

At the end of eight days the remaining four were allowed to fly in an enclosure; they became very tame and fed from the hand. After five days two more were allowed their freedom. They remained in the vicinity for nineteen days, when they left, "probably to join some roost." They were seen ten days later (August 24), and then disappeared, presumably migrating. Of the two still retained in confinement, one died October 21, of a tumour; the other was then in good health with a prospect of surviving the winter. It thus appears that young martins can be taken from their homes to other localities and reared by hand; but whether the survivors will return to their foster home the following year, Mr. Miller's experiment leaves us in doubt. The results of further experiments in this line may well be awaited with interest.— J. A. A.

Wolcott's Analysis of the Bird Fauna of Nebraska.¹—The number of species and subspecies known to have occurred within the State of Nebraska is here given as 406. This large number results from the geographical position of the State, which lies "between the humid eastern faunal areas and the arid areas of the West," and thus contains forms characteristic of both these climatic areas. In consequence of these conditions, the eastern and western subspecies of the same species meet and merge, through "a gradual shading of the one into the other. Intermediate specimens occur representing all shades of gradation between them. It may be that only a few of the specimens taken at the eastern end of the State represent the one, while only at the extreme west are found specimens typical of the other."

The species are divided into categories in accordance with the manner of their occurrence within the State, as follows: "I. Species found in some part of the State, in larger or smaller numbers, at all seasons of the year," or are, in other words, permanent residents. These number 72, and nearly all are designated as having been found breeding in the State. "II. Species migrant in spring and fall and which remain in larger or smaller numbers to breed in the State; and also summer visitors which are stragglers and do not breed here." These number 174, and are also nearly all marked as known to breed in the State. "III. Species occurring in the State only in spring and fall migrations and breeding not probable. . . ." numbering 106 species. "IV. Winter visitors to the State" — 46 species. "V. Species now extinct within the limits of Nebraska" — 6 species. "VI. Introduced species" — 2, the Ring-necked Pheasant and the English Sparrow.

A second analysis gives the ratio of representation, by species, of the orders and principal passerine families in Nebraska as compared with North America north of Mexico, on the basis of the A. O. U. Check-List with interesting results, too detailed for mention in this connection.

¹ An Analysis of Nebraska's Bird Fauna. By Robert H. Wolcott. Proc. Nebraska Ornithologists' Union, Vol. IV, Part 2, pp. 25-55, with pls. i-vi. August 25, 1909.

A third analysis deals with the breeding species and subspecies (232 in number) of the State in reference to their centers of distribution, as to whether they are northward or southward, eastward or westward; from which it appears that "Nebraska lies, roughly speaking, at the center of distribution of 38 forms." Lists are also given of those breeding mainly to the northward, southward, eastward, or westward of the State.

The faunal areas of Nebraska, considered from the avian standpoint, are considered at length, five 'regions' being recognized, as follows: (1) the Missouri [River] Region; (2) the Prairie Region; (3) the Sandhill Region; (4) the Plains Region; (5) the Pine Ridge Region. These are each geographically defined and their leading characteristics stated, together with lists of the species of birds characteristic of each, followed by a tabular résumé and pertinent comment. A colored map illustrates these faunal regions, and various types of environment are shown in five half-tone plates.

Altogether, Professor Wolcott's 'Analysis' of the Nebraska bird fauna is well done, and a piece of work well worth doing.— J. A. A.

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