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"Birds of Polk County, Iowa." -- The appearance of this new county list will be welcomed by all Iowa bird students, and especially by those who live in the southern half of the state. It is a valuable addition to the lengthening list of bird catalogs of Iowa counties. A score of years ago this list contained the names of all too few counties; today, the state is quite well represented by such catalogs, and the bird student is able to secure a very full understanding of the distribution of our bird-life by consulting these published reports.

The Polk County list, by Philip A. DuMont, is a very carefully prepared publication and will prove of great worth to all workers in the region, both as a field guide and as a reference work for indoor study. The 'Introduction' covers eleven pages and touches such topics as physical features and atmospheric conditions of Polk County; the ornithological development through the years with accompanying publication and collection of specimens; and a brief description of particularly good bird habitat within the county at the present time. The list of birds covers 58 pages of small type. It records 289 species known to have appeared in the county, while 17 others ~~are~~ with a more or less doubtful standing are also included but are placed within brackets. The list is fully annotated and should supply most of the facts needed by subsequent workers. Mr. DuMont has had a rich field in which to work. Early ornithologists collected and left a great deal of data on Polk County birds, which is evidenced by the length of ^{the} bibliography at the end of the list. And present day effort, largely sponsored by the active Des Moines Audubon Society, has made a very substantial contribution to the ornithology of the county. It is quite fitting that the Des Moines Audubon Society should publish this list of its county's birds, and we hope that it will be able to give the booklet the distribution among bird people that it so well deserves. (~~It is sold for 50¢ a copy, address 1245 West 37th St., Des Moines, Iowa.~~)

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