

## FIELD NOTES

### JANUARY NOTES FROM MADISON, WIS.

The following list of birds was compiled in the vicinity of Madison, Wis., during January, 1923, by the undersigned. In all cases, save that of the goshawk, observed twenty miles away from the city, and the pileated woodpeckers, the birds were within six miles of the city limits. The census represents the result of seventeen special trips to favored localities, three of the trips involving major portions of separate days. In consequence of the varied types of country covered, and the large amount of time devoted, it may be assumed that the list is representative and fairly exhaustive.

Weather conditions during the month were extremely favorable for observations: the average daily temperature was 5.3 degrees above normal, ranging between 2 and 42 above zero; the precipitation was slightly below normal, as was the average wind velocity; there were no heavy storms; and the slight amount of snow on the ground, from two to four inches, made it easy to cover distance. But the relatively mild, open winter was the greatest contributing factor to the unusual length of the list. Theoretically, perhaps, only one other type of winter could produce a longer one, a winter that favored this region from as many points of view as the present, but that found heavy snows in Canada, and that gave rise to prolonged storms in the north, which exhausted themselves at the edge of the Madison district and brought in their wake such boreal birds as the crossbills, the grosbeaks, the northern owls, etc. Few of these northern types were seen in the region this winter. Where a bird in the appended list has any special interest attached to it, I am indicating the numbers observed. The total number of species was fifty.

- 30 American merganser.
  - 1 Mallard.
  - 1 Black duck.
  - 8 American golden-eye.
    - Canada goose (113 observed feeding together in a field of winter rye).
  - 2 Wilson snipe.
    - Bob-white (6 coveys observed).
  - 4 Ruffed grouse (all observed separately).
    - Prairie chicken (2 coveys seen, one with 52 birds, the other of about the same size).
- 17 Mourning doves (in one flock)
  - 4 Marsh hawk.
    - 1 Goshawk (20 miles north of Madison).
    - 4 Red-tailed hawk.
      - 1 Krider's hawk (a mature specimen observed three times and studied carefully under favorable conditions).
    - 3 Rough-legged hawk.
    - 3 Long-eared owl.
    - 3 Short-eared owl.
    - 2 Barred owl.
    - 1 Screech owl.
    - 3 Great horned owl.
      - Hairy woodpecker.
      - Downy woodpecker.

- 2 Pileated woodpecker (25 miles north of Madison).
- 3 Red-headed woodpecker (not common this winter).
- 6 Red-bellied woodpecker (more common than usual).
- 1 Flicker.
- 3 Horned lark.
- Prairie horned lark (one flock of 100).
- Blue jay.
- Crow.
- 7 Cowbird (one small flock wintering on the same farm at which the Mourning doves were observed).
- Red-winged blackbirds (2 flocks of 20 and 125 birds seen near Madison, 2 others of 50 and 75 seen within 20 miles).
- Meadowlark (1 flock of 12 birds, 1 separate bird).
- Purple finch (very common).
- Redpoll (observed on four occasions, the largest flock containing 20 birds).
- Goldfinch (common).
- Pine Siskin (fairly common).
- Lapland longspur (1 flock of 10).
- Tree sparrow.
- Junco.
- 1 Song sparrow (1 other observed by William Schorger).
- 2 Cardinal.
- 2 Bohemian waxwing (associated with a flock of Cedars for ten days).
- Cedar waxwings (common).
- 4 Brown creepers.
- White-breasted nuthatch.
- 1 Tufted titmouse. (From one or two other reports about the state it would seem as if these birds were extending their range.)
- Chickadee.
- Golden-crowned kinglet (seen only in one stand of conifers, where they were common).
- 3 Robin.

In addition to the above Mr. William Schorger observed two bluebirds early in January, and Mr. Bert Laws a mature bald eagle at his place on the Wisconsin River. It appeared at intervals of two or three days.

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The University of Wisconsin,  
February 10, 1923.  
Madison, Wis.

#### NESTING OF THE BLUE-WINGED AND WORM-EATING WARBLERS IN TENNESSEE

In giving the southern breeding limit for the Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora pinus*), the A. O. U. Check List draws the line through Kentucky and does not mention Tennessee. It therefore afforded me considerable surprise and pleasure when on June 8th, 1917, I found a nest of this species seven miles north of Nashville, near Madison Station. The nest was found when the parent bird fluttered from the ground a few feet ahead of me and a brief search revealed the nest with its five fresh eggs. It was located in a rather open woods in an area which is partly