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## THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

In this year, when we are so critically measuring the development of the many facets of our country with others, it is of special interest to us to critically look at the development of our Alabama Ornithological Society.

Look at this issue of "Alabama Birdlife!" No longer do one or two people write all of the articles. The editor doesn't have to rewrite most of the issue. Members are realizing that their field work is interesting to others and they are writing about it and sharing it with others. As this continues, "Alabama Birdlife" will expand and appear quarterly, as was our original intention.

Our membership list has decreased slightly. Now it consists of interested members whereas it once contained a number of charter joiners who quickly dropped out. The members we add now are interested in the organization.

Our members, who answered a recent questionnaire, indicated mostly that they were interested in more organized or cooperative study projects and that they were willing to help with the work of the organization. Because they so indicated, we are to have a nationally known speaker, Charles L. Broley, at our spring meeting. All of this shows a much more mature attitude, indicating that the A.O.S. has passed the bird club stage and is becoming more of an ornithological society.

## A COMPARISON OF WATERBIRDS AT U. S. FISH HATCHERY AND LAKELAND FARM NEAR MARION, ALABAMA

By LOIS McCOLLOUGH

Since moving to Marion in August, 1954, I have found a wealth of waterbirds almost at my door at the Lakeland Farm and the Fish Hatchery. From September, 1954, to March, 1957, 52 field trips were made totalling 80 hours at the Fish Hatchery, and 49 field trips totalling 105 hours at Lakeland Farm. The populations at these two localities change frequently, every field trip revealing an unexpected find.

A comparison of the bird populations at the Fish Hatchery and Lakeland Farm and some of the factors which influence the population in the two areas is presented in this paper.

The U. S. Fish Cultural Station or Fish Hatchery is six miles north of Marion and lies in rolling foothills. The surrounding territory is heavily wooded with pine and deciduous trees. The area behind the Fish Hatchery is swampy bottom land. The Blue-gill ponds are drained in October, a slow process which lasts all winter. As the ponds are drained, mud flats are formed which provide excellent feeding grounds for waterbirds, mainly snipe and sandpipers. The Blue-gill ponds are filled beginning in February, leaving no mud flats to induce migrating sandpipers and plovers to stop over. The pond edges are burned in February, and thus cover for rails is lost. The bass ponds are full in winter and are drained in early summer, so they are dry in the fall. Thus some of the 55 ponds in use are full at any time of the year. The largest pond where most of the wintering ducks occur is usually left half full during January and February. Some herons, grebes, and Ospreys are shot at the Fish Hatchery.

Lakeland Farm lies four miles southeast of Marion in the upper part of the Black Belt and is privately owned. Ducks are shot during the hunting season and large numbers of fishermen are present over weekends. There are 20 lakes, the water level fluctuating with the amount of rainfall. The land is very open with small patches of woods and fence rows, the fields are planted in grain, alfalfa and clover. There is very little cover around the edges of most of the ponds.

The fall of 1954-55 was dry, so that the lakes and ponds were shallow. Much rain fell in the spring of 1955 making roads to Lakeland Farm almost impassable. The fall of 1955-56 was wet, and grass was high at the Fish Hatchery and Lakeland Farm. In the spring the lakes were quite full at Lakeland Farm. Ponds and lakes were very low in the fall of 1956-57, leaving large mud flats. Since January of 1957, the lakes have been at a very high level, due to the great amount of rain during the spring.

The effect of the conditions on the waterbird populations can be seen in the following table comparing the Fish Hatchery and Lakeland Farm.

In summary, I found that herons including egrets and bitterns are about equally common at both areas. No mass predation on fish at the hatchery was evident. Food studies furnish the answer; herons eat many other aquatic animals such as frogs, reptiles, crawfish, and insects.

As expected, dabbling ducks are most abundant on shallow hatchery ponds while diving ducks preferred the deeper Lakeland Farm ponds, in spite of hunting pressure.

Available mudflats definitely attracted more shorebirds to the hatchery although Lakeland Farm furnished a reasonable amount of observations.

Indications are that the hatchery is preferred by gulls and terns, but not enough records are available to make this a definite statement.

424 Judson Street  
Marion, Alabama

TABLE 1 COMPARISON OF WATERBIRDS AT U. S. FISH HATCHERY AND LAKELAND FARM

Species	Locality	Sea-son	No. of Records	Fish Hatchery		Lakeland Farm		Remarks
				No. of Most Seen	Date	No. of Most Seen	Date	
Common Loon	F	FT	1	1	Nov. 18, 56			
Horned Grebe	L	WV	40	25	Sept. 22, 55	2	Feb. 16, 57	
Pied-billed Grebe	---	PR				35	Oct. 27, 56	
Double-crested Cormorant	---	S & FT	3	3	April 20, 56	4	Oct. 23, 55	Greatest number found in fall.
Great Blue Heron	---	PR	31	4	Feb. 27, 55	32	Dec. 12, 54	One winter record for Fish Hatchery Dec. 22, 56.
American Egret	L	SFW	12	10	Oct. 13, 56	27	Oct. 9, 54	Shot at Fish Hatchery.
Little Blue Heron	F	SF	11	25	May 20, 56	4	Sept. 16, 56	Probably breeds near by, number of immature seen in May.
Green Heron	F	Mar.-Oct.	13	6	May 5, 56	8	May 24, 56	Breeds.
Black-crowned Night Heron	F	WV	2	2	Dec. 27, 56			
Yellow-crowned Night Heron	L	FW	1	1	Dec. 31, 56			
American Bittern	L	F	1	1	Nov. 1, 56	3	Jan.-Sept.-Oct.	
Least Bittern	F	S	2	1	Sept. 29, 55			
Wood Ibis	---	SuF	3	19	May 1 & 5, 56	4	Oct. 27, 56	In same locality both times. 2 Nov. 1, 56, at Fish Hatchery latest for state.
White Ibis	F	F	1	2	Oct. 1954	1	Sept. 22, 56	Immature.
Canada Goose	F	F				1	Nov. 10, 56	1 immature, 1 adult.
Blue Goose	L	F	23	350	Nov. 30, 56	7	Nov. 16, 56	1 late male at Fish Hatchery June 1, 56.
Mallard	F	SFWR						
Black Duck	F	WR	5	15	Nov. 30, 56			
Gadwall	F	SFW	12	34	Jan. 26, 57	8	Oct. 16, 54	Winter resident.
Pintail	F	WR	12	30	Feb. 4, 56	1	Feb. 16, 57	
Green-winged Teal	F	Nov.-Feb.	14	150	Jan. 8, 56	4	Nov. 16, 56	Winter resident at Fish Hatchery.
Blue-winged Teal	F	Sept.-May	24	75	Sept. 25, 56	14	Sept. 16, 56	

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Species	Local-ity	Sea-son	Fish Hatchery			Lakeland Farm			Remarks
			No. of Records	Most Seen	Date	No. of Records	Most Seen	Date	
American Widgeon	---	Oct.-Mar.	12	60	Nov. 30, 56	14	125	Feb. 11, 56 Feb. 17, 56	Winter resident at Fish Hatchery.
Shoveller	---	WV	6	10	Mar. 4, 56	5	11	Feb. 16, 57	
Wood Duck	F	SF	7	16	Oct. 20, 56				Breeds. 3 ducklings May 20, 56
Redhead	F	FWV	5	10	Jan. 2, 55	2	2	Nov. 5, 55	
Ring-necked Duck	---	Sept.-April	20	150	Dec. 12, 54	20	250	Jan. 2, 55	
Canvas-back	L	FWV	1	5	Jan. 26, 57	5	6	Nov. 12, 54	Nov.-Jan. at Lakeland Farm.
Lesser Scaup	L	Nov.-April	5	12	Nov. 13, 55	14	67	Mar. 2, 56	
American Goldeneye	L	Nov.-April	3	8	Dec. 10, 55	6	4	Feb. 12, 55	A single female spent winter of '54-'55 at Lakeland Farm.
Bufflehead	L	Dec.-Mar.				8	8	Mar. 12, 55	
Old Squaw	L	Jan.-Mar.				2	1	Jan. 26, 57 Mar. 1, 57	Rare this far south.
Ruddy Duck	L	Sept.-May	1	1	Dec. 10, 55	26	5	Dec. 1, 56	Male spent summer at Lakeland Farm in 1956.
Hooded Merganser	---	Oct.-April	8	32	Dec. 31, 55	6	3	Oct. 23, 54	Found on largest pond at Fish Hatchery. Winter resident at Hatchery.
Common Merganser	L	WV				1	1	Dec. 21, 56	Rare this far south.
Red-breasted Merganser	L	WV				1	5	Dec. 4, 54	Rare inland.
King Rail	L	Sept.-May	2	1	Jan. 29, 55 Sept. 27, 56	3	3	May 24, 56	Probably permanent resident
Virginia Rail	F	Jan. Feb. Sept. Nov.	5	2	Nov. 1, 56	2	1	Feb. 22, 57 Mar. 3, 57	Rare winter resident.
Florida Gallinule	---	FV	2	2	Oct. 15, 55 Nov. 13, 55	1	1	Sept. 29, 55	Rare visitor
Coot	F	Sept.-May	40	105	April 20, 56	30	82	Oct. 27, 56	
Semipalmated Plover	F	SFT	3	10	May 17, 56 May 20, 56				
Killdeer	---	PR	43	200	Nov. 1, 56	37	330	Feb. 22, 57	Abundant winter resident. Breeds.
Black-bellied Plover	F	FT	1	1	Oct. 3, 54				Uncommon inland.
Wilson's Snipe	F	Sept.-April	20	275	Nov. 18, 56	17	35	Feb. 8, 57	Mainly in late fall.
Spotted Sandpiper	F	SFT	4	2	May 5, 56	2	4	May 1, 56	
Solitary Sandpiper	F	SFT	6	2	Feb. 27, 55 Oct. 15, 55	3	10	Oct. 9, 54	
Greater Yellowlegs	---	SFT	11	7	Oct. 27, 56	9	7	Nov. 10, 56	
Lesser Yellowlegs	L	SFT	4	26	April 30, 55	7	12	Oct. 23, 54	
Willet	F	ST	1	19	April 30, 55				Uncommon inland in spring.
Pectoral Sandpiper	F	Sept.-Nov., April-May	12	15	Oct. 15, 56	7	30	Sept. 29, 56	
White-rumped Sandpiper	---	SFT	1	2	May 17, 56	2	9	Oct. 16, 54 Oct. 23, 54	Rare
Least Sandpiper	F	Sept.-May	29	110	Feb. 23, 57	11	42	Oct. 14, 56	Winter resident
Long-Billed Dowitcher	---	Oct., Feb.	1	2	Feb. 23, 57	1	1	Oct. 14, 56	
Semipalmated Sandpiper	---	SFT	7	30	Nov. 1, 56	7	25	Oct. 9, 54 Oct. 27, 56	
Northern Phalarope	L	FT				1	1	Oct. 9, 54	Only two other Alabama records.
Herring Gull	F	SFT	2	1	April 5, 56 Oct. 27, 56				Observed only during rain.
Ring-billed Gull	F	WV	3	9	March 26, 55	2	1	Feb. 11, 56 Dec. 22, 56	Observed only during rain.
Bonapartes Gull	F	WV	1	1	Dec. 22, 56				Rare away from Gulf and Tennessee River.
Black Tern	---	SFT	2	5	June 1, 56	1	1	Sept. 2, 55	

(1) F Fish Hatchery—majority of records.  
L Lakeland Farm—majority of records.  
--- No clear majority of records.

(2) F Fall.  
S Spring.  
W Winter.

PR Permanent resident.  
T Transient.  
V Visitor.  
Su Summer.

## A WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE RECORD FOR ALABAMA

By THOMAS Z. ATKESON

White-fronted geese are fairly common from Louisiana westward, but are rare east of the Mississippi River. Arthur H. Howell's "Birds of Alabama" cites no record but states only that the bird may sometimes occur in this State. Thomas A. Imhof, in the course of rewriting this book, has combed the State for records but found none except a statement from a fisherman at Coden that he shot a strange goose in the fall of 1955 that fitted the description of a white-front. However, there is one old sight record made at the Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge in 1942. Since this stands alone, it was considered best to document it as thoroughly as possible. With this in view, old diaries, notes, and reports at the refuge office were examined and Paul Bryan, of the Tennessee Valley Authority's Fish and Game Division, has done the same with his records.

In the early afternoon of March 11, 1942, the writer saw a flock of 27 small, dark geese feeding in a field of young oats near the mouth of Cave Springs Branch. This is a bottomland field, bounded on the north by the Tennessee River and on the south by Garth Slough and located in the northern edge of Morgan County about five miles east of Decatur. The birds were identified as white-fronts, and the writer returned to the refuge office and reported the incident to the manager and other personnel. On March 12 he again visited the field and again found the geese. On March 13, in company with the late Robert J. Wheeler, then a Conservation Department biologist, and J. B. Barbaree, then State warden assigned to Morgan County and now a supervisor of conservation officers stationed at Union Springs, the field was again visited and the geese again examined carefully.

On March 14 the field was again visited, this time in company with Bryan, and the flock was still present. On March 15 the writer left the refuge to enter military service, but Bryan's notes showed that he visited the field alone on that date and saw seven of the birds.

None of the observers concerned doubted the identification. The geese were seen at times at distances no greater than 75 yards through good 7 x 35 B. & L. binoculars. They were seen on land, in flight, and on

water, and were frequently heard calling. They were carefully checked against a Peterson's Field Guide and other reference books. At the time of the observation Canada geese were present in the same locality. Blue geese and snow geese, in both juvenile and adult plumages, had been present throughout the late fall. The blotched bellies, the white bands at bases of bills, and the distinctive calls ruled out the possibility that these were juvenile blue geese. The writer had some familiarity with white-fronted geese, having examined them at close range in Louisiana.

The question has been posed why, with refuge employees aware of the rarity of this bird in the East, no specimen was taken. Personnel have always been reluctant to collect on the sanctuary, since this is subject to misunderstanding by the public. The writer was preparing to leave for military service. Then, too, Wheeler was, at that time, just beginning to build up a regular concentration of wintering geese. It was assumed that the white-fronts, having found the sanctuary, would return. Through the years following, the wintering goose flock on Wheeler Refuge has gradually increased until it numbers over 20,000. These have been regularly and carefully scanned for the possible inclusion of white-fronts, but none have been found.

Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge  
Decatur, Alabama

## CATTLE EGRET, A NEW BIRD IN ALABAMA

By JAMES E. KEELER

A male Cattle Egret, *Bulbulcus ibis*, was collected by the author on November 8, 1957. This represents a new bird record for Alabama. The bird was observed standing about five feet from the edge of the pavement at the mouth of Chocalata Bay, two miles east of the drawbridge on the Mobile Causeway in Baldwin County. The bird showed no fear of the hundreds of automobiles and trucks passing within ten feet of it.

The author first passed by before realizing that the bird merited a second look. The first impression was that of a sick Snowy Egret. After turning around and approaching to within 1,000 feet of the bird, an Adult Little Blue Heron flew to within three feet of it and stopped. It was then apparent then that the bird was not a Snowy Egret since it was considerably smaller than the Little Blue Heron. The head feathers of the Cattle Egret were roughed-up in much the same manner that is so commonly displayed by adult Egrets and Herons when approaching their nesting sites.

The bird was collected and the specimen will be deposited in the collection of the University of Alabama. The food contents were examined and contained the following: Brown Crickets, 2; Mole Cricket, 1; Earwigs, 6; Ground Beetle, 1; Slug, 1. No aquatic insects or crustaceans were present.

It is the author's opinion that this bird was blown in by a storm. A violent wind and rain storm covered the area during the night before the bird was collected. High winds continued until noon on November 8. Direction of the wind was from the south-south west. The author made numerous trips along the Causeway on November 7, while collecting duck-kill information and the Cattle Egret was not seen on that date.

The bird was snow-white with the exception of a blending of buff on the back of the head. This was not seen until the bird was held in the hand. The bright yellow bill should be the best identifying mark for this species in the field. The only other Heron or Egret with this mark is the much larger American Egret which could not possibly be confused with it due to its large size. The remaining Herons and Egrets have either dark or bi-colored bills.

State of Alabama, Department of Conservation  
Montgomery, Alabama

## CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS, ALABAMA, 1957

Compiled by THOMAS A. IMHOF and LOIS MCCOLLOUGH

Species	Dauphin Island	Marion	Birmingham		Year
			1957	Highest No.	
Common Loon	18	2	1	1	4 yrs.
Horned Grebe	394			5	1942
Pied-billed Grebe	8	39	84	113	1956
White Pelican	6				
Brown Pelican	2				
Double-crested Cormorant	585	1		1	1943
Great Blue Heron	37	8	4	6	'49 & '55
Little Blue Heron	3				
Common Egret	2				
Louisiana Heron	5				
Black-crowned Night Heron	3	1			
Mallard	2	87	2	240	1942
Black Duck	11	1		11	1948
Gadwall	13	19		25	1947
Green-winged Teal		4		15	1943
Am. Widgeon (Baldpate)	2	2		10	1948
Ring-necked Duck	2	49	100	1,100	1941
Canvasback	4	2	31	59	1955
Greater Scaup	52				
Lesser Scaup	1,850	19	57	802	1942
Common Goldeneye	213		1	2	1955
Bufflehead	1			4	1943
Common (Am.) Scoter	8				
Ruddy Duck		3	2	150	1942
Red-breasted Merganser	173		2	2 tie	1956
Turkey Vulture	6	39		16	1947
Black Vulture	17	59		6	1947
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1			2	1952
Cooper's Hawk	1		5	5	1957
Red-tailed Hawk	2	4	4	14	1953
Red-shouldered Hawk	5	4	6	7	1955
Bald Eagle	1				
Marsh Hawk	8	2	1	1	11 yrs.
Pigeon Hawk	1		1		
					first count recorded
Sparrow Hawk	21	7	9	9	1957
Bob-white	7		20	48	1954
Clapper Rail	44				
Virginia Rail	2				
Sora	3	1			
Common (Fla.) Gallinule	2				
Am. Coot		17	365	15,000	1942
Am. Oystercatcher	2				
Piping Plover	117				
Semipalmated Plover	57				
Snowy Plover	3				
Killdeer	13	565	230	230	1957
Black-bellied Plover	194				
Ruddy Turnstone	122				
Am. Woodcock	2				
Common (Wilson's) Snipe	2	137	16	34	1956
Spotted Sandpiper	2				
Willet	5				

Species	Dauphin Island	Marion	Birmingham		
			1957	Highest No.	Year
Greater Yellowlegs	22				
Least Sandpiper	9	145		22	1956
Dunlin (Red-back)	631				
Dowitcher	16				
Semipalmated Sandpiper	10				
Western Sandpiper	154				
Sanderling	76				
Herring Gull	345			7	1952
Ring-billed Gull	672			2	1950
Laughing Gull	521				
Forster's Tern	11				
Common Tern	1				
Royal Tern	81				
Caspian Tern	200				
(Unidentified Gulls & Terns)	1,250				
Black Skimmer	140				
Mourning Dove	29	6	313	313	1957
Ground Dove	4				
Barn Owl	1				
Screech Owl		1		1	5 yrs.
Great Horned Owl	1	2		2	3 yrs.
Barred Owl		6	1	1	9 yrs.
Long-Eared Owl		1			
Whip-poor-will	3				
Belted Kingfisher	34	10	16	16	1957
Yellow-shafted Flicker	24	29	78	82	1955
Pileated Woodpecker	2	4	20	20 tie	1947
Red-bellied Woodpecker	18	44	43	43	1957
Red-headed Woodpecker		11	6	31	'50 & '53
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	4	4	17	17	1957
Hairy Woodpecker	5	3	11	12	'44 & '45
Downy Woodpecker	6	7	30	34	1952
Red-Cockaded Woodpecker	1		4	12	1953
Western Kingbird	1				
Eastern Phoebe	31	15	5	8	1956
Horned Lark		355		14	1955
Tree Swallow	530				
Rough-winged Swallow	1				
Blue Jay	75	40	166	166	1957
Common Crow	16	470	117	117	1957
Fish Crow	358				
Carolina Chickadee	8	21	107	112	'52 & '53
Tufted Titmouse	9	19	86	88	1952
White-breasted Nuthatch			38	38	1957
Red-breasted Nuthatch			4	13	1953
Brown-headed Nuthatch	12	2	45	45	1957
Brown Creeper	1		2	12	1949
House Wren	27	2	2	3	1950
Winter Wren		10	7	19	1943
Bewick's Wren	5	5	3	10	1953
Carolina Wren	42	26	64	107	1952
Long-billed Marsh Wren	14	1			
Short-billed Marsh Wren	59	1		4	1952
Mockingbird	87	35	212	212	1957
Catbird	5	3		3	1956

Species	Dauphin Island	Marion	Birmingham		
			1957	Highest No.	Year
Brown Thrasher	56	31	18	21	1943
Robin	400	378	483	483	1957
Hermit Thrush	14	14	21	38	1952
Eastern Bluebird	162	50	72	158	1952
Blue-grey Gnatcatcher	13	2			
Golden-crowned Kinglet	5	14	83	219	1946
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	23	46	71	125	1956
Water Pipit	41	271	42	220	1952
Cedar Waxwing	48	40	310	397	1948
Loggerhead Shrike	46	27	20	24	1955
Starling	41	268	18,400	18,400	1957
Solitary Vireo	1			1	1955
Orange-crowned Warbler	5	1		1	1949
Myrtle Warbler	1,100	165	70	117	1955
Pine Warbler	80	3	27	67	1955
Palm Warbler	18	3	4	15	1946
Yellowthroat	27	7	3	5	1940
House Sparrow	23	160	350	388	1934
Eastern Meadowlark	87	188	322	533	1949
Western Meadowlark	1	2			
Red-winged Blackbird	1,300	4	233	800	1951
Rusty Blackbird	37	37	153	5,000	1953
Brewer's Blackbird	7				
Boat-tailed Grackle	7				
Common Grackle	15	70	114	15,000	1950
Brown-headed Cowbird	35	1	118	554	1956
Cardinal	112	126	333	333	1957
Black-headed Grosbeak	1				
Purple Finch	2	1	138	186	1949
Pine Siskin		2	7	51	1949
Am. Goldfinch	117	19	376	495	1954
Rufous-sided Towhee	108	83	266	300	1955
Savannah Sparrow	32	145	29	78	1946
Sharp-tailed Sparrow	24				
Seaside Sparrow	18				
Vesper Sparrow		16	15	41	1951
Bachman's Sparrow	3	5		6	1950
Slate-colored Junco	12	27	814	814	1957
Chipping Sparrow	18	27	110	188	1949
Field Sparrow	20	76	292	361	1956
White-crowned Sparrow	2	42	4	47	1953
White-throated Sparrow	141	322	691	691	1957
Fox Sparrow		11	28	28	1957
Lincoln's Sparrow		2			
Swamp Sparrow	83	75	48	139	1953
Song Sparrow	27	105	158	278	1956
Lapland Longspur		65			
Smith's Longspur		1			
Total Species	137	95	80		
Total Individuals	13,900		26,500		
Observers	8	4	21		
Parties	5	2	6		
Party-hours	42	20	52 1/2		
Party-miles	250	70	209		
Date, December, 1957	21	27	28		
Number of years taken	2	3	22		

(All 3 counts, 154)

Names of Observers (B—B'ham, D—Dauphin, M—Marion): Ruth Brunson B, Frederick T. Carney B, Blanche H. Chapman B, Ruth Copeland B, F. Bozeman Daniel B, Blanche E. Dean B, Mildred Ferris B, Peggy Friedman B, M. Wilson Gaillard D, Rosemary Gaymer D, Emmylou Grimley B, Ellen Heine D, Dan C. Holliman B & M, Thomas A. Imhof D & M & B, Electa D. Levi D, Lois McCollough D & M & B, Clustie McTyeire M & B, Morton H. Perry B, Robert Perry B, M. F. Prather B, Dorothy Roberts B, Idalene F. Snead B, Grace Snead B, Ava R. Tabor D, Edwin O. Willis D, Harriet H. Wright B, Larry Wright B. (Total 27 observers, 3 from Louisiana and 1 from Ontario.)

The following more unusual observations deserve comment: Brown Pelican (Numbers on the Gulf Coast have been greatly reduced and many thoughtful ornithologists in the area blame Audrey and the 2 subsequent near-hurricanes.) Common Scoter (Flock of 8 seen in Mobile Bay from the Heron Bay Cutoff Bridge at the Cedar Point Lab by Imhof). Spotted Sandpiper (One seen by Ed Willis at Cedar Point, the other by Imhof and Gaillard in Coden Bayou. These are the 3rd and 4th winter records for Alabama.) Long-eared Owl (One seen and heard by McCollough and McTyeire in pines at the Marion Fish Hatchery). Whip-poor-will (3 heard calling and seen hawking insects from the tips of pines at dusk at Coden—the 6th winter record for Alabama; by Imhof and Gaillard). Western Kingbird (One seen by Tabor and Levi at Ft. Gaines on Dauphin, the first winter record for Alabama). Rough-winged Swallow (One picked out of the numerous Tree Swallows flying over the marsh near Cedar Point, by Lois McCollough). Western Meadowlark (With careful watching this species will probably prove to be present in Alabama every winter.) McCollough saw and heard one singing near Bellingrath Gardens, and Imhof saw one and heard another singing at Lakeland Farm. Both observers collaborated in collecting the first specimen for the state last year at Marion, and are acquainted with the field marks of the species and also the song. These 2 records are the 2nd and 3rd for this winter in Alabama, the other at Ft. Morgan, Nov. 29 (Stevenson and Monroe). Brewer's Blackbird (Flock seen near Bellingrath Gardens by McCollough. This species is actually more common than the Rusty Blackbird on the coast of Alabama. The birds invariably flock by themselves, and occur in pastures, parks, freshly-plowed land, and around farm animals like the

Cowbird. This winter they have also been recorded from Elberta; Barachias, Montgomery Co. and Lamison, Wilcox Co.). Black-headed Grosbeak (One male seen twice by Tabor and Levi near the school on Dauphin. Miss Tabor had one to spend the winter last year at her feeder in Thibodaux, La.) Lincoln's Sparrow (Two birds at the Marion Fish Hatchery mean that this is the second winter that they are wintering there, probably the farthest east that the species winters regularly.) Smith's Longspur (Third record for Alabama, seen by Imhof and Holliman among the Lapland Longspurs at Lakeland Farm. The other 2 records include a specimen collected by Imhof at Robert's Field in Birmingham).

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397 38th Street  
Fairfield, Alabama



**MEMBERSHIP OF THE ALABAMA ORNITHOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY, JANUARY 1, 1958**

Mr. William H. Adams, Jr. \_\_\_\_\_ Wildlife Bldg., API, Auburn, Ala.  
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 Mrs. S. L. Worley \_\_\_\_\_ 411 Martin St., Scottsboro, Ala.  
 Mrs. D. O. Wright \_\_\_\_\_ Rt. 13, Box 236, Birmingham, Ala.

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## OBITUARY

### JULIAN M. RICE

Julian M. Rice, well known Montgomery bird-lover, died on January 27, 1958, after a short illness. He was 70 years old and he had been a lifelong resident of Montgomery.

Mr. Rice had contributed the column "Bird Notes" to the Montgomery Advertiser for several years. He organized the Montgomery Audubon Society of which he was a former president. He set aside some land in Lowndes County as a bird sanctuary.