

OBITUARY.

T. D. ATKINSON, F.R.I.B.A.

THOMAS DINHAM ATKINSON died on the 29th of December 1948, aged 84. Architect, antiquary and author, his greatness lay even more in the power of his personality than in the quiet competence of his work in many fields. Although widely learned in several departments of archaeology, he possessed true humility and a whimsical wit, often turned against his own foibles. His classical outlook belonged more to the 18th than the 19th century, but he was inspired by deep feeling uncommon in the Age of Taste. Injustice moved him to fierce indignation and he could be stern with folly, but he met life with kindness, generosity and nobility of spirit.

Aided by an exceptional memory, he methodically amassed architectural facts under subject headings during a period of well over half-a-century; these extensive collections now belong to the Society of Antiquaries. *Local Style in English Architecture*, published in the last year of his life, summarised part of this garnered treasure as an introduction to the more detailed treatment he had projected; and for which "The Sources of Hampshire Architecture in Past Times" (*Proceedings*, Hants Field Club, XV, pt. 2) and "Local Character in the Ancient Architecture of Cambridgeshire" (*Proceedings*, Cambridge Antiquarian Society, XL) were drafts. Among his many other published works, the great *Architectural History of the Benedictine Monastery at Ely* (1933) takes pride of place, but Hampshire should treasure his *Survey of the Street Architecture of Winchester* (1934), an outstanding record and work of catholic appreciation which ought perpetually to be had in remembrance—and in print.

JOHN HARVEY.

SUBJECT SECRETARIES' REPORTS.

FOLK LORE, 1948.

IN 1948 a Good Friday bun 102 years old was presented to the Southampton Museum. In connection with this incident some notes on Good Friday buns and bread may be of interest to members of the Field Club. In *British Calendar Customs—England*, Vol. I, "Movable Feasts," Wright and Jones, published by the Folk Lore Society, London, 1936, we read :

"The Use of Good Friday Buns and Bread for Curative Purposes.

There is a popular custom, depending on a belief in the efficient curative properties of cross-buns or bread baked hard on Good Friday, which still lingers in some towns and villages. The custom consists in keeping for a year, or for several years, Good Friday buns or pieces of bread baked hard on Good Friday; the buns or pieces of bread are kept in a dry place, *e.g.*, suspended near the ceiling of a dry room or kept in a close-fitting box placed in a dry cupboard. A small piece of such bun or bread finely divided by means of a nutmeg-grater and mixed with water, milk, or brandy, was believed to be a good cure for many kinds of complaints, such as, for example, diarrhoea and dysentery; in some cases, the belief in the efficacy of this 'medicine' was so great that if it failed to effect a quick change for the better hope of the patient's recovery was abandoned (p. 71).

Hampshire, etc. Such was the belief in the efficacy of the dry Good Friday bun and bread, a belief that was strongly held not only in the counties mentioned above,¹ but also in Hampshire, Dorset, Wiltshire, Somerset, Gloucestershire and Norfolk. At the present time it lingers in Devonshire and Worcestershire, but in most other counties it would be difficult to find the homely Good Friday bun or piece of Good Friday bread hanging from the ceiling or enclosed in a dry box.

Another belief connected with the Good Friday bun and bread is that, unlike ordinary buns and bread, they never become mouldy, a belief well expressed in an old rhyme :

'When Good Friday comes, an old woman runs
With one- or two-a-penny hot cross-buns,
Whose virtue is, if you believe what's said,
They'll not grow mouldy like the common bread.'

This so-called belief, however, is an expression of fact, for when special care was taken, as it used to be, in the making and preservation of the Good Friday bun and bread, the amount of moisture left in them would be so small that no mould or fungus could develop on them (p. 73).

Sussex. In Sussex buns are kept until the next Good Friday for luck, being preserved in tin boxes. A Brighton baker has informed me that a local undertaker always kept a cross-bun, replacing the old by a new one each Good Friday (*Sussex Archaeological Society's Collections*, Vol. 33, Lewes, 1883, p. 240) (p. 72).

(Durham.) The Sunderland wives see that their husbands take some with them to avert shipwreck. The belief is found in Sussex. It is also to be found in America, especially Florida, where it is held that three Good Friday loaves put into a heap of corn will prevent rats, mice and weevils from eating

1. The counties referred to include Yorkshire, Warwickshire and Cornwall.

it (*Notes on the Folk Lore of the Northern Counties of England and the Borders*, William Henderson, 1879, pp. 82-83, published by the Folk Lore Society.) (P. 72.)

We see from the preceding extracts that at any rate in past years custom and belief relating to the use and powers of Good Friday buns were widely prevalent in England.

Other items of folk lore interest from Hampshire are worthy of a note in this report. In their issue of April 8th, 1939, the *Hampshire Chronicle* published a letter from "Hampshire Native" recording the use of a folk word. He wrote: "I also saw in the advertisement columns last week puffs for sale. I had not seen or heard that term for many years; it is an old Hampshire name for bundles of underwood tied with what is called in rural districts a 'withe,' made of twisted hazel boughs, etc. These bundles of wood are also called bunts, faggots, or bavins, and were largely used by bakers in town and country for heating the old brick ovens. They baked good bread. Many country dwellers used to bake their own bread then."

The same paper in August 1941 printed an article by "Villager" describing the successful work done by a Hampshire schoolmaster in training his scholars to take an interest in natural history. "Local beliefs and folk lore were scrutinised in school . . . and many false sayings were disproved. For instance, one old keeper firmly believed that the cuckoo did not leave the country in the autumn, but changed into a sparrow hawk instead. Then in the spring it changed back to a cuckoo again. Although his son was brought to see that this was impossible, the old man obstinately refused to listen to reason." This erroneous belief was old-established for Aristotle over 2000 years ago recorded it.

The magazine *Home Words* contains from time to time some traditions and superstitions in its page devoted to Church News from Home and Abroad. In its number for December 1938 the following contribution from Mrs. Scovell appeared: "A Wedding Superstition. In the village of St. Mary Bourne in Hampshire a curious custom prevails when a wedding takes place at the Parish Church. The wedding party is always carefully shepherded in at the north door and after the ceremony out by the south door. If allowed to enter by the south door some dreadful calamity is supposed to happen to the bride within a year. No one seems to know the origin of this strange superstition."

Useful work in the study of folk lore might be done if some member of the Field Club would undertake to examine for the County of Hampshire how far differing and contrary beliefs and customs exist among the people in different parts of the county. In France and Scandinavia much progress has been made in discovering the areas in which opposite beliefs are held and in determining the boundaries of these areas. Light might be thrown upon the origins of such differences which would be of value not only to folk lore study, but would help to solve problems of history.

Examples from our own country are to be found in the following variations:

- those of the omens drawn from magpies according to the number seen;
- those in the complexion desired of a New Year "first foot";
- those in Good Friday planting;
- those in the omens connected with a black cat;
- those concerning Christmas decorations-burning or throwing away;
- those in the choice of the day of the week for a wedding;
- those in the meaning of three lights;

and so on.

How did such differences arise, sometimes within a single county: why have they continued: are they due to successive waves of immigration from different parts of Europe: is their existence side by side evidence of two separate cultures maintaining opposite theories so near in place to one another for long periods, it may be for centuries? It would be satisfactory if some of

our members would undertake to investigate the problems of this complex state in our own County of Hampshire. Needless to say that the further this investigation proceeded and the number of subjects considered grew, the more valuable the results of the study might be expected to prove.

I acknowledge with thanks the permission granted by the Folk Lore Society to use their publications.

P. J. HEATHER.

BIOLOGICAL SECTION.

IN the following pages will be found reports for the year 1948 on the mammals, reptiles and batrachians, a very interesting and comprehensive report on birds and an equally full and interesting one on butterflies and moths, the latter being almost entirely the recordings of two members, the Subject Secretary himself and Dr. C. Suffern of Hillhead. To the latter we are also indebted for the whole of the report on the other insects, spiders, etc., which completes the zoological record for the year.

Many members contribute notes on birds and these are very welcome, but there must be many others with interesting records and observations of insect and other forms of life from various parts of the county which we should very much like to receive and place on record in the *Proceedings* of the Field Club.

Reports of lepidoptera should be sent to the Subject Secretary, Air Marshal Sir Robert Saundby, as usual, but observations of other forms of insect life—grasshoppers, dragonflies, beetles, bees and wasps, etc.—and of spiders, slugs, snails and indeed of almost any small living creatures may be sent to the Biological Secretary who will do his best to get them identified if necessary.

Where the identity is not known specimens should be sent and these will be returned if desired.

While on the subject of reports, will anyone who has seen a Red Squirrel in Hampshire since the beginning of 1949 please give particulars.

The botanical reports for the year 1948 follow the zoological reports.

Meteorology, 1948.

January and the first half of February were mild and wet, the temperature falling below freezing point only on one day, 19th January, and the heaviest monthly rainfall of the year, 5½ inches, being recorded in January.

About the middle of February a sharp fall of temperature occurred from a minimum of 46° on 13th to 18° on 20th, which proved to be the coldest day of the year. A little snow fell on that and the succeeding day.

From mid-February to the end of March rainfall was negligible, but the first week of March was foggy and the temperature again fell to freezing on the 23rd. The last three days of March and the first three of April brought southerly gales and nearly 2 inches of rain. Winds during the greater part of April showed a northerly tendency, except for a S.W. storm on 23rd. Small amounts of rain and generally bright warm weather continued throughout April (after the first three days) and for the first three weeks of May the thermometer reaching 79° on May 17th and 18th.

The last week of May produced nearly 2½ inches of rain. June and July were not abnormal in rainfall or temperature, though July was the driest month of the year and the end of July saw the shade temperature reach 91° with a sun temperature of 139° on 28th and 29th.

August was wet, over 4 inches of rain, with stormy weather at the beginning and end of the month and less sunshine than normal.

The first half of September was also rainy and not particularly warm, after which average temperatures and rather less rain continued until the last week of October when the temperature dropped to 26°. A similarly cold spell occurred at the end of the first week in November (on this occasion coinciding with one of Buchan's "cold periods") and was followed by a distinctly warmer but drizzly period becoming definitely rainy at the beginning of December, frosty on several days before Christmas, and finishing up with an inch of rain on December 31st.

(This weather report is based on statistics kindly supplied by the courtesy of Mr. H. J. R. Mabey, Recorder for the Hudson Verity Weather Station, Southampton, to whom our thanks are tendered. It cannot be taken as entirely accurate for other parts of the county.)

General Remarks.

There can be little doubt that the mild winter 1947-48, followed by a warm spring and mild rather damp summer, afforded an opportunity for the regeneration of many of those species, particularly of birds, that suffered so severely in the winter 1946-47.

Song Thrushes increased markedly in numbers, Stonechats and Meadow Pipits began to regain their previous status. Goldcrests and Long-tailed Tits also began to reappear in their old haunts.

The end of the year was notable for the unusual quantity of haws and other berries and almost equally remarkable for the speed with which they were cleared by the Fieldfares.

Trees.

There can be few lovers of nature who do not view with regret, if not with dismay, the wholesale felling of our larger deciduous trees, oak, beech and sweet chestnut, that is now being carried out, and the great acreage of the New Forest that is being transformed into coniferous plantations.

Most of the trees being felled are at least 100 years old and many of them considerably more, and it seems improbable that the magnificent forests they gave us will ever be restored.

Even if one takes the most optimistic view and assumes that after the new plantations of Douglas Fir and Scots Pine have reached maturity and been removed, the broad-leaved trees will be replanted—and this seems a rather improbable assumption in view of the ever-increasing clamour for commercialisation—even if one can assume all this, there cannot be less than a lapse of some 200 to 300 years before the forest resumes its present (and passing) aspect.

Meanwhile the effect on our flora and fauna can only be disastrous. In the impoverished soil of a pine forest very few flowering plants grow, many of our rarer or more attractive flowers cannot but disappear altogether, while the effect on insect and bird life must be a diminution, if not a total disappearance, of those species which frequent the broad-leaved forests with their bountiful undergrowth of bramble, bush and fern.

In many, in fact in most civilised countries their governments have established nature-reserves, where the wild animals are protected and their survival secured as one of the amenities enjoyed by the citizen. In this island our wild animals are a mere handful and rapidly diminishing in the face of what is euphemistically termed "development."

It is time the New Forest was rescued from the demands of the "development"-monger, and was constituted by law what it obviously is by nature, a national park for the preservation of wild life.

F. E. W. VENNING, *Biological Secretary.*

ZOOLOGICAL SECTION REPORT, 1948.

Mammalia.

INSECTIVORA.

Hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus* L.).—One in keeper's "larder" at Pennington, May 16th; very rarely seen round here (Sway) (E.C.).

Mole (*Talpa europaea* L.).—Fairly numerous (R.W.).

Common Shrew (*Sorex araneus* L.).—One dead, April (E.C.).

CARNIVORA.

Fox (*Vulpes vulpes* L.).—Male and female heard during December and January; scarce (R.W.).

Badger (*Meles taxus* Bodd.).—Boar badger killed at Batchley Farm in February; one (? seen) in October (R.W.).

Weasel (*Mustela nivalis* L.).—One August 30th; the first I have heard of since I came here (Sway) (E.C.).

Common Seal (*Phoca vitulina* L.).—The following under the caption "A Seal in the Test" appeared in the *Southern Daily Echo* of May 4th, 1948: "Whilst sailing on the Test last week-end Mr. R. D. Mackrell saw a greyish coloured seal basking on some timber in the 'pound' off Redbridge Yard. Mr. Mackrell . . . accompanied by his son Clarendon, in the latter's dinghy . . . approached to within 120 feet before the seal plunged into the water. They estimated its length at about six to seven feet. Mr. Mackrell has seen an occasional seal in the Test in previous years, but on those occasions the colour has been dark brown."

Later another letter from Mr. A. J. Broadfield stated that in August 1939 while his yacht was anchored in Ower Lake, Calshot, he and his wife were awakened at about 3 a.m. by loud splashing noises, and on going to investigate he found a seal trying to climb into his dinghy. The creature reappeared next morning while they were breakfasting in the cockpit and swam slowly round their boat.

At the suggestion of the President Mr. H. T. White paid a visit to Eling to make inquiries about these reports. He writes: "I was not able to find Mr. Mackrell, but met Mr. Stevens, who lives in a house close to Eling Bridge, and he told me that seals had certainly been seen about Eling and the mouth of the Test for a good many years, and that he had himself seen about a fortnight previously a mother seal with a young one close by his garden wall at Eling Bridge."

Mr. White adds: "This is the Common Seal (*Phoca vitulina*), which is fairly common on the western shores of the British Isles, but according to the *Victoria County History* of Hampshire has rarely been recorded in the county."

RODENTIA.

Grey Squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis* L.).—Seen most days not more than two (R.W.). One on my lawn in snow, February 21st (E.V.). October to December one or two occasionally (E.C.). Now very numerous (R.W.). Hundreds are shot in the New Forest but private woods give them sanctuary; they are plentiful (E.V.).

Red Squirrel (*Sciurus vulgaris* L.).—None since April 1947 (E.C.).

Dormouse (*Muscardinus avellanarius* L.).—One brought in dead by a cat at Great Ballard, New Milton, May 5th; my first record (E.C.).

Water Vole (*Arvicola amphibius* L.).—One water-rat seen in February (R.W.).

Rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus* L.).—Very scarce (R.W.).

Brown Hare (*Lepus europaeus* Pallas.).—None at all in this district (R.W.).

Reptilia and Batrachia.

OPHIDIA.

Grass Snake (*Natrix natrix* L.).—One April 22nd; one May 16th (E.C.). Disturbed a very big, obviously gravid female, in bog at west end of Hatchett Pond, May 12th. It slipped into stream and disappeared, but we found it again a minute later on a small bank. It hissed at us so fiercely that I was reminded of the hiss of a Russell's Viper, like air escaping from a punctured football. When it found we were not alarmed by this it threw itself into a sort of convulsion lashing its head and neck from side to side. This behaviour was in marked contrast to that of one I found in my garden during the war which was being patted by the cat and was quite cowed and made no effort to escape when I rescued it and released it in the bushes (E.V.).

Adder (*Vipera berus* L.).—Two big, dark type, adders together by clump of bushes by bog Butts Ash, April 9th, disappeared immediately into bushes (E.V.).

ECAUDATA.

Common Frog (*Rana temporaria* L.).—First spawn, March 11th (March 17th in 1947 at Hazelhurst, near Sway); a mating gathering of 250 or more (200 counted) near Fritham, March 11th (E.C.).

Pisces.

Lamprey (*Petromyzon* sp. (?) *fluviatilis*).—Two in Avon Water, Mead End, Sway, April 9th (E.C.).

Contributors :	E. Cohen	-	-	E.C.
	H. T. White.			
	R. Whitlock	-	-	R.W.
	F. E. W. Venning	-	-	E.V.

HAMPSHIRE BIRD REPORT, 1947.**Editorial Notes.**

THE most important event of 1947, ornithologically, was the cold spell of late January, February and early March. The effects of this spell of arctic weather, which broke records for severity, are ably summarised for S.W. Hampshire (and the adjacent areas of Dorset and Wiltshire) by Dr. K. B. Rooke. In addition to his comprehensive paper, it will be seen that many of the classified notes refer to the effects of this spell. Also the county owes the influx of a number of rarities to the same cause.

Taking a long view, the smaller passerine birds were the worst sufferers, whereas predatory species, and particularly birds of the Crow family, sustained comparatively little damage. The present abundance of marauding Magpies, Crows and similar bandits will undoubtedly make the recovery of the smaller species more difficult.

Among the rarities reported are the Twite, Waxwing, Hoopoe, Roller, Bittern, Whooper Swan, Bewick's Swan, Grey Lag-Goose, Slavonian Grebe and Avocet.

It seems that a few pairs of Dartford Warblers still manage to survive in the New Forest Area, and we are indebted to Brigadier Venning for providing some interesting data on the nesting of a pair of Montagu's Harriers. In view of the more frequent occurrences of the Bittern in Hampshire and its recovery as a breeding-species in Norfolk we hope that it may soon be nesting with us again. Despite an absence of reports on the species, the Stone Curlew maintains its status on the Hampshire Downs; and it seems at least possible that the Quail nests more frequently than is reported.

As in past years we shall welcome records, which should be sent in as soon as possible after the end of the year. It will be appreciated if contributors will arrange notes under the headings of species rather than dates and if they will write on only one side of the paper.

It is a great disappointment to receive no notes on any other subject than ornithology. Mammals, fishes, insects and other orders have gone completely unrecorded in Hampshire in 1947. We hope that this will be remedied in future years.

Notes on all zoological subjects, not only ornithology, should be sent to Ralph Whitlock, Webb's Farm, Pitton, Salisbury, Wilts.

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Systematic List.

Raven (*Corvus corax corax* L.).—Observed on various occasions in Keyhaven area, presumably from the Isle of Wight (P.L.D.). One pair seen in stubble field, Bransgore, November 3rd (C.P.).

Magpie (*Pica pica pica* L.).—Very numerous in Farnborough, feeding in built-up areas. On March 27th one attacked and injured a grey squirrel after a lengthy fight in trees (G.P. and T.N.). Thirty shot at Milford-on-Sea on January 18th, 35 on February 6th. Very common throughout year (E.R.). Eighteen together on January 19th $\frac{1}{2}$ mile N.W. of Hazelhurst, Sway. Ten together on March 13th at same place (E.C.).

British Jay (*Garrulus glandarius rufitergum* Hart.).—Numerous at Farnborough. On January 4th 10 were seen at once by the Canal (G.P. and T.N.). Several pairs about always at Milford-on-Sea, playing havoc in gardens (E.R.).

Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris vulgaris* L.).—Great invasion of Bransgore during the cold spell, January/February (? continental). In a normally small roost of 40-50, trees were then black with birds, and the branches bent under their weight (C.P.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Hawfinch (*Coccothraustes coccothraustes coccothraustes* L.).—One seen at Petersfield on August 14th, two on December 10th (A.A.S.). Three or four feeding on ash fruit in garden at Southampton for a week around March 20th (J.H.C.). Five at Brockenhurst on February 4th and 30 in one party on February 19th (B.L.). One on tree at Penwood, November 16th (D. and M. S-S.). Juvenile seen in grounds of Thorney Hill House, Bransgore, June 20th. Reported to be fairly common in the New Forest (C.P.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Greenfinch (*Chloris chloris chloris* L.).—See under K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

British Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis britannica* Hart.).—Unusually scarce this year, only one seen at Farnborough on March 12th, several at Beaulieu on July 16th (G.P. and T.N.). Regularly present at Milford-on-Sea. Twenty to 30 feeding on thistle heads on Christmas Day (E.R.). Arrived in unusually large numbers at Rainhill, Petersfield, on May 14th. Full spring song, May 26th. Nest discovered—only two fledglings—on June 12th (A.A.S.). One male singing at Ringwood on January 18th (B.L.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Siskin (*Carduelis spinus* L.).—Seen at Avon Water, near Arnewood Bridge, Sway, on December 14th, about 15 with the same number of Redpolls in alders. The first seen in this area (E.C.). Flock of six birds of both sexes at Hollington, December 16th (D. and M. S-S.).

Lesser Redpoll (*Carduelis flammea cabaret* P.L.S. Müll.).—About 15 seen at Avonwater, near Arnewood Bridge, Sway, on December 14th with the same number of siskins in alders. First seen in this neighbourhood (E.C.). Party of 30 at Ringwood on February 9th (B.L.). Small flock seen near Bransgore on November 1st, feeding in birches. Seen several times afterwards (C.P.).

Twite (*Carduelis flavirostris*).—Party seen at Farnborough, feeding by canal, on January 18th (G.P. and T.N.).

Linnet (*Carduelis cannabina cannabina* L.).—See K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Bullfinch (*Pyrrhula pyrrhula nesa* Math. and Ired.).—See K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

British Chaffinch (*Fringilla coelebs gengleri* Kleinsch.).—Many died around Milford-on-Sea, because of the frost, in February and March (E.R.). Singing at Petersfield on January 12th. Singing in snow and frost on February 22nd and 23rd (W.F.W.). Fewer chaffinches in Lymington and Milford area, possibly owing to the hard weather (K.G.). See K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Brambling (*Fringilla montifringilla* L.).—One seen at Farnborough on December 19th feeding with Chaffinches (G.P. and T.N.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Corn-Bunting (*Emberiza calandra* L.).—Rather scarce in suitable areas near Dorset and Wiltshire borders (K.B.R.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Yellow-Bunting (*Emberiza citrinella citrinella* L.).—First sang on March 14th (E.C.). Singing at Boldre on March 18th (I.G.F.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Cirl Bunting (*Emberiza cirlus cirlus* L.).—Seen at Barton Stacey on May 13th (M.L.R.R.). Cock singing in Keyhaven—Lymington area on December 13th (P.L.D.). Twenty-one arrived in parkland at Bassett on March 7th (P.R.S.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Reed Bunting (*Emberiza schoeniclus schoeniclus* L.).—Very scarce in Andover and neighbourhood after cold weather (W.A.P.).

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus domesticus* L.).—See under K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Tree-Sparrow (*Passer montanus montanus* L.).—A flock of about 20 (both sexes) seen at Lyndhurst on January 13th (J.H.C.).

- Woodlark** (*Lullula arborea arborea* L.).—One singing at Farnborough on April 26th (G.P. and T.N.). One heard singing at Milford-on-Sea in April (E.R.). Heard singing at Sydmonton on September 1st (J.K.S.). Pair at Decoy Pond Farm, Lyndhurst, on April 11th (J.H.C.). Party of 12 on Pitt Down, August 2nd. One flushed on Butser Hill, October 19th (R.H.S.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Skylark** (*Alauda arvensis arvensis* L.).—First song at Pennington marshes on February 26th (E.C.). Singing at Petersfield on January 16th (W.F.W.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Tree Pipit** (*Anthus trivialis trivialis* L.).—First seen at Farnborough on May 11th (G.P. and T.N.); at Barton Stacey on April 22nd (M.L.R.R.); at Longwater, Lyndhurst, on April 12th (J.H.C.).
- Meadow Pipit** (*Anthus pratensis* L.).—Eleven pipits lying by roadside in snow at Lymington, collected on February 23rd. Ten survived in warm room and later flew off, after a good feed (I.G.F.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Rock Pipit** (*Anthus spinoletta petrosus* Mont.).—Two seen on sea wall at Pennington Marshes on November 9th. Specimens occasionally seen there at other times (E.C.).
- Yellow Wagtail** (*Motacilla flava flavissima* Blyth).—One seen in Petersfield on September 5th. Small party seen on migration at Petersfield, September 30th (A.E.H.). Regular on passage at Warsash. Breeds on Itchen at Winchester (P.J.R.C.). A pair and several males at Chilbolton on April 17th (W.A.P.). First seen at Bransgore, April 11th (C.P.).
- Grey Wagtail** (*Motacilla cinerea cinerea* Tunst.).—One, seen at Flexford Bridge in two inches of snow on January 26th. One on lawn at Hazelhurst, Sway, on September 30th (E.C.). One at Ringwood (Kingston) on March 1st (B.L.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Pied Wagtail** (*Motacilla alba yarrellii* Gould).—Seen searching for crumbs in snow outside baker's shop in Petersfield at 5.15 p.m. on January 29th in bitter frost (A.A.S.). Singing at Petersfield on December 21st (W.F.W.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- White Wagtail** (*Motacilla alba alba* L.).—One cock with a cock pied wagtail feeding round the feet of cattle at Lyndhurst on April 30th. The plumage differences were very marked (J.H.C.). One male at Hightown on June 2nd (B.L.).
- British Tree-Creeper** (*Certhia familiaris britannica* Ridgw.).—Not recorded at Petersfield this year. Feared that none in this locality survived the severe cold spell (A.A.S.). Very scarce in Andover and neighbourhood after cold weather (W.A.P.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- British Nuthatch** (*Sitta europaea affinis* Blyth).—Five pairs bred in boxes at Sway (E.C.). Local nuthatches seemed to be wiped out by hard winter and spring at Kingsclere (J.K.S.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- British Great Tit** (*Parus major major* L.).—Seen opening metal tops of milk bottles and drinking milk on January 2nd in Southampton (J.H.C.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- British Blue Tit** (*Parus coeruleus obscurus* Prazak).—Fifty individuals came to food at Hazelhurst, Sway, in December 1946 to April 18th, 1947, compared with 69 December 1945 to March 8th, 1946 (E.C.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- British Coal Tit** (*Parus ater britannicus* Sharpe and Dress.).—A pair reared a brood in a hole in the roof near the front door of a house at Sway (Hazelhurst), 16½ feet above ground, an unusual site (E.C.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

- British Marsh Tit** (*Parus palustris dresseri* Stejn.).—A pair used a nesting box at Hazelhurst, Sway, which is unusual. The box was 12-14 feet above the ground (E.C.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- British Willow Tit** (*Parus atricapillus kleinschmidtii* Hellm.).—One male near Woodgreen on August 22nd (B.L.).
- British Longtailed Tit** (*Aegithalos caudatus rosaceus* Mathews).—Scarce at Farnborough after February. Party flocking with warblers on September 6th (G.P. and T.N.). None at Milford-on-Sea, only one pair having been seen in fourteen years (E.R.). Not recorded at Petersfield this year. It is fear that none of the locals survived the severe cold spell (A.A.S.). Seemed to have been wiped out by the hard winter and spring at Kingsclere (J.K.S.). Very scarce in Andover and neighbourhood after cold weather (W.A.P.). Severely reduced by cold spell, but reliable reports of survivors in Somerley Park, June (K.B.R.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Red-backed Shrike** (*Lanius collurio collurio* L.).—Nesting records for Ringwood (B.L.) and Beaulieu Heath (F.E.W.V.).
- Waxwing** (*Bombicilla garrulus garrulus* L.).—Party of six on bramble and hawthorn by the Canal at Farnborough on January 25th. Very noisy, call note consisting of two consecutive notes, the first resembling alarm "hiss" of the Whitethroat and the second a squeak like that made by a cork in a bottle. Another bird in the same place on March 28th (G.P. and T.N.). Two on lawn at Andover on March 25th (W.A.P.). Seven seen in residential district of Portswood on February 5th, one in local copse on February 27th (P.R.S.).
- Spotted Flycatcher** (*Muscicapa striata striata* Pall.).—First seen at Farnborough on May 16th (G.P. and T.N.); at Barton Stacey on May 13th (M.L.R.R.); at Hazelhurst, Sway, on April 30th. Bred; young flew July 21st (E.C.). First seen at Petersfield on May 4th (A.A.S.); at Hengistbury Head, May 18th (R.A.B.). One at Hightown on September 29th (B.L.). Arrived at Butts Ash, Hythe, on May 4th (F.E.W.V.).
- Pied Flycatcher** (*Muscicapa hypoleuca hypoleuca* Pall.).—A male in garden all day at Hazelhurst, Sway, on April 15th. One reliably reported quite near on April 6th (perhaps the same bird) (E.C.).
- Goldcrest** (*Regulus regulus anglorum* Hart).—Large numbers on banks of the Canal at Farnborough during the last fortnight of January; irregular before this and absent since (G.P. and T.N.). Only one seen in the Sway district—at Bolderwood Farm, near Mark Ash, on October 18th (E.C.). Seen and heard frequently during January at Petersfield. Not seen, however, during or since the severe cold spell (A.A.S.). Very scarce in Andover and neighbourhood since cold weather (W.A.P.). Scarcely any at Hythe since the severe winter (F.E.W.V.). Severely reduced by cold spell, but reliable reports of survivors in Somerley Park, June (K.B.R.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Chiffchaff** (*Phylloscopus collybita collybita* Vieill.).—First seen at Farnborough on April 2nd (G.P. and T.N.); at Hazelhurst, Sway, on March 29th (E.C.); at Petersfield on April 8th. Last seen on October 7th (A.A.S.). First heard at Petersfield during second week in April. Last heard on October 2nd (W.F.W.). First seen at Southampton on April 2nd (J.H.C.); at Hengistbury Head on March 30th (R.A.B.); at Mudeford, March 17th (C.P.). Singing at Portmore, Lymington, on March 28th (I.G.F.). Arrived Warsash March 28th, departed September 15th (P.J.R.C.).
- Willow Warbler** (*Phylloscopus trochilus trochilus* L.).—First seen at Farnborough on April 12th (G.P. and T.N.); at Barton Stacey on April 7th (M.L.R.R.); at Hazelhurst, Sway, on April 10th (E.C.); at Lyndhurst

on April 2nd (J.H.C.) ; at Petersfield on April 4th (W.F.W.) ; on April 9th ; last seen September 15th (A.A.S.). One at Hightown on April 6th, one at Ringwood on September 8th (B.L.). Arrived Warsash, April 9th (P.J.R.C.). Very common in Andover and neighbourhood in May. It is calculated that there is a nest in suitable places every 50 yards (W.A.P.). First seen at Butts Ash, Hythe, on April 14th (F.E.W.V.).

Wood Warbler (*Phylloscopus sibilatrix* Bechst.).—First seen at Farnborough on May 4th (G.P. and T.N.) ; at Pondhead, Lyndhurst, on April 29th (J.H.C.) ; at Bransgore on May 3rd (C.P.). Several at Ringwood on April 9th (B.L.).

Grasshopper Warbler (*Locustella naevia naevia* Bodd.).—First seen and heard at Petersfield on May 12th. Last heard August 12th (A.A.S.).

Reed Warbler (*Acrocephalus scirpaceus scirpaceus* Herm.).—First seen at Hengistbury Head, May 1st (R.A.B.) ; at Bransgore on May 11th (C.P.). Pair in bog on Beaulieu Heath, April 17th (F.E.W.V.).

Sedge Warbler (*Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* L.).—Large party by the Canal at Farnborough on April 26th (G.P. and T.N.). Five at Kingston on April 26th (B.L.). Arrived Warsash, April 16th (P.J.R.C.). First seen Bransgore April 26th (C.P.).

Garden Warbler (*Sylvia borin* Bodd.).—First seen at Barton Stacey on May 13th (M.L.R.R.) ; at Longwater, Lyndhurst, on April 29th (W.F.W.) ; at Butts Ash, Hythe, on April 30th (F.E.W.V.) ; at Bransgore on May 13th (C.P.) ; at Petersfield on May 25th (W.F.W.). One at Burley on April 15th, two at Ringwood on September 5th (B.L.).

Blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla atricapilla* L.).—First seen at Petersfield on April 13th (A.A.S.) ; at Longwater, Lyndhurst, on April 29th (J.H.C.) ; at Bransgore, May 1st (C.P.) ; at Butts Ash, Hythe, on April 17th (F.E.W.V.). Abundant at Warsash. Arrived April 12th (P.J.R.C.).

Whitethroat (*Sylvia communis communis* Lath.).—Seen Petersfield May 12th (A.E.H.). First seen at Farnborough on April 26th (G.P. and T.N.) ; at Barton Stacey on April 22nd (M.L.R.R.) ; at Hengistbury Head, April 25th (R.A.B.) ; at Bransgore, April 26th (C.P.). Arrived Winchester April 24th, departed August 25th (P.J.R.C.). First seen at Butts Ash, Hythe, April 30th (F.E.W.V.).

Lesser Whitethroat (*Sylvia curruca curruca* L.).—First record at Oxley Farm, Pennington, on April 30th (E.C.).

Dartford Warbler (*Sylvia undata dartfordiensis* Lath.).—One pair at Setléy Plain, near Brockenhurst, on April 2nd (E.C.). A first winter male picked up on road near Sway Common on November 16th, 1946. A single bird seen in furze patches on Keyhaven Marshes on December 1st, 12th, 1946, and January 19th (P.L.D.). One pair seen at Hatchet Pond, near Beaulieu. None at Butts Ash, Hythe, after the severe cold winter (F.E.W.V.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Fieldfare (*Turdus pilaris* L.).—Plentiful round Farnborough during the cold spell. One feeding on orange peel in the gutter on March 5th. Last seen March 8th (G.P. and T.N.). Two hundred at Flexford Bridge on February 4th. Many at Keyhaven Marshes on February 10th, about 40 at Flexford Bridge on March 13th. Last date April 5th, when three were seen (E.C.). In large numbers at Waiborne Farm, Boldre, on February 23rd (I.G.F.). Eighteen seen in industrial district of Bitterne on January 30th ; one feeding on fallen haws on February 13th ; 30 more entered locality on February 14th (P.R.S.). Small flock seen flying north on November 4th (C.P.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Mistle Thrush (*Turdus viscivorus viscivorus* L.).—First song at Hazelhurst, Sway, on January 17th (E.C.). One singing at Ringwood on January 13th (B.L.). See also K.B.R. under the "Effects of the Cold Spell."

British Song-Thrush (*Turdus ericetorum ericetorum* Turton).—Only one seen at food put out in the last week of January at Hazelhurst, Sway, when frost and 6 to 8 inches snow were on the ground (E.C.). On more than one occasion during the hot dry summer song-thrushes were observed catching insects on the wing at Petersfield (A.A.S.). In full song in snow on February 24th (W.F.W.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Continental Song-Thrush (*Turdus ericetorum philomelus* Brehm.).—Seen at Andover with flock of starlings on February 17th and March 16th (W.A.P.).

Redwing (*Turdus musicus musicus* L.). Flock of 20 at Farnborough on February 3rd (G.P. and T.N.). Last date at Hazelhurst, Sway, March 23rd. Very few seen all the winter (E.C.). A few by the mouth of the Test on March 8th (R.W.). Large numbers at Warborne Farm, Boldre on February 23rd (I.G.F.). Large flock with a few fieldfares at Weyhill for two days at the end of November (P.F.). Eighty feeding in hedgerow bordering playing fields at Bassett on February 10th, had departed by 8 a.m. on February 11th (P.R.S.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Ring-Ouzel (*Turdus torquatus torquatus* L.).—One on passage at Farnborough on April 7th (G.P. and T.N.). Cock seen on arrival at Mudeford, April 15th (C.P.). Two or three, Blagden Hill, near Martain, March 29th (K.B.R.).

Blackbird (*Turdus merula merula* L.).—Several found dead at Milford-on-Sea during the severe weather (E.R.). First song at Hazelhurst, Sway, March 17th (E.C.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe oenanthe* L.).—Plentiful on open ground near Beaulieu Road during the summer (G.P. and T.N.). First seen at Winchester on March 23rd (M.L.R.R.); at Lymington Marshes on March 18th (three) (E.C.); at Hengistbury Head, March 30th (R.A.B.); at Hythe, April 2nd. Nest and eggs May 22nd (F.E.W.V.); at Lyndhurst on April 4th (J.H.C.). Regular on passage at Warsash, in small numbers; arrived April 15th (P.J.R.C.). One seen at Mudeford, March 18th (C.P.). Several breeding on downland near Dorset border (K.B.R.).

Whinchat (*Saxicola rubetra* L.).—Three at Hightown on April 12th, three at Burley on August 30th (B.L.). First seen at Hengistbury Head, April 19th (R.A.B.).

British Stonechat (*Saxicola torquata hibernans* Hart.).—Pair at Farnborough on January 25th. Frequent in open ground near Beaulieu (G.P. and T.N.). Nest found at Lyndhurst on April 3rd (J.H.C.). Evidently one of the species most severely affected by the cold spell, previously numerous on wasteland, heaths and commons in S.W. Hants, now appears very scarce (K.B.R.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Redstart (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus phoenicurus* L.).—Adult heard and immature not long fledged seen on Eversley Common on July 3rd (H.F.G.). One on heath at Petersfield on August 24th (W.F.W.). One young or adult female at Frensham Pond on July 26th (G.E.P.). First seen at Hengistbury Head April 16th (R.A.B.); at Bransgore, April 18th (C.P.).

Black Redstart (*Phoenicurus ochrurus gibraltariensis* Gm.).—Hen seen briefly on garden wall of Harewood House, Keyhaven, on March 14th (P.L.D.). One seen on Stanpit Marshes, April 17th (C.P.).

Nightingale (*Luscinia megarhynchos megarhynchos* Brehm.).—First heard at Farnborough on April 26th. Last record of song, July 3rd (G.P. and T.N.); at Barton Stacey on May 13th (M.L.R.R.); at Petersfield on May 12th (A.A.S.); at Bransgore, May 4th (C.P.). Numerous at Milford-on-Sea district (E.R.). Abundant at Warsash. Arrived April 18th (P.J.R.C.). Singing at Bassett on April 26th (P.R.S.).

British Robin (*Erithacus rubecula melophilus* Hart.).—One or two sang persistently in cowpen while milking machine was operating at Milford-on-Sea (E.R.). Frequently observed during heatwave catching insects on the wing at Petersfield (A.A.S.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

British Hedge-Sparrow (*Prunella modularis occidentalis* Hart.).—Male seen pecking cloaca of female—female raises tail vertically—at Andover on June 1st (W.A.P.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes troglodytes* L.).—See under K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

British Dipper (*Cinclus cinclus gularis* Lath.).—Seen at Heath Lake at Petersfield on March 8th (A.A.S.).

Swallow (*Hirundo rustica rustica* L.).—First seen at Petersfield on April 19th (A.E.H.); at Farnborough on April 25th—last record September 8th (G.P. and T.N.); at Stanpit Marsh, April 15th (five) (E.C.); at Lyndhurst on April 10th (J.H.C.); at Hengistbury Head, April 14th (R.A.B.); at Bassett, April 16th (P.R.S.); at Bransgore, April 13th (C.P.). Three at Ringwood on April 13th. Two on September 27th (B.L.). Arrived Warsash April 15th (P.J.R.C.).

House Martin (*Delichon urbica urbica* L.).—Much more numerous than the swallow in the Petersfield area. First seen on April 19th. Only a few were left on October 14th (A.E.H.). Three at Crowe on April 20th. Eleven near Ringwood on October 23rd (B.L.). First seen at Farnborough on May 3rd (G.P. and T.N.); at Barton Stacey on April 22nd (M.L.R.R.); at Pennington Marshes on April 28th (E.C.); at Petersfield on April 24th (W.F.W.); in Ringwood valley, March 25th (C.P.).

Sand Martin (*Riparia riparia riparia* L.).—First pair at Lyndhurst on April 14th (J.H.C.). A party of 30 at Hurn, April 5th. They appeared very fatigued, probably just arrived. Colony at Rockford Sandpit estimated to have 350 nests, about 175 in use (B.L.). Arrived Ringwood March 24th (P.R.S.). First seen at Hengistbury Head March 17th (R.A.B.); at Bransgore, March 31st (C.P.).

Swift (*Apus apus apus* L.).—First seen at Pennington Marshes on May 4th. Last date August 16th (E.C.); at Winchester on May 3rd (M.L.R.R.); at Petersfield on May 7th—by August all had left the neighbourhood (W.F.W.); at Hengistbury Head, April 28th (R.A.B.); in Bassett district May 7th (P.R.S.); at Bransgore April 30th (C.P.). Three passing over Lyndhurst at 7 p.m. on April 28th (J.H.C.). Ten over Ringwood on April 22nd. One circling near Fordingbridge August 21st (B.L.). Arrived Winchester April 24th, departed (Freshwater) August 31st (P.J.R.C.).

Nightjar (*Caprimulgus europaeus europaeus* L.).—One male near New Milton on May 26th (B.L.). First seen at Hengistbury Head May 17th (R.A.B.). Nesting on May 17th. On May 24th the observer's cocker spaniel charged practically over bird's head without putting it off the nest. It then had two eggs (Hythe) (F.E.W.V.).

Hoopoe (*Upupa epops epops* L.).—Heard calling twice unmistakably in the early mornings at Kingsclere during April and twice seen by villagers in the Kingsclere area in late April (J.K.S.).

- Roller** (*Coracias garrulus garrulus* L.).—A juvenile seen at Longcross on Cadnam—Fordingbridge Road on September 21st. Apparently gone the next day. (Seen before this by Dr. Pesel.) (E.C.).
- Kingfisher** (*Alcedo atthis ispida* L.).—See under K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Green Woodpecker** (*Picus viridis pluvius* Hart.).—Still quite common in S.W. Hants since the cold spell (K.B.R.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- British Great Spotted Woodpecker** (*Dryobates major anglicus* Hart.).—Unusually scarce this year. One record only at Farnborough on January 26th (G.P. and T.N.). One drummed regularly during the first week in May on the metal caps crowning the telegraph poles along the road by the house at Hazelhurst, Sway. A male caught at roost in nest-box on December 15th (E.C.). One male in garden at Ringwood on February 15th (B.L.). Found dead on road at Houghton on February 21st, probably run over by a car (W.A.P.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- British Lesser Spotted Woodpecker** (*Dryobates minor nomminutus* Hart.).—One seen on February 9th at Milford-on-Sea. One found dead during frost (E.R.). One at Brockenhurst on February 9th (B.L.).
- Wryneck** (*Jynx torquilla torquilla* L.).—First seen at Petersfield on March 24th, also March 27th and April 8th. Last seen September 8th (A.A.S.).
- Cuckoo** (*Cuculus canorus canorus* L.).—First heard at Barton Stacey on April 24th (M.L.R.R.); at Milford-on-Sea on April 26th (E.R.); at Hazelhurst on April 21st (E.C.); at Petersfield on April 12th—last heard June 7th (W.F.W.); at Lyndhurst on April 16th (J.H.C.); at Hengistbury Head on April 26th (R.A.B.); at Longparish on April 14th (W.A.P.); at Bransgore on April 22nd (C.P.). One at Crowe on April 19th (B.L.). Arrived Warsash April 14th (P.J.R.C.).
- Little Owl** (*Athene noctua vidalii* A. E. Brehm.).—One, shot through wing at Warsash in April, soon recovered on a diet of worms and escaped (P.J.R.C.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- White-breasted Barn Owl** (*Tyto alba alba* Scop.).—One hunting at 4 p.m. in broad daylight on January 31st at Hazelhurst, Sway. Mildly mobbed by magpies; 8 in. of snow with frost. The only record (E.C.). Heard and seen hunting in moonlight over deep snow at Petersfield on February 1st. Survived and has continued here all summer and autumn (A.A.S.). Seen at Petersfield in daylight on February 13th chasing sparrows under hedge (W.F.W.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus peregrinus* Tunst.).—One seen throughout the autumn at Milford-on-Sea, probably came across from the Isle of Wight (E.R.). One at Lymington Marshes on March 7th (E.C.). Regular visitors to the marshes, Keyhaven area (P.L.D.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Hobby** (*Falco subbuteo subbuteo* L.).—One observed catching beetles in the evenings of June 27th and July 13th at Ringwood (B.L.). One flying over trees in Southampton, April 8th (F.E.W.V.). Bred successfully in locality near Dorset border (K.B.R.).
- Merlin** (*Falco columbarius aesalon* Tunst.).—One, Wotton, near Milton, on January 5th. One near Bokerley Dyke (Dorset border), harrying a huge flock of skylarks, March 7th (K.B.R.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Kestrel** (*Falco tinnunculus tinnunculus* L.).—Becoming increasingly numerous at Petersfield (A.A.S.). Six observed in one party near Burley on August 16th (B.L.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Common Buzzard (*Buteo buteo buteo* L.).—One flying high at Farnborough on May 13th, also one circling at Beaulieu on July 19th (G.P. and T.N.). Pair observed at Lyndhurst on January 12th (J.H.C.). One male observed soaring and then stooped like peregrine, on January 12th (B.L.). Four in flight near Ashmansworth, September 28th (D. and M. S-S.). Have apparently deserted the site they have occupied every year for at least the last four years. Seem to be increasing in the New Forest (F.E.W.V.). Evidently bred in locality near Dorset border, where three seen on August 3rd and one subsequently shot by a gamekeeper (August) (K.B.R.).

[Marsh Harrier (*Circus aeruginosus aeruginosus* L.).—A dark brown harrier seen on December 1st. By its heavier build was probably a marsh harrier; distance too great to identify with certainty. Last seen flying towards Sturt Pond (P.L.D.).]

Montagu's Harrier (*Circus pygargus* L.).—One circling field near Winchester on September 26th, mobbed by rooks (M.L.R.R.). Female or immature bird close to Hants—Dorset border on July 29th. Male reported about a mile away on September 1st and narrowly escaped being shot by gamekeeper (K.B.R.).

Sparrow Hawk (*Accipiter nisus nisus* L.).—See K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Common Heron (*Ardea cinerea cinerea* L.).—One apparently trying to make hole in thick ice on Walhampton Lake on March 2nd; this lake teems with small roach (I.G.F.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Bittern (*Botaurus stellaris stellaris* L.).—A single bird seen in rough wet meadow west of Keyhaven reed bed on January 17th. Again seen on February 19th when flushed from thick reeds (P.L.D.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Whooper Swan (*Cygnus cygnus* L.).—Four adults and two juveniles on large pond near river at Kingston Common, Ringwood, on March 8th (B.L.). Four seen from train on the River Itchen; near Shawford, on March 7th. Colour and shape of beak was easily seen (C.P.). Three wary adults in Christchurch Harbour and later about ½-mile out in bay on February 23rd. Seen again in harbour, March 2nd. Clearly identified in bright sun, extent of yellow on bill characteristic and size approximately that of Mute Swan (direct comparison) (K.B.R.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Bewick's Swan (*Cygnus bewickii bewickii* Yarr.).—One adult in company with six whoopers at Hurn on April 5th (B.L.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor* Gm.).—About 150 around Stanpit June 12th (B.L.). Eggs in a nest at Winchester on April 24th, concealed beneath rushes (P.J.R.C.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Grey Lag-Goose (*Anser anser anser* L.).—Seen up the Avon Valley during the cold spell (C.P.). One of two birds (immature male) shot near Ringwood on February 11th. One clearly identified, flying, with skein of White-fronts, south over Ringwood on March 9th (K.B.R.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons albifrons* Scop.).—Identified in Avon Valley during the cold spell (C.P.). Skein of about 20 flew N.N.E. over central Bournemouth during a snowstorm on January 29th. About 70 seen in the Avon Valley between Ringwood and Fordingbridge on January 25th. Over 2,000 estimated to have been in this area during February. Seven hundred grazing in meadows north of Ringwood on March 4th and on March 9th in bright sunshine. Skein after skein flew

south between 200 feet and 500 feet over Ringwood. Later at least another 200 were seen in the meadows. About 600 on December 29th (K.B.R.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Geese (Sp. ?).—On January 19th about 40 in V-formation passed from east to south-west of Milford-on-Sea. Too dark to ascertain species (E.R.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis* Bechst.).—Three seen near old rifle butts, Keyhaven—Lymington area on December 17th, 1946, in hard frosty weather (P.L.D.).

Brent Goose (*Branta bernicla*).—One hundred and eighty passed over Ringwood in one skein on March 2nd. Seven hundred passed over, 300 in one large gaggle on March 8th. One flying down Avon, near Ringwood, on April 4th (B.L.). Visited the Solent during December. Thirteen seen at Hamble on 21st, 15 at Titchfield Haven on 22nd, two at Warsash on 24th (P.J.R.C.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Dark-breasted Brent Goose (*Branta bernicla bernicla* L.).—Ninety-four off the Pennington Marshes on February 25th, 80 on March 18th. Four in the same place on November 1st (E.C.).

Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis canadensis* L.).—Ten or 12 flew over Petersfield on January 21st and most of them remained until February 24th on a little patch of unfrozen water under the trees. On March 3rd 32 flew over and joined them for a few days. On March 16th there was only one, probably with an injured wing and unable to fly. From May to August there were frequently two. October 4th one only. November 5th to 8th, December 9th to 12th (A.E.H.). One seen flying at Farnborough on July 19th (G.P. and T.N.).

Sheld Duck (*Tadorna tadorna* L.).—About 60 at Pennington Marshes on February 25th, 130 on March 7th, 50 on March 18th, 10 on November 1st (E.C.). About 40 at Kingston on March 8th (B.L.). Seen flying out to sea from Stanpit Marshes on March 2nd. Over 200 at Keyhaven Marshes on March 13th (C.P.).

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos* L.).—Fewer at Petersfield this year, only a few ducklings being reared (A.E.H.). In large numbers during the cold spell up the Avon to Ibsley (C.P.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Teal (*Anas crecca crecca* L.).—Forty at Milford-on-Sea on February 14th (E.R.). Nine drakes and one duck at Hatchet Pond on January 7th (E.C.). One on Heath Lake, Petersfield, on January 31st (W.F.W.). Several at the mouth of the Test on March 8th; also several at Beaulieu (R.W.). In large numbers at Toll Gate on January 4th—quite noisy, on fresh-water side of Toll Gate on February 16th, still in large numbers on March 6th (I.G.F.). Two hundred going south along the Avon on January 8th. Twenty near Ringwood on October 11th (B.L.). Two at Warsash on December 21st, 70 at Titchfield House on December 23rd and 26th (P.J.R.C.). In large numbers at Ibsley during the cold spell (C.P.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Wigeon (*Anas penelope* L.).—One drake at Hatchet Pond on January 7th. About six at Pennington Marshes on February 25th (E.C.). Several at the mouth of the Test on March 8th (R.W.). One male at Harbridge on November 15th (B.L.). About 200 at Titchfield Haven on December 23rd and many out in the Solent. About 150 feeding on the grass on December 26th. Four in the Hamble on December 25th and about 30 on the coast at Warsash (P.J.R.C.). Came in large numbers up the Avon to Ibsley during the cold spell (C.P.). Fifty to 100 near mouth of Beaulieu River by September 30th (K.B.R.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

- Pintail** (*Anas acuta acuta* L.).—At Ibsley during the cold spell (C.P.). Fifty or more identified among a large number of duck fighting down stream over Stanpit Marsh towards the bay on March 2nd. Three at least in Avon Valley between Ringwood and Fordingbridge on March 9th (K.B.R.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Shoveler** (*Spatula clypeata* L.).—Two drakes at Pennington Marshes on March 7th (E.C.). Large numbers at Ibsley during the cold spell; Stanpit Marshes on March 2nd; Keyhaven on March 13th. Several pairs seen up the Avon Valley on April 26th (C.P.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Common Pochard** (*Aythya ferina* L.).—Two birds on Milford Lake, November 30th (D. and M. S-S.). Seen flying out to sea from the Stanpit Marshes on March 2nd (C.P.).
- Tufted Duck** (*Aythya fuligula* L.).—Seven at Milford-on-Sea on May 10th (E.R.). One drake at Hatchet Pond on January 7th (E.C.). Eleven on Heath Lake on January 18th (W.F.W.). Five at Kingston on March 8th (B.L.). Pair on Milford Lake, November 30th (D. and M. S-S.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Golden Eye** (*Bucephala clangula* L.).—Seen in Christchurch Harbour during the cold spell (C.P.).
- Goosander** (*Mergus merganser merganser* L.).—One female at Hatchet Pond on January 7th (E.C.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Red-breasted Merganser** (*Mergus serrator* L.).—A single male near Keyhaven on December 20th (P.L.D.). Adult picked up on Mudeford beach, March 18th. In good condition, no sign of injury or oil (C.P.).
- Smew** (*Mergus albellus* L.).—Two birds, females or immature, seen on lagoon inside of sea wall, Keyhaven, on February 5th (P.L.D.). At Ibsley during cold spell (C.P.). Female shot on the Avon, near Fordingbridge, about February 14th (K.B.R.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax carbo carbo* L.).—One inland at Winchester on April 25th (P.J.R.C.). One with white thigh patch at Lymington Marshes on March 18th (E.C.).
- Shag** (*Phalacrocorax aristotelis aristotelis* L.).—Two on Heath Lake on January 18th (W.F.W.).
- Gannet** (*Sula bassana* L.).—One several miles west of the Needles on August 11th (P.J.R.C.). One dead (oiled) on beach at Hengistbury Head, January 11th (R.A.B.).
- Storm Petrel** (*Hydrobates pelagicus* L.).—Found dead on beach at Hengistbury Head, January 3rd (R.A.B.).
- Great-crested Grebe** (*Podiceps cristatus cristatus* L.).—One seen at Petersfield on November 2nd (A.E.H.). One off shore at Titchfield Haven on December 22nd (P.J.R.C.); at Mudeford February 16th and March 2nd. One reported dead near Ibsley during the hard weather in February, having apparently flown into a wire (K.B.R.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Slavonian Grebe** (*Podiceps auritus* L.).—One on February 25th and two on March 7th at Pennington Marshes (close view with field glasses) (E.C.).
- Little Grebe** (*Podiceps ruficollis ruficollis* Pall.).—See under K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Great Northern Diver** (*Colymbus immer* Brünn.).—One on Heath Lake on January 31st (W.F.W.).
- Black-throated Diver** (*Colymbus arcticus arcticus* L.).—A bird, possibly of this species, seen within a few yards of the quay at Keyhaven on January 22nd (P.L.D.).

Wood Pigeon (*Columba palumbus palumbus* L.).—Heard cooing at Petersfield first week in January, at 7.3 a.m. in fog and 12 degrees of frost on January 22nd, in snow and frost on January 27th (W.F.W.). Very large numbers came into Milford-on-Sea from the sea in December and fed on the clover and young wheat (E.R.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Turtle Dove (*Streptopelia turtur turtur* L.).—Seen at Petersfield from May 26th onwards (A.E.H.); on May 12th (A.A.S.). First date at Hazelhurst, Sway, May 8th (two seen). Far fewer this year (E.C.). Arrived Warsash April 22nd (P.J.R.C.). First seen at Hengistbury Head, May 3rd (R.A.B.); at Bransgore May 8th (C.P.).

Black-tailed Godwit (*Limosa limosa limosa* L.).—Three at Pennington Marshes on March 18th (E.C.).

Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica lapponica* L.).—About 20 at Pennington Marshes on February 25th. One on March 18th, eight on May 6th, one on November 9th. One adult at Stanpit Marsh on August 16th (E.C.). Several at Warsash on January 18th, 20 on December 24th (P.J.R.C.). Found dead on beach at Hengistbury Head on March 14th (R.A.B.).

Common Curlew (*Numenius arquata arquata* L.).—Frequent at Beaulieu Road during July (G.P. and T.N.). Several seen and heard throughout the year at Milford-on-Sea (E.R.). Plentiful at Pennington Marshes in February, March and November. Very few in May (E.C.). On moors at Longwater, Lyndhurst by April 2nd (J.H.C.). Plentiful on the Solent except during the breeding season (P.J.R.C.). Nest with four eggs completely in the open, June 6th (F.E.W.V.). One attacked and driven off by furious lapwing at Broughton on April 28th (P.R.S.). Well over 250 seen at Keyhaven Marshes on March 13th (C.P.).

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus phaeopus* L.).—About 50 at Pennington Marshes on May 4th. Three and 10 on May 5th and 6th, respectively at Hazelhurst, Sway, in a dairy pasture bordered on two sides by woodland, in a direct line from where seen on May 4th. Always a few on the marshes from April 29th to May 19th (E.C.). First seen at Hengistbury Head May 4th (R.A.B.); at Bransgore on May 10th (C.P.).

Woodcock (*Scolopax rusticola* L.).—One at Hazelhurst, Sway, on February 7th. The only record (E.C.). One in wood west of Alton on May 25th (H.F.G.). Unusually large number seen in nesting season at Kingsclere, possibly owing to the hard winter and spring. One sitting bird seen near Highclere on April 20th (J.K.S.). One reported in observer's garden, Bournemouth, on February 25th (C.P.). Reported roding in wood near Dorset border, April (K.B.R.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Common Snipe (*Capella gallinago gallinago* L.).—See under K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."

Jack Snipe (*Lymnocyrtus minimus* Brunn.).—Two at Keyhaven on February 10th (E.C.).

Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres interpres* L.).—One at Pennington Marshes on March 18th, about seven on November 9th, two on May 13th, four on May 14th. One at Stanpit Marsh on August 16th (E.C.). Observed in small numbers at Warsash in September and December (P.J.R.C.).

Knot (*Calidris canutus canutus* L.).—Three in summer plumage on Pennington Marshes on May 4th. Three on October 1st (E.C.). Several at Warsash on January 18th and 19th (P.J.R.C.).

Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*).—Seen at Pennington Marshes on February 25th (not counted). Twenty-three on April 28th, never more than five in May. About 150 on November 9th. Seen at mouth of Lymington River, one

- mile east of Pennington, nine in summer plumage on May 27th. Twelve on June 27th, six on July 12th. Many at Stanpit Marsh, Christchurch, on August 16th (E.C.). Many at the mouth of the Test on March 8th (R.W.). Very numerous at Warsash except in early summer (P.J.R.C.).
- Curlew Sandpiper** (*Calidris testacea* Pall.).—One adult and one other probable seen at Ringwood on March 1st. Frequented Kingston area and along the Avon (B.L.).
- Little Stint** (*Calidris minuta* Leisl.).—Flock of about 20 on mud at Toll Gate, Lymington, on February 16th (I.G.F.).
- Sanderling** (*Crocethia alba* Pall.).—Eighteen at Pennington Marshes on May 18th (the only record) (E.C.). In winter plumage at Stanpit Marsh on April 27th (J.H.C.). One in winter plumage, Mudeford, February 16th (K.B.R.).
- Common Sandpiper** (*Actitis hypoleucos* L.).—Two at Pennington Marshes on April 29th. From one to three on several dates up to May 13th. About 18 at Stanpit Marsh on August 16th. Two flying S.E. on edge of sea at Milford on August 22nd (E.C.). Two near Heath Lake on July 7th (W.F.W.). Two at Kingston on April 26th (B.L.). First seen at Hengistbury Head, May 12th (R.A.B.); at Bransgore, April 25th (C.P.).
- British Redshank** (*Tringa totanus britannica* Math.).—Seen at Aldershot Sewage Farm on February 17th (G.P. and T.N.). Four young with two adults at Kingston during late June (B.L.). A common wader at Warsash. Two at Winchester on April 26th (P.J.R.C.).
- Greenshank** (*Tringa nebularia* Gunn.).—One on February 25th at Pennington Marshes, four on February 26th, one on March 7th, two on March 18th, one on March 29th, one on May 4th, one on May 14th (E.C.).
- Ringed Plover** (*Charadrius hiaticula hiaticula* L.).—At least one pair bred at mouth of Lymington River and probably at least tried to on Pennington Marsh where also present in small numbers in February and March. Many at Stanpit Marsh on August 16th (E.C.). Several at the mouth of the Test on March 8th (R.W.). Common at Warsash, two at Winchester on April 26th (P.J.R.C.).
- Golden Plover** (*Pluvialis apricaria*).—Quite a big flock seen flying over fields at Bransgore on December 8th. A solitary one at Stanpit Marshes, November 31st (C.P.). About ten near Damerham, March 4th, three at North Gorley, March 9th (K.B.R.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Grey Plover** (*Squatarola squatarola* L.).—About three at Pennington Marshes on February 25th, six on March 7th, 35 on March 18th, from one to five at various dates between April 29th and May 18th. Three on October 1st, two on November 1st and one on November 9th (E.C.). A party of about 50 passed over Ringwood on April 26th (B.L.). Four at Warsash on December 18th, 12 on 19th and one on 23rd (P.J.R.C.). One at Mudeford, February 16th, two or more March 2nd (K.B.R.).
- Lapwing** (*Vanellus vanellus* L.).—Flying south in large numbers at dusk on October 27th at Petersfield (A.A.S.). About 1,000 seen in flocks over Totton Causeway on January 15th (J.H.C.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Avocet** (*Recurvirostra avosetta* L.).—Party of five put up while sailing at Keyhaven. Characteristic upcurved bills, black and white plumage and trailing greyish legs, easily visible as birds flew across at close range (D.A.J.W.).
- British Oyster-Catcher** (*Haematopus ostralegus occidentalis* Neum.).—Never more than four birds at Pennington Marshes on visits in February, March, April and May. A pair bred at the mouth of the Lymington River. Two at Stanpit Marsh on August 16th (E.C.). About 20 at Lymington on September 27th (B.L.). Several at Warsash during autumn and winter

- (P.J.R.C.). Two seen in Southampton Water on June 17th (P.R.S.). Ten to twenty in Christchurch Harbour and on the beach on January 29th in a bitter easterly gale; several on February 16th, two on March 23rd and about twelve flew out of the harbour at high water on March 2nd (K.B.R.).
- Stone Curlew** (*Burhinus oedicanus oedicanus* L.).—Five seen near Winchester (Pitt Down area) on August 2nd (R.H.S.).
- Sandwich Tern** (*Sterna sandvicensis sandvicensis* Lath.).—Group of nine on Stanpit Marshes, April 17th (C.P.).
- Common Tern** (*Sterna hirundo hirundo* L.).—Forty near Ringwood on April 26th (B.L.). Five very tame birds inland at Winnall Moor, Winchester, on April 25th, two on Hamble River on September 12th. First arrived Winchester April 24th. Departed Hamble September 12th (P.J.R.C.). Two found dead on the beach at Hengistbury Head, March 14th (R.A.B.). First seen at Bransgore on March 18th (C.P.).
- Arctic Tern** (*Sterna macrura* Naumann.).—One definitely identified at Pennington Marshes (two). Breeds (E.C.). One fishing at Hurst Castle on April 27th (J.H.C.). Three with common terns at Ringwood on April 26th (B.L.). Seen in large numbers fishing up the Avon Valley, April 26th. Blood-red beak and larger tail feathers specially noted (C.P.).
- Little Tern** (*Sterna albifrons albifrons* Pall.).—First seen on April 28th at Pennington Marshes (two). Breeds (E.C.). One fishing at Hurst Castle on August 13th (P.J.R.C.). First seen at Hengistbury Head April 29th (R.A.B.); at Bransgore April 27th (C.P.).
- Black-headed Gull** (*Larus ridibundus ridibundus* L.).—Very large numbers at the mouth of the Test on March 8th. Few in spring plumage (R.W.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- British Lesser Black-backed Gull** (*Larus fuscus graellsii* Brehm.).—First seen March 30th at Bransgore (C.P.).
- Great Black-coated Gull** (*Larus marinus* L.).—In icy weather on January 29th, 15 or more adults and one or more immature trying to take shelter in Christchurch Harbour. One there February 16th, several adults February 23rd and March 2nd (K.B.R.).
- Southern Guillemot** (*Uria aalge albionis* With.).—One found at Milford-on-Sea on February 20th and sent to the Zoo (E.R.).
- Southern Puffin** (*Fratercula arctica grabae* Brehm.).—Found dead on beach at Milford-on-Sea (E.R.).
- Corn Crane** (*Crex crex* L.).—One pair near Ringwood on April 26th (B.L.).
- Water-Rail** (*Rallus aquaticus aquaticus* L.).—One at Milford-on-Sea in December (E.R.). Up to six individual birds seen at various times in and about the Keyhaven reed-bed (none seen since the hard weather) (P.L.D.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Moorhen** (*Gallinula chloropus chloropus* L.).—Over 30, including five to six juveniles, seen at a small pond $\frac{1}{2}$ -mile north of New Milton on November 29th in open weather (E.C.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Coot** (*Fulica atra atra* L.).—Many in packs at the mouth of the Test on March 8th (R.W.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Red-legged Partridge** (*Alectoris rufa rufa* L.).—One reported (mid-April) as having rested for half-an-hour on roof-top in Aldershot before flying off (G.P. and T.N.). See also K.B.R. in "The Effects of the Cold Spell."
- Quail** (*Coturnix coturnix coturnix* L.).—Typical calls heard repeatedly in two localities about a mile apart on cultivated downland near Dorset border. One bird calling in winter oat field on July 26th, the other in mixed oats and barley on July 27th and 29th (K.B.R.).

Nesting of Montagu's Harriers.

(I have purposely omitted giving locality, for obvious reasons!)

- May 3.—♀ harrier first observed beating up and down bog.
 „ 5.—Harrier still there.
- June 1.—Pair of harriers seen in same place.
 „ 2.—Harriers watched; still uncertain whether Hen harrier or Montagu's.
 „ 5.—Saw ♀ go down into thick patch of gorse, and after prolonged watching found nest with one egg, in nest closely surrounded by thick gorse about 2 feet high.
 „ 15.—Visited nest, expecting to find four or five eggs, but found only two! My own tracks did not approach near enough to have picked up an egg and I could see no signs or tracks of anyone else having done so.
 „ 23.—Watched harriers nearly all day; cock bringing food to hen, which he gave on ground not far from nest after flying over nest and calling her. Certainly Montagu's.
 „ 29.—Again watching cock bringing food, given in same way. No passing of food in the air. Measured the two eggs with calipers without handling them. Egg measurements confirm Montagu's harriers.
- July 2.—Cock brought food as usual, but hen, instead of eating on spot, took it to nest. Found one chick and one egg. Noted that when hen left nest, by upward spring, she scattered eggs, and later chicks, often right off the nest pad or edges of gorse. Query accidental or purposeful?
 „ 4.—Second chick hatched.
 „ 6.—Both parents off nest and hunting for food.
 „ 10.—Hen came off nest when I was some distance away and I found nest empty, but both chicks off edge of nest; one on its back!
 „ 12.—Harriers feeding chicks.
 „ 17.—Saw cock harrier on moor about $\frac{1}{2}$ -mile from nest site; apparently flying away from it.
 „ 18 and 19.—Nest empty and no sign of harriers or young anywhere within 2-mile radius.

I fear that the young must have been taken by some bird of prey, possibly buzzard or even ? seagull. No signs of fox having forced its way through gorse zereba, and I doubt if parents would have moved young at such an early stage or for so great a distance!

The Effects of the Cold Spell (January to March, 1947).

By DR. K. B. ROOKE.

Introductory.

These notes are the result very largely of personal observations made almost daily during the cold spell, in E. Dorset and S.W. Hants, with some reference to status of birds in S. Devon in April, and to information from a few other observers and to published records. Personal observations were made largely during the course of other duties, and are necessarily very incomplete. They have been given reasonably fully, in the hope that they may link up with records from others and give greater completeness to the picture, both local and general, of the effect of the disastrous cold on bird-life. It is realised that some records have only a local significance, and that many by themselves are of little value. Lack of recent personal experience of the area mainly covered, during a breeding season prior to the cold spell, has made accurate estimation of the reduction of breeding populations difficult. No attempt has been made to collect observations from others, or to refer to the literature, except for records which appear to be relevant and which have come casually to my notice.

Birds Found Dead.

The majority of these records from my notes refer to deaths not directly due to cold, but nevertheless indirectly attributable to it. This subject is discussed in the next section.

Starling.—Male in full winter plumage, showing no sign of disease or injury, found under a roadside yew, had evidently died of cold and starvation. It had no subcutaneous fat and its gizzard contained only a few husks of corn (near Cranborne, Dorset, February 2nd, 1947). Several were killed on the roads (see Chaffinch, etc.):

Chaffinch.—Unusual numbers were killed on the roads in W. Hants and E. Dorset during the cold spell. Weak and hungry, they were attracted to roads and roadside hedges for food and shelter and fell easy victims to the traffic.

Skylark.—Of a large flock put up from a small stubble-field, two were injured by telegraph wires and fell into the road where one of them was killed by a passing car (near Canford, Dorset, February 23rd, 1947). Unusual numbers of these birds were in unfamiliar surroundings as a result of the cold, to which this accident was indirectly due.

Mistle-Thrush.—One dead on Stanpit Marsh, Christchurch Harbour, March 2nd, 1947, probably from starvation.

Thrush (Sp. ?).—Several found dead by a farmer had evidently been trying to excavate through the snow in search of food (near Cranbourne, about January 30th, 1947).

Song-Thrush, Redwing, Blackbird.—Unusual numbers were killed on the roads in W. Hants and E. Dorset (see Chaffinch, above). A redwing killed in this way was very emaciated and had no subcutaneous fat (Crichel, Dorset, February 27th, 1947).

Wren.—One picked up moribund under a tree failed to revive with warmth and died apparently from cold and starvation (Alderholt, Dorset, February 18th, 1947).

Little Owl.—One killed by a car was in fairly good condition (near Cranborne, February 24th, 1947).

Tufted Duck.—An immature male shot on a narrow stretch of unfrozen river, was in fairly good condition (R. Stour, near Canford, Dorset, February 1st, 1947).

Goosander.—One "brownhead" examined, of two shot on narrow stretch of river, was very fat and had its gullet full of salmon parr and gudgeon (Canford, February 13th, 1947).

Notes on Causes of Death.

That the *direct* effects of cold and starvation are by no means the only important causes of the great increase in bird-mortality in a severe cold spell was perhaps insufficiently stressed in the report on the 1939-40 winter (*British Birds*, Vol. XXXIV, p. 129, etc.)

Firstly, one must not overlook the obvious fact that birds weakened by age, disease or injury, are more likely to succumb than healthy ones. This was apparently an important factor in the mortality of Red Grouse in early 1947, according to a report in *The Field* (August 9th, 1947, p. 150), which quotes a Perthshire correspondent as saying: "A certain number . . . died during the severe weather, . . . but the strongest birds survive frosts, and old keepers believed that hard winters made healthy grouse."

Secondly, environmental changes and unusual movements and behaviour due to cold expose birds to greater risks of violent or accidental death (including human agency, predators and hazards of migration), whether or not they suffer directly from cold and starvation.

Thirdly, birds weakened by cold and hunger succumb much more easily to such accidental hazards, although they might have survived the effects of cold and starvation alone.

This increased incidence of violent death, indirectly attributable to cold, is of considerable proportions. For example, I saw more birds killed on the roads by traffic in W. Hants and E. Dorset during the cold spell than birds dying from all other causes. Of course the former were far more easily found than the latter which doubtless greatly outnumbered them. Song-Thrushes, Redwings, Blackbirds, Chaffinches and Starlings were most frequent victims of this slaughter on the roads which was on a scale far larger even than the usual summer massacre of juveniles. Compared with the mild winter of 1947-48 it was of the order of a hundred times as great.

During the cold spell unusual numbers of wildfowl appeared on small unfrozen stretches of water and marsh and many fell easy victims to local sportsmen. The diving ducks suffered particularly in this way, e.g., Tufted Duck and Goosander (*supra*) and a Snipe shot on the Avon near Fordingbridge. A Bittern was only saved from a similar fate by an enlightened keeper in the Allen Valley N. of Wimborne, Dorset. Very large bags of Snipe were reported during the cold weather, even during the close season. Local sportsmen and taxidermists could undoubtedly furnish a formidable list of birds which but for the cold would not have been shot, and which would have survived but for human interference.

Concerning predators, an experienced keeper in E. Dorset told me that the severe weather did not cause much mortality among Partridges except that more than usual were killed by hawks (? Peregrine). Possible factors in this case include increased numbers or voracity of the latter and snow making the Partridges more conspicuous. Merlins were seen on several occasions harrying the large flocks of Skylarks on arable land in February and March (E. Dorset); but it may be that the influx of Skylarks brought with it a proportional number of predators and that there was no *increased* mortality from this cause.

In a rather different category was the behaviour of the Common Gull which, under the influence of the cold, appeared to become much more predaceous than usual. More than 15 miles inland in E. Dorset they were frequently seen quartering up and down the roads, evidently on the lookout for weaklings or victims of the traffic among the unusual numbers of small birds congregated in the hedges and roadways. One was seen to swoop among a feeding flock of Skylarks in a field, to their great alarm, and fly off with an object in its bill which looked suspiciously like a bird. In normal winter weather in this area the Common Gull is almost exclusively a ground feeder on arable and pasture land.

Unusual Movements.

Snow began to fall in the Bournemouth area on January 26th, 1947. On the 27th, during a short casual watch at 1.0 p.m., two parties of Lapwing (36 in all) were seen flying steadily W.S.W. over Boscombe at 200 to 300 feet, obviously on the move from inland to the coast. Mr. Brewer, the warden at Hengistbury Head, told me afterwards that he had seen Lapwing flying out to sea "as usual" when the snow came this year, but not in the very large numbers which he reported in the cold spell of December 1933, apparently (see *British Birds*, Vol. XXVIII, p. 308). He had not noticed other species involved in this movement.

On January 29th it snowed at intervals, after 17 degrees of frost the previous night, and 3in. to 4in. of snow covered the ground. Between 10 a.m. and mid-day an intermittent stream of Fieldfares, Redwings and Starlings, each in separate parties, was flying approximately S.W. over central Bournemouth at 200 to 400 feet. Over one small part of the town I estimated from sample counts that a minimum of 400 Fieldfares, 250 Redwings and 150 Starlings

(and probably twice this number) were passing per hour. The Fieldfares were in parties of up to 28 and the Redwings up to 35, but usually between 10 and 20, while the Starlings were in groups of 20-50 at a time. The flight was strong and direct, and only a very occasional straggler Fieldfare came down as if in search of food. One party of nine Lapwing flew over on the same course.

During the same period (January 29th) quite a distinct movement of Fieldfares, Redwings, Skylarks and Meadow Pipits (possibly also involving Starlings and a few Pied Wagtails) in a westerly and north-westerly direction was in progress. They were flying in smaller parties, less directly and much lower than those coming from inland, and gave the impression of tired migrants coming in from the shore and fanning out over the town in search of food and shelter.

In the afternoon (January 29th) there was no sign of an exodus down the lower Stour and Avon valleys in the Holdenhurst and Christchurch areas. A bitter easterly gale was lashing Christchurch Bay and the open water in the harbour, and the only movement seen was in a westerly direction, before the wind. About 2.30 p.m. a straggling party of some 25 Fieldfares flew west at 50-100 feet over Stanpit and the harbour. At 3.15 p.m. a party of about the same size was seen flying west or W.N.W. only 20-30 feet over the waves, half a mile out to sea off Mudeford, and then struggling in towards Hengistbury Head. Subsequently three parties of 20-30 Skylarks flew low over the waves on the same course, before veering N.W. to the relative shelter of the harbour and land.

Both Fieldfares and Skylarks must have come some distance over the sea from the direction of the Isle of Wight, and this, taken in conjunction with the westerly movement over Bournemouth in the morning, suggests a down-channel movement, perhaps of birds from the continent (see *British Birds*, Vol. XXV, p. 142; and *Proceedings Bournemouth Nat. Sci. Soc.*, 1939, Vol. XXXI, p. 32).

January 30th was a day of snow storms and no movement of birds was noted during short watches in Bournemouth.

On January 31st it was slightly warmer and less stormy. Large numbers of Fieldfares and fewer Redwings were flying westwards over and through Bournemouth, often fairly low and halting in gardens for food and shelter. This movement was in progress at least from 11.0 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. over the town from Boscombe to Westbourne. One flock of about 200 Fieldfares flew west over the Square after a temporary halt in the Pleasure Gardens; and I estimated that tens of thousands must have passed during the day. Occasional Skylarks, Meadow Pipits and Wagtails and a number of Starlings were also seen, but perhaps not on the move.

February 1st brought a slight thaw and weak sunshine, though most of the countryside in E. Dorset was still under several inches of snow. Numerous parties of Fieldfares and Redwings in much smaller numbers were seen in fields and hedges and flying over in the Cranborne - Wimborne - Broadstone area, but directional bias, if any, not noted. Dr. K. B. Clarke reported a large movement of Fieldfares and Redwings going S. or S.W. between Fordingbridge and Brooke in the north of the New Forest, Hants. A number of small parties of Skylarks and occasional Meadow Pipits and Pied Wagtails in places where the snow was thinnest, in E. Dorset, were evidently the result of weather movements of the species in the preceding few days. The same probably applies to some at least of the many Starlings congregated in parties of 50-100 on small patches of thawing ground.

During the remainder of the cold weather I noticed little actual movement, perhaps partly from lack of opportunity, but a very large influx of Skylarks, marked increase of Common Snipe, and virtual disappearance of Lapwing in the Hants - Dorset border areas was undoubtedly due to the cold. Starlings seemed perhaps more abundant than usual. Further notes on this subject are given on the species concerned in the annotated list.

Classified List of Species Affected.

CORVIDAE.

Large flocks of Rooks and Jackdaws remained in E. Dorset during the cold spell. Neither these nor the Magpie and Jay appear to have suffered much reduction in the area.

STURNIDAE.

Starlings were quite numerous in E. Dorset, perhaps mainly due to an influx from areas more severely affected by the cold, during February and March. A distinct weather-movement over Bournemouth in a S.W. direction from inland on January 29th has been described above; possibly they may also have been involved in the westerly movement of other species noted on January 29th and 31st (see "Unusual Movements"). During the snow they frequented streets and gardens in Bournemouth, country roads and hedges in E. Dorset, stackyards, and cattle-feeding places to an unusual extent. They were also feeding on the tideline in Christchurch Harbour on January 29th (see also "Birds Found Dead and Causes of Death"). Effect on breeding status not noted.

FRINGILLIDAE.

The Hawfinch was apparently not severely affected; several noted in two localities in E. Dorset during summer, where it is never common.

The Greenfinch was common in roadside and stackyard flocks during the cold spell in E. Dorset. Effect on breeding status uncertain.

The Goldfinch probably suffered some reduction, but considerable numbers survived, e.g., a charm of 30-40 on Pentridge Hill, E. Dorset, March 30th, 1947.

The Linnet was probably adversely affected and seemed rather scarce in suitable habitats in E. Dorset in summer. Recent experience of previous status lacking, however, and reduction may not have been severe.

The Bullfinch does not seem to have been much affected, and is still quite common in N.E. Dorset.

The Chaffinch showed little obvious reduction of breeding population in E. Dorset or S. Devon. It was the commonest roadside species during the snow, and many were killed by cars. The first song noted at Cranborne was on February 20th, 1947, compared with regular song from January 31st in the mild winter of 1948.

The Brambling was not noted, curiously enough, in roadside finch-flocks in E. Dorset during the cold weather.

The Corn Bunting seemed surprisingly scarce in N.E. Dorset and S.W. Hants in the summer, though possibly this was not a result of the cold.

The Yellow Bunting was quite common in finch-flocks in E. Dorset during the snow. Neither here nor in S. Devon (Bovey Tracey) did the breeding population seem much reduced.

The Cirl Bunting was probably not severely affected judging by its breeding status in 1947 in the Allen Valley area of E. Dorset and the Liverton-Lustleigh area in S. Devon. Reduction by 25-50 per cent. might easily have escaped notice, however.

PLOCEIDAE.

The House-Sparrow was by no means abundant in N.E. Dorset in the summer of 1947, but no evidence available that this was due to cold.

ALAUDIDAE.

The Woodlark was evidently not severely affected by the cold in E. Dorset and W. Hants. In a small colony on chalk downland on the county boundary two nests found contained respectively five and three young (May 25th and June 1st, 1947); the former is an unusually large clutch. A family party of five was seen in another locality in E. Dorset, on heathland, on June 2nd.

The **Skylark** was chiefly remarkable for the tremendous influx which followed closely on the snow in E. Dorset and adjacent parts of Hants and Wilts. A westward movement at Bournemouth and over Christchurch Bay on January 29th has been described under "Unusual Movements." This was one of the species reported in "enormous migrations" at West Bay, Dorset, especially on January 29th and February 9th (*Proceedings Dorset N.H. and A. Soc.*, Vol. 68, p. 93). Very large flocks were noted in E. Dorset in the second week of February, wherever the snow was thinnest. From the third week of February at least until the middle of March there were huge flocks on arable land on the downs in the Handley - Woodyates - Martin area. On March 7th a flock literally darkened the sky when put up by a Merlin, and probably contained five to ten thousand birds. Large flocks were also noted in the Stour Valley at Canford (February 27th) and Iford (February 23rd). On March 7th, 8th and 13th an interesting feature of these flocks was the occurrence of typical song (ground and serial) from many of the birds, a sort of community singing. By March 29th most of these winter visitors had disappeared. Effect on breeding status not noted, but probably some reduction (see also "Birds Found Dead," etc.).

MOTACILLIDAE.

Meadow Pipits were moving westwards through Bournemouth on January 29th, and some were seen in the town on the 31st (see "Unusual Movements"). On arable land, downs and heath in E. Dorset they seemed very scarce during summer.

More **Pied Wagtails** than usual were noted in Bournemouth on January 29th and 31st in the snow. On February 1st several in roads E. Dorset. Breeding stock apparently considerably reduced in E. Dorset; one pair bred Wimborne St. Giles.

The **Grey Wagtail** seems to have been relatively less affected.

CERTHIIDAE.

The **Tree-Creeper** was greatly decreased in numbers in S.W. Hants, E. Dorset and in S. Devon.

SITTIDAE.

The **Nuthatch** suffered relatively little, judged by numbers seen in E. Dorset and S. Devon in the breeding season.

PARIDAE.

In E. Dorset the genus *Parus* appears to have suffered a general reduction in numbers due to the cold, but no exact comparison with previous status available. The **Great Tit** perhaps less affected than the **Blue Tit**, and both still quite common. **Coal Tits** not uncommon in pineheath habitats during summer. **Marsh Tits** rather scarce, but uncertain if due to cold.

The **Long-tailed Tit** has become a rarity in S.W. Hants and E. Dorset as a result of the cold spell, but not quite exterminated. One seen at Alderholt May 31st and a party about 3 miles away at Crindle on November 17th are all I have seen; but reliable reports of survivors in Somerley Park (West Hants, June) and a party in Martin Wood (Hants - Dorset border, January 1948).

REGULIDAE.

The **Goldcrest** also suffered very severely. My only records for Dorset in the summer of 1947 are of one singing May 16th and June 30th at Alderholt, and one singing Corfe Mullen early June. Also one pair reliably reported in Somerley Park (Hants, June).

SYLVIIDAE.

The **Dartford Warbler** has become very rare in E. Dorset and W. Hants, which is hardly surprising considering the devastating effect the cold had on the gorse in its favourite haunts. I failed to find any, but the Rev. G. W. H. Moule found one survivor on April 9th and the Bryanston School N.H.S. reported survivors in another locality in E. Dorset.

TURDIDAE.

The principal effects on **Fieldfares** and **Redwings** have been discussed in the section on "Unusual Movements." Both species were moving S.W. over Bournemouth on January 29th from inland and also west along the coast on the same day; many thousands, chiefly Fieldfares, passed west through Bournemouth on the 31st. On February 1st they were numerous in E. Dorset and moving S. or S.W. in the New Forest. Both species were reported in "enormous migrations" on the coast at West Bay, Dorset, noted particularly on January 29th and February 9th (*Proceedings Dorset N.H. and A. Soc.*, Vol. 68, p. 93). Parties of Fieldfares and fewer Redwings remained in E. Dorset and W. Hants at least until mid-March, finding what food they could in gardens, hedges, sheltered spots under trees, and on coastal marshes (Christchurch, March 2nd). Redwings were less numerous than Fieldfares and appeared to suffer more severely from cold and starvation. Both looked weak and dejected and were tamer than usual (see also "Birds found Dead," etc.).

The **Mistle-Thrush** was certainly reduced in numbers as a result of the cold. They were occasionally seen in roadside hedges during the snow in E. Dorset, and one found dead in Christchurch Harbour. An autumn flock of about 30 birds on downland on the Hants - Dorset border, July 27th, was pleasing evidence of recovery after gloomy reports of a local scarcity of breeding pairs.

The **Song-Thrush** was more severely reduced in numbers than the **Blackbird** in E. Dorset. No evidence of emigration was seen, but both species congregated to an unusual extent in roadside hedges where many fell victims to the traffic. They all looked weak and "huffy"; a Song-Thrush was seen probing in the crevices of a brick wall on January 29th and two were searching for food on the tide-line at Christchurch; a Blackbird was exploring a hole in a snow-covered bank, with only its tail projecting. At the end of February Blackbirds were at least twice as numerous as Song-Thrushes in the hedges. The former seemed stronger and better able to fend for themselves; e.g., a Song-Thrush was too shy to visit a bird-table in Cranborne on February 1st although half dead from hunger, and on March 1st a male and female Blackbird repeatedly (and separately) drove off a Thrush which attempted to glean food from another bird-table. In late April the proportion of occupied Blackbird's to Song-Thrush's nests was 6 : 1 in a limited area of hedgerow and garden thoroughly searched (James Fisher in *Watching Birds*, p. 101, gives a proportion of 10 : 3 for England and Wales normally). See also "Birds Found Dead," etc.)

The **Stonechat** was reduced from being a common bird in S.W. Hants and E. Dorset to considerable rarity by the cold spell. In many localities it was exterminated, but one pair survived to breed in April where three were seen in January before the frost (Rev. G. W. H. Moule, E. Dorset). I located them in only one locality, a brood of juveniles on Holt Heath, Dorset, July 4th, 1947.

The **Robin** undoubtedly suffered but not to the extent of serious reduction in the breeding population (probably less than 50 per cent. in E. Dorset).

PRUNELLIDAE.

The **Hedge-Sparrow** did not suffer serious reduction in E. Dorset or S. Devon (perhaps 30 per cent.).

TROGLODYTIDAE.

The **Wren**, though obviously decreased, was by no means uncommon in the breeding season in E. Dorset, S.W. Hants and S. Devon (probably less than 50 per cent. reduction). (See also "Birds Found Dead.")

ALCEDINIDAE.

The **Kingfisher** seemed rather scarce after the cold spell, but noted at Crichel and Wimborne St. Giles, Dorset, and mouth of Beaulieu River, Hants, subsequently.

PICIDAE.

The **Green Woodpecker** was seen in a number of localities in E. Dorset and W. Hants after the cold spell.

The **Great Spotted Woodpecker** was noted in suitable habitats in E. Dorset and S. Devon after the cold spell, and does not seem to have been severely reduced in numbers.

STRIGIDAE.

Both the **Little Owl** and **Barn Owl** have been common in the Hants - Dorset border area since the cold spell, and do not appear to have suffered from it. (See also "Birds Found Dead.") Insufficient data for other species.

FALCONIDAE, Etc.

No adverse effect noted on breeding status of **Kestrel** or **Sparrow-Hawk**. A **Peregrine**, seen over Cranborne, Dorset, March 18th, may have been responsible for increased mortality of Partridges reported by keeper (see "Notes on Causes of Death"). The **Merlin** preying on Skylarks was perhaps increased in N.E. Dorset during the cold spell. A **Kestrel** was hovering over central Bournemouth in the snow on January 29th.

ARDEIDAE.

Insufficient data to assess effect on **Heron** in E. Dorset and W. Hants, where a number were shot (as usual) "to preserve fishing."

A **Bittern** was reported during February/March in the Allen Valley (see note under "Causes of Death") and I have good reason to believe another was shot on Ashford Water, W. Hants.

ANATIDAE.

The principal effect of the cold was a great increase in numbers of wildfowl in the Avon and Stour valleys, compared with a mild winter, and this was noticeable both before the cold became severe locally and during the slow thaw in February and March. For example, there were three to four times as many duck on Crichel Park Lake, Dorset, between January 18th and February 24th, 1947 (at least) than there were on comparable dates in 1948. In 1947 there were 1,500 - 2,000 duck of ten different species on the lake, compared with about 500 of seven species in 1948 (Gadwall, Pintail and Smew not seen in 1948). By March 1st, 1947, there were fewer duck on the lake and considerably fewer by March 15th. In the Avon Valley, between Ringwood and Fordingbridge, there were large numbers of duck, mostly Wigeon, by January 25th, very large numbers during most of February (local information), and rather fewer by March 4th and March 8th. In Christchurch Harbour I saw few duck on January 29th and February 16th and 23rd, but on the morning of March 2nd a succession of flights came down river to settle out in the bay and lower harbour. They were mainly Wigeon (500 - 1000), but Mallard (100 plus), Teal (30 plus), Pintails (50 plus), Shoveler (100 plus) and possibly Pochard were also involved in the flight. In the harbour, in addition, were a

few Pochard and Tufted Duck and 50 or more Sheld-Duck. During the afternoon (March 2nd) several large packs of Wigeon, with at least some Mallard and Shoveler, were resting about a mile offshore in Christchurch Bay. During the coldest weather the freezing of all except running water and the sea caused a local shift, particularly of diving ducks, from their usual haunts. For example, 64 Tufted Duck on Poole Park Lake on January 28th had vanished by the 29th when the lake was frozen. The occurrence, and shooting, of e.g., Tufted Duck, Goosander and Smew between February 1st and 14th on narrow stretches of the Avon and Stour is attributable to the freezing of more suitable areas of fresh water in the district (see "Causes of Death," etc.). Mr. Edward Clark informs me that there were larger numbers of duck than usual in the Wareham area of Poole Harbour during January and February 1947, and that the increase occurred at least partly before the cold became severe locally. During the worst of the cold, Mallard, Teal, etc., were driven out on to the open water of the harbour, but on some days surprisingly few duck were seen apparently due to local movements. He records the following species: Sheld-Duck, Mallard, Gadwall (small numbers), Teal, Wigeon, Pintail (numbers), Shoveler (in flocks up to 150), Pochard, Tufted Duck, Scaup (small numbers), Goldeneye (in parties up to 20-30), Common Scoter (few), Goosander (several small parties), Red-breasted Merganser (in flocks up to 150) and Smew (up to 200 together).

No observations on effect on breeding status of duck.

Three Whooper Swans were seen in Christchurch Harbour and in the bay on February 23rd and March 2nd, 1947. (A party of nine swans flying silently near Ringwood on March 9th were probably Bewick's Swans, but visibility prevented clear view of bill-markings.) Mute Swans, mainly immature, were congregated on floodwaters at Ringwood, about 30 together, during the second week of March.

Grey Lag-Goose: An immature male was shot in the Avon Valley north of Ringwood on February 11th, 1947. (A. Poachaud) and another seen. I saw a single bird of this species flying over Ringwood with White-fronts on March 9th.

White-fronted Goose: I saw about 70 in the Avon Valley, between Ringwood and Fordingbridge, on January 25th. A local observer estimated that there were more than 2,000 in this area in February, and that they stayed much later than usual because of the cold. There were fewer by March 4th, when I saw about 700 just north of Ringwood. On March 9th at 11.30 a.m. between five and 600 flew south over Ringwood at approximately 500 feet, leaving at least a further 200 in the valley. On January 29th 20 grey geese (presumably White-fronts) flew N.N.E. over central Bournemouth. They were also reported in greater numbers than usual in the Stour Valley (Canford and Wimborne) in January and February, and in N.W. Poole Harbour (Edward Clark) in flocks of 60-80.

The Brent Goose was not seen on four visits to Christchurch Harbour (January 29th to March 2nd). Near the mouth of Poole Harbour on January 28th I saw four of the Dark-breasted race; and Edward Clark saw only one small party on the N.W. of the harbour. He comments: "Brent Geese rarely visit the place now that the zosteria has gone." Evidently even the cold weather failed to raise the numbers to those usual in milder winters 10-15 years ago.

PODICIPITIDAE.

Great Crested Grebe: One was picked up dead with an injured neck, apparently flown into a wire, near Ibsley in the Avon Valley in February 1947. Probably another example of accidental death, indirectly due to cold, of a bird driven to unusual habitat.

Little Grebe : Noted in the lower harbour, Christchurch, in very severe weather on January 29th (two), on February 16th (four) and February 23rd (five). This may represent a movement downstream and from frozen inland waters (uncertain). Two were seen on an unfrozen stream near Witchampton on February 19th, and on Criche Lake on March 1st. (These few notes are given only because they suggest the possibility of local movement towards the sea in severe weather, and that some certainly remain on unfrozen water inland.) No notes on subsequent breeding status.

COLUMBIDAE.

A flight of about 20 (? **Wood**) **Pigeons** passed S.W. at about 400 feet above Bournemouth on January 29th in a snowstorm, almost certainly part of the weather-movement affecting mainly certain Passeriformes.

LIMICOLAE.

Woodcock were reported as unusually plentiful near Alderholt, E. Dorset, during the cold spell in January and February. My informant saw 18 fighting together on one occasion, and remarks that they rarely appear in this locality except in frosty weather.

The **Common Snipe** became very abundant in the Allen Valley, E. Dorset, early in February. During the second week of February the partly-thawed water-meadows near Criche and Wimborne-St. Giles literally teemed with them; one observer reported that he flushed them in hundreds; and dozens could be watched probing the mud close to a road, heedless of the traffic. By February 19th they were less numerous, but still common. In comparison very few were seen in the same area in the mild weather of January early February 1948 (see "Causes of Death").

The **Golden Plover** was not noted during the worst of the cold spell in E. Dorset and W. Hants; probably the majority departed with the Lapwing. About 100 near Horton on January 18th before the snow; next seen, near Damerham March 4th (about 10); near Ibsley (three), March 9th; near Handley (about 50), March 13th; and two flocks of 100-150 each between Horton and St. Giles, March 18th.

The **Lapwing** practically disappeared from its usual haunts in E. Dorset and W. Hants during the cold spell. It was perhaps more numerous than usual in the Wimborne - Cranborne area on January 18th, probably as a result of movement from areas already affected by frost. On January 25th (bitterly cold, but fine) they were standing about in fields, etc., near Cranborne, in considerable numbers, looking cold and miserable. Snow began to fall on January 26th. Evidence of emigration at Hengistbury with the advent of the snow, and of movement S.W. over Bournemouth in small numbers, on January 27th and 29th, has been given under "Unusual Movements." Apart from a party of 10 flying east over snow-covered Bournemouth on January 31st, only odd stragglers were seen until early March. During February one or two managed to survive, very hungry and dejected, by an unfrozen watercress bed (near Cranborne) and a stream near Witchampton. On January 29th only a single bird was seen in Christchurch Harbour, struggling against the gale to reach the shore, where it settled miserably. On each of three subsequent visits to the harbour only a single Lapwing was seen up to March 2nd. On February 27th they were seen (two) on grass in melting snow at Criche for the first time since the snow. On March 4th they were still scarce, but three to four seen in fields; and on March 5th the first spring calls were heard. There was a severe ice storm on March 6th and 7th, but on the latter date the first real sign of return movement was seen: several (? paired) in the Avon Valley near Fordingbridge and a few fields elsewhere. On the 8th the first birds reached a breeding locality at Cranborne. On the 9th there seemed to be a distinct movement of small parties and single birds up the Avon Valley, between Ringwood and Fordingbridge, as well as a number of pairs, and on

12th-13th this increase was noticeable in many sodden fields in the Hants-Dorset border area. By March 18th there were several large parties feeding in the fields, in addition to those established on their breeding grounds. Evidently nearly all departed with the snow and did not return until the thaw was really under way in the second and third weeks of March. Local reports on effect on breeding status were conflicting in the extreme, but most considered they were reduced in numbers.

LARIDAE.

Many **Black-headed, Common and Herring Gulls** were crouched miserably on the ice in Christchurch Harbour in an easterly gale on January 29th. With feathers puffed out, some with eyes closed, they looked very weak, and may easily have suffered the fate of Gulls (sp.?) at Plymouth, reported by the B.B.C. (January 30th) as frozen in and covered with snow.

Black-headed Gulls, with their usual inland feeding grounds frozen and snow-covered, resorted to an unusual extent to scavenging, *e.g.*, in streets and gardens in Bournemouth on January 29th, and subsequently. Frequent and relentless piratical attacks on Dunlin, in Poole Harbour on January 28th, in attempts to seize marine worms on which the latter were feeding, was also evidently symptomatic of difficulty in feeding due to cold. Inland, on February 1st, about 30 were standing dejectedly in snow and in water on bank of the Stour at Wimborne. As the snow partly cleared, they became quite common again inland, scavenging in fields and roads, and resorting to watercress beds and other unfrozen water.

The **Common Gull** also reported to be feeding in streets and gardens in Bournemouth on January 29th but was shyer than the Black-headed Gull and in smaller numbers. They seemed to rely mainly on a piracy against the smaller and more daring birds: one chased a Black-headed Gull which was carrying a piece of bread and forced it to drop the food, when neither dared to go down and pick it up. During February they were frequent inland, profiting from the misfortunes of most other birds (see notes on "Causes of Death"). From February 27th to March 12th flocks of up to 100 were seen on thawing arable and pasture field up to 15 miles inland. By March 18th they appeared somewhat reduced in numbers.

RALLIDAE.

Several **Water-Rails** were seen during the cold spell: by watercress beds near Cranborne, February 14th; in spartina bed, Christchurch Harbour, February 16th, and by roadside stream, Witchampton, February 22nd. Possibly this represents an increase due to movement from areas more severely affected by cold, as no special search of suitable areas was made and it is unusual to see them as frequently in the course of casual observation in a milder winter.

The **Moorhen** was driven from many habitats by snow and ice; *e.g.*, Poole Park, where usually common, deserted by January 28th. Several on frozen salt marsh, Christchurch Harbour, on January 29th, and fairly common there February 16th. Several on snow-covered banks of Stour, at Wimborne, February 1st. Extent of reduction of breeding population uncertain, but still quite common.

The **Coot** was similarly affected, *e.g.*, usual 20-30 birds driven from Poole Park by ice by January 28th. About this number seen on mud flats, Poole Harbour, same date; several in Christchurch Harbour in very bad weather, January 29th, and a number there February 16th, and on Criche Lake, February 19th—March 1st. Numerous in Christchurch Harbour, March 2nd (about 200), and on floodwaters in Avon Valley, March 4th and 9th.

TETRAONIDAE AND PHASIANIDAE.

See notes on Red Grouse and Common Partridge under "Notes on Causes of Death."

BIRDS IN HAMPSHIRE, 1948.

By RALPH WHITLOCK.

List of Observers.

Clifton, P. J. R., Little Hook, Warsash, near Southampton	-	(P.J.R.C.)
Cohen, Edwin, Hazelhurst, Sway	-	(E.C.)
Cross, Donald A. E., Station House, Patney, near Devizes	-	(D.A.E.C.)
Fitter, R. S. R., Greyhounds, Burford, Oxford	-	(R.S.R.F.)
Green, P. M., 26A Winn Road, Southampton	-	(P.M.G.)
Greene, Miss K. C., 7 Avenue Road, Lymington	-	(K.C.G.)
Harrington, Mrs. Augusta E., 50 Heath Road, Petersfield	-	(A.E.H.)
Hook, Oliver, Brackenridge, Sway Road, Brockenhurst	-	(O.H.)
Luckham, B., "Brycote," Lane End Estate, Ringwood	-	(B.L.)
Munk, H. W., Two Magpies, Wood Lane, Fleet	-	(H.W.M.)
Norris, Antony Y., 144 Albemarle Avenue, Elson, Gosport	-	(A.Y.N.)
Payn, Col. W. A., Central Hotel, Andover	-	(W.A.P.)
Pounds, Hubert E., 9 Winterbrook Road, Herne Hill, S.E. 24	-	(H.E.P.)
Riddick, E., The Wilderness, Milford-on-Sea	-	(E.R.)
Rooke, Dr. K. B., Cranborne, near Wimborne, Dorset	-	(K.B.R.)
Shakespeare, A. A., 8 Ramshill, Petersfield	-	(A.A.S.)
Sharland, R. E., 24 Cranley Gardens, S.W. 7	-	(R.E.S.)
Sporne, S., 177 Hawthorn Crescent, Cosham, Portsmouth	-	(S.S.)
Suffern, Dr. C., Hill Head, Fareham	-	(C.S.)
Summers-Smith, D. and C. M., Rosemount, Highclere, near Newbury, Bucks	-	(C.M.S.-S.) and (D.S.-S.)
White, H. T., Great Close, Ampfield, Romsey	-	(H.T.W.)
White, Mrs. W. F., 100 Heath Road, Petersfield	-	(W.F.W.)
Venning, Brig. F. E. W., Pine Wood, Butts Ash, Hythe	-	(E.V.)

Systematic List.

- Raven** (*Corvus corax corax* L.).—One near Hordle, October 1st (E.R.) (Ref. K.B.R.'s 1947 notes, Miss C. Popham informs me (in Litt.) only one hatched first year (1945?), "next year boys interfered," no sign of them in 1948 (to March 19th), the locality being in S.W. Hampshire.) (K.B.R.)
- Carrion Crow** (*Corvus corone corone* L.).—Two fully-fledged young on the mud of Titchfield Haven; adult flew over and dropped from height of about 20 feet what appeared to be a small chicken which it was carrying in its beak, July 17th (C.S.).
- Rook** (*Corvus frugilegus frugilegus* L.).—Coitus observed on the ground in a field at Stubbington, February 28th (C.S.). The following counts were made during the 1948 season: Manor Park, Aldershot, 8 in elm, April 14th; Eggars Hill, Aldershot, 7 in elm, April 26th; Bentley Station, 34 in oak, April 26th; Fishponds, Froyle, 86 in ash, April 29th; Millcourt (Kilnhanger), Froyle, 21 in oak, April 29th; Old Fulling Mill, Millcourt, Froyle, 35 in alder and willow, April 29th. (The Manor Park, Aldershot, rookery is very old-established as it is mentioned in the sale sheet for the Manor of Aldershot Halnecote, 1831—J. A. Eggar, *Life and Customs*.) (D.A.E.C.). Formerly very numerous in Ampfield, and then deserted the place owing to the cutting of trees. In 1943 Rooks returned and built three nests, since when they have continued to increase, having six nests in 1944, 11 in 1945, 15 in 1946, 33 in 1947, and rather fewer in 1948 as some were destroyed by wind (H.T.W.).

- Jackdaw** (*Corvus monedula spermologus* Vieill.).—Seven joined a carrion crow to chase a hawk from Titchfield Haven out to sea and back again and finally off the marshes, October 24th (C.S.).
- Magpie** (*Pica pica pica* Linn.).—Seven seen perched on one small bush, November 21st. Twenty-three associating were reported roughly about this date, Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.). Becoming very numerous in parts around Aldershot especially to E. and S.E. (D.A.E.C.). Very common, Milford-on-Sea (E.R.). Eating fallen apples, Petersfield, August 18th (A.E.H.).
- Jay** (*Garrulus glandarius rufitergum* Hart.).—Five seen flying from N.E. to S.W., Petersfield, July 1st (A.A.S.). A pair were watched enjoying a good bath in a puddle in the garden of a barrack block in Wellington Avenue, Aldershot on April 29th. Frequently come well into the town at Redan Hill, Manor Park and Aldershot Park (D.A.E.C.). Less recorded than previous years, Milford-on-Sea (E.R.).
- Nutcracker** (*Nucifraga caryocatactes*).—Five watched by two ladies with glasses in garden for an hour, Abbot's Ann, September 5th. About same date one was watched by another resident in his garden at Abbot's Ann (W.A.P.).
- Starling** (*Sturnus vulgaris vulgaris* L.).—Very scarce compared with other years. Party of 40 seen June 17th, and of 10, November 20th, Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.).
- Hawfinch** (*Coccothraustes coccothraustes coccothraustes* L.).—A pair seen near Fritham, May 26th (H.E.P.). One, close-up view, Brockenhurst, March 28th (E.C.). One Tidpit Common Down, near Martin, April 25th (G.W.H.M.) (K.B.R.).
- Greenfinch** (*Chloris chloris chloris* L.).—First seen and song and "breege" note first heard, February 29th. Hitherto has arrived in February or March, departing late August or September for winter feeding grounds. This year several birds remained throughout autumn. Song and "breege" note heard November and December. Has multiplied prodigiously since 1945 when one pair only nested, Petersfield (A.A.S.). Seemed much reduced in Ringwood area during winter 1947-48 (B.L.).
- Goldfinch** (*Carduelis carduelis britannica* Hart.).—First seen and first song heard, March 12th. Usual May influx did not occur this year. One late brood left nest, August 20th. Usually departs in September for winter feeding grounds, but this year several birds remained to end of year, song being heard during November and December. From September 25th and during October and November several parties were observed on movement, usual direction being to S.W., Petersfield (A.A.S.). Scarce; several seen June 9th, only occasion in the year, Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.). Bred; plentiful throughout the year, Sway (E.C.).
- Siskin** (*Carduelis spinus* L.).—First seen, Woolton Hill, December 17th (C.M.S-S. and D.S-S.).
- Lesser Redpoll** (*Carduelis flammea cabaret* P.L.S. Müll.).—First seen, Woolton Hill, December 18th (C.M.S-S. and D.S-S.).
- Linnet** (*Carduelis cannabina cannabina* Linn.).—A nest with four young, Yarmouth, I.O.W., August 11th (P.J.R.C.). Latest song, November 27th, during sustained flight of a cock chasing a hen (C.S.). Singing, Petersfield, October 1st (W.F.W.).
- Bullfinch** (*Pyrrhula pyrrhula nesa* Math and Ired.).—Only two seen, Hill Head, Fareham, November 20th (C.S.). Seems to be becoming rarer than ever. A male bird seen in Manor Garden, Froyle, April 29th (D.A.E.C.). Scarce, Milford-on-Sea (E.R.).
- Chaffinch** (*Fringilla coelebs gengleri* Kleinsch.).—First song, January 20th. Spring song ceased June 19th. Autumn song heard August 17th, 27th, 28th and September 9th, Petersfield (A.A.S.). Autumn song, November 12th, at intervals until end third week November, Highclere (C.M.S-S. and D.S-S.). In half song, Petersfield, January 2nd (W.F.W.). Singing,

- Petersfield, February 27th—November 20th (A.E.H.). First song, Ampfield, February 11th (H.T.W.).
- Corn Bunting** (*Emberiza calandra* Linn.).—Seen and heard during June, July and August, on and near Petersfield Heath (A.A.S.).
- Cirl Bunting** (*Emberiza cirlus cirlus* L.).—Seen most days near Milford-on-Sea (E.R.).
- Reed Bunting** (*Emberiza schoeniclus schoeniclus* L.).—Abundant at Hill Head, Fareham, in 1948 (C.S.).
- Wood Lark** (*Lullula arborea arborea* L.).—One singing at Sarisbury Green, October 1st (P.J.R.C.).—Autum song at intervals at Highclere, October 7th to October 23rd (C.M.S-S. and D.S-S.). One, singing, Silchester Common, February 1st (R.S.R.F.). One seen collecting food by wayside, near Fordingbridge, May 23rd (H.E.P.).
- Skylark** (*Alauda arvensis arvensis* L.).—Very few seen or heard in comparison with other years, Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.). Singing, February 6th, Petersfield. Last heard October 21st (W.F.W.). Soaring and singing, Milford-on-Sea, February 2nd and 14th and onwards (E.R.).
- Tree Pipit** (*Anthus trivialis trivialis* L.).—First, Hinton Admiral, April 20th (E.C.).
- Meadow Pipit** (*Anthus pratensis* L.).—Several parties of up to two dozen seen during September and October. A movement from N.E. to S.W., Petersfield (A.A.S.). Very few seen or heard in comparison with other years, Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.).
- Rock Pipit** (*Anthus spinoletta petrosus* Mont.).—Party of six seen on sea wall, Farlington Marshes, Langston Harbour, November 10th. Odd birds seen often since (S.S.).
- Yellow Wagtail** (*Motacilla flava flavissima* Blyth).—Several at Brook, I.O.W., August 21st; two at Titchfield Haven, August 31st (P.J.R.C.). Only one seen, July 10th, Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.). About 12 males seen, Chilbolton, April 18th (W.A.P.). Two seen just outside Ringwood, August 22nd (B.L.). Seen most days in summer, Milford-on-Sea (E.R.).
- Grey Wagtail** (*Motacilla cinerea cinerea* Tunst.).—One seen, September 25th, and probably same one regularly in same place until December 18th, when two seen. One seen and heard singing, October, Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.).
- Pied Wagtail** (*Motacilla alba yarrellii* Gould).—A party in Yarmouth, I.O.W., August 8th (P.J.R.C.). Unusually large numbers seen September, October and November, a movement from W. to E. But on December 17th a party of 25 was seen travelling E. to W., Petersfield (A.A.S.). About usual numbers; Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.).
- White Wagtail** (*Motacilla alba alba* Linn.).—Three positively identified and possibly a fourth. One observed at very close range September 29th and another September 30th, Petersfield (A.A.S.).
- Tree Creeper** (*Certhia familiaris britannica* Ridgw.).—Seen and first song heard, February 17th. (First since great frost of early 1947.). Song heard every month except January, July and December, Petersfield (A.A.S.).
- British Nuthatch** (*Sitta europaea affinis* Blyth).—Has multiplied prodigiously during past years. Seen and heard throughout the year, Petersfield (A.A.S.). Quite numerous in woods near Aldershot especially to S. and S.W.; around Royal Pavilion, etc., and in conifers (D.A.E.C.). Also around Milford-on-Sea (E.R.). "A pair evicted a Great Tit that had just completed a clutch of nine eggs in a nest-box, laid ten of its own and reared three Great Tits with three Nuthatches, the former flying a few days before the latter. There were three "dud" Nuthatch eggs left in the box but I don't know what happened to the remaining six Great Tit eggs and four Nuthatch eggs" (E.C.).

- Great Tit** (*Parus major newtoni* Praz.).—Common, autumn song commenced September 4th, continued to year's end, Petersfield (A.A.S.). Cock feeding hen on bird-table, Petersfield, May 4th (W.F.W.).
- Coal Tit** (*Parus ater britannicus* Sharpe and Dress).—Numerous in Aldershot areas especially in coniferous belts to W. and N.W. of town. Pair, nesting in bole of the famous Selborne Yew in the churchyard, watched May 19th (D.A.E.C.). Very common, Milford-on-Sea (E.R.). Bred in nest box, 13 feet up, Sway, June 22nd (E.C.).
- Marsh Tit** (*Parus palustris dresseri* Stejn.).—Quite common in more agricultural areas to E., S.E. and S. of Aldershot. Party of over 15 seen in deserted grounds of Poyle House, Tongham, April 20th (D.A.E.C.).
- Willow Tit** (*Parus atricapillus kleinschmidti* Hellm.).—One, probably two, clearly identified near Damerham, with Marsh Tits in vicinity for comparison, September 20th (G.W.H.M., K.B.R.).
- Long-tailed Tit** (*Aegithalos caudatus rosaceus* Mathews).—Two seen August 24th. First since severe frost of 1947, Petersfield (A.A.S.). Family seen edge of Lymington, November 10th (K.C.G.). One seen Milford-on-Sea, November 16th (E.R.).
- Red-backed Shrike** (*Lanius collurio collurio* L.).—Five seen on passage, Fritham, New Forest, September 12th (R.E.S.). Some years ago used to breed regularly in hawthorns adjacent to meadows at Damerham, not now (G.W.H.M.). One in hawthorns on bank of railway cutting between Winchester and Basingstoke, May 26th (K.B.R.).
- Spotted Flycatcher** (*Muscicapa striata striata* Pall.).—First seen May 8th. Song heard May 9th. All local birds departed by September 16th. One unusually late bird seen October 11th, Petersfield (A.A.S.). Last seen at Highclere, September 15th (C.M.S.S. and D.S.S.). Numerous right in the town of Aldershot. Pair nested in the churchyard of Parish Church and many haunt the park and gardens around Manor Park and Aldershot Park in summer (D.A.E.C.). First seen Sway, May 5th; bred (E.C.).
- Goldcrest** (*Regulus regulus anglorum* Hart.).—Two seen and song heard June 8th. The first since January 1947 that is prior to great frost. Song last heard July 2nd, Petersfield (A.A.S.). Seen in garden, Petersfield, January and July (W.F.W.). Male and female at Arnewood Bridge, Sway, November 21st (E.C.).
- Chiffchaff** (*Phylloscopus collybita collybita* Vieill.).—First heard Warsash, April 4th; Alice Holt Forest, March 26th; seen at Warsash, October 1st (P.J.R.C.). Seen and song heard, March 22nd. Last seen, October 1st. Very few this year—almost rare, Petersfield (A.A.S.). Last seen, Woolton Hill, September 29th (C.M.S.S. and D.S.S.). None heard or seen from June 1945 to September 5th, 1948, when one was heard and seen on migration, Hill Head Fareham (C.S.). First seen, Chilbolton, March 23rd (W.A.P.). Last seen, Worlds End, near Newton, October 10th (S.S.). First heard and seen Aldershot, March 20th (D.A.E.C.). First heard, Petersfield, March 12th. Last heard, August 24th (W.F.W.). First heard, Milford-on-Sea, April 6th (E.R.). First heard, Sway, March 29th (E.C.). First heard, Ampfield, March 28th (H.T.W.). Since I came back to England in June 1945 I have not yet heard a single Chiffchaff. I have regularly gone out to find one in 1945, 1946, 1947 and 1948, but have neither heard nor seen one at Hill Head. Has anyone else reported a scarcity? (C.S.).
- Willow Warbler** (*Phylloscopus trochilus trochilus* L.).—First heard at Warsash, April 7th. Singing at Beaulieu, August 22nd (P.J.R.C.). First seen and song first heard, April 8th. Song last heard, August 28th. Last seen, September 20th. Less numerous this year, Petersfield (A.A.S.). Last seen, Highclere, September 21st (C.M.S.S. and D.S.S.). Abundant. First arrivals noted at Hill Head, Fareham, April 11th. Departing migrants first noted August 1st. Subdued song heard August 8th (C.S.).

First heard, Petersfield, April 4th (W.F.W.). Like most species of warblers, not very plentiful, Milford-on-Sea (E.R.). First seen, Sway, April 4th (E.C.).

Wood Warbler (*Phylloscopus sibilatrix* Bechst.).—Resident in Alice Holt Forest (P.J.R.C.). One seen, August 8th. This bird was on the move, N.W. to S.E., Petersfield (A.A.S.). First seen, Hinton Admiral, April 20th (E.C.). One singing in Martin Wood (Hants - Dorset Border), April 16th, rather early (G.W.H.M.) (K.B.R.).

Grasshopper Warbler (*Locustella naevia naevia* Bodd.).—Several in felled Court Woods, Damerham, by April 22nd. Many singing there at dawn, May 1st; one male singing on wing and doing "butterfly" display flight; one "stopped singing for a moment and sipped a raindrop hanging on a leaf" (G.W.H.M.). One singing loudly there about 22.00 hours G.M.T., May 29th (K.B.R.).

Sedge Warbler (*Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* L.).—Abundant. Many had already arrived by April 25th, Hill Head, Fareham. They sang continuously until July 10th. Three seen, September 18th (C.S.).

Garden Warbler (*Sylvia borin* Bodd.).—Singing in Alice Holt Forest, May 16th and 30th (P.J.R.C.). Heard and then seen, May 8th; one seen July 9th; two, July 14th (adult pair); sub-song heard August 21st. Last seen August 21st, Petersfield (A.A.S.). First seen, Sway, April 22nd (E.C.).

Blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla atricapilla* Linn.).—First heard, Warsash, April 4th (P.J.R.C.). First seen and first song heard, May 6th. Song ceased, July 16th. Sub-song heard, September 20th. Last seen September 20th, Petersfield (A.A.S.). Hen seen in garden, Woolton Hill, in morning of December 31st. Later in day was caught in a trap we were using for colour-ringing a flock of sparrows (C.M.S.S. and D.S.S.). First seen, Bentley, April 26th (D.A.E.C.). First heard, Sway, April 13th (E.C.).

Whitethroat (*Sylvia communis communis* Latham.).—First heard, Winchester, April 16th (P.J.R.C.). Last seen, Petersfield, September 20th (A.A.S.). Abundant. Song heard, April 24th. One seen, Hill Head, Fareham, September 18th (C.S.). Scarce, Milford-on-Sea (E.R.). First seen, New Milton, April 19th (E.C.).

Lesser Whitethroat (*Sylvia curruca curruca* Linn.).—One seen, August 9th. Definitely on migration, N.W. to S.E., Petersfield (A.A.S.). Only one seen (apparently nesting), Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.). First heard, Kites Nest Lane, near Martin, April 25th (G.W.H.M.) (K.B.R.).

Dartford Warbler (*Sylvia undata dartfordiensis* Lath.).—One pair seen in southern New Forest, March 14th. Whole area of gorse was burnt the next day (E.C.). One seen, hen or young, on three separate occasions, on rough land near marshes in the south of the New Forest. A frequent visitor to this district states having seen Dartfords here before, but only in winter.

Fieldfare (*Turdus pilaris* L.).—First seen, Woolton Hill, October 16th (C.M.S.S. and D.S.S.). Last date, Sway, March 15th. First date, December 11th (ca. 35) (E.C.). Flying over Ampfield, January 3rd. Again on December 12th (H.T.W.). "I witnessed a migration of at least 5,000 and probably as many as 10,000 on February 9th, 1947, after a very heavy fall of snow throughout England. They reached Hill Head from the north-west. Our house is on the shore at the mouth of the Meon River. It juts out with its grounds like a little cape. The Fieldfares reaching our house turned east along the low cliffs till they disappeared from view (I imagine they then turned south for the east coast of the Isle of Wight). Only two of them did I see fall out to rest for a few minutes in our Tamarisks. A few Redwings accompanied the Fieldfares on this migration." (C.S.).

Mistle-Thrush (*Turdus viscivorus viscivorus* Linn.).—Large parties seen flying S.E. to N.W., Petersfield, August 15th and 16th (A.A.S.). Beginning of autumn song, Highclere, October 31st (C.M.S.S. and D.S.S.). Suffered quite heavily in Crookham (near Fleet) area during cold winter 1946-47, but have well recovered and are now seen in usual numbers. Quite a large flock seen near Bentley, April—about 40-50 birds—? continental visitors (D.A.E.C.).

Song-Thrush (*Turdus ericetorum ericetorum* Turton).—Song heard during every month. One was in full song during first week of August, Petersfield (A.A.S.). Beginning of autumn song, Highclere, October 6th (C.M.S.S. and D.S.S.). One cock sang persistently in early morning from November 14th to December 12th, Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.). Suffered quite heavily in the Crookham (near Fleet) area during cold winter 1946-47, but have well recovered, although not yet as numerous as previously (D.A.E.C.). Singing November 11th to June 20th, Petersfield (A.E.H.). Singing during mild weather, Ampfield, November (H.T.W.).

Redwing (*Turdus musicus musicus* Linn.).—First seen, Woolton Hill, October 16th. Very numerous this winter in N. Hampshire (C.M.S.S. and D.S.S.). Last date, Sway, March 15th (E.C.). "On February 21st and 22nd, 1948, accompanying and just after a blizzard, there was a migration of Redwings at Hill Head. All day long they kept crossing the coast from the sea, i.e., from the south (and presumably from the I.O.W.). They were flying very low and sought refuge under every thick evergreen bush in our and neighbours' gardens. On February 28th and again on March 29th I picked up in our garden a dead Redwing, uninjured and apparently starved. Each was a bird of 1947 (judged by the white tips to upper wing coverts). A few Fieldfares accompanied the Redwings on this migration. N.B.—These two migrations do not appear to be the seasonal migrations. Rather they seem to be forced migrations due to catastrophe—the covering of food supplies by snow—compelling the birds to search further afield. I cannot remember details of 1947, but I think the snow then spread from the north southwards, driving Fieldfares before it. In 1948 there was an anti-cyclone centred on the North Sea producing snowfalls and developing winds which would take any birds from S. Scandinavia, via Denmark, Holland, Belgium and France to England" (C.S.).

Blackbird (*Turdus merula merula* L.).—Song first heard March 9th. Song ceased, July 11th. A movement was noticed on February 1st. Large increase in number, on night only. (One or two of the strangers had a few white feathers, whereas none of the local birds are so distinguished.) Another movement noted September 1st. Exceptionally large temporary increase in numbers, possibly not unconnected with unusually heavy berry season. Petersfield (A.A.S.). Suffered quite heavily in the Crookham (near Fleet) area during cold winter 1946-47, but have well recovered and are now seen in usual numbers (D.A.E.C.). Singing, Milford-on-Sea, February 6th (E.R.).

Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe oenanthe* Linn.).—Several seen on Needle Cliffs, I.O.W., August 8th. On passage at Warsash, August 28th (P.J.R.C.). Last seen, Woodcott Down, September 6th (C.M.S.S. and D.S.S.). Only three seen, March 21st, July 31st and September 18th, Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.). First seen, Brockenhurst, March 14th (E.C.).

Whinchat (*Saxicola rubetra* L.).—One seen, November 27th, and possibly same one, November 28th, Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.). Four males, on migration, New Milton, May 3rd. The only record (E.C.).

Stonechat (*Saxicola torquata hibernans* Hart.). Only one pair seen, Hill Head, Fareham, October 23rd (C.S.).

Redstart (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus phoenicurus* L.).—One seen, July 24th, only one in 28 years at Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.). Male watched near Fritham, May 26th (H.E.P.). One, Kites Nest Lane, near Martin Wood, by April 16th (G.W.H.M.). Three or more near here, including adult male, August 22nd (K.B.R.). Male singing, same place, August 24th (G.W.H.M.). Cf. *British Birds*, XLI, p. 310, for another instance of August song (K.B.R.).

Black Redstart (*Phoenicurus ochrurus gibraltariensis* G.M.).—Seen Barton-on-Sea, December 24th (R.E.S.). One immature female at St. Catherine's Point, I.O.W., March 20th (G.B.). One on putting green, Ventnor, I.O.W., December 17th (R.S.R.F.). Twenty-one and 23 (females or immatures), Barton-on-Sea, December 16th. The bird was in the same place each time and I got close enough with binoculars to make sure of it, a female or immature at Barton, December 16th, 21st and 23rd (E.C.). One same place, December 28th (R. E. Sharland per G.W.H.M.) (K.B.R.).

Nightingale (*Luscinia megarhyncha megarhyncha* Brehm.).—First heard, Warsash, April 19th (P.J.R.C.). About a dozen seen, Petersfield, August 28th and 29th. Last seen (one only), September 3rd (A.A.S.). As abundant as usual. First heard, April 25th, last heard, Hill Head, Fareham, May 15th (C.S.). Reported to be fewer in 1948 between Ringwood and Bransgore (B.L.). Common in woods of Alice Holt Forest; five heard singing strongly in a small radius of woodland near Blacknest and Holt Hatch, near Bentley, April 26th. One watched and its nest in a thicket of honeysuckle and hawthorn in beech woods above Selborne Hanger, May 25th (D.A.E.C.). First heard, Petersfield, April 18th (W.F.W.). One singing, Milford-on-Sea, April 16th. Very common later (E.R.). Good year; three heard singing at one time, Petersfield, April 22nd (A.E.H.). First, New Milton, April 19th (E.C.).

Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes troglodytes* L.).—As abundant as usual Hill Head, Fareham. Last song just after dawn, November 14th. A cock wren seen, and singing loudly although carrying a large feather to the nest, June 11th (C.S.).

Swallow (*Hirundo rustica rustica* Linn.).—Many going up the Itchen at Winchester, April 16th. Many going east at Yarmouth, August 2nd. Some going N.E. from Bembridge towards Hayling, September 5th. Two going north at Beaulieu, September 11th. Some going east round Calshot, September 17th. One seen at Meon Haven, October 27th. Often roosts in large numbers in reed beds at Warsash (P.J.R.C.). First seen, Petersfield, April 14th. Song heard, April 19th. Commenced to congregate, July 28th. Last seen, September 23rd (A.A.S.). Last seen, Woolton Hill, October 17th (C.M.S.-S. and D.S.-S.). First arrival, Hill Head, Fareham, April 11th, against north wind. Big wave of migrants appeared in company with House Martins, September 4th and 5th. Another wave of migrants came October 9th and 10th. Last seen, October 31st (C.S.). Last seen, a single bird, Worlds End, near Newton, October 30th (S.S.). First seen, April 4th, Petersfield (W.F.W.). First seen, Milford-on-Sea, April 18th. Last seen, October 20th (E.R.). First seen, Lymington, April 11th. Last reported, New Milton, October 27th (E.C.). First seen, Ampfield, April 18th. Last seen, October 5th (H.T.W.).

House Martin (*Delichon urbica urbica* Linn.).—Many going up Itchen at Winchester, April 16th. Some going east at Yarmouth, August 2nd. Forty circling over Winchester, October 2nd. Pair seen visiting nest at Warsash, September 28th. One at Meon Haven, October 29th (P.J.R.C.). Large parties seen on migration N.W. to S.E., Petersfield, September 5th to October 10th. Locals last seen, October 14th (A.A.S.). Last seen, Woolton Hill, October 7th (C.M.S.-S. and D.S.-S.). None noted in

spring. Many migrating Hill Head, Fareham, September 26th, and a few October 2nd. Many again October 9th and 10th (C.S.). Last seen, Cosham, October 27th (S.S.). Twelve, Petersfield, May 3rd (A.E.H.). First seen, Emery Down, April 24th. Last (12) seen, October 31st (E.C.). Last seen, Ampfield, October 3rd (H.T.W.).

Sand Martin (*Riparia riparia riparia* L.).—Colony at Rockford, much smaller than last year (B.L.).

Swift (*Apus apus apus* Linn.). Fourteen at Wellow, I.O.W., August 10th. Four going westwards at Yarmouth, August 10th (P.J.R.C.). First seen, Petersfield, May 3rd. Majority of locals departed August 10th. A few pairs remained until August 29th, when 10 were seen. Last of locals departed August 30th. During second week August (6-14) many large parties seen flying high from N.W. to S.E. One solitary bird seen flying low at 6.15 (B.S.T.), September 23rd dead on the usual migration route (A.A.S.). Last adult seen Woolton Hill, August 28th. Young bird on ground outside nest on September 1st, alive but unable to fly (C.M.S.S. and D.S.S.). First seen, Petersfield, May 8th and one Rowlands Castle, May 8th. Two flew in from sea to Hill Head, May 8th. Locally scarce at Hill Head. Nine flew in from sea, July 10th (C.S.). First seen, Froyle, May 4th (D.A.E.C.). First seen, Petersfield, April 29th. Last seen, August 26th (W.F.W.). Last seen, Hordle, August 30th (E.C.). First arrived to stay, Ampfield, May 8th. Last seen, August 11th (H.T.W.).

Nightjar (*Caprimulgus europaeus europaeus* Linn.).—Heard on Heath, Petersfield, at night during June (W.F.W.). One heard during summer evenings, Milford-on-Sea (E.R.). Last heard, Highclere, August 20th (C.M.S.S. and D.S.S.).

Hoopoe (*Upupa epops epops* L.).—Four people had a prolonged view of one from a stationary car at a few yards range, Pennington, May 15th (E.C.).

[? **Roller** (*Coracias garrulus garrulus* L.).—A bird seen in garden at Wood Green, about July 20th, 1948, at range of only 10 yards, described as about size of Jay, of bright blue-green colour and with some brighter iridescent blue on wings (Mrs. Sarson), can scarcely have been any other species; close questioning failed to reveal any inconsistent features, and the description was given without any knowledge of the existence of this species; subsequently my informant unhesitatingly identified a Thorburn colour-plate of the Roller as the bird she had seen (K.B.R.). Dr. Pesel (in litt.) tells me a friend of his (not an ornithologist) saw one from the road at Crow's Nest Bottom, N.E. of Fritham, on August 31st.]

Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis ispida* L.).—Seen at Winchester, August 23rd; pair seen several times on mouth of Hamble, October (P.J.R.C.). Usually present throughout year, but none seen in 1948 until September 25th since when one seen regularly for rest of year, Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.). One was present at Titchfield Haven between September 16th and December 18th. It was seen on every visit to Titchfield Haven during that period, i.e., 13 visits (A.Y.N.).

Green Woodpecker (*Picus viridis pluvius* Hart.).—Common but not as numerous as before the 1947 frost, Petersfield (A.A.S.). Few resident throughout year, Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.). Common as ever, Lyminster (K.C.G.). Increasing again in Aldershot area and now fairly common especially around Tongham, Runfold and Hale (D.A.E.C.). Very plentiful, Milford-on-Sea (E.R.).

Great Spotted Woodpecker (*Dryobates major anglicus* Hart.).—One seen, Petersfield, September 13th. Only a chance visitor, possibly from Ditcham Woods (A.A.S.).

Wryneck (*Jynx torquilla torquilla* L.).—None recorded this year. This is unusual, (though birds may have passed unnoticed), Petersfield (A.A.S.).

- Cuckoo** (*Cuculus canorus canorus* L.).—Two seen flying and singing up Itchen at Winchester, April 19th (P.J.R.C.). First heard, Petersfield, April 18th. Last heard, male, June 27th, female, July 3rd. Many young birds seen during July. The last, a juvenile, seen August 9th. More numerous than usual this year (A.A.S.). First heard, Hill Head, Fareham, April 24th. Abundant (C.S.). First heard, Chilbolton, April 18th (W.A.P.); Petersfield, April 18th (W.F.W.); Milford-on-Sea, April 18th (E.R.). Last heard, Petersfield, June 28th (W.F.W.); Milford-on-Sea, June 26th (E.R.). First date, Holmesley, April 17th. Reared in same macrocarpa hedge in small garden, Pennington, as last year and again by a Hedge-Sparrow (E.C.). First heard, Ampfield, April 18th (H.T.W.).
- Little Owl** (*Athene noctua vidalii* A. E. Brehm.).—Scarcer than in earlier years, Hill Head, Fareham. Three heard September 25th; one October 14th; one October 23rd; one November 13th; one November 20th, and one November 28th (C.S.). Heard very frequently, Ringwood, in summer months. General increase appears to continue unabated (B.L.). No more than two seen or heard, Milford-on-Sea (E.R.).
- Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus peregrinus* Tunst.).—One adult male, found dead, Whitchurch, February (W.A.P.).
- Hobby** (*Falco subbuteo subbuteo* L.).—One seen in two separate parts of New Forest, June 13th-14th (R.S.R.F.). Three pairs located northern area, New Forest, May 24th-25th (H.E.P.). One hunting over New Forest heath, east of Fordingbridge, April 22nd—quite early (G.W.H.M.) (K.B.R.).
- Merlin** (*Falco columbarius aesalon* Tunst.).—Male twice seen over cultivated fields, Blackheath Down, near Martin, November 26th (K.B.R.).
- Kestrel** (*Falco tinnunculus tinnunculus* L.).—Becoming increasingly common, Petersfield (A.A.S.).
- Buzzard** (*Buteo buteo buteo* Linn.).—Four on Woodcott Down, September 26th (C.M.S.-S. and D.S.-S.). One seen May 23rd and three at different points May 24th, in northern area, New Forest. (On latter date I had the unusual experience of C. Buzzard, Carrion Crow, Hobby and Curlew all within the field of view of my Gorry (6 x 24) glasses. They were on the wing, of course.) (H.E.P.). One flying over to S.W. Ampfield, February 12th (H.T.W.).
- Montagu's Harrier** (*Circus pygargus* L.).—One seen, at long range, in northern area, New Forest, May 22nd (H.E.P.).
- Harrier Sp.** (*Circus* ?).—"Ring-tailed" Harrier seen Setley Plain, April 19th. (I was unfortunately unable to stop long enough to decide whether it was a Montagu's or Hen Harrier and on subsequent visits failed to see it.) (E.C.) A Ring-tail over heath east of Fordingbridge, April 18th, might have been a Hen-Harrier (Dr. K. B. Clarke). Pair reported seen, by keeper, intermittently in summer 1948, in Blackheath Down area (per G.W.H.M.) (K.B.R.).
- Hen-Harrier** (*Circus cyaneus cyaneus* L.).—One reported seen, Damerham Estate, winter 1947-48 (K.B.R.).
- Sparrow-Hawk** (*Accipiter nisus nisus* L.).—Seen frequently during April, Hill Head, Fareham. Raided a rookery several times, June 19th; one snatched a young Chaffinch from an oak tree when it was being fed by parents. Thereupon a Blackbird and a Wren sounded their alarm notes for 10-15 minutes (C.S.).
- [Honey-Buzzard** (*Pernis apivorus apivorus* L.) ?—Pair said to have been located in new Forest in 1947, but diagnostic features not stated (D.W.Y. per K.B.R.).]
- Spoonbill** (*Platalea leucorodia leucorodia* L.).—Adult watched feeding at close quarters near the Black Water, Beaulieu River, August 23rd (G.W.H.M., K.B.R.). One reported seen for several days in Warren Flats area, March 1948 (Brian Vesey-Fitzgerald) (K.B.R.).

- Heron** (*Ardea cinerea cinerea* L.).—Almost always in Titchfield Haven, where up to four may be seen at a time (C.S. and A.Y.N.). Often seen by river and on shore at Hamble (P.J.R.C.). One most days by stream in meadows. Six, Keyhaven Marsh, October 2nd (E.R.). One found dead by side of Heath Pond, Petersfield, January. Another noted May 9th and still pays occasional visits, usually in early morning (A.E.H.).
- Bittern** (*Botaurus stellaris stellaris* L.). Seen twice (? Black Water) in winter 1948-49, and reported at Sowley and Hatchet Ponds also (Brian Vesey-Fitzgerald) (K.B.R.).
- Mute-Swan** (*Cygnus olor* Gm.).—Usually two or more pairs breed in Titchfield Haven, but in 1948 only one resident pair, which apparently did not breed, were noted. They stayed until autumn and then disappeared. Last seen September 26th. Since then a few visitors have been seen (C.S.). Bred, Sturt Pond, Milford, as usual (E.C.).
- Grey Lag Goose** (*Anser anser* Linn.).—One seen swimming on lonely stretch of water in upper stretches of Portsmouth Harbour, very shy, October 16th (A.Y.N.).
- White-fronted Goose** (*Anser albifrons albifrons* Scop.).—Two in Avon Valley between Ringwood and Fordingbridge, arrived unusually early in 1947-48 (November) and in numbers (6-800); regular annual appearance of such numbers dates only from about 1940; never previously numerous (Lord Normanton per K.B.R.). Flight of about 70, North End, early January (D. R. Dampney); two over Bickton, December 24th (G.W.H.M.) (K.B.R.).
- Dark-breasted Brent Goose** (*Branta bernicla bernicla* L.).—Two flying west past mouth of Lymington River, October 24th (R.S.R.F.).
- Canada-Goose** (*Branta canadensis canadensis* L.).—Resident Goose no longer at Petersfield, and visitors less frequent and rarely stay long (A.E.H.).
- Sheld Duck** (*Tadorna tadorna* L.).—Two, Meon Haven, June 14th; two adults and eight young, August 31st (P.J.R.C.). During breeding season 20-40 frequented Titchfield Haven apparently without breeding, except for one pair, seen with nine ducklings, on about June 10th (C.S.). Pair nested in a rabbit hole on Titchfield Haven Marshes; six eggs laid and hatched and all six young birds flew. Sheld Duck always nest on marshes in varying numbers (A.Y.N.).
- Mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos* L.).—Meon Haven, 70, August 31st; 60, September 17th; 60, October 25th (P.J.R.C.). Very few, Hill Head, Fareham, compared with other years, except for a large influx early in October (C.S.). Titchfield Haven, 15 seen, November 1st; 20, November 6th; 23, November 7th; 51, November 28th; 72, December 15th; 37, December 18th; 38 December 23rd; 21, December 28th; eight, Portsmouth Harbour, December 11th (A.Y.N.).
- Gadwall** (*Anas strepera* L.).—Pair seen, Titchfield Haven, November 1st and December 15th (A.Y.N.).
- Teal** (*Anas crecca crecca* L.).—Meon Haven, 26, seen, August 31st; 15, September 16th; several hundred, October 25th (P.J.R.C.). A few, up to 28, frequented Titchfield Haven throughout spring and summer. About 200, November 7th; 216, November 27th; 258, December 4th, and 220, December 26th. Between those dates numbers diminished with considerable fluctuations (C.S.). Titchfield Haven, 35 seen, August 30th; 40, September 9th; 100, September 10th and 16th; 200, September 17th. Varying numbers seen until December 28th, when 21 seen. Largest number being 300 on October 23rd (A.Y.N.).
- Widgeon** (*Anas penelope* L.).—A few at Meon Haven, October 25th; 116 on shore further east (P.J.R.C.). Last of the winter's visitors seen March 26th, when nine drakes and eight ducks were counted. First of autumn's

migrants seen October 16th, when 11 were present. Highest count, 463, December 4th (C.S.). Varying numbers seen Titchfield Haven from August 30th to December 28th, highest counts being 200 on October 20th, 23rd and 30th (A.Y.N.).

Shoveler (*Spatula clypeata* L.).—A pair at Meon Haven, October 25th (P.J.R.C.). Two pairs seen March 13th; and one drake, March 26th; one drake, October 16th; one pair seen, Titchfield Haven, November 6th (C.S.). One seen, Titchfield Haven, October 16th and 27th; two, November 6th (A.Y.N.).

Common Pochard (*Aythya ferina* L.).—Autumn migrants first noted, October 10th, when 120 were present. Some seen throughout month, 51 counted October 31st. Two seen November 6th. None since, Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.). Four hundred seen, Titchfield Haven, October 10th; 32, October 23rd (A.Y.N.).

Common Scoter (*Melanitta nigra nigra* L.).—One seen, Stanpit Marsh, Christchurch, September 12th (R.E.S.).

Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo carbo* L.).—Very scarce compared with previous years, Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.). One, Portsmouth Harbour, October 12th; two, December 15th; one Elson, Gosport, October 29th; one, off Titchfield Haven, October 30th; three, November 7th; one, November 28th; one, December 18th (A.Y.N.).

Gannet (*Sula bassana* L.).—One seen near the Nab Tower (off eastern end of I.O.W.), September 5th (P.J.R.C.). Two immature seen on passage in boat from Poole to Yarmouth, I.O.W., October 9th (R.E.S.).

Leach's Fork-tailed Petrel (*Oceanodroma leucorhoa leucorhoa* Vieill.).—Bird flown inland by heavy gale, picked up in an exhausted condition, and very weak. It died in hands of finder, A. Y. Norris. Found in field in Alverstoke, Gosport, about $\frac{1}{4}$ -mile from the sea. Identified by C. Suffern (A.Y.N. and C.S.).

Great-crested Grebe (*Podiceps cristatus cristatus* L.).—Pair on lake, Petersfield, April 15th (W.F.W.).

Slavonian Grebe (*Podiceps auritus* L.).—One seen Keyhaven, December 24th (R.E.S.).

Little Grebe (*Podiceps ruficollis ruficollis* Pall.).—Resident at Meon Haven (P.J.R.C.). Last one in spring seen February 29th. None seen March to July. First one in autumn seen August 7th, since when from one to three generally present, Titchfield Haven (C.S.). Present at Titchfield Haven from October 23rd to end of year, numbers ranging from one to four. Pair nested on pond near Gosport (A.Y.N.).

Wood Pigeon (*Columba palumbus palumbus* L.).—First song, March 11th. Song ceased October 10th. Heard again December 18th, 19th and 27th, Petersfield (A.A.S.). Not many locally resident, Hill Head, Fareham, 1948 (C.S.).

Stock Dove (*Columba aenas* L.).—Flock of eight seen, Hill Head, Fareham, December 4th. Sole record (C.S.).

Turtle Dove (*Streptopelia turtur turtur* Linn.).—Arrived and first song heard Petersfield May 19th. Two young birds about three days ex-nest seen September 7th. Last seen September 18th (A.A.S.). Last seen, Highclere, September 13th (C.M.S.-S. and D.S.-S.). First heard, Hill Head, Fareham, May 2nd, then regularly until August 2nd (C.S.). First date, three seen, New Milton, May 4th (E.C.).

Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica lapponica* L.).—Two, Warsash, January 17th (P.J.R.C.). One seen, Pylewell Lake, Lymington, September 1st (E.C.). Twenty seen, Titchfield Haven Marshes, September 10th; two, December 15th (A.Y.N.).

Black-tailed Godwit (*Limosa limosa limosa* L.).—Seven seen, Meon Haven, October 29th (black tails with white band seen clearly) (P.J.R.C.). Four seen, Keyhaven, August 29th (R.E.S.). Fifty-one seen, Titchfield Haven Marshes, October 20th; 108, October 23rd; 60, October 24th; 40, October 30th; 14, October 31st; 18, November 1st; 20, November 6th; 150, December 15th; three, December 23rd (A.Y.N.). I have lived at Hill Head since 1920 except for my work in London during the working days of the week and except 1940 - 1945 and a few other absences. I have never seen black-tailed godwit there until May 26th, 1947, when I saw 100 or more in summer plumage. This year, 1948, I have kept a special watch for them almost every week-end, with this result: One with three curlews, January 18th; four, February 1st; 160 (one with chestnut head), February 15th; 103, February 28th; 79 (some beginning to assume breeding plumage), February 29th; five, March 7th; four, March 13th; two, March 14th; five, March 20th; one, March 21st; one, April 4th; eight, June 8th; one, June 13th; nine, July 10th; 28, in breeding plumage, July 24th; 34, July 31st; 34, August 1st; five in one party and nine in another, August 7th; seven, August 22nd; two, September 5th; two, October 3rd; one, October 10th; about 60, October 23rd; about 40, October 24th; 16, October 30th; 13, October 31st; 10, November 6th; seven, November 7th; 59, November 13th; two November 14th; 179, November 20th; 200 or more, December 4th; about 50, December 19th; two, separate, December 25th (C.S.).

Common Curlew (*Numenius arquata arquata* L.).—Five seen at Hamble with lower part of their bodies in the water apparently swimming, January 17th; one alone during August and early September; 90, September 28th; 50, October 28th (P.J.R.C.). Three consorting with one black-tailed godwit, January 18th; one heard, March 7th, July 11th, October 2nd, October 24th, October 30th, November 7th. One seen, October 30th, Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.). Often heard, Milford-on-Sea (E.R.). One seen, mud-flat, Portsmouth Harbour, September 5th; three, September 6th; two, Titchfield Haven, October 30th; one, October 31st (A.Y.N.).

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus phaeopus* L.).—Two, Hamble, May 3rd (P.J.R.C.). Some years ago one stayed in Titchfield Haven throughout summer and autumn. One seen, May 9th; four seen and heard, May 15th; one heard, May 17th; three seen, July 10th; one heard, November 14th (C.S.). One seen, Keyhaven, August 8th (R.E.S.). One, Warren Shore, Beaulieu River, August 23rd; six to eight, Stanpit, August 24th (G.W.H.M., K.B.R.).

Woodcock (*Scolopax rusticola* L.).—Resident in Alice Holt Forest; one at Warsash, December 26th (P.J.R.C.). Roding, Kingland Copse, near Damerham, April 9th; and Biddlesgate Copse, April 16th (K.B.R.); reported roding, Damerham Knoll Wood, March; and N. part of Martin Wood, April - May (per K.B.R.). These woods are all on or near junction of chalk with Reading Beds, and the Woodcock evidently breeds not uncommonly in this area (K.B.R.).

Common Snipe (*Capella gallinago gallinago* L.).—Twenty years ago snipe were in hundreds in Titchfield Haven, but their numbers are now much reduced. Greatest number counted in 1948 was 12, September 18th; and next greatest, 10, November 14th (C.S.). One drumming, Milford-on-Sea, March 13th (E.R.). Varying numbers seen Titchfield Haven from August 30th to November 7th. Largest number seen, 30 on September 10th and October 16th (A.Y.N.).

Grey Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius* L.).—One seen on sea wall at Hill Head, Fareham, very tame. Allowed to approach within a few yards and examine it through field glasses at leisure, January 18th (C.S.). One seen at Hill Head on January 18th, 1948, the only time I have ever seen one here (C.S.).

Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres interpres* L.).—A few seen, August 28th and 31st; 65, September 8th; 25, September 28th; 25, October 29th; (P.J.R.C.). Few seen every month except May and June. A party of 34 seen picking mussels, February 29th. A low-flying aircraft caused godwits and gulls to take to the air, but the turnstones "froze" until the godwits and gulls alighted again. Their protective colouration made them very difficult to see, Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.). Two seen, Sturt Pond, August 19th. Four or five, Pennington Marsh, December 1st; one; November 19th (E.C.). Two, Warren Spit, June 10th (K.B.R.); 5-10 there, August 23rd; about five at Stanpit, August 24th (G.W.H.M. and K.B.R.). Two over the Black Water at high-water, August 26th (K.B.R.). Two at Stanpit, October 10th (T.F. Shaxson) (K.B.R.). Various numbers seen Titchfield Haven from August 30th to December 23rd, the greatest number, 51, on September 9th (A.Y.N.).

Knot (*Calidris canutus canutus* L.).—Six at Warsash, August 28th and 31st (P.J.R.C.). One seen, Hill Head, Fareham, October 31st. No others (C.S.). One, Warren Shore, August 23rd; one at Stanpit, August 24th (G.W.H.M. and K.B.R.). One seen, Titchfield Haven, September 10th; two, October 31st; 30, November 1st; 10, November 6th; 30, November 7th; one, December 18th (A.Y.N.).

Dunlin (*Erolia alpina schinzii* Brehm.).—One hundred and twenty-one counted August 22nd. Since then there have nearly always been some present, Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.). Many, in summer plumage, Stanpit, April 17th (C.P.). Six, Warren Shore, June 10th (K.B.R.); 50-60 there, some in full summer plumage, August 23rd; 75-100, Stanpit, August 24th (G.W.H.M. and K.B.R.); 50 at Stanpit, October 10th (T. F. Shaxton) (K.B.R.). Fair numbers seen Titchfield Haven from August 30th to November 7th, greatest number seen being 120 on September 19th, and 100 on September 9th and 10th (A.Y.N.).

Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris testacea* Pall.).—Five seen, Titchfield Haven, September 9th; one, September 10th; two, September 18th; one September 19th (A.Y.N.).

Little Stint (*Calidris minuta* Leisl.).—One seen, Stanpit Marsh, Christchurch, October 2nd (R.E.S.). One seen, Titchfield Haven, in company with five Turnstone, black legs and bill. Length about $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches. White underparts, light brown upper parts. Very active. It allowed me to get within approximately 4 yards of it, October 20th (A.Y.N.).

Temminck's Stint (*Calidris temminckii* Leisl.).—Two seen Titchfield Haven, October 30th. These birds were present in the locality all day, and were watched for a very considerable time. Upper parts were a light brown-grey, the breast was a definite grey. Brown bill and green legs. The flight was rather "bat-like." They uttered a very sweet trill. The light was excellent when they were seen in the morning, but when they were last seen the light was dull. Length approximately 5-6 inches (A.Y.N.).

Sanderling (*Crocethia alba* Pall.).—Two seen, Stanpit Marsh, Christchurch, October 2nd (R.E.S.). Four at Stanpit, April 17th (C.P.); three to four there August 24th (G.W.H.M., K.B.R.). Four seen Titchfield Haven, September 9th; one seen October 31st (A.Y.N.).

Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax* L.).—One immature seen Stanpit Marsh, Christchurch, September 12th (R.E.S.).

Common Sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos* L.).—One at Yarmouth, August 16th (P.J.R.C.). One seen, Chilbolton, April 18th (W.A.P.). One seen, Sturt Pond, August 19th (E.C.). One, Bickton Weir, River Avon, May 21st (K.B.R.). Three near Gins Farm, Beaulieu River, August 23rd

and five or more there August 26th; two to three at Stanpit, August 24th (G.W.H.M. and K.B.R.). Nine seen Titchfield Haven, August 30th; five, September 9th; three, September 11th; one, September 18th; one, September 19th (A.Y.N.).

Wood Sandpiper (*Tringa glareola* Linn.).—One seen, Titchfield Haven, September 9th (A.Y.N.).

Green Sandpiper (*Tringa ochropus* L.).—One seen, Keyhaven, August 29th (R.E.S.). One flushed on a stream, World's End, near Newton, November 16th and 21st, in all probability the same bird. One towered from a small rain pond near S.E. corner of Bouldsbury Wood, Damerham, August 6th. Two by the Black Water, Beaulieu River, August 26th (K.B.R.).

British Redshank (*Tringa totanus britannica* Math.).—Present throughout year, Warsash (P.J.R.C.). Present throughout year, except August, Hill Head, Fareham. Flock of about 300 counted November 6th and about 150 December 4th (C.S.). Two seen on pool near Keyhaven, April 15th (R.E.S.). Present on breeding ground, Chilbolton, March 23rd. Two pairs present, nest with one egg, Chilbolton, April 18th (W.A.P.). Four at Kingston Common, May 26th (B.L.). Varying numbers seen, September 18th to December 28th; 10 seen Titchfield Haven, September 19th; 21, October 31st; 41, November 1st; 300, November 6th; 100, December 15th (A.Y.N.).

Spotted Redshank (*Tringa erythropus* Pall.).—One watched for some time by the Black Water, Beaulieu River, identity confirmed by absence of white on wing in flight and by characteristic call (G.W.H.M. and K.B.R.), August 23rd (K.B.R.). One seen Titchfield Haven, September 26th. Winter plumage. Length approximately 12 inches. Underparts light brownish-grey. Legs deep red. In flight part of legs as well as feet project beyond tail, flight like Redshank's. Range approximately 25 yards. Light excellent. Using telescope in "hide" in some rushes.

Greenshank (*Tringa nebularia* Gunn.).—One seen October 2nd, 9th and 10th. Probably same bird. Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.). Four seen, Keyhaven, August 29th (R.E.S.). Five or more near mouth of Beaulieu River, August 23rd (G.W.H.M. and K.B.R.). Two or more there, August 26th (K.B.R.). Three seen, Titchfield Haven, August 30th; one, September 10th (A.Y.N.).

Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula hiaticula* L.).—One, Warsash, August 28th; eight, August 31st; 12, September 8th; 30, September 27th; 25, October 29th (P.J.R.C.). Earliest one seen, Hill Head, Fareham, May 15th. Party of about 10, June 11th. Odd ones seen until August 22nd, when flock of about 100 were seen. Since then a few were almost constantly present until end of year (C.S.). Two to three pairs and several fledged juveniles, Warren Spit, June 10th (K.B.R.). About 30, adult and juvenile, there August 23rd; 75-100, at Stanpit, of which 40 per cent. juvenile, August 24th (G.W.H.M. and K.B.R.); about 100 adults and 20 still in juvenile plumage, Stanpit, October 10th (T. F. Shaxson) (K.B.R.). Varying numbers from one to 70 seen Titchfield Haven from August 30th to December 23rd; 70 seen, September 10th and 11th; 60, September 9th (A.Y.N.).

Kentish Plover (*Leucopoliis alexandrinus alexandrinus* L.).—Two identified at Stanpit, Christchurch Harbour, among a number of adult and immature Ringed Plover, October 10th (T. F. Shaxson). "They were slightly smaller than the Ringed Plover. The back and head were greyish-brown, underparts white, and the legs were dark, not yellow as in the Ringed Plovers. A distinct feature was the presence of small dark shoulder patches, projecting forwards from the closed wing. Comparison with juvenile Ringed Plovers showed that the latter had an almost unbroken

pectoral band, whereas in the birds in question the dark patches stopped abruptly leaving a clear white breast. The neck was completely encircled by a narrow white ring. No clearly defined head-markings were noticed. They were not seen to fly." (The conditions of observation were good at close range using an $\times 40$ telescope, and the observer certain that leg colour could not have been due to mud, particularly as they were on a sandy area and none of the Ringed Plovers feeding with them showed mud-daubed legs.) (K.B.R.) One seen, Titchfield Haven, August 30th. Breast, belly, flanks, collar, top of head, "under-tail," eye stripe, white; back, top of head, wings breast patches, light brown; bill and legs, black. Range, 20 yards. Telescope used. Light good. Size 6 inches. In company with five young Ringed Plover. Very active. Thin white wing-bar (A.Y.N.).

Golden Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria apricaria* L.).—Fourteen on arable downland; Tidpit, near Martin, November 25th (K.B.R.).

Grey Plover (*Squatarola squatarola* L.).—One, Warsash, January 1st; two, January 8th; one, January 17th (P.J.R.C.). Nine seen, Pennington—Lymington Marshes, April 7th. Three (no sign of summer plumage), June 10th. Three or four, December 1st; two, Stanpit, November 11th (E.C.). Two, one in partial summer plumage, Warren Beach, June 10th (K.B.R.).

Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus* L.).—About 1,000 seen flying north, Petersfield (a.m.), December 18th. Others were heard overhead at night, December 18th. About 500 flying north (a.m.), December 20th (A.A.S.). About 50-100 are usually resident in Titchfield Haven where they can be seen behaving like real waders. An enormous flock of obvious newly-arrived Lapwings, excited and unsettled, was seen occupying a separate portion of the haven from the residents, November 14th. Eleven arrived from west in afternoon of November 27th. Only four present December 12th. Since then they have reverted to usual numbers of 50-100 (C.S.). Large numbers seen on varying dates from August 30th to December 28th at Titchfield Haven. One hundred seen, October 10th; 150 seen, October 20th; 600 very restless as if just before or just after migration, October 23rd; 100, October 24th; 150, October 27th; 1,000, November 28th—in two separate flocks, 700 and 300, the former flock being very shy; 300, December 28th (A.Y.N.).

Black-winged Stilt (*Himantopus himantopus himantopus* L.).—Brian Vesey-Fitzgerald (in litt., February 10th, 1949) reports (in Warren Flats area) several in April 1948 (no details given) (K.B.R.).

Avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta* L.).—Four seen by experienced observer, Fareham, about May 22nd. Other observers reported seeing two about the same time (C.S.).

Oyster-Catcher (*Haematopus ostralegus occidentalis* Neum.).—Present until May, Warsash; five birds seen again, September 8th; 27 seen on way up Solent, passed Calshot and flew up to Fawley Marshes, September 29th (P.J.R.C.). About half-a-dozen or so present throughout year except May, Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.). Pair with one downy young, June 10th, in usual site on mainland shore of Solent (K.B.R.). (Another pair with two young reported a few miles away on same coast—E.C.) (K.B.R.). Two seen, Titchfield Haven, August 30th; three, September 10th; one, October 27th; nine, October 30th; four, October 31st; 12, November 1st; three, November 28th; four, December 18th; two, December 23rd (A.Y.N.).

Stone Curlew (*Burhinus oedicnemus oedicnemus* L.).—One sitting on nest in young cornfield near Martin Wood, April 16th, but nest "rolled in" the same afternoon (G.W.H.M.)—evidently a common fate of first nests on arable downland in this district (K.B.R.).

Black Tern (*Chlidonias niger niger* L.).—One seen feeding with Common Terns and Black-headed Gulls in the Solent, July 27th (O.H.). One, Stanpit, Christchurch Harbour, May 16th (O. Barnes, T. F. Shaxson) (K.B.R.).

Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo hirundo* L.).—Young bird seen on golf course at Freshwater and an adult flying east against a strong wind, August 8th; four passed Yarmouth going west; one passed Yarmouth going west, but returned about half-an-hour later flying east, August 11th; nine seen at Fawley, September 9th; some seen in Southampton Water, September 15th; three at Meon Haven, going N.E., September 17th; nine at Netley, September 18th (P.J.R.C.). Two adults and five young fishing in sea, 19 others in Titchfield Haven, August 2nd (C.S.) (? Sps.). One seen, Hill Head, Fareham, May 30th; one, Portsmouth Harbour, October 3rd. One (or Arctic Tern) with Black-headed Gulls, settling in dry arable fields at foot of Martin Down, May 31st (K.B.R.).

Arctic Tern (*Sterna macrura* Naumann).—One picked up with broken wing under a telegraph wire after a N.E. gale, Dean, Hants - Wilts border, April 25th (W.A.P.). One certainly identified at Stanpit among a number of Common or Arctic Terns, April 27th, 1947 (J. H. Crook) (K.B.R.).

Little Tern (*Sterna albifrons albifrons* Pall.).—Fifty-six adults counted over Warren Spit ternery, June 10th; five nests found (c. 3 × 1, c. 2 × 2, c. 1 × 2) (K.B.R.). Three or more at Stanpit, August 24th (K.B.R.).

Gull (*Larus* sp.).—An overhead movement observed not confined to any one species. First noted July 20th at dusk when 12 large or medium large were seen flying from N.E. to S.W. Numerous parties of these larger gulls all N.E. to S.W. were noted to August 2nd. After August 2nd the movement was confined to the small species and continued through September into October. Throughout until October the movement was N.E. to S.W., but in first week of October direction appeared to change due north to south and then became difficult to follow owing to local movements of Black-headed Gulls. Petersfield (A.A.S.).

Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus argentatus* Pont.).—One seen catching and swallowing an elver, Hill Head, Fareham, July 3rd (C.S.).

Scandinavian Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus fuscus* L.).—One seen, Titchfield Haven, September 19th. Using a telescope the bird was noted to have black wings. It was in company with six Greater Black-backed Gulls, and the wing-size was unmistakable, being about 21 in. in length as compared with the length of those of the Greater Black-backed Gull, 27 in. Range, 50-60 yards. Light excellent (A.Y.N.).

Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus graellsii* Brehm.).—Three seen, Gosport Golf Links, September 3rd; three, Portsmouth Harbour, September 4th; two, September 6th; one, September 8th; varying numbers seen Titchfield Haven from September 9th to December 23rd, largest numbers being seen, 20, September 9th; 52, September 10th, 23, September 16th; 20, September 17th; 10, September 10th (A.Y.N.).

Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus* Linn.).—Five seen over Woolton Hill, December 17th (C.M.S.-S. and D.S.-S.). Eighteen or more, Stanpit, Christchurch Harbour (two immature), August 24th (K.B.R.); about 50 there, October 19th (T. F. Shaxson) (K.B.R.). Seen Titchfield Haven throughout August, September, October, November and December in varying numbers, greatest number being 30, October 31st (A.Y.N.).

Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus* Gunn.).—One seen Titchfield Haven, October 16th. This bird was about the same size as the four Greater Black-backed Gulls which it was in company. Most salient points were grey wings and mantle, otherwise it was white all over. Legs pink. Bill yellow with red spot on lower mandible. Head streaked with brown; adult. Very high-pitched voice. No black on wings. (A.Y.N.).

- Kittiwake** (*Rissa tridactyla tridactyla* L.).—Two immatures seen flying in westerly direction towards Southampton Water, Gosport, October 11th. Bill green. Legs brown. Black diagonal wing-bar on upper side of wings. Black band across back of neck, about same size as Black-headed Gull (*Larus ridibundus*) (A.Y.N.).
- Great Skua** (*Stercorarius skua skua* Brünn.).—One seen at close quarters; Stanpit Marsh, Christchurch Harbour, was relatively tame and presumably exhausted, but able to fly; it was apparently an adult, its body plumage showing distinct pale streaks, August 24th (see also *proc.* Bournemouth N.S.S., 1947-48) (G.W.H.M. and K.B.R.).
- Razorbill** (*Alca torda britannica* Ticehurst).—One seen in Solent, off Bouldner Cliffs, July 31st (P.J.R.C.).
- Guillemot** (*Uria aalge*).—One seen Portsmouth Harbour, October 9th (C.S.).
- Puffin** (*Fratercula arctica grabae* Brehm).—In a search during August of the S.W. of the I.O.W. suitable burrows were found on Needle Cliffs and at Brook but nothing more (P.J.R.C.).
- Corn Crane** (*Crex crex* L.).—One was shot during corn harvest near Damerham (per G.W.H.M.) (K.B.R.).
- Spotted Crane** (*Porzana porzana* L.).—One seen on edge of a lonely pond on the local golf links, September 3rd. Length about 10in. Colouring: back, rump and wings brown with white spots; flanks, under tail and belly brown with white bars; breast and face slate grey with white spots; crown and nape brown with white spots; bill yellow with red base; legs very light yellow-green. Shape very long and sleek. It ran very fast but stopped for about 2 mins. when notes and drawings were taken. Light excellent. Gosport (A.Y.N.).
- Moorhen** (*Gallinula chloropus chloropus* L.).—Not nearly so plentiful as in earlier years at Titchfield Haven. No more than four seen simultaneously in the water during 1948 (C.S.). Numbers between one and 25 arrived at Titchfield Haven, September 17th, and present until end of year. Nested on several ponds, 30 nests found, near Gosport (A.Y.N.).
- Coot** (*Fulica atra atra* L.).—Large concourse remained in Titchfield Haven until April 3rd. None seen in summer. First noted in autumn, one on September 18th, then varying numbers between then and December 27th, when 22 seen (C.S.). Arrived at Titchfield Haven, September 18th, in small numbers at first, numbers reaching maximum of 42. No nests found this year (A.Y.N.).
- Partridge** (*Perdix perdix perdix* L.).—Scarce 1948. Plentiful earlier, Hill Head, Fareham (C.S.). Scarce, Milford-on-Sea. (B.R.).
- Quail** (*Coturnix coturnix coturnix* L.).—One old bird and six young seen near Farley, Hants - Wilts border, July 24th (W.A.P.). Reported in 1948 from cultivated downlands in the Martin area, where two nests were found in 1947 (Charles Coles per K.B.R.). Seen in autumn 1947 on cultivated downlands near Rockbourne; records of previous tenant show that they were quite often shot here in past years (S. Wilson per K.B.R.). In the Whitsbury area there have usually been a few in late summer and autumn for a number of years past, but apparently considerably increased since about 1943—possibly related to increased barley crops on downland (Major P. J. R. Currie) (K.B.R.).

INSECTS IN HAMPSHIRE.

(From a report by DR. C. SUFFERN, Hillhead, near Fareham.)

Odonata (Dragonflies).

Emperor Dragonfly (*Anax imperator* Leach).—"One caught by David Keen at Stubbington 'a week or two' earlier identified August 1st. D.K. reported another caught September 11th."

Broad-bodied Libellula (*Libellula depressa* L.).—A pair, male and female, caught May 15th. "On May 17th I saw a female *L. depressa* hovering above some water weed in the middle of a pond, jerking forwards and backwards rhythmically and curving abdomen downwards and forwards at each forward movement of the body. Finally she scattered ova backwards into the water and flew off. Meanwhile, a male of the same species cruised quickly round her in circles of about 10 yards diameter as if to protect her (like a t.b.d. round her convoy). When the female flew off he abruptly stopped circling and flew after her. On May 30th I watched a similar performance but the female seemed to strike the tip of her abdomen on water weed at each dip. A male was also flying round her."

Banded Agrion (*Agrion splendens* Harris).—Male, June 8th.

Large Red Damselfly (*Pyrrosoma nymphula* Sulzer).—Caught May 14th.

Common Ischnura (*Ischnura elegans* Van der Linden).—Male, May 17th.

Hemiptera (Plant-bugs, Aphids, etc.).

One Shield-bug or Mitre-bug (? sp.) on *Iris stylosa* March 13th.

A Plant-bug "with chestnut antennae, yellow legs with red tarsi, light olive-green shield with darker marks in the form of spots or pits in lines," May 17th.

Cuckoo-spit (*Aphrophora spumaria*).—Plentiful, May 15th.

Scarlet Hoppers (? *Cercopis sanguinea* Geof.).—Two, May 16th.

Neuroptera (Lacewings, Alder-flies, etc.).

Lacewing (? sp.).—One presumably just emerged from hibernation, March 28th.

Mecoptera (Scorpion-flies).

Scorpion-fly (? sp.).—One, June 8th.

Lepidoptera (Butterflies and Moths). See separate report.

Coleoptera (Beetles).

Sexton Beetle (*Necrophorus* ? sp.).—One, black and yellow banded, at dead mole, May 16th. "A very small and brightly-coloured beetle with large black eyes. The parts around the mouth were orange. The antennae were brown. Thorax black above, sides and underneath red. Abdomen black above and red below, but the upper part of the abdomen was covered by bluish-green elytra terminating in red tips demarcated from the bluish-green area by a thin black line. June 19th. This was probably *Malachius* sp."

Cardinal Beetle (*Pyrochroa serraticornis*).—One, May 17th.

Longicorn Beetle (*Strangalia maculata*).—One, June 24th.

Seven-spot Lady-bird (*Coccinella septempunctata*).—Two seen on gorse, February 29th. Either a big hatch, or a local migration or an immigration of hundreds, very active, flying and copulating, May 9th. Larva on a gobseberry bush badly attacked by aphides, May 22nd. One just emerged was found at 3.30 p.m. when it was lemon yellow without any spots. Spots were beginning to appear at 5.0 p.m. : at 8.0 p.m. it had gone, July 10th. Larvae were pupating on June 13th.

Ten-spot Lady-bird (*Coccinella 10-punctata*).—Red with five black spots arranged like a cross on each elytrum, June 13th.

Eleven-spot Lady-bird (*Coccinella 11-punctata*).—One found on May 22nd had a large spot on the anterior part of the elytra shared by both elytra, behind this spot each elytrum had two spots of similar size close to the median edge and laterally three small spots. This pattern differed from another 11-spot Lady-bird found June 11th which had one anterior central spot as described, flanked by one small spot on each side : half way along each elytrum was a row of three small spots and at the hind end another small spot.

Sixteen-spot Lady-bird (*C. 16-punctata*).—Eight spots on each elytrum on a chestnut ground colour, June 12th.

Two-spot Lady-bird (*Adalia bipunctata*).—Caught in Lambeth Palace Road, S.E. 1, on July 20th ; was about half the size of a Seven-spot.

Hymenoptera (Ants, Bees, Wasps, etc.).

Solitary Bee (*Osmia rufa*).—One searching swallow in rain, March 13th.

Cuckoo Bee (? *Nomada lineola*).—One, April 10th.

Solitary Bee (*Anthrophora* ? *retusa*).—Male carrying an oil-beetle larva and searching holes in a sandy bank, June 8th.

Sand-Wasp (*Ammophila sabulosa*).—June 8th.

Ruby-tailed Wasp (*Chrysis* ? sp.).—June 13th.

Diptera (Flies, etc.).

Cluster Fly (*Pollenia rudis*).—One, March 13th.

Microlepidoptera.

Dr. Suffern reports : " Several adelid (long-horn) (*Adela viridella scopoli*) moths found May 9th frequenting oak and prunus ; black with golden reflections from the wings and with very long white antennae, they were dancing up and down just over the foliage with antennae held vertically."

LEPIDOPTERA IN HAMPSHIRE, 1948.

By SIR ROBERT SAUNDBY.

IN contrast to 1947, the spring of 1948 was mild and many insects were on the wing earlier than usual. At Burghclere the first *Theris rupicaprararia* (Hubn.) was seen on January 14th, followed by *Erannis leucophaearia* (Schiff.) and *Phigalia pedaria* (Fabr.) on January 31st. On February 13th *Ectropis bistortata* came to light, and three specimens of *Erannis marginaria* (Bortch.) did the same on February 27th.

A number of *Aglaia urticae* (L.) were seen at Hillhead, near Fareham, by Dr. Suffern on March 14th, one was captured on March 6th and several seen on March 7th at Butts Ash, Hythe, by E.V., while *Polygonia c-album* (L.) was seen both at Sway and at Burghclere on March 26th. On March 28th one *Nymphalis polychloros* (L.) was seen at Burghclere.

Pieris rapae (L.) was first recorded at Sway on April 9th, at Burghclere on April 20th and at Hillhead on April 24th.

In early July the Pine Hawk Moth *Hyloicus pinastri* (L.) was seen at Totland, I.O.W. It also was found on the borders of Hampshire and Berkshire, but all records were just inside the Berkshire boundary. This moth, formerly very rare and confined to a small area in Suffolk and one part of Dorset, is now spreading. During the last four years it has been recorded in some numbers from Berkshire, Surrey and Sussex, and is evidently present also in Hampshire.

On July 31st one specimen of the Brighton Wainscot, *Oria musculosa* (Hubn.) came to light at Burghclere, followed by another a few days later. A lamp taken after dark to the nearest wheat field produced a further specimen. This moth, until recently a very scarce migrant, is now well established in the Salisbury area and has evidently spread to N. Hampshire.

The summer was not remarkable for warmth or sunshine and lepidoptera, particularly the butterflies, were not very plentiful.

The autumn moths were about average in numbers, showing a recovery from the extremely bad autumn of 1947. It is evident that a hot, dry summer does not suit the majority of these species.

In the more detailed list which follows the Papiliones and Bombyces have been fairly fully dealt with, but, for reasons of space, only the more interesting records among the Agrotides and Geometrides have been included.

Initials of contributors :

- E.C. Flight-Lieutenant E. Cohen, Hazlehurst, Sway.
- R.S. Sir Robert Saundby, Oxleas, Burghclere.
- C.S. Dr. C. Suffern, Hillhead, near Fareham.
- E.V. Brigadier F. E. W. Venning, Butts Ash, Hythe.

Butterflies.

- Large White** (*Pieris brassicae* L.).—First seen April 24th (Hillhead, C.S.). Fairly plentiful. Last seen October 15th (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Small White** (*Pieris rapae* L.).—First seen April 9th (New Milton, E.C.). Plentiful.
- Green-veined White** (*Pieris napi* L.).—First seen April 13th (Butts Ash, E.V.) and April 25th (Burghclere, R.S., and Hillhead, C.S.). Plentiful.
- Orange Tip** (*Euchloe cardamines* L.).—First seen April 13th (Sway, E.C.). Not as common generally as usual.
- Clouded Yellow** (*Colias croceus* Fourc.).—Hillhead, September 26th, October 3rd and October 9th (C.S.). Three seen at Ventnor, I.O.W., on October 5th. Scarce.
- Brimstone** (*Gonepteryx rhamni* L.).—First seen March 7th (Butts Ash, E.V.), March 26th after hibernation (Hillhead, C.S.). First newly-emerged specimen recorded July 12th (Burghclere, R.S.). Not very plentiful.
- Silver-washed Fritillary** (*Argynnis paphia* L.).—First seen July 5th (Burghclere, R.S.).
- High Brown Fritillary** (*Argynnis cydippe* L.).—First recorded July 13th (Burghclere, R.S.). Not as plentiful as usual.
- Dark Green Fritillary** (*Argynnis aglaia* L.).—First seen July 13th (Burghclere, R.S.). Scarce.
- Pearl-bordered Fritillary** (*Argynnis euphrosyne* L.).—First seen May 6th (Burghclere, R.S.). Abundant.
- Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary** (*Argynnis selenis* L.).—First seen May 9th (Burghclere, R.S.). Fairly abundant.
- Marsh Fritillary** (*Euphydryas aurinia* Rott.).—Recorded near Wickham, June 5th (R.S.), May 18th at Burghclere (R.S.).
- Comma** (*Polyommata c-album* L.).—First seen after hibernation March 26th (E.C. and R.S.). Plentiful. Last seen October 9th (C.S.).
- Small Tortoiseshell** (*Aglais urticae* L.).—First seen March 6th, one; March 7th, several (Butts Ash, E.V.); March 14th, Hillhead (C.S.). Plentiful. Last seen October 23rd (C.S.).
- Large Tortoiseshell** (*Nymphalis polychloros* L.).—Seen March 28th (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Peacock** (*Nymphalis io* L.).—First seen after hibernation, March 26th (Hillhead, C.S.).
- Painted Lady** (*Vanessa cardui* L.).—First seen June 17th (Hillhead, C.S.). Very few about. Last seen October 5th (Ventnor, R.S.).
- Red Admiral** (*Vanessa atalanta* L.).—First seen June 10th (migrant?) (Pennington, E.C.). Fairly common. Last seen November 13th (Hillhead, C.S.).
- White Admiral** (*Limenitis camilla* L.).—First seen June 30th (Burghclere, R.S.). Fairly common.
- Marbled White** (*Melanargia galathea* L.).—First seen July 17th (Burghclere, R.S.). Common locally.
- Speckled Wood** (*Pararge aegeria* L.).—First seen April 26th (Burghclere, R.S.). Rare. First seen May 9th (Hillhead, C.S.). Common.
- Wall Brown** (*Pararge megera* L.)
Meadow Brown (*Maniola jurtina* L.)
Small Heath (*Coenonympha pamphilus* L.) } All common. (R.S.)
- Hedge Brown** (*Maniola tithonus* L.).—First seen July 24th (Hillhead, C.S.). Fairly common.
- Grayling** (*Eumenis semele* L.).—First seen July 20th (Burghclere, R.S.). Plentiful on Newtown Common. Three seen on August 1st, one August 22nd (Hillhead, C.S.).
- Ringlet** (*Aphantopus hyperantus* L.).—First seen July 13th (Burghclere, R.S.). Common locally.

- Duke of Burgundy** (*Hamearis lucina* L.).—First seen May 18th (Burghclere, R.S.). Common locally.
- Green Hair-streak** (*Callophrys rubi* L.).—First seen April 25th (Burghclere, R.S.). Common locally.
- Purple Hair-streak** (*Thecla quercus* L.).—First seen July 20th (Burghclere, R.S.). Common locally.
- Small Copper** (*Lycaena phlaeas* L.).—First seen April 25th: last seen October 23rd (Hillhead, C.S.). Common.
- Silver-studded Blue** (*Phlebejus argus* L.).—First seen June 30th (Burghclere, R.S.). Locally common.
- Chalk-hill Blue** (*Lysandra coridon* Pod.).—First seen August 3rd (Burghclere, R.S.). Not as common as usual.
- Clifden Blue** (*Lysandra bellargus* Rott.).—First seen May 18th (Burghclere, R.S.). Not common.
- Brown Argus** (*Aricia agestis* Schiff.).—First seen May 18th (Burghclere, R.S.). Common.
- Common Blue** (*Polyommatus icarus* Rott.).—First seen May 15th (Hillhead, C.S.). Common.
- Holly Blue** (*Celastrina argiolus* L.).—First seen April 24th: last seen August 2nd (Hillhead, C.S.). Locally common.
- Small Blue** (*Cupido minimus* Fuessl.).—First seen May 18th (Burghclere, R.S.). Very local.
- Large Skipper** (*Ochlodes venata* Br. and Grey.) }
Small Skipper (*Thymelicus sylvestris* Pod.) } All common (R.S.).
Dingy Skipper (*Erynnis tages* L.) }
Grizzled Skipper (*Pyrgus malvae* L.) }

Moths.

Bombyces.

- Narrow-bordered Bee Hawk** (*Hemaris tityus* L.).—Seen May 14th and 16th (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Poplar Hawk** (*Lothoe populi* L.).—Common.
- Pine Hawk** (*Hyloicus pinastri* L.).—Totland, I.O.W., July 8th (R.S.).
- Lime Hawk** (*Mimas tiliae* L.).—Larvae taken in July (R.S.).
- Eyed Hawk** (*Smerinthus ocellata* L.).—Larvae taken in July (R.S.).
- Lobster Moth** (*Stauropus fagi* L.).—One taken at nest on gatepost May 20th (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Swallow Prominent** (*Pheosia tremula* Clerck.).—One came to light August 3rd (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Lesser Swallow Prominent** (*Pheosia gnoma* Fabr.).—Several to light, and larvae found on scrub birches in September (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Pebble Prominent** (*Notodonta ziczac* L.).—Several came to light (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Iron Prominent** (*Notodonta dromedarius* L.).—Several larvae found on small birches (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Great Prominent** (*Notodonta trepida* Esp.).—A number came to light in late April (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Coxcomb Prominent** (*Lophopteryx capucina* L.).—Common (R.S.).
- Scarce Prominent** (*Odontesia carmelita* L.).—One came to light April 28th (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Pale Prominent** (*Pterostoma palpina* L.).—Common (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Buff-tip** (*Phalera bucephala* L.).—Common (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Chocolate-tip** (*Clostera curtula* L.).—A few larvae taken from aspens in September (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Buff Arches** (*Habrosyne detersa* L.) }
Peach Blossom (*Thyatira batis* L.) } All common (R.S.).
Lesser Lutestring (*Asphalia diluta* Schiff.) }
Yellow-horned (*Achlya flavicornis* L.) }

- Frosted Green** (*Polyploca ridens* Fabr.).—One came to light April 28th (Burghclere R.S.).
- Vapourer** (*Orgyia antiqua* L.).—Common (Burghclere, R.S.), but none seen at Hillhead (C.S.).
- Pale Tussock** (*Dasychira pudibunda* L.) } Both common (R.S.).
- Gold-tail** (*Euproctis similis* Fuessl.) }
- Black Arches** (*Lymantria monacha* L.).—Several seen in July (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Lackey** (*Malacosoma neustria* L.).—Common (R.S.).
- Small Eggar** (*Eriogaster lanestris* L.).—Two larvae on rose (unusual food-plant), June 27th and July 3rd (Hillhead, C.S.): one moth came to light September 15th (Burghclere, R.S.).
- December Eggar** (*Poecilocampa populi* L.).—Common locally (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Fox Moth** (*Macrothylacia rubi* L.).—Common (R.S.).
- Drinker** (*Philudoria potatoria* L.).—Common (R.S.).
- Lappet** (*Gastropacha quercifolia* L.).—One male came to light July 3rd (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Emperor** (*Saturnia pavonia* L.).—Common on heaths (R.S.).
- Oak Hook-tip** (*Drepana binaria* Hufn.).—One larva found full grown September 12th (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Scalloped Hook-tip** (*Drepana lacertinaria* L.) } Common (R.S.).
- Pebble Hook-tip** (*Drepana falcatoria* L.) }
- Chinese Character** (*Cilix glaucata* Scop.) }
- Short-cloaked Moth** (*Nola cucullatella* L.) } Locally common (R.S.).
- Least Black Arches** (*Celama confusalis* H.S.) }
- Green Silver Lines** (*Bena prasinana* L.).—Common (R.S.).
- Scarce Silver Lines** (*Pseudopsis bicolorana* Fuessl.).—Came to light July 19th: larva found on oak May 24th (Burghclere, R.S.).
- White Ermine** (*Spilosoma lubricipeda* L.) } Both common (R.S.).
- Buff Ermine** (*Spilosoma lutea* Hufn.) }
- Muslin Ermine** (*Cynia mendica* Clerck.).—One female seen May 9th (Hillhead, C.S.).
- Ruby Tiger** (*Phragmatobia fuliginosa* L.).—Both spring and summer broods common (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Wood Tiger** (*Parasemia plantaginis* L.).—Larvae found on the downs in late April (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Garden Tiger** (*Arctia caja* L.).—Common (R.S.).
- Cream-spot Tiger** (*Arctia villica* L.).—One seen on May 16th (Hillhead, C.S.).
- Cinnabar** (*Callimorpha jacobaeae* L.).—Abundant (R.S.).
- Red-necked Footman** (*Atolmis rubicollis* L.).—One larva found September 29th (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Rosy Footman** (*Mitochrista miniata* Forst.).—Locally common in July (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Four-dotted Footman** (*Cybosia mesomella* L.).—Common on heaths in July (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Common Footman** (*Eilema lurideola* Zinck.).—Common (R.S.).
- Scarce Footman** (*Eilema complana* L.).—A good year for this moth, many more to be found than usual (Burghclere, R.S.).

Agrotides.

- White-line Dart** (*Euxoa tritici* L.).—One came to light July 29th (Burghclere, R.S.).
- True Lover's Knot** (*Lycophotia varia* Vill.).—Fairly common on heaths (Burghclere, R.S.).

- Grey Rustic** (*Amathes castanea* Esp.).—Several taken in the New Forest near Beaulieu on August 26th (R.S.).
- Dotted Clay** (*Amathes baja* Fabr.).—Several taken in July and larvae found in April (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Least Yellow Underwing** (*Triphaena interjecta* Hubn.).—One found on privet blossom July 30th (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Pale Shining Arches** (*Polia nitens* Hav.).—Several at flowers of valerian in June (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Dog's Tooth** (*Hadena suasa* Schiff.).—First seen in June: very common (Hillhead, C.S.).
- Small Nutmeg** (*Hadena trifolii* Rott.).—Several taken in late July (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Tawny Shears** (*Hadena lepida* Esp.).—One taken at light, July 3rd (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Reddish Light Arches** (*Apamea subultrix* Esp.).—Fairly common in June (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Slender Brindle** (*Apamea scolopacina* Esp.).—One came to light, August 2nd (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Dismal Brindle** (*Apamea ypsilon* Bortch.).—Came to light July 26th and 30th (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Deep Brown Rustic** (*Aporophila lutulenta* Bortch.).—Several in late September (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Brindled Ochre** (*Dasypolia templi* Thunb.).—Several at Freshwater Bay, I.O.W., in early October (R.S.).
- Feathered Ranunculus** (*Eumichtis lichenea* Hubn.).—Two at rest on stone walls, Ventnor, I.O.W., October 5th (R.S.).
- Sprawler** (*Brachionycha sphinx* Hufn.).—Fairly common in late October (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Frosted Orange** (*Gortyna flavago* Schiff.).—Fairly common in late September (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Common Wainscot** (*Leucania pallens* L.) } Common (R.S.).
- Smoky Wainscot** (*Leucania impura* Hubn.) }
- Obscure Wainscot** (*Leucania obsoleta* Hubn.).—First seen in June (Hillhead, C.S.).
- Southern Wainscot** (*Leucania straminea* Treits.).—First seen in June (Hillhead, C.S.).
- Shore Wainscot** (*Leucania littoralis* Curt.).—First seen in June (Hillhead, C.S.).
- Flame Wainscot** (*Meliana flammea* Curt.).—Seen June 24th (Hillhead, C.S.).
- Olive Kidney** (*Zenobia subtusa* Fabr.).—Fairly common in late July (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Centre-barred Sallow** (*Atethmia xerampelina* Hubn.).—Fairly common in late September (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Flounced Chestnut** (*Anchoscelis helvola* L.).—Several at ivy blossom in October (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Barred Sallow** (*Tiliacea aurago* Fabr.).—Three seen on ivy blossom in October (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Dusky-lemon Sallow** (*Cirrhia gilvago* Esp.).—Several in October (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Tawny Pinion** (*Lithophane semibrunnea* Haw.).—A few at ivy blossom in October (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Sword-grass** (*Xylota exsoleta* L.).—Two in early November (Burghclere, R.S.).
- Chamomile Shark** (*Cucullia chamomillae* Schiff.).—One at light April 26th (Burghclere, R.S.).

- Small Yellow Underwing** (*Anarta tenebrata* Scop.).—Locally common in May (Burghclere, R.S.).
Plain Golden "Y" (*Plusia bractea* Fabr.).—A few at valerian blossom in June (Burghclere, R.S.).
Red Underwing (*Catocala nupta* L.).—Fairly common in August (Burghclere, R.S.).
Beautiful Hook-wing (*Laspeyria flexula* Schiff.).—Fairly common in July (Burghclere, R.S.).
Buttoned Snout (*Hypaena rostralis* L.).—Fairly common in October (Burghclere, R.S.).

Geometrides.

- Orange Underwing** (*Brephos parthenias* L.).—Common among birches (Burghclere, R.S.).
Light Orange Underwing (*Brephos notha* Hubn.).—Local in clumps of aspen (Burghclere, R.S.).
Grass Emerald (*Pseudoterpna pruinata* Hufn.).—Fairly plentiful on Newtown Common (R.S.).
Barred Tooth-striped (*Nothopteryx polycommata* Hubn.).—Locally common in April (Burghclere, R.S.).
Scarce Tissue (*Calocalpe cervinalis* Scop.).—Fairly common in May (Burghclere, R.S.).
Chalk Carpet (*Ortholitia bipunctaria* Schiff.).—Locally common in August (Burghclere, R.S.).
Oblique Carpet (*Orthonama lignata* Hubn.).—New Forest, Beaulieu, August 31st (R.S.).
June Lead Belle (*Ortholitia umbrifera* Prout.).—Fairly plentiful on Newtown Common (R.S.).
Drab Carpet (*Minoa murinata* Scop.).—Locally common in June (Burghclere, R.S.).
Ruddy Carpet (*Euphyia rubidata* Fabr.).—One seen on June 23rd, Hillhead (C.S.).
May Highflyer (*Hydriomena coerulata* Fabr.).—Found locally in an alder swamp in May (Burghclere, R.S.).
Fern Carpet (*Horisme tersata* Hubn.).—One came to light July 15th (Burghclere, R.S.).
Dwarf Pug (*Eupithecia tantillaria* Boisd.).—Locally common in fir woods (Burghclere, R.S.).
Larch Pug (*Eupithecia lariciata* Frey.).—Locally common (Burghclere, R.S.).
"V" Pug (*Chloroclystis coronata* Hubn.).—Fairly common (Burghclere, R.S.).
Green Pug (*Chloroclystis rectangulata* L.).—Fairly common (Burghclere, R.S.).
Grass Wave (*Perconia strigillaria* Hubn.).—Fairly plentiful on Newtown Common (R.S.).
Annulet (*Gnophos obscurata* Schiff.).—One seen on May 17th (Hillhead, C.S.).
Barred Red (*Ellopija fasciaria* L.).—Several seen in late June: one larva on scots pine in April (Burghclere, R.S.).
Barred Light Green (*Campaea margaritata* L.).—Seen May 31st (Sway, E.C.): several seen in June (Burghclere, R.S.).
Purple Thorn (*Selenia tetralunaria* Hufn.).—Spring brood in late April unusually common: nothing seen of summer brood (Burghclere, R.S.).
Lilac Beauty (*Apeira syringaria* L.).—Fairly common: larvae found on honeysuckle in May (Burghclere, R.S.).
Horse Chestnut (*Pachycnema hippocastanaria* Hubn.).—Local on heaths (Burghclere, R.S.).

Small Brindled Beauty (*Apocheima hispidaria* Fabr.).—Commoner than usual in early spring (Burghclere, R.S.).

Great Oak Beauty (*Boarmia roboraria* Schiff.).—Found on tree trunks in July (Burghclere, R.S.).

Satin Beauty (*Cleora ribeata* Clerck.).—Larvae found on fir in April (Burghclere, R.S.).

Dotted Carpet (*Cleora glabraria* Hubn.).—One seen June 18th (Hillhead, C.S.).

Cistus Forester (*Procris geryon* Hubn.).—Locally common on downs near Litchfield (R.S.).

ARACHNIDA (Spiders), 1948.

(From a report by DR. C. SUFFERN, Hillhead, near Fareham.)

Salticidae.—Zebra Spider (*Salticus scenicus* caught April 10th.

Pisauridae.—*Pisaura listeri* caught March 29th.

Lycosidae.—A Wolf Spider (? gen. ? sp.) active March 7th.

Argyropidae.—Dr. Suffern writes (April 10th): "I caught an orb-web spider in an apple tree but could not identify it. Its long cylindrical abdomen suggested to me that it was *Tetragnatha*, or possibly *Eugnatha*. The eyes were in two horizontal rows of four and of uniform size. There was no yellow spot on the sternum, therefore it was not *T. extensa* nor *T. pinicola*. The sternum was not green, therefore it was not *T. obtusa*. The pattern on the abdomen was not as shown by Savory for *T. montana*. Possibly it was *T. nigrita*." *Aranea cucurbitana* caught May 22nd on oak-leaf. "This has a chestnut cephalothorax and a bright green abdomen with two curved rows of black spots, and at the hinder end (invisible from above) a large red spot. It has a double horizontal row of three small eyes in each row, flanked by a large eye on either side of the double row."

Unidentified.—Dr. Suffern writes: "April 10th. Several other spiders, apparently all one species, were found under webs inside the bases of the trumpets of daffodils. They were pale brown or fawn all over, the only dark marks being the eyes, of which each spider had eight arranged in a curved row of six with a couple more widely separated behind them. The eyes seemed to be uniform in size. There were hairs, but no spines, on the legs."

"April 11th. Another spider found under a sheet-web in a daffodil trumpet had a full rounded olive green abdomen with brown marks and covered with fine hairs. Its eyes were arranged in two horizontal rows of four each. This was probably *Drassodes* sps."

BOTANICAL SECTION, 1947.

THERE are very few new records to be mentioned for 1947, very few notes on plants having been sent in for recording or for identification; the most interesting being the Yellow Star of Bethlehem, *Gagea lutea*, first found near Preston Candover in 1884 and still there. Rayner records it as having been found at Beaulieu in 1908. This year it turned up at Searchfield Farm, near Breamore in the Avon Valley, having been found by A. J. Maudslay of New Milton. The Yellow Figwort (*Scrophularia vernalis*) was found at East Tytherley and the Greater Bladderwort (*Utricularia vulgaris*) at Mudeford.

A Botanical Expedition to the New Forest took place on Thursday, July 2nd, 1947, when a party of botanically-minded members set out to explore chiefly the marshes round Holmsley Station.

The more interesting flowers found were :

Marsh Cinquefoil (*Potentilla palustris*).
Blinks (*Montia fontana*).
Round-leaved Sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*).
Oblong-leaved Sundew (*Drosera longifolia*).
Marsh Pennywort (*Hydrocotyle vulgaris*).
Marsh Valerian (*Valeriana dioica*).
Great Valerian (*Valeriana officinalis*).
Heath Bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*).
Marsh Bedstraw (*Galium palustre*).
Bog Pimpernel (*Anagallis tenella*).
Least Yellow Clover (*Trifolium filiforme*).
Bogbean (*Menyanthes trifoliata*).
Meadow Thistle (*Cnicus pratensis*).
Marsh Thistle (*Cnicus palustris*).
Lesser Bladderwort (*Utricularia minor*).
Bog Asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*).
Small Butterfly Orchid (*Habenaria bifolia*).
Marsh Arrowgrass (*Triglochin palustre*).
Bogrush (*Schoenus nigricans*).
and about a dozen sedges.

From Holmsley the party went on by coach to Marlborough Deep, which lies about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile to the south. Here there is an area of marshy ground which produced several plants not found at Holmsley, among which were :

Pillwort (*Pilularia globulifera*).
Marsh Helleborine (*Epipactis palustris*).
Brookweed (*Samolus valerandi*).
Marsh Lousewort (*Pedicularis palustris*).
Heath Lousewort (*Pedicularis sylvatica*).
Lesser Water-plantain (*Alisma ranunculoides*).
Greater Water-plantain (*Alisma plantago-aquaticum*).
Pale Butterwort (*Pinguicula lusitanica*).
Compact Centaury (*Erythraea pulchella*).
Great Horsetail (*Equisetum maximum*).
Water Horsetail (*Equisetum limosum*).

After a thorough search of the marshy parts of Marlborough Deep, picnic lunch having also been taken, the coach took the party to Hatchet Pond, near Beaulieu, where more interesting plants were added to the list, namely such rarities as :

Whorled Knotweed (*Illecebrum verticillatum*).
Shoreweed (*Littorella uniflora*).
Slender Gentianella (*Cicendia (Microcala) filiformis*).
Birdsfoot (*Ornithopus perpusillus*).

After tea at the Montagu Arms at Beaulieu, the party proceeded homewards *via* Hythe, passing on the way a wet spot at Butt's Ash, which produced *Illecebrum*, *Pinguicula* and *Utricularia*.

A short stay was made at Hythe Marsh to look for sea plants. Such ordinary plants only, such as the two Triglochins, two Plantains (*maritima* and *coronopus*) and Sea Milkwort (*Glaux maritima*) were noted.

For the success of this ramble the Field Club are very much indebted to Mrs. Haines for her guidance at the Holmsley and Marlborough Deep sites, and to Brigadier and Miss Venning for their very full knowledge of the flora round Beaulieu, which they gave so willingly to the Club.

Mrs. Haines and Mrs. White acted as referees for the identification of plants.

H. PUREFOY FITZGERALD, F.L.S.

Fungus Foray.

No fungus foray was arranged this year owing to the absence abroad of our usual leader, Mr. A. A. Pearson, and to the fact that the very dry season made fungi generally scarce.

Apart from the very successful day in the New Forest on July 2nd I have few notes to make owing, no doubt, to the difficulty of getting about the country. It may be of interest to mention that not long after the ramble on July 2nd a few "reliable" botanists made a tour of the sites of the various special rarities of the Forest to see how they were holding their own. The state of affairs was found to be fairly satisfactory except that no specimen of *Spiranthes aestivalis* could be found in either of its known stations after a very thorough search.

H. T. W.

BOTANICAL SECTION, 1948.

A Botanical Ramble in N.W. Hampshire was carried out on Wednesday, June 16th, 1948, under the direction of Mr. G. W. Willis and Mr. E. A. Burrows. The Directors, who know this district and its flora very thoroughly, had planned a very comprehensive survey of the area.

The party assembled by coach or car at Micheldever Station and then proceeded to the interesting ground called "The Scrubs" over the railway tunnels, formed by spoil from the excavations.

The next stop was at the Harroway, near Deane; which affords a good example of the flora of the chalk; and then a move was made to Ibworth, where the downs rise to a height of 575 feet. After picnic lunch at the latter place, the party went on northwards, passing Pamber Forest which, it was thought, would yield little of interest owing to the very dry weather. The next stop was at Silchester Common, which again was suffering from drought.

From here the party turned homewards, stopping at the "Swan Inn," Sherborne St. John, where they were very kindly entertained to tea by Mr. Willis and Mr. Burrows. Proceeding after tea towards home, a stay was made at Sherborne Brickyard, and a longer stay at Marnel Dell, a large excavation in the chalk, which is a particularly good hunting ground for orchids.

The following are the less common plants that were found during the day:

Pyramidal Orchis (*Orchis pyramidalis*).
Fragrant Orchid (*Habenaria conopsea*).
Greater Butterfly Orchid (*Habenaria chlorantha*).
Fly Orchid (*Ophrys muscifera*).
Musk Orchid (*Herminium monorchis*).
Broad-leaved Helleborine (*Epipactis latifolia*).
Marsh Helleborine (*Epipactis palustris*).
Spring Cinquefoil (*Potentilla verna*).
Cut-leaved Germander (*Teucrium botrys*).
Woolly-headed Thistle (*Cnicus eriophorus*).
Cypress Spurge (*Euphorbia cyparissias*).
Blue Fleabane (*Erigeron acre*).
Grass Vetchling (*Lathyrus nissolia*).
Common Adderstongue Fern (*Ophioglossum vulgatum*).

H. T. W.

BIOLOGICAL SECTION, 1948.

Fungus Foray.

Fungus Foray at Brockenhurst in the New Forest on October 19th, 1948. The Bournemouth Natural Science Society took part in the foray.

List of fungi found :

<i>Amanita citrina</i> (= <i>mappa</i>).	<i>Clitopilus prunulus</i> .
" <i>muscaria</i> .	<i>Cortinarius elatior</i> .
" <i>rubescens</i> .	" <i>anomalus</i> .
<i>Armillaria mellea</i> .	<i>Hebeloma mesophaeum</i> .
" <i>mucida</i> .	<i>Pholiota spectabilis</i> .
<i>Tricholoma fulvum</i> (= <i>flavo-brunneum</i>).	" <i>squarrosus</i> .
<i>Clitocybe vibecina</i> .	<i>Paxillus involutus</i> .
<i>Laccaria laccata</i> .	" <i>atro-tomentosus</i> .
" <i>amethystina</i> .	<i>Flammula alnicola</i> .
<i>Collybia dryophila</i> .	" <i>gummosa</i> .
<i>Marasmius peronatus</i> .	" <i>sapinea</i> .
" <i>oreades</i> .	<i>Galera tenera</i> .
" <i>androsaceus</i> .	<i>Tubaria furfuracea</i> .
<i>Mycena vitilis</i> .	<i>Anellaria semi-ovata</i> (= <i>separata</i>).
" <i>galopus</i> .	<i>Stropharia semi-globata</i> .
" <i>sanguinolenta</i> .	<i>Hypholoma hydrophilum</i> .
" <i>galericulata</i> .	" <i>fasciculare</i> .
<i>Pleurotus petaloides</i> .	" <i>capnoides</i> .
<i>Panus stipticus</i> .	<i>Psilocybe polytrichi</i> .
<i>Lactarius plumbeus</i> (= <i>turpis</i>).	" <i>ericacea</i> .
" <i>torminosus</i> .	" <i>semilanceata</i> .
" <i>quietus</i> .	<i>Panaeolus sphinctrinus</i> .
" <i>glyciosmus</i> .	<i>Coprinus atramentarius</i> .
" <i>vellereus</i> .	" <i>micaceus</i> .
" <i>rufus</i> .	<i>Boletus scaber</i> .
" <i>subdulcis</i> .	" <i>versipellis</i> .
<i>Russula emetica</i> .	" <i>erythropus</i> .
" <i>drimeia</i> .	<i>Polyporus betulinus</i> .
" <i>atropurpurea</i> .	<i>Fomes annosus</i> .
" <i>xerampelina</i> .	<i>Polystictus versicolor</i> .
" <i>ochroleuca</i> .	<i>Trametes rubescens</i> .
" <i>fellea</i> .	<i>Stereum hirsutum</i> .
" <i>fragilis</i> .	<i>Hydnum repandum</i> .
" <i>claro-flava</i> .	<i>Thelephora terrestris</i> .
" <i>venosa</i> .	<i>Clavaria fusiformis</i> .
<i>Cantharellus cibarius</i> .	" <i>inaequalis</i> .
<i>Craterellus tubaeformis</i> .	" <i>cinerea</i> .
<i>Pluteus cervinus</i> .	" <i>cristata</i> .
	" <i>pistillaris</i> .

H. T. W.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SECTION.**Report for 1947.**

The Committee of the Section was reappointed and considerably strengthened at the General Meeting of the Society in May 1947. As the Hon. Secretary is now less mobile Mr. R. L. P. Jowitt was appointed as Hon. Chief Organiser to recruit and advise helpers.

It was hoped that the changes made would result in much fresh activity but the hopes of the Committee were dashed by the disappearance of the basic petrol ration and only some 160 additions have been made to the collection during the year.

These include records of wall paintings in Hersent House and 73 High Street, Winchester, further examples of mediaeval paving tiles, some interesting heraldry, maps and documents (now in the British Museum) from South Warnborough and elsewhere, and of the walls and gates of old Southampton.

The Council of the H.F.C. has decided to devote a small sum to the purchase of prints from the National Buildings Record and, while we appreciate that in this way we may obtain some otherwise unobtainable records, we emphasise that this grant must not be allowed to strike at the root of the voluntary principle upon which the enlargement of the collection must depend, despite heavily taxed incomes and reduced leisure.

More records are required from almost every part of the county of churches and ancient structures such as bridges, barns, old houses and cottages. Of the following churches we have very few, if any, photographs :—

South Warnborough
Basingstoke
Wolverton
Kingsclere

Burghclere
Upton Grey
Greywell

and the records of many other churches are incomplete.

C. J. P. CAVE, *Chairman.*

ARTHUR R. GREEN, *Hon. Sec.*

Report for 1948.

At the end of 1948 the number of photographs (prints and/or negatives), sketches and drawings, plans and maps in the collection numbered more than 9,500.

By far the greater part of those received during 1948 consist of prints obtained by the President from the N.B.R.'s collection. The subjects of these and some 70 others given by the President are various but are concerned with the southern part of the county and the Isle of Wight. They include records of much ancient building in Southampton disclosed by the blitz, many 18th and 19th century houses, and, amongst others, such things as fine railings removed for salvage during the war.

In view of the closing of the church of St. Peter, Chesil, Winchester, and the uncertain future of this 14th century building, gaps in the record of it have been filled in.

Other gifts include :—

Some beautiful photographs of effigies in Winchester Cathedral taken from above (*i.e.*, looking down upon them). In these the effigies are seen in their full length and without distortion.

Photographs of some old bridges in the county.

A set of photographs of the graffiti in King John's House, Romsey (temp. Edward I).

A number of photographs of the walls of Southampton and of the Bargate and its details, also of the remnant of St. Denys Priory and the tiles and stone coffin from the Priory now in the modern church of St. Denys.

The interesting details : holy water stoup and niche, a recess, high up in the wall, and other details, disclosed during the restoration of the church of St. Julian (the French church), at Southampton.

The Committee would be glad if members would suggest subjects, especially any threatened with destruction, or any new discoveries, even if they themselves are unable to photograph them.

The record of mediaeval paving tiles could be completed if members would report any in their area and, if possible, send in photographs or tracings. Unrecorded groups of tiles are known at Beaulieu Abbey, Selborne, Cheriton (under altar), Deane (in porch), Itchen Abbas (in porch), Kingsclere (in vestry), and Chilcombe (on chancel floor). Those at Hartley Mauditt are being dealt with.

A complete record of the Hampshire tiles would be of value in bringing Mr. B. W. Greenfield's article (*H.F.C. Proceedings*, Vol. II, Part II) up to date and perhaps expanding it to cover the whole of the county.

The churches mentioned in the Report for 1947 are still unrecorded.

In spite of the reorganisation and enlargement of the Committee of the Section and the recently appointed Chief Organiser's active and untiring efforts to obtain new helpers, progress during the year has been slow. This is mainly due to the economic position in the country and the shortage of petrol rather than to lack of interest. Helpers are particularly needed in the northern part of the county.

C. J. P. CAVE, *Chairman*.

ARTHUR R. GREEN, } *Joint*
P. M. GREEN, } *Hon. Secs.*

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR 1947.

The Society opens its 63rd year with a further increase of membership. Beginning the year with 388 members, the number is now 428.

OBITUARY.—We record with regret the death of the Lord Lieutenant of the County, the Rt. Hon. Lord Mottistone, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.; also of Lt.-Col. R. V. Savile, C.B.E., and Major F. R. Boyle.

PUBLICATIONS.—Part 3 of Volume XVI of *Proceedings* has been published under the editorship of Mr. Norman Cook, B.A., Curator of the Tudor House Museum, Southampton.

EXCAVATIONS.—The Society's Research Committee has been active in trying to arrange for excavation on the site of Saxon Southampton, and the Council of the Society has been willing to vote a grant up to £100 for the purpose. At the time of writing this report, it seems doubtful whether this important excavation can be successfully arranged. The position at Worthy Park remains unchanged, and the fact that "squatters" are still in possession of the site of the pagan Saxon cemetery there, makes any excavation impossible at present. It will be a matter for keen regret if the Society's research work, interrupted by the war, cannot be taken up again this year.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROGRESS IN THE COUNTY.—In his Presidential address two years ago, Mr. O. G. S. Crawford spoke of three immediate needs of our county and of its Archaeological Society. The first was a full-time professional Curator for the Winchester City Museum, and in the person of Mr. F. Cottrill, M.A., he is working amongst us to-day. The second was a work room and reference library for archaeologists in connection with our Society. Though this has not been fully achieved, the nucleus of such a library has come in the shape of gifts of books from Mr. C. J. P. Cave, M.A., F.S.A., Past President of the Society; and from the executors of the late Miss Spittal. It is hoped that additional gifts will be received and that the accommodation will, in due course, be further enlarged. The third project, the appointment of a County Archivist, has followed the successful county meeting organised by your Society, held at Winchester College in May and addressed by Lt.-Col. G. E. G. Malet, O.B.E., of the National Register of Archives. Seeing that a member of the Council, Capt. J. W. Simpson, M.A., was appointed as County Convener for Archives, our Society will continue its godfatherly interest in the scheme. It may justly offer to its President congratulations upon the threefold success thus won.

FIELD MEETINGS.—Rule 23 provides for "not less than six ordinary Field Meetings" in each year. In 1947 there were nine Field Meetings, in addition to the County Archives Meeting, the Annual Meeting, and a joint lecture with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, which it is hoped may be repeated this year. Difficulties of transport limited the range and scope of some of the meetings, and similar difficulties will have to be overcome in 1948.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR 1948.

The Society enters upon its 64th year with a renewal of its activities in field excavation, and with an increasing number of members. At the beginning of the year there were 428 members, and the number is now 445.

OBITUARY.—We record with regret the deaths of prominent members of the Society. Mr. T. D. Atkinson, F.R.I.B.A., a distinguished architect, led many of the Club's meetings, and contributed valued and critical articles to the Club's *Proceedings*. The Rev. H. Purefoy GitzGerald, M.B.E., J.P., F.L.S., was the last survivor of those who joined the Club in the year of its foundation. He did valuable work as Biological Subject Secretary of the Society, and his presence at its meetings will be greatly missed. Others who have passed on include Mr. H. F. Beale of Andover; Mr. Ellice Hicks Beach, J.P., who hospitably welcomed members to his house only last year; Mr. R. Errington Loveland; the Rev. B. C. Taylor, M.A.; and Mr. G. Weeks, whose sound practical knowledge was often of use to directors of the Club's meetings.

PUBLICATIONS.—Part 1 of Volume XVII of the Club's *Proceedings* has been issued under the editorship of Mr. Norman Cook, B.A., F.S.A., Curator of the Tudor House Museum, Southampton.

EXCAVATIONS.—The Society's Research Committee has made a grant of a sum "up to £100" to assist in the work of excavating Saxon Southampton. At the time of writing, the work is in progress under the auspices of a local Committee on which the Field Club is represented, and under the joint direction of Mr. Maitland Muller, of London University, and of Mr. D. M. Waterman, formerly of Southampton, and now Curator of the York City Museum; the Club remembers Mr. Waterman's successful work on the site of Clausentum. Members of the Club paid a visit to the site of the excavations on Tuesday, April 12th, and thanks are due to the President, to Mr. Maitland Muller and to Mr. Norman Cook for their clear explanations of the work in progress, and of the findings on the site of 8th century Southampton. It is hoped that a further stage of the excavations may be undertaken in the autumn. Detailed reports of the work will in due course appear in the Club's *Proceedings*.

St. PETER (CHESIL) CHURCH, WINCHESTER.—The future of the church, which has now been closed, was discussed by the Council of the Society. In view of the forthcoming Commission of Inquiry, promised by the Bishop of Winchester, the President approached Sir Alfred Clapham, C.B.E., F.B.A., Past President of the Society of Antiquaries, and former Secretary of the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments, England. With the permission of the Rector of the parish, Sir Alfred Clapham visited and inspected the fabric of the church and drew up a detailed report. This will in due course be laid formally before the ecclesiastical authorities.

THE SECRETARYSHIP.—The Council early last season welcomed Mr. W. J. Carpenter Turner, A.R.I.B.A., as one of the joint Hon. Secretaries of the Society. It is with regret that the resignation of the Rev. G. A. Bayly, M.A., from the joint secretaryship has been received, on account of ill-health, after successfully holding the position for many years.

COUNTY ARCHIVES.—The Society once more supports the appeal for documents to be sent in on permanent loan to the Hampshire Record Office, c/o The Castle, Winchester. Photographs of estate maps would also be welcomed, and should be sent in to the County Archivist.

THE HAMPSHIRE FIELD CLUB AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

FINANCIAL STATEMENT for the Year ended 31st December, 1948

GENERAL ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS.			PAYMENTS.		
	£	s d		£	s d
To Balance per last Account	...	...	By Subscriptions:—		
" 57 Entrance Fees at 5s.	...	...	Council for British Archaeology	1	14 0
" 26 Subscriptions, 1948 at 10s. 6d.	...	...	English Place-Name Society	15	0
" 378 " 1948 at 15s. 0d.	...	...	Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings	1	1 0
" 3 " 1947 at 10s. 6d.	...	...	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds	1	1 0
" 3 " 1947 at 15s. 0d.	...	...	Commons, Open Spaces and Footpaths Preservation Society	1	1 0
" 1 " 1946 at 10s. 6d.	...	...	S.E. Union of Scientific Societies	7	6
" 1 " 1945 at 10s. 6d.	...	...	Council for Promotion of Field Studies	10	0
" 1 " 1944 at 10s. 6d.	...	...	New Forest Society	2	6
" Sale of <i>Proceedings</i> , Vol. XI	302	11 0			
" Visitors' Fees	...	...	Hon. Secretaries' Expenses	...	6 12 0
" Surplus on Coach Hire	...	...	Hon. Treasurer's Expenses	...	4 17 3
			Printing, Stationery, Hire of Rooms and Miscellaneous Expenses	...	1 14 2
			Expenses of Field Meetings and Lectures	...	26 19 8
			Cost of Illustrations for <i>Proceedings</i> , Vol. XVII, Part I	...	46 2 0
			Purchase of Photographic Prints	...	37 12 0
			Expenses of Photographic Section	...	16 8 0
			Audit Fee	...	6 0 8
			Refund of Entrance Fee and Subscription overpaid 1947	...	2 2 0
			Balance to next Account	...	1 0 0
					598 0 2
					<u>£747 7 11</u>

£747 7 11

EXCAVATIONS FUND.

	£	s	d		£	s	d
Balance from last Account	...	...	...	Grant for Southampton Excavations	...	...	10 0 0
	...	...	...	Balance to next Account	...	...	123 15 9
	...	...	...				<u>£133 15 9.</u>

	£	s	d		£	s	d
Balance, General Fund	...	...	...	Balance at Lloyds Current Account	...	547	6 2
" Excavations Fund	...	...	...	Less Subscriptions received in advance for 1949	...	7	17 6
	...	...	...	Balance at Lloyds Deposit Account	...	...	539 8 8
	...	...	...	Balance in Post Office Savings Bank	...	...	23 6 9
	...	...	...		...	...	159 0 6
	...	...	...				<u>£721 15 11</u>

C. BETTON ROBERTS,
Hon. Treasurer.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above accounts with the books and vouchers of the Society and that they are in accordance therewith.

PORTSMOUTH.
12th January, 1949.

MARJORIE BICKFORD,
Certified Accountant.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT for the Year ended 31st December, 1949.

£951 2 9

£951.29

EXCAVATIONS FUND.

	£	s	d		£	s	d
Balance from last Account	...	...	...	Southampton Saxon Excavations Committee	...	...	50 0 0
Donation	...	...	...	Balance to next Account	...	...	74 16 9
							<u>£124 16 9</u>

	£	s	d		£	s	d
Balance, General Fund	...	...	...	Balance at Lloyds Current Account	...	...	489 10 0
" Excavations Fund	...	...	...	Less Subscriptions received in advance,	...	...	8 15 6
				1950	...	...	<u>480 14 6</u>
				Balance at Lloyds Deposit Account	...	...	23 19 7
				Balance in Post Office Savings Bank	...	...	227 17 4
							<u>£732 11 5</u>

C. BETTON ROBERTS,
Hon. Treasurer.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above Accounts with the books and vouchers of the Society and that they are in accordance therewith.

PORTSMOUTH.
MARJORIE BICKFORD,
Certified Accountant.

17th January, 1950.

EDITORIAL.

THE Editor is pleased to receive notes and queries, articles and any correspondence intended for publication which should be sent her direct at No. 10 The Close, Winchester. Correspondence needing an answer should be accompanied by stamped, addressed envelopes. Articles for the *Proceedings*, unless of exceptionable interest, should not exceed 4,000 words in length and they must be typewritten and have clearly marked on them the number of words.

The Editor is also pleased to receive books and magazines for review, and reminds members that such books and magazines remain the property of the Club. In general, all material for publication in the *Proceedings* must be received by the Editor by the 31st December of the preceding year, *e.g.*, material intended for publication in 1953 must be sent here by December 31st, 1952.

Pt. 3, Vol. XVII, of the *Proceedings* will be published early in 1952.

10 *The Close*,
Winchester.