

Raymore (16 nests, 76 young—WCH) and at Saskatoon (6 nests, 33 young—ARS). Starlings continued to increase, with 311 counted on the Spirit Lake—Theodore B B S; 12 nests with 74 eggs at Sylvan L. Alta. hatched 70 young (HSA). A **Bell's Vireo** sang on territory 5 miles s. of Bismarck, N.D. July 10 (RNR).

WARBLERS — A **Golden-winged Warbler** nest with 3 eggs and a cowbird egg was found July 5 on Little George I. (52° 51' N) L. Winnipeg; another ♂ with 2 young was seen n. of Menisino; to my knowledge these are the first breeding records for Manitoba (DRMH, VHS). A third pair were seen in Riding Mt. Nat'l Park July 1 (WJW, fide KG), suggesting that there may have been a Golden-winged irruption this year. A ♂ **Parula Warbler** at Calgary May 25–June 15 provided the second record for Alberta (RP).

ICTERIDS, TANAGERS — Bobolinks were scarce at Sheho, Sask. and Coleharbor, N.D. (WN, GAE). First records of Orchard Orioles were of 3 June 2 at Medicine L. Refuge, Mont. (JLM) and both parents and an imm. July 25 at Leeds, N.D. (ACF). Five singing ♂ **Scarlet Tanagers** were reported from Roberts Co. and one from Deuel Co., S.D. (BKH).

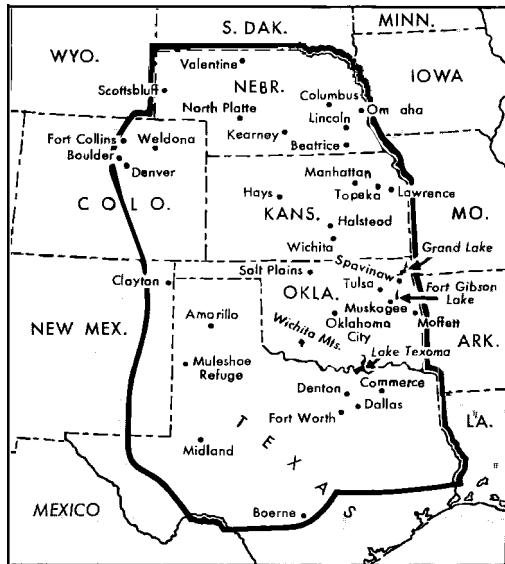
FRINGILLIDS — Indigo Buntings showed an increase in Manitoba as far w. as Glenboro (DRMH, HWRC). Rufous-sided Towhees showed an increase in Manitoba, and a nest with 3 young at Carrington, N.D. marks the furthest w. for the spotted race; 4 other ♂♂ were nearby (PFS). Lark Buntings were "truly abundant" in the extreme s.w. corner of Manitoba with 16 singing ♂♂ in one mile s. of Pierson, while B B Surveys recorded no less than 544 at Bowman and 449 at Steele, N.D. (PFS). Some of the inconspicuous grassland sparrows seemed commoner than usual. There were small colonies of Grasshopper Sparrows near Jamieson and Imperial Beach, Sask. (MB, FWL), a nest e. of Sheyenne, N.D. (BAH) and 3 young at the Audubon Refuge, Coleharbor (GAE). Le Conte's Sparrows seemed more numerous at Saskatoon, were almost abundant at Des Lacs Refuge, N.D. and one at Rapid City July 25 (CJ) was a first for the Black Hills. Sharp-tailed Sparrows were increased at Spirit L. and widespread e. and n. of Devil's L., N.D. (RES).

CONTRIBUTORS (area editors in **boldface**) — Helge S. Abrahamson, Ernest A. Alfstad, Wm. Anaka, **Eliz. G. Anderson**, P. L. Beckie, Margaret Belcher, E. Bossenmaier, Frank H. Brazier, Wm. A. Buresh, E. Manley Callin, Marlene Caskey, Norman Cleveland, **H. W. R. Copland**, Gary A. Eslinger, Robert C. Fields, John R. Foster, Adrian C. Fox, Jim E. Frates, Ann M. Gammal, Ken Gardner, Robert E. Gehlert, David E. Goeke, **J. B. Gollop**, David S. Gray, Graham Greenley, John Gulley, Bruce A. Hanson, Bruce K. Harris, Wayne C. Harris, Phyllis Hart, David R. M. Hatch, Lloyd Hatch, Lois C. Haynes, J. D. Hayward, Hugh H. Hedger, Alfred Hines, Nelda Holden, Eliz. K. Hubbard, Horace Jackson, Doug-

las H. Johnson, Clifford Jones, Harold A. Kantrud, **Edith W. Kern**, Pat R. Kern, Leo Kirsch, Gerald D. Kobriger, Herbert Krause, Arnold D. Kruse, Fred W. Lahman, Jack Lane, B. Lang, Norman Lee, John T. Lokemoen, **W. Garry McKay** and **C. D. Bird**, John L. Martin, John Moore, **Louis M. Moos**, Natural History Society of Manitoba, Wm. Niven, R. Palindat, Eugene C. Patten, John Prosser, Robert D. Rafuse, Robert N. Randall, Bernard Rognlie, Saskatoon Junior Natural History Society, Helen C. E. Schuler, Frances A. Schultz, R. L. Scott, V. H. Scott, **E. M. Serr**, S. J. Shadick, B. Simmons, L. T. Simmons, M. Skinner, A. R. Smith, **P. F. Springer**, W. E. Steffan, Robert E. Stewart, Fred Tully, Owen Vivian, Jim A. Wedgwood, W. J. Walley, D. V. Weseloh, Robert L. Wright, Douglas W. A. Whitfield. Uncountable hours have been contributed by those named above, particularly by my untiring subeditors. — **C. STUART HOUSTON, 836 University Drive, Saskatoon, Sask.**

SOUTHERN GREAT PLAINS REGION / Frances Williams

Oklahoma and Texas suffered extreme drought conditions during June and July. However, there were only two instances of this having an effect on nesting birds: the lack of successful nesting of quail and the dispersion of Cassin's Sparrows.



Dry conditions may also have been responsible for the low population of Grasshopper Sparrows in the Texas Panhandle. Unexplained is the low population of Lark Buntings in e. Colorado where most other grassland species were at relatively high levels.

LOON, GREBES, PELICANS — A Com. Loon spent the summer in Pueblo Co., Colo. (VAT). At Barr L., Colo. the W. Grebe population was 50 per cent lower than last year (HH) and no young of this species were observed at Union Reservoir, Colo. (IB). At Greeley, Colo. 131 fledgling White Pelicans were banded, second best year in ten years of banding at that locality (RAR).

ANHINGAS, HERONS — An estimated 50 pairs of Anhingas nested n.w. of Palestine, Tex. (OCS). Great Blue Herons nested successfully at Waterton, Colo., where 20 young were fledged from nine nests (HEK, RLB). Five major colonies of this species in Weld & Larimer Cos., Colo. produced the greatest number of young in the ten years the colonies have been followed (RAR). More Cattle Egrets nested in Oklahoma City this year (JGN) and an estimated 4000 were present in two heronries n.w. of Palestine (OCS). The colony of Snowy Egrets in Weld Co. continues to increase (RAR). **Louisiana Herons** wandered widely this summer, being recorded in n. Texas, c. Oklahoma, c. Kansas and e. Colorado where they constituted a third State record. Black-crowned Night Herons had a successful year in Weld & Larimer Cos. (RAR). A Yellow-crowned Night Heron nesting in the courtyard of an apartment complex at Fort Worth fledged three young (JMS).

STORKS, IBISES — Fourteen Wood Ibises were at Cedar Creek L. near Dallas, July 24 (MF, et al.). The colony of White-faced Ibis in Weld Co. increased greatly this year, 40 birds being present in July. This is the only colony of this species east of the mountains in Colorado. A **White Ibis** at Cheyenne Bottoms, Kans. throughout the period may have been a first State record (PC). This species was also seen near Tyler and Palestine (OCS) and at Hagerman Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Aug. 15 (KWH). A Roseate Spoonbill appeared at Hagerman Refuge Aug. 12 and was still present at the end of the period (KWH, et al.).

DUCKS — The most startling occurrence of the season was the successful nesting of a **Fulvous Tree Duck** in a children's tree house at Elkhart, Kans. (SJA, fide RFB). Two Mottled Ducks were observed in Brazos Co., Tex. July 6 (KAA). Wood Ducks were discovered nesting near Waco, Tex. (MW, MB). This species increased noticeably in Washington Co., Okla. (B.A.S.) but was absent at Hays, Kans. (CAE). A ♀ Hooded Merganser was recorded at Hays, June 16–July 1 (CAE).

HAWKS — Mississippi Kites were abundant in w. Kansas and Oklahoma. Fifty were present on the Cimarron R., Morton Co., Kans. June 11 (RFB) and 20 could be counted any day in June on the Canadian R., Roger Mills Co., Okla. (BW). They are also extending their range: a pair with 3 young spent June and July in Midland feeding on the abundant cicadas (M.N.). An attempt at late nesting in a residential area of Hays was unsuccessful (MR). Pueblo birders reported that every Ferruginous Hawk nest checked by re-

searchers from the East was later deserted (VAT). Prairie Falcons were absent from several Colorado areas where they normally nest.

QUAIL, SHOREBIRDS — Bobwhites were scarce in Woods Co., Okla. (ZM) and at Tyler (OCS). No young Scaled Quail had been seen at Midland by the end of the period, but abundant rains such as those during early August usually produce late nesting. A Piping Plover at Ft. Worth, Aug. 4 was a second record there (J&MRL) and another in Washington Co., Okla., July 23 was also noteworthy (B.A.S.). Four of 7 Mountain Plover nests on the Pawnee Nat'l Grassland, Colo. were successful (MS) but fewer pairs and young were seen at Keota, Colo. than in 1970 (WG). Six Mountain Plovers were noted near Grenville, New Mex., June 13 (KS). A Ruddy Turnstone was present at Oklahoma City Aug. 4–8 (JGN). The only June report of Upland Plovers was at Hays, but observers there had no positive evidence of nesting (CAE). A Marbled Godwit was recorded at Oklahoma City, July 30–Aug. 8 (JGN). Am. Avocets nested at a pond near Boise City, Okla. (JT, fide GMS). They also nested successfully beside a busy highway near Longmont in spite of extensive construction on the highway (AC). The sewage evaporative ponds at Midland were kept so full this year there was no suitable place for Am. Avocets and Black-necked Stilts to nest. The avocets deserted the area, and only a few stilts remained through the summer.

GULLS, TERNS — A colony in Weld Co. contained about the same number of California Gulls as last year, but Forster's Terns increased (RAR). Wandering Forster's and Least Terns were sighted in Tarrant Co., Tex., Aug. 5 (EB, J&MRL).

CUCKOOS, OWLS — A Groove-billed Ani was sighted in Midland July 21–23 (M.N.). Yellow-billed Cuckoos had a good year in the Longmont area because of an infestation of tent caterpillars (AC). There was an unusual number of Black-billed Cuckoo records: Tulsa, June 30 (T.A.S.); 30 mi. s. of Denver, June 4 (MOS); Lakewood, Colo., July 30 (VR); Nowata Co., Okla., July 15, Aug. 1 (ED, et al.). Burrowing Owls are no longer confined to prairie dog towns in Midland Co., but are widespread throughout the area. A new colony of Burrowing Owls was found near Boulder (DB). Short-eared Owls nested at the Plains Conservation Center near Denver (DT).

GOATSUCKER, SWIFTS, HUMMINGBIRDS — A Whip-poor-will was heard at Tulsa frequently from July 2–Aug. 5 (T.A.S.) Chimney Swifts increased at Clayton but no evidence of nesting was seen (WC). Rufous Hummingbirds wandered as far east as n. c. Texas. Black-chinned Hummingbirds summered at Pueblo (VAT).

FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS — There were at least two successful W. Kingbird nests in Brazos Co. (HMO, KAA), and this species also nested at Tulsa (BR). Cassin's Kingbirds nested at Clayton for the first time. An Ash-throated Flycatcher at Lake-

wood, Colo., June 17 was unusual this far north (WCR). Young fledged from all Say's Phoebe nests watched on Pawnee Grassland (MS). A pair of Barn Swallows began their second nest of the season on the late date of Aug. 10 at Longmont (CCu). Barn Swallows nesting at Waco provided a new local record (MB). At Hays, where nest building was completed by the first week in June, Cliff Swallows had the usual number of successful colonies. Several hundred birds kept carrying mud to bridges and culverts until July 6, but none of these nests was completed (CAE).

CROWS, VERDINS, NUTHATCH, WRENS — Two pairs of Com. Crows nested in a residential area of Longmont (AC). The nesting population of Verdins increased in Palo Duro State Park, Tex. (KS). A Verdin was found nesting in Jackson Co., Okla., in June (KS). There were scattered sightings of White-breasted Nuthatches at Hays all summer (CAE). Three House Wrens were singing near L. Marvin in the Texas Panhandle, June 5 (KS). A Carolina Wren was recorded at Hays, July 17 (CAE).

MOCKINGBIRD, THRUSHES — A pair of Mockingbirds nested at 6000 ft. in Jefferson Co., Colo. (RFB). A Hermit Thrush sang at Amarillo through July (RR). E. Bluebirds had good nesting success at Tyler (OCS) and Dallas (HN).

WARBLERS — A wandering Black-and-white Warbler was noted in Midland, July 21 (M.N.). In Oklahoma City 4 nest boxes were erected for Prothonotary Warblers. Each box was used twice, 35 eggs were laid, and 26 young were fledged. No predation was noted, and no natural cavities in the area were used as nesting sites (VJV, JGN). This species was low in numbers in e. Texas, but increased in n. c. Texas. Worm-eating Warblers were feeding young in Beaver's Bend State Park, Okla. in late August (PA). Swainson's Warblers remained at Tulsa June 1–July 2 (A&BR). Parula Warblers nested at Beaver's Bend (PA) and were heard singing near Dallas, June 19–24 (HN, et al.). In Longmont Yellow Warblers are in trouble because of predation by Com. Grackles (AC). A Cerulean Warbler was sighted at Bartlesville, July 23 (B.A.S.) and a pair feeding young were observed at Beaver's Bend in late August (PA). A **Chestnut-sided Warbler** at Sedalia, Colo., July 1 was possibly the first summer record for the State (JC). A N. Waterthrush near Temple, Tex., July 21 was also an unusual summer record (MW). Two families of Kentucky Warblers were noted in Cleveland Co., Okla., July 3 (GER, et al.).

BLACKBIRDS, TANAGERS — Bobolinks were present in an alfalfa field near Aurora, Colo., June 18–July 14 (MOS). Orchard Orioles nested for the first time in Pueblo Co. (VAT) and were noted in Arapahoe Co., Colo., June 21 (RA). W. Meadowlark population was at a four-year high near Briggsdale, Colo. (RAR). Com. Grackles increased at Clayton (WC). Scarlet Tanagers at Littleton, Colo., June 6 (TLB) and Ottawa Co., June 5 (H&DG) were probably late spring migrants.

FRINGILLIDS — Dickcissel invaded Otero Co., Colo. for the first time (VAT). Two Pine Siskin nests at Hays were destroyed by a violent hailstorm (MR). Lesser Goldfinches seem to be established as breeding birds in Red Rock Canyon State Park, Okla. (JGN). Population of Lark Buntings was at a four-year low in Weld Co. (RAR). A single Lark Bunting at a feeder in Longmont, Aug. 2 was a "record without precedent" (MT). Grasshopper Sparrows were low in numbers in the Texas Panhandle and adjacent New Mexico (PA). Cassin's Sparrows were more common in Weld Co. than in the past four years (RAR). Cassin's Sparrows in Payne Co., Okla. from mid May–July 10 represented a first County record, and one was collected (ZM et al). They were also present throughout May near Yukon and Lindsay, Okla. (JGN). Observers in the Region have noted before that Cassin's Sparrows are dispersed more widely during periods of drought. McCown's and Chestnut-collared Longspurs were at a four-year peak in Weld Co., although Chestnut-collared were less common than McCown's.

CORRIGENDA — Am. Birds, 25:597, Black-legged Kittiwake should have been credited to Lavonna Holt, with photographs by Harold Holt; the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was the first Denver CBC record since 1953. 598, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in Van Zandt Co., Tex., not Kaufman Co.

CONTRIBUTORS AND OBSERVERS — Peggy Acord, Steward J. Adams, Robert Andrews, Keith A. Arnold, Inez Baker, Bartlesville Audubon Society, Landon & Ada Beaver, T. L. Beckley, David Bolton, Richard L. Bortorf, Ethel Bowman, Lillian M. Brown, Mary Bush, Robert F. Buttery, Brad Carlton, Allegra Collister, Perry Conway, Wesley Cook, John Cooper, Charles Crabtree, Camille Cummings, Ella Delap, Charles A. Ely, Dorothy & Kennedy England, Fort Worth Audubon Society, Margaret Francis, Howard & Dotty Goad, Tim Gollob, Dave Griffiths, Walt Grove, Karl W. Haller, Harold Holt, Ted Jones, Polly Keating, Hugh E. Kingery, Helen Koch, Adolf Krehbiel, Joe & Mary Ruth Lowe, Midland Naturalists, Zella Moorman, John G. Newell, Hazel Nichols, H. M. Ohlendörf, Warren Pulich, Midge & Jay Randolph, Grace E. Ray, Jack Redall, Van Remsen, Anne & Bruce Reynolds, Jack Roberts, Marvin Rolfs, Rena Ross, W. C. Royall, Jr., Ronald A. Ryder, Kenneth Seyffert, O. C. Sheffield, Jessie Maye Smith, Mildred O. Snyder, M. Strong, George M. Sutton, G. A. Swanson, Donald Thatcher, Merl Thielen, Van A. Truan, Tulsa Audubon Society, Jack Tyler, Victor J. Vacin, Lois Webster, Burr Williams, Marjorie Williams.—**FRANCES WILLIAMS, 3307 Neely, Midland, TX. 79701**

Note new address:

AMERICAN BIRDS
National Audubon Society
950 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022.