

SOUTH DAKOTA BIRD NOTES

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

Vol. XVIII, No. 4

DECEMBER, 1966

Whole No. 71



S. S. Visher as an Active Student of Birds
in South Dakota

South Dakota Bird Notes, the Organ of South Dakota Ornithologists Union, is sent to all members whose dues are paid for the current year. Sustaining Members \$5.00; Adults \$3.00; Juniors (10-16) \$1.00 per year. Single and back copies \$1.00 to non-members; \$0.50 to members. All dues should be remitted to the Treasurer, Nelda Holden, Route 1, Box 80, Brookings, S. Dak. All manuscripts for publication should be sent to the Editor, J. W. Johnson, 1421 Utah Ave. SE, Huron, S. Dak. Orders for back numbers should be sent to the Librarian, Herman P. Chilson, Webster, S. Dak. Published Quarterly.

In This Number . . .

President's Page, Herman Chilson	75
The Willow Thrush as a Migrant, Wm. Youngworth	76
S. S. Visher, J. W. Johnson	78
Birds' Nests of South Dakota, L. J. Moriarty	82
Hairpulling Marathon . . . Martin Style, Chas. P. Crutchett	83
SDOU Business Meeting, Vermillion, November 26, 1966, Nelda Holden	85
RESOLUTION	87
Book Reviews, Keith and Betty Evans, J. W. Johnson	89
General Notes of Special Interest: Blue-gray Gnatcatcher at Oakwood Lakes, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher in Huron, Upland Plovers, Lark Buntings, Chimney Swifts, Red Crossbills, Odd Nighthawk in Grant County, High- way Count of Lark Buntings, Sparrow Hawk Suspected of Robbing Nests, Natural Science Society Proposed for North Dakota, Western Kingbird nesting Success at Highmore, Odd colored Towhee at Huron	90
New Members Since December, 1965	95
In Memoriam, Bill Youngworth	96

South Dakota Ornithologists' Union

OFFICERS 1967-68

President	Herman P. Chilson, Elevator Store, Webster
Vice-President	L. M. Baylor, Rapid City
Secretary	Jean Jonkel, 1722 Kansas, SE, Huron
Treasurer	Nelda Holden, Route 1, Box 80, Brookings
Membership Chairman	Lowry Elliott, Route 1, Box 84, Milbank
Liaison Chairman	N. R. Whitney, M. D., 633 South Berry Pines Road, Rapid City
Editor	J. W. Johnson, 1421 Utah Ave. SE, Huron
Associate Editor	Donald Adolphson, 2611 Lawndale Drive, Rapid City
Librarian	Herman P. Chilson, Webster

DIRECTORS

For Term Expiring 1967: Harry C. Behrens, Rapid City; Chas. Rogge, Sioux Falls; L. J. Moriarty, Watertown; Nelda Holden, Brookings; Jean Jonkel, Huron.

For Term Expiring 1968: Herman Chilson, Webster; Willis Hall, Yankton; Herbert Krause, Sioux Falls; N. R. Whitney, Jr., Rapid City; L. M. Baylor, Rapid City.

For Term Expiring 1969: Alfred Peterson, Brandt; Ruth Habeger, Madison; J. W. Johnson, Huron; Lowry Elliott, Milbank; Paul Springer, Brookings.

President's Page

THE NEW Student Union, on the University of South Dakota campus, was the scene of the informal get together Friday night. Stanford Gray of the USD Film Studio presented his, "Portrait of a River." Beautiful shots in technicolor, well edited, with music dubbed in by professionals, absorbed our attention. The natural beauty of an unspoiled river was compared with the sterile drainage ditches of the Army Corps of Engineers. Loss of habitat and other salient features were described.

Saturday morning found us at Yankton, birding along Gavin's Point Dam. We saw eight bald eagles, most of them immatures sitting in trees, but we did see one beautiful adult with a white head sitting on a log in the river. We also saw a variety of perching birds, plus gulls, ducks, and hawks.

The afternoon was filled with paper and business sessions. Most of the papers were presented by former students of Dr. Byron Harrell, and represented ornithology at its best.

Richard Timken, USD student, presented, "Succession and Red-wing Black-bird Population." He explained the ecology of a marsh area and the difference between cultivated and virgin areas in relation to nesting and production.

Dr. Nathaniel Whitney, Rapid City, commented on, "The Birds of The Black Hills." As you know Doc is the

chairman of our Annotated Check List Committee. He stressed the need for continued information from members and mentioned some of the new birds which have been discovered since Birds Of The Black Hills has been published.

Rod Drewin, South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department, gave "A Study Of Marked Pairs of Blue-winged Teal in South Dakota," telling of the new methods of marking birds by using highly colored nose tags and wing patches, and the injection of vegetable coloring matter into the eggs to color the young birds. This coloration enabled him to trace the movements of the young teal readily.

Edward Fortner, Sioux City, called his paper, "Some Observations On Tape Recording Songs and Calls of the Birds." Fortner told us of his problems in securing good equipment, eliminating background noise, and demonstrated bird calls already recorded.

Bertin Anderson, USD student, talked to us on, "Hybridization In Flickers, Orioles, Grosbeaks In South Dakota." This was a study in gene transmission largely but indirectly governed by the abundance or lack of trees. This paper was accompanied by charts and black-board sketches.

John Behrends, Mankato, Minnesota, presented, "A Study of a Great Horned Owl Population in Clay County, South Dakota." Numerous difficulties were encountered in locating the owls, climbing to their nests, and studying the

(Continued on Page 92)

The Willow Thrush as a Migrant

Wm. Yeungworth

TO ME, the Willow Thrush as it passes up and down the Big Sioux River Valley has always been a true will-o'-the-wisp. True its name has been changed to the Veery, but to me it will always remain the Willow Thrush. I found my first Willow Thrush nest near the headwaters of the Mississippi River near Lake Itasca, Minnesota. Many years later I again disturbed nesting Willow Thrushes along the Milk River, Valley County, Montana. The reason one can find nesting Willow Thrushes in most areas is that it nests across the Dominion of Canada and most of northern United States.

But, to the birdspotters of the Big Sioux River Valley in South Dakota and Iowa, what can we expect in the way of migration records on this elusive bird? First, this thrush must be seen in good light to catch the even cinnamon-brown upperparts. Often one will think he has a Willow Thrush in front of him and when you get another look, if you get another look, you will find that you have been looking at a Gray-cheeked Thrush, a Swainson's Thrush, or even a Hermit Thrush.

What are one's chances of seeing the Willow Thrush in this area over a long period of years? Not very good. It took this observer three years of heavy field work to log his first record on May 11, 1928. A long gap of five years passed until May 10, 1933, when I again recorded this fine songster. Another gap of five years and again on a May 10, this time in 1948, I finally saw another one. During the next few years the records came a bit

more frequently, but not without some field work. One was recorded on May 12, 1949 from Union County, South Dakota. The next record was in my own yard on May 15, 1952. A late spring record was made on May 27, 1954.

May 17, 1956, was a red letter day in my later life and was spent at the Felton ranch along the Missouri River in Union County. William R. Felton, Jr., was with me that day and among other rare birds we found the Lazuli Bunting, Prothonotary Warbler and migrating Willow Thrushes. I felt the thrush record was the high point of my day.

Again we return to the east side of the Big Sioux River where, on May 14, 1958, I again logged the Willow Thrush. On May 20, 1959, I leisurely watched a Willow Thrush most of the day, but on May 21, 1960, I had such a fleeting look at a Willow Thrush that I put the record down with a question mark. September 21, 1962, was a day to remember on this species of thrush, for as you will note it is the first fall record I had had in the preceding thirty-six years of birdwatching. Spring records have been nil since 1960, but the fall of 1966 brought a thrilling finish to my Willow Thrush migration records.

Early on the morning of September 15th, I saw a flash of tawny color leave the bird bath. A Willow Thrush sighting flashed across my mind, but being an old hand at being fooled by dashing migrants, I set about to patiently wait the bird out. I didn't have too long

to wait until another brown form flew to the bird bath and a good look confirmed my first hunch. Subsequent observations showed that two or more Willow Thrushes lived off my largess for the next four days.

For nearly forty years I have had a clump of Solomon's-seal growing somewhere on the premises and have always noticed how the other species of migrating thrushes were drawn to this fine wild bird food. At one time we had a clump within five feet of the back door and it was a pleasure to see the above mentioned three species of thrushes feeding that close to our view. I was curious to see, if the Willow Thrush was also to be a guest at my wild banquet table. I didn't have long to wait before one of the thrushes flew up and grabbed a plump, ripe berry and flew to the security of the nearby hedge to eat his food. From then on for the next four days one thrush or another would be picking off the blue-black fruit. On the fourth day I also noticed several Robins helping to strip the Solomon's-seal plants and wondered aloud to Mrs. Youngworth that that food would soon be gone.

Late in the afternoon of September 18th, we noticed two Willow Thrushes picking off the few remaining berries and interspersing this food with many insects, which they gathered by hopping up a few inches and picking the insects off of such plants as Orpine or Plantain Lily. This feeding kept up late into the evening and if our binoculars had not been pretty well adapted for early night viewing we would never have known what was taking place. These birds were eating as much food as they could hold, and very rapidly, which probably meant just one thing. They were actually stoking the boilers for a long night migration flight. In the morning they were gone.

As an after thought, this writer would add that many passerine birds

make very short migration hops of just a few miles a day or night. Others make long flights of many miles possibly even hundreds of miles before they alight. I think this is probably true of the Willow Thrush, in that during many years and many seasons they pass over a given area, when flight conditions are ideal and we never see them. Thus, if others don't, at least I count it a red letter day when I enter the record of a Willow Thrush in my tattered old record book.—**Sioux City, Iowa.**

* * * *

BALD EAGLE NEST protection has been ordered into effect on all National Wildlife Refuges by Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall. Approximately one square mile will be closed around each nesting site to prevent disturbance.

In addition to ordering increased protection for the bird that is the symbol of American democracy, Secretary Udall also directed a stepped up effort by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife to safeguard the nests of golden eagles and ospreys. The Bureau has initiated new educational measures aimed at securing public cooperation in the conservation of bald and golden eagles.

* * * *

BLUEBIRD NESTING SURVEY

Those who have access to at least ten usable bluebird nesting boxes around their homes and would like to help keep track of the fluctuations of this popular species are invited to participate in Dr. Douglas James' annual nesting survey. Send for a report card for the 1966 season to Dr. James, Department of Zoology, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark. 72701.

S. S. Visher

J. W. Johnson



S. S. Visher at Vermillion,
about 1912

LONG before SDOU there was Stephen Sargent Visher. And, with the advantage of hindsight, it is easy to see the magnitude of the debt SDOU owes this man.

But, though he became one of the learned of the world, and his work took him far from the state and left little time to devote to his early interest, ornithology, he still found time often to remember South Dakota, and to visit the country of his youth. Dozens of visits, 1915 to 1961 helped him keep his feet on the ground and memories of South Dakota restored.

Born in 1887, much of his early life was spent in the parental home near

the center of Sanborn County, just east of Forestburg, about midway between Huron and Mitchell.

Birds held the center of Visher's attention in his early years. His first published articles (on common birds of Sanborn County) appeared in 1902. His first lecture on birds to a large group was in 1903. He took a course in ornithology at the University of Chicago in 1907.

"Of great significance to me," he writes, "was the exceptionally favorable conditions for bird study in Sanborn County from 1898 to 1914. Scattered groves along the James River, close to my parents' home, several 'lakes' within walking distance, sand dunes, marshes, creeks, and two ponds fed by artesian wells were often visited by me. (The lakes at Artesian and Kelly's ranch had disappeared when I visited them in 1950.) During 1898-1914 the area I studied was perhaps as favorable for birding as any of its size in the state.

"The freedom for birding during this period merits special attention. My mother encouraged me greatly and my father approved of my doing what I so deeply desired to do. My work for the South Dakota Geological and Natural History Survey gave me much freedom, partly because I asked for no salary. Both my parents were authors and ex-teachers. My father had written a distinguished volume, was an ex-clergyman, ex-editor."

Visher happened to have superior vision and considerable ability to walk long distances. During the year (1905-06) that he taught a rural school, he

walked eleven miles each day except one.

Besides home and local environment, Visher was greatly influenced by a number of people. He mentions Frank A. Patton, of whom an obituary sketch appears in *South Dakota Bird Notes* (1:28). In the 1880's and 1890's Patton collected and sold various water and marsh birds and eggs to wealthy eastern ornithologists. In October, 1905, Visher became acquainted with Henry A. Lee (*B.N.* II:39) then of Huron, where some excellently mounted ducks of his were displayed. Later Lee moved to Rapid City from where he and Visher had a memorable trip about the Black Hills in 1912.

Visher did college and graduate work at both the University of South Dakota at Vermillion and at the University of Chicago. He was graduated in March, 1909, from the University of Chicago, followed it with an M. S. in geology, and a Ph. D. in geography in 1914. An M. A. in zoology from the University of South Dakota came in 1912.

At Vermillion he had a favorable environment and association with interesting people. During 1910-13, though he worked intently, he could, with a motorcycle, reach a pond favorable to his bird study in a few minutes.

"Contact with Elwood C. Perisho, dean and state geologist at the University commenced for me in 1903. In 1905-06, he approved of my preliminary plans to study and work at the University of South Dakota. In 1908, he consented to my going alone for some weeks to the Black Hills and Badlands. For 1910-14 I was assistant state geologist, doing much field work in all parts of the state and writing articles and three bulletins on aspects of South Dakota."

One bulletin was on South Central South Dakota, including the Badlands;

another was on Harding County in the northwestern corner of the state; the third became his Ph. D. thesis, *The Geography of South Dakota*.

In July, 1910, Visher became acquainted with W. T. Over, then a homesteader in northwestern South Dakota. In 1913, he was able to obtain for Over a position with the museum which Visher had started at the University of South Dakota in 1910.

"Over developed it greatly in the next 30 years. The volumes, Over and Thoms: *Birds of South Dakota* (Second edition 1946) is one result of Over's work. Dr. Thoms, a clergyman in Vermillion while I was there, encouraged my studies.

"Others whose encouragement was significant to me were: Henry Chandler Cowles who accepted me as his assistant on an ecological expedition to southwestern Canada and southern Alaska in 1907, a truly wonderful experience. Dr. Cowles also helped me to obtain a position for six months of 1909 at the Desert Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution at Tucson, Arizona, where much bird work was done. Special gratitude is felt also towards the editors of two ornithological magazines which published several articles of mine: Joel A. Allen, *The Auk* and Lynds Jones, *Wilson Bulletin*.

"Always remembered with deep gratitude are my bird studies and publications on *South Dakota Birds* during my early manhood. Especially important were the years and months in Sanborn County, the weeks of 1908 in the Black Hills and Badlands, the full summer of 1910, much of the summers of 1911 and 1912 in the northwestern part of the state, the crossing afoot or horseback, from the Missouri River to Wyoming in 1912 and my work near Vermillion in 1910-13, and, repeatedly, near Forestburg. These studies were

made long ago and South Dakota has changed much since then, as I have noted during various brief visits since."

By the time he received his Ph. D. in 1914, Visher saw a better opportunity to make a living than South Dakota afforded. As a geographer, the whole world became his field. South Dakota birds had to be given up for the demand of the people of the world for collected and collated knowledge of the globe on which they lived.

He soon went about seeing some more of that world. He spent some weeks in Jamaca, much of 1915-17 was spent in Minnesota. Most of 1918, he was a classifier of public lands for the U. S. Geological Survey in Wyoming. After coming to Indiana University in December, 1918, he spent weeks or months on leaves of absence, in studying in Europe, Hawaii, Fiji, Australia, China, Japan, and as Acting Geographer in the U. S. Department of State, and in teaching during summers, at Cornell University thrice, University of British Columbia twice, University of Colorado, Pennsylvania, and Minnesota.

He was married in 1914. His wife died in 1949 and he remarried in 1951. He has four children, two sons, one with the Outdoor Recreation Bureau of the U. S. Department of the Interior, and the other a satellite expert with the Hughes Aircraft Company Foundation. He also has a daughter 10 years old. He lives at 817 E. 2nd St., Bloomington, Indiana, 47401.

Much of Visher's published work in later years had little or no mention of birds; but almost all of it is concerned with climate and geography or with their associated disciplines. Accordingly, a fairly complete list of his work on South Dakota is here given.

"I am deeply grateful," he writes, "for the stimulation of my early study

of South Dakota birds, a major influence in my life."

S. S. VISHER'S CHIEF PUBLICATIONS ON SOUTH DAKOTA
BOOKS OR BULLETINS

- 1912 Geography, Geology, and Biology of South-central South Dakota, S. D. Geol. Survey, Bulletin 5, 152 pp., Vermillion.
- 1912 Elementary Geography of South Dakota. Rand McNally & Co. Chicago. 38 pp.
- 1914 Biology and Biogeography of Northwestern South Dakota. S. D. Geol. Survey, Bulletin 6, 103 pp.
- 1918 Geography of South Dakota (Ph. D. Thesis at Univ. of Chicago) S. D. Geol. Survey, Bulletin 8, 178 pp.

ARTICLES ON BIRDS

- 1900-13 Several notes on S. D. birds published in **The Auk**, **Bird-lore**, **The Condor**, and the **Wilson Bulletin**.
- 1909 A List of the Birds of Western South Dakota. **The Auk**, 28:5-16, 29:110-11, 30:381.
- 1911-13 The Avifauna of Harding County, S. D. **The Auk**, 28:5-16, 29:110-111, 30:381

An article on the mating dance of the Sandhill Cranes in Sanborn County was written in 1904 but not submitted for publication (**Wilson Bulletin**) until 1911. This article was reported by an expert on Sandhill Cranes (Henry Sheldon in **Natural History** Oct. 1949 **B. N.** 1:52) as "about the best of its kind." Reprinted in **Bird Notes** in 1950 (**B. N.** 1:10).

- 1913 The Birds of Sanborn County, S. D. **The Auk**, 30:561-573.
- 1913 The Birds of Fall River County, S.D. **Wilson Bulletin**, 24:1-6, 25:33-39.
- 1915 Birds of Clay County, S. D. **Wilson Bulletin**, 26:321-335.
- 1916 Bird Migration in the Dakota Valley. **Wilson Bulletin**, 28:128-129.

1949 Bird Study in South Dakota, S. D. **Bird Notes**, 1:4-7.

ARTICLES ON THE FLORA

1909-13 Additions to the Flora of the Black Hills. **Torrey** 9:186-188; **Muhlenbergia** VIII, IX (68 species).

1913 Additions to the Flora of S. D., **Muhlenbergia** 9:45-52, 69-70 (210 species).

1913 Common Flowers and Birds of South Dakota. **Arbor and Bird Day Annual**. State Dept. of Public Instruction, pp. 23-26, 38-49.

1913 Ecology of the South Dakota Sandhills, **American Botanist**, 19:91-94.

ARTICLES ON GEOGRAPHY

1913 Storm Erosion in the Badlands. **Jour. of Geography**, 11:294-296.

1915 The Significance of the Biota and of Biogeography. **Bulletin, American Geographical Society**, 47:509-520.

1916 The Biogeography of the Northern Great Plains. **Geographical Review**, 2:89-115.

1918 Geographic Influence Affecting the Choice of South Dakota's Boundaries. S. D. Dept. of History Collections, 9-380-385.

1921 Agriculture of S. D., in Colby: **Sourcebook of the Economic Geography of North America**, pp. 294-96.

1924 South Dakota Natural Areas and their Life, **Naturalist's Guidebook to North America**, Williams and Wilkins, Baltimore, pp. 548-555.

1924 Special physiographic Features of South Dakota. **Pan-American Geologist**, 41:347-354.

1935 Climatic Effects of the Proposed Wooded Shelter Belt. **Annals, Association of American Geographers**. 25:64-74 (June).

1954 **Climatic Atlas of the United States**. Harvard University Press.

(Most of the nearly 1000 maps depict data on South Dakota's climate.) This book was reprinted in revised form by Harvard University Press in 1966.

Space prohibits more than bare mention of the mass of Visher's work other than that concerned with South Dakota. While he has made important contributions to the knowledge of the geography of Indiana since he became a member of the faculty of the University, in 1918, his work has long been more than state-wide.

He is the author of 20 books, author of parts of 22 others, of 145 technical articles, of 167 semi-technical articles.

His honors, recognitions, offices in learned societies can only be glimpsed here. He was elected Fellow of the Royal Geographic Society of London and of the Geological Society of America in 1923 and Honorary Life Member of the National Geographic Society in 1946. The Association of American Geographers gave him their highest award: "Outstanding Achievement Award" in 1959.

Who's Who in America has sketched him since 1924 and **International Who's Who** since 1937.

Two of his articles in **The Auk** are listed among the especially distinguished articles of 1875-1935 in B. M. Strong's **World Bibliography of Ornithology**.

And he was made an honorary member of SDOU in 1951.

Visher's own comment: "Early work on South Dakota Birds played a major role in making possible several of my later contributions to other subjects. Thus bird study carried out with sustained enthusiasm may, under fortunate conditions, lead to surprising results."—**Huron**.

Birds' Nests of South Dakota

L. J. Moriarty

A. O. U. # 349 GOLDEN EAGLE (*Aquila chrysaetos*)

THIS eagle nests in South Dakota's Badlands, where I saw a nest on top of a pinnacle of this multi-colored soil too steep to be climbed in 1960, southwest of Wall.

On June 26, 1966, Donald Hunter and his son, J. W. Falvin of California, George Jonkel, of Huron, William Talen of Green Bay, Wis. and I went into the North Cave Hills, Harding County, S. Dak. where we found a pair nesting in a large blowout hole in the pinkish rim rock. The hole was about 20 feet from the top and about 14 feet above the steep soil sloping away from the rim rock.

The parent birds left while we were almost a mile away. They made no defense and no noise.

The nest was only reached by a rope and mountain climbing equipment. It was composed of sticks and twigs up to about an inch in thickness. As with many of the hawks this nest had apparently been used by this pair for years and contained enough material to fill a small hayrack. It measured about six by eight feet and was about four feet deep. Two nearly fledged young were in the nest. The larger female sailed off the nest, losing altitude until she hit the slope about 200 yards down hill where we retrieved her. Both birds

were banded and replaced in the nest by use of potato sacks and ropes. Neither bird made any effort to defend itself. Of course care was used to grasp the tarsi and not the feet.

A couple of freshly cut pine boughs were on the nest along with the hind legs of a couple of jack rabbits with the fur only left on the feet and the skull of a half-grown fox, freshly picked clean and shiny. There were also many magpie feathers which I believe were from immature birds. Some red-shafted flicker feathers and an old cowboy straw hat were on the nest. (No signs of the cowboy or his horse or boots were found.) No signs of game birds or domestic animals were found.

The young were deep brown, nearly black, with yellow beaks and legs. We estimated they were 10-12 weeks old, which would make the hatching date about mid-April. As incubation figures point to about 28-35 days, probably the latter most accurate (Bent) that would bring the laying period to about mid-March in South Dakota, if one or two observations are an indication.

As we had no scales for weighing the birds, I estimated the young male at about 10 pounds and the female at about 12.

Bent says they rarely nest east of the Rockies; however they do nest in suitable places in South Dakota.—**Wartertown.**

Hairpulling Marathon . . . Martin Style

Chas. P. Crutchett

ON APRIL 24, 1966, at 9:40 a. m., as I walked by our Martin house, I noticed a female Martin in a most unusual pose. She lay all sprawled out on the upper porch of the house. Her head filled the door of the north end room; her wings were spread widely on each side behind her; the tail was flexed down over the edge of the porch.

A male Martin, her mate I presume, stood close by and looked on nervously.

Occasionally the female's wings would flutter, and she would draw back somewhat, apparently straining to pull an unseen opponent out of the box.

Her strong wings, braced against the box, and the tail tightly cramped over the porch, gave the lady a powerful leverage in her contest.

But she could not quite make it.

Soon her antagonist would put on power and almost pull the outside Martin into the room. But again, the latter's wings and tail gave her an anchorage that could not be broken.

Every few minutes the anxious prospective mate of the outside (or inside) bird would disappear for a short time.

Soon he would return, walk over and look at the lady questioningly, give her a slight peck or two, then worriedly watch the battle. But she would not give up.

Once she pulled her adversary almost out of the room, but apparently the inside Martin was a larger, stronger bird, and backing into the compartment

she nearly succeeded in dragging the smaller bird with her.

Several times, in this way, the tide of battle ebbed and flowed.

Now and then a martin would come, light on the house, and watch the fight briefly.

The contestants took frequent breathing spells during which their only effort seemed to be to hold their ground.

After the battle had been going about an hour, there was a sudden increase in the spectators. A male Martin on the roof, peered down over the eave at the prone female. Two other males looked on. Two other female (?) Martins also stopped to look, and finally, a female House Sparrow—a total audience of six.

The Sparrow became so interested that she walked down the porch and audaciously hopped over the prostrate form of the outside Martin.

That bird finally again drew her opponent clear out onto the porch; but the other one backed into the room and pulled the smaller Martin tight against the doorway.

The little Martin was weakening. Her wings, instead of bracing her, lay more or less limp.

At length she was jerked partially inside; one wing went in. After a few more minutes she was suddenly pulled into the room. The time was now 11:10 a. m.—one hour and 30 minutes after I first saw her sprawled on the porch. I had missed Sunday Church in a de-

termination to see the outcome of the contest.

The two Martins continued their fight inside the house.

The anxious male came by and glanced in once or twice.

I could see a head or wing flash by the door now and then, but of course did not know just what was going on inside the room.

Suddenly the little female came out the door, flew to a nearby T. V. antenna and perched there.

Her victorious opponent soon appeared; she was much bigger and heavier than the loser. I could tell them apart because the loser had a long heavy white line on the left side, below the wing; she was much lighter below than the winner whose underparts were almost a chrome color.

The feathers on the small bird's head all stood up like they had each been pulled; possibly some were missing. I think most of this damage was done as the birds fought in the doorway.

The plumage on the shoulders of this little bird was also erect and a white spot on each shoulder indicated that some feathers had been lost, probably after the fight had moved inside the house.

The winner did not show scars of battle.

She immediately dropped to the lower story where she quickly searched a room, then came out and entered the next compartment.

Now that she had won the room she wanted, perhaps any with a male would do.

As she entered the second room her little enemy left the antenna, lit on

the porch and peered into her hoped-for home. The visitor heard her and flew back to defend the property. The other bird was gone.

This performance was repeated twice, showing that the vanquished still had hopes of obtaining that room.

I was called out of town for a few days. When I returned I did not try to identify or follow the fortunes of my two interesting Martins.

Since we had more Martins than in any previous year, a total of ten pairs, no doubt the victorious female found a mate to share her hard-won home, the loser also.

The fight had ended at 11:20 a. m.—a one hour and forty minute contest.—**Armour.**

* * * *

DUTCH ELM DISCOVERY

Milwaukee has entered the second year of tests on a new chemical which it believes may protect trees from Dutch elm disease without harming birds or other wildlife.

The chemical known as TCPA was injected into 34,000 elms in 1965 and some 70,000 others are receiving the material this year. TCPA is injected into the tree through a hypodermic syringe.

The treatment is a radical departure from previous control measures. Instead of killing bark beetles, it strengthens the tree's resistance to the disease. Milwaukee reports "almost perfect" results from the first year's test.—**Massachusetts Audubon Newsletter.**

SDOU Business Meeting

Vermillion, South Dakota

November 26, 1966

THE MEETING was called to order by President Chilson who opened the meeting by reading an interesting letter from Herb Krause. The President announced that Lowry Elliott was not in good health and that the secretary might write him a letter for SDOU. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as printed in South Dakota Bird Notes.

Nat Whitney then presented the preliminary planning for the Spring Meeting at Belvidere. Belvidere has three motels with a total of 23 units. There is a KOA Camp ground about six miles east of Belvidere, a good birding and banding spot. Private homes and motels in Kadoka can also be used for housing. There is one cafe that can accommodate 25 to 30 people at once. They can prepare box or sack lunches for the Saturday and Sunday field trip. A church group can probably serve our banquet. One field trip could leave from the KOA Camp ground and work west for six to eight miles through back roads of the prairies, coming out at a point just north and west of Belvidere. The other trip goes southeast across the White River and then south of the White River and makes a circuit through the prairies, visiting several small areas of Badlands. Keith Evans was appointed as chairman for field trips, Esther Serr as chairman of food and housing and Mrs. DeVries as general chairman of meeting. George Jonkel moved that the week end of May 20-21 be the time for the spring

meeting. Paul Springer seconded and the motion carried.

Nelda Holden read a resolution prepared by Herman Chapman requesting the Board of Regents to officially designate the museum at U. of South Dakota at Vermillion as "W. H. Over Museum." A motion was made by Les Baylor to adopt the resolution and send it to the Board of Regents of the State of So. Dak. Ruth Habeger seconded and the motion carried. It was suggested that copies of the resolution be sent to each member of the regents. We should also inform our senators on how we feel about the name for the museum.

A brief treasurer's report was given: a balance of \$584.09 in the checking account and \$300 in C. D., giving total worth of \$884.09.

No report was available regarding the decals, shoulder patches, and book plates but the committee will try to have them available at the spring meeting at Belvidere. It was suggested that a form be added to the dues notice asking members how many of each they would like.

Nat Whitney said that the members of the checklist committee are working. He suggested that the papers that were presented at the meeting should be published, at least in abstract form, in S. D. Bird Notes, for Checklist records.

Paul Springer described Chan Robbins' "Breeding Bird Survey" and hoped that someone in the state would be the coordinator for the program in South Dakota. It will provide a good

baseline for present populations to be compared with those of later years. There will be 16 routes for South Dakota to cover each degree block. The routes will be covered only once starting June 1967 and stops of three minutes each, every one-half mile of route, are made to list all birds heard or seen within one-quarter mile of each stop. Nat Whitney, with the help of the other checklist committee members, will act as coordinator for this Breeding Bird Survey.

Les Baylor presented the program advocated by the Plant Pest Control Division to spray for grasshoppers if area involved is 10,000 acres. They would use Malithion spray which is not as deadly to birds directly as other insecticides are. The farmer would pay two-thirds of cost and they hope to get the legislation to get the state to pay one-third of the cost of the program. It would cost the state \$100,000 for the program. Les pointed out that grasshoppers provide good food for gallinaceous birds and the program could destroy enough grasshoppers so that there will not be enough food for birds to maintain themselves in the area. He suggested that SDOU should have the Liaison Committee either lobby against this program or at least watch what might happen to it in the legislation. President Chilson said the Liaison Committee should keep in check with this project.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nelda Holden, Secretary



W. H. Over, with Chas. P. Crutchett. Before the W. H. Over Museum at Vermillion, about 1926

LEAD BIRD BATHS—Dr. George C. Shattuck, former president of the Massachusetts Conservation Council, reports that analysis of water taken from lead bird baths which he had placed on his property in Brookline and at Northeast Harbor, Me., disclosed dissolved lead far in excess of standards for human consumption. "I had noticed," Dr. Shattuck said, "that birds rarely, if ever, drank from them or bathed in them. It occurred to me that the water in them might contain enough lead to be poisonous, particularly when it had been in the bath several sunny days."—*New Hampshire News*.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, William H. Over was responsible for the operation and development of the museum at the University of South Dakota from the time of his appointment in 1913 to the date of his retirement in 1950.

AND WHEREAS, during this long period he repeatedly visited all parts of the state of South Dakota, from the Cave Hills in the northwest to the sand dunes and McCook Lake in the southeast; and from the flint quarries in the southwest to Big Seche in the northeast, traversing the full course of the Big Muddy across the state, as well as its many tributaries gathering specimens of the rich and varied flora and fauna of the region and investigating and acquiring material evidence of the human occupation of this area from the time of the aborigines down to the era of the last homesteaders, all of the time in contact with residents of the field by personal contact and by correspondence, coming to be known as the Natural History Man of South Dakota;

AND WHEREAS, William H. Over was at all times much concerned in recording the data concerning the flora and fauna, in fact all of the natural history he was thus developing, and was responsible for the publication of a series of bulletins of the museum, covering a wide range of subjects, adding his own personal observations and even financing these publications when state funds were scarce or wholly lacking, thus creating a literature which is still unique and valuable;

AND WHEREAS, the high standing and status of William H. Over in his chosen field of endeavor and sacrifice has been recognized by South Dakota

Ornithologists' Union by the election of him as the first Honorary Member of this organization with the publication of a brief biography of him in its official organ, South Dakota Bird Notes;

AND WHEREAS the members of this organization firmly believe that proper and adequate recognition of this Man and his Merits should be given by the entire state he loved and served so well so long.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by South Dakota Ornithologists' Union in annual mid-year convention assembled at Vermillion, South Dakota, November 26, 1966, that the Board of Regents of the State of South Dakota be, should, and it is so requested, officially designate the Museum of the University of South Dakota at Vermillion, South Dakota, as "**W. H. Over Museum.**"

* * * *

CALL FOR SNOWY OWL OBSERVATIONS

The following information is requested: Name and address of observer, date, time, and location of observation (state, nearest town, county, and, if possible, township, range, and section), habitat, activity, and weather. If the bird is perching, how high and on what is it perching? Please send observations to: Thomas H. Nicholls, University of Minnesota, Museum of Natural History, Minneapolis, Minn. 55455. Co-operators will be sent a report of overall results if requested. Thanks.—**Tom Nicholls.**

Book Reviews

Keith and Betty Evans

BIRDS OF North America: A Guide to Field Identification, by Chandler S. Robbins, Bertel Bruun, and Herbert S. Zim. Published by Golden Press, Inc., N. Y., 340 pp. \$2.95, with flexible plastic cover, \$4.95 cloth.

This new guide to field identification of birds is packed full of beautiful and authentic color illustrations. Arthur Singer, one of today's foremost painters of birds, devoted three years to painting 2000 birds representing 699 species in North America.

This guide is especially handy for South Dakota "birders," as it covers both eastern and western species. It is compact, measuring only 4½" x 7½," and is about three-quarters inch thick.

"Rich" is the word most adequately describing the information in this book. It is impossible to describe in detail everything covered in this exciting new book; however, over 300 "sonagrams" describe the various bird songs. These audiospectrograms (sonagrams) are going to take a bit of study to understand, but with a little practice, one can visualize the approximate pitch, quality, tempo, and length of an unfamiliar bird song. The authors say, "A knowledge of music helps in interpreting sonagrams but is by no means necessary." We think sonagrams are an exciting new approach to bird songs.

The illustrations and text rely on as many facets of ornithology as possible to aid in correctly identifying a species. Some of these aids include flight patterns, size, and habits, including walking, feeding, courtship, nest building,

and caring for the young. Let's not forget the range maps! The maps of North America are small but plentiful, and a glance is enough to grasp the extent of a species' range. Various colors are used to indicate summer range, winter range, and year around habitat.

The general design of the book is simple—even-numbered pages offer written descriptions and the odd-numbered opposite page carries color illustrations of the species described. There are "extras" spaced throughout the book. Such extras include illustrations of differences among groups of shorebirds, bill shape, feather color, and habits of the passerine birds, and illustrations of head patterns of 50 species of wood warblers.

Inside the front cover is a handy, quick guide to major families. We have used this guide on several bird trips and believe it will prove its worth as a quick, convenient, and accurate guide to field identification of birds in North America. Full appreciation of this publication will be developed through its frequent use in field studies.—**Rapid City.**

J. W. Johnson

Birds in Our Lives, edited by Alfred Stefferud, U. S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. 1966. 576 pages. 9" x 11." Profusely illustrated with 572 photographs and 80 drawings. \$9. Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C.

This is a landmark among popular books on birds and a wonderful companion. Not a book to read straight

through. I doubt if anyone could take that much on birds. But to be kept by to read at brief opportunities, to page through—and get lost in. And certainly it is the book bargain of the year, perhaps of the decade.

Its 61 authors include many names that are household words and a host of others whose stature just never happened to get attention outside of the profession. Many of these are in the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and most are international authorities. All of them are giving their best from their

lifelong interest in birds. Of course it is a book to treasure in the years ahead.

All of the book is thoroughly enjoyable and hard to pass over without reading. Being composed of short articles that have a continually varying approach, being independently written, brief paging finds one to fit the mood of the moment. Birds, from the greatest to the smallest, from chickens to eagles, they all are viewed, examined, probed, and appreciated—and never so thoroughly.—**Huron.**

South Dakota Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

BROOKINGS, SOUTH DAKOTA 57007

September 26, 1966

Mr. James W. Johnson, Editor

South Dakota Bird Notes

Dear Jim:

I have had several exchanges of correspondence with Mr. F. H. Davis, Regional Supervisor of Management and Enforcement in the Minneapolis Office of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife regarding salvage of birds found dead and their disposition to museums and other educational institutions. You will recall that this subject was discussed by Assistant Regional Supervisor Henry M. Reeves, at the South Dakota Ornithologists Union meeting in Brookings on May 14.

Mr. Davis points out that in addition to those relatively few private individuals in South Dakota who have been issued Federal permits to collect or salvage certain migratory birds for specific purposes, all U. S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife employees are authorized to salvage dead or seriously injured migratory birds. Knowledge by SDOU members of such birds may be brought to the attention of these Bureau employees for proper handling and disposition.

You may want to include this item in the next issue of **Bird Notes** for the information of interested SDOU members.

Sincerely yours,

Paul F. Springer, Leader

cc: F. H. Davis
David Fisher

DECEMBER, 1966

39

General Notes of Special Interest

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER AT OAKWOOD LAKES—On May 5, 1966, during a drive through Oakwood Lakes, Dave and I stopped to see what warblers might be back near the west end of the picnic area. The song of the Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher was heard and the bird was soon seen flitting from branch to branch with its long tail swinging in the wind. Identification was positive for the bird familiar to me from association with them in Ohio.

Paul Springer reported having seen a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher two years before this sighting, in about the same area of Oakwood Lakes.

No reference was found in South Dakota Bird Notes of this bird having been seen in the state before these two sightings. The range according to Bent's "Life History of North American Thrushes, Kinglets, and their Allies" seems to go all around South Dakota but does not mention any records in the state. Records have been found of observations in Lincoln and Omaha, Nebraska; Hawarden and Grinnell, Iowa; and Minneapolis and Frontenac, Minnesota.—**Nelda Holden, Brookings, So. Dak.**

* * * *

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER IN HURON—In the early forenoon of August 28, 1966, a number of small flycatchers were darting about our back yard. Too busy to perch for more than an instant, they presented the usual problem of the Empidonax—that most of us never feel too confident about anyway. I was about to move on to more promising birds when two of

them suddenly perched hardly a couple of inches apart and slightly left of full face. It was a page out of a bird book. They were perhaps 30 feet away and my 7 x 50 binocular brought them close and clear—pictures.

They were identical in size, wing-bars, white-edged primaries, and eye-ring. One had light olive underparts and was no doubt either Traill's or Least Flycatcher.

But the other was bright yellow down its front from beak to tail. It would be a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, the first I had ever seen.

Robbins, Bruun, Zim and Singer note this bird is: "Plentiful on nesting grounds in spruce-fir forest but rarely seen on migration." Over and Thoms say: "Occasionally seen up the eastern side of the state where it nests."

The 1957 Check-List has it nesting only to northern North Dakota and Minnesota.

Since this is my first recognition of this bird in 27 years in this area, it must be "rarely seen on migration."—**J. W. Johnson.**

* * * *

UPLAND PLOVERS, LARK BUNTINGS, CHIMNEY SWIFTS, RED CROSSBILLS, ODD NIGHTHAWK IN GRANT COUNTY—On June 25, 1966, Ellen Williamson and I saw 12 Upland Plovers on the prairie south of Marvin, South Dakota in the same place where we had seen them the previous year. As we neared South Shore, on the same road, Ellen recognized male Lark Buntings and, as we turned east one mile north of South Shore, we saw

more of them. This was the first time we had ever seen them in Grant County.

The first week in August, 1966 about 75 Chimney Swifts were observed using the roost I had watched in 1965. On September 4, fully 200 birds entered the chimney for roosting. After that the numbers dwindled gradually until September 20 when only two swifts were seen. In 1965 the birds were all gone by September 10 and 75 was the greatest number ever observed entering the roost.

A small flock of 10-16 Red Crossbills enjoyed the cones on a neighbor's Ponderosa pine from October 4 to 8. A month later they were still around.

One lone Nighthawk roosted daily on my dead boulevard tree until October 1, when it was seen no more. It had an odd habit of rocking back and forth on its perch and I wondered if that was characteristic of the bird. I couldn't find any information about the birds which described such a habit.—**Louise Flett, Milbank.**

* * * *

HIGHWAY COUNT OF LARK BUNTINGS—In the late afternoon of May 27, 1966, we were on our way to Pierre from Huron on Highway 14. Aware of the violent fluctuations of Lark Bunting numbers from year to year and noting how common they were along the road, we undertook to make a systematic count of the lark buntings we saw. Only the birds on the right or north side of the road were considered and only those surely identified were included in the total. The later requirement helped to limit the width of the area over which the count was made because only birds perched on fences or in flight could be identified as we passed. Birds on the ground or at a distance of a hundred yards were excluded because their identification in

the brief glance possible would be in doubt.

The count started about Wolsey and was stopped as we turned off Highway 14 into the truck route just east of Pierre. The distance counted was roughly 100 miles and we sighted 49 lark buntings on the one side of the road. Since there is no reason to doubt that an equal number was actually present on the other side, the average would be well over a bird per mile, since we could not have noted all the birds on the side counted.

The species was not uniformly distributed. Often we would go several miles without seeing one. Again two or three would be in sight at the same time.—**J. W. and Lucille Johnson, Huron.**

* * * *

SPARROW HAWK SUSPECTED OF ROBBING NETS—The climax to a series of unexplained events came on October twenty-sixth while I was banding birds in Lake Herman State Park. For the first part of this past year I have been banding birds in the Park, under the supervision of Miss Ruth Habeger, one of my college instructors. Last spring I received my own banding permit.

Late this summer while mist netting in one particular shelter belt, I found two or three holes torn in the nets. Other banders had told me that some birds fly fast enough to go through the fine nets. This was a possible answer for the holes in the upper tier, however, quite often I would find rather large holes in the bottom tiers of the nets. I thought this could be damage done by cats or some other large animal, although I had never seen any animal of this type in the area.

The number of birds that I caught in my nets seemed quite small for the

number of birds I would see in the area. Then one day I found a badly mangled, dead Myrtle Warbler in the third tier. This was really a mystery to me. An animal large enough to reach the bird could surely have ripped it from the net, unless I scared the animal away when I came to check the nets.

On October twenty-sixth I had to band in a different shelter belt in the park because the caretakers were cutting wood in the area I had previously used. I set up two fine nets and one coarse. I caught only one Purple Finch in the first hour, although numerous Juncos were in the area.

Later, a friend stopped and helped me check the nets. At the first fine net we could see only one Junco. We thought this was unusual, because from my experience, Juncos are usually in flocks and it was normal to catch three or more in the nets at a time. While I was removing the Junco my friend noticed new holes in the net. There were three since the last time we had checked. The second fine mist net was empty when we checked it so we moved on to the coarse net. To our surprise a Sparrow Hawk was caught in the bottom tier of the net!

Without gloves or any other protection, I got the hawk out and started to the car to look the troublemaker over. As I walked to the car, the hawk sunk his talons into my hand and hung on. I worked him free and placed him in a catching bag. The Ecology class from the college was coming out to observe my banding and I wanted them to see the hawk before I turned it loose.

When the class came, we checked the nets and found five or six Juncos, which I banded. Then we examined the hawk and found his crop bulging.

After the class and my friend had left, I realized that I still had the hawk and no one left to help me band it. I

didn't want another encounter with the hawk's talons, so I released it, unband-ed.

As I watched the hawk circle and fly away, I couldn't help feeling that he was responsible for the loss of several birds from my nets!

In the past I had never seen a hawk, cat or dog or any other animal in the area of the nets. However, in the future I plan to watch for all of these possible troublemakers, especially the swift Sparrow Hawk!—Gary G. Robinson, Madison, South Dakota.

* * * *

U. S. FOREST SERVICE QUILTS DDT

The U. S. Forest Service has completed a three-year phase-out and this season will not use DDT on federal forests.

The Service has substituted malathion as insecticide against spruce budworms on 50,000 acres in New Mexico, 111,000 acres in Idaho, and 80,000 acres in Montana. A new carbamate, Zectran, will be tested against spruce budworms on 6,500 acres in Montana and 51,000 acres in Idaho.

The Service's switch from the persistent DDT to non-persistent pesticides represents a major gain for wildlife, particularly in the West.

* * * *

President's Page

(Continued from Page 75)

food habits and the raising of the young.

Thomas Dunston, USD student, talked on, "A Study of Ospreys in Northern Minnesota." Osprey nests are found only in dead trees and in the very tip of the tree. The nests varied from 45 to 60 feet from the ground making this study very risky.

At the business meeting a resolution was passed unanimously asking the State Board of Regents to restore the

name Wililam H. Over to the museum building.

The banquet was held in the beautifully appointed dining room in the Union Building. Dr. Alfred Grewe, St. Cloud, Minnesota, shared his doctoral dissertation with us, "**South Dakota's Bald Eagles.**" Grewe reminded us, "Today bald eagles nest in only five states, they used to nest in 22." "Eagles are scavengers, dead fish probably account for 90 per cent of their diet. Only once in all of the nests I examined did I see a pheasant, and I think it possible it was a dead one picked up on the highway."

Dr. Byron Harrell, head of the Zoology Department of the University, could well afford to sit back and bask in a well earned glow of fatherly pride, as he listened to these, his former students, tell of their achievements. We are grateful for these fine students who are working in a sorely needed wildlife study.—**Herman P. Chilson.**

* * * *

NATURAL SCIENCE SOCIETY IS PROPOSED FOR NORTH DAKOTA

To join together those North Dakotans interested in the enjoyment, study, and preservation of our State's animal life, plant life, and related natural resources the North Dakota Natural Science Society has been proposed. Plans for a state-wide organizational meeting in January are now nearing completion.

Recently, the interim executive committee of the proposed society met in Jamestown to develop preliminary organizational plans. The committee's decision was to name the organization as indicated, with the objective of including people interested in all phases of the natural sciences. Recommendations were approved to charge a \$2.00 membership fee to all members to cover the cost of printing a modest quarterly

publication and incidental (administrative costs. It was tentatively decided that the society schedule two meetings annually: one to deal primarily with business of the organization and the other to provide an outdoor experience in different geographic areas of the state.

The society will be formed to bring together both amateur and professional North Dakotans interested in animal life, plant life, geology, outdoor photography and other phases of the natural ecology. Initial objectives of the proposed organization are to provide opportunity for the exchange of information by holding annual meetings, conducting field trips, publishing a quarterly bulletin, holding seminars, and making recommendations on vital issues concerning the utilization of the states natural resources.

The quarterly newsletter will provide an outlet and a permanent record for papers on various aspects of the natural history of North Dakota. It will serve as a media for publishing articles on the flora and fauna of the state as well as related interests in other fields of natural and physical sciences and will utilize good wildlife and outdoor photographs. It will provide a source for North Dakotans to describe and learn about their own state and to inform others in nearby states and provinces.

The formal organizational meeting will be held at the Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center at Jamestown, North Dakota on January 7-8, 1967. Registration will begin on Saturday, January 7 at 9:00 a. m. Persons interested in attending this meeting or joining the proposed society should write to: **Mr. Ted James, Biology Department, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, North Dakota 58202.**

WESTERN KINGBIRD NESTING SUCCESS AT HIGHMORE—In other years western kingbirds built their nests in our young elm trees, only to have them destroyed by storms. The nests were placed in the upper parts of the trees and were literally whipped to pieces by the storm-lashed branches. Again this year (1966) two pairs nested in the elms, this time successfully.

One nest, on the south side of the yard, was seven feet from the ground, in the crotch of an American elm. The other, about a hundred feet away, on the north side of the yard, was nine feet high, in a crotch of a hybrid elm. In each case the nest was on a firm foundation and well protected.

From inside the house I could watch the progress of the south nest because it was in line with the window and about eye level. But the position had the disadvantage that the birds could also see me. The distance was 15 feet.

The exact date of incubation start did not get recorded but it was about June 15. Both pairs built their nests at the same time and started incubation at the same time. A mirror taped to the slightly bent end of old antenna tubing made it possible for me to check the eggs, and, eventually, the number of young in the nests. Four eggs became four fledglings in the south nest and three eggs became three birds in the north nest. Both pairs of parents began feeding their young June 29, which I called the hatching date.

From the end of June on the weather was so hot, I went out only when necessary; so the fledglings in the south nest got more observation.

The peephole in the curtain didn't give a view of the parents when they were away from the nest but I could

watch the little ones as they developed. As they attained size and feathers, became more active and began standing up in the nest. Then one ventured to sit on the edge of the nest and the others followed the leader within a day or two. On July 14, the fledglings were in or near their nests, and they looked like duplicates of their parents except for their shorter tails. On July 15, both nests were empty.

A few days later, with the aid of a ladder, I checked the nests. Twigs, grasses, rootlets, tendrils, and chunks of lint from the clothes dryer were the materials used. The south nest also had a piece of clear plastic in its base.—**Mrs. Morris Harter, Highmore.**

* * * *

ODD-COLORED TOWHEE AT HURON—At 11:00 a. m., October 18, 1966, a Rufous-sided Towhee, spotted (*P. e. arcticus*) female, with a wide, irregular eye-ring and small spots of white on top of head and forehead appeared in our yard. The white eye-ring would average one-eighth inch wide or more and made the red eye stand out with startling prominence.

The bird came in from the north on the ground, went to a tree about 30 feet from the window where we examined it carefully for a couple of minutes with 7 x 50 binoculars before it moved out of sight.

A few minutes later a normally colored male of this subspecies appeared briefly on the ground nearby.—**J. W. and Lucille Johnson, Huron.**

New Members Since December, 1965

Anderson, Dr. Allan J.	15 West 10th Avenue, Webster,	S. Dak.	57274
Billups, Miss Sinnia	Stickney,	S. Dak.	57375
Blesser, Karl E.	812 So. Main., Milbank,	S. Dak.	57252
Bowen, Alice L.	209 N. Leaders, Sioux Falls,	S. Dak.	57103
Brown, Mrs. Wendell	6111 Excelsior Blvd., Minneapolis,	Minn.	55416
Byorth, Rev. Fr. Paul	Frankfort,	S. Dak.	57440
Catherman, Mrs. Verna	Carnegie Library, Armour,	S. Dak.	57313
Fromelt, Mr. E. J.	Grenville,	S. Dak.	57239
Gill, Miss S. Eleanore	Box 456, Pine Ridge,	S. Dak.	57770
Gross, Kathy	916 N. E. 5th Street, Madison,	S. Dak.	57042
Gunner, Dr. L. G.	Martin,	S. Dak.	57551
Hunter, Don	Centerville,	S. Dak.	57014
Husmann, Kenneth H.	703 Sixth Street, Brookings,	S. Dak.	57006
Husmann, Mrs. Patsy T.	703 Sixth Street, Brookings,	S. Dak.	57006
Kalberg, Harold	617 Park Ave., Ortonville,	Minn.	56278
Kettering, Mrs. Alyce L.	Rural Route, Mellette,	S. Dak.	57461
Koch, O. H.	904 So. 8th Street, Aberdeen,	S. Dak.	57401
Lauritzen, Lester R.	Box 32, Route 3, Centerville,	S. Dak.	57014
Lynch, Lawrence R.	502 So. 1st, Aberdeen,	S. Dak.	57401
Mathews, Jim	Sand Lake Refuge, Columbia,	S. Dak.	57433
Nelson, Delbert B.	Box 1309, Augustana College, Sioux Falls,	S. Dak.	57105
Lincoln Library	Mankato State College, Mankato,	Minn.	56001
O'Brien, Mr. O. E.	Stickney,	S. Dak.	57375
Olsen, David L.	Lake Andes Wildlife Refuge, Lake Andes,	S. Dak.	57356
Pier, L. A.	Belvidere,	S. Dak.	57521
Pier, Miss Tamara	Belvidere,	S. Dak.	57521
Rogers, Mr. Verle	Mellette,	S. Dak.	57461
Rose, B. J.	1123 So. Kline, Aberdeen,	S. Dak.	57401
Rose, Lois	1123 So. Kline, Aberdeen,	S. Dak.	57401
Sand Lake Refuge	Columbia,	S. Dak.	57433
Sieh, James G.	702 N. Lincoln, Aberdeen,	S. Dak.	57401
Smith, Barry	Mellette,	S. Dak.	57461
Stephenson, Steve	Rutland,	S. Dak.	57057
Suther, Kirk	Britton,	S. Dak.	57430
Town, Ralph H.	Lake Andes Wildlife Refuge, Lake Andes,	S. Dak.	57356
Tremaine, Dr. Mary M.	4920 Emmett St., Omaha, Nebraska		68104
Trim, Wayne (Honorary Member)	Sketch Book Farm, Chatham, N. Y.		12037
Underwood, Paul C.	Route 1, Aberdeen,	S. Dak.	57401
Urton, Mrs. Harold	Tudor Apartments, Pierre,	S. Dak.	57501
Voelker, Paul	Humbolt,	S. Dak.	57035
Wallenstrom, Rolf L.	1888 Eisenhower Circle, Aberdeen,	S. Dak.	57401
Wegner, Mrs. Karl	1012 Lincoln Road, Sioux Falls,	S. Dak.	57105
Williams, Mr. Terry	Rural Route, Gettysburg,	S. Dak.	57442
Watertown Carnegie Library	Maple at 1st Ave. S., Watertown,	S. Dak.	57201
Zimmerman, Elroy	Bristol,	S. Dak.	57219
45 New Members	14 Withdrawals		265 Total Membership

ADDRESS CHANGES FROM DECEMBER, 1965

Bachmann, Gertrude	3304 Cottonwood St., Rapid City,	S. Dak.	57701
Drewien, Rod	Dept. of Game, Fish, and Parks, 614 6th Ave., Aberdeen,	S. Dak.	57401
Ellis, Mrs. Milton J.	Mattawan, Michigan		49071
Fox, Adrian C.	P. O. Box 327, Leeds, North Dakota		58346
Harris, Bruce K.	Woonsocket,	S. Dak.	57385
Krause, Herbert (until Sept., 1967), P.O. Box 173, Quezon City, Philippines			
Moriarty, Dr. L. J.	13 Manitou Island, White Bear Lake, Minn.		55110
Nelson, Ronald Roy	Box 5872, Duke Station, Durham, N. C.		27706

In Memoriam

WILLIAM YOUNGWORTH

All fortunate enough to have known him were deeply grieved to learn of the death after an extended illness of Bill Youngworth of Sioux City.

He had been active in ornithology in the three states throughout a long and busy life. More important for those who come after, was his tireless habit of preparing and submitting for publication the information he collected.

To this editor, he was a valued friend who never failed to regret errors or rejoice when work came out well, always available with the best answer when problems in ornithology seemed beyond adequate solution.

His place will not be filled in our time.