



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of the Secretary
Press Service



MEMORANDUM TO MR. CHEESMAN, BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

I am sending you 3 copies of the news item entitled

"MORE COOPERATORS NEEDED TO COUNT BREEDING BIRDS"

which we mailed today. It was distributed as checked below:

Department officials and others who receive
copies of all releases to the press.

1178

Farm Papers

Farm Editions of Daily Papers.

:Full List.

Daily Newspapers :One in a city--all cities.

:One in a city--in cities having more
than one daily.

:Full List.

Sunday Editions of Dailies :One in a city.

Washington Correspondents and free lance writers.

Trade Papers as follows.

Sporting Papers

Ornithological Papers

Please forward a copy of this item to the office in your bureau
directly interested.

*done
1/10/22*

If additional copies of any article originating in your bureau are desired please attach request for them to the manuscript when it is approved in your office. If you are unable to anticipate such a need, please request the desired number of copies immediately upon receipt of this memorandum.

Yours very truly,
F. M. RUSSELL,
In Charge,
Press Service.



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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Release - Immediate

March 17, 1923.

MORE COOPERATORS NEEDED
TO COUNT BREEDING BIRDS

For several years past the Biological Survey, United States Department of Agriculture, has conducted researches intended to throw light on many problems concerning the distribution of bird life. One of the chief means employed has been to make bird counts, or censuses, through which information is furnished as to the exact number of the pairs of birds actually nesting within the boundaries of selected tracts of land. It is very desirable that this work be continued on an increased scale, and the cooperation of volunteer observers interested in bird life is asked by the department.

Information is needed regarding the numerical distribution of the birds breeding in different sections of the country, and on different types of land; the relative numbers of different species; and the fluctuations that take place in bird life. Bird censuses are the only means of obtaining much of this information. Knowledge of the approximate numbers and relative abundance of both game and insectivorous birds is a prerequisite for the proper administration of Federal and other laws for bird conservation. Data are needed to show what effect existing laws have had; how much birds have increased under protection; and what species have been most affected.

The department has no funds to pay for this work, but must depend wholly on the assistance of volunteer observers. The help received in the past has been greatly appreciated, and it is hoped that it may be extended. Detailed instructions for taking and reporting the censuses, with necessary blanks for the reports will be furnished on request, addressed to the Biological Survey, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

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