

Wilson's Warbler (*Wilsonia pusilla pusilla*). A few Wilson's Warblers visited the Station shelter belt during their fall migration in 1926. The first ones were recorded August 19, when about twenty stopped at the shelter belt. Thereafter a few birds were seen frequently until September 17 (I left the locality September 22). About fifty individuals, all females except one, were observed September 13.

Northern Pileolated Warbler (*Wilsonia pusilla pileolata*). Birds of this subspecies also visited the shelter belt during their fall migrations, but in much smaller numbers than those of the preceding subspecies. Observed September 5, 7, and 8, 1925; a female and a male seen August 20, were the only ones observed during 1926.

Cassin's Purple Finch (*Carpodacus cassinii*). A male Cassin's Purple Finch visited the Station shelter belt, May 12, 1926, singing several times soon after sunrise.

Pale Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis pallidus*). Silloway (*op. cit.*, p. 51) lists *S. t. tristis* as the form of this species occurring in Fergus County. So far as I could determine, from close observation, the breeding form at Moccasin was *S. t. pallidus*, and *tristis* occurred as a late summer and fall visitor. Possibly intergradation occurs in that locality. (See Saunders, Pac. Coast Avifauna No. 14, p. 112, 1921). In 1926, five pairs of Goldfinches which I believe to have been *pallidus* nested in the Station shelter belt. The species was first recorded that spring on May 24.

Northern Sage Sparrow (*Amphispiza nevadensis nevadensis*). Six birds of this species visited the Station shelter belt, August 19, 1926, probably in migration. Three were seen there the following day. Previous records of this species in Montana appear to be restricted to Gallatin and Park Counties (Saunders, *op. cit.*, p. 128).

Slate-colored Junco (*Junco hyemalis hyemalis*). Observed as a regular migrant at the Station. Latest date in 1925, September 22. Observed April 25, May 14, and from September 13 to 19, 1926.

On July 25, 1926, at an altitude of about 6500 feet in the Little Belt Mountains near the South Fork of the Judith River, I observed three broods of young Slate-colored Juncos on the wing with adults. There appears to be only one published record of the breeding of this species in Montana (Thorne, *Auk*, XII, p. 217, 1895), and Saunders (*op. cit.*, p. 125) suggests that this record may be inaccurate.

White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys leucophrys*). Six migrant birds of this species were observed in the Station shelter belt, September 13, 1926.

Slate-colored Fox Sparrow (*Passerella iliaca schistacea*). Several Slate-colored Fox Sparrows were observed along the Judith River southwest of Utica, July 25, 1926.—WINTON WEYDEMEYER, *Fortine, Mont.*

Bird Life Along the Kankakee.—During the spring of 1930, it was my privilege to spend several weeks along the Kankakee River in the northeastern part of Illinois, collecting and observing birds. Arrangements had been made some time before to rent a cabin from the owner of one of the numerous summer resorts which are to be found along both banks of this river, and which are well patronized during the summer months. We had made our plans to get there during the height of the migration period, but did not arrive until nearly a week after it was in full swing.

The main purpose of this trip was to get as many different species of North American warblers as possible, to be used for the systematic series, and also other birds which were needed for the same purpose. Sixty different species of birds were seen, of which forty-five species were taken. Most of the birds seen were just passing through on their way to northern breeding grounds, but quite a few remained in this locality to breed.

The first week after our arrival one could not help noticing the great numbers of Tennessee Warblers (*Vermivora peregrina*) that were about. The woods were full of them and I believe it safe to say that one saw three Tennessee Warblers to one of any other kind of bird. This was between the dates of May 8 and 15. The second week, or between the dates of May 15 and 22, the Tennessee Warblers were leaving and their places were taken by the Chestnut-sided Warblers (*Dendroica pensylvanica*) in as great numbers. I do not believe after the beginning of the second week, that is, about May 22, that more than one or two Tennessee Warblers were seen. These two species were the most numerous of the warblers observed in this locality.

One evening as we were returning to our cabin from up the river, quite a number of Rough-winged Swallows (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) were seen flying about near the middle of the river, as we were returning in a boat with the current. We let the boat drift slowly down stream, and succeeded in getting a few good specimens, shooting them as they swooped down to the surface of the water in search of food. These birds were quite a welcome addition to our collection, as they were the only ones seen during our stay.

Of the most numerous birds seen in this locality at that time of the year (May), I believe the Catbirds (*Dumetella carolinensis*) will come first. They were in so great numbers that one not only saw one at a time, but two and on numerous occasions, three and four. The Towhees (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) were also abundant, hopping around on the ground or perched on low bushes in search of food. There were also many thrushes, with the Gray-cheeked (*Hylocichla minima aliciae*) and Olive-backed (*Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni*) heading the list. I might also mention the Redstarts (*Setophaga ruticilla*), as quite a number of these birds were seen every day, flashing by from tree to tree as one walked through the woods.

One morning as we were going through a large pasture field in which a small herd of cattle were grazing, both the Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna magna*) and Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*) were heard singing. These birds were both in the same field and only about two or three hundred yards apart. We watched one of them through our glasses, singing away perched upon a tuft of dried grass; later, one of each species was taken not far from there.

Quite an unusual story was told to us by the people living in the farmhouse near our cabin, of a Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) that had built its nest for three consecutive years in the pocket of an old hunting coat that was left hanging in their garage, which was only about twenty-five feet away from the house. The bird hatched out a brood of from four to six young each year, even though the garage was used continuously by the people in running their car in and out. Each fall at the opening of the hunting season, the farmer would take the coat off the hook, clean out the nest, which was made of dried grasses, use it during the season and then hang it back on the same hook, and the next year the bird would be back again and set to work to build a nest in the pocket and to raise another brood.

This year while we were there, what was believed to be the same bird started to build its nest in the spout of the pump which was standing alongside the house, and where the drinking water was obtained, making it necessary to tie a cloth over the spout so that it would not clog. This did not discourage the bird though, as she soon found another place—in an empty flowerpot which was left standing on the sill of the basement window of the house. She had just finished building when we were ready to leave and upon examining the nest it was found to be made entirely of dried moss.

Quite a few nests of the Prothonotary Warbler were found along the banks of the river, most of them in hollow trees, either leaning out over the water or not far back from the river's edge.

It was on this trip that the peculiarly marked specimen of Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Hedymeles ludoviciana*) was collected which was described in the *Auk*, XLVII, No. 4, October, 1930. The under-wing coverts of this specimen, which was a female, were rose-pink instead of saffron, this being the normal color for the female, while rose-pink predominates in the males. I have come across only two other cases like this. This specimen was taken on May 16, from a large sycamore tree growing about seventy-five feet from the river's edge.

During our short stay, quite a few interesting observations were made of the nesting habits of the Woodcock (*Philohela minor*). On a small section of ground, approximately one square acre, along one side of which the Kankakee River flowed, and surrounded on the other three sides by heavy woods and second growth thickets, one could always flush from fifteen to twenty birds each time he walked through this particular spot. This small area of ground was thickly covered with brush and other under-growth, and from the number of birds seen and the nests that were found, it was estimated that between ten and twenty birds were nesting there.

On May 17, a nest with four eggs was found, after flushing the bird. We watched every day very closely for the eggs to hatch, but had to bring our stay to a close before the young came out of their shells. On May 19, another nest which contained only one egg was found, also after flushing the bird. We went back the next day, but did not see the bird nor was there another egg in the nest. But on the third day, when we returned again, the nest was found to contain two eggs. But the bird had left before we arrived, so did not get to see her this time either. These two nests were about 150 yards apart, both built right on the ground, of small sticks with a very little dried grass woven in amongst the sticks. While the bird was incubating her eggs, and also when she left the nest, the grass that was growing around was pulled down and over to conceal her and the eggs, so that one would have to look very closely to find out if she was on the nest or not. I noticed that each time a bird was flushed it went about the same distance and direction before alighting, even though we came upon it from different directions just to see what it would do, but each time it would swing around us before settling down again. Could we have arranged to stay longer I am sure that many more interesting observations could have been made of these well-known and delightful birds, which furnish real sport to the hunter in the fall of the year.

It was certainly surprising to find the number of species of birds that we did, so close to the second largest city in the United States, as we were only sixty or sixty-five miles from Chicago's "loop".—JOHN WILLIAM MOYER, *Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, Ill.*