

GENERAL NOTES

TENNESSEE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

October marked the close of the first year's work of this association and the results were quite up to expectations. A great deal of field work has been done and the status of a great many of the rarer birds has been put on a definite basis. Lack of time and opportunities have prevented observations on other species whose distinction is still much in question. Local lists have been secured from observers, chiefly in the central part of the state, and revisions and additions to these in future is part of the working plan. Arrangement has been made with the State Department of Fish and Game to finance the publication of several bulletins. A number of new members have been added during the year and efforts have been made to standardize their observations along systematic lines.

The pleasure and recreation afforded by bird study is being advanced as a substitute for the hunting and killing of game birds. Two full page illustrated bulletins to this end have been prepared and published simultaneously in the Sunday editions of the leading newspapers of the state. Meetings or outings have been held semi-monthly except during the summer months. Several joint outing trips have been taken to localities which appeared to offer special faunal variations.

The first annual meeting was held October 20, in Nashville, and the following officers were elected: Prof. A. C. Webb, president; Judge H. T. Hughes, vice-president; Dr. G. R. Mayfield, secretary-treasurer; A. F. Ganier, curator. New members elected at this time were H. A. Cummins, Prof. E. C. Davis, H. E. Myers, J. T. Shaver, Dr. R. M. Strong, and H. S. Vaughn. The curator reported that the study collection of skins, now embracing over one hundred and seventy species of Tennessee birds, was available for the use of the members. The publication of the list of the birds of the state was postponed for a year pending the securing of more definite data on certain species.

The interest shown by a good percentage of the members of the Society is such that its permanency seems assured.

A. F. GANIER.

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"INCUBATION PERIOD OF KILLDEER."

In the September, 1916, number of the Wilson Bulletin, under the above caption, Mr. J. M. Bates describes the nesting of a Kill-