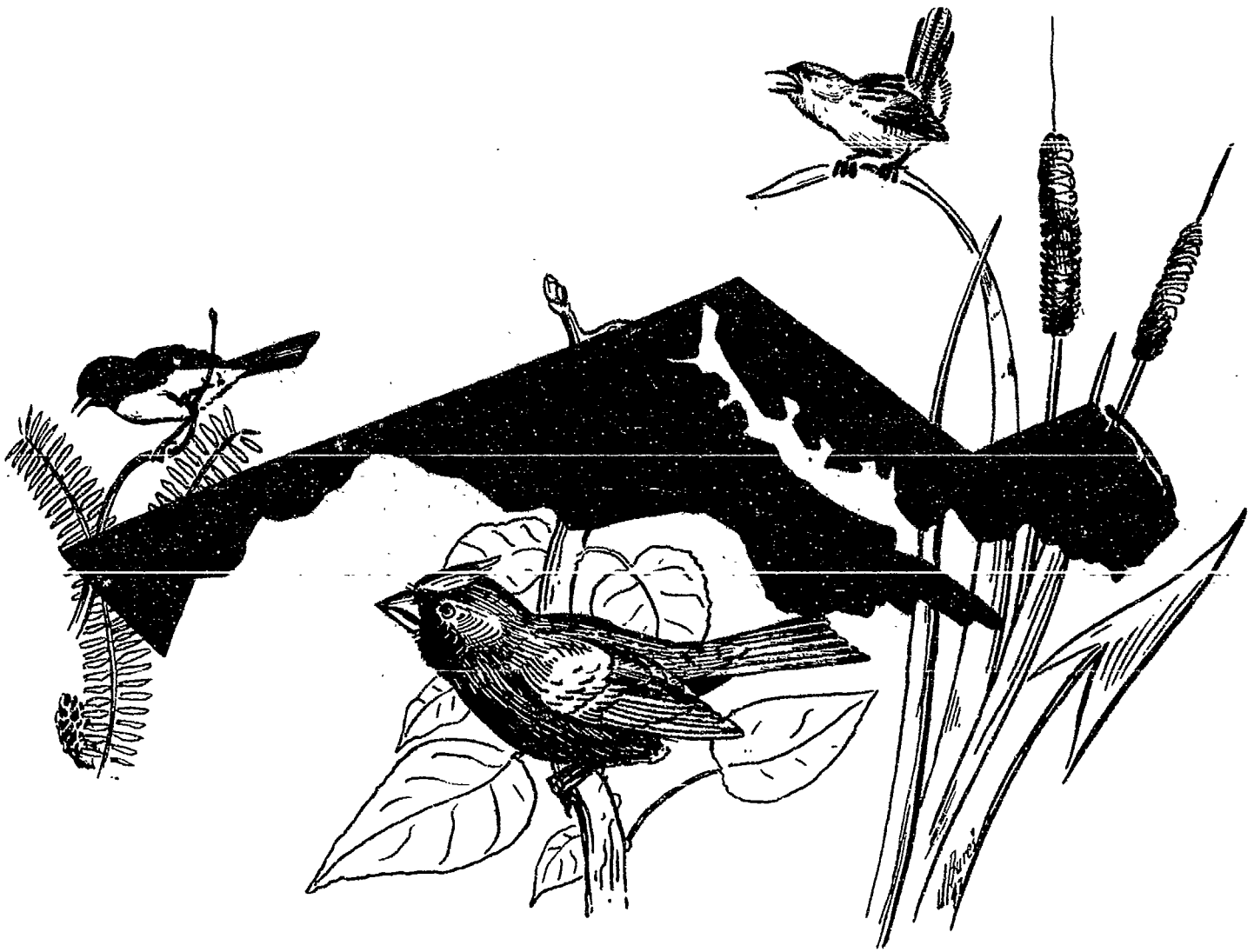


MARYLAND BIRDLIFE

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ler S. Robbins; CLUB NOTES to As-
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The SEASON

April 16 to June 15

From the beginning of the period through the first week of May, normal spring weather prevailed in the Baltimore area. Temperatures dipped below the normal mean or rose above it as much as ten degrees, but only for a day or two at a time. Vegetation developed in a normal and orderly manner, though it may have seemed somewhat behind-hand to some people who held fresh in memory the astoundingly precocious development of the last two springs. One very warm period on April 30 and May 1 probably brought the first wave of warblers so evident the following weekend. However, on the evening of May 7 there was a sudden drop in the temperature which brought killing frost for the next two nights to eastern Maryland, an unusually late date for frost in our region. The cold spell lasted through May 8, 9, and 10 and undoubtedly delayed the migration considerably. The concentration of swallows reported elsewhere in this issue by Miss Heaps must be attributed to the damming-up effect of this cold wave. In contrast, the latter part of May was consistently above normal in temperatures and rather wet. The first half of June was about normal with much fine weather.

Observations in spring may be grouped under three heads: departure of winter birds, arrival of summer and transient birds, and nesting activities. First some notes on the departure of winter species: April 20, Lake Roland, two male horned grebes (Buchanan), April 20, Berwyn, red-breasted nuthatch, which had eaten at a feeding station during the winter, last seen (Cooley). May 15, Forest Park, Baltimore, last purple finch at a feeding station (Brackbill). June 8, Lake Roland, a veery was heard singing in a gentle, misty rain between 5:30 and 8:00 A.M., EST (Cooley). The latest date for the veery at Washington is June 2 (Cooke, Birds of the Washington, D.C., Region).

In spring the arrival of new species is always the center of attention. No records were broken this year but some interesting data have been gleaned from the reports. April 17, Chase, purple martins arrived in quantity (Crowder). April 23, Halethorpe, Maryland, yellow-throats arrived (Bowen). April 25, Govans, Baltimore, first whip-poor-will heard (Kolb). April 27, Govans, Baltimore, first chimney swifts observed (Kolb); on the same date Brackbill observed his first chimney swifts in the Forest Park section. April 28, Govans, Baltimore, first wood thrushes heard singing (Kolb). April 30, Beltsville, suby-throated hummingbird and crested flycatcher (Cooley). May 1, Forest Park, Baltimore, blue jays and song sparrows passing through, revealed by trapping (Brackbill). May 3, Loch Raven, a good wave of early warblers including parula, worm-eating, black-throated

green, ovenbird, chat; also a flock of fourteen blue jays in motion, bearing out preceding note from Brackbill (Kolb). May 6, Halethorpe, a pair of blue grosbeaks observed twice under very favorable circumstances (Bowen). May 13, Dickeyville, a male mourning warbler, a rather rare spring species (Brackbill). May 13, Bird River, Cape May warbler, another uncommon species (Crowder). May 17, Loch Raven, warbler flight at its height with most of the common and some of the uncommon species represented; especially to be noted: magnolia, Canada, Cape May, Blackburnian, cerulean, bay-breasted, and Kentucky (Kolb). May 19, Arbutus, large flock of nighthawks migrating at dusk (Hampe). June 1, Woodstock, a population of perhaps half a dozen singing male cerulean warblers found along the Patapsco (Kolb and others).

The breeding notes submitted have been many and only a selection of the most interesting items can be given here. April 24, Forest Park, Baltimore, cardinal nest with three young a day or so old (Brackbill). April 27, Patapsco State Park, kingfisher starting nest hole (Hampe). May 3, Loch Raven, nest of Carolina wren containing four eggs (Kolb). May 4, Beltsville, a pair of killdeers with two young a week or so old (Cooley). May 7, Halethorpe, four young barred owls out of the nest and about four weeks old (Bowen and Hampe). May 10, Pikesville, a pair of barred owls was watched bringing two young out of the nest (Mrs. Kuch). May 10, Loch Raven, a brood of wood ducks a week or so old was found with adults nearby in a honeysuckle tangle along the Gunpowder (Kolb). May 11, Patapsco State Park and Halethorpe, two pairs of blue-gray gnatcatchers were observed at work building nests (Hampe and others). May 24, Arbutus, young starlings out of the nest and able to fly (Hampe). May 31, Bird River, hooded and Kentucky warblers settled on overlapping breeding territories; seldom do these two species occur together (Crowder).

Two miscellaneous notes: For the second year there seemed to be a scarcity of bob-whites. This is particularly true in the region about Loch Raven where very few males have been heard calling during this nesting season. At Loch Raven there has been a notable increase in the numbers of yellow-throated vireos. Formerly a rather uncommon bird, this past spring four singing males were located along a woodland route of about one mile.

Haven Kolb

THE SEASON

June 16 to August 31, 1947

As the membership of the Society grows by leaps and bounds, and more and more observations come in from outside the Baltimore area, it becomes desirable to increase the scope of THE SEASON to include the entire State of Maryland. The records committee now urges everyone to send in notes at the close of each two-month period. (Reports for the period Sept. 1 to Oct. 31 should be mailed not later than the 5th of November.) Some members have felt in the past that their notes would not be wanted; they couldn't hope to compete with the "experts". But this report is not in any sense the result of competition to see

the first or last bird of a given species; it is rather a summary of all reports that are turned in. With the cooperation of every member, we are trying to learn all we can about the arrival, departure, nesting, and abundance at all times, of each species in every part of the State. Many migrants from the south arrive on the Eastern Shore a week to ten days ahead of the time they reach Baltimore; they do not arrive in the mountain areas until a week or more after this. Fall transients coming in from the north are seen first in the mountains. Many birds which are common on the Eastern Shore are rare or absent in other parts of the State; there are many other species which are commonest in the mountains (either as summer residents, winter visitors, or migrants). Hence reports from all sections are urgently needed. Even an observation on a single common species, when compared with similar reports from other observers, will help to form a clearer picture of the status of this bird than would otherwise be possible.

The departure of summer residents and arrival of fall migrants depends to a large extent upon temperature and wind conditions. The approach of a high pressure area from the west causes a drop in temperature usually accompanied by northwest winds which are favorable for the southward migration of birds. Temperatures during the latter half of June were 2 to 6 degrees below normal, but since virtually no migration takes place during this period, this is only of passing interest. During the first 19 days of July the mercury stayed consistently near the average reading; the first transient shorebirds were noted on the 12th, but no widespread movement took place. From July 20 through 24, a vigorous cold wave (high pressure area) swept the State, causing light frost at Grantsville on the latter date. This caused the immediate and premature departure of the orchard oriole, the first summer resident to leave for the south. It also stimulated the shorebird flight, and very likely accounted for an unusual record of the black-throated green warbler at Cabin John. The remainder of July had near-normal temperatures, as was the case during the first 6 days of August. But from August 7 on, the mercury began to rise, and for the remainder of the month the minimum temperatures were 2 to 11 degrees above normal every single night. This had the effect of retarding migration to such an extent that only an insignificant number of migrant land birds arrived from the north before the end of the period, while Acadian flycatchers, several swallows, Kentucky warblers, Baltimore orioles, and other summer residents failed to depart on time.

Herons. There was an unusually fine flight of the southern herons in late summer. The first 2 American egrets were noted at Patuxent on July 2 by F. M. Uhler; 48 were counted by R. T. Peterson, R. E. Stewart, and C. S. Robbins on July 26 at Assateague, and a peak of 85 was recorded at Nottingham on the tidal Patuxent on Aug. 21 by Stewart and R. B. Cverington. Smaller numbers were noted as far west as Washington Co. (Green). The first appearance of the snowy egret away from its breeding grounds was on July 8, when a young bird was seen at Patuxent by Stewart. The highest count on the western shore of the bay was 15 on Aug. 9 at Sandy Pt. (Robbins and USDA class), while on Assateague Island, 65 were seen on July 12, and 55 on the 26th (J. H. Buckalew, Stewart, Robbins). The snowy was also reported

from Chesapeake Beach, Crisfield, and Blackwater Refuge. The Louisiana heron, which had previously been recorded only once away from the coast, was seen twice at Sandy Point: 4 on Aug. 9 (Robbins and class), and 1 on the 16th (J. E. Willoughby). The northernmost record on the coast was 1 at Ocean City, July 26 (Guy Emerson, Robbins, Stewart) and the latest 1 was seen at Assateague on Aug. 23 (Buckalew). The little blue heron appeared at Patuxent on July 6 (Uhler), and the peak away from the coast was 25 at Sandy Pt., Aug. 9 (Robbins and class). One yellow-crowned night heron at Ocean City on July 26 (Peterson, Robbins, Emerson) was the only report away from the few known nesting colonies.

Ducks, Vultures. A single lesser scaup duck, apparently healthy, was seen near Nottingham on Aug. 21 by Stewart and Overington. Black vultures, which are still very local in occurrence at any season north or east of Annapolis, were noted at Harrisonville, Henryton, Pretty Boy Reservoir, Sandy Point, and Stevensville in July or early August by Stewart and Robbins.

Plovers and Turnstone. Between the height of the breeding season and the beginning of the land bird migration, the attention of many observers is focused upon the shorebird flight which begins in early July and reaches its peak in August. Although the full grandeur of this migration can be enjoyed only at the coast, a small contingent passes along Chesapeake Bay, stopping at any mud flats or sloughs that happen to be exposed. Since local rainfall is instrumental in keeping water at appropriate levels in sloughs, a flat that is good for shorebirds one day may not contain a bird two days later. It was our good fortune this fall to find an easily accessible flat, one mile north of the Sandy Point ferry landing, which remained in perfect condition throughout the month of August; many of the following records were made here. The first (20) semipalmated plovers were noted at Assateague on July 26 (Stewart, Peterson, Emerson), and on the following day 2 were seen along the Chesapeake at Crisfield. They were found at Sandy Point from Aug. 9 through Aug. 30, with a maximum count of 60 on the 21st (B. Kessel, S. W. Eaton, Robbins). The first 2 black-bellied plovers were seen at Assateague on July 26 (Stewart, Robbins), but no large counts were obtained, the highest being 57 on Aug. 23 by Buckalew, Robbins, and Kessel. In addition to localities mentioned in the Preliminary List of Hampe and Kolb, single black-bellies were seen at Crisfield, Aug. 24 (Stewart, Peterson), and Sandy Point on Aug. 9 and 16 (Robbins, Willoughby). The first 3 turnstones were noted on July 26 at Assateague by Peterson and Emerson, and by Aug. 8 this species was fairly common at Ocean City (Kolb). The only records away from the coast were at Sandy Pt., where 1 was seen on Aug. 9 (Robbins and class) and 4 on Aug. 14 (J. W. Taylor).

Sandpipers. The first hudsonian curlews (45) were seen in Worcester Co. on July 12 by Stewart and Robbins; counts made south of the Virginia line indicate that they reached their peak in early August. The flight of solitary sandpipers was poor; the first was found at Carderock on July 25 (C. T. Johnson), and the highest count was of 7 at Sandy Pt. on Aug. 20 (Stewart). 17 willets were observed in migration at Assateague on July 12 (Stewart, Robbins), and the

best count from that region was of 200 on Aug. 23 (M. Karplus, Buckalew); records away from the coast were: 1, Crisfield, July 27 (Peterson, Stewart); 1, Chesapeake Beach, Aug. 17 (Meanley, Stewart); and 9, 2, and 1 at Sandy Point on Aug. 14, 20, and 30, respectively, by Taylor and Stewart. Only small numbers of greater yellow-legs were reported, but 225 lessers were counted at Blackwater on Aug. 24 by I. R. Barnes and Stewart; the first individual of this species was found at Assateague on July 12, and 7 were seen on the following day (Robbins, Stewart). A high count of 85 pectoral sandpipers was obtained on Assateague on July 26 by Buckalew and Stewart. The largest number at Sandy Pt., where the species was found regularly throughout August, was 22 on Aug. 14 (Taylor). The pectoral was also seen at Ocean City (12), Crisfield (2), and Blackwater (28) on Aug. 23-24 by Stewart and party. Only single white-rumps were located: Assateague, July 26 (Robbins, Peterson); and Ocean City and Isle of Wight, Aug. 23 (Stewart, Barnes). By July 26, least sandpipers were common along the coast as indicated by 185 reported from Assateague by Peterson and Robbins. They were also observed in the Chesapeake Bay area as follows: 25 at Crisfield on July 27, 50 at Blackwater on Aug. 24, and 15 (maximum) at Sandy Pt. on Aug. 21. Early red-backed sandpipers were seen at Assateague (3) and Ocean City (1) on July 26 by Peterson and Stewart; the highest count during the period was 6 at Assateague on Aug. 23 (Buckalew, Robbins, Karplus).

Dowitchers were first reported from Assateague on July 12, when 35 were noted by Stewart and party. Although much larger numbers were seen just across the state line in Virginia, Maryland's best tally was 104 in Worcester Co., Aug. 23 (Robbins, Buckalew, Stewart). 44 were counted at Crisfield on July 27 (Stewart, Emerson, Peterson), and 9 at Blackwater on Aug. 24 (Barnes, Stewart, Robbins); strangely enough this species was not found at Sandy Pt. The semipalmated sandpiper, one of the most abundant of our shorebirds, was first encountered on July 13, when 8 were seen at Mills Is. by Stewart and Robbins; the highest counts from various observation points were: 325, Blackwater, Aug. 24; 200, Sandy Pt., Aug. 20; 280 Assateague, July 26; 270 Ocean City, July 26; and 100, Crisfield, July 27 (Stewart, Robbins). The western sandpiper, which is overlooked by many birders because of its similarity to the semipalmated, was found regularly in company with the latter species, though generally in smaller numbers; it was relatively more common in the Chesapeake region than on the coast, suggesting that a substantial flight from the west passes along the Bay enroute to the coast. Further north along the coast this species becomes increasingly rare. The first 10 migrants were identified at Mills Is. on July 13 by Stewart; on the 26th 9 were seen at Assateague, and a similar number at Ocean City, by Peterson and Buckalew. The highest count at the coast was 55 at Ocean City on Aug. 23 (Stewart, Barnes, Meanley). Interesting counts along the Chesapeake included 100 (with 65 semis) at Sandy Pt., Aug. 21 (Eaton, Kessel, Robbins); 7 at Chesapeake Beach, Aug. 17 (Meanley, Stewart); 260 (with 325 semis) at Blackwater, Aug. 24 (Stewart, Barnes, Robbins); and 3 at Crisfield, July 27 (Peterson, Stewart). The sanderling, commonest shorebird of the outer beach, arrived at Assateague between July 13 and July 26; on the latter date 1300 were estimated by Buckalew and Stewart. The highest count, 1500, came from the Isle of Wight on Aug. 3 (M. Elliott, Barnes). Only two rec-

ords were received from the Chesapeake region; 3 were noted at Sandy Pt. on Aug. 7 (Stewart), and 1 at the same place on Aug. 16 (Willoughby).

Gulls, Terns, and Skimmer. The ring-billed gull flight was well under way by Aug. 23, when 600 were observed at Assateague by Buckalew and party; up to this time there had been no appreciable increase in the herring gull. Eleven gull-billed terns seen at Assateague on July 26 by Stewart, Buckalew, and Peterson, is the highest count yet reported from this State. Two Forster's terns were first seen at Sandy Pt. on Aug. 9 (Robbins and class), and the highest Chesapeake Bay count in this period was of 40 birds at Chesapeake Beach on Aug. 17 (Stewart, Meanley). The common tern, which is generally scarcer than the Forster's in the Chesapeake area, was first seen at Sandy Pt. on Aug. 9, as was a single least tern (Robbins and class). The Caspian tern was not reported until Aug. 23, when 15 were counted on Assateague by Buckalew. Only 2 black tern counts are at hand, both from the Assateague--Ocean City area: 32 on July 26; and 66 on Aug. 23 (Buckalew, Robbins, Stewart). Common and Forster's terns and black skimmers had a relatively unsuccessful nesting season in Maryland. Although Crowder reports normal numbers of young in the Ocean City colonies, there was heavy mortality (human predation?) at South Point, and the Clam Harbor colonies were a complete failure; the latter area, which supported upwards of 200 pairs in 1945 will probably be abandoned in a very few years since all three islands are rapidly being cut away by the waters of Chincoteague Bay.

Cuckoos, Nighthawk. A nest containing an early brood of two yellow-billed cuckoos, one-third grown, was found on June 3 at Patuxent by D. L. Allen and Stewart. No nest of the black-billed species was reported, but an early fall migrant was heard passing over Patuxent on the night of Aug. 17 (Robbins). The first flight of nighthawks was reported on Aug. 11 at Govans by Kolb, who comments that this is a late date for the start of the fall migration. None were noted at Patuxent until the 19th, when 16 were counted by Stewart; on the following day the Patuxent total was 34 (Eaton, Kessel, Robbins), which remained the highest count of the month.

Hummingbird, Woodpeckers. A count of 35 hummingbirds in the Patuxent marsh near Nottingham on Aug. 21 by Overington and Stewart, will be hard to beat. It probably indicates the migration peak for this season. Young red-headed woodpeckers at least partly dependent upon their parents were observed on July 14 at Hillsdale Park by Brackbill; this species nests later than most members of its family.

Flycatchers. As we pass to the perching birds, the compiler is confronted by scores of nest records, mostly from the Washington-Baltimore area; since much material is already available from this region, it is deemed advisable to mention only those nesting dates which fall near the beginning or end of the normal nesting period of a species. The departure of eastern kingbirds from inland localities was delayed by the abnormally warm weather. Two birds were present at Greenbelt, and 2 at Patuxent through the 30th of August (Willoughby, Robbins), and stragglers lingered well into the next period. A crested flycatcher which failed in previous nesting attempts, had 4

eggs at Beltsville on July 13; on the following day one egg had disappeared and the bird deserted (Cooley). A rather late nest record of the Phoebe was obtained by Kolb, who found 5 eggs still being incubated at Loch Raven on June 21.

Swallows. The first tree swallow was seen at Patuxent on July 11 (Karplus, Robbins), and on the 27th, a flock of 52 was spotted at Elliott Is. by Peterson and Stewart. Young rough-wings, still partly dependent upon their parents, appeared at Dickeyville on June 28 (Brackbill). The following fine counts from Greenbelt Lake show the departure of this species: 50 on July 29, 23 on Aug. 10, and 3 on Aug. 30 (Willoughby). The last barn swallow eggs hatched at Patuxent on July 17 (Robbins). Dr. Barnes, who keeps close tabs on the purple martin Roost in Washington, reported a concentration of 1500 of these birds at Cambridge in the late afternoon of Aug. 1. It would be interesting to know the location and size of other martin roosts in Maryland.

Wrens, Mockers. On Aug. 8, a brood of house wrens left their nest in Dickeyville (Brackbill). The last clutch of 5 eggs at Patuxent hatched on July 29 (Robbins), and the last Beltsville brood spread its hatching over three days, Aug. 10-12 (Cooley). Numbers of long-billed marsh wrens were still singing in the Gunpowder marshes on Aug. 17 (Kolb), and short-bills were in song at Crisfield and Blackwater on the 24th (Stewart and party). A lone mockingbird was nearly ready to leave its nest at Patuxent on July 24 (R. T. Mitchell) and on the 26th or 27th a brood took wing at Dickeyville (Brackbill); on the latter date an early flock of 12 was noted at Halethorpe by Bowen. A brood of catbirds left a Patuxent nest on Aug. 10 (Allen).

Robin, Shrike. On June 1, a pair of robins that succeeded in raising their first brood in Greenbelt, had a second clutch of 4 eggs (Mitchell). A robin near Hampe's residence in Halethorpe had one fresh egg on July 19, but later deserted. The last report of young in the nest came from Crisfield on July 27 (Robbins). A migrant shrike seen at Sandy Pt. on Aug. 21 by Kessel, Eaton, and Robbins, was the first one reported away from a nesting area.

Warblers. A wandering prothonotary warbler was found at Halethorpe on Aug. 23 by Bowen. On the following day a worm-eater was seen at Blackwater (where the species does not nest) by Meanley and Robbins. Another obvious migrant was a yellow warbler at Patuxent on Aug. 14 (Robbins). The black-throated green warbler referred to in the introduction was seen and heard singing at Cabin John on July 20, one month ahead of the earliest D.C. arrival date, by Robbins and Cooley. This species has not been found east of Catoctin Mt. in summer. Young prairie warblers prematurely left a nest at Beltsville on July 4 (Robbins), while a brood at Loch Raven had not flown by the 12th (Kolb). Bowen reported a hooded warbler on Aug. 23 at Halethorpe, where the species does not breed. The first Canada warbler was seen on Aug. 12 at Patuxent (Taylor and C. Dianda). The earliest nest of the redstart to be reported this summer contained 3 eggs on June 7; it was found at Berwyn by A. E. Brown.

Blackbirds and Orioles. Kessel and Robbins heard the first

bobolink at Patuxent on Aug. 20, and on the next day Stewart and Overington saw 18 near Nottingham on the tidal Patuxent River, along with 800 red-wings. A late nest of the latter species contained 3 young about 2 days old in the Lake Roland breeding-bird census area on July 23 (Cooley). The orchard oriole was last heard singing at Patuxent on July 19; 2 were seen at Lake Roland on the 20th, and the final one on the 23rd (Cooley). Baltimore orioles were on the move by August 6, when the first one was recorded at Patuxent Refuge (Robbins), Cowbirds were seen being fed by foster parents as follows: by yellow-throat, Aug. 24, Blackwater (Meanley); by red-eyed vireo, July 23, Dickeyville, and song sparrow, July 22, Forest Park (Brackbill).

Finches and Sparrows. A brood of cardinals left the nest at Dickeyville on Aug. 5 and 6 (Brackbill). On Aug. 21, a very late nest of the sharp-tailed sparrow contained 2 fresh eggs at Sandy Pt. (Robbins, Kessel, Eaton). A song sparrow was flushed from a nest of 3 eggs on Aug. 9 by Robbins and class, also at Sandy Point; but the latest report of this species comes from Lake Roland where Miss Cooley found a nest with 3 three-day-old young on Aug. 20. This review of the summer season is terminated very inappropriately with the report of a single belated spring migrant. This aberrant individual, which Stewart saw on June 26 at Beltsville, and which at that time should have been feeding young in the mountains of northern New England or New York, was none other than a singing male white-throated sparrow!

Chandler S. Robbins

CRESTED FLYCATCHERS AND A SUNPAPER BOX, MIDDLE RIVER

On June 2, while passing a roadside Sunpaper tube on Wilson Point Road, Middle River, I was startled by the flutter of wings, and on turning saw a crested flycatcher emerge from the tube. On closer examination I discovered the nest and four partially incubated eggs.

I immediately informed the occupants of the house, who in turn notified the Sun carrier to deliver their papers to the front door, which was a good block from the road. After some persuasion on my part, the carrier agreed to deliver the papers to the door and leave the nest undisturbed.

So far so good. My daily visits through the week brought the satisfaction of knowing that incubation was progressing normally and undisturbed, but Saturday, June 7, the rains came and brought with them the downfall of the nest.

It rained all night and was still raining Sunday morning at 8 A.M., when I witnessed a strange sight at the newspaper tube. The Sunday paper was protruding about 3 or 4 inches from the box and the female flycatcher was tearing the wet end to shreds. I flushed her, removed the paper, and left. My next visit to the nest found the entrance closed by a spider web; I removed it only to find one there again the next day. I came to the conclusion that the nest had been abandoned, for I never saw the bird around it again. The nest and eggs were later removed and brought to the Ornithological Society meeting for inspection. Now the double duty newspaper tube is back at work serving its original purpose.

Larry L. Haynie

TRAVELS OF THREE BANDED PURPLE GRACKLES

Between August 21, 1941, and May 18, 1947, I banded 53 Purple Grackles. They were 33 adult males, 17 adult females, 1 independent juvenile, 1 juvenile practically independent, and 1 fledgling still unable to fly.

Thirteen males and 3 females were banded at 3201 Carlisle Avenue, on the eastern edge of the Forest Park section of Baltimore, and the fledgling in some wild land about a block from there, from 1941 to 1944. Six females were banded at Branchville, Prince George's County, in 1944. Twenty males, 8 females and the 2 juveniles were banded at 4608 Springdale Avenue, on the western edge of Forest Park, from 1945 to 1947.

Of these birds, 50 have not been seen or heard from since being banded. The other three have been reported as follows:

Adult male No. 41-355068, banded on Carlisle Avenue on September 2, 1942, was found dead at Hollywood, St. Mary's County, Md., on November 9 of the same year, by Lieut. R. L. Mann, USN, of Washington, D.C. This bird was 70 miles directly south of the place of banding.

Fledgling No. 35-339106, which was not yet able to fly when I caught it by hand in wild land between the 3200 blocks of Vickers Road and Piedmont Avenue on May 29, 1944, and which therefore must have hatched at that place, was found dead on July 13 of the same year (it had plainly been dead for some days) at 3706 Clifton Avenue, Baltimore, by Fred C. Nordhoff, living there. This bird had got 2/3 mile southwest of its birthplace at the age of something less than 2 months.

Adult female No. 35-339144, banded on Springdale Avenue on August 4, 1946, was found entangled in an old kite string caught in a hedge at the Westport power plant in Baltimore on April 23, 1947, and was freed by a gardener there and another employe, Frank U. Neat, of Riviera Beach, Md. The circumstances suggest that this bird was building a nest at Westport. Assuming that it had returned in 1947 to the same neighborhood in which it nested in 1946, it was 6 miles northwest of its territory when originally banded.

Hervey Brackbill

THE UPLAND PLOVER IN FREDERICK COUNTY

On May 25, 1947, Bill Pruitt and I spent an entire day working the Frederick Valley from the city of Frederick to the Montgomery County line and over to the Catoctin Mountains in quest of Upland Plovers. A single day in an area of this size is hardly enough to make an exhaustive population check on the number of individuals in a locale; and, as a result only six (6) individuals were noted in a typical environment where unquestionably many more can surely be found.

The six birds recorded were in one group, frequenting a newly planted corn field, a timothy field and a field of mixed grasses and weeds, approximately a mile south of Buckeystown. Four of the six birds were adults while two of them were two-day old young. This means that the eggs must have been laid the very first part of May, since the period of incubation is about 21 or 22 days for this species.

The adult males spent most of their time in the newly plowed cornfield feeding principally on insects. The female with the chicks was in a timothy field, and the second female probably had a nest nearby.

The Frederick Valley is well known for its limestone soils and is essentially a corn-wheat-dairy region. Its topography is gently rolling to flat and with its extensive area of open fields is a grand place for the plovers.

Brooke Meanley

BOBOLINKS IN HARFORD COUNTY

On May 14, about 60 male bobolinks were observed near Highland, Harford County, about 5 miles below the Pennsylvania line. They were perched on two or three leafless trees, poised almost vertically, and all singing in a loud chorus. Not recognizing them, I stopped the car and walked over to investigate. My delight was great when I recognized migrating bobolinks in their lovely courtship costume on the way to the north of us from far-away Brazil. They seemed rather unafraid, as I was only about 25 feet away as they changed position but continued their song. Finally they flew into an adjoining clover field, coming down with their lovely sailing posture. This was at 4 P.M. on a beautiful sunshiny afternoon, following a heavy thunderstorm at 2 o'clock.

Pearl Heaps

THE NASHVILLE AND TENNESSEE WARBLERS AT COLLEGE PARK

On May 3rd, a Nashville warbler was noted in a wave of warblers coming through a bottomland area at College Park. After pursuing it for the best part of two days it was procured. This bird was one of the most active and elusive warblers I have ever seen, sticking to the tops of Sweet Gums most of the time; singing about once every hour and then only three or four times.

On May 8th, a second Nashville was noted in the same area; and while this one was also elusive and singing sporadically it remained close to the ground in an extensive Viburnum thicket.

On this same date (May 8th) and singing vociferously, perhaps more so than any warbler I have ever heard, a Tennessee Warbler was observed with 8X glasses in an alder thicket along a stream on the University campus. This bird worked within four or five feet of the ground most of the time and could be easily approached to within fifteen feet.

Brooke Meanley

- SPECIAL - - ARTICLES -

THE DISTRIBUTION OF MARYLAND BIRDS

One of the principal objectives of the Bird Records Committee of the Society is to determine the status of the various species of birds found in Maryland. The status of a species involves its breeding or summer range, wintering range, and migration routes within Maryland as well as its relative abundance in various parts of the state.

It is hoped that each member of the Maryland Ornithological Society will cooperate by sending to the committee chairman any pertinent information on the distribution of Maryland birds. In the future any new records that indicate range extensions or records that change the most recent concept of relative abundance of a species will be published in this section of "Maryland Birdlife" and full credit will be given to the contributors. In sending in these records the following facts are needed: location where observation was made (the more exact the better); date or dates on which observations were made; numbers of individuals or pairs seen; name of observers; any other information that would help to substantiate the record.

The appearance of the new booklet entitled "Preliminary List of the Birds of Maryland and the District of Columbia", by Irving E. Hampe and Haven Kolb, marks a cornerstone in the history of Maryland ornithology and permits us to sit back and take cognizance of what is known as well as what is not known of the birds of the state. As is indicated by the authors, their statements on the status of the species of Maryland birds are based primarily on a compilation of miscellaneous notes which have appeared from time to time in various journals. The booklet thus performs a very useful service in summarizing the published papers on Maryland birds, paving the way for future work on the birds of the state. This being the chief purpose for which the booklet was written, the authors are to be complimented on a job well done. Many interesting and valuable records are brought to the reader's attention. However, one is also impressed with the paucity of field data that is available for many species, some of which are undoubtedly quite regular in their occurrence within the state. This is a reflection of the relatively small amount of field work that has been done in the past over large parts of Maryland and emphasizes the need for much more field work in the future.

This preliminary list appears at an opportune time in that we will be able to start using it as a base for adding range extensions or for changing our concept of the relative abundance of the various species. It is planned to continue the policy of Messrs. Hampe and Kolb in requiring at least two reliable sight records for a species,

before it can be put on the regular list, in case a specimen is not collected or a photograph taken.

Another paper entitled "Recent Observations on Maryland Birds", by R. E. Stewart and C. S. Robbins, appeared in the April, 1947 issue of *The Auk*. This paper is much more limited in scope than the "Preliminary List" but does contain new information on quite a few species. Some of these are new for the state and are listed as follows: gull-billed tern, royal tern, Cabot's tern, marbled godwit and Swainson's warbler. Only one record was made of the Cabot's tern so this species would be relegated to the hypothetical list.

By combining the species listed in these two papers and discounting those in the "Preliminary List" that were recorded only from the District of Columbia, the regular Maryland list would contain a total of 305 species. This total does not include the domestic pigeon or rock dove but does include the English sparrow and starling.

Recent observations have added five new species to the regular state list which brings the total up to 310 species. These are listed as follows:

Cory's Shearwater (*Puffinus diomedea borealis*)

On August 24, 1946 a total of 65 were observed over the ocean off Ocean City within 5 miles of shore, by members of District of Columbia Audubon Society, including J. W. Aldrich, I. R. Barnes, R. T. Peterson, and C. S. Robbins. One bird was collected by Aldrich. On August 8, 1947, a total of 29 were recorded in this same area by R. E. Stewart.

American Eider (*Somateria mollissima dresseri*)

Brooke Meanley reports that he mounted an American Eider which had been shot by Mr. H. Matthai on the Chesapeake Bay on November 18, 1933. This species was previously in the hypothetical list on the basis of one specimen reported to have been taken in Charles County and placed in the Maryland Academy of Sciences but which has since been lost.

Wilson's Plover (*Charadrius wilsonia wilsonia*)

Several were seen by Brooke Meanley on June 7, 1939 on Assateague Island, a short distance south of the North Beach Coast Guard Station. On May 17, 1947 one was seen on Assateague Island, about 3 miles south of Ocean City by several members of the Maryland Ornithological Society including O. W. Crowder and R. E. Stewart. On August 7, 1947 two were seen and one was collected at the West Ocean City mud flat by R. E. Stewart.

Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*)

On December 23, 1946, two were seen in Worcester County near Snow Hill by J. W. Aldrich and D. L. Allen. On December 28, 1946, three were seen at Port Tobacco, Charles County, by D. L. Allen and I. N. Gabrielson.

Lapland Longspur (Calcarius lapponicus)

On December 25, 1939, three were seen at Ocean City by R. E. Stewart. This species was previously placed on the hypothetical list on the basis of one record of a flock of 20 seen on February 10, 1895 at Lake Roland, Baltimore County by F. C. Kirkwood.

Still another species, the Greater Shearwater (*Puffinus gravis*), may be added to the hypothetical list on the basis of one record: Seven were seen near the shore of Assateague Island about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of Ocean City on May 17, 1947 by members of the Audubon Society of the District of Columbia and the Maryland Ornithological Society, including E. G. Davis, O. W. Crowder, R. E. Stewart and Richard Tousey.

R. E. Stewart

A WARBLING VIREO'S NEST IN WAVERLY

While walking along busy 33rd Street at the northeast corner of Abell Avenue this summer, I heard the food cry of nestling birds in the branches of a large sycamore (oriental plane) tree over my head. I casually glanced upward expecting to see a robin's nest among the branches, but all I saw was an inconspicuous little gray bird, busily hunting insects among the leaves. Its song identified it as a warbling vireo. I stood there fully five minutes before I discovered its nest suspended near the end of a slender drooping branch. It was quite a thrill to find a warbling vireo nesting in a city area where one seldom sees more than starlings, English sparrows and a few robins.

Larry L. Haynie

A SUMMER AT HAWK MOUNTAIN SANCTUARY

Walton Robey and Jimmy Dietz, seniors at Fort Hill High School in Cumberland, and members of the Society, put in the past summer working at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary. We step over our state boundary a bit to publish this interesting account of their experiences by Walton Robey.

-- Ed.

Hawk Mountain is a noted flyway for migrating birds of prey. It was erected in 1934 for the purpose of protecting the hawks as they followed the air currents along the ridge. In former days they were killed in large numbers as they passed certain points on the mountain, but now they pass safely through and hundreds of people visit the mountain every fall to observe these beautiful birds.

Our main job this summer was to help with the work on the sanctuary property. We did such tasks as erecting rail fences, building outdoor fireplaces, landscaping, cutting trails, erecting shelters, and the like.

Our summer was very interesting and profitable. I learned much about sanctuary work and as I plan to continue my life work along this line it should prove to be very valuable experience. Maurice Froun, curator at the Mountain, taught us many things about sanctuary work and wildlife. I learned much about plant life and have now started my own collection of ferns.

Bird life on the mountain was not exceptional. Such birds as mourning doves, cuckoos, flickers, jays, tanagers, chipping sparrows and various warblers could be seen all summer. We were very proud of our resident sharp-shinned hawks. They had their nest in a tall hemlock at the top of the mountain. We banded the three downy young in July and a few weeks later they were seen near the nest flying from perch to perch, giving their plaintive calls all the while.

About the latter part of August the great horned owl could be heard around dusk. Turkey vultures could be seen almost any time of the day soaring and dipping over the mountain precipices. Ruffed grouse were fairly common, and one family was seen several times along the edge of the woods. Whip-poor-wills were heard nightly and pileated woodpeckers were heard occasionally. We were constantly alert for unusual bird visitors to the sanctuary, and these included a spotted sandpiper, black-crowned night herons, Carolina wrens, and the brown thrasher. The lack of various common birds could be attributed to the high altitude of the mountain.

In the third week of July large numbers of swallows passed over every evening for several weeks, starting to fly around seven o'clock and continuing until dark. As many as 400 were counted in one evening, mainly barn swallows. The first week of August large flocks of martins flew over. One day they passed in a steady stream and I would venture to say there were over a thousand in the course of the day.

The latter part of August we made daily trips to the "Lookout" to watch for occasional hawks. Despite the unfavorable weather we saw a good percentage of hawks, mostly broad-wings.

On the morning of August 31 a strong, cool breeze came out of the north, the result of a low pressure area over New England. Hurrying up to the "Lookout" we prepared for a fair sized hawk flight. We were not disappointed. A lone sparrow hawk was the vanguard, then minute specks on the horizon proved to be broad-wings. The hawks began to increase and gain in momentum. That day 66 broad-wings and 5 bald eagles passed by the ridge. The day's total was 89 hawks representing six species.

This was a beautiful climax to our sojourn, for we left the Sanctuary for home that very day.

Walton Robey

BREEDING-BIRD CENSUS:
SHRUBBY FIELD WITH STREAM-BORDERED TREES

This past spring and summer we completed a second breeding-bird census of the stream border below the Lake Roland dam.

DESCRIPTION: This rectangular flood plain is bordered by a stream (Jones Falls), a railroad, old Falls Road, and by a plateau field. Across the stream are a field and a hill covered with deciduous trees. Across the track are houses and a field. The area is cut by four rivulets as well as by a ditch which extends a third of the width. A triangular woods near one corner of the area consists of one or a few specimens of the following trees: 45-80 foot (5 inches-3 feet d.b.h.) sycamore (Platanus occidentalis), 45 foot (6 inches d.b.h.) black locust (Robinia pseudo-acacia), 45 foot silver maple (Acer saccharinum), 80 foot (2 feet d.b.h.) tulip tree (Liriodendron tulipifera), and 60 foot (2 feet d.b.h.) cotton-wood (Populus deltoides). The understory consists of an open stand of sycamore, mulberry (Morus sp.), box elder (Acer negundo), elm (Ulmus sp.), beech (Fagus grandifolia), and hickory (Carya sp.). A few trees (mostly understory ones) were cut last winter. The ground is covered with Japanese honeysuckle (Lonicera japonica) and there are a few living and dead, mostly honeysuckle covered, saplings (mostly of black locust and elm). A .2 acre grove of 65-70 foot (about 14-22 inches d.b.h.) sugar maples (Acer saccharum) is near the woods.

There are approximately three acres of trees other than in the triangular woods and maple grove. They are situated along the stream, the rivulets, and the ditch, and elsewhere. The species (in approximate order of abundance) are cotton-wood, black locust, sycamore, willow (Salix sp.), silver maple, American elm (Ulmus americana), ash (Fraxinus sp.), honey locust (Gleditsia triacanthos), box elder, white mulberry (Morus alba), and black walnut (Juglans nigra). Some of the groups of trees support a shrub stratum of spice bush (Benzoin acstivale). Shrubs which occur especially along streams and at the edge of groups of trees are: smooth sumac (Rhus glabra), false indigo (Amorpha fruticosa), and common elder (Sambucus canadensis). There are a few blackberry (Rubus sp.) bushes. In the open areas the following herbs occur: grasses, rushes (Juncus sp.), bulrush (Scirpus atrovirens), great bulrush (S. validus), sensitive fern (Onoclea sensibilis), jewelweed (Impatiens biflora), black-eyed susan (Rudbeckia hirta), yarrow (Achillea millefolium), queen Anne's lace (Daucus carota), goldenrod (Solidago sp.), Aster (Aster sp.) fleabane (Erigeron sp.), ragweed (Ambrosia trifida and A. artemisiifolia), Joe-pye weed (Eupatorium purpureum), boneset (E. perfoliatum), blue vervain (Verbena hastata), bouncing bet (Saponaria officinalis), Steironema (Steironema ciliatum), common milkweed (Asclepias syriaca), dogbane (Apocynum sp.), sweet clover (Melilotus sp.), and common burdock (Arctium minus). Botanical nomenclature follows Gray's "Manual". In 1947 about .6 acre was denuded of its former herbaceous vegetation and was used as a dumping ground for shade tree trimmings.

The area was re-mapped this year and found to be 19.2 acres

(2188 feet average length by 382 feet average width, paced). Therefore, the 75 pairs found last year yield a density of 391 pairs per 100 acres instead of the 500 pairs reported. The edge within the area is about 3,500 feet, consisting of a triangular woods near one end, a sugar maple grove, and groups of trees (many under four inches d.b.h.) along the stream, the rivulets, and ditch, and elsewhere. The above description may be considered the official description. It embodies several changes in that published in the November-December 1946 "Audubon field notes".

WEATHER: The records of the Baltimore City Office were consulted to obtain the following notes on the weather. The winter was unusually warm, the mean December temperature being 5.2° above normal and the mean January temperature 7.6° above normal. The ground was virtually clear all winter until February 20-21, when 10.5 inches of snow fell in 24 hours. The ground remained covered until March 6. The mean February temperature was 3.6° below normal. Although the mean March temperature was almost normal, the only periods that the mean temperature was at or above normal in March were March 12-15 and 21-25. From April through July the monthly mean temperatures were about normal. The amount of precipitation was below normal in December, normal in January, below normal in February and March, and about twice as great as normal in April. It was normal in May and July. In June precipitation was twice as great as normal.

B I R D S

CENSUS: PAIRS NESTING & FEEDING
LARGELY WITHIN THE STUDY TRACT

Species	1946	1947	Species	1946	1947
Least Flycatcher	1	-	Cardinal	1	1
Catbird	8	9	Indigo Bunting	2	3
Robin	3	4	Goldfinch	4	4
Wood Thrush	2	1	Red-eyed Towhee	1	1
Bluebird	-	1	Song Sparrow	13	21
Starling	1	-	TOTAL SPECIES	18	18
Red-eyed Vireo	-	1	TOTAL PAIRS	75	87
Warbling Vireo	2	1	PAIRS per 100 ACRES	391	453
Yellow Warbler	12	9	PAIRS PROBABLY NESTING ON THE AREA BUT SECURING MUCH FOOD OUTSIDE OF IT		
Yellow-throat	9	11	Black-billed Cuckoo	-	1
Yellow-breasted Chat	6	7	Cowbird	-	1
American Redstart	-	3	Cardinal	-	1
Redwing	5	7	TOTAL SPECIES	-	3
Orchard Oriole	2	1	TOTAL PAIRS	-	3
Baltimore Oriole	1	2			
Cowbird	2	-			
				1946	1947
GRAND TOTAL SPECIES.....				18	20
GRAND TOTAL PAIRS.....				75	90
FINAL DENSITY (Pairs per 100 Acres)...				391	469

The following 15 species frequently fed on or over the area but probably nested elsewhere (M=singing male; P=pair; Y=adult seen feeding young): Chimney swift, 15+; downy woodpecker, 2; kingbird, 2P; phoebe, 1P; wood pewee, 2; rough-winged swallow, 5P+; barn swallow, 8; tufted titmouse, 1P; house wren, 1M; catbird, 1P; cedar waxwing, 1Y; white-eyed vireo, 1M; warbling vireo, 1M; English sparrow, 5+; orchard oriole, 1P.

NESTS FOUND IN 1947: A table of nests found in 1947 will be found at the end of this article, as well as a map showing the approximate location of the birds and nests noted.

DISCUSSION: Probably the decrease in yellow warblers this year is chiefly due to the fact that no nests were found and trips were not taken frequently enough nor early enough in the morning to permit listing all of the males in song. In 1946, six nests were found, which helped considerably in delimiting the territories of the warblers.

Most of the increase in the number of song sparrows is probably due to the fact that this year, unlike last year, birds singing simultaneously were so indicated, and also to the fact that nests of eight pairs were found, whereas only four nests were found in 1946.

The figure for red-wings is probably low, since it represents only nests found. Probably one or more counts of females in May (squeaking to attract them) would materially aid in determining the population of red-wings. Several investigators have found this species to be polygamous.

The figures for robin, warbling vireo, yellow-throat, orchard oriole, cowbird, goldfinch, and red-eyed towhee may be too low.

COVERAGE AND PARTICIPANTS: In 1946, trips totaling 31 hours were made on May 22, 25, 26, 30; June 4, 11, 15, 22, 26, 30.

In 1947, census trips were made March 22, 31; April 7, 27; May 5, 12, 26, 31; June 2, 7, 8, 14, 15, 17, 28; July 2, 10, 12, 20, 23, 26, and August 1-7; total about 65 hours. The hours varied from 5:30 a.m. to 6:45 p.m. E.S.T., trips usually being two to four hours between 5:30 and 10:30 a.m. E.S.T. About 55 additional hours (same days plus August 20, September 7 and 23) were spent searching for nests, photographing, describing the area, and measuring and pacing the locations of the nests and the dimensions of the area. The locations of birds were also plotted on maps while this other work was being done. The people who worked on the project this year are: Florence H. Burner, Eleanor G. Cooley, Orville W. Crowder, Alice S. Kaestner, William S. McHoul, Chandler S. Robbins, Stephen W. Simon, Rockwell Smith, Herbert P. Strack, Lola G. Strack, and Willard A. Strack.

Eleanor G. Cooley

BREEDING BIRD CENSUS -- NESTS FOUND in 1946* and 1947

SPECIES	*NESTS: 1946 1947	CLUTCH*	DATES	HEIGHT OF NEST	FREQUENT NESTING SITES
Catbird	8	7	2(?) to 4; av 3.75	Eggs May 22	2'6"-9' Blackberries; smooth sumac; coral berry; honeysuckle-covered dead stub
Robin	5	0	---	---	6'-20' Black walnut; white pine
Bluebird	0	1	4	Eggs Jun 14	Hole 23' up Metal semaphore pole by rail- road track
Wood Thrush	2	1	3	Eggs May 27-Jul 7	5'-25' Box elder; sycamore
Starling	1	0	---	Feedg young May 30	Hole 23' up Same metal semaphore pole in which bluebird nested
Red-eyed Vireo	0	1	---	Feedg young Jul 10	15' Sycamore
Warbling Vireo	0	1	---	Incubating Jun 15	50' Sycamore
Yellow Warbler	8	0	4-5, av 4.75	Eggs My 19 ⁺ -Jun 10 ⁺	3'-15' Blackberries; elm; elder; smooth sumac; willow locust
Yell.-br. Chat	1	2	4(**)	Eggs May 29 -Jun 15	2'-3' Blackberries; weed stems; honey- suckled black locust stub
Red-wing	5	8	2-4, av 3.25	Young My 22- Jul 23, Eggs abt. My 5-Jul 9	3'-9' Silky cornel (<i>Cornus amomum</i>); blackberries; smooth sumac; spicebush; honeysuckle; willow
Orchard oriole	1	0	---	Bldg. May 22 Feeds Jun 14	18' Basswood
Baltimore Oriole	1	2	---	Young (about ready to leave?) Jun 15	40'-55' Sycamore
Indigo Bunting	0	1	3	Eggs Jul 10	3'10" Blackberry cane
Goldfinch	0	3	---	Eggs laid af- ter Ag 20; yng left this nest Sep 23	3'-11½' American elm; black locust; green ash (<i>Fraxinus pensylvani- ca</i> var. <i>lanceolata</i>)
Song Sparrow	4	13	3-5, av 3.7	Eggs May 26 - Aug 5 ⁺	1'-6' Blackberries; black locust sap- lings (usually at least partly dead - nest concealed by vines or tall, erect weeds); Japanese barberry; smooth sumac; honeysuckle tangle; rose tangle; mulberry; spicebush; Virginia pine sapling.

(*) NOTES: 1946 nest data were collected by Allen W. Stokes and other members of the society; Mr. Stokes kindly consented to their publication here. Whereas the map shows only one nest of a pair, this table includes all nests found for which data were available. Average clutch is based only on nests in which it is reasonably certain that the complete clutch was known. Cowbird eggs are not included. Nests parasitized by corbirds were found only in 1946 (one egg in each of: 2 yellow warbler nests, 1 yellow-breasted chat nest, 1 song sparrow nest.

(**) NOTE: 1946 Chat record is: 3 eggs on ground, 3 eggs and a cowbird egg in nest. Did the chat originally have a clutch of 6 or did it lay additional eggs after the cowbird started to remove eggs? Forbush's "Birds of Massachusetts" gives: "Eggs: 3 to 5, commonly 4".

BREEDING BIRD
CENSUS

(Shrubby field with stream-bordered trees)

Lake Roland
1947

Key:

Pairs probably nesting and feeding largely on the area:

- 1 - Catbird
- 2 - Robin
- 3 - Wood Thrush
- 4 - Bluebird
- 5 - Red-eyed Vireo
- 6 - Warbling Vireo
- 7 - Yellow Warbler
- 8 - Md. Tellowthroat
- 9 - Yellow-breasted Chat
- 10 - American Redstart
- 11 - Red-wing
- 12 - Orchard Oriole
- 13 - Baltimore Oriole
- 14 - Cardinal
- 15 - Indigo Bunting
- 16 - Goldfinch
- 17 - Red-eyed Towhee
- 18 - Song Sparrow


Pairs nesting on the area but securing much food outside of it:

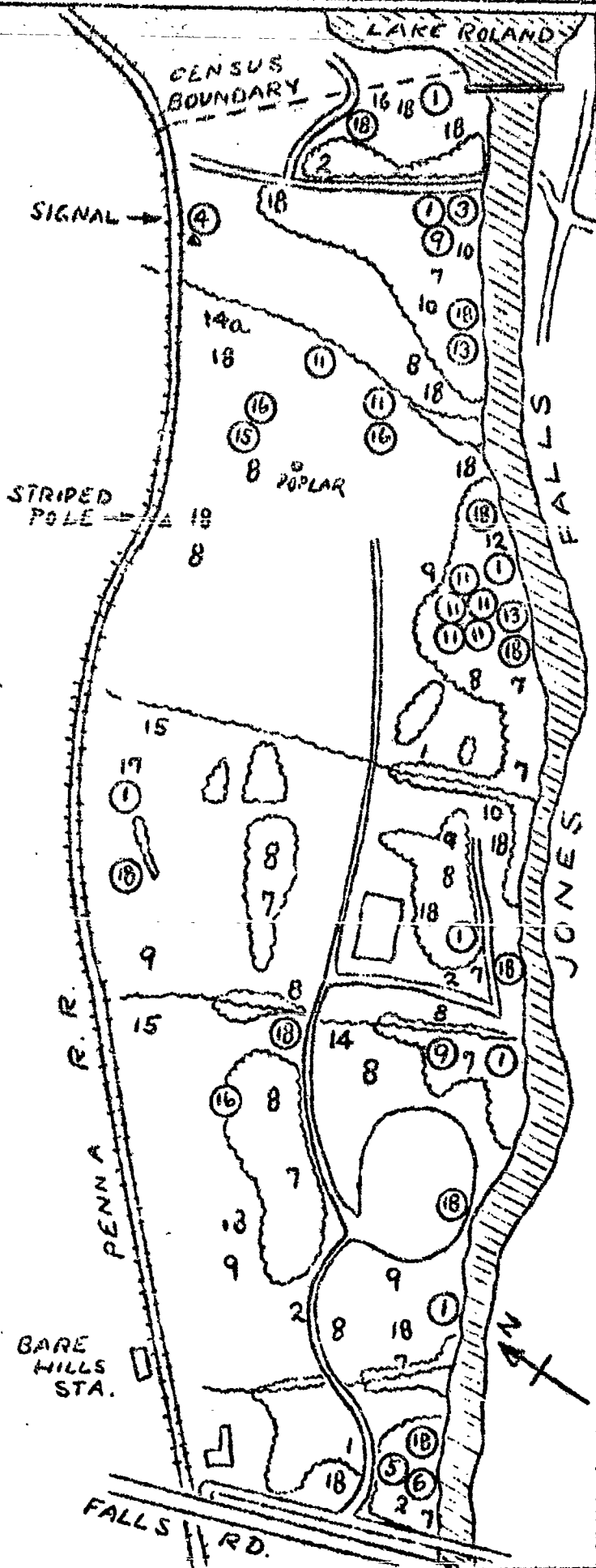
- - Black-billed Cuckoo (Ranged across whole area)
- - Cowbird (1 pair or more birds seen April 7, 27, May 12, June 14)
- 14a - Cardinal

Circle around number indicates nest found. Example:

⑬ - Nest of Song Sparrow found

18 - Singing male, pair, or pair feeding young (Song Sparrow)

 -- Trees



Field Trips

Patapsco River Bottom, May 11. Good weather, an excellent group of observers, fine leadership and proven terrain combined to make a gala day. The list totalled 65 species, including 14 warblers, and virtually everyone on the trip saw all the species listed. Among the features were two pairs of nesting blue-gray gnatcatchers; one in the lower river bottom still building, the other at Avalon complete, 40 feet up in a willow. Blue-winged, Wilson's and worm-eating warblers were seen to advantage; two redstart nests were watched; a killdeer nest with one egg was examined; and Mr. Hampe's two downy young barred owls were located and studied from all angles. There were 26 observers divided into two sections under the leadership of Messrs. Hampe, Bowen and Bond.

Ocean City, May 16-18. Ocean City is always magnificent for birds, and this week-end caught the height of shorebird migration on Assateague Island as well as the teeming resident population of the Pocomoke area. Space forbids adequate reporting. Outstanding perhaps was the view of greater shearwaters out over the ocean, (a new Maryland record) and the chase after a Wilson's plover on the tidal flats of Assateague. Seemingly all the shorebirds were present, and fine views were had of purple and red-backed sandpipers, knots, dowitchers, willets and many more. The Pocomoke yielded 16 warblers and other land species, and a final fling out over the mud flats at Crisfield was rewarded with thousands of shorebirds of many kinds. The trip list numbered 84 species, and many of the good views reflected the expert leadership provided by Mr. Stewart. The chartered boat trip down the Sinepuxent was a high spot worthy of annual repetition.

Woodstock, June 1. Leader Haven Kolb led a delightful walk up the Patapsco from Woodstock, featured by a surprise colony of nesting cerulean warblers. Many other species, to a total of 53, were listed by the 11 members who made the trip.

Garrett County, June 20-22. The final trip of the season was one long to be remembered. An attendance of 39 from Baltimore, Hagerstown, Annapolis, Cumberland, Eckhart and Oakland gave a real statewide character to the occasion. There were thrills aplenty, from watching sapsuckers feeding young to strolling in twilight woods ringing with veery calls. Maurice Brooks' leadership of the Cranesville Swamp morning, the country meals at the Sines' farm, and the exhilaration of the Garrett air are all part of a treasured memory. Stephen Simon's fine notes on the trip, crowded out of this issue, have been made part of the record.

O. W. Crowder

MEMBER MEMOS

NEW MEMBERS, MAY-AUGUST, 1947 (Baltimore unless otherwise noted)

- A-
Abbott, C. Frederick
Gibson Island, Md.
- B-
Baldwin, Mrs. John C.
405 Hollen Rd.(12)
Bachover, Mrs. Alan
6517 Beverly Rd.(12)
Beauchamp, Mrs. M. M.
2812 Taylor Ave.(14)
Bedell, C. S.
1935 O'Sullivan Bld.
Bentz, Frank L.
514 Munsey Bldg.(2)
Besley, F. W.
303 Wendover Rd.(18)
Boggs, Fenton
1408 Bolton St.(17)
Brady, Miss Emita McC.
Greenspring Ave. &
Ruscombe Lane (9)
Brady, Mrs. Leo
Greenspring Ave. &
Ruscombe Lane (9)
Brink, Miss Josephine
205 Courtland Av(4)
Brown, Janet Ellen
1030 Poplar Gr.(16)
Bruns, Lawrence A.
Gun Road, Relay(27)
- C-
Cole, Miss Ruth W.
1512 Pentridge(12)
Cox, Harry M.
Blue Ridge Sum., Pa.
- D-
Deetz, James
503 Baltimore St.
Cumberland, Md.
Denmead, Talbott
2830 St. Paul St.(18)
Diekmann, Mrs. George
7103 Holabird Ave.
Dundalk (22), Md.
Dickmann, Miss May
7103 Holabird Ave.
Dundalk (22), Md.
- Dillehunt, H. B. Jr.
214 W. Read St.(1)
Duckworth, Carl E.
Box 100
Hanover, Md.
Dudley, Miss Joan
21 Florida Rd.(4)
Dudley, Mrs. M. S.
21 Florida Rd.(4)
- E-
Ellensen, Mrs. Elmer
209 Club Rd.(10)
Ellensen, Karen A.
209 Club Rd.(10)
- F-
Fulton, Chester A.
302 Somerset Rd.(10)
Fulton, Mrs. C. A.
302 Somersct Rd.(10)
- G-
Glass, Miss Jewell J.
Scientists Cliffs
Calvert Co., Md.
Greene, Miss Winifred
108 Washington St.
Cumberland, Md.
- H-
Hardy, J. D.
22 Wade Avenue
Catonsville (28)
Haynic, Larry
8 Gladiolus Drive
Middle River (20)
Hellman, Claude B.
Darnell Road
Ruxton (4), Md.
Hibbard, Mrs. G. B.
Brooklandville, Md.
Hunt, Mrs. Wm. L.
709 14th St., S.E.
Washington 3, D.C.
- J-
Jones, Dr. Kenneth B.
Church Creek, Md.
- K-
Keer, Frederick H.
Darlington, Md.
- Krontz, Miss Geneva L.
Big Pool, Md.
- L-
LaMotte, F. Gibbs
9 Southfield Pl.(12)
Lane, Jock
4725 Koswick Rd.(10)
Lee, Mrs. C. O'Donnell
Mill Farm
Brooklandville, Md.
Lee, Miss Emma
10 Bishops Road (18)
- M-
Mattoossian, Mrs. F.T.
8715 Burdette Rd.
Bethesda 14, Md.
McKinley, Mrs. David
York & Walker Rds.
McVicar, Mrs. G. J.
504 Wilton Rd.(4)
McWilliams, Mrs. Jas.
Oakhill Rd.(12)
Merz, Millard Jr.
Woodholme Ave.(8)
Mills, Mrs. W. Pearre
6303 Greensprg.Ave.
Miner, Mrs. Leo D.
1921 Kalorama Rd.
Washington 10, D.C.
Moore, Mrs. Harvey
Riverton, N.J.
- N-
North, Mrs. M. S.
Gibson Island, Md.
- P-
Paschall, Mrs.H.M.Jr.
Piney Neck
Rock Hall, Md.
Paul, Mrs. D'Arcy
16 Blythewood Road
Paulson, Mrs. Arthur
Charlestown, Md.
Porter, John J.
1199 The Terrace
Hagerstown, Md.

New Members, May-August (Continued)

-R-	Stauffer, Miss Martha	-V-
Robey, Walton	Stauffer, Mrs. Sue C.	Vaughn, E. A.
240 Mass. Ave.	208 W. Irvin Ave.	514 Munsey Bld.(2)
Cumberland, Md.	Hagerstown, Md.	-W-
Rubach, Mrs. Carl	Steuart, Miss Mary B.	Weller, Lee Clay
4625 Kernw'd Ave.	505 Hawthorne Road	Route 6, Box 239
-S-	Stilley, Mrs. Owen C.	Cumberland, Md.
Sebold, Mrs. J. F.	Martha's Acres	Williams, Miss Edith
Riderwood 4, Md.	Bethesda 14, Md.	1602 N. Rhodes St.
Shields, George B.	Stubbs, Norman E.	Arlington, Va.
514 Munsey Bld.(2)	716 Reservoir St(17)	Willison, Miss Mildred
Sipe, Mrs. R. G.	Swann, Albert T. Jr.	747 Fayette St.
3007 DuBoise Ave.	2021 Sinclair La(13)	Cumberland, Md.
Smith, Miss Ann B.	-T-	Wright, Arthur
65 Green Street	Taylor, Mrs. Myra C.	81 Bowyer Rd.USNA
Oakland, Md.	75 Broadway	Annapolis, Md.
Smith, Miss Jean	Frostburg, Md.	Wright, Pickett
Rockridge & Vallanova Roads (8)	Taylor, Paul E.	81 Bowyer Rd.USNA
Smith, Rodgers Tull	Mount Airy, Md.	Annapolis, Md.
101 E. Church St.	Thomas, Miss Louise V.	-CLUB-
Frederick, Md.	4223 Park Hts. Ave.	Fourth Grade Club
	Trice, Mrs. M. Alice	Potomac Elem. School
	3244 Abell Av.(18)	Potomac, Md.

One of our many members now departed for remote places is last year's Census Chairman, Allen Stokes, who spent a year at the University of Wisconsin doing graduate work and continuing the goldfinch studies he told us about at one meeting. A short time before his recent departure for Pelee Island in Lake Erie (more on that location later) he writes that he has just been elected secretary of the Kumlien Bird Club at Madison. Allen was impressed with the differences in spring migration there in Wisconsin. He remarked casually at a meeting that he had seen a prairie warbler that morning, only to find himself under cross-examination from skeptics, as prairie warblers there are not the omnipresent fellows they are in Maryland.

SWALLOWS AT DRUID LAKE

On May 5, 6, 7 and 8 an unusual occurrence was seen on Druid Lake in Druid Hill Park, Baltimore. The lake was alive with hundreds of swallows, flying close to the water with occasional little upward swerves, and very occasionally a small circle over to the trees on the park side. The swallows included martins, barn swallows, brown ones (rough-wings or banks) and cliff swallows. The cliff swallows were among the most beautiful birds I have ever seen. I watched a group of 15 in their small circling area on several mornings and afternoons. As I could look down on them at the close range of 15 feet, and as the sun was shining on them, the gorgeous orange markings of the slowly flying birds was an unforgettable sight - my first cliff swallows. A very cold spell, freezing in some parts of the state, undoubtedly drove the migrating birds to cover. On Saturday, the warm bright sunshine gave them release, and at 5 o'clock on the fifth day I saw the last of the hundreds depart.

Pearl Heaps



ALLEGANY COUNTY BRANCH FORMALLY ORGANIZED

During the summer and early fall the enthusiasm of the Allegany members come into full fruit in the formal organization of the Allegany County Bird Club, branch of the state society. The handful of interested birders of last winter has grown into a large and splendid organization with a number of resourceful leaders and a group spirit that speaks strongly for the permanence of Western Maryland bird activity.

The lively delegation on the Garrett County trip in June began making plans on the way back home, naming Mrs. Miller as chairman-- a happy and almost obvious choice. Summertime planning culminated in a board meeting September 3, followed by a formal meeting on Martin Mountain September 10, when the following officers were chosen:

- Chairman Mrs. Helen Miller
- Secretary Miss Mildred Willison
- Junior Chairman Miss Nan Livingstone
- High School Chairman . . . Mrs. T. M. Andrews
- Membership Chairman . . . Mrs. Myra Taylor
- Feeding Stations Mr. Kendrick Hodgdon

The events that followed are a story for later issues of Maryland Birdlife, but since this issue is late in publication, we can jump ahead a little to say that no one at the Baltimore end of club activity was prepared for what happened next. We visioned perhaps a score of Allegany members. Within a month, the treasurer was complaining that he had no time for anything but recording Allegany memberships, addressograph plate orders were going in every few days, and Membership Chairman Myra Taylor must have had little time to look at birds. By the end of November there were 160 Allegany memberships, spread across the county in this manner:

	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Jrs.</u>	<u>Junior Groups</u>	<u>Total</u>
Cumberland. . .	19	47	25	91
Westernport . .	9		6	15
Cresaptown. . .		7	6	13
Ellerslie . . .	1	10	1	12
Frostburg . . .	6			6
Oldtown	2	2	2	6
Lonaconing. . .	2		2	4
Spring Gap. . .	2	2		4
Eckhart	2		1	3
Barton.	2			2
La Vale	1			1
Midland	1			1
Mount Savage. .	1			1
Narrows Park. .	1			1
Totals	<u>49</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>160</u>

JUNIOR PAGE

CAMPFIRE: The big event of the spring in Junior birding was that mammoth campfire in Constitution Park, Cumberland, on June 5. On that record breaking occasion, 125 children and 45 adults told bird stories and tried bird quiz programs on each other, and had a wonderful time doing it. Cumberland will certainly have one of these affairs every year, and maybe it will spread to Baltimore and other parts of the state by next spring.

QUIZ QUESTIONS MAKE A HIT

One of the big features of the campfire was the bird quiz. Some of the questions reported in the "BIRD NEWS" of West Side School's Fourth Grade Club are repeated below. These are from questions made up by Marjorie Hutchison, Hugh Steele, Kent Fuller, Jerry Hart, Mary Lou Remer, Billy Scott, James Duffy, Virginia Reed and Richard Johnson.

1. What bird gets its name from the shape of its nest?
2. What bird flies over meadows and wears an upside-down coat?
3. What bird is the symbol of happiness?
4. What bird has as the beginning of its name, the enemy of all birds?
5. What bird likes to build its nest on fence posts?
6. What bird lives in an apartment house?
7. What bird makes its nest with a saliva like glue?
8. What bird has a large head and eyes and doesn't appear to have a neck?
9. What bird got its name because it made the Pilgrims think of home?
10. What do we do every day at dinner that reminds us of a bird's name?

Answers, in case you need help: 1- Ovenbird; 2- bobolink; 3- bluebird; 4- catbird; 5- bluebird; 6- purple martin; 7- chimney swift; 8- owl; 9- robin; 10- swallow.

DOUBLE FAMILY OF ROBINS? Here is what sounds like a tall story, but is vouched for by a Columbia Street School lad at the Constitution Park campfire. It seems a robin built a nest on one end of a girder, laid eggs, and came back to find the girder moved to a new position. She proceeded to build another nest on the other end of the girder and lay the rest of the eggs. The male robbin meanwhile took over the first nest and sat on it himself. Both broods hatched and both parents were kept busy feeding the young.

JUNIOR PAGE - Continued

THE ORDER OF PAN. Have we any members of the Order of Pan among our Juniors? Or for that matter, among the adults? In case you don't know, the Order of Pan consists of all who have induced a wild bird to feed from their hands. At the Constitution Park campfire a girl from the Corriganville School brought along a chipping sparrow she had adopted for a pet after finding him injured. That wouldn't be a wild bird feeding from her hand, perhaps, but it is a good beginning. Let us know if you have any luck. Chickadees are good ones to work on during the winter months.

THE BLACK AND WHITE WARBLER

A group of bird walkers from the Audubon Junior Club, fifth grade, Mount Royal School, met at my house for a bird walk Saturday, May 24 at 7:30 A.M. There were six of us altogether.

We were watching a cardinal which was hard to see, when all of a sudden I saw a black and white warbler (at the time we didn't know its name) dart in front of me, and stop on a tree trunk. It started creeping around the trunk and disappeared. I told the others about it and two of the boys ran to the tree.

Before I could get there they had found a hole in the tree right close to the ground. It was a bird's nest and had tunnels and tunnels filled with a soft lining of feathers and grass.

We wondered what kind of a bird it was. When I went home I looked again in the bird guide and found it was a black and white warbler, sometimes called a black and white creeper.

Mason Sisk (Age 11)

THE BARN SWALLOW

Oh, barn swallow, how you fly -
Over the creek
And through the blue sky,
Catching insects with your beak.

Skimming low, skimming high,
In the barn, out of the barn,
Flying high - but, my! -
You chatter like you're telling a yarn.

Alighting on a telephone wire
To take a rest
Because at last you must tire,
With your little red chest.

Arthur Wright, Annapolis (Age 12)

MORE CLUBS COMING: This issue of Maryland Birdlife is late going out and we're not supposed to report things that happened after September 1st until next time. But we want to tell you in advance that there are now 43 Junior Clubs holding group memberships in the Ornithological Society, getting Maryland Birdlife and learning what fun it is to find out about birds. There will be lots of juniors to hear from on this page in coming months.