

TRANSACTIONS
of the
WHARFEDALE NATURALISTS' SOCIETY
VOL. XV
JANUARY - DECEMBER, 1960

WHARFEDALE NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

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CONTENTS

W.N.S. in 1960	page 2	Entomological Section	11
Ilkley Moor Survey	3	Mammal Records	13
Programmes	4	Ornithological Section	
Weather Report	5	Bird Records	14
Geological Section	6	Bird Ringing	19
Botanical Section	6	Wildfowl Counts	20

W.N.S. in 1960.

During the year the Society continued to flourish and considerable progress was made in fieldwork by members, especially in the Survey of Ilkley Moor, and bird ringing. The wildfowl counts have now been done for ten years, so the records for this period are summarised in the report.

For several years the Society has been without an Entomological recorder; it is gratifying that we now have two, one for Lepidoptera and one for other insects, and the work of the Entomology Section is going on steadily. Geological study has also been helped by the appointment of a secretary for the Geology Section.

Membership has increased during the year to 188: 5 honorary members, 145 ordinary members, and 38 juniors.

The accounts in March 1960 showed a satisfactory balance in hand, but owing to increased costs all round there was a slight deficit on the year's working. It was not considered necessary to raise the subscription which remains at 10/- for seniors and 2/6 for juniors. However the Committee opened a Research Fund to be available for special needs in connection with fieldwork, leaving the regular income for current expenses.

The Annual Dinner was attended by over 70 members and friends, the chief guest being Mr. R. Hallam of Lincoln who afterwards showed some of his excellent monochrome slides of birds. Mr. and Mrs. Chislett were also present, and Mr. Chislett showed some slides.

In the summer the Tuesday evening excursions and the Saturday afternoon outing were very well attended and none were cancelled.

The full day excursion to Hillbeck Woods and Sunbiggin Tarn in Westmorland proved both popular and successful, and the party was met by Dr. K.C. Crosbie, Mr. R.W. Robson and other local naturalists.

A competition for junior members was held again, the winners being Thomas Dewdney and Jeremy Baker.

The latest R.S.P.B. Colour Film, Sea-Bird Summer, was hired by the Society for an open meeting which was well attended.

An enjoyable event took place when the Society entertained the Ilkley Camera Club for a natural history colour slide competition. The judge was Mr. L. Clayton of Leeds, and the result

W.N.S. 193 points I.C.C. 178 points.

The Society has kept up contacts with nearby local Naturalists' Societies, the Yorkshire Naturalists' Union, the Council for Nature and the Yorkshire Naturalists' Trust. As a result of the £50 subscription specially raised for the Trust by the open meeting in January 1960, the Society is now a life member of the Trust.

SURVEY OF ILKLEY MOOR

Much of the fieldwork of the Society in 1960 has centred on this survey, which is a communal effort of the members, all sections being represented. In due course it is hoped to have results worthy of publication; there is a lot still to be done, for although the first year's work has yielded some very interesting information it has also opened up many problems and shown gaps in our knowledge of the plants and animals and their ecology on the Moor.

In the autumn an exhibition was held in the Playhouse to show members and the general public the work which had been done. The exhibits were staged in the Green Room, and in the Theatre, after an official opening by Councillor J.R. Armistead, Chairman of the Ilkley U.D.C. Moor and Parks Committee, two showings of colour slides of the Moor were presented.

Three typed copies of the results of the Survey have been produced. Two of these have been bound, one belonging to the Society and one given to the Ilkley Public Library, both of which may be borrowed by members of the Society.

The Sectional Reports in this issue of the Transactions include the more important records from the moorland survey.

A special study of the ecology of Crowberry was made and the account of this has been accepted for publication in *The Naturalist*.

The Editor of the *Ilkley Gazette* asked the Society for a series of four short articles about the Survey. These were published in the *Gazette* at fortnightly intervals in January and February 1961.

Our thanks are due to many who have, by their interest and practical help, encouraged us in our work on the Survey, including Councillor J.R. Armistead; the Editor of the *Ilkley Gazette*; Ilkley Urban District Council; the Librarian of Ilkley Public Library; Miss Bertha Lonsdale; Dr. W.A. Sledge, Editor of *The Naturalist*.

A valuable part of the work was the making of a vegetation map of the Moor, which was compared with one published in 1903. The two copies were shown at the exhibition, and since then in the Ilkley Public Library. At the Y.N.U. Annual Meeting (see below) the President made mention of these in his address.

YORKSHIRE NATURALISTS' UNION

In December the Y.N.U. 99th A.G.M. was held in Ilkley by invitation of the Society. The Presidential Address was given by Dr. D.H. Valentine on *The Future of the British Flora*.

The Ilkley Moor exhibition was on view, and after tea there was a showing of the survey colour slides.

SUMMER PROGRAMME 1960

Leaders

Evenings:

May 3	Middleton	Mrs. F.A. Baker
May 10	Bolton Woods	E.S. Skinner and R.C. Parkinson
May 17	Otley Chevin	H.E. Adamson and K. Rawling (Forester)
May 24	Burley Moor	W. Flesher
May 31	Coldstone Beck (Botany)	Mrs. F.C. Draper and Miss P. Walker
	Ilkley Moor (Ornithology)	L.G. Dewdney
June 14	Addingham	Addingham Juniors
June 21	Troller's Ghyll	Misses P. and B. Knowles
July 5	Weston Woods	Mrs. A.C.M. Duncan
July 12	West End	Miss M. Dalby

Afternoon:

May 28 Grass Wood Dr. R.A.W. Procter

Full Day by coach:

June 26 Appleby district E.S. Skinner

WINTER PROGRAMME 1960-61

Sept. 20	The Beauty of the Floral Scene	J.C. Leedal
Oct. 4	Portrait of an Island (Foula)	R.F. Dickens
Oct. 18	The Haunt of the Bessie Dooker (Dipper)	R.W. Robson
Oct. 27	R.S.P.B. Colour Film: Sea-Bird Summer-Open Meeting	Chairman: E.S. Skinner
Nov. 1	Natural History through the Microscope	A.J. Millard
Nov. 15	Colour slide competition with Ilkley Camera Club	
Nov. 29	Ilkley Moor Survey: Exhibition and colour slides	
Dec. 3	Annual Meeting of the Yorkshire Naturalists' Union	
Dec. 13	Sardinian Excursion	E.S. Skinner
Jan. 3	The Ice Age in Britain	C. Barringer
Jan. 17	Bird Watching on the Scottish Outer Isles	A.D. Bateman
Jan. 31	W.N.S. in 1960: Notes from the Records	
	The Weather - William Shirt	
	How to collect your specimens	
	Members' Colour Slides	
	Tape Recording - C.G. Booth	
Feb. 14	Natural History Slides	Morley Hedley
Feb. 28	Botanising in the Outer Hebrides	Mrs. A.C.M. Duncan
March 14	Highland Vigil: Mainly Ospreys	Walter Flesher
March 24	Annual Dinner at the Lister's Arms Hotel	
April 18	Annual General Meeting	

The thanks of the Society are due to all those, both members and visitors, who have contributed to the above programmes.

WEATHER REPORT

	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEP.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
TEMPERATURE												
degrees F												
Highest maximum	54	62	53	66	75	83	71	73	75	67	56	51
Lowest minimum	26	22	31	29	33	40	40	42	40	32	31	25
Average	37.8	37.75	42.2	48.55	54.41	60.55	59.15	59.01	55.45	49.95	43.95	39.25
SUNSHINE hours												
Monthly total	37.6	74.8	49.7	145.3	180.7	230	120.3	188.8	111.9	-	-	-
RAINFALL												
No. of days 2" or over	9	5	4	3	3	1	11	5	5	10	13	7
Monthly total	4.43	2.18	1.7	1.28	2.01	.89	4.75	2.98	2.6	4.56	5.88	4.13
Annual total	37.49 inches											
WIND FORCE												
Number of days												
8 or more	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 - 7	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
4 - 5	2	6	8	6	5	3	3	-	-	1	2	7
1 - 3	16	19	22	23	26	27	28	31	30	30	24	22
calm	13	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	2

Annual sunshine total not available owing to loss of sunshine recorder in Oct.

The 1960 rainfall was 47.1 inches against the previous wettest year of 50.7 inches in 1872. Ilkley had 37.49 inches of rain so it was not as wet as some places. The years 1950, 51, 54 and 58 were all wetter years, with 42.24 inches in 1954. 1930 holds the record for the wettest year with 44.34 inches.

Many areas suffered from serious flooding. In the autumn the river Wharfe on a number of occasions ran bank high, but there was no widespread flooding of the countryside. Most of the autumn weather was polar-maritime in origin, which is usually free flowing air, so as a result there was little fog in autumn and on the whole the weather was mild with scarcely any snow.

The spring had some good weather, in May a maximum temperature of 75 degrees with 83 degrees in June. Whitsuntide was a glorious weekend with the May blossom whitening the hedgerows, surely a vintage year, and the autumn gave a rich harvest of haws of plump size and rich colour.

Once more I wish to thank the Ilkley Surveyor's office for supplying the weather data.

A.C.M. DUNCAN

GEOLOGICAL SECTION

During the past year, in connection with the general survey of the Moor, effort has been directed to a review of the geology south of Ilkley. Surface deposits were especially examined to assess generally the effect of glacially transported material on the acidity.

At Lanshaw Delves (129454) in spite of all the past quarrying for limestone boulders, specimens were found which were highly fossiliferous and had surfaces etched by acid ground water. Decalcified pebbles of limestone of a type common in Yoredale beds were also found together with chert both fossiliferous and unfossiliferous. A single weathered crinoid ossicle was also collected.

At a point north of the Delves, a quartz crystal, about 13 mm. long, with well-formed and unabraded faces was discovered, and a second, equally clear and unworn, was found by a path to a quarry (128468). In view of their fresh state it is difficult to believe that these crystals came from the local grits but such crystals are common in residual soils on limestone and the inference is that they have been transported. Other items found included weathered ironstone bullions (boxstones), one of which rattled as a result of the unweathered core being detached from its limonitic shell. Coldstone Beck (145452) yielded fossil *Lepidodendra*.

Over the moor generally limestone either as solid rock or as boulders in the sub-soil was seen to be singularly wanting. As mentioned above it exists in Lanshaw Delves and in Spicey Gill morainic deposits carried sparse pebbles. No doubt there are other local occurrences. In Spicey Gill, at Grid point 110467, some base-loving plants are established. One source of the bases is of course the morainic deposits upstream, but in the search for a more local source a bed of decalcified nodules was found - the nodules containing uncrushed goniatites and other fossils. It is thought that the bed represents a very thin limestone band comparable with that in Backstone Beck and as such would furnish some lime to the soil.

At two other stations with similar plants, no conclusions were reached as to the origin of the bases in view of the slipped nature of the ground.

P.D. LAMMING
Recorder

XV 1960

BOTANICAL SECTION

In early summer flowering of herbaceous plants was average, but the rainy weather later on was unfavourable and autumn flowering was very poor. Trees flowered and fruited very well as was expected after last year's sunshine record.

Hawthorn hedges were full of flower and produced plenty of fruit of good size. Elderberry flowers followed on with heavy bunches and also a good crop of berries.

Ash trees, after a barren year in 1959 fruited extremely well. A good crop of seedlings grew up from the keys of 1958, the seeds of this species taking two years to germinate.

Beech had a notably good mast year, and most other trees bore good fruit.

Early flowering dates were

Jan. 9 Dog's mercury, Hazel, Water avens and Gorse : between Denton and Askwith
 Jan. 20 Snowdrop ; Weston
 Jan. 26 Aconite : Burley
 Mar. 5 Butterbur : Burley
 Mar. 16 Celandine : Burley Woodhead
 Mar. 20 Coltsfoot : Ilkley
 Mar. 29 Crowberry : Ilkley Moor

New Records

The following species have not been entered in the records before:

Silene gallica (Small-flowered catchfly) and S. armeria (Deptford pink) - both as garden weeds in Ikley, brought with seed
Urtica urens (Small nettle) - garden weed in two places in Ben Rhydding and at Denton, and on a tip at Langbar.
Hyoscyamus niger (Henbane) - Denton
Clinopodium vulgare (Wild Basil) - Burley Woodhead
Ruscus aculeatus (Butcher's broom) - naturalised at Burley
Ornithogallum umbellatum (Star of Bethlehem) - Ilkley, by river.
 This plant also appeared in a plantation at Weston in 1959.
Carex spicata (Spiked sedge) - Troller's Ghyll.

New Stations

A number of plants have been found in places where they have not been recorded before:

Asplenium trichomanes (Maidenhair spleenwort) - Burley
Corydalis claviculata (Climbing corydalis) - Weston Woods and West End.
Claytonia alsinoides (Pink purslane) - Burley and Ilkley.
Ulex gallii (Western Gorse) - Beamsley.
Epilobium nerterioides (Creeping willow herb)*- in a Middleton garden.
Carpinus betulinus (Hornbeam) - Burley.
Quercus cerris (Turkey Oak) - Burley Woodhead.
Salix alba (White willow) - Burley Woodhead.
Galeopsis speciosa (Bee hemp nettle) - Burley Woodhead.
Allium scorodoprasum (Sand leek) - Ilkley by river.
Epipactis helleborine (Broad helleborine) - Ilkley and Burley.
Listera cordata (Lesser twayblade) - Ilkley Moor.

*Creeping willow herb is an alien species which appears to be spreading. It is usually found by streams where it colonises open ground, and as a garden weed. Any further records would be of interest, especially east of Ilkley, for its seeds, like those of all willow herbs are wind-dispersed.

Increase in Numbers

Records of less common plants which are either spreading or holding their own are always welcome.

Genista Tinctoria (Dyer's greenweed) has formed a flourishing colony at Ben Rhydding. The Aconites at Burley have spread since the felling of nearby trees.

Swinsty Reservoir was allowed to run very low for repair work, and the exposed bed once more proved interesting.* In particular three species had increased to huge numbers:

Alopecurus aequalis (Orange foxtail) made large patches in places on both sides of the reservoir.

Limosella aquatica (Common mudwort) was found on both sides, and at last year's station had spread so much as to form a close lawn-like patch some 38 by 30 yards, as well as extending for about 100 yards along the shore.

Littorella uniflora (Shore weed), which must have seeded very well in 1959, had produced seedlings in large numbers towards the water's edge.

* A full account of the work done on the vegetation of Fewston and Swinsty Reservoirs from 1957-59 by the Recorder and Secretary of the Botanical Section is published in *The Naturalist* for July to September 1960.

Visit to Grass Wood

On the excursion to Grass Wood it was found that the plants did not appear to have suffered from the tree felling operations.

The Baneberry was still flourishing in a colony of ten plants and one seedling, and the Fly orchids were also thriving.

Globe flower, Burnet Rose, Herb Paris and both the Common and Angular Solomon's Seal were all seen in flower.

Bindweeds

We have started an investigation of the distribution of the two white bindweeds, *Calystegia sepium* and *C. silvatica*. From observations so far it appears that *C. sepium*, the indigenous species is more common as a weed in old-established gardens, whilst the other springs in more recent waste ground and hedgerows. In some places the two grow together, and a search should be made for hybrids.

Botanical Society of the British Isles

The B.S.B.I. is investigating the status of various critical groups, including the distribution of Male and female Butterbur, the species of Celandine which has bulbils, Dandelion species, the varieties of Wild Radish and two species of Watercress.

Further details may be obtained from the recorder who would be grateful for records and specimens in 1961.

FUNGI

The wet summer and autumn was very favourable for the growth of fungi, and Miss P. Walker recorded no less than 231 species. The following list gives the more interesting ones, including a few from the moorland list.

List of fungiBoletus badius (Bay or Chestnut Boletus)

Heber's Ghyll, Swinsty Wood, Robin Hole. July - Sept.

Boletus edulis (Edible Boletus or Cep)

Open woodland under beeches, Bolton Abbey. August

Boletus luridus (Lurid Boletus)

In woodland, edge of moor, Ilkley. August

Hygrophorus coccineus (Red Moisture Cap)

Woodhead, Robin Hole, Bolton Abbey, Burley Moor and near White Wells. Sept. - Nov.

Hygrophorus psittacinus (The Parrot)

Burley, Woodhead, Ilkley, Bolton Abbey, near Fewston reservoir, Burley Moor and near Rushy Beck. Numerous. Aug. - Dec.

Hygrophorus virgineus (Ivory Cap)

In pasture, Burley, Ben Rhydding, Bolton Abbey. Aug. - Sept.

Tricholoma gambosum (St. George's Mushroom) Det. Kew

In plantation, Burley. May

Marasmius oreades (Fairy Ring Mushroom)

Pasture, Burley and Robin Hole. July - Aug.

Collybia peronata (Wood Woolly-Foot)

Woodhead, Bolton Abbey and Middleton Woods. July - Sept.

Oudemansiella radicata (Rooting Shank)

Burley, Bolton Abbey, Woodhead, Robin Hole, etc. July - Aug.

Lepista nuda (Blewit)

By garden hedge, Burley and on compost heap, Ben Rhydding. Nov.

Rhodotus palmatus (Veal Toadstool)

On grassy bank, Ben Rhydding (probably on buried wood). July

Entoloma sinuatum (Leaden Entoloma)

At foot of tree, Burley. July

Cortinarius cinnamomeus (Cinnamon Cobweb-Cap)

Swinsty Wood and Middleton Woods. Usually with pines. Aug.-Nov.

Cortinarius collinitus (Glue Cap)

Grassy bank under trees, edge of moor Ilkley. Aug.

Tremella mycetophila Det. Kew (an abnormal spe. of Cortinarius)

Swinsty Wood. Aug.

Agaricus silvaticus (Brown Wood Mushroom)

Heber's Ghyll and Robin Hole, under trees. July - Sept.

Agaricus xanthodermus (Yellow-staining Mushroom)

Forming a ring in field after hay was cut, Burley. July.

Lepiota excoriata (peeling Parasol)

Ilkley filterbeds, July and pasture, Woodhead, Oct.

Lepiota procera (parasol Mushroom)

Pasture, Woodhead. July - Aug.

Amanita excelsa (Lofty Toadstool)

Swinsty Wood. Aug.

Amanita fulva (Tawny Grisette)

Swinsty Wood, Robin Hole and Panorama Woods. July - Aug.

Amanita muscaria (Fly Agaric)

Swinsty Wood and Woodhead under birches. Aug. - Sept.

Amanita phalloides (Death Cap)

Open woodland (Mainly beeches) Bolton Abbey and Swinsty Wood. Aug.

Amanita rubescens (The Blusher)

Burley, Woodhead, West End, Bolton Abbey, wood near Lindley reservoir, Heber's Ghyll, Cow Close Ravine etc. Very numerous.
July - Aug.

Amanita vaginata (Grisette)

Burley, Woodhead, Robin Hole, Bolton Abbey, Swinsty Wood and Panorama Woods. Aug. - Nov.

Russula atropurpurea (Purple Russule)

Ben Rhydding under oaks, and Robin Hole. Aug. - Sept.

Russula nigricans (Black Russule)

Woodland, edge of moor, Ilkley, Woodhead, Swinsty Wood. Aug.-Sept.

Russula ochroleuca (pale Yellow Russule)

Bolton Abbey, Ben Rhydding, Heber's Ghyll and Panorama Woods, Robin Hole, Middleton Woods, wood near Lindley reservoir, Cow Close, Swinsty Wood (in large numbers) etc. Numerous. July-Dec.

Lactarius quietus (Mild Milk-cap)

Burley, Robin Hole, Heber's Ghyll and Panorama Woods, Middleton Woods. Numerous under oaks. July - Sept.

Polyporus adiposus (Fat Polypore)

By old stumps in plantation, Burley. Aug.

Polyporus giganteus (Great Polypore)

Burley, Woodhead and Bolton Abbey. July - Aug.

Hydnum repandum (Wood Hedgehog)

Woodland (mainly beeches) Bolton Abbey. Sept.

Stereum purpureum (Silver leaf)

Burley, Woodhead, Panorama Woods etc. On dead birch wood. Aug.-
Sept.

Clavaria cinerea Det. Kew

Burley, Woodhead, Swinsty Wood, Bolton Abbey. Aug. - Sept.

Clavaria cristata Det. Kew

Among moss and leaves in woodland, Bolton Abbey. Aug. - Sept.

Auricularia auricula-Judae (Jew's Ear)

Woodhead, Robin Hole, Burley Cemetery, Ilkley Sewage Farm.
Growing on old elder bushes. Aug. - Nov.

Lycoperdon caelatum (Mosaic Puff-ball)

In pasture, Woodhead. Aug. - Sept.

Lycoperdon echinatum (Hedgehog Puff-ball)

In woodland, Bolton Abbey, and pasture, Woodhead. Sept. - Oct.

Calvatia (Lycoperdon) gigantea (Giant Puff-ball)

Ilkley cemetery. July.

Bovista plumbea (Small round Puff-ball)

In pastures, Burley. Ilkley L.T. Club. June - July

Crucibulum vulgare (Bird's-nest fungus)

On dead twigs and wood chips, Woodhead. July

Scleroderma aurantium (Common Earth-ball)

Ben Rhydding Golf links, Bolton Abbey, Panorama Woods and Heber's Ghyll. July - Dec.

Scleroderma verrucosum (stemmed Earth-ball) Det. Kew

In sandy soil near Swinsty reservoir. Sept.

Rhizina undulata Det. Kew

In Heber's Ghyll under larches. Credited with causing a root disease of conifers. Sept.

Cordiceps militaris

Parasitic on pupating noctuid larva, Woodhead. Sept.

Nectria cinnabarina (Coral Spot)

Woodhead, Ben Rhydding and Bolton Abbey, on dead wood. July-Sept.

Xylaria polymorpha (Dead Men's Fingers)On old tree stumps in plantation, Burley and Robin Hole. July-
Nov.MyxomycetesFuligo septica (Flowers of Tan) Det. Kew

On rotten wood in Heber's Ghyll. July

Diderma spumarioides Det. KewOn dead leaves, Ilkley and Woodhead, and dead wood in Heber's
Ghyll. Aug. - Oct.Lycogala flavo-fuscum Det. Kew

On stumps, Woodhead and Burley. July.

J.E. DUNCAN

Recorder

ENTOMOLOGICAL SECTION

LEPIDOPTERA.

Apart from the large numbers of Small Tortoiseshell butterflies, out of hibernation, early in the season, this has not been a good butterfly year, probably because of the very wet summer. No Orange Tips, Wall Browns or Painted Ladies were recorded, but of special interest was the re-discovery of the Green Hairstreak.

Moths had a better season and several good species were recorded. Some of the spring moths appeared in large numbers.

ButterfliesManiola jurtina (Meadow Brown)

Ben Rhydding, 24 June. Burley, 7 July

Coenonympha pamphilus (Small Heath)

Woodhead, 1 June. Again in September.

Vanessa atalanta (Red Admiral)

Woodhead, 22 June. Again in September.

Aglais urticae (Small Tortoiseshell)

Woodhead, 28 March. Again in June and September

Callophrys rubi (Green Hairstreak)

Burley Moor, 17 May.

Lycaena phlaeas (Small Copper)

Woodhead, 7 August. Washburn Valley, 18 August.

Polyommatus icarus (Common Blue)

Burley, 11 July. Washburn Valley, 12 July.

Pieris brassicae (Large White)

Woodhead, 22 May

P. rapae (Small White)

Woodhead, 25 May

P. napi (Green-veined White)

Woodhead, 7 May. Weston, 15 May.

Moths - 153 species were recorded; the list below gives some of the more interesting ones.

Laothoe populi (Poplar Hawk) Woodhead, 30 May
Deilephila elpenor (Large Elephant Hawk) Ilkley & Woodhead, 21 June
Lophopteryx capucina (Coxcomb Prominent) Woodhead, 25 June
Drepana falcataria (Pebble Hook-tip) Washburn Valley, 18 Aug.
Cilix glaucata (Chinese Character) Woodhead, 28 Aug.
Apatele psi (Grey Dagger) Ilkley, 24 June
Cryphia perla (Marbled Beauty) Woodhead, 26 July
Agrostis ypsilon (Dark Sword-grass) Woodhead, 2 Sept.
Antitype chi (Grey Chi) Woodhead, 24 Aug.
A. chi var. Olivacea Woodhead, 20 Aug. More frequent than type.
Meganephria oxyacanthae (Green-brindled Crescent) Woodhead, 22 Sept.
M. oxyacanthae var. capucina Woodhead, 17 Sept. Again in Oct.
Gortina flavago (Frosted Orange) Woodhead, 4 Oct.
Amphipyra tragopogonis (Mouse) Woodhead, 20 Aug. Again in Sept.
Atethmia xerampelina (Centre-barred Sallow) Woodhead, 24 Aug.
Agrochola lota (Red-line Quaker) Woodhead, 6 Oct.
A. circellaris (The Brick) Woodhead, 4 Oct. Common.
Citria lutea (Pink-barred Sallow) Woodhead, 1 Sept.
Conistra ligula (Dark Chestnut) Very dark form. Woodhead, 7 Oct.
Eupsilia transversa (The Satellite) Woodhead, 4 Oct.
Cucullia umbratica (The Shark) Woodhead, 26 June
Plusia bractea (Gold Spangle) Woodhead, 1 Aug.
Lygris pyraliata (Barred Straw) Woodhead, 13 July
Xanthorhoe ferrugata (Dark-barred Twin-Spot Carpet) Woodhead, 6 Aug.
Colostygia pectinataris (Green Carpet) Woodhead, 25 June
Ortholitha chenopodiata (Shaded Broad-bar) Burley, 2 Aug.
Opheroptera brumata (Winter Moth) Woodhead, 28 Oct. Also Nov.-Dec.
Epirrhoe galiata (Galium Carpet) Woodhead, 30 May. Frequent in June
Lyncometra ocellata (Purple Bar) Woodhead, 26 July
Hydriomena furcata (July Highflyer) Woodhead, 24 Aug. Again in Sept.
Coenotephria derivata (The Streamer) Woodhead, 25 May
Eupithecia pulchellata (Foxglove Pug) Woodhead, 2 June. Frequent.
Erannis aurantiaria (Scarce Umber) Woodhead, 22 Oct. Also Nov.
Gonodontis bidentata (Scalloped Hazel) Woodhead, 22 May
Pseudopanthera macularia (Speckled Yellow) Grassington, 28 May
Biston strataria (Oak Beauty) Woodhead, 3 April
Cleora rhomboidaria (Willow Beauty) Burley, 8 Aug.
Zygaena lonicerae (Narrow-boarded Five-spot Burnet) Burley, 7 July

The dates given are when each species was first seen.

F.C. DRAPER
Recorder

VERTEBRATE SECTION

MAMMALS

BADGER still in Stainburn Ghyll near Otlëy. One was seen by a motorist on the Stainburn - Lindley road after dark when it ran in front of his car for a considerable distance. He was surprised at the animal's turn of speed which he estimated at 30 m.p.h.

FOX common

BROWN HARE very common

HEDGEHOG still being killed in large numbers on the highway.

SHORT TAILED FIELD MOUSE one killed by dog on Ilkley Moor

WATER VOLE or WATER RAT common, reports from several places.

RABBIT still absent from some areas; returned in small numbers to others.

STOAT seen at Lindley

WEASEL reported from Lindley, Riffa and Burley.

Information on all aspects of the natural history of Mammals, Amphibians and Fishes is urgently needed if knowledge of the groups in Yorkshire is to be brought up to date, and adequate reports published annually. All records however trivial are vital in helping to do this.

Members are requested to send as many records as possible during 1961. This will enable us to send a full report to the Y.N.U. for inclusion in their report to be published annually.

H. MARJORAM
Recorder

ORNITHOLOGICAL SECTION

BIRD RECORDS

GREAT CRESTED GREBE

20 Mar. 10 on Harewood Park Lake 22 Apr. 4 on Farnley Lake
 29 Mar. 1 pair on Farnley Lake 13 June 2 with nest on Farnley
 6 Mar. 1 pair on Lindley reservoir Lake
 30 Mar. 3 on Chelker reservoir 6 Aug. 2 with 2 juvs. on
 14 Apr. 3 on Lindley reservoir Farnley Lake

LITTLE GREBE

16 Jan. 2 on river at Ilkley 14 Feb. 4 at Riversdale nr. Ilkley

CORMORANT 8 Apr. 1 flying south over Menston

HERON 13 Feb. 1 at Lindley reservoir

18 Apr. Nests counted at Gargrave (Cragg Wood), 5 nests occupied,
 no adults seen.

MALLARD

6 Feb. 2 on Denton Lake 14 Feb. 118 on river at Riversdale
 13 Feb. 30 on Lindley reservoir 22 Apr. 14 on Farnley Lake

TEAL

6 Feb. 2 on Denton Lake 16 Feb. 6 feeding in spring at
 13 Feb. 6 at Lindley reservoir Burley Woodhead
 14 Feb. 19 at Riversdale 26 Sept. and 6 Oct. Several on
 Upper Lanshaw.

WIGEON

14 Feb. 1 on Denton Lake and 1 at Riversdale

SHOVELER 27 Mar. 1 pair on Farnley Lake

TUFTED DUCK

6 Feb. 5 on Denton Lake 30 Mar. 9 at Mickle Ing
 13 Feb. 12 on Lindley reservoir 1 Apr. 2 at Mickle Ing
 26 Feb. 3 at Mickle Ing nr. Otley. 22 Apr. 8 on Farnley Lake

POCHARD

13 Feb. 31 at Lindley reservoir 22 Apr. 1 on Farnley Lake
 6 Mar. 2 pairs at Lindley reservoir

GOLDEN-EYE

13 Feb. 2 at Lindley reservoir 6 Mar. 2 males at Lindley res.
 14 Feb. 12 at Riversdale 30 Mar. 1 on Chelker reservoir

GOOSANDER 23 Jan. 2 pairs on Swinsty reservoir

SMEW 20 Mar. 4 on Harewood Park Lake with red heads

CANADA GOOSE 20 Mar. 24 at March Ghyll reservoir

WHOOPEE SWAN 26 Feb. 1 adult at Crum Wheel Ilkley, flew off west when disturbed.

BUZZARD 5 July 1 flying over Austby near Ilkley

MERLIN

July - Skulls and pellets from plucking post of Merlin on Beamsley Moor were identified by A. Hazelwood as from Meadow Pipits, House Sparrow, Pied Wagtail and immature Robin.

21 Sept. 1 seen on Burley Moor

KESTREL 12 Dec. 1 hovering over Manor Square, Otley

RED GROUSE

17 Apr. nest with 1 egg on Burley Moor. 23 May Eggs hatched

30 Apr. Same nest with 10 eggs 24 May Newly hatched chicks in deep heather in fenced area on Burley Moor

COOT 13 June 1 with young on Farnley Lake

LAPWING not as many young birds found as in 1959

27 Apr. Nest with 4 eggs Burley Moor

24 May Nest with 4 eggs on bare peat below Upper Lanshaw Dam.

29 May Chicks on Burley Moor near Coldstone

RINGED PLOVER 14 Apr. 1 at Ilkley Sewage Farm

GOLDEN PLOVER

19 Mar. 3 large flocks at March Ghyll reservoir

20 Mar. More than 200 between Middleton and March Ghyll

17 May Nest with 3 chicks and 1 egg chipping on Burley Moor. 5 pairs seen

COMMON SNIPE 13 Mar. 7 at Grimwith reservoir, 5 drumming

14 Feb. 23 at Riversdale 23 Mar. 24 near March Ghyll

JACK SNIPE 23 Mar. 1 at Ilkley Sewage Farm

WOODCOCK

7 Feb. 1 in Heber's Ghyll Wood

19 Mar. a pair in Heber's Ghyll Wood, no nest found.

22 Mar. 1 roding at Stainburn

CURLEW 10 Mar. 2 flying over Ilkley Moor

WHIMBREL 4 May 1 flying over Riffa near Otley

GREEN SANDPIPER

4 Aug. 1, 7 Aug. 3, 8 Aug. 2, 11 Aug. 2, 12 Aug. 2, all at Ilkley Sewage Farm.

29 Aug. to 8 Sept. 1 at Riffa near Otley

COMMON SANDPIPER 1 Apr. 1 on Addingham Moorside

REDSHANK 28 Feb. 1 at Ilkley Sewage Farm
29 Mar. 2 at Burley Woodhead 22 Apr. 1 at Farnley Lake

DUNLIN

26 Mar. 1, 7 Apr. 5, 18 Apr. 4, 14 Apr. 6, 1 Oct. 3, all at Ilkley Sewage Farm.

GREATER BLACK-BACKED GULL 14 Feb. 6 at Riversdale

HERRING GULL 14 Feb. 120+ at Riversdale

BLACKHEADED GULL Young ringed at the breeding ground near Ilkley

RING-DOVE 17 Mar. Nest with 2 eggs Robin Hole, Burley.

CUCKOO

25 Apr. Seen and heard on Burley Moor
7 July Young cuckoo with Meadow Pipits, Burley Moor
30 July Young cuckoo with Pied Wagtail feeding it at Farnley

SWIFT

25 Apr. 7 at Ilkley Filter beds 7 Aug. A few flying over
22 Aug. 1 at Ilkley Filter beds Westville Av. Ilkley

KINGFISHER caught and ringed during the year
17 Mar. 1 at Burley

GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER

6 Jan. 1 feeding on coconut in an Ilkley garden

LESSER SPOTTED WOODPECKER

24 Apr. 1 in Middleton Woods

SWALLOW

9 Apr. 1 at Ben Rhydding 20 Apr. 2 flying round Ilkley
10 Apr. 1 at Stainburn 11 Oct. 1 at Ilkley

SAND MARTIN

4 Apr. Seen at Riffa near Otley 5 Apr. 4 at Ben Rhydding

HOODED CROW 28 Mar. 1 chased by Black-headed gull at Riffa

JAY

7 Feb. 1 in Middleton Woods 13 Aug. At least 2 in Panorama Woods

MARSH TIT 25 Jan. 2 at Bolton Abbey

LONG-TAILED TIT

25 Jan. A party at Bolton Abbey 27 Mar. 2 at Ben Rhydding
27 Feb. Several in Bolton Abbey Woods filter beds
1 May Nest at Addingham.

NUTHATCH 17 Jan. 1 near Ilkley Cemetery
 6 Feb. 1 at top end Middleton Woods 7 June Feeding young in
 2 Apr. A pair in Panorama Woods Bolton Woods
 20 Nov. 5 at Bolton Abbey

WREN 7 May Nest in bracken in Coldstone Ravine

DIPPER 28 Mar. nesting at Riffa

FIELDFARE

20 Mar. about 220 at Burley Woodhead, 31 Mar. over 100 at same
 place

SONG THRUSH 17 Mar. Nest and 2 eggs, Sun Lane, Burley
 25 Apr. Fully fledged young in a tree in Victoria Avenue, Ilkley

RING OUSEL

19 Mar. 3 at March Ghyll 20 Mar. 1 on Burley Moor

BLACKBIRD

31 Mar. Nest with 3 eggs Burley Woodhead
 7 May Nest with 3 eggs in bracken in Coldstone Ravine
 27 May Nest with 4 eggs in Crowberry, Coldstone Ravine
 29 May Nest with 4 eggs in Crowberry, Burley Moor

WHEATEAR 20 Mar. 1 on Burley Moor

STONECHAT 13 Mar. one caught and ringed at Ilkley Sewage Farm

WHINCHAT 14 Apr. 1 female at Riffa

COMMON REDSTART 24 Apr. 2 in Middleton Woods

SEDGE WARBLER 15 May 2 at Ben Rhydding

WILLOW WARBLER

7 Apr. 3 or 4 at Ben Rhydding, also 1 in Middleton Woods
 10 Apr. at Riffa
 At least 2 pairs nested in Coldstone Ravine in 1960

CHIFF-CHAFF

27 Mar. 1 at Ben Rhydding Sewage Farm, caught and ringed
 1 singing in Heber's Ghyll Wood

GOLDCREST Heard frequently in Heber's Ghyll Wood

SPOTTED FLYCATCHER 10 May 1 in Heber's Ghyll Wood

PIED FLYCATCHER 14 Apr. 1 male in Heber's Ghyll Wood

DUNNOCK 27 May Nest with 4 eggs in bracken, Burley Moor; all
 chicks fledged later.

MEADOW PIPIT

27 Mar. 60+ feeding in sprinkler at Ben Rhydding Sewage Farm
 22 May nest with 3 eggs and one with 4 eggs in Crowberry near
 Rushy Beck Ravine
 23 May Nest with 4 eggs in cotton grass, Burley Moor top
 24 May Nest with 4 eggs in rushes, Lower Lanshaw

TREE PIPIT 1 May 1 in Middleton Woods

PIED WAGTAIL

20 Mar. about 20, and 27 Mar. 40, at Ben Rhydding Sewage Farm
 a pair nested near Coldstone Beck, Burley Woodhead

YELLOW WAGTAIL

13 Apr. Seen at Riffa 16 Apr. 3 at Ben Rhydding

WAXWING

Jan. during the month feeding on Cotoneaster in a garden at Otley
 9 Jan. 1 on riverside, Ilkley 28 Feb. 2 at Middleton

HAWFINCH 7 Apr. 5 in Middleton Woods

7 June 1 ad. 3 juv. in Middleton Woods 25 June. 4 at Ilkley
 Cemetery

GREENFINCH 21 Jan. about 80 at Riffa, had been there for a week.

GOLDFINCH 12 Feb. A pair at Bolton Abbey

SISKIN 7 Jan. Small flock in Alder, Heber's Ghyll Wood

LINNET

27 May Nest with 4 eggs in bracken, Burley Moor; all chicks
 fledged later
 1 July Nest with 5 eggs, Burley Moor, later deserted

REDPOLL 21 Aug. Nest with 5 young, Ben Rhydding Sewage Farm

BULLFINCH 27 Mar. 2 at Ben Rhydding Sewage Farm

CROSSBILL

Jan. and Feb. Still 10 birds in Heber's Ghyll Wood
 Mar. Flying on moor late afternoon, presumably to pine woods to
 roost

BRAMBLING

Jan. A party of about 30 on waste ground in Otley stayed all month
 13 Feb. 2 at Farnley and 2 at Ilkley Sewage Farm
 20 Nov. 24 at Bolton Abbey

YELLOW HAMMER

27 May nest with 2 eggs near Coldstone Ravine
 28 Aug. nest with 3 young, Lindley reservoir

CORN BUNTING 3 Jan. 1 caught and ringed Ilkley Sewage Farm

REED BUNTING

7 Feb. 1 male and 1 female Middleton Woods

12 Mar. 2 females Panorama moor edge 20 Mar. 2 males March Ghyll

27 Mar. 3 at Ben Rhydding Sewage Farm

HOUSE SPARROW

Jan. One white bird at Ben Rhydding has been there 3 years now

TREE SPARROW

20 Mar. 6, and 27 Mar. 6, at Ben Rhydding Sewage Farm

Thanks are due to all members who have supplied these records.

W.F. FEARNLEY
Recorder

BIRD RINGING REPORT

During 1960 we have ringed 3,486 birds of 64 different species
Recoveries of note

<u>Species</u>	<u>Ringed</u>	<u>Recovered</u>	<u>Place</u>
Lapwing	14:6:54 Ilkley	28:12:60	Abbeyleix (Ireland) 6½ years old
Meadow Pipit	3:4:60 Ilkley	20:10:60	Anglet (Basses Pyrenees) France
Swift	28:6:59 Ilkley	21:5:60	at sea 200 miles W.S.W. of Land's End
Starling	8:2:59 Ilkley	19:4:60	Marrum (Friesland) Holland
Starling	6:12:59 Ilkley	29:2:60	Newry (Down) Ireland

O.M. PENNOCK

WILDFOWL COUNTS

Details of the wildfowl counts during 1960 are set out below in tabular form, with notes on additional species recorded. The Washburn Valley Reservoirs remained at a high water level over the period of the counts, and there was no period of freezing over during the year to affect the counts. It was noticeable that some of the rarer species of ducks were not recorded this year, but it must be emphasised that these records only refer to the Count Dates, and therefore it does not exclude the possibility of some

of these ducks being present on other dates.

Thanks are due to the observers who have helped in these counts and to the Leeds and Bradford Corporations Waterworks Departments for giving permission to visit the various reservoirs.

	<u>17 Jan.</u>	<u>21 Feb.</u>	<u>13 Mar.</u>	<u>18 Sep.</u>	<u>16 Oct.</u>	<u>13 Nov.</u>	<u>18 Dec.</u>
MALLARD							
Lindley	179	163	84	230	164	176	201
Swinsty	175	27	26	4	40	51	81
Fewston	17	4	36	115	111	60	100
Grimwith	62	n. c.	16	3	34	n. c.	n. c.
Total	<u>433</u>	<u>194</u>	<u>162</u>	<u>352</u>	<u>349</u>	<u>287</u>	<u>382</u>
TEAL							
Lindley	2	-	9	-	36	-	30
Swinsty	12	-	-	-	22	-	-
Fewston	20	-	-	30	14	-	54
Grimwith	-	n. c.	2	30	27	n. c.	n. c.
Total	<u>34</u>	-	<u>11</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>99</u>	-	<u>84</u>
WIGEON							
Lindley	13	7	8	-	-	8	-
Swinsty	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
Fewston	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Grimwith	15	n. c.	19	2	17	n. c.	n. c.
Total	<u>28</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>2</u>
POCHARD							
Lindley	84	22	-	-	6	-	15
Swinsty	-	19	-	-	10	6	26
Fewston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grimwith	-	n. c.	-	1	-	n. c.	n. c.
Total	<u>84</u>	<u>41</u>	-	<u>1</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>41</u>
TUFTED DUCK							
Lindley	2	-	-	10	4	-	17
Swinsty	11	-	-	1	10	6	6
Fewston	-	-	-	22	4	17	-
Grimwith	-	n. c.	-	1	1	n. c.	n. c.
Total	<u>13</u>	-	-	<u>34</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>23</u>
GOLDEN EYE							
Lindley	4	16	12	-	8	3	5
Swinsty	2	5	-	-	1	6	-
Fewston	1	12	8	-	4	5	13
Grimwith	1	n. c.	1	-	-	n. c.	n. c.
Total	<u>8</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>21</u>	-	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>18</u>

n. c. = not counted

Other species recorded

WHOOPE SWAN 2 ad. and 5 immatures on 21 Feb. on Fewston

CANADA GOOSE A flock of varying numbers of up to 100 has been usually present on Fewston reservoir or in the surrounding fields. Some birds occasionally fly down to Swinsty reservoir.

3 were recorded on Lindley reservoir in Oct., Nov. and Dec.

SMEW 1 female was seen on Swinsty on Dec. 18.

WILDFOWL COUNTS 1951 - 1960

To give a general picture of the numbers of wildfowl recorded in the past ten years, details are set out below. It is only possible to do this for the Washburn Valley reservoirs, as they are the only ones for which full details are available for the whole period. The totals have been obtained by adding together the numbers counted on Fewston, Swinsty and Lindley reservoirs, and they refer only to numbers seen on each particular count day in the month. No account has been taken of occasional counts of Farnley Lake, where Teal and Tufted Duck were usually recorded.

It must be pointed out that no mention is made of occasions when any of the reservoirs were frozen or partly frozen over, but it is hoped that these records may give a general picture of the numbers of ducks in the Washburn Valley, and also for future reference if necessary.

There seems to be a decline in the numbers of records of other ducks, such as Pintail, Shoveler, Goosander over the past ten years.

TOTALS OF WILDFOWL COUNTED ON WASHBURN RESERVOIRS 1951 - 1960

	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>Feb.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>
MALLARD							
1951	428	280	127	264	181	651	402
1952	340	273	113	300	300	560	454
1953	303	350	218	88	435	294	478
1954	436	446	176	146	165	360	400
1955	363	224	141	208	95	182	209
1956	456	318	84	6	100	386	210
1957	64	149	56	75	178	293	315
1958	234	228	93	133	231	240	200
1959	472	175	180	278	566	164	236
1960	371	194	146	349	315	287	382
TEAL							
1951	45	10	9	14	12	18	74
1952	7	44	42	80	36	77	50
1953	4	40	21	24	146	85	64
1954	96	50	5	46	7	4	24
1955	11	-	16	54	42	14	20
1956	210	6	4	-	2	46	5
1957	-	-	26	12	28	-	71
1958	7	41	2	13	1	112	30
1959	41	44	54	142	107	114	12
1960	34	-	11	30	72	-	84

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar. ²²	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
WIGEON							
1951	12	-	32	9	14	5	19
1952	11	21	3	80	16	44	50
1953	63	50	12	-	75	11	13
1954	46	3	110	-	-	3	-
1955	18	-	35	1	-	4	10
1956	50	-	33	-	31	43	13
1957	33	30	28	-	4	17	75
1958	42	3	15	33	7	1	12
1959	-	1	2	-	-	-	-
1960	13	10	8	2	-	8	2
POCHARD							
1951	12	-	-	6	17	10	-
1952	9	-	-	1	3	12	24
1953	15	14	5	-	-	-	-
1954	47	5	-	-	16	17	33
1955	9	2	-	-	-	3	-
1956	2	-	-	-	2	6	4
1957	15	8	1	-	28	74	122
1958	13	60	3	34	36	60	100
1959	2	-	2	3	-	-	37
1960	84	41	-	1	16	6	41
TUFTED DUCK							
1951	14	20	6	13	-	-	11
1952	23	16	13	26	19	11	6
1953	27	15	4	9	12	1	-
1954	28	-	-	8	8	17	13
1955	34	12	20	16	2	8	6
1956	-	10	4	10	15	16	9
1957	24	13	1	33	27	37	93
1958	32	37	28	43	35	42	65
1959	13	11	29	11	14	1	8
1960	13	-	-	33	18	23	23
GOLDEN EYE							
1951	-	2	7	-	-	2	12
1952	6	16	28	-	12	12	12
1953	18	24	16	-	-	2	4
1954	15	2	18	-	-	-	12
1955	14	12	11	-	-	1	12
1956	10	14	14	-	-	18	13
1957	11	10	21	-	-	17	10
1958	7	15	28	-	1	5	18
1959	16	13	13	-	2	8	12
1960	7	33	20	-	13	14	18

