

summer records during 1925 are: Huron County, Ohio; Ashland County, Ohio; Summit County, Ohio.

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*).—Observed on April 15 (two individuals) and April 27, 1925. Our first recent record was an individual observed by the writer and Mr. A. R. Harper on November 11 and 12, 1921. Our only other record is April 1, 1923.

Kirtland's Warbler (*Dendroica kirtlandi*).—This rare species was observed on September 11, 1925, along Alum Creek, near Columbus, by Messrs. Walker and Trautman. This is the sixth recent record for this locality. In May, 1917, an individual tarried at Indian Springs, north of Columbus, for several days and was observed by a large number of people. Other dates are: May 20, 1920; May 17, 1921; May 23, 1924, two individuals; May 24, 1924 (at a different locality). The first mentioned is our only fall record.

In addition to the above central Ohio records, the following specimens taken near Sandusky, Ohio, are in the Wheaton Club Collection, at the Ohio State University: Hudsonian Curlew, two specimens, May 30, 1925 (Trautman), one specimen, August 22, 1925 (Peters); Western Willet, May 29, 1924 (Trautman), September 7, 1925 (Trautman); Buff-breasted Sandpiper, September 1, 1924 (Trautman and Walker), (other individuals have been observed in this vicinity and on two occasions at Columbus); Northern Phalarope, September 13, 1924 (Harold S. Peters); Thick-billed Redwing, November 18, 1925 (Trautman).—EDWARD S. THOMAS, *Columbus, Ohio*.

Some Fall Migrants and Wintering Birds at Hillsboro, Highland Co., Ohio.—The outstanding feature of the fall migration of 1925 was the large flocks of Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis canadensis*), beginning October 21 and continuing for two weeks. Two of these flocks were driven in advance of a great storm, and, becoming exhausted, alighted in the town to rest for several hours. This same condition occurred at Blanchester and near Columbus. The fall migration of Nighthawks (*Chordeiles virginianus virginianus*) was greatly increased over that of the past two seasons. The migrants seem to be extending their route to the eastward.

The winter of 1925-26 is marked by the occurrence of the Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*), which was seen on December 24, and by the unusual increase of the following species:

Winter Wren (*Nannus hiemalis hiemalis*).—Generally a very rare winter sojourner, but this winter common and generally distributed.

Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos polyglottos*).—A common summer resident that occasionally remains during the winter.

Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*).—This species may occur irregularly at any time of the year. From December 2 to 11, 1923, a flock of twenty-four stayed the greater part of every day, dividing their time between a maple, persimmon and apple tree. The maple and pear trees were used as a playground, while the persimmon tree and a Japanese honeysuckle supplied them with food. On October 29, 1924, a large flock was seen in several trees in a small swamp. They would fly down to the wild rose bushes, snap off a rose hip and then throw their heads back, letting the hips roll down their throats. This was done in a very indolent and indifferent manner. From January 4 to 16, 1925, a flock of twelve came every day to feed upon frozen apples in the yard. It is said they

nest here, but these are the only two occasions that I have observed them for more than a day at a time.

Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis cardinalis*).—A common resident. Groups of ten or more females with one male are very common, while ordinarily in the winter the males are here in greater numbers.

Bronzed Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula aeneus*).—A very abundant summer habitant and common this winter.

Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*).—On January 16, 1925, a flock of twenty Rusty Blackbirds was first seen in an apple tree feeding upon frozen apples. In a nearby lot was another apple tree. The flock alternated between the two trees spending most of their time feeding upon the frozen apples. By February 3 the flock had increased to fifty. They remained for several weeks. This is the only winter flock to come under my observation.

Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Centurus carolinus*).—A common resident and on the increase for several years, but unusually abundant this winter.—KATIE M. ROADS, Hillsboro, Ohio.

BIRD BANDING NEWS

Conducted by Wm. I. Lyon

CHIMNEY SWIFT BANDING

BY T. E. MUSSELMAN

When I received the government bulletin recommending the banding of Chimney Swifts I had little or no idea of how to proceed. I made several vain attempts in building traps. Finally, by watching the swifts I noticed that they dropped eight or ten feet immediately upon leaving the chimney. Using this knowledge I decided on an oblong trap 24x24x48 inches.

This trap I placed over the big Wabash Station chimney at 5:00 o'clock A. M.. At 6:00 o'clock, when the birds normally start to fly, they would not come out, because of the unnatural barrier above. I waited for three-quarters of an hour, then tried to stimulate their flight by dropping down the chimney a stick held by a string. This made them fly about in the chimney, but none would rise to the trap.

I then went to the basement with a flash-light, which I flashed up into the chimney. (No one should ever put fire in a chimney where swifts are roosting). This light stimulated an upward movement, and soon I had a trapful. There were about one hundred and seventy-five in the first trapful. The rest of the birds in the chimney I retained with a small screen which I placed over the opening. In this way I filled the trap three times. I used No. 1 bands, but believe that No. 1A is a better size. My supply of bands became exhausted, and I allowed the remainder of the swifts to escape. They continued to come out of the chimney for over half an hour.

Once the swift is in the hand it is a very tractable bird, lying quietly until thrown into the air. I had a newspaper lying on the top of the wall by my side, and I placed four swifts on their backs upon this paper, with their heads toward the sun. They all remained in this position, in a semi-cataleptic state, for five minutes, with eyes closed; and none made any movement until a strong wind blew one over onto his feet. Of course, as soon as one flew the rest took to their wings and were soon circling above.