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THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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Vol. XXX

AUGUST, 1954

No. 8



Nests of Great Blue Heron in Heronry near the
Frazer Farm, Western Hopkins County.

Photograph by Mrs. Mabel Holt

(See May, 1954, KENTUCKY WARBLER, p. 19)

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

Vol. XXX

AUGUST, 1954

No. 5

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THE JOHN A. KLEBER SANCTUARY

by

ROBERT A. PIERCE

Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
Frankfort, Kentucky

The Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources acquired title to the John A. Kleber Sanctuary during the latter part of April, 1953. This area consists of about 700 acres of strongly sloping to steep land located in Owen County near the Owen-Franklin County line. About three-fourths of the total cost of the area was provided by funds left to the Department for this purpose by the late John A. Kleber, of Frankfort. The remaining money needed to purchase the area was provided by the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, which will also provide the funds needed to develop and manage the tract. The area will be managed as a Game Preserve and Songbird Sanctuary in accordance with the provisions set forth in the last will and testament of Mr. Kleber.

The Sanctuary is unique in that it is possibly the only area owned or controlled by a State Game and Fish Department to be managed primarily for the benefit of non-game song and insectivorous birds. Although most State Game and Fish Departments are charged, along with appropriate federal authorities, with the enforcement of laws protecting non-game birds, the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources is among the first to attempt management practices for them and to provide an area where the citizens of the state can study and enjoy them.

The Sanctuary provides a very diversified habitat, which is attractive to a wide variety of birds and animals. Because of the type of terrain the area is not particularly attractive to marsh or water-loving species, however, and very little can be done to improve the tract for them. About 190 acres of the Sanctuary is open cropland, mostly grassland, and the remainder of the tract is covered with brush or woods. Cedar Creek, which bisects the Sanctuary; Elm Lick Creek, which flows along one side of the area; and several farm ponds provide a fairly well-distributed water supply. A number of cedar thickets provide excellent roosting areas for wintering birds.

Future management of the area will be aimed at securing a better distribution than now exists of a well-diversified habitat which will be attractive to a wide variety of birds and mammals throughout the year. The grassy fields now present are rather well distributed throughout the area. Their management will consist of practices which will keep them open and will provide a variety of herbaceous plants which will furnish food, shelter, and nesting sites for birds and animals which prefer open fields.

Management of the brushy and wooded sections of the Sanctuary are designed to take advantage of the natural plant succession of the region to provide a variety of shrub and tree habitats, from brush to mature woods, as widely distributed over the area as possible. Fruit and nut-bearing trees and shrubs will be encouraged, and some which do not occur naturally on the area at present will be planted. Brushy field borders will be encouraged, since it is felt that twenty or thirty acres of shrubs bordering open fields and woods will be useful to a larger number of birds and animals than would the same acreage in one block. Several of the steeper slopes, which had been cleared with a bulldozer and put into improved pasture, will be permitted to revert back to woodland.

Food plots and strips of annual and perennial seed-bearing plants will be planted throughout the Sanctuary in order to attract and provide food for as many seed-eating birds and mammals as possible. These will be especially useful during the winter months, when the presence or absence of many birds is dependent upon the food supply. Bird houses will be erected for use by hole-nesting species. Several additional farm ponds will be dug to provide a readily accessible source of water on those parts of the Sanctuary which are at present some distance from a water supply.

A number of capital improvements, to be made from time to time during the next ten years as money becomes available, are planned for the area. Foot trails are to be laid out and marked in the near future so that visitors will be able to find points of interest readily. A picnic area will be developed, and a log cabin, located in a remote part of the Sanctuary, will be repaired for use as a shelter for hikers. One and possibly two low dams will be placed in Cedar Creek to provide fishing facilities and a small marshy area for birds. A building with kitchen facilities is to be erected for the use of organizations which may wish to hold meetings on the Sanctuary, and facilities may be made available for Junior Clubs, 4-H clubs, and the like, to hold two or three-day camps on the area.

Hunters, whose license fees are being used to develop the sanctuary, will reap many benefits from the work which will be done here, also, since new plant species being considered for use in upland game management in Kentucky will receive their field trials on this area. Because of the droughty nature of the soils on this area, it is believed that plants which can be grown successfully here will be suitable for most upland situations in the state. Plantings of various species of herbaceous and woody plants will be made, and their survival, growth habits, and usefulness to quail, rabbits, and songbirds studied before they are recommended for use in the state.

The Sanctuary is well suited for the study of problems which require intensive research on small areas. It will be used by the Department to solve specific problems concerning upland game and to study the effects of several types of land management on populations of both game and non-game birds and mammals. Ornithologists may wish to study some problem on the area. A census of the breeding and wintering birds found on the area, for instance, would provide interesting and worthwhile information if the work were done over a period of years.

The development of the Kleber Sanctuary cannot be completed in one or two years, since the availability of funds and manpower determine the amount of work which can be finished in any one year and the time required for plants to grow and for studies to be carried to completion determines the amount of information which can be gathered each season. In the meantime, the Sanctuary offers a wide variety of birds and mammals for the enjoyment of all who may wish to spend an hour or a day with nature.

THE BREEDING BIRDS OF HOPKINS COUNTY

(Third Installment)

By James W. Hancock, Madisonville

CEDAR WAXWING. *Bombycilla cedrorum*. Permanent resident, rare in summer and especially in July.

LOGGERHEAD (MIGRANT) SHRIKE. *Lanius ludovicianus*. Rare permanent resident. Mrs. Semple saw 5 young shrikes on a wire fence on the John Norwood farm on May 9, 1948. She located the nest they had vacated, nearby in a small cedar tree.

STARLING. *Sturnus vulgaris vulgaris*. Very common permanent resident. Nest with 5 eggs about 12 feet up in a dead tree, a former woodpecker hole, on March 30, 1945. Another, with 4 young and 1 egg, in a crevice on a dwelling house on April 19, 1945. Young seen being fed out of the nest on April 28, 1945.

WHITE-EYED VIREO. *Vireo griseus*. Common summer resident. Bacon recorded a nest 1½ feet up in a sassafras at Spring Lake, which contained 3 eggs of this species and 1 of a Cowbird, on June 22, 1948. Suthard collected 4 fresh eggs on May 27, 1923, and 3 fresh eggs on June 21, 1925.

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO. *Vireo flavifrons*. Uncommon summer resident.

RED-EYED VIREO. *Vireo olivaceus*. Common summer resident; in fact, one of our commonest birds in woodlands, both upland and lowland. Nest with 2 eggs 9 feet up in a hickory on May 7, 1948. Harvey Lovell and the writer found a nest approximately 35 feet up in a sweet gum at Clear Creek on June 6, 1951; the bird was apparently incubating. Suthard collected 3 fresh eggs on June 5, 1925.

WARBLING VIREO. *Vireo gilvus gilvus*. Uncommon summer resident. Nests regularly at certain lakes, such as Spring Lake, Atkinson Lake, and Loch Mary. Mrs. Semple finds a pair of this species nesting every spring in a maple near Highway 109. She says, "They seem to prefer to build their nests on the east side of the maple."

BLACK AND WHITE WARBLER. *Mniotilta varia*. Rare summer resident. One of the many species that have declined since strip-mining has been so extensive.

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER. *Protonotaria citrea*. Fairly common summer resident. Mrs. Semple has located a number of nests in western Hopkins County in dead trees and stubs and has seen young being fed. Suthard found the species a "fairly common summer habitat where dead timber and water are simultaneously available during the summer. Fresh eggs were found between May 20 and June 1." He collected a set of 4 incubated eggs on June 6, 1925.

SWAINSON'S WARBLER. *Limnothlypis swainsonii*. Rare summer resident. Recorded in the vicinity of Pond River in May and June, 1948 (Hancock, 1949) and in 1949. Also at Clear Creek in spring and summer for three consecutive seasons, 1949-51. In 1951 the song was heard up to July 10. No nesting records have been made as yet, but the species must undoubtedly be breeding here. Sometimes the writer has found this species singing repeatedly and has watched it at good range. At other times the same individual seems shy and elusive, a difficult subject for observation.

WORM-EATING WARBLER. *Helmitheros vermivorus*. Rare summer resident. A nest with 3 eggs and another with 4 well-fledged young have been previously described (Hancock, 1937 and 1951).

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER. *Vermivora pinus*. Rare summer resident. Two young seen out of the nest in the Elk Creek area on June 1, 1953; one caught and examined while the adults protested nearby.

PARULA WARBLER. *Parula americana*. Rare summer resident. Suthard says, "In early June, 1925, I found a pair of this species in the bottom land of Mr. Lee Schmetzer, feeding a young bird that was able to fly. Over the years I searched for this species, because it certainly nests in the heavily-wooded wet bottom areas of Hopkins County. My efforts were never rewarded with a set of eggs."

YELLOW WARBLER. *Dendroica petechia*. Fairly common transient, rare in summer. Adult feeding a young bird out of the nest at Loch Mary on June 10, 1945. Found most regularly in summer at Loch Mary, but two singing males recorded at Atkinson Lake on June 8, 1953.

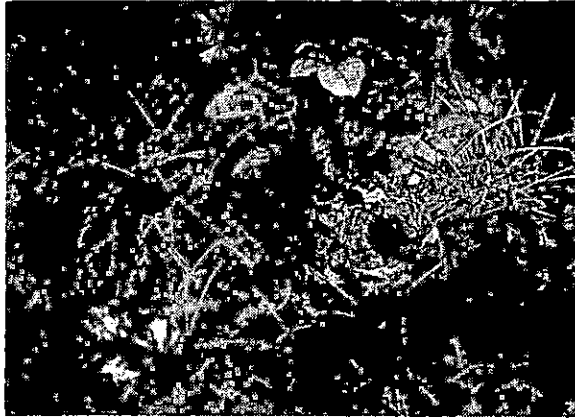
CERULEAN WARBLER. *Dendroica cerulea*. Fairly common summer resident in creek and river bottoms. A young bird out of the nest seen being fed by adults at Elk Creek bottoms on June 25, 1951. Especially common at Elk Creek and in Pond River bottoms.

YELLOW-THROATED (SYCAMORE) WARBLER. *Dendroica dominica*. Uncommon summer resident. Adult seen building a nest approximately 60 feet up in a sweetgum at Clear Creek on April 27, 1953; first noted while it was gathering nesting material near the ground from a mass of dead trees and brush.

PRAIRIE WARBLER. *Dendroica discolor*. Fairly common summer resident. Perhaps because of an increase in brush-grown fields in uplands near stripped areas, this species appears to have increased within recent years. In many instances, however, this may prove to be only a temporary increase. Nests in a maple sapling and a post oak have been previously described (Hancock, 1948 and 1951). A third nest 5 feet up in a persimmon sapling contained 1 egg and 2 downy young on July 1, 1952. These three nests ranged from 2 to 5 feet up and contained 3 to 5 eggs or young.

OVEN-BIRD. *Seiurus aurocapillus*. Rare summer resident. Six singing males found in the Elk Creek area on June 25, 1951. Recorded regularly there since then, but, otherwise, except in spring and fall, only a late summer record at Clear Creek.

LOUISIANA WATER-THRUSH. *Seiurus motacilla*. Uncommon summer resident. A young bird being fed out of the nest at Loch Mary on June 3, 1946.



Nest of Kentucky Warbler that contained 5 well-fledged young at Elk Creek on May 31, 1954

KENTUCKY WARBLER. *Oporornis formosus*. Common summer resident. Well distributed in low, wet woodlands and sometimes found in ravines in uplands woods. Nest containing 5 well-fledged young at Elk Creek on May 31, 1954. The nest was located 6 feet from a logging road, after about an hour of watching the adults and occasionally searching the area. The young all fled while preparations were being made to photograph the nest.

YELLOW-THROAT. *Geothlypis trichas*. Very common summer resident. Nest with 5 eggs on the ground in a weed field in the vicinity of Pond River on June 2, 1952. Located about 40 feet from willows and button-bush along a dry stream bed and made of "rusty" grass blades, rusty appearance obviously caused by copperas in the water when the field had been recently flooded. Suthard collected 5 fresh eggs on June 4, 1924.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT. *Icteria virens virens*. Very common summer resident. Nests recorded in a wild cherry sapling, wild blackberry plants, honeysuckle, an unidentified bush, an oak sapling, and dense briars, ranging from 1½ to 3 feet in height. Complete sets of eggs included 3 or 4. A nest on June 1, 1950, with 2 eggs of the Cowbird and 4 of the owner, has been described (Hancock, 1951). Nest with 4 eggs in a wild blackberry on May 16, 1935. A nest with 1 egg, on July 23, 1947, was 2½ feet up in honeysuckle entwined on a blackberry plant; empty and deserted on July 29. Suthard collected 3 fresh eggs on June 15, 1923.

HOODED WARBLER. *Wilsonia citrina*. Rare summer resident. Recorded at Clear Creek (2 males singing regularly) and deep within Pond River bottoms.

AMERICAN REDSTART. *Setophaga ruticilla*. Rare summer resident. Recorded most regularly in summer at Elk Creek and at Pond River.

ENGLISH SPARROW. *Passer domesticus domesticus*. Very common permanent resident. A nest with 3 eggs in crevice of a dwelling house on April 19, 1945. Another, in similar crevice, with 2 young about 6 days old on August 2, 1947.

EASTERN MEADOWLARK. *Sturnella magna*. Common permanent resident. Nest with 3 eggs on ground beside a clump of red clover on April 28, 1952. Another, with 2 young, on ground in a red-top field, on July 7, 1934. Suthard cites these egg dates: May 4, 1924—4 fresh eggs; May 13, 1928—5 fresh eggs; July 12, 1922—4 addled eggs.

RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD. *Agelaius phoeniceus*. Common summer resident. Nests usually recorded in button-bush or cat-tails and ranging from 2½ to 5 feet up, but sometimes located elsewhere. One nest, containing 2 downy young and 1 egg, on May 21, 1952, was only 9 inches above ground in marsh grass. Three nests examined on May 7, 1951; all were about 3 feet up in button-bushes in a marshy pond; each contained 4 eggs. A nest with 3 eggs at Loch Mary, on July 9, 1948, was 2½ feet up and fastened between a button-bush and a small willow. Suthard collected eggs on these dates: April 24, 1922—3 fresh eggs; May 3, 1922—3 fresh eggs.

ORCHARD ORIOLE. *Icterus spurius*. Fairly common summer resident. Suthard found this species an "irregular summer habitant. One found building a nest on May 8, 1922. No egg dates." The writer has failed to search out a nest, although he examined a deserted nest in the fall of 1953, which was about 30 feet up in a maple on his mother's lawn. It was made entirely of grass stems.

BALTIMORE ORIOLE. *Icterus galbula*. Transient; now very rare in summer. One recent summer record: a male at Municipal Park, Madisonville, on June 8, 1953. Suthard found it a "common summer habitant near dwellings. I have found many nests but could never collect any eggs intact. Nesting period, May-June."

BRONZED GRACKLE. *Quiscalus versicolor*. Common summer resident, rare in winter. Suthard collected a set of 5 fresh eggs at Browning Springs, Madisonville, on April 22, 1922.

BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD. *Molothrus ater ater*. Common summer resident. Eggs recorded by the writer in nests of Yellow-breasted Chat (1951), Towhee (1947), Field Sparrow, Indigo Bunting (1953), and perhaps others. Robert Mengel and the writer saw a large young Cowbird being fed out of the nest by a Red-eyed Vireo in the Silent Run area on July 12, 1952.

SCARLET TANAGER. *Piranga olivacea*. Rare summer resident. Female on a nest 20 feet up in a sycamore at Clear Creek on July 27, 1934. Unfortunately, the nest was not easily accessible, and the contents were not examined.

SUMMER TANAGER. *Piranga rubra rubra*. Common summer resident. A young bird out of the nest in the Elk Creek area on June 1, 1953. Nest with 3 eggs 6 feet up in a peach tree behind a deserted house on June 19, 1945; male of the pair an immature. Another nest with 3 eggs, about 10 feet up in an oak on June 23, 1935. Robert Mengel and the writer saw an occupied nest about 45 feet up in a

hickory on July 12, 1952. Suthard recorded nests in elm, white oak, black oak, and sycamore trees, ranging from 8 to 25 feet up. He cites these egg dates: May 24, 1922—3 fresh eggs; May 29, 1922—3 fresh eggs and 2 Cowbird eggs; June 5, 1934—3 fresh eggs.

CARDINAL. *Richmondia cardinalis*. Very common permanent resident. Nests recorded in peach, apple, pine, elm, and crabapple trees and in honeysuckle, wild grape, blackberry, garden and wild rose bushes, and briars, ranging from scarcely 2 feet to 7 feet up. Generally contained 2 to 3 eggs or young, rarely 4. Nest with 4 eggs in a wild rose bush on April 14, 1935. Another, with 3 young, 7 feet up in honeysuckle on a dead apple tree on August 25, 1933. Suthard collected 3 fresh eggs on April 20, 1922, and 3 fresh eggs and 1 Cowbird egg on May 14, 1922.

INDIGO BUNTING. *Passerina cyanea*. Very common summer resident. A nest in a spice bush, with 3 eggs of this species and 1 of the Cowbird, on May 24, 1948, has been described (Hancock, 1953). Another, with 3 eggs, was 2½ feet up in a wild blackberry on July 14, 1947. Suthard collected as follows: June 24, 1923—2 fresh eggs and a Cowbird egg; July 12, 1923—3 fresh eggs.

DICKCISSEL. *Spiza americana*. Summer resident, more common in the western end of the county, where there is much open country, than in the Madisonville area.

GOLDFINCH. *Spinus tristis tristis*. Common permanent resident. Two young birds being fed out of the nest on September 5, 1953. Suthard writes, "In my experience, this was always a late-nesting species which I found common in July. The nests invariably built in the tops of the persimmon or sassafras bushes, where they formed the scattered second growth in old fields. My egg dates are: July 27, 1925—6 fresh eggs; July 30, 1927—5 fresh eggs; July 30, 1927—5 fresh eggs."

EASTERN TOWHEE. *Pipilo erythrophthalmus*. Very common permanent resident. Nests recorded usually contained 2 to 4 eggs or young. Those on the ground found in weeds, under a clump of broom sedge, on leaves in an oak woodland, and among poison ivy and dewberry vines. Nest with 4 eggs on the ground in an oak woodland on April 23, 1934. Another, with 3 eggs, on the ground under dewberry vines on June 7, 1945. A nest with 2 eggs of this species and 2 of the Cowbird has been described (Hancock, 1947). Nests above ground have been recorded in briar tangle, in cane, button-bush, an apple tree, and elm sprouts, ranging from 2 feet to nearly 6 feet up. Nest with 1 downy young 3 feet up in briar tangle in an upland wood on June 4, 1948. A nest in a button-bush, with 3 eggs, on July 30, 1948, has been described (Hancock, 1948). Suthard cites these nesting dates: April 30, 1922—3 and 4 fresh eggs; May 1, 1922—4 young; May 4, 1922—4 fresh eggs and 1 Cowbird egg; May 11, 1922—4 young. On July 20, 1924, he recorded a nest with 3 eggs which was 3 feet up in an oak sapling, evidence that the Towhee nested above ground here more than 30 years ago.

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW. *Ammodramus savannarum*. Rare summer resident. Suthard found a nest with 4 young in a pasture on a grassy slope, east of Madisonville, on June 8, 1924. It was so buried that the rim of the nest was even with the top of the ground.

PINEWOODS (BACHMAN'S) SPARROW. *Aimophila aestivalis*. Rare summer resident.

CHIPPING SPARROW. *Spizella passerina passerina*. Fairly common summer resident. A nest 3½ feet up in an ornamental evergreen (sp. ?) contained 2 downy young and 2 infertile eggs on June 3, 1952. Another, with 3 eggs, was 6½ feet up in a young elm on June 15, 1951. A third nest, in a maple, held 2 eggs on July 12, 1935. Usually this species nests here in trees or shrubbery on lawns and in cemeteries, but several singing males are also recorded each summer in park-like oak-hickory woodlands in the Elk Creek area. Suthard collected 3 fresh eggs on each of the following dates: April 28, 1922; May 1, 1922; May 15, 1922; and June 8, 1923.

FIELD SPARROW. *Spizella pusilla pusilla*. Common permanent resident. Nests recorded on or barely above ground and up to 2½ feet. Those on the ground found in a clump of yarrow and between stalks of goldenrod; above ground, in a grass clump, in wild blackberry, broom sedge, honeysuckle, a small elm, and in briars. Generally, the nests contained 3 to 4 eggs or young, but sometimes only 2. A nest with 2 eggs and 1 of a Cowbird was nearly 2 feet up in a wild blackberry on May 31, 1950. Nest with 3 eggs one foot above ground in a clump of broom sedge on April 28, 1953; found by Brenda Hancock. Another, with 3 downy young, was 4 inches above the ground in a clump of grass on July 29, 1946. Suthard cites these egg dates: May 7, 1923—3 fresh eggs and 1 Cowbird egg; May 15, 1922—4 fresh eggs; May 27, 1925—4 fresh eggs; July 6, 1924—3 fresh eggs.

SONG SPARROW. *Melospiza melodia*. Rare and irregular summer resident; common winter resident. Recorded in the Madisonville area in summer, 1945-47, but has not been found since then, except as a winter resident. It was seen in summer at Atkinson Lake, as well as near Earlington and in the Pleasant View Church section (Hancock, 1947), but it disappeared even from Atkinson Lake, where it was found most regularly, after 1947. It is believed to breed here irregularly.

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SOME ERRORS IN PREVIOUS INSTALMENTS OF MR. HANCOCK'S ARTICLE

The editor gladly prints the following corrections of errors made a previous instalment of this article. In the May, 1954, issue Robert Grause should have read Krause, p. 19; on p. 20, line 12, "One nest was 45 feet up in the top of a large sycamore" instead of 15 feet; on p. 21, line 44, "Common now only where there are extensive woodlands" instead of the sentence without only; p. 24, lines 33-34, should read "on July 19, 1932," instead of 1928; and p. 25, line 36, "EASTERN BLUEBIRD, *Sialia sialis*" instead of BLUEJAY. The editor and the secretary-treasurer found this last error too late to make the correction before the issues of the WARBLER were mailed out.

FIELD NOTES

WESTERN MEADOWLARK AT MADISONVILLE

On March 24, 1954, I heard a Meadowlark with an unfamiliar but melodious song near my brother's home, about a mile southwest of Madisonville. At first I just thought it our common Eastern Meadow-

lark with an unusual song, since individuals often differ slightly. For example, I heard an Orchard Oriole in Livingston County in June, 1945, that had a song so different that I was unable to identify the bird until I saw it. Later, after I had checked the literature on the two Meadowlarks, I decided that it was probably a Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*). On April 18, to learn more definitely, I made a special visit to see the songster. I found it ranging over three fields, often perching to sing from fence posts, telephone wires, and even trees along the edge of an oak grove, and occasionally singing in flight. The song, which I had studied from descriptions by Pough, Peterson, and Saunders, was definitely flute-like, bubbling, and uttered rapidly toward the close. This bird seemed to have two songs or variations. Because of the rapidity of the last notes, it was difficult to get an accurate count, but there seemed to be about seven notes in the first song, eight in the second. Several Eastern Meadowlarks were there and sang their slower, very different songs. The "chuck" call-note of the Western bird was also heard. About two days after my identification was made, tractors were brought in, and one of the fields was plowed. Apparently the bird had intended to nest in this field, for the song was not heard thereafter, and the bird disappeared promptly. I know of no previous published records of this species in Kentucky.—JAMES W. HANCOCK, Madisonville.

* * * * *

BLUE GEESE AT CHRISTMAS

When Dr. L. Y. Lancaster and I recorded 24 Blue Geese at Mammoth Cave National Park on January 1, 1954, in our Mid-winter Bird Count, I was eager to see the results of the Fifty-fourth Christmas Bird Census conducted by the National Audubon Society. The report of the censuses, published in the April, 1954, issue of AUDUBON FIELD NOTES, shows some very interesting records of this species. All told, Blue Geese were reported from nineteen places, only eight of them from areas where the birds would normally be expected: Alabama, Louisiana, Texas, and New Mexico. Sabine National Wildlife Refuge, Louisiana, has the only large number, 12,992. Rather oddly, the second highest number was reported from Grafton, Illinois, 900. Unusual places for the species besides Mammoth Cave National Park and Grafton, Illinois, were Reading, Pennsylvania; Dorchester County, Maryland; Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Virginia; Hopewell, Virginia; Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio; Huntington, West Virginia; Elsah, Illinois; and Salt Plains National Wildlife Refuge, Jet, Oklahoma. Only a few individuals were reported from most of these places. I wonder whether Blue Geese may not be more widely scattered in winter than most ornithologists formerly believed. It is possible that some have been ignored just because they were not expected. Those of our members who take their counts along the Ohio and its tributaries should keep a close watch of any geese recorded in winter hereafter.—GORDON WILSON, Bowling Green.

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BIG SPRING LISTS

Only five Big Spring Lists came in this year. Plan now to add yours for next year, for this effort to beat one's own record and make a good showing with observers in other parts of the state will be the means of finding many a bird in migration times. Here are the lists.

KENTUCKY WOODLANDS—May 2. Woods, lakes, and open fields. Weather warm, with showers; temp. 62 to 68; wind, west, strong as 10 m. p. h. at times. Pied-billed Grebe, Great Blue Heron, Little Blue Heron, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, American Bittern, Canada Goose, Blue-winged Teal, Wood Duck, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Red-shouldered Hawk, Osprey, Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, Turkey, Coot, Killdeer, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Barred Owl, Horned Owl, Chuck-will's-widow, Whip-poor-will, Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Yellow-shafted Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Empidonax?, Wood Pewee, 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, Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Bell's Vireo, Prothonotary Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Parula Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Black-poll Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Palm Warbler, Oven-bird, Northern Water-thrush, Louisiana Water-thrush, Kentucky Warbler, Yellow-throat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Hooded Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, Redstart, English Sparrow, Meadowlark, Red-wing, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Rusty Blackbird, Bronzed Grackle, Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Goldfinch, Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow. Total species, 106; total individuals, 1216. The individuals were not especially numerous, even though the species were quite good. It was a miserable day for birding, and we needed some more birders to cover areas that we did not get to reach.—EUGENE CYPERT, MARY LOU CYPERT, DARA CHILDS, GEORGE SMITH, FRED CUNNINGHAM, MRS. FRED CUNNINGHAM, ROY A. GRIZZELL, JR., and GRACE WYATT.

MADISONVILLE.—May 10; 4:30 A. M. to 7:30 P. M.; 11:45 P. M. to 12 midnight. Clear and calm early; later a light SW wind. Partly cloudy by late morning; later overcast but partly cloudy again by late afternoon. Temp. 37 to 59. About five miles on foot, 42 by car; 15¼ hours in the field; observer alone. W. W. Hancock farm, four lakes at Madisonville, Clear Creek, Brown and Frostburg Roads, and a cattail marsh. Pied-billed Grebe, Green Heron, American Bittern, Blue-winged Teal, Lesser Scaup, Turkey Vulture, Red-shouldered Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, Sora(?), Coot, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Mourning Dove, Barred Owl, Chuck-will's-widow, Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Yellow-shafted Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Acadian Flycatcher, Least Flycatcher, Wood Pewee, Horned Lark, Tree Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Cliff Swallow (mixed flock of about 20 Cliffs and Barns), Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Bewick's Wren, Carolina Wren, Short-billed Marsh Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush,

Olive-backed Thrush, Veery, Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Cedar Waxwing, Migrant Shrike, 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, Myrtle Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Sycamore Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Black-poll Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Palm Warbler, Oven-bird, Northern Water-thrush, Louisiana Water-thrush, Kentucky Warbler, Yellow-throat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Hooded Warbler, Redstart, English Sparrow, Meadowlark, Red-wing, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Bronzed Grackle, Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissel, Goldfinch, Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow. Total, 106 Species, 869 individuals.—JAMES W. HANCOCK.

HENDERSON.—May 2. Weather cloudy and threatening; this seemed to bring the warblers down low enough to be seen well. We have never seen so many in low shrubs. 6:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Twenty observers in all types of habitat; temp. 68-72; wind SW 3-7 m. p. h.; gusts up to 25 m. p. h. during shower. W. P. Rhoads and King Benson worked Audubon Memorial State Park, finding 107 species within its bounds; workers elsewhere raised the total to 138 species. Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, American Egret, Green Heron, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Canada Goose, Mallard, Black Duck, Gadwall, Baldpate, Blue-winged Teal, Shoveller, Wood Duck, Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, Hooded Merganser, American Merganser, Turkey Vulture, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Marsh Hawk, Osprey, Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, Coot, Killdeer, Black-bellied Plover, Woodcock, Wilson's Snipe, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Greater Yellow-legs, Lesser Yellow-legs, Least Sandpiper, Herring Gull, Black Tern, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Screech Owl, Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Chuck-will's-widow, Whip-poor-will, Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Yellow-shafted Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Acadian Flycatcher, Least 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, Hermit Thrush, Olive-backed Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Veery, Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Cedar Waxwing, Migrant Shrike, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Philadelphia Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Sycamore Warbler, Black-poll Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Palm Warbler, Northern Water-thrush, Louisiana Water-thrush, Kentucky Warbler, Mourning Warbler, Yellow-throat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Redstart, English Sparrow, Bobolink, Meadowlark, Red-wing, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Bronzed Grackle, Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissel, Pine Siskin, Goldfinch, Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field

Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow. Our club is making periodic visits to the nest of a Pileated Woodpecker.—HENDERSON AUDUBON SOCIETY, W. P. RHODES, compiler.

MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK.—April 30 - May 2; 4:30 P. M., April 30 to 12:30 P. M., May 2. Windy; threatening. Overnight camps at Campground; by car to most of the central areas, Beaver Pond, Silent Grove, and Mammoth Cave Ridge. Warblers very numerous. Starred forms were found at the edges of the park but not inside. *Pied-billed Grebe, Least Bittern, Turkey Vulture, Broad-winged Hawk, *Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, *Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Whip-poor-will, Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Belted Kingfisher, Yellow-shafted Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied 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, 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, Blackburnian Warbler, Sycamore Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Palm Warbler, Oven-bird, Northern Water-thrush, Louisiana Water-thrush, Kentucky Warbler, Yellow-throat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Hooded Warbler, Redstart, English Sparrow, *Bobolink, Meadowlark, Red-wing, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, *Bronzed Grackle, Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Goldfinch, Towhee, *Grasshopper Sparrow, Bachman's Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow. Total, 100 species. The 27 warblers set a new second-high record, my best for a single weekend being 29.—GORDON WILSON.

LOUISVILLE.—May 2; 4:30 A. M. to 8:20 P. M. Louisville and its environs, including the Ohio River; woodlands, meadow lands, and river. Pied-billed Grebe, Great Blue Heron, American Egret, Little Blue Heron, Green Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Blue-winged Teal, Wood Duck, Hooded Merganser, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Marsh Hawk, Osprey, Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, Coot, Semi-palmated Plover, Killdeer, Wilson's Snipe, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Pectoral Sandpiper, Herring Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Common Tern, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Barred Owl, Chuck-will's-widow, Whip-poor-will, Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Yellow-shafted Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Acadian Flycatcher, Least Flycatcher,

Wood Pewee, Horned Lark, Bank Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Cliff 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, Migrant Shrike, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Blue-headed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Parula Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Sycamore Warbler, Black-poll Warbler, Palm Warbler, Northern Water-thrush, Louisiana Water-thrush, Kentucky Warbler, Yellow-throat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Wilson's Warbler, Redstart, English Sparrow, Bobolink, Meadowlark, Red-wing, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Bronzed Grackle, Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissel, Goldfinch, Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow, Bachman's Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Song Sparrow. Total, 133 species.—C. W. BECKHAM BIRD CLUB.

All told, there were 172 species of birds recorded on these five censuses.

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HOPKINS COUNTY HERONRY

I enjoyed seeing James W. Hancock's account of the heron nesting area in Hopkins County. I grew up within a mile and a half of this heronry and remember seventy years ago seeing these fine birds by the hundreds flying over our home, going back and forth from the nesting swamp to Lick Creek for food for their young. My father had a name for all our common birds; he called these Great Blue Herons Big Blue Cranes. This swamp and its heronry were well known in our neighborhood; it bore the name locally of the Penitentiary. Many acres were covered with water all the year. It might be interesting to know that beavers built a dam across Clear Creek many years ago. The channel of the creek was full, and the outlying parts of the pond were called the Scatters. The last time I visited this rookery, about twenty years ago, there were one hundred and twenty nests in five large overcup oak trees. The young were about ready to fly; many of them were out on the limbs. My brother shot an adult, and it is impossible to describe the noise made by the young and adults at this intrusion of their home territory, especially when the gun was fired. I am sure that this nesting place has been used for more than a hundred years.—DR. T. ATCHISON FRAZER, Marion.

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OUR FALL MEETING

Be sure to make plans to join us at Kenlake Hotel at our fall meeting: Though our society has often met in the Jackson Purchase, we have never before had our headquarters right at Kentucky Lake. Full details will be sent out to each member well in advance of our meeting.