

Myrtle Warblers, both subsisting on the fair crop of bayberries (Myrica). Several records of Brown-capped Chickadees came in, one of two present at North Hills into mid-March. Several Mockingbirds were seen; a few Bluebirds wintered; Pipits were scarce — the latest; one at Orient, Dec. 23. Orange-crowned Warblers appeared at Babylon and Manhasset, and a Western Tanager was observed at a feeding station at Locust Valley into early April (Mrs. E. Wright).

FINCHES — SPARROWS: Cardinals were fairly common and appeared to winter well. Evening Grosbeaks were casually reported to the first of the year. Pine Grosbeaks and Redpolls infrequently reported, but Red and White-winged Crossbills were abundant into the new year with drastic reduction of numbers by late January. The Ipswich Sparrow was regular at Short Beach; three were reported around Jamaica Bay and several elsewhere in spite of sterile conditions on the outer beaches. Early optimistic reports of Snow Buntings faded with poor feeding conditions and the latest record was a lone bird, March 12, at Atlantic Beach. A few Lapland Longspurs were reported in late fall, but apparently didn't linger.

3994 Park Ave., Seaford, Long Island, New York.

Notes From Here and There

COOPER'S HAWKS

This winter we had two extremely good opportunities to study hawks at close hand.

In January, I discovered a Sharp-shinned Hawk in the largest of the poultry houses. It had found its way into one of the top-floor windows, but evidently was too puzzled by the tip-up to make an exit. I was able to corner and pick it up. We banded it that evening and released it the following day.

The hawk showed absolutely no fear of humans, and its heartbeat during handling was not obviously increased, as seems to be the case with many smaller species of birds which we have raised. It seemed quite content to perch the afternoon out in a large aviary in our kitchen. The interest it displayed whenever the refrigerator and oven doors were opened was extremely amusing. Evidently the automatic lights in the daytime proved an irresistible attraction. When it was turned loose in the house, Mrs. Carr had no difficulty in retrieving it from the floor or from the backs of chairs where it perched. Human-raised, probably?

Again, on February 18th, I found a hawk, this time a Cooper's, under similar circumstances. This fellow was intent on making short shrift of one of our plump Leghorn hens. Early in his career of predation, he must have feasted — with, no doubt, a great deal of opposition — on a rabbit. A thong of rabbit skin with some fur still adhering to the hide was wound around the toes of one foot. So tightly had the hawk's toes become interlaced that two toes had atrophied and dropped off.

About six inches of the thong still dangled hazardously, but the contact portion of the hide was so deeply imbedded and so steel-hardened that I had no choice but to cut partially into the toes to remove it. Some slight bleeding occurred, but apparently no serious damage resulted. This chap was also fearless but certainly not tame. We took several good snapshots after banding him. Since his release, we have observed two of his species

constantly together, and we hope they have decided to nest in our woods, as they follow the same route back and forth each day at approximately the same hours. Happy hunting to them, say I!

Wilbur P. Carr, Ferndale, N. Y.

A NEW ALLEN-KELLOGG RECORD

Cornell University Records, 124 Roberts Place, Ithaca, New York, has recently published a second issue of *American Bird Songs*. Sixty of the songs of our most familiar birds plus an additional twenty-eight in the background were placed on one long playing record. Most recordings were made since 1942 when the first issue was released.

The excellence of this recent issue is a tribute to the authors and to modern techniques of recording.

NEW EDITION OF CONSERVATION BIBLIOGRAPHY AVAILABLE

The second edition of the popular "*Bibliography of Free and Inexpensive Materials for Teaching Conservation and Resource-use*" by Muriel Beuschlein has been published by the Conservation Project of the National Association of Biology Teachers. Copies are available at ten cents with 20% discount on orders of 100 or more, from the Project Leader, Dr. Richard L. Weaver, P. O. Box 2073, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

The revised bibliography will be Chapter XII in "*Handbook on Teaching Conservation and Resource-use*" which was prepared by the Conservation Project Committee and which will be released early in 1955. The Handbook contains descriptions of over one hundred school projects or programs in conservation and resource-use from thirty states. It will assist teachers in planning for classroom and club programs; school ground and community projects; for elementary and secondary children. Advance orders can be placed with the Project Leader. It will cost \$4.00 per copy, with a 20% discount to teachers and schools. Proceeds from the sale of the Handbook will be used to locate additional descriptions for use in later editions of the Handbook.

THE CAT REPRINT

The Federation does not intend to campaign against cats as some readers may have gathered from the January *Kingbird* insert. A portion of one of several letters to the editor concerning this article is shown below.

"I sincerely hope that you were not personally responsible for the irrational, emotional diatribe against cats that I found inserted in my January *Kingbird*. I consider this sort of writing unfortunate at best, but that it should be deliberately circulated among the membership of an organization as varied as ours is doubly unfortunate. We have many members with enough training in economic zoology or in semantics to recognize this broadside for the carefully calculated appeal to the emotions that it is. It is loaded with what are called 'weighted words' . . . 'purring', pampered predator' . . . 'princely pest' . . . 'the most vicious and cruel killer'."

"There might be some justification for such misinformation in 1949; there is *none* for its reprinting and circulation in 1955. I call your attention to pages 82 to 86 of Bob Eadie's new book *Animal Control in Field, Farm and Forest* (Macmillan, 1954), where a summary of *scientific* surveys of the diet of vagrant house cats is presented, *without* any emotional advance bias. It is soon obvious that the true situation is almost the reverse of that pictured by our good 'country doctor', with the proviso that the doctor was correct in considering the cat to be a minor predator of the Norway Rat. Rodents are the major, birds a minor portion of the diet of vagrant cats. This is not based on 'undercover autopsies performed beneath shaded lights' in a cellar, but on careful, accurate analyses by trained technicians whose results are available in published form for any interested investigator."

KINGBIRD TIMETABLE

<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
