winter. Bendire gives no indication as to how or where the nuts were eaten.

Esther Mason (1946) has recorded a similar occurrence of 600 Grackles feeding on the nuts in the beech trees of Iroquois Park of Louisville. I discussed this matter with her, and then with a number of other persons to determine whether this type of feeding had been often observed. I found only Mr. Theodore Chamberlain of Pewee Valley (who could also remember the Passenger Pigeons feeding

on the nuts) and his son, Carlyle Chamberlain of Louisville, who remembered the Grackles eating the nuts from the beech tops years ago.

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MID-WINTER BIRD COUNT 1947

Edited by Gordon Wilson

MURRAY (Marshall, Calloway, and Trigg Counties: Kentucky Lake, Kentucky Woodlands National Wildlife Refuge, Murray State Teachers College Campus, New Concord, and Pottertown: Shoreline, islands, small lakes, fields, hedgerows, woods, highways, gardens.) Dec. 19, 6:30 A. M. to 6:00 P. M. Cloudy to clear; wind, northwest, slight; temp. 22-35. Observers in two parties, one on lake and in refuge, the other in other land areas. Total miles: 23 on foot, 105 by car, 10 by motor boat. Total species, 70; total individuals, 2697. John Steenis, John Morse, John DeLime, Grace Wyatt (tabulator), and Kathleen Key.

PENNYRILE STATE PARK, Christian County (Deciduous and pine woods and fields within the park area, Pennyrile Lake, and adjoining farmlands). Dec. 29; 7:15 A. M. to 5:15 P. M. Clear; wind 10-15 m. p. h., southwest; temp. 28-54. Observers together. Total miles: 8 on foot, 8 by car; total hours, 10. Total species, 31; individuals, 461. After the wind arose, the birds took to cover. Several species were missed that were recorded in 1946. One antlered Virginia Deer seen; bats flying at dusk.—JEWELL THOMPSON and JAMES W. HANCOCK.

MADISONVILLE (W. W. Hancock Farm, seven lakes at Madisonville and Earlington, woods, streets, and fields). Dec. 22; 7:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. Heavy overcast in early morning, clear before noon, cloudy again in afternoon; wind, southwest, 5 m. p h.; temp. 21-38. Total hours, 10; total miles, 8 on foot, 9 by car; total species, 46; total individuals, 1137.—JAMES W. HANCOCK.

PROVIDENCE (Territory in area of Providence and Wheatcroft: orchards, meadows, open fields, open woods, swampy bottomlands, brushy fields, plowed ground, bird roost, and lots where stock are fed). Dec. 25-26; dawn to dusk. Weather clear; temp. 25-50; ground clear, streams open. Six observers. Total, 57 species, 6710 individuals.—TRUDA SIGLER CORBIN, SUSIE HOLDMAN GILCHRIST, DAMON WITHERS, DORA WYATT, THOMAS A. SEMPLE, and SUE WYATT-SEMPLÉ (Compiler).

MARION (Around Marion and along Ohio River). Dec. 25; 8:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Strong winds; temp. 30. Total, 61 species, 3800 individuals.—CHASTAIN L. FRAZER and DR. T. ATCHISON FRAZER.

MORGANFIELD (Camp Breckenridge, Des Islets Lake, to Hardin's Station, Uniontown and Poker's Point, on the Ohio River). Dec. 23; 7:30 A. M. to 4:30 P. M. Fair in afternoon with heavy overcast in early morning; temp. 28 to 40; wind, west, 10-20 m. p. h. Two observers; total hours, 17; total miles, 36. Total, 41 species, 1371 individuals.—**ROBERT L. WITT.**

BOWLING GREEN (Albert Covington, McElroy, Chaney Farms: Three Springs Marsh; stream banks 5%, open woods 35%, thickets 15%, old fields 20%, pastures and cultivated fields 25%). Dec. 21; 6:15 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. Heavy overcast in early part of day, clear later; wind, north, 1-7 m. p. h.; ground bare, heavy frost on vegetation; temp. 28 all day. Total hours, 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ on foot; 10 miles. In nearly every way the count, our thirtieth annual one, was disappointing: the number of species was the smallest for years; for most species the number of individuals was equally small. The enormous number of Crows was due to our visiting a large roost just before sunset. Total, 37 species, 26, 583 (partly estimated) individuals.—**CHARLES L. TAYLOR** and **GORDON WILSON.**

MAMMOTH CAVE (Doyle Valley, Sloan's Crossing, Joppa Ridge, Hotel area, pump houses, Cedar Sink: stream banks 5%, woods 40%, ponds and marshes 15%, old fields 40%). Dec. 26; 6:45 A. M. to 4:15 P. M. Clear except first two hours; ground bare; wind west, 1-7 m. p. h.; temp. 30-45. Wilson alone until 12:30 P. M.; observers together after then. Total hours, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$, total miles, 8 on foot. Total, 39 species, 681 individuals.—**Park Naturalist HENRY LIX, JIMMY LILES,** and **GORDON WILSON.**

OTTER CREEK (deciduous woods 75%, brushy fields 15%, Ohio River bank 10%). Dec. 28; 7:30 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Weather sunny; temp. 28 to 45; wind 2-5 m. p. h.; ground bare; streams open but ponds frozen. Observers in two parties. Total hours, 11 on foot; total miles, 11. The Wood Duck was a crippled female on Otter Creek; the Great Horned Owl was heard about five miles south of the park; the flocks of Cedar Waxwings and Robins were feeding on wild grapes, which were very abundant along the creek. Mr. Shane reported Bob-white and Meadowlark as seen during the week.—**FLOYD S. CARPENTER, HARVEY B. LOVELL** and **EVELYN J. SCHNEIDER.**

LOUISVILLE (Ohio River from the Falls of the Ohio to Twelve Mile Island, inland about 12 miles to Anchorage, Fern Creek, Goshen, Prospect, and Valley, including Cherokee, Iroquois, and Seneca Parks: Ohio River and banks 20%, fields and farmland 30%, brushy fields and new growth 35%, deciduous woodland 15%). Dec. 21; 5:30 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. Cloudy at start, clearing at 1:00 P. M.; wind, north, 8-12 m. p. h. at start, 1-7 m. p. h. at return; all streams open; temp. 30 at start, 35 at return. Forty-one observers in 14 groups. Total hours afield, 123 (76 on foot, 31 by car, 16 by boat); total party miles, 186 (44 on foot, 131 by car, 11 by boat). The absence of Red-headed Woodpeckers is striking, as there is a good beech crop this year. Total, 76 species, approx. individuals, 17,393. The Vesper Sparrows were observed at close range; the white tail feathers, the streakings on feathers, and face markings noted by C. C. C. and W. H. S.—**MRS. JAMES BARTMAN, PATRICIA BEASLEY, LEONARD C. BRECHER, MARY LOUISE BRECHER, HAYWARD BROWN, ROBERTA BURCKHARDT, SAM CARNEY, FLOYD S.**

CARPENTER, CARL C. CORNETT, JAMES COVERT, JACOB P. DOUGHTY, JAMES POTTER, FERRY FRAZAR, TOM FULLER, PAXTON GIBBS, WALTER JACKSON, KARL JENKS, VIRGINIA JONES, ETHEL W. LOVELL, HARVEY LOVELL, JOHN H. LOVELL, H. C. MITCHELL, WILLIAM MITCHELL, BURT L. MONROE, JR., BURT L. MONROE, SR., L. H. PIEPER, MARIE PIEPER, PAUL POWELL, EVELYN J. SCHNEIDER, WALTER H. SHACKLETON, CLIFF SIPE, JERRY SMITH, MRS. ANNE STAMM, ROBERT STEILBERG, DON SUMMERFIELD, FAN TABLER, S. CHARLES THACHER, MRS. S. CHARLES THACHER, FLORENCE WIEGAND, AUDREY WRIGHT (Beckham Chapter, Kentucky Ornithological Society).

HARRODSBURG (Herrington Lake in the vicinity of Wildwood Subdivision, Kentucky River below Brooklyn Bridge, Salt River at Bohon Road Bridge, Mount Pleasant, Lexington, Cornishville Roads: open deciduous woodland, cedar thickets, lakeshore, river bank, brushy, second growth, open fields). Dec. 29; 10:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Five miles on foot, 20 by car. Temp. 35 to 50; clear; little wind. Total, 27 species, 939 individuals.—DR. C. B. VAN ARSDALL, SR., and C. A. VAN ARSDALL.

PARIS (Bourbon Nursery, Bourbon County). Dec. 30; 8:00 A. M. to 1:20 P. M. Weather mild; temp. 60; wind, strong. Most of the Juncos and sparrows were found low on the ground because of the high wind; some were eating weed seeds and berries from various low bushes. The Cooper's Hawk was found in a barn annoying a Carolina Wren. The wren had a worried call. They were both in the barn late that afternoon. Crows were quite numerous—DR. and MRS. W. R. ALLEN, DR. J. W. CLOTFELTER, MRS. W. G. BACON, MRS. BRUCE MILLER, MRS. HELEN HAZELRIGG, MISS BESS PURNELL, MRS. ERNEST DARNABY.

CYNTHIANA (Old Lair Farm and Salem Pike). Dec. 28; 11:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Bright sunshine, no wind; Temp. 40 at start and 40 at return. Bluebird and Screech Owl were seen a few days before but; not on December 28. We felt that hunters, who were shooting in areas nearby, were responsible for our small finds of some species. Total, 17 species, 203 individuals.—JOHN H. MAYER and BIRD W. MAYER.

WILLARD (About five miles through fields and woodlands). Dec. 26; 9:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. One inch of snow on ground; alternating sunshine and clouds. Total species, 15; total individuals, 192.—ERCEL KOZEE.

PIKEVILLE (low ridge back of college and 3 miles west along Big Sandy River, Levisa Fork). 1-6 P. M. 6 miles, cloudy, 45 to 50, no wind. December 25, 1947. Killdeer, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker 2; Carolina Chickadee, 14; Tufted Titmouse, 7; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Brown Creeper, 3; Carolina Wren, 11; Mockingbird, 2; Hermit Thrush, 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 5; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 2; Starling, 1; Myrtle Warbler, 1; English Sparrow, 84; Cardinal, 9; Goldfinch, 1; Towhee, 5; Junco, 9; Field Sparrow, 33; White-throated Sparrow, 60; Song Sparrow, 10. Total species, 22, total individuals, 264.—HUMPHREY A. OLSEN.

MID-WINTER BIRD COUNT, 1947	Providence	Murray	Pennyrite S. P.	Madisonville	Marion	Morganfield	Bowling Green	Mammoth Cave	Otter Creek	Louisville	Harrodsburg	Paris	Cynthiana	Willard
Common Loon		1		*					5		2			
Horned Grebe		1									7			
Pied-billed Grebe		3												
Double-cr. Cormorant		3												
Great Blue Heron		6		1	2						1			
Canada Goose		270			12									
Mallard	16	729			50	300	*	2			296			
Black Duck		400			15						524			
Gadwall		4					2							
Pintail		8									6			
Green-w. Teal		6				1								
Baldpate		60									6			
Wood Duck								*	1	1				
Ring Neck		80		123	8	50					62			
Canvas-back					2	45					9			
Lesser Scaup				*	18	2					218	20		
American Golden-eye											62			
Buffle-head		2									8			
Ruddy Duck						3					5			
Hooded Merganser		14									11			
American Merganser		2			15						39			
Red-br. Merganser					5									
Turkey Vulture	20				6		*	1			2	3		2
Black Vulture	1								1		9			
Sharp-sh. Hawk	1				1						2			
Cooper's Hawk		2		1							5	1	1	
Red-tailed Hawk		5		*	1	5	1		3		8			
Red-shouldered Hawk	11	2	1	2	1	2	1				3			
Rough-l. Hawk	1						*							
Golden Eagle							*							
Bald Eagle		2								3	2			
Marsh Hawk	1	1		1	4	10	*				8	2		
Osprey					1									
Duck Hawk											1			
Sparrow Hawk	13	3		1	6	3	2		1		33	1	2	1
Bob-white	1		18	*	14	9	*	23	*		43			
Wild Turkey		2												
Coot	6				2									
Killdeer	2	10		16	5		2				3			
Wilson's Snipe				1			13				2			
Herring Gull		1			6		1				193			
Ring-b. Gull		125									77			
Rock Dove	55	12		29			*					25		
Mourning Dove	13	13		18	18	2	29				123		1	
Schreech Owl	2	1			1								*	
Horned Owl									1					
Barred Owl	*	3			1						1			
Belted Kingfisher		1		2	2						8			
Flicker	26	20	9	12	4	3	10	13	9		48	1		

MID-WINTER BIRD COUNT, 1947	Providence	Murray	Pennyrite S. P.	Madisonville	Marion	Morganfield	Bowling Green	Mammoth Cave	Otter Creek	Louisville	Harrodsburg	Paris	Cynthiana	Willard
Pil. Woodpecker	3	3		4	2	2	1	8	7	5				
Red-bellied Woodpecker	4	8	1	5	6	5	7	5	6	32	1			
Red-h. Woodpecker	33	4		7			1							
Yellow-bel. Sapsucker				*	2		*	1	3	5				
Hairy Woodpecker	4	3	1	4	2	4	1	3	2	12				2
Downy Woodpecker	9	9	2	8	12	17	11	9	7	47	4	4	3	2
Phoebe	1						*	1		6				
Horned Lark	55	5		1	5		13			104				
Blue Jay	28	30	14	20	23	6	35	18	6	64		1		
Crow	2030	47	10	15	2500	23	2500	19	32	368	600	*	*	
Car. Chickadee	28	21	27	18	12	12	30	17	33	91	8	4	45	3
Tufted Titmouse	15	29	12	12	14	10	17	18	28	98	10	8	7	6
White-b. Nuthatch	3		2	2			*	2	8	23				
Brown Creeper			1	1		1	2	1	1	11		4		
Winter Wren		2	2	*	1		1	1	2	4	1	1	1	
Bewick's Wren	5	3		1	2	1					2			
Carolina Wren	9	15	7	27	6	8	1	6	14	43	3	4	3	6
Mockingbird	19	9		11	7	2	13	2	3	48	6	8	1	
Brown Thrasher	1	1												
Robin	545	25	98	26	33	90	3	34	62	16		2		
Hermit Thrush			6	*			4	11	9	6				4
Bluebird	37	20	11	12	17	5	55	50	14	85			*	9
Golden-c. Kinglet	1	12	13	*	2	2	*	1	14	17				
Ruby-cr. Kinglet		1								8				
Pipit	14													
Cedar Waxwing	20	25		4	8		1	42	104	39				
Migrant Shrike	4	1			1					2				
Starling	392	150	15	110	400	230	517		1	12500	50		23	
Myrtle Warbler	3			1			*	10	13	24	1			
Palm Warbler										1				
English Sparrow	530	150	21	175	150	30	207	26	2	458	15		24	7
Meadowlark	300	70	22	21	5	1	3			138	1			
Red-wing	1000			13	20					8				
Rusty Blackbird	700													
Grackle	1	6			8									
Cowbird	225	51			50									
Cardinal	97	30	31	50	33	55	93	33	39	387	14	8	23	12
Purple Finch	2	25	1	*	4		*	30	1	7				
Goldfinch	45	30	6	72	16	10	44	20	22	44	5	1		17
Red-eyed Towhee	5	18	18	42	15	6	23	11	26	68			1	
Vesper Sparrow										9				
Slate-c. Junco	155	61	75	102	150	58	85	134	58	379	110	10	50	90
Tree Sparrow	50	20	11	31	40	245	*	2		88	8	8	6	
Chipping Sparrow		2												
Field Sparrow	60	6	5	33	8		39	24	3	21	8	4		13
White-cr. Sparrow	48	75		1	11	83	128			17	30			
White-th. Sparrow	14	15	8	58	6	5	154	21	6	159	7			
Fox Sparrow				3	4		*	1	7	2				
Swamp Sparrow	7	18	2	7		10	*	16	11	9				
Song Sparrow	40	20	11	33	25	13	16	11	3	110	3	4	1	8

FIELD NOTES

AN AMERICAN KESTREL (*F. SPARVERIUS*) CHASES MEADOWLARKS

While enjoying the panorama of bird life on the wide mud-flats of the Jonathan Creek Embayment on the west side of the Kentucky Reservoir near Hardin, Kentucky, on October 5, 1947, my attention was attracted to a closely cut meadow on the western border of the embayment. A brightly colored male Kestrel or Sparrow Hawk was chasing first one and then another of a group of Meadowlarks, each of which easily eluded the small falcon after a few moments of twisting flight, whence the Kestrel took after another which might happen to be flying near him. The Kestrel would get somewhat above the particular Meadowlark, then 'stoop' at it in typical falcon style, rapidly overtaking the prey, only to miss footing it by the latter's adept quick turning. Most of the dozen larks were upon the ground, where in the early morning sun they appeared as so many yellow spots against the green and brown grass of the meadow. Several times the Kestrel all but chased the Meadowlark to the ground, then flew up to await another bird to take to the air. Several times he actually pounced down on birds on the ground, but at the last moment they quickly flew up, and the short chase was on. Then the Kestrel retired to a fence post between the meadow and the wetter mud-flats, where a flock of Least Sandpiper paid no attention to its presence.

During fifteen minutes of this 'sport,' a brightly-colored Red-shouldered Buzzard sat nearby on another fence post and finally dropped quietly into the patch of tall grass below, where the frequent raising of its wings suggested that either it had made a catch or was actually hunting on the ground. It did not reappear during the next ten minutes, when the observation was discontinued.

A considerable bird life was active on the mud-flat area, nearly two dozen Great Blue Herons, one Green Heron, an Osprey sitting quietly on a post above the more distant open water, several dozen Least Sandpipers, one Pectoral, several Lesser (?) Yellowlegs, pairs and threes of Killdeer here and there, and six Teal (one Green-winged and five Blue-winged) feeding in the shallow waterways.

Several hawks were seen along the road and in the refuge area above Golden Pond. One Sharp-shin flew southward between the girders of the Cumberland River bridge, at which several pigeons flew out, but apparently not much disturbed. Later (9:30 A. M.) in the Refuge a few miles north of the highway a small flock of Starlings was seen circling up; and a Sharp-shin was observed beneath them. Several hours later, in the same area, a large flock of Grackles and Starlings was noticed circling over a few trees in some cultivated land, and a dozen or two Crows cawing lustily. Two Red-shoulders were flying from tree to tree, and their yells, added to the cawing of the Crows, produced a minor bedlam. Then a small falcon appeared, diving several times near the Grackles, circled a few times, and made off southward. This was easily identified as a Merlin (Pigeon Hawk, *F. columbarius*) in the dark brown plumage (Immature, or an adult female.)

—WALTER R. SPOFFORD, Nashville, Tennessee

ANOTHER BOAT INHABITING PROTHONOTARY

Here is another boat-loving Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) to add to the one that Ranger Binnewies of Mammoth Cave National Park told about in the WARBLER. Mr. Brent Donaldson, who lives on the high hill above Barren River near the old boat-landing at Bowling Green, owns a houseboat which he keeps anchored near his house. In 1943, 1944, 1945 and 1946 a pair of Prothonotaries built in the top of the stove pipe of his houseboat. On several occasions Mr. Donaldson went on rather extended fishing trips in his boat while the birds were nesting. Not in the least disturbed, his tenants went along, feeding their young regularly and never losing the location of the boat. Many times the pair of adults would come down on the deck and pick up crumbs which he had scattered for them. They would even come to the table to be fed and later brought their brood into the boat when they were large enough to leave the nest. In 1944 two broods were hatched on the boat. The birds failed to build in 1947, much to the disappointment of Mr. Donaldson and his family.—GORDON WILSON, Bowling Green.

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THE WOOD IBIS IN KENTUCKY

In Kentucky Woodlands National Wildlife Refuge I observed a Wood Ibis on two occasions in 1941. The bird was observed July 29 and July 31, each time standing on the mud flat near the upper end of Empire Lake, a sixty-acre artificial lake near the refuge headquarters. The lake is subject to occasional overflows from the Cumberland River and was well populated with rough fish, principally buffalo, gizzard shad, carp, and catfish which probably were attractive to the Wood Ibis. The editor has kindly given me the following records from his files. Dr. L. O. Pindar (1887, *Ornith.* and *Ool.*, 12:166) records a flock of 250 on July 15 and 50 on August 7, 1887, at Hickman. Garman (1894 in his *Vertebrate Animals of Kentucky*) wrote, "Observed by me at East Cairo in September." Burt Monroe (1933, *Auk*, 55:678) observed Wood Ibis at the Falls of the Ohio on August 12 and 18, 1934. Floyd Carpenter (*Ky. Warbler*, 15:12, 1940) with Dr. Fraser at Marion saw 12 Wood Ibis on September 11, 14, and 15, 1940. They were on a pond near Cave-in-rock Ferry. Bacon also lists the Wood Ibis as a "rare visitant in Hopkins County (*Ky. Warbler*, 9:14-16, 1933). A. F. Ganier reports the Wood Ibis as "a frequent visitor to Reelfoot Lake during the latter part of August and in September, usually occurring in flocks," (*Tenn. Avifauna*, No. 2, 1933, p. 17). We conclude from the above records that the occurrence of Wood Ibis in Kentucky (except possibly in the extreme western part of the state) is so rare as to be classed as accidental. It is possible, however, that with the increased number of ponds and lakes being developed in the Tennessee Valley the species may become more numerous.—EUGENE CYPERT, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Paris, Tennessee.

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CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS FROM THREE RIVERS, MICHIGAN

Trips taken on 4 different days. In all cases the trip was in the forenoon, but in some cases additional observations were made after the trip was taken, such as ducks returning in evening to areas where they spend the night. In these cases the number is taken if greater than that for the day. In all trips the observer was on foot. On December 28 K. E. Darrow, Sr., was also present. In all trips no

territory was covered that was visited on past trips except for less than one-eighth mile at start or return. The trips were made on Dec. 21, 28, 1947, Jan. 2 and 3, 1948. The temperature varied from 28 to 35 F. Total distance of 4 trips, 30 miles. The following are the totals for all 4 trips. Canada Goose, 47; Common Mallard, 238; Black Duck, 4; American Golden-eye, 389; Buffle-head, 1; American Merganser, 2; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Ring-necked Pheasant, 2; Coot, 1; Rock Dove, 88; Mourning Dove, 16; Kingfisher, 2; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 15; Blue Jay, 44; Crow, 18; Black-capped Chickadee, 12; Tufted Titmouse, 5; White-breasted Nuthatch, 13; Brown Creeper, 7; Robin, 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 1; Starling, 142; Myrtle Warbler, 1; English Sparrow, 791; Meadowlark, 8; Cardinal, 21; Purple Finch, 11; Goldfinch, 16; Junco, 25; Tree Sparrow, 71; Field Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, 10. Total species, 35; total individuals, 2002.—OSCAR MCKINLEY BRYENS.

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SUMMER BIRDS OF NATURAL BRIDGE AND CUMBERLAND FALLS STATE PARK

During a trip through the eastern Kentucky mountains in June, 1947, I visited several Kentucky parks to check upon the status of several rare species, particularly the Pine, Parula Black-throated Green Warblers, the Ovenbird, Cedar Waxwing, and Song Sparrow.

The afternoon of June 15 was spent exploring Natural Bridge State Park in Powell County. The area is within the Cumberland Falls National Forest and is characterized by many northern plants. The foot trail to the natural bridge passes up a rather steep slope through tall hemlocks, beeches, sugar maples, and tulip trees. Beneath them flourish such plants as the New York fern, mayflower, and Stemless Lady's Slipper, the latter two in fruit. At the top of the ridge at the very edge of the bridge a pair of Summer Tanagers (*Piranga rubra*) began fussing. By concealing myself in a nearby pavilion, I was able to observe them feeding young. The nest was in a scrub pine, 12 feet from the ground and far out on a slender horizontal branch. It contained several small nestlings and was unusually well built for a tanager's. Both parents fed the young, the male being rather conspicuous in the process. The Black-throated Green Warbler (*Dendroica virens*) was common in the hemlocks on the lower slopes of the park. At least five singing males were recorded. There are only a few summer records for this warbler in the state, Wilson (Ky. Warbler, 18: 17-25, 1942) listing its summer status as rare at Morehead, uncommon at Berea, rare in Floyd-Knott Counties, and rare in Harlan County. However, Mengel (Ky. Warbler, 15:45-48, 1939) reports it as common in Laurel County, "mostly in hemlocks along the streams." Three Cedar Waxwings were noted near the hotel, but they are such erratic wanderers that a June 15 record does not constitute a breeding record. I looked and listened in vain for Song Sparrows (*Melospiza melodia*) for several hours, but at sunset a pair were finally discovered feeding in the bed of the small creek which runs through the valley. A Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*) was observed feeding young out of the nest. This is a species for which there is very little breeding data for Kentucky and no published record of an occupied nest. Several times during the day I heard a warbler's song which ended in a high see-e-p. In at least three different localities I looked in vain for the singer in the tall trees along the slopes. I am reasonably certain that it was a Parula Warbler, however.

From June 20 to 22, I camped at the regular site in Cumberland Falls State Park in Whitney County. The park has vegetation very similar to that at Natural Bridge. Numerous pines grow along the ridges, and the richer slopes are covered with tall hemlocks. The Black-throated Green Warbler proved to be one of the more common birds. I heard the song when I awoke the first morning and continually throughout the day, and again in the early evening as I cooked my late supper in the gathering dusk. The Pine Warbler was also a common bird, one or more being found in every large stand of pines, and I recorded it at least a dozen times both in the park and in the adjacent forest. Down near Moonbow Inn just above the famous falls I again heard the song of the Warbler which had eluded me at Natural Bridge. I determined to spend the rest of the day there if necessary in an attempt to see the bird. Almost immediately a male Parula Warbler (*Parula americana*) with a conspicuous breast band hopped into view in a large sycamore. I watched him sing for several minutes. There is plenty of the lichen, *Usnea*, the favorite nesting material of the Parula at Cumberland Falls, and this rare Kentucky bird should find an ideal habitat here. Other birds recorded include the Scarlet Tanager, Cedar Waxwing, Hooded Warbler, and Yellow-throated Warbler (*Dendroica dominica*). This last Warbler had a song which seemed rather different from that of the Sycamore as I am familiar with it in central Kentucky. The bird was in pine trees, near the ground. Specimens should be collected from eastern Kentucky to determine which subspecies breeds there. Peterson's guide is very vague about the boundry of the ranges of these two subspecies: *D. D. dominica* and *D. D. albilora*. Song Sparrows were common along the bank of the river. This extends their range to the most southern counties in eastern Kentucky, namely, Whitley and McCreary. Ovenbirds were also heard and seen in several localities, and a nest containing a Cowbird's egg was discovered in the Cumberland National Forest not far from the park (See Lovell, Ky. Warbler, 23:45-46, 1947). On my last morning, as I cooked my breakfast, several Chipping Sparrows came into camp picking up scraps. They quickly found some crumbs which I threw down for them. I then set a two-celled Potter trap baited with bread and banded four of them while breaking camp.

In conclusion, I should like to urge our members to visit eastern Kentucky in the summer and search out the nests of as many species as possible. The breeding status of many birds is still imperfectly known. As far as I can determine, the nests of such birds as the Black-throated Green, Parula, and Pine Warblers are yet to be described from Kentucky.—HARVEY B. LOVELL, University of Louisville.

NEWS AND VIEWS

WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB MEETING. The annual meeting of the W. O. C. was held at Columbus, Ohio, on November 28 and 29. An excellent program of papers and moving pictures highlighted the meetings. On Friday evening, with James B. Young acting as auctioneer, paintings by both American and European artists were sold to raise money to help European ornithologists. A total of \$1,058 was raised. At the dinner Friday President George M. Sutton asked the members of each affiliated club to stand. The Brooks Bird Club of West Virginia was first, and the Kentucky Ornithological Society of Kentucky was second in attendance. Among those attending from Kentucky were: Mabel Slack, Ann Slack, Anne Stamm, Evelyn Schneider, Audrey Wright, Marie Pieper, Esther Mason, Helen Browning, Grace Wyatt, Mr. and Mrs. Burt L. Monroe, Burt Monroe, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. James Young, Mr. and Mrs. Dulaney Logan, Robert Mengel, William Clay, and Harvey Lovell. Mr. A. F. Ganier, of Nashville, Tennessee, past president of the W. O. C., was also present. Many of the group spent Saturday evening at the Ohio State Museum, examining the collection of bird skins with Dr. Thomas, the director of the museum.

Burt Monroe and James Young were re-elected treasurer and secretary, respectively, of the Wilson Ornithological Club for 1948. Monroe was also elected representative of the W. O. C. on the Council of the American Ornithologists' Union.

MONROE HONORED AT A. O. U. MEETING. At the annual meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union in Toronto, Burt L. Monroe, state ornithologist and curator of the K. O. S., was elected a "member." Monroe is the first Kentuckian, at least in recent years, to be so honored.

THE KENTUCKY NATURALIST. This is the title of a new publication which is being published by the Kentucky Society of Natural History. Dr. William M. Clay is editor. In the current issue, the feature article is "Some Changes in Bird Life in the Mammoth Cave National Park," by Dr. Gordon Wilson, Vol. 2, pp. 27-29. Subscription to the Naturalist is \$2.00 per year and should be sent to Otto K. Dietrich, 225 Glendora, Louisville.

BACK COPIES OF THE WARBLER FOR SALE. Members who wish to complete their back files of the KENTUCKY WARBLER can obtain copies of most issues for \$1.50 per volume (4 issues) or for 40 cents per copy. From 1925 through 1933 there are few original issues. However, the society has negatives of these issues from which prints can be made at 50 cents per issue, or two dollars per volume.

The growth of the K. O. S. during 1946 and 1947 was so much greater than expected that these issues are practically exhausted. Members who do not plan to keep their WARBLERS will do the society a great favor by giving them either to the secretary, Mrs. Nuckols, or to Evelyn Schneider, the custodian. Warblers may be mailed for 1½ cents per copy.

The editor plans to publish a four-year index at the end of Volume 24. Four volumes will make a bound book of about 260 pages. Volumes 14 to 20 inclusive have been bound by several members.

The editor can have these bound for \$2.00 or \$2.25 per volume, including printing of title, dates, volume numbers, and name of owner.

BECKHAM CHAPTER RAISES DUES. The Louisville members of the K. O. S. at their January meeting voted to raise their local dues to \$1.50 per year and to send the K. O. S. secretary the full dollar rather than the seventy-five cents as authorized in the constitution. This was done because the cost of printing the *WARBLER* has been about one dollar per volume, and the Beckham members decided that they were not doing their share in supporting it.

ANOTHER BIRD PAINTING RECEIVED. Howard Rollin of Weldona, Colorado, has presented the K. O. S. another Christmas gift. This is a painting of the Bob-o-link, beautifully executed in water colors, 6" x 8" in size. The male bird, resplendent in his spring plumage, rests on a grass stalk in the foreground, and the female is in flight somewhat farther back in the picture. The painting will be framed and hung in the University of Louisville Library with the other three paintings presented to the K. O. S. by Mr. Rollin. These are the Cardinal, the Kentucky Warbler, and the Redstart. We would very much like to publish one of these as a colored frontispiece in the *WARBLER*, if some kind individual will donate the \$50 to \$75 necessary to do so. Mr. Rollin sells these and similar paintings for very reasonable prices (\$5 to \$15), and we urge our members who would like an original bird painting to contact the artist.

JUNIOR ACADEMY CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS. Thirteen lists have been made by Junior Science clubs this year. Several of these are very excellent and compare favorably with those made by K. O. S. members this year. Here is a summary of some of the best counts.

ANCHORAGE HIGH SCHOOL. 60 species, 3,208 individuals, Dec. 26 and 28. 73 Miles covered in 12 hours. Among the species listed in this remarkable report are: Green-winged Teal, Redhead Duck, Screech Owl, Phoebe, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Migrant Shrike, Myrtle Warbler, Palm Warbler, Meadowlark, White-throated Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow.—BURT L. MONROE, JR.

ATHERTON HIGH SCHOOL, Louisville. 31 Species, 491 individuals. Dec. 21, 15 miles covered in 7½ hours. Among the species listed in this excellent list are: Marsh Hawk, Myrtle Warbler, White-crowned Sparrow, Horned Lark, Mourning Dove, Brown Creeper, Tree Sparrow, Field Sparrow.—ROBERTA BURCKHART, PAT BEASLEY, VIRGINIA JONES, FLORENCE WEIGARD, MRS. ANNE STAMM, (Leader).

DU PONT MANUAL HIGH SCHOOL, Louisville. 25 Species, 295 individuals. Dec. 20, 4 miles covered in 4½ hours. Among the species listed in this fine report are: Red-shouldered Hawk, Pileated Woodpecker, Sapsucker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Flicker, Robin, Myrtle Warbler, Towhee, White-throated Sparrow.—BOB STEILBERG.

VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL, Jefferson County. 26 Species, 246 individuals. Dec. 29, 5 miles covered in 4½ hours. Among the species listed in this fine report are: Red-bellied Woodpecker, Sapsucker, Brown Creeper, Bewick's Wren, Hermit Thrush, Palm Warbler, Towhee, White-crowned Sparrow.—ELTON FLANDERS, LOUIS WAL-

LER, EMORY FLUHR, JOAN SHIPLEY, (Mrs. H. B. LOVELL, Leader).

HARRODSBURG HIGH SCHOOL. 10 Species, 537 individuals. Dec. 29 and 31. 12 Miles covered in 5 hours. Among the birds reported in this careful study are: Turkey Vulture, Marsh Hawk, Carolina Wren, Junco, White-throated Sparrow.—BOBBY K. JONES, JAMES WALLACE; (MRS. ALEX VAN ARSDALL, Leader).

BRECKINRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL, Morehead. 10 Species, 149 individuals. Dec. 30 and 31. 4½ miles covered in 6 hours. Among the interesting birds listed are: Bluebirds, Cedar Waxwings, Cardinal, Song Sparrow.—BARBARA TOLLIVER AND MARY C. GWENDON.

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL, Richmond. 18 Species, 185 individuals. Dec. 26, 29, 30, and Jan. 1. 14 Miles covered in 8 hours. Among the interesting birds listed are: Sparrow Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Mourning Dove, Bob-white, Flicker, Grackle, and Meadowlark.—DOROTHY CORNELISON, INEZ TUDOR, DAVID RADOR, MARGARET BERRYMAN.

MODEL HIGH SCHOOL, Richmond. Two counts have been combined. 13 and 11 species, 2,252 individuals. 8 Miles covered in 9 hours. Among the interesting birds reported are: Turkey Vulture, Hairy Woodpecker, Brown Creeper, Towhee, Bluebird, Meadowlark, Cedar Waxwing.—W. T. HOPGOOD, HAROLD COX (First group), and BOB MAHAFFEY.

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, Owensboro. Four counts have been combined. Dec. 20, 21, 27, 29, Jan. 13, 3, 8 and 10 species, 539 individuals. 19 Miles covered in 11 hours. Among the interesting birds reported are: Turkey Vulture, Screech Owl, Mourning Dove, Bob-white, Flicker, Robin.—MARY CHEATHAM, FRANCES CHEATHAM, BOBBY TAYLOR, PHILIP HICKNER, TURNER BURNS.

SPRING MEETING AT LOUISVILLE. This is the 25th anniversary of the founding of our society by Dr. Wilson, Dr. Pindar, and B. C. Bacon in 1923. The meeting will be held during the K. E. A. convention at Louisville. The main event will be a program meeting on the afternoon of Friday, April 16, in some Louisville Hotel.

Mr. Dick Bird, famous Canadian naturalist and photographer, has been tentatively secured as the principal lecturer. He is famous for his documentary news reels made in almost every part of the world. At Regina, Saskatchewan, he has his own laboratory for processing films. In recent years he has turned his talents to wild life photography in full natural colors. Several of our members who have viewed his work say it is the equal of any they have ever seen.