

and about 125 Little Blue Herons. On the following day fifteen American Egrets were seen near the mouth of the Skunk River in Des Moines County. The last American Egret seen was on September 15, just above Muscatine. It should be added that all the Little Blue Herons were in the white plumage. This increase in numbers of these two species of southern herons in Iowa is probably due mainly to E. A. McIlhenny's work on Avery Island, and it is reasonable to expect even greater numbers of these birds, with a good sprinkling of Snowy Egrets and other herons, in the next few years.—WM. YOUNG WORTH, *Sioux City, Iowa.*

Some Bird Notes from Belmont County, Ohio.—The following birds were seen at the Belmont Hills County Club grounds, in Belmont County, Ohio, by Victor Kehrer and myself, on August 26 and September 2, 1934.

Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus* subsp.). Seen on September 2. Apparently a new record for Belmont County, although this species is a common migrant in other parts of the region.

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus* subsp.). Observed on September 2, as it dove into the lake for a fish. Although this species is not known to nest in this region, a fisherman reported to us that this bird had been at the lake for at least six weeks previous to the time we saw it. This species is a rather rare migrant for this region.

Pigeon Hawk (*Falco columbarius* subsp.). Seen on August 26 at close range, as it flew over the lake which is on these grounds. I believe this to be the first record for this species in Belmont County, and for the region as well.

Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*). This species is very common at Belmont Hills, nesting there each year. This seems surprising, since the same species rarely breeds in the West Virginia Panhandle, but thirteen miles away.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*). Seen on August 26. Probably a new record for Belmont County. Apparently an early migrant. Although I realize the difficulty in distinguishing between this species and the Acadian Flycatcher, I am positive this bird was a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher. At a distance of ten feet, we saw through 4x glasses the yellow throat, buffish-yellow breast and yellow belly. The bird was smaller than an Acadian Flycatcher.

Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon albifrons* subsp.). Two seen on August 26. This bird is considered a rare migrant in this region.—THOS. E. SHIELDS, *Oglebay Park, Wheeling, W. Va.*

Some Bird Tragedies.—In the spring of 1924, while passing a nest of my favorite bird, the Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna magna*), I noticed a common Hog-nosed Snake (*Heterodon platyrhinus*) with a six-inch distention in the center of the body. Picking the reptile up and giving it a number of shakes caused it to regurgitate three young Meadowlarks. Last spring on one of my nature rambles at West Point, Illinois, my attention was drawn to the nest of a pair of House Wrens (*Troglodytes aedon aedon*) by the alarm notes of the owners. Upon making an investigation I found it necessary to remove a Garter Snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis*) from the nest, while the process of digesting five young wrens continued uninterrupted.

The following casualties may also interest my readers. As a Mallard (*Anas p. platyrhynchos*) duckling floated near my place of concealment, it failed under the guidance of its mother to escape being captured by a Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperi*) that dropped from above and snatched it from the surface of the

water. A Killdeer (*Oxyechus v. vociferus*) feeding under my observation was instantly killed when it ran its head into a steel trap that some trapper had placed along the shore of a small stream and failed to recover. A brood of Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*) that I had banded, after being tortured in an insect-infested nest, leaped to their watery grave below. Mr. Charles Guthrie of West Point, Illinois, told me that he placed a cover on a chimney at his home one spring and the following September removed it and found the skeletons of several Chimney Swifts (*Chaetura pelagica*) in the chimney well. Mr. Nor Roe of Dallas City, Illinois, informs me that a Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) last spring flew into a window at his home. Upon questioning Mr. Roe I learned that a shade had been pulled down, forming a mirror in which the bird saw its image. A Chimney Swift which had been banded (No. 687741) by me at West Point, Illinois, on September 9, 1932, was killed when it struck a wire near Stillwell, Illinois, on May 18, 1933. Stillwell is a little more than two miles from the place where the bird was banded.—LAWRENCE E. HUNTER, *Dallas City, Ill.*

Migration of Hawks in Wisconsin.—Supplementing the article by Ralph Beebe, "Influence of the Great Lakes on the Migration of Birds" (WILSON BULLETIN, XLV, No. 3, p. 118), the following notations may be of interest. Similar observations of bird migrations have been carried on rather intensively by a group of Milwaukee ornithologists since 1921 at the mouth of Bar Creek, Sheboygan County, Wisconsin, about forty miles north of Milwaukee.

Mr. Beebe indicates that the flight of raptors is well developed at Whitefish Point on Lake Superior and crosses Northern Michigan through Luce and Schoolcraft Counties to follow the north and west shore of Lake Michigan. Personal observation shows the route to continue through Door County, Wisconsin, and along the shore so that as far south as the vicinity of Bar Creek it is very narrowly defined in an air highway from a quarter to half a mile wide.

At Bar Creek the flight of raptors is sometimes most spectacular. On numerous occasions censuses of hawks have been made of which the following notes are examples:

September 25, 1921. H. L. Stoddard and the writer took counts of the number of hawks passing a certain point for five-minute periods. Eight such counts were made during the day and the average number of birds per hour calculated. A reasonably conservative estimate indicated that 2,040 hawks passed between 8:00 A. M. and 4:00 P. M. These were largely Sharp-shinned Hawks and Cooper's Hawks, although nine species were listed.

November 2, 1924. With L. Friedman, the writer noted approximately 300 hawks, mainly Buteo, seen from 7:30 A. M. to 11:30 A. M. Ten species were listed.

September 28, 1930. Flight of hawks, mainly Broad-winged, but including thirteen species of raptors. Four counts for fifteen-minute periods during the day, averaged, gave a very conservative estimate of 5,280 birds passing a given point.

October 1, 1933. M. Deusing, O. J. Gromme, and the writer made an approximate count of 2,200 migrating hawks. Twelve species were noted.

These are fair indications of the number of birds that pass at this point along the west shore of Lake Michigan. Hawks drift through from September 10 to November 5 and of course vary in abundance from year to year. Two or three miles back from the lake, the flight is practically absent, indicating how narrow and well defined the lane of flight is.