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Organized April 30, 1955

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March 7, 1958

MOS NEWSLETTER - Vol. 3, No. 1

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Man - O' - War-birds Blown Inland by Storm: Four frigatebirds were observed circling low over Highway 18, eight miles northeast of Utica, Hinds County, Mississippi, at 7:35 A.M., September 19, 1957. Weather: heavy clouds, rain and wind most of previous day. Same on 19th except little or no wind at ground level. A tropical hurricane in the Gulf passed inland over Louisiana and Mississippi Coast in northeasterly direction afternoon of the 18th. Four, presumed to be same as above, were seen circling over Highway 18 near White Oak Creek south of Utica at about 8:20 A.M. - John Phares and St. Clair Thompson.

21½ Year Old Cardinal Dies: What is believed to be the oldest captive redbird on record died in November, 1957. Kept in captivity all its life since it fell out of its nest and was rescued, "Jackie Bird" died at the ripe old age of 21½ years at the home of his owner, Mrs. May R. Barbre, Route 3, Water Valley, Mississippi. Miss Kate Johnsey, Water Valley, sent the bird to the Game and Fish Commission's Museum for preservation but due to its emaciated condition, it could not be mounted.

White Pelicans on Coast: Grady Barnes, Game and Fish Commission Biologist, observed eight white pelicans on the Jordan river, Hancock County, about December 2, 1957. Five were dead and two of the remainder were so weak they could not fly. The birds were probably blown into this area by a storm that occurred a day or so before.

Burleigh found white pelicans but one time in 8 years in Mississippi -
Grady Barnes

Several Thousand Tree Swallows in a single milling and feeding flock were observed at McNeil, Mississippi, just south of Poplarville in Pearl River County on January 4, 1958. They were in open long leaf pine country and over Highway 11. Other tree swallows, individuals or small groups, were seen a few miles southeast of Poplarville the same day. - W. H. Turcotte

Some Bird Notes From Alabama: Taxidermist Bob Skinner reports that he collected a Krider's Hawk (Buteo jamaicensis kriderii) on November 18, 1957, in Montgomery County, which is the first specimen of this species taken in Alabama. The specimen will be placed in the Alabama Department of Conservation bird collection.

A Richardson's (or Hutchin's) goose was killed by a hunter, Robert Davis, just west of Mooresville on Wheeler Reservoir, December 15. This bird is almost an exact replica of the Canada goose except that it is only one-half the size and has a small, broad bill. Refuge Manager Charles Parker of Wheeler National Waterfowl Refuge, obtained this rare goose, which is the first collected in the state, and donated it to the University of Alabama bird collection.

During the past month, 33 Coturnix quail bands were returned to the Alabama Department of Conservation which brings to a total of 69 the number of recoveries from birds released in Alabama.

A total of 22 bands have been returned from birds released on five of the seven study areas located in each of the different soil provinces of the state. Approximately 8,000 coturnix have been released on these areas.

Four coturnix were recovered from the Lauderdale study area on January 10, 1958. One of these was released on that site on April 23, 1957, and three were released on September 3, 1957. No birds have been recovered on any of the other study areas.

The farthest distance traveled by a coturnix quail released in Alabama was 252 miles. This bird was released by Biologist Jim Keeler on the Lauderdale area near Florence on September 3, 1957, and was killed five miles east of Crystal Springs, Mississippi, on December 25.

Of the 69 Coturnix bands returned thus far from birds released in Alabama, 45 were recovered in Alabama, 10 in Mississippi, seven in Georgia, three in Tennessee, two in Florida and one in Louisiana. One band was returned without information concerning. The three bands recovered in Tennessee were from birds that had traveled only short distances from north Alabama across the state line. All other recoveries were from birds that traveled in a southerly direction.

Wheeler Refuge Biologist Tom Atkeson reports that on November 16, a couple of hunters sat in their pits near Decatur, hoping for a shot at some Canada gees. A flock, with wings cupped, came into the decoys, and the hunters stood and fired a volley into them. Three birds fell and all were banded. The serial numbers of the bands were close. The bands were sent to the Banding Office, and, a few days ago, the reports came back. The three geese were banded on the same day, July 24, 1957, on Akimiski Island, In James Bay, Kewatin District, Canadian Northwest Territories. The three had left the lonely island together, flown the 1,800-mile trip south, fallen at the same time under a shower of goose shot and died together in an Alabama cotton field. - From Alabama Fish and Wildl

Bulletin, Vol 2, No. 5, February, 1958.

Purple Martins' Arrival, 1958. First arrival date this year to martin house and gourds at my home west of Jackson was March 1. Five hove in with a warm front from the south. Last year's first arrival date was March 9th.

W. H. Turcotte

Adult Bald Eagle for Museum: An adult bald eagle, probably shot by a hunter and left on the water at a Bolivar County duck club, was added to the museum collection. The bird, in fine condition for mounting, was found dead on January 14, 1958, 5 miles West of Shaw, Mississippi, and brought to the museum by W. H. Turcotte.

White-winged Dove Killed In State: A white-winged dove, Zenaida asiatica, was killed during the recent dove hunting season by Mr. Josh Spiers of Carriere, Mississippi, on October 3, 1957, three miles west of Carriere in Pearl River County. A wing was donated to the Museum. The White-winged dove, an accidental visitor to the State, normally ranges in south Texas, south New Mexico and Mexico, southward to the Greater Antilles and Costa Rica. The whitewing can be distinguished from the mourning dove by its heavier appearance, rounded tail with broad, white band, and most easily by the large white patch that crosses each wing. Mississippi Game and Fish, Vol. XXI, No. 4, November, 1957. Editor's Note: Two white-winged doves were killed by dove hunters northeast of Mobile, Alabama, around October 22, 1957. The editor and John Phares examined one of these birds turned in to the Alabama Department of Conservation on October 24, 1957, at Wheeler State Park, Alabama.

Western Tanager: I observed a greenish-yellow bird in the back yard of my home just west of Jackson, Mississippi. It had all appearances of a tanager but I could not believe my eyes. The bird was collected on March 7, 1958, identified as an immature male western tanager and deposited with Miss Cook at the Museum. Yellow wing bars are the identifying characteristic of this bird.

Burliegh in his Birds of the Gulf Coast Region lists only one record of the species, a female collected October 25, 1940, at Gulfport. Peterson describes it as accidental east of the Mississippi, a possible winter resident and a score or more records from Louisiana to Maine east of the Mississippi.

Early Woodcock Nesting Record: In a letter of February 27, 1958, to Miss Cook, Mr. S. E. Moreton, Jr., Brookhaven, one of Mississippi's pioneer conservationists, stated that on February 25 he found a woodcock with four baby birds in the woods 2 miles southwest of Brookhaven. Mr. Moreton stated "I found three of the baby birds on the ground. The walked off at a signal from the mother bird. I noticed that the mother appeared to be carrying something and I did not realize it was one of the young until I got home that afternoon and read in "Birds of Louisiana" December 1931, that the mother woodcock carries her young to safety between her legs. If I had known that I would have stayed around the mother for more obser-
vation."

Mr. Moreton thought that perhaps February 25 was a very early date for woodcock to nest, but Dr. George Lowery, Jr., in his book "Birds of Louisiana", 1955, states regarding the woodcock, "Local breeding pairs begin to go through their courtship antics in early January, the eggs are to be found soon thereafter, sometime in January, but more often in February."

The earliest previous records which we have for woodcocks nesting in Mississippi are for March. It is thought that winter is the normal season for their nesting here and that the late nests represent the second nesting after an earlier failure.

A Warbler Tragedy: Mrs. Ethel Floyd of Gulfport reported, September 25, 1957, that about daylight on September 24, a large number of migrant warblers flew into the downtown area with a conservative estimate of 1,000 being killed. She stated that she was in the area at 6 a.m. and saw the sidewalks covered in places with dead birds. Mrs. Floyd wrote: "As you know, our buildings are mostly one or two stories high, so I concluded that the birds must have been enroute when the sudden cold wave come that night and by the time they arrived here they were extremely tired and upon feeling the warm air from the streets and buildings, came in low and just sort of went wild.

"Most were yellow-throats, some Kentucky (the paper said all were Kentucky). Two yellow-breasted chats and a water thrush were among the ones I actually examined."

Mrs. Floyd kept in deep freeze and later brought to the Game and Fish Museum one yellow-breasted chat and several Maryland yellow-throats which were among those she picked up.

A First Record For Mississippi: On September 20, 1957, a tern, tentatively identified as a Sooty Tern, doubtless misplaced by hurricane Ester was found alive, but wounded, in a vacant lot in Canton, Mississippi, and donated by Roy Stephens to the Game and Fish Museum. Both wings were badly bruised. A study skin was prepared of this bird for the Museum collection, Cat. No. 4753. The specimen has been sent to Smithsonian Institution for positive identification. There is no known record of a previous occurrence of this species in Mississippi.

Cedar Waxwings Visit Museum Grounds: Cedar waxwings have visited Jackson in unusual numbers this year and have given bird lovers a treat by appearing in small groups all over town. Groups of from one to several hundred are also seen. Scarcely a tree or a shrub with berries escapes their ravages.

An interesting observation was made at the Game and Fish Commission Museum on March 6 when a flock of several hundred waxwings hovered in and around a pyracantha bush loaded with berries, which has provided a home for a pair of mockingbirds for several years. One of the mockingbirds, presumably the male, has been seen perched in this shrub daily for the entire time. When the waxwings came in he made a desperate effort to hold his ground and refused to leave until a sparrow hawk appeared among them, at which time he and the waxwings took flight, but the mockingbird soon returned to take up his abode. - Fannye A. Cook

Feeding Birds On the Nature Trail: The Jackson members of the MOS distributed grain along the Pearl River Bluff Nature Trail in Riverside Park, Jackson, twice a week during the winter months and urged local citizens to provide for birds around their doorways. R. M. Callaway, of the Callaway Yard and Garden Shop, and other proprietors of seed and feed stores say that there has been a tremendous increase this winter in the sales of wild bird feed in Jackson. This growing interest in birds has manifested itself in other ways. Numerous people have called to report the presence of unfamiliar birds at their feeding trays and to request identification. Almost daily articles appear in the local papers regarding the care of birds. Some thought is being given to the establishment of a municipal sanctuary in Jackson.

The following is a list of birds observed from the Nature Trail by MOS members during January and February: Turkey vulture, black vulture, red-tailed hawk, sparrow hawk, bob-white, killdeer, barred owl, kingfisher, flicker, pileated woodpecker, red-bellied woodpecker, red-headed woodpecker, yellow-bellied sapsucker, downy woodpecker, phoebe, blue jay, crow, chickadee, tufted titmouse, Carolina wren, mockingbird, brown thrasher, robin, bluebird, hermit thrush, ruby crowned kinglet, cedar waxwing, shrike, starling, myrtle warbler, English sparrow, meadowlark, purple grackle, bronzed grackle, cowbird, cardinal, purple finch, goldfinch, towhee, junco, field sparrow, white-throated sparrow, fox sparrow, swamp sparrow, song sparrow.

During early February, when snow and ice covered the ground, more towhees, cardinals, fox sparrows, and song sparrows were seen, and the field sparrows put in their appearance. - Fannye A. Cook.

Annual Meeting: The annual meeting of the MOS will soon be coming up so put this down on your agenda. At this writing plans and program are incomplete but we have been meeting with the Mississippi Academy of Sciences and this meeting is to be held in Jackson at Millsaps College, April 25 and 26th.