

A CHRISTMAS BIRD CENSUS

L. B. Nice, 1920.

On December 24, 1919, a bleak day with a north wind and temperature just above freezing, a census of the winter birds about Norman was taken, one observer going south for four hours in the morning and the other going west for four hours in the afternoon. We saw 35 species, and 1105 individuals. We saw the following

residents: red-winged blackbirds (600), cardinals (95), plumbeous chickadees (54), bluebirds (3), flickers (25), crows (21), goldfinches (21), downy woodpeckers (19), English sparrows (12), bobwhites (9), western meadowlarks (6), hairy woodpeckers (5), field sparrows (5), marsh hawks (2), Carolina wrens (2), Texas Bewick wrens (2), brown creepers (2), tufted titmice (2), screech owl (1), red-bellied woodpecker (1), red-shafted flicker (1), white-rumped shrike (1). Residents represented by stray specimens, most of their kind having gone south, were: robins (5), western mourning doves (3), blue jay (1), mocking-bird (1). There were 8 kinds of winter residents: Harris sparrow (82), Canada geese (29), juncos (28), song sparrows (20), desert horned larks (7), tree sparrows (3), cedar waxwings (3), Arctic towhee (1), and sharp-shinned hawk (1). Other birds observed this winter are: ducks, burrowing owl, red-tailed hawk, Savannah sparrows, fox sparrows, and myrtle warblers. In other years killdeers, sparrow hawks, and purple finches, have been seen.