



THE RAVEN



BULLETIN OF THE VIRGINIA SOCIETY OF ORNITHOLOGY
PUBLISHED AT LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA
DR. J. J. MURRAY, EDITOR

VOL. II

JANUARY 1931

NO. I

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Virginia Society of Ornithology now enters upon its second year. Those of us who have been active in the organization feel that the first year has been very much worth while. We who are interested in the study of the birds of Virginia have learned to know each other better. We feel that our studies have been directed to more purpose because of this association that we have had. Some valuable material has been collected, and a foundation laid for more systematic work in Virginia. We are hoping that all who have joined in this undertaking are going to stick together and that we are going to be able to double the membership during 1931. Especially are we hoping that members from hitherto unrepresented sections of the state may come into the organization and may contribute their notes to THE RAVEN.

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THE ANNUAL MEETING

Mr. Charles O. Handley, who is acting as a committee of one, on local arrangements for the Richmond meeting, states that the Hotel Richmond will be convention headquarters. This hotel is located on the corner of Grace and Ninth Sts., just across from the north corner of Capitol Square. As the hotel management has kindly offered the use of a room for the Friday afternoon meeting, all members are urged to patronize the Hotel Richmond during the convention.

The program on Friday evening will be held in the Hall of the House of Delegates, State Capitol Building. At this time Mr. Herbert K. Job will give a talk illustrated with slides or films, and Mr. Handley will give a paper on "Banding Chimney Swifts." Other members are invited to present papers at this session.

The field trip to Curles Neck Farm will start at 8:00 a.m. from the hotel on Saturday morning.

REMEMBER THE DATES -- FEBRUARY 13 and 14. Please notify the President, R. S. Freer, Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, Va., by postcard AT ONCE if you plan to attend.

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ANNUAL DUES

Since the question of classes of membership and dues for the same, as provided for in the proposed constitution, will be voted upon at the

annual meeting in Richmond, the Secretary suggests that it might be more convenient for the members to wait until after the meeting before sending their dues for 1931. Several have already sent theirs, but of course this can be adjusted later, if changes are made.

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Miss Lena B. Henderson, Secretary of the V. S. O., Miss Florence Hague of Sweet Briar College, and Professor Freer attended some of the sessions of the Wilson Ornithological Club held in conjunction with the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Cleveland during the Christmas holidays.

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The Editor plans to give most of the February issue of THE RAVEN to a consolidated list of the birds that have been observed in various counties of Virginia. He has in hand some four or five such lists. To make this consolidated list of larger value, any members who have kept such lists and have not yet furnished the Editor with their lists are urged to send them to him at Lexington, Va., before the end of January. Lists from Tidewater, Va., and the Coast are desired particularly.

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WINTER BIRDS AT THE BIG SPRING

At any season of the year the Big Spring Pond near Lexington, Virginia, is an excellent place for bird study. The stretches of open water, the marshy spots at the lower end of the pond and the thickets about the edges attract a great variety of birds, and particularly so during the winter when both insect and plant food is more abundant there than in most places. One day during Christmas week, when the ground was covered with a heavy snow but the sun was giving a little warmth to the air, I took a walk about the pond to observe the birds. The pond was frozen over to an unusual degree, only the main channel and the places about the springs where the warmer water never freezes being open, but the water weeds sticking up through the ice offered some chance for food and the slight rise in temperature encouraged the birds to considerable activity.

As I came over the hill within sight of the pond a Great Blue Heron rose from his feeding place in the shallows and flapped slowly away over the opposite hills. Standing as it does about four feet high, it is always the first of the birds at the pond to notice an intruder. It is not the usual thing for the Great Blue Heron to be here in December, although one of the species, probably this same bird, has now been wintering at the Big Spring for three years. This is an indication of the fact that birds do not mind the cold if they can find sufficient food. And here where the water never freezes entirely over and there are always living creatures to be fished for, this heron is satisfied to stay even when the thermometer shrinks below zero. As it sailed away out of sight beyond the hill, its long legs stretched straight behind,

its long neck crooked to bring the head nearer the body, its wings spread wide with a reach approaching that of an eagle's and beating the air with slow and mighty strokes, its appearance was one of dignity and power. Directly it appeared high in the air over the lower end of the pond, winged its way down the creek and then turned across the hills, a stately silhouette moving along the horizon line where the high white hills met the gray sky. It affected me strangely, the sight of this great lonely bird, most of its kin now far to the south, making its way across this snowy alien expanse.

Coming nearer the pond I caught sight of a number of Black Ducks close to the edge. Two of them were standing on one of the flat stones that rise just above the surface. The others were floating motionless, their heads drawn in close to their bodies, apparently half asleep. But in a moment they saw me and four of them sprang into the air. The Black Duck gets away to a quick start, gaining speed and altitude very rapidly and flying with strong wing beats. They circled the pond several times high overhead, as is their usual custom there, showing very clearly in the sunlight their dark, almost black bodies, their browner heads and necks, and the beautiful silvery sheen of their underwings. Sometimes they will alight again at this pond if the observer will get under cover, but the Black Duck is the shyest of our commoner ducks, and these were soon out of sight down the creek. On the last circle they were joined by a fifth, too sluggish to rise at first, or, what is more likely, still convalescent from some gun-shot wound.

After these larger birds had left there were still plenty of smaller and less uncommon but not less interesting birds to observe. Three Killdeers were running about on the matted vegetation or on the ice with sharp cries. They are the tattlers of the bird world, always alert, always noisy, letting all the nearby birds know that there is a visitor among them taking notes. Two Doves left a tree with whistling wings. They seem to me to have been scarce this fall, as most seed-eating birds have been in the Valley. A Phoebe, perched on a branch at the water's edge with tail in constant motion and head turning from side to side, was eagerly watching for insects and occasionally darting out with brilliant aerial evolutions to capture one. A Downy Woodpecker was rattling away at a weed stalk in the pond, drilling for the eggs which some insect had stored there. A flock of little red-capped Tree Sparrows were flying back and forth between the water weeds and the safety of a cedar tree, and with them were a few Juncos. From the top of a big oak a Red-bellied Woodpecker was calling with an occasional harsh "churr". The sharp "chip" of a Cardinal could be heard almost every second in a nearby thicket, but in spite of his bright coat it was not easy to catch a glimpse of the elusive bird. These and other sights and sounds were good reward for a cold half-hour's walk.

---J. J. Murray.

CHRISTMAS BIRD CENSUS REPORTS

Amelia, Va. January 1, 1931. Started at 2:10 P.M., returned 5:20 P.M. Temperature at start 38, at return 29. Strong wind from N. W. at start, falling before return; clear, a little snow in shaded places. About $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles on foot, from Amelia west to just beyond Nibbs Creek and return by a different route. Observer alone. Bob-white, 2; Mourning Dove, 4; Turkey Vulture, 7; Great Horned Owl, 1 (heard after dark); Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Blue Jay, 4; Meadowlark, 1; Goldfinch, 1; English Sparrow, 24; White-throated Sparrow, 23; Tree Sparrow, 4; Junco, 24; Song Sparrow, 7; Cardinal, 9; Shrike, 1; Myrtle Warbler, 1; Mockingbird, 4; Carolina Wren, 1; Winter Wren, 1; White-breasted Nuthatch, 3; Carolina Chickadee, 6; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 5; Bluebird, 2. 23 species, 136 individuals.

---John B. Lewis.

Naruna, Va. December 29. 8:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Clear, slight wind, old snow in shady places, with light new snow on 28th. Temperature 10 at start and 30 at return. One mile of forest, field, and tangled thicket along ravine in morning, short walk in afternoon. Mourning Dove, 2; Turkey Vulture, 1; Black Vulture, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Prairie Horned Lark, 6; Crow, 5; Starling, 50; Meadowlark, 4; Goldfinch, 2; White-throated Sparrow, 2; Junco, 50; Song Sparrow, 1; Cardinal, 6; Mockingbird, 2; Carolina Wren, 3; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Titmouse, 2; Carolina Chickadee, 4; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 2. 20 species, 147 individuals.

---Bertha Daniel.

Lexington, Va. (Big Spring to Lime Kiln Bridge and Buffalo Creek) December 27. 10:00 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. and 2:30 to 6:00 P.M. Clear; ground mostly covered with week old snow and sleet; very high northwest wind; temperature 36 at start, 30 at return. Thirty miles by auto, eight miles on foot. Observers mostly together. Great Blue Heron, 1; Killdeer, 6; Bob White, 12 (two coveys); Mourning Dove, 1; Turkey Vulture, 27; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Screech Owl, 2; Kingfisher, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 7; Sapsucker, 1; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 1; Phoebe, 2; Prairie Horned Lark, 20; Blue Jay, 1; Crow, 130; Fish Crow, 3; Starling, 75; Meadowlark, 9; Purple Finch, 2; Goldfinch, 2; White-throated Sparrow, 3; Tree Sparrow, 26; Junco, 50; Song Sparrow, 2; Cardinal, 13; Migrant Shrike, 2; Mocking Bird, 7; Carolina Wren, 1; White-breasted Nuthatch, 4; Titmouse, 8; Chickadee, 8; Bluebird, 3; Total 33 species, 433 individuals. On December 24 5 Black Ducks, 1 Marsh Hawk, 2 Pileated Woodpeckers and 1 Hairy Woodpecker were seen in same territory. Blue Heron has spent several winters past at Big Spring Pond. All sparrows are noticeably less abundant this winter than usual, which we attribute to scarcity of seeds resulting from the severe drought.

---J. J. Murray, Robt. P. Carroll, John B. and M. G. Lewis.

Norfolk, Va. December 25. 11 A.M. to 2 P.M. Temperature 38 at start, 43 at return. Clear, light southwest wind, ground covered with snow. Shore along eastern branch of Elizabeth River, banks of drainage ditches, small tract of pine woods, old field along swamp border. Herring Gull, 14; Bonaparte's Gull, 6; Killdeer, 3; Turkey Vulture, 7;

Black Vulture, 5; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Kingfisher, 1; Fish Crow, 15; Starling, 10; Red-winged Blackbird, 40; Tree Sparrow, 15; Song Sparrow, 18; Towhee, 1; Cardinal, 2; Myrtle Warbler, 1; Pipit, 2; Mockingbird, 2; Carolina Wren, 4; Robin, 3. 19 species, 150 individuals.

---Joseph E. Gould.

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FIELD NOTES

Lexington. The month has been unusual for the number of new December records made. One Rusty Blackbird, seen on 2nd, was first December record here. I now have a record for every month from November through April. Two male Red-winged Blackbirds on 2nd make the first December record, making records now for every month in the year except January. Two Purple Grackles seen on 10th provide my only winter record between November 1 and February 22. Purple Finch, 2 on 27th, only December record. White-throated Sparrows, which are rare except in migrations, were present during latter part of the month. Red-headed Woodpecker seen on 16th and 31st. They rarely winter here. On the other hand, Sapsuckers and Flickers which should be fairly common were scarce during the month. Black Ducks were fairly common. A female Baldpate seen with some Black Ducks on the 2nd. Ruffed Grouse were reported to me, 3 on 1st, 2 on 22nd; 5 Wild Turkeys reported to me on 20th; and 2 Ravens on 18th, by a man who is familiar with them. Messrs. M. G. Lewis and J. B. Lewis and I saw a Marsh Hawk fly up from the North River on the 24th. They are decidedly rare here now. Of other hawks, I noted Sharp-shinned on 2nd and 15th; Cooper's, 27th; Red-tailed, 2nd, and one brought to me alive on 31st; Sparrow Hawk, 10th and 17th. Screech Owl, 2 seen on 27th. Of the woodpeckers, the Hairy, which is hardly common here, was seen on 15th and 27th; Red-bellied throughout the month, 5 being noted on the 15th; Pileated, seen 6 times. Six Robins were noted on 22nd in a sheltered place in the mountains. They winter very sparingly. Strange to say, no Golden-crowned Kinglets were seen during December.

--- J. J. Murray.

Amelia. A Brown Thrasher was seen at close range, on Nibbs Creek December 18. Four visits to the locality since that date have failed to locate him again, so he has probably gone farther south. A boy living in Amelia who is running a line of Muskrat traps along Deep Creek caught two rails December 24. The larger one was cooked and eaten and the smaller one thrown away. I heard about it and found the one that had been thrown away, which was a Virginia Rail. The boy says the other was "just like it only a whole heap bigger." It may have been a King Rail. Neither Shrikes or Cedar Waxwings have been seen in December. The absence of the Waxwings may be due to the scarcity of wild berries of all kinds. No Robins have been seen, which may also be due to the lack of berries. Red-headed Woodpeckers are with us regularly, but in small numbers. White-throated Sparrows, Juncos and Golden-crowned Kinglets seem to be increasing in numbers. On January 1st, four Tree Sparrows were discovered with a flock of White-throated Sparrows in the edge of a cattail swamp on Nibb's Creek, two miles west of Amelia. This is my first record for that species in Amelia County.

---John B. Lewis.

Naruna. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Dec. 3; Prairie Horned Larks, 10 on Dec. 4; 25 on Dec. 7, 6 on Dec. 18; Golden-crowned Kinglets, 2 on Dec. 4; Cedar Waxwings, 9 on Dec. 7; 13 on Dec. 13; Black Vulture, 20 on Dec. 11, 3 on Dec. 25; Winter Wren, Dec. 13; Purple Finch, 2 on Dec. 13; Meadowlark, 12 on 19th, 17 on 25th; Mourning Dove, 15 on 19th, 25 on 25th; Fox Sparrow, on 26th; White-throated Sparrows singing throughout the month; 7 Wild Turkeys reported to me on Dec. 5th and one on 7th.

---Bertha Daniel.

Appomattox. Nov. 19, 1 Wild Turkey. Buckingham County, Nov. 19, 2 Robins. Snowden Mountain, Amherst County, 3 Ruffed Grouse, 1 Cedar Waxwing.

---Mrs. C. L. Burgess.

Lynchburg. There is little bird news to report from this station for December, as the writer was in Ohio during the latter half of the month, where the Christmas census was taken at Akron. On a trip in the Blue Ridge in the northeastern corner of Rockbridge County on December 14, the following species of special interest were listed: Red-breasted Nuthatch, 32 Robins, 1 Pileated Woodpecker, 12 Bluebirds, 4 Purple Finches, 1 Hermit Thrush, 2 Cedar Waxwings. A male Pintail, a pair of Green-winged Teal, 1 Goldeneye, several Mallards, Black Ducks and Lesser Scaups were at Timberlake through most of the first half of December.

---Ruskin S. Freer.



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NO. 2

EDITORIAL NOTES

The feature of this issue of THE RAVEN is "A Consolidated list of the Birds of Nine Local Regions of Virginia". This is our first attempt at publishing anything more extensive than the monthly notes, but we hope later to present other lists of this type. On account of the length of this list, all other material has been very much cut in this issue.

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It is hoped that each member of the Society will undertake to compile a list of the birds of his or her locality. In making such lists the utmost care should be taken to make them accurate. The temptation to see a list grow is very great, and each record should be carefully verified before the bird is added to the list. And in order to make these local lists of much value, they should be annotated. That is, for each bird the list should show its status, whether common, fairly common, uncommon, rare, or accidental, and should show its time of occurrence, whether permanent resident, winter resident, summer resident, migrant, or irregular visitor. Early and late dates should be given for birds that are not resident, and especially the dates for the occurrence of rare species. The fuller this information is, the more useful the list.

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Mr. Paul G. Redington, Chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey, has recently sent engrossed testimonials to eight men who have sent in bird migration reports to the Biological Survey for more than 40 years. One of these testimonials was sent to a member of the V. S. C., Mr. H. Martyn Nicklem, Shipman, Nelson Co., Virginia. Mr. Nicklem has sent in these reports for 53 years. Mr. Nicklem is due the congratulations of the Society upon his useful work and upon this honor that has come to him.

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At the recent meeting of the Society in Richmond the following new officers were elected: Miss Florence Hague, Sweet Briar College, Sweet Briar, Va., Secretary; Mr. Ralph M. Brown, V. P. I.

Library, Blacksburg, Va., Treasurer; and Mr. A. O. English, 105 Granby Street, Norfolk, Va., added to the Executive Committee. Other officers remain the same. The March issue will have a full account of the annual meeting.

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The Constitution for the V. S. O., prepared by a special committee and mailed to the members in advance of the annual meeting, was adopted with only one change. Section 3, Article IV, as to the number for a quorum was revised and adopted as follows: "One-fourth of the members (ten) of the Society shall constitute a quorum until the membership passes 80. After that twenty shall constitute a quorum. Other members may be represented by proxy but one member may carry not more than five proxies."

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Four classes of members are now recognized: active, associate, sustaining, and honorary. Honorary members, chosen only by vote of the Society, pay no dues. Sustaining members pay five dollars or more per year. Active members pay \$2.50 per year and must live within the State. Only active members may hold office. Associate members pay \$1.50 per year. They may live outside the State, but only those living within the State may vote.

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Dues should now be sent to the Treasurer for 1931.

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FIELD NOTES

NARUNA. Fox Sparrow, six times, Jan. 1 to 18. Field Sparrow, five times, 12th to 28th. Hermit Thrush, Brown Thrasher and Towhee on Jan. 28. Robin, one on 23d, and flocks by 29th. Dove, 48 on Jan. 24. White-throated Sparrow, singing on Jan. 10 and 31.

-----Bertha Daniel.

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BLACKSBURG. Jan. 7, Pine Siskin (50); 11, Kingfisher, Dr. Smyth's latest date was Oct. 13; 18, Blue Jay, Red-bellied Woodpecker; 25, Robin (2), Pigeon Hawk (3d record for Montgomery Co.).

-----Ralph M. Brown.

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AMELIA. Killdeer, Red-headed Woodpeckers, Myrtle Warblers, Brown Creepers, Golden-crowned Kinglets and Sapsuckers present throughout month. Eight Cedar Waxwings, Jan. 11th, in a clump of saw briars, probably feeding on the berries. Ten Robins, Jan. 24.

-----John B. Lewis.

LEXINGTON. No Golden-crowned Kinglets seen since early in the winter. Red-headed Woodpecker, usually absent in winter, Jan. 1st. Red-tailed Hawk and Cooper's Hawk, 1st. Sharp-shinned Hawk, 19th.

-----J. J. Murray.

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LYNCHBURG. Only two trips of any extent were taken in January. Flickers, Mourning Doves and Song Sparrows have been scarce this winter. I have seen no Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Meadowlarks, Killdeer, Phoebe or Pine Siskins. The latter have been listed frequently here in other winters. Red-headed Woodpeckers, totally absent last winter, have been common this winter. In one ravine, 3 male Towhees were listed on Jan. 10, and frequently thereafter. A female was seen on Jan. 29. Mrs. C. W. Harris reports Fox Sparrows as abundant through the winter, and saw a Ruby-crowned Kinglet on Jan. 4. She and Mr. Samuel R. Courtney found the Phoebe during January.

-----Ruskin S. Freer

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PUBLIC ACTIVITIES OF V. S. O. MEMBERS

Dr. J. J. Murray spoke before the Biological Society of Washington and Lee University on the evening of February 24, on the subject, "The Altitudinal Distribution of Some Birds of Rockbridge County", comparing these with the vertical range of these birds north and south of Lexington. He also pointed out the way in which distribution of plants and insects may influence the range of birds.

Dr. Florence S. Hague gave a lecture before the student body at Sweet Briar College on Friday evening, March 6. She presented lantern slides of most of the birds common on the Sweet Briar campus, and discussed means of identification and habits of these birds.

Mr. George C. Mason, one of our new members, of Hampton, contributed a very interesting article to one of the newspapers of Newport News, on Sunday, March 1, on "Winter Birds of Tidewater Virginia."

-----R. S. F.

A CONSOLIDATED LIST OF THE BIRDS OF
NINE LOCAL REGIONS OF VIRGINIA.

In the files of the Virginia Society of Ornithology there are a number of local lists prepared by members of the Society who represent most sections of the State. The Editor feels that it will be of interest now to present a consolidated list made up of these local lists. No attempt has been made to make this a complete list of the birds of the State. We hope that some day we may be able to help in the preparation of a revision of Dr. Wm. C. Rives' "Catalogue of the Birds of the Virginias", but we are not yet ready for that. This list is nothing more than a summary of available local lists. None of these lists have appeared in print, except Dr. Smyth's Montgomery County List. That list was drawn upon in spite of the fact that it has been published because, being the most comprehensive local list ever published on Virginia birds, it makes a foundation for the consolidated list. It is also the most recent published Virginia local list. In some of these lists the Editor has omitted a few records which seemed probably incorrect, but the final responsibility for the notes must rest with the individual observers.

The following localities are represented in this consolidated list:

1. Montgomery County. This county is near the summit of the Alleghanies and near the dividing line between the Valley and Southwest Virginia. The elevation of most of the county runs about 2000 feet. Its faunas are Carolinian, Alleghanian, and to some extent Canadian. This list was prepared by Dr. Ellison A. Smyth, Jr., formerly Professor of Biology at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, who now lives near Salem, Va. The main part of his list appeared in his article, "Birds Observed in Montgomery County, Virginia", in THE AUK for October, 1912, pages 508-528, and further notes in "Additional Notes on the Birds of Montgomery County, Virginia", in THE AUK for January, 1927, pages 44-46. Dr. Smyth is a trained ornithologist, his list covers 36 years of work, and all unusual species are authenticated by specimens. Four species have been added to that list and the time of occurrence of other species extended by Ralph M. Brown, Librarian at V.P.I., his additions being noted in the consolidated list.
2. Southwest Virginia--The Bristol Region. This list was prepared by F. M. Jones, Bristol, Va., and represents 30 years of field notes. Bristol is on the Tennessee line. It is in Carolinian fauna, but is surrounded by Alleghanian.
3. Rockbridge County. This list represents the combined work of Chas. O. Handley, who was a student in Lexington, 1919-1922; M. G. Lewis; and J. J. Murray. Rockbridge County is in the central part of the Valley, in the headwaters of the James River system. Its elevation varies from 750 to 4000 feet, and it includes Carolinian, Alleghanian and Canadian faunas.
4. The Lynchburg Region. This list was prepared by Prof. R. S. Freer, notes being contributed by a few others. Lynchburg is in the southern Piedmont of Virginia, near the foothills of the Blue Ridge. The fauna

about the city is Carolinian, but the Alleghanian appears on the higher spurs of the Blue Ridge and Canadian at the crest of the mountains.

5. The Charlottesville Region. This list was prepared by N. R. Barger, with observations from several other students. Charlottesville is in the central Piedmont of Virginia. Its fauna is Carolinian.

6. Brunswick County. The list, which was furnished by John B. Lewis, covers the period of 1914-1918. Brunswick is in Southside Virginia, joining North Carolina, and its fauna is Carolinian.

7. Amelia County. This list, also prepared by John B. Lewis, only covers the period from March, 1930, to January, 1931, and hence is incomplete. Amelia is in central Virginia. Its fauna is Carolinian.

8. King William County. These notes were taken by Miss Elizabeth Hawes Ryland from the reports sent by her to the Biological Survey during 1912-1916, with some additional notes on resident and winter birds. This county is in east central Virginia and in Carolinian fauna.

9. The Hampton Roads Region. These notes are based on three lists furnished by J. E. Gould, of Norfolk; R. L. Dobie, of Norfolk; and G. C. Mason, of Hampton. The Hampton Roads Region is at the borderline between the Carolinian and the bit of Austroriparian fauna which covers the southeastern corner of Virginia.

10. To these nine lists have been added the water birds of the coast from a list of Virginia birds prepared by J. B. Ferneyhough, of Richmond. The land birds on his list were not included as his is not a local list but a list for the State at large. The water birds on his list were checked by H. H. Bailey.

The following abbreviations are used in the list, capital letters being used for abbreviations for localities, and small letters for those referring to the status of species:

M - Montgomery Co.	c - common.
S - Southwest Va., Bristol Region	fc - fairly common.
R - Rockbridge Co.	un - uncommon.
L - Lynchburg Region	sc - scarce, rare.
C - Charlottesville Region	a - accidental
B - Brunswick Co.	s - summer
A - Amelia Co.	w - winter
K - King William Co.	r - resident
H - Hampton Roads Region	m - migrant
F - J. B. Ferneyhough's List	v - visitor

The list is as follows:

1. Holboell's Grebe - M(a) - L(a) - H
2. Horned Grebe - M(sc-wv, m) - R(un-w, m) - L(c-m) - H - F
3. Pied-billed Grebe - M(fc-m) - S(m) - R(fc-m) - L(c-m) - C - B(un)
- H - F
4. Loon - M(a) - R(one, Handley) - L(one, Miss Hague) - C - B(one)
- H - F
5. Red-throated Loon - Alleghany Co.(one, mounted specimen, Murray)-H
6. Herring Gull - S(m) - L(a) - B(un) - H - F
7. Ring-billed Gull - M(sc-v) - H - F
8. Laughing Gull - H - F
9. Franklin's Gull - M(one - see Auk, Vol. XIX, p. 74)
10. Bonaparte's Bull - M(sc-v) - R(sc-spring) - L(sc) - H - F
11. Gull-billed Tern - H - F
12. Caspian Tern - H - F
13. Royal Tern - F
14. Forster's Tern - M(a) - F
15. Common Tern - M(a) - H - F
16. Least Tern - F
17. Black Tern - M(a) - R(one, Handley)
18. Black Skimmer - H - F
19. Black-capped Petrel - M(one - see Auk, Vol. X, p. 361)
20. Cormorant - R(one, 1924, identified by Dr. W. D. Hoyt, of Washington and Lee and Dr. Ivey Lewis, of University of Va., as *Phalacrocorax carbo*. Specimen later lost.)
21. Double-crested Cormorant - L(a) - H
22. American Merganser - S(w) - R(sc-w) - C - L(sc-m) - H
23. Red-breasted Merganser - L(sc-m) - H
24. Hooded Merganser - M(sc-v) - R(fc-spring) - L(c-m) - H

25. Mallard - M(c-w,m) - S(w) - R(c-w,m) - L(c-m) - C - B(sc) - H - F - C
26. Black Duck - M(fc-w,m) - R(c-m) - L(c-m) - C - H - F
27. Gadwall - M(sc-wv) - R(sc-fall)
28. Baldpate - M(sc-m) - R(fc-spring) - L(sc-m) - C - H - F
29. European Widgeon - F
30. Green-winged Teal - M(sc-m) - S(m) - R(sc-spring) - L(sc-m) - C
- H - F
31. Blue-winged Teal - M(c-m) - R(c-spring) - L(un-m) - C - H - F
32. Shoveller - M(sc-m) - R(fc-spring) - L(un-m) - H
33. Pintail - M(sc-m) - R(un-m) - L(sc-m) - C - H - F
34. Wood Duck - M(sc-m) - R(un-spring) - L(un-m) - B(one, spring)
A(one, fall) - H - F
35. Redhead - M(sc-m) - R(one, spring) - L(sc-m) - H - F
36. Canvasback - M(sc-m) - L(un-m) - H - F
37. Greater Scaup - F
38. Lesser Scaup - M(c-w,m) - S(m) - R(c-spring) - L(c-m) - C - H - F
39. Ring-necked Duck - M(fc-m) - R(fc-m) - L(c-m) - H
40. American Golden-eye - M(sc-wv) - R(sc-spring) - L(sc-m) - H
41. Bufflehead - M(a) - R(one-spring) - L(sc-m) - H - F
42. Old Squaw - M(a) - R(one-spring) - L(sc-m) - H
43. American Eider - F
44. American Scoter - H - F
45. White-winged Scoter - H - F
46. Surf Scoter - H - F
47. Ruddy Duck - M(sc-wv) - S(m) - R(one-fall) - L(sc-m) - H - F
48. Greater Snow Goose - F - L(one Snow Goose, sp.?. Mrs. C.W. Harris)
49. Canada Goose - M(sc-m) - R(flocks pass over) - C - A(fc-m)-H - F
50. Brant - F - F

51. Whistling Swan - L(one, Mrs. C. J. Harris) - H - F
52. Bittern - M(sc-m) - S(m) - R(sc-spring) - C - H - F
53. Least Bittern - M(a) - C - H - F
54. Great Blue Heron - M(sc-m) - S(m) - R(fc-sr - occas. winters)
- L(un-sr) - C - B(fc) - H - F
55. Egret - R(a-late summer) - H - F
56. Snowy Egret - F
57. Louisiana Heron - H
58. Little Blue Heron - M(sc-late summer) - S(sv) - R(fc-late summer)
- L(c-late summer) - C - B(sc-late summer) - H - F
59. Green Heron - M(c-sr) - S(sr)^{R(c-sr)} - L(c-sr) - C - B(fc-sr) - A(fc-sr)
- H - F
60. Black-crowned Night Heron - M(a) - H - F
61. Yellow-crowned Night Heron - L(one, Miss Hague, see Bird-Lore,
Vol. XXX, No. 4, p. 260.)
62. King Rail - M(a) - H - F
63. Clapper Rail - R(one, see Auk, Vol. XLVI, p. 106) - H - F
64. Virginia Rail - M(fc-m) - S(m) - A(one - w) - H - F
65. Sora - M(fc-m) - S(m) - R(c-m) - A(m-fall) - H - F
66. Yellow Rail - M(a).
67. Little Black Rail - S(m) - F
68. Purple Gallinule - F
69. Florida Gallinule - M(a) - R(a) - H - F
70. Coot - M(sc-m) - R(fc-m) - L(c-m) - H - F
71. Red Phalarope - M(a)
72. Northern Phalarope - Hampden-Sydney (Dr. Sayth, see Auk, Vol. XLIV,
No. 1, p. 45)
73. Woodcock - M(fc-m) - S(sr) - R(sc-m) - L(un-sr) - C - B(sc-sr) -
A(c-sr) - H - F
74. Wilson's Snipe - M(fc-m) - S(m) - R(c-spring) - L(un-m) - C -
B(un-w) - H - F

75. Dowitcher - M(a) - H - F
76. Pectoral Sandpiper - M(sc-m) - F
77. Least Sandpiper - M(sc-m) - R(un-spring) - F
78. Red-backed Sandpiper - M(a)
79. Semipalmated Sandpiper - M(sc-m) - R(sc-spring) - H - F
80. Sanderling - H - F
81. Greater Yellowlegs - M(sc-m) - R(un-spring) - L(un-m) -
C - H - F
82. Lesser Yellowlegs - M(c-m) - R(c-spring) - L(un-m) - A(one-fall)
- H - F
83. Solitary Sandpiper - M(c-m) - R(c-m) - L(c-m) - C - A(fc-fall) -
H - F
84. Willet - H - F
85. Upland Plover - M(sr) - R(un-sr) - L(un-m) - C - H - F
86. Spotted Sandpiper - M(sr) - S(s) - R(c-sr) - L(c-sr) - C - B(fc-sr)
- A(un-sr) - H - F
87. Hudsonian Curlew - F
88. Black-bellied Plover - F
89. Killdeer - M(c-r) - S(sr) - R(c-r) - L(c-sr) - C - B(c-r) - A(c-r)
- K - H - F
90. Semipalmated Plover - M(a) - R(a) - H
91. Piping Plover - H - F
92. Wilson's Plover - F
93. Ruddy Turnstone - H
94. Oyster-catcher - B(one, see Auk, Vol. XLI, p. 473) - F
95. Bob-white - M(c-r) - S(r) - R(c-r) - L(c-r) - C - B(c-r) - A(c-r),
- H
96. Ruffed Grouse - M(fc-r) - S(r) - R(fc-r) - L(un-r, in mountains)
97. Ring-necked Pheasant - R(few) - H
98. Wild Turkey - M(sc-r) - R(un-r) - L(un-r) - B(fc-r) - A(fc-r)

99. Mourning Dove - M(c-r) - S(r) - R(c-r) - L(c-r) - C - B(c-r) -
A(c-r) - H
100. Turkey Vulture - M(c-r) - S(r) - R(c-r) - L(c-r) - C - B(c-r) -
A(c-r) - H
101. Black Vulture - M(fc) - S(r) - R(c-r) - L(irregular) - C - B(c-r)
- A(fc-irregular) - H
102. Marsh Hawk - M(c-wv) - S(w) - R(un-w) - L(un-r) - C - B(sc-m) -
A(fc-m) - H
103. Sharp-shinned Hawk - M(fc) - S(w) - R(un-r) - L(un-r) - C -
B(un-w) - A(m) - H
104. Cooper's Hawk - M(c-r) - S(r) - R(fc-r) - C - B(fc-r) - A(un-r)
- H
105. Goshawk - M(a) - S(w) - C
106. Red-tailed Hawk - M(c-r) - S(r) - R(c-r) - L(un-r) - C - A(un-m)
B(sc-r) - A(un-m) - H
107. Red-shouldered Hawk - M(c-r) - R(fc-r) - L(un-r) - C - B(c-r) -
A(un-r) - H
108. Broad-winged Hawk - M(fc-sr) - S(sr) - C - H
109. American Rough-legged Hawk - C
110. Golden Eagle - M(nine records) - R(One, just across line in Bath
Co.) - Augusta Co.(Alexander Sprunt, Jr., saw one, Aug.,
1927)
111. Bald Eagle - M(sc) - R(two records) - B(sc) - H - Virginia Beach
(com., June, 1929, J.J. Murray)
112. Duck Hawk - M(a) - R(sc-r) - C
113. Pigeon Hawk - M(a) - C - H
114. Sparrow Hawk - M(c-r) - S(r) - R(fc-r) - L(c-r) - C - B(sc-r) -
A(sc-r) - H
115. Osprey - M(fc-spring) - S(s) - R(a) - L(c-v) - C - H
116. Barn Owl - M(sc-spring & fall) - R(sc-r) - B(sc) - H
117. Long-eared Owl - M(a) - R(one) - C - B(One)
118. Short-eared Owl - M(sc-fall) - R(two records)
119. Barred Owl - M(c-r) - S(r) - R(un-r) - C - B(un-r) - A(fc-r) - H

120. Screech Owl - M(c-r) - S(r) - R(c-r) - L(c-r) - C - B(c-r) -
A(fc-r) - H
121. Saw-whet Owl - M(a)
122. Great Horned Owl - M(fc-r) - R(fc-r) - L(un-r) - C - B(un-r) -
A(fc-r) - H
123. Snowy Owl - R(one) - S(w)
124. Yellow-billed Cuckoo - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-sr) - C
- B(fc-sr) - A(c-sr) - K - H
125. Black-billed Cuckoo - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(sc-m) - L(un-m) - C -
B(m) - A(m-spring)
126. Belted Kingfisher - M(c-sr) - S(r) - R(c-r) - L(c-sr) - C -
B(fc-r) - A(fc-r) - H
127. Nor. Hairy Woodpecker - M(c-wr) - S(r) - R(fc-r) ^{L(c-r)} - C - B(c-r) -
A(c-r) - K - H
128. Downy Woodpecker - M(c-r) - S(r) - R(c-r) - L(c-r) - C - B(c-r) -
A(c-r) - K - H
129. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - M(m) - R(c-wr) - L(un-wr) - C - B(c-wr)
- A(fc-wr) - K - H
130. Nor. Pileated Woodpecker - M(sc-r) - S(r) - R(c-r) - L(un-r) - C
- B(fc-r) - A(fc-r) - K - H
131. Red-headed Woodpecker - M(c-r - less c in w) - S(sr) - R(fc-sr-
few w) - L(c-r) - C - B(fc-r) - A(c-r) - H
132. Red-bellied Woodpecker - M(wr) - R(c-r) - L(c-sr-few w) - B(un-r)
- A(fc-r) - K(sr) - H
133. Red-cockaded Woodpecker - B(one pair) - H
134. Nor. Flicker - M(c-r-less in w) - S(sr) - R(c-r-less c w) -
L(c-r) - C - B(c-r) - A(c-r) - K - H
135. Chuck-will's-widow - B(fc-sr) - K - H
136. Whip-poor-will - M(local sr) - S(sr) - R(un-sr) - L(c-sr) - C -
B(c-sr) - A(c-sr) - K - H
137. Nighthawk - M(fc-sr) - S(sr) - R(sc-spring; c-fall) - L(c-m) -
B(sc-m) - C - A(c-m; sc-sr) - H
138. Chimney Swift - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-sr) - C - B(c-sr)
- A(c-sr) - K - H

139. Ruby-throated Hummingbird - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-sr)
- C - B(c-sr) - A(fc-sr) - K - H
140. Kingbird - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(fc-sr) - L(c-sr) - C - B(c-sr)
- A(c-sr) - K - H
141. Crested Flycatcher - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-sr) - C
- B(c-sr) - A(c-sr) - K - H
142. Phoebe - M(c-sr) - S(r) - R(c-sr-few w) - L(c-sr-few w) - C
- B(c-sr-few w) - A(c-sr-few w) - K - H
143. Wood Pewee - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-sr) - C - B(c-sr)
- A(c-sr) - K - H
144. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher - M(c-sr) - R(sc-m)
145. Acadian Flycatcher - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(un-sr) - C
- B(fc-sr) - A(fc-sr) - H
146. Least Flycatcher - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(un-m) - L(un-m) - C
147. Prairie Horned Lark - M(c-wv) - S(w) - R(c-wv) - L(un-wv)
- B(sc-wv) - Richmond(c-wv)
148. Blue Jay - M(sc-m) - S(r) - R(c-r-less c w) - L(c-r) - C
- B(fc-r; c-m) - A(c-r) - K - H
149. Northern Raven - M(sc) - R(sc-r)
150. Crow - M(c-r) - S(r) - R(c-r) - L(c-r) - C - B(c-r) - A(c-r) - H
151. Fish Crow - R(fc-wv) - L(un-wr) - B(irreg v) - A(irreg v) - H
152. Starling - M(c-sr) - S(r) - R(c-r) - L(c-r) - C - B(c-r)
- A(c-r) - H
153. Bobolink - M(c-m) - R(c-spring; sc-fall) - L(un-m) - C - B(c-m)
- A(c-m) - H
154. Cowbird - M(c-w) - S(sr) - R(c-sr-m) - L(c-m) - C - B(fc-m; sc-sr)
- A(fc-sr; c-m) - H
155. Red-winged Blackbird - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr-almost r) - L(un-sr)
- B(c-sr) - C - A(c-sr) - K - H
156. Meadowlark - M(c-r) - S(r) - R(c-r-less c-w) - L(c-sr: un-w) - C
- B(fc-sr; c-w) - A(c-r) - K - H
157. Orchard Oriole - M(sr) - S(sr) - R(c-m; few s) - L(un-sr) - C
- B(fc-sr) - A(fc-sr) - K - H
158. Baltimore Oriole - M(sr) - S(sr) - R(fc-sr) - L(un-sr) - C
- B(sc-m) - A(sc-m-spring) - K

159. Rusty Blackbird - M(c-m) - R(c-m) - L(un-m) - C - B(irreg-m)
- A(m) - H
160. Purple Grackle - M(c-sr; few w) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-sr) - C
- B(un-m) - A(fc-sr; c-m, spring) - K - H
161. Bronzed Grackle - M(fc-m, fall) - R(un-m, spring) - C -
Waynesboro (one, Murray)
162. Boat-tailed Grackle - F
163. Purple Finch - M(c-w & spring) - S(m) - R(c-m-few w) - L(c-wr)
- C - B(fc-wr) - A(fc-wr) - K - H
164. American Crossbill - M(a) - K
165. White-winged Crossbill - M(a) - B(one flock)
166. Goldfinch - M(c-r) - S(sr) - R(c-r) - L(c-r) - C - B(c-sr)
- A(c-r) - K - H
167. Pine Siskin - M(sc-w) - S(w) - R(one flock, Handley) - C
- L(occasional wv) - B(irreg. wv) - K - H
168. Lapland Longspur - M(one flock, May 1, Brown)
169. Vesper Sparrow - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-m. prob. sr)
- C - B(c-m) - A(c-m) - K - H
170. Ipswich Sparrow - F(wv)
171. Savannah Sparrow - M(c-wr) - R(c-wr) - L(c-m) - C - B(m)-A(m)-H
172. Grasshopper Sparrow - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-sr) - C
- B(c-sr) - A(c-sr) - H
173. Henslow's Sparrow - H - F(sr)
174. Sharp-tailed Sparrow - H - F(wv, local sr)
175. Seaside Sparrow - F(wv, local sr)
176. Nelson's Sparrow - M(one) - R(one)
177. Lark Sparrow - C
178. White-crowned Sparrow - M(fc-m) - S(w) - R(un-m) - L(one)
179. White-throated Sparrow - M(c-m) - S(m) - R(c-m; sc-w)
- L(c-m; sc-w) - C - B(c-wr) - A(c-wr) - K - H
180. Tree Sparrow - M(c-wr) - R(c-wr) - L(un-wr) - C - B(un-spring)
- A(un-wr)

181. Chipping Sparrow - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-sr) - C -
B(c-sr & m) - A(c-sr) - K - H
182. Field Sparrow - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr-few w) - L(c-sr; un-wr)
- C - B(c-r) - A(c-sr; prob w) - K - H
183. Slate-colored Junco - M(c-wr) - S(w) - R(c-wr) - L(c-wr) - C -
B(c-wr) - A(c-wr) - K - H
184. Carolina Junco - S(r) - R(c-breeds above 2700 feet) - L(r, in
mountains)
185. Bachman's Sparrow - M(one, see Auk, Vol. XXIII, p. 341) - L(un-wr)
- B(sc) - A(sc)
186. Song Sparrow - M(c-r) - S(r) - R(c-r) - L(c-r) - C - B(c-wr) -
A(c-wr) - K - H
187. Lincoln's Sparrow - M(a)
188. Swamp Sparrow - M(c-wr) - R(c-m) - L(un-m) - C - B(un-m) - H
189. Fox Sparrow - M(fc-m) - R(fc-m) - L(c-m; un-wr) - C - B(un-wr) -
K - H
190. Towhee - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-sr-occas w) - C -
B(fc-r) - A(fc-sr-few w) - K - H
191. Cardinal - M(fc-r) - S(r) - R(c-r) - L(c-r) - C - B(c-r) - A(c-r)
- K - H
192. Rose-breasted Grosbeak - M(sc-m) - R(un-m; sr in mts) - L(un-m) -
C - B(sc-spring) - K
193. Blue Grosbeak - M(a, Brown) - L(un-sr) - C - B(c-sr) - A(fc-sr)
- K - H
194. Indigo Bunting - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-sr) - C -
B(c-sr) - A(fc-sr) - K - H
195. Painted Bunting - B(one)
196. Dickcissel - L(one)
197. Scarlet Tanager - M(c-m) - S(sr) - R(c-m; sr in mts) - L(un-sr)
- C - B(sc-spring m) - A(sc-m, spring) - K
198. Summer Tanager - R(c-sr) - S(sr) - L(c-sr) - C - B(fc-sr) -
A(fc-sr) - K - H
199. Purple Martin - M(fc-sr) - S(sr) - R(fc-sr, local) - L(irreg sr)
- C - B(c-sr, local) - A(fc-sr, four colonies) - K - H

200. Cliff Swallow - M(c-sr) - R(c-m, spring; un-sr) - C
201. Barn Swallow - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(un-m) - C - B(fc-m, irreg) - A(m, fall) - K - H
202. Tree Swallow - M(m) - R(c-m) - L(c-m) - C - B(irreg m) - A(un-m) - K - H
203. Bank Swallow - M(sr) - S(sr) - Rockingham Co.(one, Murray) - C - B(un-sr) - H
204. Rough-winged Swallow - M(one) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(un-sr) - C - H
205. Cedar Waxwing - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-irreg) - L(c-sr-few w) - C - B(c-irreg) - A(irreg, fall & winter) - K - H
206. Loggerhead Shrike - H - (Shrikes occurring in extreme southeastern corner of the State are of this sub-species).
207. Migrant Shrike - M(un-r) - S(w) - R(c-r) - L(un-r) - C - B(un-wr) - A(c-r) - K
208. Red-eyed Vireo - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-sr) - C - B(c-sr) - A(c-sr) - K - H
209. Warbling Vireo - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(sc-m) - L(un-m) - C - B(sc-m) - H
210. Yellow-throated Vireo - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-m) - C - B(fc-sr) - A(fc-sr) - K - H
211. Blue-headed Vireo - M(sc-spring) - R(fc-m) - L(un-m) - C - B(un-m) - A(un-m) - K - H
212. Mountain Solitary Vireo - S(sr) - R(c-sr, in mts) - L(c-sr, Blue Ridge)
213. White-eyed Vireo - S(sr) - C - L(c-sr) - B(c-sr) - A(fc-sr) - K - H
214. Black & White Warbler - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-m; sr in mts) - C - B(fc-sr) - A(fc-sr) - K - H
215. Prothonotary Warbler - K - H
216. Swainson's Warbler - H
217. Worm-eating Warbler - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(sc-m; sr in mts) - C - K - H
218. Blue-winged Warbler - K - H

219. Lawrence's Warbler - R(one, see Science, Vol. LIV, Sept. 30, 1921, reported by Dr. J. L. Howe).
220. Golden-winged Warbler - M(un-sr) - C - B(one, spring) - K
221. Nashville Warbler - R(one) - L(See Wilson Bulletin, 1901, p. 29 & p. 38, and 1905, p. 60).
222. Orange-crowned Warbler - M(one)
223. Tennessee Warbler - M(c-fall) - R(fc-fall)
224. Parula Warbler - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-m) - B(un-sr) - L(un-sr)
K - H - (No attempt has been made in Va. to define the ranges of the two sub-species of this warbler. It is probable that the line between the ranges about equally divides the State, with C. a. americana covering the eastern half, and C. a. usneae the western.)
225. Cape May Warbler - M(fc-m) - R(c-m) - C - K
226. Yellow Warbler - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-sr) - C - B(sr)
- A(fc-sr) - K - H
227. Black-throated Blue Warbler - M(c-m) - S(m) - R(c-m) - L(c-m) - C - B(un-spring) - A(un-spring) - K - H
228. Cairns' Warbler - R(c-sr, in mts) - L(c-sr, Blue Ridge)
229. Myrtle Warbler - M(c-m) - S(m) - R(c-m & wv) - L(c-m; un-wr)
C - B(c-m & w) - A(c-m; fc-w) - K - H
230. Magnolia Warbler - M(c-m) - S(m) - R(c-m) - L(un-m) - C - B(c-m)
- A(c-m) - K
231. Cerulean Warbler - M(sc-spring) - S(m) - R(fc-sr) - L(un-m; un-sr, mts) - C
232. Chestnut-sided Warbler - M(un-m & sr) - S(m) - R(c-m) - L(un-m)
- C - B(un-spring) - K - H
233. Bay-breasted Warbler - M(spring, Brown) - R(fc-m) - L(un-m) - C - K
234. Black-poll Warbler - M(sc-spring; c-fall) - S(m) - R(c-m) - L(c-m) - C - B(un-spring) - A(c-spring) - K - H
235. Blackburnian - M(sc-spring; c-fall) - S(sr) - R(c-m; sr, mts) - L(c-m) - C - B(sc-spring) - K
236. Yellow-throated Warbler - L(one) - C - B(fc-sr) - K - H - (For Sycamore Warbler, see #278)

237. Black-throated Green Warbler - M(c-m) - S(m) - R(c-m; sr, mts) - L(c-m) - C - K - H - (See #279)
238. Pine Warbler - M(sc-fall) - S(sr) - R(sc-fall) - L(c-sr) - C - B(c-sr; few-w) - A(c-sr; few may w) - K - H
239. Palm Warbler - R(one-fall)
240. Yellow Palm Warbler - M(sc-spring; c-fall) - R(c-fall; one winter record) - L(un-m) - C - B(sc-spring) - K - H
241. Prairie Warbler - M(sc) - S(m) - R(c-m; local sr) - L(c-m) - C - B(c-sr) - A(fc-sr) - K - H
242. Oven-bird - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-sr) - C - B(c-sr) - A(fc-sr) - K - H
243. Northern Water-thrush - R(sc-m) - C - H
244. Louisiana Water-thrush - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-m) - C - B(c-sr) - A(c-sr) - K - H
245. Kentucky Warbler - S(sr) - B(un-sr) - A(un-sr) - K - H
246. Maryland Yellow-throat - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-sr) - C - B(c-sr) - A(c-sr) - K - H
247. Yellow-breasted Chat - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-sr) - C - B(c-sr) - A(c-sr) - K - H
248. Hooded Warbler - M(sc-spring; c-fall) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-m; c-sr, Blue Ridge) - C - B(un-sr) - A(un-sr) - K - H
249. Wilson's Warbler - M(sc-m) - L(one) - C - K - Giles Co. (Mrs. Dise, one)
250. Canadian Warbler - M(fc-spring) - R(sc-m; c-sr mts) - L(un-m; c-sr Blue Ridge) - C - B(one-spring) - K
251. Redstart - M(sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-m; c-sr Blue Ridge) - C - B(c-sr) - A(c-sr) - K - H
252. American Pipit - M(wv) - R(c-wv) - B(irreg-wv) - A(irreg-wv) - H
253. Mockingbird - M(un-r) - S(r) - R(fc-r) - L(c-sr; un-wr) - C - B(c-r) - A(c-r) - K - H
254. Catbird - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-sr) - C - B(c-sr) - A(c-sr) - K - H
255. Brown Thrasher - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-sr) - C - B(c-sr-few w) - A(c-sr; one winter record) - K - H
256. Carolina Wren - M(c-r) - S(r) - R(c-r) - L(c-r) - C - B(c-r) - A(c-r) - K - H

257. Bewick's Wren - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(fc-sr) - L(c-sr; un-wr) - H
258. House Wren - M(c-sr) - R(c-sr) - L(un-sr) - C - B(un-sr) -
A(c-sr) - H
259. Winter Wren - M(sc-w) - S(w) - R(c-wr) - L(c-wr) - C - B(fc-wr) -
A(fc-wr) - H
260. Short-billed Marsh Wren - M(one)
261. Long-billed Marsh Wren - M(c-sr) - R(sc-fall) - H
262. Brown Creeper - M(c-w) - S(w) - R(c-wr) - L(c-m; un-wr) - C -
B(fc-wr) - A(un-wr) - K - H
263. White-breasted Nuthatch - M(c-r) - S(sr) - R(c-r) - L(c-r) - C -
B(c-r) - A(c-r) - K - H
264. Red-breasted Nuthatch - M(sc-fall) - R(sc-fall & w) - C - L(c-m;
un-wr) - K
265. Brown-headed Nuthatch - B(un & irreg-s & w) - H
266. Tufted Titmouse - M(c-r) - S(r) - R(c-r) - L(c-r) - C - B(c-r) -
A(c-r) - K - H
267. Carolina Chickadee - M(c-r) - S(r) - R(c-r) - L(c-r) - C - B(c-r)
- A(c-r) - K - H
268. Golden-crowned Kinglet - M(c-m) - S(w) - R(c-wr) - L(c-wr) - C -
B(c-wr) - A(c-wr) - K - H
269. Ruby-crowned Kinglet - M(c-m) - S(w) - R(c-m) - L(c-m; un-wr) -
C - B(un-m) - A(un-m) - K - H
270. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - M(c-spring; sc-fall) - S(sr) - R(fc-
spring) - L(c-m) - B(c-sr) - C - A(c-sr) - K - H
271. Wood Thrush - M(c-sr) - S(sr) - R(c-sr) - L(c-sr) - C - B(fc-sr)
- A(c-sr) - K - H
272. Veery - M(c-spring) - S(m) - R(fc-m; prob sr in mts) - L(un-m) -
C - H
273. Gray-cheeked Thrush - M(sc, Brown) - S(m) - R(sc-spring)
274. Olive-backed Thrush - M(sc-spring) - R(c-fall) - L(either this
form or the Gray-cheeked is an uncommon migrant) - K
275. Hermit Thrush - M(c-m) - S(m) - R(un-m & w) - L(un-m & wr) - C -
B(c-wr) - A(fc-wr) - K - H
276. Robin - M(c-sr; few w) - S(sr) - R(c-sr; few w) - L(c-sr; un-wr)
- C - B(c-r; sc in cold weather) - A(c-sr; few w) - K - H

277. Bluebird - M(c-r) - S(r) - R(c-r) - L(c-sr; un-wr) - C - B(c-r)
- A(fc-r) - K - H

278. Sycamore Warbler - S(sr)

279. Kirtland's Warbler - S(m)

----- J. J. Murray -----

Additional copies of this issue of THE RAVEN may be obtained
from the editor at twenty-five cents per copy.



THE RAVEN



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PUBLISHED AT LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA
DR. J. J. MURRAY, EDITOR

VOL. II

MARCH, 1931

No. 3

Officers of the Virginia Society of Ornithology:

President: Ruskin S. Freer, Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, Va.

Vice-President: Chas. O. Handley, Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries, Richmond, Va.

Secretary: Florence S. Hague, Ph. D., Sweet Briar College, Sweet Briar, Va.

Treasurer: Ralph M. Brown, Librarian, V. P. I., Blacksburg, Va.

Editor of the Raven: J. J. Murray, D. D., Lexington, Va.

Members of Executive Comm.: M. G. Lewis, County Agent, Lexington, Va.
A. O. English, 105 Granby St., Norfolk, Va.

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THE RICHMOND MEETING

The officers of the Society looked forward to the Richmond meeting with much uncertainty of mind, but feeling that the future of the organization might be gauged pretty largely by the first annual meeting. All who attended were enthusiastic over the meetings and we are all very optimistic with regard to the future of The Virginia Society of Ornithology. The quality of the programs was fine, the fellowship was splendid, and the field trip to Curles Neck Farm was an appropriate climax to the series of events planned for our information and entertainment.

The business session convened at two-thirty Friday afternoon, Feb. 13th, in the Guest Hall of the Hotel Richmond. There were about twenty-five people in attendance, including three or four non-members. A nominating committee consisting of Dr. J. J. Murray of Lexington, Mrs. A. O. James of Richmond, and Mr. A. O. English of Norfolk, was appointed by the President, also a committee on resolutions, to report at the evening session, consisting of Mr. J. B. Lewis, Amelia; Mr. J. B. Ferneyhough, Richmond; and Mrs. Robert Reese, Alexandria.

Mr. M. G. Lewis reported for the committee on constitution. The constitution was adopted with the following changes: One-fourth of the members of the Society shall constitute a quorum until the membership reaches eighty, and thereafter twenty shall constitute a quorum.

Mr. R. S. Freer presented the President's report. He specially commended the Editor, Dr. J. J. Murray, and the Publication Committee consisting of Dr. J. I. Hamaker and Miss Lena B. Henderson of Lynchburg, and Mr. Chas. O. Handley of Richmond, for the success of the Society's official bulletin, THE RAVEN, in its first year. Mr. Freer also mentioned the trips taken by groups of Society members during the year to the Back Bay region near Virginia Beach, Thunderhill Mt. in the Blue Ridge near Lexington, and a day's field trip near Lynchburg, and called attention to the desirability of planning for more such trips, in order to add to our knowledge of the bird life of the state. The President's report was approved.

The report of the Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Lena B. Henderson, was read and approved. In her absence, it was read by Mr. M. G. Lewis, of Lexington. Miss Henderson's report brought out the facts that we had fifty paid memberships, and had a balance in the treasury of \$41.90, with all bills paid. It was announced that the President and Miss Florence Hague of Sweet Briar would audit the Treasurer's books, as provided for in the new constitution. A report of the audit appears in this issue.

Dr. Murray gave a brief report as Editor of THE RAVEN. He expressed appreciation of the co-operation he had received from correspondents, and bespoke the same co-operation for the Editor for the coming year. He stated that there had been twenty-one different correspondents to the RAVEN during the year.

The Society voted in favor of the recommendation of the Executive Committee that Mr. Harold H. Bailey of Miami, Florida, be made an Honorary Member of the Society. Mr. Bailey is author of the book, "Birds of Virginia", published in Lynchburg, in 1913.

Mr. Chas. O. Handley spoke briefly of the need of education and publicity relative to the true status and value of the Hawks. He also expressed himself as in favor of the Society taking a stand against the use of the pole trap.

The Nominating Committee reported as follows: President, R. S. Freer; Vice-president, Mr. Chas. O. Handley; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Florence Hague. The first two officers were re-elected. Owing to the resignation of Miss Lena B. Henderson, due to added duties in the Biology Department of Randolph-Nacon Woman's College, Miss Hague was elected to fill her place.

THE AFTERNOON PROGRAM

Vice-President Handley presided during the reading of papers in the afternoon program, which followed the business meeting, in the Hotel. Dr. J. J. Murray was the first speaker, on the subject, "Methods of Keeping Bird Records." Using large charts, duplicates of the loose-leaf page in his own note-books, he described the roll-book and life history notes. Considerable interest was shown in his talk, and there were several comments and questions in the time allowed for discussion.

Professor Freer read a paper entitled, "Some Endemic Birds Near Lynchburg." He defined endemic birds as those restricted to a comparatively small area by factors in their environment, and told of finding birds common to grasslands and meadows in the north and western states, on a farm near Lynchburg. These species, such as the Bobolink, Upland Plover, Vesper Sparrow, and others, are not common elsewhere near Lynchburg. Their occurrence on this farm was explained as due to its grassy meadows which are not common in the Piedmont generally.

After some general discussion, the meeting adjourned at five o'clock.

THE NIGHT PROGRAM

This meeting was called to order at 8:15 P.M., in the Hall of the House of Delegates, State Capitol, with President Freer presiding. Due to an oversight in the business meeting in the afternoon, it was necessary to conduct a short business session. The constitution adopted in the afternoon provided for a Secretary and a Treasurer, instead of the combined office as it was last year. The election of two members-at-large of the Executive Committee was also overlooked in the afternoon meeting. Accordingly, after another report from the nominating committee, Miss Florence Hague was elected Secretary, Mr. Ralph H. Brown, Librarian at Virginia Polytechnic Institute was elected Treasurer, and Mr. H. G. Lewis of Lexington, and Mr. A. O. English of Norfolk, were elected to the Executive Committee. The President announced the appointment of Dr. J. J. Murray as Editor of THE RAVEN for the coming year.

Mr. H. D. Hart, Executive Secretary of the Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries, extended a welcome to the Society. Mr. Chas. O. Handley, speaking on "Trapping Chimney Swifts", told of experiences in banding about ten thousand swifts in Georgia. His talk was illustrated with stereopticon slides, showing the various traps of his designing.

Mr. J. P. Andrews, Assistant Forester with the state forest service, showed films depicting the results of forest fires on game, fish and wild life in general, entitled "Forest Fires or Game". This was a very interesting and unusual film.

Mr. H. G. Lewis then read a paper on the subject, "Accuracy and Scientific Value as a Basis for Bird Study." Mr. Lewis cautioned the bird student to guard against sentimentality and emotionalism in interpreting what he sees in Nature. He decried the tendency which so commonly gets the best of most of us, to be more concerned with trying to make unusual records or run up big lists, than with the careful, painstaking studies of habits and life histories which are really more valuable.

The final number on the program was Mr. Herbert E. Job's talk on "Some of Our Common Birds." Mr. Job is Educational Director with the Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries. Known throughout the country as one of our best photographers of bird life, he has a wonderful collection of still and motion pictures. It was a great treat to see some of these films and slides.

Mr. J. B. Lewis reported for the Resolutions Committee, after which the meeting was adjourned.

There were about fifty people present at the night program, including a number of visitors. The names of those attending the meetings follow:

From Richmond: Miss Ada D. Ball, Mr. R. C. Bardwell, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Ferncyhough, Mrs. Blanch Finley, Mrs. A. O. James, Mrs. J. J. Jantz, Mr. Herbert E. Job, Dr. W. A. Plicker, Mr. D. H. Rucker, Miss Elizabeth H. Ryland, and Mrs. Frederick W. Shaw.

From Annelia: Mr. J. B. Lewis, Mr. H. J. Sheppard, Miss Mary C. Sheppard.

From Ashland: Mr. Chas. O. Handley, Mr. H. D. Hart.

From Lexington: Mr. H. G. Lewis, Dr. J. J. Murray.

From Lynchburg: Mrs. C. L. Burgess, Mr. R. S. Freer.

Mr. Ralph H. Brown, Blacksburg; Mr. A. O. English, Norfolk; Miss Juliet Fauntleroy, Altavista; Dr. Florence S. Hague, Sweet Briar; Mr. Geo. C. Mason, Newport News; Mrs. Robert D. Reese, Alexandria.

----R. F. S.

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FIELD TRIP TO CURLES NECK DURING ANNUAL MEETING AT RICHMOND

Perhaps the most enjoyable part of the program during the State meeting of the V. S. O. which was held in Richmond last month was the field trip to Curle's Neck on Saturday, February fourteenth. Quite true, the weather did about its worst as far as suitability for a field trip was concerned. However the raw, cold, misting rain did not prevent seventeen enthusiastic members from meeting at the Rich-

mond Hotel on schedule time at eight o'clock in the morning. The party was soon under way, led by Vice-President Chas. O. Handley, assisted by the district State Game Warden.

Curle's Neck Farm is thirteen miles south of east from Richmond in a large loop of the James river. It is a State game sanctuary and private shooting ground, a well established rendezvous for many varieties of waterfowl during the closed season. The fact that it is nearly surrounded by water results in a slightly milder climate and more even temperature during the winter than most localities.

First to attract the attention of the party upon arriving at the farm was a rather large flock of blackbirds. Careful observation revealed that the flock included about 300 Red-winged Blackbirds, 100 Purple Grackles, 50 Cowbirds, and 500 Starlings.

Various stops were made with the cars while all members of the party made full use of every minute of time with field glasses, observing carefully all that was to be seen. One stop on the edge of an alfalfa field afforded an excellent opportunity to observe to good advantage a small flock of Prairie Horned Larks associated with at least one Pipit. The opportunity of comparing these two species which are often rather difficult to distinguish in the field was very much appreciated by many members of the party. The cold rain and wind probably prevented them from taking wing as soon as they would have under more favorable conditions for flight, thus making it possible to observe them at rather close range.

A stop in the wooded border of the marsh land afforded a number of very interesting discoveries. Three Ruby-crowned Kinglets and one Golden-crowned Kinglet attracted much attention. Here again many members of the party enjoyed especially the opportunity of observing two more or less confusing species together. The writer enjoyed especially seeing Myrtle Warblers, this species having been intimately associated with numerous winter field trips during six years residence in Norfolk county when a boy.

A number of members of the party had not previously seen the Black Vulture and were much interested in learning to distinguish it from the common Turkey Vulture during flight. Attention was called to the slightly shorter wing spread, blacker color and more frequent and rapid wing beats of the Black Vulture, which characteristics distinguish them from their relative, more common in the northern part of the State.

A most thrilling climax to the land part of the trip was that afforded by watching no less than 450 Canada Geese feeding in fields of small grain crops. The birds permitted several members of the party to approach near enough to observe them very distinctly before they finally took wing. The chorus of musical "honking" combined with the sight of the large number of great birds taking wing made a deep impression,--a feeling of the greatness of bird life contrasted with the minute wonder of a humming bird in the flower garden or on a nest

of miniature white eggs. We were told that as many as two thousand of these great birds have been counted on the farm at one time during the winter months.

Next on the program for the day was a boat trip on a tributary of the James. Unfortunately for the writer, another engagement prevented him from taking this trip. I take the liberty therefore to quote from the President's account of this part of the trip in his weekly column published in the Sunday Lynchburg News:

"Four boats were tied together and pulled by an out-board motor on the front boat. For an hour we investigated the shores and lagoons along this creek. Something was happening almost every minute. Beautiful American Mergansers went speeding overhead. Up the river eight stately Blue Herons arose from the edge of the stream. In a lagoon, flocks of Mallards totaling over two hundred birds, suddenly took to wing ahead of us. One poor fellow, a cripple, was seen hurrying over land to the cover of a thicket. A Wood Duck, a number of Black Ducks, a Kingfisher, a Ring-billed Gull and four Herring Gulls, three Red-tailed Hawks and a splendid Bald Eagle were seen on the boat trip. The Eagle circled and wheeled about in the sunlight, showing off his white tail feathers to splendid advantage. We finally returned freezing externally, but very much aglow inwardly. The raw damp air and a strong breeze made the latter part of the trip very uncomfortable, but none of us would have missed it."

(Ruskin S. Freer).

In all, the trip will long be remembered by each member of the party. Not the least value of such a trip is the association and opportunity of closer acquaintance with other bird lovers.

A consolidated list of birds observed on the trip compiled by Dr. Murray, follows:

Herring Gull, 4; Ring-billed Gull, 1; American Merganser, 14 (8 males); Mallard, 230; Black Duck, 55; Wood Duck, 1; Canada Goose, 450; Great Blue Heron, 8; Mourning Dove, 2; Turkey Vulture, 12; Black Vulture, 70; Red-tailed Hawk, 3; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Bald Eagle, 1; Kingfisher, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Flicker, 3; Prairie Horned Lark, 63; Crow, 25; Starling, 500; Cowbird, 50; Red-winged Blackbird, 300; Meadowlark, 15; Purple Grackle, 100; White-throated sparrow, 20; Slate-colored Junco, 50; Fox Sparrow, 6; Cardinal, 15; Migrant Shrike, 1; Myrtle Warbler, 4; Pipit, 1; Mockingbird, 1; Carolina Wren, 2; Brown Creeper, 1; Tufted Titmouse, 1; Carolina Chickadee, 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 1; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 3; Robin, 50; Bluebird, 4. Total, 40 Species. The larger numbers of individuals are of course estimates but the figures are conservative.

---Merriam G. Lewis.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS
AT THE RICHMOND MEETING.

Your Committee on Resolutions moves that a vote of thanks from our organization be given:

1. To Miss Lena B. Henderson, Dr. Ruskin S. Freer, and Dr. J.J. Murray for the work they did in organizing our Society, and for the splendid way in which they have guided it through its first year;
2. To Major A. Willis Robertson, Commissioner of Game and Inland Fisheries, for extending financial aid in publishing the first issues of THE RAVEN;
3. To Mr. Chas. O. Handley, for his good work in arranging for this meeting;
4. To the Richmond newspapers that helped by advertising our meeting, and to the Hotel Richmond for furnishing a place in which to meet.

Signed,

Mrs. Rebecca R. Reese,
J. Bowie Ferneyhough,
John B. Lewis, Chm.

REPORT OF AUDITING COMMITTEE

Total receipts, Dec. 7, 1929 to Feb. 12, 1931	\$ 134.76
Total disbursements (same period)	<u>92.86</u>
Balance on hand, Feb. 12, 1931	\$ 41.90

Receipts and disbursements are not itemized as they have to do almost entirely with membership fees and expenses of mimeographing THE RAVEN. It should be noted that but for the gift of \$50.00 from The State Game Commission, we should have had a deficit on our first year's operations.

Signed,

Miss Florence S. Hague
Ruskin S. Freer
Committee

EDITORIAL NOTES

The following new members have been added to our rolls during and since the Richmond meeting:

Badger, T. Hallet, Birds Nest, Va. - Associate
Ball, Miss Ada D., 4409 Forest Hill Ave., Richmond, Va. - Active
Jones, F.M., P.O. Box #44, Bristol, Va. - Active
Mason, Geo. C., 1015 Blair Ave., Hampton, Va. - Associate
Redwood, W.D., Apt. D. Camelot Court, Norfolk, Va. - Associate
Reese, Mrs. Robert, Alexandria, Va. - Associate
Riley, J.H., Falls Church, Va. - Associate
Ryland, Miss Elizabeth H., 115 N. Jefferson St., Richmond, Va. - Active
Shaw, Mrs. Elizabeth M., 2417 Rosewood Ave., Richmond, Va. - Active
Sheppard, Miss Mary C., Chula, Amelia Co., Va. -
McIlwaine, Rev. Wm. B., Jr., D.D., Westminster Presbyterian Church,
Charlotte, N.C. - Associate

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The new constitution adopted at the Richmond meeting provides for four classes of members: associate, active, sustaining and honorary. Associate members, paying dues of \$1.50 per year, may not hold office but may vote if they reside within the State. Active members, paying dues of \$2.50 per year, must reside within the State. Only active members may hold office. Sustaining members are active or associate members paying \$5.00 or more per year. Honorary members, who are chosen only by vote of the Society, pay no dues, but are entitled to all privileges of the Society.

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There are now three honorary members of the Society: Dr. Wm. C. Rives, 1702 Rhode Island Ave., Washington, D.C., the author of a "Catalogue of the Birds of the Virginias", published in 1890 and now out of print; Dr. Ellison A. Smyth, Jr., R.F.D., Salem, Va., who while Professor of Biology at V.P.I. put in thirty-five years of work on the birds of western Virginia and published in "The Auk" (Oct., 1912, and Jan., 1927) a remarkable annotated list of 208 species for Montgomery County; and Mr. Harold H. Bailey, Miami, Fla., author of the book, "Birds of Virginia", a work on the species breeding within the State.

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The amount of work that will be done by the Society and the material that will be published will depend largely on the number of members whom we can secure. The amount received in dues from the present membership is barely sufficient to take care of the running expenses and to keep THE RAVEN going. The publication of a paper such as The Consolidated List in the February issue, is quite a drain on our

EDITORIAL NOTES (cont'd).

small treasury. If the work is to expand the membership must expand. It is hoped that each member will try to interest others in the Society and will send the names of prospects to the Secretary.

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Dues for 1931 should now be sent to the Treasurer.

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FIELDTRIP TO CAPE HENRY

An event which should be of great interest to members of the V.S.O. is a field trip planned for the Biology Section of the Virginia Academy of Science, which holds its annual meeting at Norfolk on April 24 and 25. The Biologists will make a trip to the sand dunes of the Cape Henry region. Members of the V.S.O. who are also members of the Academy are planning to take advantage of this occasion to do some work with the shore birds, which should be migrating in numbers along the coast at that time.

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ACCURACY AND SCIENTIFIC VALUE
AS A BASIS FOR BIRD STUDY

(The following is a brief summary of the paper with the above title which was read by Mr. M.G. Lewis at the annual meeting of the V.S.O.-Ed.)

The paper read at the annual meeting of the Society by Merriam G. Lewis of Lexington, brought out several important points, with reference to care in avoiding inaccuracies in making notes and records. Every bird student likes to make important or unusual records. This desire combined with the fact that the bird student is very frequently handicapped by many elements of uncertainty, makes caution doubly important. Bird students must not overlook the fact that entirely incorrect impressions are likely in field observations, especially with the inexperienced observer. Color markings which must often be observed in unfavorable light and with only a hurried glance because of the movement of the bird, and various obstacles, are likely to be impressed very incorrectly on the mind of the observer. Therefore a second or third look under the most favorable circumstances is very necessary before making an unusual record or noting a new species in the locality.

Records or notes which must be followed by a question mark are of little or no scientific value. Any very unusual record must be substantiated by the skin of the bird if it is to be accepted for publication in the best scientific journals.

Intensive life history studies are much needed and offer a very

fascinating field of study for every bird student. Mr. Lewis called attention to Bent's Life Histories of North American Birds as an excellent example to follow, also to the last chapter of Dr. Arthur A. Allen's Book of Bird Life which gives a plan on which to work.

Attention was also called to the importance of keeping complete notes. Daily lists of birds observed, especially lists of those species other than the most common, form the most valuable basis for an annotated list of birds observed in the observer's own locality. We need many such lists which include seasonal occurrence, relative abundance and breeding notes. Such lists in order to be of most value should cover a number of years observations made on frequent field trips throughout the year. A good start has been made along this line in Virginia, but we have only started. Such lists as those published by Drs. Smyth and Rives afford good examples for us to follow in each locality of the State.

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FIELD NOTES

BEDFORD. Bird Banding Notes. Throughout the fall and early winter the scarcity of birds in this vicinity has been very noticeable. Not only the seed eaters were missing, but also our ever constant fruit and insect feeders seem to have almost deserted us. Mockingbirds, Cardinals, Downy Woodpeckers and Juncos were quite rare during December and early January. Flickers were seen occasionally, but the Red-headed Woodpecker seemed rather more in evidence than usual. No Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers or Red-bellied Woodpeckers were noted, and even the Tufted Titmice have been very casual, disappearing for several weeks at a time. Five fed here constantly all January and February of 1930. The records show they were here practically every day and often in the traps several times a day. There were also five Downy Woodpeckers which were just as regular in their visits. This year only two have been present--both birds banded in 1930. The first, a male, appeared Jan. 13 this year, and later returned with a female Feb. 9. This is the only pair I have recorded. Other "returns" are as follows: 1 Mockingbird, banded Oct. 11, 1930, returned Feb. 24, 1931; 1 Chickadee, banded April 1, 1930, returned Feb. 7, 1931; 1 White-breasted Nuthatch, banded Jan. 12, 1930, returned Dec. 12, 1930; 1 Junco, banded Jan. 14, 1930, returned Feb. 9, 1931. This Bird Banding Station started operations Jan. 4, 1930. In January and February of last year 43 birds representing 13 species were banded. In the same months this year only 17 birds have been banded.

The comparison of banding records is as follows:

Jan. and Feb. 1930		Jan. and Feb. 1931		
		(New)	(Return)	
Mockingbirds	5	1		
White-breasted Nuthatch	2	2	1	
Cardinal	3	2		
Tufted Titmouse	5	1		
Junco	10	6	1	
Song Sparrow	6	4		
Dove	2	0		
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1	0		
Starling	1	0		
Chewink	1	0		
Carolina Wren	1	0		
White-throated Sparrow	1	0		
Carolina Chickadee	0	4	1	Banded 4-1-30

NOTE: "Return" indicates recapture of banded bird three months or more after previous trapping.

Katharine P. Claytor.

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LYNCHBURG. February, 1931, has been in marked contrast to February of last year. 47 species were listed for the month, a year ago, and only 38 for the month this year. There were 16 migrants during February, 1930, and only 8 for this February. The Carolina Wren, White-throated Sparrow, Mourning Dove, Purple Finch, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Brown Creeper and Red-breasted Nuthatch have been very scarce this winter, although they have been listed once or twice each month. The Meadowlark and Field Sparrow wintered in 1929-'30, but not this past winter. The Red-headed Woodpecker, which did not stay through the winter a year ago, has been abundant this year. Daily early morning trips were begun on Feb. 18. Migrants: Towhee, 1/10; Robin, 1/29; Killdeer, 2/2; Myrtle Warbler, 2/5; Purple Grackle, 2/18; Field Sparrow, 2/21; Red-winged Blackbird, 2/24; Phoebe, 2/27; Fox Sparrow, 2/28; Cedar Wax-wing, 2/28.....Mrs. C. W. Harris sends in the following notes: Jan. 25, Kingfisher, 17 Meadowlarks, flock of Canada(?) Geese; Jan. 27, Flicker; Jan. 30 and 31, Great Blue Heron. She reports Song Sparrows as very scarce this winter, but has seen Mourning Doves, Fox Sparrows and Meadowlarks frequently during January, though the latter were scarce earlier in the winter; and has seen a Phoebe through most of the winter in a certain location. She lists the Ruby-crowned Kinglet for Jan. 4.

-----Ruskin S. Freer.

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FIELD NOTES (Cont'd)

AMELIA. The Hermit Thrush and Towhee, which were always with us in winter in Brunswick county, have not been noted in either January or February. Red-headed Woodpeckers, Myrtle Warblers, G.C. Kinglets, Killdeers, and Doves have been with us all winter, and Red-bellied Woodpeckers have been seen occasionally. Migratory movements seem to have been rather slow in February. Migratory flocks of Robins were seen the 2nd, 11th, and 16th. Summer resident Robins do not seem to have arrived. Two Purple Grackles were seen near Amelia the 11th, 24th, and March 1. They may have been the same pair. No Red-winged Blackbirds seen to date. Bluebirds were recorded on 11 different days in February, which is about three times as often as they were seen in January. This would seem to indicate that they are partially migratory here. No Cedar Waxwings seen in February. First Swamp Tree Frog (*Pseudacris feriarum*) heard calling, Feb. 24. First Spring Peeper, (*Hyla crucifer*) heard, March 1. Alder (*Alnus rugosa*) in bloom Feb. 24. Red Maple in bloom Feb. 28.

-----John B. Lewis.

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NARUNA. Phoebe, Feb. 2 and 6; Meadowlark, 9 on 4th; Prairie Horned Lark, 3 on 5th; Black Vulture, 5 on 6th and on 10th; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 2 on 12th and 1 on 27th; Brown Creeper and Hermit Thrush on 15th; pair of Killdeers arrived on 19th; Tree Sparrow on 17th, my first record for this vicinity. First songs: Junco and Song Sparrow on 2d; Cardinal on 4th; Dove on 23d; Meadowlark on 26th; Mockingbird, Goldfinch, Fox Sparrow and Field Sparrow on 28th.

-----Bertha Daniel.

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BLACKSBURG. Robin, 1 on Feb. 1, 10 on 23d, first Robin song on 23d; Blue Jay on 1st; Song Sparrow on 5th, first record for the season, singing; Purple Finch, 5 on 6th; Tree Sparrow (10), Bluebird (10), Red-winged Blackbird (first record for the season) on 8th; Meadowlark on 18th.

-----Ralph M. Brown.

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LEXINGTON. Early dates of migrants: Robin (winters sparingly in sheltered places in the mountains but these were in open country and appeared to be migrants) on Feb. 2d and 20th and 28th; Purple Finch (rare in winter) on 12th and then throughout month, singing on 28th; Wilson's Snipe on 22d; Field Sparrow (winters sparingly) on 23d; Red-winged Blackbird (4 males) on 26th. First songs: Mourning Dove and

FIELD NOTES (Cont'd)

Field Sparrow on 23d; Song Sparrow, which is normally common and singing through the winter but which this season has been uncommon and not singing at all, on 24th. Blue Jays, Sapsuckers, Phoebe, Killdeer, Flicker, Goldfinches, Doves and Bluebirds have been present throughout the month. All the sparrows that winter here have continued throughout February to be unusually scarce. The Great Blue Heron, which has been wintering again, was seen on 7th and 23d. Two Red-tailed Hawks on 2d; Pileated Woodpecker on 16th and 23d (2); Red-bellied Woodpecker on 2d and 16th.

-----J. J. Murray

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MIMEOGRAPHER'S NOTE

The bad appearance of the first six pages of this issue is due to a typewriting machine which got out of adjustment. This was not discovered until the first six stencils were all cut, when another machine was drafted into use. We apologize for this poor work and promise better results in the future. Members understand, no doubt, that this is not a commercial job.



THE RAVEN



BULLETIN OF THE VIRGINIA SOCIETY OF ORNITHOLOGY
PUBLISHED AT LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA
DR. J. J. MURRAY, EDITOR

Vol. II

April, 1931

No. 4

WINTER BIRDS OF TIDEWATER VIRGINIA

(By George C. Mason)

In connection with the efforts now being made to bring this state's attractions before the public, there might well be pointed out the really unusual advantages offered by the Virginia Peninsula for bird-study all the year 'round. These advantages result from a remarkably mild climate, a location midway of the annual migration route, and a fortunate land-and-water situation which offers a welcome to birds of land, sea, and shore alike.

Far from being a closed season for the one who hunts birds with field glasses and note book, winter on the Virginia Peninsula offers a much richer variety of bird life than could be found in a less favored locality. Many of summer's most valued bird neighbors prove themselves more than fair weather friends by spending the winter with us as well, though in greatly reduced numbers. Among these are the meadowlark, mockingbird, brownthrasher, Carolina wren, marsh wren, redbird, and the swamp, field and song sparrows, and with them we may always find such interesting strangers as the myrtle warbler and the white-throated and Savannah sparrows, who arrive with the fall migration and are content to go no further. But the winter bird student here is by no means limited to these regular residents as there are perhaps fifty land and water birds who are occasional winter visitors and likely to be seen at any time during the colder months. In the woods, the most familiar of these form a congenial group who nearly always travel together; the black-capped chickadee and his lively cousin the tufted titmouse, the downy woodpecker with his acrobatic friend the white-breasted nuthatch who walks upside down like a fly, and the dainty gray and olive kinglets with their gold and ruby crowns. Other visitors seen here only in winter are the junco, his slate-and-white plumage suggesting winter's "leaden skies above, snow below," the sparrow-like pine siskin, and the purple finch, who also resembles a sparrow, but one gloriously transformed by being dipped in raspberry dye. Perhaps the most distinguished of our winter callers is the hermit thrush, who outranks all our other birds in beauty of voice, but

remains as completely silent here as when nesting in a bed of ferns by the mossy banks of a New England brook. Farthest from home of all is the pipit or titlark, an obscure little brown bird who looks like a sparrow but walks along the edge of the water like a sandpiper; he comes to us from the arctic regions and goes back at the first touch of spring. Some of our summer bird friends are also seen here as solitary stragglers during the winter months, and these may include the flicker and red-headed woodpeckers, the blue-jay, crow, goldfinch, red-winged blackbird, mourning dove and even the bluebird and robin, usually not expected until the arrival of spring.

One of the compensations of our winter season is that it brings us sea visitors from distant shores who feel so much at home in our sheltered waters that they linger here for many weeks on their way to their northern nesting grounds.

Handsomest of these are the goldeneye ducks in their plumage of black and spotless white, with their yellow eyes and bushy dark green heads plainly visible through a glass as they lie close to shore in the misty mornings. The bluebill, buffle-head, shoveler and old squaw ducks may also be seen here in winter, as well as the redbreasted and hooded mergansers or fish ducks, and the sea coots or scoters who never venture into Hampton Roads but disport themselves off the Chesapeake beaches. Oddest of all are the horned grebes, who have a tantalizing way of leaving for the north just as they are beginning to show the queer ear-tufts of their showy nesting plumage. Besides the larger herring gull and the common ring-billed variety, there are also great flocks of Bonaparte's gulls, the dainty little surf gulls whose white heads already show the first sooty indication of the smart black cap that will adorn them just before they depart for their nesting haunts near Hudson's Bay. Finally, there is always the chance of an unexpected thrill in the sight of a pair of double-crested cormorants, great coal-black birds with long hooked bills, one feasting from some fisherman's pound net while his mate dries outspread wings in the sun, or of a pair of bald-headed eagles calmly perching a few rods off the Boulevard shore, completely undisturbed by its traffic.

(From The Daily Press, Newport News, Va.,
Sunday, March 1, 1931.)

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Several new members have been added to our rolls within the past few weeks:

Mr. R. P. Albergotti, 1405 Argyle Ave., Lochaven, Norfolk, Va.
Mr. John S. Folk, Maryland Ave., Suffolk, Va.
Mr. C. J. Pennock, Kennett Square, Chester Co., Penna.
Prof. W. J. Sowder, E. Radford State Teachers College
Dr. Wm. Page Williams, Brookneal, Va.

PUBLIC ACTIVITIES OF V. S. O. MEMBERS

Mr. Geo. C. Mason is scheduled to deliver an illustrated lecture on birds before the Garden Club of Gloucester C. H. on May 13.

Dr. J. J. Murray spoke to the Woman's Club of Lexington, Va., on "Attracting Birds to Our Yards", March 31.

Prof. R. S. Freer addressed the Fort Hill (Lynchburg) Community Club, March 25, on "Keeping Up with the Bird Migration", discussing the birds of Timber Lake and Edgewood Farm and the effect of the drought upon the birds. He also spoke at Lynchburg College Chapel, March 24, on the same subject; and to the Girl Scout Court of Honor, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Lynchburg, March 30, on "Birds of April".

Miss Bertha Daniel spoke on birds to the Brookneal Garden Club recently.

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It is the Editor's intention to publish in The Raven, as he learns of them, additions to any of the local lists included in the Consolidated List of the February issue. It may be worth while for all who are interested to write these additions into their copies of the List. The Great Horned Owl was inadvertently omitted from the Southwest Va. list. Recent additions to the Lynchburg list are the Loon and the Pipit. A recent addition to the Rockbridge list is the Pectoral Sandpiper.

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The most thorough and complete catalogue of Virginia birds that has been published as "A Catalogue of the Birds of the Virginias", by Wm. C. Rives, M. D., published in 1890 for the Newport (R. I.) Natural History Society. As it has been out of print for some time, it will be of interest to our readers to have a list of the birds in Rives' Catalogue which are not to be found in the Consolidated List of the February issue of The Raven. There are 37 species, and the list follows: Razor-billed Auk, Kittiwake, Great Black-backed Gull, Roseate Tern, Leach's Petrel, Gannet, White Pelican, Brown Pelican, European Widgeon, European Teal, King Eider, Hutchins' Goose, Black Brant, Wood Ibis, European Woodcock, Knot, Western Sandpiper, Marbled Godwit, Hudsonian Godwit, Long-billed Curlew, Eskimo Curlew, Golden Plover, Prairie Chicken, Passenger Pigeon (not yet extinct at that time), Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Traill's Flycatcher, Horned Lark, Snow Bunting, Northern Shrike, White-rumped Shrike, Philadelphia Vireo, Brewster's Warbler, Grinnell's Water-thrush, Connecticut Warbler, Mourning Warbler, Black-capped Chickadee. Fourteen species occur on our Consolidated List which Rives did not have.

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"The Snowy Egret", a monthly mimeographed journal of notes on ornithology published by H. A. Olsen and R. E. Olsen at 1120 E. Ann St., Ann Arbor, Michigan, at \$1.00 a year, gives an amazing amount of interesting Michigan material. It is hard to believe that it can be issued at that price and pay its way. A very nice comment on The Raven is made in the April issue. Speaking of the smaller bird publications, the Editor says, "That these papers serve important functions in the chronicle of notes of regional importance which are too many to be included in the larger bird journals.....cannot be doubted.....Perhaps, best of all, at least to the editors of these publications, are those times when they are able to scoop the larger magazines on important articles and information, as 'The Raven', monthly organ of the Virginia Society of Ornithology, has done in its February issue. In this number 'The Raven' presents a consolidated list of the birds of nine local regions of Virginia, supplemented by records of Virginia birds which have appeared in The Auk and Bird-Lore. There are 279 species listed, about which information is given as to their numbers and times on hand in the various regions covered. The list represents a great amount of work, and the Virginia Society of Ornithology.....is to be commended for its publication."

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FIELD NOTES

LEXINGTON. My most interesting record for March was that of three Canada Geese seen at Big Spring Pond on the 30th. They have not been known to stop in this region for years. One of them appeared so much smaller than the other two that I wondered if it could be a Hutchins' Goose, but there was no chance to collect it. A friend saw two Ravens at Dale Mountain on the 25th and one on another date. A flock of Wild Turkeys is occasionally to be seen at the same place. Ducks have been scarce this spring since their favorite stopping place, Cameron's Pond, dried up last summer and has had practically no water since, but five species were noted: Hooded Merganser, 23d & 29th; Black Duck, 1 on 16th; Baldpate, a male & 2 females, on 20th; Green-winged Teal, 1 or 2 males on five days, from 16th to 24th; Pintail, 1 male on 16th. Sharp-shinned, Cooper's, Red-tailed, Red-shouldered, and Sparrow Hawks were noted; and a Barred Owl on 16th. A flock of 35 Black Vultures was seen on 20th, an unusual number to be seen together after nesting has begun. Song Sparrows and Juncos, which had been scarce all winter, became abundant in late February. Fox Sparrows were unusually abundant this spring, a flock of 50 or more being seen in one field on the 9th. A single Cedar Waxwing was noted on the 16th. Golden-crowned Kinglets were seen on the 18th. I had not seen one since October, though Mr. M. G. Lewis has seen them. First dates: Purple Grackle, 1st; Hermit Thrush, 9th; Bewick's Wren, 17th; Savannah Sparrow, 20th; Pied-billed Grebe, 30th.

J. J. Murray.

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FIELD NOTES (Cont.)

BLACKSBURG. March 8th: Purple Grackle, 25; Phoebe, Dr. Smythe's earliest record being the 11th; Wilson's Snipe, 12; Fox Sparrow, 6, and continuing until 29th. March 12: Killdeer, under the trees on the V. P. I. Campus. March 15: Woodcock; Ruffed Grouse, 4; Pileated Woodpecker. March 19: Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, earliest record for Montgomery County, Dr. Smythe's earliest being March 25. March 20: Savannah Sparrow, 6. March 29: Hermit Thrush, first for the season, rather late.

Ralph M. Brown.

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BRISTOL. March 11: Great Horned Owl; Red-bellied Woodpecker. 17th: large flock of migrating Robins. 18th: Barred Owl; Cedar Waxwing (22). 19th, in a trip along the North Fork of the Holston River: Black Duck (4); Pine Siskin (approximately 300); Phoebe (4); White-throated Sparrow (23); Song Sparrow (30); Towhee (6); Carolina and Slate-colored Juncos; Bewick's Wren; House Wren; Carolina Wren. 20th: Killdeer (20); Red-bellied Woodpecker; Hairy Woodpecker; Field Sparrow (3). 26th: Sparrow Hawk (2); Purple Grackle (5); Pileated Woodpecker (3); Mockingbird; Winter Wren (4). 30th: Ruffed Grouse (3); Wood Thrush. A large flock of Pine Finches, about 300, came here about the middle of January and remained until March 20th. Both varieties of Kinglets occurred sparingly during January and February, but none were seen in March.

F. M. Jones.

NOTE: In a recent letter to the Editor Mr. Jones had written: "The Mallard nests here in small numbers, and are also winter residents. I found two nests last summer (1930), one in Washington Co., the other in Scott Co. I saw others during the summer while I was fishing, so felt sure that they were nesting close by." In answer to further questions from the Editor, Mr. Jones writes: "So far as I could tell, the ducks referred to in previous correspondence were wild. As to whether or not they were formerly raised in captivity no one could tell. They were as wild as any other wild ducks and flew as well. One nest was in a marshy meadow, which was partly surrounded by water, and contained eight eggs. The other two nests were in high grasses close to the Holston River in an unfrequented bend. They contained five and seven eggs respectively. I am of the opinion that it is merely a matter of protection as far as the nesting of the ducks is concerned. I also know of a place in Tennessee, a few miles from the Virginia line, where both Mallards and Black Ducks nest and are residents."

In response to a request for further data on Snowy Owl records, Mr. Jones writes: "I saw three specimens this season (1930-31), one in James City Co. (eastern Virginia), one in Scott Co., and the third in

FIELD NOTES (Cont.)

Sullivan Co., Tenn. The owl I saw in James City Co., a turkey hunter had killed, and had it on the front of his car. The Scott Co. owl flew out of a hollow beech tree when I pulled on a grape vine growing on the tree. A farmer killed the Tennessee owl in his pasture field, where it was sitting on a fence post."

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NARUNA. First dates of migrants: March 7th, Towhee; 12th, Pine Warbler (common on 15th); 21st, Chipping Sparrow; 25th, Myrtle Warbler. First songs: 14th, Robin; 19th, Phoebe, Flicker; 21st, Chipping Sparrow; 23d Towhee; 28th & 30th, Hermit Thrush. This is my first record of the Hermit Thrush's song here. I had no idea this solitary bird was such an exquisite musician. The Hermit Thrush was seen seven times during the month. Prairie Horned Lark, 2 on 2d, 1 on 24th. Cooper's Hawk on 7th, 21st, and 25th. Sparrow Hawk, 25th. Tree Sparrow, 3 on 12th.

Bertha Daniel.

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AMELIA. First dates: March 8th, Red-winged Blackbird; 16th, Kingfisher; 23d, Field Sparrow & Pine Warbler, both singing; 25th, Brown Thrasher; 29th, Chipping Sparrow. First Robin singing, 7th. Small flocks of Fox Sparrows, 10th, 19th, 23d, 29th. Seven Pipits, 20th. A single Fish Crow was seen and heard, April 2d. First Painted Turtle (*Chrysemus picta*), March 26th, and first Leopard Frog (*Rana pipiens*), 29th.

John B. Lewis.

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LYNCHBURG. March proved to be a much better month for birds than February. 69 species for the month, as compared with 67 for March, 1930; 24 migrants as against 16 in 1930; and largest list for one day, 45 as against 43 in 1930, are the statistics for the month. 16 species of Ducks or waterfowl were listed. The Pipit was added to the Lynchburg list, and an earlier uncertain record for the Merganser (*Mergus americanus*) was confirmed when 2 males and a female were found on the James River. Of the birds which have been scarce through the winter and spring, the Purple Finch was seen three times, Red-breasted Nuthatch, once, Brown Creeper, four times, and Golden-crowned Kinglets, twice. A Prairie Horned Lark was observed carrying nesting materials on March 27. It made two trips with dried grasses while I was watching, but nothing seems to have come of this impulse as yet. I will watch closely for further evidence of nesting..... Two events, though observed the first days of April, are of such interest that they are included now: a Loon (*Gavia immer*) was found at Timber Lake on April 1. This is the first I have seen here, so it is new to the Lynchburg list, though Mr. Edley Graighill, owner of the Lake, reports seeing a flock of 27 Loons in 1927. On April 4, the largest number of ducks

FIELD NOTES (Cont.)

ever seen on the Lake stopped for a one-day visit. There were over three hundred individuals, which were all Lesser Scaups except three Baldpates, four Pied-billed Grebes, a Coot and a pair of Mallards. Migrants for March: 3/1, Meadowlark, Pine Warbler; 3/8, Lesser Scaup, Pintail, Canvasback, Ruddy Duck; 3/10, Baldpate; 3/13, Rusty Blackbird; 3/14, Hooded Merganser, Golden-eye, Flicker; 3/15, Savannah Sparrow; 3/16, Ring-necked Duck; 3/18, Merganser; 3/19, Herring Gull, Green-winged Teal, Redhead; 3/20, Chipping Sparrow; 3/21, Pied-billed Grebe; 3/26, Vesper Sparrow; 3/27, Cowbird; 3/29, Bewick's Wren, Purple Martin, Blue-winged Teal. Mrs. C. W. Harris, who lives on the James River, eight miles from the city, finds a great many things of unusual interest. She is in a particularly favorable region. On Feb. 14, Mr. Harris saw two white birds, which were larger than ducks, swimming on the river. Mrs. Harris was unable to identify them. She reports the Field Sparrow as singing on March 6th. During the week preceding March 12, she frequently saw 10 Pipits, and identified them positively. She has been seeing these birds, which I added to the Lynchburg list only recently (3/14), for several years without being able to identify them. A Junco, which was almost pure albino, but with brown eyes, visited her yard Mar. 16 and 17. Meadowlarks have been common since Feb. 15. Tree Sparrows passed through in numbers on Mar. 8. One or two White-throated Sparrows have been seen daily since last Dec. 20, but have been very scarce as compared with other years. Fox Sparrows have been seen every day since Feb. 9, and have been unusually abundant. A few wintered. Mrs. Harris saw three Wilson's Snipes on 3/15 and two Ruby-crowned Kinglets on 3/27.

Ruskin S. Freer



THE RAVEN

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PUBLISHED AT LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA
DR. J. J. MURRAY, EDITOR

Vol. II

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No. 5

NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF V. S. O.

Although according to the constitution six months' credit may be extended to members, the Executive Committee has approved the plan of sending THE RAVEN to delinquent members for only three months past the time when dues are payable. The fiscal year of the Society is the calendar year. The April issue was not sent to several who were members last year. If it is inconvenient to remit just now, please advise the Treasurer, Mr. Ralph M. Brown, Blacksburg, Virginia, and THE RAVEN will continue to be sent to you with the understanding that you will remit some time before July 1st. The finances of the Society are so limited that it is impossible to continue mailing copies to members who have not indicated their desire to renew their membership by April 1st. New subscribers and renewals are sent a complete file for the current year. Hence those sending in dues during the year should remit for the new year on January 1st.

---Publication Committee---

If your copy of THE RAVEN fails to reach you, or if past numbers due you have failed to arrive, please notify THE RAVEN, Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, Virginia.

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PUBLIC ACTIVITIES OF V. S. O. MEMBERS

Mr. John B. Lewis is now contributing regularly a short column of natural history to the Richmond News Leader.

Prof. Freer delivered an illustrated lecture on birds and wild flowers to the Brookneal Garden Club late in April, and after the lecture took some of the members of the Garden Club on a field trip.

One of our members, Dr. Wm. B. McIlwaine, a Virginian now living in Charlotte, N. C., is often called upon to speak on birds to dinner clubs, garden clubs, schools, etc., in his section. We hope soon to use some material from one of his recent radio addresses.

The Editor will be glad to learn of similar activities engaged in by other members of the Society.

ADDITIONS TO AND CHANGES IN THE CONSOLIDATED LIST

It is our purpose to publish in THE RAVEN, as fast as they are reported, additions to any of the local lists included in the Consolidated List of the February issue. It is hoped that those who prepared the original lists will report new species which they discover.

Mr. John B. Lewis's notes in this issue add the Yellow-throated Warbler to the Amelia County list.

Mr. F. M. Jones reports the following species, which he either inadvertently omitted from his former list or which he has added since:

Omitted: Bobolink, late summer migrant; Greater and Lesser Yellow-legs, spring migrants; Canada Geese, fall migrants; Black Duck, fall and winter; Bald Eagle, noted three times in spring.

Additions: House Wren noted on March 19th, and mated pair on April 21st. Red-bellied Woodpeckers first seen on March 11th, two pairs of which are nesting here now. Loon occupied the same place in a bend of the North Fork of the Holston River from April 13th to 21st. This bird was in summer plumage. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Hooded Mergansers and Buffle-heads, April 18th.

Mr. R. M. Brown adds the Nashville Warbler to the Montgomery County list. He also reports changes in the status of the following species since Dr. Smyth's papers were published: Woodcock (sc-m); Marsh Hawk (c-r); Blue Jay (fc-r); Starling (c-r); Bobolink (sc-m); White-crowned Sparrow (sc-m); Purple Martin (none recorded in past five years); Nashville Warbler (sc-seen 5/7/27, 5/2/28, 4/24/30); Chestnut-sided Warbler (fc-sr); Bay-breasted Warbler (fc-m); Black-poll Warbler (c-spring; fc-fall); Blackburnian Warbler (sc-spring & fall); Hooded Warbler (sc-spring & fall; may breed); Mockingbird (fc-r); Golden-crowned Kinglet (fc-m); Ruby-crowned Kinglet (fc-m); Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (c-sr; 3 nesting records in 1930 and 1931).

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FIELD NOTES

FIELD TRIP TO VIRGINIA BEACH
(From "The Rambler", Lynchburg News)

Unfavorable weather prevented successful results on the trip to the coast this year. Again, as last year, we seemed to be too early for the shore bird migration. We saw only seven birds of this group, three Piping Plovers, a Least Sandpiper and two which we were not able to identify. Herring and Laughing Gulls were very abundant, also Double-crested Cormorants and Barn Swallows. All of these were migrants, gradually working their way northward.

Several points along the beach from Ocean View, around Cape Henry to a point two or three miles south of Virginia Beach, were visited. Back Bay was also visited for its marsh birds. We found a few Long-billed Marsh Wrens, a flock of Greater and Lesser Yellow-legs, and at

FIELD NOTES (Continued)

points en route, saw two or three Bald Eagles and an Osprey. Three Loons were seen out on the ocean near Virginia Beach, and on the state military reservation, four birds new to me were found -- Hudsonian Curlews. This was the high mark of the trip. Some years ago I saw a Long-billed Curlew along the Snake River out in Idaho, and so quickly recognized these birds as Curlews.

On Sunday forenoon we saw a flock of twenty-five Bobolinks flying northward along the beach near Cape Henry. They seemed to be very intent on "going places."

Prof. Robert P. Carroll of V.M.I. and Dr. M.J. Murray of Lynchburg College accompanied the writer. --R. S. F.

NEWPORT NEWS. It has been a late spring, locally, as shown by the fact that arbutus found in bloom last year on March 13th was not yet in flower on April 5th this year, in the same location, and was still in full bloom as late as April 18th; the same has been true of bloodroot, Wintering birds have been much less numerous than usual, particularly the waterfowl, and I have seen only one flock of 20 Lesser Scaup Ducks, on April 20, in Lee Hall Reservoir, whereas they were present in Hampton Roads last year and the year before in "rafts" of 175 birds. Bonaparte's Gulls were also scarce and fewer individuals were in full black-headed plumage before they left for the nesting grounds about the middle of April.

Migrants were first noted as follows: Laughing Gull, March 25; Pine Warbler, March 26; Purple Martin, April 2; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher and Chipping Sparrow, 3; Brown Thrasher, in song, 4; Yellow-throated Warbler, 6; Ovenbird, 9; Rough-winged Swallow, 10; Chimney Swift, Tree Swallow, Pied-billed Grebe, 12; Black-and-white Warbler, 13; Wilson's Snipe, 16; Maryland Yellow-throat and Prairie Warbler, 17; Cowbird, 18; Greater Yellowlegs, 19; Sharp-tailed Sparrow, 20; House Wren, 21; Summer Tanager, 22; Bobolink and Parula Warbler, 23; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 23; Spotted Sandpiper, 26; Yellow Warbler, 27.

---- G. C. Mason ----

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AMELIA. First Towhee singing, April 9. Yellow-throated Warbler heard but not seen, 4 miles east of Amelia, April 10. First Field Sparrow singing, April 9. Fox Sparrow singing, April 9. Yellow-Throated Warbler heard and studied with glasses at Winticomack creek, 18 miles south east of Amelia, April 17. These are the only occurrences of the species in the county as far as I know. Greater Yellow-legs seen at the old ice pond, April 24. Three doves nests found, April 27. About 25 Barn Swallows and 12 Tree Swallows seen at different places in the county, April 28. Evidently a swallow wave.

FIELD NOTES (Continued)

The following is my list of first arrivals since April 6. They may not be actual firsts, as I have not had time for field trips every day. I give them for what they may be worth:

Yellow-billed Cuckoo,	May	2	Black & White Warbler,	April	9
Whip-poor-will,	April	13	Parula Warbler,	"	17
Chimney Swift,	"	17	Yellow Warbler,	May	2
Kingbird,	"	24	Black-throated Blue,	"	3
Crested Flycatcher,	May	5	Blackpoll Warbler,	"	5
Wood Pewee,	"	6	Prairie Warbler	April	20
Bobolink,	"	4	Ovenbird,	"	21
Orchard Oriole,	"	3	Water Thrush,	"	7
Grasshopper Sparrow,	April	28	Maryland Yellow-throat	"	12
Spotted Sandpiper,	"	12	Hooded Warbler,	May	4
Summer Tanager,	May	4	Redstart,	April	20
Purple Martin	April	12	Catbird,	"	28
Barn Swallow,	"	20	Ruby-crowned Kinglet,	"	9
Tree Swallow,	"	28	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	"	9
Red-eyed Vireo,	May	3	Wood Thrush,	"	21
Yellow-throated Vireo,	April	20	House Wren,	May	2
White-eyed Vireo,	May	2			

---John B. Lewis---

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NARUNA. Last dates for winter residents: Hermit Thrush, March 30; Fox Sparrow, April 7; Golden-crowned Kinglet, Brown Creeper, April 11; Junco, April 18; Song Sparrow, April 23; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, April 27; White-throated Sparrow still present at end of April.

First dates for migrants and summer residents: Bewick's Wren, Brown Thrasher, Vesper Sparrow, April 9; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Yellow Palm Warbler, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Black and White Warbler, Chimney Swift, Wilson's Snipe, 11; Purple Grackle, 15; Ovenbird, Prairie Warbler, 14; Maryland yellow-throat, 16; Whip-poor-will, Bachman's Sparrow (?), 17; Purple Martin, 19; Redstart, 21; Catbird, Kingbird, 24; Yellow-throated Vireo, 28; Wood Thrush, 29; Red-eyed Vireo, Summer Tanager, 30; Magnolia Warbler, 30; Black Vultures, 4 on April 2, 3 on the 4th, and again on the 10th, 16th, and 27th; Sparrow Hawk on the 3rd, 23rd, and 28th; Cooper's Hawk, 5th and 20th; Prairie Horned Lark, 4th and 15th, singing each time. A male field sparrow here with white patch on left shoulder and white outer tail feathers. Phoebe building nest on the 13th and began incubating eggs 28th.

---Bertha Daniel---

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SWEET BRIAR COLLEGE. Black Duck, 2, 4/12; Scaup, 1, 3/18; 2, 4/3 & 4/5; 5, 4/8; 6, 4/19; Bufflehead, 1, 4/8, 4/5, & 4/8. Great Blue Heron, 1, 4/30; Green Heron, 1, 4/17. Wilson's Snipe, 1, 4/12; 2, 4/17; Spotted Sandpiper, 2, 4/12; Killdeer, 3/19 & 3/26, nest 4/29; Bob-white, 12-15, 2/1; 5 or 6 seen near the house and many calls heard for a few days about 4/10.

FIELD NOTES (Continued)

Mourning Dove first seen, 3/15. Sparrow Hawk, only record, 2/28. Pileated Woodpecker, 3, 3/1; Red-headed Woodpecker, first seen, 3/17; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 1, 2/1; 1, 2/26; 3, 3/1, 1, 4/11; Flickers, more abundant since 4/9. First dates for the following: Chimney Swifts, 4/17; Phoebe, 3/8; Red-winged Blackbird, 3/20; Meadowlark, 3/1; Baltimore Oriole, 4/30; Grackle, 3/2.

Purple Finch, 4 to 6 on April 10, 11, and 20; Goldfinch, migrating flocks on April 20 and following days. First dates for White-throated Sparrow, 3/26; Chipping Sparrow, 4/14; Field Sparrow, 4/10. Junco, last seen, 4/18. Fox Sparrow, only record, 3/26.

Rough-winged Swallow, first seen, 4/12. Cedar Waxwing in migrating flocks of 10 to 20, from April 15 to 20. Shrike, only record, 2/1. Myrtle Warbler, 2/24; 3/17, 4/17, 4/18. Brown Thrasher, first seen, 4/9. White-breasted Nuthatch, last record, 2, 4/11. Ruby-crowned Kinglet, last record, 1, 4/9. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, only record, 2, 4/10.

---Florence Hague---

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LYNCHBURG. The past month has been better in some respects than the same month last year, and in other ways not quite so good, so far as observations on the birds are concerned. A total of 123 species of birds were listed as against 126 species in April, 1930. Of these 123 species, 5 were seen near Lexington and 11 were seen in the neighborhood of Virginia Beach, and were not listed near Lynchburg, leaving 107 different species for this area. Last year, 43 migrants were listed in April, while there were five more this year, or 48. The largest number of species listed included only 55 species. The difference is due to the fact that no full day was given to this type of activity this year.

A number of species usually recorded in April were missed this year for some unknown reason. The Red-bellied Woodpecker, which returned in March last year, is not yet here (May 7). The Great Blue Heron, seen on March 26 last year, has not been recorded. The Wood Duck, seen twice last year, has not been listed this year. It is a rare bird, anyway, and its visits last year may have been accidental. The Crested Flycatcher, Bobolink, Black-throated Green Warbler and Nighthawk, all observed in April last year, were not recorded in April this year.

Nesting data: The nest of the Prairie Horned Lark, reported in the March issue, was found to contain three eggs on April 10, and on April 12 two had hatched. Five more trips were made to the nest, the last on April 20, when there were still only two nestlings, with an apparently sterile egg. We did not see the adult birds attending the nest at any time, or show any evidence of uneasiness about our presence. In fact they were never seen near the nest. On Thursday, April 23, we visited the nest to take a photograph of the young birds, but found that they had left. There had been a severe storm the day before, and the young birds may have been its victims. I have not seen any of the Horned

FIELD NOTES (Continued)

Larks since the storm. Dr. J. J. Murray writes that Dr. H. C. Oberholser of the Biological Survey states that he believes this to be the southernmost record for the nesting of the Prairie Horned Lark east of the Alleghenies. Dr. Murray says that he thinks the previous southernmost record was for Fairfax, near Alexandria. We were able, however, to get a good photograph of the nest with one sterile egg in it.

A Bluebird's nest found April 17, contained four eggs; five eggs on April 19; another Bluebird's nest, found on April 19, also contained 5 eggs; a Mourning Dove's nest found on April 17, contained 2 eggs; on April 30, there were two little squabs several days old. Several robins' nests were found during the last two weeks of April.

Water birds at Timber Lake: The Loon, reported as a new bird for Lynchburg in the March issue, was seen twice later in April; 4 birds on the 6th, and 1 on the 7th. Two or three Ring-necked Ducks stayed through the month and into May. Sixteen Baldpates and 3 Double-crested Cormorants arrived after a storm on April 26; the Baldpates remained into May, and the Cormorants remained for three days. Other water birds seen at the Lake during April include the Lesser Scaup, Mallard, Black Duck, Hooded Merganser, Pied-billed Grebe, Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Coot, Bonaparte's Gull, Red-breasted Merganser, Bufflehead, and Shoveller.

Miscellaneous: Quails, not seen at all through the winter, were seen frequently after 4/10; a pair of Red-shouldered Hawks have been seen frequently at Timber Lake all through the spring, and for a few days in April, a pair of Cooper's Hawks was there also. Barn and Tree Swallows were unusually abundant at the Lake this spring. Flocks of Chipping Sparrows seemed to be very abundant during the latter part of April, as they were last year. On April 12 we witnessed some thrilling aerial maneuvers by four Red-tailed Hawks near the Peaks of Otter in the Blue Ridge.

Migrants: 4/1, Osprey; 4/2, Loon; 4/4, Black and White Warbler, Tree Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, Spotted Sandpiper, Kingfisher, Coot; 4/5, Barn Swallow, La. Water Thrush; 4/6, Bonaparte's Gull; 4/7, Shoveller; 4/8, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Woodcock, Brown Thrasher, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher; 4/10, Upland Plover, Maryland Yellowthroat, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Chimney Swift, Marsh Hawk; 4/12, Blue-headed Vireo, 4/14, Yellow Palm Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Swamp Sparrow; 4/15, Red-breasted Merganser, Green Heron, Parula Warbler, Solitary Sandpiper; 4/16, Yellow-throated Vireo, Hermit Thrush; 4/17, Greater Yellow-legs; 4/18, Grasshopper Sparrow, Bufflehead; 4/19, Scarlet Tanager, Ovenbird, House Wren; 4/20, Yellow Warbler; 4/21, Redstart, Wood Thrush; 4/23, Kingbird; 4/25, Catbird (Va. Beach); 4/26, Double-crested Cormorant, White-eyed Vireo (Suffolk), Whip-poor-will (Farmville); (Firsts for two of these at Lynchburg - Catbird, 5/2; White-eyed Vireo, 4/30). 4/28, Baltimore Oriole; 4/29, Yellow-billed Cuckoo; 4/30, Red-eyed Vireo, Hooded Warbler, Lesser Yellow-legs.

Last Dates: Purple Finch, 4/27; Rusty Blackbird, 4/15; Junco, 4/30; Fox Sparrow, 4/9 Miss Lena B. Henderson reports the Redstart for 4/17 and the Woodthrush for 4/20..... Mrs. C. W. Harris reports Fox Sparrows through April for the first thirteen days, the last date being 4/13; Yellow-throated Warbler, first, 4/8; Cliff Swallow, 4/26; Great Blue Heron, 4/14; Whip-poor-will, 4/14; Wood Thrush, 4/18; Yellow Warbler, 4/17; Redstart, 4/19; Red-eyed Vireo, 4/20; Hummingbird, 4/23.

FIELD NOTES (continued)

LEXINGTON. The following are last dates for April: 3rd, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Prairie Horned Lark, Brown Creeper; 6th, Fox Sparrow; 7th, Tree Sparrow; 27th, Golden-crowned Kinglet. The following are first dates: March 23, Myrtle Warbler; April 3, Great Blue Heron (migrants in addition to one which has wintered), Cowbird, Rusty Blackbird (both late and uncommon this spring), Vesper Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow; 6th, Solitary Sandpiper, Barn Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow; 10th, Swift; 13th, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher; 14th, Purple Martin, Black & White Warbler; 15th, Upland Plover; 17th, Green Heron, White-throated Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow; 19th, Brown Thrasher; 20th, Redstart; 21st, Whip-poor-will; 23rd, Grasshopper Sparrow, Towhee, Red-eyed Vireo, Parula Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, House Wren; 25th, Spotted Sandpiper, Cliff Swallow, Tree Swallow, Northern Water-thrush, Louisiana Water-thrush; 26th, Kingbird; 27th, Yellow Warbler; 30th, Crested Flycatcher, Orchard Oriole, Summer Tanager, Hooded Warbler, Wood Thrush. The Pied-billed Grebe has been common throughout the month. Mr. Freer and I watched the courtship activities of a pair at Big Spring Pond, April 3rd. They caressed one another with bills and heads, and one of them called repeatedly the "cow, cow, cow" notes. This was the first time I had heard it here. A pair of Hooded Mergansers were noted on April 1st, Black Duck (9 each time) on 12th and 13th, and Blue-winged Teals were fairly common from the 3rd to the 17th. An American Bittern was present at Big Spring on the 9th. Wilson's Snipe were common through the month. While on a field trip, April 3rd, Prof. Freer, Mr. M. G. Lewis, and I added a new species to the Rockbridge list, the Pectoral Sandpiper, 5 of which were found in a muddy meadow just outside Lexington. I also saw three at the same place on the 5th and the 8th. Of hawks, the Sharp-shinned (27th), Red-tailed (3 times), Red-shouldered (20th), Sparrow (twice), and Osprey were noted. I saw the Osprey three times. It has been more common than usual this spring and several have been shot. Pileated Woodpeckers were seen on the 3rd (3), 9th, 13th. One small flock of Cedar Waxwings noted on the 10th. Large flocks of Goldfinches began passing through on the 27th. The Hermit Thrush, which is rare here, seen 13th & 27th.

---J. J. Murray---

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BLACKSBURG. The following are my records of first arrivals during April: 5th, Spotted Sandpiper, Kingfisher, Field Sparrow. 9th, Chipping Sparrow. 10th, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, common through the month. 12th, Towhee, Bewick's Wren. 14th, White-throated Sparrow, common through the month. 18th, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, also on 19th (4) and 26th (6). 19th, Brown Thrasher, Vesper Sparrow. 26th, Myrtle Warbler (4), Parula Warbler (4), Black & White Warbler, Louisiana Water-thrush, Ovenbird. 28th, Red-eyed Vireo, Olive-backed Thrush. 29th, Yellow Warbler. 30th, Wood Thrush, Blue-headed Vireo (rare). Purple Finches noted from April 2nd to 14th. Last Fox Sparrow, 2nd. Ruffed Grouse, 5th, 18th (2), 19th, 26th. American Golden-eye, my first record, 5th. Scaups on 5th, 9th, 10th. Hermit Thrush, 10th, 23rd. Brown Creeper, 11th & 13th. Mockingbird, 12th (4), 26th. Golden-crowned Kinglet, 12th.

FIELD NOTES (Continued)

Two Pileated Woodpeckers, which nowadays are usually found only in remote ravines, were seen in the college woods, April 19th. Junco, 30th. A pair of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were beginning to nest on April 18th. This is the second record for Montgomery County, the pair which I found last year furnishing, I believe, the first record of their nesting over 1900 feet in Virginia.

---Ralph M. Brown---

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BRISTOL. The following is my list of first arrivals: April 1st, Wilson Snipe, spring migrant; 3rd, Chipping Sparrow; 4th, Vesper Sparrow; 9th, Purple Martin; 10th, Black and White Warblers; 11th, Flickers, a few resident. 12th, Broad-winged Hawk; 13th, Loon, spring migrant; Bank Swallows and Gnatcatchers; 17th, Least Flycatcher; 18th, Whip-poor-will; 20th, Rough-winged Swallows and Spotted Sandpipers; 21st, La. Water Thrush, White-breasted Nuthatch and Chimney Swift; 22nd, Scarlet Tanager and Fish Hawk; 27th, Barn Swallows and Yellow Warblers; 28th, Bald Eagle, killed by resident, Smyth Co.; 30th, Hooded Merganser (13), Bufflehead (7).

Further reference must be made to the Gnatcatchers. Always the arrivals in the Spring are paired and stay in each other's company all the time unless nesting. Unless sitting on the nest, I have never seen one of these birds still for more than a few seconds at the time. Owing to their small size and long tail with the outer feathers white, they are not to be mistaken for any other of our smaller birds. As they raise two broods a season, nesting begins rather early and soon after their arrival. The nest as we all know is one of the prettiest of all Eastern bird creations and considerable time and work is lavished on it. The first nests are usually larger than the succeeding one and the size and slant of the limb which they select for their building operation governs to a small extent the size of the nest. Depending on the weather conditions a full complement of five eggs can be found from the fifth to the tenth of May. Full sets of three and four eggs will again be noted from June 15th to 25th. In nest building while most birds build a skeleton outline of the whole nest to begin with, the gnatcatchers finish theirs from the bottom up, using their feet for the finishing touches. It takes from seven to eight days to finish one of the larger nests and both birds assist in the operation although the female does the bulk of the work as is customary among our feathered friends.

---F. M. Jones---



THE RAVEN

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DR. J. J. MURRAY, EDITOR

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No. 6

Editorial Notes.

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The volume of field notes is so heavy this month that there is room for little else in THE RAVEN. But the publication of field notes on Virginia birds is the primary purpose of our bulletin and preference is always given to such material.

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It has been suggested that the Editor set a date by which notes must reach him if they are to be included in the current number. That date hereafter will be the 10th of each month.

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A list of the paid-up members of the V. S. O. will be published in the July or August issue.

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Mr. Ralph M. Brown has delivered a number of radio talks on birds during the spring months. He has particularly emphasized methods of attracting birds to yards and gardens.

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Additions to the Consolidated List. Mr. F. M. Jones has sent in the following additions to the Southwest Virginia section of the list: Red-shouldered Hawk; Rose-breasted Grosbeak; Cape May, Bay-breasted, Cairns', Palm, Yellow Palm, and Canadian Warblers.

Mr. Jones also makes a very interesting addition to the Coastal section of the list which is a new species on the Consolidated List

as a whole, This is the Ground Dove. North Carolina is usually considered the normal northern limit of this species, it being listed as accidental in Virginia. Consequently when in a recent letter Mr. Jones wrote that he had been accustomed in former years to find the nests of the Ground Dove in James City and York Counties, I asked him for further particulars. He writes, "I do not have any eggs of the Ground Doves as I gave away the collections in which they were included. I used to find the nests in York county, built of pine needles on low horizontal spruce pine limbs."

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The ecological notes from Southwest Virginia furnished by Mr. F. Jones are of particular interest, and especially the notes of his trip to White Top Mountain. This, with its twin peak of Balsam, is the highest point in Virginia. It furnished the subject of a paper by Dr. Wm. C. Rives in one of the earliest issues of THE AUK, in January, 1889.

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This issue of the RAVEN is very late, due in part to the fact that the copy was late in reaching the publication committee, and in part to the fact that when the copy did reach Miss Scoggan at Lynchburg, illness in her family prevented her doing the mimeograph. Through the kindness of Mr. M. G. Lewis, the work of the June and July issues is being done in his office in Lexington.

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FIELD NOTES

NORFOLK. On May 10, Mr. J. E. Gould and I made an all day trip from Arbuckles Landing up the canal, known as The Feeder, to Lake Drummond in Dismal Swamp. The following birds were observed. In addition to the list, Mr. Gould found the nest of the Prothonotary Warbler.

Cardinal	Goldfinch
Crow	Carolina Wren
Quail	Pine Warbler
Chickadee	Field Sparrow
Dove	Crested Flycatcher
Brown Thrasher	Acadian Flycatcher
Towhee	Yellow-breasted Chat
Downy Woodpecker	Black-throated Green Warbler
Wood Thrush	Tufted Titmouse
White-throated Sparrow	Ovenbird
Turkey Vulture	Hooded Warbler
Catbird	Red-eyed Vireo
Black-throated Blue Warbler	Yellow-throated Vireo
Kingbird	Prothonotary Warbler
Black Tern	Solitary Sandpiper
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Robin
Maryland Yellow-throat	Marsh Hawk
White-eyed Vireo	Parula Warbler (Heard)

Towhees (common) Maryland Yellow throats (common) White-eyed
Vireos (common). Rest of list, twos and threes.

A. O. English.

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AMELIA. Some firsts since May 6.

Nighthawk	May 9.
Hummingbird	May 10.
Acadian Flycatcher	" 12.
Blue Grosbeak	" 10.
Indigo Bunting	" 10
Scarlet Tanager	" 7
Blackthroated Green W.	7
Kentucky Warbler	7
Yellow-breasted Chat	7

A Bachman's Sparrow was heard singing in the west central part of the county May 15, about two miles from where this species was seen and heard May 1 and May 13, 1930. This sparrow was heard singing once in each of two other locations in the county, on May 7 and May 27 of last year. It is probably a straggler, or possibly an irregular breeder in Amelia. A hummingbird's nest was found May 27. A Barred Owl was heard hooting in Flat Creek low grounds June 5.

John B. Lewis.

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NARUNA. Last dates: May 1, Ruby-crowned Kinglet; 16, White-throated Sparrow; 18, Slate-colored Junco; 29, Prairie Horned Lark.
First Dates: May 2, Yellow-billed Cuckoo; 3, Pewee, Scarlet Tanager, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-breasted Chat; 4, La. Water-thrush; 5, Hummingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Black-poll Warbler; 6, House Wren; 7, Orchard Oriole; 9, Blackburnian Warbler; 10, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Acadian Flycatcher, Blue Grosbeak; 11, Indigo Bunting, Yellow Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Hooded Warbler; 12, Spotted Sandpiper, Barn Swallow, Canada Warbler; 16, Nighthawk (and again on 17th); 18, Grasshopper Sparrow; 19, Cedar Waswing (also on 23 & 27).

Nest Notes: May 1, Mockingbird, 1 egg; 5, Brown Thrasher, 1 egg; 9, new nest of Chipping Sparrow, freshly made nest of Wood Thrush in maple tree in a thicket of brambles and ferns, and Robin's nest with 2 eggs and a fledgling; 12, two Flicker nests, Kingfisher's nests with the birds evidently incubating, and a Black Vulture's nest in a cave which had contained two eggs about two weeks earlier but in which the young could not now be located; 13, nest of Carolina Chickadee with two fledglings in an old stub; 14, nest of Cardinal with 4 eggs, Catbird's nest with 1 egg, and Purple Martins building; 25, Black and

White Warblers with fledglings; 26, nest of Field Sparrow with 4 eggs

Bertha Daniel.

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LYNCHBURG. April 29, heard Whip-poor-will call. May 6, on motor trip to Winchester noted Purple Martins up the Valley all the way. May 9, Hooded Warbler. May 15, Yellow-billed Cuckoo. May 22, heard Yellow-billed Cuckoo call at 2:00 A. M.

Mrs. C. L. Burgess.

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LYNCHBURG. May, always a very busy month around a college campus, is a hard month in which to get in regular bird work. I was able to get out a little more this year, however. Miscellaneous: Double-crested Cormorant, 3, 5/1; 2, 5/10; 1, 5/15; only two previous records for the Cormorant, which I had listed as Phalacrocorax carbo; I now believe this to have been the Double-crested, P. auritus auritus, from a comparison of the ranges of the two species; a male Lesser Scaup and a Baldpate were seen at Timber Lake as late as May 25 by Dr. Murray and myself; 2 females Red-breasted Mergansers, 5/1 and 5/1; flock of 16 Baldpates arriving on 4/26 remained through 5/2; Ring-necked Duck, 1 male and 1 female, 5/2; Red-bellied Woodpecker still totally absent up to May 30; Bobolinks more numerous than usual, 50 on 5/9, 30 on 5/15; Savannah Sparrow, 9 on 5/2; White-throated Sparrow, 1, 5/25; Barn Swallows, about a dozen, 5/25; Cedar Waxwing, numerous from 5/20 to 5/25; Black-White, Parula and Hooded Warblers still fairly common at end of month; Magnolia seen twice, 5/10 and 5/15; Canada seen several times, 5/8, 10, 15, 25; Wilson's seen 5/10 and 17, with only one previous record for Lynchburg.... Migrants: 5/1, Summer Tanager, Double-crested Cormorant; 5/2, Crested Flycatcher, Black-throated Green and Nashville (?) Warblers; 5/4, Blue Grosbeak; 5/6, Orchard Oriole, Rose-breasted Grosbeak; 5/7, Nighthawk; 5/8, Yellow-breasted Chat, Indigo Bunting, Pewee, Acadian Flycatcher, Canadian Warbler, Great Blue Heron, Black-poll Warbler, Black-billed Cuckoo, Black-throated Blue Warbler; 5/9, Bobolink; 5/10, Wilson's Warbler, Magnolia Warbler; 5/13, Tennessee Warbler; 5/15, Hummingbird. Last dates: (In addition to those published in May RAVEN): Tree Sparrow, 5/20; Black Duck, Pintail, 4/2; Blue and Green-winged Teal, 4/3; Coot, 4/6; Loon, 4/7; Golden-crowned Kinglet, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 4/9; Hooded Merganser, Upland Plover, Pipit, 4/10; Blue-headed Vireo, 4/14; Yellow Palm Warbler, 4/16; Buffle-head, 4/18; Vesper Sparrow, 4/20; Solitary Sandpiper, 4/30; Swamp Sparrow, Brown Creeper, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Greater Yellow-legs, Savannah Sparrow, Ring-necked Duck, Red-breasted Merganser, 5/2; Pied-billed Grebe, 5/8; Mallard, Yellow-legs, 5/10; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Myrtle Warbler, Bobolink, Double-crested Cormorant, 5/15; Tree Swallow, 5/24; White-throated Sparrow, Baldpate,

Lesser Scaup, 5/25;....The local summer status of the cowbird, Vesper Sparrow, Nighthawk and Barn Swallow is of much interest to me, but absence from the state this summer will prevent following this matter up. They should nest here, but I have no records of their doing so. Total species listed for May, 108; migrants for month, 23; total migrants for the spring, 106.

Ruskin S. Freer

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BLACKSBURG: Last dates: For winter and spring visitors. Purple finch, May 4; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, May 8.
First dates for migrants and summer residents. Red-headed Woodpecker, May 1; Warbling Vireo, Wood Thrush, May 2; House Wren; Blackburnian Warbler, Redstart, Catbird, Pine Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Kingbird, Scarlet Tanager, Bank Swallow, Hooded Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, May 4; Baltimore Oriole, May 5; Veery, Yellow-throated Vireo, May 6; Indigo Bunting, May 7; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, May 8; Yellow-breasted Chat, Magnolia Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Black & White Warbler, Peewee, May 9; Humming bird, Wilson Warbler, Least Flycatcher, Great crested Flycatcher, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, May 10; Orchard Oriole, May 14; Nashville Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, May 15; Cedar Waxwing, May 16; Canada Warbler, May 17; Maryland Yellow-throat, May 18; Full record for migrants and other non-residents: Ruby-crowned Kinglet; May 1-8; White throated Sparrow, May 1-20; Purple Finch, May 1, 4; Blackburnian Warbler, May 3-21; Pine Warbler, May 3; Black-throated Blue Warbler, May 3-25; Hooded Warbler, May 3-31; Black-throated Green Warbler, May 4-24; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, May 8 (pair), 14 (male); Black Poll Warbler, May 8-31; Magnolia Warbler, May 9-15; Chestnut-sided Warbler, May 9-20; Cape May Warbler, May 9-17; Myrtle Warbler, May 10 (2), 17 (male); Bay-breasted Warbler, May 15-22; Canada Warbler, May 17-18; Veery, May 14-23; Olive-backed Thrush, May 19-22; Blue headed Vireo, May 5, 21, 31. My outstanding incidents for the month of May were the large number of Blackburnian Warblers; seeing the Red-headed Woodpecker on the campus for the first time, glimpsing three Rose-breasted Grosbeaks (two males and a female), the apparent increase in Yellow-breasted chats, the recording of three Wilson Warblers, noting three nesting pairs of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, seeing 12 different species of Warblers on one day (the 15th), listening to a concert of wood thrushes one morning (five of them singing), landing a Maryland Yellow-throat (the first one that I have been absolutely sure of seeing since I have been here. Doctor Smyth recorded them as being summer residents, breeding, common). I heard the Veery singing for the first time on May 23, a cold and windy day. May 31, found a Redstart's nest with 2 eggs. I made strip on May 31 primarily to check on the status of the scarlet tanager and the hooded warbler, and found both present. I believe that both nest here although I have never located a nest of either, and this late date indicates their nesting. I believe that the Hooded Warbler has the most melodious song of any of the Warblers, at least of any that I have heard. The same day I made the latest record

for the Blue-headed Vireo. He may have been nesting. Anyway he was singing his head off.

Ralph M. Brown

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LEXINGTON: Last dates. May 1, Winter Wren; 3, Ruby-crowned Kinglet; 4, Wilson's Snipe; 8, Savannah Sparrow; 9, Myrtle Warbler; 15, White-throated Sparrow; 18, Pied-billed Grebe, Solitary Sandpiper; 19, Swamp Sparrow.

First dates: 1st, Scarlet Tanager, Yellow-throated Vireo, Blue-headed Vireo, Cerulean Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Ovenbird; 4th, Blackburnian Warbler, Yellow Palm Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, Olive-backed Thrush; 5th, Baltimore Oriole; 8th, Cape May Warbler (com. to 17th), Kingbird, Pewee; Black-poll Warbler (com. to 26th); 9th, Indigo Bunting; 10th, Hummingbird; 14th, Magnolia Warbler (com. to 26th); 15th, Canada Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler; 16th, Acadian Flycatcher.

Miscellaneous: Sora seen and heard on 4th, and lesser Yellowlegs on same day. Of birds of prey, the Red-tailed Hawk seen on 1st, an Osprey killed near here on 4th, Cooper's Hawk on 8th, Screech Owl on 26th. The Black-billed Cuckoo, which is rare here, on 8th and 16th. Bobolinks, 20, seen on 15th, only flock noted this spring. The Palm Warbler, which is exceedingly rare here; was seen twice, two on 4th with a small flock of Yellow Palm Warblers, and one on 8th. During a trip to the foot of Dale Mountain (Rockbridge county) on 18th a Wild Turkey hen ran across the road in front of my car and then flew to the woods, and later three Ravens were seen flying overhead. On the same day at Big Spring Pond I saw an adult Black Tern (second record for the county), and American Bittern, and found a pair of Warbling Vireos.

Nest notes: Dove, nest on 15th with 2 eggs, another on 17th with young; Scarlet Tanager, building on 15th; Bluebird, feeding young in nest on 15th; Purple Grackle, young on 15th in a nest that had been used last year; Red-winged Blackbird, 4 eggs on 18th; Catbird, 3 eggs on 18th; Wood Thrush, nest with 2 eggs and another with 4 eggs on 18th.

J. J. Murray.

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BRISTOL: Summer residents and migrants as noted. May 3, Canadian Warbler; Hooded Warbler; Hummingbird; Black-throated Green Warbler; Red-eyed Vireo; Kingbird; Yellow-breasted Chat; Maryland Yellowthroat; White-eyed Vireo. May 5, Grasshopper Sparrow; Summer Tanager and Black and White Warbler. May 8, Indigo Bunting; Red-winged Blackbird; (males) Yellow and Black-billed Cuckoos. May 10, Wood Pewees; Orchard Oriole and Red-headed Woodpecker. On May 12, observing some Rose-breasted

Grosbeaks that were feeding in some mulberry trees on the mountain side. I went up for closer observation and found myself in the midst of a very large warbler migration. There were about a dozen of the Grosbeaks in company with twice that number of Scarlet Tanagers. The warblers noted were Worm-eating, Kentucky, Blackburnian, Bay-breasted, Myrtle, Magnolia, Cerulean, Palm, Yellow Palm, Pine and Redstarts. The Vireos along with them were the Yellow-throat, Warbling and Mountain Solitary all of which are summer residents here. That night the Worm-eating, Cerulean, Palm, and Yellow Palm checked out and in their place came the Cape May, Chestnut-sided and the first of the Black-polls. On May 14, the main body of the Black-polls were very much in evidence along with a new consignment of Myrtle Warblers which filled the woods and extended down to the bottom slopes. The Cape Mays left the night the Black-polls arrived and that day the male Rose-breasted Grosbeaks left followed two days later by the females. May 15, lots of Gray-checked and Olive-backed Thrushes were seen and as these thrushes resemble each other very closely I secured specimens of both kinds to be sure that I was correct on my notes. The Gray-checked Thrushes remained about a week and the Olive-backs until the end of the month. May 16, all the migrant warblers with the exception of a few scattered Black-polls and Magnolias had left. Other birds noted during the month of sufficient distances apart to avoid count the same birds twice were 6 pairs. Gnatcatchers: 7 pairs; Black and White warblers; 3 Red-tailed Hawks; 2 Sharp shinned and 3 Red-shouldered Hawks. 2 prs. Ovenbirds; 8 Red-bellied, 2 Downy, 3 Hairy and 9 Pileated Woodpeckers. The Pileated Woodpecker is the most common woodpecker of this section. Bewick, House and Carolina Wrens were seen, also 5 pairs of Mocking birds. All of the common summer residents are here in about the usual numbers. May 29, I made a check on the birds nesting on White Top Mountain. From an elevation of about 4000 ft. to the top which elevation is 5520, I found the Carolina Juncos had taken possession. From where the Balsam Fire extended down from the top of the mountain to the summit, only the juncos were seen. They were nesting in the deep moss which covered the entire surface under the dense shade of the fir trees, sinking their nests down in the moss leaving only a small opening. It was just about hatching time as the nest examined contained newly hatched birds and eggs just ready to hatch. Forty seven birds counted within a short distance indicated that there must be thousands of the juncos nesting on the mountain. They have two broods a season as the chances are that there will be plenty of snowbirds for many winters to come. On the lower slopes of the same mountain in the birch timber Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were seen in large numbers. This time they were in a more cheerful mood as their singing echoed over the whole of the woodland. Other birds seen were Canadian Warblers, Cairns Warblers, Mountain Solitary Vireo, Pileated Grouse, Olive-backed Thrushes and a few other of the more common warblers.

NESTING: From the 5th to 10th, the Chickadees had their full complement of eggs and were incubating. Nine nests were found in the course of a mile. Young hatched and flying by the end of month.

May 10, two Gnatcatchers began incubating on five eggs each. The

young had left the nests by the 30th. Four other pair observed during the month but no effort made to locate their nests. The same day two Whip-poor-will eggs were found. These were newly laid and the bird was nowhere about the nest. Another nest found in the same woods on the 30th containing the same number of eggs on which the bird had just begun to incubate. Scarlet oak woods on ridge with a heavy undergrowth of mountain laurels. Eight Whip-poor-wills flushed in this particular woods. May 13, Crested Titmouse, five feet up in hollow cedar tree, with five fresh eggs. Nest composed of small pieces of oak leaves. May 15, Ovenbird; five eggs apparently fresh. Nest sunken in leaves on side slope of mountain. May 16, Redstart, four fresh eggs; nest 20 ft up built in the upright twigs growing from small slanting ash tree limb. On a tangled side hill above a White-eyed Vireo was putting the finishing touches to her nest by weaving green moss in the rim which is one distinguishing feature of their nests. Along the river bank a La. Water Thrush had its nest under the overhanging river bank built in the drift leaves, and the nest made ~~of~~ of muddy drift leaves. From outward appearance, it looked like so many other bunches of leaves. Contained young just hatched. Another nest of the above thrush found on the 30th with four young about ready to leave the nest. Mountain Solitary Vireo on high mountain slope observed getting lichens from hemlock limb but I did not locate the nest. May 17, Hooded Warbler building in the top of a rhododendron bush 18 inches up. Nest contained four eggs on the 24th. May 20, Black & White Warbler. Nest in a depression under small bush on side hill of shady open woods. Contained two young just hatched & two sterile eggs. Nest lined with white horse hair. May 27, Kentucky Warbler. Nest containing four eggs apparently fresh, located in damp shady woods built on the ground close to a few low weeds. Composed mostly of beech leaves with the stems uppermost and part of the leaves projecting above the lining of the nest forming a shield around the nest. A Maryland Yellow-throat had just begun to incubate on four eggs a short distance away. Nest situated in some strawberry plants and much smaller than the nest of the Kentucky Warbler. Composed of leaves and grape vine bark.

F. M. Jones.



THE RAVEN



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DR. J. J. MURRAY, EDITOR

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Editorial Notes.

In the notes from Lexington in this issue an effort has been made to analyze the list of birds seen on several trips in the Blue Ridge and Alleghany mountains according to the altitudinal distribution. The Editor hopes that more Virginia Bird students who have the opportunity to do some work in the mountains will work out such classified lists for various mountain sections of the state. Just here is room for some of the most important work to be done in Virginia. Not a great deal of work has been done in this part of the southern mountains. In the A. O. U. Check-list and in the various handbooks expressions are common, such as this, "breeding south along the Alleghanies to Virginia" or "to N. C.", or "to Ga." But not enough is yet known as to just how low or how high in the Blue Ridge or Alleghanies various species occur at different latitudes. It would be of a good deal of interest, for example, for members of our Society to work out the exact limits within which the Black-throated Green Warbler is to be found breeding in Southwest Va., at Roanoke, at Lexington, at Harrisonburg, and at Winchester. And if this were done for all species which breed in our mountains and nowhere else in Virginia, it would greatly extend our knowledge of the bird life of the state. And in order to make this complete, a number of field trips must be made in each mountain area.

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For the Consolidated List, Mr. F.M. Jones adds to the Southwest Virginia section the Golden Eagle, with three occurrences, June 8, 9, and 29. One of these was captured uninjured and is in his possession. In a letter he recently reported having seen, during May one or more Kirtland's Warblers. Knowing the risk of reporting sight records of so rare a bird, I asked him for further information. He wrote that he was sure of his identification, and which was more important still, that he had once taken a specimen in the fall migration at Bristol.

All of us will miss in this issue the customary full and interesting report from Lynchburg by our President, Prof. Freer is out of the state during the summer teaching biology in a summer school. During the coming college year Prof. Freer will have a leave absence from Lynchburg College, but will still be in the state to give us the benefit of his leadership. He will be doing his work for the Doctor's degree at the University of Virginia.

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FIELD NOTES

AMELIA: A Nighthawk's nest was found by Mr. H. J. Sheppard on his farm, about June 28, and was shown to me July 1. It is on a hillside where a scattered growth of trees and a cornfield join, just in the edge of the tree growth. As usual the eggs are on the bare ground.

July 1, my attention was attracted by about 20 buzzards, about equally divided between the two species, in a woods just above the old ice pond. I found the attraction to be the carcass of a large dog that had evidently crawled under a dense thicket of alders covered with honeysuckle and died. The growth of honeysuckle was very dense all above the dog and there was but one place where it could be seen from the ground at all. The larger trees, oak, red maple, pine and willow were all around the thicket, but not exactly over the place where the dog lay. The interesting part to me was that under such cover it is hardly likely that the vultures could have seen carrion beetles and blow flies about the carcass, nor was it possible for them to see it from the air above. This should I believe, add at least some weight to the argument that vultures can locate food by scent as well as by sight.

Mr. H. J. Sheppard and his sister, Miss Mary C. Sheppard, both of whom I consider competent and trustworthy observers, told me that on two moonlight nights in late summer two years ago, the following incident occurred: There is an outbuilding with an ordinary peaked roof about 75 yds. from the home and in plain view from the windows. The first night Miss Sheppard was awake after midnight and heard an unearthly groaning sound. She went to the window and could see several turkey buzzards on the top of the outbuilding, some of them with wings partly spread, bowing and posturing and uttering the weird sounds. She called her brother and both of them listened for some time. Later, practically the same scene was enacted on the out building, and both watched it as before.

John B. Lewis.

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NARUNA: Redstart, June 4; Hooded Warbler, 4th, 13th, 14th, 21st; Cedar Waxwing, 27th; Cooper's Hawk, 6th, 10th, 26th; Prairie Horned Lark still here, though I have no nesting record. Nest

Notes: 2d, Titmouse feeding young in nest in hollow tree; 4th, Flicker feeding young in nest; 5th, Mockingbird's nest with one egg in cedar; 13th, Phoebe re-modelling nest that had been used earlier; 21st, Dove's nest.

Bertha Daniel.

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JAMES RIVER: Lower Buffalo Lick Farm, eight miles east of Lynchburg. Birds listed every day: Yellow-throated Vireo, Yellow Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Ovenbird, Maryland Yellowthroat, Chat, Hooded Warbler, Redstart. Birds seen frequently: Black & White Warblers (seen feeding young), Prairie Warbler, Louisiana Water-thrush, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Acadian Flycatcher, Spotted Sandpiper, Crested Flycatcher, Blue Grosbeak, White-eyed Vireo, Pine Warbler. Three Sparrow Hawks on the 1st; two Pied-billed Grebes on the 16th; King-fisher on the 28th. A pair of Orchard Orioles, the male singing, on the 30th. On July 2, three Worm-eating Warblers. They were not singing but repeated many times a metallic chipping alarm note. I counted the stripes on their crown; the narrow black line through the eye, the two wide black stripes and the three creamy yellow ones. I did not see a House Wren all the month.

Mrs. C. W. Harris.

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LYNCHBURG: Scaup Duck, 2, 5/3; Green Heron 6/9; Spotted Sandpiper, 2, 5/3. Two Black Vultures were identified in a group of about 30 Vultures on the ground, 5/2. Yellow-billed Cuckoo was first seen May 6, 7, and 9, and has been heard occasionally since. Red-bellied Woodpecker, last seen 5/19. Whip-poor-will, first heard 5/2 and occasionally since. Nighthawk has not been seen or heard this year. Hummingbird, first seen 5/3; late in May I counted 10 Hummingbirds in one horse-chestnut tree about seven o'clock in the evening, and the hum of their wings was quite audible if one stood under the tree. Friends reported a similar condition on other evenings. First records Kingbird, 5/3; Wood Pewee, 5/9; Blue Jay, 5/9. Bobolink, only record 3 males, 5/9. Goldfinch, 100, 5/2, 5/3; 30, 5/9; 10, 5/10. White-throated Sparrow, last seen, 5/10. Grasshopper Sparrow, 2, 5/9; Indigo Bunting, 5/10; Scarlet Tanager, 5/3; Summer Tanager, 5/3. Cedar Waxwing, 20, 5/23; 1, 5/24. Yellow-throated Vireo, 2, 5/19, only record. Black & White Warbler, 6/27; Cape May Warbler, 8, 5/7; 2, 5/9. Bay-breasted Warbler, 2, 5/19; Black-poll Warbler, 2 to 5, 5/9, 10, 16, and 19; Ovenbird, 5/3, and heard since; Maryland Yellowthroat, 3, 5/3, a (fairly) common breeding bird; Redstart, 2 males, 5/9. Catbird, 10, 5/3. White-breasted Nuthatch, a common bird in winter and spring was seen once in May and once in June.

Florence Hague.

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LEXINGTON: Most of my field work during June was done on the higher mountains of Rockbridge county. On June 12, a friend and I climbed Thunder Hill, 4,000 feet high, in the southeastern corner of the county. At its highest point, Rockbridge, Botetourt and Bedford counties corner, we found a Hairy Woodpecker's nest with young; two Downy Woodpecker's nests with young; and saw two Pileated Woodpeckers. Acadian Flycatchers were common at the foot of the mountain at 1,000 ft. Towhees, Scarlet Tanagers, Black & White Warblers and Ovenbirds were common all the way up. A Rose-breasted Grosbeak's nest was discovered in a laurel bush at about 3850 ft. The young were almost ready to leave the nest, the color of the wing linings showing two to be males and two females. I did not see as many Carolina Juncos as at the same place last June. We found one at 3800 ft., and three were singing on top. A pair of Yellowthroated Vireos, probably carrying food to young, were seen at the foot of the mountain. Parula Warblers and Louisiana Waterthrushes were seen on the lower stretches. Hooded Warblers were found up to 2,400 ft., whereas last year we did not find them higher than 2,200 ft. A male Kentucky Warbler, my first record for the Co., was seen at 2,700 ft., and a Worm-eating Warbler at 1,800 ft. The Black-throated Green appeared first at 1,200 ft., last at 2,700 ft. and was fairly common in this range. Blackburnian Warblers were fairly common from 1400 ft. to the top. A pair were feeding at 1800 ft. We were surprised to find a male Cairn's Warbler as low as 1500 ft, far below the rhododendron thickets, which begins on this mountain at about 2000 ft, and from this point to the top they were very common. Canada Warblers were fairly common from 2800 ft up.

On June 22 Prof. R. P. Carroll, Rev. John Grey, and I climbed Rocky Mountain, 4010 ft high, in the northeastern corner of the county, where Rockbridge, Nelson and Amherst counties corner. The avian fauna was similar to that of Thunder Hill with a few interesting differences. No Black-throated Greens and no Blackburnian were seen, but two birds were found that we had not seen on Thunder Hill, the Chestnut-sided Warbler and the Veery. While Thunder Hill is almost entirely in forest, there are many fields and old clearings on Rocky Mountain, only the top being heavily wooded. We started the climb at 1500 ft. One Pileated Woodpecker was seen. Juncos were first met at 3000 ft and were abundant to the top, many juvenal birds among them. Two Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were seen, a female at 3200 ft and a male singing at 3500 ft. As usual Towhees occurred all the way. We were rather surprised to find a Cardinal feeding a young bird as high up as 2600 ft. A pair of Cedar Waxwings were feeding young at 1500 ft, my first breeding record for Rockbridge. Scarlet Tanagers were common all the way. Prof. Carroll found a Red-eyed Vireo's nest with four eggs at 2600 ft. Parula Warblers were seen only at the start. A nest was showed to us which was said to have held eggs a few days before. Red-starts occurred only at the start. Hooded Warblers were found up to 3500 ft, which is higher than I had ever seen them here. Ovenbirds were abundant all the way. Cairn's Warblers,

first seen at 2600 ft, were then common to the top. Black & White Warblers, common all the way, were feeding young at 2600 ft. Chestnut sided Warblers were fairly common between 2600 and 3500 ft. A pair were carrying food at 2600 ft. This was my first breeding record for Rockbridge. Maryland Yellow-throated were common along open streams, as was to be expected, but we were much surprised to find one in dry woods far from water on a shoulder of the mountain at 3500 ft. At the same place, far from civilization, a House Wren was singing away. Chats were common in open places half-way up the mountain. Canada Warblers occurred everywhere above 3500 ft. The high point of the trip was the finding of Veeries in abundance near the top. We heard one as low as 3000 ft, at 3500 ft they were common, and on top we saw four at one time. Sometimes several were singing at once. Some were carrying food, but we could not find a nest.

On June 29 Prof. Carroll, Mr. M. G. Lewis and I climbed Hogback, a mountain 3400 ft high, in the western part of Rockbridge. Very few birds were to be seen. To be sure, it was a week later than the Rocky Mountain trip, but I have become convinced that the bird life in the Blue Ridge is much richer than that in the outlying spurs of the Alleghenies. We found Black & White Warblers, Hooded Warblers and Ovenbirds fairly common, a few Scarlet Tanagers were heard, and there were two Cairns' Warblers near the top. No Juncos were seen and no other birds of special interest.

Other notes: A friend living near White Rock Mountain in the western part of the county reported seeing a female Ruffed Grouse with young on the 14th, and several Ravens about the 20th. I saw a Great Horned Owl on the 22d, a Least Flycatcher on 16th, Cerulean Warblers on 6th and 8th, Prairie Warbler on 26th, Warbling Vireos on 29th, and a Bewick's Wren on 26th. Since June 13th, from two to four Nighthawks have been flying over Lexington each evening. This is the first time I have ever seen them in early summer.

Nest Notes: June 5, an Orchard Oriole nest, a Baltimore Oriole nest, and a Kingbird nest, all high up in the same sycamore tree at Big Spring Pond, the first two with young, the Kingbird incubating; a Yellow-billed Cuckoo incubating; Rough-winged Swallow nest occupied. 6th, Barn Swallow nest on the inner cornice of a pillar of the porch of the high school building; Summer Tanager incubating; well grown young on the 18th. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher feeding young, my first breeding record for Rockbridge. 8th, Red-headed Woodpecker's nest with young in the historic Guard Tree on the Virginia Military Institute Parade Ground. About 15th, Mr. M.G. Lewis found a Crested Flycatcher's nest, probably containing young; 22d & 29th, two Phoebe nests, each with four eggs. 26th, Indigo Bunt-

ing nest in a raspberry thicket, with three young about ready to leave the nest. 26th, was shown two Yellow-breasted Chat's nests from which the young had recently flown. 29th, Green Heron's nest with four young large enough to crawl about the adjacent branches. 29th, Bluebird nest with young. 29th, Warbling Vireo's nest with young, about 60 ft up in a sycamore; my first breeding record for Rockbridge.

J. J. Murray.

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RISTOL. Nesting Notes: June 1, Summer Tanager, four eggs, walnut tree, twelve ft up on edge of clearing. Kentucky Warbler, five eggs about ready to hatch. Another nest found completed on the fifth contained four eggs on the 10th. That same night a snake robbed the nest. Nest on 17th contained four young. All nests were built on the ground in shady woods on hillsides with a light growth of young vegetation. A cadian Flycatcher, three eggs on 5th on hemlock branch near outer extremity 16 ft. up. Two more nests found in hemlocks were not examined. The hemlock is the favorite tree of this flycatcher, where the majority of the nests will be found placed at the extremity of horizontal branches where they are very difficult to examine without breaking the eggs. Sycamore Warbler, June 5, nest in the top of a sycamore tree, 80 ft up. The young were grown by the 20th, but still being fed by the old birds. Resembled the young of the Black-poll Warbler. This was the only pair of the Sycamore Warbler noted as they are not plentiful here. Woodcock, June 6, with two young nearly grown, south of Holston River. Green Heron, June 6, five eggs, second nesting. An other nest found on the 20th, with five eggs in spruce pine grove along South Fork. Nests average 20 ft up, made mostly of willow twigs. Red-eyed Vireo, June 6, two eggs about ready to hatch, dogwood, 10 ft up. Hummingbird nest in hemlock 16 ft up, young just hatched. Nest visited on the 13th and young found to be feathering out. Small colony of Parula Warblers noted on the 6th in a hemlock grove where they are found nesting every year. No effort was made to find their nests. All previous nests found were in hemlock trees usually at a high elevation; some of the nests found were in the extreme tops of the tallest trees over 100 ft up. None of the nests could be seen from the ground and the trees had to be climbed to find them. Black-throated Green Warbler, nest found on June 6 containing four young, hemlock 60 ft up in deep shady woods five miles from nearest clearing. These birds did not seem to have any competition for nesting sites and food as no other birds were noted any where near there. As a comparison of how erratic those birds are in choosing their nesting sites another pair were noted in a section of woods composed of large hemlocks close to a clearing. I hunted in vain for their nest on several occasions and gave it up finally as a bad job. Sometime afterwards I decided to investigate a lopsided looking nest that

was 30 ft up in a maple tree by a garage about three hundred yards from the woods, and found that it was the Warbler's nest I had been looking for in the woods. The young birds which the nest contained were nearly ready to leave the nest. Maryland yellow-throated, four eggs, June 11, and on same date Chimney Swift with five eggs. Seven Rough-winged Swallow nests were found during the month, all of which were in rock crevices where they could not be closely investigated without destroying the nests.

In a second check on the birds of White Top and a short trip on Mt. Rogers, Elev. 5719, on June 9, the same birds as previously noted were found, which included the Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Cairns' and Canadian Warblers. One Golden Eagle noted. The caretaker of the White Top mountains, McDaniel, advised me that Ravens could be seen on almost any clear day flying around the top of the mountain and that the crows chased them just as they did hawks. None were seen by me.

Some of the birds noted during the month are: Sharp-shinned Hawks, (2); Red-tailed Hawks, (3); White-breasted Nuthatches, (5); Yellow-throated, Warbling, White-eyed and Red-eyed Vireos; Sycamore, Black-throated Green, Yellow, Cairns', Canadian, Kentucky, Worm-eating, Parula and Pine Warblers (3). On June 15, Redstarts, Gnatcatchers, Cedar Waxwings, Crested Flycatchers, Mockingbirds, La. Water-thrushes, Vesper Sparrows, Spotted Sandpipers, Crested Titmice, Ruffed Grouse and about all the common summer residents.

Yellow-breasted Chats noted on several occasions eating the terminal buds of spruce pine trees which were about the size of cherries. Keeping abreast of the times was a Field Sparrow that laid four eggs in two days and a Catbird taking second honors with four eggs in three days.

F. M. Jones.



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Riley, J. H., Falls Church, Va.	Assoc.
Rives, Miss Bernice, McKenney, Va.	Assoc.
Ryland, Miss Elizabeth H., 115 N. Jefferson St., Richmond, Va.	Active
Shaw, Mrs. Frederick W., 2417 Rosewood Ave., Richmond, Va.	Active
Sheppard, Miss Mary C., Chula, Va.	Assoc.
Sowder, W. J., East Radford, Va.	Assoc.
Taylor, Miss Grace H., Biology Dept., R.M.W.C., Lynchburg, Va.	Assoc.
Williams, Dr. W. P., Brookneal, Va.	Assoc.
Zeimet, Carlo, Bureau of Entomology, Washington, D. C..	Assoc.

Prof. Ruskin S. Freer is in the State again, after several months of summer school work in Pennsylvania. He will be located this winter at the Biological Laboratory, University of Virginia, University, Va. We hope to have him send in monthly field notes from the Charlottesville region.

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Members of the Society will be interested to know that the paper which Prof. Freer read at the Richmond meeting last February, entitled "Ecological Factors in Migration," and dealing with the birds of the Edgewood Farm, near Lynchburg, has been published in the September issue of THE WILSON BULLETIN. A footnote states that it was "read before the first annual meeting of the Virginia Society of Ornithology at Richmond, February 13, 1931."

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Several Virginia notes occur in the July issue of THE AUK. Dr. J. J. Murray reports five Pectoral Sandpipers seen near Lexington, April 3, 1931. Mr. John A. Moore, of Washington, reports the securing of a Short-eared Owl on January 28, 1930, which had been wounded and caught at Markham, Va., seventy miles west of Washington. And Mr. W. E. Clyde Todd, of the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pa., reports from that Museum a specimen of the Russet-backed Thrush taken at Smith's Island, Va., May 21, 1899.

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Rev. Wm. B. McIlwaine, Jr., D.D., a Virginian and an interested member of our Society, who has been living at Charlotte, N. C., is now moving to Alexandria where he will be able to have a more active contact with the work of the Society. We shall hope to have monthly notes from him in THE RAVEN.

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In the April issue of THE RAVEN, a list of birds from Rives' "Catalogue of the Birds of the Virginias" not found in our Consolidated List was given. One of those birds was the Traill's Flycatcher. It should be noted that the bird then called by that name is now known as the Alder Flycatcher, while the name of Traill's Flycatcher is now reserved for the western form.

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FIELD NOTES

Naruna. July 1st, Hooded Warbler singing. They have been fairly common along the creeks this summer, though I have no nesting data. July 8, I added the Yellow-throated Warbler to the local list, and saw it again on the tenth. July 9, a pair of Cedar Waxwings with three fledglings. July 11, three Little Blue Herons, two in the immature white plumage and one an adult in blue, passed over. Late nests: July 6, young Swifts in

FIELD NOTES (continued)

nest. During the construction of the nest I saw a Swift pause an instant in flight to snap off a twig from a dead pine tree. July 8, Robin building nest. July 9, Mockingbird nest with four eggs; it had four young on the 20th. July 23, Pewee building nest.

-----Bertha Daniel

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Lynchburg. July 28, young Red-headed Woodpeckers. On a visit to a mountain home near Rapidan, Va., on July 3, I saw a Purple Martin house with 28 rooms, all occupied. A pair of Phoebes were nesting on the front porch.

-----Mrs. C. L. Burgess.

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Lexington. Being away from home most of July and August, I have very little to report from Lexington. The Nighthawks reported in the July issue were seen through the early part of July. A Sparrow Hawk, scarce enough now in this section to be worthy of note, was seen on July 2. Purple Martins were still present on August 27th. A Great Blue Heron was seen at Big Spring Pond, August 28. Four Bobolinks at Cameron's Pond August 31. Ordinarily they are quite scarce in fall, but they have been noted a number of times this fall.

-----J. J. Murray

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Massanetta Springs, near Harrisonburg. I saw two Black Vultures on July 14th. This is the first time I have noted them in Rockingham County. I only make a brief trip there each summer, however.

-----J. J. Murray

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Amelia. What I take to have been a Black-Crowned Night Heron in juvenile plumage was seen on Deep Creek in the southeast part of Amelia, July 16. It was very tame, allowing me to approach to within 30 yards as it sat on a dead branch. It uttered a low, grunting note.

The following are dates when certain birds stopped singing regularly: Brown Thrasher, June 11; Orchard Oriole, July 2; Wood Thrush, July 21; Robin, July 19; Yellow-breasted Chat, July 22; Red-winged Blackbird, July 5, - left the country July 23.

Wood Pewee, Indigo Bunting, Blue Grosbeak, Field Sparrow and Towhee still in full song.

While in Blacksburg, July 30, Cedar Waxwings were seen feeding a young bird just out of the nest on the campus.

The first Bobolinks were seen August 21, and they have been noted only three times since.

FIELD NOTES (continued)

Nighthawks have been present in small numbers, but the only noteworthy movement occurred at 5:20 p.m. September 3, when 84 were counted, moving in a straggling flock ahead of an approaching thunder cloud.

Two Purple Grackles were seen September 1. Small flocks of what I believe to have been Rusty Blackbirds, though the distance was too great to be positive, were seen September 1 and 5.

Indigo Bunting stopped singing August 19; Whippoorwill, August 30; Blue Grosbeak last heard, September 5.

Robins not noted except one occasionally from August 4 to September 4, when a small flock of what were probably migrants from farther north arrived, and are still in the neighborhood.

-----John B. Lewis

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Bristol. July 1, Clinch Mountains, (Brimley, Elevation 4223 Ft.) At the foot of the mountain in partly cleared situations the following birds were noted: several pairs of Redstarts, one nest being found with four young about four days old; Robins, Cedar Waxwings, Created Flycatchers, Goldfinches, and Spotted Sandpipers. Scarlet Tanagers were plentiful from 3000 to 3500 Ft. Cairns' Warblers from 3500 Ft. to the top, fairly numerous. One pair had a nest of young birds, from the noise they made at a certain place. One Mockingbird singing in the top of a chestnut tree in wooded section at 3800 Ft. This is extraordinary both for finding them at this elevation and in a wooded section. Canadian Warblers from 4000 Ft. to the top, not plentiful. One Junco building nest at 4000 Ft., the only one seen on the trip. However, my observations were principally from the southeast side of the mountain, a situation the birds do not like. Ravens reported by all the natives questioned but none seen. July 9, Goldfinch building on lower limb of black walnut tree, the first noted nesting. Young Black and White Warblers following the old birds, denoting second or third nesting for the season. Also Kentucky Warblers following the old birds. A family group of Downy Woodpeckers. Red-bellied and Pileated Woodpeckers seen on same date. July 11, Sycamore Warbler, 2; White-eyed Vireo, 6; Gnatcatchers, 2; Wood Thrush 2; Hummingbird, 4; Screech Owl, 1; Whip-poor-will, 4; Wood Pewee incubating on nest in buckeye 30 ft. up. July 21, Sparrow Hawk, 3; La. Water Thrush feeding young; Killdeer, 3; Great Blue Heron, 1; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 1. July 29, Golden Eagle, 1; Little Blue Heron, 1; Spotted Sandpipers, minus spots, 2; Cerulean Warbler, 1 female; July 31, all Wood Thrushes left and Barn Swallows flocking together. Robins, Song, Field, Grasshopper and Chipping Sparrows still nesting. Three pairs of Goldfinches building.

-----F. M. Jones.

(Mr. Jones writes, in answer to some questions from the Editor as to the breeding of Black Vultures in the Bristol region: "Black Vultures are frequently seen in this section, and, if I had known that you were especially interested in them, I could have furnished you with some nesting data on them for this season. I know of some caves in rock cliffs where they nest each season. A full complement of eggs can usually be found by March 25th.")



THE RAVEN

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No. 10

Real Speed of Ducks Breaks Hunters' Alibi

The alibi of the hunter who said that the ducks he missed went by him 180 miles an hour has been "shot to pieces" with statistics on speed of birds compiled by a worker in the Bureau of Biological Survey in the United States Department of Agriculture.

Earlier estimates on the speed of ducks credited these birds with phenomenal speeds, but automobiles and airplanes have made more accurate timing of their flying possible. The most accurate checks thus far made show that ducks and geese do not ordinarily go more than 40 miles an hour, although they are capable of increasing their speed if frightened. They can not, however, maintain the higher speed for a long time. The fastest bird timed was a duck hawk in California, which flew at a speed of 165 to 180 miles an hour while chasing its prey.

Mallards timed in France and England flew 50 to 58 miles an hour, and a flock at top speed in California when timed with an airplane went only 55 miles an hour. Pintails chased by an airplane in California flew 55 to 65 miles an hour, and a canvasback made 72 miles an hour. Canada geese timed in Massachusetts flew 44 miles an hour and a brant in Scotland flew 45 miles an hour.

---- U. S. Department of Agriculture

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Sportsmen Asked to Limit Kill of Ducks

With the opening of the 1-month water-fowl hunting season this year in October, Paul G. Redington, Chief of the Biological Survey, United States Department of Agriculture, calls upon all true sportsmen to recognize the seriousness of the present crisis affecting the birds. The situation is due, he says, to a combination of adverse conditions in the cumulative effects of drought, drainage, and over-shooting.

In expressing the hope that hunters will spare some of the ducks, in view of the evidence found by the Biological Survey that the birds are scarcer than ever before, he says that the future not only of the birds and of the sport of hunting them, but also of such occupations as guiding and caring for hunters and the manufacture of hunting

equipment, depends upon the unselfishness of every man who this year shoots a duck gun.

If there is a heavy kill of ducks this year and if there is no amelioration of drought conditions next year, the birds may be placed in such a precarious situation as to endanger the future of the sport of wildfowl hunting, he said. The verdict lies with the hunters themselves.

Under the emergency regulations recently adopted by the Secretary of Agriculture, the duck-hunting season this year opened in most of the Northern States October 1; in middle regions it will open October 16 and 20 and November 1; and in Pacific Coast and Southern States November 16, except that in Florida it will not open until November 20. In all parts of the country the season is limited to one month.

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Mr. Ralph M. Brown writes the Editor that he is almost in the position of being a Treasurer without a treasury. Several very large numbers of THE RAVEN have made a heavy drain on the Treasurer's resources. For that reason the present number has been somewhat cut down, and it will probably be necessary to combine the November and December issues. In order that there may be no delay or embarrassment about the first issues for 1932, members are asked to send in their 1932 dues to Mr. Brown, at Blacksburg, Virginia, before January 1st, if possible. And it is hoped that each member of the Society will make an effort to add new members for 1932.

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Additions to the local lists: Amelia County, Black-crowned Night Heron, July 16, 1931; Rockbridge County, Wilson's Warbler, September 14, 1931.

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FIELD NOTES

Bristol. August 10th, Solitary Sandpiper at a frog pond in a field; and American Crossbills in a hackberry tree. Barn Swallows left about the middle of the month. Migrating Nighthawks first noted on the 20th and seen in increasing numbers to Sept. 15th, when they were most numerous and after which none were seen. August 26th, migration of Cerulean Warblers. Kingbirds left about the end of the month.

September 2nd, two young Doves nearly feathered out; nest in apple tree (latest nesting record of those birds was 10/3/16, young about a week old.); Scarlet Tanager and Red-bellied Woodpecker. Sept. 5th, large migration of Black-throated Blue Warblers seen in big timber in deep dark hollows. They were still to be found there when

FIELD NOTES (continued)

the last check on them was made on the 27th. Seen with the above warblers on the 5th were Pine, Black and White Warblers, Chickadees and Titmice. Small flock of Ruffed Grouse. Sept. 8th, Migrant Shrike, Great Blue Heron and Bluebirds (25). Sept. 12th, Barred Owls, Screech Owls and Olive-backed Thrushes (6). Sept. 15th, Cooper Hawks (2); Tennessee Warblers (4); Blackburnian Warblers (8); Meadow Larks (28); Wood Ducks (34); Cedar Waxwings (23); Spotted Sandpipers (2); Great Blue and Green Herons. Sept. 19th, Tennessee Warblers very abundant; lots of Pine, Black-throated Green, Black-throated Blue, Blackburnian; a few Cape May; and one Yellow-throated Warbler; Redstarts, White-breasted Nuthatches, Ovenbirds, Olive-backed Thrushes, Wood Thrushes and many other of the summer residents. Sept. 22, Pied-bill Grebes and Northern Water-Thrush. Sept. 24th, Worm-eating, Hooded, Kentucky, Tennessee, Water-Thrush, Redstart, Maryland Yellow-throat, and Black-throated Blue Warblers; Summer Tanager, Blue-headed Vireos (4); first migration of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks; Black-billed Cuckoo. Sept. 25th, all of the above warblers noted, also lots of Magnolia and a few Chestnut-sided Warblers; Red-bellied, Downy, Hairy and Pileated Woodpeckers; Pied-billed Grebes (3); a great many Tennessee Warblers seen, and many of the Black-throated Green. Sept. 27th, all warblers noted during the month with the exception of the Cerulean, which were seen only one day, were noted on this date, also many Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, White-eyed and Yellow-throated Vireos. Also one female Hummingbird. Olive-back Thrushes very plentiful.

The Black-poll Warblers which were so numerous during the spring migration have not been seen at all; neither have any of the Bay-breasted Warblers and Gray-checked Thrushes been noted. They may have a different route for Fall migration or perhaps will arrive later. The Tennessee Warblers have been the most numerous of all and are still here. They can be found most anywhere, along ditches with the sparrows, in the pasture fields, keeping company with the Bluebirds, and in the darkest woods with the Black-throated Blue and Cape May Warblers. They were present over a fifty mile area in width I checked over and are still here. The Magnolia and Chestnut-sided warblers were travelling together and could be found in cut-over timber and shrubby dry hillsides. The Cape May Warblers and Black-throated Blues were only found in heavy timber where the Cape Mays could be found sitting on a limb covered with woolly aphids on which they were feeding exclusively. Some of the young of the Black-throated Blue Warblers were observed eating a few of them, and the Tennessee Warblers seemed to feed on them to a certain extent. They would remain suspended on the wing like the hummers when picking off an aphid. This habit is more pronounced in the Sycamore Warblers than in any noted. The Vireos seemed to relish the red berries of the spice bushes as well as did all members of the thrush family. Rose-breasted Grosbeaks still coming through at the end of the month. Ospreys noted throughout the month.

---- F. M. Jones

FIELD NOTES (continued)

Blacksburg. Sept. 10, Robins flocking. Sept. 20, Nashville Warbler, Redstart, Cedar waxwings. Sept. 22, Blue-headed vireo, Sept. 28, Cape May Warbler, small flock. Starlings have been coming to the college grounds in great flocks since early August, three thousand or so. They fly in at sundown and leave at seven o'clock in the morning.
---- Ralph M. Brown

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Naruna. Red-shouldered Hawks seen five times in August; Sharp-shinned, twice in August and twice in September; Cooper's, Sept. 23. Nighthawks, August 19 to Sept. 21; Barn Swallows, August 24 and 25; Pileated Woodpecker, August 29; Cedar Waxwings, Sept. 4 and 24. Late dates: Purple Martin, August 31; Hummingbird, Sept. 12; House Wren, 13th, Summer Tanager, 15th, Crested Flycatcher, 15th; Black & White Warbler, 21st; Red-eyed Vireo, 21st; Whip-poor-will, 22nd; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 26th. First dates: Song Sparrow, Sept. 29; Brown Creeper, Sept. 30.
---- Bertha Daniel

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Lexington. Nighthawks have been very scarce about Lexington this fall. They were common in late August, but have been seen only once in September, 2 on the 4th. Purple Grackles have also been unusually scarce after mid-August. On Sept. 14th I took an adult male Wilson's Warbler at Big Spring, the first for this county. A Woodcock on the 14th at Big Spring and two on the 28th near Glasgow were the fourth and fifth records for this species here. I saw an Osprey in Goshen Pass on the 18th. Fall records are uncommon here. A Long-billed Marsh Wren at Big Spring, Sept. 21, was the fourth record here. Several Red-breasted Nuthatches were seen on the lower slopes of Thunder Hill mountain, Sept. 28th, these being quite uncommon in Rockbridge County. Two Sharp-shinned Hawks noted on the 28th. Late dates: 4th, Baltimore Oriole; 12th, Wood Thrush; 14th, Kingbird, Barn Swallow, Yellow Warbler; 21st, Brown Thrasher; 27th, House Wren; 28th, Red-eyed Vireo, Parula Warbler, Scarlet Tanager. Migrants: Least Flycatcher, 4 on the 4th, they are usually scarce here; Blue-headed Vireo, 18th; Olive-backed Thrush and Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 28th. Warblers: Black-throated Green, common through the month; Magnolia, 4th and 21st and 27th; Chestnut-sided, 4th and 21st; Blackburnian, 21st (5); Black-throated Blue, 21st and 29th; Tennessee, abundant after 21st; Cape May, abundant after 27th; Black-poll, 29th and 30th. Early dates: 28th, Savannah and White-throated Sparrows. There were several unusually late nesting records here this fall. A brood of three House Wrens did not leave a nest on my front porch until Sept. 12th. On Sept. 4th I saw a pair of Song Sparrows carrying food to young which were evidently just out of the nest, and on the 19th saw a Cardinal still feeding a young bird, which, however, was fully grown. Mr. M. G. Lewis and I found a Field Sparrow's nest in a bush in his yard on Sept. 5th with three eggs. The eggs hatched safely but on the 17th, when they were about two-thirds grown and too young to have left the nest of their own accord, the young had disappeared.

---- J. J. Murray



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DR. J. J. MURRAY, EDITOR

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Nos. 11 & 12

Editorial Notes

THE RAVEN now completes the second year of its existence. We trust that it has increased the interest among our members in the study of the birds of Virginia and that it has added something to the knowledge of the distribution of birds in our state. There is need for the gathering of information about the bird life of the state for there are only a few spots where much detailed work has been done. Our effort in THE RAVEN is still a very modest one. The bulletin, however, has grown in size. At first it was planned to make it run about forty to fifty pages per year. For 1931 it has run to about eighty pages. It will depend upon the number of members secured for the V. S. O. for 1932 as to whether we can enlarge it or whether we shall have to reduce its size. We have been compelled to run two double numbers this fall because of the lack of funds. We are still hoping that our membership can be built up to the point where we can print THE RAVEN.

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Dues for 1932 are now in order, and the Treasurer will be spared trouble and expense if all members will send in their dues at once without further notice. Sustaining membership is \$5.00 - Active membership is \$2.50 - Associate membership is \$1.50. All forms of membership include a subscription to THE RAVEN. Send dues to Mr. Ralph M. Brown, Librarian, V. P. I., Blacksburg, Virginia.

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We hope that all Virginia readers of BIRD-LORE will take a Christmas Census this year and report it to that magazine. Last year there were only two reports from Virginia. Before taking the census study carefully the directions published in the November-December issue of BIRD-LORE.

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We should like to publish as many Christmas Census reports as possible in the next issue of THE RAVEN. Please send in such a census in addition to your usual monthly summary. Members who have not been sending in reports might begin with a Christmas Census. We particularly want some from Tidewater and the coast. The census may be taken any day in December after the 15th, but only one day's records are to be included. The time spent in the field must be not less than two hours, and much more is desirable. State the date, the time of day, length of trip, condition of the weather, the temperature, and the various types of country covered. List the birds according to the A. O. U. check list

Editorial Notes (Continued)

order (the order followed in most bird guides). Give the number of birds of each species seen. In the issue for January, 1931, lists such as are desired may be found.

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It is hoped that special announcement of the Annual Meeting will be made in the January issue. The meeting will probably take place in February and be held somewhere in western or Piedmont Virginia, since it was held in the east last year.

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If any of your copies of THE RAVEN have failed to reach you, notify Miss Dorothy Sooggan, Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, Virginia. It is important to notify her in case of the change of address, as post offices will not forward THE RAVEN without extra postage.

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The only note in the October, 1931, issue of THE AUK which is of special interest to Virginia readers is one by Chas. O. Handley, "The Black Vulture in Greenbrier County, West Virginia," in which he writes of the nesting of the Black Vulture as early as 1919 in Rockbridge Co., Va., at an elevation of 3400 feet, and of its occurrence in recent years in Giles and Tazewell Counties.

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Miss Ida Sitler, Professor of Biology at Hollins College, Hollins, Va., writes Professor Freer that there is a class in ornithology at Hollins with five students, taught by Miss Fentress.

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Additions to or changes in the Consolidated List of the Birds of Virginia: Prof. Freer adds to the Charlottesville list: Coot (Oct. 18, 1931); Red-bellied Woodpecker (Oct. 1, 1931); Prairie Horned Lark (Oct. 20, 1931); Fish Crow (Oct. 26). Mr. John B. Lewis adds to the Amelia County list: Prairie Horned Lark (Oct. 23, 1931); Red-breasted Nuthatch (Oct. 23, 1931).

Mr. F. M. Jones writes that in the Bristol list by a slip of the pen he noted the White-crowned Sparrow as a winter resident and the White-throated Sparrow as a migrant, whereas it should be vice versa.

The Editor has found a note in an old issue of THE AUK that adds the American Crossbill to the Rockbridge County list. In THE AUK, Vol. XIII, 1896, p. 179, Bradford Torrey reports it from Natural Bridge in May, 1895. This gives support to a doubtful record of the species for the county by Mr. Chas. O. Handley, who though he had seen a flock on House Mountain, thought they had passed too quickly for certain identification.

FIELD NOTES

Richmond. A Pigeon Hawk was seen on Capitol Square, on October 26th, by Mr. Thos. D. Burleigh, of the Biological Survey. Several Marsh Hawks were seen in a large open field near Hanover C. H., Hanover County, just as it was getting dusk on November 2nd, indicating the possibility of a roost nearby. Mrs. Shaw and Mrs. English and myself counted 61 ring-necked ducks, 1 mallard, 2 coots and 4 pied-billed grebes on Shield's Lake in Byrd Park, Richmond, during the afternoon of October 30th. One male ring-neck and the mallard, a female, came up on the outer side of a flock of domestic ducks which were being fed, to within about 25 feet of several spectators, thereby indicating that they were old timers on the lake. Mrs. Shaw reports having seen 2 pied-billed grebes and 1 female ring-necked duck (first appearance) on this same lake on August 12th. The duck was observed again on the following day.

--- Chas. O. Handley

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Lynchburg. Nov. 1, at Timberlake, 5 Mallards and 6 Black Ducks.

---- R. S. Freer

Sept. 16, Cardinal's nest, with two eggs, in shrub on lawn.

--- Mrs. C. L. Burgess

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Naruna. Last dates: Oct. 1, Swift, Pewee; Oct. 5, Maryland Yellow-throat; Oct. 6, Indigo Bunting; Oct. 17, Kingbird; Oct. 19, Catbird; Nov. 1, Towhee; Nov. 5, Vesper Sparrow; Nov. 8, Chipping Sparrow; Nov. 24, Phoebe. First dates: Oct. 4, White-throated Sparrow; Oct. 1, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker; Oct. 13, Golden-crowned Kinglet; Oct. 24, Junco; Oct. 29, Winter Wren. Migrants: Oct. 24, Yellow Palm and Myrtle Warblers; Nov. 24, Pine Warblers, two, singing; Oct. 13 to Nov. 24, Ruby-crowned Kinglet; Oct. 24, Purple Finch; Nov. 9, Hermit Thrush; Nov. 15 & 21, Fox Sparrow. Large flocks of Robins, Bluebirds and Waxwings throughout October and November. Prairie Horned Larks, 6 on Oct. 30, and 9 on Nov. 15. Red-tailed Hawk, Nov. 15. Songs: Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Nov. 3; Junco, Nov. 24. My brother saw a Woodcock, Oct. 12. They were once common here. We have been troubled very much this past summer by a Great Horned Owl which has been killing our poultry and which we have been unable to trap.

--- Bertha Daniel

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Alexandria. In a walk of a few hours along the Potomac between Alexandria and Mt. Vernon, 32 species of birds were observed. Among the less common were: Pied-billed Grebe (25); Black Duck (5), with great rafts of other ducks too far out in the river for identification; Black Vulture (10 seen, along with some Turkey Vultures, near the mouth of Little Hunting Creek); Red-Shouldered (?) Hawk, 1; Bald Eagle, 1 immature; Coot, 1; Pectoral Sandpiper (4), seen at the mouth of Little Hunting Creek with a large flock of Killdeer, the latest date previously reported

Field Notes (Continued)

for the Washington region being November 1st; Bonaparte's Gull, (1, in immature plumage); Winter Wren (1); Hermit Thrush (1); Golden-crowned Kinglet (1); Ruby-crowned Kinglet (1); Cedar Waxwing (common); Myrtle Warbler (3); Purple Finch (5).

--- Wm. B. McIlwaine & J. J. Murray

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Amelia County. Birds last seen: Kingbird, Sept. 8; Bobolink, Sept. 9; Summer Tanager, Sept. 17; Indigo Bunting, Sept. 21; Blue Grosbeak, Sept. 29; Wood Pewee, Oct. 2; Maryland Yellow-Throat, Oct. 10; Catbird, Oct. 11; Nighthawk, migration practically ended Sept. 9, but a single individual seen Oct. 15, my latest record for the species. Pine Warbler (singing), Oct. 22. First seen: Golden-Crowned Kinglet, Oct. 12; Song Sparrows, Oct. 12; White-Throated Sparrow, Oct. 15; Junco, Oct. 22; Ruby-Crowned Kinglet, Oct. 25; Hermit Thrush, Nov. 1. Great Blue Heron seen at Hardaway mill pond, Sept. 23 & Oct. 16. Mockingbirds began singing Sept. 26 and were heard regularly until Oct. 29. White-throated Sparrows, Song Sparrows and Juncos are here in about 5 to 10 times the numbers found a year ago. The absence of seeds of wild plants last year and their great abundance this fall is probably responsible for the difference.

--- John B. Lewis

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Charlottesville. As we will be doing much of our field work together during the coming year, we will send in notes jointly for this region. Mr. Curtler is again in the University after a year in Delaware. Where either of us contribute individual notes, the record will be initialled (C=Curtler, F=Freer). Late Dates: (F) Sept. 21, Brown Thrasher, Whip-poor-will, Red-eyed Vireo; (F) Sept. 23, Warbling Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Summer Tanager, Spotted Sandpiper; (F) Sept. 25, Maryland Yellow-throat; (F) Oct. 15, Chimney Swift; (C) Oct. 16, Catbird; Oct. 18, Chipping Sparrows, about a dozen in winter plumage; (F) Oct. 6, Hummingbird. Migrants: (F) Oct. 9, Greater Yellow-legs, Canada Goose, (Notes recognized as they passed over at 2 and 4 A.M. during storm); (F) Oct. 10, Myrtle Warbler; Oct. 18, Coot, Pied-billed Grebe; (C) Oct. 19, Blue-headed Vireo; Oct. 22, Swamp Sparrow; (C) Oct. 20, Vesper Sparrow; Oct. 26, Marsh Hawk. Early Dates: (F) Oct. 3, Red-breasted Nuthatch; (F) Oct. 6, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker; (F) Oct. 9, White-crowned Sparrow; (C) Oct. 11, Junco; Oct. 12, Winter Wren; (F) Oct. 17, Ruby-crowned Kinglet; (C) Oct. 20, Purple Finch; (C) Oct. 20, Prairie Horned Lark; (F) Oct. 18, Golden-crowned Kinglet; (C) Oct. 22, Migrant Shrike; Oct. 26, Fish Crow, Savannah Sparrow. (C) Oct. 12 and 14, large flock of Grackles (about 300). (C) Oct. 30, Waxwings in two flocks of about 20 each, Robins gathered into flock of 75 or 80; great numbers of Juncos (several hundred).

--- Martin Curtler and Ruskin S. Freer

Field Notes (Continued)

Additional notes, mainly by Martin Curtler as follows: Oct. 10, last Red-headed Woodpecker recorded this fall in the Charlottesville district. Oct 27, last Purple Grackles in this district. Nov. 6, first Fox Sparrow, a single individual. (Earliest dates at more southerly Lynchburg are: Nov. 17, 1928, Nov. 23, 1929, and Nov. 11, 1930.) Nov. 8, Black Vulture (1); Fox Sparrow (1); Chipping Sparrows (several, in winter plumage); Vesper Sparrow (1); Hermit Thrush (1); Golden and Ruby-Crowned Kinglets. Nov. 11, last Redwings (R.S.F.); Nov. 13, Meadow Lark near Orange; none noted here in past two months. Towhees observed since the middle of October. Nov. 19, Hermit Thrush observed to utter single beautiful flute-like note repeatedly at brief intervals; increase in number of Fox Sparrows (over the single ones recorded to date); Cedar Waxwings (small flock), Golden-crowned Kinglet (Nov. 8 is my last date for Ruby-crowned. Nov. 20 and Nov. 21, Hermit Thrushes utter flute-like notes in two separate localities several miles apart and several miles from the Nov. 19th place. On the 21st two or three were together. Only Red-bellied Woodpecker record in past two months today (Nov. 21)! What has become of them? Nov. 26, small flock of Prairie-Horned Larks. Three Myrtle Warblers on University campus (otherwise noted only once this month, during first week in November). General notes: Mourning Doves, Killdeer, Purple Finches, Robins, Red-breasted Nuthatches, Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers and Phoebe generally seen around during the month.

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Lexington. This has been an unusually dry fall. Birds of all kinds have been scarce. There has been an almost complete absence of water fowl. Only one duck has been seen all fall, a female Blue-winged Teal at Big Spring Pond, Oct. 1st and 11th. Not a single Coot or Grebe has been seen. The caretaker of the Adcox Knob Reservoir, which is located high up in the mountains, reports a flock of 14 Canada Geese on Nov. 19. The single Great Blue Heron seems to contemplate wintering at Big Spring again. I saw him on Nov. 22, perched high in a big tree on a hill-top. The most unusual record for the season is that of a Barn Swallow seen flying over Big Spring on Oct. 5, over three weeks later than I had ever recorded one before. Purple Grackles disappeared in September. I have seen them once since, Oct. 13 (4), and Mr. M. G. Lewis reports a large flock on Nov. 11. I saw a tremendous flock of Red-wings on Nov. 6, at least 2000 with an even larger number of Starlings. Six Red-tailed Hawks that appeared as the flock of Red-wings moved away had possibly been preying on them. I saw a considerable flock of migrating Meadowlarks (about 75) on Nov. 2. Robins have stayed about town later than usual. They were last noted on Nov. 22, though some will winter in sheltered mountain coves. I counted 300 in a flock passing over Adcox Knob Reservoir, Oct. 26. Red-breasted Nuthatches have been rather more common than usual, being noted on Oct. 4 and 13 and 26 (2), and Nov. 9. A hunter secured three Wild Turkeys on Nov. 16. The following birds of prey have been recorded: Sharp-shinned Hawk, Nov. 28, flying over the Washington and Lee Athletic Field during the W. & L. - Duke football game; Cooper's Hawk, Oct. 26, Nov. 2; Red-tailed Hawk, Oct. 26, Nov. 2 (2) and 6 (6) and 9 (2); Sparrow Hawk, Nov. 2; Great Horned Owl, Oct. 20.

Field Notes (continued)

Last dates: Oct. 3, Catbird; Oct. 8, Chipping Sparrow; Oct. 11, Swift; Oct. 12, Grasshopper Sparrow; Oct. 18, Red-headed Woodpecker (sometimes winters; Oct. 21, Green Heron. Migrants: Cape May Warbler, Oct. 1-22; Black Poll Warbler, Oct. 1-25; Tennessee Warbler, Oct. 1-10 (all warblers scarce this fall except the previously named three); Palm Warbler, always rare, 1 on Oct. 1, and 1 on Oct. 12; Yellow Palm Warbler, Oct. 2-12; Bay-breasted, Oct. 2, 1 male; Black-throated Blue, Oct. 2; Black-throated Green, Oct. 2 (4) and 5; Blackburnian, Oct. 2; Myrtle, Oct. 5 - Nov. 9; Pine Warbler, Oct. 12, always rare; Magnolia Warbler, Oct. 12; Savannah Sparrow, few in October, none in November; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Oct. 11-26; Swamp Sparrow, Oct. 12 - Nov. 2; Rusty Blackbird, Oct. 15-21; Purple Finch, Nov. 2 and 6 (singing); Hermit Thrush, Nov. 9 (singing); Wilson's Snipe, Nov. 20 (2). First dates: Sapsucker, Oct. 2; Winter Wren, Oct. 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet, Oct. 12; Slate-colored Junco, Oct. 26; Tree Sparrow, not seen until Nov. 30, and few then.

--- J. J. Murray

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Blacksburg. Warblers: Cape May, Oct. 1-23; Black-throated Blue, Oct. 4; Black-throated Green, Oct. 4-8; Nashville, Oct. 4; Ovenbird, Oct. 4; Bay-breasted, Oct. 5-23; Tennessee, Oct. 5; Black Poll, Oct. 5-26; Blackburnian, Oct. 8; Black & White, Oct. 15; Myrtle, Oct. 17 - Nov. 8 (6). Other migrants: Blue-headed Vireo, Oct. 4; Savannah Sparrow, Oct. 11; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Oct. 18. Last dates: Black-billed Cuckoo, Oct. 4; Vesper Sparrow, Oct. 11; Robin, Nov. 15; Towhee, Nov. 1 (2); Chipping Sparrow, Nov. 8. First dates: White-throated Sparrow, Oct. 4; Tree Sparrow, Oct. 18; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Oct. 23; Slate-colored Junco, Oct. 25; Golden-crowned Kinglet, Nov. 1; Brown Creeper, Nov. 8. Other notes: Red-breasted Nuthatch, Oct. 8 (4) and Nov. 23; Cedar Waxwing, flocks, Oct. 4; Sharp-shinned Hawk, Nov. 16; Red-shouldered Hawk, Nov. 9 and 15; Red-tailed Hawk, Nov. 15; Sparrow Hawk, Oct. 11; Dove, Nov. 8 (10); Mockingbird, Nov. 8 (2); Song Sparrow singing, Nov. 8.

--- Ralph M. Brown

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Craig Healing Springs. June 18, several male Orchard Orioles in Augusta Co., along highway, on trip to Craig Healing Springs; June 20, at Springs, Red-eyed Vireo's nest hung in oak four feet above ground. Three fledglings; parents bringing one beetle at a time. Two very young Chipping Sparrows sat side by side 20 ft. above, begging earnestly each time parent Vireos appeared with food. Redstart carrying food to nest high in locust tree. Robins numerous and busy with second brood. Parula with nest in willow. Observed a pair, July 14, feeding large fledglings in oak on Springs grounds. June 22, Scarlet Tanager at Monte Vista; July 1, specimen at Springs. June 24, Carolina Wrens in woods with young just out of nest. Saw several families later. Brood of young starlings in hole in porch column busily tended by parents.

Field Notes (continued)

Noted quails from time to time, when flushed, flying high in tall trees where they would sit for long periods calling to their mates. June 25, Flickers with young. Several male Pileated Woodpeckers. Often heard them calling in woods. Known as Wood Hens and shot for food by mountain people. White-breasted Nuthatches with large families, bustling about tree branches. July 15, Yellow-throated Vireo high in oak, feeding fledgling. July 17, Phoebe hatched in Mr. Ould's porch. Aug. 1, found nest on column of bath house, three young; missing the 5th, probably taken by boys. Indigo Bunting, male, with fledgling in underbrush. Aug. 12, Cardinals feeding grown young. Aug. 2, Cedar Waxwing at nest in Oak at Springs. Aug. 29, Number immature Ruby-throats around wild touch-me-nots. Sept. 21, saw flock of thousands of Grackles in flight, southward bound, about 4 P.M. near Staunton. Very hot day.

--- Mary D. Dise

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Bristol. October - Tennessee Warblers, plentiful up to the 10th, last noted on the 13th. Black-throated Blue Warblers seen in decreasing numbers up to the 11th. Scarlet Tanagers left on 1st. Rose-breasted Grosbeaks in flocks feeding on green beech nuts following rains, at other times on wild grapes, last seen on the 12th. Hooded Warblers present to the 4th. Blue-headed Vireos to the 6th. Maryland yellow-throat, (few); Chestnut-sided Warblers, (few); Magnolia Warblers, (numerous) until the 7th. Cape May Warblers up to the 10th. White-throated Sparrows arrived on the 11th, plentiful through the month. Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers from the 12th to last of month. Marsh Hawks, (winter residents), arrived on the 13th. Canada Geese, large flocks on 14th and 22nd. Palm Warblers and Ruby-crowned Kinglets on 13th. Main body of the Palm Warblers on the 19th, and the Kinglets on the 17th. Both noted through balance of the month. Golden-winged Warbler (1), 17th, in company with Ruby-crowned Kinglets. Junco, first noted on the 11th, main body arrived on 25th. Myrtle Warblers from 22nd throughout month. Barn Owl, 21st and 22nd. Broad-winged Hawks noted at various times during month migrating along mountain ranges. Grackles, flocks of several thousand noted throughout the month feeding on beech nuts.

November - Nov. 1st, last of the Palm Warblers seen, also one Tennessee Warbler. Broad-winged Hawks still migrating down the mountain ranges. Myrtle Warblers very much in evidence. Wild Turkeys (3), Grayson. Small flock of Red-breasted Nuthatches in large hemlock timber below mountain range where they were seen at various times up to the 22nd. Golden-crowned Kinglets in fair numbers noted through the month. Ruby-crowned Kinglets, few. Blue-headed Vireos (3). Nov. 3rd, about two hundred Cedar Waxwings have been occupying the same ridge for the past two weeks feeding on mountain ash berries. Nov. 22nd, Hermit Thrushes and Winter Wrens first noted and were to be found during the remainder of the month principally along woodland streams living in solitary state.

Field Notes (continued)

General Notes. With each succeeding season when many of our favorite game birds seem to be on the decrease, it is noted with pleasure that the Ruffed Grouse, while not as plentiful as formerly, is found over nearly all of its original range. By some who know them best they are considered the greatest of all game birds, and the picturesque woodland retreats where they are found make for a successful hunt even though you do not have any birds to show for your efforts. In the many stories I have read about the habits of this bird, they roost in ever-green trees or on occasions under the snow crust. Our birds have entirely different habits for invariably they roost on the ground regardless of weather conditions. Never have I seen where a single one roosted in a tree although hundreds of roosts have been seen on the ground from which I have flushed them both night and day. If it snows while they are on the roost they will not leave that spot until the following day unless it turns very warm. While they eat acorns, beech nuts, wild grapes and the like, unlike the quail they are not seed eaters. Ordinarily their diet is composed altogether of green leaves gathered from small plants growing in damp places. Often nothing is available except the green-brier leaves and their berries which in the lean months of winter compose their entire food supply.

--- F. M. Jones