

the Caledonia Prison Farm in neighboring Halifax County on 9 January. Elsewhere, a single bird was seen on the coast at Cape Point on Hatteras Island, N.C., on 5 March by Clay Gifford and Joe Hudick.

SNOW BUNTING: One was an unusual visitor at a feeder in Gastonia, N.C., 10-11 December, observed by Ruth Rice and reported by Alan Stout. Coastal sightings were rare with single birds recorded on 27 December by Joe Hudick and 18 February by Fred Pongrace at Cape Hatteras, N.C., and one at Bird Shoal near Morehead City, N.C., on 27 January by Tom Quay and John Fussell.



Roundtable

... with Louis C. Fink

An Invitation

CBC members are cordially invited to attend the fall meeting of Georgia Ornithological Society to be held at Jekyll Island 17-19 October 1975. Guest speaker for the Saturday night banquet will be Chandler Robbins. Ted Holloway will give a program on shore birds Friday evening. Field trips will range from the Altamaha estuary southward to the Florida line, and two pelagic trips also are in the planning stage. Further information and reservation forms can be obtained from late August through September by writing Wallace D. Dreyfoos, President, Georgia Ornithological Society, 4627 Tall Pines Drive, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30327.

New Curator

David S. Lee is the new Curator of the Bird and Mammal Collections at the North Carolina State Museum of Natural History. He is a graduate of Florida Southern College, where he studied under Museum Director John Funderburg, and holds a Masters degree from Florida Atlantic University. Prior to coming to North Carolina, the Maryland native taught elective high school biology courses, served as Curator of the Bird and Mammal Collections of the Natural History Society of Maryland, and was on the staff of the Florida State Museum. The author of some 80 scientific and popular articles, Lee presently is working on a book on the fresh water fishes of Maryland and Delaware. Although he is interested in nearly every field of natural history, Dave and his wife Barbara particularly enjoy bird study. They recently visited the mountains of North Carolina to record the songs of our confusing chickadees. One of Dave's fine bird photographs appears on the cover of this issue.

Breeding Bird Survey

Since the 1966 nesting season volunteers have cooperated with the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife to census breeding bird populations in the Carolinas. In a newsletter dated 25 April 1975, Danny Bystrak, of the Migratory Bird and Habitat Research Laboratory, offered some comments on population trends detected through computer analysis of the Breeding Bird Survey data. "Statistically significant changes at the continental level from 1973 to 1974," he wrote, "included increases in the Ruby-crowned Kinglet and Purple Martin, and decreases in the Great Crested Flycatcher, Tufted Titmouse, Brown Thrasher, Evening Grosbeak, Dickcissel, and Field Sparrow. Most of these changes were between 10 and 25 percent. In the Eastern Region (east of the Mississippi River), the House Wren registered an increase, and the Common Grackle and Slate-colored Junco a decrease. . . . The Purple Martin increase was noticed especially in the East, as populations began to recover from the effects of Hurricane Agnes of June 1972. . . . The most striking changes have been increases in the Cattle Egret in the East (average increase of 12 percent per year from 1966 to 1974), the House Finch in the East (22 percent per year), the Starling in the West (16 percent per year from 1968 to 1974), and a decrease in the Black Tern in the East and Central Regions (15 percent per year). The Yellow-shafted Flicker and Red-headed Woodpecker show a slow but steady annual decline of 3 percent per year in the East.

"The Audubon Breeding Bird Censuses conducted in New Jersey, Maryland, and other eastern States had shown a marked decline in populations of three common deciduous forest species, the Red-eyed Vireo, Ovenbird, and American Redstart, during the early 1960's. The BBS has shown an average annual increase in these species of between 8 and 11 percent from 1966 through 1974 on their nesting grounds in the Maritime Provinces. This increase is especially interesting in view of the fact that Dr. David Johnston (*Science* 186:841-842) found a highly significant decrease in DDT derivatives in body fat of ten species of migrating songbirds (including these same species) killed at a Florida television tower during the period 1964 through 1973.

"Among the rarer species, there has been an upward trend in Upland Sandpipers since 1969 and in the Mississippi Kite since 1967."

Dr. Johnston, incidentally, is a former Editor of *The Chat* and now serves on the faculty of the University of Florida at Gainesville.

Blue Goose Flyer

Conservation-minded CBC members may be interested in receiving the *Blue Goose Flyer*, a newsletter dedicated to the preservation and perpetuation of the National Wildlife Refuge System. For further information write National Wildlife Refuge Association, 6211 Logan Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55423.