

Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas
Dec 31, 1972

Left for Provo, Utah at 10:30 A.M. at mileage 63167. Mary and Annette preceding by one week. The Datsun broke a crank shaft at Vona, Colorado and they continued by bus to Mary's. Temperature in Lawrence 24° F. Clouds 40 per cent with blue sky between. Wind from North. At 175 sparrow hawk. As is customary will keep list of all raptors and complete list of all birds at designated areas. 183 sparrow hawk. 192 main highway leading off Topeka avenue, 10:55. 203 sky clearing and 10% in clouds. No snow, even on n exposures but ice on water. 205 redtail hawk. 208 at 11:12 Wabunsee Co. line. 201 sparrow hawk. Grasses of flint hills reddish with some yellow. Birds seen since Lawrence are cardinal, starling, Eng. sparrow, grackle, meadowlark. High wing from nw keeping birds low. Swift flowing creeks open, no snow. Grasses in Flint Hills does not appear to be as heavily grazed as in previous years. 215 Coyote roadkill. 221 first horned lark. 11:31 Clouds about 1 per cent. Areas of limestone, green clay and a variegated red in road cuts up to 241. 242 redtail. 245 sequence of rocks the same as above. 248 redtail. 249 3 redtails sailing above ridge E of airport using updrafts. 253 Smoky Hill River, open, no snow in area and water muddy. ^{small} Birds have been virtually absent from Lawrence to here. 254 2 redtails. Exit 296 at ~~2:55~~^{2:55} at 12:05 256 redtail on post. Travelling along lee side of ridge produces very irregular currents. 260 marsh hawk. 262 entering Dickinson Co. Sky now 100% clear of clouds at 12:14. 264 redtail hawk on post. 267 redtail on post. 275 first evidence of snow cover and this from yesterday's snow and preserved on n exposures. 276 abelene at 12:28. 279 redtail. Snow cover increasing but still only a trace. In last 20 miles Andropogon in hummocks rather than generally distributed as is the case farther east. Decided increase in meadowlarks since Junction City. 285 entering Saline Co at 12:37. 286 redtail at Solomon River. No snow but considerable ice in fields like spring flood. 288 mallards flying in distance 291 redtail. 294 sparrow hawk. 296 Saline River at 12:49 297 81 South at Salina. 302 redtail on post. 304 redtail in tree in protected area. 314 entering Lincoln Co. trace of snow.