

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

---

Nebraska Bird Review

Nebraska Ornithologists' Union

---

9-1977

## WHOLE ISSUE *Nebraska Bird Review* (September 1977) 45(3)

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



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

---

"WHOLE ISSUE *Nebraska Bird Review* (September 1977) 45(3)" (1977). *Nebraska Bird Review*. 708.  
<http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/nebbirdrev/708>

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.

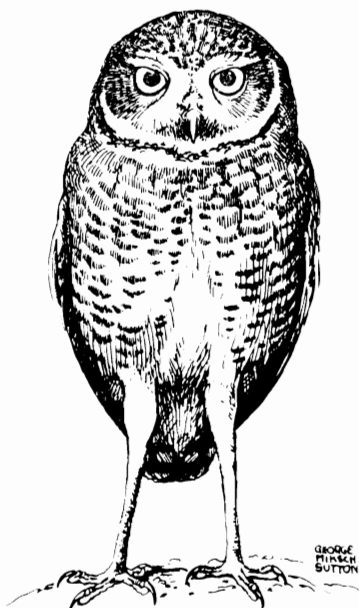
# The Nebraska Bird Review

*A Magazine of Ornithology of the Nebraska Region*

XXXXV

SEPTEMBER, 1977

NUMBER 3



*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. Order for back numbers should be sent to the Librarian, Dr. Neva Pruess, University of Nebraska State Museum, Lincoln 68508. All manuscripts for publication should be sent to the Editor, R.G. Cortelyou, 5109 Underwood Avenue, Omaha, Nebraska 68132.

## 1977 (FIFTY-SECOND) SPRING MIGRATION AND OCCURRENCE REPORT

Two hundred and eighty-one species are listed in this report, from thirteen localities. The comparative figures for 1976 are 280 species from eight localities; 1975, 290 from eleven localities; and 1974, 286 from eleven localities.

The symbols used in the tabulation are:

Ja, Fe, Mr, Ap, My, and Je for the months

W - to indicate a species which was reported present before 1 January.

- S to indicate a species which was reported as remaining after 30 June.

x when no exact date in a month was given.

P to indicate a species which is present all year, although the same individual birds may not be present during the whole year, and the number of birds present may vary greatly during the year. (W-S indicates much the same thing, but it is used in cases which are considered to be special situations rather than the normal pattern.)

	Scotts Sioux Bluff	Dawes	Cher- ry	McPh.	Lin- coln	Cus- ter	Howard Hall	Adams Boone	Lan- cast.	Doug. Sargy	Otoe
Common Loon	-	My 21	-	Note	My 8	My 7	-	-	-	-	-
Horned Grebe	Ap 25	Ap 6	-	Ap 5	-	-	-	-	Mr 13	Ap 4	-
Eared Grebe	Ap 28	My 21	-	My 20	Ap 14	-	-	-	Ap 3	Ap 26	-
Western Grebe	My 6	My 7	-	Je 15	Je 10	My 8	-	-	My 14	Mr 17	-
Pied-billed Grebe	Ap 11	Ap 29	-	Mr 25	Je 10	Ap 13	-	-	My 7	Je 16	-
White Pelican	-	My 21	-	My 1	-	Ap 27	-	-	My 14	Ap 7	-
Double-crested Cormorant	-	Ap 10	-	Ap 13	-	Ap 6	-	-	My 21	Ap 25	-
Great Blue Heron	Mr 27	W -	-	Ap 18	Je 26	W -	-	-	Ap 23	Ap 3	Ap 1
Green Heron	-	-	-	Ap 18	Je 26	W -	-	-	Ap 28	My 21	My 9
Little Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Je 18	Ap 23	P
Cattle Egret	-	-	-	My 27	-	Ap 21	-	-	-	Ap 8	Ap 2
Great Egret	-	-	-	My 28	-	My 14	-	-	-	-	-
Snowy Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Je 10	-	-
Black-crowned Night Heron	Ap 13	My 14	-	My 28	My 20	Ap 24	-	-	-	Ap 23	Ap 25
Yellow-crowned Night Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Bittern	Ap 27	My 6	-	My 19	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 23	Ap 2
White-faced Ibis	-	-	-	My 27	-	-	-	-	-	My 7	Ap 16
				My 19	-	-	-	-	-	My 13	My 13



Boone (113), Albion; Wayne J. Mollhoff. Mr. Mollhoff noted that a few Great Blue Herons and American Bitterns winter on Beaver Creek in northwest Boone County, as do a few flocks of Red-winged Blackbirds and four to six Bald Eagles. The Turkeys were recently introduced by some farmers and are multiplying and spreading. A few Robins may winter in the Cedar River valley, in the extreme western part of the county.

Cherry (108), Valentine; Douglas L. Ballard (reporter), supplemented by a report by the Padelfords of Omaha on a 15 May visit. Larry Vaughn, biological technician at the Valentine Refuge, spotted the first Snowy Egret on Dewey Lake, and on 27 June he spotted a pair. The pair stayed at least until early August, but the Refuge personnel could not locate any nest, and no immatures were seen.

Custer (70), Merna; Mrs. Eva Mae Kieborz, (reporter).

Dawes (53), Chadron; Doris Gates (reporter). In most cases only the first date for migrants are shown. Miss Gates commented that this was the first time since she had been in Chadron that she didn't see Meadowlarks all winter. The wintering Robins were in town.

Douglas (and Sarpy) (218), Omaha and Bellevue; R.G. Cortelyou, Ruth Green, Loren and

	Scotts Bluff	Cher- ry	Lin- coln	Cus- ter	How- ard	Adams	Boone	Ian- cast.	Doug. Sarpy	Otoe
Common Goldeneye	- Ap 6	- W - Mr 25	- W - Ap 23	-	-	-	-	- Mr 5	- Fe 21	-
Bufflehead	Ap 6 - Ap 29	- Mr 14 Ap 20	- Fe 27 Ap 7	-	-	- Ap 23	- Mr 17	- Mr 5 Ap 3	- Fe 5 Ap 13	-
Ruddy Duck	Ap 12 My 10	- My 20 - S	Ap 13 My 19	-	-	- Fe 12	- Ap 17	- Mr 27 My 29	- Fe 28 - S	-
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Mr 6 Ap 2	-	-
Common Merganser	Ap 20 Mr 16	- W - Mr 25	- W - Mr 21	-	-	- Fe 12	- Mr 16	- Fe 28 Ap 6	- Fe 12 Ap 30	-
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Mr 25 Ap 24	-	-
Turkey Vulture	- My 21 - S	- Ap 13 My 15	- Je 7	- My 28	-	-	-	- Ap 3 Je 28	-	-
Mississippi Kite	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 18	-	-
Goshawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 6 Mr 5	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 17 Ja 3	-	-
Cooper's Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Ja 19	- Ja 30	- Ap 8
Red-tailed Hawk	- P	- P	- P	- P	- P	- P	- P	- P	- P	- P
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	- My 7	-	- My 14	-	-
Broad-winged Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Ap 28	- My 1	- Ap 16	- Je 5
Swinson's Hawk	-	- My 11	- My 20	- Ap 10	- My 7	-	- Ap 23	- Ap 28	-	-
Rough-legged Hawk	W - Mr 16	- W - Mr 25	- W - Ja 21	- W - - S	- Mr 1 Ap 2	-	- Mr 24	- Ja 31	- W - Ap 7	-
Golden Eagle	P	P	- Fe 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	- W - Mr 22	- Ja 30	- W - Ja 11	- W - - S	- W - Fe 20	- W - - S	- W - Mr 10	- W - Ap 24	- W - - S	- Fe 16

Babs Padelford, Melba Wigg (reporters), Tanya Bray, Evelyn Conrad, Clyde and Emma Johnson, Mrs. S. A. Perkins, B. J. Rose, Alice Rushton, Andy Saunders. The Kite was seen in the late afternoon by Ruth Green. It flew out from behind the trees on the hills west of the parking lot on Gifford Road and soared about for several minutes in a swallow-like manner and appeared to be catching insects. Then it flew off to the south, toward the marsh area where most of the previous sightings have been made. The Cattle Egrets (two) were in full breeding plumage when they were seen on 3 June. Coots and Pied-billed Grebes raised young on the recently refilled Boys' Town Lake, and both adults and young were easily spotted most of the summer. Presumably they do breed in the area every year, but in remoter places with more cover, so that they are not observed. Mrs. Green found three nests of Brown Creepers in the Forest. A pair of Ruddy Ducks, with the male in breeding plumage, was seen on Boys' Town Lake 25 June. The female was seen again in July, but not the male. nor were any young seen. B. J. Rose supplied the following information to bring the previous account of the Great-tailed Grackles (*NBR* 45:18) up to date. On 23 May he found four eggs in the nest he found 17 May, and found another nest with

Marsh Hawk	P	P	-	P	-	W - - S	Mr 8	P	Ap 23	Fe 24 Ap 23	W - My 21	-	Fe 22 Fe 27
Osprey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 21 Ap 28
Prairie Falcon	P	-	P	-	-	Ja 23 Ap 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	Ja 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Merlin	-	Mr 18 Ap 20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Kestrel	Mr 3 - S	P	-	Mr 25 Ap 27	My 20	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P
Greater Prairie Chicken	-	-	P	P	-	P	P	-	-	P	-	-	-
Sharp-tailed Crouse	P	-	P	P	My 20 - S	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bobwhite	-	P	-	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Ring-necked Pheasant	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Chukar	-	Ja 9 Fe 11	-	-	-	Ap 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Turkey	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Crane	-	-	-	-	-	Mr 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sandhill Crane	-	-	-	-	-	Fe 9 My 3	-	Mr 5 Ap 5	Fe 22 Ap 10	-	-	-	-
Sora	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 14	My 7	-
American Coot	Ap 6	Mr 25 My 21	-	Mr 25 Ap 27	My 20 - S	Ap 21	-	-	Ap 13 My 7	Ap 19 My 5	Mr 27 My 21	Mr 6 - S	Ap 9 Ap 10
Semipalmated Plover	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 28	My 4 My 21	Ap 15 My 29	-
Piping Plover	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr 27 My 21	Ap 15 Ap 25	-
Killdeer	Mr 14	Mr 10 - S	Mr 22	Mr 16	My 20	Mr 10	My 28	Mr 5	Mr 10	Mr 3	Fe 28	Fe 28	- S

four eggs in it about four feet away, both about three feet or so above the water level. On 31 May the females were making numerous flights and at first he thought they might be feeding young, but later he thought that they might be feeding themselves. On 22 June they both were feeding young. He saw the birds in early July but then lost track of them.

Hall, see Howard.

Howard (and Hall) (112), St. Libory and Grand Island; Bill Schleicher (reporter), George Stoppkotte. On 18 June Mr. Schleicher was with a group that saw a pair of White-breasted Nuthatches, the first ones he has seen in the summer in the area.

Lancaster (199), Lincoln; Dr. Norma Johnson, Mabel B. Ott, Cliff Toews (reporters), Ruth Green, and a report by the Padelfords of Omaha on two different visits. Birds reported on a two-day bird count 14 and 15 May are shown with a 14 May date, and birds seen 21 and 22 May during the Annual Meeting are shown with a 21 May date, unless they were known to have been seen only on 22 May. Dr. Johnson reported that the Long-eared Owls nested but lost the nest to Crows. Mrs. Ott, her son-in-law, and her grandson counted twenty Ruddy Ducks on a lake in Lagoon Park 29 May. Mr. Toews reported: While birding in Wilderness Park 15 May I was

	Scotts Bluff	Cher- ry	Lin- coln	Cus- ter	Adams	Boone	Lan- cast.	Doug. Sarp	Otoe
American Golden Plover	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 14	-	-
Black-bellied Plover	My 21	-	-	-	-	-	My 16	-	-
Ruddy Turnstone	-	Je 14	-	-	-	-	My 14	-	-
American Woodcock	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 2	-
Common Snipe	Ap 11 -S	Je 9	W Ja 21	-	-	Ap 16	Ap 3 Mr 31 My 21 Ap 25	-	-
Long-billed Curlew	Ap 7 -S	Ap 8 -S	My 20 -S	Ap 12 -S	-	-	-	-	-
Upland Sandpiper	Ap 16 -S	Ap 30 -S	My 6 -S	Je 22 -S	Ap 18 -S	Ap 24 -S	Mr 9 Ap 30 My 24 -S	-	-
Spotted Sandpiper	My 21	-	Mr 24 -S	My 28 -S	My 17 -S	My 7 -S	My 19 -S	Ap 14 -S	-
Solitary Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	My 7	-	Ap 30 My 10 Ap 24	Ap 9	-
Greater Yellowlegs	Ap 5	Ap 5	-	Ap 13	-	My 3	Mr 13 My 16 My 7	Mr 27	-
Yellowlegs sp.	-	Ap 30	Ap 11	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Yellowlegs	Ap 25	Ap 26	Ap 8 Ap 11	-	My 7	Ap 7	Ap 3 My 21 My 13	Ap 9	-
Willet	Ap 25	Ap 27 -S	-	-	-	-	My 14 Ap 25	-	-
Pectoral Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	My 3	Mr 27 My 21 My 7	Ap 9	-
White-rumped Sandpiper	-	My 21	-	-	-	My 19	My 14 My 21	My 4	-
Baird's Sandpiper	My 21	Ap 8 My 9	-	-	-	-	Ap 3 My 21 My 7	Mr 13	-

attracted by a rather loud song to a deeply wooded area. After following the voice around for about an hour I felt rewarded to get a good view from about fifteen feet of a Swainson's Warbler. It seemed to be a very shy bird but fortunately it kept singing. On my return trip about two hours later it was still singing. On the same outing I found a Hooded Warbler. It was working along the lower branches of a large tree and singing loudly. I watched it for several minutes from close range. It remained in the same area most of the morning as I saw it on my return trip also.

Lincoln (147), North Platte and Hershey; Mrs. E. C. Logan for the Tout Bird Club, Mrs. M. A. Cox (reporters), Margaret Morton. The Whistling Swan was seen among some Sandhill Cranes by several members of the Tout Bird Club. The Whooping Cranes (four) were seen in the air by Corporal Nelson of the Highway Patrol (who is a birder) and his son, a few miles southeast of North Platte. The Cattle Egrets (two) were first sighted by Bruce Wyman, who lives near the lowlands where the birds had stopped, about three miles east of North Platte. On the last date six were reported at the same field. Mrs. Logan could find only one previous report of a Cattle Egret in the area — a dead immature found 16 January 1972 near Lake Maloney by Howard

Least Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	My 12	-	-	-	-	Ap 18 My 3	7 My 19	3 My 21	7 My 21	Mr 29 My 5	-
Dunlin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 21	-	-
Semipalmated Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 26	-	-	My 7	7 My 21	7 My 21	7 My 21	14 My 29	5	-
Western Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 14 My 21	7 7	-
Sanderling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 14 My 21	8 Ap 25	-
Dowitcher sp.	My 10	-	-	-	-	-	My 14 My 16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long-billed Dowitcher	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 30 My 15	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 28 My 5	14 My 14	4	-	-
Stilt Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 14 My 21	-	-	-
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 14	-	-	-
Marbled Godwit	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hudsonian Godwit	-	-	-	-	-	My 15 My 17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Avocet	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 21 My 9	x - S	Ap 21 My 16	-	-	Ap 23	-	-	-	-	-
Black-necked Stilt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 14 My 28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wilson's Phalarope	Ap 28 - S	My 7 - S	-	-	-	Ap 21 Je 9	My 20 - S	Ap 24 My 16	-	-	-	Ap 26 My 5	15 My 21	22 7	7	-
Herring Gull	-	Mr 2 Mr 6	-	-	-	-	-	Fe 17 Ap 6	-	-	-	-	Mr 13	Fe 21 Mr 13	-	-
Herring/ Ring-billed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	Mr 14 My 30	Mr 2	-	-	-	Mr 16	-	Fe 28 - S	-	-	-	-	Mr 27 My 21	21 6	-	-
Laughing Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 21	-	-	-







In its summary of the period 1 December 1976 - 28 February 1977 the May 1977 issue of *American Birds* included some records not shown in this Migration Report: a Goshawk in Lancaster County in January; a Snowy Owl in Saunders County (no date); and three Snow Buntings in Lancaster County 30 January.

## POOR-WILLS IN LANCASTER AND SAUNDERS COUNTIES

Cink and Fiala (*NBR* 39:70) reported the first record of a Poor-will in Lancaster County, and one of the few records for eastern Nebraska. It was a road-killed specimen found 1 November 1970. Their review of past records for eastern Nebraska showed a specimen taken in Nemaha County in 1887, one captured in Gage County in 1895 (both spring records), and a nesting record from Jefferson County in 1963 (and a call heard two years earlier). The nearest records to the west were from Webster County, one in 1951 and one in 1959.

So two recent records are unusual, and suggest the possibility that the Poor-will may be more

	Scotts Bluff	Cher- ry	Lin- coln	Cus- ter	How- ard	Adams	Boone	Lan- cast.	Doug. Sarpy	Otoe
Great Crested Flycatcher	-	-	-	Je 12	My 7	Je 8	-	My 5	Ap 16	-
Eastern Phoebe	-	-	-	My 28	My 10	-	Ap 16	Ap 3	Ap 6	-
Say's Phoebe	Ap 8	Ap 7	Ap 11	-	-	-	-	My 11	Je 22	-
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 14	-	-
Acadian Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 10	My 20	-
Willow Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 3	My 28	-
Alder Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	My 17	My 8	-	My 16	Je 3	-
Least Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	Je 18	-	-	My 26	My 29	-
Empidonax sp.	-	-	-	-	-	My 7	-	My 3	My 7	-
Eastern Wood Pewee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Je 1	Je 3	-
Western Wood Pewee	My 21	My 21	My 25	-	-	-	-	My 10	Ap 15	-
Olive-sided Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Horned Lark	P	P	P	P	P	W	P	My 15	My 14	-
Violet-green Swallow	-	My 21	-	-	-	Ja 30	-	-	My 29	-
Tree Swallow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 16	Ap 7	-
Bank Swallow	-	-	-	My 14	-	My 7	My 7	My 14	Ap 30	-



nest was located on the east side of a large mullein rosette. The large leaves of the mullein plant acted as an effective shade canopy for the primitive ground nest.

The nest was first located about 15 to 22 May (specific date not known) by a Game Commission musk thistle chopping crew. The following day Frank Andelt and I located the nest and tentatively identified the bird as a Poor-will. The female had two chicks approximately two-five days old, which were covered with a pink fluffy down.

After the initial contact with the nest we revisited the nest approximately every five days, laden with more information and bird guides to confirm our first identification. We were within ten feet of the female at least four times and observed her not only on the ground but in flight as well. The chicks grew rapidly, as would be expected. The pink down coat of the chicks turned a buffy color with age. Feather development on the wings was quite rapid. Our last observation revealed that the chicks' wings were fully developed, and in my opinion they were capable of short flights, although flights were not observed. Throughout the entire period of about three weeks the chicks were always observed within ten feet of the nest site.

	Scotts Bluff Daves	Cher- ry	McPh.	Lin- coln	Cus- ter	Howard Hall	Adams Boone	Ian- Doug. cast. Sarpy Otee
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 17	- W - - S
Long-billed Marsh Wren	My 11 - S	My 1	-	-	-	-	My 7	My 3
Short-billed Marsh Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 16
Rock Wren	Ap 13 - S	My 7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mockingbird	-	-	-	Ap 13	-	My 8	- Ap 2	- My 4 - S
Gray Catbird	My 9 - S	-	My 23 Je 15	My 28	My 16	My 7	My 3	My 1 My 14 My 24
Brown Thrasher	Ap 29 - S	My 3	My 6 - S	My 5	My 7	Ap 20	Ap 30	Ap 14 Ap 15 Ap 25
American Robin	Fe 14 - S	P	My 20 - S	P	W	W	Mr 3 Je 26	P W - - S Fe 25 Je 12
Wood Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 7	My 3 My 2 - S
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	My 7	-	Ap 21 Ap 23 Ap 24
Swainson's Thrush	My 9 - S	My 21 My 29	My 22 My 30	-	-	-	Ap 20 My 16	My 3 My 5 My 29
Gray-cheeked Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	My 7	My 3	My 3 My 21
Veery	-	-	-	-	-	My 3 My 16	-	My 21 My 6 My 14
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	-	Fe 12 - S	-	P	Mr 19 My 7	Mr 9 - S
Mountain Bluebird	Fe 18 - S	Mr 31	Mr 15	-	-	-	-	-
Townsend's Solitaire	-	W	-	W	-	-	Ja 11	-
	Mr 10	-	-	Ja 24	-	-	Ja 23	-

## THE SWANSKIN

By Charles Hanson, Jr.

The skin of the swan has received scant mention in annals of the fur trade but it was at one time a significant item in the annual returns of the various companies.

A report on the returns of the Northwest Company in 1810 listed 1,833 swanskins compared with 98,523 beaverskins, 2,645 otter and 554 marten<sup>1</sup>. A random sampling of fur shipments by the American Fur Company show scattered references to shipments of swanskins to London: 30 from the Western Outfit in 1830, 8 from the Upper Missouri Outfit in 1838, 68 from the Northern Outfit in 1840.<sup>2</sup> The Hudson's Bay Company was able to gather swans more extensively, and a circular published in 1846 by the famous London commission Merchant C.M. Lampson listed these annual imports by the Company; 2,576 in 1844; 2,453 in 1845 and 1,922 in 1846.

The collection of these skins began to receive serious attention in the last half of the

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 1 My 14	-	-
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 8 Ap 12	-
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	My 7	Ap 17	-	Ap 8 My 14	My 3	-
Water Pipit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr 21 My 14	-	-
Sprague's Pipit	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 19	-	-	-
Bohemian Waxwing	-	-	-	-	-	-	Fe 2	-	-	-
Cedar Waxwing	-	-	-	-	-	W - Fe 10 Ja. 30 My 8	Fe 24 My 3	-	Fe 16 Fe 6 Ap 25 My 15	-
Northern Shrike	-	-	-	-	-	W - Ja. 22	-	-	-	Fe 3
Shrike sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr 17	-	-	-
Loggerhead Shrike	-	-	-	-	My 15	-	My 3 Ja. 9 -S -S -S	Ap 23 Mr 17	Mr 9 Fe 20	-S -S
Starling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P P P	P P P	P
White-eyed Vireo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 10	My 1
Bell's Vireo	-	-	-	-	-	My 15	-	My 28	My 8	My 6 -S -S
Yellow-throated Vireo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 5 -S
Solitary Vireo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 5 My 14	Ap 23 My 7
Red-eyed Vireo	-	-	-	-	My 15	-	-	My 3 Je 18	My 3	Ap 30 -S -S
Philadelphia Vireo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 14
Warbling Vireo	-	-	-	-	Je 12	My 21	My 14	My 2 -S -S	My 3 -S -S	Ap 29 Ap 25 -S -S

eighteenth century. In the 1770's Samuel Hearne wrote: "Some years ago, when I built Cumberland House, the Indians killed those birds (swans) in such numbers that the down and quills might have been procured in considerable quantities at a trifling expense; but since the depopulation of the natives by the small-pox, which has also driven the few survivors to frequent other parts of the country, no advantage can be made of those articles, though of considerable value in England."<sup>3</sup>

The commercial importance of swan feathers stemmed from the use of the down for powder puffs, the small feathers for dress trimmings and the quills for pens.<sup>4</sup>The young botanist in Mayne Reid's THE YOUNG VOYAGEURS (1853) gave his companions this summary: "The swans are eagerly hunted, both by the Indians and white hunters. Their skins, with the quills and down, form a source of profit to the natives of the fur countries, who dispose of them to the Hudson's Bay Company. In some years as many as ten thousand skins have been exported, and sold at the rate of six or seven shillings each. Most of the skins thus sold were those of the trumpeter swans, which are the most

	Scotts	Cher-	Lin-	Cus-	Lar-	Doug,
	Sioux	ry	coln	ter	cast,	Otoe
	Eluff	Dawes	McPh,	Hall	Boone	Sarpy
					Adams	
					Hall	
Black-and-white Warbler	-	My 5 Je 15 Je 16	-	-	Ap 27	My 3 Ap 28 My 22 My 7
Prothonotary Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	My 3 Je 5
Swainson's Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	My 15
Blue-winged Warbler	-	-	-	My 28	-	My 22 My 3 My 14
Tennessee Warbler	-	-	-	-	My 3 My 7	My 1 Ap 27 My 23 My 24
Orange-crowned Warbler	My 2	-	My 24	-	My 1	Ap 28 Ap 10 My 14 My 7
Nashville Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	My 1 My 1 My 15 My 7
Northern Parula	-	-	-	-	-	My 3 Ap 14 My 18
Yellow Warbler	My 11 My 5 -S -S	My 6 My 9	Ap 26 -S -S	My 7 -S -S	My 10 My 2 Ap 28 My 4 Ap 30	My 14 -S -S
Magnolia Warbler	-	-	-	-	My 11	My 14 My 11 My 20
Cape May Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	My 12 My 14
Yellow-rumped Warbler	Ap 23 My 1 My 21	My 7	Ap 25	-	Ap 28 Ap 16 Ap 26 My 8	Ap 13 Ap 12 My 21 My 9
Cerulean Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	My 2 My 14
Blackburnian Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	My 10 My 21 My 22
Chestnut-sided Warbler	-	My 15	-	-	My 3 My 4	My 10 My 22 My 22 My 31
Bay-breasted Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	My 12 My 14 My 22 My 27





of 69 birds but protective efforts since then were reflected in an estimated population of 5,000 in 1968.<sup>11</sup>

## NOTES

1. J. J. Morse, *A Complete System of Geography*, Boston 1814, 83. Thirteen other kinds of fur are also listed.
2. Shipments Vol. 2 (16,410) and Receiving Book Vol. 6 (16,409), American Fur Company Papers, New York Historical Society, New York.
3. Samuel Hearne, *A Journey from Prince of Wales's Fort in Hudson's Bay to the Northern Ocean*. London 1795, 436-7. Reprint by Charles E. Tuttle, Co. Rutland, Vermont, 1971.
4. L. DeColange, *The American Dictionary of Commerce*, Boston, 1881. 1033.
5. Mayne Reid, *The Young Voyageurs*, New York, 1889, 51.

	Scotts Bluff	Daves	Cher- ry	McPh.	Lin- coln	Cus- ter	How- ard	Adams	Boone	Lan- Doug.
Yellow-headed Blackbird	Ap 13 -S	Ap 7 -S	Ap 21 -S	My 20 -S	Ap 21 -S	-	Ap 27 My 7	Ap 19 -S	My 14 -S	Ap 13 -S
Red-winged Blackbird	Fe 27 -S	Mr 16 -S	Mr 9 -S	My 20 -S	W - -S	Fe 10 -S	Mr 4 -S	Mr 5 -S	W - -S	Fe 26 -S
Orchard Oriole	My 22 -S	My 14 -S	-	My 30 -S	My 12 -S	My 28 -S	My 16 -S	My 3 -S	My 13 -S	My 8 -S
Northern Oriole	My 23 -S	My 5 -S	My 11 -S	My 9 -S	My 2 -S	My 28 -S	My 3 -S	My 2 -S	My 5 -S	My 30 -S
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 15	-	Mr 6 My 21	Ja 12 Ap 25
Brewer's Blackbird	-	Ap 6	-	-	Fe 12 Je 16	-	-	My 15 Mr 26	Ap 24 Mr 6	-
Great-tailed Grackle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 11 Je 6	-	My 14 -S
Common Grackle	Ap 6 -S	Mr 11 -S	Ap 9 -S	Je 1 -S	W - -S	My 7 -S	Mr 6 -S	Fe 8 -S	Mr 20 -S	W - -S
Brown-headed Cowbird	Ap 13 -S	My 14 -S	My 3 -S	My x -S	Ap 13 -S	My 7 -S	Mr 28 -S	Ap 15 -S	Ap 17 -S	W - -S
Western Tanager	My 22 -S	My 21 -S	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Tanager	My 28 My 29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 8 -S	Ap 30 -S
Cardinal	My 28 My 29	-	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	P
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	My 31 -S	My 21 -S	My 13 -S	Je 16 -S	-	-	-	My 7 -S	My 10 -S	My 1 -S
Black-headed Grosbeak	Je 22 -S	My 14 -S	My 26 -S	My 27 -S	My 25 -S	Je 2 -S	-	My 7 -S	-	My 18 -S
Blue Grosbeak	My 10 -S	My 9 -S	My 15 -S	Je 16 -S	-	-	My 28 -S	Ap 28 -S	My 8 -S	My 13 -S
Indigo Bunting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 10 -S	Ap 30 -S

6. Joe Van Wormer, *The World of the Swan*, Philadelphia, 1972, 140. This is an excellent work on swans and has a useful bibliography.
7. Appendix to : Captain George Back, *Narrative of the Arctic Land Expedition*. London 1836. Reprinted by Charles E. Tuttle Co. Rutland, Vermont, 1970, 512.
8. E.E. Rich, ed. *Cumberland and Hudson House Journals 1775-82, First Series 1775-79*. London 1951, 360.
9. American Fur Company Papers.
10. William T. Hornady, *Our Vanishing Wildlife, Its Extermination and Preservation*, New York, 1913, 19-20.
11. Van Wormer, 142.

This article is reprinted from the Winter 1976 issue of THE MUSEUM OF THE FUR TRADE QUARTERLY, with the Museum's permission. To a question as to how the swanskins could be shipped without damaging them, particularly the quills for pens, Mr.

Lazuli Bunting	My 12 - S	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 11	-
Dickcissel	-	-	Je 12	My 14	My 28	My 4	Je 2	Je 4	Ap 30	My 7	Mr 5 My 29
Evening Grosbeak	W - My 12	-	Ap 28 My 15	W - Ja 8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Purple Finch	-	-	-	Ja 8 Je 5	-	-	-	-	W - My 3	W - Ap 12	Fe 7 Ap 9
House Finch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	-	-	-	Fe 17	Ja 9	Ap 13	W -	-	Ja 20	Ja 7	-
American Goldfinch	Ap 23 - S	-	-	My 8 Ja 9	Ja 9	P	Ap 17	P	Fe 6	P	Ja 20 Ap 10
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ja 7 Ap 1
Rufous-sided Towhee	Ap 28 - S	Fe 6	-	My 11	My 30	My 2	-	My 7	Ap 17	My 5	Ap 17 Ap 9
Lark Bunting	My 1 - S	Ap 30	My 17	My 9	My 20	Ap 14	My 28	My 26	-	-	-
Savannah Sparrow	-	-	-	-	Je 5	-	-	-	Ap 28	Ap 14	Ap 16
Grasshopper Sparrow	-	-	-	My 15	My 27	-	-	My 6	My 7	Ap 10	Ap 24 Ap 16
Le Conte's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 14	-
Vesper Sparrow	Ap 15 - S	Ap 22	-	-	Ap 13	-	-	-	Ap 12	Ap 19	Ap 12
Lark Sparrow	My 1 - S	Ap 29	My 3	My 7	My 20	My 13	My 7	My 15	My 7	Ap 24	My 27 Je 27
Dark-eyed Junco	W - Ap 16	W - My 6	-	-	W - Mr 12	Ja 9	W -	W -	W -	W -	W - Ja 10 Ap 4
Tree Sparrow	W - Mr 28	W - Ap 7	-	-	W - Mr 9	Ja 9	W -	W -	W -	W -	W - Ap 3



area. The chart also includes one or more of 21 letters, keyed to indicate where the birds may be found. There is also a map of the area (scale about 1 mm. to 1 Km.) showing the location of 31 birding areas, and separately short descriptions of the habitats of the areas, often mentioning the typical families of birds to be found there. There is a short bibliography of bird guides and of regional publications, and a hypothetical list, divided into species seen by one observer only, and those no longer found but for which specimens are preserved. This is a very convenient, useful, and inexpensive help to anyone birding in the Quad-City area, and would be a useful example to anyone contemplating the development of a local guide or check-list or the like.

— Ed.

How to Control Garden Pests without Killing Almost Everything Else. Helga and William Olkowski. Rachel Carson Trust for the Living Environment, Inc. 8940 Jones Mill Road, Washington, D.C. 20015. 14 page, 6 x 9, paper. \$1.50.

As its name implies, this booklet (adapted from an article in Horticulture magazine) tells how to control garden pests by use of predators and parasites, and by changes in cultivation. It does give comments on the use of chemical pesticides if their use should become necessary (which they don't think is very often). The book is too short to give specific instructions (except incidently) for each pest, or even families of pests, but it does give the methods to be followed, and the possible sources for further information on the specific attack to be used.

— Ed.

Animal Communications. The review of this book (*NBR* 45:31) failed to note that it is also available in paperback at \$4.95.

## NOTES

BLUE-COLLARED CANADA GEESE. An effort is being made to determine the movement, migration patterns, and wintering area of Giant Canada Geese that have been established in northwestern Iowa. Geese have been fitted with blue neck-collars that are coded with two letters followed by two numbers and have been banded with Fish and Wildlife Service leg bands. If you see any Canada Geese with these neck-collars, please record the collar code (where possible), the location, the number of geese sighted, nearest city, county, and state. Information sent to me will be reported to the Bird Banding Laboratory, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Please send information on your sightings to:

Thomas A. Nigus  
Department of Animal Ecology  
124 Sciences II  
Iowa State University  
Ames, Iowa 50011

Your help in this project will be very much appreciated.

GULLS. Data on the seasonal distribution of North American gulls is wanted. A procedure is being developed whereby the U.S. Air Force can predict the potential seasonal hazard to aircraft represented by gulls in parts of North America. This knowledge will be used to schedule missions around high risk areas thereby reducing the likelihood of bird-aircraft collisions. Supplemental data on local gull populations are needed from all parts of the continent. The assistance of field workers is solicited. Please submit reports of your gull observations to Dr. William E. Southern, Department of Biological Sciences, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois 60115. For each observation provide the following information: list of species present, approximate number of each species, precise locality description, dates observed, any information about cause for concentrations (e.g., sanitary landfill operation), and any details about the frequency of such concentrations in the respective areas. Information is sought from inland as well as coastal localities. Data will be gathered for a two-year period beginning 1 September 1977.

---

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**

1977 (Fifty-second) Spring Migration and Occurrence Report .....	34
Poor-wills in Lancaster and Saunders Counties .....	42
The Swanskin .....	45
Book Reviews .....	50
Notes .....	51

---

ANHINGA. In late October 1976 we saw an Anhinga near the Hamilton-Merrick County bridge. It was there for three days, and was in company of two Cormorants. The Cormorants hung around for a couple of days longer.

— *Mrs. Kermit Swanson, Aurora*

RED-BREASTED MERGANSERS. On 20 March 1976 I saw a male and a female Red-breasted Merganser on the Platte River at the first bridge crossing west of the Grand Island-Hastings crossing. I also saw Common Mergansers there and farther west.

— *Larry L. Einemann, West Point*

HARRIS' HAWK. When I looked over the draft for the new Check-list I noticed that there was no entry for Harris' Hawk. The Hastings Museum has a mounted specimen for which the catalog entry (written in Mr. A. M. Brooking's hand) reads: "Accession #2895 - 1 - Harris' Hawk, state record, collected Elkhorn, Nebraska 10-28-1922. Mr. Sam Board, donor (collector?)"

— *Burton Nelson, Hastings Museum*

DIPPER. On 1 May 1977 I observed a Dipper (*Cinclus mexicanus*) on the south bank of the Niobrara River about eight to ten miles east of Valentine. The bird was the appropriate size, shape, and color, and exhibited the bobbing motion that is characteristic of the species. I have observed the species in Colorado a number of years ago and I am quite sure of the identification.

— *E. H. Maddux, Wauneta*

BLACK-FOOTED FERRET. In the latter part of July 1976, while walking in the morning, I saw what I am sure was a Black-footed Ferret. It was sitting on its haunches, and reminded me of a stub post. With my binoculars I could see that it was light creamy tan with black paws and black face. I was able to approach quite close before it dropped into a Badger hole. I didn't see it again.

— *Oona S. Bassett, Tryon*