

SOUTH DAKOTA BIRD NOTES

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DECEMBER, 1962

Whole No. 55



Prairie Chicken

—E. W. Steffen

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President's Page

REMEMBER . . .

Brookings for our Winter Meeting, Jan. 19, 20.

Herb Krause has arranged a program for us: Saturday evening: Mrs. Lueshen's films of Delta Waterfowl, followed by an informal meeting. Sunday: Papers by Rosine, Hughlett, and Holden. Christmas Bird Counts. Willis Hall's pictures. Business meeting.

AMATEURS contribute greatly to ornithological knowledge in many ways. One way is the recording of daily observations as they are made on field trips. Provide yourself with a substantial notebook in the form of a daily diary to be taken with you in the car on all field trips.

One book can serve for several years, if you get the any-year type and enter the year before all daily notes of migrants, counts, nestings, and like notations of things you see, along with the locations and descriptions of the surroundings. This will grow more valuable when you can look back over it to review the data.

A number of yearly records will show the variations due to weather, change of environment or other reasons. A summary of these will be of value on a national scale as soon as



they include a few years' records.

If many of us would do these things our organization could become known as outstanding. In studying the "Bent Series," I find a great paucity of information on most species in our area, showing a lack of record keeping in the past.

Let's all help get our state on the map ornithologically. We have much talent in our group and more birds to study than most places in the country. As an example I have written what I have learned about the nests and nesting of over 30 species found in South Dakota from my notes and have material for many more when time can be found for it.

In the literature studied so far I find 198 species that definitely do nest in South Dakota. I also find 62 species which have no specific mention as nesting in the state. Most of these, I believe, will, in time, be found nesting somewhere in South Dakota. That leaves a little over a hundred species that are strictly migrants.—L. J. Moriarty.

Shore Birds, 1962

Alfred Peterson

REVIEWING the present Shore Bird season, I find some satisfaction in the status of a number of species, disappointment in others. But on the whole I cannot complain.

Piping Plover. May 14, 1 Bitter Lake.

Ringed Plover. None seen.

Killdeer. March 28, 2; soon common.

Golden Plover. May 8, 65 a mile north of Brandt; 5|9, 47 same place; 5|10, 80 same place; 5|12, the whole number at same place in flight, and 2 east of Brandt at 3 miles; 5|14, flock of 25 in flight east of Ortlely.

Black-bellied Plover. May 14, 7 at Bitter Lake.

Ruddy Turnstone. May 14, 12 on Rush Lake; 5|18, 30 Rush Lake.

Common Snipe. Not seen.

Upland Plover. May 5, 2 east of Milbank; 5|14, about 12 seen on trip to Waubay and Waubay Refuge; 5|18, 3 on trip to Refuge.

Spotted Sandpiper. May 3, 1; 5|14, 1.

Solitary Sandpiper. May 14, 1 east of Milbank.

Willet. April 26, 1 Rush Lake; 4|30, 2 in Brandt at corner; 5|1, 2 at Lake Poinsett; 1 near Thomas; 5|12, 1 near Thomas; 5|14, 2 Bitter Lake; 5|18, 1 Rush Lake.

Greater Yellowlegs. April 26, 2 at Brandt; 4|30, 4 near Brandt; 5|1, several same place; 5|5, several east of Milbank.

Lesser Yellowlegs. April 21, 20 at Clear Lake 4|24, about 25 west of Estelline; 4|23, 25 3 miles east of Brandt; 4|28, about 50 total from 3 places. Then sparingly until 5|9, when a number were seen.

Pectoral Sandpiper. April 22, about

25 near Thomas; 4|30, 20 near Brandt; 5|1, the same; 5|2, 25 east of Brandt; 5|5, 100 or more near "Bird Haven." 5|12, 40 about 600 feet from Brandt street; 5|13, the same; 5|14, same place; 5|15, 20 same place.

White-rumped Sandpiper. May 14, about 25 total Bitter and Rush Lakes.

Baird's Sandpiper. Not seen.

Least Sandpiper. May 6, 2 or 3; 5|14, 3 or 4 on trip to Rush Lake.

Dunlin. May 14, 2 Bitter Lake; 5|18, about 20 on gravel road south of Bitter Lake.

Dowitcher. May 6, 1 at school 4 miles east of Brandt.

Stilt Sandpiper. April 30, 1 at Brandt; 5|18, 4 or more near Bitter Lake. (A surprising drop for this and the Dowitcher.)

Semipalmated Sandpiper. May 18, few seen on trip.

Western Sandpiper. Not seen.

Marbled Godwit. April 21, 2 near Clear Lake; 5|12, 1 near Brandt with the Hudsonians; 5|8, 2 near Bitter Lake.

Hudsonian Godwit. May 12, 16 about 600 feet from my doorway, stopped an hour, then 3 returned at 4:30, the 1 Marbled likewise; 5|18, again 2, up near Bitter Lake.

Sanderling. May 14, dozen on Rush Lake; 5|16, 5|18, 6 Rush Lake.

Avocet. April 26, 3 Bitter Lake and 2 Rush Lake; 5|3, 2 south of Bitter Lake and 2 Rush Lake; 5|14, about 20, most on Bitter Lake shores; 5|18, some half dozen.

Wilson's Phalarope. April 28, about 20 4 miles east of Brandt; 4|30, 20 near

Brandt; 5|1, 5|5 and 5|14, a few only.
 Northern Phalarope, May 18, 4 at
 Bitter Lake. High water drove Dun-
 lins and Stilt Sandpipers to seek more

favorable conditions. Yellowlegs scat-
 tered, and Pectorals acting as "grass
 snipe" were in their element.

CO-OPERATIVE STUDY OF BUFFLEHEAD MIGRATION—SPRING 1962

Locality - Brandt, South Dakota, Deuel County

Date	Males	Females	Place	Total
April 22	8	4	Lake Norden	12
	4	1	Lake Marsh	5
	2	1	Hayti	3
April 24	1	1	Oakwood	2
	3	3	Lake Norden	6
April 26	3	1	Chain Lakes	4
May 1	3	4	Lake Mary	7
	1	1	Lake Norden	2
May 3	2	2	Thomas	4
May 14	1	1	Rush Lake	2
	—	—		—
	28	19		47

—Alfred Peterson, Brandt, S. D.

Canadian Wildlife Service,
 P. O. Box 180,
 Sackville, New Brunswick,
 Canada

Probably the first date shown above comes within a day or two of being arrival date for all stations, following the clearing of ice from the larger bodies of water.

Rough weather April 22 brought more difficulty in locating female Buffleheads on Lake Norden, and it is quite certain that more than 4 were present.

For 1961, in the same area as above, the list is as follows:

March 25, 3; 3|30, 2; 4|1, 1; 4|3, 2; and 2; 4|8, 7; 4|10, 3; 4|11, 2; 4|12, 11; 4|14, 6; 4|16, 3; 4|17, 4; 4|18, 6; 4|19, 10; 4|20, 2; 4|22, 2; 4|26, 3; 4|28, 1; 4|30, 5|1, 5|2, 5|20, 1.

—A.P.

FALL OBSERVATIONS, 1962

Loc.*

- 1 Aug. 9: Half dozen Lesser Yellowlegs; 10 Pectorals; 1 Baird's Sandpiper.
- 1 Aug. 10: 1 Snipe; near 20 Pectoral Sandpipers; 1 Baird's Sandpiper.
- 2 Aug. 11: About 25 Stilt Sandpipers; several Semipalmated Sandpipers; 6 Wilson's Phalaropes.
- 1 Aug. 13: 1 Lesser Yellowlegs; about 25 Pectoral Sandpipers; 2 Phalaropes.
- 2 Aug. 15: 1 Solitary Sandpiper; about 20 Yellowlegs; some 100 Pectoral Sand-

pipers; several Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers; 1 Sanderling; about 20 Wilson's Phalaropes.

- 1 Aug. 16: 2 Yellowlegs 25 Pectorals; 1 Phalarope.
1 Aug. 18: 4 Lesser Yellowlegs; 12 Pectoral; 2 Stilt Sandpipers; 8 Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers.
2 Aug. 19: 1 Solitary Sandpiper; about 20 Lesser Yellowlegs; about 100 Pectoral Sandpipers; half dozen Phalaropes.
1 Aug. 24: Few Pectoral Sandpipers.
3 Aug. 28: 4 Golden Plover; 2 Yellowlegs; 20 Pectorals; dozen or so Baird's Sandpipers; several Least Sandpipers.
3 Aug. 29: 4 Golden Plover; few Pectorals; 12 plus Baird's Sandpipers; several Least Sandpipers; 2 Buff-breasted Sandpipers; 1 Sanderling.
2 Aug. 30: Few Lesser Yellowlegs; few Least Sandpipers; 20 or more Dowitchers; 200 plus Stilt Sandpipers; about 30 Avocets.
2 Sept. 1: 4 Black-bellied Plover; 1 Solitary Sandpiper; 1 Willet; 1 Greater Yellowlegs; many Lesser Yellowlegs; many Pectorals; about 40 Dowitchers; about 150 Stilt Sandpipers; 50 plus Avocets.
2 Sept. 3: 3 Snipe; 1 Black-bellied Plover; Lesser Yellowlegs plentiful; About 50 Pectoral Sandpipers; 1 Baird's Sandpiper; few Least Sandpipers; 100 plus Dowitchers; about 100 Stilt Sandpipers; 40 or more Avocets; several Wilson's Phalaropes; 1 Northern Phalarope.
2 Sept. 5: 1 Semipalmated Plover; 4 Black-bellied Plover; 1 Greater Yellowlegs; about 100 Lesser Yellowlegs; few Pectoral Sandpipers; 20 or so Baird's Sandpipers; about 50 Dowitchers; about 100 Stilt Sandpipers; 1 Marbled Godwit; 25 Avocets; few Phalaropes.
2 Sept. 7: 2 Semipalmated Plover; 1 Snipe; fair number Lesser Yellowlegs; some Pectorals; about 20 Baird's Sandpipers; dozen Least Sandpipers; Stilt Sandpipers scattered; 2 Marbled Godwits; about 30 Avocets; few Phalaropes.
2 Sept. 8: 1 Snipe; some Lesser Yellowlegs; few Pectoral Sandpipers; few Baird's Sandpipers; about 20 Dowitchers; about 20 Stilt Sandpipers; 1 Avocet; few Phalaropes.

* Locations

- 1 - At Brandt
- 2 - 5 miles south and southwest of Thomas
- 3 - 2½ miles west of Clear Lake

Common Egrets have also been present at location 2 since last August, such as 8:30, 3; 9:1, 3; 9:3, 2; 9:7, 4; 9:8, 7.

Without the three locations shown above and their attendant records this fall season would have been a failure. I am not aware of even a single suitable situation to be found from here to Waubay, so much changed is everything. Some sloughs are dried up, and others contain too much water, leaving no shore-line mud flats or shallows that are attractive to waders.

So let us be thankful for what we have.—Brandt.

White River Birding Continued

Velma DeVries

WHAT dividends of joy we've received from our birding hobby — not only from observing the birds themselves, but also from the new friends we have made among those people who enjoy the same hobby.

Soon after the September Bird Notes came out, I had a nice letter from Mr. William G. Youngworth of Sioux City, along with a lovely colored print of E. W. Steffen's painting of the Arctic Towhees. Just a few days later I saw my first member of this species, sitting on a branch in our yard. It was a talkative male that seemed to find no cause for alarm in my approaching within a few feet of the branch.

Thirteen members and guests of the Rapid City Audubon Bird Club came to Belvidere Sunday, Oct. 14. Among them were Miss Esther Serr, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Halva of Belvidere, Dr. N. R. Whitney and Mrs. Clara Yarger.

The Rapid City group met with twenty-one local people for lunch in the Berry Memorial Auditorium. After lunch Dr. Whitney gave a short talk on the banding of birds. Mrs. Yarger, who edits the Junior Department of *South Dakota Bird Notes*, told about excellent nature-study materials available for Junior Audubon Clubs. A number of home-made bird feeders were exhibited.

The group then went to the Belvidere Bank to see Mr. L. A. Pier's collection of mounted birds and animals, afterward driving south of town to the Wallace DeVries home, which is on the old town of Stearns. There the afternoon was spent in observing various

wild birds, and in listening to the reminiscences of several members of the party who can remember going to Stearns for mail, groceries and social activities before there was a town at Belvidere. These included Mr. and Mrs. Joe Kodet, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Halva and Mrs. Christine Piroutek, all of Belvidere, and Mr. Jim Novak of Rapid City.

Dr. Whitney identified as a Myrtle Warbler a small bird which has been flitting about in our trees. We spent some time riding in the back of the pick-up over the river bottoms. Several hawks—a Marsh Hawk, two Swainson's, and a Red-tailed were circling about the tops of the hills. The Marsh Hawk would land in one place and sit there for a few minutes, only to be flushed up by one of the others. Finally Dr. Whitney and his son John, with our sons Jim and Tommy, climbed the hillside to the spot, where they found a partly-eaten cottontail.

The Rapid City birders asked the question I had been anticipating: "How can you have birds with so many cats around?" I think it is partly because there is such good protection for the birds in the high cottonwoods and thorny Russian Olives. Also the river bottoms provide plenty of mice, gophers and moles, which are really easier for the cats to find than the birds. The cats do catch an occasional bird, but not enough to have any effect on the population. The children love pets—and it is hard to cuddle a bird.

A pair of Swainson's Hawks nested this summer on a high branch of a tree along the road to town. During the

nesting season one of the parent birds developed a strong dislike for our station wagon. Once the children discovered this fact they did what they could to help it along by sticking their heads out the windows and returning the Hawk's screamed insults.

At last the bird got so it would come to meet us as soon as it could hear the station wagon coming. (It showed no such feelings toward the pick-up). It would circle above us, then dive with bared talons and open beak so near the car that the children would gasp and shriek as they watched through the rear window.

There was only one fledgling in the nest. One morning as we went to church the little fellow was sitting in the middle of the road. As we approached it hunched its shoulders, made a ferocious face, and took a few quick, chal-

lenging steps toward the car. Then it turned and flopped off awkwardly into the tall weeds. That was the end, too, of the parents' dive-bombing.

This was a good nesting season for most of the native birds here. The end of summer saw large flocks of Mourning Doves, Killdeers, Blackbirds, Starlings, Grackles, Brown Thrashers, Robins, Meadowlarks, Lark Sparrows, Lark Buntings, Savannah Sparrows, Orioles, quite a number of Cuckoos, Sparrow Hawks, and various other Hawks. I almost forgot the numerous Magpies and Blue Jays. Also, I saw a flock of migrating Bluebirds today.

There is quite a little interest in birding in our community, and I hope that we can do a Christmas count this year.—Velma (Mrs. Wallace) DeVries, Belvidere.



Marsh Hawk

—E. W. Steffen

Birds' Nests of South Dakota

L. J. Moriarty

A.O.U. #191 LEAST BITTERN (*Ixobrychus exilis*)

THIS smallest of the bitterns nests quite often in eastern South Dakota, in the glacial lakes and marshes. As a boy I found one's nest in Spink County containing 5 eggs and two in Codington County in the last five years. The latter each contained 6 eggs.

The few nests found are no true indication of their numbers as it took half a day of almost constant search, mostly wading knee deep in mud and water.

These nests were all located about one foot above water about two feet deep. All were near the open water and located in phragmites which stood more than head high. All were rather flat platforms built of stems of phragmites laid crosswise between the plants which were bent over and intertwined, apparently as a protection from above. The nests were anchored mostly on the previous year's growth.

The nests were about 7 to 8 inches across and only about one to two inches thick, with a saucer about one-half inch and about 6 inches across. The sticks were laid in a criss-cross fashion, thin enough to see through.

The eggs reminded me most of those of the mourning dove, being the same pure white. They were more of an elongated ovate with little difference in

the circumference of either end. They measured about 32x24 millimeters.

The incubating bird stays on the nest until closely approached and, as the nest is nearly always composed of the same material as the growth it is placed in, and the bird slinks away through the reeds in its protective coloration, the nest is very hard to find. The bird makes little or no display that would lead one to it.

Bent and many other writers say that the nests are found most often in common cattails. This could well be but, having found my first in phragmites this perhaps influences me to hunt there for them. However, in many hours among cattails hunting for nests of coots, grebes, and rails I have failed to find the nest of the Least Bittern. The preferred nest site no doubt varies in different parts of the country as they have been found by others on the ground, in bushes, saw grass, as well as cattail and phragmites.

The young birds are covered with a creamy down and, while only a few days old, will climb out of the nest and hide at one's approach. They look clumsy with legs spraddled out between upright phragmites, as though they would fall into the water but, returning an hour later, I found them again on the platform.

They evidently do not defend a large territory, as Kent in 1951 found 19 nests about evenly spaced in 44 acres.—Watertown

Color-Banding and Late Summer Activity of Non-Breeding Birds of a Martin Colony

J. W. Johnson

AS A RESULT of color-banding of adult martins of our colony during the summer of 1962, we were able to distinguish their activity from that of associated non-breeding birds.

The house is of the George H. Lowery design that provides for trapping all apartments at will. It has 18 apartments in three tiers of six each, all opening to one front. For convenience of record the apartments are numbered from left to right and from top to bottom. The back of the house is provided with double sliding panels that expose each apartment as desired for work with birds or eggs.

Since this was our first use of the Lowery house and the reactions of the birds to interference and handling of the adults was unknown to us, the trapping feature was used with caution. Our experience so far indicates it may safely be used more extensively.

During the course of the season 9 pairs of martins built nests in the house and laid eggs. House sparrows destroyed the eggs in three apartments, in one of which (14) a second clutch was laid and hatched (whether or not by the same pair is unknown) making a total of 7 successful nests.

On the night of June 22 the house was closed and all adult martins present were banded with a U.S.F. & W.S. band on the right leg and given a colored plastic band on the left leg for identification by sight.

Present in the house that night were 7 females, each in an apartment con-

taining eggs or young. Four males in full purple were also found, three in empty apartments and one with a female in nest (No. 13) containing eggs. A single possible error of sex (believed improbable because of the consistency with which females were associated with eggs or young in the other six apartments) could be considered in the case of apartment 17, in which the male of the pair had been observed to be an immature in gray plumage.

Another apartment (7) not occupied that night, had an immature male, a bird banded as a nestling in this colony in 1961 and given a green plastic band on the left leg, which he still wore, and the designation "G-11". This bird's activity is described in detail in another note but, for the present purpose, the nest of this pair had been plundered of its two eggs by sparrows prior to June 18 and was occupied by a sparrow nest on June 22.

After the last of the birds had been restored to its proper apartment, the colony was given a few undisturbed minutes, after which the front of the house was opened as quietly as possible.

The result of the night's work was the banding of a total of 7 females from the 7 active apartments and 4 males from otherwise unused apartments except that in 13, a male was found with the female.

On the night of July 7 a recheck of the adult birds was made. Again females, previously banded, were found in the same apartments as before in

all cases that were checked. One nest (6) whose female had been previously banded, was not disturbed because of the young birds. Another (13) was opened just enough to see that a gray was present. In another apartment (8) with banded young, all present were checked and the same female found as before. In addition, an unbanded adult male was found.

In another (14) in which a female was previously banded, an adult male was also found but accidentally allowed to escape without banding or checking for previous bands.

In apartment 17 two gray birds were found, one previously banded in this

apartment and assumed to be the female, and another, now assumed to be the male of the pair, since it was known from regular observations that the male of this pair was an immature.

The two new birds were banded and given colored bands on the right leg, opposite to those banded June 22. These, with those banded June 22, made a total of 6 males and 7 females banded. Again the green banded male from the apartment lost to sparrows was not present, though seen about the house regularly during the day. The adult male of 6 was apparently unbanded, as an adult male, active about this apartment later, had no band.

SUMMARY

Males		Females	
From Apts. 1, 3, 5, 8, 13, & 17	6	From Apts. 4, 6, 8, 10,	
Green band, G-11	1	13, 14, & 17	7
Escaped (unbanded) 14	1	Paired with G-11	1
Unbanded (active at apt. 6)	1		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	Total 9		Total 8

Nests

G-11 (Lost to sparrows)	1
Uncertain ownership, lost to sparrows, 2, in 1 of which (14) eggs were replaced, possibly by same pair	1
Active nests (including the one in which a second clutch was laid) 4, 6, 8, 10, 13, 14, & 17	7
	<hr/>
Total	9

Several explanations for the possible extra male present themselves. Choice seems uncertain; but the escaped bird could have been banded. An additional odd point is that no other banded males were found present on July 7.

Continuing study of the activity about the house showed the banded birds busy in parental duties, though some unbanded individuals, generally grays, were often present.

As the young started coming out on July 10, it was noted that unbanded birds and the green banded male were showing an increasing interest in empty apartments as well as those in use. Banded birds began disappearing from the flock seen about the house, presumably the parents of the young leaving.

What, for the moment, will be called "paired behavior" was particularly noted as early as July 21, when an unhandled gray, taking a green leaf to 10 (occupied-young) was driven off by an adult male. This gray was presumed to be an immature male and a non-breeder of the colony and season.

By July 26 paired behavior was noticeable about apartments 6, 7 and 11 by gray and purple birds, banded status not recorded; also about empty 6 and 7 on the morning of July 28. G-11 was seen at a colony four blocks south about July 22, indicating that these birds may wander about and to other colonies.

On August 2 a banded pair before apartment 4 drove away an unbanded pair that retreated only to the top of the house, as though waiting a favorable chance to return. Five minutes later two adult males and three grays, all unbanded, sat about the house while the banded pair sat on guard, one on either side of 4, and the young of 4 and 10 watched the impasse from their apartments.

On August 4, a banded gray, feeding the young in 4, often had to stop work to drive back two unbanded grays trying to approach by walking along the platform.

By August 5, the day the last of the young martins left the house (4) the behavior of the non-breeding population of the colony unbanded birds and G-11, and, possibly, other birds whose

eggs had been lost to sparrows, was much the same as that of the early arrivals in the spring. (The time from the summer solstice would correspond roughly with April 26.)

At 7:35 a. m. that day, four grays and one adult male, all unbanded, were working toward 4. One gray, coming too close, was grabbed by the banded purple male and thrown off. G-11, a half hour later, also approached 4 but did not engage the guard, retreating to the top of the house.

Unbanded adults now made up the larger part of the population about the house. Less than an hour before the young left, five grays and three adult males sat on the wires, the only banded bird among them was one of the latter (probably of 4). Frequently G-11 was also sighted.

At 9:35 a. m., the guard had disappeared and the two unbanded grays were going in and out of 4, now emptied of the young within the past hour.

Of course the one or two unhandled adult males of the 7 active nests, introduced a factor of uncertainty impossible to allow for. There is also the possibility of an unattached male being present in the house by chance at the time of banding, though this seems less than probable.

From this date on a banded bird about the house was a rarity. Generally a couple of grays were present as well as G-11, now becoming more purple in color, particularly about the head.

On August 6 no banded birds were seen. Three unbanded, two grays and a purple, were reenacting the standard spring paired behavior about the house. On August 7 it was the same except that the birds were two purples and one gray. A banded purple stopped

briefly on August 8 and an unbanded purple was noted.

On August 12, a total of 3 grays and 3 purples, one of each banded, were about the house, going in and out of apartments with much chatter and some fighting. A couple of grays and a purple, all unbanded, were regularly about for the next few days, occasionally with an unbanded gray additional. A purple and four grays were about August 18. Later the same day the flock consisted of two purples and three grays, all unbanded. On August 21, two purple and 4 gray birds were present briefly.

The last appearance noted was on August 22, when several birds flew about without lighting, seemingly excited by an approaching storm cloud.

Conclusion: As a result of the above preliminary observations it seems probable that the biological stage of of purple martins is quite strongly influenced by day length as has been found in the case of other flora and fauna. Apparently also, successful breeders are not influenced by the shortening day of late summer as are the non-breeders.



Yellow-Bellied Flycatcher On Nest

—Courtesy of Wilson Bulletin

Our Juniors

Dear Juniors:

Mrs. Yarger wrote an interesting letter for you. The only trouble was that your editor lost it, somehow. I am sorry and promise to use special care next time.

In place of it we will borrow some good letters from the young members of The Saskatchewan Natural History Society published in their magazine, *The Blue Jay*.

But we should be getting more letters from you, so we do not have to borrow from other people. This time the only letter we have is the one from Karen Shaw who lives near Brookings.—The Editor.

FOOD AND WATER FOR THE BIRDS

Karen Shaw, (Age 12)

Route 1, Box 88, Brookings, S. Dak.

For several years we have been feeding the birds. The Chickadees and Cardinals like the sunflower seeds and eat from the feeder on the side of the house just outside our big window. They drink lots of water and this is the way we made the waterer.

An aluminum ice cube tray holds the water. This is set on top of a wooden frame about 8 inches deep. Inside this frame is a 40 watt light bulb. The wooden frame is set inside our flower box. The box holding the light bulb is insulated, which keeps the water from freezing even in below zero weather.

Last winter we made one like it and set it about 100 feet from the house for the shy birds.

We feed cracked corn and wheat on the ground near a big wooden box that makes a shelter. The Cardinal and Tree Sparrow eat here.

On several trees near the house we have suet in mesh bags for the Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers. The Woodpeckers and Chickadees like the mixture we have in a coconut half which hangs from a limb. This is made by melting suet and adding peanut butter,

cornmeal, and oatmeal. Bohemian Waxwings have come for raisins we have put out and have eaten the apples we have tied to tree branches. We enjoy watching the birds come to our seven feeders and two waterers.

* * *

MY OWN NATURE MUSEUM

Gary Adams, age 12

Saskatoon

I have been interested for many years in nature so whenever I can I get small items for a museum I've made. I've quite a collection now but I'm never satisfied. This year I've tried very hard to get things. In late spring I got some birds nests (unused) and my favorites are my redwinged blackbird's with natural surroundings of grass on which it was held, and a meadowlark's with eggshells in. On a hike a little while ago I got a snakeskin shed by a garter snake near Beaver Creek. By a beaver dam I found a small chip of chewed wood. In southern Saskatchewan about August I got some petrified fish. Other things in my collection are petrified clams, bone and sea coral.

But it shall never be finished for I just got some glass and I'm planning an insect case for my insects. Also as soon as winter comes I want to make some plaster casts of tracks.

THE CATBIRD NEST

Brian Irving
Kelvington

On July second while walking past a lilac bush I noticed some grass and string hanging in the branches of the bush. I suspected a bird was building a nest. I did not know what kind of bird it would be.

On July third you could see the form of the nest. While I was looking at it I heard a scream in the background. Turning around to see what had made the noise I saw a Catbird sitting in a nearby tree. So then I knew who was building the nest.

On July fifth the female bird was sitting on the nest but flew off when I approached. The nest contained two bluish-green eggs.

On July ninth, July thirteenth and July seventeenth it was the same story, except there were three eggs.

On July twenty-first three little baby birds were in the nest. The parents weren't seen. When I was near the nest the babies opened their mouths. When their mouths were open they looked like they were all mouth.

On July twenty-fifth the babies had their tail and wing feathers.

On July thirtieth the young were flying around in the bush.

* * *

BIRD OBSERVATIONS

Bill Fleming
Regina, Sask.

We were scanning the trees around the marsh in Regina for hawks and owls and had observed nothing. Upon closer observation of a certain huge ash tree we saw on a branch sawed off close to the tree, a Great Horned Owl sitting perfectly still. The bird was asleep which allowed us to walk right up under it and look for pellets, of

which we found two or three. We were able to steal quietly away without disturbing him.

While counting the nests of the Common Tern this summer we came across some strange nests (which later were found to be avocets). While counting the number of eggs the angry terns wheeling overhead slowly came lower and lower, until they finally started attacking us. We found that the only protection from this was to wave a handkerchief in the air. The terns seeing the handkerchief checked their dive and veered off to the side. Soon we found that they became used to this and we beat a hasty retreat for dry land. This incident proved that a bird will often do fantastic things to protect its nest and eggs.

* * *

NEW FINDINGS

Keith Harper, age 16
Pleasantdale

Last week a flock of redstarts on their southern migration passed through our farm. I have never seen these birds before but my mother recalls seeing them here one spring many years ago. Two days ago my greatest surprise came when a neighbor of ours reported that two moose passed in front of his combine just at nightfall. This is the first time I have heard of moose in this district.

Near the end of June a neighbor notified me of a dead white pelican on the shore of a lake nearby. The pelican had not noticeable wounds. It was a very large bird with a wing span of six feet. Many times I have observed pelicans wheeling about the sky but I did not know that they ever alighted on sloughs. The findings I have made this summer have greatly increased my knowledge of these species.

General Notes of Special Interest

AVIAN TECHNOLOGY—Shades of the changing times! We have a bird's nest that is made almost entirely of lint from the clothes dryer. I found it on the lawn today where it had been blown after the terrific twisting wind we had yesterday afternoon. It is a small nest and the outside measurements are about 1 3/8" high and 2 1/2" in diameter. Grass is apparently the only other material used in construction. Your interest in nests prompted this letter. I save lint during the winter and then spread it on the ground, shrubs and bushes in the spring. It disappears rapidly. Belated congratulations on your new office as president. Sincerely, Mrs. M. Harter, Highmore, S. D., Aug. 28, 1962.

Comment by Dr. Moriarty: "Interesting. My guess is a Goldfinch."

* * * *

GLOSSY IBIS IN SOUTH DAKOTA—Glossy Ibis were observed in South Dakota on numerous occasions this year. In *Bird Notes* XIV:57, Lyle Schoonover reported this bird at Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

On May 14, 1962, Milt Reeves and Jim Pulliam of Aberdeen observed a Glossy Ibis on the edge of a marsh along Highway 37 ten miles north of Huron.

Another observation was made 5 p. m. on August 2. Curtis Twedt and Gene Schrieber of Aberdeen saw one of the birds on a small mud flat on a wetland area 1/2 mile east of Lake Henry in Kingsbury County. They also saw one near the same place 7 a. m. the following day. Both times it flew toward Lake Thompson.

On August 17th Jim Pulliam observed two Glossy Ibis on a marsh about one

mile southwest of DeSmet. The next day Jim and Lucille Johnson, my wife Jean, and I spent several hours in and around this same marsh with only a probable observation of one of the species.

We then went east of Lake Henry and then to the pass area between Lake Henry and Lake Thompson. Here Jean saw a Glossy Ibis flying overhead and out into the heavily vegetated Lake Thompson area. We immediately parked and hiked out into Lake Thompson.

After getting wet and tired we started back to the car. On the way back (about 3 p.m.) we had, of all creatures, a Glossy Ibis fly close past us, with the afternoon sun full on it showing the color marking and large decurved bill.

Using our heads a little then for thinking, we sat in the pass area and in the next two hours we made seven more observations on these birds. They were flying back and forth between the lakes and passed as close as fifty feet from us. Two were seen to fly far north of Lake Henry. Not more than two were observed at one time, or going in one direction before one would return.—George Jonkel, Huron.

* * * *

ALBINISM IN RUDDY DUCK—On Sept. 30, Dr. Moriarty and I were studying the Waubay refuge area. We were looking at ducks on Phragmite Pond, about a mile south west of the refuge headquarters. Looking it over, I took the 22x50 spotting scope. We saw a white bird that looked as though it could be a Tern. I focused on it and

immediately said it looked like an Albino Ruddy duck. Mory then took the scope and verified it. As we thought we might disturb the bird, we went back to headquarters for Robert Johnson (refuge manager). He also verified it at shotgun range with his 20x30 power scope. We studied it for some time.

The bird was pure white except that its bill was creamy white and eyes pink. It was with a group of mature and immature Ruddy ducks. It did not seem very active, apparently sleeping most of the time. Bob Johnson wanted to collect the bird but could not because of lack of State permit. He tried to contact the chief game warden without success.

I visited the same spot with my family a week later and the bird was still there, but was more active, acting like a perfectly normal bird.

Mory wrote the director of the museum of State University of Iowa where they have a mounted Albino Ruddy, asking him if he knew where it had come from and if he knew of one being seen or collected in South Dakota.

Walter C. Thietje said that he worked for the Over museum at Vermillion, S. D. for years and during that time he had never heard of or seen the bird in South Dakota. In going over much literature we have found nothing about an albino Ruddy, so feel that we may be the first to have noted the bird in South Dakota.—L. J. Moriarty, Wm. Talen, Jr., Watertown.

* * * *

TREE SWALLOWS AT BELLE FOURCHE—The tree swallows are back—not just going thru.

Last summer, for the first time, half a dozen tree swallows appeared swirling over the lake catching insects. Up to that time the only tree swallows we had ever seen were near ponds or lakes

in the east or in the far west. Though barn swallows are common here and the cliff swallows are found in the canyons near Hot Springs, Black Hills birders have thought of the tree swallow as a migrant. But last summer's residence and the appearance this year leads us to believe that they have adopted this as a nesting area.

The tree swallow is easily identified from its flight. And its markings are just as readily recognized—the whitest of white breasts, like a starched and bleached full-dress shirt, and a steely-blue and greenish back, with a metallic look. The tree swallow does not have the deeply forked tail of the barn swallow, just a nick. Actually, the barn swallow is the only American swallow with what we call a "swallow tail."

"Tree" sparrow is a misnomer. But "tree" swallows have reason for their name. They nest in trees. Abandoned woodpecker holes are a favorite spot. So are the upturned roots of driftwood. Since we first saw tree swallows nesting in driftwood piled up along rivers and lakes in the far west, we supposed that was their only nesting site. However, study of the bird showed that woodpecker holes are used where there is no driftwood. It is our guess that the tree swallows are nesting in holes in the drouth-killed timber along Hay Creek and the Belle Fourche and Redwater rivers. They go a mile or more to fly over water catching insects.

The tree swallow will build in man-provided nesting sites, ornithologists say — a so-called swallow box, along the line of a martin house. After all, living with men is a family characteristic—the martin too is a swallow.

However, of the swallows, none is so beautiful as the one with the prosaic name—barn swallow. Apricot pink below, rosy chestnut throat, blue-black

above, it turns in the air in flight to show off the full effect of its colors and graceful form. It's poetry on the wing to see them swoop and swirl over the lake in the evening, dipping the water for their insect catch, skimming along like a flat rock skipped by a practiced hand.

But to go back to the newcomers. If they stay they will multiply and before many years become as familiar in this area as is another newcomer—the evening grosbeak.—*Irina Weyler, Daily Belle Fourche Post.*

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GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER AT HURON—September 13, 1962, about 7:30 a. m., I saw a warbler in the backyard with prominent yellow patches on the wings. The color included not only the wing-bars but washed over the space between them and beyond as well. The general color scheme was light olive above and very light gray below.

Before anyone else could be called the bird disappeared into the shrubbery and search over a period of time was finally given up.

Check of pictures of warblers developed that it probably was a female Golden-winged Warbler, with the reservation that I had failed to note the yellow patch on top of the head.

Later in the forenoon we had the mist nets up in the yard to reduce the population of house sparrows. About eleven, Lucille found we had caught the Golden-winged Warbler.

When she had removed the bird we carefully compared it with the pictures in Plate 4 of *The Warblers of America* and found it identical with the female Golden-winged Warbler—even to the yellow area on the crown.

After banding the bird we called everyone we knew likely to have time and interest to come see her. Mrs. H.

M. Pierce, Jean and George Jonkel, Mary Aberdeen Kettle, and Blanche Battin did come and examine the bird at reading distance or less.

In checking the files of Bird Notes I find that sightings of this species have not been numerous in the state. Aside from lists 11:13 describes the collection of a specimen near Dell Rapids in 1933 (Identification confirmed by Dr. T. C. Stephens and skin made up by Youngworth, now in the University Museum at Vermillion); II:30 (Quoting Wilson Bulletin, 1935, p80) besides the information in the parenthesis above, adds that a specimen (undated) in the Henderson Natural History Museum at Redfield (now housed in the City Hall) was collected "a number of years ago," that Dr. Brengle banded a female or immature at Northville 9-7-31, the correspondent, Paul R. Thompson of Northville, banded an adult male 9-11-33. IV:9 records that Dr. Brengle trapped and banded Golden-winged Warblers in the years 1931, 1933, 1936, 1941, and 1944.

The only recent reference is XII:35 in which Mary Aberdeen Kettle recounts her sighting of a male of this species at Huron on May 16, 1960.—*J. W. Johnson, Huron.*

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MELANISTIC WEAVER FINCH AT MILBANK—On March 3, 1962, a neighbor, Dr. D. A. Gregory, shot what he thought was a starling and brought it over to see if I knew what it was. It seemed to be a sparrow but was completely black. I turned it over to Mr. Lowry Elliott who sent it in to Augustana College.

This is the report from there: "We have decided that it is most probably the melanistic phase of the English sparrow. We don't know what else it could be. The characteristics are all sparrow-like. However, it is so rare

that one wants to make sure before the identification. We are continuing checking it and if it is changed, we will let you know.

If in the future additional birds turn up we would appreciate your forwarding them to us.—**S. G. Froiland, Chairman Department of Biology.**”

After this bird was shot, at least one similar bird continued to come to the neighborhood feeders for a couple of weeks. This was the time of the heavy snows and it was difficult to sprint around to catch a good look when the neighbors would see it. Its manner of feeding and its unusual black appearance had drawn the attention of a couple of neighbors who feed the birds.—**Miss Louise Flett, 560 S. 1st, Milbank.**

* * * * *

CASPIAN TERNS, BONAPARTE GULLS, COMMON EGRETS AT WATERTOWN—On June 14, 1962, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wm. Taylor of Rochester, N. Y. who attended the S.D.O.U. meeting at Rapid City in 1960 were in Watertown to do some birding with me.

About 6:30 a. m. I wanted to show them some 700-800 white Pelicans that were still with us, fishing in the Sioux River and its overflow waters right along the South City limits of Watertown, as well as at least 5 American Egrets.

While still on Highway 212 in town I saw a large white bird about 100 yards away that looked like a Snow goose. We stopped and got out the scopes and watched the Snow goose which appeared to be normal. We finally flushed it to see that it was o. k. It flew away like any normal goose.

We used the scopes to look around while they were set up and saw 3 American Egrets while looking over the pelicans.

We then drove one half mile on west to the end of Pelican lake on to

the former city dump ground. Right before us were 5 more Egrets in a group of Ring-billed Gulls.

We set up the scopes again and found a male White-Fronted Goose within a hundred feet of the Egrets. After studying this a while with Joe accusing me of getting up real early to put out my decoys, he was using his 9 power binoculars on the Gulls and Terns flying around.

“There goes a Caspian Tern,” he said.

“They are not on our list. You must have brought along some of your own decoys,” I answered.

He pointed it out to me. There it was, with the redbill, pointed down in typical Tern fashion, flying among the Ring-billed Gulls and just about the same size.

We brought out the books to prove that it was not a Royal Tern. Then I looked again at the Gulls on the point facing the 25 M.P.H. wind and there were 3 more Caspians with them. So we went back to the 22x50 scopes to restudy. We then walked down to within 50 yards and flushed them to get a better look at the forked tail which, in the Caspians, is only slightly forked, while the Royal has about twice as deep a notch. Taylor said, “I have seen thousands of them and am sure of the identification.”

I had seen a number in the South West and in Mexico so with all the close study was sure myself. While all this was going on, the White-fronted goose flew away in normal fashion.

We drove north to Bitter lake by Waubay and set up the scopes to look over a point on which I had been watching a family of Canada geese. I spotted some geese and said there are four but they don't have chin straps and look more like Black Brant, two of which species I had shot 25 years ago in the area. I pointed them out to Joe

and he agreed that was what they looked like. We spent some time studying and then walked over to get near enough to see whether they had the dark belly of the Black or the light of the American. The slight neck band of white was distinct, and, when they turned in the morning light, gave us a good look at the underside which was very dark. We were all convinced they were Black Brant.

But what are all these birds that should have been nesting in the far north long ago, doing around Watertown? I am convinced the Caspian Tern and Black Brant as well as Bonaparte's Gull must be added to the South Dakota list.

Over & Thom give all as rare visitors to South Dakota.

I still see blue, snow, white-front and Canada geese regularly. The Egrets were last seen July 3. About half of the pelicans have disappeared as of July 7.—L. J. Moriarty

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THE TRIUMVIRATE—A mockingbird sat in the elm tree in front of our house yesterday morning. It takes more than one appearance to say that the mocker is here to nest. But it is not out of pattern to say that one was here yesterday, because mockers once nested on our hill for several years in a row, and then were seen no more. We thought they might have been discouraged by the succession of drouth years. Maybe they have come back. The country now is outright lush after the rains.

Mockingbirds are moving farther north to nest. Some birders say they are being pushed out of their southern nesting sites by the big airfields and the rear of pets, particularly in Texas. However, the bird has long nested in a line as far north as southern Wyoming and has been called the western mockingbird.

Mockers, like people, nest close to houses and send their songs thru kitchen windows where they almost chat with the housewife while she washes dishes. The mocker yesterday morning was looking in our window, frankly interested in people. He stayed in the same tree almost half an hour, so long that we hoped he might be seeking a nesting site—maybe in the big cotton-easter on the terrace or the honeysuckle bush by the corral fence, to which he flew from the elm tree.

Always, when we speak of a mockingbird here, a few birders of the area write to ask: "Are you sure it wasn't a Townsend's solitaire?" And we answer: "We're sure." The mocker is no more like a solitaire than it is like a shrike. True, all three are gray, black and white. But in form and behavior there is no similarity. The solitaire is shy and peeks from leaf cover at you; the mocker is friendly to the point of boldness. The solitaire does have light wing patches and white in the tail, but the big difference are the white eye ring and darker breast of the solitaire. The darker breast is easily identified, even in flight. The shrike may be known at a glance by its black facial mask.

The mockingbird is one of a triumvirate of beauty—the three cousins of a family commonly called the mimic thrushes—the brown thrasher, the catbird and the mockingbird. Their outlines are so similar that one might be made either of the others by changing feathers. However, the thrasher is the largest, the mocker next. The thrasher is the most strikingly colored—bright cinnamon with white breast dotted and striped in brown. The catbird is charcoal with a black cap and bright henna under tail coverts. The mocker, of course, is light gray, white and black. All three sing, all three mimic—but the

mocker is the star performer.

There were other birds on the hill yesterday morning after the rain, but the triumvirate held center stage. All the rest were background. Maybe the mocker will stay and again there will be the triumvirate on our hill.—**Irma Weyler, Daily Belle Fourche Post.**

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DUES FOR 1963—If members will send checks for 1963 dues before Jan. 1, they can save S.D.O.U. the cost and work of sending out notices. Please make checks payable to S.D.O.U. I will be at the registration table at the winter meeting for those who wish to pay their dues at that time.—**Mrs. David J. Holden.**

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SNOWY OWL OBSERVATIONS—Game, Fish, and Parks Department personnel in Aberdeen observed Snowy Owls this past winter as follows: 2/7/62, 1 mile west of Groton; 2/7/62, 3½ miles east of Andover; 2/7/62, 14 miles southwest of Aberdeen; 3/10/62, 4 miles east of Warner; 3/22/62, 3 miles north of Ordway. Additional observations for which there is no exact information would total probably 6 Snowy Owls.—**Maurice Anderson, Aberdeen.**

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MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRDS AT IPSWICH—On several occasions I have observed mountain bluebirds migrating through South Dakota. The most recent sighting was on April 5, 1962. The birds, a male and two females, were five miles south of Ipswich in Edmunds County.

Previously I had assumed that the birds veered far eastward during their migration. A check on this shows how these assumptions can lead you astray. The mountain bluebird nests in Canada nearly north from this South Dakota location.

Their occurrence in Canada is mentioned in the Bulletin "**Ecology of the Aspen Parkland of Western Canada,**" by Ralph D. Bird, and published by the Canada Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Speaking of the parkland of southwestern Manitoba, central Saskatchewan and central Alberta, Mr. Bird states, "Two bluebirds, the eastern bluebird *Sialia sialis* (L) and the mountain bluebird, *Sialia currucoides* (Beckstein) are common in the parkland.—**George Jonkel, Huron**

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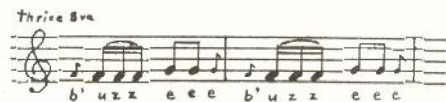
CINNAMON TEAL NEAR FEDORA—On May 14, 1962, a pair of Cinnamon Teal (*Anas cyanoptera*) were observed about two miles south of Fedora in Miner County. Several colored slides were taken of the pair. On a check two weeks later the birds could not be located.—**Maurice Anderson and Curtis Twedt, Aberdeen**

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CHARLES A. HUGHLETT, Manager of LaCreek Refuge at Martin, has been transferred to Seney Refuge, Seney, Michigan, in the Upper Peninsula. Of course we all hate to lose him from the state. But we understand this is a nice promotion for him and, accordingly, are happy for him about that.

Most of all, we hope he and the family can find time to come back for the SDOU Meetings.

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Song of Goldfinch

—Courtesy of Wilson Bulletin

Notes From South Dakota

W. H. Over

IN bird study our state offers many perplexing problems. In the southeast corner we have the humid area with its natural woods which provides an environment for many eastern species as the Cardinal, Thrushes, etc.; and also boasts of once having harbored the Wild Turkey and Passenger Pigeon.

The Missouri River, with its wooded banks and ravines, running from north to south through the middle of the state, offers a condition that attracts some species that perhaps would not otherwise visit us. The beautiful Western Blue Grosbeak can be mentioned as an example. Here, but in no other locality, the writer has seen this bird nesting fairly commonly more than halfway through the state.

The semi-arid prairies and plains either side of the Missouri River, particularly west, attracts the Lark Bunting, Nighthawks, Longspurs, Horned Larks and Meadowlarks.

The pine-clad Black Hills and coniferous Forest Reserves of the northwestern part of the state provides a home for many western species that are usually supposed to inhabit only the Rocky Mountain region. Western Robin, Townsend's Solitaire, White-winged Junco, Dusky Grouse and Clark's Nutcracker are some of these western visitors.

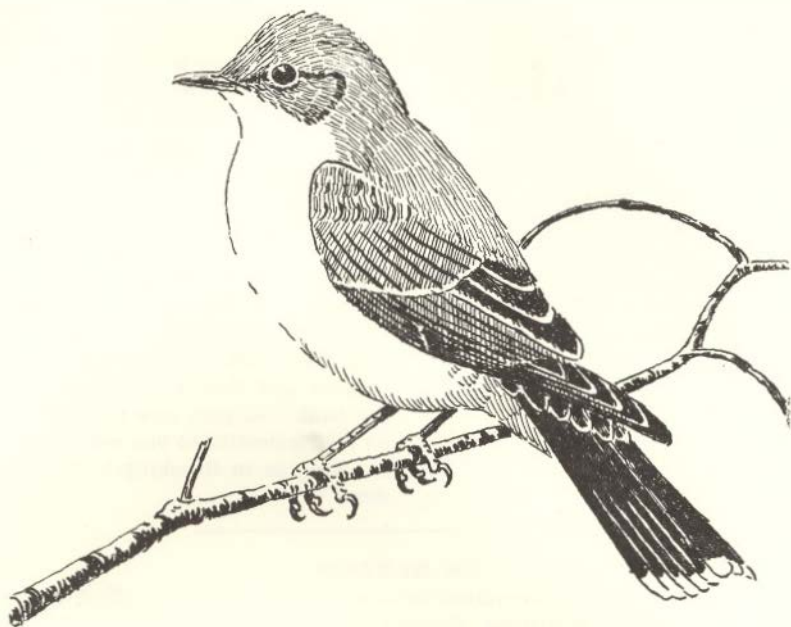
Between the Missouri River and the Black Hills we have the Badlands affording nesting places for the Rock Wrens, White-throated Swifts and Mountain Bluebirds. Again in the state the many and increasing groves are attracting eastern species farther

west and perhaps, to some extent, changing their old established paths of migration.

The early settlers in the territory were followed by the Quail, Prairie Chicken, Crow, etc. In the northeastern part of the state the draining of sloughs, intensive farming and pasturing has entirely driven away shore and waterbirds that formerly nested here by the thousands.

Thus bird records are ever changing; observations made a few years ago are not authentic today and observations made today may not hold good tomorrow. The individual or institution desiring a complete collection of South Dakota birds, eggs and nests will indeed find it a difficult problem unless they began years ago. But these conditions are true in most of our states, however they make bird study none the less interesting.

But, with all these diversified conditions existing in South Dakota, there is in no area a dearth of birdlife. Even in the Badlands with its glittering heat and scarcity of water, some birds are fairly common as the Cliff Swallows, Sparrow Hawks, Rock Wrens, Kingbirds and Prairie Falcons. In the grassy valleys and tablelands adjoining, and in fact over the whole plains country, are seen many Lark Sparrows, Horned Larks, Western Meadowlarks and Lark Buntings; while in the thickets along the creeks may be found Catbirds, Brown Thrashers, Sparrows, Chewinks and Yellow-breasted Chats. In the larger trees Kingbirds, Bullock's Orioles, Flickers, Screech Owls and Swainson's and Red-tailed Hawks find



Eastern Kingbird

—D. W. Steffen

nesting places. Birds that are common over the state may be mentioned, the Western Meadowlark, Eastern Kingbird, Western Kingbird, Lark Sparrow, Cowbird, Crow, Sparrow Hawk, Marsh Hawk, Red-winged Blackbird and Flicker.

Our resident birds, meaning birds that do not migrate at all, include Cardinals, Screech Owls, Quails, Chickadees, Canada Jays and Pinon Jays. Those that migrate only a short distance are the Prairie Chicken, Prairie Sharp-tailed Grouse, Crow, Flicker, Downy Woodpecker, some Hawks and Owls.

While collecting in the Badlands during August, 1914, we frequently saw Western Lark Sparrows, Lark Buntings and Cowbirds flocking together, resting together and feeding together.

Whether they were forced into this intimate association by seeking the same shelter under cutbanks from the intense heat, or drawn together by some other attraction I do not know.

On a wooded island in the Missouri River in August 1919, we often saw Black and White Warblers and Chickadees feeding together. In shade trees along a resident street of Vermillion for several nights I have seen Bronzed Grackles, English Sparrows and Robins roosting side by side on the same branch. What affinity between different species prompted these actions?

At present 319 species and sub-species are recorded in the state. Further study and observation will add more to the list.—*The Oologist*, Vol. XXXVII, No. 7, July, 1920, p. 84.

BLUE-HEADED VIREO, LATE STRAGGLER AT HURON—On November 11, 1962, a sunny, warm (40) morning, I found a vireo feeding in our garden. So late a migrant called for a careful check of identification points and the visitor cooperated: Gray head distinct white eye-spectacles, yellow-green back, two white wing-bars, pure white throat, white breast with yellow along the sides, and the sharp bill all added up to the Blue-headed Vireo—in an unusually brilliant plumage for fall. And much larger than the kinglets also present and visible.—**Blanche Battin, Huron.**

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WINTER MEETING AT BROOKINGS

I want to extend to all of you an in-

vitiation to SDOU'S winter meeting January 19 and 20 in the Community Room of the First National Bank. Herbert Krause is working up a good program, with the Lueshens showing a movie Saturday evening, papers by Willard Rosine and Nelda Holden, slides by the Halls, and accounts of the Christmas Bird Counts and notes from the Bird Banders. A luncheon has been planned at the Rainbow Cafe Sunday noon so that we can all eat together. I have notified both the Sawnee Hotel and the Brookings Motel of our convention and they are both quite near the bank. So plan now to come; put it on your calendar so you will not forget it. See you in Brookings!—**Nelda Holden.**

NEW MEMBERS

Koerner, Robert O. (Soil Conservation Service) Box 23, Onida
 Konsler, G. R. (Biology Instructor, Huron College) 1133½ Wisconsin SW, Huron
 Reese, John Charles Rte 2, Belton, Mo.



Ring-necked Duck

—Courtesy Wilson Bulletin