

Black-necked Stilt Record Number: 81-CC
9 May 1928 Classification: NA
Carter Lake, Pottawattamie Co., IA
unknown
DuMont 1933, Let. Info. Neb. Orni. Union

REFERENCES

DuMont 1933
Nebr. Orni. Union. 1928. Letter of Information No. 32, p 5
[copy obtained Oct 1994 by Ross Silcock]

VOTE (1981): 6-V, 1-getting reference

- V, need details and location.
- V, V as is; might be upgraded if documentation exists.
- V, no details. Perhaps R. G. Cortelyou of Omaha?
- V, no data.

I have an order for it -- apparently available at Omaha Public Library.

REVOTE (by mail 1994 with original reference): 4 A-D, 3 NA

NA, Description is minimal but probably adequate for this distinctive species. No indication, however, that the bird was in Iowa. The fact that this species was reported to the NOU might suggest that the bird was in Nebraska but NOU has never been too particular about where the border falls!

A-D, Thin details of unmistakable bird.

NA, No location details to determine if this bird was in Iowa or Nebraska. The report doesn't even identify it as Carter Lake, Iowa.

A-D, Not much description, but inclined to accept this old record based on ease of identification. Assume Iowa part of Carter L.

NA, Cannot tell if in Iowa from information supplied. This is a Black-necked Stilt by description but what side of Carter Lake was the record from.

A-D, Leg color is characteristic; "greenish" is probably black with gloss.

Bluebird, Robin, Olive-backed Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Wood Thrush, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Long-tailed Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Long-billed Marsh Wren, Western House Wren, Brown Thrasher, Catbird, Mockingbird, Redstart, Maryland Yellowthroat, Grinnell Water-thrush, Ovenbird, Blackburnian Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, Bell Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Migrant Shrike, Rough-winged Swallow, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, Purple Martin, Scarlet Tanager, Dickcissel, Indigo Bunting, Western Blue Grosbeak, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Black-headed Grosbeak, Cardinal, Arctic Towhee, Towhee, Lincoln Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Slate-colored Junco, Western Field Sparrow, Clay-colored Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Harris Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, Western Grasshopper Sparrow, Savanna Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, Pine Siskin, Goldfinch, Bronzed Grackle, Baltimore Oriole, Orchard Oriole, Western Meadowlark, Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Cowbird, Crow, Blue Jay, Horned Lark, Least Flycatcher, Traill Flycatcher, Phoebe, Crested Flycatcher, Arkansas Kingbird, Kingbird, Chimney Swift, Northern Flicker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Northern Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Great Horned Owl, Sparrow Hawk, Marsh Hawk, Western Mourning Dove, Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Western Willet, Yellowlegs, Greater Yellowlegs, Hudsonian Godwit, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Baird Sandpiper, White-rumped Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, Wilson Phalarope, Coot, Sora, Virginia Rail, Lesser Bluebill, Pintail, Snoveller, Blue-winged Teal, Black Tern and Franklin Gull.

Yours very truly,

MYRON H. SWENK

Secretary-Treasurer, N. O. U.

College of Agriculture, Lincoln, Nebraska.
July 1, 1928.

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BIRD NOTES

Under dates of May 26 and June 20, Mr. L. O. Horsky, Secretary of the Omaha Nature Study Club, reports the migration record of the Club for the periods April 23 to May 23, and May 24 to June 15. Prefacing these notes, Mr. Horsky states that on April 19 the Osprey was seen by the Misses Emma and Mary Ellsworth, while on April 22 the Misses Elizabeth Rooney and Alice Rance reported at least fifty Bonaparte Gulls. On April 26 Miss Jean Burger noted the first Western House Wren. On April 27 Dr. C. A. Mitchell noted the Hermit Thrush, Olive-backed Thrush, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Winter Wren and Traill Flycatcher, while Miss Louise Raabe added the Barn Swallow. On April 29 the Nature Study Club, in Elmwood Park, noted the Brown Thrasher, Yellow Warbler, Purple Finch (a pair of them), Lincoln Sparrow, Chimney Swift and Red-headed Woodpecker. On the same day Mr. L. O. Horsky and Miss Louise Raabe noted large flocks of Franklin Gulls in different localities about Omaha, and Mrs. Mary Belle Shook and Miss Sue Wilson observed the arrival of the Red-eyed Vireo and Black and White Warbler. These two last named observers also found a Cardinal's nest, containing three eggs, on April 29. On April 30 Miss Emma Ellsworth saw three Purple Finches in Fontenelle Park, and Mr. L. O. Horsky noted the arrival of the Clay-colored Sparrow.

Both Dr. C. A. Mitchell and Mr. Fred Eastman noted the arrival of the Baltimore Oriole at Omaha on May 4, these observations being made in different localities. On May 4 Dr. Mitchell further noted the arrival of the Bell Vireo, Ovenbird, White-throated Sparrow, Leconte Sparrow, Crested Flycatcher and Whip-poor-will. He also saw on this date fifteen Bobwhites and the Sharp-shinned, Cooper and Broad-winged Hawks. On May 5, on the field day of the Nature Study Club in the Fontenelle Forest Reserve, the following birds were added: Wood Thrush, Catbird, Warbling Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Rough-winged Swallow, Prothonotary Warbler (four of them), Cerulean Warbler, Louisiana Water Thrush, Maryland Yellowthroat, Redstart, Scarlet Tanager, Lark Sparrow,

Kingbird and Green Heron. Tufted Titmice were strikingly common on this day, and the Barred Owl and Red-tailed Hawk were also seen. Mr. L. O. Horsky and Dr. C. A. Mitchell noted the arrival of the Dickcissel, in different localities, on May 9, on which date Mr. Robert Overing also noted the arrival of the Orchard Oriole. Dr. Mitchell noted the Yellow-breasted Chat on May 11 and the Arkansas Kingbird on May 12. On May 13 Mr. Robert Overing noted the arrival of the Indigo Bunting. Mr. Fred Eastman added the Nighthawk on May 14, and Mr. L. O. Horsky the Western Grasshopper Sparrow on May 17 and the Tennessee Warbler on May 18. Miss Mary Ellsworth found a dead Sora Rail on May 18, and Dr. Mitchell found one on May 19, the latter apparently having been killed by striking a telegraph wire. On May 19 Mr. Robert Overing and Miss Mary Ellsworth saw a flock of about 40 Rusty Blackbirds, and Miss Emma Ellsworth noted the Prairie Warbler and the Black-poll Warbler. The arrival of the Ruby-throated Hummingbird was noted by Dr. Mitchell on May 22. On May 23 the Misses Emma and Mary Ellsworth saw the Bay-breasted Warbler, and Miss Louise Raabe recorded the arrival of the Wood Pewee. On May 26 Mr. Robert Overing found the Prothonotary Warbler in song at Carter Lake, and he also noted there the Louisiana Water Thrush and White-eyed Vireo.

On June 2 Mr. Robert Overing noted the first Yellow-billed Cuckoos. On June 9, by wading out into the water at Carter Lake, Mr. Overing found 33 Red-winged Blackbird's nests, several Yellow-headed Blackbird's nests and 3 nests of the Long-billed Marsh Wren, one of them with five eggs in it. On June 10 Dr. C. A. Mitchell and Prof. Edwin Puls found a family of 2 parent and 3 young Migrant Shrikes, and another of 2 parent and 5 young Sparrow Hawks.

Water bird censuses have been made at intervals by Mr. Robert Overing and other members of the Omaha Nature Study Club at Carter Lake, near Omaha. The dates of these censuses were May 9, 13, 19 and 26, and June 2, 9 and 16. On May 19 Mr. Robert Overing was accompanied by Miss Mary Ellsworth, on June 9 by the Misses Emma and Mary Ellsworth and on June 16 by Messrs. Fred Eastman, L. O. Horsky and C. A. Mitchell. The results of these seven censuses are as follows:

May 9 - 3 Pied-billed Grebes, 16 Shovellers, 1 Pintail, 17 Lesser Scaups, 60 Coots, 1 Solitary Sandpiper, 100 Yellowlegs, and 1 bird that Mr. Overing identified as the Black-necked Stilt. This bird was flushed at close range, and its greenish upper parts and bright red legs, extended well back of its body as it flew, were clearly seen.

May 13 - 8 Pied-billed Grebes, 10 Black Terns, 9 Widgeons, 2 Blue-winged Teals, 2 Shovellers, 3 Redheads, 2 Lesser Scaups, 50 Coots, 20 Semipalmated Plovers, 100 Yellowlegs, 3 Greater Yellowlegs, 6 Semipalmated Sandpipers, 50 Least Sandpipers, 20 White-rumped Sandpipers, 60 Pectoral Sandpipers and 2 Virginia Rails.

May 19 - 2 Pied-billed Grebes, 2 Black Terns, 3 Widgeons, 4 Blue-winged Teals, 1 Shoveller, 1 Pintail, 14 Lesser Scaups, 65 Coots, 10 Semipalmated Plovers, 1 Black-bellied Plover, 4 Yellowlegs, 1 Greater Yellowlegs, 6 Semipalmated Sandpipers, 30 Least Sandpipers, 10 White-rumped Sandpipers, 75 Pectoral Sandpipers, 2 Wilson Phalaropes, 1 Green Heron and 1 Great Blue Heron (seen in flight). Under date of May 21 Miss Mary Ellsworth reports having seen most of the birds mentioned above on May 19, and adds that many of them were seen on a flat near Carter Lake where a dredging machine was depositing its waste.

May 26 - 1 Pied-billed Grebe, 1 Forster Tern, 10 Blue-winged Teals, 1 Lesser Scaup, 8 Semipalmated Plovers, 3 Yellowlegs, 1 Greater Yellowlegs, 4 Semipalmated Sandpipers, 3 Least Sandpipers, 9 White-rumped Sandpipers, 30 Pectoral Sandpipers and 75 Coots.

June 2 - 10 White-rumped Sandpipers, 60 Coots, 1 Great Blue Heron and 6 Least Bitterns.

June 9 - 15 Least Terns, 2 Black Terns, 3 White-rumped Sandpipers, 2 Pectoral Sandpipers, 40 Coots, 7 Least Bitterns and 1 Bittern.

June 16 - Least Terns, Coots, a Great Blue Heron, a Green Heron, Least Bitterns and an American Bittern.

(over)

Black-necked Stilt

Himantopus mexicanus (Müller). Black-necked Stilt

A casual visitor. Anderson (1907) included five dates of occurrence for the vicinity of Omaha, and listed the following county records: "Mills-Pottawattamie—'scarce migrant' (Trostler). Sioux—'shot one female at Hawarden in 1890' (Berry). Webster—'several were killed here in summer of 1898'—Fort Dodge (Somes). Wayne—(Brown). Woodbury—'rare transient—Sioux City' (Rich)." Cooke (Bio. Sur., Bull., 35, p. 21) recorded one seen by Rich at Sioux City, April 20, 1902. Reported at Carter Lake, Pottawattamie County, May 9, 1928 (Letter of Information of the Nebr. Orni. Union). Pierce (1930) recorded that a pair was seen frequenting some flood ponds north of Lamont, Buchanan County. The birds were discovered during August, 1924 by Mrs. R. I. Bordner, who saw them almost daily until September 8, 1924. There are no Iowa specimens.

DuMont 1938
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