

- SCHOUGAARD, S. N. 1924: Fuglene i Bryrupegnen. — Danske Fugle 1.
 SKOVGAARD, P. 1937: Fuglenes Udbredelse og Forekomst som Ynglefugle i Danmark. — Danske Fugle 4.
 WESTERSKOV, K. 1941: De i Danmark ynglende Tornskadearter. — Dansk Orn. For. Tidsskr. 35.
 WIELANDT, E. 1924: Fuglelivet i Palsgaard Skov og Omegn. — Danske Fugle 1.

Ornithological Observations in the Summer Palace Grounds Near Peking.

By AXEL M. HEMMINGSEN.

(Med et dansk Resumé: Ornithologiske Iagttagelser i Sommerpalads Omraadet ved Peking.)

Interesting notes on the bird life of the Summer Palace grounds in summer have been published by WILDER (1925, p. 603 seqq.). As some of the species he observed were evidently absent in the summer of 1943 when I visited the locality; and, on the other hand others were present in that year, which he would certainly have noted had they been there in 1925, it seems worth while to record here my observations during a number of visits to this locality. Some observations made in winter and spring of other years will also be included.

The winter and spring visits were on 5. Jan. 1942, 12. Jan. 1942, 6. April 1942, 17. April 1942, 9. Jan. 1944, 2. Jan. 1946, 11. Febr. 1946; the summer visits were all in 1943, viz. 20.—21. June (putting up in the small "hotel" on Lung-wang-tao, the Dragon King Island (see fig. 3), 5. July, and 10. Aug.

In 1942 I had either no glasses (5. and 12. Jan.) or only relatively bad glasses (6. and 17. April) and, therefore, could only identify a few species. At later visits I had excellent glasses and had also in the meantime acquired more field experience elsewhere in North China.

Within each of the two seasons winter and summer the species will be dealt with in alphabetic order of generic names. The nomenclature is the same as will be adopted in a work to be published by the author on observations on birds in North Eastern China (see literature) and is based largely on SHAW (1936) but with a number of changes deemed necessary

according to the advice of Professor HANS JOHANSEN, formerly of Tomsk University, now working at the Zoological Museum of Copenhagen.

The following abbreviations will be used: m., male; f., female.

I. Observations in Winter.

In winter the whole of the Summer Palace lake was ice-covered except usually the North Western tip, where it is fed

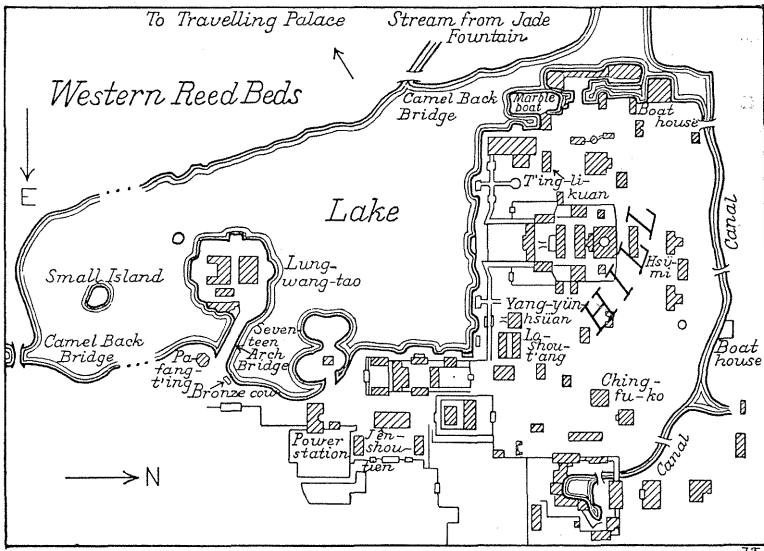


Fig. 1.

Sketch map of the Summer Palace Grounds, from ARLINGTON and LEWISOHN (1935) with a few alterations, but with no claim to accuracy. The areas of the Lake and the Western Reed Beds are much larger than indicated and there are also other disproportions.

from the stream from the Jade Fountain, and an open lane in the ice East of the small island in the South part. The winter of 1945-46 was milder than the other winters; and the occurrence on 11. Febr. 1946 of a number of interesting forms in reeds or near them at the beach of the unfrozen stream, which, coming from the Jade Fountain, feeds the Summer Palace lake (fig. 2), must be ascribed either to this mild winter or to the particular locality (3 p. m. air 6°C .; water 8°C .; in shade from a tree at the beach): one or a few *Anthus h. hodgsoni* Richm.

(Eastern Tree Pipit), several *Anthus spinoletta blakistoni* Swinh. (Blakiston's Water Pipit), one *Anthus spinoletta japonicus* Temm. & Schleg. (Japanese Water Pipit), a couple of *Panurus biarmicus ruscicus* (Brehm) (Eastern Bearded Tit), a *Phylloscopus* (Willow Warbler), a ?*Rallus aquaticus indicus* Blyth (Indian Water Rail), 30-40 *Suthora webbiana fulvicauda* Campbell (North China Crow Tit), 3 or more *Troglodytes t. idius* (Richm.) (North China Wren).

Incidentally a number of interesting observations were made on the same day at the near-by Jade Fountain: two *Anthus h. hodgsoni* Richm. (Eastern Tree Pipit), *Spodiopsar cineraceus* (Temm.) (Grey Starling) in small parties, in trees some doves of each of the three species *Streptopelia chinensis frigidis* Stres. (North China Spotted Dove), *Streptopelia decaocto stoliczkae* (Hume) (Eastern Ring Dove), and *Streptopelia o. orientalis* (Lath.) (Rufous Turtle Dove), yet most of the last one, one *Turdus n. naumanni* Temm. (Red-tailed Thrush), and one *Troglodytes t. idius* (Richm.) (North China Wren) under eaves; at and in the ice-free pond one or more *Alcedo atthis bengalensis* Gm. (Common Indian Kingfisher), 15 *Podiceps ruficollis poggei* (Rchw.) (Chinese Little Grebe); in the marshy localities two or more *Anthus spinoletta blakistoni* Swinh. (Blakiston's Water Pipit) and 2 *Capella solitaria* (Hodgs.) (Eastern Solitary Snipe). Of birds of prey were seen a *Cerchneis tinnunculus interstinctus* (Mc. Clell.) (Japanese Kestrel), and a *Circus* sp. (Harrier).

The following is a list of all the species seen within the Summer Palace compound on the winter dates 5. Jan. 1942, 12. Jan. 1942, 9. Jan. 1944, 2. Jan. 1946, 11. Febr. 1946.

Accipiter probably *nisus nisosimilis* (Tick.) (Asiatic Sparrow Hawk). 9. Jan. 1944, 2. Jan. 1946, 11. Febr. 1946. Single ones.

Anas p. platyrhynchos L. (Mallard). 12. Jan. 1942, one chased by a goshawk (or peregrine falcon); 9. Jan. 1944, 2-3000 mostly in the North Western ice-free tip of the lake; 2. Jan. 1946, some; 11. Febr. 1946, 2-300, of which males barely in majority.

Anas poecilorhyncha zonorhyncha Swinh. (Yellow-nib Duck). 2. Jan. and 11. Febr. 1946, minor parties.

Anthus h. hodgsoni Richm. (Eastern Tree Pipit). 2. Jan. and 11. Febr. 1946, a few single ones. One collected 2. Jan.

Anthus spinoletta blakistoni Swinh. (Blakiston's Water Pipit). 2. Jan. 1946, numerous on ice near beach at the North Western Camel-Back Bridge; 11. Febr. 1946 20-30 in shorn reed beds.

Anthus spinoletta japonicus Temm. & Schleg. (Japanese Water Pipit). 11. Febr. 1946, probably one with many *A. s. blakistoni*, from which it differed by being darker and a little smaller and by being sharply streaked with black on the breast; perhaps also by having lighter legs, though not light flesh-coloured like those of *A. h. hodgsoni* Richm.

Astur gentilis schvedowi Menzb. (Eastern Goshawk). 12. Jan. 1942 (probably). I was standing on the top of the marble Camel-Back Bridge at the South end of the lake and saw the mallard, which it was chasing, dive into the canal, while the goshawk-like bird settled in a tree near by. As I had no glasses I am not absolutely sure of the identification.

Botaurus s. stellaris (L.) (Bittern). 9. Jan. 1944. What was probably a wintering bittern came flying over the partly shorn reed beds and on settling in a rather bare area immediately thrust its neck upwards in the manner characteristic of these birds, but walking nearer I lost sight of it.

Bucephala c. clangula (L.) (Goldeneye). 9. Jan. 1944, 6 (2 m., 4 f.); 2. Jan. 1926, some; 11. Febr. 1946, 21, of which 17 m.

Buteo lagopus pallidus (Menzb.) (Siberian Rough-legged Buzzard). 9. Jan. 1944, white buzzard with round black spot under the wings, which had also dark tips; and with a dark spot on each side of the abdomen.

Cerchmeis tinnunculus interstinctus (McClell.) (Japanese Kestrel). 9. Jan. 1944, 1-2, of which one was a female or young male perched in a tree.

Chloris s. sinica (L.) (Chinese Greenfinch). 11. Febr. 1946, a few.

Coloews monedula dauuricus (Pall.) (Chinese Pied Jackdaw). 5. or 12. Jan. 1942, flocks; 9. Jan. 1944, numerous pied ones; 11. Febr. 1946, 2-3000 pied ones; very few black ones.

Corvus frugilegus pastinator Gould (Chinese Rook). 9. Jan. 1944, numerous; 11. Febr., a few.

Corvus torquatus Less. (Collared Crow). 11. Febr. 1946, 1-2.

Cyanopica cyanus interposita Hart. (North China Azure-

winged Magpie). 5. or 12. Jan. 1942, flocks; 11. Febr. 1944, minor party North of the hill.

Cygnus olor (Gm.) (Mute Swan). 9. Jan. 1944, 1 young greyish coloured swan with reddish bill — not yellow — and a small knob at base of bill. This species is considered very rare in North China but has been identified by myself both in the Peking lakes in 1942 as well as twice at Peitaiho Beach (one specimen collected).

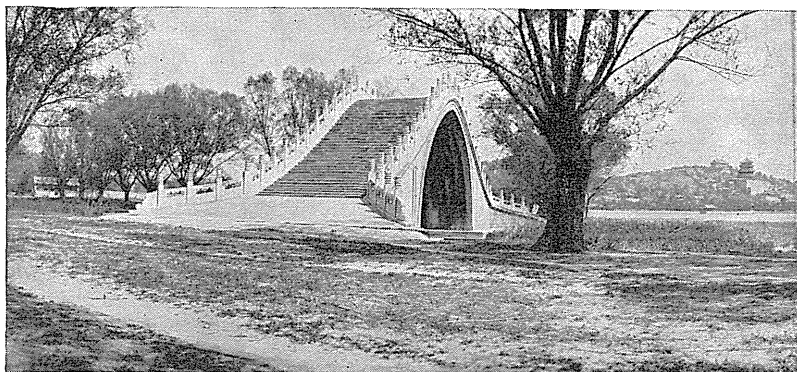


Fig. 2.

JUNG CHEN phot.

The Camel-Back Bridge crossing the stream that feeds the Summer Palace lake (to the right). The locality mentioned in the text is just to the left of the bridge. In the background the Summer Palace. The area to the right of the bridge rich in Water Pipits (*Anthus spinoletta blakistoni* Swinhoe) in winter. View from South West.

Dryobates c. cabanisi (Malh.) (North China Pied Woodpecker). 9. Jan. 1944 and 2. Jan. 1946, 1 or a few.

Emberiza leucocephala subsp. (Pine Bunting). 5. or 12. Jan. 1942, probably heard.

Emberiza pallasi subsp. (Pallas' Reed Bunting). 11. Febr. 1946, some.

Emberiza rustica subsp. (probably *latifascia* Portenko) (Rustic Bunting). Probably 9. Jan. 1944 and 2. Jan. 1946; 11. Febr. 1946, seen some, *e. g.* once 10; 11. Febr. it sang.

Mergellus albellus (L.) (Smew). 11. Febr. 1946, 1 m., 4 f.

Mergus merganser subsp. (Goosander). 9. Jan. 1944, 4 f. near the North Western Camel-Back Bridge; 5 m. in South end of lake, swimming from one ice-edge to the other, each time

diving immediately before reaching the edge. 2. Jan. 1946, a couple, later 1 m., 2 f.; 11. Febr., 2 m., later 1 m., 4 f.

Milvus migrans lineatus (Gray) (Black-eared Kite). 9. Jan. 1944, one.

Panurus biarmicus russicus (Brehm) (Eastern Bearded Tit). 11. Febr. 1946, a couple in reeds at the North Western Camel-Back Bridge.

Parus major artatus Thayer & Bangs (North China Tit). 5. or 12. Jan. 1942, 2. Jan. 1946, a few.

Parus palustris hellmayri Bianchi (East China Marsh Tit). 2. Jan. 1946, sang; 11. Febr. 1946, sang.

Passer montanus subsp. (Tree Sparrow). 9. Jan. 1944, some.

Phoenicurus a. auroreus (Pall.) (Daurian Redstart). 11. Febr. 1946, a female seen and heard calling in reeds at South end of lake.

Phylloscopus sp. (Willow Warbler). 11. Febr. 1946. One in reeds at the beach of the unfrozen stream which, coming from the Jade Fountain, feeds the Summer Palace lake. It is the only time I have seen a willow warbler in winter in North China. It had a not very conspicuous light superciliary stripe, but no light wing-bars. It was very greyish except on the wings, which were distinctly greenish. Bill and legs looked black. But for the green on the wings and the somewhat fly-catcher-like behaviour and absence of any call, it might have been taken for *Phylloscopus f. fuscatus* (Blyth) (Brown Bush Warbler). It corresponded perhaps best to the description of *Phylloscopus trochiloides plumbeitarsus* Swinh. (Middendorff's Willow Warbler), but the bill looked perhaps too thin.

Pica pica subsp. (Magpie). 9. Jan. 1944, seen.

Picus canus subsp. (Grey-headed Woodpecker). 2. Jan. 1946; 11. Febr. 1946, two first notes of song heard.

Podiceps ruficollis poggei (Rchw.) (Chinese Little Grebe). 9. Jan. 1944, 20; 2. Jan. 1946, some; 11. Febr. 1946, 10.

Rallus aquaticus indicus Blyth (Indian Water Rail). 11. Febr. 1946, a rail, probably this species.

Regulus r. japonensis Blakist. (Japanese Goldcrest). 2. Jan. 1946, one seen at very close range.

Streptopelia chinensis frigoris Stres. (North China Spotted Dove). 11. Febr. 1946, one.

Streptopelia o. orientalis (Lath.) (Rufous Turtle Dove). 9. Jan. 1944, some on the hill; 2. Jan. 1946, several.

Suthora webbiana fulvicauda Campbell (North China Crow Tit). 9. Jan. 1944 and 11. Febr. 1946, small flocks in the heaps of reeds or in reeds. WILDER (1932, p. 33-34) has seen this species in what seems to be practically one of the same localities.

Troglodytes t. idius (Richm.) (North China Wren). 11. Febr. 1946, 3 or more at North Western Camel-Back Bridge.

Turdus n. naumanni Temm. (Red-tailed Thrush). 11. Febr. 1946, one.

Upupa epops saturata Lönnb. (Eastern Hoopoe). 11. Febr. 1946, 4 near entrance.

Yungipicus s. scintilliceps (Swinh.) (North China Spark-headed Woodpecker). 9. Jan. 1944, one.

II. Observations in Spring.

6. April 1942: Abt. 150 *Phalacrocorax* prob. *carbo sinensis* (Shaw & Nodd.) (Chinese Cormorant), of which many were sitting in the trees on the small island in the South part of the lake. A goose which as far as I could see was *Cygnopsis cygnoides* (L.) (Swan Goose) was in the middle of the lake. Furthermore, the following swimming birds were seen in the lake: *Anas p. platyrhynchos* L. (Mallard), *Bucephala c. clangula* (L.) (Goldeneye), *Dafila a. acuta* (L.) (Pintail), *Eunetta falcata* (Georgi) (Falcated Teal), *Fulica a. atra* L. (Coot), *Mareca penelope* (L.) (Wigeon), a few *Mergus merganser* subsp. (Goosander) (1 m.), *Nettion c. crecca* (L.) (Common Teal), *Nyroca fuligula* (L.) (Tufted Duck), *Nyroca n. baeri* (Radde) (Eastern White-eyed Duck) (a few), *Podiceps c. cristatus* (L.) (Great Crested Grebe), perhaps some *Podiceps ruficollis poggei* (Rchw.) (Chinese Little Grebe), *Querquedula querquedula* (L.) (Garganey), and *Spatula clypeata* (L.) (Shoveller).

17. April 1942 only two minor falcons have been marked down.

III. Observations in Summer.

The conditions obtaining in the South part of the lake in the summer of 1943 may be judged from the facts that on 20. June *Nelumbo nucifera* Gaertn. (Lotus) had begun to flower in some places, while 10. Aug. the seeds were collected (for food) by people wading waist-deep in the lake, where they often disappeared among the giant leaves.

The following is a list of the species seen in the Summer Palace Compound on the summer dates 20.-21. June, 5. July, and 10. Aug., all in 1943:

Acrocephalus agricola concinens (Swinh.) (Chinese Paddy-field Warbler). Probably seen and heard 20. June in reed beds.

Acrocephalus arundinaceus orientalis (Temm. & Schleg.) (Eastern Great Reed Warbler). 20. June and 5. July a few (1-2) were in the reeds of the East beach of the lake, but in the extensive reed beds West of the lake there were more. None were noted 5. July at the canal North of the hill although there were reeds enough. 10. Aug. no songs were heard but the characteristic call still heard in the reed beds where two families were observed. Just as at Wang-hai-lou, outside P'ing-tsêh-men (gate in Western City Wall of Peking), where I actually found a nest of this species with 4 eggs beside a cuckoo's egg, also here the region where *A. a. orientalis* was numerous, was haunted by many *Cuculus canorus telephonus* Heine (Asiatic Cuckoo).

Acrocephalus bistrigiceps Swinh. (V. Schrenck's Reed Warbler). A reed warbler seen 5. July, with a light eye-brow stripe surmounted by a black one, was probably this species.

Alcedo atthis bengalensis Gm. (Common Indian Kingfisher). 20-21. June, 1 hovering over water at East beach of lake; probably one at canal; 10. Aug., a couple of times over the canal, and on the poles of the fish traps put up in the lake.

Anas poecilorhyncha zonorhyncha Swinh. (Yellow-nib Duck). 5. July, a couple (m. & f.) in the lake near the small island in South part of the lake standing near some grey herons.

Similar apparently childless couples have been seen by myself in the summer of 1942 (3. June, 9. June, 23. July) at and near the rivers West of Peitaiho Beach, and in June 1925 by WILDER (1925) who, however, found the testes of a male then shot to be 2 inches long.

Ardea cinerea jowyi Clark (Eastern Grey Heron). 20. June, 3 adults and 1 brownish young one on the small island in the South part of the lake; 5. July, also 2-3 and 1 young seen; 10. Aug., none seen.

Ardeola bacchus (Bp.) (Chinese Pond Heron). 20. June, Western Reed Beds 1; 5. July, lake and Western Reed Beds 3-4, of which 1 young (grey where the adults were brown, striped neck); 10. Aug., South of lake 3-4.

Cheniscus c. coromandelianus (Gm.) (Cotton Teal). 20. June, near the small island in South part of lake 1 f.; 5. July, near same island a couple (m. & f.).

Chloris s. sinica (L.) (Chinese Greenfinch). 20. & 21. June, South of bridge over canal North of the hill 1 or a few.

Columba r. rupestris Pall. (Bar-tailed Rock Pigeon). 20. June, 5. July and 10. Aug., 3 or some few more, near and in an old empty boat house East of the big bridge leading over the canal North of the hill from the ruins from the Ming Dynasty to the now closed North entrance of the Palace grounds. The call recorded was *ignüg ignüg* or only *gnüg gnüg* (slightly reminding of the call of *Hydrophasianus chirurgus* (Scop.) at a rate of 3 *gnüg's* per sec., the bird turning in a circle, probably in the presence of a female. Once it was heard at the rate of 1 per second (bird not seen).

Corvus frugilegus pastinator Gould (Chinese Rook). 20. June and 5. July, some in trees at lake, including young ones.

Corvus leuallantii hassi Rchw. (North China Jungle Crow). 20.-21. June, on Lung-wang-tao; call: *wor wor* or *krarr krarr*; 5. July 1 adult & 2 young.

Corvus torquatus Less. (Collared Crow). 20. June and 5. July, some at South end of lake.

Cuculus canorus telephonus Heine (Asiatic Cuckoo). 20. June and 5. July, heard and seen males and females in and around the Western Reed Beds, as usual where there are *Acrocephalus arundinaceus orientalis* (Temm. & Schleg.) (Eastern

Great Reed Warbler), on which it imposes. 10. Aug., what were probably 2-3 young ones were seen at the Western Reed Beds; no calls (except perhaps a f.).

Cuculus m. micropterus Gould (Indian Cuckoo). 20.-21. June and 5. July, seen and heard several both males and females, on Lung-wang-tao (cf. fig. 3), where many *Cyanopica*, the host of this cuckoo, nested, also near Jên-shou-tien. 21. June, male on Lung-wang-tao in the very early morning in moon

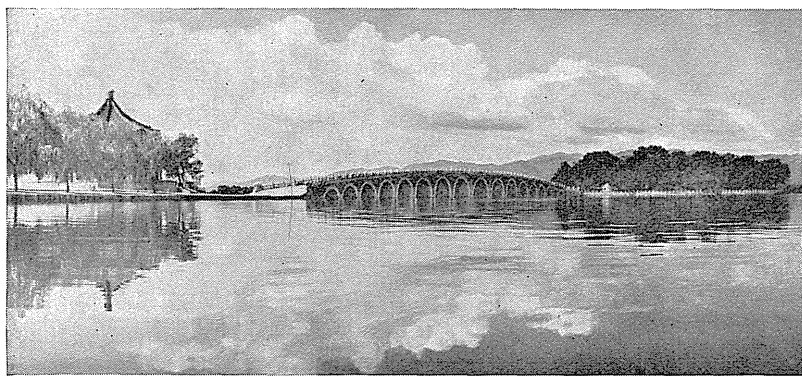


Fig. 3.

JUNG CHEN phot.

The Summer Palace Lake. To the right the seventeen-arched bridge leads to the Dragon King Island (Lung-wang-tao) where North China Azure-winged Magpies (*Cyanopica cyanus interposita* Hart.) quarrelled with Indian Cuckoos (*Cuculus m. micropterus* Gould). Eastern Swifts (*Micropus apus pekinensis* (Swinhoe) chased one another in couples round Pa-fang-t'ing, the pavillon to the left of the bridge. View from North East.

light repeating call at very quick rate. Male, wagging tail sideways, or drooping wings, when excited by near-by female. Aug. 10., despite searching and listening for young in the places where adults had been heard 20. June and 5. July, and where *Cyanopica* had been nesting and still lived, nothing at all was seen or heard of this cuckoo, although several young fed by *Cyanopica* were seen at Wo-fu-ssu (Sleeping Buddha Temple), not far from the Summer Palace, before and after that date (cf. HEMMINGSEN 1946).

Cyanopica cyanus interposita Hart. (North China Azure-winged Magpie). 20. June, several nests with young in *Thuja orientalis* L. (Arbor Vitae) in front of T'ing-li-kuan

(Hear-Oriole-Palace, *i. e.* The Palace of the Oriole Song) at North beach of the lake, about 10-15 × 15-20 cm. in size as estimated from below, consisting of twigs with dried mud in between. One young with bleeding neck lay on ground below a nest (cuckoo's work?). 1 nest was abt. 7-8 m. above ground. Also several nests in willows on Lung-wang-tao, where also some young were perching outside the nests. 21. June, seen chasing *Corvus leuillanti hassi* Rchw. and *Cuculus m. micropterus* Gould; were seen to be able to sit vertically on bark of tree trunk. 5. July, seen in various places, also young; 10. Aug., some on Lung-wang-tao.

Dicrurus macrocercus cathoecus Swinh. (Chinese Black Drongo). 20.-21. June, 2 at canal North of hill seen chasing down after a crow, call *bä bä*; one flying over lake; 5. July, a few at canal, and abt. 10-20, of which many young, in trees at the ruins of a former "Travelling Palace" West of the Western Reed Beds immediately within the wall of the Summer Palace grounds. There was a lively calling sounding like so many cracked violins. 10. Aug., several both in the same two localities as on 5. July, and along the path through the reed beds and along the East beach of the lake.

Dryobates c. cabanisi (Malh.) (North China Pied Woodpecker). 20.-21. June, 5. July, noted; 21. June, drumming heard (species?).

Egretta alba probably *modesta* (Gray) (Eastern Great Egret). 20. June, in the evening abt. 40 on the small island in the South part of the lake together with a few *E. g. garzetta* (L.), some on the ground, some in the trees. In the morning abt. 60 had been seen in the rice fields South of the Summer Palace grounds in company with 5-6 *E. g. garzetta* (L.); 5. July, many seen on the above mentioned small island with abt. 6 *E. g. garzetta* (L.); 10. Aug., none seen.

Egretta g. garzetta (L.) (Little Egret). 20. June, a few on the small island in the South part of the lake with abt. 40 *E. alba* (see also under *E. alba*); 5. July, abt. 6 on same island with many *E. alba*; 10. Aug., none.

1-2 ribbon-like narrow bands seen hanging down the nape reaching almost to the back when standing; the yellow toes contrasted with the black feet when flying; and the pronounced

size difference as compared with *E. alba* served to identify this species with certainty.

Emberiza aureola subsp. (Yellow-breasted Bunting). 10. Aug., Western Reed Beds, 1 flushed from reeds to tree. Other bunting calls from the reeds may have come from other birds of the same species. This observation together with the appearance of *Hemichelidon s. sibirica* (Gm.) (Pale Siberian

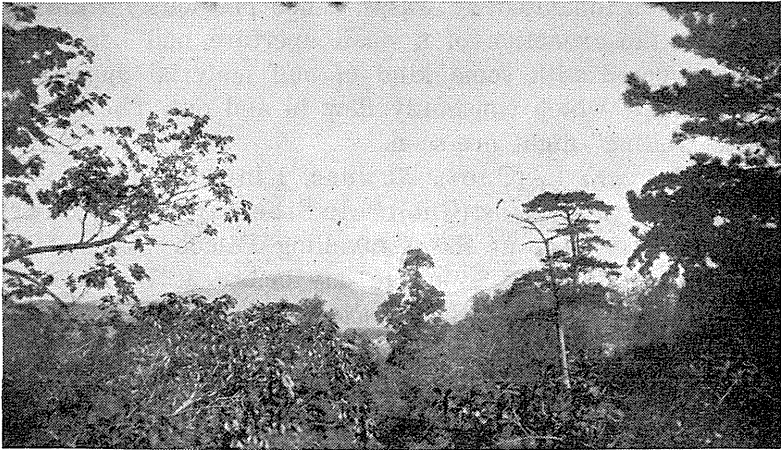


Fig. 4.

HEMMINGSSEN phot.

View toward the North from the Summer Palace Hill. The bare outstanding twigs to the right was the favourite base of a couple of Chinese Broad-billed Roller (*Eurystomus orientalis calonyx* Sharpe).

Flycatcher) on 9. Aug. at Wo-fu-ssu (Sleeping Buddha Temple) near the Summer Palace and also 10. Aug. in the Summer Palace grounds (see later) were the first signs of autumn migration in the Peking area after abt. 2 months of practically constant bird life as regards presence of species.

Erythropus amurensis (Radde) (Eastern Red-legged Falcon). 20.-21. June, 2 inhabited nests in tall trees near the canal; at one nest two birds chased away a kite; 5. July, neither heard nor seen.

Eurystomus orientalis calonyx Sharpe (Chinese Broad-billed Roller). 20. June, at the canal South of the big bridge in front of Hsü-mi a couple perching on dry twigs in very tall trees (fig. 4), darting out on long flights and returning to 2-3

such bases. One of them twice flew to a hole in a tree calling *kak-kak-kak*; the third time it entered and remained inside. One of them sat for some time with bill open and one wing unfolded, probably to facilitate heat loss. Whitish spot on wing seen when flying, bill downwards curved. 21. June, after waiting for $\frac{3}{4}$ hour in the same localitate one came; 5. July, after more than 1 hour's waiting none appeared. What was seemingly the same hole into which 20. June one had disappeared seemed to be inhabited by wasps. Since previously seen this hole with the exception of a small aperture had been completely covered with some kind of buff material apparently by the wasps, which constantly flew in and out. The characteristic "rolling" flight not seen.

Fulica a. atra L. (Coot). 20. June, 1 in the lake.

Hemichelidon s. sibirica (Gm.) (Pale Siberian Flycatcher). 10. Aug., 2 in trees at the "Travelling Palace" West of the Western Reed Beds; 1 seen the day before at Wo-fu-ssu as the first autumn migrant (cf. *Emberiza aureola*).

Hirundo daurica japonica Temm. & Schleg. (Hodgson's Golden-rumped Swallow). 20. June, noted on the way between Peking and the Summer Palace; 10. Aug., some.

Hirundo rustica gutturalis Scop. (Eastern House Swallow). 5. July, some seen, also young; 10. Aug., some over the lake.

Ixobrychus s. sinensis (Gm.) (Chinese Little Bittern). 20. June and 5. July, 1 at the lake.

Lanius cristatus subsp. (Red-tailed Shrike). 20. June, near canal, m. and later a f.; 21. June, near canal 1 m.; 5. July, 1; 10. Aug., a family at "Travelling Palace" West of the reed beds.

Micropus apus pekinensis (Swinh.) (Eastern Swift). 20.-21. June, large numbers in, round, and over, the pavillon Pa-fang-t'ing at the 17-arched bridge leading to Lung-wang-tao (see fig. 3); the birds chased one another in couples. 5. July, again some. Aug. 10., they had left (I noted the last one at the Jade Fountain, near the Summer Palace on 1. Aug.).

Microsarcops cinereus (Blyth) (Grey-headed Lapwing). 21. June, tern-like call, again heard later from a bird with dark head and breast, brown back, white wings with black

tips, was probably this species, but I did not see it long enough to be quite sure.

Milvus migrans lineatus (Gray) (Black-eared Kite). 20. June, 1 over rice fields South of the Summer Palace grounds, 1 at canal; 5. July, some seen and heard trilling; 10. Aug., heard near the Western Reed Beds.

Nettion c. crecca (L.) (Common Teal). 5. July, near the small island in the South part of the lake 1 m.; never before recorded in summer in North China.

Nycticorax n. nycticorax (L.) (Night Heron). 20. June, 3 adults flying over lake and some young. In the morning 10 had been seen over the rice fields South of the Summer Palace grounds; 5. July, 1; 10. Aug., 26 were counted flying about the small island in the South part of the lake, mostly I think young ones. No other herons but a few *Ardeola bacchus* (Bp.) were seen.

Nyroca n. baeri (Radde) (Eastern White-eyed Duck). 20. June, a couple in South part of lake; 5. July, not seen in spite of much searching of the lotus-covered part of the lake, where of course they might easily hide; but 10. Aug. a couple were seen again abt. 30 m. from South beach of the lake, where the characteristic dark brown head, white eye, whitish mottled sides, and pure white under tail could be very clearly studied. This is the first summer record for this species in North China.

Oenopelia tranquebarica humilis (Temm.) (Burmese Red Turtle Dove). 20. June, heard several times near Jên-shou-tien; 21. June, same locality 2 heard and seen; 5. July, not noticed; 10. Aug., heard once on North side of the hill.

Oriolus chinensis diffusus Sharpe (Black-naped Oriole). 21. June, 5. July, heard or seen.

Parus major artatus Thayer & Bangs (North China Tit). 5. July, heard.

Parus palustris hellmayri Bianchi (East China Marsh Tit). 21. June, 1 heard.

Passer montanus, subsp. (Tree Sparrow). 10. Aug., some noted, probably also before, but ignored as it is ubiquitous.

Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis (Shaw & Nodd.) (Chinese Cormorant). 20. June, 1 in tree on the small island in the South part of the lake, seen to ventilate throat (German: "Hacheln").

Pica pica subsp. (Magpie). Noted 5. July and 10. Aug.; probably ignored 20. June when on the way to the Summer Palace from Peking also young ones were noted.

Picus canus zimmermanni Rchw. (North China Grey-headed Woodpecker). 5. July, 1; 10. Aug., 1 at "Travelling palace" West of the Western Reed Beds.

Podiceps c. cristatus (L.) (Great Crested Grebe). 10. Aug., 1 in South end of the lake.

Podiceps ruficollis poggei (Rchw.) (Chinese Little Grebe). 20. June, trilling call from 5 in the lake; 20. and 21. June, in South end of the lake a couple were building up a nest almost on level with the water with weeds which they obtained through diving; 21. June, 12 in middle of lake; 5. July, some in the lake, same nest seen as 20.-21. June and a bird was at or on the nest; 10. Aug., only 1 seen. As pointed out by WILDER (1925, p. 605), who found the temperature of the eggs to be more than at blood heat, though the surface of the loose, dead leaves covering the eggs was wet and cool from evaporation, there would be no need of incubation by the bird on a hot sunny day.

Streptopelia chinensis frigoris Stres. (North China Spotted Dove). 20. June, seen and heard near entrance; 21. June, seen and heard near canal; 5. July, heard; 10. Aug., heard at South and North side of the hill.

Streptopelia o. orientalis (Lath.) (Rufous Turtle Dove). 20. June and 10. Aug., heard West of lake, partly from the inaccessible island in the reed beds. Otherwise not heard.

Tringa glareola L. (Wood Sandpiper). 5. July, from rice fields West of wall some calls were heard which I could not distinguish from the call of this species although maybe it sounded a little dull and uncharacteristic.

Tringa hypoleucos L. (Common Sandpiper). 10. Aug., at East beach of lake a few seen and heard, others flying over lake.

Tringa totanus eurhinus (Oberh.) (Eastern Redshank). 20. June, 1 seen from outside the East wall flying over the wall, identified by its characteristic call.

Upupa epops saturata Lönnb. (Eastern Hoopoe). 20.-21. June, heard; 5. July, seen, but not heard.

Yungipicus s. scintilliceps (Swinh.) (North China Spark-headed Woodpecker). 21. June, 1; 10. Aug., 1 at "Traveling Palace" West of the Western Reed Beds.

IV. Comparison with WILDER's Observations in 1925.

Of the species recorded at my summer visits the following were also noted by WILDER (1925) on 11. and 16. July 1925: *Ardea cinerea jouyi* Clark (Eastern Grey Heron), *Ardeola bacchus* (Bp.) (Chinese Pond Heron) (1), *Cheniscus c. coromandelianus* (Gm.) (Cotton Teal) (2 pairs), the first observation of this species North of the Yangtse Valley, *Cuculus canorus telephonus* Heine (Asiatic Cuckoo), and *Cuculus m. micropterus* Gould (Indian Cuckoo), *Dicrurus macrocercus cathoecus* Swinh. (Chinese Black Drongo) (a few), *Micropus apus pekinensis* (Swinh.) (Eastern Swift) (thronging the arches of the bridge), *Nycticorax n. nycticorax* (L.) (Night Heron) (1), *Oriolus chinensis diffusus* Sharpe (Black-naped Oriole) (1 pair), *Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis* (Shaw & Nodd.) (Chinese Cormorant) (1), *Podiceps c. cristatus* (L.) (Great Crested Grebe) (8 pairs) breeding, *Podiceps ruficollis poggei* (Rehw.) (Chinese Little Grebe) (many breeding), *Tringa hypoleucos* L. (Common Sandpiper) (several pairs).

The only species recorded by WILDER and not found by me in spite of searching and listening was *Hydrophasianus chirurgus* (Scop.) (Pheasant-tailed Jacana), although in Chung-hai, Peking, I saw and heard several 11.-20. June (crossing the bridge between Chung-hai and Pei-hai on the way to the Summer Palace), and 7. July.

Also although I saw 1 *Podiceps c. cristatus* (L.) (Great Crested Grebe) 10. Aug., the comparative abundance of this species breeding in the lake at the time of WILDER's visits, is also a difference worth noting.

The following species observed by me would, I believe, probably have been noted by WILDER had they been there at the time: Some of the birds reported by me like the two *Parus* species, *Pica pica* subsp., the woodpeckers, the kingfisher, etc. are so common that it is of little importance that WILDER did not see or mention them (although it may be of interest some decades or a century hence that I reported them); but others

which have been reported as rarer breeding birds in North China he would probably have noted, had they been there, and since there is some possibility, or in some cases certainty, that they were breeding there or in the neighbourhood in 1943, they may be worth mentioning apart: *Anas poecilorhyncha zonorhyncha* Swinh. (Yellow-nib Duck), *Cyanopica cyanus interposita* Hart. (North China Azure-winged Magpie), *Egretta alba (modesta (Gray)?)* (Eastern Great Egret), *Egretta g. garzetta* (L.) (Little Egret), *Eurystomus orientalis calonyx* Sharpe (Chinese Broad-billed Roller), *Nettion c. crecca* (L.) (Common Teal), *Nyroca n. baeri* (Radde) (Eastern White-eyed Duck), *Oenopopelia tranquebarica humilis* (Temm.) (Burmese Red Turtle Dove), *Streptopelia chinensis frigoris* Stres. (North China Spotted Dove).

All these — except *Eurystomus* — were seen or heard in places where WILDER hardly would have missed them.

WILDER has described for grove-like compounds, such as missionary stations, in the Chinese provinces of Anhui, Shantung, Shansi, and South Hopei (Pao-ting-fu), what he termed the ecological grouping of turtle doves (*Streptopelia o. orientalis* (Lath.), *S. chinensis frigoris* Stres., and *Oenopopelia tranquebarica humilis* (Temm.)), azurewings (*Cyanopica cyanus interposita* Hart.), and cuckoos (*Cuculus m. micropterus* Gould). At his time, or at least in 1925, it was evidently not in existence at the Summer Palace; and as far as can be judged from other remarks of his, he has not observed it anywhere else near Peking until in later years he found it developing in the mission compound at Tung-hsien (= Tung-chou) East of Peking where finally he found it completed with the arrival there 1935 of *Streptopelia chinensis frigoris* Stres. (WILDER 1936). Yet *Oenopopelia* had not yet begun to occur.

It is evident from my observations recorded in this paper and elsewhere (e. g. HEMMINGSEN 1946) that in 1943 it did exist not only at the Summer Palace (though *Streptopelia o. orientalis* (Lath.) appeared to stick to itself) but in the temple compound of Wo-fu-ssu and perhaps more or less developed at other places in the Peking area (temple compounds of Pa-tachu, Pi-yün-ssu, certain suitable compounds in Peking proper). The ecological basis for this grouping must be sought, I believe,

in the paucity or absence of trees, let alone forests, in the Chinese landscape apart from such small "islands" of trees as are constituted by the grove-like compounds in question, which thus, being the only proper biotope for the birds in question, attract and concentrate them within a comparatively narrow area.

A biological association exists of course in the case of the azurewings and the cuckoo imposing upon them, and WILDER thinks that also a kind of "police" activity on the part of the azurewings plays a certain part, as, without usually disturbing the doves, they keep the pied magpies and other predatory birds away.

Beyond this, mutual affinities of the species in question may seem to be less likely, for within the large Summer Palace compound, where they all occur, they appeared to be scattered correspondingly.

Still, there may be some sort of affinities — analogous with the association observed in Denmark between Barred Warbler (*Sylvia n. nisoria* (Bechst.)) and Red-backed Shrike (*Lanius c. collurio* L.), e. g. by CHRISTIANSEN (1944), or other common factors may operate. Anyway, a comparison with earlier reports indicates that the species under consideration (except perhaps *Streptopelia o. orientalis* (Lath.)) have become much commoner in the Peking area during recent years or even are new-comers (*S. ch. frigoris* Stres., possibly also *Oenopopelia*), thus suggesting that some common factor has caused the expansion of the whole ecological grouping toward the North.

DANSK RESUMÉ

Ornithologiske Jagttagelser i Sommerpalads Omraadet ved Peking.

En Sammenligning mellem Forfatterens Jagttagelser af Fugle paa Sommerpaladsets Grund nær Peking i Sommeren 1943 med WILDER's Jagttagelser 1925 sammesteds viser en Del Forskeligheder med Hensyn til Ynglefuglene. Saaledes var den til Bladhønsene hørende ejendommelige Fasanrikse (*Hydrophasianus chirurgus* (Scop.)) der ikke mere, skønt den var almindelig ved Vinterpaladset i Peking, og der saas kun en enkelt

Toppet Lappedykker (*Podiceps c. cristatus* (L.)), skønt der var flere Par i 1925. Derimod saas som i 1925 Kinesisk Lille Lappedykker (*Podiceps ruficollis poggei* (Rchw.)) ved Rede.

Interessantere var Forekomsten i 1943 af en Række Fugle, der angives som mere eller mindre sjældne Rugefugle i Nordkina, og som ikke var der i 1925. Almindeligst blandt disse var Nordkinesisk Blaaskade (*Cyanopica cyanus interposita* Hart.), hvoraf Reder og Unger saas flere Steder. Andre af dem ynglede utvivlsomt uden for Omraadets Mure, saasom de to Turtelduearter, den lille Burmesisk Rød Turteldue¹⁾ (*Oenopopelia tranquebarica humilis* (Temm.)), og den større Nordkinesisk Turteldue (*Streptopelia chinensis frigoris* Stres.). Andre af dem ynglede formentlig ikke langt borte, saasom de to hvide Ædelhejrer, Østlig Sølvhejre (*Egretta alba modesta* (Gray)), og den langt mindre Silkehejre (*Egretta g. garzetta* (L.)). Et Par af den i Nordkina sjældne med Ellekragen beslægtede *Eurystomus orientalis calonyx* Sharpe, iagttoges ved et Hul i et Træ, hvor de formentlig tænkte paa Redebygning, men det blev ikke til noget. Tre Andearter, Brogetnæbbet And (*Anas poecilorhyncha zonorhyncha* Swinh.), Krikand (*Nettion c. crecca* (L.)), og Baer's Hvidøjet And (*Nyroca n. baeri* (Radde)), syntes at oversomre uden at yngle.

Foruden disse Arter, der lokalt set var Nyheder, er den ret rigelige Forekomst af Indisk Gøg (*Cuculus m. micropterus* Gould) værd at nævne, idet dens Rigelighed utvivlsomt skyldtes, at den snylter hos Blaaskaden, saaledes som jeg direkte har iagttaget det andetsteds i Omegnen. Hannens Stemme er ganske forskellig fra den almindelige Gøgs, idet den ikke har noget kukkende ved sig, men bestaar af fire melodiose Fløjte-toner, der populært gengives som "One more bottle" (ø: "een Flaske til"), medens Hunnens Stemme lyder som den almindelige Gøge-Huns. Den østlige Race af den almindelige Gøg, Asiatisk Gøg (*Cuculus canorus telephonus* Heine), var ogsaa almindelig, men paa helt andre Lokalteter, nemlig ved Rørskovene, hvor den snylter hos Østlig Drosselrørsanger

¹⁾ En Del af de i dette Resumé anvendte danske Navne paa Fugle er dannet af mig selv paa Basis af eksisterende udenlandske Navne.

(*Acrocephalus arundinaceus orientalis* (Temm. & Schleg.)), der her var almindelig.

Af særlig Interesse var den lille Dværgand (*Cheniscus c. coromandelianus* (Gm.)), der her i Peking Egnen har sine nordligst kendte Forekomster, og Hvidhalet Klippedue (*Columba r. rupestris* Pall.), der ynglede i et af de kæmpestore Baadhuse ved Kanalen, hvori Kejserens Chalupper i sin Tid laa.

For Literaturen nyt er det, at den økologiske Gruppering i Tempel- og Paladslunde og lignende Lokalteter af de tre Turtelduearter, Østlig Turteldue (*Streptopelia o. orientalis* (Lath.)), Nordkinesisk Turteldue (*Streptopelia chinensis frigoris* Stres.) og Burmesisk Rød Turteldue (*Oenopopelia tranquebarica humilis* (Temm.)), sammen med Nordkinesisk Blaaskade (*Cyanopica cyanus interposita* Hart.) og den paa denne snyltende Indisk Gøg (*Cuculus m. micropterus* Gould) i 1943 kunde studeres almindeligt ikke alene ved Sommerpaladset, men ved Templer der i Nærheden (se f. Eks. HEMMINGSEN 1946) og tildels i selve Peking, medens denne Gruppering i WILDER's Tid endnu ikke var trængt saa langt nordpaa. Han har beskrevet den flere Steder i sydligere Egne og saa Begyndelsen til den udvikle sig ved sin Bolig i Tung-chou Øst for Peking.

Blandt Iagttagelserne om Vinteren var det af særlig Interesse, at der omkring Bredden af Kanalen, der indmunder i Nordvest Spidsen af Søen og holder den isfri deromkring, iagttoges en hel Del Fugle, bl. a. tre Piberformer, Østlig Skovpiber (*Anthus h. hodgsoni* Richm.), Blakiston's Skærpiber (*Anthus spinoletta blakistoni* Swinh.), Japansk Skærpiber (*A. s. japonicus* Temm. & Schleg.), et Par Østlig Skægmejse (*Panurus biarmicus russicus* Brehm), den eneste Løvsangerart (*Phylloscopus* sp.), jeg har set om Vinteren i Nordkina, antagelig en Indisk Vandrikse (*Rallus aquaticus indicus* Blyth.), adskillige Nordkinesisk Papegøjemejse (*Suthora webbiana fulvicauda* Campbell) og nogle Individuer af Nordkinesisk Gærdesmutte (*Troglodytes t. idius* (Richm.)).

Af Fugle, der i Nordkina anses for meget sjældne, saas om Vinteren en ung Knopsvane (*Cygnus olor* (Gm.)), og en Japansk Fuglekonge (*Regulus r. japonensis* Blakist.).

Talrige Ænder af flere forskellige Arter saas i Søen i det tidlige Foraar og nogle ogsaa i de isfri Dele om Vinteren.

Jeg er Frk. HARRIET JØRGENSEN Tak skyldig for Hjælp ved Nomenklaturrevisionen og cand. mag. HOLGER POULSEN for Raad ved den danske Navnegivning.

Literature.

- ARLINGTON, L. C. & W. LEWISOHN 1935: In Search of Old Peking. — Henry Vetch, The French Bookstore. Peking.
- CHRISTIANSEN, C. F. 1944: Hvad er Aarsagen til Sociabiliteten mellem Høgesanger (*Sylvia n. nisoria* (Bechst.)) og Rødrygget Tornskade (*Lanius c. collurio* L.)? — Dansk Orn. For. Tidsskrift, **38**, p. 13—25.
- HEMMINGSSEN, A. M. 1946: Zoological observations at a Chinese temple. — Reports of the Steno Memorial Hospital and the Nordisk Insulinlaboratorium, Copenhagen, **1**, p. 42—51.
- Observations on birds in North Eastern China especially the migration at Peitaiho Beach. — To be published in Spolia Zoologica Musei Hauniensis.
- SHAW, TSEN-HUANG 1936: The birds of Hopei province. — Zoologia Sinica. Series B, **15**, Fascicle I. Fan Memorial Institute of Biology, Peiping (Peking), China.
- WILDER, G. D. 1925: Migration Notes. — The China Journal of Science and Arts, **3**, p. 603—606.
- 1932: Migration notes. — The China Journal, **17**, p. 32—34.
- 1936: Migration notes. — The China Journal, **25**, p. 296—300. ⁵/₂
-