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1957 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

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The 1957 Christmas Bird Count was the second largest in the history of the K.O.S. A total of 110 species and 121,971 individuals were recorded. The number of waterfowl species was the highest ever recorded with a total of 18. The mild weather up to January 1 undoubtedly accounted for the large number of rarities, species and individuals. A total of 20 stations reported their counts, of which 18 were published. The two counts which were omitted were taken contrary to the rules. If these two counts had been used, the species total would have been 114, an all time high. Some of the species recorded were considered so unlikely in the State in winter that they were omitted from the count when the compiler failed to provide evidence of their identification. Examples were Swainson's Hawk and Chipping Sparrow. Several counts listed subspecies which were omitted and added to the species. Of the 18 counts published, only two gave the weather conditions at the time of the count. A list of observers was omitted from two counts, and one count failed to give a description of habitat. The counts that did list observers usually failed to list them in alphabetical order, adding much work to the editor's task. The hand writing on some of the counts was illegible. A type-written report is preferred, but with a little care by the compiler a handwritten report can be made legible. It would help the editors also if the species which were not seen were marked through with a red pencil. The total species and number of individuals was generally correctly totaled. Not all reports were at fault, some being exceptionally neat and accurate. All compilers would do well to place a copy of the Audubon Field Note Christmas Census before them when making their compilations.

In compiling the count the 5th edition of the American Ornithologists' Union Checklist of North American Birds was followed.

Baldwin (same as previous years).—December 27; 8½ hours, 7:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Observers: 18; miles covered 113 by car, 12 on foot. Observers: Amelia Betts, Mrs. Geo. Boicourt, Mr. and Mrs. Ivan L. Boyd (compiler), Barbara Boyd, Roger Boyd, Sam Deel, Marie Deshazer, Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Evans, Christine Ferguson, Mrs. Chester Gates, Katherine Kelly, Mrs. Francis McKaughn, R. F. Miller, Grace Preston, Gary Randel, Mark Stahl.

Chase County (7½ mile radius in eastern Chase County; open grassland 58 per cent, cultivated fields 20 per cent, brushland 10 per cent, woods 10 per cent, lake or river 2 per cent).—December 29; 8½ hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Overcast; temperature 38° to 45°; wind south 25 m.p.h. in gusts. Observers 3; miles covered 60 by car, 5 on foot. Observers: Marc Marcellus, Michael Ryan, Edward J. Ryan (compiler).

Ellinwood (Robl Refuge, Cheyenne Bottoms).—January 1; 8 hours, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Observers 1; miles covered 63 by car. Observers: Frank W. Robl (compiler).

Emporia (8 to 10 mile radius of Emporia; open grassland 20 per cent, cultivated fields 20 per cent, woods 40 per cent, lake or river 20 per cent).—December 24; 5½ hours, 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Observers 17; miles covered 140 by car, 15 on foot. Observers: Judy Agrelius, Kelly Agrelius, Ted F. Andrews (compiler), Bob Clark, H. W. Davies, Virgil Dowell, Clyde Goulden, Francis Gangel, Ann King, Gill Leisman, Marie Leisman, Esther Minter, Kenneth Minter, Mary Jo Mohesky, Carl Prophet, George Ratzlaff, Stan Roth.

Hays (south and southwest of Hays in Ellis County; open grassland 10 per cent, cultivated fields 10 per cent, brushland 25 per cent, woods 30 per cent, lake or river 20 per cent).—December 30; 8 hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Observers 9; miles covered 40 by car, 6 by foot. Observers: Charles Choguill, Harold Choguill, Chris Cunningham, Edwin Martin, Gerald Tomanek, Walta Tomanek, M. V. Walker, Paul Ward, L. D. Wooster (compiler).

Holton (6 mile radius north and south, 2 mile radius east and west; open grassland 5 per cent, cultivated fields 5 per cent, brushland 15 per cent, woods 50 per cent, lake or river 25 per cent).—December 29; 8 hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Observers 2; miles covered 41 by car, 7 on foot. Observers: D. Eugene Enos (compiler), Bill Soule.

Johnson County (Quivira Lake, Camp Towaynak Cemetery and uplands; cultivated fields 20 per cent, woods 50 per cent, lake 30 per cent).—December 29; 10 hours, 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Observers 8; miles covered 50 by car, 3 on foot. Observers: *Not listed*; Elizabeth Cole (compiler).

Lawrence (Same as previous years).—December 29; 8 hours, 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Observers 5; miles covered 140 by car, 13 on foot. Observers: Mrs. Ethan Allen, Bert S. Chewning (compiler), Helen M. Chewning, Henry S. Fitch, Mrs. John H. Nelson.

Linn County (Same as previous years).—December 29; 12 hours, 5:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Observers 8; miles covered 124 by car, 17 on foot. Observers: Eunice Dingus (compiler), Wilson Dingus, Marshall Fauhl, Ruth Fauhl, Blanche McCaslin, Wallace McCaslin, Marvin D. Schwilling, Frank Wood (Linn Co. Aud. Soc.).

Manhattan (Around Manhattan; open grassland 40 per cent, cultivated fields 5 per cent, brushland 5 per cent, woods 45 per cent, lake or river 5 per cent).—December 28; 10 hours, 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Observers 5; miles covered 40 by car, 12 on foot. Observers: E. K. Beals, Don Gier, H. T. Gier (compiler), Eugene Lewis, Phillip Marvin.

Olathe (7½ mile radius centering at Gardner Lake; open grassland 30 per cent, brushland and woods 52 per cent, lake or river 15 per cent, town and suburb 3 per cent).—January 1; 8 hours, 7:45 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Observers 15; miles covered 121 by car, 13 on foot. Observers: Amelia Betts, Ivan Boyd, Mrs. Ivan Boyd, Barbara Boyd, Roger Boyd, Jack Crane, Harold Deshazer, Jerry Deshazer, Ethel Hower, Katharine Kelley, Mrs. Francis McKaughan, Miadelle McKaughan, J. C. Matthews, R. F. Miller, Ray Wackly (compiler).

Parsons (North of Parsons to Lake McKinley, southeast to Oswego and Hackberry Creek; open grassland 30 per cent, cultivated fields 20 per cent, brushland 20 per cent, woods 15 per cent, lake or river 15 per cent).—December 26; 9 hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Observers 2; miles covered 73 by car, 2 on foot. Observers: Lucille Blackburn, Fern Monroe (compiler).

Topeka (Topeka and vicinity; open grassland 30 per cent, cultivated fields 10 per cent, brushland 15 per cent, woods 15 per cent, lake or river 30 per cent).—December 28; 9 hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Observers 22; miles covered 151 by car, 29 on foot. Observers: John Pat Atkinson, L. B. Carson (compiler), Mary Collins, Elizabeth Fisher, Roberta Foote, Dr. Gerard Haigh, Dorothy Harvey, Mr. Chas. H. Hogue, Mrs. Chas. H. Hogue, Marvin Kuehn, Mrs. Charles Martin, Mrs. Fred Martin, Florence McKinney, Pearl Maus, Mrs. Nyle Miller, Clyde R. Morris, T. W. Nelson, Mrs. Paul Newbolt, Orville O. Rice, Mrs. L. G. Thorpe, Eugene Willet, Harold Williams.

Udall (7½ mile radius, centering on watertower at Udall; open grassland 2 per cent, cultivated fields 5 per cent, brushland 27 per cent, woods 30 per cent, lake and river 36 per cent).—December 28; 9½ hours, 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Observers 3; miles covered 41 by car, 7 on foot. Observers: Kirk Downing, Max Thompson (compiler), Herbert Warfel.

Wichita (7½ mile radius centering at junction of Big and Little Arkansas Rivers; *No breakdown of habitat covered*).—December 29; 10 hours, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Observers 17; miles covered 60 by car, 7 on foot. Observers: *Not listed*. Kirk Downing (compiler).

Wyandotte County (Wyandotte Lake; brushland 20 per cent, woods 30 per cent, lake 50 per cent).—December 29; 8½ hours, 7:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Observers 3; miles covered 20 by car, 3 on foot. Observers: *Not listed*; Elizabeth Cole (compiler).

	Baldwin	Chase Co.	Ellinwood	Emporia	Fostoria	Halstead	Hays	Holton	Johnson Co.	Lawrence	Linn Co.	Manhattan	Olathe	Parsons	Topeka	Udall	Wichita	Wyandotte Co.	Total
Sparrow Hawk	8	7	3	12	4	7	5	1	6	4	2	4	3	3	7	4	17	—	97
Greater Prairie Chicken	—	—	—	—	45	—	—	2	—	—	—	4	—	—	9	—	—	—	60
Bobwhite	19	18	—	28	48	9	—	40	9	—	35	70	45	—	55	37	2	27	442
Ring-necked Pheasant	—	—	11	—	—	13	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	28
American Coot	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	8	15	—	8	—	32
Killdeer	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	6	3	—	46	—	59
Common Snipe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	29	—	31
Least Sandpiper	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Herring Gull	—	—	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	20
Ring-billed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Rock Dove	—	—	—	25	—	43	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	137	—	10	—	—	215
Mourning Dove	6	3	3	21	9	13	—	—	—	3	48	26	24	—	3	2	—	—	161
Barn Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Screech Owl	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Great Horned Owl	2	—	—	—	1	8	1	1	4	5	11	3	8	1	2	3	9	—	59
Barred Owl	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
Belted Kingfisher	1	2	—	1	—	2	2	—	4	1	1	—	3	—	4	—	2	—	23
Yellow-shafted Flicker	33	1	—	18	13	19	3	6	15	28	44	27	13	3	18	10	12	10	273
Red-shafted Flicker	2	1	—	—	1	1	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	12
Pileated Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3
Red-bellied Woodpecker	32	7	—	19	12	19	—	8	15	21	30	18	14	1	7	9	5	11	228
Red-headed Woodpecker	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	52	—	—	13	1	1	—	—	77
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	11
Hairy Woodpecker	11	—	—	1	2	9	3	1	5	3	10	5	6	1	2	1	16	3	80
Downy Woodpecker	39	3	—	22	15	23	8	7	12	18	37	13	24	—	16	34	19	8	298
Horned Lark	17	130	—	471	14	858	1,000	—	1	81	—	8	183	35	20	5	650	—	3,473
Blue Jay	65	—	—	28	15	3	—	3	30	16	87	11	18	18	19	11	1	29	354
Common Crow	137	15	150	131	95	229	124	20	15	48	75	30	108	26	23	38	258	25	1,637
Black-capped Chickadee	97	16	—	77	25	110	11	14	25	108	112	34	35	—	14	49	97	21	845
Carolina Chickadee	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	—	2	2	—	28
Tufted Titmouse	46	5	—	28	6	27	—	4	31	34	46	16	21	16	16	49	22	35	402
White-breasted Nuthatch	2	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	2	—	—	—	1	2	5	33
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1	—	—	3	—	1	1	—	6	2	1	3	2	—	5	—	9	—	34
Brown Creeper	8	—	—	12	—	20	1	3	—	4	3	6	—	—	3	—	13	4	77
Winter Wren	1	1	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	8
Carolina Wren	13	2	—	3	1	3	—	—	6	4	13	8	2	2	4	4	7	12	84
Bewick's Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Mockingbird	7	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	4	1	15	1	10	—	1	5	2	—	50
Brown Thrasher	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Robin	65	1	—	72	763	213	45	5	61	23	64	1,200	27	—	49	9	57	18	2,672
Hermit Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Eastern Bluebird	29	2	—	6	40	2	—	2	14	44	32	46	10	4	23	5	19	7	285
Townsend's Solitaire	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Golden-crowned Kinglet	6	3	—	1	—	33	4	4	5	5	—	3	2	2	2	6	—	6	82
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	—	—	—	5	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	10
Water Pipit	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Cedar Waxwing	34	—	—	19	—	6	2	—	—	—	31	170	—	—	2	20	1	—	285
Loggerhead Shrike	6	2	—	9	4	3	—	—	3	5	19	1	14	9	1	5	—	—	81
Starling	586	410	200	379	59	626	104	96	659	786	97	270	3,101	178	3,000	50	6,544	500	17,645
Myrtle Warbler	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
House Sparrow	1,107	290	—	1,545	510	723	400	93	150	236	596	150	1,038	178	550	178	3,626	50	11,420
Eastern Meadowlark	2	—	—	131	50	2	—	7	19	8	34	60	117	159	32	2	6	3	633
Western Meadowlark	15	90	14	1	6	134	4	—	1	1	173	35	4	—	25	2	21	—	632
Meadowlark sp.	86	—	—	—	272	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	327	—	—	96	509	—	1,290
Redwinged Blackbird	20	32	—	66	20	331	—	—	—	—	185	—	—	—	—	524	3	—	1,181
Rusty Blackbird	—	200	—	2	80	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	282
Brewer's Blackbird	—	—	—	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	36
Common Grackle	1	—	1	—	52	6	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	66
Brown-headed Cowbird	—	105	700	40	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	40	2	350	10	—	10	—	1,257
Cardinal	197	12	2	72	24	35	5	13	37	114	253	52	186	26	34	56	41	69	1,228
Purple Finch	18	—	—	—	—	32	—	—	65	5	27	20	8	—	5	2	—	10	192
Common Redpoll	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Pine Siskin	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	12	7	—	—	2	5	—	—	32
American Goldfinch	36	—	—	34	5	3	—	14	107	69	96	88	31	4	121	23	146	—	777
Rufous-sided Towhee	1	3	—	1	3	3	4	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	88	17	—	125
Savannah Sparrow	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	4
Lark Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Slate-colored Junco	478	31	—	118	64	155	37	37	95	137	241	220	377	88	91	235	239	53	2,696
Oregon Junco	2	—	—	—	—	3	1	1	—	1	2	—	3	—	—	6	3	—	22
Tree Sparrow	300	200	—	386	35	264	41	127	62	142	256	585	108	—	72	251	399	30	3,258
Field Sparrow	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	4	14	1	1	2	1	5	—	—	30
Harris Sparrow	81	40	—	133	71	672	93	35	20	87	47	158	33	25	54	594	319	—	2,462
White-crowned Sparrow	13	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	5	—	—	6	—	22	—	—	48
White-throated Sparrow	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	1	—	24	—	—	35
Fox Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Lincoln Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Swamp Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Song Sparrow	5	—	—	5	1	2	16	2	61	7	35	12	13	—	3	84	118	11	375
Lapland Longspur	50	—	—	30	—	—	270	—	—	—	—	—	96	—	—	—	500*	—	946
Total Species	56	40	21	52	37	50	33	34	45	50	64	46	45	35	65	50	56	37	110
Total Individuals	3,767	3,278	7,398	5,256	3,187	4,842	2,247	3,071	2,122	2,113	42,991	4,428	6,105	1,413	6,979	2,620	13,902	6,252	121,971

Estimate

Fostoria (7½ mile radius centering 2½ miles west of Pottawatomie County Lake; open grassland 50 per cent, cultivated fields 20 per cent, brushland 24 per cent, woods 5 per cent, lake or river 1 per cent).—December 28; 8½ hours, 7:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Cloudy in a.m., sunny in p.m.; ground dry and bare; temperature 28° to 45°; wind south 4–6 m.p.h. Observers 2; miles covered 71 by car, 1½ on foot. Observers: Mrs. Howard Webster, Mrs. Mabel Willis (compiler).

Halstead (7½ mile radius centered 1 mile west of Halstead, chiefly along the Little Arkansas River; open grassland 12 per cent, cultivated fields 16 per cent, brushland 5 per cent, wooded river 50 per cent).—December 27; 8¾ hours, 7:45 to 5:30 p.m. Observers 10; miles covered 140 by car, 12 on foot. Observers: Galen Abbott, Steve Abbott, Joan Challans, Marie Dettweiler, Eunice Goode, Ruth Rose, Alma K. Ruth, Edna L. Ruth (compiler), Bill Stein, Millie Stein.

KANSAS COOPERATIVE NESTING BIRD SURVEY

The importance of bird populations to the natural history of a given area is most pronounced during the breeding seasons of those birds. It is thus reasonable to assume that study of breeding birds will uncover significant information reflecting this importance. Such studies may be approached in any of several ways, but certain kinds of worthwhile data on breeding birds are best gathered by cooperative groups of people. These data usually include, 1) notice of an event in the breeding cycle (nest-building, egg-laying, incubating, brooding, feeding young out of nest), 2) the date of occurrence of the event, and 3) associated phenomena (clutch-size or brood-size, site of nest, vegetation type used by the birds).

The immediate aims of such a study on a geographically restricted group of birds are: 1) documentation of the span of the season in time for each species, 2) documentation of variation (geographically, seasonally, and yearly) in clutch-size for each species, and 3) documentation of habitat preference for each species.

The assistance of members of the Kansas Ornithological Society is respectfully solicited for this study. Simple blank forms for recording field data will be available to interested persons upon request, in person or in writing, at the Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas.—Richard F. Johnston, *Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas*, February 15, 1958.

NEW BOOKS

The Warblers of America. A Popular Account of the Wood Warblers as they occur in the Western Hemisphere.—Ludlow Griscom, Alexander Sprunt, Jr., and others. New York, Devin-Adair Company. 10 × 8 in., xii + 356 pp., 35 col. pls. and 49 line-drawings in text (by John Henry Dick), 1 full-page diagr., 1 full-page map, 50 range-maps in text. Price, \$15.00.—The wood warblers, or Parulidae, form a peculiarly American family consisting of between 110 and 120 species (depending upon taxonomic decision in a few arguable cases) usually divided among 25 genera (as by Hellmayr, in 1935). This large family belongs with an assemblage of groups, the members of which are almost entirely American, called the New World nine-primaried Oscines, and including also swallow-tanagers, vireos, plush-capped finches, blackbirds or troupials, honey-creepers, tanagers, and certain subfamilies of the finches (Fringillidae). In evolutionary diversity and number of forms the wood warblers are exceeded or rivalled, among these American groups, only by the blackbirds, tanagers, and the finch subfamilies. They differ from the first two, however, in having the center of their present distribution in North rather than in South America. Ecologically they occupy niches characteristically filled in the Old World chiefly by the correspondingly great family of Old World warblers (Sylviidae). Some 40 species of wood warblers occur in the eastern United States, and 38 species (including a few western forms) have been reliably recorded in Kansas, where at least 13 are breeding birds.

For various reasons, then, not excluding the beauty of many of its members, this

diverse group is of considerable interest both to amateur bird students and professional ornithologists.

Until the appearance of the present volume, summarized information concerning the wood warblers could be found only in Chapman's semi-popular but authoritative *The Warblers of North America* (New York, D. Appleton, 1907; later issues essentially unrevised) and in Bent's more recent and fuller compilation *Life Histories of North American Wood Warblers* (U. S. Nat. Mus., Bull. 203, Washington, 1953). Both are out of print, although obtainable with fair regularity from used book dealers at a combined price but little exceeding that of the present volume. Both, further, are limited to forms occurring in North America north of Mexico, and treat each species in turn, with little analysis or general discussion of the group as such. In order to obtain general information on the warblers of Central and South America and the West Indies, or to obtain a clear picture of the warbler populations in different parts of North America, it has hitherto been necessary to consult a formidable array of books and periodicals.

The volume in hand covers a wider field than its predecessors. Although supervised in its entirety by Mr. Griscom (long on the staff of the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard), and its individual species accounts having been written (in 31 cases) or delegated (in 29) by Mr. Sprunt, of the National Audubon Societies, this work really represents a committee effort, appreciable contributions having been made by a long list of ornithologists qualified in one way or another by special experience.

The ambitious nature of the work is indicated by a brief review of some of its chapter headings. Introductory chapters treat of the family in general and its classification (by Griscom, with useful references), techniques of field study, songs, geographical distribution, and other matters. The eighth chapter contains formal accounts of the 57 species and 3 hybrids occurring in the United States, Canada, and Baja California. This section of the work covers essentially the same ground as Chapman and Bent, but while some new and interesting material is added, by no means so thoroughly (200 pages are devoted to this section, as compared with 258 in Chapman and 689 in Bent). After general discussions of variable length and detail (usually more complete for little known forms), each species account contains, in smaller type, technical name and type locality, followed by brief statements of field characters, nesting data, voice, food habits, and general range. Subspecies are properly treated in this subordinate section.

The remainder of the work—and here lies its greatest value—is mainly occupied by a series of essays in which the parulid faunas and populations of Mexico, the West Indies, Central America, Panama, South America, Alaska, British Columbia, the prairie provinces of Canada, and eastern Canada are reviewed by specialists familiar with these areas. No such compilation of material has earlier been available. Particularly useful in making readily accessible a great deal of ecological information are the sections on Alaska and Canada, of which the last two (on the prairie provinces, by W. Earl Godfrey, and eastern Canada, by Roland C. Clement and W. W. H. Gunn) are especially thorough and well organized. Concluding sections contain useful notes on the contributors, appendices dealing with the classification and migration of warblers, and the index.

According to the publisher's preface, "This book is intended for the general reader interested in birds, as well as for the more advanced student wishing to have at hand a brief but comprehensive account of the entire family of wood warblers." On the whole, the book should prove useful to both types of reader. A certain variation in style, completeness, and accuracy is inevitable in a work of this sort, from many pens. A given section can be no better than the ability and experience of its contributor can make it within the time allowed him, and even the most devoted editor cannot achieve absolute equality. It is perhaps a trifle unfair to criticize a work, into which so much has been jammed, for lack of thoroughness. Nevertheless, it does appear to me that more useful information, particularly on distribution and ecology, could have been incorporated in many of the accounts without loss of popular appeal. The deficiency of information is particularly felt in connection with some of those species which, not reaching Canada, do not receive the additional benefit of the regional surveys alluded to above. There is, for example, no indication of the fact that in much of its range the Golden-winged Warbler occupies bogs and wet meadows, and the regional habitat preferences of the Yellow-throated Warbler are incompletely stated.

The work is well printed, and typographical and careless errors appear to be few, although some were noted, as Dunkin (for Dunklin) County, Missouri, on p. 71, and an outright contradiction between two statements of the range of *Dendroica virens waynei* on p. 140.

One of the most useful features of the work is the presence of range-maps, not elsewhere available in collected form, for all but a few North American species. This being the case, it is unfortunate that they are so crude as to be, not only unreliable in detail so great as half a state, but also unattractive to the eye. Further, those dealing with species largely extralimital give no indication of the extralimital range about which the very presence of the map excites curiosity.

Interestingly, the work evolved around its illustrations, by Dick, an original plan to publish these in much more modest form having been gradually expanded, drawing in more and more collaborators, and necessitating repeated enlargements of scope. This, it seems to me, is the most fortunate purpose that these illustrations have served. It is true that all of the North American species are figured, perhaps more than adequately for identification of the birds in their major plumages and, more important, many southern species are figured in color for the first time. However, the considered opinion of this reviewer is that Dick brings to his work no control of color or composition, no ability to make a picture of artistic merit or deal with subtleties, at all sufficient to offset his total lack of knowledge of bird structure or his deficiencies as a draftsman (most painfully evident in many of the black and white drawings which decorate section headings). The pictures have received reproduction (in Holland) worthy of something much better.

While he should find this work convenient and useful in various ways, I think that no serious amateur or professional ornithologist would wish it to be his *only* book on wood warblers.—Robert M. Mengel.

NOTES AND NEWS

Spring meeting of the K.O.S. will be on Saturday and Sunday, May 3-4, 1958 at Baldwin, Kansas. Members will be the guests of the Baldwin Bird Club. With the excellent woodland habitats present in the area of Baldwin, we can all look forward to the possibility of more warblers, vireos, thrushes, and other small forest passerines than have been seen on the last two spring counts. You should be thinking about how you might contribute to the program of this meeting. If you have some information about birds which will be of interest to the other members, organize a paper for presentation on May 3.

The editor wishes to thank those of you who have recently submitted information for publication in the *Bulletin*. Coming up in subsequent issues will be an account of a large robin roost, by Amelia Betts, and some detailed data on a pair of Bluebirds the female of which laid 27 eggs in 63 days, by Mrs. A. D. Cole.—J.W.H.

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