

2-1959

## Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 35, no. 1)

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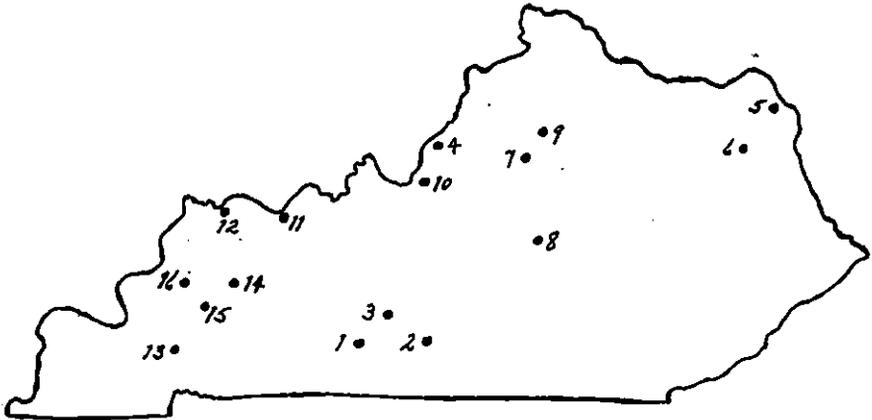
# The Kentucky Warbler

(Published by the Kentucky Ornithological Society)

Vol. XXXV

FEBRUARY, 1959

No. 1



MAP SHOWING WHERE 1958-1959 MID-WINTER  
BIRD COUNTS WERE MADE

Key to map: 1. Bowling Green, 2. Glasgow, 3. Mammoth Cave National Park, 4. Louisville, 5. Ashland, 6. Willard, 7. Frankfort, 8. Danville, 9. Kleber Song Bird Sanctuary, 10. Otter Creek Park, 11. Owensboro, 12. Henderson, 13. Woodlands National Wildlife Refuge, 14. Madisonville, 15. Pennyryle State Park, 16. Marion.

—Map by Anne L. Stamm.

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## NEWS AND VIEWS

### NEW REGIONAL FIELD NOTES EDITOR

Professor Russell E. Mumford of the department of forestry and conservation at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, has been appointed as regional editor of AUDUBON FIELD NOTES, to succeed Val Nolan, Jr. Several of our members send reports on migration, nesting, and the seasons to this magazine and will remember the new editor and his address. Here is a good place to remind all of us to keep more and more accurate notes, to send them to the WARBLER, to send them to AUDUBON FIELD NOTES personally or through Mrs. F. W. Stamm, who has so long been active in this work.

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### ANOTHER BIRD PAINTING FOR OUR SOCIETY

Again Mr. Howard Rollin has presented a bird painting to the K. O. S. Among the fifteen given us to date by this fine bird artist, this is the first of water birds, a pair of Buffleheads gaily swimming on rippled blue and green waters. Another pair in the air, somewhat

(Continued on Page 15)

## MID-WINTER BIRD COUNT, 1958-1959

KENTUCKY WOODLANDS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE (Same area as in previous years).—Dec. 28; 5:30 A. M. to 4:30 P. M. Foggy and misty in morning, clearing in afternoon; temp. 28-49; wind S to SW, 0-5 m. p. h. Seven observers in two parties. Total party-hours, 15 (12 on foot, 3 by car); total party-miles, 42 (10 on foot, 32 by car). Total, 49 species, about 5104 individuals. Seen in area in count period: Pintail, Wood Duck, Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, American Coot.—CHRISTINE HANCOCK, HUNTER HANCOCK (Compiler), DENNIS HOLLAND, GERHARDT MEGOW, KATHERINE MITCHELL, CLELL T. PATTERSON, LOREN PUTNAM.

### NOTES ON WOODLANDS COUNT

The official waterfowl census, taken for the week of December 21-27, compiled by the refuge personnel, was as follows: Canada Goose, 21,000; Blue Goose, 8; Mallard, 20,000; Black Duck, 5,500; Pintail, 50; American Widgeon, 1,200; Wood Duck, 35; Ring-necked Duck, 70; Lesser Scaup, 1; American Coot, 21.

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MARION (Same area as in previous years).—Dec. 25; 7:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Temp. 30-50; wind, 5 m. p. h.; clear. During Christmas Week I recorded two Bald Eagles and a good-sized flock of Cedar Waxwings. Total, 52 species, 7899 individuals.—CHASTAIN L. FRAZER.

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MADISONVILLE (W. W. Hancock farm, Brown and Frostburg roads, and five lakes at Madisonville; open fields 15%, deciduous woodland and thickets 60%, lake shore 25%).—Dec. 31; 7:00 A. M. to 4:30 P. M. Heavy overcast; wind SE, 8-12 m. p. h.; temp. 35-47. Total hours, 9½; total miles, 36 (30 by car, 6 on foot). Total, 46 species, 1165 individuals. Other species recorded near the time of the count: Black Duck, Killdeer, Barred Owl, Bewick's Wren, Cedar Waxwing, and Common Grackle. The Brown Thrasher, seen at the Spring Mill Wildlife Refuge, was engaged in singing a "whisper song," with the bill closed. A very similar performance was observed in the same general area on February 5, 1941. A Brown Thrasher has been observed on several occasions in December, 1958, at my home, but it was not located on the day of the count.—JAMES W. HANCOCK.

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PENNYRILE FOREST STATE PARK (Deciduous and pine woods and fields within the park area, Pennyrile Lake, and adjoining farmlands: wooded area 40%, open fields in the park 30%, farmlands 20%). Jan. 7, 1959; 6:45 A. M. to 4:15 P. M. Temp. 32-41; cloudy; frequent drizzles in afternoon; wind SW, 8-12 m. p. h. Total hours, 9½; total miles, 25 (10 on foot, 15 by car). Total, 33 species, 344 individuals. Weather conditions were unfavorable, and birds were generally difficult to find. Lake frozen; water birds absent.—JAMES W. HANCOCK.

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HENDERSON (7½-mile radius, with Audubon Museum as center).—Dec. 29; 7:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Heavy fog all day; poor visibility, but good close-ups of the birds we did find. Temp. 30-40. We were within ten feet of the Ruby-crowned Kinglet and the Winter

Wren. Our recent loss of the faithful R. C. Soaper made our waterfowl count low. Our local county farm agent was unable to join us because of some business engagements. Eight observers in three parties. Total, 59 species, about 4258 individuals.—STANLEY ADDY, KING BENSON, MRS. LAURA CLARK, MRS. ROSS PARSONS, W. P. RHOADS (Compiler), VIRGINIA SMITH, MRS. GEORGE STANLEY, JR., and MRS. NAT STANLEY, SR.

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OWENSBORO (Pine forest, deciduous woods, creek bottoms, fields, roadside ditches, farmland, and Ohio River bottoms—all in the vicinity of Yelvington, Sorgho, and Owensboro, Daviess County).—Dec. 26. Temp. in low 30's; clear. Total hours, 10; total miles, 72 (66 by car, 6 on foot). Total, 44 species, 1759 individuals.—JOE FORD, MILDRED, WILTON, and A. L. POWELL (Compiler).

#### NOTES ON OWENSBORO COUNT

Essentially the same area was covered as in previous years except Carpenter's Lake and Pup Creek, which we covered on December 27, with a total of 30 species and 1337 individuals. The species found on this second day appear as stars in the table. A small side trip to the Ohio River on December 27 brought about 1000 Mallards, far out on the river.

Waterfowl: We were very much disappointed at not finding more waterfowl. Every place we visited along the river was infested with hunters.

Robins: The Robins, so abundant last year, were down to one lone bird on our first day and up to only two on the second. We usually find them feeding in flocks on the dogwoods; not a dogwood berry was in sight.

Sparrows: Similarly, we failed to find the numbers of Fox and Tree Sparrows that were present, two weeks before the count, along some country roads.

Miscellaneous: We are disturbed about the scarcity of Myrtle Warblers, Loggerhead Shrikes, Winter Wrens, Phoebes, and White-breasted Nuthatches. We might add the Screech Owl and Brown Creeper to this list. Where does the Belted Kingfisher feed when his usual grounds, like Carpenter's Lake, are frozen over?

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BOWLING GREEN (Same area, approximately, as the one covered for forty-one years).—Dec. 26: 6:15 A. M. to 4:30 P. M. Clear; cold; temp. 18-40. Ponds and still places of running streams frozen over, ground bare. Four observers in three parties. Total, 56 species, about 205,157 individuals.—L. Y. LANCASTER, ROBERT N. PACE, CHARLES L. TAYLOR, and GORDON WILSON (Compiler).

#### NOTES ON BOWLING GREEN COUNT

Ducks: The Lesser Scaup and the Common Merganser were found on Grider's Limestone Lake, at the edge of Bowling Green; the Hooded Merganser was found on Drake's Creek; there was no water in the Chaney Swamp, where in 1957 ducks appeared in unusual numbers. The Common Merganser appears for the first time on an actual count, but it was found in Christmas week in 1942.

Mourning Dove: The lowest count since 1950, though 100 were recorded in the same area on January 2, 1959.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: The highest ever recorded in the forty-one years of counts at Bowling Green, 39.

Carolina Wren: Quite obviously below most years; apparently the severe winter of 1957-58 destroyed many of this species, both here and at Mammoth Cave National Park.

Mockingbird: Highest since 1939, 35 individuals.

Starling: Just at sunset we found a roost of more than 200,000 Starlings. This figure is far below any previous Starling record here. Several days after the count it was discovered that a roost of black-birds, with probably a half million birds, was located only a mile or so from where we had found the Starlings.

Cardinal: This species is very numerous this winter inside the city. This year's count—191—was the highest since 1939.

Swamp Sparrow: The 74 individuals were more than double any previous record.

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MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK.—Dec. 21; 6:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. The entire park area, except some outlying sections such as the Big Woods and Brooks Knob, was covered. Clear, cold, temp. 12-30; wind, 0-7 m. p. h.; ponds frozen over; very heavy frost. Twenty observers in five parties. Total, 48 species, 2525 individuals.—WILLARD DILLEY, MILLARD GIPSON, MRS. JAMES GILLENWATER, HUNTER HANCOCK, CLEO HOGAN, CLEO HOGAN, JR., JIM HAYNES, ALICE FURBER, L. Y. LANCASTER, CHARLES L. TAYLOR, ROBERT N. PACE, HOMER PARRENT, GRANVILLE LILES, JIM LILES, RUSSELL STARR, MRS. RUSSELL STARR, GEORGE MCKINLEY, RAY NELSON, JAY YOUNG, and GORDON WILSON (Compiler).

#### NOTES ON MAMMOTH CAVE COUNT

Wild Turkey: Jim Haynes, in Group IV, found two Wild Turkeys; Clayton Davis, of the Maintenance Department of the park, saw five male Wild Turkeys in Region V that day. This species is new for our Christmas Counts at the park.

Sixteen species were recorded in greater numbers than on any of the preceding thirteen counts: Yellow-shafted Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Blue Jay, Common Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Hermit Thrush, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Purple Finch, and American Goldfinch. Nine other species appeared in the second highest numbers, notably the Slate-colored Junco, with more individuals than at any time since 1938, when large areas in the park were still in cultivation. Though there were no great numbers of Robins, as in 1957, when we visited some roosts, the 1958 count ranked second for the park counts. It is quite evident that woodpeckers are increasing each year, as we have covered the same extensive areas for three successive counts, with steadily increasing numbers. As a secondary project, the counting parties recorded Virginia deer, with a total of 79 for the day, an all-time high.

GLASGOW (Mostly farmland, consisting of cultivated fields, grown-up pastures, open pastures, along small streams, and open woodland).—Dec. 28; 6:30 A. M. to 4:30 P. M. Sky overcast all day, with intermittent drizzle; temp. 40. Three observers in morning, two in afternoon. Total, 34 species, 550 individuals. Grasshopper Sparrow carefully identified.—JIM HAYNES, ALICE FURBER, MARQUITA GILLENWATER.

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OTTER CREEK PARK (Meade County; same territory as in previous years; deciduous woods 35%, brushy fields 42%, creek and river banks 10%, open fields 13%).—Dec. 28; 7:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Clear; ground bare; ponds frozen over; Otter Creek frozen over in still places; temp. 30-56. Seven observers in three parties. Total party-hours, 21<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> (16 on foot, 5 by car); total party-miles, 49 (12 on foot, 37 by car). Total, 42 species, 1862 individuals.—JOSEPH CROFT, FLOYD S. CARPENTER, JOHN LOVELL, HARVEY B. LOVELL, EVELYN J. SCHNEIDER, ANNE L. STAMM (Compiler), FREDERICK W. STAMM.

#### NOTE ON OTTER CREEK COUNT

Comparing the 1958 figures with those of 1957, we find that there was a noticeable decrease in the numbers of woodpeckers, particularly the Yellow-shafted Flicker, the Red-bellied Woodpecker, and the Downy Woodpecker; an increase in the Common Crow and Starling populations; a decrease in Carolina Wren, Robin, Bluebird, Cedar Waxwing, Myrtle Warbler, Purple Finch, Rufous-sided Towhee, and Slate-colored Junco.

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LOUISVILLE (Same area and coverage as last year).—Dec. 21; 5:30 A. M. to 5:30 P. M. Partly cloudy; temp. 22 to 35; wind light and variable; Ohio River and flowing streams open. Twenty-eight observers in eight parties. Total party-hours, 55 (38 on foot, 17 by car); total party-miles, 249 (24 on foot, 225 by car). Total, 94 species (1 additional race), about 3,006,433 individuals.—MR. AND MRS. YANCEY ALTSHELTER, LEONARD C. BRECHER, FLOYD S. CARPENTER, MRS. W. R. COLE, JOSEPH E. CROFT, JOAN ESCHRICH, MARY ANN ESCHRICH, FRANK X. KRULL, HARVEY B. LOVELL, JOHN LOVELL, MRS. SPENCER MARTIN, BURT L. MONROE, SR. (Compiler), BURT L. MONROE, JR., MRS. H. V. NOLAND, LOUIS H. PIEPER, MARIE E. PIEPER, EVELYN J. SCHNEIDER, MR. AND MRS. FRANCIS P. SHANNON, MABEL SLACK, RODERIC W. SOMMERS, ANNE L. STAMM, FREDERICK W. STAMM, MRS. W. B. TABLER, MRS. E. V. THOMPSON, VIRGINIA WINSTANDLEY, AUDREY WRIGHT (Beckham Bird Club).

#### NOTES ON LOUISVILLE COUNT

Western Grebe: Discovered two weeks prior to count by Roderic Sommers; well observed on count by Monroes.

Greater Scaup: Noted at close range on water and in flight, with Lesser Scaup; 13 seen on December 18 (Monroes).

Horned Lark: Three Northern Horned Larks noted at close range, well-marked birds; we have specimens for previous years (Stamms).

Catbird: Wintering in Cherokee Park (Slack and Sommers).

Bluebird: Rare this winter, widely scattered.

Blackbird roost: Down from 5,500,000 to 3,000,000 this year; Brown-headed Cowbirds and Common Grackles are about the same as last year, Starlings down about a million, Rusty Blackbirds up 30,000, but the most notable change is the loss of Red-winged Blackbirds from 1,500,000 to 60,000.

Western Meadowlark: Now a regular but rare winter resident; specimens collected several times in previous years (Monroes).

Brewer's Blackbird: One female at the blackbird roost (Stamm); one male with Rusty Blackbirds (Monroes).

Indigo Bunting: Group of three wintering in sorghum field; only one found on count day; specimen taken on December 14, 1946, at same spot, our only previous winter record (Monroes).

Rufous-sided Towhee: Notably scarce this winter.

Chipping Sparrow: Seen on the day before the count (Croft).

Lapland Longspur: Good numbers this winter, about 10% of Horned Lark flocks (Monroes).

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FRANKFORT.—Dec. 27; 8:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. Sky generally overcast; temp. 32-50; slight wind. Two observers together. Miles, 31 (21 by car, 10 on foot). Our waterfowl count was again made at the lakes on the State Experimental Game Farm, on U. S. 60, west of Frankfort; other species were found in Franklin County east of Frankfort in the Forks of Elkhorn-Switzer area. Territory covered included mixed cedar and deciduous woods 25%, pastures and cultivated fields 20%, brushy hillsides and weedy fencerows, 30%, Elkhorn Creek bottom and creek banks 25%. Total, 54 species, 2381 individuals, with three flocks of ducks (estimated at 600 or more) flying in a southeasterly direction at such a height and distance they could not be identified. The Green-winged Teal, a male, is the first of this species we have seen in Franklin County.—JEAN and HOWARD JONES.

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DANVILLE (Largely the same area as in former years).—Dec. 27; 6:15 A. M. to 4:30 P. M. Mostly cloudy; temp. 30-47. Eight observers. The Blue Geese were in a farm pond with tame geese. Total, 57 species, 5184 individuals.—MRS. E. POWELL CHEEK, JOHN CHEEK, E. W. COOK, JACKSON DAVIS, SCOTT GLOBE, JR., EDNA DRILL HECK, EDDIE HECK, F. H. HECK (Compiler).

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KLEBER SONGBIRD SANCTUARY and Vicinity, Owen County.—Dec. 26; 7:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Clear; temp. 15 to 30; creeks frozen; wind 1-3 m. p. h. Total party-hours, 13. Fields 15%, brushy pastures 75%, woods 15%. Total miles, 43 (8 on foot, 35 by car). Total, 40 species, 1634 individuals.—JOSEPH CROFT, HARVEY B. LOVELL (Compiler), JOSEPH MULLENEX, ANNE L. STAMM, FREDERICK W. STAMM.

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WILLARD (Creek bottom, farmlands, woodlands).—Dec. 26; 9:00 A. M. to 3:00 P. M. Clear; temp. 20-38. Eight miles on foot. Other

| MID-WINTER<br>BIRD COUNT<br>1958-1959 | Woodlands | Marion | Madisonville | Pennyrile S. P. | Henderson | Owensboro | Bowling Green | Mam. Cave N.P. | Glasgow | Otter Creek | Louisville | Frankfort | Danville | Kleber Sanct. | Willard | Ashland |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|--------|--------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|----------------|---------|-------------|------------|-----------|----------|---------------|---------|---------|
| Com. Loon.....                        |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 1          |           |          |               |         |         |
| Horned Grebe.....                     |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 7          |           |          |               |         |         |
| Western Grebe.....                    |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 1          |           |          |               |         |         |
| P-b. Grebe.....                       |           |        | 2            |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 1          |           | 2        |               |         |         |
| D-c. Cormorant.....                   |           |        | 2            |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 1          |           |          |               |         |         |
| G. B. Heron.....                      | 2         |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             |            |           | 1        |               |         |         |
| B-c. N. Heron.....                    |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 12         |           |          |               |         |         |
| Can. Goose.....                       | 5000      | 80     |              |                 | 87        |           |               |                |         |             |            | 8         | 15       | 22            |         |         |
| Blue Goose.....                       | 3         |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             |            | 3         | 3        |               |         |         |
| Mallard.....                          | 1000      | 5000   | 143          |                 | 170       | 250       |               |                |         |             | 124        | 162       | 1230     |               |         |         |
| Black Duck.....                       | 100       | 1000   | *            |                 | 10        | 15        |               | 2              |         |             | 288        | 80        | 120      |               |         | 1       |
| Gadwall.....                          |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 7          | 6         | 1        |               |         |         |
| Am. Widgeon.....                      | 1         |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 8          | 14        | 20       |               |         |         |
| Pintail.....                          | *         |        | 2            |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 4          |           | 1        |               |         |         |
| G-w. Teal.....                        |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             |            | 1         | 5        |               |         |         |
| Wood Duck.....                        | *         | 9      |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             |            |           |          |               |         |         |
| Redhead.....                          |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 4          |           |          |               |         |         |
| R-n. Duck.....                        | *         | 3      | 7            |                 |           |           | *             |                |         |             | 75         |           |          |               |         |         |
| Canvasback.....                       |           |        | 109          |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 222        | 3         | 12       |               |         |         |
| Gr. Scaup.....                        |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 6          |           |          |               |         |         |
| Les. Scaup.....                       | *         | 36     |              |                 |           |           | 6             |                |         |             | 418        | 4         | 2        |               |         |         |
| Com. Goldeneye.....                   |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 25         |           | 1        |               |         |         |
| Bufflehead.....                       |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 2          |           |          |               |         |         |
| Oldsquaw.....                         |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 1          |           |          |               |         |         |
| Ruddy Duck.....                       |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 4          |           | 3        |               |         |         |
| H. Merganser.....                     |           | 4      |              |                 |           |           | 5             |                |         |             | 6          |           | 6        |               |         |         |
| Com. Merganser.....                   | 8         |        |              |                 |           |           | 1             |                |         |             | 1          |           |          |               |         |         |
| Tur. Vulture.....                     |           | 11     |              |                 | 3         |           | 3             | 2              |         |             | *          |           | 3        |               |         |         |
| Bl. Vulture.....                      | 2         |        |              |                 |           |           | 3             | 3              |         |             | 53         | 5         |          |               |         |         |
| Sh-sh. Hawk.....                      |           | 2      |              | 1               |           |           | *             |                |         | 1           | 2          |           |          |               |         |         |
| C. Hawk.....                          |           |        |              |                 | 4         | 2         | 1             | 1              |         |             | 4          |           |          |               | 1       |         |
| R-t. Hawk.....                        |           |        |              |                 |           | 8         | 2             | 1              | 1       | 2           | 7          | 1         | 5        | 8             |         | 2       |
| R-sh. Hawk.....                       |           | 5      | 1            |                 | 2         | *         | 5             | 2              |         | 1           | 11         |           |          | 1             |         |         |
| R-l. Hawk.....                        |           |        |              |                 | 1         |           | 1             |                |         |             |            |           |          |               |         |         |
| Bald Eagle.....                       | 4         | *      |              |                 | 1         |           |               |                |         |             |            |           |          |               |         |         |
| Marsh Hawk.....                       |           | 7      | 2            |                 | 1         | 3         |               |                |         |             | 10         | 1         |          | 1             |         |         |
| Osprey.....                           |           | 1      |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             |            |           |          |               |         |         |
| Per. Falcon.....                      |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 1          |           |          |               |         |         |
| Sp. Hawk.....                         | 3         | 4      | 5            |                 | 10        | 18        | 5             |                |         | 3           | 45         | 2         | 10       |               |         | 1       |
| Bobwhite.....                         |           | 52     | 6            | 10              | 19        | 9         | 22            | 24             |         | 13          | 14         | 18        | 2        | 1             | *       | 12      |
| Wild Turkey.....                      | 1         |        |              |                 |           |           |               | 7              |         |             |            |           |          |               |         |         |
| Am. Coot.....                         | *         | 21     | 55           |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 2          | 2         | 4        |               |         |         |
| Killdeer.....                         | 3         | 7      | e            |                 | 12        |           |               |                | 1       |             | 10         | 2         | 11       | 8             |         |         |
| Com. Snipe.....                       |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               | 1              |         |             | 2          |           |          |               |         |         |
| Glaucous Gull.....                    |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | *          |           |          |               |         |         |
| Her. Gull.....                        |           | 41     |              |                 |           | 1         |               |                |         |             | 115        |           |          |               |         |         |
| Ring-b. Gull.....                     |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 104        |           |          |               |         |         |
| M. Dove.....                          | 3         | 17     | 104          | 2               | 66        | 300       | 22            |                | 4       | 17          | 50         | 55        | 6        |               | 12      | 1       |
| Screech Owl.....                      |           | 2      |              |                 |           |           |               | 1              |         |             | 2          | 1         | 1        | 1             |         |         |
| Horned Owl.....                       |           |        |              |                 | 5         |           |               |                |         | 1           |            |           |          |               |         |         |
| Barred Owl.....                       | 2         | 5      | *            |                 | 1         | 4         |               |                |         |             | 3          |           |          |               |         | 1       |
| B. Kingfisher.....                    | 1         | 2      |              |                 |           | 1         |               |                |         |             | 2          | 1         | 3        | 2             |         |         |
| Y-s. Flicker.....                     | 25        | 5      | 13           | 6               | 30        | 21        | 16            | 48             | 10      | 4           | 38         | 11        | 1        | 10            | 1       | 1       |
| Pil. W'dpecker.....                   | 8         | 3      | 1            | 4               | 1         | 1         | 9             | 47             | 4       | 6           | 2          |           |          |               |         | 8       |
| R-b. W'dpecker.....                   | 28        | 3      | 14           | 1               | 18        | 30        | 39            | 60             | 2       | 14          | 33         | 13        | 5        | 14            |         | 5       |
| R-h. W'dpecker.....                   | 3         |        | 9            |                 | 5         | 3         | 1             |                |         |             |            |           |          |               |         | 5       |
| Y-b. Sapsucker.....                   | 1         | 1      | 1            | 2               | 10        | 6         | 8             | 2              | 4       | 7           | 1          | 1         | 2        | 2             |         | 2       |
| H. W'dpecker.....                     | 5         | 4      | 2            | 1               | 8         | 2         | 2             | 8              | 2       | 3           | 16         | 5         | 3        | 3             | 2       | 6       |
| D. W'dpecker.....                     | 16        | 11     | 9            | 6               | 21        | 20        | 14            | 42             | 12      | 13          | 56         | 29        | 25       | 11            | 6       | 20      |

**MID-WINTER  
BIRD COUNT  
1958-1959**

|                      | Woodlands | Marion | Madisonville | Pennyrite S. P. | Henderson | Owensboro | Bowling Green | Mam. Cave N.P. | Glasgow | Otter Creek | Louisville | Frankfort | Darville | Kleber Sanct. | Willard | Ashland |
|----------------------|-----------|--------|--------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|----------------|---------|-------------|------------|-----------|----------|---------------|---------|---------|
| E. Phoebe.....       |           |        |              |                 |           |           | 1             | 1              |         |             | 1          |           |          |               | 1       | 1       |
| Hor. Lark.....       | 20        | 50     | 5            |                 | 83        | 85        | 154           | 1              |         | 15          | 100        | 23        | 27       | 2             |         | 20      |
| Blue Jay.....        | 50        | 18     | 53           | 11              | 57        | 60        | 59            | 161            | 10      | 88          | 95         | 11        | 17       | 17            |         | 13      |
| Com. Crow.....       | 24        | 64     | 5            |                 | 124       | 80        | 452           | 157            | 30      | 82          | 201        | 888       | 1410     | 40            | 4       | 115     |
| B-c. Chickadee.....  |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             |            |           |          |               |         | 2       |
| Car. Chickadee.....  | 16        | 25     | 12           | 12              | 76        | 55        | 36            | 163            | 21      | 58          | 123        | 69        | 125      | 46            | 14      | 142     |
| Tuft. Titmouse.....  | 43        | 37     | 12           | 6               | 37        | 70        | 40            | 95             | 22      | 88          | 140        | 18        | 34       | 28            | 23      | 74      |
| W-b. Nuthatch.....   | 14        | 2      | 3            | 2               | 8         |           | 2             | 22             |         | 7           | 10         |           |          |               | 4       | 13      |
| R-b. Nuthatch.....   |           |        |              |                 | 2         | 2         |               |                |         |             | 3          |           |          |               |         | 1       |
| B. Creeper.....      | 2         |        | 1            | 1               | 2         |           | 4             | 8              |         | 2           | 16         | 8         | 2        |               |         |         |
| Win. Wren.....       |           |        |              |                 | 3         |           | 2             | 2              | 1       |             | 2          |           |          |               |         | 10      |
| Bew. Wren.....       |           | 7      | *            |                 | 4         |           | 1             | 1              | 2       |             | 1          | 1         | 8        |               |         |         |
| Car. Wren.....       | 17        | 13     | 9            | 2               | 9         | 10        | 14            | 12             | 13      | 12          | 58         | 32        | 25       | 16            | 2       | 33      |
| Mockingbird.....     | 4         | 12     | 8            | 2               | 23        | 2         | 35            | 7              | 6       | 18          | 106        | 8         | 17       | 10            |         | 5       |
| Catbird.....         |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 1          |           |          |               |         |         |
| Br. Thrasher.....    | 1         |        | 1            |                 | 1         |           |               |                |         |             | 1          |           |          |               |         |         |
| Robin.....           | 4         | 7      | 20           |                 | 3         | 1         | 16            | 24             | 6       | 21          | 37         | 5         | 3        | 31            |         | 2       |
| Her. Thrush.....     | 1         |        | 1            | 1               | 1         | 1         | 2             | 35             |         | 3           |            |           |          |               |         | 4       |
| E. Bluebird.....     | 27        | 13     | 7            | 5               | 13        | 12        | 43            | 38             |         | 15          | 51         | 7         | 15       | 3             | 6       | 12      |
| G-c. Kinglet.....    |           |        | 2            | 3               |           |           | 7             | 23             |         | 3           | 5          | 6         |          | 3             |         | 6       |
| R-c. Kinglet.....    | 2         |        |              |                 | 1         | 1         |               | 2              |         |             | 1          |           |          |               |         | 2       |
| Ced. Waxwing.....    | 30        | *      | *            |                 | *         | *         |               | 9              |         | 2           | 15         |           |          | 20            | *       |         |
| Log. Shrike.....     |           |        | 2            |                 | 1         |           | 6             |                | 2       |             | 4          |           |          | 1             |         |         |
| Starling.....        |           | 500    | 182          | 11              | 1210      | 450       | 204800        | 26             | 24      | 379         | 1650000    | 800       | 1070     | 563           |         | 224     |
| Myr. Warbler.....    | 1         |        | 10           | 2               | 1         | *         |               | 3              | 16      | 1           | 8          | 7         |          | 12            |         |         |
| House Sparrow.....   |           | 200    | 90           |                 | 498       | 180       | 205           | 22             | 35      | 37          | 655        | 115       | 277      | 74            | 22      | 83      |
| E. Meadowlark.....   | 61        | 18     | 93           | 23              | 93        | 64        | 110           |                | 51      | 19          | 264        | 3         | 20       | 31            |         | 75      |
| W. Meadowlark.....   |           |        |              |                 | 1         |           |               |                |         |             | 1          |           |          |               |         |         |
| R-w. Blackbird.....  |           |        |              |                 | 50        | 100       | 40            |                |         |             | 60000      | 75        |          |               |         | 1       |
| Rusty Blackbird..... |           |        |              |                 |           |           | 125           |                |         |             | 60000      |           |          |               |         | 50      |
| Brewer's B'bird..... |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 2          |           |          |               |         |         |
| Com. Grackle.....    |           |        |              | *               | 1100      |           | 34            | 3              |         |             | 1050000    | 6         | 95       |               |         |         |
| B-h. Cowbird.....    |           | 150    |              |                 | 207       | 25        | 150           |                |         |             | 1800000    |           | 10       |               |         |         |
| Cardinal.....        | 153       | 44     | 40           | 31              | 49        | 60        | 192           | 106            | 73      | 76          | 535        | 52        | 99       | 41            | 27      | 56      |
| Ind. Bunting.....    |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 1          |           |          |               |         |         |
| Dickcissel.....      |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             |            |           |          |               |         | *       |
| Pur. Finch.....      | 13        | 5      |              | 30              |           |           | 10            | 124            | 7       | 11          | 8          | 1         |          | 14            |         | 3       |
| Pine Siskin.....     |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 1          |           |          |               |         | 2       |
| Am. Goldfinch.....   | 8         | 19     | 17           | 5               | *         |           | 71            | 77             | 12      | 42          | 174        | 78        | 19       | 95            | 1       | 257     |
| R-s. Towhee.....     | 34        | 8      | 20           | 15              | 8         | 20        | 33            | 56             | 15      | 4           | 74         | 11        | 16       | 45            | *       | 68      |
| Sav. Sparrow.....    |           |        | 2            |                 |           |           | 1             |                |         |             | 1          |           |          |               |         |         |
| Grass. Sparrow.....  |           |        |              |                 | 2         |           |               |                | 1       |             |            |           |          |               |         |         |
| Vesp. Sparrow.....   |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             |            |           | 2        |               |         |         |
| S-c. Junco.....      | 200       | 300    | 13           | 103             | 39        | 50        | 126           | 528            | 89      | 212         | 798        | 91        | 248      | 303           | 35      | 256     |
| Ore. Junco.....      |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 1          |           |          |               |         |         |
| Tree Sparrow.....    |           | 15     | 12           | 2               |           | 1         |               |                |         | 6           | 214        | 15        |          | 4             | 16      | 2       |
| Chip. Sparrow.....   |           |        |              |                 | 5         |           |               |                |         |             | *          |           |          |               |         |         |
| Field Sparrow.....   | 6         |        | 11           | 7               | 28        | 15        | 12            | 22             | 2       | 10          | 117        | 2         | 24       | 6             | 3       | 11      |
| W-c. Sparrow.....    |           | 12     |              |                 | 42        | 4         | 48            | 8              | 4       |             | 157        | 35        | 35       | 36            |         | 5       |
| W-t. Sparrow.....    | 135       | 6      | 18           | 12              | 27        | 10        | 159           | 43             | 40      | 3           | 170        | 25        | 31       | 24            |         | 25      |
| Fox Sparrow.....     | 7         |        | 2            | 2               | 4         | 2         |               | 6              | 12      |             | 2          | 6         | 2        | 18            |         | 1       |
| Sw. Sparrow.....     |           |        | 18           | 7               | 5         |           | 74            | 6              |         | 9           | 69         | 1         |          | 5             |         |         |
| Song Sparrow.....    | 3         | 29     | 14           | 12              | 11        | 16        | 46            | 27             | 38      | 32          | 401        | 109       | 49       | 63            | 16      | 33      |
| Lap. Longspur.....   |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             | 7          |           |          |               |         |         |
| Snow Bunting.....    |           |        |              |                 |           |           |               |                |         |             |            |           |          |               |         | *       |
| Species.....         | 49        | 52     | 46           | 33              | 59        | 44        | 56            | 48             | 34      | 42          | 95         | 54        | 57       | 40            | 19      | 50      |
| Individuals.....     | 5104      | 7899   | 1165         | 344             | 4258      | 1759      | 205157        | 2525           | 550     | 1862        | 3006433    | 2381      | 5184     | 1634          | 196     | 1698    |
| Observers.....       | 7         | 1      | 1            | 1               | 8         | 4         | 4             | 20             | 3       | 7           | 23         | 2         | 8        | 5             | 1       | 8       |

(Italics indicate a note on this species or number.—Ed.)

birds seen during the Christmas holidays: Bobwhite, Blue Jay, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Rufous-sided Towhee. Total, 19 species, 196 individuals.—ERCEL KOZEE.

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ASHLAND (All of Boyd County, Bear Branch section of Greenup County, Wolf Creek area in Martin County, near Lovely: 60% mixed hardwoods, 10% river front, 10% old fields, 10% marshland, 5% cultivated areas, 5% slashes).—Dec. 27; 7:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. Clear to partly cloudy; temp. 15-50; wind, 0-5 m. p. h., SW to NE; rain predicted for night. Ground thawing; all running streams open; no snow. Rock Dove, 15, also recorded. Total, 50 species, 1693 individuals.—OKIE S. GREEN (Compiler), WALTER FORSON, HENRY J. HUGHES, JR., GEORGE A. CURRY, RUFUS M. REED, ROBERT CHAPMAN, EDWIN MOORE, CLINE DALE MOORE.

#### NOTES ON ASHLAND COUNT

Snow Bunting: Seen by Curry in the week before the count at Grandview Lake, in Boyd County, and observed for nearly an hour at close range. This species has also been reported in the vicinity of Majestic, in Pike County, by Mrs. J. W. Rees, an experienced observer.

Pine Siskin: Pine Siskins were reported from various areas.

Dickcissel: Hughes and Curry saw what they were almost sure was a Dickcissel. A search of AUDUBON FIELD NOTES for the 1957 Christmas Bird Count revealed several Dickcissel records for similar areas in this latitude.

Robin: One notable feature of the 1957 count was the abundance of Robins; this year only two were recorded. Correspondence shows that this condition prevails in many parts of the state.

Miscellaneous: Towhees were scarce in 1957, abundant in 1958. Bluebirds are very scarce; the Pileated Woodpecker seems on the decline, probably because of the destruction of its natural habitat. In general, there is an abundance of bird food this winter.

#### COMMENTS ON THE 1958-59 COUNTS

The counts, as presented in this issue of the WARBLER, are, in general, below those of 1957. Many of the compilers have sent their regrets along with their records. Probably the most obvious thing in this table is that many species are erratic this season; for example, the Cedar Waxwing appears on only five of the counts, with no large flocks anywhere. The blackbirds are in certain places only and in large numbers largely in the Louisville area, where they are far below the numbers of last year.

Waterfowl in numbers appeared at Woodlands, Louisville, Marion and Henderson. Aside from these places, only the Mallard and the Black Duck were found in various parts of the state.

Hawks were fairly normal; the Red-shouldered and Sparrow Hawks a little above normal; the Bald Eagle was recorded at Woodlands and Henderson, the Osprey at Marion.

Woodpeckers were normal for the state as a whole and exceptionally numerous at Mammoth Cave National Park, where their numbers have steadily increased, except for the Redheaded, for the last three years.

Crows were astonishingly scarce, with the 1410 at Danville being the top figure this season. On some of our counts there have been several observers who reported as many as several thousands at roosts. Just why the slump in Crow numbers is unknown; waste grain is as plentiful as ever.

Robins were very scarce everywhere except at Mammoth Cave, with its 324, more than in all the rest of the state. In 1957 Robins were reported up to 5000 in a single area.

Bluebirds seem a little better than they were expected to be, for many observers have been talking lately about a slump in Bluebirds in their observation territory.

Starlings appeared in great numbers only at Bowling Green and Louisville, where there are large roosts.

Myrtle Warblers are decidedly below par, except at Glasgow. Mammoth Cave usually has a large Myrtle Warbler population but is far below normal this season.

Cardinals made up for losses elsewhere, as did also the Purple Finch, the Slate-colored Junco, and the Rufous-sided Towhee.

Oddities are explained in the reports. It will be observed that the Brown Thrasher appears in four widely scattered places, the Wild Turkey at Woodlands and Mammoth Cave. The excellent list from Louisville, 94 species and an additional race, contains some remarkable finds: Common Loon, Horned Grebe, Western Grebe, Black-crowned Night Heron, Redhead, Greater Scaup, Bufflehead, Peregrine Falcon, Glaucous Gull, Catbird, Western Meadowlark (also at Henderson), Brewer's Blackbird, Indigo Bunting, Oregon Junco, and Lapland Longspur.

Sixteen places, as you see, took counts. There were 110 participants; when repeaters are subtracted, you still have 92 who braved the fierce weather to count birds. In the table there are 105 species and 3,248,144 individuals. Thanks, all of you, for another good Christmas Count! Plan another big day for 1959.

## FIELD NOTES

### CHUKARS AT OWENSBORO

Two records of the Chukar Partridge (*Alectoris graeca*) in the Owensboro area have been called to my attention. The first record was made by Bernard Smith, Old Airport Road, Owensboro, who called to say that a strange bird had flown into his yard on November 1, 1957. I found it to be a Chukar. The other record was made on July 22, 1958, when G. C. Pirtle found an apparently stunned bird in front of his house at 1116 Cedar Street, Owensboro. There had been a heavy wind and rain storm, and the Chukar may have crashed into an object, or the sidewalk. In spite of the bird's being stunned temporarily, it seemed to be in good shape and not suffering from any lack of food. These birds may have come from those which were released near Earlington, in the strip-mining area, by the Fish and Wildlife Resources.—Albert L. Powell, Owensboro.

(Editors' note: The Chukar Partridge is a native of Asia. The Fish and Wildlife Service has been experimenting with this species to supplement our native Bobwhite, and the Chukars mentioned above are, doubtless, some of these pen-reared Chukars.)

### A HAND-REARED PURPLE MARTIN

In the summer of 1958 I had an interesting experience raising a young Purple Martin (*Progne subis*) to the fledgling state; I had attempted this in 1957, but without success. It seemed worth the trouble, for Forbush (1929, BIRDS OF MASSACHUSETTS AND OTHER NEW ENGLAND STATES) says of the martin: "When a young bird falls to the ground, it is soon deserted by its parents, who give up the attempt to preserve its life."

In my yard I have a two-story, sixteen-room martin house mounted on an iron pole, and, in addition, I have eight gourds attached to a crosspiece on top of a wooden pole nearby; also, a single gourd tied to the wooden pole about half way up. The martins seem to like the gourds as well as the compartments of the house.

In the latter part of June, 1958, one of the gourds contained a family of five nestlings; they were continually leaning far out of the opening. One bird fell out, and I did not think I could raise it successfully; therefore, I placed it in the lower gourd with another family, as I could not manage to get up to the higher gourd. The nestling appeared smaller and younger than its nesting companions. In a few days I found it dead and lying on the ground beneath the gourd; it may have been killed by its foster parents, or perhaps not fed by them.

On July 2, 1958, another martin fell from the same gourd. I decided to try to raise it. The first thirty-six hours the bird was uncooperative, and it was necessary to pry open its bill to feed it. The third morning it had changed its mind and came running towards me with its bill wide open and begging for food. Thereafter it was a simple matter to feed it. I started out by feeding cooked chicken liver and boiled egg yolk. The main diet was chopped beef and a drop of cod liver oil added each day. I also caught a few insects, large butterflies, and grasshoppers, which it ate with relish.

The young martin seemed very healthy and strong all along; it preened its feathers, it did vigorous exercises frequently, it would fly short distances in the house and out of doors, it liked to ride around the house and lawn on my shoulder and at times on top of my head. Other young martins had taken wing, and I was hoping that it would be able to join them. One day I placed it on a post about four feet high and crouched in some shrubbery about twenty-five feet away to see what it would do. After preening and stretching a while, it flew to me. On July 14 it flew around the house and disappeared, but the next morning it had returned and was on my neighbor's doorstep, begging for food. On July 17 it made several practice flights in the yard, and late in the afternoon flew to the roof of the house. When I attempted to retrieve it, it took off, flying nicely. Two days later I saw a martin that I feel sure was the same bird. It was begging for food from an adult female. Two times the adult bird shoved the young off the perch and flew along beside it, seemingly trying to teach it to provide its own food. Thereafter I did not see it any more.—O. C. Keller, Somerset.

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### HAWK MIGRATION AT CURLEW, UNION COUNTY

As I left the "Dogrise" on my farm at Curlew, Kentucky, on the afternoon of September 23, 1958, I noticed several hawks soaring above me. They were apparently taking advantage of an updraft from Anvil Rock Hill. This is one of the Ohio River wind-blown hills, and a

southern breeze will come up the river valley for several miles, colliding with the hill and sweeping upward. One or two hawks may frequently be seen soaring above the hill; but this was the first time I had seen a large group, probably twenty-five or thirty, circling upward with little effort. When they had reached the desired height and had begun to glide toward the south, I decided to count them; as I counted, more hawks came into view from the north and began to circle. The hawks came in at various levels; the higher ones did not circle to gain height but continued their glide to the south; they were spread out high and low, some soaring, some gliding, and maintaining a path about a hundred yards wide. I tried to count them, but it was difficult to do because of their different heights. I am satisfied that I probably did not see the leaders of this migration; also I feel certain that I did not see the end of it. I had to drive away; as I left, hawks were still coming over the hill from the north. In gliding and soaring they presented a solid under coloring of silvery gray; but I am not well enough informed on hawk species to make a definite identification. However, it was of interest to me that in twenty minutes I counted one hundred and fifty-seven hawks!—Donald W. Martin, Henderson.

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#### BLUEBIRDS NESTING IN MARTIN BOX

For three years one of our K. O. S. members, Mrs. Lee E. Cralle, Primrose Way, has had Bluebirds (*Sialia sialis*) nesting in her Purple Martin (*Progne subis*) house. I was with her in the garden on July 1, 1958, when a male Bluebird came in with food in his bill and entered one of the compartments of the martin house. Martins have never used the house. House Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*) have tried to take over, but each year the Bluebirds have successfully chased them away. Another one of our members, W. G. Duncan, hearing of the martin box occupation, presented Mrs. Cralle with a regulation Bluebird house, which was put up early this past spring. When the Bluebirds arrived, they spurned the house put up especially for them and returned to the martin house.—Fan B. Tabler, Louisville.

(Ed. note: Bluebirds were observed nesting in the martin box at Kleber Song Bird Sanctuary.)

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#### WILD TURKEYS AT MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK

In 1943 twenty-one wild turkeys from Kentucky Woodlands and a Mississippi game farm were released in Mammoth Cave National Park. For several years sight reports were so scarce—and the majority of these unconfirmed—that some believed the turkeys had not survived. In 1947 six more turkeys were released, and reports became favorable.

Annual wildlife reports made by the park to Washington, D. C., were optimistic. In 1950 it was estimated that 90 were in the park and that they were on the increase. However, in 1951 only 60 were reported, based on fewer observations, lack of food, and the severe ice and snow storm of February of that year. In 1952 the results were even more discouraging, with only a total population of 50 estimated, observations made by sights, tracks, and calls. In 1955 reports indicated that the bird was rare. In 1957 it was also reported as rare, based on the few observation records and on a special turkey count held in May of each year, with 4 reported in 1956 and 10 reported in 1957.

The picture has been more optimistic in 1958. On the May turkey count 15 were reported, 9 of these being sight records, and all of them north of Green River. During the year park employees made other sight records of 37 turkeys. The encouraging thing was that approximately half of these were seen south of the river, indicating a spread.

We hope these majestic birds will be able to survive and increase in the future.—Ray Nelson, Naturalist, Mammoth Cave National Park.

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### ROBERT C. SOAPER

"He had friends in all walks of life," Mrs. Soaper told me as we reviewed the many activities of Captain Robert Callaway ("Cotton") Soaper, who died suddenly of a heart attack on Monday night, December 8, 1958, at the age of sixty-seven. In June, 1958, he had retired as United States Wildlife Agent for the territory of Kentucky, southern Illinois, and western Tennessee. With citations from both the regional office in Atlanta and the Department of the Interior, he told his friends that he was going to devote the rest of his life to hunting and fishing just for himself. Always ready for rugged activity, he had spent the last afternoon of his life quail-shooting with Charles E. Smith (brother of our Miss Virginia Smith of the Kentucky Ornithological Society) and "Old Joe," the Smith pointer.

His active military life began with the local National Guard unit in the "Nightrider War" in Trigg County and soon after that with the same unit on the Mexican border in 1916-17. His unit was called from there to active duty in the United States Army at the beginning of World War I. By this time he had attained the rank of captain. He shipped overseas on June 11, 1918, and returned to the United States on September 23, 1919. While "over there," his unit was a part of the Meuse-Argonne and St. Mihiel encounters. His discharge was dated October 21, 1919.

In 1928 he was married to Miss Edith Wilson of Henderson, who survives. He has a daughter, Mrs. Beverly L. Clark, and a son, Robert C. Soaper, III.

In 1929 he won the nomination for sheriff of Henderson County in the Democratic primary over six other candidates by 1,500 votes and was elected overwhelmingly in November. He served in this office until January 1, 1935. After service in the state Department of Revenue, he was appointed as game management agent in September, 1935. At its inception the Fish and Wildlife Service was a part of the Department of Agriculture and was later placed under the Department of the Interior of the national government. His first territory was made up of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, West Virginia, Kentucky, and Tennessee. During World War II the area was divided to give better coverage and conserve gasoline. In his earlier work he had often averaged 50,000 miles a year. Later, as more trained manpower became available, the territory was reduced still more.

Mr. Soaper has been successful in giving a wonderful lift to the idea of the conservation of wildlife during the twenty-three years he spent in this service. In the early days a game warden was placed in the same category as a revenue officer, and many of his cases, even in the last few years, have been for attacks on some of his deputy agents.

His work was approached from two points of view: strict enforcement and education, the latter to make plain the reasons for the necessity for the regulations. He was always aided by the local agents

with whom he worked. When he found that in one school system the seventh grade reader had the story "Jack Miner, the Ducks' Best Friend," he told the teacher that he would bring one of Miner's leg-bands with a suitable verse. In a few weeks a goose foot with the Jack Miner band was brought to the school with this Bible quotation: "He careth for you."—I Peter 5:7. Similar experiences could be extended many, many times.

He uncovered many illegal methods and devices, including very elaborate shocking units and even steel traps for geese. (See KENTUCKY WARBLER, XXIX, 53.) His knowledge of identification, habits, and habitats of many wild birds was very unusual. He trained many of the present staff of wildlife agents while they were deputies in his area. Always a student of wildlife and conservation, he served as president of the Isaak Walton League and accepted many responsibilities in the Henderson Audubon Society and the Kentucky Ornithological Society.—W. P. Rhoads.

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(News and Views Continued from Page 2)

more distant, plainly show the distinctive markings on this species in flight. The painting will be framed by the Beckham Bird Club and exhibited in the University of Louisville Library.

Mr. Rollin will be glad to accept orders for bird paintings at a very reasonable price. His address is Route 1, Weldona, Colorado.—Evelyn J. Schneider, Librarian, K. O. S.

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#### "AS ITERS SEE US"

The COURIER-JOURNAL magazine section for January 12 contained a humorous article entitled "Weather for Ducks?" by John Meehan of the staff of that newspaper. It is a sympathetic but humorous account of the author's accompanying the fifth annual water bird trek across the Pennsylvania Railroad Bridge at 14th Street, Louisville. The humor was injected to laugh at the weather, not at the observers. "The Weather Bureau said the temperature was 19 degrees, but no weatherman was facing the hard winds blowing across the bridge." The article quotes Mrs. Yancey Altsheler, president of the Beckham Bird Club, which sponsors the annual hike, as saying that, in spite of the foul weather, there were recorded ten species of ducks, the Western Grebe, the Glaucous Gull, the Common Loon, the American Coot, and the Double-Crested Cormorant.

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#### TOXIC PESTICIDES

The National Audubon Society has issued, under date of November 10, 1958, a very revealing booklet on "The Effects of Toxic Pesticides on Wildlife." It is a reprint of all papers on this general subject given at the 54th annual convention of the society and sounds a warning against miscellaneous and unauthorized use of dangerous sprays and similar chemicals. Carefully compiled data show how bird and mammal life are being injured in many parts of the country.

### SONGS OF WARBLERS

The BULLETIN OF THE FEDERATION OF ONTARIO NATURALISTS for December, 1958, contains an excellent article to accompany the recent issue of "Songs of Warblers of Eastern North America," a long-playing record mentioned in a previous issue of the WARBLER. The record, which came to the editor as a Christmas present from the women teachers of his department, is aided greatly by this additional explanation of the songs, which were recorded by Dr. Donald J. Borror of the Ohio State University and Dr. William W. H. Gunn, of the Federation of Ontario Naturalists.

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### OUR SPRING FIELD STUDY

Don't forget our Field Study at Bowling Green on the weekend of April 17-19, 1959. Full announcements will be sent you later.

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### A PLEA FOR THE ENDOWMENT FUND

No doubt, when you read this, many will have paid or be about to pay K. O. S. dues for 1959. If you have not made out your check, and you are not a life member already, why not write a check for \$12.50 as the first installment of a four-year payment for a life membership? Or, better still, send Frederick W. Stamm, our treasurer, the full payment of fifty dollars and relieve yourself of all future payments. Selfishly, it is to your advantage to make this decision just as early in your life as you can afford to do so, since you will be saving on future dues payments. To pay now, while you still have an income or earning capacity, will assure your membership in the society and an unbroken file of the KENTUCKY WARBLER the rest of your life. Over and above this purely personal reason, you, of course, will be helping your society to become more soundly established. Your payments are placed in an endowment fund from which only the interest is used to help defray current running expenses. Incidentally, these payments as well as any gifts you make to the society are deductible for income tax purposes. In case you have already mailed your check for this year's dues, the treasurer will be glad to credit this payment on your first instalment, so that you can begin your life-membership program now. Then here is another suggestion: we hope you will seriously consider bequeathing a sum of money to the Kentucky Ornithological Society at your death. This is an excellent way of preserving your interest in birds and enabling your society to be of greater value to each new generation as it studies, conserves, and appreciates the bird life of our state. Won't you add this bequest to your will at the earliest opportunity?—Leonard C. Brecher, Chairman Endowment Committee.