

THE SUSSEX  
BIRD REPORT

1957



EDITED BY D. D. HARBER

PRICE: FIVE SHILLINGS

Dr. John A. Newnham  
Walton House  
61 Grand Avenue  
WORTHING  
West Sussex  
Home Tel: (0903) 47596

### THE SUSSEX BIRD REPORT

The first Sussex Bird Report covered the year 1948 and it now appears annually in May and reports on the previous calendar year. It is entirely supported by the proceeds of sales to subscribers, the number of which limits its size and determines the price.

We adopt the order and also the serial numbers used in the B.O.U. checklist (1952). The English names are in general those used in *British Birds* (*vide* Vol. XLVI, p. 1).

**Objects.**—The principal object is to record in a systematic order unusual occurrences, whether of birds rare at any time of the year or of commoner birds seen at unusual times of year or in unusual localities. In addition, records are published which give detailed information on migration, since relatively little is known on this subject, and counts of breeding populations and other work of a fairly exact nature.

A secondary object is to publish information on Sussex birds within the scope of the principal object mentioned above but not relating to the year of the Report and which has either not been published before or if published and accepted as correct seems open to doubt upon consideration of unpublished details. Generally, this information will come from unpublished diaries but it is perhaps worth adding that only the more important records of previous years will be dealt with. We should greatly appreciate the chance to see any diaries and similar material known to readers.

The Report is in no sense a guide to Sussex birds and it cannot be fully appreciated without a good knowledge of the subject or frequent reference to *A History of Sussex Birds* (1938). Considerations of space prevent us from taking a wider view of the function of county reporting.

**Contributions.**—We welcome contributions from all observers, but reserve the right to decide what to include in the Report without explanation. All records are, however, kept on separate species-sheets and much which is not referred to in the Report may prove of value in years to come. Care is taken to assess the accuracy of records, but observers would greatly assist if they would particularly study the note on this subject which appeared on page 1 of *British Birds* Vol. xiv.

It is helpful if records are sent in periodically, but not more often than at three-monthly intervals (except in the case of extreme rarities which should be reported immediately), but observers are particularly asked to avoid sending in a large volume of notes after the end of the year when the Report is being drafted. If periodic instalments are burdensome then observers are asked to send the bulk of their records along in November or December and then a supplementary sheet covering the last weeks or days of the year later. All records should be received by us not later than mid-February.

Many regular contributors do not normally send records unless specifically asked to do so by letter. The extra correspondence entailed for this reason—as well as in collecting the price of the Report—ought surely to be unnecessary!

**Abbreviations.**—"G.P.": gravel pits. "S.F.": Sewage Farm. "E.", "W.", etc.: cardinal points of the compass are intended only to give a general direction unless the context indicates otherwise. In particular this applies to birds going up or down the Channel and which are referred to as flying E. or W.

# THE SUSSEX BIRD REPORT

1957

EDITED BY

D. D. HARBER

OBTAINABLE FROM D. D. HARBER,  
1 GORRINGE ROAD, EASTBOURNE

## ADDITIONS TO 1956 REPORT

67. **EIDER**.—Three immature males and 4 females off Bexhill on June 6th (J. Bullen). Three immature males and 3 females off Cooden on 9th (J. Bullen, N. Freer-Ash).

185. **AVOCET**.—One at Pagham Harbour on April 19th and 20th (R. E. Green). Doubtless the same as that seen a little later at Sidlesham.

## CORRECTION TO 1956 REPORT

82. **CANADA GOOSE**.—*The Hastings and East Sussex Naturalist* (Vol. VIII, pp. 219/220) states that "a number were liberated on the R.M. Canal near Hythe in the spring" of 1956 and there can therefore be no reasonable doubt that the birds at Pett Level and Langney Point in early May came from this source.

## AN UNACCEPTABLE RECORD

It has never been our practice to criticise records of rarities appearing in *The Hastings and East Sussex Naturalist*, however unacceptable we might find them. But in the issue of this publication for 1956 (Vol. VIII, p. 222) there is published a record of a Surf Scoter at Nook Beach pool (Rye Harbour) on October 28th which cannot be let pass without comment since evidence directly refuting it is in our hands. In a letter dated January 5th, 1957, K. J. Foster writes: "On October 28th I was informed that a badly oiled Surf Scoter was to be seen on the big pool at Rye Harbour. I was there alone for some time in the late afternoon watching the bird at close range through a telescope and eventually was able to get a glimpse of white wing patches. It was therefore in my opinion a Velvet Scoter and not a Surf Scoter." It only remains to add that in the published account no mention is made of any oiling!

## SUSSEX WILDFOWL COUNTS, 1956-57

Counts have been continued at Chichester Harbour, Chichester Gravel Pits, Pagham Harbour, Cuckmere, Weir Wood Reservoir, Darwell Reservoir, Powdermill Reservoir, Amberley Wild Brooks and Pett Level, and started at Glynde Levels. In many ways this has been a very good season with good numbers of Brent Geese in Chichester Harbour and exceptional numbers of duck and White-fronted Geese in the Arun Valley\*. All the flood waters have, in fact, held higher numbers of wildfowl than the regular coastal and reservoir haunts.\*

Further information about the counts can be obtained either from Mr. P. R. Mills, 4 Kingsham Avenue, Chichester, or myself (6 Argyle Road, Bognor Regis).

Finally I would again like to express my thanks to all counters for the hard work which enables the scheme to operate smoothly.

JOHN REYNOLDS,  
*Regional Organiser.*

\* These statements apply to the early months of 1958 (Ed.).

The following have contributed records:—

L. P. Alder	R. D. English	F. P. Penfold
A. Allen	G. des Forges	Major W. W. A. Phillips
A. and D. Anstey	K. J. Foster	M. H. Port
J. Ashbee	R. M. Fry	P. Redman
H. E. Axell	S. H. Fuller	G. H. Rees
A. D. and G. S. Bailey	R. Gilbert	J. Reynolds
G. J. Baker	Mrs. V. A. Gillham	R. J. Sandison
A. A. Barnard	Mrs. A. Grasmann	A. Searle
Dr. A. Barrie-Watson	R. E. Green	A. B. Sheldon
R. B. Barstow	S. Greenwood	M. Shrubbs
Dr. H. A. Baylis	C. A. Grigg	D. L. S. Shilcock
C. L. Berge-Coupland	A. E. Grove	T. B. Silcocks
J. K. Bowers	D. D. Harber	G. N. Slyfield
E. Brayne	Mrs. C. Harrison	J. A. Smith
W. G. Breed	Mrs. M. W. Hayes	K. D. Smith
K. Brightwell	C. J. Henty	M. S. J. Snoxell
C. F. Brown	J. A. Hicks	C. Southerden
R. Brown	R. C. Holmes	Miss J. V. Stacey
M. Bryant	J. C. Holt	Dr. J. Stafford
N. Catchpole	J. A. Howard	A. H. W. Stokes
E. M. Cawkell	Cmdr. C. V. Jack	G. A. Sutton
S. H. Chalke	Mr. and Mrs. C. M. James	J. J. Swift
R. H. Charlwood	E. L. Jones	Major J. W. Tattersall-Wright
G. T. Chater	H. C. Jones	S. J. Teideman
R. J. F. Child	S. F. Knight	E. P. Thorne
D. R. Coda	D. Langford	C. R. Tubbs
D. J. Cogan	C. E. Lucas	Lt. R. F. Tuck
Dr. L. A. Collins	B. A. E. Marr	J. M. Twort
P. J. Conder	H. P. Medhurst	C. M. Veyssey
M. Cooper	P. A. L. Millard	W. Vinall
R. P. and Mrs. J. Cordero	Dr. A. H. Murch	R. Walsh
C. P. J. Coulcher	Mr. & Mrs. W. M. Murray	C. Watkins
E. M. Cubison	R. J. Olliver	R. K. White
W. H. Dady	J. Osborne	Miss W. P. White
R. L. Day	E. A. Packington	J. A. Wigzell
S. J. K. Eames	W. D. Park	R. J. Wilmshurst
M. Ellis	G. Peate	M. W. Woodcock
R. Elphick		

## CLASSIFIED RECORDS FOR 1957

1. **BLACK-THROATED DIVER**.—An oiled bird off Langney Point on January 5th and an oiled bird at the Midrips on 19th (D.D.H.). An oiled bird at Rye Harbour G.P. on February 6th (H.E.A.) was subsequently found dead there. No other records.
2. **GREAT NORTHERN DIVER**.—One on Great Deep, Thorney, on January 27th (L.P.A.). Two off Holywell, Eastbourne, on April 10th (D.D.H.) and 1 in Bracklesham Bay on 28th (L.P.A.). One off Hove on May 22nd (G.A.S.).  
One off Langney Point on October 26th. One off Holywell, Eastbourne, on 27th. One off Langney Point on 30th and on November 10th (D.D.H.). One off Brighton on November 25th (M.H.P.). One at Rye Harbour G.P. on December 28th (M.E.).
4. **RED-THROATED DIVER**.—Inland records are: one at Greatham Bridge on January 10th (R.P.C.); one at Darwell Reservoir on 27th (M.H.P., G.A.S.); one on Slaugham pond, April 9th-18th (J.A.S.).  
C. 12 recorded in May, 4th-22nd. One off Hove on June 8th (G.A.S.).  
The latest June record for the county.
5. **GREAT CRESTED GREBE**.—As usual a number of inland winter records at both ends of the year.
6. **RED-NECKED GREBE**.—One off Palace Pier, Brighton, on January 18th (M.H.P., R.J.S.). One off Langney Point on February 10th (D.D.H.). One off Newhaven on October 13th (C.M.J.). One in Pevensey Bay on November 23rd (M.W.W.). One at Pagham Harbour, December 3rd-12th (W.W.A.P. *et al.*). One off Shoreham Beach on December 27th (A.B.S.).
7. **SLAVONIAN GREBE**.—Up to 4 in Chichester Harbour and 3 from the rest of the coast during the first three months of the year.  
Five off Church Norton on November 3rd (C.J.H.) and up to four in Chichester Harbour in late November and in December. One at Weir Wood Reservoir on December 27th (G.J.B.) and 29th (A.H.W.S.). The first inland record for the county for some years.
8. **BLACK-NECKED GREBE**.—Three on the coast in January and February. One in poor summer plumage at Chichester G.P., June 29th-30th (A.A.). The second county record for this month.  
Four on the coast, November 25th-December 24th.
12. **LEACH'S PETREL**.—One picked up alive at Ringwood Court, Eastbourne, by Mr. D. Woods on November 14th was brought the same day to D.D.H. It was fed on cod liver oil but died after four days.
14. **STORM PETREL**.—On April 19th D.D.H. saw one flying E. c. 200 yards off Langney Point. This appears to be the earliest spring date for the county.
16. **MANX SHEARWATER**.—One flying E. off Langney Point on July 27th (L.P.A.). The second county record for this month. One flying W. off West Worthing during a strong S.W. wind on September 7th (R.J.S.).
26. **FULMAR**.—Many records for the coast between Langney Point and Hove, April 25th-June 7th. Most were of single birds but 2 were recorded together on three occasions. One off the Wicks on June 13th (D.D.H.). One off Roedean on July 7th (C.M.J.). One off Hove on August 15th (G.A.S.) and one off the Midrips on 18th (L.P.A.).

27. **GANNET**.—C. 14 were recorded in January. One of these was an adult found in a dying condition in a garden at East Dean (West Sussex) on 4th (D.L.). One off Brighton on February 1st (M.H.P.) and 1, apparently disabled, off the Midrips on 23rd (D.D.H.). The only March record was of an adult off Langney Point on 27th (D.D.H.). Records for the remaining months of the year were much as usual. The most recorded on one occasion were 79 flying W. off Lancing Beach on September 29th (B.A.E.M., R.J.W.).

28. **CORMORANT**.—The usual inland records for both ends of the year. A search for nesting birds was made on the chalk cliffs in June but none were found (D.D.H.).

29. **SHAG**.—One at Newhaven Harbour, March 21st and 23rd (L.P.A., C.M.J.) and one there on May 4th (L.P.A.). The first county record for this month.

One off Seaford on September 22nd (C.M.J.). One at Piddinghoe pond on November 9th (D.D.H.). One off Newhaven on December 22nd (L.P.A.).

30. **HERON**.—All known heronries were visited except Fishbourne. The numbers of occupied nests were: Parham 44 (R.F.T.); Henfield 7 (C.A.G.); Firls Decoy Pond 2 (E.P.T.); Glynde 16 (E.P.T.); Glynleigh 11 (J.A.H.); Udimore 8 (J.A.H.); Leasham 29 (J.A.); Eridge 38 (E.B., A.G.).

On October 2nd 1 flew in from the sea N.W. at Langney Point (D.D.H.). On November 7th 1 appeared to fly in from the S.W. at Lancing Beach. It landed on a groyne as if exhausted and then flew E. (B.A.E.M.).

31. **PURPLE HERON**.—On November 2nd 1, apparently an adult, flew quite low from Rye Harbour across the Rother saltings and disappeared over the sandhills. It was seen from the saltings in excellent light, the nearest range being about 200 yards. The whole of the upper parts was a dark, nearly uniform grey. Some chestnut was observed on the neck. The under-parts appeared very dark, blackish. The build seemed sligher than that of a Heron and the protuberance of the folded neck was much more marked than in the case of that species. The impression was obtained that the legs projected further behind than in the case of a Heron, but it was not possible to be certain of this in the absence of a bird of this latter species. The wing beat seemed decidedly more rapid than that of a Heron (D.D.H.). This is the first county record for November.

32. **LITTLE EGRET**.—One was seen on June 11th at the north end of Pagham Harbour by S.H.C. and J.O. and that evening at Sidlesham Ferry by M.S. and J.V.S. who also saw it there on June 12th. A full description has been given and includes size, half to two-thirds that of adjacent Herons, entirely white plumage, black bill and legs and yellow feet extending beyond tail in flight. The third record for the county.

38. **BITTERN**.—One flushed from a reed bed at Pagham Lagoon on October 13th (W.W.A.P., S.J.T.). Apparently the first county record for this month. One at the Pett Level pools on December 28th (R.E., W.V.).

42. **SPOONBILL**.—Three at the Midrips, June 7th-11th (D.D.H., C.S. *et al.*). One at Sidlesham Ferry on June 15th (D.D.H., J.V.S.).

45. **MALLARD**.—The largest number recorded was c. 850 at Chichester G.P. on August 29th (P.R.M.). Nesting on the downs adjacent to the Cuckmere valley (mentioned in the 1956 Report) was confirmed by S.H.F. and C.M.J.

46. **TEAL**.—The largest number recorded was c. 390 between Pulborough and Amberley on December 27th (R.J.W.).

47. **GARGANEY**.—Recorded in the usual coastal localities in spring from March 23rd, the most recorded being 15 at the Midrips-Wicks on April 7th (R.B.B., G.P.), an unusual number for this season. No direct evidence of breeding, but it is probable that it occurred in 3 localities.

49. **GADWALL**.—One at Manhood End on February 17th (C.F.B.). One at Sidlesham Ferry on March 23rd and 24th (J.V.S.).

One at the Midrips on August 11th. The earliest county record for this month. Two there on 25th (R.B.B., G.P.). More records than usual for October - December. A male at Chichester G.P. on October 8th (A.B-W.) and up to 3 there till the end of the year (several observers). A male at Pett Level pools on November 2nd. Two in the lower Cuckmere valley on December 5th (D.D.H.). A female on Pagham Lagoon on December 3rd and a male there on 21st (W.W.A.P.).

50. **WIGEON**.—The largest number at the beginning of the year was c.800 on Amberley Wild Brooks on February 17th (L.P.A.).

A pair at Rye Harbour ternery on May 5th (P.A.L.M.).

The only August record is of 4 at Pagham on 27th (A.A., R.J.O.). No number larger than c.250 was recorded at the end of the year.

52. **PINTAIL**.—The largest numbers at the beginning of the year were c.40, Amberley-Wigginholt on January 3rd (D.D.H.) and February 17th (L.P.A.); c. 40 in Bracklesham Bay on March 10th (L.P.A.) and 30 on 7th at the Wicks where a pair was still present on April 27th (D.D.H.).

One at Church Norton on August 27th (A.A., R.J.O.) and one at the Midrips on September 1st (D.D.H.). Numbers towards the end of the year were under 10 in any one locality.

53. **SHOVELER**.—C. 125, Pulborough-Greatham on January 15th (R.J.W.). C. 80 on Knepp Lake on 26th (R.J.F.C.). Seventeen at the Wicks on March 14th (D.D.H.).

A pair bred successfully at Rye Harbour (D.D.H.). On July 21st C.M.J. saw a party of 6 on Piddinghoe pond. The largest number at the end of the year was 22 off East Head, West Wittering, on November 24th (B.A.E.M.).

54. **RED-CRESTED POCHARD**.—A female at Chichester G.P. was first seen on December 8th (A.B-W., S.J.K.E., P.R.M.) and was still present at the end of the year. Many observers saw this bird and descriptions have been recorded. This species has only been recorded in Sussex on three previous occasions.

55. **SCAUP**.—A few were present at Chichester G.P. and Manhood End in the early months of the year. A pair was still present in the latter locality on May 4th (S.J.K.E.).

The first autumn birds (2) were seen on October 3rd at Pagham (W.W.A.P.) and thenceforth small numbers occurred along the coast and at Chichester G.P. where up to 17 were present to the end of the year (S.J.K.E., P.R.M. *et al.*).

56. **TUFTED DUCK**.—Up to c. 150 were recorded at Weir Wood in January and February (M.H.P., G.A.S.) and c. 130 were still there on April 12th (A.A.), and c. 70 on May 5th (R.J.W.). Numbers elsewhere were a good deal smaller at the beginning of year.

Two broods, 5 young in all, were raised at Weir Wood Reservoir. A few birds summered at Darwell Reservoir but no young were seen (M.H.P.). A

pair were seen at Rye Harbour G.P. on June 20th (D.D.H.) and a pair at Thorney on 23rd (B.A.E.M.).

The largest numbers at the end of the year were c.150 at Weir Wood Reservoir on December 31st (W.G.B.), c. 130 at Darwell Reservoir on November 24th (M.H.P.) and c. 100 at Chichester G.P. on December 29th (W.W.A.P.).

57. **POCHARD**.—The largest numbers at the beginning of the year were c. 140 on the Pulborough floods on February 17th (L.P.A.) and c. 120 at Weir Wood Reservoir on January 26th (M.H.P., G.A.S.).

A pair on Pett Level pools on May 11th (C.M.J.) and 17th (D.D.H.). A drake at Darwell on 12th (M.H.P.). A drake at Church Norton on June 16th (M.S.). On 23rd there were 3 at Thorney (B.A.E.M.) and 5 (all drakes) at Weir Wood (R.J.W.).

Considerable numbers, up to 254 on December 15th (P.R.M.), occurred at Chichester G.P. towards the end of the year. There were c. 116 at Darwell Reservoir on December 22nd (M.H.P.) and c. 100 at Weir Wood Reservoir on 31st (W.G.B.).

60. **GOLDENEYE**.—Not more than 20 were recorded at either end of the year in Chichester Harbour. Elsewhere numbers were as usual much smaller than this.

61. **LONG-TAILED DUCK**.—The bird at Manhood End recorded in the 1956 Report was still present on January 2nd (B.A.E.M.).

An unusual number recorded at the end of the year; 2 at Pett Level Pools on October 27th (R.C.H.) which remained until the end of the year (R.H.C., D.D.H. *et al.*); 2 flying E. off Southwick on November 21st and 2 flying E. off Hove on 29th (G.A.S.); one on Pagham Lagoon on October 28th (W.W.A.P.). This bird remained until the end of the year, being seen by many observers; one at Sidlesham Ferry on November 16th (A.A.). This bird was last seen on December 1st (D.L., G.A.S.); one at Chichester G.P. on December 16th (A.A., W.W.A.P.) was last seen on 21st (D.L., P.R.M.); one on Thorney Deepes on November 10th (G.A.S.).

64. **COMMON SCOTER**.—On May 11th M.H.P. and G.A.S. saw a pair on Weir Wood Reservoir and there was an adult male there on August 24th (M.H.P., R.J.S., G.A.S.). One which was first seen on November 10th (R.J.S.) remained at Chichester G.P. to the end of the year (S.J.K.E.).

67. **EIDER**.—The number recorded continues to increase. At the beginning of the year birds were present at East Head (West Wittering), Church Norton-Pagham, Littlehampton, Newhaven and Langney Point, c. 20 birds being involved. Most appear to have left by the end of March, but one remained at Littlehampton until May 3rd (R.J.O.) and one at Newhaven until May 4th (L.P.A.).

A party of 12 (6 of them immature males) off Langney Point on April 26th (D.D.H.) and lesser numbers (up to 9) there throughout May (L.P.A., D.D.H.). One still there on June 12th (D.D.H.). One off Cuckmere Haven on May 10th (D.D.H.). One off Selsey on 26th (M.S.). On June 23rd L.P.A. saw 3 off Seaford Head and C.M.J. saw 4 there on 30th. One off Shoreham Beach on June 9th (B.A.E.M.).

An oiled bird off Newhaven on August 10th (R.J.F.C., R.J.S.) and one off Seaford Head on September 22nd (C.M.J.). One off Langney Point, September 6th-29th and 4 flying W. there on October 26th (D.D.H.). During November and December up to 24 off East Head. Towards the end of December only 2 appear to have remained there while (on 26th) up to 39 were seen off Church

Norton (A.A.) where only one or 2 had been observed previously. During November and December Eiders were also recorded from Littlehampton, Hove, Newhaven, Langney Point (including 16 on November 23rd (D.D.H.), Pett Level and the Midrips-Wicks, c. 38 birds being involved.

No adult males were recorded in the early months of the year and only c. 4 otherwise.

69. **RED-BREASTED MERGANSER.**—The largest numbers were as usual recorded at the entrance to Chichester Harbour, where D.D.H. saw c. 40 on January 12th and where c. 70 were present on December 15th (B.A.E.M., C.R.T., R.J.W.).

There are records of 7 birds for May, the latest being of a male off Beachy Head on 25th (L.P.A.). The latest county record for this month.

70. **GOOSANDER.**—One at Pond Leigh, near Burgess Hill, on January 16th and 17th (J.A.W.). One at Darwell Reservoir on 27th (M.H.P., G.A.S.).

On December 8th 6 paid a brief visit to Chichester G.P. (A.B.W.). One was seen there on December 16th (R.J.W.) and 29th (W.P.W.).

71. **SMEW.**—One at Manhood End on January 12th (D.D.H.) and one to 3 there until February 2nd (S.J.K.E. *et al.*). A drake at Weir Wood Reservoir on January 16th (H.C.J.) and a drake on the same date at Pond Leigh, near Burgess Hill. Two drakes on the lake at Warnham Court Park on January 20th and for two or three days afterwards (C.E.L.).

A drake at Weir Wood Reservoir, December 17th-27th (G.J.B., M.E., V.A.G., A.H.W.S., R.J.W.). A red-headed bird there on 29th (R.B.B., G.P.). Two on Wiston Park Lake on December 26th (A.B.S.).

73. **SHELDUCK.**—Inland records were of one on Glynde Level on February 10th (B.A.E.M.), 2 on Knepp Lake on April 28th (R.J.S.), one at Weir Wood Reservoir on November 8th and 4 there on 24th (R.J.W.). The largest number recorded was c. 1,300 off East Head, West Wittering, on December 30th (J.R.).

A pair bred successfully in the lower Cuckmere valley (L.A.C., D.L.S.S.).

76. **WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE.**—On January 15th 30 near Greattham Bridge (R.J.W.) and 2 near Coombes in the Adur valley (C.A.G.). Towards the end of January one on water meadows above Warnham Mill Pond (C.E.L.). On March 10th R.J.S. saw one by Coldwaltham Bridge.

The only record for the end of the year was of 50 flying W. over the Ouse valley below Barcombe Mills on December 13th (S.H.F.).

78. **PINK-FOOTED GOOSE.**—Twelve over Pagham Harbour on December 1st (D.L.). One at East Head on 19th (P.R.M.).

80. **BRENT GOOSE.**—Up to c. 24 in Chichester Harbour (S.F.K., P.R.M. *et al.*) and 1 at Pagham (R.P.C.) in the first three months of the year. One over Chichester G.P. on January 20th (G.A.S.). Towards the end of this month there were 2 on water meadows above Warnham Mill (C.E.L.). One at Piddinghoe Pond on March 10th (M.H.P., G.A.S.). One in the lower Cuckmere valley on January 6th (R.H.C.). A sick or disabled bird at Pett Level pools in February and March (several observers). C. 20 on Camber sands on March 24th (P.A.L.M.).

In April 1 flying E. off Littlehampton on 1st (R.J.O.), 15 flying E. off Brighton on 3rd (R.J.S.), 1 off the Midrips on 7th (M.S.J.S.). On May 11th G.A.S. saw 1 off Hove.

No autumn records before November 10th when R.B.B. and G.P. saw 2 flying E. off the Midrips and G.A.S. saw 2 off Thorney. Later that month up

to 55 off East Head, West Wittering (P.R.M.) and on 25th 7 at Pagham (W.W.A.P.). By the end of the year numbers in Chichester Harbour had increased considerably and J.R. counted 136 there on December 30th. Up to 6 in the Rye-Wicks area in late November and December (L.P.A., R.B.B., D.D.H., G.P.).

82. **CANADA GOOSE.**—Up to 4 at Warnham Mill Pond in the second half of January (C.E.L., G.N.S.). Two at Knepp Lake on February 21st (R.J.S.) and 1 or 2 there in May (R.J.F.C. *et al.*). One there on September 1st (R.J.S.) and 1 near Sidlesham Ferry on August 5th (C.M.J.). Up to 61 (no doubt from Petworth) in the Pulborough-Wiggonholt area in December (M.H.P., J.R.).

84. **MUTE SWAN.**—A flock of c. 50 summered in the Rye area (D.D.H.). A pair on Thorney Deepes had cygnets on May 1st, a very early date (R.J.W.). C. 130 on Pagham Lagoon on September 18th (W.P.W.).

86. **BEWICK'S SWAN.**—The 2 at Wiggonholt recorded in the 1956 Report stayed on into January. On 13th 3 (one of them immature) there (R.J.S.) and on 27th 5 (3 immatures) (B.A.E.M.). One on Glynde Level on January 5th (M.H.P., G.A.S.) and 3 there on February 10th (B.A.E.M.), 16th and 17th (C.F.B.).

Two on Amberley Wild Brooks on December 15th (M.H.P.) and an adult on Hove Lagoon in the early morning of 18th (G.A.S.).

91. **BUZZARD.**—Single birds reported from five localities and 2 birds together from 3 localities. There is little doubt that in one of these latter cases breeding took place though apparently unsuccessfully.

92. **ROUGH-LEGGED BUZZARD.**—On November 10th L.P.A. saw one fly in from the S.E. at the mouth of the Cuckmere. Later the same day he found it again hunting over the Downs N. of Charleston Bottom. On 14th D.D.H. obtained excellent views of this bird in the same general area and on 16th G.A.S. saw it very briefly there. A full description has been recorded and coincides very closely with that given in the 1956 Report for the bird seen that year. D.D.H. considers that the main difference was that the 1957 bird had a number of brownish patches in the white of the tail, especially near the base. Both L.P.A. and D.D.H. noted that it hovered continually.

93. **SPARROW HAWK.**—One flew in S.E.-N.W. at Pett Level on November 7th (D.D.H.) and on 9th C.M.J. saw 1 flying W. c.  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile offshore at Lancing.

99. **MARSH HARRIER.**—One at the Midrips-Wicks on August 31st (D.D.H.) and September 5th (D.J.C.). One at Sidlesham on September 24th (M.S.).

100. **HEN HARRIER.**—As usual several in the Rye-Wicks area in the first three months of the year, when c. 8 others were reported, 7 of them from West Sussex.

The only records for the end of the year were of one near Littleington on November 15th (R.H.C.), a male in the Pagham-Selsey area, November 19th-December 17th (W.W.A.P., M.S. *et al.*) and 1 on Downs N. of Southwick on December 1st (C.F.B.).

102. **MONTAGU'S HARRIER.**—No records.

103. **OSPREY.**—One at Weir Wood Reservoir on September 24th (C.H., J.W.T.-W.).

104. **HOBBY.**—Pairs reported from five areas but nesting only established with certainty in one case. On July 13th L.P.A. saw 1 fly in W.N.W. from the sea at Langney Point.

105. **PEREGRINE**.—On November 17th a male flew in from the S. at Lancing Beach and went inland (B.A.E.M.).
107. **MERLIN**.—Only 3 reported, January-March, all in West Sussex. C. 6 towards the end of the year, all on the coast.
110. **KESTREL**.—An immature flew in S.S.E.-N.N.W. at Langney Point on August 5th (L.P.A.). On September 15th 1 flew in W.N.W. from the sea at the Midrips (L.P.A.) and 1 flew W. c. ½ mile out at sea off Lancing (C.M.J.). On 18th 1 flew S.W. out to sea at Lancing Beach (B.A.E.M.).
117. **QUAIL**.—Birds heard calling near Saddlecombe on June 16th, near Woodingdean on July 13th (C.F.B.) and at Mile Oak, near Portslade on 21st and 23rd (M.H.P., G.A.S.).
121. **SPOTTED CRAKE**.—One at Fishbourne sewer outlet on November 24th (B.A.E.M.). A full description has been given.
125. **CORNCRAKE**.—One heard near Shripney on April 20th (S.J.T.). Single birds at Sidlesham on August 24th, September 18th (M.S.) and October 17th (J.V.S.). On October 12th 1 was found dead under telegraph wires near Steyning (C.A.G.).
126. **MOORHEN**.—One at the Wicks on May 15th. On being put up it flew off inland (D.D.H.). No doubt on migration.
127. **COOT**.—C. 466 at Darwell Reservoir on January 27th (M.H.P., G.A.S.). This was the largest number recorded anywhere. Most of the Darwell birds had gone by March 3rd (J.A.H.).
131. **OYSTERCATCHER**.—Up to c. 150 at the Rother estuary in January. By March 28th the number had fallen to c. 100 and by April 28th to 54. C. 40 non-breeding birds summered and return migration was first noted on July 31st, when the number had increased to 72. By November 7th 188 were present. The above were counts at high tide (D.D.H.).
- Three pairs attempted to breed in the Rye area but with little success (J.A.). Two pairs bred at the Midrips-Wicks and at least 2 young flew (D.D.H.). At Pagham 2 pairs bred and at least 1 young bird flew (A.A.).
- A flock of c. 50 at Pagham on June 15th (D.D.H.). C. 500 at East Head, West Wittering, on December 22nd (P.R.M.).
133. **LAPWING**.—On March 3rd c. 50 flew in from the S.E. at Shoreham (J.M.T.).
- On May 25th 9 flew in from the S.E. and then W. at Beachy Head (L.P.A.). On June 13th 10 flew in N. from the sea at the Midrips (D.D.H.). These are unusual dates for such arrival.
134. **RINGED PLOVER**.—On May 19th 3 flew in S. to N. at Shoreham Beach (B.A.E.M.). At least 4 pairs present at Chichester G.P. in June. In the early hours of July 6th birds were twice heard calling over Eastbourne (D.D.H.).
135. **LITTLE RINGED PLOVER**.—Four pairs present at the usual breeding site but there is little evidence as to breeding success (several observers). A pair again nested in the entirely new locality mentioned in the 1956 Report and 3 young were raised (M.H.P., R.J.W.).
- Three at the Midrips on July 20th (D.D.H.). One at Darwell Reservoir on August 5th (M.H.P.). One at Sidlesham Ferry on 18th (M.S.). Two at Pagham on September 18th (W.W.A.P.).
139. **GREY PLOVER**.—The largest number recorded was c. 300 at East Head, West Wittering, on August 27th (R.J.W.).
140. **GOLDEN PLOVER**.—By far the largest number recorded was c. 1,500 at Bracklesham Bay on March 10th (L.P.A.).
- On April 13th D.D.H. saw c. 160 at close range near Rye. One in c. 10 was of the Northern race in summer plumage. Others in less complete summer plumage were probably of this race from the extreme blackness of the underparts. On May 9th 1 was seen in the same place. It appeared to be of the Northern race but in incomplete summer plumage—a very distinct eye-stripe continued as white band to flanks, under-parts black but face and cheeks brownish (D.D.H.).
- On October 13th 7 flew from inland S.E. out to sea at Lancing Beach (B.A.E.M.).
142. **DOTTEREL**.—One at the Midrips on September 22nd (R.B.B., W.H.D., G.P. *et al.*).
143. **TURNSTONE**.—One at Chichester G.P. on May 26th (A.A.). One or 2 summered at Rye Harbour (D.D.H.).
145. **COMMON SNIBE**.—Two, on rather late passage, at the Midrips-Wicks on May 2nd. One at Rye Harbour G.P. (where they do not breed) on June 26th (D.D.H.).
150. **CURLEW**.—Three pairs bred in the usual locality but results are not known (R.J.W. *et al.*).
- One flew E. off Langney Point on June 19th (D.D.H.) and 2 flew E. off Hove on 21st (G.A.S.). A few flying W. along the coast in early July. On June 23rd c. 40, Thorney-Pilsea (B.A.E.M.) and on 29th c. 40 at Pett Level (D.R.C., D.D.H.). C. 50 at the Midrips on July 3rd (D.D.H.).
- No number larger than c. 250 was recorded at either end of the year.
151. **WHIMBREL**.—Numbers recorded were small except for c. 100 at Pagham on August 5th (C.M.J.).
- On July 5th G.A.S. saw 2 flying W. off Hove. One at Pagham on October 30th (W.W.A.P.) and one at Thorney on November 10th (G.A.S.).
154. **BLACK-TAILED GODWIT**.—In the Chichester Harbour area maximum monthly numbers were: 36 on January 27th (L.P.A.); c. 300 on February 17th (M.H.P.); c. 100 on March 17th (L.P.A., M.H.P.); April-May, 48 (S.J.K.E.); 13 on June 2nd and 6 on 30th; 245 on July 15th; c. 80 on August 4th (L.P.A.); c. 140 on September 26th; c. 300 on October 7th (S.J.K.E.); c. 200 on November 24th (G.d.F., D.D.H.); c. 140 on December 7th (C.R.T.). At Sidlesham Ferry M.S. saw 64 in flight on May 18th. Up to 53 in meadows N. of Pagham Harbour in November and December (W.W.A.P., A.B.S.).
- Elsewhere, 5 in the lower Cuckmere valley on April 30th (D.R.C.). Three at Shoreham on August 30th (R.J.S.). Three over Balcombe Lake on August 21st (S.F.K.) and probably these same birds that day at Weir Wood Reservoir (D.R.C.), where 1 to 3 were recorded up to September 7th (many observers). One at the Midrips on April 7th (R.B.B., G.P.) and up to 3 there, April 27th-May 1st (many observers). Four there on May 15th (D.D.H.). One there and 2 at Rye Harbour G.P. on 19th (M.H.P.). One at the Midrips-Wicks on July 20th (D.D.H.) and 1 there on August 18th (G.P.).
155. **BAR-TAILED GODWIT**.—Maximum numbers in Chichester Harbour at both ends of the year were only c. 50.

Unusually large numbers were recorded on spring passage, the peak days being April 27th and 28th. On 27th parties were continually flying E. along the coast at Pett Level and there were c. 260 on Camber Sands and c. 200 at the Midrips-Wicks (D.D.H.). That same day G.A.S. counted c. 250 flying E. off Hove. On 28th c. 220 on Camber Sands (D.D.H.) and c. 150 at the Midrips-Wicks (W.G.B., D.D.H.); c. 200 in Pagham Harbour (R.E.G.) and c. 110 at Thorney (J.K.B.).

**156. GREEN SANDPIPER.**—Three recorded in January and February and 4 in December. March records apparently relate to wintering birds. Three recorded in April but none in May. The only June records are for 23rd when there were 4 at Thorney (B.A.E.M.), one at Weir Wood Reservoir (R.J.W.) and 1 on Pevensey Levels (D.D.H.). The earliest July record was for 6th when there were 2 at Rye Harbour G.P. (D.D.H.).

**157. WOOD SANDPIPER.**—An unusual number of spring records: One at the Midrips on May 5th (L.P.A.) and 3, Midrips-Wicks, on 9th (D.D.H.); 1 at Thorney on 26th (D.L.); 1 at Weir Wood on 29th (R.J.W.).

One at Rye Harbour G.P. on June 20th (D.D.H.). The latest June record for the county. The only July records were of 1 at the Wicks on 6th (D.D.H.) and one at Thorney on 15th (L.P.A.). C. 15 recorded, August-September, including one at Weir Wood Reservoir, August 7th-28th (many observers) and 1 at Darwell Reservoir on 5th (S.F.K., M.H.P.).

**159. COMMON SANDPIPER.**—One at Piddinghoe on February 9th (L.P.A.) and March 21st (C.M.J.). One at Manhood End on January 20th (D.L.). June records were, 1 at Rye Harbour (D.D.H.), 1 at Newhaven (L.P.A.) and 1 at Hove (G.A.S.) on 1st; 1 by the Arun N. of Arundel on 4th (F.D.P.); 2 at Pagham on 30th (D.L.).

At the end of the year 2 were wintering at Fishbourne (A.A. *et al.*), 1 at Manhood End (D.L.) and 1 at Pagham (W.W.A.P., A.B.S.).

**161. REDSHANK.**—On June 2nd 1 flew in S.W.-N.E. at Shoreham Beach (B.A.E.M.). On July 19th 3 flew W. off Hove and 5 flew W. there on 25th and 4 on 24th (G.A.S.). A party of 4 flying E. off Langney Point on August 2nd (D.D.H.).

**162. SPOTTED REDSHANK.**—One at Sidlesham and Pagham, January 20th-February 17th (M.S.). One at Thorney on March 10th (B.A.E.M.). One near Rye on 14th (D.D.H.) and 17th (P.A.L.M.).

Up to 3 at Manhood End during April (S.J.K.E., M.H.P. *et al.*). One at Sidlesham Ferry, April 28th-May 5th (L.P.A., M.H.P., M.S.). At the Midrips-Wicks there were 3 on April 7th (R.B.B., G.P.), 2 on 13th (L.A.C.), 5 on 25th (R.H.C.), 8 on 27th (D.D.H.), 12 on 28th (D.D.H. *et al.*) and 3 on May 2nd (D.D.H.).

Two at Thorney on June 23rd (B.A.E.M.). Between July 7th and the end of October c. 15 were recorded, all from the coast except for 2 at Weir Wood Reservoir, September 4th-11th (H.A.B., D.R.C., V.A.G., D.D.H., S.F.K.). One at Shoreham throughout November and December (R.J.S., J.M.T. *et al.*) and 2 near Camber on December 29th (R.H.C.).

**165. GREENSHANK.**—One at Littlehampton on January 2nd (R.J.O.).

One at Sidlesham Ferry on April 9th (C.R.T.). Relatively few recorded in spring, the most seen together being 7 at the Wicks on May 2nd (D.D.H.) and 5th (L.P.A.).

Two at Pagham Harbour on June 15th (D.D.H.). First recorded in July on 6th when there was one at the Midrips (D.D.H.) and 2 at Weir Wood Reservoir (M.H.P.). Fair numbers were recorded in this month, including 7 at the Midrips-Wicks on 20th (D.D.H.) and 15 at Thorney on 28th (L.P.A.). No more than 8 were subsequently recorded together. Up to 3 occurred at Darwell (M.H.P.) and Weir Wood (D.R.C.) Reservoirs.

**169. KNOT.**—The largest numbers recorded were at East Head, West Wittering, where there were c. 60 on February 17th and c. 80 on November 24th (B.A.E.M.).

On June 26th 1 at Rye Harbour G.P. and 1 at the Midrips (D.D.H.). The first July record was for 20th when there was one at the Midrips (D.D.H.), where there were 4 by 28th (R.B.E., G.P.). C. 45 there on September 12th (D.D.H.).

**170. PURPLE SANDPIPER.**—Wintering birds at both ends of the year at Bulverhythe, Newhaven, Brighton, Hove and Littlehampton. There were 2 at Pagham in December (W.W.A.P., A.B.S.). The largest party recorded was of 11 birds.

One at the Midrips, a somewhat unusual locality, September 6th-12th (D.D.H., R.J.W. *et al.*).

**171. LITTLE STINT.**—One at the Midrips on May 15th. One there and 1 at Rye Harbour G.P. on 29th. One at the Midrips on June 1st. One at the Rother estuary on 8th (D.D.H.).

One at the Midrips-Wicks on July 11th (D.D.H.). The earliest July record for the county. One at Rye Harbour G.P. on 25th (D.D.H.). One at Darwell on August 25th (S.F.K., M.H.P.). The first record for this reservoir. Two at Weir Wood Reservoir on September 7th (V.A.G., H.C.J.) and 1 or 2 present there until October 1st (many observers) except for September 25th when there were 12 (S.F.K.). Otherwise c. 50 recorded for the coast in autumn, including parties of 15 at Sidlesham Ferry on September 26th (M.S.) and of 13 at the Midrips-Wicks on the same day (D.D.H.).

**173. TEMMINCK'S STINT.**—Two at Chichester G.P. on May 26th (A.A.). A full description has been given. All other acceptable county records are of single birds except for 2 shot at Pagham in 1873.

One at the Midrips-Wicks on August 31st (D.D.H. *et al.*).

**176. PECTORAL SANDPIPER.**—One at Sidlesham Ferry was first seen by S.F.K. on October 6th. It remained until October 20th, this being the latest autumn date for the county and was seen by many observers, including G.d.F., D.D.H., M.H.P., M.S., G.A.S. Most of those who saw it were already familiar with the species and therefore it is not thought necessary to give a description here, though one has been recorded.

**178. DUNLIN.**—Up to 6 together at Weir Wood Reservoir between July 28th and September 7th (many observers).

**179. CURLEW SANDPIPER.**—One at the Midrips on May 5th (L.P.A.) and 9th (D.D.H.) and 2 there on 12th (L.P.A.).

The earliest autumn record was of 4 at the Midrips on August 9th (G.d.F., D.D.H.) and the latest of 1 at the Rother estuary on November 7th (D.D.H.). Between these dates c. 25 were recorded, all for the coast except for 2 at Weir Wood Reservoir on August 19th and 22nd (G.S.B., H.A.B.) and 1 there on September 26th (S.F.K.).



181. **SANDERLING**.—The largest numbers recorded in West Sussex were c. 250 at East Head, West Wittering, on February 17th (B.A.E.M.) and c. 200 at Littlehampton on December 26th (R.J.O.). The largest number for East Sussex was c. 140 at the Rother estuary on February 16th and March 7th (D.D.H.).

184. **RUFF**.—An unusual number of records. In January, 3 at Thorney on 6th (D.L.) and 27th (L.P.A.). In February, 15 on Earnley Marshes on 8th (J.V.S.) and 2 on Glynde Level on 24th (L.P.A.). In March numbers at Thorney increased from 10 on 10th (B.A.E.M.) to 29 on 31st (S.F.K., M.H.P.) and at Manhood End from 6 on 16th (S.F.K.) to 27 on 31st (A.A., S.F.K., M.H.P.). One at Rye Harbour G.P. on March 7th (D.D.H.). In April maximum numbers were 35 at Thorney on 9th (C.R.T.) and c. 40 at the Midrips on 28th (W.G.B., D.D.H.). No parties as large as these had previously been recorded in the county. Spring passage was largely over by the end of the first week of May, though there were still 8 at Thorney on 26th (G.A.S.) and 1 in the lower Cuckmere valley on 30th (R.J.W.).

Two at Thorney on June 23rd (B.A.E.M.). July records were confined to the Rye Harbour-Wicks area where 2 were seen at the Midrips on 3rd and c. 6 in the rest of the month (D.D.H.).

Between August 11th and October 24th c. 30 were recorded on the coast. One at Thorney on November 23rd and 2 there on December 7th (C.R.T.).

185. **AVOCET**.—On March 31st 1 flying E. off Palace Pier, Brighton (G.A.S.) and one at the Rother estuary (L.P.A.).

On September 21st K.B. saw a party of 5 flying S. 150-200 feet up over Barnham.

187. **GREY PHALAROPE**.—One at Manhood End, September 15th-17th (J.R.). One at Thorney on 15th (D.L.). One at Darwell Reservoir, September 18th and 19th (R.L.D.). On October 27th M.H.P. found a dead bird on Pilsa Island. On 30th 1 flew W. close in off Lancing Beach (B.A.E.M.). In November 1 on the sea off Selsey Bill on 2nd (C.J.H.), 1 picked up badly injured at Shoreham on 5th (J.M.T., R.J.W.), 1 flying W. close in off Lancing Beach (B.A.E.M.) and 1 on the sea off Littlehampton Pier (R.J.O.) on 6th. One on the water just outside Southwick Lock gates on December 18th (G.A.S.).

188. **RED-NECKED PHALAROPE**.—A bird of the year at the Midrips on September 4th (D.D.H.). This bird, which remained until 9th, was subsequently seen by many observers and successfully photographed by G.d.F.

A bird of the year on the sea in Newhaven Harbour on 11th (C.M.J.) and 12th (A.H.W.S.). A full description has been given.

189. **STONE CURLEW**.—A pair nested successfully in the extreme E. of the county (D.D.H.).

193. **ARCTIC SKUA**.—The only April record was of 1 flying E. off West Worthing on 27th (R.J.S.). In May c. 15 were recorded. Two of these flew N.E. inland at Hove on 9th (G.A.S.).

Two adults off Rye Harbour on June 15th (B.A.E.M.) and an immature off the Midrips on 26th (D.D.H.), this being the latest June date for the county. No July records. Between August 9th and September 15th c. 30 were recorded between Hove and the Wicks.

194. **GREAT SKUA**.—One off West Pier, Brighton, on September 20th (Mrs. C.M.J.). An adequate description has been given.

195. **POMARINE SKUA**.—On August 5th L.P.A. saw an adult of the pale form flying W. close in at Langney Point. "Top of head, blackish brown, cheeks and collar yellow, brown breast band, throat and under-parts white except dark brown ventral region (which was very noticeable), upper-parts dark brown with pale area at base of secondaries, central tail feathers long and twisted, broad. A heavy flying bird with bill and tail thicker and heavier than in Arctic Skua." There are no other autumn records of this species for Sussex earlier than late September. On October 24th D.D.H. saw an adult of the dark form flying E. not far off Pett Level. "Large size, twisted central tail feathers, extensive area of white on both sides of wing extending almost to wing tips."

198. **GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL**.—Inland records for January were 2, Greatham-Wiggoholt on 3rd (D.D.H.), one at Glynde on 5th (G.A.S.), 2 by the Arun  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile below Arundel (D.D.H.) and 4 at Weir Wood Reservoir M.H.P., G.A.S.) on 26th.

One at Darwell Reservoir on July 28th (M.H.P., G.A.S.).

199. **LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL**.—Single birds at Shoreham at both ends of the year (J.M.T.). One at Pett Level on January 4th (R.H.C.).

There seems no doubt that an influx took place in early February. On 6th 2 on the Downs near Hangleton (G.A.S.), on 7th, 1 at Newhaven on 9th, c. 20 (nearly half of them of the Scandinavian race) at the Rother estuary where none had been seen previously (D.D.H.), on 10th, 5 at Cuckmere Haven (R.H.C.) on 14th, 6 in a flooded field near Eastbourne (D.D.H.).

201. **COMMON GULL**.—Two pairs attempted, unsuccessfully, to breed at the Midrips-Wicks (D.D.H.).

205. **MEDITERRANEAN BLACK-HEADED GULL**.—An adult came in to roost with other gulls on Camber Sands on January 10th (D.D.H.). "Rather larger and more heavily built than a Black-headed Gull. Bill heavier than in this species, this being obvious in flight at close range, and (like the legs) a darker red with a dark band near the tip. Wings projected less far than in Black-headed Gull when at rest. Mantle and wings a pale grey, still paler on primaries, trailing edge of wing, white. Rest of plumage pure white except for a small, intensely black, patch behind the eye with less distinct blackish markings extending from it to the crown." The first county record for January. An adult in summer plumage flying E. with Black-headed Gulls just offshore at Pett Level on March 23rd (D.D.H.) was perhaps the same bird. An immature was seen at Brighton between February 19th and 22nd (J.M.T., C.M.V.) and 1 at Newhaven on March 9th (L.P.A.). Two adults were seen, Brighton-Shoreham, between February 21st and March 16th (C.M.J., J.S. *et al.*). C.M.J. saw an adult at Roodean on August 1st and at Ovingdean Gap on 14th. (See *Brit. B.*, vol. L., pp. 440/1).

207. **LITTLE GULL**.—An immature bird at Newhaven on February 2nd and March 9th (C.M.J.). An adult at the Rother estuary on February 10th (M.H.P.). An immature at Chichester G.P. on March 31st (R.J.S.). An immature at Manhood End, April 7th-14th (M.H.P., J.R. *et al.*). An adult flying E. off Hove on May 9th (G.A.S.).

On August 11th a second summer bird at Langney Point (L.P.A., D.D.H.) and one at Pett Level pools (R.B.B., G.P.). Between August 31st and November 6th c. 25 were recorded for the coast between Pett Level and Selsey Bill, the most seen together being 5 off Hove on November 5th (G.A.S.).

June 25th (R.J.W.) and 3 at Pagham Harbour on 15th (D.D.H.). The largest number recorded in July was 47 in two parties flying E. off Langney Point on 6th (L.P.A.).

226. **LITTLE AUK**.—One flying E. close in off Langney Point on November 9th (D.D.H.). On November 11th or 12th 2 were picked up alive in a field at Fair Oak, near Rogate. These birds were taken to the R.S.P.C.A. and fully authenticated. They died after three days (per W.P.W.).

227. **GUILLEMOT**.—One of the Northern race off Holywell, Eastbourne, on April 10th (D.D.H.). This bird was in summer plumage and its upper parts appeared as dark as those of a Razorbill.

230. **PUFFIN**.—The only record is of an oiled bird dead at Newhaven on February 10th (B.A.E.M.).

232. **STOCK DOVE**.—Between November 7th and 17th a few, mostly single birds, were seen to fly in from between S.W. and S.E. at Lancing Beach in the early morning (B.A.E.M., R.J.W.). On November 2nd C.J.H. saw 2 fly out to sea at Selsey Bill and then return.

234. **WOOD PIGEON**.—On November 2nd C.J.H. saw parties amounting to some hundreds flying out to and in from the sea at Selsey Bill.

235. **TURTLE DOVE**.—One at Sidlesham on October 13th (J.V.S.). A late date.

237. **CUCKOO**.—On June 2nd 1 flew in S.W.-N.E. at Shoreham Beach. The wind was N. and there was a thick sea mist (B.A.E.M.). A somewhat late date for spring arrival. On August 18th a bird of the year flew in from the S.E. at the Midrips (L.P.A.).

249. **SHORT-EARED OWL**.—Seven reported, February-April, all from the coast except for one at Cissbury Ring on March 24th (R.J.S.) and 1 at Burpham on April 19th (F.P.P.).

The only August record was of one at Sidlesham on 29th (M.S.). Between September 19th and at the end of the year c. 16 were recorded, all for the coast.

255. **SWIFT**.—One at Weir Wood Reservoir on September 25th (S.F.K.) and 1 at Lancing Beach on 28th (R.J.W.).

259. **BEE-EATER**.—One frequented the 1955 nesting site and another sand pit not far off from May 29th to August 4th. It was seen by many observers, including N.C., P.J.C., D.D.H., R.J.W. On May 31st and June 1st P.J.C. saw it excavating small holes, but there is no acceptable evidence that more than 1 bird (a female—D.D.H.) was present. It is quite likely to have been a bird hatched there in 1955.

261. **HOOPOE**.—One in a garden in Heathfield on April 17th (C.L.B.C.). One flying N.E. against a strong wind over Bognor on May 26th (A.A.). One in a garden at Wartling on August 4th and 5th (J.A.H., W.M.M.).

263. **GREATER SPOTTED WOODPECKER**.—An unusual number were reported from the coast in autumn and some of these may have been of the Northern race, though the earlier ones, e.g., 1 at Shoreham, July 22nd-31st (J.M.T.) and 1 at Ovingdean on August 5th (G.d.F.) were no doubt British. In September 1 on the Crumbles (D.D.H.) and 1 flying W. along Hove front (G.A.S.) on 8th, 1 flying W. at Newhaven on 14th (C.M.J.) and 1 flying W. along Hove front on 20th (G.A.S.). In October 1 flying E. over the sea at South Lancing on 3rd (J.M.T.), 1 at Bognor on 14th (S.J.T.) and 1 flying E. at Lancing

208. **BLACK-HEADED GULL**.—C. 100 pairs nested at Rye Harbour G.P. Unfortunately most did so at the ternery and nests had to be destroyed to make room for the terns. However, a good many young flew, at least 24 being ringed (D.D.H.). A juvenile, not one of the above, only a few of which were barely able to fly at that date, off Langney Point on June 19th (D.D.H.) and 2 at Newhaven on 22nd (C.M.J.).

209. **SABINE'S GULL**.—On September 8th L.P.A. watched for 10-15 minutes an immature feeding at Langney Point. It eventually moved off W. "White forked tail with black tips, large white triangular area on each wing and tail coverts, grey/black primaries and grey/brown back, remainder of wing and top of head. The tern-like flight was noticeable as were the white under-parts."

211. **KITTIWAKE**.—Up to c. 12 present off Brighton front in January and February and up to mid-March (C.M.J., R.J.S. *et al.*). Up to c. 20 at Newhaven in February (V.A.G., B.A.E.M., *et al.*). On February 16th B.A.E.M. found a dead adult at Pulborough and another at Rackham.

A few off the coast, Brighton to Shoreham, in May (B.A.E.M., G.A.S.). In June 4 (3 of them adults) at Newhaven on 1st (L.P.A.), and 1 or 2 adults there on 22nd (C.M.J.), 1 E. off Hove on 7th and one there on 23rd and 29th (G.A.S.), an adult at Rye Harbour G.P. on 11th (J.K.B., G.H.R.). In July, an adult flying E. off Hove on 14th and 1 at Newhaven on 30th (G.A.S.). A first summer bird flying W. off the Wicks on July 25th (D.D.H.).

212. **BLACK TERN**.—One at Chichester G.P. on April 4th (J.R.). The earliest spring date for the county. Between May 1st and 12th c. 85 were recorded, all for the coast except for 8 at Weir Wood Reservoir on 11th (M.H.P., G.A.S.). Most were reported on 9th when G.A.S. counted 52 flying E. off Hove front between 6.45 and 8.30 a.m. and D.D.H. saw 12 between Pett Level and the Wicks.

One at Rye Harbour G.P. on June 26th (D.D.H.). The latest June date for the county. One at Langney Point on July 26th (D.D.H.); 1 at Weir Wood Reservoir on 28th (R.J.W.); 2 there (R.J.W.) and 1 at Rye Harbour (D.D.H.) on 31st. Between August 4th and October 6th c. 80 were recorded, for the coast and Weir Wood Reservoir. One at Thorney on October 27th (M.H.P.).

217. **COMMON TERN**.—A count at Rye Harbour ternery on June 26th gave 246 nests with 642 eggs (J.A.) and similar figures were obtained by D.D.H. on 29th. The number of young ringed was 362 and most of these flew. Very few unringed young flew (D.D.H.). The small breeding colony at Langney Point which had existed for many years was not occupied this year (D.D.H.).

219. **ROSEATE TERN**.—One at Rye Harbour ternery on June 26th (D.D.H.). Two there on July 4th (J.A.). One feeding close in off Langney Point for about half an hour on July 17th (G.T.C., R.H.C.).

222. **LITTLE TERN**.—At least 6 young were raised at the Midrips (D.D.H.). At Pagham 20-25 pairs attempted to breed on a shingle island and at least 12 young were seen (A.A.). A few pairs appear to have nested in Chichester Harbour (B.A.E.M.).

233. **SANDWICH TERN**.—One at Weir Wood Reservoir on May 5th (D.J.C., R.J.W.) and 3 there on September 17th (V.A.G.). These are the first county records for more than c. a mile inland.

Up to 17 at Rye Harbour and the Midrips, up to 3 at Langney Point (D.D.H.), up to 11 off Hove (G.A.S.) during June. Six off the Seven Sisters on

Beach on 20th (B.A.E.M., R.J.W.). One on the Crumbles on November 28th (D.D.H.).

265. **WRYNECK**.—The only record is of 1 on shingle near the mouth of the Rother on May 1st (H.E.A., W.G.B.).

272. **SKYLARK**.—On May 19th 2 flew in S. to N. at Shoreham Beach (B.A.E.M.). On 27th 1 flew in S. to N. at Hove as did 1 on 28th (G.A.S.).

Some were flying in from the sea at Pett Level (D.D.H.) and at Hove (G.A.S.) on September 26th, apparently the earliest county date for autumn arrival in this way. From October 4th to November 17th birds were recorded as flying in from the sea between Langney Point and Selsey Bill, numbers being small except for 258 at Lancing Beach on November 7th (B.A.E.M.). During the same period small E. and W. coastal movements were recorded. Departure out to sea was reported on October 10th, 13th and 20th and November 17th at Lancing Beach (B.A.E.M., J.M.T., R.J.W.) and on November 2nd and 4th at Selsey (C.J.H.) but numbers in all cases were very small.

273. **SHORELARK**.—One at Rye Harbour on November 13th (G.T.C., R.H.C., D.D.H.).

274. **SWALLOW**.—One at Littlehampton on March 23rd, and 2 there on 30th (R.J.O.). One near Newhaven on 31st (B.A.E.M.).

276. **HOUSE MARTIN**.—At 6.30 p.m. on September 29th L.A.C. saw a very large N.N.E. movement at Alfriston, 1,000-2,000 passing in twenty minutes.

277. **SAND MARTIN**.—The first record was of 1 at Shoreham on March 14th (V.A.G.). On July 2nd G.A.S. saw 4 flying E. at Hove.

281. **HOODED CROW**.—The only record is of 1 at the Wicks on January 10th (D.D.H.).

282. **ROOK**.—One flew in from the S.E. at Holywell, Eastbourne, on March 24th and 1 did likewise on 30th (D.D.H.). This species continued to nest on Chichester gas-holders, where there were nine nests (C.M.J.).

286. **JAY**.—A number of autumn records suggestive of the presence of immigrants. During the last half of September S.H.F. saw a daily S. movement of small parties and single birds in the Ouse valley near Barcombe Mills. On September 19th 1 flew over Lancing at c. 500 feet and on 23rd 3 flew over at c. 600 feet there (R.J.W.) and 8 flew S.W. over Steyning (B.A.E.M.). On 25th S.J.T. saw 22 flying S.E. at Bognor and M.S. 20 flying S.E. over Sidlesham Ferry. On 26th 1 flew high over the entrance to Pagham Harbour, apparently coming in from the sea. It alighted in gorse and then went off N.E. (W.W.A.P.). On 28th C.M.J. saw a loose flock of c. 20 flying at c. 150 feet over the fields between Southbourne and Thorney. On October 20th 2 appeared from the W. at Lancing Beach and flew N.E. (B.A.E.M., R.J.W.).

289. **BLUE TIT**.—One trapped and ringed at Eastbourne by D.D.H. on January 29th was found dead at Goudhurst, 25 miles N.N.E., on April 29th.

In autumn many appeared along the whole coast from September 15th (when G.A.S. saw 2 near the Midrips sea wall) until well into November, but mostly in October. On October 24th a party of c. 10 flew in from the S.E. at Pett Level (D.D.H.) and on November 17th 2 flew in from the S.E. at Seaford Head (L.P.A.). D.D.H. trapped and ringed a good many of these birds at Eastbourne and some at the Rother saltings and the great majority proved to be birds of the year. While many were obviously of the British race a number had wing and tail measurements corresponding to those of the Continental race. But only

one fully corresponded to this latter in plumage as well as measurements, a bird of the year trapped on the Rother saltings on November 27th, together with 3 of the British race. It was a very noticeably paler bird with more white on the greater coverts than the others. The wing measurement was 66.5 mm., tail 54 mm.

301. **MISTLE THRUSH**.—Between October 5th and November 9th G.A.S. saw a few flying W. or N.W. on Hove front on five occasions, most (c. 12) on November 7th. On November 2nd C.J.H. saw 10 flying W. or N.W. at Selsey.

303. **SONG THRUSH**.—The first egg of a clutch was laid at Burgess Hill on February 25th (J.A.W.). A young bird out of the nest at Burpham on March 18th (F.P.P.).

On October 12th 1 flew in from the S. during thick mist at Lancing Beach and then flew W. (B.A.E.M.).

307. **RING OUZEL**.—A male at the Wicks on May 29th (D.D.H.). Apparently the latest spring record for the county.

Two at Rye Harbour on September 15th (G.P.). One the Crumbles on 25th and another there on 27th and 28th (D.D.H.). Two at Beachy Head on October 14th (R.H.C.) and one at Goring on 17th (R.J.S.).

308. **BLACKBIRD**.—A nest with three eggs at Burpham on February 20th. It was deserted (F.P.P.).

On September 25th the number on the Crumbles had increased from c. 10 on 22nd to c. 50 (D.D.H.). On November 8th 1 flew in S. to N. at Lancing Beach (R.J.W.) and on 11th 1 flew N.W. at Hove front (G.A.S.) and R.J.O. found c. 30, mostly males, in scrub near Littlehampton Golf Course.

311. **WHEATEAR**.—Two at the Midrips on March 7th (D.D.H.). One at East Head, West Wittering, on November 3rd (L.P.A.).

317. **STONECHAT**.—Six (3 pairs) which had wintered between Camber and the Midrips had all gone by March 7th (D.D.H.). Several pairs reported breeding on the Downs and 1 in Ashdown.

318. **WHINCHAT**.—One at Weir Wood Reservoir on July 6th (M.H.P.), a pair at Shoreham on 10th (J.M.T.) and a male at Camber on 25th (D.D.H.). Last recorded (2) at Sidlesham on October 26th (J.V.S.).

320. **REDSTART**.—One in Charlton Forest on October 10th (D.L.). One at Lancing on 27th (R.J.W.).

321. **BLACK REDSTART**.—None reported wintering at either end of the year. None found breeding in either of the two Eastbourne sites (R.H.C., E.M. Cubison).

Birds on spring migration, 8 in all, were reported from the coast between March 5th and April 12th. On autumn passage 10 were recorded for the coast, October 9th-November 10th.

325. **ROBIN**.—One near the Midrips sea wall on September 26th and 1 there on November 7th. N.E. wind in each case (D.D.H.).

333. **REED WARBLER**.—On October 20th a bird of the year, apparently in a weak condition as it was caught by hand, at Shoreham. On being released it flew away, apparently uninjured (B.A.E.M., R.J.W.). The latest autumn record for the county.

337. **SEDGE WARBLER**.—One on the Crumbles on October 9th (D.D.H.).

338. **AQUATIC WARBLER**.—One seen at close range on the Crumbles on September 25th (D.D.H.). "The pale buffish stripe on the crown was very

broad and distinct. The rump and back were heavily streaked and the legs pale pinkish."

**339. MELODIOUS WARBLER.**—On September 25th 1, apparently a bird of the year, was watched at close range for c. five minutes on the Crumbles. "At first sight the colouration and shape were reminiscent of a *Phylloscopus*, but comparison with a nearby Chiffchaff showed that it was noticeably larger than this. It was a decidedly compact, solid-looking bird. The bill was long and broad. The crown seemed high and round, the feathers apparently being erect. The upper-parts were brownish without any pale wing-patch or markings and the under-parts were very pale yellowish. The legs had a bluish tinge. In flight the wings appeared short and rounded. No call was heard. The bird kept to the upper branches of willows." The wind had veered from S.E. to S.W. overnight, with rain (D.D.H.). Though this species is difficult to separate in the field from the Icterine Warbler, all the evidence at present available indicates that it never has the pale patch on the wing which appears to be always present in the latter species.

**348. LESSER WHITETHROAT.**—One at Burgess Hill, November 12th-21st (J.A.W.). This is over a month later than any previous record for the county.

**352. DARTFORD WARBLER.**—A singing male in an old haunt was first found by V.A.G. and H.P.M. on February 16th, and later, independently, by S.F.K. It remained in the area until at least April 28th being also seen by D.D.H. and M.H.P.

**354. WILLOW WARBLER.**—One singing at Chichester G.P. on March 24th (D.L.) and 1 singing at Shoreham on 25th (J.M.T.).

**356. CHIFFCHAFF.**—One singing at Chichester G.P. (D.L.) and 1 in Raekham Woods (R.J.S.) on March 10th. One near Chantonsbury Ring (A.H.M.) and 2 at Cocking (D.L.) on 12th.

**364. GOLDCREST.**—One at Newhaven on March 10th (C.M.J.). Two at Shoreham on 22nd (J.M.T.). One in coastal bushes on the Crumbles on April 4th (D.D.H.).

In September 2 at Sidlesham on 19th (J.V.S.), 3 on the Crumbles on 22nd and 10 there on 25th (D.D.H.), 2 at Selsey (J.V.S.) and 1 at Holywell, Eastbourne (D.D.H.) on 27th. A number of other records for the coast, October 4th-November 20th, and 6 at Shoreham on December 5th (J.M.T.).

**365. FIRECREST.**—One near Pulborough on January 15th (R.J.W.). Two in a garden near Eastbourne front, March 10th-14th (G.T.C., R.H.C.).  
One in a patch of swards at the Midrips on November 20th (D.D.H.).

**368. PIED FLYCATCHER.**—No spring records. One in Easthill Park, Portslade, on July 13th (G.A.S.), the earliest autumn date for the county. Between August 26th and September 24th c. 11 were recorded, all for the coast except for one at Burgess Hill. One at Portslade on October 9th (G.A.S.).

**371. HEDGE SPARROW.**—Two flew W. at Lancing Beach in the early morning of October 5th (B.A.E.M., R.J.W.).

**373. MEADOW PIPIT.**—Arrival from the sea was recorded at Eastbourne and Brighton, March 24th-April 11th. On April 12th a few came in from the sea at Littlehampton (R.J.O.).

Autumn arrival from the sea was recorded between September 12th and November 7th and E. and W. coastal movements took place during this period.

Flight out to sea was recorded on September 20th (at Hove, G.A.S.), 28th and 30th (at Lancing Beach, R.J.W.) and also on six dates in October at these localities. On November 2nd C.J.H. saw c. 40 fly out between W.S.W. and S. at Selsey.

**375. TAWNY PIPIT.**—Two at Sidlesham on September 8th (M.S.). "Large slender pipits approximately the size and build of a Yellow Wagtail. Upper-parts light sandy brown, under-parts lighter, inclining more to buffish-white. Neither upper- nor under-parts were streaked save for a few light streakings at the sides of the breast. Pale buffish eye-stripe. Legs appeared reddish in strong sunlight. Showed some whitish at sides of tail in flight. Very distinctive call che-uk, varied with chuck and sometimes run together as che-uk chuck chuck." There is no previous county record for anywhere W. of Shoreham. One at the Midrips on September 22nd (M.C., W.H.D., R.W.). An adequate description has been given.

**376. TREE PIPIT.**—One singing in Charlton Forest, March 29th-30th (D.L.).

**379. ROCK PIPIT.**—On January 26th D.D.H. found odd birds along the Arun until c. half mile S. of Arundel, where there were 2, over three miles from the sea.

**380. PIED WAGTAIL.**—On March 24th 1 flew in S. to N. at Holywell, Eastbourne. On April 3rd 4 single birds flew E. over Ashdown Forest (D.D.H.).

Coastal movements, usually W., were recorded between September 18th and November 12th at Hove (G.A.S.) and Lancing Beach (B.A.E.M., R.J.W.). A few were also seen to fly in from the sea at these localities in October and a very few to fly out to sea at Lancing Beach.

**WHITE WAGTAIL.**—Three recorded from the coast and 1 from Chichester G.P. between April 14th and 29th.

**382. YELLOW WAGTAIL.**—A male at Winchelsea Beach on March 23rd (D.D.H.). The earliest spring record for the county.

A small W. movement along Hove front between August 15th and September 18th (G.A.S.).

A variant of the Sykes's type at Portslade on April 24th and 25th (G.A.S.). "Pale blue on forehead, crown and nape. White eyestripe. Ear coverts same shade of blue as top of head. White chin and upper throat. Rest of plumage as normal male."

**383. WAXWING.**—One at Ardingly College on November 25th (G.J.B.). One in New Winchelsea Road, Rye, on December 15th (C.W.).

**386. WOODCHAT SHRIKE.**—One at Newhaven on April 24th (A.A.B.). "A bunting-sized bird with a light reddish-brown head and nape, a dark eye stripe, very white breast and under-parts, longish tail, dark bill, an extensive white area on the scapulars, brown back." The earliest spring record for the county.  
A bird of the year at Thorney on August 27th (R.J.W.). A detailed description has been given including upper-parts grey-brown, feathers having U-shaped dark tips, head lighter, under-parts creamy with light grey U tips to feathers, scapulars lighter than rest of upper-parts, very noticeable light patch at base of primaries, rump very light, outer edge of tail light.

**388. RED-BACKED SHRIKE.**—One, female or immature, at Newhaven on October 27th (C.M.J.). A description has been given. The latest autumn date for Sussex.

389. **STARLING**.—On March 13th between 6.15 and 7.35 a.m. c. 820 flew E. over Shoreham Beach (B.A.E.M.).

On September 26th at Pett Level c. 800 flew in S.E.-N.W. between 9.15 and 10.0 a.m. (D.D.H.). The earliest recorded date for such arrival. Between October 1st and November 8th arrival from the sea was observed between Pett Level and Lancing Beach, but numbers were smaller than usual, less than 400 on any one occasion. Coastal movements, mainly W., were also recorded. On November 2nd C.J.H. saw c. 110 fly S. out to sea at Selsey and c. 30 fly in from the sea there.

392. **GREENFINCH**.—E. and W. coastal movements were recorded at Hove (G.A.S.) and Lancing Beach (B.A.E.M., R.J.W.) between September 28th and November 10th. The numbers involved were not large. On October 23rd c. 40 flew in S.E.-N.W. at Eastbourne (D.D.H.). On December 22nd 5 flew in N.E. from the sea at Seaford and on 26th 2 flew in likewise at Newhaven Breakwater (L.P.A.).

393. **GOLDFINCH**.—A few flying E. along the coast at Holywell, Eastbourne, on April 4th and 5th (D.D.H.) and 3 flying E. at Hove on 29th (G.A.S.).

On September 26th a party of c. 20 flew in S.E.-N.W. at Pett Level (D.D.H.). The earliest recorded date for such arrival. On 28th 11 flew in from the S. at Lancing Beach, and on 30th 22 flew in there (R.J.W.). Arrival on a small scale was also recorded for the coast between Langney Point and Lancing Beach, October 1st-November 17th. Coastal movements, mainly E., were also recorded. Some of these were on a considerable scale, e.g., c. 1,320 flew E. at Lancing Beach in the early hours of October 4th (R.J.W.). On October 15th 12 flew S. out to sea at Lancing Beach (R.J.W.). The only other record of such departure was on November 2nd when C.J.H. saw 58 fly W., 42 N.W., 3 fly in from the sea and 7 fly out S.S.W. at Selsey.

395. **LINNET**.—Between March 30th and April 11th D.D.H. saw almost daily an E. movement at Holywell, Eastbourne. On March 30th and April 6th a few flew S.E. out to sea there. An E. movement was also recorded at Brighton on several dates between March 4th and April 6th (L.P.A.) and at Shoreham Beach on March 13th (B.A.E.M.). Between March 30th and April 12th R.J.O. saw a few arriving from the sea at Littlehampton.

The usual coastal movements were recorded in autumn, September 18th-November 17th between Pett Level and Lancing Beach. A very few were also recorded as arriving from the sea. On November 2nd C.J.H. saw 35 fly W., 70 N.W., 60 S. or S.W. out to sea and 30 in from the sea at Selsey.

396. **TWITE**.—An unusual number recorded. A party of 9 near the Rother estuary on February 16th (D.D.H.).

One at Thorney on October 27th (S.F.K., M.H.P.). Four at Lancing Beach on 17th (B.A.E.M.). C. 15 at Shoreham on 26th (B.A.E.M.) and up to c. 40 there to the end of the year (many observers) when G.A.S. found c. 12 still present. Three at the Rother estuary on November 7th and 10 there on 16th (D.D.H.). Nine there on December 9th (R.H.C.).

397. **LESSER REDPOLL**.—Breeding records for Ashdown (S.F.K.) and Crawley Down (D.A.) and 1 seen in song flight at Burgess Hill on June 3rd (J.A.W.).

Unusual numbers recorded on the coast in autumn. One on Hove front on September 18th (G.A.S.), 9 at Shoreham on 29th (B.A.E.M.), 22 flying in from the S. at Lancing Beach on 30th (R.J.W.). Otherwise most records are for

October, especially its first half, with a few in November up to 17th. Records cover much of the coast between Langney Point and West Wittering. On October 1st 8 flew in S.W.-N.E. at Lancing Beach (R.J.W.) and 3 flew S. out to sea there on 13th (B.A.E.M., J.M.T.), otherwise birds are recorded as feeding or moving along the coast. The most recorded together were c. 30 at Shoreham on October 13th (J.M.T.).

404. **CROSSBILL**.—Up to c. 20 at Haywards Heath in the first three months of the year (D.D.H., M.H.P., A.H.W.S. *et al.*). They were last seen on April 9th (W.G.B.). A pair in Ashdown Forest on March 2nd (D.D.H.). C. 8 in Hargate Forest on 3rd (G.P.). Two or 3 in the Singleton district during March (D.L.). At Crawley Down there were c. 10 in mid-March, c.25, some appearing to be juveniles, in the second week of April, fewer in May and none after early June (A. and D.A.). Between March 19th and the first week of April there was a flock of 15-20 halfway between Handcross and Slaugham (J.A.S.). On January 3rd and 4th, c. 10 in a garden in Maresfield Park and several there at intervals up to June 8th, when c. 6 present (G.S.B.). Six at Midhurst Common on April 30th (P.R.M.). They are said to have been present for about a fortnight previously. Between April 8th and May 12th, up to 10 at Washington (R.J.F.C., R.J.S.). Between April 4th and 19th D.J.C. saw c. 20 in Broadwater Forest. There were no juveniles amongst them.

407. **CHAFFINCH**.—An E. movement between Lancing Beach and Brighton was seen by L.P.A., B.A.E.M., G.A.S. and J.M.T. on various dates from March 4th to 13th, most being recorded on the latter date when B.A.E.M. saw c. 680 pass at Shoreham Beach, 6.35-7.35 a.m.

On September 26th G.A.S. saw 15 fly in S.E.-N.W. at Hove front. This is the earliest county date for such arrival. Later autumn records relating to migration are almost entirely confined to very small coastal movements.

421. **REED BUNTING**.—On September 25th D.D.H. noted a big increase in numbers on the Crumbles where only 1 or 2 had been seen on 22nd. Between October 6th and November 17th B.A.E.M. and R.J.W. saw small coastal movements, generally E., at Lancing Beach.

422. **LAPLAND BUNTING**.—Up to 15 near the Rother estuary in January and February (R.H.C., D.D.H. *et al.*). There were still 8 present on March 7th but none by 14th (D.D.H.).

One heard in flight over Broomhill Level on November 12th (C.R.T.). January and up to February 22nd (R.H.C., D.D.H., *et al.*).

One at Darwell Reservoir on October 20th (S.F.K., M.H.P., G.A.S.). The second inland record for the county. Otherwise none seen until November 7th when there was one at Camber (D.D.H.) and 2 at Lancing Beach (B.A.E.M.). Up to c. 50 were later recorded at Camber or the Midrips-Wicks and most of these were still present at the end of the year (R.H.C., D.D.H.). One on the Crumbles on November 15th (D.D.H.), 2 on Seaford Head on 17th (L.P.A.), one at East Head on December 15th (A.A., C.R.T., *et al.*).

425. **TREE SPARROW**.—On May 2nd C.V.J. saw 2 near Platnix Farm, between Westfield and Battle. Breeding again took place on Pevensey Levels (D.D.H.). Four pairs nested at the site N. of Lewes mentioned in previous Reports (S.H.F.). A pair raised 2 broods in the sand-pit where the Bee-Eaters bred in 1955 (P.J.C., R.J.W.) and a pair was present in a neighbouring pit in June (G.d.F.). C. 30 at Weir Wood Reservoir on December 21st (R.J.W.).