

Wren which we have found in two places on Keuka Lake. On Dec. 4th I was amazed to see *two Bewick* wrens in my own yard. I was away a few days and did not see them again, probably one was the bird she saw."

That we have had so few records of this Wren in the past, and these three reports within a year suggests that the Bewick's Wren may be extending its range and perhaps should be placed high on the list of birds to watch for during the coming season.

It is possible that this report will bring out hitherto unknown records for the State either in the form of skins or as sight records.

Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell, Univ.

CONSERVATION NEWS

Cormorant Bill

The Cormorant Bill passed the New York State Senate and Assembly, and has been signed by the Governor. Thus, the Double-crested Cormorant and the Common or European Cormorant are protected birds under Section 203 of the New York State Conservation Law. We again wish to thank Hi Clements for laying the groundwork, President Harold Mitchell for his support, Messrs. Alvin G. Whitney and Samuel Adams for appearing before committees in Albany, and all the members of the Federation, who responded in behalf of the Cormorant.

More Dam Business

During the very last hours of the New York State Legislature, a bill was passed authorizing the construction of Panther Mountain Dam. This was done without warning, and our real fight will be next year, when the bill must be passed again.

Echo Park Dam in Dinosaur National Monument has received the approval of President Eisenhower and it is now up to Congress to act. If we wish to prevent a dangerous precedent of having our National Parks and Monuments violated by special interest groups, we must write our U. S. Senators and Representatives in strong protest. Echo Park Dam will be only one of a series of dams, which are being planned for this scenic area.

Stanley Oliver Grierson, Conservation Chairman.

FEDERATION NEWS

Our next annual meeting will be held Aug. 28-29 at Ithaca, New York. Hosts will be the Laboratory of Ornithology at Cornell University, The Cayuga Bird Club and the Cornell Field Ornithology Club. The Chairman of the Program Committee for this meeting is Dr. Peter Paul Kellogg.

The Cornell University Press, 124 Roberts Place, Ithaca, released on March 15 a record called, *The Mockingbird Sings*. One individual Mockingbird imitates, with near perfection, the songs of more than thirty species. Price \$2.50.

Hi Clements has just received word from Mrs. Joseph F. Weiler, treasurer of the Baldwin Bird Club, that the Veterans Bird Club of the Northport Veterans Hospital is no longer in existence.

On behalf of the Federation I wish to thank Mr. Charles Spiker, Dr. Foster Gambrell, Mr. Frazer Turrentine, Mr. James Barlow and Mr. John Belknap for their fine past work of regional editing.

Here is a proposed timetable of operations for *The Kingbird*. What do you think of it?

<i>Regional Report Coverage</i>	<i>Deadline to Kingbird</i>	<i>Approx. Publ. Date</i>	<i>Issue Number</i>
Dec., Jan., Feb., March	April 15	May 15	No. 1—May Issue
April, May	June 15	July 15	No. 2—July Issue
June, July	Sept. 15	Oct. 15	No. 3—Oct. Issue
Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov.	Dec. 15	Jan. 15	No. 4—Jan. Issue

STATE BOOK COMMITTEE REPORT

The *State Bird Book Sub-Committee*, under chairmanship of Dr. Gordon M. Meade, would like to have each club conduct at least one breeding bird census in their area following the suggestions outlined in *Audubon Field Notes*, April 1950, Vol. IV, No. 2, page 185.

The purpose of the request is to introduce more people to the techniques of such a census and to start the gathering of data on breeding birds of New York.

The committee has been working on various criteria for validating records and wishes to publish at this time the criteria which will be used to evaluate breeding records.

This classification, in diminishing order of acceptability, applies to evidence of breeding.

Acceptable

1. Pair of birds seen, with nest discovered, and young flying or ready to fly. (evidence of success and location)
2. Nest and flying young discovered. (evidence of location but not complete success)
3. Young fledged, just on wing, not capable of prolonged flight. (evidence of success but not exact location)
4. Nest with young unquestionably identified. (evidence of location and incomplete success)
5. Nest with eggs unquestionably identified. (evidence of location and incomplete success)
6. Occupied nest, or nest with incubating bird and evidence of actual incubation. (evidence of location and incomplete success)
7. Identifiable nest of the year with evidence of breeding use. (evidence of attempt, known location)
8. Identifiable dead nestlings — no nest or parent birds found. (evidence of failure, general location)