

TRANSACTIONS

of the

WHARFEDALE NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

VOL. XIV

JANUARY - DECEMBER, 1959.

WHARFEDALE NATURALISTS' SOCIETY. 1959.

Officers for the Session 1959-60:

President:	H.A. Robinson
Vice-President:	Mrs. O.M. Pennock
Hon. Secretary:	Mrs. A.C.M. Duncan
Hon. Assistant Secretary & Librarian:	Miss E.A.W. Gill
Hon. Treasurer:	A.C.M. Duncan
Hon. Ornithological Secretary:	Mrs. O.M. Pennock
Committee:	Ex-officio: C.G.Booth M.B.O.U. Miss M. Dalby. W.F. Fearnley H. Marjoram E.S. Skinner H.J. Williamson.

Recorders:

Vertebrates (other than birds):	H.Marjoram
Ornithology:	W.F.Fearnley
Botany:	Mrs. A.C.M.Duncan
	Secretary: Miss M.Dalby
Geology:	P.D.Lamming

Throughout the year there was a steady increase in membership, especially amongst the juniors, and by the end of 1959 the numbers were:

Hon. members	- 5
Adult members	- 128
Junior members	- 37

In the total of 170, 111 families are represented, showing a pleasing family interest.

It is with regret that we record the deaths of Mr.W.Tulley and Mr.C.Walker, both keen members of the Society.

The financial position of the Society is sound. In March, 1959 the balance in hand was £71-10-9, and at the Annual Meeting the subscription was kept at 10/- and 2/6 for juniors.

In the summer all the Tuesday evening excursions were held in fine weather and the attendance was very good. A Saturday afternoon trip to West End also proved successful. The full day excursion to Leighton Moss and Arnside Knott under the leadership of the President was enjoyed on a really hot day.

With greater numbers attending the lectures in the autumn, the Grove schoolroom became very crowded, and on October 20th the Society moved to a room in the Blue Bird cafe premises.

The Annual Dinner was held at the Lister's Arms Hotel for members and their guests. After the dinner Mr.S.Jackson of the Cartwright Museum, Bradford, spoke on Some Natural History Teaching Methods.

During the summer the junior members were asked to prepare for a competition by keeping records of their observations for a period of at least a month. The results were as follows:

- 1st - Jennifer Baker, for her excellent survey of a pond,  
2nd - John Whitaker.                      3rd - David Peace.

#### Yorkshire Naturalists' Union

The Society has continued its affiliation to the Y.N.U., and members have attended both indoor meetings and excursions. Records from the Society have been sent up to the Union and found their place in the reports in The Naturalist.

In April, 1959, the Union held an exhibition to which the Ornithological and Botanical Sections of the Society contributed exhibits.

All members of the Society are Associate members of the Y.N.U. by virtue of the affiliation, but several of the Wharfedale Naturalists also belong to the Union as full members. Of these, Mr. Skinner continues to serve on the Executive and on the Spurn Observatory and Ringing Sub-Committee, and Mrs. Duncan has been appointed Divisional Secretary for V.C. 64.

#### Yorkshire Naturalists' Trust

The Society's membership of the Trust has continued.

In January 1960, an open meeting was held in the King's Hall, Ilkley, when Mr. R.P. Bagnall-Oakeley showed his colour films of Migratory Birds in North Norfolk. As a result of this, and thanks to generosity on all sides, £50 was sent to the Trust to be used for the Spurn Development Fund.

#### Council for Nature

The Society has become a member of this newly formed Council.

#### Directory of Natural History Societies

This was published by the British Association, and the Society is listed in the directory.

#### Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

In October, 1959, Mr. Frank Hamilton of the R.S.P.B. showed the colour films Reed Warblers, and Island of Birds, followed by a monochrome film of the Ospreys nesting in Scotland. The meeting was a great success.

1959 was a flourishing one for the Society, and this was largely due to the interest shown by members and local people, including the Editor of the Ilkley Gazette, who has kindly continued to publish records and reports of meetings. Thanks are also due to the leaders of excursions, to those members and visitors who have lectured to the Society, and to Mr. J. Kennedy for the loan of his lantern.

SUMMER PROGRAMME 1959

		<u>Leaders</u>
May 5th	BOLTON ABBEY	E.S. Skinner
May 12th	FAIRY DELL	Mrs. Baker and Jennifer Baker
May 26th	HEBER'S GHYLL	Mrs. O.M. Pennock
June 2nd	STAINBURN MOOR	H. Marjoram
June 9th	WASHBURN VALLEY	Miss M. Dalby
June 14th	LEIGHTON MOSS & ARNSIDE KNOTT	H.A. Robinson
June 23rd	DENTON	W.F. Fearnley
June 30th	KEX GHYLL	Misses P & B Knowles
July 7th	Botany: BEN RHYDDING	Mrs. A.C.M. Duncan
July 11th	WEST END	A.C.M. Duncan
July 14th	Botany: BURLEY WOODHEAD	Mrs. F.C. Draper
July 21st	Botany: ILKLEY MOOR	Miss M. Dalby & Mrs. A.C.M. Duncan

WINTER PROGRAMME 1959 - 60

Sept. 22nd	With a Naturalist in Lapland.	R. Chislett, M.B.O.U.
Oct. 6th	Bird-Watching in and around Bradford.	F. Brock, F.T.I.
Oct. 9th	<u>Open Meeting</u> R.S.P.B. Colour Films: Island of Birds. Reed Warblers.	
Oct. 20th	Spurn Promontory and other Yorkshire Naturalists' Trust Properties.	C.J. Smith B.A.
Nov. 3rd	Pond Life.	J.H. Elliott, B.Sc., Ph. D.
Nov. 17th	How a Naturalist Works.	H. Marjoram
Dec. 1st	Members' Evening. Presentation of prizes to Junior Members. Cacti and Succulents: Members' Colour Slides Goose-ringing, colour film:	Jennifer Baker C.G. Booth, M.B.O.U.
Dec. 15th	Why Birds Sing.	B. Nelson, B.Sc.

WINTER PROGRAMME (Cont'd)

Leaders

Jan 5th	From Tees to Humber - a Geological Journey.	J.M.Nunwick, B.Sc.,F.G.S.
Jan.12th	<u>Open Meeting</u> in aid of Yorkshire Naturalists' Trust. Migratory Birds in North Norfolk Colour Films.	R.P. Bagnall-Oakeley.
Jan.19th	Non-Flowering Plants.	Mrs. H.Marjoram, B.Sc.
Feb. 2nd	Looking Back on 1959. Sectional Records Reports of Field Work Members' Colour Slides	
Feb.16th	In Search of Ducks	C. Sellick
Mar. 1st	A Botanist's Year.	Mrs. F.C. Draper
Mar.15th	A Lancashire Journey	R. Scholes
Mar.26th	Annual Dinner	
April 5th	Annual General Meeting	

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WEATHER REPORT 1959

	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY.	JUNE.	JULY.	AUG.	SEP.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
<u>TEMPERATURE</u>												
degrees F.												
Highest maximum	50	58	59	66	78	80	85	84	80	78	57	53
Lowest minimum	18	25	29	34	33	41	43	38	36	36	23	31
Average	32.75	40.15	43.8	48.3	55.15	59.45	62.55	61.0	58.65	53.1	45.55	41.05
<u>SUNSHINE</u> hours												
Monthly total.	65.4	39.9	55.4	124.4	217.2	199.4	206.0	220.9	145.6	117.5	40.4	25.0
Annual total -	1457.1 hours											
<u>RAINFALL</u>												
Number of days .2 inches or over.	6	0	2	8	2	2	5	1	0	4	9	16
Monthly total.	3.17	0.25	1.46	3.56	0.79	1.03	2.42	0.60	0.04	3.42	4.16	6.68
Annual total -	27.58 inches											
<u>WIND FORCE</u>												
Number of days 8 or more	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6-7	2	5	5	9	2	1	1	-	-	2	-	2
4-5	7	10	17	8	18	12	7	9	2	8	2	7
1-3	22	11	9	11	11	17	23	22	24	15	12	14
calm	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	6	16	8

The year will long be remembered for its generous measure of sunshine. This also meant a small amount of rain which led to the worst drought in Ilkley for 34 years. Restrictions on the use of water for other than essential purposes came into force on 27th of July and remained in force until the second week in December.

A shower came in September, but only .04 inches of rain was recorded for that month. It was 23rd of October when the first rain began to fall and before the end of the month the river was running bank high and had overflowed at the low lying parts.

The water position was eased near the end of September by the introduction of a scheme for the extraction of 500,000 gal. per day of water from the river which was pumped up to Panorama reservoir to find its way into the supply by gravity from there.

Many areas of the moor were blackened by moor fires. These areas are now being studied by our botanists with great interest to observe the order of recolonisation by various species of plants. Good use was made also by some botanists of the low state of the reservoirs in the Washburn valley.

The grass became very parched, and its pale colour contrasted strongly against the heavy dark green foliage of the trees. This was especially noticeable in the limestone districts higher up the dale.

November and December provided a good supply of rain and the reservoirs in the Washburn Valley were full and overflowing before the end of the year.

One interesting feature of such a warm summer was the fact that 85° Far. was the highest maximum reached, at no time did it get as high as the 90's. Compared with 1958 the average temperature is just a little bit higher all through the year. The last three months of the year were warmer than normal and the reservoirs were never frozen over before the end of the year.

As will be expected of such a dry summer, the rainfall was below average, both February and September having no days with .2 inches of rain or over.

Three days of force 8 or over winds, one in February and two in April, was about the normal, but the number of calm days in the last four months was quite unusual.

Sun spots were observed for a few days at the end of January, being seen with the naked eye in Ilkley; it is suggested that this phenomenon had something to do with the subsequent warm summer.

Again I wish to thank the Ilkley Surveyor's office for supplying the figures of rainfall, temperature, sunshine and wind.

A.C.M. Duncan.

BOTANICAL SECTION

Early flowering dates:

Jan. 25th	Barren Strawberry
Feb. 5th	Winter Aconite
Feb. 12th	Dog's Mercury
Feb. 16th	Hazel (male)
Feb. 27th	Colt's foot.

In spring it was found that flowering as a whole was early, but flowering through the summer did not continue as prolifically as it began, and there was less flowering of secondary growth in the autumn than usual.

Trees: flowering and fruiting.

Sycamore: average crop of fruits, abundance of seedlings after last year's heavy fruiting.

Horse Chestnut: average to good.

Lime: abundant fruits on both species

Beech: a very poor crop of nuts

Elm: flowers and fruits scarce

Oak: variable; some trees had large crops of very big acorns.

Ash: none seen in flower or fruit in the Ilkley district.  
(this happened before in 1952)



Ecological Work

This has been done mainly at Fewston and Swinsty Reservoirs, and on Ilkley Moor. Several of the new records, and new stations for flowering plants are a result of detailed study of these areas. In connection with the work, Bryophytes, Fungi and Lichens have been studied.

The survey of Ilkley Moor will be continued in 1960, and any records and observations will be welcomed, as well as any historical information about the vegetation.

Some of the new flowering plant records.

From the exposed bed of Swinsty Reservoir:

- Limosella aquatica (Common Mudwort)
- Callitriche stagnalis (Starwort)
- Chenopodium rubrum var. pseudobotryoides (a variety of Red Goosefoot which flowers when less than an inch high)
- Alopecurus aequalis (Orange Foxtail)

From Fewston Reservoir:

- Juncus filiformis (Slender Rush) new to Yorkshire

From the Moor:

- Callitriche intermedia (Starwort)
- Myosotis brevifolia (a species of Forget-me-not with short leaves)

From upper Wharfedale:

- Mentha alopecuroides
- Potamogeton alpinus
- Anthemis cotula (Stinking Mayweed)

Species found in the Ilkley, Ben Rhydding and Burley districts:

- Sagina apetala (Pearlwort)
- Erodium cicutarium (Common Storksbill)
- Datura stramonium (Thorn Apple)
- Fagopyrum esculentum (Buckwheat)
- Symphytum tuberosum (Tuberous Comfrey)

New Stations

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| Menyanthes trifoliata (Bogbean)  | Ilkley moor.          |
| Thymus drucei (Thyme)  | Burley moor.          |
| Genista tinctoria (Dyer's Greenweed)   | Ben Rhydding.         |
| Veronica filiformis  | Nessfield.            |
| Carex hostiana (Tawny Sedge)   | near Beamsley Beacon. |
| <u>Gagea lutea</u> , in the well-known station at Burley flowered this year. |                       |

Correction

The record for Eleocharis multicaulis (Vol.XIII) should read Eleocharis palustris, found by Upper Tarn, det. Dr. S.M.Walters.



List of Fungi recorded by Mrs. F.C. Draper and Miss P. Walker.

Coprinus micaceus	dead wood.	Woodhead.	Apr.	Nov.
Polyporus squamosus (Dryad's Saddle)	dead stump.	"	May.	Oct.
P. betulinus (Birch Bracket)	on Silver Birch		Sept.	onwards.
P. Giganteus (Great Polypore)	dead stump.	"	Sept.	Oct.
Scleroderma aurantium (Earth Ball)	woods.	Bolton Abbey.	Sept.	
Phallus impudicus (Stinkhorn)	woods.	" "	Sept.	
		Washburn Valley.	Oct.	
Clitocybe aurantiaca (False Chanterelle)	in turf.		Sept.	Nov.
Hypholoma fasciculare (Sulphur tuft)	tree stumps.	" "		
H. diffusum*	wood chips,	Swinsty moor		
		plantation.	Oct.	
Pleurotus corticatus	on living rowan,	Dob Park.	Oct.	
Armillaria mellea (Honey fungus)	on living and dead wood.		Sept.	Oct.
Coprinus comatus (Shaggy Caps)	rubbish tip,	Burley.	Sept.	Nov.
Pholiota squarrosa (Scaly Caps)	on Willow,	Brownsholme, Burley.	Oct.	
Pluteus cervinus	on dead wood.	" "	Oct.	
Collybia maculata	in bracken,	Swinsty Wood, & Dob Park.	Oct.	
Paxillus involutus	plantations.		Oct.	Nov.
Agaricus campestris (Field Mushroom)	pasture,	Woodhead.	Oct.	
A. bisporus *	rubbish tip.	Burley.	Oct.	
Stropharia semiglobata	on dung in fields.		Oct.	Nov.
Coprinus niveus	rubbish tip,	Burley.	Oct.	
C. atramentarius (Ink Cap)	dead stump,	Bolton Abbey.	Nov.	
Panaeolus campanulatus	pasture,	Woodhead.	Nov.	
Hygrophorus pratensis (Buff Cap)	pasture,	Woodhead.	Nov.	
Xylaria hypoxylon (Candle-snuff)	rotten wood.		Nov.	
Hypholoma sublateritium	tree stump,	Burley	Nov.	
Stropharia aeruginosa (Verdigris Agaric)	plantation.	"	Nov.	
Pleurotus ostreatus (Oyster Mushroom)	dead stump,	Ben Rhydding.	Dec.	
Collybia velutipes (Winter Fungus)	ash stump,	Burley	Dec.	
+Anthrocobia melanoma *	bare peat after burning,	Ilkley.	Dec.	

+ The other species of fungi found on the moor will be recorded later, but this one is of special interest as being the first coloniser of the areas where moor fires burnt for long period during the drought.

\* det. Kew.

I should like to thank all members who have sent in records, and especially those who are working with such interest on the Ilkley Moor Survey.

For the determination of specimens our thanks are due to Dr. W.A. Sledge, Miss C.M. Rob, the staff at Kew, and the Botanical Society of the British Isles,

J.E. DUNCAN

Recorder.

ORNITHOLOGICAL SECTION

<u>Gt. Crested Grebe</u>	22.2.59.	One at Fewston.
	12.4.59.	Three at Chelker reservoir.
	12.4.59.	Four at Farnley Lake.
<u>Little Grebe.</u>	12.1.59.	Six swimming together at Esscroft.
	8.2.59.	A pair at New Bridge.
	8.3.59.	A pair at suspension bridge.
	30.8.59.	Three at Swinsty reservoir.
<u>Slavonian Grebe</u>	15.3.59.	One diving at top end of Swinsty reservoir. Reddish breast and front of neck and ear- tufts seen in good light at 3.30 p.m.
<u>Cormorant</u>	25.4.59.	One flying over Ben Rhydding filter beds.
<u>Heron</u>	14.3.59.	Three at Riversdale.
	30.8.59.	Four at Swinsty.
<u>Mute Swan</u>	15.2.59.	Eight flying up the valley, Ilkley.
	2.4.59.	Nest with 1 egg Ilkley filter beds.
	14.4.59.	Same nest with 7 eggs.
	12.4.59.	Nest at Farnley lake.
<u>Whooper Swans</u>	5.1.59.	Two at Fewston reservoir.
	25.1.59.	One at Mickle Ing.
<u>Mallard.</u>	29.1.59	Two pairs on Panorama reservoir.
	14.3.59.	29 at Riversdale.
	9.4.59.	7 at Ilkley filter beds.
	1.10.59	20 at Ilkley filter beds.
<u>Wigeon</u>	14.3.59.	Two at Riversdale.
<u>Goosander</u>	2.1.59.	Four females on Chelker reservoir.
<u>Goldeneye</u>	11.1.59.	One bird flying West.
	9.12.59.	One at Chelker.
<u>Shelduck</u>	27.2.59.	Two males and one female on Swinsty.
	28.2.59	Two on Chelker reservoir.
	8.11.59	3 on Fewston reservoir.
<u>Grey Goose</u>	24.1.59.	52 flying N.W. up the Valley, calling.
	26.1.59.	100 flying in the same direction.
	1.2.59.	65 flying up the valley, Ilkley.
	3 & 4.10.59.	6 flying over Ilkley.
<u>Whitefronted Goose</u>	14.2.59.	A juvenile Greenland Whitefronted Goose with a damaged right wing and leg, but which could fly well was with a flock of 53 Canada geese on Fewston reservoir.
	1.11.59	One at Swinsty reservoir.
<u>Canada Goose</u>	9.1.59.	35 on Swinsty.
	8.2.59.	35 on Fewston reservoir.
	14.2.59.	53 at Fewston one with aluminium ring on right leg.

Canada Goose (Cont'd)

22.2.59. 16 at Marsh Ghyll reservoir.  
1.3.59. 14 at Marsh Ghyll reservoir.  
8.3.59. 18 at Marsh Ghyll reservoir.  
30.8.59. 28 at Swinsty reservoir.

Buzzard

12.9.59. 1 (species uncertain) at Farnley.

Merlin

19.4.59 1 flying down valley, Ilkley.  
12.12.59. 1 female at Ilkley sewage farm.

Kestrel

1.1.59. 1 flew on to lawn at Bankfield, Ilkley.  
picked up a Dunnock and carried it away  
to eat.  
3.2.59. One in Middleton Woods.

Coot

22.2.59. 19 on Farnley Lake, these birds are abundant  
on this lake all the year round.

Oyster Catcher

A pair laid eggs west of Kilnsey, no young  
reared.  
One pair at Starbottom with 3 young.  
One pair at Halton Ghyll, Littondale, one  
pull ringed.

Ringed Plover.

26.8.59. Two at Lindley reservoir.  
28.8.59. One at Lindley.  
30.8.59. 2 at Swinsty reservoir.  
13.9.59. One at Lindley reservoir.  
5 at Swinsty reservoir.

Grey Plover

13.9.59. One at Lindley reservoir.

Golden Plover.

25.1.59. 70 at Marsh Ghyll.  
1.2.59. 17 at Addingham, 60 at Cringles.  
28.2.59. 32 on Addingham moorside.  
8.3.59. 150 at Marsh Ghyll.  
10.4.59. Nest with 4 eggs on Burley moor.  
30.8.59. 7 at Swinsty.  
13.9.59. 3 at Swinsty.  
27.9.59. 68 on Ilkley golf course.  
76 at Addingham.

Common Snipe

14.3.59. 23 at Riversdale.  
14.4.59. Nest with 2 eggs on Burley Moor.  
31.8.59. 12 at Lindley reservoir.  
2.9.59. 13 at Lindley.  
9.9.59. 21 at Lindley.  
1.10.59. 30 at Ilkley sewage farm.

Jack Snipe

4.10.59. One at Ilkley sewage farm.  
11.10.59. Four at Ilkley.  
8.11.59. Five at Ilkley sewage farm.  
Six birds have been ringed in 1959.

<u>Woodcock</u>	3. 1.59	One in Middleton woods. 2 on 5th.
	8. 2.59	One in Middleton woods.
	28. 3.59	One nest with 1 egg Middleton.
<u>Green Sandpiper</u>	12. 8.59	Two at Castley.
	13. 9.59	One at Lindley.
	25. 9.59	Two at Swinsty.
	28. 8.59	One at Lindley.
	31. 8.59	Two at Lindley.
	2. 9.59	One at Lindley.
<u>Common Sandpiper</u>	19. 4.59	One in Harewood Park.
	24. 4.59	Three at Bolton Abbey.
	30. 8.59	Three at Swinsty.
<u>Redshank</u>	1. 3.59	One at Ben Rhydding filter beds and on the same day three at Marsh Ghyll.
	8. 3.59	12 at Marsh Ghyll.
	8. 4.59	Three calling at High Lanshaw, Burley.
	12.12.59	One at Ilkley sewage farm.
<u>Greenshank</u>	28. 8.59	Two at Lindley and seen frequently during August.
	30. 8.59	Two at Swinsty.
<u>Dunlin</u>	5. 4.59	One at Ben Rhydding filter beds.
	29. 8.59	Two at Lindley.
	13. 9.59	Two at Swinsty.
	1.10.59	One at Ilkley sewage farm.
<u>Curlew Sandpiper</u>	26. 8.59	One at Lindley reservoir.
<u>Gt.Black-backed Gull</u>	5. 4.59	6 at Ben Rhydding filter beds.
<u>Lesser Blk-backed Gull</u>	5. 4.59	About 20 at Ben Rhydding filter beds.
<u>Black Tern</u>	10. 5.59	Four at Chelker reservoir.
<u>Ring Dove</u>	14. 3.59	Over 200 at Riversdale.
<u>Cuckoo</u>	25. 4.59	Heard and seen over Ilkley Golf course and on the moor.
<u>Barn Owl</u>	13. 1.59	One shot at Otley.
<u>Little Owl</u>	14. 1.59	One at Weston.
<u>Tawny Owl</u>	4. 4.59	Nest with two eggs at Addingham, birds ringed after they had hatched.
<u>Swift</u>	25. 4.59	One at Ben Rhydding filter beds.
	2. 8.59	Large number flying around, gone the following day.
	21. 9.59	One at Crum Wheel.
	4.10.59	One at Ben Rhydding.

<u>Lesser Spotted Woodpecker</u>	25. 4.59.	One male in Middleton Woods.
<u>Greater Spotted Woodpecker.</u>		During the cold weather has been seen frequently by various members feeding from bird tables or taking food put out for Tits etc.,
<u>Swallow</u>	14. 4.59	One on Burley moor, two in Ilkley. Last dates third and fourth October about six flying over Ilkley on 25.10.59. Two at Barden.
<u>House Martin</u>	29. 4.59	One at Ilkley.
	13. 9.59	About 100 at Ilkley.
	27. 9.59	Three at Bolton Abbey.
<u>Sand Martin</u>	2. 4.59	One near Old Bridge Ilkley.
	3. 4.59	Four at Ilkley sewage farm.
	14. 4.59	25 at Ben Rhydding filter beds.
	6. 9.59	Two at Ilkley.
<u>Marsh Tit</u>	3. 1.59	Several in Middleton Woods.
<u>Long-tailed Tit</u>	4. 1.59	Six in Middleton Woods.
<u>Mistle Thrush</u>	5. 4.59	Nest with three half grown young at Moor Lane, Burley.
<u>Fieldfare</u>	25. 1.59	Six at Middleton. 102 at Marsh Ghyll During February, large flocks seen at Halton East, Addingham and Marsh Ghyll. During March. 100 at Hubberholme and 90 at Burley Woodhead. 5.10.59 Five on trees in King's Road.
<u>Song Thrush</u>	4. 3.59	An early nest with 3 eggs at Burley,
	18. 3.59	Two young in nest. 8.4.59 young left the nest.
<u>Redwing</u>	3. 1.59	Four in field above Middleton Woods.
	31. 3.59	About 20 with Fieldfares at Hubberholme.
	8.10.59	Flying and calling over Ilkley at 10.p.m.
<u>Ring Ousel</u>	24. 3.59	Seen on Burley moor - next day on Ilkley moor.
	5. 4.59	Two pairs at Marsh Ghyll.
	23. 5.59	Nest and 4 eggs Ilkley Moor.
	23. 5.59	Three young just out of nest.
<u>Blackbird</u>	3. 9.59	One with white tail, the Grove, Ilkley.
<u>Wheatear</u>	23. 3.59	First seen on Burley Moor.
	31. 3.59	A pair at Yockenthwaite.
<u>Whinchat</u>	24. 5.59	Two males on Ilkley Moor. Nest found and nestlings ringed.
<u>Common Redstart</u>	5. 4.59	One at Riffa.
<u>Sedge Warbler</u>	10. 5.59	Three at Ilkley sewage farm.

<u>Blackcap</u>	3. 5.59.	One singing in Middleton Woods.
	29.11.59	One female caught and ringed, Ilkley.
	5.12.59	One female without ring at New Bridge, Ilkley.
	12.12.59	Two males at Ilkley sewage farm.
<u>Willow Warbler.</u>	11. 4.59	One in Middleton Woods.
	14. 4.59	Two in Panorama Woods.
<u>Chiff Chaff</u>	30. 3.59	One in Middleton Woods.
	16. 9.59	One seen singing at Riffa.
<u>Spotted Flycatcher</u>	9. 5.59	One in Middleton Woods.
	29. 8.59	One at Ilkley.
<u>Pied Flycatcher</u>	14. 4.59	One male at Ben Rhydding filter beds
	24. 5.59	Two pairs started nesting at Middleton.
<u>Tree Pipit</u>	25. 4.59	One in Middleton Woods.
<u>Pied Wagtail</u>	25. 3.59	30 plus at Ilkley sewage farm.
<u>White Wagtail</u>	25. 3.59	Four with Pieds at Ilkley.
<u>Yellow Wagtail</u>	14. 4.59	Three males at Ilkley sewage farm.
		next day there were 12.
	6. 9.59	Three at Ilkley sewage farm.
	10.10.59	Two at Ilkley sewage farm.
<u>Waxwing</u>	30. 1.59	Three at Sunset Drive, one seen on subsequent days. Two reported from Otley about the same period.
	22.11.59	Four in Magerison Road, Ben Rhydding feeding on pears still on the tree.
	10.12.59	One in Parish Ghyll Road.
	5.12.59	About 12 in a garden in Cowpasture Road,
<u>Hawfinch</u>	27. 2.59 & 13.3.59.	Flock of 15 seen in a wood near Rocky Valley.
		During November and December one visiting a garden in King's Road daily.
<u>Greenfinch</u>	5. 4.59	30 at Ben Rhydding filter beds.
	25. 4.59	About 40 in Denton Park with other finches.
	8.11.59 & 22.11.59.	Mixed flock of finches, about two-thirds of which were Greenfinches at Lindley.
<u>Siskins</u>	5. 1.59	Two with flock of Redpolls in Middleton Woods.
	30.11.59	Flock of about 20 in Hebers Ghyll.
<u>Linnet</u>	31. 3.59	Flock of 31 at Burley Woodhead.
<u>Redpoll Lesser</u>	3. 1.59	Large flock in Middleton Woods.
	8. 2.59	27 in Middleton Woods.
<u>Mealy Redpoll</u>	22. 2.59	Five in Panorama Woods.



<u>Crossbill</u>	22. 2.59	Two nests found in Ilkley, later they were destroyed, probably by squirrels.
	13. 4.59	18 flying from Hebers Ghyll on to moor.
	14.12.59	40 at Lindley. During early December 2 pairs apart from the flock seen in Hebers Ghyll.
<u>Brambling</u>	18.10.59	One male at Ilkley sewage farm.
	8.11.59 & 22.11.59.	About 200 mixed finches mostly Greenfinches but about 60 Bramblings at Lindley.
<u>Snow Bunting</u>		From December 1958 to end of January 1959 a small party of 5 in the Carr Bottom area on Burley Moor. One seen Dec.1959.
<u>Tree Sparrow</u>	4. 4.59	1 at Cocking End, Ilkley.
	5. 4.59	1 at Ben Rhydding filter beds. During the year 36 of this species have been ringed.

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

W. F. FEARNLEY - Recorder.

#### TRAP REPORT

During 1959 the ringers of our Society have ringed a total of 1,645 birds of 46 species.

We have had a number of recoveries and the following are worthy of note:-

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date ringed</u>	<u>Date recovered</u>	<u>Place</u>
Song Thrush	27.5.56	31.1.59	Ballinagh. Ireland.
Meadow Pipit	14.12.58	19.1.59	Nr. Matlock, Derbys.
Lapwing	27.5.58	14.1.59	Boyardville, Ile d'Oleron France.
Pied Wagtail	11.8.58	18.2.59	Zebreira, Nr. Idanha-a-Nova (Beira Baixa) Portugal.
Blackbird	29.9.52	end 1.59	Where ringed $6\frac{1}{2}$ yrs old.
Lapwing	15.5.56	12. 1.59	Port de Goulee, France.
Lapwing	4.5.57	16. 1.59	le Chateau d'Oleron. France.
Blk.headed Gull.	1.7.53	14. 6.59	Near where ringed. 6 yrs old.

All these birds were ringed in or near Ilkley. We are grateful to our members who put in so much time ringing for the Society and so enable us to produce this comprehensive report.

O. M. PENNOCK.

#### DUCK COUNTS

For the first two months of the year, the reservoirs of the Washburn Valley were largely frozen over, leaving only small areas of open water. Even so, the numbers of ducks seen were rather better than the previous two years, with Lindley Reservoir having the largest numbers and most species. Mallard as usual were the commonest, and of the rarer ducks, a pair of Pintail were seen on Lindley Reservoir on Jan.18th, and Goosanders were only recorded on Grimwith Reservoir on March 15th.



At the end of July and during August, there was a special count for Grimwith Reservoir, but only small numbers of ducks were seen, probably due to the very low water level.

No doubt the summer drought also had its effect on the September, October and November counts, as the reservoirs were almost empty. It was not until December that they filled up, but the numbers of ducks remained low. However, on Dec. 28th, Fewston and Swinsty Reservoirs had more wildfowl on them than had been recorded at any other time during the year. Fewston had 97 Canada Geese, 1 Whitefront, about 100 Mallard, 24 Teal, 24 Pochard, 26 Goldeneye, and 8 Tufted Ducks. Swinsty had about 460 Mallard, 3 Teal, 5 Widgeon, 6 Goldeneye and 18 Tufted Ducks.

Main details of species:-

- MALLARD - Commonest on Lindley with 259 on Jan.25, and 266 on Oct.18th. Smaller numbers recorded on all other reservoirs, apart from about 460 on Swinsty on Dec. 28th.
- TEAL - As in previous years, usually present in small numbers. 58 on Grimwith on July 26th. About 150 present on Fewston during September and Oct.
- WIDGEON - Rather fewer records than in previous years. 28 on Lindley on Jan.25, 20 on Grimwith on March 15th, and 10 to 15 seen there in November and December.
- PINTAIL - A pair were seen on Lindley on Jan 18th.
- SHOVELER- Two were seen on Lindley on Sept. 13th.
- POCHARD - Rather scarce this year. Two seen on Fewston on March 15th. Two to three seen on Grimwith between July 26th and Sept.13th. 37 on Lindley on Dec. 13th.
- TUFTED  
DUCK - Small numbers (up to 12) recorded on all reservoirs in most months. Maximum of 19 seen on Fewston on March 15th.
- GOLDENEYE--Few recorded January to March, and October to December on all reservoirs. 11 seen on Lindley on Jan.25th and 9 seen on Fewston on March 15th and Dec.13th.
- GOOSANDER-2 Males and 3 Females seen on Grimwith on March 15th.
- WHOOPEE  
SWAN-5 adults and 4 immatures were seen on Jan.11th on Swinsty.
- WHITE- One juvenile of the Greenland race was seen on Feb.15th on Swinsty  
FRONTED -with the flock of Canada Geese. An adult Whitefront was recorded on  
GOOSE. Swinsty on Oct.18th in company with the Canada Geese. It was seen on either Swinsty or Fewston with this flock until Dec. 29th.
- CANADA  
GOOSE - Usually recorded on Fewston, occasionally on Swinsty, and once on Lindley on March 15th, when three were present. Numbers on Fewston varied from 52 counted on Feb. 15th to 101 on Dec. 13th.

Thanks are due to the Leeds Corporation Waterworks Department for permission to visit the Washburn Valley reservoirs, to the Bradford Corporation Waterworks Department for permission to visit Grimwith Reservoir, and to all the observers who have helped in the counts.

E. S. SKINNER.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SECTION

LEPIDOPTERA RECORDS - Mrs.F.C. Draper.

BUTTERFLIES:

Pieris napi (Green-veined White)	Woodhead	May 8th
Very abundant on marshy ground all the summer.		
Parage megera (Wall Brown)	Pool-in-Wharfedale	May 30th
One specimen.		
Coenonympha pamphilus (Small Heath)	Woodhead	June 13th
Abundant.		
Pieris rapae (Small White)	Woodhead	July 9th
Very abundant in gardens all the summer.		
Pieris brassicae (Large White)	Woodhead	July 9th
Very abundant.		
Aglais urticae (Small Tortoiseshell)	Woodhead	July 9th
Abundant here and on moor top.		
Maniola justina (Meadow Brown)	Burley-in-Wharfedale.	July 27th
A few specimens seen.		
Lycaena phlaeas (Small Copper)	Woodhead	Aug. 14th
Fairly frequent throughout August & September.		
Vanessa atlanta (Red Admiral)	Woodhead	Aug. 21st
Frequent, also in heather in fenced area on moor top.		
Vanessa cardui (Painted Lady)	Burley Moor	Aug. 21st
One specimen on heather in fenced area.		

MOTHS: These were all recorded at Woodhead.

Spilosoma menthastri (White Ermine)		May 27th
Opisthographis luteolata (Brimstone)		May 28th
Spilosoma lubricipeda (Buff Ermine)		June 5th
Plusia gamma (Silver Y) very abundant.		June 16th
Plusia pulchrina (Beautiful Golden Y)		June 16th
Plusia jota (Plain Golden Y)		June 18th
Hepialus humuli (Ghost Swift)		June 18th
Euplexia lucipasa (Small Angle Shades)		June 20th
Triphoena pronuba (Large Yellow Underwing)	Very abundant.	June 20th
Plusia festucae (Gold Spot)		June 24th
Chaerocampa elepenas (Large Elephant Hawk)		June 25th
Plusia chrystitis (Burnishes Brass)		June 27th
Epirrhoe alternata (Common carpet)		June 27th
Lygris populata (Northern Spinach)		June 27th
Lygris mellinata (Spinach)		June 28th
Xylophasia monoglypha (Dark Arches)		June 28th
Xantharoe montanata (Silver-ground Carpet)		June 28th
Campaea margaritata (Light Emerald)		July 11th
Crocallis elinguaris (Scalloped Oak)		July 15th
Curapteryx sambucaria (Swallow-tail)		July 15th
Pheosia dictaoides (Lesser Swallow Prominent)		July 25th
Triphaena ianthina (Lesser Broad-bordered Underwing)		July 30th
Polia chi (Grey Chi)		July 30th

MOTHS (Cont'd)

<i>Cerapteryz grammis</i> (Antler)	Very abundant.	July 30th
<i>Deuteronomos alinaria</i> (Canary-shouldered Thorn)		Aug. 16th
<i>Xantharoe fluctuata</i> (Garden Carpet)		Aug. 18th
<i>Noctua plecta</i> (Flame Shoulder)		Aug. 20th
<i>Lithomoria solidaginis</i> (Golden-rod Brindle)		Aug. 25th
<i>Tapinostola fulva</i> (Small Wainscot)		Aug. 28th
<i>Cirrhia icteritia</i> (Swallow)		Aug. 28th
<i>Hydroecia micacea</i> (Rosy Rustic)		Sept. 5th
<i>Polychrisia moneta</i> (Golden Plusia)		Sept. 7th
<i>Anchoscelis heltola</i> (Flounced Chestnut)		Sept. 8th
<i>Noctua glaneosa.</i> (Autumnal Rustic)		Sept. 8th
<i>Cirrhia gillago</i> (Dusky-lemon Sallow)		Sept. 8th
<i>Oporina filigrammaria</i> (Small Autumnal Carpet)		Sept. 8th
<i>Hydroecia nictilans</i> (Ear Moth)		Sept. 10th
<i>Anchoscelis litura</i> (Brown-spot Pinion)		Sept. 10th
<i>Agrochola lychnidis</i> (Beaded Chestnut)		Sept. 17th
<i>Miselia oxyacanthae</i> var. <i>capucina</i> (Green-brindled Crescent)		Sept. 17th
<i>Oporina dilutata</i> (November Moth)		Oct. 7th
<i>Colotois pennaria</i> (Feathered Thorn)		Oct. 11th

All the moths recorded above were attracted to the light at Chevin View, Woodhead, at the edge of the moor.

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