

NATURAL HISTORY SECTION, 1955**General Remarks**

ONCE again, may I take this opportunity of thanking all those who have kindly contributed to the activities of the Club during the past year, in particular, the organisers of our three most successful and enjoyable field meetings. Reports of these expeditions will be found at the end of this Section.

As always, the greatest activity has been on the ornithological side, and the quality of this year's report, the most comprehensive yet produced by the Hampshire Field Club, is in no small measure due to the Subject Secretary, Mr. Edwin Cohen. The newly formed Ornithological Section has amply justified its existence and its membership has now reached eighty-four. Seven meetings have been held so far with an average attendance of about twenty-five. These have provided good opportunities for the exchange of bird records and have brought together ornithologists from different parts of the County. Enquiries into the distribution of the Corn Bunting, Stonechat and Whinchat have now been initiated and should eventually provide a useful indication of the status of these species in Hampshire. Another recent innovation has been the short lecture on localised bird topics of particular interest: this looks like becoming a regular feature of our meetings in future.

There is no doubt that great opportunities now exist for the formation of Sections concerned with other subjects; indeed, a nucleus of some twenty-five members already awaits the institution of a Botanical Section. A similar demand exists for Entomology and also, possibly, for the study of mammals as well. The sad lack of systematic reports on these subjects for 1955 is clear evidence of such needs. What we now require are helpers who are prepared to undertake the relatively small amount of secretarial work involved in running these Sections. Without this assistance, they will continue to remain in their present state of suspended animation. The successes already achieved by the ornithologists point unmistakably to the infinite possibilities which lie ahead for the advancement of Natural History in the County if only the necessary help can be forthcoming.

W. H. DOWDESWELL.

NATURAL HISTORY REPORTS.**1. Mammals, 1955.**

In spite of the increased number of observers in 1955, Mr. Oliver Hook and I agree that the various records are too scattered and heterogeneous to form the substance of an adequate report. The interest shown by naturalists in mammals is almost always less than in any other group of animals. We therefore feel that, with our limited resources, a different approach to the

method of recording is indicated. Clearly, a fairly exhaustive study of a small problem is likely to yield results of far greater value than a superficial survey covering much of the County. With this idea in mind Mr. Hook has drawn up a list of suggested projects for mammal observers. Detailed information on any one of these topics will be valuable not only in adding to our knowledge of the animals of Hampshire, but also in furthering similar studies now being carried out in other parts of Britain.

W. H. DOWDESWELL.

SUGGESTED STUDIES FOR MAMMAL OBSERVERS.

1. Deaths of mammals on the roads, with list of species, dates, localities and any other information of interest.
2. Observations upon the foods of various mammals at different times of the year.
3. The distribution of mammals and their numbers by species in 1 square mile (or any other area) of a well-known locality (with maps).
4. First appearance of young of various species with approximate numbers.
5. The rabbit population of your district and the incidence of myxomatosis. To what extent is re-colonisation taking place? Are other methods of control proving effective?
6. The distribution of the Harvest Mouse and Dormouse in specific areas.
7. The distribution of the Stoat and the Weasel in specific areas.
8. What are foxes eating? Are poultry being more frequently raided than formerly?
9. Counts of the Brown Hare, stating localities.
10. The distribution of Yellow-necked mouse colonies in Hampshire.
11. Records of the Red Squirrel in Hampshire and I.O.W.
12. Detailed study of any small group of mammals, e.g. a badger colony, with information on behaviour, numbers, breeding, etc.

NOTE.—When judging numbers or the frequency of a particular kind of behaviour, actual figures should be quoted, if possible, rather than the purely relative estimates "common", "frequent" and "rare".

2. Birds, 1955.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Thanks doubtless to the interest stimulated by the formation of an Ornithological Section in the Club—due almost entirely to the energy and enthusiasm of Mr. Dowdeswell—more material was sent in for 1955 than ever before, but the N., N.E. and N.W. parts of the County are still poorly covered. I have to thank contributors for very full notes, especially the "Portsmouth Group", Dr. Ash and Dr. Suffern again. Will those contributors who do not already do so please write on one side only of the paper because their observations are now cut up instead of being copied out which saves a great deal of time, and also write their lists strictly in the Wetmore order as used in *The Popular Handbook* and *The Field Guide to the Birds of Britain and Europe*.

At a meeting of the Ornithological Section the general opinion was in favour of reversing my decision, published in the editorial notes to the 1954 report, to exclude notes from the Isle of Wight

in future, and so I am continuing to include them although most of them will also appear in the *Proceedings* of the Isle of Wight Natural History and Archaeological Society. Also I have tried to comply with the requests for inclusion of more dates and more exact counts in place of summaries. On the other hand, I have continued to include in the body of the text notes not relating to status or distribution because I think this method makes the report more readable (or less unreadable) and is for other reasons preferable to a separate section at the end. Names of species common in the County and not deemed worthy of special notes have this year been put in their order in the text, which seems a better method than putting their check-list numbers in a list at the end. Initials have been omitted where many observers are responsible for general notes.

A few records which in my view are not fully proved have been omitted rather than put in square brackets, and I would refer frustrated observers to *British Birds*, xxxiii, 143, where the South-Eastern Bird Report for 1938 was reviewed; I should like to reprint the whole of the second paragraph, but I must content myself with this excerpt: "doubtful records once published merely add unnecessary burdens to an already overburdened literature and are a constant source of worry to conscientious compilers." *Experio crede!* In the same review is the pointed remark that "Others" (i.e. less experienced observers) "so often appear to think that all they have to do to convince others is to state that they have convinced themselves!"

Notable events of the year include the first record of Dotterel since 1934, five Purple Sandpipers in the Island, the second Red-necked Phalarope since *Kelsall and Munn* (1905), an Iceland Gull, the second recorded Mediterranean Black-headed Gull in the County, the first Roseate Terns, Long-eared Owls (rarely recorded though possibly always present), two Rollers, six Shore Larks, two Richard's Pipits and two Woodchat Shrikes (not recorded in *Kelsall and Munn*). And, last but not least, Nuthatches in the Isle of Wight.

As to the weather, January was uniformly overcast but not very cold; there was a considerable amount of snow in mid-February with a thaw at the end of the month; March was dry with very cold winds until the 22nd and there was an "official drought" from about the 10th to the 27th of April. The summer will be remembered as the warmest and sunniest for very many years; the autumn and the first part of winter were about normal, although December was a wet month.

EDWIN COHEN,

Hazelhurst,

Sway.

Ornithological Secretary.

BIRD RECORDS, 1955.

- 1 **Black-throated Diver.**—One injured in Freshwater Bay on January 14th had to be killed (M.C.A.). One in Langstone Harbour on a few dates in February, March and December. Between Great Northern and Red-throated Divers in size, sharply contrasting black and white of plumage, straight slender bill (P G).
- 2 **Great Nothern Diver.**—Occurred much more often than the last from the end of January to the end of April and in December from Bournemouth in the west to Langstone Harbour in the east. Seven together off Eastcliff, Bournemouth, on April 1st (T C S).
- 4 **Red-throated Diver.**—Seen in all months except July and September, but very uncommon after the end of April until the end of December. The two August records are worth quoting: one off St. Catherine's Point on the 13th (G H R) and one in Hayling Bay on the 21st (K B). As usual, several oiled birds were seen.
- 5 **Great Crested Grebe.**—Exceptional along the coast in May, June and July but quite often reported in other months, particularly in Langstone Harbour and off Hill Head; in the former place there were as many as 54 on Christmas Day, the numbers having built up gradually from the end of September (P G). A report of 20+ between Osborne and King's Quay on December 12th (M C A) is in line with records from that area in previous years. Occasionally inland on waters near Winchester, Alder-shot and Fleet (G H R., W and R M C) but no reports of breeding.
- 6 **Red-necked Grebe.**—One off Needs Oar on February 26th was seen at 100 yards in good light with 30x telescope; smaller than Great Crested Grebe nearby; bill black with dull yellow base (W H T and J K B). One on Hook Lake on January 19th and 21st (R H D). (See also under *Errata*.)
- 7 **Slavonian Grebe.**—From January to April 1st and from October 23rd to the end of the year at places all along the coast. Usually only one or two, but nine off Bournemouth on April 1st, some in summer plumage (T C S).
- 8 **Black-necked Grebe.**—From early January to April 9th and from August 6th to the end of the year. Most reports are from Langstone Harbour where P G report "often in breeding plumage from February and frequent display seen"; they also reported the early return of one on August 6th, five on the 14th and as many as 30 on December 20th. Not reported this year from anywhere west of Hurst Castle.
- 9 **Little Grebe.**—Most reports are from autumn to spring, the largest flock being one of 45 in Portsmouth Harbour on January 24th (W H T), doubtless the same birds for the most part as the 40 which he saw there a month previously as reported in the 1954 report. P G report that it bred in four localities in their area and R P B saw one feeding young on a pond in the New Forest. Bred successfully at Bembridge in the Island (I.O.W.).
- 14 **Storm Petrel.**—The only report is of one flying past Hythe pier on the morning of October 9th (G K). Full description given.
- 16 **Manx Shearwater.**—July 24th, St. Catherine's Point. Two birds flew past to E. against strong E. wind, at ca. 16.05 and 16.10 G.M.T., ca. half-mile out. (I.O.W.)
- 16 **Balearic Shearwater (*Procellaria puffinus mauretanicus*).**—This bird, which is a race of the Manx Shearwater, has, alas, been deprived of an English name since the publication of *The Handbook*, in which it was called Balearic Shearwater. One was seen flying from E. to W. about 400 yards off St. Catherine's Point on September 11th by G H R., J C and E J W. It was described as brown above, lighter on the rump, with light brown tail and under parts. J C knows the Manx and Cory's Shearwaters, and "this was neither".

- 26 **Fulmar**.—Odd birds, mostly in June, along the cliffs of the S.W. coast of the Island but not seen to land.
- 27 **Gannet**.—Ten at Spithead on January 19th, an unusual time of year for Hampshire (D F B). Otherwise July to the end of October, usually in small numbers in the Solent and off the Island's south coast, 26 together on two dates (J K B) (J S), adults usually preponderating. On July 31st, 76 flew E. past St. Catherine's Point between 11.05 and 18.18 hours G.M.T. (J S in I.O.W.).
- 28 **Cormorant**.—About 130 nests counted from cliff top at Main Bench on May 21st by G H R and C R T, 90 being in one close colony. On March 6th there was a bird in Langstone Harbour exactly like a Southern Cormorant, *i.e.* with pure white head and neck, dark eye-stripe and large white thigh-patch (P G). Common in winter right up the Avon to Fordingbridge, *e.g.* 27 together flying upstream on February 5th (J S A). As many as 257 on Fawley pier on September 19th (R H D).
- 29 **Shag**.—About 10-12 breeding pairs at Main Bench (E J W, J K B *et al.*). Two at the mouth of the Beaulieu River on February 16th (N F O C).
- 30 **Heron**.—The numbers of occupied nests at certain heronries were: Sowley *ca.* 12 (E C), Tournerbury, Hayling, 27 (J K B), Harewood Forest 8 (E L J), Sandyballs Wood 18, seven more than in 1954 (J S A). A new heronry was founded within 500 yards of the Wootton one in the Island (J S); the old one had three and the new one four occupied nests. As usual a number of sudden "peaks" in Langstone Harbour in July, August and September, maximum 31 on September 17th (P G). On April 16th at 07.30 hours one arrived at Hayling Bay from very far out to the south and continued north over Hayling (K B); similarly on August 25th one was seen off St. Catherine's to come from far out to the south-east until within three-quarters of a mile of the coast, when it flew west until out of sight (G H R). It would be interesting to find the explanation of these isolated occurrences.
- 38 **Bittern**.—One seen and heard booming at Winnall twice in February and on April 1st (W). One flushed from rushes at the edge of a small sandpit near Denmead on March 20th (E J W *et al.*).
- 45 **Mallard**.—Titchfield Haven and Avington Lake hold the largest numbers outside the breeding season; well over 100 at the former in January and February, and September to November with a maximum of *ca.* 220 on September 18th (C S) and *ca.* 300 at the latter in October (J H T). On August 7th a flock of *ca.* 115 adults and young probably contained the whole population of Brading Marsh (J S).
- 46 **Teal**.—Many hundreds were to be seen as usual in the winter months in Titchfield Haven, as many as 1000 being estimated on December 17th (C S), having built up from 200+ on November 5th. In Langstone Harbour numbers were up to or above 100 from the beginning of the year until March 17th, when they remained at about 50 until the 26th and thereafter were in negligible numbers until August 26th when there were about 60; from September to the end of the year numbers were again less than this (P G). At North Hayling, January counts varied from about 30 to 250 in the same week (K B). In Newtown Harbour G H R counted about 200 on December 10th and in the Hurst Narrows about 400 were seen on December 21st and 300 on the 31st (J V B). A female shot at Fordingbridge on January 29th had been ringed at the Borough Fen Decoy, Peterborough, on August 30th, 1954 (J S A). (See also under *Addenda*.)
- 47 **Garganey**.—Six on Farlington Marshes on March 6th, a very early date, and others throughout March and up to May 4th (P G). A drake at Alresford on June 2nd (W). A few at Farlington and Titchfield Haven in August (P G, C S *et al.*).

- 49 **Gadwall**.—Odd birds in February, March, September and October at Warren Flats, Titchfield Haven, Alresford and on a lake near Stockbridge.
- 50 **Wigeon**.—A great many counts were sent in to me this year, possibly reflecting activity on behalf of the Wildfowl Inquiry. They can be briefly summarised by saying that the species seems to have been at least as abundant as ever along the coast and at its usual inland haunts during the usual periods of January to early April and from late September to the end of the year. Rather more than 1000 wintered in Titchfield Haven; numbers in Langstone Harbour fluctuated between 600 and 1000 in January and from 270 on March 8th dwindled to 100 on the 26th. There was a solitary drake at Hill Head in June and July (C S *et al.*) and up to 12 birds on Marsh Court Lake, Stockbridge, in January (G K and E L J).
- 52 **Pintail**.—Present in Titchfield Haven and Langstone Harbour in January and until mid-March (G H R, W H T, P G), maximum at the former 16 on January 23rd (J K B and W H T). An unusually large influx on January 8th gave counts of 57 in Langstone Harbour (P G) and 45 at N. Hayling (K B); even if some or all of the latter referred to the same birds as the former, the number is still quite remarkable. K B says that the species is usually very scarce at N. Hayling. There was a pair at Marsh Court Lake from March to April 19th (G K) (E L J). 15 in Titchfield Haven on December 24th (R H D).
- 53 **Shoveler**.—Larger numbers than usual at Titchfield Haven through the first three months of the year (G H R, P L e B, W H T, C S), between 40 and 70 being recorded on several dates. Decidedly fewer there in the last three months when Warren Flats seem to have been a more popular resort with from 25 to 35 in December (G K, E J W, G H R, J K B). Odd birds on Farlington Marshes and Marsh Court Lake outside the breeding season (P G, G K, D M G). This species, with Pintail and other, commoner, duck were seen several times in the Hurst Narrows in December (J V B, N F O C).
- 55 **Scaup**.—A drake in Langstone Harbour on January 22nd and throughout the second half of December (P G). A duck and three immature in Dibden Bay on November 1st (N F O C).
- 56 **Tufted Duck**.—About 15 to 20 wintered in Titchfield Haven, staying until mid-March (W H T, S M, J K B, G H R). What was more unusual, a pair were seen there on August 13th (J K B and C S independently of one another) and a drake in Langstone Harbour on August 10th (P G).
- 57 **Pochard**.—Reports of usually well under a dozen on fresh or brackish waters in winter and until mid-March (April 24th two drakes on Marsh Court Lake—G K and E L J) with maxima of 25 on Alresford, 20 on Sowley Pond on January 29th (R M C) and 15 on Fleet Pond on November 19th (G H R, E J W and G K). Very occasionally a drake or two on salt water in Langstone Harbour (P G).
- 60 **Goldeneye**.—As usual, Langstone Harbour in winter provided the only numbers of any consequence with from 20 to 40 from January to mid-March and three on November 6th, rising to 50 at the end of December (P G). A curious record is of a drake seen in full plumage close in off St. Catherine's Point on July 30th (J K B and G H R).
- 61 **Long-tailed Duck**.—One or two on four dates from Christmas Day to New Year's Eve from Hurst Narrows in the West to Langstone Harbour in the East (J V B, G H R and D F B, P G).
- 62 **Velvet Scoter**.—Eight birds in winter included one damaged, one oiled and one found dead. Two drakes just inside the mouth of the river at Newtown in a westerly gale on December 30th constitute only the second record from the Island (I.O.W.).

- 64 **Common Scoter.**—Recorded in all months. The only flocks of more than 50 were as follows : March 31st off Bournemouth 77 on a very calm day, sexes about equal (T C S who reports that there were generally about 50 there between March 29th and April 3rd), April 16th about 100 in several rafts off Cowes, moving gradually E. (C S, G H R *et al.*); June 24th 53 off Southsea (P G) and July 30th 117 moving from W. to E. off St. Catherine's Point (G H R and J K B).
- 67 **Eider.**—A female in Langstone Harbour from the beginning of January till early April (K B and P G), two females at Keyhaven on December 4th (G K) and again on the 31st in Hurst Narrows (J V B and N F O C).
- 69 **Red-breasted Merganser.**—Status much the same as last year, that is, a winter visitor along the coast in small numbers except in Langstone Harbour where numbers in January rose from 10 to 57 and declined during February from 24 to 18 and in the latter part of the year rose from five on November 20th to 34 on December 26th (P G). In the same month there were the usual 20-30 between Osborne and King's Quay (M C A).
- 70 **Goosander.**—A drake on Marsh Court Lake, Stockbridge, on January 8th and 10th (E L J), a pair on Hatchet Pond on November 19th (D E), a female in Christchurch Harbour on November 26th (J K B) and one at Alresford on December 18th (W).
- 71 **Smew.**—Up to six, including one adult drake, on Marsh Court Lake from January 22nd to February 12th (E L J and G K), a red-head in Titchfield Haven on three dates in February (five observers) and one at Ashlett near Fawley on February 28th (N F O C). Four in Brading Harbour on February 20th (G A in I.O.W.).
- 73 **Shelduck.**—Large numbers in winter and spring in Langstone Harbour with maxima in January of 1186, February *ca.* 1000, March *ca.* 600 (on 6th) and April *ca.* 400 (on 10th) and still 144 on the 27th. Even through May and June there were from 30 to 50 adults without young on several dates. The last non-flying young were seen on August 15th and from then until October there were "caretaker" adults with birds of the year. The return of adults in numbers after the moult was unusually early, beginning with 60 on October 1st which had risen to *ca.* 400 on November 20th and increased gradually to about 1000 on December 20th (P G). The numbers at other places along the coast were always much smaller. On June 17th M M B saw a pair with ten young crossing the road between Beaulieu and Hythe and making for the river at Beaulieu just over three miles away.
- **Mandarin Duck** (*Aix galericulata*).—Although this species is of course in origin an escape or a deliberate release, in this country, from collections of ornamental waterfowl, it has already bred in a feral state in several counties, so that the following observation may be of interest as a precursor of the time when it may be regarded much as the Canada Goose is now : An adult drake was seen at Brown Candover on November 20th and December 4th in a marshy field with about 70 Mallard ; apparently it had been there for a month before this observer saw it ; it flew strongly and left the field with the Mallard but always returned (J H T).
- 75 **Grey Lag-goose.**—One at Titchfield Haven seen standing and in flight (S M) on February 15th and one, perhaps the same bird, in Portsmouth Harbour, off Paulsgrove, on April 22nd by N G S C (per G H R).
- 76 **White-fronted Goose.**—Only two counts were sent in of the Avon flock, both in February and both just over 300 (G H R and N F O C). The last ones reported were on March 6th when J S A saw 43 flying N. over Week Common.
- 80 **Brent Goose.**—The only numbers of any consequence were in Langstone Harbour and rose from 90 on January 9th to a peak of 311 on March 13th,

- nearly all of which had left by the end of the month ; all were of the dark-breasted variety except for 11 on March 9th. At the end of the year the first (21) were seen on November 5th and numbers rose to 187 on December 23rd (P G).
- Eighteen at Newtown on January 8th and seven there on December 25th are the only reports from the Island (I.O.W.).
- 82 **Canada Goose**.—Thirty on Fleet Pond on January 29th (R J C).
- 84 **Mute Swan**.—There were 151 in Christchurch Harbour on September 18th (E C) and 180 on the River Avon at Fordingbridge on November 11th (A T M Hewitt in *Country Life* of December 8th). Sturt Pond, Milford, held between 50 and 60 all through December ; December and January appear to be the only months when this comparatively small area of water is favoured by large numbers. Sixteen pairs bred or attempted to breed in the Island (I.O.W.). A female was put off C/4 on Hook Lake on February 27th, two months earlier than usual ; two cygnets hatched (W H T per C S).
- 85 **Whooper Swan**.—At dusk on December 13th three adults came down to join the Mute Swans on Sturt Pond ; there was a fresh southerly wind and they came in from the N.W. (E C) and were seen there the next day by M.R.
- 86 **Bewick's Swan**.—Three adults were present on Witton Pond near Burley from at least February 6th to March 13th during part of which time the water was almost entirely frozen over (C P, E C et al.). One stayed until the 16th (C P).
- 91 **Buzzard**.—The reports received do little, if anything, to show the effects, if any, of myxomatosis (which has, in fact, almost wiped out the rabbits) ; this is because one report alone mentions breeding, still less successful breeding. Except for the Damerham area, where it was seen only half as often as in the last two years (J S A), numbers of adults seem to have been much as usual (5 or 6 pairs in the Lyndhurst area) and elsewhere also not much change. In the Micheldever area there were at least seven present between August and December, of which four were killed, illegally of course. One in the Island in April (G K) and June (W H T, G H R and D F B) and on November 13th one was watched flying from Milford to the Island (N F O C).
- 92 **Rough-legged Buzzard**.—One near Stockbridge on January 30th (E L J, G K). Full description given with sketch.
- 93 **Sparrowhawk**.—Birds seen in the bushes at St. Catherine's Point on August 26th (4), September 10th (2) and 11th (1) were thought to be migrants. None were seen there on visits on July 30th, or August 13th, 23rd, 24th and 25th (G H R).
- 99 **Marsh Harrier**.—Reported far more often than in all the four previous years put together and in every month except September. Usually females and mostly along the coast but an adult male frequented Winchester golf course between July 22nd and August 5th (A C C H).
- 100 **Hen Harrier**.—Present in the Damerham area until March 30th and again from October 14th on many occasions (J S A). A male on October 24th and a female on the 31st at Farlington Marshes (P G). A female on November 13th on the marshes east of Lymington (J B B).
- 102 **Montagu's Harrier**.—A pair reared three young to the free-flying stage at one of their usual sites after having lost their first clutch. Many observers saw the young on the wing. Single adults reported from other areas.
- 103 **Osprey**.—One over Langstone Harbour on August 27th and September 4th, 5th and 7th (P G, J V B); one over Fawley on September 2nd (N F O C) and one at Ashlett Marsh on November 5th (N F O C).

- 104 **Hobby**.—Many reported but fledged young only once (by J S A). First date April 23rd (G H R, D F B), last date October 1st at Micheldever (D J) and at Farlington Marshes (P G).
- 105 **Peregrine**.—A pair reared young in the Island but at a different site from the usual one, at which there was no proof of breeding this year. Many isolated reports from the mainland in all months except June and July. At Warsash on September 4th a male was seen to take a Green Sandpiper from the ground (J K B, R P). Green Sandpiper does not figure in the comprehensive list of prey given in *The Handbook* and it is also unusual for birds to be taken on the ground.
- 107 **Merlin**.—Fairly frequently reported January to March, occasionally in April, May, August and September and fairly frequently in the last three months of the year; twice from the Island. Single birds appeared to stay on Farlington Marshes for several weeks after they arrived (P G) although there is no proof that it was the same bird which was repeatedly seen.
- 110 **Kestrel**.—An adult male ringed at Sway by E C on December 29th, 1952, was found on the railway line freshly killed on March 25th, 1955, about two miles away.
- 115 **Red-legged Partridge**.
- 116 **Partridge**.
- 117 **Quail**.—Odd pairs near Winchester, near Andover and near the Dorset boundary. Eleven hatched out of one clutch of thirteen (J S A). First date May 11th (E L J); last date October 22nd (four birds) (J S A).
- 118 **Pheasant**.
- 120 **Water Rail**.—Widely reported, as usual, in winter and early spring, but in autumn only from Farlington Marshes where the first was recorded on September 27th; there were two there in October and four on the 26th and 27th of November (P G).
- 121 **Spotted Crane**.—One flushed on Farlington Marsh saltings on March 20th; short bill, dark legs, barred flanks and white-speckled upper back noted (P G).
- 125 **Corncrake**.—One heard at Brook on April 16th (J S in I.O.W.), one at Brown-down on April 28th (N G S C), one on Farlington Marshes on August 21st (P G), thrice in the Damerham area in August and the first half of September and one shot there on October 17th as it rose with a covey of Partridge (J S A).
- 126 **Moorhen**.—An adult trapped and ringed at Damerham on March 16th, 1954, and released at Fordingbridge was killed by a cat on April 16th, 1955, twenty-five miles to the N.W. in Wiltshire (J S A).
- 127 **Coot**.—Waters holding large numbers on one or more dates in winter were, with dates of maximum numbers reported; Winnall, 220 on February 13th (W), Avington, 200+ "in winter" (J H T), Sowley, ca. 200 on December 3rd (G H R, E J W); Christchurch Harbour, 238 on March 2nd (E C), Titchfield Haven, 318 on January 30th (W H T), Langstone Harbour, 130 on January 9th (P G) and Bembridge, where at least 18 young were reared, 98 on December 4th (J S). P G report March 26th as the first date of return to breeding ground, normally deserted in winter.
- 131 **Oystercatcher**.—Birds move regularly with the tides from feeding-grounds in Langstone Harbour to resting place on Pilsea Island at the mouth of Chichester Harbour. Ninety on January 30th were *en route* and 26 on February 6th (K B). A pair bred on one of the islands in Langstone Harbour (P G). One bird at Winchester on July 23rd (W)—a most unusual record.

- 133 **Lapwing.**—E. to W. and N. to S. movements during snowstorms at Titchfield Haven on February 19th (G H R). The cold spell appeared to have driven inland birds to the coast (as might be expected), for in Langstone Harbour there were *ca.* 500 on January 4th; *ca.* 1,000 on the 14th and 15th, 700 on February 1st and *ca.* 500 on the 8th. There were plenty there also from mid-June onwards right to the end of the year, beginning with a flock of 44, all adults, on June 13th and rising to 130 on the 26th, the first free-flying bird of the year having been seen on the 18th. From a maximum of *ca.* 450 on August 12th numbers fluctuated between 90 and 400 till the end of the year (P G). There was early flocking at Butser near Petersfield, 41 adults on June 3rd and 21 on the 4th in a flock, besides the normal breeding population (G H R).
- 134 **Ringed Plover.**—Many fewer this year than last in out of breeding-season flocks in Langstone Harbour; the only count over 125 was 368 on January 29th as against estimates of 900 in January and 1,000 in December twelve months previously (P G).
- 135 **Little Ringed Plover.**—A pair on shingle flats on the west side of Southampton Water from May 3rd to July 21st; display was watched in May and behaviour strongly suggested attempted nesting but no nest or young were found (N F O C).
- 139 **Grey Plover.**—Usually to be seen anywhere along the coast in every month; even June birds are very rarely in summer plumage. Unusually large numbers for June were *ca.* 20 on the 5th, 14 on the 7th, 44 on the 11th and about 60 on the 18th, all in Langstone Harbour (P G).
- 140 **Golden Plover.**—This year the largest winter gathering was reported from Atherfield in the Island, a total of at least 400 on February 27th (J S), though the usual winter flocks were present near Andover (E L J), on Southampton airport (N F O C), and at Hamble and Warsash (R H D). One bird in breeding plumage (subspecies not determined) was seen in flight at Langstone Harbour on June 11th (N G S C).
- 142 **Dotterel.**—Three on Farlington Marshes on September 26th (D F B per G H R). "They were in winter plumage; small, dark plovers between Ringed and Golden Plovers in size, slim and long-winged in appearance. The breast was a ruddy buff, the belly grey shading to white on the under tail-coverts; rump and tail dark and the outer tail-feathers white, rather like a Turtle Dove; buffish eye-stripe; shade of wing inconspicuous." This is the first acceptable record since 1934.
- 143 **Turnstone.**—Besides being present, as usual, in all other months, numbers in Langstone Harbour even in June were surprisingly large: about 30 on the 1st, 20 on the 5th, about 40 on the 11th, 35 on the 18th and 20 on the 27th (P G). Movement to the N.W. or N.N.W. from the Harbour over Portsdown Hill was seen on May 21st (21 birds), 24th (16), 25th (24), June 1st (15); all these flights took place between 1900 and 1930 hours B.S.T. (P G).
- 145 **Snipe.**—Very large numbers reported this year, especially along the Meon where it reaches the coast, with a maximum of about 320 on January 30th (W H T); if this seems an astonishingly large gathering it has some confirmation in the fact that C.S. counted 200 in only part of the area covered by W H T. Even as late as April 10th there were 45 there (W H T). On January 17th there were about 150 in a small flooded meadow at Damerham at the other end of the county (J S A). Spring passage at Farlington Marshes was from April 1st to 27th with a maximum of 20 birds and autumn passage from August 1st to 15th with a maximum of 10 (P G). From the Island comes a report of at least 74 in a marshy pasture at Sud Moor, Brighstone, on March 3rd (J S in I.O.W.).

147. **Jack Snipe.**—Fairly often recorded in the first and last three months of the year in small numbers ; more notable observations were 13 on March 6th and from one to seven down to April 27th on Farlington Marshes (P G).
148. **Woodcock.**—A common breeder in the N.W. part of the New Forest and round Damerham and Martin. Twelve flushed in a small hazel thicket at Sandleheath on November 19th (J S A).
150. **Curlew.**—From the very many counts which I have received I select the following : About 700, "a high number for spring", on March 24th in Langstone Harbour and about 400 there on April 8th (P G). On four dates from March 18th to April 22nd at North Hayling there were movements having the appearance of migration comprising small groups passing due E. totalling 50 to 100 birds on each date (K B). Numbers in Langstone Harbour were in the 100s from early June until the end of the year, building up from about 450 on June 24th to a maximum of 1,300 on August 1st (P G). At Fordingbridge on April 13th a large, widespread flock was flying N.E. at about 1,000 feet (J S A). Movements in April up and down the Solent seem inconclusive, for on the 16th 25 birds flew into Langstone Harbour from the west and on the afternoon of the same day 102 passed from E. to W. off Hill Head and on the 30th three parties totalling 35 flew E. over Hurst Castle up the Solent from the direction of Durlston Head in a 4½-hours watch (all G H R). In December the same observer reports that as the tide rose birds flew in to Warren Flats from the direction of Newtown Harbour and a week later birds were seen to make the journey in the opposite direction on the dropping tide.
151. **Whimbrel.**—Exceptionally early date April 9th when one was seen and heard at N. Hayling (K B) ; latest date, about a fortnight later than the latest date for stragglers in *The Handbook*, Christchurch Harbour, seen and heard at close quarters (D. D. Edwards and M. D. O'Loughlin per J C F).
The fullest reports, as usual with coastal species, come from Farlington Marshes and Langstone Harbour which were watched by P G on no fewer than 265 dates during the year ; no comparable area in the county is watched so intensively. Their biggest totals on spring passage were about 150 on April 30th and May 9th and on autumn passage about 50 on August 1st. They also report odd birds all through June and July. The following movements were also seen : on April 25th 14 flew from W. to E. over Southsea ; on May 8th 14 out of about 100 birds present flew N. over Portsdown Hill at 1907 hours B.S.T. at about 700 feet and on May 12th at 1720 hours B.S.T. about 30 flew N.E. in V formation over Portsdown Hill and a flock of about 60 made four false starts ; again on the 15th at 1930 hours 10 out of about 70 present flew off N.W. at about 500 feet and a flock of 13 made a false start. Seventy at N. Hayling on July 24th (K B) which was more than the entire total for that month in Langstone Harbour.
154. **Black-tailed Godwit.**—At N. Hayling seen in every month but June, with about 60 on May 18th and up to 100 by the end of the first week of July (K B), but in Langstone Harbour the species was present throughout June as well as in all other months, with as many as 42 on June 15th and 16 on the 7th and again on the 24th. The highest count there gave 336 on October 1st and totals exceeded a hundred on a number of dates from the end of July to the end of November ; thereafter they declined to four on December 20th and rose again to 50 on the 31st (P G). The birds at N. Hayling were sometimes in the *Spartina* grass, sometimes on arable or pasture, the counts being made at high tide. Autumn passage birds, up to about 300 at a time, were also seen at several places on the

- west side of Southampton Water ; and on March 1st too there were 80 at Ashlett (N F O C).
- In the first week of September there were up to 25 at Yarmouth/Newtown, of which 13 flew across the Solent on the 5th (M C A). About 100 wintered by the Meon in Titchfield Haven (J K B and R H D). G H R saw one bird give a flight display and utter its alarm note while chasing a Black-headed Gull on Beaulieu Heath on May 14th. We may yet get it as a breeding species in the county.
- 155 **Bar-tailed Godwit.**—This species was not reported from N. Hayling between April 23rd and July 24th (K B) but was present in Langstone Harbour close by in considerable numbers all through that time ; about 80 to 100 through May and June until July 2nd with a drop to 50 on the 15th and thereafter only a few until mid-December when numbers again topped the hundred mark and so continued through the winter, with about 100 through January and 80 in mid-February (P G). Winter numbers at N. Hayling were larger and continued so until mid-March ; high tide counts gave about 200 on January 8th, 350 on February 6th, 300 on the 27th, 150 on March 5th and 100 on the 12th (K B). Odd birds on autumn passage, mostly in September and October, along the coast further west as far as Stanpit.
- 156 **Green Sandpiper.**—Both in the Island and on the mainland the usual few widely scattered odd birds on autumn passage, fewer on spring passage and fewer still wintering ; mostly ones and twos but nine at Warsash on August 30th (R H D) and 8 at Ashlett Creek near Fawley on July 31st (G K). There were six June birds this year, three inland and three on the coast.
- 157 **Wood Sandpiper.**—All the records are in August and September with the following exceptions : April 30th at Breamore on the Avon, one (E B) (seen down to 8 yards and also in flight), May 17th and 18th and June 5th, Farlington Marshes, one (P G), July 12th at Hook Lake, Warsash, one (R M C), and July 19th at Yarmouth, one (M C A). All other reports were of four or fewer, except for nine at Hook Lake on August 24th (R M C).
- 159 **Common Sandpiper.**—Single birds at Brighstone on March 12th, Newtown March 19th, Farlington October 29th and Pennington October 31st, as also three at Bursledon on October 15th may have wintered or have intended to do so ; but if on passage, they were exceptionally early and exceptionally late respectively (J S, G A, P G, G K and J K B). High numbers on autumn passage at Farlington were 18 on July 17th and 23rd, 23 on September 4th and 22 on September 7th (P G).
- 161 **Redshank.**—Counts at Farlington, where numbers are largest, *ca.* 850 January 1st (W), *ca.* 1,000 February 8th, 170 June 26th, 300 July 11th, 886 July 17th, 2,167 August 19th, 1,000 September 18th, *ca.* 800 October 16th and the same on December 27th (P G). High tide counts at N. Hayling *ca.* 350 January 8th and *ca.* 100 on February 27th, August 5th and 8th (K B). One in from the east at St. Catherine's on July 30th alit in long grass, tame and tired (G H R).
- 162 **Spotted Redshank.**—In every month except June, though one only in July except at the Gins Farm on the 30th and 31st when there were seven and four respectively (G. A. Sutton per G H R). Eight in breeding plumage at Farlington on May 24th (W, P G). Highest numbers together were about 25 on October 2nd (G K) and 20+ on the 16th (G B), both at Warren Flats.
- 165 **Greenshank.**—Fairly common in small numbers on autumn passage, not uncommon in winter and much less common on spring passage ; this applies to the Island and the mainland, but none reported from

Stanpit, possibly owing to lack of observers. Exceptional records were one on Farlington Marshes on June 18th and 20th, one on July 11th and 14th and eight on the 15th (P G). The largest numbers were 28 on October 16th at N. Hayling (K B), 22 at Needs Oar on November 5th (W) and 20 at Farlington on September 18th (P G).

- 169 **Knot.**—The only flock of more than 200 was one of approximately 1,000 at Hamble on March 16th; they were feeding on mud-flats with Dunlin (R H D). Smaller flocks stay until late April—23rd about 40 at N. Hayling (K B). A few stragglers arrive in the first half of August but the first small flock was seen in Langstone Harbour, 32, on August 29th (P G). There was also one bird there on May 9th and 27th and June 8th (P G).

- 170 **Purple Sandpiper.**—This very unusual visitor to our coast was seen twice in the Island in January: three among the rocks in Freshwater Bay on the 24th and two on the shore at Bembridge with Sanderling on the 29th; all were seen at close range (I.O.W.).

- 171 **Little Stint.**—One on May 12th at Warsash (R H D and R P). Two at Newtown on September 12th (M C A). From one to four on six dates between October 2nd and 23rd at N. Hayling (K B).

- 178 **Dunlin.**—Largest winter flocks again at Farlington with an estimate of ca. 7,000 on December 29th. Highest estimates were (in other months) 3,000 on February 26th, 6,000 on March 14th, 100 on April 27th, 3,500 on May 19th, 20 on June 27th, 423 on July 17th, 200 on September 17th, 500 on October 29th and 4,000 on November 5th. Migrations from Langstone Harbour were again seen to go over Portsdown Hill in N., N.N.E. and N.W. directions on April 27th and on five dates from May 8th—24th, the numbers involved varying from 11 to 63 (P G). As might be expected, the dates towards the end of May (22nd and 24th) on which these movements were seen do correspond with a substantial fall in numbers in the harbour on the next few days, but the earlier ones do not and it would seem that then flocks were still arriving while some birds were leaving.

Winter high tide counts at N. Hayling gave about 1,000 in January and on February 27th, 360 on March 6th and 500 on the 12th (K B).

There was also a large assembly, "packed like ants", at the mouth of the Hamble on December 21st, about 5,000 on the Warsash side and about 1,000 on the other side (J H T).

It is nothing unusual for some birds to remain at places all along the coast throughout the summer, but the very big drop everywhere in April is noteworthy—at Langstone Harbour only 100, in the Island none reported, 23 at Titchfield Haven on April 3rd "flying up river" (R H D) and, the largest count, 120 at Stanpit on the 23rd (E C).

- 179 **Curlew Sandpiper.**—On spring migration in Langstone Harbour only—one on April 27th, one on May 3rd, three on May 8th, two on 15th, one in full breeding plumage from the 18th to the 22nd and one, in winter plumage, on the 19th (P G).

On autumn passage ones or twos were more widespread along the coast, the earliest being July 14th in Langstone Harbour (P G) and the last on September 25th at N. Hayling (K B). Two at Newtown on September 4th is the only record from the Island (M C A).

- 181 **Sanderling.**—Isolated occurrences on both passages. Small flocks as follows: January 29th, Brading Harbour, ca. 20 (I.O.W.); 31st, Black Point, ca. 60 (G H R); February, in Brading Harbour, at least 50 (I.O.W.); March 27th, S. Hayling, 34 (B W R); April 24th, S. Hayling, 19 (K B); May 15th, Weston Beach, Southampton, 20 in full summer plumage, seen at 30 yards in good light (A J T); May 16th at Hamble, 15 (R H D); December 18th at the west point of Hayling Island, ca. 30 with 220 Turnstone (B W R), and in December about 50 in Brading Harbour (I.O.W.).

- 184 **Ruff**.—Only 16 birds this year and two together only twice. January to April and July to October 16th, the last at N. Hayling (K B). A male stayed on Farlington Marshes from September 8th to the 24th (P G).
- 187 **Grey Phalarope**.—One at Pennington on September 18th (G K and G B).
- 188 **Red-necked Phalarope**.—One on Farlington Marshes from September 10th—12th, thought to be an immature female (W H T, G.H.R. *et al.*). This is only the second acceptable record since Kelsall and Munn (1905), the other being at the mouth of the R. Meon on October 14th, 1950 (C. S. and C. Draper).
- 189 **Stone Curlew**.—First seen March 23rd at Hockley (W) and last seen October 29th at Stanpit (J C F). It is preferable to suppress breeding localities but I have little, if any, evidence of a decrease in numbers.
- 193 **Arctic Skua**.—One probable on March 5th or 6th off Cowes front robbing gulls (I.O.W.) and an adult of the light phase on August 8th at Pennington, which flew off high to the East (E C).
- 198 **Greater Black-backed Gull**.—Three pairs bred on or near the Needles (I.O.W.). Three immatures at Marsh Court near Stockbridge on May 21st, a late date for inland (E L J). From 50 to 200 adults and immatures at Burnmoor Farm, Southampton, in November and December attracted by offal from a slaughterhouse (N F O C). No adults were left in Langstone Harbour by May 15th but there were *ca.* 30 immatures there on May 27th and *ca.* 50 on June 11th. About 30 adults were back in August and September and this number increased through October (50 on the 9th) and November (*ca.* 100 on the 13th) until on December 31st there were about 290 (P G).
- 199 **Lesser Black-backed Gull**.—Spring passage : On March 27th seven adults passed from S. to N. over Hayling Bay and continued inland and on April 9th three more (K B). At Langstone Harbour passage of small numbers lasted from March 26th to May 27th (P G). Up to 23 on passage at Yarmouth on April 2nd (M C A). Much more evidence of autumn passage, as follows : at St. Catherine's Point, from E. to W. (where stated) up to 30 from August 13th to 26th, September 10th 100, 11th 40, October 15th 150+ (J C, E J W, G H R, M C A). At Langstone Harbour passage lasted from July 1st to October 5th, maximum 8 on July 28th (P G). One or two birds were seen in mid-winter and a few in mid-summer. Probably two pairs at the Needles through the breeding season, but nests not seen (M C A).
The only report of the Scandinavian race is of three at St. Catherine's on November 12th (E J W, G H R).
- 200 **Herring Gull**.—About 350 occupied nests between Main Bench and the Needles on May 21st (G H R). Well over 30 pairs (probably many more) nested on Culver Cliff and one pair nested on the ruined pier at Alum Bay, rearing at least one young ; the pier has since become considerably more ruined and it does not seem possible for it to be used for nesting again (I.O.W.).
Only immatures in Langstone Harbour in summer (*ca.* 150 on May 27th and *ca.* 200 on June 13th) ; adults arrived back in mid-July (P G).
- 201 **Common Gull**.—Never more than 10 in the first quarter of the year round Andover except on March 25th when there were 80+ (E L J). 55—60 at Yarmouth on January 22nd, exceptional for West Wight where scarce and irregular ; 400+ at King's Quay on January 29th ; is much more frequent in East Wight (M C A). Several hundred on W. to E. passage past Eastney on April 25th and fewer on the 26th. No adults left in Langstone Harbour by May 9th but about 100 immatures present ; about 200 immatures and three adults still in winter plumage flighting in from inland on May 12th (their normal *winter* habit) ; 30 immatures on

June 11th. By August 25th there were about 6,000 in Langstone Harbour, 4,000 on October 9th, 8,000 on November 27th and 10,000 in December (all P G).

- 203 **Iceland Gull.**—One feeding round the site of a threshed stack close to the road at Damerham on February 22nd (and probably there on the 21st) was judged to be a second winter bird. It was watched from a car down to 15—20 yards with an adult Common Gull near it for comparison. Slightly smaller than Herring Gull with bill less stout and head less heavy than Glaucous Gull; conspicuous pinkish flesh legs and feet; general colour pale buff with darker buff vermiculations; lacked dark tips to primaries; wing tips projected about 1½ in. beyond tail (J S A). There are only three or four records since Kelsall and Munn (1905).
- 205 **Mediterranean Black-headed Gull.**—An adult seen from a liner about 1½ miles from the E. Foreland and about five miles from Southsea on August 5th (H. G. Alexander in *B.B.*, xlviii, 547, where it is fully described). This is only the second record for the county.
- 207 **Little Gull.**—An immature on Southampton Town Quay on January 4th (B G), a first winter bird in Titchfield Haven on February 19th (C S, G H R, P Le B), a first summer bird on Farlington Marshes from May 22nd to June 6th (P G) and one at the mouth of the R. Hamble with Black-headed Gulls on November 19th (W H T).
- 208 **Black-headed Gull.**—An exceptionally successful breeding season, more birds of the year being seen than ever before at Keyhaven (E C) and at Titchfield Haven (C S). Two adults on Alresford cress beds on May 7th (E C). Several hundred, chiefly adults, passed from W. to E. at Eastney on April 25th and a few on May 8th (P G). Exceptionally large flocks at Stanpit on September 18th, estimated at several thousand (E C) and in Langstone Harbour in December, about 10,000 (P G). One with brown hood near Shalfleet on December 27th (I.O.W.).
- 211 **Kittiwake.**—Considering that it breeds in moderate numbers no further away than the Dorset cliffs it is seen curiously seldom in our county. Twenty-nine birds of which eight were found dead. In all months except April and November, adults and immatures, no special pattern of occurrence discernible.
- 212 **Black Tern.**—Twice in May, including eight together on the 27th on the R. Avon near Fordingbridge (S W), July once, August four times, September once.
- 217 **Common Tern.**—First date April 24th, three at S. Hayling (K B), last date September 18th, four at Pennington (J V B). Flourishing colony off Keyhaven of about 70 adults; 21 young ringed on July 19th when there were still many eggs and very small young (E C); one pair bred in Langstone Harbour (P G). At Eastney 25 were moving from E. to W. on August 16th and 40 on the 18th, but these were "Comics", the species not being identified.
- 218 **Arctic Tern.**—The only definite identifications were of one at Hurst Castle on April 30th (G H R and D F B), four off Hill Head on May 10th (G H R) and two in Langstone Harbour on the 22nd (P G).
- 219 **Roseate Tern.**—Four flew N.E. over Titchfield Haven at 100-200 feet on July 24th; "short, pleasant call-notes, larger than Common or Arctic Terns, more streamlined, longer tail and fork and whiter" (C S *et al.*). Five flew over Hurst shingle spit at 30-50 feet at 7.0 a.m. on September 4th coming along the Solent from E. to W.; "soft pic or chip note; long, slender tails; wings whiter than Common or Arctic above and below; flight slower; bill dark, foreheads whitish". Seen through 12 x 40 binoculars (C B B). These are the first two records for the county, which is remarkable as they are seen almost annually in Sussex and occasionally in Dorset.

- 222 **Little Tern.**—Small passage E. up the Solent over Hurst Castle coming from direction of Durlston Head on April 30th (2) and May 11th (13 in 4 hours) (G H R and D F B). A few pairs bred as usual on Hurst shingle spit (J W E) but too many people pass among them. High numbers on autumn passage in Langstone Harbour, which lasted from July 11th to September 7th, e.g., 90 on July 31st, 135 on August 1st, 43 on August 7th, ca. 40 on the 16th.
One very late bird in Shanklin Bay on October 26th (I.O.W.) ; only two later dates are given in *The Handbook*.
- 223 **Sandwich Tern.**—Spring passage : 15 during a 4½-hour watch on April 30th passed E. up the Solent over Hurst spit having come from the direction of Durlston Head (G H R, D F B) and on May 11th 40 did likewise in 4 hours having come over the sea from W.S.W. (G H R). About six pairs remained through the summer at Keyhaven and on July 9th a juvenile, which flew rather weakly, was being fed (R E S). There is no record of their ever having bred in the county. Some E. to W. autumn passage in Langstone Harbour between June 21st and August 20th, maximum number 35 on August 18th (P G). One very late bird flying S.W. off Colwell Bay on October 26th (J S in I.O.W.).
- 224 **Razorbill.**—Forty-five pairs nesting at Main Bench near Freshwater Bay on May 7th (E J W, B W R).
- 226 **Little Auk.**—One on November 20th and six in December, one of which was off Ryde Pier and the rest off the eastern end of the mainland (K B, P G). K B saw his very close in bring fish to the surface before swallowing it on two occasions and in clear water saw it thrusting itself forward with half-spread wings after the dive.
- 227 **Guillemot.**—On various dates between April 17th and June 25th several observers estimated the numbers at Main Bench as being from 50 to 90 birds.
- 230 **Puffin.**—The biggest number of birds seen at Main Bench in May and June was 16+ on June 11th (M C A). A juvenile found on the Basingstoke canal near Farnborough airfield on September 19th died after five days (R D).
- 232 **Stock Dove.**—On November 12th six were coasting from W. to E. past St. Catherine's and four flew in off the sea from S.S.W. to N.N.E. (G H R). On November 13th 17 flew from W. to E. along the Bedhampton shore (P G).
- 234 **Woodpigeon.**—The largest flocks reported were about 200 at Brownwich on March 26th and at Titchfield Haven on November 13th (C S). A dead bird at Damerham on February 5th had "calcareous excrudescences half as big as its head between eye and nostril (pigeon pox)" (J S A). On November 12th ca. 670 passed W. to E. in three hours at St. Catherine's Point and the next day between 0800 and 1000 hours 220 passed W. to E. along the Bedhampton shore in the upper reaches of Langstone Harbour (G H R, E J W and, on 13th, P G). On November 13th about 50 were flying N. from the sea at Ventnor at 1030 hours and on the 15th about 50 were flying E. along the front of the downs there (I O W.).
- 235 **Turtle Dove.**—Flock of 49 adults at Damerham on June 14th (J S A). Spring passage at Farlington Marshes May 8th-30th and autumn passage July 11th—August 28th (P G).
- 237 **Cuckoo.**
- 241 **Barn Owl.**
- 246 **Little Owl.**
- 247 **Tawny Owl.**
- 248 **Long-eared Owl.**—One near Lyndhurst on September 25th, seen at four yards perched in a small oak ; ear tufts and light amber eyes observed (N F O C). Two or three calling in Highland Water Inclosure, New Forest, on August 21st, 22nd and 24th (R H D, J J W E).

- 249 **Short-eared Owl.**—Most reports are from near Stockbridge in February and March with a maximum of about 12 birds (E L J, G K). The usual three or four at Farlington from January until the fourth week in April and from October 8th until the end of the year, with five birds all through November (P G). Two near Newtown on March 19th (I.O.W.).
- 252 **Nightjar.**
- 255 **Swift.**—S. to N. and S.W. to N.E. passage over Farlington Marshes from May 2nd—29th and an E. to W. movement at Eastney on the 14th and 18th. Reverse movements from July 9th to 12th and a small one W.—E. on the 24th. Small numbers in August, with *ca.* 30 to the S.W. on the 14th, 10 S. to N. and 15 from W.—E. on the 15th (P G).
- 258 **Kingfisher.**
- 260 **Roller.**—One near Martin on March 7th (per P E B). An adult at Butser Combe, near Petersfield, on May 30th (N G S C *et al.*). The species is at best a rare vagrant and a March bird is exceptionally uncommon.
- 261 **Hoopoe.**—More than usual ; probably 11 birds on the mainland and three in the Island though a few of the reports may have referred to the same bird. Many observers were involved. The earliest bird was on April 16th near Damerham (J S A, T H B) and the last on July 10th near Odiham (J D). One frequented a garden in Milford from March 27th to April 4th.
- 262 **Green Woodpecker.**—A bird was feeding on exposed mud at low tide on December 25th at Newtown Marsh (I.O.W.).
- 263 **Great Spotted Woodpecker.**
- 264 **Lesser Spotted Woodpecker.**—Considerably more reports than usual and quite well spread over the New Forest and areas round Winchester, Fordingbridge, Chandler's Ford, Southampton, Gosport and, in the Island, Wootton.
- 265 **Wryneck.**—One near Boldre in May and one near the R. Test in June, locality suppressed by request (E L J *et al.*).
- 271 **Woodlark.**—The decline of this species appears to continue. J S A says that it is almost extinct near the Dorset border and in the N.W. part of the New Forest. There are a few reports from other parts of the Forest, also from Harewood and Wolmer Forests and near Bordon and Liphook (W G E). Perhaps the most remarkable report was of 11 on the sea-wall at Ashlett Marsh on November 5th (N F O C).
- 272 **Skylark.**—During the very cold spell there was a W. to E. movement at Farlington Marshes on January 15th to 18th (K B, P G), where there had been a large increase in numbers from the 4th to the 14th accompanied by some movement to the N.W. and W. (P G). There was also a westerly passage of from 30 to 70 birds on the mornings of October 9th, 23rd and 29th (P G).
- 273 **Shore Lark.**—Five on Pennington Marshes on October 31st (G K) and one at Warsash on November 9th (R H D) ; a satisfactory description was given in each case. This species is seen very rarely in the county. Kelsall and Munn mention two only, obtained in 1875. None since.
- 274 **Swallow.**—Over 5,000 at Bembridge in the evening of September 23rd ; the majority settled to roost in reeds as dusk fell (I.O.W.). Where watch was kept both on the mainland and in the Island by a number of observers at various places during the times of both spring and autumn migrations the movements were to all points of the compass, even from S. to N. on September 10th at St. Catherine's, 11 birds (J C, E J W), and at Keyhaven on October 11th many drifting N.E. rather high up (E C). On September 17th at St. Catherine's 432 passed W. during a four-hour

- watch by J K B and W G B and between August 23rd and September 11th at the same place the movement on six dates, maximum 88 from E. to W. on September 10th, was in all directions but *not* from N. to S. ! (G H R) ; on the contrary, small S. to N. movement was seen once or twice in Langstone Harbour on two dates during the autumn passage among many others in more orthodox directions (P G).
- 276 **House Martin.**—The largest numbers seen on autumn passage went from E. to W., *viz.*, at St. Catherine's about 100 on September 10th (J C, E J W), 122+ in four hours on the 17th (J K B, W G B) and at Eastney 580 between 0800 and 0945 hours on the 28th (P G). But with this species too at least one party went from S.E. to N.W. over Farlington Marshes, 13 on September 27th (P G). Near Micheldever on July 30th at least four big flocks flew S. over a copse at 9.30 p.m. *i.e.*, after dusk (D J).
- 277 **Sand Martin.**—In 1953 it was reported that the species had apparently ceased to breed in the Island, but in 1955 an old colony on Sandown golf course, which was certainly not occupied in 1954, was recolonised with 16 nests (I.O.W.). From mid-July to mid-August from 100 to 200 roosted in the reeds at Titchfield Haven (C S). On September 17th considerable westerly passage, 71 in four hours, was seen at St. Catherine's by J K B and W G B. The general direction of autumn passage at Farlington Marshes was to the S. and E. from July 2nd to September 28th but on July 24th three birds went from S.E. to N.W. and on the 28th three from S. to N. (P G). A very late bird at Warsash on October 30th (R H D).
- 278 **Golden Oriole.**—A male at Hythe on May 9th (N F O C).
- 279 **Raven.**—No evidence of breeding this year either in the Island or on Hengistbury Head, although two birds were seen at the west end of the Island several times in spring and at Stanpit in autumn.
- 280 **Carriion Crow.**
- 281 **Hooded Crow.**—One in the Island on March 29th and one for two days at the end of October (I.O.W.).
- 282 **Rook.**—Considerable numbers, maximum 184, on October 22nd (G H R) were again observed flying from the mainland to the Island in the afternoon and evening from October to January including one occasion when the Island was blotted out by cloud and rain (B W R) ; once, on November 6th, two overtook the *morning* ferry in mid-Solent (J S A). The return journey is made in the early mornings when birds are seen to arrive at Lee-on-Solent from the Island (R B per C S). One would have supposed that there were plenty of feeding grounds in the Island or, alternatively, that there were plenty of roosting sites on the mainland, but presumably the birds ignore the fact that the waters of the Solent lie below the route from feeding grounds to roost and treat it just as though it were land.
- 283 **Jackdaw.**—A partial albino at Wellow in the Island in September, had white stripes on the wings (I.O.W.).
- 284 **Maggpie.**
- 286 **Jay.**
- 288 **Great Tit.**—From February 15th to 25th about 10 were feeding out in the open in grass fields up to 100 yards from the nearest bushes (J S A). A female ringed at Bartley in the New Forest on November 17th, 1952, was retrapped at Sway, 9 miles S.S.W., on April 4th, 1955 (E C).
- 289 **Blue Tit.**—With reference to the remarks in last year's report about wing measurements of British bred birds falling within the limits of those of the Continental race and outside those of the British race as given in *The Handbook*, readers who are interested are referred to the Editorial note to a letter of mine on the subject in *British Birds*, xlviii, pp. 371/2. (In line 5 of p. 372 "1933" is an error ; it should be "1953".)

- 290 **Coal Tit.**
- 292 **Marsh Tit.**
- 293 **Willow Tit.**—One at Farley Mount on March 28th (W), two at Long-parish on April 9th (E L J), one each at Damerham, Woodgreen and Hale (near Fordingbridge) in August (J S A), a party at Alderholt Mill on the Dorset border on September 1st and frequent in that area in winter (J S A).
- 294 **Long-tailed Tit.**
- 296 **Nuthatch.**—At last this species seems to be establishing itself in the Island, where there has been no authenticated record since 1923. One was seen at Blackgang on July 11th, one at Cowes on the 13th and 14th, one at Cowes on September 13th and 14th and in the same place on five dates in December (I.O.W.).
- 298 **Treecreeper.**
- 299 **Wren.**—A sudden influx on Farlington Marshes on October 29th, when birds were seen in the sea-walls and on the saltings and more than usual in the bushes (P G).
- 301 **Mistle Thrush.**—Half an hour after a Stoat had been flushed off a nest and shot and two sucked eggs removed, a bird was incubating the other two (J S A).
Small E. to W. movement in early mornings at Eastney Point and Langstone Harbour on September 18th and 30th and October 9th and 23rd (P G).
- 302 **Fieldfare.**—Only about 10 at Farlington on January 4th but about 1,000 on the 14th and 15th when there was also a W. to E. movement (about 130 in a quarter of an hour on the 15th); the next day there were only ca. 500 and by the 19th only 30 (P G). At the end of January there was a very large influx with Redwings at Damerham (J S A). At 1800 hours on November 12th ca. 50 flew from N. to S. out to sea past St. Catherine's (G H R, E J W) and on the 20th and 27th there was a southward movement of about 20 birds each time at N. Hayling (K B).
- 303 **Song Thrush.**—On February 27th a noticeable increase of olive-looking birds at Farlington Marshes, which again kept in the rough pasture and on October 8th a large increase in the bushes of very grey-looking birds (P G). A party of 20 were feeding together in a close flock on Week Common on March 6th (J S A).
- 304 **Redwing.**—January movements at Farlington very similar to those of Fieldfare but with smaller numbers (maximum ca. 600 on the 18th) and a strong movement indicated by calls at night over Portsmouth in the night of January 20th/21st. Another fairly large passage similarly indicated on March 23rd. Autumn passage heard at night from October 22nd to November 12th with peaks on October 29th and November 5th and 6th (P G). On the 6th a heavy passage was also heard over Hythe, Southampton and Woolston (G H R and J S A).
- 307 **Ring Ouzel.**—A male at Farlington Marshes on March 26th (P G).
- 308 **Blackbird.**—Very few in the bushes on Farlington Marshes on October 7th but a great increase the next day when they were present also in the ditches and on the sea-walls (P G).
- 311 **Wheatear.**—A very curious record of one seen to come in from far out over the sea, S. to N., at St. Catherine's on August 26th at 0615 hours: it went to sleep in the grass on arrival (G H R). At least four pairs bred on Rushmore Down (E L J). Nothing out of the ordinary in first and last dates or migration.
- 317 **Stonechat.**—Is quite normal in winter in many parts of the county outside its breeding areas; from my note in the 1953 report the opposite could have been inferred. Almost extinct in the breeding season in the

Fordingbridge—Damerham area (J S A). One pair, possibly two, bred at Eastney Point (P G). By no means uncommon in the southern part of the New Forest in the breeding season (E C). Not recorded in the Island between March 21st and September 4th (I.O.W.).

- 318 **Whinchat**.—About a dozen on spring passage and rather over 50 on autumn passage, all within normal dates. The only others were in June: four on the 1st at Hatchet Pond and a female on Greenmoor, about a mile away, on the 26th (W) and a male at Whitemoor near Lyndhurst, also on the 26th (G H R). These June records are curious.

- 320 **Redstart**.—The following arrivals were very early (there were no early arrivals reported from the Island): March 24th, one, and 25th, three, at Micheldever (D J); March 31st, a female at Butser Hill (B W R); April 1st and 2nd, a male at Farlington (P G) and April 3rd, a female at Bishop's Dyke (J J W E). Many pairs in the New Forest in summer.

- 321 **Black Redstart**.—A male on Shanklin beach from January 23rd to February 13th (I.O.W.), a male at Hurst Castle on February 13th (N F O C), a female on Farlington Marshes on March 31st (P G) and two females at Bembridge on October 23rd (M C A).

- 322 **Nightingale**.

- 325 **Robin**.

- 327 **Grasshopper Warbler**.—Two at Damerham on April 13th (J S A) which is decidedly early. Quite well distributed in the breeding season over the southern third of the county in a few suitable localities; in one of the two favourite sites not far from Portsmouth at least eight were singing on May 27th (D F B, G H R) and at the other six or seven were singing on June 23rd, 24th and 27th (W H T). A few reports also from further north in the county, and one in the breeding season from the Island.

- 333 **Reed Warbler**.

- 337 **Sedge Warbler**.

- 343 **Blackcap**.

- 346 **Garden Warbler**.

- 347 **Whitethroat**.—On April 25th only six birds were seen on Farlington Marshes but the next day "there was a terrific wave when birds appeared to be everywhere and about 500 were estimated to be present" (P G); there was also a large passage at Browdown that day (N G S C per G H R); on the 27th numbers had dropped to about 20 but on the 29th "an even larger wave hit us and ca. 800 birds were present, not only in every bush but on the sea-walls and even in the saltings" (P G); on the same day there was "an enormous influx" at Damerham which coincided with the hitherto biggest rush at Portland Bill (J S A); also on that day R P B reports 30-40 migrating along the lower reaches of the R. Test. Numbers on the return migration were on the whole much below the usual autumn totals; there were peaks on August 14th, 15th, 17th, 18th and 28th and on September 4th (P G).

- 348 **Lesser Whitethroat**.

- 352 **Dartford Warbler**.—Almost absent from its usual haunts in the N.W. part of the New Forest (J S A) but a few pairs were located further east and south, also one pair near Grayshott (W G E). At best the species is doing no more than hold its own; the burning of large areas of gorse, some by accident, others by design, makes matters more difficult in that observers have so often to look for the bird in new areas. One on December 3rd in gorse behind the sea-wall at Pennington (E C); this movement to the coast of some, not all, birds in winter has occasionally been recorded before.

- 354 **Willow Warbler**.

356 **Chiffchaff.**

357 **Wood Warbler**

364 **Goldcrest.**—A further extension of the song-period outside the limits of the chart in *The Handbook* to November 27th when one was singing well in Slough Inclosure, New Forest (J S A). Cf. the 1953 and 1954 reports for notes on the same subject.

365 **Firecrest.**—On Farlington Marshes three (one male) on March 26th, two (one male) on April 2nd and a male on the 3rd (P G).

366 **Spotted Flycatcher.**

368 **Pied Flycatcher.**—Five in April, seven in August. No sign of them on June 1st at the site where they bred in 1954.

371 **Hedge Sparrow.**

373 **Meadow Pipit.**—About 100 at Brownwich with a great many Skylarks on January 15th, a day of movement when the ground was snow-covered (J K B). Usually seen only on passage at Micheldever but in 1955 was seen in February, November and December (D J). Few notes of spring passage: a flock of 14 on the move on Ober Heath, Brockenhurst, on March 20th (E C) and a slight but persistent daily passage E. along the front at Bournemouth from March 29th to April 3rd (T C S). Many more observations of autumn passage, from which I select the following: about 100 on Farlington Marshes on August 28th had gone the next day (P G). A westerly passage at St. Catherine's on September 17th and 18th, 68+ in four hours on the 17th (W G E, J K B). A strong S. passage on a broad front at Damerham on September 20th (J S A). A small E. to W. movement at Browdown on October 1st and a small S.E. movement past Ryde pier from 0800-0900 hours on November 12th (G H R). The following movements, among many others reported, are all from Farlington Marshes or Eastney Point (P G): ca. 200 present on September 18th with a constant E. to W. and to N.W. trickle till noon and on the 24th there was a constant stream to the N. and N.W. until 1100 hours; the following numbers went from E. to W.—September 27th 20, 28th 250, 29th 280, 30th 80 and 40 to the S.E. on October 2nd. There were small similar movements up to October 25th; the largest number reported on the marshes in October was ca. 150 on the 9th.

374 **Richard's Pipit.**—Two in Titchfield Haven on April 16th (C S and J K B). This record of this very uncommon species has been accepted for publication by *British Birds*.

376 **Tree Pipit.**—An early arrival at Eastney on March 31st on an open road with a Meadow Pipit and the short hind claw clearly seen (P G). Twenty-one flew in from the W. at St. Catherine's just after dawn on August 25th (E J W, G H R). From August 18th to September 2nd there was a much larger passage than usual at Micheldever, Tree Pipits being especially plentiful in the stubbles (D J).

379 **Rock Pipit.**—At least one pair bred in the wall of one of the buildings at Hurst Castle (G H R, D F B).

379b **Water Pipit.**—One on Farlington Marshes from March 19th to April 8th during which time it assumed part of its breeding plumage, the breast becoming tinged with pink; wagtail-like stance, long tail, white outer tail feathers, broad white superciliary stripe, whitish chin, blue-grey head, breast with a few blurred streaks on sides, call like a weak Rock Pipit's (P G).

380 **Pied Wagtail.**—Ones or twos at Hill Head until March 5th, when about 30 arrived; a juvenile alit on the river on June 7th and took off again (C S). At Farlington Marshes ca. 100 were roosting in the saltings on January 27th; a small passage from April 9th to May 9th. Autumn passage: in the first three hours of daylight the following numbers

passed there or at Eastney—11 to N. and N.W. September 24th, 10 E. to W. 28th, 27 E. to W. 29th, 13 E. to W. 30th ; a simultaneous passage of 15 W. to E. and 10 E. to W. October 2nd, 17 E. to W. October 7th (P G). Six from N. to S. over Hurst Narrows October 15th (G H R). 37+ on the lawns at Osborne House on October 2nd (E C).

- 380B **White Wagtail.**—Thirteen males on the coast in April, of which eight on Farlington Marshes (P G *et al.*), 10 in May (N F O C, P G) and a female on the shore at Sandown together with many Pies on September 17th (I.O.W.).

- 381 **Grey Wagtail.**—Westerly passage past St. Catherine's on September 17th and 18th (W G E, J K B). A small but decided influx in the Farlington area between September 28th and October 16th when some were seen going E. to W. and others S. to N. at Eastney and Southsea (P G).

- 382 **Yellow Wagtail.**—General decrease in the Winchester area and did not stay to breed in the marshy meadows by the College playing fields (W). Autumn passage at Fordingbridge from 19th to 31st August ; none in September, which is unusual (J S A). Much larger passage than usual at Micheldever August 18th to September 2nd ; noted as leaving the area at dusk (D J). Fifty-six on the cliffs at Brownwich on August 27th (R H D) and 25 by the Meon, Hill Head, on September 18th (R H D). During watches at St. Catherine's on a number of days from August 24th to 19th of September 90 went E. to W., 58 W. to E. (E J W, J K B, J C, W G E, G H R) and 25 from N. to S. in off the sea at dawn on August 25th (E J W). Autumn passage at Farlington August 7th to September 30th, maximum 60 on the 5th (P G).

The first bird of the year was on April 3rd at Titchfield Haven (C S and seven others) ; this was early but not outstandingly so. On the other hand a male at Ashlett Marsh on November 5th was a very late one (N F O C).

- 382B **Blue-headed Wagtail.**—Females with male Yellow Wagtails were seen (and fully described) by E L J at Fullerton on April 30th, May 15th and 21st and August 7th ; at Winnall on May 12th ; on Chilbolton Common on June 22nd and July 26th behaving as if nest or young were near and on July 31st feeding a juvenile and one also on July 31st at Wherwell, "probably a different bird from the Winnall and Fullerton—Chilbolton birds". On September 7th in company with D M G he saw a male at Fullerton with six Yellow Wagtails. G K also saw the Fullerton female on May 12th and 21st. A typical male ("blue head, darker ear-coverts, broad white eye-stripe and large white chin") arrived on Farlington Marshes on April 23rd. It subsequently took up territory, chasing off male Yellow Wagtails and continually singing right up to June 24th without ever being seen with any female ; it then moved a quarter of a mile away and continued singing up to July 13th. By this time the plumage was a little worn and "the colour had faded to blue-grey" (P G).

- 384 **Great Grey Shrike.**—A male on Rushmore Down on April 20th (E L J).

- 386 **Woodchat Shrike.**—A male at Widden Bottom, New Forest, on May 19th and 20th ; not seen there on 21st, 22nd, 23rd. Seen from a car at from 20 to 100 yards for half an hour on the 19th and one and a half hours on the 20th (Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Seth-Smith). A male on June 11th and 12th on Farlington Marshes (G H R, D F B *et al.*) ; not seen after the 12th.

- 388 **Red-backed Shrike.**—A good breeding year ; 21 pairs located in only a relatively small area of the New Forest, of which 18 were proved and

three presumed to be breeding (J S A). Other pairs near Chilbolton and Leckford (E L J), near Bordon and Grayshott (W G E), near Micheldever (D J) and other places.

- 389 **Starling**.—There is a very large roost in a wood near Brockhurst, Gosport, which is used by all birds in the Farlington area and further east; *ca.* 10,000 flying towards it over Farlington Marsh alone on March 3rd and November 13th (P G). A bird at Fordingbridge on March 8th mimicked Quail, Mallard, Magpie and the complete repertoire of Jackdaw calls all in the space of ten minutes. There have been the following recoveries of adults ringed at Fordingbridge on:

Jan. 28, 1954.—Recovered at Stralsund, E. Germany, September 2nd, 1955.

Feb. 3, 1954.—Recovered at Drogichin, Brest Litovsk, Russia (1,200 miles east) on April 25th, 1954.

„ 3, 1954.—Recovered at Antwerp early in October 1954 (per J S A).

- 391 **Hawfinch**.—Some 17 reports from New Forest, Sway, Southampton, Farlington, Fordingbridge, Damerham, Andover and Cowes, including a few juveniles but the only record of any numbers is that of up to 20 in Winchester College grounds in January and February, especially in hornbeams (W).

392 **Greenfinch**.

- 393 **Goldfinch**.—Small W. to E. movement in the early mornings at Eastney (30 birds) on October 2nd and at Langstone Harbour (18) on the 9th. About 40 on Farlington Marshes on December 31st (P G).

- 394 **Siskin**.—One, at least, and probably two pairs bred in the New Forest (R C H in *B.B.*, xlviii, 552). Two males and a female at East Cowes on August 12th (I.O.W.).

- 395 **Linnet**.—At Main Bench, West Wight, on April 9th 10 came in off the sea from S. to N. and 25 from E. to W. over to Totland (G H R); on the 21st *ca.* 50 came in off the sea (B W R). At Farlington the spring passage was smaller than in autumn when there were *ca.* 150 on August 27th, *ca.* 200 on the 28th; the following movements were seen at Eastney: all in the early mornings, *ca.* 150 E. to W. on September 15th, 135 E. to W. on October 2nd, *ca.* 20 to S.W. on the 3rd, *ca.* 60 E. to W. and 10 to N.W. on the 23rd (P G). At St. Catherine's six flew in from the sea on August 20th (B W R) and 10 went from S. to N. over Hurst Narrows on October 15th (G H R)—both rather surprising directions.

- 397 **Redpoll**.—About 10 on Southampton Common in birch scrub on April 6th (R M C). At Alderholt Mill in February and from October to December, maximum 14 on October 29th (J S A).

401 **Bullfinch**.

- 404 **Crossbill**.—Plenty of records from the New Forest, mostly in the S. and S.E., from March to October. Parties of *ca.* 50 on May 27th (R C H) and of 35-50 on September 18th (J V B). Bred successfully.

- 407 **Chaffinch**.—On Farlington Marshes there was an increase on January 15th due to the cold spell and a sudden increase on April 8th. Very few there on October 23rd but large numbers the next day, even on the open marsh, with a further increase on November 5th. Larger numbers than usual wintered, *ca.* 150 together on the open marsh on December 28th (P G).

- 408 **Brambling**.—Fewer than in recent winters in the Andover (E L J) and Micheldever (D J) districts. Odd birds, up to ten, in many other places, but the only flock of any size was one of *ca.* 50 within three miles of Winchester in January/February (W).

- 409 **Yellowhammer**.—A flock of about 100 with Chaffinches on the top of Butser Hill on March 31st (B W R) and one of 18 at Damerham as late as May 19th (J S A). Increase at Farlington on October 29th and a larger increase on November 5th and a small W. to E. movement on the 13th (P G).
- 410 **Corn Bunting**.—Two at St. Catherine's on August 25th and 26th, one of them singing which it should not have done if it had conformed to the song-chart in *The Handbook*. Flocks of up to 30 at Winnall in winter and a flock of about 100 in reed-beds at Avington on March 1st (W). Present in the breeding season near Winchester (J K B, R M C) and a common breeding species in west Hants (E L J); a pair bred on Farlington Marshes and probably reared five young (P G); song heard in the Hill Head—Brownwich—Chilling area (C S, R H D, W H T); located near Mapledurwell in August (P E B).
- 415 **Girl Bunting**.—Reported in all seasons south of a line drawn from E. to W. through Winchester, including the Island. A flock of 11 at Micheldever on October 30th (J S A). P E B failed to find any round Basingstoke in August.
- 421 **Reed Bunting**.—Large increase on Farlington Marshes on January 5th, due to cold spell; 25 in a flock on the edge of the saltings (P G).
- 423 **Snow Bunting**.—Two near Warsash on November 13th (W H T), one at Pennington on December 8th (J V B), two on Hurst shingle spit from December 8th to the end of the year (J V B, N F O C, J K B and E C).
- 424 **House Sparrow**.
- 425 **Tree Sparrow**.—As so little is known of the distribution in the county I list every report received: March 5th, one near Hayling toll-bridge (E J W) and one on Brockhampton tip (P G); May 1st, one at Bedhampton Creek (P G); July 16th, one caught in the Winchester College nature reserve (W); November 19th, one at Allington Lane near Fair Oak; December 3rd, one at Brambridge Lane, Allbrook, and on the 28th four at Allington Lane (N F O C).
P E B failed to find any round Basingstoke in August.

Corrections to Previous Reports.

1951.

- 237 **Cuckoo**.—The hepatic female mentioned in the 1951 report as having been picked up dead has since been proved to be an immature of the brown phase (E F W V) and as I have also learnt that such immatures are probably indistinguishable in the field from hepatic females, the 1954 record should also be deleted.

1952.

- 285 **Nutcracker**.—The bird which was admitted in square brackets to the 1952 report pending the verdict of the Editors of *British Birds* was not accepted by them, so that at best it remains "not proven".

1954.

- 6 **Red-necked Grebe**.—Delete line 2, page 79. This refers to Great-crested Grebe and should read: "Osborne Bay, January, up to five, November up to eight, December up to nine (M C A)."
- 382 **Yellow Wagtail**.—In the ninth line for August 29th read September 4th.

Additions to 1954 Report.

- 46 **Teal**.—An adult ringed September 7th, 1954, in the decoy at Giethoorn, Overijssel, Holland, was shot on September 14th, 1954, on Lodge Pond, off the main Petersfield—Farnham road (per J S A).
- 164 **Lesser Yellowlegs**.—One at Keyhaven on August 29th (G K) has been accepted for publication in *British Birds*.
- 170 **Purple Sandpiper**.—Three by Clarence Pier, Southsea, on December 28th (C.W.Norris).
- 272 **Skylark**.—An adult ringed February 2nd, 1954, at Micheldever by D J alit on a fishing boat west of Rauma, 61.08 N. 21.33 E. on May 5th, 1954, and was released.
- 390 **Rose-coloured Starling**.—One at Rockbourne near Fordingbridge, June 27th, 1954, was published in the 1954 report of the Bournemouth Natural Science Society (K. J. J. Monk). The observer had a very close view of it from the road.

List of Observers.

NOTE.—The "Portsmouth Group" (P G) consists of the following :—
D. F. Billett, J. K. Bowers, P. F. Le Brocq, G. H. Clay, J. Conchie, C. J. Henty, J. Pilkington, N. A. Rand, G. H. Rees, B. W. Renyard, W. H. Truckle, C. R. Tubbs and E. J. Wiseman with occasional notes from A. Allen, N. G. S. Champion, R. H. Charlewood, F. H. Cowan, E. L. Jones, G. G. Kinsey, B. A. B. Marr, S. Martin, R. Ruston and P. Smith.

N F O C include notes from the following members :—C. B. Ballantyne, P. H. Dymott, K. V. Edwards, R. Elmes, K. H. Palmer, D. Wooldridge and G. E. Wooldridge.

(M C A)	- M. C. Adams.	(B G)	- B. Goater.
(J S A)	- J. S. Ash.	(D M G)	- D. M. Grist.
(G A)	- G. Avery.	(P G)	- "Portsmouth Group"
(C B B)	- C. B. Ballantyne.	(R C H)	- R. C. Hallowes (Dr.).
(E B)	- E. Batchelor (Miss).	(A C C H)	- A. C. C. Hughes (Brigadier).
(D F B)	- D. F. Billett.	(D J)	- D. Jenkins.
(B B)	- <i>British Birds</i> .	(E L J)	- E. L. Jones.
(T H B)	- T. H. Blank.	(G K)	- G. Kinsey.
(J B B)	- J. B. Bottomley.	(P L e B)	- P. Le Brocq.
(J K B)	- J. K. Bowers.	(S M)	- S. Martin (W).
(R P B)	- R. P. Bowman.	(R P)	- R. Parsons.
(J V B)	- J. V. Boys.	(C P)	- C. Popham (Miss).
(K B)	- K. Brown.	(G H R)	- G. H. Rees.
(P E B)	- P. E. Brown.	(B W R)	- B. W. Renyard.
(R B)	- R. Brown.	(M R)	- M. Rogers (Mrs.).
(M M B)	- M. M. Bruce (Miss).	(R E S)	- R. E. Sharland.
(G B)	- G. Bundy.	(T C S)	- T. C. Smout.
(N G S C)	- N. G. S. Champion (Lieut., R.N.).	(J S)	- J. Stafford.
(N F O C)	- New Forest Ornitho- logists' Club.	(C S)	- C. Suffern (Dr.).
(E C)	- E. Cohen.	(J H T)	- J. H. Taverner.
(J C)	- J. Conchie.	(A J T)	- A. J. Tompsett.
(R J C)	- R. J. Cundall.	(W H T)	- W. H. Truckle.
(R M C)	- R. M. Curber.	(C R T)	- C. R. Tubbs.
(R D)	- R. Davison.	(S W)	- S. Wallis (Mrs.).
(R H D)	- R. H. Dennis.	(I.O.W.)	- <i>Proceedings of the Isle of Wight Natural History Society.</i>
(J D)	- J. Dobson (Miss).	(W)	- Winchester College Natural History Society.
(D B)	- D. Edmeades (Miss).	(E J W)	- E. J. Wiseman.
(W G E)	- W. G. Edwards.		
(J J W E)	- J. J. W. Everett.		
(J C F)	- J. C. Follett.		

3. Insects, 1955.

Lepidoptera (Butterflies).

By W. H. DOWDESWELL.

Contributions were received from the following :—

Miss. E. Batchelor	-	-	(E B)
Mr. E. Cohen	-	-	(E C)
Mr. E. L. Jones	-	-	(E J)
Major J. N. Kirkaldy	-	-	(J K)
Mr. G. H. Rees	-	-	(G R)
Mr. W. H. Truckle	-	-	(W T)
Winchester College N.H.S.	-	-	(W)

In spite of the increase in the number of contributors, recording in 1955 seems to have been rather sporadic. No information is available for several common species and the records of moths are too few to merit inclusion here. The year will be remembered for the long spell of fine, sunny weather in July and August which undoubtedly hastened the emergence of second broods during the latter part of the summer. A migration of the clouded yellow (*Colias croceus*) appears to have taken place about mid-July and thereafter odd specimens were recorded from most parts of the County, the latest being on 24th October. It is surprising that not a single specimen of the white female variety *helice* was noted. September saw a tremendous invasion by the second brood larvae of *Pieris rapae*, particularly in the Winchester area, and great damage was done to autumn cabbage crops.

Systematic List.

Pieris brassicae L.—Less common than usual, particularly the second brood.

Few of the larvae appeared to be parasitized by *Apanteles* (W).

Pieris rapae L.—Large numbers, particularly the second brood. Migrations of between 40 and 100 observed at Farlington Marshes and St. Catherine's Point (I.O.W.) between July 30th and September 4th (G R).

Pieris napi L.—Quite common in water meadows adjoining the R. Itchen (W).

Anthocharis cardamines L.—First recorded (male) at Boldre on May 12th (E C).

Fairly numerous in Winchester area—mainly males (W).

Colias croceus Fourc.—First recorded on July 30th at St. Catherine's Point. Continual records here and at Farlington Marshes until October 1st (G R). Two at Crab Wood (near Winchester) on August 24th (W). Fresh female at Stockbridge on August 2nd (J K). Three at Titchfield Haven on September 10th and October 24th (W T). One at Stanpit Marsh (New Forest) on August 14th (E B).

Gonepteryx rhamni L.—First recorded appearance was rather late—April 6th at Andover (E J). Second brood quite common. Recorded from New Forest on July 31st, also Farlington Marshes on September 15th and at Hill Head on October 24th (W T). Several seen in Winchester (Crab Wood) on July 20th (W).

Argynnis paphia L.—Quite common in its usual haunts. One var. *valezina* taken at Crab Wood (Winchester) on July 23rd and another worn specimen seen there on August 6th (J K). Unconfirmed report of *valezina* in Broughton Down area.

- Argynnis euphrosyne* L.—Several seen in Crab Wood on June 3rd quite fresh (W).
- Argynnis selene* L.—On in Frame Heath Enclosure (New Forest) on June 22nd (W T).
- Euphydryas aurinia* L.—Quite common in the area of St. Catharine's Hill (Winchester). The numbers of this colony now seem to have returned to normal and are fewer than two years ago (W).
- Polygonia c-album* L.—Only a few records: the species seems to have been later than usual. One var. *hutchinsoni* near Nether Wallop on July 25th (J K). One at St. Catharine's Point on August 25th (G R) and another at Hill Head on September 18th (W T).
- Aglais urticae* L.—First recorded at Andover on March 18th (E J). Five records of flights of 20—70 in the areas of Farlington Marshes and St. Catherine's Point between July 31st and September 10th (G R). The species seems to have been about as common as usual.
- Nymphalis io* L.—First recorded on April 11th at Andover (E J). Generally uncommon. One at St. Catherine's Point on July 30th and two more on August 13th. Odd specimens seen at Farlington Marshes between August 14th and 24th (G R).
- Pyrameis cardui* L.—First recorded at Bishop's Dyke on June 7th (E C). One at Stockbridge on June 24th (J K). Uncommon. Scattered records for Farlington Marshes and St. Catherine's Point between July 16th and September 24th (G R and W T). A flight of about 50 seen at St. Catherine's Point on July 30th (G R and W T). Occasional records from St. Catherine's Hill (Winchester) between July 12th and 25th (W).
- Vanessa atalanta* L.—First recorded at Castle Hill on May 30th (E B). One at Andover on June 4th (E J). Continuous records at Farlington Marshes from August 1st to October 2nd (G R and W T). Twenty at Titchfield Haven on August 23rd and about 50 at St. Catherine's Point between August 23rd and 26th (G R). Three seen at Farley Mount on September 26th (W). Last recorded at Sway on October 14th (E C).
- Limnitis camilla* L.—As common as usual in the New Forest area but less plentiful in Crab Wood. Four seen in Crab Wood, two on 20th and two on 23rd July (J K).
- Agapetes galathea* L.—First recorded July 26th at Andover (E J). Common on all chalk downland. Numerous at Woolbury Ring on July 28th (W). Last record at Andover, August 22nd (E J).
- Pararge aegeria* L.—Only record of first brood from New Forest—11 on June 22nd (W T). Second brood seems to have been common. Seen at Farlington Marshes on August 27th and September 4th (G R), also in the New Forest on October 24th (W T). Common in Crab Wood on October 20th (W).
- Pararge megera* L.—Only records are from Farlington Marshes on July 31st and St. Catherine's Point on August 24th and 26th (G R).
- Eumemis semele* L.—Some at Beaulieu Heath on July 24th (E J). Common in Withybed area of New Forest on July 26th (W). Four along the edge of Bishop's Dyke, New Forest, on July 31st (W T). One dark female at Broughton Down on July 30th and tattered male at Danebury on August 26th (J K).
- Maniola jurtina* L.—Very common on grassland everywhere. First seen at Andover on June 26th (E J).
- Maniola tithonus* L.—Very localised and seems to be confined largely to narrow lanes with hedges. Six seen in area of Crab Wood on July 20th (W).
- Aphantopus hyperanthus* L.—Very common in glades of New Forest near Minstead on July 7th (W). First recorded in Andover area on July 9th (E J). No records from Crab Wood where it used to occur.
- Coenonympha pamphilus* L.—Very common on all grassland from May to July. A good year for this species.

- Hamearis lucina* L.—Fresh female at Chattis Hill, near Danebury on June 5th (J K). The colony near Cheesefoot Head continues to flourish but in reduced numbers (W). No records from Crab Wood this year, but no doubt the species still occurs there.
- Lycæna phlaeas* L.—Even rarer than last year. Only one of first brood and not more than a dozen of the second reported from Stockbridge area (J K). Two at Farlington Marshes on September 17th and one on October 2nd; also one at Hill Head on October 1st (G R). Remarkably late record from sea wall, Pennington, on November 4th (E C).
- Thecla quercus* L.—Much fewer in Crab Wood than usual. Six fresh males seen on July 15th (W).
- Calophrys rubi* Rott.—Quite common in area of Cheesefoot Head in early June (W).
- Plebejus argus* L.—Very common in Withybed area (New Forest) on July 7th but both sexes rather worn. Unconfirmed record from Hiltigbury Common near Chandler's Ford (W).
- Polyommatus icarus* L.—Far less common than usual in area of Woolbury Ring (Stockbridge) where it is generally abundant (W).
- Lysandra coridon* Pod.—Common on all chalk downland, as usual.
- Lysandra bellargus* Rott.—This species seems to be steadily decreasing in numbers. One unconfirmed report from St. Catherine's Point, otherwise no records.
- Pyrgus malvae* L.—Very common on St. Catherine's Hill in early June (W).
- Erynnis tages* L.—Similar to *P. malvae*.
- Thymelicus sylvestris* Pod.—Reported as fairly common in the Andover area (E J). Also common on downland near Longwood (Winchester) in early June (W).
- Thymelicus lineola* Ochs.—A small colony in a restricted area near Porton ranges at Over Wallop (J K). Another near Woolbury Ring (Stockbridge) was flourishing in 1954 but there was no trace of it in 1955 (W).
- Ochlodes venata* Br. and Grey.—One at Hill Head on June 26th (W T). Three in woods near Farley Mount on July 3rd (W).

Other Insect Orders.

Dr. C. Suffern has provided the following notes on Dragonflies from the Titchfield Haven area :—

ODONATA (Dragonflies).

The year 1955 was a very bad one for dragonflies, some first appearances being about a month later than usual. As a corollary the latest sightings of five species (*Libellula depressa*, *Agrion splendens*, *Aeshna juncea*, *Libellula quadrimaculata*, and *Coenagrion puella*) were the latest I have ever recorded. The only species that was at all abundant was *C. puella*, whose season lasted from June 2nd to August 21st, with a peak in mid-June. *P. nymphula* lasted from May 8th to June 18th (normal length of season) but was scanty. *L. quadrimaculata* provided only one specimen on June 6th, one on June 17th, one on July 9th, and two on July 22nd. *Ischnura elegans*, which is usually abundant, was extremely scarce, and lasted only from June 7th to July 31st. *A. splendens* was present in usual strength and lasted from June 13th to August 13th. *Libellula depressa* was scarce and lasted from June 17th to July 31st. *Anax imperator* provided only two specimens: one on July 2nd and one female ovipositing on July 31st. Only four *Ae. juncea* were seen—all in the first nine days of October. *Aeshna cyanea* was in usual strength, being identified from July 9th to October 2nd; but two *Aeshna* ? sp. sighted on June 17th and 25th were possibly of this sp. Only one *Aeshna mixta* was seen—on August 8th. *Sympetrum striolatum*, which was superabundant in 1950 and has steadily

declined since owing to changes in the vegetation, was seen in small numbers from July 9th to October 9th. *Orthetrum cancellatum* provided only four specimens : one on July 9th and three on July 31st. *Cordulegaster boltoni* is never common here but provided an unusually large number of specimens—two on July 9th and three on July 31st.

DIPTERA (Flies).

Mr. J. E. Collin has kindly sent the following notes on Diptera in the New Forest area :—

The year 1955 proved to be another disappointing one for Diptera. During May, June and early July we had (at any rate in the eastern half of England) very many days in which a cold and dry east, or north-east wind blew continuously. I found that very similar conditions prevailed in Hampshire when I paid three visits during that period, one, in which, normally, the occurrence of Diptera ought to be at its maximum intensity. However, in spite of the weather conditions a few interesting species were found including two which, though already found elsewhere in this country, have not yet been reported as belonging to the British fauna, and are therefore certainly new to the Hampshire List. These are the Anthomyid *Pegohylemyia nudithorax* Ringd. and the Sciomyzid *Tetanocera marginella* (Desv.) of Séguy. Both were captured in the grounds of "Appleslade" Linwood, the residence of Mrs. F. H. Haines, who, together with her late husband, and family, have done so much to assist and encourage research in the fauna and flora of the Forest. The other captures recorded below consist almost entirely of species which have not appeared in previous reports.

Except for an unsuccessful search for more specimens of *Tipula siebeki* Zett., little attention was paid to the Nematocera. However, the capture of the Geratopogonid *Bezzia nobilis* Winn., and the Mycetophilids *Polylepta guttiventris* Zett., and *Apemon marginata* Mg., can be recorded.

To the list of Scatopsidae found may now be added *Scatopse albitarsis* Zett., taken near Brockenhurst in July.

In the Xylophagidae the males of *Xylophagus ater* Mg. were found, in the same locality as the *Scatopse*, flying upwards in an *Ichneumon*-like fashion close to the trunks of oak trees.

Though a search for further specimens of the rare *Rhamphomyia physoprocta* Frey was unsuccessful, the following Empididae were noted : *Bicellaria nigra* Mg., *intermedia* Lndbk., *pilosa* Lndbk., and *vana* Coll. In *Rhamphomyia sens. lat.*, *R. anomalipennis* Mg., *stigmosa* Mcp., *albipennis* Zett., *umbripennis* Mg., and *hybotina* Zett., *Empis praevia* Coll., *Rhagas unica* Wlk., *Hilara pilosa* Zett., *quadrivittata* Mg., and *albitarsis* v. Ros., and *Heleodromia immaculata* Hal.

Only two Dolichopodids were found additional to those noted in previous records, viz., *Sciopus longulus* Fln., and *Porphyrops fascipes* Mg.

The following species of Pipunculidae were taken : *P. furcatus* Egg., *palliditarsis* Coll., and *xanthopus* Thoms. Even the common species were very scarce this year.

A specimen of the uncommon Syrphid *Microdon eggeri* Mik. was captured in the Rhododendron Drive on June 13th.

The few Tachinidae found included *Blepharomyia amplicornis* Zett. and *Trixa coerulescens* Mg., taken in May, and *Metopia campestris* Fln. and *Actia bicolor* Mg., in June.

A special search was made for those Anthomyids with a life-history associated with Ferns. Apart from the more common species such as *Pycnoglossa flavipennis* Fln., *Chirosia cinerosa* Zett., *setifemur* Ringd., *crassiseta* Stein., *albitarsis* Zett., and *parvicornis* Zett., specimens were taken of the rarer *C. signata* Brske., and *similata* Tiens. Among Anthomyids Mr. E. A. Fonseca was the lucky captor of the little-known *Pegohylemyia nudithorax* Ringd. at Linwood in July.

Unfortunately it was not recognized at the time of capture. Other Anthomyids found included *Fannia sociella* Zett., *minutipalpis* Stein, and *polychaeta* Stein, *Lophosceles mutatus* Flin., *Prosalpia billbergi* Zett., *Lispocephala alma* Mg., *Hylemyza lasciva* Zett., *Phorbia moliniaris* Karl., *Erioischia pilipyga* Vill., and *Delia exigua* Mde., while *Pegomyia prosecta* Vill., again occurred, this time at Denny Lodge in June.

Reference has already been made to the capture of the Sciomyzid *Tetanocera marginella* Desv., it was found at Linwood in company with *Tetanocera elata* F., *Hydromyia dorsalis* F., and *Pherbina coryleti* Scop. early in July. In the Ephydriidae *Hydrellia laticeps* Stnh., *thoracica* Hal., *albiceps* Mg., and *chrysostoma* Mg., were found in Denny Bog. The Psilid *Chyliza annulipes* Mcq., at Mog's Ridge, and the Sapromyzid *S. hyalinata* Mg. at Denny Lodge. Among the Borborids *Limosina moesta* Vill., was found at Linwood, and *L. schmitzi* Duda near Brockenhurst, at the foot of a Cossus-infected oak. Finally the Chloropids *C. triangularis* Beck., *meigenii* Lw., and *speciosa* Mg. were taken near the Beaulieu River, on Yew Tree Heath.

4. Plants, 1955.

Mrs. E. M. Haines has sent the following list of local and interesting plants found mostly in the New Forest area during 1955 :

	Locality	
<i>Aceras anthropophorum</i>	- Cheesefoot	- Scarce.
<i>Acinos arvensis</i>	- Breamore	- Local.
<i>Agrostis setacea</i>	- Linwood	- Plentiful.
<i>Althaea officinalis</i>	- Stanpit	- Plentiful.
<i>Angelica sylvestris</i>	- Linwood	- Plentiful.
<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>	- Compton	- Scarce.
<i>Artemisia absinthium</i>	- Winkton	- Very local and scarce.
<i>Botrychium lunaria</i>	- Durmast Hill	- Very few.
<i>Blackstoma perfoliata</i>	- Southwick	- Plentiful.
<i>Briza minor</i>	- Alderholt	- Scarce, in one ploughed field.
<i>Campamula rapunculus</i>	- Avon	- A fair number.
<i>Carex extensa</i>	- Keyhaven	-
<i>Carex humilis</i>	- Breamore	- Plentiful.
<i>Cephalanthera damasonium</i>	- Dur Wood	- Plenty.
<i>Chenopodium rubrum</i>	- Breamore	- Becoming scarcer.
<i>Cicendia filiformis</i>	- Hatchett	- Plentiful in suitable seasons.
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	- Crow	- Scattered, but not uncommon.
<i>Convallaria majalis</i>	- Ocknell	- Plentiful, but few flowers.
<i>Cuscuta epithymum</i>	- Linwood	- Plentiful.
<i>Cynoglossom officinale</i>	- Breamore	- Plentiful.
<i>Cyperus fuscus</i>	- Breamore	- Not so much of it this year.
<i>Cyperus longus</i>	- Linwood	- Naturalized for some years and inclined to spread.
<i>Datura stramonium</i>	- Ringwood	- Odd specimens.
<i>Drosera anglica</i>	- Valesmoor	- Odd specimens.
<i>Echinochloa crus-galli</i>	- Stanpit	- Odd specimens.
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	- Breamore	- Plentiful.
<i>Eleocharis acicularis</i>	- Boldre	- Locally plentiful.
<i>Eleocharis parvula</i>	- Breamore	- Several fairly extensive patches.
<i>Gagea lutea</i>	- Hale	- One large patch.
<i>Geranium columbinum</i>	- Breamore	- Fairly plentiful.
<i>Geum intermedium</i>	- Dur Wood	- Plentiful.
<i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i>	- Cheesefoot	- Plentiful.

<i>Hammerbya paludosa</i>	- Hatchett	- Very scattered.
<i>Hypericum androsaemum</i>	- Linwood	- Very local.
<i>Hypericum calycinum</i>	- Breamore	- One large patch.
<i>Illecebrum verticillatum</i>	- Hatchett	- Plentiful.
<i>Impatiens capensis</i>	- Bickton	- Plentiful.
<i>Impatiens Noli-me-tangere</i>	- Matley	- Local, but increasing.
<i>Juncus tenuis</i>	- Alderholt	- Very local.
<i>Lathraea squamaria</i>	- Hale	- Very local, but well established.
<i>Leonurus cardiaca</i>	- Bickton	- Only in one spot but persistent.
<i>Limosella aquatica</i>	- Breamore	- Scarce.
<i>Ludwigia palustris</i>	- Boldre	- Plentiful.
<i>Myosurus minimus</i>	- Ellingham	- Very local.
<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	- Linwood	- Two plants persisting.
<i>Parentucellia viscosa</i>	- Alderholt	- Local, but spreading.
<i>Pinguicula lusitanica</i>	- Boldre	- Fairly plentiful.
<i>Pentaglossis sempervirens</i>	- Beaulieu	- Locally plentiful. Well established.
<i>Potentilla argentea</i>	- Avon	- A small colony.
<i>Prunella laciniata</i>	- Linwood	- One plant only, in unsuitable locality. Probably not persistent.
<i>Pulicaria vulgaris</i>	- Mockbeggar	- A local colony.
<i>Ranunculus lingua</i>	- Crockford	- Well-established colony.
<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	- Crockford	- A local colony.
<i>Saxifraga granulata</i>	- Ibsley	- Plentiful in one field.
<i>Schoenus nigricans</i>	- Valesmoor	- Fairly plentiful.
<i>Specularia hybrida</i>	- Breamore	- " "
<i>Trigonella ornithopodioides</i>	- Bratley	- Plentiful.
<i>Teesdalia nudicaulis</i>	- Rockford	- Plentiful.
<i>Utricularia minor</i>	- Linwood	- Not so plentiful as usual this year.

BOTANICAL OUTINGS

Field Meeting near Winchester. Plants of Chalk Downland and Beech Woods.

Leader : MR. G. G. PIERCE.

SOME 73 members gathered in the area of Cheesefoot Head in the afternoon of June 4th. Apart from a strong wind, the conditions were excellent and most of the plants we hoped to see were already in flower. A stop on the side of the Petersfield Road near the "Punch Bowl" produced all the orchids common in that area—the man (*Aceras anthropophorum*), the spotted (*Orchis fuchsii*), the bee (*Ophrys apifera*) and the fragrant (*Gymnadenia conopsea*); also the twayblade (*Listera ovata*) and early specimens of the white helleborine (*Cephalanthera damasonium*). In the small copse on Cheesefoot Head the deadly nightshade (*Atropa belladonna*) was still flourishing but not yet in flower.

The next move was to Longwood, where we were shown a fine colony of the toothwort (*Lathraea squamaria*) growing at the foot of some laurel bushes just outside the gates of Longwood House. On the opposite side of the road was another extensive colony in a more typical locality among hazel. Many other woodland flowers were also to be seen, including Woodruff (*Asperula odorata*), Solomon's Seal (*Polygonatum multiflorum*) and Ramsons (*Allium ursinum*). Unfortunately, flowering in a fine specimen of the wild pear (*Pyrus communis*) nearby was already over.

The next stop was at Durwood, which revealed a small colony of the bird's-nest orchid (*Neottia nidus-avis*) growing in beechwood and some beautiful examples of the fly orchid (*Ophrys insectifera*) which proved extremely difficult to find.

The movement of the long phalanx of 30 cars and a charabanc along the narrow roads proved a somewhat hazardous and lengthy operation. Those members who were unable to see the plants in their natural surroundings had an opportunity of viewing them at close quarters in the Winchester College Science School, where a representative collection was displayed after tea.

W. H. DOWDESWELL.

New Forest (Withybed area).

Leaders : MR. J. B. POYNTON.
MR. W. H. DOWDESWELL.

About 35 members gathered in the area of The Grove (near Stoney Cross) in the afternoon of Saturday, 2nd July, for an exploration of the magnificent stretch of heathland to the south-west in the vicinity of Withybed Bottom. After a preliminary discussion of the ecology of the area, the party moved off across the dry heath overlying gravel. Here the plants were of no great interest, amounting largely to *Erica cinerea*, *Calluna vulgaris*, *Pedicularis sylvatica* and *Polygala oxyptera*. The transition from gravel to clay brought about an abrupt change in moisture and conditions soon began to become boggy. Inroads of bracken were soon in evidence and a few plants of bog asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*) were just beginning to flower. Other species occupying the intermediate zone included alder buckthorn (*Frangula alnus*), round-leaved sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*), long-leaved sundew (*D. intermedia*) and a flourishing colony of the fragrant orchid (*Gymnadenia conopsea*). One of the beauties of the day was a magnificent display of the spotted orchid (*Orchis ericetorum*) growing on a steep slope.

The bog zone revealed most of the species expected, including :

- Marsh St. John's-wort (*Hypericum elodes*).
- Pale Butterwort (*Pinguicula lusitanica*).
- Bog Pimpernel (*Anagallis tenella*).
- Water Forget-me-not (*Myosotis caespitosa*).
- "Illecebrum" (*Illecebrum verticillatum*).
- Broad-leaved Pondweed (*Potamogeton natans*).
- Bog Pondweed (*P. polygonifolius*).
- Lesser Spearwort (*Ranunculus flammula*).

After tea, the flowers were arranged and labelled at the Compton Arms Hotel.

W. H. DOWDESWELL.

Fungus Foray in the New Forest (Denny area).

Leader : DR. F. B. HORA:

A party of about 40 members assembled in the afternoon of October 1st, 1955, at the N.E. corner of Denny Inclosure. Dr. Hora, assisted by Dr. Mannors, led the party through the old oak-beech woodland of Denny Wait into the adjoining birch and Scots Pine plantations and back through Denny Wood. Fungi were moderately abundant, thanks to rain the previous week, but some genera usually seen here, such as *Cortinarius*, were not collected. This may have been a result of the very dry summer. The outstanding find was a large specimen of *Hydnum erinaceum*, a striking and uncommon species growing on beech.

The following species were found :—

AGARICACEAE :

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <i>Amanita citrina</i> . | <i>Lactarius quietus</i> . |
| " <i>rubescens</i> . | " <i>tabidus</i> . |
| <i>Amanitopsis fulva</i> . | " <i>vellereus</i> . |
| <i>Armillaria mellea</i> . | <i>Russula atropurpurea</i> . |
| <i>Armillaria mucida</i> . | " <i>caerulea</i> . |
| <i>Tricholoma rutilans</i> . | " <i>emetica</i> . |
| " <i>terreum</i> . | " <i>fragilis</i> . |
| <i>Clitocybe aurantiaca</i> . | " <i>ochroleuca</i> . |
| <i>Laccaria laccata</i> . | " <i>velenovskyi</i> . |
| <i>Collybia fusipes</i> . | <i>Pluteus cervinus</i> . |
| " <i>maculata</i> . | " <i>phlebophorus</i> . |
| " <i>radicata</i> . | " <i>umbrosus</i> . |
| <i>Marasmius dryophilus</i> . | <i>Clitopilus prunulus</i> . |
| <i>Mycena galericulata</i> . | <i>Pholiota spectabilis</i> . |
| " <i>galopus</i> . | <i>Flammula sapinea</i> . |
| " <i>haematopus</i> . | <i>Paxillus involutus</i> . |
| " <i>inclinata</i> . | <i>Hypholoma hydrophilum</i> . |
| " <i>rubro-marginata</i> . | <i>Panaeolus sphinctrinus</i> . |
| <i>Omphalia umbellifera</i> . | <i>Coprinus atramentarius</i> . |
| <i>Pleurotus ostreatus</i> . | " <i>comatus</i> . |
| <i>Lactarius blennius</i> . | " <i>micaceus</i> . |
| " <i>hepaticus</i> . | |

OTHER BASIDIOMYCETES :

<i>Boletus bovinus.</i>	<i>Polystictus versicolor.</i>
" <i>chrysenteron.</i>	<i>Trametes gibbosa.</i>
" <i>scaber.</i>	<i>Daedalea quercina.</i>
" <i>variegatus.</i>	<i>Fistulina hepatica.</i>
<i>Polyporus betulinus.</i>	<i>Merulius tremellosus.</i>
" <i>giganteus.</i>	<i>Hydnum erinaceum.</i>
" <i>schweinitzii.</i>	<i>Stereum hirsutum.</i>
" <i>sulphureus.</i>	<i>Lycoperdon perlatum.</i>
<i>Ganoderma applanatus.</i>	<i>Scleroderma aurantium.</i>

ASCOMYCETES :

<i>Xylaria hypoxylon.</i>	<i>Bulgaria inquinans.</i>
<i>Helvella lacunosa.</i>	<i>Chlorosplenium aeruginosum.</i>
<i>Peziza aurantia.</i>	

This list contains 66 species, of some 150 recorded for the area, and includes 12 new records.

J. G. MANNERS.

FIELD MEETINGS AND LECTURES, 1955.

On 3 March the Lord Bishop of Portsmouth gave a lecture entitled "Polar Exploration and the Science of Glaciology", illustrated by lantern slides. Reference was made to the plans of Dr. Fuchs for the proposed Transantarctic Expedition.

The first field meeting of the year took place on 12 May, when Netley Abbey was visited, Mr. T. L. Jones, Assistant Inspector of Ancient Monuments conducting the party over the ruins. In the afternoon Haslar Royal Naval Hospital was visited, Mr. S. Barrington, the Record Officer, being the guide.

A day in the Isle of Wight was spent on 1 June, when a number of places in the eastern half of the Island were visited. Wootton Church, a small Norman building, was described by Mr. R. L. P. Jowitt; at Quarr Abbey the ruins were described by Fr. S. F. Hockey and in the afternoon the famous Roman Villa at Brading was visited. Brading Church was next inspected, which Mr. Jowitt described. On the way to Brading, Mr. J. D. Jones, Curator of Carisbrooke Castle Museum, gave a talk on the Bronze Age barrows at Downend.

On 15 June the west side of the county was visited and at Downton, just over the Wilts. border, a newly discovered Roman pavement was inspected, Mr. Rantz of the Ministry of Works giving a description of the Villa site.

By kind permission of Mr. J. R. Henderson, the party next visited the Moot House and garden, the site of a local Hundred Moot in Saxon times, Mr. Morley-Hewitt being the lecturer. In the afternoon Hale Park was visited, by kind permission of Mrs. Booth-Jones. Here members were conducted over the house, the grounds and the very charming little church, rebuilt by Thomas Archer, architect of Birmingham Cathedral, whose tomb it contains.

A most interesting day was spent on 6 July, when a visit was paid to Wiltshire. At Devizes, the Curator, Mr. N. Thomas, conducted members over the Museum, which contains a very fine prehistoric collection. In the afternoon Professor Stuart Piggott, F.S.A., described the excavations then proceeding at the West Kennett Long Barrow, one of the most important chambered tombs in England.

On 26 July the day was spent in Winchester. In the morning the Lord Bishop of Winchester conducted members round the exterior of Wolvesey Palace and the Castle ruins. In the afternoon the party visited the "Sixty Generations Exhibition" in the Banqueting Room of the Guildhall, Mrs. Carpenter Turner, Hon. City Archivist, and Mr. F. Cottrill, City Museums Curator, being the lecturers. This exhibition was especially arranged to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the granting of two charters by Henry II. The Exhibition was later visited by H.M. The Queen and H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh.

On 27 August Southampton was visited. In the Conference Room of the Civic Centre, maps and historical pictures were on exhibition and Mr. L. A. Burgess, F.L.A., and Mr. J. B. Morgan, B.A., were the lecturers. In the afternoon they conducted members round the western half of the Town Walls.

On 22 September members visited Silchester, where Mrs. Mary Aylwin Cotton, O.B.E., F.S.A., and Mr. G. C. Boon, B.A., F.S.A., conducted the party round the excavations, which are on the site of a recently discovered fourth defensive system. Unfortunately rain marred this visit, the only exception to an otherwise unbroken series of fine days enjoyed by the Club during this lovely summer. In the afternoon members visited the Museum of English Rural Life at Reading. Members were conducted round by Mr. John Higgs, the Assistant Keeper.

On 6 October an extremely interesting day was spent visiting Windsor and Eton. At Windsor Castle the Very Rev. Bishop Hamilton, Dean of Windsor, conducted members round St. George's Chapel. In the afternoon Eton College was visited, Mr. T. Lyon, Librarian, conducting members round the Chapel with its 15th century wall-paintings and magnificent new east window and also the various other ancient buildings.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL, 1955.

OBITUARY.—The Club had lost 65 members during the year through death or resignation. In particular the Club had sustained a great loss through the death of Dr. A. R. Green, who, with Mrs. Green, had organised and built up the Club's photographic collection.

MEMBERSHIP.—The membership of the Club stood at 563, including 108 new members.

EXCAVATIONS.—During the year the Club made grants of £75 to the Winchester Archaeological Society, £50 to the "Friends of Old Southampton" Excavation Fund, and £10 to the Silchester Excavation Committee.

MEETINGS.—Thanks to a small committee, both winter lectures and a summer field meetings programme had been arranged, but whether similar programmes for the future could be arranged would depend on the initiative of the members who enjoyed them.

EDITORIAL.

CONTRIBUTORS are reminded that material intended for publication in the *Proceedings* should be addressed to the Honorary Editor, The Hampshire Field Club, 10 The Close, Winchester. Material cannot normally be printed in any one year unless it arrives before 31 December of the previous year. The *Proceedings* go to press in January, and in any case there is a long waiting list.

Members of the Club may like to know that a limited number of copies of *Essays in Honour of Frank Warren* can be obtained from the publishers at 10/6 a copy. The price to non-members is 12/6.

Vol. XIX, Pt. 3, will appear in 1957. It will contain an appreciation of Mr. F. Warren, whose death occurred whilst the present volume was in the press. It will contain other obituaries, and also reviews which have been held over from Pt. II on grounds of economy. Vol. XIX, Pt. 3, will be the last volume of its kind, for it is hoped that in 1958 the *Proceedings* will appear in a new form.

The Editor is not responsible for views expressed by contributors, and letters arising therefrom should be addressed to the authors, not to the Honorary Editor.

THE HAMPSHIRE FIELD CLUB AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1954.

INCOME.			£	s	d	£	s	d
MEMBERS' SUBSCRIPTIONS :—								
57 Entrance Fees at 5s.	...	...	14	5	0			
14 Annual Fees at 10s. 6d.	...	...	7	7	0			
519 Annual Fees at 15s.	...	...	389	5	0			
						410	17	0
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS ON OUTINGS	...	...		4	18	7		
EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME CARRIED TO GENERAL FUND	...	...				92	7	4

£508 2 11

EXPENDITURE.			£	s	d	£	s	d
SUBSCRIPTIONS TO SOCIETIES :—								
South-Eastern Union of Scientific Societies	...	...	12	6				
Commons, Open Spaces and Footpaths Preservation Society	...	...	1	1	0			
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds	...	...	1	1	0			
Council for British Archaeology	...	...	2	5	0			
Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings	...	...	1	1	0			
Council for Promoting Field Studies	...	...	10	0				
English Place Name Society	...	...	15	0				
						7	5	6
FIELD MEETINGS AND LECTURES :—								
Printing, Envelopes, Stationery and Postage	...	...	96	6	2			
COST OF "PROCEEDINGS" :—								
Volume XVIII, 3—Printing etc.	...	...	365	3	4			
Other Charges	...	...	3	10	8			
						368	14	0
GENERAL CHARGES :—								
Honorary Secretaries' Expenses	...	...	7	5	9			
Printing, Postages and Stationery	...	...	20	13	1			
Hire of Rooms	...	...	1	10	0			
"Cave" Bequest, Labelling Books	...	...	5	0	0			
						34	8	10
PHOTOGRAPHIC SECTION	...	...				1	8	5
						<u>£508</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>11</u>

BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1954.

		£	s	d	£	s	d
GENERAL FUND :—							
Balance, 1st January, 1954	...	...	845	17	10		
Less Cost of <i>Proceedings</i> , Vol. XVIII, 2	...	£240	16	6			
Transfer to Excava- tions Fund	...	50	0	0			
Excess of Expenditure over Income for the Year	...	92	7	4			
					383	3	10
					462	14	0
Add Interest received on—							
Lloyds Bank Deposit Account	...	7	1				
P.O. Savings Bank, 1953	...	8	5	8			
1954	...	8	18	0			
Subscriptions for— 1952	...	3	0	0			
1953	...	12	15	0			
					33	5	9
					495	19	9
TROKE LEGACY :—							
Balance 1st January, 1954	...	...	...	...	50	0	0
EXCAVATIONS RESERVE :—							
Balance 1st January, 1954	...	...	50	6	6		
Add Transfer from General Account	...	...	50	0	0		
			100	6	6		
SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1955 paid in advance	...	...	9	15	0		
			£656	1	3		

	£	s	d	£	s	d
CASH :—						
Current Account, Lloyds Bank Ltd.	...	215	7	1		
Current Account, Westminster Bank Ltd.	...	49	12	6		
Deposit Account, Lloyds Bank Ltd.	...	25	8	9		
Deposit Account, Post Office Savings Bank	...	365	12	11		
					656	1 3

J. B. MEAKINS, A.C.W.A.
Hon. Treasurer.

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

ALFRED E. PALMER,
Hon. Auditor.
Twyford, Hants.
24th March, 1955.

£656 1 3

LIST OF MEMBERS

(corrected to 16th February, 1957.)

- ANDREWS, Miss P., Dene Cottage, Sparsholt, Hants.
 APPLETON, Mrs. K., King's Cottage, Over Wallop.
 ARIS, Miss E., Manor Farm, Preston Candover, Basingstoke, Hants.
 ARIS, J. A., Travellers Club, Pall Mall, London, S.W. 1.
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 ASHTON, Capt. T. W., Home Close, Hursley, Winchester.
 ATCHISON, Mrs. V. E., Evening Hill, Crawley, near Winchester.
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 AUSTEN LEIGH, R. A., M.A., F.S.A., Great Abshot, Titchfield, Hants.
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 AYLWIN, R. F. G., Firs End, Heath Road, Petersfield, Hants.

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IV

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 HALLETT, Lady, Ashdene, St. Giles' Hill, Winchester.
 HAMILTON, Mrs. N. A., Ashmansworth, Newbury, Berks.
 HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (G. A. Wheatley), County Council, The Castle, Winchester.

Hampshire Chronicle (The Editor), High Street, Winchester.
Hampshire Telegraph (The Editor), Portsmouth.
Hampshire Observer (The Editor), Staple Garden, Winchester.
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 WESTERN, Mrs. M. D., M.A., Tattingsstone, Frensham Road, Lower Bourne,
 Farnham, Surrey.
 WHITAKER, Mrs. M. A., Witham Close, Kingsgate Street, Winchester.
 WHITE, Miss D. F. B., Loxton, Hulbert Road, Bedhampton, Havant, Hants.
 WHITE, Captain R. F. L., F.G.S., 83 West Side, Clapham Common, London,
 S.W. 4.
 WIDNELL, Captain H., The Manor Office, Beaulieu, Hants.
 WILKINSON, Colonel C. H., O.B.E., Worcester College, Oxford.
 WILLIAMSON, Dr. D. A., M.D., M.R.C.P., Chirk Lodge, Romsey, Hants.
 WILLIS, A. J., F.R.I.C.S., Hambledon, Lyminge, Folkestone.
 WILLIS, G. W., J.P., F.S.A., 2 Wote Street, Basingstoke, Hants.
 WINCHESTER CITY MUSEUM, The Square, Winchester.
 WINCHESTER COLLEGE (The Hon. Secretary, Natural History Society),
 Winchester.
 WINCHESTER COLLEGE, ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, The College, Winchester.

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WINCHESTER, The Right Rev. The Lord Bishop of, Wolvesey, Winchester.
WINSER, A. A., Thornleigh, Curdridge, Southampton.
WINSER, Mrs. K. S., Thornleigh, Curdridge, Hants.
WITHERBY, C. T., Midland Bank Chambers, Salisbury, Wilts.
WOOD, Miss E. M., Honeycritch, Froxfield, Petersfield, Hants.
WOODHOUSE, Mrs. E., The Cottage, Church Oakley, Basingstoke, Hants.
WOOLMER, Mrs. F., Pear Tree Cottage, Ball Hill, Newbury, Berks.
WREY, Commander E. C., O.B.E., R.N. (retd.), 1 Solent Road, Walkford,
Christchurch, Hants.

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Past-Presidents.

1885—1888	F. DE CHAUMONT, M.D., F.R.S. (the late).
1888—1891	W. WHITAKER, B.A., F.R.S., F.G.S. (the late).
1891—1893	W. E. DARWIN, B.A., F.G.S., J.P. (the late).
1893—1895	THE VERY REV. THE DEAN OF WINCHESTER (THE VERY REV. G. W. KITCHIN, D.D., F.S.A.) (the late).
1895—1896	W. WHITAKER, B.A., F.R.S., F.G.S. (the late).
1897—1898	B. W. GREENFIELD, M.A., F.S.A. (the late).
1898—1900	THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF NORTHBROOK, G.C.S.I., D.C.L., F.R.S. (the late).
1900—1902	WILLIAM W. PORTAL, M.A., F.S.A. (afterwards SIR WM. W. PORTAL, BART.) (the late).
1902—1904	J. H. OGLANDER, F.S.A. (the late).
1904—1906	W. F. G. SPRANGER, J.P. (the late).
1906—1908	THE MOST NOBLE THE MARQUIS OF WINCHESTER.
1908—1910	SIR WILLIAM W. PORTAL, BART., M.A., F.S.A., D.L. (the late).
1910—1912	THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF NORTHBROOK (the late).
1912—1914	THE RIGHT HON. THE LORD MONTAGU OF BEAULIEU (the late).
1914—1916	SIR WILLIAM W. PORTAL, BART., M.A., F.S.A., D.L. (the late).
1916—1918	C. E. KEYSER, M.A., F.S.A., D.L., J.P. (the late).
1918—1920	DR. DUKINFIELD SCOTT, F.R.S., F.L.S., LL.D., D.SC. (the late).
1920—1922	THE RIGHT HON. THE LORD MONTAGU OF BEAULIEU (the late).
1922—1924	THE RT. HON. BEATRICE COUNTESS OF PORTSMOUTH (the late).
1925—1926	THE RT. HON. THE EARL OF NORMANTON (the late).
1926—1929	DR. J. P. WILLIAMS-FREEMAN, M.D., J.P. (the late).
1929—1932	SIR CHARLES CLOSE, K.B.E., C.B., C.M.G., SC.D., F.R.S. (the late).
1932—1935	DR. J. P. WILLIAMS-FREEMAN, M.D., J.P. (the late).
1935—1936	SIR CHARLES ARDEN-CLOSE, K.B.E., C.B., C.M.G., SC.D., F.R.S. (the late).
1936—1939	LIEUT.-COL. J. B. KARSLAKE, T.D., D.L., J.P., M.A., F.S.A. (the late).
1939—1940	SIR RICHARD HARMAN LUCE, K.C.M.G., C.B., M.A., F.R.C.S. (the late).
1940—1943	C. J. P. CAVE, J.P., M.A., F.S.A., F.R.P.S. (the late).
1943—1946	SIR RICHARD HARMAN LUCE, K.C.M.G., C.B., M.A., F.S.A., F.R.C.S. (the late).
1946—1949	O. G. S. CRAWFORD, C.B.E., F.R.A.
1949—1952	THE RT. HON. H. T. BAKER, P.C., M.A.
1952—1955	HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON, K.G., F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A.
1955—	LT.-GENERAL F. H. GRIFFITHS, D.L., J.P., The Bryn, St. Giles' Hill, Winchester.

The Editor will welcome contributions relating to the subjects dealt with by the Society; and review copies of books dealing with Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Address: Mrs. W. J. Carpenter Turner, B.A., 10 The Close, Winchester.

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RULES.

Name and Objects.

Rule 1.—The name of this Society is "The Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society," and the object of the Club is the Study of the Natural History and Antiquities of the County.

Headquarters.

Rule 2.—The headquarters of the Club are at Winchester.

Members.

Rule 3.—The Club shall consist of ordinary members and of honorary members and of affiliated organisations.

Rule 4.—Scientific persons of distinction, non-resident in the County, may be proposed and elected as honorary members of the Club at any meeting of the Council.

Rule 5.—Persons between the ages of 14 and 21 may be admitted as associate members paying an annual subscription of half the current rate for full members. They shall be entitled to all privileges of membership, including field meetings, except that they shall have no power of voting on the affairs of the Society nor of holding office and shall not be entitled to receive a copy of the *Proceedings*.

Rule 6.—Candidates for membership must be proposed and seconded by two members of the Club. The proposer must be personally acquainted with the candidate. Candidates thus proposed and seconded shall be elected to the Club by the ballot of the Council. Three black balls to exclude.

Rule 7.—The proposer of any candidate is required to state the particular branch of Natural History or Antiquities in the study of which any candidate for admission into the Club is engaged or is interested, or any other qualification, or special line of study.

Officers.

Rule 8.—The Officers of the Club shall consist of a President, four Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Editor and Secretary or Secretaries elected by members at the Annual General Meeting.

Subject Secretaries and local Secretaries, all appointed by the Council, shall be *ex-officio* members of the Council.

All the above shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of members. No members may vote unless their subscriptions have been paid, including that for the then current year.

Rule 9.—The President and Vice-Presidents shall not hold office for more than three years consecutively.

Hon. Editor.

Rule 10.—The Editor shall, if possible, publish a volume of the *Proceedings* in each year which shall contain the reports of the Subject Secretaries and an account of the Meetings and Excursions of the Club and such other matters as the Editor thinks desirable.

Rule 11.—The publications from other societies which are received in exchange for those of the Hants Field Club shall be regarded as the property of the Club.

Hon. Secretaries.

Rule 12.—The Hon. Secretary or Secretaries shall be responsible for the non-financial business and correspondence, for the arrangements for the General and Council Meetings, and for the sending out of Notices of Field Meetings and other events to every Member.

Hon. Treasurer.

Rule 13.—The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection of Subscriptions and the Annual Financial Report and Balance Sheet. Payments to be made by cheque signed by the Treasurer and one other Member of the Council.

Local Secretaries.

Rule 14.—Local Secretaries shall be appointed by the Council for any parts of the County that seem to them desirable. They shall watch the interests of the Club in their respective districts, investigate any matters to which their attention shall be called by any member of the Club and report any matters of interest to the Hon. Secretary or Secretaries.

Subject Secretaries.

Rule 15.—There may be appointed by the Annual Meeting, Subject Secretaries to represent the following and other interests:—Archaeology (including Field Archaeology), Architecture, Botany, Entomology, Geology, Heraldry, Historic Records, Mycology, Numismatics, Ornithology, Paintings, Photographic Records and Engravings.

Rule 16.—The names of such Subject Secretaries shall be printed in the *Proceedings* and their function shall be to foster an interest in their respective subjects, receive communications from other members and make an Annual Report of work done to the Chief Subject Secretary, who shall report further to the Hon. Editor.

Subscriptions.

Rule 17.—The Annual Subscription for ordinary members shall be as follows:—(a) For members elected after the Annual Meeting on April 25th, 1934, 21s.; (b) for members elected before the Annual Meeting on April 25th, 1934, 10s. 6d., and for members between the ages of 14 and 21, half the current rate for full members. Subscriptions are due in advance on the 1st January, and from new members on admission, with an Entrance Fee of 5s., and for all members elected after the Annual General Meeting in 1957 all Entrance Fees and Annual Subscriptions (except Junior Members) must be paid by Banker's Order. The names of persons newly elected shall not be entered on the List of Members until their Subscriptions and Entrance Fees have been paid.

Rule 18.—The *Proceedings* of the Club subject to Rule 5 shall be sent to those members only whose Subscriptions are paid for the year for which such *Proceedings* are issued, and whose names appear, or should appear, in the printed list of members contained therein.

The name of a member whose Subscription for any year is in arrear at the end of June of the following year shall (subject to the discretion of the Council) be removed from the list.

Council.

Rule 19.—The Government of the Club is vested in a Council to be elected at the Annual General Meeting and to consist of the Past Presidents, the Officers

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for the time being and not less than six ordinary members. These officers and ordinary members shall be nominated for election at the Annual General Meeting. Ordinary members shall serve for three years but shall be eligible for re-election if duly nominated. All nominations for members of the Council (other than *ex-officio* members) must be in the hands of the Hon. Secretary seven days before the Annual Meeting.

Rule 20.—Five shall be a quorum of the Council.

Rule 21.—A Council Meeting may be called at the discretion of the Secretary or Secretaries, or shall be held within 21 days on the written request of not less than 5 Members of the Council.

Annual Meeting.

Rule 22.—An Annual Meeting for general purposes shall be held in the early part of each year, on a date to be decided by the Council, at which the Secretary or Secretaries shall submit a Report, and the Treasurer his Financial Report and Balance Sheet. Notices to be sent out not less than 14 days before the Annual General Meeting.

Field Meetings.

Rule 23.—Not less than six ordinary Field Meetings shall be held in each year.

Rule 24.—A Meeting of the Council shall be held at least a month before the Annual Meeting to receive suggestions for the Field Meetings, and to draw up a list to be submitted to the members at the Annual Meeting.

Rule 25.—The organization of the Field Meetings (including the limitation, if necessary, of the numbers of members and visitors who can be accommodated) shall be in the hands of the Hon. Secretary or Secretaries who will receive such financial grants for the expenses as the Council shall decide.

Rule 26.—Subject to Rule 25, each member of the Club shall be at liberty to introduce one visitor to each ordinary meeting of the Club. A fee of 2s. 6d. shall be payable for every such visitor, as a minimum Subscription towards expenses.

Rule 27.—Members of the Club who do not attend any meeting after having given notice of their intention to attend, shall be liable for their share of the expenses which may be incurred by the Council in connection with such meeting.

Preservation of Natural Objects and Antiquities.

Rule 28.—The Club shall discourage the practice of removing and rooting up rare plants from their characteristic locality, and the extermination of rare birds, and also use its influence with landowners for their protection.

Rule 29.—The Club shall use its influence to promote the preservation of objects of antiquity.

Alteration of Rules.

Rule 30.—No alteration or addition shall be made to the foregoing rules except at an Annual General Meeting ; and fourteen days notice shall be given of any proposed alteration or addition to the rules.