

Oxyechus vociferus. KILLDEER.—A Killdeer, associated with two Wilson's Snipe, was flushed from a spring December 24, 1929. I am not aware of a previous winter record for the state.

Tyto alba pratincola. BARN OWL.—A female was taken November 24, 1929. Its stomach contained a short-tailed shrew (*Blarina brevicauda*). This specimen was taken at the same place where one was seen August 25, 1917 (Auk, 42 (1925), 131).

Nuttallornis borealis. OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER.—This species is an uncommon migrant. I took a male August 25, 1929.

Otocoris alpestris hoyti. HOYT'S HORNED LARK.—I took a male February 2, 1930, the identification being confirmed by Dr. H. C. Oberholser. At this time, Horned Larks, Snow Buntings, and Lapland Longspurs were present in exceptional numbers.—A. W. SCHORGER, 2021 Kendall Avenue, Madison, Wisc.

The Shore-bird Flight of 1929 on the New Jersey Coast.—The accompanying compilation of shore-bird records of 1927 field trips made during the southward migration of 1929 along the coast of New Jersey is offered in Table I for comparison with a similar compilation made in 1928 by the writer and reported in 'The Auk,' Vol. XLVI, No. 3, p. 314. The period covered extended from early July to early January, the records being gathered by the writer with the co-operation of members of Linnaean Society of New York and Delaware Valley Ornithological Club. The localities covered were about the same as those visited in 1928. The trips were apportioned as follows: Newark Meadows, 42; Point Pleasant, 11; Barnegat Inlet, 16; Barnegat Marshes (west of Bay), 5; Beach Haven Inlet, 11; Little Island Beach, 1; Grassy Bay, 2; Brigantine and Absecon Marshes, 20; between Atlantic City and Cape May, 8; Cape May, 11.

TABLE I—RANKING OF SHORE-BIRDS ON JERSEY COAST AND SALT MARSH IN 1929. FALL FLIGHT.

(Figures in () directly following name indicate rank in 1928)

	Rank 1929	Times seen	Largest No. in 1 day	Total No. all trips
Semipalmated Sandpiper (1)	1	74	4,000	31,040
Semipalmated Plover (4)	2	66	2,000	5,811
Lesser Yellow-legs (3)	3	65	600	3,732
Dowitcher (7)	4	51	600	5,020
Sanderling (2)	5	50	600	3,214
Hudsonian Curlew (11)	6	25	940	3,649
Least Sandpiper (5)	7	60	200	1,780
Killdeer (9)	8	69	100	666
Greater Yellow-legs (8)	9	62	100	499
Knot (13)	10	26	160	776
Red-backed Sandpiper (10)	11	19	300	812
Turnstone (12)	12	33	125	535

	Rank 1929	Times seen	Largest No. in 1 day	Total No. all trips
White-rumped Sandpiper (19)...	13	13	400	425
Black-bellied Plover (6).....	14	46	100	480
Spotted Sandpiper (15).....	15	57	35	386
Pectoral Sandpiper (14).....	16	30	50	267
Western Sandpiper (23).....	17	24	50	118
Piping Plover (18).....	18	24	30	268
Willet (17).....	19	13	36	85
Golden Plover (16).....	20	11	30	81
Upland Plover (20).....	21	16	8	54
Stilt Sandpiper (22).....	22	8	4	14
Purple Sandpiper (25).....	23	1	9	9
Baird's Sandpiper (29).....	24	4	3	6
Marbled Godwit (26).....	25	3	4	6
Solitary Sandpiper (30).....	26	4	2	5
Wilson's Snipe (24).....	27	3	2	5
Northern Phalarope (21).....	28	1	1	1

The summer of 1929 was unusually dry and feeding conditions were not as favorable on Newark Meadows or on Brigantine as in 1928 when fresh water shallow ponds on the fill proved a great attraction. In consequence fewer birds preferring fresh water tarried in these sections.

The most striking contrasts with the season of 1928 follow:

Limnodromus griseus griseus. DOWITCHER.—1929 flight very heavy, the species moving up to 4th from 7th place. Total number counted on all trips in 1928 was 1,624 and in 1929 5,020. Heavy flight July 14 with many remaining to feed in favorable localities, chiefly about Brigantine, until August 1.

Calidris canutus. KNOT.—Some increase over 1928. Principal migration July 23 to August 11.

Pisobia fuscicollis. WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER.—Heavy flight early in October—400 on Newark Meadows October 6. They were chiefly feeding about the Newark garbage dumps and a number were unable to fly apparently due to poison or disease incident to contaminated food.

Pelidna alpina sakhalina. RED-BACKED SANDPIPER.—Largest numbers seen in early winter. Principal migration started early in October.

Limosa fedoa. MARBLED GODWIT.—Recorded September 15 both on Newark Meadows and Brigantine.

Totanus melanoleucus. GREATER YELLOW-LEGS.—Some decrease from 1928, possibly due to drought. Main flight observed September 18.

Totanus flavipes. LESSER YELLOW-LEGS.—Total number very similar to that of 1928, but principal flight later. The early flight reached its height about July 31 (maximum in one day 300), but there was a heavy migration September 7 to 18 with a maximum of 600 on September 18.

Actitis macularia. SPOTTED SANDPIPER.—Migrating flock observed July 7.

Numenius hudsonicus. HUDSONIAN CURLEW.—Noteworthy increase in numbers recorded. Total number seen in 1928, 605 and in 1929, 3,649. Since few linger to feed, these totals fairly represent the increase in actual numbers seen. Fairly sustained migration down the coast July 7 to July 28 with largest number recorded July 23 (940).

Squatarola squatarola. BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER.—Considerable decrease in number seen. Maximum 100, October 13.

Pluvialis dominica dominica. GOLDEN PLOVER.—Some decrease from 1928. Maximum on Newark Meadows 30, October 6.

Charadrius semipalmatus. SEMIPALMATED PLOVER.—Large increase over 1928—2,343 in 1928 and 5,811 in 1929. Highest number seen August 17—2,000, but a free movement early in the month.

Arenaria interpres morinella. RUDDY TURNSTONE.—Few seen in comparison with the spring.

The fall flight differs markedly from that of the spring in ranking of species. The tabulated results of 21 trips during April and May, 1929 over much the same territory as covered during the fall flight are shown in Table II. Principal localities visited were Newark Meadows, Barnegat, Brigantine and Absecon marshes. There were 20 species recorded. Conspicuous contrasts with the fall flight are the higher ranking of Red-backed Sandpiper, Greater Yellow-legs, Black-bellied Plover and Ruddy Turnstone and the lower ranking of Lesser Yellow-legs and Hudsonian Curlew.

TABLE II—RANKING OF SHORE-BIRDS ON JERSEY COAST AND SALT MARSH IN 1929. SPRING FLIGHT.

	Rank 1929	Times seen	Largest No. in 1 day	Total No. all trips
Semipalmated Sandpiper	1	8	4,000	9,604
Dowitcher	2	8	500	1,090
Greater Yellow-legs	3	18	350	702
Red-backed Sandpiper	4	8	500	1,057
Ruddy Turnstone	5	6	2,000	3,610
Black-bellied Plover	7	6	1,000	2,975
Knot	8	7	500	1,245
Least Sandpiper	9	8	300	472
Killdeer	10	17	6	53
White-rumped Sandpiper	11	7	75	100
Sanderling	12	7	50	190
Spotted Sandpiper	13	13	6	34
Wilson's Snipe	14	7	25	37
Hudsonian Curlew	15	3	60	63
Piping Plover	16	7	6	18
Western Sandpiper	17	5	5	11
Solitary Sandpiper	18	2	4	6
Lesser Yellow-legs	19	2	2	3
Upland Plover	20	1	2	2

In both Table I and Table II the species are ranked by taking an average of (1) their ranking in "number of times seen"; (2) their ranking in "largest number seen in one day" and (3) their ranking in "total number seen on all trips." This method was also used in 1928.—CHARLES A. URNER, *Elizabeth, N. J.*

The Fall Migration of Water Birds and Others at Reading, Pa.—

As a rule the changes that are constantly taking place in the neighborhood of cities are inimical to bird-life. It is rare indeed that a single "improvement" such as the building of a dam has such a marked influence on the bird life of a region as to add six new species to the known local avifauna in the course of a single year, as has been the case of the "Maidencreek Dam," near Reading, Pa., opened last spring and commented upon in the July 'Auk.' Many species that were previously regarded as casuals promptly accepted the new conditions and have occurred in numbers exceeding my total experience in this region during the past 14 years.

The promise of the first spring has been fully realized in the first fall migration on and about this lake.

As reported previously, a colony of Savannah Sparrows nested on its shores, and several families of Bobolinks and Upland Plovers raised their families within a few yards of the water-front. Black Ducks were seen in some numbers all through the summer, and a flock of 4 American Egrets put in an appearance on June 23. Seven Little Blue Herons arrived on July 6, and from that time until September 15 both species were present, the Egrets remaining until October 3, as many as 7 of the latter and 20 of the former being present at times.

A short-eared Owl was flushed from the water's edge on July 27.

The fall shore-bird flight started on July 14 with a pair of Semipalmated Sandpipers, followed on the 23rd by three Solitary, three Least, one Pectoral and some Semipalmated Sandpipers.

A flock of twelve Lesser Yellow-legs appeared on July 31 and had increased to 45 by August 3 when 50 Pectoral Sandpipers, hitherto rather rare here, were also seen. With these came the first of the Wilson's Snipe.

On August 9 the first Pintail arrived, and on August 11 the first Mallard, a flock of nine Blue-winged Teal and a Bittern. A thunder shower on the 14th brought a veritable windfall of birds, two Black Terns, 21 Blue-winged Teals, 80 Lesser Yellow-legs, 80 Pectoral Sandpipers, and the first migrant Soras.

On August 18 a Black-bellied Plover and Semipalmated Plover were seen, most of the previously mentioned shore-birds remaining, and on August 27 the first fall Pied-billed Grebe was noted.

There was little change in the bird life until September 8 when a Dowitcher was seen with the Lesser Yellow-legs, and three Black-bellied Plovers arrived.

On the 14th two Black Terns and a Northern Phalarope were there, and on the following day, after a long shower, two Coots, two Green-winged Teal and a Bald Eagle were among those present.