

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Nebraska Bird Review

Nebraska Ornithologists' Union

6-1976

WHOLE ISSUE *Nebraska Bird Review* (June 1976) 44(2)

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/nebbirdrev>



Part of the [Poultry or Avian Science Commons](#), and the [Zoology Commons](#)

"WHOLE ISSUE *Nebraska Bird Review* (June 1976) 44(2)" (1976). *Nebraska Bird Review*. 657.
<http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/nebbirdrev/657>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in Nebraska Bird Review by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

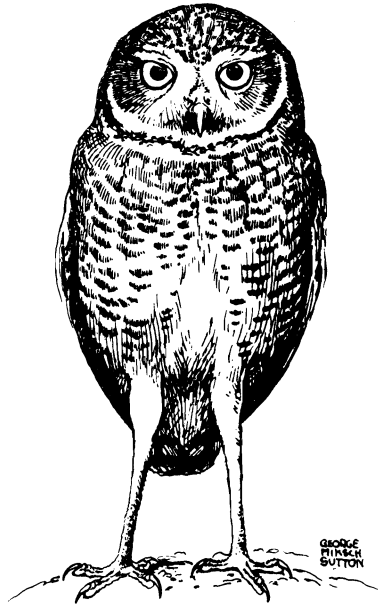
The Nebraska Bird Review

A Magazine of Ornithology of the Nebraska Region

XXXXIV

JUNE, 1976

NUMBER 2



Published by the

NEBRASKA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION, INC.
Founded 1899

TABLE OF CONTENTS ON BACK COVER

Published quarterly in March, June, September, and December by the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union as its official journal and sent free to all members who are not in arrears for dues. Subscriptions at \$5.00 per volume in the United States and \$5.25 in all other countries, payable in advance. Single numbers, \$1.25 each. All dues and subscriptions should be remitted to the Treasurer, A. W. Madison, Box 505, Sutherland, Nebraska 69165. Orders for back numbers should be sent to the Librarian, Dr. Neva Pruess, University of Nebraska State Museum, Lincoln, 68588. All manuscripts for publication should be sent to the Editor, R. G. Cortelyou, 5109 Underwood Avenue, Omaha, Nebraska 68132.

THE SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING

Fontenelle Forest, Bellevue, was the focus for the Seventy-fifth Annual Meeting 15 and 16 May 1976. The paper session and the business meeting were held in the Nature Center, with about 60 present. The formal program consisted of:

Welcome Robert Fluchel, Director, Fontenelle Forest Nature Center
Eunice Kawamoto, President, Omaha Chapter, National Audubon Society

Response, Dr. Rosalind Morris, President, NOU

NOU Beginnings, Doris Gates, Chadron

Slide Presentation on Fontenelle Forest, Robert Fluchel, Director, Fontenelle Forest Nature Center

Nesting Prairie Falcons and Golden Eagles in Nebraska, Ross Lock, Non-game Specialist, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

Effects of Grazing Management on the Sandhills Prairie Community, Dr. Roger Sharpe, Mike Schard, and Tom Cole, Biology Department, University of Nebraska at Omaha

Leg Characteristics of Mallard Ducks in Central Nebraska, Mark Kleine, Kearney State College

Platte River National Wildlife Refuge, Bruce Wiesman, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Grand Island

Slide Show on the Niobrara River, Ted Hoffman, Sierra Club.

D. Andrew Saunders was unable to give his paper on "The Courtship of the American Wigeon", which had been reported to the Nebraska Academy of Science.

At the business meeting the invitation to hold the 1977 Annual Meeting in Lincoln was accepted. It was the concensus of the meeting that in the future more time should be allotted to birding, and the paper sessions should be shortened or scheduled later in the day, or both. The following officers were elected: Dr. Esther Bennett, Lincoln, president; Dennis Holley, Shelton, vice-president; Mrs. Emma Johnson, Omaha, secretary; A. W. Madison, Sutherland, treasurer; Dr. Neva Pruess, Lincoln, librarian; and R. G. Cortelyou, Omaha, editor.

About 55 people attended the banquet, at which Dr. Stephen Fretwell, Kansas State University, spoke on "What Determines the Numbers of Birds?"

Field day was the kind of a day that makes us realize how lucky we usually are on weather: a light to moderate intermittent rain had started the afternoon before and continued into the morning, but all three trips, two to the Forest and one to Lake Manawa (Iowa) State Park, across the river, were held. At the noon count eighty-three species (or eighty-four if the Empidonax sp. recorded was other than a Least Flycatcher) were tallied, and four more (marked *) were added later by a die-hard group that went back in the Forest for more birding. The species reported were: Pied-billed Grebe*, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Wood Duck; Red-tailed and Red-shouldered* Hawks; Osprey*, Bobwhite, Ring-necked Pheasant, American Coot, Spotted Sandpiper; Common and Black Terns; Rock and Mourning Doves; Great Horned Owl, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Common Flicker; Red-bellied, Red-headed, and Downy Woodpeckers; Eastern Kingbird, Great Crested Flycatcher,

Eastern Phoebe, Least Flycatcher, Empidonax sp.; Tree, Bank, Rough-winged, Barn, and Cliff Swallows; Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Common Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch.

House and Carolina Wrens; Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, American Robin; Wood, Swainson's, and Gray-cheeked Thrushes; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Starling; Bell's Yellow-throated, Red-eyed, and Warbling Vireos; Prothonotary, Blue-winged, Tennessee, and Orange-crowned Warblers; Northern Parula; Yellow, Magnolia, Yellow-rumped, Blackburnian, and Black-poll Warblers; Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush*, Kentucky Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, House Sparrow, Meadowlark sp.; Yellow-headed and Red-winged Blackbirds; Orchard and Northern Orioles; Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, American Goldfinch, Rufous-sided Towhee; Chipping, White-throated, Swamp, and Song Sparrows.

1975 (EIGHTEENTH) FALL OCCURRENCE REPORT

Two hundred sixty-four species, plus three accidentals, are listed in this report, which covers nine localities. These figures compare with 267 from 13 localities in 1974, 281 from 12 localities in 1973, and 253 from 10 localities in 1972.

The information is presented in a rough west (left) to east (right) order, with locations of about the same longitude listed with the northernmost first (left). Two dates indicate the first and last records during the period. The symbols used are:

Jl, Au, Sp, Oc, No, and De for the months.

S - to indicate a species which arrived before 1 July.

-W to indicate a species which remained after 31 December.

P to indicate a species which is present all the year, although the same individuals may not be present during the whole year, and the numbers may vary greatly between periods. (S - W also indicates much the same thing, but is used in cases which are considered special circumstances, rather than a normal pattern.)

x where the exact date in a month was not given.

* see comments under McPherson.

The reporting locations, contributors, and special comments are:

Adams, Hastings, 103 species, Mrs. Wm. Helzer, Mrs. Edith Hurlbut, Mrs. O. W. Ritchey, Miss Bernice Welch (reporter), David Rose.

Cherry, Valentine, 77 species, Douglas Ballard (reporter).

Douglas (and Sarpy), Omaha and Bellevue, R. G. Cortelyou, Ruth Green, Melba Wigg (reporters), Tanya Bray, Graham Chisholm, Evelyn Conrad, Janet Greer. The first White Pelican seen had an injured wing. It was later joined by another, apparently in good condition. What happened to the injured bird is not known; it is assumed that the other migrated. The Cinnamon Teal was taken by a hunter on the Platte about halfway from its mouth to Louisville. An individual American Coot was seen 4 August. Some birds seen in flight 9 August were believed to be Upland Sandpipers but were not positively identified. The Lazuli Bunting was reported by Marvin S. Blair of Bellevue, who noted the white belly, rose-colored breast, and double white

	Sioux	Scotts Bluff	Cherry	Lincoln	Howard Hall	Adams	Lan-caster	Doug-Sarpy
Common Loon	-	-	-	-	-	-	No 6 No 22	No 8
Horned Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 22	No 19
Eared Grebe	-	-	-	* J1 24	-	-	-	-
Western Grebe	-	Oc 2 Oc 4	Oc 10*	J1 24	-	-	-	Au 8
Pied-billed Grebe	-	Oc 2 Oc 4	-	Oc 13	-	J1 20	J1 12 No 6	Sp 6 No 27
White Pelican	-	-	S - Au x	Oc 25	-	-	-	J1 13 Sp 22
Double-crested Cormorant	-	S - Oc 4	S - Oc 10	-	-	-	Au 22	Au 15 No 8
Great Blue Heron	S - - W	S - De 22	S - Oc 10	* S - Oc 11	Au 10 Sp 30	Au 10	J1 30 De 21	S - No 15
Green Heron	-	-	-	J1 8	S - Au 10	-	S - Sp 12	S - No 2
Little Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 14	-
Cattle Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 15 Au 17	-
Great Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 6 Oc 7
Black-crowned Night Heron	-	J1 8 Sp 27	-	* Au 22 Oc 11	Au 30	-	Sp 12 Sp 26	-
American Bittern	-	J1 6 J1 20	-	-	-	-	Sp 12	Sp 30
Trumpeter Swan	-	-	Sp 15	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	Oc 15	De 20 De 24	Sp 20	-	No 15 No 30	-	Au 16 De 21	Oc 11 De 20
White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 24	No 8
Snow Goose	No 14	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 6 No 22	Sp 12 De 20
Mallard	P	P	P	* P	-	S - J1 10	P	Au 8 De 20
Gadwall	S - Oc 4	Oc 4	-	-	-	-	Sp 21	Oc 15 No 2
Pintail	-	Sp 30 Oc 4	Sp 15 Oc 14	-	-	Sp 4	De 21	Oc 5 De 20
Green-winged Teal	S - - W	Sp 4 De 20	-	-	-	-	Sp 22 Oc 24	Au 8 No 23
Blue-winged Teal	S - Oc 4	-	Au 29	S - Oc 10	-	-	Au 17 Oc 10	Au 8 Oc 18
Cinnamon Teal	-	-	-	-	-	Au 3	-	De x
American Wigeon	J1 1 Oc 28	Sp 4 Oc 20	Oc 14*	No 14	-	-	De 21	Oc 8 No 23
Northern Shoveler	S - Oc 28	Oc 4 No 4	Sp 20 Oc 9	Oc 10	-	-	Sp 22 No 22	Oc 11 De 20
Wood Duck	-	Oc 4	-	-	-	-	Au 17 - W	S - No 23
Redhead	-	Oc 4	Oc 9 * Oc 30	Oc 14	-	J1 23	No 6	Sp 22 No 23

	Sioux	Scotts Bluff	Cherry	Lincoln	Howard Hall	Adams	Lan-caster	Doug-Sarpy
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	Sp 20 Oc 9	-	-	-	Sp 22	De 7 De 10
Canvasback	-	-	Oc 14 Oc 30	Jl 28	-	Au 10	No 24	No 22 De 20
Lesser Scaup	-	Oc 4	Oc 9	-	-	-	Oc 19 No 6	Oc 5 De 14
Common Goldeneye	-	De 20	-	-	-	-	-	No 23 De 20
Bufflehead	-	Oc 19 No 7	-	-	-	-	No 22	No 22
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	* -	-	-	Sp 22 No 22	Sp 22 No 10
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	No 22	No 14
Common Merganser	-	Oc 4 De 20	-	-	-	-	No 22	No 23 De 20
Turkey Vulture	-	S - Sp 14	S - Sp 26	Sp 30	-	-	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	-	-	Sp 29	Au 20 Au 21	-	De 21	Sp 3 Oc 16
Cooper's Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	Au 17	Sp 9	Sp 13
Red-tailed Hawk	P	P	P	S - Oc 29	P	P	P	P
Broad-winged Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 1
Swainson's Hawk	-	S - Jl 9	Au 15 * Sp 16	S - Au 23	-	-	Sp 12	-
Rough-legged Hawk	Oc 15 - W	No 2 - W	Sp 16 De 15	De 28	-	De 20	Oc 28 Oc 30	-
Ferruginous Hawk	-	Au 16	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden Eagle	P	P	-	-	-	-	-	No 20
Bald Eagle	De 13	No 1 - W	De 8 De 18	De 15 - W	No 29 - W	-	De 3 De 5	Oc 16 De 6
Marsh Hawk	P	P	P	-	-	Au 17	Sp 8 De 21	De 20
Osprey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 28 Sp 7
Prairie Falcon	P	De 23	-	-	-	-	-	-
Merlin	-	Au 27 - W	-	-	-	-	De 21	-
American Kestrel	P	P	Au 27 * Sp 26	P	P	-	P	P
Greater Prairie Chicken	-	-	-	* P	-	-	-	-
Sharp-tailed Grouse	P	-	P	* P	-	-	-	-
Bobwhite	-	P	-	P	P	P	P	P
Ring-necked Pheasant	P	P	P	* P	P	P	P	P
Turkey	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	-
Sandhill Crane	Sp 29	Oc 22 No 9	Oc 29	-	Sp 7	Oc 1	-	-
Virginia Rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 20	-

	Sioux	Scotts Bluff	Cherry	Lincoln	Howard Hall	Adams	Lancaster	Doug-Sarpy
Sora	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 18	Sp 9
American Coot	S - No 1	S - Oc 4	S - * Oc 10	Sp 28 Sp 30	-	Sp 3	Au 22 De 21	Sp 29 De 10
Semipalmated Plover	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 11 Au 31	-
Killdeer	S - Oc 15	S - Oc 20	S - * Oc 14	S - Oc 10	S - No 14	S - Sp 26	S - No 24	S - De 12
Black-bellied Plover	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 13 Oc 5	-
American Woodcock	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No 8
Common Snipe	S - Oc 25	-	-	Au 20 No 14	-	-	Sp 10 De 21	No 8
Long-billed Curlew	S - Au 17	-	- * -	-	-	-	-	-
Upland Sandpiper	S - Au 11	S - Au 8	- * -	S - Jl 19	-	-	Jl 9	-
Spotted Sandpiper	-	S - Oc 4	-	Jl 4	-	-	Au 11 Sp 17	Jl 12 Sp 17
Solitary Sandpiper	-	Au 28	-	-	-	-	Au 22 Oc 10	Au 8 Au 23
Greater Yellowlegs	-	Au 9 Sp 30	Sp 15* Oc 14	-	-	-	Jl 25 Oc 10	Au 8 Sp 17
Lesser Yellowlegs	-	Oc 4	-	-	-	-	Au 22 Sp 22	Au 8 Oc 7
Pectoral Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 13 Oc 5	Au 8 Au 25
White-rumped Sandpiper	-	-	- *	-	-	-	Au 11	-
Baird's Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 25
Least Sandpiper	-	-	-	Jl 25	-	-	Jl 25 Oc 10	Au 2 Au 8
Semipalmated Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 11 Oc 5	-
Western Sandpiper	-	-	-	Sp 5	-	-	Jl 8 Au 31	Au 8
Sanderling	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 11 Sp 22	-
Short-billed Dowitcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	Jl 25	Au 8
Dowitcher sp.	-	Oc 20	-	-	-	-	Au 22	-
Long-billed Dowitcher	-	-	Oc 14	-	-	-	-	Au 8
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 16 Sp 23	-
American Avocet	-	-	Oc 14*	-	-	-	-	-
Wilson's Phalarope	-	Oc 20	-	*Jl 26	-	Au 3	-	Oc 2
Northern Phalarope	-	-	Sp 15	-	-	-	-	-
Herring Gull	-	Oc 4	-	-	-	-	Oc 5	No 22 De 6
Herring/Ring-billed Gull	-	-	-	Oc 25 No 7	-	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	-	Sp 13 No 8	S - Oc 14	Oc 16	-	-	Jl 9 No 22	Sp 13 No 23

	Sioux	Scotts Bluff	Cherry	Lin- coln	Howard Hall	Adams	Lan- caster	Doug- Sarpy
Franklin's Gull	-	Sp 30 De 20	-	Oc 6 Oc 7	-	Au 1	Jl 25 Au 16	Sp 24 No 21
Forster's Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 16 Sp 23	-
Common Tern	-	-	-	Jl 28	-	-	Sp 2	-
Least Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 11	-
Caspian Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 29	-
Black Tern	S - Sp 12	S - Sp 1	Au x	-	-	-	Jl 25 Sp 2	Au 9 Sp 1
Rock Dove	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P
Mourning Dove	S - Oc 20	S - No 8	S - * No 8	S - Oc 11	-	S - De 20	S - - W	S - De 20
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	-	S - Jl 12	- * -	S - Au 22	S - Au 30	S - Jl 30	S - Sp 26	S - Oc 11
Black-billed Cuckoo	-	Jl 12	-	Jl 4 Jl 10	-	-	S - Sp 12	S - Au 3
Groove-billed Ani	-	-	-	-	Oc 18 Oc 30	-	-	-
Screech Owl	-	Jl 7 Oc 21	-	-	-	De 19	P	P
Great Horned Owl	P	P	Oc 4	P	P	P	P	P
Snowy Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	De 13
Burrowing Owl	S - Oc 6	S - Oc 4	-	* S - Jl 21	S - Au 23	-	-	-
Barred Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	De 21	P
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	No x - W	Oc 18
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 8 No 26	-
Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	No 12	-
Poor-will	-	Jl 6 Jl 10	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Nighthawk	S - Sp 2	S - Sp 18	S - * Sp 13	S - Jl 12	S - Sp 14	S - Sp 18	S - Sp 25	S - Oc 11
Chimney Swift	-	S - Au 8	S - Au x	S - Jl 22	S - Sp 15	S - Sp 20	S - Oc 10	S - Oc 11
White-throated Swift	-	S - Au 27	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	-	-	-	Sp 9	-	-	Sp 5 Sp 6	S - Sp 27
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	-	Au 8 Au 16	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rufous Hummingbird	-	Au 15 Sp 14	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belted Kingfisher	P	P	S - De 28	P	S - Oc 16	S - De 20	P	S - De 29
Common Flicker	P	P	S - * Oc 9	P	P	P	P	P
Red-bellied Woodpecker	-	-	-	Oc 13	P	P	P	P
Red-headed Woodpecker	S - Sp 2	S - Oc 4	Au 19	S - Sp 12	S - Sp 7	S - Au 31	S - De 21	S - - W

	Sioux	Scotts Bluff	Cherry	Lin- coln	Howard Hall	Adams	Lan- caster	Doug- Sarpy
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 26 De 21	No 8 No 16
Hairy Woodpecker	P	P	P	No 28 De 24	P	P	P	P
Downy Woodpecker	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Eastern Kingbird	S - Sp 5	S - Sp 18	S - * Sp x	S - Sp 22	S - Sp 17	S - Sp 2	S - Sp 9	S - Sp 17
Western Kingbird	S - Sp 1	S - Sp 16	S - * Sp x	S - Sp 22	S - Sp 7	S - Au 15	S - Au 29	S - Au 23
Great Crested Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	S - Au 3	-	S - Sp 12	S - Sp 16
Eastern Phoebe	-	-	-	S - Jl 10	-	Jl 11	Sp 5	S - Oc 2
Say's Phoebe	S - Sp 15	S - Sp 1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 5 Sp 10	Sp 6
Acadian Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 31 Sp 12	-
Willow Flycatcher	Jl 1 Sp 2	-	-	-	-	-	Jl 4 Sp 5	Jl 8
Alder Flycatcher	-	-	-	* -	-	-	Sp 10	-
Least Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	Jl 11 Au 31	Au 8 Sp 12	Au 22 Sp 24
Empidonax sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Jl 27 Oc 16
Eastern Wood Pewee	-	-	-	* -	-	Au 10	S - Sp 10	S - Oc 2
Western Wood Pewee	S - Sp 16	S - Sp 11	-	Sp 3	-	-	-	-
Olive-sided Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 17	Au 17 Sp 14
Horned Lark	P	P	P	* P	P	P	P	P
Tree Swallow	-	-	-	* -	-	-	Sp 2	S - Oc 8
Bank Swallow	-	-	-	-	S - Au 10	Au 15	Sp 2	S - Oc 4
Rough-winged Swallow	S - Au 25	S - Jl 12	S - Sp x	S - Jl x	S - Au 20	-	S - Sp 3	S - Oc 4
Barn Swallow	S - Sp 27	S - Oc 4	S - * Sp x	S - Sp 19	S - Sp 27	S - Au 31	S - Oc 5	S - Oc 18
Cliff Swallow	S - Sp 1	S - Sp 13	S - Sp x	S - Sp 19	S - Sp 7	S - Jl 11	-	S - Oc 4
Purple Martin	-	-	-	S - Au 15	S - Sp 15	S - Au 27	S - Sp 5	S - Sp 13
Blue Jay	P	P	P	* P	P	P	P	P
Black-billed Magpie	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	-
Common Crow	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Pinon Jay	P	P	-	-	-	-	-	-

	Sioux	Scotts Bluff	Cherry	Lin- coln	Howard Hall	Adams	Lan- caster	Doug- Sarpy
Black-capped Chickadee	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P
White-breasted Nuthatch	P	Jl 27	P	No 22 - W	No 29 - W	P	P	P
Red-breasted Nuthatch	-	P	-	*No 25 - W	No 29 - W	Oc 27 - W	Au 31 - W	Sp 13 No 16
Brown Creeper	-	No 7 - W	-	Sp 28 - W	Oc 30 - W	Oc 20 - W	Oc 5 - W	S - - W
House Wren	S - Sp 27	S - Sp 9	-	* S - Sp 2	S - Au 28	S - Oc 6	S - Oc 10	S - Oc 6
Winter Wren	-	No 2	No 8 No 22	-	-	-	Sp 4	Oc 13 - W
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 7	P
Long-billed Marsh Wren	S - Au 31	-	-	-	-	Au 3	Sp 4 Oc 10	Sp 1 Oc 17
Short-billed Marsh Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 17	-
Rock Wren	S - Sp 22	S - Oc 29	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mockingbird	-	Au 22 Au 31	-	-	S - Au 20	-	S - Oc 11	No 7
Gray Catbird	S - Sp 27	Au 30 Sp 29	-	* S - Au 16	S - Au 23	S - Au 31	S - Oc 11	S - No 9
Brown Thrasher	S - Sp 13	S - Sp 30	S - Sp 9	* S - Sp 6	S - Oc 16	S - De 20	S - No 5	S - De 20
Sage Thrasher	-	Au 29	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Robin	P	P	P	* P	P	P	P	P
Varied Thrush	-	De 4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wood Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	S - Au 3	-	S - Sp 14
Hermit Thrush	Sp 27 Oc 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 16 Oc 17
Swainson's Thrush	Jl 1 Sp 26	Sp 21 Sp 25	-	* -	-	-	Sp 2 Sp 30	Sp 19
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	De 29	S - De 14	S - De 20	S - No 28	P	P
Mountain Bluebird	-	S - Oc 12	-	Oc 9	-	-	-	-
Townsend's Solitaire	Sp 13 Sp 27	Oc 4 - W	No 6	* De 22 De 31	De 20	Sp 10	De 21	-
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	No 1 De 20	-	-	-	De 20 - W	Oc 8 - W	Oc 4 - W
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Sp 26	Oc 29	-	*Oc 20	-	De 12	Sp 4 No 11	Sp 13 De 20
Water Pipit	-	Oc 12	-	Oc 29 Oc 31	-	-	-	-
Sprague's Pipit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 18
Bohemian Waxwing	-	De 20 De 29	-	-	-	-	-	-

	Sioux	Scotts Bluff	Cherry	Lin- coln	Howard Hall	Adams	Lan- caster	Doug- Sarpy
Kentucky Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S - Au 3
Connecticut Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 12	Sp 29
Mourning Warbler	-	-	-	Sp 29 Oc 3	-	-	Oc 8	Oc 16
Macgillivray's Warbler	Sp 2 Sp 3	Oc 4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Yellowthroat	-	S - Sp 10	-	S - Au 30	S - Au 23	Sp 10	S - Sp 26	S - Oc 9
Yellow-breasted Chat	-	S - Jl 12	-	* -	S - Au 26	Jl 14	-	S - Jl 14
Hooded Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 10	-	-
Wilson's Warbler	Sp 1 Sp 27	Sp 11 Sp 27	-	* Sp 3 Sp 5	-	-	Sp 4 Sp 30	Au 25 Sp 13
Canada Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 4 Sp 12	Au 25 Oc 4
American Redstart	Sp 2 Sp 26	-	-	* -	-	Jl 2	Sp 2 Sp 22	S - Sp 5
House Sparrow	P	P	P	* P	P	P	P	P
Bobolink	-	-	S - Au x	S - Au 14	S - Au 20	-	-	-
Eastern Meadowlark	-	-	-	-	S - Au 16	-	S - No 19	S - Oc 18
Meadowlark sp.	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P
Western Meadowlark	P	P	S - Oc 9	* P	P	-	P	S - Oc 18
Yellow-headed Blackbird	S - Sp 27	S - Oc 4	S - Sp 15	* S - Sp 29	S - Sp 16	S - Au 10	Sp 12 Sp 25	S - Au 4
Red-winged Blackbird	S - De 31	S - De 20	S - Oc 14	* S - De 18	S - Sp 7	S - De 20	P	S - No 22
Orchard Oriole	S - Au 25	S - Jl 12	-	* S - Au 20	S - Sp 6	S - Au 17	S - Au 31	S - Au 24
Northern Oriole	-	S - Au 30	-	* S - Sp 7	S - Sp 5	S - Sp 2	S - Sp 10	S - Sp 13
Rusty Blackbird	-	Oc 4	-	-	-	Oc 15	No 7 De 31	Oc 4 De 20
Brewer's Blackbird	-	Oc 2 De 20	-	-	-	-	Au 12 No 15	Jl 17 De 20
Common Grackle	S - Sp 27	S - De 30	-	* S - De 6	S - Sp 27	S - - W	S - - W	S - De 18
Brown-headed Cowbird	S - Sp 27	S - Oc 4	S - Au x	S - Sp 7	S - Sp 10	S - Au 13	S - - W	S - De 18
Western Tanager	-	Sp 12 Sp 23	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Tanager	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S - Sp 10
Cardinal	-	Jl 12	-	P	P	P	P	P
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	-	-	Oc 25	S - Au 31	S - Au 31	S - Sp 10	S - Oc 10

	Sioux	Scotts Bluff	Cherry	Lincoln	Howard Hall	Adams	Lancaster	Doug-Sarpy
Black-headed Grosbeak	-	S - Jl 12	-	Jl 6	-	-	-	-
Blue Grosbeak	-	S - Au 26	-	* S - Jl 25	-	S - Au 3	Au 18 Au 29	S - Au 25
Indigo Bunting	-	-	-	-	-	S - Jl 12	S - Sp 9	S - Oc 10
Lazuli Bunting	Au 31	S - Au 5	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 10
Dickcissel	-	-	-	S - Jl 11	S - Sp 5	S - Au 17	S - Sp 12	S - Sp 6
Evening Grosbeak	-	De 21	No 22	-	-	Sp 12	No 7 De 31	De 29
Purple Finch	-	-	-	-	De 20	-	Oc 24 - W	Oc 16 De 21
House Finch	-	P	-	Sp 15 Oc 22	-	-	-	-
Pine Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	De 8	-	-
Common Redpoll	De 7	-	-	-	-	De 23	De 21	De 20 De 31
Pine Siskin	-	P	-	-	-	De 8 De 20	De 21	No 1 De 31
American Goldfinch	S - Oc 15	P	P	* S - No 14	P	P	P	P
Rufous-sided Towhee	S - Oc 15	S - Oc 5	-	* S - Au 22	S - Oc 16	S - Oc 2	Oc 5 Oc 24	S - De 18
Brown Towhee	-	Sp 18	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lark Bunting	S - Sp 3	S - Sp 13	S - Au x	* S - Au x	S - Au 28	S - Jl 12	-	Oc 11
Savannah Sparrow	Jl 1 Au 30	Au 25 Oc 4	-	-	-	-	Sp 24 Oc 24	Sp 23 Oc 19
Grasshopper Sparrow	-	-	-	* S - Jl 3	S - Au 10	Au 10	S - Sp 17	-
Baird's Sparrow	-	-	-	Jl 25	-	-	-	-
Henslow's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 10	-
Le Conte's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 5 Oc 10	-
Sharp-tailed Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 10	Oc 18
Vesper Sparrow	S - Oc 15	S - Oc 4	-	* -	-	-	Sp 26 Oc 10	Au 23 Oc 18
Lark Sparrow	S - Au 30	S - Sp 7	S - Au x	* S - Jl 21	S - Au 28	-	S - Oc 22	-
Dark-eyed Junco	Sp 27 - W	Oc 4 - W	No 3 - W	Sp 11 - W	Oc 28 - W	Oc 19 - W	Sp 24 - W	Oc 10 - W
Tree Sparrow	No 15 - W	Oc 4 - W	No 30	Sp 3 - W	Sp 10 - W	No 10 - W	Oc 10 - W	Oc 14 - W
Chipping Sparrow	S - Sp 2	S - Au 17	-	S - Sp x	S - Au 30	-	Sp 9 De 19	S - De 20
Clay-colored Sparrow	S - Oc 10	Sp 8 Oc 4	-	* Jl 21	Oc 28 No 13	-	Oc 10	Sp 6 Oc 13

	Sioux	Scotts Bluff	Cherry	Lincoln	Howard Hall	Adams	Lancaster	Doug-Sarpy
Brewer's Sparrow	S - Au 31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Field Sparrow	-	-	-	* S - Sp 3	S - Au 28	S - Jl 20	S - De 21	S - Oc 18
Harris' Sparrow	-	Oc 4 - W	Oc 4 Oc 15	Oc 10 Oc 24	Oc 20 De 20	Au 13 - W	Oc 10 - W	Oc 11 - W
White-crowned Sparrow	Sp 26 No 10	Sp 7 - W	Oc 3 Oc 10	* -	Oc 16 De 20	-	Oc 1 De 31	Oc 18 De 20
White-throated Sparrow	-	Oc 4 Oc 5	-	Sp 14	Oc 16 De 20	-	Oc 2 De 31	Sp 28 De 20
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	Jl 20	Oc 24 De 7	Oc 9 No 8
Lincoln's Sparrow	Sp 12 Oc 4	-	-	* -	Sp 29	-	Sp 9 Oc 28	Sp 27 De 20
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 26 Oc 28	Oc 17 No 1
Song Sparrow	-	Sp 8 - W	Sp 9* No 8	-	Au 3 No 13	Au 10 De 20	Au 8 - W	P
McCown's Longspur	S - Sp 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lapland Longspur	-	-	-	-	-	De 13 De 20	No 19 De 29	-
Smith's Longspur	-	Sp 18	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chestnut-collared Longspur	S - Sp 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Bunting	-	-	-	-	-	De 24	De 5	-

wingbars while it was perched, and the blue back when it flew. A Sharp-tailed Sparrow was seen 19 October east of Plattsmouth, in Iowa and outside of the area normally covered in the Douglas-Sarpy report, by Evelyn Conrad and Catherine Nelson.

Hall, Grand Island, 86 species, William Schleicher (reporter). The Groove-billed Ani was reported in *NBR* 43:79.

Howard, see Hall.

Lancaster, Lincoln, 193 species, Dr. Esther Bennett, Shirley Doole, Dr. Norma Johnson (reporters), Fitzhugh and Mabel Diggs (Hamburg, Iowa), Terry Genrich, Daryl Giblin, Nancy Hungerford, John and Mabel Ott, Melba Wigg (Omaha). A Loon seen 19 November at Capitol Beach was either a Red-throated or a small phase Common, and a possible White-winged Scoter was seen at the same time and place. The Saw-whet Owl was found near a hangar at the airport and lived about 24 hours.

Lincoln, North Platte and Hershey, 118 species and the possibility that one of the "Herring/Ring-billed Gulls" was a Herring Gull. Mrs. E. C. Logan for the Tout Bird Club, and Mrs. M. A. Cox (reporters).

McPherson, Tryon, 71 species, Mrs. Oona Bassett (reporter). This report was received early and misfiled, and discovered too late to be included properly in the table, where an entry is marked only by *. The full entries

are: Grebes, Eared Sp 2 - 15, Western S - Sp 19; Herons, Great Blue S - Sp 5, Black crowned Night S - J1 23; Mallard S - Sp 29, Wigeon S - J1 -4, Red-head Sp 2, Ruddy Duck S - Sp 15, Swainson's Hawk J1 1 - Sp 15, Kestrel S - J1 23, Prairie Chicken S - Sp 30, Sharp-tail P, Pheasant P, Coot S - Sp 15, Killdeer S - Sp 15, Long-billed Curlew S - Au 28, Upland Sandpiper S - Au x, Greater Yellowlegs Au 31, White-rumped Sandpiper Au 19, Avocet Au 19 - Sp 15, Wilson's Phalarope S - Sp 15, Mourning Dove S - Sp 29, Yellow-billed Cuckoo J1 4, Burrowing Owl J1 1 - J1 23, Nighthawk S - J1 18, Flicker S - Sp 29; Kingbirds, Eastern S - Sp 2, Western S - Sp 2; Alder Flycatcher Sp 10, Eastern Wood Pewee Au 28, Horned Lark P; Swallows, Tree Sp 20, Barn S - Sp 10; Blue Jay Sp 18, Red-breasted Nuthatch Sp 21, House Wren Sp 6 - Sp 12, Catbird Au 24 - Sp 27, Brown Thrasher S - Sp 13, Robin S - Sp 30, Swainson's Thrush Sp 9 - Sp 28, Solitaire Sp 30, Ruby-crowned Kinglet Sp 3 - Sp 28, Cedar Waxwings Sp 14 - Sp 29; Warblers, Tennessee Sp 12, Orange-crowned Au 28 - Sp 21, Nashville Sp 21 - Sp 27, Yellow-rumped Sp 25 - Sp 28, Blackpoll Sp 12, Wilson's Au 21 - Sp 30; Ovenbird Sp 14, Chat Au 28 - Sp 14, Wilson's Warbler Au 21 - Sp 30, Redstart Au 28 - Sp 12, House Sparrow P, Western Meadowlark S - Sp 30; Blackbirds, Yellow-headed S - Sp 30, Red-winged S - Sp 30; Orioles, Orchard S - Au 8, Northern Sp 10; Grackle P, Blue Grosbeak S - Sp 10, Goldfinch Sp 12 - 25, Rufous-sided Towhee Sp 17 - Sp 30, Lark Bunting S - Au x; Sparrows, Grasshopper S - Au 30, Vesper J1 30 - Sp 19, Lark S - Au 29, Clay-colored Sp 16 - Sp 26, Field Au 30 - Sp 25, White-crowned Sp 12 - Sp 30, Lincoln's Sp 12 - Sp 14, Song Sp 12 - Sp - 25. Mrs. Bassett closed her report on 30 September, just before she left for the winter, so that some winter birds were not recorded, and the closing dates for some others may be too soon. It was unusual not to have Field Sparrows around all summer.

Sarpy, see Douglas.

Scotts Bluff, Scottsbluff, 146 species, Mrs. Roy J. Witschy (reporter), Mrs. M. A. Banghart, Lydia Bolz, Mrs. J. J. Brashear,, Mrs. LeRoy Kenitz. The Varied Thrush was reported in *NBR* 44:16; the Brown Towhee is discussed elsewhere in this issue.

Sioux, Mitchell, Helen and David Hughson (reporters). A late Killdeer was seen 26 November.

BROWN TOWHEE REPORTED

I saw a Brown Towhee 18 September 1975. I didn't realize it was so unusual, but I knew that I had never seen one before. I first saw it on the ground under a crabapple tree in my front yard. It was seemingly with a flock of migrating sparrows. My first thought was: "My, what a huge sparrow!", and I thought of our biggest sparrow, Harris'. Then it flew under a red-stemmed dogwood where I could observe it easily from my picture window. I could see that it was behaving like a towhee and that it was much larger than any sparrow, and more slender. I noticed the brown cap and the even unstreaked color, except under the throat where there were some sort of streaks. It was not a Green-tailed Towhee, with which I am familiar, but it looked exactly like the illustration of the Brown Towhee in Peterson's *A Field Guide to Western Birds*, page 275. *Birds of America* notes that the Brown Towhee is found in eastern Colorado and of course we are directly north of eastern Colorado.

— Joyce Brashear, Gering

This seems to be the first report of the Brown Towhee in Nebraska. *Birds of Colorado* states that in Colorado the Brown Towhee is a resident of the southeastern part, mainly south of the Arkansas River. However, it does give records from farther north, including that of a specimen taken at Boulder in 1895, which is a northern record. Gering is roughly 150 miles northeast of Boulder. —Ed.

BOOK REVIEWS

Owls of the World, Their Evolution, Structure and Ecology, John A. Burton, Editor, A & W Visual Library, New York. 216 pp. 8 x 11, paperback, \$9.95 (\$10.95 in Canada).

This book touches on about every topic concerning owls that could be thought of - their development from the earliest known fossils; their relationship with man in history, legend, medicine, and everyday life; a discussion of each species with an illustration, either a color photograph or a painting (one species is known from just one specimen), and a range map; conservation with particular reference to owls; an illustrated chapter on owl pellets; a description of the calls of the various species (to the extent they are known); and a glossary. It is indexed and contains a short biographical note on each of the authors (all Europeans). If you want to know the basic information about owls in general and about each species this book provides it. If you want more detailed information the book includes a list of books for further reading. Some of these, as Bent's *Life Histories*, give more detailed information on birds of a particular region; one covers owl pellets; and others are on owls in general. —Ed.

How Birds Fly: Under the Water and Through the Air. John K. Terres, illustrated by Robert Hines. Hawthorn Books, Inc., New York. 192 pp. Paperback, 6 x 9, \$3.95.

This was originally published as *Flashing Wings*, and the new title should not discourage those not technically inclined. The technical explanation of flight is given in Appendix I (and other technical or statistical information in other appendixes); the book itself discusses birds from the standpoint of their type of flight, pointed up with illustrations from the author's experience, or that of others. The book is dedicated to his Peregrine Falcon, The Princess, and his experiences with her are the subject for the first two and the last chapters. —Ed.

A Field Guide to the Nests, Eggs and Nestlings of British and European Birds, Colin Harrison, Quadrangle/The New York Times Book Co., New York. 432 pp., 730 eggs and 145 nestlings in full color, many line drawings, index. 5 x 7¼ inches, hardbound. \$12.50.

There are about thirty pages of introductions and explanation, including keys for types of nest, for the eggs themselves, and for nestlings, and cautions as to how to minimize danger to the birds, eggs, and nest from inspecting the nest. The book does not discuss the adults - that is left to other guides - but does cover the probable location of the nests, the nest itself, breeding season, eggs, incubation period, the nestling, and the nestling period. The book cautions that identification by the nest or eggs, or even by nestlings, often can not be sure because of individual geographical variations, particularly in view of the large area covered. To use this book for those birds

in it which are found in North America would increase the possibility of geographical variation. Another thing to be considered in using it for our birds is the difference in some common names (and even in some scientific names), but this adjustment would be easily made. This is a beautiful book, but unless one expects to be in Europe long enough at the right time to use it the price may seem steep. The question is, how strong is your interest in nests and the like? —Ed.

A. B. A. Checklist: Birds of Continental United States and Canada. American Birding Association, Inc. P. O. Box 4335, Austin, Texas 78765. 72 pp., paperback, 6 x 9, \$3.50.

"The purpose of this Checklist is to provide a complete up-to-date list of the bird species that have been recorded in the 49 continental United States and Canada." It excludes Greenland, Bermuda, and Baja California, which are included in the *A. O. U. Check-list*. It follows a different order of listing for shorebirds, but this should not cause much trouble because it has an index. It uses the names adopted in the 32nd Supplement and some others not adopted by AOU. Although it is possible that these names will be adopted by AOU in the future, the failure to distinguish the "unofficial" names may cause some confusion. But since most of these "unofficial" names are just the addition of "Northern", "American", or the like to a name that is used for another species somewhere else in the world the confusion probably will not be great. The book lists (up to 24 names to a page) the common and the scientific name of each species, gives an indication of its present status of abundance, and provides a box for checking. There usually is some remaining space on the line, which could be used for notes as to the first record if desired. It also includes, at the back, a "Summary of Records of Accidental Species", five blank pages for notes, and a page each for supplements from 1975 to 1979 (to be published in *Birding*). This is a handy record book for the lister. For a non-lister it is (subject to the qualifications about the order of presentation of the shorebirds, and the "unofficial" names) a compact list of North American species and their names. —Ed.

Checklist of the World's Birds. Edward S. Gruson with the assistance of Richard A. Forster. Quadrangle/The New York Times Book Co., New York. 224 pp., hardbound, 6¾ x 9½, \$10.95.

This is an attempt to produce a compact tabulation of all the species of birds in the world; as the introduction says: "This is a book for 'listers' and 'tickers'. It lists, on one line, the scientific name, the common name, a code to the reference book(s) used, and a code to the faunal region(s) of the world in which the species is found. (A map of these regions is shown on both end papers.) The information is presented by families (not in the order used in the *A. O. U. Check-list*, but apparently close to that used in Great Britain) and genera (close to the order of these two followed by Peters' *Check-list of the Birds of the World*, says the Introduction), and within genera the species are listed alphabetically. Since the book has an index of generic names "Abeillia, Abroscopus, Aburria, . . ." and of English names "Accentors, Accipiter, Akalats, . . ." it shouldn't be too difficult to find the listing for a particular bird, except in the case that the scientific name and/or the English name is not that to which the seeker is accustomed. Obviously, when a species has two or more different names (either scientific or

English) in use in different parts of the world, the authors had to select one, and often they decided against the names shown in the *AOU Check-list* (presumably the decision went the other way often, too). If either the scientific or the English name remains the same the problem is not too difficult, but if both are changed (e.g., *Scardafella inca*, Inca Dove, to *Columbia squammata*, Scaled Dove) there is a problem. This one was solved when the following was found in the footnotes for that section of the list: "10 Replaces *Scardafella* and includes *C. inca*". A footnote for Ruby-crowned Kinglet indicates that it includes the Golden-crowned, but the Golden-crowned is listed three lines down; a footnote for American Redstart indicates that it includes the Painted Redstart, but on the opposite page is *Myioborus* (instead of *Setophaga picta*, Painted Redstart, shown as a North American bird. *Pyrrhuloxia* is not indexed in the English names, where it is used, but it is indexed in the scientific names, where it is not used (a footnote for the page said that *Cardinalis* replaced *Pyrrhuloxia*). In the end this reviewer found all of the 794 species in the *ABA Check-list* except the Cuban Martin (*Progne cryptoleuca*), which still eludes him. But the proportion of the entries which gave serious problems in location (not all of which were cited) is pretty low; most gave little or no trouble. Oddly, for a book for listers, the authors "lump" at times. Two examples are the Greater and Lesser Prairie Chickens and the Gray-crowned, Black, and Brown-capped Rosy Finches (the index entry of 160 for *Leucosticte* should be 166). There is a bibliography of 118 entries, which includes most of the 72 entries given separately as sources. A lister whose efforts cover an area greater than that covered by the *ABA Check-list* (Hawaii, for instance) will find this a compact way to keep his list. Non-listers who have an interest in birds outside of the North American area might also find it a convenient compact listing of all birds. —Ed.

A NOTE ON NOMENCLATURE. The name changes introduced by the authors of the two books reviewed above could cause problems, particularly Gruson's changes. Many of the changes are negligible: Whip-poor-will and Whip-Poor-Will, Wrentit and Wren-Tit, or even Great and Greater Black-backed Gull. Even when the names are completely different, as Mew and Common Gull, or ABA's Marsh and Sedge Wrens for Long-billed and Short-billed Marsh Wrens, there will not be much trouble if there is no danger of confusion with other species. (There is with "Marsh Wren" - is it the ABA name, or an undesignated Long-billed or Short-billed Marsh Wren?) But when there is danger of confusion there is the possibility of trouble. Consider these names for Juncos: *Junco hyemalis*, AOU Dark-eyed, ABA Northern, and Gruson Slate-colored Juncos; *J. phaetonotus*, AOU Yellow-eyed, ABA Mexican, and Gruson Dark-eyed Juncos; and Gruson uses Yellow-eyed Junco for *J. vulcani*, a Central American species not listed by either AOU or ABA. Obviously ABA did a better job of avoiding confusion in selecting names for these Juncos than did Gruson. The Bird Review will continue to follow the standards set by AOU, since that seems most likely to minimize confusion.

NOTES

WINTERING BIRDS. My feeder has seen so few birds this winter (75-76). Plenty of House Sparrows, but only two pairs of Chickadees, one or

two Nuthatches. I have suet out all the time, but have had only a few Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers, and the suet lasts and lasts. A few Juncoes came once right after the November snow, and a Cardinal came two or three times. There has been a flock of twenty to thirty Robins around the neighborhood, but I have seen no Waxwings. I am afraid our garden insecticides are doing deadly work. We didn't have as many Wrens last summer as usual. And as birds diminish the plant pests increase.

— *Ruth McKenney, Palmer*

YORK COUNTY. We have so many Robins wintering around here. I guess we had 500 in our yard yesterday (10 December 1975). Also some blackbirds, including Rustys. I have seen more Townsend's Solitaires than ever before, also. I saw my fourth Prairie Falcon of the season today about a mile from here. I have seen some Pine Siskins and several Purple Finches. I didn't see any Siskins last winter. About two weeks ago we had so many Horned Larks and Lapland Longspurs that it was hard to avoid running into them on the roads, but there aren't that many here now.

— *Lee Morris, Benedict*

COMMON LOON. On the weekend of 19 June 1976, during a trip to Crescent Lake Refuge, I saw a pair of Common Loons in the tailwaters below Kinsley Dam. Residents said that the Loons had been seen there in previous summers, and expressed the belief that they had nested there.

— *Roger Sharpe, Omaha*

TURKEY VULTURES. Turkey Vultures gathered here in large numbers — up to over sixty birds on 10 September 1975 a day or so before they left. I doubt that they were that numerous the whole time, but they finally reached that number. According to the people who told me about them, they had been in the spot for nearly three weeks. They roosted at night either in trees on top of a ridge or, on windy nights, in trees in a canyon. On 10 September a cold front arrived. I didn't see the Vultures again, but one of the informants said she saw them the next night.

— *Doris Gates, Chadron*

MERLIN. At 5 PM 21 September 1975 a member of the Children's Zoo staff netted a female Merlin (*Falco columbarius*). It was on the zoo grounds and seemed reluctant to fly, but there were no apparent injuries. It was decided that the bird should be fed and cared for until it seemed prepared to fly again, at which time it was hoped by the zoo staff that it would be released.

Subsequent to this the member of the zoo staff responsible for the care of the bird was to be absent for four days and the Merlin was placed in the care of a local falconer for those four days. During that time the bird was confiscated by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission without the knowledge of the Children's Zoo, examined by an Omaha Zoo veterinarian, who judged the bird to be in good health, and the bird was then permanently turned over to a young falconer resident in Lincoln.

— *Roger Di Silvestro, Lincoln Children's Zoo*

TURKEYS. I counted about 50 wild Turkeys on the road this week (late November 1975). I counted as fast as I could as they flew into the trees. Sure is fun seeing turkeys fly. They are so big that it looks like an awful effort, but there they went.

— *Doris Gates, Chadron*

MONK PARAKEETS. Since the report of a pair of Monk Parakeets in Lincoln in August 1975 (*NBR* 43:60) they have been reported at intervals from locations within a mile or two of the original location, 27th and Highway 2. Photographs of two on a feeder have been taken, and it is possible that there are four. They were still being reported in mid-March, the time of this writing. This seven-month period of observation is longer than the five-month period during which the first known Parakeets in Nebraska were observed in Omaha (*NBR* 41:15). The only other reported sighting in Nebraska (in Kearney in May 1975, *NBR* 43:42) was a one-time affair.

SNOWY OWL. I saw a Snowy Owl on 10 December 1975. It was perched on an electric line pole just south of Dunning, along Highway 2. The pole was close to the highway, the bird was facing the highway, it was mid-afternoon, and the sky was clear, so I got a good look at it. Bob Nagel, the Assistant Manager at Valentine National Wildlife Refuge said he saw a Snowy Owl at the west end of Hackberry Lake on the Refuge. He couldn't remember the exact date he saw it, but thought it was a few days before I saw the one I saw.

—*Douglas L. Ballard, Valentine*

ODD DEATH OF A ROBIN. While I was birding in Forest Lawn Cemetery I saw a Robin hanging at the end of a long bare lower branch of a pine tree, about four feet off the ground. I went over to see how it had got caught, and saw that a branch, rough and about a quarter inch in diameter, ran down the Robin's throat. Apparently the bird had flown onto the branch so hard that its weight was not sufficient to pull the bird off. It would be interesting to know how it happened: was it a panic flight, was it under poor lighting conditions, or what?

—*R. G. Cortelyou, Omaha*

OVENBIRDS. On 11 May 1976, just outside the glass door of the Nebraska Engineering Center, I found a dead bird. I identified it as an Ovenbird, and this identification was confirmed by Mrs. Fitzhugh Diggs and Daryl Giblin. Lee Morris, Benedict, told me about coming across one which had flown into a picture window. He held it in his hand although it was still alive. Just this evening (17 May) Naomi Brill called me to ask if there were ever any Ovenbirds around here. When I told her that they migrate through this area she said she picked up one that had hit her picture window. It was still alive, but it finally died in spite of her attempts to revive it. Since this is the third case within a week of birds flying into glass windows or doors, all of them Ovenbirds, it makes me wonder if they are more apt to do this sort of thing than other birds.

—*Ralph Harrington, Lincoln*

When she heard about these cases, Margaret Paul, Omaha, said that her neighbor had brought over an Ovenbird which had flown into the neighbor's window and been killed. The bird was found the morning after a heavy storm.

HOARY REDPOLLS. A friend of mine in the Kansas City area asked me about the Hoary Redpoll we had up here a while back (27 February 1972, *NBR* 40:85), and gave me this information about the one they had: "When the bird was netted pictures were taken of the rump, and of the undertail coverts, in addition to the normal ones, and the bill was measured. Copies

Nebraska Ornithologists' Union, Inc.
5109 Underwood Avenue
Omaha, Nebraska 68132
Address Correction Requested

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Omaha, Nebr.
Permit No. 716

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Seventy-fifth Annual Meeting	18
1975 (Eighteenth) Fall Occurrence Report	19
Brown Towhee Reported	30
Book Reviews	31
Notes	33

of ten of the pictures were sent to each of three people. Two of these people (both of whom had spent time in the arctic) agreed that the bird was a Hoary Redpoll. The third sent his set of pictures to Dr. George West, University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Dr. West thought that the bird was an intergrade. Recent studies of the two Redpolls indicate that they interbreed quite freely, producing fertile offspring who also interbreed, with a resultant variation of plumages throughout the entire population of Redpolls. He also sent a skin, which was different from the bird we had, most noticeably in the bill, which is much shorter than our bird's was. Apparently field identification is risky."

— *Bill Ferguson, Omaha*

EVENING GROSEBEAKS. Evening Grosbeaks were at my feeder Thanksgiving, (1975), and again a few days later.

— *Ruth Wensien, Brownsville*

CITY WOODCHUCK. On 8 August 1975 the Lincoln Children's Zoo received a telephone call concerning an animal perched in a tree at 32nd and Van Dorn Streets. A member of the zoo staff drove to the location and captured a male woodchuck (*Marmota monax*). The woodchuck had been treed by a dog and was perched about 15 feet above the ground. The woodchuck seemed to be in good health. It was put on display at the zoo.

—*Roger Di Silvestro, Lincoln Children's Zoo*