Summer 1941

Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 17, no. 3)

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Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull, and the true from the false, is the aim of every Ornithologist."

Volume XVII SUMMER, 1941 Number 3

K. O. S. OUTING AT MAMMOTH CAVE

Since the dry weather of the winter and early spring kept Mr. Wilson's McElroy Lake from forming this year, our K. O. S. outing was held again at Mammoth Cave. The first party arrived late on the afternoon of April 4; the last party left just before dark on April 6. We made numerous trips on these days: to Sloan's Crossing and its small lake, to the old ferry and the new one, to Green Lake near the cave, to the pine woods in Eaton Valley, to the Hickory Cabin country, and to Cedar Sink. Though the weather was cold and rainy until the last day, we did rather well on our finds: 71 species, as against only 57 at the same week-end in 1940: American Bittern, Mallard, Black Duck, Ring-necked Duck, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Eastern Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, Killdeer, Eastern Mourning Dove, Eastern Screech Owl, Great Horned Owl, Northern Barred Owl, Eastern Belted Kingfisher, Northern Flicker, Southern Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Eastern Hairy Woodpecker, Southern Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Phoebe, Prairie Horned Lark, Purple Martin, Northern Blue Jay, Eastern Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Northern White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Eastern Winter Wren, Bewick's Wren, Carolina Wren, Eastern Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, Eastern Robin, Wood Thrush, Eastern Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Eastern Golden-crowned Kinglet, Eastern Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Starling, Black and White Warbler, Northern Parula Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Sycamore Warbler, Louisiana Water-thrush, English Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, Eastern Red-wing, Rusty Blackbird, Bronzed Grackle, Eastern Cowbird, Eastern Cardinal, Eastern Purple Finch, Eastern Goldfinch, Red-eyed Towhee, Eastern Savannah Sparrow, Eastern Vesper Sparrow, Slate-colored Junco, Eastern Tree Sparrow (a late record; seen several times), Eastern Chipping Sparrow, Eastern Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Eastern Fox Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Eastern Song Sparrow.

Superintendent R. Taylor Hoskins assigned to us for the duration of the meeting Ranger Fred Binnewies, who showed us around the places we did not know so well. The following people participated in the two-day meetings: State Ornithologist Burt Monroe, Anchorage; Dr. Harvey Lovell, Dr. P. A. Davies, Miss Evelyn J. Schneider, University of Louisville; Mrs. Dorothy Madden Hobson, Indianapolis; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Thacher, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard

Brecher, James Boswell Young, Misses Amy Deane, Helen Peil, Dorothy Peil, Ruth Brecher, Lena Ruth Towles, Mabel Slack, Louisville; Mr. and Mrs. F. Everett Frei, Mr. and Mrs. Cal Rogers, Miss Betty Braden, Glasgow; Dr. Cynthia Counce, Hopkinsville; Mrs. Marjorie K. Batts, Clinton; Dr. T. Atchison Frazer, Mr. Oakley Shelby, Marion; Miss Katherine Laverty, Princeton; and Professor Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green.

A similar outing was planned for 1942.

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BIRD HOUSES

By EDMUND J. SAWYER

The third edition of BIRD HOUSES, by Edmund J. Sawyer, was issued in December, 1940, and is now available for those desiring a compact, authoritative treatise on this fascinating subject. The text has been entirely rewritten, four illustrations are added, and there are directions for attracting birds in both the eastern and western regions of the United States. There is good material on the construction of bird baths and food stations and a special section devoted to discouraging undesired tenants. This excellent bulletin can be obtained from Cranbook Institute of Science, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, for the modest sum of twenty cents.

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SPRING MEETING OF K. O. S.

In addition to the program of our spring meeting, published in our last issue, Miss Gentry, our Secretary-Treasurer sends the following report of the business meeting:

Miss Evelyn Schneider presided at the brief business meeting held at the K. O. S. luncheon on Friday, April 18, 1941, in the Gold Room of the Seelbach Hotel. Mrs. Alice Moore reported on the Winter Bird Feeding Project sponsored by the K. O. S. and W. P. A. Five hundred bird posters have been sent out over the state; leaflets were sent to each W. P. A. Recreation Center and were there posted on bulletin boards; 25,000 bookmarks were placed in libararies throughout the state. A series of radio programs were worked out by the K. O. S. Mixed grain to the amount of 3,500 pounds are stored now for winter feeding. Bird feeding stations will be established in all state parks in Kentucky. On April 1, 1941, Bird Calendars were placed in each Recreation Center, where records of the first appearance of birds will be made.

Miss Schneider appointed the following committee on the Bird Feeding Program: Leonard Brecher, Chairman, Dr. John Loefer, Kent Previette, Forrest Durand, Virgil D. King, and Mrs. Alice Moore. Announcements were made that lists of bibliographies and programs to be used by bird clubs will be mailed to members.

An announcement as to complete files of the WARBLER was made and will be found elsewhere in this issue.

The president expressed appreciation for the cooperation of the K. E. A. in holding our spring meeting, for the services of Miss Audrey Wright for arranging our luncheon, and for Mrs. Alice Moore's furnishing the flowers for the table.

Discussions of a place for the fall meeting included suggestions of Diamond Springs, Sulphur Well, and "Between the Rivers." Dr. Wilson gave brief descriptions of the areas under consideration. It was decided to leave the selection of the place to the discretion of

the president and a group of people who could visit the places and select the best one.

Mr. Leonard Brecher gave official notice to the K. O. S. that Mr. Steve Wakefield, Director of Fish and Game, of the Kentucky Wild Life Service, had appointed as State Ornithologist our former president, Burt L. Monroe. The members voiced hearty approval of the choice of such an able ornithologist.

The treasurer's report was as follows:

RECEIPTS

Balance brought forward	$55.99
Money collected from memberships	40.75
Dividend, Jefferson Savings	5.25
Sale of WARBLERS	3.50
Total receipts	$105.49

DISBURSEMENTS

To Selby E. Smith for printing WARBLERS—	
Fall, 1940 Issue	$15.75
Winter, 1941 Issue and Covers	32.75
Spring, 1941 Issue	15.74
TOTAL	$64.24
Bags for Winter Feeding Program	$ 4.48
Membership in Kentucky Conservation Council	2.00
Total Disbursements	70.72
Balance on hand April 18, 1941	$34.77

An invitation was extended to the K. O. S. members to join in an outing with the Lexington Audubon Society to Clifty Falls State Park, Indiana, on May 10 and 11, 1941.

Mr. Earl G. Wright, who later addressed the open meeting, presented briefly the feeding program being carried out in Illinois.

With a suggestion by Dr. Harvey Lovell that all members stand near the door to greet visitors at our afternoon meeting and an introduction of all guests the meeting was brought to a close.

Fifteen of the members went on the annual early-morning hike on Friday, April 18, from 7:15 to 10:15 A. M. Mr. Leonard Brecher tabulated their finds as follows: Double-crested Cormorant, 1; Black-crowned Night Heron, 1; Mallard, 2; Black Duck, 4; Ring-necked Duck, 1; Lesser Scaup, 46; Hooded Merganser, 2; Turkey Vulture, 4; Coot, 1; Killdeer, 1; Mourning Dove, 9; Chimney Swift, 8; Belted Kingfisher, 3; Flicker, 4; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Kingbird, 1; Crested Flycatcher, 1; Rough-winged Swallow, 3; Blue Jay, 6; Crow, 8; Carolina Chickadee, 6; Tufted Titmouse, 5; House Wren, 6; Carolina Wren, 4; Mockingbird, 4; Catbird, 1; Brown Thrasher, 5; Robin, 19; Wood Thrush, 7; Bluebird, 3; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 4; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 1; Cedar Waxwing, 22; Starling, 37; Warbling Vireo, 5; Prothonotary Warbler, 1; Yellow Warbler, 23; Yellow-throat, 5; Yellow-breasted Chat, 1; English Sparrow, 4; Meadowlark, 28; Red-winged Blackbird, 17; Baltimore Oriole, 1; Bronzed Grackle, 31; Cowbird, 4; Cardinal, 14; Goldfinch, 7; Red-eyed Towhee, 10; Chipping Sparrow, 5; Field Sparrow, 8; White-crowned Sparrow, 1; White-throated Sparrow, 5; Song Sparrow, 17. Total, 54 species, 420 individuals. The area covered was Indian Hills and along the River Road. The lack of warblers was due to the concentration on water bird habitats, since most of the party wished to see water species. Lack of shore birds was due, doubtless, to the exceedingly dry conditions in this area.

—THELMA GENTRY, Secretary-Treasurer.

NOTES ON THE NOMENCLATURAL HISTORY OF THE RED-EYED TOWHEE

By ROGER W. BARBOUR, Morehead Teachers College

Some time ago I had occasion to go through the literature pertaining to the Red-eyed Towhee, **Pipilo erythrophthalmus erypthrophthalmus Linnaeus.** In so doing, I unearthed some interesting features of the nomenclatural history of the bird which may be of interest to others. It will be obvious, even to the layman, that a complete nomenclatural history is not herein presented, but it is believed that the more salient features are recorded.

One of the first written accounts of the Towhee is that of Topsell in his FOWLES OF HEAUEN, as reported by Christy in AUK. FOWLES OF HEAUEN was written, according to Christy, "before the end of 1614, and perhaps a year or two earlier than that." Topsell did not assign a binomial to the bird but referred to it by its Indian name, "Chuwheeo." He described the Towhee as "the great virginia pye, having an ashe-coloured beake, but all the body, head, and necke blacke, except the belly and legges, wch are a compound of white and chessnut. The tayle is very long, like our common english pyes and haith underneath two white featheres, wch because it is proper to that country, I have expressed by that proper name whereby the people there call it."

One of the next accounts of the Towhee is that of Mark Catesby in his NATURAL HISTORY OF THE CAROLINAS. He gave a Latin name, "Passer niger, **Oculis rubris,**" to the bird and described it rather thoroughly. He published an illustration of the Towhee which is, according to present standards, a very crude work. However, it is a recognizable likeness and is, I believe, the first published illustration of the bird.

Linnaeus in his monumental SYSTEMA NATURAE was the first to ascribe a binomial to the Towhee. He named it **Fringilla erythrophthalma,** basing his description on Catesby's account of "Passer niger, Oculis rubris."

Thirty years later Gmelin in a later edition of SYSTEMA NATURAE placed the genus **Fringilla** in the synonomy of the genus **Emberiza** and added a few data to Linnaeus' account.

In 1824 Vieillot described the genus **Pipilo** and placed the genus **Emberiza** in its synonomy.

In 1874 Eliot Coues described the White-eyed Towhee, **Pipilo erythrophthalmus alleni,** causing the red-eyed form to be known as **Pipilo e. erythrophthalmus,** the name which it still bears.

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MR. PERKINS DEAD

Our K. O. S. members will be grieved to learn that Mr. Samuel E. Perkins, III, of Indianapolis, Indiana, long a member of our organization and a famous naturalist, died on January 31, 1941. He had a breakdown in health some three years ago and had given up his law practice then, but he kept up his active interest in ornithology and had hoped to join us again this year at Mammoth Cave. His numerous studies of birds revolved around two paradises of wild life in Indiana: Hovey Lake, near the Ohio River, in Posey County; and Lake Maxinkuckee, at Culver. Those who knew Mr. Perkins will miss his scholary studies and his fine sense of humor. Ornithology has never attracted a more lovable devotee.

VISION IN BIRDS

By DR. ARCH E. COLE, University of Louisville School of Medicine

Light perception organs are the possession of practically all forms of animal life. They vary from the simple pigment spots of the protoza through the vesicle structures of the jellyfish and starfish (by which changes in the intensity of light are perceived) to the true image-forming eye which is well developed in the higher invertebrates and the vertebrates. The eyes of insects, molluscs, and vertebrates differ markedly in their development and structure. Each type is a complex organ designed to focus rays of light, by means of a lens, upon a retina in which the light-sensitive end-organs are located. The vertebrate eye is perhaps the most complicated and the most efficient. It reaches its highest development in the birds, and of these in the birds of prey.

The hawk or eagle, soaring hundreds of feet above the ground, suddenly swoops down and captures a rabbit, ground squirrel, or bird. At a similar distance man would have to use a field glass to distinguish it. Imagine being able to see a mouse running around in the grass even a block away. The swift, travelling at an estimated speed of 30 to 80 miles an hour, suddenly swerves to catch a small gnat, little larger than a pinhead. A man standing still would have difficulty in seeing it even at close range. Sparrow Hawks can see small beetles at 200 feet. The acuity of the bird's eye is said to be about one hundred times that of man.

Among the special senses vision is, without doubt, the most important for birds. Taste is very poorly developed. Birds will, without hesitation, eat their normal food even after it has been soaked in a bitter extract, such as aloes. Smell is also very rudimentary, being best developed in the lower birds. Apteryx, that primitive New Zealand flightless bird, is a night feeder. It eats grubs and worms, which it catches by rooting with its long beak in soft soil. Its nostrils are at the end of the beak. Apteryx has the best-developed olfactory organs of any of the birds. In most birds the nasal cavity, and the tongue also, is horny and dry and ill suited for the location of chemoreceptors, such as olfactory and taste buds. The vulture, which has the reputation of possessing a keen sense of smell in order to locate its decomposing food, is probably enjoying an unjustified distinction. It has been shown by scientifically controlled experiment that vultures do not find very ripe carrion if it is covered so that it cannot be seen. Popular books, however, have many stories which do not bear out this contention.

Birds possess a fairly acute sense of hearing. However, the auditory apparatus is not so well developed and is functionally much inferior to that of most animals.

Many observations and experiments illustrate the importance of vision in the behavior of birds. Birds will respond to their reflection in mirrors, before which they will strut or fight. Male canaries show signs of sexual excitement when shown a toy canary of pasteboard. Vultures tore up a canvas painting of a dead sheep but did not disturb a real dead one which had a piece of canvas thrown over it. Lashley showed that terns and other birds that nest in colonies found their own nests on the basis of visual cues such as a stone, a stick, or a clump of grass. If these cues were removed, the bird was lost, and, unlike Daniel Boone, who never was lost but was once

a little perplexed for three days, they gave every indication of realizing the fact.

Vision is important in the determination of normal posture and balance. If a bird is blindfolded, the bird's head will sink until it touches the ground. Sometimes the bird even lies down on its side.

In most, if not all birds, vision is the chief modality in feeding. Hens and pigeons starve to death in the dark while surrounded by an abundance of food.

Birds are capable of responding to slight variations in intensity of light. Lashley reported that Bantam cocks discriminated accurately with differences in intensity of 1.8 and 18.0 candle-meters. The threshold he believed to be about 1 to 3 (6 and 18 candle meters). The threshold in chicks and pigeons is about the same as that in man. Experimentally both birds stopped feeding when the light intensity was decreased to the point where an observer no longer could distinguish the individual grains of food. As the intensity was increased, both the pigeon and the chicken began to feed again at the same time that the observer could again distinguish grain. If both the observer and the birds were dark-adapted (kept in a dark room for some time), the observer saw the kernels and the birds began feeding at a much lower light intensity than before.

Experimentally chickens distinguish between triangles and circles. If the chicks were offered corn cut in the two shapes but with the circles glued down, the birds soon became conditioned to the extent that they ate only the triangles, even though the circles were free. Crows can distinguish circles, triangles, squares, and hexagons.

In size-discrimination chickens distinguish between circles 5cm. and 8cm. in diameter. Crows are much more sensitive in this respect. They have greater visual acuity and can distinguish a 5cm, circle from one 4.5 cm. in diameter.

Birds stand high in the ability to distinguish a moving object. Normal prey put into large cages with protective color background, with such birds as hawks, owls, chickens, crows, and kingbirds, was taken much more often if the prey moved than if it remained motionless. Birds of prey took their food almost always when it moved. This does not mean, however, that they did not see it when it was quiet. It may mean that such birds preferred animals that were clearly alive. One may often observe a hen chase a flying grasshopper and then fail to find it when it remains motionless.

These experimental and observational results clearly indicate the importance of vision in the behavior of birds. Its importance is also indicated by the large size of the bony orbit of the birds' skulls, and by the relatively large size of the eyeballs.

In birds the bony orbits occupy about one-third of the whole head, one-half in the case of the Woodcock. The size of the orbits restricts the brain to the posterior part of the head. The orbits are separated by a thin interorbital septum, which greatly reduces the nasal cavities.

The eyeball itself is extremely large, being in the swallows about five per cent of the total weight. The eyeball of the ostrich is twice as large as that of a horse, the two being the largest eyes

among terrestrial animals. The eye of the sparrow is nearly one-third the diameter of that of man, although a man is twelve hundred times as large. The large size of the eye of birds is correlated with a relatively greater development of those parts of the brain that control light perception.

Large eyes furnish large, well-developed images and are found in animals that move the head and eyes rapidly and that require instantaneous vision. Birds certainly fall in this grouping. Unlike those of man, the eyes of birds (except owls) are placed laterally in the head. The axes of the eyes are not parallel, and there is little overlapping of the visual fields. They possess, for the most part, monocular vision or, at the best, incomplete binocular vision. In man, where both eyes look forward, light from one object is registered in homologous parts of both eyes. The optic fibers from the corresponding parts of both eyes go to the same side of the brain, being crossed from one side and uncrossed from the other. The images from the two eyes are thus superimposed in the brain, giving stereoscopic vision, with depth of field and clear form and size perception. In birds the axes of the laterally placed eyes are not parallel; there are very little binocular vision, no superimposing of images, and practically no uncrossed optic fibers. What the average bird lacks in depth of field he gains in range of vision. This is the usual condition in animals with a poor defense. We can see but little except that which is before us. The bird sees in front, at the side, and much that is behind it. The bird really sees two fields at once, one with each eye. When necessary, it can suppress one field and concentrate on the other: witness the old hen cocking her head to view upward for an approaching hawk. We do the same thing when we look through a microscope or sight a gun, with both eyes open. We suppress the image formed by one eye and focus our attention on the other.

Animals with monocular vision depend greatly on movement. We do also in our monocular retinal fields, that is, at the periphery of our field of vision, or those parts of our visual field which are not common to both eyes. If one holds his hands out laterally at the level of the eyes so that each hand is out of the binocular field, but still in the monocular field of each eye, the fingers are seen indistinctly, but movement of the fingers can be clearly detected. Birds increase their perception of sationary objects by moving their heads and bodies, thus bringing in the light from such objects from many angles and focussng the rays on the macular areas of clearest vision. You have all noticed this behavior in the Brown Creeper as it moves over a tree trunk in search of hibernating insects, eggs, or cocoons. The long, movable neck and the single occipital condyle (the universal joint where the skull meets the vertebral column) gives to birds great freedom of movement of the head. Birds with binocular vision are not so dependent on head movements. In the early evening you have often noticed the owl sitting quietly watching the ground for the movements of a meadow mouse.

Birds have true eyelids, as do mammals. They are movable but rarely close except when the birds are sleeping. The edges are fleshy and irregular, and even when closed, they do not meet at all points. The lids of many birds are provided with rudimentary feathers which act as eyelashes. The third eyelid, or nictitating membrane, so rudimentary in man, is well-developed in birds. Attached to the medial angle of the eye, it can be drawn across the

surface of the eyeball, toward the lateral side, to cover the whole anterior surface. It is the lid of the most frequent usage, serving as a protection against foreign particles, against air pressure in flight, against water in diving, against sunlight (owls in the daytime keep their third eyelids closed), and serves as a sweep to clear away materials which have settled on the cornea. The front of the eyeball is lubricated by secretions from the lachrymal gland and from Harder's gland, but the secretion is scanty, and its flow is not the same as in man; so the nictitating membrane serves as a mop to spread the lachrymal fluid over the cornea. The pyramidalis muscle, which controls the third eyelid, is very interesting in its action. It is a small, skeletal muscle under voluntary control and is located on the back of the eyeball. Its very long, slender tendon passes through a fibrous pulley and then winds around the lower border of the eyeball and is attached to the lateral edge of the nictitating membrane. The lateral pull which it exerts on the membrane is thus in quite a different plane from that in which the muscle lies.

The extrinsic muscles of the bird's eye are about the same as those in man. Six small muscles extend from the bony orbit to the eyeball in such a way that the eye may be rotated in its socket. In binocular vision the two eyeballs are rotated synchronously, but this does not necessarily occur in birds with monocular vision.

The structure of the bird's eyeball is in general the same as that of man, but it differs in essential details. Both are very complicated, for each is a delicately controlled mechanism, capable of rapidly shifting from a sharp focus of parallel rays of light from far objects to a sharp focus of divergent rays from close objects. This shift is called accomodation to distance and is accomplished by the action of certain muscles within the eyeball itself. The muscles are used to focus on close objects. We are conscious of this muscle action when our eyes become fatigued after prolonged near vision. In the human eye accomodation is produced by the contraction of the ciliary muscle, which allows the lens to become more spherical. The greater convexity of the lens bends the diverging light rays from a near object and brings them to a focus on the retina. Parallel rays from a distant object need not be bent so much if they are to be focussed on the retina; so the muscle relaxes, and the lens becomes more flattened or less convex. Accomodation of this sort is similar to changing the lens on a camera when one uses a more convex lens for near objects and a less convex lens for a distant landscape.

Birds have the same type of accomodation mechanism, but in addition they possess a circular striated muscle which encircles the eyeball. When this muscle contracts, the eyeball is elongated and made tubular. The distance between the retina and the lens is increased. This is similar to drawing out the bellows in a camera, in taking a close-up. By this double mechanism the bird can really change its eye from a telescope into a microscope. The presence of the faster-acting striated muscle in the bird's eye provides for accomodation which is more rapid than that in man.

Nocturnal birds have dark-adapted eyes. The rods and cones of the retina have a layer of pigment about them so arranged that all of the light entering the eye is utilized. The eyes of such birds are large, more tubular than those of day birds; the cornea is more conical, and the pupil is capable of great dilation to admit all the light possible. Such eyes are adapted for near vision. Contrary to the usual conception, owls can see very well in the daytime, but they

can see better at dusk and, of course, not at all in complete darkness. The fallacy about owls not being able to see in the daytime is due, of course, to the usual observation that these birds are not often seen in bright sunlight. This is probably due to the fact that they are resting from their nocturnal labors and are hiding from the attacks of day birds, which apparently take great delight in worrying them.

The fact that most birds are colored, many of them brilliantly, indicates an appreciation of color. Color vision is supposedly resident in the cones. Night birds have fewer cones; they are preponderant in day birds; in fact, the number of rods is greatly reduced in the same birds.

If, in an otherwise darkened room, a strong light be passed through a prism and the resulting spectrum focussed on the floor, over which grain has been scattered, a hungry hen will eat the grain from the red, orange, yellow, and green areas, but will fail to see the grain illuminated by the blue light. She behaves as if the blue-violet end of the spectrum were black. Apparently she does not perceive blue light. This is true of all birds so tested. If one puts on glasses with one yellow lens and one red lens, then one does not see the blue end of the spectrum, either. The red and yellow oil droplets which were previously described in the bird's retina apparently act as a screen, shutting out the blue-violet rays. If this is true, then the various theories of color selection in birds is partially wrong, for the development of blue and indigo plumage, which appears black to birds, is then incidental and without reason.

Although the keenest vision, the widest range of accomodation, and the most complex mechanism for rapid accomodation are found among birds, not all birds have the same degree of development of the eye. There is a wide range of variation between the near-sighted eye of the ground bird, the far-sighted eye of the eagle, and the binocular eye of the owl.

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OUR NEW STATE ORNITHOLOGIST

Recently there was appointed to the position of State Ornithologist, Mr. Burt L. Monroe, who has long been an active member of the K. O. S. and was formerly president. He is to act as adviser to the Division of Fish and Game on game and non-game birds, aid in filming birds and their habitats, conduct laboratory work at his home in Anchorage, do other forms of investigation, and lecture extensively. This is a distinct honor to Burt and to all of us. We assure him that we are eager to aid him in every way to put Kentucky on the map so far as ornithology and conservation are concerned. Look for an announcement in our next issue as to a check-list of Kentucky birds now in the making.

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FILES OF THE WARBLER

Recently the University of Kentucky Library purchased a complete file of THE KENTUCKY WARBLER, which included photographic copies of our earlier issues. There is also a complete file of the WARBLER at the University of Louisville Library and another in the private library of Dr. Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green.

BIRDS IN THE HARBOR

By FLOYD S. CARPENTER, Louisville

In most years a number of gulls select the harbor at Louisville for a winter resort. Perhaps the "smog" from the city reminds them of a coastal fog. While usually a few can be seen flying around, there are certain times and places where they can be seen in large numbers. If the river is low and most of the dam is closed, it is nothing unusual to see a hundred or more Herring Gulls and at times a few Ring-billed Gulls on the falls. They may be either winging their way over the swift water, ready to dart down after some floating scraps of food, or perhaps just resting in some shallow, quiet pool or perched on a rock or the dam itself. Of course, if the river rises, their resting ground becomes deep, swift water, and they have to go elsewhere.

About noon each day from 20 to 50 gulls come up to the main water-front of the city for dinner. It is along here that the steamboats are tied up and that the U. S. Coast Guard station is located. Birds and men alike must eat, and after dinner is prepared on the boats, the scraps are usually dumped overboard; the gulls are ready and waiting for them. It is quite a sight to see these gulls circling in the air or resting on the water. Often they come within a hundred feet of the levee. They vary from young of the first year to fully adult, and the plumage changes can be readily discerned. If the bird student is really in earnest about the gulls, he can bring a bag of food scraps along and, by throwing food into the water, get a near view of the winter visitors. The average pedestrian passing along calls them "sea gulls," while some want to know "what kind of wild ducks is them birds?" It is true that in the comparatively still water above the dam some 60 to 100 ducks may winter, but they keep so far from land that they are usually unseen unless one is deliberately looking for them; even then a telescope is needed to identify the species.

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MEMBERS OF THE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
JULY 1, 1941

Allen, Otis W., The Arms, Bowling Green.
Anderson, Anne, 1031 Fourth, Louisville.
Berea College Library, Berea.
Bandeen, Mrs. S. G., 627 South Main, Shelbyville.
Beckner, Colonel and Mrs. Lucien, 1204 South Second, Louisville.
Bergman, Amy, 209 University Avenue, Lexington.
Brecher, Leonard, 1900 Spring Drive, Louisville.
Brecher, Mrs. Leonard, 1900 Spring Drive, Louisville.
Bryens, Oscar McKinley, R. F. D. No. 1, McMillan, Michigan.
Carpenter, Floyd, 2402 Longest Ave., Louisville.
Counce, Dr. Cynthia, Western State Hospital, Hopkinsville.
Davies, P. A., 3124 Meadowlark Road, Louisville.
Davis, George, State Teachers College, Murfreesboro, Tenn.
Deane, Amy, 2313 Hale Ave., Louisville.
Dodge, Victor K., 137 Bell Court West, Lexington.
Doelckner, Eugene, R. F. D. 2, Box 35, Louisville.
Doelckner, Mrs. Eugene, R. F. D. 2, Box 35, Louisville.
Duncan, Mrs. Joseph L., 534 Barberry Lane, Louisville.
Durand, Forrest, Idd Apartments, Paducah.
Frazer, Dr. T. Atchison, Marion.
Frei, F. Everett, 202 Leslie, Glasgow.

Frei, Mrs. F. Everett, 202 Leslie, Glasgow.
Fust, Erma, 233 Breckenridge Lane, Louisville.
Gadjen, Gertrude, 1032 Mary Street, Louisville.
Gadjen, Elizabeth, 1032 Mary Street, Louisville.
Ganier, A. F., 2112 Woodlawn Drive, Nashville, Tenn.
Gentry, Thelma, 516 East Arch Street, Madisonville.
Guion, George Seth, 1701 American Bank Bldg., New Orleans, La.
Harms, Amanda, Washington Ave., Lexington.
Herr, Mrs. G. B., Anchorage.
Heeb, Mrs. W. P., 1140 Everett Ave., Louisville.
Hobson, Mrs. L. G., Bloomingdale, Indiana.
Kelly, Mrs. George, 2306 LaSalle Gardens, North, Detroit, Michigan.
Kentucky University Library, Lexington.
King, Virgil D., Camp SCS 27, CCC Company 1562, Flemingsburg.
Kinnaird, Mrs. Edna Wood, 651 Floyd, Louisville.
Kinslow, Hazel, 223 Harahan, Paducah.
Knox, Margaret, 4030 Park Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana.
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MEMORIAL TO MISS YUNKER

The Outdoor Art League of Louisville dedicated on May 30 a sundial and bird bath at the entrance to Cherokee Park, facing Cherokee Parkway, to the memory of Miss Emilie Yunker, long an active member of the League. Several of our K. O. S. members participated in the ceremony. Vrey appropriately the memorial was unveiled by two school children, little Misses Mary Nancy Lea and Mary Jane Lips.