

Muscotah, Atchison Co., to Valley Falls, Jefferson Co., Delaware  
River, Kansas

April 3, 1969

Made solitary trip from Muscotah to Valley Falls via Delaware River. Enroute from Lawrence noted 2 sparrow hawks from Lawrence to 5 miles E of Muscotah and 12 between here and Muscotah. 5 redtail. In the general area E of Muscotah there were more birds (robins, bluebirds, shrike, grackles) than between here and Lawrence. Left Muscotah by canoe at 12:30 P.M. Overcast, some sun occasionally. River above usual summer level. Phoebe at bridge (W of town). Titmouse calling. 12:35 cardinal, titmouse. 12:40 cardinal singing. 12:45 fat scraper artefact, <sup>690401</sup> on clay bank near water level. This fat scraper is about 3 inches long and crudely made. No other evidence. 12:50 ♂ & ♀ wooduck left river. Flock 60 redwings ♂. Wind from S. 12:54 drainage left. 2 fox sq. weasels. 1:10 robin singing, 2 black-capped chickadees, 2 bluejays, yellow-shafted flicker. Cricket frogs calling from ponds beyond river. none on bank. 1:15 great horned owl left trees and, in an exceptional move, flew up stream overhead. There is a large nest on E side. Cardinal singing. 1:20 this is the beginning of what appears to be the straightest stretch of the Delaware explored so far. Bluejay, flicker and cardinal singing. There is considerable evidence of beaver on the river with trails, cut limbs, imprints and bank digging. I would estimate <sup>beaver</sup> 1 per half mile. Raccoon tracks always present on bank and from 1 to 4 set. Muskrat less common. 1:22 2 bluebirds, downy woodpecker, 2 bluejays. 1:25 drainage left (1 gal. per 5 sec.). This position is on a section line. 1:28 drainage right (5 gal. per sec.) 2 titmouse, black-capped chickadee, red-bellied woodpecker, 3 bluejays, 2 cardinals, 8 slate-colored juncos, phoebe. Bank shows levee or artificial bank of sand above black soil and tree (large) growing on top of bank. 1:35 bend of river and area of flat and circular eroded native rock in stream bed. Photos <sup>4</sup>690302-2 and <sup>4</sup>690403-3 of these erosional plates. This formation of erosion does not occur at any other point on Delaware. In area a group of 2 redbellied woodpeckers, 3 bluejays, 4 black-capped chickadees, 2 cardinals. 1:56 robin singing, 2 bluejays, 2 cardinals. 2:00 bend of river. G. B. owl, 2 bluejays, kingfisher. 2:02 drainage left. 1 gal. per 5 sec. Phoebe, 15 slate colored juncos, 2 robins