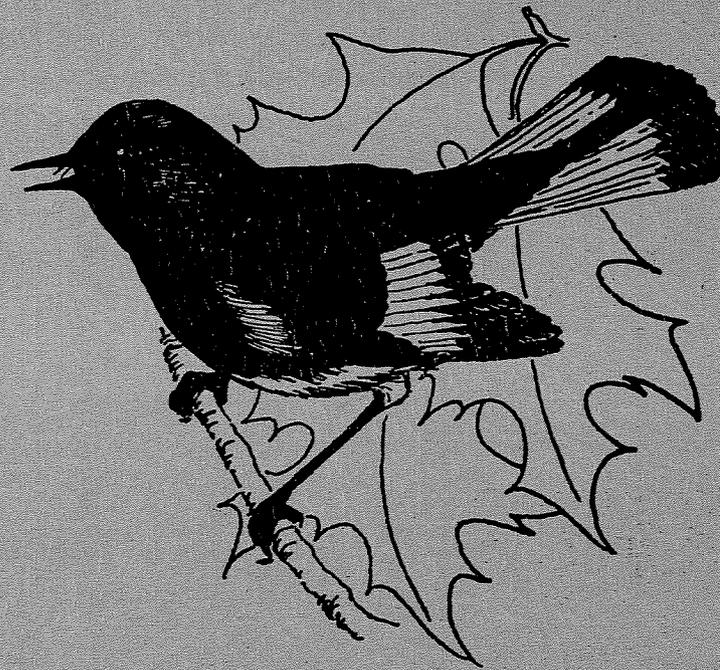


The REDSTART

Volume 36—Number 2

April, 1969



PUBLISHED BY THE BROOKS BIRD CLUB

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FOUNDED SEPTEMBER 1932

Named in honor of A. B. Brooks, Naturalist

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THE REDSTART is published quarterly in January, April, July and October by Harless Printing Company, St. Albans, West Virginia. The official organ of the Brooks Bird Club, it is mailed to all members in good standing. Non-member subscription price is \$2.50. Individual copies cost \$0.50 except the Foray issue which is \$1.00. Changes of address and inquiries concerning back issues should be mailed to club headquarters, 707 Warwood Avenue, Wheeling, West Virginia. All articles for publication and books for review should be mailed to the Editor.

THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE WEST VIRGINIA BIRD LIST

George A. Hall

Nearly a quarter of a century has elapsed since the species of birds known to occur in West Virginia have been cataloged (Brooks, 1944), and it may well be that the amount of ornithological work done in the state in the intervening time has exceeded all that had been done prior to 1944. It is well past time for a reassessment of the birds of the state to be made.

There have been a great many changes in status, distribution, and population since Brooks' list was published, but the analysis of these changes remains to be done. This paper will discuss the total number of species that have been recorded in the state to the present and will bring together in one place the scattered data on the additions to the 1944 list.

Brooks listed a total of 311 forms on his main list and included nine others in a hypothetical list. However, if we apply the practices of the present to this list we find that 283 species of birds had been found in the state prior to 1944. This reduction of 28 comes from removing the 23 additional subspecies that were given a full place on the list, as was the general custom in 1944; one hybrid, the so-called Brewster's Warbler¹; two species, Gray Partridge (*Perdix perdix*) and Sharp-tailed Grouse (*Pediacetes phasianellus*) which were unsuccessful introductions by the Conservation Commission; and two cases where current taxonomic opinion has combined species. In 1944 there were considered to be two species of Grackle, *Quiscalus quiscula* and *Quiscalus versicolor*, but today these are held to be conspecific. At the present the Blue Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) and the Snow Goose (*Chen hyperborea*) are also considered to be conspecific.

Since 1944 nine species have been added to the state list on the basis of specimens collected.

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)—This species was first reported in the state from near Charleston in May 1967 (Anon., 1967). In the fall of 1967 R. and M. Brooks saw one near Hodgesville, Upshur County. The first specimen was one shot by a hunter in Preston County in early December 1967. This specimen is preserved in the Forestry Division of West Virginia University.

King Eider (*Somateria spectabilis*)—An immature male was shot by some boys near Huntington on November 28, 1953. The specimen is preserved in the zoology museum of Marshall University (Edeburn, 1954).

Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*)—An injured bird of this species was seen near Benwood on September 28, 1967 and found dead the following day. The specimen is preserved in the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pa. (Conrad, 1968).

Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius*)—A dead bird of this species was picked up at Oglebay Park, Ohio County on November 4, 1961 after having been seen alive the preceding day. This specimen is also preserved in the Carnegie Museum (Breiding, 1962). Another individual was present near Charleston from September 29 to October 7, 1964. This bird was netted, banded and photographed by C.O. Handley, Sr. (Hall, 1965).

Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*)—A dead bird was found near St. Albans on September 14, 1963. It was turned over to C.O. Handley, Sr. who prepared the skin which is preserved in the U.S. National Museum, Washington, (Shreve, 1964).

Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*)—A recently killed bird was found near Dunlow,

1. For the purposes of the present paper Sutton's Warbler (*Dendroica potomac*) will be considered to be a good species, although the precise status of this bird is as much a mystery in 1968 as it was in 1944.

Wayne, County on October 25, 1953. The bird was turned over to Edeburn and is preserved in the zoology museum of Marshall University (Edeburn, 1964). Brooks (1944) had this species as hypothetical.

Black-billed Magpie (*Pica pica*)—Brooks had carried this species on the hypothetical list on the basis of an individual seen near Huntington in 1938 which may have been an escape. A few years later another escaped bird was collected at Huntington. The first specimen, not definitely known to have been an escape, was collected near Morgantown on May 5, 1960 and is preserved in the West Virginia University Museum (Dickens, 1960). In 1961 members of the B.B.C. Foray discovered a nest of this species in the Canaan Valley, Tucker County. The known facts of the small population that existed in Canaan Valley for a few years have been discussed in detail by Burns (1961). While this population is now thought to have been extirpated, there have been several unconfirmed reports of the species in that same area in recent years.

Lark Bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*)—One was seen by W.R. DeGarmo near Charleston on January 1, 1949 and was collected by Handley a few days later. This specimen is preserved in the Museum of Zoology of the University of Michigan (Handley, pers. comm.). During December 1966 and January 1967 one was present at Maurice Brooks' feeding station in Morgantown. Handley netted and banded one at Lewisburg on May 9, 1967 (Handley, 1967).

Sharp-tailed Sparrow—This species was added to the West Virginia list by K.W. Haller who collected two on September 20, 1948 and one on October 1, 1948 at Beech Bottom Swamp, Brooke County. These specimens are preserved in the Carnegie Museum (Haller, 1949). There are three additional sight records: Brooks (1953) reports one seen near Silver Lake, Preston County on September 26, 1953 and one seen near Kingwood the same fall. One was seen by several observers at the McClintic Wildlife Station, Mason County on November 10, 1965 (Shreve, 1966).

Several other species have been reported from the state on the basis of sight records. Since none of these records can ever be checked a strict standard would relegate them all to hypothetical status. However, a few of them seem to be fully authentic records. The criteria for evaluating sight records have not been rigidly formulated, nor can they be. Each record must be evaluated on its own basis in light of numerous considerations. I have tried to maintain a fairly high standard in accepting these records. No record has been accepted for which full substantiating details were not reported. No record has been accepted if reported by only one person at one time, or by one small group of observers, most of whom were inexperienced bird students. In most cases the species that have been placed on the list are represented either by numerous reports over several years or by reports made by numbers of observers, most of whom were familiar with the species concerned.

Since 1944 six species have been added to the state list on the basis of acceptable sight records.

European Widgeon (*Mareca penelope*)—Brooks placed this species on the hypothetical list on the basis of several sight records from Lake Lynn, Monongalia County. Since that time there have been two additional sight records; March 8-13, 1952 on the Ohio River near Huntington and April 1, 1960 at the McClintic Wildlife Station, Mason County by R. Kletzly (Edeburn et al., 1960). The Land brothers reported one from Gallia County, Ohio and the writer has found it in Garrett County, Maryland and Fayette County, Penna. All of these last records were within a very few miles of the West Virginia border. There seems to be little doubt that the species has occurred in the state.

Forster's Tern (*Sterna forsteri*)—Hugh and Holwell Land saw two at Huntington on

November 3, 1951 (Edeburn et al., 1960) and C.O. Handley saw two at Charleston on September 30, 1955 (Hall, 1955).

Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrulus*)—Several were seen by Brooks on February 22, 1953 at Morgantown. These birds were later seen by other observers and another flock was seen near Clarksburg at about the same time (Hall, 1953). Since that time Brooks has had at least one other sight record, and the species was reported on at least two other occasions in the Morgantown region (Brooks, pers. comm., Wright, 1963).

Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*)—A large group of observers, five of whom had had previous experience with the species studied an individual of this species for some time on May 21, 1961 near Harpers Ferry. (Hall, 1963). There have been tentative song records for this species from Lincoln, Marshall, and Tucker Counties (Hall, op. cit).

Green-tailed Towhee (*Chlorura chlorura*)—A bird of this species came to the feeding station of the B. Kiffs in Ona from December 19, 1957 to April 17, 1958. During that time it was seen by many observers and identification was fully confirmed (Edeburn et al., 1960).

Harris Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*)—A bird of this species spent the winter of 1964-65 coming to the feeding station at Brooks' residence in Morgantown. It was seen by all the bird students of that region. Since that time the species has been reported almost annually during winter in the Charleston region (see Laitsch, 1967, 1968).

Thus as of this writing 298 full species have unquestionable places on the state list. There are two additional species in a borderline situation. The report of the Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*) (Brooks, 1945) has not been included since it was a report made by a single observer on a single occasion. There have been several reports of Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) made from time to time, but most of these have not had many details published and in view of the difficulty of identifying this species it seems best to reject it, although it is a species which is expanding its range eastward. During the period covered by this report there have been reports made of Eared Grebe (*Podiceps caspicus*), Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*), Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*), Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*), Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*), and Northern Shrike (*Lanius excubitor*). All of these reports fail to meet the requirements for acceptability but are listed here in the event that other reports of these species are made in the future.

There have been many reports of the so-called Oregon Junco (*Junco oreganus*) in recent years. One was collected in Charleston on March 19, 1956 (Handley, in litt.) and one was banded by the writer at Morgantown on January 28, 1964. However, present day taxonomic opinion considers that all the juncos found north of southern Arizona are conspecific and so these records must be considered to represent only a well marked subspecies of *Junco hyemalis* (with a suggested common name of Dark-eyed Junco).

Recently it has been suggested (Stein, 1963) that two structurally very similar species are involved in the group of birds currently known as Traill's Flycatcher. Stein has proposed that the northern populations which give the *way-be-o* song be called the Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) and the western populations which give the *fitz-bew* song be called the Willow Flycatcher (*E. brewsteri*). Since birds of both song types are well known to occur in West Virginia another species will be added to the list if this view should prove to be generally accepted.

Alexander Wilson collected an Ivory-billed Woodpecker (*Campephilus principalis*) in the Shenandoah Valley between Martinsburg and Winchester. Since it is not possible to determine on which side of the present-day Virginia-West Virginia border this collection was made, Brooks placed this species on the hypothetical list. In 1964 pieces of a bill

of this species were discovered in an Indian burial mound in Marshall County (Parmalee, 1967). These bills were a desirable item of trade among the Indians of eastern United States and so this specimen may have come from far away from West Virginia, and the species will remain on the hypothetical list.

SUMMARY

Since 1944 nine species of birds have been added to the West Virginia state list on the basis of specimens collected and six additional species have been added on the basis of acceptable sight records. At this writing the West Virginia list stands at 298 full species.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

C.O. Handley Sr. and Hugh C. Land kindly supplied me with comments from their unpublished records. Maurice Brooks examined the manuscript and offered suggestions.

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CONTINUATION OF WINTER AND BREEDING BIRD POPULATION STUDIES AT
 OGLEBAY PARK
 Glen Phillips

This is the third of a series of studies to document the winter and breeding bird populations of Oglebay Park. The territory studied this year (1968) is a portion of the site of many persons' favorite bird walk and has been hallowed by the observations of two generations of students. The present studies are undertaken primarily to record the present conditions and populations so that comparisons can be made in the future to determine the adaptation of certain species to park conditions. Homogeneous study plots of accepted size are almost non-existent in the park, so our efforts are being directed toward studying specific sections of the park regardless of variation in habitat.

LOCATION: A drainage begins near the western entrance to the park on route 88 and extends southward to Waddle's Run. The study plot begins 500 yards south in this drainage and roughly parallels and includes the stream. A bridle trail is used as centerline and a portion of the more meandering Brooks Trail is included within the boundaries. The southern end of this year's study plot coincides with the right-of-way of C. & P. Telephone Co.'s trunk lines across the hollow.

SIZE: 15 acres (rectangular, 110x660 yards, measured longitudinally and estimated laterally).

DESCRIPTION OF AREA: Approximately half the area (west of the centerline) is mature deciduous woodland typical of many hillsides in northwestern W. Va. The trees are 8" to 36" D.B.H. and the canopy varies from 60-100 feet in height. Species include Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*), White Oak (*Quercus alba*), Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*), American Elm (*Ulmus americana*), Shagbark Hickory (*Carya ovata*), Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*), Tulip-Poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*), White Ash (*Fraxinus americana*), and Black Locust (*Robinia Pseudo-Acacia*). Approximately 30 to 40% of the plot is forested with evergreens including an old nursery. These evergreens include White Pine (*Pinus Strobus*), Blue Spruce (*Picea Menziesii*), Arbor Vitae (*Thuja occidentalis*), Scotch Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), Red Pine (*Pinus resinosa*), and Douglas Fir (*Pseudotsuga taxifolia*). Scattered among the deciduous trees are many Hemlocks (*Tsuga canadensis*), 20 to 30 feet high. There is some uncertainty as to whether these hemlocks are native or were planted during the 1930s. Present vegetation indicates that much of the portion east of the centerline was a meadow when the park was a farm and that the evergreens were introduced and are obviously not as mature as the trees west of the centerline. The canopy is closed over all but a small portion of the centerline itself, and the understory is sparse over 75% of the area. The northern section (from the intersection of Brooks Trail) has more shrubbery and is more open, partly because some dead trees were removed for park use in 1966. Included in the understory are the following species: Barberry (*Berberis Thunbergii*), Dogwood (*Cornus florida*), Privet (*Ligustrum sp.*), Poison Ivy (*Rhus radicans*), Greenbrier (*Smilax rotundifolia*), Blackberries (*Rubus sp.*), Wild Grape (*Vitis sp.*), Highbush-Cranberry (*Viburnum trilobum*), Indian-currant or Coralberry (*Symphoricarpos orbiculatus*), Wild Hydrangea (*Hydrangea arborescens*), and Wild Rose (*Rosa sp.*). Ground cover included: Goldenrod (*Solidago sp.*), White Snakeroot (*Eupatorium rugosum*), Aster (*Aster sp.*), Christmas Fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*), Spring-Beauty (*Claytonia virginica*), Cutleaf Toothwort (*Dentaria diphylla*), Ground-Ivy (*Glechoma hederacea*) and Dodder (*Cuscuta Gronovii*).

TOPOGRAPHY: The study plot is oriented about 15 degrees west of north with the centerline and 65% of the area on the west-facing slope (30°) of a hollow or drain eroded by the

brook.

ELEVATION: 1000 to 1100 feet.

EDGE: The plot is bordered by like vegetation, but this border is slender, averaging less than 1/4 mile. To the east are open park grounds and to the west is an open area maintained by Wheeling Country Club.

WINTER COVERAGE: Dec. 1, 1967 to Feb. 28, 1968. Total 26 trips averaging about 1 hour each.

WINTER WEATHER: The longest spell of above-normal temperatures since June 1967 occurred the first three weeks of December. In December the average maximum temperature was 49 degrees—the minimum was 31. The total precipitation was 2.53 inches. However, on December 28, 10 inches of snow fell and a total of approximately 30" of snow fell in January and February. The temperature ranged from a high of 50 on January 31 to a low of 6 on January 8. The area was covered with snow from Dec. 28 to Feb. 5.

SPECIES	WINTER CENSUS	
	AVERAGE COUNT	BIRDS per 100 ACRES
Chickadee	6	40
Downy Woodpecker	2	13
Tufted Titmouse	2	13
Cardinal	2	13
Golden-crowned Kinglet	2	13
White-breasted Nuthatch	1	7
Common Crow	1	7
Myrtle Warbler	1	7
Brown Creeper	1	7
Carolina Wren	1	7
Ruffed Grouse	1	7
Slate-colored Junco	1	7
Sparrow Hawk	+	+
Screech Owl	+	+
Yellow-shafted Flicker	+	+
Pileated Woodpecker	+	+
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	+	+
Hairy Woodpecker	+	+
Blue Jay	+	+
Winter Wren	+	+
Robin	+	+
Hermit Thrush	+	+
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	+	+
American Goldfinch	+	+
Rufous-sided Towhee	+	+
Song Sparrow	+	+
Totals: 26 species, average 21 birds per trip (density 140 birds per 100 acres).		

REMARKS ON WINTER COUNT: One cabin of Camp Russel is within the plot boundaries. There has been no activity here to affect the winter count, but the cabins will be occupied during most of the summer. Not even equestrian traffic has been noted on the trail during the winter months, with the tracks of the census takers being the only unnatural marks in the snow. About January 27, some feed was introduced within 1/4 mile of the study plot by normal park youth programs. There were also two private feeders about

the same distance away from the northern end. An attempt was made to ascertain the food supply being used by the Myrtle Warblers but they were only seen feeding on poison ivy fruits.

WINTER CENSUS TAKERS: George Breiding, Dorothy Broemsen, Charles Conrad, Mr. & Mrs. Gerald DeVaul, Mrs. Wilma Bruhn, James Butler, Duncan McKay, Mrs. Floyd Musser, Dorothy Neuhard, Arthur Dunnell, Glen Phillips, Sam Shaw, Mr. & Mrs. Carl Slater, Henry Stobbs, Mrs. Edward Stumpp, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Temple, Ruth Weller, Earl Vanscoy and Mrs. Edward Vossler.

SUMMER COVERAGE: Between May 26 and June 2, 1968, sixteen trips were made to the area at daylight and dusk, except for four which were made at mid-morning. Total party-hours, 12.

BREEDING BIRD CENSUS

SPECIES	TERRITORIAL MALES	MALES PER 100 ACRES
Tufted Titmouse	3.5	23
Indigo Bunting	3.5	23
Acadian Flycatcher	3.0	20
Rufous-sided Towhee	3.0	20
Red-eyed Vireo	2.5	17
Blue-winged Warbler	2.5	17
Cardinal	2.5	17
Downy Woodpecker	2.0	13
Carolina Chickadee	2.0	13
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	2.0	13
Hooded Warbler	2.0	13
House Wren	1.5	10
Wood Thrush	1.5	10
Catbird	1.0	7
Cerulean Warbler	1.0	7
Kentucky Warbler	1.0	7
Yellow-shafted Flicker	0.5	+
Wood Pewee	0.5	+
Ruffed Grouse	+	+
White-breasted Nuthatch	+	+
Crested Flycatcher	+	+
Louisiana Waterthrush	+	+
American Crow	+	+
Brown-headed Cowbird	+	+
Pileated Woodpecker	+	+
TOTALS: 25 species	35.5	223.

VISITORS: Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Blue Jay, Carolina Wren, Robin, Cedar Waxwing, Black and White Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Yellowthroat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Redstart, Baltimore Oriole, American Goldfinch and Chipping Sparrow.

REMARKS: There was little travel on the bridle path centerline, but rain and cold weather hampered the count. This rain and preceding cold weather probably held up a wave of migrants accounting for the presence of such species as the Blackburnian Warbler and would contribute to the failure to observe any hawks. A nest of the flicker was found and Crows, Downy Woodpeckers and titmice were seen feeding young out of nest. Chickadees

had probably hatched one brood.

CENSUS TAKERS: George Lippert, Duncan McKay, Russell Shelton, Dorothy Broemsen, Mary Ford, George Breiding and Glen Phillips—compiler.

REFERENCES: All scientific names were taken from "Gray's Manual of Botany", Eighth Edition, by Merritt Lyndon Fernald, except Poison Ivy, taken from "Flora of West Virginia" by Strausbaugh and Core, and Blue Spruce and Douglas Fir from "Field Book of American Trees and Shrubs" by F. Schuyler Mathews. Records of previous Oglebay Park population studies may be found in: The Redstart: Vol. 33 ppg. 66; and Audubon Field Notes: Vol. 19 ppg. 628, Vol. 21 ppg. 616. and Vol. 22 ppg. 486 (2 articles).

Triadelphia, W. Va.

TO FIND A KILLDEER'S NEST

The Killdeer returns from the south in late February and March and proceeds immediately to stake out his nesting territory. This is either a semi-barren field with little or no growth, such as a last years cornfield, oatfield, potato field, etc., or a closely cropped pasture, meadow, golf course or airfield, where the grass is short. Here you will see birds sparring or moving about feeding. They keep fairly quiet and to the casual observer are not interested in nesting.

In the semi-barren habitat, a crude nest of small stones is made; in the short grass habitat, no nest is made, the eggs being laid in a natural cavity in the grass. Eggs are laid in Ohio in early April and complete sets of four eggs can be found by the fifteenth. They nest two to three times a season, second sets by May 21st and a third nest in late June or early July.

To find a nest, first locate a breeding pair in March. Next, go to the field in mid-April and proceed into the field keeping a sharp lookout for a running bird. The brooding bird runs rapidly from the nest as soon as she sees you and may be up to 100 ft. away from it, when you first see her. As she runs directly away from you and the nest, it can usually be found by searching back over the area.

She may or may not put on the broken wing act but if she does you can be pretty sure that she has a nest (or young). When she puts on no act (and has a nest), you get the impression that the quietly feeding birds are not nesting. This may be true but often it is a ruse to deceive you. Even when you find the nest of this bird, she continues to make no disturbance.

If, after thoroughly searching the area you can find no nest, return to your parked car and watch the bird return to her nest. This she will generally do in five to ten minutes.

A nest found in a semi-barren field on April 12, 1953, was located in the following manner.

1. Saw good habitat from the road and parked the car.
2. Walked towards the area and saw bird running.
3. Bird made no outcry or crippled bird display.
4. Paid no attention as I walked back and forth until I neared the nest when she came silently towards me.
5. While I was photographing the nest she remained near but kept quiet, not even a faint call, but you could see she was worried.
6. A check showed that she had run about 30 feet from the nest when first seen. She was running diagonally towards higher ground.
7. Male did not put in an appearance.
8. Bird returned to the nest five minutes after I returned to the parked car.

Lyle D. Miller

A BREWSTER'S WARBLER RECORD

On May 16, 1968, Glenn Kitson and I were observing birds in the Hartstown-Pymatuning Lake area in Pennsylvania. Shortly after parking the car at the edge of a gravel road near Hartstown, we heard a buzzy song that sounded like that of a Blue-winged Warbler. But, instead of the usual two syllable song, this was a little different in that a short "buzz" was inserted in the middle of the song so that it was a three syllable song.

Glenn soon located the bird singing about 25 feet up in a tree some fifty feet away. Since it was perched on a dead limb, it was in plain view. My friend cried out, "It's a Golden-wing!" Sure enough, it had golden wing-bars but—the black head and throat markings were missing! A quick check with Peterson's Field Guide convinced us that we had just seen a Brewster's Warbler. We could not determine whether or not the bird had any yellow on the belly or breast; if so, it had very little.

"Birds of the Pymatuning Region", by William C. Grimm (1952) lists two records for Brewster's Warbler and surprisingly enough, both are from the southern or Hartstown area! One by Thomas, was in 1922 when a pair were found nesting; the other was in 1925 when Sutton collected a male.

We did not have a real long list of birds on May 16, but we did have a very interesting bird to add to our life lists.

Merit B. Skaggs

BOOK REVIEW

BIRDS OF PENNSYLVANIA, by Merrill Wood, Associate Professor of Zoology, Pennsylvania State University, April, 1967, 120 pp. ill. by Dorothy L. Bordner, Instructor in Mathematics, aims to "describe the variety of birds in Pennsylvania, their frequency, abundance, seasonal occurrence, habits, and status changes, and their general breeding and wintering ranges." Records were collected mainly by members of the State College Bird Club, and the author has used a fairly adequate list of references, among them Earl L. Poole's *PENNSYLVANIA BIRDS/ An Annotated List*, 1964, with which comparisons can be made.

Merrill Wood's book is a paperback, available from Publications, Box 6000, University Park, Pa., 16802, at \$1.00. Its format is, in my opinion, a drawback, because it is 4-1/2" x 8-1/2" and somehow manages to slip out of your hands. The best way to handle it is to place it on a table and hold it open firmly with both hands. The pages have the text on the inside half, next to the binding, with the outside half used for the scattered pen and ink drawings, leaving many areas of blank space, which could be used for the readers' personal records or notations. Perhaps this explains the idea of those who planned the format. This may appear to be quibbling, but it is the first thing I noticed and was criticized by others who examined the book.

The style is pleasantly readable, the introductory material on the topography of Pennsylvania, climate, migration seasons, number of species, banding, places in the state that are the richest birding areas, and a calendar of birdlife are printed on gray paper, as is the list of references and index at the end. The center core is on white paper, and this contrast is pleasing and distinctive.

After a reasonably adequate perusal, I should say that this book will be most valuable to the residents of the State College area, the central Pa. area, and will satisfy beginning birders, adding very little to the knowledge of the experienced birder. It would encourage

residents of other parts of the state to visit the choice spots around University Park, Pa. It is not meant to be an identification guide like Peterson's guides or that of Robbins, Bruun, and Zim, *BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA*.

Dr. Earl Poole of the Reading, Pa. Public Museum published his book for the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club in 1964, as a foretaste of the much more detailed and comprehensive work on birds of the entire state of Pa. which he is preparing for publication in the future, with 2500 pp. already finished in 1964. His is a hardback, available from Livingston Publishing Co., Narberth, Pa. at \$4.00. It is more technical, was illustrated by the author, has maps of Life Zones of Pa. and Physiographic Divisions on the end papers, and a section of distributional maps of breeding localities of more than 30 species. It was extremely difficult for the author to condense his wealth of research material to the 100 pp. of this very attractive Annotated List. His finished work should be worth waiting for eagerly. Poole concentrates mainly on the southeastern area of Pa.

A frank appraisal by a Pennsylvania birder of at least average experience would be that Brooks Bird Club members will not long to own either of these books, but that in planning any similar effort for West Virginia birds, they would do well to examine these two books and profit by their good features and avoid any of their faults or inadequacies.

Katherine Sigel

SPRING SNOW STORM AND BIRDS

Spring snow storms constitute a real hardship to many of our migrant birds. When two to four inches of snow blankets the ground and the temperature drops to 18°, or 20°F as it did during Easter week in 1964, birds are unable to get at their normal food and flock to feeding stations. There they contend with the regular customers such as the Juncos, Tree Sparrows and the ever present House Sparrows.

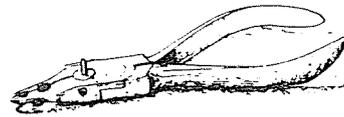
On Easter Monday, a brightly plumaged male Towheecame to feed in the early morning. Ten or more Goldfinches dropped down to pick up grain and sunflower seeds. Three small finches were heavily striped and identified as the first Pine Siskins in 15 years on our feeding shelf.

On Tuesday, March 31, more snow fell. We were surprized to see a male Robin eating cracked corn! Evidently he had to eat this to keep from starving. We put some apples, cut into small pieces, on the ground but the Starlings likely got most of this more acceptable food.

We were pleased to see at least three Fox Sparrows on the ground at one time. They scratched the ground in a manner very similar to that used by White-throated Sparrows. But, best of all, the Fox Sparrows sang in our yard for more than a week. The song is very hard to describe but is sweet and different from any other bird song that we have heard.

Marion and Merit Skaggs

The Gathering Cage



Constance Katholi, Editor
930 Woodland Ave.,
South Charleston, W. Va.

Columbus, Ohio

The year ended with 14,309 additional bands on the way from here to there, mostly on blackbird tarsi. The policy of turning in banding schedules every time you handle a few hundred birds has been a big help. Formerly we let them go until the end of the year and then went through a schizophrenic episode.

With the 1968 data complete we are now taking a comprehensive look at the tendency-to-repeat mentioned in earlier editions of this column. The past year's sample comprises 3500 repeats, and the 1965 sample involves 2800 repeats. The two samples agree surprisingly well with reference to species differences. The effect of contaminating variables such as breeding season or youngsters in the population has been pretty well minimized. It seems pretty clear now that Grackles do the most repeating followed by Cowbirds, Red-wings and Starlings in that order. The explanation for this trend is something else again but differences in personality are certainly an important element. The editor of some journal will be spending an evening with this presently. Our study of aggressiveness (rating scale) will appear in the next issue of the *Ohio Journal of Science*.

Here's one for the live-happily-ever after department: Two Grackles banded on the same day repeated on the same day three years later. More details forthcoming in *EBBA News*.

Harold E. Burt

Clarksville, Pennsylvania

In the fall of 1968 Aaron Bagg of Dover, Massachusetts, stated that Black-capped Chickadees appeared to be on the move south-westward in considerable numbers. This has proved to be correct: and the following is one small contributory piece of evidence.

On the morning of Jan. 27, 1969, a Black-capped Chickadee with a foreign band was captured here at Clarksville in a single-celled trap baited with sunflower seed. Since I knew Mr. Bagg was making a special study of this particular chickadee migration, I reported the capture to him, asking if he knew who might have banded this bird. I received a letter immediately from Mr. Bagg saying that he had written several banders in the New England area who handled large numbers of chickadees in the hope of finding the answer. One bander whom he contacted was John Weske of Maryland. John called the Banding Office at nearby Laurel and learned that the chickadee in question had been banded by James Baird of Littleton, Massachusetts. Mr. Weske then notified Mr. Bagg, who called Mr. Baird. Mr. Baird said that although his records were at the office of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, he believed this chickadee was one banded at Littleton in September 1968. On February 12, Mr. Bagg called me to relate these facts. Consequently, within a very few days after the capture of the foreign chickadee, I knew most of the desired information—thus proving what I have said all along: that birders are a wonderful, dedicated group of people, and it is great to be associated with such a fine team.

This southwestward movement of Black-capped Chickadees from the New England states to this area (on certain migration years) was revealed earlier when a bird banded at Powdermill Nature Reserve, Rector, Pennsylvania, on April 11, 1964 was recovered at Greenbush, Maine on Feb. 13, 1966 by Mr. Round.

I would like to take this opportunity to ask other banders in the tri-state area if they will cooperate in trying to find out more about the movements of the Barn Swallow in this area. During the period 1958-1964 I banded many nestlings of this species in barns in our county and in the southeast corner of adjoining Washington County. Nets were set up in our yard to try and catch these banded nestlings after they left their nests. Eleven recaptures (picked at random) were selected from those recaptured and the elapsed time from date of banding until date of capture in our yard nets was 28.8 days. One had been banded in a barn 16 air-miles away, and 2 from a barn 12 miles away. When captured in our yard nets, these immatures were flying around the country side picking up insects and gaining strength and experience before heading for South America.

Enough migrating Barn Swallows have been observed the past two summers to conclude that most Barn Swallows migrate both west and southwest through this area enroute to their wintering grounds. During the past ten years an average of over 700 Barn Swallows per year have been banded here. If banders in the tri-state area could find a barn with several active nests, and put up some nets near the barn during July and August, perhaps some of these banded birds could be recaptured. John Morgan at Charleroi, Pa. put up nets in the spring of 1967 and the first Barn Swallow he captured was one that had been banded here at Clarksville three years before.

Ralph Bell

Hartland Farm, Lewisburg, W. Va.

March 12, 1969. "I have banded only half-heartedly since the first of the year, because it was too cold most of the time. However, I had 11 to 15 traps set on part, or all, of ten days; banded 43 new birds, and took 10 returns,—8 of these were banded in '68, and one each in '66 and '67. The new birds included 15 Song Sparrows, 9 White-crowned, 7 Tree, 1 Vesper, 2 Juncos, 2 Blue Jays, 2 Black-capped Chickadees, 2 Titmice, and 3 Cardinals. And this just about exhausted the banding possibilities on Hartland Farm! Nevertheless this represented an increase over last winter (for certain species), when I knew of only 4 Song Sparrows wintering, and no other species of sparrows at all. Most of the bird, residents of a rose hedge across the back of the farm, were taken at a new station nearby, a quarter of a mile from my home station. It was there that I trapped the Vesper Sparrow on March 6, after having first observed him on February 1. It is my first winter record for this species in Greenbrier County.

Several facts of some interest came to light when I summarized my 1968 banding efforts. Of the 276 Grackles banded in 1967, 43 (15.6%) were retaken in the banding area in 1968. Of the 192 Song Sparrows banded in 1967, 23 (12%) were retaken in 1968. Also one banded in 1966 was a return. The total returns in 1968 were 24.

Charley Handley

Inwood, West Virginia

I received a phone call on September 19, 1968 from Mr. Ray Harris, a member of the faculty of Shepherdstown College, telling me of an unusual bird which was frequenting the home yard of another faculty member, Mr. Romano, near Shepherdstown, W. Va. Arrangements were made to meet Mr. Harris that afternoon and go to the Romano home

to see if the bird could be located. We arrived there about 5:30 p.m. but the bird was not there. We were told that it was usually seen in the morning,—only rarely in the afternoon. The bird was described as "a white-throated cardinal with a bright red top-knot, a red bib, slate-blue wings and back." The Romanos and their five children had moved to this home on the first of September. A few days later their eleven year old son, Mike, had discovered "a very odd kind of bird", but it was several days longer before he could convince the rest of the family.

Plans were made to return with nets the following Sunday to try to capture it. On that occasion a few nets were placed near the feeder where the bird fed. While waiting for the bird to appear, we looked in a number of bird-books with the Romano family for pictures resembling the bird in question, but we did not find any. About 9.45 a.m. Mike discovered the bird coming towards the feeder. I got a fairly good look at it in the trees, and I also observed it on the ground for about three minutes. Their description had been very accurate. Due to a previous experience with an albino junco, my thought was that it might be a partial albino, or a cardinal (*Richmondia Cardinalis*) of mixed pigmentation. I was very interested in capturing it to see just what it was, but the nets were too exposed, and the bird, too wily to get caught. Another commitment made it necessary to leave at noon, but I gave my promise to return.

Press of business prevented my return for sometime, but in the interim a trap with a solenoid-tripped door was constructed with the thought that it might prove more profitable than the nets. Early in November Mr. Herman Postelthwaite of Harpers Ferry stopped by; I told him about the bird, described the location of the Romano home, and urged him to stop to look at it. The bird was more tame by now, as the Romano's kept their feeder full of sunflower seed. Mr. Postelwaite looked the bird over carefully and decided that it was not a "mixed-up plumaged cardinal" but a bird in its rightful plumage. After going home he too researched and found it in *The World of Birds* by James Fisher and Roger Tory Peterson. (Although we had looked through this book in September, we had missed the picture.) The bird was a Red-crested Cardinal (*Paroaria coronata*), a native of Brazil.

On November 10 the trap was installed in the Romano's yard and on November 11 the bird was caught. I brought the captured bird to my home and took pictures of it held in the hand. It was assumed that the bird was an escaped caged bird, and we were concerned whether it could survive the winter in our climate. I telephoned Chandler Robbins to tell him about the capture and to ask his opinion of survival chances. Mr. Robbins thought the bird would make out all right if it had plenty of food. The bird was banded, returned to the Romano home, and released on Wednesday, November 13. We stopped at the Romano's on our Christmas Count, and the bird seemed in fine shape,—and it is still there. (March 20).

Where it came from is unknown. There are reports that this species was introduced into Hawaii, and is plentiful there; additionally, that some of them are being smuggled to the U.S.A. There are also reports that several Red-crested Cardinals have been observed in Maryland. Will this species of cardinal become common in the United States? If so, this bird is no doubt the first for West Virginia.

Clark Miller

South Charleston, W. Va.

After five years Purple Finch, #70-49810, an adult male returned to me on Feb. 10, 1969, i.e. back to the station where he was banded on March 31, 1964, as an adult (by courtesy)

of unknown sex, although color flecks indicated that he might develop the rosy plumage of a male. At least in his second calendar year at that time, he is now "going on" six years old. This is the second Purple Finch to return to me on West Virginia wintering grounds; previously #56-97887 checked in after a lapse of two years (April 1966 to January 1968). In the intervening year, 1967, I believe we experienced only a minor influx of winter finches in the area. Accustomed as I am to the regular return of such species as White-throated Sparrows to the same winter quarters, I am still surprised when it occurs with such erratic travellers as these finches.

In the same vein, I received recently a recovery card for a Myrtle Warbler which I banded here in March 1964. It was found dead in the fall of 1967 near a feeder on Highland Avenue, less than half an air-mile away. This was missing the target by only a very little bit! But perhaps the most significant fact to be noted is the revelation of longevity for this small, highly migratory species.

Connie Katholi

PIGEON HAWK AT CHARLESTON

From about September 30 to October 4, 1968 at Middle Ridge, near Charleston, a Pigeon Hawk, or Merlin, was observed. It was first noticed harassing a flock of migrating flickers and jays. A band of twenty-five Starlings offered it some exercise, too.

Most other species of hawks will drop into cover when seriously outnumbered by small birds, but not this wonderful bird. It would perch on a dead snag, fully exposed, and at once become rushed by a swirl of birds. Jumping directly into the fray, twisting and somersaulting, it would weave in and out of the flock, striking with its bright yellow feet.

It was often seen leading a band of Starlings high into the air where it took complete command of the situation. When all small birds appeared to be exhausted (or frustrated) the little Merlin sought out a favorite target, one of the local Sparrow Hawks, usually found perched on the utility wire. The Merlin would make short swoops finally causing the Kestrel to lose its balance and forcing it to take to the skies. When overhead, the Merlin looked only a little longer, but noticeably heavier than the Sparrow Hawks. Its flying skills would be hard to describe. It was in the air almost constantly and never seemed to tire.

The only food that it was observed taking was grasshoppers and, possibly, a flicker. Insects were carried to an open perch and eaten there.

This Merlin was dark brown and heavily streaked with brown on the underparts. The wing linings were pale buff. Its chin was white and a light nuchal band could be seen when it was flying. According to Roberts*, brown birds are by far the most common. The blue-grey plumage appears only in males in their third year.

Another Merlin was seen three weeks later in a similar habitat two miles east of Middle Ridge by the writer and two other observers.

*Thos. S. Roberts, *Birds of Minnesota*.

Anne Shreve



FIELD NOTES

Mrs. Nevada Laitsch, Editor
MC 21, East Liverpool, Ohio

AUTUMN SEASON

SEPTEMBER 1 TO NOVEMBER 30, 1968

The Autumn season was for most part mild and pleasant. Killing frosts did not occur, except at higher elevations, until near the end of October. Some scattered snow fell in mid-November but it could hardly be said that winter weather had moved in before the end of the period.

Migration started earlier than usual. Banders at Operation Recovery on Allegheny Front Mountain, Grant County, W. Va. experienced their heaviest captures early in September. There were the usual conflicting opinions as to whether birds were plentiful or scarce. However observers having reason to be in the field at daybreak or shortly thereafter found results satisfactory both by sight and sound.

Early sightings of visitors from the north point to a good winter season for armchair ornithologists. It is hoped that we will also be conscious of the fluctuating populations of our permanent residents.

LOONS, GREBES AND HERONS—Several **Common Loons** were seen at Seneca Lake, near Barnesville, Ohio during November. An individual was present at this locality throughout the Summer. **Great Blue herons** were numerous at Seneca Lake during the fall (C&E) and were seen occasionally in Columbiana County, Ohio (NL). They were also found in southern West Virginia on ponds and at McClintic Wildlife Station near Point Pleasant. An immature **Cattle Egret** was positively identified near Washington, Pa. on November 18 (SH). It remained for two or three weeks and the land owner reported that another had been seen earlier.

SWANS AND GEESE—Several small flocks of **Whistling Swans** were seen over Wiloughby, Ohio the first on November 16 (MS). He noted that every flock was flying in a southeasterly direction. 34 were reported on Cheat Lake near Morgantown, W. Va. 6 were there on December 1 and 7 were seen on Lake of the Woods in Preston County, W. Va. on this date (GAH). Burr reported 12 at Hoover Reservoir northeast of Columbus, Ohio on Nov. 17. Fewer records of **Canada Geese** than usual were submitted. The favorable weather conditions may have influenced the flight to remain on the regular flyways.

DUCKS—The outlook for ducks was pretty dismal. They were scarce in the eastern panhandle of West Virginia until the last week in November when several flocks appeared on both the Shenandoah and Potomac rivers (CM). Numbers were very disappointing in the McClintic Wildlife Station area and the ponds in Galia County, Ohio in late October. Noteworthy was the record of 3 **White-winged Scoters** at Seneca Lake, Ohio from October 20 to 26 (C&E).

VULTURES AND HAWKS—The migration of **Turkey Vultures** appeared better than

usual. A **Black Vulture** was seen near Lewisburg, W. Va. November 5 and 3 were seen there on the 29th. (COH). In spite of the mild weather in September and lack of winds favorable to hawk migration, the flight reports were encouraging. Two stations covered between September 14 and 22 recorded a total of 4145 hawks (NG). 1822 passed Peters Mountain in Monroe County, W. Va. and 2323 were tallied on Allegheny Front Mountain in Grant County. The flight was mainly **Broadwings**. 20 **Ospreys** were among the big flight. This species was listed in most localities reported on this fall. A **Pigeon hawk** was seen on the Shreve farm at South Charleston, W. Va. September 28 (AS). It remained about a week. Another was seen two weeks later about two miles distant. **Marsh hawks** were reported at Lewisburg, W. Va. first week in November (COH) and in Charleston and Lewis County, W. Va. during the fall (NG).

CRANES—On November 19 a **Sandhill Crane** came down near a pond on the Shreve farm south of Charleston. It remained about 20 minutes affording close scrutiny (AS).

SHOREBIRDS—Few records of shorebirds were submitted. High water levels may have been a factor in the lack of observations. A **Semipalmated plover** was seen at Seneca Lake, Ohio September 8 (C&E). Reporters agreed that **Killdeer** were plentiful. **Common Snipe** were recorded at Seneca Lake, Ohio October 12 but Miller did not see them in the Eastern panhandle of West Virginia until November 10. Numbers there compared well with last year. **Dunlins** were listed at Seneca Lake, Ohio October 20 (C&E) and 12 were seen at Pymatuning Lake, Pa. October 23 (MS).

OWLS—A **Barn Owl** was discovered at Handley's farm near Lewisburg, W. Va. on November 16 and signs indicated that it had been there all fall (COH). A **Great Horned owl** was heard near Gaudineer Knob, Pocahontas County, W. Va. September 15 (NG). Four **Saw-whet Owls** were banded at the Red Creek station between Sept. 20-28 and one was banded at Morgantown, W. Va. November 11 (GAH).

GOATSUCKERS AND SWIFTS—**Whip-poor-wills** were considered abundant at the Shreve farm south of Charleston, W. Va. through Mid-September (AS). A very good flight of **Common Nighthawks** occurred over most of the region. Flocking was first noted as early as August 21 but the peak occurred September 2-4. **Chimney Swifts** remained later than usual. A flock of 16 was seen near Clarksville, Pa. Oct. 9 (RKB) and one was seen at East Liverpool, Ohio Oct. 24 (NL).

WOODPECKERS—**Flickers** were reported in large numbers in the Charleston, W. Va. area and East Liverpool, Ohio on November 10. A **Red-bellied Woodpecker** banded at the Red Creek station was a new species for the station. Reports of increased numbers of **Red-headed Woodpeckers** in several areas is encouraging. Comments of "more than usual" **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers** came from several persons. Clarksville, Pa. was an exception as Bell thought they were scarce.

FLYCATCHERS—A **Phoebe** was present at the Bell home near Clarksville, Pa. November 24. The 8 **Yellow-bellied Flycatchers** banded at the Red-Creek station between September 7 and 14 and one at Morgantown, W. Va. September 16 indicate an unusually good year (GAH). An **Olive-sided Flycatcher** was banded near South Charleston, W. Va. September 7 (AS).

SWALLOWS—**Barn and Cliff Swallows** were not present in numbers comparable to last year in the Lewisburg, W. Va. area. However, on September 3 a flock of more than 1000, mostly **Cliff Swallows** was observed. Last date for **Barn Swallows** was September 24 and **Cliff Swallows** September 21 (COH). The large **Purple Martin** roost in the Charleston area shifted this season to a site in Dunbar, adjacent to Kanawha river. Shreve reports a peak of 30,000 birds first week of September. Few were in the vicinity by September 10.

JAYS AND CROWS—Blue Jays continue to expand their range and are rapidly becoming commonplace in many localities where they were once a rarity. An excellent migration moved past the Red Creek station peaking September 21-29 (GAH). Breeding reported them abundant throughout Braxton, Nicholas Counties and adjacent areas and Charleston people reported increases. Common Ravens appear increased along the high ridges of Grant, Tucker and Pocahontas Counties, W. Va. They were seen on Peter's Mountain, Monroe County, W. Va. in September (NG).

CHICKADEES, NUTHATCHES AND CREEPERS—This may be a big year for Black-capped Chickadees outside their normal range. The 61 banded at Red Creek station indicated an influx. They had arrived at Clarksville, Pa. September 25; Morgantown, W. Va. September 26, and large numbers were in the East Liverpool, Ohio area September 27, and Charleston, W. Va. people were well aware of their presence this fall. Several reporters commented on good populations of White-breasted Nuthatches. A good flight of Red-breasted Nuthatches was noted through the mountains beginning fairly early. They had arrived at lower elevations and southward earlier than usual. Recorded at Barnesville, Ohio Sept. 14 (C&E); The Berry Hills section of Charleston, W. Va. Sept. 29 (CK) several in the East Liverpool, Ohio area October 2. A very good flight of Brown Creepers passed the Red Creek banding station beginning September 14. Many were seen in the East Liverpool, Ohio area September 29 and had arrived at Charleston, W. Va. October 1.

WRENS—A House Wren banded at Handley's farm near Lewisburg, W. Va. was the only one he has seen there in the past three years. The latest date was one at Morgantown, W. Va. October 15 (GAH). Winter Wrens were reported in November by several reporters. A Bewick's Wren was heard August 15, singing a subdued song, near Clarksville, Pa. where it remained several days (RKB). One was banded at the Red Creek station on September 18 (GAH). There seemed to be a good population of Carolina Wrens as we approached the winter season. One appeared at the Skaggs home in Willoughby, Ohio November 10 and was still there at the end of the period. They are uncommon in this locality. A Long-billed Marsh Wren banded at the farm near Lewisburg, W. Va. September 30 was Handley's first record for Greenbrier County. One was seen at Barnesville, Ohio October 13 (C&E).

MIMICS AND THRUSHES—Mockingbirds are appearing more and more frequently outside their normal range. Bell banded 10 this fall near Clarksville, Pa. A moderate flight of Wood Thrush was noted at the Red Creek banding station (GAH) but there was little comment from other places. Good numbers of Hermit Thrush were reported at Morgantown, W. Va. and Charleston, W. Va. The number of Swainson's Thrush was down considerably at the Red Creek station but numbers were better than usual in the Charleston, W. Va. area. A good flight was seen at East Liverpool, Ohio September 29 through October 2. Banders reported an unusually good year for Gray-cheeked Thrush. The latest date of capture was October 12 both at Morgantown, W. Va. and Willoughby, Ohio. Bluebirds appear to have reestablished a decent population. Several persons reported flocks during the fall with some remaining to the end of the period.

KINGLETS, PIPITS, WAXWINGS AND SHRIKES—Golden-crowned Kinglets appeared normal in the Charleston, W. Va. and East Liverpool, Ohio areas where they usually winter. Ruby-crowned Kinglets moved in quite early and were abundant. The first of the season was banded at the Red Creek station September 13. 5 or 6 Water Pipits seen near South Charleston, W. Va. in mid November (AS) was the only record. Cedar Waxwings were erratic in their appearances with flocks choosing favorite food supplies and moving on when it was exhausted. Three Loggerhead Shrikes were seen in Monroe County, W. Va. November 8 (NG); observed at Seneca Lake, Ohio November 10 (C&E) and Miller counted 8 on

wires in the eastern panhandle of West Virginia in late November.

VIREOS—Red-eyed Vireos appeared about normal. The Red-Creek station handled 81 with a peak of 22 on September 13. This was an excellent year for Philadelphia Vireos at the Red Creek station. A total of 29 were processed—7 of these on September 14. 3 were in hand at one time on October 5 (GAH).

WARBLERS—The number of Tennessee Warblers processed at the Red Creek banding station was lower than usual. The catch of Nashville Warblers was somewhat better than usual. The Orange-crowned Warbler netted at the Red Creek station on October 6 was a noteworthy record (GAH). The flight of Magnolia Warblers was considered quite good at the Red Creek station. 93 were banded between September 7 and October 13 with 24 taken on September 14. Other reporters commented on more than usual numbers. Cape May Warblers came through in moderately good numbers at Red Creek. Several persons commented on sightings of males in perfect plumage during the fall. 165 Black-throated Blue Warblers were netted at the Red Creek station with 45 taken on September 13. Hall comments "good year but not outstanding". Myrtle Warblers were considered plentiful by most reporters. Good numbers were in the Charleston, W. Va. area at the end of the period. Good results were shown for both Black-throated Greens and Blackburnians at Red Creek. Numbers of Bay-breasted Warblers were above average at the station but Blackpolls showed a decline. Pine Warblers were plentiful this fall in the Berry Hills section of Charleston, W. Va. (CK). Banders submitted more records than usual for Palm Warblers. Handley banded both the Western and Eastern race of this species at his farm near Lewisburg, W. Va. 15 western and 10 eastern were banded between September 17 and October 4-7 of each on October 4 and many more were seen this same day. 2 of the eastern race was banded at Red Creek October 2 and 6 were banded at Morgantown, W. Va. from September 28 to October 24. One was banded at Charleston September 15 (CK); seen at Seneca Lake, Ohio Oct. 5 (C&E); at Charleston, W. Va. Oct. 11 (NG) and one was seen near Lewisburg, W. Va. November 5 (COH). The only record for Connecticut Warbler was the one banded at Morgantown, W. Va. September 26 (GAH). 22 Wilson's Warblers were banded at the Red Creek station for a good year. One was seen at Gaudineer, Pocahontas County, W. Va. September 19 (NG).

BLACKBIRDS—The latest date for Bobolink was September 2 near Lewisburg, W. Va. (COH). Meadowlark numbers appeared quite good and the open weather encouraged them to stay on later than usual. The usual large flocks of Redwings and Grackles were noted by reporters. A flock of 32 Cowbirds was seen over Bell's farm near Clarksville, Pa. November 2. A good migration of Scarlet Tanagers was reported by several persons. Summer Tanagers were considered plentiful in the South Charleston, W. Va. area (AS).

GROSBEAKS AND FINCHES—Rose-breasted Grosbeaks passed through the Red Creek station in good numbers peaking September 13. Numbers were good in the Charleston area last week of Sept. with last record on October 7 (CK). The first Evening Grosbeaks were reported at Morgantown, W. Va. October 19 (GAH). They were reported in several areas first week of November and wide-spread invasion was evident by the end of the period. An adult Dickcissel was banded in Greenbrier County, W. Va. September 26 (COH). Purple Finches showed signs of mass movements beginning early. One was banded near Lewisburg, W. Va. September 17 (COH). There were unusually good numbers at Morgantown, W. Va. where they are often completely absent (GAH). They were present in the eastern panhandle of West Virginia (CM) and were coming to feeders in Charleston in November. Numbers of Pine Siskins were seen over the Red Creek banding station and greater than usual numbers passed Clarksville, Pa. (RKB) but lack of other records in-

dicating that they passed on through the region. Large flocks of Goldfinch were mentioned by several reporters. A small flock (11) of White-winged Crossbills was in the yard briefly at East Liverpool, Ohio on November 8 (NL).

SPARROWS—Beginning September 14 Handley banded 29 Savannah Sparrows in September and 40 during the first five days of October for a total of nearly twice the number banded at his home near Lewisburg, W. Va. last year. Juncos appear plentiful. Earliest date of arrival was October 7 at Clarksville, Pa. (RKB). A Tree Sparrow banded at Clarksville, Pa. October 31 was early. Numbers appear lower than last year. Both Chipping Sparrows and Field Sparrows seemed reluctant to leave the region as several persons reported good sized flocks well into November. Most reports agreed that White-crowned Sparrows were down in numbers. The September 29 date at Willoughby, Ohio coincided with the first arrival at Lewisburg, W. Va. Banding figures disagreed on the ratio of adults to immatures. The White-throat migration appeared quite good. The amount of song during the mild weather probably called more attention to their presence. Unusual was the netting of 7 Fox Sparrows at one time at Morgantown, W. Va. November 3 (GAH). These were his only fall records. The only other records came from Barnesville, Ohio on October 20 (C&E). A good migration of Lincoln's Sparrows was evident. Bell banded 6 at Clarksville, Pa.; first one on September 26 and last one October 31. Hall banded 3 at Morgantown between September 23 and 27. One was at Seneca Lake, Ohio October 5 (C&E). A good number of Swamp Sparrows was noted at Willoughby, Ohio between November 1 and 8 when Skaggs banded 5 (which is more than usual) right in his garden area. Song Sparrow numbers appear normal.

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Correction: The record in the July issue, Volume 35—number 3, page 99, should have read "15 Dunlins at Pymatuning Lake, Pa. instead of 15 Pectoral Sandpipers" reported by Merit Skaggs.

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Original papers in the field of natural history are published in the Redstart. Papers are judged on the basis of their contributions to original data, ideas, or interpretations. Scientific accuracy is most important and to this end an Advisory Board, selected by the Editorial Staff, will review submitted papers. Papers should be typewritten, double spaced and on one side of the paper only. Clarity and conciseness of presentation are very important.

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INTRODUCTION. Reasons for conducting the research as well as background material relating what others have done.

DATA. The actual results of the investigation along with the methods used for collecting the data.

CONCLUSIONS. Interpretation of the data.

FUTURE WORK. As a result of the investigation, what work remains to be done.

SUMMARY. For longer articles it is desirable to present a brief summary of the work.

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Many papers will not fit this type of presentation. Sometimes a simple sequence-of-events arrangement will serve.

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