

distributed over Jones Beach in the form of cats, rats, mink, Marsh Hawks, and, probably, an occasional fox. There appear to be no reports of snapping turtles around the pond area; the only reptiles are a pale, sandy colored hog-nosed snake (sometimes locally called "beach adder"), and an occasional black snake. Another presumable deterrent to nesting is the continual chemical fogging of the play areas, including tracts of shrubbery. These are around Jones Beach Tower at the end of the Wantagh Causeway and include agricultural plantations on loam fill formerly brought across the bay from the main island. Birds affected by the chemicals are Catbirds, Thrashers, Robins, Yellow Warblers, Red-wings, and Song Sparrows.

There appears to be no infiltration of more northern species of either land or water birds, and from all indications Jones Beach could never boast of a widely diversified list of breeding land birds, at least not in recent years.

Jones Beach is easily approached by three causeways. Two parking fields, one on the east and one on the west, afford good viewing of ocean birds in winter. Several more provide additional observation posts in summer. Parking Field 4 at the Tower is surrounded by fairly good migrant land bird tracts, including the fishing station to the northwest. Parking Field 9, another ocean fronting area good for ocean observing, provides the stopping-over place to visit the pond sanctuary over one-half mile distant. Nesting Herons and Egrets are in low trees and thickets behind the sanctuary pond. Visitors wishing to see large Herring Gull colony should stop at nearby Captree Parking Field from which the gulls may be seen at their nests. To view Sharp-tailed and Seaside Sparrows enter Gilgo Parking Field, walk eastward one-half mile to the Gilgo Marshes. Tern colonies may often be seen in the June-July nesting season from Ocean Boulevard. Any road map shows the three causeways and Ocean Boulevards and many mark off State Park lands, bay islands and other topographical features sufficient to identify specific areas.

3994 Park Avenue, Seaford, Long Island

CALL FOR PAPERS*

The tenth annual meeting of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs will be held at Schenectady on May 24-26, 1957. All members of the Federation are hereby invited to submit titles for inclusion in the "Papers" section of the program.

Papers may concern any phase of ornithology in New York, and will be limited to twenty minutes in length. Popular papers in previous years have included discussions of field techniques, birding in areas of particular interest, unusual occurrences of birds, studies of nesting, behavior, or other aspects of bird life, and general ecology. Papers illustrated with slides or moving pictures are of special interest to many members.

It is not too early to make plans to present a paper at this writing. A postal card or letter to the chairman of the papers committee will bring a form to be filled out by the speaker. The deadline for papers will probably be set at about May 1, but there is no reason to put it off until then. We want to continue to present the best in educational entertainment at our next annual meeting.

Allen H. Benton, Chairman, Papers Committee
N. Y. S. College for Teachers, Albany