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Mrs. Robert McLaughrey  
Route 1 Dubuque, Iowa  
December 6, 1962

Mr. Peter C. Petersen, Jr.  
2136 East High St.  
Davenport, Iowa

Dear Mr. Petersen,

This is only my fourth season as an QFN contributor and I have kept adequate notes for only four years or so, but this past Fall migration was the most exciting and interesting so far.

The first warbler, a Black and White was seen on the 14<sup>th</sup> Sept. From then on there was a trickle of small bird migrants through my yard and adjoining lots. Sept 20<sup>th</sup> brought 6 White-throats - 2 Magnolia warblers and several Nashville warblers. On Sept 24<sup>th</sup> a few more White-throated sparrows came and a Yellow-throated Vireo, also a Great Crested Flycatcher.

Beginning about the 20<sup>th</sup> of Sept on through the 9<sup>th</sup> of October the yard was full of small birds every morning and evening, sparrows, warblers, vireos, wrens and others. This was a period of calm mild weather, overcast much of the time with some fog and rain.

On Sept 26<sup>th</sup> ~~the~~ two Magnolia warblers were seen again, about 5 Nashville, 1 Chestnut-sided, 1 Myrtle, 1 Palm, 2 Tennessee's and 1 Blackburnian. Along with the first Wood Thrush I've seen for several years.  
(over)

On the 1st of Oct. a Blue-headed Vireo and a Bay-breasted warbler among others some identified and others not.

The peak came Oct 5 another overcast day temp. 62° with an east wind. I counted 34 species of birds in my yard that day. A Blue-headed Vireo and a Yellow-throated Vireo in the same tree within seconds, plus all the others I have named and 5 Eastern Towhees several wrens (I think they were Winter wrens) song sparrows, field sparrows, one Fox sparrow and one White-crowned sparrow, 5 or 6 Cedar Waxwings and a Black-throated Green warbler.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of Oct when most of the others had gone I counted at least 20 Myrtle warblers and a couple of Palm warblers. The last 2 Myrtles were seen 4.17.4.

As for other birds 12 killdeers were seen at the city dump on the 10<sup>th</sup> Oct. and none thereafter. On Oct 21<sup>st</sup> on a drive to Green Island saw 15 red tailed hawks just at the turn off to Green Island on Hi way 52.

Saw no Bluebirds this Fall usually see 2 or three in the yard in Oct. Last year 6 but none this year.

One adult Bald eagle about 4 miles from river at Durango Nov. 25.

Report on robins follows.

## Robins

I suppose because they are one of our common birds I rather neglect the robins, aside from the first one in spring. This fall, however, I paid a little more attention to them and came up with the following data

The first movement noted was a loose flock of about 15 birds at tree top level at sunset Aug 22. From that date on the same kind of loose flocks came over at the same height and same time but larger numbering 50 to 70 birds. This went on almost every night until about Sept 13. Then a lull followed. By the way the weather most of these days was clear with a south wind.

On Oct 8 and 9<sup>th</sup> a flock of ~~at least~~ 70 birds flying high this time 70 birds were counted in five minutes. Warm with S.W. wind

The peak came Oct 10<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>. On the 10<sup>th</sup> a day of strong south wind temp 80° high. An estimated 5000 robins went over at the sunset hour and at tree top level again. Until the 19<sup>th</sup> there were several thousand every evening. After that several hundred or scattered evenings. The 29<sup>th</sup> marked the last flock about 100 birds. On Oct 30 not a robin seen all day. Nov. 2nd 2 in the yard. Nov. 19 Last one seen.  
over,

I tried to keep on the conservative side on  
estimating the numbers. I think the tendency  
is to exaggerate a bit but I tried not to.  
We have a wide view of the sky here and  
only two miles from the river which they were  
probably following gave us a grandstand  
view.

I hope my notes have been of some  
value.

Sincerely  
(Mrs. Robert) Florence McLaughry