

The Chickadee

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FIELD NOTES - WORCESTER COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS . 1955

- COMMON LOON: March 26, Brookfield, 1, W. Wetherbee, to May 25, Phillipston, 1, Allison. Summer records:- June 7, Boylston, 1, and August 1, Hardwick, 3, Crompton. Then, Oct. 1, Boylston, 40, McAllister (carefully counted; and 15 still present Oct. 5, Crompton) to Nov. 27, Boylston, 2, O.P. Wetherbee, and Dec. 18, Clinton, 1, late, W. Wetherbee.
- RED-THROATED LOON: Jan. 4, Clinton, 1, C.R. Smith. This bird was studied at 300 feet. It may have been present, far out, in late Dec. 1954. Mr. Smith was already familiar with the species.
- HORNED GREBE: Only in autumn: Oct. 5, Sterling, 1, to Nov. 30, Clinton, 1, Crompton, and Dec. 18, 1, W. Wetherbee. Maximum count on Oct. 30, when W. and O. Wetherbee saw 20 on Wachusett Reservoir at Clinton and W. Boylston.
- PIED-BILLED GREBE: March 3, Grafton, 1, O. Wetherbee, and March 5, Brookfield, 1, Schumachers, to May 11, Petersham, 1, Allison, and May 20, Millbury, 1, O. Wetherbee. Then, Sept. 9, Lancaster, 1, Eliot, and Sept. 19, Holden, 1, Fleming, to Nov. 28 and Dec. 2, Clinton, 1, Caldwell, and Dec. 31, W. Brookfield, 1, W. Wetherbee.
- GREAT BLUE HERON: Feb. 26, Sturbridge, 1, M.A. Tyler; March 21 and 23, Hardwick, 1, Klem and Campbell, to Nov. 17, Hardwick, 1, Crompton. Two nests in Hubbardston, May 7, are mentioned on page 258 of the Bulletin of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, and two nests in Sterling in July were several times watched by Helen L. Murdock.
- AMERICAN EGRET: Only two records:- Aug. 22, Bolton, 1, Crompton, and Sept. 18, Petersham, 2, Allison.
- GREEN HERON: April 30, Lancaster, 1, C.R. Smith, and May 5, Worcester 1, Schmierer, to Sept. 7, Sterling, 1, Allen.
- BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON: March 27, Auburn, 1, Kinsel. May 1, Athol, 1, Allison, to Aug. 30, Worcester, 1, Fleming, and Nov. 26, Worcester, 1 (extremely late) Hamill. Crompton reported 4 in Worcester on May 5.
- AMERICAN BITTERN: March 20, Brookfield, 1, very early, W. Wetherbee, and April 9, Oxford, 1, Murdock, to Sept. 25, Spencer, 1, O. Wetherbee.
- LEAST BITTERN: May 7, East Douglas, 1, reported in the Bulletin of the Massachusetts Audubon Society may or may not be authentic.
- CANADA GOOSE: March 13, E. Brookfield, 3, O. and W. Wetherbee. Migrating flocks; March 28, Sterling, 25, Crompton; April 1, Auburn, 200, Kinsel; April 2, Clinton, 20, C.R. Smith; April 9, Athol, 60, Allison, and Winchendon, 46, Murdock, to April 23, Athol, 50, Allison. May 22, 23, a pair with 5 downy goslings on the Boylston shore of Wachusett Reservoir, seen by many observers. July 25, Boylston a pair with 2 nearly grown young, by McAllister, Sr. An anomalous date with no number or details is Sept. 14 at Princeton by G.H. Smith. Autumn flocks: - Oct. 12, Worcester, 32, to Nov. 20, Worcester, a large flock flying over after dark, Fleming.
- BRANT: July 13, Hardwick, 1 adult both swimming and flying, Campbell.

SNOW GOOSE: March 24, between Worcester airport and Paxton, at least 75 were seen from a plane 2000 feet up by James Stewart (fide Campbell). March 28, Bolton, 20, C.R.Smith, who heard that they stayed five days. Nov. 30, Dana, 35, Walker (fide Crompton).

BALDPATE: Oct. 24, Brookfield, 5, Crompton, and Oct. 29, Holden, 2, Fleming.

PINTAIL: Feb. 21, Worcester, 1, Phillips (in Records of New England Birds). March 23, Bolton, 2 males, C.R.Smith. July 29, Spencer, a male hybrid, Pintail and Black Duck, all dull blackish except white wing-linings and fore-parts, and gray, Pintail-like bill (Eliot). Sept. 25, Spencer, 2, O. and W. Wetherbee. Nov. 4-5, Lancaster, 1, Crompton. Nov. 19, Royalston, 1 male shot by William Buchanan, then seen by Allison.

GREEN-WINGED TEAL: March 18, Oakham, 1, and April 8, 2, Crompton. Also April 16, N. Grafton, 2, Schmierer, and Sterling, 2, C.R.Smith. Then Oct. 5, Petersham, 5, to Nov. 6, Bolton, 5, Crompton.

BLUE-WINGED TEAL: March 26, Spencer, 3, to April 15, Oakham, 3, Crompton. Then Aug. 22, Bolton, 1, Crompton, to Oct. 19, Sutton, 6, O. Wetherbee. Maximum, 29 at Spencer on Sept. 14, Crompton.

WOOD DUCK: Jan. 1, Gardner, 1 female with Mallards and Blacks, Murdock; Feb. 22, Grafton, 5, O. and W. Wetherbee; March 19, Brookfield, 1, Crompton, to Nov. 17, Dana, 3, Crompton. High counts: Apr. 3, N. Grafton, 21, W. Wetherbee, and Oct. 6, Petersham, 16, Crompton.

REDHEAD: Only one record: Nov. 2, Brookfield, 2, Crompton.

RING-NECKED DUCK: March 13, E. Brookfield, 1, Crompton and the Wetherbees; March 18, Sterling, 1, C.R.Smith; March 19, Brookfield, 14, Crompton, to April 18, Harvard, 6, Hayes. In autumn, Sept. 28, Holden, 2, very early, and Oct. 20, Petersham, 3, Crompton, to Nov. 17, Dana, 1, Crompton. Maximum, 42 at Lunenburg on Oct. 31, Hayes.

CANVASBACK: Reported only from Lake Quaboag, March 13, 3, O. and W. Wetherbee; Oct. 29, 2, Eliot; and Nov. 10, 3, Crompton.

GREATER SCAUP DUCK: Jan. 1-4, Sterling, 1, C.R.Smith; March 13, E. Brookfield, 2, O. and W. Wetherbee, to April 17, Paxton, 2, Jenkins, and a female in Worcester April 4-28, Crompton. Then Oct. 19, Brookfield, 3, to Nov. 28 there, 2 females, Crompton, and a male in Worcester, Dec. 14-31, Crompton.

LESSER SCAUP DUCK: March 20, Fitchburg, 2, Tarbell, to March 29, Worcester, 2, Heywood. Then Oct. 11, Brookfield, 3, and West Brookfield, 1, Crompton, and probably some, later, but none positively distinguishable from Greaters.

AMERICAN GOLDEN-EYE: Jan. 1-4, Clinton, 2, C.R.Smith. Jan. 20, W. Brookfield, 7, Crompton, to April 16, Sterling, 1, C.R.Smith, and April 28, Sterling, 1, Crompton. Completely anomalous was a male on Lake Quaboag May 24 and 26, seen by the Schumacher sisters of Pittsfield on a journey to and from the coast; and they too made the highest count there, 79 on March 5. In autumn, Oct. 23, Boylston, 4, O. Wetherbee, to Dec. 14, Boylston, 6, Crompton.

BUFFLE-HEAD: March 14, Sterling, 1, and March 30, Brookfield, 1, Crompton. April 16, Sterling, 1, C.R.Smith. Then Oct. 22, Petersham, 1, and Nov. 9, Dana, 1, Crompton. Also recorded on Nov. 6, at Brookfield, 3, O. and W. Wetherbee.

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER: Oct. 19, Brookfield, 1, and Nov. 7, Boylston, 1, Crompton.

AMERICAN SCOTER: Oct. 11, E. Brookfield, 35, Crompton, and Nov. 6-13, Brookfield, 1-3, except 58 on Nov. 13 reported by W. Wetherbee.

RUDDY DUCK: Oct. 15, Brookfield, 6, to Nov. 22, Brookfield, 3, Crompton, who reported 40 there on Nov. 10. The Wetherbees reported 30 there on Oct. 30. The only other locality was Coes Pond, Worcester, where three on Oct. 30 were identified by F.X. McMenemy (fide Crompton).

HOODED Merganser: March 12, Boylston, 2, O. and W. Wetherbee, to April 9, Sutton, 2, W. Wetherbee, and Oakham, 6, Crompton. Nested beside a small farm pond in Royalston (R.J. Lovely, Jr.), where mother and 6 young were seen on June 18 by Mrs. O.J. Anderson of Orange. In fall: Oct. 6, Hardwick, 1, and Oct. 15,

HOODED MERGANSER: (continued)

Sutton, 4, to Dec. 15, W. Brookfield, 12, Crompton, who also recorded the maximum of 17 at Dana on Nov. 17.

AMERICAN MERGANSER: Winter to May 4, Princeton, 8, Crompton. Then Nov. 2, Holden, 2, Fleming, to end of the year. On Nov. 30 Crompton recorded 105 at Sterling.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER: Only two records: April 9, Holden, 2 males, and Oct. 20, Clinton, 5, both by Crompton.

TURKEY VULTURE: Reported in the Hardwick-Dana region, where it probably breeds, on at least 7 dates, from March 15 to Oct. 10, chiefly by Crompton. Maximum 7 July 31 (Klem). Elsewhere, May 16, Grafton, 1, O. Wetherbee; May 24, Princeton, 1, Crompton; July 17, Sterling, 1, Allen, and July 29, W. Brookfield, 1, Crompton.

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK: Jan. 12, W. Brookfield, 1, Crompton. Many records in March: on the 13th, Athol, 3, Allison; 19th, Paxton, 1, Jenkins; 20th, Leominster, 1, Fleming; 22nd, Worcester, 2, Watson; 26th, Auburn, 2, Kinsel. But apparently none in April and only three in May, with no evidence of nesting better than a bird seen at Spencer on May 30 by W. Wetherbee. In autumn, only Sept. 23, Hardwick, 1, Crompton, and Sept. 28, Boylston, 1, Kinsel. Then, remarkably, Dec. 30, Holden, 1, Fleming, and Dec. 31, Leicester, 1, Schmierer.

COOPER'S HAWK: A winterer in Worcester was seen Jan. 8 (Schmierer), Jan. 20 (Heywood), and Feb. 9 (Crompton); others at Boylston (McAllister) and Lunenburg, Feb. 25 (Hayes) and March 27 (Wazal). Then April 2, Bolton, 1, C.R. Smith; April 9, Paxton, 1, Jenkins; April 30, Spencer, 1, O. and W. Wetherbee to May 14, Holden, 1, F.B.C., but thereafter only Sept. 28, Lancaster, 1, Crompton.

RED-SHOULDERED HAWK: Jan. 1, Leominster, 1, Fessenden; Jan. 8, Clinton, 1, Caldwell; Feb. 25, Worcester, 1, Heywood; and C.R. Smith in S. Lancaster had one throughout Jan. and Feb. March 12, Grafton, 3, W. Wetherbee, and Lunenburg, 1, Hayes, to Oct. 9, Worcester, 1, Schmierer, and (very late) Nov. 21 and Dec. 1, Clinton, 1, 1, Caldwell.

BROAD-WINGED HAWK: April 13, Auburn, 1, early, Kinsel, to Oct. 20, Spencer, 1, very late, Fleming. Strangely unreported in September, when it should be commonest.

AMERICAN ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK: March 30, W. Brookfield, 1, Crompton and Eliot.

BALD EAGLE: March 7, 13, and April 6, Hardwick, 1 im., Campbell. April 16, Brookfield, 1 im., Schumacher. "Less than half the normal summer population in the Quabbin area", e.g. six on July 13, Campbell. August 1, Dana, 2, Crompton; Oct. 22, Athol, 1, Allison.

MARSH HAWK: Feb. 26, Hardwick, 1 male, Crompton. March 10, Sterling, 1, C.R. Smith. March 11, Princeton, 1, G.H. Smith. March 18, Oakham, 1 male, Crompton. March 20, Fitchburg, 1, Wazal, to May 22, Athol, 1, Allison. Then Aug. 28, Brookfield, 1, Crompton, to Oct. 23, Paxton, 1, Jenkins, and Nov. 17, Hardwick, 1 male, Crompton.

OSPREY: March 13, Athol, 2, amazingly early, Allison; April 22, Leicester, 1, Schmierer, to May 14, Worcester, 2, W. Wetherbee. In fall, Sept. 23, Boylston, 1, McAllister, to Oct. 17, Lancaster, 1, Crompton, and Nov. 6, Holden, 1, Fleming.

DUCK HAWK: Jan. 23 S. Lancaster, 1, C.R. Smith; March 9, Worcester, 1, Schmierer; March 10, Sterling, 1, C.R. Smith; March 27, Boylston, 1, W. Wetherbee; May 22, S. Athol, 1, Allison. One summer record in Worcester, July 3, W. Wetherbee. In fall, Sept. 19, Hardwick, 1, Campbell; Oct. 5, Petersham, 1, Crompton, and Oct. 12, Leominster, 1, Fleming.

PIGEON HAWK: April 4, Dana, 1 male, Campbell; otherwise only by Crompton, in Lancaster on April 29, and in Spencer Sept. 4, Sept. 28, and Oct. 19.

SPARROW HAWK: Observed in Worcester on Jan. 5, 1, Crompton; Jan. 8, 1, W. Wetherbee; Feb. 24, 1, Schmierer; March 10, 1, O. Wetherbee; March 11, 1,

SPARROW HAWK: (continued)

Watson. Elsewhere, Feb. 24, Lancaster, 1, C.R. Smith; March 13, Hardwick, 1, Campbell, and Auburn, 1, Kinsel, to Nov. 21, Shrewsbury, 1, Crompton, and Dec. 5, Lancaster, 1, Caldwell.

RUFFED GROUSE: Many records of single birds but also, May 29, Princeton, 10 (mother and 9 chicks), Inman; July 17, Hubbardston, 13 (3 families), Murdock; Nov. 8, Dana, 6, Crompton, and Nov. 30 there a male "strutting" as in spring.

BOB-WHITE: One reported by the Wetherbees in Worcester on May 12, 14, and 16. June 3-4, Lancaster, 1, C.R. Smith. June 4, Holden 1, Marshall. Late June and early July, Hardwick, fide Campbell.

COOT: Feb. 22 to March 6, N. Grafton, 1, W. Wetherbee. In fall, much scarcer than usual: Oct. 29, Brookfield, 1, Eliot; Nov. 1 and 7, Grafton, 2, 3, Crompton; Nov. 10, Brookfield, 1, Fleming; Dec. 25, Athol, 1, inexplicably late, Allison. This bird was caught alive at the riverbank near the Orange line, kept several days, and given to R.J. Lovely.

SEMIPALMATED PLOVER: Found in Spencer May 18, one, O. Wetherbee; May 23, two, and May 29, one, W. Wetherbee. Then July 22, two to Sept. 25, one, W. Wetherbee, with maximum seven Sept. 12, Eliot. Seen also at Worcester Aug. 13, one, Crompton, and Westminster Sept. 9, three, Hayes.

KILLDEER: Feb. 27, S. Lancaster, 1, C.R. Smith, and March 10, Worcester, 3, O. Wetherbee, to Nov. 27, Spencer, 1, Crompton. Highest counts, 30 at Spencer on July 18 and 30 in Lancaster on Nov. 6, Crompton.

WOODCOCK: March 9, Auburn, 2, early, Kinsel, and March 14, Princeton, 1, G.H. Smith, to Nov. 10, Princeton, 1, G.H. Smith, and Nov. 17, Dana, 1, Crompton. May 14, Worcester, 6 half-grown young, W. Wetherbee.

WILSON'S SNIBE: April 17, Lancaster, 2, C.R. Smith, and April 28, Bolton, 1, Crompton. Then Sept. 21, Spencer, 1, Crompton, to Sept. 30, Spencer, 2, W. Wetherbee.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER: April 24, Worcester, 1, to Oct. 18, Worcester, 1, Crompton. Both dates are remarkable. The next earliest was April 28, Spencer, 1, Crompton, and the normal latest was Sept. 13, Holden, 1, Fleming.

SOLITARY SANDPIPER: May 5, Spencer, 3, Crompton, to May 25, Phillipston, 1, Allison. Then July 5, Lancaster, 1, and July 8, Spencer, 3, to Oct. 9, Spencer, 2, late, W. Wetherbee. Crompton reported 10 at Spencer on Aug. 1. Reported also from Worcester, W. Boylston and Brookfield.

GREATER YELLOWLEGS: April 29, Bolton, 4, Crompton, to May 23, Spencer, 2, W. Wetherbee. Then July 23, Spencer, 3, Fleming, to Nov. 6, Spencer, 2, O. and W. Wetherbee, and Lancaster, 4, Crompton. Maximum, 12 at Spencer on May 12, and Oct. 19, Crompton.

LESSER YELLOWLEGS: July 8, Spencer, 5, W. Wetherbee, to Oct. 19, Spencer, 1, and Oct. 23, Lancaster, 1, Crompton, both birds directly comparable with Greater. Reported also from Sutton on Nov. 2, extremely late, by O. Wetherbee. Maximum 64 at Spencer on Sept. 16, Crompton.

PECTORAL SANDPIPER: May 8, Spencer, 1, W. Wetherbee; again May 9, O. Wetherbee and Fleming. A great rarity in spring. July 25, Lancaster, 2, W. Wetherbee, to Oct. 30, Spencer, 5, O. Wetherbee. Maximum 38 at Spencer on Sept. 12, Eliot.

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER: Only one report: Aug. 23, Worcester, 1, Crompton.

LEAST SANDPIPER: May 5, Spencer, 9, Crompton, to May 18 there, 70, O. Wetherbee, and May 29, one, W. Wetherbee. Then July 5, Lancaster, 1, to Sept. 25, Spencer, 1, W. Wetherbee.

STILT SANDPIPER: Recorded only at Spencer on July 30, 3, and Aug. 6, 1, Crompton; Sept. 11, 3, W. Wetherbee, and Sept. 12, 2, Eliot.

SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER: May 9, Spencer, 22, O. Wetherbee and Fleming; May 23, Spencer, 20, W. Wetherbee. Less rare in spring than the Pectoral but seldom seen in such number. July 15, Spencer, 14, W. Wetherbee, to Sept. 25,

SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER: (continued)

Spencer, 7, Fleming. Maximum 489 recorded at Spencer on an F.B.C. trip on Aug. 6.

HERRING GULL: Winter to July 4, Boylston, 8, O.Wetherbee. Then after an absence of only sixteen days, July 20, Sterling, 1, Fleming, to winter. High counts: Jan. 9, Oakdale, 150, W.Wetherbee and March 19, Clinton, 190, Crompton.

RING-BILLED GULL: Only one record: March 24, Worcester, 1, Crompton.

MOURNING DOVE: Feb. 27, Fitchburg, 1, Tarbell; March 3, Athol, 1, Allison; March 14, Lancaster, 1, Crompton, to Nov. 6, Lancaster, 1, W.Wetherbee, and Nov. 30, Worcester, 1 feeding on porch, Watson. Crompton recorded 33 in Worcester on Sept. 21.

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO: A very early report is May 4, Auburn, 1, Kinsel. June 11, Worcester, 1, Crompton, and Oct. 15, Worcester, 1 picked up, moribund, by Mrs. Henry Arter on Millbrook St. and seen after death by Crompton. To the late records of 1954 should be added Oct. 21, Fitchburg, 1, G.R.Corey.

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO: May 5, Auburn, 1, Kinsel and May 14, Fitchburg, 1, Bruce, to Oct. 9, Athol, 3 in yard, Allison.

SCREECH OWL: Jan. 29, Lunenburg, 1, Hayes; Feb. 18, Fitchburg, 1, Bruce; March 10, Worcester, 1, Fleming; recorded in July, August and until Sept. 17 in Worcester by Winters.

GREAT HORNED OWL: Two in Lancaster in Jan. and Feb. (C.R.Smith), and May 18, Rutland, 1, Crompton.

SNOWY OWL: Jan. 10-11, Worcester, 1, Edward Donaghy, who telephoned its description to Audubon House in Boston.

BARRED OWL: March 26, Paxton, 1, Jenkins, who also reported 2 calling every evening at dusk from Nov. 2 for several weeks.

LONG-EARED OWL: May 7, Hubbardston, 2, Murdock.

SAW-WHET OWL: Reported only by Allison in Athol, on March 28 and Dec. 26.

WHIP-POOR-WILL: May 2, Boylston, 1, McAllister, to Sept. 12, Athol, 1, Allison.

NIGHTHAWK: May 11, Worcester, 1, W.Wetherbee, to Sept. 5, Holden, 4, Fleming. On Aug. 31 Winters saw 29 in Worcester, and on Sept. 4, ten.

CHIMNEY SWIFT: April 23, Auburn, 3, Kinsel, and May 2, Athol, 10, Allison, to Sept. 1, Worcester, 1, O.Wetherbee. W.Wetherbee saw 100 in Worcester on May 5.

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD: May 9, Worcester, 1, Fleming, to Sept. 20, Lunenburg, 1, Hayes, and Oct. 9 in Barre according to the Bulletin of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, p. 449. A daily visitor to garden feeder throughout June, July and August until Sept. 6, Fleming.

BELTED KINGFISHER: Jan. 2, Bolton, 1, C.R.Smith; Feb. 20, Worcester, 1, W.Wetherbee; Feb. 28, Whitinsville, 1, Hayes; March 19, Lancaster, 1, Crompton, to Oct. 19, Athol, 1, Allison, and Spencer, 1, Brookfield, 1, Crompton. Dec. 26, Worcester, 1, Schmierer.

FLICKER: March 13, Douglas, 1, Crompton; March 18, Auburn, 2, Kinsel; March 20, Worcester, 1, Watson, to Oct. 24, Spencer, 1, and extraordinarily, Dec. 16, Grafton, 1, Crompton.

PILEATED WOODPECKER: Reported from Hubbardston, Lancaster, Athol, Holden, Fitchburg, Phillipston, Ashburnham and Barre in all seasons. On June 18 in Hubbardston, Miss Murdock watched for hours a nest where both parents were feeding 2 almost fully grown young.

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER: April 8, Sterling, 1, Allen; May 1, Athol, 1, Allison; May 13, Fitchburg, 1, Hayes; and May 14, Worcester, 1, O.Wetherbee. In autumn, Sept. 9, Spencer, 1 very early immature, Fleming; then Sept. 27, W. Boylston, 1, O. Wetherbee, to Oct. 12, Holden, 1, Fleming.

EASTERN KINGBIRD: April 10, Phillipston, 2, Allison, - a most extraordinary report, averred and confirmed by both Allisons. Single birds reported on May 5 from Auburn, Kinsel; Sterling, Allen; Worcester, Crompton; and Paxton,

EASTERN KINGBIRD: (continued)

- O. Wetherbee. Latest date, Sept. 6, Sutton, 1, O. Wetherbee.
- CRESTED FLYCATCHER: May 7, Boylston, 1, O. and W. Wetherbee, and Lunenburg, 1, Hayes, to June 19, Holden, 1, Fleming.
- PHOEBE: March 12, Boylston, 1, W. Wetherbee, and Princeton, 1, G.H. Smith, to Oct. 22, Worcester, 2, Winters.
- ALDER FLYCATCHER: May 30, Lunenburg, 1, Hayes.
- LEAST FLYCATCHER: May 4, Boylston, 1, McAllister, and Lancaster, 1, C.R. Smith, and Crompton, to Aug. 28, Brookfield, 1, Crompton.
- WOOD PEWEE: May 2, Fitchburg, 1, Tarbell; May 4, Phillipston, 1, Allison. May 19, Auburn, 1, Kinsel, to Sept. 20, Worcester, 1, Fleming.
- OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER: June 6, Barre (Cook's Canyon), 1, Crompton.
- NORTHERN HORNED LARK: Jan. 15-Feb. 19, Hardwick, flocks, Klem; Feb. 12 and 20, Worcester, 1, 1, Fleming; Feb. 19 and March 6, Lancaster, 40, 15, C.R. Smith; and April 23, Worcester, 1, Crompton.
- PRAIRIE HORNED LARK: March 10, Worcester, 6, O. Wetherbee, to Aug. 8, Worcester, 5, Fleming.
- TREE SWALLOW: March 12, Grafton, 6, W. Wetherbee; March 13, Brookfield, 50, O. and W. Wetherbee; March 22, Auburn, 4, Kinsel, to Sept. 10, Dudley, 2, W. Wetherbee. Crompton saw 1400 in W. Boylston on April 26.
- BANK SWALLOW: May 5, S. Lancaster, 1, Drown and C.R. Smith, to Aug. 30, Spencer, 1, Crompton. On May 7, W. Wetherbee saw 50 in Boylston.
- ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW: April 30, Spencer, 1, F.B.C. and Fitchburg, 2, E. Smith, to July 21, Barre, 1, Crompton.
- BARN SWALLOW: April 17, Princeton, 1, W. Wetherbee, to Sept. 14, Grafton, 5, Fleming, and Sterling, 3, Allen. Aug. 20, Worcester, "last of 26 raised in the barn, left", Watson.
- CLIFF SWALLOW: May 5, Leicester, 20, Fleming, to Aug. 30, Spencer, 1, Crompton, and Sept. 11, Spencer, 1, W. Wetherbee. On July 23, Murdock counted 92 in Princeton, Holden and Oxford.
- PURPLE MARTIN: May 12, Winchendon, 1, Tarbell.
- CROW: Dec. 31, Sterling, more than 475 seen by W. Wetherbee.
- BROWN-CAPPED CHICKADEE: The bird which first appeared on Dec. 8, 1954, at the home of Mrs. A. L. Newman, N. Brookfield, was last seen there on April 10, 1955.
- RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH: Winter to May 7, Hubbardston, 1, Murdock, and Lunenburg, 1, Hayes. Then Sept. 21, Phillipston, 1, Allison to winter, but apparently rare until mid-November.
- BROWN CREEPER: Winter to April 30, Spencer, F.B.C. May 27, Holden, 1, Schmierer. May 15 and 29, Paxton, 1, 1, F.B.C. and O. Wetherbee. June 18, Hubbardston, parents feeding 2 young in nest, Murdock. In fall, Oct. 12, Holden, 1, Fleming, to winter.
- HOUSE WREN: May 1, Lunenburg, 1, Hayes, to Sept. 13, Princeton, 1, Fleming.
- WINTER WREN: Nov. 6, Dana, 1, Albertine.
- LONG-BILLED MARSH WREN: June 7, Brookfield, 5, Crompton.
- SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN: June 17, New Braintree, 1, Crompton.
- MOCKINGBIRD: Jan. 9-Feb. 27, Grafton, one bird came to several feeders, O. Wetherbee and others, and "Records of New England Birds" says it stayed through March. Dec. 26, Gardner, 1, Coburn. Dec. 28, 29, Grafton, 1, 1, O. Wetherbee, Winters.
- CATBIRD: May 1, Princeton, 1, G.H. Smith, to Oct. 21, Worcester, 1, Fleming. Oct. 11-Dec. 22, Worcester, one bird apparently in good condition lingered at the home of O. Wetherbee. Oct. 2-18, and again Nov. 15-Dec. 9, Auburn, a bird with injured wing remained at the home of Edith Kinsel. Nov. 17-21, Athol, 1, Allison.
- BROWN THRASHER: April 18, Auburn 1, Kinsel, to Sept. 25, Spencer, 1, Fleming.

ROBIN: Jan. 14, Fitchburg, 3, Bruce; Jan. 16, Lancaster, 2, C.R. Smith; Jan. 21, Athol, 1, Allison; Feb. 17, Lancaster, 1, Drown; Feb. 24, Auburn, 2, Kinsel; March 10, Princeton, 3, G.H. Smith, and first spring flock March 10, Paxton, 25, Jenkins. Many records of lingering birds during Nov. and Dec. with the last on Dec. 30, Holden, 1, Fleming.

BLACK-BACKED ROBIN: March 26, Upton, 1, and April 3, Mendon 1, Crompton.

WOOD THRUSH: May 2, Paxton, 1, Jenkins, and Worcester, 1, Fleming, to Sept. 23, Worcester, 1, Fleming.

HERMIT THRUSH: Jan. 6-Feb. 15, Worcester, one seen daily in yard, O. Wetherbee. April 9, Gardner, 1, Murdock, to Nov. 6, Hardwick, 2 (separate), Eliot. Dec. 15-25, Gardner, 1 in yard, Coburn.

OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH: May 17, Worcester, 1, Crompton. Then Sept. 18, Athol, 1, Allison, to Oct. 12, Holden, 1, Fleming, and Princeton, 1, G.H. Smith. Crompton reported 5 at Spencer on Sept. 21.

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH: Oct. 29, Holden, 2, Fleming. There are, over the years, comparable late dates in the Connecticut Valley, always of Bicknell's subspecies. (S.A.E.)

VEERY: May 5, Auburn, 1, Kinsel, to Aug. 17, Worcester, 1, Inman.

EASTERN BLUEBIRD: March 1, Auburn, 1, Kinsel; March 11, Ashburnham, 1, Tarbell, and widely reported on March 12. Last recorded date was Nov. 13, Spencer, 1, Fleming.

GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET: Jan. 22, Boylston, 2, McAllister, to April 15, Petersham, 6, Crompton, and May 7, Hubbardston, 2, Murdock. Then Oct. 5, Phillipston, 2, Allison, to Dec. 31, Worcester, 1, Crompton.

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET: April 7, Fitchburg, 4, E. Smith; April 17, Holden, 2, to May 14, Worcester, 1, W. Wetherbee. In autumn, Sept. 21, Worcester, 3, Fleming, to Nov. 9, Barre, 1, Crompton, and a very late Nov. 22, Paxton, 3, Watson.

AMERICAN PIPIT: April 16, Worcester, 3, W. Wetherbee, and April 19, Warren, 6, Crompton. Then Sept. 12, Spencer, 1, Eliot, and Sept. 14, Sterling, 1, Allen, to Nov. 6, Bolton, 25, Crompton. On Oct. 8, Murdock reported 50 at Gardner.

CEDAR WAXWING: Jan. 1, N. Brookfield, 1, W. Wetherbee; March 9, Worcester, 4, Schmierer; March 16, Athol, 2, Allison; March 18, Barre, 7, Crompton; April 12, Worcester, 9, O. Wetherbee; April 18, Worcester, 5, Fleming; May 2, Northboro, 2, Kinsel; May 14, W. Boylston, 1, Drown, and Worcester, 6, W. Wetherbee. Common thereafter until Oct., Worcester, 12, Schmierer; Oct. 9, Spencer, 2, O. Wetherbee; Oct. 11, Athol, 2, Allison, and Oct. 17, Princeton, 1, G.H. Smith. Crompton saw 80 in Petersham on Sept. 23.

NORTHERN SHRIKE: Jan. 3, Lunenburg, 1, Hayes; Feb. 5, S. Lancaster, 1, C.R. Smith; March 12, Paxton, 1 singing, Jenkins; March 19, Bolton, 1 im., C.R. Smith. Autumn records: Oct. 27, Sterling, 1, Allen; Oct. 29, Brookfield, an immature begging an adult to feed it, Eliot; Nov. 6, Spencer, 1, O. and W. Wetherbee; Nov. 8, 9, and 17, in the east Quabbin section, fide Eliot; Nov. 24, Princeton, 1, G.H. Smith; and Nov. 30, Barre, 1, Crompton.

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE: April 11, Hardwick, 1, Crompton, is the only certain record. Probable are March 5, Sterling, 1, C.R. Smith, and April 5, Barre, 1, Crompton.

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO: May 12, Worcester, 1, Crompton. July 17-Sept. 2, Worcester, one frequently seen and heard singing in neighborhood of 20 Wild Rose Ave., Winters. It seemed to be feeding young on July 24, and did not sing after Aug. 2 except on Sept. 1 and 2, just before departure.

BLUE-HEADED VIREO: April 30, Spencer, 1, F.B.C., to June 6, Worcester, 1, W. Wetherbee. Probably nesting in Princeton (May 28, two, Crompton, and July 7, Mt. Wachusett, 1 singing, Fleming); Holden (July 3, O. Wetherbee); and Hubbardston, (July 17, Murdock). In fall Sept. 18, Phillipston, 1, Allison, to Oct. 19, Auburn, 1, Zimmerman, fide O. Wetherbee.

RED-EYED VIREO: May 5, Auburn, 2 very early, Kinsel; May 7, Lunenburg, 1, Hayes; May 12, S. Lancaster, 1, Drown, to Sept. 27, Worcester, 1, Fleming.

WARBLING VIREO: May 7, Lunenburg, 1, Hayes, and Lancaster, 1, C.R. Smith, to June 23, Sterling, 1, Crompton. There were no later records.

BLACK AND WHITE WARBLER: April 23, Auburn, 2, Kinsel. April 30, Spencer, 2, F.B.C. to Sept. 27, Sterling, 1, Allen.

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER: May 8, Southboro, 1, to June 5, Worcester, 1, Crompton. Reported also from Lancaster, Holden and Grafton.

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER: May 14, Holden, 1, F.B.C., and May 17, Worcester, 1, Crompton.

BREWSTER'S WARBLER: May 18, Worcester, 1 on Granite St., Crompton.

TENNESSEE WARBLER: May 8, Sterling, 1, F.B.C., May 14, Worcester, 1, W. Wetherbee, and Lancaster, 1, C.R. Smith, to May 21, Worcester, 1, F.B.C., and Fitchburg, 1, Bruce. At least 9 birds reported in May, but in fall, when normally it is much commoner, only 1:-- Sept. 20, Barre, Crompton.

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER: May 14, Worcester, 1, W. Wetherbee. At State Teachers College, studied for half an hour.

NASHVILLE WARBLER: May 5, Worcester, 1, O. Wetherbee, and Lunenburg, 1, Hayes, to Sept. 21, W. Boylston, 2, Caldwell.

PARULA WARBLER: May 6, Lunenburg, 1, Hayes, to May 22, Sterling, 1, Murdock. In fall, Sept. 14, Worcester, 1, Crompton, 1, Fleming, and W. Boylston, 3, Caldwell, to Sept. 21, Worcester, 1, Fleming. Nine were reported on an F.B.C. trip in Holden on May 14.

YELLOW WARBLER: Two extremely early records are: April 20, Leicester, 1, Schmierer, who heard the bird's song as well as obtaining a good view of it, and April 24, Auburn, 2, Kinsel. May 1, Princeton, 1, Murdock, to Aug. 9, Athol, 1, Allison. An extremely late record is Sept. 24, Sterling, 1, Allen,-- probably a northern subspecies.

MAGNOLIA WARBLER: May 7, Hubbardston, 1, Murdock, to June 5, Holden, 1, W. Wetherbee, and July 3, Holden, 1, O. Wetherbee. On May 14, nine were recorded on an F.B.C. trip in Holden. In fall, Sept. 21, Spencer, 1, Crompton, to Sept. 27, Worcester, 1, Fleming. Very late but plainly seen is Oct. 17, Paxton, 1, Fleming.

CAPE MAY WARBLER: May 7, N. Grafton, 1, O. and W. Wetherbee, to May 20, Fitchburg, 2, E. Smith. Nine birds, 3 of them by C.R. Smith in Lancaster. But in fall, when it should be more numerous, seen only by Allen in Sterling on Sept. 7 and 22.

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER: May 2, Holden, 1, Schmierer, and May 4, S. Lancaster, 1, Drown, to May 22, W. Boylston, 1, F.B.C. Summer records: July 9, Holden, 1, and July 11, 1 singing on Mt. Wachusett, Fleming; July 17, Hubbardston, 1, Murdock. In fall migration, Sept. 18, Phillipston, 2, Allison, and Sept. 22 Sterling, 1, Allen.

MYRTLE WARBLER: April 10, Athol, 1, Allison; April 15, Petersham, 1, Crompton, to May 29, Barre, 4, F.B.C., and June 6, there, 2, Crompton. Murdock saw 100 in Sterling on May 1. In summer, Holden, 5 records during July, and Aug. 1, suggest probable nesters. Then Sept. 18, Worcester, 1, Winters, to Nov. 1, Auburn, 3, Kinsel, and Grafton, 2, Crompton. Nov. 20, Brookfield, 1, W. Wetherbee.

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER: April 30, Holden, 1, Fleming, to Sept. 27, Sterling, 1, Allen. Oct. 18, Phillipston, 2, Allison.

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER: May 5, Boylston, 1, C.R. Smith, to May 18, Phillipston, 1, Allison, and Worcester, 2, Crompton. On July 5, Princeton (Mt. Wachusett), 3 were singing, Fleming. No later reports.

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER: May 4, Lunenburg, 1, Hayes, to Aug. 20, Holden, 1, Fleming.

BAY-BREASTED WARBLER: May 16, Worcester, 1, Inman; May 18, 19, Worcester, 2, 1, Crompton; and May 22, Sterling, 2, Murdock.

BLACK-POLL WARBLER: May 14, Holden, 1, F.B.C., Worcester, 2, W. Wetherbee, and 1, Schmierer, to May 29, Barre, 1, F.B.C. Then Sept. 11, Spencer, 1, W. Wetherbee, to Oct. 11, Barre, 1, Fleming, and Nov. 1, Grafton, 1, Crompton. On Oct. 3, W. Boylston, 15 were seen by Caldwell.

PINE WARBLER: April 23, Lunenburg, 1, Hayes, to May 10, S. Lancaster, 1, Drown, and May 18, Phillipston, 1, Allison. No more, except Sept. 6, W. Boylston, 1, Caldwell.

PRAIRIE WARBLER: May 6, W. Boylston, 1, Drown, to Sept. 14, W. Boylston, 2, Caldwell.

WESTERN PALM WARBLER: Sept. 14, Sterling, 1, Allen (recorded as a Yellow Palm, but the early date makes the Western Palm more probable); Sept. 27, Spencer, 2, and Oct. 22, Hardwick, 1, Crompton.

YELLOW PALM WARBLER: April 9, Hubbardston, 6, Fitchburg Bird Club, and April 16, Athol, 2, Allison, to May 7, Hubbardston, 2, Murdock. In fall, only Oct. 9, Spencer, 2, W. Wetherbee, and Oct. 22, Princeton, 1, G.H. Smith.

OVEN-BIRD: May 2, Fitchburg, 1, E. Smith, to Sept. 21, Spencer, 1, Crompton, and Sept. 28, Phillipston, 1, Allison.

NORTHERN WATER-THRUSH: April 30, Spencer, 1, F.B.C. to May 15, Paxton, 1, F.B.C. On May 7 and 8, Murdock reported 8 and 5, in Hubbardston. Summer records: June 18, Hubbardston, 2 nesting, Murdock, and Aug. 4, Barre, 1, Crompton. Then Aug. 29, Sterling, 1, Allen, to Sept. 17, Athol, 1, Allison.

LOUISIANA WATER-THRUSH: April 16, Fitchburg, 1, E. Smith; April 24, Worcester, 1, W. Wetherbee, and May, 1, there, Crompton; May 8, Brookfield, 1, W. Wetherbee, and May 14, Holden, 1, O. Wetherbee.

CONNECTICUT WARBLER: The only records are Sept. 6, W. Boylston, 1, Caldwell, and Sept. 27, Sterling, 1, Allen.

MOURNING WARBLER: Only reported on the early date of May 14, at the top of Mt. Wachusett, by McClosky (fide Crompton) and C.R. Smith.

YELLOWTHROAT: May 2, Auburn 1, Kinsel, to Oct. 16, Spencer, 1, W. Wetherbee.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT: May 26, Auburn, 1, Kinsel; Sept. 18, Athol, 1 in yard, Allison; Sept. 23, Worcester, 1 came to bird bath, Fleming.

WILSON'S WARBLER: May 14, W. Boylston, 1, Drown; May 17, Worcester, 1, Crompton; May 18, Lunenburg, 1, E. Smith; and May 20, Lancaster, 1, C.R. Smith.

CANADA WARBLER: May 5, Auburn, 1, Kinsel, to Aug. 8, Spencer, 1, O. Wetherbee. Murdock observed a nesting pair in Hubbardston on July 23.

AMERICAN REDSTART: May 3, Auburn, 2, Kinsel, to Sept. 23, Worcester, 1, Fleming.

BOBOLINK: May 6, Lancaster, 1, C.R. Smith, to Aug. 30, Spencer, 1, Crompton.

MEADOWLARK: Jan. 5, S. Lancaster, 9, C.R. Smith, and 8 on Feb. 9, Jan. 9, Boylston, 4, W. Wetherbee. March 6, Worcester, 1, Heywood, and March 8, N. Grafton, 1, Ekblaw, to Nov. 6, Lancaster, 5, W. Wetherbee.

RED-WING: Feb. 27, Auburn, 2, Kinsel; Feb. 28, Bolton, 50, C.R. Smith, and Worcester, 1, O. Wetherbee. Widely reported thereafter: 500 in Paxton on March 17 (Jenkins). Last dates: Oct. 30, Worcester, 100, the Wetherbees; Nov. 2, Spencer, 1 female, and 19, Spencer, 1 male, Crompton; Nov. 6, Hardwick, 1 female, Eliot; Dec. 9-10, Paxton, 1, Jenkins.

ORCHARD ORIOLE: May 5, Boylston, an immature (green) male among Cowbirds picking up seeds, and singing as it flew up, McAllister.

BALTIMORE ORIOLE: In Auburn, at the home of H. Zimmerman, Jan. 1-10, two females, 1 remaining to Jan. 26; Feb. 1-18, one male, and March 20, one male, many observers. May 5, Worcester, 1, O. Wetherbee, 2, Crompton; 1, Schmierer; to Sept. 9, Worcester, 1, Fleming. Dec. 4-11, Athol, 1 female at feeder, Allison.

RUSTY BLACKBIRD: March 4, Worcester, 6, Inman; March 19, Brookfield, 2, Warren, 1, Crompton, to April 16, Fitchburg, 2, Marble, and Sterling, 2, C.R. Smith; and April 28, Spencer, 2, Crompton. On April 5, O. Wetherbee saw 100 in Grafton. In fall, Sept. 23, Spencer, 3, Crompton, to Nov. 10, when Fleming saw 12 there.

BRONZED GRACKLE: Feb. 23, Auburn, 2, Kinsel, and Feb. 27, Fitchburg, 1, Marble, to Nov. 25, Auburn, 2, Kinsel. Dec. 11, Auburn, 1, Zimmerman, Dec. 22, Uxbridge, 3, Fleming, and Dec. 19-23, Auburn, 2, Kinsel. Large flocks reported in spring from W. Boylston: April 11, hundreds, Caldwell, and 500 on April 29, Crompton; in fall from Spencer: 200 on Nov. 2, Crompton, and 100 on Nov. 6, W. Wetherbee.

COWBIRD: Jan. 3, Sterling, 2, Allen; Jan. 5, Lancaster, 2, C.R. Smith; Jan. 9, Oakdale, 11, W. Wetherbee and others; Feb. 12, Sutton, 7, Murdock; Feb. 15, 26, S. Lancaster, 1, 50, C.R. Smith; Feb. 21, Worcester, 1, Winters; Feb. 25-March 4, Worcester, 1, O. Wetherbee; March 2, Fitchburg, flock. Bruce, to Nov. 2, Worcester, 110, Crompton, and Nov. 20, Spencer, 30, O. Wetherbee. In Auburn 3 to 8 were reported by Kinsel through Dec. and by Zimmerman from Dec. 11 to 31. On March 14 Crompton counted 200 in Bolton, and on Sept. 22 he reported 600 in Grafton.

SCARLET Tanager: May 7, Worcester, 2, fide Crompton, to Sept. 22, Sterling, 1, Allen.

CARDINAL: Jan. 1-7, Worcester, 1 from Dec. 21, 1954 at the home of Philip Heywood. This female was reported to "Records of New England Birds", as again seen March 31.

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK: May 2, Athol, 1, Allison, and May 5, Fitchburg, 1, E. Smith, to Sept. 20, Barre, 1, Crompton.

INDIGO BUNTING: May 1, Lunenburg, 1, H.L. Allen, and May 10, Fitchburg, 2, Tarbell, to Aug. 22, Bolton, 1, Crompton.

DICKCISSEL: Jan. 3, Athol, 1 immature, Allison and others.

EVENING GROSBEAK: Reported from all parts of the county from Jan. 1 through April 22 (Brookfield, 20, Kinsel) in flocks up to 30. Widely reported thereafter in small numbers to May 25, Athol, 2, Allison. The only large winter flock reported was: Jan. 1, N. Brookfield, 75, W. Wetherbee. Early fall arrivals: Oct. 8, Athol, 2, Allison, and Oct. 10, Paxton, 3, Jenkins. Many records of small numbers through Nov. and Dec. with only one large flock reported: Dec. 10, Worcester, 42, Crompton.

PURPLE FINCH: Scattered records during winter and early spring. Common after April 7, Sterling, Allen, until Nov. 6, Worcester, 2, Fleming, and Nov. 20, Worcester, 1, Winters. On May 7, Crompton reported 30 in Worcester.

PINE GROSBEAK: Many reported from Jan. 1, Boylston, 4, McAllister, to April 4, Fitchburg, 1, E. Smith. In fall, Oct. 8, Westminster, 1, very early, Murdock; Nov. 30, Dana, 2, Crompton, and many in December.

REDFOLL: Jan. 3, Sterling, 30, C.R. Smith, to April 1, Worcester, 6, O. Wetherbee. W. Wetherbee reported 350 in Worcester on Feb. 6, and Hayes, 1000 in Lunenburg on Feb. 16. There were no autumn reports.

PINE SISKIN: Jan. 15, Fitchburg, 6, Tarbell, to May 23, Worcester, 4, Fleming. Very generally reported during late winter and spring. On Feb. 28, Jenkins saw a flock of 500 in Paxton. In fall, only Nov. 9, Petersham, 1, Crompton.

RED CROSSBILL: May 25, Fitchburg, 1 at bird-bath, M. Wazal, and Dec. 10, Lunenburg, 1, Hayes.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL: Nov. 2, Lancaster, 1 male, McClosky, fide Crompton.

TOWHEE: April 20, Auburn, 1, Kinsel, to Oct. 10, Brookfield, 1, Crompton, and Oct. 31, Brookfield, 1, Fleming.

SAVANNAH SPARROW: April 13, Lancaster, 2, C.R. Smith, to Nov. 6, Lancaster, 1, Crompton. On April 24 the F.B.C. recorded 25 in W. Boylston, and on Oct. 5 Crompton saw 10 in Bolton.

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW: May 11, Lunenburg, 1, Hayes; May 22 to July 4, Sterling, four observers on four dates: June 22, Worcester, 1, Fleming.

HENSLOW'S SPARROW: No records in 1955. They have apparently deserted the spot in Leicester where they have been observed for several years.

VESPER SPARROW: April 11, Lancaster, 3, C.R. Smith; April 17, Fitchburg, 1, Wazal; April 23, Princeton, G.H. Smith, to Oct. 20, Spencer, 1, Fleming.

- SLATE-COLORED JUNCO: Winter to May 7, Sterling, 1, Allen, and Worcester, 1, Winters, and 1, Crompton. First autumn migrants, Sept. 21, Petersham, 1, Crompton, and Worcester, 5, Fleming. Numerous in fall migration. Oct. 19, Worcester, 35, Winters; Oct. 22, Barre, 20, Crompton.
- TREE SPARROW: Winter to April 30, Worcester, 1, Crompton, and May 3 Auburn, 7, Kinsel. In fall, Oct. 15, Auburn, 6, Kinsel, Oct. 22, Dana, 3, Crompton, and Spencer, 4, W. Wetherbee, to end of the year.
- CHIPPING SPARROW: April 17, Auburn, 1, Kinsel, to Oct. 22, Dana, 1, Crompton, and Worcester, 2, Winters, and W. Boylston, 1, Drown, and Spencer, 2, W. Wetherbee. Nov. 16, Athol, 1, Allison.
- FIELD SPARROW: April 16, Grafton, 1, O. Wetherbee, and Shrewsbury, 1, W. Wetherbee, and Worcester, 1, Schmierer, to Oct. 22, Spencer, 2, W. Wetherbee. Dec. 31, Worcester, 3, Crompton.
- WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW: April 24, Athol, 1 in yard, very early, Allison; May 3, Sterling, 1, Allen, to May 15, Paxton, 3, F.B.C. Many records in fall: Sept. 27, Spencer, 1, Crompton, to Oct. 23, Athol, 2, Allison. Dec. 26, W. Boylston, 1 male studied closely, Drown. On Oct. 15, Crompton saw 9 in Holden.
- WHITE-THROATED SPARROW: April 5, Athol, 1, Allison; April 12, Worcester, 1, Crompton; April 16, Auburn, 3, Kinsel, to May 21, Worcester 2, Crompton, and June 5, Holden, 1, W. Wetherbee. In fall migration, Sept. 21, W. Boylston, 2, Caldwell, and Spencer, 5, Crompton, to Dec. 4, Auburn, 1, Zimmerman, and Worcester, 1, Crompton. Stragglers lingered to Dec. 10, Worcester, 1, Inman; Dec. 11, Auburn, 3, Kinsel; and Dec. 31, W. Brookfield, 1, W. Wetherbee.
- FOX SPARROW: March 9, Hardwick, 6, Klem, to April 12, Auburn, 3, Kinsel. On March 25 Winters reported thirty and March 27, twenty, at her home in Worcester. In autumn, Oct. 22, Spencer, 12, W. Wetherbee, to Nov. 20, Spencer, 1, O. Wetherbee, and Worcester, 1, Winters. On Nov. 6, Fleming saw a flock of 35 in Princeton. Dec. 1-15, Gardner, 2, Coburn, and Dec. 15, N. Brookfield, 2, Newman.
- LINCOLN'S SPARROW: Oct. 17, Lunenburg, 1 late, Hayes.
- SWAMP SPARROW: Jan. 30, Worcester, 1, W. Wetherbee; April 17, Fitchburg, 1, Wazal, and N. Grafton, 1, F.B.C., to Oct. 12, Barre, 1, Crompton.
- SONG SPARROW: Jan. 1, Lancaster, 1, C.R. Smith; Jan. 1, 30, Worcester, 1, 1, W. Wetherbee; Jan. 5, Worcester, 1, Fleming; Feb. 26, Fitchburg, 1, H.L. Allen; March 2, Auburn, 2, Kinsel; March 3, Princeton, 1, G.H. Smith, and Worcester, 3, Watson. Widely reported on March 10, 11, 12, and resident until Nov. 20, Worcester, 1, O. Wetherbee. December lingerers reported from Auburn, Athol, W. Boylston and Worcester to Dec. 31, Worcester, 1, Crompton.
- SNOW BUNTING: Jan. 4, S. Lancaster, 1, C.R. Smith; Jan. 8, Paxton, 50, Jenkins; Jan. 20, N. Brookfield, 25, Crompton and Eliot; Jan. 23, Ashburnham, 100, Tarbell, and Fitchburg, 75-100, Marble, to Feb. 22, Princeton, 1, G.H. Smith, and March 5, Worcester, 1, Heywood. Maximum, Feb. 20, Paxton, 250, Jenkins. In fall, only Nov. 6, Hardwick, 4, Eliot, and Nov. 22, Sterling, a flock, Allen.

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Some species, which are permanent residents of Worcester County are omitted:

MALLARD and BLACK DUCK, RED-TAILED HAWK, RING-NECKED PHEASANT, ROCK DOVE, Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers, White-breasted Nuthatch, Starling, English Sparrow, and Goldfinch.

The list of contributors includes, in addition to Forbush Bird Club members, the following Worcester County birders: Miss Helen L. Murdock of Hubbardston, Mrs. Mabel M. Allen of Sterling, Mrs. Chester M. Inman of Princeton and Worcester, Mr. Richard C. Hayes of Lunenburg, Mr. George A. Watson of Worcester, Mr. Russell Tarbell of Fitchburg, and the Fitchburg Bird Club.

The Editor wishes to thank all observers who have contributed to the "Field Notes", and Mr. Samuel A. Eliot Jr., who has painstakingly edited the list and furnished additional material of much value.

- Ethel S. Fleming.

1954 BIRD BANDING REPORT

Worcester County bird banders reported 887 individuals in 27 species banded during 1954. The following list is compiled from the records of Mr. Lawrence B. Chapman of Princeton, Mr. Richard C. Hayes of Lunenburg and Mr. David R. Miner of Cook's Canyon Wildlife Sanctuary at Barre. 38 returns were recorded by Mr. Hayes.

Banded were:

Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1	Cardinal	3
Chimney Swift	1	Evening Grosbeak	289
Tree Swallow	39	Purple Finch	194
Blue Jay	18	Pine Siskin	42
Black-capped Chickadee	78	Goldfinch	2
White-breasted Nuthatch	7	Red-eyed Towhee	2
House Wren	1	Slate-colored Junco	42
Catbird	3	Tree Sparrow	47
Robin	7	Chipping Sparrow	1
Hermit Thrush	1	Field Sparrow	1
Starling	5	White-crowned Sparrow	3
Northern Yellowthroat	1	White-throated Sparrow	66
Cowbird	6	Fox Sparrow	1
		Song Sparrow	26

Returns were:

Black-capped Chickadee	15	Slate-colored Junco	11
Purple Finch	2	Tree Sparrow	10

A Purple Finch, trapped on Feb. 13, 1954 by Mr. Hayes, had been banded in Lewiston, Maine nine days before, on Feb. 4, 1954.

- Ethel S. Fleming.

THE W. ELMER EKBLAW WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

One of the earliest aims of the Forbush Bird Club was the acquisition of a Club Sanctuary. In the first publication of June, 1931, the idea of a sanctuary was discussed. The late Professor Haven D. Brackett of Clark University offered the use of his property in Charlton. Later, Miss Ethel Hatch gave the Club the use of parts of her property in West Boylston, and for several years bird houses and feeding stations were maintained there. Neither these nor several other such offers, not the least of which was one by the Worcester Natural History Society at the Daniels School of Forestry in Rutland, fulfilled the desire for "something of our own." It was early recognized that if the club were ever to acquire property, if it were to be able to carry out any projects, funds would be necessary, and therefore a certain portion of the Club's income was set aside each year in a sanctuary account.

Several years ago, a majority of the membership felt that sufficient funds had been accumulated to warrant the looking into the acquisition of a piece of suitable property. The writer was made chairman of a committee to investigate possible locations. These investigations went on for some time, until last year a piece of property on the shore of Eames Pond in Paxton was declared satisfactory. In February of this year, 1956, the Club took title to this property.

One of the first and most enthusiastic proponents of a Club Sanctuary was the founder and first president of the Club, the late Dr. W. Elmer Ekblaw. It was he

who conceived the idea, at the time of the construction of the Quabbin Reservoir, of the Club's stocking certain of the hills, which were to become islands in this vast expanse of water, with trees and bushes which could produce fruit and seeds attractive to birds. Necessary permission was unobtainable, however, and the project was abandoned. It was only fitting, therefore, when it was decided several years ago to acquire property for a sanctuary, that the Club unanimously voted to call it "The W. Elmer Ekblaw Wildlife Sanctuary." This was done and as such the property in Paxton will be known - we hope with a formal dedication sometime in the near future.

The property acquired contains eleven acres, consisting of woods, an open field on which is located a small building of sorts, a considerable shore line on the pond, with a large expanse of open water to the southwest, extensive marshes to the northeast, and surrounded on all sides by more than five hundred acres of protected property. The building, though of not too much account, will serve, we hope, as a nucleus for something more suitable, and for the time being will provide shelter in inclement weather. There will be a goodly amount of cleaning up, cutting out, and other such tasks, and it is hoped that this can be gradually accomplished by "birding as you work" trips. Two such trips have already been made, and the trail into the sanctuary and an opening to the pond cleared out. Eventually it is planned to have this trail improved for vehicle use.

In connection with our clearing the property, Mr. Eugene Parsons, having made an inspection tour, spoke to the Club recently on the flora and its possibilities. Birds and mammals are well represented, including such uncommon native species as the Barred Owl, Wood Duck and Mourning Dove. Ducks and herons find the pond and marshes attractive during migration. The Great Blue Heron nested nearby until a few years ago. Here we hope will be a place for projects, and out-of-door meetings or other activities. And lest we seem to have overlooked the real meaning of "sanctuary", it would be well to note that in acquiring it, we have prevented the property from falling into the hands of someone less inclined to protect than to pursue.

Located about eight miles west of Worcester on Route 122, the W. Elmer Ekblaw Wildlife Sanctuary may be reached by turning off to the left on Davis Road, about one mile west of the center of Paxton. At the large house one quarter mile in from Route 122, trail to property starts at the barn.

- Lloyd S. Jenkins

CHRISTMAS BIRD CENSUS 1955

1. Dec. 26, 1955. West Boylston, - Worcester and Maple Sts., 8 A.M. to 12 M. Weather: sunny, but cool and windy with temperature of 6 to 30 degrees. Rock Dove, 8; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Blue Jay, 10; Crow, 2; Chickadee, 15; White-breasted Nuthatch, 2; Starling, 25; English Sparrow, 50; Evening Grosbeak, 20; Goldfinch, 1; Tree Sparrow, 6; White-crowned Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, 1.
Total: 14 species, 143 individuals.

- Margaret and Laura Drown

2. Dec. 28, 1955. Worcester, - Lake Park Heights to Lincoln St. to Grafton, 7:30 to 11:30 A.M. Weather: clear, with temperature of 7 to 19 degrees. Black Duck, 15; Blue Jay, 10; Crow, 2; Chickadee, 3; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Mockingbird, 1; Starling, 36; English Sparrow, 24; Evening Grosbeak, 15; Goldfinch, 4; Tree Sparrow, 16; Song Sparrow, 1.
Total: 12 species, 127 individuals.

- Olive P. Wetherbee

3. Dec. 29, 1955. Worcester, 20 Wild Rose Ave., 11:30 A.M. to 2:30 P.M.
Weather: cloudy, with temperature of 28 degrees.
Downy Woodpecker, 1; Blue Jay, 1; Chickadee, 3; Evening Grosbeak, 35;
Goldfinch, 12; Junco, 25; Tree Sparrow, 12.
Total: 7 species, 92 individuals.
- Louise Sibley, Mary Lou Winters
4. Dec. 30, 1955. Worcester, 5 Maplewood Rd., Holden, Paxton, 8 A.M. to 4 P.M.
Weather: clear, light N.W. wind, and temperature of 22 to 28 degrees.
American Merganser, 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Rock Dove, 4; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Blue Jay, 2; Crow, 2; Chickadee, 13; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1, Red-breasted Nuthatch, 1, Robin, 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 2; Junco, 6, Evening Grosbeak, 5; Song Sparrow, 1.
Total: 14 species, 40 individuals.
- Ethel S. Fleming
5. Dec. 31, 1955. South Worcester, Leicester, Spencer, E. Brookfield, Brookfield, N. Brookfield, W. Brookfield, Warren, Holden, Sterling, W. Boylston and Shrewsbury, - 92 miles by car, 8 A.M. to 2 P.M. Weather: clear to snow with temperature of 10 to 20 degrees.
Pied-billed Grebe, 1; Mallard Duck, 9; Black Duck, 39; American Merganser, 42; Herring Gull, 6; Rock Dove, 17; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Blue Jay, 22; Crow, 475; Chickadee, 17; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Starling, 50; English Sparrow, 29; Evening Grosbeak, 18; Purple Finch, 6; Pine Grosbeak, 3; Goldfinch, 47; Junco, 3; Tree Sparrow, 5; White-throated Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, 1.
Total: 21 species, 797 individuals.
- Wallace P. Wetherbee
6. Dec. 31, 1955. Worcester, Boylston, W. Boylston, 8:10 A.M. to 4:20 P.M.
Weather: cloudy with light N. W. wind and snow flurry, to sunny; temperature, 10 to 20 degrees. Except for factory heated water, all ponds completely frozen over.
Mallard Duck, 35; Black Duck, 50; Greater Scaup, 1; American Merganser, 45; Ring-necked Pheasant, 4; Herring Gull, 8; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Blue Jay, 15; Crow, 13; Chickadee, 16; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Brown Creeper, 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 1; Starling, 38; English Sparrow, 24; Evening Grosbeak, 22; Pine Grosbeak, 7; Goldfinch, 20; Junco, 4; Tree Sparrow, 5; Field Sparrow, 3; Song Sparrow, 1.
Total: 23 species, 316 individuals.
- Davis H. Crompton, Francis X. McMenemy
7. Jan. 1, 1956. Auburn, - Central and Oxford Sts., Cedar Swamp area, all day.
Weather: clear, cold and rather windy, with temperature in the 30s. About 10 miles on foot.
Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Blue Jay, 7; Crow, 5; Chickadee, 9; White-breasted Nuthatch, 2; Brown Creeper, 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 5; Starling, 11; English Sparrow, 31; Bronzed Grackle, 1; Cowbird, 13; Evening Grosbeak, 20; Junco, 14; Tree Sparrow, 13.
Total: 15 species, 143 individuals.
- Edith G. Kinsel
8. Jan. 2, 1956. Boylston, W. Boylston, Clinton, Holden, Worcester.
Weather: sunny and cold. About 20 miles by car.
Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Rock Dove, 4; Screech Owl, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Crow, 15; Chickadee, 12; Brown Creeper, 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 2; English Sparrow, 10; Evening Grosbeak, 9; Junco, 5; Tree Sparrow, 10.
Total: 12 species, 71 individuals.
- Bill McAllister

9. Jan. 2, 1956. Holden, Princeton, Sterling, W. Boylston, 11 A.M. to 2 P.M.
Weather: clear with temperature of 8 to 13 degrees.

American Merganser, 6; Blue Jay, 3; Crow, 3; Chickadee, 10; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Pine Grosbeak, 8; Junco, 4.

Total: 7 species, 35 individuals.

- Walter J. Fleming

Totals: --

Pied-billed Grebe	1	Brown Creeper	3
Mallard Duck	35	Mockingbird	1
Black Duck	65	Robin	1
Greater Scaup Duck	1	Golden-crowned Kinglet	10
American Merganser	52	Starling	160
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	English Sparrow	168
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	Bronzed Grackle	1
Ring-necked Pheasant	4	Cowbird	13
Herring Gull	8	Evening Grosbeak	144
Rock Dove	33	Purple Finch	6
Screech Owl	1	Pine Grosbeak	18
Hairy Woodpecker	3	Goldfinch	84
Downy Woodpecker	8	Slate-colored Junco	68
Blue Jay	70	Tree Sparrow	67
Crow	567	Field Sparrow	3
Black-capped Chickadee	101	White-crowned Sparrow	1
White-breasted Nuthatch	9	White-throated Sparrow	1
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1	Song Sparrow	5

Total number of species: - 36

Towns represented: - 18

Total number of individuals:- 1715

Observers: - 12

- Ethel S. Fleming

RECORD OF CLUB ACTIVITIES 1955

Thursday, January 20. Regular monthly meeting was held at the Natural History Museum. Mr. William Nutting and Dr. Larry Bartlett of the University of Massachusetts gave interesting talks on the "Art of Bird Identification" and "Bird Flight", followed by a slow motion picture made by John Storer.

The Sinclair Bird Festival was presented in cooperation with the Massachusetts Audubon Society at Horticultural Hall.

Friday, February 4: "Tip o' the Mitten" - Olin S. Pettingill Jr.

Friday, March 18: "Panama Venture" - Marjorie and Lorus Milne.

Thursday, April 21. The twenty-fourth annual meeting was held at Sterling Inn, Sterling. Officers were elected and annual reports presented at the business meeting following dinner.

Treasurer's Report (Abridged)

Reserve (Sanctuary) Fund

Balance in Savings Account April 1, 1954	\$2929.89
Dividends	180.58
Allocated from Patron dues @ \$2.00	12.00
Sinclair Bird Festival 1954 profit	68.58
Defense Bond	100.00
Balance in Savings Account, April 1, 1955	<u>\$3291.05</u>

Current Fund

Receipts

Balance in Checking Acc't. Apr. 1, 1954	\$ 138.34
Deposits to April 1, 1955	<u>928.93</u>
	\$1068.27
Total Disbursements	<u>897.92</u>
	\$ 169.35
Reserve Lecture Fund	<u>77.07</u>
Balance in Checking Acc't. Apr. 1, 1955	<u>\$ 92.28</u>

Total Assets, April 1, 1955 \$3383.33

Mr. Leslie Campbell of Belchertown took us by way of kodachromes through the beautiful Ware River Valley covering the different seasons.

Saturday, April 23. First field trip of the year was at Irish Dam, Lake Quinsigamond, with Alan Schmierer leader. Fair and warm. Attendance, 9. 37 species observed; total individuals 145. A Brown Thrasher and a Towhee were seen.

Sunday, April 24. Field trip to Boylston, Bill McAllister, leader. Cool and moist. Attendance, 9. 37 species observed; total individuals, 185. A surprising find was a Canada Goose in an open field.

Saturday, April 30. Field trip to 4-H Club Camp, Spencer. Attendance, 8. 20 species observed.

Sunday, May 1. Field trip to West Boylston, Margaret and Laura Drown, leaders. Sunny and warm. Attendance, 9. 37 species observed; total individuals, 233. Flickers, Red-wings and Grackles predominated.

Sunday, May 8. Field trip to Sterling, Mrs. Kenneth B. Wetherbee, leader. Rainy. Attendance, 8. 51 species observed; total individuals, 203. 8 species of warblers were noted, including 1 Cape May and 1 Tennessee.

Saturday, May 14. Field trip to Girls' Club Camp in Holden, Mrs. Percy Mitchell, leader. Pleasant and sunny. Attendance, 14. 59 species observed; total individuals, 232. A good field day, and 14 species of warblers were seen.

Sunday, May 15. Field trip to Davis Hill Road, Paxton, Lloyd S. Jenkins, leader. Fair with light wind. Attendance, 15. 57 species observed; total individuals, 187. Missing from the usual list in this area was the Alder Flycatcher. A White-crowned Sparrow, Marsh Hawk, Ruffed Grouse and 13 species of warblers were seen.

Saturday, May 21. Field trip to Lake Park, Mrs. Kenneth B. Wetherbee, leader. Clear and warm. Attendance, 9. 36 species observed; total individuals, 152. Nothing outstanding, but much tracking produced the Golden-winged Warbler.

Sunday, May 22. Field trip to River Road, Oakdale and Holden, Wallace Wetherbee, leader. Clear and cool. Attendance, 10. 62 species observed; total individuals 392. 5 species of Swallows were observed, 13 species of warblers and 7 Canada Geese. The geese, 2 adults and 5 week-old young, were seen on Wachusett Reservoir.

Saturday and Sunday, May 28 and 29. Weekend field trip to Cook's Canyon Wildlife Sanctuary, Barre, Louise Sibley, leader. Warm and sunny to cloudy. Attendance, 9. 52 species observed; total individuals, 195. Failure to find the Bob-white reported outside the Sanctuary was disappointing but a good time was enjoyed by all.

Saturday, June 4. Field trip to Newburyport and Plum Island, Lloyd Jenkins and Davis Crompton, leaders. Cloudy, cool, rain later in the day. Attendance, 10. 34 species observed; total individuals, 1266. The most outstanding bird was the Snowy Egret which was seen by all.

Saturday, August 6. Field trip to Spencer filter beds, Davis Crompton, leader. Attendance, 2. Sunny and very hot. 19 species observed; total individuals, 604. Semipalmated Sandpipers predominated with 489 counted.

Thursday, September 15. Regular monthly meeting and outdoor picnic at the home of Louise Sibley and Mary Lou Winters, 20 Wild Rose Ave. A business meeting followed.

Sunday, September 25. Field trip to Goat Peak, Mt. Tom for autumnal hawk migration, Lloyd Jenkins, leader. Fair and mild with light N.W. wind. Attendance, 10. 41 species observed; total individuals, 439. A poor day for hawks with only 19 individuals seen. Arcadia Sanctuary produced a large flock (200) of Cedar Waxwings, 1 Cape May Warbler and 1 Lincoln's Sparrow as the most interesting records.

Sunday, October 2. Field trip to Plum Island and Parker River Refuge, Davis Crompton, leader. Sunny, cool and windy. Attendance, 9. 53 species observed; total individuals, 3323. The find of an Arkansas Kingbird made a fitting close to a day which included 25 Gannets, 2 Hudsonian Curlews and a Golden Plover.

Thursday, October 20. Regular monthly meeting at the Natural History Museum, Mr. Eugene Parsons talked on plantings suitable for a bird sanctuary.

Thursday, November 17. Regular monthly meeting at the Natural History Museum. Mr. George Pride spoke on "The World of Birds", followed by kodachromes and a film about Gannets.

Thursday, December 15. Regular monthly meeting and Christmas party at the Sven Holmblad's home in Holden. Beautiful kodachromes of birds and the outdoors were shown by several members. Refreshments were served by the hostess.

- Mary Lou Winters