

May, 1970

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## ALABAMA BIRDLIFE

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## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## Into the Forests

The winter meeting in Conecuh National Forest, at Oakwood Lodge beside Blue Lake, brought new knowledge of what is happening to our National Forests. From competent outdoor people and from personal observation we learned that Conecuh Forest is fast succumbing to the increased traffic which a good outdoor area is sure to bring, and the ravages of timber management as it is practiced in our national forests. While our meeting was good, resulting in some wonderful birding and excellent fellowship and constructive thinking, there was the sad note of ever encroaching civilization upon the domain of the wild creatures we all love, and which civilization needs so badly.

All of these things brought into sharper focus the need for setting aside areas that cannot be disturbed. Thankfully, our Society began definite plans in this direction at our fall meeting in Birmingham. There Dan Holliman and Thomas Imhof were appointed to head a committee to make an ornithological survey of selected "cut" and "uncut" areas in Bankhead National Forest. With much work by many AOS members, particularly the indefatigable Tom Imhof and Jim Manasco, a true man-of-the-Bankhead, a wonderful start has been made. (A full report of this work will be a feature of our April 24-26 meeting at Dauphin Island.) Probably the best momentary estimate is the fact that Birmingham papers have editorialized favorably for our efforts to secure undisturbed natural areas; and some of the forestry people have written letters protesting we are a pressure group without knowledge—just busybodies.

With the work of all of our members, we will be in a position to help protect our natural resources and preserve a part of our natural heritage. See you-all at Dauphin.

Cordially,

Walter F. Coxe, President

THE 1968 NESTING SEASON OF THE  
EASTERN BLUEBIRD IN BLOUNT,  
JEFFERSON, SHELBY AND WALKER COUNTIES,  
ALABAMA

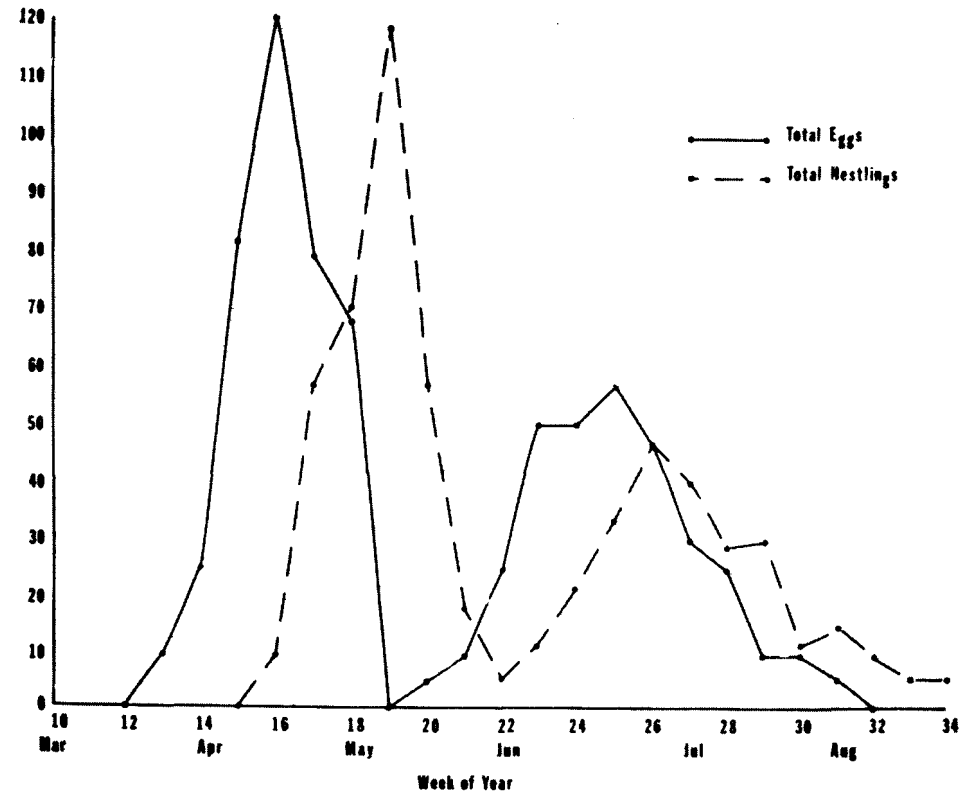
Mike Creel

The Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis sialis*) is a common resident of rural Alabama. The male has a deep blue back with a cinnamon-chestnut breast. The female has a bluish-gray back and a duller breast than the male. The nestlings are blue and blue-gray with the characteristic spotted breast of the family Turdidae. Their range extends from Southern Canada to Southern Florida westward from the Atlantic Coast as far as Nevada and down into Mexico. This bird recedes from the northern areas in winter and is a permanent resident of Central Alabama. The Eastern Bluebird nests in natural cavities such as vacated woodpecker holes, hollow limbs, and cavities in fence posts or stumps. This bird has also adapted to well built and appropriately placed nest boxes developed during this study.

This paper represents only a part of a larger endeavor to learn more about the life history of the Eastern Bluebird in Central Alabama. I wish to express my appreciation to The Alabama Academy of Science, The Birmingham Izaak Walton League, and Birmingham-Southern College for financial aid and assistance during the period of this research.

The nesting data incorporated in the accompanying graph was accumulated during the 1968 nesting season. Observations of nesting activity in 1967 and 1969 indicate a close regularity in the pattern of nesting. The data was accumulated in 11 study areas in Jefferson, Blount, Walker and Shelby Counties. The 1968 nesting season was 24 weeks long beginning March 15 with the first observed nest and continuing until the last nestling left the nest around August 24. The graph indicates that the nesting occurred in three distinct periods. There were 43 nests in the first period. Thus, by May 25, 56% of the nestings were completed. There were 28 second nestings and six third nestings. Five of the third nestings occurred in the study area in Shelby County. The other third nest was built by a pair in the Walker County study area. The peak at week No. 25 in total eggs during the second cycle of nesting is not followed by an increase in total nestlings two weeks later as expected due to an unproportional rise in unhatched eggs. The significance of this will be discussed in a future paper. A report from a reliable biologist leads us to believe that a fourth nesting may take place under ideal conditions.

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## THE SEASON FALL 1969

Compiler and Editor—Thomas A. Imhof

The weather in general in Alabama continues cooler and drier than average, although wetter periods are frequent. Increased use of water has also markedly affected water levels such as around Birmingham where Lake Purdy had record low water levels and low, but not record low, rainfall. Consequently deep water birds such as Loons and Horned Grebe were locally scarce.

Mobile observers report that fall migration between 24 Aug. (Camille) and 15 Oct. was relatively uneventful, possibly because it consists of the trickling through of a great many quiet birds with few or no concentrations. Perhaps an illustration is that of 24 Sep. when 27 species were banded on Dauphin Island with only 49 individuals (MEM). On 15 Oct., 19 species banded included 93 individuals; 70 of them represented but 6 species: Magnolia Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, White-eyed Vireo, Yellowthroat, Indigo Bunting, and Philadelphia Vireo (MEM). The morning of 15 Oct. revealed that over 500 migrants were killed on the northern slopes of Oak Mt., Shelby Co. (See the Keeler account this issue). This was closely followed by another cold front on 18 Oct. which brought kinglets, many warblers, and sparrows and was powerful enough to push a hurricane away from the northern Gulf coast.

Fall migration on the Alabama Gulf coast probably includes all points of the compass. A good part of the time the westerly winds apparently favor an influx of such species as White Pelican, Avocet, White-winged Dove, Western Kingbird, Vermilion Flycatcher, Black-headed Grosbeak, and many others. (See notes on these below.) Often however because of the difference in cooling and heating rates of land and water, "lows" develop in mid-Gulf and their counterclockwise circulation of air produces strong easterly winds on the northern coast. This type of weather favors the appearance of birds that normally migrate down the Atlantic coast, such as Golden Plover, Cape May, Black-throated Blue and Black-poll Warblers, and Bobolink. When this wind shifts it is sometimes possible to see birds in both categories. For instance, after a week of solid overcast and strong easterly winds from Hurricane Laurie on Dauphin Island, both Black-headed Grosbeak and Black-throated Blue Warblers were seen on 25 Oct., and next day with clearing weather and a wind shift to

northerly, a Blackpoll Warbler and 6 Western Kingbirds appeared there.

Birmingham's 5th annual fall count on 27 Sep. with a record 44 observers and 120 party-hours, produced an average 113 species and 9730 individuals or 81 birds per party-hour. Without the impressive blackbird concentrations of our agricultural areas, the waterfowl concentrations such as at Wheeler Refuge, or the seabird concentrations on the coast, Birmingham nevertheless relies on extensive woodlands for an excellent variety of forest species; thus this count produced 24 species of warblers and the usual 8 species of woodpeckers.

Loons, Grebe—The Com. Loon was reported more common this fall in three places; Wheeler Refuge (TZA), Chattahoochee Valley (LAW), and Gulf Coast (MAG). On 24 Nov., 3 Red-throated Loons flew onto Lake Oliver (near Phenix City). They dove, caught fish, stayed close together, and remained 25 minutes presenting excellent views of all parts. One bird still showed signs of summer plumage on the neck and nape. Several behavioral details distinctly different from the Com. Loon were noted (LAW). This is the 6th inland record for Alabama. At Florala on 21 Nov. 3 Horned Grebes (HMS) are the earliest for the Lower Coastal Plain.

Pelicanlike birds—A fairly early peak of 300 White Pelicans were in Mobile on 14 Oct. (LRT). Small numbers of Brown Pelicans were noted all fall on our Gulf coast (MAG, TAI) and 25 were noted on Petit Bois Is. on 11 Nov. (WTS). On our barrier-island coast, east points are eroding away and west points are building up. Hurricane Camille accelerated this action so that almost the entire eastern half of Sand Island has washed away and Dauphin Island, its east point protected by rock jetties, is about 300 yards longer on the west end. No part of Petit Bois Island now remains in Alabama. At Lake Oliver on 31 Oct. the Double-crested Cormorant, virtually unrecorded in inland Alabama for 15 years, was noted for the third straight season (LAW).

Hérons—On Dog River, Mobile, a Green Heron was still present on 27 Nov. (LMcK) where one had wintered last year. In Covington County at Wing, 8 Cattle Egrets still present on 15 Nov. (CLK) are the latest for the Lower Coastal Plain. A Com. Egret on 1 Nov at Lake Purdy (B'ham) (AM, KTK, HHK) is the latest for the Mountain Region, the only region where the species does

not winter.

Waterfowl—Present at Wheeler Refuge as of 1 Dec were 21,000 Canada Geese (down 22% from same time last year), 1000 Blue Geese (same), 60 Snows (same), and 20,000 ducks (down 33%). The Geese contain a healthy portion of young of the year, and the ducks had fewer Mallards (TZA). A second Alabama Brant was seen on 3 Nov, also at Wheeler Refuge (BT, WP & HDP). Exotic waterfowl are appearing more often recently. For instance, a male Garganey consorted with a wild flock of Blue-winged Teal at Gulf Shores on 11 & 19 March, 1968 (HLJ, PFC). This season, 2 beautiful Egyptian Geese were shot and photographed near Scottsboro on 2 Nov (OMcC fide WAR). Probably all these exotic waterfowl are escapes, but they do have an impact on local birdlife, make local birding more interesting, and are worthy of note, at least in this journal. The Fulvous Tree Duck may or may not be in this category; its most recent record is that of one on Cat Island, near Dauphin on 24 Oct (DCH).

Thirteen Mottled Ducks near Mobile on 29 Sept (REH & SGW) is the highest number ever. Six Green-winged Teal at Lake Oliver on 30 Sep (LAW) is, except for the Tennessee Valley, the earliest for the state. A good flight of Blue-winged Teal resulted in high (but not highest) counts of 60 at Lake Oliver on 4 Oct (LAW) and 405 on the Birmingham Fall Count on 27 Sep (B.A.S.) Nine Shovelers at Wheeler Refuge on 12 Sep (HDP) are, except for 1936-37 when it bred locally, the earliest for the state. The Redhead was early at Lake Oliver, 13 on 23 Oct (LAW). The Com. Goldeneye also came through early; 10 on Dauphin on 14 Nov (REH & SGW); 3 at Florala on 21 Nov, earliest for Lower Coastal Plain (HMS); and 1 at Gulf Shores on 29 Nov (CLK and others). Female or immature White-winged Scoters were noted at 3 places inland; on 29 Oct at Wheeler Refuge (JLW); same day at L. Oliver (LAW); and 16 Nov at Lake Purdy (JRB and others). A male Com Merganser near Decatur on 29 Oct (JLW) is by 3 days the earliest ever for the state. Early Red-breasted Mergansers were at L. Oliver on 24 Oct (LAW), the earliest inland record ever for the state; and Florala on 21 Nov (HMS).

Hawks—A Harlan's Hawk on 27 Nov at Bon Secour (PFC) ties the earliest of 6 state records (one specimen) and is our southernmost record. The 5th Swainson's Hawk for Alabama was seen at Atmore on 19 Nov (RWS). A Rough-

legged Hawk on 20 Nov at Greeneville, Butler Co., (RWS) makes it 8 years out of the last 10 for this somewhat erratic species. A Bald Eagle was out over the Gulf southwest of Sand Island on 27 Sep (FEB). Away from the immediate coast, 3 migrant Peregrine Falcons were noted this fall: Inland Lake, Jefferson Co. on 11 Oct (B.A.S.); Talladega Forest near Heflin on 25 Oct (B.A.S.); and at Magnolia Springs on 21 Nov (PFC).

Rails—Paradise Lake provides one of the very few places near Birmingham with adequate rail habitat; this fall 2 Com Gallinules were there on 27 Sep (JNC, HHK) and 1-3 Virginia Rails from 30 Oct through Dec (HHK, KTK, and others).

Shorebirds—A Golden Plover in Birmingham on 20 Sep (B.A.S.) is the 5th fall record for the Mountain Region. Ten Upland Plovers at Wheeler Refuge on 2 Oct (EC & RMB) are the latest for the Tennessee Valley. A Pectoral Sandpiper at Eufaula Refuge on 8 Nov (LAW) is locally late. Two early Dunlins were in Birmingham on 18 Oct (KTK & HHK). A flock of 10 late Short-billed Dowitchers were at Eufaula Refuge on 8 Nov (LAW). One of the few definite inland records of the Long-billed Dowitcher is that of 3 at Lake Purdy (Birmingham) on 25 Oct (KTK, JRB & RRR). Avocets made news at both ends of the state. At Wheeler Refuge 2 were present 2 to 19 Oct (ENW, HHG, RMB) and 4 were seen on 3 Nov (WP, HDP, BT). Near Mobile Causeway the usual locally-wintering flock built up to its highest numbers ever—25 on 9 Sep (PFC); 43 on 16 Nov (LRT); 50 on 26 Nov (PFC); 60 on 29 Nov (LRT); and 60 on 1 Dec (LRT).

Gulls, Terns—Fewer than usual Ring-billed Gulls passed down the Chattahoochee Valley this year, peak of only 20 on 12 Nov at Lake Oliver (LAW). A Bonaparte's Gull there on 23 Oct (LAW) is the earliest ever inland record for Alabama. Two Forster's Terns were at L. Purdy on 20 Sep (RRR, JRB, and others), and in the Chattahoochee Valley the species was reported in low numbers (LAW). The 7-foot lowering of the Lake Oliver water level is probably largely responsible for the local scarcity of Ring-billed Gull and Forster's Tern. (See Black Tern below.) The relative abundance of a migrant is often difficult to determine from one observation point because local attractiveness may completely nullify any large-area variations in population. Three Common Terns were noted at Smith Lake on 13 Sep (WFC, REB, and others). Black Terns reached a locally highest number of 24 on 8 Aug at L. Oliver (LAW).

Doves—Game personnel (TZA, JEK) report the Mourning Dove in about normal numbers, but in and around Birmingham the species continues to increase by taking advantage of feeders, weedy fields, and other food sources. That these "urbanized" birds furnish hunter opportunities is evidenced by at least 2 birds banded at Birmingham feeders (TAI) and recovered by hunters in southern Jefferson and southern Shelby Counties. The White-winged Dove continues annually fairly common on the coast, though still noteworthy (MWG, WMC, and others). One in Mobile on the 8th (REH & SGW) is our first September record, and one was in Baldwin County on 30 Nov (PFC).

Flycatchers—Six Western Kingbirds on Dauphin on 26 Oct (TAI & JMI) are the most seen this fall. On 20 Oct at Magnolia Springs the first TROPICAL KINGBIRD in Alabama was recorded (PFC). The bird was studied at leisure on a barbed-wire fence at 50 feet both morning and evening, and a satisfactory description, which emphasized the brown forked tail with no black or white, was furnished. A Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, seen and heard in Birmingham on 6 Oct (HHW) ties the latest inland record, and a Least Flycatcher banded there on 18 Oct (TAI & JMI) is the latest inland record. (Unidentified Empidonaxes have been recorded in Birmingham through 26 Oct.) An Olive-sided Flycatcher was on Dauphin on 24 Sep (LMcK & LRT). In Baldwin County near Foley a Vermilion Flycatcher was seen on 17 Nov (LPA & LRT).

Blue Jay, Red-breasted Nuthatch—The heavy Blue Jay flight this fall was documented by the 1150 birds recorded on the Birmingham Fall Count on 27 Sep (B.A.S.), highest number ever anywhere in Alabama. Its penetration was shown by the big ones banded on Dauphin on 25 Oct—5 of 8 jays had wings longer than 128 mm., the longest breeding season wing from Birmingham (TAI & JMI). The Red-breasted Nuthatch appeared in good numbers again with a bird on Dauphin on 27 Sep (REH & SGW) the earliest ever for the Coastal Plain, and later birds on the island even feeding in live oaks (TAI).

Thrushes—A Gray-cheeked Thrush that hit a picture window near Decatur on 9 Sep (PR) is the earliest ever for the Tennessee Valley and is now a specimen in the Wheeler Refuge collection. The brown thrushes were relatively scarce as migrants near Birmingham, although common enough on the coast. For instance, in September and October in Birmingham with 68 Catbirds banded, the only thrushes banded were 1 Wood, 1 Hermit, and 1 Gray-cheek, perhaps only

the last a true migrant (TAI & JMI). On the coast with 20 Catbirds banded in September and October on Dauphin, thrushes banded were 7 Wood, 7 Swainson's, 5 Hermit, and 1 Veery (MEM, TAI). The 38 Eastern Bluebirds recorded on 27 Sep (B.A.S.) is the lowest of 15 cooperative counts (Spring, Fall, and Christmas) in the last 5 years around Birmingham.

Kinglets, Vireos—A heavy flight of Golden-crowned Kinglets this fall was not reflected in higher winter figures around Birmingham, so evidently the bulk of the birds passed farther south. In Birmingham the first birds were noted on 18 Oct by 5 observers in 5 different places (fide RJK) and birds were then common and widespread for about a month. In Mobile the first birds were seen on 19 Oct (MAG and many) which ties the earliest ever date (1957, 1967, & 1968) and the birds then became common. In Baldwin County the species arrived with the White-throated and Swamp Sparrows and remained common (PFC). The Ruby-crowned Kinglet was more common than usual, and 2 in Birmingham on 27 Sep (REB & MIB) tied the earliest ever record for the Mountain Region. The 7th Bell's Vireo for Alabama is our 4th fall bird, one banded on Dauphin on 15 Oct (MEM). Two Warbling Vireos, also on Dauphin on 15 Oct (MAG, LMcK, LRT) are the latest ever for the state by 2 weeks.

Warblers—A Swainson's Warbler (Waterthrush?) was banded in Birmingham on 20 Sep and seen on 22 Sep (same place, brand new band seen—TAI & JMI); latest record north of the Coastal Plain, but one was banded on Dauphin on 24 Sep (MEM) where the species stays a month later. The first Magnolia Warbler this fall was one banded in Birmingham on 30 Aug, 1 day shy of the earliest ever (RJK). Four coastal Black-throated Blue Warblers, the first one earliest ever for Alabama by 4 days, are all probably caused by strong easterly winds; 12 Sep, Mobile (MAG); 21 Oct, Mobile (LMcK); 25 Oct, Dauphin, an immature male banded (TAI & JMI); 27 Oct, Mobile (LA). The first fall Myrtle Warblers were 3 widely-scattered ones in Birmingham on 27 Sep (IRB, REB, WFC), and in Mobile one on 10 Oct (MAG). A Black-throated Green Warbler on Dauphin on 11 Nov (REH & SGW) is, except for about a dozen winter records, the latest for the state. A Cerulean Warbler on Dauphin on 22 Oct (CLC, LMcK) is the latest for Alabama by 20 days. The first fall Blackpoll Warblers ever recorded anywhere in the Coastal Plain were seen following a week of strong easterly winds and solid overcast; one on Dauphin on 26 Oct (TAI & JMI) and one in Mobile on 27 Oct (LA). Tying the previous late date

for the state was a male Prairie Warbler on Dauphin on 26 Oct (TAI); but even later were records on 17 Oct, 2 & 23 Nov, all at the same place in Birmingham and possibly the same bird (HHK). Prior to this year, the Connecticut Warbler has been recorded in fall only once in the Tennessee Valley, once in the Mountain Region, and three times on the Coast. This year, the species was detected three times around Birmingham: on 27 Sep in Mountain Brook (IFS); on 15 Oct on Oak Mt., Shelby Co., (JEK) first specimen (Dept. Cons. Coll.) for Alabama (See Keeler account.); and 17 Oct in Hoover (HHK), latest ever for the state. The Mourning Warbler was recorded again on Dauphin Is. this fall, 24 Sep (LMcK, LRT); 25 Sep, 1 banded (REH, SGW); and 25 Oct (JLD and many), latest ever for the state by 17 days. A Hooded Warbler, picked up dead on Oak Mt. on 15 Oct, one of a very, very few banded migration casualties, had been marked at Ashtabula (extreme northeastern) Ohio on 18 Sep, 1968 (fide JEK).

Bobolink, Summer Tanager—A Bobolink specimen (Dept. Cons. Coll.) from Oak Mt. on 15 Oct (JEK) is the latest ever inland record by a week; and a bird seen well near Foley on 16 Nov (LPA & LRT) is later by almost a month than any other state record. A Summer Tanager in Birmingham on 3 Nov (HBT) is the latest ever inland.

Finches—A Rose-breasted Grosbeak in Birmingham on 31 Oct (TAI) is, except for birds which lingered in 1936 and 1957, the latest for the Mountain Region. Three Black-headed Grosbeaks were seen on Dauphin Is. this fall; 15 Oct (LMcK & MAG); 17 Oct (CLC & JCB); and 25 Oct (JLD & MAG). Dickcissels again lingered in the vicinity of Fairhope; 1 on 16 Nov, 2 on 20 Nov and 3 on 1 Dec (LPA & LRT). The "echo" flight of Evening Grosbeaks this winter was started by our earliest ever date for the state, 2 Nov in Birmingham (OP). In Birmingham Purple Finches were first noted on 5 Nov (HHW) and Pine Siskins on 8 Nov (JRB, HHK, KTK), the latter giving promise of an outstanding flight. On 6 Nov on Dauphin a record 6 Lark Sparrows were counted (LRT). Two Slate-colored Juncos in Birmingham on 27 Sep (RDB) are by one day the earliest ever for the state. The 6th coastal record for the Clay-colored Sparrow was one banded on Dauphin on 27 Sep (REH); and the second inland record was in Birmingham, less than ¼ mile from the first one, on 15 Oct (TAI). The White-crowned Sparrow arrived slightly late, but was common around Birmingham and on the coast. In southern Baldwin County, 24 were counted

on 21 Nov (JLD & LRT); in Birmingham 6 were banded 18 Oct to 13 Nov (TAI & JMI). One repeating bird gained 4.3 gms (20% of total weight) in 10 days. White-throats were a little bit late, first noted in Birmingham on 12 Oct (TAI) and in Mobile on 11 Oct (JH). The first Lincoln's Sparrows were noted this fall in Birmingham on 10 Oct, one banded (JMI & TAI). Four Swamp Sparrows were seen in two places around Birmingham on 27 Sep (WFC & RDB); only one state fall record is earlier.

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## THE SEASON WINTER, 1970

Compiler and Editor—Thomas A. Imhof

Alabama continues its cold, dry weather. Since at least January 1966 (50 months), we have had at Birmingham only 5 months with average temperature above normal. In 1968 and 1969 only one month, July 1969, was above normal, and barely so, +0.1. The last four years have averaged 3.4° below normal.

Precipitation is a little more difficult to assess because it is more erratic. When a period of near drought is broken by an excessively heavy rainfall, the statement of average precipitation fails to tell the whole story. For instance, the over 7 inches excess precipitation in May 1969 covered the succeeding monthly deficiencies with the story of an annual cumulative excess. If we still had the swamps and the forests to store this water, we would have been in fine shape. But we have channelized streams to make water run off faster, installed what may well be excessive pavement, and done other things to dry out our land. Even some of our forests marked for watershed protection are clear-cut, planted to a crop of pines, and lie drying out in the sun for 5 to 10 years before they can again soak up sufficient water effectively.

For the whole state, January 1970 shows an approximate average of -9.0 degrees departure from normal temperature and -2.5 inches in precipitation—both about half of normal (Birmingham, -8.6 degrees and -2.56 inches). January 9 was the coldest day of the winter, Valley Head had -6 degrees, Birmingham 5 degrees and the highest minimum was 17 degrees at Fairhope, Mobile, and Coden. Although no records were broken because we had colder periods in recent winters, the length of the freezing periods was unusual. These periods are, in my opinion, critical to the survival of many of our half-hardy wintering species that must have above freezing temperatures for effective feeding. These are mainly insectivores who can feed, probably inefficiently, on fruits and grains for brief periods. Three North Alabama stations reported below freezing temperatures for 5 consecutive days, and even in Montgomery this period lasted 88 hours. Birmingham had 20 days (including 1 through 11 Jan) with minimum temperatures below freezing, and 4 days (including 7-8-9 Jan) with the maximum temperature below freezing!

February was similar to January but much less severe. Birmingham averaged -4.2 degrees and -2.93 inches from normal temperature and precipitation. The lowest here was 11 degrees on the 4th, and 16 days had freezing lows. Days without fog, smoke, or haze in Birmingham—usually all three—were

9 in January and 6 in February. One saving feature, our "Southern Sun" produced at Birmingham a January max. of 72 degrees on the 27th, and a February max. of 70 degrees on the 18th, and 11 days in February with a max. over 60 degrees!

In spite of the severe weather, the birds seem to survive quite well, for it appears to be the abundance of food and the availability of proper habitat that have more bearing on the survival of most bird species. Ever more noticeable are the activities of man affecting the lives of birds—his agriculture, his pollution, his construction, his selfishness—and they are undoubtedly responsible for more variations in numerical abundance of birds than all the vagaries of weather.

Loons, Pelicanlike birds—Com Loons were reported common again in the Tennessee Valley (TZA) and on the Gulf Coast where 18 were counted at Gulf Shores on 30 Jan (RWS). White Pelicans noted migrating in early March were 20 on Dauphin Island on the 6th (LRT) and 150 at Fort Morgan on the 19th (LEG & WY). A few Brown Pelicans lingered through the winter near Dauphin, for instance 4 on 29 Jan (LRT). Observations of large numbers of Gannets this winter culminated in a highest-ever 200 on 30 Jan in the vicinity of Gulf Shores (RWS).

Hérons—The largest ever known winter concentration of Great Blue Herons was that of 448 at Eufaula Refuge on 22 Dec (JLDu et al). A Green Héron lingered to at least 14 Dec at Dog R., Mobile (LMcK); another was in Birmingham on 27 Dec (NGB & CL) for the first inland winter record. The second-week-in-March arrival of the Cattle Egret on the Gulf Coast was again reported—one on Dauphin on the 13th (LRT) and 6-8 near Daphne on the 14th (L&HC, T&AF). A peak of 242 Com Egrets was counted at Mobile on 20 Dec (JLD).

Swan, Geese—At Wheeler Refuge, geese peaked late—on 21 Jan—with 19,500 Canadas and 1500 Blues and Snows; a record 1538 geese were banded (TZA). Seven Whistling Swans, apparently a family group with adults and immatures, were present at Redstone Arsenal from 14 Nov through 12 Dec (JG); the species has now been reported every winter since 1964 and this is the largest number. A BARNACLE GOOSE was seen well on 20 Dec in Limestone Bay, Wheeler Refuge (JNC, KTK, et al). This first for Alabama is not surprising considering several recent East Tennessee records; nor is it

surprising that the bird was never spotted again for it was with thousands of its congener, the Canada Goose. The White-fronted Goose, another waterfowl reported annually in Alabama since 1964, was recorded this year on both sides of the state—Livingston about 1 Feb, a small flock evidently wandering from Noxubee N W Refuge, Miss. in extreme cold weather (fide DTR); and Eufaula Refuge, a flock of 8 from 2 to 22 Feb (GS).

Ducks—A BAHAMA DUCK showed up at a pond near Magnolia Springs on 28 February and remained at least through 1 April; a first for Alabama, the bird has been photographed in color (PFC). As with several other recent waterfowl records, this bird could be an escape; nevertheless its beauty, the interest it generates, and its impact on the local avifauna are virtually the same as a bona fide wild bird. Pintail and Am. Widgeon were reported more numerous at Wheeler Refuge (TZA) and in the Chattahoochee Valley (LAW). Redheads were reported scarce at Wheeler (TZA) and Birmingham (TAI) and Buffleheads at those two places plus the Coast (MAG). One thousand Com Goldeneye were reported from Eufaula Refuge on 22 Dec (JLDu). The second Harlequin Duck for Alabama was at the opposite end of the state, one shot near Decatur on 29 Dec (fide JG). Three to four White-winged Scoters were on Lake Oliver (near Phenix City) 31 Jan to 8 Feb (LAW).

Hawks—A Red-tailed Hawk, identified as the krideri race, at Wheeler Refuge on 20 Dec (JNC, RMB, WD) seems to be the first of this race for the Tennessee Valley. A belatedly reported Rough-legged Hawk at Wheeler Refuge on 23 Nov (JP, RM, ENW) is the second for November 1969. An adult Golden Eagle was seen at Sumter Farms near Geiger on 12 Jan (RWS). Two, possibly three, immature Bald Eagles were present at Wheeler Refuge from 18 Dec to 28 Jan (TZA, MLB, et al) and one immature was seen on 28 March at Gordon apparently migrating up the Chattahoochee Valley (JMI). Four Peregrines were reported this January, one on the 24th at East Lake, Birmingham (GC); one on the 29th at Atmore (RWS); and two at Fort Morgan on the 30th (RWS).

Turkey, Rail—A drove of 9 Turkeys was flushed in the Bankhead Forest near Bee Branch on 31 Jan (RDB & AKB). The Virginia Rail remained at Paradise Lake, near Birmingham, at least through 15 Feb (KTK et al.).

Shorebirds—March concentrations of Golden Plover were 100 + on the 14th at Magnolia Springs (PFC and Pensacola group); and 75 on the 21 st at Lakeland Farm near Marion (HHK, JNC, RDK, RJK); 4 more were at Birmingham on the 29th (KTK). A Spotted Sandpiper at Open Pond, Covington Co., on 13 Dec, 31 Jan, and 1 Feb (EGR and many) indicates the species wintered locally. Another at Bartlett's Ferry Dam on the Chattahoochee: R. on 18 Jan (JM) was at the same spot where one wintered last year. We now know of at least 9 records of this sandpiper inland in winter. A Solitary Sandpiper on 21 Feb at Loxley (CLK et al.) is by 6 days our earliest ever for the state. Another February record, many early March records in other years, plus local surveillance indicate this is a bona fide arrival rather than a wintering bird. The largest number of Greater Yellowlegs noted in winter in the Tennessee Valley was that of 14 at Wheeler Refuge on 19 Dec (MLB). A flock of 8 Knots on 31 Jan on Dauphin (LRT) points up the fact that we have no February records for the species. First Pectoral Sandpipers this year were 2 on 12 Mar at the Birmingham Airport (GBC, GC, KTK) and one on 14 Mar on the coast at Belforest (CLK et al.). Apparently the Least Sandpiper is not as rare in March as supposed; 2 were at Wheeler Refuge on 8 Mar (MLB & ROH) and 18 at the Birmingham Airport on 12 Mar (KTK, GBC, GC). Two Dunlins on 21 and 28 March at Marion Fish Hatchery (JNC, HHK and many) are our only known inland birds in spring. A Short-billed Dowitcher at Wheeler Refuge on 23 Nov (JP, RM, ENW) is the latest ever inland by a week. A Marbled Godwit on Dauphin on 28 Feb (JLD, REH et al.) is the first state winter record since 1956—the earliest ever migrant is 27 Mar.).

Terns—Unique inland in winter were a Forster's Tern on 12 Dec on the Chattahoochee R. just above Columbus (LAW) and a Caspian Tern on 22 Dec at Eufaula Refuge (JLDu).

Whip-poor-will, Hummingbird—A Whip-poor-will in the Bankhead Forest on 7 March (JDM) is by 6 days the earliest ever for the breeding range. Two Ruby-throated Hummingbirds on 10 Dec at Fairhope possibly wintered locally. Assumed migrants were one on Dauphin on 8 March (LPA & LRT), by one day earliest ever for the state; and another on 23 Mar in Birmingham (MAS), by 2 days earliest ever for the Mt. Region.

Woodpeckers—The Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was especially plentiful



this winter at least around Birmingham where a record 38 was counted on 27 Dec (B.A.S.) The Red-cockaded Woodpecker was noted this winter in 2 places not usually checked by AOS members—one in the Bankhead Forest near Bee Branch on 6 Dec (TAI and many) and 3 on 31 Jan at Oakwood Lodge, Covington Co. (A.O.S.); both areas in National Forest.

Lark, Swallows, Crow—The total of 526 Horned Larks at Jacksonville on 23 Dec (REA) is the highest count for the species outside the Tennessee Valley. The first reported Rough-winged Swallow for the Birmingham area was on 11 March at Grant's Mill (GBC & GC). The earliest ever Barn Swallow for Alabama by 5 days was one at Fort Morgan on 10 March (LEG & WY); and 2 at Marion Fish Hatchery on 21 March (JNC, HHK, et al.) are earliest ever for the Upper Coastal Plain. Purple Martins were first noted on the coast on 25 Jan, 5 birds on Bear Fork Rd (DW) and 26 Jan, 2 at Spring Hill (MWG); first noted in Birmingham on 28 Feb (JRB). Forty Fish Crows were noted at Lake Oliver on 10 March (LAW).

Nuthatch, Robin, Waxwing, Vireo—Red-breasted Nuthatches were common and widespread throughout and are still present. Between 10,000 and 15,000 Robins, feeding mainly on hackberries, remained in the western section of Birmingham from about 15 Dec to 1 Feb. They were accompanied by at least 5000 Cedar Waxwings (TAI et al.). Solitary Vireos were reported common around Mobile by at least 6 observers (MAG et al.).

Warblers—The first reported migrant Black-and-whites were 10 on Dauphin on 13 March (MEM & REH). First-noted Prothonotaries were at Magnolia Springs on 16 Mar (PFC) and on the Cahaba R. near Birmingham on 28 Mar (GM). Orange-crowns, reported more numerous than usual this winter near Mobile (MAG), seem to have survived well even as far north as Birmingham where they were still noted on 26 Feb (TAI) and 27 Feb (AM & JL), 2 widely-scattered birds.

Blackbirds—The Baltimore Oriole continues well distributed at feeders in winter in Alabama—this year one was at Dothan 12-13 Feb (MLH). Blackbirds were again in the news this winter and control work in Cherokee County was well publicized. Although Birmingham seldom has very high concentrations because Jefferson County has little agriculture, a roost at Mineral Springs during most of January was estimated to hold 100,000 birds, mainly grackles, Starlings, and cowbirds (TAI, JDM & JMI). The birds, roosting in young pines,

took advantage of the prohibition of matches and firearms inside the explosives plant. No less than 250 Brewer's Blackbirds were still present on 21 Mar at Lakeland Farm near Marion (JNC, HHK, RJK, RDK), the latest ever inland record.

Finches—Dickcissels are being recorded in winter quite regularly on the coast—this January in Baldwin County on the 4th (LRT) and 21st (LMcK) and at Spring Hill 24th to 29th (SCH). Inland, a male at a Birmingham feeder on 18 Jan (HHK) is our farthest north winter record. It appears that Evening Grosbeaks may become as regular as Pine Siskins or even Purple Finches in winter in Alabama. Although establishing an earliest ever arrival date of 2 Nov (See Fall report) the species built up slowly and only 16 (by 3 parties) were recorded on the Birmingham Christmas Count. Later, they visited at least 6 feeders and a maximum of 63 was counted on the Cahaba Valley Rd. just south of Birmingham on 15 Feb (KTK). Considerable movement takes place in April and the Birmingham Spring Count on the 11th listed 116 birds by 8 of 10 parties. Away from Birmingham, birds were noted in the Bankhead Forest regularly December through March (HHW, TAI, JDM) with a maximum of 15 near Bee Branch in late February (JDM); at Horseshoe Bend, about 12 on 21 Feb (B.A.S.); at Guntersville, about 20 on 4 April (ELG). Purple Finches were numerous even near the coast where a peak of 24 was recorded in January at Spring Hill (MAG). Pine Siskins were widespread northward but concentrated in a few favored places southward, such as 300 in Mobile in January (TF). Early in the season the birds swarmed with goldfinches on sweetgum; in the Bankhead Forest it was mostly hemlock but also sourwood. On 2 Jan. near Bee Branch, 410 were closely estimated in Bankhead hemlocks (TAI et al.). In Midfield near Birmingham about 400 visited culled pecan meats from 15 to 31 March (TAI). On most lists this winter the Pine Siskin outnumbered the Purple Finch. Pine Siskins were still in Baldwin County on 14 Mar—5 at Silverhill (CLK et al.) and in the Tennessee Valley with few natural pines and few siskin records, the species was noted quite often this winter especially around Wheeler Refuge (TZA). Red Crossbills were seen in the Bankhead Forest on Braziel Creek Road, one on 13 Feb (TAI) and 7 on 21 March, (TAI & DCH); in Birmingham on 11 Mar one was killed and eaten by a female Sparrow Hawk and its head was retrieved as the only preserved specimen of the species for Alabama (MFP). Lapland Longspurs, regular but not often recorded in Alabama in winter, were seen at Wheeler Refuge, 7 on 20 Dec (JNC et al.)

Observers—(Local compilers in capitals)—Alabama Ornithological Society, Richard E. Ambrose, Lois P Archer, THOMAS Z ATKESON, J Russell Bailey, Naomi G Banks, Andrew K Bates, Raymond D Bates, Richard M Bays, Michael L Bierly, Birmingham Audubon Society, Greg Carlisle, G Bradley Carlisle, Jack N Carusos, P Fairly Chandler, Lloyd & Helen Clayton, Wallace Dreyfoos, Rev J L Dorn, Julian L Dusi, Tony Friedhoff, Ted & Amy Furnans, MARY A GAILLARD, M Wilson Gaillard, Joseph Gardjos, Lyman E Goodnight, Emmy Lou Grimley, Sybil C Hanks, Marion L Hanahan, R O Harshaw, RE (Tuck) Hayward, Dan C Holliman, John M Imhof, Thomas A Imhof, CURTIS L KINGSBERY, Helen H Kittinger, RICKY J KITTINGER, Ronnie D Kittinger, Kenneth T Knight, Christine Leake, John Lester, Robert Mann, James D Manasco, George Maynard, Louise McKinstry, Ann Miller, James Miller, Margaret E Miller, John Padgett, M F Prather, Elberta G Reid, David T Rogers, Gus Savile, Mary Alice Skelton, Robert W Skinner, Lib R Toenes, Emmett N Waldrep, L A WELLS, D Wyrosdick, Harriett H Wright, William Young.

1036 Pike Road  
Birmingham, Alabama 35218

### MIGRATORY BIRD KILL IN SHELBY COUNTY, ALABAMA

James E. Keeler

An estimated 500 migratory birds comprising 25 species were killed or injured on top of Oak Mountain in Shelby County, Alabama during the night of October 14, 1969. The cause of death was attributed to an attraction of the birds to the mercury vapor lights surrounding a four-acre comfort station on U.S. Highway 280 approximately 20 miles southeast of Birmingham.

The caretaker of the comfort station contacted Conservation Officer Doyle C. Wood who investigated the area and immediately relayed the information to the Game and Fish Office in Montgomery. The author was requested to conduct an investigation as to what killed the birds. Upon my arrival the caretaker produced a wheelbarrow half full of dead birds that he had picked up that morning. Numerous other birds were found hopping about with apparent broken wings.

Four radio towers are located in a line about 250 yards apart on top of this mountain with the nearest tower located about 50 yards from the edge of the comfort station. It was first thought that the birds were "tower casualties" however, of the three towers visited only one dead bird was found. Since the dead and crippled birds were found in the vicinity of the lighted area it was obvious that the kill occurred only on the grounds of the comfort station. A cyclone-type fence, a few trees and light poles were located in this area. Undoubtedly, fog caused the birds to fly into these obstructions although the caretaker was not present during the night hours and could not verify as to whether or not the night was foggy.

A total of 280 birds were picked up around the fence, trees and light poles and many others could have been recovered if time had permitted. It is felt that a minimum of 500 birds were killed or injured during the night. A White-eyed Vireo was found impaled on a broken twig of a pine tree within the lighted area. The twig was pointed in a northerly direction which added emphasis to the theory that the birds were migrating and were killed in the small well-lighted four acre area.

The following birds were recovered and returned to Montgomery. All but four badly-crushed warblers were identified by Robert W. Skinner and the author. One of the Hooded Warblers, an adult male, was wearing band number 117-44783.

Bay-breasted Warbler, 49; Magnolia Warbler, 35; Ovenbird, 34; Olive-backed Thrush, 31; Indigo Bunting, 29; Tennessee Warbler, 13; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, 10; Northern Waterthrush, 9; Scarlet Tanager, 9; Blackburnian Warbler, 8; Black-throated Green, 7; Chestnut-sided, 7; Yellowthroat, 5; Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 4; Hooded Warbler, 4; Redstart, 4; Savannah Sparrow, 4; Bobolink, 3; Wood Thrush, 2; Yellow-throated vireo, 2; Red-eyed vireo, 2; Summer Tanager, 2; White-eyed vireo, 1; Connecticut Warbler, 1; Grasshopper Sparrow, 1.

According to the caretaker, a bird kill similar to this one occurred on the same area during the fall of 1968, however, fewer birds were found dead at that time.

3576 North Georgetown Drive  
Montgomery, Alabama 36109

MINUTES OF WINTER MEETING  
ALABAMA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
JANUARY 30-FEBRUARY 1, 1970

AOS members from four states—Alabama, Florida, Georgia and Louisiana—gathered for the regular winter meeting of the Alabama Ornithological Society held in the Conecuh National Forest in Covington County on January 30-February 1, 1970. Oakwood Lodge, operated by the Blue Lake Methodist Assembly under the direction of Rev. Selman D. Bradley and located in an attractive woodland area in the forest, served as headquarters for the meeting.

Field Trips

Field trips were conducted Saturday morning and afternoon and Sunday morning to various parts of the forest and lakes in the surrounding area including Blue and Open Ponds in the forest, Lake Jackson at Florala and Point "A" Lake north of Andalusia. Leaders of the trips were Curtis Kingsbery and Dave Turpin of Pensacola, Tom Imhof and Bob Reid of Birmingham and Dr. Wilson Gaillard of Mobile. A total of 87 species was recorded during the meeting, the most noteworthy of which were the wintering Spotted Sandpiper, an Am. Woodcock, Short-billed Marsh Wren, a female Bufflehead and a flock of 19 Ruddy Ducks at Open Pond; Common Loons, Horned Grebes, some more Ruddys and a Pintail at Lake Jackson; two Little Blue Herons and a Common Egret on the ponds at the Town of Wing in the forest; and some Red-cockaded Woodpeckers at Oakwood Lodge. Also of interest were Red-breasted Nuthatches elsewhere in the forest; a Ring-billed Gull, Catbird, Solitary Vireo, Orange-crowned Warbler and a good-sized raft of Lesser Scaup on Point "A" Lake; a group of Palm Warblers and large flocks of Purple Finches and Goldfinches on the highway from Andalusia; and a pair of Pine Siskins with other finches and waxwings at Pond Creek Pond in Lockhart.

Executive Council Meeting

The Executive Council met at Oakwood Lodge after lunch on January 31 with the following present: Mr. Walter F. Coxe, President; Mrs. Helen H. Kittinger, Immediate Past President; Dr. M. Wilson Gaillard, Mr. Thomas A. Imhof, Mr. Robert W. Skinner and Mrs. Harriett Wright, Directors; Dr. Kenneth T. Knapp, Chairman of the Conservation Committee; and Mr. Robert R. Reid, Jr., Chairman of the Slide Collection Committee. Mr. Coxe announced the appointment of Dr. Knapp as Chairman of the Conservation Committee and that he would

serve as AOS representative on the Alabama Clean Air Committee. Dr. Gaillard and Mr. Skinner are to recommend persons in the scientific field from Mobile and Montgomery to be additional members of this committee. Mr Reid reported that the Slide Collection Committee was in its second review of the full Alabama list of species, which would be completed next month, and that it also had under consideration procedures needed to protect the educational set of slides when that set is assembled for use. Discussion was then had of matters to be presented at the banquet that evening and of the spring meeting to be held on Dauphin Island.

#### Saturday Evening Banquet and Program

A delicious banquet was served Saturday evening at Oakwood Lodge under the direction of Mrs. Bradley of the Blue Lake Methodist Assembly. President Coxe presented a framed resolution signed by Governor Albert Brewer proclaiming May 4, the birthday of John James Audubon, as Bird Day in the Alabama public schools, thereby reinstating a practice recognizing the economic and cultural value of birds that had formerly been observed annually in the school system.

Featured on the program was a talk by Mr. Lloyd C. Crawford, District Wildlife Biologist of the Alabama State Conservation Department, who spoke on wildlife management programs being conducted by the state in his 11-county area. He also covered the geology and plant life of Covington County. Dr. Henry M. Stevenson of Florida State University reported on research projects concerning bird migration in which he is engaged, and Mr. Reid gave a slide presentation of Dauphin Island looking toward the meeting to be held there on April 24-26.

Mr. Imhof reported on the efforts of The Alabama Conservancy joined by AOS, Birmingham Audubon Society and others to have a tract of the Bankhead Forest set aside as a wilderness area under the 1964 Wilderness Act. He pointed to the need for such preservation on account of the clear-cutting forestry practices now employed in the national forests. While private landholders might under certain circumstances use this method of harvesting timber, the national forests are designated for multi-purpose use and should not be turned into "national tree farms" at the expense of other uses such as wildlife management, public recreation or watershed protection. AOS is conducting ornithological surveys in two areas of the Bankhead Forest, one of which is a

natural area where timbering has only been on a selective cutting basis and the other containing an area clear-cut and reforested with an even-age stand of pines.

Also spotlighted in the discussions were the problems caused by use of persistent or "hard" pesticides and by casual handling of food products treated with highly toxic chemicals. Mr. Reid pointed out that, because of its high persistency and mobility, banning of only selected uses of DDT and the appeal by six agricultural chemical companies from a limited registration cancellation by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture had resulted in there being no effective federal ban thus far on the sale of persistent pesticides. He stated that the effects of such pesticides on wildlife have been well-documented and could lead to extinction of the Brown Pelican, Bald Eagle and other species. It was pointed out that all animals including man now carry residues of DDT in their tissues and, if a ban were placed on the use of such pesticides today, scientific information is that over 50% of the residues would remain in the environment after even 10 or more years.

The program closed with a showing by Mrs. Kittinger of selections from the excellent slides being assembled for the AOS slide collection.

Robert R. Reid, Jr.  
Acting Secretary

## Annual Treasurer's Report

April 12, 1969–April 24, 1970

INCOME:

Dues	\$ 865.50
Registrations	83.50
Excess cash—Spring Meeting (1969)	2.25
Bequest—Blanche Chapman Estate	100.00
Other:	
(Ck. from Helen Kittinger, Photography, <u>Alabama Birdlife</u> , Vol 17, No. 2)	11.10
(Ck. from Michael Lee Bierly, Reprints)	2.30
(Receipts—Dr. Gaillard's Book, <u>Moving the Earth     For a Song</u> )	5.00
(Breakfasts, Fall Meeting (1969))	16.50
(Ck. from T. M. Williams, (2) registrations and (2) dinners, Spring Meeting (1970))	8.00
Total	<u>\$1094.15</u>

EXPENSES:

Birdlife (2 issues)	\$ 380.31
Newsletter (5 issues)	303.46
Treasurer's Expenses	42.20
Meetings	92.98
Organizational Membership ( <u>Alabama Conservancy</u> )	25.00
Miscellaneous	7.99
Total	<u>\$ 851.94</u>

SUMMARY:

Balance in checking acct./April 12, 1969	\$ 532.02
Income	1094.15
Total	<u>\$1626.17</u>
Expenses	— 851.94
Total	<u>\$ 774.23</u>
Balance in checking acct./April 24, 1970	<u>774.23</u>

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND, B.T.N.B.

5 memberships at 50.00	\$ 250.00
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Interest/February 27, 1970

	67.73
Total	<u>\$ 317.73</u>

TOTAL ASSETS:

Balance in checking acct./April 24, 1970	\$ 774.23
Life Membership Fund/February 27, 1970	317.73

Total	<u>\$1091.96</u>
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Sybil Hanks

Treasurer

1091.96

## THE RING'S INDEX ORNITHOLOGORUM

The editor of the International Ornithological Bulletin THE RING proposes to publish an Index Ornithologorum embracing the professional and amateur ornithologists of the world.

All entries should be in English and should be accompanied by one International Postal Reply Coupon for further correspondence. Closing date for all entries is June 30, 1970, but earlier arrival of entries would be appreciated. Do not delay—send your entry today.

The address is: The Editor, THE RING, Laboratory of Ornithology, Sienkiewicza 21, Wroclaw, Poland.

An entry (in English) should contain the following information:

1. Surname
2. Name in full
3. Year of birth (optional)
4. Title
5. Positions held (including editorships, memberships, etc.)
6. Principal interest in ornithology
7. Address
8. Authors of ornithological publications are requested quote the most important of them.
9. Do you intend to purchase a copy of the INDEX if reasonably priced?
10. One I.P.R. Coupon is enclosed:    yes           no

Dr. W. Rydzewski

Laboratory of Ornithology

Sienkiewicza 21, Wroclaw Poland

## Treasurer's report for period:

November 20, 1969-January 30, 1970

INCOME:

Dues	\$ 58.00
Registrations (Fall Meeting)	20.50
Breakfasts	16.50
Receipts for Dr. Gaillard's Book	5.00
Check from Helen Kittinger for Photography work, Alabama Birdlife, Vol. 17, No. 2	11.10
Check from Michael L. Bierly for Reprints	2.30
Total	<u>\$113.40</u>

EXPENSES:

Birdlife (Birmingham-Southern College)	\$197.91
Birdlife (Birmingham-Southern College Library)	2.40
Newsletter (2 issues), (Wright's Letter Shop)	91.18
	32.50
Mr. Walter F. Coxe (Breakfasts at Fall Meeting)	16.50
Total	<u>\$340.49</u>

SUMMARY:

Balance in checking account/Nov. 20, 1969	\$683.39
Total income-Nov. 20, 1969 to Jan. 30, 1970	113.40
Total	<u>\$798.79</u>
Expenses-Nov. 20, 1969 to Jan. 30, 1970	- 340.49
Balance in checking account/Jan. 30, 1970	\$456.30

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND IN B.T.N.B.

5 memberships at 50.00	\$250.00
Interest/Dec. 31, 1969	64.31
Total	<u>\$314.31</u>

TOTAL ASSETS:

Balance in checking account/Jan. 30, 1970	\$456.30
Balance in Life Membership Fund/Dec. 31, 1969	314.31
Total	<u>\$770.61</u>

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY:

Membership 1969	255
New Members	8
Dropped by request	5
In arrears for 1969	35
Pd. through 1969	114
Pd. through 1970	100

Sybil Hanks  
Treasurer

Founded May 17, 1952

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS  
1969-70

## ALABAMA BIRDLIFE

Published by the Alabama Ornithological Society

## Publication

This Journal is for the publication of material related to ornithology in Alabama. Members of the Alabama Ornithological Society are encouraged to contribute articles and general notes. All manuscripts should be submitted to the editor in duplicate and double-spaced on 8½ x 11" paper. Nomenclature should follow A. O. U. Check-List, 5th edition, 1957. Recent issues of Alabama Birdlife and Style Manual For Biological Journals by American Institute of Biological Sciences, 2nd edition should be used as guides. Tables should be prepared on separate sheets and should not duplicate material. High quality black and white photographs, line drawings and other figures will be printed at the expense of the author. These visual aids must be large enough to be reduced without losing clarity. If fewer than five references are cited they should be incorporated in the body of the paper. Otherwise the author should prepare a terminal "Literature Cited" section. Reprints should be requested prior to publication date and will be billed to the author through the treasurer.

## Participation

All members of the Alabama Ornithological Society are urged to participate in the annual meetings and other activities of the Society. The Newsletter announces these and other events which are available to the members. Seasonal accounts and significant field observations should be directed to the compilers of the "Seasons" and "Counts" section of Alabama Birdlife.

## Membership

Application and dues for membership, dues for subscriptions, changes of addresses, orders for back numbers, requests for exchanges and any other inquiry related to membership and or payment should be directed to the treasurer whose name and address will be found on the inside back cover. Sustaining, \$5.00; Regular, \$3.00; Associate (out of state), \$2.00; Student, \$1.00.

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An organization dedicated to the study of birds in Alabama

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