

Leecompton, Douglas Co., Kansas
Nov. 3, 1963

631103-172

Left Robert Pierson and James Robert Bee at bridge on Kaw River at Leecompton at 8:50 A.M. They will float down river to Lawrence. morning cloudy but by 9:00 most heavy clouds moved on and clear skies moved in. medium wind from S. noted 3 crows ^{2 mi.} south of Leecompton and 3 on river 3 miles east of Leecompton. The Cottonwood trees still retain leaves and are about 50 percent yellow. The willows may be a trifle more yellow than the cottonwoods. many broad sandbars in river. The canoeists arrived Lawrence at

2:30 P.M. having experienced considerable difficulty with the strong south winds, especially on N-S trending river channels - They collected a gadwall & a spoon bill. The latter measured: 631103-1 spoonbill 478 mm t.l., wt 570 gms.

This bird was extremely fat and almost impossible to degrease. Saw James reported 10 flocks of ducks, each flock of about ²⁰ birds flew down river, but high. ^{and one of 50 birds} On one sandbar he saw a flock of white birds with tips of primary feathers black and supposed them to be sea gulls or terns (the former more likely); juncos, ~~chickadees~~, ~~hooded~~, ~~crow to E.~~ Very quiet today. Can hear one ~~in each~~.

Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas

Nov. 6, 1963

There is considerably more yellow in tree leaves in city than two days ago. Today's weather clear and temp cool but not cold. no wind.

Nov 7, 1963

There is a noticeable change of color in trees since yesterday and represents the major change in autumn colors from greenish yellow to good yellow tones. The last three days have been typically Indian Summer days.

Kaw River (from Lawrence to De Sota, Kansas

Nov. 9, 1963

Left 9:25 A.M. Day clear, no wind, temp 56°F. 9:10 small birds to right. 9:45 Kingfisher, 9:45-9:50 32 large fish (Carp?) on extensive ^{sub merged} sand bar about 10 inch or less deep. Long stretches without birds. 9:50 2 kingfishers. 2 chickadees. 9:55 utility line crosses river. no wind and perfect reflection. Cottonwood trees 80% yellow and still retaining leaves, 1 red bellied woodpecker. 10:00 creek from S. 10:09 Kingfisher, flock redwing (200) occasional small bird, flock goldfinch. 10:10 bank swallow cliffs. relatively few nests compared to previous years, chickadee 10:20 several hundred bank swallow nests to S on first part of long curve. Have replaced nesting area noted at 10:10. 2 chickadees, 2 kingfisher, crow to E, juncos, goldfinch