

NOTES FROM HILLSBORO, OHIO

CANADA GOOSE—Four have wintered in the eastern part of the county, arriving about the first of December. These formerly common migrants have changed their migration routes in recent years, very few ever being seen here.

WILSON SNIFE—Sportsmen report seeing this bird throughout the winter season. December 25, 1922, one at Berryville, Ohio; December 27, 1921, three at Berryville, Ohio; December 25, 1920, one at McCoppin's mill.

MOURNING DOVE—Two droves of 100 each January 20. Droves of five to twenty hover around feeding grounds throughout the winter.

BLACK VULTURE—A drove of Black Vultures have taken up their permanent abode on the George Carlisle farm several miles from Hillsboro. During the summer the drove is increased by the Turkey Vulture. A few of the Turkey Vulture remain throughout the winter. The Turkey Vulture is a permanent resident in small numbers in several parts of the county.

ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK—On account of depredations on his chicken yard a farmer set his trap and caught one of these hawks on December 2, 1917. Two had been in the vicinity about a month. During the months of December, 1922, and January, 1923, two have been in the western part of the county.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER—A larger number than usual have remained here during the winter.

CROW—From all over the county is reported a great increase in the always large number of Crows wintering here.

MOCKINGBIRD—This bird is not a rare summer resident, nesting twice during the season, and if either is destroyed will build the third nest. In all nests found in this section a layer of moss is placed between the coarser twigs and inner lining. The one staying in the vicinity this winter does not wish to share his tree with any other bird. The smaller ones vacate when he flies in and if the larger linger he puts them to flight by force.

ROBINS—Very common this winter. Droves of about 2000 passed over January 8, 11 and 20 about 3:30 p. m.

BLUEBIRDS—More common this winter than usual.

KATIE M. ROADS.

Hillsboro, O., Feb. 5, 1923.

BOB-WHITE INCREASING

It is pleasant to note the rapid increase in the numbers of the Bob-white in Iowa. For many years this bird was almost exterminated, but, thanks to a long closed hunting season, it has become abundant in all regions. Every roadside willow hedge, thicket, and bushy place seems to have its flock of Bob-whites in the winter season. The sight of a flock (which is frequently large) of the little fellows huddling in the snow is an interesting one, and is especially pleasing in a state where resident game birds are not numerous. Everywhere there are reports of the growing abundance of Bob-white. Sometimes, though, a farmer will say that some hunter has "cleaned up" his flock of "Quails" that he had long been

watching on his land, usually near his cornfield. The farmer appreciates and loves the Quail, and these illegal killings are very unfortunate.

Under the present Iowa law, the Bob-white is protected until 1927. In my paper on "The Prairie Chicken in East Central Iowa," published in the June, 1922, Wilson Bulletin, I stated that the Iowa law also protected the latter bird until that year. This is an error. The closed shooting season on the Prairie Chicken ended in 1922 and the bird may now be hunted during the three fall months of each year.

Winthrop, Iowa, Jan. 23, 1923.

FRED J. PIERCE.

SOME MIGRATION NOTES FROM OBERLIN, OHIO

This is the 28th year that careful records have been kept of the migrations of the birds at this station. A study of the records for this period brings out clearly the fact that at least the early migrants are profoundly influenced in their movements by temperature. Without going into detail on this point now, because I hope to present a study of the facts in the near future, it may suffice now to tell very briefly what effect the past two open winters have had on the first movements of these two years. The first movement in 1922 was on February 22, when crow, robin, bluebird, killdeer, song sparrow, Canada goose, meadowlark, bronzed grackle, red-winged blackbird, mourning dove, and greater scaup duck appeared. In this first "wave" there were mixed together all of the species of the first and second groups except the northern flicker and the towhee. The mild winter had made it possible for most, if not all, of the members of the second group to spend the winter well north, probably in Ohio, and the first warm spell caused them to move with the species of the first group. There was no other movement until March 5, when northern flickers and towhee came. The third movement began on March 12, and therefore is later than the limits of this note.

In 1923 the first indication of migratory movements occurred on February 23, when the crows began to forgather. This was followed on the 25th by the arrival of robins, bluebirds, meadowlarks, and song sparrows, and possibly cowbirds, because they were found on the 28th in considerable numbers. On the 2d killdeers arrived, and on the 3d bronzed grackles, northern flickers, red-winged blackbirds, rusty blackbirds, and fox sparrow, and on the 4th mourning dove, mallard, and canvas-back. Again the mixing of the second and first groups, with a smattering of the third group species can only mean that the mild winter made it possible for many birds to spend the winter well north of their usual range. Reports from down state bear this contention out. The most severe weather of the winter occurred just prior to the time of the first movement.

LYNDS JONES.

Oberlin, Ohio.

Mr. Roscoe J. Webb of Garrettsville, Ohio, sent to the editor a specimen of the Myrtle Warbler that had been killed by a cat in Windham, Portage County, on December 7, 1922. Mrs. H. J. Alford of Windham, sent the specimen to Mr. Webb with the particulars of its capture. This is the latest date for this warbler for northern Ohio.