

15 (A.O.S.); yet 1 on Dauphin May 18 (JLD) was latest by 1 day for the Alabama coastal plain.

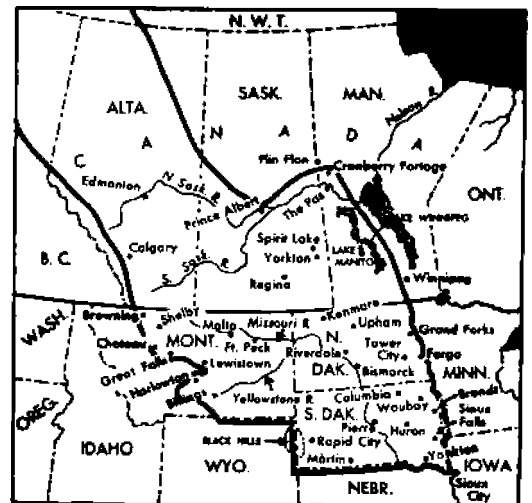
FINCHES—Late Rose-breasted Grosbeaks on the coast included 1 on Dauphin May 18 (JLD) and 1 at Gulf Breeze May 19 (R & LD). A young ♂ Black-headed Grosbeak was at a Smyer Lake feeder, 20 miles s. of Birmingham Jan. 20–Feb. 24, Mar. 12 & 13 (LOD, HHW & mob) and is the second inland Alabama winter record, first n. of the Fall Line. Early Blue Grosbeaks were on Dauphin Mar. 20 (JLD, B, L, & JD) and in Woodbury, Tenn. Apr. 21, 2 (FBr). Several early Indigo Buntings were in New Orleans Mar. 17 (RDP). Dickcissels flooded the Cameron area with hundreds of birds Apr. 24 (JCK) who remembers one tree with about 250 birds singing—The very erratic Red Crossbill, which seems to breed and migrate independently of season or other finches, was the only really northern finch reported this year; 3 at Lake Georgia-Pacific, Ark. Jan. 16 (KLS & JJB), 2nd local record. Two late Savannah Sparrows were at Pine Bluff May 20 (TLF & JES), the latest Arkansas record by 5 days. Two pairs of Grasshopper Sparrows in Natchitoches Par. Apr. 28 & 29 (RBH) and 2 pair in Caddo Par. May 15 (HHJ & RJN) were probably breeding. Late Sharp-tailed Sparrows were at Destin May 18 (H & AG) and near Nashville May 19 (FJA). After the invasion of 130+ Tree Sparrows in Nashville in mid-February (MLB), one remained to Apr. 24, nearly a month the latest (Mrs. GRM). Clay-colored Sparrows were in Cameron Par.; 2 Apr. 24 (JCK); 2 May 8 (RJS, HDP, RJN); with 1 there on Mar. 28, 1970 (RJN & RJS) these were the only ones reported in Louisiana since 1967; 2 very late ones were in Little Rock May 16 (I & JR), latest state record by 16 days. A Song Sparrow in Birmingham May 8 (RDK) and a singing ♂ miles away June 6 were late (TAI & JMI).

CONTRIBUTORS (sectional editors' names in bold-face)—Alabama Ornithological Society, C. R. Allor, Fred J. Alsop, Robert S. Arbib, Jr., Lois P. Archer, Thomas Z. Atkeson, Birmingham Audubon Society, J. Russell Bailey, Joyce Baxter, B. W. Beall, Michael L. Bierly, Ray Block, James Boswell, Jimmie J. Brown, Frances Bryson, R. H. Chabreck, P. Fairly Chandler, Lloyd & Helen Clayton, **Ben B. Coffey**, Walter F. Coxe, Wm. Crews, Bruce Crider, C. J. Cucullu, James R. Davis, W. Marvin Davis, Bill, Leo, & Joe Denton, Lee Ola Dewberry, Rev. J. L. Dorn, SJ, Robt. & Lucy Duncan, A. B. Ensminger, Thomas L. Foti, Dr. & Mrs. W. G. Fuqua, E. E. Furnans, Shirley Gade, Mary A. Gaillard, Harold & Agnes Gaither, Carolyn R. Garrett, Rosemary D. Gaymer, Corinne Glaze, J. W. Goertz, Lyman E. Goodnight, Gary R. Graves, Edith M. & Henry N. Halberg, Robert B. Hamilton, Earl L. Hanebrink, R. E. (Tuck) Hayward, Jewel E. & Joe B. Herring, Roy T. Hinds, Wick Holliday, Dan C. Holliman, Mike Hopiak, Ruth R. Horsley,

Thomas A., Dorothy J., Gina M. & John M. Imhof, Atha & Ross Jamison, Horace H. Jeter, Chas. J. Kahn, D. T. Kee, Joe C. Kennedy, Curtis L. Kingsbery, Helen H. & Ronald D. Kittinger, Louisiana Ornithological Society, J. C. Leak, Mary E. Lewis, J. Liles, Bob Lilley, Donald R. Linder, Marie P. Locke, George H. Lowery, Jim Maenders, Roger Maner, Don & Gina Manning, James Manning, (RMgr) Refuge Manager, Mary Lou Mattis, Eddie B. Mays, Mobile Bird Club, Ann L. Miller, Mrs. George R. Miller, Margaret E. Miller, Burt L. Monroe, Jr., B. Mac Myers, Museum of Zoology, L.S.U., Dorothy D. Newburn, Marcella H. & **Robert J. Newman**, John D. Newson, Donnie Norman, Gladys Northcutt, Northeast Louisiana University, Vertebrate Museum (N.L.U.), L. P. O'Mealie, Angelo W. Palmisano, Helen & Max Parker, **Henry E. Parmer**, Alice W. Patterson, H. Douglas Pratt, Robert D. Purrington, Robert R. Reid, Iola & John Rhea, Heather & John N. Riggins, A. N. Robinson, Wm. Roloph, James W. Shepherd, K. Luvois Shugart, Mrs. Sam Smith, Jim & Genevieve Spafford, Ronald J. Stein, Jane E. Stern, Mrs. W. G. Stone, G. T. Strickland, Percy L. Thigpen, James C. Thompson, Lib. R. Toenes, J. C. Tolleson, C. Tim & Faith C. Traylor, **William H. Turcotte**, Mr. & Mrs. M. G. Vaiden, Jacob M. Valentine, Charles Viers, Wilson Ornithological Society, Lawrence H. Walkinshaw, Maleta Wernicke, D. H. White, Lee & Wiley Wilkinson, Ken Williams, Mary C. Wood, Betty L. Worley, H. Wright.—**THOMAS A. IMHOF**, 1036 Pike Road, Birmingham, Ala. 35218.

NORTHERN GREAT PLAINS REGION / C. Stuart Houston

Most of the region experienced warm, dry weather in April and May, although Montana and w. South Dakota tended to be wetter and



cooler. A heavy winter snowfall provided good spring runoff in most areas.

PELICANS—White Pelicans were absent from all five Alberta and from 17 of 24 Saskatchewan localities, including absence from Sheho and Grenfell for the first time; 350 were counted at Indian Head Apr. 15.

HERONS—Green Herons were reported from Richer (Apr. 25, dead, SM) and Sandy Hook, Man. (no date—GG), Slade Refuge at Dawson May 27 (MM), Sullys Hill Preserve at Fort Totten May 28-31 (DEG), Tewaukon Refuge at Cayuga Apr. 26 through May (EAA), and Fargo, N.D. May 24 (EGA). Two Cattle Egrets were with Black-crowned Night Herons May 31 at Sullys Hill Preserve (DEG). Com. Egrets were reported from St. Francois Xavier, Man. Apr. 18 (GIK), from w. of Grand Forks May 28 (FFK), e. of Bismarck Apr. 22 (JCS), Tewaukon Refuge Apr. 24-29 (HGT) and Long Lake Refuge, Moffit, N.D. Apr. 19-26 (RLW). One Snowy Egret was seen at Audubon Refuge, Coleharbor Apr. 29 (DCM) and another at Slade Refuge, N.D. May 3 (BEB). A Yellow-crowned Night Heron at Sioux Falls, S.D. May 11 (HK) and up to 4 White-faced Ibis at Benton Lake Refuge, Great Falls, Mont. May 12-31 (OHV) were noteworthy.

SWAN, GEESE—There were over 12,000 Whistling Swans on ice-filled Freezeout L., Teton Co., Mont. Apr. 1 (LMM). The first 25 swans arrived at Regina, Sask. Apr. 10, with 300 Apr. 12, 1000 Apr. 20 and another 500 passing overhead in two hours before sunset May 1. At Rose-town, Sask., above-average flocks of geese included 1020 Canadas Apr. 7 and 1420 Apr. 14, with over 2000 Snows Apr. 13 and up to 20 Ross' Geese Apr. 7-23. There were 6000-8000 Snows n.w. of Winnipeg May 6 and 350 Snows with 50 Blues at Grenfell, Sask. May 11. These numbers were dwarfed by the 100,000 Snow Geese on Freezeout L., Mont. Apr. 1. The first confirmed spring records of Ross' Goose for the Saskatoon area were of 5 near Radisson May 16-17 and 1 near Laura May 22 (JBG, JAW).

GARGANEY—A ♂ of this distinctive teal-like Eurasian species was discovered and identified May 23 by Rudolf Hoes, an ornithologist from Holland, in a marsh near St. Ambrose at the south end of Lake Manitoba. Identification was confirmed by Herb Copland and Dr. R. W. Nero of Winnipeg and Vere Scott obtained black-and-white and color photographs. The Garganey was accompanying a pair of Blue-winged Teal and charging the ♂. The Garganey is not listed in the A.O.U. Check-List and there is only one previous Canadian sight record from Two Hills, Alta. June 24-26, 1961 (Sugden, L.G.: Blue Jay 21: 4-5, 1963). After the 1961 sighting, Dr. Sugden, a waterfowl biologist with the Canadian Wildlife Service, checked with zoos across the continent; while a number in the west had Garganeys, none were missing. The 1961 and 1971

birds may both have been stragglers from Europe or Asia, although it is difficult to disprove the possibility of a zoo escape.



Garganey drake, St. Ambrose, Manitoba, May 23, 1971. Photo by Vere H. Scott.

OTHER DUCKS—Northerly records for the Cinnamon Teal were of ♂♂ at Manawan L., Morinville Alta. May 30 (GG) and w. of Kindersley May 9 (CSH). There were 2 pairs of Wood Ducks on the Assiniboine R. in Winnipeg Apr. 15 (NL), 5 at Lockport, Man. Apr. 13 (CS) and another w. of Dickinson N.D. on May 21 (WGM). There were 25,000-50,000 Mallards at Rowletta, Sask. on April 7-8 and 1000 Pintails at Indian Head on April 10. Other peak numbers included 460 Green-winged Teal at Benton Lake Refuge, Mont. May 6, 100 Ring-necked Ducks at Grand Forks Apr. 11, 900 Redheads, 1000 Ruddy Ducks and 400 Com. Mergansers at Tewaukon Refuge in April, and 150 Buffleheads at Sioux Falls. Apr. 6. A large shallow body of spring runoff water near Argyle, Man. had an unprecedented 17,000 Com. Goldeneye Apr. 15 (DP, RW).

HAWKS, EAGLES—Several Saskatchewan localities reported the largest Red-tailed Hawk migrations ever: at Indian Head, there were 32 Apr. 1, 150 on the 8th and 120 on the 17th; at Fort Qu'Appelle, there were 100 per hour from 1.30 to 4.30 p.m. on the 6th with continued heavy migrations on the 7th and 9th; at Yorkton, a "mass migration" beginning on the 7th; at Kenaston, 24 on the 9th; at Saskatoon, nearly 200 on the 12th. In Manitoba, there were 32 Red-tails over Winnipeg on Apr. 6, 65 on the 7th and over 140

on the 9th. A Harlan's Hawk was seen Apr. 6 s.e. of Jamestown, N.D. (PFS).

Forty Bald Eagles, the highest number ever, passed over Saskatoon, with 9 Apr. 8 and 22 Apr. 9. Nine of the latter were clumped between 6.30 and 7.05 a.m. and may have roosted south of the city. All falcons other than the Sparrow Hawk were sparsely reported, with Prairie Falcons from 4, Peregrines from 5 and Pigeon Hawks from only 10 of 57 localities.

CRANES, COOT—Whooping Cranes were reported only from Saskatchewan: 3 flying low over Moose Jaw Apr. 6 (LEM), 3 near Vanscoy Apr. 20 (DWA) and 8 at Rosetown May 11 (DHR). The major Sandhill Crane movements were as follows: 400 Apr. 9 at Upper Souris Refuge at Foxholm and 1000 Apr. 12 at Audubon Refuge, Coleharbor, a 4-day flight at Moose Jaw with 3000 in 2 hours Apr. 8-11; 1000 in 8 flocks Apr. 10 and 1200 on Apr. 17 at Indian Head; 7 flocks totalling 1750 Apr. 10 at Regina; 630 Apr. 12 at Saskatoon; 4468 Apr. 13 at Rosetown. While Am. Coots were "less numerous" at Sioux Falls, they were either "abundant" or "increased" at Stettler and Lethbridge, Alta. and Kelvington, Sheho, Yorkton, Regina, Moose Jaw and Wolseley, Sask.

PLOVERS, WOODCOCK, SANDPIPERS—The only sighting of the Mountain Plover was in a prairie dog town near Big Sandy, Mont. May 1 (LMM). Peak numbers of Am. Golden Plover were 130 at Grand Forks, N.D. May 18, 470 at Saskatoon May 15 and 100 at Yellow Creek, Sask. May 22. A singing ♂ at Jamestown Apr. 29-May 4 was the only report of a Woodcock (RES). Long-billed Curlews were in a good numbers at the northern edge of their range, with 10 at Saskatoon on May 8 (JAW) and 7 near Rosetown on Apr. 26 (DHR). P.D. Skaar had a banner day of shore-bird watching May 15 at the Bowdoin Refuge, Malta Mont., including a **Whimbrel**, the third record for the refuge, 45 Knots, the sixth record for Montana, and a Dunlin, the first for the refuge. Dunlins were reported from 8 and Knots from 3 other localities in the region. A W. Sandpiper was identified at Aberdeen, S.D. May 19 (LRL). Buff-breasted Sandpipers were recorded as follows: 2 at Bismarck May 19 and 1 at Lehr, N.D. May 20; 20 at Broadview May 21, the second record for the Qu'Appelle area (DW, DC), and 50 at Saskatoon May 22; 7 at Tofield, Alta. May 24. Hudsonian Godwits were reported from 11 localities, including 60 near Cleveland, N.D. May 15 (RES).

STILT, PHALAROPES—A sight record of the **Black-necked Stilt** at Rosetown May 7 under good conditions, although without binoculars, is the second hypothetical record for the province (DHR). On May 22, there were 5000 Northern Phalaropes on Goose L. near Laura, Sask. Wilson's Phalaropes were reported in unusually large concentrations with 250 at Sioux Falls May

8, up to 400 near Rapid City Apr. 29-May 11, several hundred at LaMoore, N.D. May 1, 3000 at Bowdoin Refuge and several thousand at Benton Lake Refuge Mont. May 15.

GULL, TERN—A **Glaucous Gull** was seen and photographed 15 miles e. of Bismarck Apr. 6-7 (JCS, BJR) and another was seen at a garbage dump at Stonewall, Man. May 23 (KG). Two **Least Terns** were sighted on the Missouri R. s. of Bismarck May 29 (RNR).

CUCKOO—Black-billed Cuckoos were scarce throughout the region, with many observers commenting on their complete absence; the six localities reporting them included early dates of May 22 at Indian Head and May 24 at Sheho. As in the past, we expect their resurgence with the next invasion of tent caterpillars.

OWLS—Late dates for Snowy Owls this year were for 1 at Regina Apr. 4 and 2 at Long Lake Refuge, Moffit, N.D. Apr. 17. Burrowing Owls continued their slow decline of recent years, with none reported from Lethbridge, Alta. or Saskatoon and only one from Rosetown. With declining numbers of mice, there has been a corresponding decrease in the numbers of Long-eared, Short-eared and Saw-whet Owls from their peak numbers of 1969. Observers in the aspen parkland belt of Saskatchewan, with the exception of Saskatoon with 10 sightings, reported only one or no sightings of Short-eared Owls this year; they were common in the open prairie country west of Rosetown, and 8 were seen at Moose Jaw April 18. Saw-whet Owls were absent at Stettler, Alta. and Saskatoon, with only 1 each at Rosetown and Spirit Lake, Sask.; they were also reported from LaMoore and Buchanan N.D. and 1 was found dead at Jamestown Apr. 17.

GOATSUCKERS, SWIFTS—Whip-poor-wills were reported from Roberts Co. May 8 and Deuel Co., S.D. May 12 (BKH); from Jamestown May 6 (CWD); and from E. Braintree May 6 (RRT), Seven Sisters May 9 (HWRC) and Bird's Hill, Man. May 12 (WCH). The only records of Poor-wills were from Pennington Co., S.D. May 21 & 26 (NRW). Chimney Swifts arrived at Sioux Falls May 6, at Fargo and Grand Forks May 10, at Gilby May 12, at Bismarck May 16 and at Winnipeg, Man. May 21. The White-throated Swift near Rapid City May 1 was early (NRW).

FLYCATCHERS—A Great Crested Flycatcher s. of Rapid City May 16 was evidently a new species for the area (HJ, fide NRW); the species arrived at Walhalla May 29 and Gilby, N.D. May 29; and at Yorkton May 24, Naicam May 29 and Sheho May 31. Say's Phoebes arrived in above-average numbers at the northern edge of their range May 2, with 2 at Saskatoon and 4 at Rosetown; a sighting 10 miles w. of Sioux Falls Apr. 16 appears to be the furthest east record for the state (HK, GB).

CORVIDS, WRENS—A Com. Raven was carefully observed at Sullys Hill Preserve Apr. 3-5

(DEG). The major migration of the Com. Crow was in the first ten days of April over Montana and Saskatchewan: near Great Falls Apr. 10, 100 crows; at Raymore, Apr. 1-5 with over 735 on the latter date; at Regina, Apr. 6-8; at Indian Head, Apr. 7, 1000 crows; at Saskatoon, Apr. 8-9, with over 500 flying northwest in two hours. A Clark's Nutcracker at Belfield, N.D. May 29 was the third seen there since 1964 (ES). A House Wren date of Apr. 22 at Jamestown was early. A Winter Wren was banded at Rapid City May 5 (NRW). A number of observers commented that nuthatches, creepers and marsh wrens were uncommon or not seen at all.

MIMIDS, THRUSHES—Mockingbirds were sighted at Sioux Falls Apr. 16 (HK) near Bowman May 15 (JO), at Jamestown May 11-15 (LCH) and at Audubon Refuge, Coleharbor, May 8, the first record for the refuge (DCM). The first Robins in Saskatchewan as usual were irregular and in small numbers, often taking up territory on arrival, with major movements of more northern birds coming later. At Kelvington there were 50 Robins Apr. 10, but at Regina the big wave was on Apr. 17, at Grenfell Apr. 18, Fort Qu'Appelle Apr. 21-23 and Saskatoon Apr. 21, when 110 were seen flying across the river. In Manitoba, the wave occurred on Apr. 18, with 600 Robins in Brandon and nearly 1000 on the lawns of Assiniboine Park, Winnipeg on the rainy evening. In North Dakota, a Wood Thrush was observed carefully May 15, 7 miles e. of Hannaford (RLN) and another was studied May 21 & May 26 at Fargo. (MSc).

GNATCATCHER, WAXWINGS, SHRIKES, STARLING—A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was seen May 2 at Gilby (MGT). A late flock of 2500 Bohemian Waxwings was still present at Saskatoon Apr. 12, with the last sighting Apr. 30. Many localities, including Saskatoon and Moose Jaw, Sask., Oak Lake, Man. and Dickinson, Jamestown and Fargo, N.D., could give no spring arrival date for the Cedar Waxwing since they had been present all winter and spring. At Jamestown the last N. Shrike was seen Mar. 30 and the first Loggerhead Shrike Apr. 4; in Saskatoon this spread between the two species was Apr. 10 to 24 and at Rosetown it was Apr. 4 to 27. In Saskatchewan, a very few Starlings remain over winter, while most migrate, many to the orchards in Oregon. Spring arrival movements of Starlings were Mar. 29 at Kenaston, Apr. 1-4 at Raymore, Apr. 4 at Mortlach (1000 birds), Apr. 6 at Spirit Lake and Apr. 13 at Saskatoon.

VIREOS—A White-eyed Vireo was observed for 20 minutes at Bismarck May 19 and its song recorded two days later (RNR). A Bell's Vireo was seen May 6 at Aberdeen (LRL). Yellow-throated Vireos were sighted at Fargo May 18 (EGA) and Grand Forks May 25 (FFK). An unusual number of Philadelphia Vireos were reported: May 12 at Sioux Falls and May 17 at Aberdeen; May 17 at Gilby, May 23 at Sullys

Hill, 6 at Grand Forks May 10 and 11 reports from Fargo May 10-29; May 12 and May 21-22 at Regina and May 24 at Yorkton.

WARBLERS—The main warbler movement arrived simultaneously across almost the entire region. At Sioux Falls, Tennessee Warblers peaked on May 23 when 22 species were seen. At Sullys Hill Preserve, the movement was on May 21-22-23, at Belfield they arrived on the cloudy day of May 22 after a night of rain, and at Kenmare they arrived in the rain on May 22. The following day, May 23, there were inexplicably 100 warblers of 6 species and a few thrushes, including 70 Tennessee Warblers, lying dead in a 100 ft. square churchyard at Stanley, N.D. (RWW, fide AMG). At Brandon, Man. the wave arrived May 22, at Saskatoon May 21 and at Regina 9 new warblers arrivals were seen May 21. Tennessee Warblers were the predominant species at the above locations; several species of thrushes accompanied them. At Saskatoon, the evening of May 21 also marked the exodus of Myrtle Warblers and most thrushes. At Fargo, there was an excellent but apparently more spread-out migration, including a Golden-winged Warbler May 21, a Parula May 25, a Black-throated Blue May 31, 7 reports of Black-throated Green, 5 reports of Blackburnian, 6 reports of Bay-breasted and 9 sightings of Connecticut Warblers!

A Golden-winged Warbler was seen at Aberdeen on May 25 (LRL) and another at the State Capitol grounds in Bismarck May 25 (WAB, NC). A Yellow Warbler at Saskatoon May 4 was a record early date. A Black-throated Blue was noted May 16 at Pickerel L., Day Co., S.D. (HK), an Audubon's near Great Falls May 14 (OHV) and a Cerulean Warbler April 27 at Aberdeen (LRL). A Blackburnian May 22 and a Canada Warbler May 23 were new species for the Sullys Hill Preserve (PFS). A Blackburnian May 26 and a Bay-breasted Warbler studied closely May 22 appear to be first records for the Black Hills (ES). A Prairie Warbler was reported from Aberdeen, May 22 (LRL).

TANAGER—A Scarlet Tanager May 22-23 was the first record for the Black Hills (LMB), while others were sighted near Marquette May 25 (BT) and at Stony Mountain, Man. May 28 (TS).

FRINGILLIDS—A Rose-breasted Grosbeak at Bowdoin Refuge, Malta, Mont. was the tenth record for the state (PDS). A male Lazuli Bunting was singing on territory at Fort Qu'Appelle, in the same coulee occupied by an Indigo Bunting a few years ago (EMC); this is the area where the two "species" meet. A Lazuli Bunting was noted in Regina May 28 (AB). A Dickcissel was seen May 9 at Morse (M.J.N.H.S.) and another at Rosetown Apr. 16 (DHR). Pine Siskins were reported as totally absent at most localities, though a few were seen at Grand Forks in early May, 2 at Jamestown April 14, 1 at Saskatoon Apr. 9, and 1 at Fort Qu'Appelle May 12. This



ED BRY, although he has photographed 105 species of birds, all in North Dakota, is another of those expert photographers who do not specialize in birds. All nature is his field, with an emphasis perhaps on conservation, since one of his roles is Editor of "North Dakota Outdoors," the magazine of the state Game and Fish Department. Ed Bry has been taking photographs for 32 years, winning awards with them, and seeing them published, as well as in his own magazine, in such journals as AUDUBON. His cameras are both 35 mm single lens reflex: the Yashica and the Nikon. He uses a 200 mm Komura, a 135 mm Lentar telephoto, and normal lenses. Approaching and photographing birds and nests is often aided by a blind. Films used include Plus-X and Ektachrome High Speed. Ed does his own black and white darkroom work.

The Sharp-tailed Grouse was photographed at McKenzie, Burleigh County, North Dakota in April, 1969. The Yashica camera, equipped with 200 mm Komura telephoto, was used. Film: Plus X. Exposure was 1/500 second at f: 11. The photograph was taken from a blind on the courtship ground.



THASE DANIEL, who is the author of the helpful article on the use of blinds in bird photography on p. 694, has been a bird photographer for 20 of the 25 years she has been peering through viewfinders. Her interest in photographing birds has taken her around the world: to Africa, Antarctica, New Zealand, South America, the South Seas, and throughout the United States. Her photographs have illustrated many books and magazines: *Our Amazing World of Nature* books, *Wild Sanctuaries*, *The Living World of Nature* books; *AUDUBON* and other magazines. Thase uses a Nikon camera, with lenses of 28, 50, 55, 105, 135, 200, 300, 400 and 600 mm focal lengths. Strobe lighting, filters, motor drive, gun stocks, and tripods are all in her kit bag, and as described elsewhere, portable blinds and a mobile camper vehicle complete the inventory.

The Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher at the nest was shot at Chichester, Arkansas with a Leica camera, 400 mm lens, on Kodachrome II. Strobe lighting illuminated the scene, which was shot at 1/60 second at f:8. The nest, on a low limb, "was easy to photograph."

was in keeping with the almost complete absence of seed-eating birds throughout the region all winter. A Green-tailed Towhee at Rapid City May 8-9 (LMB) was a good record.

There was a wave of finches at Regina May 4-6, with Chipping, Clay-colored, White-crowned and Harris' Sparrows, and there were 150 Tree Sparrows at Indian Head Apr. 8. Tree Sparrows peaked at Saskatoon Apr. 10-12 with one flock comprising 275 birds, the largest ever recorded here. A Gray-headed Junco at Rapid City Apr. 6-9 was likely the second record for the Black Hills (LMB), and another was seen Apr. 1-4 near Bowman, N.D. (JO). A ♀ Lark Bunting at Wau-bay Refuge, S.D. May 15 was unusual (HK), as was a slightly extralimital record of this species s. of Kelwood, Man. May 28 (VS). In North Dakota, there was a major flight of thousands of Lapland Longspurs near LaMoure Mar. 31 and 1400 at Edgeley Apr. 6; in Saskatchewan, there were 3500 at Raymore Apr. 7-11, 15,000 at Rose-town Apr. 9 and 19,000 at Saskatoon May 15.

CONTRIBUTORS (AREA EDITORS in bold face)—Ernest A. Alfstad, Wm. Anaka, **Eliz. G. Anderson**, L. M. Baylor, P. Lawrence Beckie, Margaret Belcher, Al Binnie, Gilbert Blankespoor, Flossie Bogdan, Frank H. Brazier, Wm. A. Buresh, Bruce E. Burkett, E. Manley Callin, J. David Chandler, David Chashavich, Neil Conrad, Beverley B. Copland, **Herb W. R. Copland**, George E. Cotter, Charles W. Dane, Harold A. Doty, John R. Foster, Ann M. Gammell, Ken Gardner, David E. Goeke, **J. B. Gollop**, Gordon Grief, Bruce Hanson, Michaël Hampson, Bruce K. Harris, Wayne C. Harris, David R. M. Hatch, Lois C. Haynes, J. D. Hayward, Harry Horton, Eliz. K. Hubbard, Horace Jackson, Douglas H. Johnson, Kenneth J. Johnson, Harold A. Kantrud, Grace I. Keith, Frank F. Kelley, **Edith W. Kern**, Leo M. Kirsch, Rudolf Koes, Herbert Krause, Frances K. Larson, Eric Lee, Norman Lee, Lloyd M. Lohr, John T. Lokemoen, L. R. Lynch, Marvin Mansfield, Wm. G. McClure, David C. Mc-Glauchlin, Samuel McIvor, L. E. McWilliams, **Louis M. Moos**, Moose Jaw Natural History Society, Ron L. Nellerma, James L. Nelson, Rosemary Ann Nemeth, Robert W. Nero, William Niven, Ray Nutzhorn, Jim Oberfoell, Don R. Perkuchin, David Purvis, Robert N. Randall, Don H. Renaud, Barbara Robinson, Robert G. Rollings, B. J. Rose, J. Frank Roy, (MSc) Mabel Scheel, Helen C. E. Schuler, Carol Scott, R. Lorne Scott, Vere H. Scott, Jerome Serie, **Esther M. Serr**, Terence Shaver, P. Dave Skaar, (MSk) Mary Skinner, V. Dianne Sloan, **Hugh C. Smith**, **Paul F. Springer**, Willard E. Steffen, Robert E. Stewart, James C. Swanick, Esther A. Swenson, Frank A. Switzer, Robert R. Taylor, Herbert G. Troester, Mary G. Trump, Barry Tully, **Robert W. Turner**, Owen H. Vivian, Jim A. Wedgwood, Donald Weidl, R. Wayne Weier, Douglas W. A. Whitfield, Nathaniel R. Whitney, Jr., Ralph Wride, Robert L. Wright, Waldimar Yanchinski and 104

additional observers. My sincere thanks to all observers, named and unnamed, and especially the sub-editors who made this report possible.—**C. STUART HOUSTON**, 863 University Drive, Saskatoon, Sask.

SOUTHERN GREAT PLAINS / Frances C. Williams

The spring weather fronts which came across the plains from the north or west were mild and dry and did not cause any major grounding of migrants. The continuing drouth in Texas had



the usual effect of concentrating birds in favorable localities, thus making them easier to find. The mass of data always submitted for spring migration should be more susceptible of interpretation than when fewer records are available. But the only obvious deduction to be made this year is that winter residents stayed later than normal. Migrants arrived on their usual dates, with the usual scattering of early individuals. But the peak of migration was one to two weeks late, and many migrants were still present at the end of the period.

GREBS, PELICANS—A W. Grebe at Amarillo, Tex., Apr. 19-25 was one of the few records there (T.P.A.S.). Flocks of 600 or more White Pelicans were seen in Somervell Co., Tex., Apr. 24 (BCR, CCr) and at L. Overholser near Oklahoma City, Mar. 28 (JGN). This species remained until May 14 at Dallas (WP) and May 26 at L. Meredith in the Texas panhandle (BAL).

HERONS—A Green Heron's nest with eggs was found at Dallas, May 3 (TG), but wandering Green Herons were sighted at Midland, Tex., Apr. 30–May 12 (TSJ) and Longmont, Colo.,