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DEVOTED TO TENNESSEE BIRDS

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BIRDS OF CARTER COUNTY, TENNESSEE

By LEE R. HERNDON

The following annotated list of birds covers those observed in Carter County, Tennessee, by members and guests of the Elizabethton Chapter of the Tennessee Ornithological Society since February, 1944. Carter County is near the northeastern corner of Tennessee. It varies in elevation from about 1500 feet to about 6300 feet on Roan Mountain. Watauga Lake, which is mentioned frequently in the following list, is a large artificial reservoir whose impoundment began on December 1, 1948. A description of the area may be found in an article entitled "A Survey of Upper East Tennessee Birds and their Habitats," by Fred W. Behrend (THE MIGRANT, 20: 26-32. 1949). Included in the following annotated notes on many species are the extreme dates on which records of the species have been made. The initials used in the list refer to the following observers: F.W.B.—Fred W. Behrend; J.C.B.—J. C. Browning; L.B.—Louise Browning; E. E. Ebbie Evans; T.W.F.—Thomas W. Finucane; L.M.H.—Lois M. Herndon; L.R.H.—Lee R. Herndon; L.R.H. jr.—Lee R. Herndon, jr.—J.C.H.—Joseph C. Howell; W.F.P.—William F. Pearson; M.S.—Margot Schlein; E.T.—Evan Thomas; M.T.—Marjory Thomas; E.H.W.—E. H. Watson; A.H.W.—Adele H. West; E.M.W.—Eugene M. West.

ANNOTATED LIST

COMMON LOON (*Gavia immer*). Rare Spring and Fall migrant 1947 and 1948 on Watauga River and Lake Phillip Nelson. Fairly common on Watauga Lake in Spring and Fall since impounding. Apr. 16 to May 7 and Nov. 2 to Dec. 15.

RED-THROATED LOON (*Gavia stellata*). On November 6, 1949, five observers (A.H.W., E.M.W., T.W.F., M.S., L.R.H.) in a cabin cruiser on Watauga Lake saw a small loon that was very light underneath and the edges of the feathers appeared to have light edgings. It was identified as a Red-throated Loon. This was near the old site of Fish Springs. Further up the lake near old Butler (in Johnson Co. just across the Carter Co. line) several other Loons, both Common and Red-throated Loons, were found, providing an opportunity to compare the two species. In all five to six Red-throated Loons were observed, some at fairly close range, and three or four Common Loons. More Red-throated Loons were observed on April 6 (1), April 22 (8), and May 7 (1), 1950, near old Butler (A.H.W., E.M.W.). This appears to be a first record for the State.

HORNED GREBE (*Colymbus auritus*). Very rare in Fall until Watauga Lake was impounded. Fairly common transient, Spring and Fall

on Watauga Lake. Feb. 25 to Apr. 22 and Oct. 15 to Dec. 19.

PIED-BILLED GREBE (*Podilymbus podiceps*). Fairly common migrant in Spring and Fall 1944 through 1948. Wintered in appreciable numbers on Watauga Lake 1949-1950. Probably breeding on Lake Phillip Nelson (3500') where observed throughout Summers of 1948 thru 1950. Two young each observed on July 24 and August 7, 1949. (F.W.B.)

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT (*Phalacrocorax auritus*). Extremely rare as only one pair has been observed in this area, from Nov. 30 to Dec. 18, 1948. (F.W.B., E.E., A.H.W.)

GREAT BLUE HERON (*Ardea herodias*). Fairly common Spring and Fall migrant, more abundant in Fall, rather rare in Winter and early Summer.

AMERICAN EGRET (*Casmerodius albus*). Fairly common Summer and Fall visitant, more common in late Summer and Fall. Extreme dates June 18 to Nov. 5.

LITTLE BLUE HERON (*Florida caerulea*). Rare until Watauga Lake was impounded. Fairly common during Summer of 1949 on Watauga Lake. Extreme dates Apr. 12 to Sept. 3.

GREEN HERON (*Butorides virescens*). Common Summer resident. Extreme dates Apr. 1 (1949) to Nov. 27 (1948).

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON (*Nycticorax nycticorax*). Rare but regular Spring migrant. March 23 to May 6. Only one Fall record, bird found dead on Dec. 15, 1946 (L.R.H.).

AMERICAN BITTERN (*Botaurus lentiginosus*). Extremely rare, only one bird recorded for the county on May 4, 1947 (L.M.H., L.R.H.), on County Farm.

CANADA GOOSE (*Branta canadensis*). Fairly common and regular Spring and Fall transient. Feb. 26 to Apr. 3, Sept. 14 to Nov. 27.

MALLARD DUCK (*Anas platyrhynchos*). Rare transient until Watauga Lake impounded, then fairly common Spring and Fall migrant. Jan. 14 to Apr. 10 and Oct. 16 to Nov. 22.

BLACK DUCK (*Anas rubripes*). Fairly rare transient until Watauga Lake impounded, then fairly common Spring and Fall migrant. Jan. 1 to May 1 and Nov. 8 to Dec. 14.

GADWALL DUCK (*Chaulelasmus streperus*). Very rare transient; first observed on Watauga River above Sycamore Shoals on March 20, 1949 (L.R.H.), several records since, particularly on Watauga Lake. Feb. 26 to Apr. 17.

BALDPATE DUCK (*Mareca americana*). Regular and fairly common migrant, more abundant since impounding of Watauga Lake.

PINTAIL DUCK (*Dafila acuta*). Very rare transient; Watauga River, Wagner's Island, Oct. 16, 1948 (E.E.).

BLUE-WINGED TEAL (*Querquedula discors*). Fairly common migrant. March 16 to May 18; Sept. 9 to Nov. 29.

SHOVELLER DUCK (*Spatula clypeata*). Uncommon but fairly regular migrant. Feb. 20 to Apr. 16, Nov. 1 to Dec. 22.

WOOD DUCK (*Aix sponsa*). Fairly common migrant, Mar. 16 to Apr. 2, and Sept. 27 to Nov. 22. Few summer records, possibly breeding.

REDHEAD DUCK (*Aythya americana*). A pair seen on Watauga Lake above site of old Butler on the Watauga River prong, Nov. 6, 1949 (E.M.W. et al). One female observed on Wilbur Lake Mar. 12, 13, and 14, 1950 (E.E.).

RING-NECKED DUCK (*Aythya collaris*). Uncommon transient, Spring and Fall, until Watauga Lake was impounded, then common at times. Mar. 9 to Apr. 24, Oct. 16 to Nov. 27.

CANVASBACK (*Aythya valisineria*). One male observed at Razor Farm on Mar. 27, 1947 (F.W.B. et al).

GREATER SCAUP DUCK (*Aythya marila*). First positively identified on Wilbur Lake Mar. 10, 1950 (J.C.B., L.B.). Four birds identified by green head on Watauga River Mar. 26, 1950 (L.R.H.).

LESSER SCAUP DUCK (*Aythya affinis*). Fairly common migrant Spring and Fall, abundant after Watauga Lake was impounded. Mar. 12 to July 31, Nov. 11 to Dec. 22.

AMERICAN GOLDEN-EYE (*Bucephala clangula*). Rare transient Spring and Winter. Jan. 18 to Apr. 9; one fall record: Nov. 6, 1948.

BUFFLE-HEAD DUCK (*Charitonetta albeola*). Rare transient Spring and Fall. Mar. 20 to Apr. 27, Dec. 14 to Dec. 24.

RUDDY DUCK (*Oxyura jamaicensis*). Very rare transient in Fall. Oct. 23 to Nov. 27.

HOODED MERGANSER (*Lophodytes cucullatus*). Fairly common migrant, Spring and Fall, rare Winter resident. Jan. 8 to May 1 and Nov. 22 to Dec. 20.

AMERICAN MERGANSER (*Mergus merganser*). Very rare transient, having been recorded on Watauga River in Elizabethton Feb. 19, 1947 (L.R.H.) and Nov. 27, 1948.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER (*Mergus serrator*). Uncommon migrant Spring and Fall until Watauga Lake was impounded, then fairly common at times. March 17 to May 1 and Nov. 29 to Dec. 24.

TURKEY VULTURE (*Cathartes aura*). Uncommon permanent resident, less common in Winter.

BLACK VULTURE (*Coragyps atratus*). Very rare Summer visitant.

EASTERN GOSHAWK (*Astur atricapillus*). Very rare transient in Fall: Elizabethton golf course Oct. 1, 1944 (L.R.H.); Siam bridge Sept. 28, 1947 (L.R.H. et al); Wilbur Lake Sept. 25, 1948 (L.R.H., E.T)..

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK (*Accipiter striatus*). Rare permanent resident; however, we have no July records. Fairly common migrant in Fall.

COOPER'S HAWK (*Accipiter cooperii*). Fairly common permanent resident; common Fall migrant.

RED-TAILED HAWK (*Buteo jamaicensis*). Rare permanent resident; common Fall migrant.

RED-SHOULDERED HAWK (*Buteo lineatus*). Rare permanent resident.

BROAD-WINGED HAWK (*Buteo platypterus*). Very rare Summer resident; occasionally abundant Fall migrant. Apr. 25 to Oct. 19.

BALD EAGLE (*Haliaeetus leucocephalis*). Very rare transient. Hump Mountain Sept. 7, 1949 (F.W.B. and L.R.H.); Franklin Club March 14, 1948 (L.R.H. et al).

MARSH HAWK (*Circus cyaneus*). Rare Spring and Fall migrant. Feb. 15 to May 13 and Aug. 14 to Dec. 7.

OSPREY (*Pandion haliaetus*). Uncommon but regular Spring and Fall migrant. March 26 to May 22 and Aug. 18 to Oct. 22.

DUCK HAWK (*Falco peregrinus*). Rare Summer resident. Probably nesting in the Doe River Gorge; pair observed there May 5, 1946 (L.R.H.). May 5 to Oct. 9.

PIGEON HAWK (*Falco columbarius*). Extremely rare transient. One observed near Watauga Lake "Look-out" Dec. 5, 1948 (L.R.H.).

SPARROW HAWK (*Falco sparverius*). Common permanent resident, more common in Winter.

RUFFED GROUSE (*Bonasa umbellus*). Fairly common permanent resident.

BOB-WHITE (*Colinus virginianus*). Fairly common permanent resident.

SORA RAIL (*Porzana carolina*). Very rare transient, Spring and Fall. May 6 and 7 and Oct. 7 and 8 (F.W.B.) one summer record, a bird found dead in Elizabethton Aug. 28, 1948 (A.H.W.).

COOT (*Fulica americana*). Fairly common transient, more abundant and for longer periods on Watauga Lake. Extreme dates Oct. 10 to June 7.

SEMPALMATED PLOVER (*Charadrius semipalmatus*). Extremely rare transient. Two records, one individual each, May 5, 1946 (L.M.H.) and May 5, 1948.

KILLDEER (*Charadrius vociferus*). Fairly common permanent resident.

AMERICAN WOODCOCK (*Philohela minor*). Rare permanent resident.

WILSON'S SNIPE (*Capella gallinago*). Rare Winter resident and Fall migrant but rather abundant Spring migrant. Extreme dates Sept. 27 to May 3.

UPLAND PLOVER (*Bartramia longicauda*). One individual observed within the city limits of Elizabethton Apr. 19, 1950 (L.R.H.).

SPOTTED SANDPIPER (*Actitis macularia*). Fairly common migrant, Spring and Fall, Apr. 8 to June 6 and July 9 to Oct. 3.

SOLITARY SANDPIPER (*Tringa solitaria*). Fairly common Spring and Fall migrant, Apr. 6 to May 24 and July 18 to Oct. 2.

GREATER YELLOW-LEGS (*Totanus melanoleucus*). Very rare Spring migrant, May 1, 1948 (4) (J.C.B.).

LESSER YELLOW-LEGS (*Totanus flavipes*). Rare Spring and Fall migrant, Apr. 9 to May 3 and Aug. 1 to Oct. 20.

LEAST SANDPIPER (*Erolia minutilla*). Very rare Spring and Fall migrant. May 3 to May 13 and Aug. 21 to Sept. 11.

WESTERN SANDPIPER (*Ereunetes mauri*). Extremely rare Spring and Summer visitant. One observed at DePew farm May 2, 1948 (L.R.H.), another July 11, 1948.

HERRING GULL (*Larus argentatus*). Very rare Spring migrant until Watauga Lake impounded, then more common in Spring and Fall, Jan. 29 to May 13 and Oct. 27 to Dec. 10.

RING-BILLED GULL (*Larus delawarensis*). Very rare migrant until

Watauga Lake was impounded, then more common in Spring and Fall. Jan. 21 to May 13 and Oct. 4 to Dec. 5.

BONAPARTE'S GULL (*Larus philadelphia*). Very rare Spring and Winter visitant. Flock of fourteen seen at Lake Phillip Nelson Nov. 30, 1947 (F.W.B.). A pair observed in open field near Franklin Club in Elizabethton Dec. 25, 1948 (L.R.H.). One bird observed at Sycamore Shoals in Watauga River Apr. 15, 1949 (L.R.H.).

FORSTER'S TERN (*Sterna forsteri*). One individual observed west of island west of site of old Fish Springs on Watauga Lake Oct. 23, 1949 (L.R.H.). This bird was observed for several minutes thru 10x binoculars in good light at varying distances, finally coming almost directly overhead when the black spot around the eye and extending back toward the nape, but not uniting as in the Common Tern, was plainly visible.

COMMON TERN (*Sterna hirundo*). Only two occurrences: Sept. 10, 1949 (1) along Watauga River near Siam (L.R.H.); Sept. 2, 1950 (40) on Watauga Lake west of island west of old Fish Springs (L.M.H., L. R. H.).

BLACK TERN (*Chlidonias niger*). Only one record for the county, two birds of the species observed west of island west of old Fish Springs site on Watauga Lake Sept. 2, 1950 (L.M.H., L.R.H.).

MOURNING DOVE (*Zenaidura macroura*). Abundant permanent resident.

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO (*Coccyzus americanus*). Uncommon Summer resident. Extreme dates Apr. 22 to Oct. 3.

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*). Rare Summer resident. Apr. 22 to Oct. 6.

BARN OWL (*Tyto alba*). One observed at County Farm Sept. 26, 1946 (L.R.H.).

SCREECH OWL (*Otus asio*). Common permanent resident.

GREAT HORNED OWL (*Bubo virginianus*). Very rare permanent resident.

BARRED OWL (*Strix varia*). Uncommon permanent resident.

WHIP-POOR-WILL (*Caprimulgus vociferus*). Common Summer resident. Extreme dates Apr. 6 to Sept. 11.

NIGHTHAWK (*Chordeiles minor*). Fairly common Summer resident. Abundant late Summer and Fall migrant. Extreme dates Apr. 24 to Oct. 12.

CHIMNEY SWIFT (*Chaetura pelagica*). Fairly common Summer resident. Abundant Spring and Fall migrants. Extreme dates Apr. 6 to Oct. 11.

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD (*Archilochus colubris*). Common Summer resident. Extreme dates Apr. 23 to Oct. 5.

BELTED KINGFISHER (*Megaceryle alcyon*). Fairly common permanent resident.

FLICKER (*Colaptes auratus*). Fairly common permanent resident. Common transient in Spring and Fall.

PILEATED WOODPECKER (*Dryocopus pileatus*). Rare permanent resident.

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER (*Centurus carolinus*). Rare permanent resident.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*). Uncom-

mon visitant from middle of January to middle of October. No November or December records.

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER (*Sphyrapicus varius*). Fairly common Winter resident. Extreme dates Sept. 29 to Apr. 26.

HAIRY WOODPECKER (*Dendrocopos villosus*). Uncommon permanent resident.

DOWNY WOODPECKER (*Dendrocopos pubescens*). Common permanent resident.

EASTERN KINGBIRD (*Tyrannus tyrannus*). Fairly common Summer resident. Extreme dates Apr. 15 to Sept. 13.

CRESTED FLYCATCHER (*Myiarchus crinitus*). Rare Spring migrant and Summer resident. Apr. 12 to Aug. 18.

EASTERN PHOEBE (*Sayornis phoebe*). Fairly common Summer resident, rare Winter resident.

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax flaviventris*). One bird observed on Lynn Mountain April 30, 1949, at an elevation of 1700 feet and a considerable distance from any stream or body of water. The bird was about thirty feet from any stream or body of water. The for several minutes while under observation with 10x binoculars. The sulfur yellow belly, uniformly yellow, was easily visible. It did not sing (L.R.H.).

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax virescens*). Fairly common Summer resident. Extreme dates Apr. 30 to Oct. 5.

ALDER FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax traillii*). Three records: May 7, 1944 (L.R.H.): Aug. 1, 1945 (L.R.H. et al): May 9, 1948 (A.H.W.). The records by "L.R.H." were based largely upon the song "fitz-bew", which I had previously heard from Alder Flycatchers in western New York and southern Ontario.

LEAST FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax minimus*). Fairly common Spring migrant, uncommon Summer resident at high altitudes. Extreme dates Apr. 23 to Oct. 1.

WOOD PEWEE (*Contopus virens*). Fairly common Summer resident. Extreme dates Apr. 13 to Oct. 15.

HORNED LARK (*Eremophila alpestris*). Uncommon permanent resident. Nesting record, see THE MIGRANT, 15:57-58.

TREE SWALLOW (*Iridoprocne bicolor*). Rare Spring migrant. Extreme dates Apr. 7 to May 8.

BANK SWALLOW (*Riparia riparia*). Rare Spring migrant. Extreme dates May 2 to May 6.

ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*). Fairly common Summer resident. Extreme dates March 26 to July 30.

BARN SWALLOW (*Hirundo rustica*). Uncommon migrant Spring and Fall, rare Summer resident. Young observed just above the town of Roan Mountain June 17, 1945. (THE MIGRANT 17:5-6). Extreme dates Apr. 12 to Sept. 30.

CLIFF SWALLOW (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*). Uncommon Summer resident, occasionally abundant late migrant in Summer. Two small nest-

ing colonies located in barns in Siam community (THE MIGRANT (18:44-45). Extreme dates Apr. 8, to Sept. 19.

PURPLE MARTIN (*Progne subis*). Uncommon Summer resident. Extreme dates March 5 to Sept. 9.

BLUE JAY (*Cyanocitta cristata*). Common permanent resident.

RAVEN (*Corvus corax*). Rare permanent resident at high altitudes.

CROW (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*). Common permanent resident.

CAROLINA CHICKADEE (*Parus carolinensis*). Common permanent resident up to about 4500'.

TUFTED TITMOUSE (*Parus bicolor*). Fairly common permanent resident.

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH (*Sitta carolinensis*). Rare permanent resident, breeds at higher altitudes.

BROWN CREEPER (*Certhia familiaris*). Uncommon Winter resident. Extreme dates Oct. 17 to May 7.

HOUSE WREN (*Troglodytes aedon*). Rare Summer resident. Extreme dates Apr. 13 to Oct. 4. One nesting record in Lily Addition of Elizabethton, 1948 (E.H.W.).

WINTER WREN (*Troglodytes troglodytes*). Fairly common Summer resident at high altitudes. Uncommon Winter resident at lower altitudes.

BEWICK'S WREN (*Thryomanes bewickii*). Uncommon Summer resident, very rare Winter resident. Extreme dates Jan. 19 to Oct. 22.

CAROLINA WREN (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*). Common permanent resident.

LONG-BILLED MARSH WREN (*Telmatodytes palustris*). Only two records to date: Oct. 3, 1948, and Oct. 2, 1949.

SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN (*Cistothorus stellaris*). One Fall record of this species at Elizabethton Golf Course, Oct. 1, 1944 (L.R.H.).

MOCKINGBIRD (*Mimus polyglottos*). Common permanent resident. Observed occasionally at altitudes of 3500' in vicinity of Lake Phillip Nelson Nov. 24, 1949 and Feb. 19, 1950 (F.W.B.).

CATBIRD (*Dumetella carolinensis*). Abundant Summer resident. Extreme dates Apr. 13 to Oct. 16. One bird apparently wintered near Milligan as it was observed Jan. 1, 1950 (J.C.B., L.B.), and Jan. 7, 1950 (J.C.B., L.R.H.).

BROWN THRASHER (*Toxostoma rufum*). Common Summer resident. Extreme dates March 15 to Oct. 13.

ROBIN (*Turdus migratorius*). Uncommon Winter resident, abundant Summer resident.

WOOD THRUSH (*Hylocichla mustelina*). Common Summer resident. Extreme dates April 10 to Oct. 4.

HERMIT THRUSH (*Hylocichla guttata*). Rare Winter resident. Extreme dates Sept. 19 to April 17.

OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH (*Hylocichla ustulata*). Rare Spring migrant May 4 to May 16 and fairly common Fall migrant Sept. 2 to Nov. 5.

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH (*Hylocichla minima*). Rare migrant in Spring and Fall. Extreme dates May 7 to May 15 and Sept. 29 to Oct. 11.

VEERY (*Hylocichla fuscescens*). Fairly common Summer resident at

high altitudes, uncommon Spring and Fall migrant. Extreme dates, May 1 to Oct. 2.

BLUEBIRD (*Sialia sialis*). Fairly common permanent resident.

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER (*Poliophtila caerulea*). Fairly common Summer resident. Extreme dates April 2 to Sept. 18.

GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET (*Regulus satrapa*). Fairly common Winter resident. Rare Summer resident at high altitude.

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET (*Regulus calendula*). Uncommon Winter resident. Extreme dates, Sept. 27 to May 1.

AMERICAN PIPIT (*Anthus spinoletta*). Very rare Fall and Winter visitant. One bird observed near Franklin Club in Elizabethton Feb. 18, 1945, and a flock of 75 (est.) at same location Dec. 25, 1948 (L.R.H.); two on Little Roan Mountain Sept. 30, 1949, and 16 in Elizabethton Nov. 12, 1949 (F.W.B.).

CEDAR WAXWING (*Bombycilla cedrorum*). Uncommon permanent resident; irregular, abundant Winter resident.

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE (*Lanius ludovicianus*). Rare Winter resident. Extreme dates Aug. 20 to April 2.

STARLING (*Sturnus vulgaris*). Abundant permanent resident.

WHITE-EYED VIREO (*Vireo griseus*). Fairly common Summer resident. Extreme dates April 7 to Oct. 19. One bird observed Dec. 5, 8, and 14, 1948, on Razor Farm (A.H.W.).

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO (*Vireo flavifrons*). Uncommon Spring and Fall migrant. Extreme dates April 6 to June 21 and July 17 to Oct. 16.

BLUE-HEADED VIREO (*Vireo solitarius*). Uncommon Summer resident at higher altitudes. Extreme dates April 3 to Oct. 25.

RED-EYED VIREO (*Vireo olivaceus*). Abundant Summer resident, extreme dates April 11 to Oct. 17.

PHILADELPHIA VIREO (*Vireo philadelphicus*). One individual observed near Bee Cliff on Watauga River Sept. 26, 1948 (A.H.W., L.R.H.).

WARBLING VIREO (*Vireo gilvus*). Rare Summer resident. Extreme dates April 15 to Oct. 11.

BLACK AND WHITE WARBLER (*Mniotilta varia*). Uncommon Summer resident. Extreme dates April 9 to Oct. 5.

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER (*Protonotaria citrea*). One extremely late fall record Oct. 19, 1943, observed near the Covered Bridge over the Doe River in Elizabethton at close range (L.R.H., L.M.H., L.R.H. Jr.), One observed along Doe River in Lily Addition of Elizabethton Sept. 10, 1948 (A.H.W.).

WORM-EATING WARBLER (*Helmitheros vermivorus*). Rare Summer resident. Extreme dates April 21 to Sept. 26.

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER (*Vermivora chrysoptera*). Rare migrant. Extreme dates April 26 to Sept. 26. Probable very rare Summer resident in vicinity of Lake Phillip Nelson at 3500' altitude, summers of 1948 thru 1950. (F.W.B.). Not observed at this altitude after June 20.

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER (*Vermivora pinus*). Very rare Spring migrant, only three records from May 2 to May 7 and only one fall record Sept. 19, 1948.

LAWRENCE'S WARBLER (*Vermivora lawrencei*). One bird of this hybrid species observed along Watauga River near Razor Farm on July 29, 1945 (L.R.H.).

TENNESSEE WARBLER (*Vermivora peregrina*). Abundant Fall migrant Aug. 26 to Oct. 25; very rare Spring migrant, only records being May 5, 1946 (J.C.B., L.B.), and May 2 and 3, 1947.

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER (*Vermivora celata*). One bird observed in Elizabethton March 5, 1950 (J.C.H., L.R.H.).

NASHVILLE WARBLER (*Vermivora ruficapilla*). Rare Fall migrant with extreme dates of Aug. 18 to Oct. 12. Only one Spring record, May 5, 1946. (A.H.W.).

PARULA WARBLER (*Parula americana*). Uncommon Summer resident. Extreme dates April 8 to Oct. 8.

YELLOW WARBLER (*Dendroica petechia*). Common Summer resident. Extreme dates March 30 to Oct. 15.

MAGNOLIA WARBLER (*Dendroica magnolia*). Uncommon Spring and Fall migrant. Extreme dates April 26 to May 31 and Sept. 4 to Oct. 23.

CAPE MAY WARBLER (*Dendroica tigrina*). Fairly common Spring Fall migrant. Extreme dates April 28 to May 20 and Sept. 4 to Nov. 18.

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER (*Dendroica caerulescens*). Uncommon Spring and Fall migrant. Extreme dates May 2 to May 15 and Sept. 9 to Oct. 23. Also a common Summer resident at high altitudes. Extreme dates April 25 to Oct. 26. A male observed singing in Doe River Gorge at 2200' June 26, 1949 indicates probable nesting. (L.R.H.).

MYRTLE WARBLER (*Dendroica coronata*). Common Winter resident, abundant migrant irregularly. Extreme dates Sept. 16 to May 12.

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER (*Dendroica virens*). Common Spring and Fall Migrant—uncommon Summer resident. Extreme dates April 7 to Oct. 21.

CERULEAN WARBLER (*Dendroica cerulea*). Rare Spring migrant with dates April 20 to June 14. One Fall record, Aug. 7, 1948.

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER (*Dendroica fusca*). Uncommon Spring and Fall migrant. Extreme dates April 16 to May 16 and Aug. 21 to Oct. 14.

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER (*Dendroica pensylvanica*). Fairly common Spring and Fall migrant and fairly common Summer resident at high altitudes. Extreme dates April 26 to Oct. 22.

BAY-BREASTED WARBLER (*Dendroica castanea*). Uncommon Spring and abundant Fall migrant. Extreme dates April 15 to May 28 and Sept. 28 to Oct. 23.

BLACK-POLL WARBLER (*Dendroica striata*). Uncommon Spring and rare Fall migrant. Extreme dates April 23 to May 18 and Sept. 3 to Oct. 11.

PINE WARBLER (*Dendroica pinus*). Rare Spring and Fall migrant. Extreme dates April 30 to June 19 and Aug. 31 to Oct. 9.

PRAIRIE WARBLER (*Dendroica discolor*). Uncommon Spring and Fall migrant. Extreme dates April 14 to June 28 and Aug. 14 to Oct. 5. Probable rare Summer resident.

PALM WARBLER (*Dendroica palmarum*). Uncommon Spring and Fall

migrant. Extreme dates April 11 to July 9 and Sept. 2 to Nov. 29. Rare transient in winter. Jan. 6 and 25 and Dec. 21, 1947; January 4, 1948.

OVENBIRD (*Seiurus aurocapillus*). Common Summer resident, March 31 to Oct. 13.

NORTHERN WATER-THRUSH (*Seiurus noveboracensis*). Rare Spring and Fall migrant. Extreme dates May 5 to May 6 and Aug. 23 to Oct. 2.

LOUISIANA WATER-THRUSH (*Seiurus motacilla*). Fairly common Summer resident. Extreme dates March 20 to Oct. 30.

KENTUCKY WARBLER (*Oporonis formosus*). Fairly common Summer resident. Extreme dates April 22 to Oct. 2.

CONNECTICUT WARBLER (*Oporonis agilis*). One observed near Bee Cliff along Watauga River Sept. 28, 1947 (L.R.H.), another June 18, 1949.

MOURNING WARBLER (*Oporonis philadelphia*). Very rare Fall migrant. Two records: Oct. 1, 1944 (L.H.H.); Oct. 5, 1947 (L.R.H.)

YELLOW-THROAT (*Geothlypis trichas*). Common Summer resident. Extreme dates April 1 to Oct. 27. One Winter record at Wilbur Lake Dec. 21, 1947 (L.R.H.).

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT (*Icteria virens*). Fairly common Summer resident. Extreme dates April 20 to Oct. 8.

HOODED WARBLER (*Wilsonia citrina*). Fairly common Summer resident. Extreme dates April 10 to Oct. 17.

WILSON'S WARBLER (*Wilsonia pusilla*). Rare Spring migrant. Fairly common Fall migrant. Extreme dates May 4 to May 5 and Sept. 19 to Oct. 2.

CANADA WARBLER (*Wilsonia canadensis*). Rare Summer resident at high altitudes. Extreme dates May 1 to Oct. 10. Uncommon Spring and Fall migrant.

AMERICAN REDSTART (*Setophaga ruticilla*). Uncommon Summer resident. Extreme dates April 15 to Oct. 12.

ENGLISH SPARROW (*Passer domesticus*). Abundant permanent resident.

BOBOLINK (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*). Uncommon Spring and Fall migrant. Extreme Spring dates April 27 to May 28 and Fall dates Aug. 17 to Sept. 30.

MEADOWLARK (*Sturnella magna*). Abundant permanent resident. Breeds up to 3500' in vicinity of Lake Phillip Nelson (F.W.B.).

RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD (*Agelaius phoeniceus*). Fairly common migrant, Spring and Fall, uncommon Summer resident. Two winter records Dec. 26, 1948 (L.R.H.) and Jan. 8, 1950 (F.W.B.).

ORCHARD ORIOLE (*Icterus spurius*). Uncommon Summer resident. Extreme dates April 4 to Sept. 10.

BALTIMORE ORIOLE (*Icterus galbula*). Rare Summer resident. Extreme dates April 18 to Sept. 30.

RUSTY BLACKBIRD (*Euphagus carolinus*). Uncommon Spring and Fall migrant. Extreme dates Nov. 12 to April 13.

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*). This species was observed on March 21, 22, and 23, 1944, in our back yard at 1533 Burgie Place in Elizabethton at close range with 10x binoculars. Peterson's "Guide" and Chapman's "Handbook" were consulted on the spot while observing

the bird. Fred Behrend reported seeing a Brewer's Blackbird at the Franklin Club (approximately three blocks distant from our yard) in the evening of one of these three days (L.M.H.).

GRACKLE (*Quiscalus quiscula*). Abundant in Spring, Summer and Fall. Uncommon from middle of Nov. to middle of Feb.

COWBIRD (*Molothrus ater*). Uncommon and irregular Summer resident. Fairly common Spring and Fall migrant; rare Winter resident.

SCARLET TANAGER (*Piranga olivacea*). Fairly common Spring and Fall migrant. Rare Summer resident at higher altitudes. Extreme dates April 10 to Oct. 13.

SUMMER TANAGER (*Piranga rubra*). Uncommon Summer resident. Extreme dates April 23 to Oct. 3.

CARDINAL (*Richmondia cardinalis*). Abundant permanent resident.

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*). Fairly common Spring and Fall migrant and rare Summer resident at high altitudes. Extreme dates April 14 to Oct. 18.

BLUE GROSBEAK (*Guiraca caerulea*). One male observed on Elizabethton Golf Course May 4, 1946 (L.R.H.); another observed near Milligan College May 13, 1948 (M.T. et al).

INDIGO BUNTING (*Passerina cyanea*). Abundant Summer resident. Extreme dates April 27 to Nov. 3.

EVENING GROSBEAK (*Hesperiphona vespertina*). Very rare Winter visitant. Wintered here from Nov. 22, 1945, to May 4, 1946 (THE MIGRANT, 17:1-4).

PURPLE FINCH (*Carpodacus purpureus*). Irregularly abundant Fall and Spring migrant, fairly common Winter resident. Oct. 13 to May 3.

PINE SISKIN (*Spinus pinus*). Rare and irregular Winter visitant, remaining into late Spring, May 24, 1950. Earliest arrival date Nov. 8, 1948.

GOLDFINCH (*Spinus tristis*). Abundant permanent resident. Large flocks common in Winter.

RED-EYED TOWHEE (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*). Fairly common permanent resident, less common in Winter, especially at higher altitudes.

SAVANNAH SPARROW (*Passerculus sandwichensis*). Fairly common Spring and Fall migrant. March 14 to May 13 and Sept. 21 to Nov. 13.

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW (*Ammodramus savannarum*). Fairly common Summer resident. Extreme dates March 20 to Oct. 6. One Winter record Dec. 26, 1948 (F.W.B.).

VESPER SPARROW (*Pooecetes gramineus*). Fairly common Spring and Fall migrants, rare Summer resident at higher altitudes. Extreme dates March 18 to Nov. 6.

BACHMAN'S SPARROW (*Aimophila aestivalis*). Only one record of this species, observed by Finucane May 7, 1950, just across the line from Sullivan County near the Elizabethton-Bristol highway.

JUNCO (*Junco hyemalis*). Common Winter resident, extreme dates Oct. 7 to April 24, at low elevations. Common permanent resident at high altitude.

CHIPPING SPARROW (*Spizella passerina*). Fairly common Summer resident. Extreme dates Feb. 27 to Nov. 8.

FIELD SPARROW (*Spizella pusilla*). Abundant permanent resident.

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*). Fairly common Winter resident. Extreme dates Oct. 7 to May 22.

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW (*Zonotrichia albicollis*). Common Winter resident. Extreme dates Sept. 20 to May 20.

FOX SPARROW (*Passerella iliaca*). Fairly common Winter resident. Extreme dates Oct. 24 to March 30.

LINCOLN'S SPARROW (*Melospiza lincolni*). Two birds observed near Franklin Club April 2, 1950 (L.M.H.), also observed the following day singing (L.R.H.).

SWAMP SPARROW (*Melospiza georgiana*). Rare Winter resident along streams and marshy places. Extreme dates Oct. 17 to May 3.

SONG SPARROW (*Melospiza melodia*). Abundant permanent resident nesting at all altitudes. More abundant in Winter.

The following birds have been found by members of the Elizabethton Chapter of the T. O. S. in counties adjoining Carter County, but have not been found in Carter County.

SNOWY EGRET (*Egretta thula*). Johnson County, Tenn. See MIGRANT, 21:47-48, 1950.

SNOW GOOSE (*Chen hyperborea*). Avery County, N. C. One individual with a flock of about 80 Canada geese flying southward over Lynville Gap about 8:00 a.m., Oct. 14, 1945 (F.W.B., W.F.P., L.R.H.).

BLUE GOOSE (*Chen caerulescens*). Washington County, Tenn. One individual killed at Fish Hatchery Oct. 25, 1949. Head secured and identified (A.H.W.).

GREEN-WINGED TEAL (*Nettion carolinense*). Very rare transient. Not observed until April 10, 1949, at Roan Creek and Watauga Lake in Johnson County, Tenn. (F.W.B.) Also in Sullivan County on Holston River near Piney Flats Nov. 19, 1949 (7) (A.H.W.).

GOLDEN EAGLE (*Aquila chrysaetos*). One individual observed on the summit of Hump Mountain, Avery County, North C., Oct. 10, 1948 (L.R.H.).

PECTORAL SANDPIPER (*Pisobia melanota*). There have been five records of this species at the Fish Hatchery in Washington County, Tenn. during 1949 and 1950. April 9 to May 13 and Aug. 29 to Oct. 26. Two recent records from Johnson County, Tenn., at Roan Creek and Watauga Lake, Sept. 2 and 3, 1950 (2) (L.M.H., A.H.W., L.R.H.),

SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER (*Ereunetes pusillus*). Two Washington County, Tenn. records at Fish Hatchery, May 15 and Oct. 2, 1949 (A.H.W.). Two recent records for Johnson County, Tenn. at Roan Creek and Watauga Lake Sept. 2 and 3, 1950 (5) (L.M.H., L.R.H., A.H.W.).

SWAINSON'S WARBLER (*Limnithlypis swainsonii*). Very rare Summer resident near Rock Creek Park in Unicoi County, Tenn. Observed on two occasions, May 13 and June 6, 1949 (2) (L.R.H.). Also May 21, 1950 in same area (L.R.H.).

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (*Dendroica dominica*). Rare late Summer and Fall migrant in Sullivan County, Tennessee, along Holston River. Aug. 18 to Oct. 9 (A.H.W.).

FALL FLIGHTS OF BROAD-WINGED HAWKS IN THE SOUTHERN APPALACHIANS

For the past two or three years various members of the T. O. S., especially some of those belonging to the Elizabethton and Greeneville Chapters working under the leadership of Fred W. Behrend, have been watching for fall migrations of hawks along the several ridges and chains of the southern Appalachians. In previous years their search has not been very rewarding, but on September 23 thru 27, 1950, actually hundreds of Broad-winged Hawks were observed at various places from southwestern Virginia to the Knoxville area and eastward to the Blue Ridge of North Carolina. The largest number observed at any one place, nearly 1900 hawks, was seen by William Johnson whose account appears below.

The large number of Broad-winged Hawks seen at such widely scattered places indicates that there was a tremendous mass migration of hawks during the five days. Fortunately it happened over a week end when many observers were in the field. In the belief that the weather plays a large part in determining the migration times of many birds, weather maps were examined for the days just preceding and during the observed hawk flights. On September 21 there was a cold front over the Great Lakes and a warm front from the Gulf region over Ohio and West Virginia. The cold front may have started many birds southward, which were then slowed or delayed when they reached the warm front. On the 22nd neither of these fronts remained in the eastern part of the country; winds on this day were from the east and northeast. On the 23rd there was a cold front over the Great Lakes, and winds to the north of our area were from the west; on the afternoon of this day the first large flights were seen (see Behrend's account below). On the next day, the 24th, the cold front passed over Tennessee and North Carolina, and winds were from the north and northeast. On both of these days there was a high pressure area centered west of the Great Lakes and a low pressure area over Quebec, a combination tending to produce winds from the north over the Great Lakes and southward. On the 25th the cold front had passed completely over, the high pressure area was over Indiana and Ohio, and winds were from the north and northeast.

The key conditions which might be used in the future to predict hawk flights in this area apparently are a high pressure west or northwest of the Great Lakes, a low pressure area northeast of the Great Lakes, and a cold front moving southward.

In addition to the accounts that follow, two other reports were received of substantial numbers of Broad-winged Hawks. The first came from Dr. Joseph C. Howell, University of Tennessee, who described the following: On Sept. 24, 1950, he and Mrs. Howell were in the eastern part of Knox County, near the French Broad River, when they saw at least 78 Broad-winged Hawks between 3:50 and 4:40 p.m. The hawks were flying in a series of soaring circles that generally carried them in a southerly direction. Groups of two to five were most common; there were few

singles. The largest number in sight at one time was seventeen.

The second report came from Richard Burns and Donald Pfitzer, National Park Service, who on Sept. 16, 1950, saw about fifty Broad-wings at one time over Indian Gap, Great Smoky Mountains National Park.—**JAMES T. TANNER**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

HAWK MIGRATION IN UPPER EAST TENNESSEE.—Observation of hawk migration was engaged in by all Upper East Tennessee chapters of the T. O. S. during September 1950. It was conducted on a larger scale than in previous years, with more participants (approximately 25 this year), greater territory covered, and a longer period of observation.

The object of this undertaking was to determine if the many hawks migrating southward from eastern Canada and northeastern United States continued their flight along the Southern Appalachian Mountains, after having followed the northern and central chains of the Appalachians. A spur to making these observations were reports of the occurrence of large flights of Broad-winged Hawks along the Allegheny Mountains in West Virginia and Virginia and over other mountainous parts of West Virginia. Additional interest was aroused by information concerning the observation of a fairly substantial number of Broad-winged Hawks at the southern end of the Appalachian Mountains in the Fall of 1949.

The study developed to be of unusual interest. Its results not only confirmed the theory that the various ranges of the Southern Appalachian Mountains constitute flyways, and probably major ones, of the Broad-winged Hawk, but simultaneously the fact was established that flights of this species over the mountainous territory of southwestern Virginia, Upper East Tennessee, and part of North Carolina immediately to the South are of substantial size and extend over a relatively wide belt, from the Clinch Mountains north of the Tennessee Valley to the Blue Ridge Mountains some 50 miles south.

Between September 6 and September 23 a total of sixteen trips were made by different parties to twelve different and widely scattered mountains. A variety of hawks in small numbers was observed on these observation trips, but very few Broad-winged among them.

The first exciting news of large numbers of Broad-winged Hawks came from Stephen M. Russell of Abingdon, Virginia, member of the Bristol Chapter, who, stationed on Hayter Knob in the Clinch Mountains north of Abingdon (altitude 4200'), counted from noon to about 4:30 p.m. on September 23 a total of 627 Broad-winged Hawks in flocks of varying sizes, the largest of about 162 birds.

On September 24, Russell observed sizable concentrations of Broad-winged Hawks, the largest of 150 birds, on Mount Rogers in southwestern Virginia (altitude 5719'). His total count from 11:30 to about 4:30 p.m. was 371 Broad-winged Hawks.

Also on September 24, Mrs. Robert M. Switzer, Dr. Howard S. Young, and Mr. Thomas W. Finucane and son of the Kingsport Chapter listed at the north end of Bays Mountain near Kingsport approximately 300 Broad-winged Hawks.

At 1:10 p.m. on September 24, Fred W. Behrend counted 73 Broad-winged Hawks in substantially one flock above the summit of Hump Mountain (altitude 5587'), all in the same locality where a year earlier he had observed approximately 60 Broad-winged Hawks on the identical date.

During mid-afternoon on September 24, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Irvine of the Greeneville Chapter observed from the Camp Creek Bald fire tower southeast of Greeneville a total of 64 Broad-winged Hawks in several small groups, the largest consisting of 16 birds.

At 1:25 p.m. on September 25, Fred W. Behrend observed over Cold Springs Mountain southeast of Greeneville, Tennessee, (altitude 4889'), a small flock of 12 Broad-winged Hawks.

On September 26, while driving to Abingdon to join Stephen M. Russell on a repeat trip to Hayter Knob, Fred W. Behrend observed a concentration of Broad-winged Hawks near Bluff City (altitude 1389'), ten miles north of Elizabethton. He counted 29 of these birds.

On Hayter Knob, Russell and Behrend listed a total of 276 Broad-winged Hawks in three flocks, the largest of them 177 birds, from 1:50 to 2:35 p.m. on September 26.

Mrs. Robert W. Pugh, member of the Kingsport Chapter, observed approximately 200 Broad-winged Hawks near her home at Fordtown, south of Kingsport, (altitude approximately 1500') in the morning of September 27. The hawks were rising, in flocks of about 30, over Hemlock Ridge and soaring in the direction of Bays Mountain.

On September 28, Richard Nevius of the Greeneville Chapter and Fred W. Behrend observed but three Broad-winged Hawks from a fire tower in the Clinch Mountains at approximately 2000' altitude north of Rogersville and south of Kyles Ford, Tennessee, between 1:30 and 3:00 p.m. The weather on that day was extremely hazy as a result of smoke drifting southward from large forest fires in Canada.

On October 1, Mr. and Mrs. E. M. West of the Elizabethton Chapter observed near the Fish Hatchery in the vicinity of Fordtown in Sullivan County 30 Broad-winged Hawks.

On observation trips to Hump Mountain on September 30 and to Roan Mountain and Grassy Bald Mountain on October 1 no Broad-winged Hawks were seen by Fred W. Behrend. Accipiters in fair numbers were in evidence though on these trips.

On or about September 27 a flock of 14 hawks, Broad-winged from all appearances, was seen over the lower end of Beech Mountain, a transverse ridge connecting the Stone Mountains with the Blue Ridge Mountains, as reported by a resident of that section.

The total of Broad-winged Hawks observed during the period of September 23 to October 1 amounted to slightly in excess of 2,000.

It will be interesting to repeat this survey in future years. The data gathered will be of material assistance in following up the results obtained and gaining more comprehensive knowledge concerning the movements of the Broad-winged Hawk.

In the course of the study records were also kept of other members

of the Hawk family. The figures listed below apply only to birds observed on the mountain trips and do not include those seen on other occasions. They cover all of September and a few observations trips in October. The list is as complete as it was possible to compile: Red-tailed Hawk—25; Red shouldered Hawk—7, Cooper's Hawk—47, Sharp-shinned Hawk—43, Sparrow Hawk—14, Duck Hawk—5, Osprey—6, Marsh Hawk—1, Turkey Vulture—54, Black Vulture—65, Bald Eagle—1 immature and 1 adult. This amounts to a total of 269.—FRED W. BEHREND, 607 Range Street, Elizabethton, Tennessee.

MIGRATING HAWKS IN THE BLUE RIDGE.—On September 25, 1950, Mrs. Johnson, her sister, Mrs. Wolcott Dennis, Mr. Dennis, and I started from Little Switzerland, North Carolina, to go along the Blue Ridge Parkway to Mt. Mitchell. There was considerable discussion about the trip as the day was somewhat hazy, but we finally decided to go ahead as Tuesday might turn up with rain which would be worse.

When we reached Bear Wallow Gap, we could see that several large hawks were circling nearby. We parked and were able to identify them as Broad-winged Hawks. It was then about 9:00 o'clock and the haze was clearing somewhat. The hawks were soaring easily in circles. At the bottom the circles were estimated to be about 40 feet, and as the birds got higher in the air, the circles must have been at least a hundred feet in diameter. Some of the hawks were still in the trees, but most of them were on the wing. In about five minutes the hawks had reached the top of the thermal and began to move off to the southwest. Each hawk would ride the thermal up to the top before taking off, and I was able to count the birds as they left. As the first group of 73 were leaving, I noticed a second group come sailing in to the bottom of the thermal and they were soon soaring up toward the top. The birds were so close that we did not need our glasses to be able to see them easily. In fifteen minutes I counted 150 birds leaving the area. As no others seemed to be coming, we decided to leave, hoping that we might see these again.

As we went along the Parkway, we kept a close watch for the hawks, but did not see the flights that had just left the gap. Some miles on the way, at Buck Creek Gap we had to take a side road as there had been a washout on the Parkway. Back on the Parkway, we saw a Red-shouldered Hawk that was almost an albino. It had many solid patches of white on its back, which was toward us. After several minutes watching us, it decided it had business elsewhere.

Leaving the Parkway on the road up to Mt. Mitchell, we approached the area where fir and spruce have been planted. Over the first large ridge, we again saw several hawks soaring and got ready for a hurried count as we had to stop the car directly under where they were soaring. The hawks did not seem to mind us as they just kept soaring on up the thermal. When the first hawk reached the top, it took off as if it had received orders to leave. The others sailed on around the circle and on reaching the proper place, they also took off. The departure was in such

easy order that I was at all times able to make an accurate count of the hawks. They glided to the base of another thermal near the radio tower on the end of the mountain, where they again sailed up on a thermal.

We arrived at about 10 a.m. and counted 450 hawks in the next fifteen minutes. The other members of the party were looking northeast up the side of Black Mountains and called that more birds were appearing, so I changed my counting to the numbers of birds in the individual flights as they passed overhead. The groups numbered from six to 150 birds, and all that we could see were Broad-winged Hawks.

At one time there were five groups of birds in sight. As the birds reached the top of one thermal, each would leave for the next. It was almost as if there were whirlwinds raising the birds instead of the fallen leaves. About 11 a.m. the number of birds diminished, and the rest of the party drove on to the top of the mountain, hoping to see some hawks there, but did not see a single hawk until they returned. A single Red-shouldered Hawk hurried over the divide, dropping on the Asheville side of the mountain. At about noon we left as the flight seemed to have finished. During the hour and three-fourths I counted 1894 Broad-winged Hawks and a single Red-shouldered Hawk.

While counting the hawks, several cars stopped to see what was going on. Mr. J. P. Crawford from Hiwassee Dam, North Carolina, said that the evening before, near Linville, North Carolina, he had seen a similar group of hawks circling and had wondered what they were doing.

Near Nettle Patch we saw three more groups of Broad-wings, totaling 50 birds. They were soaring, as were all the rest of the birds that we had seen. Back at Bear Wallow Gap we saw a group of 50 birds and another of 10. Returning to the hotel, we were excited and were telling some of the other guests of our experience when we looked out toward Gillespie Gap and saw more circling hawks. Three groups of the Broad-wings went by: 7, 46, and 116 birds. No more hawks were seen during the afternoon. The total number of Broad-winged Hawks seen on this day was 2,323.

On Tuesday morning we went east on the Parkway to Grandfather Mountain. About four miles from Little Switzerland, a single Red-tailed Hawk was seen perched on a dead chestnut beside the road. We arrived at the top of the mountain at 10:45 a.m., finding it clear; we were able to pick out Roan Mountain and to see the Black Mountains without any trouble. After a few minutes, seven Broad-wings came soaring up the south face of the mountain and soon took off toward Hump Mountain. A few minutes later, I saw a Raven coming toward the mountain with something white in its mouth. It soon swerved as a Cooper's Hawk started diving at it, but kept on toward the north side where it went behind a cliff. Eight more Broad-wings soon showed up and headed toward Roan Mountain. A single Turkey Vulture rode the air currents up and away.

Tuesday afternoon, Mrs. Johnson and I went back to Mt. Mitchell to try to see if there were more hawks aloft, but were only able to see two Broad-wings flying near Mitchell Gap. On the way back we had a most

excellent view of a perched Red-tailed Hawk and also of a single Broad-winged Hawk soaring.

On Tuesday, October 3, Mrs. Johnson saw four Broad-wings soaring up over our home east of Knoxville. The birds rode up as the ones had around Mt. Mitchell and after getting very high, took off in a westerly direction.—WILLIAM M. JOHNSON, Knoxville, Tennessee.

HAWK FLIGHTS IN KNOX COUNTY.—On Sunday afternoon, September 24, Mrs. Dunbar and I drove Mr. and Mrs. Ernest W. Hobson and their son David to their place in Raccoon Valley, which is located in Knox County about three miles north of the Clinton Pike. Here we walked up the wooded slope to the top of Bulls Run Ridge. Due to the heavy stand of timber in full leaf we encountered very few birds. We were not looking for hawks! Imagine our surprise when, upon our return to the valley floor, we discovered a flight of hawks over Bull's Run Ridge. The first three hawks were observed at 4:15 p.m. Upon checking the direction of the wind, it was found to be north-north-west. The temperature was cool and the sky was clear. It is doubtful if we witnessed the beginning of the flight or possibly its end. However, within a space of thirty minutes, we counted 39 hawks all headed south along the ridge. Some were so high that they could scarcely be seen with the unaided eye. For this reason many passed unidentified, yet we did identify at least 20 Broad-winged Hawks, one Red-tailed, and one Red-shouldered Hawk. They were soaring with the wind, although occasionally one would rapidly flap its wings or would circle to gain altitude.—ROBERT J. DUNBAR, Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

THE 1950 CHRISTMAS SEASON BIRD COUNT

By T. O. S. MEMBERS

Christmas bird counts from eleven localities are reported here. The localities span the State, from Memphis to Roan Mountain. A total of 95 species were recorded, a rather low number compared with the total of some previous years. Memphis, reporting 75 species, had the highest number, and Roan Mountain, with 11, the lowest. A striking change in comparison with last year is the number of Red-breasted Nuthatches; last year was a record high for them, 180 being reported from five localities, while this year only 5 were reported from the Great Smoky Mountains, the only locality reporting any. No other species show such a striking change, altho three species, Winter Wren, Bluebird, and Meadow Lark, apparently were more common this year than last.

In the table and descriptions that follow, the localities are listed from west to east. Roan Mountain is omitted from the table, and the list of birds from there is included in the description for that locality. Under the heading "Information on the Counts" are described the areas, types of habitats covered, weather conditions, number of observers or parties, miles covered, number of species and approximate number of individual

TABLE OF 1950 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

SPECIES	Memphis	Clarksville	Nashville	Lebanon	Murfreesboro	Great Smokies	Greeneville	Kingsport	Johnson City	Elizabethton
Pied-billed Grebe	4					2				4
Double-crested Cormorant	84									
Great Blue Heron	3		3		1		2			
Little Blue Heron	*1									
American Bittern	*1									
Mallard	19		12							
Black Duck	5	1	4						6	
Gadwall			2							
Ring-necked Duck	2		10				1			1
Canvas-back		5	1							
Lesser Scaup Duck	2								14	5
American Golden-eye										1
Buffle-head										1
Hooded Merganser						1				
American Merganser			1				6			
Turkey Vulture	5	1	4	2	1	4	29	1	6	1
Black Vulture	10	8	5	3	3		16		1	
Sharp-shinned Hawk						1			2	1
Cooper's Hawk	5	1	1			1		1	1	
Red-tailed Hawk	17	1	5	2		4	1			
Red-shouldered Hawk	6	2	2							
Bald Eagle						1				
Marsh Hawk	4	1			1	1	2			
Sparrow Hawk	27		23	4	5	3	7		4	11
Ruffed Grouse						9				
Bob-white	99	12	1	1					2	16
Coot			2							
Killdeer	152	2	43	18	2	20	11	5		5
Wilson's Snipe	53		3				2			
Ring-billed Gull	212									
Mourning Dove	14	40	360	3	40	10	41	6		23
Screech Owl	1		2		1	3	1			1
Great Horned Owl	1		1	1						
Barred Owl	7		1							
Belted Kingfisher	5	1	6	3		6	2	1		4
Flicker	100	4	19	9	1	4	9	3	3	15
Pileated Woodpecker	1	2	10	4		12	1	1		
Red-bellied Woodpecker	50	7	13	8			4	1	1	1
Red-headed Woodpecker	6						3	4		
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	14	1	4	3		1	1			1

1950 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT—Continued

SPECIES	Memphis	Clarksville	Nashville	Lebanon	Murfreesboro	Great Smokies	Greeneville	Kingsport	Johnson City	Elizabethton
Hairy Woodpecker	17	3	7	2	1	4	3	4	1	.....
Downy Woodpecker	42	8	53	13	1	13	5	15	1	12
Phoebe .....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	8	.....	8	.....	2
Horned Lark	3	3	120	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	100	4
Blue Jay	339	3	6	3	3	15	44	33	10	17
Raven .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eastern Crow	150	100	165	61	.....	280	*	89	50	131
Fish Crow	22	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Black-capped Chickadee .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	*	.....	.....	.....	.....
Carolina Chickadee	222	29	144	60	5	186	49	56	8	67
Tufted Titmouse	115	8	73	50	.....	24	26	19	3	26
White-breasted Nuthatch	4	.....	2	.....	.....	13	3	14	2	.....
Red-breasted Nuthatch .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	.....
Brown Creeper	10	.....	2	1	.....	7	.....	3	.....	.....
House Wren	*2	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....
Winter Wren	34	8	5	.....	.....	13	3	.....	.....	1
Bewick's Wren	5	.....	8	4	2	1	4	2	.....	.....
Carolina Wren	149	18	53	14	6	22	48	16	2	39
Mockingbird	133	4	51	31	3	10	48	19	12	15
Brown Thrasher	28	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Robin	373	.....	225	4	.....	11	141	.....	.....	3
Hermit Thrush	30	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	.....	.....	.....	4
Bluebird	86	13	66	20	5	13	71	21	25	130
Golden-crowned Kinglet	46	3	12	1	.....	54	1	7	.....	15
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	22	.....	3	.....	.....	7	1	1	6	.....
American Pipit	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cedar Waxwing	97	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	25	18	.....	10
Loggerhead Shrike	29	.....	5	2	.....	5	.....	.....	1	6
Starling	1466	23	1300	160	50	83	144	4000	200	408
Myrtle Warbler	68	3	16	4	2	4	59	.....	.....	81
Pine Warbler .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	.....
Yellow-throat	*1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
English Sparrow	273	29	95	90	5	47	122	20	100	120
Eastern Meadowlark	474	32	167	37	9	170	35	5	4	82
Red-wing Blackbird	116	40	35	.....	.....	2	2	.....	.....	.....
Rusty Blackbird .....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Purple Grackle	736	.....	.....	.....	11	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Cowbird	5	10	1	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cardinal	503	27	230	52	7	55	134	74	10	105
Purple Finch	4	.....	25	31	.....	3	7	.....	.....	6
Pine Siskin .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	.....	.....

1950 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT—Continued

SPECIES	Memphis	Clarksville	Nashville	Lebanon	Murfreesboro	Great Smokies	Greeneville	Kingsport	Johnson City	Elizabethton
Goldfinch	222	75	146	6	24	160	119	39	25	101
Red Crossbill						1				
Red-eyed Towhee	117	18	72	21	3	7	9	21	3	13
Savannah Sparrow	51	2				5		5		
Vesper Sparrow						6				
Slate-colored Junco	432	46	291	150	8	300	34	78	150	141
Tree Sparrow										*2
Field Sparrow	140	43	96	43		84	175	61		20
White-crowned Sparrow	15		11	10	1		71	18	10	18
White-throated Sparrow	1012	35	116	22	6	40	58	40	25	79
Fox Sparrow	26	2		6	1	1				8
Swamp Sparrow	138	10	26			1			1	
Song Sparrow	206	39	97	39		114	92	24	10	49
Lapland Longspur	12									
Total Species	75	45	62	42	30	59	50	89	35	47

birds observed, and the names of the observers. The species and numbers of individuals observed at each locality, except for Roan Mountain, are listed in the table. For additional information on the records marked with an asterisk (*), see the paragraph containing information on that particular locality.

INFORMATION ON THE COUNTS

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (1946 area; wooded bottomlands 30%, deciduous woodlots including city parks 25%, airports, pastures, and old cottonfields 20%, suburban roadsides 25%.—Dec. 24, 1950; 6:45 a.m. to 5:10 p.m. Fair; temp. 43-59; wind W, 3-10 m.p.h. 31 observers in 4 main parties, breaking up at various localities, and four smaller parties. Total party hours, 92 (82 on foot, 10 by car); total party miles, 231 (78 on foot, 153 by car). 75 species, about 9,636 individuals. Mr. and Mrs. Ben B. Coffey, Jr., Fred Ashley, Cooper and Mrs. Floy Barefield, Mrs. Elizabeth Barton, Thomas Bonner, Robert Burton, Fred Carney, Mary Davant, Dave Dermon, Harry Geyer, Newton Hanson, Helen Inches, Oliver Irwin, Luther F. Keeton, Lawrence Kent, Paul Kisling, Charles Marcus, Jennie May, Charles McPherson, Jr., Jim and Mrs. J. H. McWhorter, Patricia Moore, R. Demett Smith, Bro. Leo Thomas, Maurice and Mrs. M. L. Torti, Plato Tuliatos, Mrs. Rose Woolridge, Alan Ziegler.

The Little Blue Heron was an adult identified by Jim McWhorter; the American Bittern was identified by Demett Smith; the House Wrens by Ben Coffey; the Yellow-throat, a male, by Luther Keeton; all were

verified by others in their parties. In addition to the species identified, 74 unidentified ducks and 670 unidentified blackbirds were seen.

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. (Paradise Hill Road, then along Cumberland River from Hiett's Garden to Mark's Slough, and back).—Dec. 31, 1950; 7:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Sunny but hazy; temp. 20-50; no wind. 45 species, about 743 individuals. Alfred and Edward Clebsch. Additional species observed along this route on the previous evening: Barred Owl, 1; Hermit Thrush, 1; Cedar Waxwing, 10; White-crowned Sparrow, 4.

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (Chiefly south and west of the city, including 85-acre Radnor Lake and wooded shores, Otter Creek Road, Hobbs and Hillsboro Roads, Old Hickory Blvd., Edwin and Percy Warner Parks, Highway 100, 101 Pasture, Westmeade, Hillwood, Bosley Spring, Shelby Park, and Bell's Bend of Cumberland River from ferry to Robertson Island; open fields 20%, wooded pastures and park lands 25%, dense woods 5%, lake area 5%, and thickets, ditch banks, river bank and roadsides 45%).—Dec. 26, 1950; 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Clear at start, becoming overcast by noon, then low clouds, windy and very cold towards dusk; temp. 49 to 28; wind NW reaching 20 m.p.h. at dusk. Ground bare, not wet. 23 observers in 7 parties. Total party hours, 50 (40 on foot, 10 by car); total party miles, 94 (30 on foot, 64 in car). 62 species, about 4200 individuals. B. H. Abernathy, Tom C. Barr, Jr., Mrs. W. F. Bell, Ann Brinton, William Crouch, D. J. and Fairman Cumming, Albert F. Ganier (compiler), Mrs. E. W. Goodpasture, Wayland Hayes, Helen M. Howell, Amelia (Mrs. F. C.) Laskey, Mr. and Mrs. E. P. and Miss Penelope Mountfort, Al H. Mayfield, G. R. Mayfield, George Mayfield, Jr, James A Robins, Dan Schreiber, Harvey Scurlock, Robert Sollmann, Norman Thomas (Members of Nashville Chapter, T. O. S.).

LEBANON, Tenn. (Vicinity of Lebanon and southward 9 miles to include Merritt farm and parts of Cedars of Lebanon State Park; open fields 15%, wooded pastures and park lands 25%, cedar thickets 45%, and brushy land, fence rows, ditch banks, and roadsides 45%).—Dec. 30, 1950; 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and at 8:00 p.m.; overcast all day and foggy until 10:00 a.m.; temp. 40-50; no wind; ground bare and not wet. 15 observers in 4 parties. Total party hours, 27 (20 on foot, 7 in car); total party miles, 48 (8 on foot, 40 by car). 42 species, about 968 individuals. Robert C. Bone, Albert F. Ganier (compiler), Loyd Hester, Mary Frances Holloway, Graham Kash, G. R. Mayfield, Dixon Merritt, Harvey Scurlock, Mrs. J. C. Sellars, James Shaw, Jimmy Shaw, Dan Schreiber, Norman and Donald Thomas, Mrs. Henry Waters. (Members of Lebanon Chapter T. O. S.).

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. (Rutherford County).—Dec. 24, 1950. Cloudy; temp. 56; light wind. Two observers in one party. 30 species, about 211 individuals. H. O. Todd, Jr., Harvard Todd.

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK, Tenn.-N. C. (essentially same area as in past 13 years; circle with 7½-mile radius centering on Bull Head of Mt. LeConte, including a section of the Tennessee-North Carolina divide from near Mt. Collins east to Dry Sluice Gap;

towns of Gatlinburg and Pigeon Forge, Tenn.; altitude 1200 to 6500 feet; spruce-fir forests 40%, deciduous forests 25%, farmland and abandoned fields 25%, towns and suburbs 10%).—Dec. 31, 1950; 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Clear; temp. 15 (above 6000 ft.) to 45; wind variable, light to approximately 25 m.p.h. at high altitudes; ground bare in lowlands, up to 12 inches of snow cover above 6000 ft. **Thirty-four observers in 10 parties.** Total party hours, 81; total party miles 247 (74 on foot, 173 by car). 59 species, about 1,895 individuals. Jon Beasley, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Broome, Leroy Buckner, Richard C. Burns, Mary Ruth Chiles, J. A. Counts, James Count, Eric Cron, Brockway Crouch, Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Dunbar, Robert Eslinger, Arthur A. Harris, Robert P. Hornsby, Joseph C. Howell, Phillip Huff, William M. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Leonard, Bonnie McDonald, S. R. Meaker, Andrew J. Meyerriecks, Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Monroe, Elise Morell, Robert Scott, William Searle, Edward Shelley, Jr., Louise Schultz, Arthur Stupka, James T. Tanner, Charles Thompson, William Yambert (T. O. S. and National Park Service).

Included in the count of Chickadees are both Carolina and Black-capped Chickadees.

GREENEVILLE, Tenn. (circle of 7½ mile radius about Greeneville, including Roaring Fork Creek, Bluff Mt. at Marvin, Tusculum, Afton, Shiloh, Bird's Bridge to the Nolichucky River, White's Mill; stream banks 30%, deciduous woods 25%, open fields and thickets 40%, city suburbs 5%).—Dec. 27, 1950; 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Clear; temp. 22-40; wind NE, 30 m.p.h. 10 observers in 5 parties. Total party hours, 26; total miles 87 (15 on foot, 72 by car). 50 species, about 17,670 individuals. Mrs. Willis Clemens, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Irvine, Mr. C. M. Shanks, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. White, Bob White, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Nevius (compilers).

The number of Crows seen was an estimated 16,000. In addition to the species listed, a Redpoll was reported by Mrs. Irvine, who watched it for several minutes in her yard; since there is only one other report, another sight record, for this species in Tennessee, this report should be accepted only tentatively

KINGSPORT, Tenn. (7½ miles radius centering on Pactolus School, including Bay's Mtn., Pactolus Farms, residential district, Colonial Heights area; pasture 50%, wooded land 30%, residential area 20%).—Dec. 31, 1950; 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Clear; temp. 33-50; wind N, 0-5 m.p.h.; no snow or ice. 18 observers in 6 parties. Total party hours, 12 (11 on foot, 1 by car; total miles, 26 (14 on foot, 12 by car). 38 species, about 4,739 individuals. C. Crane, D. Delius, Mrs. P. Fields, R. Gee, R. Gift, W. E. Gift, F. Guthrie, P. Guthrie, Mrs. C. A. Harris, Jr., W. Langstaff, W. C. McHarris, W. H. McHarris, E. Self, Mrs. R. M. Switzer, R. M. Switzer, Jr., Miss D. Vestal, C. Witsel, H. Young.

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn.—(area lying north of Johnson City).—Dec. 31, 1950; 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Fair, temp. 45; wind of 8-10 m.p.h.: Two observers in one party. 35 sp., about 800 individuals. Robert B. Lyle and Bruce P. Tylor.

ELIZABETHTON, Tenn. (same area as in the past 7 years with center at Valley Forge; Watauga Lake, Watauga and Doe Rivers, Buffalo and Gap Creeks, and adjacent areas; lake border 5%, stream borders 50%, woodlands 25%, and open fields 20%).—Dec. 31, 1950; 7:15 a.m. to 5:34 p.m. Cloudy early morning, sunny and hazy to clear rest of day; temp. 31-42-31; wind NW, 8-12 m.p.h.; ground bare and fairly dry. 9 observers in 5 parties Total party hours 29; total miles 74 (22 on foot, 52 by car). 47 species, 1806 individuals. F. W. Behrend, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Browning, Kenneth Clark, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Evans, Dr. and Mrs. L. R. Herndon, Richard Hughes (Elizabethton Chapter T. O. S.).

The Tree Sparrows were seen by Fred W. Behrend. A Ruby-crowned Kinglet was seen in the area on Dec. 30.

GRASSY BALD MOUNTAIN AND ROAN MOUNTAIN, Tenn.-N. C.—(ascent from crossing of old and new Roan Mountain roads via latter and Heaton Ridge trail to Grassy Bald Mountain, descending via Jane Bald and Round Bald to Carvers Gap, ascending to Roan Mountain Knob and returning via Carvers Gap on old Roan Mountain Road to starting point; altitude from 3750 ft. to 6,300 ft.; deciduous woodland with scattered small briar patches 50%, balds partly overgrown with alder 25%, spruce and fir forest mixed with rhododendron and alder 25%).—Jan. 1, 1951; 7:15 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.; slightly cloudy morning to early afternoon, clear and cloudless rest of day, considerable haze in valleys; temp. 27-38-33; wind W, 1-18 m.p.h.; trace of snow at lower altitude to 2 feet of crusted snow in woods on northern slopes, few bare spots on south side only of balds. Total hrs., 10½; total miles, 12 (on foot). Downy Woodpecker, 1 (4200 ft.); Horned Lark, 10 (of 5 of them in view on ground at near 6200 ft. 3 were the Northern and 2 the Prairie subspecies; Common Raven, 1 (6200 ft.); Am. Crow, 1 (4900 ft.); Tufted Titmouse, 7 (3900 to 5000 ft.); White-breasted Nuthatch, 2 (4800 ft.); Robin, 1 (5700 ft.); Eastern Bluebird, 1 (5750 ft.); Am. Goldfinch, 1 (5600 ft.); Slate-colored Junco, 8 (3800 to 4800 ft.); Song Sparrow, 2 (1 each at 3750 and 4200 ft.). Total, 11 species; 35 individuals. Note: Balsam trees, which bore most abundant crop in preceding winter, entirely devoid of cones. No birds in evidence in coniferous forest from 5500 to 6300 ft.—Fred W. Behrend (Elizabethton Chapter, T. O. S.).

THE ROUND TABLE

RECENT BIRD MORTALITY IN GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK.—The record-breaking warm weather of late October and early November, 1950, which prevailed in the Southern Appalachian region, was brought to a sudden halt on November 4 when temperatures dropped and the season's first snow fell in the higher Smokies. By the morning of November 5 the mercury stood at 14 degrees above zero at Newfound Gap (elevation 5,040 feet), on the Tennessee-North Carolina state line, and patches of snow mottled the ground to the 3,500 ft. elevation. This rapid change from summer-like to winterlike conditions precipitated a flight of various birds, mostly shore and water inhabitants, which

moved ahead of the storm during the night of the 4th; a number of these, perhaps mistaking the wet road for a watercourse, alighted on that stretch of cross-mountain highway (Tenn. No. 71) which parallels the upper reaches of the West Prong of the Little Pigeon River, at elevations from 3500 to 4200 ft. It is possible that some were killed or injured by the impact; others, perhaps weakened or confused by the snowstorm which prevailed at the time, wandered about once they were grounded. Ordinarily, the traffic over this road would be very light at this time of day and year, particularly in view of the weather, but such was not the case on the night in question. Hundreds of people were returning to North Carolina from the Tennessee-North Carolina football game which had been played in Knoxville that afternoon, and it was by mere coincidence that this unusually heavy traffic encountered the flight of migrants at about the time these birds were alighting. At least 21 birds were killed and a lesser number injured.

Mr. Donald W. Pfitzer of Gatlinburg, Tennessee, left the town at 9:30 o'clock on the night of November 4 and drove to Newfound Gap, in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. He noticed a number of birds flying about in the snowstorm and occasionally he stopped to pick up a dead or crippled individual. Early next morning he again went over this road and secured a few more birds. Upon examining these specimens we found the following represented: Coot—eight birds (seven were dead, one live bird was photographed and liberated); Virginia Rail—two birds (dead); Sora—one bird (dead); Ring-necked Duck—one bird (dead); Lesser Scaup—one bird (dead); Yellow-billed Cuckoo—two birds (one was dead but the other appeared to be unharmed and was liberated).

Mr. Pfitzer reported seeing three additional Coots and two Killdeer in the same general area and at this same time.

Park Rangers Melvin Price and Dewey Ealy, Assisant Naturalist Richard Burns, members of the park's road-maintenance crew, and I all found a few birds mostly in the same area (3500-4200 ft.) on November 5. The total number of birds involved, including the already-mentioned individuals which were collected or observed by Mr. Pfitzer, follows:

COOT—12 dead and seven or more live (including injured) birds. This represents the second record for the occurrence of this species in Great Smoky Mountains National Park; the only other record goes back 15 years (November 9, 1935) when one of these birds was found by the road construction crew at the Forney Ridge parking area (elevation 6310 ft.) and later photographed and released.

VIRGINIA RAIL—three dead birds. The first park record for this species.

SORA—one dead bird. Only once before has it been known to occur here (a stunned individual in Gatlinburg, Sept. 28, 1942).

KILLDEER—two live birds observed by Pfitzer. A fairly common resident in areas bordering the park.

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO—2 birds; one dead, the other was alive

and was later liberated. This is the latest autumn occurrence of which we have any record.

RING-NECKED DUCK—one dead bird. First record since March 25, 1942, when Joe Manley reported four birds on Laurel Lake (near Townsend, Tennessee, less than two miles north of the park boundary).

LESSER SCAUP—three birds, of which one was found dead. The two live individuals were later liberated. This is a fairly common spring and autumn migrant in our area.

GREEN-WINGED TEAL—one dead bird. The only other park record is my observation of a flock of 10 at Metcalf Bottoms, Little River, on October 31, 1938.

BALDPATE—one dead bird. The only other park record is Joe Manley's observation of four birds at Metcalf Bottoms on Nov. 13, 1940.—**ARTHUR STUPKA**, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

SHARP-TAILED SPARROW IN SOUTHWESTERN VIRGINIA.—While participating in the Bristol Chapter's Fall Field Day on October 7, 1950, I flushed a Sharp-tailed Sparrow from the high grass bordering the mill pond in Abingdon, Virginia. The bird disappeared into the adjacent cattail marsh but returned to feed in the dense grass a few minutes later. My only other record for this vicinity is of one individual at Saltville, Virginia, on October 16, 1940.—**STEPHEN M. RUSSELL**, Route 3, Abingdon, Virginia.

NOTE: There is no record, as far as I know, for the Sharp-tailed Sparrow in Tennessee.—EDITOR.

MENABONI'S BIRDS. By Athos and Sara Menaboni. Reinhart and Co., Inc., N. Y. 1950. (\$10)

This book is well titled. The paintings of birds are by Athos Menaboni, and the text, written by his wife, Sara, is largely about the birds that have been watched and cared for by Menaboni. The book is primarily a vehicle for Athos Menaboni's paintings. A painter of murals and of birds for a long time, he has not been widely known to bird students and appreciators of bird art because he has not illustrated manuals and handbooks about birds nor books on the birds of a State; most paintings of birds are made for one or another of these purposes. In this book are thirty-two colored plates, thirteen full-page illustrations in black and white, and numerous smaller black and white figures. The colored plates will naturally attract the most attention, the most praise, and the most criticism. Most of the plates show one or two individuals of the same species of bird on some appropriate vegetation or in flight, all against a white background. As is the case with all kinds of art, people "know what they like" about bird paintings, so there is little point in a reviewer attempting to evaluate the paintings in this book. He can only say that Menaboni has a style like that of no other bird artist, and that his bird portraits are beautiful and attractive. The black and white full-page illus-

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The simple truth about birds is interesting enough;

it is not necessary to go beyond it.

trations appear flat and uninteresting in comparison with the fine color of the colored plates. An unfortunate feature of the design of the book is that the legends for the plates were placed on their backs rather than on the facing pages. Except for this detail the book is handsomely designed and put together. The narrative makes pleasant reading,—about the birds the Menabonis have cared for in their home and sanctuary; about some adventures they have had in watching birds; and the story of finally making their home sanctuary.

The first printing of "Menaboni's Birds" was sold out immediately upon publication, proof of the value of the work and of the great popular interest in the beauty of birds. The publisher, it is understood, is making a second printing.—JAMES T. TANNER.

NEW T. O. S. CHAPTER AT LEBANON

A new chapter of the Tennessee Ornithological Society has recently been organized at Lebanon. Its mentor and first President is Dixon Merritt, one of the founders of the T. O. S. and an Honorary Life Member. Its starting membership numbered about ten, and one of its first activities was this year's Christmas Bird Count, which is reported in other pages of this issue.

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GLENHAVEN

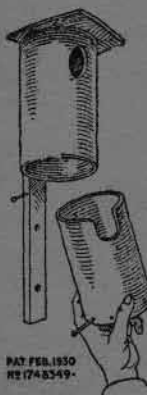
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