

11-1958

Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 34, no. 4)

Kentucky Library Research Collections
Western Kentucky University, spcol@wku.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/ky_warbler



Part of the [Ornithology Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Kentucky Library Research Collections, "Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 34, no. 4)" (1958). *Kentucky Warbler*. Paper 166.
http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/ky_warbler/166

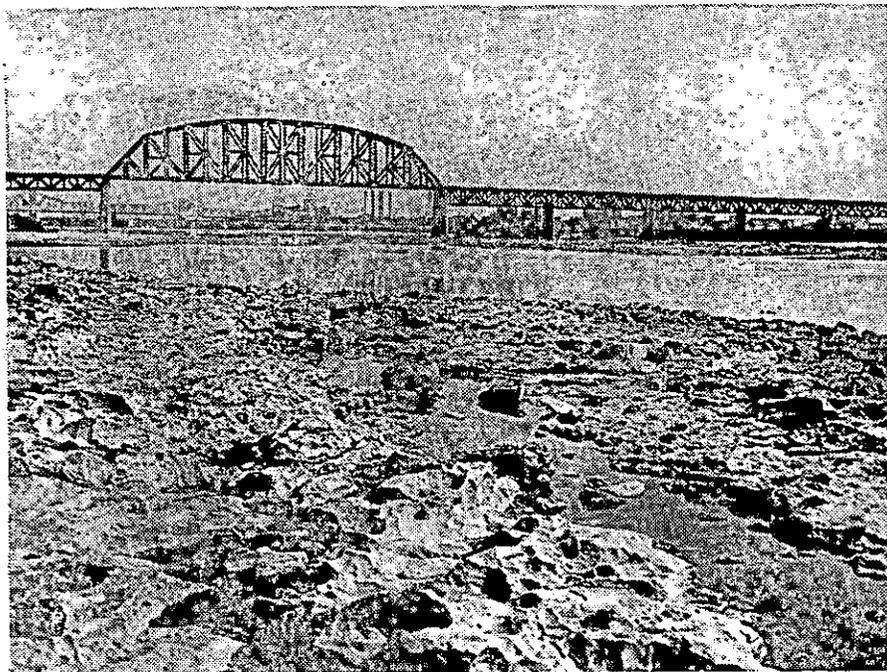
This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by TopSCHOLAR®. It has been accepted for inclusion in Kentucky Warbler by an authorized administrator of TopSCHOLAR®. For more information, please contact topscholar@wku.edu.

The Kentucky Warbler

Vol. XXXIV

NOVEMBER, 1958

No. 4



Photograph of the Ohio River at Louisville, showing the Falls in the background. The foreground is characteristic of the rock formation, with its potholes where shore birds feed. In the spring and during other periods of high water these rock beds are covered with water.

(Photograph courtesy Courier-Journal.)

IN THIS ISSUE . . .

NEWS AND VIEWS:

Brasher Bacon Places His Collection at Western; Robert Mengel
Gets His Ph. D.....

SCARCITY OF SHORE BIRDS IN THE 1958 FALL MIGRATION,
Leonard C. Brecher.....

THE NEST OF A CHUKAR PARTRIDGE AT BERNHEIM,
Harvey B. Lovell.....

EXOTIC GAME BIRDS, Lee K. Nelson.....

FIELD NOTES:

Clarkson Yard Host to Purple Martins, Mrs. Walter Kelley.....

Horned Larks at Lexington, Mrs. W. R. Allen.....

Traill's Flycatcher in Jackson County, Dr. Lee R. Herndon.....

A Summer Swainson's Warbler at Mammoth Cave National Park,
Gordon Wilson.....

OUR 1958 FALL MEETING.....

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

(Founded in 1923 by B. C. Bacon, L. Otley Pindar, and Gordon Wilson)

President.....Dr. Hunter Hancock, Murray
 Vice-President.....Miss Amelia Klutey, Henderson
 Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer.....Mr. F. W. Stamm, 2118 Lakeside Drive, Louisville 5
 Recording Secretary.....Mr. Howard Jones, Stamping Ground

Councillors:

Mr. John A. Cheek, Pikeville.....1956-58
 Dr. Russell Starr, Glasgow.....1957-58
 Mr. Al Mayfield, Lexington.....1957-59
 Miss Evelyn J. Schneider, Louisville.....1957-59

Retiring President.....Mrs. F. W. Stamm, Louisville
 Librarian.....Miss Evelyn J. Schneider, University of Louisville Library
 Curator.....Mr. Burt L. Monroe, Ridge Road, Anchorage

Editor:

Dr. Gordon Wilson, 1434 Chestnut Street, Bowling Green.

Associate Editor:

Mrs. F. W. Stamm, 2118 Lakeside Drive, Louisville 5.

Assistant Editors:

Mr. Leonard C. Brecher, Field Notes; Dr. Harvey B. Lovell, Notes on Ornithologists.

COMMITTEES—

Nominating: Mrs. F. W. Stamm, Chairman; Mabel Slack, W. P. Rhoads, Gordon Wilson.

Membership: Evelyn J. Schneider, Chairman; Cynthia C. Counce, A. L. Powell, John Cheek.

Auditing: Louis Piepen, Chairman; Floyd S. Carpenter.

Conservation and Legislation: Burt L. Monroe, Chairman; Harvey B. Lovell, L. Y. Lancaster, R. C. Seaper.

Endowment: Leonard C. Brecher, Chairman.

Gordon Wilson Scholarship: Harvey B. Lovell and F. W. Stamm, Co-Chairmen; Leonard C. Brecher, John Cheek, Frederick W. Loetscher, Mrs. Ben Allen Thomas, Mrs. F. W. Stamm.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Madisonville, Kentucky, October 9, 1958

Dr. Gordon Wilson
 Western State College
 Bowling Green, Kentucky

Dear Dr. Wilson:

The time has arrived for me to make some permanent disposition of my collection of oological specimens. After serious consideration, I have decided to place them in the Kentucky Building at Western Kentucky State College, at Bowling Green. I have taken this action to honor you and the contribution you have made to the success of the Kentucky Ornithological Society over the years since its organization in 1923. You and my friend Dr. L. Y. Lancaster have done much to popularize the study of ornithology, not only at Western but also in Kentucky. Both my sons—Brasher C., Jr., and Frank—received most of their education at Western, and I am very much interested in its future.

My collection consists of about 450 sets of eggs, with nests with complete data on each set. I lost about 60 sets of eggs to vandals over the period of thirty years they were on display on the Spring

Lake Wildlife Refuge; some of my rarer sets were included in this loss. All data will be included on all sets, including the ones lost to vandals. About 50 sets in my collection were donated to me by my good friend James G. Suthard, formerly of Madisonville, now of Long Beach, California. I would like for the collection to be known as the Brasher C. Bacon-James G. Suthard Collection, as Mr. Suthard was my companion on many woodland strolls over a period of several years.

I have studied nature in all its forms over a period of more than fifty years and preached and practiced conservation for thirty. For twenty years I followed the birds and for thirty years they followed me on the five wildlife refuges which I established in Hopkins County, Spring Lake Refuge being the oldest, established in 1929, on which I made over a period of thirty years more than 7500 trips and fed to the wildlife more than ten tons of food. Twenty years were spent in banding birds, with twelve feeding stations in operation, with a total of forty cells. I have banded well over 1200 Cardinals and have banded Brown Thrashers as winter residents since 1949.

I am delivering to my grandson, Marcus Lambert Bacon, all my unpublished notes and records, of which I have thousands made over a period of more than fifty years. These will be for his use and for publication when he so desires.

I realize now what a thrill I would have experienced had I had such records when I began my studies of Hopkins County birds and nature years ago.

Sincerely yours,
Basher C. Bacon.

* * * * *

K. O. S. CONGRATULATES ROBERT M. MENGEL

We have learned that Robert M. Mengel, now at the University of Kansas, was granted the Ph. D. in zoology from the University of Michigan on June 14, 1958. The title of his dissertation was "A study of the distribution of the breeding birds of Kentucky." According to Dr. Mengel, this is part of a work commenced at the University of Michigan in 1947, and he advises us that the whole work, on the birds of Kentucky in general, is being prepared for early publication. While the dissertation is available for information or citation, on University microfilms, it embodies only a small portion of the entire work and Dr. Mengel asks that his friends in the K. O. S. refrain from formal citation of it in this form and await distribution of printed copies of the entire work. Our congratulations to Dr. Mengel.

(News and Views Continued on Page 63)

* * * * *

SCARCITY OF SHOREBIRDS IN THE 1958 FALL MIGRATION AT LOUISVILLE

By Leonard C. Brecher, Louisville

To anyone who has been led to anticipate large numbers and varied species of shore and wading birds at the Falls of the Ohio during late summer and early autumn, the season of 1958 proved to be unusually disappointing. The principal reason was that the eroded bedrock which provides the feeding grounds along both the Kentucky

and the Indiana sides of the channel was covered with water during the early portion of the migration season.

Although the rainfall in Kentucky during the nine months from January 1, 1958, to October 1, 1958, averaged just about normal, yet there was a dry spring season, balanced by a rainfall of ten inches for the state in the month of July, compared with a normal precipitation of approximately three to four inches. Further, heavy rains in West Virginia and the upper Ohio Valley necessitated the raising of sufficient wickets at Dam 41 at Louisville to prevent flooding in the upper pool. As a result, the turbulence of the water was so great as it poured through the dam and over the sloughs and irregular channels in the bedrock that on July 11 all small boats had to be removed to safety. Not since 1938 has the volume of water in the river been great enough to cover the coral plateau below the dam on the Kentucky side of the channel during July and August. This is the area where most of the birds are normally seen.

It was not until August 22 that enough of the dam was closed to permit the receding water-level below the dam to expose the tableland. The rowboats were returned to the water, and the habitat on the Kentucky side became accessible.

The writer, who has checked the Falls area weekly during the migration season for the past ten years, made the first trip across the channel with Roderick Sommers on August 23. Only the following species of water birds were found: Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*), 2; Common Egret (*Casmerodius albus*), 5; Black-crowned Night Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*), 3; Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*), 1; Western Sandpiper (*Ereunetes mauri*), 4; immature Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*), an early record, 1. It is notable that no Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*), a very common species, were seen or heard. These six species compare with sixteen species, including fifty Killdeer, on the corresponding weekend in 1957.

On the field trip of the Beckham Bird Club to the Falls on September 14, only 9 species, totaling 108 individuals, were seen, as follows: Great Blue Heron, 3; Common Egret, 14; Black-crowned night Heron, 50; Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*), 6; Pintail (*Anas acuta*), 3; Killdeer, 20; Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*), 1; Spotted Sandpiper, 2; Lesser Yellowlegs (*Totanus flavipes*), 9. Contrasted with this poor showing was a list of 22 species of water birds, totaling 321 individuals, on a trip made by the author on the same date in 1957.

It was not until the weekend of September 29 that the first Pectoral Sandpiper (*Erolia melanotos*) was seen, and then only a single bird. In other years Pectorals are about the most numerous of all the shorebirds, exceeded only by Killdeer. In fact, in some years they have been so plentiful as to be considered a nuisance, from the standpoint of a careful observer, who must inspect each bird to be sure that some unusual species is not being overlooked.

This is the first year in the last fifteen that the author has not found immature Little Blue Herons (*Florida caerulescens*) in the white phase. Snowy Egrets (*Leucophoyx thula*) have been seen in small numbers nearly every year, but none were present this season. Also, the Common Egrets were not so plentiful this summer as they have been in many previous years.

It may be only a coincidence, but the terns were also noticeable by their absence. During the two-and-a-half to three-hour period spent each weekend in the Falls area, Caspian Terns (*Hydroprogne caspia*)

were observed only on September 27, while Black Terns (*Chlidonias niger*) were seen only on September 6. No Forster's, Common, or Least Terns were found at all. On the other hand, by contrast, the migration of the smaller land birds appeared to be better in many respects than that of many previous years.

Since there was no abnormal diminution in the numbers of land birds, it seems likely that neither temperature nor weather had an adverse effect on the water birds, either in their wintering home last winter or on their breeding grounds this summer, because land birds occupied the same general areas, too. It may, therefore, be reasoned that because of abundant rainfall over most of the country during June and July, the streams, lakes, and farm ponds were all in good shape. Consequently, the water birds were dispersed over wide areas and found suitable habitat en route south without being forced to the Falls because of lack of water elsewhere.

No work has been done on the length of stay of the migrating shore birds at the Falls. It has been assumed that they arrive and leave within a few days (depending on barometric conditions). However, it may be assumed that many water birds which are usually present on the Falls arrive during early August and linger there for several weeks, instead of the supposed short stay. Not finding suitable habitat this season because of high water, they continued southward without stopping, thus eliminating any accumulated population.

Whatever the reason, the abnormal decrease in the numbers of water birds found on the Falls area this season was such as to merit notice for the sake of the record. Perhaps this situation can be correlated with similar phenomena at other areas throughout the country in order to reach a logical explanation. If there are authentic comparisons in other sections of the country, the writer would welcome information to supplement the latter hypothesis.

Bibliography

- MENGEL, ROBERT M.
1938. The Season at Louisville. *Kentucky Warbler*, XIV, 45-46.
- MONROE, BURT L.
1938. Some Rarer Birds of the Falls of the Ohio. *Auk*, 55:678.
- MONROE, BURT L.
1938. Bird Life at the Falls of the Ohio. *Yearbook Indiana Audubon Society*, 17:14-18.
- MONROE, BURT L., and MENGEL, ROBERT M.
1939. Observations of Water Birds at the Falls of the Ohio. *Kentucky Warbler*, XV, 25-27, 38-44.
- SUMMERFIELD, DONALD, and LOVELL, HARVEY B.
1949. Snowy Egrets at Falls of the Ohio. *Kentucky Warbler*, XXV, 55-56.
- MONROE, BURT L., SR., and MONROE, BURT L., JR.
1949. Three New Shorebirds from the Falls of the Ohio. *Kentucky Warbler*, XXV, 65-66.
- STAMM, ANNE L., and SUMMERFIELD, DON.
1952. Water Birds at the Ohio Falls During the Autumn Season. *Kentucky Warbler*, XXVIII, 39-44.
- CROFT, JOSEPH.
1956. Watching Birds on the Falls of the Ohio. *Kentucky Warbler*, XXXII, 31-32.

THE NEST OF A CHUKAR PARTRIDGE AT BERNHEIM

By Harvey B. Lovell, Louisville

A dozen Chukar Partridges (*Alectoris graeca*) have been on display for several years in the outdoor zoo at Bernheim Forest in Bullitt County, some 30 miles south of Louisville. The survivors have been released at the end of each season but soon disappeared. This year the Kentucky Division of Fish and Wildlife Resources decided to make a larger release in the hills of Bullitt County to see how this exotic game bird would fare in this part of Kentucky.

Forty pen-raised Chukars were released on May 2 around the nature museum, which is close to a chain of three small ponds with open fields on one side and woods on the other. Forty more were released farther back in the wooded hills. Food was placed around the nature museum in case it was needed and in the hope of keeping some of the Chukars under observation. Several of the birds were killed by predators as shown by dead birds or piles of feathers found in several places. A few crippled birds did hang around the nature museum, where they ate the food placed there.

In August the road crew at Bernheim was widening the shoulder of the road for a new parking area. A deer corral was to be built in the adjacent bottomland, and an observation area for tourists was planned close to it. On August 5, 1958, the foreman, Charles Shelton, was getting ready to remove several trees. As he circled one of the trees, he flushed a Chukar Partridge from a nest at its base, containing ten large eggs. This is the first nest of the Chukar in the Bernheim forest and apparently the first in the state, although several small broods have been reported in the western Kentucky strip-mine areas, where other large releases have been made. Work on the parking area was immediately suspended to allow the bird to incubate undisturbed.

A few days later the eggs disappeared, and it was not at first known what was their fate. However, about two weeks later Carlyle Chamberlain, who was acting as assistant naturalist, reported a brood of 8 or 9 half-grown Chukar Partridges in the general area. About a week after that another worker on the Reservation also flushed some young Chukars, presumably the same brood.

The nest had been placed close to the base of a moderate-sized oak tree in an area fairly open. The nest itself was little more than a hollowed-out place in the oak leaves, with little, if any, material brought in by the nesting bird.

The story of the Chukar Partridge in America started when some birds were netted in the mountains of Nepal, in northern India, at altitudes of 6,000 to 10,000 feet and shipped to a California breeder. These birds multiplied rapidly in captivity, and breeding stock was sold to the Game and Fish Departments of several Western states. Successful releases were made in Washington State from 1938 to 1940 and also in southern California, especially in the region of the Mojave Desert. Other releases were made in Nevada, from 1939 to 1943, in the semi-desert mountainous areas. There in rocky, semi-desert country the Chukars have found the right habitats and are thriving. Nevada had its first hunting season in 1947, and the results were most encouraging. This game bird appears to have become established in parts of Colorado also and possibly other states in the Rocky Mountain area.

In Missouri, a state with a climate rather similar to that of Kentucky, large releases have been made without much success. The birds disperse over a wide area rather than settle down and build up a local population. The wildlife scientists there have agreed that this particular strain of the Chukar is not adapted for the "cottontail and catfish climate" of Missouri. It also seems probable that this strain is not adapted to the warm, humid climate of Kentucky, and that any released birds will gradually disappear partly because of their failure to breed and partly because of the tendency of the Chukar to walk out of the country in search of a suitable habitat. A colored photograph of this nest by Carl Rainbolt appeared in the Sunday Courier-Journal for September 21, 1958.

* * * * *

EXOTIC GAME BIRDS

By Lee K. Nelson, Wildlife Biologist

Game bird enthusiasts have been reading and hearing a great deal about exotic game birds lately. The Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources has been conducting experimental work with the pheasant (*Phasianus* sp.) since 1950, the Chukar Partridge (*Alectoris graeca*) since 1956, and the Coturnix quail (*Coturnix coturnix japonica*) since 1957. The studies are being conducted on selected areas throughout the state as part of the Exotic Game Bird Investigations Project.

In general, the studies include releases of pen-reared birds over a period of years on study areas, with follow-up investigations of mortality, population densities, movements, and reproduction. Study areas were selected in many of the unique habitat types found in the commonwealth.

To date, a total of 21,069 Pheasants, 2,992 Chukars, and 21,194 Coturnix have been liberated. All of the birds were leg-banded and also marked with numbered plastic tags attached to the neck for identification.

Most of the birds were released in the summer and early fall; however, a few Pheasants and Coturnix were released in the spring. Certain population trends developed. Quite a few pheasants and Chukars remained in or near the study areas during the fall, but the number dropped rather sharply in the winter. By spring only a relatively few breeders remained. A limited amount of reproduction occurred, but up to the present time it has not proved sufficient to maintain a population level necessary for permanent establishment.

Coturnix quail were noted to disperse very rapidly from some release sites. However, dense hay fields of legumes and grasses and harvested and unharvested grain fields containing Korean lespedeza and/or ragweed held some birds until November following the summer releases. No birds were found on the study areas during the winter, but since this particular species is a migrant, this was not surprising. However, only one bird was found on the areas (Henderson) the following spring, and the origin of this bird was unknown. Coturnix were shot and bands returned from Michigan, Maryland, Florida, Alabama, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Indiana. Distances traveled ranged up to 550 miles after time lapses up to seven months. Fourteen birds were known to have been shot in Kentucky during the 1957-58 hunting season. A very limited amount of Coturnix reproduction was found on the areas in the summers of 1957 and 1958. Birds of the

year were involved. Coturnix have the unique ability to lay fertile eggs at 35 to 40 days of age.

Mortality factors, including predation, do not appear to be limiting the exotic populations, although in some local instances predation was rather serious, particularly immediately following the releases. Feral dogs, foxes, and bird predators were especially damaging to the relatively tame released Chukars on the strip-mine areas.

Since the studies are still in progress, no final conclusions can be drawn at this time, but findings to date do not call for an optimistic outlook regarding the eventual establishment of the species involved. The search for exotics biologically suited to Kentucky environs will continue. It is hoped that exotics will be found which will eventually augment the native game birds in the hunter's bags. That is the ultimate goal of the project.

(A summary of an address given before the 1958 fall meeting at Dawson Springs.)

FIELD NOTES

CLARKSON YARD HOST TO MIGRATING PURPLE MARTINS

For the past three years several thousand migrating Purple Martins (*Progne subis*) have been arriving in our yard each summer in Clarkson, Grayson County, Kentucky. Apparently the birds are attracted to the area because of the large number of martins nesting here. This influx occurs in the latter part of July, and often large numbers of Barn Swallows (*Hirundo rustica*) also migrate with them. The local breeding birds become a part of this large flock, and all birds leave for the south about three weeks later. This year the departure date was August 15. Although the main body migrated at that time, a smaller group, mainly immature birds, remained and left later. In 1957 the birds departed on August 5. They gather at dusk and roost in the willow trees near a large pond. Here they congregate on the outer edges of the branches which hang over the ponds. (We have three.)

Our yard is located on a hill overlooking a valley of two hundred acres of farm land. Near the house we have erected a large Purple Martin box; there are 16 compartments to each of the five sections of this unit, making a total of 80 nesting cavities. All the openings are placed about two and a half inches above the bottom floor, with porches or ledges beneath the openings around the outside. This may be one of the reasons why we have never found young martins on the ground, as is often the case around martin boxes. The young birds apparently take trial flights, for they fly in semicircles from and back to the box. The young leave later than the adults, as indicated above. The species arrive in spring in the early part of April.—MRS. WALTER KELLEY, Clarkson.

HORNED LARKS AT LEXINGTON

On June 12, 1957, my friend Miss Austin Lilly, who has recently become an interested bird observer, discovered Horned Larks (*Eremophila alpestris*) at the Blue Grass Airport at Lexington but was unable at first to identify them. A week later I went with her to the airport and could scarcely believe my eyes when I saw a flock of six or more, young and adult, feeding in the grass, singing, making short flights, while planes landed and took off within a few yards of them. I asked Dr. Roger W. Barbour to check my identification, but he was very busy with final errands before his departure for Indonesia within a few days. I left for Syracuse, New York, soon after this. However, several of the local Audubon group saw the birds at various times during the summer and early autumn.

Miss Lilly and I made several trips to the airport this spring but failed each time because of sudden rain storms. Our first record for 1958 was on May 11, when I saw them while I was eating dinner at the Airport Restaurant. All former records by us had been made late in the afternoon; this was at noon. On July 29 Miss Lilly drove out a short distance off the Leestown Road to see one of Lexington's industrial areas, where her brother is now located. She was surprised to find even larger numbers of the larks in that area and took me out on August 4 to observe her latest discovery. There were two flocks of at least a dozen birds each, one in a grassy area, the other in a bare spot about two blocks nearer the buildings. There were young and adult birds in both groups, busily at work on insects and low-grass seeds. I saw them again on August 10 and 24, and Miss Lilly saw them as late as September 11, still undisturbed, although work on the extension of our four-lane by-pass had invaded their territory.

It is very gratifying to me to find that these beautiful and interesting birds are residents with us now and to find them so friendly. In earlier years Dr. Allen and I often made special trips to the hills of Clark County in late February or early March, hoping to catch one glimpse of Horned Larks before they moved on north. Not more than once or twice were we successful, though I had seen them there on collecting trips with Dr. Joe Neel. Now I hope to be able to locate a nest.—MRS. W. R. ALLEN, Lexington.

* * * * *

TRAILL'S FLYCATCHER IN JACKSON COUNTY

On June 1, 1958, while on an early bird walk about a mile south-east of Welchburg, in Jackson County, Kentucky, I found a Traill's Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) singing. At the time I gave it little thought, considering it to be a late migrant. Now I believe it was likely in breeding territory. In my own observation territory here in Tennessee I found two Traill's Flycatchers singing on May 24, 1958. On June 22 the finding of three nests proved that the two males I had heard singing on May 24 were on breeding territory, as the nests were within 25 feet of the positions from which the birds were singing. The fifth edition of the A. O. U. Checklist does not mention Kentucky as being within the breeding range, although locations in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and West Virginia are not very far from the Kentucky line. The closest point listed in the checklist is Wilmington, Ohio, which is fully a hundred miles above the location mentioned above. I do not know whether you have Kentucky records of Traill's Flycatchers nesting. If you do not have breeding records and have some one in that area who would be interested in investigating after the

leaves fall or even around July 1 of next year, I would be glad to direct him to the area. The species seems to be a late nester, as the young hatched in the first nest here on July 4. I would like to determine whether our breeding does not extend the range by about 200 miles to the southward. The closest breeding area to this one, of which I know, is Morgantown, West Virginia.—DR. LEE R. HERN-DON, Editor, THE MIGRANT, 1533 Burgie Place, Elizabethton, Tennessee.

* * * * *

A SUMMER SWAINSON'S WARBLER AT MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK

On August 14, 1958, Professor Millard Gipson and I found, in the swampy area of Mammoth Cave National Park along Mill Creek, near Good Spring Church, a Swainson's Warbler (*Limnothlypis swainsonii*). We saw it several times in bright light and heard it sing more than in all my previous records of it put together. Though this was the first record of the species for the park, I have six records for the Chaney Swamp, south of Bowling Green, but only one bird on each record: May 31, 1945; July 4, 1947; May 26, 1948; May 4, 1949; June 17, 1956; and June 6, 1958. The area when we observed it in the park is ideal for a nesting site, as the sites are usually described in ornithological literature: a small, clear brook, which never goes dry; marshy banks and vegetation; small trees along the stream, with some old broomsage fields nearby. I hope to find the nest of the species at some later season and add the species to the list of the sixteen nesting warblers in the park.—GORDON WILSON, Bowling Green.

* * * * *

THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL FALL MEETING

The Kentucky Ornithological Society held its thirty-fifth annual fall meeting October 10-12, 1958, at Dawson Springs, with headquarters at the New Century Hotel. On Friday evening Dr. Hunter M. Hancock, the president, after welcoming the members and guests to the opening session, introduced Mr. Lee R. Nelson, Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, who, assisted by Mr. Carlos Kays, also of that department, discussed the efforts to stock in various areas three exotic game birds: the Ring-necked Pheasant, the Chukar Partridge, and the Coturnix Quail. His address, illustrated with slides, indicated that efforts at establishing these species in Kentucky have met with little success up to the present. Mrs. Lora Clark, Spottsville, then gave an entertaining presentation of observations of a nesting Whip-poor-will. The slides were made of a nest near her home. Following this, Dr. Harvey B. Lovell showed and commented on a film, "A Trip Around the Gaspé," which he had recently made, excellent views of bird life and other features of natural history of the coasts and islands in the Gaspé and the Bay of Fundy areas and the Audubon Camp in Maine. The film highlighted the bird life about the Bonaventure Island cliffs.

On Saturday morning the members made field trips in Pennyryle State Park, led by Mr. James Hancock, Dr. Hunter Hancock, and Dr. Harvey Lovell.

The Saturday afternoon business meeting, with seventeen members present, was presided over by Dr. Hancock. A very fine film on the Whooping Crane was shown through the courtesy of Mr. R. C.

Soaper. The minutes of the Executive Board meeting of April 12, 1928, and the minutes of the 1958 spring meeting were read and approved. Mr. F. W. Stamm gave the treasurer's report, which was accepted. The auditing committee had no report at this time. The report of the membership committee, presented by Miss Evelyn J. Schneider, showed that the society has 308 members, including 18 life members, 267 active members, and 23 corresponding members. Forty new members were added during 1958. There are 20 libraries that subscribe for the KENTUCKY WARBLER. The society has lost four members by death. Mr. Leonard C. Brecher, chairman of the endowment committee, reported no new life members during the past year.

The report of the committee on conservation and legislation was given by Mrs. Burt L. Monroe, Sr., chairman. He reported that there was a possibility that the model hawk law might be passed at the next meeting of our state legislature. The committee did not report concerning Murphy's Pond. A motion by Mr. Brecher, seconded by Mr. W. P. Rhoads, suggested that the society go on record as favoring the National Wildlife Preservation Act and suggested that Murphy's Pond be included under the provisions of that act. The second choice of the society would be the Chaney and McElroy Farms, near Bowling Green. The motion passed. The chairman of the committee on conservation and legislation was directed to alert the K. O. S. members at the right time so that they might individually contact their legislators or Congressmen expressing interest in the act and in Murphy's Pond. At this time Dr. Lovell distributed material from the Nature Conservancy for the information of the members.

The committee appointed to study and activate the Gordon Wilson Scholarship Fund recommended that the objectives of the fund be broadened and that it should be known as the Gordon Wilson Fund for Ornithology. The committee made the following recommendations:

That the fund be established immediately and the income be used for the following purposes:

1. To assist in the improvement and expansion of the KENTUCKY WARBLER.
 - a. By printing of photographs and other illustrations of ornithological interest in the journal.
 - b. By printing of tables, graphs, maps, and other illustrative materials requiring special treatment.
 - c. By assisting in the cost of publication of long papers, such as monographs and occasional papers now beyond the scope of the finances of the society.
2. To assist in financing of research projects related to the ornithology of Kentucky and adjacent states.
3. To award fellowships and scholarships for the study of ornithology in schools and colleges and research stations.

Dr. Lovell and Mr. F. W. Stamm, co-chairmen of this committee, explained that Dr. Wilson's chief interest during the last thirty-five years had been and still is the KENTUCKY WARBLER. The revised recommendations as presented will broaden the fund and make it pos-

sible to use income from the fund almost immediately. The committee felt that this is a tangible way for the members of the society to express their appreciation to Dr. Wilson for his thirty-five years of loyal and devoted service to the Kentucky Ornithological Society. Dr. Lovell then moved that the recommendations be accepted as read, Anne Stamm seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. Dr. Wilson, who had not known the story of this fund previously, spoke briefly in appreciation of the society's action. Donations to the Gordon Wilson Fund for Ornithology should be sent to either Mr. F. W. Stamm or Dr. Harvey B. Lovell.

The nominating committee report, given by Mrs. F. W. Stamm, chairman, presented the following names for election:

President.....Dr. Hunter M. Hancock, Murray

Vice-President.....Mr. W. P. Rhoads, Henderson

Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer.....
Mr. F. W. Stamm, Louisville

Recording Secretary.....Mrs. Margaret W. Ringo, Frankfort

Councillors:

Mr. John A. Cheek, Pikeville, 1958-60

Dr. Russell Starr, Glasgow, 1958-60.

The slate was elected unanimously.

Dr. Gordon Wilson read a letter from Mr. Brasher C. Bacon, one of the three founders of the society, informing the society that his oological specimens were to be placed at the Kentucky Building, Western State College, Bowling Green. Dr. Wilson commented on this fine gesture by Mr. Bacon and the worth of the collection. Mrs. F. W. Stamm offered a motion for the preparation of a resolution stating the appreciation of the society for the collection. The motion carried.

The annual dinner was held on Saturday night in the dining room of the New Century Hotel. Dr. Hancock announced the 1958 fall meeting will be held at Mammoth Cave National Park and the spring meeting at Bowling Green. Guests were recognized by their home towns. Dr. Hancock then introduced Dr. Loren S. Putnam, Ohio State University, Director of Stone Laboratory at Put-in Bay, Ohio. Dr. Putnam spoke on "Subjects of Interest in the Field of Ornithology," illustrating his presentation with slides made at Stone Laboratory and various islands in Lake Erie, especially stressing his own study of the Cedar Waxwing.

The meeting was concluded on Sunday morning, October 12, with a field trip to the State 4-H Club Camp near Dawson Springs. A total of 59 species of birds was compiled in the Dawson Springs area. The scenic parks, with their brilliant colors of woodland, the sunny days, and the excellent programs made the whole meeting memorable.
—HOWARD JONES, Recording Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance in Bank on October 12, 1957.....\$ 221.53

RECEIPTS

Membership Dues	\$ 583.00
Dividend on Jefferson Federal Savings and Loan Full-Paid Shares	26.25
Sales of KENTUCKY WARBLER	37.60
Sales of check lists, bibliographies	17.25
Sales of sleeve patch	38.75
Profit on sales of books	17.62
Net income from fall meeting, Cumberland Falls	24.70
Receipts — dinner meeting, Bowling Green	78.75
Donations	3.50
	<hr/>
Total Receipts	\$ 827.42
	<hr/>
Total of Balance on Hand and Receipts	\$1,048.95

DISBURSEMENTS

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER, printing costs	\$ 522.70
Treasurer's Expenses: postage, stationery, envelopes	60.72
Programs, printing, for meetings	11.43
Nature Conservancy dues	2.00
State of Kentucky, corporation filing fee	2.00
Dinner meeting, Bowling Green	84.80
Miscellaneous expenses	2.60
Midwest Badge Company for sleeve patch	103.36
	<hr/>
Total disbursements	\$ 789.61
	<hr/>
Balance on hand in Lincoln Bank and Trust Company, Louisville, October 1, 1958.....	\$ 259.34

ENDOWMENT FUND

Balance in Savings Account as shown by report of
October 10, 1957

	\$ 385.08
--	-----------

RECEIPTS

Dividends on Savings, 1958	\$ 14.12
Balance in Savings Account, Jefferson Federal Savings and Loan Association, Louisville, Kentucky, October 1, 1958	399.20
Securities Owned:	
Full-paid shares (7) in Jefferson Federal Savings and Loan Association, Louisville, Ky., October 1, 1958	700.00
Total	\$1,099.20

BALANCE SHEET AS OF OCTOBER 1, 1958

Assets:

Cash in bank	\$ 259.34
Full-paid shares and savings account	1,099.20
Total Assets	\$1,358.54
Net worth of the society	\$1,358.54

—FREDERICK W. STAMM, Treasurer.

* * * * *

MEMBERS AND GUESTS ATTENDING THE MEETING

- Anchorage: Mr. and Mrs. Burt L. Monroe, Sr.
Bowling Green: Dr. and Mrs. Robert N. Pace, Dr. Gordon Wilson.
Corydon: Miss Mara Lea Arnett, Malcolm Arnett.
Henderson: Mr. Matt Brown, Miss Mary Helen Carroll, Miss Lillian Hoffman, Charles M. Meade, Mr. and Mrs. Ross Parsons, John Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Rhoads, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Rhoads, Mary Sinclair, Virginia Smith, Edna Vogel.
Louisville: Mr. and Mrs. Leonard C. Brecher, Helen Browning, Floyd Carpenter, Mrs. Charles Hardwick, Harvey B. Lovell, Dorothy Piel, Evelyn Schneider, Mrs. C. E. Schindler, Mabel Slack, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Stamm, Elsie P. Stewart, Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Wetherell.
Madisonville: Mr. and Mrs. James W. Hancock, Brenda Hancock.
Murray: Dr. and Mrs. Hunter M. Hancock, Gerhard McGow, Clell Peterson.
Owensboro: Mrs. Carl Beasley.
Princeton: Dr. Cynthia Counce.
Reed: Mrs. Nat Stanley, Sr.
Spottsville: Mrs. Lora Clark, Stevie Clark.
Stamping Ground: Mr. and Mrs. Howard P. Jones.
Valley Station: Mr. and Mrs. Donald Summerfield.
Columbus, Ohio: Dr. Loren S. Putnam.
Nashville, Tennessee: Albert Ganier.
White Pigeon, Michigan: Oscar McKinley Bryens.

(News and Views Continued from Page 51)

OUR MISS KLUTEY MARRIES

Miss Amelia Klutey, of Audubon Museum, Henderson, and also our vice-president, was married on August 9, 1958, to Mr. William Krieger. They are making their home at 28 Lindley Avenue, Tenafly, New Jersey. We are sorry to lose such a good Kentucky ornithologist, but New Jersey is benefited by our loss. Congratulations, Mrs. Krieger! Don't forget to come back often to Henderson and to visit the K. O. S.

* * * * *

CAMPUS BIRD COUNT

Bird students at Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, New York, initiated this year a Campus Bird Count. They asked as many colleges as possible to participate. Eleven colleges and six sanctuaries sent in reports. Sarah Lawrence, with its twenty-eight acres of campus, did quite well by the side of many larger areas, up to the 600 acres of the University of Redlands. Kenneth Cooper, of Sarah Lawrence, the chairman of the movement, will be glad to send materials and suggestions to any Kentucky college that would like to participate in the 1959 count. More and more in bird study smaller areas are being worked thoroughly and consistently. This is a movement that should interest many of our members.

* * * * *

OUR 1958 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

This issue should be in your hands early enough for you to plan a Christmas Bird Count for 1958, even though you have never made one before. Stay out as many hours as you can on a single day, beginning, this year, on December 20 and running through January 1, 1959. Cover as many types of territory as possible, counting species and individuals. Confine your observations to an area fifteen miles in diameter and enlist as many parties as you can muster. Please send the results of your day in the fields to the editor for our February, 1959, issue, remembering that he should have it by January 15. And, as always, good birding!

* * * * *

ALEXANDER WILSON IN KENTUCKY

THE REGISTER, organ of the Kentucky Historical Society, contained in the July, 1958, a second article by our editor on the visit of Alexander Wilson to Kentucky in 1810. The previous article appeared in the October, 1957, issue, under the title "An Ornithologist Visits Kentucky." The first article gave in detail Wilson's trip down the Ohio River from Pittsburgh to Louisville, his walking trip to Frankfort and Lexington, and his long horseback ride to New Orleans, the whole experience lasting from late January (when he left Philadelphia, his home) until the following August. The second article, by the special request of Mr. Charles Hinds, the editor of THE REGISTER, gave abundant quotations from Wilson's diaries, his bird essays, and his numerous letters about his western trip. Of most interest to ornithologists, it would seem, are his references to Audubon, the great hordes of Passenger Pigeons, the Barrens where he made his rather bizarre sketch of the Prairie Chicken. These articles grew out of a brief account in the editor's doctor's thesis. — ALEXANDER WILSON: POET-ESSAYIST-ORNITHOLOGIST.

SOME CHALLENGING QUESTIONS

The editors of this magazine are always in need of good articles and notes for publication. And we need variety, too. As a suggestion, here are some questions that need to be answered. Start some investigations and gradually build up a good long article on any one of them. Meanwhile, if you have some short notes that might point the way, send them in, and they will be issued as bearing on some of the puzzling questions that we old-time bird students have been asking.

1. What is happening to the Baltimore Oriole? In some sections of the state it is rarely seen except in migration. Why not take this question and write to a dozen different observers, in various parts of Kentucky?
2. What effect did the hard winter of 1957-58 have on such species as Carolina Wren, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Myrtle Warbler?
3. Why is the Hairy Woodpecker so much less numerous than the Downy? Do you detect any change in numbers of the Hairy in the last ten years?
4. Just what seems to determine the type of habitat of the Chuck-will's-widow as compared with that of the Whip-poor-will?
5. Can you detect any noticeable change in numbers in your area of such species as wintering Common Grackles, Starlings, Redwinged Blackbirds?
6. What new nesting species have you added in your area in the last ten years?
7. What is the status of the Red-headed Woodpecker in your area of observation? Is it growing any more or less numerous? In some parts of the state it is among the very rare species. Could the Starling's appropriation of nesting holes have anything to do with the drop in numbers of Red-heads?
8. In spite of the large population of Chimney Swifts and Nighthawks over Bowling Green and neighboring towns and cities, both species are noticeably scarce at Mammoth Cave National Park except for some late-summer migration flights of Nighthawks. Some one interested in these species could render a service to ornithology by trying to determine what makes this difference, especially as both species are often seen over wooded areas outside the park.
9. The Warbling Vireo, long among the missing species in Mammoth Cave National Park, is associated in this same region of the state with farm houses and yards. Is it the type of tree so commonly found in yards, or neighboring gardens and barnyards that make a nesting site in a yard so advantageous?
10. Maurice Brooks has done a remarkable study of the Bachman's Sparrow. What is its status in your area now? What effect has the "green-pasture" program had on its numbers? In some farm areas it is becoming one of the very rare birds, especially where gullies have been bulldozed away and the fields planted in fescue and other hardy pasture grasses.

These questions could be extended to twenty or more that are interesting to bird observers. If some other one suggest itself to you, pursue your investigations and be sure to give the KENTUCKY WARBLER a report of your findings. Bird life in our state, though not changing rapidly, is certainly not static and should be watched at all times.