

a new late departure date for the Detroit area (JAG); 2 Black-throated Green Warblers June 5 also were very late for the area, in St. Clair Co. (DRu). Nashville Warblers were seen in Mason Co., Mich. June 24 (EG) and in Trempealeau Co., Wis. June 18 (carrying food; SDR). Robbins again found nearly a dozen Cape May Warblers near Solon Springs, Wis. in mid-June, plus single birds at a different Douglas Co. location and in Ashland Co.; one also was noted in Forest Co. June 26 (TKS). A Cerulean Warbler in Marinette Co. June 5 was north of the usual Wisconsin range of this species (HL). Prairie Warblers feeding 5 young were observed July 23 in Mason Co., Mich. (EG). A singing male Kentucky Warbler was noted through July 18 in s. Oakland Co., Mich. (RL, et al.). A Mourning Warbler was banded in Rock Co. in s. Wisconsin June 22 (MM). Yellow-breasted Chats were noted in Ottawa Co., Mich. June 27 (HC) and in 2 Wisconsin counties: Walworth (GMC, et al.) and Grant (SDR). A Hooded Warbler was present again in Berrien Co., Mich. (BM).

ICTERIDS, TANAGERS, FRINGILLIDS — Yellow-headed Blackbirds were reported nesting for the first time in Ottawa Co., Mich. (HC, AS); other reports, rather n. for the e. part of the state, came from 3 Wisconsin counties June 22-23: Marinette, Oconto, and Brown (HL, SDR). Orchard Orioles were noted in Trempealeau Co. June 18 (SDR) and in Midland Co., Mich. June 29-July 31 (4 birds; RGM). A singing ♂ Summer Tanager was present again in Berrien Co., Mich. at least through July 10 (WB, RS, BS). Dickcissels and a Cardinal in Langlade Co. were n. of their usual range in Wisconsin (CR, DT); Dickcissels also were noted in several other rather n. counties in the state from Marinette in the e. to Barron in the w. (HL, SDR, TKS, DT). Six ad. and young Evening Grosbeaks were present at a feeder in Alpena Co., Mich. for a week in mid-July (R & SS); apparent family groups also were noted in Wisconsin in Langlade (CR) and Price (AV) counties, as well as 2 birds in Douglas Co. June 15 (SDR) and some in Forest Co. July 14-16 (CHR). Purple Finches feeding young were observed in Milwaukee Co. Aug. 2-3 (MLH), and there were a few other Wisconsin reports somewhat s. of their usual summer range. The only Pine Siskin reports came from Wisconsin counties: Douglas June 15 (SDR), Price July 16 (AV), and Menominee July 20 (DT). Red Crossbills were noted in Wisconsin in June in Forest Co. (TKS) and in July in Langlade (CR) and Oneida (DT) counties. Robbins found Le Conte's Sparrows in 7 Wisconsin counties, including some new areas; one also was observed July 23 in Winnebago Co., for perhaps the southernmost Wisconsin summer report yet (DT). Only one Henslow's Sparrow was found in the Detroit area, in Oakland Co. (JAG). A Sharp-tailed Sparrow noted in Dodge Co., Wis. June 24 was remarkable (DG), as was a Slate-colored Junco banded in far s. Wisconsin, in Rock Co.,

June 26 (MM). Several White-throated Sparrows somewhat s. of their usual range were noted again this year: in Oakland (BC) and Monroe (AJM) counties in Michigan and in Eau Claire and Jackson (SDR) and Ozaukee (DG) counties in Wisconsin. Lincoln's Sparrows were noted in 4 Wisconsin counties: Douglas (SDR), Forest (TKS), Langlade (CR), and Oneida (SDR, DT); several of these were in newly reported locations.

CONTRIBUTORS (sectional editors' names in bold face type; contributors are requested to send their reports to these editors)—Joe Bader, **N. R. Barger**, Wisconsin, Thomas Bintz family, Walter Booth, Bertha Carter, Harry Clark, Edwin Cleary, Gaylord M. Culp, Lisa Decker, Gordon Delsart, Mary Donald, J. T. Emlen, Wm. E. Fisher, Ethel Getgood, **Janet C. Green**, Minnesota, Jeffrey A. Greenhouse, Dennis Gustafson, Mary Lou Hallett, Don Hanbury, J. J. Hickey, Bruce A. Hitman, Helen Horton, Mrs. R. P. Husson, John L. Kaspar, **Alice H. Kelley**, s.e. Michigan, Eugene Kenaga (EK), Joseph P. Kleiman, E. Knapp (EK), Harry Krueger, Harold Lindberg, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Liskow, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Lound, A. J. Maley, Ralph G. Mancke, Melva Maxson, Burt Monroe, Margaret Morse (MM), Oshkosh State University ornithology class, Ben Pinkowski, James Ponshair, Karl Priebe, Ed Prins, Mr. and Mrs. David Radcliffe (DR), Carl H. Richter, Samuel D. Robbins, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Ross, Carol Rudy, Dennis Rupert (DRu), Alan J. Ryff, Ron and Sharron Smith, **Roy Smith**, s.w. Michigan, Aledia Sovacool (ASo), Thomas K. Soulen, Bob Sundell, Arleen Sweet, Daryl Tessen, Wm. L. Thompson, Pete A. Tweet, **Allen E. Valentine**, n.e. Lower Peninsula, Alice Vincent, George Wickstrom, R. F. Wittersheim, John Woodcock.—**THOMAS K. SOULEN**, Department of Botany, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis 55455.

MIDDLEWESTERN PRAIRIE REGION / Vernon M. Kleen and Lee Bush

Spring weather conditions were condensed into a brief period this year: arriving very late and departing very early. June, normally an extension of spring weather leading to a hot July, was by far the hottest month of the year; temperatures averaged up to 4° above normal. In most areas,



it was also very dry—only the e. part of the Region reported normal or near-normal precipitation. July, usually the hottest month of the year, was very cool, setting new all-time low temperature records throughout the Region. At Terre Haute, Ind., it was the coldest July in 70 years of records; the average temperature was over 6°F. below normal. Rainfall was normal or somewhat above normal throughout the Region in July, but much of it came from strong thunderstorms, especially in Kentucky and Ohio; only Iowa experienced subnormal rainfall. August continued the cool trend that July established, being up to 3° below average in n. Ohio. The Region was also generally deficient in moisture during the first half of August, more so in the e. than in the west.

Owing to the complicated spring migration, it was difficult to tell whether bird populations had actually declined or whether birds passed through the Region unnoticed. Apparently, there was an actual decline for several families and species: herons, hawks (especially the Sparrow Hawk), cuckoos, Purple Martins, vireos, some of the woodland warblers, Orchard Orioles, and the grassland sparrows. However, population increases were noted for the Little Blue Heron, Red-headed Woodpecker, Acadian Flycatcher, and Henslow's Sparrow.

Some highlights of the breeding season include: Cattle Egret nesting in n. Illinois; a Black Vulture nest in s. Ill.; Mississippi Kite increasing in the s. part of the Region; Least Tern breeding within the city limits of St. Louis; Scissor-tailed Flycatchers thriving in s.w. Mo.; Fish Crow increasing up the Mississippi R.; White-eyed Vireo increasing in n. Ohio; Prairie Warbler utilizing strip-mining areas; Bobolink nesting in Missouri and Kentucky; and a Summer Tanager nest in c. Iowa.

Migrant shorebirds began returning by late June; there was hardly any gap between these early fall migrants and the late spring-migrating flycatchers, thrushes and warblers. Other fall migrants were noted in late July and early August, as expected. A ♂ Ruff appeared near Chicago in mid-July and Little Gulls had returned by mid-August.

GREBES, PELICANS — A Horned Grebe in breeding plumage was found in a small pond near Prairie du Rocher (Randolph Co.), Ill. June 13 (HDB). On July 18 at Six Miles I. (near Louisville), Ky. 6 young Pied-billed Grebes were considered unusual for the area (LCB). A flock of 60 White Pelicans was present at Stump L. (Jersey Co.), Ill. June 9 & 10 (SV); single birds were also found in Cerro Gordo Co., Ia. July 1 and in Hancock Co., Ia. July 19 (fide WB).

HERONS, EGRETS, IBIS — Great Blue Herons finally succeeded in breeding at Red Rock Reservoir, Marion Co., Ia. after nearly half a century (GB); in late July, a concentration of over 250

birds at Squaw Creek Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Mo. was considered encouraging. Little Blue Herons seemed to be much more common and widespread this summer; at Kentucky L., near Tennessee, there were "more than ever before" (JTE). Cattle Egrets were found breeding successfully in n. Ill. at L. Renwick (Plainfield): 5 young were fledged from 2 nests (LGB, CC, JS). A Louisiana Heron was present at Squaw Creek Refuge Aug. 12-15 (MR, FL). At least 50 imm. Black-crowned Night Herons were counted in one area near Fults, Monroe Co., Ill. in August; this was the most there in 5 years (DA, PB). Yellow-crowned Night Herons were more common than usual in n. Ill.; 4 ad. and 2 imm. were seen in widely scattered areas around Chicago (LGB). A Glossy Ibis was studied closely in E. St. Louis, Ill. July 22-25 (JEC, et al.).

DUCKS — Summer records for Black Ducks included 1 at L. Chautauqua, Ill. June 26 (HDB) and 3 at Rend L., Franklin Co., Ill. July 10 (VK, FR). A Pintail was found at L. Chautauqua July 31 and 3 were there Aug. 14 (HDB); in Polk Co., Ia. an ad. and an imm. were on a sewage lagoon most of the summer (WB). The first Green-winged Teal appeared very early: 10 were found at L. Chautauqua July 31 (HDB). A Redhead lingered until at least June 12 at the Squaw Creek Refuge (MR). Ruddy Ducks summered individually at 4 locations: 1 in Mo., 1 in Ohio, and 2 in Ill.

VULTURE, HAWKS, EAGLES — A Black Vulture nest was discovered just s. of the Crab Orchard Nat'l Wildlife Refuge in Union Co., Ill. in May (DC) and the 1 young was banded Aug. 12 (VK). Mississippi Kites were quite common along the Mississippi R. in Kentucky, s. Missouri and s. Illinois during the summer; no nests were located. Broad-winged Hawks, marginal breeders in the Cleveland area, were successful in limited numbers there again this year (WK). A Rough-legged Hawk discovered in La Porte Co., Ind. June 1 is very late for this species (DB). Eight pairs of Bald Eagles laid eggs in n. Ohio this year: no young fledged; the Ohio eagle situation looks bleak: 1969, 6 pair fledged 2 young; 1970, 6 pair fledged 1 young; 1971, 8 pair fledged no young (LVC).

COOT, SHOREBIRDS — A few Am. Coot summered at L. Shelbyville, Shelby Co., Ill. and 2 others were at Springfield L., Ill. (HDB); 10 were found at Rend L., Ill. July 10 and may have been there all summer (VK, FR). A Com. Snipe was observed in a courtship flight at Goose Lake Prairie (n. Ill.) June 6 (LGB, CC); another was seen on the Ottawa Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Ohio June 13 (LVC). Fall migration of shorebirds was first noted in late June when 6 Lesser Yellowlegs were observed at Ottawa Refuge June 29 (LVC). Solitary Sandpipers appeared at L. Chautauqua July 4 and at least 65 were there Aug. 7 (HDB); 2 were at Crab Orchard Refuge July 8

(FR). Twelve Willets were found along the Little Miami R., Ohio July 5 (WR); 1 was seen below Saverton Dam on the Mississippi R. (Ill.) July 23 and 1 at Meredosia Bay (Morgan Co.), Ill. Aug. 22 (JF); another was seen at White City Beach (Cleveland) Aug. 1, 7 & 10 (fide WK). Both species of yellowlegs were at L. Chautauqua July 4 (HDB). Two Knots appeared at White City Beach (Cleveland) Aug. 15 (WK). Pectoral Sandpipers were found at L. Chautauqua July 4 and 2500 were estimated there Aug. 14 (HDB, PW); 2 were seen at Crab Orchard Refuge July 10 (VK, FR). A White-rumped Sandpiper lingered at L. Chautauqua as late as June 6; another appeared there July 10 (a fall migrant?); how should the 4 seen there on June 26 be classified? (HDB). Least Sandpipers returned to L. Chautauqua by July 4 (HDB); to Crab Orchard Refuge by July 8 (FR); to the Falls of the Ohio (Louisville), Ky. by July 10 (AS, et al.); and to Ottawa Refuge, Ohio by July 16 (LVC). Eight Short-billed Dowitchers were seen at L. Chautauqua July 10 (HDB) and one was at Crab Orchard Refuge the same day (VK, FR); 38 were found at Ottawa Refuge July 16 (LVC). A single Long-billed Dowitcher was identified at L. Chautauqua July 10 (HDB). Stilt Sandpipers were first observed July 4 at L. Chautauqua (HDB); another was found at Ottawa Refuge July 16 (LVC); 2 were seen in Alexander Co., Ill. July 17 (VK). Semipalmated Sandpipers lingered into June in c. Ill. and the first fall arrivals were noted July 10 at both L. Chautauqua (HDB) and the Falls of the Ohio, (AS, et al.); a peak of over 500 was estimated at L. Chautauqua July 31 (HDB). A W. Sandpiper was identified July 17 (very early) at the Falls of the Ohio (AS, FS, LCB); another was found (movies taken of it) at L. Chautauqua Aug. 14 (HDB, PW). At least 37 Buff-breasted Sandpipers were counted at Squaw Creek Refuge Aug. 15 (FL). A ♂ Ruff "in breeding plumage (mostly black and white, a bit of brown)" was discovered at Powderhorn Marsh (Chicago) July 18 (LGB, CC). Five Am. Avocets were seen flying low over Kentucky L. near Tennessee Aug. 2 (JTE); 2 others were at L. Chautauqua Aug. 7 (HDB); 2 more were found at Squaw Creek Refuge Aug. 15 (FL). Wilson's Phalaropes failed to breed in n. Illinois for the third consecutive year (LGB); the first migrants returned to L. Chautauqua July 10 (HDB). At least 3 N. Phalaropes were at L. Chautauqua Aug. 14 (HDB, PW).

GULLS, TERNS—Nine imm. Ring-billed Gulls remained at L. Springfield, Ill. all summer (HDB). At least 5 Laughing Gulls (4 adults, 1 imm.) were found along the Mississippi R. near Nauvoo, Hancock Co., Ill. June 12 (JF). An imm. Bonaparte's Gull was identified July 31 (much out of season) at Squaw Creek Refuge (MR, FL). The first Little Gull of the season was reported at Evanston, Ill. Aug. 15; it was a subadult (PF, fide LGB); 2 adults were seen at Waukegan Aug. 21 (LGB). A small colony of Least Terns successfully hatched eggs within the city limits of St. Louis; on

Aug. 8, on a small sandbar in the Mississippi R., 8 pairs were found breeding—several photos were taken of the eggs and young (DA, PB).

CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW, SAPSUCKER—A Chuck-will's-widow was present again this year in Wapello Co., Iowa; a nest was not located (PWk, fide WB). On July 7, a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was found at the Rocky River Metropolitan Park (Cleveland); this constitutes the first July record for this species in that area (WK, OD, et al.).

FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS—Scissor-tailed Flycatchers "are holding their own" around Springfield, Mo. but Mockingbirds disturb the nesting flycatchers (IF, fide DA). After several years of being scarce, Acadian Flycatchers made a comeback in the Rocky River Park (Cleveland) area (WK). A "fay-bee-o" song-type of the Trail's Flycatcher was discovered breeding at McCormick L. in the Mark Twain Nat'l Forest in s. Missouri; the adults were feeding young. This is the first record of breeding by this form in Missouri (JC, fide DA). Adult Least Flycatchers were netted in s. Illinois as early as July 22 (DH); one was collected at Carbondale, Ill. Aug. 4 (VK). An early Olive-sided Flycatcher was reported from St. Joseph, Mo. Aug. 8 (FL). Bank Swallows were migrating in large numbers by late July; over 800 were estimated at L. Chautauqua July 31 (HDB); over 2000 were estimated at Wolf L., Union Co., Ill. the same day (VK, FR). Cliff Swallows continued nesting in fair numbers in w. Kentucky, the s. part of their breeding range (CP); two pairs attempted nesting with a colony of Bank and Rough-winged Swallows in a sand quarry near Charleston, Ill. (LBH); owing to sand removal operations, neither pair was successful. Purple Martins have been much-publicized recently, especially with "The Purple Martin Capital NEWS" from Griggsville, Ill. published every month. This newspaper indicated that martin populations in general were up this year; however, according to several of our reporters, martin populations were down in Ohio (OD); Kentucky (CP); and Missouri (DA).

NUTHATCHES, CROWS—A pair of Red-breasted Nuthatches successfully fledged young June 6 in the Rocky River Park (Cleveland) and the family was seen in the same vicinity for several following days (OD, WK, et al.). In the Cleveland area, Com. Crows have become "urbanized" and have been "investigating pigeon haunts and raiding nests on residence structures" (WK); this seems to be an unusual behavior. Fish Crows continued to move up the Mississippi R.; 17 were observed in one tree near Fults, Monroe Co., Ill. Aug. 20 (DA, PB).

MOCKINGBIRD, BLUEBIRD, WAXWING, SHRIKE—Mockingbirds were successful breeders locally in n. Ohio (WK) and were also reported during the summer (no nests found) in St. Joseph Co., Ind. (DB). The E. Bluebird continued its comeback in areas where nest boxes have been provided; however, some areas reported fewer bluebirds than last year. At Foristell, St. Charles Co., Mo. 198 young fledged from 58 boxes. Cedar Waxwings

were late migrants this spring and several flocks stayed to breed in Ohio and n. Kentucky this year. A nesting pair of Loggerhead Shrikes was located in Ottawa Co., Ohio, unusual for that area (LVC).

VIREOS, WARBLERS — White-eyed Vireos continued their invasion of n. Ohio, but nesting success was not determined (OD, WK). Other vireo species and some warbler species were down as breeding birds throughout the Region; cause: ? A singing ♂ Worm-eating Warbler at Charleston, Ill. July 2 & 3 was only the second recent record for this species in that area (LBH). A ♂ Blackpoll Warbler in spring plumage singing July 4 at Lakewood, Ohio, was very unusual (CB, OD). The first record of a nesting pair of Pine Warblers was established at Bernheim Forest, Bullitt Co., Ky. Apr. 10 when nest construction was observed (BM, AS); 3 young were in the nest May 16 (JP, LS). Prairie Warblers have found strip-mining areas to their advantage; on June 12 they were everywhere in the Madisonville, Ky. area (CP). The earliest record for a N. Waterthrush in Kentucky was established Aug. 8 when one was netted in Louisville (BM).

BLACKBIRDS, TANAGERS — Several Bobolinks spent the summer near Goshen, Oldham Co., Ky. (fide AS); the third breeding record for this species in Missouri was established when nests were found near St. Joseph (MR); two pairs also nested in Marion Co., Iowa, where there hadn't been any records for decades prior to 1969 (GB). As usual, Com. Grackles were nuisances; but this year, they increased their disfavor in Des Moines by nesting in the city (WB). There was a successful Summer Tanager nest found in Polk Co., Iowa—rather far north for this species (WB).

FRINGILLIDS — Young Blue Grosbeaks were still being fed by the adults Aug. 13 & 14 at Salem, Marion Co., Ill. (WJ); at least 4 pairs were found in Adams and Pike counties, Ill. but no nests were located (JF). Purple Finches were "more abundant and in wider distribution than is typical" (WK) for the n. Ohio area, but there was "no definite evidence of nesting" (OD). Henslow's Sparrows were reported up in numbers in a few places: at least 20 pairs bred at Tucker Prairie, Callaway Co., Mo.; but in other areas, especially n. Ohio, the populations were down or non-existent locally (WK). A Sharp-tailed Sparrow lingered as late as June 6 at Goose Lake Prairie in n. Ill. (LGB, CC). Nesting Vesper Sparrows were more common than usual in Nodaway Co., Mo. this year. Lark Sparrows have still maintained a small breeding population in Custer Park (Chicago) (LGB).

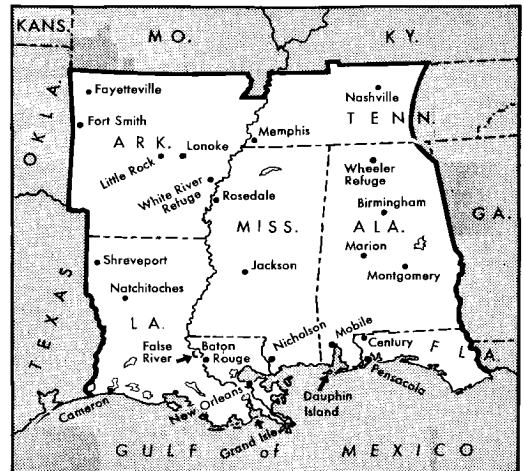
ADDENDUM — On Nov. 2, 1970, a **Rock Wren** was collected at Normal, Ill.; it constitutes the first state record for this species and was deposited in the Ill. State Univ. Museum at Normal (DEB).

REPORTERS (boldface) AND OBSERVERS — **Dick Anderson**, (LGB) **Lawrence G. Balch**, Carl Baier, **Mrs. H. Baker**, Paul Bauers, (DEB) **Dale E. Birkenholz**, **Gladys Black**, **H. David Bohlen**, (LCB) **Leonard C. Brecher**, **Woodward Brown**, (DB)

Dorothy Buck, **Larry Carter**, Charles T. Clark, (JEC) **J. Earl Comfort**, (JC) **James Comfort**, **Don Coons**, **Owen Davies**, Joe Tom Erwin, Irving Fay, Pierre Ferwerda, **James Funk**, **David Hayward**, **Virginia Humphreys**, **L. Barrie Hunt**, **Winifred Jones**, **William Klamm**, **Jean Knoblauch**, Floyd Lawhon, Burt Monroe, Jr., Jim Pasikowski, Clell Peterson, Burwell Pickering, Worth Randall, Frank Reuter, **Mark Robbins**, Jeffrey Sanders, **Litha Smith**, **Anne Stamm**, F. W. Stamm, **Laurel Van Camp**, **Sarah Vasse**, (PW) Pat Ward, (PWk) **Pearle Walker**, **Arthur Wiseman**, **Charles Wright**.—**VERNON M. KLEEN**, Dept. of Zoology, Southern Illinois Univ., Carbondale, Ill. 62901 and **LEE BUSH**, Cambria, Ill. 62915.

CENTRAL SOUTHERN REGION / James R. Stewart, Jr.

A tremendous contrast in weather existed across the Region this year. The western parts extending as far east as New Orleans were seared by a drought with annual rainfall deficits exceeding 12 inches in some places at the end of July. Birmingham, Ala., however, had a cool wet July and



although August was dry, annual rainfall excess was still over six inches. The effect of the drought was not indicated for any land birds but it was drastic in the s.w. Louisiana marshes. Bob Newman reported "Eventually rains came, but bare, cracked pond bottoms soaked them up and we continued to walk with mudless shoes in places where we never expected to be able to walk at all." Grebes and ducks showed essentially no evidence of breeding and perhaps some of the problems in the local heronries also stemmed from the dryness. Details are found in the appropriate species accounts.

The "Camille"-ravaged but rebuilding Chandeleurs again provided a large number of interesting Louisiana records. On June 10-13, Bob Newman, R. D. Purrington, B. M. Myers, Jake