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Spring Notes from Lawrence, Kansas.—April, 1935, at Lawrence, was warm and dry, and indicated that the drouth of 1934 was to continue for another year. Consequently, many of the earlier migrants appeared at their normal times. However, the last week of April saw a decided change. Heavy spring rains started and continued almost every day for six weeks. All rivers and creeks overflowed their banks, in some cases doing much property damage. Hundreds of nests of ground-nesting birds, such as Meadowlarks, were destroyed.

The month of May was very cool, the thermometer going down to the low forties almost every night. Late migrants were retarded, and the inclement weather made field work hard and disagreeable, so that many normally common species were not recorded at all. A few records, however, seem worthy of mention.

Coccyzus erythrophthalmus. BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO.—The writer took a pair of these birds seven miles southwest of Lawrence on May 25, 1935. The female contained well-developed eggs, and would have been laying in a few days. Although this species seems to be rare about Lawrence, the Museum has several specimens in the collection, and there is one breeding record. This species seems to prefer the darkest, dampest parts of the timbered regions, in marked contrast to the yellow-billed species, which is found in more open situations.

Antrostomus carolinensis. CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW.—The writer took a male of this species seven miles southwest of Lawrence, on May 4, 1935. It was flushed from a thick growth of Papaw brush under a stand of small oak and elm trees. It flew only a short distance, then settled down on the limb of a fallen tree, sitting *crosswise* instead of *lengthwise* of the branch. Its appearance was extremely owl-like.

This is the first specimen taken in Douglas County, but there are two other records. C. E. Johnson (Wilson Bull., Vol. 39, No. 3, pp. 156-158), reports hearing one at Lake View, May 11, 1923. C. D. Bunker, W. H. Burt, and several members of the ornithology class at the University of Kansas, saw one a few miles northwest of Lawrence, April 25, 1927. (Unpublished). The species is quite common a hundred miles south of Lawrence.

Dendroica aestiva rubiginosa. ALASKA YELLOW WARBLER.—An adult male of this dark subspecies was taken by the writer one mile southwest of Lawrence, on May 17, 1935. There are three other records of the occurrence of this bird here, and it is probably a fairly common migrant, having been overlooked for many years. (Long, Auk, July, 1935).

Dendroica palmarum palmarum. WESTERN PALM WARBLER.—A male, taken by Normal A. Preble, on April 27, 1935, was the first one seen here for several years. It had eaten a small green caterpillar.

Seiurus motacilla. LOUISIANA WATER-THRUSH.—Normal Preble took a female Louisiana Water-thrush, seven miles southwest of Lawrence, on April 27, 1935. This is the second authentic record for the state, the first being taken in Douglas County, May 8, 1915. There is one other specimen, without data, which probably was taken in Kansas.

While this species has been reported as a common migrant from many localities, it has very likely been confused with Grinnell's Water-thrush, *Seiurus noveboracensis notabilis*, which is a regular migrant, and represented by a good series of skins in the Museum collection.

Wilsonia canadensis. CANADA WARBLER.—The writer took an adult male, seven miles southwest of Lawrence, May 25, 1935. It was in full song in the underbrush

near a little stream flowing down a steep hillside. This Warbler has been taken at Neosho Falls, and in Doniphan County (three records) but not in Douglas County before this time.—W. S. LONG, *Museum of Birds and Mammals, Lawrence, Kansas.*

Some Breeding Birds of the Pine Forest Mountains, Nevada.—On the afternoon of June 4, 1935, my companion, Dr. Richard M. Eakin, and I worked our car south along the crest of the Pine Forest Mountains to within six miles of Duffer Peak. We chose a camp site at 7000 feet in an aspen grove that bordered a meadow. In the next three days we made acquaintance with several interesting avian households, occupants of our camp grounds. First to attract attention was a pair of Hairy Woodpeckers (*Dryobates villosus*) that had partially excavated two nest holes in the smooth trunk of a living aspen, fifty feet from our tent. Both holes had been worked this season, but the upper one could never have been completed for it was only six inches above the other.

During the first day, June 5, commotions were frequently noticed at the Woodpecker's tree. The trouble was instigated by a pair of Mountain Bluebirds (*Sialia currucoides*). Whenever the Woodpeckers alighted near the holes, both Bluebirds attacked by diving at them, uttering harsh notes and apparently snapping their bills. Such attacks often lasted five minutes. Evidently the Woodpeckers were too much disturbed by them, possibly also by us, and deserted. During the last two days at camp, no more fights were seen and the Bluebirds were carrying nest material to the tree. The Woodpeckers stayed in the grove, often close to camp, but did not go to the trees near the nest. Since the Bluebirds were just beginning to build, the Woodpeckers were clearly the first occupants and had been dispossessed. Irrespective of other factors which may have contributed to their departure, there was no doubt of the intention of the Bluebirds to displace them.

On June 6 the female Bluebird went to an unfinished Robin's nest just over the tent and settled in it, much to my surprise. She plucked material from the margin and flew to her own nest hole. The Robins added to their nest later that day. The Bluebird, symbol of happiness and gentleness, became to us a different character, whose actions, viewed anthropomorphically, were aggressive and piratical. Interspecific competition for nest material and nest site were enacted before us.

Yet the Woodpeckers were not inactive territorially, for while submissive to the Bluebirds, they appeared to be excited by the presence of other Woodpeckers. Drumming was frequent, and once at close range the female was seen to drum. This "song" of the Woodpeckers is essentially a masculine function, but perhaps, as in many passerine birds, female Woodpeckers occasionally "sing" or announce territory. I found that tapping on wood with some metal object brought the birds overhead where they called vigorously and drummed.

At dusk, Poor-wills (*Phalaenoptilus nuttallii*) called from the Artemisia brush. One individual with an especially high voice and rapid cadence came two evenings to the same lookout post, an aspen branch six feet above the ground. Its eye shine was always ruby colored, and only one eye was visible at a time. It hawked for insects from this perch, and as we whistled in imitation it circled overhead within four feet, giving a soft guttural "querk." Poor-will calling was rarely heard except during crepuscular hours.

At about 6:30 p. m. as the shadow first touched the aspen grove a muffled hoot, repeated at one second intervals, sounded from the trees up the hill slope. It was the note of a Long-eared Owl (*Asio wilsonianus*). In quality it resembled the note of the Band-tailed Pigeon. The pitch at first approximated that of the hoot of a female Horned Owl. As the hoots were repeated the pitch was raised as much as five half