

The dry sedges are not as populated as the wet areas. The slopes, now dry, have been extensively used at some previous time but are not used today. These slopes could have been used in later summer or early winter when population was high, or they could have been used by *Sagittaria* at a population high. This condition is the usual condition wherever I have trapped this year. It is possible to walk over most of this area and at the softest places one only sinks to his knees. The odor is strictly a marsh or bog odor. Recent firing has burned some of the sedges at the S end of marsh and area adjoining the main drainage canal. In area noted 1 redtail in trees to S. It called as if it was on its nesting territory. In marsh noted 1 group of 3 Wilson snipe and 1 of 2 snipes; 3 killdeer and 12 redwing blackbirds nesting in bulrushes. There was a noticeable lack of frogs or their calls. At twilight noted *Microtus ochrogaster* in traps 2-6-8-9-11-15-18-22-23-28-30. Collected a blotched King snake from 1 9/20 mi W and 2200 ft S of Clinton, Douglas Co., Kansas. This snake is as follows: 630420-103 Blotched King snake, BL 620; tail 92; wt 127gms. It was late twilight and the snake was coiled under a plank on a sidehill recently burned (Brown Grass). It is very aggressive and moved 2 feet toward me in a series of strikes. The mouth is opened and a noise is given. The head is jerked laterally as a defense mechanism. Also 2 *Scaphiopus* 630420-104 which was 270 mm body, 60 mm tail, 7gms and 630420-105 which measured 147 mm body, 24 mm tail, 2gms. Both under a plank.

April 21, 1963

Picked up traps set last night. Enroute from S end proposed dam followed paved road to Clinton, thence W past cemetery to road that leads S to base of valley slope. Temp 51°F at 7:00 A.M., day clear. Made complete census. Mileage 21.2 S end dam, G. Blue Heron in canal; 21.4 redwing; 21.8 redwing; 22.0 redwing; 22.3 meadowlark; 22.4 meadowlark; 22.5 bridge over Rock Creek; 24.1 mourning dove, robin; 44.6 m. dove; 24.8 several grackles; 24.9 Clinton (center of town at store); 25.2 grackles. Most of grackles associated with town of Clinton; 25.3 2 m. doves; 25.4 1 mourning dove; 26.0 sparrow hawk, 2 doves; 26.3 Cardinal; 26.5 Cardinal; 27.0 sparrow hawk, 2 doves; 27.0 road leaves main road & turns to S; 29.1 ♀ sparrow hawk; 27.2 horned lark; 27.3 2 horned larks; 27.4 3 horned larks, 3 h. larks, 2 m doves; 27.5 18 horned larks; 27.6 2 horned larks, 1 meadowlark; 2 savanna sparrows, 1 red sparrow; 1 m. dove, 4 horned larks; 8 savanna sparrows; 27.7 2 horned larks; 28.0 base of hill at center sec. 21. Redtail in some trees as yesterday evening. Redwings¹², Wilson Snipes 4, 2 swamp sparrows, 1 cottontail in trapping area proper