

South Dakota Bird Notes

Official Publication
of
SOUTH DAKOTA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION
(Organized 1949)

Vol. 31, No. 2

June 1979

Whole No. 121



Lark Bunting
Official SDOU Emblem

—Designed by Wayne Trimm

South Dakota Bird Notes, the Organ of South Dakota Ornithologists' Union, is sent to all members whose dues are paid for the current year. Life Members \$125.00; Sustaining Members \$12.00; Regular Members \$6.00; Family Members (husband and wife) with one subscription to *Bird Notes* \$9.00; Juniors (10-16) \$3.00; Libraries (subscription) \$6.00. Single and back copies: Members \$1.50, Non-members \$2.00. All dues payments, change-of-address notices, and orders for back numbers of *Bird Notes* should be sent to the Treasurer, Nelda Holden, Rt. 4, Box 68, Brookings, S.D. 57006. All manuscripts for publication should be sent to Editor June Harter, Box 236, Highmore, S.D. 57345.

Vol. 31, No. 2

June 1979

Whole No. 121

In This Issue . . .

Editor's Migration, June Harter	23
1979 Spring Meeting, Bill Lemons	24
Winter Season and Christmas Counts, Compilers: E.M. Serr, B.K. Harris, J. Harter	26
Christmas Bird Counts, 1978	28
Summer Meeting At Pierre, Bill Lemons	34
In My Youth I See Lawrence Dongilli	36
General Notes of Special Interest - Chestnut-sided Warbler in Custer County, Yellow-crowned Night Heron in Pennington County, House Finches Near Rapid City, Cardinals in Gregory County.	37
White-tailed Kite: New South Dakota Record, Gene Mack	38
Review. N.R. Whitney	39

South Dakota Ornithologists' Union OFFICERS 1978 - 79

President	William E. Lemons, Box 431, Meckling 57044
Vice President	Robert Buckman, Dakota State College Madison 57042
Secretary	Esther Edie, Rt. 2, Bruce 57220
Treasurer	Nelda Holden, Rt. 4, Box 68, Brookings 57006
Editor	June Harter, Box 236, Highmore 57345
Librarian	Herman P. Chilson, Webster 57274

DIRECTORS

For Term Expiring 1979: Bill Lemons, Meckling; Nelda Holden, Brookings; Esther Edie, Bruce; Galen L. Steffen, Burke; Robert Buckman, Madison.

For Term Expiring 1980: Herman P. Chilson, Webster; Bruce Harris, Clear Lake; N.R. Whitney, Jr., Rapid City; L.M. Baylor, Rapid City; E.C. Montgomery, Aberdeen.

For Term Expiring 1981: Byron Harrell, Vermillion; J.W. Johnson, Huron; Kenneth Husmann, Brookings; June Harter, Highmore; Jocelyn Baker, Rapid City.

EDITOR'S MIGRATION

The South Dakota Ornithologists' Union president has graciously relinquished the traditional "President's Page," for this June issue, to permit a few departing remarks by the editor. Some of the notes deal with events that occurred in September. The apparent inconsistency in timing fits into the pattern of a whole year of inconsistencies.

When elections were held at the September 1979 S.D.O.U. fall meeting in Sioux Falls, Bill Lemons completed his second term as president and Robert Buckman was elected to the office for 1979-80. In other actions by the Board of Directors, the resignation submitted by the editor became final with the selection of Dan Tallman to fill that position.

Bill Lemons, during his tenure, diligently handled the duties of the office and was equally attentive to anything related to S.D.O.U. He spent a lot of time on travel and paper work, wrote many articles for *South Dakota Bird Notes*, and helped with the final publication stages of *The Birds of South Dakota* and *Bird Notes*. Bill's contributions are greatly appreciated.

In turn, we welcome Robert Buckman as our new president. He teaches in the Biology Department at Dakota State College, Madison. Bob has made significant additions to the ornithological records of South Dakota. His first president's page will appear in the September issue.

Editing *Bird Notes* during the past six years has provided a pleasant and valuable experience. I accepted the position with some misgivings, having never done any editing, but the encouraging, generous support extended by other members made the

transition much easier. At the time that I became the editor, the Board also innovated the Editorial Advisory Committee.

During those six years, the preparation of material for the journal was never a one-person project; it was the work of the Editorial Committee and the editor. Members of this committee, appointed in 1973, were L.M. Baylor, Bruce K. Harris, J.W. Johnson, and Herbert Krause. It remained a three-member committee after Herb Krause died. Each issue of *Bird Notes* was dependent on their critical reviews of the contributed manuscripts and species reports, and I gratefully acknowledge the aid and cooperation of each member. At the 1979 fall meeting, the Board of Directors terminated the Editorial Committee; the review of species will now be done by the Check-List Committee. Its members are the co-authors of *The Birds of South Dakota*.

Dan Tallman, with his wife Erika and their child, lives in Aberdeen. He teaches biology and ornithology at Northern State College. Dan received his Ph.D. at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana; his studies and research took him to the deserts of Arizona, the shores of Louisiana, and the forests of South America, and he is now learning about the winters of South Dakota. Along with other S.D.O.U. members, I extend a welcome to Dan and wish him success. Correspondence may be addressed to:

SOUTH DAKOTA BIRD NOTES
Editor, Dan Tallman
Northern State College -- Box 740
Aberdeen, SD 57401

Editor

1979 SPRING MEETING

Everybody must have had a good time at our annual spring meeting on May 18, 19, and 20 at Pickstown. At the Saturday night banquet and again at the Sunday luncheon the Country Club's small dining room resounded from the constant and energetic conversation enjoyed by visiting friends. It was a pleasure to hear. Some people told me or even wrote to me about how much they liked our activities, and I heard no unkind words all weekend. Small wonder that doctors tell us birding is good for high blood pressure.

The weather was generally excellent, although Friday night was cold. Some of us created a small village of five tents in a pleasant spot across the Missouri River where old Fort Randall once stood. Ninety-eight years ago the Sioux tipis of Sitting Bull and 168 of his followers graced the same site. After five years in Canada following the Custer Fight of 1876, they had finally surrendered at Fort Buford and were brought by steamer boat as prisoners of war first to Standing Rock and then to Fort Randall. In May, 1883, they were returned to Standing Rock. As I shivered in my tent Friday night, I thought of those Sioux and their tipis, which when covered with buffalo hides and insulated with an inner lining several feet above the ground were toasty warm, even in winter.

The turnout was large -- sixty-five participants. It was good to see B.J. Rose from Omaha again and to meet his wife Sharon, and we hope Mrs. Holly Statz will bring her family again from Viborg, including her two children Michelle and Shari. The facilities were comfortable and the food was good. We thank again Mrs. Joan Zahm for whipping up that batch of tasty cookies so suddenly on Friday evening and her husband, Gary Zahm, the manager of the Lake Andes National Wildlife Complex, for all his arrangements. His illustrated lectures were exceedingly interesting on both evenings: on Friday he talked about the history and management of the Karl Mundt Bald

Eagle Refuge and on Saturday he discussed the timely topic of the future of wetlands in South Dakota. At the banquet we would have gladly listened to more songs sung with guitar by Comet Haraldson. Nelda Holden, our treasurer, reported that the sale of S.D.O.U.'s new book, *The Birds of South Dakota*, has been going well, and she sold sixteen copies of it during the weekend.

Birds were plentiful everywhere, although unusual sightings were not numerous, perhaps. We appreciated the faithful service of field trip leaders David Hilley and John Decker. The Sunday call-off of 145 or 146 species was enlivened by a little controversy over whether Greater Scaup had been seen, as well as the Lesser. It is still not settled. -- **Bill Lemons.**

REGISTRANTS

Out of state

Duarte, California
David H. Dudgeon
Sioux City, Iowa
Andrea Johnson
Bristow, Nebraska
John C. Decker
Omaha, Nebraska
B.J. and Sharon Rose

South Dakota

Aberdeen
Margerey Arbogast
Everett and Jeanette Montgomery
Brookings
David, Nelda, and Arthur Holden
Ken and Patsy Husmann
Lawrence Novotny
Darrell and Lois Wells
Bruce
Richard and Esther Edie
Clear Lake
Bruce Harris
Walter A. Rose
Lake Andes
Charles Novotny
Madison
Robert Buckman

Mækling
 Bill Lemons
 Pickstown
 David Hill ey
 Gary and Joan Zahm
 Pierre
 Augusta Eklund
 Comet Haraldson
 Enid Hyde
 Jim Pollock
 Ron Spomer
 Velma Vance
 Prairie City
 Alfred and Gertrice Hinds
 Rapid City
 Jocelyn Baker
 Thomas S. and Nancy Hays
 L.R. and Ruth Palmerton
 Reva Pearce
 Hden Schweigert
 Esther Serr
 Dr. Nathaniel and Mary Whitney
 Sioux Falls
 Gilbert Blankespoor
 Harry Link
 Charles and Gladys Rogge
 Robert F. and Lucille Truder
 Vermillion
 Barbara Brown
 Byron and Joyce Harrell
 Adeline Siljeborg
 Norma Wilson
 Viborg
 Carol Breen
 Holly, Michelle, and Shari Stutz
 Wakonda
 Clarence and Sandy Pederson
 Yankton
 Will is and Rosamond Hall
 Jim and Julie Wilcox

1979 SPRING MEETING SPECIES LIST

Compiler: Robert Buckman

Symbols for the identification of observation locations and for the evidence of nesting:

CM - Charles Mix County
 G - Gregory County
 BH - Bon Homme County
 H - Hutchinson County
 R - River or lake
 N - Nesting or young

Common Loon R
 Horned Grebe CM
 Eared Grebe CM, BH
 Western Grebe R
 Pied-billed Grebe CM, BH, N
 White Pelican CM, G
 Double-crested Cormorant CM, R
 Great Blue Heron CM
 Green Heron BH
 Black-crowned Night Heron CM, G
 American Bittern CM
 Mallard CM, G, N
 Gadwall CM
 Pintail CM, N
 Green-winged Teal CM, R
 Blue-winged Teal CM, N
 American Wigeon CM
 Northern Shoveler CM
 Wood Duck G
 Redhead G
 Ring-necked Duck CM, BH
 Scaup species ? CM
 Bufflehead CM
 Ruddy Duck CM, BH
 Common Merganser R
 Turkey Vulture G
 Red-tailed Hawk CM, G
 Swainson's Hawk CM, G
 Ferruginous Hawk G
 Marsh Hawk CM, G
 American Kestrel CM, G
 Greater Prairie Chicken G
 Bobwhite G
 Ring-necked Pheasant CM, G
 Gray Partridge BH
 Virginia Rail CM
 Sora CM
 American Coot CM, BH, N
 Killdeer CM, G
 Upland Sandpiper CM
 Spotted Sandpiper CM, BH, R
 Willet CM
 Lesser Yellowlegs CM, G
 Pectoral Sandpiper G
 White-rumped Sandpiper CM
 Baird's Sandpiper CM
 Least Sandpiper CM
 Long-billed Dowitcher CM
 Stilt Sandpiper CM, G
 Semipalmated Sandpiper CM
 American Avocet CM
 Wilson's Phalarope CM, G
 Herring Gull R
 Ring-billed Gull R
 Franklin's Gull CM, R
 Bonaparte's Gull R
 Forster's Tern CM, R
 Common Tern CM
 Black Tern CM, G, BH, R
 Rock Dove CM, G
 Mourning Dove CM, G, N
 Yellow-billed Cuckoo CM, G

(Continued on page 35)

WINTER SEASON AND CHRISTMAS COUNTS

Compilers: E.M. Serr, B.K. Harris, J. Harter

Winter in South Dakota, Dec. 1, 1978 to Feb. 28, 1979, was mild until the last week of December when sub-zero temperatures initiated an uncomfortably long cold period. In many parts of the state, it was the last week of February before the mercury again reached or passed 32°F.

Snowy Owls and winter finches were scarce, but the species list is evidence that the winter was not without some notable sightings. And the list of 107 species plus two junco races observed in the Christmas Bird Count surpassed the 1977 record count by three. Pierre led again in the number of species and individuals; food and open water were available for the thousands of geese and ducks, and the abundance of mice in the area was reflected by an above-normal count for hawks and owls. Shrikes on the Pierre Count were observed in at least two instances impaling freshly caught mice on thorns or barbed wire.

The following details, supplied by the compilers, list the numbers of observers, birds seen in count period but not on count day, and accounts of rare or uncommon species observed on the counts.

ABERDEEN -- (11 observers in 4 parties) Date: Dec. 16. The Common Snipe was located below the Richmond Lake dam. Some seepage keeps that water open and the snipe was there along with some ducks. -- E.C. Montgomery, compiler.

BROOKINGS -- (15 observers) Date: Dec. 16. Species seen during count period but not on count day: Bald Eagle, White-throated Sparrow. -- Nelda Holden, compiler.

DEUEL COUNTY -- Seen during count period but not on count day: Cardinal. Increased coverage produced a higher count. Interesting was the discovery of five species of blackbirds at one feedlot. The Mourning Doves, Am. Robin, and W.

Meadowlark were good finds also. -- Bruce Harris, compiler.

HIGHMORE -- (5 observers) Date: Dec. 29. Seen during count period but not on count day: Common Flicker, Northern Shrike, W. Meadowlark. -- June Harter, compiler.

HOT SPRINGS -- (8 observers in 5 parties) Date: Dec. 16. Temperature 16° to 35° F. Clear day with 4 to 10 inches snow cover. Wild food crop poor. Seen during count week but not on count day: Gadwall, Green-winged Teal, Common Merganser, American Coot. The Bufflehead, Merlin, and Sharp-tailed Grouse were new species for the Count. The Golden Eagle, Common Crow, Red-breasted Nuthatch, and Red Crossbill counts were the highest ever. Counts for the Black-billed Magpie and Cedar Waxwing were the lowest ever. --Richard Rosche, Crawford, Neb., compiler.

MADISON -- (7 observers in 3 parties) Date: Dec. 29. The White-crowned Sparrow was observed by Jerry Sour in Lake Herman State Park for several days prior to the Count, and was seen by most of the Count participants as they lunched in the Park. -- David L. Gilbert, compiler.

PIERRE -- (39 observers in 15 parties) Date: Dec. 17. Seen during count week but not on count day: Ring-necked Duck, Greater Prairie Chicken, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Varied Thrush, Cardinal, and Evening Grosbeak. The thrush, observed carefully for two weeks, became a window-kill the day before the Count.

The Great Blue Heron, frequently observed all during the count period, was healthy and flying on count day. The Blue-winged Teals were on the warm-water Capitol Lake in Pierre. They, as well as the Green-winged Teals, swam within 20 feet of the compiler. Several observers, including Richard Hill and David Hamm, identified the Oldsquaw in the tailwaters

below Oahe Dam, at a distance of several hundred yards under clear, calm weather conditions. The long tail and the preponderance of white were noted. The White-winged Scoters, on Capitol Lake, were observed by R.V. Summerside and Leo Larson. The birds were almost black in color; the heavy bill had a tinge of orange. An adult male Ruddy Duck, another Capitol Lake bird, was observed almost daily by a number of people. The Franklin's Gull was in a mixed flock of Glaucous, Herring and Ring-billed Gulls feeding in the tailwaters below Oahe Dam. The Franklin's was studied carefully by several observers, including Richard Hill, Fred June, Thomas O'Brien, and Douglas Searls. Weather conditions were clear and calm; the distance was 100 - 300 yards. The bird's black head and white-edged black wing tips were particularly noted. A previous late date for this species was Nov. 24, 1909, Sioux Falls area (*The Birds of South Dakota*). Patsy and Kris Kringel observed the White-throated Sparrow at their feeder, with Harris' Sparrows, at a distance of not over 10 feet. The yellow lores were clearly visible. -- R.V. Summerside, compiler.

RAPID CITY -- A count of 61 species plus two junco races was one of two best winter counts since the surveys were begun by Dr. and Mrs. N.R. Whitney in 1953. The Great Blue Heron was a new species for the Count. Barrow's Goldeneye and House Finches were seen only once before. -- Esther Serr, compiler.

SIOUX FALLS -- (21 observers in 8 parties, 2 at feeders) Date: Dec. 16. Seen during count week but not on count day: Great Blue Heron, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Am. Robin. Expected but absent species: Golden-crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Purple Finch, Red Crossbill and Snow Bunting.

Single Great Blue Herons were present in 1975 and 1976; we had three in 1978. The Gray Partridge numbers reflect the marked increase in the population of this species. The Killdeer sightings became the

third Count record, and the 1978 Common Snipe was the fourth record in the 30-year history of the Sioux Falls Count. A new bird for our Count was the Townsend's Solitaire, a species that has rarely been recorded this far east in South Dakota. The Western Meadowlark numbers were exceeded only once -- 38 in 1970. There were many more Dark-eyed Juncos recorded than in recent years. -- Gilbert Blankespoor, compiler.

SPEARFISH -- A male Wood Duck was observed in Spearfish City Park at a distance of about 20 yards. The bird had frequented the Park most of the summer and fall months. This species is uncommon in the western part of the state (*The Birds of South Dakota*, p. 68). Winifred and Richard Michael and Thomas Hays observed the Lewis' Woodpeckers. The crow-like flight of the birds was noted, and reddish face markings were seen on two birds perched at the top of a dead tree. Cecil Haight and three of his students observed the male Pine Grosbeak for 10 minutes through a spotting scope as the bird perched on a deciduous tree along Beaver Creek at a distance of about 30 yards. The short, thick beak was noted along with the reddish head, back, and breast. The single male Lapland Longspur, in an unusual location, was seen at a feeder along Chicken Creek. It was observed from a picture window at a distance of 12 feet. Noted were the slightly streaked sides, dark spot underneath the throat, thin eye stripe, and slightly chestnut neck. -- Dan Bjerke, compiler.

WAUBAY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE -- (4 observers in 3 parties) Date: Dec. 17. Increased coverage made a difference; the 1978 species total was more than double the 1977 total. Weather conditions: Clear, 12° to 30°, with light northwest wind. The wild food crop in the area was fair. -- Linda Watters, compiler.

WILMOT -- This was the second highest species list in the 20-year history of the Wilmot Count (33 in 1975, 31 in 1978). Seen during count period but not on count day: Northern Shrike. The W. Meadowlark was

(Continued on page 32)

	Aberdeen	Belle Fourche	Brookings	Deuel Co.	Higmore	Hot Springs
Great Blue Heron						
Black-crowned Night Heron						
Canada Goose	4					
White-fronted Goose						
Snow Goose						
Mallard	51					6,729
Black Duck						
Gadwall						
Pintail						
Green-winged Teal						
Blue-winged Teal						
American Wigeon						1
Wood Duck						
Redhead						
Lesser Scaup						
Common Goldeneye						3
Barrow's Goldeneye						
Bufflehead						1
Oldsquaw						
White-winged Scoter						
Ruddy Duck						
Common Merganser						
Goshawk						1
Sharp-shinned Hawk						
Cooper's Hawk						2
Red-tailed Hawk						1
Rough-legged Hawk	3		2	1		1
Golden Eagle					1	13
Bald Eagle						5
Marsh Hawk						
Prairie Falcon						1
Merlin						1
American Kestrel			4			2
Sharp-tailed Grouse					50	53
Bobwhite						
Ring-necked Pheasant	278	4	21	3	32	16
Gray Partridge			69	23	33	
Turkey		2				106
American Coot						
Killdeer						
Common Snipe	1					2
Glaucous Gull						
Herring Gull						
Ring-billed Gull						
Franklin's Gull						
Bonaparte's Gull						
Rock Dove	133		72	39	126	43
Mourning Dove			7	2		
Screech Owl	1					
Great Horned Owl	10		15	4	1	5
Snowy Owl	1					
Short-eared Owl				1		
Belted Kingfisher						1
Common Flicker		2	5			14
(Red-shafted)						
(Yellow-shafted)	6			2		
Red-bellied Woodpecker			2	1		

Madison	Mitchell	Pierre	Rapid City	Sand Lake N.W.R.	Sioux Falls	Spearfish	Waubay N.W.R.	Wilmot	Yankton
		1	1						2
		12,970	1						1
		1							
		2							
		12,571	649	1,500	296	12	1		15,248
		5	38						1
		7	3						1
		6	12						
		6							
		1	30						
		1			9	1			
		10	2						
		4	1						
		60	44						14
			1						
			3						
		2							
		2							
		1							
		40	10		3				7
		3				1			
		12	3		7				10
		69	5		1	21		1	1
		2	2			2			
		14	3			6			22
		34				1			2
		3				2			
		2	1						
		6	4	1	9			1	12
		32	56	17		72			
87		166	8	50	70	17	34	142	12
28		18		30	109	7	24	30	55
3		15	122			14			14
		1							
			2		2				2
			1		2	8			
		5							
		155							
		55							
		1							
		9							
71		179	38	19	239	88	28	163	152
1		9			8			8	38
		2			1				1
5		27	2	6	11		2	2	
		14					1		
		1	14		7	7			3
	1	7	9	4		3	1		
					8			3	3
					3		1		49
									4

	Aberdeen	Belle Fourche	Brookings	Deuel Co.	Higmore	Hot Springs
Lewis' Woodpecker						
Hairy Woodpecker	2	2	9	4	4	2
Downy Woodpecker	8	2	23	9	4	6
Horned Lark	4		230	395	72	3
Gray Jay						
Blue Jay	5	7	35	11		5
Black-billed Magpie						32
Common Crow			72	4	2	157
Pinon Jay						177
Black-capped Chickadee	23	20	152	26	2	45
White-breasted Nuthatch	8		15	5	2	4
Red-breasted Nuthatch	3					11
Pygmy Nuthatch						4
Brown Creeper	1		1	2		2
Dipper						
Winter Wren						
Long-billed Marsh Wren						4
Canyon Wren						6
American Robin	281	7	5	1		232
Townsend's Solitaire		2				80
Golden-crowned Kinglet			4			1
Bohemian Waxwing			5			
Cedar Waxwing			81			2
Northern Shrike	2		3			3
Starling	193	10	163	58	76	5
House Sparrow	1,091	25	1,630	440	1,405	71
Western Meadowlark	1		10	1		3
Yellow-headed Blackbird			1			
Red-winged Blackbird			25	12		1
Rusty Blackbird			16	36		
Brewer's Blackbird	1		3	1		
Common Grackle	2	2	13	2		
Brown-headed Cowbird			2	2		
Cardinal			2			
Evening Grosbeak		30				
Purple Finch	38		23			
House Finch						
Pine Grosbeak						
Gray-crowned Rosy Finch						
Common Redpoll	6			2		
Pine Siskin			48	5		38
American Goldfinch			14			70
Red Crossbill						53
Dark-eyed (W.-W.) Junco						
Dark-eyed (S.-Col.) Junco	31	20	276	53	11	457
Dark-eyed (Dre.) Junco			9	2		
Tree Sparrow	3	2	6	6		135
Harris' Sparrow	1		2		2	5
White-crowned sparrow						
White-throated sparrow						
Fox Sparrow:						
Song Sparrow		2				2
Lapland Longspur				2		
Snow Bunting				683	5	
Species	30	16	39	32	17	51
Individuals	2,192	139	3,085	1,838	1,828	8,613

Madison	Mitchell	Pierre	Rapid City	Sand Lake N.W.R.	Sioux Falls	Spearfish	Waubay N.W.R.	Wilmot	Yankton
		14	9		17	6	5	8	13
8		29	14		64	14	14	16	51
1,434	50	1,531	1	1	6		5	1	21
			1			1			
1	1	2	39		4	68	2	20	22
		18	66			15			3
17	3	1	77	2	640	42		33	174
			35			8			
19		117	129		200	91	34	48	55
1		14	12		26	2	8	16	16
		4	38		1	4			1
1		5	6		2		5	1	1
			1			1			
1		40	10						
		2	14	3		77	3	4	47
			48		2	14			
			4						
		5	524			127			
		40				2			11
204	25	13	7	1	1	4			
612	35	583	1,330	157	1,852	98	35	426	2,274
1		21	343	130	1,066	199	160	732	840
		41	17		30			2	164
2		61	27				13	1	19
							7	9	
	3	1					18		
		2					3		
		3							
					14				13
2		35				106	2	3	14
			2				6		
			5			1			
1					12		1		1
4		2	71		11	11		2	
1			14		43	18	2	1	112
			108			38			
			166			38			
80		71	208	25	541	62	6	45	185
			36			12		1	1
6		133	53		104	34		3	408
4		50	1		1	7		1	30
1						3			
		1	1			1			
1		2			1	2			9
		2	4		20	1		16	
26		100		191			635	110	
28	7	75	63	16	40	49	28	31	46
2,622	116	29,484	4,576	2,037	5,435	1,375	1,053	1,849	20,139

a new bird for the Count, and all-time high counts were recorded for Ring-necked Pheasant, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Blue Jay, House Sparrow, and Snow Bunting. -- Bruce Harris, compiler.

YANKTON -- Date: Dec. 23. Our 1978 CBC list was a record count for this area. The immature Black-crowned Night Heron, a rarity and a new bird for this Count, was observed by Larry Farmer and Craig Oetken, using 8 x 50 and 7 x 35 binoculars. The light was high clouds with no shadows; the habitat was a high bank along the Missouri River with tangled debris and exposed roots from live trees. The bird was flushed four times; it flew two times directly beneath the stationed observer at a distance of 15 to 20 m. The final observation of the bird was male as it perched on an overhanging root at approximately 40 m. Total observing time was 12 to 15 minutes. The heron was brownish, with a three-foot wing span. Its back was light brown with whitish oval-shaped spots and its underparts were brown and buffy streaked. In flight, its legs extended barely past the edge of the tail, its neck was pulled back, and its wing beats were slow and deep. When perched, its silhouette was a hunched shape. The amber iris of the eye was readily distinguishable as was the thick bill which was grayish-green above and yellowish below. The bird was alert but it apparently was not fearful. -- Willis Hall, compiler.

The Badle Fourche Count was compiled by Irma Weyler and the Mitchell CBC was done by Harold Wagar.

WINTER SEASON SPECIES

GREAT BLUE HERON - 12/1 Hartford Beach, Roberts Co., BKH; 12/2 to 12/27 Canyon L., Rapid City, a cripple release by Game, Fish and Parks Dept. (Sharls); other records in the CBC in this issue.

Giant Canada Goose - Introduced birds in Deuel Co., stayed until about 12/5, then one bird fed regularly at farmplot in area until 1/15, BKH.

Snow Goose - 12/1 (26) Yankton Co., WH; also Pierre CBC.

Pintail - On three counts in CBC.

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE - 12/17 to 2/28 (1) Canyon L., Rapid City, JLB, NRW.

Bufflehead - 12/17 to 2/28 (3 f) Canyon L., Rapid City; (1) on Hot Springs CBC.

OLDSQUAW - 12/15 (1) Oahe Dam, Pierre, RLS; (2) on Pierre CBC.

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER - 12/14 (1) Capitol L., Pierre, RLS; (2) on Pierre CBC.

Goshawk - Two observations in the Black Hills, RAP; (1) on Hot Springs CBC.

Sharp-shinned Hawk - More than usual; reports from Yankton, WH; Rapid City, LAW, CCJ, EMS; Gregory Co., GLS; Sturgis, EEM, and two CBC.

Cooper's Hawk - Reports from Gregory Co., Spearfish, and the Hot Springs CBC.

Rough-legged Hawk - Record numbers were present in the West River area, particularly along the Missouri R. (10 in one day at Reliance equalled total for past three years, WCT). Observed on 10 CBC.

Golden Eagle - 1/18 Deuel Co., BKH; early Feb., Brookings Co. (2) SV; 2/11 Yankton Co., WH; Sand Lake N.W.R., BS, BM; Clay Co., WH. Normal count in West River area.

Bald Eagle - About 151 sightings statewide during period, EMS.

Marsh Hawk - Wintering numbers were above normal. Reported from Gregory, Yankton, Buffalo, Lyman, Stanley, Charles Mix, and Hughes Counties. Present on three CBC.

Merlin - Reported from Custer Co., BMN, and Butte Co., IGW. The latter was observed catching a robin.

Sharp-tailed Grouse - Populations good in western half of state; observed on six CBC. 12/30 (13) Sand Lake N.W.R., TKE; 2/14 (4) Waubay N.W.R., GRW.

Ring-necked Pheasant - 12/19 Clay Co., a pheasant crashed through two panes of glass into the living room, landed on the couch eight feet away, wrapped in a window shade and shattered glass, then got up and walked out the front door! KJH.

American Coot - 2/1 (1) Yankton Co., WH; (1) on Pierre CBC.

Killdeer - 12/10 to 1/3 Canyon Lake, Rapid City, EMS, NRW. See the CBC chart.

Common Snipe - Observed on five CBC.

GLAUCOUS GULL - 12/10 to 1/7 Big Stone Lake, BKH; (5) on Pierre CBC.

Snowy Owl - Not a good year; reported from only ten locations, and the CBC had only two. North Dakota had more than 70 for the winter, EMS.

BARRED OWL - 1/25 at Big Stone Lake, BKH.

Belted Kingfisher - Observed on six CBC; 12/26 Yankton, WH.

Red-bellied Woodpecker - Reported from five areas, an increase over those of previous years.

Red-headed Woodpecker - Observed in Gregory Co., GLS, and Yankton Co., WH.

Lewis' Woodpecker - 12/15 and 2/3, Spearfish area, (2 to 3) birds observed by DLB and NRW; (6) on Spearfish CBC.

Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker - Observed in Penn Co., RAP, and Custer State Park, RLS.

Clark's Nutcracker - 12/15 (2) Custer Co., RAP.

Red-breasted Nuthatch - Observed statewide on seven CBC.

Dipper - Observed in Spearfish Canyon, NRW, DLB.

Canyon Wren - Observed in Custer Co., RAP, and at Keystone, Penn. Co., NRW, RDM. Present on Hot Springs and Rapid City CBC.

VARIED THRUSH - 12/16 (1) Pierre, a bird that had been present for two weeks became a window kill the day before the Pierre CBC, RLS.

Golden-crowned Kinglet - 1/16 (7) at Terry Peak, Lawrence Co., DLB; more than usual in Black Hills; present on three CBC.

Bohemian Waxwing - 12/2 Perkins Co. (119) AGH; good flight in Black Hills; present on four CBC.

Western Meadowlark - Observed on 10 CBC; also reported from Gregory and Clay Counties.

Brewer's Blackbird - 12/26 Deuel Co., BKH, WE; present on five CBC.

Brown-headed Cowbird - 12/26 Deuel Co., BKH, WE.

Evening Grosbeak - Reported from Gregory Co., and present on three CBC.

Purple Finch - Reported from Deuel Co., and present on seven CBC.

Common Redpoll - Numbers were low statewide. Reported from Rapid City and present on six CBC.

Pine Siskin - Many in southeast and Black Hills, up to (70-90) at feeders in Yankton Co., JEW, WH. Present on nine CBC.

American Goldfinch - Average of (6) daily at Brookings, NJH; 1/10 (110) Bon Homme Co., WH; present on nine CBC.

Rufous-sided Towhee - 12/1 to 2/28 Gregory Co., GLS.

Harris' Sparrow - Reports from Gregory and Clay Counties; observed on 11 CBC.

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW - In Vermillion during Jan. and Feb., Byron Harrell; present on two CBC.

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW - (1) present all period at feeder in Deuel Co., JC; observed on three CBC.

Song Sparrow - Reported from Deuel Co., BKH; present on eight CBC.

CONTRIBUTORS

WEST RIVER

(JLB) - Jocelyn Baker, Rapid City, Penn. Co.

(DLB) - Dan Bjerke, Spearfish, Lawrence Co.

(AGH) - Gertrice and Alfred Hinds, w. Perkins Co.

(CCJ) - Carol Johnson, Rapid City

(RDM) - Mike Michael, Rapid City

(EEM) - Ernest Miller, Sturgis, Meade Co.

(BMN) - Barney Nordstrom, Fairburn, Custer Co.

(Continued on page 40)

SUMMER MEETING AT PIERRE

The second experimental summer meeting of S.D.O.U. was most enjoyable for those who came but attendance was low. We met in the Community Room of the Red Owl Store in downtown Pierre on Friday evening, July 13, as we had done the year before, and Velma Vance distributed among us a handsome field card newly designed and published by the Pierre Audubon Society. Everett Montgomery introduced us to a new state resident and S.D.O.U. member, Dan A. Tallman, who had just been engaged to teach biology and ornithology at Northern State College in Aberdeen. While waiting for others to come, we chatted about some S.D.O.U. affairs. The Pierre people affirmed that the unusually large numbers of rodents last winter in their community accounted for late seasonal sightings of hawks, some of which have been challenged. Ken Husmann agreed to represent us at the state fair with various materials for publicizing S.D.O.U. and for pushing the sale of *The Birds of South Dakota*. His wife, Patsy, persuaded us to pose for several photographs, as she did again on the following day. Before we adjourned, we decided to take to the birding fields as one group during the weekend.

On Saturday, at 7:00 a.m., eleven of us appeared at the Red Owl parking lot and drove to Farm Island, where we spent most of the morning. The mosquitoes were bad but birds were plentiful. We then explored La Framboise Island, where the birds were disappointingly scarce. At noon we met near the Downstream Unit pavilion below Lake Oahe and lunched from the tailgates of two station wagons. Most of us had not brought food, but Velma Vance rushed home to prepare sandwiches and lemonade, and the Husmanns generously shared their fine stock of provisions. We searched the shores of Lake Oahe and a few sloughs that afternoon. In the evening, sixteen members and friends dined together at "The Epicurean."

On a very beautiful Sunday morning we studied fields along the Bad River Road, where we counted at least 25 Burrowing Owls in a new prairie dog town, and along some other roads to the south. The car I was in encountered six Turkey Vultures attacking a rabbit carcass in the middle of one road. At noon we lunched in a city park. The call-off yielded 86 species sighted, which was a good record for a single group's efforts. (The large slough east of Pierre had dried up and so we missed the large number of waterfowl and shore birds we saw the year before.) Everett and Jeanette Montgomery won the pot of money collected as 25-cent contributions at the dinner on Saturday night -- he for guessing the number as 87 and she for guessing 85.

Perhaps the most memorable sightings were the Burrowing Owls and a Hooded Merganser (seen on a slough west of Pierre). But also memorable was the unusually cordial and intimate fellowship enjoyed by each day's eleven birders -- a fellowship that I at least have seldom known at larger meetings. -- **Bill Lemons, Meckling.**

Participants at Pierre

Aberdeen
Everett and Jeanette Montgomery
Dan A. Tallman
Brookings
Ken and Patsy Husmann
Camp Crook
Bob Rogers
Highmore
Mrs. Richard Raske
Meckling
Bill Lemons
Pierre
Augusta Eklund
Richard, Pamela, and Emily Hill
Velma Vance
Edith Vanderwaal
Rapid City
Jocelyn Baker
Reva Pearce
Yankton
Mellie Biber

SUMMER SPECIES AT PIERRE

Double-crested Cormorant
Great Blue Heron
Green Heron
Canada Goose
Mallard
Gadwall
Blue-winged Teal
Wood Duck
Hooded Merganser
Turkey Vulture
Swainson's Hawk
Marsh Hawk
American Kestrel
Ring-necked Pheasant
Gray Partridge
Killdeer
Upland Sandpiper
Solitary Sandpiper
Herring Gull
Ring-billed Gull
Franklin's Gull
Mourning Dove
Yellow-billed Cuckoo
Black-billed Cuckoo
Great Horned Owl
Burrowing Owl
Common Nighthawk
Chimney Swift
Belted Kingfisher
Common Flicker
Red-headed Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker
Eastern Kingbird
Western Kingbird
Great Crested Flycatcher
Say's Phoebe
Horned Lark
Tree Swallow
Rough-winged Swallow
Barn Swallow
Cliff Swallow
Purple Martin
Blue Jay
Black-billed Magpie
Black-capped Chickadee
White-breasted Nuthatch
House Wren
Long-billed Marsh Wren
Gray Catbird
Brown Thrasher
American Robin
Cedar Waxwing
Loggerhead Shrike
Starling
Bell's Vireo
Red-eyed Vireo
Warbling Vireo

Black-and-white Warbler
Yellow Warbler
Common Yellowthroat
Yellow-breasted Chat
American Redstart
House Sparrow
Bobolink
Western Meadowlark
Yellow-headed Blackbird
Red-winged Blackbird
Orchard Oriole
Northern Oriole
Common Grackle
Brown-headed Cowbird
Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Black-headed Grosbeak
Indigo Bunting
Lazuli Bunting
Dickcissel
American Goldfinch
Rufous-sided Towhee
Lark Bunting
Grasshopper Sparrow
Lark Sparrow
Field Sparrow
Song Sparrow

House Wren CM, G
Long-billed Marsh Wren CM, N
Gray Catbird CM, G
Brown Thrasher CM, G
American Robin CM, G, N
Swainson's Thrush CM, G, BH, H
Eastern Bluebird G, H, N
Cedar Waxwing CM, G
Loggerhead Shrike CM
Starling CM, G, N
Bell's Vireo CM
Red-eyed Vireo CM, G
Philadelphia Vireo CM
Warbling Vireo CM, G
Tennessee Warbler CM, G
Orange-crowned Warbler CM, G
Nashville Warbler CM
Yellow Warbler CM, G, N
Yellow-rumped Warbler G
Chestnut-sided Warbler CM
Blackpoll Warbler CM
Ovenbird CM, G
Common Yellowthroat CM, G
Yellow-breasted Chat CM, G
Wilson's Warbler CM
American Redstart CM, G
House Sparrow CM, G, N
Bobolink CM, G
Western Meadowlark CM, G
Yellow-headed Blackbird CM, G
Red-winged Blackbird CM, G
Orchard Oriole CM, G, N
Northern Oriole CM, G, N
Common Grackle CM, G, N
Brown-headed Cowbird CM, G
Cardinal CM, G, H
Rose-breasted Grosbeak CM, G, N
Black-headed Grosbeak G
Indigo Bunting G
Dickcissel CM
American Goldfinch CM, G
Rufous-sided Towhee CM, G
Lark Bunting CM, G, BH
Grasshopper Sparrow CM, G
Lark Sparrow G, H
Chipping Sparrow CM, G
Clay-colored Sparrow CM
Field Sparrow CM, H
Fox Sparrow CM
Lincoln's Sparrow CM
Swamp Sparrow CM
Song Sparrow CM, G, BH, N

Spring Meeting (Continued from page 25)

Black-billed Cuckoo CM, G
Screech Owl G
Great Horned Owl CM, N
Chimney Swift CM
Belted Kingfisher CM, G, R
Common Flicker CM, G, N
Red-bellied Woodpecker G, N
Red-headed Woodpecker CM, G, N
Hairy Woodpecker G
Downy Woodpecker CM, G
Eastern Kingbird CM, G, N
Western Kingbird CM, G, N
Great Crested Flycatcher CM, G
Eastern Phoebe CM, G
Willow Flycatcher CM
Least Flycatcher CM, BH
Eastern Wood Pewee CM, G
Say's Phoebe H
Horned Lark CM, G
Tree Swallow CM, G
Barn Swallow CM, G
Rough-winged Swallow CM, G
Barn Swallow CM, G, N
Cliff Swallow CM, G, N
Purple Martin CM, G, BH, N
Blue Jay CM, G
Black-billed Magpie G
Common Crow CM, G, BH
Black-capped Chickadee CM, G, H
White-breasted Nuthatch CM, G



IN MY YOUTH I SEE . . .

Lawrence Dongilli

During the last 2000 years, at least 100 different species of wild animals have become extinct in various parts of the world. In the past 200 years, the process has speeded up, and the rate of extinction is now believed to be as high as one or two species a year. Between 250 and 300 species of wild animals are now regarded, by the International Union for Conservation, as in serious danger of becoming extinct.

Not long ago, the Passenger Pigeon lived here in incredible numbers. Millions gathered sociably in the forests to raise their young. It was all too easy to slaughter this species. At last, from all the huge flocks that had literally darkened the skies as they flew, not one bird remained alive, and never again will one live on this earth.

The once nearly extinct Whooping Crane now has a population of slightly over 100 birds, thanks to the effective management efforts by the United States and Canadian wildlife services.

The Eskimo Curlew was hunted with such greed along its migratory route so that by 1925 it was judged extinct. Even though a few individuals appeared in Texas between 1950 and 1962, this curlew's status is precarious, at best.

In 1973, the Department of Interior's Office of Endangered Species characterized the American Ivory-billed Woodpecker as "probably close to extinction because of scarcity of suitable habitat." If any Ivory-billed Woodpeckers remain today in our southern states, this rarest of American species needs large stands of virgin timber and such forests are virtually gone.

Some other examples of endangered species are the sea otter, the black-footed ferret, the monk seal, the white-lipped rhinoceros, and the Bald Eagle. If the

threats to the Bald Eagle continue, we may soon have an extinct national bird.

Endangered animals can be saved. The main rules are: (1) maintain the habitat; (2) maintain the breeding stock; and (3) DO NOT KILL ANY ANIMAL WITHOUT A CONSTRUCTIVE PURPOSE.

No wild animal can survive without the habitat to which it has become adapted. If man chops down all the trees, the squirrels, woodpeckers, and any other creatures that depend on those trees will be in serious trouble. If man pollutes the water, fish, crabs, and all other aquatic life will suffer.

Man can endanger the species that he hunts by killing animals at a faster rate than they can reproduce.

Of course, some animals can be ferocious, and some snakes are poisonous. For this reason some people think they should kill all animals that do not appeal to them. Such an attitude would lead to the uprooting of every three-leaved plant because it might be poison ivy or to eradicating all berries because some are not good to eat or to destroying all mushrooms because some are deadly. Whether a creature is large or small, dangerous or tame, it has a place on this earth, and a species should not be killed to the point of extinction.

We must accept that hundreds of other animals are on this earth besides the one called man. Some are many times bigger than he is. Others are so small that they cannot be seen with the naked eye. But large or small, they were born here just as man was, and this is their home, too.

If we finally crowd other species off the earth, purposely or accidentally, we can never bring them back, for we do not have

(Continued on page 40)

General Notes of Special Interest

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER IN CUSTER COUNTY -- On June 17, 1979, we discovered a male Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Dendroica pensylvanica*) singing in a group of chokecherry bushes in the vicinity of the Visitor Center at Wind Cave National Park. The bright greenish-yellow cap and chestnut sides make this bird unmistakable. Three of the observers -- Carlyn J. Jervis, Thomas R. Jervis, and David Wimpfheimer -- are familiar with this bird and its song from living a number of years in New England. A fourth observer was L. Scott Johnson.

The bird was seen frequently over the next few days in the same area; the last sighting occurred on the morning of June 30. A singing male was also observed by one of us (LSJ) in the lower portion of Wind Cave Canyon on the same morning, indicating the existence of at least two individuals. Only singing birds were observed.

Previous records for South Dakota (*The Birds of South Dakota*, Whitney et al., 1978) indicate that these individuals are far from their normal range, and, if migrants, are quite late as they are an uncommon May migrant in the eastern part of the state. -- Carlyn J. Jervis, 893 Laramore Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89119.

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON IN PENNINGTON COUNTY -- On May 17, 1975, I observed a Yellow-crowned Night Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*) on a stock pond located approximately two miles southwest of Wall, Pennington County (legal description: T1S, R16E, Sec. 18, NW ¼). The bird was perched in a scrub tree along the shoreline. One side of the tree was against a steep hillside, which was located between me and the heron, so I was able to get within 25 feet of the bird before he spotted me. The path of flight taken by the heron prevented me from seeing if it

landed further along the pond. This was the only time the Yellow-crowned Night Heron was sighted. -- Gene D. Mack, Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Huron, SD.

HOUSE FINCHES NEAR RAPID CITY

-- While participating in the Rapid City Christmas Bird Count on Dec. 17, 1978, Reva Pearce and I observed two birds in the top of a tall tree. Because of the long distance we used the 20x scope, and our first impression was of the Purple or Cassin's Finch. The birds flew down to feed on the ground near some pens by the road. We then observed them at approximately 35 feet with 7 x 35 wide angle binoculars and the scope and saw that there was one male and one female. They were the size of House Sparrows and had large, thick, conical finch bills. I studied the female for the broad white line behind the eye and for the dark jaw strip -- field marks of the female Purple Finch -- but found neither mark. Then I saw that the female's head was a dark brown unmarked by strong lines, markings, or pattern. Its underparts were streaked.

This led to a closer check of the male. It had brownish streaks, narrow but well-defined, along the belly and flanks to the rump. This discovery initiated an examination for other field marks of the House Finch. The coloration of the bird was a yellowish-red, somewhat like that of a male Red Crossbill in non-breeding plumage. There was a red stripe above the eye, an orange-red throat, breast, rump, and forehead, and a streaked brown back. The color of the male appeared different from that observed at other times (I have observed male and female House Finches in winter plumage in Brookfield, Conn. and Oshkosh, Neb.). *The Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Birds: Western Region* states that "Immature

males (are) less highly colored, often orangish or yellowish on head and breast" (p. 588), so perhaps this male was an immature bird. Pictures in *Audubon Field Guide: Eastern Region* of the male and female House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) are fairly good representations of the birds we saw. Other reference sources used for identification were *A Field Guide to Western Birds* (Peterson) and *Birds of North America* (Robbins et al.).

The status of the House Finch in South Dakota is "casual" (*The Birds of South Dakota*, p. 242), and several records are listed in the book for both the western and eastern parts of the state. - Jocelyn Lee Baker, Rapid City.

CARDINALS IN GREGORY COUNTY -

During the fall and winter of 1978-79, I was pleased to have several sightings of Cardinals in the Burke area. The first one was on September 20, 1978, when a pair, male and female, was observed at Burke Lake, two miles east of the town of Burke. Another sighting, of probably the same pair, was made at the lake on Sept. 30.

On November 21, 1978, a single male Cardinal was seen to briefly visit the feeder in my yard in Burke. During the next several months, I had reports of a male Cardinal, presumably the same bird, appearing daily at some feeders in another part of town.

From December 8, 1978 through March 10, 1979, a male Cardinal wintered at my banding station at Burke Lake. The bird was observed at the feeders on nearly every visit I made to the station. From February 11, 1979 to March 1, two male birds were frequently observed at the station. Attempts to trap and band them were prevented by unfavorable weather.

I had only two previous observations of a Cardinal in the Burke area: a single male at Burke Lake on Nov. 9, 1975 and again on Dec. 22, 1975. - Galen L. Steffen, Burke.

**WHITE—TAILED KITE:
NEW SOUTH DAKOTA RECORD
Gene Mack**



Photo Courtesy of Gene Mack

WHITE—TAILED KITE

On July 9, 10, 1978, a White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*) was sighted and photographed near Draper, Jones County, South Dakota by Steve Tessman (a fellow research biologist) and myself. When spotted, the kite was perched on a large hay bale approximately 25 m from a graveled road. The bird seemed to have an affinity with the area, for while photographing the kite we flushed it several times within a 300 m radius of the first sighting location. During the course of observation (approximately 15 minutes) a Marsh Hawk (*Circus cyaneus*) attempted, but failed, to drive the kite from the area. We returned the next day with a third observer, Dale Gates, and found the kite located on the same bale of hay. On this visit the bird was flushed twice, each time it circled and landed near the bale.

The White-tailed Kite is a non-migratory bird. Prior to the 1940's the status of the

White-tailed Kite in North America was extremely rare and approaching extirpation. In 1935, the breeding range was reduced to western California, the southern coast of Texas, and the Gulf Coast area of Mexico (May, 1935). Since the 1940's the kite has made a rapid population recovery and is common in its breeding range with sightings occurring in southern states (Eisenmann, 1971). Recent northern sightings of misplaced kites have been reported in Wisconsin (Hamerstrom, 1965) and in Minnesota (Otnes, 1976). To my knowledge, this is the first sighting reported in South Dakota. — **Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Huron.**

LITERATURE CITED

- Eisenmann, E. 1971. Range expansion and population increase in North and Middle America of the White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*). *American Birds*, 25 (3): 529-536.
- Hamerstrom, F. 1965. A White-tailed Kite (behavior, range). *Passenger Pigeon*, 27 (1): 3-8.
- May, J.B. 1935. The Hawks of North America. National Audubon Society.
- Otnes, G.L. 1976. White-tailed Kite in Wilkin County. *Loon*, 48:180-182.

REVIEW

A FIELD LIST OF BIRDS OF THE QUAD-CITY REGION. By Peter C. Peterson and Eldon Fawks. Quad-City Audubon Society, 1977.

Peterson and Fawks have developed a 28-page field list for bird students in the Quad-Cities area (Davenport and Bettendorf, Iowa, and Moline and Rock Island, Illinois). The booklet begins with a one-page introduction, and then has a list of 21 habitats, each designated by a letter. The next four pages are brief descriptions of 31 selected birding areas, numbered consecutively (13 in Illinois, 15 in Iowa, and

June, 1979

three on the river), and keyed to a road map in the center. The main body of the booklet, 13 pages, is a list of species, with horizontal bars to show the times of occurrence through the year and relative abundance.

The area is fifty miles in diameter and relatively homogeneous, although 21 habitats are listed. For this area the bar graphs seem to be an excellent way of portraying information quickly and concisely. Each month is divided into thirds, so that the length of the bar shows seasonal occurrence and the width shows relative abundance. The letter codes for habitat are both concise and detailed. I found that I had to refer back often to the list of habitats on page 4, but I expect that with practise one could soon memorize the meanings of the code letters.

On a recent trip through the Quad-Cities area, I took the booklet along and tried to evaluate its usefulness to a stranger. I found that the numbers indicating specific birding areas are hard to see on the map when they are within the cities, but easy to read where they are away from the cities.

In summary, I believe that this will prove useful to everyone interested in bird-study within the immediate Quad-City area, but it should also prove valuable to everyone studying birds anywhere in eastern Iowa and northwest Illinois. If you plan to visit that area, buy a copy first. Price is \$1.00 from the Putnam Museum, 1717 W. 12th St., Davenport, Iowa, 52804. — **N.R. Whitney, 633 South Perry Pines Road, Rapid City, SD 57701.**

CORRECTION

My note in *SDBN* 31:18 of a late fall Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler at Huron was in error as to quoting latest fall date for this species from *The Birds of South Dakota*. The correct late date is Dec. 2, 1962 instead of Oct. 27, 1961. The latter date refers to the Audubon's Warbler. I apologize to all for such carelessness. — **J.W. Johnson, Huron.**

39

WINTER SEASON
(Continued from page 33)

- (RAP) - Reva Pearce, Rapid City
(EMS) - Esther Serr, Rapid City
(GLS) - Galen Steffen, Burke, Gregory
Co.
(WCT) - Walt Thietje, Reliance, Lyman
Co.
(NRW) - N.R. Whitney, Rapid City
(LAW) - Leota Williams, Rapid City
(IGW) - Irma Wyler, Belle Fourche, Butte
Co.

EAST RIVER

- (JC) - James Cole, Gary, Deuel Co.
(WE) - Wynn Eakins, Deuel Co.
(WH) - Rosamond and Willis Hall
(BKH) - Bruce Harris, Clear Lake, Deuel
Co.
(NJH) - Nelda Holden, Brookings, Co.
(KJH) - Karolyn Hoover, Clay Co.
(TKe) - Tim Kessler, Sand Lake N.W.R.,
Brown Co.
(BM) - Berle Myers, Sand Lake N.W.R.
(RLS) - Ron Spomer, Pierre, Hughes Co.
(SV) - Spencer Vaa, Brookings Co.
(GRW) - Garner Waddel, Waubay N.W.R.,
Day Co.

IN MY YOUTH I SEE...
(Continued from page 36)

the knowledge to create a single animal. It is easy to destroy things, but we cannot make even so small a creature as a fly. We cannot grow a flower without a seed, and if we have no seed, who can make one?

Unless human beings will be content to walk through silent woods and fields and never see flash of wing or fur, they must grant wild creatures some share of this earth. Farms and woodlands must not be so tidied that no hedges or growths of underbrush remain to shelter birds and mammals. We must preserve woodlands so that the birds and animals can live there. Lakes and streams must remain pure and clear.

Before we intentionally destroy any creature, we should consider why it shares the earth with us--why it is a part of nature.

(Editor's Note: In early 1979, as an eighth-grade student at Vandenberg Middle School, Douglas School System, Box Elder, SD, the author presented a version of this paper at an Optimist Club speech contest.)

SOUTH DAKOTA BIRD NOTES