

SPRING MEETING: TOPEKA, KANSAS

ABOUT 50 MEMBERS OF THE KANSAS ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY PARTICIPATED IN THE ANNUAL SPRING BIRD COUNT, HELD THIS YEAR AT TOPEKA, KANSAS. ORVILLE RICE, AND THE LOCAL COMMITTEE, ARE TO BE CONGRATULATED FOR ORGANIZING THE TRIP WHICH WAS MOST SUCCESSFUL. THE FOLLOWING SPECIES OF BIRDS WERE SEEN:

HORNED GREBE	LEAST SANDPIPER	TUFTED TITMOUSE	KENTUCKY WARBLER
EARED GREBE	SEMI-PALMATED SANDPIPER	WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH	YELLOWTHROAT
PIED-BILLED GREBE	WESTERN SANDPIPER	HOUSE WREN	BOBOLINK
GREAT BLUE HERON	BLACK TERN	CAROLINA WREN	EASTERN MEADOWLARK
GREEN HERON	MOURNING DOVE	MOCKINGBIRD	WESTERN MEADOWLARK
MALLARD	YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO	CATBIRD	RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD
BALDPATE	BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO	BROWN THRASHER	ORCHARD ORIOLE
BLUE-WINGED TEAL	ROCK DOVE	ROBIN	BALTIMORE ORIOLE
GREEN-WINGED TEAL	SCREECH OWL	WOOD THRUSH	COMMON GRACKLE
SHOVELLER	GREAT HORNED OWL	SWAINSON THRUSH	BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD
WOOD DUCK	COMMON Nighthawk	GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH	SCARLET Tanager
LESSER SCAUP	SHIMNEY SWIFT	VEERY	SUMMER Tanager
TURKEY VULTURE	BELTED KINGFISHER	EASTERN BLUEBIRD	CARDINAL
SHARP-SHINNED HAWK	YELLOW-SHAFFED FLICKER	BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER	ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEEK
RED-TAILED HAWK	RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER	RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET	BLUE GROSBEEK
SWAINSON HAWK	RED-HEADED WOODPECKER	LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE	INDIGO BUNTING
ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK	HAIRY WOODPECKER	STARLING	DICKCISSEL
MARSH HAWK	DOWNY WOODPECKER	BELL VIREO	PINE SISKIN
SPARROW HAWK	EASTERN KINGBIRD	SOLITARY VIREO	COMMON GOLDFINCH
GREATER PRAIRIE CHICKEN	WESTERN KINGBIRD	PHILADELPHIA VIREO	RUFOUS-SIDED TOWHEE
BOBWHITE	SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER	RED-EYED VIREO	SAVANNAH SPARROW
SORA	GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER	WARBLING VIREO	GRASSHOPPER SPARROW
AMERICAN COOT	EASTERN PHOEBE	BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER	LARK SPARROW
SEMI-PALMATED PLOVER	TRAIL FLYCATCHER	PROTHONOTARY WARBLER	CHIPPING SPARROW
KILLDEER	LEAST FLYCATCHER	TENNESSEE WARBLER	CLAY-COLORED SPARROW
COMMON SNIFE	EASTERN WOOD PEWEE	ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER	FIELD SPARROW
UPLAND PLOVER	HORNED LARK	NASHVILLE WARBLER	HARRIS SPARROW
SPOTTED SANDPIPER	BANK SWALLOW	PARULA WARBLER	WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW
SOLITARY SANDPIPER	ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW	YELLOW WARBLER	WHITE-THROATED SPARROW
GREATER YELLOWLEGS	BARN SWALLOW	MYRTLE WARBLER	LINCOLN SPARROW
LESSER YELLOWLEGS	PURPLE MARTIN	BLACK-THROATED-GREEN WARBLER	
PECTORAL SANDPIPER	BLUE JAY	PLACKPOLL	[8 MAY 1966]
WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER	COMMON CROW	NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH	
BAIRD SANDPIPER	BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE	LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH	TOTAL = 132 SPECIES

PERHAPS THE MOST INTERESTING SPECIES RECORDED WAS THE ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK. ALTHOUGH THIS SPECIES IS NORMALLY NESTING IN THE ARCTIC BY THIS TIME OF YEAR, ORVILLE RICE SAW TWO OF THEM. THE PREVIOUS LATE SPRING RECORD FROM KANSAS WAS APRIL 8.

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PINE SISKINS VERSUS PURPLE FINCHES AT CAMP TOWANYAK

BY MARY LOUISE AND JIM MYERS

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 12 YEARS OF FEEDING AND BANDING BIRDS AT CAMP TOWANYAK IN JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS, WE HAVE HAD A LARGE FLOCK OF PINE SISKINS DESCEND UPON US AND PRACTICALLY TAKE OVER THE ENTIRE PLACE. IN SPITE OF THEIR DIMINUTIVE SIZE, THEY MANAGED TO INTIMIDATE ALL OTHER "REGULARS" BY SIMPLY SPREADING THEIR WINGS, LOWERING THEIR HEADS, AND GLOWERING AT THE INTRUDER, WITH PERHAPS A LITTLE HALF-LUNGE IN HIS DIRECTION FOR GOOD MEASURE. THEIR BARK WAS FAR WORSE THEN THEIR BITE. IT WAS AMUSING TO SEE DOWNY, HAIRY, AND RED-BELLIED WOODPECKERS RETREAT IN HASTE FROM AN AGGRESSOR LESS THAN HALF THEIR SIZE. THE PURPLE FINCHES, WHO WITH THEIR POWERFUL BILLS COULD HAVE TAKEN CHUNKS OUT OF THEM, WOULD SPAR FOR ONLY A FEW SECONDS WITH THE SPUNKY LITTLE SCRAPPERS, THEN GIVE UP. THE ONLY BIRDS THAT REFUSED TO TAKE THEIR "SASS" WERE THE BLUEBIRDS. THEY ENJOYED THE SUET MIX TOO, AND KEPT RIGHT ON EATING, TRYING TO IGNORE THE OBNOXIOUS LITTLE NEWCOMERS AND OCCASSIONALLY DUCKING THEIR HEADS TO DODGE THEM AS THEY BUZZED AROUND LIKE FLIES.

OUR FIRST SISKINS APPEARED IN THIS AREA ON ABOUT NOVEMBER 20, AND FROM THEN ON UP THROUGH DECEMBER 10, WE SAW OR HEARD THEM NEARLY EVERY DAY IN THE TREETOPS. THEY HAD NOT YET FOUND THE FEEDERS. OUR FIRST PURPLE FINCH SHOWED UP ON OCTOBER 26. A GORGEOUS MALE, WEARING A BAND FROM A PREVIOUS YEAR, HE WENT DIRECTLY TO THE HANGING FEEDER FILLED WITH SUNFLOWER SEEDS. BY FEBRUARY 16, THE FLOCK OF FINCHES HAD GROWN TO A HUNDRED OR MORE, FILLING ALL THE FEEDERS WHILE THE SUNFLOWER SEEDS DISAPPEARED AT AN ALARMING RATE. ON THIS SAME DAY, A DOZEN ROBINS MOVED IN, FOLLOWED ON FEBRUARY 20 BY SEVERAL DOZEN MORE. AS USUAL, THEY FOUGHT NOT ONLY AMONG THEMSELVES, BUT WITH ALL OTHER BIRDS AS WELL. ROBINS IN THE WINTER ARE DOWNRIGHT BULLIES! ON MARCH 5, WE BANNED 18 ROBINS USING

AUTOMATIC INDIVIDUAL TRAPS BAITED WITH CURRENTS. BEFORE THE MONTH WAS OVER 56 ROBINS WORE BRACELETS.

ON MARCH 17, WE BANNED OUR FIRST PINE SISKIN — A NEW SPECIES FOR OUR RECORDS. BY MARCH 21, THEY WERE FEEDING AT ALL FEEDERS AND ON THE GROUND BENEATH THEM. IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO ESTIMATE HOW MANY THERE WERE, BUT THE TREES WERE LITERALLY ALIVE WITH THEM. THERE MUST HAVE BEEN SEVERAL HUNDRED. THEY ATE MIXED GRAIN, MILLET, SUNFLOWER SEED, PEANUTS, CRACKED WALNUTS, SUET AND SHOWED AN ESPECIAL FONDNESS FOR OUR SUET MIX. THEIR LONG BUZZY "SHREEE" NOTE HAD ALWAYS BEEN FAMILIAR TO US, BUT WE HAD NOT REALIZED THAT THEIR SONG AND CHATTERING WAS SO SIMILAR TO THAT OF THE GOLDFINCH. THEY EVEN PRODUCED THE GOLDFINCH'S "SWEET" NOTES THAT WE HAD THOUGHT WERE DISTINCTIVE. THEY WERE SO TAME THAT WE COULD WALK UP TO WITHIN ONE FOOT OF THEM, PUTTING OUR FACES ALMOST NEXT TO THEIRS AS THEY WERE FEEDING. IT WAS A RARE TREAT TO SEE AND TO STUDY THEM AT SUCH CLOSE RANGE: SUCH TINY MITES WITH THEIR LITTLE POINTED FACES; WEIGHTLESS AS A PUFF OF AIR, AS GENTLE A BIRD AS WE HAVE EVER HANDLED. PURPLE FINCHES WILL LITERALLY CHEW YOU UP WHILE BEING BANNED, BUT THE SISKINS NEVER MADE ANY ATTEMPT TO BITE OR TO JAB AT OUR FINGERS. UNAFRAID AND UNRUFFLED, THEY SUBMITTED TO THE BANNING WITHOUT A SOUND. THERE WAS GREAT VARIATION IN THEIR PLUMAGE, SOME BEING MUCH MORE HEAVILY STREAKED THAN OTHERS, SOME WITH VIRTUALLY NO YELLOW IN THEIR WINGS OR TAILS, AND OTHERS WITH VIVID YELLOW WING PATCHES AND MUCH YELLOW AT THE BASES OF THEIR TAIL FEATHERS. COMPETITION BETWEEN SISKINS AND PURPLE FINCHES WAS KEEN, BUT BY APRIL 12, THE SISKINS HAD WON THE BATTLE AND EVERY FINCH HAD BEEN CROWDED OUT. WE MANAGED TO BAND 230 FINCHES AS WELL AS [4] SISKINS IN MARCH AND APRIL. THE SISKIN FLOCK BEGAN THINNING OUT ABOUT MAY 10, WITH FEWER EACH DAY UNTIL WE SAW OUR LAST ONE AT THE SUET FEEDER THE MORNING OF MAY 22. IN DIRECT CONTRAST TO THIS YEAR'S INVASION OF SISKINS, IS THE 1965 REPORT, WHEN NOT ONE SISKIN WAS SEEN AT CAMP TOWANYAK ALL WINTER OR IN THE SPRING. APPARENTLY SISKINS WERE ABUNDANT ALL OVER THIS AREA IN 1966.

ONE LONE GOLDFINCH, DRAB AND DULL IN HIS WINTER DRESS, FED ON MILLET, UNNOTICED AMONG THE FLOCKS OF SISKINS AND PURPLE FINCHES. HE WAS TRAPPED ALONG WITH THE OTHERS, BANNED, AND RELEASED. WE RE-TRAPPED HIM MANY TIMES AFTER THAT, AND EVEN WATCHED HIS DULL FEATHERS CHANGE TO THE VIVID YELLOW AND BLACK OF THE ADULT MALE. HE WAS ANOTHER "FIRST" FOR OUR FEEDING STATION.

SO NOW, OUR WINTER GUESTS HAVE MOVED ON TO THEIR SUMMER NESTING GROUNDS. THE CHICKADEES, TITMICE, AND EVEN THE WOODPECKERS ARE LEARNING ONCE AGAIN THE PLEASURES OF EATING UNDISTURBED. NEW GUESTS THIS SPRING, AND ALSO "FIRSTS" FOR THE FEEDING TRAYS, ARE: A PAIR OF SUMMER TANAGERS WHO VISIT THE SUET AND SUET MIX, ALWAYS ANNOUNCING THEIR ARRIVAL WITH A LOUD "CHIB-A-KA" — THE MALE IS AN IMMATURE, VERY STRIKING WITH HIS RED AND GREEN-GOLD PATCHES; A PAIR OF BALTIMORE ORIOLES WHO EAT SUET, CURRENTS, AND FRESHLY-CUT ORANGES; A RED-HEADED WOODPECKER WHO HAS FOUND THE PEANUT FEEDER, TO THE MUTUAL DELIGHT OF BOTH THE WOODPECKER AND THE MYERS!

CEDAR WAXWINGS AT CAMP TOWANYAK

BY MARY LOUISE AND JIM MYERS

LAST FALL LARGE FLOCKS OF IMMATURE CEDAR WAXWINGS, IN THEIR STREAKED PLUMAGE, FED ON WILD GRAPES AT CAMP TOWANYAK, FROM THE FIRST WEEK IN OCTOBER UP THROUGH THE FIRST WEEK IN DECEMBER. THE FLOCK, INTERSPERSED WITH SOME ADULTS, GRADUALLY DWINDLED FROM SEVERAL HUNDRED TO A DOZEN OR MORE UNTIL THEY DISAPPEARED FROM THE AREA ALTOGETHER. ON MARCH 10, 1966, A SMALL FLOCK OF TEN RETURNED AND SAT WATCHING THE ROBINS AND BLUEBIRDS EAT CURRENTS AT OUR FEEDING STATION. THE NEXT DAY, MUCH TO THE CHAGRIN OF THE ROBINS, THEY JOINED THEM AT THE FEEDING TRAY. FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS THE LITTLE FLOCK FED THERE DAILY, GRADUALLY INCREASING TO FOURTEEN BIRDS. BY MARCH 24, WE HAD ELEVEN OF THESE BANNED. BY MARCH 30, THEIR NUMBERS HAD GROWN TO MORE THAN A HUNDRED. WE VIEWED THIS SITUATION WITH MIXED EMOTIONS. CERTAINLY IT WAS A PLEASURE TO HAVE THEM, FOR A MORE BEAUTIFUL BIRD WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO FIND. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE EXPERIENCED A SLIGHT FEELING OF DISMAY AS WE REMEMBERED OUR OTHER WAXWING INVASION OF TWO YEARS AGO. PAST EXPERIENCE REMINDED US THAT THEY HAD LITERALLY EATEN US OUT OF HOUSE AND HOME IN 1964, WHEN WE HAD BANNED 234 AND WERE FEEDING TWICE THAT MANY! IN ALL OUR 12 YEARS OF FEEDING AND BANNING, THESE ARE THE ONLY TWO YEARS THAT WAXWINGS HAVE VISITED THE FEEDERS. THIS YEAR, ON MARCH 31, WE BANNED 24 WAXWINGS, AND ON APRIL 1, BANNED 53 MORE. APRIL 2 AND 3 ADDED 28 MORE TO THE EVER-GROWING LIST. THE END OF APRIL FOUND US WITH 157 BANNED WAXWINGS FOR THAT MONTH, PLUS THE 49 BANNED IN MARCH. TO DATE, MAY 25, WE HAVE BANNED 97 FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, BRINGING OUR TOTAL FOR 1966 TO 303 WAXWINGS. ODDLY ENOUGH, WE DID NOT GET ONE SINGLE RETURN FROM THE FIRST FLOCK BANNED IN 1964. NONE OF OUR BIRDS WERE REPORTED FROM ELSEWHERE IN THIS TWO-YEAR PERIOD, NOR DID ANY PREVIOUSLY BANNED BIRDS RETURN WITH THIS YEAR'S FLOCK. THERE ARE STILL AT LEAST 100 BIRDS FEEDING REGULARLY, AND THE MAJORITY OF THIS FLOCK TODAY IS UNBANNED, MORE PROOF OF THEIR NOMADIC HABITS. THEY HAVE CONSUMED FIVE 30-POUND BOXES OF CURRENTS, AND ARE WELL INTO THE SIXTH. IN ADDITION TO THE CURRENTS, THEY ARE FOND OF A SPECIAL SUET MIX CONTAINING MELTED SUET, PEANUT BUTTER, GROUND-UP PEANUTS, BREAD CRUMBS, AND WHEAT GERM. PLUMAGES HAVE BEEN VARIED.

A FEEDER-TRAP ORIGINALLY DESIGNED AS A WOODPECKER TRAP WAS CONVERTED TO A WAXWING TRAP BY MERELY REMOVING THE CENTER CONE CONTAINING THE SUET. A 20" PLATFORM, MOUNTED ON A PIPE SET NEAR A LARGE WALNUT TREE, HAS A 16" CIRCULAR CONE OF 1/2" HARDWARE CLOTH SUSPENDED ABOVE IT. THIS IS CONTROLLED BY A PULLEY AND ROPE FROM INSIDE THE HOUSE AND KEPT IN PLACE BY 2 SUSPENDED WEIGHTS ON WIRES GOING THROUGH AND HANGING BELOW THE PLATFORM. CLOSE OBSERVATION ON THE HABITS OF THE WAXWINGS, SEEING HOW THE FLOCK MOVES IN CLOSELY BEHIND THE FIRST BIRD BOLD ENOUGH TO VENTURE TO THE TRAY, GAVE US AN INGENIOUS WAY OF TRAPPING THESE BIRDS. INSTEAD OF LEAVING THE TRIP RAISED (AS WE DO FOR THE WOODPECKERS AND OTHERS) WE FILLED THE CENTER OF THE TRAY WITH CURRENTS, THEN LOWERED THE TRAP. WHEN THE FIRST BIRD MADE HIS MOVE, COMING DOWN TO THE TRAY, THE OTHERS FOLLOWED, CROWDING AROUND THE CIRCULAR CONE TO GET TO THE FRUIT WHICH WAS OUT OF REACH. AS THEY PRESSED INWARD TO THE BAIT, WE GENTLY RAISED THE MESH CONE, MOVEMENT OF WHICH WAS UNNOTICED AMIDST THE MASS CONFUSION. THE BIRDS CROWDED UNDER THE RIM, THE TRAP WAS GENTLY LOWERED, AND WE COMMONLY WOULD CATCH 15 TO 20 WAXWINGS AT ONE TIME IN THIS MANNER. NONE WAS INJURED.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

MRS. REID W. GREEN, OF TOPEKA, KANSAS, RELATED TO ME OBSERVATIONS ON A BIRD THAT SHE IDENTIFIED AS A DIPPER OR WATER OUZEL. IN A LETTER, SHE SAID:

"ON SATURDAY, MAY 14, 1966, I SAW A DARK BIRD ALONG A PROTECTED BACKWATER AREA ONE MILE SOUTH OF THE BIG BRIDGE ACROSS TUTTLE LAKE; AT FIRST GLANCE MY THOUGHT WAS "WHAT A DARK SHORE BIRD". WHEN IT MOMENTARILY DASHED UNDERNEATH THE WATER'S SURFACE, AND CAME UP ABOUT TEN FEET DOWN SHORE, I WAS CERTAIN THAT THE BIRD WAS A DIPPER..."

"THE LITTLE FELLOW MADE ME THINK OF A HOUSE WREN IN STANCE, ONLY IT WAS LARGER, AND DARK SLATE-GRAY IN COLOR WITH NO BARS OR MARKINGS EXCEPT THAT IT SEEMED THAT THERE WAS EITHER A TINY STRIPE ABOVE THE EYE OR ELSE THE FEATHERS ABOVE THE EYE CAUGHT THE LIGHT A LITTLE. IT SANG A FEW NOTES OF A MOST PLEASING BELL-TINKLING QUALITY WHILE IT STOPPED ON AN OLD BOARD PART WAY UP ON THE BANK."

ADDITIONALLY, MRS. GREEN COMMENTS THAT MR. NORMAN PETERSON, WHO LIVES SOUTHEAST OF ALMA, KANSAS, ALONG MILL CREEK, A TRIBUTARY OF THE BLUE RIVER, SAID THAT HE SAW A DIPPER ALONG MILL CREEK LAST SUMMER (1965). THESE OBSERVATIONS ARE THE RECORDS OF THE DIPPER IN KANSAS; NONETHELESS, MRS. GREEN'S CONVINCING DESCRIPTION OF THE BIRD THAT SHE SAW INDICATES THAT THIS SPECIES MAY OCCUR, AT LEAST marginally, IN MIGRATION (AND PERHAPS IN THE SUMMER) ALONG SOME OF THE MORE SECLUDED CREEKS IN THE NORTHERN PORTION OF THE STATE. UNFORTUNATELY, SHE WAS UNABLE TO RELOCATE THE BIRD LATER IN MAY.

L. B. "BUCK" CARSON SAW A FEMALE CONNECTICUT WARBLER IN HIS YEAR AT 1306 LINCOLN IN TOPEKA, KANSAS, ON MAY 9. THE BIRD, APPARENTLY A YOUNG FEMALE (GRAYISH THROAT PATTERN WAS NOT PRONOUNCED), WAS FEEDING ON THE GROUND. MR. CARSON SAW THE EYERING, BUT WAS UNABLE TO CHECK THE TAIL-COVERTS. "BUCK" ALSO SAW A MALE CAPE MAY WARBLER IN BRILLIANT PLUMAGE AT EDGEWOOD PARK, TOPEKA, KANSAS, ON MAY 9. THIS INDIVIDUAL, ALSO SEEN BY MR. J. W. NELSON, WAS ONE OF SEVERAL BIRDS BATHING IN A SMALL STREAM. BOTH OF THESE SPECIES ARE EXTREMELY RARE IN KANSAS.

MR. CHARLES S. EDWARDS, OF RICHMOND KANSAS, SAW A CATTLE EGRET WHILE HE WAS WORKING IN HIS FIELD ON MAY 12. MR. EDWARDS HAS SPENT THE LAST 18 YEARS IN FLORIDA IN THE WINTER, AND HE IS QUITE FAMILIAR WITH THIS SPECIES. HE NOTED THAT THE EGRET WAS AN ADULT WITH FULL BREEDING PLUMAGE MANIFEST (BUFFY TOP OF HEAD, BUFFY ON BACK AND BREAST). THE BIRD SPENT SEVERAL HOURS FEEDING ON INSECTS FROM THE FRESHLY-TURNED EARTH. HE ADDITIONALLY NOTED THE FOLLOWING SPECIES OF BIRDS IN THE FRESHLY-PLOWED FIELD THAT DAY: SWAINSON HAWK (1), GREATER PRAIRIE CHICKEN (10), BLACK TERN (40), FRANKLIN GULL (1), KILLDEER (2), GOLDEN PLOVER (4), HORNED LARK (4), AND A VARIETY OF SONG BIRDS.

"BUTCH" KILGORE, OF LAWRENCE, KANSAS, TOOK A SPECIMEN OF A MALE LARK BUNTING (CALAMOSPIZA MELANOCORYS) IN BEAVER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA, ON APRIL 16, 1966. HE SAW AN ADDITIONAL MALE LARK BUNTING IN ADJACENT MEADE COUNTY, KANSAS, ON THE SAME DATE. THIS SPECIMEN AND SIGHT RECORD DOCUMENT A NEW EARLY ARRIVAL DATE FOR THIS SPECIES IN KANSAS, IT NEVER PREVIOUSLY BEING SEEN EARLIER THAN MAY 5 IN THE STATE. THIS SPECIES HAS NEVER BEEN REPORTED EARLIER THAN APRIL 19 IN ADJACENT COLORADO.

BYRON WALKER, OF THE KINGMAN COUNTY GAME AREA, DISCOVERED A DICKCISSEL FEEDING WITH A FLOCK OF HARRIS SPARROWS ON FEBRUARY 4, 1966. HE SAW THE BIRD AGAIN ON FEBRUARY 6. THIS SPECIES HAS NEVER PREVIOUSLY BEEN REPORTED EARLIER THAN APRIL 17 IN THE SPRING IN KANSAS. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THIS INDIVIDUAL SPENT THE WINTER IN THE KINGMAN AREA. DICKCISSELS NORMALLY WINTER IN MEXICO, BUT HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM FLORIDA AND ARKANSAS DURING THE WINTER.

MRS. REID GREEN SAW A BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER AT TUTTLE LAKE, POTTAWATOMIE COUNTY, KANSAS ON APRIL 16. THIS WARBLER IS RARE IN KANSAS.

SYGRID JOHNSON AND RUTH ABBOTT OF EL DORADO, KANSAS, REPORT THAT THE GREAT BLUE HERONRY, APPROXIMATELY 5 1/4 MILES NORTH OF EL DORADO ON HIGHWAY 77, HAS ALMOST BEEN ABANDONED. ONLY THREE HERONS HAVE BEEN SEEN IN THE TREES THIS YEAR. FARMERS LIVING IN THE VICINITY SEEM TO THINK THAT THERE HAS BEEN AN INCREASE IN THE BOBCATS IN THE AREA, THAT MAY HAVE LENT OF THE DECREASE IN HERONS, BUT MRS. ABBOTT SUGGESTS THAT WINTERS MAY HAVE BEEN THE CAUSE. THE MAJORITY OF THE BIRDS SEEM TO HAVE ESTABLISHED A NEW HERONRY ON THE WHITWATER RIVER, TWO MILES NORTH OF POTWIN CEMETERY, AND ABOUT TEN MILES WEST OF THE FORMER HERONRY.

DR. PHIL KAUL REPORTS SEEING A MALE HORNED GREBE, A REDHEAD, A PAIR OF BUEEENEHEADS, AND SCISSOR-TAILED FLY-CATCHERS AT SHAWNEE-MISSION PARK ON SUNDAY, APRIL 24.

THE 1967 SPRING MEETING OF THE KOS WILL BE IN JUNCTION CITY ON MAY 6 AND 7, WITH MRS. R. L. WHITE AS LOCAL CHAIRMAN. A MORE COMPLETE ACCOUNT OF THE SPRING MIGRATION WILL APPEAR IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER—J. D. RISING.