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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

OCTOBER, 1948

No. 4

SOME RECORDS OF IMPORTANCE TO KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGY

By Robert M. Mengel

The purpose of this paper is to make available a number of records which add to the present knowledge of Kentucky ornithology. These have accumulated in my files for a number of years, and stem from two principal sources.

The first of these is the small collection from Logan County, Kentucky, made by George C. Embody from 1903-1906. Embody's birds have been incorporated into the Louis Agassiz Fuertes Memorial Bird Collection at Cornell University, where it has been my good fortune to have ample opportunity to examine them. I have limited discussion of the Cornell birds to specimens which seemed especially important to me. It is to be emphasized that other valuable material, upon which I shall report later, is present there. It is fortunate that Embody's birds have received the excellent care of a good museum. The present status of Kentucky ornithology would be somewhat more advanced if other early collections, Beckham's, for example, had received similar care in their entirety.

Since all of Embody's specimens are from the general vicinity of Russellville, in Logan County, I have given no localities in the text, except where more specific details are available. To avoid unnecessary repetition, I have referred to the aforementioned collection merely as "Cornell collection."

The second source consists of records accruing from my own field activities in various parts of the state from 1942 to 1946, inclusive. I have not included records of birds collected or studied in collaboration with my long-time associate, Burt L. Monroe, or records of forms previously

unrecorded from the state, as this would overlap with other projects now in progress. Thanks are due to Dr. George M. Sutton, Dr. Dwain Warner, Mr. Kenneth Parkes, and to my wife, all of whom have helped in various ways.

Snowy Egret. *Leucophoyx thula thula*. A number of these egrets have been seen at various points in Kentucky, particularly at the Falls of the Ohio River (Monroe and Mengel, 1939: 39), in recent years. I collected a specimen, probably the first extant one for the state, on August 23, 1942, one mile south of New Madrid, Mo., on the Mississippi River in Fulton County, Ky.

Goshawk. *Accipiter gentilis*. On February 20, 1946, Karl H. Maslowski and I observed an adult Goshawk for about ten minutes near Glenview, Jefferson County. I tried to collect the bird, but without success, and it was not seen again despite a careful watch. Since no specimen was obtained, I offer the observation not as an absolute record, but as an indication of the necessity of continued watchfulness for this northern hawk. Blincoe (1920) records an adult Goshawk killed in Nelson County on December 1, 1918, and apparently the only one taken in the state. It is desirable to learn the disposition of this bird, as well as to secure more specimens.

Sharp-shinned Hawk. *Accipiter striatus velox*. Very few specimens of this little hawk have actually been taken in Kentucky. Neither Burt Monroe nor I have been able to collect any of the relatively few birds we have seen in the state. Therefore it is of interest that Embury collected a female on September 14, 1904 (Cornell coll.).

Pigeon Hawk. *Falco columbarius columbarius*. There is an immature female, taken by Embury on September 30, 1904, in the Cornell collection. I have identified it as this subspecies. It is the fourth Kentucky specimen of the Pigeon Hawk to come to my attention.

Red-cockaded Woodpecker. *Dendrocopos borealis borealis*. This species, which I first located in Laurel County in 1939 (Mengel, 1940), was still present at the time of my last visit to the area in 1946. To four specimens already preserved, Dwain Warner and I added two; a fully grown juvenile female on July 4, and an adult male on July 6. We recorded several small bands of the birds in an area of about eight square miles. On December 27, 1940, while accompanied by Gerald T. Rogers, I collected an adult male in the same locality, attesting to the sedentary nature of the species.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher. *Empidonax flaviventris*. The difficulty of field identification of flycatchers of the genus *Empidonax*, amounting to virtual impossibility in the fall, makes reliable records of these birds in Kentucky rather scarce. No records of *Empidonaces* during migration periods, especially autumnal, should be considered thoroughly acceptable unless authenticated by specimens. Therefore I list four specimens.

Embody took a male on September 17, 1904. I secured a male and a female on August 26, 1942, near Prospect in Oldham County, and another male at the same place on August 30.

Least Flycatcher. *Empidonax minimus*. I secured a specimen which could not be sexed on August 30, 1942, near Prospect, Oldham County.

Olive-sided Flycatcher. *Nuttallornis borealis*. On August 15, 1942, I shot a silent individual of this species near the summit of Big Black Mountain in Harlan County. A long search failed to disclose the specimen, which had fallen in dense undergrowth. The presence of this bird should not be construed as an indication of a breeding population, since the species is an early migrant.

Western Olive-backed Thrush. *Hyllocichla ustulata almae*. A female taken by Embody on April 26, 1905, and a male May 5, 1906, in the Cornell collection, have been referred to this race by Dr. G. M. Sutton. Dr. Wetmore (1940: 551-2) records the subspecies from a number of Kentucky localities. The Embody specimens are typical of the form in the pallid coloration of their upperparts.

Gray-cheeked Thrush. *Hyllocichla minima minima*. The rather considerable difficulty of accurately distinguishing this species from the preceding under many field conditions makes it worthwhile to mention two specimens at Cornell. These are a female taken May 13, 1905, at Buena Vista, and a female secured May 23, 1906 (Embody). Both are typical of the large, western race.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet. *Regulus calendula calendula*. On September 6, 1942, I took a male at Glenview, Jefferson County. This date was considerably earlier than any in Monroe's and my files.

Philadelphia Vireo. *Vireo philadelphicus*. I collected a male on August 30, 1942, near Prospect, Oldham County. There are few specimens of this obscure bird from the state.

Bachman's Warbler. *Vermivora bachmanii*. Embody (1907) collected five specimens and a nest with three eggs at Wolf Lick, Logan County. These seem to be the only preserved specimens for the state. It is appropriate to call attention to the fact that these five specimens are safely stored in the Cornell collection. Their full data are as follows: male, May 22, 1906 (brilliant adult); male, May 14, 1906 (less brilliant adult); female, May 22, 1906 (very dull plumage); female, May 14, 1906 (nest and three fresh eggs of this bird collected); male, May 14, 1906.

Pine Siskin. *Spinus pinus*. A flock of approximately ten of these little finches, for which there are surprisingly few Kentucky records, spent the afternoon of February 28, 1946, feeding in the evergreen shrubs about the A. D. Allen home at Glenview, Jefferson County. I succeeded in collecting a female.

LeConte's Sparrow. *Passerherbulus caudacutus*. Records of this secretive bird are always greeted with pleasure. It is gratifying to record the presence of two Logan County specimens in the Cornell collection. Embody took a winter male there December 28, 1903, and a second male on March 13, 1904, making a total of at least six specimens from the state.

Pine-woods Sparrow. *Aimophila aestivalis* subsp. There are two sparrows of this species from Logan County in the Cornell collection. Both males, they were collected April 14, 1906. In addition, I took a singing male near Louisville, Jefferson County, April 10, 1948, and recently examined a worn adult male in the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology taken by Woodrow Goodpaster on July 28, 1946, in Clermont County, Ohio, just north of the Ohio River. Following the discussion of the races of *Aimophila aestivalis* presented by Dr. Wetmore (1939: 238), I have gone over the material in the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, as well as a series from Oklahoma and elsewhere kindly made available to me by Dr. Sutton, and compared the birds from (or near) Kentucky. This procedure has resulted in several tentative conclusions. (1) The characters which separate *A. a. aestivalis* from the rest of the species are very well marked and readily apparent. (2) The intergradation of *A. a. bachmanii* with *A. a. illinoensis* is gradual and marked by considerable variation within given populations. This variation concerns both the hue and intensity of the browns, and the amount of black streaking in the feathers. I do not feel that the last word has yet

been said in regard to the variation and races of the species, nor am I convinced that *illinoensis*, as currently defined, is worthy of recognition. (3) Considerable Kentucky collecting of this species will have to be carried out before the true character of the population, and the details of its variation, will become clear. Unfortunately, the type locality of *illinoensis* (Wabash County, Illinois) lies rather close to the edge of the form's range, as it is currently stated by the A. O. U. Check-list Committee (1944: 463). Since *illinoensis* is a western, or northwestern, subspecies of the species, I suspect that neither topotypical specimens from Illinois, nor birds from adjacent areas in western Kentucky will display the extreme of pallid coloration or reduction of black shown by at least some individuals from farther west.

Wetmore (1939: 239, 1940: 570) has identified east Tennessee specimens and a male taken April 21, 1938 in Meade County, Ky., as *bachmanii*, adding that they are all intermediate, in varying degrees, toward *illinoensis*.

In the light of material available to me, and with my present concept of the situation, I have identified the specimens mentioned above as follows: Goodpaster's bird from Clermont Co., O., though very worn and somewhat soiled, seems typical of *bachmanii*. The male from Jefferson County is identified as intermediate, though slightly closer to *illinoensis*. The two birds from Logan County are interesting. Taken on the same day at (presumably) the same locality, they are quite different. There is no clue on the labels to indicate their apparent status, but, even in spite of their differences, it is not at all improbable that they were members of the same resident population. One, very rufous with greatly restricted dorsal black streaking, is here identified as closer to *illinoensis*; the other, while rather pallid, shows a great deal of dorsal black and is considered closer to *bachmanii*.

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FIELD NOTES

ANOTHER CEDAR WAXWING NEST

I discovered the nest of a Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) in a sugar maple about 20 feet high near my kitchen door on July 6, 1947. My attention was attracted to the tree by the "lisping" of the 3 young. Our home is about one and one-half miles from the Ohio River with no houses in between. We have a red cedar tree in the yard filled with berries, which probably helped attract the waxwings.

July 11. During the week the parents have been busy feeding the nestlings. Wild cherries seem to be an important part of the diet. The young have grown enormously. I can see dark about their eyes, stripes on their chests and yellow on the tips of the tail feathers.

July 13. Nestlings stretching and sitting on edge of nest. About 3 o'clock one fluttered its wings and hopped out onto tree. By four o'clock another was out, and when I looked again later, the third, too, had left the nest. All, therefore, left the nest at about the same time.

July 14. It rained hard last night. The fledglings can be heard in the tree. The nest has remained empty. The young birds did not return to it at any time as far as I could determine. One parent was noted coming in with ripe cherries.

The fledglings were seen or heard on the 15th, 16th, and 18th of July.—MRS. FAN B. TABLER, 2923 Riedling Drive, Louisville.

* * * * *

SOME MIGRATION AND NESTING NOTES

The spring and early summer of 1948, though not exceptional in most ways, have brought me several new experiences. The McElroy and Chaney Lakes have been larger than in any season since the all-time high of 1937. Water birds have been fairly common on both of them, the season running from the middle of February until the end of June. I did not add any new species to my list of 71 for the lakes, but I did get some second and third records that I value: Dowitcher (*Limnodromus griseus*), Red-backed Sandpiper (*Erolia alpina pacifica*), Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres morinella*), and Baird's Sandpiper (*Erolia bairdii*). On two occasions I saw the young of the Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*): 2 half-grown young on May 29 and 9 very small downy young on June 5. On May 6 I found 10 downy young of the Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*), a species

that rather commonly nests along our streams but not previously found nesting on the temporary lakes. On June 5 I also found 2 immature Black-crowned Night Herons (*Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli*). On only one day were there as many as 2000 waterfowl on the lakes.

Last year I recorded the House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) twice in the summer on a lot not far from my house. Again this summer I have found it and have also found the nesting box where it raised a brood last year and another one this year. Dr. L. Y. Lancaster has also found another one nesting on his lot, in a part of town some mile and a quarter from the one I found.

Dr. Lancaster and I found another nesting-box nest of this species at the home of Mr. Will Thomas in late June, 1948, and were assured a full brood had been hatched and reared.

The Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) is one of the rarest species in my territory if one judges by the actual number of times it has been seen. On June 30, 1948, I was called to come to see a strange bird that had been picked up at Bewley's Steak House, just north of town. It was a young Barn Owl, two-thirds grown, that had apparently fallen from the nesting cavity in a hollow tree to the rear of the restaurant. This is the first immature bird of this species that I have seen in this immediate area.

The Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*), another species that remained on the campus at Western State College all last summer, has again been seen fairly regularly this summer. I have looked in vain for a nest both years.

On July 4, 1947, I found the Swainson's Warbler (*Limnothlypis swainsonii*) at the Chaney Marsh but was never able to find it again. This year it reappeared on May 26, more melodious than ever. I still have hopes of finding its nest.—GORDON WILSON, Bowling Green.

* * * * *

OLD SQUAWS AT KENTUCKY LAKE

On February 15, 1948, Mrs. DeLime and I sighted two ducks just above Kentucky Lake Dam at Gilbertsville, Ky. They were resting quietly on the water about 50 or 60 yards from the dam. They were identified as Old Squaws (*Clangula hyemalis*) in juvenile plumage without the long tail. One, evidently a male, was in a plumage intermediate between the true juvenile plumage and the adult. The head was pure white with the brown neck patch. The other bird resembled an adult female except that the head was a light grayish-brown. There was no opportunity to observe the flight pattern since the birds refused to leave the water, merely swimming away as an effort was made to flush them.

Two days later, on February 17, John Morse found four Old Squaws, two females and two males, in practically the same spot. We checked with John Steenis, biologist with the Fish and Wildlife Service, and with Earl Cady, T. V. A. biologist, and found that Old Squaws had never been reported on Kentucky Lake before. However, on December 27, 1944, Steenis observed an Old Squaw on the upper part of Wheeler Reservoir in Alabama. He has also observed a male Old Squaw on Reelfoot Lake, north of Samburg (Migrant, 17: 20, 1946). On April 5, 1947, Steenis again recorded an Old Squaw on Reelfoot, and on March 13, 1948, accompanied by C. E. Addy,

Fish and Wildlife biologist from Newburyport, Mass., heard an Old Squaw but did not see it. However, on the 27th of March, S. Charles Kendeigh and his advanced ecology class from the University of Illinois reported seeing this species of duck on Reelfoot Lake.

Previous Kentucky records appear to have been confined to the Ohio River and Bowling Green. Gordon Wilson has recorded them at the latter place on March 26, 1935, and March 6, 15, and 30 and April 3, 1947 (Ky. Warbler, 16: 13-21, 1940). At Louisville, according to Monroe and Mengel, they are generally present in small numbers as early as November 25 and as late as the middle of March, especially in severe weather (Ky. Warbler, 15: 38-44, 1939).

—JOHN DELIME, Murray

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A SNOW BUNTING IN WESTERN KENTUCKY

On November 12, 1944, one Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) was observed on the Kentucky Reservoir in the State of Kentucky. On a low, recently-exposed island opposite Pine Bluff, I stalked and studied this bird for ten minutes. This Snow Bunting seemed quite tame, and I observed it as close as 15 feet. I am quite familiar with this bird in North Dakota and Upper Michigan. While in Michigan I banded some 200 of these birds and have also prepared study skins of them.—JOHN H. STEENIS, Fish and Wildlife Service, Paris, Tennessee.

* * * * *

A PREDATOR CROW

One morning in mid-April, when the sugar maples on our campus at Saint Catherine Junior College were not yet in leaf, my attention was attracted to one of these trees, about thirty feet from my window, where a grackle and a crow were in voluble conflict. The raucous caw of the crow seemed to rise in derision above the indignant screams of the grackle. In and out of the branches these birds flew. And I, too, was indignant at the boldness of the crow, as he seemed trying to alight on one of the lower limbs of the maple. How had this big, black intruder dared to come in from the nearby fields to disturb the usual peaceful domain of our smaller birds. There was, I thought, no food to be found on this bare maple tree!

The answer was not long delayed, for just then the crow, darting past his ineffective adversary, swooped down to the lowest crotch of the tree. Then, flying out on the side facing my window, he dropped from his beak a vivid blue egg-shell, taken from a Robin's nest which I had not realized was there.

I hurried downstairs and outside, hoping to stop further depredations on the unfortunate Robin's nest. When I reached a stone's throw from the tree, the crow was returning from a short cruise across the fields, apparently to dodge the annoying pursuit of the belligerent grackle, who still kept up the fight. Straight towards the nest he was heading again, paying no whit of attention to my additions to the grackle's scolding. But when I hurled a stone towards the tree, the predator flew away over the field, the grackle hastening his retreat by flying close behind and beneath, all the while screaming defiantly.

I went over and picked up the half egg-shell, which was punctured in one end and clean inside, so thoroughly had the crow sucked its contents. Then I located the ruined nest, but it was too high for me to observe its contents. There it was in a most exposed position

on the far side of this bare tree, one of a row along the outskirts of the campus, beyond which extend the fields and orchards. It may have been the first nest ever built by a young, inexperienced Robin, I concluded. I hoped she would learn prudence from this bitter experience. If only she had known that we in the school were to be trusted, she would not have selected the exposed side of the tree where her eggs were in full view of any avian predator.

I returned to my room and looked out the window to see if there were any sign of the enemy's returning. He was nowhere in sight. Several grackles were carrying on their normal clatter in the next tree. Beneath the one where the raid occurred, a female Robin was picking around rather indifferently, it appeared. Then suddenly she flew up to the ruined nest, and taking from it another half egg-shell, carried it down to some tall grass in the field, where she was hidden a few moments. Presently, she returned to perch on a tree near the one she had just left. Was she looking around for a more secluded nest site? Had she learned her lesson the hard way, as birds must do if they are to survive in a world peopled by predators?—SISTER BONAVENTURE, O. P., Saint Catherine Junior College, Saint Catherine, Kentucky.

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K. O. S. FIELD TRIPS AT GLASGOW

During our 25th anniversary meeting field trips were taken on Oct. 9 and 10 to several interesting habitats in the vicinity of Glasgow (Barren Co.). On the morning of October 9 the party drove to the vicinity of Beaver Creek. Dr. Wilson led one party and Mrs. Frei another along the fields and creeks and through scattered patches of woods. One group was met by Mr. Charles Winiger, who took them over his fine farm. The party was especially interested in watching a hydraulic ram in operation at a spring, which pumped hundreds of gallons of water each day up a steep hill to his home, operating without any cost. He also showed us a spot where we could find an usual fossil, *Pentremites*, belonging to the Echinoderm. A fine Red-shouldered Hawk flew so low that we could see its red shoulders. White-throated Sparrows called loudly from the bushes, and one broke into song. A male Summer Tanager in full plumage was feeding in a grove of trees. Five Black Vultures circled in one party over our heads, eyeing us longingly.

In the afternoon we visited a pond at the ice-plant and another at Alexander's farm. A lone Coot swam on the latter and waded ashore on the opposite bank. A flock of drab Indigo Buntings fed on the seeds of a field of sorghum. On Sunday, we all went to the Rotary Boy Scout Camp but in two parties. Here the Pileated Woodpeckers put on a show and even perched in full sight. A flock of 25 Cedar Waxwings were hawking insects from a high tree. Hancock counted 28 Mourning Doves in one flock nearby. A pair of Wood Ducks were flushed from the creek. Wilson recorded a flock of 15 Rusty Blackbirds.

The complete list of 64 species was as follows: Green Heron, Wood Duck, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Cooper Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, American Coot, Killdeer, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Chimney Swift, Kingfisher, Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Phoebe, Wood Pewee, Horned Lark, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch,

Winter Wren, Carolina Wren, Short-billed Marsh Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Bluebird, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Starling, Magnolia Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Black throated Green Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Palm Warbler, Yellow-throat, English Sparrow, Meadowlark, Rusty Blackbird, Cowbird, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Purple Finch, Goldfinch, Eastern Towhee, Slate-colored Junco, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Song Sparrow.—Compiled by Gordon Wilson.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Dr. Cynthia Counce writes that she was active in bird feeding at Hopkinsville during last winter. Both the local paper and radio station cooperated. She enclosed an interesting clipping about hungry Bob-white as reported by conservation officer Floyd Wheeler. Four of the birds entered his stable, and two were perched on the back of cattle, eating the seeds of Lespedeza which had fallen through the cracks of the loft. Even when the farmer entered, the birds showed no fear and refused to fly away. Dr. Counce listed several interesting birds which visited her feeding stations. These included 60 Juncos, White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows, Purple Finch, Meadowlark, a Flicker, Robins, and several others.

FIELD WEEK AT BLACK MOUNTAIN. On June 12, Rodney Hays, Robert Cunningham, Richard Allen, and Harvey Lovell left Louisville for a week of field work in eastern Kentucky. At Black Mountain they joined Roger Barbour, who is camped all summer on the summit of the mountain with his wife and two children, in order to collect material for his doctor's thesis at Cornell University. Barbour operated a large number of mammal traps and collected amphibia and reptiles. He is particularly studying the affect of altitude upon the distribution of animal life as well as looking for new distribution records and hoping for a new subspecies or two. Allen and Cunningham were collecting for the herpetology collection of the University of Louisville. Salamanders of many species were very common on the mountain. Most of us had never before seen the green *Aneides aeneus*, which was fairly common under the bark of rotten logs near the summit. The ring-necked snake was extremely common, dozens being collected almost every day. Three rattlesnakes were also taken during our stay.

Numerous northern birds were in evidence near the summit. The Rose-breasted Grosbeak called continually from dead trees all around us. The Veery sang from the woods, especially early in the morning and in the evening. Other species included the Carolina Junco, the Chestnut-sided Warbler, Canada Warbler, Cairns's Warbler, and Mountain Vireo.

The beautiful flame azalea was in full bloom on the mountain top in the open fields now growing up in pioneer shrubs. Several chestnut trees killed by the blight had sent up shoots which were living, and one at least was in bloom. Mrs. Barbour, an experienced biology teacher, is collecting the plants of the mountain.

The Louisville group returned Thursday, June 17.

BECKHAM BIRD CLUB NOTES, 1947-1948. The Beckham Bird Club, Louisville Chapter of the K. O. S., has just completed a year of

worthwhile activities. Among the talks given by club members were "Birds of the Kentucky Mountains", by Harvey Lovell; "History of Falconry" illustrated by a live Goshawk, by Burt Monroe and Basil Doerhoefer; "Identifying the Migrants", by Floyd Carpenter; "A Trip to Reelfoot Lake" by Mrs. William Tabler; "Birding in Texas", an all color moving picture, by Walter Shackleton; "A Trip through Glacier National Park", by Evelyn Schneider. At the May meeting, Ernest Edwards, a graduate student at Cornell University, showed his kodachrome moving pictures of Mexican birds filmed on several trips to Mexico.

Special projects have been carried on by Club members. Matthias Bruhn has kept the Club's Migration Chart, on which he has copied records of arrival and departure as reported to him by club members. Miss Audrey Wright's committee completed the Bluebird project undertaken last year. Boxes were placed in Cherokee Park for study of nesting Bluebirds. Of the sixteen boxes, nine were used by Bluebirds, five others had been damaged by vandals, and two were destroyed.

A series of Saturday or Sunday field trips planned by a committee headed by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Thacher covered the fall, winter, and spring seasons and gave members and friends frequent opportunities to observe birds in migration, on winter and breeding territories, and in different types of habitat. The club's Christmas and migration bird counts have already appeared in this journal.

Other activities have included participation, in cooperation with the Kentucky Society of Natural History, in the fourth annual presentation of the Audubon Screen Tour Lectures; participation with several other clubs in the three meetings of the Natural History Institute during the summer of 1948, and also in the Kentucky Wildlife Conference at Otter Creek.

Several important items of business were transacted during the year.

(1) The annual dues, beginning January, 1948, were increased from \$1.00 to \$1.50, and the allotment to the K. O. S. was thereby increased from 75c to \$1.00 and that retained by the local group from 25c to 50c.

(2) The Club voted to participate in the national program of the Fish and Wildlife Service to accumulate information on bird distribution by recording bird species on the Service's special cards.

(3) A letter was sent to the Mayor and Board of Alderman registering protest against the use of Cherokee and Seneca Parks for a contemplated Expressway.

(4) A gift of \$50.00 was given by the Club to the K. O. S. for the purpose of helping meet the expenses of publishing the KENTUCKY WARBLER.

(5) The office of Secretary-Treasurer was divided into two parts—one person to be Recording Secretary, and a second to be Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer.

Thirty-nine new members added to membership during the period from July, 1947 to June, 1948.

At the May business meeting, the following officers were elected: President—Mr. Francis Shannon; Vice-President—Mr. Donald Summerfield; Recording Secretary—Miss Helen Browning; Treasurer—Mrs. William Tabler; Directors—Mr. Walton Jackson, Mr. Leonard Brecher, and Miss Evelyn Schneider.

—VIRGINIA WINSTANDLEY, Secretary-Treasurer



TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY MEETING AT GLASGOW

Front row: Amy Deane, Kathleen Key, Harvey Lovell, Mary Clyde Nuckols, Mabel Slack, James Hancock, Mrs. Charles Thacher, Marie Pieper, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Strull.
Second row: Mary Lou Frei, Bernice Shannon, Gordon Wilson, Charles Thacher.
Third row: Grace Wyatt, Leonard Brecher, Edith Pearson, Virginia Winstandley.
Back row: Eugene Cypert, Mary Louise Brecher, Hazel Kinslow, Mrs. Otto Dietrich, A. F. Ganler, Cynthia Counce, Otto Dietrich.

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY MEETING AT GLASGOW

The session opened Friday evening October 8, 1948, at the Spotswood Hotel with the President, Mabel Slack, presiding. The following revisions to the Constitution and By-laws were adopted:

CONSTITUTION: Article III, Members.

Section 1. (Amended to read) Membership in this Society shall be open to all persons interested in any phase of bird life and shall consist of active, student, life, contributing and corresponding members.

Section 2 was eliminated. Section 3, 4, and 5 will now become sections 2, 3, and 4.

(Add) Section 5: **Contributing Membership** shall consist of those persons who pay the Contributing Membership fee. They shall be accorded all the privileges of active membership.

(Active) Section 6: **Corresponding Membership** shall consist of institutions subscribing to the KENTUCKY WARBLER and of those individuals residing outside of Kentucky who wish to subscribe to the KENTUCKY WARBLER without having the status of active membership.

BY-LAWS: Article II, Dues.

Section 1. (Eliminate the sentence): The annual dues of Sustaining Membership shall be \$3.00.

(Add) The annual dues for **Active Membership** shall be \$2.00.
 The annual dues of **Student Membership** shall be \$1.00.
 The annual dues for **Contributing Membership** shall be \$5.00.
 The annual dues for **Corresponding Membership** shall be \$1.50.
 The fee for **Life Membership** shall be \$50.00.

Section 2. Where membership dues are paid through the treasurer of a local affiliated chapter in which at least one-half of the paying members are also members of the K. O. S., 50 cents may be deducted from each member's payment for the purpose of sustaining the activities of the local club.

Mr. Charles Strull of Louisville presented a new and growing phase of bird study in his talk, "Observing the Nocturnal Migrations of Birds" (See page 48).

Kodachrome slides of former meetings and trips were then shown, and prints of black and white pictures hung around the room recalled memories of many former trips.

On Saturday, October 9, the group went on field trips in the morning to the Darter Cave, Winiger farm area, and the "slashes". Later, group photographs were taken on the grounds of the Glasgow High School by Mary Lou Frei and others. The afternoon field trips were made in several locations along the Burkesville Road (see p. 57).

The twenty-fifth anniversary dinner was celebrated Saturday evening at the Masonic Hall. The tables were decorated with fall flowers, and a lovely birthday cake was the center of attraction. The menu was presented on Bird Card Folders, and souvenir booklets of silver paper holding a candid camera shot of Gordon Wilson up a tree were presented to each one present. After grace was said by Leonard Brecher, Mabel Slack lighted four candles in honor of the three founders: Dr. Pindar, Dr. Wilson, and Mr. Bacon, and for Mr. A. F. Ganier, the godfather of the organization. A moment of silence was observed in the memory of the late Miss Emilie Yunker, who was the first person to join the K. O. S. after it was founded in Louisville in 1923. Five candles on the birthday cake, each representing five years, were then lighted, and toasts were given to the future of the K. O. S. by Mrs. Frei, Mrs. Schindler, Mr. Brecher, and Mr. Ganier.

Miss Slack then presented the most active of the founders, Dr. Gordon Wilson, who spoke with eloquence on "The Kentucky Ornithological Society,

1923-1948." His inspiring message will appear in a later issue of this journal.

Mr. A. F. Ganier then described the cooperation and close relationship of the Tennessee Ornithological Society and the K. O. S. through the years.

In the absence of the other living founder, Mr. Brasher C. Bacon, James Hancock, our Vice-President, told of Mr. Bacon's work in administering several bird sanctuaries. Mr. Bacon has recently been honored by having a fine museum built on the Spring Lake Sanctuary to house his collection of nests and bird skins and also his library.

Dr. Harvey Lovell then reviewed "Twenty-five Years of Progress in the K. O. S." He compared the number of breeding birds known in the state in 1923 with the number known today. He discussed the discovery of many new species and the verification of others. From the Christmas bird counts, we have learned that many more species winter in Kentucky than were formerly known to remain here.

The nominating committee presented the names of Mrs. Mary Lou Frei, Horse Cave, for President and Dr. Cynthia Counce, Hopkinsville, for Vice-President; Mrs. S. Chas. Thacher of 2918 Brownsboro Rd., Louisville, was nominated from the floor as Secretary-Treasurer. For Councillors, Grace Wyatt, J. W. Clotfelter, and Walter Shackelton were renominated. All were elected unanimously.

Local members and visitors were introduced. Menu cards were autographed for Mr. Bacon and Dr. Frazer by the 38 present. The secretary was authorized to send a congratulatory telegram to Paul H. Yost, forester, on the occasion of the dedication of the Jefferson County Forest. The uncut cake was given to Dr. Wilson in honor of his birthday, but he generously proposed that it be cut for Sunday luncheon.

On Sunday, October 10, two groups went to the Rotary Scout Camp, about fourteen miles east of Glasgow, for a morning field trip. Later the group assembled for lunch at King's Steak House, north of Glasgow, for the final get-together of this twenty-fifth anniversary meeting. Twenty-six were present to share the birthday cake and to make final contributions to our growing bird list of 64 species. The members then went their several ways with a last "au revoir" until 1949.

—MARY CLYDE NUCKOLS, Secretary

* * * * *

1949 Dues. Please pay your dues promptly to the new Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. S. Charles Thacher, 2918 Brownsboro Road, Louisville, Ky. The dues are: Contributing Member \$5.00, Active Member \$2.00, Corresponding Member \$1.50 (for non-residents and institutions only) and Student Members \$1.00. Please pay promptly and save your secretary extra work. If any one decides not to continue his membership, he should be sure to send a resignation to the secretary.

* * * * *

INDEX. This issue has been delayed by the preparation of a 4-year index. It is hoped that all members who write or study birds seriously will have their Warblers bound. The Editor can have this done for about \$2.00. We can supply missing numbers for 35 cents each. This index was prepared by Leonard Brecher and Harvey Lovell. The proof sheets were checked for accuracy by Mr. and Mrs. S. Charles Thacher, Mrs. Bernice Shannon, Mrs. Anne L. Stamm, Evelyn Schneider and Audrey Wright. Working as a team, they verified every entry.

* * * * *

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. Be sure to take a bird count during the latter part of December. List both the species and numbers of birds. The count should cover only a single day but any birds seen during the week should be mentioned at the bottom of the list. Try to spend as many hours as possible in the field and visit as many different habitats as time will permit. Send the counts to Dr. Gordon Wilson before Jan. 15, 1949.

INDEX TO AUTHORS

- Alexander, Harold E. '46, 55.
 Allen, W. R. '46, 55; '47, 31.
 Atwood, E. L. '48, 23-27.
- Baker, Gerald F. '47, 17-21.
 Barbour, Roger W. '48, 28.
 Bonaventure, Sister, '48, 56-57.
 Brecher, L. C. '45, 33-42; '46, 3-4,
 46-50; '47, 40-41; '48, 7-9.
 Breiding, G. H. '47, 37-40.
 Browning, Helen E. '46, 10-13, 41, 56,
 57; '47, 67-70.
- Carpenter, F. S. '45, 31.
 Church, Josiah M. '47, 41-44.
 Clay, W. M. '46, 43.
 Clotfelter, J. W. '46, 20-22; '47, 65.
 Cole, Arch E. '45, 17-27.
 Cornett, Carl C. '47, 30.
 Cypert, Eugene '48, 15.
- Deane, Amy '46, 24.
 DeLime, John '47, 66; '48, 55-56.
 Dietrich, O. K. '47, 34.
 Dodge, V. K. '45, 48.
- Frazer, T. A. '45, 44; '46, 9.
- Gentry, Thelma '45, 27-28.
 Gilchrist, S. H. '47, 6.
- Hancock, James W. '47, 31, 32, 47,
 64-65; '48, 5-6, 40.
 Howard, Susan L. '46, 43.
- Jansing, Christine '47, 64.
- Keith, Thomas '45, 52-54.
 Kirkpatrick, C. M. '46, 17-19, 22.
- Lancaster, L. Y. '45, 15; '46, 23.
 Lovell, H. B. '45, 31, 48; '46, 17-19,
 22-23, 54; '47, 21-29, 45-46, 66-67;
 '48, 16-17, 33-39.
- Mason, Esther '46, 9-10.
 McClure, David '46, 42.
 Mengel, Robt. M. '48, 41, 49-54.
 Monroe, Burt L. '46, 45-46; '47, 57-60;
 '48, 29, 41.
- Monroe, Burt L., Jr. '45, 56; '48, 29.
 Moore, Mrs. Alice '45, 15.
 Morse, J. S. '47, 5; '48, 39-40, 41.
- Nuckols, Mary C. '48, 60-62.
 Patten, John A. '46, 29-33; '47, 36.
 Peil, Helen '46, 24.
 Petree, Robert '46, 55; '47, 12.
 Pieper, Marie '45, 49.
- Quigley, Frank '45, 51.
- Rollin, Howard '45, 6.
- Semple, Sue Wyatt '45, 3, 15, 28, 48,
 55; '46, 14, 25, 56, 60; '47, 7, 33,
 46-47, 67; '48, 32.
 Semple, Thomas '47, 6.
 Shackleton, Elizabeth '47, 1-4; '48,
 42-43.
 Shackleton, Walter '46, 1-3; '47, 1-4;
 '48, 1-3, 30.
 Spofford, W. R. '48, 14.
 Stamm, Anne L. '46, 23-24, 56; '47,
 32, 45.
 Steenis, John H. '48, 56.
 Stevens, O. A. '46, 20.
 Sylvester, Walter '47, 17-21.
- Tabler, Mrs. Fan B. '48, 54.
 Thacher, Mrs. S. C. '45, 15; '46, 22.
- Van Arsdall, C. Alex '47, 29-30; '48,
 29-30.
- Walker, Wm. M. '45, 14.
 Wetmore, Alexander '45, 32.
 Wilson, Gordon '45, 16, 29, 48, 56;
 '46, 9, 10, 23, 54, 56; '47, 12, 44,
 48-53, 61-63; '48, 9-13, 15, 54-55,
 57-58.
 Winstandley, Virginia '46, 27-28, 51-
 54; '47, 53-54; '48, 58-59.
 Withers, Damon '47, 47-48.
 Wright, Audrey '45, 50.
 Wyatt, Grace '45, 48; '47, 44-45; '48,
 3-5.
- Young, James B. '45, 1-3; '48, 21-23,
 42.

INDEX TO BIRDS

- Avocet '47, 5.
- Baldpate '45, 43; '46, 34; '47, 10, 48; '48, 12, 46.
- Bittern, American '46, 34, 56; '47, 48; '48, 46.
- Bittern, Least '47, 48.
- Blackbird, Red-wing '45, 46; '46, 7, 17-19, 30, 32, 38, 41; '47, 11, 51, 67; '48, 5, 13, 43-48.
- Blackbird, Rusty '45, 9, 46; '46, 7, 11, 38; '47, 11; '48, 13, 45, 58.
- Bluebird '45, 9, 45; '46, 7, 32, 36, 41; '47, 11, 34, 50, 66, 67; '48, 13, 43-47, 58.
- Bobolink '45, 46; '46, 37; '47, 51, 61, '48, 44-48.
- Bob-white '45, 8, 43; '46, 6, 32, 34; '47, 10, 49, 66, 67; '48, 12, 43-47, 57.
- Bufflehead '48, 12.
- Bunting, Indigo '45, 46; '46, 31, 38, 47; '47, 1-4, 39, 51, 67; '48, 43-48, 58.
- Bunting, Snow '48, 56.
- Canvasback '45, 8; '46, 6, 34; '47, 10, 48; '48, 12.
- Cardinal '45, 9, 46; '46, 7, 32, 38, 41, 42, 56; '47, 7, 11, 30, 39, 46, 51, 54, 66, 67; '48, 5, 13, 36, 43-48, 58.
- Catbird '45, 45; '46, 32, 36, 41; '47, 38, 50, 66; '48, 43-47, 58.
- Chat, Yellow-breasted '45, 29, 46; '46, 31, 37, 42; '47, 39, 51; '48, 43-48.
- Chickadee, Carolina '45, 8, 44; '46, 7, 36, 41, 56; '47, 7, 11, 38, 50, 67; '48, 5, 13, 43-47, 57.
- Chuck-will's-widow '45, 16, 32, 44; '46, 33, 35; '47, 47-48, 49, 63; '48, 43-46.
- Coot, American '45, 43; '46, 6, 11, 34; '47, 10, 49, 67; '48, 12, 43-46, 57.
- Cormorant, Double-crested '45, 8, 43; '46, 34; '47, 10, 48, 66; '48, 12, 43-44.
- Cowbird '45, 9; '46, 7, 18-19, 22, 32, 38; '47, 11, 31, 45-46, 51, 67; '48, 1-3, 5, 13, 17, 43-48, 58.
- Creep, Brown '45, 9; '46, 3-4, 7, 36; '47, 11, 38, 50; '48, 5, 13, 44-45.
- Crow '45, 8, 16, 44; '46, 7, 32, 36, 56; '47, 11, 50, 66, 67; '48, 5, 13, 14, 43-47, 56-57.
- Cuckoo, Black-billed '45, 44; '47, 38, 49; '48, 45.
- Cuckoo, Yellow-billed '45, 15, 33-42, 44; '46, 32, 35; '47, 32, 38, 49, 66; '48, 44-47, 57.
- Dickcissel '45, 46; '46, 38; '47, 6, 51, 61; '48, 44-48.
- Dove, Mourning '45, 8, 14, 44; '46, 6, 23, 35, 41, 51-54; '47, 7, 10, 29-30, 31-32, 49, 66, 67; '48, 5, 12, 40, 43-47, 57.
- Dove, Rock '45, 8; '46, 6; '47, 10, 49; '48, 12, 45.
- Dowitcher '45, 44; '47, 49; '48, 54.
- Duck, Black '45, 8, 43; '46, 6; '47, 10; '48, 12, 46.
- Duck, Scaup, Greater '45, 43; '46, 10, 34; '47, 10, 48.
- Duck, Lesser Scaup '45, 8, 43; '46, 6, 34; '47, 10, 48; '48, 12, 45-46.
- Duck, Ring-necked '45, 43; '46, 6; '47, 10, 48; '48, 12, 46.
- Duck, Ruddy '45, 43; '48, 12, 46.
- Duck, Wood '45, 43; '46, 34; '47, 48, 60, 67; '48, 12, 44-47, 54, 57.
- Eagle, Bald '45, 8; '46, 6; '47, 10; '48, 12.
- Eagle, Golden '45, 8, 29; '46, 56; '48, 12.
- Egret, American '46, 34; '47, 48, 66, 67; '48, 39, 45.
- Egret, Snowy '45, 16; '48, 50.
- Finch, Purple '45, 9; '46, 7, 23, 38; '47, 7, 11, 51; '48, 5, 13, 43-46, 58.
- Flicker, '45, 8, 44; '46, 6, 33, 35, 56; '47, 10, 38, 49, 66, 67; '48, 5, 12, 43-47, 57.
- Flycatcher, Acadian '45, 44; '46, 31, 35; '47, 38, 49; '48, 43-47.
- Flycatcher, Alder '45, 44; '47, 49; '48, 41.
- Flycatcher, Crested '45, 44; '46, 35; '47, 49; '48, 30, 43-47.
- Flycatcher, Least '45, 44; '46, 35; '47, 38, 49; '48, 43-45, 51.
- Flycatcher, Olive-sided '45, 44; '46, 35; '48, 51.
- Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied '47, 49; '48, 51.
- Gadwall '45, 43; '48, 12.
- Gallinule, Florida '45, 51.
- Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray '45, 45; '46, 32, 36; '47, 50; '48, 1-2, 42, 43-47.
- Golden-eye '45, 8; '46, 6; '47, 10; '48, 12.
- Goldfinch '45, 9, 46; '46, 7, 31, 38, 56; '47, 11, 40, 51, 66, 67; '48, 13, 43-48, 58.
- Goose, Canada '45, 8, 43; '46, 6, 34; '47, 10; '48, 12, 23-27.
- Goshawk '46, 23-24; '48, 42, 50.
- Grackle, Bronze '45, 9, 46; '46, 7, 9-10, 17-19, 32, 38; '47, 11, 51; '48, 5, 7-9, 13, 14, 43-48, 56.

- Grebe, Holboell's '45, 43; '46, 34.
 Grebe, Horned '47, 48; '48, 12.
 Grebe, Pied-billed '45, 43; '46, 34; '47, 10, 48, 67; '48, 12, 42-46.
 Grosbeak, Rose-breasted '45, 46; '46, 38; '47, 39, 51, 66, 67; '48, 44-48, 58.
 Grouse, Ruffed '46, 20, 33, 55 (nests), 56; '47, 10, 38.
 Gull, Franklin's '45, 31.
 Gull, Herring '45, 8, 51; '46, 6, 35; '47, 10, 49, 66; '48, 12, 43-44.
 Gull, Ring-billed '45, 8; '46, 6; '47, 10; '48, 12, 43-44.
 Hawk, Broad-winged '45, 43; '46, 34; '47, 38, 48; '48, 42-47.
 Hawk, Cooper's '45, 8, 43; '46, 6, 33, 34; '47, 10, 48; '48, 12, 45-47, 57.
 Hawk, Duck '47, 48; '48, 12.
 Hawk, Marsh '45, 8, 43; '46, 6, 13, 34; '47, 10, 48; '48, 5, 12, 42-45.
 Hawk, Pigeon '45, 29; '46, 6, 34; '47, 67; '48, 14, 50.
 Hawk, Red-shouldered '45, 8, 43; '46, 6, 33, 34; '47, 10, 48, 66, 67; '48, 12, 14, 43-47, 57.
 Hawk, Red-tailed '45, 8, 16, 43; '46, 6, 33, 34; '47, 10, 38, 48; '48, 5, 12, 43-47.
 Hawk, Rough-legged '45, 8, 43; '46, 6, 13; '47, 10; '48, 12.
 Hawk, Sharp-shinned '45, 8, 43; '46, 6, 33, 34; '47, 10, 48, 66, 67; '48, 5, 12, 14, 45, 50.
 Hawk, Sparrow '45, 8, 43; '46, 6, 33, 34; '47, 10, 24, 48, 66; '48, 5, 12, 14, 42-47, 57.
 Heron, Black-crowned Night '45, 43; '46, 34; '47, 48; '48, 45-47, 55.
 Heron, Great Blue '45, 8, 43; '46, 6, 22, 34; '47, 10, 48, 66; '48, 12, 14, 39, 43-46.
 Heron, Green '45, 43; '46, 32, 34; '47, 48, 66; '48, 14, 43-47, 57.
 Heron, Little Blue '47, 48, 67; '48, 42-45.
 Heron, Yellow-crowned Night '45, 43; '47, 48; '48, 45.
 Hummingbird '45, 44; '46, 32, 35; '47, 32, 38, 49; '48, 43-47.
 Ibis, Glossy '45, 43, 48.
 Ibis, Wood '48, 15.
 Jay, Blue '45, 8, 44; '46, 6, 32, 36, 47, 56; '47, 7, 11, 31, 38, 50, 66, 67; '48, 5, 13, 43-47, 57.
 Junco '45, 9, 46; '46, 7, 38; '47, 7, 11, 40; '48, 5, 13, 43-45, 58.
 Killdeer '45, 8, 43; '46, 6, 33, 35; '47, 10, 49, 66, 67; '48, 4, 12, 14, 30, 43-47, 57.
 Kingbird '45, 44; '46, 33, 35; '47, 49; '48, 43-47.
 Kingfisher, Belted '45, 8; '46, 6, 33, 35, 56; '47, 10, 49, 67; '48, 12, 43-47, 57.
 Kinglet, Golden-crowned '45, 9, 15, 45; '46, 7, 9; '47, 11; '48, 13, 58.
 Kinglet, Ruby-crowned '45, 45; '46, 9, 36; '47, 11, 50; '48, 13, 19, 30, 45, 51, 58.
 Lark, Horned '45, 8, 44; '46, 6, 33, 36; '47, 11, 21-29, 49; '48, 3, 13, 28, 29, 43-47, 57.
 Longspur, Lapland '47, 11; '48, 29.
 Loon, Common '46, 34; '47, 10; '48, 12, 43-45.
 Mallard '45, 8, 43; '46, 6, 11, 34; '47, 10, 48, 67; '48, 12, 43-46.
 Martin, Purple '45, 44; '46, 31, 36, 42; '47, 50; '48, 43-47.
 Meadowlark '45, 9, 46; '46, 7, 31, 38; '47, 11, 51, 66, 67; '48, 5, 13, 14, 19, 43-48, 58.
 Merganser, American '46, 6; '47, 10, 57-60; '48, 12.
 Merganser, Hooded '45, 8; '46, 6; '47, 10; '48, 12, 47.
 Merganser, Red-breasted '45, 8; '46, 6, 34; '47, 48; '48, 12, 43-44.
 Mockingbird '45, 9, 45; '46, 7, 32, 36, 56; '47, 7, 11, 30, 41-44, 50, 64, 66; '48, 5, 13, 43-47, 58.
 Nighthawk '45, 44; '46, 28, 33, 35; '47, 49; '48, 43-47.
 Nuthatch, Red-breasted '46, 7, 36, 54, 56; '47, 11, 50.
 Nuthatch, White-breasted '45, 9, 44; '46, 7, 32, 36, 41, 47; '47, 11, 38, 50, 67; '48, 5, 13, 43-47, 57.
 Old-squaw '48, 55-56.
 Oriole, Baltimore '45, 16, 46; '46, 38; '47, 45, 51; '48, 44-48.
 Oriole, Orchard '45, 46; '46, 32, 38; '47, 51; '48, 43-48.
 Osprey '45, 43; '46, 34; '47, 48, 66; '48, 12, 14, 42-47.
 Ovenbird '45, 45; '46, 32, 37, 47, 54; '47, 39, 45, 51, 67; '48, 17, 36, 44-47.
 Owl, Barn '45, 44; '46, 35, 54; '47, 49; '48, 55.
 Owl, Barred '45, 8, 44; '46, 6, 33, 35; '47, 10, 38, 49; '48, 12, 43-47.
 Owl, Great Horned '45, 8, 44; '46, 6, 35; '47, 10, 49; '48, 12, 45.
 Owl, Screech '45, 8, 44; '46, 6, 35; '47, 10, 49; '48, 12, 19, 43-45.
 Owl, Short-eared '45, 56; '46, 6.
 Pewee, Wood '45, 29, 44; '46, 32, 35, 56; '47, 49, 66, 67; '48, 44-47, 57.

- Phoebe '45, 8, 44; '46, 6, 13, 32, 35, 41, 42, 56; '47, 11, 38, 49, 66, 67; '48, 13, 19, 36, 43-47, 57.
 Pintail '45, 43; '46, 6, 11; '47, 10; '48, 12.
 Pipit, American '45, 45, 48; '46, 23; '47, 50; '48, 3, 13, 43-45.
 Plover, Black-bellied '45, 43.
 Plover, Golden '45, 43; '46, 35; '48, 4.
 Plover, Semi-palmated '45, 43; '46, 34; '48, 44.
 Plover, Upland '45, 43; '46, 10; '48, 3, 32.
 Rail, King '47, 49.
 Rail, Sora '45, 43; '47, 49; '48, 43-46.
 Rail, Virginia '47, 49; '48, 43.
 Redhead '48, 19, 46.
 Redstart, American '45, 46; '46, 32, 37, 56; '47, 39, 51, 67; '48, 44-48.
 Redwing, see Blackbird, Redwing.
 Robin, '45, 9, 15, 45; '46, 7, 17-19, 20-22, 32, 36, 42; '47, 7, 11, 30, 50, 65, 66; '48, 13, 43-47, 56-57, 58.
 Sanderling '48, 44.
 Sandpiper, Baird's '48, 54.
 Sandpiper, Least '45, 44; '46, 35; '47, 49, 66; '48, 14, 44.
 Sandpiper, Pectoral '45, 44; '46, 35; '47, 49, 66; '48, 14, 45.
 Sandpiper, Red-backed '48, 54.
 Sandpiper, Semi-palmated '46, 35; '47, 66; '48, 44.
 Sandpiper, Solitary '45, 43; '46, 35, 56; '47, 47, 49; '48, 43-47.
 Sandpiper, Spotted '45, 43; '46, 35, 56; '47, 49; '48, 44-47.
 Sandpiper, White-rumped '48, 44.
 Sapsucker, Yellow-bellied '45, 8; '46, 6, 35; '47, 10, 38, 67; '48, 13, 43-44, 57.
 Shoveller '45, 43; '46, 11; '48, 46.
 Shrike, Migrant '45, 9, 45; '46, 7, 36; '47, 11, 50, 62; '48, 5, 13, 19, 21-23, 43-46.
 Shrike, Northern '48, 21-23.
 Siskin, Pine '48, 52.
 Snipe, Wilson's '45, 8, 43; '46, 35; '47, 10, 49; '48, 12, 32, 43-47.
 Sora '45, 43; '47, 49; '48, 43-46.
 Sparrow, Bachman's '45, 46; '46, 32, 38; '47, 51, 62; '48, 45-47, 52.
 Sparrow, Chipping '45, 9, 46; '46, 7, 32, 38, 42; '47, 11, 40, 51; '48, 5, 13, 17, 43-48, 58.
 Sparrow, English '45, 9, 46; '46, 7, 32, 37, 56; '47, 11, 51, 54; '48, 13, 43-48, 58.
 Sparrow, Field '45, 9, 46; '46, 7, 31, 38, 42; '47, 7, 11, 40, 51; '48, 5, 13, 43-48, 58.
 Sparrow, Fox '45, 9, 46; '46, 7; '47, 11; '48, 13.
 Sparrow, Grasshopper '45, 46; '46, 33, 38; '47, 51, 61; '48, 43-48.
 Sparrow, Henslow '48, 46-48.
 Sparrow, Lark '45, 46; '46, 9, 33, 38; '47, 44, 51; '48, 46.
 Sparrow, Leconte's '45, 56; '48, 46, 52.
 Sparrow, Lincoln's '45, 9, 46; '46, 38; '47, 51; '48, 46.
 Sparrow, Pine-woods, See Bachman's Sparrow.
 Sparrow, Savannah '45, 9, 46; '46, 38; '47, 11, 51, 66; '48, 5, 43-48.
 Sparrow, Sharp-tailed '47, 51.
 Sparrow, Song '45, 9, 16, 46; '46, 7, 32, 38; '47, 6, 7, 11, 51, 64-5, 66; '48, 5, 13, 16, 43-48, 58.
 Sparrow, Swamp '45, 9, 46; '46, 7, 38; '47, 11, 51; '48, 13, 19, 43-48, 58.
 Sparrow, Tree '45, 9, 14; '46, 7; '47, 11; '48, 13.
 Sparrow, Vesper '45, 9, 46; '46, 7, 38; '47, 24, 51; '48, 5, 13, 43.
 Sparrow, White-crowned '45, 9, 46; '46, 7, 38; '47, 11, 51; '48, 5, 13, 43-48.
 Sparrow, White-throated '45, 9, 46; '46, 7, 38, 56; '47, 11, 51; '48, 5, 13, 19, 43-48, 58.
 Starling '45, 9, 29, 45; '46, 7, 17-19, 31, 36; '47, 7, 11, 24, 50, 66, 67; '48, 13, 14, 43-47, 58.
 Swallow, Bank '45, 44; '46, 36; '47, 49; '48, 43-47.
 Swallow, Barn '45, 44, 48; '46, 32, 36; '47, 49; '48, 43-47.
 Swallow, Cliff '45, 44; '47, 49; '48, 43-44.
 Swallow, Rough-winged '45, 44; '46, 33, 36, 42; '47, 49; '48, 43-47.
 Swallow, Tree '45, 44; '46, 36; '48, 43-45.
 Swift, Chimney '45, 44; '46, 23, 31, 35, 56; '47, 49, 66, 67; '48, 43-47, 57.
 Tanager, Scarlet '45, 46; '46, 32, 38, 42, 46-50; '47, 39, 51, 63; '48, 17, 43-48.
 Tanager, Summer '45, 46; '46, 32, 38; '47, 51, '48, 16, 36, 43-48, 58.
 Teal, Blue-winged '45, 8, 43; '46, 34; '47, 10, 48, 66, 67; '48, 14, 42-47, 54.
 Teal, Green-winged '45, 43; '46, 34; '47, 66, 67; '48, 12, 14, 19, 47.
 Tern, Black '45, 44; '48, 43-44.
 Tern, Caspian '45, 51.
 Tern, Common '45, 44; '47, 49; '48, 43.
 Thrasher, Brown '45, 45; '46, 7, 24, 32, 36, 42; '47, 11, 38, 50; '48, 5, 13, 43-47, 58.
 Thrush, Gray-cheeked '45, 45; '46, 36, 56; '47, 50; '48, 43-47, 51.

- Thrush, Hermit '45, 9, 45; '46, 7, 13, 36; '47, 11; '48, 13, 30, 43-46.
 Thrush, Olive-backed '45, 45; '46, 36, 56; '47, 50; '48, 43-47, 51.
 Thrush, Wood '45, 45; '46, 22, 31, 36, 47; '47, 38, 50, 66; '48, 1, 43-47.
 Titmouse, Tufted '45, 8, 44; '46, 7, 36, 56; '47, 7, 11, 38, 50, 66, 67; '48, 5, 43-47, 57.
 Towhee '45, 9, 46; '46, 7, 32, 38, 42; '47, 11, 31, 51, 66, 67; '48, 5, 13, 40, 42, 43-48, 58.
 Turkey, Wild '47, 10, 19; '48, 12.
 Turnstone, Ruddy '48, 54.
 Veery '45, 45; '46, 36, 54; '47, 38, 50; '48, 44-47.
 Vireo, Blue-headed '45, 45; '46, 37; '47, 39, 50; '48, 44-47, 58.
 Vireo, Philadelphia '45, 45; '46, 37, 56; '48, 51.
 Vireo, Red-eyed '45, 45, '46, 31, 37, 42, 47, 56; '47, 39, 50; '48, 2-3, 36, 43-47.
 Vireo, Warbling '45, 45; '46, 33, 37; '47, 50, 61; '48, 45-47.
 Vireo, White-eyed '45, 45; '46, 32, 36, 42; '47, 39, 50; '48, 43-47.
 Vireo, Yellow-throated '45, 45; '46, 32, 36; '47, 50; '48, 16, 43-47.
 Vulture, Black '45, 8, 43; '46, 6, 33, 34; '47, 10, 48; '48, 12, 39, 42-47, 57.
 Vulture, Turkey '45, 8, 43; '46, 6, 31, 34, 56; '47, 10, 48, 66, 67; '48, 5, 12, 39, 42-47, 57.
 Warbler, Bachman's '48, 52.
 Warbler, Bay-breasted '45, 1-3, 45; '46, 37, 56; '47, 51.
 Warbler, Black and White '45, 45; '46, 32, 37, 56; '47, 50, 66; '48, 45-47.
 Warbler, Blackburnian '45, 45; '47, 50, 66; '48, 45-47.
 Warbler, Black-poll '45, 1-3, 45; '46, 37, 56; '47, 51; '48, 43-47.
 Warbler, Black-throated Blue '45, 45; '46, 56; '47, 39; '48, 47, 58.
 Warbler, Black-throated Green '45, 45; '46, 33, 37, 56; '47, 50, 67; '48, 16, 46-47, 48.
 Warbler, Blue-winged '45, 45; '46, 33, 37; '47, 50, 61; '48, 45-48.
 Warbler, Canada '45, 46; '47, 39; '48, 48, 58.
 Warbler, Cape May '45, 45; '46, 37, 56; '47, 50; '48, 45.
 Warbler, Cerulean '45, 45; '46, 31, 37, 56; '47, 39, 50; '48, 43-48.
 Warbler, Chestnut-sided '45, 45; '46, 37, 56; '47, 39, 51; '48, 46-47, 58.
 Warbler, Connecticut '45, 46; '46, 10, 54.
 Warbler, Golden-winged '46, 56; '47, 39, 50.
 Warbler, Hooded '45, 46; '46, 31, 37, 46; '47, 39, 51; '48, 17, 36, 46-47.
 Warbler, Kentucky '45, 46; '46, 31, 37, 42; '47, 6, 39, 51; '48, 43-48.
 Warbler, Magnolia '45, 45; '46, 37; '47, 50; '48, 45-47, 58.
 Warbler, Mourning '46, 10, 37.
 Warbler, Myrtle '45, 9, 45; '46, 7, 23, 37; '47, 7, 11, 50, 67; '48, 13, 19, 43-47, 58.
 Warbler, Nashville '45, 45; '46, 37, 55; '47, 50; '48, 45-47.
 Warbler, Orange-crowned '47, 50.
 Warbler, Palm '45, 45; '46, 37; '47, 11, 51; '48, 13, 19, 43-47, 58.
 Warbler, Parula '45, 45; '46, 37, 54; '47, 50, 62; '48, 17, 46-47.
 Warbler, Pine '46, 32, 37, 56; '47, 12; '48, 17, 33-39.
 Warbler, Prairie '45, 45; '46, 32, 37, 42, 54, 56; '47, 51; '48, 5-6, 45-48, 58.
 Warbler, Prothonotary '45, 16, 45; '46, 1-3, 37; '47, 50; '48, 15, 43-47.
 Warbler, Swainson's '47, 39, 44; '48, 55.
 Warbler, Sycamore '45, 45; '46, 37, 56; '47, 50; '48, 17, 43-47.
 Warbler, Tennessee '45, 45; '46, 37, 56; '47, 50; '48, 44-47.
 Warbler, Wilson's '45, 46; '47, 51; '48, 48.
 Warbler, Worm-eating '45, 45; '46, 32, 37, 54; '47, 50; '48, 46-47.
 Warbler, Yellow '45, 45; '46, 32, 37, 56; '47, 39, 50; '48, 44-47.
 Warbler, Yellow-throated see Sycamore Warbler.
 Water-thrush, Louisiana '45, 29, 46; '46, 32, 37; '47, 39, 51; '48, 43-48.
 Water-thrush, Northern '45, 29, 46; '46, 37; '47, 51; '48, 45-47.
 Waxwing, Cedar '45, 9, 45; '46, 7, 23, 36, 43, 45-46; '47, 7, 11, 39, 44, 50, 67; '48, 5, 13, 17, 19, 29, 43-47, 54, 55, 58.
 Whip-poor-will '45, 44; '46, 24, 32, 35, 54; '47, 36, 47-48, 49, 63; '48, 42-47.
 Woodcock, American '47, 49; '48, 41.
 Woodpecker, Downy '45, 8, 44; '46, 6, 32, 35, 56; '47, 10, 38, 49, 66, 67; '48, 5, 13, 36, 43-47, 57.
 Woodpecker, Hairy '45, 8, 29, 44; '46, 6, 32, 35, 56; '47, 10, 38, 49; '48, 13, 43-47, 57.
 Woodpecker, Pileated '45, 8, 44; '46, 6, 32, 35, 56; '47, 10, 38, 49, 67; '48, 13, 43-47, 57.
 Woodpecker, Red-bellied '45, 8, 44; '46, 6, 33, 35; '47, 10, 49, 66, 67; '48, 13, 43-47, 57.
 Woodpecker, Red-cockaded '48, 50.

- Woodpecker, Red-headed '45, 8, 15, 44; '46, 6, 33, 35; '47, 10, 49, 66, 67; '48, 13, 43-47, 57.
- Wren, Bewick '45, 9, 44; '46, 7, 23, 32, 36; '47, 11, 50, 66; '48, 13, 43-47.
- Wren, Carolina '45, 9, 45; '46, 7, 32, 36, 55, 56; '47, 11, 38, 40, 50, 66, 67; '48, 5, 13, 43-47, 58.
- Wren, House '45, 16, 44; '46, 33, 36, 55; '47, 12, 50; '48, 29, 43-47, 55.
- Wren, Long-billed Marsh '45, 45; '46, 36; '47, 50; '48, 45.
- Wren, Short-billed Marsh '46, 36; '47, 11, 50; '48, 58.
- Wren, Winter '45, 9, 44; '46, 7; '47, 11; '48, 13, 46, 58.
- Yellow-legs, Greater '45, 43; '46, 35; '47, 10, 49; '48, 43-46.
- Yellow-legs, Lesser '45, 43; '46, 35; '47, 49, 66; '48, 14, 44-47.
- Yellow-throat '45, 46; '46, 32, 37; '47, 39, 51, 66; '48, 43-48, 58.