

THE ORIOLE

A Quarterly Journal of Georgia Ornithology: Official Organ of the
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THE ORIOLE

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GENERAL NOTES

THE BARN OWL NESTING AT BOGART, GEORGIA. — The Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) is generally scarce all over Georgia. It has not been previously recorded breeding at Athens (*Birds of Georgia*, 1945), but it has been recorded in the Athens area (Odum, *Oriole*, 12:33, 1947). A nest has been under observation since March 19, 1949, in a church located in Bogart, Oconee County, Georgia, which is approximately 8 miles west of the city limits of Athens. At the time of the first visit (March 19, 1949) the "nest," a few scraps of debris on a wooden floor directly under and within three feet of the church bell, contained two young birds and one egg. One bird was removed from the nest. The church belfry was again visited ten days later and the nest was found to contain only one young and no eggs. The remaining young bird was removed, and the two captive birds were raised in Athens. Some feeding experiments were discussed involving these owls, but their accidental escapes terminated these plans.

The nest area was routinely checked on May 2, and the birds were found to be renesting. The nesting site had been moved about 6 feet into a corner of the belfry; there were six eggs. Five of these eggs subsequently hatched. One egg evidently rolled through an opening and smashed several feet below. Two of the young met a similar fate. Measures were then taken to prevent these losses by completing some minor repairs in the tower. The three young birds have since been observed regularly and were progressing satisfactorily through June 28, 1949. An excellent sample of pellets of this family group has been collected and the material is being analyzed at the Biology Department of the University of Georgia; this will be reported upon later.—EARLE B. HUNTER, JAMES H. JENKINS, and DAN QUILLIAN, *Athens, Georgia*.

LITTLE BLUE HERONS BREEDING IN THE JUVENILE PLUMAGE.—The Little Blue Heron (*Florida caerulea caerulea*) occasionally breeds while still in the white juvenile plumage; but this fact does not seem to be widely known. The following observations are therefore worthy of mention.

On June 18, 1948, Mr. Francis L. Rose and I were collecting reptiles in northern Emanuel County, about 4 miles southeast of Midville, Burke County, Georgia, when we came upon a rookery of Little Blue Herons. The birds were breeding about a typical flatwoods pond—a small, shallow basin choked with "bonnets" (*Nymphaea* sp.), and thickly studded with tupelo (*Nyssa aquatica*)

and buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*). The nests were located in the trees and bushes, usually over the water at heights of about 10 to 15 feet. One side of the pond, boggy and thickly vegetated, could not be investigated; in the remainder of the pond 35 nests were counted. Our presence had so disturbed the birds that they could not be counted with accuracy; about 95 individuals were present. Of these, all but two were in the white juvenile plumage. Interestingly enough, all the nests that could be readily examined contained but one or two eggs, suggesting that small clutches might be characteristic of the younger breeding birds. Observations during the succeeding weeks revealed that most of the eggs were fertile, and that most of the nestlings survived.—WILFRED T. NEILL, *Augusta Junior College, Augusta, Georgia.*

AN UNUSUAL NESTING SITE OF THE BROWN-HEADED NUTHATCH.—On April 16, 1949 while on a field trip twelve miles northwest of Fitzgerald, Ben Hill Co., Georgia, the writer discovered an unusual nest of the Brown-headed Nuthatch (*Sitta pusilla*). On first seeing the owner leave the tree which contained the nest I thought of only another Nuthatch feeding among the bark of a pine, but on approaching nearer, I detected a circular type of nest resting in a small depression or fire scar in the side of the tree. The nesting site was approximately thirty-six inches from the ground. The nest was not contained in a cavity of any sort and was barely supported by a small burned-out depression in the side of the longleaf pine. The tree was not rotten and there was no indication of wood being pulled away to expose the nest. The nest itself consisted of cypress bark "trimmings," grass rootlets and feathers, and contained one egg at the time.

During the 1940-1941 breeding season sixteen nests of this species were found in the Fitzgerald region, all of which were contained in definite cavities of rotten fence posts, stumps, and telephone poles. A. C. Bent, in his *Life Histories of N. A. Birds*, USNM Bull. 195: 36-37, 1948, does not mention a nest of this species that was not contained in a cavity. Odd nesting sites of other species such as a nest of the Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) found during the 1941 breeding season in the bank of a drainage ditch only a few inches from the water have been observed, although this is the first instance of a nuthatch not selecting or preparing a cavity for a nesting site which the writer has knowledge of.—MILTON HOPKINS, *Fitzgerald, Georgia.*

UNUSUAL NESTING SITE OF THE PURPLE MARTIN.—Mr. Bent, in "Life Histories of North American Flycatchers, Larks, Swallows and their Allies" mentions that the Purple Martin (*Progne subis subis*) used the natural cavities of trees and cliffs as primitive nesting sites before the advent of the white man. In modern times there are records of the Purple Martin nesting in cracks in the wooden eaves of buildings. In view of the fact that all the above nesting sites were associated with holes and cracks, it is well to record a nesting site which did not involve a hole or crack.

May 16, 1948, the writer observed a pair of Purple Martins feeding young in a nest placed in a corner made by the end eave and the roof of a small porch across the front of David Freeman's store building, approximately one-fourth mile

north of the Seewee Supply Company at the junction of Highway 17 and the Bull's Island (South Carolina) road. The female of another pair was brooding in the opposite corner and she, as well as a portion of the nest, was plainly visible from the ground. The birds were not afraid as they perched on wires not over 15 feet above the heads of people who entered and left the store. Mr. Freeman told the writer that the Purple Martins had nested in this site for the past five years. The choice of this nesting site was not due to the lack of bird-boxes and gourds for there were several unoccupied gourds hanging on cross arms tacked to a tall pole across the road.—RAYMOND J. FLEETWOOD, *Fish and Wildlife Service, San Antonio, New Mexico.*

NOTES ON THE FOOD OF CERTAIN BIRDS IN THE ATHENS, GEORGIA, AREA.—On September 7, 1948, the writer was in the Oconee River bottomland adjacent to the University dairy farm about a mile south of Athens. This section of the river is bordered by large water oaks, willow, and birch, and sloping upward from the river are large fields, some cultivated, and others grown up in grass.

A large immature Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) was flushed from the ground, and as it flew into the trees beside the river a fairly large object dropped from its claws. I looked around in the grass under the trees and found a fresh, large Gray Squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*) already mutilated and partially devoured by the hawk. Upon my returning to the scene somewhat later, the hawk had also returned and attempted to reclaim its victim.

A short distance down the river an immature male Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) was collected as it dashed through the trees in an accipitrine manner. This specimen was interesting from several viewpoints. It was parasitized externally by a large louse fly (family *Hippoboscidae*). Its crop contained a Six-lined Lizard (*Cnemidophorus sexlineatus*), remains of grasshoppers, and a carabid beetle. I am indebted to Mr. Conrad Routh, a graduate student in parasitology at the University, for the following information on internal parasites. In the liver were 16 complete trematodes (*Brachylecithum americanum* Denton, 1945) and parts of others. The duodenum contained many strigeid trematodes of apparently only one species. The jejunum and lower small intestine contained at least two species of strigeid trematodes.

The fields bordering the river at this point were at the time teeming with grasshoppers. The stomach of a Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) taken beside this large open area contained, however, instead of grasshoppers, several *Coleoptera* (*Carabidae* and/ or *Scarabaeidae*) and the remains of a dragon-fly (*Odonata*).—DAVID W. JOHNSTON, *Department of Biology, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia.*

ORCHARD ORIOLE FEEDING ON NECTAR.—Each morning there are many blooms on the perennial blue morning glory that climbs the fence to my backyard. Each evening the blooms have turned to magenta, and by the next morning have closed and faded, while there is a crop of fresh blue ones.

Some time each day lately an Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*) comes and feeds from the nectar in the blossoms. Its method is simple, consisting of a thrust through the side of the flower tube near the base into the center of the flower. The procedure is the same with each flower, the closed ones of the day before as well as the fresh ones, and there is no appearance of searching for insect food in the method, nor have I found any insect to be present in any great number of flowers.

Though the flowers have grown on the fence for several summers, and there are always orioles nearby, this is the first time I have noticed this performance. At first a female came to the flowers, then today (May 7, 1949) a male, fully adult, came and went through the same performance.—IVAN R. TOMKINS, 1231 East 50th St., Savannah, Georgia.

PURPLE SANDPIPER IN GEORGIA—A CORRECTION.—On page 72 of the "Birds of Georgia" by Greene, *et al*, the Purple Sandpiper (*Arquatella maritima*) is placed in the hypothetical list with the following comment: "In the Sennett Collection in the American Museum of Natural History there is a specimen of the Purple Sandpiper labeled 'Georgia' (no definite locality), March 5, 1874. The record is too indefinite to place the species on the State list."

I noticed that this specimen, No. 79907 in the collection, bears also a small label, illegible because saturated with grease. Mr. Charles O'Brien was kind enough to treat the label with carbon tetrachloride for me, whereupon the locality could be read as "Gr. Menan, N. B." (i. e., Grand Menan Island, New Brunswick). Evidently someone re-labeling this specimen after the original label was in poor condition, considered "Gr." to be "Ga."—a good example of how new "records" can be generated.—DEAN AMADON, American Museum of Natural History, New York, N. Y.

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT AND NASHVILLE WARBLER AT DEMOREST, GEORGIA.—On November 24, 1948 I saw a Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) light on the lake at Demorest. It began diving and swimming around rapidly as though in search of food, but it was very wary. As soon as it saw me move on the shore it flew and did not return.

On May 2, 1948, I observed a Nashville Warbler (*Vermivora ruficapilla*) feeding in shrubbery near my window. The bird was seen clearly in full light with 8x glasses.—DOROTHY P. NEAL, Demorest, Georgia.

SUTTON'S WARBLER SEEN IN DEMOREST, GEORGIA.—On the morning of May 10, 1949, I was walking near the edge of Demorest Lake about 6:30 when I heard a peculiar warbler song. It sounded like a Parula but was not quite right. I soon spotted the bird but it gave me only a brief glimpse before it flew. Presently I was joined by Miss Betty Nalls and we covered our usual territory ending in my yard at 8 o'clock. Here I heard the same odd song about 200 yards from the original spot. This time the bird was most co-operative, allowing us both excellent views with 8x glasses in good sunlight. The head was dark gray with black cheek patches like those of the Yellow-throated Warbler. The throat and

upper breast were vivid yellow crossed with a dark, spotty band much like the "necklace" of the Canada Warbler. After showing us the head and breast the bird flew into an abelia hedge at eye level and let me approach to within 10 feet and turned its back showing the chartreuse yellow v-shaped patch characteristic of the Parula Warbler. I sent a sketch of the bird to Maurice Brooks. He replied that the sketch showed a typical Sutton's Warbler (*Dendroica potomac*) and that this individual was the only one which had been reported to him this year.—DOROTHY P. NEAL, Demorest, Georgia.

ANOTHER WINTER RECORD OF THE OCCURRENCE OF THE SPOTTED SANDPIPER IN GEORGIA.—On December 29, 1948, the writer had the pleasure of accompanying William W. Griffin, David W. Johnston, Robert Norris, and Henry Robert, to the northeastern tip of Sea Island, Glynn County, Georgia. As the party approached the beach, the author was rather surprised to see a Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*) feeding along the margin of a small salt-water pool. Upon distant approach, the bird moved around to the far side of the pool with characteristic bobbing motions. An attempt to collect the bird failed. Two further attempts at collection by Johnston likewise failed. All members of the party had by this time viewed the bird, and all agreed that without question it was *Actitis macularia*. It is unfortunate that a specimen was not obtained to substantiate the record. In view of four previously published records (see *Birds of Georgia* and Howe, 1948, *Oriole* 13:8) of the occurrence of this species in Georgia in winter, it is the opinion of the author that its status might now be considered that of an unusual winter resident, in some years at least. It is his further opinion that diligent search will reveal more and more of these birds in the State during the winter.—GEORGE W. SCIPLE, 100 Terrace Drive, N. E., Atlanta, Georgia.

PIGEON HAWK IN ATLANTA.—In the South River bottoms in Fulton County, Georgia, the heavy rainfall of mid-April, 1949, produced flood conditions in several meadows about which swallows of several species gathered. On the afternoon of April 16, 1949, while observing a small group of these swallows as they coursed low over one such flooded meadow, a small falcon flew past me not thirty feet distant and apparently stooped to a Rough-winged Swallow. It missed the swallow and proceeded in direct flight on to the north. I was able to focus my binoculars on it at once and obtained an excellent view until it rose above the horizon and was silhouetted against the sky. I followed its flight until it disappeared from sight over a hill about a half mile away. There is little doubt in my mind but that the falcon was a Pigeon Hawk (*Falco columbarius*). I particularly noticed the gray coloration of tail and back, the typical falcon wings, and the strong, sustained, flight style.

On one or two previous occasions I have observed hawks about Atlanta which strongly suggested this species, but always some factor such as great distance or poor light prevented certainty of identification. To my knowledge there is only one other definite record of the occurrence of this bird in the region: that, a specimen obtained near Roswell in Fulton County on about November 10, 1932,

now mounted and deposited in the Emory University Museum.—WILLIAM W. GRIFFIN, 304 Grant Building, Atlanta 3, Georgia.

ANOTHER HENSLow'S SPARROW NEAR ATLANTA.—On October 30, 1948 William W. Griffin and I collected a Henslow's Sparrow (*Passerherbulus henslowii*) in a large, dry, grassy, upland field near Constitution and South River in DeKalb County, Georgia. It flushed upon close approach as we were systematically covering the field and was shot after several short, apparently weak, flights. The specimen, a female with a slightly developed, nonfollicular ovary, was fat, heavy sheets appearing between the skin and muscle tissue but not within the abdominal cavity to any extent. Mr. Allen Duvall of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has kindly compared the specimen with others in the National Museum and has found it typical of the eastern race, *susurrans*. The specimen now remains in the collection of William W. Griffin in the Emory University Museum bearing his original number, 537. This is the second specimen of this species from the Atlanta region.—GEORGE W. SCIPLE, JR., 100 Terrace Drive, N. E., Atlanta, Georgia.

ARKANSAS KINGBIRD AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA.—While on a field trip in the South River section on May 9, 1949, the writer in company with Mrs. James Oliver, Mrs. H. Herreman and Rev. V. Becker observed an Arkansas Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*). The bird was first noted perched on a wire fence. It permitted us to approach closely and study it as it flew out and back to the fence catching insects. While it was under observation all characters of the bird were checked with those given in Peterson's *Field Guide*. This is the first record of the Arkansas Kingbird from the Atlanta area and the first spring record for the state.—CLAIRE M. GORDON, 29 Walker Terrace, Atlanta, Ga.

MARBLED GODWIT ON THE GEORGIA COAST IN SUMMER.—On June 4, 1948 I observed at close range with 7x35 binoculars a Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*) in company with a Hudsonian Curlew (*Numenius phaeopus hudsonicus*) while attempting to photograph some of the numerous nesting Willets (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*) on the beaches of the eastern side of Sapelo Island, Georgia. Both the Godwit and the Curlew were relatively "tame" and tolerated nearby activity. This seems an unusually late date for these birds and it would appear doubtful if they would continue on to their breeding grounds.

In a previous summer, Mr. and Mrs. John Oney and I observed 5 Marbled Godwits on Pelican Spit near Sea Island, Georgia, on August 31, 1947. Up to 1945 (see Tomkins in *Birds of Georgia*, Greene, et al., 1945) the Marbled Godwit had been recorded in Georgia only from the Savannah area during fall and winter. Since this species is thought to be on the increase in recent years, the chances of observing this fine shorebird on the Georgia coast are probably better now than in the 1930's.—JAMES H. JENKINS, *State Game and Fish Commission and Department of Biology, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia*.

STILT AND WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPERS IN THE SAVANNAH, GEORGIA, AREA.—On Wednesday, 11 May, 1949, I found an interesting group of shore birds, among which were one or two Stilt Sandpipers (*Micropalma himantopus*), in a

new borrow pit on Hutchinson Island, Georgia, across the river and one and a half miles from the City. On the following Saturday, 14 May, there were at least 34 Stilt Sandpipers, four of which were collected, and 100 White-rumped Sandpipers (*Pisobia fuscicollis*) around the pit. A third visit to the locality on 19 May revealed only two Stilt Sandpipers although many White-rumps were still present. On Sunday, 29 May, a fourth visit was made to the borrow pit with J. Fred Denton. No Stilt Sandpipers were observed on this date although 8 to 10 White-rumps were still there, one of which was collected by Denton.

In order to check on the occurrence of southward migrants, two visits were made to the locality in August, on the 14th and 27th. The first time there were 4 Stilt Sandpipers and one White-rump, and the second time I counted at least 11 Stilt Sandpipers but no White-rumps. It was not possible to make other observations as dredging operations altered the habitat considerably.

Probably this is the largest number of Stilt Sandpipers to be reported over quite a portion of the Southeast in many years. Apparently the species still migrates through here in some numbers, and will tarry if they find suitable habitat, which seems to be a brackish or fresh water pool of fairly constant level. One somewhat similar pool eight miles east of Savannah and a half mile north of the Savannah River in South Carolina, furnished me with three specimens and sight records of as many as 14 birds at a time, in October, 1935, and April, 1936. I have had little opportunity to examine equal habitat in the intervening years.

The birds taken this time were in high plumage but had very small gonads. Two were very fat, the others less so.—IVAN R. TOMKINS, 1231 East 50th St., Savannah, Georgia.

LESSER LOON IN GEORGIA.—On November 20, 1948 a female Lesser Loon (*Gavia immer elasson* Bishop) was killed on the St. Marys River in western Camden County just east of the Charlton County line. The skin is now in the collection of the Fish and Wildlife Service at Washington. Mr. Allen J. Duvall of the Fish and Wildlife Service has written me that this is the only Georgia record in their files.—FREDERICK V. HEBARD, 1500 Walnut St. Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.

WOOD IBIS IN SOUTHEASTERN GEORGIA.—A large flock of Wood Ibis (*Mycteria americana*) consisting of 50 to 75 birds including both adults and immatures, was seen in Bryan County, Georgia, about 25 miles southeast of Statesboro on the afternoon of April 3, 1949. The birds were observed in a small marsh at close range both with and without glasses.—THOMAS M. HALL, Milledgeville, Ga.

DUCK HAWK IN CAMDEN COUNTY, GEORGIA.—On January 3, 1949 John W. Burch killed a male Duck Hawk (*Falco peregrinus anatum* Bonaparte) during a dove shoot on The Refuge, near Woodbine, Camden County, Georgia. The skin has been beautifully mounted and is in the collection of William W. Lukens, Jr., of Radnor, Pa. Outside of the one seen by Robert Norris and me at Coleraine on January 17, 1941 (Hebard, 1941:40), and one seen by Burch during December, 1947, this is the only record yet found by me from Camden County. The other

Coleraine records published by me have been from Charlton County.—FREDERICK V. HEBARD, 1500 Walnut St. Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.

NEW LITERATURE

SOUTH CAROLINA BIRD LIFE.—By Alexander Sprunt, Jr. and E. Burnham Chamberlain. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia. 1949. Contributions from the Charleston Museum XI; xx—585 pp., 35 colored plates, 48 full-page photographs. \$10.00.

This volume is the realization of a life-long ambition of the authors who since boyhood have studied the bird life of the Carolina Low-country. The handsome binding, near perfect printing and format, along with the colored plates and photographs which are clearly reproduced on dull finish paper and well dispersed through the volume makes this one of the most beautiful state bird books. The photographs of birds by Allan D. Cruickshank and S. A. Grimes are superb, having been selected from the best among the large collection of the National Audubon Society. Jaques' oil paintings, mostly of ducks and water birds, have no superior while Peterson's water colors of various subjects represent the best of this artist's work.

The text of the book is well written. For each of the 443 species and subspecies credited to the State there is given a translation of the Latin name, the local name(s), a brief description, its general range, its status and history in South Carolina, and in the case of common species, notes on food. A hypothetical list of 17 species is appended. In the discussion under the heading of "History" much interesting and original information on the habits of various species as observed in the State is given. Migration dates, nesting dates, size of clutches, incubation period, number of broods and various other detailed information is included.

Throughout the book a great deal of dependence has been placed on sight records that may or may not be reliable. The authors, apparently eager to compile a large list, have departed somewhat from the usual practice by admitting more than 30 forms to the state list on the basis of sight records, specimens later destroyed, photographs and other questionable evidence. Also, the assigning of sight records arbitrarily to one or another subspecies when more than one form has been recorded from the state is a rather unscientific procedure. For example, under the Black-throated Blue Warbler (*D. c. caerulescens*) we find, "All sight records not supported by specimens are included under this race—except those from the mountains," while in the case of the Black-throated Green Warbler, "All sight records have been placed under this race," referring to *D. virens waynei*. The ranges particularly of breeding species as outlined under "Status in S. C." are given in a rather cumbersome manner. The Mockingbird which is supposedly non-migratory in the State has been "Observed north to Greenville, Lancaster, and Marion counties; easy to Horry County; south to Beaufort County; west to Oconee County," when all that was necessary was to say that it occurs throughout the state in suitable habitat. A careful study of the data given indicates that the field

work in the mountain and piedmont sections was far from exhaustive and the book is primarily concerned with birds of the Low-country.

The first four chapters which are introductory in nature give a history of ornithology in South Carolina, a list of 77 species whose type locality is South Carolina, a map and brief description of the State and hints on studying birds.

For Georgia bird students as well as others interested in the Southeast this book will prove a mine of useful information.—J.F. D.

NEWS AND COMMENTS

FALL MEETING.—The twenty-first semi-annual meeting of the Georgia Ornithological Society was held in Macon, Georgia, on October 8 and 9, 1949, with a total registration of 66 members and guests. Registration was accomplished in the Biology Building of Mercer University where the afternoon session, under the chairmanship of Eugene P. Odum, was held. Four reports were heard as follows: Harold S. Peters on the cooperative Mourning Dove investigation being conducted by the Fish and Wildlife Service under his directorship; James H. Jenkins on his studies of the habits of Barn Owls in the Athens area; David W. Johnston on his studies of bird species and populations in relation to plant communities; and J. Fred Denton, illustrating with maps, on recent knowledge of the breeding ranges in Georgia of the Fish Crow, Blue-headed Vireo, Prairie Warbler, Chipping Sparrow, Painted Bunting and Song Sparrow.

After a short recess the business meeting was called to order by the President. The minutes were read and approved. The Treasurer reported \$182.24 on hand. After a lengthy discussion a motion to the effect that *The Oriole* be sent to delinquent members only for a period of six months (or two issues) was passed. The Editor of *The Oriole* announced that with the consent of the group he would publish only one more issue of *The Journal* to complete volume 14 before turning it over to the new editors. A report from the Education Committee was read by the Secretary. As a result a resolution was passed that the Secretary write a letter of commendation to the Director of the Georgia Extension Service for educational work in nature study done by that Department, particularly Mr. Frank Fitch. As part of a discussion of how to meet the ever-increasing cost of printing *The Oriole*, Dr. Odum demonstrated and discussed the "off set" method of publishing, offering this as a possibly cheaper method.

The following officers were elected to serve for the next two years:

President—J. Fred Denton
1st Vice-President—Mrs. Charles Neal
2nd Vice-President—Ray C. Werner
Secretary—Miss Katherine Weaver
Treasurer—Thomas M. Hall
Historian—Jimmy Major
Editors of *The Oriole*—Richard A. Parks
and William W. Griffin

At seven o'clock the group reassembled at the S & S Cafeteria for dinner. Following the enjoyable dinner the President expressed gratitude to Mrs. Tom Cater and her local committee for the fine conference arrangements. Mrs. Cater reported the reorganization of the Middle Georgia Audubon Society (see below) and introduced the officers of this club who served on the local committee. Greetings were read from Raymond R. Fleetwood, Earle R. Greene, Miss Mabel Rogers and Miss Malvina Trussell. On motion by Dr. Denton the Society voted to publish Robert A. Norris' thesis on bird populations and distribution in Southeast Georgia as an occasional paper of the G. O. S. Mr. Griffin then relinquished the chair to the newly-elected President. Dr. Denton recognized Mrs. Lewis Gordon who thanked the retiring officers for their faithful service.

Mr. Albert F. Ganier of Nashville, Tennessee, was then introduced as the guest speaker for the evening. Mr. Ganier spoke interestingly on birds observed in Saskatchewan, illustrating his talk with bird skins and kodachrome transparencies.

By seven o'clock Sunday morning some of the group were already in the field. The clay-pits in the vicinity of Reis' airport were searched first, then the Ocmulgee National Monument. When the final count was made at noon a total of 56 observers had identified 75 species which included 16 warblers, 14 of which were migrants. Redstarts were reported as very abundant.

MIDDLE GEORGIA AUDUBON SOCIETY REORGANIZED.—In May of 1949 Professor Gail Carver of Mercer University Biology Department and Mrs. Carver invited individuals whom they knew were interested in bird study to their home for home-made ice cream on the terrace. This group included some members of the former Middle Georgia Audubon Society which functioned more than a decade ago and of which Mr. Carver was the last president. Anticipating the fall meeting of the G. O. S. in Macon he wanted to attempt once again to reorganize the club.

A nominating committee was appointed and in spite of many obstacles it had a slate of officers to present in June when a meeting was called in the Chamber of Commerce rooms of the City Auditorium. The following officers were elected: Miss Stephanie Moore, President; Mr. W. Edmund Farrar, Vice-president; and Mrs. G. Dewey Jones, Secretary-Treasurer.

At this meeting Mrs. S. Randolph Jacques told about the birds which came to the feeding stations in their backyard and of Mr. Jacques' work in banding them. Mrs. Tom Cater, Jr., explained about the Georgia Ornithological Society and their desire and decision to hold a meeting in the Macon area.

A field trip was planned for July at the Meadowland Dairy along the river under the direction of Mr. L. H. Mounts. Another was held in August at the Ocmulgee National Monument led by Mr. John Goodman. A total of 46 species was seen on these two trips. The fifteen people present on each trip also enjoyed a picnic supper together.

In September details for the coming G. O. S. meeting were completed. It was also decided that the official name of the Macon organization should be The Middle Georgia Audubon Society. Organization is not complete so we have no definite membership yet or objectives in writing. We hope that the G. O. S. coming to Macon will give this group the stimulation and the inspiration it needs to become and continue to be a flourishing organization.

NEWS OF A. B. C.—The Atlanta Bird Club got off to a good start for the winter season at its first meeting in the Blue Flame Room of the Atlanta Gas Company on September 14, 1949. At this meeting Dr. Wallace Rogers, veteran ornithologist and expert nature photographer, was elected President for the ensuing term.

The first fall field trip was held as a picnic on Saturday afternoon, September 17, at North Fulton Park near Atlanta. Fourteen members and friends attended this outing at which Ray Werner acted as director. A few fall warblers including the Black-throated Green and Redstart, as well as common summer birds were noted.

AUDUBON SCREEN TOURS AGAIN IN ATLANTA AND COLUMBUS.—During the current season bird students and other interested persons in Atlanta and Columbus are again privileged to enjoy the Audubon Screen Tours. This series of five superb colored movies accompanied by interesting lectures features five of the country's outstanding nature lecturers. They are: Olin S. Pettingill, Jr.—"Wilderness Mischief"; Leonard Hall—"The Web of Life"; Bert Harwell—"Canada West"; Allan D. Cruickshank—"Trails for the Millions" and George H. Orans—"By Eric's Changing Shores." The Screen Tours at Atlanta are sponsored by the Atlanta Bird Club while at Columbus they are made possible by the Friedlander Fund and are sponsored by the Parent Teachers Association and Boy Scouts. A movement is under way to include Augusta, Macon and Savannah in the circuit of the tours next year.

NEW EXCHANGE.—In July, 1949, Volume I, No. 1, of *South Dakota Bird Notes* made its debut. This journal is the official publication of the South Dakota Ornithologists' Union which was organized at Sioux Falls on January 15, 1949. We welcome the addition of this journal to our list of exchanges and wish for the Union a long and productive existence.

DUES.—Please send your dues or subscriptions to *The Oriole* for 1950 to the Treasurer immediately. Address: Dr. T. M. Hall, II, Georgia State Hospital, Milledgeville. Since we operate entirely on funds from this source it is necessary to have some idea of the money available before the Editors can plan *The Oriole* for 1950. Our new Editors plan and hope to get *The Oriole* out more often and more nearly on time. However, they can do this only with cooperation, so send in your checks now.

NEW G. O. S. MEMBERS

Below are listed the names and addresses of those who have become members of the G. O. S. since the last list was published in October, 1948. We welcome these members and hope that they will attend meetings and otherwise enter into the activities of the Society. Only in this way will they derive the benefit and pleasure that we hope the Society will be to them, and only in this way will they be a definite asset to the Society. Unfortunately we have lost a number of members from one cause or another during the year so that our total membership is not much larger and there is still a need for enlarging it.

Atlanta Bird Club, c/o Miss Lou Hoben, 1221 Brairwood Dr., N. E., Atlanta, Ga.
Mr. Sherwood Boyd, Rt. 2, Statesboro, Ga.
Mr. John F. Brannen, Rt. 3, Statesboro, Ga.
Miss Katherine Bronson, 218 Callaway Drive, Macon, Ga.
Miss Pauline Bronson, 218 Callaway Drive, Macon, Ga.
Dr. G. L. Carver, Mercer University, Macon, Ga.
Miss Catherine E. Clark, 809 Monk St., Brunswick, Ga.
Mr. J. D. Compton, Cottage 55, Sea Island, Ga.
Mrs. J. F. Evans, Box 228, Thomasville, Ga.
Mrs. E. Giffen, 801-A N. Monroe St., Albany, Ga.
Mr. John D. Goodman, Mercer University, Macon, Ga.
Dr. Warren J. Houck, 211 S. College St., Statesboro, Ga.
Mr. E. V. Komerec, Birdsong Plantation, Thomasville, Ga.
Mrs. I. H. Lilliston, Radium Springs Rd., Albany, Ga.
Mrs. W. F. MacIntyre, 122 Mimosa Drive, Thomasville, Ga.
Mr. Oscar S. Neylans, Jr., 1854 Forsyth St., Macon, Ga.
Mrs. Ruth W. Patterson, 2380 Westminster Way, N. E., Atlanta, Ga.
Mr. T. L. Quay, Box 5215, State College Station, Raleigh, N. C.
Mr. Henry C. Robert, 1683 Johnson Rd., Atlanta, Ga.
Miss Cleo Sampson, Emory University, Ga.
Mrs. Nelson Severinghouse, 213 Glenn Circle, Decatur, Ga.
Miss Florence J. Vaughn, 426 Fletcher St., Thomasville, Ga.
Mrs. Ernest F. Wahl, Box 536, Thomasville, Ga.
Mrs. J. H. Whiteman, 801 Third Ave., West Point, Ga.