

5-1968

Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 44, no. 2)

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Kentucky Library Research Collections, "Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 44, no. 2)" (1968). *Kentucky Warbler*. Paper 128.
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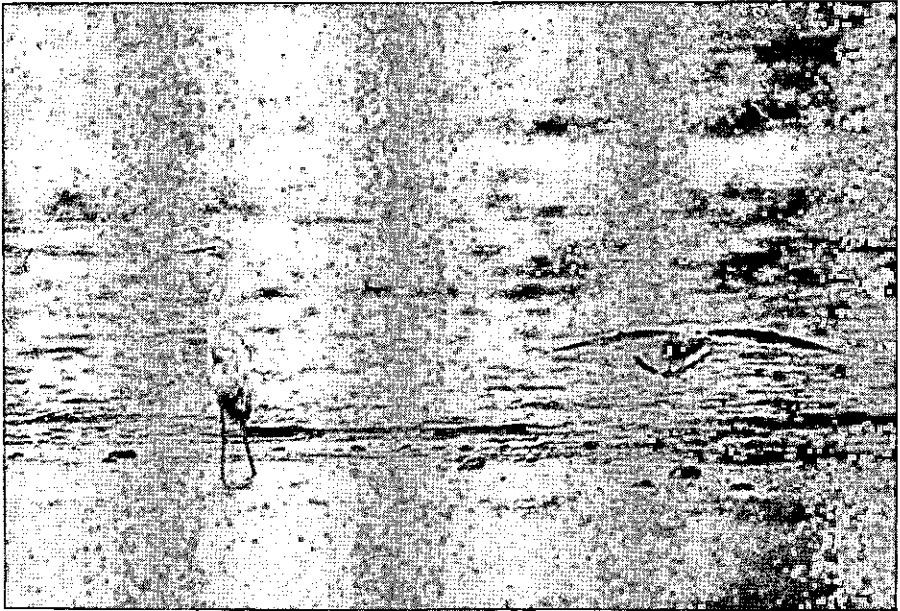
The Kentucky Warbler

(Published by the Kentucky Ornithological Society)

VOL. XLIV

MAY, 1968

NO. 2



Common Egret and Ring-billed Gull at Falls of Ohio

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Organ of the **Kentucky Ornithological Society**. Published quarterly in February, May, August, and November. The **KENTUCKY WARBLER** is sent to all members not in arrears for dues. Membership dues are: Active or Regular, \$3.00; Contributing, \$5.00; Student, \$2.00; Corresponding, \$2.50; Life, \$50.00. All articles and communications should be addressed to the editor. Subscriptions, memberships, and requests for back issues should be sent to the treasurer.

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NEWS AND VIEWS

OUR COVER

On a sandbar, below the Falls of the Ohio, opposite Sand Island, a Common Egret (*Casmerodius albus*) and an immature Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*) attracted the attention of photographer, Dr. Ernest Ellison. The photograph was made during a cold rain, November 11, 1967. The record is of interest because it establishes a late date for the Common Egret in Kentucky.

(Continued on Page 36)

KENTUCKY NESTING RECORDS, 1967

COMPILED BY

ANNE L. STAMM AND JOSEPH CROFT

This report is a compilation of the results of the 1967 statewide cooperative nest-record card program, the third such survey undertaken by members of the Kentucky Ornithological Society in cooperation with the Cornell University Laboratory of Ornithology. Additional background information was presented in the compilation for the 1966 season (*Ky. Warbler*, 43:43-51, 1967).

The present compilation of data from the 1967 nesting cards has been made possible by the efforts of 25 contributors working in 26 counties scattered from Ballard along the Mississippi to Letcher along the Virginia line. These observers, whose names are listed below, reported a total of 581 active nests of 70 species, plus two observations of young of one species of waterfowl, and 15 instances of cowbird parasitism. These figures compare very favorably with those from 1966, representing an increase of some 50% in number of nests, with an increase of one in number of species for which nests were reported. Fifteen species on the present list were unreported last year; among the most interesting of the additions are the Least Bittern, Least Tern, and Black-billed Cuckoo. The nest of the last-named species seems to be the first recorded for the state. Another species of note is the Blue Grosbeak, with last year's first recorded Kentucky nest followed by a second this year. Species added this year raise the three-year total to 89.

The following is a complete listing of persons who participated in this program during the 1967 season, adding materially to our rapidly growing fund of data on the breeding habits of Kentucky birds: Price Barton, Donald Boarman, Leonard C. Brecher, Joseph Croft, W. G. Duncan, Ed Dyer, LaWanda Elliott, Willard Gray, James W. Hancock, Kathryn Hancock, Wilbur Jackson, Howard P. Jones, Marley Martin, Suzanne C. Moore, Lee K. Nelson, Catharine Noland, Clell Peterson, David Philpot, Albert Powell, George Ray, Mabel Slack, Anne L. Stamm, Frederick W. Stamm, Mrs. Ed Weimer, Bea Whalen.

The format and principles used in this compilation are the same as those described and used in last year's list, to which the reader is referred for additional details (*loc. cit.*:44). In the listing of observers "Hancock" refers to James W. Hancock; "Hancocks" indicates both Kathryn and James W. Hancock; "Stamm" refers to Anne L. Stamm, and "Stamms" to Anne L. and Frederick W. Stamm.

This program has generated a great deal of interest. It is hoped that others will be encouraged to carry notebooks and to complete cards for all active nests found, hopefully with discreetly made follow-up observations. Howard P. Jones and Suzanne Moore, each of whom reported well over 100 nests this year, merit special mention for their precise notes and industrious study. Kathryn and James W. Hancock also made an especially notable contribution, with 86 nests. The accumulation of data on all species, common or rare, should be of extreme value to those wishing to carry out projects on the breeding biology of Kentucky birds.

GREEN HERON. *Butorides virescens*. Total 2. Daviess (Whalen), Franklin (Jones). Nest sites, locust thicket, American elm thicket. Height

of 1 nest, 12 ft. Eggs, May 5 (4, Daviess) to May 10 (4, Franklin). Young, June 2 (3, Daviess) to June 17 (3 left nest, Daviess).

LEAST BITTERN. *Ixobrychus exilis*. Nelson (Croft). Habitat, marshy pond. Nest site, buttonbush. Height, 2 ft. Eggs, June 27 (6).

MALLARD. *Anas platyrhynchos*. Total, 2 observations of young out of nest. Jefferson (1, Brecher; 1, Brecher and Philpot). May 20, brood of 8 chicks, about 2 days old. July 1, 1 chick, about 1 wk. old. Both observations at Falls of Ohio.

WOOD DUCK. *Aix sponsa*. Total, 2 probable nesting sites. Daviess (Ray), Franklin (Jones). Mar. 24, female flushed from cavity in sycamore, 30 ft. (Franklin). Mar. 26, pair going in and out of cavity in sycamore, 40 ft. (Daviess).

TURKEY VULTURE. *Cathartes aura*. Muhlenberg (Dyer). Nest site, rocky cliff. Aug. 21, 2 young almost grown; Aug. 26, well feathered but some white down still showing. Sept. 10, both young perched on limb above nest.

RED-TAILED HAWK. *Buteo jamaicensis*. Total, 3. Daviess (Boarman), Ohio (Boarman), Franklin (Jones). Nest sites, unidentified deciduous trees (2), sugar maple. Avg. height, 52 ft. (40-70). Building, Apr. 12 (Ohio). Young, May 20 (1, Ohio) to July 2 (1, Daviess).

RED-SHOULDERED HAWK. *Buteo lineatus*. Total, 3. Daviess (Powell), Ohio (2, Boarman). Nest sites, unidentified deciduous trees (2), black oak. Avg. height, 38 ft. (30-50). Young, May 11 (3, Ohio) to May 18 (2, Daviess).

SPARROW HAWK. *Falco sparverius*. Daviess (Boarman). Nest in dead tree, 15 ft. June 10, 5 downy young.

BOBWHITE. *Colinus virginianus*. Franklin (Jones). Nest on ground in orchard-grass field. June 22, 12 eggs. June 27, 13 eggs. Nest later deserted.

PHEASANT (hybrid Western Iranian, *Phasianus talischensis*, x Ring-necked, *P. colchicus*). Henderson (Nelson). Nest on ground in orchard. May 17, 11 eggs and 7 young.

KOREAN PHEASANT. *Phasianus colchicus karpowi*. Hancock (Nelson). Nest on ground in yard. May 25, 4 eggs remaining from nest destroyed by mowing several weeks previously.

KILLDEER. *Charadrius vociferus*. Total, 2. Daviess (Powell), Jefferson (Stamm). Eggs, May 15 (4, Daviess) to July 16 (1, Jefferson; nest abandoned; had contained 4 eggs on July 11).

LEAST TERN. *Sterna albifrons*. Jefferson (F. W. Stamm). Nest on rock ledge at Falls of Ohio: July 8-11, 3 eggs, with female observed incubating July 9-11.

MOURNING DOVE. *Zenaidura macroura*. Total, 45. Hopkins (13, Hancocks), Henderson (Nelson), Daviess (3, Ray; 2, Whalen; 1, Powell), Muhlenberg (Dyer), Warren (Gray), Hardin (3, Croft), Jefferson (3, Stamm; 1, Croft), Bullitt (Croft), Franklin (11, Jones; 4, Moore). Nest sites, red cedar (11), unidentified conifers (9), unidentified deciduous trees (8), wild plum (3), honeysuckle (2), American elm (2), Osage orange (2), unidentified bush (2), hawthorn, larch, white pine, wild cherry, willow, Kentucky coffee-tree. Avg. height of 44 nests, 7.8 ft. (3-18). Avg. clutch/brood size of 35 nests, 2.1 (2-3). Eggs, Mar. 21 (1, Hopkins) to Aug. 4 (number undetermined, Jefferson). Young, Apr. 16 (2, Daviess) to Aug. 29 (2 each in 2 nests, Franklin).

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO. *Coccyzus americanus*. Total, 5. Hopkins (2, Hancocks), Daviess (Elliott), Franklin (1, Jones; 1, Moore). Nest sites, unidentified deciduous trees (3), hackberry, unidentified conifer. Avg. height, 8.8 ft. (3-15). Building, July 2 (Daviess). Eggs, May 25 (2, Franklin) to May 27 (1, Franklin). Young, July 5 (3, Hopkins) to Aug. 25 (2, Hopkins).

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO. *Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*. Franklin (Jones). Nest in red cedar, 5 ft. May 28, 3 young (1 young half size of others). June 2, nest deserted, feathers of young in and around nest.

GREAT HORNED OWL. *Bubo virginianus*. Daviess (Boarman). Nest in American elm, 25 ft. Mar. 18, adult bird on nest. Mar. 25, 1 young judged to be about 1 wk. old.

CHIMNEY SWIFT. *Chaetura pelagica*. Total, 4. Franklin (2, Jones; 2, Moore). All in chimneys. Avg. clutch/brood size of 3 nests, 4.7 (4-6). Eggs, June 13 (6) to June 18 (4). Young, June 25 (2) to June 28 (4).

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD. *Archilochus colubris*. Franklin (Moore). Nest in elm, 8 ft. May 28, 2 eggs, June 24, nest empty.

BELTED KINGFISHER. *Megaceryle alcyon*. Scott (Jones). Nest in dirt bank 10 ft. above stream. May 20, adults carrying small fish to nest hole.

YELLOW-SHAFTED FLICKER. *Colaptes auratus*. Total, 5. Daviess (Whalen), Franklin (3, Moore; 1, Jones). Nest sites, unidentified dead trees (3), dead oak, mature walnut. Avg. height, 24 ft. (15-40). Young, June 27 (number undetermined, Franklin) to July 6 (number undetermined, Franklin).

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER. *Centurus carolinus*. Total, 4. Daviess (1, Powell; 1, Ray; 1, Whalen). Franklin (Moore). Nest sites, unidentified dead trees (3), dead willow. Avg. height, 23.7 ft. (20-30). Young, Apr. 19 (number undetermined, Daviess) to May 2 (number undetermined, Daviess).

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER. *Melanerpes erythrocephalus*. Hardin (Croft). Nest in elm, 25 ft. Two broods. June 20, adult feeding undetermined number of young (first brood); Aug. 17-Sept. 1, adult feeding undetermined number of young (second brood).

HAIRY WOODPECKER. *Dendrocopos villosus*. Daviess (Ray). Nest in unidentified dead tree, 20 ft. Apr. 19, adult carrying food to undetermined number of young.

DOWNY WOODPECKER. *Dendrocopos pubescens*. Total, 4. Daviess (Powell), Franklin (3, Jones). Nest sites, elms (2), white ash, willow. Avg. height of 3 nests, 21.7 feet. (10-30). Young, May 20 (number undetermined, Franklin) to June 11 (number undetermined, Franklin).

EASTERN KINGBIRD. *Tyrannus tyrannus*. Total, 6. Hopkins (2, Hancocks), Daviess (Elliott), Franklin (2, Moore; 1, Jones). Nest sites, elm (2), locust, pecan, walnut, sycamore. Avg. height, 14.0 ft. (8-25). Building, May 14 (Daviess). Eggs, June 2 (2, Hopkins) to June 23 (3, Franklin). Young, July 1 (2, Franklin) to July 5 (3, Franklin).

GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER. *Myiarchus crinitus*. Total, 2. Ballard (Croft), Hopkins (Hancocks). Nest sites, unidentified deciduous tree, dead snag. Avg. height, 21.0 ft. (7-35). Eggs, June 26 (4, Hopkins).

EASTERN PHOEBE. *Sayornis phoebe*. Total, 14. Christian (Dyer),

Daviess (Powell), Oldham (Stamm), Shelby (Jones), Franklin (6, Jones; 3, Moore), Letcher (Croft). Nest sites, road culverts (4), buildings (4), cliff ledges (3), bridges (2), overpass. Avg. height of 13 nests, 7.8 ft. (4-18). Clutch/brood size of 3 nests, 5. Eggs, Apr. 9 (3, Christian) to June 19 (1, Franklin). Young, Apr. 30 (2, 4, Franklin) to June 29 (2, Franklin). See also Brown-headed Cowbird.

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER. *Empidonax virescens*. Total, 5. Franklin (3, Jones), Letcher (2, Croft). Nest sites, beech (2), box elder, hickory, sycamore. Avg. height, 8.4 ft. (3-15). Eggs, June 13 (2, 4, Letcher) to July 4 (1, 3, Franklin). See also Brown-headed Cowbird.

TRAILL'S FLYCATCHER. *Empidonax traillii*. Nelson (Croft). Nest in willow, 15 ft. June 27, nest completed, contents undetermined.

EASTERN WOOD PEWEE. *Contopus virens*. Franklin (Moore). Nest in walnut, 18 ft. July 16, undetermined number of young.

BARN SWALLOW. *Hirundo rustica*. Total, 35. Hopkins (3, Hancocks), Oldham (20, Stamms), Franklin (7, Jones; 3, Moore), Harlan (2, Croft). Nest sites, barns and stables (32), school building (2), church. Avg. height, 8.0 ft. (7-20). Avg. clutch/brood size of 23 nests, 4.8 (3-7). Eggs, May 17 (7 nests, 1-5, Oldham) to July 18 (3 nests, 4-5, Oldham). Young, May 24 (2, Hopkins) to Aug. 13 (2 nests, 2-5, Oldham).

CLIFF SWALLOW. *Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*. Peterson reported approximately 58 nests at Eggner Ferry Bridge, over Kentucky Lake, Marshall Co., at heights of 30 to 40 ft. above the water. Nests inaccessible. Nesting began sometime between Apr. 16 and Apr. 23. July 15, much activity at nests, numerous young.

PURPLE MARTIN. *Progne subis*. Powell reported 5 pair nesting in 1 martin box, May 15, Daviess Co., at height of approximately 17 ft.

BLUE JAY. *Cyanocitta cristata*. Total, 8. Daviess (Elliott), Hardin (Croft), Jefferson (2, Stamm), Franklin (3, Moore; 1, Jones). Nest sites, unidentified deciduous trees (2), red cedar, water maple, elm, red-bud, oak, unidentified conifer. Avg. height, 17.3 ft. (6-35). Clutch/brood size of 2 nests, 5. Building, Mar. 27 (Daviess) to June 10 (Jefferson). Eggs, Apr. 12 (1, Hardin) to May 4 (2, Franklin). Young, May 24 (4, Franklin).

COMMON CROW. *Corvus brachyrhynchos*. Total, 3. Daviess (Ray), Franklin (2, Jones). Nest sites, wild black cherry, red cedar, spruce. Avg. height, 35 ft. (25-50). Building, Apr. 23 (Daviess). Eggs, Apr. 1 (1, Franklin).

CAROLINA CHICKADEE. *Parus carolinensis*. Total, 4. Hopkins (Hancocks), Franklin (2, Moore; 1, Jones). Nest sites, fence posts (2), dead tree, willow stub. Avg. height, 6.5 ft. (2-20). Eggs, Apr. 20 (6, Hopkins). Young, May 9 to May 21, (adults feeding undetermined number of young, Franklin).

TUFTED TITMOUSE. *Parus bicolor*. Total, 5. Daviess (1, Ray; 1, Whalen), Jefferson (Duncan), Franklin (2, Jones). Nest sites, nest boxes (4), wild cherry. Avg. height of 4 nests, 8.0 ft. (6-15). Avg. clutch/brood size of 3 nests, 6.3 (6-7). Building, Mar. 27 (Franklin). Eggs, Mar. 26 (6, Daviess) to Apr. 18 (7, Franklin). Young, Apr. 23 (7, Franklin) to May 2 (4, Daviess).

HOUSE WREN. *Troglodytes aedon*. Total, 3. Franklin (2, Moore; 1, Jones). All in nest boxes. Height of 2 nests, 6 ft. Building, June 13 to

July 17. Young, July 10 (adult feeding undetermined number; second brood).

BEWICK'S WREN. *Thryomanes bewickii*. Total, 5. Daviess (Whalen), Franklin (2, Jones; 2, Moore). Nest sites, farm shed (2), fence post, nest box, barn. Avg. height, 5.2 ft. (3-7). Avg. clutch/brood size of 3 nests, 5.3 (4-7). Building, Apr. 11 (Franklin). Eggs, Apr. 17 (2, Franklin). Young, May 7 (5, Franklin) to June 13 (7, Franklin).

CAROLINA WREN. *Thryothorus ludovicianus*. Total, 11. Union (Slack), Hopkins (2, Hancocks), Daviess (2, Ray; 1, Powell; 1, Whalen), Franklin (3, Jones; 1, Moore). Nest sites, buildings (6), nest box, dead tree stub, teapot, old saucepan. Avg. height of 10 nests, 5.8 ft. (2-8). Building, Mar. 27 (Daviess) to June 27 (Franklin). Eggs, Mar. 23 (6, Daviess) to July 18 (1, Franklin). Young, May 4 (3, leaving nest, Hopkins) to Aug. 1 (4, Franklin).

MOCKINGBIRD. *Mimus polyglottos*. Total 15. Ballard (Gray), Hopkins (3; Hancocks), Daviess (Powell), Jefferson (Stamm), Franklin (7, Jones; 2, Moore). Nest sites, hawthorn (4), unidentified conifers (3), unidentified deciduous trees (3), unidentified bush (2), elm, honey locust, brush tangle. Avg. height of 14 nests, 9.5 ft. (3-25). Avg. clutch/brood size of 6 nests, 3.1 (2-4). Building, Apr. 5 (Franklin). Eggs, Apr. 17 (3, Jefferson) to July 29 (4, Franklin). Young, June 10 (3, leaving nest, Hopkins) to Aug. 11 (2, Daviess).

CATBIRD. *Dumetella carolinensis*. Total, 12. Hopkins (3, Hancocks), Muhlenberg (Dyer), Daviess (Whalen), Franklin (6, Jones; 1, Moore). Nest sites, unidentified bushes (2), hawthorn (2), forsythia, dogwood, elm, oak, wild plum, lilac, honeysuckle tangle, brier tangle. Avg. height, 6.1 ft. (4-8). Building, May 7 (Franklin) to June 14 (Franklin). Eggs, May 10 (2, Franklin) to July 3 (1, Franklin). Young, May 30 (1, beginning to show feathers, Franklin) to July 14 (4, Franklin). Hancocks noted cowbird parasitism in 1 nest: June 1, bird on nest; June 4, 2 cowbird eggs and 1 of the host, but bird not on nest; later empty. See also Brown-headed Cowbird.

BROWN THRASHER. *Toxostoma rufum*. Total, 33. Hopkins (7, Hancocks), Daviess (Powell), Grayson (Noland), Hardin (Croft), Jefferson (3, Stamm), Franklin (16, Jones; 3, Moore), Bell (Stamm). Nest sites, hawthorn (10), Osage orange (3), unidentified bushes (3), elm (3), honeysuckle (3), wild plum (2), unidentified deciduous trees (2), red cedar, flowering quince, rambler rose, apple tree, multiflora rose, trumpet vine, evergreen shrubbery. Avg. height of 29 nests, 5.3 ft. (1-15). Avg. clutch/brood size of 14 nests, 3.4 (2-5). Building, Apr. 2 (Hopkins) to May 23 (Franklin). Eggs, Apr. 16 (3, Hopkins) to July 4 (3, Jefferson). Young, May 6 (3, Franklin) to July 5 (3, newly hatched, Jefferson; 3, Franklin).

ROBIN. *Turdus migratorius*. Total, 43. Ballard (Gray), Hopkins (2, Hancocks), Daviess (2, Powell; 1, Elliott; 1, Ray; 1, Whalen), Hardin (4, Croft), Jefferson (9, Stamm; 1, Stamm and Weimer; 1, Stamms), Oldham (2, Stamm), Shelby (Stamm), Franklin (10, Moore; 7, Jones). Nest sites, elm (11), unidentified deciduous trees (6), maples (6), unidentified conifers (3), apple (2), flowering crab (2), sycamore (2), wild cherry (2), on buildings (2), box elder, holly, catalpa, hackberry, red cedar, unidentified bush, hanging flower basket. Avg. height, 15.0 ft. (3-60). Avg. clutch/brood size of 9 nests, 3.1 (3-5). Building, Mar. 27 (1,

Daviess) to June 9 (1, Shelby). Eggs, Apr. 1 (1, Jefferson) to June 14 (3, Franklin). Young, Apr. 11 (3, Franklin) to Aug. 4 (number undetermined, Jefferson).

WOOD THRUSH. *Hylocichla mustelina*. Total, 7. Hopkins (Hancocks), Daviess (2, Whalen; 1, Powell; 1, Ray), Hardin (Croft), Franklin (Moore). Nest sites, unidentified deciduous trees (3), blue ash, hackberry, oak, unidentified site. Avg. height of 6 nests, 11.6 ft. (8-15). Eggs, May 9 (2, Franklin) to June 22 (number undetermined, Hardin). Young, May 22 (3, Daviess) to July 22 (1, Hopkins).

EASTERN BLUEBIRD. *Sialia sialis*. Total, 23. McLean (Powell), Daviess (3, Ray; 2, Elliott; 1, Whalen), Oldham (3, Stamm), Shelby (Moore), Franklin (9, Moore; 3, Jones). Nest sites, fence posts (11), nest boxes (6), natural cavities in unidentified dead trees (3), black locust, dead ash, unspecified live deciduous tree. Avg. height, 5.6 ft. (3-20). Avg. clutch/brood size of 6 nests, 4.6 (4-5). Building, Mar. 27 (Daviess) to June 10 (2 nests, Franklin). Eggs, Apr. 23 (2, Franklin) to July 5 (1, Franklin). Young, Apr. 23 (1, Franklin) to July 16 (4, 4, Franklin).

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER. *Poliophtila caerulea*. Total, 5. Daviess (2, Powell; 1, Ray; 1, Whalen), Warren (Moore). Nest sites, sycamore, Osage orange, honey locust, white oak, unidentified deciduous tree. Avg. height, 27 ft. (15-50). Building, Apr. 15 (Warren) to Apr. 23 (Daviess).

CEDAR WAXWING. *Bombycilla cedrorum*. Letcher (Croft). Habitat, pine-oak woodland. Nest in pitch pine, 35 ft. June 13, bird incubating.

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE. *Lanius ludovicianus*. Total, 3. Union (Slack), Oldham (Stamm), Franklin (Jones). Nest sites, unidentified deciduous trees (2), hawthorn. Avg. height, 8.6 ft. (6-12). Young, Apr. 22 (5, Franklin) to May 14 (number undetermined, Oldham).

STARLING. *Sturnus vulgaris*. Total, 7. Hopkins (Hancocks), Jefferson, (2, Stamm), Franklin (3, Moore; 1, Jones). Nest sites, natural cavities in maple, honey locust, and apple trees, deserted building, roof of old school bus, bridge support. Avg. height, 7.8 ft. (5-13). Building, Mar. 24 (Jefferson). Eggs, Apr. 9 (3, Franklin) to May 4 (3, Franklin). Young, Apr. 23 (2, Franklin) to May 24 (3, Hopkins). Moore noted a nest with 3 eggs on Apr. 9 to 20, and 1 egg, 2 dead nestlings, Apr. 23.

WHITE-EYED VIREO. *Vireo griseus*. Total, 2. Daviess (2, Powell). Nest in black oak, 2 ft.; May 31, 3 host eggs, 2 cowbird eggs; June 1, 4 host eggs, cowbird eggs removed; June 7, 1 cowbird egg only. Nest in low-hanging limb of old beech, 4 ft.; June 6, 2 young cowbirds. See also Brown-headed Cowbird.

YELLOWTHROAT. *Geothlypis trichas*. Total, 3. Daviess (Elliott), Franklin (2, Moore). Avg. height, 1.4 ft. (3 in.-2 ft.). Eggs, May 14 (2, Daviess) to May 27 (2, Franklin). Moore noted cowbird parasitism in 2 nests, with 1 nest containing a cowbird egg before any eggs of host; apparently no Yellowthroats were reared from these nests. The third nest was destroyed by a tractor.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT. *Icteria virens*. Total, 3. Daviess (Ray), Franklin (1, Jones; 1, Moore). Nest sites, persimmon shrub, American elm shrub, unidentified bush. Avg. height, 3.3 ft. (1-7). Clutch/brood size of 2 nests, 3. Ray noted 3 eggs, June 25, with 3 young on June 26. Jones and Moore noted unsuccessful nestings.

AMERICAN REDSTART. *Setophaga ruticilla*. Edmonson (Brecher). Habitat, deciduous woodland (Mammoth Cave N. P.). Nest site, sycamore with grape vines intertwined. Height, 20 ft. May 28, female carrying insects to undetermined number of young.

HOUSE SPARROW. *Passer domesticus*. Total, 7. Jefferson (Stamm), Oldham (Stamm), Franklin (3, Jones; 1, Moore), Harlan (Croft). Nest sites, nest box (2), building (2), fence post, sugar maple, metal pipe of clothesline. Avg. height of 6 nests, 8.1 ft. (5-15). Eggs, Apr. 22 (5, Franklin) to July 9 (1, Jefferson). Young, May 27 (4, Franklin) to July 15 (2, Jefferson).

EASTERN MEADOWLARK. *Sturnella magna*. Total, 4. Hopkins (Hancocks), Franklin (2, Jones; 1, Moore). Eggs, May 1, (4, Franklin) to June 9 (4, Hopkins). Young, July 13 (3, slightly feathered, Franklin). Three nests known to be unsuccessful.

RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD. *Agelaius phoeniceus*. Total, 49. Hopkins (20, Hancocks), Daviess (5, Ray; 1, Whalen), Oldham (5, Stamm), Nelson (4, Croft), Washington (3, Croft), Franklin (6, Jones; 5, Moore). Nest sites, catails (14), black willow (12), grass or marsh vegetation (9), buttonbush (3), unspecified willows (3), red maple (2), wild blackberry bush (2), sycamore, wild grape vine on sumac. Avg. height of 48 nests, 3.6 ft. (6 in.-15 ft.). Avg. clutch/brood size of 8 nests, 3.5 (3-4). Building, Apr. 30 (Oldham) to June 27 (Nelson). Eggs, May 6 (1, Franklin) to July 5 (1, Hopkins). Young, May 6 (3, Franklin) to July 13 (2, Hopkins). Ten nests contained young during period May 16-28; 5 with young June 17-24; 4 with young July 5-13. See also Brown-headed Cowbird.

ORCHARD ORIOLE. *Icterus spurius*. Total, 6. Hopkins (Hancocks), Daviess (Elliott), Oldham (Stamm), Franklin (3, Moore). Nest sites, catalpa (2), sycamore (2), American elm, black walnut. Avg. height, 26.6 ft. (10-45). Building, May 7 (Daviess) to June 20 (Franklin). Eggs, May 14 (3, Daviess). Young, May 31 (3, Hopkins) to July 1 (3, just out of nest, Franklin). See also Brown-headed Cowbird.

BALTIMORE ORIOLE. *Icterus galbula*. Franklin (Jones). Nest in sycamore, 50 ft. May 31, female making repeated trips to nest with material; nest apparently almost completed.

COMMON GRACKLE. *Quiscalus quiscula*. Total, 17. Hardin (Croft), Franklin (12, Jones; 4, Moore). Nest sites, red cedar (6), silver maple (2), honey locust (2), American elm (2), unidentified conifers (2), sycamore, ornamental cedar, unidentified deciduous tree. Avg. height, 16.5 ft. (4-36). Building, Mar. 3 (Franklin) to Mar. 27 (Franklin). Eggs, May 4 (5, Franklin). Young, May 4 (4, 6, Franklin) to May 28 (2, Franklin).

BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD. *Molothrus ater*. Total, 15. Hopkins (Hancocks), Daviess (2, Powell), Franklin (8, Moore; 4, Jones). Eggs (1-3) or young (1-2) found in nests of Phoebe, Acadian Flycatcher, Catbird, White-eyed Vireo (2), Yellowthroat (2), Redwinged Blackbird, Orchard Oriole (2), Cardinal (3), Indigo Bunting (2). Eggs, Apr. 1 (1, with 2 young Phoebes, Franklin) to July 4 (1, with 2 eggs of Acadian Flycatcher, Franklin). Young, May 19 (1, with 1 Cardinal, Franklin) to July 1 (1, with 2 Orchard Orioles, Franklin).

SUMMER TANAGER. *Piranga rubra*. Edmonson (Brecher). Habitat,

mixed woodland (Mammoth Cave N. P.). Nest in red oak, 30 ft. May 29, female carrying material to nest.

CARDINAL. *Richmondia cardinalis*. Total, 47. Ballard (Gray), Hopkins (15, Hancocks; 1, Barton), Daviess (4, Powell; 4, Ray; 3, Whalen), Jefferson (1, Jackson; 1, Stamm), Bullitt (Croft), Franklin (9, Jones; 7, Moore). Nest sites, rosebushes, small deciduous trees, hedge, etc. (13), unidentified conifers (7), honeysuckle vines (7), unidentified bushes (5), elm (4), wild grape vines (4), multiflora rose (3), briars and brush (2), red cedar, loblolly pine. Avg. height, 5.2 ft. (2-15). Avg. clutch/brood size of 14 nests, 3.1 (2-4). Eggs, Apr. 15 (1, Daviess) to Aug. 23 (1, Hopkins). Young, Apr. 25 (1, Daviess) to Aug. 23 (3, Franklin; 2, Hopkins). Jackson noted nest building on June 26, with first egg laid on June 29; clutch completed with 3 eggs on July 1; 3 young on July 13; all left nest on July 23. See also Brown-headed Cowbird.

BLUE GROSBEAK. *Guiraca caerulea*. Ballard (Gray). Nest in pokeberry, 2 ft. June 16, 1 egg, 2 young. This is the second nest recorded for the state.

INDIGO BUNTING. *Passerina cyanea*. Total, 3. Franklin (3, Moore). Nest sites, unidentified bushes (2), wild daisies. Avg. height, 1.6 ft. (1½-2). Eggs, June 5 (1) to June 30 (3). Young, June 26 (3) to June 30 (3, well feathered). See also Brown-headed Cowbird.

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH. *Spinus tristis*. Hopkins (Hancocks.) Nest in sweet gum tree, 7 ft. July 31, 5 eggs, to Aug. 13, nest abandoned.

RUFOUS-SIDED TOWHEE. *Pipilo erythrophthalmus*. Total, 4. Hopkins (3, Hancocks), Muhlenberg (Dyer). Nest sites, Lespedeza bicolor, wild grape vine, honeysuckle, unidentified bush. Avg. height, 6 ft. (2-11). Avg. clutch/brood size, 3.5 (3-5). Eggs, June 12 (5, Muhlenberg) to July 23 (Hopkins). Young, June 25 (4, Muhlenberg) to July 21 (1, Hopkins).

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW. *Ammodramus savannarum*. Total, 2. Franklin (2, Moore). Both nests on ground. First nest, July 16, adult flushed from nest; contents undetermined; both parent birds continued to visit nest site until July 23. Second nest, Aug. 5, 2 young, apparently large enough to leave.

CHIPPING SPARROW. *Spizella passerina*. Total, 10. Hopkins (Hancocks), Oldham (Stamm), Franklin (5, Jones; 3, Moore). Avg. height, 7.5 ft. (2-30). Avg. clutch/brood size of 6 nests, 3.5 (3-4). Eggs, May 4 (4, Franklin) to July 23 (3, Hopkins). Young, May 6 (4, Franklin) to Aug. 2 (3, Hopkins).

FIELD SPARROW. *Spizella pusilla*. Total, 9. Hopkins (3, Hancocks), Oldham (Stamm), Franklin (3, Moore; 2, Jones). Nest sites, cedar (2), ground (2), honeysuckle bush, coralberry, blackberry, sweet clover, unidentified bush. Avg. height, 1.1 ft. (0-2). Avg. clutch/brood size of 7 nests, 3.5 (3-4). Building, May 21 (Franklin). Eggs, Apr. 28 (3, Franklin) to July 11 (3, Franklin). Young, May 9 (2, Franklin) to July 11 (1, Franklin).

SONG SPARROW. *Melospiza melodia*. Total, 3. Daviess (Powell), Franklin (2, Moore). Nest sites, evergreen shrubbery, ground, unidentified bush. Avg. height, 1.8 ft. (0-3). Avg. clutch/brood size of 2 nests, 4.5 (4-5). Eggs, July 15 (1, Franklin) to July 26 (4, clutch completed, Daviess). Young, June 27 (5, leaving nest, Franklin) to Aug. 16 (2, Daviess).

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL IN KENTUCKY

KENNETH P. ABLE

During the winter months of 1967-68 there was a large concentration of gulls in the vicinity of Kentucky Dam, Marshall County. While examining a group of these birds that were resting on a small island some 75 yards off the shore of Kentucky Dam Village State Park, I spotted a Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*) in adult aspect. The bird was studied carefully for 25 minutes in excellent light, with a 20x telescope, and compared directly with Ring-billed Gulls (*L. delawarensis*), Herring Gulls (*L. argentatus*), and one Glaucous Gull (*L. hyperboreus*).

The plumage characters of this bird agreed in all respects with those of typical adult individuals of *L.f. graellsii*, the race to which all North American specimens belong. The mantle was slate in color, contrasting with black outer primaries. There were distal white "windows" in the outer two primaries and a narrow white posterior border on the wing. The contrast between slate mantle and black wing tips was obvious when the bird was resting and in flight. The remainder of the plumage was white except for a moderate amount of darker mottling on the head, nape, throat and upper breast.

The bill and legs of the bird were dark flesh color. The leg color was compared with that of adult Herring Gulls and was several shades darker than the pink of that species. As pointed out by Peterson, Mountfort, and Hollom (*A Field Guide to the Birds of Britain and Europe*, Boston, p. 144, 1954), the soft parts of adult Lesser Black-backed Gulls may be expected to be flesh-colored (versus the bright yellow of the breeding season) in winter.

The size and proportions of the bird were compared with all of the above-mentioned species. The gull appeared to be identical in size to the several Herring Gulls present and the body shape and proportions were like that species. The bill was very slightly longer, but slimmer than the bills of several Herring Gulls, the angle of the gonys being not quite so prominent. The sizes of these two species were indistinguishable when in flight. The bird was much smaller in all respects than the one Glaucous Gull present for comparison. The iris was yellow.

The size of the bird and the slate (versus black) mantle eliminate the Great Black-backed Gull (*L. marinus*) as a consideration. The somewhat similar Western Gull (*L. occidentalis*) is noticeably thicker-billed and often has a lighter mantle than the Lesser Black-backed Gull. In addition, adult individuals of this species have a dark iris. The Slaty-backed Gull (*L. shistisagus*) of Siberia is much larger in size, being intermediate between Western and Great Black-backed Gulls in this respect.

In 1962 I had the good fortune to discover an individual of this species at Willow Slough, Indiana. The bird was subsequently collected (Mumford and Rowe, *Wilson Bull.*, 75:93, 1963) and found to be *L.f. graellsii*. The study of this bird gave me some previous experience with the species. The bird herein described agreed in all respects with my impressions of the Indiana bird, except that the latter occurred in spring and exhibited bright yellow legs.

This observation is the first record of this species in Kentucky. Jehl

(Auk, 75:349-350, 1958) summarized the North American records of this European bird (four specimens— Indiana, Maryland, New Jersey, and New York) and noted that it has been a regular winter visitor in the New York City area in recent years. The only known inland records, aside from this and the Indiana bird, are from Pennsylvania (Audubon Field Notes, 14:297, 1960), and Ithaca, New York, where the bird appeared in three consecutive winters, 1963-1965 (Audubon Field Notes, 19:375, 1965; 20:420, 1966). All specimens and all sight records except one (Croton Point, New York, November 23, 1962, Audubon Field Notes, 17:17, 1963) are of *L.f. graellsii*. The Croton Point sight record was of a black-backed bird believed to be of the nominate race, *L.f. fuscus*.

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SPRING MEETING — APRIL 19-21, 1968

The Kentucky Ornithological Society held its 1968 Spring Meeting at Bowling Green, April 19-21, with headquarters at the Lost River Motel.

The first session, on Friday evening, was held at Western Kentucky University's Science Building. The President, H. E. Shadowen, welcomed members and visitors and outlined the weekend activities. Field trips were planned for McElroy and Chaney lakes on Saturday morning, and a meeting of the Board of Directors was scheduled for Saturday afternoon. A field trip to Shanty Hollow Lake was planned for Sunday morning. The Friday evening program consisted of two parts: (1) a discussion of the application of the Wilderness Act to Mammoth Cave National Park, by the Superintendent of the park, Mr. John Aubuchon, (2) the film "Kentucky's Feathered Rainbow." Both were well received by those present, numbering approximately forty.

On Saturday morning the temporary lakes were visited. Ducks were limited, and shorebirds, due to exceedingly high water, were even more scarce. In the afternoon groups visited Barren River Reservoir, Grider's Lake, and the city park.

The dinner meeting was held at Western Hills Restaurant, with 66 members and guests present. Dr. Wilson made the compilation of the bird list for the day, for a total of 110 species. Mrs. Stamm reported that the Cornell University Laboratory of Ornithology is continuing its nesting study. She thanked those who had participated and indicated that Kentucky had made a sizable contribution to the study this past year. She further pointed out the necessity for filling in the information both accurately and factually. Those who wish to participate may obtain cards from the Kentucky regional directors (James W. Hancock, Madisonville; Mrs. F. W. Stamm, Louisville; Dr. Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green; and Howard P. Jones, Frankfort). Completed cards are to be returned to the regional directors or Mrs. Stamm. Dr. Burt L. Monroe, Jr., stated that the cooperative breeding bird survey, as outlined by the Migratory Bird Populations Station, Laurel, Maryland, would be conducted again this year. He urged participation and indicated the study would be broadened in future years.

The status of the proposed dam in the Red River gorge was presented by the President, Dr. Shadowen. Past action by the organiza-

tion on the issue was reviewed, and individuals were urged to write letters directly to the chairmen of the congressional committees scheduled to meet April 29-30 for a hearing on this issue. A motion was moved, seconded, and passed to send a telegram expressing the K. O. S.'s opposition to the proposed dam. The President agreed to collaborate with Mr. Marvin Bing on the exact wording of the message.

The program for Saturday evening consisted of slides recently taken by Mr. Newton Belt, while on a picture taking safari in Africa with Dr. John Williams, outstanding naturalist of East Africa. The slides consisted of plant and animal life. Mr. Belt also exhibited some watercolors painted from the slides.

The Sunday morning field trip centered in the area of Shanty Hollow Lake, a wildlife management area in northeast Warren County. The leisurely field trip culminated in a picnic luncheon by the lake. The outstanding observation was that of a Pigeon Hawk (*Falco columbarius*) observed by several of the party. Final tally for the entire weekend showed 126 species.

Respectfully submitted,
Willard N. Gray
Recording Secretary

ATTENDANCE AT THE SPRING MEETING, 1968

ANCHORAGE: Dr. Burt L. Monroe, Jr.

BLANDVILLE: Newton Belt

BOWLING GREEN: Mildred Allen, Mrs. Harry Bowman, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Long, Roy Millikin, Marvin Russell, Dr. and Mrs. Herbert Shadowen, Mrs. Eugene Wilson, Dr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilson

CARLISLE: Willard Gray

FRANKFORT: Marvin Bing, Mrs. Wallace Campbell, Howard P. Jones, Joel Jones

FRANKLIN: Frances Richardson, Mary Allen Richardson

GLASGOW: Mrs. George Ellis, Jr., Mrs. James Gillenwater, Dr. George McKinley, Dr. and Mrs. Russell Starr

GOLDEN POND: Dr. Raymond W. Nall

LEXINGTON: Mrs. Robert Meyer, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Reece, Jr., Conley Webster

LOUISVILLE: Janet Borders, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Brecher, Floyd Carpenter, Mrs. Mary Louise Daubard, Mrs. Harry Hummel, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. J. William Ruhe, Evelyn Schneider, Mabel Slack, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Stamm, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Wood

MACEO: Mr. and Mrs. William Elliott, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Powell, Jr., George Ray, Mrs. Wallace Whalen

MURRAY: Dr. Evelyn Cole, Mr. and Mrs. William C. Kemp, Edwin Larson, Jr., Dr. Clell Peterson

OWENSBORO: Frank Abrams, Jr., Sister Casimir Czurlas, Mr. and Mrs. Ramon Iles, Wyema Sims

RICHMOND: Dr. A. L. Whitt, Jr.

DYERSBURG, TENN.: Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Leggett

NASHVILLE, TENN.: Alfred F. Ganier

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FIELD NOTES

BROAD-WINGED HAWK MIGRATION

Shortly before noon on April 17, 1968, Doug Potter, Michael Shadowen, Jeffrey Shadowen, and I traveled to the temporary lakes ten miles south of Bowling Green. While observing waterfowl we noted several hawks moving overhead. They were moving in a northeast direction at an estimated altitude of 400-600 feet above ground level. We were able to observe them closely through binoculars and identified them as Broad-winged Hawks (*Buteo platypterus*). The banding on the tail was obvious. We counted 26 hawks in the air at one time. During a 30-minute period we estimated the total number of Broad-winged Hawks at 45. Two Red-tailed Hawks (*B. jamaicensis*) were also seen. The day was warm, windy, and cloudy with high humidity.—HERBERT E. SHADOWEN, Bowling Green.

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SOME SUMMER BIRDS OF MURPHEY'S POND

On the afternoon of July 3, 1967, and again on July 4, I made a field trip to the vicinity of Murphey's Pond, located in Hickman County, about fifteen miles north of Fulton.

Murphey's Pond is a heavily wooded swamp and the area is widely known for its abundance of snakes. The Pond itself covers about 80 acres and is grown up with vines, bushes, and water plants. This area is a virtual paradise for the birding enthusiast. I hiked through the area on a number of old grown-up log roads. In most cases the going was fairly good and I did not see any snakes. Near the end of one of these roads, I came upon a wooded area where there were a number of hawks roosting in the trees. There were at least 15 hawks, but I was unable to identify many of them because of the dense foliage.

Below is a list of the 52 species observed and the number recorded. I feel that with more time and patience many more species could be found. Some of the birds were seen in the area adjacent to Murphey's Pond. Green Heron, 1; Little Blue Heron, 6; Turkey Vulture, 3; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 2; Broad-winged Hawk, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Bobwhite, 3; Killdeer, 3; Mourning Dove, 8; Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 11; Barred Owl, 1; Chimney Swift, 17; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, 2; Belted Kingfisher, 1; Yellow-shafted Flicker, 1; Pileated Woodpecker, 1; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 8; Red-headed Woodpecker, 4; Hairy Woodpecker, 8; Eastern Kingbird, 4; Great Crested Flycatcher, 2; Wood Pewee, 10; Barn Swallow, 12; Blue Jay, 1; Common Crow, 8; Carolina Chickadee, 2; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Carolina Wren, 12; Mockingbird, 4; Brown Thrasher, 1; Robin, 2; Eastern Bluebird, 3; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 12; Loggerhead Shrike, 3; Starling, 33; Red-eyed Vireo, 1; Parula Warbler, 3; Louisiana Waterthrush, 3; Kentucky Warbler, 8; Yellowthroat, 9; Yellow-breasted Chat, 5; House Sparrow, 18; Eastern Meadowlark, 16; Red-winged Blackbird, 28; Common Grackle, 4; Brown-headed Cowbird, 2; Summer Tanager, 2; Cardinal, 19; Indigo Bunting, 18; Dickcissel, 4; Field Sparrow, 2.—KENNETH LEGGETT, Dyersburg, Tennessee.

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BARN SWALLOW SELECTS UNUSUAL NEST SITE

A pair of Barn Swallows (*Hirundo rustica*) built a nest on the light fixture on the front porch of the residence of Mr. Charles Stoll, 527 Club Lane, Louisville, Kentucky. The birds began inspecting the nesting site in late May 1967, and on July 7, when the Stolls left for vacation, the mouths of the young were visible over the side of the nest.

The Stoll residence is a one-floor, U-shaped structure, with the front walk leading between the two sides to the entrance, and is located in Rolling Fields, a fully developed subdivision in the eastern part of Jefferson County adjoining the city boundary line of Louisville. Residences are located on lots approximately 125 feet wide.

Although my wife and I have walked this area for some six or more years, I had never observed a Barn Swallow here until the pair came to nest on the Stoll porch.

On July 20, when the Stolls returned, they found the birds gone and on the front porch the usual accumulation of dropping and debris. After having cleaned up and disinfected the porch, Mr. Stoll observed the birds on July 26, apparently looking for the nest which he had removed. No further nesting was attempted.

The Stolls were most cooperative during the nesting period, posting a sign, requesting all visitors to please use the back entrance, so as not to disturb the birds.—JAMES B. YOUNG, Louisville.

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BOBOLINKS IN POWELL COUNTY

The paucity of published records of the Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) in eastern Kentucky, where suitable habitat is scarce, prompts me to record a flock of 12 of these birds in a small field, just outside Natural Bridge State Park, about three miles south of Slade, Powell County, Kentucky, on April 22, 1967. The Bobolinks were feeding in the grass and weeds; when flushed, they flew up over an adjacent wooded hill. I made this observation while visiting the park.—LEONARD C. BRECHER, Louisville.

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BOOK REVIEW

A FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS (paperbound edition). Roger Tory Peterson. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1967. \$2.95.

The handbook that has become the birdwatcher's Bible has now been issued in a paperbound edition and should have as wide a sale as have the various hardback editions since 1934. This edition is a reprint of the 1947 book that all of us own and is the thirty-fifth printing of this classic handbook.

Praising Peterson's FIELD GUIDE is somewhat like praising, in public, one's dearest friends or relatives. Even the oldest ones of us have difficulty in remembering what our birdwatching was like before this book arrived, for it revolutionized our whole conception of guides to bird study. *Vademecum* ("go with me") is the Latin name for such a book; my copy—and yours, too—has traveled many a mile through

woods and fields and mud, actually so much used that it is beginning to get dog-eared, just as were the two earlier editions.

When William Vogt, in 1935, told me how the book came to be, neither he nor I could guess how wide a circulation it would have. Dr. Vogt had been one of the two older bird students who had given Peterson some encouragement to write just such a book; you will notice that it is dedicated to Dr. Vogt and to Clarence E. Allen.

Now that a copy of this classic can be obtained for so little money, why not buy one for some younger birdwatcher, so he can grow up with this basic, artistic, handy guide?—GORDON WILSON, Bowling Green.

NEWS AND VIEWS

(Continued from Page 22)

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

My thanks to all of you who attended our spring meeting at Bowling Green for adding to its success. Plans are already being made for the fall meeting, which will be held at Lake Cumberland State Park, October 4, 5, and 6. If you plan to participate on the Friday evening program with a report or slides, please let me know by September 1.

The Kentucky Department of Parks sponsored a very successful Ornithological Weekend at Carter Caves State Park on April 26-28. Three K.O.S. members assisted by serving as field group leaders, and other K.O.S. members participated. Karl Maslowski, nationally known naturalist and wildlife photographer, was the principal speaker. A similar program is planned for next spring, and I highly recommend it to you.—HERBERT E. SHADOWEN.

Kenneth P. Able, Jr., is now attending Louisiana State University as a graduate student in ornithology. He will be going to Peru in the near future with four other graduate students to do special work there.

At the February annual dinner meeting of the Beckham Bird Club, Mr. Able was awarded the Beckham Bird Club Award for "constructive contribution to Kentucky ornithology."

Joseph E. Croft will be assistant naturalist during the summer months at Otter Creek Park, Meade County. Frederick Hilton and Anne L. Stamm prepared the ornithological exhibits at the new Nature Center there.

Dr. Burt L. Monroe, Jr., was one of the United States delegates to the International Council for Bird Protection, Pan American Section, March 16 to 24, 1968. The meeting was held at Caracas, Venezuela.

With deep regret we announce the death of Burt L. Monroe, Sr., in Louisville, on May 17, 1968. Mr. Monroe was a past president of the Kentucky Ornithological Society, the Beckham Bird Club, and the Wilson Ornithological Society. He was the first Kentuckian to become an elective member of the American Ornithologists' Union, and was widely known for his work as ornithologist, conservationist, and outdoorsman.