

THE BIRDS OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

K. PRICE

THE following notes are an attempt to bring up to date as far as possible "The Birds of Buckinghamshire and the Tring Reservoirs," by E. Hartert and F. C. R. Jourdain, published in 1920 (*Novitates Zoologicae*, vol. XXVII, pp. 171-259).

Reading through the old county reports, one is struck by the number of birds that were shot for identification or out of stupidity; this is now fortunately a rare thing, but it means that there is an element of doubt concerning a number of recent records.

It was not until about 1925 that we began to get reports of birds seen at sewage farms. It will be noticed that a good many species, especially waders, have so far only been met with on Slough sewage farm. Others are seen there almost annually, but hardly ever recorded elsewhere in Buckinghamshire. The Chiltern Hills, in the western part of the county, is the only area where Stone Curlew, Cirl Bunting, and Wood-lark are found. The Wryneck only breeds in the south-eastern part of the county.

Some birds have changed their status since 1920. Before that date the Long-eared Owl is described as a resident, not numerous but breeding regularly in woods and large parks; since 1920 it has not been recorded. Other birds which have decreased are the Corncrake, Quail, Barn Owl, Red-backed Shrike, and Wryneck. Birds that have increased are the Tawny Owl, Tufted Duck, Shoveler, Pochard, and Redshank.

ADDITIONS TO THE COUNTY LIST SINCE 1920:

Mealy Redpoll, Weston Turville reservoir. Rock Pipit, Startops End reservoir and Slough sewage farm. Red-breasted Flycatcher, near Wendover, 1943. Aquatic Warbler, Slough sewage farm, 1944. Bee-eater, Skirmett, 1928. Spoonbill, Slough sewage farm, 1940. Bewick's Swan, Olney, 1942. Gadwell, Slough sewage farm. Garganey, Slough sewage farm, Olney, and Weston Turville reservoir. Ferruginous Duck, near Windsor, 1944. Manx Shearwater, Bradenham House, 1927. Black-necked Grebe, Weston Turville reservoir and Sunnymede gravel-pit. Black-tailed Godwit, Slough sewage farm and Olney. Red-necked Phalarope, Slough sewage farm, 1940. Turnstone, Slough sewage farm, 1938. Curlew-sandpiper, Slough sewage farm. Little Stint, Langley and Slough sewage farm. Temminck's Stint, Slough sewage farm, 1936. American Pectoral Sandpiper, Slough sewage farm, 1944. Spotted Redshank, Slough sewage farm. Marsh Sandpiper, Slough sewage farm. Black-winged Stilt, Slough sewage farm, 1945. Iceland Gull, Slough sewage farm, 1940. Great Black-backed Gull.

The following stragglers or rare visitors have not been recorded since 1920, and are not included in the list given below: Nutcracker, Rose-coloured Starling, Twite,

Snow Bunting, Merlin, Rough-legged Buzzard, Marsh Harrier, Honey Buzzard, White-tailed or Sea Eagle, White Stork, Glossy Ibis, Night Heron, Bean Goose, Brent Goose, Common Scoter, Velvet Scoter, Red-breasted Merganser, Shag, Gannet, Red-necked Grebe, Red-throated Diver, Pallas's Sand Grouse, Dotterel, Pomatorhine Skua, Guillemot, Little Auk, Black Grouse.

The information for the following notes was collected from the Reports of the Oxford Ornithological Society on the Birds of Oxfordshire, Berkshire, and Buckinghamshire from 1920-45.

I have to acknowledge with thanks the help of Mr. W. B. Alexander, Librarian at the Edward Grey Institute of Field Ornithology at Oxford, who devoted much time to checking and ratification; of Mr. B. W. Tucker of Oxford, Miss E. G. Allen of Olney, Mr. P. J. Campbell of Gerrard's Cross, and Mr. E. J. M. Buxton of Long Crendon.

ORDER: PASSERIFORMES

Family: *Corvidæ*

1. RAVEN. *Corvus corax*.
Formerly resident, now a rare straggler. Not certainly identified since 1920, but a bird seen at Boveney in November 1932 and one flying over Eton Wick in May 1940 were almost certainly of this species.
2. HOODED CROW. *Corvus cornix*.
A scarce winter visitor. Single birds reported: Olney, October 1934, Newton Blossomville, November 1934, Olney, January-March 1935, Stone, January 1935, Olney, November 1939, Slough sewage farm, February-March 1941.
3. CARRION CROW. *Corvus corone*.
A common resident.
4. ROOK. *Corvus frulilegus*.
A very common resident.
5. JACKDAW. *Corvus monedula*.
A common resident.
6. MAGPIE. *Pica pica*.
A common resident, increased during the war. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Reports for 1930 and 1937.
7. JAY. *Garrulus glandarius*.
A common resident in all wooded districts.

Family: *Sturnidæ*

8. STARLING. *Sturnus vulgaris*.
A very common resident. A nestling ringed in Bucks. in August 1923 was recovered in Essex in November 1926. One ringed in June 1926 in Finland was recovered in Bucks. in November 1926. One ringed in the Frisian Islands was recovered in Bucks. in December 1933. One ringed at Warwick in May 1926 was recovered in Bucks. in July 1926. One ringed at Brents Knoll, Somerset, in 1935 was recovered at Aylesbury in November 1937. One ringed at Malvern, Worcs., in October 1936 was recovered at Slough in March 1938. One ringed at Gerrard's Cross in December 1939 was recovered at Ruppin, Brandenburg, Germany, in June 1940. One ringed at Purnurend, North Holland, in May 1938 was caught at Olney in December 1939. One ringed at Harderwijk, Holland, in November 1937 was caught at Chalfont St. Giles in December 1938.

Family: *Oriolide*

9. GOLDEN ORIOLE. *Oriolus oriolus*.
A very rare summer visitor, recorded three times since 1920. Single birds, at Haddenham, September 1925, and in the spring 1933 (place not mentioned), and at Beaconsfield, April 1936.

Family: *Fringillidæ*

10. HAWFINCH. *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*.
A rather scarce resident in the wooded districts; also a winter visitor.
11. GREENFINCH. *Chloris chloris*.
A very common resident; also a winter visitor. One ringed at Beckley, Oxon, in November 1942 was recovered at Dinton, Aylesbury, July 1944.
12. GOLDFINCH. *Carduelis carduelis*.
A common resident; also passage migrant and winter visitor. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1939.
13. SISKIN. *Carduelis spinus*.
A regular winter visitor in small numbers.

14. MEALY REDPOLL. *Carduelis f. flammea*.
Rare winter visitor, not definitely recorded for the county before 1920; flock of twenty birds at Weston Turville reservoir, December 1921–February 1922.
15. LESSER REDPOLL. *Carduelis flammea*.
A winter visitor, but also breeds locally in small numbers. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Reports for 1930 and 1936.
16. LINNET. *Carduelis cannabina*.
A very common resident, some migrating south in autumn. A nestling ringed in Bucks. in June 1924 was recovered in the Isle of Wight in January 1926. A nestling ringed in Bucks. in July 1923 was recovered in Landes, France, in October 1923. A nestling ringed in Bucks. in May 1930 was recovered in Landes, France, in October 1930. A nestling ringed in Bucks. in June 1932 was recovered at Bordeaux, Gironde, France, in October 1933.
17. BULLFINCH. *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*.
A very common resident.
18. CROSSBILL. *Loxia curvirostra*.
An irregular visitor, nested in 1910 and may have done so on other occasions. Flocks recorded locally in 1927, 1929, 1930, 1935, 1937, and 1942. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1936.
19. CHAFFINCH. *Fringilla caelebs*.
A very common resident and winter visitor. A nestling ringed in Bucks. in May 1923 was recovered in Alemtego, Portugal, in November 1923.
20. BRAMBLING. *Fringilla montifringilla*.
A winter visitor, in variable but sometimes large numbers, chiefly in the beechwood areas. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1934.
21. CORN BUNTING. *Emberiza calandra*.
A common resident, found in arable districts, local in distribution. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1930.
22. YELLOWHAMMER or YELLOW BUNTING. *Emberiza citrinella*.
A very common resident.
23. CIRC BUNTING. *Emberiza cirrus*.
A scarce resident in the county; a few pairs breed regularly.
24. REED BUNTING. *Emberiza schoeniclus*.
A common resident, in suitable places on rivers, streams, and lakes.

Family: *Ploceidae*

25. HOUSE SPARROW. *Passer domesticus*.
A very common resident.
26. TREE SPARROW. *Passer montanus*.
A fairly common resident, local in the breeding season, when it is found in colonies in pollard willows along the rivers. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1930.

Family: *Alaudidae*

27. WOOD-LARK. *Lullula arborea*.
A scarce resident.
28. SKYLARK. *Alauda arvensis*.
A common resident, flocks autumn to spring joined by continental visitors.

Family: *Motacillidae*

29. TREE PIPIT. *Anthus trivialis*.
A regular summer visitor, widely distributed but not very common.
30. MEADOW PIPIT. *Anthus pratensis*.
A winter visitor and passage migrant; breeds very locally.
31. ROCK PIPIT. *Anthus spinoletta*.
A very rare winter visitor, a new species for the county. A true Rock Pipit (*A. s. petrosus* or *A. s. littoralis*) was seen at Startops End reservoir in October 1932 and another at Slough sewage farm in September 1943. Individuals of the Alpine race called the Water Pipit (*A. s. spinoletta*) were identified at Slough sewage farm in February and March 1944, December 1944, and January 1945.
32. YELLOW WAGTAIL. *Motacilla flava*.
The British race (*M. f. flavissima*) is a regular summer visitor, found in low-lying meadowland and near rivers. The continental race, known as the Blue-headed Wagtail (*M. f. flava*), is a scarce passage migrant; since 1920 recorded on several occasions in April and May at Slough sewage farm. In 1939 a bird was seen there frequently in May, June, and July, but breeding was not proved.
33. GREY WAGTAIL. *Motacilla cinerea*.
Chiefly a passage migrant in autumn and spring; a few remain for the winter, and some pairs remain for the summer. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1936.
34. PIED WAGTAIL. *Motacilla alba*.
The British race (*M. a. yarrillii*) is a common resident and winter visitor. The Continental race, known as the White Wagtail, is a scarce passage migrant; since 1920 recorded on numerous occasions on Slough sewage farm in March, April, May, June, July, and September. A nestling Pied Wagtail, ringed in Bucks. in May 1923, was recovered in Estremadura, Portugal, in November 1923.

Family: *Certhiidae*

35. TREE CREEPER. *Certhia familiaris*.

A common resident, chiefly in wooded districts; numbers greatly reduced in severe winters.

Family: *Sittidae*

36. NUTHATCH. *Sitta europaea*.

A common resident, chiefly in parks, gardens, and woods.

Family: *Paridae*

37. GREAT TIT. *Parus major*.

A common resident.

38. BLUE TIT. *Parus caeruleus*.

A very common resident.

39. COAL TIT. *Parus ater*.

A local resident, chiefly frequenting plantations, woods, and gardens containing coniferous trees.

40. MARSH TIT. *Parus palustris*.

A fairly common resident, in wooded areas.

41. WILLOW TIT. *Parus atricapillus*.

A local resident.

42. LONG-TAILED TIT. *Aegithalos caudatus*.

A common resident; numbers greatly reduced in severe winters.

Family: *Laniidae*

43. GREAT GREY SHRIKE. *Lanius excubitor*.

A rare winter visitor; recorded twice since 1920, one at Wendover in January 1935, and one at Drayton Beauchamp in March 1942.

44. RED-BACKED SHRIKE. *Lanius collurio*.

A regular summer visitor, breeding in small and decreasing numbers. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Reports for 1930 and 1937.

* Family: *Bombycillidae*

45. WAXWING. *Bombycilla garrulus*.

A very rare winter visitor, recorded on five occasions since 1920: one at Marsworth, February 1921, two or three at Datchet, January 1944, fourteen at Drayton Beauchamp, March 1944, one at Amersham, March 1944, and five at Great Missenden, February 1945.

Family: *Muscicapidae*

46. SPOTTED FLYCATCHER. *Muscicapa striata*.

A regular summer visitor, widely distributed and common.

47. PIED FLYCATCHER. *Muscicapa hypoleuca*.

A rare visitor on migration, usually seen in spring. Pairs have nested in the county on at least two occasions. Four records since 1920: one at Whaddon, April 1930, one at Eton, May-June 1931, one at Chorley Wood, May 1932, and one in a park in the centre of Slough, April 1941.

48. RED-BREADED FLYCATCHER. *Muscicapa parva*.

A new species for the county. One seen at Boddington Hill, near Wendover, May 4, 1943.

Family: *Regulidae*

49. FIRECREST. *Regulus ignicapillus*.

A very rare winter visitor, only once recorded since 1920; one seen at Gerrard's Cross, March 1941.

50. GOLDCREST. *Regulus regulus*.

A common resident, numbers greatly reduced in severe winters.

Family: *Sylviidae*

51. CHIFFCHAFF. *Phylloscopus collybita*.

A regular summer visitor, common in all suitable localities.

52. WILLOW WREN or WILLOW WARBLER. *Phylloscopus trochilus*.

A regular summer visitor, common in all suitable localities.

53. WOOD WREN or WOOD WARBLER. *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*.

A regular summer visitor in small numbers. A nestling ringed in Bucks. in June 1924 was recovered in Basilicata, Italy, in September 1924.

54. GRASSHOPPER WARBLER. *Locustella naevia*.

A regular summer visitor, widely distributed, but not very common.

55. REED WARBLER. *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*.

A regular summer visitor. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1939.

56. MARSH WARBLER. *Acrocephalus palustris*.

A rare summer visitor, once recorded since 1920. Bird feeding young, and nest found, Chalfont Park, 1931.

57. SEDGE WARBLER. *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*.

A regular summer visitor, common in the vicinity of water.

58. AQUATIC WARBLER. *Aerocephalus paludicola*.
A new record for the county, one seen at Slough sewage farm, August 9, 1944.
59. GARDEN WARBLER. *Sylvia borin*.
A regular, common summer visitor.
60. BLACKCAP. *Sylvia atricapilla*.
A regular, common summer visitor.
61. WHITETHROAT. *Sylvia communis*.
A regular, common summer visitor.
62. LESSER WHITETHROAT. *Sylvia curruca*.
A regular summer visitor, generally distributed, but not very common.

Family: *Turdidae*

63. FIELDFARE. *Turdus pilaris*.
Winter visitor in variable numbers.
64. MISSEL THRUSH. *Turdus viscivorus*.
A common resident.
65. SONG THRUSH. *Turdus ericetorum*.
A very common resident. A nestling ringed in Bucks. in April 1925 was recovered in Cornwall in February 1926. One ringed at Missenden in April 1941 was recovered at Holbeach, Lincs., in January 1942.
66. REDWING. *Turdus musicus*.
A common winter visitor.
67. RING OUZEL. *Turdus torquatus*.
A scarce visitor on migration, recorded once since 1920, in the Misbourne valley in April 1922.
68. BLACKBIRD. *Turdus merula*.
A very common resident and winter visitor.
69. WHEATEAR. *Oenanthe oenanthe*.
A regular summer visitor, breeding in small numbers. Among the birds which pass through on passage are individuals of the larger Greenland Wheatear (*O. a. leucorroha*); since 1920 this race has been recognized with more or less certainty on at least five occasions. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1931.
70. WHINCHAT. *Saxicola rubetra*.
A regular summer visitor, breeding in small numbers. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1932.
71. STONECHAT. *Saxicola torquata*.
A scarce summer visitor, breeding in small numbers. Some remain for the winter. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1932.
72. REDSTART. *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*.
A regular summer visitor. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1930 and 1935.
73. BLACK REDSTART. *Phoenicurus ochrurus*.
A scarce winter visitor, two records since 1920. One seen at Olney, October 1938, and one at Slough, March 1942.
74. NIGHTINGALE. *Luscinia megarhynchos*.
A regular summer visitor, generally absent from the hills and drier beechwoods, but found in the low-lying fertile districts in the neighbourhood of water. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1930.
75. ROBIN. *Erithacus rubecula*.
A very common resident.

Family: *Prunellidae*

76. HEDGE SPARROW OR DUNNOCK. *Prunella modularis*.
A very common resident.

Family: *Troglodytidae*

77. WREN. *Troglodytes troglodytes*.
A very common resident.

Family: *Cinclidae*

78. DIPPER. *Cinclus cinclus*.
A rare straggler. One record since 1920, one seen on the river Chess below Chenies in May 1941.

Family: *Hirundinidae*

79. SWALLOW. *Hirundo rustica*.
A regular summer visitor. A nestling ringed in Bucks. in June 1932 was recovered in Oise, France, in October 1932.
80. HOUSE MARTIN. *Delichon urbica*.
A regular summer visitor.
81. SAND MARTIN. *Riparia riparia*.
A regular summer visitor. A nestling ringed in Bucks. in June 1919 was recovered in Loire Inférieure, France, in August 1919.

ORDER: *APODIFORMES*

Family: *Apodidae*

82. SWIFT. *Apus apus*.
A regular summer visitor.

ORDER: *CAPRIMULGIFORMES*

Family: *Caprimulgidae*

83. NIGHTJAR. *Caprimulgus europæus*.
A regular summer visitor. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1934.

ORDER: *CORACIIFORMES*

Family: *Meropidae*

84. BEE-EATER. *Merops apiaster*.
A new record for the county. One seen at Skirmett in 1928.

Family: *Upupidae*

85. HOOPOE. *Upupa epops*.
A rare summer visitor. One record since 1920, near Chalfont St. Giles, June 1925.

Family: *Alcedinidae*

86. KINGFISHER. *Alcedo atthis*.
A common resident. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1934.

ORDER: *PICIFORMES*

Family: *Picidae*

87. GREEN WOODPECKER. *Picus viridis*.
A common resident in most parts of the county.
88. GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER. *Dryobates major*.
A common resident. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1935.
89. LESSER SPOTTED OR BARRED WOODPECKER. *Dryobates minor*.
A fairly common resident.
90. WRYNECK. *Jynx torquilla*.
A regular summer visitor, only breeding in the south-eastern part of the county. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1931.

ORDER: *CUCULIFORMES*

Family: *Cuculidae*

91. CUCKOO. *Cuculus canorus*.
A common summer visitor. A young bird ringed in a Pied Wagtail's nest in Bucks. in June 1928 was recovered in the French Cameroons, West Africa, in January 1930.

ORDER: *STRIGIFORMES*

Family: *Strigidae*

92. LITTLE OWL. *Athene noctua*.
An introduced species, now common. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1936.
93. LONG-EARED OWL. *Asio otus*.
Formerly a scarce resident and winter visitor. No record since 1920. One ringed at Noord, Holland, in June 1932 was recovered in Bucks. in November 1932.
94. SHORT-EARED OWL. *Asio flammeus*.
A fairly frequent autumn and winter visitor. Recorded at least seven times since 1920 in the months of September, October, November, January, February, and April.
95. TAWNY OR BROWN OWL. *Strix aluco*.
A common resident, increased in recent years.
96. WHITE OR BARN OWL. *Tyto alba*.
A fairly common resident, though much less plentiful than in former years.

ORDER: *FALCONIFORMES*

Family: *Falconidae*

97. PEREGRINE FALCON. *Falco peregrinus*.
A fairly frequent winter visitor.
98. HOBBY. *Falco subbuteo*.
A regular summer visitor; breeding first recorded in the county in 1926.
99. KESTREL. *Falco tinnunculus*.
A common resident, increased during the war years. A young bird ringed in Bucks. in June 1928 was recovered in Calvados, France, in March 1929.
100. COMMON BUZZARD. *Buteo buteo*.
A fairly frequent visitor, seen more often lately.
101. MONTAGUE'S HARRIER. *Circus pygargus*.
A very rare visitor on migration, once recorded since 1920. A bird was caught in a trap by the game-keeper at Black Park, Langley, in 1929.
102. HEN HARRIER. *Circus cyaneus*.
An uncommon winter visitor. One shot at Olney in 1921, one seen at Pitstone Hill in March 1924, and one shot at St. Leonards in January 1939.
103. SPARROW HAWK. *Accipiter nisus*.
A fairly common resident, increased during the war years.
104. KITE. *Milvus milvus*.
Formerly resident, now a rare straggler, not definitely recorded since 1920, but a bird possibly of this species was seen at Olney in November 1944; in August of the same year a kite had been identified in Northants.

Family: *Pandionidae*

105. OSPREY. *Pandion haliaetus*.
A very rare visitor on migration; once recorded since 1920, at Maidenhead in September 1938.

ORDER: *CICONIIFORMES*

Family: *Threskornithidae*

106. SPOONBILL. *Platalea leucorodia*.
A new record for the county. One seen at Slough sewage farm on May 8, 1940.

Family: *Ardeidae*

107. COMMON HERON. *Ardea cinerea*.
A fairly common resident. Three heronries are at present known in the county: at Oaken Grove, Hambleton (formerly Fawley Court estate), there were twenty-six nests in 1946; at Chearsley Furze, seventeen nests in 1946; and near Newport Pagnell, twenty-three nests in 1946. This heronry has moved several times since 1920 and is now on an island in the River Ouse. A young bird ringed in Bucks. in April 1928 was recovered in Worcester in March 1929. A young bird ringed in Bucks. in April 1928 was recovered in Staffs. in November 1930. A young bird ringed in Bucks. in April 1928 was recovered on the River Blythe, Staffs., in June 1928. A young bird ringed in Bucks. in April 1928 was recovered in Meath, Ireland, in January 1929. A young bird ringed in Bucks. in May 1929 was recovered in Mayo, Ireland, in September 1929. A young bird ringed in Bucks. in May 1929 was recovered in Hants. in July 1929. A young bird ringed in Bucks. in May 1930 was recovered in Lincs. in November 1930. A young bird ringed in the heronry at Pas de Calais, France, in May 1930 was recovered at Boarstall in the following July. A young bird ringed at Fawley Court in May 1934 was recovered on the River Teifi, Cardiganshire, in September 1936. A young bird ringed in the Department of Pas de Calais, France, in May 1936 was recovered at Boarstall in the following July.
108. LITTLE BITTERN. *Ixobrychus minutus*.
A very rare visitor, once recorded since 1920. One was shot on the lake at Shardeloes in the winter of 1921-22.
109. BITTERN. *Botaurus stellaris*.
A winter visitor, recorded eight times since 1920 in the months of December, January, and March. One was seen in the reed-beds at Weston Turville reservoir at intervals from December 1927 till early May 1928, and was heard booming from the middle of March onwards.

ORDER: *ANSERIFORMES*

Family: *Anatidae*

110. WHOOPER SWAN. *Cygnus cygnus*.
A rare winter visitor, recorded four times since 1920, two at Slough sewage farm in April and May 1939, one on the Thames between Windsor and Datchet in February 1940, sixteen at Olney in February and March 1942, and one at Slough sewage farm in April and May 1944.

111. BEWICK'S SWAN. *Cygnus bewickii*.
A very rare winter visitor, a new record for the county; three or four at Olney in March 1942.
112. MUTE SWAN. *Cygnus olor*.
A common resident, semi-domesticated on many waters.
113. GREY LAG-GOOSE. *Anser anser*.
A rare winter visitor. Since 1920 the only record is of a pair at Weston Turville reservoir in July 1938, which had presumably escaped from captivity.
114. WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE. *Anser albifrons*.
A rare visitor. Since 1920 recorded on a number of occasions near Olney and several times elsewhere.
115. CANADA GOOSE. *Branta canadensis*.
An introduced species, semi-domesticated.
116. SHELDRAKE. *Tadorna tadorna*.
An irregular visitor, since 1920 recorded many times at Slough sewage farm, several times near Olney and occasionally elsewhere, in every month but July, though most frequently in April, May, August, and September. The largest number seen together was seven near Olney in March 1942.
117. RUDDY SHELDRAKE. *Casarca ferruginea*.
All the county records probably relate to birds escaped from captivity. Since 1920 it has been recorded at Slough sewage farm in March and September 1940, and in March, April, and May 1941.
118. MALLARD. *Anas platyrhynchos*.
A common resident, breeding in considerable numbers, but more plentiful in winter.
119. GADWELL. *Anas strepera*.
A new record for the county. One was killed at Boarstall decoy about the beginning of February 1932. Since then it has been recorded at Slough sewage farm on five occasions: two in January 1934, one September 1939, one March 1940, one September 1943, and two August 1944.
120. TEAL. *Anas crecca*.
Resident in small numbers, common autumn and winter visitor. One ringed at the Orielton decoy, Pembroke, in December 1935 was recovered at Aylesbury in February 1936.
121. GARGANEY. *Anas querquedula*.
A scarce summer visitor, a new record for the county. Since 1936, when a pair appeared at Slough sewage farm in April, the species has been seen there almost every spring and has also been recorded near Olney and on Weston Turville reservoir. In 1938 birds were seen at Slough sewage farm from the end of March till the middle of July and three pairs were present early in May, but evidence of breeding was not forthcoming.
122. WIDGEON. *Anas penelope*.
A regular winter visitor, arriving in October and leaving in April.
123. PINTAIL. *Anas acuta*.
An uncommon winter visitor.
124. SHOVELER. *Spatula clypeata*.
Resident in small numbers, also regular autumn and winter visitor. One ringed in January 1936 at Orielton, Pembroke, was recovered in July 1938 at Dorney, Bucks.
125. POCHARD. *Aythya ferina*.
Not uncommon, but very local resident. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1935.
126. FERRUGINOUS OR WHITE-EYED DUCK. *Aythya nyroca*.
A new record for the county. A drake put up from Home Fields, Windsor, in October 1944 flew across the river into Bucks.
127. TUFTED DUCK. *Aythya fuligula*.
Resident. One ringed at Helsinki, Finland, was found dead in the river at Olney. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1938.
128. SCAUP. *Aythya marila*.
A rare winter visitor. Three records since 1920: single birds at Weston Turville reservoir in November 1923 and October 1928 and at Slough sewage farm in October 1938.
129. GOLDENEYE. *Bucephala clangula*.
An uncommon winter visitor, recorded in every month from November to March.
130. GOOSANDER. *Mergus merganser*.
An uncommon winter visitor, recorded in every month from November to March. The largest number recorded at one time was eleven on Langley Park lake in January 1937. One ringed in December 1937 at Molesey, Surrey, was recovered in January 1939 at Slough.
131. SMEW. *Mergus albellus*.
A rare winter visitor, recorded seven times since 1920, usually on Weston Turville reservoir, once at Olney, in the months of December, January, and February.

ORDER: PELECANIFORMES

Family: *Phalacrocoracidae*

132. CORMORANT. *Phalacrocorax carbo*.
An occasional visitor, recorded six times since 1920: three times in August, once in October, and once in November, whilst in 1943 one was seen on the Thames near Bourne End at intervals from the end of February to the beginning of August.

ORDER: PROCELLARIIFORMES

Family: *Hydrobatidae*

133. STORM PETREL. *Hydrobates pelagicus*.
A rare straggler, driven inland by storms in winter. Two records since 1920; one picked up dead at Whaddon in November 1928 and one picked up dead at Grendon Underwood in December 1929.
134. LEACH'S FORK-TAILED PETREL. *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*.
A rare straggler, driven inland by storms in winter. One record since 1920, one picked up dead at Lenborough in December 1929.

Family: *Procellariidae*

135. MANX SHEARWATER. *Puffinus puffinus*.
A new record for the county, one caught in the garden of Bradenham House, September 1927.

ORDER: PODICIPITIFORMES

Family: *Podicipitidae*

136. GREAT CRESTED GREBE. *Podiceps cristatus*.
A summer resident. Ten Waters held the following number of pairs. 1931, 11 pairs; 1932, 10-13 pairs; 1935, 17-18 pairs. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Reports for 1932, 1933, and 1935.
137. SLAVONIAN or HORNED GREBE. *Podiceps auritus*.
A rare winter visitor, recorded on three occasions since 1920: one on Weston Turville reservoir in January and February 1924, another there in February and March 1937, and one on the pond at Bletchley station in February 1937.
138. BLACK-NECKED or EARED GREBE. *Podiceps nigricollis*.
A new record for the county; two on Weston Turville reservoir in May 1935 and one on Sunnymedes gravel-pit in December 1945.
139. LITTLE GREBE. *Podiceps ruficollis*.
A common resident on rivers, lakes, and ponds; flocks in winter.

ORDER: COLYMBIFORMES

Family: *Colymbidae*

140. GREAT NORTHERN DIVER. *Colymbus immer*.
An immature bird shot at Calvert clay-pit November 11, 1944.

ORDER: COLUMBIFORMES

Family: *Columbidae*

141. WOOD PIGEON. *Columba palumbus*.
A very common resident.
142. STOCK DOVE. *Columba oenas*.
A common resident. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1939.
143. TURTLE DOVE. *Streptopelia turtur*.
A regular summer visitor.

ORDER: CHARADRIIFORMES

Family: *Scolopacidae*

144. BAR-TAILED GODWIT. *Limosa lapponica*.
A rare visitor on migration. Since 1920 recorded on five occasions at Slough sewage farm in the months of April, May, August, and September.
145. BLACK-TAILED GODWIT. *Limosa limosa*.
A passage migrant. A new record for the county, first recorded at Slough sewage farm in April 1936, and since observed there almost every year in the months of April, May, July, August, and September. The greatest number seen at one time was six in July 1938 and in July 1944. Two were also seen near Olney in August 1941.
146. CURLEW. *Numenius arquata*.
A fairly frequent visitor. First recorded breeding by Mr. E. J. M. Buxton at Kingsey in May 1946. Eggs were unfortunately destroyed by crow or magpie.
147. WHIMBREL. *Numenius phaeopus*.
A scarce visitor on migration.
148. WOODCOCK. *Scolopax rusticola*.
A resident in small numbers, a few pairs breeding in wooded districts, also a winter visitor. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1935.

149. COMMON SNIFE. *Capella gallinago*.
A fairly common resident, breeding in small numbers, a passage migrant, and winter visitor.
150. JACK SNIFE. *Lymnocyptes minimus*.
A rather scarce winter visitor.
151. GREY PHALAROPE. *Phalaropus fulicarius*.
A very rare visitor in autumn and winter. Three records since 1920: one picked up dead at Dancer's End in October 1928, one seen at Weston Turville reservoir in September 1935, and one at Slough sewage farm in September 1935.
152. RED-NECKED PHALAROPE. *Phalaropus lobatus*.
A new record for the county; three birds at Slough sewage farm, October 1940.
153. TURNSTONE. *Arenaria interpres*.
A new record for the county. Recorded on three occasions at Slough sewage farm: one in May 1938, two in May 1939, and one in August 1940.
154. KNOT. *Calidris canutus*.
A very rare visitor. Recorded on four occasions since 1920; three near Olney in February 1937, five at Slough sewage farm in April 1939, one there in April 1943, and one in March and April 1944.
155. DUNLIN. *Calidris alpina*.
A fairly common visitor on migration.
156. CURLEW SANDPIPER. *Calidris testacea*.
A new record for the county. Observed at Slough sewage farm in September in the years 1935, 1936, 1937, 1940, 1944, and 1945, also in May 1938 and August 1945. In September 1936 as many as twenty were present at one time.
157. LITTLE STINT. *Calidris minuta*.
A new record for the county. Two were seen at Langley sewage farm in September 1925. At Slough sewage farm it was recorded in May and September 1936, July and September 1937, eight in March 1938, October 1939, and May and October 1940. As many as twenty-five were present in September 1936.
158. TEMMINCK'S STINT. *Calidris temminckii*.
A new record for the county. One seen at Slough sewage farm in September 1936 and one in May 1940.
159. AMERICAN PECTORAL SANDPIPER. *Calidris melanotos*.
A new record for the county. A bird at Slough sewage farm in August 1944, identified by Sergt. A. D. Cruickshank of the U.S. Army.
160. SANDERLING. *Crocethia alba*.
A very rare visitor. Since 1920 recorded on six occasions at Slough sewage farm; single birds in December 1938, three May 1939, single birds May 1940, October 1943, and June 1944, and three together in May 1939.
161. RUFF. *Philomachus pugnax*.
A frequent visitor on migration.
162. COMMON SANDPIPER. *Actitis hypoleucos*.
A common visitor on migration in spring and autumn. Though it had long been supposed that pairs sometimes remained to breed in the county, the first definite evidence was the discovery of a nest with four eggs by the River Ouzell, near Leighton Buzzard, by Major A. G. L. Sladen in May 1929. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Reports for 1933 and 1939.
163. WOOD SANDPIPER. *Tringa glareola*.
A rare visitor on migration. Since 1934 recorded almost every year at Slough sewage farm in the months of April, May, July, August, and September. In August 1944 there were as many as five together.
164. GREEN SANDPIPER. *Tringa ochropus*.
A fairly frequent visitor on migration.
165. REDSHANK. *Tringa totanus*.
Breeds in small numbers, and is not rare on passage. One ringed at Weybridge, Surrey, in June 1934 was recovered at Eton in February 1937. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Reports for 1933 and 1939.
166. SPOTTED OR DUSKY REDSHANK. *Tringa erythropus*.
A new record for the county. Single birds observed at Slough sewage farm in September 1938, December 1939, March 1940, April 1942, and August-September 1944, and four together in August 1940.
167. GREENSHANK. *Tringa nebularia*.
A passage migrant, recorded annually at Slough sewage farm since 1935 and occasionally elsewhere. It has been observed in every month from March to October, most frequently in May, August, and September. The greatest number recorded was eight at Slough sewage farm in August 1945.
168. MARSH SANDPIPER. *Tringa stagnatilis*.
A new record for the county. One seen at Slough sewage farm in May 1940 by Messrs. A. J. B. Thompson and N. W. Moore.

Family: *Charadriidae*

169. RINGED PLOVER. *Charadrius hiaticula*.
A passage migrant, recorded annually since 1934 at Slough sewage farm and occasionally elsewhere. It has been met with in every month except January and November, but chiefly in April, May, August, and September. As many as sixteen were seen at Slough in September 1936 and ten in July 1936 and May 1942. One shot at Langley sewage farm in August 1926 was identified by Dr. G. C. Low as the Arctic form (*Ch. h. tundrae*).

170. GOLDEN PLOVER. *Pluvialis apricaria*
A regular winter visitor, often in considerable flocks.
171. GREY PLOVER. *Squatarola squatarola*.
A very rare visitor. Since 1920 twice recorded at Slough sewage farm, single birds in May 1939 and April 1941.
172. LAPWING, PEWIT or GREEN PLOVER. *Vanellus vanellus*.
A common resident and winter visitor in large numbers. A nestling ringed in Bucks. in May 1932 was recovered in Gloucestershire in November 1932. A bird ringed at Hambleden in June 1932 was recovered at St. German's, Cornwall, in March 1935.
173. BLACK-WINGED STILT. *Himantopus himantopus*.
A new record for the county. Two birds recorded at Slough sewage farm in March 1945.
174. OYSTER-CATCHER. *Hematopus ostralegus*.
A very rare visitor. Only once recorded since 1920, one at Slough sewage farm in March 1945.

Family: *Burhinidae*

175. STONE CURLEW. *Burhinus oedipus*.
A regular summer visitor, breeding locally. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1931.

Family: *Laridae*

176. BLACK TERN. *Chlidonias niger*.
A frequent visitor on migration.
177. SANDWICH TERN. *Sterna sandvicensis*.
A very rare visitor. Once recorded since 1920, a single bird seen at Shardeloes lake in April 1935.
178. ROSEATE TERN. *Sterna dougalli*.
There is no certain record for the county, but a bird seen by R. Vaughan near little Marlow in September 1944 was probably of this species.
179. COMMON TERN. *Sterna hirundo*.
Not uncommon on passage in spring and autumn.
180. ARCTIC TERN. *Sterna macrura*.
A very rare visitor. Only recorded once since 1920, a single bird at Slough sewage farm in August 1941.
181. LITTLE OR LESSER TERN. *Sterna albifrons*.
A scarce visitor on migration. Once recorded since 1920, a single bird at Slough sewage farm in August 1939.
182. BLACK-HEADED GULL. *Larus ridibundus*.
A frequent visitor, especially in winter. A bird ringed in Saxony in July 1934 was recovered in Bucks. in June 1935.
183. COMMON GULL. *Larus canus*.
A fairly frequent visitor.
184. HERRING GULL. *Larus argentatus*.
A fairly frequent visitor.
185. LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL. *Larus fuscus*.
Regular visitor on migration, more often recorded in spring.
186. GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL. *Larus marinus*.
A new record for the county. Recorded on six occasions since 1920: one flying into Bucks. from Wilstone reservoir in January 1935, one at Slough sewage farm in December 1936, one at Eton in December 1937, several at Slough sewage farm in April 1938, one in December 1938, and one in April 1944.
187. ICELAND GULL. *Larus glaucooides*.
A new record for the county. One seen at Slough sewage farm in April 1940.
188. KITTIWAKE. *Rissa tridactyla*.
An occasional visitor. Recorded three times since 1920: one at Weston Turville reservoir in February 1928, picked up dead later in the day, one at Marsworth reservoir in February 1937, and one at Slough in August 1939.

Family: *Alcidae*

189. PUFFIN. *Fratercula arctica*.
A rare straggler from the coast. Recorded three times since 1920: one picked up dying at Kingsey in November 1927, one picked up at Nash in October 1931, died later, and an immature bird found exhausted at Datchet golf-course following strong south-west gale in December 1945.

ORDER: *RALLIFORMES*

Family: *Rallidae*

190. CORN-CRAKE. *Crex crex*.
A summer visitor, in decreasing numbers.

191. SPOTTED CRAKE. *Porzana porzana*.

A scarce passage migrant. Recorded three times since 1920: one at Westhorpe, Little Marlow, in February 1925, and one at Slough sewage farm November–December 1938 and one in September 1945.

192. WATER-RAIL. *Rallus aquaticus*.

A scarce resident, whose numbers are greatly increased in winter by immigration.

193. MOORHEN. *Gallinula chloropus*.

A common resident on rivers, streams, lakes, and ponds.

194. COOT. *Fulica atra*.

Fairly numerous resident, but rather local; more plentiful in winter. For fuller details, see Oxford Ornithological Society's Report for 1937.

ORDER: GALLIFORMES

Family: Phasianidae

195. PHEASANT. *Phasianus colchicus*.

A common resident in wooded districts and parks.

196. COMMON PARTRIDGE. *Perdix perdix*.

A common resident.

197. RED-LEGGED PARTRIDGE. *Alectoris rufa*.

An introduced species, quite common in some places.

198. QUAIL. *Coturnix coturnix*.

A summer visitor in decreasing numbers.