

# THE ORIOLE

A Quarterly Journal of Georgia Ornithology : Official Organ of the  
Georgia Ornithological Society



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JUNE - SEPTEMBER, 1942

# THE ORIOLE

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\*Mr. Griffin resigned July 20 to enter marine training. All communications, exchanges, etc. should be addressed to the new editor, Robert Norris, at the Division of Biological Sciences, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia.

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## THE RANGE OF THE LITTLE SPARROW HAWK IN GEORGIA AND SOUTH CAROLINA

By IVAN R. TOMKINS

The current Check-list (4th ed., 1931) of the American Ornithologists' Union gives the range of the Little Sparrow Hawk (*Falco sparverius paulus*) as, "Florida peninsula and the southern portion of the Gulf States north to central Alabama," and several other works of recent years have given about the same.

For several years it has appeared to me that more definite data might prove that this race resides much farther north along the coast, probably to Savannah, and possibly into South Carolina.

Now, through the kindness of Mr. A. C. Bent, who examined specimens in the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Cambridge, and of Dr. Frederick C. Lincoln, who quoted dates and localities of specimens in the collection of the Fish and Wildlife Service, I am able to offer information which extends the range, along the coast to Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, and inland to Burke, Washington, Fulton, and DeKalb Counties, Georgia.

There is no evidence so far that any of these were breeding birds. The two Mount Pleasant birds were male and female, and taken on May 14 and 15, 1902. There are Georgia birds on the combined list which were taken in January, February, March, April, July, October, and November. Both sexes are represented in summer and in winter.

Mr. E. B. Chamberlain, who has been watching the Sparrow Hawks in the vicinity of Charleston, informs me that the wintering birds leave there in April and that he has not been able to locate any nesting birds. This agrees with my own observations in Chatham County, Georgia. Several birds collected in winter have proved to be *sparverius*. The fall migrants arrive here in September. Flocks containing as many as ten birds have been seen at that time of the year.

Mr. M. H. Burroughs has furnished a list sent him with a letter from Mr. Troup D. Perry. The letter was dated May 11, 1923. The list has a note in Mr. Perry's handwriting which reads "Sparrow Hawk winter replaced by Little S. H." Mr. Perry was an able ornithologist and doubtless had grounds for his opinion. This is the only written comment, so far found, which infers that *paulus* breeds so far north along the coast as Savannah.



There are several accounts of Sparrow Hawks nesting along the Coast. Bent (1938: 118) groups three races of *sparverius* and lists one breeding locality from the coast of North Carolina, three in South Carolina, and two in Georgia. Messrs. Gilbert R. Rossignol and Walter J. Erichsen have told of old nesting records from Chatham County (Ga.) but unfortunately no one seems to have collected the birds.

The Eastern Sparrow Hawk (*F. s. sparverius*) nests well down into the middle of the Piedmont in Georgia, for Thomas D. Burleigh took a breeding male at Athens, Clarke County, on May 21, 1929. The nearest localities from which *paulus* have been taken are Fulton (Oct. 22, 1906) and DeKalb Counties (Jan. 14, 1903).

When all this is considered as a whole, it seems to indicate that *paulus* is found north to middle Georgia, thence eastward and northeastward to the center of the coast of South Carolina, and probably it breeds over some considerable portion of this range. It appears that this race is less migratory than typical *sparverius*.

The present data will not permit of defining the range more exactly. It is hoped that these may be amplified by the observations of other bird students. Any accurate notes on times of arrival and departure, on nesting localities, on the kind of food preferred, the type of habitat preferred, in fact, on any phase of the life history, may be of value.

This appears to be the first account offered for publication of *paulus* in South Carolina. *Falco sparverius* is based on Catesby's account of The Little Hawk, *Accipiter minor*. Mark Catesby spent a year near the coast before he went inland to Fort Moore. He may have known this subspecies rather than the more northern form. The type locality "in America" is considered to mean "in South Carolina," which in the present case becomes nearly as vague a term.

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513 East Duffy Street  
Savannah, Georgia  
April 4, 1942

#### NOTES ON THE NESTING OF A PAIR OF ALABAMA TOWHEES

By ROBERT NORRIS

In the literature slight record is to be found concerning the nesting of the Alabama Towhee (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus canaster*). Hence on the morning of May 31, 1941, at Tifton, Georgia, when a nest of this

species was found under construction, a worth while opportunity was offered. For the observations after June 7 credit is due Milton Hopkins, Jr. and Charles Norris.

#### Nest Building

The nest site was selected close to our house, some three feet up in the yellow jasmine (cultivated shrub). All the building was done by the female towhee. On each trip to the nest she would carefully round out the interior, arranging the materials. In both approach and departure she followed a definite pattern. Each was from the same side of the shrub, but one differed from the other in that separate configurations of the branches were invariably followed. She remained generally quiet during the work time, in contrast to the male who sang frequently from a nearby water oak, the shrubbery, and the house top. His three main song variations were thus syllabified: *chuk-see-he-he-he-he-he*, *we-e-e-e-e*, and *chu-ke-e-e-e-e*. Their common call was the quaint *ch'reek* which seemed to be used also as a note of alarm. The only other call was a sibilant *tsee-a-wee-e* given once by the female on the nest. The male bird was not seen to accompany her on trips to and from the nest, showing little interest in the actual building operations.

Construction of the nest was observed on May 31 and June 1 in the early morning only, although observation was not continuous through the day. No building took place on June 2, when the nest apparently was complete.

Between 7 and 8:30 a. m. of May 31 nine successive visits at the nest together with intervening periods of absence were timed, in minutes and fractions thereof, and during a work period between 6 and 7:30 a. m. of June 1 four of these attentive-inattentive intervals were recorded. Both days' observations are summarized below:

MAY 31		JUNE 1	
On	Off	On	Off
.....	0.27	.....	8.0
0.50	1.72	2.8	12.5
0.63	2.63	2.9	6.0
0.67	0.42	3.0	23.0
0.92	0.67	6.0	.....
0.45	0.62	3.7	12.4
0.58	1.22		
0.33	0.79		
0.57	0.37		
0.37	.....		
Av. 0.56	0.97		

This table shows a trend in which longer periods on the nest followed long periods off the nest. Also, the comparatively slower pace of building as the nest neared completion on June 1 is indicated.



The completed nest was a substantial cup of rather heavy construction built with small pliable twigs, leaves, and whitish weed tops, being lined with fine grasses. A scrap of pasteboard was used in the bottom portion. Measurements taken were: outside diameter, 125 mm.; inside diameter, 70 mm.; entire nest, depth, 85 mm.; nest proper, depth, 60 mm. The female towhee disregarded an offering of possible nest substances—string, cloth, and paper strips, placed on the lawn.

#### Egg Laying

The first egg was laid sometime between mid-afternoon and 7:30 p. m. on June 3. Next day the second egg was found about 9 a. m. and the third on the following day at 8:15 a. m. Excepting the first one, known to have been laid in the afternoon, the eggs were deposited in the typical passerine manner—early in the morning on consecutive days. Four to five is the average number of eggs laid by northern races (Chapman, 1932), while three is the usual set for Florida races (Howell, 1932).

These eggs were dull white in ground color, thinly splotched and speckled over the entire surface with brown underlain with grayish-lilac, and an indistinct wreath was formed around the large end. They were numbered and measured as follows: (1) 25.5x18.5; (2) 25.8x19; (3) 25.5x18.3.

#### Incubation

Only the female towhee was observed incubating; the male in this period was never seen closer than fifteen feet to the nest. Forbush and May (1939) mention a sharing of incubation, the male assisting, in the Red-eyed Towhee (*P. e. erythroptalmus*). In the present study, the male showed less interest during incubation than during nest building.

Incubation began gradually. There were half-hearted sittings or at least visits on the day of the first egg, and time on the nest increased with each egg. To be more specific, the female was noted on the 4th over the two eggs five times out of nineteen scattered observations—on the 6th over the full set seven times out of fifteen observations. Both these periods were in the afternoon. Even on the 6th incubation had not reached full intensity.

Only one egg, the third laid, hatched on June 17 about noon, making the *incubation period* (time from laying of last egg to hatching of that egg) a little more than twelve days. The two unhatched eggs were added.

Upon egg-hatching, the behavior of the male towhee abruptly changed, and he became very attentive, feeding his mate both on and off the nest and feeding the young bird. He was observed to sit in the edge of the nest, touching the unhatched eggs with his bill. The male's manner of nest approach, unlike his mate's, was from the ground under the nest upward.

*Acknowledgement.*—My hearty appreciation goes to Dr. Eugene P. Odum of the University of Georgia for his valuable help in the condensation and reorganization of my initial report.

#### Summary

1. A nest of the Alabama Towhee was under observation at Tifton, Georgia, at various times between May 31 and June 17, 1941. The female alone did the building, her mate giving encouragement only by song. Only three other call notes were given. Building was observed in the early morning of May 31 and June 1, and the finished nest was three feet up in a shrub. The average attentive period of the female's nest building was 0.56 minutes on the morning of May 31 and 3.7 minutes on June 1; the inattentive periods were 0.97 minutes and 12.4 minutes, respectively. In general, longer periods on the nest followed long periods off the nest.

2. The eggs were laid one a day, the first in the afternoon, and the last two in the early morning, these being numbered and measured.

3. Only the female was observed incubating, the male now being less concerned than during building. Incubation was gradual, half-hearted with the first egg and constant only after the third egg. One egg (the third) hatched; the other two were added. The incubation period was slightly more than twelve days. After egg-hatching, the ways of the male changed sharply, when he fed the female off and on the nest and also the nestling.

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1408 North College Avenue  
Tifton, Georgia

#### GENERAL NOTES

A BLUE GOOSE ON BLACKBEARD ISLAND, GEORGIA.—Through the kindness of Dr. E. P. Creaser, I am enabled to list another occurrence of the Blue Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) in the State. This goose was seen on the south end of Blackbeard Island on March 31, 1941.

Manning's recent account (*Auk*, 59:158-175, 1942) of the Blue and Lesser Snow Geese freely mating without certain intergradations, makes



all accounts, and particularly specimens, of *caerulescens* from the range of the Greater Snow Goose of interest.

If (a possibility suggested by Manning) the Blue Goose is a color phase of the Lesser Snow Goose, it would not be likely to migrate into an area where that numerically much greater subspecies does not come.

—IVAN R. TOMKINS, 513 East Duffy Street, Savannah, Georgia.

THE BLUE GOOSE AND THE LESSER SNOW GOOSE AS MIGRANTS IN GEORGIA.—As is well known to ornithologists, the continental population of the Blue Goose, *Chen caerulescens* (Linnæus), winters in a comparatively restricted area in the coastal regions of Louisiana and Texas, passing through the Mississippi Valley in its arrival on and departure from the wintering grounds. It is equally established that the form of Snow Goose that migrates and winters with the Blue Goose in this area is the Lesser Snow Goose, *Chen h. hyperborea* (Pallas).

That a portion of this migration occasionally passes over Southwest Georgia, at least in the fall, is shown by observations on Sherwood Plantation, Grady County, Georgia, on October 25, 1941, when three mixed flocks of Blue and Snow Geese were studied with 8x binoculars as they passed over, flying from the northeast to the southwest at a height estimated at 600 to 700 feet.

The first flock of 18 birds were largely Blues and were observed at 9:00 a. m. A following flock was composed of about 25 birds, of which 6 to 8 were Snows and the remainder Blues. The last flock of approximately 100 passed over at 3:00 p. m. and was composed of about one-third Snows and two-thirds Blues (only the adult birds being easily distinguishable in the flight at this height). Birds in all the flocks were calling as they flew. One or two additional flocks were heard but the flights were distant and could not be located, as I was in the woods at the time.

A large flock of geese that appeared to be largely composed of Snows was viewed with 8x binoculars in Thomas County, Georgia, as they passed over at a great height, also going southwest, in October, 1924. This location was about 15 miles from Sherwood Plantation.

Four Snow Geese in with a flock of about 60 Canada Geese were reported to me by E. V. Komarek between 12:00 noon and 1:00 p. m. on October 19, 1940. They passed over his house (in 2 flocks near together—3 Snows with one flock and 1 with the other) only about a half mile from where the observations were made in 1941. Curiously, around a half hour later, about the same number of Canadas and 4 Snows were reported flying over Miccosukee Lake, Jefferson County, Florida, by Mr. Marvin Sasser. These were presumably the same birds combined in one flock, as the location from which they were reported was about 20 miles distant by air line and in the right direction.

It is an assumption that the Snow Geese observed in these cases were *hyperborea* based on the fact that this is the form of Snow Goose that

migrates and winters with the Blue Goose. As, however, the Lesser Snow Goose is not yet accredited to the Georgia List, collection of specimens is necessary to establish it as a fact. This may prove a difficult matter, for these mixed flocks can scarcely be expected to stop in Georgia unless forced down by inclement weather.—HERBERT L. STODDARD, *Sherwood Plantation, Thomasville, Georgia.*

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE AT MILLEDGEVILLE.—While on the G. O. S. Indian Island field trip on April 19, 1942, three of us had what we think was the biggest thrill of a thrill-packed day. We had detached ourselves from the main group and had moved into another part of the swamp. On coming into a considerable clearing near the Oconee River we saw soaring above us a Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*). It was three excited bird students who watched the strong, graceful flight of this rare bird. The deeply forked tail, the white (from beneath) falcon-like wings with tips and posterior margins jet black, and the contrasting shining white underparts made identification immediately positive to all three of us.—FRANK FITCH, THOMAS HALL, AND THOMAS BIVENS, *Athens and Milledgeville, Georgia.*

VEERY IN SONG IN ATLANTA.—From May 10th to 15th, 1942, inclusive, one or more Veeries (*Hylocichla fuscescens*) were seen and heard to sing on numerous occasions on and around my residential plot in Atlanta (Fulton County), Georgia. The lot is surrounded by white oaks, hickories, tulip poplars, and pines—all typical North Georgia mixed growth.

The Veery was first seen on the morning of May 10th when I heard its typical song, and the birds were seen and heard frequently about every morning and late afternoon through the 15th. This was the only time I had ever observed them singing near Atlanta, as they are generally silent and shy during the spring migration; but I had previously heard the song in June 1941, near Highlands (Macon County), North Carolina. There was some evidence of two birds, but I very clearly saw only one singing, usually high in oak trees. They seemed intent upon pursuing insects, sometimes running or fluttering along limbs.

My views were excellent and were made unaided and also with 6x binoculars, at a distance of some 30 to 50 feet. As seen from below, the breast and underparts were very light creamy or buffy, with no heavy black spots at all but light markings under the throat. The body appeared more slender and delicate than that of the Wood Thrush and had the typical tawny color. There was no similarity at all to the Wood Thrush's song. These observations were checked by my wife, who saw the bird on several different days.—RAY C. WERNER, 758 Wildwood Road, N. E., *Atlanta, Georgia.*

THE CAROLINA JUNCO AT ATHENS, CLARKE COUNTY, GEORGIA.—Although Burleigh in 1938 (Birds of Athens . . . , Ga. Ornith. So., Occ. Pap. No. 1) and in several short notes published since then has presented records, based on specimens, of the occurrence of many subspecies of



birds in the vicinity of Athens, no records are given for the Carolina Junco, *Junco hyemalis carolinensis*. The writer wishes to record the collection at Athens of two specimens of this form, one on February 24, 1937, and the other on March 6, 1937. These birds were 2 of 12 Juncos collected at approximately weekly intervals between January 2 and March 20, 1937, and sent to Dr. H. C. Oberholser, formerly of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, for identification. Since the other 10 birds were the common Slate-colored Junco, *Junco hyemalis hyemalis*, the indications are that although the Carolina Junco winters at Athens, it occurs in much smaller numbers than the Slate-colored Junco. It is possible that flocks of the two forms intermingle on their wintering grounds.—J. FRED DENTON, *Augusta, Georgia*.

NOTES FROM ATHENS.—The general invasion of Red-breasted Nuthatches reported in *The Oriole* for March, 1942, was quite evident here. The species was observed four times between October 15 and January 25 and three times between March 28 and April 23. None were seen between these two periods despite a number of trips to the same areas. Apparently, therefore, there were two movements to or through this locality. On November 29, twenty individuals were observed during a four hour census of a three hundred acre area; every titmouse group had nuthatches associated. On April 23 two birds were observed which were closely associated and gave behavior evidence of being paired; perhaps this species may pair before reaching its breeding ground.

Flocks of Pine Siskins were observed twice in the spring (April 11 and May 7) but none were seen during the winter. On March 6 a Catbird was closely observed, this being the first March record for this locality (Birds of Athens . . . , Occ. Papers of the G. O. S., No. 1). Interesting records made in connection with ornithology class field trips include: Baltimore Oriole, April 30; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, April 26; Connecticut Warbler, May 14; Prothonotary Warbler (usually scarce here), April 26; and Veery, four records between April 30 and May 6.—EUGENE P. ODUM, *Department of Zoology, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia*.

PARTIAL ALBINISM IN THREE BIRD SPECIES.—In the course of several months of field study about Tifton, Georgia, the writer encountered three avian specimens having some degree of albinism. The pigmentless patterns in two cases were located anteriorly and in the other, posteriorly. Two patterns were typically bilateral, the other being asymmetrical.

Eastern Bluebird, *Sialia sialis sialis*.—On October 11, 1941, a female bluebird with noticeable white cheek patches was observed in pineland some three miles to the west. Taking this specimen, I found the albinistic area to cover the auriculars, extending narrowly onto the sides of the neck and merging in a band of quarter-inch width over the nape. The only other taints are subtle—a weak tipping of some rump feathers and pallidity of about half the outer webs of the outermost rectrices. (Specimen no. 199 of my collection.)

Alabama Towhee, *Pipilo erythrophthalmus canaster*.—In early December 1941, I noted a male towhee in our yard that had a spattering of white over the cheeks and hindneck. This individual was trapped and banded (No. 41-161432) on the 5th. The auricular and suborbital regions were sprinkled with white (somewhat heavier on the left side), these joined on the nape by an irregular collar of flecks. This towhee otherwise was in standard plumage, save for a few white dorsal specks. There was one repeat record on the 14th.

Eastern Field Sparrow, *Spizella pusilla pusilla*.—Near the Alapaha River about seven miles east of Tifton, on March 8, 1942, Milton Hopkins, Jr. and I flushed a Field Sparrow displaying obvious white on the lateral rectrices. I secured this sparrow, which proved to have a pale edging on the two outermost tail feathers and a solid area of white, 21 mm. long, on the adjacent or second feather on the right-hand edge. Since regularly twelve rectrices are present in this species, this bird having the full number, there was no opposite albinistic feather that might have been missing at the time. This sparrow, a female, remains no. 272 in my collection.

*Sialia sialis* and *Spizella pusilla* are known to have more pronounced tendencies toward this condition than most species, and Tomkins (*Oriole*, 1:19, 1936) recorded a towhee, probably *canaster*, with a non-pigmented pattern similar to the present male specimen.—ROBERT NORRIS, *Tifton, Georgia*.

#### ELEVENTH SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

APRIL 18-19, 1942 — MILLEDGEVILLE, GEORGIA

The eleventh semi-annual meeting of the Georgia Ornithological Society was held in Milledgeville, April 18 and 19, 1942, with thirty-seven out-of-town guests and twenty-three members of the local club in attendance. Thirteen Georgia localities were represented. The two out-of-state guests were Miss Ann Demmlar of Pennsylvania and Private Frank King of Camp Wheeler, formerly of the Wisconsin Department of Conservation.

Preceding the business meeting a field trip was conducted by Mr. Raymond J. Fleetwood at the Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge at Round Oak.

Dr. Harold C. Jones, President, presided at the business session Saturday afternoon in the Health and Physical Education Building of the Georgia State College for Women. The minutes of the Pine Mountain meeting were read and approved. Mr. Ray C. Werner, Treasurer, gave the financial report. He urged that an effort be made to increase the membership of the club.

Miss Fannie McClellan, Regional Vice-President of the Rome-Dalton



district gave an interesting report of the Rome-Dalton-Trenton clubs. Mrs. Lewis Gordon sent an excellent report of the work of the Atlanta Bird Club. Mrs. J. E. Boyd, Chairman of the Publicity Committee, reported that articles had been sent to the Atlanta papers and to a number of State papers. No other vice-presidents or chairmen were present.

The resignation of Mr. W. W. Griffin as editor of *The Oriole* was accepted with regret. Mr. Griffin was to continue as editor until being called into the army. Mr. Robert Norris was elected to become editor after Mr. Griffin's resignation went into effect.

Amendments to the by-laws were presented by Mrs. Hugh Harris as follows:

#### ARTICLE III.

Amend by-laws to make dues same as outlined in *The Oriole*:

Student, out-of-state, and library.....	\$1.00
Regular members .....	\$2.00

#### ARTICLE IV. Section 3—*Installation*

The newly elected officers shall take office and be installed at the evening meeting immediately following the election, except the editor. The new editor will work with the old editor who will finish his volume.

#### Section 4—*Duties of officers*

##### Paragraph 1

##### *Duties of the First Vice-President*

The first vice-president shall assume the duties of and act in capacity of the president in his absence. He shall further arrange the program of the two yearly meetings in cooperation with the local committee.

##### Paragraph 2

Duties of the second vice-president:

The second vice-president shall serve as chairman of the membership committee, contact and assist the regional vice-presidents in obtaining new members, and organize new clubs. He shall also insure reports of activities from the regional vice-presidents at the general meetings.

##### Paragraph 3

Duties of the secretary:

The secretary shall keep records of all meetings; notify members of meetings; get reports of activities of officers; authorize publicity; promote the welfare of the society in general.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed that these amendments be accepted and incorporated in the by-laws.

The following proposed amendments were presented to be acted on at the next meeting.

#### PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE III

Strike out amendment in regard to dues for regular members, leaving annual dues as in original constitution, \$1.00 per year.

#### TO ARTICLE V

Semi-annual meetings shall be held one week-end in April and one in October, the date depending upon the migration time in the area of the State chosen for meeting place.

The fall session program shall consist of a business meeting, a dinner, and a field trip. The spring session shall be an informal gathering for field work mainly with committee meetings and discussions of ways to improve the organization.

A question of closer relationship between the local bird clubs and the Georgia Ornithological Society was discussed. The plan used in Tennessee was suggested. In this plan the dues are one dollar; seventy-five cents is used for the publication of *The Migrant* (the society's journal) and twenty-five cents is kept by the local club. Mr. Werner pointed out that in order to have one dollar dues it would be necessary to have a membership of two hundred fifty or three hundred members.

A motion was made by Mr. Griffin that the President appoint a committee to investigate the possibility of creating an endowment fund to assist in financing *The Oriole*. Dr. Jones appointed Mr. Griffin, Dr. Sam Anderson, and Mrs. Hugh Harris. Mr. Norris was appointed to take Mr. Griffin's place in his absence.

The recommendation of the Executive Committee that the expenses of *The Oriole* be cut this year were accepted as a suggestion. These recommendations included (1) combining the June and September issues; (2) asking the contributor to pay for anything extra, such as cuts, and any reprints he may desire; (3) omitting the covers of the magazine.

At the suggestion of the Executive Committee a motion was made that the library of the G. O. S., including exchanges, reprints, and copies of *The Oriole*, be deposited at the University of Georgia as property of the G. O. S., under the supervision of Dr. Eugene P. Odum. The motion was carried. Dr. Odum announced that this material will be available for all members on request.

A nominating committee composed of Miss Mabel T. Rogers, Chairman; Mrs. R. E. Hamilton, and Mr. Glenn Bell was appointed to present a slate of officers for the fall meeting. The meeting then adjourned.

Following the business meeting, Dr. Eugene P. Odum, First Vice-President, presented this program:



"Progress report on the Georgia Check-list."—William W. Griffin.

"Recent bird-banding activities at Mt. Berry."—Harold C. Jones.

"Comparison of habits of the Carolina and Black-capped Chickadees."—Eugene P. Odum and Frank Fitch.

"Comments on three years of Chimney Swift banding in Central Georgia."—Raymond J. Fleetwood.

"Notes on nesting of a pair of Alabama Towhees."—Robert Norris.

"Report on Fernbank Museum."—Branch Howe.

"My first banding—with and without traps."—Thomas Bivens.

Much interest was shown in these original observations by the members.

Exhibits included two beautiful bird paintings by Mr. Athos Menaboni; maps on the relation of bird distribution to vegetation, by Dr. Odum; the skins of Song, Pine-woods, and Bachman's Sparrows, by Mr. Norris; different grackles in series by Mr. Griffin; bird-banding traps by Miss Rogers; and an educational table containing books and pamphlets.

The group met at seven-thirty Saturday evening in the College Cafeteria for an informal dinner. Mrs. Lucie Rotchford, President of the Milledgeville Club, welcomed the guests. A message from Mr. Earle R. Greene was read by Dr. Jones. Sixteen who were present at the first bi-annual meeting in Milledgeville on April 3, 1937, attended this dinner. These included five out-of-town representatives and eleven local members. At the conclusion of the dinner magnificent colored moving pictures of birds of the Thomasville-Tallahassee region were shown by Mr. H. L. Beadel, with Mr. Herbert Stoddard, narrator.

Thirty-three members spent Saturday night at Lake Laurel. This group had an early field trip Sunday morning. The main field trip was held at Indian Island from eight-thirty to twelve. Ninety-nine species of birds were identified during the day.

At noon lunch was served at the Indian Island Club House by the local club. A vote of thanks was extended to Mrs. J. M. Hall and her committee for the delicious lunch. There was a discussion of the place for the fall meeting. Newnan, Augusta, Rutledge, Thomasville, and Savannah were suggested. Dr. Sam Anderson was appointed to investigate the possibilities of the last two cities.

BLANCHE TAIT, *Secretary*.

## NEWS AND REVIEWS

BIRDS OF GEORGIA. *A Check-list and Bibliography of Georgia Ornithology*.—As considerable interest has been shown in the forthcoming bulletin on the birds of our State, it is believed desirable to make a statement at this time in regard to the progress of the work.

Compilations from a great number of notes and considerable data have been made by William Griffin from information turned over to him. These have been assembled in blank book form and are now being checked over and added to by the other coworkers. The bibliography is almost completed, only needing a few additional entries, which will be made within the next thirty days.

Due to the great distances separating the workers, considerable correspondence has been necessary, all of which has delayed the completion of this work.

It is believed, however, that the manuscript will be completed by about October 15th and ready for publication shortly thereafter. I am sure it is the wish of the coauthors that the Georgia Ornithological Society may be in a position to sponsor the output of this bulletin, which it is believed will fill certain needs of ornithologists throughout the State.—EARLE R. GREENE, *Key West, Florida (July 31, 1942)*.

*Life Histories of North American Flycatchers, Larks, Swallows, and their Allies*, by A. C. Bent, is the first issue of this series on the order Passeriformes, or perching birds. Life histories, handled as fully as possible, are given for the best-known subspecies of each species, while, for the others, more brief information is found on each form's characters, range, and any habits peculiar to it. Covering all phases of the birds' lives, this mass of data proves highly valuable to the student of ornithology in its treatment of both habits and distribution. The bulletin (xi+555 pp.), priced at \$1.00, is for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C.

*The Birds of North and Middle America*, by Robert Ridgway and (continued by) Herbert Friedmann, Part LX on the Gruidæ, Rallidæ, and two other families (of tropical occurrence), is of reference value to the worker interested in anatomy, geographic distribution, and taxonomy. All the genera and higher groups receive excellent diagnoses, while synonymies for the species and subspecies are present. Thorough bibliographic and nomenclatorial information embraces the forms concerned. This section (ix + 254 pp.) is obtainable for \$0.40 from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C.



LITERATURE AVAILABLE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR BIRD PRESERVATION.—The Pan-American Section of the International Committee for Bird Preservation, desiring to encourage people to become better acquainted with the inter-continental migrations of birds in the Western Hemisphere, has just issued an article on the subject by Frederick C. Lincoln. This paper, "La Migracion de Aves en el Hemisferio Occidental," with both Spanish and English translations, is available for free distribution to all interested parties, and it, as well as other literature on Pan-American Bird Preservation, will be sent to anyone sending request to the Committee, 1006 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

Wetmore's *Notes on the Birds of North Carolina* (U. S. Nat. Mus., vol. 90, 1941, pp. 483-530), listing collections made in that State on 1939 field investigations of the U. S. N. M., has a bearing on Georgia ornithology. For example, the Northern Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus boreus*) was found the subspecies to inhabit North Carolina, which indicates that this bird, rather than supposed *crinitus*, would be the breeder in parts of the mountains of northeast Georgia. This paper should be of interest and value to the field student in Georgia.

## EDITORIAL

During this period of uncertainty we all are having to accept changes in our living by economizing in many ways. Now, owing to the departure of William W. Griffin, active editor of the last volume-and-a-half of *The Oriole*, and to the need for reducing expenses, decision has been made that the June-September issues be combined into one. Hence, let us account for the lateness of this double issue. We understand that *The Migrant*, official organ of Tennessee Ornithological Society, also is following this policy in the current issue.

It was with much regret that we bade farewell to Bill Griffin, who left for Marine Officers' Training School at Quantico, Virginia, on the 20th of July. His devotion to the bird life of Georgia has been reflected in many instances through *The Oriole*, and all who know him are aware of this lasting keenness and capability. Along with multitudes of other young Georgians who have joined our Nation's ranks, we we shall welcome our former editor back with a warm handclasp when this all-important task is done.

## PUBLICATIONS OF THE G. O. S. AVAILABLE

Back numbers of *The Oriole* are available at a cost of \$0.25 per issue, with the following exceptions:

Volume I, No. 1, January, 1936 (now unavailable).

Volume IV, No. 1, March, 1939 (now unavailable).

Volume V, No. 3, September, 1940 (price, \$0.50).

Volume VI, No. 3, September, 1941 (price, \$0.50).

The following *Occasional Papers of the G. O. S.* are available:

No. 1. The Birds of Athens, Clarke County, Georgia. By Thomas D. Burleigh. February, 1938. \$0.50.

All communications regarding procurement of these publications should be addressed to Mr. Ray C. Werner, Treasurer, 758 Wildwood Road, N. E., Atlanta, Georgia.