

birds to move on to the south.

631027-170

1²/₁₀ mi. N and 1¹/₂ mi. E Lawrence (P.O.), Douglas Co., Kansas

Oct 26, 1963

Made some observations at sandpits between 4:30 P.M. and 5:30 P.M.

Sundown at 5:25 P.M. clouds and intermittent rain from cold front of this morning continued all day. At about 4:30 P.M. the last of these clouds, travelling SE, were leaving the area and were replaced by clear blue sky. The last bank of these clouds was darker and more massive and was dropping light rain. Under this last cloud were unusually great numbers of purple martin and tree swallows. During the 40 minutes of observation (4:30-5:10 P.M.) estimated 300 martin

and 1800 swallows passed overhead (200 ft. corridor). All birds moved toward the sun or to the west. The martin were in loose groups and singles and travelled intermittently sailing west without wing beat for 20 or 30 ft and then darting laterally with quick wing beat to capture an insect. The lowest elevation was approx. 80 feet and the average height 200 ft. There were no calls uttered by the martin. The tree swallows formed closer groups and foraged more for insects than did the martin. They called occasionally. Their elevation above ground and direction was like the martin. After 5:10 the cloud cover moved S and E beyond the area. Only 10 or 15 martin and swallows were noted between 5:10 and sundown at 5:25 P.M. There

was definitely an association of these birds with the overhead protection of clouds and particularly with the last cloud bank before the clear open skies.

Approx. 3,000 redwing blackbirds (some grackles and cowbirds) in small groups of from 10 to 200. arrived from the east to roost in tall weeds and grasses. 8 killdeers only shorebirds in area. One duck flew high over area from N to S.

Oct 28, 1963

While at sandpits between 4:45 and 5:25 under blue sky noted one lone barn swallow. It passed S flying just a few feet above the weeds and grasses. One greater yellowlegs, 9 killdeer and 8 small

sandpipers in area. Also 8 pied-billed grebes in Lotus Lake. Usual number of redwing blackbirds in area.

Oct 30, 1963

Checked sandpits between 5:10 and 5:20 P.M. no shorebirds observed except 4 killdeer.

Nov. 1, 1963

Left James Rebut at sandpits at 8:00 A.M. will pick him up at noon. Yesterday was the first low temperature day of the season with early morning temp around 36° F. Cold wind all day. This morning with frost on ground; cold but skies are clear. Trees are essentially