

The Twenty-fifth Annual meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union, held in Philadelphia, December 9 to 12, was the first meeting of this body which it has been the privilege of the writer to attend. One of the marked features of this meeting was the good fellowship which prevailed everywhere and at all times. The local committee's efforts to make this meeting a most enjoyable one were crowned with success. Most of the papers presented were of a popular scientific nature since the general public were invited to the meetings, but it was not difficult to perceive a deep undercurrent of the scientific spirit pervading those who are engaged in the active business of studying the birds. A great mass of facts has been gathered; we must now inquire what they mean. The next meeting of the Union was set for November 16, 1908, at Cambridge, Mass. It is not too early to begin planning to attend that meeting now. A fuller attendance of ornithologists would be of great advantage to the cause of the study of the birds as well as an inspiration to the individual.

GENERAL NOTES.

NOTES FROM BRISTOL, CONN. The following scattered notes may prove of interest as illustrating what seem to be unusual conditions in this vicinity during the past year.

Pine Grosbeaks appeared December 2, 1906, and were last seen March 31, 1907. They were unusually plentiful for this locality.

Evening Grosbeaks were first seen on February 27, the last day on which they were recorded. The males were in brilliant plumage, and at least one sang *sotto voce* on one occasion. We could see them eating maple seeds, and they appeared to eat snow. They were often within twenty-five feet of us.

On April 27 I had a rare experience with an American Woodcock. As I was walking in a woods with some companions a sitting Woodcock caught my eye just as I was about to step upon her. The bird made no least motion while I watched her, and while my companions came up and looked until they were satisfied. As I stooped toward her with extended hand she made no move until my hand was within six inches of her head, when she suddenly flew off. There were three young in the nest, one of which stood up and stepped out of the nest; another nestled down motionless except for a slight movement of the head. The air was cold so we hastened away to permit the mother to return and hover the young. Two days later I found four shells in the nest. Doubtless one of the eggs was covered by the young and was not seen on the first day. FRANK BRUEN, *Bristol, Conn.*

HENSLOW'S SPARROW IN OHIO IN 1907. The rarity of this Sparrow in Ohio makes its appearance in some numbers and at two widely sep-

arated places, worthy of mention. Mr. George L. Fordyce found it on April 30 and May 1 about seven miles south of Youngstown. This is the first record for that locality. I found a single bird in a field about a mile northwest of Amherst on April 22, and at least half a dozen singing males in a field at what is known as Rye Beach, some three miles west of Huron and a half mile from Lake Erie, on April 29, and on each visit to that locality during the entire spring and breeding season. No nests were found in this field, but there could scarcely be any doubt about the fact of breeding. It is to be regretted that the region of Oberlin, where the birds were found on two former occasions, could not be carefully worked during their breeding season. This bird is both local and erratic in its breeding distribution, and should be watched for in meadows and low fields.

LYNDS JONES, *Oberlin, Ohio.*

FIELD NOTES FROM BERWYN, PENN.—The cold, wet and late spring of 1907 not only played havoc with our migration averages, but not unnaturally affected the periods of song and nesting. I noticed a male American Redstart as late as June 9th, fly down to our stable steps and from there to the water trough, and after a moment flash past me to the spruce hedge. This species, so far as I know, has never nested in the county, yet it was seen and heard up to the 17th of June, a pretty late date for a non-breeder, when it is taken into consideration that we look for its reappearance on its autumnal migration soon after the last of July.

I must mention a most curious incident occurring at the residence of Mr. John A. Brown, near Devon. On the north side of the house, facing a grove quite close to the rear, a large plate glass window reflects the woods so perfectly that a person would think he was looking into its cool depth, especially during those dull, cheerless days. This illusion frequently deceived the birds. Mr. McCarthy, who brought me for identification a Kentucky Warbler killed by flying against this glass, informed me that they picked up dead birds almost every day under the window, especially Oven-birds; also Cat-birds, Magnolia, and other migrating Warblers.

On the 6th day of July, while I was taking snapshots from a window at the wary House Sparrows visiting one of my bird boxes, I unintentionally killed a Robin in its flight to feed a brood of young located in this sparrow-infested box, twenty-five feet in the air. The upper portion of one side of an apartment had become detached, and, much to my surprise, utilized by this bird. I am glad to say that the mate proved faithful and brought up the young, which were a second brood. On August 5th a brood of young Flickers left the locust tree, and on the 9th the last brood of Swifts left the chimney