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FIRST MARYLAND RECORD OF FULVOUS TREE DUCK

Charlotte M. Hoover

On July 19, 1961, I discovered a Fulvous Tree Duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*) on the pond north of Route U.S. 50 in West Ocean City, Maryland. It was in a typical Tree Duck habitat—a densely grown-up marshy area adjacent to croplands. The bird was "tipping up," although most authorities refer to Tree Ducks as land-feeders the diet of which consists chiefly of weed seeds, corn, waste grain and green vegetables.

After watching the duck for some time, I brought my husband back to see it; and we observed it for an hour or so. It swam around unconcernedly and eventually came to the shore where we were parked; it then proceeded to take a nap. It was in perfect plumage, and we could see all the marks quite clearly—tawny color, long legs and neck, black bill, white line along the side, white on tail, dark line down the back of the neck, and whitish feathers on the throat. Since Fulvous Tree Ducks are mostly nocturnal in their habits, we were fortunate to have such a good look. We were familiar with the field marks of this species, since we had seen it previously in Louisiana.

Since the pond owner keeps other waterfowl there, my husband checked to be sure it was not a captive bird. The pond owner was completely unaware of the bird's presence. It is very likely the duck was a recent arrival to the pond.

Although we went back on the 20th, we did not see the Fulvous Tree Duck again. However, on July 23 it was observed by Samuel H. Dyke. He wrote: "I had no difficulty in locating the Fulvous Tree Duck early this morning. The bird was feeding with a group of Black Ducks along the edge of the marsh on the northwest side of the pond. In order to get a closer look, I walked around the pond and crossed the marsh, finally coming to within 200 feet of it. When I tried to move closer, the bird watched for a few minutes with its long neck extended, and then swam to the center of the pond where it began to preen. Although the duck did not fly while I was there, it did spread its wings several times, showing the flight feathers to be in good condition. No doubt about it—an adult Fulvous Tree Duck in good plumage." On July 30, Theodore R. Hake photographed it through a telescope, watched it in flight, and commented on a peculiarity that Mr. Dyke noted also—that of sinking low in the water like a grebe, possibly to escape detection. It was still present on Aug. 20 (Dyke).

The distribution of the Fulvous Tree Duck is an interesting subject. This duck is found in five widely separated parts of the world: India, eastern Africa, southeastern South America, northern South America, and northern Mexico and southern United States. In the United States it normally occurs in two major areas: southern Louisiana and Texas, and southern California. Richard H. Pough, in his "Audubon Water Bird Guide" (1951), comments, "The curious, discontinuous distribution of this bird suggests either a decadent species of which only a few relics survive or an aggressive species which is spreading and colonizing new areas," and he leans toward the former possibility. However, in recent years there have been increasing reports of birds found in the southeastern United States, mostly along the coast.

The major influx, judging by available literature, began simultaneously in Florida and South Carolina in the fall of 1956. Prior to that time, Florida had had only a few scattered records, but on the Dec. 28, 1956 Christmas Count at Cocoa, Allan D. Cruickshank and party found 14 (Audubon Field Notes 11: 131). Dr. William B. Robertson, Jr., reports that in November 1960 there were 65-75 at Loxahatchee (*ibid.* 15: 30).

The first record for South Carolina was a count of 4 on Edisto Island on Dec. 15, 1955 (Sprunt, *Chat* 20: 17). Then on Nov. 26, 1956, 24 visited the Savannah River National Wildlife Refuge on the South Carolina—Georgia border for 10 days (Mellinger, *Chat* 21: 22). On Dec. 15, 1959 and Jan. 13, 1960 there were 32 at the same location (*Chat* 24: 22), and on Dec. 14, 1960 there were 9 there (*Chat* 25: 15).

The North Carolina invasion did not come until 1960. After the first record of a single bird in July 1886, no more were noted until Apr. 15, 1949, when 2 were found by the late Charles L. Broley (*Chat* 13: 49). In the winter of 1959-60, 4 more were sighted, and then on Oct. 19, 1960 John L. Sincok spotted 55 from the air during a waterfowl inventory of the Currituck area (Sykes, *Raven* 32: 60).

Paul W. Sykes, Jr., has documented the Virginia occurrences in an article entitled "The Fulvous Tree Duck Invasion into Southeastern Virginia" (*Raven* 32: 60-63). March 30, 1960 marked the first record, a pair seen by Mrs. A. D. Strong at Williamsburg. Since then there have been a dozen more reports, including 6 mounted specimens, and a notable count of 21 on Jan. 1, 1961 by R. V. Dudley at Virginia Beach (Sykes).

A note on Puerto Rico seems worth adding. In the July 1961 *Auk* (78: 425), an article entitled "Records of Two Migrant Waterfowl for Puerto Rico" by Virgilio Biaggi, Jr. and Francis J. Rolle mentions a specimen taken from a flock of about 20 Fulvous Tree Ducks on Dec. 21, 1960. Only two previous records were known for the whole West Indies.

From the above information, it would appear that Fulvous Tree Ducks are rapidly expanding their range along our East Coast. With so much favorable habitat available, we may soon have a nesting record!

FURTHER PILEATED OBSERVATIONS IN BALTIMORE SUBURBS

Alice S. Kaestner

The first report of a Pileated Woodpecker (Dryocopus pileatus) in the North Baltimore suburbs was made by Mrs. Joshua Rowe in May 1960, when she saw one at the Cylburn Wildflower Preserve (Maryland Birdlife 16: 85). A short time later, it was observed there again by Dr. Elizabeth Fisher, and its characteristic oblong drilling in trees at Cylburn was confirmed by Dr. Robert Burns.

In June, a bird watcher spoke of seeing this woodpecker in Mt. Washington, and later in the month, one was sighted in Roland Park.

The next view was by Mr. Churchill Carey, who noticed the bird for several days in September, close to his home in the wooded section of Lakehurst.

On Christmas Eve, Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Griffith watched this species at their home on the edge of the woods in the Lake Roland area. And on Christmas Day, it was observed by Dr. and Mrs. Leo Vollmer at their home in Murray Hill, which is near Bellona Avenue, just west of Charles Street.

Susanne Michel was next to sight it in the woods off Joppa Road, Towson, on February 18, 1961.

On February 22, as I opened the door of our home in Lakehurst to go out to the feeder with a sweet cake, I heard a very loud hammering. Glancing up in the direction of the sound, I spied a Pileated Woodpecker drilling on a limb high up in the Norway Maple, close to the back of our house. It was then 8:10 a.m. and the visitor continued at its work until 8:30. Both sides of the limb had been worked on and I saw the bird tear pieces of live bark three and a half inches long by one inch wide from the limb with one thrust of its powerful bill.

Formerly, if a bird watcher desired to add the Pileated Woodpecker to his life list of birds, it was thought to be necessary to go to the deep woods, sometimes far afield. Some years ago, I recall having gone to five states before finally seeing one in West Virginia. Now to look up and see one at my back door in a completely developed suburban area, it was really unbelievable.

In late March, Mr. and Mrs. Eliot Williams came upon this species while they were walking at Cylburn.

It is not known whether the birds seen are a pair or a single bird since no one has seen two together; neither has anyone reported seeing a leg band.

The Pileated did not return to our home until April 4; then my husband sighted it clinging to the tree beside the suet feeder at 6:20 a.m. Usually, a Starling (Sturnus vulgaris) will chase another bird from the

feeder but that morning a Starling lighted, glanced at the new and larger visitor and departed immediately.

After leaving the suet, the woodpecker flew over to the lowest limb of the maple and proceeded to drill to the depth of two and a half inches where it started feeding. Sitting motionless on the same limb about three feet away was a Yellow-shafted Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*), which remained until after the Pileated flew away; then, it moved to the Pileated's fresh drilling and fed in the same manner.

On the following two mornings the Pileated Woodpecker was drilling on the maple at 5:45 a.m. It continued coming each day, and on the 11th it was feeding on the suet at 8:35 a.m. Whenever it came, it stayed from fifteen to twenty minutes and it was very deliberate in whatever it was doing. Nothing seemed to disturb it, such as other birds flying near or a person walking under the tree.

The last view I had of it at our home was on April 12, when I saw it at 10:10 a.m. Each visit meant more holes in a different spot; some of these were visible, and others were known only because of the fresh chips on the ground.

On May 3, the Malcolm Thomases and I, while walking near the north end of the Bird Walk at Cylburn, frightened a Pileated from a dead stub. As it flew, we heard its loud flicker-like call. In a few minutes, it returned to the same tree to work over another dead limb. We hoped that it was nesting in Cylburn, as this date was within the nesting period.

Those of us, who enjoy the world of nature around us, might say that ones feelings are expressed in the words of a popular song, "The best things of life are free." Although I do consider the Pileated's visit one of the best things that has happened to me, I know it is not going to be free. The Norway maple, highly valued as our cooling system, will have to be treated by a tree expert, who has suggested using protective paint to cover up the excavations of our unexpected visitor. Could this expense, by any chance, be considered deductible?

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AVIAN SYMBOLISM

Dorothy Vernon Smith

When I went to school we knew a few tried and trusty symbols - you know, peace was the dove with the olive branch, Uncle Sam and/or the eagle was the USA, an owl was the wise old bird, etc. Now and then we were introduced to something like a Morality Play with Everyman and Everywoman, but the characters were carefully labelled "Pride" or "Gluttony" or some such - and it took no great mental exertion to get the drift of what was going on. The ground was firm under our feet. Nowadays the

youth of the nation is steeped in symbolism. Any seemingly innocent metaphor may have a deep Freudian meaning. Avant garde literature reeks of symbolism and anybody who has seen or read "Waiting for Godot" or MacLeish's "JB" knows what I mean. The ground under our feet is slipping sand.

So when I began to look up bird symbolism in the Library I was pained to find the going there slippery too. In fact one bird can be symbolic of several things. The Hebrews, for example couldn't seem to make up their minds about the eagle. At first it was a sign of God's protection - Exodus 19, "Now I bare you on eagle's wings and brought you unto myself.." And later, in Ezekiel the bird is a symbol of worldly power and represents Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon like "a great eagle with great wings.....who comes into Lebanon and takes the highest branch of the Cedar."

I looked briefly over 4 books -

- "Pandora's Box" by Dora and Erwin Panofsky
- "Picture Book of Symbols" by Ernest L. Lehner
- "Signs and Symbols of Christian Art" by George Ferguson (wonderful book!)
- "All the Birds of the Bible" by Alice Parmelee

Bird symbolism was used by the Greeks and the Romans, in the Byzantine Empire and in early Christendom. It can be religious, patriotic, sentimental, etc. Under Cyrus the Great, the Persians had vulture emblems depicted on the standards of their army. The Roman standbearers carried "the eagles" in their campaigns into far off posts of the Roman Empire. Today baby announcement cards drip storks!

Judo-Christianity has made much use of bird symbolism. The Hebrews were a people living close to nature; they recognized migration for what it is, and left us one of the oldest accounts of it in world literature (Jeremiah 8:7). In Christ Church in Easton the lectern is supported by an eagle (the symbol of St. John the Evngelist), and at the top of the chancel window there is the symbol of the Trinity - the Holy Spirit - a triangle superimposed on a dove.

Probably someone has done "bird symbolism" to a turn, but if they haven't its a wonderful subject for a bird seminar. So here's a beginning list for somebody to work on.

- Blackbird - darkness of sin and temptation of the flesh (Devil appeared to St. Benedict in guise of a blackbird)
- Cock - vigilance - (associated with St. Peter)
courage - symbol of France
- Crane - vigilance, loyalty, good life
- Crow - companion of Hope as she rises from Pandora's box
later a symbol of hope itself
companion of Death (Geoffrey Troy's book of Hou)
- Dove - purity and peace (sacrifice of doves at the Temple in Jerusalem)
Holy Spirit (descending from heaven at the baptism of Christ)
with olive branch - peace
- Eagle - USA; St. John; courage; God's protection

- Falcon - spirit of the sun
 domesticated falcon - gentile converted to the Christian faith
- Goldfinch - symbol of the Passion of Christ because of its fondness for eating thistles and thorns
- Goose - providence and vigilance (story of geese who cackled and saved Rome)
- Lark - symbol of humility of the priesthood because it sings only in flight toward heaven
- Owl - wisdom - often shown with Athena Greek goddess of wisdom is depicted on Greek Coins
- Partridge - symbol of theft or deceit
- Peacock - resurrection (Byzantine)
 vanity
 all-seeing church - because of the hundred eyes in its wings
- Pelican - pierces its breast to feed its offspring - therefore symbolizes Christ's sacrifice on the Cross
- Raven - devil - originally white, goes the story, but its feathers turned black when it did not return to the ark after Noah sent it forth
- Sparrow - humility; the lowly ones
- Stork - fertility
- Swallow - 3 summer swallows mean safe travel
- Swan (black) - death
- Swan (white) - perfection
- Vulture - death
 or power of a terrifying kind
- Woodpecker - devil or heresy

13 North Aurora Street, Easton

NEW EARLY DATE FOR MOURNING DOVE EGGS IN MARYLAND

Hervey Brackbill

In Larchmont, Baltimore County—which is just beyond the northwestern edge of Baltimore City, near Woodlawn—I found a pair of Mourning Doves (*Zenaidura macroura*) building on March 5, 1961. Eggs were laid in this nest on March 6 and 8, which is four days earlier than the earliest egg date (March 10) recorded in "Birds of Maryland and the District of Columbia," Stewart and Robbins, North American Fauna 62: 172, 1958.

One egg hatched between 5:33 p.m. (E.S.T.) March 22 and 7:28 a.m. March 23. The other hatched between the latter hour and 9:52 a.m. March 25. On three days during incubation the minimum official temperatures for Baltimore City were in the 20's; the lowest maximum temperature, however, was 38° F. The official Baltimore City mean for the period was 43°; the official mean at Friendship Airport was 42.3°; with figures so near alike, it seems probable that Larchmont temperatures were similar.

On the morning of March 30 I found the nestlings dead. I suspect that a group of small children, playing near the nest-tree on several warm days just then, kept the parents away from their young.

It is interesting that this early nesting occurred on the heels of the most severe winter in many years. A 14-inch snow fell on December 11-12, 1960, and cold weather and additional snowfalls kept the ground covered until well into February; there was no appreciable amount of bare ground in this vicinity until February 19.

2620 Poplar Drive, Baltimore

MARYLAND NEST SUMMARY FOR 1960

David Bridge

One hundred and twelve species were found nesting in Maryland in 1960. While no outstanding rarity was reported, this is the third highest total recorded in one year. Coverage and participants, on the other hand, have decreased. Fourteen counties had fewer species than in 1959, two the same, and five increased. Two-thirds of the counties reported nests for fewer species than last year, and for the second year no Somerset or Carroll County nests were reported. There were only 52 observers in 1960, whereas there were 109 in 1959.

Caroline County reported the largest number of species: 76. Carol and Bill Scudder contributed greatly by reporting over 200 nests. For more detailed information on 1960 Worcester County nests see Maryland Birdlife 17: 3-6.

The nesting season is imperfectly known for many species. In fact no nest has ever been found in Maryland for the Hermit Thrush, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian and Mourning Warblers, and Savannah Sparrow. Only one nest has been found for Northern Waterthrush, Bobolink and Dickcissel. All of the preceding birds except the Dickcissel nest in the Allegheny Mountain Section, and because of rareness and lack of concentrated field work the nests have gone undetected.

At the coast are such new nesting species as Cattle Egret, Glossy Ibis, Herring Gull and Royal Tern, as well as many old ones such as Black Skimmer, Willet, American Oystercatcher, Clapper Rail, several egrets and herons, and Boat-tailed Grackle. The author and others are intensively studying this group and should soon have more accurate information on their nesting.

Only a few nests of the following species have ever been found in Maryland: Chuck-will's-widow--3 nests, Tree Swallow--17, Brown-headed Nuthatch--11, Black-capped Chickadee--no egg dates, Short-billed Marsh Wren--only 1 egg date, Warbling Vireo--no nesting dates, and so on. The opportunity for Maryland ornithologists is clear.

Neither should the common species be overlooked. There are on file more than two thousand Redwinged Blackbird nest records, more than a thousand Robins, and five hundred each for the Eastern Phoebe, House Wren and Chipping Sparrow. With a sample as large as that some very interesting analyses could be made.

Species	A 1 l	A n	B l	C a r	C l	C c	C h	D o	F e	G r	H a	H o	K e	M o	P o	Q u	S t	T a	W a	W a	W i	W o	T o
	l	n	l	r	l	c	c	r	e	r	r	w	n	n	i	e	M	l	s	c	r	t	
Barn Swallow		1	1	8				1			1			1	1							5	19
Purple Martin				64				8							9								81
Blue Jay				4									1		4								9
Common Crow				3										1									4
Carolina Chickadee				3				1						5	1								10
Tufted Titmouse				3										2	1								6
White-br. Nuthatch										1													1
House Wren			14	5					3						8	3							33
Carolina Wren			2	4						1				1	2								10
Long-bill M. Wren				1					3														4
Short-bill M. Wren								1															1
Mockingbird			1	11							1			1	1								15
Catbird			4	7						1	1			3	4								20
Brown Thrasher			1	15						2				7	1								26
Robin	2	1	10	26					3	7	1		1	4	2	1							58
Wood Thrush			1	7											7				1				16
Eastern Bluebird				4					2														6
Blue-g. Gnatcatcher				6					2														8
Starling				6					5														11
White-eyed Vireo								1															1
Yellow-thr. Vireo															1								1
Red-eyed Vireo			4		1					1													6
Black-&-white Warb.			2								1				1						1		5
Prothonotary Warbler			4																				4
Worm-eating Warbler												1											1
Yellow Warbler									1														1
Chestnut-sided Warb.										1													1
Pine Warbler			1																				1
Prairie Warbler			1																				1
Ovenbird			1							3					1								5
La. Waterthrush			1												1								2
Kentucky Warbler			1	2											1								4
Yellowthroat				2											1								3
Yellow-breasted Chat														1	1								2
Hooded Warbler															1								1
American Redstart											1												1
House Sparrow			4						2	1	1			2									10
Eastern Meadowlark			3		2											1							6
Redwinged Blackbird			32					2	11	1				4	2				5				93
Orchard Oriole			5																				5
Baltimore Oriole		1		6							2			1									10
Boat-tail Grackle								1														52	53
Common Grackle			10						33					1				6					50
Br.-headed Cowbird			2	3				1		2	1	1		4	5								19
Scarlet Tanager			1					1							1								3
Summer Tanager			2																				2
Cardinal			8	15				1	3	2				4	4								37
Blue Grosbeak			5																		1		6
Indigo Bunting			4		1					1													6
American Goldfinch			2																				2
Rufous-sided Towhee			4												1								5
Grasshopper Sparrow			3																				3
Henslow's Sparrow			1																				1
Vesper Sparrow			2																				2
Chipping Sparrow			1	20					1														22
Field Sparrow			2	4						1				2									9
Song Sparrow			1	4						2				1	1								9
Total nests	2	5	57	423	1	4	1	33	69	25	18	6	2	69	112	4	298	22	1	11	229	2382	

The number of nests reported for each species is given by counties in Table 1. The counties are abbreviated at the top of the table: All(egany), Ann(e Arundel), Bal(timore and Baltimore City), Car(oline), Cal(vert), Cec(il), Cha(rles), Dor(chester), Fre(derick), Gar(rett), Har(ford), How(ard), Ken(t), Mon(tgomery), Pri(nce Georges), Que(en Annes), St. M(arys), Tal(bot), Was(hington), Wic(omico), and Wor(cester). Record-breaking dates are underscored in the annotated list.

- GREAT BLUE HERON--Known to nest regularly, but no colony reported, 1958-1960.
- COMMON EGRET--47 young banded off South Point, Worcester County (David Bridge, John S. Weske, Maryland Birdlife 17: 3). 68 young banded at St. Catherine Island in St. Marys County on June 4 (JSW).
- SNOWY EGRET--Large colony off South Point, 301 young banded (DB, JSW).
- GREEN HERON--Caroline County nest had young on May 25 (R. B. Fletcher and N. W. Hewitt). 120 young banded in Worcester County (DB, JSW).
- LITTLE BLUE HERON--100+ nests in St. Catherine Island heronry; 81 banded on June 4 (JSW). 105 banded off South Point (DB, JSW).
- CATTLE EGRET--Second colony in Maryland was found on June 12 on the islands off South Point; 25 young from at least 9 nests were banded (DB, JSW).
- LOUISIANA HERON--94 young banded on the islands off South Point (DB, JSW).
- BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON--About 110 pairs in St. Marys County on St. Catherine and Blackstone Islands (JSW). 21 young banded off South Point (DB, JSW).
- GLOSSY IBIS--27 young banded from 10 nests off South Point (DB, JSW).
- MALLARD--One egg on May 7, 9 eggs on May 14 in Caroline Co. nest (C&B Scudder).
- BLACK DUCK--11 eggs in an abandoned nest in Prince Georges County on May 7 (DB and R. R. Feller).
- BLUE-WINGED TEAL--A nest with 10 eggs in salt-meadow grass near Elliott Island in Dorchester County on June 11 (DB, JSW).
- WOOD DUCK--Two broods in Caroline County, June 23 (C&BS) and July 14 (RBF).
- TURKEY VULTURE--Two nests in Caroline County, 1 young on June 2 (Jay Smith), 2 young in the other on July 16 (C&BS).
- RED-TAILED HAWK--Young heard in Montgomery County nest, April 20 (H. Fessenden).
- RED-SHOULDERED HAWK--Nest being built on Feb. 9, young on May 2, Caroline (C&BS).
- BROAD-WINGED HAWK--Building in Worcester County on April 23 (HF).
- BALD EAGLE--Incubating on Kent Island on Feb. 17 and in Charles County on March 3 (Brooke Meanley).
- OSPREY--John Weske found more than 20 nests in Colton Point area of St. Marys County, mostly on offshore duck blinds.
- SPARROW HAWK--Five nestlings banded on June 9 in Frederick Co. nest (S.W. Edwards).
- BOBWHITE--Eight broods in Caroline County; 14, 14, 12, 10, 9, 8, 8, 3 young; mean, 9.8 per brood; also nests with 6, 13, 15, and 20 eggs. Some animal crushed every egg in the 20-egg nest (C&BS).
- KING RAIL--Three young in Talbot County on June 8 (BM).
- CLAPPER RAIL--A nest with one young and 9 eggs found on Robins Marsh in Chincoteague Bay, Worcester County, on June 18 (DB, JSW).
- AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHER--One large young banded on June 12 and 2 small young on June 18 on islands in Sinepuxent Bay, Worcester County (DB, JSW).
- KILLDEER--Four young out of the nest on June 16 in Caroline County (C&BS).
- AMERICAN WOODCOCK--Four eggs on May 25 in Howard County nest (Aelred D. Geis).
- WILLET--Three nests with 4 eggs each and one with 3 eggs; one large young banded on July 3 (DB, JSW).
- HERRING GULL--Eight nests in Worcester County; 17 young banded between June 12 and July 2, eggs between June 12 and June 19 (DB, JSW).
- LAUGHING GULL--115 young banded from about 245 nests on four islands in Worcester County (DB, JSW).
- FORSTER'S TERN--160 nests on Robins Marsh on June 19 (DB, JSW).
- COMMON TERN--535 young banded from about 255 nests on 3 Ocean City islands.
- LEAST TERN--12 nests with eggs or young at Ocean City, June 18 (DB, JSW).

- ROYAL TERN--125 pairs on island off South Point; only 13 young banded (DB, JSW), rest of colony destroyed by high water.
- BLACK SKIMMER--58 nests on three islands, 125 young banded (DB, JSW).
- MOURNING DOVE--Five nests with 2 eggs each found on April 16, 20, 23, 24, May 21.
- YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO--Feeding young out of nest in Caroline County on June 1, June 23 and July 15; Frederick County nest with 2 young on July 9 (DB).
- BARN OWL--Two nests (3 eggs and 9 eggs) at Blackwater Refuge on Apr. 9 (JSW).
- WHIP-POOR-WILL--One young out of the nest on July 28 in Caroline County (C&BS).
- COMMON NIGHTHAWK--Two Caroline County nests: 1 young on June 12 (MH); 2 young on July 8 (C&BS).
- CHIMNEY SWIFT--First young heard on June 20 in Caroline County (Mrs. Ethel Poore).
- RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD--Incubating on June 20 in Caroline County (EP).
- BELTED KINGFISHER--Adult feeding 3 young at Choptank River, July 9 (M. Butenschoen).
- YELLOW-SHAFTED FLICKER--Young in the nest in Prince Georges County on May 7, in Montgomery County on May 16, and in Caroline County on May 17.
- PILEATED WOODPECKER--One flying young on July 9 in Caroline County (C&BS).
- RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER--Young in Caroline County nest on May 14, and in Montgomery County nest on May 23.
- HAIRY WOODPECKER--Young in the nest in Prince Georges County on May 7, in Montgomery County on May 28, and in Caroline County on June 7.
- DOWNY WOODPECKER--Young in the nest in Prince Georges County on May 13, in Montgomery County on May 28, and in Baltimore County on June 20.
- EASTERN KINGBIRD--Earliest nest with young in Caroline County on June 4 (MH).
- GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER--5 eggs in Montgomery County nest on June 9 (HF). Three of the 5 nests reported were in newspaper boxes.
- EASTERN PHOEBE--Contents of 21 nests were: 3 eggs or young in 2 nests, 4 in 13 nests, 5 in 4 nests, and 6 in 2 nests.
- ACADIAN FLYCATCHER--3 eggs on June 7 in Caroline County (C&BS).
- EASTERN WOOD PEWEE--A nest was used twice in Caroline County (Robert Fletcher and Eddie Hall).
- HORNED LARK--4 eggs on June 17 (MH); 2 young in the nest on August 30 (C&BS); both nests were in Caroline County.
- TREE SWALLOW--A pair at Garland Lake raised 2 broods; young during May 26-30 and July 1-9 (AJF, RBF).
- BANK SWALLOW--Young in Talbot County nests on June 12 (AJF, RBF).
- ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW--Adults seen entering nest holes in 3 counties, April 10, April 24, May 5. 3 young on July 7 in Caroline County (C&BS).
- BARN SWALLOW--5 eggs laid between May 21 and 25 in Montgomery County (HF).
- PURPLE MARTIN--Colony of 46 pairs in Caroline County; first young left on June 19 (Harry Hubbard).
- BLUE JAY--Building nest on April 20 in Prince Georges County (DB).
- COMMON CROW--Young in nest on May 7 (C&BS), May 30 (HF) and May 31 (C&BS).
- CAROLINA CHICKADEE--6 eggs on April 20 in Montgomery County nest (HF).
- TUFTED TITMOUSE--5 large young in old Pileated hole, July 12, Caroline Co. (C&BS).
- WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH--Feeding young in Garrett Co. nest, June 17 (Mason Diehl).
- HOUSE WREN--Egg dates: May 14 in Prince Georges County (V. Kleen) to August 10 in Caroline County (MB).
- CAROLINA WREN--Young in Montgomery County nest on May 3 (HF).
- LONG-BILLED MARSH WREN--2 nests (6 eggs, 4 eggs) near Elliott, June 11 (JSW, DB).
- SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN--Nest with 5 young near Blackwater River, July 9 (C&BS).
- MOCKINGBIRD--First egg laid in Caroline County nest on April 27 (RBF); 4 young in another Caroline County nest on August 2 (C&BS).
- CATBIRD--4 eggs on May 16 in Baltimore City nest (Betsy Schaffer). 3 eggs in Caroline County nest on July 1 (AJF, RBF).
- BROWN THRASHER--Four nests with eggs in Montgomery County on May 3 (HF). Caroline County nest with young on May 10 (RBF).
- ROBIN--Eggs on April 29 in Baltimore City (BF). Young in Caroline nest, May 14.

- WOOD THRUSH--Three out of 4 nests found in Prince Georges County had 1 cowbird egg and 3 Wood Thrush eggs; 13 Wood Thrushes and 3 cowbirds fledged in early June (DB).
- EASTERN BLUEBIRD--Five eggs in Frederick County box on May 12 (SWE).
- BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER--Building, April 21; young, May 20; both Caroline Co. (C&S).
- STARLING--Five young on April 28, Caroline County (Bob Pepper).
- WHITE-EYED VIREO--3 eggs hatching in Dorchester County on July 9 (C&S).
- YELLOW-THROATED VIREO--Building on April 29 in Prince Georges Co. (Melvin Kleen).
- RED-EYED VIREO--Marvin Hewitt reported a nest with 3 cowbird eggs and 2 Red-eye eggs on June 19. Edgar Reynolds found a nest with 1 cowbird egg and 3 vireo eggs on June 11 in Garrett County.
- BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER--No nest found, but building on April 24 in Worcester Co. (HF). Young on the wing mist netted on June 29 (DB).
- PROTHONOTARY WARBLER--Two nests with 3 young each were found in Caroline County, June 30 and July 15 (C&S).
- WORM-EATING WARBLER--Adults feeding 4 young on July 1 in Howard Co. (R. Munro).
- YELLOW WARBLER--Nesting in Frederick County on May 1 (SWE).
- CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER--Pleasant Valley nest in Garrett County had 1 egg on June 14, 2 on June 15, 3 on June 16 (1, a cowbird's, removed), 3 warbler eggs on June 17 (Billie Taylor).
- PINE WARBLER--2 young out of a Caroline County nest on July 21 (C&S).
- PRAIRIE WARBLER--Building in Caroline Co., May 5; cowbird egg on May 7 (MB).
- OVENBIRD--Three nests at Pleasant Valley, Garrett County, contained 2 eggs on June 12 (Gary Downton), 4 young and 2 eggs on June 14 (Joe Densock) and 3 young on June 16 (Carlene Dowell).
- LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH--Feeding young out of nest on June 25, Baltimore Co. (BF).
- KENTUCKY WARBLER--Nests with young in Caroline County, June 1 and June 21 (C&S).
- YELLOWTHROAT--Nest with eggs in Caroline Co. on May 18, 2 feet up (MB).
- YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT--3 young chats and 1 young cowbird, June 8, Montgom. Co. (HF).
- HOODED WARBLER--3 eggs and 1 cowbird egg on May 22 in Prince Georges County (DB).
- AMERICAN REDSTART--Pleasant Valley nest 6 feet up had 3 young on June 12 (GD).
- HOUSE SPARROW--3 young on April 12 in Caroline County nest (C&S).
- EASTERN MEADOWLARK--Young left Caroline County nests on June 12 and July 29 (C&S).
- REDWINGED BLACKBIRD--6 nests with eggs and 4 with young on May 21 in Prince Georges County (John S. Webb, DB).
- ORCHARD ORIOLE--Nests with young in Caroline Co., June 2, 6 and 25 (C&S, RBF).
- BALTIMORE ORIOLE--Feeding young in five Caroline County nests between June 6 and July 15; mean height of 9 nests was 45 feet.
- BOAT-TAILED GRACKLE--87 young banded in Worcester Co., June 12--July 3 (DB, JSW).
- COMMON GRACKLE--Six nests were found on offshore duck blinds by John Weske on June 4. One blind had a grackle nest and an Osprey nest with two young; do the Ospreys protect the grackle nests?
- BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD--Parasitized 13 species: Cardinal 5, Wood Thrush 4, Eastern Phoebe 2, 1 each of Red-eyed Vireo, Black-and-white Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Yellowthroat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Hooded Warbler, Orchard Oriole and Indigo Bunting.
- SCARLET Tanager--Four young in Caroline County nest on June 5 (RBF).
- SUMMER Tanager--Adult feeding young in Caroline County nest, June 5 (RBF).
- CARDINAL--A late nest in Caroline County had 3 eggs on August 10, young on August 18. Mean height of 27 nests was 5.5 feet; last year's mean for 37 nests was 5.3 feet.
- BLUE GROSBEAK--Eggs on June 13 and young between July 10 and Aug. 12 in 4 Caroline County nests; mean height was 4.4 feet (C&S).
- INDIGO BUNTING--Four nests between June 18 in Harford County (Jean Worthley, et al.) and August 4 in Caroline Co. (C&S); mean height, 3 feet.
- AMERICAN GOLDFINCH--Two young in Caroline County nest on September 11 (C&S).
- RUFOUS-SIDED TOWHEE--5 eggs in Montgomery Co. nest, May 4; all hatched by 15th (HF).

- GRASSHOPPER SPARROW--Adults feeding young out of the nest, July 18 and August 15, both in Caroline County (C&BS).
- HENSLOW'S SPARROW--One young being fed in Caroline County on July 25 (C&BS).
- VESPER SPARROW--Four large young in Caroline County nest on June 14 (C&BS).
- CHIPPING SPARROW--Eggs between April 29 and August 24, young between May 15 and July 23; mean height for 21 nests was 6.5 feet.
- FIELD SPARROW--Three nests with eggs between April 28 and June 23.
- SONG SPARROW--Six nests with eggs between May 2 and August 9; young May 19, August 16.

Contributors for 1960 were: Randy and Ronnie Albury, David Bridge, Charles Buchanan, Margarete Butenschoen, Joe Densock, Mason Diehl, Carlene Dowell, Gary Downton, Maria Ebert, Sterling W. Edwards, Ronald R. Feller, Helen Fessenden, Alix Fisher, Betty Fisher, Robert Fletcher, A. Jerome Fletcher, Roberta B. Fletcher, Melvin Garland, Aelred D. Geis, Caroline Hadley, Eddie Hall, Marvin Hewitt, Naomi W. Hewitt, Rodney B. Jones, Melvin Kleen, Vernon Kleen, William Leeson, Andy McCosh, Brooke Meanley, Mrs. Rosamond Munro, Pete Myers, Jane O'Leary, Bob Pepper, Mrs. Ethel Poore, Alpha Reynolds, Edgar Reynolds, Don Richardson, Mrs. Eleanor C. Robbins, Betsy Schaffer, Roger Segar, Carol Scudder, Bill Scudder, Jay Smith, Billie Taylor, W. Bryant Tyrrell, John S. Webb, John S. Weske, Breeze Wood, Sarah Wood, and Jean Worthley.

8-A Ridge Road, Greenbelt

CONSERVATION NEWS

THE SANDS OF TIME ARE RUNNING OUT

Elizabeth C. Wood

For several years Congress has had great plans for natural resources. The pressure of forces destructive of scenery and plant and wildlife resources have increased rapidly with each succeeding year. On so many issues the time is now or never that a magnificent effort on the part of all who cherish our God-given natural wonders is called for. If Senators J. Glenn Beall and John Marshal Butler and your Representatives feel there is enough popular support they will do their best to see that these crucial measures pass.

Years of marsh draining, of drought, and of ever-increasing numbers of hunters have reduced duck numbers drastically. In an effort to curb the decrease in waterfowl the House approved H.R. 7391 to lend \$150 million to the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife to purchase duck breeding marshes. However, the Senate committee cut the amount to one-third. If passed, the Conference Committee must decide the amount.

This is virtually the last chance to pass the Wilderness Bill, which declares that undisturbed wilderness areas have value (for wildlife habitat, recreation, research, watershed and soil stabilization). As usual, selfish commercial interests are loud opponents, but with a little more popular support Congress might actually pass S. 174. The Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee has reported it favorably. Opponents are making coordinated vigorous efforts to kill S. 174. They may revive crippling amendments that the Senate Committee has already rejected. According to vol. 15 no. 16 of Outdoor News Bulletin published August 11 by the Wildlife Management Institute: "The three most harmful amendments would require the virtually impossible task of obtaining a separate congressional act for each area that would be included in the wilderness system, keep all national forest lands in the system open to mining, and prohibit the inclusion of all wilderness tracts larger than 100,000 acres in the new system without specific congressional authorization."

Many of the tracts of land that the Department of the Interior suggested

two and a half decades ago should be national parks are now changed beyond repair. At that time all proposed parks could have been purchased for a small fraction of the present price. In recent years many areas have been considered by Congress as candidates for National Park status. We mention a few that are in most danger of encroachment.

PADRE ISLAND. As park planning experts and conservationists state: Roads should lead TO Padre Island, not ACROSS it. This road conflict seems to be delaying establishing the park.

POINT REYES. This is a beautiful California peninsula recommended in 1935 to become public land. Miraculously, it has remained virtually unspoiled. Sub-division lots have now been laid out. This year may be too late for acquisition as a much needed national seashore near millions of homes. Certainly, next year will be too late. This peninsula around Drakes Bay is rich in history as well as in varied plants and small animals. The dairy ranchers are the chief opponents of a park. The National Park Service has offered to let private dairy farms continue as long as they are not diverted to other use.

INDIANA DUNES. About half of the last five miles of Indiana Dunes that remained two years ago has now been built into a steel mill and housing developments; a harbor and another steel mill are planned. About three miles remain. Bills S. 1797 (Paul Douglas), S. 2317 (R. N. Hartke), and H.R. 6544 (Saylor) seek to save at least part of this remnant. "Tomorrow is forever" for these unique dunes and bogs where many plants of both northern and southern latitudes grow.

Hard fought battles do not stay won. Merely not building Glen Canyon dam so high as was specified would have saved the Rainbow Bridge National Monument from flooding. Public opinion refused to sanction Glen Canyon dam until the law authorizing it provided a guarantee that the Rainbow Bridge National Monument would not be flooded. But Congress has repeatedly failed to appropriate money for the barrier dam.

Certain interests supported by certain Congressmen have for years been trying to build dams in National Parks. The whole park system is threatened if this barrier dam is not built or the authorized height of Glen Canyon is not lowered. Bills to give Rainbow National Monument park status seem to be traps to legalize the flooding of the Monument. The area is park quality, but conservationists feel that before additional land can be considered, the lowering of Glen Canyon Dam or building of a barrier dam at Aztec Creek would first have to be assured.

In yet another cause Congress has sold conservation short. There are dedicated, far-seeing conservationists in Alaska, but the governor and two senators from Alaska persuaded Congress not to appropriate any money for the new Arctic and Izembek National Wildlife Ranges in Alaska. The Izembek Range is a breeding ground for scarce migratory waterfowl, which fly across many states.

Although courts ruled that dams must not be built on the Cowlitz River, Washington, because they would destroy the salmon, and although the electorate twice defeated an effort to dam the Cowlitz, the City of Takoma is building a dam on the Cowlitz.

It is distressing to learn that for the fourth year another \$2.4 million was appropriated to match that much state and that much individual money to spread poison intended to kill fire ants. The poisons seem to have little effect on the ants, but even traces and deterioration products of them are lethal to humans and other mammals, domestic and wild, all birds, fish, and other useful animals. Congressman Dingell introduced H.R. 4668 "Chemical Pesticides Coordination Act" requiring consultation with U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and State wildlife agencies before beginning mass chemical control programs. On May 23 Congressman Dingell presided over a discussion by representatives of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and members of conservation organizations. A committee of similar representatives has been appointed and it is to be hoped that the much-needed control over the use of pesticides will be attained.

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Your Executive Council met on August 12; most of the afternoon was devoted to fiscal matters. All pending bills were approved for payment; our current financial situation was evaluated; and a budget was adopted for the new fiscal year (September 1 1961 through August 31, 1962).

The Council reaffirmed that the Sanctuary Fund would continue to be reserved for the purchase of a sanctuary. The income for this fund is derived from life memberships, specific donations to this particular fund, and interest. The current balance of \$2,181.81 is invested at 4% in the West Baltimore Building Association.

An exact evaluation of the present status of the Operating Fund could not be made. Most of the income for this fund is derived from the annual membership dues. At our May annual meeting the outgoing Treasurer turned over to the incoming Treasurer the sum of \$1,420.80. However, neither Treasurer has determined how much of this sum was prepaid dues for the coming year.

The lumping together of annual dues for the current year with prepaid dues for future years has caused considerable confusion. It has inflated the balance at the end of the administrative year and made it appear to be more favorable than was actually the case. It has obscured the fact that for the last year or two we have apparently been operating very close to if not actually in the red. And currently it is hindering a precise determination of the amount of dues already collected for the new year. Without knowing this amount, it is difficult to figure closely how much more we may anticipate in dues for the rest of the year.

After adjusting the figures for prepayments on the basis of what information has so far been provided, it appears that the average of the amounts received in dues for each of the past four years is approximately \$832 per year. The income from dues this past year was well under \$900.

Therefore, the Council adopted a conservative estimate of \$850 as the probable total amount of dues that would be paid in for this year. The Council also assumed that some \$400 in dues had already been collected as of June 30, 1961. Thus \$450 could be anticipated in additional dues during the balance of the year.

On the above basis the Council concluded that approximately \$1,600 was available to budget and allotted it as follows:

Rent - Rock Run Sanctuary (Dec. 1961 thru Aug. 1962)	\$ 90.00
MARYLAND BIRDLIFE (Sept. 61; Dec. 61; Mar. 62; June 62)	700.00
Office of the Executive Secretary	120.00
Office of the Recording Secretary	20.00
Office of the Treasurer	20.00
Miscellaneous including Rock Run Sanctuary expenses	100.00
	<u>\$1,050.00</u>
Balance to be reserved as carry-over to next	
fiscal year:	\$550.00

(continued on page 94)



APRIL, MAY, JUNE, 1961

Chandler S. Robbins

These three months mark the annual peak of activity for birds and bird students alike. The peak of northward migration for nearly all migratory birds the world around takes place during this period. In all areas north of the tropics, singing and nesting activities also reach their height in these three months. Bird watchers, eager to find new species, to renew acquaintances with old ones, and to relearn songs, take to the field in increasing numbers until their vision is obscured by the spreading foliage and the numbers of transients begin to dwindle. Then, as the nesting season progresses, observers spend less and less time afield, except for the more serious students who conduct population studies of nesting birds or follow the progress of individual nests, or perhaps engage in photography or behavior studies.

As spring approaches, the birds, quite oblivious of man's efforts to learn their ways, respond to seasonal changes in their environment by undergoing physiological changes that prepare them for migration. At a time dictated by a combination of internal and external stimuli, the migrants begin their northward journeys, some species starting by day, others by night. Comparatively little is known about the flight schedule of individual birds--the number of hours they stay airborne in each hop of the journey, the mileage they cover in a single flight, the normal and extreme altitudes at which they fly under various weather conditions, or the navigation system that directs them home to their breeding grounds.

Through banding we have learned that it is normal for adult birds to return to the same nesting grounds each year. It is likely that at least 20 percent of Maryland's nesting birds return to within a hundred yards of their previous year's territory. How many of the birds that do not return have drifted off course, been blown out to sea, or for other reasons been unable to find their way to the few acres for which they were headed?

Banding recoveries eventually may enable us to trace some of the birds that fail to return to their breeding territories. In the meantime we can study records of unbanded birds that are found outside of their normal range or on unusual dates and, with the aid of weather data, hypothesize how these birds went astray.

One of the purposes of this column is to place on record both normal

and abnormal migration records from our State so they will be available for future study. The scores of observers who take the trouble to jot down and to report the arrivals, departures, and peaks of abundance of the common species, as well as the rarities, are contributing small pieces of an intricate puzzle that will gradually take shape and reveal some of the answers for which we are searching.

You have read in the June issue (Maryland Birdlife 17 (2): 27-28) of the phenomenal wave of transients that descended on Talbot County on May 7. This made mighty interesting reading--especially for the throng of observers who worked so hard to find a mere handful of transients on the preceding day. Now that other reports are available, not only from Maryland, but from all the states to the south of us, we can follow northward a great surge of migrants of which the Talbot County incident was a small part.

As background to the May 7 flight, one should read Aaron Bagg's "Changing Seasons" report in the August 1961 issue of Audubon Field Notes (15 (4): 380-389). Mr. Bagg describes in detail the northward progress of a major April movement in relation to weather conditions. He then alludes briefly to the "accumulating wave of warblers, and other migrants, building at the northern edge of a tropical air flow" over Texas and Louisiana on May 4-5, and he shows weather maps for May 6-8 demonstrating the northward movement of the warm front from the Gulf States to New York. The transients, which had been detained several days by cool weather and northerly winds, moved northward in the southwesterly winds behind the warm front. Figure 1 shows the positions of this warm front at 1:00 a.m. on May 3-8. After moving rapidly northward May 5-7, the front stagnated. The northward flow of transients continued within the southwesterly air flow, but rainy weather to the north of the now stationary front caused the bulk of the migrants to come to earth just south of the front. Since the front moved only slowly northward on May 8, while conditions to the south of Maryland remained favorable for migration, both diurnal and nocturnal migration through Maryland continued in full force through May 8.

A glance at Figure 1 leads us to suspect that May 7 was an unusually fine day for a heavy flight of migrants, not only in Talbot County, but throughout Maryland and in southern Ontario and Cape May; the regional Audubon Field Notes reports show this was indeed true.

Vernon Kleen, in his Report of the State-wide Bird Count, May 6, 1961 (Maryland Birdlife 17:29-35), indicated with an asterisk those species that were missed on the 6th but seen in the same area on the 7th. Most of the areas were covered only on the 6th, so the absence of asterisks has no significance. Many observers, disappointed by the miserable conditions of the 6th and by continued rain and drizzle early on the 7th, were not in the field to witness the magnificent influx.

Samuel H. Dyke had been in the Pocomoke Swamp with Ted Hake of York, Pa. early on May 7 and reported: "things were very quiet except for the resident species." Mr. Dyke then continued, "Immediately following the end of the rain (about 10:30 a.m.) on May 7, there was a tremendous wave of

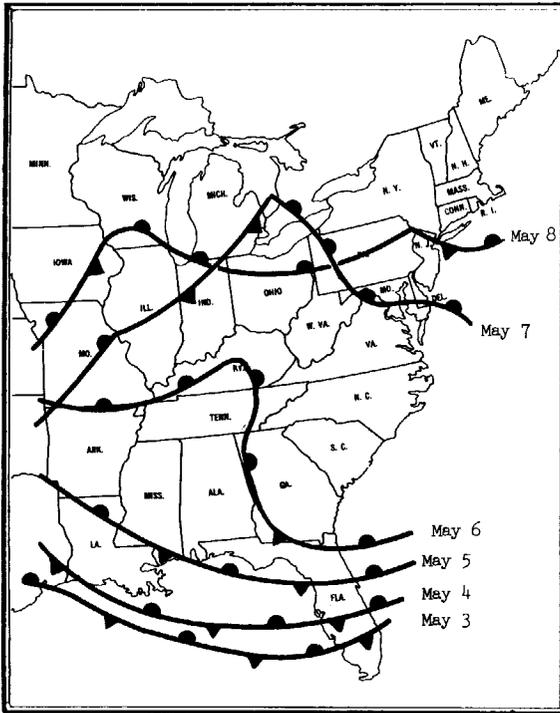


Fig. 1. Frontal positions at 1 a.m., May 3-8.
From Daily Weather Maps, U. S. Weather Bureau.

migrating passerines here on the Shore that continued until about 4 p.m. that day and resumed again for a few hours on the morning of May 8. On May 7-8, I added 20 species to the attached list (State-wide Bird Count). In my two-acre wooded lot east of Salisbury, I saw 24 species of warblers in 24 hours! Ted Hake encountered a phenomenal flight of thrushes and warblers in the swampy woodland on the west side of the Bombay Hook Refuge at about 12 noon on the 7th."

West of the Bay, the arrival of the migrants was less dramatic. Many birds were grounded by dawn, but they sang little until later in the day when the fog lifted. The species marked with asterisks in column 4 of the State-wide Bird Count were seen by Mr. and Mrs. Sterling W. Edwards, Sterling Edwards, Jr., and Jackie Calhoun north of Monument Knob in a single hour at midday on the 7th.

At Seth H. Low's Stony Broke Farm near Unity, 78 species were identified on the 7th. In Annapolis, Commander Edward P. Wilson "had one of the greatest 2½-3 hours of birding...watching a procession of birds arrive from Truxton Park across Spa Creek to my side." In addition to many warblers, he mentioned Rose-breasted Grosbeaks and a Red-headed Woodpecker.

Harold and Hal Wierenga did not submit a complete list of birds seen at Sandy Point on May 7, but only a list of arrival and departure dates for Anne Arundel County; this list, however, contained May 7 dates for 26 species that had not been reported from Sandy Point on the preceding day (column 16 of State-wide Bird Count). At nearby Gibson Island (column 15), thrushes were most prominent; Mrs. Henderson wrote that she "never saw so many thrushes--Veeries everywhere (25)...they must have come in in the night."

On Rock Run Sanctuary, Douglas Hackman counted 764 birds of 79 species in 15 hours on the 7th. His list included 18 species of warblers, but very few transient thrushes (19 Wood Thrushes but only 1 Veery and 1 Gray-cheek). Evidently the front lay between Gibson Island and Rock Run just prior to dawn, for the thrushes typically end their migration just before dawn, whereas many warblers continue to fly for a few hours after daybreak.

During the night of May 7-8, Hank Kaestner made a significant series of nocturnal counts from his Baltimore home. He counted all birds heard overhead from 11:15 p.m. until 12:30 a.m., and then made sample counts hourly until dawn. At 11:15, Veeries were passing over at the rate of about 15 per minute; from 11:30 to 12:30, he counted 1,000. He noted a peak of nearly 25 Veeries per minute at 4:30 a.m., and computed that a minimum of 5,000 to 6,000 Veeries called within hearing distance of his home during the night. Other birds heard during Hackman's listening periods included 75 Gray-cheeked Thrushes, a very low count of only 3 Swainson's Thrushes, a Flock of Bobolinks (25 est.), 4 Yellow-billed Cuckoos, 1 Black-billed Cuckoo, White-throated Sparrows, many Indigo Buntings, a good variety of unidentified warblers, and a few shorebirds, including 2 Spotted Sandpipers.

Sam Dyke's counts of transients seen at his home near Salisbury show that May 8 was as good a day as the 7th in that area. Here are comparative figures for his thrushes and warblers (the first figure refers to the number seen on May 7, the second figure to those seen on May 8): Gray-cheeked Thrush, 1, 0; Veery, 0, 1; Golden-winged Warbler, 0, 2; Blue-wing, 4, 2; Nashville, 1, 1; Parula, 2, 3; Yellow, 2, 0; Magnolia, 0, 1; Cape May, 0, 1; Black-throated Blue, 1, 1; Myrtle, 20, 4; Black-throated Green, 4, 2; Blackburnian, 1, 1; Yellow-throated, 1, 0; Blackpoll, 0, 1; Prairie, 1, 1; Ovenbird, 2, 2; Northern Waterthrush, 1, 1; Kentucky, 1, 0; Yellow-breasted Chat, 1, 0; Canada, 1, 1; American Redstart, 1, 4. Note that West Indian transients as well as species typical of the Mississippi Valley route were represented both days. The principal difference between the two days at Salisbury was the departure of Myrtle Warblers and White-throated Sparrows during the night of May 7-8. Referring again to Mr. Bagg's summary and Geoffrey Carleton's regional report in Audubon Field Notes, we find that the great wave reached northern New Jersey, New York City, and western Long Island on May 8 and 9.

Tables 1 and 2 summarize by counties the earliest spring arrival dates and latest spring departure dates for selected species. By perusing these tables and making due allowances for extra observer activity on

Table 1. Maryland Spring Arrival Dates, 1961

Species	Median				Garr	Alle	Wash	Fred	Balt	Harf	Howd	Mont	Pr.G	Anne	Calv	StMa	N.E.	Caro	Talb	LES*
	1958	1959	1960	1961																
Green Heron	4/20	--	4/14	4/25	--	5/6	--	5/6	4/27	5/8	5/6	4/14	5/6	4/17	5/6	3/29	4/15	4/21	4/3	4/23
Broad-winged Hawk	--	--	4/29	4/26	5/6	5/6	--	4/23	4/1	4/23	5/6	4/16	4/28	--	0	4/14	0	5/6	4/8	4/29
Spotted Sandpiper	4/26	4/29	5/2	5/2	--	--	5/6	5/2	4/20	5/5	4/26	5/3	5/6	4/24	5/6	4/24	5/4	4/30	5/3	4/30
Solitary Sandpiper	--	--	5/1	5/6	0	--	0	5/6	5/6	0	5/6	4/25	5/6	4/30	5/6	4/28	0	5/4	5/6	4/29
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	5/3	5/2	4/28	5/6	--	--	5/6	5/7	4/27	5/7	5/2	5/6	5/6	5/12	5/6	5/5	5/6	5/6	5/6	4/29
Black-billed Cuckoo	5/4	5/6	5/2	5/6	--	5/6	0	5/25	5/5	5/7	5/4	5/6	5/5	5/6	0	5/17	5/6	0	0	0
Chuck-will's-widow	--	--	--	4/26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5/6	5/6	4/23	0	4/25	4/23	4/28
Whip-poor-will	4/23	4/18	4/22	4/23	--	5/6	--	4/22	4/23	4/25	4/23	5/6	4/2	4/23	5/6	4/23	5/5	4/15	4/30	4/18
Common Nighthawk	5/2	5/2	5/7	5/8	0	5/2	5/11	5/8	5/9	5/16	4/24	0	0	5/7	0	5/8	5/11	4/24	5/7	5/6
Chimney Swift	4/10	4/10	4/16	4/20	5/6	5/6	4/23	4/22	4/15	4/15	4/20	--	4/10	4/16	4/25	4/11	4/24	4/16	4/14	4/21
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	4/30	5/2	4/26	4/28	--	5/6	--	4/24	4/26	--	4/26	5/1	4/24	5/6	4/24	4/30	5/6	4/27	5/7	
Eastern Kingbird	4/24	4/24	4/23	4/25	5/6	--	5/15	4/28	4/24	4/25	4/25	4/14	4/16	4/25	5/1	4/24	4/28	4/16	4/23	4/29
Gt. Crested Flycatcher	4/30	5/2	4/27	4/26	5/15	--	5/11	5/1	4/25	4/26	5/2	5/3	4/24	4/22	5/6	4/24	4/29	4/25	4/26	4/24
Acadian Flycatcher	5/3	5/3	5/6	5/6	0	--	5/6	5/7	4/30	--	5/5	5/6	5/5	5/6	5/6	5/8	5/13	4/25	5/6	5/7
Least Flycatcher	--	--	--	5/6	--	5/6	5/6	5/4	5/7	0	0	5/6	4/29	5/6	0	5/7	0	0	0	0
Eastern Wood Pewee	5/3	5/2	5/6	5/6	5/6	5/6	--	5/4	4/28	5/7	5/14	5/6	5/5	5/6	5/6	5/6	5/8	4/21	4/30	5/8
Blue Jay	--	--	--	4/25	--	--	--	5/8	4/24	4/25	--	--	4/25	5/2	--	4/17	4/18	--	--	--
House Wren	4/22	4/16	4/16	4/24	5/6	5/6	4/24	4/16	4/23	4/25	5/5	4/23	4/19	4/24	5/8	4/18	4/21	4/17	4/26	4/22
Catbird	4/29	4/24	4/25	4/27	4/26	5/6	5/11	5/1	4/26	5/7	4/27	4/25	4/22	4/24	5/6	4/24	4/25	4/22	4/19	5/6
Wood Thrush	4/26	4/26	4/23	4/25	5/6	4/15	5/6	5/5	4/25	4/26	4/25	4/25	4/23	4/23	5/5	4/19	4/26	4/21	4/26	4/22
Swainson's Thrush	5/7	5/4	5/1	5/6	0	0	0	5/7	4/27	0	5/6	5/6	4/30	4/29	0	5/4	5/7	5/12	5/7	5/7
Gray-cheeked Thrush	--	--	--	5/7	0	0	0	5/2	5/2	5/7	5/6	0	5/15	5/7	0	5/17	5/14	5/12	5/8	5/7
Veery	5/8	5/2	5/7	5/6	--	5/6	0	5/7	4/25	5/7	5/6	5/6	5/6	4/30	0	5/3	5/6	5/8	5/7	5/7
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	4/18	4/9	4/14	4/15	--	5/6	--	4/24	4/16	4/15	4/16	4/15	4/6	4/8	--	3/29	4/15	4/18	4/16	3/31
Golden-crowned Kinglet	--	--	--	4/8	--	4/8	--	--	3/29	--	--	4/1	4/5	4/7	--	4/12	--	4/14	--	--
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	4/16	4/7	4/12	4/15	5/6	4/8	0	4/15	4/10	--	4/17	--	3/31	4/7	--	4/7	4/19	4/21	4/15	4/22
Cedar Waxwing	--	3/28	4/14	5/6	--	5/13	--	--	5/19	--	5/8	5/6	4/29	5/22	5/6	3/14	4/8	4/14	--	--
White-eyed Vireo	4/26	4/26	5/4	4/24	0	--	--	--	4/23	4/25	4/23	5/2	4/24	4/23	--	4/27	4/27	4/19	4/26	4/15
Yellow-throated Vireo	5/1	5/1	4/28	4/28	0	--	5/6	--	4/28	5/7	5/5	4/23	4/24	4/30	--	4/25	--	4/24	5/3	4/27
Solitary Vireo	--	5/2	--	4/27	--	0	0	4/26	5/7	5/6	4/29	4/27	5/6	0	4/14	0	4/24	4/25	--	--
Red-eyed Vireo	4/29	4/26	4/27	4/28	5/15	5/7	5/6	4/30	4/24	4/26	5/6	4/29	4/27	4/28	5/6	4/27	5/5	4/21	4/23	4/23
Warbling Vireo	--	5/2	5/7	5/6	0	0	4/27	--	5/5	0	0	0	5/17	5/5	5/6	0	5/10	4/24	5/6	--
Black-and-white Warbler	4/20	4/18	4/14	4/26	--	5/6	5/6	4/16	4/22	4/25	4/26	4/23	4/28	4/30	5/6	4/11	5/5	4/16	4/26	3/28
Prothonotary Warbler	4/26	--	5/1	4/29	0	0	5/6	0	0	4/29	0	4/23	4/29	5/4	5/6	0	5/5	4/22	--	4/15
Worm-eating Warbler	5/3	5/2	5/7	5/6	0	5/6	--	--	5/3	--	5/6	5/6	5/21	--	5/6	5/16	5/6	0	5/6	5/7
Golden-winged Warbler	4/29	5/2	--	5/6	--	5/6	0	--	5/1	0	0	4/25	5/6	5/8	5/6	0	5/11	0	5/7	0

Table 1. Spring Arrival Dates, 1961 (cont.)

Species	Median				Garr	Alle	Wash	Fred	Balt	Harf	Howd	Mont	Pr.G	Anne	Calv	StMa	N.E.	Caro	Talb	LES*
	1958	1959	1960	1961																
Blue-winged Warbler	4/30	5/ 2	5/ 7	5/ 6	0	0	--	5/ 6	5/ 4	5/ 7	0	4/25	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	5/ 6	5/11	4/30	4/28	4/27
Tennessee Warbler	--	--	--	5/ 7	0	0	5/14	5/13	0	0	--	5/ 7	5/ 6	5/10	0	0	5/ 7	0	5/ 7	0
Nashville Warbler	--	5/ 2	--	5/ 6	--	5/ 6	0	5/ 7	4/29	0	5/ 8	4/23	4/26	5/ 5	0	0	5/ 8	5/ 7	4/23	
Parula Warbler	4/25	4/18	4/20	4/25	--	5/ 6	--	5/13	4/22	4/29	5/ 6	4/23	4/18	4/23	--	4/25	5/ 6	4/22	4/27	4/15
Yellow Warbler	4/24	4/26	4/24	4/29	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/28	5/ 3	4/25	5/ 7	5/ 6	4/24	4/26	4/23	4/24	4/25	5/ 5	4/26	5/ 5	4/30
Magnolia Warbler	5/ 4	5/ 4	5/11	5/ 7	--	5/ 7	0	4/30	5/ 7	5/ 7	5/ 3	5/ 5	5/ 5	5/ 7	5/16	5/ 6	0	5/ 7	5/ 8	
Cape May Warbler	5/ 4	5/ 3	5/ 1	5/ 7	0	5/10	0	5/ 7	5/ 5	0	5/ 7	5/ 2	4/26	4/26	0	--	0	5/ 9	5/ 7	5/ 8
Black-thr. Blue Warbler	5/ 4	5/ 2	5/ 2	5/ 6	--	0	0	5/ 8	4/25	5/ 7	5/ 8	5/ 5	5/ 6	5/ 1	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 8	5/ 1	5/ 6
Black-thr.Green Warbler	5/ 4	5/ 2	--	5/ 6	--	5/ 6	--	4/30	4/25	5/ 6	5/ 5	4/25	5/ 5	5/ 2	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 7	5/ 6	4/27	5/ 6
Cerulean Warbler	5/ 3	--	5/ 7	5/ 6	0	5/ 6	--	5/ 7	4/30	5/ 7	5/ 6	4/25	5/ 8	0	0	0	--	0	5/ 7	0
Blackburnian Warbler	5/ 4	5/ 2	--	5/ 6	--	--	--	5/ 7	5/ 4	5/ 7	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/30	4/26	0	0	0	5/ 7	5/ 6	5/ 7
Chestnut-sided Warbler	5/ 4	5/ 2	5/ 7	5/ 6	--	5/ 6	--	5/ 7	4/27	5/ 7	5/ 6	5/ 3	5/ 5	4/23	5/ 6	--	0	5/ 8	5/ 5	--
Bay-breasted Warbler	--	--	--	5/12	0	5/18	0	5/13	0	0	5/14	5/ 6	5/10	5/ 9	0	0	0	0	5/ 8	5/13
Blackpoll Warbler	5/ 4	5/ 6	5/ 7	5/ 8	0	5/18	0	5/13	5/ 9	5/ 8	5/ 8	5/ 6	5/ 8	5/ 6	5/22	5/15	0	5/10	5/ 8	5/ 8
Prairie Warbler	4/26	4/25	4/23	4/25	0	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/30	4/23	4/25	4/23	5/ 3	4/24	4/30	--	4/23	4/24	4/23	4/28	4/25
Ovenbird	5/ 1	4/26	4/25	5/ 3	5/15	5/ 7	5/ 6	4/24	4/29	5/ 7	4/27	5/ 5	4/18	5/14	5/ 6	5/ 1	5/ 6	5/16	4/27	4/21
Northern Waterthrush	5/ 4	5/ 2	4/29	4/26	--	0	0	4/28	4/23	0	0	4/25	5/ 5	4/25	0	5/ 2	4/24	4/23	4/30	4/26
Louisiana Waterthrush	4/14	4/ 3	4/24	4/16	--	4/ 3	5/ 6	4/28	4/ 6	4/ 8	4/16	4/29	4/16	5/ 3	--	5/ 2	--	4/12	4/30	3/30
Kentucky Warbler	5/ 2	4/30	5/ 7	5/ 4	--	--	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 7	5/ 6	5/ 3	5/ 3	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 1	5/ 4	4/23	4/30	4/27
Yellowthroat	4/20	4/15	4/17	4/24	5/15	5/ 6	5/ 1	5/ 6	4/29	4/25	4/23	5/ 3	4/24	4/22	--	4/18	4/21	4/17	4/22	4/15
Yellow-breasted Chat	5/ 3	5/ 2	4/30	4/30	5/ 6	5/ 6	--	5/ 3	4/30	4/25	4/24	5/ 3	4/28	4/30	--	4/25	4/29	4/21	4/30	5/ 6
Hooded Warbler	4/30	4/29	4/28	5/ 4	--	5/ 6	--	5/ 7	4/27	4/28	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/28	5/ 3	5/ 6	5/ 1	--	5/ 6	--	4/23
Wilson's Warbler	--	--	--	5/17	0	5/ 6	0	5/ 7	5/20	0	5/18	0	5/17	5/21	0	0	0	0	5/ 7	0
Canada Warbler	5/ 8	5/ 2	5/10	5/ 7	--	5/ 6	0	5/ 3	5/ 9	5/ 7	5/13	5/ 6	5/ 8	5/ 7	0	5/ 4	0	5/12	5/ 7	5/ 7
American Redstart	4/28	4/26	4/30	4/30	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 3	4/25	4/26	5/ 6	4/23	4/24	4/24	5/ 6	5/ 2	5/ 1	4/23	4/30	4/15
Bobolink	5/ 8	5/ 9	5/ 7	5/ 6	5/ 6	--	--	5/ 7	5/ 6	0	5/ 6	4/23	5/ 6	5/ 7	5/ 6	0	5/ 6	4/26	5/ 8	--
Orchard Oriole	4/30	5/ 2	5/ 2	4/26	0	--	--	4/30	--	4/25	4/23	4/26	4/26	5/ 6	4/26	4/28	4/23	4/27	5/ 3	
Baltimore Oriole	5/ 3	4/29	4/30	4/28	5/15	4/30	4/28	4/28	4/28	4/25	5/ 6	4/24	4/26	5/ 4	5/ 5	4/25	5/ 6	4/24	4/28	5/ 7
Scarlet Tanager	4/30	4/27	4/26	4/26	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 5	4/29	4/25	4/25	4/25	4/25	4/28	4/25	4/26	5/ 6	4/25	4/30	4/25
Summer Tanager	5/ 3	5/ 2	5/ 4	5/ 6	0	0	0	0	0	--	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/24	0	5/ 4	5/ 6	4/30
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	5/ 3	5/ 2	4/30	5/ 6	--	5/17	5/ 6	5/ 7	4/30	5/ 7	5/ 6	4/29	4/24	4/22	5/ 6	4/25	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/30	5/ 7
Blue Grosbeak	4/27	5/ 2	--	4/30	0	0	0	0	0	5/ 7	5/25	5/ 7	4/25	4/26	--	4/29	4/25	4/23	4/30	5/ 9
Indigo Bunting	5/ 3	5/ 2	4/30	4/30	--	5/ 6	5/ 9	5/ 4	4/30	4/25	5/ 3	4/25	4/25	4/26	5/ 6	4/23	5/ 2	4/23	4/30	4/29
Grasshopper Sparrow	5/ 3	--	4/22	4/30	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/23	4/20	--	--	5/ 6	5/ 5	4/ 8	5/ 6	--	4/25	--	4/12	5/ 6	4/24
White-crowned Sparrow	5/ 4	5/ 2	5/12	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	0	5/ 6	5/ 6	5/ 6	4/23	5/ 6	0	5/ 2	5/ 5	4/30	0

*Lower Eastern Shore (Worcester & Wilcomico Counties)

weekends, one can detect other major movements of birds into and out of our State. Notice, for instance, the number of early arrivals on Monday, Apr. 24, immediately after passage of a warm front. As in previous tables, "0" indicates no report from the county in question during the 1961 spring migration season, and "--" indicates that no significant date was reported. The median figures are given for comparison with the past three years. (The median is the date so chosen that half of the dates in the series are earlier than it and half later; it has the advantage that one or two extremely early or late dates do not affect it unduly.) It is remarkable how little variation there is in the medians from year to year. We are always plagued with a preponderance of first dates on the day of the State-wide Bird Count simply because of the large number of observers afield. This bias was especially noticeable in 1961 because May 6 was a day almost devoid of active migration; yet there were enough May 6 dates in Table 1 that this date appeared 23 times (out of 71) in the median column for this year. It is interesting that the hard-to-find Worm-eating Warbler is the only species in the table with median dates falling on the day of the State-wide Bird Count all four years.

Table 1 shows the best coverage we have ever had for the part of the State lying west of the Chesapeake; Carroll and Charles are the only two counties west of the Bay that are not represented by a column in this table. East of the Bay, Cecil and Kent are combined in "N.E." and Worcester and Wicomico in "LES"; Queen Annes, Dorchester and Somerset Counties are not included. Once again we extend our thanks to each and every correspondent for generously supplying records for use in this summary, while we acknowledge individually only those whose dates have been used for three or more species in the tables.

Garrett County--Melvin Garland, Pan Minke; Allegany--Pan Minke; Washington--Mrs. Lloyd Mallonee, Dr. R. S. Stauffer; Frederick--Joseph R. Jehl, Jr., Dr. John W. Richards, Pan Minke, Sterling W. Edwards, Mrs. A. L. Hoffman; Baltimore--C. Douglas Hackman, Betsy Schaffer, Mrs. Robert E. Kaestner, Hank Kaestner, Mrs. James H. Oliver; Harford--C. Douglas Hackman, Betsy Schaffer; Howard--Mrs. Harry B. Rauth, Mrs. George Munro, Ted Stiles, Chandler S. Robbins; Montgomery--Mrs. James C. Cooley, Miss Lucille V. Smith, John H. Fales, Seth H. Low, John Weske; Prince Georges--David Bridge, Melvin Kleen, Paul Springer, Chandler S. Robbins, John Fales, Ted Stiles; Anne Arundel--Mrs. William L. Henderson, Mrs. Elise Tappan, Prof. and Mrs. David B. Howard, Harold and Hal Wierenga, Friel Sanders, Elizabeth Slater; Calvert--Friel Sanders, Elizabeth Slater; St. Marys--Vernon Kleen, James Banagan; N.E.--Vernon Rossman, Mrs. Edward Mendinhall, Mr. and Mrs. Clark Webster; Caroline--Marvin Hewitt, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Fletcher, Alicia Knotts, Carol Scudder; Talb.--Richard Kleen, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Lubbert; Lower Eastern Shore--Samuel H. Dyke, M.O.S. Convention.

Egrets and Herons. Cattle Egrets continued to make news this spring by wandering deeper into the interior sections of Atlantic Coastal States, and by appearing at new locations in the Mississippi Valley. This species was seen for the first time in Prince Georges and Howard Counties; and an observation from western Montgomery County recalled two prior unpublished reports from this inland county; 1 near Darnestown on May 14, 1957 by

Table 2. Spring Departure Dates, 1961

Species	Median													
	1958	1959	1960	1961	Fred	Balt	Harf	Mont	Pr.G	Anne	StMa	Caro	Talb	LES*
Whistling Swan	4/12	--	--	4/14	0	3/20	--	0	--	4/26	4/14	4/5	5/6	--
Canada Goose	4/27	4/2	4/30	4/29	3/20	3/28	5/8	4/24	5/6	4/27	4/12	5/1	5/8	5/13
Common Snipe	--	5/2	--	--	--	--	0	--	5/6	5/7	4/4	--	--	5/13
Greater Yellowlegs	--	--	--	5/6	5/13	5/6	5/7	--	5/6	5/24	5/9	5/6	5/6	5/28
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	--	--	4/17	--	--	--	--	--	4/26	5/7	4/26	--	--	4/30
Blue Jay	--	--	--	5/8	5/24	5/8	5/7	5/9	5/25	5/3	--	--	--	--
Brown Creeper	--	4/28	4/13	5/1	4/30	5/6	4/15	5/6	5/6	4/23	4/14	5/1	--	--
Hermit Thrush	4/21	--	4/27	4/24	--	5/6	4/26	5/9	5/6	4/23	4/14	4/23	--	4/13
Swainson's Thrush	--	--	5/25	5/22	5/24	5/24	0	--	6/4	5/14	5/24	5/12	5/21	5/15
Gray-cheeked Thrush	--	--	--	5/23	5/24	5/25	--	0	6/4	5/14	5/23	5/12	--	5/21
Veery	5/16	--	5/18	5/18	--	--	5/7	5/27	5/30	5/26	5/22	5/8	5/7	5/14
Golden-crowned Kinglet	--	--	4/10	4/14	4/15	--	4/15	4/30	3/29	4/7	4/13	4/14	--	--
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	5/10	5/2	4/27	5/6	5/6	5/6	5/8	5/7	5/8	5/10	5/6	5/6	5/7	5/6
Solitary Vireo	--	--	--	5/7	0	--	5/7	5/7	--	5/7	4/26	--	5/7	5/13
Blue-winged Warbler	--	--	--	5/8	--	--	5/7	--	--	--	5/8	5/6	5/9	5/15
Tennessee Warbler	--	--	--	--	--	0	0	5/16	5/23	5/19	0	0	--	0
Magnolia Warbler	5/15	5/14	5/22	5/18	5/7	5/14	--	5/9	5/28	5/24	5/29	0	5/21	5/8
Cape May Warbler	5/11	--	5/7	5/9	--	--	0	5/9	5/17	5/20	5/29	5/9	5/7	5/8
Black-thr. Blue Warbler	5/11	--	5/16	5/14	5/20	--	--	5/22	5/10	5/17	5/8	5/8	5/8	5/14
Myrtle Warbler	5/14	5/10	5/8	5/9	5/7	5/8	5/7	5/7	5/20	5/13	5/9	--	5/14	5/13
Black-thr. Green Warbler	5/15	5/10	--	5/8	5/7	--	--	5/9	5/8	--	5/16	5/8	5/7	5/14
Chestnut-sided Warbler	5/11	5/13	--	5/9	5/7	--	--	5/9	5/22	5/7	5/29	5/8	5/9	5/14
Bay-breasted Warbler	--	--	--	--	5/18	0	--	--	5/20	--	0	0	--	5/14
Blackpoll Warbler	5/24	5/18	5/30	6/3	5/18	6/4	6/3	6/6	6/3	6/3	5/18	--	5/20	6/1
Northern Waterthrush	5/11	--	5/18	5/16	5/14	5/18	0	5/9	6/7	5/21	5/17	5/6	--	5/14
Wilson's Warbler	--	--	5/17	--	--	5/20	0	0	5/17	5/21	0	0	5/7	0
Canada Warbler	--	--	5/25	5/18	5/18	5/20	--	5/9	5/30	5/7	5/25	5/15	5/8	5/22
American Redstart	5/23	--	--	5/23	--	5/21	--	--	5/23	5/29	--	5/30	5/21	--
Bobolink	5/14	5/16	--	--	--	5/12	0	5/9	--	5/22	0	--	--	5/14
Rusty Blackbird	--	--	--	--	4/16	5/6	--	--	5/6	--	4/28	--	--	--
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	5/12	--	5/7	5/9	--	5/9	5/7	5/31	5/21	5/10	5/6	5/10	5/9	5/8
Evening Grosbeak	5/10	--	5/7	4/21	0	--	0	3/10	4/21	4/20	0	5/5	5/6	0
Purple Finch	5/12	5/2	5/4	5/4	4/22	4/30	5/28	5/6	5/4	5/7	4/18	--	--	--
Savannah Sparrow	--	5/2	5/7	5/6	--	5/6	--	5/6	5/6	5/13	4/21	5/6	5/6	5/13
Slate-colored Junco	5/9	4/25	4/22	5/6	5/7	5/10	4/29	5/9	5/8	4/30	4/21	5/8	5/3	--
White-crowned Sparrow	5/13	--	5/17	5/7	5/9	--	0	5/7	5/8	5/22	0	5/6	5/6	0
White-throated Sparrow	5/20	5/9	5/16	5/14	5/7	6/4	5/7	5/14	5/25	5/27	5/17	5/14	5/21	5/14
Fox Sparrow	--	--	4/6	3/5	4/3	4/3	4/16	4/2	3/2	4/8	4/12	--	--	--
Swamp Sparrow	5/10	5/2	5/14	5/7	5/6	5/6	5/8	5/6	5/6	5/8	5/16	--	--	5/14

Miss Lucille V. Smith; and an unidentified small white heron, now believed to have been this species, seen with cattle at Unity in the spring of 1950 or earlier by Seth H. Low. The 1961 reports were as follows: 1 at Patuxent Wildlife Research Center on Apr. 27 by Francis M. Uhler and others; a different individual at the same location on May 16 (Frederick C. Schmid and others); 4 at Dawsonville on Apr. 29 by Mr. and Mrs. Lathrup Smith; and 1 a mile west of Fulton on May 18 (Mrs. George C. Munro and Mrs. Harry B. Rauth). Single Yellow-crowned Night Herons were seen near Stafford Bridge in Harford County (Apr. 30, Dr. and Mrs. N. K. Schaffer) and at Patuxent Research Center (Francis M. Uhler). The Yellow-crowned Night Heron is the only one of Maryland's 11 species of herons whose nest has not been reported this summer. On May 17, Mr. Mills recorded the first Least Bittern ever seen on Gibson Island; and for the second time this small heron nested at Patuxent Research Center (Bridge).

Waterfowl. A Mute Swan visited Gibson Island on June 9 and was carefully studied by Mrs. Elise Tappan. A flying Whistling Swan closely studied at Loch Raven Reservoir on June 2 is the first recorded in summer in the Maryland Piedmont (Mrs. Joshua W. Rowe, Mrs. O. J. Theobald, Mrs. Robert Thompson). There were several late records of geese. Three flocks of Canada Geese totaling 380 birds flew northward over Rock Run Sanctuary in Harford County on Apr. 26; and Helen Webster wrote that 86

birds were still at Remington Farms on May 23, tying the State departure record. Twenty Brant were still on Sinepuxent Bay on May 14 (M. O. S. Convention). Snow and Blue Geese left Remington Farms near Chestertown on the night of Apr. 23-24--a record-breaking date for the Snow Goose (Clark and Helen Webster). Three Ring-necked Ducks lingered at Patuxent Research Center through June 2 (Francis M. Uhler). The Common Eider was last seen at Ocean City on May 6 (Samuel H. Dyke) and the King Eider on May 14 (Robbins and others). The third Maryland nesting record of the Hooded Merganser, and the first for the Coastal Plain of this State, was obtained at Patuxent Research Center (F. M. Uhler).

Hawks. The M.O.S., the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, and the Maryland Department of Game and Inland Fisheries are cooperating with the National Audubon Society in gathering information on the location and success of Bald Eagle nests in our State. An effort is being made to map all active and inactive nest sites; but in order to protect the comparatively few active nests in Maryland, the locations are being kept confidential. Observers who can supply information on either active or inactive nests are urged to write to the Editor for special reporting forms. Please also report all other observations of Bald Eagles in Maryland, specifying whether each bird is a white-headed adult or a dark-headed immature; the decline in proportion of young birds in recent years is an indication of poor breeding success, and emphasizes the need for taking an inventory of the Bald Eagle population and determining what steps can be taken to give further protection to the species. Douglas Hackman saw a late north-bound adult Bald Eagle over White Marsh on May 3. One of unspecified age, possibly a late migrant, was at Gibson Island on May 7 (Mrs. W. L. Henderson). Hackman also saw a record-early Broad-winged Hawk at White Marsh on Apr. 1. The best Broad-wing count of the season was of 125 birds in one hour in midday just south of Emmitsburg on Apr. 24 by Dr. and Mrs. John W. Richards. Judge and Mrs. Henderson counted 28 Ospreys at Poplar Island, Talbot County, on June 23.

Grouse, Quail, Rails. Anderson Martin, Official Recorder for the Pleasant Valley Camp, reported Ruffed Grouse "extremely abundant" in that section of central Garrett County in mid-June. One was heard drumming in the Pocomoke Swamp west of Libertytown on May 13 (Robbins); the mystery of the origin of the small Pocomoke detachment of this species has not yet been solved. Mrs. Henderson reports more Bobwhite than ever before in her long experience at Gibson Island, but it is doubtful whether Bobwhite are equally abundant in nearby areas with less favorable habitat and fewer feeding stations. A pair of Soras that Brooke Meanley found in the Elliott Island marsh was still present on June 20; as yet there is no nesting record for the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland. A Sora recorded at Gibson Island on May 6 was a late migrant (Mrs. W. L. Henderson, Mrs. Elise Tappan).

Shorebirds. Killdeer are still comparatively scarce as nesting birds in Maryland, not having recovered from the severe winter of 1957-28; note that the maximum number found in a single area on the State-wide Bird Count on May 6 (*Maryland Birdlife* 17: 31) was 7. Common Snipe seldom are heard winnowing in Maryland, but several did so frequently at Gibson

Island during April; the last one was heard winnowing on Apr. 26 (Mesdames Henderson and Tappan). The best shorebird counts for Chesapeake Bay came from Sandy Point, where on May 7 Harold and Hal Wierenga found the only White-rumped Sandpiper of the spring. On the same day they also found such uncommon species for the upper Bay as the Ruddy Turnstone, Willet, Dunlin and dowitcher. At the same place, they found an early Pectoral Sandpiper on Mar. 30 and Western Sandpipers on May 24 and 25. The third and the earliest spring migration record for the Wilson's Phalarope in Maryland was recorded on May 1 by Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Hewitt, who found one with Pectorals, yellowlegs, and peeps between Greensboro and Ridgely. It was seen daily through May 4 by the Hewitts and Fletchers.

Gulls and Terns. Forty Great Black-backed Gulls were counted at Ocean City as late as May 14, and scattered individuals spent the summer in the coastal area. Two were at Gibson Island through May 7, and then none until July 8. Eight late Ring-billed Gulls were seen in a plowed field near McHenry in Garrett County on June 10 (Billie Taylor, Robbinses and others). Douglas Hackman's first White Marsh observation of Bonaparte's Gulls was of 17 flying north on Apr. 17. David Bridge reports that drastic changes are taking place in the nesting populations of terns in Maryland. After nesting on islands off South Point from 1950 through 1960, the Royal Tern colony disappeared and was not found anywhere in Maryland in 1961. Common Terns and Black Skimmers all but abandoned their biggest 1960 colony at the Ocean City Bridge and dispersed to other islands they had occupied in prior years. Least Terns, which are so prone to lay their eggs on areas of fresh sand fill, where they commonly fall prey to dogs, men, and machinery, raised a few young in a freshly filled area near 27th Street in Ocean City. Further details regarding the 1961 populations of colonial birds will be published in a later issue. In Maryland, Common Terns seldom are seen away from the Coastal Plain; and most of the few inland records are from the vicinity of large bodies of water. So one seen at Frederick on May 20 by Joseph Jehl is of special interest.

Cuckoos, Owls. Several observers commented upon the abundance of Yellow-billed Cuckoos, which were common in all parts of the State this summer. A late Saw-whet Owl found on the morning of Apr. 4 at Denton was heard the same evening but was not found subsequently (Carol Scudder).

Goatsuckers, Hummingbirds. Although an early Whip-poor-will was heard at Largo on Apr. 2 (Mrs. Ethel Cobb) and early Common Nighthawks were found near Highland (Mrs. Harry B. Rauth) and Denton (Mrs. Scudder) on Apr. 24, most reporters did not encounter these two species until about three weeks after the "early birds" arrived. In commenting upon the late arrival of nighthawks, Mr. Hackman asserted that he had made regular evening observations through late April and May watching for this species; he saw none until May 24. Ruby-throated Hummingbirds, in contrast, were seen in seven counties in April, and had arrived in almost all areas prior to the wave of May 7. As many as 9 were seen in the vicinity of Rock Run Sanctuary in Harford County on May 28 (Hackman).

Woodpeckers. During the past six years, the Pileated Woodpecker has been reported for the first time in Calvert, Caroline, Harford, Kent,

Queen Annes and Talbot Counties. Another Harford County bird was noted on Apr. 30 near Allibone (Dr. and Mrs. N. K. Schaffer). Howard County was added to the list on May 6, when single birds were found at two locations by Robbins and Ted Stiles. Carroll, Cecil, and St. Marys now are the only Maryland counties without Pileated records, and it seems only a matter of time before this species will be known from every county in the State. Spring arrival dates for the Red-headed Woodpecker have been hard to obtain because of lack of regular observations on the western ridges where the principal flights occur; a Red-head seen at Frederick on Apr. 22 was at the expected time for first migrants (Jehl).

Flycatchers. There were very few reports this spring of the rarer transient flycatchers. The Olive-sided was not noted at all, and the Yellow-bellied was detected only in Prince Georges and Montgomery Counties. A transient Traill's Flycatcher singing the eastern "wee-be-o" song was heard on May 25 near Simpsonville in Howard County (Robbins); the one bird heard in the Pleasant Valley bog near Bittinger on June 10 also was singing the eastern song. One heard and seen on a brushy hillside in northwestern Howard County near Woodbine on June 18, however, was singing the western "fitz-bew" song (Robbins and many others). On June 26, Bruce Newman added Traill's Flycatcher to the known breeding avifauna of Prince Georges County by finding a nest, with 3 eggs, along the Anacostia River south of Bladensburg; the record was verified by David Bridge, who also banded 2 adults and 2 nestlings at a nearby nest 50 feet across the D.C. line. Transient Least Flycatchers were reported from nine counties.

Jays, Nuthatches, Creepers. The northward migration of Blue Jays was described by most reporters as comparatively poor and late. The peak at Gibson Island was reached on May 2-3, and stragglers were still moving along the Fall Line on May 25. For the third consecutive year at least 2 pairs of White-breasted Nuthatches nested on the Patuxent Research Center, where up to ten years ago this species was considered a "very rare summer visitor" (Robbins). Betsy Schaffer discovered a Red-breasted Nuthatch at Camp Shadownbrook, Conowingo, on June 27--the fifth summer record of this species in Maryland and the first below 2000 ft.; she counted a maximum of 3 individuals on July 14, and her last observation was on July 22.

Wrens, Thrushes. A late Short-billed Marsh Wren heard singing in a hayfield near Savage on June 1 is believed to be the first for Howard County (Robbins). The continued scarcity of Carolina Wrens is general throughout the State. On the State-wide Bird Count on May 6, Calvert was the only county to report more than 9 individuals. The rainy weather doubtless was largely responsible for the 50 percent reduction from last year's State total--but compare the 1961 total of 77 birds with the 348 individuals counted in 1957! The Carolina Wren, Hermit Thrush and Eastern Bluebird are three of the species that were most adversely affected by the severe winter of 1957-58; all three still are far below normal numbers. On the State-wide Bird Count, the bluebird showed up better in comparison with a year ago than did the Carolina Wren--probably because the bluebird is a more conspicuous bird than the wren when weather conditions restrict singing. The Eastern Bluebird totals were 47 in 1960 and 50 in 1961. The earliest and latest dates for transient thrushes generally come from

banding stations or from observers who identify the flight calls of these nocturnal migrants. Single Swainson's and Gray-cheeked Thrushes were banded at Patuxent Wildlife Research Center on June 4--a record-breaking date for the Gray-cheek, and only one day short of the record for the Swainson's (Robbins).

Pipits, Waxwings. Water Pipits reached a peak of between 250 and 350 at Frederick on May 7, but none were seen there after the 13th (Jehl). Cedar Waxwings were notably late in arriving. Several active observers did not see this common species until after the middle of May. Hackman wrote that the peak passed through the White Marsh area from May 25 to June 1. No correspondent reported a good departure date--probably because the late stragglers were mistaken for breeding birds.

Warblers. The warbler migration was considered good, but late. Median dates (based on 5 or more counties) for both 1961 and one or more prior years are given in Table 1 for 26 species of warblers. Of these 26 species, all except the Northern Waterthrush and Yellow-breasted Chat were at least slightly later in 1961 than the mean of the median dates for the three preceding years. The May migrants were not only late in arriving, but late in departing as well. This lateness can be associated in part with the late arrivals of many individuals from the South (corroborated by reports of belated transients along the Gulf Coast beyond the middle of May) and in part with the cool weather that prevailed throughout Maryland during the latter half of May. Unfortunately, there were not enough correspondents afield in the closing days of May and first week of June to obtain an adequate sample of the late birds. A median departure date of June 3 for the Blackpoll Warbler, however, shows that this most conspicuous of the late migrants caught the attention of numerous bird watchers west of the Bay several days after the holiday weekend. At the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, where mist nets were in operation on June 2, 4, and 7, 1 or more Northern Waterthrushes were caught each day (Robbins); the latter date is five days past the latest Maryland record outside of the breeding range. From the many individual comments concerning warblers, we must select a very few for mention here. The Prothonotary was seen for the first time at Gibson Island on May 7 (Mrs. Henderson and Mrs. Tappan) and was so common as a breeding bird along the Susquehanna canal near Rock Run Sanctuary that 1 or 2 males could be heard from almost any position along the canal (Hackman). The Cerulean Warbler arrived as early as Apr. 25 at Pennyfield (Mrs. James Cooley), was added to the Talbot County list on May 7 (Kleen, Maryland Birdlife 17: 28), was found summering at several new locations in the Middle Patuxent watershed in Howard County (Robbins), and was one of the commonest nesting warblers in the Rock Run Sanctuary census area. A Yellow-throated Warbler 40 miles north of its usual breeding range was first seen on Apr. 29 and spent the summer within hearing distance of Rock Run Sanctuary (Dr. R. K. Burns and many others). Only 2 Mourning Warblers were reported: an early bird at Frederick on May 7 (Jehl), and the first Caroline County record on the more normal date of May 31 (Hewitt).

Finches and Sparrows. Rodney Jones' Black-headed Grosbeak (Maryland Birdlife 17(1): 7), the first for Maryland, was last seen by him at his

Pikesville home on Apr. 14. Summer Dickcissels were found in four widely separated areas: 2 singing near Charlton in western Washington County on June 11 (Robbinses), 5 along New Design Road in southern Frederick County on June 12 (Mrs. E. L. Becker and Miss Eva Linscott), 2 singing 1 mile north of Detour in Carroll County on May 25 (Dr. John W. Richards), and 1 singing near Burrsville in Caroline County on Aug. 4 (Mrs. A. J. Fletcher). Douglas Hackman found a very late Purple Finch at Rock Run Sanctuary on May 28. Three White-crowned Sparrows were trapped at the annual picnic and banding demonstration at Seth and Ann Low's farm; one was typical leucophrys, which nests primarily east of Hudson Bay, one was typical gambellii, which nests from northern Manitoba to northern Alaska, and the third was an intergrade, possibly from northeastern Manitoba (A. O. U. Check-List). The representative of gambellii, recognized by a white supercilary line that extends to the bill, was a "repeat" that had spent the winter on Stony Broke farm; it is only the second of this race identified in Maryland. In addition to the late White-throated Sparrows listed in Table 2, one was seen at Fairplay in Washington County on June 19 (Alice Mallonee). The State departure record for the Snow Bunting was tied by Joseph S. Larson, who observed a single bird at Sandy Point State Park beach on Apr. 1.

Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel

The President's Page (cont. from page 81)

With the adoption of the budget the status of the Operating Fund as of the close of the meeting on August 12, 1961 was as follows:

BALANCE on hand June 30, 1961:	
Perpetual Building Association, Washington, D. C.....	\$1,220.80
Middletown Savings Bank, Middletown, Md.....	454.00
RECEIPTS: Undeposited dues	8.00
EXPENDITURES:	
Approved for payment by Executive Council.....	\$ 504.16
Encumbered as per approved budget.....	<u>1,050.00</u>
BALANCE on hand at close of meeting, Aug. 12, 1961:	\$ 128.64

Members are urged to study the budget and the above statement and to consider the following:

- In another year the carry-over from prior years may be depleted.
- This August sufficient money was in hand to carry through the coming year. Next August only what is left over from this year will be immediately available. There will no longer be a substantial prepayment of dues.
- The Council directed that all costs of the 1962 convention be met from the registration fees. Thus no profits may be counted on from this source.
- The expenditures (approved budget) for the new year exceed the expected receipts from annual dues by \$200.

- e) The budget does not provide for any expansion of MARYLAND BIRDLIFE, for any newsletters, or for any new projects or programs.

It would appear that the M.O.S., Inc. is standing still; not progressing. The conclusion is inescapable. We must substantially increase our membership, or find new sources of revenue; or increase our dues.

Seth H. Low, President

COMING EVENTS

- Sept. 17 BALTIMORE Hawk Count. Migrating hawks and eagles at Doug Hackman's home at White Marsh, 8 a.m.--5 p.m. Phone ED5-4437.
- 23 BALTIMORE beginner-adult walk at Cylburn, 7:30 a.m.
- 23 BALTIMORE children's walk. Meet Cylburn, 8 a.m.
- 24 BALTIMORE trip to Liberty Dam. Meet 8 a.m. Gwynn Oak Jct.
- 26 PATUXENT monthly meeting, Laurel City Hall, 7:45. Fred Schmid.
- 30 ANNE ARUNDEL walk. Meet entrance to Hillsmere Shores, 8 a.m.
- 30 PATUXENT trip to Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, 7 a.m.
- Oct. 2 SOLDIERS DELIGHT monthly meeting 8:15 p.m. Meet 1907 South Rd.
- 5 FREDERICK monthly meeting, 8 p.m. C.Burr Artz Library. Lecture by Joseph S. Larson, Conservation and Education Specialist.
- 7 BALTIMORE and FREDERICK trip to Gambrill State Park, 8 a.m.
- 7 BALTIMORE and PATUXENT bird banding demonstration at Cylburn. Meet 8 a.m., Cylburn. Leaders: David Bridge & Edward Rykiel.
- 8 BALTIMORE and SOLDIERS DELIGHT supper trip to Rock Run, 2 p.m.
- 8 PATUXENT Hawk Count. Rocky Gorge tower, 9 to 3. Ted Stiles.
- 13 BALTIMORE monthly meeting and dinner at Rodgers Forge Evangel. Church. Film on Glacier National Park. Make reservations with Mrs. Robert E. Kaestner, DR7-8990 by Oct. 1, \$2.00.
- 13-15 PATUXENT trip to Hawk Mountain. Leader: Charles M. Wilson.
- 14 ANNE ARUNDEL circle meeting, 8 p.m., 608 Monterey Avenue.
- 15 BALTIMORE and PATUXENT trip to Patuxent Research Center. Meet Montgomery Ward parking lot 7 a.m., Patuxent main gate, 7:30.
- 17-19 A.O.U. CONVENTION at U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C. Scientific paper sessions open to the public, main auditorium.
- 20 A.O.U. field trips to Ocean City, Blackwater and Patuxent. Make bus reservations in advance with Dr. John W. Aldrich, U. S. National Museum.
- 21 BALTIMORE children's walk, Cylburn, 8 a.m. Leader: Mrs. Gillespie
- 21-22 BALTIMORE trip to Hawk Mountain, Dr. and Mrs. R. Taylor.
- 22 FREDERICK field trip. Meet Baker Park, 1 p.m.
- 23 PATUXENT monthly meeting, Laurel City Hall, 7:45. Vernon Kleen.
- 28 ANNE ARUNDEL and TALBOT trip to Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. Meet at Merriam Lab at Headquarters, 8:30 a.m.
- 28 BALTIMORE adult walk at Cylburn, 8 a.m. Leader: Percy Jones.
- 28 PATUXENT fall colors and duck trip on Patuxent River wild rice marsh by canoe, 3/4 day. Register with David Bridge by Oct. 15.
- 29 BALTIMORE trip to Kent Island. Meet Sam Smith Park, 7 a.m.
- Nov. 2 FREDERICK monthly meeting, 8 p.m. C. Burr Artz Library.
- 4 BALTIMORE trip to Rock Run Sanctuary. Meet 7 a.m., Hutzler's parking lot. Leader: Mrs. Carl Lubbert.
- 4 BALTIMORE walk at Cylburn, 8 a.m. Mrs. Rowe & Mrs. Theobald.

- Nov. 4 PATUXENT trip to Greenbelt. Banding demonstration. Meet Greenbelt Lake parking lot. Leader: David Bridge.
- 5 TALBOT and BALTIMORE trip to Blackwater Refuge. Meet north end of Cambridge bridge, 9 a.m.
- 6 SOLDIERS DELIGHT monthly meeting.
- 10 TALBOT monthly meeting, Easton Library, 8 p.m.
- 10 BALTIMORE monthly meeting, Pratt Library, 8 p.m. Speaker: Mr. Paul Bruce Dowling of the Nature Conservancy.
- 11 PATUXENT trip to Patuxent Research Center and Beaverdam Lake for ducks. Contact Vernon Kleen, 339 Talbot Ave., Laurel.
- 11 BALTIMORE and SOLDIERS DELIGHT trip to Carroll County. Leaders: Mrs. Elmer Worthley and Mrs. Joshua Rowe.
- 12 BALTIMORE banding demonstration, 625 Valley Lane, Towson, 8 to 11 a.m. Refreshments served. Leader: Mrs. Gladys H. Cole.
- 12 FREDERICK field trip. Meet Baker Park, 1 p.m.
- 16 TALBOT Audubon Screen Tour, Mt. Pleasant School, 8 p.m.
- 18 BALTIMORE children's walk at Cylburn, 8 p.m. Banding demonstration. Leaders: Mrs. Cole and Mr. Hank Kaestner.
- 18 ANNE ARUNDEL trip to Bombay Hook Refuge. Meet 8 a.m. at Dutch Mill on U. S. 50. Leaders: Douglas and Marion Miner.
- 19 TALBOT fall migrant hike. Meet Easton Library, 7:30 a.m.
- 19 BALTIMORE trip to Perry Point. Meet Edgewood Diner, 7:30 a.m.
- Dec. 2 ANNE ARUNDEL meeting, 8 p.m. 142 Lafayette Ave., Annapolis. Host: Mrs. George E. Rullman.
- 2 BALTIMORE children's bird walk at Cylburn, 8 a.m. and beginner adult walk at 8:30 a.m.
- 3 BALTIMORE trip to Sandy Point. Meet Sam Smith Park, 8 a.m.
- 7 FREDERICK monthly meeting. Meet C. Burr Artz Library, 8 p.m. Speaker: Mr. Chandler S. Robbins.
- 8 BALTIMORE monthly meeting, Pratt Library, 8 p.m. Speaker: Mr. John Cooper, "A Herpetological Expedition in Cuba."
- 10 BALTIMORE trip to Remington Farms. Meet Sam Smith Park, 8 a.m.
- 16 BALTIMORE children's walk and decorating the Birds' Christmas Tree. Leaders: Miss Ann Taylor and Miss Betsy Schaffer.
- 17 BALTIMORE and HARFORD trip to Rock Run Sanctuary, 12 noon.
- 20—Jan. 1 Christmas Count period: following dates have been set—
- 23 DENTON and TRIADDELPHIA Christmas Counts. A.J.Fletcher; S.H.Low.
- 26 SOUTHERN DORCHESTER COUNTY. Note change in date. C.S.Robbins.
- 27 OCEAN CITY. Register with C. S. Robbins.
- 30 CYLBURN. Register with Mrs. Robert E. Kaestner.
- Jan. 1 ST. MICHAELS. Register with Richard L. Kleen.

Note: Oct. 1 Lows' Picnic has been CANCELLED

M A R Y L A N D B I R D L I F E

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