

SOUTH DAKOTA BIRD NOTES

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SOUTH DAKOTA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION
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Vol. XV, No. 2

JUNE, 1963

Whole No. 57



Swainson's Hawk

—E. W. Steffen

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President's Page

ANOTHER annual meeting is past and, thanks to Herman Chilson, highly successful. One highlight was the trip to Cormorant Island, where probably 1500 Cormorants, 200 White Pelicans, and 200 Ring-billed Gulls were nesting. The Pelicans do not always nest there; so those who made the trip probably had a once-in-a-lifetime experience.



Alfred Peterson and Bob Johnson made the field trips something to remember. Attendance was about 125, a high in our history. We had people who came from Nebraska, Minnesota, Iowa, California, and Canada.

The business meeting was the low light of the trip, due to the failure of your president, who was re-elected, probably because most members had departed by the time we got that far along in the meeting. We can, however, look forward to Herbert Krause being at the helm after the next Spring Meeting.

Some of you may have noticed that our editor has been selected to contribute a column in the *South Dakota Sportsman*, the official publication of the South Dakota Wildlife Federation. He calls it "Notes from S.D.O.U." and is trying to promote Ornithology by encouraging sportsmen to see something of interest in birds other than

meat. This is another sign we are coming of age.

The Huron Bird Club has invited us there for our Winter Meeting. The Spring Meeting will be held at Pierre to allow us one more chance to study on Farm Island before its rich wildlife is driven out or destroyed by the rising water.

The 1965 Meeting will be held in the Black Hills, with the Wilson Ornithological Society's National Meeting. This should give us a broader view of the Science and allow us to meet nationally recognized Ornithologists.

Dr. Dwain Warner gave a great presentation of what goes on in electronics in large scale studies of migrations and other movements, indicating great developments for the near future. These advanced studies give increased value to our own work and extend its usefulness.

It is important not to forget that our simple day to day observations of birds and their behavior make up an essential part of learning about the world around us. They not only improve our personal understanding, a source of unlimited satisfaction, but, recorded in *Bird Notes*, they form a part of an ever growing picture, that will be reflected in the text books of the future. You do not need to have radio, radar, scholarships, or even degrees, to contribute substantially to this fund of knowledge.

Only you can report on the birds in your neighborhood and your observations there may have the key to understanding hundreds of others—but not

(Continued to Page 29)

Just One Swamp Sparrow's Nest

Wm. Youngworth

Many years ago Walter W. Bennett of Arnolds Park, Iowa, invited the writer to go on a short field trip to Heron Lake, Minnesota. In pioneer days Heron Lake in Jackson County was a fabulous duck-shooting area as well as famous to ornithologists for the hordes of water-birds breeding there. The lake was in former times about twelve miles long and as wide as three miles in spots. It was to this spot that we journeyed on that fine June day.

We made camp about midway up the east shore of the lake and proceeded to set up photographic blinds in the marshy edges of the lake where the numerous herons, coots, bitterns and other marsh loving birds nested. A Swamp Sparrow was singing his sweet song nearby. In walking from the camp to the water we flushed a brooding Swamp Sparrow and soon found the nest with partly grown young.

The nest was on dry ground set in the coarse grass and weeds. I decided to set up my blind here rather than out in the marsh and proceeded to do so at once. Upon seating myself in the blind I found that the female had already returned to the nest to feed the young. While the light was not quite right for good photography I decided to take a few exposures anyway. The results were not good as I was also a poor photographer and the object was not properly centered. I told Mr. Bennett that I would try again the next day for better pictures and went out with him to his blinds in the marsh.

The heat out on the lake finally drove us out of the blinds and in walking along the shore near the Swamp

Sparrow nest I found a baby Tree Swallow, which had either been pushed or had fallen from the nest in a post nearby. I placed it on a twig and took a picture of it. I hoped the parents might find it and care for it. In passing I checked my sparrow nest and found everything in order with the mother brooding.

In the morning when the light became favorable I walked over to my blind. The grass where the nest had been was all torn up and the young birds were gone. Scattered around were many feathers of the mother bird and nothing else. I sadly proceeded



Tree Swallow — Very Young

—Photo by Bill Youngworth



Just a Swamp Sparrow's Nest

—Photo by Bill Youngworth

to take my blind down and I never again set it up. My career of nest photography ended in that spot and at that moment.

Over the years I have sat in other blinds and have watched the destruction of helpless birds and their nests by predators. A bird's nest in the field is quite safe from most predators until some human finds the nest. Then at night, wild animals come to the trail of human scent and out of curiosity follow the trail. It leads straight to food. It is a good thing that not everybody goes afield to photograph birds and their nests and young or the mortality rate would be terrific and many of our native birds

can't stand that much pressure anymore.—Sioux City, Iowa.

* * *

President's Page

(Continued from Page 27)

if you keep still about them. Only the record will be left when you and your immediate circle of friends are gone.

Any observations should be sent to our editor, J. W. Johnson. His job is to weed out anything of too little value for the space. Give him something to work on. These short items from members, or their friends, are most valuable and interesting. Notice how you always read them all, whether you ever get time for the long ones or not. They make **Bird Notes** superior to many state journals.—L. J. Moriarty.

Migration Dates, Fall of 1958

Alfred Peterson

"Bird Notes", Whole No. 41, May-June, 1959, page 26, Migration Dates Spring of 1958, ends at June 18. Migration Dates, Fall of 1958, as here laid out, completes the notes for 1958.

- (1) **Ringed Plover.** July 16, 2 at Oakwood Lakes; 7|28, 1; 8|14, 1; 8|21, 1; 8|30, 1 east of Altamont.
- (2) **Piping Plover.** None since 5|25, 1 at Fox Lake.
- (3) **Killdeer.** Common. Sept. 12, many; 10|11, many north of Clear Lake; 11|9, 1.
- (4) **Golden Plover.** Aug. 14, 1; 9|3, 2; 9|28, 14 north of Clear Lake; 11|11, 1 So. Waubay Lake; 11|14, 1 Clear Lake.
- (5) **Black-bellied Plover.** Sept. 2, 1 Clear Lake; 10|13, 1 Lake Marsh.
- (6) **Ruddy Turnstone.** Aug. 15, 2 Rush Lake.
- (7) **Common Snipe.** Aug. 21, 2; 8|30, 1 Altamont; 8|31, 16 near Salt Lake; 9|1, 2; 9|2, 26 north of Clear Lake; 9|3, 15 and 10; 9|4, 9; 9|5, 12; 9|7, 8; 9|8, 3; 9|9, 6; also 10 near Lake Alice; 9|10, 10; 9|12, 15; 9|14, 25; 9|15, 4; 9|16, 19; 9|17, 14 and 6 near Lake Alice; 9|19, 21; 9|20, 25; 9|21, 6; 9|22, 20 near Lake Oliver; 9|23, 13; also 10 near Lake Alice; 12 others same day; 9|24, 20 north of Clear Lake and 10 at Altamont; 9|26, 8; 9|28, 35 and 12 near Lake Alice; 9|29, 12; 9|30, 12; 10|1, 26 north of Clear Lake; 10|2, 26 north of Clear Lake and 8 near Lake Alice; 10|3, 18; 10|4, 14; 10|5, 22; 10|6, 30; 10|7, 42; also 3 at Moritz; 10|8, 40; 10|9, 12; 10|11, 11; 10|12, 13; 10|14, 2; 10|16, 9; 10|17, 9; 10|20, 5 and 3; 10|22, 4; 10|24, 12 and 1.
- (8) **Upland Plover.** June 22, 3, 3 and 2 on trip to Enemy Swim; 7|15, 2 or 3; 7|27, 1 Fox Lake; 8|15, 1 east of Enemy Swim.
- (9) **Spotted Sandpiper.** July 28, 1; 8|14, 2; 8|15, 4 or 5 on Yellowbank River; 8|31, 1 near Altamont.
- (10) **Solitary Sandpiper.** July 9, 1 Fox Lake; 7|10, 1; 7|28, 1.
- (11) **Willet.** June 22, 1 Rush Lake, 2 Waubay Lake and 1 Fox Lake; 7|11, 1 near Thomas; 7|30, 1 Oakwood Lakes; 8|15, 3 Rush Lake and 1 east of Enemy Swim; 8|31, north of Salt Lake.
- (12) **Greater Yellowlegs.** July 11, 1 near Thomas; 7|30, 2 Oakwood Lakes; 8|15, 3 at Waubay and 2 east of Enemy Swim; 8|21, 1; 8|25, 1 Oakwood Lakes and 2 Hayti; 8|30, 1 Clear Lake and 1 near Salt Lake; 9|2, 3 north of Clear Lake; 9|12, 3 Tunerville; 9|14, 15; 9|15, 15; 9|16, about dozen Tunerville; 9|20, 16; 9|21, 12 and 3 near Lake Alice; 9|23, 10 Tunerville; 9|27, 1 near Lake Mary; 10|7, 8 east of Altamont; 10|12, 8; 10|14, 25 east of Altamont.
- (13) **Lesser Yellowlegs.** June 19, 6 Fox Lake; 6|20, about 50 Fox Lake; 6|21, about 12; 6|22, 50; 6|24 and 6|27, 50; 7|2 and 7|10, 50; 7|11, several places—many at Clear Lake; 7|14, many Fox Lake; 7|16, over a hundred on trip to Oakwood Lakes and Poinsett; 7|21, 7|25, 7|28, many South of

of Fox Lake; 7:30 and 7|31, plentiful; 8|1, many; 8|21, common; 8|24, few; 8|25, a number on trip Oakwood Lakes to Thomas; 8|26, several; 8|30 to 9|4, few seen; 9|12, 9|14 and 9|15, fair number; 9|16, several; 9|17, 9|19 and 9|20, few seen; 9|21, about 20 north of Lake Alice; 9|23, 20; 9|27, some at Lake Norden; 10|1, 2.

(14) **Knot.** None.

(15) **Pectoral Sandpiper.** July 9, 6 or 8 Fox Lake; 7|10, 30; 7|14, 7|21, 7|25, 7|27 and 7|28, many at Fox Lake; 7|30, some Oakwood Lakes; 7|31, 15 east of Astoria; 8|5, many; 8|14, 20 near Nassau; 8|21, few; 8|24, few; 8|25, some at Oakwood Lakes; 8|26, good number; 8|30, many north of Clear Lake; 8|31, plentiful; 9|1, 9|2, many; 9|8, 9|4, many, especially north of Clear Lake; 9|6, few except 30 north of Tunerville; 9|7, 9|8, 9|10, 9|12, 9|14, 9|21, 9|22, 10|6, 10|7 and 10|14, scarce.

(16) **White-rumped Sandpiper.** June 19, 9 Fox Lake; 6|20, about dozen; 6|21, 8; 6|22, none seen.

(17) **Baird's Sandpiper.** Aug. 25, 1 Lake Oakwood.

(18) **Least Sandpiper.** July 28, 1; 8|14, several; 9|3, few; 9|7, 2; 9|9, 3; 9|14, 6; 9|20, 1.

(19) **Dunlin.** None seen.

(20) **Dowiteher.** July 10, 2 Fox Lake; 7|16, 6 west of Oakwood Lakes; 8|14, 6; 8|21, 4; 8|30, 2 north of Clear Lake; 9|6, 3; 9|7 and 9|9, 2; 9|21, 20 north of Lake Alice; 9|22, 30 near Lake Oliver; 9|23, 10 and 2 near Clear Lake; 9|27, 150 at Lake Mary; 9|29, 35 east of Poinsett; 10|2, 7 north of Tunerville; 10|8, 30 east of Altamont; 10|9, 30; 10|14, 1.

(21) **Stilt Sandpiper.** July 10, 20 Fox Lake; 7|11, 4; 7|14, 2; 7|25, 30 east

of Astoria; 7|27 and 7|28, several; 7|30, some west of Oakwood Lakes; 7|31, few; 8|1, 5; 8|24, 17; 8|26, 25 east of Altamont; 8|30, few; 8|31, few; 9|1, 12; 9|2 few; 9|4, 4; 9|6, 14 north of Clear Lake; 9|7, 10; 9|8, 20; 9|9, 50 north of Clear Lake; 9|10, 40; 9|12, 32; 9|14, 30, and 10 east of Altamont; 9|15 to 9|20, 30 regularly north of Clear Lake; 9|21, few, but about 20 near Lake Alice; 9|23 and 9|24, few; 10|2, 1 north of Tunerville.

(22) **Semipalmated Sandpiper.** July 10, dozen Fox Lake; 7|11, few near Thomas; 7|14, 20 Fox Lake; 7|16, about 50 Oakwood Lakes; 7|21 and 7|28, few; 7|30, some west of Oakwood Lakes; 8|5 and 8|14, several; 8|15 and 8|21, few; 8|24, some north of Altamont; 8|26, about 15 east of Altamont; 8|30, 8|31 and 9|2, few seen; 9|3, 7; 9|12, few; 9|22, 2.

(23) **Buff-breasted Sandpiper.** None.

(24) **Marbled Godwit.** June 22, 6 Bitter Lake, 5 Waubay Lakes and 5 at Waubay.

(25) **Hudsonian Godwit.** None after 6|1.

(26) **Sanderling.** Aug. 15, 1 on Rush Lake.

(27) **Avocet.** July 10, 1 Fox Lake; 7|11, 1 near Thomas.

(28) **Wilson's Phalarope.** June 20, about 12 Fox Lake; 7|10, 5 or 6; 7|28, 1.

(29) **Northern Phalarope.** None after 6|6.

*Note: Nearly all the open dates for Snipe refer to Sutton's Lake, two miles north of Clear Lake on Hy. 77.—**Brandt.**

Plumage Variations in Scarlet Tanager

Mrs. David J. Holden

A very interesting Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*) was banded on Farm Island on May 27, 1962 during the South Dakota Ornithologists Union meeting held in Pierre. This Scarlet Tanager was retained after banding in order to show others at the meeting and to take pictures of it. It was not noticed at the time that the bird was unusual, but when the slide was viewed later, I found this bird had a fairly large red spot in the median primary coverts. Normal adult males have an all black wing. Just how common is this plumage variation in Scarlet Tanagers?

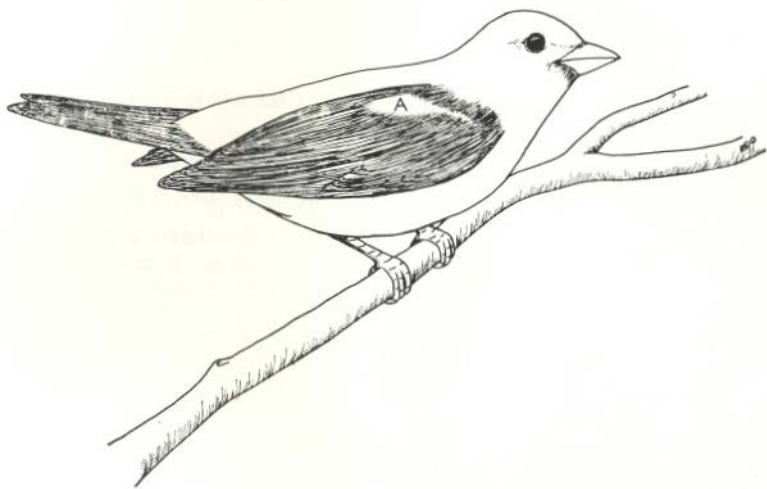
In regard to the plumage of the Scarlet Tanager we read in Bent's *Life History of North American Blackbirds, Orioles, Tanagers, and Allies*, "It is not unusual for only part of the wing coverts or tertiaries to be renewed and as a freak, scarlet coverts are occasionally assumed." The Museum of Zoology at the University of Michigan has several specimens in its collection with one or two red feathers present among the wing coverts. One of the birds in the collection has a red patch roughly half as large as the one banded on Farm Island.

Robert Nero, in his article in the *Auk* (71:149) says "The Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*), and the Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*) show considerable red in this area of the wing in sub-adult plumage, and usually this part of the adult plumage is all black, but in a few Scarlet Tanagers I have found red feathers scattered among the black." The area designated here, however, is in the

metacapral area right along the edge of the wing in the wrist area, while the red in the bird banded was in the primary coverts. Could the red spot indicate that the bird was a sub-adult male? A slide by Chandler Robbins in his talk to the Inland Bird Banding Association meeting in Omaha showed a Scarlet Tanager with two yellowish wing bars and he called this bird a sub-adult. However, Dr. Arthur Allen says that a plumage variation could appear in any age of the bird.

Golden wing-bars are another interesting variation in the Scarlet Tanager. Cleveland Grant photographed a nest in late June and early July, 1957, at Wallace Grange's Sandhill Game Farm (now State Property) in which the male had yellow wing bars. In every other respect, the male was a fine, mature and normal specimen. These wing bars were of a good gold color and corresponded in position almost exactly with the light wing bars normal on the male Western Tanager. He says that this was new to him, but within a few months time, he noticed that one of the Disney films started with a shot of a male Scarlet Tanager singing that had the same yellow coverts. Whether this is a touch of xanthochroism or a touch of western blood, he did not know. Dr. Robert O. Storer of the University of Michigan suggests that these golden wing bars may be the result of introgression with Western Tanagers.

Several suggestions could be given as to the possible cause of the red in the wing. (1) It may be the end result of a partial albinism where the



Scarlet Tanager. A Marks the Red Area

—Drawing by Marilyn D. Oblenkamp

melanin may be inhibited in this area and the red underlying pigment shows through. (2) It may be a "throw-back" to a primitive trait where its ancestors had either a pinking wing bar or a spot on their wings. The Western Tanager and the White-winged Tanager of Mexico have wing bars in this area of the wing. (3) It may be a case of somatic mutation in this part of the wing causing red to be formed in this area rather than the usual black pigment.

SUMMARY

In summary, it seems that the red appearing in the wing of Scarlet Tan-

agers is rather rare and could be explained by partial albinism, "throw-back" to an ancestral characteristic, or a somatic mutation in this area of the wing. More research will have to be done before a clear answer can be given.

(I would appreciate hearing from anyone who may have any information regarding this problem. If anyone is birding this summer on Farm Island please keep a lookout for this red-winged tanager and let me know if you happen to see it. I plan to go back myself to see if it has returned.)—**Brookings.**

Our Juniors



Black-Crowned Night Heron

—E. W. Steffen

2742 West St. Annc,
Rapid City, S. Dak.
April 18, 1963

Dear Juniors:

Spring returned to the Black Hills as I'm sure it did to your part of the state. The Mountain Bluebirds were among the first birds to return in early March. A lone Robin appeared in our backyard during the blizzard of March 17. Whether he was a new arrival or a stay-over from last year I do not know. He was hungry and seemed to appreciate an old apple we had hung on a Russian Olive tree.

Belvidere, S. Dak.
March 16, 1963

Dear Mrs. Yarger:

We have a Downy Woodpecker. It has a red cap. It is black and white.

We have a Hairy too. It has a red cap. It is black and white too. But the Hairy is bigger.

The Chickadees are still here. They like hardboiled eggs and tallow.

The Robins and Meadowlarks are here already.

Please come to our house again next summer.

Tom DeVries,
Second Grade

A flock of 12 Goldfinches was seen in Rapid City on March 24. They may have been returning. However, Goldfinches have been seen occasionally through the winter so one cannot be sure.

Song Sparrows had returned by the last of March, as well as Red-Winged Blackbirds and Killdeer.

Again let me invite you to the Hills this summer. Come on out and we will do some birding together.

Mrs. Holden writes me that we have around twenty Junior Members. How about a letter from you?—Clara Yarger

Birds' Nests of South Dakota

L. J. Moriarty

A.O.U. #132 MALLARD

(*Anas platyrhynchos*)

THIS is normally an abundant breeder in South Dakota, usually nesting on dry ground near water. Some nests have been found on muskrat houses and others in rushes by the edge of marshes. However, they are more inclined to nest in tall grass on dry land.

The usual statement is that they lay from 8-12 eggs, but I have found them with as few as 5 well incubated eggs and as many as 16.

They are usually early nesters, laying in early May in Northeastern South Dakota. I have also found them incubating in August. These I suspect were second nestings as many nests are destroyed during hay making, alfalfa fields being one of the favorite nesting areas if within a quarter of a mile of water.

The nests are usually well hidden, placed in a slight hollow in the ground well lined with grass, dead portions of flags and lined with the gray down and breast feathers of the hen. In very new nests down is not much in evidence but as incubation proceeds the down increases especially around the rim of the nest. Never have I found the complete blanket of down covering the eggs as in some other duck nests.

The eggs are elliptical ovate, and are of a light tannish or grayish, buff, measuring about 2.33", by 1.70" with

some variation in size. They are quite smooth but not glossy, often nearly white.

I have never seen a nest that I knew were those of a cross between the mallard and other ducks but I have shot crosses between the mallard and pintail.

In all my experience so far I have not found a cowbird egg in the nest of any precocial bird or in the nest of any bird that feeds its young by regurgitation. However I must relate a story told me by Mrs. Morton Lauer, a member of S.D.O.U.: She found a mallard nest by flushing the hen from a location just back of her lake home on Kampeska. The nest contained 2 mallard eggs. She did not revisit the nest for about 4 weeks.

She then went to the nest to see if they had hatched and found the two mallard eggs, one pheasant egg and a cowbird egg. All were cold and somewhat stained, so one duck egg was broken showing no incubation.

The question is: did the bird abandon the nest because of the feathered intruders or because her nest was found by humans? I am inclined to believe the latter is the case for ducks, when they have not started incubation, are prone to abandon the nest when at all disturbed by man. I only wish Mrs. Lauer had called me at once so a picture of this unusual occurrence could have been obtained.—
Watertown.

Spring Arrival Dates at Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge

Years 1947 through 1963

Recorded by Elmer Podoll

SPECIES	YEAR	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Grebe, Horned						4-18		4-28			4-25	4-19		5-01	4-24	4-28	5-06	
Western		4-30	4-11	4-24	4-25	4-27	4-21	4-28		4-30	4-21	4-24	4-16	4-27	4-27	5-01	4-24	4-18
Pied-billed			4-10	4-24	4-13	4-19			4-10	4-12	4-21	4-16	4-06	4-08	4-13	4-28	4-18	3-23
White Pelican		4-20	4-05	4-10	4-05	4-08	4-11	3-28	4-06	4-06	4-10	4-16	4-02	4-10	4-10	4-17	4-15	4-12
D-c. Cormorant		4-12	4-14	4-07	4-18	4-17	4-11	4-18	4-09	4-06	4-16	4-15	4-02	4-08	4-11	4-12	4-15	4-04
Great Blue Heron		4-15		4-17	4-14	3-26	4-03	4-14	4-09	3-31	3-31	4-07	4-07	4-08	4-06	3-26	3-27	3-22
Whistling Swan				4-02	4-09		4-11			4-06		4-15	3-24	3-26	4-22	3-27	4-03	4-02
Canada Goose, Large*		3-21	3-21	3-20	3-06	2-22	3-29	3-11	3-09	3-12	3-20	2-13	2-24	3-01	3-26	3-03	2-16	3-11
Lesser*		3-24		3-27	3-30	3-26	4-03	3-17	3-20	3-29	3-25	3-21	3-24	3-23	3-31	3-19	3-27	3-27
W-f. Goose, Spring		3-24		4-02	3-30	3-26	4-03	3-21	4-04	3-31	3-26	3-26	3-27	3-07*	4-09		3-27	3-23
Fall											9-16		9-24	9-23	9-15	9-16	9-17	
Snow & Blue Goose		3-25	3-22	3-26	3-30	3-26	4-03	3-19	3-20	3-29	3-25	3-24	3-25	3-23	3-31	3-23	3-27	3-23
Mallard		3-22	3-22	3-20	3-25	3-26	3-29	3-12	3-18	3-13	3-20	3-19	3-24	3-23	3-26	3-25	3-27	3-23
Gadwall		3-23	3-25	3-27	4-04		4-03	4-08	3-26	4-04	4-02	3-25	3-28	3-22	4-11	3-26	3-27	3-23
Pintail		3-22	3-22	3-26	3-25	3-26	3-29	3-15	3-12	3-12	3-20	3-10	3-22	3-21	3-31	3-14	3-27	3-15
G-w. Teal		3-23	3-25	4-02	0-04	4-15	4-11	4-06	4-06	4-03	4-05					3-26	3-02	3-24
B-w. Teal		4-16		4-12	4-15	4-04		4-08	4-09	4-06	3-26	4-14	4-11	4-11	4-17	4-17	4-16	4-02
Am. Widgeon						3-26	4-03	4-02		4-09		3-24	3-14	3-28	4-11		4-06	3-23
Shoveler		3-30	3-25	3-20	4-03	3-26	4-04	3-21	3-18	4-02	3-26	3-10	3-31	3-25	3-31	3-25	4-06	3-23
Redhead		3-21	3-27	4-12	4-08	3-26	4-07	3-21	4-06	4-03	4-05	3-21	3-31	3-24	3-31	3-19	4-10	3-23
Canvasback		3-28	3-25	4-12		4-08	4-07	3-21	3-25	4-03	4-02	3-24	3-24	3-28	4-04	3-26	4-10	3-26
Scaup, Lesser		4-04	3-24	3-28	3-27	3-26	4-07	3-21	3-23	3-12	3-26	3-25	3-24	3-24	3-31	3-19	3-28	3-22
C. Golden-eye		4-01	4-01	4-02	4-09	3-26			3-18	4-04	3-26	3-21	3-21	3-23	4-09	3-15	3-27	3-23

Bufflehead	4-02	4-10	4-11	4-07	3-15	4-06	4-06	4-05	4-04	4-08	4-04	4-12	4-06	4-06	3-26		
Ruddy				4-13	4-16		4-15	4-14	4-02	4-16	3-25	4-05	4-12	4-23	4-21	3-27	
C. Merganser	3-23	3-24	3-20	3-27	3-26	4-03	3-12		3-12	3-26	3-10	2-26	3-11	3-31	3-18	3-27	3-15
Sandhill Crane			4-08		4-04	4-11		4-07		4-09	4-16				4-22	4-24	
Am. Coot	4-10	4-03	4-10	4-11	4-07	3-31	4-15	4-09	4-06	4-02	4-16	4-06	4-08	4-12	4-04	4-11	3-19
Killdeer	3-30	3-28		4-03		3-29	3-17	4-05	4-01	4-03	3-26	3-24	3-19	4-06	3-19	3-27	3-11
Greater Yellowlegs	4-30	4-20	4-08	4-26	4-15	4-24	4-17	4-05	4-09	5-01	3-25	4-12		4-11	4-23	5-08	4-28
Avocet					4-28	4-18	4-25	4-11	4-22	4-14		4-28	4-15	4-17	4-24	4-22	
Herring Gull	3-26	3-24	3-27	3-25		3-29	3-19	3-18	3-30	3-25	3-10	3-25	3-20	3-27	3-23	3-23	3-15
Franklin's Gull	4-07	4-02	4-20	4-14	4-16	4-11	4-24	4-12	4-03	4-08	4-16	4-14	4-17	4-03	4-12	4-15	4-15
Common Tern*	5-01	4-28		4-24	4-26	4-11	4-04		4-28	5-04	4-22	4-30	5-16	4-24	4-27	4-23	4-25
Mourning Dove	4-16			4-13		4-10	4-07	4-06	4-05	4-05	4-16	4-09	4-03	4-12	3-21	4-05	4-04
Belted Kingfisher	4-05	4-02				4-15					4-16	4-06	4-10	4-12	4-23	4-20	
Y.s. Flicker	4-18						3-16			3-26			3-31	4-15	4-12	4-16	4-02
Western Kingbird	4-29		4-21	5-11		5-07	5-15		5-15	5-15	5-10	5-07	5-11	5-13	5-07	5-08	
Eastern Kingbird	4-29			5-12		5-07	5-15	5-15	5-14	5-14		5-07	5-11	5-09	5-07	5-10	
Purple Martin	4-28	4-22	4-20	4-21		4-18	4-15	4-10	4-22	4-26	4-25	4-18	4-11	4-14	4-20	4-17	4-19
Robin	3-03		3-26	3-31	3-26	3-29	3-21		3-31	3-20	4-04	3-24	3-28	4-04	3-18	3-26	3-15
Eastern Bluebird		3-24				4-04		4-16		4-05							
Yellow Warbler				5-12						5-15	5-25	5-20	5-19	5-15	5-10	5-06	
Myrtle Warbler				4-30			5-05			5-07	4-30	5-20	5-19	5-10	4-25	5-05	
Bobolink				5-12	5-09	5-07	5-14		5-14	5-11	5-22	5-20	5-18	5-15	4-18	5-26	
Eastern Meadowlark*	3-22	3-22	3-26	3-30	3-27	3-18	3-15	3-20	3-12	3-20	3-21	3-24	3-23	3-26	3-18	3-26	3-15
Blackbird, Y-h.	4-25	4-24		4-24		4-08	4-28		4-13	4-21	4-18	4-16	4-17	4-19	4-19	4-17	4-10
R-w.	3-27	3-22	3-26	3-18		3-29		3-20			3-20	3-24	3-19	3-27	3-13	3-20	3-14
Baltimore Oriole				5-20		5-11			4-20*	5-15	5-22	5-26	5-13	5-16	5-12	5-12	
Common Grackle	4-12	3-22	4-15	4-07		4-02			4-03	3-25	3-25	3-29	3-23	4-10	4-01	4-07	3-23
Slate-colored Junco						3-29	3-16	4-04	3-31	3-25	3-26	3-25	3-12	4-06	3-25	3-28	3-16

(* See Notes on Page 38)

NOTES ON ELMER PODOLL'S LIST OF ARRIVALS AT SAND LAKE

Canada Goose, Large: The subspecies *Branta canadensis maxima*, that used to breed all over this general area has long been thought practically extinct. Suddenly there is dramatic evidence of its survival in relatively small but hopeful numbers, though endangered by less than creditable hunting operations. However, the subspecies locally called "Greater" is largely composed of *B.c. moffitti*.

Canada Goose, Lesser: The geese locally so called are principally *B.c. parvipes* but also present are *B.c. hutchinsi*—geese that are but little larger than mallards.

A possible scattering of *B.c. interior* (darker above and below than cana-

densis—Peterson) could be reasonably expected.

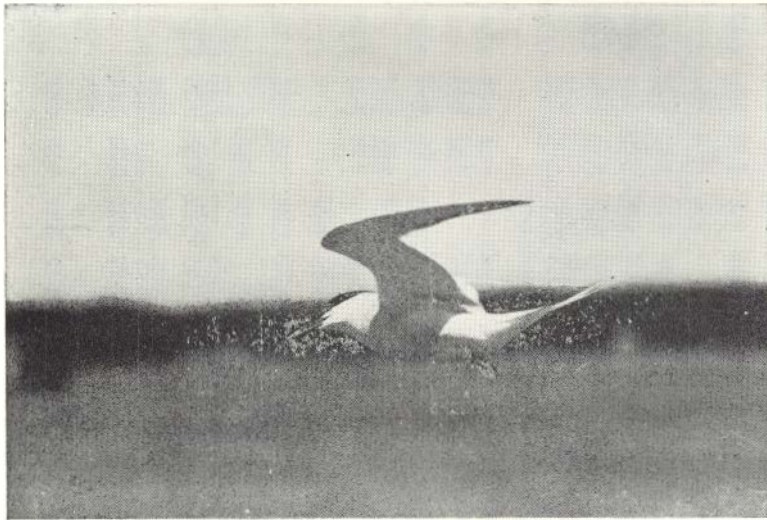
The information above for the *B.c. maxima* and *B.c. parvipes* was given the refuge by Dr. Harold Hansen of Illinois Natural History Survey.

White-fronted Goose: The date of March 7, 1959 for this species has been verified by the Refuge records.

Common Tern: No attempt has been made to record the arrival of the Forster's Tern, which docs appear, though not in numbers.

Eastern Meadowlark: This species was identified by its song.

Baltimore Oriole: Only one individual was seen on this date, much earlier than in other years.—Columbia.



Common Tern - Horizontal Glide

Photo by O. S. Pettingill, Jr.

SOUTH DAKOTA BIRD NOTES

Scott's Book-Plate

HERMAN CHAPMAN calls our attention to Scott Findley's book-plate, by Jacques, with the suggestion it should be used as an illustration in *Bird Notes*. He took the matter up with Scott, wintering in Tucson, Arizona, for detail on how it came to be made. Scott's reply and the book-plate follow.

March 7 (I think), 1963

Dear Chap:

It has been easy to remember I promised a note to tell how we got Mr. Jacques to make my book-plate, but it has been hard to get started. The story is short and is something like this:

We had become acquainted with Mr. and Mrs. Jacques through seeing them at meetings of the Wilson Ornithological Society and of the A.O.U. Then, when the A.O.U met in Minneapolis several years ago, Alma thought a book-plate by Jacques would make a good Christmas present for me. She talked to Mr. Jacques about it and he agreed to draw it; but he thought it might be well to get my ideas, if any, because then I might like it better.

So we went into a huddle. I volunteered that the Scaup is one of my favorite birds and suggested he draw "Blue-bills" as a hunter or bird-watcher might see them through, or over, a growth of rushes. Mr. Jacques thought it would be better to put the rushes in the background. Then, on the back of an envelope, he sketched a suggested



SCOTT FINDLEY

Book-plate - by Jacques

lay-out (my word) and made one of the ducks a female because there should be one of them around.

That was about all there was to it. A short time later, the drawing came and was even better than I imagined it would be. I'm only sorry the book-plates themselves fail to do justice to the original.—Scott.

General Notes of Special Interest

MORE ON WINTER ROBINS—Dr. Harvey Gunderson, curator of mammals, Museum of Natural History, University of Minnesota reports in Conservation Volunteer for January 1963:

"Sometimes the abundance of winter food plays tricks on birds. The winter of 1950-51 was severe, yet many summer residents remained during the winter near the mouth of the Cascade River and about 50 at the French River just north of Duluth. Why did these birds remain?"

"O. A. Stevens of Fargo, N. Dak., who has banded birds for many years does not believe that birds are detained by an abundance of food alone."

Dr. L. H. Walkinshaw says "My idea is that the birds were caught with bad weather suddenly last fall and stayed where they were caught. Last November 11, 1962, the day the weather turned suddenly cold, I saw over 500 Robins migrating. This is just a theory. Perhaps they would not have stayed if they had not found food.—**Herman P. Chilson, Webster.**

* * * *

SPARROW HAWK TAKES SPARROW AT BELLE FOURCHE—Bird-feeding appears to be such a benign activity. Man puts out seeds for the birds; they repay with beauty of song, form and color.

But almost every storm something happens on our hill which proves that the law of survival grinds just as inexorably among the birds as among other forms of life.

Almost everybody knows the sparrow hawk. It's common in all parts of South Dakota. Or if a person doesn't

know the bird, he immediately asks: "What is that beautiful bird with blue-gray wings, reddish back and tail with black stripes, a pinkish breast with black dots, a red cap, black and white face markings and a parrot bill? It's bigger than a robin."

Saturday morning's storm sounded the survival call. Belle Fourche, on the outskirts of the big snow, became a haven for birds. The feeder on our terrace was crowded at daylight with many varieties of small birds, plus the grosbeaks, robins and jays. The birds dropped in waves and withdrew to the trees near by after feeding, as if to give another flight a chance to drop down. The snow in the air made the words "drop down" particularly fitting. The birds appeared to drop from the snowy sky.

One slightly larger bird, about kingfisher size and like a kingfisher in its hovering, looked over the spruce tree near the feeder before dropping to a perch on a spruce shelf. Glasses showed that it was a sparrow hawk, a male with the beautiful blue on head, wings and wing coverts. The feeding sparrows paid no attention to the small hawk. This seemed natural to us, for we have come to believe the sparrow hawk feeds on grasshoppers, crickets and mice, rarely, if ever, on small birds.

Motionless the little hawk sat in the cover of the spruce tree, about 10 feet from the feeder. Then, like a dart, the hawk came from the spruce, struck at the mass of little sparrows on the ground under the feeder. A brief fluttering and scattering of sparrows, and from the tangle of wings the hawk took

off into the snow, the body of a sparrow hanging from its talons. The captive body looked too big for the hawk to carry, but the flight was fast and sure. The snow cut off the hawk's direction.

It all happened so fast that it was hard to believe that it had happened at all—except that the feeding station was deserted for almost an hour after that.—**Irma Weyeler, Daily Belle Fourche Post.**

* * * *

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER IN BEADLE COUNTY—On March 30, 1963, a warm sunny, windy day, temperature 83 degrees F., the J. W. Johnson's and I stopped at a tree strip north of Huron to check on its birds. Jim hurried to the far end and started back while Lucille and I walked slowly along, watching for any birds he might flush out.

A woodpecker flew off to the north and another into the open, lighting on a big tree. I took a good look at it and called: "A Red-bellied Woodpecker." I was sure of the identification but Lucille did not get a very good view of it and Jim arrived too late to see it.

One week later we drove out to the same area and found the bird still there. Everyone had a good view of it and agreed with me that it was a male Red-bellied Woodpecker.

This is a bird not at all common in our area. The last seen was January 18, 1959 (Bird Notes X:64) about 3 miles north of Huron. This one was about a mile northwest of the other.—**Blanche Battin, Huron.**

* * * *

GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW NEAR SIOUX FALLS—While on a walk east of Sioux Falls on the overcast morning of October 19, 1962, I noticed activity around a brush pile in the

sand pit. Among the birds flitting about were Harris', Lincoln, and Song Sparrows and a bird which at first glance seemed to be a White-crowned Sparrow. Then it suddenly disappeared leaving me uncertain as to its identity. In a few moments the same bird reappeared and cooperated superbly by standing perfectly still in plain sight. With 7x50 binoculars the orangish crown was distinctly visible.

This characteristic and the absence of a white eye stripe distinguishes the bird from the White-crowned Sparrow which it otherwise closely resembles.

Upon consulting the Accidental List in Peterson's Field Guide, I concluded that the bird must be a Golden-crowned Sparrow, *Zonotrichia coronata*. (After I consulted at a later time several color plates and range descriptions, there was no doubt in my mind that I had correctly identified the bird.) A very few moments after seeing this bird, I chanced to observe a White-crowned Sparrow, which provided an excellent basis for comparison.

Later that morning I had my first look at two Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers. All in all that dark and gloomy day was a good one for a birder.—**Ronald R. Nelson, Rt. 2, Box 122, Sioux Falls.**

* * * *

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON AT HURON—About ten a. m., April 6, 1963, a phone call from Pete Fuller, 1133 Utah SE, Huron, told of a strange bird, like a Bittern, that was sitting in a tree nearby. The two blocks to the indicated location were covered in minutes.

In the back yard of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Finley, 1153 Utah SE, a group of people were regarding an 18 inch high bird in bluish gray that stood on a horizontal bit of limb some 20 feet

from the ground. When anyone moved closer than about thirty feet or so the bird registered mounting alarm by extending its neck and looking about, as though for a safer perch.

The bird's attitude was that of the night herons. The blue gray body with darker wings, made still darker by parallel stripes in charcoal, the black face with a white mark below and behind the red eye, the light head-stripe with its thin trailing crest removed all doubt of its identity. When it turned to face me and lowered its head, the crown showed the width of the forehead, a pale, though pronounced, yellow color.

While others studied the stranger through the 7x50's, I called George Jonkel, biologist, U.S.F. & W. S., who came in a few minutes with his wife Jean.

After viewing the bird at leisure through 7x50 binoculars at distances of 30 to 50 feet and comparing with the picture in Peterson, all agreed there could be no question of the proper identification as a Yellow-crowned Night Heron. An hour later my wife, Lucille, was able to come and see the bird and confirm the identification. When, at noon, we came by the spot, the bird had moved; later reports, however, told that it had lingered in the area until 2 p. m., at least.

Previous observations of this bird in South Dakota, as recorded in Bird Notes, are listed below.

VI:32. W. F. Felton, Jr., Union County, April 24, 1954. Collected.

X:28 W. F. Felton, Jr., ?, c. April 1, 1954. Sighted.

X:28 J. W. Johnson et al. Beadle Co. July 20, 1958. Sighted.

X:64 Bird shot in Kingsbury Co., by 10-year old boy May 9, 1959, and identi-

fied as Yellow-crowned Night Heron by J. W. and Lucille Johnson May 22.

Hence the present observation is of the fifth bird of the species in 9 years. Not a common species, certainly.

One further comment is suggested by the dates: All except one are April or May, apparently indicating migration beyond the usual breeding area. Only the July 20 date could represent late summer dispersion after nesting.
--J. W. Johnson, Huron.

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PRAIRIE FALCON AND TUFTED TITMOUSE—On February 15, 1963, I saw a Prairie Falcon sitting on a bale stack a half mile south of our farm. I had a good view and made certain of the identification.

The Tufted Titmouse and four cardinals were still coming to the feeders at Big Stone City (Bird Notes, Vol. XV:16) on February 21, 1963.

I caught the Titmouse but had no luck with the Cardinals.—Lowry Elliott, Milbank.

* * * *

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL AT VERMILLION—While walking from my apartment to the University library in Vermillion on December 14, 1962, I passed a White Spruce tree, *Picea glauca*, heavily laden with cones. The movement of several birds in the uppermost limbs stopped me. Although I had no binoculars, my close proximity to the tree and the excellent sunlight largely compensated for their absence. The birds, about a dozen in number and nearly the size of English Sparrows, busily fed among the spruce cones and generally kept to the topmost branches. Occasionally one would fly to a lower level, affording a better view. They were either pink or tanish in color or some gradation thereof. The pink ones (the males) had dark

wings, and all the birds had large, conspicuous white wing-bars. On two occasions I glimpsed the crossed bills.

Upon entering the library, I immediately consulted several bird books, such as Peterson, Chapman, and Coues, all of which confirmed my identification of the White-winged Crossbill, *Loxia leucoptera leucoptera*. It was a surprise and pleasure to see this comparatively rare visitor to eastern South Dakota.—**Ronald R. Nelson, Rt. 2, Box 122, Sioux Falls.**

* * * *

THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION has seen fit to make the theme of its annual Wildlife Week this spring an awareness of the dangers inherent in uncontrolled use of insecticides. In so doing it is pitting the deeply concerned public citizen who appreciates all phases of our natural resources—water, woods and wildlife, against a million dollar organized campaign to discredit the plain talk in Silent Spring. Miss Carson will be villified. Her warnings will be held up to ridicule in a campaign to lull the public into an acceptance of wholesale use of chemicals that can have disastrous ramifications for generations. Let no one forget that bees and the ants, the birds and the fish and the worms in the ground are as essential to mankind's well being as a chemical company that boasts of its weekly pay check to its thousands of workers.

Research is essential and so is progress in today's world. But Silent Spring has pounded home a needed lesson: today's gains can become tomorrow's losses. This, the million dollar publicity campaign due to be launched by the powerful chemical companies, will deny. This year's National Wildlife Week should be given support by all thinking organizations. It can stand as

a monument of free public demonstration, not against pesticides per se, which can become another golden gift to mankind, but rather to a sane evaluation of immediate values compared to far reaching effects which may prove the cure too costly. Only thus can true progress be achieved. Today's dollar profit and immediate result may not be the ultimate value in the space age.—**The North Woods Call, Roscommon, Mich.**

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SANDHILL CRANES PASSING LACREEK—On Thursday, March 28, 1963, the first migrant Sandhill Cranes were observed in this vicinity. An estimated 8,000 to 10,000 cranes passed over and to the west of the refuge between 12:30 p. m. and 1:30 p. m. Cranes were observed over Martin at 11:00 a. m. the same day. This year they did not pass directly over the refuge as they did last year, but were about 5 to 6 miles west. Thus we apparently missed the late morning flight.

The day was cloudy but warm, 76 degrees F., with a south wind about 15 miles per hour. The cranes were heading almost due north.—**James B. Monnie, Refuge Manager, Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge, Martin.**

* * * *

FALL MIGRATION OF SANDHILL CRANES AT LACREEK—On Sunday, October 14, at 11:00 a. m., cranes were heard approaching the refuge from the northwest. In the following one and one-half hours, several flocks ranging from 100 to 300 birds each passed over the refuge. I estimated that 1,400 cranes passed here between 11:00 a. m., and 12:30 p. m. that day. Having to leave the area, I could not continue the observation.—**James B. Monnie, Refuge Manager, Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge, Martin, S. Dak.**

BLUE GROSBEAK NORTH OF HURON—While exploring about three miles north of Lake Byron on May 30, 1963, Jean Jonkel and I came upon a small pool surrounded by trees. A Baltimore Oriole flashed by and over in the bushes a catbird and a small flycatcher were busy.

We turned into the country lane that went through the edge of the trees and got out of the car. A Swainson's hawk screeched at us overhead. We wondered if there was a nest near by and started looking. Then we both saw the blue bird at the same time. He sat at eye level in the tree with the sun shining on him. A finch-size bird, deep blue, dull wing bars, and a thick bill—a Blue Grosbeak. This was the first blue grosbeak I had seen in this area since 1958 when they were found nesting about six miles north of Huron. (BIRD NOTES X:22).—**Blanche Battin, Huron, S. Dak.**

* * *

BOOK REVIEW

The Migration of Birds. By Jean Dorst, Curator of the Division of Mammals and Birds, The National Museum of Natural History, Paris. English translation by Constance D. Sherman. Foreword by Roger Tory Peterson. 476 pages, 130 maps and figures. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, 1962. \$6.75.

Of all the aspects of the study of birds, their regular migration is at once the most intriguing—and the most frustrating. The problems presented in its study seem limitless and the overall incredible fact of migration itself is one for people who can live with an unsolved mystery, even one that the uncooperative bird in the dooryard may have the answer for.

While the migration of birds has been accepted generally for a century

or less, the material written on the subject would fill a good sized library—merely to list the titles would require a volume, as the author of the present work observes in an introduction to his 53-page bibliography of selected titles. In fact, so much detail has been put on paper, some of us have despaired of any possible order ever being brought to the litter—or any pattern discovered in it.

Accordingly, when M. Dorst's book, described in mild words, first came to my attention, it caused little reaction: Just another inadequate attempt to edit some old data—that would end with nothing added except further discouragement for serious hope of material advancement in understanding; either of the machinery that brings about migration—or the no less discouraging question of how animals of such simple minds can do point to point navigation halfway around the world as casually as we take off for a day in the country.

Now, after having read the book more slowly than I had expected, it is time to make clear that, because of its dimensions, no brief review in the usual sense is to be expected. And I see no possibility of giving in a few words the essence of the book either.

For this book itself is an amazingly revealing condensation of material pertaining to its subject, both published and unpublished.

The English translation is well done, into smooth reading language that flows—meaning that its language was not what forced me to read it slowly. The text is as free from idle words as it is possible for readable prose to be. So much information is packed into every line, this reader, at least, regularly found it worthwhile to go back and reread and savor new

material or new concepts relating to a long favored subject.

Maps clearly illustrate the movements of various species of birds on a worldwide basis. And the genius of the author in assembling the material has allowed the data itself to form its own pattern, building up the tapestry that pictures, species by species, the evolutionary habit that, in spite of elements no longer clearly functional, has enabled the class to exploit, even develop, areas of ecology not otherwise attainable—and is still in continuous and visible change and adjustment. Limitlessly complex, it yet has an order, not predictable but, as revealed, the poetry of newly discovered mathematics.

As has been said of authors of other good symposia, M. Dorst "has organized and illuminated," the material of his study. Not only has he gathered and organized the material; his selection, his understanding comments, above all, his responsible evaluation of it and its manifold theoretical backgrounds has had the effect of making eventual understanding seem within the realm of the possible.

Surely, thanks to M. Dorst, all students of this activity of birds will work with a clearer understanding of the part they may be playing in the eventual solution of the many layers of one of our familiar and most recalcitrant problems.

Webster Convention of 1963

J. W. Johnson

"They keep getting better and better." The subject was the Convention, then nearing its close. The identity of the speaker has been lost to memory; the same thought had been expressed in so many different ways.

But the pleasure, obvious in all, both in anticipation and realization, in the results of the constant field activity, held greater promise for the future of SDOU than any conventional words.

With everyone getting an advance copy of the printed program, there is little point in wasting space on details of the events.

In nearly two days of field trips arranged by Herman Chilson and his people there never was a dull moment. Even the birds seemed to have learned their parts and seldom missed a cue.

Only the warblers were lacking in variety, though the Yellow Warblers did their best to make up for the missing.

Manager Robert Johnson of Waubay Refuge put in long hours to show us his area, helped by Elmer Podoll, whose long list of arrivals at Sand Lake Refuge is featured in this issue, pages 36-38.

The amount of work in organizing and carrying out the activities of one of these Conventions will be realized only by the few who have also handled one. And sadly, our appreciation of their efforts too often gets lost in the hurry of departure.

At a banquet in a hall nicely decorated in bird motif by a group of Webster young people, Dr. Dwain Warner's talk was something of a preview and

a bright promise of mass revelation from the use of radar and radio in the study of bird behavior, both collectively and as individuals. At last, ornithological research has been found capable of mechanization, with almost unlimited development to be expected in the immediate future. The prospect is exciting; we are all looking forward to seeing the work of Dr. Warner and his group described at length in print.

At the business meeting which followed the Sunday picnic lunch at Wau-bay Refuge more items were discussed than can find space in this issue. However, it should be observed that our group takes pleasure in all levels of its activities and has no doubt about its accomplishments being worthwhile.

With that attitude it seemed natural for it to have assumed without hesitation tasks that stretch out indefinitely into the future, that will require united efforts by the many of us. True, not much in the way of formal commitments was made. But, to all present, that seemed a mere formality for the proper time.

For the benefit of those unable to be present at the business meeting, the following is one understanding of one discussion: A task that has been looming closer for many years is an annotated check-list of the Birds of South Dakota, that will include the considerable amount of knowledge won since prior publications, most of them dated earlier than the organization of SDOU and containing items of incorrect or obsolete information.

The problem falls into two parts: Preparation of material and raising the money for the printing. Both will not be small because the sense of the meeting seemed clearly in favor of making a good job of it. Yet, as someone pointed out, as soon as it is in print,

the list will be needing revision to bring it up to date again. That is the result of growth of knowledge, accumulated by an active and dedicated organization. A good list, of course, not only records the state of knowledge at a given time but gives a great number of points of departure for further advance.

The time element was put in perspective by one speaker: Assuming some years would be required to raise the funds for printing, a similar period would be needed to prepare the copy. The two operations could well be going on concurrently.

Obviously preparing copy for a work of the size and scope visualized will require a lot of time by many people. We cannot expect it to be the work of any single individual, simply because, if there is anyone capable of the whole job, his time is sure to be already more than taken up with other commitments. So it will have to be a joint project, a sort of assembly line arrangement.

Under the implication that sections of the list will have to be delegated to individuals or groups, the next problem is who for what.

Of course Alfred Peterson is the obvious choice for shore birds, with the help of any others he might choose. Possibly he would be willing to work on the hawks as well.

For the waterfowl division it would probably not be impossible to find someone both willing and capable of undertaking it. Considerations of other divisions makes us wonder if the work might not better be broken up into geographical areas.

South Dakota covers a big territory and few of us know more than our own immediate locality well. Where county lists are in preparation that work

would provide a foundation. Elsewhere one or more individuals may be faced with big areas about which there is little knowledge.

Certainly we will know a lot more about South Dakota Birds when the list is in print than we do now. . . all of us.

Vastly encouraging, however, is the information that an important section of the problem is already in hand. We are gratified to learn that the **Birds of the Black Hills** is now well under way, by the happy chance that Dr. Whitney's work of recent years and Dr. O. S. Pettingill's extensive studies of some years ago are being put together by their joint work. They hope to have it in print for the Convention of the Wilson Ornithological Society in the Black Hills in 1965 . . . the time and place of the SDOU Convention also.—**Huron.**

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RESOLUTIONS

By the South Dakota Ornithologists' Union at its annual Convention at Webster, S. D., on May 25-26, 1963.

No. 1

WHEREAS, a bill, H. R. 4478 "to prevent or minimize injury to fish and wildlife from the use of insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, and pesticides" has been introduced in the House of Representatives, and

WHEREAS, many of these widely used chemicals are proven poisons for most forms of animal life, and

WHEREAS, probabilities of long term ill effects from these chemicals, and even destruction to living things, including man, is becoming ever more evident and serious, and

WHEREAS, studies of effects, safeguards on the use, and proper labeling of these chemicals is urgently needed,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the above mentioned legislation should be passed.

No. 2

WHEREAS, the State of South Dakota has no regulations regarding the use of insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, and pesticides, and

WHEREAS, until studies are instigated to determine the extent of use and damage done by these biocides during routine application in the state, no data exists for controlling future damage while achieving desirable agriculture effects.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that legislation for research on effects and control of the use of these often dangerous and harmful chemicals be considered in the coming legislative session.

No. 3

WHEREAS, several proposals have been introduced in the Congress to increase participation by counties in revenues from the National Wildlife Refuge System (S. 179 and H. R. 1004), and

WHEREAS, these proposals concern redistribution of existing revenues and will not require additional expense to taxpayers, and

WHEREAS, the remaining prairie wetlands are seriously threatened by continuing destruction and loss, and

WHEREAS, wetlands are a necessary part of the habitat for countless numbers and varied species of upland, shore, marsh, and water birds inhabiting the prairies, and

WHEREAS, Governors of States are

withholding permission for Federal land acquisition until the counties can be compensated for alleged tax base losses, and

WHEREAS, passage of this legislation is necessary to assure a program of preservation of these wetlands.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the above mentioned proposals be acted upon favorably.

No. 4

WHEREAS, A Wilderness Bill, S. 4, has been passed by the Senate and H. R. 930 has been introduced in the House of Representatives, and

WHEREAS, two principal agencies concerned, the Departments of Agriculture and Interior, have endorsed the Senate Bill, and

WHEREAS, the disappearing wilderness areas need assurance of protection to provide our expanding population opportunity to experience and explore undisturbed nature, and

WHEREAS, WE ARE MORALLY OBLIGATED TO SAVE SOME of our wild area inheritance for our descendants,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the measure should receive immediate and strong action by the Congress to establish an effective Wilderness Preservation System.

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BRIEFLY . . .

Herb Krause will be a counselor at one of the east coast Audubon Camps this summer.

Alfred Peterson was elected to Honorary Membership in SDOU at the 1963 Convention.

The 1964 Winter Meeting of SDOU will be at Huron, about the third week in January, invitation of the Huron Bird Club.

Location for the 1964 (spring) Convention has not been decided. But . . . that of 1965 will be in the Black Hills, time and place of the Wilson Ornithological Society Meeting.

Copies of the report of the President's Science Advisory Committee on Pesticides can be bought for 15c each, from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. Ask for the report "Use of Pesticides."