

# THE ORIOLE

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



Vol. XVIII

MARCH, 1953

No. 1

# THE ORIOLE

Editor: Richard A. Parks, 2303 Pembroke Place, N. E., Atlanta, Georgia

Business Manager: Ralph L. Ramsey, 1578 N. Decatur Road, N. E., Atlanta, Georgia

THE ORIOLE is mailed to all members of the Georgia Ornithological Society not in arrears for dues. Classes of membership are as follows:

Student } \$2.00; Regular, \$3.00; Sustaining } \$5.00; Life, \$25.00; Patron, \$100.00.  
Out-of-State }  
Library } Garden Club }

Inquiries concerning back issues of THE ORIOLE or OCCASIONAL PAPERS OF THE G. O. S. should be directed to the Business Manager. All dues should be remitted to the Treasurer of the Society:

Mrs. Lucille C. Rotchford, 141 Jackson Street, Milledgeville, Georgia.

## CONTENTS

MIGRATION OF BIRDS IN BEN HILL, TIFT, AND IRWIN COUNTIES, GEORGIA By ROBERT A. NORRIS and MILTON N. HOPKINS, JR. . . . .	1
GENERAL NOTES . . . . .	9
NEWS AND COMMENTS . . . . .	11

### GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY Founded December 13, 1936

Harold S. Peters, President	Mrs. Thomas J. Cater, Jr., Secretary
Mrs. Charles Neal, 1st Vice President	Mrs. Lucille C. Rotchford, Treasurer
Mrs. James C. Oliver, 2nd Vice President	J. Willard Colston, Librarian

# THE ORIOLE

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

VOL. XVIII

MARCH, 1953

No. 1

## MIGRATION OF BIRDS IN BEN HILL, TIFT, AND IRWIN COUNTIES, GEORGIA

By ROBERT A. NORRIS AND MILTON N. HOPKINS, JR.

Since 1939 short reports have been published on the birds of the south-central region of Georgia embracing Ben Hill, Tift, and Irwin counties. Most of these reports appeared in *The Oriole*, dealt with the occurrence of species or races or with the incidence of nesting, and most were quite limited in scope. For the three-county regional unit, the following list is the first which has aimed at completeness with respect to species recorded, general status and times of occurrence. This list is preliminary, to be sure, but we hope it will be augmented in coming years and will eventually be woven into a thoroughgoing study of the region's avifauna. It is based on the following sources: (1) the writers' field observations and collections which began in 1938 in Ben Hill County, were particularly frequent there from 1939 to 1941, and have been resumed interruptedly both there and in Tift and Irwin counties to the present time; (2) sight records and collections obtained by Willard Gaulding, Jr., chiefly between 1943 and 1949 in the Tifton (Tift County) area; (3) notes on shorebirds and waterfowl made by J. L. Stephens at the Tifton Experiment Station Pond, 1932-34 (see *The Oriole*, 16: 5-8, 1951, for an analysis of Stephens' records); and (4) several notes published by Brooke Meanley, who made repeated visits to areas north of Fitzgerald (Ben Hill County) in the middle 1940's.

The abbreviation "pr." indicates permanent resident species, most of which breed in the region. The remaining species are migratory and extreme dates of occurrence are provided for these. Migratory status, so far as determined, is indicated by the following abbreviations:

c.—casual (rare or accidental)	tv.—transient visitant (spring and fall)
v.—visitant (seasonal status uncertain; non-breeding)	spv.—spring visitant
wv.—winter visitant (may be irregular)	fv.—fall visitant
wr.—winter resident (usually regular, fall to spring)	sv.—summer visitant (non-breeding)
	sr.—summer resident (regular, spring to fall; breeding)

The letters F, T, and I pertain to the Fitzgerald (Ben Hill County), Tifton (Tift County), and Irwin County subregions, respectively. Included in parentheses with certain of these abbreviations are numbers separated by colons; these refer to volumes and page numbers of *The Oriole*, where some of the records were originally published. Several records that first appeared in *Audubon Magazine's* Christmas Counts or in *Birds of Georgia* (G.O.S. Occas. Publ. No. 2) are cited in similar manner. A dash signifies that between given extremes there are additional occurrence dates for one or more subregions; if there are no other dates,



a semicolon or comma is used instead. An asterisk (\*) by a date means a specimen was collected and preserved at that time. In most instances one or two of the subregion abbreviations, or the notation "3 cos.," appears in brackets after dates and places of occurrence; whether the species is known to occur in one, two, or three of the counties is thereby indicated. Where such subregion abbreviations as given in parentheses in conjunction with the only known dates suffice to show extent of known occurrence, as in, for example, the Bartramian Sandpiper, further inclusion of these in brackets becomes unnecessary and is avoided. Permanent residents, except as otherwise indicated, have been recorded from all three counties. A few records from neighboring counties (Coffee, Cook, Wilcox, and Pulaski) are included in the list.

Common names almost invariably follow recommendations by editors of *Audubon Field Notes* (2: 246-248, 1948; 4: 37-39, 260, 1950). It is hoped that the few innovations thus presented will not be disconcerting. We believe that species units are more useful than subspecies in a report of this type and so have restricted ourselves to binomial scientific names. These are taken from the Fourth Edition of the A.O.U. Check-list and its supplements.

Common Loon: *Gavia immer*. v. May 5-6, '33 (T).

Pied-billed Grebe: *Podilymbus podiceps*. wr. July 15, '33 (T)—May 28, '41 (F). [3 cos.]

Double-crested Cormorant: *Phalacrocorax auritus*. v. \*Feb. 10, '43 (T; 13:33); July 4, '39 (F; 4:24).

Anhinga: *Anhinga anhinga*. sr. Apr. 18, '41 (F)—Nov. 21, '40 (F) [F,T.]

Great Blue Heron: *Ardea herodias*. pr.

American Egret: *Casmerodius albus*. sr., uncommon in winter. Mar. 21, '32 (T)—Nov. 19, '52 (F). Several winter records, 1941-42, 1952 (T, I). [3 cos.]

Snowy Egret: *Leucophoyx thula*. v. Sept. 24, '41 (T)—Oct. 8, '41 (T; 6:49). [T only.]

Little Blue Heron: *Florida caerulea*. sr., occasional in winter. Mar. 22, '32 (T)—Oct. 21, '40 (F). Four birds, Dec. 21 and 26, '41 (T, F; *Aud. Mag.* Christmas Count: 26, 27, '42). [3 cos.]

Green Heron: *Butorides virescens*. sr. Mar. 17, '42 (F)—Sept. 15, '41 (T). One bird, Dec. 22, '32 (T). [3 cos.]

Black-crowned Night Heron: *Nycticorax nycticorax*. wr. \*Nov. 2, '40 (F; 5:55)—Apr. 2, '33 (T). [F,T.]

American Bittern: *Botaurus lentiginosus*. wr. \*Dec. 7, '41 (T)—Apr. 16, '33 (T). [F,T.]

Least Bittern: *Ixobrychus exilis*. sr.? \* Aug. 14, '51 (Cook Co.); \*Sept. 24, '41 (T; 6:49).

Wood Ibis: *Mycteria americana*. sv. Mar. 15, '41 (F)—Oct. 7, '52 (F). [F,I.]

White Ibis: *Eudocimus albus*. sv. May 25, '40 (F; 5:32)—Aug. 6, '52 (I). [F,I.]

Whistling Swan: *Olor columbianus*. c. \*Nov. 15, '40 (F; 5:53).

Canada Goose: *Branta canadensis*. wr. Dec. 12, '41 (F)—Feb., '51 (I). Infrequent in winter on Ocmulgee River. [F,I.]

White-fronted Goose: *Anser albifrons*. c. Mar. 15 to \*17, '32 (T; G.O.S. Occas. Publ. No. 2:31).

Mallard: *Anas platyrhynchos*. wr. Oct. 27, '33 (T)—Dec. 26, '41 (F). [F,T.]

Black Duck: *Anas rubripes*. wr. Dec. 7, '41 (T)—Dec. 22, '40 (F; 6:25). [F,T.]

Gadwall: *Anas strepera*. wr. Dec. 7, '41 (T).

American Pintail: *Anas acuta*. wr. \*Sept. 29, '39 (F; 4:63)—Feb. 11, '32 (T). [F,T.]

Green-winged Teal: *Anas carolinensis*. v. Apr. 16 to 20, '32 (T).

Blue-winged Teal: *Anas discors*. wr. Sept. 9, '39 (F)—Apr. 27, '52 (F). [F,T.]

American Widgeon: *Mareca americana*. wr. Nov. 2, '41 (T; 6:49)—Nov. 27, '41 (T; 6:49). [F,T.]

Wood Duck: *Aix sponsa*. pr.

Ring-necked Duck: *Aythya collaris*. wr. Oct. 29, '52 (F)—Mar. 25, '52 (I). [F,I.]

Lesser Scaup: *Aythya affinis*. wr. Oct. 25, '42 (F; 7:33)—Apr. 28, '33 (T). [3 cos.]

American Golden-eye: *Bucephala clangula*. wr. Dec. 11, '41 (T; 7:8).

Buffle-head: *Bucephala albeola*. wr. Nov. 27, '42 (F)—Apr. 26, '41 (F). [F only.]

Hooded Merganser: *Lophodytes cucullatus*. wr. Nov. 19, '33 (T)—Dec. 11, '41 (T; 7:8). [F,T.]

Red-breasted Merganser: *Mergus serrator*. wr. Nov. 27, '33 (T)—Mar. 20, '33 (T). [F,T.]

Turkey Vulture: *Cathartes aura*. pr.

Black Vulture: *Coragyps atratus*. pr.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: *Accipiter striatus*. wr. Oct. 13, '40 (F)—Mar. 11, '42 (T). [3 cos.]

Cooper's Hawk: *Accipiter cooperii*. pr.

Red-tailed Hawk: *Buteo jamaicensis*. pr.

Red-shouldered Hawk: *Buteo lineatus*. pr.

Broad-winged Hawk: *Buteo platypterus*. sv. May 6, '52 (I)—\*July 30, '51 (T). One, Dec. 29, '51 (I). [T,I.]

Bald Eagle: *Haliaeetus leucophalus*. c. Sept. 21, '40 (I; 5:55).

Marsh Hawk: *Circus cyaneus*. wr. Sept. 25, '41 (T)—Apr. 24, '42 (F). [3 cos.]

Osprey: *Pandion haliaetus*. sv. Mar. 15, '33 (T)—Oct. 18, '41 (T). Single birds noted Jan. 6, '40 (F) and Dec. 21, '42 (T; *Aud. Mag.* Christmas Count: 27, '43). [3 cos.]

Sparrow Hawk: *Falco sparverius*. pr.

Bob-white: *Colinus virginianus*. pr.

Wild Turkey: *Meleagris gallopavo*. pr., Ocmulgee River bottoms (F; Wilcox Co.).

King Rail: *Rallus elegans*. sr. Apr. 22, '41 (F)—Aug. 8, '39 (F). [3 cos.]

Sora: *Porzana carolina*. spv. \*Apr. 13, '41 (F)—May 25, '40 (F; 5:32). [F only.]

Purple Gallinule: *Porphyryla martinica*. sr? \*May 11, '42 (F; 7:35); May 24, '43 (F); \*Aug. 14, '51 (Cook Co.).

Black Gallinule: *Gallinula chloropus*. tv? Mar. 18, '33 (T)—Mar. 28, '34 (T); Sept. 30, '32 (T). [T only.]



- American Coot: *Fulica americana*. wr. Oct. 8, '32 (T)—May 15, '32 (T). [3 cos.]
- Ringed Plover: *Charadrius hiaticula*. tv. Apr. 27, '52 (F); \*Sept. 2, '46 (T).
- Killdeer: *Charadrius vociferus*. pr. (T); wr? (F): July 29, '41—Apr. 29, '41. [3 cos.]
- American Woodcock: *Philohela minor*. pr., presumably breeding.
- Wilson's Snipe: *Capella gallinago*. wr. Sept. 8, '32 (T)—May 6, '40 (F). [3 cos.]
- Bartramian Sandpiper: *Bartramia longicauda*. tv. Apr. 2, '34 (T); Aug. 15 and 29, '42 (T,I). March record from Tifton (G.O.S. Occas. Publ. No. 2:39) now considered dubious.
- Spotted Sandpiper: *Actitis macularia*. tv. Apr. 22, '42 (T)—May 27, '39 (F); July 18, '41 (F)—Oct. 7, '41 (T). Onc. Nov. 30, '52 (F). [3 cos.]
- Solitary Sandpiper: *Tringa solitaria*. tv. Apr. 1, '40 (F; 5:15)—May 16, '40 (F); July 18, '41 (F)—Oct. 18, '41 (F). [3 cos.]
- Greater Yellow-legs: *Totanus melanoleucus*. tv. Apr. 21, '32, '51 (T,I)—Apr. 26, '32 (T); Sept. 12, '41 (T)—Nov. 27, '41 (T; 6:49). [3 cos.]
- Pectoral Sandpiper: *Erolia melanotos*. fv. \*July 29, '40 (F; 5:33)—Oct. 7, '41 (T). [F,T.]
- Least Sandpiper: *Erolia minutilla*. fv. \*Aug. 27, '40 (F; 5:33)—Sept. 2, '46 (T). [3 cos.]
- Semipalmated Sandpiper: *Ereunetes pusillus*. tv. May 4, '41 (I)—\*May 16, '40 (F); Sept. 1, '40 (I). [F,I.]
- Herring Gull: *Larus argentatus*. v. Apr. 28, '47 (Coffee Co.); Oct. 31, '41 (F); Dec. 23, '42 (F).
- Common Tern: *Sterna hirundo*. fv. Sept. 12, '41 (T; 6:49); Sept. 27, '40 (F; 5:55).
- Least Tern: *Sterna albifrons*. c. Aug. 20, '40 (F; 5:33).
- Black Tern: *Chlidonias niger*. fv. Sept. 1, '40 (I; 5:55)—Sept. 15, '41 (T). [T,I.]
- Mourning Dove: *Zenaidura macroura*. pr.
- Ground Dove: *Columbigallina passerina*. pr.
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo: *Coccyzus americanus*. sr. May 8, '52 (F)—Oct. 7, '39 (F). [3 cos.]
- Black-billed Cuckoo: *Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*. spv. May 13, '41 (F)—May 27, '40 (F; 5:33). [F only.]
- Barn Owl: *Tyto alba*. pr., rare. Feb. 19, '52 (F); \*July 6, '45 (T; 10:57).
- Screech Owl: *Otus asio*. pr.
- Great Horned Owl: *Bubo virginianus*. pr? \*Sept. 29, '40 (F).
- Barred Owl: *Strix varia*. pr.
- Long-eared Owl: *Asio otus*. wv., rare. \*Mar. 5, '45 (T; 10:57).
- Chuck-will's-widow: *Caprimulgus carolinensis*. sr. Apr. 3, '52 (T)—July 3, '47 (Coffee Co.). [3 cos.]
- Common Nighthawk: *Chordeiles minor*. sr. Mar. 20, '42 (F)—Oct. 24, '41 (F). [3 cos.]
- Chimney Swift: *Chaetura pelagica*. sr. Mar. 20, '44 (T)—Oct. 29, '41 (F). [3 cos.]

- Ruby-throated Hummingbird: *Archilochus colubris*. sr. Mar. 7, '45 (T)—Oct. 22, '40 (F). [3 cos.]
- Belted Kingfisher: *Megaceryle alcyon*. pr.
- Yellow-shafted Flicker: *Colaptes auratus*. pr.
- Pileated Woodpecker: *Dryocopus pileatus*. pr.
- Red-bellied Woodpecker: *Centurus carolinus*. pr.
- Red-headed Woodpecker: *Melanerpes erythrocephalus*. pr.
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: *Sphyrapicus varius*. wr. Oct. 15, '39 (F)—\*Mar. 22, '40 (F). [3 cos.]
- Hairy Woodpecker: *Dendrocopos villosus*. pr.
- Downy Woodpecker: *Dendrocopos pubescens*. pr.
- Red-cockaded Woodpecker: *Dendrocopos borealis*. pr., uncommon.
- Eastern Kingbird: *Tyrannus tyrannus*. sr. Apr. 5, '41 (F)—Sept. 17, '41 (F). [3 cos.]
- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher: *Muscivora forficata*. c. Onc. Jan. 2 to \*Feb. 9, '43 (T; 9:9).
- Crested Flycatcher: *Myiarchus crinitus*. sr. Mar. 22, '52 (I)—Sept. 23, '40 (F). [3 cos.]
- Eastern Phoebe: *Sayornis phoebe*. wr. Oct. 7, '39 (F)—Apr. 13, '40 (F). [3 cos.]
- Acadian Flycatcher: *Empidonax virescens*. sr. May 21, '40 (F)—Oct. 5, '40 (F). [3 cos.]
- Eastern Wood Pewee: *Contopus virens*. sr. Mar. 20, '42 (F)—Oct. 22, '41 (T). [3 cos.]
- Vermilion Flycatcher: *Pyrocephalus rubinus*. c. \*Dec. 31, '49 (T; 15:14).
- Horned Lark: *Eremophila alpestris*. wv., rare. Jan. 13, '46 (Wilcox Co.; 11:44).
- Tree Swallow: *Iridoprocne bicolor*. tv. Mar. 24, '47 (Pulaski Co.), Apr. 20, '40 (F; 5:15); Sept. 24, '51 (I).
- Rough-winged Swallow: *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*. tv. Apr. 26-27, '41 (F; 6:26); Aug. 15, '42 (T).
- Barn Swallow: *Hirundo rustica*. tv. Apr. 17, '41 (F)—May 14, '40 (F); July 13, '42 (T)—Oct. 25, '42 (F). [3 cos.]
- Purple Martin: *Progne subis*. sr. Feb. 16, '46 (F; 11:44)—Oct. 25, '42 (F). Recorded Feb. 12, '47, in Coffee Co. [3 cos.]
- Blue Jay: *Cyanocitta cristata*. pr.
- American Crow: *Corvus brachyrhynchos*. pr.
- Fish Crow: *Corvus ossifragus*. sr. Feb. 10, '43 (F)—Oct. 28, '41 (T). Occasional in mid-winter: Jan. 5, '42 (T; 7:8). [F, uncommon; T, common.]
- Carolina Chickadee: *Parus carolinensis*. pr.
- Tufted Titmouse: *Parus bicolor*. pr.
- White-breasted Nuthatch: *Sitta carolinensis*. pr?, rare. May 17, '40 (F); Oct. 11, '41 (F); Dec. 22, '39 (F; *Aud. Mag.* Christmas Count: 96, '40).
- Red-breasted Nuthatch: *Sitta canadensis*. wv., rare. \*Feb. 13, '52 (I); \*Dec. 30, '40 (F; 6:25).
- Brown-headed Nuthatch: *Sitta pusilla*. pr.
- Brown Creeper: *Certhia familiaris*. wr. Oct. 28, '41 (T)—Apr. 7, '41 (F). [3 cos.]
- House Wren: *Troglodytes aedon*. wr. Oct. 6, '39 (F)—May 3, '39 (F). [3 cos.]



- Winter Wren: *Troglodytes troglodytes*. wr. \*Oct. 14, '40 (F)—Jan. 28, '41 (F). [3 cos.]
- Bewick's Wren: *Thryomanes bewickii*. wr. Oct. 7, '39 (F)—May 1, '40 (F). [F,T.]
- Carolina Wren: *Thryothorus ludovicianus*. pr.
- Short-billed Marsh Wren: *Cistothorus platensis*. wr. Oct. 11, '40 (F)—May 5, '40 (F). [F,T.]
- Mockingbird: *Mimus polyglottos*. pr.
- Catbird: *Dumetella carolinensis*. pr.
- Brown Thrasher: *Toxostoma rufum*. pr.
- American Robin: *Turdus migratorius*. wr. Oct. 1, '39 (F)—May 30, '41 (F). Breeding evidence (T; G.O.S. Occas. Publ. No. 2:54) now considered dubious.
- Wood Thrush: *Hylocichla mustelina*. sr. Apr. 10, '42 (F)—Oct. 7, '39 (F). [3 cos.]
- Hermit Thrush: *Hylocichla guttata*. wr. Oct. 25, '41 (F)—Apr. 2, '39 (F). [3 cos.]
- Olive-backed Thrush: *Hylocichla ustulata*. fv. Oct. 1, '39 (F)—Oct. 15, '39 (F). [F only.]
- Gray-checked Thrush: *Hylocichla minima*. spv. \*May 8, '41 (F; 6:26); May 13, '41 (F).
- Veery: *Hylocichla fuscescens*. spv. \*May 12, '41 (F; 6:26); May 14, '41 (F).
- Eastern Bluebird: *Sialia sialis*. pr.
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: *Poliophtila caerulea*. pr., less common in winter.
- Golden-crowned Kinglet: *Regulus satrapa*. wr. Oct. 15, '39 (F)—Mar. 11, '52 (I). [3 cos.]
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet: *Regulus calendula*. wr. Sept. 30, '40 (F)—May 13, '41 (F). [3 cos.]
- Water Pipit: *Anthus spinoletta*. wr. Oct. 25, '52 (I)—Mar. 6, '41 (F). [3 cos.]
- Cedar Waxwing: *Bombycilla cedrorum*. wr. Oct. 16, '40 (F)—May 23, '41 (F; 6:26). [3 cos.]
- Loggerhead Shrike: *Lanius ludovicianus*. pr.
- Common Starling: *Sturnus vulgaris*. pr.
- White-eyed Vireo: *Vireo griseus*. pr., infrequent in winter. Mar. 8, '42 (T)—Oct. 24, '41 (F). Eight winter records, including 5 from Jan. \*2 to 24, '42, '43, '51 (F,T). [3 cos.]
- Yellow-throated Vireo: *Vireo flavifrons*. sr. Mar. 23, '41 (F)—Oct. 19, '40 (F). [3 cos.]
- Solitary Vireo: *Vireo solitarius*. wr. Sept. 18, '41 (F)—\*Apr. 21, '41 (F). [F,T.]
- Red-eyed Vireo: *Vireo olivaceus*. sr. Mar. 21, '42 (F)—Oct. 18, '40 (F). [3 cos.]
- Philadelphia Vireo: *Vireo philadelphicus*. c. \*Oct. 8, '41 (T; 6:50).
- Black and White Warbler: *Mniotilta varia*. wr. \*July 11, '51 (T)—May 6, '41 (F). [3 cos.]
- Prothonotary Warbler: *Protonotaria citrea*. sr. Mar. 21, '42 (F)—Aug. 29, '42 (T). [3 cos.]
- Swainson's Warbler: *Limnothlypis swainsonii*. sr. June 13, '46 (T; 12:7)—\*Sept. 20, '41 (T; 6:49). [T,I.]

- Worm-eating Warbler: *Helmitheros vermivorus*. tv. Apr. 11, '41 (F; 6:26); \*Aug. 8, '51 (I)—Sept. 28, '40 (F). [F,I.]
- Golden-winged Warbler: *Vermivora chrysoptera*. fv. Sept. 2, '46 (F)—Sept. 21, '41 (I; 6:49). [F,I.]
- Blue-winged Warbler: *Vermivora pinus*. tv. \*Apr. 24, '40 (F; 5:15); \*Sept. 13, '41, '42 (F,T)—Sept. 27, '41 (T). [F,T.]
- Tennessee Warbler: *Vermivora peregrina*. fv. Oct. 8, '41 (T); \*Oct. 21, '40 (F). Spring record previously reported (5:15) was erroneous.
- Orange-crowned Warbler: *Vermivora celata*. wr. Dec. 17, '38 (F)—Feb. 9, '41 (F). [3 cos.]
- Parula Warbler: *Parula americana*. sr. Mar. 8, '52 (F)—Oct. 13, '40 (F). [3 cos.]
- Yellow Warbler: *Dendroica petechia*. tv. \*Apr. 22, '42 (T)—May 2, '40 (F); Aug. 9, '41 (F)—Aug. 30, '40 (F; 5:33). [3 cos.]
- Magnolia Warbler: *Dendroica magnolia*. fv. \*Oct. 16, '40 (F; 5:55); Oct. 23, '40 (F).
- Cape May Warbler: *Dendroica tigrina*. tv. Apr. 11, '41 (F; 6:26)—May 12, '41 (F); Sept. 28 and \*Oct. 3, '40 (F). [3 cos.]
- Black-throated Blue Warbler: *Dendroica caerulescens*. tv. Apr. 11, '41 (F; 6:26)—May 6, '39 (F); \*Sept. 23, '41 (T)—Nov. 2, '40 (F). [F,T.]
- Myrtle Warbler: *Dendroica coronata*. wr. Oct. 11, '41 (T)—May 4, '40 (F). [3 cos.]
- Black-throated Green Warbler: *Dendroica virens*. tv. \*Mar. 28, '42 (F; 7:35); Oct. \*22 and \*24, '41 (T; 6:49).
- Cerulean Warbler: *Dendroica cerulea*. fv. \*Aug. 8, '51 (I; 17:1)—Sept. 3, '51 (I; 17:1). [I; also Wilcox Co.]
- Blackburnian Warbler: *Dendroica fusca*. tv. Apr. 21, '41 (F; 6:26); \*Sept. 27, '41 (T)—Nov. 2, '41 (T; 6:49). One bird, Nov. 24, '40 (F). [F,T.]
- Yellow-throated Warbler: *Dendroica dominica*. pr., uncommon in winter. [3 cos.]
- Chestnut-sided Warbler: *Dendroica pensylvanica*. tv. Mar. 22, '41 (F; 6:26)—\*May 2, '40 (F; 6:26); \*Aug. 29, '51 (I)—\*Oct. 1, '41 (T). [3 cos.]
- Bay-breasted Warbler: *Dendroica castanea*. fv. \*Oct. 19, '40 (F; 5:55).
- Black-poll Warbler: *Dendroica striata*. spv. Apr. 7, '42 (F)—May 23, '41 (F; 6:26). [F,I.]
- Pine Warbler: *Dendroica pinus*. pr.
- Prairie Warbler: *Dendroica discolor*. tv. Apr. 3, '41 (F)—June 1, '40 (F); July 30, '42 (T)—Oct. 22, '41 (T; 6:49). No breeding evidence. [3 cos.]
- Palm Warbler: *Dendroica palmarum*. wr. Sept. 21, '40 (I)—May 11, '39 (F). [3 cos.]
- Ovenbird: *Seiurus aurocapillus*. tv. Apr. 11, '41 (F)—\*May 8, '41 (F); \*Aug. 29, '51 (I)—Oct. 15, '39 (F). One record, \*Feb. 11, '45 (F; 10:9). [3 cos.]
- Northern Water-thrush: *Seiurus noveboracensis*. tv. Apr. 28, '41 (F); \*Aug. 29, '42 (T)—Oct. 18, '41 (F). [F,T.]
- Louisiana Water-thrush: *Seiurus motacilla*. tv. Mar. 9, '41 (F; 6:26)—May 27, '40 (F; 5:33); \*July 14, '41, '51 (F,T)—Aug. 30, '40 (F). [3 cos.]



- Kentucky Warbler: *Oporornis formosus*. sr? Apr. 26, '42 (T), May 6, '52 (F); Aug. 13, '51 (Wilcox Co.)—Sept. 17, '41 (T). Probably breeds along Ocmulgee River near Fitzgerald. [3 cos.]
- Connecticut Warbler: *Oporornis agilis*. spv. May 9 and 18, '40 (F; 5:16).
- Common Yellow-throat: *Geothlypis trichas*. pr.
- Yellow-breasted Chat: *Icteria virens*. sr. Apr. 9, '42 (F)—Oct. 12, '40 (F). [3 cos.]
- Hooded Warbler: *Wilsonia citrina*. sr. Apr. 6, '41 (F)—Oct. 5, '40 (F). [3 cos.]
- Black-capped Warbler: *Wilsonia pusilla*. c. Oct. 31, '40 (F; 5:55).
- Canada Warbler: *Wilsonia canadensis*. c. \*Apr. 29, '44 (T; G.O.S. Occas. Publ. No. 2:62).
- American Redstart: *Setophaga ruticilla*. tv. Apr. 9, '42 (F)—May 20, '41 (F; 6:26); July 29, '40 (F)—Oct. 21, '40 (F). [3 cos.]
- House Sparrow: *Passer domesticus*. pr.
- Bobolink: *Dolichonyx oryzivorus*. spv. Apr. 18, '45 (T)—May 14, '41 (F). [3 cos.]
- Eastern Meadowlark: *Sturnella magna*. pr.
- Red-winged Blackbird: *Agelaius phoeniceus*. pr.
- Orchard Oriole: *Icterus spurius*. sr. Mar. 29, '44 (T)—Aug. 7, '51 (T). [3 cos.]
- Rusty Blackbird: *Euphagus carolinus*. wr. Oct. 18, '40 (F)—May 11, '40 (F). [F,T.]
- Purple Grackle: *Quiscalus quiscula*. pr.
- Brown-headed Cowbird: *Molothrus ater*. wr. July 13, '42 (T)—Mar. 21, '44 (T). [3 cos.]
- Scarlet Tanager: *Piranga olivacea*. tv. Apr. 22, '39 (F)—May 8, '41 (F); Sept. 15, '40 (F). [F only.]
- Summer Tanager: *Piranga rubra*. sr. Mar. 28, '45 (T)—Sept. 28, '40 (F). [3 cos.]
- Cardinal: *Richmondia cardinalis*. pr.
- Blue Grosbeak: *Guiraca caerulea*. sr. Apr. 21, '52 (T)—Sept. 28, '40 (F). [3 cos.]
- Indigo Bunting: *Passerina cyanea*. sr. Apr. 25, '52 (F)—Oct. 30, '40 (F). [3 cos.]
- Painted Bunting: *Passerina ciris*. c. \*Apr. 29, '40 (F; 5:16).
- Purple Finch: *Carpodacus purpureus*. wv. Dec. 22, '39 (F)—Mar. 21, '40 (F). [3 cos.]
- American Goldfinch: *Spinus tristis*. wr. Oct. 15, '39 (F)—May 7, '52 (T). [3 cos.]
- Eastern Towhee: *Pipilo erythrophthalmus*. pr.
- Savannah Sparrow: *Passerculus sandwichensis*. wr. \*Oct. 11, '41 (F,T)—\*May 10, '41 (F; 6:26). [3 cos.]
- Grasshopper Sparrow: *Ammodramus savannarum*. wr. \*Oct. 20, '41 (T; 6:49)—May 6, '52 (I). [3 cos.]
- Leconte's Sparrow: *Passerherbulus caudacutus*. wv., rare. \*Feb. 13, '43 (T; 9:10).
- Henslow's Sparrow: *Passerherbulus henslowii*. wr. Oct. 21, '39 (F; 4:63)—Apr. 9, '52 (T). One or more collected each month, Nov. through Mar., 1940-52 (F,T). [3 cos.]
- Vesper Sparrow: *Poocetes gramineus*. wr. Oct. 1, '40 (F)—May 2, '40 (F). [3 cos.]

- Pine-woods Sparrow: *Aimophila aestivalis*. pr., less common in winter.
- Slate-colored Junco: *Junco hyemalis*. wv. Nov. 29, '40 (F)—Apr. 5, '41 (F; 6:26). [3 cos.]
- Chipping Sparrow: *Spizella passerina*. wr. Nov. 1, '41 (F)—May 1, '52 (T). [3 cos.]
- Field Sparrow: *Spizella pusilla*. wr. Oct. 6, '39 (F)—Apr. 30, '41 (F; 6:26). [3 cos.]
- White-crowned Sparrow: *Zonotrichia leucophrys*. wr. \*Oct. 28, '44 (T; 10:8)—\*Apr. 24, '52 (T). [T only.]
- White-throated Sparrow: *Zonotrichia albicollis*. wr. Oct. 15, '39 (F)—May 13, '39 (F). [3 cos.]
- Fox Sparrow: *Passerella iliaca*. wr. Nov. 17, '38 (F)—Feb. 18, '39 (F). [F,T.]
- Lincoln's Sparrow: *Melospiza lincolni*. wr. \*Dec. 19, '40 (F; 6:25)—\*Apr. 28, '52 (T). Total of 5 specimens and 1 sight record. [F,T.]
- Swamp Sparrow: *Melospiza georgiana*. wr. Oct. 9, '40 (F)—May 8, '41 (F; 6:26). [3 cos.]
- Song Sparrow: *Melospiza melodia*. wr. Oct. 18, '40 (F)—Mar. 16, '41 (F). [3 cos.]
- Museum of Vertebrate Zoology,*  
*Berkeley, California,*  
and  
*202 West Roanoke Drive,*  
*Fitzgerald, Georgia.*

## GENERAL NOTES

A DICKCISSEL RECORD FOR HOUSTON COUNTY.—On May 11, 1952, while I was watching a flock of Bobolinks (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) in wet, cultivated fields about five miles east of Elberta, Houston County, my attention was attracted to the songs of Dickcissels (*Spiza americana*). In checking the fields carefully, I found three Dickcissels, all apparently males, singing from perches on fence posts and about four feet above the ground. Because of intermittent showers and wet ground, I did not attempt to search the fields for nests, and consequently I was unable to return until August 10, by which time the birds had gone. Therefore, I am not certain whether the Dickcissels were territorial or merely transient, but the frequency of singing suggests territorial behavior. Subsequently I found that no records for the species for this part of the state are listed in *Birds of Georgia* (Green, et al., 1945), and thus I think the observation is worth reporting. I did not collect any of the birds, but was able to observe them at leisure. I am familiar with Dickcissels in Illinois and southwestern Ohio, where they occur regularly.—NATHANIEL R. WHITNEY, JR., *Quarters 1505-A, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia.*

SIGHT RECORD OF BLUE GOOSE IN BALDWIN COUNTY, GEORGIA.—On October 24, 1952, I was accompanied by Tom Hall and Harold Freeman when we discovered a lone Blue Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) on McKinley Lake one mile east of Milledgeville. We watched the goose feed on the shore for fifteen minutes through 8x30 Zeiss binoc-



ular. The head, bill and legs were dark with a small area of mottled white near the head indicating an immature in change.

We crossed the lake to observe more closely and the goose took to the water. Then we saw the white under tail, the laced effect on the wings and the black legs.

The bird was last seen Sunday, October 26 at 10 o'clock in the morning.—LUCILLE C. ROTCHFORD, 141 South Jackson Street, Milledgeville, Georgia.

**BREEDING OF THE GRACKLE AT ATHENS, CLARKE COUNTY, GEORGIA.**—During the last week of May 1951 the writer, along with several Boy Scouts of the Athens area, discovered a breeding colony of Grackles (*Quiscalus quiscula*) along a creek run near Lake Kirota. Flocks of 15-30 Grackles were noted in and about the location. Approximately 15 nests of this species were investigated. Three of these nests contained young birds. Four young Grackles were able to flutter from each of two of these nests when supporting vegetation was disturbed. The other nest contained four young birds approximately ten days old. The average height of all nests was 12 feet above the ground. Since the Grackle constructs a fairly substantial nest it was difficult for me to ascertain what number, if any, of the remaining nests had been used during the previous year. Fledgling Grackles, capable of sustained flight, were noted later in June and early July of 1951 near the nesting area although no other active nests were located.

This nesting location is near where D. W. Johnston collected three females (one with enlarged ovary) and suspected nesting activity of the species in the spring of 1949 and 1950 (*Oriole*, 15:34-36, 1950).—MILTON HOPKINS, JR., Fitzgerald, Georgia.

**THE SANDHILL CRANE IN GEORGIA.**—The Florida Crane (*Grus canadensis pratensis*) is the only race of the Sandhill Crane listed in *Birds of Georgia* (Greene, et al., 1945) and *Florida Bird Life* (Howell, 1932). The Florida Crane seems to be a non-migratory resident of the Okefenokee Swamp, the Kissimmee Prairie, a few other localities in Florida, Southern Alabama, coastal Louisiana and southern Mississippi (McIlhenny, *Auk*, 55: 598, 1938). The only record I have in Georgia of the Florida Crane outside Okefenokee were numbers which appeared over Coleraine in the great Okefenokee fire of April 9-14, 1932. Other extra-limital occurrences listed in Ridgway and Friedman (*The Birds of North and Middle America*, U.S.N.M. Bull. 50: 25, 1941) and Bent (*Life Histories of North American Birds*, U.S.N.M. Bull. 135: 253-4, 1926) may have been caused by similar catastrophes or may be the result of subspecific identification based on a single specimen. As A. L. Rand has suggested, the conservative view is to treat such cases as variants rather than wanderers necessitating another heading in a faunal list (*Auk*, 65: 430, 1948).

At Coleraine John W. Burch has seen Sandhill Cranes flying south October 27, 1945, and November 27, 1947. Lawrence H. Walkinshaw has told me the Sandhill Cranes (*Grus canadensis tabida*) regularly begin to leave their breeding grounds in Michigan late in October, and some were still present November 19, 1948. I am convinced Burch's October and November cranes are *G. c. tabida* and not *G. c. pratensis*, as were also the cranes seen at Jackson Lake, Jasper County, Georgia by Charles H. Wharton and his father on March 24, 1940 (*Oriole*, 5: 18-19, 1940).

This is because *G. c. tabida* is migratory, whereas *G. c. pratensis* is not. In addition, no specimen of *tabida* from Texas or Louisiana exists in any museum (Walkinshaw, in lit.). Based on the above, I would add the Sandhill Crane (*Grus canadensis tabida*) to the Georgia hypothetical list.—FREDERICK V. HEBARD, 1500 Walnut Street Building, Philadelphia 2, Pennsylvania.

**ANOTHER OCCURRENCE OF THE RED BREASTED NUTHATCH IN SOUTHERN GEORGIA.**—A call note, unfamiliar to the writer, from a "bird wave" passing through the upper branches of black gums (*Nyssa sylvatica*), red maple (*Acer rubrum*), and slash pine (*Pinus caribaea*) in the back waters of a farm pond near Osierfield, Irwin County, Georgia on February 13, 1952, proved to be that of the Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*). Closer inspection revealed four individuals of this species which were foraging in company with at least one individual of the following species: Carolina Wren, Tufted Titmouse, White-eyed Vireo, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Pine Warbler, and Ruby-crowned Kinglet. The Red-breasted Nuthatches were ranging higher in the trees than the other members of the wave. One of the four individuals, a male, was collected, bears my catalog number 377 and is in my possession. The only other record of this species for the South-central region of the state is a female collected in slash and long-leaf pineland along a drainage ditch near Fitzgerald, Ben Hill County on December 30, 1940 (*Oriole*, 6:25, 1941).—MILTON HOPKINS, JR., Fitzgerald, Georgia.

**AVOCET AND BROWN PELICAN AT ALBANY.**—Here in Albany (Dougherty County, Georgia) we have two artificial lakes made about two years ago. These have been a source of pleasure to bird students here from the number of water birds which they have attracted. We have counted about thirty-nine species in the two years. Two of these, the Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) and the Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*) are quite unusual occurrences.

On about August 20, 1952, a lone Brown Pelican appeared and remained about three weeks. On September 5, 1952, I went out with my brother Charles M. Jones to visit the pelican and discovered an Avocet feeding with other shore birds on the edge of the lake. We had excellent views of the bird and watched it for some time. It appeared to be a young bird, not deeply colored. There is no question as to the identification as I have seen hundreds of them in the West where I lived many years. This is apparently the first inland record of this rare species in Georgia.—MRS. T. T. GIFFEN, 801-A North Monroe Street, Albany, Georgia.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS

**JOINT FIELD MEETING AT SAVANNAH.**—On Saturday, January 17, 1953, the Carolina Bird Club and the Georgia Ornithological Society held a joint field meeting at Savannah, Georgia. The meeting was planned and directed by Fred Sample of Columbia, South Carolina, and Herman Coolidge of Savannah. Headquarters was at the General Oglethorpe Hotel. An informal meeting was held Friday evening at which Ivan Tomkins and Herman Coolidge discussed the field trips to be held the following day. At 6:30 Saturday morning the group was



in the field with trips along the river and to the beach. After breakfast at 9:30 the party went to the Savannah River National Wildlife Refuge. There under the leadership of Refuge Manager Ned Jaycocks many ducks and other water birds were seen. By the day's end a total of 76 species had been reported.

After the dinner in the evening Robert Overing, president of the Carolina Bird Club, presented a program of movies, slides, and recorded bird songs. Sunday morning field work was attempted by some, but rain began early and little was accomplished.

Approximately seventy-five persons attended this meeting, thirty from the Carolinas, thirty-five from Georgia and the remainder visitors.

**SPRING MEETING.**—The twenty-eighth semi-annual meeting of the Georgia Ornithological Society will be held at the Georgia State College for Women in Milledgeville on Saturday and Sunday, April 25 and 26. The main objective will be to work on the breeding birds of the region. Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning field trips will be arranged with local leaders as guides to varied habitats near Milledgeville. Members are urged to arrive as early Saturday as possible to participate in the field work. All will stay together and eat together on the school campus and at a very reasonable cost. Because of this and the central location, a very high attendance is anticipated.

**NEW REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS.**—The following have been appointed to serve as Regional Vice-Presidents:

Macon Region—

Lt. N. R. Whitney, Jr., Quart. 1505A, Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

Kingsland Region—Richard Kuerzi, St. Marys, Ga.

Brunswick Region—Miss Catherine Clark, Sea Island, Ga.

Rome Region—George A. Dorsey, Darlington School, Rome, Ga.

### TO BLANCHE TAIT

To one who was always kind, always gentle, who gave her best to teaching and the needs of her students, and whose never failing interest and zeal in the field of Nature Study and Ornithology was a constant source of inspiration to students and friends, we, the members of the Milledgeville Audubon Society wish to pay special tribute.

From the time she was a charter member, Blanche gave unstintingly of her time and energy, serving faithfully not only as a member, but in every possible official capacity. Her often droll and sometimes sparkling wit endeared her to everyone.

For several years she chaired the Educational Committee. It was at that time that she co-authored with Miss Mabel T. Rogers the booklet *Common Birds of Baldwin County*. Many children and boy and girl scouts can attribute their first awareness of the beauty of birds and nature to the guiding hand, eye and ear of Blanche.

The Georgia Ornithological Society has lost a valued member, one who has served as Secretary and has chaired several committees.

Tho' she is no longer with us in person, we shall never forget her gentle spirit and enthusiasm. And, may we dedicate ourselves anew to carrying on the work in which she so firmly believed.

Lucille C. Rotchford  
Gertrude B. Manchester

Alice F. Andrews  
Grace S. Chapin



### **A REVOLUTIONARY NEW WILD BIRD FEED**

As you may know, pecan nut meats have proven for over twenty years to be an exceptionally attractive wild bird feed, as it attracts a wide variety of insect eating as well as seed eating birds. Forty-seven species have been attracted to one Georgia feeding station where no other food was used. Until recently, however, pecan meats have usually been considered too expensive for general use for this purpose.

Through new processes, the large pecan shelling mills are now able to separate broken meats at low cost and procure a clean, standardized product which is sold under the name "PECANO BIRD FEED" at a very low price considering the quality of the product.

Pecan meats are a rich food, and a little goes a long way. Natural fats average 71%, as compared for instance with sunflower seed, 25% fat. They are also high in protein, lime and iron and significant amounts of vitamins A and B. Calories about 3,633 per pound! Wild birds with their high body temperatures and great activity, instinctively crave it at all seasons, but particularly in Winter, Spring and early Summer, while wild natural feeds are in short supply. Gives splendid results fed year round, as nesting birds feed it to their young regularly. For Cardinals, Jays, Woodpeckers and the larger birds, order medium coarse PECANO. For the wide variety of Warblers, Chickadees, Goldfinches and other small birds, and for mixing with beef suet, order medium fine PECANO.

Distributors desired in all bird feeding centers, and if you are interested please write to us for information and attractive proposition. Beyond Zone 3, distributors ordering by the ton freight delivery can sell it locally cheaper than is possible by small package delivery from Albany, Georgia, in this day of high transportation rates.

Our prices, worked out to give you the maximum amounts of PECANO on small and medium quantities until available through distributors, are as follows:

15 pounds.....	\$ 4.80 delivered
30 pounds.....	9.50 delivered
60 pounds.....	18.00 delivered
100 pounds or more,	18c per pound F. O. B. Albany, Ga.

To introduce this product, we offer it on the basis of money refunded if you are not entirely satisfied. Personal checks acceptable.

### **PECANO BIRD FEED COMPANY**

**P. O. BOX 218  
ALBANY, GEORGIA**