

Prairie Warbler

23 Apr 1960

George Wyth State Park, Black Hawk Co., IA

Russell Hays

Hays 1960

Record Number: 81-DP

Classification: NA

REFERENCE

Hays, R. 1960. Bird notes from Waterloo. IBL 30:68.

VOTE (1981): 2-III, 4-IV, 1-V

IV, no detail, competent observer.

IV, several observers. No documentation. Apr. record.

IV, No description.

Hays, R. M. 1960. Bird notes from Waterloo. IBL 30:68.

**Bird Notes from Waterloo.**—The Black Hawk Creek area was flooded a good deal of the time during the spring months, and was consequently attractive to bird life. On March 26, 1960, on a rainy, foggy and rather cold day, I visited the area and found Fox and Song Sparrows, Slate-colored Juncos, Killdeers, and two Woodcocks. I got a fairly good look at the last-named birds, and on the following day I had a much nearer, more satisfactory look at a single Woodcock. On April 10, I was again in the area and watched an exciting encounter between a Cooper's Hawk and a Ring-necked Pheasant. I saw a bundle of flopping, fighting birds on the ground in a thick growth of underbrush. Soon the feathers separated and a Cooper's Hawk flew up into the trees near me and a rooster pheasant shot out. Neither bird seemed to be hurt in any way, as far as I could tell.

A short evening stop at Big Marsh, near Parkersburg, April 10, revealed it was alive with wild ducks. I made out these species: Scaup, Golden-eye, Blue-winged Teal, Mallard, Canvasback, Shoveler, Pintail and Ring-necked Duck. Three Double-crested Cormorants flew over and several Pipits were found in almost the same area last year, near Big Marsh. On April 9, at Sweet Marsh near Tripoli, I found Bald Eagle, Pied-billed Grebe, Winter Wren, Herring Gull, Osprey, Bufflehead, Common and Red-breasted Mergansers. On April 23, 1960, I saw my first Prairie Warbler. It was in George Wyth State Park, at the edge of Cedar Falls. It was studied closely with binoculars and distinguishing markings were noted. I called several bird students about the bird, and Mrs. Russell Rugg was fortunate to see it also.—RUSSELL HAYS, 825 Franklin Street, Waterloo, Iowa.