

Besides these 70 species seen on each of the four occasions there is a list of 17 species seen on three of the four, and a further list of 21 species which are sufficiently common to make their being seen practically certain under favorable conditions of weather and work. It is evident, therefore, that the county boasts a list of no less than 108 species which one could confidently expect to see during favorable weather in the early part of May. The possibilities which lie within the Warblers are 8 and all other species 16, not including species which may fairly be called rare or casual, and it does not make any provision for the accidents which make the bird student's work so fascinating. The writer does not intend to be boastful for the region in which he finds himself placed. On the contrary this record of what may be found in Lorain County, Ohio, is given in the hope that others in other places may be encouraged to make a similar study of the birds of their region so that instructive comparisons may be possible. The promise of interest and profit which such a study affords is great, and for an inspiration to him who is looking for new things nothing could surpass it.

LYNDS JONES, *Oberlin, Ohio.*

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### GENERAL NOTES.

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THE OLD SQUAW DUCK.—To the average amateur ornithologist the wild-fowl do not seem to present the interest that the smaller birds possess, and the explanation seems to be that they are hard to study on account of the difficulty of near approach and the nature of their habitat. But to some they are far more interesting, especially so if the student has inherited a love for hunting. The bulk of the migrating wild-fowl pass this section in March and April, but one must watch the open waters in February if he would study that most erratic visitor, the Old Squaw. Wheaton gives the Old Squaw the name of being rare in the interior and it is rather uncommon here except in very severe winters, when it occurs frequently. When the ice locks up their food in Lake Erie they are apt to be found in unusual locations. On the 20th of February, 1899,

I saw a male of this species on a small pond almost in the business part of the city and a few days later one lit in my neighbor's yard seemingly almost exhausted but possessing enough vitality to fly away when alarmed. Most authorities agree that the Old Squaw is unedible when killed on the great lakes, but here they vary their diet with worms and are far better eating than Scaup or Golden-eye. I have found the common angleworm and a large green worm resembling a cut-worm in their throats. The specimens seen here are mostly males. I have one specimen taken the 14th day of April, 1898, in full breeding plumage. The white on the anterior portion changes to black and the scapulars from white to black with brown edgings to the feathers. They are very unsuspecting when approached. I have seen them here as late as May in winter plumage, and this spring succeeded in getting a picture of one flying. Why some should retain winter plumage two weeks later than the time others are in full breeding plumage puzzles me and I would welcome any explanation.

WM. B. HAYNES, *Akron, Ohio.*

MIGRATION NOTES FROM DURHAM, N. H.—The Warblers are now here in great numbers. The mass of them came the 11th inst. On that day Blackburnians, Magnolias, Redstarts, Ovenbirds and Parulas were abundant, yet none of them appeared before the 10th, so far as I know. Palm Warblers are still common as are also Myrtles. A single Wilson's—a bird I have seen but little of—appeared on the 13th, and on the morning of the same day I heard for the first time the song of the White-crowned Sparrow. There were three males about, and between them they kept up a song nearly all the morning. The song was oftenest delivered from a tree, though it came freely from a bird on a wood pile. It reminded me of the White-throated Sparrow in its beginning, and of the Vesper Sparrow in its ending. The first two notes were clear, whistled tones, D sharp and G sharp, delivered precisely like the Chickadee's "*pe-we*"; these were followed by three quick notes somewhere between the first two, but just where I could not determine, and these by a cadence very like that of the Vesper Sparrow. The order of the two opening notes was sometimes reversed but generally D sharp came