

# THE MIGRANT

A QUARTERLY JOURNAL  
DEVOTED TO TENNESSEE BIRDS

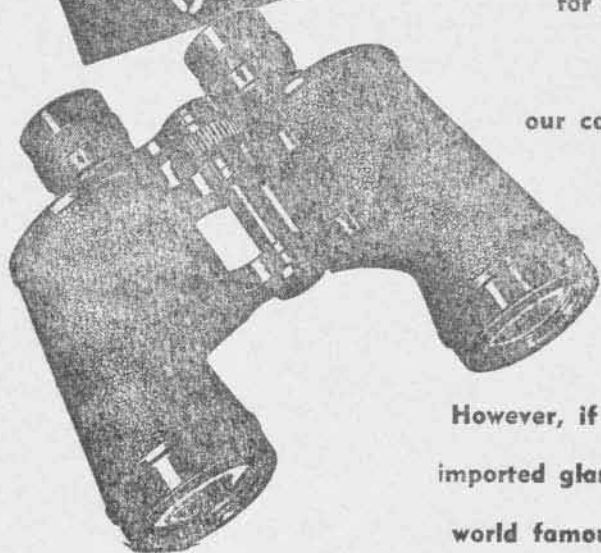
Published by  
THE TENNESSEE  
ORNITHOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY

HR Jones  
55

SEPTEMBER  
1960



BAUSCH & LOMB  
*Binoculars*



Let us help you  
select the best glass  
for your purpose  
from

our complete line of  
**Bausch & Lomb**  
Binoculars  
There are  
no finer

However, if you prefer fine  
imported glasses, we have the  
world famous Leitz or Zeiss  
line to choose from as well as  
many lower priced binoculars  
of good quality.



## PHOTO SUPPLIES

If it's photographic, and if it's good,  
WE HAVE IT

## SNAP SHOP

CAMERA SPECIALISTS

615 Gay Street

Knoxville, Tenn.



FLORIDA SANDHILL CRANE (*Grus canadensis pratensis*) NEST, EGG  
AND HABITAT

# THE MIGRANT

Published by the Tennessee Ornithological Society, to Record and Encourage the Study of Birds in Tennessee. Issued in March, June, September and December.

VOL. 31

SEPTEMBER 1960

NO. 3

## SOME MISSISSIPPI CRANE NOTES

By LAWRENCE H. WALKINSHAW

In 1938 E. A. McIlhenny (Auk, 1938, 55:598-602) was told of a group of Florida Sandhill Cranes (*Grus canadensis pratensis*) nesting in Jackson County, Mississippi. On visiting this area he was shown a nest with two eggs and several people in the neighborhood discovered several nests later giving Mr. McIlhenny two downy young which he raised.

During April, 1940 I visited the area and found on April 17 a nest with two eggs, then another nest was shown to me on April 18 with two eggs and I found a third on April 19 with two eggs. The areas where these cranes nested were grown to some small trees even though they were marshy. The predominant tree in one area was small cypresses; in the second area small yellow and long-leaved pine. The ground vegetation was predominantly sedges and water stood about 3 to 15 inches deep. Observations of cranes in 1940 were April 17, 7; April 18, 8; April 19, 12; April 20, 2; April 21, 5.

The first nest measured 128 x 125 cm. across and was 12 cm. above the water which was 20 cm. deep. The two eggs measured, 104 x 59 mm. and 99 x 59 mm. and weighed 162.2 and 146.5 grams. These eggs were light buffy with splotches of buffy and lavender.

The second nest was found by Henry King on April 12, 1940 when it contained two eggs. On April 18 young were peeping in both eggs even though they were not pipped. The nest was a pile of sedges like nest 1. It measured 110 x 98 cm. across; 15 cm. high and was in 30 cm. of standing water. The two eggs were light buff with few light buffy spots, most of which were at the larger ends. They measured 90 x 59 and 89 x 57 mm. across and weighed 135.0 and 121.1 grams. On April 19 both eggs were pipped at 4 P. M. and at 6:30 A. M. April 20 one had hatched; the second hatched at 2 P. M. The first young weighed at 6:30 A. M. 105.0 grams, and at 2:00 P. M. 103.0 grams and the second 93.4 grams. Wings measured 34 and 31 mm.; tarsus 34 and 31 mm.; exposed culmen both 22 mm. Both parents were very attentive and were around the nest all the time that I was not bothering them. They were much tamer than other cranes with which I have had contact.

Nest No. 3 on April 19 was found 500 feet from Nest No. 1. It measured 140 x 95 cm. across, 15 cm. high and the water was 25 cm. deep. The two eggs were marked much like the others. They measured, 101 x 59 mm. and 95 x 59 mm. and weighed 169.4 and 153.3 grams.

On October 24, 1952 my wife, the Harold Wings and I visited this area in the late afternoon and watched cranes flying into Bayou Castelle for the evening. Between 5:15 and 5:38 P. M. 15 cranes in groups of 4, 3, 2, 4 and 2 flew into the roost area.

On March 29, 1960 my wife and I again visited the area and in less than two hours I found a nest in the same marsh that I had visited in 1940. The cypress trees were somewhat larger but the water was about the same depth. This nest was a small pile of sedges also and measured 117 x 96.5 cm. across and was 10 cm. high in 10 cm. of water and was surrounded by cypresses near the yellow pine forest. The two eggs measured 94.1 x 59 and 96.2 x 56.2 mm. The spots on the eggs were very fine and scattered over the entire surface. I only saw the two cranes at this nest during the 3 hours I was in the field. The next morning I observed 7 cranes. This was the area north of Fontainebleau. North of Ocean Springs after talking with several people including Henry King who had found the 1940 nest, they reported that there were a few cranes in that area also.

How long the cranes can continue to battle civilization in this area I do not know. Housing projects are coming very close to the area north of Fontainebleau. The St. Regis Paper Company has much of the land under lumber lease so that possibly this may maintain a breeding population for many years.

#### SUMMARY

The Florida Sandhill Crane was first found nesting in southern Mississippi in 1938. I first visited this area in 1940 and returned for a few hours in March, 1960. A total of 34 cranes were observed here April 17-22 and three nests were observed. In October, 1952, 15 cranes in 5 groups were observed. March 29 and 30, 1960 I observed 9 cranes in 7 hours and found one nest.

The four nests averaged in measurements across, 124 x 103.8 cm. and 13 cm. (10-15) tall. Water averaged 21 cm. deep around the nests. The 8 eggs averaged in measurements, 96.04 x 58.4 mm. and in weight, 147.9 grams. Two young at hatching time weighed 103.0 and 93.4 grams.

819 North Ave., Battle Creek, Michigan.

---

### THE SEASON

MEMPHIS.—On Mar. 26, 230 Blue Geese and 6 Snow Geese were seen on a reservoir at Booker, north of Crawfordsville, Ark. Spring migration was very late generally and poor, especially the early half. A "wave" was reported Apr. 28-30 by Oliver Irwin. Late May 15 (after an absence of 4 week-ends) we found a fairly good movement of Baltimore Orioles and Indigo Buntings along the levee below Lakeview, Miss. Bobolink passage was poor. Passage of transient Whip-poor-wills thru Overton Park appeared the poorest of last ten years. B. B. Cooper saw one on a road, Union County, near Hickory Flat, Miss., Mar. 26 but none called. Apr. 2, Supt. Gallagher heard one at Wall Doxey S. P., Miss. and we had only one calling out of 7 dusk-stops, Shiloh N. M. P., Tenn. No Chuck-will's-widow had called in Overton Park by April 15, and first dates were Apr. 16, Memphis (Oliver Irwin), and Apr. 15-22 for observers at Hardy and Almond, Ark. and Parsons, Tenn. Cliff Swallows apparently not at Pickwick Dam on Overcast Apr. 2 but were found at two points just south (in Miss.) and at Snake Creek bridge, north of Shiloh N. M. P. since I could go under and flush the swallows out into the air. Late Cedar Waxwings were 15 on June 8, Oliver Irwin.

The Blue Goose at Riverside Park was still present May 15 and Aug. 21 and that one at the Penal Farm, Aug. 6. A Mississippi Kite was seen 6 miles west of Dyersburg by-pass, May 21 and July 10. I found the Broad-winged Hawk much less common than usual, especially in Mississippi and West Tennessee. Dr. W. L. Whittemore saw a Duck Hawk, July 18, Flower Lake, southwest of Tunica, Miss. June 19, before dawn, Whip-poor-wills were heard just south of Shiloh N. M. P. and in the park itself (none on previous summer runs) two singles were heard as well as 27 Chucks, on 14 stops in 9.4 miles, 36 minutes. Two single Whips, early, June 12, near Zama (Kosciusko) extend Miss. summer records another 40 miles or 140 miles south of the Tenn. line. From highway 19 & 25 junction, one was 2.6 miles NE in Winston County and one 3.5 miles NW in Attala County; elevation, 500 feet. Enroute, early June 11, a fair number were east and southeast of Slate Springs. Phoebe nest plus old ones, Yocona River and Miss. highway 7, were of interest, June 12.

Small but new Cliff Swallow colonies were located: June 18, west of Counce, Tenn.; June 5, west of Mountain View, Ark.; and a range extension, July 4, Imboden, Ark. (previously checked), both Lawrence and Randolph County ends of bridge. An unreported site is the White River bridge west of Eureka Springs, Ark.—3 birds still present July 30 (80 nests). The original site at Pickwick Dam was abandoned (except by House Sparrows) but several sites continue in use there. The Colbert Steam plant bridge, Ala., had 18 nests, May 5 (second season). A Tree Swallow favored a clubhouse on Reelfoot shore, Samburg, May 22, but not found July 10. Bewick's Wrens were noted June 12 at Walthal and Calhoun City, Miss. First House Wren summering in West Tennessee: batture edge 1½ mile north of Tiptonville ferry, one singer, May 22, and two singers seen July 10. First summering (and 6th record) of the Blue Grosbeak in Shelby County: southeast of Germantown, two singers May 21, Mrs. Coffey; on Aug. 6 I searched the area and found adults feeding one or more immatures able to fly fairly well.

Wood Ibis reported: Aug. 21, 3 flocks of 20 each, Mississippi River, 5 miles north of Helena (Dr. C. L. Baker), and 58, West Memphis, Ark. (Earl Fuller). On Aug. 23 Earl saw 31 near Marion, Ark. Once more we have a heron-shorebird spot, the Booker reservoir, Crawfordville, Ark. Little Blue Herons, high, 190 immature, 18 adult, Aug. 7; Common Egret, 8, same date. On Aug. 13, 20 immature Mallards (resident reported species nesting) and 8 Black Ducks (early). Blue-winged Teal, 12 on Aug. 21 (EF), 250 on Sept. 11 and 17. Pintail, one, Sept. 11; 100, Sept. 17. Lesser Yellowlegs, high, 125 on Sept. 17 but only 5 Greater. Only a few Pectorals and peeps. Three male Wilson's Phalaropes were there, Aug. 20. Down to 3 Black Terns by Sept. 17 (Irwin reported 150 on the river, Aug. 21). Elsewhere, 2 Ring-billed Gulls at Pickwick Dam, June 18. and an Upland Plover heard overhead, Newport, Ark., 8 p. m. July 17 (BCs and Alice Smith). Whip-poor-will heard calling, Whitehaven yard, Aug. 26 and Sept. 6 by Mrs. Leslie R. Kostka. Swallows chiefly across river and among those at the Booker reservoir, Aug. 7, 13, 20 and Sept. 11, respectively: Bank—120, 400, 100, 2; Cliff—100, 95, 30, 8. As these left, many small flocks of Tree Swallows appeared.

BEN B. COFFEY, JR., 672 N. Belvedere, Memphis 7.

NASHVILLE.—The spring migration in Nashville was an interesting event and in some ways disappointing. Due to the fact that snow was on the ground into mid March such groups as the vireos and early arriving warblers were hard to find until later than their normal arrival dates possibly because of the noticeable shortage of insects in the trees until late April. One bright spot in early April appeared when Mrs. Amelia Laskey checked a report of "yellow birds" going to a feeder in Kingston Springs. On April 2, Mrs. Laskey found 2 Evening Grosbeaks at the feeder, only the second record for this species in the vicinity of Nashville.

For the most part migrants continued to be scarce through April. On the nights of April 13-16, noticeable waves of birds appeared in this area only to remain 1 day, and the woods were almost as deserted after the 18th as they were before the 13th. But during this 5 day period 26 species arrived in Nashville, several even contradicting the pattern of migration that had existed up to that time, by arriving earlier than normal. The most noteworthy of these was the Wood Pewee which arrived on the 17th, 3 days earlier than ever before in Nashville.

It was not until early May that migration really began to reach full steam. A trip to Radnor Lake on April 28 resulted in only 6 species of warblers but a similar trip on May 12 turned up 21 species of warblers, all fairly common. But even though the migration had started late, it ended on schedule for this area.

Interesting records during the spring were: Old Squaws, 4-7&9, 5 birds being the greatest number at one time (JCO et al); Franklin's Gulls, 5-5&6, (2) (Henry E. Parmer and Mrs. William F. Bell); Short-billed Marsh Wren, 1 at Ashland City Marsh on 5-14 (A. F. Ganier); Philadelphia Vireo, 5-12 (JCO); Brewster's Warbler, 4-17 (JCO, HEP); Orange-crowned Warbler, 4-21 (ARL, JCO); Black-throated Blue Warbler, 5-8&12 (1 each by Charles Hunt and HEP); Connecticut Warbler, 5-22 (ARL); and Lincoln's Sparrow on 3 occasions from 4-27 to 5-15 (HEP, JCO). A sharp peak was reached on May 10 through 12 in the swallow migration when flocks of approximately 750 of all species were gotten on both Bush and Radnor lakes. Barn and Bank Swallows were the most common.

The shore bird migration was highlighted by several important records. A small flock of Black-bellied Plovers was seen on River Road on 3-26 with 1 bird still there on the 27th (Louis Farrell et al). The usually rare White-rumped Sandpiper was recorded 4 different times during May at 2 different locations (HEP, JCO), and the Pectoral Sandpiper was recorded later than usual, 1 bird remaining till 5-12 (HEP). The last shore birds to leave Nashville were Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers which were last seen on 5-25 (HEP).

Summer started off cooler and wetter than usual resulting in not only better weather for the birds but also for the amateur ornithologist.

Because the Bluebird population was decreased so badly by the late and extreme winter, Mrs. Laskey had to report that the Bluebird breeding population was lower for this breeding season of 1960 than ever before recorded during her 25 year Bluebird project.

Cliff Swallow nesting appears to be increasing around Nashville. On 5-14, Henry Parmer and Dan Schrieber found a total of 175 active nests in 3 different locations along River Road and at the Cheatham Dam. On 7-9, Mrs. Katherine Goodpasture observed approximately 35-40 Cliff Swallows carrying mud under a large concrete bridge between Ashland City and Clarksville.

A Sharp-shinned Hawk nest had 6 eggs on 5-15 at Basin Springs but was empty on 6-12. It is questionable whether the nest was successful or not (KAG, JCO).

Several important records during the summer were: Forster's Tern on 6-24 at Bush Lake, (2) (HEP); Lesser Scaup Ducks at Bush Lake on 6-15, (8 females) (HEP); and Woodcocks at Two Jays, flushed 4 times from 5-8 to 6-26, the largest number at one time was 5 (CH, JCO). Ovenbirds remained at Basin Springs through the nesting season, last recorded were 2 on 6-26, 7-1, and 7-10 (KAG). On 8-10, 2 immature Lark Sparrows were seen approximately 10 miles south-west of Nashville (JCO).

Late nest of interest were a Towhee nest with 2 eggs on 8-11 which failed (Harry C. Monk); a Bluebird nest with 3 eggs hatching on 8-19 (ARL); a Mockingbird nest on 8-19 with 3 young (Clara W. Fentress); and 2 Dove nests, one on 8-31 with 1 young (ARL), and one on 9-6 with 2 large young (HCM). On 9-15, 2 nests were still active at Basin Springs, one a Dove with 2 young and the other a Yellow-billed Cuckoo with 1 young. (Banded by KAG).

The start of fall migration was noted with the return of the Black Tern on 6-25, Spotted Sandpiper on 7-22, 2 Sanderlings on 8-22, Least Sandpipers, 2 on 8-29 and Pectoral Sandpipers, 5 on 9-1. All of these records are by Henry Parmer at Bush Lake.

The return of land birds started with a Black-throated Green Warbler on 8-2 (CWF), and 2 the next day (WFB). The migration continued with a Canada Warbler on 8-18 (CWF), Golden-winged Warbler on 8-19 (CWF), Blackburian Warbler on 8-28 (JCO), and Magnolia Warbler on 9-1 (HCM). By the 3rd and 4th of September, migrants were reported from many different localities, the largest number being 18 species of warblers gotten on those 2 days at Two Jays, half of which were non-resident species. Included in this 18 species were 1 Mourning Warbler (HEP), and 2 Wilson's Warblers (JCO).

JOHN C. OGDEN, 515 Fairfax Ave., Nashville 12.

COOKEVILLE.—Since those snows of March cleared away, our season has been much as that of 1958. Either rain or high humidity or both gave an excellent early growing season for wild fruits. Wild cherries, in particular, attracted birds away from most of our feeding stations by mid-summer. No great extremes of weather developed, even though the rain fall was three inches above average once in July. Some of the 90-94-degree weather was a bit uncomfortable to us, but birds seemed to be unconcerned.

With the aid of a few grade-school children and college students, some 75 nesting sites were located. A dozen or so were under casual observation. Three nests (Starlings) were under more intensive study. For some Tech students, this was the first experience with birds in juvenal plumage. Some even believed that there were no young starlings in one Starling's nest.

For the Upper Cumberland Chapter, at recent meetings, the main theme has been the Audubon Screen Tours which are due to start with us on Oct. 16, but despite this absorbing subject, a little bird news has filtered through. Although Bluebirds have been scarce here, at least one family was successful. Young were found in a box (CH) some distance from any house. One warbler's nest was observed (RH). One male Towhee was seen feeding a nestling Cowbird (CH), the female abstaining. Cardinals have been as con-



spicuous as usual, but none were found nesting. One graduate student, concentrating on the nesting of Chimney Swifts, Barn Swallows, and Cardinals, was unable to find a single nesting pair of the red fellows.

A few of the well-preserved nests have been placed on display in West Hall (Biology and Physics) on the Tech campus. The rarest of these, discovered by Roy Hines, is that of the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. Almost all who see this nest mistake it for that of a Hummingbird. Needless to say, there are on display **no** nests of Mourning Doves although they have nested extensively in the northern half of Cookeville.

P. I. HOLLISTER, Biol. Dept., Tennessee Tech.

CHATTANOOGA.—This has been an excellent season for shore birds in this vicinity. A particularly productive area has been the Spring Creek Road mudflat within the city limits. White-rumped Sandpiper at Spring Creek on June 7 was the latest of four reports of this species this spring. Pectoral Sandpiper has been seen quite regularly since the end of July. A July 30 record was ten days earlier than the previous earliest arrival date for this species. Reports of Least Tern on Aug. 20 and 22 were the fourth and fifth records for this area. For the second time since 1953 a family of Red-cockaded Woodpeckers (3 individuals) has been reported in Chickamauga National Military Park. The date this year was June 20. Again this year the Scarlet Tanager has been reported in the Chickamauga NMP (Georgia) area. Although no actual nesting record was reported, the male bird was seen and heard several times during the last two weeks of June. Other noteworthy observations for the area will be found under Round Table.

ROCK COMSTOCK, 1000 South Crest Road, Chattanooga 4.

GREENEVILLE.—A rather unusual spring seems to account for the few warblers observed during migration. A few Worm-eating Warblers were observed feeding in an oak tree. A short distance away in the same vicinity, three observers watched and studied several small birds feeding in another oak tree, for about half an hour. At first they were thought to be more Worm-eating Warblers, until one was observed with a rusty-brown cap and a white stripe over the eye where the Worm-eating has black stripes on a buffy head. Books were hurriedly examined and after observing several of the busy little fellows for some time the conclusion was reached that they were Swainson's Warblers.

The Sora and Short-billed Marsh Wren were seen and heard from July until about the middle of September in the lowlands along Roaring Fork Creek. A flock of Bobolinks and a Great Blue Heron were observed in the same area Sept. 10. A first record is that of a Broad-winged Hawk seen several times during the summer along the Lick Creek section by Richard and Ruth Nevius. Mrs. Clemons reports an unusually large number of Red-headed Woodpeckers in her area.

Mrs. Guinn reports a pair of nesting Canada Geese hatched six young, five of which survived. This is the third year they have had a successful nesting. As of this writing, there are about 15 geese including the goslings. She states the number varies as they come and go at will while some remain longer than others.

MRS. ELVA DARNELL, Route 4, Greeneville.

KINGSPORT.—The reports on birds from the middle of March to the middle of September were in no way so unusual as the weather. Winter weather prevailed throughout March with heavy snows and no high March winds. In April there were no April showers; the last half was unusually hot. So we went from winter to summer with no spring. Early May was very rainy and cool. Several species of wintering birds and migrants were recorded late in the spring. Common Loon, May 14, our latest record and Evening Grosbeaks not only in March but throughout April. Our Spring Census added the Stilt Sandpiper to the Kingsport list.

During the early months, our only noteworthy observations concerned numbers. Local populations of Chimney Swifts and especially Purple Martins appeared greatly reduced. Carolina Wren were also conspicuously absent. Only one Carolina Wren was heard where three pairs normally are supported. There seemed to be unusually large numbers of Mourning Doves in the country around Kingsport. Mrs. J. M. Adams reports greatly increased numbers of Brown-headed Cowbirds at her feeder—as many as fifteen at one time.

The Hawk count has elicited regular observations and reports from the Kingsport Chapter, but as of mid-September no exciting numbers.

ANN H. SWITZER, 1620 Fairidge Place, Kingsport.

## A NEW HERONRY IN NORTHWEST TENNESSEE

By ALBERT F. GANIER

Possibly the largest nesting colony of the Little Blue Heron (*Florida caerulea*) in Tennessee, was visited by me on June 1 and 2, 1960. The locality is 2.5 miles northeast of Dyersburg and so far as I can ascertain is the most northerly breeding colony in the Mississippi valley. This heronry was pointed out to me by my son Roger during the past winter, at which time the trees were leafless and I was able to estimate that there were between 600 and 800 nests.

The June visit was for the purpose of estimating the relative numbers of each species of heron using the place. This I did by watching the adult birds flying in and out during their trips to their feeding grounds. On this basis, 90 percent were estimated to be Little Blues and 10 percent Common Egrets (*Casmerodius albus*). Two Black-crowned Night Herons were also found using the place and doubtless were nesting. Assuming 600 nests were being used, this would give a population of 1080 adult Little Blues and 120 of the Egrets. The nests all had young and assuming 4 to a brood, this would make at least 2,400 young.

Most of the young had reached the stage where they were climbing about in the limbs near the nests or even into the tops of the nesting trees. In one tree, near the edge of the four acre woodland containing the nests, nearly all young from its ten nests had climbed to the top, there to eagerly await the return of their parents with food. They so whitened the tree-top that it was made easily visible from Highway 51, a quarter mile westward. Some of the young, during their efforts to climb, had fallen to the ground and a dozen were wandering about. No adults were seen to come to the ground to feed these and it is probable that these were left to starve for a score of dead ones were found in various stages of decay. No predators appear to have visited the place.

The extensive farm on which this heronry is located was not cultivated for several years prior to 1959 but in the spring of that year, intensive cultivation of cotton and corn all around the heronry was resumed. This patch of woodland is low and formerly stood knee-deep in water during the spring, thus meeting the preferred requirements for a safe nesting site. A small drainage ditch thru it now drains off the water. It is probable that the Little Blues moved here from a former heronry east of Ridgeley, 16 miles northward, which I described in THE MIGRANT for March, 1951 (22:4-5). That colony was broken up some years later. The Ridgely colony contained as many Little Blues but also sheltered more than a hundred Snowy Egrets (*Leucophoyx thula*). The trees in the present colony consist chiefly of box elder, water maple, overcup oak and elm, with a few willows, cottonwood, etc. None were more than 9 inches in diameter. Most of the nests were placed from 16 to 25 feet up, though a few were built between 12 and 16.

On their return trips with food, the adults came in from all points of the compass, showing that they not only gathered food from the Forked Deer river swamps three miles southward but also from the Jones creek drainage canal and perhaps fallow fields near at hand. Observers at other heronries have found that the young were fed largely on grasshoppers. The young of the Little Blues are white in color, as are also the Egrets, but can be distinguished from the latter by their blueish-black bills instead of the greenish-pink of the Egrets. Some of the nests appeared ridiculously small to be used for four eggs and a sitting bird. The smallness of the platform is one of the reasons why the young take to the limbs as early as possible during the daytime. Another reason is that as they develop, the more precocious ones peck at their smaller brothers and force them out.

A din of noise prevailed continually, consisting of the "squawks" of the adult herons, the come-hither calls of the young and the scolding clatter of the Common Grackles, dozens of which were nesting in the trees thruout the place. Their nests held either eggs or young and since they were not observed to be flying away for food, it is probable that they may have been finding a supply from the food regurgitated by the herons or else were consuming the blow fly larvae which are found in the larger nests of the herons. I have always found Grackles nesting in heronries and there would appear to be some beneficial reciprocation between the two species.

The high power dams on the Tennessee river caused the clearing out and flooding of swamps near the stream which were formerly suitable for heronries and the progressive creation of drainage canals in West Tennessee has further greatly reduced suitable breeding areas. The attention of the local game warden was called to the need for protecting the heronry from boys out for target practice. He was well aware that the birds were protected by law and promised to give the matter his attention. It was explained to him that after gaining ability to fly, the young distribute themselves over a vast area and perform useful scavenger service in ridding ponds and streams that are drying up of dying fish and aquatic life that would pollute such streams when they become active again.

---

**ROUND TABLE**

**THE THREE-TOED WOODPECKER RECORD.**—In "The Season" department of the March 1960 MIGRANT, p. 13, Mrs. Waters in reporting for Lebanon, made rather casual reference to one of these birds thought to have been seen there by the Misses Campbell. Since my duties as Curator involve the securing of as full data as possible to evaluate such unusual records as this, I have secured some further details from those mentioned in the report. Miss Campbell tells me that the bird was observed in her back yard from a window some thirty or forty feet away and without binoculars. At the time, it was pecking at suet attached to a tree and that it appeared to her to be darker than a normal Downy Woodpecker but no larger. No yellow was seen on its head as would have been the case had it been a male Three-toed. She later phoned Mr. Dixon Merritt, mentioned the dark color and was told by him that the only small woodpecker darker than a Downy was the Northern Three-toed Woodpecker. Mr. Merritt says however that he did not intend to authenticate the record by giving this information. Mrs. Waters, under pressure from our Editor to make the dead-line for the March issue and he in turn hurrying to get the issue out before the Wilson Society meeting at Gatlinburg, by-passed the usual checking and let the item go in. Since the species thought seen is about twice the size (in appearance) as the Downy and since that species is a non-migratory resident of Canada, having a southern limit of Minnesota, Ontario and northern New York, the sight record mentioned would seem to be highly questionable. For small birds of great rarity, there is ample justification for collecting the specimen in order that unquestioned identification may be made for the Society's records.

ALBERT F. GANIER, Curator, 2112 Woodlawn Dr., Nashville 12.

**GREATER SCAUP** (*Aythya marila*). — On December 1, 1959 I found 19 scaup at Bush Farm. They were on the river only a few feet from the near bank. There were 14 males and 5 females. The time was 11:00 A. M. and the sun was at my back. The heads of all males were green, almost as bright as male Mallards in the sun. I moved through a 90 degree arc and the heads remained green at all times. I returned December 3 two hours earlier and found them at the same place. The sun was again at my back, but lower. This time I could find no iridescence at all, only a dull black to the heads. The sides of most of the males were pure white, with some dusky vermiculation on the sides of 3 or 4 of the males, but much less than on a normal Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*). Seventeen had rounded heads as a Mallard has, one an angular shape as a Lesser Scaup, and one seemed in between. The next morning was overcast when I found them once again at the same spot. Again the heads seemed a dull black. This time I flushed the flock at a distance of about 80 feet. In all 19 ducks the white stripe continued through the wing primaries to the very tip. To me the white wing stripe seemed almost the same degree of brightness from the body to the wing tip. All observations were made through 7 X 35 binoculars at the very favorable distances of from 80 to 150 feet, and at an elevation of about 30 feet above the water. I feel sure that all 19 birds were Greater Scaup.

HENRY E. PARMER, 800 Richland Avenue, Nashville 5, Tenn.

**SUMMER TANAGER CAPTURING WASPS.**—About 3 p.m., on June 9, my attention was called to a large bird that had flown to the top of a tall oak tree. The bird proved to be a Pileated Woodpecker. About the same time, I noticed a medium sized bird flitting and darting rapidly to and fro, near the top of an elm tree about 30 feet above the ground. Looking more carefully, I saw that this bird was a Summer Tanager. It was seizing and killing large wasps, of which a dozen or more were flying about. I went into the house and returning with my binoculars, could see clearly a wasp's nest, at the center of activity, about 4 inches in diameter. The bird kept killing the wasps until it finally settled on a branch at the nest. It then opened the caps, took out a grub with which it flew away, presumably to its nest. Rain had commenced, so I returned to the house. I watched for the bird the next morning and throughout the day but did not see it. Only a few of the wasps remained about the nest.

O. C. AULT, Nashville 4, Tenn.

**SUMMER TANAGER CAPTURES YELLOW-JACKETS.**—One morning in June several years ago, while sitting in my back yard, I noticed a female Summer Tanager fly to the roof of my garage and then hop down to the eave. She paused a moment while peering over, then flew vertically downward and up again under the roof sheathing where she fluttered momentarily, then emerged with a yellow-jacket in her beak. A small swarm of the insects, thus disturbed and maddened, flew into the air. Within two or three minutes, the Tanager returned and again repeated the procedure, flying to the roof above to peck at the insect before swallowing it. The few yellow-jackets that had returned to the three inch diameter nest, now gave up the fight and flew away. The Tanager remained on the alert, however, and flew out to catch a third individual as it returned. After disposing of this one, the bird again flew under the eaves and, fluttering below the nest, secured one of the grubs by uncapping a cell. This was repeated, after which the bird flew away and did not return. I then examined the nest closely and found that several of the cells had been uncapped. The nest was not further preyed upon. Tanagers are well known to prey upon honey bees and complaint has been made by apiarists. In THE MIGRANT for March, 1938, 9:18, there is record of a Red-headed Woodpecker catching wasps as they flew by. The sting of such insects remain "live" and active for some time and one wonders if the birds pull out these stingers before swallowing.

ALBERT F. GANIER, Nashville 12, Tennessee.

**LIVE INSECTS IN A BLUE JAY'S CROP.**—It is usually customary for birds to kill and frequently dismember their prey before swallowing it. To what extent this is done with relatively small insects is not known to the writer, but the following instance shows how a Blue Jay disposed of such prey. The bird had been collected in the Unicoi mountains, on June 21, 1946, at an altitude of 4300 ft. and a couple of hours later was prepared as a study skin. During the course of this preparation, its throat and crop were found to be packed with a mass of small brown beetles, 5/8 inches long, of the general appearance of fireflies. There were about 25 of the insects in all, none were dismembered and most of them were still alive and able to move slowly about. The Jay had doubtless found them all together and devoured them rapidly, either to prevent their escape, or in accordance with a normal habit of this species.

A. F. GANIER, Nashville 12, Tenn.

### THE GOOSE AND THE EAGLE

This whole story was made possible in the early days of Jan. 1959, when one of the hunters shooting from a blind on a fifteen acre peninsula which juts westward into Big Sandy embayment of Tennessee-Kentucky TVA lake in Benton county, Tenn., happened to break the right wing, at elbow joint, of a fine courageous, Canada goose. The goose was none-the-worse otherwise, and outran the eager hunter in a fair race to the waters edge, and made haste to swim to the exact center of the large open expanse, where it spent the entire day. This placed her about one fourth mile from the hunters in the blind, in plain view.

As the writer, and a friend were planning to occupy the blind next day, we were briefed on the location of the wounded fowl, which was over the line in the safety of the wildlife refuge. We could only look at it, and hope. So we made sure to take along a fine 15x65 binocular glass.

Now this was the day the winters worst cold-wave started, and as the dawn gave way to the light of a half sunny day, my hunting companion, Phil Carman, reached for the binoculars, to see if the goose was still there. Sure enough she was at exactly the same location, and what was more, the whole expanse of water was solidly frozen over, and thick, not a ripple. We believed she had been trapped by the freezing ice, but to our surprise a little later, we saw her stand up and walk about on the ice, in good condition, but still careful to stay in the middle region for safety. We marveled at the skill which permitted the goose to mount the ice as it froze over. We watched her almost constantly during the morning, and kept piling on the charcoal to keep the fire-bucket going, as it was really long-handle weather.

Then about eleven o'clock, it happened. We noticed one of the few Bald Eagles that winter in the region, lowering its flight pattern in the direction of the goose on the ice. We shuddered to think of what we were about to watch happen. The binoculars changed hands rapidly. The can of stew which had been heating on the fire bucket was forgotten. He's going in for the kill, said Phil, and sure enough the eagle lit on the ice five feet from the goose. Now this was not a fully mature eagle with white head and tail, but the wing-spread appeared to be well over seven feet. I understand that the transformation takes place at about three and a half or four years of age. Now with the eagle standing on the ice, we expected to see him advance and take on some dinner, but the betting odds changed, miss goose extended her neck menacingly and apparently hissing, charged (almost) into grips with the eagle, causing him to take fright and lean backward on his heels, stubbing his tail feathers onto the ice as a prop to prevent falling over backward. You could see that the goose knew something about that old 'addage' that a spirited attack is the best defense. We watched this sparring and bluffing for at least half an hour, with no contact being made. Finally the eagle decided on a change of strategy.

He took to the air and maneuvered out over the ice about fifty yards and wheeled back in a low flight straight over the goose, trying to lash out with a powerful stroke of the talons to the head, which was smart thinking, but quickly the goose flattened its neck and body on the ice, at the moment of the pass over, then quickly standing up to watch the surprised eagle turn back for another try. This was repeated eight times, and was quite a show. But the fact that the eagle had to have at least two feet of clearance above the ice in which to make wing strokes, and his short legs could not

reach the flattened goose, finally convinced the eagle that he had just better go on off into the western sky and forget the whole thing. He is most likely wiser and will some day wear the prime white feathers and proudly be our NATIONAL BIRD.

This goose reminded me of our hero, John Paul Jones, bless him. Creatures of nature are so interesting, and some of them surprise us with their bold courage.

C. L. BARKER, Camden.

EVENING GROSBEAK VISITANTS.—Records continue to come in on the unusual visitation of Evening Grosbeaks (*Hesperiphona vespertina*) to Tennessee following the severe and protracted snow and cold of February 1960. On Signal Mountain, near Chattanooga, Mrs. Claude R. Givens reported that a flock remained with her thruout March and that she fed them regularly on sunflower seed. At Pikeville, 40 miles north and at the head of the Sequatchie valley, Clyde McCollum had a flock of at least 30 from the middle of February into April. When not at his feeding shelves they were busy eating berries in the hackberry trees. At Waynesboro, southwest of Nashville and 20 miles north of the Alabama line, Mrs. James L. Harden observed a flock there early in March that remained into April. She reported them eating seed from the box-elder trees and said they were easily approached.

These and other scattered reports represent perhaps but a fraction of the flocks that were present in Tennessee last spring but which were unreported because of people not recognizing them as rarities.

ALBERT F. GANIER, Nashville 12, Tenn.

EVENING GROSBEAKS AT CHATTANOOGA.—The first report of this species that reached me indirectly was of one individual seen in December. Though interesting, this did not cause any great excitement because the bird was not seen a second time.

However, on January 22 our member, Miss Gladys Conner, telephoned to say that there were several Grosbeaks at her feeder. As the days passed the numbers increased, and practically all members of the chapter went to see these birds. Other members, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Prestridge, Mrs. A. C. Willingham, and Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Barr acquired feeding flocks on January 24, February 10, and February 15 respectively.

Mrs. Willingham banded 14 individuals, and on several occasions she saw an albino. Some of the flocks consisted of up to 100 birds. As usual, they fed heavily in the morning and then disappeared each day by early afternoon. All members were asked to follow up on reports of possible Grosbeaks that came to their attention. This resulted in bona fide reports of Grosbeaks at 7 locations on Signal Mountain, 2 on Lookout Mountain, 3 in the White Oak section of the city, and 1 flock in Ooltewah, a small town near Chattanooga. It is quite possible that the Signal Mountain birds moved about from one feeding site to another and didn't actually represent 6 distinct flocks.

Last dates for the area were May 3 in White Oak, May 7 on Lookout Mountain, and May 9 on Signal Mountain. This latter group fed until 5 p. m. on their last day.

MRS. E. M. WEST, 2914 Haywood Ave., Apt. 1-D, Chattanooga 5.

A SHORE BIRD EXPEDITION TO THE TENNESSEE RIVER.—On May 1, 1960, four Nashville members of the TOS, Henry Parmer, Dan Schrieber, Alan Munro, and John Ogden, spent the day at the Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge which is located in the river bottoms at the junction of the Tennessee and Duck rivers. The primary purpose of our trip was to look for migrating shore birds which might have been moving down the Tennessee Valley.

There was general disappointment that the water was so high resulting in an almost total absence of mud flats and open beaches. Most of the day was spent covering different parts of the refuge looking for suitable shore bird areas and during this time few shore birds were found. Finally late in the afternoon we decided to put Mr. Parmer's boat into the water that extended out over much of the large grassy river bottoms since this area could not be adequately studied from the roads. These bottoms had been partly burned over before water had risen into them and it was in these partially submerged burnt over areas that we began to find a fairly large number of shore birds. There were also other shore birds feeding in the shallow water back in the grass but I am sure we overlooked many of them because of the thickness and height of the grass which obstructed our visibility and because the water was too shallow for our boat to allow us to get into these areas.

The following are the shore birds that we did find and the numbers of each: Semipalmated Plover, 3; Killdeer, 4; Golden Plover, 1; Spotted Sandpiper, 2; Solitary Sandpiper, 2; Greater Yellowlegs, 10; Lesser Yellowlegs, 40; Pectoral Sandpiper, 9; White-rumped Sandpiper, 2 and Semipalmated Sandpiper, 4. The Golden Plover was in breeding plumage. The numbers given for the two species of Yellowlegs are estimates because these birds were spread through out the grassy river bottom.

Other interesting features of the trip were the large numbers of swallows of all species, the fact that we found five species of ducks that late in the spring, (Mallards, Black Ducks, Blue-winged Teals, Wood Ducks, and Lesser Scaups), and of course the usual large numbers of herons and egrets. The total number of species for the day was 68.

JOHN OGDEN, 515 Fairfax Avenue, Nashville 12.

WOOD DUCKS NEST IN TOWN.—Wood Ducks do not often nest a considerable distance from water and it would not be expected that they would nest within three blocks of the center of a city of 12,800 people. The fact that this happened this year at Dyersburg, Tenn., would seem worthy of record. In the rear of my home there is a deep and narrow tree-filled little valley lying midway between College and Phillips streets which are 500 feet apart. Both streets are completely built up with homes. On three or four occasions during the latter part of June I saw a Wood Duck fly out of this bit of woodland and judged she had found a nesting site in a cavity of one of the large trees. On the morning of June 27, the female and eight little ducklings were seen crossing College street and heading southward thru the high school grounds, presumably on the way to the Forked Deer river a mile away. There were five or six blocks of houses still to be passed but fortunately, rain was falling and most pedestrians were indoors so we hope they got thru without being molested.

ROGER GANIER, 300 College St., Dyersburg.



**BREWSTER'S WARBLER NEAR NASHVILLE.**—On the afternoon of April 17, 1960, Henry Parmer and I were at Two Jays, the Nashville chapter's sanctuary on the South Harpeth River bordering the Davidson, Cheatham County line. We were looking for new migrants as there had been much migrational activity and resulting new arrivals for the past three days. As we were leaving we ran into a little flock of migrants in the river bottom which made the trip a success. It contained several new arrivals including two which we were especially proud of finding due to the fact that they were somewhat earlier than normal. These two were the Rose-breasted Grosbeak and Wood Peewee. But by far the highlight of the little flock was a Brewster's Warbler (*Vermivora leucobronchialis*). We first saw it low in a tree in front of us. When I first saw it, I remarked that it was a Golden-winged Warbler but almost instantly after this the bird turned around and to my great surprise it had a clear white throat. The following markings were observed on the bird which I now quote from notes taken that day. The bird was, "similar to a Golden-winged Warbler except it had a clear white breast and underparts and only a thin black line through its eye. The only yellow was on its forehead and its wide wing bar. There appeared to be a slight greyish shading along the back of the auricular patch."

After Parmer and I got back to the car we compared our observations and both agreed that it was a Brewster's Warbler.

An interesting note was that the Brewster's was on the same limb with a Blue-winged Warbler and after we had watched them for a short time both birds flew off together in the same direction. They flew a fairly long distance and we were unable to find them again.

JOHN OGDEN, 515 Fairfax Avenue, Nashville 12.

**TRAILL'S FLYCATCHER.**—Late in June members of the Elizabethton Chapter of TOS searched the area in which Traill's Flycatchers had been found nesting the two previous seasons. Five nests were found. Some contained eggs, others young.

Kenneth Dubke had located singing birds of this species in Shady Valley and Laurel Bloomery, both in Johnson County, the latter near Mountain City. On July 3, Kenneth Dubke and the writer searched the Shady Valley location and found only one singing male. He appeared to be on territory but no nest could be found. We then went to the Laurel Bloomery area. There we found three nests in small willows and alder bushes along a small stream and quite close to the highway No. 91. One nest contained eggs, the second—newly hatched young and the third young birds almost ready to leave the nest. This constitutes the second nesting area for this species in East Tennessee, with a probable third in Shady Valley. The airline distance between the two known nesting areas is approximately 30 miles. The Shady Valley area is about 20 miles from the Elizabethton area and 12 miles from the Laurel Bloomery area. The latter two areas are at about 2300' elevation while the Elizabethton area is about 1500'.

Lee R. HERNDON, 1533 Burgie Place, Elizabethton.

## WHIP-POOR-WILL AND CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW CENSUS

CHATTANOOGA.—Along the top of Signal Mountain, down the mountain on the W. Road and back up on the Ochs Highway (State 58); June 2; 8:30 to 10:00 p. m.; total hours, 1.5; total miles, 21.5; total number of stops, 41; average distance between stops, 0.52 mi.

### Whip-poor-wills

Twenty-six whips\* heard at 17 stops, for an average of 1.53 whips per stop. (All whips were heard over a continuous stretch of 8.6 miles on or near top of mountain). Twenty-six whips heard in the 8.6 miles gives an average of 3.2 whips per mile.

All whips were heard between 1825 and 2200 ft. elevation. (An altimeter was used and it was possible to read it accurately within about 25 feet).

One whip was flushed from the side of the road at 2200 ft. Its small size made it obvious that it was a whip.

### Chuck-will's-widow

Eight chucks\*\* heard at 5 stops. All except one of these 5 stops were along the brow or edge of the Signal Mountain facing Chattanooga. It is believed that these 7 chucks were in and around Chattanooga, and not on the side of the mountain. Four chucks could be heard plainly at one time and could be located rather exactly by the sound of their voices.

The 8th chuck is the most interesting. It was heard at 1650 ft. on the mountain and along the road that produced all the whips. Following are the details of this particular record. At an elevation of 1950 ft. and a mileage reading of 90.2, 2 whips were heard. We then made a quick drop of 300 ft. in about 0.2 of a mile when we stopped and heard the chuck. Immediately, we started climbing again. We stopped at 1700 ft. (no voices), and at 1800 ft. (no voices). At 1900 ft. with the mileage reading 91.1, 2 whips were heard.

The mileage readings just given indicate that the chuck was between whips that were about 0.2 mi. on one side of him and 0.8 mi. in the opposite direction. The difference in elevation between this chuck and the nearest whips was only 250 ft.

It will also be noted that there was no overlap in elevation—all chucks being at 1650 feet or lower and all whips being at 1825 feet or higher.

Although a number of reports have reached me of whips being heard in the city of Chattanooga and surrounding area during the breeding season, I have been unable to confirm any of them.

June 21—Along Georgia State Highway 193, south of Chattanooga, with Lookout Mt. on the right; 8:25 to 9:35 p. m.: 1 1/6 hours; total miles, 16.6; total number of stops, 34; average distance between stops 0.49 mi.

This census was made because Ralph Bullard mentioned hearing chuck and whips toward the end of this stretch of road, but we heard no whips.

Thirty-five chucks were heard at 21 out of the 34 stops, for an average of almost exactly 1 chuck per stop. As many as 3 at once were heard at 2 stops; 2 at 10 stops; 1 at 9 stops; 0 at 13 stops.

The first chuck of the evening was flushed from the road at 8:25 p. m.

\*Short for Whip-poor-will

\*\*Short for Chuck-will's-widow

MR. AND MRS. E. M. WEST, 2914 Haywood Avenue, Apt. 1-D, Chattanooga 5.

Chuck-will's-widow—Near Chickamauga Creek in Chickamauga National Military Park, Georgia; Habitat, heavy woodland near Creek with nearby open farm fields; May 21; Weather—clear, warm, 72°; Time, 50 minutes; Distance travelled, 6.3 mi.; Elevation, 7-800'; Birds, 11 individuals calling.

ROCK COMSTOCK, 1000 South Crest Road, Chattanooga 4.

KNOXVILLE.—McKamey Road, Amherst Community, N. W. central Knox County; May 27; 9:15 p. m.; partly cloudy, thin crescent moon, about 61°; too dark to see the terrain; 2 chucks heard simultaneously.

Heiskel Road and Raccoon Valley, Northern Knox County; June 2, 8:25 to 9:30 p. m.; partly cloudy—clouded over and rained in Ft. City-Knoxville, on way home from 9:50 on; Half moon, about 66°; Stopped at about ½ mile intervals; 4-5 miles; 9 chucks; 3 in or near Bull Run Creek Valley fields and 6 along Raccoon Valley, narrow, between wooded ridges and some fields.

Seiverville Pike, Bay's Mountain Road, Kimberlin Heights Road, Hendron Chapel Road, south Knox County; June 9; 7:45 to 9:30 p. m.; total miles 9; fair, haze around horizon, moonrise, 8:04 p. m. (full) moon first seen over Bay's mountain; 8:57 p. m., 70 to 72°; wind 0-5 mph. 15 chucks heard.

Nubbin Ridge Road, Ebenezer Road, Gleason Road and Gallagher Road, west Knox County; June 10; 8:05 to 9:10 p. m.; total miles, 7; partly cloudy, moonrise 9:06 p. m.; 77°; wind 0-10 mph; 10 chucks heard, 8 on Nubbin Ridge and 2 on Ebenezer.

Nubbin Ridge, Morrell Road, Redsaille Drive, west and central Knox County; June 10; 8:05 to 9:10 p. m.; partly cloudy, 72°, wind 0-1 mph; total miles, 6 by car; no birds heard.

JOHN AND ELIZABETH ELSON, Knoxville

CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW—For several years we have been listening to the call of the Chuck-will's-widow during the months of May, June and the early part of July; but we were never able to see one. T. Gilbert Pearson has said that they are often heard but seldom seen.

Good fortune came our way on June 23, 1960. It was reported to me that a Chucker's nest had been found on the property of Mr. E. D. Cox. I visited the nest and to my delight it was a Chuck-will's-widow. The location was approximately four and one half miles east of Bluff City, Sullivan County, Tennessee. The nest was at an elevation of approximately 1600 feet on the south side of a wooded knob section about 100 yards from South Holston River and approximately 100 feet above the river. The nest was situated between a Hickory tree and a Pine tree. The foliage was sparse enough so that some sunlight was on the nest at various times during the day. The so-called nest was composed of a few pine needles and one big red oak leaf just as they had fallen from the trees.

When the nest was first visited on June 23, one egg had already hatched. Half of the shell was there which contained some fresh blood indicating that the young bird was only minutes old. On June 24 the second and last egg hatched at about the same time of day as the first one. The eggs were 1 7/8 inches long by 1 inch in diameter, pinkish white, blotched, marbled and spotted with pale buff and brown. The young birds were about the size of a small newly hatched bantam chicken. The Chuck-will's young are covered with down, a rich honey brown color.

Mr. E. H. Dickey, Mr. E. C. King of Bristol, Va.-Tenn. and Dr. Lee R. Herndon of Elizabethton, Tenn. made pictures of the birds at various stages of their development. This is a difficult task even for a professional photographer. The birds, young and old, were so well camouflaged that you could not see them on the ground until your eyes had become adjusted to the surroundings. They were even hard to locate when a marker was placed near the nest.

Due to our frequent visits to the nest the mother moved her young on July 3. Dr. Herndon returned July 4, for further study. It was then that we discovered the birds had been moved. The search was on and soon they were located 35 steps down the hillside to a more secluded spot. At the suggestion of Dr. Herndon an inclosure made from small-mesh poultry wire was placed around the nest so we could observe them longer. When visiting the nest, the mother bird would try to lure us away by flying a short distance, perch horizontally on a limb or on the ground and with a queer cluck cluck in a low, monotone, guttural voice try to divert our attention. If we would follow she would move on a little farther. July 11 Mr. Dickey made more pictures and measured the wing spread of the young birds. It was fourteen inches. That same day they flew away from their troublesome nesting place. Just fourteen days after hatching.

H. W. NUNLEY, Route 3, Bluff City.

---

#### NIGHTHAWK CENSUS

While driving to and through the downtown section of Chattanooga enroute to the chuck census area, on June 21, we decided to count Nighthawks.

Eight were seen and heard between the Tenn. river and 11st St. (11 blocks). Three were seen between 11th St. and the foot of Lookout Mt., approx. 2 miles. One was heard in the chuck census area.

MR. AND MRS. E. M. WEST.

---

#### ADDITIONS TO THE CHATTANOOGA AREA LIST

**WHITE IBIS.**—An immature of this species was found on 8-15-60 at Spring Creek by Mrs. Hugh Crownover and has been seen by members of her family, Benton Basham, and others. This is the first record for Hamilton County and the fifth for Tennessee. It is still present as of 8-20-60.

**SNOWY EGRET.**—During the past 6 years several white herons have been seen that were suspected of being Snowy Egrets; however, it was not until 7-30-60 that a positive identification was made by Adele and Gene West of one individual at Spring Creek. It was seen the next day, and within a few days, two were observed by other members of the chapter.

**STILT SANDPIPER.**—Three of this species were seen on 8-14-60 at the Long Savannah mud flats by the Wests and on the following day Benton Basham saw one. The 14th was a productive day with 8 species of shorebirds, of which a flock of Dowitchers was the next most noteworthy species. Both the Dowitchers and the Stilt Sandpipers arrived while we watched other varieties. Considerable time was spent with a 20X telescope making sure of these 3 birds which were a "lifer" for the Wests. It was also fortunate that a yellowlegs and other varieties were available for purposes of comparison. A prior record on 9-22-57 at another location has been considered doubtful and was therefore never reported officially.

**WESTERN SANDPIPER.**—This is another species we have been reluctant to report because of the identification problems. However, on 5-21-60, 3 of these were found by the Wests with Semipalmated Sandpipers at a very unlikely spot near Shellmound, Tenn. They were also seen by others at Spring Creek on 5-22 and 23, and have already returned as of August 2.

MRS. E. M. WEST, 5511 Dayton Blvd., Chattanooga 5.

**CONNECTICUT WARBLER.**—On May 17, 1960, this warbler was among the migrants in Chickamauga National Military Park—the first known record for this species in the Chattanooga area. It was seen in late morning on a sunny day, under perfect conditions. I crossed a flat, cultivated farm field and approached a heavily wooded area bordering the field. Not only was the forest one of many large trees, but the edging in front of me was a thick undergrowth which virtually hid the forest interior. At a point less than 20 feet from the border, through a small sunlit opening in the foliage, a bird flitted into the light. It stopped where its field marks could be clearly seen—gray head and neck sharply defined from the yellow underparts, and a very clear white eye ring. With 7x50 binoculars, each field mark stood out. Then, in what seemed little more than a moment, the bird disappeared into the dense thicket, not to be seen again.

A note in Bent's *Life Histories of North American Warblers* reports that in migration it "keeps in the shelter of low brush and thick undergrowth" and that it rarely ventures more than a few feet above the ground. This individual was seen no more than 4 feet from the ground and in the proper habitat.

ROCK L. COMSTOCK, JR., 1624 Rugby Pl., Chattanooga 11, Tenn.

## CAMPUS BIRD COUNT

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, Knoxville.—May 15, 1960; 6:30 a. m. to 3:30 p. m. EST; 50 to 80°, fair, wind, 5-15 m.p.h.; 650 acres—lawns with trees and buildings, 20%; woods and edges, 35%; farmland 25%; orchards, 10%; athletic field, 5% and water 5%. The following list of birds was tabulated: Green Heron, 4; Bobwhite, 6; Rock Dove, 31; Mourning Dove, 40; Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 2; Nighthawk, 1; Chimney Swift, 17; Flicker, 1; Pileated Woodpecker, 1; Red-headed Woodpecker, 3; Wood Pewee, 1; Rough-winged Swallow, 3; Purple Martin, 3; Blue Jay, 15; Common Crow, 6; Carolina Chickadee, 7; Tufted Titmouse, 6; Carolina Wren, 4; Mockingbird, 27; Catbird, 2; Robin, 3; Wood Thrush, 5; Swainson's Thrush, 2 (1 singing); Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 15; Cedar Waxwing, 9; Starling, 70; White-eyed Vireo, 3; Red-eyed Vireo, 11.

Yellow Warbler, 8; Chestnut-sided Warbler, 2; Bay-breasted Warbler, 2; Blackpoll Warbler, 3; Yellowthroat, 2; Yellow-breasted Chat, 7; Canada Warbler, 5; American Redstart, 5; House Sparrow, 7; Eastern Meadowlark, 6; Redwinged Blackbird, 6; Common Grackle, 24; Brown-headed Cowbird, 8; Scarlet Tanager, 2; Summer Tanager, 5; Cardinal, 10; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, 5; Indigo Bunting, 5; American Goldfinch, 4; Rufus-sided Towhee, 8; Chipping Sparrow, 4; Field Sparrow, 5 and Song Sparrow, 6. TOTAL, 51 species, 437 individuals.

Other Wildlife: Mammals, Gray Squirrel, 5; Chipmunk, 3.

Observers: John Elson, David Highbaugh, Paul Pardue, Mr. and Mrs. George Wood, all of Knoxville chapter TOS.

Headquarters for  
**BIRD-ATTRACTING DEVICES**

**BIRD HOUSES — FEEDERS — FOUNTAINS**

**SUNFLOWER SEED**

**SCARLETT'S MIXED BIRD SEED**

Hummingbird Feeders .....	\$1.95
Audubon Bird Calls .....	\$1.50
A Field Guide To The Birds (Peterson) .....	\$3.75
BIRDS, A Guide To The Most Familiar Birds .....	\$1.00

**PETS OF ALL KINDS AND BOOKS ON THEIR CARE**

**TROPICAL FISH AND AQUARIUMS**

**JONES PET SHOP**

**2 LOCATIONS**

1812 21st Ave., So., Nashville (12) Tenn. — Phone CYpress 1-2380  
Madison Square Shopping Center, Madison, Tenn. Phone TWilight 5-5136

**BINOCULARS ARE OUR BUSINESS**

Grade A Japanese from \$59.50. Our experts  
have adapted 6 models for close-focusing, down to  
10 feet!



5 Mirakel Special models, 100% coated, from \$29.50 to \$39.50.

Spotting scopes from \$54.50, with built-in tripod adapter &  
shoulder strap. 20x wide angle eyepiece, accessories, etc.

**FREE SERVICE GUARANTEE on all instruments—**

**30 DAY TRIAL PERIOD.**

Send for our catalog, plus reprints of binocular articles we have  
written for Audubon Magazine — free to Bird Club Members.  
Write us about your binocular problems — we answer questions.

**MIRAKEL OPTICAL CO., Inc.**  
Mount Vernon 20, N. Y.

*The Reicherts*

# *DURY'S*

**FIELD GLASSES**

**STERO PRISM BINOCULARS**

**STERO CAMERAS**

**KODAKS**

**CINE KODAKS**

**MOTION PICTURE EQUIPMENT**

**ARTIST'S SUPPLIES**

**DRAWING MATERIALS**

**EXPERT DEVELOPING, PRINTING**

**ENLARGING**



**Write for New Photographic Catalogue**

**GEO. C. DURY CO.**

**420 UNION STREET — NASHVILLE, TENN.**

**and**

**GREEN HILLS VILLAGE**