

Status of the Upland Plover in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.—The census report of 1954 on *Bartramia longicauda* in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, follows the plan of earlier reports (Auk, **43**: 93–94, 1926; **53**: 443–444, 1936; **57**: 110, 1940; **59**: 108–109, 1942; **63**: 92–93, 1946; and **66**: 202–204, 1949). The count was made on the four tracts which, prior to 1914, had been the author's choice plover-shooting grounds. None of these tracts, with the exception of B, which has been improved by being now continually in grass, has changed in buildings and other encroachments on the prairie-like lands which are the only grounds the plover ranged when it adopted Lancaster County's cleared farmlands, presumably about 1800.

In 1900, according to the author's Diary of Field-Sports, each of these tracts would have shown, at times, numbers of plover varying between 20 and 300. Had the count been taken in that year the total would have been between 500 and 700. Central and northern Lancaster County seem to be one of the bird's favorite breeding grounds since the plover came into the Piedmont Plateau of southeastern Pennsylvania, which is the only part of the hilly and woody state extensively used by it.

Coming into Lancaster County about April 15, and leaving for its winter home, chiefly in Argentina, about the last week in August, the plover is most numerous here about August 1.

Since the last census report in 'The Auk,' April, 1949 new light has come on the plover's migration route. M. G. Vaiden, of Rosedale, northwestern Mississippi, reports that beginning in late July and continuing through August until about September 10, Upland Plovers move through Mississippi and over the Delta in large numbers. In the spring, though not as plentiful as in late summer, they are fairly common migrants in northwestern Mississippi. Thus the route as now known is northward through Texas, Oklahoma, and probably western Mississippi; and southward over the Delta of the Mississippi, through the eastern islands of the Caribbean into the pampas of South America. The widely separated tracts, in central and northern Lancaster County, where the count was made, are: A, two square miles in Penn and Warwick townships; B, two square miles in Manheim Township, including the Lancaster Municipal Airport; C, one square mile in Warwick Township; D, two square miles in Elizabeth and Clay townships.

The complete census report, to date, is as follows:

	<i>Tract</i> <i>A</i>	<i>Tract</i> <i>B</i>	<i>Tract</i> <i>C</i>	<i>Tract</i> <i>D</i>	<i>Total</i>
1921 (August 4)	12	3	3	3	21
1922 (August 3)	8	9	1	4	22
1923 (August 9)	23	35	1	15	74
1925 (August 8)	1	3	0	1	5
1936 (August 4)	5	22	4	11	42
1937 (August 4)	11	28	1	17	57
1939 (August 3)	14	75	0	5	94
1941 (August 4)	94	65	0	2	161
1945 (August 8)	5	28	12	2	47
1947 (August 6)	23	82	1	2	108
1954 (August 2)	16	140	0	0	156

The count of 1945, I do not consider normal. That season haymaking and harvest were so delayed by nearly continuous wet weather that the first week in August

found most of the grass and wheat fields still uncut and full of weeds. Feeding conditions being unfavorable, I believe many of the plover left the region earlier than usual.

In 1947, the largest count (82) was on tract B, the Lancaster Municipal Airport, which had been put there a few years before. Within Lancaster County, the plover gather at the Airport, as a breeding and feeding ground, in the largest numbers. The birds, still wary of man, ignore rising and descending planes on the Airport. Tract D, where on July 16, 1906, there were 250 to 300 plover (Diary of Field-Sports), since 1937 has been practically without them.

Assuming that the census in Lancaster County represents conditions elsewhere in the bird's extensive breeding range in North America, the general numerical status of the Upland Plover seems to be stabilized today. While there has been a notable increase since 1914 (when the bird was removed from the game-list), the rate of production in the northern zone seems to be balanced by the rate of destruction in the southern zone. While the census of 1954 shows an encouraging increase, the Upland Plover is still being shot in large numbers along its migration route, as on the Barbados, where Richard H. Pough recently found it being murdered in the fall. Nor has there been any change in reports from the bird's winter home, where, in 1926, Alexander Wetmore found the Upland Plover to be the favorite game-bird of the sportsmen and many market hunters; the choice morsel of the Argentina restaurants.

A perpetual closed season on the Upland Plover in the United States has undoubtedly saved the species from going the unhappy way of its late cousin, the Eskimo Curlew (*Numenius borealis*). But who is to stop the killing of this tempting morsel along its 14,000-mile migration route and on the vast pampas of South America?

I was assisted in taking the census of 1954 by James P. Coho, Barton L. Sharp, and Milton G. Steffy.

HERBERT H. BECK, *Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.*

Pleistocene Birds from Eichelberger Cave, Florida.—Eichelberger Cave is located about two miles southwest of Belleview, Marion County, Florida, in the northwest corner of Sec. 2, T.17S., R.22E. Vertebrate fossils occur in several feet of sandy matrix at two localities in the cave. Locality A lies about 350 to 370 feet from the entrance. It was investigated by Robert Cumming on October 5, 1952, and on June 6, 1953. Locality B is about 26 feet from the entrance. It was excavated by Walter Auffenberg on December 27, 1954. The Pleistocene age of these deposits is indicated by the presence of an extinct turtle of the genus *Testudo* at both localities and by six extinct species of mammals at Locality B. Nine bird bones, representing five species, have been recovered from the cave. They all represent species still living in the area today. Three of the five species have not previously been recorded as fossils.

Colinus virginianus (Linnaeus). Bob-white.—Locality A: left humerus, left femur (juvenile), left tibiotarsus, left tarsometatarsus. The Bob-white has been reported previously from the Pleistocene of Florida and Tennessee (Wetmore, 1931, *Smiths. Misc. Coll.*, 85: 32).

Philohela minor (Gmelin). American Woodcock.—Locality B: left tibiotarsus. Previously unrecorded as a fossil.

Strix varia Barton. Barred Owl.—Locality B: left tarsometatarsus. Reported from the Pleistocene at three Florida localities (Wetmore, *op. cit.*: 40).

Colaptes auratus (Linnaeus). Yellow-shafted Flicker.—Locality B: right humerus. This species was unreported in a fossil state.