

under surveillance for two hours indicated that one gull will devour 800 to 1,000 earth worms per day freshly plowed out and in addition consume all wireworms, which are the larvae of ground and snap beetles, seen. The gulls are very sociable while the tractor is in motion and move just enough to prevent getting run over by the wheels or from being plowed under. The gulls of late years also come to the planted plowed land all summer to search for worms and other worthwhile insects that might be washed out. At such times they resort to rain water puddles and drink fresh water."

To be continued.

FEDERATION MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Since publication of the 1959 membership list twenty-three individuals and one club have joined the Federation.

As chairman of the Membership Committee, it is my pleasure to express our cordial welcome to these new members. It is the hope of the Federation that their association with us will be mutually enjoyable and beneficial in every respect.

The new members are:

Allen, Dr. Arthur A., Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell U., Ithaca, N. Y.
Axtell, Mrs. Harold H., 405 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo 22, N. Y.
Bejian, Mrs. Henry L., 932 Meadow Lane, Schenectady 9, N. Y.
Below, Mrs. T. H., 59 Coles Ave., Amityville, N. Y.
Blake, Joseph A., Jr., 140 Ten Eyck St., Watertown, N. Y.
Blake, Mrs. Joseph A., Jr., 140 Ten Eyck St., Watertown, N. Y.
Bottleman, Mrs. John, R. D. 2, Northwood, Iowa.
Brundage, Edward F., Etna, N. Y.
Dye, Mrs. John, 7 Carol Terrace, Cornwall-on-Hudson, N. Y.
Eddy, Mrs. Gilbert M., 2201 Stone Ridge Road, Schenectady 9, N. Y.
Felle, Mrs. Henry, 650 Fitch St., R. D. 1, Oneida, N. Y.
Frick, Mrs. George, Eight Note Road, R. D. 3, Fulton, N. Y.
Gifford, F P., Aurora-on-Cayuga, N. Y.
Houghton, Gertrude H., 605 Washington St., Watertown, N. Y.
Hutchinson, Mrs. George, 618 Union Street, Clayton, N. Y.
Isleib, Peter M., R. D. 2, Marlborough, Conn.
Kingsbury, Dr. Marguerite, P. O. Box 226, Sunmount, N. Y.
Lobdell, Miss Audrey, 753 James St., Apt. 426, Syracuse 3, N. Y.
McFadden, Alice, 245 Stone Street, Watertown, N. Y.
Pearsall, Miss Linda Jane, Baker Hill Road, R. D. 2, Freeville, N. Y.
Perron, Mrs. Bernadette, P. O. Box 127, Sunmount, N. Y.
Sharp, Mrs. Elmer, 135 Fishers Road, Fishers, N. Y.
Shoumatoff, Nicholas, Old Post Road, Bedford, N. Y.
Dutchess County Bird Club, P. O. Box 1414, Arlington Branch, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

It is with deep regret that we announce the withdrawal from our membership of the Bedford Audubon Society. We sincerely hope that this fine organization reaffiliate with us sometime in the near future.

ALBERT W. FUDGE,
Chairman Membership Committee.

The Membership List of the Federation of the New York State Bird Clubs, Inc., is planned for the May, 1960, issue of *The Kingbird*. If a correction is needed in the name and/or address of a member it should be brought to the attention of the treasurer and chairman.

The Federation solicits the aid of all members in increasing the membership. Only through concentrated effort by each one can growth be attained. Let EACH MEMBER GET A MEMBER and then send his name to the chairman.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SUMMER SEASON

JUNE 1 — AUGUST 15

JAMES K. MERITT

In most sections of the state the summer was dry and hot, and generally low water levels resulted. Breeding conditions were good for practically all species, and waterfowl had marked success in such areas as the Montezuma Refuge and Jamaica Bay Sanctuary. In a year when some help was really needed, the elements cooperated.

For many varieties of small land birds the summer of 1959 was, in the words of a downtrodden football coach, a "rebuilding" year. Such birds as the Phoebe, Tree Swallow, House Wren, Bluebird and the various thrushes were generally still scarce, but in most areas not to the degree encountered the previous year. Especially encouraging was the report of over 100 Bluebirds (adults and young) banded in the Ithaca area. Breeding warblers appeared to be present in only moderate numbers at best, and there was a definite scarcity noted on Long Island. Blackbirds, on the other hand, appeared to be thriving. The northward incursion of white herons was light, but of note among this group were three Little Blues in Region 8.

In recent years the Glossy Ibis has been appearing much more regularly and frequently in New Jersey, and it is logical to expect that such will also be the case in New York State. Eleven of these birds were seen on Long Island, and the species was also observed in Region 3. Breeding King Rails were found in Regions 1 and 5, and the King Rail was also noted in Region 4. Long Island produced a record of the elusive Yellow Rail.

The Wilson's Phalarope appeared in Regions 2 and 10, and a Northern Phalarope was reported in Region 6. A Curlew Sandpiper was also noted in Region 10, and the Golden Plover was among the shorebirds observed at Montezuma. The Franklin's Gull and Little Gull were seen in Region 2.

The sporadic Red-headed Woodpecker was observed in relatively good numbers in Regions 2, 6, and 8, and Region 3 again produced a record of a pair of Red-bellied Woodpeckers.

The Prothonotary Warbler and Yellow-throated Warbler continued to be present in Regions 3 and 5 respectively, and a Lawrence's Warbler was found nest-building in Region 8. There were the usual scattered reports of the Orchard Oriole. Even during this hot summer period our "winter finches" were not completely unrepresented — a Red Crossbill in Region 5 was one of the highlights.

The Western Meadowlark has now apparently become quite regular in