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Kentucky Warbler

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



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

Vol. XXIV

JULY, 1948

No. 3

THE PINE WARBLER IN KENTUCKY

Harvey B. Lovell, Biology Department,
University of Louisville

The Pine Warbler (*Dendroica pinus*) seems to have been reported first for the state of Kentucky in 1883 by C. W. Beckham who called it a "transient, common in April and September." Pindar did not mention it in his 1889 paper from Fulton County in Western Kentucky, but in his later paper based on additional work done from 1889 through 1893, he listed it as "a rare migrant" (1925). W. W. Cooke in his series of papers on the migration of Warblers (1902) lists the Pine Warbler from Bowling Green, April 20, 1902. He does not give the source of the record, but it may have come from Sadie Price. Gordon Wilson in his comprehensive list from Bowling Green (1922) gives the following spring and fall dates for the Pine Warbler: April 25, May 13, September 8 and October 8. As late as 1925 Funkhouser listed the Pine Warbler as a migrant and cited only spring and fall occurrences.

Hicks (1935) considered the Pine Warbler as a summer resident, in his table of breeding birds in states bounding Ohio, but since he cites no localities and gives no evidence, it may be assumed that he merely did this on the general distribution of the species. Robert Mengel (1939) was the first observer to record this species in summer for a particular locality. He listed it as abundant in all pine woods in Laurel County in the Cumberland National Forest, June 2-7, 1939. However, the year previously the field party from the Smithsonian Institution collected specimens 3 miles south of Coopersville on June 6 and reported others seen in the region east of Monticello both in Wayne County

on June 9 and 10, 1938. (Wetmore, 1940). In his Master's Thesis Johnnie Patten (1941) wrote, "The Pine Warbler is a fairly common species in the (Berea) region. It is probably restricted because of the scarcity of pine growth, to which it seems to be completely limited during summer. In the Berea region it inhabits the fringes and groves of Virginia pine which skirt the basin of the knobs and lie in the lower Waverly and Ohio Shales soil belt."



PINE WARBLER

In his compilation of the breeding birds of Kentucky, Wilson (1942) recorded the Pine Warbler as a summer resident in three areas as follows: Morehead, common (Welter and Barbour); Berea, fairly common (Patten); Harlan County common (Barbour).

Wilson (1947) at Mammoth Cave finally discovered at least two Pine Warblers in song on June 29, 1946. The species had previously been listed by Hibbard in 1933 (in manuscript) as summer residents, but evidently the birds were very rare, since Wilson and others had failed to note them before in 10 years of active study there. Lovell (1948) reported the Pine Warbler as a fairly common species in Cumberland Falls State Park, as well as in almost every stand of pine examined in the adjacent Cumberland National Forest in Whitley County on June 20-22, 1947.

I have the following unpublished records for the Pine Warbler in summer: Pine Mountain State Park (Bell County), June 18 and 19, 1947, where the species was re-

corded in several locations always in tall pines; McCreary, Cumberland National Forest, 5 miles west of the Cumberland River, June 22, 1947; Levi Jackson State Park in Laurel County, where a Pine Warbler in full song was recorded in a grove of pines along the edge of the park on June 22, 1947.

In all the above records there is no indication of a nest's having been discovered, nor any mention of feeding young, nor any other conclusive evidence of breeding. Therefore when I visited Pine Mountain State Park on the morning of June 13, 1948, and found Pine Warblers singing in a sparse stand of tall Virginia pine, I determined to find their nest. I tried keeping first one and then another in view in the hope that he or she might go to a nest. Mr. Rodney Hays, a senior student at the University of Louisville, assisted me. Suddenly from a pine tree in which a Pine Warbler had been singing two flew out. One flew across the road, and Hays said he was keeping it in sight; so I attempted to keep track of the other, which circled back and lost itself in a tree beyond our vision. Hays pointed out the branch in a tall pine to which the first bird had flown and expressed the belief that it had a nest there. Careful search of the limb through our field glasses revealed the outlines of a nest but no sign of the Warbler. We kept the spot under observation, and in a few minutes the Pine Warbler returned to the branch, hopped over to the edge of the nest, where we clearly saw her feed young nestlings, and then settled down to brood.

The nest was about 70 feet from the ground within a foot of the end of a long branch. The branch was thin and isolated, with the result that the nest stood out against the sky. By climbing the steep hillside, we were able to look over at the nest from an advantageous position. There were several pines scattered over the steep slope, but this pine stood alone, towering above the smaller hardwood saplings. The nest had been saddled on a small limb less than an inch in diameter where several small branches had their origin. The nest was fairly large with a deep cup. The pine was 7 feet, 2 inches in circumference and was devoid of limbs for the first fifty feet.

The activities of the Pine Warbler, apparently the female (the male was heard singing nearby at intervals), were checked for an hour and fourteen minutes.

10:35. The bird flew off the nest to some pines farther up the hill.

- 10:44. She landed below the nest, hopped along the limb to the edge of the nest, fed the nestlings, then began brooding. The male was heard singing nearby.
- 10:46. She flew off quickly. A pair of Summer Tanagers fussed at us and perched in the pine. The male tanager was carrying food in his bill. He perched on the limb containing the warbler's nest and hopped within 2 feet of it, but did not attract the attention of the Pine Warblers.
- 10:53. A Pine Warbler returned and went quickly to the nest to feed the young. We failed to note the time of her departure.
- 11:00. A Pine Warbler returned again and after feeding young began brooding.
- 11:09. She flew off nest and crossed road above us.
- 11:12. The warbler returned to nest but stayed less than a minute.
- 11:13. She hopped off along the same branch and began to feed in the nesting tree.
- 11:25 She returned with food and began incubating.
- 11:37. She left by flying from nest to a pine tree farther up the hill. Later she returned to the nest unnoticed.
- 11:49. Again she flew off the nest and crossed the road, this time in a wide arc.

It is our belief that only one bird, the female, visited the nest during this time. Certainly both adults were never at the nest or even in the nesting tree at the same time. Other birds in the vicinity included the Red-eyed Vireo, Ovenbird, Cardinal, Downy Woodpecker (feeding young out of the nest), Hooded Warbler, Phoebe (with a nest at bridge), and the Summer Tanagers. We discovered their nest in a small oak almost over our heads. The nest was close to the roadside and about 8 feet from the ground. It contained one newly hatched young and one egg.

A survey of standard works on birds and of the *Auk*, *Wilson Bulletin*, and the *Migrant* has yielded the following data on the nesting habits of the Pine Warbler. Roberts (1932) describes a nest found in a pine in Minnesota and gives a photograph of a nest, which he had placed close to the ground for observation, with the young being fed by both parents. Moore (1910) describes the first nest for

New Jersey, which contained 4 eggs. He comments upon the great difficulty of finding the nest and expresses surprise that the nest of a bird as common as the Pine Warbler had not been reported before. The only author who has given a comprehensive account of the nests is Brimley (1891) for Raleigh, North Carolina. His earliest nests were March 27, 1888 and 1889, and March 3, 1890. He found that 14 days are required to build the nest and lay the eggs. The female does all the building in most cases. The nest, which is always in pines, may be 12 to 80 feet up and usually near the end of a branch. The nests were composed of weed stems, horse hair, grapevine bark, and lined with horse hair and feathers. The dark-colored grapevine bark gave the nest a characteristic dark color. A good deal of caterpillar silk and cocoons had been used in the building. The complement of eggs was usually 4, although occasionally 3 or 5. The female usually did all the incubating. This report is based on the study of over 50 nests. Burleigh (1927) gives an early breeding record for Georgia. A nest was begun on Feb. 17, 1927, but because of bad weather, the complement of 4 eggs was not completed until March 15.

Ganier (1939) described the finding of a nest near Knoxville, Tennessee, which had a reddish appearance because it had been made of the red inner fibers of pine bark. LaPrade (1922) reports the finding of 3 sets around Atlanta, Georgia, completed between March 15 and March 27, each nest having feathers in its lining. One nest was only fifteen feet from the ground.

It seems of interest to check upon the abundance of the Pine Warbler in the states adjacent to Kentucky. Hicks (1935) for Ohio reported this species as known to breed only in 7 counties: Scioto, Jackson, Knox, Ashland, Lake, and Ashtabula. It is extremely rare in these counties except in Scioto, where as many as 40 or 50 pairs may breed. Ganier (1933) lists this warbler as a rare summer resident in pine woods in all three regions of Tennessee. The writer found the Pine Warbler not uncommon in Pickett State Forest near the Kentucky line (south of Wayne Co., Ky.), on June 30, 1947. Ridgway (1889) knew of only one record for Illinois, namely, in the heavy timber of the Wabash bottomlands near Mr. Carmel, where it was seen feeding young. Butler in Indiana considered the Pine Warbler as a rare summer resident in the northern part of the state.

SUMMARY. The distribution of the Pine Warbler in Kentucky in summer is shown on a map and the records

discussed. It was not until 1938 (Wetmore's party) and 1939 (Mengel) that evidence of breeding was obtained. Summer records are largely confined to the southeastern mountains, where pines are common along the ridges. A nest has been described from Pine Mountain State Park, believed to be the first recorded for the state. A general discussion of nesting habits as observed in the eastern states is included. From reading reports east of the Mississippi River one comes to the conclusion that the Pine Warbler is a rather common breeding bird in the southern states where pines are common. It is much restricted in range in the central states because of the scarcity of pine, but is fairly common along the mountain ranges in eastern United States, and then becomes widely distributed in the pine belt in northern United States. It is scarce or absent in most of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and western Kentucky and Tennessee.

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A HERON ROOKERY IN HICKMAN COUNTY

By John S. Morse

I wish to report the discovery of a small breeding rookery of Great Blue Herons (*Ardea herodias*) and American Egrets (*Casmerodius albus egretta*). The rookery was located in an area known as Murphy's Pond in the northeast corner of Hickman County. Murphy's Pond is a low, swampy area between 250 and 400 acres in extent in the Obion Creek bottoms. The rookery was located in a stand of virgin bald cypress, growing in a waist-deep mixture of water and oozy mud. The nests were clustered in an area not over 150 feet in diameter. In one case three nests were in a single tree. They were built high up near the tops of the old cypress trees. The rookery was first seen by me on May 28, 1948, when in the company of conservation officer John McClintock I was making a survey of the waterfowl food plants in the area. I again visited the site, accompanied by John H. Steenis of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, on June 1. On that occasion we made an effort to determine the number of nests in the rookery. There were only twelve, four of which were definitely being used by Great Blue Herons and four by American Egrets. A pair of Turkey Vultures (*Cathartes aura septentrionalis*) and a pair of Black Vultures (*Coragyps atratus*) were in the vicinity, but whether they were using any nests or not we were unable to determine. The nests occupied by the Great Blue Herons contained partly-grown young, varying in size from those whose heads only showed over the edge

of the nest to some large enough to stand erect. The nests of the American Egrets contained either eggs or young so small that they were not visible from the water. Three adult Egrets were on their nests, apparently incubating, while a fourth Egret stood beside a nest. The other four nests did not appear to be occupied.

An unusual nest of a Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura*) was found by Steenis on the edge of the rookery in a button bush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*). It was three feet above the water with no dry land within an eighth of a mile. The parent dove flushed on the approach of Mr. Steenis, revealing the nest, which contained two eggs.

FIELD NOTES

A LATE-NESTING TOWHEE

On July 30, 1947, I found a female Towhee (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) sitting on her nest in a button-bush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*) at Spring Lake, which is at the west edge of Madisonville in Hopkins County. This nest was 70 inches above ground (by actual measurement), a little higher than usual for the species, even when nesting above ground. The nest was constructed of long grass and strips of bark, and lined with finer grass. It held three eggs, which were white, thickly specked, spotted and blotched with reddish brown and lavender.

Returning on August 8 I found the nest empty, some predator having destroyed the contents. Obviously this nest either did or could have had young in August had not the predator taken his toll.

Regarding the nesting of the Towhee, Ruth Trimble (Todd, *Birds of Western Pennsylvania*, p. 625) has this to say: "The Towhee rears two broods in a season. It builds the nest for the first brood on the ground, under the shelter of a small bush, stump, or bunch of weeds. The nest for the second family is generally placed from one to five feet above the ground in a low bush. The reason for this variation cannot easily be explained. It may be that in early spring a ground nest affords better concealment and that later in the season the thick, leafy vegetation provides the necessary security."

The nest at Spring Lake is the second I have seen placed above ground. The first was in an apple tree at a lower height. A tree nest is reported by Browning for Mammoth Cave National Park for June 2, 1946. This nest was about 3½ feet up in a red cedar close to the trunk (*Ky. Warbler*, 22: 41-42, 1946). The tree nesting habit of the Towhee was considered as unusual as recently as 1938 by Walkinshaw (*Wils. Bull.*, 50: 287), who reported nests as follows: One 21 inches, one 24 inches, and two 36 inches above the ground.

—JAMES W. HANCOCK, Madisonville

NEST OF WOODCOCK IN MARSHALL COUNTY

On March 17, 1948, a young farmer, Charles B. Hiter, flushed an unknown bird from a nest, containing four eggs, located about three miles east of Benton in Marshall County. He described the bird to the county forester, Robert Rider, who thought it might be an interesting find. On March 18, I accompanied Rider and Hiter to the nest. The bird proved to be a Woodcock (*Philoela minor*), obviously incubating. The nest was located in a brushy broomsedge field about fifty feet from the edge of a patch of woods. It was at the base of a persimmon sapling. The incubating bird did not flush, although we approached within fifteen feet of it. On April 4 I visited the site of the nest with Mr. and Mrs. John DeLime. The nest was deserted, with no signs of recent use. We examined it and found it to be composed of layers of dead leaves intermixed with grasses. This made a small circular platform two to three inches high. Later I found out that Mr. Hiter had reported that the eggs had hatched shortly after our visit on March 18. The parent bird had remained with its chicks in the vicinity of the nest for a day or two before moving elsewhere.

Although this is the only Woodcock nest that I have heard of this season, at least six broods were reported from Marshall and Calloway Counties by conservation officers and others. It would thus appear that the Woodcock is still a fairly common breeding bird in this section.

—JOHN S. MORSE, Benton

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ALDER FLYCATCHER NESTING AT LOUISVILLE

Although the 1931 Check-List of the American Ornithologists Union gives the breeding range of the Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) south to Kentucky, there are few published records of its actual nesting in this state. We would like to record the nesting of this bird at Louisville.

On May 4, 1937, we first discovered one of these birds singing in the area around Caperton's Swamp, Jefferson County, near Louisville. The bird was definitely giving the sneezy "fitz-bew" note which Roger Tory Peterson attributes to the Alder Flycatchers he found in Ohio. On May 12, two of the birds were discovered, and the pair was watched throughout the spring and summer. No attempt was made to collect either bird, as we wished to discover its nest if possible. In this we were unsuccessful, and the birds were not seen after August.

The following May, the birds again returned to the swamp, and again we made the search for the nest but could not find it. However, on July 30, 1938, we found the adult birds feeding four young which were out of the nest, and one of the immature birds was collected. This specimen was sent to the Museum of Zoology at the University of Michigan for verification, and it was identified by Pierce Brodtkorb as being "*traillii*".

The birds did not return in the spring of 1939, nor have they been found here since then.

—BURT L. MONROE, SR., Anchorage, Ky.; ROBERT M. MENGEL,
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

AN EARLY WHIP-POOR-WILL RECORD

On March 20, 1948, at 5:15 A. M., just as dawn began to break, I heard the unmistakable call of a Whip-poor-will (*Caprimulgus vociferus*) coming from a small group of trees in the rear of my house. The bird called about eight times, paused a few seconds, called twice, then ceased. That evening at 6:20 P. M., as it grew dark, it began again and called at intervals for about fifteen minutes. It has not been heard since.

This record appears to me to be unusual for two reasons: first, it is the earliest record for this species in Kentucky. (Wilson at Bowling Green reported it on March 23, 1945, and Amy Deane and Helen Peil on March 29 at Otter Creek); second, my home is located well within the city limits, and it seems unusual to find the bird in such a populated district, particularly since it apparently spent the day there. I have always associated the Whip-poor-will with wooded hills which are broken with only occasional farm-sites.

On the evening above noted, I was in the yard working in my garden for about an hour and must have been within fifteen feet or less of the bird most of the time. The bird began to call while I was on my way to the house, scarcely more than fifty feet from me at the time.—JAMES BOSWELL YOUNG, Louisville.

* * * * *

A SPRING FIELD TRIP AT SLEEPY HOLLOW

On Sunday, April 18, 1948, the Beckham Bird Club of Louisville, Chapter of the K. O. S., held its all-day spring field trip at Sleepy Hollow, with headquarters at the home of the Walter Shackletons. The weather was clear, sunny, and moderately warm. There was a large attendance, and many small groups went out separately, including three boat-loads on the lake. The leaders were: Floyd Carpenter, Carl Cornett, Otto Dietrich, Harvey Lovell, Howard Mitchell, Burt Monroe, Evelyn Schneider, Mabel Slack, Mrs. Anne Stamm, Charles Thacher, and Audrey Wright.

In the afternoon, a special treat was afforded the members when Burt Monroe and Basil Doerhoefer brought over their two falcons and an immature Red-tailed Hawk. One of the falcons is a ten-year-old Goshawk, "Susie," an American bird from Colorado. The other (Bliksem) is an immature European goshawk in its first molt. Monroe and Doerhoefer demonstrated calling the birds to their gloved wrists and explained some of the methods of training and flying hawks. Each bird, with jesses on her legs, was placed on a perch, attached by a leash, secured with a snap and swivel to the free end of the strap. When it came time to take the hawks back home, one was hooded with the brightly-plumed leather hood. The bird sat very quietly in the back seat of the car when its eyes were thus covered.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Bird, of Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, wild life photographers, were guests of honor. Mr. Bird had lectured at the K. E. A. Friday afternoon and for the K. S. N. H. Friday evening.

Among others a nest of the Carolina Wren was located and its five eggs noted. A Phoebe was incubating on a nest near the lake and did not leave when approached closely. A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was observed building a nest on a branch over the lake. One group reported seeing twenty-five Towhees together in a field.

The following sixty-nine species of birds were reported:

Pied-billed Grebe, Green Heron, Blue-winged Teal, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Broad-winged Hawk, Marsh Hawk, Osprey, Sparrow

Hawk Virginia Rail, Sora, Coot, Killdeer, Wilson's Snipe, Solitary Sandpiper, Greater Yellowlegs, Mourning Dove, Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Kingbird, Phoebe, Horned Lark, Barn Swallow, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Bewick's Wren, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Migrant Shrike, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Prothonotary Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Louisiana Water-thrush, Kentucky Warbler, English Sparrow, Meadowlark, Red-wing, Bronzed Grackle, Cowbird, Cardinal, Indigo Bunting, Purple Finch, Goldfinch, Eastern Towhee, Grasshopper Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, Slate-colored Junco, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Song Sparrow.—ELIZABETH C. SHACKLETON, Sleepy Hollow, Prospect.

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MIGRATION BIRD COUNT, SPRING OF 1948

Edited by Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green

MURRAY, April 24-25. Two morning trips with Field Biology Class (2 groups, 27 students) on and near Murray State College campus on April 24; afternoon of same day at Kentucky Dam. On April 25 on College Farm, on Clark's River on Hazel Highway, and at the junction of Blood River Embayment and Kentucky Lake. Temp. range for two days, 72-84. Fair both days; south and southeast winds. Common Loon, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Wood Duck (?) and 8 ducklings, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Red-breasted Merganser, Turkey Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, Killdeer, Wilson's Snipe, Greater Yellow-legs, Ring-billed Gull, Herring Gull, Common Tern, Black Tern, Mourning Dove, Screech Owl, Barred Owl, Whip-poor-will, Chuck-will's-widow, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Kingfisher, Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Acadian Flycatcher, Least Flycatcher, Horned Lark, Bank Swallow(?), Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Tree Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, Bewick Wren, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Olive-backed Thrush, Gray-checked Thrush, Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, American Pipit, Cedar Waxwing, Migrant Shrike, Starling, Yellow-throated Vireo, White-eyed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Myrtle Warbler, Palm Warbler, Water-thrush, Maryland Yellow-throat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Black-poll Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, English Sparrow, Meadowlark, Red-wing, Orchard Oriole, Bronzed Grackle, Cowbird, Summer Tanager, Scarlet Tanager, Indigo Bunting, Goldfinch, Cardinal, Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Slate-colored Junco, Green Heron. We certainly hit a wave of swallows. I have never seen so many in the spring migration.—TWENTY-SEVEN FIELD BIOLOGY STUDENTS, KATHLEEN KEY, and GRACE WYATT (compiler).

MURRAY, May 1-2. Kentucky Dam on May 1; College Farm, Clark's River, Blood River Junction with Kentucky Lake on May 2. Temp. 70 on first day, 75-85 second day; overcast, with heavy rain

in afternoon of second day. Slight south wind on May 1; periodically stiff wind from south to southeast on May 2. Common Loon, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Green Heron, Wood Duck, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Red-breasted Merganser, Turkey Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, Killdeer, Wilson's Snipe, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, White-rumped Sandpiper, Sanderling, Lesser Yellow-legs, Greater Yellow-legs, Ring-billed Gull, Herring Gull, Black Tern, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Screech Owl, Barred Owl, Whip-poor-will, Chuck-will's-widow, Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Kingfisher, Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Acadian Flycatcher, Least Flycatcher, Wood Pewee, Horned Lark, Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Tree Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Bewick's Wren, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Olive-backed Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Cedar Waxwing, Migrant Shrike, Starling, Yellow-throated Vireo, White-eyed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue-headed Vireo, Myrtle Warbler, Palm Warbler, Louisiana Water-thrush, Yellow-throat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Black-poll Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Oven-bird, American Redstart, English Sparrow, Bob-o-link, Meadowlark, Red-wing, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Grackle, Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Summer Tanager, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissel, Goldfinch, Cardinal, Red-eyed Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow. Total, 109 species. Other species seen near count: Semipalmated Plover, May 4; Black Tern, May 4; Veery, late April; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, April 30.—VIRGINIA GRAY, KATHLEEN KEY, and GRACE WYATT (compiler).

MARION, May 22-23. River bottom, uplands, woods, lakes, fields. Temp. 65; clear. Great Blue Heron, Green Heron, Wood Duck, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Red-shouldered Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, Solitary Sandpiper, Lesser Yellow-legs, Least Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Screech Owl, Barred Owl, Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Least Flycatcher, Wood Pewee, Horned Lark, Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Brown Creeper, Bewick's Wren, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Cedar Waxwing, Migrant Shrike, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Prothonotary Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Louisiana Water-thrush, Kentucky Warbler, Yellow-throat, Yellow-breasted Chat, English Sparrow, Meadowlark, Red-wing, Orchard Oriole, Grackle, Cowbird, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissel, Goldfinch, Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Song Sparrow. Total, 79 species.—DR. J. TRAVIS, C. L. FRAZER, DR. T. ATCHISON FRAZER.

PROVIDENCE, April 18 and also May 2: Dawn to dusk. Same territory as usual. Some observations noted: Migrant Shrike feeding five young; Wood Duck with a fleet of twenty ducklings; Warb-

ling Vireo reinforcing last-year's nest (damaged by this-year's storm) and using it; dead female Myrtle Warbler found near a garden where poison had been put out for bean beetles. Pied-billed Grebe, Great Blue Heron, American Egret, Little Blue Heron, Green Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Common Mallard, Wood Duck, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Marsh Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, Coot, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Black-billed Cuckoo, Screech Owl, Great Horned Owl, Chuck-will's-widow, Whip-poor-will, Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Least Flycatcher, Wood Pewee, Horned Lark, Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Tree Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee (?), Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, House Wren, Bewick's Wren, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Olive-backed Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Veery, Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, American Pipit, Cedar Waxwing, Migrant Shrike, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Prothonotary Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler (?), Nashville Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Palm Warbler, Northern Water-thrush, Yellow-throat, Yellow-breasted Chat, American Redstart, English Sparrow, Bobolink, Meadowlark, Red-wing, Rusty Blackbird, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Grackle, Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissel, Goldfinch, Towhee, Bachman's Sparrow, Slate-colored Junco, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Song Sparrow. Total species for the two counts, 122—TRUDA SIGLER CORBIN, MRS. HENRY PARRISH, DR. SUSIE HOLDMAN GILCHRIST, DORA WYATT, THOMAS A. SEMPLE, and SUE WYATT-SEMPLÉ (compiler).

MADISONVILLE, May 3. 4:00 A. M. to 7:30 P. M. Eight lakes at Madisonville and Earlington, Clear Creek, open country, streets, and cattail marshes. J. W. H. alone most of day, accompanied by K. H. in late afternoon. Weather: cloudy; light northeast wind; temp. 48-69. Common Loon, Pied-billed Grebe, Green Heron, Blue-winged Teal, Lesser Scaup Duck, Red-shouldered Hawk; Osprey, Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Greater Yellow-legs, Lesser Yellow-legs, Pectoral Sandpiper, Mourning Dove, Chuck-will's-widow, Whip-poor-will, Nighthawk, Chimney Swift; Belted Kingfisher, Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Wood Pewee, Horned Lark, Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Bewick's Wren, Carolina Wren; Long-billed Marsh Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Olive-backed Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler,

Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Parula Warbler, Yellow-Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Sycamore Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Palm Warbler, Oven-bird, Northern Water-thrush, Louisiana Water-thrush, Kentucky Warbler, Yellow-throat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Hooded Warbler, American Redstart, English Sparrow, Meadowlark, Red-wing, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Grackle, Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Goldfinch, Red-eyed Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow. Total for count, 100. Other species recorded April 30-May 7: Great Blue Heron, American Bittern, Ruddy Duck, Turkey Vulture, Rock Dove, Barred Owl, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Acadian Flycatcher, Worm-eating Warbler, Black-poll Warbler, White-crowned Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow. Total for period, 112 species. Sora on April 22; also Coot on same date; Yellow-billed Cuckoo and Magnolia Warbler, May 12. Northern Water-thrush not so rare as usual this spring. Because of considerable burning along the shore, the Song Sparrow is not to be found at Atkinson Lake this season.—KATHRYN and JAMES W. HANCOCK.

BOWLING GREEN, April 23-24. Overnight camp at Mouth of Gasper and next morning at McElroy and Chaney Farms. Weather, warm; wind, south, slight; clear, then cloudy. Pied-billed Grebe, Green Heron, Mallard, Black Duck, Baldpate, Blue-winged Teal, Shoveller, Turkey Vulture, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Osprey, Bob-white, Coot, Killdeer, Wilson's Snipe, Solitary Sandpiper, Mourning Dove, Barred Owl, Chuck-will's-widow, Whip-poor-will, Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Horned Lark, Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Bewick's Wren, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Cedar Waxwing, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Blue-headed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Sycamore Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Palm Warbler, Louisiana Water-thrush, Kentucky Warbler, Yellow-throat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Hooded Warbler, English Sparrow, Meadowlark, Red-wing, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Grackle, Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissel, Goldfinch, Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Leconte's Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, Bachman's Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow. Other species recorded within a week of the count: Black-crowned Night Heron, Red-head, Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, Ruddy Duck, Black Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Belted Kingfisher, Purple Martin, Winter Wren, Hermit Thrush, Migrant Shrike, Bobolink, Purple Finch. Total for period, 113 species. The water species were far below what I had expected, largely because several farm tractors were in operation near the lakes when I visited them. Finding the Leconte's Sparrow for the second season in my life partially repaid me for the poor showing of water birds.—GORDON WILSON.

MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK, April 30-May 2. Week-end camp from late Friday afternoon to late Sunday afternoon. The species starred were found just beyond the park area, but not in the park itself. Very warm and rainy, with a heavy rain on the night of May 2; strong southwest wind on May 2. Green Heron, *Blue-winged Teal, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Cooper's Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Bob-white, *Killdeer, *Solitary Sandpiper, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Barred Owl, Whip-poor-will, Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, *Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Acadian Flycatcher, Wood Pewee, Rough-winged Swallow, *Barn Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, *Bewick's Wren, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Olive-backed Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Veery, Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, *Cedar Waxwing, *Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Blue-headed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, *Warbling Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Parula Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Sycamore Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Black-poll Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Palm Warbler, Oven-bird, Louisiana Water-thrush, Kentucky Warbler, Yellow-throat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Hooded Warbler, American Redstart, House Sparrow, *Meadowlark, Red-wing, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, *Grackle, Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, *Dickcissel, Goldfinch, Towhee, Bachman's Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow. Total for park, 85 species; outside the park, 10; grand total for week-end, 95.—DR. RUSSELL STARR, Glasgow, and GORDON WILSON, Bowling Green (compiler).

LOUISVILLE, May 9. Indian Hills, River Road, open fields, to Anchorage. 6:30 to 6:30. Temp. 65-82; fair. Parties met at Piepers' home on River Road for lunch and compilation of results. Green Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron, Green-winged Teal, Wood Duck, Hooded Merganser, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Osprey, Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, Killdeer, Wilson's Snipe, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Lesser Yellow-legs, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Barred Owl, Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Flicker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Acadian Flycatcher, Wood Pewee, Horned Lark, Bank Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Bewick's Wren, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Olive-backed Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Veery, Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Cedar Waxwing, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Sycamore Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Black-poll Warbler, Palm Warbler, Northern Water-thrush,

Louisiana Water-thrush, Kentucky Warbler, Yellow-throat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Wilson's Warbler, Canada Warbler, American Redstart, English Sparrow, Bobolink, Meadowlark, Red-wing, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Grackle, Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissel, Goldfinch, Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Song Sparrow. Total, 113 species.—J. BAINS, MR. and MRS. LEONARD BRECHER, MAT BRUHN, FLOYD S. CARPENTER, MR. and MRS. OTTO DIETRICH, HARVEY B. LOVELL, JOHN LOVELL, WALTON JACKSON, BURT MONROE, SR., BURT MONROE, JR., LOUIS PIEPER, MARIE PIEPER, EVELYN SCHNEIDER, MABEL SLACK, MR. and MRS. FRED W. STAMM, ROBERT STEILBERG, CHARLES STRULL, FAN TABLER, MR. and MRS. S. CHARLES THACHER, AUDREY WRIGHT (compiler), HENRY ZIMMER.

NEWS AND VIEWS

James W. Hancock writes from Madisonville that the following warblers arrived early this spring: Blue-winged on April 8, Cerulean Warbler, April 15; Prairie Warbler, April 12; and Yellow-breasted Chat, April 21. He further writes, "My partial albino Song Sparrow did return, being first seen on November 11, exactly one year from the date of discovery. The bird was, surprisingly enough, much whiter than it was last season, yet appeared to have some brown feathers in the wings and the central tail feathers. It disappeared on December 8, and I have not seen it since."

COUNTING BIRDS ACROSS THE MOON.—George H. Lowery of Louisiana State University sponsored a study of bird migration, this spring by counting through a telescope birds as seen flying across the moon. Thirty stations were operated by ornithologists and astronomers throughout the North American Continent in one of the greatest examples of cooperative research yet demonstrated in field biology. In Louisville Mr. Charles Strull of 2100 Murray furnished a fine 5-inch refractor telescope, which when used with a 60-power eyepiece proved to be highly satisfactory. Burt Monroe, Sr., directed the compilation of data. The nights selected because the moon was full were on April 21, 22, and 23 and on May 22, 23, and 24. Two persons were necessary at all times, one to make the observations, and the other to record the time, direction of flight, and approximate size of the bird. It was found better if the observer changed off every 20 to 30 minutes to prevent eyestrain and increase accuracy. Counting lasted about 7 hours per night in April, and 6 hours in May. The data on approximately 800 bird flights have been sent to Mr. Lowery from Louisville, who hopes to correlate the observations from all stations soon. It is planned to continue these observations during the fall migrations in September, October, and November. Any ornithologist in the state who has access to a telescope should write to Mr. Lowery concerning participation. Among the group in Louisville who took part in the nocturnal research were: Anne Stamm, Mabel Slack, Evelyn Schneider, Marie Pieper, Otto K. Dietrich, Leonard Brecher, Thomas Merimee, Harvey Lovell, Burt Monroe, Sr., and Jr., Louis Pieper, Kenneth Patterson, Walter Shackleton.