

# THE MIGRANT

A QUARTERLY JOURNAL  
DEVOTED TO TENNESSEE BIRDS

Published by  
THE TENNESSEE  
ORNITHOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY



September  
1950

# Calling All Nature Lovers

Visit the Special Nature Section in Our Book Store  
All Kinds of Books on Outdoor Life

**WE WILL OBTAIN PROMPTLY ANY BOOK IN PRINT  
NOT ALREADY IN STOCK**

- A FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS by Roger Tory Peterson. The standard book for field identification. 1000 illustrations—500 in color. 1947 edition \_\_\_\_\_ \$3.50
- AUDUBON BIRD GUIDE by Richard H. Pough. Covers 275 species of land birds occurring east of the Rockies. 400 illustrations in color \_\_\_\_\_ \$3.50
- BIRDS OF TENNESSEE by Albert F. Ganier. A 64 page distributional list, supplementing the Guides, to show when and where all Tennessee birds are to be found \_\_\_\_\_ .50
- BIRDS OF AMERICA by T. Gilbert Pearson. 834 pages, illustrated by photos, drawings and 108 color plates by Fuertes. "One of the very finest books on American birds ever published"—John Frisbie Weatherall \_\_\_\_\_ \$5.95
- AMERICAN BIRDS IN COLOR by Hal H. Harrison. Much information on 450 species. Illustrated by 387 photographs—192 in natural color \_\_\_\_\_ \$5.00
- ILLUSTRATED ENCYCLOPEDIA ON NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS by L. A. Hausmann. 541 pages. Brief accounts of each; 700 drawings, 16 color plates \_\_\_\_\_ \$2.49
- NATURE LOVERS TREASURY by Marshall McClintock. Contains 100 of the most enthralling nature stories and studies. 800 pages \_\_\_\_\_ \$3.50
- FOOTNOTES ON NATURE by John Kieran \_\_\_\_\_ \$3.00
- LOST WOODS by Edwin Way Teale \_\_\_\_\_ \$4.00
- HUNTING AND FISHING IN THE GREAT SMOKIES by Jim Gasque \_\_\_\_\_ \$3.75
- BIRDS OF THE GARDEN by Margaret McKenny; with excellent color plates \_\_\_\_\_ \$2.98

and Many Others

Mail Orders Handled Promptly. We Can Obtain Any Book Desired

## The Methodist Book Store

810 Broad Street

Nashville (2) Tennessee

Tel. 42-1621

Patronize Our Advertisers and Mention THE MIGRANT

# THE MIGRANT

Published by the Tennessee Ornithological Society, to Record and Encourage the Study of  
Birds in Tennessee. Issued in March, June, September and December

VOL. 21

SEPTEMBER, 1950

No. 3

## HORNED LARK NESTING NEAR NASHVILLE

By KATHERINE A. GOODPASTURE

This report is concerned with observations on a pair of Horned Larks (*Eremophila alpestris*) during four attempts at nesting in March thru July, 1950, twenty miles from Nashville, Tenn., in the South Harpeth River Valley.

On March 19, 1950, a pair of larks was discovered on the farm of Mr. Cliff Linton on Bedford Creek four miles south of Highway 100 up the South Harpeth Valley. They were in the same area a few days later and nesting was suspected. On three dates during the next week the male was alone and singing in what we may call the North field. During one three-hour interval when he was constantly watched, he did not approach a nest. Nor did systematic tramping of this ten-acre field flush the female. Late in the afternoon of April 2 the female was with the male in this field. After a few minutes of dusting and picking in the bare soil she, followed closely by the male, flew across the road into the similar ten-acre South field. They were quickly followed and immediately relocated. Within three or four minutes the female carried food to the nest. The nest contained one unhatched egg and three young with dark skin and dust-colored tufts of down of a day-old pattern. The female fed, then brooded, the young several times during fifteen or twenty minutes. She collected food within thirty feet of the nest and seemed undisturbed by our presence twenty feet away. The male sang jubilantly from clods within the same radius.

Four days later, April 6, the nest was empty. It looked weathered by recent rains but except for one loosened bit of material was intact. The nest was in a typical cup-like excavation in the bare ground; it was entirely open and exposed, unrelated to a clod, stone, stalk, or protection of any kind. It was built of grass blades and small stems; the lining was of a small amount of cottony weed seeds and three or four tiny feathers. Two or three stones judged to be "paving stones" were at one edge of the nest.

Each of these ten-acre fields, divided only by the fenced right-of-way of a graveled county road, was a bare, cloddy soil of soft color and texture mellowed by weathering since fall plowing. The South field showed no vegetation. The North field showed only small bits of green on the vertical sides of large half-turned clods.

On the morning of April 9 the male was in the South field singing near the female, who in a desultory manner gathered building material

which she deposited on the ground in no relation to a nest. On April 23 the male was alone singing in the North field in exactly the same attitude as during the previous incubation period. A second nesting period was suspected. Because of recorded dates of recent discing of both fields a nest in incubation could not have been either in the North or South field, and the female was not flushed from two other small cultivated areas nearby. Late in the afternoon of May 3 Mrs. Amelia Laskey and I found the male singing in short tinkling phrases while hunting diligently for food in the furrowed ground of the North field. After about ten minutes he doubled up a cutworm-like larva, paused on top of a clod, and took flight from the North field across the road and over a green pasture adjoining the South field. The distance of his flight was farther than we could follow so near dusk. He returned in a few minutes and repeated the same activity carrying away another big larva. On May 5 the female was alone in the North field not feeding or hunting for food but dusting and resting. The probability that the male was at this time tending young of a second brood that had left the nest and were still near the nesting area is supported both by my subsequent observations and Pickwell's studies (1931). However, neither the nest nor fledglings of this period were found. The time intervals related to the behavior of the birds and especially the determined food-carrying of the male are presented as evidence, even if not conclusive, of a second nesting period during which young were likely being fed.

During May, June, and July numerous additional records of the activities of this pair of larks were made. Two additional nests were watched from building through their periods of activity. This is an experience which, according to Pickwell (1931) has been rarely recorded. Only summarizing notes are presented.

May 20, 12:30 p.m. Female repeatedly carried building material to a nest on the gravelly south embankment within the road right-of-way between the North and South fields. It was protected above by a tuft of sour dock (*Rumex acetocella*) and below by a lower tuft of the same plant. The entrance was well marked by paving stones. No egg was noted during a quick inspection. This nest was roughly 125 feet from the first one.

May 21, 8:30 a.m. The nest contained two (!) lark eggs.

May 25, 2:00 p.m. The nest contained four eggs.

May 27 and 28. The female was incubating. She appeared to flush from the nest regularly on the approach of an automobile, which occurred only infrequently.

June 2, 9:00 a.m. Alas! the nest was empty. Dried grass blades and stems formed the chief nest material. No special lining could be determined.

June 11, 12:30 p.m. Male, circling high, was heard in a flight song which concluded with a 75-100 foot plummet to the North field.

June 16, 7:30 a.m. Female repeatedly carried nest material to an excavation in the South field about 1000 feet from the first nest and 200 feet more from the third nest. The South and North fields

now had corn up twelve inches. This fourth nest was in the row between a corn stalk and a clump of crab grass (*Digitaria sanguinalis*). Except once when she settled to shape the materials with her body she deposited material quickly and hurried away to gather more, always gathering within fifty feet of the nest.

June 18. The completed nest contained one egg. Mr. Linton expressed his interest in the larks and their nesting efforts by marking the nest with upright stakes and by lifting the plows of his tractor over this part of the corn-row. The nest was not endangered by the plowpoint but by dirt which would have been thrown onto the row. The corn was plowed twice during this nesting period and the nest was carefully protected each time.

June 21. Nest contained three eggs, one of which was of slightly darker color.

June 23-30. Female was incubating a full clutch of four eggs.

July 3, 9:30 a.m. Nest contained one dry, dark-skinned nestling with patches of light dust-colored down. There was no sign of the other three eggs or young.

July 4, 7, 8. The young bird showed normal if not slightly precocious development according to Pickwell's growth chart (1931).

July 9. Mrs. Laskey banded the nestling. Its body was well feathered. Tail feathers were unsheathed but only a few of the primary pin feathers were breaking out. Its eyes were open; it was alert but silent and not in the least fearful.

July 11, 10:00 a.m. The nest was empty. Fifteen minutes observation and search revealed the male parent feeding the fledgling 75-100 feet away from the nest. The young gave single-note food calls as the parent approached and the adult uttered two or three quiet tinkling notes as he fed. Worms and a grasshopper constituted the visible food. The fledgling was active and hopped along easily after the adult over the plowed rows. At this time the corn stood 5½ feet tall; the crabgrass at the nest shaded and obscured it. Grass blades, stems, and rootlets constituted the chief building material. However, the bulk of this fourth nest was decidedly less than those of the first and third nests. Two tufts of sheep's wool substituted for downy seeds and soft feathers as lining material. Like those described by Pickwell (1913), the nest excavation extended somewhat under one side of the grass tuft. A worn pathway over the paving stones marked the entrance.

It may be pointed out that during these four nesting periods the North field served as a feeding territory and all nesting took place south of the dividing roadway. The three nests which were actually located were within a 150 foot radius in the South field. Cultivation probably drove the birds from the immediate area during their second nesting. The male spent the incubation periods in the North territory; it was the territory to which the female usually flew when disturbed at the nest and from which, with one exception, food was observed to be collected. The paving stones at each nest marked an exit toward the North field.



The first nest of the Prairie Horned Lark found in Tennessee, April 5, 1925, was reported by A. F. Ganier (1931). It was on Paradise Ridge ten miles northwest of Nashville. In 1929 Mr. Ganier found another nest at the same site. In 1930 and 1932, Harry Monk and Compton Crook separately found other nests in the same locality (Ganier, 1941, and letter from Crook to Monk). In May, 1931, G. P. Dillon (1931) found a nest in Houston County sixty miles slightly north and west of Nashville. Some weeks later a second nest of the same pair was located 200 feet from the first. Dan Gray (1932) found a nest on his farm near Mt. Pleasant in 1929. This location is about forty miles south of the currently reported one and is well within the Central Basin of Tennessee. I am indebted to Mr. Monk for the citation of several records including one of two nests, May 22-25, 1942, found at Leighton in northwestern Alabama by Mr. King (McCormack, 1943).

In addition, a number of larks have been recorded in the Middle Tennessee area during their normal nesting period without nests having been located, amongst which records are those of Alfred Clebsch (1937) and James A. Robbins (1940). Such a record of the current season was made by Mrs. Laskey who found larks in a fallow field adjoining the Nashville Airport on April 22, 1950. Two months later, June 21, two larks were observed on the airport landing strip. However, when one considers the few records during the last twenty-five years he must still regard the Horned Lark as a rare nesting species not only in the Nashville area but in all of Middle Tennessee. The accumulation of data may eventually describe a gradual extension southward of the nesting of Horned Larks.

#### SUMMARY

1. A pair of Horned Larks was found nesting twenty miles southwest of Nashville in the South Harpeth Valley area.
2. The pair was observed through four attempted nestings from March 19 through July 11, 1950.
3. Three nests were found in each of which a clutch of four eggs were laid.
4. From twelve eggs known to have been laid only one fledgling, that of the fourth nesting, developed to leave the nest (July 11).
5. The second nesting, altho a nest was never found, was apparently successful judged by observations of the male carrying food.
6. Two nests, discovered by watching the female carrying nest building material to the nest site, were watched from building through their periods of activity. \*
7. One nest in a completely exposed, bare situation, unrelated to a clod, stone, stalk or vegetation is described.

#### LITERATURE CITED

- CLEBSCH, ALFRED. 1937. Notes by members of the Clarksville Chapter, Migrant, 8:36.
- DILLON, G. F. 1931. Prairie Horned Lark in Houston County. Migrant, 2: 30.

- GANIER, A. F. 1931. Nesting of the Prairie Horned Lark near Nashville. Migrant, 2: 31.
- GRAY, DAN R. 1932. Notes from Maury County. Migrant, 3: 10.
- MCCORMACK, F. M. 1943. Nesting of the Prairie Horned Lark in north-western Alabama. Auk, 60: 105.
- PICKWELL, GAYLE. 1931. The Prairie Horned Lark. Trans. Acad. Sci. of St. Louis.
- ROBBINS, JAMES 1940. Prairie Horned Larks in Middle Tennessee. Migrant, 11: 78.
- 408 FAIRFAX AVE.  
NASHVILLE 5, TENN.

### NOTES OF SOME SPECIMENS OF BIRDS FROM SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE

By R. E. TUCKER

This report is based on a collection of birds from Shelby County, Tennessee, which is deposited in the Museum of Zoology of the Louisiana State University at Baton Rouge. This report is not a comprehensive review of all of the specimens contained in the collection as notes are given only on those species or subspecies for which new or important information has been acquired. The collection of birds from Shelby County is composed of birds taken over the years from 1939 until 1947 by Eugene Wallace, myself, and the late Austin W. Burdick.

With exceptions the specimens have all been identified by me. Some had been previously identified along with other material in the L. S. U. collections by various authorities. I am indebted to Dr. Alexander Wetmore who kindly examined a few of the specimens for me. These are noted in the text. I am particularly indebted to Mr. H. Eugene Wallace and the late Austin W. Burdick who untiringly devoted themselves to the obtaining of much of the material in the collection.

**WESTERN SOLITARY SANDPIPER (*Tringa solitaria cinnamomea*).** There is one specimen of this large race in the collection; a male taken at Mud Lake on August 13, 1939.

**EASTERN MOURNING DOVE (*Zenaidura macroura carolinensis*).** Unfortunately there is only one specimen of mourning dove in the present collection. Dr. Wetmore examined it and referred it to the eastern subspecies. As the National Museum party of 1939 collected specimens of the western bird, *marginella*, in west Tennessee, the taxonomic status of the species in that part of the state is uncertain. Dr. Wetmore wrote in comment, "the birds that Mr. Perrygo collected are definitely much paler . . . It is possible that the birds that I identified earlier as the western form were migrants, but it seems more probable that there is here an area of intergradation so that the doves may be intermediate. Under such conditions some may resemble one form and some the other."

**EASTERN NIGHTHAWK (*Chordeiles minor minor*)**

**FLORIDA NIGHTHAWK (*Chordeiles minor chapmani*).** The former race

occurs in Shelby County only as a migrant, as the race *chapmani* is the nesting one. Six specimens comprise the present collection, five of which are the migrant bird.

**SOUTHERN FLICKER (*Colaptes auratus auratus*)**

**NORTHERN FLICKER (*Colaptes auratus luteus*)**. There are only two specimens of Flickers in the collection. One, taken August 8, is the southern bird and the nesting form. The other, taken January 10, is the northern bird and should be expected to be found only in winter.

**NORTHERN HAIRY WOODPECKER (*Dendrocopos villosus villosus*)**

**SOUTHERN HAIRY WOODPECKER (*Dendrocopos villosus auduboni*)**. There are three specimens from Shelby County. Of these only one bird, a male taken at Germantown on December 4, 1943, is placed with the northern birds. However it is intermediate, as the black markings are not as prominent as those of birds from the north. The other specimens, both females, are of the southern race and were collected on October 27, 1940, and June 10, 1944.

**SOUTHERN DOWNY WOODPECKER (*Dendrocopos pubescens pubescens*)**

**NORTHERN DOWNY WOODPECKER (*Dendrocopos pubescens medianus*)**.

A study of the Downy Woodpecker indicates that *medianus* occurs only as a winter visitor, and that *pubescens* is the breeding form. Of fourteen specimens examined five are the southern form, and were taken in the summer. Two specimens, taken on May 6, 1940, and July 19, 1944, are typical *medianus*, but I suspect that here are specimens representing late and early migrants respectively.

**SOUTHERN BLUE JAY (*Cyanocitta cristata cristata*)**

**NORTHERN BLUE JAY (*Cyanocitta cristata bromia*)**. The ten specimens present an interesting problem. First it is evident that the same population is not present throughout the year. There is an influx of birds from the north in the winter and from the south in the summer. Therefore, as should be expected, the population is a mixed one and intermediates are frequently found. The birds taken in the summer are, with the exception of one individual, the southern bird *cristata*. Some of these are intermediate, but they are placed with the southern birds largely because of their posterior coloration which is more purplish. A specimen taken on January 9, 1944, at Memphis has a large wing (132mm) but is placed with *cristata* on the basis of the reduced white markings of the wing and tail and the duller back. Oddly, the largest bird in the series is a male taken July 24, 1941, at Germantown, but in addition to its large size it possesses the large white markings on the wings and tail, and is placed with *bromia*.

**SOUTHERN BROWN CREEPER (*Certhia familiaris nigrescens*)**. The three Creepers in this collection are all referred to the southern form.

**OHIO HOUSE WREN (*Troglodytes aedon baldwini*)**. There is only one specimen of House wren from Tennessee in the L. S. U. collection. It was reported, in error, as a specimen of *parkmani* (MIGRANT, 1942, v. 13:3), but upon reexamination it was found to be a typical example of *baldwini*.

**EASTERN WINTER WREN (*Troglodytes troglodytes hiemalis*)**



SOUTHERN WINTER WREN (*Troglodytes troglodytes pullus*). Three of four specimens taken, all in December, are the southern bird **pullus**.

BEWICK WREN (*Thryomanes bewickii bewickii*)

APPALACHIAN BEWICK WREN (*Thryomanes bewickii altus*). Only one specimen, a male taken January 24, 1942, at Germantown, is referred to **altus**. There are three specimens of **bewickii** in the collection.

NEWFOUNDLAND ROBIN (*Turdus migratorius nigridus*). Two specimens of Robins are typically the large, black-backed race from Newfoundland. Both were taken in migration on February 7 and 12, 1944, at Memphis and both are males.

WESTERN OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH (*Hylocichla ustulata almae*). This race appears to be more common in spring migration at Memphis than would the eastern form **swainsoni**. Of ten specimens of this species from Shelby County, six are the grayer western form. They occur together in migration as specimens of both races have been taken on the same day in the same woods.

WILLOW THRUSH (*Hylocichla fuscescens salicicola*). This race occurs uncommonly during migration. Of six Veerys taken in Shelby County only one, a female taken at Mud Lake on May 1, 1943, could be identified as **salicicola**.

WORM-EATING WARBLER (*Helminthos vermivorus*). A specimen taken at Egypt on June 29, 1944, constitutes an interesting record. I do not believe that it represents a breeding bird as the river bottom in which it was found does not present the same breeding environment with which the species is associated in central Tennessee or about my home now in north Louisiana. The specimen was in poor plumage due to molt and wear. I consider it to have been a late summer visitor or an abnormally early migrant.

NORTHERN WATER-THRUSH (*Selurus noveboracensis noveboracensis*)

GRINNELL WATER-THRUSH (*Selurus noveboracensis notabilis*). Fourteen specimens of this species are in the present collection. From these only five may be called **noveboracensis** with certainty. Four specimens are intermediate and it is best not to name them. Both races occur in the spring and in the fall, and appear to occur in about equal numbers.

MOURNING WARBLER (*Oporornis philadelphia*). A male taken at Lucy on August 19, 1944, is our earliest fall date for this species. The bulk of the fall migrants of this species pass through in the latter part of September and in October.

RED-EYED TOWHEE (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus erythrophthalmus*)

ALABAMA RED-EYED TOWHEE *Pipilo erythrophthalmus canaster*). Not long ago the Towhee was unknown in Shelby County in the summer (Cofey, 1941) although it was of common occurrence in the winter. During the past decade the Towhee has moved into the area where heretofore a hiatus existed during the summer months; and though admittedly local and uncommon in the summer at present, it is being found more frequently and in increasing numbers. A taxonomic study of the few specimens in

the present collection proved very interesting. From these it is evident that the winter population is composed entirely of birds of the **erythrophthalmus** race which is to be expected. Two summer birds were collected on June 27, 1944, near Raleigh at locations several miles separated. Both specimens are somewhat intermediate; one breeding male was in company with a female which was not secured, and has the dark flanks and large tail spots of the northern race, but also has the large thick bill of the southern bird. There is another bird in the collection that is similar—a male taken at Germantown on May 12, 1943. The other specimen taken at Raleigh, another male, can be placed definitely with the southern bird and has the distinctly lighter flanks and chunkier bill. Dr. Wetmore (1939) identified a specimen taken on April 8 at Frayser, north of Memphis, as **erythrophthalmus** and assumed at the time that it was a breeding bird. Birds taken at Hickory Withe by the National Museum Party on April 12 and 15 were also identified as the northern race. In outlining the distribution of the two races in Tennessee Dr. Wetmore considered the birds ranging from Waynesboro east as being representatives of the race **canaster** based on specimens taken in May. The specimens taken in west Tennessee were identified as **erythrophthalmus** based on specimens taken in April. It is doubtful that these April birds were breeding birds. Migrant Towhees occur regularly in the Memphis area as late as May 8, and, therefore, it seems unlikely that birds taken in April in west Tennessee represent a breeding population; rather, they represent migrants.

Lowery (1934) pointed out that since the time of Audubon the southern form, **canaster**, has extended its range westward into Louisiana, and it is not inconceivable that a similar westward movement by birds of this race is taking place at this time into west Tennessee. It is probable that the birds that have come into Shelby County in the summer have moved into the area from the east as birds taken in the County are similar to those found at Waynesboro.

**EASTERN GRASSHOPPER SPARROW (*Ammodramus savannarum pratensis*)**

**WESTERN GRASSHOPPER SPARROW (*Ammodramus savannarum perpallidus*)**. The eastern bird is the breeding form, and it is also found rarely in the winter. The western bird occurs only as a migrant, specimens being taken in the Ensley-Darwin bottoms on May 31, 1942, and at Mud Lake on May 1, 1943.

**CASSIAR JUNCO (*Junco hyemalis cismontanus*)**. Dr. Alden Miller identified a specimen of this race which nests in western Canada, when he examined some of the Juncos in the collection of the L.S.U. Museum of Zoology. It is a female taken at Germantown on December 5, 1942.

**ALASKAN LONGSPUR (*Calcarius lapponicus alaskensis*)**. There is one specimen in the series of Lapland Longspurs from Shelby County that is referable to this pale race. It is a male taken at Memphis on December 24, 1940.

#### LITERATURE CITED

COFFEY, B. B. 1941. Summer Range of Mid-South Towhees. *The Migrant*, 12: 51-57.

- GANIER, A. F., ET AL. 1942. The Wrens of Tennessee. *Migrant*, 13: 1-13.
- LOWERY, G. H. 1934. The Alabama Towhee, An Addition to the Louisiana List. *Auk*, 51: 92-93.
- WETMORE, A. 1939. Notes of the Birds of Tennessee. *Proceedings of the United States National Museum*, 86: 175-243.
- HODGE, LA.

## WINTER BIRDS OF A CATTAIL MARSH

By THOMAS A. IMHOF

Cattail marsh is a rare vegetation type near Birmingham, Alabama. The topography here is too steep, and therefore most streams run rapidly through narrow ravines. Such marshes as do exist probably are not climax, for black willow, buttonbush, and eventually tupelo succeed in becoming the dominant plants. It seems almost a paradox to say that man made a marsh, but such is the case and here is its story.

Village Creek near Birmingham was dammed to form Bayview Lake to assure a source of industrial water for cooling steel furnaces and rolling mills in nearby Fairfield. On Camp Branch, just above its junction with Village Creek, lies Edgewater Coal Mine and Mining Camp. The washings from the coal mine and silt from eroded garden plots in the mining camp filled in the lake to form a marsh of approximately forty acres in extent.

Parts of this marsh are less than three years old, the build-up having been rather rapid. At present the steel company which owns the land has taken drastic anti-erosion measures, so there is doubt that the marsh will expand appreciably. Encroaching willows, buttonbush, elder, river birch, etc., threaten the young marsh. Due to its transient nature, it may be well to record something of its bird life while there is a chance.

The birds mentioned below wintered in this cattail marsh, and it is reasonably certain that they would not have done so unless the marsh was there. (In parentheses after the name is first their previous status in Birmingham, and then their status in Alabama after Howell ("Birds of Alabama," 1928).

**VIRGINIA RAIL.** (One record, Spring 1934. Several records in Howell from three localities, only one away from the coast, all in September and October.) In this marsh, two birds were present January 3 to June 5, 1949, and from Dec. 1, 1949, to at least March, 1950, there were at least six birds present. These birds were most frequently heard calling in the marsh between dawn and sunrise and between sunset and dark and also on very cloudy days. The rhythm of the call was very similar to the Clapper Rail with which the writer is very familiar. As with the Clapper Rail, when one bird began to call, other birds from different parts of the marsh would chime in.

**SORA.** (Two records from Birmingham, August and September. For Alabama it is a common spring and fall transient in certain localities with the nearest approach to a winter record being one shot on Coffee

Island in Mobile Bay, December 2, 1916.) One to three Soras were recorded in the marsh from September 22 to October 27, 1949. One of two birds were recorded December 15, 1949, to March, 1950. On several occasions these birds were seen to flutter momentarily above the cattails, and also on two occasions they were flushed. Usually, however, just to check their presence stones were plunked into the marsh, and if one landed close enough to a Sora and made a loud enough splash, there would be a loud, sharp 'geeek' in response. There is every reason to believe that some of these birds were present in November.

**LONG-BILLED MARSH WREN.** (In Birmingham, a fairly common spring and fall transient: one bird wintered in 1948-49. There are only three records in Howell away from the coast; they are in April, May, and October, none for Birmingham.) On May 2, 1949, the unprecedented number of six were seen and heard singing in three localities around Birmingham; two of these were seen in this marsh. One or two birds have been frequently seen from September 27, 1949, up to March, 1950. These two wintering birds were seen most frequently late in the afternoon when they could be seen and heard scolding in the deeper parts of the marsh. It is probable all of these birds are Prairie Marsh Wrens (*T. p. iliacus*) for the birds seem paler than the redder Long-bills of New York and the smaller, darker Mar-ian's of the Gulf Coast.

**YELLOWTHROAT.** (Common summer resident, uncommon winter resident; one to five birds around Birmingham nearly every winter. The only winter record away from the coast in Howell is that of a bird at Coosada, February 7, 1878.) Two birds, at least one a male, spent this past winter, having been first noted December 24, 1949, and still being present in March. These birds remained in the cattails, and were never noted in the nearby shrubbery as they are in the summer.

**BLACKBIRDS.** (The species mentioned below are common winter residents throughout the state.) Every winter, at least since 1946, there has been a blackbird roost in the marsh. Numbers have been comparatively small until in October and November, 1948, when there were at least 450 Redwings and 35 Rusty Blackbirds. In March, 1949, 325 Redwings and one Grackle used the roost. This past winter numbers steadily built up from 250 Redwings and 35 Cowbirds in October until on November 20 there were at least 800 Redwings, 150 Grackles, and two Rusties in the roost. On December 1 there were five Redwings and four Rusties around. Someone had apparently broken up the roost. It recovered, however, in late January, 1950, so that on February 28 there were 750 Redwings and 35 Rusties in the roost. Three Brewer's Blackbirds had been seen with that same number of Rusties two miles from the roost, although they were never noted in the roost. At last count, March 13, 1950, there were 360 Redwings and 20 Cowbirds.

**SWAMP SPARROW.** (Common winter visitant throughout Alabama.) Every winter this marsh has its complement of Swamp Sparrows, at least 25 individuals.

Although there is no apparent connection with the marsh, a win-

tering House Wren spent the period from January 28, to February 6, 1950, in bordering river birch and tangles of dead kudzu. Other interesting birds recorded in or near the marsh in winter include Pied-billed Grebe, Great Blue Heron, and Wilson's Snipe.

The effect of the marsh on the local wintering population is best measured by comparing the status of these birds in the rest of the Birmingham area. Of interest is the recent attention given in "Audubon Field Notes" to the winter distribution of both the Sora and Virginia Rail, pointing up the almost complete lack of inland records for the southeastern States.

307 38TH ST., FAIRFIELD, ALA.

## THE ROUND TABLE

A SUMMER RECORD OF THE COMMON LOON IN THE CUMBERLAND PLATEAU, TENN.—On August 2, 1950, while on vacation I stopped at Meadow Park Lake six miles west of Crossville, Tenn. The caretaker, finding I was interested in birds, asked if I could tell him what kind of bird was visiting the lake. He told me the story of the bird: In February this bird had arrived and soon found that it could get its meals from fishermen who used minnows; it would locate these fishermen and then dive and strip the hook. Once it was caught but released.

The next day when I was fishing, a Common Loon surfaced within fifteen feet of the boat, and field glasses were not needed tho I used them. The checkered back, thick bill, and black head were clearly seen. I believe that this is the first summer record for this bird in Tennessee.—KILIAN ROEVER, Route 2, Jackson, Tenn.

NOTE. A Loon remained at Radnor Lake near Nashville, Tenn., thru the spring of 1933 until July 10, when it was found in a dying condition (MIGRANT, 1935, v. 6:70).—Ed.

FIRST RECORD OF SNOWY EGRET IN NORTHEASTERN TENNESSEE.—On August 23, 1950, Mrs. L. R. Herndon and I drove to Roan Creek in Johnson County, at the point where Roan Creek runs into Watauga Lake. We had just seen the first American Egret and immature Little Blue Heron of the fall season when another small white heron flew from a wet, brushy spot very close to us. We immediately noticed the yellow feet as contrasted with the dark feet of the Little Blue seen only minutes before, but it was difficult to believe that it could be a Snowy Egret. On Sept. 3, however, Dr. L. R. Herndon and I made a prolonged observation of two Snowy Egrets busily jumping, pouncing, and stirring the mud in their efforts to find food. At this time the yellow feet and eye mark were plainly seen as the birds allowed a closer approach. These individuals were seen within a few yards of the original spot described. On or about August 23, Steven Russell of Abingdon reported by letter



the presence of a Snowy Egret at Saltville, Virginia. It was not there on Sept. 3 and may possibly be one of the two seen that day at Roan Creek.—MRS. E. M. WEST, Piney Flats, Tenn.

**MIGRATORY AND NON-MIGRATORY PEREGRINE FALCONS IN TENNESSEE.**—In looking over the reports of the Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) in the pages of the first seventeen volumes of THE MIGRANT (1930-46), I felt reasonably confident of separating out two major types of occurrences: those of resident birds, and those of birds of passage. Resident birds are those definitely associated with a particular eyrie, and to these may be added those which by time and place of occurrence probably are breeders. Birds of passage are those which by time and place of occurrence may be presumed to be only temporarily in Tennessee.

Of the approximately seventy records, of over one hundred birds, mentioned in the pages of THE MIGRANT, fully half of the records and about seventy birds are breeders; the observations were made from March thru June. There are naturally many repeats, and there are fewer than a dozen eyries referred to.

A second group of records are those in the Christmas Census lists; here are at least seven records involving eleven birds at eyries, indicating that these birds are permanent residents. There are several records at eyries in February and September also referring to permanent resident birds.

The third group of records are probably representative of falcons that are migrants in Tennessee. The most significant of these is the series of records gathered by Coffey and his colleagues at Mud Lake near Memphis. Falcons have been recorded there in six different years and two birds at once in 1945. The records occur in September in five years, with one or more observations in late August, one record in November, and one on December 24, 1939. In other parts of the State (Nashville, Norris Lake, Alcoa), other probable migrant records occur. Of a total of about 24 migrant birds, 8 are from Nashville, 8 from Memphis, 4 from the Knoxville region, and 4 from the State at large. The single most convincing record is that of Todd (MIGRANT, 1943, v. 14:17) of a bird that had been banded as a migrant in Racine, Wisc., on Oct. 1, 1941, and shot near Murfreesboro, Tenn., on Nov. 14, 1942. Seventeen birds occurred in September thru November, with the largest group (11) in September; 1 occurred in December, 2 in January, 2 in April (one of these is a 1925 record) and 1 in May.

The large number of records in the fall and few in the spring fits in well with observations along the Atlantic Coast, where the detailed records kept by Mr. Alva G. Nye, Jr., of Washington, D. C., indicate a maximum in early October. The number seen in spring is small because of a scattering of the flight then and probably because the majority are lost or killed before spring. Probably not more than one in ten of the young that leave the nest ever become breeding adults. It is clear from the above

comments that the most likely time to see a Peregrine Falcon except at the eyrie is in late September or early October. The records of Coffey along the Mississippi seems to show that the flight there is earlier than the coastal flights of the Atlantic. — WALTER R. SPOFFORD, Syracuse Medical College, Syracuse, New York.

LEAST FLYCATCHER NESTING NEAR ELIZABETHTON, TENN. — On May 7, 1950, John H. Bailey, Frank H. Barclay, and the writer observed a Least Flycatcher carrying nesting material and arranging it in a pine tree about twenty feet above the ground. We saw the bird make several trips with nesting material and place it in the loosely woven structure suspended in the fork of a practically horizontal branch. It looked as if the structure had only recently been begun. The location was in the village of Hampton, near Laurel Creek, in a small grove of coniferous and deciduous trees. The nest was being built over a highway with open fields and a small orchard across the road from the grove. The elevation at this location was 1800', which appeared to be a rather low altitude for the nesting of this species.

During the past several seasons this species has been noted in this area during the spring migration, but never suspected of breeding there until by chance this observation was made. At least one of the birds was singing which simplified the identification. The area was visited again on June 3 and this species was singing in the vicinity of the nest and across the road about three hundred yards away. On June 18 it was again heard singing there. On July 16 Mrs. Herndon, Mrs. West, and the writer visited the area again and found a pair of Least Flycatchers within one hundred yards of the nesting site; one bird was singing and observed chasing the other. The nest was not observed after the initial building activities, and no young were ever identified; because of the nest building activities, however, and their long stay in this area, I believe that these Flycatchers bred at this comparatively low altitude.—LEE R. HERNDON, Elizabethton, Tenn.

FIRST RECORD OF SWAINSON'S WARBLER IN THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS.—A Swainson's Warbler (*Limnothlypis swainsonii*) was first heard singing and later seen by me on June 8, 1950, in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The exact location is on the trail from Cade's Cove to Gregory Bald at an elevation of 1900 feet. The bird was singing from a tall, tangled undergrowth of rhododendron that bordered the trail and stream. Park Naturalist Arthur Stupka tells me that this is the first record of this species in the Smokies. It has previously been reported from East Tennessee from near Athens (MIGRANT, 1934, v. 5:3), from Shady Valley in Johnson Co. (Wetmore, 1939, Proc. Nat. Mus., 86:221), and from Limestone Cove and Rock Creek near Erwin (MIGRANT, 1941, v. 12:29-30). —JAMES T. TANNER, Dept. of Zoology, Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville.

WINTER RECORD OF SYCAMORE WARBLER AT REELFOOT LAKE.

—On February 26, 1950, at Reelfoot Lake in the northwestern part of Tennessee, I collected a Sycamore Warbler (*Dendroica dominica albilora*). This is the Mississippi Valley form of the Yellow-throated Warbler (*D. d. dominica*). The bird, a female, is now in the Museum of Zoology at Louisiana State University where it was subspecifically identified by Dr. George H. Lowery, Jr. The bird was feeding in the sycamore trees over the water at the spillway.—R. DEMETT SMITH, P. O. Box 55, East Station, Memphis, Tenn.

WESTERN MEADOWLARK NEAR MEMPHIS, SECOND RECORD FOR TENNESSEE.—There is but one previous record for the Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*) in Tennessee (MIGRANT, 1943, v. 14:77). On March 11, 1950, at the Shelby County Penal Farm, about four miles east of Memphis, Mrs. Floy Barefield and I heard and identified the song of the Western Meadowlark. During the hour or so we were in this area the bird was continually singing. On the following day we returned with Brother i. Vincent and Miss Alice Smith and found not one but two singing birds of this species in the same field. Two days later I was unable to find them.

All four of us are thoroly familiar with the song, both from trips farther west and on several occasions when we have heard it in Mississippi.—R. DEMETT SMITH, P. O. Box 55, East Station, Memphis, Tenn.

## THE SEASON

MEMPHIS AREA.—The Spring migration seemed to be dammed up, then broke in a wave on April 22 and 23. Migration was again moderately heavy the last days of April and the first week of May. Twenty-three Bobolinks on May 25 were the last apparent transient individuals (2,000 on May 15, Hugh Tucker). Our Herons are now more commonly seen in spring than ever: 4 Little Blues were previously reported for Mar. 28 (Irwin) and the presence of 40 blue adults and 12 first-year adults on May 21 at a Lakeview pit would have been unusual in previous years. Wood Duck nests were reported at three places (two in city parks), while the Mississippi Kites were first seen in the parks April 26 (V. Julia). A pair of Broad-winged Hawks were first seen April 8 in Overton Park and remained, apparently to nest. A Broad-winged Hawk nest located at Germantown by Demett Smith is our first definite record close to Memphis. Two Virginia Rails (rare) were seen at Lakeview, Miss., April 16. Shorebird migration was poor as usual altho a favorable bar-pit reappeared after many years. On May 20 Demett Smith recorded eight White-rumped Sandpipers (1 collected) at Lakeview, Miss., the first since 1936. A fully adult Laughing Gull on May 7 by Smith and Tuliatos (May 8, Coffey) was the first Memphis record. Tuliatos saw a Caspian Tern (rare) on May 8 while the only Black Tern (usually fairly common) was reported on May 10 (BC). Six Black-billed Cuckoos were reported May 7, T.O.S. Field Day; apparently this species slips thru unnoted for the most part. An

Alder Flycatcher seen at Coffey Grounds and two by Demett Smith at Lakeview, Miss., May 20, constitute the second spring record; Smith collected a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher at the time but his Alders were over water. The swallow migration was almost poor. Two Tennessee Warblers appeared on schedule April 10 but this usually abundant transient was absent or uncommon until about April 26. A Blackburnian (April 25-May 25) was the last transient seen in Overton; previous late date for the species, May 24, 1931, at Camp Currier, Miss. A Black-throated Green near Parsons, Tenn., on May 27 was 16 miles from Natchez Trace S. P. where one was seen July 7, 1946, but was probably a delayed transient; the last in Overton Park was on May 8. A lone Indigo Bunting was seen on April 22 (8 days late); several flocks of fifteen to thirty each were along the Lakeview levee on April 29. There on April 16 Demett Smith noted six Vesper Sparrows and a Lark Sparrow (rare). Lincoln's Sparrow is considered a fairly common species with singers usually present at home, but this year only singles were seen,—April 30 and May 20 at Lakeview (RDS).

River stages were not favorable for the nesting of the Least Tern in this area as Mississippi River sandbars were under water until early August. Mud Lake has remained too high for either herons or shorebirds so the small shallow pits partly remaining supply the only records. "Peeps" seen at Lakeview, Miss., on July 16 included 34 Least, 1 Semipalmated, and 2 Western Sandpipers. In the following month the proportion of Semipalmateds increased but no more of the rare Westerns were seen. Pectoral Sandpipers appeared in small numbers Aug. 12. The first Upland Plover was heard July 14 over town and one or two were seen and heard at the Penal Farm thereafter. A flock of thirteen near Neuhardt, Ark., Aug. 13, was the only one found. Small numbers of herons (up to fifty each of American Egrets and Little Blue Herons) were seen at Horseshoe Lake, Ark., on Aug. 13 and also at Mud Lake thru Aug. 27; forty-four Egrets (and thirty Wood Ducks) were there the latter date. After Labor Day, rains had put the shore line back into the trees and only one or two of each species could be found. Thus this was one of our poorest seasons at Mud Lake in twenty years.

Two Caspian Terns were seen at Arkabutla Reservoir (Miss.) on Sept. 4. (Tuliatos & Marcus) and one at Memphis wharf on Sept 10 (Coffeys). Flocks of swallows have been small; several of Rough-wingeds totaled ninety-five on July 16 and similar flocks with other species appeared from August to the present. Tree Swallows were less common and Banks and Barns occasional; the bulk of Tree Swallows should be later.

A Short-billed Marsh Wren appeared Aug. 12 at Lakeview, Miss. (Keeton). A Black and White Warbler was seen on June 14 at Hickory Flat, Miss. (Barefield), at the eastern edge of the river area where the species is almost absent.

By mid-July large flocks of local Cowbirds were seen, outnumbering Starlings and more so the Grackles and Red-wings. A Scarlet Tanager near Pine Top, June 12, was the only one found on searches besides the very local ones (since 1944) at Cub Lake, Natchez Trace State Park. A Painted

Bunting was noted July 30 singing (late) with immatures (late). The very local Grasshopper Sparrows continued at Field 21 and the Penal Farm. — BEN B. COFFEY, Jr., Memphis.

KNOXVILLE — Unusual spring records for Knox County this year were an American Egret which remained in one area on Loudon Lake near Knoxville from May 19 to June 7, a Little Blue Heron reported on April 18 (Bob Hornsby), and a Least Bittern seen on June 23. A Blue Grosbeak was seen on May 7 by J. C. Howell. A single Connecticut Warbler was seen by Mrs. R. A. Monroe at her home on May 18; usually a bird of this species stays around her home for a few days each spring, but this year it was seen only on one day.

The last day on which both White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows were recorded this spring, a single individual in each case, was May 15.

A Woodcock with young, an unusual breeding record, was found at Powell Station, northwest of Knoxville, on April 22, and a single bird was observed there on May 20. Barn Swallows have been observed in nesting activities in a few scattered places in the County, altho there are no large colonies. This year for the first time House Wrens were found nesting in Knox County; singing birds were found by J. C. Howell late in May, and on July 4 two nests, in the same general locality, were found.

Unusual records that are hard to evaluate are of a Marsh Hawk and a Virginia Rail seen on July 16 (Crouch and Yambert). Two Virginia Rails were seen in the same locality on April 22, but none in between those times.

The first fall sandpipers observed were on August 20: 3 Solitaries, 1 Spotted, and 1 Lesser Yellowlegs. To date this has been a poor year for sandpipers and also for herons because the rivers and lakes have been high leaving little exposed mud and shallow water. Other early fall migrants were Worm-eating and Canada Warblers on August 23 and Chestnut-sided Warbler on August 28.

Two interesting birds observed by several members of the Knoxville Chapter on the August 20 field trip were a Canada Goose and what was apparently an immature Blue Goose. The Canada Goose had arrived at John Dempster's farm on Stock Creek Embayment about July 10 and remained most of the time in a pasture bordering the water. The smaller goose had arrived about August 12. When seen on the 20th, it resembled an adult Blue Goose except for peculiar dark markings on the back of its neck and head.

Eighty-three species were identified on the Fall Field Day held on September 17. These included a single Northern Waterthrush and ten Savannah Sparrows, making an early date for fall arrival of the latter. — JAMES T. TANNER, Knoxville.

GREENEVILLE — Dickcissels, Horned Larks, and Prothonotary Warblers were present in Greene County during the spring and early summer



of 1950. Altho nests of none of them were found, the presence of pairs of each species in the same localities over a period of weeks indicate a high probability of nests. The Dickcissels, first seen on May 18, occupied a stretch of roadside electric line until June 5. There the male sang regularly and the female was occasionally present. The cutting of a barley field adjoining the road apparently terminated their stay. Two Horned Larks were found throughout May and June in a restricted area of a pasture at the foot of Bluff Mountain. Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Irvine reported that Prothonotary Warblers spent the nesting season near the White-Irvine Mill on the Nolichucky River. Determining the number of pairs and locating nests of these warblers, should they return, is expected to become an interesting activity for 1951. A fourth nesting probability is that of a Bachman's Sparrow. On June 11 in a newly seeded hillside pasture a male Bachman's Sparrow sang from perches in two old peach trees. At intervals he flew down into a clump of cut-over blackberry briars. His interest there was found to be not the expected nest but a young Bachman's Sparrow.

The hour of egg laying for one Nighthawk was found to be between 2:00 p.m. and 5:40 p.m. on May 21. At the earlier hour a Nighthawk was flushed from one egg, which was lying in a faint depression in the shale. Some protection was afforded the egg by its having been deposited in the midst of a scattered pile of weathered cedar branches. When at 5:40 the Nighthawk was again flushed, a second egg was found to have been laid. The nest was thereafter visited at intervals of ten days. Tracks and crushed shells then indicated that the nest had been destroyed by a wandering cow.

Among late nestings appears to be that of a Yellow-billed Cuckoo; on August 21 a young bird was found, its feathers as yet unsheathed. A Ruby-throated Hummingbird nest was last seen to have young in it on August 9. In a Dove nest on September 9 the young seemed ready to leave.

Blue-gray Gnatcatchers had begun wandering by early July. This year the first individual known to be off nesting territory was seen on July 4, in the mimosa tree of a lawn far enough from woodlands to have had previously this season no Blue-gray Gnatcatchers present. From that date thru September 8 this species has been abundant and conspicuous in its wanderings. On August 7 a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was heard singing. Their most abundant song occurs early in the breeding cycle, and I have not found fall singing for this species described in the literature. Unexpected and arresting, this perfect, lilting, small song was delivered in snatches as the singer moved about, pausing momentarily while singing. Among other species apparently wandering is the Cedar Waxwing, eight of which were seen September 5, not having been seen previously in this woodland this summer.

An American Egret was seen wading in Lick Creek on August 4. Evidence of migration was noted by Mr. C. M. Shanks at sunset on August 23, when he saw between four and five hundred Rough-winged Swallows on electric wires east of Sevierville. On Sept. 8 a Black-throated Green Warbler and a Redstart were seen. A Marsh Hawk was seen on August 16

by Mr. J. B. White, and another on Sept. 8 by Richard Nevius.

Members of the Greeneville Chapter spent June 14 in the Smokies. Mr. Shanks and Mr Pickering identified a Golden Eagle from the highway immediately below Newfound Gap. —RUTH REED NEVIUS, Greeneville.

**KINGSPORT** — Spring and summer have been cooler and rainier than usual in Sullivan County, altho the total rainfall for the month of July was 20% below normal. The members of our chapter agree that birds have been more numerous and more active this season. Migrating warblers were more abundant and vociferous than usual. We had the Prothonotary, Tennessee, and Nashville Warblers for the first time this year. Twenty-six species of warblers were present on our spring census on May 14 and four others at other times. Of these latter the Palm, Wilson's, and Canada Warblers were all observed on May 15. The Prothonotary was the only one of our spring records which did not appear on or after the census day.

Barn Swallows and Purple Martins were more numerous than usual; there have been three new colonies of Martins this year.

The House Wren continued its upward trend, while Bewick's and Carolina Wrens held their own. One Long-billed Marsh Wren was observed by Steve Russell and myself on May 13.

The Ruffed Grouse is becoming increasingly rare; none were reported this year. Bob-whites on the other hand have prospered because of the establishment by a group of farmers of a large no-hunting area. In this area a Blue Grosbeak was seen at close range by me on April 30. Also in this area Vesper Sparrows have been observed regularly during May thru August for three consecutive years, but this year they disappeared early in June. Bachmans Sparrows sang almost every day this summer until the last week in August; they were reported from at least eight locations.

Hérons and sandpipers were more numerous this year, probably because of the fish hatchery established here a few years ago. — THOMAS FINUCANE, Blountville.

### WHAT CAN THE CHAPTERS DO?

Sometimes nothing can be blander than a program chairman's mind, —when he is trying to think of programs and activities that will be interesting to his chapter. And yet when your editor wrote to members of the various T.O. S. chapters requesting suggestions and ideas that might be incorporated into a short article on this subject, he received a goodly supply of them. So there are things to do, and the purpose of this article is to summarize them so that the various chapters can get ideas that will enliven their programs and interest their members. It is worth noting that the greatest variety of suggestions, or rather a summary of things done, came from the Memphis chapter, the largest in T.O.S. and one which has been very successful in interesting younger people. This list was sent

in by Miss Nelle Moore, President of the Memphis chapter. Mr. A. F. Ganier also wrote a good summary of what the Nashville chapter has found interesting

Some chapters meet twice a month, some once; some in the summer, some not. Most seem to have a program chairman, frequently the Vice President, or committee, who plan the meetings, select topics, and delegate persons responsible for each meeting. In addition to this, planning for the Memphis chapter is done in an executive meeting held in late summer. Here follows a list of some program topics that various chapters have found interesting: bird migration, the woodpeckers (and similar groups of birds), bird feeders, reports of breeding bird censuses, movies—especially by local members, bird slides flashed on the screen for practice identification, slide sharing programs wherein several members each show a few slides of their own, travel talks, conservation—by local sportsmen or conservationists, “summer roundup” from vacationists, book reviews (every second program of the Nashville chapter is a review of a book or paper), bird banding. This list is far from complete, but serves to provide examples. In addition to these regular meetings, the Elizabethton chapter has regularly held an anniversary dinner, with a guest speaker, and the Memphis chapter held last year an anniversary dinner which may become an annual custom.

Another feature of the meetings of some chapters is a summary of the month's bird observations. At Nashville this is done in a round-table discussion that follows the regular program. The Knoxville chapter has prepared a mimeographed sheet ruled into spaces for each day of the year, and a single sheet is used for each species. At each meeting the “roll” is called and records for each species can be entered in the space for the appropriate day. In this way a permanent record is being kept. It has proved especially useful in emphasizing facts that were previously overlooked, such as the early disappearance of some species in the summer. It also lends interest to the meeting as everyone can find what birds have been present during the past month.

As a suggestion for extra activities, the following is quoted from the letter of Miss Nelle Moore (Memphis): “We hope to make available to teachers, club workers, scout leaders, etc., information as to what birds are most commonly seen here at the various seasons. This is needed very much in schools where a unit on birds is undertaken and the teacher herself does not know these facts about birds in her area”

Field trips are an important activity of each chapter. All chapters, as far as is known, participate in a Christmas Count, a Spring Field Day, and a Fall Field Day. In Nashville an attempt is made by each participant in the Christmas Count to become familiar with his territory ahead of time, a procedure which could well result in a larger list. In addition to these, another annual trip held by the Memphis chapter is one to Arkansas and Mississippi for shorebirds. The Greeneville and Elizabethton chapters plan trips to the mountains to observe hawk migration every week during part

## THE MIGRANT

A Quarterly Journal Devoted to the Study of Tennessee Birds  
Published by the Tennessee Ornithological Society

Free to Members. To Subscribers, \$1 per Year; Single Copies 30c  
Please Notify the Treasurer or Secretary of a Change in Address

**Fred W. Behrend, Secretary, 322 Carter Boulevard, Elizabethton, Tenn.**  
**Lawrence C. Kent, Treasurer, 1896 Cowden Ave., Memphis, Tenn.**

All Items for Publication should be sent to  
**James T. Tanner, Editor, Department of Zoology, University of Tennessee,  
Knoxville, Tennessee**

The Tennessee Ornithological Society was Founded, October, 1915  
Publication of THE MIGRANT was begun, March, 1930

**The simple truth about birds is interesting enough;  
it is not necessary to go beyond it.**

---

of the fall season. Besides these special trips, most chapters hold field trips once or twice a month, a half day or full day in duration.

It appears from examining the accounts of the field trips of the different chapters that the most interesting are those made for a special purpose, to see shore birds, hawk migrations, waterfowl, etc.

Ruth and Richard Nevius of Greeneville write " . . . those activities that have thus far aroused most interest for us have involved our participation in projects that other chapters are also pursuing." This suggests the need for more state-wide projects. Anyone having any ideas for such projects should send them in to the chairman of the T.O.S. planning committee, Dr. Joseph Howell (Dept of Zoology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville).

## GLENHAVEN

Bird Banding Traps  
Sparrow Traps  
Cat Traps  
Martin Houses

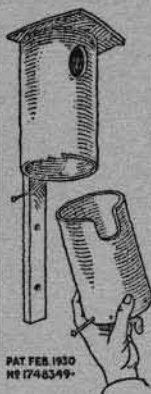
Bird Banders  
Equipment of All  
Kinds

*Write for Folder*

GLENHAVEN BIRD  
SANCTUARY

RUSSELL S. DAVIS  
Clayton, Ill.

## *The Perfect Box for Birds and Banders*



PAT FEB. 1930  
HP 1746349-

REMOVABLE NEST  
SECTION FOR BANDING,  
OBSERVATION & CLEANING.  
ONE QUARTER TURN  
TRAPS PARENT BIRD (OR  
ENGLISH SPARROWS, ETC.)  
CORRECT DIMENSIONS  
BY THOROUGH TESTS.  
SELF VENTILATING,  
DURABLE, ATTRACTIVE.  
WEATHER AND RAIN  
PROOF CONSTRUCTION.

FASTENS AND OPERATES  
FROM THE BOTTOM ~  
CAN BE WORKED FROM THE  
GROUND, ARMS LENGTH  
ABOVE THE HEAD ~

\$1.00 EACH 2 FOR \$1.75 6 FOR \$5.00  
POSTAGE PREPAID

H. P. IJAMS  
R. D. 9. KNOXVILLE, TENN.

## BACK NUMBERS OF THE MIGRANT

*Complete your files while our  
small stock lasts*

Vol. 2 (1931) to 12 (1941)  
. . . . prices on application

Vol. 13 (1942) to date, \$1.20 ea.

Copies of March 1935 wanted at  
\$1.00 each

## BIRD LISTING CARDS

3"x5" at 50 cents per hundred  
Prepaid, postage 12c extra

Address: Albert F. Ganier, Curator  
2112 Woodlawn Drive, Nashville 5,  
Tennessee

## TRENT PRINTING COMPANY

+ + +

Printers  
Publishers  
Linotypers

+ + +

2104 Magnolia Avenue  
Knoxville, Tennessee



# **D U R Y ' S**

Are Headquarters For

**FIELD GLASSES**

**STEREO PRISM BINOCULARS**

**GRAFLEX CAMERAS**

**KODAKS**

**CINE KODAKS**

**MOTION PICTURE EQUIPMENT**

**ARTISTS' SUPPLIES**

**DRAWING MATERIALS**

**EXPERT DEVELOPING, PRINTING,  
ENLARGING**

• • • •

**WRITE FOR NEW PHOTOGRAPHIC CATALOGUE**

## **GEO. C. DURY & CO.**

**420 Union Street—NASHVILLE, TENN.**