

WILSON'S SNIPE, *Capella delicata*.—Common throughout the fall around the arms of the lake, where they may possibly breed sparingly; still present on November 25.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER, *Actitis macularia*.—Abundant breeding species; still common in October. Last noted on October 24.

SOLITARY SANDPIPER, *Tringa solitaria*.—Very common throughout the fall until late in October. For a discussion of this as a possible breeding species at Deep Creek Lake, see 'The Auk', vol. 53, p. 444, Oct. 1936.

GREATER YELLOW-LEGS, *Totanus melanoleucus*.—Common during September and early October; last noted on October 25.

LESSER YELLOW-LEGS, *Totanus flavipes*.—For some reason not so common as the last during the time of our observations. A few were seen in September and October.

PECTORAL SANDPIPER, *Pisobia melanotos*.—Common during September and October; last noted on November 5.

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER, *Pisobia fuscicollis*.—A few individuals were seen on several dates in October.

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER, *Pisobia bairdi*.—One individual noted and carefully observed by John Handlan, Lloyd Poland, the writer, and others on October 18; and another seen by A. S. Margolin, Poland, and the writer on October 24.

LEAST SANDPIPER, *Pisobia minutilla*.—Seen on September 20, and on a few dates thereafter until October 18.

RED-BACKED SANDPIPER, *Pelidna alpina sakhalina*.—Two individuals were seen by Handlan, Margolin, Poland, the writer, and others on October 18.

STILT SANDPIPER, *Micropalama himantopus*.—Just previous to September 20, a severe storm swept up the Atlantic Coast; its effects were felt far inland. With an unusually large flock of shorebirds at Deep Creek Lake on the above date was a single individual of this species. It was carefully identified with good glasses at short range.

SEMI-PALMATED SANDPIPER, *Ereunetes pusillus*.—Several seen during late September and early October; last noted on October 18.

WESTERN SANDPIPER, *Ereunetes maurii*.—Despite the supposed difficulty of identifying this species in the field, the writer wishes to record two Western Sandpipers from Deep Creek Lake in the large flock of shorebirds seen on September 20. Mrs. Brooks, Dorothy Brooks, and the writer were able to approach to within fifteen feet of these two birds, and they were in company with a single Least Sandpiper. The much heavier and longer bills, with a noticeable down-turn, were very evident in these two birds, and the suffusion of color on the breast made a continuous band instead of being broken as in the Semipalmated Sandpiper. We felt that conditions for observation could not have been much more favorable.

It should be noted that regular observations were not begun until September 13, and it seems reasonable to assume that the heaviest part of the shorebird flight may already have passed at that time. We expect to begin observations at an earlier date next season.—MAURICE BROOKS, *West Virginia University, Morgantown, W. Va.*

Waterbirds at Leetown, West Virginia.—At Leetown, Jefferson County, West Virginia, is located a federal fish hatchery. There are nine bass-rearing ponds and a reservoir, which together supply approximately thirty acres of open water. Besides these, there are many springs and small streams bordered with marshland. Although these ponds were not built until the summer of 1933, there is already a remarkable aquatic habitat established. The reservoir was made by damming a small ravine without cutting out the trees that grew there. As a result, the upper end is an elm-sycamore grove, standing in two feet of water. From July 30 until

August 30, several of the ponds were drained, exposing approximately five acres of mud flats. It is probably because of this favorable condition that so many shorebirds were seen. I visited the hatchery daily from April 9 until April 15, from July 30 until August 2, and from August 15 until September 9, 1936. The area was small enough for me to cover it rather thoroughly each day. Following is a list of the more interesting species noted. The estimated numbers of individuals appear in parentheses.

HORNED GREBE, *Colymbus auritus*.—April 9–12 (4); April 13 (12); April 14 (4).

PIED-BILLED GREBE, *Podilymbus podiceps podiceps*.—April 9–15 (2); August 30–September 8 (2).

GREAT BLUE HERON, *Ardea herodias herodias*.—August 21 (1).

AMERICAN EGRET, *Casmerodius albus egretta*.—August 19–22 (1); August 23–25 (2); August 27–29 (1).

EASTERN GREEN HERON, *Butorides virescens virescens*.—Common each day; probably nested.

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON, *Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli*.—August 20 (1), immature.

COMMON MALLARD, *Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos*.—April 9–15 (2); August 19–21 (2); August 22 (9), two adults and seven young; August 23 (2); August 27 (2). A nest was found by Surber in the summer of 1935.

COMMON BLACK DUCK, *Anas rubripes tristis*.—September 2 (1).

BALDPATE, *Mareca americana*.—April 9–11 (3); April 12–15 (8).

BLUE-WINGED TEAL, *Querquedula discors*.—April 9–15 (10); August 22–27 (1); August 28 (3); August 29–30 (4); August 31 (3); September 2–6 (7); September 8 (12).

WOOD DUCK, *Aix sponsa*.—August 20 (13); August 21 (24); August 22 (11); August 23 (19); August 24 (12); August 25 (1); August 26 (5).

RING-NECKED DUCK, *Nyroca collaris*.—April 9–15 (5), one male and four females.

GREATER SCAUP DUCK, *Nyroca marila*.—April 9–15, about fifteen each day.

BUFFLE-HEAD, *Charitonetta albeola*.—April 11–15 (1), female.

RED-BREADED MERGANSER, *Mergus serrator*.—April 15 (3), all females.

KING RAIL, *Rallus elegans elegans*.—August 19 (1), immature; August 20 (2), immature; August 21 (1), immature; August 26 (1), adult; August 29 (1), Karl Haller collected one individual; September 7 (1), adult. This species evidently nested here this summer as none of the immatures could fly. Their wing feathers were still in sheaths.

VIRGINIA RAIL, *Rallus limicola limicola*.—August 19 (2), adults; August 20 (3), adult, immature, and juvenile. This species evidently nested as the juvenile could not yet fly.

SORA, *Porzana carolina*.—August 19 (3); August 20–21 (1); August 22 (3); August 23 (1); August 26 (1); August 27 (3); August 28–30 (1).

AMERICAN COOT, *Fulica americana americana*.—April 10–15 (1).

SEMPALMATED PLOVER, *Charadrius semipalmatus*.—August 19–24 (1); August 28–30 (1).

AMERICAN WOODCOCK, *Philohela minor*.—July 31 (1).

UPLAND PLOVER, *Bartramia longicauda*.—August 27 (1).

SPOTTED SANDPIPER, *Actitis macularia*.—Common each day; undoubtedly nested.

EASTERN SOLITARY SANDPIPER, *Tringa solitaria solitaria*.—Common each day.

GREATER YELLOW-LEGS, *Totanus melanoleucus*.—August 24–27 (1); August 30 (1).

LESSER YELLOW-LEGS, *Totanus flavipes*.—July 31–August 2 (15); August 19–27,

about five each day; August 29 (10), Karl Haller collected one individual; August 30–September 8, about three each day.

PECTORAL SANDPIPER, *Pisobia melanotos*.—July 31–August 2, about fifteen each day; August 19–28, about five each day; August 29 (15), Karl Haller collected one individual; August 30 (4). The most common shorebird during August.

LEAST SANDPIPER, *Pisobia minutilla*.—August 19–28, about four each day; August 29 (10), Karl Haller collected one individual; August 30 (3); August 31 (2); September 3 (1); September 6 (1).

SEMPALMATED SANDPIPER, *Ereunetes pusillus*.—July 31 (1); August 25 (2); August 27 (2); August 28 (1); August 29 (9), Karl Haller collected one individual; August 30 (3); August 31 (1); September 3 (2).

WESTERN SANDPIPER, *Ereunetes maurii*.—August 21, one seen at twenty-five feet with an eight-power glass. There were several Least Sandpipers beside it, and I compared the two species for half an hour. The points of identification noted were: the long, heavy, black bill; the gray coarsely marked upper parts; and the complete band of breast markings. So far as I know, this is the only record of the occurrence of this species in West Virginia. As a sight record it may stand until a specimen is taken.

BLACK TERN, *Chlidonias nigra surinamensis*.—August 15 (6), all in fall plumage.—J. LLOYD POLAND, *Martinsburg, W. Va.*

Heavy flight of waterfowl on Lake Lynn, West Virginia.—On October 23–24, 1936, occurred a very heavy flight of waterfowl in northern West Virginia, and the writer, together with Dorothy Brooks, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Brooks, A. S. Margolin, and J. L. Poland, had opportunity to make careful observations on Lake Lynn, a large artificial lake in Monongalia County. Some hours were spent in making careful counts of selected segments in the flocks, so that the estimates of numbers given below represent something more than guesswork.

Large flocks of ducks were noted arriving on the stormy evening of October 23, but the birds were resting on October 24, a clear, bright day. Our estimate for the total number of individuals seen is about ten thousand on the two days. Most of the birds were in large flocks, one estimated to contain three thousand ducks. All the large flocks had departed on October 25. The species noted are listed below.

LOON, *Gavia immer*.—Four individuals noted.

PIED-BILLED GREBE, *Podilymbus podiceps podiceps*.—Five seen.

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT, *Phalacrocorax auritus auritus*.—On October 24, three of these birds were seen at Lake Lynn. Varying numbers of Double-crested Cormorants were about the lake constantly during late September, all of October, and into early November. As many as seven were seen at once.

WHISTLING SWAN, *Cygnus columbianus*.—Eight of these birds were resting on the lake just below the Ice's Ferry bridge on the morning of October 24. Four were adults and four young.

CANADA GOOSE, *Branta canadensis*.—Three flocks, including forty-five individuals, noted.

AMERICAN BRANT, *Branta bernicla hrota*.—With the Canada Geese noted above, was a flock of eight birds of this species. Definite notes of brant observations in West Virginia are very few, and this seems to be the only one within recent years.

MALLARD, *Anas platyrhynchos*.—Our estimate was 290 individuals.

BLACK DUCK, *Anas rubripes*.—About 850 seen. Some of those observed at close range had very red legs, and doubtless might be referable to *A. r. rubripes*. Others did not have noticeably red legs, and may have been *A. r. tristis*.