BIRD CALENDAR

of the

Cleveland Bird Club

Founded by Francis H. Herrick in 1905 for the recording of bird activities. Edited by John W. Aldrich Cleveland Museum of Natural History

34th Year - Bulletin No. 4. Sept., Oct., Nov., 1938. Prepared Feb. 27, 1939.

CONTRIBUTORS

John W. Aldrich B. P. Bole, Jr. Charles H. Knight Margarette E. Morse Donald L. Newman

Ralph O'Reilly, Jr. Marion Skaggs Merit B. Skaggs Arthur B. Williams

Collaborators in the Christmas Bird Census are listed beyond.

The editor wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr. Russell A. Huggins in compilation of the data for this issue.

During the autumn field season Charles Knight led the field by a large margin in amount of field work; 23 trips and spending 65½ hours in the field. Marion and Merit Skaggs together were second in amount of actual time spent in the field with 11 trips, covering 42 hours, but B. P. Bole, Jr. was second in point of view of number of trips, making 17, which however covered but 39 hours.

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

<u>Red-throated Loon</u> – 1 seen at Bratenahl, November 1, by Arthur Williams, B. P. Bole, Jr., and John Aldrich.

<u>Double-crested Cormorant</u> – 7 seen at Pymatuning Reservoir, October 9, by Merit and Marion Skaggs and Margarette Morse; another reported for Aurora Pond, October 28, by John Aldrich.

European Wigeon – 6 seen at the Holden Arboretum, November 7, by B. P. Bole, Jr.

- <u>Rough-legged Hawk</u> 1 seen at Mayfield Heights, October 3, by Ralph O' Reilly; another seen at North Chagrin Reservation, November 30, by Arthur Williams and still another December 28, at South Euclid.
- <u>Pigeon Hawk</u> 1 seen at Bratenahl, November 1, by Arthur Williams, B. P. Bole and John Aldrich.

Golden Plover – 1 seen at Pymatuning Reservoir, October 8, by Merit and Marion Skaggs.

<u>Purple Sandpiper</u> – 4 seen on the breakwater at Fairport Harbor on November 13, and 2 on November 14, by Marion and Merit Skaggs, Margarette Morse, Isabelle Hellwig and Ralph O'Reilly. This is undoubtedly the most unusual record of the autumn season.

Baird Sandpiper – 3 seen at Pymatuning Reservoir, September 10, by Marion and Merit Skaggs.

<u>Stilt Sandpiper</u> – 1 seen at Pymatuning Reservoir, September 10, and 20 at the same place September 23, by Merit and Marion Skaggs.

Olive-sided Flycatcher - 1 seen at Avon Lake, September 3, by Charles Knight.

<u>Mockingbird</u> – 1 seen on the Christmas Bird Census along the lake shore, December 24, by Merit and Marion Skaggs, Margarette Morse and Vera Carrothers.

- <u>Pine Grosbeak</u> 1 seen several times at the Holden Arboretum in early December by B. P. Bole, Jr. and members of the Arboretum staff.
- <u>Pine Siskin</u> 1 seen at Calvary Cemetery, Cleveland, September 25, by Charles Knight; and 20 seen at Black Brook, October 20, by Margarette Morse.

<u>Sharp-tailed Sparrow</u> – 1 seen at Aurora Pond, September 19, by John Aldrich. The bird was probably either <u>nelsoni</u> of the northern prairies or <u>altera</u>, the Hudson Bay

breeding race, but of course impossible to positively identify in the field.

<u>SUMMARY OF WEATHER CONDITIONS</u> Taken from Cleveland Weather Bureau Reports.

: Mean :]	Normal : Total	: Normal	: Total : I	Normal :	% of Possible	: N	ormal
Month: Temp : '	Temp. : Precip.	: Precip.	: Snow : S	Snow :	Sunshine	$: S^{*}$	unshine
Sept. : 63.4° : 0	63.9° : 6.17"	: 3.33"	: .0":	.0" :	57%	:	62%
Oct. : 56.4 : 5	53.6 : .70	: 2.78	: .0 :	.2 :	71	:	52
Nov. : 46.6 : 4	40.9 : 3.31	: 2.64	: 6.7 :	3.9 :	54	:	31
Dec. : 33.5 : 3	31.2 : 1.72	: 2.44	: 7.8 :	9.2 :	19	:	24
+10.2	+.61		+1.2		+32		

(Accumulated excess (+), or deficiency (-) for the period).

The tabulation of weather data shows a slight excess of heat, rainfall and snowfall and a sizable excess of sunshine during the autumn months.

		Average	Maximum		Average
Species	: 1st 1938	: 1st		: Last 1938	: Last
Species			. 1900	. <u>Last 1900</u>	. <u>Daot</u>
Common Loon	: Oct. 8 (2)	•	• •	: Nov. 19 (3)	•
Red-throated Loon	: Nov. 1 (1)	•	• •	: Nov. 19 (3) : Nov. 1 (1)	•
Horned Grebe	: Aug. 6 (1)	: Oct. 27	: Nov. 30	: Oct. 3 (2)	•
Pied-billed Grebe	: Breeds			• •	: Nov. 10
Double-crested	. Diccus	•	. ocpt. 20 (10)	· • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
Cormorant	: Oct. 8 (4)	•	: Oct. 8-9 (11)	: Oct. 28 (1)	•
Great Blue Heron	: Breeds		: Sept. $10(20)$	· · ·	: Oct. 26
American Egret	: Aug. 6 (2)		: Sept. 10 (20)	: Oct. 8 (1)	. 001. 20
Green Heron	: Breeds	•	. Sept. 10 (11)	: Sept. 23 (1)	: Sept. 17
Black-crowned Night	· Diccus	•	•	. ocpt. 20 (1)	. ocpt. 17
Heron	: Breeds	•	: Sept. 10 (4)	: Sept. 10 (5)	• Sent 20
American Bittern	: Breeds	•	. ocpt. 10 (+)	: Sept. 10 (3)	-
Least Bittern	: Breeds	•	•	: Sept. 23 (1)	. 000. 10
Canada Goose	: Nov. 13 (9)	•	•	: Dec. 26 (9)	• Nov 27
Mallard	: Breeds	•	: Sept. 23 (300)		
Black Duck	: Breeds	•	: Sept. 23 (300)		. NOV. 11
European Wigeon	: Nov. 7 (6)	•		: Nov. 7 (6)	•
Baldpate	: Aug. $20(12)$: Sent 17		: Nov. 7(0) : Nov. 19(106)	• Nov. 97
Pintail	: Oct. 9 (7)	: Sept. 17	· · · ·	, ,	: Nov. 27
	: Oct. 9 (7)	. Sept. 29	•	()	: Oct. 31
Green-winged Teal Blue-winged Teal	: Breeds	•	: Sept. 10 (25)	· · ·	: Oct. 31
Shoveller		. Sont 1	. Sept. 10 (23)		: Nov. 3
Wood Duck	: Aug. 6 (5) : Breeds	: Sept. 4	: Sept. 10 (36)	• •	: Oct. 28
Redhead	: Dec. 24 (15)	•	. Sept. 10 (50)	: Dec. $24(2)$. 001. 28
Ring-necked Duck	: Nov. 7 (2)	•	•		: Nov. 11
Lesser Scaup Duck	: Oct. 8 (9)	: Oct. 21	: Dec. 24 (126)	: Nov. 7 (2) : Winters	. NOV. 11
-	· · ·		()	: Winters	•
American Golden-eye Bufflehead	: Dec. 24 (4) : Nov. 19 (10)		: Dec. $24-20$: Dec. 24 (14)	: Dec. 24 (14)	•
Old Squaw	: Nov. 28		: Dec. $24(14)$: Dec. 28	: Nov. 28	•
Ruddy Duck		•	. Dec. 20	: Nov. 28 : Nov. 19 (2)	•
Hooded Merganser	: Aug. 6 (3) : Oct. 24 (1)	•	$\frac{10}{9}$	· · ·	. Dog 5
0	()		: Nov. 19 (8)	· · ·	: Dec. 5
American Merganser			: Oct. 30 (18)	: Winters : Winters	•
Red-breasted Merganse	: Breeds	: Nov. 13	•		: : Oct. 14
Turkey Vulture	: Breeds	•	•	: Winters	. 001. 14
Sharp-shinned Hawk		•	•	: Winters	•
Cooper Hawk Red-tailed Hawk	: Breeds	•	\cdot Nov 10 (10)		•
Red-shouldered Hawk	: Breeds		: Nov. 19 (12)	: Winters	•
	: Breeds		: Nov. 19 (4)	: Winters	•
Rough-legged Hawk	: Oct. 3 (1)	: Nov. 9	10(7)	: Winters	•
Bald Eagle Marsh Hawk	: Breeds	•	: Sept. 10 (7)	: Oct. 24 (1)	•
	: Breeds	•	•	: Winters	•
Pigeon Hawk	: Nov. 1 (1)		$\frac{1}{100}$: Nov. 1 (1)	
Sparrow Hawk	: Breeds	•	: Dec. 24 (10)	: Winters	•
Ruffed Grouse	: Breeds	•	• •	: Winters	•
Bob-white Ping pecked Phersont	: Breeds	•		: Winters	•
Ring-necked Pheasant	: Breeds	•		: Winters	. Sont 20
Sora Florida Gallinule	: Breeds : Breeds	•	: Sent 10 (40)	:Sept. 19 (2)	: Sept. 30
	. DICCUS	•	: Sept. 10 (40)	: Oct. 8 (6)	: Sept. 30

AUTUMN MIGRATION TABLE - 1938

Average Maximum Average : Last 1938 Species : 1st 1938 : 1st : 1938 : Last : Sept. 23 (50) : Sept. 30 : Oct. 29 (1000) : Dec. 26 (4) American Coot : Nov. 1 Semipalmated Plover : Aug. 6 (6) : Aug.21 : Sept. 10 (50) : Nov. 13 (1) : Oct. 6 : Breeds : Nov. 19 (2) Killdeer : Sept. 10 (60) : Nov. 10 Golden Plover : Oct. 8 (1) : Oct. 8 (1) : Oct. 21 Black-bellied Plover : Sept. 10 (6) : Sept. 5 : Oct. 30 (3) Ruddy Turnstone : Sept. 4 (2) : Sept. 4 (2) : Sept. 20 Woodcock : Nov. 3 (1) : Nov. 14 : Breeds Wilson Snipe : Sept. 10 (10) : Sept. 8 : Sept. 20 (1) : Oct. 27 Spotted Sandpiper : Breeds Sept. 1 (12) : Sept. 10 (1) : Sept. 21 Solitary Sandpiper : Aug. 20 (1) : Sept. 11 (3) : Sept. 26 : Sept. 14 (1) : Sept. 14 (1) : Willet : Oct. 8 (1) Greater Yellow-legs : Sept. 10 (2) : Aug. 28 : Oct. 26 Lesser Yellow-legs : Aug. 6 (10) : Aug. 22 : Oct. 8 (3) : Sept. 21 : Aug. 6 (10) Purple Sandpiper : Nov. 13 (4) : Nov. 19 (4) : Pectoral Sandpiper : Sept. 10 (21) : Sept. 2 : Sept. 10 (16) : Oct. 8 (6) : Oct. 19 **Baird Sandpiper** : Sept. 10 (3) : : Sept. 10 (3) : Oct. 8 (4) Least Sandpiper : Aug. 6 (4) : Aug. 17 : Sept. 30 : Oct. 3 Red-backed Sandpiper : Oct. 2 (2) : Sept. 8 (36) : Nov. 19 (32) : : Sept. 23 (2) : Stilt Sandpiper : Sept. 10 (2) : Semipalmated Sandpiper Aug. 6 (10) : Aug. 21 : Sept. 10 (50) : Nov. 19 (4) : Oct. 2 Western Sandpiper : Aug. 6 (5) : Aug. 6 (5) : Oct. 30 (8) Sanderling : July 20 (7) : Aug. 22 : Oct. 12 Herring Gull : Dec. 25 (784) : Winters : Aug. 6 (2) : **Ring-billed Gull** : Summer : Nov. 24 (550) : Winters : records Bonaparte Gull : Nov. 13 (4) : Sept. 14 : Dec. 24 (8000): Winters Mourning Dove : Breeds : Dec. 24 (27) : Yellow-billed Cuckoo : Breeds : Sept. 8 (1) : Sept. 19 Black-billed Cuckoo : Sept. 11 (1) : Sept. 28 : Breeds • Screech Owl : Breeds : Winters : Breeds : Winters Great Horned Owl Barred Owl : Breeds : Winters Saw-whet Owl : Nov. 5 (1) : Nov. 5 (1) Nighthawk : Breeds : Sept. 12 (1) : Sept. 18 Chimney Swift : Breeds Sept. 19 (15) : Oct. 8 (3) : Oct. 6 Ruby-throated : Sept. 25 (1) : Sept. 23 Hummingbird : Breeds : Sept. 1 (6) Belted Kingfisher : Oct. 9 (2) : Nov. 4 : Breeds Flicker : Breeds : Sept. 5 (17) : Dec. 8 : Nov. 8 **Pileated Woodpecker** : Winters : Breeds Red-bellied Woodpecker: Breeds : Winters **Red-headed Woodpecker Breeds** Sept. 4 (5) : Sept. 5 (4) : Oct. 31 Yellow-bellied : Oct. 4 (6) Sapsucker : Sept. 23 (1) : Sept. 24 : Sept. 4 (6) : Oct. 23 : Breeds Hairy Woodpecker : Winters Downy Woodpecker : Breeds : : Winters : Eastern Kingbird : Breeds : Sept. 3 (6) : Sept. 16 • **Crested Flycatcher** : Sept. 13 (2) : Sept. 9 : Breeds : : Sept. 3 (5)

		Average	Maximum		Average
Species	: 1st 1938	: 1st	: 1938	: Last 1938	: Last
	:	:	•	:	:
Phoebe	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 22 (1)	: Oct. 18
Yellow-bellied Fly-	:	:	:	:	:
catcher	: Sept. 4 (1)	: Sept. 3	:	: Sept. 4 (1)	: Sept. 17
Acadian Flycatcher	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 8 (1)	: Sept. 17
Alder Flycatcher	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 8 (1)	: Sept. 26
Wood Pewee	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 24 (2)	: Sept. 22
Olive-sided Flycatcher	: Sept. 3 (1)	:	:	: Sept. 3 (1)	:
Horned Lark	: Breeds	:	: Nov. 7 (200)	: Winters	:
Bank Swallow	: Breeds	:	: Sept. 1 (13)	: Sept. 19 (1)	:
Barn Swallow	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 19 (1)	: Sept. 15
Purple Martin	: Breeds	:	: Sept. 3-4 (245)	: Sept. 5 (3)	: Sept. 11
Blue Jay	: Breeds	:	: Sept. 4 (57)	: Winters	:
Crow	: Breeds	:	: Dec. 26 (505)	: Winters	:
Black-capped Chickade	e Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Tufted Titmouse	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
White-breasted	:	:	:	:	:
Nuthatch	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Red-breasted Nuthatch	: Sept. 19 (3)	: Sept. 18	: Oct. 3 (7)	: Nov. 7 (6)	:
Brown Creeper	: Oct. 2 (1)	: Oct. 1	: Oct. 14-18	: Winters	:
House Wren	: Breeds	:	: Sept. 1-8	: Oct. 14 (1)	: Oct. 2
Winter Wren	: Oct. 8 (2)	: Sept. 26	: -	: Oct. 30 (2)	: Nov. 25
Long-billed Marsh Wren	n: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 19 (5)	: Sept. 27
Mockingbird	: Dec. 24 (1)	:	:	: Dec. 24 (1)	:
Catbird	: Breeds	:	: Sept. 1 (12)	: Sept. 28 (1)	: Oct. 6
Brown Thrasher	: Breeds	:	: Sept. 5 (11)	: Sept. 8 (4)	: Sept. 29
Robin	: Breeds	:	: Oct. 1-17	: Winters	:
Wood Thrush	: Breeds	:	: Sept. 1 (11)	: Oct. 17 (1)	: Oct. 7
Hermit Thrush	: Sept. 25 (1)	: Sept. 27	: Oct. 1-17	: Oct. 28 (2)	: Oct. 28
Olive-backed Thrush	: Sept. 11 (1)	: Sept. 11	: Sept. 19 (15)	: Oct. 17 (2)	: Oct. 14
Gray-cheeked Thrush	: Sept. 6 (1)	: Sept. 15	:	: Sept. 13 (1)	: Oct. 1
Veery	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 24 (1)	: Sept. 20
Eastern Bluebird	: Breeds	:	: Oct. 2-8	: Nov. 6 (2)	: Oct. 31
Golden-crowned Kinglet	t: Sept. 25 (10)	: Sept. 30	:	: Winters	:
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	: Sept. 23 (2)	: Sept. 25	: Oct. 28 (28)	: Oct. 30 (1)	:
American Pipit	: Oct. 8 (12)	:	: Nov. 7 (75)	: Nov. 7 (75)	:
Cedar Waxwing	: Breeds	:	: Sept. 4 (100)	: Dec. 3 (2)	:
Northern Shrike	: Dec. 24 (1)	:	:	: Dec. 24 (1)	:
Starling	: Breeds	:	: Aug. 20 (32000) Winters	:
Yellow-throated Vireo	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 17 (1)	:
Blue-headed Vireo	: Oct. 2 (1)	: Sept. 20	:	: Oct. 2 (1)	: Oct. 8
Red-eyed Vireo	: Breeds	: -	:	: Sept. 23 (2)	: Oct. 2
Philadelphia Vireo	: Sept. 5 (1)	: Sept. 13	:	: Oct. 17 (3)	: Oct. 6
Warbling Vireo	: Breeds	: -	:	: Sept.5 (4)	: Sept. 25
Black and White	:	:	:	/	:
Warbler	: Sept. 1 (4)	: Aug. 24	:	: Sept. 13 (2)	: Sept. 29
Tennessee Warbler		: Sept. 4		: Oct. 2 (1)	: Oct. 3
Nashville Warbler				: Oct. 17 (1)	: Oct. 9

		Average	Maximum		Average
Species	: 1st 1938	: 1st	: 1938	: Last 1938	: Last
.	:	:	:		:
Parula Warbler	: Sept. 4 (2)		•	: Sept. 4 (2)	
Yellow Warbler	: Breeds	:	•		: Aug. 30
Magnolia Warbler	: Sept. 3 (1)	: Sept. 5	:		: Oct. 11
Cape May Warbler	: Sept. 11 (1)	: Sept. 11	:		: Oct. 5
Black-throated Blue	:	:	:	:	:
Warbler	: Sept. 3 (4)	: Sept. 8	•	: Sept.24 (1)	: Oct. 5
Myrtle Warbler	: Sept. 23 (2)	-			: Oct. 29
Black-throated Green	:	:	:	:	:
Warbler	: Breeds	•	: Sept. 24 (8)	: Oct. 9 (2)	: Oct. 14
Blackburnian Warbler	: Sept. 4 (2)	: Aug. 31		• •	: Oct. 3
Chestnut-sided Warbler		: Sept. 2		• • •	: Sept. 21
Bay-breasted Warbler	: Sept. 4 (1)	-		• • •	: Oct. 8
Black-poll Warbler	: Sept. 3 (1)	-	. ,	• • •	: Oct. 11
Palm Warbler	: Sept. 23 (2)	: Sept. 21	:	· · ·	: Oct. 14
Ovenbird	: Breeds	:	:		: Sept. 30
Grinnell Water-thrush	: Breeds	:			: Sept. 10
Louisiana Water-thrush					: Sept. 11
Mourning Warbler	: Sept. 1 (2)	:		: Sept. 26 (2)	:
Yellow-throat	: Breeds	•	,		: Oct. 8
Hooded Warbler	: Breeds	:		• • •	: Sept. 26
Wilson Warbler	: Sept. 3 (3)	: Sept. 4			: Sept. 22
Canada Warbler	: Sept. 3 (2)	: Aug. 28			: Sept. 13
Redstart	: Breeds	:			: Oct. 4
English Sparrow	: Breeds	:	-	: Winters	:
Bobolink	: Breeds			: Sept. 20 (3)	: Sept. 19
Meadowlark	: Breeds	:		- , ,	: Nov. 4
Red-winged Blackbird	: Breeds		,	• • •	: Nov. 9
Baltimore Oriole	: Breeds	:		· · ·	: Aug. 28
Rusty Blackbird	: Sept. 20 (100	0) Oct. 2	: Sept. 20 (1000)		: Oct. 31
Bronzed Grackle	: Breeds	,	: Aug. 20 (8000)		: Nov. 6
Cowbird	: Breeds		: Aug. 29 (350)	• •	: Oct. 17
Scarlet Tanager	: Breeds	:	0 ()	• • •	: Sept. 24
Cardinal	: Breeds	:		: Winters	:
Rose-breasted Grosbeal		:			: Sept. 27
Indigo Bunting	: Breeds	:		• • •	: Sept. 7
Purple Finch		: Oct. 17		: Winters	:
Pine Grosbeak	. ,		nt days at Holde		:
			ecember. (B.P.B.		:
Pine Siskin	: Sept. 25 (1)	:	•	: Oct. 30 (20)	:
Goldfinch	: Breeds	:		: Winters	:
Towhee	: Breeds				: Oct. 30
Savannah Sparrow	: Breeds	:		: Sept. 10 (22)	
Grasshopper Sparrow	: Breeds	:			: Sept. 26
Henslow Sparrow	: Breeds	:			: Sept. 6
Sharp-tailed Sparrow	: Sept. 19 (1)	:		: Sept. 19 (1)	:
Vesper Sparrow	: Breeds	:			: Oct. 11
···· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				(-)	

		Average	Maximum		Average
Species	: 1st 1938	: 1st	: 1938	: Last 1938	: Last
	:	:	:	:	:
Slate-colored Junco	: Sept. 23 (6)	: Sept. 25	: Oct. 28 (174)	: Winters	:
Tree Sparrow	: Nov. 5 (4)	: Oct. 15	:	: Winters	:
Chipping Sparrow	: Breeds	:	: Oct. 16 (17)	: Oct. 28 (2)	: Oct. 9
Field Sparrow	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 16 (1)	: Oct. 23
White-crowned Sparrow	w: Sept. 23 (2)	: Sept. 28	: Oct. 2 (26)	: Oct. 28 (12)	: Oct. 26
White-throated Sparrow	w: Sept. 18 (10)	: Sept. 18	:Oct. 2 (77)	: Oct. 30 (1)	: Nov. 3
Fox Sparrow	: Oct. 2 (1)	: Oct. 9	: Oct. 17 (12)	: Nov. 12 (11)	: Nov. 7
Lincoln Sparrow	: Sept. 20 (2)	: Sept. 15	:	: Oct. 8 (3)	: Oct. 12
Swamp Sparrow	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 8 (4)	: Oct. 24
Song Sparrow	: Breeds	:	: Oct. 2 (52)	: Winters	:
Snow Bunting	: Oct. 30 (14)	: Nov. 17	:	: Winters	:

In the preceding table an attempt has been made for the first time to give average dates of arrival and departure of autumn migrants on the basis of our own records.

Study of this table reveals that both the arrival and departure of species averaged somewhat earlier than usual this year. Early arrivals numbered 31 as against 22 late arrivals. Early departures numbered 59 as against 48 late departures.

Species which arrived exactly on time or not more than a day either way from the average date are: red-backed sandpiper, yellow-bellied sapsucker, yellow-bellied flycatcher, red-breasted nuthatch, brown creeper, olive-backed thrush, Tennessee warbler, Cape May warbler, Wilson warbler and white-throated sparrow. Those which departed exactly on time or not more than a day either way from the average date are: blue-winged teal, hermit thrush, Tennessee warbler, myrtle warbler, hooded warbler, bobolink, and cowbird. The Tennessee warbler was the most punctual of all species during the autumn of 1938, both arriving and departing within a day of the average dates.

The more punctual species seem to have only one thing in common, and that is that they are all comparatively early migrants, arriving from the north in September or very early in October, and departing for the south in every case before the first of November. Can any of our Bird Club theorists present plausible explanations for this condition?

It is interesting to note that there are no autumn records for such common breeding birds as blue-winged warbler, caerulean warbler and rough-winged swallow. The paucity of information about the time of departure of these species as well as the yellow warbler, ovenbird, Baltimore oriole, scarlet tanager and others is a challenge to our Cleveland Bird Club field students.

FIELD NOTES

Focal Point of Migration at Avon Lake

At Avon Lake, there is a triangular strip of land that projects out into Lake Erie for several hundred feet. This land is rather densely covered with trees and is utilized as a temporary resting place by several species of birds that migrate across the lake.

There appears to be a definite route traveled by birds crossing the lake at this point. On the mornings of September 3rd, 4th and 5th, between the first break of day and sunrise a total of eighty-seven birds were observed there. The vast majority of these birds alighted on the projection of land and rested for a few minutes. Then they were off again, following the lake south-westward.

Unfortunately, due largely to the lack of light, only thirty-one of the total number of birds migrating across the lake were positively identified. These that were recognized were: crested flycatcher, 6; olive-sided flycatcher, 1; magnolia warbler, 2; black-throated green warbler, 2; mourning warbler, 11; Wilson warbler, 5; Canada warbler, 2; redstart, 1; and Baltimore oriole, 1. —Charles H. Knight

(We know very little about where and what species of birds actually cross Lake Erie so observations of this sort are very important. –Ed.)

SYSTEMATIC FEEDING OF BONAPARTE GULLS

About 5,000 Bonaparte Gulls were observed feeding in an unusual manner at Fairport Harbor, on November 19th. The Grand River flows northward into Lake Erie at this point and has been dredged to allow lake freighters to go up the river for a short distance. Against a background of several of these boats, a continuous stream of gulls moved slowly toward the lake at a distance of from two to four feet above the water. Frequently birds would drop to the water and were seen to pick up small minnows which seemed to be present in large numbers and were evidently close to the surface of the water. When the gulls reached the harbor they wheeled and flew in the opposite direction, keeping to the right far enough, and at a slightly higher level, so as not to interfere with the feeding birds to a point about ¹/₄ mile upstream and repeated the cycle. This procedure was followed all during the hour we watched, although more than a thousand gulls were on the water in the harbor and were not taking part in the "merrygo-round". The direction of the wind was upstream or against the flight direction of the feeding birds and probably determined the direction of the cycle. With me were Miss Margarette E. Morse, Miss Vera Carrothers and Mrs. Skaggs. – Merit B. Skaggs

CHRISTMAS BIRD CENSUS - 1938

Cleveland, Ohio (region east of city along Lake Erie from Gordon Park to Fairport Harbor, and inland to Wickliffe, Mayfield and Willoughby). Dec. 24; 7:45 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Cloudy; strong west wind, 1-2 inches of snow on ground; temp. 30° min; 33° max. Observers in 4 groups. Combined mileage: by auto 150, on foot 18. Black Duck, 1; Redhead, 15; Lesser Scaup Duck, 126; American Golden-eye, 11; Bufflehead, 14; Hooded Merganser, 1; Red-breasted Merganser, 7; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 10; Ruffed Grouse, 1; Bob-white, 24 (4 coveys); Ring-necked Pheasant, 3; American Coot, 2; Herring gull, 62; Ring-billed Gull, 15; Bonaparte's Gull, 8,000; Mourning Dove, 27; Barred Owl, 1; Pileated Woodpecker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 5; Downy Woodpecker, 8; Blue Jay, 11; Black-capped Chickadee, 17; Tufted Titmouse, 11; White-breasted Nuthatch, 8; Brown Creeper, 1; Mockingbird, 1; Robin, 1; Starling, 127; English Sparrow, 174; Cardinal, 22; Slate-colored Junco, 15; Tree Sparrow, 62; Song Sparrow, 8; Total, 34 species, about 8,000 individuals. The Mockingbird was observed under very good conditions by V.C., M.E.M., M.S. and M.B.S. -John W. Aldrich, David Blythe, Vera Carrothers, Margarette E. Morse, David C. Nutt, F. N. Shankland, C. M. Shipman, Marion Skaggs, Merrit B. Skaggs, J. Paul Visscher, M. B. Walters, Arthur B. Williams, Members of the Cleveland Bird Club.

COOPERATION WITH OTHER FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS

Mr. J. Murray Speirs, who is making a study of the changes in population and distribution of the eastern and southern robins, has requested that we cooperate with him in his research by supplying information from our field notes on the status of robin populations in 1939. A copy of a blank to be filled out and sent to him is appended at the end of this issue of the BIRD CALENDAR. Cooperation between investigators in all branches of Biology are very desirable and this is particularly the case in field ornithology. So we are glad to give Mr. Speirs the benefit of our observations.

ROBIN CENSUS - 1939

Introduction:	The object of this investigation is to determine accurately the changes in distribution of the robin population of America during the winter and during the spring migration. No one man can be all over America at once, so this is a job which requires a large number of observers, each recording the changes in abundance in his locality, and forwarding his observations when complete to a central place for study.
<u>Return Address</u> :	When complete please return this questionnaire to – J. Murray Speirs, 204 Experimental Zoology Laboratory, University of Illinois, Champaign, Illinois.
Name of Observer	
Street Address	
Post Office, Town,	or City
State or Province	
Time of Census:	The counts should be made at about the same time each day.
	This census was made between and
Area of Census:	The area in which the census is carried on should be chosen so that
	(1) It can be visited conveniently each day.
	(2) The number of robins in it will not be too great to count.
	(3) The number of robins in it will be at least 10 when the migration is at its peak.
	Area covered by this census was acres.
Method of recordin	ng: If six robins are seen put down 6. If no robins are seen put down 0. If the area is not visited put down
	It is important to distinguish between "0" and "-" !

<u>Alternative and Additional Information Desired</u>: You may find the census method impossible. A valuable alternative would be to fill in the estimated numbers of robins observed each day in the course of your normal activities. Even the dates when robins were most noticeably abundant would be useful. Several observers volunteered weather data with their 1937 and 1938 censuses. Such data are greatly appreciated.

(sheet 2)

ROBIN CENSUS – 1939

Census Table

Date	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
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11						
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25						
26						
27						
28						
29						
30						
31						

Are the numbers counts? Are they estimates?

Direction of Migration: Robins have been observed migrating from to

..... in this region. Were they following a valley? Were

they following a lakeshore? Were they following a ridge or cliff?

<u>Robin Roosts</u>: Has there been a robin roost in your region?

About how many robins have been seen in this roost?

Between what dates was this roost occupied?

Cooperators in the southern states are urged to stress the location and determination of approximate populations of robin roosts in their region.