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The Kentucky Warbler

(Published by the Kentucky Ornithological Society)

Vol. XXXIX

May, 1963

No. 2



Female Black Francolin, Photograph by Lee K. Nelson

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THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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

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THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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NEWS AND VIEWS

CHECK-LISTS OF KENTUCKY BIRDS

New Check-lists have been printed; the revision incorporates the new name changes as adopted by the American Ornithologists Union's **Check-list of North American Birds**, Fifth Edition. Cards may be purchased by writing to the Secretary. The prices will be the same as formerly: 15 cards for 25¢; 35 for 50¢ and 75 for \$1.00.

The three members who were appointed to revise the Kentucky Check-list of birds were: Harvey B. Lovell, Burt L. Monroe, Sr., and Anne L. Stamm, Chairman.

BIRD CASUALTIES NEAR MAGNOLIA, LARUE COUNTY

September 25, 1962

FLOYD CARPENTER and HARVEY B. LOVELL

About 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 26, 1962 Mr. George Gill, a reporter for the *Courier-Journal*, telephoned the senior author about a number of birds which had fallen the night before at the Magnolia gas-compressor station. This is about 2½ miles south-east of Magnolia, Kentucky. Mr. Gill said that Mr. Martin, an operator at the station, had told him about the birds.

Carpenter telephoned to Mr. Martin and arranged to come to the station the next day. The writers and Louis Pieper arrived there about 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 27.

The story of the bird-fall as told by Martin and other employees was as follows: The night of September 25 was foggy, and between dark and midnight the men on watch heard birds pecking on the windows and some flew into the building. On going outdoors they saw a great many birds flying around, so thick that they looked like a cloud. It was also said that there was a noise high up that sounded like a strong wind. In answer to a direct question there had not been a sonic boom from an airplane.

The next day they picked up a half wheelbarrow full of dead birds; a few were alive, but died almost as soon as picked up. They also said that the next morning dead birds were found along US 31E from Magnolia to Hodgenville, which is about 10 miles north of Magnolia; some were found in both towns. About a dozen birds were found on the parking lot of the Lincoln Motel, which is about 3 miles south of Hodgenville.

There had never been a bird-fall before, and no one had any explanation of the cause.

Mr. Burt L. Monroe, Sr., inquired at the *Courier-Journal* and the air lines about any unusual weather conditions, but nothing was found other than fog.

The station is on a plateau of about 850 to 900 feet above sea level and is on the edge of a slope to Pottinger Creek, which is about ¼ mile east and 150 feet below the station; the plateau extends a few miles north, west, and southwest of the station. The top of the highest building is about 20 feet and there is one stack about 40 feet, but the birds were not found near it. There were lights in the building, and some outside lights were directed to the ground on the night of September 25. It is possible that the number of brightly-lighted windows in the building attracted the tired migrants on this foggy night. When we arrived, there were still some live birds flying inside of one of the buildings which is a shop and warehouse. Four species of birds were banded by Lovell.

Among the live birds in the station were: a thrush, a vireo, a Pine Warbler, a Prairie Warbler, a Yellowthroat, some other warblers, and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks.

We picked up about 200 or more birds from the dump, and also hastily walked over the three- or four-acre grounds and found 60 or 70 more; some were in good condition, and some battered up considerably. The station grounds are fenced, and the grass was short, so the birds were easily found. Outside of the fence, the grass was long, and we did not look there.

We took the birds we gathered and gave them to Burt L. Monroe, Sr., and he identified them and made study skins of many of the rarer species; some were considerably injured in falling. He stated that he is positive of the identity of all except the two Blackpoll Warblers (*Dendroica striata*) and that while he is almost absolutely certain as to their identity, they might possibly be Bay-breasted Warblers (*Dendroica castanea*), but because of the bad condition of the birds, he could not be sure. Blackpoll Warblers are very rare in this part of the country in the fall. The list of birds as Monroe identified them is as follows:

Yellow-billed Cuckoo	7	Blackpoll Warbler	2
Catbird	7	Prairie Warbler	1
Wood Thrush	1	Palm Warbler	6
Swainson's Thrush	39	Ovenbird	30
Grey-cheeked Thrush	26	Northern Waterthrush	21
Veery	2	Mourning Warbler	1
Black-and-white Warbler	2	Yellowthroat	7
Tennessee Warbler	6	Yellow-breasted Chat	2
Magnolia Warbler	3	American Redstart	2
Black-throated Blue Warbler	1	Bobolink	21
Myrtle Warbler	1	Scarlet Tanager	23
Black-throated Green Warbler	1	Summer Tanager	7
Blackburnian Warbler	4	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	7
Chestnut-sided Warbler	2	Indigo Bunting	3
Bay-breasted Warbler	34	Song Sparrow	1

Total, 30 species, 270 individuals.

Warblers apparently make up a large percentage of the casualties during autumn-night migrations; for instance, there were 18 species in the above list or 60%. In the December, 1962, issue of the *Migrant*, Albert F. Ganier writes of bird casualties at Nashville, Tennessee, on the nights

of September 5-6, October 5-6, and October 16-17, 1962, and there were 23 species of warblers on the three nights of bird-falls. It is strange, however, that in the Magnolia casualties the Swainson's and Grey-cheeked Thrushes totaled 65 birds, while in the three nights at Nashville none were recorded, and Magnolia, according to Ganier, is "100 miles NNE of Nashville." The 21 Bobolinks (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) and the Mourning Warbler (*Oporornis philadelphia*) are of singular interest, as both species are rather rare fall migrants in this area. Ganier's list also includes two Bobolinks, a Mourning Warbler, and a Blackpoll Warbler.

BLACK FRANCOLIN INTRODUCTIONS IN KENTUCKY

By Lee K. Nelson, Owensboro

In a continuing attempt to provide Kentucky sportsmen with a maximum and varied supply of game birds to hunt, the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources is experimenting with an exotic—the Black Francolin (*Francolinus francolinus*). A native of India, this new bird is larger than a quail but smaller than a pheasant, weighing between 10 and 20 ounces. It is partial to farm country and eats a variety of seeds, including those of grass, weeds, and cultivated crops. It raises one brood per year, laying from six to 12 eggs. It flies straight and fairly fast.

The males have the most distinguishing characteristics, including a white check patch, a black throat, black breast—spotted or longitudinally barred with white, brownish-black back, usually with blunt spurs. The female resembles a hen pheasant. Its chin, throat, and fore-neck are buffy-white, with a dull chestnut collar on the sides and back of the neck; breast and flanks are pale buff, back and rump are dull brown, often slightly rufous, and it is usually without spurs.

The breeding season extends from April to July and occasionally to October. The male frequently exposes himself by perching atop fence-posts, telephone poles, and even barns to call. The call resembles that of an insect rather than a game bird.

A total of 261 birds have been imported from India in 1961 and 1962, where they were live-trapped. They were released at two sites in the vicinity of Reed in Henderson County. Seven broods of young were reported observed in the summer of 1961 and 16 last summer. It is too early to predict whether this wily exotic will "take" in Kentucky habitat, but it is known that they will reproduce here, feed on our available foods, and survive some of our coldest weather.

* * *

BALD EAGLES SIGHTED ON FEBRUARY 17, 1963

K. O. S. members were again asked to participate in the Cooperative Bald Eagle Project, and February 17 was designated as the Count Day

to observe wintering Bald Eagles. Why February was chosen rather than a day in January is not known. According to Alexander Sprunt IV, eagle "return flights start in late January or early February and continue until the middle of April when most of the birds have reached their breeding grounds." However, he further states "There is much we do not understand about this movement." Perhaps the eagles that were sighted on February 17 were birds moving northward, or it may be they were birds that had wintered in their respective areas. Although Kentucky had more coverage this year than last, fewer birds were observed. The count for February 11, 1962, showed a total of eighteen birds—nine mature and nine immature eagles; this year (1963) the count for the day was fourteen Bald Eagles—five adult and nine immature birds. While the total number of Bald Eagles may seem small, Kentucky is not on the bottom of the list, as in Sprunt's recent report Kentucky ranks 31 of the 46 states in the number of Bald Eagles reported in the Continental United States during January, 1962, exclusive of Alaska. The Kentucky reports have all been forwarded to Elton Fawks, Illinois, Chairman of the One-Day Bald Eagle Count. Below are the reports we have received. (ALS)

FROM HEBRON

I spent approximately ten hours watching the river at the point where the Great Miami River enters the Ohio just west of Cincinnati, Ohio. I usually manage to see a few eagles at this point each spring, but at a later date. My notes show that it was March 13 last year (1962) when I saw two adults and one immature; they were seen at approximately two-week intervals until the middle of May. The ten-hour watch this year brought no results, as no eagles were spotted.—CLYDE HUMPHREY, Hebron.

FROM LOUISVILLE AREA

Evelyn Schneider and I observed along the Ohio River across the Ohio in Harrison County Park, Indiana, at Leavenworth Bend. At 10:45 a.m., we spotted one immature Bald Eagle; it was up very high and could be counted either in Kentucky or Indiana, as it soared over the river. The day was clear and cold.—FLOYD CARPENTER, Louisville.

ROCK HAVEN, MEADE COUNTY

My husband and I observed along the Ohio River from West Point to Rock Haven. We spent five hours in the field and walked about eight miles along the river bank. The weather was clear and cold with a strong wind; the temperature was between 27 and 47 degrees. At about one o'clock we saw a single mature Bald Eagle sitting on a limb that overhung the water at a bend in the Ohio near Rock Haven. The high cliffs of Otter Creek Park were on the opposite side. The location here is on

the south bank of the Ohio. We saw a fully mature bird in the same general area on January 1, 1963, and this may have been the same bird. Floyd Carpenter and Louis Pieper went there the following week February 20 and also saw a beautiful mature Bald Eagle.—ANNE L. STAMM, Louisville.

FROM HENDERSON

Virginia Smith sent word that W. J. Parker, Federal Agent, at Henderson had observed two adult and two immature eagles along the Ohio River near Henderson.

FROM MURRAY

The place of observation was the Kentucky Woodlands Wildlife Refuge. Here, in the Honker, Empire, and Hematite Lakes area I observed from 9:30 until 5:30. The weather was clear, with a tendency to occasional haziness. The wind was from the southeast at 8-12 miles per hour, and the temperature was between 35 and 45 degrees. During the period of observation two mature and six immature Bald Eagles were seen in the vicinity of Hematite Lake. It is of interest that on January 13 I found 13 Bald Eagles (4 a, 9 im), and on January 18, again 13 Bald Eagles (2a, 11 im). The following notes seem to be relevant to this report:

1) The TVA people are cutting timber and brush around Honker Lake, preparatory to the Barkley flooding this summer. This activity, it is certainly safe to assume, has driven away the pair of adult Bald Eagles we used to observe regularly in this area.

2) The same increased activity at Honker Lake, together with other timber cutting in the Cumberland River bottom, may account for the fact that we have not seen an adult Bald Eagle at one of the usual perches at north end of Empire Lake (as reported in *The Warbler*, August, 1962).

3) The intense cold froze over Empire, Honker and Hematite, and the bays and inlets of Kentucky Lake. I guess that some eagles were driven to hunting along the open water of Kentucky Lake.

4) The immature Bald Eagles at Hematite seem much more nervous and wary this year. Formerly I moved about freely without disturbing them. Now they are apt to fly off when I come to the lake, and if they return while I watch quietly, a movement on my part is apt to send them away again. I surmise that a general increase of activity in the Woodlands both in preparation for the Barkley Lake flooding and in creating new waterfowl ranges in other parts of the refuge may be a principal factor in causing this nervous behavior.—CLELL T. PETERSON, Murray.

FIELD NOTES

BALD EAGLE PREYS ON AN INJURED CANADA GOOSE

I was stationed at Murray, Kentucky, near Kentucky Lake for three years. I spent much of my time on this lake. In early November of 1959 I was keeping an area under observation near Prairie Creek. At this time the hunting season on wild geese was open, but the season on wild ducks was closed. I watched 15 Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis*) work a spread of goose decoys about a mile from my point of observation. The geese swung over the hunters, but were still high. One hunter got excited and fired three times at the geese. The geese flared and came out in my general direction. One large goose was having trouble maintaining its position with the others, and it was very apparent that this bird was wounded. This goose began a long glide down toward an inlet about 200 yards from where I was concealed; it tried to make the distance across to a small peninsula, but failed and half fell on a small mud flat and immediately ran into some dense button-wood brush about 30 feet from the water. The instant the goose ran into the brush an adult Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) lit in a dead tree almost over the goose. Sensing a natural tragedy, I glued my binoculars to the scene. The eagle remained in the tree for almost thirty minutes, turning its head from side to side. The goose was concealed from me by the dense brush. Suddenly the goose broke from the brush and ran for the water, instantly the Bald Eagle launched himself and attacked the goose about halfway between the brush and water. The attack was the quickest and most vicious thing I have ever witnessed; the goose was killed in less than a minute. The eagle stripped part of the plumage from the bird's breast and fed. Standing on the carcass of its kill, this eagle was truly magnificent. After its hunger was satisfied, the eagle went aloft with slow, ponderous wing beats; its snow-white head and tail were very distinct against the dull sky. I crossed the bay to examine the remnants of the prey and found almost half of the breast had been consumed. This was an example of the old law of nature, where the quick and wise survive, and the weak and injured perish. The eagle is not a serious predator on waterfowl. In the many years that I have observed eagles and waterfowl using the same area I have never observed an eagle try to attack a normal healthy bird. The Bald Eagle's place in the scheme of nature is distinct, important and well defined.—W. J. PARKER, Federal Game Agent, Henderson.

* * *

BLUEBIRD SURVEY IN CARTER COUNTY

On June 2, 1961, I began a one-year survey of the Bluebird population of a certain locality in Carter County. Being a visiting teacher, I did much traveling in visiting rural schools and homes over this area. The area traveled was within a radius of six miles. I was careful to avoid

duplications; I believe the distance separating each observation from any other one was too great for any possible duplication. The dates on which I saw Bluebirds and the number of birds were as follows: June 2, 2; June 29, 2; July 2, 3; July 14, 4; July 17, 4; July 29, 5; August 6, 8; September 20, 2; September 21, 1; October 24, 6; October 26, 2; November 6, 2; November 11, 1; December 15, 4; December 26, 2; January 18, 2; January 24, 3; February 4, 1; March 9, 5; March 28, 2; April 3, 3; April 23, 1; April 24, 1; May 8, 1; May 15, 1; May 28, 1. This makes a total of 69 Bluebirds seen from June 2, 1961, through May 28, 1962.—ERCEL KOZEE, Willard.

BROWN THRASHER WINTERS ON PINE MOUNTAIN

The bird feeders at my home in Letcher County were very busy places during the past winter. The most interesting steady feeder was a Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*). He divided his time between a slender peanut butter stick (designed for Chickadees (*Parus carolinensis*) and other small birds) and a suet cake in the window box. I saw it every day—morning and evening. I was rather surprised that the bird wintered here as the elevation is 2,600 feet, and the weather was extremely cold.

The first date I heard a singing Brown Thrasher was March 13.—EDITH CLARK, Whitesburg.

* * *

STARLING TRAPPED IN LIVING ROOM

Early last summer my daughter-in-law, Mrs. James B. Tabler, entered her living room and was quite surprised to find a Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) flying around. She opened the front door and let it escape. Upon re-entering the living room, she noticed in a large crystal ash tray on the coffee table an egg and a small mass of dog hairs. The egg was warm.

The children have two collie dogs, and earlier in the day, when Margo, my sixteen-year-old granddaughter, straightened up the living room, she gathered up some furry dog hairs from the rug and tossed them into the fireplace.

Evidently the Starling fell down the chimney and, unable to get out of doors, found herself desperate for a place to lay her egg. Either she picked up some of the fur or it was entangled in her feet, when she found the ash tray and deposited her egg. However, she had not sufficient time to make a soft spot, because the egg was cracked when it was found.—FAN B. TABLER, Louisville.

A MULTIPLE CARDINAL NEST

In the spring of 1961 Burt L. Monroe, Sr., telephoned me and said he had been informed of a multiple Cardinal's (*Richmondia cardinalis*) nest and asked if I would check it and possibly get a picture; this was a pleasant assignment.

I went to the home of Mrs. Wilson Bowers, who lives in a new subdivision off the Old Shepherdsville Road, about five miles south of Louisville. Mrs. Bowers showed me the about average sized Cardinal nest placed about 4½ feet up in a bush honeysuckle shrub. The bush was directly outside her kitchen window, enabling one to look into the nest. The day I first visited Mrs. Bowers, on May 12, 1961, she interestingly related the following facts about the nest: two female birds incubated the six eggs, but at times one female remained on the nest while the other sat nearby. When both birds incubated, they often fondly pecked at each other. At night the females sat side by side on the nest, while a single male Cardinal perched several feet above them. The nest on May 10 contained six eggs, on May 11, two young and four eggs; May 12 four young and two eggs. My husband and I visited the nest from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. on the latter date. We did not see both females at the nest together, but we did notice, however, that two different female birds fed the young; the coloration around the face and head of one was decidedly lighter than the other. We had hoped to take a picture of this joint nest with the birds on it, but as the major incubation period had ceased, it was more difficult to catch the females together. The adult birds did not seem to object to the window-viewers as long as the window was closed, but when it was open, they were more cautious about their coming and going as they fed the young. Shortly after we left, Mrs. Bowers reported that the two females brooded the young.

I asked her to keep a constant watch on the two remaining eggs. Two unhatched eggs were in the nest at 3:00 p.m. on May 12, and the following day at noon there had not been any change. Mrs. Bowers left the city at noon May 13 and returned at 6:30 p.m., May 14, at which time she noted that another egg had hatched. The following morning at 10:00 a.m. the last egg hatched; the nest now contained six young. It is interesting that there was at least an interval of 21 hours and perhaps much more between the hatching of the fourth and fifth egg; this causes me to believe one female may have laid four eggs and the other two eggs. This belief is based on observation of many normal nests where there has not been such a wide interval of the hatching of eggs.

On a subsequent visit the nest was gone; neighborhood boys had taken it during Mrs. Bowers' absence. Later, the boys remarked they wanted to raise the young, but the nestlings had died the first night due to lack of food and exposure. It was indeed disappointing not to have had the opportunity to study this rare nest, band the young, and photograph them at various stages of development. Joint nests are rare, and it seems worthy of recording this unusual one, even though it was later destroyed.

It may be well to mention that Mrs. Bowers had seen only the one

male Cardinal in her yard during that spring. The new subdivision offered little in the way of suitable nesting sites, as most of the plantings were much too small; the bush honeysuckle was the only likely place that I could see that offered the necessary nesting requirements.—ANNE L. STAMM, Louisville.

* * *

A RARE WINTER VISITOR

It was with special interest when Exta Wolking from New Albany, Indiana, called to report a Redpoll (*Acanthis flammea*) at her feeding station. She invited me to come and see the bird. I went on March 7, 1963, to her home in Floyd County in the knobs area. Birds were numerous: American Goldfinches (*Spinus tristis*), Carolina Chickadees (*Parus carolinensis*), and Tufted Titmice (*Parus bicolor*) fed at the feeders while on the ground were a number of Juncoes (*Junco hyemalis*), Cardinals (*Richmondia cardinalis*), Rufous-sided Towhees (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*), and sparrows. We watched from her kitchen window, and after waiting about an hour we saw the unusual winter visitant. There on the feeder, not five feet away, was a female Redpoll. We had several good looks at the bird from all angles as it busied itself picking out choice bits of food.

According to the shrewd observer the bird was first noticed on February 28; it came directly after the week of zero and sub-zero weather. The Redpoll stayed about two weeks, coming several times a day to her well-supplied feeder. This area is about twelve miles from downtown Louisville and at the edge of a wooded knob. A female Redpoll was collected on December 26, 1955, in Oldham County, Kentucky by Burt L. Monroe, Jr., and according to him "is the first known occurrence of the Redpoll in Kentucky, substantiated by a specimen." (*Ky. War.* 32:31). The New Albany record is so close to Kentucky birding spots that it seems worthy of recording.—ANNE L. STAMM, Louisville.

* * *

MINUTES OF THE FORTIETH ANNUAL SPRING MEETING

The Kentucky Ornithological Society held its fortieth annual spring meeting at Bowling Green, Kentucky, April 19-21, 1963, with headquarters at Lost River Motel.

On Friday evening, April 19, K. O. S. President Clell T. Peterson introduced F. W. Stamm who presided over an informal program held in the new Science Building at Western College. Color slides and films

of birds and birding activities were shown by Charles Meade, Homer Pogue, Mabel Slack, Anne L. Stamm, Robert Pace, F. W. Stamm and Clell T. Peterson. Herbert Shadowen, member of the faculty of the Department of Biology, Western College, opened the Science Laboratory for an exhibition of the bird skins on display there.

On Saturday morning Dr. Gordon Wilson led the group to Chaney Lake where only scattered patches of open water remained; however, the members were treated to a display of unusual numbers of shorebirds. Following this the group proceeded to Dr. L. Y. Lancaster's cabins at the mouth of the Gasper River for a picnic style lunch and afternoon field trips led by Drs. Lancaster and Wilson.

The dinner meeting on Saturday evening was held in the First Christian Church with President Clell T. Peterson presiding. After introductions of guests President Peterson called the group's attention to the small supply of K. O. S. shoulder patches which remain available for sale. Also, he announced that new Check Lists of Kentucky Birds were now in stock with no further printing of old check lists to be made. Those desiring the old lists rather than the newer revision should purchase these while the limited supply remains. President Peterson further commented upon the report of the Committee on Saving the Falls of the Ohio and their recommendation that K. O. S. provide leadership and cooperate with historical, geological and other interested and influential groups toward securing a national monument under the U. S. Department of the Interior. He urged that all members read the report of the Committee (attached to these minutes) and called for letters by individual society members to the Secretary of the Interior, members of Congress, and other interested and influential groups in support of this effort.

President Peterson then explained plans for the Fall Meeting to be held at Mammoth Cave National Park the second or third week in October. The meeting will be a Founders' Program commemorating the fortieth anniversary of K. O. S. with the program planned to correspond to this theme.

The program of the dinner meeting was given by Lee Jenkins, Associate Professor of Entomology, University of Missouri, who showed his colored motion pictures of egrets and herons. These excellent films were taken by Mr. Jenkins over a period of 15 years principally on the Mississippi River near Clarkesville, Missouri. The unusual interest and questions which this film evoked were indications of the outstanding material presented.

On Sunday morning the society went to "Brigadoon," the Russell Starr farm near Glasgow, for field trips interesting from both a botanical and an ornithological standpoint. Part of the area visited is soon to be covered by waters impounded in the new Barren River Reservoir. After a delicious lunch was served, Dr. Gordon Wilson announced the total compilation of 118 species of birds which included 21 species of water birds and 21 species of warblers. Thus was concluded a most pleasant field study for the approximately 60 people in attendance.

HOWARD JONES, Acting Recording Secretary

OHIO FALLS COMMITTEE REPORT

This is a report of the committee which was requested to be appointed at the 1962 Fall Meeting of the K. O. S. to investigate the preservation of the Falls of the Ohio as a wildlife refuge.

This committee has met and has examined the various proposals that were made. It finds that this area could never be controlled by a private corporation such as the Nature Conservancy. The river and the dam must be managed by the U. S. Corps of Engineers, due to the operation of the locks and the control of the water levels for navigational and flood control purposes. On the other hand, the area is far too small to meet the standards for any National Park. Further, the value of the falls as a bird refuge has significance to ornithological students only for four or five months out of the year.

There are however, other reasons why this area should be protected and managed by the U. S. Government. Therefore your committee recommends that:

1. The Kentucky Ornithological Society lend its active support to a movement to have the Ohio Falls Area established as a National Monument under the U. S. Department of the Interior.
2. It urges all other groups such as the Kentucky Society of Natural History, Geological Societies, and Historical Associations to join in the effort to have this "Monument" established, because:
 - A. It was the home of General George Rogers Clark, founder of the first settlement of the Falls in 1778 and conqueror of the old "Northwest Territory" comprising Ohio, Indiana and Illinois.
 - B. The geologic formation with the encased fossil corals are world famous for the exposure of various strata formed by the deposits from prehistoric inland seas.
 - C. The area is an important resting place for shore and water birds on their migratory flights.
 - D. The pool of water below the dam provides adequate fishing opportunities for many persons in the lower income brackets to enjoy this sport and obtain food without having to travel far from their homes.
3. Haste should be made to establish this monument before commercial, industrial or residential encroachments pre-empt access to the area, and increase the cost of obtaining the necessary acreage later.

4. The area includes the Ohio river below the McAlpine Dam, Shippingport Island on the Kentucky side, and the Indiana shoreline to the Clarksville floodwall, downstream as far as feasible.
5. To this end, individuals write letters to Interior Secretary Stewart L. Udall, Washington, D. C., and to Mr. Winfield Denton of Evansville, Indiana, (who represents Clark County Indiana in the U. S. House) address: New House Office Building, Washington, 25, D. C.; to their own Senators (e. g. John Sherman Cooper—Senate Office Building, Washington 25, D. C.) and to their representatives.

Respectfully submitted

Ohio Falls Committee
 Leonard C. Brecher, Chairman
 Floyd S. Carpenter
 Burt L. Monroe, Sr.
 Anne L. Stamm

* * *

NEWS AND VIEWS (Continued)

JOSEPH E. CROFT HONORED

At the February dinner meeting of the Beckham Bird Club, Louisville Chapter, K. O. S., Joseph E. Croft was given the club's award for "constructive contribution to Kentucky Ornithology." Our congratulations to Mr. Croft. He is finishing his senior year at Georgetown University at Washington, D. C., and is majoring in classical languages, but hopes to have summers free to further his ornithological interests.

Dr. Frederick Hilton, Professor of Anatomy at the University of Louisville Medical School, was the speaker.

Other members who have received the club's award are listed below in the order in which they were received: Burt L. Monroe, Sr., Harvey B. Lovell, Charles Strull, Anne L. Stamm, Leonard C. Brecher, Mabel Slack, Evelyn Schneider, Floyd Carpenter, Burt L. Monroe, Sr., and Frederick W. Stamm.

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OUR 1962 CHRISTMAS GIFT

The K. O. S. is the proud and grateful possessor of another Howard Rollin painting, the nineteenth in a series presented as Christmas gifts

by this talented Colorado artist over as many years. This time the 9" x 12" water color is of an adult Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*), approximately life size, perched on a twig, with its nest cavity just below in a tree trunk on the right side of the picture. The crest, olive upper parts, yellow belly, rufous inner webs of tail, and other markings show clearly against a blue and pale purple background.

This painting will be framed in the near future and placed with the others given by Mr. Rollin in the past. He will accept orders for any species requested. Address him at Weldona, Colorado, Route 1, and own an original bird painting for yourself.—VIRGINIA WINSTANDLEY.

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1963 FALL MEETING

The Fortieth Annual Fall Meeting of the Kentucky Ornithological Society will be held at Mammoth Cave National Park Hotel, from Friday evening to Sunday, October 11-13. Plan now to attend and mark your calendars well in advance. The fall coloring in the park should be beautiful, and why not spend this weekend with fellow K. O. S. members.

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BOOK REVIEW

THE MIGRATIONS OF BIRDS by Jean Dorst, Curator of the Division of Mammals and Birds, The National Museum of Natural History, Paris. Introduction by Roger T. Peterson. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 1962. Pp. 476; price, \$6.75.

THE MIGRATIONS OF BIRDS represents the first comprehensive effort to compile all of our present-day knowledge concerning migration, between the covers of one book. Needless to say, this is a tremendous task. Reading the book, I was struck with the impression that an experienced ornithologist might become bored with some of the detail, that an embryonic ornithologist might lose interest in the descriptions of migrations of birds of which he knew little or nothing, but that a person with little training in ornithology could read and comprehend the book with little difficulty. I feel that the book will serve a useful purpose as a reference book for the ornithologist and as an introduction to the subject of migration that the novice can understand.

In the introduction Dr. Dorst defines migration and briefly discusses the various fauna which perform migratory movements. He also defines territory, home, winter dispersion, and other terms whose meanings are necessary for comprehension of the subject. Following this is a brief chapter on early migratory explanations and a more extensive chapter on methods used in migration studies. Most of this chapter is devoted to banding techniques and results.

Approximately a third of the book (169 of 476 pages) is concerned with migration patterns of birds in the various parts of the world. In-

terest may lag in this section. The author discusses migrations of species with which many readers will not be familiar and which geographically cover parts of the world which may hold little interest. However, the many maps and diagrams are enlightening. As a source of reference material for the professional ornithologist this may well be the most valuable part of the book.

A chapter entitled "Modes of Migration" describes routes, speeds, and altitudes and gives varying viewpoints as to the importance of winds and weather conditions on migration. The extreme plasticity of bird behavior is emphasized. Bird invasions, or irruptions, are vividly described, and the significance of the food factor is portrayed by graphs.

A section covering aspects of the physiological stimulus of migration has the following quotation as a part of its introduction: "While it is undoubtedly true that the meteorological situation plays a part in the migratory impulse, it can influence only those birds already physiologically disposed to migrate." The reader is then introduced to the theories which attempt to explain the migratory stimulus and to the work of many physiologists, including Rowan, Schildmacher, Bullough, Wagner, Merkel, Wolfson, Kuchler, and others.

Perhaps the most interesting chapter in the book is that concerned with orientation and homing. The reader is warned against anthropomorphic explanations. Dr. Dorst dismisses hereditary factors as a basis for orientation by calling attention to studies by Validangas, Putzid, and MacCabe, but then quickly readmits the genetic factor into consideration on the basis of Schuz's observations of stork movements. Following this is a discussion of methods and results of orientation studies. The explanations involve unknown senses such as magnetic fields as well as known senses such as recognition of landmarks, particularly astronomical landmarks.

In the final chapter the author reviews theories concerning the origin and evolution of migration. Included here is interesting factual information on recent changes in the habitat and range of certain populations and species. In summary it is emphasized that migration should be thought of as a characteristic of populations—not of species. We must beware of oversimplified explanations because "migrations, like birds themselves, are multiple and involve a number of very different elements which cannot be reduced to a rigid formula." I feel sure that readers of *THE MIGRATIONS OF BIRDS* will concur that Dr. Dorst has come close to his aim of presenting the sum of man's knowledge on bird migration.—HERBERT SHADOWEN, Bowling Green.

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