

THE ORIOLE

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THE ORIOLE

EDITOR

Milton N. Hopkins, Jr., 202 W. Roanoke Drive, Fitzgerald, Georgia

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

J. Fred Denton, Robert A. Norris, Ivan R. Tomkins

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GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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FLIGHT-PAIR DISPLAY OF ROYAL TERNS

By GEORGE W. SCIPLE, M.D.

In mid-April, 1962, the author observed an amazing performance by royal terns (*Thalasseus maximus*) which he had not read of nor seen before. Limited library facilities have made adequate search of the literature impossible, and the performance to be recorded here may have been described elsewhere. Bent (Bent, 1921) states only that "I have never seen its courtship performance and can find nothing about it in print," and Murphy (Murphy, 1936) makes no comment on the subject of courtship flight.

An apparent high pressure system dominated the weather at the time (mid-afternoon) of the observations at Tybee Island. Winds of an estimated 20-25 mph velocity blew from the west, from the land toward the sea. The sky was deep blue and nearly cloudless. The sunlight was brilliant. Visibility must have been near a maximum.

The author was lying supine and looking almost directly upward when he became aware of an exceedingly faint but quite familiar call, often repeated. The call was that of a royal tern, and it seemed to come from almost directly overhead. Several minutes were occupied with trying to locate the bird or birds giving the calls. Calls could be heard for a time, then not for some moments, and then they were audible again. Finally, the source was located. A tiny dot of white was visible, so high that it was not at first recognizable as a bird or birds of this species. A crude estimate of height, made at the time, was in the area of 2000 feet. I had never before, and have not since, seen birds of this species at such an altitude. The dot was near the limit of my vision, but the flight silhouette was not consistent with any of the usual ones of individuals of this species. It appeared blurred, and I attributed this to the great distance and inadequate visual resolution. Soon, however, the explanation became

clear. This was not one individual, actually it was two, almost touching one another throughout their entire lengths and wing expanses. Flight movements were almost perfectly coordinated, so perfectly that it was difficult to determine that there were really two birds. This display was not the "fish flight" nor the "aerial glide" of the courtship flights of the common tern as described by Palmer (Palmer, 1941). It was active, synchronous, continued paired flight. The flight was so swift on the downwind let of the terns' course that it confused the author's sense of size proportion. It appeared that no tern could fly so swiftly, and that these were smaller birds, moving more slowly, and closer to the eye. This was not the case, however, for they suddenly swooped downward in a swinging turn. The two birds must have dropped a full 1000 feet in this turn within a few seconds. The two then began to beat back upwind, still with perfectly coordinated wing beats and other flight motions. It was clear at this time that they were indeed royal terns, and that the flight display was a continuing one. The author watched them swooping, turning, climbing, diving, and in extremely swift level downwind flight for a period of more than 30 minutes. The author has never seen more *elan* nor ability to move as rapidly through space displayed by any bird. He has never seen such flight for so prolonged a period, and certainly never by two birds only inches apart and perfectly synchronized in every observable movement.

A third royal tern made a momentary attempt to join the flight pair, but this lasted only a few moments. The newcomer was never closer than 40-50 feet to the flight pair, and was soon outdistanced. Several of the characteristic strident, rasping royal tern calls were heard at this time, but which bird or birds uttered them could not be determined.

A second flight pair was seen while the first was still present. Neither flight pair seemed to take notice of the other, and the pairs were never seen closer together than about 1/4 mile. The actions of the second flight pair were quite similar to those of the first. Neither pair appeared to have a fish or other object held between the mandibles, and there was no observed attempt to pass anything from one bird to the other.

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P.O. Box 279
Savannah Beach, Georgia
Sept 18, 1962

BREEDING DATA FOR SEVERAL SPECIES IN MID-SOUTH GEORGIA

BY MILTON HOPKINS, JR.

During the past several summers I have concentrated on searches for breeding evidence of several species thought to breed here and on others that have remained in the summer but for which no nests have been found. The data presented here are offered to help clarify what has been thought to be a hiatus or broken range for some of these birds and, secondly, to encourage other students to help fill in our knowledge of these species in their localities so that a more thorough knowledge of their breeding status in the state might be known.

KILLDEER: On June 3, 1962, Lt. William Rossiter, Milton Hopkins III, and I noted a single Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) on a mud flat of a rearing pool at the State Fish Hatchery, Bowens Mill, approximately ten miles north of Fitzgerald, Ben Hill County. Another adult flushed from the close-mowed lawn uphill from the pool. My son located two slight depressions nearby that appeared to be nests although they were empty at the time. The area was again visited on June 9 and again both Killdeers were noted on the lawn about 100 feet from the water's edge. The nest was located after a short search. It contained two fresh eggs and was located in one of the depressions found previously. The cup-shaped hole was lined with bits of rotting pine needles and small pieces of wood. There are scattered slash pines (*pinus elliotti*) over the area.

Neither of the adults feigned injury as they were flushed several times, probably indicating that the full clutch had not been laid. The species is now considered a rare breeder in the area since I have searched pastures and a golf course for several years for breeding evidence without success. The nearest breeding record to this location is probably that of Denton (Oriole, 10:25) who found young out of the nest at Cochran, Georgia.

PRAIRIE WARBLER: On May 27, 1962 an active nest of the Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*) was located near Osewichee Springs, Wilcox County, Georgia. The nest was 24 inches from the ground in a hawthorn bush (*Crataegus* sp.) within a cow pasture. It contained four fresh eggs and the female was flushed from the nest. A male of the species singing from a high pine nearby had led me towards the general location

of the nest. The adults of the species are difficult to differentiate in the field. On this same date I had located five singing males of the species from a car on a sandy road between Camp Brooklyn and Bowens Mill in Ben Hill County. On the road to the springs three more males were heard singing.

On June 2, 1962, Lt. Wm. Rossiter, Milton Hopkins III, and I located two singing males in a scrub oak area west of Crystal Lake, Irwin County, Georgia and approximately 1/4 mile from the Alapaha River. Another nest that appeared fresh but empty was located here. It was also two feet from the ground in an oak shrub. On June 3, 1962 we located three more singing males near Bowens Mill and on the Wilcox-Ben Hill County line.

On June 9, 1962 I searched an area approximately 3 miles north of Alapaha, Berrien County, Georgia, where highway 129 crosses the Alapaha River. A two to three mile search up river from the bridge revealed no Prairie Warblers. After crossing the highway and going down stream about 1/4 mile I found a park-like area that had been bulldozed out several years before and where the pine and large oak timber had been cut. This area produced two singing males. The area had grown up in small oaks and appeared suitable for nesting but no nests were found.

During the afternoon of this same day I returned to the area near the Wilcox-Ben Hill County line mentioned above and in a short time located another nest of the species. The nest was empty but a single, well-feathered young warbler was noted nearby being fed by both parents. In this area three males were again heard singing, all withing earshot and probably within a radius of 300 yards. There was a pronounced individual variation in one of the three songs in that one was a very "slow starter". The first three *zees* in one male's song were separated by at least two second intervals although the gradually rising inflection toward the end of the song remained the same.

These locations under discussion, comprising parts of four counties and being 20 to 35 miles apart are similar in several respects as follows: All are in xeric type habitats characterized by very sandy soils, low scrub oaks (with a thin scattering of taller oaks and pines overhead), hawthorn bushes, poison oak, wire grass (with bare stretches of sand between clumps), wild sweetpea, bush blueberry, sassafras, and a few small black cherry trees. All are near river courses.

The interior state records could be summarized at this stage. Denton (Oriole 8:4) comments on the species being fairly common summer resident at Americus, Sumter County; Grimm (Oriole, 11:32) says the bird is not uncommon as a summer resident at Camp Stewart in southeastern Georgia in brushy clearings; Straw (Oriole 12:44) states that it is a breeding summer resident at Fort Benning, Muscogee County, and Denton (Oriole 16:20-21) again found the warbler to be a common summer resident in upper coastal plain regions of eastern Georgia and concluded that the species' range was probably continuous through this region in Georgia.

William Dopson (Oriole 27:35-36) located a nest of this species at McRae, Telfair County in April 1962. The nest was found in a scrub-oak area within Little Ocmulgee State Park and was in a power line cut through the area. Dopson's discovery prompted my intensive search on the Ben Hill County side of the Ocmulgee River in similar habitat.

FIELD SPARROW: Breeding evidence for the Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*) in this area has been presented before in part (Hopkins, Oriole 26:43-44). These additional notes will show that the species is a locally common breeder in suitable habitats in adjacent areas.

May 6, 1962: I located two singing males near Osierfield, Irwin County, Georgia, and one nest containing two eggs about two feet from the ground in blackberry bushes.

May 8, 1962: Another fresh nest was found but was empty.

May 9, 1962: Two pair were noted in Ben Hill County approximately five miles east of Fitzgerald. One male was singing.

June 3, 1962: Two individuals were noted near the Ben Hill-Wilcox County line.

June 9, 1962: Five individuals were noted in Berrien County near Alapaha and two of these were carrying food to a dependent young in a small oak tree. A nest was located near here.

ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW: On June 3, 1962 Lt. William Rossiter called my attention to holes in the bank of a borrow pit approximately 6 miles northeast of Fitzgerald, Ben Hill County, on the Camp Brooklyn road. I investigated these and found that they were eight in number but only two contained grass nests in the enlarged rear portions.

I could not reach the back of these holes to determine contents but two Rough-Winged Swallows (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*) were circling and passing to and fro over the bank. These holes were located in the sand strata overlaying red clay in the wall of the pit. This is the first breeding evidence for the species in the area.

BACHMAN'S SPARROW: After years of searching for a nest of the Bachman's Sparrow (*Aimophila aestivalis*), I "stumbled on" one near the Ben Hill-Wilcox County line. On June 9, 1962. The female flushed from between my legs and fluttered and ran about three feet before disappearing. The nest was placed in a sparse turf of wire grass (*Aristida*) and contained four very elongated appearing, white eggs that were well incubated. A male was singing over 100 yards away. This location was not in pineland but near the short scrub oak area where I had been searching for Prairie Warbler nests.

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER: On May 27, 1962, a nest of the Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virens*) was found as Osewichee Springs, Wilcox County. The nest was made or fashioned from Spanish-Moss (*Tillandsia*) entirely and contained three eggs. It was on a limb of a water oak (*Quercus nigra*) about 13 feet over the water and in a noisy situation where many people were swimming. A pair of flycatchers, perhaps this pair, has nested in this same tree for three years to my knowledge. Robert A. Norris (Oriole, 6:51) has noted closely spaced old nests of this species before.

KENTUCKY WARBLER: A singing male Kentucky Warbler (*Oporornis formosus*) was located on June 3, 1962, near Spring Lake on the Ben Hill-Wilcox County line. He remained near a fallen oak draped with Spanish-moss on a wooded hillside above Spring Lake run and continued to sing as I searched without success for the nest. Again on June 9, I located another singing male in woods bordering the Alapaha River in Berrien County but the search for a nest in the dense underbrush was unsuccessful. These are the only summer records for the area.

PINE WARBLER and WOOD PEWEE: from field notes on May 18, 1962, come the following data; "this afternoon while driving through a tract of long-leaf pine (*Pinus palustris*) I heard a Wood Pewee (*Contopus virens*) call. The bird was calling from a dead pine limb approximately 40 feet from the ground. He flew from this perch to another about

50 yards away and called one more time. In the meantime Pine Warblers (*Dendroica pinus*) began calling from over 60 feet high in the same pine. Calls were heard from several individuals, so I began watching them and found that a pair was feeding four dependent young (two in that pine and one more each in two neighboring pines). Their perches ranged from 50 to 75 feet above the ground and as I sat quietly it was possible to locate each of the four as the parents carried food to them. While this was going on I focused the glasses on a small bird that I thought to be a pine warbler and followed it through the flight path to where it landed. I was pleasantly surprised to see that this bird was a wood pewee in the act of constructing a nest. The nest appeared to be approximately 3/4 completed and was located 15 feet from the main stem of the pine and approximately 35 feet from the ground. It was situated on a two-inch diameter limb where two small branches ran out at right angles from the main limb and was secured to all four of these joints, even appearing to be joined around the four branches on the bottom sides. The lichen covered nest appeared almost white contrasted with the dark pine limb. The female, for only one of the pair definitely was constructing the nest, was then observed for one hour. The other pewee continued to call from about 75 yards away. During the observation the female made 18 trips to gather nest material, fifteen of these being to a creek head 75 yards west of the nest. On these trips she was going to some young Black Gum trees, apparently for lichens, although on two of these trips she dropped below the gums to a patch of gallberry in full bloom—whether to get spider webs or insects I don't know because of the rapidity of her movements. On the other three trips to the nest she went to neighboring long-leaf pine buds and pecked around the base of the buds for some material. These large fresh buds of this pine are covered by a silvery, white, cobweb-like network which she was probably gathering for attaching the lichens to the nest.

When she approached the nest she always alighted on the rim and then hopped inside the cavity and worked from there at this stage. She did some smoothing with the under side of her throat and lower mandible on several occasions. Her tail protruded almost completely over the side of the nest, and on two occasions it was bent downward and at right angles to her body as she reached way over the side of the nest. The female's flights to the creek head were all direct while those into the neighboring pines were random.

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3. Dopson, William, 1962, Breeding Data from Little Ocmulgee State Park, *The Oriole*, 27:35-36
4. Grimm, William C., 1946, Bird Life of The Camp Stewart, Georgia Region, *The Oriole*, 11:32 and 41
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7. Straw, Richard M., 1947, Notes on The Birdlife at Fort Benning, Georgia, *The Oriole*, 12:44

Addendum: Since the notes concerning the Prairie Warbler were written this species has been found in vastly different habitat niches from those described as optimum for it in that account in this area. On June 12, 1962 a singing male was collected near Prospect Church, Ben Hill County. His testes measured 6 mm. This male and another one over 200 yards away had been singing from 20 ft. isolated slash pines (these being the highest vegetation in an area of palmetto and gallberry clumps). An old nest was found here. On June 13, 1962 five singing males of this species were found in openings of a mature stand of long-leaf pine of over 5,000 acres extent in Ben Hill County. There was an understory of small oaks, blackberry, bracken fern, and gallberry in these openings. One used nest of this species was found in a low gallberry bush.

The only factor remaining constant in all observations has been the average height of vegetation in preferred breeding and summer territory of this species in this area. This height is approximately five feet.

202 W. Roanoke Drive, Fitzgerald, Georgia, June 11, 1962

GENERAL NOTES

SIGHT RECORD OF WHITE-TAILED KITE IN GEORGIA.—On October 10, 1962, while on the firetower atop Brasstown Bald Mountain in north-east Georgia, with Mr. and Mrs. Benj. F. McGuckin, Sr., and Mrs. Williams, all of Charleston, S.C., we noticed a medium sized hawk flying in from the northeast. This bird came within about 200 feet of the tower and flew off leisurely in a southwest direction giving us an excellent view of it with binoculars for several minutes. We saw distinctly that it had black on the bend of its wings and black markings under the wings, these black markings contrasting with the brown and white plumage.

None of us had ever seen a White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*) but are familiar with the Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) which is a summer resident and nests in the low country around Charleston and is looked for every year. Our bird had the shape of the Mississippi Kite but not the coloration and the black patches were very noticeable.

I could find no record of the White-tailed Kite for Georgia and very few recent records for the southeastern states. Two sight records for Florida; William H. Drury, Jr., and Henry M. Parker of Harvard reported one seen Dec. 27, 1941, (Auk, 59, 430, 1942), an immature bird 25 to 30 miles west of the city of Okeechobee, and one sight record by Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Murray, Lexington, Va. and Mr. and Mrs. Glen Chandler, Florida on January 1, 1949, on the Kissimmee Prairie, (Auk, 67, 235, 1950).

Audubon had 4 of these kites sent him in 1834 which he called Black-shouldered Hawks; one 40 miles west of Charleston and 3 from the Santee River, 50 miles north of Charleston, but none were reported for nearly 100 years. Alex. Sprunt, Jr., in the Auk, Vol. 52, page 445, 1935, records the sight record of Edward M. Moore of one of these kites flying over Bulls Island, S.C. on May 7, 1929 with a Swallow-tailed Kite which he watched for more than an hour, and another sight record by E. Burnham Chamberlain early in the same month on the mainland just across from Bulls Island which may have been the same bird. On June 6, 1956. Mr. I. H. Metcalf recorded one about 5 miles west of Charleston.

Mr. Douglas Wade of the Dept. of Zoology, Clemson College, S.C. recorded two sight records near Clemson—one on June 6, 1952, 11 miles

south of Clemson, the second May 18, 1953, 3 miles north of Clemson. Clemson is less than 60 miles east of Brasstown Bald Mountain in Georgia, and we are satisfied that the bird we saw from that mountain was an immature White-tailed Kite in migration, and perhaps the first sight record for Georgia in over 100 years since John Leconte's list of Georgia Birds (1849).—ELLISON A. WILLIAMS, 27 Limehouse Street, Charleston, S. C., Nov. 21, 1962.

LEAST BITTERN NESTING IN LOWNDES COUNTY.—Lt. William Rossiter and I spent the afternoon of July 29, 1962 birding in Grassy Lake, which is about 7 miles south of Valdosta, Georgia. We were checking the nests of a loose colony of Red-winged Blackbirds (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) when our boat drifted into a buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*). I turned around and found a Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*), neck and wings extended, in a nest about 3 feet from me. The nest was about 2-1/2 feet above the water and was constructed of small sticks. The Buttonbush in which the nest was built was about 15 yards from the nearest part of the near-by marsh area. We left but returned to photograph the nest and bird about 30 minutes later. The bird then partially stood up in the nest, and I could see two eggs; there were possibly more as I could not see all the nest. This is evidently the first record of the Least Bittern breeding in south Georgia away from the coast.—WILLIAM DOPSON, 708 Graham Street, McRae, Georgia, November 13, 1962.

GREATER SHEARWATERS WASHED ASHORE ON SAPELO ISLAND, GEORGIA.—On June 24, 1962, while driving along the south-end beach of Sapelo Island, Georgia, with Dr. George Sciple, Mr. J. E. Smith and myself, Mr. Ivan Tomkins sighted a dead bird in the beach drift at the spring tide line. Close examination showed that it was a complete skeleton with many of the feathers still attached. Mr. Tomkins tentatively identified the specimen as a Greater Shearwater (*Puffinus gravis*).

On June 29, while walking along the spring tide line, about one-half mile further south, I found another skeleton of the same species and in similar condition. Both specimens were sent to the U.S. National Museum where verification of identification was made through the courtesy of Dr. Richard Manville. The two specimens are now in the collection of the Department of Zoology, University of Georgia (No. 2091 and No.

2092) and may represent the only Georgia specimens now extant.—HERBERT W. KALE II. *Department of Zoology, University of Georgia, Athens, Ga. and University of Georgia Marine Institute, Sapelo Island, Ga. September 24, 1962.*

FALL CONCENTRATIONS OF THE EASTERN KINGBIRD.—The Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) seen at every turn of the road, perched on the wires of fences and telephone lines is rapidly becoming one of this area's more common birds during the summer months.

However, the August and early September concentrations of this species is still novel enough to me to be interesting.

Two widely separated incidents furnished observers with unusual opportunity to study the birds at close range.

On August 30, 1958, we watched as 24 Kingbirds fed on enormous plants filled with ripe pokeberries. The birds made quite a picture (with sound) as they moved about with audible fluttering of wings, clicking of bills, and excited loud calls. Now and then a few birds would apparently remember they were flycatchers and would zoom into the air with tails spread like fans, wings beating madly, and bills clicking as they devoured insects. After a short, rather awkward flight the birds would literally sprawl in an ungainly position on the pokeberries where they would sit quietly for a time before resuming the feast. One authority says that pokeberries will intoxicate birds, and we think this incident observed with much amusement will bear out his opinion.

At dusk on September 3, 1962, not far from the location mentioned above we came to a small grove of water oaks at the edge of a field of cotton. Here again excited Kingbirds were engaged in madly erratic flight. The birds were fairly well hidden in the thick branches of the trees, but would suddenly explode into the air to feed on flying insects, then drop out of sight again. As I walked under the trees in an effort to see the birds more clearly and to discover the cause of the excitement I could hear the hum of insects, some of which were bees. As the birds changed position from branch to branch they uttered shrill calls, and beat their wings frantically as they sought a perch. The same sharp clicking of the bills seemed unusually loud, and I was surprised to see the birds feeding in the trees.

Out of this wild scene I was able to count 68 Kingbirds as they scrambled about, this being only a portion of the total. The incident closed in direct contrast to the noisy behaviour, and there followed an uncanny lull as the darkness began to deepen. Now the birds quietly disappeared one by one as they dropped into the trees, and silence reigned over the roosting area.—GRACE M. WHITEMAN, 1103 *Sixth Ave., West Point, Ga. September 21, 1962.*

FROM THE FIELD

Ivan Tomkins saw one Western Kingbird on October 11; 2 on Oct. 22; 5 on Nov. 5; 3 on Nov. 6, 7, and 9; and 2 on November 10 and 12. All of these kingbirds were noted in the same place on Tybee in Chatham County where this species has been found in previous years. William Dopson noted four Shovelers on October 12 at Little Ocmulgee State Park, also 27 Wood Ibis on October 14, and a Black-crowned Night Heron on October 7. William had a Rose-breasted Grosbeak brought to him dead on October 7, 1962.

Herbert Kale II reported a flock of approximately 1000 Bobolinks at the Athens, Georgia airport on September 23. Jimmy Cook wrote at length describing the antics of both the Barred and Barn Owl on the premises of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold E. Johns on Carter Drive N.E. in Atlanta. On one night in July he remained until 2:00 A.M. for part of the show which took place less than 30 feet from his observation post.

Tom and Hedvig Cater report one immature Wood Ibis following some immature Little Blue Herons around in the shallow water of a borrow pit July 22, 1962 and one Snowy Egret on August 11, 1962 in the same area of Houston County.

Rev. Edward G. Nichols wrote on July 14 from Norfolk, Virginia: "I have left Georgia permanently, I am afraid, but will report an observation made near Hollywood, in Habersham County, on the day we were leaving, June 29, 1962. A Cedar Waxwing was perched on a wire along the road. The elevation must be about 1500 feet above sea level. I had not previously seen the species in the nesting season in the Demorest region, but some years ago they were seen in that season at Cornelia, which is about the same elevation and about 12 miles south of my observation."

Milton Hopkins III found a Barn Owl's nest on June 27, 1962 in the attic of a pack house at Osierfield, Irwin County, Georgia. The nest contained one egg obviously not fresh but the record constitutes the first breeding evidence for the region. Many pellets were nearby. Milton Hopkins, Jr. noted an adult male Cowbird on July 6, a first summer record for the Woodcock on July 8, and a Louisiana Heron on August 25, 1962. He sent in a band from a Mourning Dove shot on a

farm at Osierfield on September 29, 1962 by Michael F. Murray. The dove had been banded at Darien, Georgia as an adult on June 1, 1962 by the Georgia Game and Fish Commission.

L. A. Wells recorded many interesting fall migrants in the Columbus area as follows: Common Loon, one on Nov. 6 and 29; Horned Grebe, 2 on Nov. 8, 10, 17, and 19; Goldeneye, 16 on Dec. 8; Western Kingbird recorded for the first time on Oct. 10; also two Pine Siskins on Nov. 30 by Florence Lynn.

NEWS AND COMMENTS

RESUME OF THE GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
MEETING, OCTOBER 19-21, 1962:

The forty-seventh semi-annual meeting of the Georgia Ornithological Society was held in Atlanta, October 19-21, 1962 with headquarters at the Howard Johnson Motel. Sixty-six persons registered.

The business meeting was conducted Friday at 8:00 P.M. by the president, Mrs. Thomas Cater, Jr. The treasurer, Miss Katherine Weaver, reported a balance in the general treasury of \$313.82 with the September and December issues of *The Oriole* still to be paid for.

The business manager, Mr. Louis Fink, reported 160 regular members, 15 of whom had joined in 1962 up to the time of this meeting. We have 19 library members, only 9 of which are in Georgia. It is apparent that all of us need to secure new memberships for G.O.S. to become solvent financially as well as to promote knowledge of birds in Georgia.

Miss Louis Nunnally reported that G.O.S. friends in Rome would see that *Oriole Chirps* news sheet could continue with no cost to the society.

Mimeographed copies of very complete reports by the treasurer and the business manager were available to the membership.

Mr. Ralph Ramsey and Mr. Richard Parks had been asked to look into accumulating slides of Georgia birds to be owned by G.O.S. and available to members for educational talks. Mr. Ramsey had already made a start with this project and invited members to contribute original slides for a master set from which duplicates can be made. When available sets of copies might be rented or possibly purchased. Another member of the committee will be selected from the Atlanta area for convenience sake.

Another plea was made for the society to try to get protection for hawks and owls. Georgia is one of only six states which affords no protection. Subsequent to the meeting the president asked the following committee to serve in this capacity, Mr. Herbert Kale, chairman, Mrs. R. E. Hamilton, and Mrs. James K. Dobbs.

A winter meeting at Savannah Wildlife Refuge to see ducks was planned for January 19, 1963 at the invitation of G.O.S. members in the Savannah region. The Savannah Audubon Club and the Savannah Adult

Naturalists Club will serve the mid day meal. Those who wish may join the Hilton Head Audubon Club on Sunday for a field trip on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. Notify Mrs. E. O. Mellinger, Savannah Wildlife Refuge, Route 1, Hardeeville, South Carolina if you plan to be present Saturday or Sunday so they can plan the noon meals.

Upon the invitation of William Dopson, it was decided to have the spring meeting at Little Ocmulgee State Park near McRae, Ga.

Mr. W. W. Griffin, in charge of the field trips for the current meeting, briefed us on the schedule for the following day.

Saturday after breakfast at Emory University Cafeteria we left for field trips to that part on the Emory Campus that was formerly the estate of Mr. Walter Candler and to Fernbank.

After lunch Mr. Rufus Godwin conducted a paper session in the new Emory Biology building. The papers read were as follows; "Some Observations in Middle Georgia", i.e., Mississippi kite, Horned Lark, Golden Plover, and Cattle Egret, by Miss Alma Cooke, "Effect of the Spraying Program on Wild Life" by Dr. Robert Ingols of Georgia Tech, "Diseases Carried by Birds" by Dr. Donald Stamm of the U.S. Public Health Service, and "Embryology of Birds" by Dr. Ernest Hunt of Emory University.

Saturday evening the banquet was served at the Atlanta Womens Club. The hall and tables were beautifully decorated in autumn flowers and leaves. Mr. Daniel O. Todd, president of the Atlanta Bird Club, our host organization, was master of ceremonies. Mr. Griffin introduced G.O.S. officers to the group and introduced those who had participated in the local arrangements. Following the dinner we adjourned to the auditorium where we enjoyed the Audubon Wildlife Film, "The Living Wilderness", photographed and presented by Mr. Walter Berlet of Casper, Wyoming.

On Sunday we had breakfast at Howard Johnson's Restaurant at 6:30 followed by field trips in the vicinity of Morgan Falls on the Chattahoochee River. The groups gathered at Island Ford on the Chattahoochee River for compilation of the species seen on Saturday and Sunday. Seventy-five (75) species were observed.

Elizabeth Newsom, Secretary

ERRATUM: The following list of literature should have accompanied the article "*Barn Swallows Along The Georgia Coast in Early Summer*" by Dr. George W. Sciple Oriole 27:27-28

LITERATURE CITED

1. Burleigh, Thomas D., Georgia Birds, 746 pp. Norman: U Okla. Press.
2. Greene, Earle R., William W. Griffin, Eugene P. Odum, Herbert L. Stoddard, and Ivan R. Tomkins, 1945. Birds of Georgia—A Preliminary Check-List and Bibliography of Georgia Ornithology. 111 pp. Athens: U. of Ga. Press.
3. Jones, Harold C., 1947. Breeding Birds of the Rome, Georgia, Area. Oriole 12:15-17.
4. Teal, John M., 1959. Birds of Sapelo Island and Vicinity. Oriole 24:1-14.
5. Tomkins, Ivan R., 1962. Personal communication.

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