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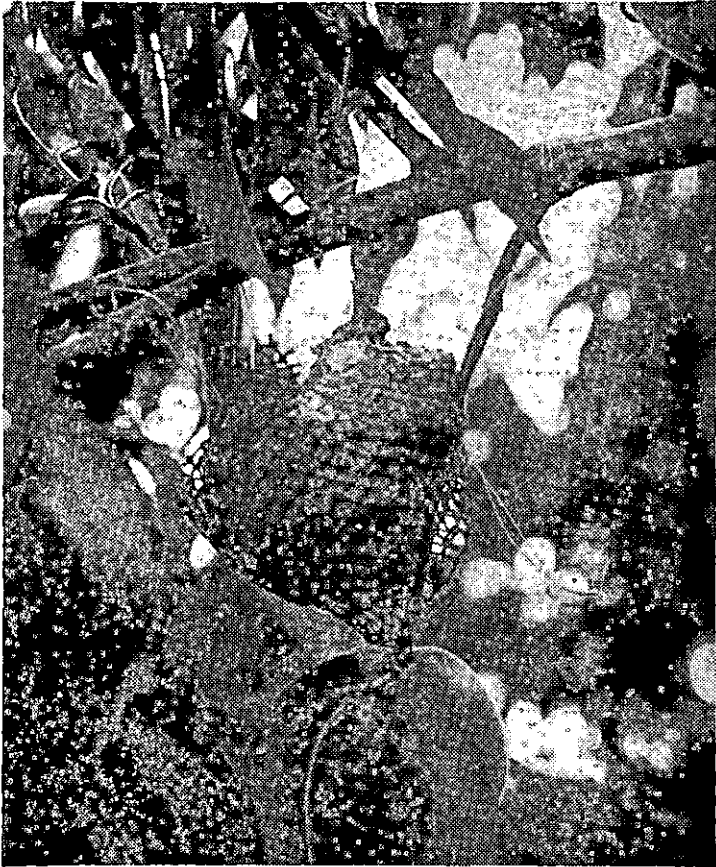
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# THE KENTUCKY WARBLER



Nest of RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD on peach at  
Street's Cardinal Farms, Henderson County—See p. 50.

Vol. 28 No. 3

August 1952

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All members are urged to send notes, articles, news  
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## WATER BIRDS AT THE OHIO FALLS DURING THE AUTUMN SEASON

By ANNE L. STAMM and DON SUMMERFIELD, Louisville

An interesting study of the water birds at the Falls of the Ohio River was made by members of the Beckham Bird Club. The study covered the period from August 12 through December 9, 1951. Fifteen trips spaced at regular intervals were made. Of this number, five were scheduled by the project and field-trip committee: Helen G. Browning, Mabel Slack, and Donald Summerfield; one was made with Dr. Walter Breckinridge, of Minneapolis, Minnesota; and additional trips were made by the following members: Leonard Brecher, Harvey B. Lovell, Burt L. Monroe, Sr., Mabel Slack, Anne L. Stamm, and Donald Summerfield.



American Egrets Sunning Themselves Below the Dam

Other members who participated in the five scheduled field trips included Mame Boulware, Mary Louise Brecher, Helen G. Browning, Matthias Bruhn, Esther Clark, Helen Cole, William F. Fleisher, Shirley Gaddis, Mr. and Mrs. John Gates, Louis Geibel, Mrs. O. P. Graham, Mr. and Mrs. Walton Jackson, Carl Kerbel, Hazel Kinslow, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Krull, Ethel Lovell, Mr. and Mrs. John McChord, Marie Pieper, Evelyn Schneider, Walton Shackleton, Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Shannon, Thomas Smith, F. W. Stamm, Charles Strull, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Thacher, Mrs. L. C. Wetherell, and Audrey Wright.

The Falls proper, including Sand Island, which is at the

lower edge of the Falls, was the area studied, and the birds listed below do not include any seen elsewhere on the river, the wharf, or other islands unless specified. At the Falls proper one finds acres of rock with interesting seams telling of sea life in the Devonian Age. The low-lying rock is dented here and there, forming pot holes which, when filled with water, furnish food for the many shore birds that frequent this interesting area. The present dam, which has replaced earlier ones and the original cascades which were present during the early nineteenth century, controls the stage of the river; and a tugboat operated by the federal government lowers and raises the wickets. The immediate rocks are slightly covered with water when the wickets are closed. Here many migrating shore birds feed in the water-filled pot holes. Beyond this area of water-covered rock is a large expanse of bare rock that attracts many species.

The season was unusually dry, and water covered only a small part of this rocky area. Members often walked across at the upper edge near the railroad bridge. In a normal season access to the island is by rowboat. The very dry season left the rocks exposed until November 14. On November 11 Mabel Slack and Anne Stamm went across to the island and were the last of the club members to observe water species at close range feeding near the wickets. On November 14 the water covered practically all the jutting rocks, and one could not go across even in a boat because of the swiftness of the water. It is interesting to note that despite the drought this area presented a parade of unusual water birds in this ornithological wonderland.

Following is a list of the birds seen at the Falls during this period. Mabel Slack and Helen Browning assisted in the compilation:

PIED-BILLED GREBE. *Podilymbus podiceps*. A breeding bird in some of the marshy areas in and around Louisville. Observed from September through November 11.

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT. *Phalacrocorax auritus*. Two recorded on September 30 and on October 7 and 28.

GREAT BLUE HERON. *Ardea herodias*. This bird is a permanent resident in parts of Kentucky. No more than four were seen at any one time, feeding near Sand Island, on September 3, 9; October 6, 7, and 28.

AMERICAN EGRET. *Casmerodius albus egretta*.

August 12 to September 28. Between fifty and sixty were counted on August 25.

SNOWY EGRET. *Leucophoyx thula*. A small number were seen early in the season by Burt Monroe, Sr.

LITTLE BLUE HERON. *Florida caerulea*. Several were seen in August 25 in the white-plumage or immature stage. A few adult birds were recorded by Burt Monroe, Sr.

GREEN HERON. *Butorides virescens*. This species was not so common as in previous years. Observed on August 6 and 25 and September 3 and 9.

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON. *Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli*. Large flocks of immature and adult birds were recorded during September and through October 7. There is a breeding colony in a willow grove at the lower end of the dam. Harvey Lovell visited the area on May 30 but found only a few nests, all of which were empty, with fresh shells on the ground.

MALLARD. *Anas platyrhynchos*. Winters here. Ten were seen on October 28 and a large number on December 2.

BLACK DUCK. *Anas rubripes*. A flock of 200 were seen east of the railroad bridge on October 28. Twenty were recorded on December 2, just above the dam.

GREEN-WINGED TEAL. *Anas carolinensis*. On October 28 two were feeding with Blue-winged Teal.

BLUE-WINGED TEAL. *Anas discors*. Common during September and October. One female was recorded on August 25. The last individual of this species was seen on November 11.

BALDPATE. *Mareca americana*. One female recorded on October 28.

SHOVELLER. *Spatula clypeata*. One recorded on October 28 at the lower end of the island.

LESSER SCAUP DUCK. *Aythya affinis*. Many seen on November 11 and 17.

RUDDY DUCK. *Oxyura jamaicensis*. Large flock on October 28 north of the Pennsylvania Railroad. They were also seen on November 11 and December 12.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER. *Mergus serrator*. One male seen November 11 on the body of water between the island and the Indiana shore.

COOT. *Fulica americana*. This species made its appearance on October 7, when only one was seen. Again one was recorded on October 28, but there were 68 on November 11. The birds were on the water between the island and the Indiana shore.

PIPING PLOVER. *Charadrius melodus*. One of the rare birds. On September 9 one was seen on the rocky ledges on the Indiana side.

SEMPALMATED PLOVER. *Charadrius hiaticula*. A small number were seen from September 3 to 16. The last record was on October 6.

KILLDEER. *Charadrius vociferus*: A permanent resident and rather common. A flock of forty or fifty was seen on October 7.

GOLDEN PLOVER. *Pluvialis dominica*. Records start with September 3 and run through September 9, 16, 17, 30, and October 2, 6, 7, and 28. Five recorded on November 11 (Slack and Stamm) seem to be a new late record for this area.

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER. *Squatarola squatarola*. Rather scarce this year. The first bird was seen on October 2. Only one was recorded on October 28, but five were seen on November 11. These birds were flushed at close range. This November 11 record (Slack and Stamm) seems to be a new late record for this species. The latest published record found was for October 12, 1949. (Lovell, 1950, AUDUBON QUARTERLY, 29:2.

R U D D Y TURNSTONE. *Arenaria interpres*. This species was rare this season. Only two records were obtained: September 30 and October 6.

WILSON'S SNIPE. *Capella gallinago*. Two birds flew along the rocky edges of the Indiana shore on October 28 as we rowed across to the island. Identified by Leonard Brecher.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER. *Actitis macularia*. Recorded from August to October 7. They were not numerous, however.

**GREATER YELLOW-LEGS.** *Totanus melanoleucus*. Observed from August 25 through October 28.

**LESSER YELLOW-LEGS.** *Totanus flavipes*. Usually more common than the preceding species. Recorded from August 11 to November 11. According to published material, the latter is a late record.

**PECTORAL SANDPIPER.** *Erolia melanotos*. A rather common shore bird. Records were obtained from August 12 through November 11.

**BAIRD'S SANDPIPER.** *Erolia bairdi*. Seen by Burt Monroe on September 8.

**LEAST SANDPIPER.** *Erolia minutilla*. Observed on August 25 on the lower edge of the island feeding in the shallow pot holes. Others were seen on September 16, 17, and 30.

**RED-BACKED SANDPIPER.** *Erolia alpina*. The first one was recorded on October 7. Mabel Slack and Anne Stamm watched the bird for forty minutes at close range with 7x50 glasses. On October 28 four were seen on the regularly scheduled trip. The birds were observed through a 2-power telescope. A few were seen on November 11 in winter plumage.

**DOWITCHER.** *Limnodromus griseus*. Recorded on September 3 and 9.

**STILT SANDPIPER.** *Micropalama himantopus*. One seen on September 9; two observed on September 17.

**SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER.** *Ereunetes pusillus*. Seen from September 3 to October 6.

**WESTERN SANDPIPER.** *Ereunetes mauri*. One observed by Slack and Stamm on September 2.

**SANDERLING.** *Crocethia alba*. Sanderlings were not common at the Falls this season. Only two records were obtained: one on September 9 and again on October 7.

**HERRING GULL.** *Larus argentatus*. Many hundreds winter here, but the first arrival was observed on October 28.

**RING-BILLED GULL.** *Larus delawarensis*. Frequently seen with the Herring Gulls. Flocks were seen congregat-



ing on a rocky ledge jutting from the water on December 2. The first arrival date for the Falls area was October 28.

BONAPARTE'S GULL. *Larus philadelphia*. The species was first seen on October 28, and many were seen on November 11.

CASPIAN TERN. *Hydroprogne caspia*. One on August 25.

BLACK TERN. *Chlidonias niger*. Usually this is a common tern along the Ohio. Only a few were seen this season, August 25 and September 16.

Numerous other species of birds were noted on the Falls. The Turkey Vulture was recorded many times. The Marsh Hawk, Osprey (7 on October 7), Sparrow Hawk, Duck Hawk, Mourning Dove, Kingfisher were all noted. Pipits were recorded in fairly large numbers from September 30 to November 11. The usual complement of warblers were observed but not studied in detail. A large flock of Redwings fed, from November 11 until late in the month, in the weeds along the Indiana shore.

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## WOODBURN LAKES, SEASON OF 1952

By GORDON WILSON

The season of 1952 at the Woodburn lakes, though it ended early, brought a large number of species of water birds. It was noted especially for the large number of species of ducks, though no single species was represented by spectacular numbers. Both lakes were good-sized at Christmas, 1951, and never exceeded this height throughout the very heavy early spring rains. They fell slowly throughout late winter and early spring and then went away rapidly when rains practically ceased after late March. So far as 1952 is concerned, the season lasted from January 1 to May 24, when the McElroy Lake was totally dry and the Chaney Lake had only a few puddles.

Most of my twenty-two trips to the lakes were made alone, but I had two excellent days with other ornithologists. On January 20 a Glasgow group spent the day with me there. It consisted of Dr. Russell Starr, Mrs. Mary Clyde Nuckols, and Miss Alice Furber. The biggest thrill of the day was the finding of Canada Geese of two varieties or races. On the Chaney Lake we studied for many minutes

three birds of this species, one of which was the normal or large size, the other two of a race very much smaller. We decided that the small ones must be the Lesser Canada Goose, as they seemed hardly small enough to be Hutchins's. On April 20 Myron Hays, Bert Powell, and I spent the day at the two lakes. Many spring migrants of land and water birds were coming in. A very intimate study at ridiculously close range of a Baird's Sandpiper (*Erolia bairdi*) highlighted the day. We also watched the nest of a Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) that I had discovered previously while it was under construction. We could see the two half-grown young growing pretty restless and hungry because their parents were suspicious of us and had not come back to feed their family quite regularly. On March 22 Frank Ewing, Mammoth Cave Naturalist C. T. Reid, and I had hoped for a good afternoon, but a torrential rain drove us to cover after we had been at the McElroy Lake only a few minutes. The greatest thrill I experienced when alone was the long studying of the twenty-six Golden Plovers (*Pluvialis dominica*) mentioned in an earlier issue. (See "Golden Plovers at McElroy Lake," KENTUCKY WARBLER, 28:31.)

Here are the species I recorded, with their first and last dates, and with numbers when they are significant: Holboell's Grebe (*Colymbus grisegena*), one each on January 20 and March 15; Horned Grebe (*Colymbus auritus*), two each on March 7 and 26 and April 2; Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*), 1 to 6 from March 12 to May 13; Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*), 1 to 3 from January 20 to May 3; Little Blue Heron (*Florida caerulea*), 1 each on April 26, May 3, and May 24; Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*), 3 to 4 from April 20 to May 24; Black-crowned Night Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*), 1 to 16 from April 8 to April 26; Yellow-crowned Night Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*), 1 on May 24; American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*), 2 each on April 12; April 26, and May 1; Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*), 3 on January 20; Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*), 1 to 1000 from January 1 to May 24, the largest flight coming in late February and early March; Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*), 1 to 800 from January 1 to April 26, the largest number being found on February 9; Gadwall (*Anas strepera*), 1 to 4 from February 23 to May 3; Pintail (*Anas acuta*), 8 to 1000 from January 20 to March 15, the largest number occurring on April 15; Green-winged Teal (*Anas carolinensis*), 2 to 50 from February 9 to March 15; Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*), 1 to 150 from February 9 to May 24; Baldpate

(*Mareca americana*), 1 to 300 from January 12 to April 20; Shoveler (*Spatula clypeata*), 1 to 1000 from February 15 to May 24; Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*), 2 to 4 from January 20 to May 1; Redhead (*Aythya americana*) 10 to 40 (unusually large numbers for the lakes) from March 7 to March 15; Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*), 10 to 500 from January 12 to May 13; Canvasback (*Aythya valisineria*), 1 to 6 from March 7 to May 24 (I saw a male of this species that had been shot several days after this last date); Greater Scaup Duck (*Aythya marila*), 2 on March 7; Lesser Scaup Duck (*Aythya affinis*), 2 to 300 from January 1 to May 13; Golden-eye (*Bucephala clangula*), 2 to 30 from January 20 to March 15 (more than I have ever recorded before on the lakes); Bufflehead (*Bucephala albeola*), 1 to 10 from February 15 to April 20; Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*), 1 to 30 from February 28 to April 16; Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*), 2 each on February 15, March 15, and May 1; American Merganser (*Mergus merganser*), 15 on February 9, 5 on February 23; Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*), 2 on March 7; Sora (*Porzana carolina*), 1 each on April 26 and May 3; Coot (*Fulica americana*), 5 to 500 from January 20 to May 24; Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*), 2 to 20 from April 26 to May 24; Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*), 3 to 20 from January 1 to May 24 (not so numerous as usual); Golden Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*), 26 on March 26, 1 on April 2; Black-bellied Plover (*Squatarola squatarola*), 5 on May 3; Wilson's Snipe (*Capella gallinago*), 1 to 30 from January 1 to May 3; Upland Plover (*Bartramia longicauda*), 8 on April 16 in a pasture across the road from the Chaney Lake; Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*), 4 on May 3, 2 on May 13; Solitary Sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria*), 1 to 10 from March 15 to May 13; Greater Yellowlegs (*Totanus melanoleucus*), 1 to 40 from March 12 to May 24; Lesser Yellowlegs (*Totanus flavipes*), 2 to 50 from March 15 to May 13; Pectoral Sandpiper (*Erolia melanotos*), 1 to 60 from March 15 to May 13; White-rumped Sandpiper (*Erolia fuscicollis*), 2 on May 13; Baird's Sandpiper (*Erolia bairdi*), 1 each on April 20, April 26, and May 13; Least Sandpiper (*Erolia minutilla*), 2 to 8 from April 8 to May 13; Dowitcher (*Limnodramus griseus*), 1 to 5 from March 15 to May 13; Stilt Sandpiper (*Micropalama himantopus*), 1 on March 12;

Semipalmated Sandpiper (*Ereunetes pusillus*), 3 on May 13; Herring-Gull (*Larus argentatus*), 10 on April 8; Black Tern (*Chlidonias niger*), 15 on May 13, 5 on May 24 (It had been seen as early as May 11 by Mrs. Paul Garrett on some ponds in the same general area).

### SOME BIG SPRING COUNTS

Because of lack of space for tables, our editor decided not to print the spring lists in full this year. Unfortunately, not many were sent in. Here are summaries of those that were received.

PROVIDENCE. May 7; 4:30 A. M. to 7:00 P. M. and May 8; 6:30 A. M. to noon. Cool, clear in early morning; hot during mid-day; temp. 49 to 90. Same territory covered as last year in Providence and nearby Hopkins and Crittenden Counties. Total count for the two days, 105 species; for the period studied, 112. There was no Warbler wave here, though Yellow-breasted Chats and Kentucky Warblers were found in great numbers. Shamrock Lake proved a good watching place with its Loon, Pied-billed Grebe, Osprey, American Bittern, Blue-winged Teal, Little Blue Heron, and Green Heron. We heard and watched the Long-billed Marsh Wren at close range. We were happy to study the Northern Water-thrush and listen to its song.—SUE WYATT SEMPLE and MABEL SISK HOLT (compiler).

MURRAY—May 4; 5:00 A. M. to noon; 2:30 to 7:00 P. M. Murray State College Campus, College Farm, Clark's River at Martin's Chapel, portion of Blood River—a generous mixture of cultivated fields, pasture land, roadsides, thickets, open woods, small ponds, dense thickets, and lake front. Temp. 60 at 5:00 A. M., 84 at noon. Number of species, 74; individuals, 2627. We were impressed with the early migration of many species.—DR. A. M. WOLFSON, POWELL PUCKETT, TED ALLEN, and GRACE WYATT.

HENDERSON—May 4; 5:00 A. M. to 6:00 P. M. Clear, hot. Total species, 115; individuals, 1855.—WALTER ALVES, W. P. RHOADS, KING BENSON, R. C. SOAPER, MRS. NAT STANLEY, SR., MRS. WALTER QUINN, KATHRYN GIBSON, MRS. LORA CLARK, MRS. RICHARD STITES, MRS. ARCH SHELTON, HELEN WATSON, MRS. GEORGE STANLEY, JR., MRS. W. P. RHOADS, VIRGINIA SMITH.

BOWLING GREEN—April 25 and 26; Mammoth Cave National Park from 3:00 P. M. on April 25 until noon of April 26; McElroy Farm from 1:00 P. M. until 4:00 P. M. of April 26. Cool, threatening, wind, NW, brisk. Total species, 106; for week, 127.—GORDON WILSON.

MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK—May 10 and 11; all day May 10 and until 7:00 A. M. of May 11. Heavy rains; temp. drop of 40 degrees. Total species in park proper, 77; just outside, 16; a grand total of 93. The party was made up of many people first and last, as the Kentucky Academy of Science was meeting at the park from May 9 to May 11. The early-morning walk was rained out, but several of us later visited many places where birds were to be found.—KENTUCKY ACADEMY OF SCIENCE, GORDON WILSON (compiler).

## NEWS AND VIEWS

**DR. COUNCE RETIRES.**—Dr. Cynthia Counce, who for a long time has been psychiatrist at Western State Hospital at Hopkinsville, retired at the end of the fiscal year 1951-'52. She will make her home temporarily with her sister, Mrs. Clarence Neighbors, at Bowling Green.

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**DR. SCHNIEB RETIRES.**—Dr. Anna Schnieb, of the Psychology Department of Eastern State College, at Richmond, retired at the end of the school year 1951-'52. She is making her home in Indiana but intends to keep up her connection with our society and with the Kentucky Academy of Science.

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**FALL MEETING AT MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK.**—THE ANNUAL FALL MEETING WILL BE HELD AT MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK OCTOBER 24-26, 1952. THAT SHOULD BE A VERY EXCELLENT TIME FOR SOME GOOD BIRDING, IN THE FALL MIGRATION, AND FOR A RENEWAL OF OLD FRIENDSHIPS AMONG US. PLAN TO BE THERE.

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**A PLEASANT ERROR.**—Our recording secretary reported our finances as \$264.17 in our last issue. It should have been \$364.17 and all past issues of the WARBLER paid for. This makes pleasant summer reading.

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**AUDUBON PARK PRAISED BY VISITORS.**—Five members of the South Bend (Indiana) Audubon Society spent the weekend of April 26-27 at Audubon State Park and went with the Henderson group and the visitors on field trips in the park. In their publication for May they praised very highly the park, our president, and several of the people who participated in the outing. "We liked the cabins very much, especially as the front yard contained a pair of Prothonotary Warblers most of the time, a pair of Phoebes, numerous Palm and Myrtle Warblers, and an occasional White-throated Sparrow. Lots of Wood Thrushes, Cardinals, Summer Tanagers, and Carolina Wrens added their voices to the early morning chorus. The Pileated Woodpecker was seen a number of times. Here for the first time we heard the Carolina Chickadee singing. The four-syllable song was easily distinguished from the regular two-syllable song of the Black-capped. We wonder why we never heard it before, as the species were musical not only at Audubon but later at Spring Mill and McCormick's Creek State Parks."

\* \* \* \* \*

**NATURALIST AT NATURAL BRIDGE STATE PARK.**—An Associated Press dispatch dated June 17 says, "The first naturalist to be employed in any Kentucky park has been added to the staff at Natural Bridge State Park. Rodney M. Hays, Jr., a graduate student at the University of Kentucky, has been hired for the summer and fall months to plan trails from Hemlock Lodge for a popular study of geology and plant life. Exhibits of the park's plant life will be



#### A BIRD TRIP TO THE FALLS OF THE OHIO

Helen Browning, Mabel Slack, Hazel Kinslow, Don Summerfield,  
and Anne Stamm

assembled at the lodge. In announcing the move, the State Parks Division said a committee has been appointed to help plan the program. It consists of Dr. A. F. Bradshaw, Transylvania College; C. E. Henson, Cumberland National Park Service; Dr. Earl Kaufman, the University of Kentucky's director of outdoor recreation; and five others from that institution: Dr. Frank McFarland, Miss Anne Livesay, Dr. B. B. McInteer, Dr. A. C. MacFarlan, and Carl M. Clark." Of these people Mr. Hays, Dr. Bradshaw, and Miss Livesay are K. O. S. members. Congratulations to the Park Service on beginning this work!

\* \* \* \* \*

**MISS SMITH HONORED.**—Our president, Miss Virginia Smith, has been appointed naturalist for Audubon State Park at Henderson. She says that hers is only a temporary appointment until some one else can be secured, but who could do better than she for such a pleasant task? She and all of us hope that ultimately the larger state parks will be staffed regularly with naturalists.

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**HENDERSON LECTURE SERIES.**—The Henderson Audubon Society has scheduled three lectures for the coming season: October 10, Allen D. Cruikshank, "Below the Big Bend;" January 22, Karl H. Maslowski, "Earthquake Lake;" and April 30, G. Harrison Orians, "By Erie's Changing Shores."

## FIELD NOTES

### A QUEER HUMMINGBIRD'S NEST

The nest of a Ruby-throated Hummingbird that attracted a great deal of attention furnished the picture for our front page in this issue. On the Frank Street Cardinal Farms near Henderson a Ruby-throated Hummingbird built a nest on a peach of the Golden Jubilee variety. The peach was becoming ripe when some drastic action was necessary to save the nest. Mr. Robert C. Soaper, of the U. S. Wildlife Conservation Service, stretched a fishnet below the peach so that no harm could come to the one baby bird. That accounts for the strange appearance of the nest in our cover picture. Thus guarded, the baby matured and flew away.

\* \* \* \* \*

### A VERY TAME PROTHONOTARY

On July 4, in my annual visit to Sulphur Well, Metcalfe County, I saw something that arrested my attention for my whole visit. A Prothonotary Warbler had nested in a basket hanging on a post on the big front porch of the hotel. The old birds were busy feeding their young, and when the crowd got too near, they registered their complaints and flew nervously from tree to tree nearby, but they returned to their duties when people moved on.—DR. C. F. MOUSER, Evarts, Ky.

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### A SPARROW HAWK THAT LIKES THE CITY

In late May a Sparrow Hawk attracted the attention of the people of Hopkinsville by alighting on the tall steeple of Grace Episcopal Church and then flying to the building above Jack Goode's place on Virginia Street. Our Dr. Cynthia Counce accompanied Mr. Aden Higgins to the place and found a nest with two immature birds in the coping of the building. Several places have reported Sparrow Hawks as nesting inside towns and cities.

\* \* \* \* \*

### A JOINT NESTING VENTURE

Since a very strange thing is happening in our yard, we think we should tell somebody about it. In a pear tree there is a nest of birds; we think they are Bronzed Grackles because the nest is large and bulky. The baby birds are being fed by a male Grackle and a Robin. We have watched them very closely for several days.—MR. AND MRS. MARVIN DENISON, Bonnieville.