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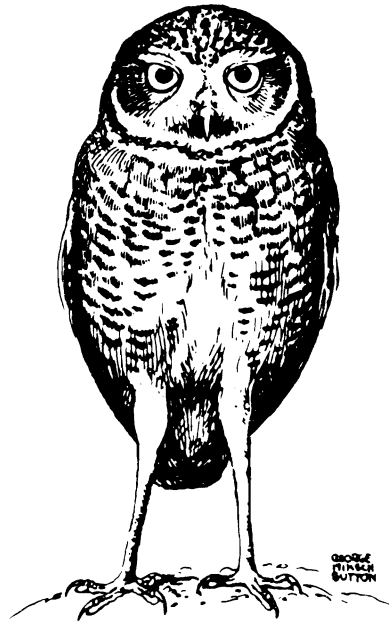
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Other officers are: President, Mrs. Ruth C. Green, 506 West 31st Avenue, Bellevue, Nebraska 68005; Vice-president, Prof. Stanley Longfellow, 3508 Avenue E, Kearney, Nebraska 68847, and Secretary, Mrs. C.E. Johnson, Apt. 406, 604 S. 22nd Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68102.

1978 (TWENTY-FIRST) FALL OCCURRENCE REPORT

Two hundred sixty-nine species are listed in this report, which covers twelve localities. Comparable figures for prior years are: 267 from eleven localities in 1977, 271 from eleven localities in 1976, and 267 from nine localities in 1975.

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. 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.

a, b, c, d, and e in the Washington column to indicate 25 July, 10 September, 4 November, 9 November, and 21 December, respectively.

The reporting locations, contributors (to the extent known), and special comments are: Adams, Hastings, 71 species, Miss Bernice Welch, reporter.

Boone, Albion, 110 species, Wayne J. Mollhoff, reporter. The Little Blue Heron was observed at 75 feet with a spotting scope, and Mr. Mollhoff noted the black-tipped, silver-gray beak, and the uniform greenish color of the legs and feet. He noted that Horned Larks were rare there this winter, and that there were very few Crows around, and that it seemed that there were fewer every year. He checked the Solitaire at 30 to 50 feet with a spotting scope. He didn't see any Loggerhead Shrikes all summer, and the Shrike sp. reported probably were all Northern. Apparently most of the Western Meadowlarks stayed for the winter. The Harris' Sparrows were present in fair numbers, in spite of the snow, but they are rare around Norfolk.

Douglas (and Sarpy), Omaha and Bellevue, 204 species. Tanya Bray, R.G. Cortelyou, Ruth C. Green, Babs and Loren Padelford, Melba Wigg, reporters, John L. Barton, Alan Grennon, Jim and Sandy Kovanda, Andy Saunders, and Audubon Society of Omaha. The Great Black-backed Gull is the subject of a separate note. The Mockingbird showed up at the Padelfords' birdbath. It came to drink about ten to a dozen times a day, but didn't eat any bird seed or fruit, which they provided for it at first. Some dates which were not included in the tabulation because they would be misleading include: a White-fronted and a Snow Goose seen together 19 July; a Northern Shoveler and a Lesser Scaup 23 July (the Scaup probably was one with a bad wing, which had been seen earlier in the month, but it was facing the wrong way to be sure); and a Rufous-sided Towhee (Spotted form) with a bad wing, seen 29 November. Andy Saunders saw a Greater Scaup at the Plattsmouth Refuge, which is south of the area covered by this report, about 18 November. The Christmas Count area extends farther into Iowa than the area normally covered by this report, and records from it are not included unless they are known to be from the normal area of this report.

Garden, Crescent Lake National Wildlife Refuge, 186 species. C. Fred Zeilemaker, reporter, Lloyd Douglas, Scott Foster, Paul Johnsgard, Richard and Dorothy Rosche, Everett F. Russell, Monte Shaul, Melly Zeilemaker. Mr. Zeilemaker points out that some species which do not winter on the Refuge do winter in the North Platte valley, some twenty miles south of the Refuge.

Hall, see Howard.

Howard (and Hall), St. Libory and Grand Island, 90 species. Bill Schleicher (reporter) and George Stoppkotte.

Lancaster, Lincoln, 159 species. Dr. Norma Johnson, Mrs. Mabel B. Ott, reporters. Babs and Loren Padelford.

Lincoln, North Platte and Hershey, 128 species. Mrs. W.H. Cunningham and Mrs. M.A. Cox, reporters. Mrs. Cunningham has a notation of a Sage Thrasher on 1 August, but it is not included in the table because she can not now find anyone who remembers the incident.

McPherson, Tryon, 75 species. Mrs. Oona Bassett, reporter. Mrs. Bassett notes that there was only one Turkey left, "coyotes got them". She had a partial albino immature White-crowned

— Text continued on p. 33

	Sioux Bluff	Scotts den	Gar- den	McPh. coln	Lin- coln	Howard Hall	Adams	Boone	Lan- caster	W a	Doug- Sargy	Otoe
Common Loon	-	Oc 20 No 30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 22 No 22	-
Horned Grebe	-	Sp 22 No 15	Jl 17 No 7	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 26	-	Oc 19	-
Eared Grebe	-	Sp 22 No 15	S - No 14	S - Au 23	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 9	-
Western Grebe	-	Sp 22 No 15	S - No 14	S - Oc 1	Oc 23 No 17	-	-	-	Oc 26	-	Oc 25 No 24	-
Pied-billed Grebe	-	Sp 6 No 15	S - No 14	-	Sp 9	-	S - Jl 16	Au 19 Sp 13	Au 19 No 15	-	Au 1 No 12	-
White Pelican	-	Oc 18 No 18	S - No 10	Oc 1 Oc 6	-	Sp 23	-	Sp 16	Oc 10 Oc 26	d	Au 30 No 20	-
Double-crested Cormorant	Sp 2	S - Oc 20	S - No 7	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 1 Oc 26	d	Sp 23 No 9	-
Great Blue Heron	Au 29	S - No 10	S - No 7	S - Sp 25	S - De 16	Jl 4 Sp 23	-	S - Oc 6	Au 17 De 17	d	S - De 17	-
Green Heron	-	-	-	-	Jl 18	-	-	-	S - No 9	-	S - Oc 8	-
Little Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 17	-	-	Au 1	-
Cattle Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 29 Sp 2	Au 25
Great Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 5 Au 11	-
Snowy Egret	-	-	Jl 30 Oc 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-crowned Night Heron	-	Jl 8	S - Oc 19	-	Au 22 Sp 29	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 15 Oc 15	-
Yellow-crowned Night Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Jl 28 Au 1	-
Least Bittern	-	-	Jl 17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Bittern	-	-	S - Oc 1	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 20 De 17	-	Jl 14 No 18	-
Whistling Swan	-	No 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	-	Oc 3 De 16	S - No 22	-	Jl 28 De 16	-	-	-	P	d	Oc 7 No 24	-
White-fronted Goose	-	-	No 6 No 14	-	-	-	-	-	De 17	-	Oc 1 No 4	-
Snow Goose	-	No 4 De 16	Jl 9 No 11	-	De 16	-	-	-	Oc 2 De 17	d	Sp 21 De 20	-
Mallard	P	P	S - - W	S - Oc 5	S - De 16	-	-	P	P	d	S - De 18	-
Gadwall	Sp 21	Sp 30 No 30	S - No 11	-	Sp 29	-	-	-	Oc 5 Oc 20	-	Oc 3 No 30	-
Pintail	Sp 24	Sp 26 De 16	S - No 14	S - Oc 5	Sp 30	-	-	-	-	d	Sp 23 Oc 21	-
Green-winged Teal	Sp 24	Sp 30 No 15	S - No 11	S - Oc 5	-	-	-	-	Oc 12	-	Oc 10 No 24	-
Blue-winged Teal	Sp 24	Sp 6 Oc 3	S - Oc 23	S - Oc 5	-	-	-	S - Au 19	Oc 6	-	S - Oc 11	-
American Wigeon	Sp 24	Sp 22 No 15	S - No 7	-	De 16	-	-	-	Oc 5 No 13	d	Oc 3 No 18	-

	Sioux	Scotts	Gar-	McPh.	Lin-	Howard	Adams	Boone	Lan-	W Doug-	Otoe
	Bluff	den			coln	Hall			caster	a Sarpy	
Northern Shoveler	Sp 24 No 6	Sp 30 No 11	S - No 11	-	Sp 30	-	-	Au 19	Jl 29 No 16	-	Oc 19 No 19
Wood Duck	-	Sp 22 De 16	S - Oc 23	-	Sp 9 Oc 3	-	-	S - Sp 11	Jl 11 Jl 23	a S - No 15	-
Redhead	Oc 2 No 1	Sp 26 No 7	S - No 7	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 5 Oc 26	-	Oc 19 Oc 30
Ring-necked Duck	-	Sp 30 No 1	Jl 17 No 7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 19 No 18
Canvasback	Oc 2 No 15	Oc 20 No 10	S - No 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No 18 No 24
Lesser Scaup	Sp 24 De 16	Sp 22 No 14	S - No 14	-	De 16	-	-	-	Oc 26	-	Sp 21 No 30
Common Goldeneye	-	Oc 20 No 30	Jl 14 No 24	-	No 17 De 16	-	-	-	-	-	No 11 De 3
Bufflehead	-	Oc 14 No 15	Oc 7 No 14	-	-	-	-	-	De 17	-	No 18 De 5
Ruddy Duck	-	Sp 22 No 1	S - No 14	S - Oc 5	No 13	-	-	-	Oc 1	-	Oc 10 No 30
Hooded Merganser	-	Sp 30 No 14	Oc 23 No 7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 29 De 17
Common Merganser	-	Sp 22 Oc 29	Jl 17 No 20	-	De 16	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 17 De 6
Red-breasted Merganser	-	Sp 22 Oc 3	No 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	d	No 19
Turkey Vulture	-	S - Au 6	Jl 23 Sp 24	-	Sp 9 Oc 1	-	-	-	Jl 16	-	S - No 23
Goshawk	-	-	-	-	De 16	-	-	-	Sp 16	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	-	Jl 26	-	De 13	-	-	No 3	Sp 16 De 17	-	Sp 16 De 23
Cooper's Hawk	Sp 21	-	Sp 22 No 10	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 12 De 17	-	Sp 16 Sp 30
Red-tailed Hawk	Oc 15	P	S - De 17	-	S - De 16	P	P	P	P	-	P Sp 6
Broad-winged Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 25	-	-	Sp 16 Oc 1
Swainson's Hawk	-	Sp 20 Oc 1	S - Oc 1	S - Sp 29	Jl 15 Au 20	Sp 23	De 16	S - Sp 26	No 9	-	De 17
Rough-legged Hawk	Oc 16	No 1 De 16	Oc 7 - W	-	Sp 29 De 16	Sp 23 De 30	De 16	Oc 3 - W	No 9 De 17	-	No 29 De 24
Ferruginous Hawk	-	-	Oc 24 No 7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden Eagle	P	P	Sp 16	-	De 16	De 20	-	De 25	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	-	De 16 De 28	Au 8 No 10	-	De 1 De 16	Oc 10 De 23	-	-	Oc 20	c	De 8 De 17
Marsh Hawk	P	P	S - De 3	-	P	P	De 16	Sp 28 No 29	Oc 1 De 17	-	P
Osprey	-	-	Sp 15 Oc 24	-	-	Sp 23	-	-	-	-	Sp 16 Oc 9
Gyr Falcon	-	-	De 27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prairie Falcon	P	P	Jl 31 De 26	Jl 21	-	-	-	No 6	De 17	-	-

	Sioux Bluff	Scotts Bluff	Gar-den	McPh.	Lincoln	Howard Hall	Adams	Boone	Lan-caster	W Doug-a	Doug-Sarpy	Otoe
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	Sp 30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Merlin	Sp 12	De 16	Oc 24	-	Sp 29 De 16	-	-	De 12	De 17	-	-	-
American Kestrel	S - Oc 20	P	Jl 30 Oc 1	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	-
Greater Prairie Chicken	-	-	-	Jl 1 Oc 3	Jl 16 De 16	-	-	P	-	-	-	-
Sharp-tailed Grouse	P	Oc 12 De 25	P	P	De 16	-	-	No 14 De 8	-	-	-	-
Bobwhite	-	P	-	Oc 3	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	Au 15
Ring-necked Pheasant	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	Oc 2
Turkey	P	P	-	P	P	-	-	P	-	-	-	-
Sandhill Crane	-	Oc 6 De 16	Oc 2 No 16	-	Oc 20	Oc 28 No 9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia Rail	-	-	S - Sp 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sora	-	-	S - Sp 14	-	-	-	-	Sp 20 Oc 10	Oc 1	-	Au 20	-
American Coot	Oc 15	S - No 1	S - No 14	S - Sp 11	Oc 23 De 16	-	Sp 5	Au 19	-	-	Au 1 De 3	-
Semipalmated Plover	-	-	Au 25 Sp 29	-	-	-	-	-	Au 5 Oc 1	-	-	-
Killdeer	S - Sp 25	S - No 15	S - Oc 7	S - Sp 25	S - No 2	S - Sp 23	S - Oc 15	S - No 10	S - No 17	-	S - De 2	-
Black-bellied Plover	-	-	Oc 1 Oc 31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Woodcock	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S - Oc 28	-
Common Snipe	Oc 10	De 16	Jl 30 Au 27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S - No 8	-
Long-billed Curlew	S - Au 7	-	S - Sp 21	S - Au 23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Upland Sandpiper	S - Au 29	S - Au 26	S - Sp 3	S - Jl 21	S - Au 15	-	-	S - Au 17	S - Sp 1	-	S - Au 20	-
Spotted Sandpiper	-	S - Sp 22	Jl 17 Au 17	-	Jl 23	-	-	Au 23	-	-	Jl 17 Sp 23	-
Solitary Sandpiper	-	-	Jl 11 Au 27	-	Sp 9	-	-	-	Au 25 Sp 1	-	Au 1	-
Greater Yellowlegs	Oc 15	Sp 22 No 6	S - No 6	-	Sp 9	-	-	-	Au 5 No 16	-	-	-
Lesser Yellowlegs	-	-	Jl 9 Oc 23	-	Sp 9	-	-	-	Au 5 No 16	-	Au 1 Oc 12	-
Willet	-	-	S - Au 27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pectoral Sandpiper	-	Sp 22	Jl 21 Sp 30	-	-	-	-	-	Au 5 Oc 1	-	Jl 18 Oc 7	-
Baird's Sandpiper	-	Sp 22 Oc 14	Jl 28 Oc 23	Oc 1	Sp 30	-	-	-	Au 5 Oc 26	-	Au 12 Sp 21	-
Least Sandpiper	-	-	Jl 10 Oc 1	-	-	-	-	-	Au 5 Oc 26	-	Jl 20 Sp 21	-

	Sioux	Scotts	Gar-	McPh.	Lin-	Howard	Adams	Boone	Lan-	W Doug-	Otoe
	Bluff	Bluff	den		coln	Hall			caster	a Sarpy	
Black-billed Cuckoo	-	Jl 7	Au 23	Jl 1	Jl 7	-	-	S -	S -	a S -	-
			Au 30					Au 10	Oc 2	Sp 3	
Barn Owl	-	-	S -	-	-	Sp 4	-	-	-	-	-
			Sp 16			Oc 5					
Screech Owl	-	P	-	-	P	-	P	P	P	-	P -
Great Horned Owl	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P -
Burrowing Owl	S -	S -	S -	Au 7	S -	S -	S -	-	-	-	-
	Sp 24	Oc 15	Sp 22		Au 25	Au 20	Jl 16				
Barred Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	De 17	-	P -
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 26	-	No 25
									De 17	-	No 30
Short-eared Owl	-	-	S -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No 30
			No 22								De 22
Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No 8±
Poor-will	-	Jl 10	Sp 22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Au 26	Oc 3								
Common Nighthawk	S -	S -	S -	S -	S -	Sp 4	S -	S -	Au 24	-	S -
	Au 29	Sp 16	Sp 10	Sp 1	Au 5	Sp 15	Oc 6	Sp 1	Au 26	-	Sp 30
Chimney Swift	-	S -	-	-	S -	S -	S -	S -	S -	-	S -
		Sp 14			Jl 5	Sp 25	Oc 11	Oc 2	Oc 13	-	Oc 14
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 5	-	Au 27
											Jl 7
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	-	Jl 28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Au 14									
Belted Kingfisher	P	P	Au 16	-	P	S -	P	S -	P	-	S -
			Oc 11			Sp 23		Sp 19			De 25
Common Flicker	P	P	S -	Sp 13	P	P	P	P	P	-	P
			De 4	Sp 30							Au 7
Red-bellied Woodpecker	-	De 17	-	-	De 16	P	P	P	P	-	P
		De 31									De 3
Red-headed Woodpecker	S -	S -	S -	-	S -	S -	S -	S -	S -	-	S -
	Sp 9	Sp 29	Sp 8		Oc 29	Sp 15	Sp 24	Sp 19	-	W	-
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	De 8	-	-	No 11	-	-	-	De 30	-	Oc 11
		De 31									De 27
Hairy Woodpecker	P	P	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	P
											No 30
Downy Woodpecker	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	P
											De 2
Eastern Kingbird	S -	S -	S -	S -	S -	S -	S -	S -	S -	-	S -
	Sp 4	Sp 10	Sp 1	Au 29	Sp 9	Sp 15	Sp 5	Sp 11	Sp 16	-	Sp 14
Western Kingbird	S -	S -	S -	S -	S -	S -	S -	S -	S -	-	S -
	Sp 23	Sp 23	Sp 2	Au 29	Sp 9	Sp 6	Jl 30	Sp 1	Au 27	-	Au 26
Great Crested Flycatcher	-	-	Au 24	-	-	S -	-	-	S -	-	S -
						Sp 3			Sp 1	-	Sp 21
Eastern Phoebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S -	Jl 30	-	Au 19
								Jl 14	Oc 1	-	Oc 25
Say's Phoebe	S -	S -	Jl 31	-	Sp 9	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Sp 9	Sp 10	Sp 16								
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Jl 8	-	Au 19
									Sp 14	-	Sp 9
Willow Flycatcher	-	-	Au 25	Au 13	-	-	-	-	Jl 26	-	Au 1
			Sp 1						Sp 21	-	

	Sioux Bluff	Scotts den	Gar- den	McPh.	Lin- coln	Howard Hall	Adams	Boone	Lan- caster	W Doug- a Sarpy	Otoe
Least Flycatcher	-	-	Jl 22 Sp 23	-	-	-	-	-	Au 1	-	Jl 20 Sp 5
Western Flycatcher	-	-	Sp 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Empidonax sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 27 Sp 20
Eastern Wood Pewee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Jl 8 Au 25	-	S - Sp 20
Western Wood Pewee	S - Sp 2	S - Sp 11	S - Sp 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Olive-sided Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 13
Horned Lark	P	P	P	P	P	P	No 21 - W	P	P	-	P
Tree Swallow	-	-	S - Oc 23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	b Oc 7
Bank Swallow	-	-	Jl 11 Sp 3	-	-	Au 20 Sp 5	-	-	-	-	S - Au 30
Rough-winged Swallow	S - Au 29	S - Jl 28	Au 12	-	Au 5	Au 30 Sp 10	-	S - Au 30	S - Sp 1	-	S - Oc 7
Barn Swallow	S - Sp 25	S - Oc 6	S - Oc 14	S - Sp 7	S - Sp 30	S - Sp 17	S - Sp 5	S - Oc 6	S - Oc 5	-	S - No 4 Sp 3
Cliff Swallow	S - Au 29	S - Sp 3	Jl 11	-	S - Au 18	Au 25 Sp 4	-	-	Sp 1 Sp 16	-	Jl 14 Sp 23
Purple Martin	-	-	-	-	S - Jl 1	S - Sp 4	S - Au 25	S - Sp 16	S - Sp 14	-	S - Sp 14 Au 1
Blue Jay	P	P	S - Oc 16	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	P
Black-billed Magpie	P	P	-	-	P	P	P	P	-	-	-
Common Crow	P	P	Sp 29 De 18	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	P
Pinon Jay	P	P	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clark's Nutcracker	-	De 18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-capped Chickadee	P	P	Jl 29	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	P
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P
White-breasted Nuthatch	P	-	-	-	De 16	Oc 5 - W	P	P	P	-	P
Red-breasted Nuthatch	P	Jl 5 - W	Jl 16 Oc 12	-	Oc 23 De 16	Oc 15 - W	De 16	-	Sp 19 De 26	-	Sp 25 - W
Brown Creeper	-	De 16	-	-	Oc 27	Oc 11 - W	Oc 27 - W	No 6	Sp 28 De 17	-	P
House Wren	S - Sp 21	S - Sp 11	Au 20 Sp 27	-	S - Sp 30	S - Sp 12	S - Sp 29	S - Sp 25	S - Oc 19	-	S - Oc 22
Winter Wren	Oc 21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	De 17	-	No 8 No 29
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 30
Long-billed Marsh Wren	S - Au 23	-	S - Oc 8	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 1	-	Sp 19 Oc 10

	Sioux Bluff	Scotts den	Gar-den	McPh.	Lincoln	Howard Hall	Adams	Boone	Lan-caster	W a	Doug-Sarpy	Otoe
Short-billed Marsh Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 5	-	Jl 29	-
Rock Wren	S - Oc 6	S - Au 29	Sp 21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mockingbird	-	Sp 2 Sp 11	Au 16 No 2	-	-	Au 3 Sp 6	-	-	S - Sp 6	-	De 5 De 31	-
Gray Catbird	S - Sp 9	Sp 7 Sp 24	Sp 3 Sp 26	Au 27 Sp 30	Jl 7 Sp 14	S - Sp 22	S - Sp 29	S - Sp 28	S - Sp 22	-	-	S - Oc 12
Brown Thrasher	S - Sp 9	S - Sp 15	S - No 5	Sp 15 Sp 26	S - De 31	S - Sp 23	S - De 26	S - Sp 25	S - De 17	S - De 31	S - Au 1	-
Sage Thrasher	-	-	Au 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Robin	S - Oc 15	P	S - No 22	S - Oc 10	S - De 16	S - De 3	S - No 9	S - No 16	S - De 21	S - De 28	S - Sp 1	-
Wood Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S - Oc 6	-
Hermit Thrush	-	-	Sp 23 Oc 12	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 24	-	Oc 18	-
Swainson's Thrush	S - Sp 21	-	Sp 19 Sp 29	Sp 24 Sp 26	-	-	-	-	Sp 21	-	Jl 29 Oc 21	-
Gray-cheeked Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 20
Veery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 21	-
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	-	-	Sp 9 De 16	P	-	-	S - Oc 21	-	S - No 22	-
Mountain Bluebird	S - Oc 16	Sp 21	Oc 28	-	Oc 13 De 16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Townsend's Solitaire	Sp 16	Sp 22 - W	Sp 17	Sp 30	Au 23 De 16	Sp 20 De 16	-	De 25	De 17	-	De 20	-
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	Oc 4 No 6	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 25 - W	d	Oc 9 De 25	-
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	-	-	Sp 23 Oc 12	Sp 21 Oc 7	-	Sp 23	Oc 23	Sp 25 Sp 28	Sp 21 Oc 21	d	Sp 20 De 17	-
Water Pipit	-	Oc 3 No 6	Oc 1 Oc 24	-	Oc 21	-	-	-	Oc 1 Oc 26	-	-	-
Bohemian Waxwing	-	Oc 26 No 8	De 11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cedar Waxwing	-	Oc 9 De 16	Au 2 Oc 8	Sp 23 Sp 29	No 1 - W	Sp 23	De 26	-	-	-	S - De 1	-
Northern Shrike	Oc 15 - W	Oc 14 - W	No 1 - W	-	De 16	-	-	De 26 De 31	-	-	-	-
Shrike sp.	-	-	-	-	Oc 27	-	-	Oc 19 De 13	-	-	-	-
Loggerhead Shrike	S - Sp 21	S - Sp 29	S - Sp 15	S - Jl 1	Jl 16	Au 10 Sp 30	Sp 5	-	S - De 17	-	S - Sp 25	-
Starling	P	P	Jl 23 De 18	S - Oc 10	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	-
White-eyed Vireo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Jl 4	-	-	-
Bell's Vireo	-	Au 28	Jl 17	-	S - Sp 4	-	-	-	Au 21 Au 25	-	Sp 2	-
Yellow-throated Vireo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S - Au 27	-

	Sioux	Scotts	Gar-	McPh.	Lin-	Howard	Adams	Boone	Lan-	W Doug-	Otoe
	Bluff	Bluff	den		coln	Hall			caster	a Sarpy	
American Redstart	S - Sp 21	-	Au 11 Sp 9	Au 27 Sp 5	Sp 29	-	-	-	-	a S - Sp 20	-
House Sparrow	P	P	S - Jl 21	P	P	P	P	P	P	- P	P
Bobolink	-	-	S - Au 18	-	Jl 15 Jl 28	S - Au 2	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Meadowlark	-	-	S - Sp 21	-	-	S - Au 2	-	-	P	- S - De 21	-
Meadowlark sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	-	-	- P	-
Western Meadowlark	S - No 29	P	S - No 9	S - Oc 2	P	S - De 28	-	P	P	- S - No 30	-
Yellow-headed Blackbird	S - Sp 10	S - Sp 18	S - Sp 14	S - Oc 10	Sp 30	Sp 20 Sp 23	S - Jl 16	S - Sp 20	Au 5 Oc 5	- S - Oc 5	-
Red-winged Blackbird	S - No 29	P	P	S - Oc 10	S - De 17	S - Au 30	S - De 16	P	S - De 17	d S - e De 27	S - Jl 3
Orchard Oriole	S - Au 23	S - Au 16	S - Au 23	S - Jl 1	S - Sp 18	S - Au 28	S - Jl 30	S - Au 22	S - Sp 1	- S - Au 25	-
Northern Oriole	S - Au 16	S - Sp 9	S - Sp 7	-	S - Sp 18	S - Sp 4	S - Sp 17	S - Sp 7	S - Sp 13	- S - Sp 13	-
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No 15	d No 5 De 17	-
Brewer's Blackbird	-	Oc 14	Sp 30	-	No 5	-	-	-	-	e Oc 28 De 14	-
Great-tailed Grackle	-	-	-	-	-	-	S - Jl 16	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	S - Sp 23	S - De 31	S - Oc 21	S - Oc 6	S - De 16	S - De 3	P	S - Sp 29	S - De 17	- S - De 27	S - Sp 20
Brown-headed Cowbird	S - Sp 2	S - Sp 26	S - Jl 20	-	S - Oc 1	S - Sp 4	S - Sp 5	S - Au 29	- W	- S - De 30	-
Western Tanager	S - Au 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Tanager	-	-	-	-	-	S - Au 7	-	-	-	- S - Oc 2	-
Cardinal	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	- P	No 1 De 30
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	S - Au 10	S - Jl 30	S - Au 31	S - Au 25	- S - Oc 2	-
Black-headed Grosbeak	S - Au 29	-	-	-	S - Au 3	-	-	-	De 17	-	-
Blue Grosbeak	Au 29	S - Sp 26	S - Au 23	-	-	-	-	S - Sp 1	-	- S - Au 30	-
Indigo Bunting	-	-	-	-	-	S - Jl 5	-	S - Au 15	S - Au 15	- S - Sp 3	-
Lazuli Bunting	-	S - Jl 6	Au 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dickcissel	-	-	Jl 17	S - Jl 21	S - Jl 14	S - Au 20	S - Jl 30	S - Au 17	S - Sp 1	- S - Oc 3	S - Au 20
Evening Grosbeak	-	Oc 30	Oc 28	-	De 16 De 30	-	-	-	-	- No 18 De 6	-
Purple Finch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No 6 - W	- Oc 21 - W	-
House Finch	-	P	-	-	P	-	-	-	-	-	-

	Sioux Bluff	Scotts den	Gar- den	McPh. -	Lin- coln	Howard Hall	Adams	Boone	Lan- caster	W a	Doug- Sarpy	Otoe
Common Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	-	De 16	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	S - Oc 14	P Oc 14	Oc 3 Oc 26	-	Oc 27 - W	-	De 26	De 6 De 8	De 17 - W	-	No 27 - W	-
American Goldfinch	S - Oc 14	P Oc 14	S - De 15	-	P Oc 14	P Oc 14	P Oc 14	P Oc 14	P Oc 14	-	P Oc 14	-
Rufous-sided Towhee	S - Oc 15	S - Oc 14	Sp 24 Oc 12	Sp 23 Oc 9	Sp 29 Oc 9	S - Sp 23	-	Sp 27 Oc 4	Sp 30 De 17	-	S - Oc 21	-
Lark Bunting	S - Sp 9	S - Oc 14	S - Sp 2	S - Jl 26	Jl 16 Sp 4	S - Au 15	-	-	-	-	-	-
Savannah Sparrow	Sp 5	-	Sp 14 Oc 8	Sp 20	-	-	-	Sp 13 Oc 9	-	-	Sp 19 No 2	-
Grasshopper Sparrow	-	-	S - Sp 2	Jl 1 Jl 26	Jl 23 Au 4	S - Sp 23	-	Jl 1 Jl 10	S - Sp 23	a	S - Au 20	-
Baird's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	Sp 30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Le Conte's Sparrow	-	-	-	Jl 25 Jl 27	-	-	-	-	Oc 1	-	Oc 1 Oc 21	-
Sharp-tailed Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 1	-	-	-
Vesper Sparrow	Sp 25	Sp 14 Sp 30	Au 26 Sp 30	-	Sp 30	-	-	-	-	-	Au 20 Oc 21	-
Lark Sparrow	S - Sp 16	S - Au 27	S - Sp 3	S - Sp 1	Au 28	S - Au 13	-	S - Jl 10	S - Au 20	-	-	-
Dark-eyed Junco	Oc 6 - W	Sp 17 - W	Sp 24 - W	Sp 16 Oc 28	Sp 27 - W	Oc 19 - W	Oc 8 - W	Oc 5 - W	Oc 10 - W	-	Oc 7 - W	No 29 - W
Gray-headed Junco	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 21 De 3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tree Sparrow	Oc 26 - W	Oc 3 - W	Oc 22 - W	-	Oc 27 - W	No 20 - W	De 16	Oc 18 - W	No 2 - W	-	Oc 21 - W	-
Chipping Sparrow	S - Sp 21	S - Oc 14	Au 6 Oc 22	-	Sp 9	S - Au 10	Jl 30	S - Au 29	S - Jl 23	-	S - Oc 4	-
Clay-colored Sparrow	Sp 9	Sp 8 Oc 14	Au 25 Sp 10	Sp 18 Oc 1	Jl 23	No 3 No 10	-	Sp 13 Sp 28	-	-	-	-
Field Sparrow	-	-	-	Sp 22 Oc 8	-	S - Sp 23	De 16	S - Au 19	S - Sp 30	a	S - Oc 10	-
Harris' Sparrow	-	Oc 7 - W	Oc 12 No 4	Oc 2 Oc 8	Oc 27 - W	No 9 - W	De 16	Oc 6 - W	Oc 16 - W	-	Oc 1 - W	No 30
White-crowned Sparrow	-	Oc 7 De 30	Sp 23 Oc 22	Sp 14 Oc 10	Oc 13 De 30	No 9 De 10	-	Oc 9 Oc 18	Oc 12 De 17	-	Sp 25	-
White-throated Sparrow	-	Oc 14	No 21 No 23	Oc 7 Oc 8	-	No 25 De 10	Oc 2 De 29	Sp 25 Oc 30	Oc 10 De 31	-	Sp 25 De 30	-
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 20 No 6	Oc 10 De 31	-	Oc 6 De 31	-
Lincoln's Sparrow	Sp 13 Sp 21	-	Sp 23 Oc 2	-	-	-	-	Sp 20 Oc 20	Sp 26 Oc 19	-	Sp 20 De 23	-
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	S - Sp 1	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 2 De 17	-	Sp 28 Oc 21	-
Song Sparrow	Au 29	Sp 8 De 19	Au 18 No 20	Sp 23	Sp 9	-	-	P	Sp 21 De 17	-	P	-
McCown's Longspur	S - Oc 21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lapland Longspur	-	No 15	No 8 No 16	-	-	-	De 16	Oc 9 - W	De 17	-	De 16	-
Smith's Longspur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	De 17	-	-	-
Chestnut-col- lared Longspur	S - Oc 21	-	Sp 23 Oc 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Bunting	-	De 16	-	-	-	-	-	-	De 17	-	-	-

Sparrow, which showed a considerable amount of white on the wings and back. She left for the winter in mid-October, so that the winter birds are not fully represented.

Otoe, Nebraska City, 29 species. Mrs. Elmer Conkling, reporter. Mr. Glenn LeDioyt, of Omaha, saw the Cattle Egrets just across the bridge from Nebraska City, and also another group farther north on I-29. This was on a Friday, when he was with other people and couldn't spend time checking them out. On Monday he could determine that there were about eight in the group. The following Saturday the Diggsses, of Hamburg, Iowa, found twelve in the group.

Sarpy, see Douglas.

Scotts Bluff, Scottsbluff, 149 species. Mrs. Roy J. Witschy and C. Fred Zeillemaker, reporters. Mrs. M.A. Banghart, Lydia E. Bolz, Mrs. J.J. Brashear, Mrs. Lee Kenitz, Sherry K. McCoy, Everett F. Russell.

Sioux, Mitchell RFD, 105 species. David and Helen (reporter) Hughson.

Washington, DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge, 25 species. Babs and Loren Padelford, reporters. These are records from five visits to the Refuge by the Padelfords. Christmas Count records which were not included in the Padelford's report were not included because the count area includes more of Iowa than is usually covered in the Occurrence Reports.

ADDITION TO 1978 SPRING MIGRATION REPORT. The following line was left out of the 1978 Spring Migration Report (*NBR* 46:69-70): Redhead Sioux 3/27, Scottsbluff 3/24-6/6, Sheridan 6/17-18, Garden 3/19-S, Cherry 3/18, McPherson 5/29-6/30, Lincoln 3/27, Custer 4/3-5/1, Adams 5/21, Boone 4/4, Lancaster 3/26-3/30, York 5/19, Douglas-Sarpy 3/26-5/13, Otoe 3/2.

1978 CHRISTMAS COUNT

One hundred and three species (five more than last year) were reported in the 1978 Christmas Count. Last year there were three species reported present but not seen on the count, while this year all those not seen on one count were seen on some other count. This increase was made with one less counting station - Kearney's count fell prey to the weather this year. Had any of the Meadowlark species been identified as Easterns, or any of the Duck, Buteo, Falcon, or Blackbird species been identified as species not reported the count would have been increased. Species reported this year but not last year are: Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, Hooded Merganser, Goshawk, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Sandhill Crane, American Coot, Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, Hermit Thrush, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Bohemian Waxwing, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-headed Grosbeak, Gray-crowned Rosy Finch, and Smith's Longspur. Those reported last year but not this year are: Black Duck, Gadwall, Green-winged Teal, American Wigeon, Red-breasted Merganser, Killdeer, Osprey, Herring Gull, Saw-whet Owl, Carolina Wren, Mountain Bluebird, Savannah Sparrow, Gray-headed Junco, and Chipping Sparrow.

The individual count is way down this year, primarily because the high Red-winged Blackbird count at North Platte was not repeated this year. The Mallard count was way down at DeSoto NWR; Starlings were down, primarily at Lincoln; and there were smaller decreases scattered over other species. The Lapland Longspur count was way up this year, primarily at Lincoln, and Horned Larks were much more common in the eastern part this year, except at DeSoto NWR, where the count was down about 50%.

The columns are arranged in an approximate west (left) to east (right) order, with the northernmost location of those of about equal longitude given first. The symbol "H" is used to indicate a species present during the count period but not recorded on the count day.

Crawford, 23 December. A 15-mile diameter circle with its center in the southeast corner of town, to include parts of the White River valley and of the Pine Ridge at Fort Robinson State Park, Cochran State Wayside Area, Ponderosa Wildlife Management Area, and Crow Butte; elevation 3500 to 4000 feet; habitat coverage: open prairie 33%, riparian woodland 30%, residential 18%, coniferous woodland 15%, cropland 4%. 6:15 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.; A.M.: overcast, intermittent light snow; P.M.: mostly cloudy, intermittent light snow. Temperature 10°-29°F.

— Text continued on p. 36

	Craw- ford	Scotts- bluff	North Platte	Hast- ings	Lin- coln	DeSoto NWR	Omaha	Total
Great Blue Heron	-	-	2	-	1	3	-	6
American Bittern	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Canada Goose	-	212	446	-	2	-	230	890
White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Snow Goose	-	1	-	-	2	1	1,861	1,865
Mallard	4	580	874	-	89	5,334	2,755	9,636
Pintail	-	3	-	-	-	2	-	5
Wood Duck	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Lesser Scaup	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
Common Goldeneye	-	-	11	-	-	-	68	79
Bufflehead	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Duck sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,676	4,676
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Common Merganser	-	-	1	-	-	-	9	10
Goshawk	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Sharp-shinned Hawk	H	-	-	-	3	3	-	6
Cooper's Hawk	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3
Red-tailed Hawk	-	2	8	2	27	12	64	115
Swainson's Hawk	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	3
Rough-legged Hawk	1	5	1	1	5	1	9	23
Buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	3
Golden Eagle	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	6
Bald Eagle	1	3	15	-	-	7	16	42
Marsh Hawk	-	-	1	8	18	5	6	38
Prairie Falcon	H	2	-	-	1	-	-	3
Merlin	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	4
American Kestrel	-	6	20	2	10	11	32	81
Falcon sp.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Greater Prairie Chicken	-	-	37	-	-	-	-	37
Sharp-tailed Grouse	46	-	5	-	-	-	-	51
Bobwhite	-	-	27	20	44	39	99	229
Ring-necked Pheasant	23	1	9	7	44	79	6	169
Turkey	H	-	14	-	-	-	-	14
Sandhill Crane	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
American Coot	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Common Snipe	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Rock Dove	17	103	74	80	230	178	434	1,116
Mourning Dove	2	-	-	H	303	3	223	531
Screech Owl	2	1	-	-	33	1	6	43
Great Horned Owl	3	5	1	1	13	1	8	32
Barred Owl	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2

	Craw- ford	Scotts- bluff	North Platte	Hast- ings	Lin- coln	DeSoto NWR	Omaha	Total
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	5
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Belted Kingfisher	-	1	1	1	6	-	2	11
Common Flicker	5	39	39	7	32	90	152	364
Yellow-shafted					(18)	(89)	(150)	(257)
Red-shafted					(7)	(1)	(2)	(10)
Red-bellied Woodpecker	-	-	1	1	14	27	48	91
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	1	2	23	26
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	2	-	-	-	-	4	6
Hairy Woodpecker	13	-	1	H	17	5	18	54
Downy Woodpecker	13	5	1	5	46	67	131	268
Horned Lark	145	61	268	968	3,238	1,009	1,385	7,074
Blue Jay	1	20	5	5	93	85	139	348
Black-billed Magpie	54	40	16	2	-	-	-	112
Common Crow	126	185	129	26	192	56	162	876
Pinon Jay	170	20	-	-	-	-	-	190
Black-capped Chickadee	119	28	17	16	252	117	448	997
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	36
White-breasted Nuthatch	1	-	1	3	34	35	75	149
Red-breasted Nuthatch	3	-	-	1	3	-	1	8
Pygmy Nuthatch	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Brown Creeper	-	1	-	2	16	2	12	33
Winter Wren	1	-	-	-	1	-	3	5
Mockingbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Brown Thrasher	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	3
American Robin	18	91	262	-	21	1	1	394
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	53	-	-	-	-	53
Townsend's Solitaire	12	5	1	-	3	-	-	21
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	3	-	6	9
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Bohemian Waxwing	300	-	-	-	-	-	-	300
Cedar Waxwing	-	20	-	-	-	26	-	46
Northern Shrike	10	2	1	-	-	-	-	13
Loggerhead Shrike	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Starling	139	1,465	2,968	552	2,530	1,005	1,680	10,339
Yellow-rumped Warbler	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	3
House Sparrow	283	1,063	579	342	3,588	3,271	1,045	10,171
Western Meadowlark	1	26	-	-	1	-	-	28
Meadowlark sp.	-	-	74	88	289	145	130	726
Red-winged Blackbird	14	116	3,530	30	1	516	2,267	6,474
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	10
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3

	Craw- ford	Scotts- bluff	North Platte	Hast- ings	Lin- coln	DeSoto NWR	Omaha	Total
Common Grackle	-	5	4	3	17	3	8	40
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	-	-	5	-	3	8
Blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	102	-	32	134
Cardinal	-	-	7	10	76	63	139	295
Black-headed Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Evening Grosbeak	16	-	1	-	-	-	-	17
Purple Finch	-	-	-	-	12	1	9	22
House Finch	1	80	17	-	-	-	-	98
Gray-crowned Rosy Finch	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Common Redpoll	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Pine Siskin	162	22	3	1	1	16	19	224
American Goldfinch	342	50	22	2	82	215	94	807
Red Crossbill	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Rufous-sided Towhee	-	-	-	-	1	3	2	6
Dark-eyed Junco	135	88	79	41	454	579	571	1,947
White-winged	(15)							(15)
Slate-colored	(26)			(41)	(447)	(579)	(569)	(1,662)
Oregon	(94)			H	(7)		(2)	(103)
Tree Sparrow	266	146	82	25	1,409	494	516	2,938
Field Sparrow	-	-	-	6	1	-	-	7
Harris' Sparrow	2	-	5	40	242	63	10	362
White-crowned Sparrow	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	8
White-throated Sparrow	-	-	-	-	6	-	3	9
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	13
Song Sparrow	2	1	-	-	9	13	15	40
Lapland Longspur	1	-	-	25	23,452	24	501	24,003
Smith's Longspur	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3
Snow Bunting	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	4
Species Reported	44	46	51	35	67	47	59	103
Additional Races Reported	2	-	-	-	2	1	2	3
Present but not seen	3	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Total Individuals	2,483	4,521	9,720	2,326	37,118	13,619	20,213	90,000

Wind variable, 5-25 mph. Snow cover 4-10". Fresh water partly open. Wild food crop fair. Six observers in 5 parties. Total party-hours, 44 (13 on foot, 31 by car); total party-miles, 377 (16 on foot, 361 by car). Doris Gates, Chadron, reporter. Marj Blinde and Ardelle and Dan McPherson were with Miss Gates, but other participants were not named. Three of the Golden Eagles were immatures, 2 unknown, and the Bald Eagle was an adult.

DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge, 21 December. A 15-mile diameter circle, centered on Refuge headquarters building, west to Blair, and east to Missouri Valley, Iowa, including all of DeSoto Refuge, Wilson Island, and Fort Calhoun; elevation 992 to 1375 feet; habitat coverage: cultivated fields 50%, woodlands 35%, water areas 10%, residential 5%. 6:45 A.M. to 5:15 P.M.;

clear A.M. and P.M. Temperature 12°-36°F. Wind calm. Snow cover .25-2". Fresh water frozen. Wild food crop fair. Twenty observers, 20 in 5 parties, 1 at feeder. Total party hours, 48.5 (23 on foot, 25.5 by car) plus 8 hours at feeder, 6 owling; total party-miles, 347.5 (22.5 on foot, 325 by car). Len Binkel, Hal Chase, Donnie Cleveland, Ruth Gochenour, Jan Greer, George Grube, Fr. Thomas A. Hoffman, Eunice Kawamoto, Jim and Sandy Kovanda, Dave Menke (reporter), Steve Moorman, Babs Padelford, Neal S. Ratzlaff, Janice Schmoll, Roger Sharpe, Ross Silcock, Lynne Vacanti, Barb Wilson, Jerry Yandell. Six of the Bald Eagles were adults, one an immature.

Hastings, 16 December. A 15-mile diameter circle with its center south of town, 1.5 miles south of Highway 6 and .5 miles east of Highway 281, which includes the city parks, Parkview Cemetery, Crystal Lake Recreation Grounds, fields and pastures, woodlands along the Little Blue River, and lagoons west of Glenvil. 8 A.M. to 4 P.M.; clear all day, 24°-32°F.; wind WNW 5-15 mph.; snow cover 0-3". Fresh water partly open, wild food crop fair. Ten observers, 7 in 4 parties, 3 at feeders. Total party-hours 10.25 (2.75 on foot, 7.5 by car); total party-miles 127 (6 on foot, 122 by car). Mrs. A.A. Alberts, Mrs. Floyd Butler, Mrs. Wm. Helzer, Mrs. M. Horrigan, Helen Kucera, Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Percival, Mrs. O.W. Ritchey, Carl Throckmorton, Bernice Welch (reporter).

Lincoln, 17 December. A 15-mile diameter circle, centered on South Codrington and West A Street, to include Pioneers Park, about 8 miles of Wilderness Park, Lagoon Park, Yankee Lake and Conestoga Lake areas, eastern half of Pawnee Lake, and Wyuka Cemetery; elevation 1000 to 1300 feet; habitat coverage: deciduous woods 38%, weedy draws 20%, harvested corn and milo fields 20%, coniferous woods 10%, lakes and streams 10%, mixed woods and cemeteries 2%. 3:30 A.M. to 7:30 P.M.: Clear A.M., mostly cloudy P.M.; Temperature 18°-45°F. Wind south 5-20 mph. Zero to 6" of crusted ice and snow. Lakes, 98% frozen; Salt Creek 90% frozen south of Lincoln, 100% open northeast of Lincoln. Wild food crop poor. Twenty-six observers, 25 in 10 parties, 1 at feeder. Total party-hours, 80 (54.5 on foot, 25.5 by car) plus 8 hours at feeder and 6 owling; total party miles, 402.5 (71 on foot, 331.5 by car). Naomi Brill, Lewis Cartee, Cindy and Dave Cochran, Daryl and Margaret Giblin, Everett and Mildred Gross, David Harrington, Ralph (reporter) and Ellen Harrington, Arnold and Esther Hein, Craig Herzinger, Mike Kaspari, Tim Knott, Bernice Large, Pete Maslowski, Jane Mock, Lee Morris, Rosalind Morris, John and Mabel Ott, Ken Reitan, Hazel Schreiber, and Francis Taylor. The Lapland Longspurs and the Horned Larks were in mixed flocks; the Longspurs were gone by early January. The Great Blue Heron and the Prairie Falcon were seen near Lagoon Park by Ralph and Ellen Harrington and Lee Morris; Ralph Harrington saw a Solitaire in Wyuka Cemetery and the Otts saw 2 in Pioneers Park; the Black-headed Grosbeak was seen near Conestoga Lake by the Heins, who were within 50 feet of it; and the Yellow-rumped Warbler was seen in some red cedars near Denton by the Giblins, who also saw the Bittern. One of the Snow Geese was the blue form, the other white. One of the Red-tailed Hawks was a Harlan's.

North Platte, 16 December. A 15-mile diameter circle, centered at the Court House. 8 A.M. to 5 P.M.; clear. Temperature 17°-33°F. Wind 10-15 mph. from NW. Snow cover 1-10". Ten observers in 5 parties. Mrs. Howard Wyman, reporter. The Golden Eagle was an immature; 10 of the Bald Eagles were adults, 5 immatures.

Omaha, 16 December. A 15-mile diameter circle centered at Offutt Base Lake, to include Fontenelle Forest, Lake Manawa (Iowa) State Park, Plattsmouth Waterfowl Refuge, and portions of the Platte and Missouri rivers; habitat coverage: woodlands 53%, cultivated fields 25%, grassy fields and meadows 6%, rivers and lakes 7%. 3:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.; mostly sunny. Temperature 22°-37°F. Wind west 6-12 mph. Snow cover 3-4". Rivers and some streams open, lakes and ponds frozen. Forty-three observers in 11 parties. Total party-hours, 94 (51.5 on foot, 42.5 by car) plus 4 hours owling; total party miles 417 (51 on foot, 366 by car). Steve Bellinghiere, Diane Berlett, Reid Boyle, Tanya Bray, Duane Bright, Hal Chase, Evelyn Conrad, R.G. Cortelyou, James Delehant, John Dinan, Jim Glather, Donna Gnadt, Marg Graf, Ruth Green, Janet Greer, Alan and Betty Grenon, Mike Heaney, Fr. Thomas Hoffman, Mary Huebner, Clyde and Emma Johnson, Gladys Johnson, Diane Jones, Eunice and JoAnne Kawamoto, Jim and Sandy Kovanda, Marian Meier, Babs and Loren Padelford, Margaret Perry, Neal Ratzlaff, Linda Riner, Harold and Marilyn Rock, Elva Sheard, Lorraine Shorney, John and Marlene

Weber, Melba Wigg (reporter), Gertrude Wood, and Rock Wright. One Swainson's Hawk was seen in Fontenelle Forest about mid-morning by Eunice Kawamoto, the other east of Lake Manawa about an hour later by Marian Meier and Tanya Bray, but the descriptions indicate they were different birds. The Mockingbird was seen just before noon, on Pony Creek about a mile below the dam, in good light, at about 40 yards. It was seen walking on the ground and in flight by the Padelfords and Jim Glather. The Hooded Merganser was seen on the Missouri around 10 A.M., with the sun about at the backs of the observers, Micheal Heaney and Harold Rock. It was seen at distances of about 40 feet to about 40 yards. It was first assumed to be a Goldeneye, but the lack of the wing whistle caused them to observe it more closely, particularly noting that the white spot was behind the eye. Eleven of the Bald Eagles were adults, 5 immatures.

Scottsbluff, 16 December. A 15-mile diameter circle centered on the bridge across the North Platte River at South Broadway, to include Scottsbluff and Gering. 7:15 A.M. to 4:15 P.M.; clear. Temperature 15°-35°F. Wind NW 4-20 mph. Snow cover 1-3". Fresh water open, lakes and ponds mostly frozen. Seven observers in 3 parties, 6 at feeders. Mrs. Harry Banghart, Lydia E. Bolz, Mrs. J.J. Brashear, A.L. Hadwiger, Mrs. Walter Harvey, Mrs. Lee Kenitz, Mrs. Wallace Marking, Grant Newbold, Mrs. M.A. Smith, Mrs. Ed. Williamson, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Witschy (reporter), O.C. Yeakley. The 3 Bald Eagles were adults.

SOME COMMENTS ON "THE BREEDING BIRDS OF NEBRASKA"

The recent paper by Johnsgard (*NBR* 47:3) is an interesting and much-needed summary of the state of Nebraska's breeding birds. I would like to make some comments on a few of the species listed.

RED-SHOULDERED HAWK. Johnsgard places this species in the category "Extinct and Formerly Breeding Species", stating that while there are some early records (citing a 1904 publication), there is "no recent evidence of breeding in the state". I am inclined to agree with this assessment, but must mention that there are relatively recent records published in *NBR* of breeding in eastern Nebraska. Two nesting attempts near Carter Lake in 1958 were reported by Cortelyou (*NBR* 27:31), and young were seen in Douglas County in 1964, reported by Cortelyou and LeDioyt (*NBR* 33:10). Furthermore, this species was reported in the Spring and Fall Occurrence Reports in *NBR* as present throughout summer in Douglas County 1959-63, Douglas-Sarpy counties 1964-71, and in Gage County in 1966. Since 1971, however, it has been reported only as a migrant.

I question the regularity with which this species is reported in *NBR*, bearing in mind that Whitney et al (1978) list only nine all-time records for South Dakota, the two most recent being in 1955 and 1975. Furthermore, in southwest Iowa, it has been reported but twice since 1962: one was seen in April 1962 (*Iowa Bird Life* 34:86); four (no details were published) were reported on the Shenandoah Christmas Bird Count in 1970 (*IBL* 41:8); and one was seen well by three observers, including me, on 3 February 1979 in Fremont County (Iowa) during the 1979 State Raptor Survey (*IBL* in press).

In summary, I believe that Red-Shouldered Hawks are rarer in this area than recent data published in *NBR* would indicate, and thus I agree with the placement of this species in the "Extinct and Formerly Breeding Species" category.

BLACK RAIL. This species is listed by Johnsgard as a "Hypothetical Breeder" in Nebraska. Of interest in this regard is the following comment by Bryant regarding Black Rails seen by him during his farming operations in Plymouth County, Iowa (*IBL* 32:87): "The best chance I had to observe one was the summer of 1959 when I was mowing alfalfa in a field adjoining a creek . . . I am not able to say for sure if the Black Rails I see are resident or migratory. I suspect the one in the alfalfa field was nesting there but can furnish no proof whatsoever."

SAW-WHET OWL. This species is also listed by Johnsgard as a "Hypothetical Breeder" in Nebraska, and he states that "no actual records of breeding in Nebraska exist for this species". There is indeed a record, for about 1893, as Carriker stated (*Proc. NOU* 1:33) that a set of eggs had been taken "about seven years ago" near Nebraska City. While this is a very old record, Johnston (1965) cites a record of adults and young in Wyandotte County, Kansas in 1951.

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER. It seems astounding that breeding of this species may have occurred in both Sarpy and Lancaster counties in 1978, and, as suggested by Johnsgard, information regarding identification must be published to substantiate these reports. However, some evidence obtained from the Fremont County Foray in 1978 adds some credence to these breeding reports. Two separate groups of observers heard a singing bird of this species in Waubonsie State Park, in the same general area, on two different days, 2 and 5 June 1978 (*IBL* in press). Identification was made with extreme care, by comparison of the upward-slurred notes of the Yellow-bellied Flycatcher with the notes of the Eastern Pewee singing in the area. Difference in tone could be discerned without difficulty. There remains the possibility that the bird, or birds, heard in Fremont County may have been late migrants, of course.

LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH. I find it surprising that this species is omitted entirely from Johnsgard's paper. Definite evidence for breeding in Waubonsie State Park, Fremont County, Iowa, was obtained in 1977 when adults were seen to feed a fledged bird, and a young bird capable of flight was netted nearby (*IBL* 47:130). Two, and possibly three, pairs of adults were in the same areas in 1978, as found during the Fremont County Foray (*IBL* in press). These sightings, together with the observations of birds in Douglas-Sarpy counties (presumably in Fontenelle Forest) in 1967-69 published in the Spring and Fall Occurrence Reports in *NBR* would surely give reason to include this species at least as a "Hypothetical Breeder" in Nebraska.

— *W. Ross Silcock, Malvern, Iowa*

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A SECOND NESTING RECORD FOR MERLINS IN NEBRASKA

On 9 June 1978, while I was examining a Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus*) nest in Fort Robinson State Park, I heard the excited calls of a Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) to the north, approximately 100-200 yards. Closer investigation revealed a pair of Merlins defending several large pine trees, three of which each contained an old Magpie nest. In the second tree I climbed I found four nestlings approximately one day old and one egg not yet hatched. The young were not located on top of the Magpie nest, but were within the top half. The adult Merlins were entering the nest from the side.

The nest tree, a 40-foot ponderosa pine, was located on an east-facing slope, near the top of a ridge that overlooked a canyon below. The nearest trees were located at least 20 feet away.

This nest is approximately 1.5 miles from the active Merlin nest found on 13 June 1975 (*NBR* 43:78). That nest has been checked each summer since its discovery and found to be inactive.

During the past two summers of raptor nesting investigation I have on two occasions observed Merlins at two locations in the Pine Ridge: northwest of Crawford, in Sioux County, and southeast of Crawford, in Dawes County. Both observations were made in the month of June and occurred within the forest. Attempts were made to locate nests, but to no avail.

These observations seem to indicate that nesting Merlins in the Pine Ridge may be more prevalent than previously believed. It is also possible that since there are no known pre-1975 records of nesting Merlins in the Pine Ridge, this species may be expanding its breeding range into northwest Nebraska, possibly from the Black Hills in South Dakota.

— *Ross Lock, Game and Parks Commission, Lincoln*

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL NEAR OMAHA

On 6 December 1978 I was viewing a Glaucous Gull at Lake Manawa (Iowa) when a gull that was the same size as the Glaucous landed on the edge of the ice, about five feet away from it. I immediately noticed the striking contrast between the head coloring, which extended down into the breast, to its darker back. The over-all conformation of this bird was what I would describe as

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rather chunky. The next thing I observed was the heavy and large bill, which was totally black. The upper mandible was down-curved, but not the lower. The size and shape were much different from that of a Herring Gull. The mantle was a brownish and lighter color than the blackish primary and secondary wing feathers. This bird had a white rump patch with a black band on the tail, edged in white. Its feet were a flesh color. It matched in every detail the first winter stage of plumage of the Great Black-backed Gull. I watched the bird just standing for about 15 minutes, then it flew a few yards away and I was struck by the very long wingspan and the powerful downward stroke of its wings. The flight and size were very comparable to the Glaucous. It would fly up and come back to almost the same spot. Most of the lake was frozen over, but there were small patches of open water, and the bird was standing on the ice at the edge of one of these patches. I estimate that the bird was 300 to 400 feet from my viewing point on the shore. I watched it through 7x35 Bushnell wide-angle binoculars, and through a Bausch and Lomb spotting scope at 30x. It could be seen almost as well at both 15x and 20x, however. I was facing east, with the afternoon sun at my back. Jim and Sandy Kovanda were with me at the time, and agreed with the identification. When other birders who had gone to see the Glaucous Gull heard about the Great Black-backed Gull they reported that they had seen the bird and realized that it was different, but had not identified it.

— Ruth C. Green, Bellevue

This is apparently the third record of the Great Black-backed Gull in or near Nebraska. Aughey examined "a dead specimen which some Winnebago Indians had shot on the Missouri and brought to Dakota City in May, 1871". (Bruner, Wolcott, and Swenk, *A Preliminary Review of the Birds of Nebraska*, p. 19). One was reported from a few miles west of Aurora 5 April 1952 by Mrs. Kermit Swanson, who was accompanied by five other people at the time of the sighting (*NBR* 20:83, 21:9). Lake Manawa is a cut-off lake, formed from the Missouri in the flood of 1881. It is entirely in Iowa, but about a mile from the present course of the river (and Nebraska). Until the recent construction of the Papio lakes it was the only large body of water near Omaha, and most Omaha birders did not (and still don't) distinguish between sightings there and those actually in Nebraska proper. For the purists, it may be noted that around noon 7 December the Kovandas could not find the bird at Manawa, but they did find it there later in the afternoon. The presumption is that the bird was on the Missouri (and so in Nebraska part of the time) when it wasn't at Manawa.

— Editor