

leadership of Dr. Wolcott and myself observed a single individual of the Lazuli Bunting at Lincoln. The Dickcissel is usually abundant by the end of the first week in May, but was noted commonly on April 25 this year.

Cedar Waxwings were seen by me on June 7 at Omaha, and on July 4 at Plattsmouth. This bird is not often noticed in summer in southeastern Nebraska. Dr. Wolcott, Mr. Williams and myself saw a number of Yellow-throated Vireos on April 25 at Fremont. These individuals were several days early. Also a single Bell's Vireo was seen at Fremont on the same day. One individual of the Black and White Warbler was noted a week ahead of the usual time, at Lincoln on April 18. The only observation that I know of for the Northern Parula Warbler in the state this year is one which I personally made near Lincoln on May 17. Mr. Williams saw a Carolina Wren in the woods along a creek south of Lincoln on January 1. The Western House Wren, not usually seen at Lincoln before April 15, was first seen at Lincoln this year on April 13. A March record of the Long-billed Marsh Wren was made this year by Mr. Williams and myself, who observed it near Lincoln on March 28. A single individual of the Veery was seen and heard in full song south of Lincoln on May 17. It is an uncommon bird here.—LEONARD G. WORLEY, *Lincoln, Nebr.*

**Some Bird Notes from Ontario for the Year 1924.**—At Turkey Point, on Lake Erie, and in the surrounding country, between May 23 and 31, 1924, I identified 127 species of birds, among which the most interesting for that region were the Wood Duck, Least Bittern, Knot, Willet, Hudsonian Curlew, Black-bellied Plover, Piping Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, Orchard Oriole, Grasshopper Sparrow, Cardinal, Rough-winged Swallow, Golden-winged Warbler and Prairie Warbler. Of these observations, the record of the Willet is the best, for Mr. Saunders tells me that so far as he knows the Willet has not been recorded from Ontario in the past ten years. I am not sure whether it was the eastern or western subspecies. The Rough-winged Swallow is local and uncommon in southern Ontario. In one day, on Saturday, May 24, I identified eighty-two species while at Turkey Point, which indicates how rich in bird life that district is during the migration period. I also found eighteen or twenty nests during my stay at the point, among them one of the Piping Plover and one of the Marsh Hawk, the latter containing six dull whitish eggs.

On May 18, 1924, I noted a Lincoln's Sparrow at Manneheim swamp near Kitchener, which is a noteworthy observation for this region. I also noted the Henslow's Sparrow twice the past spring at Dundas Marsh near Hamilton and Dundas, the first individual at the eastern end of the marsh on May 7, and the second one at the opposite end of the marsh, three or four miles to the westward, on May 19.

I have seen individuals of the Starling here several times, and on September 28, at Dundas Marsh, a flock of nine flew past me, overhead. Early in July I saw both adult and juvenile Starlings at Port Credit, near Toronto, and found one nest of this bird in a deserted Flicker's hole in a large elm tree about thirty-five feet up. Later in the month, about July 29, a mile or so from Paris, I met with two fully grown Black-crowned Night Herons in immature plumage. This species is supposed to be very uncommon in southwestern Ontario.

The most noteworthy observations made during the fall migration were the Sora at Dundas Marsh on September 28; the Florida Gallinule at Ashbridge's Bay, near Toronto, on September 1 and again on September 28; the Dowitcher

between Ashbridge's Bay and the Exhibition Grounds near Toronto on August 30; the Pectoral and Baird's Sandpipers on September 1; the White-rumped Sandpiper on September 30; the Osprey flying over the Exhibition Grounds near Toronto on August 30; the Rusty Blackbird between Galt and Dundas on September 27 and near Kitchener several times subsequently, and the Snow Bunting at the outskirts of Kitchener on November 3.—G. W. KNECHTEL, *Kitchener, Ont.*

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## BIRD BANDING NEWS

Conducted by Wm. I. Lyon

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### Some Experiences in Bird Banding

By Mrs. Marie Dales

I have often been asked how I came to take up bird banding. When we moved to our present home, I found so many birds already there, that I determined to try to keep them and attract others. The Western Meadowlark sang all fall while we were building. In the spring I found a pair of Cedar Waxwings nesting in a cottonwood tree just below our house.

I soon discovered that I would have to employ some means of ridding the place of English Sparrows; they came in hordes and ate the food provided for the other birds. So, in the first part of July, 1923, I invested in a sparrow trap. In exactly two months I had trapped one thousand English Sparrows. The catch for the entire season was 1,125. Last year we caught only 878. And even with this reduction of these birds we have been compelled to keep up a constant warfare on them all spring. I have torn their nests out of our nest boxes, only to find them building again the next morning. We simply cannot have sparrows and song birds together.

Besides sparrows, other birds frequently came into our trap. The thought came to me that these birds could be banded before they were released. And as I thought more about the wonderful possibilities in thus identifying these migrant visitors, I decided to undertake it. By the time I had received my federal permit it was rather late in the season, and still later when I received my supply of bands. But the following spring found me prepared. With the Brown Thrashers predominating the year before, I felt quite certain that the first bird to wear one of my bands would be a thrasher; and it was.

One of the interesting phases of this work is the opportunity to study the differences in the ways birds react to the trapping and handling process. Of course, we are not surprised to find birds of different species behaving differently; but there are also differences in behavior in birds of the same species. This is probably an indication of temperament in birds. Some birds are more nervous than others. The first Robin to be trapped was a male, and he yelled so lustily for help that several other Robins came to his assistance; one of these was a female which entered the trap, and this led me to think that she must be his mate. Later observations proved that this was not the case, however. Some birds are very docile, while others will struggle and bite. The Cowbird nearly always bites. Only once did a Bluebird show fight. Most Catbirds are timid and nervous, and seldom bite. Harris's Sparrow rarely shows any nervousness, and I have never had one bite me. I have had Brown Thrashers, Catbirds, Harris's