

# Kansas Ornithological Society

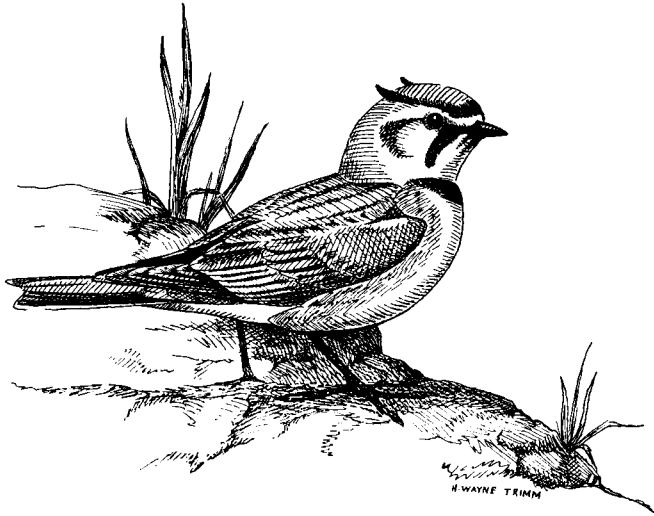
## BULLETIN

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Published March 13, 1964

## MIDWINTER BIRD COUNT FOR 1963

BY JON C. BARLOW AND MAX C. THOMPSON

Twenty-six midwinter bird censuses were taken by members of the Kansas Ornithological Society between December 19 and January 1 and the number of birds counted—159,394—was second only to 228,564 individuals reported in 1953. The large number this year can be attributed primarily to the many waterfowl, especially mallards, wintering within the State. The number of species observed was 110; this is only slightly above average. However, had all of the birds seen at various localities inside the census period been found on the days of the actual counts at each site, the total number of species would have been an all time high. Among those species seen on days other than that of an actual count were Goshawks, a Nashville Warbler, and Evening Grosbeaks.

Several localities are represented by reports for the first time. Among them is one from Morton County, the first from extreme western Kansas. The list from there contains species representative of both eastern and western avifaunal elements but still shows a preponderance of species characteristic of eastern winter bird communities. The Rock Wren and Scrub Jays are first records for the census.

Harris Sparrows were abundant this year, especially in south-central Kansas, where more than four-fifths of them were counted. Such large numbers in the south may be a reflection of persistent low temperatures and snow cover in the northeastern part of the State earlier in December.

Large numbers of Chipping Sparrows were reported from two stations and, although included in the official list of last year, we feel that without some verification (a specimen), inclusion of this species in the tally is not justified. It is possible that this species occurs in the State in winter as it is known from as far north as Oklahoma City (American Ornithologists' Union Check-list of North American Birds, 1957:614) in this season.

We have excluded from the official table this year several counts that either would not meet the National Audubon Society requirements or were submitted after the deadline of January 15. The Audubon Society asks that all counts (except for pelagic and far northern areas) be of eight hours' duration and within the specified dates. Although we have published the shorter censuses beneath the locality résumés, we urge you, if at all possible, to increase the time spent in the field next year so as to make the reports comparable. In the table, the column giving the total individuals for each species includes the totals of the six counts not otherwise here presented; thus, the grand total is that of all reporting stations.

*Baldwin* (same as previous years). December 28; 8 hours (7:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.); open grassland 25%, cultivated fields 5%, brush 30%, woodland 25%, lake or river 5%, town 10%; temperature 20°F.; cloudy in a.m., clear in p.m., wind NW 2-5 mph., snow covering 90% of ground; miles: 138 by car, 12 by foot; 11 observers: Mr. and Mrs. I. L. Boyd, Roger Boyd, Katharine Kelley, Mrs. Marmo McKaughan, Fred and Dick Mauk, R. F. Miller, Jimmy and Larry Wilson, Amelia J. Betts (compiler). Species seen during count week: Bald Eagle.

*Barton Co.* December 29; 3½ hours, L. O. Nossaman (compiler). Species list: Great Blue Heron 1; Canada Goose 460; Mallard 650; Cooper Hawk 6; Red-tailed Hawk 4; Rough-legged Hawk 4; Golden Eagle 2; Bald Eagle 5; Marsh Hawk 2; Sparrow Hawk 6; Great Horned Owl 1; Short-eared Owl 3; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 5; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Downy Woodpecker 2; Horned Lark 700; Black-capped Chickadee 150; Townsend Solitaire 1; Meadowlark sp. 160; Cardinal 4; Harris Sparrow 75; Lapland Longspur 350. Total species—22; total individuals—2,592.

*Camp Naish* (2½ miles E. Bonner Springs, Wyandotte Co.) December 28; 7 hours (8 a.m. to 3 p.m.); open grassland 20%, brush 30%, woodland 50%; temperature 30°F.; cloud cover 40%, snow covering 70% of ground; miles: 1 by car, 10 by foot; 8 observers: Norman Beers, Byron Berger, Ron Bishop, William Kerfoot, Robert McGee, Woody Wright, Mike Rasmussen, Dan Michener, Stan Roth (compiler).

*Chase Co.* (Lake Kahola, Saffordville, Cottonwood Falls areas). January 1; 7½ hours (8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.); open grassland 40%, cultivated fields 20%, brush 20%, woodland 15%, lake or river 5%; temperature 32°F.; cloud cover 100-35%, wind N 5-10 mph., snow covering 2% of ground; miles: 57 by car, 8 by foot; 3 observers: Edward Ryan, Marc Marcellus, David Parmelee (compiler).

*Coffey Co.—Lyon Co.* (Neosho River Valley from Hartford to John Redmond Dam). December 21; 9 hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.); open grassland 20%, cultivated fields 40%, brush 10%, woodland 25%, lake or river 5%; temperature 4°F., cloud cover 75%, wind NE 10-15 mph., trace of snow, snow covering 90% of ground; miles: 50 by car, 8 by foot; 3 observers: Marc Marcellus, David Parmelee, Edward Ryan (compiler).

*Ellinwood* (Cheyenne Bottoms area). December 26; weather in 30's, most snow gone; trip

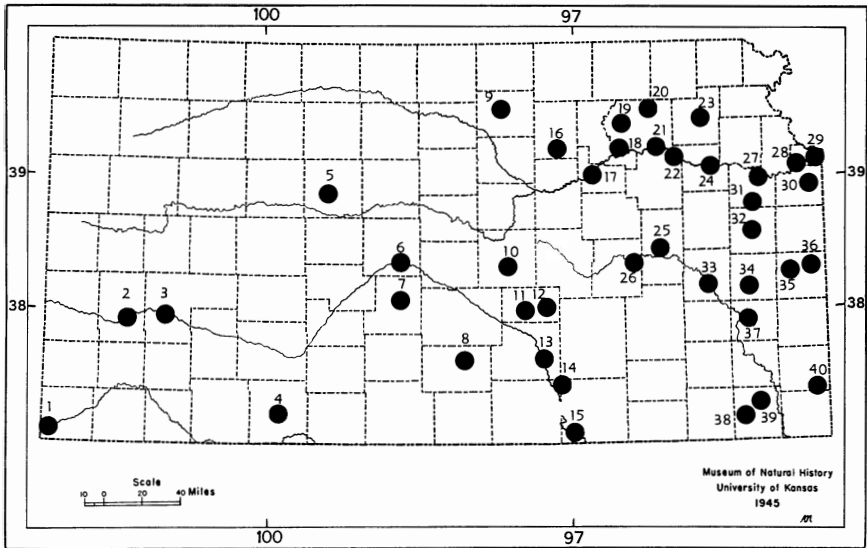


FIG. 1.—Map of Kansas showing counties in which midwinter bird counts have been taken in the past for the K. O. S. Bulletin. Each site is numbered and these pertain to the following counties: 1, Morton; 2, Kearney; 3, Finney; 4, Clark; 5, Ellis; 6, Barton; 7, Stafford; 8, Kingman; 9, Cloud; 10, McPherson; 11, 12, Harvey; 13, Sedgwick; 14, 15, Cowley; 16, Clay; 17, Geary; 18, Riley; 19–22, Pottawatomie; 23, Jackson; 24, Shawnee; 25, Lyon; 26, Chase; 27, Douglas; 28, 29, Wyandotte; 30, Johnson; 31, Douglas; 32, Franklin; 33, Coffey; 34, Anderson; 35, 36, Linn; 37, Allen; 38, 39, Labette; 40, Crawford.

approximately 40 miles; 1 observer: Frank W. Robl (compiler). Species list: Canada Goose 425; Mallard 16; Rough-legged Hawk 3; Marsh Hawk 13; Sparrow Hawk 5; Ring-necked Pheasant 37; Mourning Dove 2; Barn Owl 2; Short-eared Owl 7; Yellow-shafted Flicker 2; Horned Lark 7; Common Crow 10; Starling 100; Meadowlark sp. 100; Lapland Longspur 1000. Total species—15; total individuals—2,729.

*Fostoria* (from Fostoria west 2 mi., north 9 mi., then east 5 mi. and return, with side trips on many roads inside the area). December 31; 7½ hours (9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.); open grassland 55%, cultivated fields 14%, brush 25½%, woodland 5%, lake or river ½%; temperature 25°F.; cloud cover 10%, wind SW 8–10 mph., miles: 49 by car, 2 by foot; 3 observers: Iva Eisenbach, Eunice Webster, Mabel Willis (compiler). Species seen during count week: Sparrow Hawk, Loggerhead Shrike, Greater Prairie Chicken, Great Horned Owl.

*Halstead-Newton* (centered 3½ mi. NE Halstead). December 28; 9 hours (7:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.); open grassland 19%, cultivated fields 20%, brush 8%, woodland 18%, lake or river 35%; temperature 24°F.–46°F., cloud cover 33%, wind S 7 mph., snow covering 2% of ground; miles: 129 by car, 17½ by foot; 9 observers: Kent Challenger, Mrs. A. R. Challans, Stephen Kyle, Dick Mueting, Dwight Platt, Elsie Remp, Ruth Rose, Edna L. Ruth (compiler), Howard Schrag. Species seen during count week: Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Nashville Warbler (well documented).

*Hays* (7½ mi. radius circle centered 3 miles of Hays). December 28; 8 hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.); open grassland 35%, cultivated fields 55%, woodland 2%, lake or river 1%; temperature 45°F., cloud cover nil and no wind, snow covering 10% of ground; miles: 32 by car, 2½ by foot; 7 observers: John Davis; Ross Lock, Mrs. Richard Mermis, Dennis Stadel, Gerald Tomanek, Paul Ward, Gerald Lindsey (compiler). Species seen during count week: Red-tailed Hawk, Cedar Waxwing, Red Crossbill. Species listed on day of official count: Mallard 14; Rough-legged Hawk 8; Golden Eagle 2; Bald Eagle 2; Marsh Hawk 8; Prairie Falcon 3; Sparrow Hawk 3; Ring-necked Pheasant 16; Rock Dove 140; Mourning Dove 25; Great Horned Owl 1; Long-eared Owl 1; Yellow-shafted Flicker 4; Red-shafted Flicker 9; Red-bellied Woodpecker 2; Hairy Woodpecker 3; Downy Woodpecker 11; Horned Lark 130; Common Crow 10; Black-capped Chickadee 38; Red-breasted Nuthatch 2; Brown Creeper 6; Brown Thrasher 1; Robin 6; Golden-crowned Kinglet 1; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 3; Loggerhead Shrike 1; Starling 125; House Sparrow 500; Western Meadowlark 120; Redwinged Blackbird 15; Brown-headed Cowbird 1; Cardinal 2; American Goldfinch 2; Slate-colored Junco 37; Oregon Junco 2; Tree Sparrow 114; Harris Sparrow 151; White-crowned Sparrow 14; Song Sparrow 82; Lapland Longspur 285. Total species—41; total individuals 1,993.

*Holton* (7½ mi. radius from courthouse square). December 26; 8 hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.); open grassland 30%, cultivated fields 10%, brush 25%, woodland 10%, lake or river 25%; temperature 15°F., cloud cover 80%, wind NW 20 mph, miles: 45 by car, 6 by foot; 2 observers: Roy McKinsey, D. Eugene Enos (compiler).

*Ida* (2 square mi.). January 1; 6 hours (9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.); open grassland 35%, cultivated

	Baldwin	Camp Naish	Chase Co.	Coffey Co.	Fosteria	Halstead-Newton	Holton	Junction City	Kingman Co.	Kirwin	Lawrence	Linn Co.	Manhattan	Morton Co.	Olathe	Johnson Co.	Quivira Refuge	Topeka	Udall	Wichita	Total
Great Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5
Canada Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3,900	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,030	-	-	-	5,818
White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	-	-	-	85
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Mallard	8	-	8	550	16	6	6	34	21	19,000	-	-	2	-	1	6,180	35,000	700	-	15	62,502
Gadwall	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Pintail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	8
Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	25	1	-	11	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	69
Blue-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
American Widgeon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	45
Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Wood Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Redhead	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Common Goldeneye	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	65	100	5	-	-	-	174
Common Merganser	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	7
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34
Cooper Hawk	2	4	12	13	15	9	2	25	9	8	40	27	5	1	43	14	3	8	18	14	320
Red-tailed Hawk	34	4	12	13	15	9	2	25	9	8	40	27	5	1	43	14	3	8	18	14	320
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Rough-legged Hawk	1	-	-	7	2	15	1	1	6	2	-	3	-	2	4	1	12	4	1	2	84
Ferruginous Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Golden Eagle	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	9
Bald Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	2	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	30
Marsh Hawk	4	-	8	30	3	20	3	9	11	18	5	2	2	6	15	-	29	5	15	16	272
Prairie Falcon	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Sparrow Hawk	8	-	9	3	-	14	3	14	3	5	13	4	4	2	10	8	7	8	13	10	179
Greater Prairie Chicken	-	-	-	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	22	-	59
Bobwhite	32	57	46	8	43	30	20	49	32	13	122	16	49	21	60	22	290	14	7	-	933
Ring-necked Pheasant	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	2	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	152	-	-	-	260
American Coot	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	7
Killdeer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	6
Common Snipe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	17
Rock Dove	-	170	-	2	-	24	-	79	-	-	117	-	56	-	-	-	-	50	7	189	1,139
Mourning Dove	132	-	1	8	18	8	1	12	26	18	44	9	-	-	79	-	20	10	14	1	485
Barn Owl	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Screech Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	5
Great Horned Owl	4	-	-	-	-	11	1	6	4	4	9	7	1	6	9	4	6	3	8	5	90
Snowy Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
Barred Owl	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Short-eared Owl	-	-	2	-	2	2	-	2	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Belted Kingfisher	1	-	2	-	2	2	-	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	19
Yellow-shafted Flicker	21	2	5	2	9	24	19	9	4	4	34	39	4	11	20	24	30	7	36	16	350
Red-shafted Flicker	-	-	-	-	2	14	-	4	3	4	-	-	6	30	-	1	6	1	4	7	93
Pileated Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Red-bellied Woodpecker	37	4	9	15	22	23	3	21	1	4	29	8	12	-	11	25	-	10	20	7	269
Red-headed Woodpecker	6	3	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	23	1	-	-	-	2	7	-	-	53
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	5	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	1	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	34
Hairy Woodpecker	14	-	4	1	8	7	2	5	1	2	5	13	3	1	5	12	-	4	1	8	103
Downy Woodpecker	36	23	9	22	35	24	4	18	3	1	42	24	8	11	29	34	4	12	36	22	414
Horned Lark	144	-	15	35	3	755	-	23	56	21	290	50	225	60	68	68	6	25	175	6	7,590
Blue Jay	45	14	5	6	16	17	12	39	19	3	38	27	17	8	48	72	14	30	21	21	477
Scrub Jay	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Common Crow	117	3	27	40	94	6,213	22	61	231	75	121	32	20	16	54	28	124	10	113	199	17,665
Black-billed Magpie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
Black-capped Chickadee	105	168	49	65	42	171	5	115	30	13	156	48	45	-	45	75	6	16	117	145	1,616
Carolina Chickadee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	12
Tufted Titmouse	49	17	8	1	5	14	2	11	-	-	49	26	20	-	4	64	-	13	25	20	328
White-breasted Nuthatch	6	-	1	3	9	-	1	3	-	-	-	5	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	1	36
Red-breasted Nuthatch	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	6	-	-	3	1	-	-	4	-	-	3	6	26	54
Brown Creeper	4	-	-	-	-	8	1	6	-	-	14	1	2	4	1	3	-	3	4	4	61
Winter Wren	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5
Bewick Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	4
Carolina Wren	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	2	11
Long-billed Marsh Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Rock Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mockingbird	11	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	1	6	-	-	3	5	-	3	4	3	42
Catbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1
Robin	40	-	-	-	2	12	-	4	1	38	8	1	14	2	1	-	-	5	20	17	185
Eastern Bluebird	10	4	-	-	5	4	-	14	2	-	3	12	17	2	5	18	-	5	-	3	117
Townsend Solitaire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	6
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	1	-	3	-	2	14
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	6
Cedar Waxwing	50	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	-	7	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	91
Northern Shrike	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Loggerhead Shrike	8	1	5	1	-	2	2	3	1	1	10	5	-	4	8	-	3	7	4	6	103
Starling	481	12	228	20	159	648	148	591	100	140	346	171	770	35	358	264	25	200	80	1,619	9,122
Myrtle Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
House Sparrow	991	6	254	10	370	737	40	499	21	22	566	197	52	1	2,120	230	40	1,000	350	905	9,551
Eastern Meadowlark	-	-	-	-	-	264	-	-	-	-	156	67	2	-	3	-	30	-	2	-	652
Western Meadowlark	-	-	-	-	-	478	-	105	-	1,806	1	-	2	73	-	94	20	-	-	-	2,700
Meadowlark sp.	134	-	76	65	6	-	5	-	140	-	248	-	170	-	485	23	-	464	340	-	3,176
Redwinged Blackbird	75	-	200	250	-	804	50	-	3,124	431	4	220	-	40	-	12	1,777	1	325	2	7,330
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	100	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	131	1	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	249
Brewer Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	405
Common Grackle	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	21	1	27
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	150	8	-	101	14	3	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	24	250	5,555
Cardinal	424	14	38	120	137	45	19	110	36	7	203	108	94	-	198	123	2	40	160	111	2,06

fields 10%, brush 30%, woodland 20%, lake or river 5%; temperature 45°F., cloud cover 50%, wind, SW 17 mph, snow covering 5% of ground; miles: 10 by car, 2 by foot; 2 observers: Mrs. C. Ora Smith, Mr. C. Ora Smith (compiler); species seen during count week: Robin, Bobwhite, Greater Prairie Chicken, Tufted Titmouse, Red-headed Woodpecker. Species listed on day of official count: Red-tailed Hawk 6; Marsh Hawk 3; Sparrow Hawk 1; Rock Dove 95; Mourning Dove 50; Belted Kingfisher 2; Yellow-shafted Flicker 17; Red-bellied Woodpecker 5; Hairy Woodpecker 3; Horned Lark 75; Blue Jay 12; Common Crow 10; Black-capped Chickadee 12; Mockingbird 1; Brown Thrasher 1; Eastern Bluebird 10; Loggerhead Shrike 3; Starling 291; House Sparrow 530; Eastern Meadowlark 18; Cardinal 65; Slate-colored Junco 9; Harris Sparrow 17. Total species—23; total individuals 1,236.

*Johnson Co. and Wyandotte Co.* (Quivira Lake, Shawnee Mission Lake, Wyandotte Co. Lake, Turner). December 22; 12 hours (5 a.m. to 5 p.m.); open grassland 10%, cultivated fields 5%, brush 5%, woodland 50%, lake or river 30%; temperature -8°F. to 12°F., cloud cover 5%, wind NW 0-10 mph, snow covering 95% of ground; miles: 70 by car, 8 by foot; 10 observers: Felecia Bart, Dean Cole, Elizabeth Cole, Jim Myers, Mary Louise Myers, W. A. Spidel, Bernice Tatum, Frank Throm, Helen Throm, Jim Rising (compiler). Species seen during count week: Myrtle Warbler, Cedar Waxwings, Robin, Goshawk, Loggerhead Shrike, Evening Grosbeak (Rock Doves not counted).

*Junction City* (same as last year). December 27; 12 hours (6 a.m. to 6 p.m.); open grassland 30%, cultivated fields 5%, brush 20%, woodland 40%, lake or river 5%; temperature 30°F., cloud cover 50%, wind N 0-20 mph, miles: 197 by car, 8 by foot; 9 observers: E. R. Lewis, Phil Marvin, Boyd McLeod, Mrs. Ralph White, Mary White, Gary Gugler, Tom Shane, Bob Lashelle, John Lashelle (compiler). Species seen during count week: Evening Grosbeak, Goshawk, Cedar Waxwing, Common Grackle, Ring-necked Pheasant, Greater Prairie Chicken, Barred Owl, Canada Goose, Redwinged Blackbird, Savannah Sparrow.

*Kingman Co.* (Kingman Co. Game Management Area). December 26; 9 hours (8 a.m. to 6 p.m.); open grassland 60%, cultivated fields 2%, brush 8%, woodland 10%, lake or river 20%; temperature 46°F., cloud cover 10%, wind N 5 mph, snow covering 35% of ground; miles: 27 by car, 5 by foot, 2 observers: John Boyer, Byron Walker (compiler). Species seen during count week: Bald Eagle, Brown Thrasher.

*Kirwin* (Kirwin National Wildlife Refuge). December 19; 9¼ hours (8:10 a.m. to 5:25 p.m.); open grassland 30%, cultivated fields 20%, brush 3%, woodland 2%, lake or river 45%; temperature 13°F., cloud cover 90%, wind N 8 mph, snow covering 80% of ground; miles: 63 by car, 1 by foot; 1 observer: Robert H. Shields (compiler).

*Lawrence* (15 mi. circle centered at Brackett School). December 22; 9 hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.); no breakdown of habitat; temperature -5°F. to 12°F., wind N 10 mph, snow covering 80% of ground; miles: 122 by car, 16 by foot; 26 observers: Mrs. Ethan Allen, J. C. Barlow, Norman Beers, Roger Beers, Phyllis Bradley, Bert Chewning (compiler), Helen Chewning, Alice Fitch, Chester Fitch, Henry Fitch, John Fitch, Marshall Faulh, Martha Faulh, Ruth Faulh, E. R. Hall, Mary Hall, Roy Johnson, Richard Johnston, Bill Kerfoot, Erwin Klaas, Barbara Michener, Dan Michener, John Moore, Mrs. John Nelson, G. E. Packard, Woody Wright. Species seen during count week: Fox Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow.

*Linn Co.* (15 mi. circle center northeast of Mound City). January 1; 12 hours (5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.); open grassland 20%, cultivated fields 35%, brush 10%, woodland 15%, lake or river 20%; temperature 20°F. to 40°F., cloud cover 70%, wind NW 8-12 mph, miles: 68 by car, 2 by foot; 5 observers: Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Concannon, Frank Wood, Ivan Sutton (compiler not listed).

*Manhattan* (7½ mi. radius centered on Kansas State Univ. campus). January 1; 10½ hours (7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.); open grassland 30%, cultivated fields 5%, brush 20%, woodland 20%, lake or river 25%; temperature 28°F., cloud cover 10%, wind SW 0-5 mph, miles: 60 by car, 5 by foot; 8 observers: Doris Coppersmith, Al Gentry, Katherine Geyer, Paul Lewis, Tim Lewis, Phil Marvin, Joyce Schrode, E. R. Lewis (compiler). Species seen during count week: Canada Goose, Ring-necked Duck, Hooded Merganser, American Coot, Mourning Dove, Oregon Junco.

*Olathe* (15 mi. circle centered at Gardner Lake). January 1; 8 hours (7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.); open grassland 11%, cultivated fields 14%, brush 33%, woodland 31%, lake or river 8%, town 3%; temperature 23°F. to 40°F., cloudy to clear, wind SW 5-10 mph, snow covering on ground slight; miles: 142 by car, 15 by foot; 12 observers: Ivan Boyd, Margaret Boyd, Roger Boyd, Dean Crane, Gene Crane, Mark Crane, Katharine Kelley, R. F. Miller, Marno McKaughn, Joseph Saunders, Wilma Saunders, Ray Wackley (compiler). Species seen during count week: Brown Thrasher.

*Parsons* (from 15 mi. south of Parsons to old Lake McKinley and St. Paul Wildlife Refuge [closed]). December 26; 6 hours (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.); open grassland 30%, cultivated fields 30%, brush 25%, woodland 10%, lake or river 5%; temperature 41°F., cloud cover 10%, wind N 5 mph; miles: 65 by car, ½ by foot; 3 observers: Lucille Blackburn, Duane Monroe Jr., Fern Monroe (compiler). Species listed: Red-tailed Hawk 5; Marsh Hawk 5; Sparrow Hawk 7; Rock Dove 210; Mourning Dove 5; Yellow-shafted Flicker 12; Red-bellied Woodpecker 1; Red-headed Woodpecker 12; Downy Woodpecker 3; Horned Lark 1,130; Blue Jay 4; Common Crow 35; Carolina Chickadee 9; Mockingbird 2; Robin 1; Eastern Bluebird 3; Loggerhead Shrike 17; Starling 410; House Sparrow 110; Eastern Meadowlark 110; Brewer Blackbird 400; Cardinal 8; American Goldfinch 3; Slate-colored Junco 80; Harris Sparrow 75; White-crowned Sparrow 6; Song Sparrow 25. Total species—27; total individuals—2,688.

*Pratt Co.* (Ninnescah River). December 26; 2 hours; L. O. Nossaman (compiler). Species listed: Great Blue Heron 2; Mallard 275; Pintail 6; Green-winged Teal 28; Blue-winged Teal 14; Cooper Hawk 16; Red-tailed Hawk 1; Rough-legged Hawk 13; Bald Eagle 2; Sparrow Hawk 19; Mourning Dove 2; Snowy Owl 1; Yellow-shafted Flicker 3; Red-shafted Flicker 2; Downy Woodpecker 1; Horned Lark 3600; Common Crow 1000; Robin 13; Loggerhead Shrike 11; Meadowlark sp. 760; Slate-colored Junco 60. Total species—21; total individuals—14,829.

*Quivira Refuge* (Quivira National Wildlife Refuge, all points centered on refuge headquarters). December 26; 10½ hours (7:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.); native tall grassland, marsh grassland, cottonwood and willow groves and cultivated fields; temperature 25°F. to 45°F., wind NNE

10mph, partly cloudy to clear; miles: 102 by car, 1 on foot; 2 observers: J. J. Harman, W. E. Dale (compiler not designated).

*Topeka* (Shawnee Co.). December 28; 8 hours (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.), open grassland 20%, cultivated fields 30%, brush 15%, woodland 20%, lake or river 15%; temperature 30°F., clear, wind SW 0-5 mph, snow covering 100% of ground but melted later; miles: 255 by car, 5 by foot; 18 observers: John P. Atkinson, L. B. Carson (compiler), Richel Englund, Elizabeth Fisher, Roberta Foote, Harland E. Forslund, John N. Green, Mrs. Reid W. Green, Grace Holcombe, Marvin Kuehn, Pearl M. Maus, Esther Miller, Janis Miller, Clyde R. Morris, T. W. Nelson, Orville O. Rice, Emma Thompson, Rose Thorpe.

*Udall* (7½ mi. radius circle centered on water tower). December 27; 9½ hours (7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.); open grassland 25%, woodland 75%; temperature 26°F. to 53°F., cloud cover 60%, wind SW 3-5 mph, snow covering 5% of ground; miles: 25 by car, 5 by foot; 2 observers: James D. Rising, Max C. Thompson (compiler). Species seen during count week: Eastern Bluebird.

*Wichita* (15 miles diameter circle, centered on confluence of Little Arkansas and Arkansas rivers). December 28; 9 hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.); open grassland 20%, cultivated fields 10%, brush 10%, woodland 10%, lake or river 50%; temperature 28°F. to 40°F., cloud cover 35%, wind SSW 8 mph, snow covering 10% of ground; miles: 130 by car, 13½ by foot; 16 observers: J. Walker Butin, Phil Butin, Rick Butin, A. L. Hickman, Carl S. Holmes, Jennibelle Watson, Louise Watson, Ralph Wiley (compiler), Elsie Holmes, David Holmes, Geneva Kingkade, Danny Larson, D. R. Love, Eugenia Love, N. H. McDonald, Lillian Riedy. Species seen during count week: Bewick Wren, Cedar Waxwing, Red Crossbill.

*Museum of Natural History, The University of Kansas, Lawrence, February 10, 1964.*

**Trail Flycatchers Breeding in Kansas.**—Evidence on breeding of Trail Flycatchers, *Empidonax traillii* (= *E. brewsteri* of Stein) in northwestern Missouri has long suggested that the species also breeds in extreme northeastern Kansas. Field work, in part designed to find these flycatchers nesting in Kansas, was undertaken in June and July, 1963, by Mr. Ted R. Anderson. Seven nestings, indicating laying of eggs in mid-June and late June, were found at White Cloud, Doniphan County (two nests), and on the Missouri River just north of Kansas City, Wyandotte County (five nests). Completed clutches of eggs numbered c/3 and c/4; one nesting was just started, and another had two young in the nest on July 7. Nests were without exception situated in willows, about nine feet above the ground (ranging from five to 13 feet).

The larger sample of breeding records from Jackson and Platte counties, Missouri, essentially parallels the new information—clutch-sizes are about 3 to 4 eggs, the peak of nesting is about mid-June, and nest sites range from 4.5 to 12 feet in height, chiefly in willows.

It may be supposed that Trail Flycatchers are not invariably restricted to nesting grounds along the Missouri River, and it may prove worthwhile in the future to look for the species to the west, along such rivers as the Kansas and the Marias des Cygnes. Observations reported here were made during field work on breeding birds of Kansas supported in part by the General Research Fund of The University of Kansas. —RICHARD F. JOHNSTON, *Museum of Natural History, The University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, September 25, 1963.*

## REVIEWS

**The House Sparrow.** J. D. Summers-Smith. London, Collins (The New Naturalist), 1963. 269 pp., 33 photographs, 36 figures in text. Price, \$3.50.—North Americans who prefer to ignore the House Sparrow, and this includes all but a very few, have no way of knowing that the sparrow is likewise ignored and rejected by most of the world's people, including those to whom the sparrow ranks as a native bird and worthy of listing on a day's field card. Nowhere does the House Sparrow receive the attention that an ubiquitous and conspicuously successful species might be expected to receive; indeed, I know of but four places in the world where real students of House Sparrows hold forth. Mr. Dennis Summers-Smith, of Yorkshire, England, ranks at the head of the short list of dedicated students, and the work under consideration stems in large part from his extensive personal experience with the sparrow.

General natural history of sparrows is examined, as are matters of ritual display, colonial behavior, growth and development, productivity, mortality, density, evolutionary origin, geographic distribution, current taxonomic views, ability to learn, and the status of the sparrow as an obligate commensal of man. Mr. Summers-Smith writes engagingly of all these matters, and one reads both for pleasure and information. House Sparrows hold a number of avian "records," and these are of course mentioned, but nowhere does the author give in to the temptation to emphasize the largest this and the greatest that at the expense of a balanced text. The scholarship with which the book was written extends to the ultimate, namely to indicating quite clearly those aspects of House Sparrows that need further study. To quote from the Editor's Preface, this is ". . . a study conducted with passion and thoroughness, and with a fine regard for the published work of others and for comparison with other races . . . of *Passer domesticus* and its genus." The book is in every respect excellent and is to be recommended without reservation.—Richard F. Johnston.

## NOTES AND NEWS

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the K.O.S. in February it was decided that the Society must establish an Endowment Fund, in order to be able effectively to accept gifts and bequests and for the long-term financial good of the Society. Our Treasurer informs me that shortly it will be possible to claim any contribution to the Society as tax-deductible. For further information on this important matter please write the Treasurer, Mr. L. B. Carson, 1306 Lincoln, Topeka.

Costs of purchase of back numbers of the Bulletin are still ten cents per number. For the set minus No. 1, Vol. 5, the charge is \$5.00 plus 30 cents postage. We will supply a copy of No. 1, Vol. 5, on Xerox for 50 cents.

Our Annual Meeting for 1964 will be held at Emporia, through the good offices of Dave Parmelee and the Kansas State Teachers College. Plan to spend May 2 and 3 with K.O.S. in Emporia, and, better yet, plan to participate in the program.—R.F.J.