

Kansas Ornithological Society

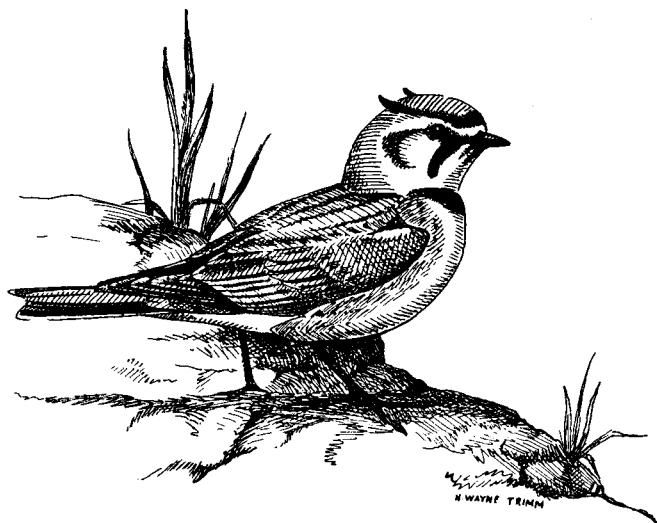
BULLETIN

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SOME DATES OF EXTREME OCCURRENCE FOR BIRDS IN SOUTH-CENTRAL KANSAS

By MAX C. THOMPSON

Relatively little information has been published concerning dates of arrival and departure of birds in most areas of Kansas. The present paper presents earliest dates of arrival and latest dates of departure recorded in Cowley County, Kansas, in the period 1955 to 1958. In the listing of dates, note that for those species that are transients, the late date is the time they were last seen in any year and not the date they first arrived in the fall on southward movement.

- Gavia immer*: Common Loon. December 16.
Podilymbus podiceps: Pied-billed Grebe. April 13; December 29.
Pelecanus erythrorhynchos: White Pelican. April 13; October 14.
Phalacrocorax auritus: Double-crested Cormorant. April 13.
Ardea herodias: Great Blue Heron. March 5 to December 28.
Casmerodius albus: Common Egret. April 19 to September 5.
Leucophoyx thula: Snowy Egret. April 26 to September 5.
Florida caerulea: Little Blue Heron. July 14 to September 5.
Butorides virescens: Green Heron. April 18 to September 26.
Nycticorax nycticorax: Black-crowned Night Heron. April 13.
Botaurus lentiginosus: American Bittern. April 26.
Cathartes aura: Turkey Vulture. March 21 to October 8.
Accipiter striatus: Sharp-shinned Hawk. March 23; September 11.
Buteo swainsoni: Swainson Hawk. March 29 to October 7.
Buteo lagopus: Rough-legged Hawk. October 8 to March 30.
Fulica americana: American Coot. March 23 to October 21.
Charadrius alexandrinus: Snowy Plover. March 23.
Charadrius vociferus: Killdeer. February 10 to December 28.
Bartramia longicauda: Upland Plover. April 8 to September 10.
Totanus melanoleucus: Greater Yellowlegs. March 30.
Totanus flavipes: Lesser Yellowlegs. April 8; September 17.
Erolia melanotos: Pectoral Sandpiper. March 25; October 14.
Tringa solitaria: Solitary Sandpiper. April 20; September 11.
Erolia bairdii: Baird Sandpiper. March 23; October 14.
Steganopus tricolor: Wilson Phalarope. October 14.
Larus delawarensis: Ring-billed Gull. March 4.
Larus pipixcan: Franklin Gull. April 13; October 14.
Chaetura pelagica: Chimney Swift. April 26 to October 13.
Melanerpes erythrocephalus: Red-headed Woodpecker. May 18 to September 18.
Tyrannus tyrannus: Eastern Kingbird. May 15 to September 11.
Tyrannus verticalis: Western Kingbird. May 15 to September 11.
Muscivora forficata: Scissor-tailed Flycatcher. April 15 to October 16.
Myiarchus crinitus: Crested Flycatcher. May 18 to September 17.
Sayornis phoebe: Eastern Phoebe. March 13 to October 13.
Contopus virens: Eastern Wood Pewee. May 15.
Stelgidopteryx ruficollis: Rough-winged Swallow. April 14.
Hirundo rustica: Barn Swallow. April 4 to October 8.
Progne subis: Purple Martin. March 18.
Certhia familiaris: Brown Creeper. November 8.
Dumetella carolinensis: Catbird. May 15 to September 18.
Toxostoma rufum: Brown Thrasher. May 18 to September 26.
Hylocichla minima: Swainson Thrush. May 4; October 4.
Myadestes townsendi: Townsend Solitaire. January 5 to April 24.
Poliophtila caerulea: Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. March 30 to September 6.
Regulus calendula: Ruby-crowned Kinglet. September 23 to May 5.
Anthus spragueii: Sprague Pipit. September 23 to April 29.
Vireo griseus: White-eyed Vireo. April 26; September 25.
Vireo olivaceus: Red-eyed Vireo. April 26.
Vireo gilvus: Warbling Vireo. May 5.
Mniotilta varia: Black-and-white Warbler. April 8; September 6.
Protonotaria citrea: Prothonotary Warbler. May 4 to August 27.
Vermivora peregrina: Tennessee Warbler. May 5; September 11.
Vermivora celata: Orange-crowned Warbler. April 26; October 19.
Vermivora ruficapilla: Nashville Warbler. May 5; October 19.
Parula americana: Parula Warbler. April 1.
Dendroica petechia: Yellow Warbler. May 5 to September 11.
Dendroica coronata: Myrtle Warbler. April 26; November 2.
Dendroica striata: Black-poll Warbler. April 26.
Oporornis philadelphia: Mourning Warbler. October 1.
Geothlypis trichas: Yellowthroat. May 5 to October 1.
Wilsonia pusilla: Wilson Warbler. May 8; September 28.
Icterus spurius: Orchard Oriole. May 15.
Icterus galbula: Baltimore Oriole. May 15 to September 11.
Quiscalus quiscula: Common Grackle. March 25 to November 5.
Pheucticus ludovicianus: Rose-breasted Grosbeak. May 8.
Pheucticus melanocephalus: Black-headed Grosbeak. May 19.
Passerina amoena: Lazuli Bunting. May 26.
Passerina cyanea: Indigo Bunting. May 5 to October 9.
Passerina ciris: Painted Bunting. May 13.
Spiza americana: Dickcissel. May 13 to September 23.
Spinus pinus: Pine Siskin. October 19 to April 24.
Pipilo erythrophthalmus: Rufous-sided Towhee. September 23 to April 26.
Passerculus sandwichensis: Savannah Sparrow. September 23 to April 26.

Ammodramus savannarum: Grasshopper Sparrow. March 23; September 27.
Ammodramus bairdii: Baird Sparrow. April 27; October 7.
Pooecetes gramineus: Vesper Sparrow. April 1; November 11.
Chondestes grammacus: Lark Sparrow. April 13 to October 14.
Junco hyemalis: Slate-colored Junco. October 8 to April 14.
Spizella arborea: Tree Sparrow. October 7 to April 14.
Spizella passerina: Chipping Sparrow. April 9 to September 26.
Spizella pallida: Clay-colored Sparrow. April 26; October 13.
Zonotrichia querula: Harris Sparrow. October 19 to May 19.
Zonotrichia leucophrys: White-crowned Sparrow. October 21 to May 12.
Zonotrichia albicollis: White-throated Sparrow. September 27 to May 5.
Melospiza lincolni: Lincoln Sparrow. March 27; September 25.
Melospiza melodia: Song Sparrow. September 26 to April 14.
Calcarius lapponicus: Lapland Longspur. December 10 to March 15.
Calcarius ornatus: Chestnut-collared Longspur. March 29; November 4.
 Box 960, Anchorage, Alaska, April 20, 1960.

REVIEWS

Bird Hybrids. A Check-List with Bibliography.—Annie P. Gray. Farnham Royal, Bucks, England, Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux. 1958. 10 × 6 in., x + 390 pp. Price, 50 s. (\$7.00).—The working ornithologist in this day of vastly proliferating literature cannot have too many bibliographies, his only keys to the subject. American ornithologists who have profited by the use of E. Lendell Cockrum's "A Check-List and Bibliography of Hybrid Birds in North America North of Mexico" (*Wilson Bulletin*, 64:140-159, 1952)—prepared, incidentally, at the University of Kansas in response to a suggestion by H. B. Tordoff—will be glad to know that a much more extensive treatment of the subject of avian hybridism is now available. This is Annie P. Gray's contribution under the title above. Not since 1896, when André Suchetet's massive (1001 pp.) *Des hybrides à l'état sauvage* appeared at Lille, has the literature of the subject been encompassed in a single volume, and this literature, almost needless to say, has increased immensely in the 60-odd years intervening.

The present work lists all reported hybrid crosses, whether occurring in the wild or in captivity, and also enters crosses discussed in the literature, whether or not it is actually certain that they have occurred. It is thus doubly important to check the original sources. The text is in two parts, the first (pp. 1-279) a systematic list of orders and families, under which the respective genera appear in alphabetical order. Under the species (for which both scientific and vernacular names are given) in each genus are listed in alphabetical sequence those species with which they have hybridized, with brief discussion (of circumstances, fertility of hybrids, etc.) and abbreviated references to literature (see second part) occurring under the first combination, rather than the reciprocal. That is, the data for *Anas platyrhynchos* × *A. acuta* will be found under *Anas acuta* × *A. platyrhynchos*. The second part (pp. 281-359) of the work is the bibliography proper, wherein are listed, alphabetically by author and thence chronologically, the fuller details of title and source of the papers referred to in the systematic list. Maximal abbreviation is used on a full and closely-spaced page, so that it can be seen the number of titles included is very large. An index of species concludes the book.

The work is well produced and has obviously received great care in preparation. It has, so far as I have seen, only one noteworthy disadvantage, and this is the result of omission rather than commission, namely, that reference is not made in the systematic listings to the actual pages in the various works where the hybrids were reported or discussed. While this is not a serious liability in the cases of short contributions, it is galling indeed when longer papers, or even books (when poorly indexed), must be read or skimmed in full to find a given reference. It is difficult to understand why this was not done, since the author must have had the various works open before her in order to note the hybrids in the first place. Notwithstanding, this major work on a subject of prime interest to systematists and students of evolution will be an invaluable source of reference for many years to come.—Robert M. Mengel.

NOTES AND NEWS

Recent observations by Mr. and Mrs. Ralph White of Junction City, Kansas, on Whooping Cranes, *Grus americana*, in captivity and in the wild are of considerable interest. Mr. and Mrs. White are fortunate enough to have observed two of the big birds feeding at the Aransas Wildlife Refuge in coastal Texas. Thirty-three cranes

spent time this past winter at Aransas; of these, two were first-year birds. Seeing as how 32 birds (of which three were first-year birds) had wintered at Aransas in 1958-59, one adult from that group must have been lost. The lost bird doubtless was the one that was killed in Oklahoma by flying into a moving automobile.

Mr. and Mrs. White also relayed information on the several captive Whooping Cranes at Audubon Park Zoo in New Orleans, Louisiana. There are two old, adult cranes (originally picked up by wardens in wounded condition) that have successfully produced three young: two in 1957 and one in 1958. In 1959, no less than seven eggs were laid, but the history of these eggs is depressing: three were broken, presumably by the adult birds, two were seemingly infertile, and two contained embryos that died before the date of hatching. At least three eggs have been laid this year, from February 13 to 19; the history of these is not available, but we may presume that no success has been had with them nor with any eggs laid subsequently.

The Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Kansas Ornithological Society was held May 7 and 8, 1960, at Kansas State College, Pittsburg, Kansas. Papers read at the sessions on Saturday, May 7, were: "Check-list of Birds: Pittsburg, Kansas, and Vicinity," by G. C. Galligar; "Breeding of the Cowbird in Kansas," by Richard F. Johnston; "The Great Blue Heron in Kansas in 1960," by Ted F. Andrews and H. A. Stephens; "Bald Eagles at Grand Lake, Oklahoma, 1959-60," by J. C. Johnson, Jr.; "Summary of Bird Banding in Baldwin," by Ivan L. Boyd; "Use of the Mist Net," by T. M. Sperry; Gladys C. Galligar, and Ivan L. Boyd; "The Cherryvale Zinc Company and Waterfowl," by Richard F. Johnston; "From Corkscrew to Aransas," by Mrs. Ralph White; "Emergency Feeding of Game Birds," by H. T. Gier. The evening banquet was enlivened by an account of the "Best Birds" of the year, by Dr. T. M. Sperry, and two motion pictures on birds of Kansas and Missouri presented by Ural W. Maupin.

On the field trips in the vicinity of Pittsburg 132 species of birds were seen or heard at least once; these were:

Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Green Heron, Little Blue Heron, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Snow Goose, Blue-winged Teal, Lesser Scaup, Cooper Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Swainson Hawk, Marsh Hawk, Osprey, Sparrow Hawk, Greater Prairie Chicken, Bobwhite, King Rail, Sora, American Coot, Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, Golden Plover, Upland Plover, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs, Pectoral Sandpiper, Baird Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Western Sandpiper, Wilson Phalarope, Forster Tern, Least Tern, Black Tern, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Black-billed Cuckoo, Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Common Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Yellow-shafted Flicker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Kingbird, Western Kingbird, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Traill Flycatcher, Least Flycatcher, Eastern Wood Pewee, Horned Lark, Tree Swallow, Bank Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Common Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Carolina Wren, Short-billed Marsh Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Swainson Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Veery, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, Bell Vireo, Solitary Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Philadelphia Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Black-and-white Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Parula Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Palm Warbler, Northern Waterthrush, Kentucky Warbler, Yellowthroat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Wilson Warbler, American Redstart, House Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, Redwinged Blackbird, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Blue Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissel, American Goldfinch, Rufous-sided Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Harris Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Lincoln Sparrow, Song Sparrow.

The membership elected the following officers for the forthcoming year: President, Orville O. Rice; Vice-President, Elizabeth Cole; Secretary, Amelia Betts; Treasurer, L. B. "Buck" Carson; Editor, Richard Johnston. For 1960, there will be two Fall Field Trips: one in the vicinity of Kansas City (in association with the Burroughs Nature Club) and one in the vicinity of Cheyenne Bottoms and the salt marshes of Stafford County. The annual meeting for 1961 will be held in Topeka. Specific dates for these events will be announced later.

Members are urged to pay their dues promptly when they become due; this effects a considerable saving in the energy of our Secretary.—R.F.J.