

OTTUMWA BIRD CLUB

The Ottumwa Bird Club met Wednesday, May 31 in the Courier auditorium.

Miss Pearle Walker gave a report on the local bird census of May 7th. Ten members saw 73 birds in 11½ hours.

Miss Maude Norris gave a report on the I.O.U. convention held at Des Moines on May 13th and 14th. A total of 123 birds were seen during the convention bird census. The Iowa Ornithologists' union decided to hold its 1945 meeting in Ottumwa. Charles C. Ayres, Jr., was elected state vice president and Miss Marietta Eighmey was named as a member of the state executive council. The Saturday afternoon program included talks by two of our members: Mr. Walter W. Aiken and Mr. Charles C. Ayres, Jr.

Miss Mary Woods told of increasing her known birds from 25 to 96 in a few weeks' time.

Mrs. Mabel Walker told of having 30 different varieties of birds in her yard this year.

Miss Geraldine Stewart showed a set of four prints of pleasing bird pictures painted by Menabonia.

Mrs. J.L. Tramp told of interesting experiences with interesting birds seen in her travels.

Mr. Ralph McElroy told of an interesting martin house whose tenants were bluebirds, sparrows, wrens, and martins.

Miss Marietta Eighmey read a delightful article "Why is a Naturalist?"

Mr. Charles Ayres, Jr., read excerpts from an enthusiastic young ornithologist from North Carolina. He also reported on "How War Affects Our Birds." He requested that the members keep a list of birds that nested in their yards this year. The program was concluded by Mr. Ayres reading a clever article "I Became a Bird Watcher" from the March 1943 Nature Magazine.

There were 15 members present.

Maude Norris, Secretary.