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THE FLICKER

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Published in February, May, October, and December by the

MINNESOTA BIRD CLUB

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Vice-President, Charles Evans, 701-15th Ave. S. E., Minneapolis  
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Dues, active members, \$1 per annum; associate members, \$0.50

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At the monthly meeting of the Minnesota Bird Club held December 13, 1934, Mr. William Kilgore, Curator of the University Museum of Natural History, gave a very interesting talk on an interesting topic, Falconry. The members were unanimous in their approval of Mr. Kilgore's discussion, and many questions were raised.

Marius Morse told us briefly about his experiences with a captive sparrow hawk which he is attempting to train, and the meeting adjourned after the arrangements for the Christmas field trip were made.

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At the regular meeting on January 10, 1935, the officers listed above were elected and the members present considered the many interesting observations made during the Christmas holidays. These are all presented in the following pages in Mr. Mahle's compilation.

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At the February meeting on the 14th of the month Dr. T. S. Roberts, Director of the University Museum, gave an interesting paper on the early history of Minnesota ornithology, which included many personal recollections of the early ornithologists and early conditions. An especially large audience was present at this talk and all were appreciative of the opportunity to hear Dr. Roberts speak on a subject which no one else would be qualified to present.

## THE 1934 CHRISTMAS CENSUS

by Donald Mahle

It has been the custom for some time for someone to undertake the responsibility of recording in some fashion the yearly Christmas bird census in Minnesota. It must have been lack of forethought which prompted the powers that be to bestow upon me the honor and privilege of writing this year's compilation.

The actual Christmas census which is sent to Bird Lore annually must be taken between December 22nd and December 27th, inclusive; the areas covered must have a diameter of not more than 15 miles; there is no limit to the number of observers, and they may travel on foot or any means of conveyance. The number of species and number of individuals must be recorded as accurately as possible. In this article, however, will be included all records of birds seen during the Christmas holidays by various members of the Minnesota Bird Club in various parts of the state in order that some idea of the general distribution of the winter bird population may be presented.

It was decided that the annual Christmas trip should include Frontenac and southeastern Minnesota in the vicinity of Preston, Lanesboro, and Carimona, especially along the valley of the Root River where possibility of open water might induce many birds to spend the winter. The club planned one day at Frontenac and one at Lanesboro and vicinity, the object in view being to secure the largest list at one or other of the places.

At about 4 a.m. on Saturday, December 22nd, three cars loaded with an expectant group of bird-chasers headed for Frontenac. The trip was uneventful and we arrived at the break of dawn. We had a cottage on the shore of Lake Pepin as our headquarters, bunkhouse, and dining hall.

We wasted no time in getting started on our morning jaunts. Separating into groups of three or four individuals we went our several ways planning to return to compare notes at 1 p.m. My group had not gone three rods before we heard the "chip" of a cardinal. It was too dark to distinguish colors but the flutter of wings in the bushes was sufficient to identify species number one, individual one for our 1934 Christmas census.

It was a beautiful day for birding; six or eight inches of snow covered the ground; the temperature was about 15 degrees above zero and a brisk breeze from the west was an incentive to keep us active enough to keep warm. No one suffered from the elements except one individual who evidently thought we were hunting canaries on a parlor rug and so came dressed for a wedding and wearing oxfords. A pair of borrowed overshoes made life worth while for the gentlemen and he got in his share of hiking after thawing out several frosted bunions.

The day at Frontenac was filled with one pleasant experience or interesting find after another. Let me cite one instance. The author of this journal and a friend were hiking through the woods trying to keep tabs on the various Blue Jays we were seeing when the above-mentioned colleague suggested it would be great to one of those Blue Jays turn out to be a Tufted Titmouse. The writer being a wise and virtuous bird student, expressed perhaps with a little contempt, the idea that such a find would not be at all surprising. Not more than 30 seconds later we heard a noise which simulated a lion's roar, and we knew that Alden had discovered something unusual. The author strangely enough forgot his contempt of the moment and made a dash in the direction of the roar. There before his eyes were two of the little gray Tufted Titmice hopping from twig to branch and offering us an excellent opportunity to study them. This was only one incident; there were many more.

Upon returning to our refueling base we discovered to our pleasant surprise that already we had seen more species for the census than had ever been seen before. The old record, I believe was 26 species but before our day at Frontenac was over we had no less than 29 species to our credit.

We spent an hour or more eating and talking over our morning's experiences. At this time we learned that we hardly needed to stop out of the cottage in pursuit of ornithological records because a covey of nine quail had established their residence underneath the adjoining cottage.

After lunch some of the more hearty and most dyed-in-the-wool enthusiasts again went out to see what they might discover. Others were content to rest and talk and sleep. Personally I rather enjoyed a fairly prolonged nap, until awakened by burning eyes, nose, mouth and throat and terrific aroma in the room. I discovered that some careless gentleman had left his soap on the hot stove.

At about the time we were ready to retire for the night another carload of club members arrived with tales of having pushed eight or nine cars out of snow drifts before they could get through. We were glad to see them at any rate and they brought the number of individuals on the trip up to 17. These included, Robert Young, Horace Paul, Ralph Eisele, Axel Hanson, Walter Downey, Robert Upson, Robert Turner, John O'Leary, Donald Mahle, Alden Risser, Charles Reif, Ralph Woolsey, Arnold Erickson, John Wilson, Marius Morse, Gustav Swanson, and Kenneth Carlander. The last five came on Saturday evening, the others early Saturday morning.

We would have spent a peaceful night but for intermittent crashes of furniture against walls and similar disturbances. However, we arose at about 4:30 a.m. Sunday and started for Lanesboro in what turned out to be a fairly interesting snowstorm. By the time it was daylight we had arrived at Lanesboro and we soon saw that we were to have a beautiful day for hiking.

Lanesboro is situated in the pretty little valley of the Root River. The rocky snow-covered bluffs were a beautiful picture but they thrilled us even more when we saw several Red-tailed Hawks soar from the summit emitting their characteristic cries.

During the day at Lanesboro we followed much the same plan which we had at Frontenac. Some of us went up river, some down river, and some followed the highway. At noon we congregated at a restaurant in Lanesboro and there ate our lunches and talked over the lists of the morning. We were very fortunate that the proprietor was tolerant.

When we counted our list of species we discovered that our record of the day before had been broken and that we had a list of 31. This record was also short-lived because before night fell we had added five more to our number to make a grand total of 36 species and 901 individuals.

After our lunch we headed for Carinona where we spent two hours hiking along a pretty creek or river and here I saw my first Robin in mid-winter. It seemed a little lonely sitting on a branch overhanging the water but it hardly ruffled a feather as we went past so it could not have been much heartened by our company.

We had to desert our ex-president, his chauffeur and company at Lanesboro because the look on their car refused to function. I am told that they finally opened the door with the aid of a mop handle, and continued on their way to spend the remainder of the day near Preston.

We all returned home on Sunday night except Gustav Swanson, Arnold Erickson, and John Wilson who returned to Frontenac and spent most of the following day there. The official list of birds which was sent to Bird Lore was the list obtained at Lanesboro and vicinity. The list is as follows:

Mallard -----	23	Black-capped Chickadee --	160
Golden-eye -----	1	White-breasted Nuthatch -	51
Red-tailed Hawk -----	5	Brown Creeper -----	5
Ruffed Grouse -----	1	Winter Wren -----	1
Prairie Chicken -----	1	Robin -----	1
Ring-necked Pheasant ----	17	Golden-crowned Kinglet --	1
Screech Owl -----	1	Tufted Titmouse -----	4
Barred Owl -----	1	Cedar Waxwing -----	30
Belted Kingfisher -----	2	Migrant Shrike (?) -----	1
Flicker -----	3	Starling -----	90
Pileated Woodpecker -----	1	Cardinal -----	45
Red-bellied Woodpecker --	14	Purple Finch -----	12
Red-headed Woodpecker ----	1	Pine Siskin -----	1
Downy Woodpecker -----	25	Goldfinch -----	54
Hairy Woodpecker -----	14	Slate-colored Junco -----	250
Horned Lark -----	1	Tree Sparrow -----	21
Blue Jay -----	29	Lapland Longspur -----	5
Crow -----	1	Snow Bunting -----	22
Total species -	36	Total individuals -	901

In addition to these, a Rough-legged Hawk, Bobwhite, Herring Gull, and Redpoll was seen at Frontenac the previous day. Also on Monday, the day following, Gustav Swanson, Arnold Erickson, and John Wilson saw a Bald Eagle and a Turkey Vulture at Wacouta. They also saw one Red-shouldered Hawk, one Great Horned Owl and another Bald Eagle at Frontenac.

In all there was a total of 44 species seen on the Bird Club trip; besides being an enviable record, it is a good one for future Bird Club trips to shoot at.

While the Minnesota Bird Club was making new records in southeastern Minnesota other members of the Club were making records of one kind or another in other parts of the state.

On Christmas day Mr. Swedenborg visited the Minnesota River and Gun Club and reported an extremely interesting list of birds, as follows:

Mallard -----	9	Red-winged Blackbird -----	60
Pheasant -----	66	Rusty Blackbird -----	1
Coot (injured) -----	1	Brewer's Blackbird -----	4
Wilson Snipe -----	1	Bronzed Grackle -----	4
Downy Woodpecker -----	5	Cardinal -----	1
Blue Jay -----	15	Junco -----	5
Chickadee -----	10	Tree Sparrow -----	17
Nuthatch -----	8	Song Sparrow -----	1
Northern Yellow-throat --	1	<u>Total Species</u> - - - - -	18
Yellow-headed Blackbird -	1	<u>Total Individuals</u> - - - - -	211

On December 30, 1934, Breckenridge and Swanson made a trip to Cambridge and Grandy, Minnesota. They submitted the following list: 4 Ruffed Grouse, 1 Goshawk, Blue Jays, Chickadees, Nuthatches, Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers, 16 Goldfinches, Tree Sparrows and Juncos.

On New Year's day Alden Risser and Charles Evans tried to duplicate Mr. Swedenborg's list of the week before. They failed in that endeavor but they did see among other things a Winter Wren which should be well worth while at this period of the year.

Nester Hiemenz and Jack Hanson of St. Cloud report the following list seen January 2, 1935:

Quail -----	5	Snow Buntings -----	226
Pheasant -----	35	Downy Woodpeckers -----	2
Blue Jays -----	5	Hairy Woodpeckers -----	2
Chickadees -----	5	Pileated Woodpecker -----	1
Nuthatches -----	5	Goldfinches -----	100
Brown Creeper -----	1	Junco -----	5
TOTAL SPECIES -----	12	TOTAL INDIVIDUALS -----	392

Bill Webb has a record all of his own made at Cloquet on January 3rd and 4th. He was out for six hours on these two days and saw a total of one Chickadee and four Ruffed Grouse. Evidently the Bird Club used good judgment in going south for a large list of birds.

Marius Morse submits the following which is also a record of some kind or another. "On January 3rd I took a trip to Mille Lacs Lake. Somewhere near Princeton, I saw a flock of about 15 Snow Buntings and a few miles further on another flock of Snow Buntings of about the same number flew across the road. In the afternoon a party of ours took a two-hour trip through the hardwood forest around Mille Lacs. Only one bird was seen, that a Ruffed Grouse as it flushed from a hole in the deep snow. A Nuthatch was heard but not seen. The temperature at the time stood at about zero degrees F. On Friday, January 4th, at the Glenwood feeding station in Minneapolis there were many Juncos, several Downy Woodpeckers, two or three Blue Jays, several Chickadees, and a single male Cardinal. Several Pheasants were flushed near by."

The total number of species seen during the Christmas holidays by all the members of the club stands at 54. Some very interesting and unusual records were made by some of the members of the club. According to Dr. Roberts' book the Turkey Vulture seen by Swanson, Erickson and Wilson at Wacouta is very rare in winter. The only winter records hitherto reported were on December 8, 1870; and February 23rd and 28th, 1884, the latter two "doubtful". I believe that the Red-shouldered Hawk seen by the same trio is not a common bird in Minnesota at any time of the year, and of course the Bald Eagle is interesting.

The latest record for the Coot is December 13, 1929, so Mr. Swedneborg's record of Christmas day appears to be a new one although it was perhaps against the will of the Coot which seemed to be injured though it was able to fly. According to Dr. Roberts' book there are no winter records of the Winter Wren so it would seem that the club's record on December 23rd at Lanesboro and Evan's and Risser's record of January 1st along the Minnesota River near Lynedale are new records for this diminutive migrant.

The Shrike seen by Risser, Carlander, and several other members of the club may possibly have been a Northern Shrike since they are very difficult to distinguish except by size and the fact that the migrant Shrike is unbarred below and has a wholly black bill. The reason for thinking this bird was a migrant Shrike was mainly the small size. However, the observers did not feel that it was a definite identification. There are no definite winter records for the migrant Shrike in Minnesota.

The prize find of the year is Mr. Swedneborg's observation on Christmas Day of a northern Yellow-throat at the Long Meadow Gun Club near the Minnesota River. Mr. and Mrs. Swedenborg followed and studied the bird for some time so it is a positive identification.

Besides seeing the Coot Mr. Swedenborg also saw five species of blackbirds the same day while the club, in all its wanderings, failed to see even one. The Yellow-headed Blackbird was, of course, the most unusual of the five for this time of the year. There is no mention of any previous records in Dr. Roberts' Birds of Minnesota. There are only a few records for the Song Sparrow in winter according to Dr. Roberts. Judging from his records one might say that Mr. Swedenborg had a red letter field day.

I think the foregoing discourse may give the reader some idea of the distribution, kind and number of birds in Minnesota this winter provided he has the fortitude to finish reading the jumble of words.

--- Minneapolis, Minn.

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The regular monthly meeting of the Minnesota Bird Club March 14th was given over to a discussion of cyclic fluctuations in the populations of game birds and mammals. Marius Morse, William Webb, and Charles Evans took part and a general informal discussion followed.

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The combined meeting of the Iowa and Nebraska Ornithologists' Unions will be held at Sioux City, Iowa, on May 11th and 12th, 1935, and a large gathering of bird students from the Central States is expected. Notices of this meeting will be sent to many Minnesota ornithologists and it is hoped that a large number will find it possible to attend the meeting. Anyone who is interested in this meeting, if he has not received a notice, should write to Dr. T. C. Stephens, Morningside College, Sioux City, Iowa, for details. An interesting program is planned, and all Minnesota bird students are urged to attend if it is at all possible. Sioux City is close to Minnesota, and the meeting is on a Saturday and Sunday which should make it convenient for many to make the trip.

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The editor apologizes for the tardiness of this issue of The Flicker, and offers as his excuse the fact that he has been very busy acquainting himself with the intricacies of a new job. He is at present in the Division of Forestry and Wild-life of the Soil Erosion Service, U. S. Department of the Interior. In charge of the wild-life conservation work on an area of 94,000 acres in Fillmore and Mower Counties in southeastern Minnesota.

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Dues, active members \$1 per annum; associate members, 50¢

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At the December 1935 meeting of the Minnesota Bird Club the new officers for 1936 were elected, and any further communications regarding the Club should be addressed to these new office-holders, listed below:

President:

Mr. Charles Evans, 701 S.E. 15th, Minneapolis

Vice-President:

Mr. Robert Turner, University of Minnesota, Mpls.

Secretary-Treasurer:

Mr. Robert Upson, 4405 - Lyndale Ave. So., Mpls.

Editor of The Flicker:

Mr. George Rysgaard, 1400 Capitol Ave., St. Paul

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This is our opportunity to wish the new officers a successful year, and to assure them that they will receive the aid and co-operation of all Club members in their work.

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The treasurer reminds all members at this time that dues for the year 1936 are payable.

THE 1935 NESTING SEASON

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Compiled by Robert Turner

Minnesota Bird Club members submitted their nesting records again this year to be compiled and published by the FLICKER. Data of 21 observers treating 129 species of Minnesota birds have been used in the following article. Actual nests in use were found in almost all cases. This year's report falls 17 short of that compiled last year by Charles Evans.

P. O. Fryklund's first Minnesota nesting record of the Great Gray Owl is the prize of this year's list, but other interesting species recorded are Holboell's Grebe, Ring-necked Duck, Piping Plover, Ruddy Duck, Sandhill Crane, Red-bellied Woodpecker, and Olive-backed Thrush.

In each case the species, observer, locality, date and eggs or young observed have been listed. When no locality is given, the observation was made in the Twin Cities area.

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COMMON LOON

Walter J. Breckenridge found a deserted Loon nest at White Bear Lake on June 28th. It contained 1 addled egg.

HOLBOELL'S GREBE

Not often is the nest of the great Red-necked Grebe found, yet 4 M.B.C. members saw nests during the past nesting season. Gustav Swanson reports a nest which he found at Annandale, May 30th. In it were 5 dull, white eggs. John Dobie writes from Park Rapids that on June 6th he saw a nest being built. On June 9th, R. M. Berthel saw an adult bird at Birch Lake, a mile from White Bear Lake. On June 23rd, he returned and found a nest with 6 eggs. On June 28th, he showed the nest to Breckenridge who photographed it. When Berthel came back July 20th, he found an old bird with 5 young, another old bird with 6 young, and 2 other old birds standing guard at a distance. Evidently there had been a second nest which Berthel had not seen.

PIED-BILLED GREBE

George Rysgaard saw a Dabchick nest with 7 eggs May 30th, and Robert Upson saw another on the same date. Breckenridge found 7 eggs in a nest at Round Lake on June 13th, and Swanson is next with a nest with 8 eggs at Long Lake June 23rd. On June 28th Breckenridge returned to the nest he had found just in time to get some remarkable motion pictures of the young hatching and climbing onto the parent bird's back. Charles Evans and Upson saw the last nest on July 4th when it contained 3 eggs.

GREAT BLUE HERON

Berthel was visiting Lake Koronis near Paynesville on July 4th. While there, he saw the Great Blue Heron rookery, which at that time had five nests still in use. The nearly-grown young were climbing around in the elm trees which harbored the colony. Four of the large elms had been killed by the droppings of the birds.

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON

Breckenridge, Dr. C. C. Prosser, and Robert Turner of the Bird Club went with Dr. Roberts' bird class June 3rd to an extensive Night Heron colony near St. Paul in Ramsey County. The colony was in a tamarack swamp, and the limber tamaracks had been whipped about in the wind so much that many of the pale green eggs had been spilled from the nests in the tops. Prosser walked through the swamp scaring up the birds, and the other observers, who stood at a distance, estimated that there were 200 birds in the air. Four nests contained 4 eggs, 1 nest contained 2 eggs, and the eggs of a sixth nest examined had been spilled to earth.

AMERICAN BITTERN

The only observer to report on the Bittern this year was Dobie, who is stationed at Park Rapids. On June 11th he found 4 eggs.

LEAST BITTERN

This elusive little slough resident hid its nests from all but 2 observers this year. Breckenridge with his water skis located 2 nests, 2 with 2 eggs, and 2 with 4 eggs, on June 21st. For July 7th he reports 3 more with 4, 4, and 5 eggs in each. Evans and Upson, the Club's ace bog-trotters, take the record for number of Least Bittern nests in one day. They spent a merry July 4th finding 8 nests of this species, 2 with young, and 6 with eggs.

MALLARD

Five members sent in data on this common species; Dobie of Park Rapids is earliest with 12 eggs for May 6th. Breckenridge saw 7 downy young on May 28th, 9 young on May 31st, 1 and 5 young on June 13th, and 9 young on July 1st. Sterling Brackett came across a nest with 7 eggs along the shore of a bay of Itasca Lake on May 30th. Prosser saw several small young at New Brighton June 7th, and Marius Morse saw 2 families on a small marsh in the St. Croix Forest, June 24th.

AMERICAN PINTAIL

Swanson saw the only Pintail nest of the year on May 18th. This nest, seen in Anoka County, held 10 eggs.

BLUE-WINGED TEAL

Breckenridge, Prosser, and Turner went with Dr. Roberts' bird class to New Brighton May 22nd. There they found the nest of a Blue-winged with 6 eggs. Two days later, May 24th. Breckenridge found a nest with 11 eggs near Wyoming, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Swedenborg and Upson were in the field together on May 30th, when they found 2 nests, each with 11 eggs. Breckenridge found the latest nest on June 13th. The five eggs hatched June 20th. Swanson saw the last brood, one of 8 young, at Thief Lake, Marshall County, on June 27th.

SHOVELER

In Anoka County on May 18th, Swanson found a Spoonbill nest with 9 eggs. Breckenridge reported later that the same nest had 13 eggs on May 24th. Dr. Roberts' book gives 6 to 12 as the usual number of eggs.

RING-NECKED DUCK

Dobie found a clutch of 12 Ring-necked eggs June 5th. Park Rapids was the vicinity.

GREEN-WINGED TEAL

For a record of this bird's nesting, we must again turn to Mr. Breckenridge. No actual nest was discovered, but on June 19th and several times after that Breckenridge saw old birds which were much concerned over his presence and doubtless had young. The locality was Round Lake, near Minneapolis.

AMERICAN GOLDENEYE

Nest hunters found 2 Whistler families in Cook County. Kenneth C. Rlander is first with a record of 7 young unable to fly at West Bearskin Lake. He saw them on June 19th, when they were only a couple of days old, and on June 21st when they could dive but could not fly. Prosser and Swedenborg were at Christine Lake near Caribou Lake on June 26th just at the right time to find a female with 22 young a week old. Dr. Roberts' book states that this tree-nesting species has eggs numbering "8-12, sometimes 15-18, the latter number probably due to two birds laying in the same nest." The earliest 1935 Goldeneye nest was seen May 24th by Dobie. He submitted no further data on it.

RUDDY DUCK

Minnesota Bird Club members were especially good at finding duck nests this year. Very few Ruddy Ducks had been seen here for several years past, but during the past season they were found quite commonly. Breckenridge found them resident throughout the breeding season near Minneapolis, and he spent many an afternoon skirting lakes in search of their nests. On June 29th, when he had almost given up hope of finding the nest of the saucy little Spike Tail, he came upon a deserted nest with 4 broken eggs at Round Lake. This constitutes the only record of the year.

AMERICAN MERGANSER

This season it took Prosser and Swedenborg, the Bird Club's crack nest-finding combination, to bring in a record of the big Sheldrake. They saw a female with 9 small young on Caribou Lake June 24th.

EASTERN GOSHAWK

If it happens again next year we shall have to admit that it has become a habit with Morse. Last year he found a nest of this uncommon Accipiter and this year he has again found near Cloquet, a nest of the biggest bird hawk. In the Cloquet Valley Forest 15 feet up in a 7-inch white pine located in a stand of young Norway pines he made one of the best finds of the year, a nest containing 3 young Goshawks. On the same day that Morse saw the nest, May 16th, a trapper shot one of the parent birds.

COOPER'S HAWK

Dr. and Mrs. Donald Mahle report a nest with 3 eggs seen at Gray Cloud Island on May 5th. Prosser saw another nest at Linwood Lake, Anoka County. On June 7th the female was incubating 4 eggs, and when Upson saw this nest on June 15th the 4 young had just hatched. On July 19th a single young bird remained.

RED-TAILED HAWK

Mahle, interning at Glen Lake, saw a nest with 2 eggs there April 20th. About this same time Breckenridge saw a nest with 2 eggs on his square-mile study area just north of Minneapolis. In Anoka County, Swanson saw 3 eggs May 5th. Breckenridge and Turner returned to the mile study area May 23rd and found a sterile egg and 10-day old young in a previously uninvestigated nest. When Breckenridge climbed to this nest high in an oak, one of the parent birds swooped with roaring wings within half-a-dozen feet of his head.

BROAD-WINGED HAWK

The bird class with Breckenridge, Prosser and Turner caught a glimpse of a Broad-winged slipping off its nest fifty feet up in a tree at Coon Creek, Anoka County, May 27th. The nest was somewhat inaccessible, and the contents were not investigated. Dobie of Park Rapids saw the first nest of this species May 6th.

SOUTHERN BALD EAGLE

Writing from Park Rapids near Itasca Park, Dobie reports a nest seen May 29th. An aerie of our national bird was watched by Charles Rief last summer in Itasca Park. The nest located in a tree, contained eggs that hatched before June 30th. The young were out of the nest by July 15th.

MARSH HAWK

On May 11th, Evans, Turner, and Upson flushed a female from a nest where she had been incubating 3 eggs. The well-built reed nest was a platform raised 8 inches above the foot of water in which it stood. It was situated 100 yards from shore in an open marsh filled with broken dead reeds. The female circled the nest at a distance of 200 yards until the intruders left. Morse found a nest on the ground in a "dry" cedar swamp in the Cloquet Valley Forest on May 27th. The parent was incubating 4 eggs, and a fifth egg, which had been cracked, lay at the edge of the nest. Swedenborg and Upson came upon the last nest on May 30th. It held 5 eggs.

EASTERN SPARROW HAWK

Breckenridge led the bird class north of Minneapolis to his one-mile study area to show the embryonic ornithologists a Pileated Woodpecker nest hole in a white birch stub. He had seen the bird excavating some time before. He led the class to the stub, rapped vigorously, and all expected to see a Pileated emerge, but, much to everyone's surprise, the bird that came out was a female Sparrow Hawk. The contents of the Pileated-Sparrow Hawk nest hole were not investigated. On July 8th at Glen Lake, Arnold Erickson saw a mother Sparrow Hawk feeding 2 week-old young on a telephone pole.

RUFFED GROUSE

It takes a couple game managers to find the first nests of this forest-dwelling bird. Dobie ferreted out a nest with 13 eggs near Park Rapids May 23rd and Morse discovered the second nest of the year on May 27th. It contained 8 eggs, and was under a fire-charred log in a young aspen stand in the Cloquet Valley Forest. The Mahles saw young out of the nest at Lake Pokegama on June 24th. Prosser and Swedenborg saw 4 families with small young from June 23rd to June 27th in the Caribou Lake region.

RING-NECKED PHEASANT

Last March a female Pheasant at Willmar either was going by a faulty calendar or had not read the Minnesota Pheasant nesting dates listed in Dr. Roberts' book, because she built a nest and laid some eggs in it about the middle of March. Charles DuToit, Dr. Alden Risser, and Upson found the nest with 2 broken fresh eggs on March 25th to set a new Minnesota early Pheasant nesting record. On May 22nd Breckenridge, Prosser and Turner saw a girl in Dr. Roberts' class unknowingly step over a brooding hen without flushing it at Rush Lake, Anoka County. Swanson found a nest with 10 eggs May 5th, and Erickson saw a hen with a one-fourth-grown brood at Coon Creek, Anoka County, July 21st.

SANDHILL CRANE

The only observer reporting this rare bird was Ralph Woolsey, who found a nest with 2 eggs on June 22nd at Goose Lake in ~~Baiki~~ Baiki County. This nest was later destroyed by grazing

KING RAIL

Breckenridge found the King Rail present at Round Lake throughout the breeding season, but he located no nest of this uncommon bird.

VIRGINIA RAIL

Berthol saw 10 eggs of an early bird at Lake Elmo May 9th. May 30th Turner saw 9 eggs. Breckenridge saw 3 eggs May 31st, 8 eggs June 21st, and 10 eggs June 28th.

SORA

Breckenridge found 3 nests, the first 2 on May 28th contained 12 and 5 eggs respectively. On May 31st he found another with 3 eggs.

FLORIDA GALLINULE

George Rysgaard found a nest on May 30th. It had 1 egg when he first saw it, and 4 on June 2nd. Breckenridge saw a nest with 12 eggs on June 21st. Evans and Upson saw the latest nest on July 4th. It contained 6 eggs.

GOOT

The earliest nests were 2 each containing 3 eggs found May 28th by Breckenridge. Evans and Upson saw the latest nest, one with 4 eggs, on July 4th.

PIPING PLOVER

The Lake of the Woods colony of Piping Plover was visited again in 1935, this time by Ralph Woolsey, who found a nest of 4 eggs on Curry Island July 20th. He comments that the season was apparently late. Upon visiting the area again August 10th he found the water level so high that any nests built later than the first visit were flooded.

KILLDEER

Sterling Brackett, Carlander, and Turner nearly stepped on a Killdeer which was brooding 4 eggs April 27th. The first young out of the nest were seen at Lake Harriet on May 12th by Milton Thompson. Breckenridge furnishes us with the latest record, 4 eggs on July 1st.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER

The earliest record is of 1 downy young seen by Breckenridge June 13th. The earliest eggs reported were 4 seen by Morse in the St. Croix Forest June 24th. Thompson reported the latest record. He saw 2 young off the nest on July 2nd at Eveleth.

HERRING GULL

Swanson, who gets around the state more than the other Bird Blubbers, was on hand at Lake Superior May 21st to find 20 nests with 1 egg, 11 with 2 eggs, and 12 with 3 eggs. On June 25th, Prosser and Swedenborg were on Lake Superior near Grand Marais, Cook County. There they found 11 nests with 3 eggs, 3 with 1 egg, and 1 with 1 egg. Upson visited Beaver Bay on Lake Superior, July 9th - 13th. He noted adults feeding large, dark young, all of which were out of the nest and some of which could fly.

COMMON TERN

At Leach Lake on July 9th, Mrs. C. E. Peterson observed young of various ages and eggs in the nests. At Curry Island, Lake of the Woods, Ralph Woolsey found 1 nest with 3 eggs July 20th.

BLACK TERN

Prosser and Swedenborg saw 2 nests containing 2 and 3 eggs on June 8th. Evans and Upson found the latest nest on July 4th. They saw 1 nest with 2 eggs, and 2 nests with 3 eggs.

MOURNING DOVE

The nest Prosser found May 5th was the earliest as well as the most unusual. It held two eggs and was situated 2 feet from a Robin's nest in a spruce tree. Turner found a young in the pinfeather stage lying on a bare girder of the Cedar Avenue bridge across Long Meadows May 30th. At Linwood Lake June 15th Carlander nearly stepped on a ground-nesting dove before she flushed from her 2 eggs. The last two nests each had 2 eggs and were found by Breckenridge July 31st.

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO

Near Excelsior June 13th Swedenborg found a set of two eggs, and Breckenridge reports seeing a pair building July 30th.

EASTERN SCREECH OWL

Acting as instructor to the bird class, Breckenridge discovered and pointed out to the class a Screech Owl sitting in the entrance of a nest hole. This occurred at Coon Creek May 27th. Rysgaard saw the only 2 young reported, on June 9th. They had just left the nest.

GREAT HORNED OWL

Dobie saw a nest in the vicinity of Park Rapids April 2nd. In a nest that had been used for the last several years, Brackett found 3 downy young one-third grown April 21st about 2 miles west of Shakopee. The nest lay in a large hollow snag of a huge basswood tree.

BARRED OWL

Robert Haas, Horace Paul, Risser and Turner were walking among some large trees at Frontenac May 25th when Paul spotted a half-grown downy Barred Owl standing outside its nest hole, 15 feet above the ground in a big tree trunk. Risser, always adventurous, climbed to the hole and found 2 more young inside. The parent birds both flew and perched within 100 feet of the observers, hooting and howling all the time in protest. At Lake Minnetonka June 5th, Mrs. Franklin Crosby, Jr. pointed out another half-grown Barred Owl to the bird class.

GREAT GRAY OWL

The best thing submitted this year was a record from P. O. Fryklund of the first Minnesota nest of the biggest owl. Fryklund writes that Henry Halvarson, a trapper living in a camp a mile south of the Manitoba boundary in Roseau County, was running his trap lines April 4th when he saw 2 big owls in a tamarack swamp where he was picking up wolf snares. Keeping close watch of them, he discovered their nest with 3 eggs, 15 feet from the ground in a medium large tamarack. The nest's construction was from tamarack branches and the hollow was lined with grass, deer hair, and down from the owls. Halvarson took the nest intact to Fryklund who mailed it to Dr. Roberts for identification. Fryklund, had been led to believe 2 years ago that this owl nests in this state when, in sexing a Minnesota specimen, he had found eggs 3/4ths of an inch long.

EASTERN NIGHTHAWK

Doble saw 2 eggs near Park Rapids June 11th, and at Lake Pokegama June 24th. Mahle saw a set of 2 eggs. Breckenridge is third with a record of 2 young mosquito hawks seen July 6th, and Mrs. Peterson is last with 2 young seen July 9th at Walker.

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD

Upsen saw a nest June 12th which he thought contained young because the mother bird made pumping motions with her head as if regurgitating food. On the same date, Prosser at Lake Linwood saw an incubating female. On June 19th he saw a nest being built also at Linwood. On July 9th he returned to this last nest and found it occupied by 2 young.

BELTED KINGFISHER

Prosser observed a kingfisher tunnelling into a bank in Anoka County, April 30th.

FLICKER

The North Dakota state bird must be as common here as anywhere judging by the number of nests reported. Thompson saw both the first and the last, an adult on its nest at Lake Harriet May 18th and an adult feeding 2 young at its nest at Eveleth July 27th. From up north, Carlander brings a report of young in a hole at West Bearskin Lake, Cook County, June 17th. Mrs. Peterson writes from Madison that she found young out of the hole there June 30th.

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER

A nesting hole of this species was seen by Evans, Turner and Upsen May 11th, but the contents were not determined. Both parents stood by anxiously as Upsen tried to climb to the inaccessible hole.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER

At Coon Creek, Anoka County, a Red-headed chiselled a nest hole in a red oak stub. When Erickson came along July 5th there were 4 young almost ready to leave the nest. Ten days later, July 15th, Prosser watched another Anoka County Red-head feeding young in a nest at Johnsville.

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUGKER

Leander Fischer and Turner saw a bird of this species enter a nest hole June 15th at Linwood Lake. In the same locality on July 2nd, Prosser found a Yellow-belly to be feeding young in the nest.

HAIRY WOODPECKER

A Hairy seen by Prosser April 24th at Linwood Lake was excavating the under side of a horizontal limb. On June 7th, young were being fed in the nest. Turner climbed to the first occupied nest reported, and found, judging by the squealing from within the trunk, 4 or more young on May 12th.

DOWNY WOODPECKER

Prosser looked on as an industrious and early little Downy began pecking out a nest hole April 15th. Rysgaard reports a nest for April 29th, and Upson watched adults feed glamorous young in the nest June 22nd. Prosser and Swedneborg saw young out of the nest at Linwood Lake on July 6th.

EASTERN KINGBIRD

Last May 25th, Risser, Paul, Erickson, Haas, Turner and the others who were there saw a kingbird's nest with 2 eggs at Frontenac. Swanson went to Thief Lake June 27th and discovered 6 nests, each with from 3 to 5 eggs.

WESTERN KINGBIRD

In an old Robin's nest on a shelf built for Robins to nest on, Swanson found 3 eggs of the Western or Arkansas Kingbird June 27th at Thief Lake. Mrs. Peterson saw 2 nests under construction at Madison on June 24th and June 30th. The young left both of these nests on August 4th.

CRESTED FLYCATCHER

A nest was seen but not investigated by Breckenridge June 26th. And on July 10th, Erickson observed parent Crested Flycatchers feeding young in an inaccessible stub.

EASTERN PHOEBE

Prosser and Swedenborg saw a Phoebe building April 20th. Swedenborg came upon a nest holding an egg on May 4th. Records of from 3 to 5 eggs or young run all through the remainder of May, through June, through July, and up to the 15th of August and come from all parts of the State. Thompson saw 3 young in a nest at Eveleth August 15th for the latest record. The closest-observed Phoebe nest was the one in the old stone quarry on the University of Minnesota campus. The nest, first seen by Evans, was watched from time to time by almost all the members of the M. B. C. It was completed but empty on May 7th. On May 11th, it was still empty. Later it contained 2 Cowbird eggs (1 of which was removed by Risser), then 1 Cowbird and 1 Phoebe egg, and on May 15th, 1 Phoebe egg. May 16th found it empty, but on May 24th, there was a Phoebe egg, and on May 28th there were 5 Phoebe eggs.

ALDER FLYCATCHER

Four young Alder Flycatchers were seen July 19th at Cass Lake by Thompson.

LEAST FLYCATCHER

Prosser found 4 fresh eggs June 13th at Linwood Lake, and Swedenborg found the same number the next day near Excelsior. In western Minnesota, Mrs. Peterson saw an adult incubating as late as July 14th. The last nest, containing 4 young, was found by Breckenridge July 16th.

WOOD PEWEE

As with so many other species, Dr. Prosser saw the first Pewee going about its nesting activities. On June 6th at Linwood Lake he saw one building a nest which he found occupied July 2nd. Rysgaard sought out the first nest with an egg in it on June 14th. Later nests seen were on July 10th, 4 small young in nest, Breckenridge and Prosser; and July 11th, 2 eggs, Breckenridge and Prosser. These last 2 nests were also at Linwood.

OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER

The only record comes from Risser, who saw young out of the nest being fed at Sturgeon Lake on July 30th.

PRAIRIE HORNED LARK

Although this bird usually nests in the open country, the first nest found this year was in a Minneapolis park. Turner, watching an adult bird with Dr. Roberts' and the bird class April 22nd at the edge of Lake Nokomis, saw a tuft of fuzz materialize into a downy young lark. His dead brother was found a few feet from the nest. Risser came across a nest May 2nd which had in it 1 living and 1 dead young. These were the only 2 records submitted.

TREE SWALLOW

On May 20th, Tree Swallows were seen carrying nesting material into holes in medium sized willows. Turner was the observer.

BANK SWALLOW

Turner saw Sand Martins tunnelling May 8th, Prosser saw the first completed nest, May 16th, and the first occupied nest was seen by Rysgaard May 25th when it contained 6 eggs. Swedenborg, the only member to report seeing young saw them being fed in the nest July 4th.

ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW

Dr. Prosser found many of these birds at work April 30th, tunnelling into a bank near a lake in Anoka County. On July 21st, Breckenridge saw young not in the nest, but 3 large young seen by Swedenborg had not left their nest July 28th.

BANK SWALLOW

Swallows of this species were rebuilding last year's nest under a bridge in Anoka County May 22nd according to Prosser. On May 19th Swedenborg saw a nest lined but empty. And on June 1st, he discovered nests with 2 and 4 eggs at Onamia. Erickson is last, for he came upon a nest with 4 eggs July 27th in Morrison County.

CLIFF SWALLOW

Eight pairs of Cliff Swallows nested at the farm south of Minneapolis on Penn Avenue last season. Swedenborg found 3 nests nearly completed May 19th, and Dr. Roberts' bird class found 3 still under construction May 29th. On a trip to Thief Lake, Marshall County, Swanson saw there 21 uninvestigated nests on June 27th.

PURPLE MARTIN

Strangely enough, the members of the Bird Club send in the fewest reports for the commonest species. This year the number of Holboell's Grebe records is the same as the combined records of English Sparrow, Crow and Martin. In order to include the Martin in this nesting article, the writer had to furnish the only record by thinking back to May 25th when he and the rest of the Bird Club saw but did not investigate several occupied Martin houses at Frontenac.

NORTHERN BLUE JAY

Prosser found a Blue Jay building as early as April 24th. Carlander's report of 3 young seen along the Minnesota River May 26th is the first record of young for 1935, but a nest with 6 eggs was seen by Upson May 15th. The latest nest is one which Breckenridge found contained 5 young July 2nd.

EASTERN CROW

Two records of Crow nests were submitted. Upson saw 5 eggs April 19th, and Carlander saw a nest with an unknown number of eggs April 25th.

BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE

Prosser writes that on June 24th at Caribou Lake, Cook County, he and Swedenborg found a chickadee feeding young out of the nest.

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH

Swedenborg came upon small young in a nest near Excelsior May 22nd, and Prosser found parents feeding 3 large young in a nest at Linwood Lake June 30th.

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH

There were no eggs in the nest that Dobie saw April 29th near Park Rapids. But Swedenborg writes that last summer with Prosser he found Red-breasted Nuthatches "very numerous at Caribou Lake between June 23rd and 29th. Several families seen, the young being fed."

HOUSE WREN

Swedenborg saw the first and last nests. He saw the first nest and eggs at Onamia June 1st, and the last nest with 3 eggs July 28th. Thompson saw 2 nests, each with 3 eggs, at Eveleth on June 19th and June 20th respectively. On June 25th Prosser discovered an interesting House Wren family living 15 feet above the ground in a birch stub in Cook County.

WINTER WREN

Carlander did not see a Winter Wren's nest when he was at West Bearskin Lake June 18th, but he feels certain that he found one. He saw an adult bird carry food under the roots of a large tree at the bank of a stream. Therefore, our good Bird Club member searched among the roots diligently for an hour; and though he heard the cries of the young, he failed to see them.

LONG-BILLED MARSH WREN

Breckenridge found 5 nests this past season. The first, which he saw May 22nd, held 1 egg; the next 3, seen May 31st, held 2, 4, and 4 eggs respectively; and the last, seen June 28th, held 6 eggs. The writer wonders how many dozens of nests Breckenridge must have investigated to find 5 occupied.

CATBIRD

Prosser noted a pair of Catbirds which arrived at the bridle path around Lake Harriet and began building in a low bush May 11th. This nest was never completed, however Bird Club members who went to Frontenac May 25th saw a number of Catbird nests, most of which contained 4 or 5 eggs. The last nest, found July 19th (this date not certain as my original copy is blurred - Strnad) at Linwood Lake by Breckenridge and Prosser, held 3 eggs.

BROWN THRASHER

Dr. Roberts' bird class saw 2 Thrasher nests on the ground in Hennepin County May 29th. Each nest contained 4 speckled eggs. Swedenborg saw a nest with 3 large young May 30th. A bird which was doubtless brooding her second or third clutch of the year was found by Rysgaard to have 3 eggs July 18th.

EASTERN ROBIN

Evans has data concerning a Robin which began building April 18th. Brackett and Turner found Robins building a day later at Hopkins. From Park Rapids Dobie reports finding a nest without eggs April 22nd. The most interesting Robin record of the year comes from Prosser. In a spruce he found a Robin nest with 4 eggs two feet away from a Mourning Dove nest with 2 eggs. He first saw this off nesting arrangement on May 5th. Later the Robins drove away their neighbors.

WOOD THRUSH

A finished but empty Wood Thrush nest was seen by Swedenborg near Excelsior June 8th.

EASTERN HERMIT THRUSH

Near Park Rapids Dobie found 4 eggs of this bird May 22nd. Morse, tramping about in the Cloquet Valley Forest, came across a Hermit Thrush nest with 4 eggs at the base of a hazel clump May 22nd, and at Grand Portage Breckenridge saw 4 young June 9th.

OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH

Prosser and Swedenborg saw 3 nests in Cook County last summer. The first was 2½ feet above the ground in a balsam. There were 2 recently-hatched young and 2 eggs in the nest. In the second nest, which was 7 or 8 feet up in a balsam, they found 4 eggs. This nest with its contents is now in the University of Minnesota Museum of Natural History. The third nest, like the second, was 7 or 8 feet above the ground in a balsam, and, like the second, it held 4 eggs. The first nest was seen at Lake Caribou June 23rd, the second at the Brule River June 25th, and the third at the Poplar River June 26th.

WILLOW THRUSH

Near Cloquet June 3rd Morse discovered a set of 4 Veery eggs in a nest at the base of a Red-osier Dogwood clump. Four days later, June 7th, Prosser saw at Linwood Lake 3 eggs slightly speckled with shades of brown. In the same locality Prosser found a nest which held 3 eggs June 17th and 4 eggs June 19th. At Lake Pokegama, Mahle tells us, a pair of Veeries believing in large families had 2 eggs and 4 young in their nest June 24th.

Prosser's record of a nest with 2 eggs at Linwood July 19th is latest for this season.

EASTERN BLUEBIRD

Thompson's April 30th record of a Bluebird's building is the first nesting data on this species for 1935. Prosser saw 4 eggs at Lake Independence May 7th, Swanson saw one egg at Annandale May 30th, and Swedenborg saw 3 eggs July 4th and 4 eggs August 1st. The only young reported were seen by Breckenridge July 18th.

EASTERN GOLDEN -CROWNED KINGLET

Only Prosser reports on this sprightly little northerner, but he saw many families of young out of the nest being fed at Cook, St. Louis County, August 17th.

CEDAR WAXWING

Two Cedar Waxwings completed a nest at Sturgeon Lake June 20th according to Rysgaard. And Prosser and Swedenborg tell us that another pair of birds had 3 eggs in their nest at Caribou Lake by June 23rd.

MIGRANT SHRIKE

Upson furnishes an interesting record. He came across a completed but empty nest April 19th that had a jubilant male singing nearby. Two eggs were in the nest which Prosser saw in Hennepin County May 10th. And on May 19th Swedenborg saw 2 nests containing 5 and 6 eggs.

RED-EYED VIREO

Twenty-five feet up in an elm the University bird class saw a Red-eye sitting on her nest at Lake Minnetonka June 5th. Upson reports a bird building June 12th, Turner another June 15th at Linwood, and Prosser a third June 19th at Linwood. Prosser's second June 19th nest with 2 eggs at Linwood is the first complete record. At Caribou Lake Prosser and Swedenborg saw a nest which had been under construction June 23rd finished June 29th. Returning to Linwood July 6th Prosser and Swedenborg found 3 eggs. Erickson saw 3 young a week old in Goodhue County July 29th.

WARBLING VIREO

Prosser, who saw a nest with 4 eggs June 12th at Linwood Lake, gives us our single complete record.

BLACK-AND-WHITE-WARBLER

When Thompson was at Eveleth July 22 he saw an adult of this species carrying food.

EASTERN YELLOW WARBLER

The Bird Club found several Yellow Warbler nests May 25th at Frontenac; most of them were recently finished and empty, but some contained 1 or 2 eggs. On the same day, Breckenridge, who did not go to Frontenac, found birds building. Four eggs at Linwood Lake June 7th and 5 eggs June 12th at the same place are reported by Prosser. July 6th Prosser and Swedenborg saw a Yellow Warbler feeding a young Cowbird at Linwood Lake.

MAGNOLIA WARBLER

Along the Poplar River in Cook County June 26th, Prosser and Swedenborg happened upon a nest with 4 eggs about 5 feet above the ground in a small balsam.

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER

On August 14th Prosser saw a family of 2 adults and 2 full-sized young at Lake Vermillion, St. Louis County.

MYRTLE WARBLER

Prosser and Swedenborg, who kept their eyes open when they were at Caribou Lake last summer, report a nest with 3 large young seen in that locality June 23rd. On a later northern trip to Cook, St. Louis County, Prosser saw a male feeding a large young out of the nest August 17th.

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER

At Lake Vermillion, St. Louis County, Prosser saw 3 young out of the nest being fed on August 15th and August 17th.

CERULEAN WARBLER

Prosser, who created quite a furor last year by finding the first Minnesota nests of this species and the Ajawah Camp Scouts at Linwood Lake saw a young bird out of the nest but unable to fly being fed. The date was July 4th.

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER

An undetermined number of young were being fed in a nest seen June 28th at Caribou Lake by Prosser and Swedenborg. At Lake Vermillion, St. Louis County, Prosser found many families of noisy young being fed on August 14th and August 17th.

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER

In this species Thompson steals Prosser-and-Swedenborg's thunder for Thompson found a nest with 3 eggs July 25th at Eveleth, and Prosser's only record is of a small young out of nest being fed at Lake Vermillion August 17th. Swedenborg reports none.

PINE WARBLER

Young Pine Warblers out of the nest were being fed at Lake Vermillion August 14th according to Prosser.

OVEN-BIRD

Dobie discovered a nest without eggs June 2nd not far from Park Rapids. Not to be outdone, however, Prosser found a nest 10 days later, June 12th at Linwood Lake which contained 3 Oven-bird eggs and 1 Cowbird egg. The female was incubating when he saw her.

GRINNELL'S WATER THRUSH

On June 20th at West Bearskin Lake, Carlander saw an adult carry food under a tangle of roots several times. And June 27th on an island in Caribou Lake, Prosser and Swedenborg observed large young out of the nest being fed.

MOURNING WARBLER

Prosser writes that on August 17th at Lake Vermillion he saw 2 noisy youngsters following an adult.

NORTHERN YELLOWTHROAT

The June 15th trip to Linwood Lake produced 2 nests. Evans, Prosser, Risser, Swedenborg and Upson saw a nest with 3 eggs, and Carlander reports a second which had 2 Yellowthroat eggs and a Cowbird egg.

CANADA WARBLER

The nest of this bird had been seen before, but when Prosser and Swedenborg found a nest with 4 fresh eggs at Caribou Lake June 23rd, they felt that it was worth preserving for posterity. This nest may now be seen in the Minnesota University Museum of Natural History.

AMERICAN REDSTART

Other Bird Clubbers beside Prosser, Swedenborg and Upson must have seen Redstart nests, but no one else reported them. The Bird Club found Redstarts' nests in various stages of construction at Frontenac May 25th. Prosser and Swedenborg saw a completed but empty nest June 9th in Hennepin County. And Upson saw small young out of the nest June 25th.

ENGLISH SPARROW

Some members will object to the including of this bird here; but, after all, it is a bird and it is found in Minnesota. We may not like it, but we can not ignore it. Mrs. C. E. Peterson investigated a nest holding 5 eggs at Madison May 15th.

EASTERN MEADOWLARK

A nest with 5 eggs was seen May 18th in Anoka County by Swanson. And the University bird class conducted by Dr. Roberts flushed a parent bird from a nest containing 1 egg and 1 small young at New Brighton May 22nd.

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD

At Round Lake, Breckenridge, found nests with 1, 5, 4, 4, and 3 eggs, and 3, 4, and 4, young June 13th. Upson writes an interesting sidelight on Yellow-heads in telling of his July 4th hike, "About one third of the deserted nests Evans and I found contained at least 2 dead young in the pinfeather stage. They had not been attacked by other birds, or by insects. Did they suffer from some epidemic?"

RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD

On May 22nd the University bird class saw Red-wings building. Under the date May 28th, Breckenridge writes, "1 egg, 2 eggs, 2 eggs, 4, eggs, 3 eggs, 3 eggs, 4 eggs, 2 eggs, 5 eggs, ad infinitum." On May 30th, Swanson saw 1 and 4 eggs in 2 nests at Annandale, Rysgaard saw 4 eggs, and Swedenborg saw 4 eggs. The latest and queerest is a nest looked into by Risser and Upson June 16th at Linwood. Both saw the nest at the same time, but from different angles. Risser was disappointed to find nothing better than another blackbird nest, but Upson was howling with glee because he thought he must be looking at a Willet nest. Each thought the other balmy. The nest was investigated more closely then and found to contain 3 typical Red-wing eggs and 1 much larger egg. The nest and its contents were taken to the Minnesota University Museum where the large egg was identified as a Virginia Rail's!

BALTIMORE ORIOLE

At Madison May 30th, Mrs. Peterson found a hang-nest building. The University bird class saw a female on the nest on the same date, and the Bird Club members at Linwood June 15th saw another female on the nest. At Stillwater, Mr. George C. Jutz was following his city mail route June 24th when he saw a young bird leave its nest. Breckenridge saw young out of the nest July 2nd.

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD

Breckenridge discovered 2 nests, each with 5 eggs, at Wyoming, Minnesota, May 24th. Upson tells us that he saw large young out of the nest being fed June 12th. And Erickson's report has a record of 3 young one-third grown July 8th in a nest two feet above ground in a small tree at Glen Lake.

BRONZED GRACKLE

Berthel was watching a Crow at White Bear Lake 3 P.M. May 25th when suddenly it snatched a half-grown Grackle from a nest 40 feet above ground in a red oak. At Caribou Lake Prosser and Swedenborg saw a nest with large young June 24th, and on June 27th they saw the young being fed out of the nest.

EASTERN COWBIRD

Below are records of Cowbird parasitism of 11 species: Prosser, Linwood, June 12th, 3 Ovenbird eggs and 1 Cowbird egg; Prosser, Coon Creek, June 8th, 1 Cowbird egg and 3 Lark Sparrow eggs; Swedenborg, Onamia, June 1st, 4 Chipping Sparrow eggs and 1 Cowbird egg; Rysgaard, Minneapolis, June 15th, 2 young Chipping Sparrows and 1 young Cowbird; Thompson, Warren, July 1st, 1 Chipping Sparrow egg and 1 Cowbird egg; Swanson Anoka County, June 12th, 3 Clay-colored Sparrow eggs and 1 Cowbird egg; Evans, University of Minnesota campus, May 14th, 1 Phoebe egg and 1 Cowbird egg; Carlander, Linwood Lake, June 15th, 2 Northern Yellowthroat eggs and 1 Cowbird eggs; Carlander, Linwood Lake, June 15th, 3 Indigo Bunting eggs and 1 Cowbird egg; Erickson, Frontenac, May 12th, 1 Field Sparrow egg and 1 Cowbird egg; Mahle, Frontenac, May 26th, 3 young Field Sparrows and 2 Cowbird eggs; Turner, Frontenac, May 25th, 3 Song Sparrow eggs and 3 Cowbird eggs; Paul and Mahon, Frontenac, May 12th, 2 Towhee eggs and 5 Cowbird eggs; Breckenridge, Minneapolis, May 28th, 4 Swamp Sparrow eggs and 1 Cowbird egg.

SCARLET TANAGER

Risser writes that at Linwood June 15th he found a nest of this bird containing 1 broken egg. Breckenridge, Campbell, Prosser, and Stone saw a nest with 3 half-grown young July 9th. This nest likewise, was at Linwood.

EASTERN CARDINAL

Risser and Rysgaard, St. Paul's champion nest hunters, have a nice early record. On May 5th, they saw a nest which even at that date held 3 eggs. But on the same day Swedenborg saw another pair building in a cedar at Nine-mile Creek near the Twin Cities.

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK

Rysgaard reports 2 eggs seen May 27th. Up in the St. Croix Forest Morse, ever alert, came upon a nest with 2 nearly grown young June 24th. Breckenridge, who is our most consistent finder of late nests, saw 4 eggs July 17th.

INDIGO BUNTING

Several observers report on a nest at Linwood, but Prosser's records are most complete. He first saw the nest June 7th when it was nearing completion. Later he found 2 eggs in it June 12th and 4 eggs in it June 17th.

EASTERN PURPLE FINCH

Prosser and Swedenborg (they never fail) sought out a nest of large young being fed at Caribou Lake, June 24th.

EASTERN GOLDFINCH

The earliest nest of this notoriously late nester came to the attention of Breckenridge July 8th when he saw a nest being built. On August 14th he saw 3 eggs. Swedenborg writes telling that he saw a nest with 6 eggs near Excelsion August 4th, and he adds, "This was a very successful nest, 6 large young being perched on its rim August 24th."

RED-EYED TOWHEE

May 12th at Frontenac, Mahon and Paul flushed a female Towhee from a nest nicely concealed under a low gooseberry bush. Upon investigating the nest they found 2 eggs of the owner and 5 of the parasitic Cowbird! They destroyed the Cowbird eggs. When Turner looked at this nest May 25th, 1 recently-dead young Towhee in the early pinfeather stage lay outside the nest ....

EASTERN SAVANNAH SPARROW

No one reported a nest earlier than Upson's record of 4 eggs on May 30th. Swedenborg saw a nest with 4 eggs June 7th, and on June 15th, Carlander found young out of the nest at Linwood. Two observers have June 27th records - Mrs. Peterson saw young sitting on a fence at Madison and Swanson saw 5 eggs in a nest at Thief Lake on that date.

EASTERN VESPER SPARROW

The fellows at Linwood June 15th flushed birds from 2 nests containing 2 and 4 eggs.

EASTERN LARK SPARROW

Prosser's trained eye caught sight of a female Lark Sparrow hollowing out a cup-shaped depression at the base of a small bush in readiness for a nest May 27th when Prosser was at Coon Creek with the bird class. On June 9th, this nest held 3 Lark Sparrow eggs and a Cowbird egg. At Madison, Mrs. Peterson identified a Lark Sparrow which was feeding young able to fly June 23rd.

SLATE-COLORED JUNCO

We have another good record from Brackett. On May 30th, at Itasca Lake he looked at a set of 4 junco eggs. Carlander's June 20th record of young out of the nest being fed at West Bearskin Lake completes our data on this species.

EASTERN CHIPPING SPARROW

Honors must be bestowed upon George Kutz of Stillwater for his being the best Minnesota "Chippie" nest finder. He sends in records of a dozen nests seen in Stillwater from May 28th to the middle of June, and they contain almost every conceivable number and combination of eggs, young and Cowbird eggs. Yet Prosser has the earliest record - a nest with 1 egg seen with Swedenborg at Linwood May 22nd. Dobie of Park Rapids is third. He saw 4 eggs there May 29th. Swedenborg submits a record of a nest of 4 Chippie eggs and a Cowbird egg found at Onamia June 1st. The Prosser - Swedenborg record of 4 young seen at Linwood July is the latest.

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW

Morse is first, but only by a single day. On June 11th, in the St. Croix Forest he found a clutch of 4 eggs in a clump of grass. The following day, June 12th, Swanson found 3 eggs and a Cowbird egg in an Anoka County nest, and Upson saw a large young being fed out of the nest.

EASTERN FIELD SPARROW

While Erickson, Mahon, Paul and Turner were sitting in their car eating their lunch at Frontenac, May 12th, Erkekson spied a Field Sparrow incubating on a nest about 10 feet from the car. The nest, when investigated, was found to contain 2 Field Sparrow egg and 1 Cowbird egg. On May 25th, this same nest contained 2 eggs and 2 young of the Field Sparrows, and on May 26th, 4 young seen by all the Bird Club. On the same date, May 26th, and also at Frontenac, Mahle saw a nest with 3 young and 2 Cowbird eggs. The last nest was one with 4 eggs seen May 29th, by Turner.

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW

Rysgaard reports the only nest. He saw it July 24th when there were 4 eggs in it. Sturgeon Lake was the locality.

SWAMP SPARROW

Four Swamp Sparrow eggs and 1 Cowbird egg were in the nest seen May 28th, Breckenridge. The same observer reports 5 eggs May 31st. Campbell and Prosser saw the only young. At Linwood June 19th, they found five a week old.

DAKOTA SONG SPARROW

Swanson saw 4 eggs in Anoka County May 18th. Four eggs May 24th and 5 young May 31st, make up Breckenridge's data on this species. And at Lindstrom, Swanson saw 4 young May 29th. On May 25th, Turner came across 3 eggs and 3 Cowbird eggs in a nest at Frontenac. The next day, Mahle found 4 eggs and 1 Cowbird egg at Frontenac. And Thompson tells of seeing 3 eggs June 30th at Warren.

CLUB MEETING NOTES

Because of the extreme tardiness of this combined issue of The Flicker, we have the minutes of a number of meetings to record.

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At the Regular April meeting, Dr. C. C. Prosser was the speaker, and he told of his experiences in birding in Florida during the past winter.

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In May, Mr. William Kilgore, Curator of the University Museum of Natural History, spoke on the interesting subject of Falconry, one which has caught the interest of many for centuries. Mr. Kilgore exhibited some of the fine imported trappings used in this sport.

Mr. Gustav Swanson spoke afterwards for a few minutes to explain briefly his work with the Soil Conservation Service.

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The June meeting was in the nature of a field trip to Linwood Lake in Anoka County on June 15th and 16th. Many birds were seen, and an enjoyable time was had by all in spite of the inclement weather which clouded the latter of the two days.

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The October meeting was held at the usual time and place but no formal speaking program had been arranged. Instead, the members related their experiences of the preceding summer.

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In November, Robert Turner gave the talk of the evening, an account of the Birds he saw on a summer western trip.

The December meeting was devoted to an admiration of some of Mr. W. J. Breckenridge's latest moving pictures. His colored movies were especially appreciated by the Club members.

The annual Christmas Bird trip was planned for Frontenac and Lanesboro as last year. An account of this trip will undoubtedly appear in the first 1936 issue of The Flicker.

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#### EDITOR'S NOTE

The large size of the nesting article prompts us to save the little material which has been submitted during the year for his use during the first months of his new office.

In retiring, the old editor feels it his privilege to give a word to members who write for The Flicker. In the first place, there is not enough material submitted to represent adequately all of the activities of the Minnesota Bird Club members. More members should write up their experiences so that others may enjoy them.

The second admonition is of as great significance. When articles or notes are submitted to the editor, they should be in the best form of which the author is capable. The editor has enough work to do without being compelled to page through manuscripts submitted in rough form. If it is humanly possible, every manuscript should be neatly typed and double-spaced.

#### EDITOR'S APOLOGY:

The editor must again apologize because of his inability to issue this number of The Flicker on schedule. He has done a great deal of field work out-of-town during the past few months and this always interferes with regular duties. He sincerely hopes that the new editor will succeed better than the old.