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## STUDENT OF BIRDS

THEIR NESTS AND EGGS

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VOLUME XXXVI

---

ALBION, N. Y.

AND

LACON, ILL.

R. MAGOON BARNES, Publisher

1919

1  
NORRIS  
OFFICE  
STATE HOUSE  
ALBANY, N.Y.

21-85341 - Aug 2

21-8

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# THE OÖLOGIST.

BIRDS--NESTS--EGGS

TAXIDERM Y

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VOL. XXXVI. No. 1.

ALBION, N. Y., JAN. 1, 1919.

WHOLE No. 378

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Black Skimmers, baying like a pack of hounds; the flock wheel about you and skim along the surface in perfect unison

—Photo by Stanley Clisby Arthur.



## BRIEF SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wanted, Exchange, For Sale, Etc., inserted in this department at 25 cents for each 25 words for one issue; each additional word 1 cent. No notice inserted for less than 25 cents.

We will advertise the skins, nests, eggs, or mounted specimens of North American Birds for sale for persons having a lawful authority under the law to deal in the same. These columns are for the use of those desiring to make bona fide exchanges of such specimens for scientific collecting purposes only.—EDITOR.

In answering advertisements in these columns mention "The Oologist," and thereby help us, as well as the advertiser and yourself.

## BIRDS

Send me the list of A 1 Bird Skins that you have to dispose of by exchange or otherwise. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

MALE SKINS WANTED—679, 676, 658, 622, 612, 611, 597, 547. State lowest price when writing. J. P. BALL, 5001 Frankford Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.

FOR EXCHANGE—A large list of A1 North American species of skins for specimens needed in my collection. C. W. CHAMBERLAIN, 36 Lincoln St., Boston, Mass.

WANTED—Skin or mounted specimen of the Passenger Pigeon. (315) WINCHESTER NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM, Winchester, N. H.

PASSENGER PIGEONS: Have one mounted bird in fair condition to exchange for best offer in rare sets. RICHARD C. HARLOW, State College, Pennsylvania.

WANTED—To correspond with active field collectors, and exchange bird skins. Especially want Shore birds from Missouri and Kansas. Write E. GORDON ALEXANDER, Lexington, Mo.

WANTED—A pair of living Sand Hill Cranes A. O. U. No. 306, taken north of the center of the U. S. If the birds are only slightly wingtipped this will not matter. For them I will pay a good price. R. M. Barnes, Lacon, Ill.

FOR EXCHANGE—I have a beautiful, well-mounted, perfectly plumaged specimen each of Black Rosy Finch and Goshawk, which I will exchange for good set of eggs. GERARD ALAN ABBOTT, Grosse Pointe Shores, Michigan.

FOR EXCHANGE:—Large well-mounted Golden Eagle and American Bittern. I am interested in all Natural History specimens. Write. WALTER STUCK, Jonesboro, Ark.

I desire to exchange bird skins and Butterflies for 20 or 24 Gage Shot Guns, Double Barrel, preferred. Good condition. D. V. HEMBREE, Roswell, Ga.

FOR SALE or EXCHANGE, choice collection of mounted Animals, Skeletons, Birds, American or Foreign, Fish and Reptiles. Send for list. CHICAGO ACADEMY OF SCIENCE, Chicago.

EXCHANGE—I offer fine skins taken in Virginia, of Canada and Greater Snow Geese, Brant, Whistling Swan, many of the Ducks including European Widgeon, Wide Turkeys and immature Bald Eagles, etc. Make offers in eggs in sets, O & O books, bird skins or cash. Also have good list of eggs in sets to exchange. HAROLD BAILEY, Box 112, Newport News, Va.

## EGGS.

In sending in your exchange notices for nests, skins and eggs, we would appreciate it if you would arrange the numerals in your exchange notice in their numerical order, and not tumble them together hit and miss, as some of our readers are complaining, and we think justly so.

WANTED—To correspond with active collectors on or near the Platte River in Nebraska. Address, LYLE FLETCHER, Norton, Kansas, Box 455.

WANT SETS—Some quite common from Northwestern U. S. and Canada. Offer in exchange sea bird sets from both coasts. All letters answered. F. M. CARRYLL, Maplewood, N. J.

FOR EXCHANGE—Choice sets with nests of Swainson's Hooded Prothonotary Warblers, Summer Tanager, Chuck-Will's Widow, Green-crested Flycatcher. Sets of Eagle and many others for desirable sets and sets with nests. DR. M. T. CLECKLEY, 457 Greene St., Augusta, Ga.

WANTED—Hawk's and Warbler's in first-class sets with data. KARL A. PEMBER, Woodstock, Vermont.

WANTED—To exchange sets with reliable collectors. Will be glad to send list on receipt of yours. G. BERTRAM REGAR, 1000 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

EXCHANGE NOTICE—I desire to get in touch with all active field collectors with a view to exchanging A 1 sets. H. W. CARRIGER, 5185 Trask Street, Oakland, Calif.

Will be glad to hear from reliable collectors and to receive their lists. Have good list to offer including some rare species. RICHARD C. HARLOW, State College, Pa.

FOR EXCHANGE—30, 70, 74, 77, 125, 132, 191, 194, 201, 202, 208, 225, 263, 273, 316, 326, 327, 331, 339, 343, 364, 365, 368, 375, 412a, 413, 421, 457, 458, 475, 493, (V.S.) 494, 498c, 501b, 505a, 506, 508, 510, 511, 519, 538, 563, 584, 593, 611, 616, 624, 631, 704, 705, 713, 717a, 721a, 725, 755, 756, 758, 761, 766. Also stamp Collection for eggs. T. E. McMULLEN, 433 Bailey St., Camden, N. J.

EXCHANGE—6 1-4, 12 1-1, 65 1-2, 79 1-1, 118 1-3, 77 1-3, 194 2-4 1-5, 202 6-3 5-4, 211 1-7 1-9, 325 1-1, 331 2-4 1-3, 333 2-4, 339 1-2 4-3, 366 1-4, 373 2-3, 390 1-5 1-6, 476 1-4, 481 1-3, 488 2-3 4-4 2-5, 493 1-5, 498 3-3, 501 3-3, 552A 1-4, 563 1-4, 581 2-4, 584 5-3 2-4, 593 2-3, 598 1-3 1-4, 703a, 1-3, 705 3-4, 761 1-4, 316 1-2. Ostrich at \$3.00. ERNEST A. BUTLER, 6314 Opal St., Philadelphia, Pa.

**EGGS—Continued**

The following personally taken sets to exchange for first class skins or books. Smaller species with nests. 2, 6, 7, 77, 146, 462, 466a, 475, 488b, 497, 498f, 508, 510, 529a, 560a. J. A. MUNRO, Okanagan Landing, B. C.

**WANTED**—To correspond with collectors having perfect sets of Murrelets, Auklets, Tropic birds, Mex. Jacana, Limpkin, Turnstone, Bartram's Piper and No. Phalarope. Can offer Loons, Albatross's, Hawks, Owls and Mourning and Cerulean Warblers, etc. All answered. HAROLD MEYERS, Medina N. Y.

**WANTED**—Sets of eggs from original collector. Oregon, Green and Beldings Jay, Prairie and Ahlornado Falcons. I have many Bird magazines for exchange or sale. Want Bird Lore Vol. VII No. 1. C. M. CASE, 306 Blue Hills Ave., Hartford, Conn.

**WANTED**—Lists of choice sets from reliable collections. I can offer Sandhill Crane, Swallow-tail Kite, Bald and Golden Eagle, Duck Hawk, Snowy Owl and many others. All answered. A. E. PRICE, Grant Park, Ill.

**WANTED**—Singles or broken sets in quantities, or small lots; also books on Taxidermy, curios, etc. J. E. HARRIS, 259 Maple St., Dayton, Ohio.

**FOR EXCHANGE**—European and Asiatic sets in exchange for No. American species. C. W. CHAMBERLAIN, 36 Lincoln St., Boston, Mass.

**RED CEDAR SAW - DUST**—Can supply this ideal tray lining material, clean and sifted, in sacks of half bushel or more. Will exchange for first-class sets and skins desired, on a basis of 60 cents per peck. A. F. GANIER, 1221-17th Ave., S., Nashville, Tenn.

**EXCHANGE**—Bird skins and eggs, over 100 kinds unionidie. Wanted anything. DR. W. S. STRODE, Lewistown, Illinois.

**WANTED**—A heavy marked set of Sharp-shinned Hawk taken by a reliable collector. Will pay cash or exchange. RALPH W. JACKSON, R. No. 1, Cambridge, Maryland.

**EXCHANGE** of personally collected sets desired with reliable collectors. Send lists. Have fine sets of 105.2 and others. California birds. J. VAN DENBURGH, 240 Stockton St., San Francisco, California.

**WANTED**—Sets of 113.1, 249, 252, 260, 298, 332, 344, 393c, 399, 463, 521, 573, 583, 685, etc. J. H. BOWLES, The Woodstock, Tacoma, Wash.

**WANTED**—Entire collections of eggs, also eggs of Rare North American Birds. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

**FOR SALE**—Oologists Tools and Supplies, Bird Books and magazines. BENJAMIN HOAG, Garfield, N. Y.

**WANTED** First Class, complete sets, all species of Eagles, Kites, Falcons, Loons, Tropic birds, Hawks, Owls, Vultures, Waders, Warblers, Finches. Send lists in full with terms. Dr. M. T. CLECKLEY, Augusta, Ga.

**FOR EXCHANGE**—Following 41 sets, with data—15, 2-1, 105 1-1, 105 1-2-1, 337b 2-3, 486 1-4, 375d 1-2, 617 1-5, 685b 1-3, and others, for sets needed in my collection. C. BADGER, Santa Paula, Calif.

**FOR SALE**—A fine white oak cabinet suitable for birds, nests, eggs, or other natural history specimens. Contains 20 adjustable drawers. Details upon request. S. S. DICK- EY, 212 East Maiden St., Washington, Pa.

**Mounted Birds** to exchange for eggs in full sets. J. C. HALL, 1420 Marlowe Ave., Lakewood, O.

**WANTED**—Set of all kinds, common and rare, containing one or more eggs of any kind of Cowbird. Good sets offered in exchange. J. H. BOWLES, The Woodstock, Tacoma, Wash.

**WANTED**—One set of eggs of each of the following birds, together with original nest: Scarlet Tanager, Indigo Bunting, Gold Finch. KARL W. KAHMANN, Taxidermist, Lincoln Ave., Chicago, Ill.

**WANTED**—A-1 sets of all birds, also sets with Cowbird eggs. Must have full data. Can exchange A-1 shells or cash. Write what you have, stating value. HARRY L. SEM- LER, City Carrier No. 3, Lexington, Mo.

**CORRESPONDENCE DESIRED WITH COLLECTORS WHO CAN SUPPLY THE FOLLOWING WANTS:**—293a-294-300a-300b-311-332-336-337-337b-373e-377-414-420-467-483-501a-501b-501c-507-509-511a-513a-506-619-627a-628-630-633-1-648-671-687.

Rev. H. E. WHEELER, Conway, Ark.

**WANTED**—A 1st class, well marked set of 4 or 5 white tailed Kite with full and original data. B. S. FRIFFIN, 22 Currier St., Haverhill, Mass.

**FOR EXCHANGE**—Mounted Birds, skins and eggs in sets. Want birds, skins and eggs in sets. Send lists. JESSE T. CRAVEN, 811 Roosevelt Ave., Detroit, Mich.

We are headquarters for such choice stuff as Raven, Yellow-billed Magpie, Santa Cruz Island Jay, Prairie Falcon, Snowy Plover (with nest), Pacific Horned Owl, Vaux Swift, Black Swift, Golden Pileolated Warbler, and scores of others. We desire in exchange exceptional nest-and-egg material of every description, especially foreign **if well authenticated**. "A drawer to a species" is our motto. 400 drawers installed. Visiting oologists always welcome. MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE OOLOGY, William Leon Dawson, Director, Santa Barbara, Calif.

## BOOKS.

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THE WARBLER—Second series. Seven volumes complete, \$3.50 post paid. Very few full sets left. Volume 1 and 2, with a dozen exquisite colored plates of rare birds eggs, is in good supply, and the two volumes will be mailed for \$1.00. J. L. CHILDS, Floral Park, N. Y.

Desirable bird books for sale or exchange for other books on birds or insects. Sets of Condor, Ridgeway, etc. L. R. REYNOLDS, 2971 Pacific Ave., San Francisco, Calif.

WANTED—Osprey, Vol. IV No. 3 and index; New Series, Vol. I No. 4, 5, 7. FOR EXCHANGE or Sale Cheap. Some early volumes and single copies of Oologist, many Nos. of Bird Lore, Museum, a few copies of Osprey. JOHN WILLIAMS, Iowa City, Iowa. R. 9.

FOR SALE—Auks 4 Vol. 1894 to 97. Vols. 11-12-13-14 for cash. R. E. CASE, Avon, Conn.

FOR SALE—Bird Lore, five volumes, year 1913-1917, one dollar per volume, carriage extra. H. MOUSLEY, Hatley, P. Quebec.

WANTED FOR CASH—The Condor Vols. 1-9 incl., Bird Lore Vols. 1 and 2 incl., Nos. 1 and 2 of Vol. 3; No. 1 of Vol. 7; The Oologist of Utica, N. Y. Vols. 1-5 incl. and its continuation. The Ornithologist and Oologist Vols. 6-8 incl. B. F. BOLT, 1421 Prospect Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

WANT—For cash or exchange, many issues of Oologist, Osprey, etc., also Birds of Washington, D. C. and vicinity, by Mrs. L. W. Maynard. RALPH W. JACKSON, R. No. 1, Cambridge, Md.

FOR SALE—Vols 4-5-6-7 of Exploration and Surveys for the Pacific Railroad, 1853-1856. The books are bound and in good condition. What am I offered. GEO. E. OSTERHOUT, Windsor, Colorado.

WANTED—Back numbers of many amateur bird publications. List of desiderate sent to anyone having anything in this line for sale or exchange. Also have many numbers of Auk, Condor, Bird Lore, O. & O., Oologist, Bull. Cooper Club, etc. to exchange. A. C. BENT, Taunton, Mass.

FOR EXCHANGE—Osprey Vol. I, II, III, IV and V, New Series No. 7 & 2. Condor, Vol. VI & No. 1 of Vol. VII. Wilson Bulletin No. 69. Birds & Nature, Vol XIII, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5. Vol. LXV, No. 1; Birds Vol. II, No. 5 and 6. Auk, Vol. XXIV and No. 3 of Vol. XXV. Birds of Wyoming, Birds of Iowa. These will be exchanged or sold only as a whole for best cash offer or extra good sets. W. H. BINGAMAN, Algona, Iowa.

Frank L. Burns' Bibliography of scarce or out of print North American Amateur and Trade Publications in existence. Price 50c. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

EXCHANGE—Large number of Oologists and other bird magazines. A few sets nicely prepared of common land birds. Part VII "Birds of North and Middle America" for other parts of same work. Want many issues of Oologist, Osprey etc., for cash or exchange. Also "Birds of Washington, D. C. and vicinity by Mrs. L. W. Maynard. RALPH W. JACKSON, Cambridge, Route 1, Maryland.

WANTED—Vols. 6, 7 and 8 of Ornithologist and Oologist; Vols. 1 to 5 of its predecessor the Oologist of Utica, N. Y.; pages 177-187 (index) of vol 4 of Osprey; wants many, send list and get mine. T. J. FITZPATRICK, Bethany, Nebraska.

FOR EXCHANGE—Vol. V of Ridgeway's Birds of North and Middle America. In paper in perfect condition. Wanted either Vol. I, II or III of the above series. W. C. HANNA 1000 Pennsylvania, Ave., Colton, Calif.

FOR SALE—Bird Lore, Vols. 1 to 12, inclusive, complete with indexes, in original covers, \$35.00. Also odd numbers of Bird Lore. John's British Birds in Their Haunts, 16 colored plates, 190 illustrations, 626 pages, 1918. New Brass-mounted Telescope, 1 3/8 inches objective, magnifies 18 diameters. Just the thing for water birds. THOS. L. MCCONNELL, 1813 Huey St., McKeesport, Pa.

WANTED—Journal Maine Ornithological Society, Vol. IV, No. 1; Oologist, Vol. XXVI, Nos. 1-2-4; Various numbers of Condor, Ornithologist and Oologist. Have many duplicates. H. H. JOHNSON, Pittsfield, Maine.

FOR SALE—Condor magazine, Jan. 1915 to Jan. 1916, 6 Nos. The Oologist magazine from Jan. 1911 to Jan. 1915. Four years subscription. E. S. COOMBS, 243 Franklin St., Boston, Mass.

WANTED—Oologist of Utica, N. Y., Vols. 1-5; Ornithologist and Oologist Vol. 6, numbers 8, 10, 11, index and title page; Vol. 7, index and title page; Vol. 8, numbers 4, 11, 12, index and title page. Nidiologist, Vol 1, numbers 1 and 2. Osprey, Vol. 1, numbers 2, 4 and 6; and other discontinued ornithological magazines. Will pay reasonable prices.

FOR EXCHANGE—Ornithologist and Oologist volumes 15 and 16 complete, and several numbers of Volumes 9-14.

Bird Lore Vol 1, numbers 1, 5 and 6; Vol. 2, numbers 1, 4 and 6; Vol. 3, numbers 5 and 6; Vol. 4, numbers 1, 2 and 6; Vol 5, number 5; Vol. 6, number 6; Vol. 7, number 2; Volumes 13 and 16 complete.

Osprey Vol 2, numbers 1, 3, 6 and 7; Vol. 3, number 1.

Bendire's Life Histories, Vol. 1; Nelson's Natural History Collections Made in Alaska; Turner's Contributions to the Natural History of Alaska; Forbush's Useful Birds and their Protection. R. W. WILLIAMS, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.



# THE OÖLOGIST.

VOL. XXXVI. No. 1

ALBION, N. Y., JAN. 1, 1919.

WHOLE NO. 378

*Owned and Published Monthly, by R. M. Barnes, Albion, N. Y., and Lacon, Ill.*

## TAKE NOTICE.

SUBSCRIPTION, 50 CENTS PER YEAR

Examine the number on the wrapper of your Oologist. It denotes the time your subscription expires. Remember we must be notified if you wish it discontinued and all arrearages must be paid. 378 your subscription expires with this issue. 377 your subscription expired with December issue 1918. Other expirations can be computed by intermediate numbers at the rate of one number per month.

Entered as second-class matter December 21, 1903, at the post office at Albion, N. Y., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

WE wish all of the readers of THE OÖLOGIST a Happy and prosperous New Year. Our friends have stood loyally by this little publication in the past and we have appreciated and still appreciate that fact and take this occasion to thank them for the same support, and to humbly request a continuance of the same. It is known to our friends that the publication of this magazine is not a moneymaking proposition on the part of the management, but purely a labor of love, undertaken by a busy man, in order that the ties of many years shall not be sundered. This being so, we will be pleased to receive all that advice and assistance with which our friends see fit to favor us.

Put your shoulder to the wheel and each one of you get a new subscriber for 1919, and help us make THE OÖLOGIST the best it has ever been. There should be a new awakening amongst collectors and students of the birds.

—*The Editor.*

### The Kaiwi

The Kaiwi is one of New Zealand's most interesting birds, being, as to Mr. Jones, a taxidermist of Returia, fairly common in some restricted districts. However, it is a nocturnal bird with secretive habits. The layman may not know they are about unless by chance he shall come across some of their bilings. Their burrows are usually very hard to find unless by chance they are stumbled over, usually, placed in some bank or under the decayed roots of some tree with the especial design of keeping as much bad weather away as possible. They have two kinds of burrows, one for sleeping in, through the day time and one for raising their young. The one that I examined was probably nine or ten feet deep with other subterranean passages. On the outside of the burrow several little paths could plainly be seen, very probably having been made by the birds on their nightly quest for worms and on following them up I found that they gradually became less and less until they finally disappeared completely.

and female Kaiwi with fresh egg which I have recently added to my collection were taken by Mr. Jones on Sept. 24. The burrow was about two feet back among the roots of an old tree which offered plenty of shelter. On removing the old bird from the nest its bill proved something of a weapon and he also found that its hair-like plumage came off very easily. Notice, too, the size of the egg which seems way out of proportion for a bird the size of the Kaiwi to lay. Really the Kaiwi really seems like a monstrosity in bird life with its ungainly looking appearance seemingly always just about to lose its equilibrium. Eyes that are small and very ineffective at least in the daytime, and with its long spear-like bill with

nostrils in the tip end. The wings are just noticeable spurs, indistinguishable unless looked for with the most careful examination probably handed down from the species from which it originated. On looking it up I find that they come from the most ancient family of Epturygedae of which very little is known and having the most ancient lineage of all living birds.

Unfortunately they are becoming more and more scarce owing to the breaking up of their nests by the Wikos and by the importation of weasels into the country which was done several years ago to try to kill some of the over-abundance of rabbits which were destroying the produce of the country. However, as there are four species of Kaiwi and the New Zealand bird laws are especially adapted for the preservation of bird life, it is hoped that this, one of the queerest, if not the most queer, of our feathered friends will not become extinct as have so many of its predecessors.

R. B. Overington,  
4606 Seifer St.,  
Frankfort, Pa.

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### LATE!

The Oologist reaches its readers late this issue. The reason being the Ye Editor has been spending three weeks in sunny southern California with the very best mother in all this wide, wide world, who has just passed her 85th birthday, and who during more than 50 years past has been a staunch supporter of the Editor's bird hobby.

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### How I Lost That Set of Four Bald Eagles

(*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)

The time approaches when Eagle eggs in this state (Virginia) will be ripe. In looking forward to a visit to the old nesting trees, one wonders if the lumberman's ax, the clearing of



Pair of Keiwi, and egg, collection of R. B. Overington

new land for farming purposes, the hunter who kills all raptores on general principles, and a dozen and one other causes, have prevented the pair from utilizing the old homestead.

The little incident I am about to relate happened some years ago, though still fresh in my memory as if it had happened yesterday.

It was one day in the first week of March that I crossed the James river to visit one of my old standbys. Ordinarily the 22nd of February in this section finds fresh, or nearly fresh eggs. That year the weather around that date had been anything but conducive to egg laying. As I started out the sun was shining, but before getting off the boat the sky was overcast with snow clouds.

After securing a small batteau or rowboat, and a colored boy to help row across the three mile stretch of open water and up the creek, we arrived within a half mile of the nest. Snow had already commenced to fall, and by the time that I had reached the foot of the tree, I could hardly see the nest, so thick had it become. A rap on the tree and off she came, and what man could resist the temptation, even under such adverse conditions! Only certain pairs of birds are prone to lay three eggs, is my belief, after long association with these birds. This pair had always been a three egg pair, so with great expectations, I started the ascent. The tree was a dead pine on the side of a creek, four feet across the stump, with the nest located in topmost crotch, some 65 feet up.

The tree had been dead some years, but since my last visit to it, three years previous, it had decayed rapidly. All the bark was now off and the climber spurs would tear their way downward through the rotten outer wood, at every stroke. The heart and

limb spurs were, however, pure 'light wood,' as we say in the South, and with the aid of my two trusty eagle straps, I managed to work my way up under the nest. Its shelter from the driving sleet and snow was welcome, for by this time the slush on the tree trunk and stubs had soaked each parts of my clothes as usually come in contact with trees of this character, while my bare hands were blue with cold, though the exertion kept my body warm.

In looking over the situation from under the nest, I found that since my last visit, one of the main upright limbs that had allowed me to get up over the top of the nest, had broken off. After working carefully all around the trunk, under the nest, I could see no way to get "over the top." Things were now getting chilly and time short, so I commenced a hasty destruction of one side of this massive structure, commencing at the bottom. Inch by inch I worked upwards, taking out one side of the nest. If my readers think this an easy task, I should like to have them try it, for an old nest is packed together layer on layer, year after year, until a hatchet would be a more suitable article to work with than bare fingers. And now I come to the interesting part of my story, for as I came to the next to top layer, what should I see but an eagle egg. Carefully I extracted the last season's infertile egg from the mass of sticks on top of it, and deposited it in the coffee can in my side pocket. The last layer of material was soon torn away, and with the aid of my longest strap, I was able to swing outward and reach up over the cut out side to the middle of the nest.

Three more eggs, four in all taken from the same nest the same day, and I with only a single can prepared for

two, or three at a pinch. The trusty fish basket was on the ground, and time and cold made me act quickly. Egg number one was taken from the can and deposited in the left hand pocket of my coat, while one of the three was wrapped in my only pocket handkerchief and placed in the top of my fedora hat. The other two went into the coffee can in my right hand coat pocket, and then I started down. Now I came to the part of the story that the title suggests. In working ing down below one of the big dead stumps, it was necessary to catch the strap after being swung by my right hand, by left knee and clamp it to the tree trunk until I could reach over and hook it to my belt with the right hand.

After several unsuccessful attempts the strap at last came round, but alas too far, for the heavy snap hook on the end landed squarely on the center of my left hand pocket. A loud report, a mild stench to the nostrils, and I knew my claim to a four egg set of Bald Eagles had vanished.

It was harder going down that sleet-covered tree trunk than mere words could convey to my readers, and after the row back to the starting place, I was more than ready to dry myself at the friendly stove in the country store, near the dock, while waiting for the downsteamer.

And this is the sad tale of how I lost a set of four Bald Eagles, the only one that I have ever taken.

Harold H. Bailey,  
Newport News, Va.

#### The Eggs of the Finch Family

Many years ago, and I have been collecting since I could toddle, I started collecting the eggs of the passerine birds of the whole world. I was continually put to it to find more and more space and finally got rid of

pretty nearly all I had and then conceived the idea of collecting the eggs only of the Buntings (*Emberizinae*). Dr. Sharpe had divided the Finch family, it will be remembered, into three main groups, the Grosbeaks, True Finches and the Buntings. Later, influenced chiefly by the arguments of Mr. Ridgway, he abandoned this grouping but even before he had done this I found it was very difficult to say where the Finches ended and the Buntings began. So I decided to collect the eggs of the whole of the Finch family.

According to Dr. Sharpe's Hand List the Finch family comprises 139 genera and 1187 species so that the scope for a collector is sufficiently large. It is also sufficiently vast as regards the geographical distribution of the Finches for they are to be found in all parts of the world except Australia.

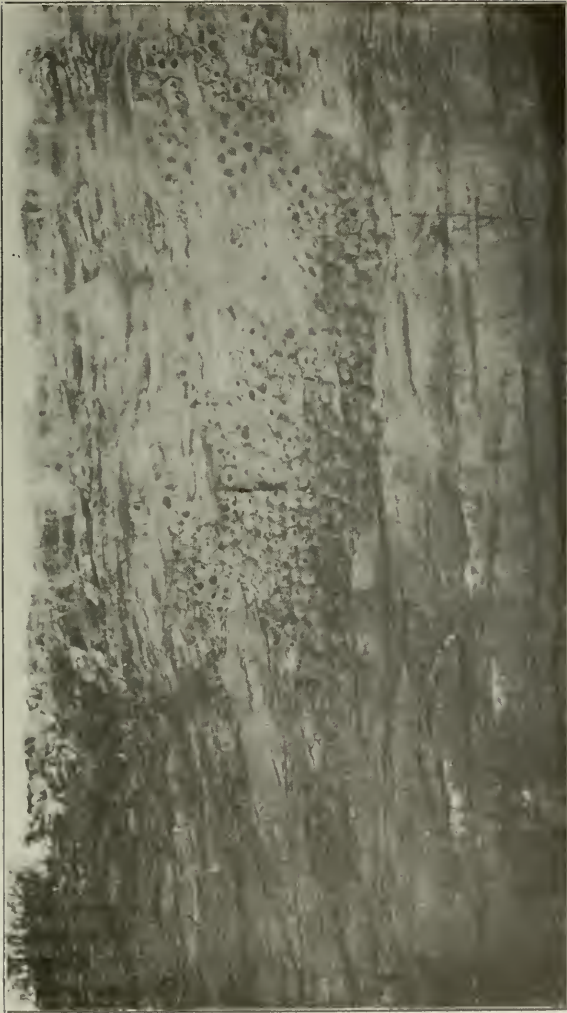
My idea was to have at least one set of each sort that could be obtained and to have sets showing outstanding variations where possible. I have whole drawers of some of our British species and it is so difficult to reduce these, for every set has merit.

I have had some lucky scoops. I was able to buy up large series of some of the Japanese Buntings when Mr. Owston's collections were disposed of and have some very fine types of these including the rare *E. yessoensis*.

I find very great difficulty in securing the American Finches' eggs, especially those outside the so-called Sparrows, and this though I am prepared to offer valuable material in exchange. Nearly every American collector offers one the same sorts of eggs and the rarer ones seem unobtainable. Then, again, it is very difficult to secure what we call va-







Cliff Swallows nests in the Mountains at Tracey, Mont.

slimy ooze and probed its bill among the sticks and leaves. Our thoughts were all aroused and we agreed that this new feathered friend must be a crane,—so long were its legs and crane-like was its beak.

Some years later it was my good fortune to be allowed to accompany Mr. J. Warren Jacobs on bird trips to the fields and woods, and this untiring naturalist taught me that the wonderful crane-like bird is the spotted sandpiper and told me much about its habits.

Eventually I learned to know the Bartramian and solitary sandpipers, and among my most cherished memories are those of reading of these birds in B. H. Warren's "Birds of Pennsylvania." What great ideas we boys got from this useful treasure-book,—dreams of the North where the birds nested in countless hordes and where eggs of the rarest kinds might be collected by just tramping about the prairie sloughs.

And I find it even yet delightful to cultivate the imagination of just such paradises, where the birds and woods and all live things are as they were before men became such mercenary creatures and laid waste to the works of nature.

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#### The Future

The Oologing for 1920 will be more valuable than it has been for a long time in the past, because of the fact that under the new laws it will be possible for us to advertise for sale for scientific purposes bird skins and birds eggs. Heretofore such has not been the case. New museums, and private collectors can lawfully purchase such material. It is hoped that there will grow up in the country a legitimate, collectors and dealers, in this class of goods, as there is surely a proper place for such. Commercial-

izing nature study, is undesirable, but there should always be some place where the great public museums and scientific private collectors could go for needed additions to their collections. There should never be a place for those who only see the dollar mark on a bird's skin or egg. We will do all that we can to further the cause of legitimate dealers, and will take a delight in exposing all unlawful or fraudulent transactions.

The Editor.

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#### Some One Should Shoot the Boy

We were at Whitefish Point, Mich., two miles west of the light house on the point and thirty or forty rods from the lake shore and in April the hawks gathered there in flocks and during the middle of the day from one to three flocks of from twenty-five to one hundred could be seen high in the air, circling around and apparently staying in the same place as long as I could watch them. They were seen for a week or two.

A boy that lived a few rods from where we were visiting wrote me a year or two after that he stood at their front gate and shot 10 Sparrow Hawks in 10 shots in 10 minutes. The Hawks were chasing Blue Jays and other birds.

I saw flocks of Blue Jays there of a hundred or more flying around like we see swallows over a pond of water.

Delos Hatch,  
Oakfield, Wis.

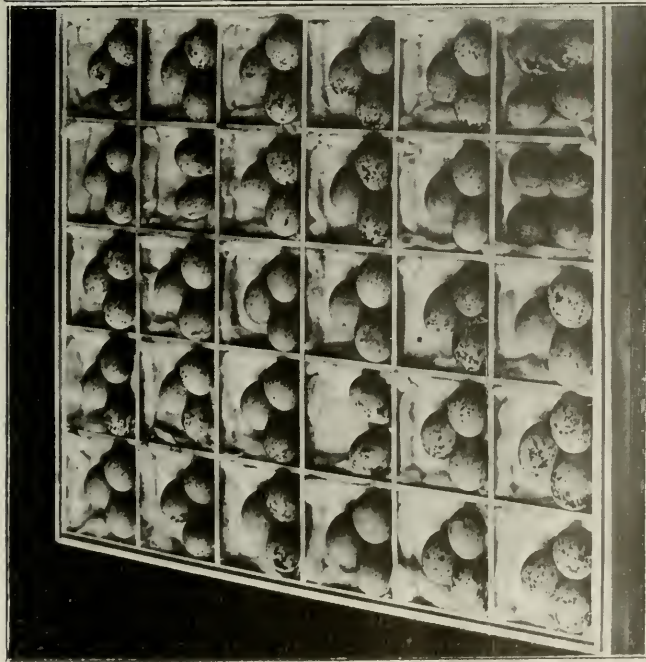
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#### Indian Arrow Heads

I have found a number of perfect Indian arrow heads in and around camps. The best time that I find to hunt them is after a rain. I just take a stroll over the sand hills and hardly ever fail to find one or more.

Ramon Graham,  
Fort Worth, Tex.





Series of Red-tailed Hawks Eggs in the collection of  
J. Warren Jacob, of Waynesburgh, Pa.



Series of eggs of the Red-tailed Hawk in the collection of  
J. Warren Jacobs, Waynesburgh, Pa.

## ROBERT D. HOYT

The readers of *The Oologist* will hear with regret of the death of Robert D. Hoyt at his home "Twin Oaks," near Clearwater, Florida.

Last February he had a stroke of paralysis from which he rallied and was better, but a recurrence of the disease November 23d last. Mr. Hoyt was an ardent lover of nature, and his long residence in the state and his familiarity with its birds, animals and plants, made him an authority on Florida fauna. His frequent trips to the south end of the state, as well as to the Everglades, brought to his fine museum many rare birds and their eggs, notably amongst others are fine sets of the Kites Everglade and Swallowtail.

It was the writer's pleasure to visit Mr. Hoyt in the month of May 1910. I well recollect my impression on seeing his home for the first time. Seven stately Live Oaks, covered with great masses of Spanish moss, hanging in festoons of ten to fifteen feet in length and almost touching the ground, formed the setting in which his home was built while the lawn was planted with many rare exotics. I know his fondness for plant life had an equal place with that for the birds.

Rare palms, large clumps of Bamboo, Cactus and other semi-tropical forms ornamented the grounds, while nearby a beautiful Citrus grove containing many varieties of oranges and grapefruit trees all in the highest state of care and cultivation, and most attractive surroundings.

Shortly after my arrival Mr. Hoyt took me into the pine woods nearby, saying a pair of Chuck-wills-widows had nested in that locality. After a short search I was fortunate enough to find the female sitting on two handsome eggs, under a tree with low

hanging branches. She was very loth to leave her nest and I got two snap shots with the camera, and she allowed us to almost touch her. Nearby we found a colony of Herons nesting, having both young and eggs. I only recollect two species, the Louisiana and Little Blue, but in another swamp nearby the Snowy Heron had recently nested in considerable numbers.

Near the Hoyt home an arm of Tampa Bay runs back quite a distance. It is thickly dotted with little islands covered with mangrove bushes. These are favorite nesting places for the Gray Kingbird, and Mr. Hoyt showed me a number of their nests, some having eggs. They were about 8 or 10 feet from the ground, or rather over the water where they seem to prefer to build.

As we were leaving we saw a flock of six Rosette Spoonbills sitting on a dead tree. A beautiful sight. They were young birds, probably hatched far south.

Mr. Hoyt was one of the few ornithologists that had found the nest and eggs of the Ivory billed Woodpecker, now one of the rarest birds on our list.

Mr. Hoyt is survived by a widow, two daughters and two sons, the latter two being in the U. S. Service in the Aviation branch.

Thomas H. Jackson.

It is with genuine sorrow that we read the above from friend Jackson. For many years we had the pleasure and profit of knowing R. D. Hoyt by correspondence. And no one could know him in any way without profiting thereby. His letters were the givings of a true naturalist. Clear concise, accurate, and thoughtful; a pleasure to peruse as they came with real information, fresh from the

wilds. Mr. Hoyt gathered a large collection of rare Oological specimens, which he donated to the museum there.

Editor.

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That Mare's Nest

My Dear Mr. Barnes:

Inasmuch as you have misquoted me on page 166 of the December "Oologist" I ask that you be good enough to publish this letter in your next issue. I know, of course, that the misquotation was entirely unintentional, but it puts me in a wrong light with those who have not read my original statement in "The Auk." I did not say that it was because Dr. Oberholser used technical names that a number of them were meaningless to the general reader but because he used technical names **that were different from those of the A. O. U. Check-List** the only reference volume that the majority of students have for consultation.

Technical names in scientific work are not an absolute necessity, because in the large majority of cases animals and plants do not have any English names. This is the case in the greater number of insects, and in other groups of lower animals, and also in the case of birds when foreign countries are concerned. In your reference to "The Auk" you say that 177 species were referred to by their Latin names only, in the October number, these are almost exclusively birds of South America and other foreign countries which have no English names—many of them no names at all except the Latin ones, and there was no alternative.

I entirely agree with you as to the English names in the case of our native birds and I publish them in every instance in "The Auk," except in purely technical discussion in

which only technical students are interested. In a publication like "The Auk," intended for both classes of readers, both kinds of names have to be used.

I have, however, long wondered why, in a popular magazine like "The Oologist," you continued to publish scientific names when all the species mentioned have well known English names. I thought upon looking at the December issue that you had adopted this policy, but I see that one technical name survives on page 156, but doubtless this was an oversight. If this policy were made permanent I am sure it would meet with the approval of all your readers.

Sincerely yours,

Witmer Stone.

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Surely there was no intention of "misquoting" Dr. Stone, for whom we have the highest respect. However, we construed the "Auk" article as we understood it, and as we believe the average layman would have read it. The reason that we still use an occasional scientific name in The Oologist is, that we occasionally find one that remains the same long enough for us to get it to the printer, and from the printer to our readers before it is changed by the big bird doctors. But in doing so we realize that we take long chances of the change being made while The Oologist is in process of making. Why not have a little common sense in the matter of the eternal change of names?

The Editor.

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A Rare Capture

The last week in November a farmer living in the vicinity of Burning Springs, W. Va., captured a live young Swan, evidently a bird of the present year which had strayed from the flock on the way south. Our

friend, C. E. Van Alstine of Burning Springs, W. Va., described it: "It is white, not a pure white, but of a steel white, this color is more pronounced on the neck, its legs and feet, below the feathers are black, its bill is of a pinkish color except the tip which is black."

The bird appears hearty and strong and is reported eating most everything and finally escaped from the first captor and a short time afterwards fell into the hands of a second farmer who now has it. It is to be hoped that it will ultimately find its way into one of the Zoological Gardens either at Washington, Philadelphia, New York or Pittsburgh.

Editor.

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Let me celebrate my return to civil life by contributing the following notes to *The Oologist*:

#### Birds and Wasps

A common bird, familiar to all who have spent any time in tropical America, is the Grey Tody Flycatcher, *Todirostrum cinereum cinereum*). It is a feathered mite of a flycatcher, whose insistent notes rather fills the place of our familiar "chibec" of the east. Its nest is a beautifully woven bag, suspended from the lower branches of a great variety of tropical trees. The entrance is upon the side, like a tit's nest, and the eggs pure white.

I have found many of them personally. Along the rivers of Colombia, in the Andes, in the botanical gardens at Georgetown, near the jungle of British Guiana, and in a dozen other places. Invariably in my experience the nesting pair have placed their home within a few inches of a wasp's nest. The wasps in question are a small social species of *Polybia* which are very numerous in the tropics. They construct a paper nest much like that of our common *Polistes*, ex-

cept that it much smaller, the paper of darker pulp and the bottom of the cells covered over.

It is a case of symbiosis. The birds do not bother the wasps. The wasps respect the birds, doubtless to the mutual benefit of one another.

So much for the Tody. It never occurred to me that this habit might be frequent among birds of other climes, even here in the East perhaps. I thought nothing about it until recently, but now it has become a topic for special investigation and one of interest to me.

Last spring, on the 29th of May, I was collecting in the woods near Stamford, Connecticut. I had found, for the first time in my life, four species of warblers nesting within seventy-five feet of one another! A beautiful Redstart's nest and four richly colored eggs; then, almost at my very feet, the neat pocket in the leaves of an ovenbird, containing five eggs with their lovely wreathings of brown and lavender. As I turned from this find, a Blue-winged Warbler flashed past with its mate. The tiny thing darted straight into some wild rose briars with a whisp of cedar shreds to add to its half completed home.

As I paused to watch, wondering what next to expect, a Chestnut-sided Warbler caught my eye on the edge of a thicket close by. I wandered towards it cautiously and came straight upon the nest from which I flushed its mate. As I did so I felt myself violently stung on the arm by a large wasp. It was one of the big *Vespa* hornets, commonly known as a yellow jacket. Its nest of grey paper hung from twig about eighteen inches from the warbler's home and provided ample protection.

Later, on May 29th, I located a nest of the Maryland Yellowthroat near my house. To my surprise a nest of this



same large hornet guarded the birds' threshold in a very efficient manner.

Up to the present, the above data are all that I possess in regard to our eastern bird building in the proximity of a wasp's nest. They are interesting cases, however, and ones which have stimulated my interest in the possibility of this being a habit much more general than we suppose.

Paul C. Howes.

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### Some Nesting Birds of the Palisades Interstate Park

Paper No. 1

By P. M. Silloway.

The following notes are presented through the courtesy of the N. Y. State College of Forestry, at Syracuse University. During the season of 1918, from May 24 to August 8, the writer had the pleasure of making observations concerning the bird-life in the Palisades Interstate Park, situated in the southeastern part of New York and the northeastern part of New Jersey. My work was under the direction of Dr. Chas. C. Adams, of the department of Forest Zoology of the College and with the co-operation of the Commissioners of the park represented by Mr. Edward F. Brown, the secretary of the Commission. These notes relate especially to the Bear Mountain and Harriman region of the park, the largest of four or five separated areas making up the entire park property, which comprises altogether more than thirty thousand acres of forested woodland.

The park is situated on the west side of the Hudson river, and extends irregularly from this river to the Ramapo Hills. The West Shore railroad entrance to the region is Iona Island, about forty miles above New York City. Between Iona Island and the base of Bear Mountain there is an extensive march of cat-tails, this

marsh bounding the Bear Mountain Inn premises on the southeast. The marsh opens into the river southeast of the Inn, and the river bounds the Inn premises on the east. Bear Mountain is the principal feature of this part of the park, though it is merely one of a group constituting the Highlands of the Hudson River. This mountain rises to an altitude of 1300 feet above the Hudson tide-level.

The park owes its existence to the fact that, it is mountainous forest though the valleys as well are densely wooded. We can briefly define the Highlands as a forested plateau varying in height from one thousand to fourteen hundred feet, the ridge-like mountains being separated by long irregular troughs, all covered by a uniform forest of hardwood type. Prominent trees are the chestnut, chestnut-oak, maples, red, black and white oaks, various hickories, walnut, butternut, tulip tree, birches, ash, basswood, locusts, aspens, beech, and hemlock. The shrubs and saplings consist of sumach, fire cherry, witch hazel, dogwood, sassafras, laurel, sweet fern, huckleberry, purple flowering raspberry, blackberry, aspens and birches, with sprouts and saplings of all the native trees. With this brief introduction we proceed with the observations concerning the nesting birds of the region, taking them in chronological order.

1. Oven-bird. On May 27th I heard a male Oven-bird singing on the basal hillside of Bear Mountain, just above the Inn premises. As he seemed to be permanently attached to the locality, I made search up the short slope, which was comparatively free of undergrowth, and in a short time I found the nest. It was late in the afternoon, and the female was not at home. The nest was among dead leaves around a fallen branch. It was

made of coarse dried grasses, arched overhead, in this feature being not unlike some nests of the meadowlark. The entrance opening was paved with a large spreading dead leaf. There were eggs in the nest, but in the indistinct light I did not count them.

The next morning I visited this nest about nine o'clock, and then the female was not at home. There were three eggs in the nest. A fuller examination of the site showed it was among dead leaves and scattered green sprouts, sheltered by a fallen dead branch. The entrance faced the descending slope of the grade. On the morning of June 1 I visited the nest, and the female was sitting closely, so I started her off by moving a twig of the branch sheltering her home. She came out, hopping and limping over the dead leaves, with one wing held up obliquely and the other trailing the ground. She made no sound, and remained quiet while I was at the nest, which then contained five eggs. Later in the forenoon I returned with camera, and while I set up the machine and photographed the site about fifteen feet away, she remained quiet in the nest. The male apparently discontinued singing in the vicinity of the nest when the female began incubating. The Oven-bird ranges from the base to the crests of the dry wooded mountains, singing in all localities in late May and early June.

2. Chestnut-sided Warbler. This Warbler was found very common in the bushy margins, roadside clearings, and shrubby openings around the mountain bases. On May 29 I found a nest along the road near the south entrance to the Inn premises. I had heard the male singing frequently in the neighborhood, and had also seen both male and female active in the

edge of the shrubbery there, so I was not long in locating the nest. The site was a very slender sprout in the edge of the undergrowth under trees bordering the road. The nest was about three feet up in the sprout, where a slender creeping vine crossed a weak fork of the sprout. When I found the nest neither parent bird was in sight, but soon the singing of the male and the chipping of the female announced them as the owners. The nest then contained but one egg, and the female had not begun the task of incubation. On June 3 I visited the nest, and the sitting female allowed me to approach quietly until I was within two feet of her, and even then she did not desert the nest until I put out my hand to move a twig of the sapling. She flew away low in the shrubbery, and chirped nervously at a little distance. The male did not appear at this time. The nest contained four eggs.

3. Hooded Warbler. This Warbler was common in the bushy openings of the hillsides, and especially in the shrubbery of small shallow ravines along the mountain bases. The male sings everywhere in the vicinity of its nest, and the site can be determined by the approximate center of the male's singing range in a ravine opening. On June 2 I located a nest of the Hooded Warbler on the boat landing grounds at Bear Mountain Inn. The site was a blackberry bush in a shallow ravine opening, near where a male was heard singing the previous evening. The nest was made in a small fork of blackberry, against two parallel stems, about thirty inches from the ground. It was constructed outwardly of coarse weed bark and brown fibrous stripings, and lined with fine dried grasses, the structure being rather deep and with strong walls. The

female was sitting when I found her home, and upon leaving the nest she kept near uttering quiet chirps; once the male joined her, but neither manifested over-anxiety at the intrusion of their privacy. There were three eggs in the nest. When I withdrew and watched from a respectful distance, the female was in no hurry to resume her place, but when a female Redstart chanced to flit into the nearby bushes, the female Hooded Warbler snapped upon the Redstart and chased it away in a jiffy.

On June 31 I visited the nest again, and it contained four eggs. The female remained with the eggs, four in number, until I moved a branch of the bush, my hand only a foot from her; then she darted off, and chirped quietly in nearby shrubbery. I moved away to about twenty feet, and presently she slipped back into the nest. While sitting there the male visited her, standing so near his bill touched hers, and they thus exchanged caresses before he darted away. In each visit to this nest I noticed a pair of Catbirds working across the ravine in the shrubbery adjacent to this nest, but the Warblers seemed to pay no attention to their presence. This pair of Catbirds had a nest in a nearby shrubby tangle, and it is only fair to their reputation to state that during the season in which both nests progressed to maturity and successful issue, the Catbirds did not appear to notice the warbler household.

**Brown Thrasher.** The Brown Thrasher is common in the ravine angles in the borders of domestic associations. Several pairs were nesting in the surrounding shrubbery of Bear Mountain Inn. On June 2 I found a nest in the edge of a sapling cluster bordering the Inn grounds. A birch sapling had been lopped off and left lying on the undergrowth, and un-

der the horizontal sapling stem, on a mass of crushed twigs, the bulky nest of the Brown Thrasher was made, about three feet from the ground. There were young about a week old in the nest, and the parent birds both resented my presence by saying "pure-err" and uttering their characteristic smacking note.

5. Robin. The Robin nested everywhere throughout the region in all the centers of human associations. On June 2 I found a Robin's nest near the nest of Brown Thrasher just described. It was in a sapling cluster, close to a narrow path through a fringe of shrubbery. The site was an upright fork of alder, about seven feet up, made against the fork and adjacent stems so carelessly that later the nest was tilted out of its place by wind swaying the stems.

6. Red-eyed Vireo. The Red-eyed Vireo was common throughout the park in all margins and broken woodlands. On June 3 I found a nest of this Vireo in a small oak, at the outer part of a low branch, the site being about two feet from a corner of a small building used for storing oil. The nest was made as usual in a small fork of twigs, suspended by the brim, about five feet from the ground. The female was sitting on three eggs, which proved to be the full complement. I visited this nest frequently, and generally the sitting bird would remain in it until I touched the leaves near the nest and pulled it slightly toward me.

7. Long-billed Marsh Wren. This species was very common in the marsh between Iona Island station and the Bear Mountain Inn premises. The chattering songs of these wrens arose from all parts of the marsh in late May and early June. Late in May I located a nest in the edge of the marsh along the road, and then examined it,

but it was empty and I was not certain whether it was a real nest or one of the dummies constructed by the male. On June 5 I examined this nest again, and it contained four eggs. No female appeared to be interested as I inspected the nest, but males were singing nearby and one particular male was working on a dummy less than a hundred feet away. This occupied nest was partially in view from the road, in strong cat-tails, and was similar to a coconut in form and size, with thick walls of soft brownish stems interwoven with fresher greenish material, lined with down from the cat-tail heads, with the opening in one side.

(To be continued)

#### "Bill" a Swainson Hawk

I saw a large nest in a thorny locust tree up about fifteen feet and on closer examination found two young Swainsons almost ready to leave. So by sailing my hat at them hastened their departure. They didn't fly far and when they lit, in some tall grass, they couldn't rise again. One got away soon after I caught them so I just had the one in the photoleft. It was very interesting to watch it work away at a rabbit or swallow a mouse whole, which he did when he was hungry. But if he had already eaten four or five he always tore them in two.

Our old cat never tried to steal his food but once, that time she learned a valuable lesson. After he had been with us for about a month I made him take a mouse or a rat on the fly. I would come within the radius of his pocket string and hold a mouse up by the tail and whistle in imitation of his scream and he would fly straight at the mouse. I always gave it a toss. I don't think he ever missed one and I have thrown as high as thirty feet.

Late in the fall I turned him loose to follow his own instincts. I certainly had a great deal of pleasure with him besides learning a good many things about him and his habits.

Logan I. Evans.

#### RED-TAIL HAWK EGGS

March 6, 1903. P. E. Moody, M. D. Detroit, Mich. One heavily marked on large end and one side balanced lightly marked. One lightly marked.

2.52 x 1.86, 2.46 x 1.88.

May 12, 1901. J. Claire Wood, Detroit, Mich. Two fairly well marked.

2.40 x 1.86, 2.30 x 1.86.

April 8, 1904. J. Claire Wood, Detroit, Mich. Two fairly well clouded over the entire surface.

2.33 x 1.89, 2.35 x 1.92.

April 24, 1901. J. Warren Jacobs, Waynesburg, Pa. One well clouded with a few heavy marks on small end. One well clouded over the entire surface.

2.45 x 1.85, 2.93 x 1.87.

April 16., 1893. W. H. Spicer, Detroit, Mich. One very heavily marked on large end, balance marked with small spots. One unmarked.

2.32 x 1.81., ,2.39 x 1.86.

April 13, 1902. J. Claire Wood, Detroit, Mich. One well marked. Two slightly marked.

2.38 x 1.88, 2.38 x 1.87., 2.32 x 1.89.

March 26, 1896. Frank C. Willard, Galesburg, Ill. Two fairly well marked. One lightly marked.

2.50 x 1.89, 2.53 x 1.91, 2.45 x 1.91.

April 4, 1903. Walter C. Wood, Detroit, Mich. Two very heavily spotted over entire surface and one nearly unmarked.

2.40 x 1.92, 2.31 x 1.92, 2.30 x 1.91.

March 27, 1907. S. S. Dickey. Waynesburg, Pa. One with a very few marks scattered over the entire surface and one unmarked.

2.35 x 1.95, 2.34 x 1.91.





A Swainson Hawk sitting in the grass  
—Photo by L. R. Varcoe



Swainson Hawk protesting against being touched  
—Photo by L. R. Varcoe

### Cowbird Impositions

I found Cowbird's eggs in nests of nearly all of our different Sparrows, Orioles, Vireos and other small birds, but I believe finding a Cowbird's egg in a Phoebe's nest is very unusual. More so when the Phoebe's nest is in a house. The nest shown in the enclosed picture was found inside an old deserted log house over the door leading into the kitchen to the parlor, if such you can call the main living room of the typical Ozark pioneer's residence. The cowbird had to enter the house by a window to get to the Phoebe's nest and personally I believe this is the limit. To get sufficient light to take the picture we had to take the nest out doors and attach it to the foundation where it is now shown. The nest was found May 7, 1915 and the eggs are now much prized specimens of my collection.

Another extraordinary place for a cowbird's egg was in a Mockingbird's nest in a peach tree,—the cowbird's egg being smaller than the owners. Still another unusual victim was a Wood Thrush's nest on a white oak bough which contained two of the owner's eggs and one of the Lazy birds.

The Blue Grosbeak is one of the worst preyed on birds. In a nest near a pasture a few years ago I found three cowbird's eggs in various stages of incubation and one Grosbeak's egg nearly ready to hatch. Another nest contained two Cowbird's eggs and two Grosbeaks. One rarely finds a nest of this species that has not been visited by a Cowbird.

William Plank,  
Decatur, Ark.

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### Unusual Nesting Site of the Rough-winged Swallow

..By S. S. Dickey, Washington, Pa...

There are occasional reports of

Rough-winged Swallows nesting in sewer pipes at the margins of streams. In fact, I myself found these birds inhabiting such places in a stone wall along the Potomac river near the border of Washington, D. C.

However, on May 17 last, while I was down at my old home in Waynesburg, Pennsylvania, I caught sight of some rough-wings which gracefully glided about the lawn of a little park which borders on open hilly country near our house. Eventually one of these birds came flying down a paved street at the edge of the park and entered an old tile drain pipe which jutted a few inches from a recently cut perpendicular clay bank that borders on the street. There is a brick house eight feet back of the bank and a large church building thirty feet across the street. Forty feet below is the main street of our town along which is much traffic every day.

Investigations which I made here revealed numerous weed stalks, coarse grass, and a few small twigs which the birds had dropped below the opening. This led me to believe the swallows were nesting, so I probed the interior of the pipe with a slender stick and out came the mother bird.

May 24, Mr. R. C. Harlow came down to spend the week end in the field with me and upon my showing him the nesting site he remarked that it seemed indeed an exceptional place for the home of the species.

Some days later I had the good fortune to again investigate the place and found the swallows carrying green leaves into their home in the pipe. Then on June 22 the young could be heard when I appeared at the opening. Thus I am satisfied that the swallows nested and brought forth their young in this strange seclusion.

WANTED—Volumes 1 and 2 of Thorburn's British Birds. Very handsome price will be paid for these two volumes. ANSEL B. MILLER, Springs, Pennsylvania.

WANTED—American Ornithology Vol. VI; Oologist Vol. XXVI, 1-2-4; Ornithologist and Oologist Vol. XI; Various numbers of Condor. Have duplicates of Journal Maine Ornithological Society; early Oologist; Ornithologist and Oologist; Osprey; Nidologist, etc. H. H. JOHNSON, Pittsfield, Maine.

FOR EXCHANGE—Sets 123a-5. One runt 373d-4, 486-4, 722an/6, 1918 collected. HENRY W. DAVIS, Box 844, Atlantic City, N. J.

EXCHANGE—First class sets with data. Nothing back 1915. Would be glad to have your list and year collected. HENRY W. DAVIS, Atlantic City, N. J. Box 844.

EXCHANGE—A- sets of 364, 203, 352. Desire shore birds, especially 261, 281, 277a. All letters answered. ERNEST K. SCHLEICHERT, U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C.

WANTED—A. L. singles, small holes, 388; 387, 622e; several each. Old U. S. postage stamps, previous to 1890, either unused or A. 1. used with small cancellation. GEO. W. H. VOS BURGH, 56 Maple Ave., Columbus, Wis.

EXCHANGE—I wish to exchange a few Nature pictures for the same, or for insects, cucoons. Will also sell or buy for cash. Wish to buy good compound microscope. What have you? Write. HUBERT R. WISWELL, Westbrook, Minn.

WANTED—A mounted Albino Squirrel or skin suitable to mount. O. S. BIGGS, San Jose, Ill.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

FOR SALE—A High-class collection of Squirrels which I desire to dispose of before entering the American Army. E. H. HAMILTON, 614 Walnut St., Versailles Boro, McKeesport, Pa.

EXCHANGE—One Telescope, French make, three sliding joints, 14 1-2 in. long extended, 4 1-2 in. closed. Good for bird study. Will trade for sets. What can you offer? LEWIS LUNSFORD, 27 N. Union St., Petersburg, Va.

FOR SALE—Loggerhead Sea turtle, Embryos and hatched turtles, mixed stages \$3.00 dozen, small Octopus \$1.00 each. Other Maine specimens collected from Florida this past summer. H. AITKEN, Gen. Del., Philadelphia, Pa.

EXPERT FIELD NATURALIST COLLECTOR—Would travel in South America, Central America, West Indies or Eastern Countries. Expert in preparation of large and small mammal and Bird Skins. Would collect in branches of Mammalogy, Ornithology, Conchology, Entomology and Botany for Private Collector or Institution. Parties meaning business address JOHN W. DANIELS, Jr., Western State Hospital, Staunton, Va.

EXCHANGE—Funston Perfect (animal) Smoker, 20 Onedia Jump Traps (new), eggs in sets. Want eggs in sets and singles. LYLE D. MILLER, E. Claridon, Ohio.

WANTED—Geological specimens of any kind from Western U. S. Can offer many Eastern specimens. Will also purchase if desirable. Want live pupae from Western U. S. Correspondence solicited with geologists, entomologist and oologists. LOUIS S. KOHLER, 47 Wagner Place, Hawthorne, N. J.

FOR SALE—Live pupae of moths and butterflies. Price-list on application, for delivery November 1, 1918. Also entomological supplies of all kinds. LOUIS S. KOHLER, 47 Wagner Place, Hawthorne, N. J.

FOR SALE—Two handsome Virginia Red Cedar cabinets suitable for eggs or skins. Also one smaller Walnut Cabinet, cheap. WHARTON HUBER, Gwynedd Valley, Pa.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE:—No. 3 Bulls eye Eastman Kodak, new and in good condition. Ask \$5.00, cost \$9.00. Send offers of exchange. JOHNSON NEFF, Marionville, Mo.

PERSONAL—Would like to become acquainted with active Oologist in New York City, Westchester Co., or nearby, with view to expeditions next spring. L. C. S. please write. RAYMOND FULLER, White Plains, N. Y., R. F. D. No. 1.

FOR EXCHANGE—Large showy India moths. Atacus Atlas. Antheraea Pernyi. Actias selene. Caligula cachara. (Selene lyna Hybrid) Also many natives. Want A No. 1 set of 288, 364. A. J. POTTER, East Killingly, Conn.

Eastman's vest Pocket Enlarging Camera to exchange, or sent prepaid for \$1.00. Set Taxidermy lessons, costing \$10.00 for sale for \$2.00. "Life of Audubon" by St. John, 311 pages, 1869, 85c. "Check List New York Bird" by Farr, 216 pages, 50c. Geological Survey Bulletin No. 45, 30c. EMERSON STONER, Benicia, Calif.

Who has skins or mounted fox squirrels, colors, Black, White, Gray, Black Yellow, Black; Cinnamon mixed with black or pure white squirrels. EARL HAMILTON, Versailles, Boro., McKeesport, Pa.

The Oologist is the best medium of exchange for Oologists Ornithologists etc., in the entire U. S.

I have for exchange the following books, all in good condition. Fisher's "Hawks and Owls". Cory's "Birds of Ills.—Wis." Birds of Ohio, Two Vols, by W. E. D Dawson. The Warblers of North America by Chapman. Ind. Dept. of Geology and Natural Resources, 22d annual report. Feathered Game of the North East, by Walter I. Rich. "Birdcraft" by Mable Osgood Wright. "Birdneighbors" by Nellie Blanchan. "Nat'l History" by Sanborn Tenny A. M. 500 engravings C. Scribner, 1866. "Birds of Eastern N. America" Chapman. "Decent of Man" Darwin. "Catalogue Canadian Birds" Jno. Jas. Macoun. "Nests and Eggs North American Birds", Darie, 4th Ed. Will exchange for eggs in sets. GERARD ALAN ABBOTT, Birmingham, Michigan.

**THE CONDOR**

**A Magazine of Western  
Ornithology**

Published Bi-monthly by the

**Cooper Ornithological Club of California**

Edited by J. Grinnell and Harry S. Swarth

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# THE OÖLOGIST.

BIRDS--NESTS--EGGS  
TAXIDERMY

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VOL. XXXVI. No. 2.

ALBION, N. Y., FEB. 1, 1919.

WHOLE NO. 379

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Oregon Junco's nest and eggs

—Photo by Moody, Mullin, Id.



## BRIEF SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wanted, Exchange, For Sale, Etc., inserted in this department at 25 cents for each 25 words for one issue; each additional word 1 cent. No notice inserted for less than 25 cents.

We will advertise the skins, nests, eggs, or mounted specimens of North American Birds for sale for persons having a lawful authority under the law to deal in the same. These columns are for the use of those desiring to make bona fide exchanges of such specimens for scientific collecting purposes only.—EDITOR.

In answering advertisements in these columns mention "The Oologist," and thereby help us, as well as the advertiser and yourself.

## BIRDS

Send me the list of A I Bird Skins that you have to dispose of by exchange or otherwise. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

MALE SKINS WANTED—679, 676, 658, 622, 612, 611, 597, 547. State lowest price when writing. J. P. BALL, 5001 Frankford Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.

FOR EXCHANGE—A large list of All North American species of skins for specimens needed in my collection. C. W. CHAMBERLAIN, 36 Lincoln St., Boston, Mass.

WANTED—Skin or mounted specimen of the Passenger Pigeon. (315) WINCHESTER NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM, Winchester, N. H.

PASSENGER PIGEONS: Have one mounted bird in fair condition to exchange for best offer in rare sets. RICHARD C. HARLOW, State College, Pennsylvania.

WANTED—To correspond with active field collectors, and exchange bird skins. Especially want Shore birds from Missouri and Kansas. Write E. GORDON ALEXANDER, Lexington, Mo.

WANTED—A pair of living Sand Hill Cranes A. O. U. No. 306, taken north of the center of the U. S. If the birds are only slightly wingtipped this will not matter. For them I will pay a good price. R. M. Barnes, Lacon, Ill.

FOR EXCHANGE—I have a beautiful, well-mounted, perfectly plumaged specimen each of Black Rosy Finch and Goshawk, which I will exchange for good set of eggs. GERARD ALAN ABBOTT, Grosse Pointe Shores, Michigan.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Large well-mounted Golden Eagle and American Bittern. I am interested in all Natural History specimens. Write. WALTER STUCK, Jonesboro, Ark.

I desire to exchange bird skins and Butterflies for 20 or 24 Gage Shot Guns, Double Barrel, preferred. Good condition. D. V. HEMBREE, Roswell, Ga.

FOR SALE or EXCHANGE, choice collection of mounted Animals, Skeletons, Birds, American or Foreign, Fish and Reptiles. Send for list. CHICAGO ACADEMY OF SCIENCE, Chicago.

EXCHANGE—I offer fine skins taken in Virginia, of Canada and Greater Snow Geese, Brant, Whistling Swan, many of the Ducks including European Widgeon, Wide Turkeys and immature Bald Eagles, etc. Make offers in eggs in sets, O & O books, bird skins or cash. Also have good list of eggs in sets to exchange. HAROLD BAILEY, Box 112, Newport News, Va.

## EGGS.

In sending in your exchange notices for nests, skins and eggs, we would appreciate it if you would arrange the numerals in your exchange notice in their numerical order, and not tumble them together hit and miss, as some of our readers are complaining, and we think justly so.

WANTED—To correspond with active collectors on or near the Platte River in Nebraska. Address, LYLE FLETCHER, Norton, Kansas. Box 455.

WANT SETS—Some quite common from Northwestern U. S. and Canada. Offer in exchange sea bird sets from both coasts. All letters answered. F. M. CARRYL, Maplewood, N. J.

EXCHANGE NOTICE—I desire to get in touch with all active field collectors with a view to exchanging A I sets. H. W. CARRIGER, 5185 Trask Street, Oakland, Calif.

Will be glad to hear from reliable collectors and to receive their lists. Have good list to offer including some rare species. RICHARD C. HARLOW, State College, Pa.

FOR EXCHANGE—30, 70, 74, 77, 125, 132, 191, 194, 201, 202, 208, 225, 263, 273, 316, 326, 327, 331, 339, 343, 364, 365, 368, 375, 412a, 413, 421, 457, 458, 475, 493, (V.S.) 494, 498c, 501b, 505a, 506, 508, 510, 511, 519, 538, 563, 584, 593, 611, 616, 624, 631, 704, 705, 713, 717a, 721a, 725, 755, 756, 758, 761, 766. Also stamp Collection for eggs. T. E. McMULLEN, 433 Bailey St., Camden, N. J.

EXCHANGE—6 1-4, 12 1-1, 65 1-2, 79 1-1, 118 1-3, 77 1-3, 194 2-4 1-5, 202 6-3 5-4, 211 1-7 1-9, 325 1-1, 331 2-4 1-3, 333 2-4, 339 1-2 4-3, 366 1-4, 373 2-3, 390 1-5 1-6, 476 1-4, 481 1-3, 488 2-3 4-4 2-5, 493 1-5, 498 3-3, 501 3-3, 552A 1-4, 563 1-4, 581 2-4, 584 5-3 2-4, 593 2-3, 598 1-3 1-4, 703a, 1-3, 705 3-4, 761 1-4, 316 1-2. Ostrich at \$3.00. ERNEST A. BUTLER, 6314 Opal St., Philadelphia, Pa.

WANTED—A-I Sets of all birds eggs, common or rare, with data, or in broken sets with data. JOHNSON NEFF, Marionville, Mo.

TO EXCHANGE—A limited number of the Famous JACOBS BIRDHOUSES for first class sets, personally collected, and with full data, nests needed with some. J. WARREN JACOBS, Waynesburg, Pa.

LISTEN—If you want to dispose of your entire collection of eggs, it will be to your advantage to write me. I especially desire rare Raptors, Waders or other rare North American Specimens. B. R. BALES, M.D., No. 149 West Main St., Circleville, Ohio.

## EGGS—Continued

The following personally taken sets to exchange for first class skins or books. Smaller species with nests. 2, 6, 7, 77, 146, 462, 466a, 475, 488b, 497, 498f, 508, 510, 529a, 560a. J. A. MUNRO, Okanagan Landing, B. C.

FOR EXCHANGE—Eggs in sets; A. O. P. Nos. 141-143, 146, 197-201, 225 and many others. Also fine Pupae of *Samia gloveri*. Want eggs in sets live pupae, Butterflies, and Moths in pupae papers. Send list and receive mine. J. W. SUGDEN, 47 S. Eighth St., Salt Lake City, Utah.

WANTED—Sets of eggs from original collector. Oregon, Green and Beldings Jay, Prairie and Abornado Falcons. I have many Bird magazines for exchange or sale. Want Bird Lore Vol. VII No. 1. C. M. CASE, 306 Blue Hills Ave., Hartford, Conn.

WANTED—Lists of choice sets from reliable collections. I can offer Sandhill Crane, Swallow-tail Kite, Bald and Golden Eagle, Duck Hawk, Snowy Owl and many others. All answered. A. E. PRICE, Grant Park, Ill.

WANTED—Singles or broken sets in quantities, or small lots; also books on Taxidermy, curios, etc. J. E. HARRIS, 259 Maple St., Dayton, Ohio.

FOR EXCHANGE—European and Asiatic sets in exchange for No. American species. C. W. CHAMBERLAIN, 36 Lincoln St., Boston, Mass.

RED CEDAR SAW-DUST—Can supply this ideal tray lining material, clean and sifted, in sacks of half bushel or more. Will exchange for first-class sets and skins desired, on a basis of 60 cents per peck. A. F. GANIER, 1221 17th Ave., S., Nashville, Tenn.

EXCHANGE—Bird skins and eggs, over 100 kinds uniodine. Wanted anything. DR. W. S. STRODE, Lewistown, Illinois.

WANTED—A heavy marked set of Sharp-shinned Hawk taken by a reliable collector. Will pay cash or exchange. RALPH W. JACKSON, R. No. 1, Cambridge, Maryland.

EXCHANGE of personally collected sets desired with reliable collectors. Send lists. Have fine sets of 105-2 and others, California birds. J. VAN DENBURGH, 240 Stockton St., San Francisco, California.

WANTED—Sets of 113.1, 249, 252, 260, 298, 332, 344, 393c, 399, 463, 521, 573, 583, 685, etc. J. H. BOWLES, The Woodstock, Tacoma, Wash.

WANTED—Choice sets of anything from Nos. 514 to 605 inclusive and choice sets of finches from any part of the world wanted especially Longspurs and variety sets. Also sets or series of 261, 498, 501, 619, 703 and 761. Good European and other sets offered in best condition. K. L. SKINNER, Brooklands Estate Office, Weybridge, England.

WANTED—First Class, complete sets, all species of Eagles, Kites, Falcons, Loons, Tropic birds, Hawks, Owls, Vultures, Waders, Warblers, Finches. Send lists in full with terms. Dr. M. T. CLECKLEY, Augusta, Ga.

FOR EXCHANGE—Following Alsets, with data—15, 2-1, 105 1-1, 105 1-2-1, 337b 2-3, 486 1-4, 375d 1-2, 617 1-5, 685b 1-3, and others, for sets needed in my collection. C. BADGER, Santa Paula, Calif.

FOR SALE—A fine white oak cabinet suitable for birds, nests, eggs, or other natural history specimens. Contains 20 adjustable drawers. Details upon request. S. S. DICK- EY, 212 East Maiden St., Washington, Pa.

Mounted Birds to exchange for eggs in full sets. J. C. HALL, 1420 Marlowe Ave., Lakewood, O.

WANTED—Set of all kinds, common and rare, containing one or more eggs of any kind of Cowbird. Good sets offered in exchange. J. H. BOWLES, The Woodstock, Tacoma, Wash.

WANTED—One set of eggs of each of the following birds, together with original nest: Scarlet Tanager, Indigo Bunting, Gold Finch. KARL W. KAHMANN, Taxidermist, Lincoln Ave., Chicago, Ill.

WANTED—A-1 sets of all birds, also sets with Cowbird eggs. Must have full data. Can exchange A-1 shells or cash. Write what you have, stating value. HARRY L. SEM- LER, City Carrier No. 3, Lexington, Mo.

CORRESPONDENCE DESIRED WITH COLLECTORS WHO CAN SUPPLY THE FOLLOWING WANTS:—293a-294-300a-300b-311-332-336-337-337b-373e-377-414 420-467-483-501a-501b 501c-507-509-511a-513a-602-619-627a-628-630-633-1-648-671-687.

Rev. H. E. WHEELER, Conway, Ark.

WANTED—A 1st class, well marked set of 4 or 5 white tailed Kite with full and original data. B. S. FRIFFIN, 22 Currier St., Haverhill, Mass.

FOR EXCHANGE—Mounted Birds, skins and eggs in sets. Want birds, skins and eggs in sets. Send lists. JESSE T. CRAVEN, 811 Roosevelt Ave., Detroit, Mich.

We are headquarters for such choice stuff as Raven, Yellow-billed Magpie, Santa Cruz Island Jay, Prairie Falcon, Snowy Plover (with nest), Pacific Horned Owl, Vaux Swift, Black Swift, Golden Pileolated Warbler, and scores of others. We desire in exchange exceptional nest-and-egg material of every description, especially foreign **if well authenticated**. "A drawer to a species" is our motto. 400 drawers installed. Visiting oologists always welcome. MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE OOLOGY, William Leon Dawson, Director, Santa Barbara, Calif.

WANTED—Entire collections of eggs, also eggs of Rare North American Birds. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

FOR SALE—Oologists Tools and Supplies, Bird Books and magazines. BENJAMIN HOAG, Garfield, N. Y.

## BOOKS.

WANTED—Britton & Brown Illustrated Flora in three volumes. State edition, condition of books and best cash price. F. E. FORD, Chardon, O.

THE WARBLER—Second series. Seven volumes complete, \$3.50 post paid. Very few full sets left. Volume 1 and 2, with a dozen exquisite colored plates of rare birds eggs, is in good supply, and the two volumes will be mailed for \$1.00. J. L. CHILDS, Floral Park, N. Y.

Desirable bird books for sale or exchange for other books on birds or insects. Sets of Condor, Ridgeway, etc. L. R. REYNOLDS, 2971 Pacific Ave., San Francisco, Calif.

WANTED—Osprey, Vol. IV No. 3 and index; New Series, Vol. I No. 4, 5, 7. FOR EXCHANGE or Sale Cheap. Some early volumes and single copies of Oologist, many Nos. of Bird Lore, Museum, a few copies of Osprey. JOHN WILLIAMS, Iowa City, Iowa. R. 9.

FOR SALE—Auks 4 Vol. 1894 to 97. Vols. 11-12-13-14 for cash. R. E. CASE, Avon, Conn.

FOR SALE—Bird Lore, five volumes. year 1913-1917, one dollar per volume, carriage extra H. MOUSLEY, Hatley, P. Quebec.

WANTED FOR CASH—The Condor Vols 1-9 incl., Bird Lore Vols. 1 and 2 incl., Nos. 1 and 2 of Vol. 3; No. 1 of Vol. 7; The Oologist of Utica, N. Y. Vols 1-5 inc. and its continuation. The Ornithologist and Oologist Vols. 6-8 incl. B. F. BOLT, 1421 Prospect Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

WANT—For cash or exchange, many issues of Oologist, Osprey, etc., also Birds of Washington, D. C. and vicinity, by Mrs. L. W. Maynard, RALPH W. JACKSON, R. No. 1, Cambridge, Md.

FOR SALE—Vols 4-5-6-7 of Exploration and Surveys for the Pacific Railroad, 1853-1856. The books are bound and in good condition. What am I offered. GEO. E. OSTERHOUT, Windsor, Colorado.

WANTED—Back numbers of many amateur bird publications. List of desiderata sent to anyone having anything in this line for sale or exchange. Also have many numbers of Auk, Condor, Bird Lore, O. & O., Oologist, Bull. Cooper Club, etc. to exchange. A. C. BENT, Taunton, Mass.

Frank L. Burns' Bibliography of scarce or out of print North American Amateur and Trade Publications in existence. Price 25c. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

FOR EXCHANGE—Osprey Vol. I, II, III, IV and V. New Series No. 7 & 2. Condor, Vol. VI & No. 1 of Vol. VII. Wilson Bulletin No. 69. Birds & Nature, Vol XIII. Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5. Vol. IXV, No. 1; Birds Vol. II, No. 5 and 6. Auk, Vol. XXIV and No. 3 of Vol. XXV. Birds of Wyoming, Birds of Iowa. These will be exchanged or sold only as a whole for best cash offer or extra good sets. W. H. BINGAMAN, Algona, Iowa.

EXCHANGE—Large number of Oologists and other bird magazines. A few sets nicely prepared of common land birds. Part VII "Birds of North and Middle America" for other parts of same work. Want many issues of Oologist, Osprey etc., for cash or exchange. Also "Birds of Washington, D. C. and vicinity by Mrs. L. W. Maynard. RALPH W. JACKSON, Cambridge, Route 1, Maryland.

WANTED—July, 1908, and January, 1911, numbers of The Auk. State price, or can offer a few personally taken sets of eggs. HAROLD M. HOLLAND, Galesburg, Ill.

WANTED—Baird Brewer & Ridgeway's Water Birds, Thompson's Byways & Bird Notes. Bird Lore, Vols. 1-15 inclusive. W. D. RICHARDSON, 4215 Prairie Ave. Chicago. 2-3t

WANTED—Oologist Vol. III No. 2; Vols. IV, V, VI; Vol. IX, No. 11; Vol. XVI, No. 3. "Birds of Essex County, Mass.;" "Putnam Catalog of the Birds of Connecticut," by Linsey; "Familiar Science and Fanciers Journal," Vols. 5 and 6. HARRY S. HATHAWAY, Box 1466, Providence, R. I.

EXCHANGE NOTICE—The Oologist for 1913 with September No. missing; for 1914 complete; 1915 complete; 1916 with October and December missing; for National Geographic Magazines, Skins for mounting or large single eggs. Can furnish fresh skins of Black & Turkey Vultures for others. J. J. WIRZ, 1671 Broad St., Augusta, Ga.

WANTED—Good prices paid for the following following magazines: The Oologist, Januy and Peby 1887; April 1889; also Nos. 232, 266, 270, 300. The Osprey, Vol. 3, Nos. 9 & 10; Vol. V, Nos. 5 & 7. New Series Nos. 4 & 7; Nidiologist, Vol. I, Nos. 3, 5, 6; Wilson Bulletin Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 82, 84, 92, 95, 96, 97 and all old U. S. Stamps before 1870, singles, pairs, strips, also on the covers, must be in fine condition. LAUREN TREMPER, 136 N. Dewey St., Philadelphia, Pa.

WANTED—Oologist of Utica, N. Y., Vols. 1-5; Ornithologist and Oologist Vol. 6, numbers 8, 10, 11, index and title page; Vol. 7, index and title page; Vol. 8, numbers 4, 11, 12, index and title page. Nidiologist, Vol. 1, numbers 1 and 2. Osprey, Vol. 1, numbers 2, 4 and 6; and other discontinued ornithological magazines. Will pay reasonable prices.

FOR EXCHANGE—Ornithologist and Oologist volumes 15 and 16 complete, and several numbers of Volumes 9-14.

Bird Lore Vol 1, numbers 1, 5 and 6; Vol. 2, numbers 1, 4 and 6; Vol. 3, numbers 5 and 6; Vol. 4, numbers 1, 2 and 6; Vol. 5, number 5; Vol. 6, number 6; Vol. 7, number 2; Volumes 13 and 16 complete.

Osprey Vol 2, numbers 1, 3, 6 and 7; Vol. 3, number 1.

Bendire's Life Histories, Vol. 1; Nelson's Natural History Collections Made in Alaska; Turner's Contributions to the Natural History of Alaska; Forbush's Useful Birds and their Protection. R. W. WILLIAMS, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.



# THE OÖLOGIST.

VOL. XXXVI. No. 2

ALBION, N. Y., FEB. 1, 1919.

WHOLE NO. 879

*Owned and Published Monthly, by R. M. Barnes, Albion, N. Y., and Lacon, Ill.*

## TAKE NOTICE.

SUBSCRIPTION, 50 CENTS PER YEAR

Examine the number on the wrapper of your Oologist. It denotes the time your subscription expires. Remember we must be notified if you wish it discontinued and all arrearages must be paid. 378 your subscription expires with this issue. 377 your subscription expired with December issue 1918. Other expirations can be computed by intermediate numbers at the rate of one number per month.

Entered as second-class matter December 21, 1903, at the post office at Albion, N. Y., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

## PERMITS

Under the new Bird Law it is necessary for all collectors to get both State and Federal Permits, to collect or to have on hand specimens of either Mounted Birds, Skins, or Birds Nests and Eggs. You get the State Permits from your local authorities. You get your Federal Permits from the Biological Division of the Department of Agriculture, at Washington. They will send the necessary blanks for applying for these permits, without expense. Be sure to get your permits early, and then be sure that you keep within the laws after you get them. Then you will have no trouble.

R. M. Barnes.

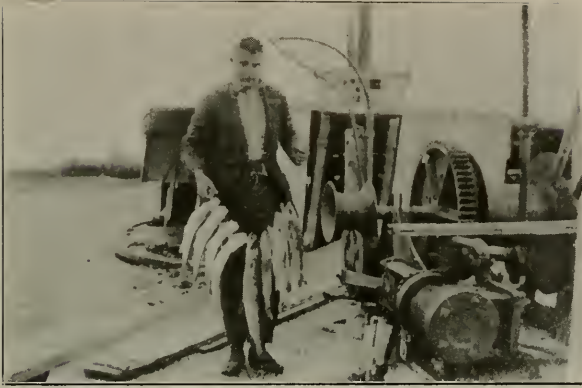
### Around Red Lake by Launch

By L. E. Healey

Northern Minnesota has been called the "Rendezvous of the American Sportsman." Whether such a name is now considered apropos by the hunter it is hard to say. There was a time not very far removed from the present day when her areas abounded in the most magnificent forests of the continent. These forests were inhabited by elk, caribou, moose, deer, bear, and her less wooded areas by grouse, her lakes by ducks and geese, her streams by beaver; her waters abounded in fish and her blue skies in the flight of birds. The ruling hand of this happy hunting ground was the American Indian who lived here unmolested and was master of all he surveyed. These days of wild life are fast and disappearing—are gone. The advent of civilization with the lumberman, the hunter and trapper followed closely by the sportsman and settler has wrought great changes in this, nature's playground. Her forests are depleted and well nigh gone; her elk and caribou have disappeared; laws have been enacted protecting the lives of the remaining moose, deer, fur-bearing animals and edible fowl; and the Indian has been crowded onto Reservation and much to the chagrin of the chief of the feather with belt of wampum, his children have been placed in schools and taught the mode of life and the ways of the white man—all in this glorious country of the Creator's handiwork. But her lakes, surely man in his greed for wealth can not molest the beauty of her meriad sheets of water for which the state is famous. Ah no, it is still a garden of lakes, thousands of them, beautiful expanses of water that invite the hunter and the pleasure seeker and many of them still in the wilds. And yet the writer

knows of one lake, Thief Lake, in Eastern Marshall County which in 1916 and for years prior thereto, was the best duck breeding pond and consequently duck hunting area in this, the northwestern portion of the state. This lake was something over ten miles long and four miles wide, was the home of thousands of ducks and wild geese, and the balm of comfort to the moose and deer during fly season when they would go into the water and dip themselves to the very nostrils. What has become of this lake? Where was it last fall, the fall of 1917? We drove from our home town by car to investigate before hunting season which in this state opens September fifteenth and behold, a veritable sand storm was sweeping it from end to end, now a desert which was once a lake. Through its center was a high pile of dirt marking the course of a State Ditch. The lake had succumbed to the drainage system laid out by the state engineers and her surface is now thrown open to homestead entry. Mud Lake has suffered a similar fate as no doubt have many others not named or shown on the maps. To the writer there is a certain sadness connected with this utter destruction of the nesting sights of thousands of our water fowl. If it has the sense of realization, the water fowl which has for generations back and for their own life period nested here, must feel like the youth of the wild timber lands who returns from the village miles distant to find his home utterly destroyed and nothing but ashes remaining to mark the spot which all his life he has known as home. But the larger lakes and the deeper ones will always remain; and so stands Red Lake in the heart of an Indian Reservation, still forested, still wild, still as nature has made her, majestic, awe-inspiring, a broad





We found fishing off McMehan good  
—Photo by L. E. Healey

expanse of water stretching out to meet the sky, forty-five miles in its longest reach and twenty-five miles wide, regular in outline, an inland sea without a single island to dot its surface, the largest fresh water area totally within the confines of the United States. It was to this, a still remaining vantage of primeval Minnesota, that two lovers of the wild, hearing the call, set out on July eighth in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and seventeen to drink of the glorious air, bathe in the sparkling waters, to be free in God's great out of doors.

We were disappointed in not being able to make the trip during bird nesting season, the glorious month of June when all nature puts on her loveliest gown and her feathered creatures vie with each other in their mad revel of song. It had been our object in this long planned trip to study these fairy friends and thus be able to report more fully upon bird life about Red Lake and the marshes immediately tributary thereto, but at so late a date most of the songsters had ceased to sing and were too busy rearing a hungry family to give us the opportunity

of even knowing of their immediate presence, either that, or the wilder the country, the fewer the song birds; and I am inclined to believe the latter to be true. In this respect our entire trip of nearly three hundred seventy five miles by water was conspicuous in the absence of bird life. True we saw a bird life we were not so familiar with of which I shall speak as my story progresses, but we were impressed with the thought that God placed these feathered creatures in the world for man, and they knowing full well their mission, take up their abode heroically near those who seek to destroy much less know their habits, and hear so little of their efforts to cheer the weary mind and sing the glory of their maker.

The Red Lake River is the outlet of Red Lake. It leaves the Lake at the southwest corner and flows in a general direction westward to the border line between Minnesota and North Dakota where it joins the Red River of the North in a grand fork at Grand Forks, thence making its way northward through the far famed Red River Valley, the bread basket of the world, emptying its muddy course in



We took dinner that day at Neptune Bay  
—Photo by L. E. Healey

the Arctic waters of the Hudson Bay. From Thief River Falls, the last large town up the River to Red Lake Falls, the parental home of "Bud" and myself, the river leaps from one rapids to another in its mad rush seaward, except where man has dammed its course in three places to force it to give of its power. It was impossible on this account to begin our journey by boat from home. We shipped by freight to Thief River Falls, and Saturday saw us nicely on our way in the back water of the last dam. Our boat was a sixteen foot launch with a two horse power stationery engine. It was equipped with all-weather top with side curtains inclosing the entire boat after the manner of the auto, and extra curtains of mosquito to proof net. The writer built the whole outfit and installed the engine, and he knew every nail and rib, every stitch and tack and he loved her, too, as a home in the wilds. Before we tied that night to an over-hanging tree, we had climbed the last rapids and still had one propeller to our credit. With this we were more careful but the trip from now on for the next fifty miles was clear sailing until we reached High

Landing, the only Post Office that might be designated a town on the River after leaving Thief River Falls.

As we progressed up the river the next day, the higher banks were gradually replaced by lower banks, the rocky shores by fewer rock the heavy hardwood timber by scattered groves and the swift current by more sluggish waters. So gradual was this change that without at first realizing it, we were that afternoon fully aware of the fact that we were among unaccustomed surroundings; that the river had become choked with water weeds, weeds such as one finds growing in muddy lakes; the shores had become boggy; the groves of poplar timber had receded to far distances from the course of the river and the occasional farm house and homestead shanty were few and far between. The balance of fifty miles to the Lake was destined to be fraught with much difficulty in keeping our propeller free from weeds and our hides from mosquito bites, although be it said in favor of the pests, we were not troubled to the extent we had anticipated. Bird life had as gradually changed from the birds of the woods

and fields, the birds of a more domestic nature, to the birds of the slough and reed and the birds of solitary places. Instead of the noisy kingfisher darting from his accustomed perch on some overhanging limb, watching with one eye for a fish beneath and with the other on his nearby home in the bank, we saw the great blue heron wading knee deep in some frog pond, terrorizing the inhabitants in true Hun style, and startled by the approach of our submarine chaser took its clumsy flight up the river like some great aeroplane, only to be again disturbed as before. At nearly every quiet pool a family of black ducks or scaups looked out bewildered perhaps for the first time at the sight of man, and ever and anon a sora rail sent out his noisy challenge at our approach. An occasional American Bittern was startled from the waters edge and large hawks were seen at distances back among the scattering groves.

In the swampy area which widens as one approaches the lake, an occasional rise of land might be seen, an island as it were among the bogs. Where such a place is near the river it gives the semblance of a shore where landing is possible. Strange to say although few, yet each seemed to have buildings, although as we discovered, they were inhabited for the most part by Indians, the more so as we neared the lake. After leaving Highlanding where we replenished our gasoline supply to the limit, for we were to travel some 100 miles before we would again be able to get more, we pushed on until it was almost dark before we could find a place to even tie our boat. It was where one of these rises of ground came close to the river that gave us mooring. There proved to be a family of Scandinavians living on their

homestead close by. They had prospered for they had a large hip-roofed barn, a good house and much stock. The boys were enthusiastic about our outfit and we were invited to spend the balance of the evening at their home and destined to accept their hospitable invitation to partake of the comforts of a spring bed, to us our last chance for a while. But, oh, for the comforts of our bed in the boat. The writer gave it up, finally dressed after turning his underwear inside out, and sat wondering how best to spend the balance of the night which he envied Bud who was sawing wood with ease and comfort. Not that he was more used to bed bugs than I was, but I guess his hide was tougher and they couldn't make an impression. I did succeed in getting a couple of hours of sleep on the floor. That was our last night for a while in—shall we say civilization? The next morning in our leave taking, we noticed the accustomed English Sparrows about the barn. It impressed us forcibly away out on this frontier. With what rapidity and in what great numbers is this pest of the bird family inflicting its presence on civilized man to the remotest corners of the continent. The day is coming when the problem will have to be met.

We took dinner that day at Neptune, a store and post office, the last in our course for many miles. Having replenished our larder we began our last stretch of forty miles through the swamps. At times it was difficult to determine the true course of the river; at times we run aground and were forced to turn back to try a different opening among the reeds and wild rice; and ever present were the water weeds which danced the tango with our propeller and got all wrapped up in their delight, so wrapped that our little engine labored hard to keep

up the merry whorl of the dance until we would turn off the switch, cut loose the weeds and begin anew. This was always disastrous to actual time spent on the journey up stream, for there is a current in the main channel which would at such times take us back several rods. The bottom of the main channel is firm and sandy. As we neared the lake the channel became more narrow, the reed banks more defined and the water more swift. We were finally so hemmed in by the tall reeds that we could not see "over the top" even by standing up on the deck of our boat. Of a sudden we rounded one of the many sharp bends and came into full view of the magnificent sheet of water stretching as far as the eye could reach to meet the sky. To one who has never beheld a sheet of water that he can not see across the earth's curvature is very marked and the water seems to rise in a hill before his gaze. The view to us was very inspiring. We ran our boat out into the lake at six thirty p. m., Monday evening, having left Thief River Falls the Saturday before at six p. m. We had traveled an approximate distance of one hundred miles in twenty continuous hours of travel, our rate up stream averaging five miles per hour.

Immediately in front of the outlet and out in the lake about three or four hundred yards rest two steamers, grounded end to end, beat upon by the waves, scarred and bruised by the spring ice jambs, weather wrecked, memorials of bygone days, days when frontiersmen depended upon the rivers and lakes as highways of trade before the advent of railroads to transport the necessary freight. These two boats used to ply between Thief River Falls and various lake points. Washkish, Shotly, Ponema, Redby, and Red

Lake better known as the Agency. They were built for passenger as well as freight traffic. The larger of the two, the McMehan, was a side wheeler and in a fair state of repairs. The engines were still good, the windows most all whole and the cabin still contained the springs of the beds. The main deck was just out of reach of the waves. It might be interesting to state here that Red Lake is a very shallow lake for its size, the deepest place known not being over thirty feet deep. The South Lake is deeper than the North Lake. The shores of both run out into the water very gradually so that a half mile and in some instances a mile out we could take our boat pole and touch bottom. For that reason a wind will soon kick up the waters and the waves run high. We had been warned to keep well to the shore line and not attempt to cross the lake. We found fishing off the McMahan good so we put up for the night and partook of the hospitality of the bed springs in the pilots cabin on the upper deck. During the night the wind arose coming across the lake and although we tied our boat securely the wind had broken the moorings. It was one of those cases when one suddenly becomes aware that something is wrong, a premonition that he must awake. I found myself suddenly standing in the middle of the cabin floor, the wind howling through the broken window pane. I hurried without knowing why downstairs bare-footed, my night-gown switched about my chilled limbs, back to the stern of the boat where our little craft was all but hanging to its last rope, its side worn nearly through from chaffing the boat to the rear. I called lustily to Bud and a half hours work put our boat in the lea of the balance of the night. We were lucky to have a boat at all. Had she broken



loose she would have headed with the wind straight towards the outlet and down the stream towards home.

#### Amenities of Nomenclature.

Having been a reader and a frequent contributor to the pages of *The Oologist* almost from the beginning, I wish to take the liberty which is generally vouchsafed to us, "old boys," of saying somewhat, in a matter wherein myself, and others, are in agreement with a frequently expressed sentiment of the Editor of *The Oologist*: Incessant changes necessitated, in a manuscript which has engaged much of my attention for fifteen years, by the unending changes made in scientific nomenclature, would often have led me deliberately to curse the procrustean "Law of Priority,"—were I not a clergyman!

It is quite bad enough to have the specific name for our well-known Mallard changed from the simple and meaningful, "boschas" to the cumbersome and not-especially-distinctive "platyrhynchos;" but it does grate upon the classic sensibilities of a student to see perpetuated, by the Law of Priority, the spelling, "hyemalis," for no better reason than that an original describer slipped up on his Latin!

Now, for a very gentle comment on certain changes; not always changes for the better. Many of us had grown to love the Tern name, "Sterna." To us, it was a meaningful word. Now, it is displayed by "Thalasseus, but why? The Terns are by no means distinctively "sea" birds. One similar change, however, appeals to one; the present vogue of calling the "Least" Tern by the fit title, "Sternula." One does, per contra, vehemently protest against the rather stilted substitution of such titles as "Onychoprion," (Sooty Tern), for *Sterna*. How unwieldily, for another turn, the present

scientific name of the Bridled Tern, "*Melanosterna anaetheta recognita*." If we are to have a *Melano-sterna*, why not, pray, *Albo-sterna*. And why perpetuate a mis-spelling like "anaetheta," (for anaesthesia), and that, the more, since the term, "anaesthetic," but inaccurately described the temperamental quality thus sought to be distinguished (in the Bridled Tern)? And, what distinctiveness, will you tell us, inheres with the term, "recognita," which merely chronicles the sempiternal warfare being waged concerning what Dr. Dwight has so wittily termed, "millimeter races?" How arbitrary and meaningless, again, the sub-specific (Black Tern) title, "surinamensis." We certainly have no Surinam in North America! To some of us, this use appears to us quite as futile as that of the term, "Arkansas" for a Kingbird that never sees Arkansas except during the migrations.

One cannot admire the false Latinity of words like "exulans," Wandering Albatross, and the coining of a mongrel-Latin term, "glupisha" out of a sailor nick-name. One would also question the genitive form, "kuhlii," for one of the Puffin-form birds; in which connection, moreover, one would really like to know why we must now substitute "Ardenna," in some cases, for "Puffinus?"

Curiously enough, we have specific words of absolutely identical meaning, "creatopus" and "carnei-pes," "Pink-footed" and "Pale-footed" Snearwaters. Many scientific names give one the impression of mere striving after effects. For example, the substitution, (for good, old fashioned "Puffinus" of "*Thyellodroma*: (for the Wedge-tailed Shearwater).

Referring again to the tern, kuhlii, as applied, (by some), to the Cory Shearwater number 87 (A. O. U.). Now the Black-tail Shearwater is No. 97., A.



O. U.; yet my kindly correspondent, Herr, Nehrkorn, of Leipzig, maintains, as do Godman, and others, that these two are synonymous. (If you object to my spelling of the word just used, let me gently remind you that our well established English word, "synonym" is a mis-spelling of the Greek) How one shudders to read, for the Black-capped Petrel, the recent epithet, "diabolica." No wonder the poor creature is now extinct!

Lamentable, enough, it is to use an equivocal English word; but how much more unfortunate the use of such a classical term as the very equivocal, "scalaris," (for a Petrel). In truth, the original coiner of this word should, for lucidity's sake, have tacked to his title the explicit explanation, "means having feathers like scales." Confusion worse-confounded" marks the current treatment of some allied races. The two conspecies of a furtive Flycatcher have had the two names, "Traill" and "Alder," "trailli" and "alnorum," banded about until none but an expert any longer knows which is which, or why! Really, one would think that the blunder of one set of nomenclatural interchanges of this sort would have served to bring about stability, but, no, indeed! As regards the matter of specific subdivision, with such plastic Genera as, for a conspicuous example, the Genus, *Otocoris*. Now, we have no less than twenty-three Horned Lark races, recognized, north of the Mexican Border. Of these, two occupy, each, a curiously proximate pair of tiny areas just where Northern and Southern California come together. And one of these has received the entirely stilted sub-specific title, "*Leucansiptila*." Really, gentleman of the (Bird) Jury, when even a classicist must hie to his Greek and Latin Lexicon, whensoever a new "millimeter race" is brought

forth, it seems time to call out, imperiously, for both simplicity and clearness, (as well as accuracy!) in the nomenclatural domain!

How rife, in both classical and vulgar names, is inconsistency. We say Sage "Hen," but Prairie "Chicken." Again, some say Franklin "Grouse," others, Franklin "Spruce Partridge," and which is right? How unfortunate, moreover, to perpetuate, in vernacular language, so ridiculous a scientific mis-statement as that involved, (both in Europe and in America), in the term, Oyster "catcher!" How utterly arbitrary and meaningless, moreover, the use of terms, once classic, but now transferred to the vernacular, such, for example, as the Term, "Prothonotary," (Warbler). Quite bad enough it was that the original scientific name should have been mis-spelled, but far worse that some man's fancy that this Warbler's beak bore a slight, fancied resemblance to the quill-pen of our fore-fathers should have been embalmed in a name! For pity's sake, why not give this exquisite Warbler of the woodland river margins a fitting and distinctive name, "River" Warbler?

Through but an amateur, and an obscure one, at that, I have always rebelled against the A. O. U. Fiat displacing the title, "American," where-soever occurring.

In the A. O. U. Lists, why, thus take away, without replacing? We have "Western" Robins, why not, then "Eastern" Robins? And, even where we have, not only Eastern and Western but Southern, and perhaps, Central, species and sub-species, why alter a good, meaningful term like "American," in case of Genera involving, for America, but a single species, Coot, Woodcock. (Yet requiring distinction from the corresponding European birds).

I fell to wondering, recently, why the old-time specific name "erythro-gaster," (Barn Swallow), should be changed to "tris," for its final syllable. The explanation was that, *Hirundo* being feminine, and the adjective of the third declension, and the specific name of the nature, not of substantive but of adjective, "tris" was the only allowable rendering. An ornithologist of equal acumen maintains that the specific names are, not adjectives but nouns, and that, he would seem to say, must end the controversy. But, how about "canadensis," (for a certain Warbler), and "aestuarinus" for the latest developed of the Marsh Wren sub-species, for Interior California)?

The writer entirely disclaims any attainment, whatever, in the lore that transforms the amateur into a savant. But he does believe himself, and thousand who think and feel as he does, entitled to a hearing, as regards many considerations, some of them obscure, a few of them, perhaps, trifling, in their isolation; yet all of them in the aggregate, having a preponderate bearing on scientific classification and nomenclature. An amateur, for example, finds it hard to restrain his impatience when told that the place where a certain equivocal specimen was taken must be made known before the status of the specimen can be determined. (To show how all this works out, in practice, I might be permitted to say; that specimens of a certain Thrush, taken by me, in Wyoming, were pronounced to be "swainsoni," while similar birds taken at the same altitude, and showing the very same (distinctive and un-swainson-like) breeding habits, in North-western Nebraska, not many miles away, were called "almae!". One does not wonder, after all this blowing of hot and cold with the same mouth, that "almae" should have been

wiped off the face of the map forever, in face of which arbitrary action stands the fact that the Alma Thrush, in temperament and in nesting habit, is utterly distinct from the Olive-backed Thrush. (And to this agree no less acute men than A. O. Treganza and F. M. Dille).

The above has not been written, either to exploit ones personality or to provoke controversy; but rather in the hope that the deliberately formed opinions and the carefully digested observations of amateurs who are, perhaps, as correct classicists as the Nomenclatures, may be weighed, dispassionately in the official balance, yet not, in the final issue, be found wanting.

P. B. Peabody.

#### Where Will It End?

Remember the American Buffalo, Wild Pigeon, Carolina Parakeet, Ivory Billed Woodpecker, and many others.

The destruction of wild life, by our modern "civilization" is simply appalling. At a recent fur auction in St. Louis, Mo., the following pelts were sold, "besides thousands of others," as stated by the daily press:

900,000	Muskrat.
810,000	Russian Squirrel.
750,000	Mole.
300,000	Possum.
215,000	Skunk.
173,000	Marmots.
135,000	Nutria.
130,000	Raccoon.
118,000	Ermine.
106,000	Mink.
96,000	Japanese Mink.
77,000	Chinese Mink.
68,000	Australian Ringtail.
52,000	Kolinsky.
30,000	Red Fox.
10,000	Argentine Fox.
9,000	Japanese Fox.

8,500 Gray Fox.  
 6,100 Patagonian Fox  
 6,000 Marten.  
 1,900 White Fox.  
 1,800 Russian Sable.  
 1,400 Bear.  
 1,200 Cross Fox.  
 1,100 Silver Fox.  
 500 Badger.  
 400 Mountain Lion.  
 321 Blue Fox.  
 130 Polar Bear.

The foregoing represents the death of almost four million animals. And now comes the New York Fur Auction Sales Corporation, and announces the sale of the following at its fall sale yet to come! This represents the death of almost four million four hundred thousand more animals as follows:

## DOMESTIC

5,100 Badger.  
 1,000 Bear.  
 25 Polar Bear.  
 8,300 Beaver.  
 3,600 Civit Cat.  
 19,000 House Cat.  
 200 Ringtail Cat.  
 14,000 Wildcat.  
 58,000 Ermine.  
 650 Fisher.  
 120 Blue Fox.  
 650 Cross Fox.  
 5,800 Grey Fox.  
 21,000 Red Fox.  
 660 White Fox.  
 550 Silver Fox.  
 7,000 Lynx.  
 2,900 Marten.  
 76,000 Mink.  
 650,000 Muskrat.  
 21,000 Muskrat (black)  
 175,000 Opossum.  
 4,900 Otter.  
 55,000 Raccoon.  
 145,000 Skunk.  
 25,000 Wolf.  
 225 Wolverine.

## FOREIGN

12,500 Australian Fox.  
 14,500 Australian Opossum.  
 13,500 lbs. Australian Rabbit.  
 19,000 Australian Ringtail.  
 3,500 Astrachan.  
 135 Broadtail.  
 750 Chinchillona.  
 2,900 Chinese Civit Cat.  
 500 Chinese Raccoon.  
 2,200 Chinese Weasel.  
 1,065 Hare.  
 4,150 Japanese Marten.  
 33,000 Japanese Mink.  
 900 Japanese Flying Squirrel.  
 5,700 Karagon Fox.  
 2,950 Kitt Fox.  
 1,900 Hair Seal.  
 38,500 Kolinsky.  
 400 Leopard.  
 280,000 Mole.  
 70,000 Nutria.  
 2,400 Patagonian Fox.  
 525 Persian Lamb.  
 19,000 Russian Barunduki.  
 800 Russian Fitch.  
 32,000 Russian Marmot.  
 110,000 Russian Squirrel.  
 375 Russian Sable.  
 450 Stone Marten.  
 2,000 South American Lamb.  
 7 Tiger.  
 785 Tasmanian Opossum.  
 ALSO SUNDRIES CONSISTING OF  
 275 Dog.  
 21,000 Tails and Paws.  
 12 Mountain Lion.  
 46 Pony.  
 10,300 Sundry Fox.  
 100 Wool Seal.  
 1,408 Astrachan.  
 9,646 Astrachan (dyed).  
 19,000 Japanese White Coney.  
 2,863 Fox.  
 8,500 Japanese Flying.  
 1,000 Mink.  
 50,071 Mole.  
 2,475 Kolinsky.  
 135 Ermine.

23 lbs. Squirrel Tails.

63 Squirrel.

When we remember the about one million men armed with the very latest and best death dealing implements take the field against the wild life of the United States every year, we wonder where it will all end.

#### Winter Birds from the North

By H. H. Johnson, Pittsfield, Me.

The winter of 1918-19 so far has been one of mild temperature as concerns this section of the United States. We have been led to expect migrations of residents of the north only in severe winters, yet, visitors from the North-land are plentiful this winter. Perhaps that means a lack of food in the summer home of our visitors, or a much colder winter to the north than here. But whatever the reason they have come and come in 'goodly numbers. The Evening Grosbeaks are reported from various sections of the state. Bangor being the latest. Its relative, the Pine Grosbeak, is also here in numbers; a flock of a dozen having just made me a Sunday call (Jan. 26th) one third of whom wore the rose red of the adult male, the others shading down to the slaty grey of the female. Apples left on the crabapple tree being the attraction; these they attacked, digging into them after the seeds, that being the only part they appeared to care for. There was some quarreling and scolding during the process. Soon one left going in the direction of another apple tree some distance away, followed in a little while by the rest of the flock. These Pine Grosbeaks have been in this neighborhood for over a month. Knight in *Birds of Maine* records the nesting of the Pine Grosbeak near Jackman, Me. He also gives a lengthy report of the breeding of some captive birds that he had, the eggs he des-

cribes as greenish blue color, spotted with black and lilac. A set of five deposited May 28th to June 7th measure as follows .92 x .69; .83 x .66; .93 x .71; .88 x .70; .88 x .69 inches. The Snowy Owl is another of our winter visitors, two have been shot near here this winter and a local hardware dealer has the amounted specimens on display in his window; these are very handsome specimens. The winter of 1901-02 brought them here in large numbers, some 125 being sent to various taxidermists. 1905-6 also there was a rather unusual flight fully 200 were killed that winter in Maine.

Knight reports the examination of a large number of stomachs of the Snowy Owl taken in Maine and all of which were practically empty, and it seems probable that a lack of food is the cause of their migration here.

Redpolls are reported in numbers though I have noted that they seem most plentiful on the return migration sometime in March. Snowbirds are also reported in large flocks. The Robin while not a migrant of the north must be placed in this list as wintering here this year, several being reported from different localities; these birds must subsist at this season mainly on frozen apples and the berries of the mountain ash. While out watching my visitors the Pine Grosbeaks my attention was detracted by the whistle of the wings of some flying ducks as they passed up the river; later after my callers had gone I went down to the river to see if I could locate and identify the ducks, but was unable to find them, they apparently having gone further up the river as there is plenty of open water this winter.

#### The Downy Woodpecker

By H. H. Johnson, Pittsfield, Maine  
While driving my grain binder



along the road this fall I had the pleasure of witnessing for the first time the Downy Woodpecker catch an insect on the wing. I had never happened to have read of such an occurrence so I experienced all the thrills of a new discovery, but alas, like many an other discoverer and inventor some one had just been a little ahead of me; some dozens of years in my case. At the time I made mental note that later; sometime in the winter when not so rushed, I would note my (discovery)? in the Oologist. Meanwhile I have been reading *Our Birds in Their Haunts* and there in black and white was my new discovery. Fame had taken wings and flown away. Yet, I deem the occurrence worth a line, for there may be some one, like myself, who has never witnessed the Downy Woodpecker in the role of a 'Flycatcher' as indeed such was his act. Downy was on the top of one of a line of telephone poles skirting the roadway. I was too far away to be sure of his identity when he left the pole and flying with a motion similar to a Kingbird he darted off over the open field; some rods, reaching its prey (some insect I suppose) it hovered a moment as a Bluebird or Kingbird will when in the act of catching a fly; then back again to its perch on the top of the pole. I witnessed all these movements supposing the bird to be a Bluebird and that I was seeing what I had noticed many times before. As I approached the telephone pole the bird darted off the top and around behind out of sight in a characteristic woodpecker way. It was then that I noticed that the supposed bluebird was a Downy Woodpecker in a different and new role, to me; a role in which the actor appeared fully capable of performing. The Downy is a common woodpecker in this section; one we see most often,

as it is a frequent visitor to our orchards and dooryards in search of food. My acquaintance with this woodpecker began when my interest in ornithology was first aroused, at a very immature age. A boy friend and myself not knowing the proper time to look for eggs; which we had commenced a (collection)? of, and which consisted mostly of Robins, Bluebirds and Swallows at that time; the same which for the reason of parental displeasure was packed in sheeps wool in a box, kept well hid under the barn. We had found a rotten stub of a Rockmaple which had a small hole in it about ten feet up from the ground, from which flew a small Woodpecker when we rapped on the stub. This was well along in June. We had found a prize, something not in our (extensive) collection; a prize we wished the worst way, but we saw no way to secure the eggs except to cut the stub down, which we did forthwith; the result was five very much smashed up, naked Young Downy Woodpeckers.

Well, my parents found this out through some channel to me unknown (I had neglected to mention our find) and you can imagine the result. I broke my eggs and gave up collecting for the time being. Thus my early acquaintance with the Downy Woodpecker began. This Woodpecker prefers to nest in an orchard, but is also found plentiful in stubs along the shores of ponds and rivers; a swampy tract recently overflowed and therefore with many dead stubs is a rare good chance for the Downy. They always use a hole as a nesting site; drilling a new hole each year; they also drill special holes in the fall or early winter as a temporary refuge during the winter, which are deserted in the spring. The eggs average five in number laid on a bed of fine chips



at bottom of cavity, pure glossy white

Drumming is a very noticeable feature of the Downy in the spring; they using some resoundant limb or tree trunk as a sounding board and I think is used as a call to its mate. Diligence in the search of food is characteristic of the Downy and their "once over" of the old apple tree is through; his industry is unequaled. They are very confiding when thus busily engaged and one may approach pretty close to the tree without disturbing the worker. Some farmers regard the Woodpecker tribe as an evil, claiming damage to trees by their drilling of holes, large and small, in the trunks and large limbs of their shade and apple trees, by the making parallel rows of shallow holes around the trunks. But I cannot agree with them; no doubt there is some unavoidable damage caused by the Downy in its search for insects, but I consider it of small moment compared with the amount of good it does by destruction of insects, grubs, bores, etc. Forbush states of its being observed to eat wood-boring ants, apple tree borers, cocoons of codling moth, Hairy Caterpillars, pupae of Gypsy Moths, and sometimes the apples on the tree is attacked by the Downy, but he thinks only of wormy apples. The young are largely fed on caterpillars of various sorts. Dr. Merriam found the stomachs of four Downys filled with beechnuts, and has seen this species eat the berries of the mountain ash. Forbush says it eats bay-berries also. Beal; Biol. Bull. No. 7, says, "of the seven species considered, the Downy Woodpecker is the most beneficial." The stomachs of 8 out of 11 killed in Kansas in winter contained to the extent of 10 per cent of all their food, eggs of grasshoppers.

#### Bird and Animal Life in Menard Co., Texas

While on a hunt in December, 1916, I observed many birds and animals. The hunt was made in Menard County, Texas. The small town of Menard is at the end of the Frisco R. R. In Southwest Texas bird and animal life is still existing but not increasing. We traveled south from Menard in a wagon. Along the road I saw several bunches of Bob White. One bunch of eight wild turkey passed in front of us. Saw many birds such as Green Jay, Meadow Lark, Towhee, Road Runner, Krider and Sparrow Hawk, Slate colored Junco, Cedar Waxwings, and Robins. We passed through several large prairie dog towns. They were plentiful and seemed to be tame and happy. As there is no damage for them to do they are left unmolested. Rabbits were scarce this year on account of a disease which struck them, killing nearly every rabbit in the country. Fox and grey squirrels were more than plentiful as no one ever shoots a squirrel. Black squirrels were scarce in the country we traveled through. Chipmunks and ground squirrels were noticed during a warm day. Armodillas are more than plentiful this year. They are not afraid of anything and will feed up as close as two feet of you before scenting danger. We observed more than a hundred in a day's time. A few people in that country make baskets out of their shells. I brought home five shells and one live one. We have lots of fun here in the shop telling people they are South American grave robbers. A carnival came to Menard. One of the shows had a large banner with an armodilla as big as an elephant painted on it. They called it the ferocious South American grave robber, the only one in captivity. Of course all the people in Menard had

to spend a dime to see such a ferocious animal. When you can catch armadillos in the city limits of Menard. It was a joke on the people so the sheriff closed the show as a fake. Telling this joke on Menard has got me away from my subject. But we are back again. Arriving at Gentry Creek we made camps. While at this camp many interesting things happened, but it would take too much space to tell them.

We observed the following birds: about 200 Wild Turkey, many Bob White, Texas and Belted Kingfishers, Road Runners, Arizona Jays, Downy Woodpeckers, Flicker, Slate-colored Junco, Cedar Waxwings, Robins, Killdeer, Wrens, Tufted and Black Vultures, Hawks and Owls. The only Ducks seen were in a bunch of Mallards. Observed six deer. I killed one four point buck and one wild turkey. The rest of the party killed 7 wild turkeys.

Fur-bearing animals are decreasing rapidly. A few wild cats, coyote, wolf, fox, coon, skunk, civit, ring tail cats, and opossum are left. I saw three eagle nests, many cliff swallows and one phoebe.

I have used too much space already so I must quit for this time. Hoping a happy new year to The Oologist and all its readers.

Ramon Graham, Taxidermist,  
Ft. Worth, Texas.

#### Early Blue Jay's Eggs

My Earliest date for Blue Jays' eggs in Polk County, Iowa, was April 18, 1910.

On the above date I found a nest containing one egg which on the 23rd contained four eggs. The data I give below as it is quite an interesting one to my collection.

Date, April 23rd, 1910; Locality, East of Greenwood Park, Des Moines,

Ia; nest, 8 feet from ground in crotch of an apple tree in orchard, composed of sticks and lined with rootlets. Nest found on the 18th when it contained one egg. On my next visit, on the 23d, the nest was filled with snow which had fallen that afternoon, completely covering the four eggs. There were no Jays near, and had the eggs been left in the nest overnight they would no doubt have frozen as the night was very cold.

Emerson A. Stoner,  
(Now of Benicia, Cal.)

#### Owls and Robins in Nemaha County, Kansas.

During the past three years I have had occasion to note the different Owls found in this county.

In the early part of 1915 an acquaintance of mine brought me a fine specimen of a Barred Owl, which he had killed in the woods near here. The Great Horned Owl is quite numerous here. Last summer I ran on to one when I was walking through the woods. He was sitting on a log which had fallen across the stream. His back was toward me but he turned his head, his eyes looked as big as saucers and gazed at me for a few seconds, then gave a kind of croak and flew away.

I have mounted several Barn Owls, which were killed in this county. Of course the Screech Owl is numerous here, both red and gray.

While trapping during the fall of 1916 I ran across a group of Owls, 12 or 15. They were gray with long ears, larger than the Screech Owl but not as large as the Barn Owl. They stayed around a high bank and in a tree covered by a grapevine, during the day time, remained several weeks then disappeared as suddenly as they had come. I am not certain what specie they belonged to, but I think

they were the Long-eared Owl (*Asio wilsonianus*).

Late last winter a man brought me an Arctic or Snowy Owl to mount, said he had found it in a fodder shock. This is the first one I have ever heard of in this county.

Observed the first robin on the morning of March 5, 1918. They are always numerous here. As I am writing this, a Robin is building his nest in an apple tree, not far from the house.

C. B. Hasenyager.

#### A Mountain Home of the Parula Warbler

At Stone Valley which lies in a mountain fastness fourteen miles south of State College, Pennsylvania, I often met with the buzzing Parula Warblers. They selected the dense hemlocks and tall white pines as places of refuge, so that search as one pleased no nests were revealed.

However, last June while studying wild life in western Huntingdon county I again was greeted by the queer buzzing notes of these little Warblers. A pair frequently sang in a cluster of hemlocks that grew on a small island out in a mountain stream. It seemed that the birds made regular trips up and down stream, visiting all the trees in regular order.

Fortunately, while I was wading in the brook searching for salamanders, one of the Warblers flew briskly to a hemlock that leaned out over the water. In this tree the bird disappeared among the dense branches; but soon it flew out again and lit in a heap of brush along the streamside. Here it gathered bark strips, then revisited the leaning hemlock. In a drooping branch I saw the Warbler weaving the material into its partly completed nest. The structure resembled an Oriole's abode, but of

course was neither so large nor so deep as the home of that bird.

S. S. Dickey.

#### Congratulations, P. M.

P. M. Silloway, well known to Oologist readers is the father of the young man named in the following clipping. It shows what a bird man's blood will do when given an opportunity.

Private (first class) Ralph Silloway, Battery C, One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Field Artillery (A. S. No. 1378997.) For extraordinary heroism in action near Romagne, France, Nov. 13, 1918. During heavy enemy shell fire, when the other members of his section were all wounded or engaged in first aid work, Private Silloway alone served his piece and kept it firing. Two days later, when the chief of his section was wounded, Private Silloway took command of the section and followed the barrage. Home address, P. M. Silloway, father, 404 Fredonia avenue, Peoria, Ill.—Peoria, Ill. Journal, 1-15-19.

#### Wisconsin Notes, 1918.

Nov. 9th we saw near fifty Canada Geese in two flocks, go over toward the south.

Six well fed cats on one farm did not make the birds plentiful, 000000000.

Because one Crow steals an exposed egg, all Crows are necessarily bad, so one farmer's wife thinks, and no amount of arguing availed so the poor old Crow, the butt of much abuse is poisoned.

Migration this season was so quiet and gradual that it was hardly noticeable.

Many birds about here are changing their nesting places owing to destruction of timber and clearing away

brush, by farmers and trunk line and highway tree butchers.

I promised sometime ago to tell the readers of the Oologist more about a certain rookery of the Black Crowned Night Heron. I went to visit them again this year in May and found them in fine condition, some sixty or more nests with eggs and young. They are located in a small piece of black oak timber not far from a farm residence. There is a possibility that I underrated the number of nests. My presence seemed to disturb them so much that I passed around the woods, rather than through, so cannot say if any one had in any way "shot up" or disturbed them.

I cannot remember that I ever saw the Mourning Dove so plentiful as they are here in Iowa, on Cedar river. I wonder, if under proper, prolonged protection, they would not come to be as plentiful as the Passenger Pigeon, formerly were. It seems wonderful that under the circumstances many nests in one tree, the frail structure, and only one egg, that the pigeon could become so exceedingly plentiful as it did when other birds making better nests, and laying more eggs to a clutch did not become at all plentiful. Give the Dove protection, and bring them up to the standard of the Passenger Pigeon.

Geo. W. H. Vos Burgh.

#### The New Catalog.

The need of a new catalog of values of North American Birds' Eggs, has long been apparent to those interested in this class of specimens. Now that the U. S. Government regulations permit the sale of these under necessary and proper regulations, the need becomes greater.

A number of leading oologists, at

the suggestion of Rev. H. E. Wheeler of Conway, Ark., who wrote the communication published in the December Oologist, have determined to issue a new catalog and make it as reliable a mirror of the actual case value of eggs as is possible. The Editor has reviewed a very large number of communications volunteering assistance, in the preparation of this catalog since the December issue.

We all know that in an undertaking of this kind that there must be a clash of interests, as well as a fraternal feeling and determination to get together, and do as near as we know how the fair thing by all. It has occurred to us that the best way is to appoint a committee of twenty-five of our best known collectors scattered over that United States and Canada to pass on the values. The manner of the appointment of this committee is a most serious step, in the formation of the new catalog. If a non-representative committee is selected, or a committee that has some ax to grind, then better have no committee, and no catalog; for one, the product of such a committee will receive scant recognition at the hands of the fraternity. On the other hand a list of values that really represents the combined judgment of this number of real oologists scatter equitably over the entire territory to be covered will be invaluable to us all.

It has occurred to the Editor of this publication that there is no fairer way to select this committee than to have it elected by the rank and file of the egg collectors themselves, rather than have it a sort of hand picked affair, no matter who might do the picking. But what should be the basis of representation has been the real stumbling block? After a good deal of thought we have concluded that the best way is to divide the membership



of this committee, was to apportion it according to the number of subscribers to *The Oologist* based upon our subscription list, as the same is scattered over the country. In this way all parts of the country will be given representation, and given representation in proportion to the number of actual active collectors there. This can best be shown by the subscription books of this magazine, because about all of the active Oologists of North America are subscribers.

In pursuance of this we have divided the country into districts, and apportioned this committee to each district in proportion to the number of subscribers of *The Oologist* therein as follows:

**Pacific Coast, Area, Three Committeemen, from California, Oregon and Washington.**

**Intra-Mountain, Area, Three Committeemen, from Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming.**

**Western Area, Three Committeemen, from Arkansas, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas.**

**Central West area, Three Committeemen, from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin.**

**Central East Area, Four Committeemen, from Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, West Virginia.**

**New England Area, Three Committeemen, from Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut.**

**Southern Area, Three Committeemen, from Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia.**

**Canadian Area, Three Committeemen, from Canada.**

It must be distinctly understood that all Oologists have the right to vote for the full twenty-five members of the committee on values. But also that no vote for more than the number to be elected for any of the several areas will be counted. To illustrate, an Oologist from Illinois, may vote for three committeemen from each of the several areas, but not for more than the number to be selected from such areas, severally, and if he does vote for more than the number to be elected from any area the vote will be counted only for the first named up to the number to be elected.

Please make out your votes at once upon the receipt of your February *Oologist*, and forward the same to Dr. B. R. Bales, of Circleville, Ohio, who has kindly written us that he will do anything he can to help the good work along, and we are sure that he will gladly count the votes and send us the result of the ballot to publish.

When this committee is elected we will send to each one of them a list of North American Birds and each member can then place the price of each egg that he feels competent to price upon the list and return it to us and we will then submit these lists to a committee of three, to be elected by the committee of twenty-five who will harmonize the differences in the lists of the twenty-five upon such basis as they or the twenty-five shall determine best. We suggest that the committee of three shall be composed of men who are none of them members of the committee of twenty-five. This would make them a sort of supreme court of last resort.

Finally we desire it distinctly understood that while the editor is willing to shoulder the expense and much of the detail occasioned by this undertaking, we will not accept election, nor serve upon either of the commit-

tees above referred to. This is partly because of a lack of time, and also because we desire this catalog to be entirely free from any taint of personal supervision. It is well known that we purchase considerable numbers of eggs and hence might be biased, also that we favor an actual cash price, not a fictitious one that will be cut in half every time a specimen is sold, and one not high enough to encourage collecting by irresponsible persons as a commercial enterprise? Not so many years ago we had offered to us three hundred eggs of the Robin, Bluebird, Wood Thrush, Chipping Sparrow, Catbird and Brown Thrush, that had been taken in one year by a boy "to sell," because he had found or got in some way a "Price List of North American Birds Eggs," in which these specimens were priced, when the reader knows that there never was a cash market for them at above a cent or so each.

Now let us all put our shoulder to the wheel, and give and take and live, and let live, and compromise, and get out a real "AMERICAN OOLOGISTS CATALOG OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS EGGS."

The Editor.

#### Summer Tanager's Nest.

I have seen and collected a large number of nests of this species of Tanager, and in ten cases out of ten, they invariably (here in this locality) build their frail nest out about half way of a Post Oak limb on the average of eight feet from the ground, and in all cases over a public road or path.

While out in the woods on May 29th, 1916, I was strolling along a quiet little country road running through a pine belt, and stopped to fill up my old corn pipe, when all of a sudden I saw a male Summer Tanager fussing at me as though he had a nest around

somewhere close to where I was standing. Well, my first thought was to find a Post Oak tree just over the road, then I would find the nest. But as I said before I was traveling through nothing but pine trees, and I knew good and well there was not an oak tree any where around this place, so I was puzzled as to where to start to looking for it, as I never found one in a pine tree, and so I never lost any time in looking in these trees. I knew very well there was a nest some where around, and I sat down in the shade and followed the male bird's actions. It was not very long before he flew down to the lowest limb on a good size pine tree. The place where he lit looked dark as though a nest was there, so I proceeded to this limb and there I found a pretty, little frail nest. The female flew off of it, and and there I could see through the bottom a set of four eggs. Well, if there was ever a surprised person it was me, for I never in all my fifteen years of travel found one of these nests in any other tree except an oak tree. It's very unusual.

Earl E. Moffat,  
Marshall, Texas.

#### To Take Inaccessible Nests

The following is in my mind, a very simple and perfect way of taking nests with eggs, which are placed far out of reach on branch at any height. I always carry in my collecting basket a piece of stiff wire, (telephone) 24 inches long, sharpened at both ends, fold it over so as to form a two pronged fork, bind this to my dead stick of required length. Tie this to the back of your belt, when climbing tree. With this my nest can be collected in perfect shape. Last season I took an Olive Sided Flycatcher, over 100 feet up and impossible to be taken in any other way.

Walter Burton,  
Victoria, B. C.

WANTED—Volumes 1 and 2 of Thorburn's British Birds. Very handsome price will be paid for these two volumes. ANSEL B. MILLER, Springs, Pennsylvania.

WANTED—American Ornithology Vol. VI; Oologist Vol. XXVI, 1-2-4; Ornithologist and Oologist Vol. XI; Various numbers of Condor. Have duplicates of Journal Maine Ornithological Society; early Oologist; Ornithologist and Oologist; Osprey; Nidologist, etc. H. H. JOHNSON, Pittsfield, Maine.

FOR EXCHANGE—Sets 123a-5. One runt 373d-4, 486-4, 722an/6, 1918 collected. HENRY W. DAVIS, Box 844, Atlantic City, N. J.

EXCHANGE—First class sets with data. Nothing back 1915. Would be glad to have your list and year collected. HENRY W. DAVIS, Atlantic City, N. J. Box 844.

EXCHANGE—A- sets of 364, 203, 352. Desire shore birds, especially 261, 281, 277a. All letters answered. ERNEST K. SCHLEICHERT, U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C.

WANTED—A. L. singles, small holes, 388; 387, 622e; several each. Old U. S. postage stamps, previous to 1890, either unused or A. I. used with small cancellation. GEO. W. H. VOS BURGH, 56 Maple Ave., Columbus, Wis.

EXCHANGE—I wish to exchange a few Nature pictures for the same, or for insects, cucoons. Will also sell or buy for cash. Wish to buy good compound microscope. What have you? Write. HUBERT R. WISWELL, Westbrook, Minn.

WANTED—A mounted Albino Squirrel or skin suitable to mount. O. S. BIGGS, San Jose, Ill.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

FOR SALE—A High-class collection of Squirrels which I desire to dispose of before entering the American Army. E. H. HAMILTON, 614 Walnut St., Versailles Boro., McKeesport, Pa.

EXCHANGE—One Telescope, French make, three sliding joints, 14 1-2 in. long extended, 4 1-2 in. closed. Good for bird study. Will trade for sets. What can you offer? LEWIS LUNSFORD, 27 N. Union St., Petersburg, Va.

FOR SALE—Loggerhead Sea turtle, Embryos and hatched turtles, mix. 1 stages \$3.00 dozen, small Octopus \$1.00 each. Other Maine specimens collected from Florida this past summer. H. AITKEN, Gen. Del., Philadelphia, Pa.

EXPERT FIELD NATURALIST COLLECTOR—Would travel in South America, Central America, West Indies or Eastern Countries. Expert in preparation of large and small mammal and Bird Skins. Would collect in branches of Mammalogy, Ornithology, Conchology, Entomology and Botany for Private Collector or Institution. Parties meaning business address JOHN W. DANIELS, Jr., Western State Hospital, Staunton, Va.

EXCHANGE—Funston Perfect (animal) Smoker, 20 Onedia Jump Traps (new), eggs in sets. Want eggs in sets and singles. LYLE D. MILLER, E. Claridon, Ohio.

FOR SALE—Live pupae of moths and butterflies. Price-list on application, for delivery November 1, 1918. Also entomological supplies of all kinds, LOUIS S. KOHLER, 47 Wagner Place, Hawthorne, N. J.

FOR SALE—Two handsome Virginia Red Cedar cabinets suitable for eggs or skins. Also one smaller Walnut Cabinet, cheap. WHARTON HUBER, Gwynedd Valley, Pa.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE—No. 3 Bulls eye Eastman Kodak, new and in good condition. Ask \$5.00, cost \$9.00. Send offers of exchange. JOHNSON NEFF, Marionville, Mo.

PERSONAL—Would like to become acquainted with active Oologist in New York City, Westchester Co., or nearby, with view to expeditions next spring. L. C. S. please write. RAYMOND FULLER, White Plains, N. Y., R. F. D. No. 1.

FOR EXCHANGE—Large showy India moths. Atacus Atlas. Antheraea Pernyi. Actias selene. Caligula cachara. (Selene lyna hybrid) Also many natives. Want A No. I set of 288, 364. A. J. POTTER, East Killingly, Conn.

Who has skins or mounted fox squirrels, colors, Black, White, Gray, Black Yellow, Black; Cinnamon mixed with black or pure white squirrels. EARL HAMILTON, Versailles, Boro., McKeesport, Pa.

The Oologist is the best medium of exchange for Oologists Ornithologists etc., in the entire U. S.

I want to get into touch with young collector in the Ozark region for the coming summer's collecting. JOHNSON NEFF, Marionville, Mo.

FOR EXCHANGE—One fine CONLEY 4x5 Plate Camera, 17 inch Bellows. Adopted for close up Nature Study. Want good 25-20 or 32-20 RIFLE, or Books on OOLOGY. EARL MOFFET, Marshall, Texas.

BOOKS WANTED—Orchids of New England, by Baldwin; Our Native Orchids, by Gibson; Ferns of North America by Eaton. Please state price. H. MOUSLEY, Hatley, Quebec. 1-11

WANTED—One B. & L. Model C. double Dissolving Lens. New or second hand stereopticon Machine in exchange for personally collected specimens of Western Birds Eggs. Mrs. A. O. TRIGANZA, No. 621 E. Sixth St. South, Salt Lake City, Utah. 1-2t

AN EXPERT field naturalist and collector, would travel in South America, the West Indies, or Eastern Columbia. Am an expert in the preparation of large and small mammals and Bird Skins. Would collect in branches of Mineralogy, Ornithology, Conchology, Entomology, and Botany for private collector or an Institution. Parties meaning business please address JOHN W. DANIELS, Jr., Western State Hospital, Staunton, Va.



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**A Magazine of Western**  
**Ornithology**

Published Bi-monthly by the  
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Edited by J. Grinnell and Harry S. Swarth

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BIRDS--NESTS--EGGS  
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VOL. XXXVI. No. 3.

ALBION, N. Y., MAR. 1, 1919.

WHOLE No. 380

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Col Roosevelt, Pres., M. L. Alexander and game warden examining eggs of  
Royal Tern.—Photo by Stanley Clisby Arthur.

## BRIEF SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wanted, Exchange, For Sale, Etc., inserted in this department at 25 cents for each 25 words for one issue; each additional word 1 cent. No notice inserted for less than 25 cents.

We will advertise the skins, nests, eggs, or mounted specimens of North American Birds for sale for persons having a lawful authority under the law to deal in the same. These columns are for the use of those desiring to make bona fide exchanges of such specimens for scientific collecting purposes only.—EDITOR.

In answering advertisements in these columns mention "The Oologist," and thereby help us, as well as the advertiser and yourself.

## BIRDS

Send me the list of A I Bird Skins that you have to dispose of by exchange or otherwise. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

MALE SKINS WANTED—679, 676, 658, 622, 612, 611, 597, 547. State lowest price when writing. J. P. BALL, 5001 Frankford Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.

FOR EXCHANGE—A large list of All North American species of skins for specimens needed in my collection. C. W. CHAMBERLAIN, 36 Lincoln St., Boston, Mass.

WANTED—Skin or mounted specimen of the Passenger Pigeon. (315) WINCHESTER NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM, Winchester, N. H.

PASSENGER PIGEONS: Have one mounted bird in fair condition to exchange for best offer in rare sets. RICHARD C. HARLOW, State College, Pennsylvania.

WANTED—To correspond with active field collectors, and exchange bird skins. Especially want Shore birds from Missouri and Kansas. Write E. GORDON ALEXANDER, Lexington, Mo.

WANTED—A pair of living Sand Hill Cranes A. O. U. No. 306, taken north of the center of the U. S. If the birds are only slightly wingtipped this will not matter. For them I will pay a good price. R. M. Barnes, Lacon, Ill.

FOR EXCHANGE—Have a beautiful, well-mounted, perfectly plumaged specimen each of Black Rosy Finch and Goshawk, which I will exchange for good set of eggs. GERARD ALAN ABBOTT, Grosse Pointe Shores, Michigan.

FOR EXCHANGE:—Large well-mounted Golden Eagle and American Bittern. I am interested in all Natural History specimens. Write. WALTER STUCK, Jonesboro, Ark.

I desire to exchange bird skins and Butterflys for 20 or 24 Gage Shot Guns, Double Barrel, preferred. Good condition. D. V. HEMBREE, Roswell, Ga.

FOR SALE or EXCHANGE, choice collection of mounted Animals, Skeletons, Birds, American or Foreign, Fish and Reptiles. Send for list. CHICAGO ACADEMY OF SCIENCE, Chicago.

EXCHANGE—I offer fine skins taken in Virginia, of Canada and Greater Snow Geese, Brant, Whistling Swan, many of the Ducks including European Widgeon, Wide Turkeys and immature Bald Eagles, etc. Make offers in eggs in sets, O & O books, bird skins or cash. Also have good list of eggs in sets to exchange. HAROLD BAILEY, Box 112, Newport News, Va.

## EGGS.

In sending in your exchange notices for nests, skins and eggs, we would appreciate it if you would arrange the numerals in your exchange notice in their numerical order, and not tumble them together hit and miss, as some of our readers are complaining, and we think justly so.

WANTED—To correspond with active collectors on or near the Platte River in Nebraska. Address, LYLE FLETCHER, Norton, Kansas. Box 455.

EXCHANGE NOTICE—I desire to get in touch with all active field collectors with a view to exchanging A I sets. H. W. CARRIGER, 5185 Trask Street, Oakland, Calif.

Will be glad to hear from reliable collectors and to receive their lists. Have good list to offer including some rare species. RICHARD C. HARLOW, State College, Pa.

WANTED—A-1 Sets of all birds eggs, common or rare, with data, or in broken sets with data. JOHNSON NEFF, Marionville, Mo.

TO EXCHANGE—A limited number of the Famous JACOBS BIRDHOUSES for first class sets, personally collected, and with full data, nests needed with some. J. WARREN JACOBS, Waynesburg, Pa.

LISTEN—If you want to dispose of your entire collection of eggs, it will be to your advantage to write me. I especially desire rare Raptors, Waders or other rare North American Specimens. B. R. BALES, M.D., No. 149 West Main St., Circleville, Ohio.

FOR EXCHANGE—Bird eggs in sets with data; also nest and eggs. Also wish to buy a pair of Peacock's and hen, or their eggs for propagation. JOHN LARANG, Genesee, Idaho.

FOR EXCHANGE—15 1-1; 31a 1-1; 105.2 1-1, 107 1-1, 108.1 1-1; 116 1-1; 197 1-4; 464 1-4; 4741 N-2; 475 1-5; 486 1-5; 533 1-3; 538 1-4; 543 1-3; 560a N-4; 574.1 N-2; 604 1-4; 615 N-5; 622a 1-5; 629a N-4; 646a N-4; 726c N-6; N-5; 741 N-6; 743 N-7; 748a N-7, N-5. J. H. BOWLES, The Woodstock, Tacoma, Wash.

EXCHANKE—Wanted this season's 1919 collected sets. Can use many Common. Ask for same. Send list price per set. Sets for others. HENRY W. DAVIS, Box 844, Atlantic City, N. J.

"THE OOLOGIST"  
BEST RESULTS

## EGGS—Continued

The following personally taken sets to exchange for first class skins or books. Smaller species with nests. 2, 6, 7, 77, 146, 462, 466a, 475, 488b, 497, 498f, 508, 510, 529a, 560a. J. A. MUNRO, Okanagan Landing, B. C.

FOR EXCHANGE—Eggs in sets; A. O. U. Nos. 141-143, 146, 197-201, 225 and many others. Also fine Pupae of *Samia gloveri*. Want eggs in sets live pupae, Butterflies, and Moths in pupae papers. Send list and receive mine. J. W. SUGDEN, 47 S. Eighth St., Salt Lake City, Utah.

WANTED—Sets of eggs from original collector. Oregon, Green and Beldings Jay, Prairie and Ahlorbado Falcons. I have many Bird magazines for exchange or sale. Want Bird Lore Vol. VII No. 1. C. M. CASE, 306 Blue Hills Ave., Hartford, Conn.

WANTED—Lists of choice sets from reliable collections. I can offer Sandhill Crane, Swallow-tail Kite, Bald and Golden Eagle, Duck Hawk, Snowy Owl and many others. All answered. A. E. PRICE, Grant Park, Ill.

WANTED—Singles or broken sets in quantities, or small lots; also books on Taxidermy, curios, etc. J. E. HARRIS, 259 Maple St., Dayton, Ohio.

FOR EXCHANGE—European and Asiatic sets in exchange for No. American species. C. W. CHAMBERLAIN, 36 Lincoln St., Boston, Mass.

RED CEDAR SAW-DUST—Can supply this ideal tray lining material, clean and sifted, in sacks of half bushel or more. Will exchange for first-class sets and skins desired, on a basis of 60 cents per peck. A. F. GANIER, 1221 17th Ave., S., Nashville, Tenn.

EXCHANGE—Bird skins and eggs, over 100 kinds unionidie. Wanted anything. DR. W. S. STRODE, Lewistown, Illinois.

WANTED—A heavy marked set of Sharp-shinned Hawk taken by a reliable collector. Will pay cash or exchange. RALPH W. JACKSON, R. No. 1, Cambridge, Maryland.

EXCHANGE of personally collected sets desired with reliable collectors. Send lists. Have fine sets of 105.2 and others, California birds. J. VAN DENBURGH, 240 Stockton St., San Francisco, California.

WANTED—Sets of 113.1, 249, 252, 260, 298, 332, 344, 393c, 399, 463, 521, 573, 583, 685, etc. J. H. BOWLES, The Woodstock, Tacoma, Wash.

WANTED—Choice sets of anything from Nos. 514 to 605 inclusive and choice sets of finches from any part of the world wanted especially Longspurs and variety sets. Also sets or series of 261, 498, 501, 619, 703 and 761. Good European and other sets offered in best condition. K. L. SKINNER, Brooklands Estate Office, Weybridge, England.

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# THE OÖLOGIST.

VOL. XXXVI. No. 3

ALBION, N. Y., MAR. 1, 1919.

WHOLE No. 380

*Owned and Published Monthly, by R. M. Barnes, Albion, N. Y., and Lacon, Ill.*

## TAKE NOTICE.

SUBSCRIPTION, 50 CENTS PER YEAR

Examine the number on the wrapper of your Oologist. It denotes the time your subscription expires. Remember we must be notified if you wish it discontinued and all arrearages must be paid. 378 your subscription expires with this issue. 377 your subscription expired with December issue 1918. Other expirations can be computed by intermediate numbers at the rate of one number per month.

Entered as second-class matter December 21, 1903, at the post office at Albion, N. Y., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

## SPRING



Spring is here! Spring to the bird lover, the bird student and collector, means more than to almost any one else. That is the time of the year when his old friends return. The birds and their songs, the flowers, the leaves, all are the friends and intimate acquaintances

of the true bird man.

In the woods, on the prairies, on the waters, in the skies, even in the earth, his feathered friends are calling,—calling to come, and learn of their mysterious ways and to inspect their homes. To look, to see, to marvel. What wonders the Great Creator has wrought through our friends.

Go, my friends, to the woods, to the sparkling waters. Look into the skies, and dig into the ground, and see and learn of the mysterious doings of this great family of God's creatures. You will be better for it both in body and mind. Then come and tell us all what you have found and learned, through the columns of our little "Oologist".

—Editor.



### Around Red Lake in a Launch

By Elmer Langevin

#### Part II

We camped on the McMahon the next day and another night; fished out in the lake along the shores, down the river; stripped our boat of its load and the top; romped in her on the tops of the largest waves we could find; and like two kids that we were had the time of our lives. We hunted swamp birds, found a colony of yellow headed black birds, and an occasional red wing, heard the noisy clatter of the long-billed marsh wren and the loud sonorous call of the sora rail. We thought and still believe we discovered a Virginia rail although it was extremely hard to get a look at it with our field glasses. Its call was different and it seemed smaller than the more common sora. The flight of the black tern was on every hand and away out over the lake an occasional larger member of the gull family could be seen, probably a common tern. We thought it strange but in all our trip and now about the lake we did not see a single American coot. The next forenoon saw us camped at the narrows. If you will take your map, you will see that Red Lake is made up of two large lobes like the figure eight, the north one being known as the Upper or North Lake and the lower one as the Lower or South Lake. Where these two lakes join it is comparatively narrow, the distance from the West point to the East point being but a mile and a half. These points are long sand spits extending out into the waters, lashed by the waves of both lakes, entirely barren for a distance of half a mile or more, especially the west point on which we were now camped, for upon leaving the outlet we had headed west and north. This was a delightful place to camp, so much to

explore, fishing good, bathing unexcelled and the wind having changed was bringing the waves in mighty breakers down from the Upper Lake onto this north shore of this spit of sand while the south shore where we were now camped further down behind some sheltering trees was calm and still. We surprised a colony of herring gulls which makes its home there at the narrows. There must have been some sixty to seventy-five in the flock, graceful creatures, who loved these two points because here they could get the breeze in whatever direction the wind blew or find quiet waters as they chose. We tried several snap shots of them. That afternoon we bathed, burried ourselves in the sands of the beach, ran wild in the breakers of the North Lake, visited the East point by boat, did a washing in the sand—did you ever try to wash clothes in clean white sand and cold water of a lake? It works fine. We hung our washing in the trees to dry and when we left forgot it, much to our chagrin. Towards dusk which in this northern latitude does not until about 9 or 9:30 p. m. at this time of the year, we arranged our boat at the waters edge for the night, made our bed, secured the mosquito net and some of the side curtains, lit the head light of the boat, a calcium carbide light, and directed its rays within, and there all alone in a wilderness of water and wild life, we enjoyed life as only lovers of the wild can enjoy it and mingled with this joy the joy of music. We had taken our instruments, a cornet and a saxophone, along with us and with the gulls at roost on the point for an audience, we played a concert to the tune of the hungry mosquito which danced against our net in the glare of the calcium light, until weary, we sank to rest and dreamed dreams of

the free of spirit, the inhabitant of the open air, the children of nature.

The next morning saw us up with the sun for we were trying to run on schedule time; that is we planned at the outset to have made the trip up the river and around the shore line of both lakes back to the Agency on the south Short of the Lower Lake by Sunday. The day was Thursday and we wished to make a couple of stops yet during the balance of the trip. The wind was still pounding the waves in heavy breakers on the shores of the North Lake coming from the north and sweeping the entire width of its surface. We were little frightened for we had matched our little craft against their power the day before. After rounding the point our direction was due west and we were running in the troughs of these mighty waves so had to zigzag our boat and take every wave at an angle to avoid shipping water. We were in no danger of life, only of getting a good soaking and being delayed a day for drying out. It was genuine sport to match our powers with that of nature. All was going well. We knew that in the course of a short time we would be rounding the west end and driving our boat head on against the waves approaching with each revolution of the propeller the quiet waters in the lea of the North shore. Of a sudden the engine bore down heavy. From the past few days experience we knew only too well that we were among weeds. We were about three blocks from shore. Nature had scored a point. We jumped to the paddles, headed the prow to the wind, and allowed the boat to drift stern on toward shore. When within two hundred feet one jumped over board waist deep, cut lose the weeds and held the boat into the wind, while the other started the engine. We

again pulled out into the lake sounding bottom with our boat pole as we went. It was then that we became first acquainted with the shallowness of the North Lake. The water remained waist deep as far as we went. We, however, headed a little toward shore always staying far enough out to avoid the weeds and yet among the scattering bull rushes. But say, it was glorious battling among the wind and the waves.

#### Duck Hawk Notes

I wonder if any Duck Hawk eggs were ever taken that did not leave a memory in the mind of the collector never to be effaced. My experience with them has been mainly limited to one pair of birds, but every incident connected with the taking of every set they supplied me with, nine in all, is as clearly impressed on my mind as if it were only yesterday, although my first set was taken as far back as 1901

To some Oologist readers, as they glance over this, may come the vision of some stupendous cliff, where, from some little corner on it's rocky side their first set was taken, perhaps at peril of life or limb. To many more, perhaps, may come the wish that some day their wandering footsteps may lead them in pleasant (Duckhawk) places; and so perhaps a narrative of the nesting of one pair of the birds may not prove uninteresting.

Our race of the Duck (*Falco peregrinus anatum*) seems to be pretty well distributed over North America. In most localities very rare; common nowhere.

Perhaps we, in this little corner of the world are as well favored with them as anywhere, yet even with such ardent collectors as Dixon and Carpenter on the job we have only found five pair nesting in a radius of twenty-five miles.

Duck Hawks, like the Eagles, seem to have their own hunting grounds, and while they may wander away a little during the fall and winter, in nesting season they stay pretty close to home, and when once well established in a locality only absolute destruction will eliminate them. Taking the eggs seems to be a temporary inconvenience only, and when one bird is killed another seems to be readily forthcoming to take its place. While they may change the nesting site from one suitable ledge to another on the same cliff or even to go to another cliff a mile or so away, they never leave the locality altogether, and, like the Eagles, sooner or later return to the old nesting site.

My birds had inhabited the same great cliff for many years before I ever heard of them, and it was not until 1900, several years after I did hear of them, that I was able to really make their acquaintance, which proved a most interesting one and lasted for many years. This cliff was about ten miles from my home and one lovely spring day I got after them, about three weeks too late, as it proved. It is as clear to me now as if it were only yesterday instead of eighteen years ago. The steep hills rising abruptly from the boulder-filled canon: on one side the hills nearly bare with round boulders and smooth rock surfaces, from which the soil had washed away, running nearly to the top of the hill; and on the other side the lower slopes brush-covered and oak trees for a way and then the cliff, rising sheer and straight for hundreds of feet and nothing but the steel-blue sky beyond. From the boulders ahead of me came the cheerful trill of a Dotted Canon Wren, resting for a moment from its seemingly endless searching of the nooks and crannies of the rocks. On the top of an enor-

mous water-worn boulder a Black Phoebe kept me in view, darting off, now and then, on some entomological quest over the water of a quiet pool in the shadow of the rock, where a couple of turtles were dozing near the bank with their noses out of water. Under the rock in a little cool archway, where another great boulder leaned across, was the Phoebe's nest, well up above my reach. A pair of Buzzards sailed slowly up the canon, the long outer flight feathers spread apart like fingers. Then, suddenly, from far up on the cliff came a long drawn out, penetrating cry, like the wail of a lost soul, which, after a minute, was repeated twice. Then, in a few minutes came an answer from the upper part of the canon, shorter, less penetrating, and a sort of barking cry that sounded exactly like the quacking of a duck, (a cry that I never have heard these birds give since) and then the bird came in like a blue streak and lit on a small projecting shelf about two-thirds up the cliff, in a position that looked from below to be inaccessible. Then from another place, seemingly above and to one side, came a series of short yelps that could mean only one thing, nearly full grown and very hungry young. It was very hot in the canon between the hills, but very pleasant to sit in the shade of the Phoebe's rock watching the White-throated Swifts darting with incredible speed to their nesting crevices in the rocky wall and speculating as to the best means of getting to them and to the Duck Hawk's ledge if she should go back to the same place again, but it was a vain speculation, for I never yet go to the Swifts nests and it was eight years before the Duck Hawk nested in that spot again.

The next season, 1901, she chose a place near the bottom of the cliff and



the easiest of access of any place she ever occupied, and on April 14th I took my first set of three. The ledge, or shelf, was about ten or twelve feet long. Starting with a width of a few inches at the outer end it gradually widened to a little over two feet at the inner, where it butted up against the cliff. It was covered with dirt and sand washed down from above but was bare of all vegetation. It had evidently been used many times as a nesting site for there were three saucer-like depressions in the sand, the outer one about five inches wide and an inch deep and the other two slightly deeper. The eggs were in the nearest of the three. This was the only nesting place these birds have been found in where anything approaching a nest or a nesting hollow was in evidence, in all other cases the eggs were laid on the bare ground. The surface of the shelf was well sprinkled with bones and skulls of small mammals and a few small birds skulls. In 1902 there was grass growing on the shelf and the birds went to another site which I did not have time to locate.

In 1903 they chose another ledge, some 50 feet directly above the first, a similar but wider shelf, wholly bare of sand or dirt but well sprinkled with bones and skulls as evidence of frequent occupancy. Although this was taken only five days later in the season than my first set, which were fresh, one of the eggs was far advanced in incubation, the other two being infertile.

It is not usual to find infertile eggs in the nests of the large raptores and these might be accounted for by the possibility of their having been exposed and chilled during a heavy rain before the third egg had been laid. It took 125 feet of rope to reach the ledge. In the inner corner, where it

joined the rock wall, a large slab of rock stood, nearly vertical in position, having probably slid down from above; this extended out about four feet on the ledge and to a few inches from the edge, leaving a crevice behind. As I slid down over this I was greeted with a warm welcome, vocal and instrumental, by a large rattlesnake, that had, the same designs on the ledge, probably, that I had myself and resented my intrusion. I told him to "Shut up" which he (or she) promptly did and crawled in behind the rock, while I sat down in front of it and packed up, with the rattles going all the while like a buzz-saw, and when I climbed over the rock going up he bade me a very vociferous farewell. There are lots of snakes round that ledge but no one would expect to find one over a hundred feet down a cliff-side. What is it that King Solomon said about the ways of a serpent on a rock?

There is one very good thing about rattlers; they are never looking for trouble. I wasn't myself just then so we parted the best of friends.

In 1904 my birds went back to the first nesting place where I got a fine set of four. This was nineteen days earlier than the year before. Three eggs far advanced, one infertile. These two places were the only places occupied on the cliff where it was possible to look into the nest from above, which, as may well be believed, is a great convenience.

In 1905, 1906, 1907, 1909 and 1910 eggs were taken from a very well protected, overhung shelf, about 75 feet down, easy of access with a rope and not impossible without, though the extreme looseness of the gravelly soil and the almost vertical slope makes it a bit uncertain.

This shelf was about two feet by three, triangular in shape and bare of

vegetation except for a few weeds growing from a crevice at the back where a little soil had blown in. A liberal supply of bones and some gravel from above covered the bare rock.

In 1908, by rolling rocks over the edge I scared one of the birds off another ledge, which proved to be the same one where the incoming bird lit on my first visit to the canon. (The last described location was where she raised her young that year). This proved to be the most inaccessible of any places chosen yet, though only 60 feet down. There were two overhanging ledges with sloping tops and it was impossible to see the eggs on the third ledge until one was almost standing in the nest. That climb took more skin off my hands than any rock climb I ever attempted, but the beautiful set of three well repaid me.

In 1909, six weeks after the first set was taken, another new nesting place was located about 200 feet away, but the three eggs it contained appeared to be pretty far along in incubation and as the birds had already "done their bit" they were not disturbed.

No eggs have been taken by me from these birds since 1910, nor, as far as I know, by anyone, except in 1913, when a set was taken of which I have no data.

Some time in the winter of 1913-14 a pair of Eagles came back to the canon, reoccupying nests that long antedated my first Duck Hawk, and though the latter birds still come round they have not nested in the canon since, and we have not yet been able to relocate them.

Of all the birds with which I have had dealings, these Duck Hawks, or, at least, one of them was the most aggressive bird I ever saw. Whenever anyone was near the nest one bird would generally sit up on a bench..

would generally sit up on a high rock nearby and say very impolite things in a tone of voice that must have been very far-reaching, for, in a few minutes there would be a rush of wings and the other bird would come, a blue streak, whizzing down the canon like a bullet, so close one could feel the air from it's wings, then turn and come back again and keep it up as long as one were near the nest.

On the ledge with the snake that day the bird actually struck me with it's wing as it passed, knocking my cap off, and at each rust I full expected to feel it's sharp claws in my back, which would not have been so pleasant, a couple of hundred feet up in the air.

One day I watched the pair chase a big male Red Tail into a tree and keep him there. He was so scared he would not leave the tree for over an hour after the Duck Hawks had gone away. There were several pairs of Barn Owls nesting in the holes in the cliff and one pair of Pacific Horned Owls. Ordinarily the Hawks would not bother them, but they evidently saw red when their nests were disturbed and then the Owls and the Buzzards all hunted their holes.

I saw one unfortunate Horned Owl take a nose dive to the bottom of the canon one day shy a good many of it's feathers and the Buzzards all went out of the canon faster than they seemed to want to.

The nesting dates vary somewhat, according to the nature of the season. Wet late springs retarding.

I have taken fresh eggs on March 24, April 9, April 11 and April 14.

Incubation commenced on April 4. Advanced on April 10, April 19. Far advanced on April 8, April 10, also May 13, second set, probably advanced.

The young birds heard on my first

visit to the canon must have been two thirds grown when I heard them, from the noise they made, and that was on April 14th.

The normal number of eggs of this pair of birds would appear to be four. I have taken 9 sets in all; four of four eggs and five of three. But of those five only one showed signs of incubation. In all probability a day or so of delay in visiting the nests would have meant another egg in four out of the five sets. The second set of 1909 had three only and was doubtless complete. The set of three of 1903 containing one advanced and two infertile eggs was also doubtless complete.

Five sets of the nine taken are now in my collection. Seventeen eggs in all. The average measurement of them all is 2.09 by 1.66. The largest egg being 2.14 by 1.70. The smallest 1.99 by 1.65. The five sets average 2.12 by 1.63 (3 eggs) 2.01 by 1.65 (3 eggs) 2.10 by 1.64 (3 eggs) 2.11 by 1.67 (4 eggs) 2.10 by 1.69 (4 eggs). All these eggs are pretty much of the same shape, marking and ground color, which is the dark form.

Some, taken before they had been incubated at all are of the beautiful cherry shade that so soon fades in the light and with incubation. The latest taken eggs appear to be rather lighter in shade than those taken earlier, and to be of slightly different shape, being more obtuse at the smaller end. The greatest departure from normal shape is in set No. 6 where there is one egg which measures 2.17 by 1.64, the others being very close to normal.

C. S. Sharp,  
Escondido, Cal.

#### In the Haunts of the Duck Hawk

By S. S. Dickey, Washington, Pa.

Having heard much of the Duck Hawk from naturalists who have had

a first hand knowledge of the species, it has for some time been my desire to see the birds in their native haunts. And, as with all else in which the mind of man loves to become absorbed, ornithology falls in line with the maxim, "it's the unexpected that happens." If such were not so I dare say we who study the birds should miss much of the joy in pursuit of such pastime.

During June of the present year I spent a week-end in the mountains of central Pennsylvania and stayed at the home of an experienced hunter who knows that part of the country thoroughly. In talking with him concerning the birds of the region I inquired if the raven had been seen in his neighborhood, and he replied that only a few years ago he had seen a nest of this bird on a rocky Craig two miles across the mountain that lies behind his house.

The hunter gave me instructions as to how I might reach the bluff and his young son and I set off along the path. The day was clear and warm and birds sang all about us,—Parula Warblers, Blackburians, Black-throated Greens, Black, and Whites and others,—but I could not linger long with them, even though I had a desire to do so. Soon we descended the far side of the ridge and came to a narrow road which lay at the base of the mountain and extended beside the rushing waters of the Juniata river.

Here and there rocky cliffs and lichen-covered crags jutted out from the dense foliage of the hemlocks and occasional white-washed areas from the droppings of some bird could be distinctly seen in the distance. But as we had not yet found a cliff high enough to meet the descriptions of the hunter we kept on down the road until we emerged from the denser forest growth and entered a little clear-

ing where a saw-mill had done its work of devastation. From this opening a general view of the steep mountain side was had and it revealed a jagged, rocky cliff towering some three hundred feet above us. This we decided must be the place we were looking for, and I started to ascend the rocks. No sooner had I reached the lower shelvings of the bluff than the strange cries of a bird caused me to glance out over the river far below, and there I at once recognized my first Duck Hawk. It circled and darted about, apparently much distressed at my intrusion on its long cherished abode. Soon it was joined by its mate and together they sailed about in the usual falcon maneuvers, which so much reminded me of certain actions of the little Sparrow Hawk.

Earth had accumulated for years in the cracks and crevices of the cliff and a few scraggly hemlocks and low black birches had sunk their tangled roots beneath this soil. By grasping hold of these I pulled myself from shelf to shelf until I reached the higher point of rocks. Here I felt sure the falcons had their nest, for numerous feathers and bones were strewn upon the rocks and white washed patches of rock extended below the crannies. But certain crevices that lay beneath protruding shelves were inaccessible to one without a rope. Thus I gave up the search and paused a while to watch the circling, screaming birds until they vanished across the mountain ridge which lay over the river. Then they were seen no more.

Upon my return to the hunter's home I asked him if he had ever seen these "rock hawks" near the cliff and he told me they had been there ever since he was a little boy. He and some neighbor men had at various times visited the nest, which he said

was in a crevice beneath a projecting ledge at the extreme point of the bluff, and had taken the young birds. Just last spring his brother had secured two young Falcons which he was attempting to raise at home. According to his tale there were never more than three and sometimes only two young. To his knowledge no ornithologists had visited the nest and few persons knew of its location.

This then is undoubtedly an isolated pair of duck hawks which the Pennsylvania ornithologists have never located. It is my desire to visit the place next spring and find the nest and examine the eggs, and if good luck favors me I shall have more to say concerning this wary falcon.

#### The Broad-Wing Hawk

The broad-wing hawk although not common, is not known to East Texas. They do not frequent the more settled portions as do the Red Shoulder, and the Coopers Hawk, but are seen more often in the bottoms and wooded districts and usually at a great distance from human habitation.

The Broad-Wing starts mating and nest building about the last part of February and finish laying before the middle of March. Their nests are large structures, usually in the fork of an Oak and range from thirty to sixty feet from the ground; they are made of course twigs and lined with green leaves, usually pine straw. The eggs, which as a rule are three in number, average slightly larger than those of the Red-Shoulder. These birds are very wild and leave the nest when the tree is "tapped" and circle high above the nest while the nest is being examined or the eggs collected.

The Broad-Wing, along with the rest of the Hawk family, is very much persecuted by farmers and hunters,



who say that the Hawks eat chickens and game birds, which is true to a small extent. However the chief food of this bird (around here) is cray fish which they catch in the shallow ponds and streams, and field mice, and occasionally a small bird or chicken; but on the whole they are beneficial birds and should be protected by law and custom.

Out of ten nests of this species examined in the last three years, in about half of them I have found the limbs around the nest scarred with shot, where the nests had been shot at to break the eggs or kill the young birds, but in only one case have I ever seen any damage done and then only one egg was broken. This is due to the great thickness of the nests.

DeLoach Martin.

#### Notes on the Food of Certain Birds of Prey

By J. H. Bowles, Tacoma, Wash.

For many years past I have been much interested in the study of the food and feeding habits of the birds of prey occurring in the state of Washington, keeping a careful table of the contents of all stomachs examined. It would take up too much space to give a detailed account of the results, which might prove tiresome, but a few excerpts here and there may prove of interest.

*Circus hudsonia*—Marsh Hawk. This hawk is a summer resident on the east side of the Cascade Mountains, but on the west side we know it only as a somewhat rare fall visitor. The only stomach I have had for examination contained the remains of two Western Savanna Sparrows, but in the gullet of this same hawk was a mouse. This might prove damaging to the reputation of this handsome bird of prey, if we did not bear in mind that these sparrows skulk about in the

grass in a manner to make them easily mistaken for mice. At any rate, let us give the hawk the benefit of the doubt.

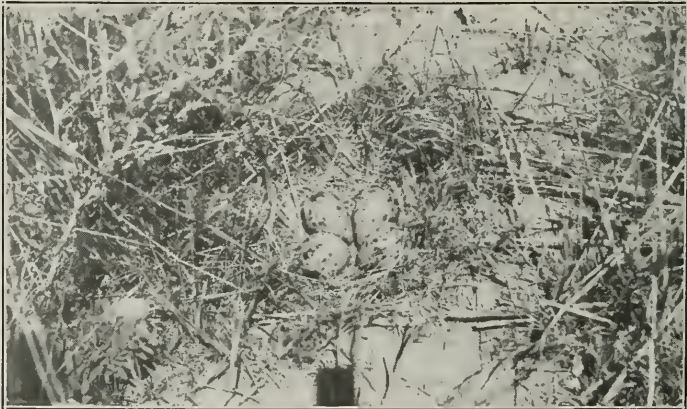
*Accipiter velox*—Sharp-shinned Hawk. This species, together with its close relative the Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperi*), I believe do more harm than all the rest of the raptores together. In a great many stomachs of the Sharp-shinned, which is common, and a few of the rarer Cooper's, I have seen not one from this state that contained anything but birds, and I do not remember of ever seeing a stomach of either variety that was empty. The Sharp-shins are not summer residents west of the Cascades. The Cooper's is resident throughout the year. I have examined the stomachs of two broods of young, about three-quarters grown, and the parent bird that were bringing them food. In all of them the stomachs were packed full of small birds, the old birds being full up into their throats. The most striking point was that all of these small birds appeared to be nestlings, many so young that it seemed impossible that they had left their nests. To me it seems beyond a doubt that the hawks had systematically hunted the nests and taken the young birds out of them. The largest bird that I have ever seen taken by the Cooper's Hawk is the Oregon Ruffed Grouse, which it captured in full flight.

*Buteo borealis calurus*—Western Red-tailed Hawk. In a considerable experience, both in California and Washington, I have never known this species to capture a bird of any kind. Their food appears to consist entirely of mammals, snakes, and carrion of many kinds. This last feature has been so apparent in some specimens that it needed a considerable determination to prepare them. In one instance one of these hawks was caught

in a trap set beside a dead hen that had been killed by a Western Goshawk. In another instance a Red-tail was seen hovering over a fallen fir branch, under which was found a hen that was badly clawed, but still alive. Circumstantial evidence seemed to point to the hawk as the guilty party, but I feel practically sure that it was the work of a Dusky Horned Owl. The locality is full of these owls and it is a regular habit with them to hide such of their prey as they are unable to eat, returning the following night for another meal. I have read of a few instances where stomachs of Red-tails have contained fowls, but I am strongly of the opinion that they were eaten after something else had killed them. The only living bird that I have actually known them to catch was a Baldpate Duck, that was wounded and hiding under a bank. The Hawk, an immature bird of the year, flew directly in front of the bow of a row-boat in under a shelving bank of the river, where it caught the duck and carried it to the bank. In this case I am firmly convinced that the hawk mistook the duck for a muskrat, which are commn and a favorite article of diet for them. These hawks will sit

for a long time in the top of some tree directly over where flocks of ducks are swimming about in the water below, but the ducks never seem at any time to show the least signs of fear, and I have never seen the hawks pay any attention to them whatever.

*Haliaeetus leucocephalus leucocephalus*—Bald Eagle. Everything in the animal line, with few exceptions, seems to find favor with these eagles as part as their bill of fare. In the northwest fish seems to constitute the greater part of their diet, probably the greater part being eaten after it has been cast ashore dead. Along the coast of Alaska the Northern Bald Eagle is a great pest to the fox farmers, who raise different kinds of foxes for their skins. A constant watch must be kept, as the eagles are common and likely at any moment to pounce down and carry off some three hundred dollar beauty. Once in a while an eagle will make a mistake, as was the cause with a skin in the possession of Mr. D. E. Brown, of Seattle, Wash. This bird had tried to dine off a porcupine, the result being a throat full of quills that very naturally caused its death.



Nest and eggs of Western Willett—Photo by J. W. Sugden, Salt Lake City.



Drawer of Moths in collection—J. W. Sugden.



Ruby-throated Humming Birds. Nest on stick.  
—Drawn from nature, by S. S. Hickey

**Days With the Ruby-throated Hummer**

By S. S. Dickey, Pittsburgh, Pa.

A bird's nest. Mark it well. Within,  
without.

No tool had he that wrought; no knife  
to cut.

No nail to fix, no bodkin to insert,  
No glue to join. His little beak was  
all.

And yet how neatly finished! What  
nice hand,

With every implement and means of  
art,

And twenty years apprenticeship to  
boot,

Could make one such another?

—Hurdis.

While I was quite a little boy I went one evening to visit at the home of my parents' friends and well remember a discovery which one of the older folks made when we were sitting on the porch; this person found a dead male Ruby-throated Hummingbird caught in a tangle of vines that adorned the border of the veranda. My love for birds caused me to take this hummer, while no one was watching, and run to my home with it.

A few years later while I was still a mere boy the gorgeous little hummers visited the touch-me-nots in a neighbor's woman's flower garden, and to me they seemed like wonders from an enchanting and unknown world. So a boy friend and I prepared a net and placed it on the end of a long pole, determined to capture one of the sprightly creatures. But try as we did, day after day, we could not catch the bird in our net.

Then a new scheme was decided upon: a gum-shooter was made and a pocket full of small white beans secured. By waiting for the bird to alight on a clothes line wire and then sending a shower of beans at him we eventually stunned one of the little fellows and bore it home in triumph.

Perhaps the natural daintiness and beauty of the Ruby-throat made it an endearing bird with me, but I am inclined to believe that those early day associations with the species helped profoundly in making me greatly admire this glittering dwarf of birdom.

Therefore, as nesting seasons arrived, I always hoped intensely to find the home of a Hummingbird. But years rolled by and not a nest was seen, until, perchance, late May of 1906. On Memorial day of that year I went to a deep wooded gully in search of various birds' nests and happened near a group of sugar maples which stood in the denser portion of the woods. A drink from a spring, and a rest, resulted in my hearing the sound of a Ruby-throat as it darted about in humming flight. A careful watchfulness revealed the bird and its nest. The domicile was built well out on a horizontal branch of one of the sugar maples and was about thirty feet from the ground. In cutting the limb off with my ax I jolted it and spilled the two white eggs which rested so prettily within the little home.

Thus as the season of 1907 came round a special effort was made to find another hummer's nest. On May 18, as I passed along a woodland road which wound about a hillside, a hummer buzzed past and lit in a tree beside me. Then she flew to a small dead branch at the lower side of a pin oak tree where she wove some building material about the roughened bark. Although the nest was visited soon again it was not until June 4 that the set was completed and the treasure secured. Swinging in a strained position, with saw in hand and much perspiration wetting my brow, I collected the nest while the little owner darted back and forth in chirping dire distress.



Thereafter many nests of the Ruby-throat were observed, but one in particular remains as a fond memory picture. I was passing one early June day by the border of a dense woodland which skirted a creek and sheltered a steep hillside. A meer dull sound, as of a hummer's flight, reached my ear and caused me to keep a sharp eye out for the little bird that caused it. But the sound died away and I was about to depart, when the bird returned and settled on its cozy nest in an ironwood overhead. A climb into a neighboring tree showed that the nest was a contrast to the ordinary type in that it was built on the top of a last year's domicil. Thus it looked much larger than does the usual home of this bird.

I collected this nest and its contents of two incubated eggs and placed them with the small series then in my cabinet. But some years later they became the property of James B. Carter in whose possession they remained until just recently when this young man disposed of his superb collection.

Since the discovery of the preceding nests several others have come under my observation, but just one of them is unusual enough to be worthy of special mention. It was built on a small dead stick that had fallen and lodged on two branches of a slender hickory sapling which grew on a wooded hillside.

#### Odds and Ends

During about thirty years of collecting in the various branches of Natural History, I have found a few freaks that may be of interest to the readers of *The Oologist*.

When still a small boy, I saw some trees of odd growth; one was composed of two trees grown straight, about two feet apart and connected by a cross piece not quite horizontal;

two others had straight bodies with a limb grown out a ways and then back into the tree a little higher up; another was a tree which had enclosed and lifted in its growth, a large rock resting in the fork of its branches. Also two grown up about seven feet and then united.

Some of our neighbors had a pair of black squirrels for several years, and a few years ago, I saw one near a swamp (not freaks). Another neighbor had five, I believe it was, pure white squirrels. I saw two of them when they were four or five years old. I later saw a live creamy white Gray Squirrel and also a skin. I also saw a fox squirrel with entire underparts black.

A neighbor had a five legged cow for years.

I once had for years, a tape worm taken from a fish. Also had a crooked fish which was probably due to injury. I was also told of a white striped gopher.

I have handled maybe fifteen or twenty pairs of Screech Owls, and all but two pairs were, one bird red face, and one gray face. Of the other two pairs, one pair was gray face, and the other pair red face.

I have found one nest of Brown Thrasher built on the ground by a vine and two nests of Mourning Dove on the ground, one in a stubble field and the other in a marsh well hidden by the side of a high bog, among tall, coarse grass three feet high; truly an odd place for this bird. Also a nest of this bird on top of a post in a large woods close by a much travelled road.

I have seen one, and been told of one partly albino English Sparrow. Have collected one set of Albino Blue Jay's eggs, with usual spotting, and one set of Blue Birds, pure white, little gloss; both of five eggs each. I later found a set of four Blue Bird,

and as I went to collect them I saw a Red-headed Woodpecker making a meal off of them.

I have a runt Red-headed Woodpecker's egg from a set of five, and a runt Meadow Lark found on a bag in a big marsh. I have a three or four story nest of the Yellow Warbler. I once found a small nest of some bird containing six eggs of the Cow Bird.

I have a picture of a set of triplet calves. I also have a photograph, and also saw, a group of five babies, at one birth. It was possible for these latter to have all lived, but under circumstances existing at the time they came into the world, they all died. The mother was alone; all boys.

I have a star fish with six arms. I have seen many doubles and tribles in fruit and nuts and of course in flowers. A five fingered man lived for years in our city of Columbus, Wisconsin.

George W. H. Vos Burgh.

A list of birds observed near Vinton, Iowa, mainly along Cedar River: Robin, Com.

Blue Jay, Com. out of town.

Mourning Dove, abundant.

Bobwhite, one heard.

Black-billed Cuckoo, several.

Bluebird, Common.

Great Blue Heron, two or three.

Green Heron, Common.

American Crow, Common.

Pigeon Hawk, one.

Great Crested Flycatcher, one.

Downy Woodpecker, common.

Redheaded Woodpecker, common.

Purple Martin, common.

Baltimore Oriole, several.

Purple Grackle, common.

Northern Flicker, several.

Spotted Sandpiper, several.

Belted Kingfisher, two or three.

White breasted Nuthatch, several.

Several varieties of Sparrows and

Warblers and a large Hawk not identified.

Dated Sept. 1918.

Geo. W. H. Vos Burgh,  
56 Maple Ave.,  
Columbus, Wisconsin.

#### Newspaper Ornithology

The following is a sample of the idiotic stuff which drifts through the press of the country to the detriment of the birds and which indirectly increases the unnecessary extinction of many birds. Not long since the press was filled with telegrams about the awful invasion of the Goshawks. Now that seem to have worn out so keep the columns filled, the Owls have begun to eat up the hogs of the country. All such silly slush should be kept out of the columns of any self-respecting publication.

—Editor.

#### 11-Foot Owl Attacks Hunter, Who May Die

Chicago, Dec. 13.—A huge owl, when shot and wounded by John O'Connor, a summer resort keeper at Grassy Lake, Ill., attacked him with his beak and talons, inflicting gashes which may prove fatal. The bird, snow white, was four feet in height, weighed nearly seventy pounds and measured eleven feet from tip to tip of its wings. It finally was killed.

#### Owls Devour Pigs

#### Patriotic Chinaman Loses Ten of Them

Chemanius, B. C., April 20.—Sam Yikkee, Chinese patriot and pig raiser, is distressed and the potential pork production of Canada has been reduced by ten fine pigs as the result of the depredations of horned owls.

Sam Yik Kee had ten sturdy little pigs. Then there were nine, and he couldn't account for the shortage.

Next day another disappeared. Each day thereafter the Yik Kee piggery was shy another suckling animal.

After the nine had disappeared the Chinaman happened to look upward and saw the carcass of one of his choice pigs hanging from the limbs of a tree. The mystery was solved. He had been robbed by horned owls. An active war is now being waged against the feathered thieves.

### WHO?

The following list of large sets of eggs is from the collection of W. A. Strong of San Jose, Calif.

#### LARGE SETS

6-19 Pied-billed Grebe. June 17, 1900. Walter C. Wood. Wayne Co., Mich.

6-19 Pied-billed Grebe. May 31, 1903. Walter C. Wood. Wayne Co., Mich.

77 1-6 Black Tern. June 18, 1889. J. Claire Wood. Detroit, Mich.

135 1-17 Gadwell. June 6, 1893. W. A. Strong, Tulare, Cal.

194 1-6 Great Blue Heron. May 3, 1902. Walter C. Wood. Wayne Co., Mich.

219 1-12 Florida Gallinule. June 9, 1901. Walter C. Wood. Wayne Co., Mich.

221 1-11 American Coot. June 6, 1893. W. A. Strong. Tulare, Cal.

289 1-17 Bob-white. June 25, 1898. J. T. Overstrut. Smith Co., Tenn.

289a 1-15 Florida Bob-white. April 29, 1885. F. T. Pamber. Miami, Fla.

294 1-17 California Partridge. June 2, 1892. W. A. Strong. Tulare, Cal.

294a 1-20 Valley Partridge. May 18, 1904. Nelson K. Carpenter. Escondido, Cal.

331 1-6 Marsh Hawk. May 19, 1907. J. Claire Wood. Detroit, Mich.

339 1-5 Red-shouldered Hawk. April 19, 1903. J. Claire Wood. Detroit, Mich.

339 1-5 Red-shouldered Hawk. April 1, 1901. J. Claire Wood. Detroit, Mich.

Out of 47 sets of this species Mr. Wood took 2 sets of 5.

339b 1-6 Red-bellied Hawk. May 5, 1894. W. A. Strong. Tulare, Cal.

352 1-3 Bald Eagle. March 13, 1904. J. Claire Wood. Wayne Co., Mich.

360 1-6 American Sparrow Hawk. April 18, 1894. W. A. Strong. Tulare, Cal.

365 1-8 American Barn Owl. March 22, 1893. W. W. Warren. Tulare, Cal.

373 1-6 Screech Owl. April 5, 1909. Guy W. Day. Sidney, Ill.

373c 1-6 California Screech Owl. April 26, 1896. E. D. Parker. Pasadena, Cal.

378 1-10 Burrowing Owl. April 20, 1894. W. A. Strong. Tulare, Cal.

387 1-4 Yellow-billed Cuckoo. May 12, 1915. Dr. M. T. Cleckley, Augusta, Ga.

412 1-8 Flicker. May 18, 1902. Walter C. Wood. Wayne Co., Mich.

412a 1-12 Northern Flicker. June 10, 1897. C. N. Davis. Branchport, N. Y.

447 1-6 Arkansas Kingbird. May 8, 1895. W. A. Strong. Tulare, Cal.

474b 1-5 Prairie Horned Lark. May 3, 1905. Walter C. Wood. Detroit, Mich.

477 1-6 Blue Jay. May 25, 1884. J. F. Hill. Granville, N. Y.

477 1-6 Blue Jay. May 20, 1894. F. H. Carpenter. E. Prov., R. I.

483 1-6 Green Jay. April 18, 1900. Frank B. Armstrong. Brownsville, Texas.

487 1-8 White-necked Raven. May 17, 1900. James M. Carroll. Midland, Co., Texas.

488 1-7 American Crow. April 14, 1898. J. Claire Wood. Wayne Co., Mich.

494 1-7 Bobolink. May 30, 1906. J. Claire Wood. Wayne Co., Mich.

494 1-7 Bobolink. May 20, 1900. A. W. Plumb. Rankin, Mich.

499 1-5 Bicolored Blackbird. May 10, 1891. W. A. Strong. Tulare, Cal.

519 1-6 House Finch. April 17, 1913. W. A. Strong. San Jose, Cal.

Out of 100 sets of this species I took one set of 6.

1-7 English Sparrow. April 20, 1915. W. A. Strong. San Jose, Cal.

617 1-7 Rough-winged Swallow. May 30, 1901. J. Claire Wood, Detroit, Mich.

622 1-7 Loggerhead Shrike. June 13, 1893. Louis Whitfield. Tallahassee, Fla.

687 1-6 American Redstart. June 6, 1889. Wellie Phillips. Red Wing, Minn.

Out of 65 sets of this species in my possession this is the only set of 6.

703 1-5 Mockingbird. April 16, 1899. Chas. Harris. Bee Co., Texas.

704 1-5 Catbird. May 21, 1899. J. Claire Wood. Wayne Co., Mich.

704 1-5. Catbird. May 26, 1901. Walter C. Wood. Wayne Co., Mich.

705 1-5 Brown Thrasher. May 29, 1902. J. Claire Wood. Wayne Co., Mich.

705 1-5 Brown Thrasher. June 1, 1879. Raymond Stevens. Pawlet, Vt.

706 1-5 Sennett's Thrasher. March 28, 1900. F. B. Armstrong. Brownsville, Texas.

706 1-5 Sennett's Thrasher. April 21, 1900. Frank B. Armstrong, Brownville, Texas.

725 1-7 Long-billed Marsh Wren. June 3, 1902. Walter C. Wood. Wayne Co., Mich.

761 1-5 American Robin. May 30, 1899. J. Claire Wood. Wayne Co., Mich.

761 1-7 American Robin. April 21, 1913. Ottomar Reinecke. Buffalo, N. Y.

766 1-6 Bluebird. April 21, 1900. Ottomar Reinecke. Farnham, N. Y.

766 1-6 Bluebird. April 28, 1901. Bradshaw Swales. Rochester, Mich.

766 1-6 Bluebird. May 1, 1901. H. H. Spicer. Detroit, Mich.

768 1-6 Mountain Bluebird. May 2, 1900. W. S. Hathaway. Silverton, Colo.

W. A. Strong,  
San Jose, Cal.

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#### Delos Hatch

Writes that he is confined to the house most of the time and in a rocking chair and he adds sorrowfully, "do not expect to ever collect any more." We extend to him our sincere sympathy in his misfortune.

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#### The Trumpeter Swan

As is well known this the most magnificent of all North American birds now on the point of extinction, and the king of the wild fowl of the world is still subject to the brutal persecution of the "fool with the shot gun."

We recently received a clipping giving an account of the killing of one of these birds in Kansas. Of course it was the only one seen at the time or there would have been more of them killed. Whether the killer was hanged to a tree by his neighbors, as he richly deserved to be, or how he escaped the punishment he so justly deserved for violating the Federal Bird Law, if he did escape it, we are not informed.

The following article from the New Orleans Picayune of Jan. 18 of this year will be of interest to all bird lovers, though the statement relative to the last birds being seen in 1907 and 1915 is not strictly accurate; there still being at least one place known to a few ornithologists where this bird has nested regularly in very limited numbers for a number of years passed and where it has been accorded strict protection.

"A pair of very rare trumpeter



swans, with a single young, are spending the winter on Bayou Sara creek, near St. Francisville. This was the latest society note in birddom received by the State Department of Conservation from Edward Butler of West Feliciana parish, who is a noted bird observer and wild life protectionist of that section.

The occurrence of a single individual of this species of waterfowl today is more than worthy of record, but the observation of a pair, with a cygnet in the characteristic gray plumage of the young, is a positive sensation in the bird world. The last trumpeter swan observed since Ernest Thompson Seton saw seven in the Saskatchewan in 1907, was when a big gander visited the Louisiana state wild life refuge in the winter of 1915. It flew down to the preserve with a flock of Canada geese and in the spring went North with the wedge of geese.

The officials of the Department of Conservation held high hopes that it would return the following winter with a Mrs. Swan and possibly a pair of cygnets. But contrary to these expectations the lone, and supposedly last members of its race, returned to the refuge unaccompanied by others of its species, and took up its winter residence on Fearman lake. During the month of February a resident of Abbeville passing through the refuge on a dredgboat shot the bird "for curiosity" and taking it home enjoyed a dinner of "roast goose."

This was the last record of a trumpeter swan being seen until Mr. Butler's startling news reached the office of the department Friday morning. "No doubt you will be interested in learning that three trumpeter swans have been on Bayou Sara creek since late December," he wrote. "They are a pair with one young, the latter showing gray plumage. Every effort has

been made to keep them from being molested and it is gratifying to know that nearly everyone seems to be interested in their welfare. They are usually found below the bridge, but when disturbed by people passing too near, they go in the direction of the Mississippi river."

The appearance of these rare and interesting birds in the West Feliciana country calls to mind the fact that it was in this part of Louisiana, and particularly along Bayou Sara creek, that the great Audubon spent the most successful periods of his career as an artist preparing the drawing of wild birds that afterwards won him fame and renown as the foremost bird artist of his time. Special efforts will be made by the Department of Conservation to see that these birds receive proper protection during their stay in Louisiana. They are also protected by the federal migratory bird law."

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#### A Soldier's Birds

My year in France is up today, during which I have gone through every American offensive and have finally landed in a hospital with a "snoot full" of gas. I had a letter today from Lawton Graham, who suggested that I write you of what bird observations I had made over here. When I began to sum up the year, I found that I had learned nothing of birds.

Only at one place where I have been there has been an abundance of bird life. When we took our first permanent sector last spring, it was near the frontier, where the last foot hill of the Vosges levels into the rolling country of French Lorraine. On this same hill some one had built a small single room hut just at the edge of a pine forest. It must have been the haunts of some artist for it was made of colored tile and plaster and roofed with red tile. The outside walls were

covered with paintings of flowers, butterflies and birds, a huge fresco of roses hung above the door. From here I had a good view. The lines extended for miles and one could see nine towns, three within the Huns lines and five within ours.

The first night and day proved that I was in a paradise of birds. The fields below were fairly covered with crows and magpies, who paid little or no heed to the occasional roar of our guns. Overhead a pair of hawks circled and flew upward until they were faint specks in the sky. Occasionally I would find myself in the midst of a flight of darting swallows, that passed so close that I was kept dodging. A chickadee peeped at us inquisitively from behind a tree and gaining confidence mounted quickly to the top, to peer and search in that busybody way he has. I knew then, that I was going to like that sector. And I did.

I proceeded to become acquainted with all my feathered neighbors I found the chickadee had his home in a shell torn atub nearby and visited him until seven ugly youngsters lined up at "right dress" outside the door. I learned that I had only to lie down in the fields below and the sky larks would mount straight into the sky and burst into a song more melodious than any opera house can boast.

That spring, three pair of field sparrows raised young before my shack, a wren picked out the gallery of my dugout for a place to raise six healthy youngsters. At night I could hear the far away notes of a Whippoorwill, but never saw or flushed one during my stay. There were dozens of kinds of birds that I learned by sight but we had no way of learning the names of them.

Last June we had our quiet sector farewell. As we passed through the

town, where battalion headquarters had been, the swallows seemed to envelop us with their queer unguided flight. The little clay daubs under the eaves had done their work well and the world seemed alive with them. Away up in the sky four dim specks were circling.

Way off to the left a gun cracked, and that reminded us that there was a war. But it was now over and we hope to it that it is the last. But I would like to spend that spring over with a book on French birds. If any one knows of one or of a French ornithologist, I would appreciate the where and how of it.

Lieut. C. R. M. Leudon.

In a late number of the Oologist I noticed an account of a Ruby-crowned Knight seen in Pennsylvania on Dec. 14, 1916. Is not the sight of one in Northern Minnesota on Thanksgiving day, Nov. 29, at a latitude of 48 deg N. quite as rare? Especially so when you consider that Montgomery Co., Pa., lies at 40 deg. N. Lat. and is near the coast and East of the mountains. The one I saw above referred to was entirely alone and would indicate that they linger along until the severe weather set in to drive them South almost by force. I don't blame them for not wanting to leave the north with its rigorous healthy climate until nature forces it to. The weather four days after Thanksgiving dropped to 6 deg. below zero and the river and the land took on its blanket of snow and ice.

Red Lake Falls, Minn.

L. E. Healy,

I had the good fortune to see a Blue Grosbeak near our town last June. This is the first record for our County (Geauga) and so far as I know for this part of the state.

F. E. Ford,

WANTED—Volumes 1 and 2 of Thorburn's British Birds. Very handsome price will be paid for these two volumes. ANSEL B. MILLER, Springs, Pennsylvania.

WANTED—American Ornithology Vol. VI; Oologist Vol. XXVI, 1-2-4; Ornithologist and Oologist Vol. XI; Various numbers of Condor. Have duplicates of Journal Maine Ornithological Society; early Oologist; Ornithologist and Oologist; Osprey; Nidologist, etc. H. H. JOHNSON, Pittsfield, Maine.

FOR EXCHANGE—Sets 123a-5. One runt 373d-4, 486-4, 722an/6, 1918 collected. HENRY W. DAVIS, Box 844, Atlantic City, N. J.

EXCHANGE—First class sets with data. Nothing back 1915. Would be glad to have your list and year collect. ed. HENRY W. DAVIS, Atlantic City, N. J. Box 844.

EXCHANGE—A- sets of 364, 203, 352. Desire shore birds, especially 261, 281, 277a. All letters answered. ERNEST K. SCHLEICHERT, U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C.

WANTED—A. L. singles, small holes, 388; 387, 622e; several each. Old U. S. postage stamps, previous to 1890, either unused or A. L. used with small cancellation. GEO. W. H. VOS BURGH, 56 Maple Ave., Columbus, Wis.

EXCHANGE—I wish to exchange a few Nature pictures for the same, or for insects, cocoons. Will also sell or buy for cash. Wish to buy good compound microscope. What have you? Write. HUBERT R. WISWELL, Westbrook, Minn.

WANTED—A mounted Albino Squirrel or skin suitable to mount. O. S. BIGGS, San Jose, Ill.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

FOR SALE—A High-class collection of Squirrels which I desire to dispose of before entering the American Army. E. H. HAMILTON, 614 Walnut St., Versailles Boro, McKeesport, Pa.

EXCHANGE—One Telescope, French make, three sliding joints, 14 1-2 in. long extended, 4 1-2 in. closed. Good for bird study. Will trade for sets. What can you offer? LEWIS LUNSFORD, 27 N. Union St., Petersburg, Va.

FOR SALE—Loggerhead Sea turtle, Embryos and hatched turtles, mixed stages \$3.00 dozen, small Octopus \$1.00 each. Other Maine specimens collected from Florida this past summer. H. AITKEN, Gen. Del., Philadelphia, Pa.

EXPERT FIELD NATURALIST COLLECTOR—Would travel in South America, Central America, West Indies or Eastern Countries. Expert in preparation of large and small mammal and Bird Skins. Would collect in branches of Mammalogy, Ornithology, Conchology, Entomology and Botany for Private Collector or Institution. Parties meaning business address JOHN W. DANIELS, Jr., Western State Hospital, Staunton, Va.

EXCHANGE—Funston Perfect (animal) Smoker, 20 Onedia Jump Traps (new), eggs in sets. Want eggs in sets and singles. LYLE D. MILLER, E. Claridon, Ohio.

FOR SALE—Live pupae of moths and butterflies. Price-list on application, for delivery November 1, 1918. Also entomological supplies of all kinds, LOUIS S. KOHLER, 47 Wagner Place, Hawthorne, N. J.

FOR SALE—Two handsome Virginia Red Cedar cabinets suitable for eggs or skins. Also one smaller Walnut Cabinet, cheap. WHARTON HUBER, Gwynedd Valley, Pa.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE—No. 3 Bulls eye Eastman Kodak, new and in good condition. Ask \$5.00, cost \$9.00. Send offers of exchange. JOHNSON NEFF, Marionville, Mo.

PERSONAL—Would like to become acquainted with active Oologist in New York City, Westchester Co., or nearby, with view to expeditions next spring. L. C. S. please write. RAYMOND FULLER, White Plains, N. Y., R. F. D. No. 1.

FOR EXCHANGE—Large showy India moths. Atacus Atlas. Antheraea Pernyl. Actias selene. Caligula cachara. (Selene lynx Hybrid) Also many natives. Want A No. 1 set of 288, 364. A. J. FOTTER, East Killingly, Conn.

Who has skins or mounted fox squirrels, colors, Black, White, Gray, Black Yellow, Black; Cinnamon mixed with black or pure white squirrels. EARL HAMILTON, Versailles, Boro., McKeesport, Pa.

The Oologist is the best medium of exchange for Oologists Ornithologists etc., in the entire U. S.

I want to get into touch with young collector in the Ozark region for the coming summer's collecting. JOHNSON NEFF, Marionville, Mo.

FOR EXCHANGE—One fine CONLEY 4x5 Plate Camera, 17 inch Bellows. Adopted for close up Nature Study. Want good 25-20 or 32-20 RIFLE, or Books on OOLOGY. EARL MOFFET, Marshall, Texas.

BOOKS WANTED—Orchids of New England, by Baldwin; Our Native Orchids, by Gibson; Ferns of North America by Eaton. Please state price. H. MOUSLEY, Hatley, Quebec. 1-1t

WANTED—One B. & L. Model C. double Dissolving Lens. New or second hand stereopticon Machine in exchange for personally collected specimens of Western Birds Eggs. Mrs. A. O. TRANGANZA, No. 624 E. Sixth St. South, Salt Lake City, Utah. 1-2t

AN EXPERT field naturalist and collector, would travel in South America, the West Indies, or Eastern Columbia. Am an expert in the preparation of large and small mammals and Bird Skins. Would collect in branches of Mineralogy, Ornithology, Conchology, Entomology, and Botany for private collector or an Institution. Parties meaning business please address JOHN W. DANIELS, Jr., Western State Hospital, Staunton, Va.

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Ornithology**

Published Bi-monthly by the

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Edited by J. Grinnell and Harry S. Swarth

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The Bruce Museum of History, Science and Art Wishes to correspond with reliable men possessing collections of North American Birds, Eggs or Mammals, particularly of the New England States. Only Mounted material will be considered and this only if it bears full data.

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Any reliable man who wishes to dispose of his collection for a moderate amount of cash would do us a favor by corresponding with us. Anyone who wishes to make gifts to this Museum, may know that they will be deeply appreciated.

**BRUCE MEMORIAL MUSEUM**

Greenwich, Connecticut

Paul G. Howes - - - Assistant Curator



# THE OÖLOGIST.

BIRDS--NESTS--EGGS

TAXIDERMY

VOL. XXXVI No. 4.

ALBION, N. Y., APRIL, 1, 1919.

WHOLE No. 381



Female Woodcock Brooding Eggs, Cook County, Illinois  
—Photo by Gerald A. Abbott.

## BRIEF SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wanted, Exchange, For Sale, Etc., inserted in this department at 25 cents for each 25 words for one issue; each additional word 1 cent. No notice inserted for less than 25 cents.

We will advertise the skins, nests, eggs, or mounted specimens of North American Birds for sale for persons having a lawful authority under the law to deal in the same. These columns are for the use of those desiring to make bona fide exchanges of such specimens for scientific collecting purposes only.—EDITOR.

In answering advertisements in these columns mention "The Oologist," and thereby help us, as well as the advertiser and yourself.

## BIRDS

Send me the list of A 1 Bird Skins that you have to dispose of by exchange or otherwise. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

MALE SKINS WANTED—679, 676, 658, 622, 612, 611, 597, 547. State lowest price when writing. J. P. BALL, 5001 Frankford Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.

FOR EXCHANGE—A large list of All North American species of skins for specimens needed in my collection. C. W. CHAMBERLAIN, 36 Lincoln St., Boston, Mass.

ALL PERSONS having A-1 skins in pairs of any of the North American Jays send list. I will pay the highest price for those that I need. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

WANTED—To correspond with active field collectors, and exchange bird skins. Especially want Shore birds from Missouri and Kansas. Write E. GORDON ALEXANDER, Lexington, Mo.

WANTED—A pair of living Sand Hill Cranes A. O. U. No. 306, taken north of the center of the U. S. If the birds are only slightly wingtipped this will not matter. For them I will pay a good price. R. M. Barnes, Lacon, Ill.

EXCHANGE—Fine sets of eggs and nests for birds skins from south and east. STANLEY G. JEWETT, Pendleton, Oregon.

FOR EXCHANGE:—Large well-mounted Golden Eagle and American Bittern. I am interested in all Natural History specimens. Write. WALTER STUCK, Jonesboro, Ark.

I desire to exchange bird skins and Butterflies for 20 or 24 Gage Shot Guns, Double Barrel, preferred. Good condition. D. V. HEMBREE, Roswell, Ga.

DATA BLANKS—Send for sample of my data blanks, with your name printed on it. 500 for \$1.00 postpaid. EDWARD S. COOMBS, 243 Franklin St., Boston, Mass.

EXCHANGE—I offer fine skins taken in Virginia, of Canada and Greater Snow Geese, Brant, Whistling Swan, many of the Ducks including European Widgeon, Wide Turkeys and immature Bald Eagles, etc. Make offers in eggs in sets, O & O books, bird skins or cash. Also have good list of eggs in sets to exchange. HAROLD BAILEY, Box 112, Newport News, Va.

## EGGS.

In sending in your exchange notices for nests, skins and eggs, we would appreciate it if you would arrange the numerals in your exchange notice in their numerical order, and not tumble them together hit and miss, as some of our readers are complaining, and we think justly so.

WANTED—Entire collection of Eggs of North American Birds for spot cash. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

WANTED—To correspond with active collectors on or near the Platte River in Nebraska. Address, LYLE FLETCHER, Norton, Kansas. Box 455.

EXCHANGE NOTICE—I desire to get in touch with all active field collectors with a view to exchanging A 1 sets. H. W. CARRIGER, 5185 Trask Street, Oakland, Calif.

Will be glad to hear from reliable collectors and to receive their lists. Have good list to offer including some rare species. RICHARD C. HARLOW, State College, Pa.

WANTED—A-1 Sets of all birds eggs, common or rare, with data, or in broken sets with data. JOHNSON NEFF, Marionville, Mo.

TO EXCHANGE—A limited number of the Famous JACOBS BIRDHOUSES for first class sets, personally collected, and with full data, nests needed with some. J. WARREN JACOBS, Waynesburg, Pa.

Who has sets 240, 244 328, 330? Can offer in exchange sets 57, 249, 264, 337a, 347, 355, 357, 358. DR. ELMER LANGERIN, Crookston, Minn.

FOR EXCHANGE—Bird eggs in sets with data; also nest and eggs. Also wish to buy a pair of Peacock's and hen, or their eggs for propagation. JOHN LARANG, Genesee, Idaho.

FOR EXCHANGE—15 1-1; 31a 1-1; 105.2 1-1, 107 1-1, 108.1 1-1; 116 1-1; 197 1-4; 464 1-4; 474i N-2; 475 1-5; 486 1-5; 533 1-3; 538 1-4; 543 1-3; 560a N-4; 574.1 N-2; 604 1-4; 615 N-5; 622a 1-5; 629a N-4; 646a N-4; 726c N-6, N-5; 741 N-6; 743 N-7; 748a N-7, N-5. J. H. BOWLES, The Woodstock, Tacoma, Wash.

FOR EXCHANGE—Eggs in sets; A. O. U. Nos. 141-143, 146, 197-201, 225 and many others. Also fine Pupae of Samia gleverii. Want eggs in sets live pupae. Butterflies, and Moths in pupae papers. Send list and receive mine. J. W. SUGDEN, 47 S. Eighth St., Salt Lake City, Utah.

## EGGS—Continued

I will pay the highest cash price for such North American Birds Eggs that I need to complete series in any collection. Send me your lists.

R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

EXCHANGE—Wanted this season's 1919 collected sets. Can use many Common. Cash for same. Send list price per set. Sets for others. HENRY W. DAVIS, Box 844, Atlantic City, N. J.

WANTED—Sets of eggs from original collector. Oregon, Green and Beldings Jay, Prairie and Ahornado Falcons. I have many Bird magazines for exchange or sale. Want Bird Lore Vol. VII No. 1. C. M. CASE, 306 Blue Hills Ave., Hartford, Conn.

WANTED—Lists of choice sets from reliable collections. I can offer Sandhill Crane, Swallow-tail Kite, Bald and Golden Eagle, Duck Hawk, Snowy Owl and many others. All answered. A. E. PRICE, Grant Park, Ill.

WANTED—Singles or broken sets in quantities, or small lots; also books on Taxidermy, curios, etc. J. E. HARRIS, 259 Maple St., Dayton, Ohio.

FOR EXCHANGE—European and Asiatic sets in exchange for No. American species. C. W. CHAMBERLAIN, 36 Lincoln St., Boston, Mass.

RED CEDAR SAW-DUST—Can supply this ideal tray lining material, clean and sifted, in sacks of half bushel or more. Will exchange for first-class sets and skins desired, on a basis of 60 cents per peck. A. F. GANIER, 1221-17th Ave., S., Nashville, Tenn.

EXCHANGE—Bird skins and eggs, over 100 kinds. Wanted anything. DR. W. S. STRODE, Lewiston, Illinois.

WANTED—A heavy marked set of Sharp-shinned Hawk taken by a reliable collector. Will pay cash or exchange. RALPH W. JACKSON, R. No. 1, Cambridge, Maryland.

EXCHANGE of personally collected sets desired with reliable collectors. Send lists. Have fine sets of 105, 2 and others, California birds. J. VAN DENBURGH, 240 Stockton St., San Francisco, California.

WANTED—I want to buy first class bird eggs, in sets, with data, if prices are reasonable. JOSEPH WIGGLESWORTH, Wilmington, Delaware.

WANTED—Choice sets of anything from Nos. 514 to 605 inclusive and choice sets of finches from any part of the world wanted especially Longspurs and variety sets. Also sets or series of 261, 498, 501, 619, 703 and 761. Good European and other sets offered in best condition. K. L. SKINNER, Brooklands Estate Office, Weybridge, England.

WANTED First Class, complete sets, all species of Eagles, Kites, Falcons, Loons, Tropic birds, Hawks, Owls, Vultures, Waders, Warblers, Finches. Send lists in full with terms. Dr. M. T. CLECKLEY, Augusta, Ga.

FOR EXCHANGE—Following Alsets, with data—15, 2-1, 105 1-1, 105 1-2-1, 337b 2-3, 486 1-4, 375d 1-2, 617 1-5, 685b 1-3, and others, for sets needed in my collection. C. BADGER, Santa Paula, Calif.

FOR SALE—A fine white oak cabinet suitable for birds, nests, eggs, or other natural history specimens. Contains 20 adjustable drawers. Details upon request. S. S. DICK-EY, 212 East Maiden St., Washington, Pa.

Mounted Birds to exchange for eggs in full sets. J. C. HALL, 1420 Marlowe Ave., Lakewood, O.

WANTED—One set of eggs of each of the following birds, together with original nest: Scarlet Tanager, Indigo Bunting, Gold Finch. KARL W. KAHMANN, Taxidermist, Lincoln Ave., Chicago, Ill.

WANTED—A-1 sets of all birds, also sets with Cowbird eggs. Must have full data. Can exchange A-1 shells or cash. Write what you have, stating value. HARRY L. SEMLER, City Carrier No. 3, Lexington, Mo.

CORRESPONDENCE DESIRED WITH COLLECTORS WHO CAN SUPPLY THE FOLLOWING WANTS:—293a-294-300a-300b-311-332-336-337-337b-373e-377-414-420-467-483-501a-501b-501c-507-509-511a-513a-602-619-627a-628-630-633.1-648-671-687.

Rev. H. E. WHEELER, Conway, Ark.

WANTED—A 1st class, well marked set of 4 or 5 white tailed Kite with full and original data. B. S. FRIFFIN, 22 Currier St., Haverhill, Mass.

FOR EXCHANGE—Mounted Birds, skins and eggs in sets. Want birds, skins and eggs in sets. Send lists. JESSE T. CRAVEN, 811 Roosevelt Ave., Detroit, Mich.

We are headquarters for such choice stuff as Raven, Yellow-billed Magpie, Santa Cruz Island Jay, Prairie Falcon, Snowy Plover (with nest), Pacific Horned Owl, Vaux Swift, Black Swift, Golden Pileolated Warbler, and scores of others. We desire in exchange exceptional nest-and-egg material of every description, especially foreign **if well authenticated**. "A drawer to a species" is our motto. 400 drawers installed. Visiting oologists always welcome. MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE OOLOGY, William Leon Dawson, Director, Santa Barbara, Calif.

FOR SALE—Oologists Tools and Supplies, Bird Books and magazines. BENJAMIN HOAG, Garfield, N. Y.

## BOOKS.

WANTED—Vol. I and Vol. III of Ridgway's Birds of North and Middle America. Can offer Vol. V and \$1.50 for either vol. and cash for the other. W. C. HANNA, Colton, California.

THE WARBLER—Second series. Seven volumes complete, \$3.50 post paid. Very few full sets left. Volume I and 2, with a dozen exquisite colored plates of rare birds eggs, is in good supply, and the two volumes will be mailed for \$1.00. J. L. CHILDS, Floral Park, N. Y.



WANTED—Britton & Brown Illustrated Flora in three volumes. State edition, condition of books and best cash price. F. E. FORD, Chardon, O.

WANTED—Osprey, Vol. IV No. 3 and index; New Series, Vol. I No. 4, 5, 7. FOR EXCHANGE or Sale Cheap. Some early volumes and single copies of Oologist, many Nos. of Bird Lore, Museum, a few copies of Osprey. JOHN WILLIAMS, Iowa City, Iowa. R. 9.

FOR SALE—Auks 4 Vol. 1894 to 97. Vols. 11-12-13-14 for cash. R. E. CASE, Avon, Conn.

FOR SALE—Bird Lore, five volumes, year 1913-1917, one dollar per volume, carriage extra. H. MOUSLEY, Hatley, P. Quebec.

WANTED FOR CASH—The Condor Vols 1-9 incl., Bird Lore Vols. 1 and 2 incl., Nos. 1 and 2 of Vol. 3; No. 1 of Vol. 7; The Oologist of Utica, N. Y. Vols 1-5 inc. and its continuation. The Ornithologist and Oologist Vols. 6-8 incl. B. F. BOLT, 1421 Prospect Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

WANT—For cash or exchange, many issues of Oologist, Osprey, etc., also Birds of Washington, D. C. and vicinity, by Mrs. L. W. Maynard, RALPH W. JACKSON, R. No. 1, Cambridge, Md.

FOR SALE—Vols 4-5-6-7 of Exploration and Surveys for the Pacific Railroad, 1853-1856. The books are bound and in good condition. What am I offered. GEO. E. OSTERHOUT, Windsor, Colorado.

WANTED—Back numbers of many amateur bird publications. List of desirable sent to anyone having anything in this line for sale or exchange. Also have many numbers of Auk, Condor, Bird Lore, O. & O., Oologist, Bull. Cooper Club, etc. to exchange. A. C. BENT, Taunton, Mass.

Frank L. Burns' Bibliography of scarce or out of print North American Amateur and Trade Publications in existence. Price 25c. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

FOR EXCHANGE—Osprey Vol. I, II, III, IV and V., New Series No. 7 & 2. Condor, Vol. VI & No. 1 of Vol. VII. Wilson Bulletin No. 69. Birds & Nature, Vol. XIII. Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5. Vol. IXV, No. 1; Birds Vol. II, No. 5 and 6. Auk, Vol. XXIV and No. 3 of Vol. XXV. Birds of Wyoming, Birds of Iowa. These will be exchanged or sold only as a whole for best cash offer or extra good sets. W. H. BINGAMAN, Algona, Iowa.

EXCHANGE—Large number of Oologists and other bird magazines. A few sets nicely prepared of common land birds. Part VII "Birds of North and Middle America" for other parts of same work. Want many issues of Oologist, Osprey etc., for cash or exchange. Also "Birds of Washington, D. C. and vicinity by Mrs. L. W. Maynard. RALPH W. JACKSON, Cambridge, Route 1, Maryland.

WANTED—July, 1908, and January, 1911, numbers of The Auk. State price, or can offer a few personally taken sets of eggs. HAROLD M. HOLLAND, Galesburg, Ill.

WANTED—Baird Brewer & Ridgways Water Birds. Thompson's Byways & Bird Notes. Bird Lore, Vols. 1-15 inclusive. W. D. RICHARDSON, 4215 Prairie Ave. Chicago. 2-3t

WANTED—Oologist Vol. III No. 2; Vols. IV, V, VI; Vol. IX, No. 11; Vol. XVI, No. 3. "Birds of Essex County, Mass.;" "Putnam Catalog of the Birds of Connecticut," by Linsey; "Familiar Science and Fanciers Journal," Vols. 5 and 6. HARRY S. HATHAWAY, Box 1466, Providence, R. I.

WANTED—Good prices paid for the following following magazines: The Oologist, Januy and Feby 1887; April 1889; also Nos. 232, 266, 270, 300. The Osprey, Vol. 3, Nos. 9 & 10; Vol. V, Nos. 5 & 7. New Series Nos. 4 & 7; Nidologist, Vol. 1, Nos. 3, 5, 6; Wilson Bulletin Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 82, 84, 92, 95, 96, 97 and all old U. S. Stamps before 1870, singles, pairs, strips, also on the covers, must be in fine condition. LAUREN TREMPER, 136 N. Dewey St., Philadelphia, Pa.

ORNITHOLOGISTS, OOLOGISTS and MANNALOGISTS, ATTENTION!—I am planning a trip to the Hudson Bay Region for the coming summer. Those desiring material will place orders now. Will consider active man joining me on this venture or some one paying expenses and collect for him on shares.

I have for sale or exchange; Ridgeway's Birds of N. and M. Am. Vols. 1 to 7 minus 3; many vols. and odd numbers of Wilson Bull. Oologist, Bird Lore, Birds and Nature, O. and O. (Am. Naturalist Vol. IX, 1875) Blue Bird, Birds of Va., Birds of Md. and many others. Want cash, books on Ornithology, Mannalogy, Eggs in sets, and Auks Vol. 1 to 5, Bird Lore Vol. 1, Nos. 2 and 4, Vol. 21, Nos. 2 and 3; Vol. 3, Nos. 1, 2 and 3. H. H. BAILEY, 319 54th St., Newport News, Virginia.

NOTICE—I will collect Southern Butterflies this season for cash. All interested write me. Prices low. Specimens guaranteed. D. V. HEMBREE, Roswell, Ga.

FOR SALE—Birds of North and Middle America, Parts 1 to 7, \$ .25; "Auk", Vols. 16 to 23; \$1.50 per vol. or \$10.00 for the lot. EVERETT E. JOHNSON, Herbron, Maine. R.R.1.

FOR EXCHANGE—Two sets of butterflies in eiker mounts, size 8 by 14, for a small bore shot gun or rifle. D. GOLDBERG, R. R. 3, Rockville, Conn.

NOTICE to cash buyers of Southern Butterflies I will collect and sell at low prices this spring all Southern Butterflies. D. V. HEMBREE, Roswell, Ga.

SKINS WANTED—Cash or trade, Alberte Squirrel, Dark faced Fox Squirrel, Cioit and Ringtail Cats, Oppossum, Mountain Beaver, Little chief hare, Douglas Squirrel, Prairie Dog, Grey Fox, Golden Chip Monk, also avocet, Roadrunner, Limpkin, Ibises, Least Bittern, Barn Owl, Mockingbird. OLIVER TRAFFORD, St. Eugene, Ontario, Can.



# THE OÖLOGIST.

VOL. XXXVI. No. 4

ALBION, N. Y., APRIL 1, 1919.

WHOLE No. 381

*Owned and Published Monthly, by R. M. Barnes, Albion, N. Y., and Lacon, Ill.*

## TAKE NOTICE.

SUBSCRIPTION, 50 CENTS PER YEAR

Examine the number on the wrapper of your Oologist. It denotes the time your subscription expires. Remember we must be notified if you wish it discontinued and all arrearages must be paid. 378 your subscription expires with this issue. 377 your subscription expired with December-issue 1918. Other expirations can be computed by intermediate numbers at the rate of one number per month.

Entered as second-class matter December 21, 1903, at the post office at Albion, N. Y., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

## NOTICE

All Oologists desiring to vote for members of the Committee to fix values in the coming Oologist are notified that their ballots must be in the hands of Dr. R. B. Bales, Circleville, Ohio, on or before the 20th of the coming month of May.

## Around Red Lake In a Launch

By L. E. Healey

## Part III

Until two o'clock that afternoon our little engine kept up its steady "puck-puck" in the perfectly calm waters of the North shore. The sound became monotonous; the sun shone hot; we grew drowsy in the sunshine and took turns at the rudder while the other slept. This shore was fringed with bull rushes the entire length of thirty miles. The banks were low covered with a heavy growth of mixed timber both deciduous and coniferous. Here and there was an abandoned Indian teepee and camp, used no doubt the fall previous during the deer hunting season; and now and then a winter home built of logs and white-washed. Invariably at these Indian houses was to be seen the flag pole at the shore and the bird house on a pole back near the house. It was the case every where coming up the river or along the lake. Wherever there was a permanent abode there was the inevitable bird house on a pole. We passed the mouths of seven ditches leading in from the North striking the shore line almost at right angles, one every two miles, part of the great state drainage system for the mammoth swamps north of the lake. These ditches appeared as great water avenues leading out to some promised land, for the water stood in them almost on a level with the surface of the lake. We could get a glimpse as we passed of the great area beyond. We were looking for Anderson post office toward the northeast corner of the lake but we never saw it and we were told afterwards that the store stood out facing the lake where the land was high. The writer was having his turn at a snooze. He still believes that Bud was sleeping too, and

that is how we missed Anderson post office.

I was awakened suddenly by a rush of breakers and a bump on the boat. I jumped up and tried hastily to collect my wits for I had been just having the loveliest time eating ice cream and cake and pie and strawberry shortcake, and to be thus suddenly aroused. I found it hard to adjust myself to the situation. "We're striking bottom." "Yes, so I perceive," was my reply as the stern hit again and a great breaker came in at the rear. "Where are we? What place is that?" "It must be Anderson Post Office." "But there's a river that must be Washkisk." And the force of the wind would indicate that we were now going down the east end of the lake having rounded the curve on the northeast corner. We were now going with the wind which that forenoon we had been battling against. "Let's find the channel of the river and get deeper water." Faster than one can tell it we were going with the wind and the breakers were getting larger and in the trough of each large wave we were striking bottom though we were full three quarters of a mile from the shore. "Oh wow, look out."

We had hit hard and the breaker came in in buckets full. "Jump, quick." Another followed and this time filled the boat so the fly wheel was giving us a perfect shower bath, and the batteries and coil, too. Then the engine died but we were holding the nose up into the wind in water scarcely knee deep. "Gee, what a picture." I reached for the kodak and backed off but the shutters were full of sand. So the picture of our predicament remains only in memory. We headed for the mouth of the river toward the last of a line of piles that had been driven away out into the

lake. They marked the channel for the larger boats, and as we approached dragging our boat against the waves, the water became deeper, so deep that we could not manage it. We were lifted off our feet with each large wave. While thus tusseling with nature which surely got the best of us this time, we heard the hurried puck of another launch. They had spied us from the shore up the river some half a mile and were coming to the rescue. The life saving crew of Washkish towed us into port at just two p. m. What a fitting wind-up for that peaceful, monotonous journey, along the quiet waters of the North shore. It seemed that every day brought new and more glorious adventures.

We found here quite a town, a well-stocked general store, an auto, a town hall with a piano, a pool room, a post office, a house or two, and a farmer with a wagon. We learned that we were just off the Reservation at this point and that home-steaders were occupying the more desirable land to the east end of the North Lake. An auto road led over the bridge across the river to Kelliher, the nearest railroad town some twenty miles distant and Uncle Sam had established a mail route to this point. This was our first chance to drop a line home although it had to travel a rather round about way to get there. We found the Tamarac River to be a fine deep stream of water carrying in more water than the Red Lake River was taking out. The surface evaporation on Red Lake of course is enormous. Here some large muskilounge are caught weighing from twelve to thirty-two pounds and although we did our best during our short stay to land one of the big fellows, the largest we were able to hook was a twelve and a half pounder. It was a fine river to travel

up by boat, float down and cast as you floated for it was quite free from snags and weeds. That evening we gave a concert in the town hall with piano, saxophone, cornet and voice. We certainly had a good time and all the town turned out for it was all free. We were invited by the store-keeper to sleep in their spare bed, and although at first we had some misgivings, we have said since that we found a real home that night and we enjoyed it, too; togged up in the best we had, shaved, scrubbed, cleaned up and went out into society. \*

The next forenoon the wind out on the lake still tossed the waves at will so we could not venture out. We tried at noon but came back. We tried again at four p. m. and came back again. At six, however, the waves quieted as the wind began to go down and we ventured forth much to the disappointment of our new friends who wanted us to play another concert that evening. But we were now behind schedule and feared we would not make the Agency by Sunday. We had hoped that the wind would cease to blow altogether as the night came on and had dreams of a placid surface with a moon and clear sailing on the last lap back to the Narrows where two nights before we had camped on the west point. But the wind seemed to raise and as we went down the east shore the waves grew larger. We had to keep a great distance out from the shore because of the shallow water. At seven p. m. we sighted Shotly and decided we would go no further in such shallow water and the ever increase wind by night. We pulled in, dug deeper the channel of a small creek, pulled our boat into the sheltering bay and put up for the night. A young lad of seventeen came down to the shore to help us. He was a good talker and spoke his mind

freely. Of course he told us what was uppermost in his thoughts at that time as we told him of our trip thus far. He was wishing for a chance to get out and see the world. He said his parents had brought him there when he was two years old and the farthest he had been away was one time to Kelliher, a comparatively new frontier town. Can you imagine a boy of seventeen in this civilized Minnesota who had never seen a circus, been to the movies, witnessed a base ball game, or played a game of marbles? He was bursting with pent up energy and the telling of our trip from an inhabited world to his frontier prison gave it impetus. We slept that night in their large two story house, well finished and well furnished within and shingled from gable to foundation without, standing on the bank just off the sandy beach. Questions brought out the fact that back in the palmy days of the steamboat this was the port of entry as it were to the great Red Lake. Steamers from Thief River Falls headed in a straight line from the outlet across the South Lake, through the Narrows to this point on the North Lake. This large house then served as the hotel. There were two vacant store buildings and an abandoned saloon with its fancy bar and gambling tables. It was a place that in its day had seen many a rough night. The bottles still strewn far and near, barrels and barrels of them, still told the tale, and made one think there must have been a bottle factory here. But the more recent laws of Minnesota has put a stop to riotous drinking in such places, the steamship lines have long since ceased to operate and Shotley is but a memory of bygone days. The owner once the ruler of all he surveyed, both men and land, now made his living from the sweat of his brow and he it said to his credit

that he did it well. He had a fine well kept farm with fine stock and hogs. We supplied our larder with fresh eggs, newly made butter and real cream not done up in tin cans.

From my diary at this point and likewise back at Washkish, I find many of the more common birds noted, of the more domestic type, the robin, the house wren, the kingbird and kingfisher, and we saw him fish, too. Most every one has seen him dart rapidly across the water and with that keen eye of his espying a fish, turn suddenly upwards, flutter his wings, drop a few feet with wings still going in the manner of the hummingbird, drop a few feet more, evidently charming his prey when quicker than chain lightning, he darts into the water out of sight and comes up with the fish usually about three inches long in his claws. Then away he flew with his rattling holler to an overhanging tree, there to partake of his early morning meal. This particular morning he had evidently discovered good fishing grounds for he returned several times to the same spot and performed for our pleasure the same fete over again. We also noted the incessant whistle of the white throated sparrow with his clear "pea-a-body-bird" call. We knew him to be a summer resident in these parts while at home, a latitude but twenty miles south he does not remain to nest. He lingers longer than most of our transient members of the sparrow family but he is not a common summer resident as he is all about Red Lake.

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"THE OOLOGIST"

BEST RESULTS





American Hawk Owl on Nesting Stub.—Photo by A. D. Henderson

#### Nesting of the American Hawk Owl

The American Hawk owl is not an uncommon resident in the vicinity of Belvidere Alberta, though some seasons they seem more numerous than others, depending perhaps on the food supply. Numbers are killed by imitation sportsmen and settlers' boys as they make a good mark for a 22 rifle. This is a pity as they are interesting and useful little birds.

The egg collectors seem to have a bad name with the wise and learned men (?) who frame our game laws, but I would be willing to bet that one sportsman, or one pet cat or a bird dog running loose in the breeding

season will destroy more bird life than twenty average collecting oologists. I have collected eggs here for three years and in that time did not shoot half a dozen birds for identification purposes. As for the eggs taken, every collector knows that when a set of eggs is taken most birds, by a wise provision of nature are still able to lay a second, or even a third set and raise a brood just the same. However, as long as our bird and game laws are made by men whose knowledge of woodcraft would hardly enable them to tell a muskrat from a beaver, or a crow from a black bird the collector will be up against harsh and al-



American Hawk Owl on Nesting Stub.—Photo by A. D. Henderson

together unnecessary restrictions. This has little to do, however, with what I started to write about, that interesting and talkative little bird, the Hawk Owl.

On one occasion when loading some hay cocks which had been left out and snowed under a Hawk Owl followed us around the meadow looking for mice as the cocks were lifted. Once it perched on the hayrack itself. On another occasion when driving to Edmonton, I noticed one which had just caught a large white weasel or ermine. I wanted the weasel and tried to scare it into dropping it by shooting but there was nothing doing and it flew away with its prize.

In looking for the nest of any particular bird which you have not taken before it is a great help to know, from the writings of other collectors, something about the breeding habits of the birds.

The date of nesting, the nature of the locality preferred by the birds and the usual position of the nest, are all of prime importance. I had read of nests of the Hawk Owl being taken from the top of birch stubs and also in old crows' and hawks' nests, consequently when I made up my mind to find a nest of this species of owl I looked in these places, but without success.

No doubt the breeding habits of these birds vary in different parts of their range. Also I looked too early in the season expecting these hardy little birds of prey would be very early breeders. After the first nest is found it is comparatively easy to find others, as no time is lost searching impossible places at impossible times.

At Belvidere we are situated on the edge of the prairie country which extends east to Winnipeg and south into the states. To the north lies the Great Northern Forest of poplars, spruce, pine birch, tamarac willow, alder, etc., which, broken only by smaller prairies, burnes, and muskege extends north to the limit of trees. The rainfall is abundant, and forms of bird life seems to be those of the east rather than of the dryer country to the south. The country in the immediate vicinity, consists mainly of hills half open and half wooded with numerous small lakes and muskegs scattered through the valleys.

This makes an ideal country for many species of birds especially water fowls and birds of prey. The particular haunt of the Hawk Owl is in the muskeges and here they can usually be found perched on some dead stub watching for prey. The Owl has many different calls and I will try to reproduce a few of them. On February 19, 1914, I saw a pair in a muskeg near Paddle River perched on dead tamaracs. One bird was calling to its mate at intervals with a screech like Ku-wee of Pu-wee, and the other answered with a whistle tu-wita-wit, tiwita-tu-wita, wita, wita. I then noticed them in the act of breeding. On March 13th I went to look for the nest but was unsuccessful. I saw one of the birds and heard it screech several times "sh-wee."

On March 16th, 1915 I again went out for the nest of the Hawk Owl and

found a pair in a small muskege. I watched them for about a half hour, as I was almost certain their nest was close by. One of them sitting on a limb of a dead stub would lean forward, tilting its tail and bowing its head two or three times and with a screech like Que-rck, the first syllable drawn out, and the last short and emphasized.

I then went about a mile to another muskeg and saw a number of rabbits running down a draw toward me into the muskeg. I watched for a coyote to appear in the rear but none came. I then heard a rabbit squeal in the draw and caught a glimpse of a brownish animal, shaking something and after waiting about five minutes, a coyote walked out into the open to be promptly dropped by a bullet from my 30-30 carbine. While I was waiting for the coyote to appear a pair of Hawk Owls flew into the muskeg. The two Owls stayed around until evening when one of them started his call or whistle, wita-wita-wita-wita, several times repeated. This call can be heard any mild evening in the spring and is audible quite a long ways off.

On April 1st I went out again and was only a very few minutes, after reaching the muskeg in locating an Owl sitting in the broken top of a dead stub. As the stub was very shaky I did not try to climb it but went on to the muskeg where I had shot the coyote. Here again I was lucky and immediately found another Owl sitting in the top of a dead stub. I climbed to the top of a dead stub and obtained my first view of a set of eggs of the Hawk Owl, seven white beauties as seen in the accompanying picture. When the bird left the nest it lit close by and muttered a note of alarm I had not heard before like "rike" repeated at intervals,

April 1st was fine and warm and the ice moved out of the Pembina River. In the afternoon I saddled my horse and tied my collecting outfit on my saddle and with my camera in its case on my back started out to take the nest of the two owls. As the last nest found was the easiest to obtain a picture of, I took it first. The bird sitting on this nest was the largest of the pair and probably the female was, with the exception of one Goshawk, the most warlike of any I have had to deal with.

As I climbed the stub she charged and knocked my heavy Stetson hat off and struck me several times on top the head and quite hard. Once she put her claws through my shirt and scratched the skin. I had to watch her continually and wave her off when she charged, always straight at my head, as I was cutting out the side of the stub to get a picture of the nest and eggs. The mate appeared on the scene soon after I commenced work, but did not attack like the other. Both birds remained close by while I was there protesting with cries of rike, rike, rike, rike and occasional whir-u, whir-u, while flying. After I had erected a tripod and obtained a picture of the nest, I placed the eggs in my collecting box and both birds returned to the nest and examined it. They were still there when I left to go to the other nest. The seven eggs were slightly incubated and were in the hollow top of a dead tamarac or spruce stub as shown in the picture. The nest was about ten feet from the ground and hollow about ten inches deep. The eggs rested in a hollow in the crumbled rotten wood at the bottom of the hole. There was no nesting material but this rotten wood and a few feathers.

After packing up my things, I rode to the other nest which was in exact-

ly a similar position in the broken top of a tamarac or spruce stub about eighteen feet from the ground and the cavity about six inches deep. The eggs rested on a crumbled, rotten wood and a few feathers exactly as in the first nest. There was an old Flicker's nest immediately below so the birds apparently preferred the hollow in the broken top as a nesting site. This stub was so rotten and shaky I could not climb it and had to erect another tripod to secure the six fresh white eggs. This bird was not at all pugnacious, only uttering cries of protest like the other. As soon as I descended it returned and examined the nest and sat in it for about a minute and then left.

On April 4th, I had heard a Hawk whistling in a muskeg about four miles from the other nests and on the sixth I went to look for the nest. After walking some distance along the edge of the muskeg, looking at all likely stubs I saw a Hawk Owl sitting on a dead tree not far off, and started over to investigate. Coming to a wet place I threw a pole across to walk on and the noise started an owl from the stub. This nest was about twelve feet from the ground and down about a foot in the hollow spruce stub. It is very difficult to tell the stubs apart without an ax to cut into them. The seven eggs could be seen through an old Flicker's hole almost on a level with them. They rested on a few rotten chips and feathers and lay on top of dry moss and grasses with which the old Flicker's nest had been filled up, likely by a squirrel. The eggs also were fresh and it would seem that the first week in April is about the time to secure fresh sets of eggs in this vicinity. Both birds remained about close while I was taking the nest but were not fighters like the one at the first nest taken. While I





Nest and Eggs of American Hawk Owl in Situ. (Stub cut open to expose eggs for a photographer.—Photo by A. D. Henderson).

was packing the eggs, one of the birds returned to the nest, and climbed down, head first, and remained sitting in for about a minute and then left. The other bird came and had a look but did not enter.

This ended my first successful season with the American Hawk Owl and I have not been out for their nest since those enjoyable days but hope to renew their acquaintance in the season of 1919.

A. S. Henderson,  
Belvidere, Alberta, Canada.

#### The Bartramian Sandpiper

By H. H. Johnson, Pittsfield, Maine

It is with a degree of sadness we view the annual departure each year of the autumnal migration of our bird friends. We make a close acquaintance each summer of some family, likely a different one each year. We have watched their daily life. Noted the loving courtship, the interest taken by both in the erecting or building of the new home. The care and anxiety of the mother in the laying of the eggs and rearing the young.

In the last proud father must do a share, yet it is upon the solitious mother that house-keeping cares hang heavy. We have viewed all this, even taken a clumsy hand at feeding perhaps, being soundly lectured meanwhile by anxious parents, who rather resented our interference with the proper way to bring up a child.

Much greater is the loss then, when one of these bird friends go to return no more. When as a boy on my father's farm, each returning spring there came (to spend the summer on the farm) the Bartramian Sandpiper or as we called it, the Plover. I well remember that mellow whistle and up-lifted wings of the alighting Plover, the top rail of the pasture fence being the perch most favored. Bartramian Sandpipers differ most completely from the generality of its relatives. It is a Sandpiper which does not frequent marshes, which breeds habitually on the dry uplands and often perches among the branches of trees. Coues describes the call as a "long-drawn, soft, mellow whistle, of a peculiarly clear, resonant quality." This prolonged whistle of the alighting bird together with its habit of holding its wings for a moment perpendicularly, before adjusting them over its back, makes it particularly noticeable. While common they were never plentiful, one or two pairs at most being the number in our immediate neighborhood. To the south and a mile away there being another pair; three miles to the east and near the village of Pittsfield there were two more pairs. While there may have been others those were the only ones I ever remember nesting in this section. So you see "common" is really an extreme way of expressing it and were it not for their open field habits (rare) would be the word. They reared a brood each year and were

never gunned on our farm. I had the good fortune to find their nest thus early in my youth. It was in a pasture then clear of all bushes. Some years it was used as a field and the hay was cut on it. The nest was situated at the side of and somewhat covered by a bunch of grass or tussock as it is called, and contained four eggs. The bird was flushed from the nest which was a slight hollow lined with a few straws of grass. I did not disturb them. A clerk in one of the stores at the village heard of my find and tried to buy them, but I would not sell. This was the first week of June. One year while following my father about the field as he cut the grass with a mowing machine, a flock of Plover were run on to and before the mower could be stopped, the head of the mother was decapitated as she sought to defend her young from the wherring knives of the machine. A number of years later, in 1894, a boy friend brought me a set of four eggs he had collected. This was May 19th. He describes the nest as a slight hollow lined with a little grass, bird on nest and the eggs were fresh. This set was from one of the pairs which nested near the village. These Plover reared a brood each year up to 1898, but being near to town were much hunted each year in August, the law being off then and the shooting of Upland Plover allowed. These, therefore were much wilder than those on the home place, which were protected. Now not only these have disappeared, probably shot, but those on the home farm as well, who were not persecuted while there at least. I have not heard or observed a Bartramian Sandpiper in this section for years. As early as 1888 John C. Cahoon writing for the *Ornithologist and Oologist* of the "Shore Birds of Cape Cod" says of Bartramian Sandpiper "it was in for-

mer years abundant on the Cape during migrations," implying a scarcity at that time. Of its habits he says: "It is rarely if ever seen on the beaches or flats, but occasionally goes on to the dry salt marshes to feed on the crickets and grasshoppers that are very numerous there in summer and autumn." Knight in *Birds of Maine*, 1908, says of the Bartramian Sandpiper: "This species formerly occurred commonly during migrations and was not rare as a summer resident of various portions of the state, it is now decidedly less common and the number of breeding birds which occur in the state are very few." Several years ago there appeared a newspaper writeup in a Bangor daily of the finding of the nest and eggs by a Bangor taxidermist, Cyrus S. Winch and in which John L. Childs of New York figured. This is the last notice of the breeding of the Bartramian Sandpiper in the state that has come to my knowledge. There is no doubt of the economic value of the "Plover" as the food consists almost entirely of grasshoppers and crickets in the season. N. S. Goss in *History of the Birds of Kansas*, 1891, says of the Bartramian Sandpiper: "These birds should be strictly protected, for they are beneficial and in no way harmful."

The eggs measure 1.70 x 1.28, are commonly four in number rarely five. W. B. Crispin reported finding a set of five, (see *Oologist* Sept. 1912. The eggs, the general shape which is that of the Spotted Sandpiper, are pale buff, a shade richer in color than the Spotted Sandpiper, spotted thinly on smaller end, spots increasing in density and size toward the larger end, with umber brown, with an under spotting of a purplish gray; differing from the Spotted Sandpiper, the spots which are much darker and lack the rich shade of the Bartramian Sandpiper.

The nests are hard to find, the birds being close sitters. The birds grow fat in the fall, the flesh is tender and well flavored. When much hunted they are wild, rise at some distance, fly high and far. One learns to love their sprightly ways and soft mellow whistle and it would be a great pleasure could we have them with us as of yore.

#### Western New York Nesting Dates

By N. B. Wheeler

A list of birds observed nesting in Western New York in 1912. Although the list is limited to a single season, I hope it may be of some interest to students in this section of New York. When I first came here, Green Herons and Black Crane Night Herons nested near here by the hundreds. Now there are only a few pairs left. We have good laws to protect them but they are not enforced. So of what use are they.

Nesting dates for Western New York. Season of 1912.

Pied Bill Grebe.....	May 30
Am. Eared Grebe.....	May 30
Mallard Duck.....	April 22
Hering Gull.....	May 5
American Bittern.....	May 30
Least Bittern.....	June 7
Green Heron.....	May 23
Black Crown Night Heron....	May 17
Little Blue Heron.....	May 10
Great Blue Heron.....	April 25
King Rail.....	June 4
Virginia Rail.....	May 10
Sora Rail.....	June 7
Florida Gallinule.....	May 23
American Coot.....	May 21
Spotted Sandpiper.....	May 30
Killdeer .....	May 30
Ruffed Grouse.....	May 8
Mourning Dove.....	May 8
Marsh Hawk.....	May 15
Cooper's Hawk.....	May 21
Red Tail Hawk.....	April 4
Sparrow Hawk.....	May 12

Screech Owl.....	May 25	Scarlet Tanager.....	June 1
Barred Owl.....	May 25	Bank Swallow.....	May 30
Great Horned Owl.....	Feb. 20	Cliff Swallow.....	May 20
Am. Barn Owl.....	March 18	Rough Winged Swallow.....	May 20
Black Bill Cuckoo.....	June 9	Barn Swallow.....	June 10
Yellow Bill Cuckoo.....	June 10	Cedar Waxwing.....	July 6
Belted Kingfisher.....	May 14	White Rumped Shrike.....	March 30
Hairy Woodpecker.....	May 14	Loggerhead Shrike.....	April 20
Northern Downy Woodpecker.....	May 10	Warbling Vireo.....	June 10
Red-headed Woodpecker.....	May 30	Solitary Vireo.....	June 14
Northern Flicker.....	May 30	White Eyed Vireo.....	June 11
Chimney Swift.....	June 15	Red Eyed Vireo.....	June 11
American Asprey.....	May 16	Hooded Warbler.....	July 6
Ruby Throated Hummer.....	June 11	Chestnut Sided Warbler.....	June 14
King Bird.....	June 6	Yellow Warbler.....	May 30
Phoebe.....	May 14	Oven Bird.....	May 30
Acadian Fly Catcher.....	June 10	Yellow Breasted Chat.....	May 11
Crested Fly Catcher.....	June 13	Redstart.....	June 17
Wood Pewee.....	June 5	Brown Thrasher.....	May 21
Trails Flycatcher.....	June 15	Blue Bird.....	June 1
Green Crested Flycatcher.....	June 7	Am. Robin.....	May 29
Alder Fly Catcher.....	June 12	Wood Thrush.....	May 29
Least Flycatcher.....	June 12	Wilson Thrush.....	May 31
Blue Jay.....	June 30	House Wren.....	July 30
American Crow.....	March 27	Long Bill, Wren.....	June 15
Fish Crow.....	April 23		
Bobolink.....	June 6		
Red Winged Blackbird.....	May 10		
Meadow Lark.....	May 18		
Orchard Oriole.....	June 4		
Baltimore Oriole.....	June 10		
Bronze Grackle.....	May 28		
Purple Grackle.....	May 7		
Purple Finch.....	May 3		
American Goldfinch.....	May 13		
Vesper Sparrow.....	May 10		
Song Sparrow.....	May 30		
Field Sparrow.....	May 22		
Clay Colored Sparrow.....	May 30		
Swamps Sparrow.....	May 18		
Savanna Sparrow.....	May 30		
Towhee.....	June 8		
Cardinal.....	May 28		
Cat Bird.....	May 25		
Cardinal.....	May 30		
Rose Breasted Grosbeak.....	May 19		
Blue Grosbeak.....	May 22		
Indigo Bunting.....	June 25		
Dickcissel.....	May 23		

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#### Evening Grosbeaks

Perhaps you would be interested to know that we have had a flock of Evening Grosbeaks (*Hesperiphona vespertina*), thirty-one in number visiting us since Dec. 11th till Dec. 26, 1918. Hope to see them again as they come most every morning at day-break and feed on the seeds of Rock Maples in my yard. So we have had a good chance to observe them with and without glasses. The last day saw five Pine Grosbeaks were in the same trees, at the head of Whithall.

Adelbert Temple.

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#### Game Law Making Good

The Federal game law prohibiting spring shooting seems to have encouraged the wild ducks to stay with us each year. Last year I found four Mallards' nests containing full sets of fresh eggs. Before the Federal



game law took effect, I considered myself lucky to find one nest a season. I also found one nest of wood ducks. This was my first and only nest of this rare bird.

Mearl B. Wheeler,  
East Randolph, N. Y.

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#### The "Arkansas Kingbird"

The vernacular name Arkansas Flycatcher does not refer to the state of Arkansas. Our good friend Peabody evidently supposes it does. (The Oologist, XXXVI, 25, 1919). It refers to the type locality, the valley of the Arkansas River, in Colorado or Western Kansas, which is within the breeding range of the species. Concerning the Sage "Hen," some ornithologists who strictly follow the rulings of the A. O. U. Committee on technical names, do not hesitate to hark back to the second edition of the Checklist, 1895, and retain the vernacular name Sage "Grouse," using sage "hen" only for the female and sage "cock" for the male.

Junius Henderson.

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#### Early Nesting of Some Common Birds

When I was just a youngster starting out in the collecting realm I never could wait until the nesting season was at hand but must go forth to field, wood, and thicket to search for nests long before most birds had even begun to build. But such investigations occasionally brought reward and a few exceptionally early nests of common birds were discovered.

Well I remember one late March day spent at the side of a creek that flows near the town of Waynesburg, Pennsylvania. The weather had been mild for some days and the birds were frolicking about and chirping in the weeds and brush. I chanced to pass quite near a cluster of debris which had lodged during high water on the branches of an osage orange hedge,

and out flew a Cardinal,—there was a newly constructed nest well hidden from view. About the last day of March or the first of April it held two eggs. Due to a heavy freeze this nest and eggs were deserted.

April 5, 1903 I collected three eggs from the nest of a Robin that was built 10 feet up in an American elm tree. There had been quite a cold snap the night previously and this had doubtless killed the mother bird, for she lay dead in the nest.

I passed through an old apple orchard on April 2, 1904 and found a nest of the Bluebird built in an abandoned hairy woodpecker's excavation. Within the nest were two fresh eggs. About one week later I found another Bluebird's nest containing full-fledged young.

April 4, 1904, while in company with a veteran ornithologist of Waynesburg, Pa., I discovered the nest of a mourning dove built a few feet up in a cluster of wild grape vines. The mother bird was sitting upon two slightly incubated eggs.

April 5, is my earliest record for a nest and eggs of the Carolina Wren, although a friend of mine found a nest in Waynesburg that held eggs late in March. However, due to cold weather the birds deserted the nest.

The Phoebe sometimes nests early in southwestern Pennsylvania. April 8, 1905 I collected a nest and five fresh eggs from a rafter in the lower story of a sheep shed, on a high windy ridge

S. S. Dickey.

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#### Redheaded Woodpecker Nesting In West Haven, Conn.

In looking over my not book for the season of 1914, I find a record of a pair of Redheaded Woodpeckers nesting in a telephone pole at West Haven.

My note book reads June 14th, while walking along the trolley track which crosses a large salt marsh near Savin Rock, I discovered a Redheaded Woodpecker- at- work- excavating a cavity in the top of a telephone pole.

On July 19th I made a visit to the nest which contained young and took four photographs of the adult birds at the entrance.

The "Birds of Connecticut" gives but two records of its nesting about New Haven, one in 1893 and the other in 1909, and as I have been interested in birds the greater part of my life and, in all my roaming about the woods since I was a boy this is the first Red-headed Woodpecker's nest to come under my observation

It was very interesting to watch the birds' actions at the entrance as they never left it unguarded there being one of the adults in with the young at all times.

With my glasses I would watch the old birds as they left the pole and flew across the marsh to a small patch of woods and then down in the meadow grass in search I suppose for insects.

They would not be gone long and when they returned would alight on the pole a little below the entrance and give a few grunting sounds and the one inside would immediately come to the entrance and fly away.

Then the one with food would enter and remain until the other returned and give the signal to "beat it."

I wanted very much to collect that set of eggs but did not dare to run any chances of getting mixed up with the Telephone Co. so all I got was a few pictures of my first "Red Heads" nest.

Nelson E. Wilmot.

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The above mystic figures appearing on five specimens record the fact that

ye editor opened the season of 1919 with this unusually large set of Red Shouldered Hawk's eggs. The nest, 30 feet up in a soft maple tree in the over-flowed river bottoms at Lacon. Sets of five are unusually rare. Not over 20 sets of this number having come under our observation in the handling of several hundred sets of the eggs of this bird's eggs.

#### The Yellow-Billed Cuckoo

The Yellow-Billed Cuckoo, although rather common in East Texas, is little known, except by those especially interested in the study of birds.

These birds are among the last to arrive in the spring and the first to start migrating in the fall. They arrive about the middle of April or first of May and start nest building almost immediately. Their nests which are frail structures, are composed of coarse twigs and are placed usually in a low bush, though sometimes they build on the horizontal limb of a tree, but never higher than ten feet from the ground. They lay from two to four eggs but on a few rare occasions, I have seen as many as six eggs in a set. When the first of these eggs, which are about the size of a pigeon egg and a very light blue, are laid, incubation starts. Often there may be found young birds and comparatively fresh eggs in the same nest.

This bird is one of the most beneficial of all our native birds, being the greatest enemy of the tent caterpillar. In the spring and early in the summer when these caterpillars are doing the greatest damage to fruit and nut bearing trees, these birds will fly to one of the caterpillar "tents" and will sometimes eat every caterpillar before leaving it, it being their principal food.

DeLoach Martin.

### Fall Migration

For the last three days beginning Sept. 27, 1918 there has been a continual flight of the Cliff Swallows, from five hundred to a thousand in a bunch. This looks like they have had a prosperous season. I notice a new visitor every day from the North, Woodpeckers, Wren, Flickers, Swallows, Ducks and Grebes continue to arrive more and more each day. This appears to me as if we will have an early winter. I also notice that the Coots are late about arriving at the lake. Their season must not have been as prosperous as the Swallows. The Scissor-tail Flycatchers are making preparation for their southern journey. I have noticed a good many Flycatchers that seem to be strangers from the North. The Herons, Egrets, Gulls and Terns have been on the lake in equal numbers. I have noticed that scarcity of Curlews. I have not observed but two birds this month.

Ramon Graham,

### 1918 New Hampshire Notes

Below are a few bird notes from Jaffrey, N. H., made during a visit to my old home in 1918.

Colonies of Cliff Swallows seemed larger and more numerous than in previous years.

On July 2nd, 1918 I observed a pair of Chestnut-sided Warblers with a family of five young fledgings just outside of the nest.

Black-throated Green Warblers were observed with young several times. They nest commonly on Monadnock Mountain.

Ruffed Grouse are getting scarcer but one frequently runs across a female with young. One female had young able to fly on July 3rd.

Northern Pileated Woodpeckers, which had probably nested were ob-

served in a certain locality at the base of Monadnock.

Red-breasted Nuthatches and White-throated Sparrows are regular summer residents on this mountain.

The Sandpipers began to arrive from the North in August. On August 19th, two Pectoral Sandpipers were observed. This species was not an ordinarily migrant at Jaffrey.

Stuart T. Danforth.

### Whole Flock of Birds Register at Palace Hotel

When Harry Annan, assistant manager of the Palace Hotel, San Francisco looked over the arrivals of the last two days in the hotel office yesterday he gasped and said:

"Why, look at this! The whole aviary has come to town."

And so it proved, for there were registered in close proximity the following:

- Max Crow, hotel owner of Seattle.
- W. S. Sparrow, of Chicago.
- C. H. Pigeon, Fort Wayne.
- A. H. Swallow, Los Angeles.
- H. R. Eagle, New York.
- T. B. Crane.

"I will instruct the catering department to buy a carload of canary seed," Annan remarked hurrying away.—San Francisco Examiner; W. A. Strong, San Jose, Cal.

### Seeing Birds From a Moving Automobile In the Alleghany Mountains

Riding in a touting car does appeal to but does not satisfy the bird lover who passing over the scenic highways catches glimpses of many birds alluring to the real bird man who cannot follow and identify. Certain species can be distinguished by their prominent marks, characteristic flight or loud notes but stops and side foot trips on foot are necessary if one is to really see our native birds. Oc-

asionally the binoculars can be well used to pick out the color and directive markings of a flying bird. It may be stated that the automobile parties see a little of the landscape and nothing of the birdlife of the passing country.

The writer vividly remembers seeing his first Mocking Bird from a moving motor truck while getting a lift along the Ohio River on Hillside Avenue about eight miles below Cincinnati. He alighted as soon as he could get the driver to slow up with his hurried thanks and expiation that he had gone far enough and would walk back. That return walk showed him half a dozen Mocking Birds and some beautiful Summer Tanagers—both species were new to him and the latter he had seen but once before.

Referring to the two mountain tours about to be discussed no special effort was made to see a large number of birds because the writer was the guest of the owner of the machine, who was not particularly interested in birds. When a new species was seen a few notes were penciled on a vest pocket card. On average running speed of fifteen miles an hour was generally held which allowed one to see something of the beautiful mountain scenery and to note many points of interest.

On July 15 and 16, 1916, the first automobile census was taken along the way from McKeesport to Stoyestown, Pa., via Irwin, Greensburg and Ligonier) and return—120 miles over the Lincoln Highway. Twenty-four species of birds were noted as follows:

Red Headed Woodpecker—The black and white wing pattern is distinctive even when the color of the head cannot be clearly seen.

Flicker—Its "bounding" flight and white rump are prominent field marks.

Chimney Swift—This bird can easily be told by anyone familiar with its swift erratic flight.

King Bird—This was the characteristic bird along the mountain highway east of about Greensburg. One was seen every five or six miles.

Crested Flycatcher, Crow, Cowbird, Red-winged Blackbird, Meadow Lark, Grackle.

Goldfinch—The undulating flight and color pattern of the male makes this an easy bird to identify on the wing.

Vesper Sparrow—The white outer tail feathers of this bird can always be caught.

Chipping Sparrows, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow.

Towhee—Its call note could be heard above the noise of the machine.

Purple Martin—Colonies of this swallow were prominent on the principle street of Ligonier and Stoyestown.

Barn Swallow—The deeply forked tail with its "streamers" is the best field mark of this bird which is common in the mountains.

Maryland Yellow-throat.

Hooded Warbler—One was seen in a laurel thicket when a stop was made to get "gas" at the foot of a heavy mountain grade between Ligonier and Stoyestown.

Catbird, Brown Thrasher, House Wren, Robin.

The second automobile census taken on July 6 and 7, 1918, covered a trip from McKeesport to Uniontown and thence over the old National Pike to Grantsville, Md.—85 miles—where a stop was made for the night. The second day took a party to Cumberland, Md., and then north past Bedford Springs to Bedford, Pa., and over the Lincoln Highway homeward to McKeesport covering the ground included in the previous trip—147 miles making a total of 232 miles for the



two days. Thirty species of birds were seen as follows:

**Large Hawk**—This bird, probably a Red Tail was seen hovering around the high rocky precipice on the left of the pike, as we passed through the "gap" before entering Cumberland.

**Sparrow Hawk**—A small species exhibiting a peculiar flight alternating a few rapid wing beats with a short sail is one of the easiest hawks to recognize Red-headed Woodpecker.

**Chimney Swift.**

**King Bird**—This Flycatcher was first noticed as we were leaving Uniontown and was again the characteristic bird but not as many were seen as on the first trip.

**Phoebe**—The nervous tail twitch of this Flycatcher is always noticeable.

**Crow, Red-winged Black Bird, Meadow Lark.**

**Baltimore Oriole**—It was a surprise to run past this, a rare species in the mountain, at the crest of Chalk Hill, one of the high points of the trip.

**Grackle, Goldfinch, Vesper Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Towhee, Indigo Bunting.**

**Purple Martin**—Nearly every village has its big Martin box with a colony of these sociable swallows.

**Cliff Swallow**—This swallow was first observed at Farmingham, 12 miles east of Uniontown and seemed to be common between there and Bedford.

**Barn Swallow.**

**Bank Swallow**—At Bedford we ate dinner at Hoffman's, on a porch overhanging the Juniata River. My attention was equally divided between the chicken and waffles and a dozen of these small Swallows perched on a wire, about sixty feet away. Every now and then a few would sally forth to partake of a succeeding course of their insectorous dinner. In flight,

their fuscous wings are several shades darker in color than their brownish-gray back, when seen in a good light. A field mark not given in any bird book but noted in Bird Lore, Vol. 18, page 371. The Rough Winged Swallow in flight shows one shade of brown on its wings and back in contra distinction to the Bank Swallow.

**Parula Warbler**—This was noted less than a mile east of Grantsville, Md. From the moving car the writer saw a Warbler with white wing bars and some red on sides of breast, the general effect was that from a Bay-breasted Warbler, but since this bird does not breed here and it was late for a migrant, the bird may have been a Parula Warbler, which is common at some points in the hemlocks in the Alleghanies.

**Maryland Yellow-throat, Catbird.**

**Wood Thrush**—Heard and observed while stopping to change a tire at the east end of Frostburg, Md.

**Veery**—A short tour and stop to observe the magnificent view from Saint John Rock revealed the Veery. Its ringing circles of music were heard from all sides as we climbed these rocks and gazed down the mountains.

**Robin.**

**Blue Bird**—This bird seems able to hold its own in the mountains, probably due to the general scarcity of that deplorable pest, the English Sparrow.

Referring to the second trip at Grantsville, after supper we walked a few miles eastward over the National pike to the stone arch spanning a beautiful mountain creek to take the "kinks" out of our legs. As darkness settled over the silent mountains it was that a Whip-poor-will would be heard, but a whistled imitation of whip-poor-will was the only notes to break the serene silence of the chilly mountain air. Had we been here a

month earlier we might have listened to the weird thrilling call, Whip-poor-will for May and June are the months to hear this nocturnal music.

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### Spring Migration

The spring migration at Oberlin seems to be unusually late this year. Until yesterday the crows, Robins, Bluebirds, and a few Song Sparrows were the only arrivals which had reached town.

Yesterday afternoon, I visited a sugar bush five miles south of town, and the timber surrounding the "shack" was just alive with birds. A dozen or more crows had just come in from the South, and had alighted in the tops of the tall, bare trees. Tufted Titmice "peter-ed" to one another, a lonesome Red-bellied Woodpecker and a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker were busily eating insects on the same tree, stopping every few minutes to utter their shrill resonant cries, the Downy Woodpecker, Flickers, Cardinals, White and Red-breasted Nuthatches, and a Red-tailed Hawk were all contributing to the medley of songs. Later in the afternoon, the Screech Owl, and a pair of Great Horned Owls gave audible evidence of their presence. A swamp adjoins the woods on the north, and in the young, bush-like Catalpa trees bordering the swamp, a flock of about forty Red-winged Blackbirds announced their arrival. It surely did seem good to hear them again. A flock of "Wild Ducks" I was unable to find out what kind they were, as all ducks to some people are "just wild ducks"—and a flock of Canada Geese had been seen there that morning. Killdeer, Mourning Doves, Meadowlarks, Song Sparrows and Bronzed Grackles, were seen between the swamp and the house, a distance of about eight hundred feet. Near the house, the Bluebirds and the

Robins were numerous, and, when I reached the house a huge dish of warm sugar, just brought over from the "shack" awaited me! Taking everything together, it was a most enjoyable afternoon. Indications are, this morning, that the belated migration has reached town.

Helen M. Rice, No. 63.

Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio.

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### A SET OF SIX PHOEBE'S EGGS

During the past twenty years I have examined over a hundred nests of the Phoebe containing sets and young birds but I have only found one set of six eggs and never saw a brood of over five young.

This set of six eggs is now in my collection and was collected by myself on April 30, 1901, at Holmesburg, Philadelphia, Pa., from a nest plastered to the wall of the interior of a spring house, a yard above the water. The birds gain access to the house through the enclosed blinds in the two small windows.

I look in every Phoebe's nest I find in hopes of finding another set of six but from my observations I have decided that clutches of this number are rare in Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Five is the uniform set, four eggs is frequently laid and three eggs occur rarely.

Richard F. Miller.

We have several sets of six and one set of seven in our collection.—Editor.

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Last May, 1917 I found a Bronzed Grackle's nest and three eggs in a hollow stub of a live tree. The stub projected over a small pond. I thought it quite an unusual nesting place for this bird.

Lyle D. Miller,

E. Claridon, Ohio.

No, this is a common nesting site for this species—Ed.

FOR EXCHANGE—Splendid perfect New York State Fossil shells trilobite corals and C. Also sea shells and curios for U. S. or Foreign stamps in good condition. All letters answered. ROGER A. MATHES, 310 East Main St., Batavia, N. Y.

WANTED—Volumes 1 and 2 of Thorburn's British Birds. Very handsome price will be paid for these two volumes. ANSEL B. MILLER, Springs, Pennsylvania.

WANTED—American Ornithology Vol. VI; Oologist Vol. XXVI, 1-2-4; Ornithologist and Oologist Vol. XI; Various numbers of Condor. Have duplicates of Journal Maine Ornithological Society; early Oologist; Ornithologist and Oologist; Osprey; Nidologist, etc. H. H. JOHNSON, Pittsfield, Maine.

EXCHANGE—I wish to exchange a few Nature pictures for the same, or for insects, cucons. Will also sell or buy for cash. Wish to buy good compound microscope. What have you? Write. HUBERT R. WISWELL, Westbrook, Minn.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

FO R SALE—A High-class collection of Squirrels which I desire to dispose of before entering the American Army. E. H. HAMILTON, 614 Walnut St., Versailles Boro., McKeesport, Pa.

FOR SALE—Loggerhead Sea turtle, Embryos and hatched turtles, mixed stages \$3.00 dozen, small Octopus \$1.00 each. Other Maine specimens collected from Florida this past summer. H. AITKEN, Gen. Del., Philadelphia, Pa.

EXCHANGE—Funston Perfect (animal) Smoker, 20 Onedia Jump Traps (new), eggs in sets. Want eggs in sets and singles. LYLE D. MILLER, E. Claridon, Ohio.

FOR SALE—Live pupae of moths and butterflies. Price-list on application, for delivery November 1, 1918. Also entomological supplies of all kinds. LOUIS S. KOHLER, 47 Wagner Place, Hawthorne, N. J.

FOR SALE—Two handsome Virginia Red Cedar cabinets suitable for eggs or skins. Also one smaller Walnut Cabinet, cheap. WHARTON HUBER, Gwynedd Valley, Pa.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE—No. 3 Bulls eye Eastman Kodak, new and in good condition. Ask \$5.00, cost \$9.00. Send offers of exchange. JOHNSON NEFF, Marionville, Mo.

PERSONAL—Would like to become acquainted with active Oologist in New York City, Westchester Co. or nearby, with view to expeditions next spring. L. C. S. please write. RAYMOND FULLER, White Plains, N. Y., R. F. D. No. 1.

FOR EXCHANGE—Large showy India moths. Atacus Atlas. Antheraea Pernyi. Actias selene. Caligula cachara. (Selene lyna Hybrid) Also many natives. Want A. No. I set of 288, 364. A. J. POTTER, East Killingly, Conn.

The Oologist is the best medium of exchange for Oologists Ornithologists etc., in the entire U. S.

Who has skins or mounted fox squirrels, colors, Black, White, Gray, Black Yellow, Black; Cinnamon mixed with black or pure white squirrels. EARL HAMILTON, Versailles, Boro., McKeesport, Pa.

I want to get into touch with young collector in the Ozark region for the coming summer's collecting. JOHNSON NEFF, Marionville, Mo.

FOR EXCHANGE—One fine CONLEY 4x5 Plate Camera, 17 inch Bellows. Adopted for close up Nature Study. Want good 25-20 or 32-20 RIFLE, or Books on OOLOGY. EARL MOFFET, Marshall, Texas.

BOOKS WANTED—Orchids of New England, by Baldwin; Our Native Orchids, by Gibson; Ferns of North America by Eaton. Please state price. H. MOUSLEY, Hatley, Quebec. 1-1t

WANTED—One E. & L. Model C. double Dissolving Lens. New or second hand stereopticon Machine in exchange for personally collected specimens of Western Birds Eggs. Mrs. A. O. TRANGANZA, No. 624 E. Sixth St. South, Salt Lake City, Utah. 1-2t

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Of The Oologist, published monthly, At Albion, N. Y., for April, 1919.

STATE OF ILLINOIS,  
County of Marshall—ss:

Before me, Viva Lester, notary public, in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared R. M. Barnes, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Editor and owner of The Oologist and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

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R. MAGOON BARNES.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 2d day of April, 1919.

Viva Lester, Notary Public.

(My commission expires Jan. 21, 1921).

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# THE OÖLOGIST.

BIRDS--NESTS--EGGS

TAXIDERM Y

VOL. XXXV, No. 5.

ALBION, N. Y., MAY 1, 1919.

WHOLE NO. 382



Nest and Eggs of Scarlet Tanager.—Photo by Thos. D. Burleigh

## BRIEF SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wanted, Exchange, For Sale, Etc., inserted in this department at 25 cents for each 25 words for one issue; each additional word 1 cent. No notice inserted for less than 25 cents.

We will advertise the skins, nests, eggs, or mounted specimens of North American Birds for sale for persons having a lawful authority under the law to deal in the same. These columns are for the use of those desiring to make bona fide exchanges of such specimens for scientific collecting purposes only.—EDITOR.

In answering advertisements in these columns mention "The Oologist," and thereby help us, as well as the advertiser and yourself.

## BIRDS

Send me the list of A 1 Bird Skins that you have to dispose of by exchange or otherwise. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

WANTED—One or two young pigeon hawks or Richardson Merlins. Must be absolutely uninjured and no important feathers broken. Will pay a fair price for good birds. Write me when nest is located for instructions as to rearing and shipping. Would take wild-caught birds of the year or old birds if clean moulted. D. R. GRAY, Rockdale, Tenn.

FOR EXCHANGE—A large list of A1 North American species of skins for specimens needed in my collection. C. W. CHAMBERLAIN, 36 Lincoln St., Boston, Mass.

ALL PERSONS having A-1 skins in pairs of any of the North American Jays send list. I will pay the highest price for those that I need. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

WANTED—To correspond with active field collectors, and exchange bird skins. Especially want Shore birds from Missouri and Kansas. Write E. GORDON ALEXANDER, Lexington, Mo.

WANTED—A pair of living Sand Hill Cranes A. O. U. No. 306, taken north of the center of the U. S. If the birds are only slightly wingtipped this will not matter. For them I will pay a good price. R. M. Barnes, Lacon, Ill.

EXCHANGE—Fine sets of eggs and nests for birds skins from south and east. STANLEY G. JEWETT, Pendleton, Oregon.

FOR EXCHANGE:—Large well-mounted Golden Eagle and American Bittern. I am interested in all Natural History specimens. Write. WALTER STUCK, Jonesboro, Ark.

I desire to exchange bird skins and Butterflies for 20 or 24 Gage Shot Guns, Double Barrel, preferred. Good condition. D. V. HEMBREE, Roswell, Ga.

DATA BLANKS—Send for sample of my data blanks, with your name printed on it. 500 for \$1.00 postpaid. EDWARD S. COOMBS, 243 Franklin St., Boston, Mass.

EXCHANGE—I offer fine skins taken in Virginia, of Canada and Greater Snow Geese, Brant, Whistling Swan, many of the Ducks including European Widgeon, Wide Turkeys and immature Bald Eagles, etc. Make offers in eggs in sets, O & O books, bird skins or cash. Also have good list of eggs in sets to exchange. HAROLD BAILEY, Box 112, Newport News, Va.

## EGGS.

In sending in your exchange notices for nests, skins and eggs, we would appreciate it if you would arrange the numerals in your exchange notice in their numerical order, and not tumble them together hit and miss, as some of our readers are complaining, and we think justly so.

WANTED—Entire collection of Eggs of North American Birds for spot cash. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

WANTED—To correspond with active collectors on or near the Platte River in Nebraska. Address, LYLE FLETCHER, Norton, Kansas. Box 455.

EXCHANGE NOTICE—I desire to get in touch with all active field collectors with a view to exchanging A 1 sets. H. W. CARRIGER, 5185 Trask Street, Oakland, Calif.

Will be glad to hear from reliable collectors and to receive their lists. Have good list to offer including some rare species. RICHARD C. HARLOW, State College, Pa.

WANTED—A-1 Sets of all birds eggs, common or rare, with data, or in broken sets with data. JOHNSON NEFF, Marionville, Mo.

TO EXCHANGE—A limited number of the Famous JACOBS BIRDHOUSES for first class sets, personally collected, and with full data. nests needed with some. J. WARREN JACOBS, Waynesburg, Pa.

Who has sets 240, 244 328, 330? Can offer in exchange sets 57, 249, 264, 337a, 347, 355, 357, 358. DR. ELMER LANGE-RIN, Crookston, Minn.

FOR EXCHANGE—Bird eggs in sets with data; also nest and eggs. Also wish to buy a pair of Peacock's and hen, or their eggs for propagation. JOHN LARANG, Genesee, Idaho.

FOR EXCHANGE—15 1-1; 31a 1-1; 105.2 1-1, 107 1-1, 108.1 1-1; 116 1-1; 197 1-4; 464 1-4; 4741 N-2; 475 1-5; 486 1-5; 533 1-3; 538 1-4; 543 1-3; 560a N-4; 574.1 N-2; 604 1-4; 615 N-5; 622a 1-5; 629a N-4; 646a N-4; 726c N-6, N-5; 741 N-6; 743 N-7; 748a N-7, N-5. J. H. BOWLES, The Woodstock, Tacoma, Wash.

FOR EXCHANGE—Eggs in sets; A. O. U. Nos. 141-143, 146, 197-201, 225 and many others. Also fine Pupae of Samia gloveri. Want eggs in sets live pupae, Butterflies, and Moths in pupae papers. Send list and receive mine. J. W. SUGDEN, 47 S. Eighth St., Salt Lake City, Utah.

## EGGS—Continued

I will pay the highest cash price for such North American Birds Eggs that I need to complete series in any collection. Send me your lists.

R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

EXCHANGE—Wanted this season's 1919 collected sets. Can use many Common. Cash for same. Send list price per set. Sets for others. HENRY W. DAVIS, Box 844, Atlantic City, N. J.

WANTED—Sets of eggs from original collector. Oregon, Green and Beldings Jay, Prairie and Ahornado Falcons. I have many Bird magazines for exchange or sale. Want Bird Lore Vol. VII No. 1. C. M. CASE, 306 Blue Hills Ave., Hartford, Conn.

WANTED—Lists of choice sets from reliable collections. I can offer Sandhill Crane, Swallow-tail Kite, Bald and Golden Eagle, Duck Hawk, Snowy Owl and many others. All answered. A. E. PRICE, Grant Park, Ill.

WANTED—Singles or broken sets in quantities, or small lots; also books on Taxidermy, curios, etc. J. E. HARRIS, 259 Maple St., Dayton, Ohio.

FOR EXCHANGE—European and Asiatic sets in exchange for No. American species. C. W. CHAMBERLAIN, 36 Lincoln St., Boston, Mass.

RED CEDAR SAW-DUST—Can supply this ideal tray lining material, clean and sifted, in sacks of half bushel or more. Will exchange for first-class sets and skins desired, on a basis of 60 cents per peck. A. F. GANIER, 1221-17th Ave., S., Nashville, Tenn.

EXCHANGE—Bird skins and eggs, over 100 kinds. Wanted anything. DR. W. S. STRODE, Lewiston, Illinois.

WANTED—A heavy marked set of Sharp-shinned Hawk taken by a reliable collector. Will pay cash or exchange. RALPH W. JACKSON, R. No. 1, Cambridge, Maryland.

EXCHANGE of personally collected sets desired with reliable collectors. Send lists. Have fine sets of 105.2 and others. California birds. J. VAN DENBURGH, 240 Stockton St., San Francisco, California.

WANTED—I want to buy first class bird eggs, in sets, with data, if prices are reasonable. JOSEPH WIGGLESWORTH, Wilmington, Delaware.

WANTED—Choice sets of anything from Nos. 514 to 605 inclusive and choice sets of finches from any part of the world wanted especially Longspurs and variety sets. Also sets or series of 261, 498, 501, 619, 703 and 761. Good European and other sets offered in best condition. K. L. SKINNER, Brooklands Estate Office, Weybridge, England.

WANTED First Class, complete sets, all species of Eagles, Kites, Falcons, Loons, Tropic birds, Hawks, Owls, Vultures, Waders, Warblers, Finches. Send lists in full with terms. Dr. M. T. CLECKLEY, Augusta, Ga.

FOR EXCHANGE—Following Alsets, with data—15, 2-1, 105 1-1, 105 1-2-1, 337b 2-3, 486 1-4, 375d 1-2, 617 1-5, 685b 1-3, and others, for sets needed in my collection. C. BADGER, Santa Paula, Calif.

Mounted Birds to exchange for eggs in full sets. J. C. HALL, 1420 Marlowe Ave., Lakewood, O.

WANTED—One set of eggs of each of the following birds, together with original nest: Scarlet Tanager, Indigo Bunting, Gold Finch. KARL W. KAHMANN, Taxidermist, Lincoln Ave., Chicago, Ill.

WANTED—A-1 sets of all birds, also sets with Cowbird eggs. Must have full data. Can exchange A-1 shells or cash. Write what you have, stating value. HARRY L. SEMLER, City Carrier No. 3, Lexington, Mo.

CORRESPONDENCE DESIRED WITH COLLECTORS WHO CAN SUPPLY THE FOLLOWING WANTS:—293a-294-300a-300b-311-332-336-337-337b-373e-377-414-420-467-483-501a-501b 501c-507-509-511a-513a-602-619-627a-628-630-633-1-648-671-687.

Rev. H. E. WHEELER, Conway, Ark.

WANTED—A 1st class, well marked set of 4 or 5 white tailed Kite with full and original data. B. S. FRIFFIN, 22 Currier St., Haverhill, Mass.

FOR EXCHANGE—Mounted Birds, skins and eggs in sets. Want birds, skins and eggs in sets. Send lists. JESSE T. CRAVEN, 811 Roosevelt Ave., Detroit, Mich.

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# THE OÖLOGIST.

VOL. XXXVI. NO. 5

ALBION, N. Y., MAY 1, 1919.

WHOLE NO. 382

Owned and Published Monthly, by R. M. Barnes, Albion, N. Y., and Lacon, Ill.

## TAKE NOTICE.

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Entered as second-class matter December 21, 1903, at the post office at Albion, N. Y., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

## OTTOMAR REINECKE'S LAST CONTRIBUTION TO "THE OOLOGIST"

### EMU

#### *Dromaeus Norae-Nollandie*

**T**HIS large bird is the only one to our knowledge of which the eggs have below the outside dark color to more below, a light bluish and a white color, which are shown on the accompanying photograph. It took an eminent artist to do this work. The photo represents the exact size of the egg.

The Emu is about the size of the Ostrich. According to reports of former travelers, it occurred abundantly in Botany Bay and Port Jackson and also on the south coast of Australia, but of recent dates it has been crowded more to the interior and will be found at present on the vast plains in the southern part of our globe and it will be only a short duration when this large bird is exterminated, notwithstanding laws for their protection are now in existence.

The nest of the Emu is a flat bed or flat form constructed of grass and also from bark of trees and they lay from seven to eight eggs, but under favorable circumstances 18 have been found in a nest, but those were probably the layers of two females, and it takes not less than four weeks of incubation to produce the young chicks. The eggs are of a dark green-bluish color.—*Ottomar Reinecke*.

### Around Red Lake In a Launch

By L. E. Healey

#### Part IV

The day was inclined to be squally with the sun shining through the rifts of clouds casting bright spots on the surface of the lake intensifying the darker shadows of the denser clouds. We left Shotley at nine a. m. with the intention of reaching the narrows by dinner time. The wind came from the west and had full sweep of the lake. We were driving south and southwest and cut the ever increasing waves at an angle head on. The shores were rocky and high, in places running up to good sized hills, and the water was deeper and free from weeds. We were progressing nicely and enjoying the spray as our little craft would catch a white cap and cut it in two. Away to the westward where the horizon was but a line we could see it rain. A white mist was mixing with the air and water, combining the elements. As the moments passed we could see the cloud grow and it was coming our way as fast as the increasing wind could carry it. Gradually the waves became larger; the ragged edges of the cloud tossed and flung their warnings at us; the white caps grew more numerous and ever larger; the blackness of the water and the approaching cloud were intensified by the foam of the breakers and the sunshine about us. We knew the small storm was driving down upon us although we could see it was not large enough to cover the entire area of the lake. It was a beautiful sight to behold although it filled us with apprehension for the success of our little craft with its curtains drawn to weather it. The steep rocky shores were not inviting with the waves pounding themselves into atoms in their madness, and after many misgivings, we put down the curtains and prepared for the worst.



The Largest We Got, 12½ Pounder

—Photo by L. E. Healey.

But our fears were all in vain. Although the curtained top gave great sail area, our little engine held the boat to its true course and the rain beat down and the waves rolled and the wind blew, but we were as snug as a kid in a Ford and never lost a moment of travel. The storm cloud passed as rapidly as it had come up and all was sunshine again. We came into calmer waters in the lee of the west point at the Narrows and two p. m. saw us landed starved, to death. We never will forget that feed—ham and eggs and French fried potatoes—how we did dig in. When in the midst of this feed of feeds another cloud seeing us, made a bee line for us and chased us hurriedly into the shelter of our ever ready and friendly boat top. We discovered that the fish were biting fine and after a few good casts we set out for Ponema Post Office, a



Long sand spits extended out into the water—Phot by L. E. Healey.



Say! It was glorious battling the wind and waves.—Photo by L. E. Healey.

few miles around the point on the north shore of the South Lake.

Our trip that afternoon took us by the most beautiful shore line on the lake—a series of small bays with beautiful sandy beaches, separated by rocky points where the ice had placed the rocks in bygone spring break-ups in the fashion of a wall of masonry. Here and there cliffs rose to bluffs and mighty oaks and birch, ash and bass-wood stood crowning their heights, defying the elements. This entire shore line of a space of about twenty miles is inhabited by a band of Indians who dwell in permanent homes after the manner of the white man. Pasture fences inclosing cattle and horses, garden plots of potatoes, and Indian maize could be seen and we were kept busy dodging the gull nets set out from the shore line. Birch bark canoes, sewed with deer sinew and seamed with pitch from the fir trees were moored all along where a well beaten path gave evidence of a home in the woods above. In the midst of this Indian tribe, Uncle Sam has placed a school, owned and operated by the Federal Government, for the purpose of educating and training his red children in the ways of living and abiding by the laws of the white man. This school was built many years ago at the end of the rifle and bayonet. It is known commonly as the Cross Lake School. This a last tribe of the war-like savage, disliked the intrusion of civilization in the midst of his domain. But the passing years have told the story and the force of Uncle Sam's teaching and training was to be seen on every hand. The school consists of two main buildings besides cottages for the employees barns for the stock, sheds for the machinery, coops for the chickens, a water tank for fire protection and cultivated fields for the farming pursuits. The

boys and girls are taken from their Indian homes and made to dwell in dormitories and during the regular nine months attended school as at a boarding school. Besides the three "Rs" they learn to sew, cook, farm, raise stock, learn the carpenter, blacksmith and other various trades useful to their future life. Basket ball, base ball tennis and other games are taught and military drill is part of the program. Although far removed from railroads and civilization, here amidst the primeval forests stands this seat of learning, training the wild red man in the ways he should go. We spent the balance of the day here, were invited to sleep in the dormitory for the school was not now in session, and took dinner at the expense of Uncle Sam and the hospitality of the faculty. Back in the big timber we saw families of Indians living in teepees of tanned hides with the open fire in the center and the children and grown-ups lying in blankets around the edges, cooking over the coals, living the primitive life, papoose in a sack laughing and cooing on the mother's back, the old man with hair in braids and an occasional feather and moccasins on the feet. It was interesting to us to behold that of which we have all read. They love this life and the summer vacation sees the most of them enjoying it.

To be continued)

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#### Albino

I reported an Albino Quail, (Bobwhit) from East Stroudsburg, Pa. last fall. It was pure white all over and not full grown. Haven't seen this printed and think you have overlooked it as it is worth recording.

M. J. Hoffman,

Brooklyn, N. Y.





We left Shotlet at 9 a. m.—Photo by L. E. Healey.



The Fish Were Biting Fine.—Photo by L. E. Healey.

## Oregon Birds

1. Western Grebe, found along Crooked River and other waterways.
2. Pied-billed Grebe, found along Crooked River and other waterways.
3. Mallard, found along Crooked River and other streams.
4. Mountain Quail, found both in canyons and on buttes.
5. Prairie Hen, 1-12, found on the plains and buttes.
6. Mourning Dove, n-2, n-1, does not begin nesting until June as a rule.
7. Turkey Vulture.
8. Western Goshawk, nesting site located in canyon wall but too late for the eggs as the young, 3 in number, left the nest at my approach.
9. Western Redtail, 1-2, 2-3. Begin nesting about 1st of April or before.
10. Swainson Hawk, same as Red-tail in nesting habits.
11. Bald Eagle, an occasional visitor, his aerie has been located on Black Butte by Forest Ranger.
12. Marsh Hawk.
13. Desert Sparrow-hawk.
14. American Osprey, 2-3, both sets taken off, "Eagle Rock" in Crooked River.
15. Long-eared Owl.
16. Kennicott Screech Owl.
17. Burrowing Owl, 1-6, 1-8, 1-9, nest in abandoned badger holes about five or six feet from the entrance, on a pile of flaky cow dung.
18. Western Horned Owl, one nest found in last year's Red-tail's nest. Two young almost ready to leave the nest. May 16.
19. Northwestern Billed Kingfisher, found along Crooked River and other streams.
20. Red-shafted Flicker, 1-8, nest in cavities of junipers.
21. Gairdner Woodpecker, one seen at nest entrance but I was in a hurry and didn't stop to investigate.
22. Whip-poor-will, flushed from under junipers time and again but failed to find nest.
23. Western Night Hawk.
24. Hummingbird.
25. Arkansas Kingbird, n-4, nest with full complement of eggs in latter part of May.
26. Western Black Phoebe, nest found 10 feet up in cliffs with five young.
27. Western Wood Pewee, first noted on Juniper Butte.
28. Least Flycatcher, 2n-4, n-5, the first two sets found in a brush pile and the third one found 6 feet up in a small juniper snug against the trunk.
29. Horned Lark, young seen running over the fields but failed to find a single nest.
30. American Magpie, 1-6, 1-8, sets completed in early April.
31. Rocky Mountain Jay, seen on trip through mountains.
32. Oregon Jay, seen in fringe of timber. Resident claimed he found this bird nesting in the junipers while the snow was still on the ground.
33. Western Meadowlark, 2n-4, 2-5. Plentiful but the nests very difficult to find.
34. American Raven, one nest found in cliffs twenty feet up containing five young, another located but not investigated.
35. Lewis Woodpecker, nest located in an old rotten pine stub 60 feet up but I could not climb it without climbers.
36. Clarke Nutcracker, seen in fringe of timber and believe they nested close by.
37. Bullocks Oriole, n-5, taken in juniper on Juniper Butte.
38. Brewers Blackbird, 2n-4, in willows along irrigation ditch.
39. Western Vesper Sparrow.
40. Gambel's Sparrow.

41. Western Chipping Sparrow, 2, n-4, both in junipers.

42. Oregon Junco. Bird surprised with straw in beak on Juniper Butte.

43. Western Sage Sparrow, 2, n-3. Three is all these birds lay. Full sets from April 20 to May 15th.

44. Rusty Songsparrow, along water ways.

45. Pine Siskin, in timber fringe.

46. Oregon Towhee, n-4, one set of 4 eggs, taken at the foot of a sage brush and about twenty feet from a water hole.

47. Black-headed Grosbeak, seen first in shrubbery at the foot of cliffs.

48. Cliff Swallow.

49. Barn Swallow.

50. California Shrike, 2, n-7, n-6. To my opinion a bird whose beneficial qualities far outweigh his harmful qualities. I saw no evidence of murder on his part and as they were plentiful I had many opportunities to study him. He killed more grasshoppers and impaled them (or those he didn't eat up on the spot) than any other insectivorous bird I observed during the summer.

51. Yellow Warbler, nested in willows along the watercourses.

52. Nevada Sage Thrasher, 2, n-4, n-3, n-5, a typical sage land bird. I never see him mentioned in any publication. Have any of the Oologist's readers an acquaintanceship with this bird?

53. Rock Wren.

54. Canyon Wren.

55. Parkman's Wren.

56. Oregon Chickadee.

57. Western Robin, n-5, one egg unfortunately broken in preparing. First set of five I have ever found.

58. Western Bluebird, n-6.

59. House Finch.

60. American Dipper, fairly common along the watercourses. A more interesting bird I never watched. His

mastery over the water was simply marvelous.

61. Mt. Chickadee, found in fringe of timber.

62. Ruby-crowned Kinglet, found along the river and one noted as I passed through mountains.

63. Great Blue Heron, noted fishing along the waterways.

64. American Sparrowhawk, 1-4, a very beautiful set found in the cavity of a live juniper the entrance, being four feet from the ground.

65. Tree Duck. Mr. Allen reported two pair as nesting near his place on the Metolius River.

66. Duck Hawk. The old and four young found in Crooked R. Canyon about the middle of July.

67. Sharp-shinned Hawk, 2-3 in junipers. Similar to Red-tail.

L. R. Howsley,  
The Dalles, Ore.

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#### A Rare Sight

I had the pleasure of observing a very unusual sight this morning (October 24, 1917) at 7:45 as I was going to work. I saw thirty-five Vultures in one flock. They were possibly two hundred feet high and I could not say positive whether they were the Turkey Vulture or Black Vulture, but am much inclined to think they were the Turkey. I think this will exceed the combined number of individual Vultures I have observed for the last two years. In former years I usually found four to six nests every season, but the last two years I have not found or heard of any being found near here.

C. B. Vandercook,  
Odin, Ill.

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#### Goldfinches Wanted

Rev. P. B. Peabody, of Blue Rapids, Ks., wants any of our readers in the Rocky Mountain region that have Goldfinches breeding within their neighborhood to communicate with him.

### Cowbird Study In Iowa

By Emerson A. Stoner

The writer's study of the breeding habits of birds was begun without the aid of books, and the first two nests I found containing cowbirds' eggs sorely puzzled me.

It is well known to oologists that *Molothrus ater*, the cowbird's scientific name (meaning in Greek "black vagabond"), does not build a nest of its own, but parasitically deposits its eggs in the nests of other birds who hatch the eggs and rear the young of the intruder.

My first eggs of this bird I found on June 14th, 1906. The nest was a Scarlet Tanager's, and contained three Cowbird and one Tanager eggs. The female Tanager was on the nest and the male close at hand. Not knowing anything about Cowbirds, I immediately recorded in my notebook a set of four eggs of the Tanager. The difference in the ground color of the eggs the Tanager's a light greenish blue with brown blotches and the Cowbird's, white with brown blotches, —I pondered over for a while, and in my ignorance finally decided that the blue ones must hatch out female Tanagers and the white ones male Tanagers, or vice versa. Such are the dangers of accepting notes and data written by amateur oologists.

On the same date as above, about fifty feet away from the Tanager's nest above referred to, I found an empty Wood Thrush's nest. Both of these nests were on horizontal limbs of white oaks by the side of a foot path running through a small ravine. The Wood Thrush's nest I again visited on June 24th, and found it to contain one Wood Thrush's egg and three of the same species of bird that had laid its eggs in the Tanager's nest. Naturally, I called this later set in my

note book "one egg of the Thrush and three of the Tanager.

But I began to grow doubtful about such shiftless nesting, and during the summer I had access to some bird books in the City Library, and through the study of these I straightened out my problems. Cowbirds had laid three eggs in the Tanager's nest, and three eggs in the Thrush's nest, and the rightful owners of these two nests were sitting on and hatching the eggs.

Since the experience with these first two nests containing Cowbird's eggs, I have discovered quite a number of other nests, some containing eggs and others young of the Cowbird. I give below some of the species in whose nests the bird lays its eggs, together with the locations and seasons of the year during which the Cowbird breeds. All of the nests were found in the city limits of Des Moines, Iowa.

June 1, 1907—Nest of Wood Thrush, 15 feet up in crotch of oak tree. Contained 4 Cowbird eggs, 1 Wood Thrush egg.

June 4, 1907—Nest of Wood Thrush, 6 feet up in low bushes in orchard. Contained 4 Cowbird eggs, 3 Wood Thrush eggs.

June 7, 1907—Nest of Wood Thrush, 6 feet up in crotch of white oak sapling. Contained 5 Cowbird eggs, 1 Wood Thrush egg.

June 11, 1907—Nest of Wood Thrush. Contained 5 Cowbird eggs, none of Wood Thrush.

June 27, 1907—Nest of Wood Thrush, 4 feet up in low bushes. Contained 1 Cowbird egg, 2 Wood Thrush eggs (badly incubated).

May 20, 1908—Nest of Wood Thrush, 3 feet up in low bushes. Contained 4 Cowbird eggs, 1 Wood Thrush egg. On the following day this nest contained one additional egg of the Cowbird, and the Wood Thrush's egg was gone.



May 26, 1908—Nest of Wood Thrush. 25 feet from ground in crotch of box elder tree. Contained 3 eggs of Cowbird, 2 of Wood Thrush.

May 26, 1908—Nest of Wood Thrush. 7 feet from ground in small bush. Contained 3 Cowbird eggs, none of Wood Thrush.

June 3, 1908—Nest of Wood Thrush, 10 feet from ground in crotch of box elder tree. Contained 1 Cowbird egg, 3 Wood Thrush eggs.

June 11, 1908—Nest of Yellow Warbler. 3½ feet from ground in coral berry bushes. Contained 5 Warbler eggs and one Cowbird's egg which had been covered up in the bottom of nest leaving the top partly exposed.

June 29, 1908—Nest of Wood Thrush, 6 feet from ground in bush. Contained 5 Cowbird eggs, none of Wood Thrush. Below the nest on the ground was one broken egg of the Wood Thrush, and one broken Cowbird egg.

May 20, 1909—Nest of Phoebe, under bridge. Found the remains of Phoebe's and Cowbird's eggs directly beneath freshly built nest.

May 26, 1909—Nest of Wood Thrush. 5 feet up in bushes. Contained 2 Cowbird eggs, 1 Wood Thrush egg. Beneath the nest was the remains of an additional Thrush's egg.

May 25, 1910—Nest of Brown Thrasher, 5 feet up in crotch of hawthorne. Contained 1 Cowbird egg, 2 Brown Thrasher eggs. Beneath nest was the remains of another Thrasher's egg.

May 8, 1912—Nest of Phoebe. 20 feet from ground under projecting roof of barn. Contained 1 Cowbird egg, 2 Phoebe's eggs.

May 13, 1912—Nest of Cardinal. 3½ feet up in vines along river. Contained 3 Cowbird eggs, 1 egg of Cardinal. Beneath nest was a perfect egg of Cardinal unbroken.

June 5, 1912—Nest of Towhee. On ground at base of a small hawthorne sprout. Contained 3 Cowbird eggs, 2 Towhee eggs.

May 6, 1914—Nest of Towhee. On ground at foot of large ash heap. Contained 4 Cowbird eggs, 3 Towhee's eggs. One of the Towhee's eggs was slightly pecked and outside of nest on ground, probably done by Cowbird.

May 15, 1914—Nest of Brown Thrasher, 5 feet up among small branches of hawthorne. Contained 1 Cowbird egg, 4 Brown Thrasher's eggs.

May 25, 1914—Nest of Yellow Warbler, 3 feet up in coral berry bush. Contained 1 Cowbird egg only, partially imbedded. Later, 5 Warbler eggs and one more Cowbird's egg were added.

June 2, 1914—Nest of Bell's Vireo. 2 feet above ground on end of a limb of hawthorne. Contained 2 Cowbird eggs in nest, and one in perfect condition on ground below nest. Previous to this visit, on May 29th, this nest contained one egg of the Vireo, which was missing on June 2nd.

June 6, 1914—Nest of Wood Thrush. Contained 3 Cowbird's eggs, 1 Wood Thrush egg. The Cowbird's eggs were nearly ready to hatch, while the Wood Thrush's egg was comparatively fresh.

#### Evening Grosbeake

Pittsfield, Maine, Dec. 7, 1918.

The Evening Grosbeaks are again reported in Maine (Oxford County). Last spring they were said to have remained until nearly June. This species is rather uncertain in its visits, the winter of 1899-1890 was one in which it was reported from practically all of New England, being first reported in December 1889; more particularly in January, February and March 1890, and when an adult male was taken at Orono Feb. 28, 1890, also

one taken at Bangor March 18 as well as one at Brewer the same year. Their food while here consists of the buds of the maple, elm, apple and the seeds of those apples which still remain on the trees, the berries of the mountain ash and similar fruit.

H. H. Johnson.

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#### Concerning the Black-throated Buntings of This Locality.

The Black-throated Bunting (*Spiza Americana*) started to invade this locality about fifteen years ago and kept returning every spring in increasing numbers to rear its young, nearly always building its nests in bushes or vines off of the ground, until the spring of 1916. That spring they went through here by the thousands but none stayed to nest. In one pasture in the outskirts of town I estimated that three thousand birds stayed until the first part of May and then for some unaccountable reason they all left and this spring not a one stopped at all. The spring of 1916 several pairs stayed in promising localities and I thought they were going to nest but by the latter part of May they were all gone. In the spring of 1915 Mr. George Finlay Simmons and myself in our daily walks would find from two or three to a dozen Black-throated Bunting nests so why should they all pass through here the last two springs without a single pair remaining. We had plenty of rain during the spring of 1915 and the wild flowers and cover for the birds were all that could be desired. The grass and field daisies in most pastures was waist high but this spring and the spring of 1916 we had very little rain and consequently very little undergrowth so the drouth of the last two years might be the cause of the Bunting giving us the go-by.

Elton Perry, D. D. S.  
Austin, Texas,

#### UNSPOTTED EGGS OF RED SHOULDERED HAWK

April 15, 1917 I found a red shouldered hawk's nest placed in a crotch of three limbs in a red oak 60 feet up in a swampy patch of woodland. Putting on my climbers, I reached the nest. It was a crows' nest which had been rebuilt but was very flat within. Now this nest which contained three eggs was the first and only one I ever found which contained immaculate eggs. All three were a pale bluish white without spots. One of the eggs measured 2.19 x 1.15. According to Bendire a plain set is very unusual. It is the only set I have found that way. The red-tail often lays plain eggs but not the red-shouldered near Montclair, N. J. I have a large series of photographs of both the eggs and young but as a friend took them with his camera I am not at liberty to have them published.

Cedric U. Atkinson,  
Princeton University.

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#### SUSPENDED NIDIFICATION OF THE YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO

On June 24, 1904, at Frankford, Philadelphia, Pa., I found a Yellow-billed Cuckoo's nest in an alder thicket, situated several feet up in a vine-covered bush, which was not laid in for twenty days or nearly three weeks, not until July 14, when it held two fresh eggs. I visited this nest several times and concluded that it had been deserted and naturally was astonished to find it occupied after the elapsion of almost three weeks.

Richard F. Miller.

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#### On the Food of the Marsh Hawk

Reading J. H. Bowles "Notes on the Food of Certain Birds of Prey," in the March "Oologist" brought to my mind a certain nest of Marsh Hawk that I found in early June 1915. I had left the eggs intending to get back later

and photograph the young birds. This I was unable to do until July 3rd when they were nearly full grown and ready to leave the nest.

When going to the nest and when about 100 rods from it I found the female dead and hanging by the feet in a stump fence. She had evidently been shot by some one about two or three weeks before and hung there.

As I approached the nest I found one of the young ones in the flags dead and with maggots working in the flesh but the other young (three in number) were very much alive.

It could not have been for lack of food that the young one had died as in and around the nest were parts of eight meadow mice, a young rabbit, a Song Sparrow and two nestling Meadowlarks; also part of several other birds and more meadow mice that were in such a bad state of decay that I was unable to identify them.

The male flew around and made a great fuss while I was at the nest and the amount of food there showed that he was fully equal to the task of providing for his family without help from the female.

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#### Late Departure of the Bank Swallow

On September 28, 1918 two of my friends visited the Susquehanna River on a bird trip. The place where we first saw the river, was the village of Long Level, about five miles south of the town of Wrightsville.

Wrightsville is eleven miles east of York. At this point, the river is about two miles wide. It is a favorite place for Swallows, especially in the fall. When we visited the place on Sept. 28th, Tree Swallows were common and Bank Swallows uncommon; but only one Barn Swallow was seen. The day was clear and rather warm. Bank Swallows were observed at several different places between Long Level.

We observed our first Bank Swallow while we were on the river in a boat at Long Level. It flew very near the boat several times, giving us a fine opportunity to see the band on the breast and the brownish upper parts. Most of the other Bank Swallows observed that day were perching on telephone wires.

According to Nov. 1917 number of Bird Lore, the average date of departure of the Bank Swallows at Washington, D. C., is Sept. 14th, and the latest date of the last one observed Sept 19th. The same number of Bird Lore, also states that the latest date of the one observed at Philadelphia, Pa., is Sept. 30th. Sept. 28th is the latest date the Bank Swallow has been observed in York county, to my knowledge.

Arthur Farquhar.

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#### Hawks and Owls

Was offered 42 dead Great Horned Owls this winter by a party in Orange County, N. Y. It is surprising so many could be taken in that part of the state. They are fairly common in that neighborhood but they must have been extremely plentiful in comparison to their usual numbers to get that many in such a short time (probably two or three weeks as it was mid-winter and they could be frozen to keep from spoiling) so as to be in good condition for mounting. In addition to this he had 22 dead Goss Hawks and other hawks. All of which is unusual for this part of New York state.

The neighborhood of Pepaction, Delaware County, N. Y. is fairly good collecting ground for hawks and owls. A party in describing it says his friend living there always has dead birds of these kinds hanging on the side of his barn (but am sorry to say he shoots all kinds regardless whether beneficial

or not, and has no use for them when they are dead, except to show what he thinks is doing a good service in ridding the community of them. When they start to smell they are thrown away). Red-tail Hawks are the most plentiful but all the common kinds are there. There are a good many Fish Hawks (Ospreys) along the river, and there are a couple of big trees on the edge that are favorite resting places and they alight into them when they come down the river.

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#### The Ruby-throated Hummer

In the April 1918 Oologist it was quite interesting to note the report of Two Ruby-throated Hummers' nests being placed on the same branch; as some years ago I had the same experience but as the nests were not photographed I had never reported it to any bird publication, feeling some doubt about those with knowledge of the Hummer's habits crediting such a report without the proof beyond question. In the case observed by me the same branch was used for two successive seasons and two young were reared each year. The first nest was seen May 2, 1900 and on that date contained one fresh egg, on May 17th two young. The second nest was first noticed on May 20th, 1901 and contained two young nearly ready to leave nest. The site was a small maple located in an old pine field, both nests were well made and the old nest was well preserved though flattened. The new nest being located three inches nearer the body of the tree than old nest.

G. G. Reeves,  
Winston Salem, N. C.

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#### Nesting Birds

Nesting time is by far the most interesting period for bird students and much of my spare time for the past

ten years has been spent watching them with their nest building and family cares. In this time many interesting things have been observed even among our common door yard birds, only two of which I shall mention. Both were unusual in my observations. On May 20, 1914 a Woodthrush was seen feeding four young in a nest far out on a large white oak limb about 15 feet from the ground. Again on July 4th of the same year while passing this site I noticed a wood thrush sitting close on the same nest which seemed not to have even been add to and on July 14th there were four unfeathered young in the nest. Again near this same place April 12, 1917 (early for young birds) a Robin was noticed feeding three young that could raise their heads above the top of nest and were seen on the ground nearby ten days later being fed by the parent birds, then to my surprise on May 18th while passing this nest it was noticed that it was occupied by a Robin again, (May 30, 1917). There were four nearly fledged young in this nest. I have never before known the Woodthrush or Robin to use the same nest twice. It would be of interest to know if others have known these birds to use the same nest for two broods.

G. G. Reeves,  
Winston Salem, N. C.

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#### The I. O. U.

(International Oologists Union)

This Union is being established for the purpose of mutual assistance to Oologists in all parts of the world, especially in regard to the sale and exchange of specimens.

The names and address of members, as they join, will be published in a Monthly Bulletin which will be posted to all members and available to members only. Members will also



have the right, on being admitted, and thereafter once a year, if they remain members, to a free 25-word advertisement in the Bulletin and they can also advertise in the Bulletin at any time at the rate of one cent per word per insertion.

The subscription for the current year, expiring on the 31st December next, will be one dollar, and for the whole of next year  $1\frac{1}{4}$  dollars (five shillings). Subscriptions will always run for the full calendar year. There will be no reduction to those who join in the later months of a year but such new members will receive the back numbers of the Bulletin for the year in which they join. On the renewal of subscriptions each year a complete list of members will be published, probably in the February issue.

It is hoped that the first issue of the Bulletin will be on 1st June, 1919, and thereafter as near the first day of each month as may be possible.

Every effort will be made to restrict membership of the Union to the most reputable collectors and members will be asked to maintain the status of the Union by reporting in confidence anything prejudicial to its interests. The founder of the Union reserves the right to refuse membership without giving a reason or to defer admission to membership until satisfied as to *bona fide*.

The nucleus of the membership will be formed by collectors of undoubted position in the egg world who respond to the founder's request for support in establishing the Union. Candidates for membership with whom the founder has not had relations will be required to give satisfactory references or to be proposed and seconded for membership by existing members. It will be seen that this condition must be enforced in the common interest.

Those wishing to join should send

in their names and addresses, and copy for their free 25-word advertisement, with a Money Order for one dollar accompanied by the names of two leading collectors who would be prepared to vouch for their good faith. They should also give an undertaking to treat the contents of the Bulletin as confidential, for it will be seen that if the information be available to non-members the purposes of the Union will not be served. In a word, members will be asked to guard jealously the information secured to them and the safeguards with which it is treated in their own interests but, at the same time, to do their best to extend the membership by the introduction of reputable new members.

All communications to K. L. Skinner, Brooklands Estate Office, Weybridge, England.

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#### An Interesting Ornithological Enterprise

As one of the patrons of the Committee of the Belgian Order of St. John of Jerusalem, I am taking the liberty of quoting a few paragraphs from a letter received by me under the date of the 24th of December, 1918, from the Order's Honorable Secretary, Dr. J. G. Smets-Mondez. American ornithologists will be especially interested in what this organization has planned, and in the fact that it has issued a general request to the members of the American Ornithologists' Union for books and other works on birds for the library it aims to establish.

Doctor Smets-Mondez states that "Our Order contemplates erecting a hospital near Brussels, in order to attend, with an English speaking staff, Americans or Britishers, who happen to be ill during their stay in Belgium, and who would thus avoid crossing

the sea in view of being nursed at home.

"Such a hospital does not exist today, and it will be all the more needed as English speaking people will be much more numerous in Belgium than before the war.

"We already have in view some suitable sites quite able to provide a large garden, which we contemplate using as an Ornithological Park, with access to the public, of course with charge for admission.

"The receipts taken of admissions and sales of eggs and birds, after deduction of the working expenses, will be given up as a contribution for the maintenance of the hospital.

"This Park will certainly be of great interest to the people of a large capital like Brussels, deprived of a zoological garden, and by this means will induce them to support the hospital itself.

"The Park will therefore contribute to the improvement of Ornithological Science, to its diffusion among people of every class, to the protection of birds, and will also support a charity worthy of American and British interests."

Doctor Smets-Mondez is careful to point out that this Order is in no way connected with the one of the same name in England; he is also willing to purchase certain ornithological works by American authorities, in that a nucleus of a library may be formed. In sending these, they should invariably be registered.

The London Committee is Registered under the War Charities Act of 1916.

Among the distinguished patrons of this Belgian Order we may note the names of His Grace the Duke of Montrose; the Most Hon. the Marquis of Salisbury; His Grace the Archbishop of Armaugh; the Lord Primate of Ire-

land; the Rt. Revs. the Lord Bishops of Birmingham, Chelmsford, Glasgow, Meath, Killaloe, Burnley, Croydon, Hull, Knaresborough, and Thetford.

Those from France are Mons. P. Deschanel, Chairman of the French Parliament; Mons. L. Barthou, Ex-Premier of the French Cabinet; Mons. Lamy, Permanent Secretary of the French Academy, and Mons. P. Loti, of the French Academy.

Prominent among the patrons of Belgium may be noted the names of the Count Goblet d'Alviella, who is the Vice-President of the Senate and a member of the Belgium Cabinet; Senator H. La Fontaine, and Mr. E. Vandervelde, M. P., also a member of the Cabinet of Belgium.

In closing I may say that the Post Office address of Dr. J. G. Smet-Mondez, the Hon. Secretary of the Belgian Order of St. John, is "La Hetraie, Park of Genval-les-Eaux (Brabant) Belgium.

It is certainly very encouraging to contemplate such a movement as this in war-stricken Belgium, combining as it does the encouragement of popular ornithology with efforts along the lines of humanity and charitable endeavor. May we not, with advantage, profit by the example here in the United States? Surely the project would be a most commendable one.

Faithfully yours,

R. W. Shufeldt,  
3356 18th Street,  
Washington, D. C.

January 18, 1919.

#### Game Decreasing In Alaska

Do you know that the Kenai Peninsula, in Alaska, perhaps once the most wonderful big game country in the world, and home of the biggest moose the world ever raised, is going to be crossed by the new Alaska Railroad our Government is building to

Fairbanks? This will not only finish the Kenai country, but it will open up and finish very soon that other wonderful game field round the foot of Mount McKinley, in spite of the new reserve there.

Already friends in Alaska write that the white sheep, Dall's sheep, a grand game animal, is growing much scarcer. They say it is because of the general practice the inhabitants have of killing it for dog food. And yet but lately we thought Alaska was a long way off and needed civilizing! It would seem that Americanism is pretty generally in sway there right now.

We are indeed a strange and wonderful people when it comes to the administration of our own natural wealth? Do you, for instance, know that most of the big game we have left in the United States is packed around a few of the National Parks, Monuments and Forests? As to its preservation, everything seems to be carefully arranged so that the game cannot possibly be preserved.

There are only two Federal Game Refuges in our National Forests. There are State Game Refuges on National Forests in six different states—get that clearly in mind if you can; and in these refuges state laws prevail as to the game, though the National Government controls the timber and grazing.

This means that the United States takes in sheep on the Forest Reserves and that the sheep kill out all the game. It also means that the officials at Washington are left in a perfect position for passing the buck and explaining why they do thus and so.

In the sixteen National Parks the United States retains the right to protect the wild game in only seven! Do you know that? Of the thirty-four National Monuments, twenty-one are

run by the National Park Service, eleven by the Forestry Reserve, and two by the War Department. It is too bad the Navy Department hasn't any!—Saturday Evening Post.—W. A. Strong, San Jose, Cal.

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#### Books Received

"The Journal of the Museum of Comparative Oology," Vol. 1 Numbers 1 and 2 March 26, 1919." This new publication in the field of Oology formerly occupied exclusively in North America by "The Oologist" is welcome at our desk. The Museum of Comparative Oology located at Santa Barbara, California, is too well known to all oologists to need introduction or comment. The publication of a Journal by this institution, we believe, will result in much good if the standard of excellence shown in the first double number is maintained. It contains many half tones illustrative of the buildings, cases, manner of arrangement and preparation of specimens, all of which are of much educational value to the average oologist; besides illustrations of the manner "how to do it" and "how not to do it" in which comparison is made of the right and wrong methods of collecting. A description of the Museum, where it is located, its equipment, purposes and ambitions are likewise set forth, together with lists of its Board of Visitors and Patrons.

It is to be hoped that his publication will continue and The Oologist is glad to divide the field with so worthy an associate. W. Leon Dawson is the editor, and he has our congratulations on his first production.

The "Audubon Bulletin, Winter 1918, 1919, Illinois Audubon Society." This Bulletin, like its predecessors is a well gotten up and splendidly illustrated exposition of the activities of the Audubon Society in the state of Il-

linois, containing very readable articles on the subject of Bird Protection; not the least of which is "The need of forest and game preservations in Southern Illinois," illustrated by photographs taken by Robert Ridge-way.

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#### Old Observations

July 1915—Great Blue Heron on Averill Park, Renneselear Co., N. Y. standing at edge of pond, got up and flew clumsily away.

August 1915—Black Crowned Night Herons at Freeport, Long Island, flew in flocks of four and five after sunset making a quacking noise.

September 1915—American Short-eared Owl at Neponsit Rockaway Point, Long Island, sitting on a real estate sign at the edge of the town. Allowed me to approach closely.

April 1916—A flock of about 100 ducks (not identified) sitting in the water of the Susquehanna River near Williamsport, Pa. These birds were of some specie that dive for their food. They were close to the Market St. bridge over which men and wagons passed all during the day. Seemed to know spring shooting was stopped and they were safe.

I received a Barrows Golden Eye from Maine in January 1918 to be mounted. They are said to be unusual for that state.

Mounted a Woodcock from Long Island last season, they are getting very scarce there.

M. J. Hoffman,  
Brooklyn, N. Y.

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#### Ducks Are Scarce This Year

After my rich (Uncle Sam) has given me a final discharge and a check for my trouble, I am back at dear old Lake Worth again, and will do some collecting as usual.

I have noticed this year that the

flight of ducks was not up to its standard. From my observation and other reports they are getting scarcer or have changed their migration routes. I hope and long for a closed season on all water birds for ten years. I like to hunt ducks as well as anybody but there is a limit to all things, and this willful slaughter of ducks must be stopped or we will have no ducks in the next few years. There was not one third as many ducks on the lake this year as before. During the fall and winter ducks were observed in bunches of from twenty-five to a hundred. But there are small bunches of ducks to what has been observed here in the last year or two. This spring I saw one large bunch of about five-hundred ducks of different kinds and this is the most ducks observed this year at any one time.

The ducks most plentiful this season were Ruddys, Scamp, and Mallard and if they don't learn what bullets and shots are, there won't be any left. They will let a boat loaded with hunters run right through them and not fly but dive, then when they stick their heads up, bang goes off a duck head.

I have observed many Robins, but not as many as usual. I argue with these small bird hunters. I ask them what's the use for you to shoot a Robin or Waxwing and they say, "Oh, there is plenty of them." There may be plenty of them but I have migration lists for a few years back and they sure differ and the number of birds are scarcer every year. If the bird and animal slaughters ate every thing they killed, it would be different proposition. What is the use to kill them for the flies to blow. I kill mighty few but what few I kill not a one goes to waste. I prepare them for future use to study, so this will be of some benefit to the world.



The Hawks and Owls are disappearing fast, as ever fellow that can carry a gun are out after them. The hunters say, "There goes that Hawk or Owl that is stealing chickens every night." Then bang goes their gun and drop goes the bird and maybe the Hawk or Owl has never seen a chicken, let alone eat one.

Next take our Turkey and Black Vultures that never do any harm. These said hunters will kill one to see it fall and then say with pride, I have helped my country by destroying that disease spreading Buzzard. When if this hunter would use a little sense, he might know that a Vulture destroys more disease than he spreads.

Cedar Waxwings were observed ten to fifteen at a time. Several years ago one hundred would be a small bunch. Cardinals are holding their own, but a red spot makes a good target for children. Coots have nearly disappeared from the lake and they used to be plentiful. They have another play ground but they are not here in large numbers.

Blue birds and Chickadees are about the same. Wren are not as plentiful as before. Cranes and Herons are on the down hill go. Belted Kingfishers are getting wise enough to tell when they are shot at. Gold Finches were observed this year. Juncos and Towhees are still passing by and passing away.

We still have the birds and animals but they can't last always so all get together and don't kill any bird or animal without they are preserved or put to some use.

Ramon Graham,  
Ft. Worth, Tex.

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### Birds' Tongues

A German naturalist has gathered some curious data with reference to the tongues of birds. As he points

out, many persons suppose that Woodpeckers use their sharp-pointed tongues as darts with which to transfix their prey. It is true that the woodpecker, like the hummingbird, can dart out its tongue with extraordinary rapidity and that its mouth is furnished with an elaborate mechanism for this purpose, yet investigation shows that the object of their swift motion is only to catch the prey, not to pierce it. For the purpose of holding the captured victim the woodpecker's tongue is furnished with stick secretion.

Inasmuch at it possesses the power of imitating speech, it is not surprising to learn that the parrot's tongue resembles that of a man more closely than any bird's tongue does. It is not because the parrot is more intelligent than many other birds, but because its tongue is better suited for articulation than theirs, that it is able to amuse us with its mimicry.

In some respects the humming birds tongue is the most remarkable of all. It is double nearly from end to end, so that the little creature is able to grasp its insect prey very much as if its mouth were furnished with a pair of fingers.—The Classmate.—W. A. Strong, San Jose, Cal.

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### Notes from Camp Graham

Verlain Daniels found a Screech Owl today, March 30th, 1919, setting on four eggs. He took the bird from the nest and to his surprise she was sitting on four eggs and a large wasp. Also collected a set of Red Tail Hawks.

Earl Moffat of Marshall found a Kingfisher digging a hole in a bank about two hundred feet from my Camp. He also collected a set of Crows.

Jake Zeitlin collected on March 30 a set of Screech Owls, and a nice set

of Plumbeous Chickadees. He also found two Tufted Titmouse nests. Lieut. Woodruff Yeates collected a set of Turkey Vultures March 9, 19 . I collected a set of Plumbeous Chickadees March 23, 19 .

Ramon Graham,  
Ft. Worth, Tex.

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**"Millimeter Races"**

Editor, The Oologist,

Dear Sir: Desiring a correspondent, near Vancouver, I ran over the list of sets offered in your magazine for December by Mr. Munro, of Okanagan Landing, B. C. Finding on that list that sets of "Western," (Bale), Goldfinch were offered, I wrote it all down with real joy. For I have been trying these two years to secure a single syllable of valid information concerning the nesting of this "millimeter race." Eagerly I prepared to write Mr. Munro, when all at once it occurred to me to look up the respective breeding ranges of the two western representatives of the Genus "Spinus," or "Astragalinus," or whatsoever may happen to be the scientific name of the Goldfinches at the present hour! Then I found what I should have remembered without looking it up; that the domain of the "Pallid" Goldfinch is wholly inland the Goldfinch of the Coast Region being salicamans. Imagine my chagrin! Kindly grant me the courtesy of asking that any of your readers in the Rocky Mountain region that have the Goldfinch breeding within their domain will kindly communicate with me.

To show the absurd futility of some scientific classifications I might say, that a male Goldfinch kindly sent me right from the heart of the breeding habitat of the Pallid Goldfinch by Mr. Mitchell, of Saskatchewan, proved to be just "tristis." Moreover, let me

whisper it in your left ear, very gently, I have been informed from headquarters in regard to specimens sent for sub-specific identification, with the tags removed for the express purpose of avoiding bias, in the identifying, that it would be necessary to give the locality from which the specimens came before they could be identified! What do you boys think of all that?

P. B. Peabody,  
Blue Rapids, Kansas.

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**Egg Hunters, Hunting German in France**

Lieut. G. E. Maxon, Rufus Lackland and Charles McLendon, my old time collecting friends have arrived safely over seas. Another egg hunting friend of mine is finishing up his time at the officer's training school. He is Woodruff Yeates. The fellows will have some datas on eggs if they get to do any collecting over there. It would be some queer data, saying that a certain kind of Wren's nest was found in the skull of a German, in a deserted trench.

Ramon Graham,  
Fort Worth, Tex.

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**WESTERN RED-TAIL**

March 22, 1894. W. A. Strong, Tulare, Cal. Four lightly clouded over entire surface with light colored small spots.

2.46 x 1.94, 2.43 x 1.92, 2.38 x 1.92, 2.37 x 1.89.

W. A. Strong,  
San Jose, Cal.

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Editor.

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WANTED—Volumes 1 and 2 of Thorburn's British Birds. Very handsome price will be paid for these two volumes. ANSEL B. MILLER, Springs, Pennsylvania.

WANTED—American Ornithology Vol. VI; Oologist Vol. XXVI, 1-2-4; Ornithologist and Oologist Vol. XI; Various numbers of Condor. Have duplicates of Journal Maine Ornithological Society; early Oologist; Ornithologist and Oologist; Osprey; Nidologist, etc. H. H. JOHNSON, Pittsfield, Maine.

EXCHANGE—I wish to exchange a few Nature pictures for the same, or for insects, cucoons. Will also sell or buy for cash. Wish to buy good compound microscope. What have you? Write. HUBERT R. WISWELL, Westbrook, Minn.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**

FO RSALE—A High-class collection of Squirrels which I desire to dispose of before entering the American Army. E. H. HAMILTON, 614 Walnut St., Versailles Boro, McKeesport, Pa.

FOR SALE—Loggerhead Sea turtle, Embryos and hatched turtles, mixed stages \$3.00 dozen, small Octopus \$1.00 each. Other Maine specimens collected from Florida this past summer. H. AITKEN, Gen. Del., Philadelphia, Pa.

EXCHANGE—Funston Perfect (animal) Smoker, 20 Onedia Jump Traps (new), eggs in sets. Want eggs in sets and singles. LYLE D. MILLER, E. Claridon, Ohio.

FOR SALE—Live pupae of moths and butterflies. Price-list on application, for delivery November 1, 1918. Also entomological supplies of all kinds. LOUIS S. KOHLER, 47 Wagner Place, Hawthorne, N. J.

FOR SALE—Two handsome Virginia Red Cedar cabinets suitable for eggs or skins. Also one smaller Walnut Cabinet, cheap. WHARTON HUBER, Gwynedd Valley, Pa.

PERSONAL—Would like to become acquainted with active Oologist in New York City, Westchester Co., or nearby, with view to expeditions next spring. L. C. S. please write. RAYMOND FULLER, White Plains, N. Y., R. F. D. No. 1.

FOR EXCHANGE—Large showy India moths. Atacus Atlas, Antheraea Pernyi, Actias selene, Caligula cachara, (Selene lynx Hybrid). Also many natives. Want A No. 1 set of 288, 364. A. J. POTTER, East Killingly, Conn.

The Oologist is the best medium of exchange for Oologists Ornithologists etc., in the entire U. S.

Who has skins or mounted fox squirrels, colors, Black, White, Gray, Black Yellow, Black; Cinnamon mixed with black or pure white squirrels. EARL HAMILTON, Versailles, Boro., McKeesport, Pa.

I want to get into touch with young collector in the Ozark region for the coming summer's collecting. JOHNSON NEFF, Marionsville, Mo.

FOR EXCHANGE—One fine CONLEY 4x5 Plate Camera, 17 inch Bellows. Adopted for close up Nature Study. Want good 25-20 or 32-20 RIFLE, or Books on OOLOGY. EARL MOFFET, Marshall, Texas.

BOOKS WANTED—Orchids of New England, by Baldwin; Our Native Orchids, by Gibson; Ferns of North America by Eaton. Please state price. H. MOUSLEY, Hatley, Quebec. 1-1t

WANTED—One B. & L. Model C. double Dissolving Lens. New or second hand stereopticon Machine in exchange for personally collected specimens of Western Birds Eggs. Mrs. A. O. TRANGANZA, No. 624 E. Sixth St. South, Salt Lake City, Utah. 1-2t

**FOR SALE**

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Paul G. Howes      -      -      -      Assistant Curator



# THE OÖLOGIST.

BIRDS--NESTS--EGGS  
TAXIDERM Y

VOL. XXXVI No. 6.

ALBION, N. Y., JUNE 1, 1919.

WHOLE No. 383



Black Headed Gulls

## BRIEF SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wanted, Exchange, For Sale, Etc., inserted in this department at 35 cents for each 25 words for one issue; each additional word 1 cent. No notices inserted for less than 25 cents.

We will advertise the skins, nests, eggs, or mounted specimens of North American Birds for sale for persons having a lawful authority under the law to deal in the same. These columns are for the use of those desiring to make bona fide exchanges of such specimens for scientific collecting purposes only.—EDITOR.

All answering advertisements in these columns mention "The Oologist," and thereby help us, as well as the advertiser and yourself.

## BIRDS

Send me the list of A 1 Bird Skins that you have to dispose of by exchange or otherwise. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

WANTED—One or two young pigeon hawks or Richardson Merlins. Must be absolutely uninjured and no important feathers broken. Will pay a fair price for good birds. Write me when nest is located for instructions as to rearing and shipping. Would take wild-caught birds of the year or old birds if clean moulted. D. R. GRAY, Rockdale, Tenn.

FOR EXCHANGE—A large list of A1 North American species of skins for specimens desired in my collection. C. W. CHAMBERLAIN, 36 Lincoln St., Boston, Mass.

ALL PERSONS having A-1 skins in pairs of any of the North American Jays send list. I will pay the highest price for those that I need. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

WANTED—To correspond with active field collectors, and exchange bird skins. Especially want Shore birds from Missouri and Kansas. Write E. GORDON ALEXANDER, Lexington, Mo.

WANTED—A pair of living Sand Hill Cranes A. O. U. No. 306, taken north of the center of the U. S. If the birds are only slightly wingtipped this will not matter. For them I will pay a good price. R. M. Barnes, Lacon, Ill.

EXCHANGE—Fine sets of eggs and nests for birds skins from south and east. STANLEY G. JEWETT, Pendleton, Oregon.

FOR EXCHANGE:—Large well-mounted Golden Eagle and American Bittern. I am interested in all Natural History specimens. Write. WALTER STUCK, Jonesboro, Ark.

I desire to exchange bird skins and Butterflies for 20 or 24 Gage Shot Guns, Double Barrel, preferred. Good condition. D. V. HEMBREE, Roswell, Ga.

DATA BLANKS—Send for sample of my data blanks, with your name printed on it. 500 for \$1.00 postpaid. EDWARD S. COOMBS, 243 Franklin St., Boston, Mass.

EXCHANGE—I offer fine skins taken in Virginia, of Canada and Greater Snow Geese, Brant, Whistling Swan, many of the Ducks including European Widgeon, Wide Turkeys and immature Bald Eagles, etc. Make offers in eggs in sets, O&O books, bird skins or cash. Also have good list of eggs in sets to exchange. HAROLD BAILEY, Box 112, Newport News, Va.

## EGGS.

In sending in your exchange notices for nests, skins and eggs, we would appreciate it if you would arrange the numerals in your exchange notice in their numerical order, and not tangle them together hit and miss, as some of our readers are complaining, and we think justly so.

WANTED—Entire collection of Eggs of North American Birds for spot cash. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

WANTED—To correspond with active collectors on or near the Platte River in Nebraska. Address, LYLE FLETCHER, Norton, Kansas. Box 455.

EXCHANGE NOTICE—I desire to get in touch with all active field collectors with a view to exchanging A 1 sets. H. W. CARRIGER, 5185 Trask Street, Oakland, Calif.

Will be glad to hear from reliable collectors and to receive their lists. Have good list to offer including some rare species. RICHARD C. HARLOW, State College, Pa.

WANTED—A-1 Sets of all birds eggs, common or rare, with data, or in broken sets with data. JOHNSON NEFF, Marionville, Mo.

TO EXCHANGE—A limited number of the Famous JACOBS BIRDHOUSES for first class sets, personally collected, and with full data, nests needed with some. J. WARREN JACOBS, Waynesburg, Pa.

Who has sets 240, 244 328, 330? Can offer in exchange sets 57, 249, 264, 337a, 347, 355, 357, 358. DR. ELMER LANGE-IRIN, Crookston, Minn.

FOR EXCHANGE—Bird eggs in sets with data; also nest and eggs. Also wish to buy a pair of Peacock's and hen, or their eggs for propagation. JOHN LARANG, Genesee, Idaho.

FOR EXCHANGE—15 1-1; 31a 1-1; 105.2 1-1; 107 1-1; 108.1 1-1; 116 1-1; 197 1-4; 464 1-4; 474i N-2; 475 1-5; 486 1-5; 533 1-3; 538 1-4; 543 1-3; 560a N-4; 574.1 N-2; 604 1-4; 615 N-5; 622a 1-5; 629a N-4; 646a N-4; 726c N-6; N-5; 741 N-6; 743 N-7; 748a N-7, N-5. J. H. BOWLES, The Woodstock, Tacoma, Wash.

FOR EXCHANGE—Eggs in sets; A. O. U. Nos. 141-143, 146, 197-201, 225 and many others. Also fine Pupae of Samia gloveri. Want eggs in sets live pupae, Butterflies, and Moths in pupae papers. Send list and receive mine. J. W. SUGDEN, 47 S. Eighth St., Salt Lake City, Utah.

**EGGS—Continued**

I will pay the highest cash price for such North American Birds Eggs that I need to complete series in any collection. Send me your lists.

R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

EXCHANGE—Wanted this season's 1919 collected sets. Can use many Common. Cash for same. Send list price per set. Sets for others. HENRY W. DAVIS, Box 844, Atlantic City, N. J.

WANTED—Sets of eggs from original collector. Oregon, Green and Beldings Jay, Prairie and Horned Falcons. I have many Bird magazines for exchange or sale. Want Bird Lore Vol. VII No. 1. C. M. CASE, 306 Blue Hills Ave., Hartford, Conn.

WANTED—Lists of choice sets from reliable collections. I can offer Sandhill Crane, Swallow-tail Kite, Bald and Golden Eagle, Duck Hawk, Snowy Owl and many others. All answered. A. E. PRICE, Grant Park, Ill.

WANTED—Singles or broken sets in quantities, or small lots; also books on Taxidermy, curios, etc. J. E. HARRIS, 259 Maple St., Dayton, Ohio.

FOR EXCHANGE—European and Asiatic sets in exchange for No. American species. C. W. CHAMBERLAIN, 36 Lincoln St., Boston, Mass.

RED CEDAR SAW-DUST—Can supply this ideal tray lining material, clean and sifted, in sacks of half bushel or more. Will exchange for first-class sets and skins desired, on a basis of 60 cents per peck. A. F. GANIER, 1221 17th Ave., S., Nashville, Tenn.

EXCHANGE—Bird skins and eggs, over 100 kinds. Wanted anything. DR. W. S. STRODE, Lewiston, Illinois.

WANTED—A heavy marked set of Sharp-shinned Hawk taken by a reliable collector. Will pay cash or exchange. RALPH W. JACKSON, R. No. 1, Cambridge, Maryland.

EXCHANGE of personally collected sets desired with reliable collectors. Send lists. Have fine sets of 105.2 and others, California birds. J. VAN DENBURGH, 240 Stockton St., San Francisco, California.

WANTED—I want to buy first class bird eggs, in sets, with data, if prices are reasonable. JOSEPH WIGGLESWORTH, Wilmington, Delaware.

WANTED—Choice sets of anything from Nos. 514 to 605 inclusive and choice sets of finches from any part of the world wanted especially Longspurs and variety sets. Also sets or series of 261, 498, 501, 619, 703 and 761. Good European and other sets offered in best condition. K. L. SKINNER, Brooklands Estate Office, Weybridge, England.

WANTED First Class, complete sets, all species of Eagles, Kites, Falcons, Loons, Tropic birds, Hawks, Owls, Vultures, Waders, Warblers, Finches. Send lists in full with terms. Dr. M. T. CLECKLEY, Augusta, Ga.

FOR EXCHANGE—Following Al sets, with data—15, 2-1, 105 1-1, 105 1-2-1, 337b 2-3, 486 1-4, 375d 1-2, 617 1-5, 685b 1-3, and others, for sets needed in my collection. C. BADGER, Santa Paula, Calif.

Mounted Birds to exchange for eggs in full sets. J. C. HALL, 1420 Marlowe Ave., Lakewood, O.

WANTED—One set of eggs of each of the following birds, together with original nest: Scarlet Tanager, Indigo Bunting, Gold Finch. KARL W. KAHMANN, Taxidermist, Lincoln Ave., Chicago, Ill.

WANTED—A-1 sets of all birds, also sets with Cowbird eggs. Must have full data. Can exchange A-1 shells or cash. Write what you have, stating value. HARRY L. SEMLER, City Carrier No. 3, Lexington, Mo.

WANTED—Choice Cabinet Sets and Sets with nests and large, rare Singles. Offer extraordinary exchange. DR. M. T. CLERKLEY, AUGUSTA, GA.

WANTED—A 1st class, well marked set of 4 or 5 white tailed Kite with full and original data. B. S. FRIFFIN, 22 Currier St., Haverhill, Mass.

FOR EXCHANGE—Mounted Birds, skins and eggs in sets. Want birds, skins and eggs in sets. Send lists. JESSE T. CRAVEN, 811 Roosevelt Ave., Detroit, Mich.

We are headquarters for such choice stuff as Raven, Yellow-billed Magpie, Santa Cruz Island Jay, Prairie Falcon, Snowy Plover (with nest), Pacific Horned Owl, Vaux Swift, Black Swift, Golden Pileolated Warbler, and scores of others. We desire in exchange exceptional nest-and-egg material of every description, especially foreign if well authenticated. "A drawer to a species" is our motto. 400 drawers installed. Visiting oologists always welcome. MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE OOLOGY, William Leon Dawson, Director, Santa Barbara, Calif.

FOR SALE—Oologists Tools and Supplies, Bird Books and magazines. BENJAMIN HOAG, Garfield, N. Y.

**BOOKS.**

WANTED—Vol. I and Vol III of Ridgway's Birds of North and Middle America. Can offer Vol. V and \$1.50 for either vol. and cash for the other. W. C. HANNA, Colton, California.

THE WARBLER—Second series. Seven volumes complete, \$3.50 post paid. Very few full sets left. Volume 1 and 2, with a dozen exquisite colored plates of rare birds eggs, is in good supply, and the two volumes will be mailed for \$1.00. J. L. CHILDS, Floral Park, N. Y.

WANTED—Indian Relics, Books, Magazines and Pamphlets about Birds and Natural History subjects. J. RCHIE HUGHES, Jearoletstown, Tenn.



WANTED—Britton & Brown Illustrated Flora in three volumes. State edition, condition of books and best cash price. F. E. FORD, Chardon, O.

WANTED—Osprey, Vol. IV No. 3 and index; New Series, Vol. I No. 4, 5, 7. FOR EXCHANGE or Sale Cheap. Some early volumes and single copies of Oologist, many Nos. of Bird Lore, Museum, a few copies of Osprey. JOHN WILLIAMS, Iowa City, Iowa. R. 9.

FOR SALE—Auk 4 Vol. 1894 to 97. Vols. 11-12-13-14 for cash. R. E. CASE, Avon, Conn.

FOR SALE—Bird Lore, five volumes, year 1913-1917, one dollar per volume, carriage extra H. MOUSLEY, Hatley, P. Quebec.

WANTED FOR CASH—The Condor Vols 1-9 incl., Bird Lore Vols. 1 and 2 incl., Nos. 1 and 2 of Vol. 3; No. 1 of Vol. 7; The Oologist of Utica, N. Y. Vols 1-5 inc. and its continuation. The Ornithologist and Oologist Vols. 6-8 incl. B. F. BOLT, 1421 Prospect Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

WANT—For cash or exchange, many issues of Oologist, Osprey, etc., also Birds of Washington, D. C. and vicinity by Mrs. L. W. Maynard, RALPH W. JACKSON, R. No. 1. Cambridge, Md.

FOR SALE—Vols 1-5-6-7 of Exploration and Surveys for the Pacific Railroad, 1853-1856. The books are bound and in good condition. What am I offered. GEO. E. OSTERHOUT, Windsor, Colorado.

WANTED—Back numbers of many amateur bird publications. List of desiderate sent to anyone having anything in this line for sale or exchange. Also have many numbers of Auk, Condor, Bird Lore, O. & O., Oologist, Bull. Cooper Club, etc. to exchange. A. C. BENT, Taunton, Mass.

Frank L. Burns' Bibliography of scarce or out of print North American Amateur and Trade Publications in existence. Price 30c. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

FOR EXCHANGE—Osprey Vol. I, II, III, IV and V. New Series No. 7 & 2. Condor, Vol. VI & No. 1 of Vol. VII. Wilson Bulletin No. 69. Birds & Nature, Vol XIII. Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5. Vol. IXV, No. 1; Birds Vol. II, No. 5 and 6. Auk, Vol. XXIV and No. 3 of Vol. XXV. Birds of Wyoming, Birds of Iowa. These will be exchanged or sold only as a whole for best cash offer or extra good sets. W. H. BINGAMAN, Algona, Iowa.

EXCHANGE—Large number of Oologists and other bird magazines. A few sets nicely prepared of common land birds. Part VII "Birds of North and Middle America" for other parts of same work. Want many issues of Oologist, Osprey etc., for cash or exchange. Also "Birds of Washington, D. C. and vicinity by Mrs. L. W. Maynard. RALPH W. JACKSON, Cambridge, Route 1, Maryland.

WANTED—Sharp-shinned Hawk, Pine Warbler, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Harlan's Hawk and many common species. Can offer Swallow-tailed Kite and Florida Wild Turkey, etc. Cash also. REV. H. E. WHEELER, Conway, Ark.

WANTED—Baird Brewer & Ridgways Water Birds. Thompson's Byways & Bird Notes. Bird Lore, Vols. 1-15 inclusive. W. D. RICHARDSON, 4215 Prairie Ave. Chicago. 2-3t

WANTED—Oologist Vol. III No. 2; Vols. IV, V, VI; Vol. IX, No. 11; Vol. XVI, No. 3. "Birds of Essex County, Mass.;" "Putnam Catalog of the Birds of Connecticut," by Linsey; "Familiar Science and Fanciers Journal," Vols. 5 and 6. HARRY S. HATHAWAY, Box 1466, Providence, R. I.

For a limited time will exchange the Famous Reiber Bird Homes and attracting stations for skins, nests and eggs. Reiber Bird Homes are scientifically constructed and are the only homes that have the United States and Canadian government indorsements. You will want illustrated books describing them, sent free on request. REIBER BIRD RESERVE, West Webster, N. Y. 2t

ORNITHOLOGISTS, OOLOGISTS and MANNALOGISTS, ATTENTION!—I am planning a trip to the Hudson Bay Region for the coming summer. Those desiring material will place orders now. Will consider active man joining me on this venture or some one paying expenses and collect for him on shares.

I have for sale or exchange; Ridgeway's Birds of N. and M. Am. Vols. 1 to 7 minus 3; many vols. and odd numbers of Wilson Bull Oologist, Bird Lore, Birds and Nature, O. and O. (Am. Naturalist Vol. IX, 1875) Blue Bird, Birds of Va., Birds of Md. and many others. Want cash, books on Ornithology, Mannalogy, Eggs in sets, and Auks Vol. 1 to 5, Bird Lore Vol. 1, Nos. 2 and 4, Vol. 21, Nos. 2 and 3; Vol. 3, Nos. 1, 2 and 3. H. H. BAILEY, 319 54th St., Newport News, Virginia.

NOTICE—I will collect Southern Butterflies this season for cash. All interested write me. Prices low. Specimens guaranteed. D. V. HEMBREE, Roswell, Ga.

FOR SALE—Birds of North and Middle America, Parts 1 to 7, \$ .25; "Auk", Vols. 16 to 23; \$1.50 per vol. or \$10.00 for the lot. EVERETT E. JOHNSON, Herbron, Maine. R.R.1.

FOR EXCHANGE—Two sets of butterflies in eiker mounts, size 8 by 14, for a small bore shot gun or rifle. D. GOLDBERG, R. R. 3, Rockville, Conn.

NOTICE to cash buyers of Southern Butterflies I will collect and sell at low prices this spring all Southern Butterflies. D. V. HEMBREE, Roswell, Ga.

SKINS WANTED—Cash or trade. Alberta Squirrel, Dark faced Fox Squirrel, Cioit and Ringtail Cats, Opossum, Mountain Beaver, Little chief hare, Douglas Squirrel, Prairie Dog, Grey Fox, Golden Chip Monk, also avocet, Roadrunner, Limpkin, Ibises, Least Bittern, Barn Owl, Mockingbird. OLIVER TRAFFORD, St. Eugene, Ontario, Can.



# THE OÖLOGIST.

VOL. XXXVI, No. 6

ALBION, N. Y., JUNE 1, 1919.

WHOLE NO. 383

*Owned and Published Monthly, by R. M. Barnes, Albion, N. Y., and Lacom, Ill.*

## TAKE NOTICE.

SUBSCRIPTION, 50 CENTS PER YEAR

Examine the number on the wrapper of your Oologist. It denotes the time your subscription expires. Remember we must be notified if you wish it discontinued and all arrearages must be paid. 378 your subscription expires with this issue. 377 your subscription expired with December issue 1918. Other expirations can be computed by intermediate numbers at the rate of one number per month.

Entered as second-class matter December 21, 1903, at the post office at Albion, N. Y., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.



L. E. Healey, the Author.

With this issue we conclude L. E. Healey's "Around Red Lake in a Launch." The Oologist and its readers are surely under obligations to the writer for the privilege of accompanying him on this splendid outing trip.

The Editor.

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### Around Red Lake in a Launch

B. L. E. Healey

#### Part V

It was now Sunday noon and also we had planned on eating that dinner at the Agency, we still had a half day to reach our ultimate destination on scheduled time. The lake was very quiet and we were tempted several times to head straight across a distance of but twelve miles and one half, thereby saving the time it otherwise it would take to go around the East end of this, the South Lake. We however, decided that we had plenty of time to reach the Agency for supper and we would stick to the advice given us to stay close to the shore at all times. At the extreme East end we found a shore line some five or six miles long of as clean and white a sand as one could see. We were tempted to take advantage of this beautiful beach for a swim. So for an hour we enjoyed the water, the sunshine and the hot sand. The beach at Atlantic City couldn't be nicer for bathing. We could wade out great distances and the depth of the water changed so gradually as to be hardly noticeable. We venture to say that if the wealthy people of Southern Minnesota and Iowa knew of this beautiful beach, it would in time become as popular as other bathing beaches of National popularity. But we must hurry on. As we rounded the end the water became deeper as evidenced by dead head logs which could be seen now and then with the water soaked end bumping the bottom and the light end

floating up. These logs are cut sixteen and eighteen feet long and as they were standing nearly on end we knew the water to be nearly that deep. We were out from the mouth of the Black Duck River from whence the logs had come, and we longed to fish but the wind had been raising and going with it, it soon kept us busy handling the rudder to keep the waves from washing over our stern. We got our first sense of sea-sickness here but it was too exciting to last long. We were soon traveling West in the troughs of the waves and for the balance of the trip we experienced the largest waves of our journey. The wind was sweeping across the lake toward us and the South Lake being deep the waves gained more magnitude. Our constant thought was, how lucky we were not to have crossed the lake. We passed by Redby, the little town where the logging railroad connects the lake shore with the outside world. We were not sorry when we pulled into port at the Agency at six twenty, for the strain in handling the little craft in those great waves was heavy on us. We drew our boat up the small creek for shelter, had our supper and went up to the Government School where we were acquainted with the long lean engineer and his estimable wife. We were sure of a hospitable reception and enjoyed comforts of one of the spare rooms.

The school here is one of many years standing. Uncle Sam has done and is doing a wonderful work for his native children. Besides the main building which is very large, well heated and well ventilated structure, there is a modern, well equipped hospital, large barns, extensive farm fields, a saw-mill and a planting mill, administration buildings, a laundry, an electric plant, church, and several individual homes and cottages. Across

the Red Lake Creek is located the Indian village of Red Lake. It contains a pool hall, two general stores, a picture show, a dance hall where the young folks one-step, waltz and the old men do not do the pow-wow, for the Government tries to do away with that sort of a dance, these enterprises all owned and operated by Indians together with the hotel and auto bus line. One can drive for five miles down to Redby where the railroad station is and see Indian farms all the way. He also passes the Fair Grounds where once a year the Government people hold a Fair and there is a general gathering of the tribes. Or one may drive in the other direction down along the lake shore and see farms in that direction. Here, too he passes the Catholic Church and school and the Indian grave yard, an interesting looking place with its little coup-like houses over each grave.

After a very pleasant sojourn we set out for our homeward trip one afternoon and at five o'clock we were again at the Outlet, having completely circumscribed the lake. We knew we had no show for a mooring from now on until we should reach Neptune and once started we felt we had to complete that much of our journey before putting up for the night. A heavy storm arose. The sky became overcast early. It became so dark we could not see the course of the river. Our head light served us well. At ten o'clock amidst the roll of thunder and the approaching storm, we pulled up to the dock at Neptune with the lady of the house cautiously awaiting our approach with a loaded shot gun. The men folks had been away all day cutting hay at some far distance with a scythe and had not yet returned home. The lady had been troubled that afternoon with drunken Indians and she thought they had returned with fire

brands when she saw the stream of light from our lamp playing back and forth on the buildings. She felt much relieved, although at that time the man of the place returned. We secured the boat and fastened down its curtains, and with permission thought to sleep inside because of the storm. It was the same story of the night with the Sweede farmer the week before. "Yours truly" sought the comforts of the boat despite the storm, while Bud snored on. He missed me at daybreak and came down only to disturb my peaceful slumbers in the boat where I was free from bed bugs.

The balance of our trip to Thief River Falls was uneventful. Suffice it to say it was made down stream from the lake at the rate of seven and one half miles per hour as compared with five miles per hour going up. We spent one night in Thief River Falls and the next day saw us home. Thus ends a story of a long to be remembered trip and any one desiring such an outing can make no mistake in repeating our experiences.

L. E. Healey.

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#### To the Smithsonian Institution

Capt. T. W. Richards, U. S. N. has been assigned to the Command of the new Naval Hospital established by the Government on Ward's Island, New York Harbor. This hospital has a capacity of a thousand beds and we believe will function entirely satisfactorily under the command of so good an Oologist as Capt. Richards. He has been a continuous subscriber to the *Oologist* since Vol. I Number 1, January 1, 1884.

The very large collection of eggs owned by Capt. Richards (something over 1200 species) including many exceedingly rare foreign sets and several thousand eggs from Australia has been deposited by him in the National

(Smithsonian) Museum at Washington, D. C.

The article "On the Food of the Marsh Hawk" in April 1919 Oologist was inadvertently published without the signature of the author, Verti Burch, Branchport, N. Y.

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#### Trumpeter Swan

Dr. R. W. Shufeldt sends us a copy of the Pictorial Section of "The Washington Post" of May 11th in which appears a half tone photo reproduction of the male Trumpeter Swan deposited by the Editor in the United States Zoological Gardens at Washington, and it may truly be said the old bird looks healthy, vigorous and natural, though we are sorry to learn that the female with which it was sought to be mated in said Zoological Gardens has recently died.

If anyone knows of a female Trumpeter Swan in confinement, we would appreciate any information as to the whereabouts of this bird at once, as another effort should be made to save this splendid race from totally vanishing from the face of the earth.

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#### Some British Birds

I last wrote to the Oologist while I was in the 626 Aero Squadron in Kelly Field, Texas (March 1918). Leaving that camp I was sent to Camp Morrison near Newport News, Virginia, and there transferred to the 337 Aero Squadron; going overseas from New York.

I do not know where the line is drawn between the British birds and those of America, but I judge that up to the "half way point" all birds are American on the western half and English or European on the eastern half.

The commonest bird I saw after crossing the "line" was Wilson's Petrel, though once in a while I saw a

lone Stormy Petrel. About twelve hours before we sighted the coast of Ireland, I saw several Iceland Gulls, called by the sailors "Sea Pigeons."

When we had followed the Irish Coast quite a ways and were in sight of the coast of Scotland on our left, we came upon several Guillemots swimming on the surface of the water. I was in the bow at the time, and as far forward as I could get, so I had a good chance to watch these birds. They were directly in the path of the steamer yet did not seem to be at all alarmed at the oncoming bulk of the S. S. Empress of Russia and waited until its steel prow was nearly upon them before they dived. The water was clear and from my position I could see them as the swam under water with the aid of their wings. Several flocks of these birds we met, only a few taking wing, the rest seeking safety by diving.

As we got nearer land, Gulls and Terns became more numerous. Every ship of the convoy had a flock of the former following it from the time we were within three hours of land, and they were literally swarms of them with us as we dropped anchor in the Mersey River at Liverpool across from Birkenhead. Every available space was taken up by gulls on the roofs of the buildings along the docks and on the ship's masts also. I would say that Liverpool was a town of Sea Gulls and fog had I not later seen more of it at Camp Knotty Ash near Old Swan and thereby decided the town to be all mud. Black-headed Gulls, Herring Gulls, Kittie Wakes and a few other species were observed by me.

When we moved inland to finish our training, I found I had to relearn my ornithology, for only one or two of the birds did I know at sight. I knew the Starling because of its resem-



blance, by actions alone, to the Meadow Lark here at home. Also I knew the Rook.

I was stationed at the Harling Road Aerodrome in Norfolk county near Norwich. This city of Norwich contained a museum of Natural history of no small collections. It was this museum that I spent most of my spare time while on leave there. This, with a book I found one day in one of the book stores of the town "Our Country's Birds" by W. J. Gordon, helped me to identify most of the birds I met with.

For the sum of six shillings one could rent a bicycle for a week and after Retreat on clear evenings we were given permission to ride about the country. It was on rides like these out into the less populated districts that I met with the Night-jars. Resembling the flight of the Night Hawk is their wing motions, though I never saw one flying at a very great height and they are silent save for an occasionally twittering sound uttered as they flutter about in the dusk for insects. From the fields, as the evenings drew on, the voice of the Corn Crake was to be heard. It was a hard matter to get a good view of these birds for they kept pretty low, though if one was silent behind a cover of some sort, for a period, they aften-times came near. I asked an old farmer, one evening, before I had identified the birds, what they were and was told they were Curlews. I heard and saw several owls on these trips, but the light was usually so poor by the time these birds came out to fly that identification was impossible for me.

I oftentimes saw and heard Sky Larks in the early mornings and evenings. Very common was the Bull Finch and House Sparrows.

In the hawthorne hedges about the

Aerodrome I saw British Long-tailed Tits and its relative the Blue Tit. This last is a very pretty bird and its antics remind one of the Crested Tit or the Chickadee at home. Quite often I saw the true Robin (*Erithacus rubecula*).

The several species of woodpeckers are listed to be found in England, I saw not one single specimen. Everywhere the Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) was abundant. Though protected by law, not infrequently these birds "got in the way" of a machine-gun bullet and made "swell" eats for the Yanks.

Nearly every stream had one or more Moor Hens upon its surface and many times I have seen flocks of Lapwings on the freshly plowed grounds.

My stay in England lasted from August 20 to December 1st, 1918. We boarded the Empress of Britian at Liverpool for "God's Country," Dec. first. The Gulls of Liverpool followed us out past the coast of Wales and when darkness was falling they were still with us though we had been moving for seven hours. Morning found us tossing upon a very rough sea with no Gulls in sight.

Thus closes the account of the birds I met with while in England.

Ralph J. Donahue,  
Bonner Springs, Kansas.

May 6, 1919

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We will commence in the July issue publishing a wonderfully interesting article by J. N. Munro, on "Collecting in British Columbia." This is accompanied by splendid illustrations and will run through several issues.

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**We Are Short of Copy: See!**

Send in some forthwith. This means everyone. Thanks in advance. Very urgent.

The Editor.



Merrill W. Blain

#### In Memoriam

Merrill W. Blain, for many years a subscriber to the *Oologist*, died at his home in Los Angeles, California, on December 26, 1918. He was born at Oceanview, California April 24, 1891. He received his early education at San Francisco and later was graduated from the Hollywood School in 1915. At the time of his death Mr. Blain was a third year student in the Detroit College of Medicine and Surgery.

Mr. Blain was an enthusiastic ornithologist and was a member of the Cooper Ornithological Club of Cali-

fornia, the Wilson Ornithological Club and the American Ornithologist's Union. He had a fine collection of the birds and eggs of Southern California which has since been sent to his uncle, Dr. Alexander W. Blain of Detroit.

Mr. Blain had a large list of friends among the ornithologists, especially on the coast and was extremely popular as a student at college.

He had returned to California in the hopes of regaining his health and was for some months in a sanitarium but he continued to fail. He was buried in California amid the hills and flowers he loved so well.

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### Bird Notes from Lake Worth, Tarrant County, Texas.

By Ramon Graham

March 15, 1919. Belted Kingfisher observed by Earl Moffat. They were digging a hole in the banks of a gravel pit near my camps. On April 27 they had four eggs. Five Kingfishers holes observed in March, April and May. On May 16th I observed a Kingfisher hole in a sand bank of Goat Island, Lake Worth. Upon examination I found that there was a set of seven eggs, heavily incubated. The bird would not leave the nest.

March 30, 1919. Noticed first arrival of Scissor tail Flycatcher. One pair building a nest in a dead tree out in the lake near camps on May 16th.

April 7, 1919. Observed a set of five Screech Owls, looked to be heavily incubated. On this date I watched a pair of Blue Grey Gnatcatchers building a nest. Later on I went for further observations and a storm had blown the nest down, and on April 20th I went back to the same woods, I saw a Gnatcatcher doing some acrobat stunts while catching gnats. She kept this up for about fifteen minutes, then she went to her nest which was situated on a horizontal limb about three feet from the main trunk of the tree. I went up and found one egg and a Cowbird's egg. On May 8th I went back again and the Cowbird was hatched and the Gnatcatcher egg was there but the birds had deserted the nest.

April 28, 1919. Turkey Vultures were nesting on the rocky banks of Lake Worth near camps. One set observed on this day.

April 29, 1919. Found Bells Vireo nest with three Cowbirds eggs in it. I took them out and went back later and the birds had deserted the nest.

April 30, 1919. I observed a pair of

Summer Tanagers building a nest within three inches of where they had a nest and successfully raised their young last year. On May 13th there were three Tanager eggs and one Cowbird.

May 1919. Whippoorwills around camps every night this month but no eggs observed so far.

May 7, 1919. Observed a pair of Crested Flycatchers mating.

May 8, 1919. Watched a Loon do some long distance diving out in the lake.

May 10, 1919. Texas Bewicks Wren nesting in a bird house placed in a tree in front of my camp.

May 14, 1919. Observed a set of seven Dickcissel. Four of the eggs had brown specks on the large end; the others were blue. Out of several hundreds sets observed by me this is the first set that ever had any markings on them. Is this a freak set or has other collectors ever found any of them.

May 16, 1919. About 200 geese observed flying over the lake. I saw six Snow Geese last year in April. These are the first white geese observed by me on Lake Worth in four years. Also found a Red-headed Woodpecker hole with one egg on this date

March, April and May. Many Ducks, Geese, Pelicans, Gulls and Terns observed during these months.

May 15, 1919. The Hummingbirds are laying in full blast. I have observed several nests lately.

May, 1919. Night Hawks observed about camps every evening.

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### Blackbirds in Texas

By R. A. Sell

"Fust come the blackbirds clatterin'  
in the trees

And settlin' things in strange con-  
gresses,

Queer politicians though for I'll be skinned

If all on 'em don't go agin the wind."

Aside from the feathered curiosities, the long-legged cranes, the erratic curlews, the delicately tinted spoonbills and the spacious-mouthed pelicans, possibly the various kinds of blackbirds are the first to attract the attention of a tourist. Such aristocratic bronzed grackles and great-tailed grackles with their shining iridescent blue-black feathers and golden eyes—set in pure silver rings—can only be equalled by the gay-colored redwings and the audacious boat-tails making up in dash and impudence what they lack in personal beauty. Under ordinary circumstances, all of these are considered hard working, law-abiding citizens, but with the price of rice soaring above all previous records, many people and more especially the farmers, are disposed to look upon this year's cloud of blackbirds with a reluctant tolerance. They are esteemed much like a family of indigent relatives who come too often and stay too long.

There has been so much said about the enormous appetites of these black clouds of cheerfulness that the writer gladly made use of the first opportunity to go out into the rice fields where they were supposed to be eating rice faster than an army of Chinamen. In the rice fields near Eagle Lake, there were more blackbirds than it seemed possible could exist without literally eating up the crops. If, as they have determined by what seemed to me to be too extensive examination of stomachs, an average meal for a bird is only eight grains of rice, it must take a quantity equal to several sacks to make a square meal for one of those large flocks. Yet we are told by these experts that a blackbird requires from ten to fourteen meals a day, but, no

difference; we will not get excited; there is lots of rice and blackbirds are, for the most part, gleaners.

The simple, "clouds of blackbirds" was not overdrawn. On two occasions when we were directed under passing flocks, the sun was completely hidden from view. Looking directly towards the sun seemed like looking into a very dark mass and the sound of the many wings was like the first waves of a very severe storm. It took one of these very large flocks eighteen minutes to pass and another flock that was timed a little later in the day passed in eight minutes. Those old stories that have been told about the passenger pigeons were not overdrawn; it is only a question of getting the birds together.

Sometimes they would light around a stack of grain and literally make it black. When slightly frightened they would rise as a wave and swing around almost like a whirlwind and drop back to the same place again. No other bird cared to cross their path. A large hawk made a respectful detour in order to avoid an unpleasant meeting with these arrogant birds. A northern shrike almost sailed into a flock before he knew it, but he was soon escorted around the place by a delegation of blackbirds.

The noise of such a flock of blackbirds cannot be fittingly described. The "kee" and "click" sounds, that are so familiar under ordinary conditions, blend so completely with the other "pink," "punk," "buzz," "zht" of saw-filing and tin pan pounding that it seems almost like an aggregation of very different birds from blackbirds.

The experience of seeing such an aggregation of grackles, red-wings, yellow-heads, rusty blackbirds and blackbirds all, in the full enjoyment of their fall carnival, is a complete





Young Raven's Nest in Electric Power Line Tower.

—Photo by Wolcott Thompson.



Robin and Mourning Dove Using Same Nest. Nest and Eggs in Situ.  
—Photo by Walter A. Goelitz.

course in ornithology. It cannot be described, much less exaggerated. Let not some one who has seen only a few hundred birds at a time, offer comments; seeing is believing. A few days before this, Barnum's show visited Houston, but the visions of his few elephants, camels, caged lions and trained hippopotamuses artificially prodded about by brown Syrians in red jackets faded into insignificance in the presence of this matchless wave of throbbing ornithology, this ceaseless roll of reverberating calls and clatters, this miracle of instinct and naive adaptations.

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#### Dove Mimicking Cowbird

The following incident is not an oological triumph but it is of so unusual occurrence that I thought a short note would be permissible.

On May 7th, 1919 I found a Mourning Dove and a Robin trying to keep house together, or rather the Robin was holding down the claim for the both. In this case a Dove laid an egg in the nest of a Robin who was working night and day to hatch three of her own. A visit on May 13th found the bird still incubating the four eggs, and at that time the accompanying photograph was taken. The upper left egg is that of the Dove, and is noticeably different in shape as well as in color. The nest was located twelve feet up in an apple tree in an abandoned orchard near the outskirts of Champaign, Ill. Although I planned to watch this strange nest closely the opportunity to visit it again was lacking and therefore, I cannot say as to the outcome.

Walter A. Goelitz.

Ravinia, Ill., Feb. 6, 1919.

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#### An English Sparrow Makes Its Home In the Nest of a Hawk

Of course you have all heard about or seen for yourselves some excep-

tional nesting places of that fussy little pest, the English Sparrow. Among such erratic instances which I have observed is one which I think is worthy of record.

One April day I went with a local bird man to hunt nests of the red-tailed hawk. As we passed the home of a farmer friend he informed us that a pair of hawks was nesting in a large open woods on the far side of the hill. Upon approaching this woods we caught sight of the mother bird as she stealthfully glided away through the big timber. My friend, who was an expert climber, ascended the nesting tree and upon nearing the hawk's home exclaimed that a female English sparrow kept scolding from the branches nearby. And what do you suppose he found when he reached the bottom of the large nest? Well, tucked in among the coarse sticks was a partly made sparrow's nest. In the hawk's nest was a single incubated egg. Measurements showed that the tree was about one hundred and twenty-five feet tall and the nest was exactly one hundred feet above the ground.

S. S. Dickey.

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#### Late Departure of the Barn Swallow

In the December 1917, *Oologist*, I recorded a Barn Swallow that was observed at the Susquehanna on Oct. 20th, 1917.

On Sept. 28th, 1918 a single Barn Swallow was observed at the same point along the Susquehanna River. This point is visited by a great many Swallows during the fall migration. Although I did not visit this point in the fall of 1918 since Sept. 28th, it is my personal opinion that the Barn Swallow regularly remains at this point until late in September, and often well into October.

According to the March and April

1918 numbers of Bird Lore, the average dates of departure of the Barn Swallow at Washington, D. C., and Philadelphia, Penn., are Sept. 8th and 9th, respectively, and the extreme dates are Sept. 19th and Oct. 17th, respectively.

Arthur Farquhar.

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**Disease, and Bird Life**

P. B. Peabody, Blue Rapids, Kansas

I have often found dead birds, with no marks of violence upon their bodies; and have fallen to wondering at the cause of death. Almost invariably, the ailment has been found to be some form of liver derangement.

On the shore of Spirit Lake, Iowa, I once found a beautiful specimen of the Franklin Gull. It was utterly emaciated; and all the capillaries were much congested. The liver was manifestly the cause of the emancipation and subsequent death. Last spring, in Iowa, several birds were brought to me, in perfect plumage; one of these being a Red-headed Woodpecker. Here, again, it was the liver that went wrong. Later, the same young lady that found the Woodpecker brought me a magnificent Barn Owl. The plumage of this bird was in absolutely perfect condition. In preparing the body to be sent to Omaha for mounting I, of course, sexed the specimen; and examined the viscera with care. The bird was neither lean nor fat; nor was there any congestion. But the liver was wholly atrophied; and the gall-bladder had burst. A few weeks later the young lady found the mate to this superb male Barn Owl. This, also was dead.

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**Jottings of May 1919**

Resisting not the call of the woods and the spell of the Spring I have gone out and away this Sunday after-

noon of early May. It is along towards evening and the breezes that stir the new leaves on the trees are cool and refreshing and soul filling.

Only yesterday it rained and the earth is still moist and damp; but all vegetation seems to have added a new vigor and lustre. The brooklet has run long enough to become clear again.

I am now seated upon an oldstone wall near the above mentioned brook, whose rustic grayness is reflected in its gurgling waters. Quietly the stream flows here yet only a little way beyond the presence of small stones and pebbles obstruct its course; and the brook, seeming glad of the opposition, gurgles and sings as it flows along until, after many windings and twisting about, finally passes into the silver body of the Lake-of-the-Woods, whose silveryness I can see through the trees at my left. From my seat on the wall I can look upwards through the branches, into the depths of a blue sky where two Turkey Vultures are sailing about on motionless pinions, seemingly disobeying the law of gravity. A multitude of the feathered folk are about me, going about their courtship and house-building as though I was nowhere in the neighborhood.

In an old elm over my head, an Orchard Oriole is paying court to his olive-yellow wife, while in the same tree yet higher up, an Indigo Bunting is trying to attract the attentions of a sparrow-like bird—his mate. In the bushes near the brook I can see a pair of White-throated Sparrows kicking about the leaves on the ground. A Brown Thrasher, farther up the slope, is doing the same thing, only he is making more noise about it; the while another, likely his mate, is seated on the topmost branch of a small tree and singing as only a Thrasher



can on a May morning. A Phoebe, whose nest I found earlier in the evening, plastered to the wall of a cement culvert, is perched upon a twig over the stream and seems interested in something in the water.

A Flicker, working its way up the side of a tall sycamore, next attracts my attention. I can hear a cousin of his, the Red-head, scolding from a telephone pole along the road.

Ah, ha, whom have we here? a Scarlet Tanager and wife, first ones I have seen this season. They do not stay long for away they go to another tree, he in his livery of scarlet and black and she in her modest and inconspicuous suit of olive green. I see this pair in this neighborhood every season yet have never been able to find their nesting site or nest.

Lakeward I can hear the sweet "Oak-a-lee" of the Red-shouldered Blackbird, where he is swaying on the top of an old stunted willow whose roots are under water most of the year, and keeping a weather eye towards the tree where his wife is brooding, lest enemies approach. From somewhere deeper in the woods I can hear the call of the Chewink or Towhee and over the hill in the meadow, I can hear the familiar notes of the Dickcissel.

Over head, with a swish of wings, pass the flock of Blue-winged Teal I saw on the lake as I walked along the shore. Something or someone must have frightened them off the water, but they do not intend to leave for they swing back. I counted just six of each sex.

A tall Black Jack Oak, standing near, which very recently had been struck by a bolt of lightning and whose trunk had been completely circled by the bolts downward course, is being inspected by a Black-capped Chickadee. This little fellow does not seem

to care whether his head is up or down for he goes about his work with unconcern and with occasionally a pronouncing of its name.

The shadows are lengthening, for the sun is nearing the crown of the hill and I must needs arise and go back to town, but I would like to tarry here in this delightful spot a while longer.

Ralph J. Donahue,  
May 7, 1919 Bonner Springs, Kan.

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#### An Unusual Raven's Nest

You may be interested in the unusual note of finding an American Raven's nest with seven young birds, April 27, 1919, seventy-five feet high in a tower of an electrical transmission line carrying 130,000 volts crossing the alkali flats west of this city.

J. Wolcott Thompson,  
Salt Lake City, Utah.

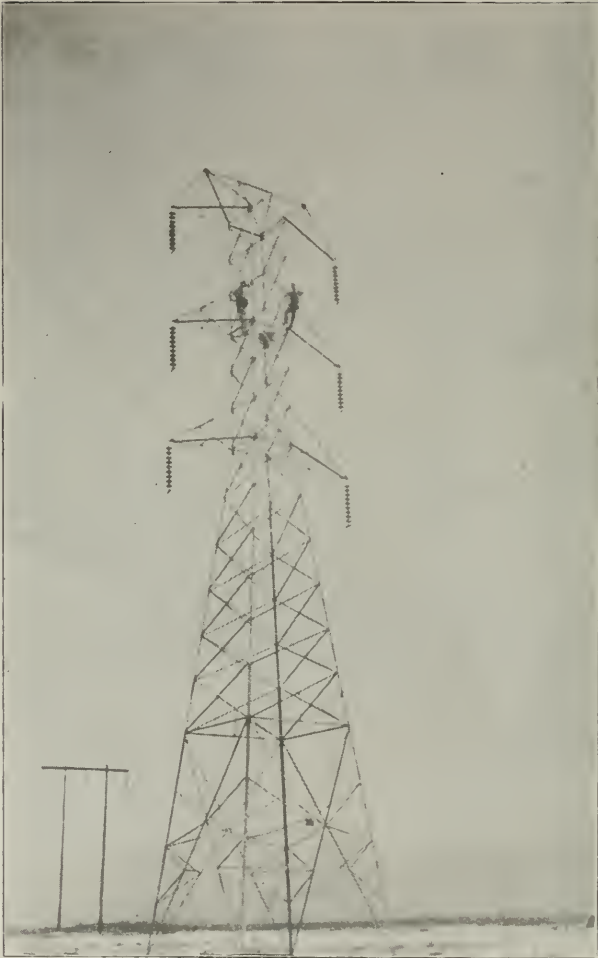
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#### Collecting In British Columbia

J. A. Munro

Of all Canada, British Columbia, undoubtedly offers the largest and most interesting field for pioneer investigations along zoological lines. Various field parties have collected in the vicinity of settlements and along valleys and rivers that are easy of access, and certain limited areas have been well worked, but the vast hinterland of trailless, timbered hills in virgin ground.

The several life-zones with their characteristic fauna and flora, come as a relief to the easterner, accustomed to a less diversified topography, and the less plastic faunal forms. Here, one can follow spring up the mountain slopes or pass through two or more life-zones in a few hours. An excellent illustration of the effect of altitude on plant and animal life is afforded in the lower Okanagan District;—from a semi-desert of sage-brush and



Raven's Nest in Electric Power Line.

—Photo by J. W. Thompson.

greasewood, the home of Jack rabbits, rattlesnakes, sage thrashers, and Dotted canyon wrens, one can, in a day's travel on horseback travel through, first, an open park, like area of yellow pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) and benches of bunch-grass; through several miles of Douglas Fir (*Pseudotsuga taxifolia*) to dense forests of Murray pine, (*Pinus murrayana*) and Englemans spruce (*Picea engelmani*); and reach toward evening an alpine country above timber line, where false heather is the most luxuriant growth and white-tailed ptarmigan, pipets, pallid horned larks and Audubon hermit thrushes are breeding. A journey showing as many changes as one would find in travelling from Kansas to the Hudson Bay.

The many valleys of British Columbia are shut off from each other by high mountain ranges. The bird migrations follow the valleys north and south and there is practically no communication from east to west. This has resulted in a certain amount of modification in various species and greatly enlarged the field for original investigation. It has been the writer's privilege to spend the past seven years in this magic land, engaged in zoological field work. The greater part of the work was done in the Okanagan Valley. The larger portion of this district is in the Dry Belt; the more southern part being fairly open;—sage-brush flats on the lower levels, succeeded by wide benches of bunch-grass and open stands of yellow pine, as one ascends the hills. Farther north the hills are more heavily timbered, yellow pine being the principal tree of the low altitudes. These merge into the stands of Douglas Fir higher up on the hills, and these in turn are succeeded by Murray pine, Western Larch and Engleman's spruce, near the summits. In the lower hills, therefore, there are two distinct life-zones, the

Transitional Zone characterized by the heavy growth of yellow pine and such birds as Lewis' Woodpeckers (*Asyndesmus lewisi*), Pygmy Nuthatch (*Sitta pygmaea pygmaea*) etc.; and the Canadian Zone, the most characteristic birds of which are the Alaskan Three-toed Woodpeckers (*Picoides Americanus fasciatus*), Columbian Chickadee (*Penthestes hudsonicus columbianus*) and Rocky Mountain Jay (*Perisoreus canadensis capitalis*). These species remain entirely within the limits of the Murray pine and spruce. Many transitional forms penetrate into the heavy forests of the Canadian Zone but usually in small numbers. Still farther north from Vernon to Shuswap Lake, the valley is narrower, the soil is heavier and there is a greater precipitation. Murray pine appears at a lower altitude, there are stands of western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*) and the yellow pine is not so much in evidence.

Okanagan Lake is about ninety miles long and between three and four miles wide. The wooded shore, generally are steep, varied by occasional gently sloping areas and alluvial flats at the mouths of the creeks, grown over with deciduous trees, the principal species being black cottonwood (*Populus trichocarpa*), aspen (*Populus tremuloidis*) western birch (*Betula fontinalis*) and several species of willow (*Salix*).

The land is settled wherever the conditions are suitable, fruit growing and mixed farming being the chief industries. These with lumbering and mining, in certain districts, support the small towns of the interior. The higher flats and valleys are subject to summer frosts, the land generally being poor and stony, and these vast tracks of hills and canyons, mountain streams and forests, that have never heard the axe of the vandal lumber-

jack are likely to remain for generations, the breeding ground of our birds and mammals.

Town dwellers are in the midst of the wilderness. In plain view on every side are the forested hills; in the spring, misty curtains of vivid green against the serried ranks of fir, mark the stands of tamarack; October blazes out in the flaming orange of the cottonwoods, and winter, no less beautiful, brings its painting of snow, a glittering silver crown on the sombre firs. In these mountain towns, wild life comes to our very doors; one hears cayotes mourning at night and mule deer, lynx and cougar sometimes wander into the suburbs. It is this element of the unexpected, of romance, that holds one and stirs ones imagination.

The following field note of a flying trip through the lower Okanagan, and the Limilkameen and Necola Valleys may be of some interest.

Summerland, B. C., April 22, 1917. Spent the day at Trout Creek Point; this is a wide alluvial flat, originally covered with enormous black cottonwood and western birch. Much of the land has been cleared and cultivated, but there is still several hundred acres of the original forest. A dense undergrowth of alders, dogwoods and willows, makes walking difficult off the trails. The cultivated portions are surrounded by patches of brush and second-growth aspens and afford excellent cover for birds.

Ring-necked Pheasants (*Phaseanus torquatus*) have reached here from the lower Okanagan; they are protected locally and should do well. We flushed several in the thick brush.

Along the margin of the creek, we found many beaver tunnels and runways, made during the high water. They had cut down several large cottonwoods, and a large alder was half

gnawed through, the scar stained deep orange by the sap—a vivid patch of color.

A number of new arrivals were in the cottonwoods, Ruby-crowned Kinglets (*Regulus calendula*) Red-naped Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius nuchalis*) Gambles Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys gambeli*) and Audubon's Warbler (*Dendrocia auduboni auduboni*). When I left Okanagan landing, eighty miles north, yesterday, none of these species had arrived. With the exception of the early migrants and the catkins on the alders and willows, there are few signs of spring; the ground under the cottonwoods is cold and wet and one sinks ankle deep in the wet brown leaves.

A flock of Pipets (*Anthus rubescens*) were feeding on a ploughed field at the edge of the woods; a pigeon hawk made a splendid stoop, coming from the edge of the brush with incredible speed and carried off one of the flock. Later my partner shot a very pale male with the 22. I thought at first this was (*richardsoni*) but careful examination of the tail-bars and the primary webs, showed it to be a pale example of (*Columbarius*).

Another interesting specimen was a male Fox Sparrow, quite unlike the breeding form (*Schistacea*); it is more rupestral, less heavily spotted on the underpart and the tail is reddish brown in marked contrast to the gray tail of (*Schistacea*).

The Crows are building in the alders and willows, and we watched a pair of Ospreys repairing their old nest at the top of a dead cottonwood.

April 24. Left Summerland by automobile at 9:00 a. m., through Penticton at the foot of Okanagan Lake and over the Green Mountain Pass, to the Similkameen Valley. This is the lowest pass, 2000 feet, and is free of snow. A small lake on the summit is still



frozen and there are few signs of spring.

In a pile of slide-rock at the base of a tall cliff, we heard Pikas (*Ochotona cuppes*) squeaking and we examined their depleted stores of dry hay. Kinikinnic (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*) and various grasses were the principal plants stored. The shrill whistle of the Yellow-bellied Marmot (*Marmota flaviventra avarus*) came to us from the higher ledges along the road. A small flock of Hepburn's Rosy Finch (*Leucosticte tephrocotes littoralis*) alighted on the road in front of the car, but we were not out quick enough to secure any.

We camped beside a small stream, at the junction of two narrow valleys. The mountains were steep and high, covered deep in snow near the summits.

Bands of Jays frequented the camp and the alder thickets along the margin of the stream. They appeared to be intermediate between (*stilleri*) and (*annectens*); the white superciliary was indistinct and wanting in one specimen.

The insistent, monotonous call of a Saw-whet came from the alders at the creek's edge, a single note repeated at regular intervals. This is the only note I have heard; there is a bell-like quality in the tone that is distinctive. I have been asked the name of the "bell-bird that calls in the night."

April 25. Broke camp after skinning the birds and mammals collected yesterday. A run of a little more than an hour, over a good road brought us to the valley of the Similkameen River. This valley is remarkably level and in its natural state, covered with tall sage-brush. The mountains in places rise almost sheer and some of them reach above timber-line. From Keremeos to Hedley, the road runs along the river and skirts mile after mile of slide-rock at the base of the

mountains. The river is narrow and rapid, and is now at high water. There has originally been a heavy forest of cottonwoods along the banks but much of it has been cleared.

The migration has barely started and bird life is not abundant. Shufeldt's Junco (*Junco hyemalis shufeldti*), Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna neglecta*), Black-headed Jay (*Cyanocitta stelleri annectens*), and Western Vesper Sparrow (*Poocetes gramineus confinis*) are the commonest species. No raptors were seen with the exception of one Desert Sparrow Hawk (*Falco sparverius phalaena*).

While passing through a sage brush flat an enormous flock of Rosy Finches appeared, like a column of smoke and alighted on the road in front of the car. The flock was in two sections and there were probably eight hundred in all. When they first alighted they were packed so closely that one could not see the ground. Almost at once they spread out and began to feed. I collected several birds on the outside of the flock and at the report of the gun the birds rose and circled around us, fluttering down to the dead birds. The majority of them were typical (*littoralis*) a few were typical *tephrocotis* and several others were intermediates. They were in breeding dress; this plumage is gained by the wearing off of the silvery edging on the ends of the brown feathers. The irides in both sexes are hazel, the tarsi are black; the bill of the male is black; that of the female is dark, olivaceous-brown with a dusky yellow base. These birds were evidently working up the mountains to their breeding ground above timber line. From the valley we could see the snow clad peaks up Ashenola Creek, one of their summer ranges, and the deep snow there showed clearly why they were staying so late in the valley.

(To be continued in the July Oologist)



Lieut. Richard C. Harlaw, State College, Pa.

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# THE OÖLOGIST.

BIRDS--NESTS--EGGS

TAXIDERM Y

VOL. XXXVI No. 6. 7 ALBION, N. Y., JULY 1, 1919.

WHOLE No. 384



## BRIEF SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wanted, Exchange, For Sale, Etc., inserted in this department at 15 cents for each 25 words for one issue; each additional word 1 cent. No notices inserted for less than 25 cents.

We will advertise the skins, nests, eggs, or mounted specimens of North American Birds for sale for persons having a lawful authority under the law to deal in the same. These columns are for the use of those desiring to make bona fide exchanges of such specimens for scientific collecting purposes only.—EDITOR.

In answering advertisements in these columns mention "The Oologist," and thereby help us, as well as the advertiser and yourself.

## BIRDS

Send me the list of A 1 Bird Skins that you have to dispose of by exchange or otherwise. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

FOR EXCHANGE—A large list of A1 North American species of skins for specimens needed in my collection. C. W. CHAMBERLAIN, 36 Lincoln St., Boston, Mass.

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DATA BLANKS—Send for sample of my data blanks, with your name printed on it. 500 for \$1.00 postpaid. EDWARD S. COOMBS, 243 Franklin St., Boston, Mass.

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WANTED—One or more sets of A. O. W. 636. Can offer good sets of 325, 343 or 364 in exchange or cash. R. P. SHARPLES, West Chester, Pa.

SWANSON'S WARBLERS Sets with nests. Who wants them in exchange for other species? Send list in full. DR. M. T. CLECKLEY, Augusta, Ga.

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## EGGS.

In sending in your exchange notices for nests, skins and eggs, we would appreciate it if you would arrange the numerals in your exchange notice in their numerical order, and not tumble them together hit and miss, as some of our readers are complaining, and we think justly so.

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EXCHANGE NOTICE—I desire to get in touch with all active field collectors with a view to exchanging A 1 sets. H. W. CAR-RIGER, 5185 Trask Street, Oakland, Calif.

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FOR EXCHANGE—15 1-1; 31a 1-1; 105.2 1-1, 107 1-1, 108.1 1-1; 116 1-1; 197 1-4; 464 1-4; 4741 N-2; 475 1-5; 486 1-5; 533 1-3; 538 1-4; 543 1-3; 560a N-4; 574.1 N-2; 604 1-4; 615 N-5; 622a 1-5; 629a N-4; 646a N-4; 726c N-6, N-5; 741 N-6; 743 N-7; 748a N-7, N-5. J. H. BOWLES, The Woodstock, Tacoma, Wash.

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# THE OÖLOGIST.

VOL. XXXV, No. 6 7 ALBION, N. Y., JULY 1, 1919.

WHOLE NO. 384

*Owned and Published Monthly, by R. M. Barnes, Albion, N. Y., and Lacon, Ill.*

## TAKE NOTICE.

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Examine the number on the wrapper of your Oologist. It denotes the time your subscription expires. Remember we must be notified if you wish it discontinued and all arrearages must be paid. 378 your subscription expires with this issue. 377 your subscription expired with December issue 1918. Other expirations can be computed by intermediate numbers at the rate of one number per month.

Entered as second-class matter December 21, 1903, at the post office at Albion, N. Y., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

### A Coming Surprise

The next issue (August) of The Oologist will contain another Ornithological and Oological Record. We will record and publish information concerning the nesting of the North American birds covering the nesting of which nothing is now known except by surmise. This will be accompanied by half tone illustrations of the birds at the nest and of the nest and eggs. The Oologist every once in a while puts over a scoop of this kind and in August we will put over a real one. Guess what bird it is.

R. M. Barnes.

## Collecting In British Columbia

J. A. Munro

(Continued from the June Oologist)

We stopped to talk with a "Klutchman" who was making buckskin by the roadside. She posed for her photograph and then told us the story of her life. Her man was "long time memloos," her neighbors were "masatche siwash," "ola time chaco, cop-suwalak" all her grub, and so on.

(Her husband was long time dead, her neighbors were bad Indians, come all the time and steal all her grub).

Camped in a downpour of rain, in a patch of sage-brush and spent the balance of the afternoon, skinning birds and picking wood-ticks off our necks.

This valley is higher than the Okanagan and the migration is not as far advanced.

April 26. Broke camp in the morning and went back through the Green Mountain Pass to the Okanagan; turned south on the Fairview Road and camped on a back-water of the Okanagan River, close to Vaseaux Lake. We have a fine level camping-ground, under a clump of huge yellow pines. The ground slopes gently down to the slough; on the east side is a wide expanse of brown tules, then the river, and far beyond, snow-topped mountains. A few hundred yards south is Vaseaux Lake, the shores tule fringed. It is warmer here and birds are plentiful. Sandhill Cranes (*Grus mexicana*) were heard flying over. Several mated pairs of Canada Geese were standing motionless on a sandbar on the shore of the lake and pheasants were screeching in the brush. Two Greater Yellowlegs, the first of the season stood thigh deep at the edge of the slough and the first Turkey Buzzards were seen, soaring specks against the blue sky. April 27. Cold north wind and rain. We found a derelict punt; anchored firm-

ly in the mud, with the seams caulked by a luxuriant growth of grass and weeds. It was an engineering feat to get her in the water, but we managed to do so finally, and pushed across the shallow end of the lake and into the slough, using narrow boards for paddles. Some misguided enthusiast introduced carp into Osooyos Lake, some years ago and now they swarm everywhere. Okanagan Falls stopped their spread to the north for some time, but a few have got over the obstruction and reached the southern end of Okanagan Lake. The shallows seemed alive with these spawning fish, the surface boiling and broken into hundreds of concentric rings, by their splashing and turning; one could foul-hook a fish at nearly every cast with a devon. Large mouth black bass, also spawning, had their nests along the edge of the slough; they are in the same category as the carp here, and are not protected. We killed a two and a half pound fish for our supper.

Western Tule Wrens, clinging to the tall brown tules, sang in jerky, estatic bursts of melody; Holboell's Grebe, far out in the lake, were calling in chorus, and at a distance their combined voices suggested a pack of coyotes. A beautiful adult male Marsh Hawk flying low over the tules, beating up and down the slough, methodically covering his hunting ground came in gunshot and paid the penalty of his rashness. Examination showed a few brown juvenal feathers on the back and flanks and led to speculation as to whether the hawk moults directly from the brown juvenal plumage into the fully adult blue plumage or whether there is an intermediate stage. Juvenals taken in March are sometimes paler than are the rich brown young of the year, but this paleness is possibly due to wear.

Small bands of Coots (*Felica ameri-*



cana) were feeding along the bushy margin of the slough and in the shallows of the lake; the mated "Honkers" were again seen flying low against the wind, over the swaying, rustling tules.

The clouds cleared away and the rain ceased in the evening, so we hurriedly packed our outfit and made Okanagan Falls before dark.

A resident told us that a pair of Sandhill Cranes (*Grus mexicana*) bred every year near the slough at Vaseaux Lake, where we had camped; he had seen half grown young the previous year.

April 28. A warm, clear morning we visited the rock bluff near the falls where the peregrines (*Falco peregrinus anatum*) had their eyrie, several years ago, but no birds were seen. We then motored eight miles east over a sandy road, through yellow pine flats, to a mountain ranch. This is mountain sheep country and the protected a small flock for several years. In the winter the ewes and yearlings come into his fields and feed with his stock. A pair of Golden Eagles have nested on a high rock bluff, within sight of the ranch house for several years.

We collect more (*Cyanocitta*) Jays and these all had the clear white eye-streak, diagnostic of ("annectens")

Started for Summerland at noon. From Penticton the road runs along the lake shore, under high sand cliffs, sparsely dotted with sage brush. From the car we could see flocks of Baldpates (*Mareca americana*) standing on the sandbars, and handsome, salmon-breasted green-headed mergansers (*mergus americana*) feeding in the shallows. These and the Mallards were all mated.

At Summerland we saw more Turkey Buzzards and the first western Chipping Sparrow (*Spezella socialis arizonae*).

April 29. Twenty Sandhill Cranes

seen flying over Trout Creek Point; Western Chipping Sparrows and Western Vesper Sparrows (*Poocetes graminus confinis*) are common and we noted the first alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii alnum*).

From a twenty-foot alder on the lake shore, we collected a set of six Western Crow (*Covus brachyrhchos hesperis*). The nest is typical, made of sticks and lined with shredded bark.

April 30. Bright clear day and we made an early start for Vernon. Stopped at Crescent beach where we had previously seen a Long-eared Owl (*Asia wilsonianus*) occupying a deserted crow's nest. This was in a small patch of brush, Black Haw Alders and Willows on the end of a grassy point. The Owl was quite hostile when we approached the nest, elevating her ear tufts and glaring with malevolent yellow eyes. There was only one egg in the nest so we did not disturb it. Collected a set of six fresh Magpie eggs (*Pica pica hudsonia*).

We crossed Okanagan Lake on the ferry at Westbank and reached Vernon late in the afternoon, travelling all day through settled country.

June 7. Over the same ground as on April 24, running as far as Hedley on the Similkameen River. A great difference in the number of birds seen along the road; on the Summerland-Penticton Road were dozens of Kestrels (*Falco sparverius phalaena*) setting on the telephone wires; Lewis Woodpeckers (*Asyndesmus lewisi*) flew ahead of the car, from tree to tree, their flight suggesting the Red-headed Woodpeckers of the east.

We stopped for lunch at the top of the Green Mountain Pass, under some century old Douglas Fir. The harsh call of a Western Tanager (*Piranga ludovicei*) was heard from the dark green forest and in a bushy thicket bordering a little stream, were Spured

Towhees (*Pipilo megalonyx montanus*) Shufeldts Junco (*Junco hyemalis connecteus*) and Sooty Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia rufena*).

In the sage-brush flats beside the Similkameen we watched that trim, handsome Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus strigata*) walking lark-like along the dusty road or on the fence-wire beside the female, ruffling his feathers, spreading his tail and displaying all his charms. Chipping Sparrows were plentiful but we looked in vain for that other little *Spizella* (*breweri*) which we expected to find in the sage-brush.

Everywhere the sandy soil was covered with the leafless, waxy blossom of (*Lewisia rediviva*), pink, mauve, cerise and violet, vivid dots of color on the bare ground. The Siwash name for this plant is *Spetluni*; they eat the semi-bitter root either fresh or dried.

We ran the car up an old logging road, half a mile into the Nickle Plate Canyon, and camped beside Twenty Mile Creek. On the north side the mountain towered up sheer, for two thousand feet—a bare wall of reddish rock; on the south side the Nickle Plate Mountain was less precipitous but higher and fir clad to the top. The creek was full to the brim, a coffee-colored torrent roaring over the boulders.

Rain started about five o'clock; looking up I was delighted to see a dozen or more Vaux Swift (*Chaetura vauxi*), circling, wheeling and dashing through the air with incredible speed. A number of the slower flying violet-green Swallows (*Tachycineta thalassina lepida*) were with them. I managed to shoot four Swifts with my twenty-two. Two were females and the condition of the ovaries and the worn breeding patch indicated that they were breeding. Sometimes

they chased each other, making a sharp chattering cry. They disappeared as quickly as they had come, flying so fast one could not follow them with binoculars. Perhaps they breed high up on the rock cliff in some chimney-like crevice.

There are few other birds on this deep narrow canyon, a solitary Robin whistled in the distance and on the evening the Olive-backed Thrush (*Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni*) sang through the rain; clear, pearl-like drops of melody.

June 8. All day a strong west wind roared up the canyon and there was rain at intervals. No birds could be seen under these conditions, so we prepared skins in front of the tent. In the afternoon, walked far up the canyon but saw no birds except two Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) and one Western Warbling Vireo (*Vireosylva gilva swainsoni*).

June 9. Strong west wind and heavy showers. Motored to Princeton and camped in grove of yellow pine, close to a small stream. This is open park-like country similar to the Okanagan. There is a fine tuft of pine-grass under the trees.

After lunch visited a little tule-fringed slough, a mile from the camp. Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) were nesting in the pines, a scant dozen of which were growing on the little hills, surrounding the small pond; several pairs of Northwestern Red-wings (*Agelaius phoeniceus caurinus*) had nests on the tule. This district is higher and with later spring than the Okanagan, evidence of which we found in the late blooming of the spring flowers that have now gone to seed in the Okanagan.

June 10. Last night was quite cold and it is only slightly warmer now. Made skins all day, hugging the fire.

Collected a number of chipmonks that are here in abundance; they appear to be more rufuscent than the Okanagan race (*affinis*). There are few pine squirrels, and all the white-bellied kind. We were hunting for the yellow-bellied species (*douglasi*) but saw none. A half-breed hunter told me that he had seen a few but that they are scarce. He mentioned that a few of the striped ground squirrels (*Tamias lateralis*) had recently appeared; they are probably coming into the valley from the Hope Mountains where they are abundant. My partner spent the day with this hunter, visiting his bear traps. One yearling bear was taken. At this season of the year they are feeding largely on wild vetches, which grow luxuriantly in many of the open glades in the yellow pine forest. We spent the evening at the half-breed's camp and in his Indian monosyllabic fashion he told us hunting stories. On one occasion when out of provisions he had lived for a week on fool-hens' eggs (*Canachites franklini*)—what a frightful waste!

A cold wind had been blowing without interruption since we arrived and birds are hard to locate. The following species were noted close to camp:

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*), common; Western Red-tail (*Buteo borealis calurus*), two seen; Desert Sparrow Hawk (*Falco sparverius phalaena*), not common; Richardson's Grouse (*Dendragapus obscurus richardsoni*), common; Rocky Mountain Hairy Woodpecker (*Dryobates villosus monticola*), common; Red-naped Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius nuchalis*), common; Lewis' Woodpecker (*Asyndesmus lewisi*), common; Calliope, Hummingbird (*Stellula calliope*), common; Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Nuttallornis borealis*), one seen; Hammonds Flycatcher (*Empidonax hammondi*), common; Western Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos hesperus*),

common; Western Meadowlark (*Stumella magna neglecta*), common; North western Red-wing (*Agelanus phoeniceus caurinus*), common; Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*), common; Western Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella socialis arizoneae*), common; Western Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus stragatus*), not common; Shufeldt's Junco (*Junco hyemalis connectens*), common; Sooty Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia rufina*), common; Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*), common; Calaveras Warbler (*Vermivora rubricapillas gutturalis*), common; Audubon's Warbler (*Dendroica auduboni auduboni*), common; Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus calendula*), common; Red-bellied Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*), common; Mountain Chickadee (*Penthestes gambeli gambeli*), common; Olive-backed Thrush (*Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni*), common; Western Robin (*Plainesticus migratorius propinquus*), common; Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*), common.

June 11. Heavy rain all day and we did not break camp until noon. Passing through Princeton again our way lay up the Tulameen River. The road was high above the river in many places blasted out of the hillside; a rock bluff on the inside and a steep slope into the canyon on the outside. The timber along the road is chiefly yellow pine and the soil dry and sandy.

Passing through a rock cutting a solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) flew across the front of the car; the air from her wings fanning our faces. Her nest was in a small crevice in the rock on a level with our eyes as we sat in the car. Examination showed it to be loosely constructed of dry grass, moss twigs and roots, lined with dry grass. The four eggs proved to be in an advanced stage of incubation.

Farther on a striped ground squirrel (*Tamias laealis*) ran along a hollow log and was added to our collection. He seemed rather out of place at such a low altitude (3000 feet) and in a yellow pine forest.

We had planned to camp at Otter Lake but the rain beat down so violently that we carried on: Passing through some heavy timber at the north end of Otter Lake we collected an adult Horned Owl and a half grown young one, still with quantities of down on the lower parts.

We stopped at 2: p. m. in the narrow canyon between the Tulameen and Nicola Valleys. The sides are steep and an accumulation of tumbled slide rock along the base of the cliffs was the home of dozens of rock rabbits (*Ochotona cuppes*). In the timber at the top of the canyon we could hear Clark's Nutcracker (*nucifraga columbiana*); the first heard for two years. Rufous Hummers (*Selasphorus rufus*) were very plentiful here.

Another few miles and we entered the lower Nicola, beautiful semi-open country dotted with small clear lakes, patches of cottonwoods and poplar, and groves of magnificent yellow pine. We camped in some pasture land, beside a small creek that lost itself in a dense willow bottom. Beaver have evidently been here for years, as the little creek is dammed in dozens of places and one loses ones way among a network of channels. Some of the dams are grown high with alders and willows and have become permanent features of the bottom. In the evening we needed a big fire for warmth. I called up a Screech Owl just at dusk.

June 12. Started into the hills about noon, part of the way along an ancient trail that led through a yellow pine forest into an open rolling country of small lakes. After four miles up-

hill on this rough cattle-track we reached an abandoned homestead beside a gem of a mountain lake, with heavily timbered shores. We left the loaded car intending to return in the evening and camp. A walk of seven miles along a fairly good trail, through a murray pine forest, brought us to Missezula Lake. Birds were not numerous, a few Hammond's Flycatchers, Red-naped Sapsuckers, Western Tanager, Calliope Hummingbird, Townsend's Solitaire and the ever interesting Olive-sided Flycatcher, always on the topmost twig of a murray pine, were the only species seen.

Missezula Lake is a typical, willow-fringed mountain lake, in the thick timbers. It is seven miles long and a half mile wide. There were no waterbirds and the shores of the lake and the timber are infested with mosquitos.

As we passed through an open glade in the murray pine, a large bear, ambled out of the bushes, twenty yards ahead and my partner shot him before he reached the shelter of the timber. It was necessary to light a smudge before we could skin the animal in any degree of comfort. We worked in a haze of smoke and mosquitos.

A pair of Rocky Mountain Hairy Woodpeckers (*Dryobates villosus monticola*) had their nest in a poplar close to where the bear fell. I could hear the incessant, strident voices of the young long before I located the nest hole, which was eight feet above the ground. The female was greatly excited, clinging to the tree close to the hole, with head feathers erected and scolding continuously.

When we reached the car again the mosquitos were so hostile, that we gave up the idea of camping and went back to the camping ground of last night.

June 13. In the early morning we



followed up the little creek, through a narrow winding valley to a wide beaver dam, and caught four dozen small trout. They have not long finished spawning and are thin and poor. The balance of the days was spent wading through the willow bottom, with its innumerable sloughs and beaver dams. A brood of half grown Green-wing Teal (*Nettion carolinense*) were seen flapping over the weedy surface of a beaver dam and three Barrows Golden-eye were flushed in the same pond. These were non-breeding females, the young of last year. A specimen collected had begun to moult and the brownish black bill showed a few traces of the chrome yellow of the adult female.

The willows were swarming with birds; Yellow-throats (*Geothlypis trichas arizela*) are here in great number, much more common than the Yellow Warblers.

The following species were seen close to the camp and were all common, with the exception of Pileated Warblers, Sandhill Crane, Sora and Western Red-tail.

Mallard, (*Anas platyrhynchos*); Green-wing Teal, (*Nettion carolinense*); Barrows Golden-eye, (*Clangula islandica*); Spotted Sandpiper, (*Actites macularius*); Sora, (*Porzana carolina*); Sandhill Crane, (*Grus mexicana*); Western Red-tail, (*Buteo borealis calurus*); Desert Sparrow Hawk, (*Falco sparverius phalaena*); MacFarlanes Screech Owl, (*Otus asio macfarlanei*); Rocky Mountain Hairy Woodpecker, (*Dryobates vellosa monticola*); Red-naped Sapsucker, (*Spyrapicus varius nuchalis*); Red-shafted Flicker, (*Colaptes cafer collaris*); Alden Flycatcher, (*Empidonax traillii alnorum*); Olive-sided Flycatcher, (*Nuttallornis borealis*); Hammonds Flycatcher, (*Empidonax hammondi*); Kingbird, (*Tyrannus tyrannus*); Belt-

ed Kingfisher, (*Ceryle alcyon*); Calli-Hummingbird, (*Stellula calliope*); Rufous Hummingbird, (*Selasphorus rufus*); Brewers Blackbird, (*Ezphagus cyanocephalus*); Northwestern Red-wing, (*Agelaius phoeniceus caurinus*); Western Meadowlark, (*Sturnella neglecta*); Clarks Nutcracker, (*Nucifraga columbiana*); Western Crow, (*Corvus brachyrhynchus hesperis*); Western Vesper Sparrow, (*Poocetes gramineus confinis*); Sooty Song Sparrow, (*Melospiza melodia rufina*); Tree Swallow, (*Iridoprocne bicolor*); Rough-winged Swallow, (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*); Barn Swallow, (*Herundo erythrogastra*); Cliff Swallow, (*Petrochelidon lunifrons lunifrons*); Western Warbling Vireo, (*Vireosylva gilva swainsoni*); Western Tanager, (*Piranga ludoviciana*); Alaska Yellow Warbler, (*Dendroica aestiva rubiginosus*); Pacific Yellowthroat, (*Geothlypis trechas arizela*); Pileolated Warbler, (*Wilsonia pusilla pileolata*); Townsend Solitaire, (*Myadestes townsendi*); Willow Thrush, (*Hylocichla fuscesens salicicola*); Olive-backed Thrush, (*Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni*); Western Robin, (*Planesticus migratorius Propiucus*); Mountain Bluebird, (*Sialia currucoides*).

June 14. Our bear hide had dried quickly in the hot sun and we were able to leave this morning about ten o'clock. We traveled about forty miles to Nicola Lake and camped on the Indian reserve at the mouth of Quilchenan Creek. Nicola Lake is about eighteen miles long and two miles wide, the hills surrounding the lake are bare for the most part, but there is a thick forest of cottonwoods along part of the shore. There is some marsh at the south end. We stopped at one place to watch a Holboells Grebe, setting on her nest in plain view from the road. She called loud-

ly at short intervals for ten minutes and her mate swam slowly in to the patch of rushes where the nest was built. The female slipped off the nest and swam out into the lake and the male took her place on the eggs.

Few other birds were seen along the shore except Mallards, Coots and Loons.

Our camp is on the edge of the muddy, swollen creek, a few rods from an Indian's house. He gave us piles of beaver hay for bedding and his "klutch," a "Cultus potlatch," (little present) in the shape of a dish of stewed rhubarb.

Across the creek is a grove of lordly cottonwoods and some cleared land. Mosquitos settled on us in dense clouds and we spent the evening in a thick smudge; as is usual in the mountains they all disappeared shortly after sundown when the air became cooler.

Close over our heads in the green center of an aspen, only half visible in the waning light, a Catbird is singing profusely, a sustained ecstasy of melody, greeting the new risen, honey-colored moon. Hiyuh wah-wah, the Indian calls him.

June 15. Six Barrows Golden-eye were in the river close to the tent; they were feeding in the still, dead water, where the river had overflowed its banks. These were young of last year and were not breeding. They seemed to be responding to an aboriginal mating instinct, that showed itself in excited chasing and playing, in simulation of the courtship actions of the adults in the spring. Several of them kept flying into holes in the dead cottonwoods, that, upon later investigation, proved to be empty. Three stood on a partly submerged log and cleaned their feather with their bills. No adults of either sex were seen.

A handsome drake American Mer-

ganser was fishing at the mouth of the creek, the first slanting rays of the sun burnishing his sleek green head and salmon colored breast.

This lake is teeming with fish. The Indians took us out in a punt and we caught Steelheads, Suckers, Squawfish whitefish and that curious little degenerate salmon, the Kokanee. This little fish is found in most of the lakes of British Columbia and its life-history is exactly that of the salmon, except that it is spent entirely in fresh water. At this time of year they are bright silver; in the autumn when running up the creeks to spawn the silver scales have been shed and the males are a rich salmon-red on the side and back. The bait we were given to use was in the nature of a revelation—ants' eggs and wild rose petals, wrapped on the hook with thread!

We left Nicola Lake at eleven a. m. and reached Salmon River late in the afternoon. A seventyfive mile run, the first half through an open cattle country, of rolling bunch-grass hills and deep narrow lakes—the shores open and with no cover for waterfowl. The latter part down hill, through mile after mile of yellow pine.

We are camped in a clearing in the forest just above the Salmon River. Thick fir forest shuts us in on three sides. The river, muddy and opaque, from the spring freshet is between us and an opening in the hills through which we can see, a few cleared fields, then more forest and far in the distance, bare bunch-grass hills.

There is the usual evening chorus of Olive-backed and Willow Thrushes but the forest is too thick to attract many birds. This is twenty miles from home and our last day.

**Sparrow Hawk.****Florida Sparrow Hawk?**

While in Florida last winter I had occasion to pass the Palm Beach County Court House many times. It is a rather new building and I looked it over carefully. In doing so I naturally noted a pair of Sparrow Hawks who seemed to literally haunt it. I soon forgot the building and watched the Hawks who were either chasing each other or sitting on the edge of the roof. Finally I saw the reason for their remaining right in the town. Some English Sparrows were busy in the street, when down pounced a Sparrow Hawk and got a nice fat sparrow. The mate followed closely and also got one. Then both flew up on the roof of the Court House to dine. I saw this repeated several times, and usually each Hawk got a sparrow until finally sparrows got to be very rare in that neighborhood and soon the hawks left, I suppose to nest as well as to find food, but in two weeks the sparrows were replaced by others and if the Hawks ever returned I did not see them.

F. M. Carryl,

Maplewood, N. J.

Florida Sparrow Hawks?—editor.

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**Black Snake**

Rambling in the woods on a summer day, my eye caught sight of a singular object, projecting in a loop, from the side of a fifteen foot high, dead, smooth elm snag, being what at first I thought was an iron swing some eight inches in diameter. Instead of an iron swing the loop proved to be so much the body of a large black snake. In some way the snake had managed to climb this bare pole, the remains of a fallen tree and had entered the hole where a pair of Yellow Hummers were nesting. Its entire body, except the loop being hidden in

the cavity. Procuring a pole of suitable length, it was carefully inserted in the loop, without disturbing the nest robber, and with a vigorous outward thrust of the same, an attempt was made to bring the snake to the ground. The attempt was a failure; the rough, scaly body clinging closely to the edges of the entrance of the nest. But the occupant thus disturbed, thrust forth his head, darted out his tongue fiercely for a few times and then disappeared in the cavity and there remained. The pole was inserted in the opening and his snakeship was left a prisoner, for the purpose of examination on a future visit. On a later visit, this had been moved by some meddler and other observations were frustrated. Query? How did this serpent manage to reach his perch? The pole of the stump, some fifteen feet high was barkless, almost perpendicular and perfectly smooth. It was entirely too large for the body of the snake to reach around and ascend by an encircling motion. This species of reptile is known to be an expert climber and bird nest robber, but it does not seem clear as to just how it accomplished the former, and a full explanation of the operation would not lack interest.

W. H. H. Baker, M. D.,

Harvey, Ia.

The black snake is a great tree climber and a notorious destroyer of young birds and eggs.—Editor.

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**Cooper's Hawk**

On Easter Sunday I was out with a view to locating Hawks or Owls nests and about two miles out of this city in a very lonesome part of the country I saw a Cooper's Hawk. On looking about for a while was at last delighted to see a nest in a pine tree. This tree was larger than any of the



Nest and Eggs of the Spruce Grouse in Situ—Photo by Robie W. Tufts





Nesting Site and Eggs of the Canada Spruce Grouse—Photo by Robie W. Tufts

others in the vicinity and in order to reach the first limb a 35 foot scale was necessary. I tried it but the body of the tree was too large to get any hold on. I then went back back to Petersburg and the next day, Easter Monday, went back with a supply of spikes and ropes. I tried the spikes and then the ropes but both failed. It looked like the nest was safe as far as I was concerned but after going home and thinking the thing over I decided to try a rope ladder. So I got a plentiful supply of plow line and sticks and in about an hour, with the aid of my brother, I had completed a very credible rope ladder.

We decided to have another try the next morning and so set out in a Ford with daylight. On arriving at the tree the bird left the nest and circled high in the aid to see what was going to happen. We threw a small cord over the first limb and secured a rope to that. Then we pulled our ladder up to the limb and fastened the rope securely to another tree.

While my brother held the end of the ladder I went up and I was surely glad to get my hands on the first limb. The ladder gave about six inches for every foot I went up so I climbed about 50 feet to reach a 35 foot limb. There was only one egg but I didn't suppose the bird would come back to the nest after seeing it molested, so I took it.

This is the first Cooper Hawk to be found in this section for sometime.

Irving C. Lunsford,  
Petersburg, Virginia.

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#### A Days Outing In South West Missouri

An account of a days outing in the Southwest Missouri. A word is necessary first about the locality. Situated between the sources of the James River and Flat Creek it is only an 18

mile drive to a very good camp site on the Flat Creek. Early in the morning of May 15th I jumped in my car and tore out for the creek. Being down the head water of the creek, the road is in an excellent bird path and many rare birds have I seen along it. Of course I saw many birds along the road, and I suppose I saw almost a hundred Red-headed Woodpeckers' and Flickers' nest holes.

When I arrived at the creek my first sight of bird life was several Phoebes under a bridge and a lot of Rough-winged Swallows and a Kingfisher along a high bank. I did not disturb them but went up on the stream about three miles, fishing, then put up my fishing tackle and began to hunt birds. I did not have very good luck finding many nests. My first find was a Cardinal's nest with one bird and a piped egg, built in the overhanging roots about four feet above the water. I located this nest while searching for a Louisiana Water Thrush or a Marsh Wren's nest, both of whom I had seen enter the same roots from which I flushed the Cardinal. I found Phoebe nests with three to five eggs or young under nearly every ledge, seeing about twenty nests in the three miles. One ledge near the creek is a bare table of rock rising out of the water, and is one of my favorite fishing places, and in climbing down the weather-beaten side of the rock I found a nearly concealed nest of Louisiana Waterthrush containing one young bird and a fresh Cowbird's egg.

Along the creek are numerous fire-killed sycamore trees which are veritable tenant houses for Woodpeckers, Flickers, and I found one Sparrow Hawk and one Screech Owl inhabiting holes in these trees but it is almost impossible to climb them so I

did not know if all were nesting or not.

Coming back down on the bank I found the Kingfisher to be just starting his tunnel and the Swallow had just begun to carry grass into theirs, so I left them alone, although not good for collecting it was an enjoyable day of bird study.

The following is a list of birds I saw that day, from 7 a. m. until dark:

194 Great Blue Heron  
 200 Little Blue Heron  
 263 Spotted Sandpiper  
 289 Bobwhite  
 316 Mourning Dove  
 325 Turkey Vulture  
 326 Black Vulture  
 331 Marsh Hawk  
 333 Cooper Hawk  
 337 Red-tailed Hawk  
 373 Screech Owl  
 387 Yellow Billed Cuckoo  
 390 Downy Woodpecker  
 405 Pileated Woodpecker  
 406 Red-headed Woodpecker  
 412 Flicker  
 420 Night Hawk  
 423 Chimney Swift  
 428 Ruby-throated Hummingbird  
 444 King Bird.  
 452 Crested Flycatcher  
 456 Phoebe  
 474 Blue Jay  
 488 Crows  
 495 Cowbird  
 498 Red-winged Blackbird  
 501 Meadowlark  
 508 Orchard Oriole  
 511 Bronzed Grackle  
 529 Goldfinch  
 552 Lark Sparrow  
 560 Chipping Sparrow  
 597 Blue Grosbeak  
 604 Dickcissel  
 613 Barn Swallow  
 622 Loggerheaded Shrike  
 636 Yellow Warbler  
 68- Md. Yellow Throat

684 Hooded Warbler  
 703 Mocking Birds  
 705 Brown Thrasher  
 727 White-breasted Nuthatch  
 735 Chickadee  
 555 White-throated Sparrow  
 563 Field Sparrow  
 593 Cardinal  
 598 Indigo Bunting  
 611 Purple Martin  
 617 Rough-winged Swallow  
 624 Red-eyed Vireo  
 676 La. Water Thrush  
 683 Yellow-breasted Chat  
 704 Catbird  
 719 Caroline Wren  
 725 Long-billed Marsh Wren  
 731 Tufted Titmouse  
 761 Robin  
 766 Blue Bird

I had no field glasses with me, and this list was compiled by close observation.

Johnson Neff,  
 Marionville, Missouri.

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#### An Illinois Turkey Buzzard.

On May the 28th of this year, a young farmer came into my office looking wild eyed, and stated that he had that morning shot a big bird which he believed was a buzzard and laid himself liable to a fine, and he wanted to know what he should do about it. He had never seen one of these great birds close up and he shot it thinking it to be a big hawk.

Questioned about it, he said that the crows had something treed over in his woods and suspecting a big owl or hawk, he had slipped up close and when it flew out of the tree gave it a shot on the wing, bringing it down dead. Needing one of these big birds to complete my collection of mounted raptors, I asked him to bring it to me, promising to protect him from any fine. He phoned out to his son and in about a half hour, the bird was

before me. It was indeed a fine old male Vulture and in fair condition, though the stomach was entirely empty. It measured 36 inches from tip to tip and 34 inches in length. Though formerly quite common here, I have not seen one for many years and have been unsuccessful in getting one from the South. It is almost a sacrilege to kill one down there. However, I succeeded in getting a fine black Vulture from Wirz of Augusta, Ga. Forty years ago Buzzards were very common here in Fulton County but since the law now requires that all dead stock must be buried or burned, they have doubtless found such hard picking that they have deserted the county for localities where people are not so particular. The writer has seen 40 to 50 at a time perched along a fence where a dead horse or cow was lying. Our time, many years ago, when turkey hunting, just at the dusk of evening and slipping up little creek bottom, a half dozen turkey were flushed from the roost and went straight up the hollow. Hearing some alighting in the trees several hundred yards up, I followed, and though it became night, I discerned a big bird sitting on an old white oak that leaned far out in the little creek. At the crack of the gun the bird came tumbling to the ground, and running up to secure my big turkey I was much disgusted to find instead an old Buzzard lying on his back in the water and heaving up Jonah. But I was not to be deprived of my turkey for hearing one light in some oaks in a field a quarter of a mile south I lined the direction and cautiously approaching located him by the bright moonlight in the very top of a small sapling and he was my meat, a fine gongouler.

The last Buzzard of which I have knowledge before this one fell to my

lot, was secured by some miners, on a Sunday at the little mining village Dumfermline, in this county. Those foreigners usually put in their Sundays hunting and everything that wears feathers is game to them. On this occasion they had secured "one big bird," and had a feast. Next morning they failed to report for work, and the boss repaired to their shacks to know the reason why. Their spokesman informed him, "We no work. Sick like helle. Eat too much big chick." He made investigation and found they had the day before killed an old buzzard and feasted with the above results. The Buzzard is about as unattractive, ungainly bird as one would wish to see and yet in their flight and great circles, one of wonderful grace and beauty. In my earlier collecting days I occasionally found their nests in the big sycamore stubs on Spoon River and once found a nest in a big hollow log. The eggs invariably two as big as a turkey and very attractive with their chocolate, brown, and white markings. No nesting material was ever used and the old bird would utter grunting sounds followed by a hiss like a goose.

Dr. W. S. Strode,  
Lewiston, Ill.

We have a number of sets of the eggs of this bird taken by ourselves at Lacon, Ill. They are now rare.

—Editor.

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#### Wisconsin Bird Notes.

June 2, 1918, 2:50 a. m. first notes of American Bittern; 3:00, Purple Martin; 3:10, American Robin and Catbird; 3:15, Catbird and American Robin; 4:30, Baltimore Oriole; 4:40, Mourning Dove, Rail; 5:00, House Wren, English Sparrow last but not least.

Page 58, column 2, Oologist for April, 1919, does Mr. L. E. Healy



mean to say that the Kingfisher came from the water with a fish in his claws? Page 54, column 2, March, 1919, what kind of a bird is a Ruby Crowned Knight?

Mr. Elmer Langevin, Crookstown, Minn., page 156-7 Oologist for December, 1918, isn't it quite possible that Mr. Farmer was mistaken in the kind of hawk that was stealing his chickens? Some farmers think it was the "Blue Hawk" and one day when a Marsh Hawk flew near the house they were sure it was the kind that took their chickens; whereas the hawk to blame was a Coopers Hawk.

And isn't it possible that a Cooper Hawk might build a nest on the ground, and that you yourself are mistaken in the birds? They have come mighty near nesting on the ground here. I cannot agree with you that his reputation is "bad, very bad." In Fisher's Hawks and Owls, several authorities are given on the food of the Marsh Hawk, and only Fishers mentioned that it ever tasted poultry, and that only occasionally and in the table given are only three cases it out of 124.

On a Welsh farm, found 12 cats, some, however, kittens but at least 4 or 5 old ones and one kitten at least being raised.

One Robin in a nest but though it was their eight weeks, I saw no young. One pair of Blue Jays built and some Barn Swallows were there one day or two before I left. A few wild Sparrows, a pair of Spotted Sandpipers and a pair of Killdeer, Marsh Black Birds, Rails and Bittern in a near by camp and "Crows" bigger and more plentiful than last year. A pair of Red-tails and one of Marsh Hawks was the extent of the birds except an abundance of English Sparrows. It is useless to tell a woman who is raising chickens that crows are useful. It is

surprising the number of wild birds and eggs that are destroyed and never come to anything, especially in fields being cultivated and in marshes and pastures.

Geo. W. H. Vos Burgh,  
Columbus, Wis.

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#### Iowa Notes.

Last July while driving from my home to town I noticed a Night Hawk sitting near one side of the road on the pavement. I drove quite close to it before it flew away.

The next day as I drove to town there was the Night Hawk sitting in about the same place and off and on for about two weeks that Night Hawk could be found in about the same place quietly sitting and seemingly unafraid.

One day I thought I would see how close I could drive to it and if I had not turned the car quickly I could have driven over it as it refused to fly. As this is the Maine Street paving that is close, and there is a heavy traffic, I have an idea it was finally killed by some car as it suddenly disappeared. I was always watching for the Night Hawk and there he sat comical and serene as could be.

One day I stopped and put my hand on the pavement as it was a very hot day and I found it almost as hot as a stove. I wondered how he could stand it but it did not seem to trouble him in the least. This pavement is made of asphalt and crushed rock and in fact was so near the color of the Night Hawk that one had to look closely to see the bird. I don't imagine any one else gave it a thought, but we bird men are quick to notice any queer action of our feathered bird friends.

#### House Wrens.

I have three Wren houses this year and secured two pairs of Wrens.

Nothing unusual about this, but one of the males has a quite long tail for a wren. He certainly looks odd. Perhaps he got crossed with a pea fowl. That is about the way newspaper ornithology would explain it.

#### Snowy Owl.

(*Nyctea Nyctea*)

One was taken here last November and is now in my collection. It is almost pure white. It is very beautiful and I have never seen one so free from any dark markings as this one.

Iowa is a northern state but the appearance of the Snowy Owl here is not at all common and in fact it is the very first one ever brought in to me. I have followed Taxidermy since a boy and I am the only bird man in this locality. I always receive and hear of the unusuals that are seen or taken. Our winter was very mild and for that reason would hardly think the Snowy Owl would have drifted in to Iowa.

#### Cardinals.

(*Cardinalis cardinalis*.)

Last fall I saw my first Cardinal in our county, which is Delaware county. I have heard of Cardinals in counties south of us, but never have I heard of or seen one in this county before, and I have been in the woods and the fields for more than thirty-five years.

The first one I observed was a male, and it was very rich in color and so much more beautiful than any I had seen in the Southern states. A pair wintered a few blocks from my home, and were a source of much interest to some of our town people, and were fed by them and they became quite tame. I sincerely hope the Cardinal will become one of our permanent residents.

O. M. Greenwood,  
Manchester, Ia.

#### Birds Seen At Oberlin, Ohio—From February to June, 1919.

Helen M. Rice.

##### Winter Residents:

Brown Creeper  
Tree Sparrow  
Golden-crowned Kinglet  
Slate-colored Junco  
Purple Finch  
Winter Wren  
Red-breasted Nuthatch  
White-breasted Nuthatch  
Northern Shrike  
Cardinal  
Bob-white  
Chickadee  
Goldfinch  
Marsh Hawk  
Sparrow Hawk  
Red-shouldered Hawk  
Blue Jay  
Screech Owl  
Tufted Titmouse  
Downy Woodpecker  
Hairy Woodpecker  
Date of Arrival of Migrant and Nesting Birds:  
Crow—Feb. 7  
Meadowlark—Feb. 7  
Northern Flicker—Feb. 7  
Song Sparrow, Feb. 10  
Robin—Feb. 10  
Pr. Horned Lark—Feb. 23  
Bluebird—Feb. 24  
Bronzed Grackle—Feb. 28  
Red-tailed Hawk—Mar. 2  
Mourning Dove—Mar. 3  
Killdeer—Mar. 4  
Red-winged Blackhead—Mar. 10  
Towhee—Mar. 13  
Cowbird—Mar. 16  
Red-bellied Woodpecker—Mar. 16  
Rusty Blackbird—Mar. 20  
Lesser Scaup Duck—Mar. 17  
Bufflehead—Mar. 17  
Cedar Waxwing—Mar. 26  
Phoebe—Mar. 26  
Vesper Sparrow—Mar. 29  
Fox Sparrow—Apr. 2  
Belted Kingfisher—Apr. 3  
Great Blue Heron—Apr. 3  
Field Sparrow—Apr. 5  
Hermit Thrush—Apr. 6  
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker—Apr. 7  
Purple Martin—Apr. 7  
Turkey Vulture—Apr. 7  
Wilson's Snipe—Apr. 7  
Chipping Sparrow—Apr. 7  
Swamp Sparrow—Apr. 7

- Greater Scaup Duck—Apr. 6  
 Woodcock—Apr. 8  
 Brown Thrasher—Apr. 10  
 Mallard—Apr. 12  
 Coot—Apr. 12  
 Pigeon Hawk—Apr. 13  
 Bank Swallow—Apr. 17  
 Sharp-shinned Hawk—Apr. 19  
 Broad-winged Hawk—Apr. 19  
 Myrtle Warbler—Apr. 18  
 Black and White Warbler—Apr. 20  
 Rough-winged Swallow—Apr. 21  
 House Wren—Apr. 21  
 Bobolink—Apr. 23  
 Warbling Vireo—Apr. 26  
 Pied-billed Grebe  
 Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher  
 Yellow Warbler—Apr. 30  
 Grasshopper Sparrow—Apr. 30  
 Wood Thrush—May 2  
 Gt. Yellow-legs—May 3  
 Green Heron—May 3  
 Oven-bird—May 3  
 Catbird—May 3  
 Kingbird—May 3  
 Red-headed Woodpecker—May 3  
 Baltimore Oriole—May 3  
 Palm Warbler—May 3  
 Maryland Yellow-throat—May 3  
 Crested Flycatcher—May 3  
 Scarlet Tanager—May 3  
 Water Thrush—May 3  
 Redstart—May 3  
 Cerulean Warbler—May 3  
 Whip-poor-will—May 3  
 Indigo Bunting—May 3  
 Magnolia Warbler—May 3  
 Blackburnian Warbler—May 3  
 Canada Warbler—May 4  
 Olive-backed Thrush—May 4  
 Black-throated Green Warbler—May 4  
 Red-eyed Vireo—May 4  
 Nashville Warbler—May 4  
 Veery—May 4  
 White-crowned Sparrow—May 4  
 Crestnut-sided Warbler—May 4  
 Blue-headed Vireo—May 5  
 Blue-winged Warbler—May 5  
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak—May 5  
 Yellow-throated Vireo—May 5  
 Black-throated Blue Warbler—May 5  
 Wood Pewee—May 5  
 Cooper's Hawk—May 5  
 Conn. Warbler—May 6  
 Nighthawk—May 6  
 Yellow-breasted Chat—May 6  
 Golden-winged Warbler—May 6  
 Hooded Warbler—May 6  
 Yellow-billed Cuckoo—May 7  
 Common Tern—May 7  
 Least Flycatcher—May 7  
 Bay-breasted Warbler—May 7  
 Prairie Warbler—May 7  
 Black Tern—May 11  
 Bittern—May 11  
 Long-billed Marsh Wren—May 12  
 Sora—May 12  
 Florida Gallinule—May 12  
 Orchard Oriole—May 14  
 Gray-cheeked Thrush—May 14  
 Pipit—May 6  
 Cliff Swallow—May 17  
 Solitary Sandpiper—May 18  
 Acadian Flycatcher—May 18  
 Black-billed Cuckoo—May 18  
 Wilson's Warbler—May 18  
 Alder Flycatcher—May 18  
 Semi-palmated Sandpiper—May 18  
 Northern Parula Warbler—May 21  
 Tenn. Warbler—May 21  
 Ruby-throated Hummingbird—May 21  
 Black-poll Warbler—May 21  
 Cape May Warbler—May 21  
 White-eyed Vireo—May 22  
 Philadelphia Vireo—May 22  
 Kink Rail—May 26  
 Least Bittern—May 26

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#### D. I. Shepardson

Mr. D. I. Shepardson of Los Angeles, California, died of the "Flu" at his home January 2nd, 1919 and we have just received word of this fact.

In the death of Mr. Shepardson, the Oologist loses a staunch supporter and its Editor a highly valued personal friend. During our many visits to the state of California we have frequently met Mr. Shepardson and nobody in that Golden State has treated us with more courtesy. Numbers of days spent with Mr. Shepardson in the field in that locality will remain always a cherished memory. We found him an enthusiastic, capable, energetic and thoroughly reliable field man, as well as a splendid associate and an entertaining conversationalist and a widely read young man whose death we have no doubt will be sincerely mourned by a large circle of friends. We well recollect the kindness extended by Mr. Shepardson to the Editor while lying in a hospital at Los Angeles. It is truly sad to have to record his demise.

—Editor.

**Adolf B. Covert.**

It may be interesting to some of the older ornithologists to know that Adolph B. Covert dropped dead from heart failure in the old Franklin House in Detroit, Michigan, January 19th, 1919, aged 65 years.

Mr. Covert was connected with the Ann Arbor Museum for eight years and while there published a list of birds of Washetenaw County, and after leaving Ann Arbor he was connected with various other museums, among some of which were Chicago and Springfield, Ill., Pittsburgh, Pa., and Philadelphia and he assisted John Lewis Childs in arranging his collection. He was probably one of the best posted men in ornithology in the state of Michigan, having made birds a study all his life. He was at one time president of the Michigan Ornithological Club, and I think he was a member of the Nuttæ Club, the Bulletin of which was followed by the "Auk." He held a position as time keeper at the Michigan Steele Castings Company at Detroit at the time of his death. His remains were brought to Plymouth, Mich., and buried in Riverside Cemetery. The last work he ever done in Taxidermy was to mount three wild Canada Geese for me, for my little museum. It is impossible for me to do him full justice for I have not a full history of his life. But it may be said of him, "He has fought a good fight. He has finished his course." Peace be to his ashes.

J. B. Purdy,  
Plymouth, Mich.

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**Books Received**

"The Oologists' Exchange & Mart" Number 1, June 1, 1919 issue of this publication by Kenneth L. Skinner, Brooklands Estate Office, Waybridge, England, is here, a four page publi-

cation of about the size of the Oologist. The issue, of course, being largely devoted to preliminary matters with relation to the dates and times of publication and price (\$1.00 per annum.) The mechanical make-up is good. A list of subscribers (40 in number), together with their post office address is appended. The purpose of this publication as announced in its "Foreword" is well expressed in its title. It is to bring into communication the collectors of Oological specimens in all parts of the world, as The Oologist does those engaged in North American Oology; and it is announced "a collector wishing to become a subscriber must be proposed and seconded by existing subscriber and must, if required, give to the Editor satisfactory references as to his standing."

A list of subscribers contains names from Australia, Canada, England, Scotland, United States, France, Trinidad, Ireland and India.

The much discussed question of "data" is given a page of space in this first issue. There is perhaps no other question relating to Oological records that has been so much discussed and concerning which so little progress has been made. Brother Skinner suggests that datas be made on standard index cards 5 x 3 inches, which is but one of hundreds of suggestions that have been made in years gone by relative to the adoption of a standard data blank. We hope progress will be made along this line.

Not the least interesting portion of this publication is a supplement consisting of a "private and confidential" list of advertisers issued privately to subscribers only and which we believe will prove of much value if it is kept up in the form in which the first issue comes out.—Editor.

. Nests on Dr. W. L. Abbott's Second



Collection of Birds of Sinalure Island, Western Sumatra by Harry C. Oberholser—Separate proceedings of the United States National Museum, Vol. 55 pages 473-98-1919. This paper, as it's title indicates, is a truly technical treatment of the birds included therein and is handled with the usual thoroughness of Dr. Oberholser.—Editor.

"Birds of My Boyhood," by Howard Jones, Circleville, Ohio, 1915. This paper was read by the author before the Wilson Ornithological Society in 1915. It is a very well prepared resume of the birds observed by Dr. Jones in his boyhood and contains much valuable information with reference to the fauna of that territory from 1850 to 1880. Appended to the publication is a list of birds observed from 1906 to 1916 in Pickoway County, Ohio, by the author. It is too bad that more ornithologists and oologists do not give us the benefit of their observations made in early life.

—Editor.

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#### The Plumbeous Chickadee.

I was out croppie fishing March 10th. The croppies bit very well until after sun up, then they slowed down, so I went to watching the birds. I sat in my boat and observed many Woodpeckers, Crested Flycatchers, Tufted Titmouse, Plumbeous Chickadees and Kingfishers. The sun was very bright and the old dead timber out in the lake was alive with birds. So I kept my eyes open for birds carrying nesting material. Not many minutes passed, when I spied a Plumbeous Chickadee in a dead tree, collecting moss. She flew to a dead tree near the bank of the lake. There were three Woodpecker holes in the tree and she went into the middle hole. I took out my book and made a note of it. I knew by her carrying moss, the nest was just started. As

moss is the first material used in making a foundation for the nest. A few minutes later she passed again with moss. I gave her four days in which to complete the nest, and the nest was completed on the fourteenth day of March. I lined them up for a full set and on the twenty-third, late in the evening, after my boat and minnow trade had ceased, I took my motor boat and hit the trail to pay the chickadees a visit. Arriving at the tree, and with the kind and careful assistance of Jake Zeitlin, an enthusiastic ornithologist, we collected the set.

I tied the boat to a tree and got out on deck, then climbed to the hole and looked out. Out came Mrs. Chickadee and hollered for help and her old man was soon on the job, cussing me for everything he could think of. I came down to the lower limb and Mr. Zeitlin handed me a saw. I sawed a part of the top limb off, then I removed the side near the hole. There were eight fresh eggs as expected. After passing them down to Mr. Zeitlin I proceeded to saw the nesting cavity from the tree. After collecting the nest, eggs, and the part of the tree that the nest was in we made a careful and accurate data as follows: "A. O. U. 736 a Plumbeous Chickadee, collected by Ramon Graham, assisted by Jake Zeitlin. Located twenty feet from the banks of Lake Worth, in a dead tree twenty feet from the banks of Lake Worth, in a dead tree twelve feet up from the water. The water here is a creek channel and is thirty feet deep. The tree near east bank one and one half miles north east of Nine Mile bridge and bathing beach, in a motor boat when collected, near Fish point of Sansons Ranch, March 23, 1919, set mark 20-8 incubation fresh, eight eggs in set. Identity sure. Some of the same birds were identified by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture sev-

eral years ago when E. E. Moffat and Ramon Graham collected and sent them to Washington. The nest was composed of rock and tree moss, fine dead grasses, few feathers, several bunches of cotton and plenty Cotton tail Rabbit hair. The nesting cavity was as follows and was taken down in three parts; nest eight inches below the entrance, nest in a Red Bellied Woodpecker's hole; entrance  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter. A fork was eight inches above the hole; right inside the hole was much larger and resembled an egg, pole tree inches inside the diameter. The tree was Spanish oak, dead and very shaky and probably would not have stood another storm, nesting cavity and eggs collected at 6 p. m."

Ramon Graham,  
Ft. Worth, Texas.

---

#### The Power of the Bald Eagle.

Our national bird, the Bald Eagle, wild in its native haunts, is so large, so majestic and flies with an evidence of so enormous strength that one is impressed with the thought that here is the king of birds. On one occasion, while eating my lunch in the shade of a little bush on a southern prairie, I saw one carry off a lamb, writes T. Gilbert Pearson of the Audubon Society. The noise of some running sheep not far away caused me to look up just as the Eagle rose from the ground with its prey. It did not once pause and flutter its wings, as birds of prey sometimes do, in order to get a better hold of its burden, for it seemed to have seized the lamb securely when it first made its downward plunge. The bird flew with truly surprising swiftness and bore the weight of its "kill" without apparent effort. I watched it for half a mile or more until it disappeared in the forest, and

not once did it show any indication of weariness.

Years later I read an account written by a bird student who watched an eagle alight on the beach after having carried a lamb weighing more than the bird itself for a distance of five miles across a body of water. It is hard to believe that a bird may be strong enough to accomplish such a task as that.

Bald Eagles catch many of the larger water birds, especially wounded ducks. On the lakes and sounds where much hunting is carried on in winter many hundreds of crippled wild fowl are left behind when the flocks migrate north in spring. They fall an easy prey to the eagles that usually frequent such regions.

Once I saw one capture a broken-winged coot in Currituck Sound, North Carolina. At the approach of its big enemy the coot dived, but soon had to come up to breath, when the Eagle instantly swooped. Again and again the helpless bird dived and swam under water, but the Eagle was ever on the watch, and in the end they went away through the air together.

It is erroneous, however, to regard the Bald Eagle as a bald-headed bird, for its crown is well covered. When three years old it passes through a moulting period, which results in the bird's acquiring a white head, neck and tail. Many bald eagles are observed every year that do not possess these feathers; such birds, of course, are still in their youthful plumage.—San Francisco Sunday Chronicle.—W. A. Strong, San Jose, Cal.

MISCELLANEOUS.

FOR SALE—A High-class collection of Squirrels which I desire to dispose of before entering the American Army. E. H. HAMILTON, 614 Walnut St., Versailles Boro., McKeesport, Pa.

WANTED—Volumes 1 and 2 of Thorburn's British Birds. Very handsome price will be paid for these two volumes. ANSEL B. MILLER, Springs, Pennsylvania.

EXCHANGE—Will exchange mounted birds or skins for same; also desire foreign specimens. Have some Fox Squirrel skins to offer. O. M. GREENWOOD, Manchester, Ia.

WANTED—Bird skins—must be perfect; also small mammal skins. Good photographs of birds, birds eggs and nests and mammals in their nature situ. and haunts to be used in publication and with privilege to publish those you send. Can offer cash or good exchange. J. W. DANIEL Jr., Western State Hospital, Staunton, Va.

SALE or TRADE—Pair of field glasses. I want copy of Holland "Moth Book" or some other good book on moths. HUBERT R. WISWELL, Westbrook, Minn.

FOR SALE—Loggerhead Sea turtle, Embryos and hatched turtles, mixed stages \$3.00 dozen, small Octopus \$1.00 each. Other Maine specimens collected from Florida this past summer. H. AITKEN, Gen. Del., Philadelphia, Pa.

EXCHANGE—Funston Perfect (animal) Smoker, 20 Onedia Jump Traps (new), eggs in sets. Want eggs in sets and singles. LYLE D. MILLER, E. Claridon, Ohio.

FOR SALE—Live pupae of moths and butterflies. Price-list on application, for delivery November 1, 1918. Also entomological supplies of all kinds, LOUIS S. KOHLER, 47 Wagner Place, Hawthorne, N. J.

FOR SALE—Two handsome Virginia Red Cedar cabinets suitable for eggs or skins. Also one smaller Walnut Cabinet, cheap. WHARTON HUBER, Gwynedd Valley, Pa.

PERSONAL—Would like to become acquainted with active Oologist in New York City, Westchester Co., or nearby, with view to expeditions next spring. L. C. S. please write. RAYMOND FULLER, White Plains, N. Y., R. F. D. No. 1.

FOR EXCHANGE—Large showy India moths. Atacus Atlas. Antheraea Pernyi. Actias selene. Caligula cachara. (Selene lynx Hybrid) Also many natives. Want A No. 1 set of 288, 364. A. J. POTTER, East Killingly, Conn.

The Oologist is the best medium of exchange for Oologists Ornithologists etc., in the entire U. S.

Who has skins or mounted fox squirrels, colors, Black, White, Gray, Black Yellow, Black; Cinnamon mixed with black or pure white squirrels. EARL HAMILTON, Versailles, Boro., McKeesport, Pa.

I want to get into touch with young collector in the Ozark region for the coming summer's collecting. JOHNSON NEFF, Marionville, Mo.

FOR EXCHANGE—One fine CONLEY 4x5 Plate Camera, 17 inch Bellows. Adopted for close up Nature Study. Want good 25-20 or 32-20 RIFLE, or Books on OOLOGY. EARL MOFFET, Marshall, Texas.

BOOKS WANTED—Orchids of New England, by Baldwin; Our Native Orchids, by Gibson; Ferns of North America by Eaton. Please state price. H. MOUSLEY, Hatley, Quebec. 1-1t

WANTED—One B. & L. Model C. double Dissolving Lens. New or second hand stereopticon Machine in exchange for personally collected specimens of Western Birds Eggs. Mrs. A. O. TRIGANZA, No. 624 E. Sixth St. South, Salt Lake City, Utah. 1-2t

STUFFED HORNED TOADS—First class work. Large specimens filled with a preparation that preserves the skins and makes toads hold shape. Mounted on cactus \$2.50 each. Unmounted \$1.50 each. GULF CURIO CO., Box 726-T, Houston, Texas.

FOR SALE

Quadropedes of North America, Audubon, Vol. 1, 1846 .....	\$ 2.00
Ridgway's Manuel North Am. Birds, 1896 .....	4.00
Birds of Kansas, Goss, 1886.....	1.50
English Sparrow in N. Am., Barrows 1889 .....	1.50
Ridgway's Birds of N. and M. Am. Vols. 1 to 7 inc.....	25.00
Auks, Vol. 6 to 33 inclusive, 28 Vols., paper covers uncut....	50.00
Forest and Stream, Vols. 1 to 12 inc. ....	35.00
Ibis, 1874 to 1883, Bound .....	90.00

And many vols. of Wilson Bull; Oologist, Bird Lore, O. and O. and other Ornithological magazines and Government publications.

HAROLD H. BAILEY,  
Box 112. Newport News, Va.

WANTED—One perfect skin with skull, for mounting purposes and with data of the following mammals: Brown Lemming, Banded Leming, Kangaroo Rat, Little Chief Harear Coney, Black Footed Ferrett, Fox Squirrel, Douglas Squirrel, Golden Chipmunk, Marten or Pine Marten Woodrat. Also others. Will pay cash. K. B. MATHES, Batavia, N. Y.

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# THE OÖLOGIST.

BIRDS--NESTS--EGGS  
TAXIDERM~~Y~~

VOL. XXXV~~I~~ No. 8.

ALBION, N. Y., AUG. 1, 1919.

WHOLE No. 385



View of Penguin and Cormorant Breeding Grounds on  
Colonial Islands, Cape Colony, Africa

## BRIEF SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wanted, Exchange, For Sale, Etc., inserted in this department at 25 cents for each 25 words for one issue; each additional word 1 cent. No notice inserted for less than 25 cents.

We will advertise the skins, nests, eggs, or mounted specimens of North American Birds for sale for persons having a lawful authority under the law to deal in the same. These columns are for the use of those desiring to make bona fide exchanges of such specimens for scientific collecting purposes only.—EDITOR.

In answering advertisements in these columns mention "The Oologist," and thereby help us, as well as the advertiser and yourself.

## BIRDS

Send me the list of A 1 Bird Skins that you have to dispose of by exchange or otherwise. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

FOR EXCHANGE—A large list of A1 North American species of skins for specimens needed in my collection. C. W. CHAMBERLAIN, 36 Lincoln St., Boston, Mass.

ALL PERSONS having A-1 skins in pairs of any of the North American Jays send list. I will pay the highest price for those that I need. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

BIRDS—Have a good list of skins and mounted specimens for sale; also mammal skins, game heads, mounted animals and rugs, all well mounted and prices moderate. M. J. Hofman, Taxidermist, 1818 Bleecker St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

WANTED—A pair of living Sand Hill Cranes A. O. U. No. 306, taken north of the center of the U. S. If the birds are only slightly wingtipped this will not matter. For them I will pay a good price. R. M. Barnes, Lacon, Ill.

EXCHANGE—Fine sets of eggs and nests for birds skins from south and east. STANLEY G. JEWETT, Pendleton, Oregon.

FOR EXCHANGE:—Large well-mounted Golden Eagle and American Bittern. I am interested in all Natural History specimens. Write. WALTER STUCK, Jonesboro, Ark.

DATA BLANKS—Send for sample of my data blanks, with your name printed on it. 500 for \$1.00 postpaid. EDWARD S. COOMBS, 243 Franklin St., Boston, Mass.

WANTED to Exchange sets with reliable collectors. Or will purchase. Send lists and prices. G. B. REGAR, 1000 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

WANTED—One or more sets of A. O. W. 636. Can offer good sets of 325, 343 or 364 in exchange or cash. R. P. SHARPLES, West Chester, Pa.

SWANSON'S WARBLERS Sets with nests. Who wants them in exchange for other species? Send list in full. DR. M. T. CLECKLEY, Augusta, Ga.

The following first class skins offered: 132, 139, 146, 147, 148, 149, 151, 153, 221, 223, 230, 239, 241, 242, 254, 255, 256a, 379a, 393a, 394b, 401a, 402a, 413, 433, 468, 478c, 478d, 488b, 498f, 508, 510, 518, 524a, 529a, 540a, 554a, 567f, 581f, 588a, 607, 618, 652b, and other western species. J. A. MUNRO, Okanagan Land- ing, B. C.

## EGGS.

In sending in your exchange notices for nests, skins and eggs, we would appreciate it if you would arrange the numerals in your exchange notice in their numerical order, and not tumble them together hit and miss, as some of our readers are complaining, and we think justly so.

WANTED—Entire collection of Eggs of North American Birds for spot cash. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

EXCHANGE NOTICE—I desire to get in touch with all active field collectors with a view to exchanging A 1 sets. H. W. CAR-RIGER, 5185 Trask Street, Oakland, Calif.

Will be glad to hear from reliable collectors and to receive their lists. Have good list to offer including some rare species. RICHARD C. HARLOW, State College, Pa.

TO EXCHANGE—A limited number of the Famous JACOBS BIRDHOUSES for first class sets, personally collected, and with full data. nests needed with some. J. WARREN JACOBS, Waynesburg, Pa.

FOR EXCHANGE—15 1-1; 31a 1-1; 105.2 1-1, 107 1-1, 108.1 1-1; 116 1-1; 197 1-4; 464 1-4; 4741 N-2; 475 1-5; 486 1-5; 533 1-3; 538 1-4; 543 1-3; 560a N-4; 574.1 N-2; 604 1-4; 615 N-5; 622a 1-5; 629a N-4; 646a N-4; 726c N-6, N-5; 741 N-6; 743 N-7; 748a N-7, N-5. J. H. BOWLES, The Woodstock, Tacoma, Wash.

PERSONALLY COLLECTED SETS of 7-132, 261, 273, 305, 331, 367. If interested send list. DR. ELMER LANGEVIN, Crookston, Minn.

FOR DISPOSAL—A large and extensive collection of Birds' Eggs from Europe and America. Send 3c stamp for complete list. DR. CLECKLEY'S MUSEUM, Augusta, Ga.

WANTED—An entire collection of North American Birds Eggs in sets with full data. Send full list to W. A. STRONG, 41 Grand Ave., San Jose, Cal.

FOR EXCHANGE—A1 personally collected sets of Mississippi Kite, Swainson's Hawk, White-necked Raven, 5-6, 3-7, Black-crested Titmouse 1-6, and many others. Want your complete lists of duplicates. E. F. POPE, Box 301, Albuquerque, N. Mex.

# THE OÖLOGIST.

VOL. XXXV. No. 8

ALBION, N. Y., AUG. 1, 1919.

WHOLE No. 385

*Owned and Published Monthly, by R. M. Barnes, Albion, N. Y., and Lacon, Ill.*

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Entered as second-class matter December 21, 1903, at the post office at Albion, N. Y., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

## NOTICE

With the mailing of this issue of THE OOLOGIST, Ye Editor leaves for Nebraska, to be gone about a month. So if you do not receive a reply to any communication addressed to him until his return, about September first, don't worry. It will receive attention about then.—Editor.

## A SCIENTIFIC RECORD

With this issue THE OOLOGIST makes another "Scoop" as the daily press would call it. The eggs and nest of the Blue Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) are unknown to science. With this issue we present our readers with the first photos of the nesting of this rare species, including a description of the eggs and a view of the old birds in the nest. Certainly our readers are to be congratulated on being the first to receive this scientific information.—R. M. Barnes.

### A First Record of the Nesting of the Blue Goose in Confinement

The Blue Goose, *Chen Caerulescens*, was first described by Linnaeus in his system of Nature in 1758 from a specimen from Hudson Bay. The bird was first supposed to be an immature Snow Goose in process of moult, which it was assumed began at the head and proceeded backward down the neck and spread gradually over the body of the bird, slowly replacing the slaty blue feathers with those of snowy white except the wing primaries which the learned bird doctors thought came in black, thus completing the new and proper plumage of a true adult *chen h. nivalis* or Greater Snow Goose. Thus was the Blue Goose of Linnaeus relegated to *innocuus* disuaded and it remained an unknown or unrecognized scientific species for many years.

Later a greater scientist than even the great Linnaeus, the American Indian resurrected the long lost species as a scientific reality, by pointing out to the residents of the Hudson Bay post that in the fall when the migration of the goose came, the white wavy, as the Lesser Snow Goose was called then, always came from the North and Northwest and down the west coast of Hudson Bay; while the Blue Goose "him never come with the Wavy, him always come over the big water from northeast." This obvious observation being noised about some of the wiseacres of the birds commenced further investigation, and true enough it was then learned that the vast hoards of Wavy's that came down the west coast of the Bay in the fall never had a blue white headed bird with them and that no Snow Goose or Wavy ever came with the great troops of blue white headed birds from the North East "across the big water." Further investigation proved the very obvious fact to those

acquainted with the two birds in life that Linnaeus was right in according to the Blue Goose, the rank of a full species, and so we have in the A. O. U. 1910 list No. 169.1 Blue Goose, with its range given as "Eastern North America and Breeding range unknown, but probably in the interior of Northern Ungova," though the 1886 list states that "it breeds on eastern shores of Hudson Bay."

The truth is that about as little is known of the habits of this splendid bird as about any of the American Geese, though its summer home is supposed to be not so very far from the most thickly settled eastern part of our country, and the homes of most of our big bird doctors. Its winter home is known to be the coast of the Gulf of Mexico, near the mouth of the Mississippi.

It has been the privilege of the writer to have had on my home place at Lacon, Ill., during the past six or seven years about a dozen specimens of this interesting bird, a pair of which are now in the Bronx Gardens at New York City. All of these birds were wild birds mostly trapped though one was a very slightly winged tipped bird, specimen that lit in the poultry pen of a miner near Lacon, and another one of these wild birds that lit in our grounds during spring migration and staid while the other two went on.

Careful and constant study of these birds discloses much that is of interest. First of all they are, the writer thinks as docile and easily domesticated as any of the geese, and have a far better disposition than most of them. We have had them as tame as Banta chickens, hanging about the doors, calling to those in the house for food, and eating it from the hand when it came. Yet the Blue Goose when its nest is approached is a vali-





Nest of Blue Goose, female on nest. Male on guard, Editor's home, July 7, 1919. Distance, 100 feet  
—Photo by Virginia Lane

ant fighter and cleans up all species which we have in a scrape even the big Canada, and the Nile Goose from Africa, known to bird fanciers as a "killer" because of his ability and disposition to fight. The Blue Goose is likewise quite prone to cross in mating almost always with the Lesser Snow Goose so far as our observations go. This may account for the many specimens in a wild state which are partially Albino usually on the under parts, which in the adult Blue Goose are of a deeper blueish than the upper parts. The plate No. — shows a Blue Goose and his Lesser Snow Goose mate at their nest on our grounds June 9, 1919. The distance is 12 feet from the camera. This pair of birds nested in the same identical spot in 1917 and 1918 and all the clutches of eggs 1917, 1918 and 1919 contained five eggs. The 1917 was their first nest. It was in the blue grass in the fence corner a small native Cedar tree which has since died. The nest is about 30 feet from the foot of the five foot terrace thrown up to make the lake shown in the background and is four feet below the water surface. In 1919 these birds hatched and raised one bird, "Tommy" we call him and of whom more will sometime probably be published. "Tommy" is a true hybrid. His plumage is that of a snow Goose but he is undersized and more stumpy or squat of figure than the trim Snow Goose showing the result of his half sturdy strong blue blood.

This nest was always a mere shallow place scratched in the blue grass sod with a very little lining of dead grass and a rim of the same about the outer edge, which as incubation progressed in each instance was interwoven with much white down pulled from the sitting bird by herself. The Blue Gander never during incubation went more than a few feet from the

nest for a very long time. He was always there ready, willing and able to defend his mate from all cameras. Remembering there are 77 wild geese of seventeen different varieties in the enclosure, coming from all parts of the world, you may believe he has had many a battle.

The eggs laid by this pair of birds were as we would expect, typical of the Lesser Snow Goose, and were always laid the last few days of May or the first few days of June of each year.

It remained for the year of 1919 to crown our effort to breed a pair of the Blue Geese in confinement. The nest, eggs and home life of this bird are wholly unknown to science. So it is with a feeling of pride that we use "The Oologist" as the medium of first communicating these facts to the world. We have among our birds a pair of this species that have been mated several—two or three years. Last year they bred for the first time but laid no eggs. This year 1919 a pair of our Canada Geese made a nest in a depression on the highest point in the five acre lot where we keep all these birds. It was 150 feet south of the lake and about 60 feet north of the main traveled highway leading into Lacon, over which thousands of autos pass annually. It was located so as to be hidden in the grass of this depression observers yet when the gander stood on guard, as he always did, he had a full view of all the territory eastward for a mile or more in other directions for lesser distances. It likewise overlooked the lake and our grounds to the north, also the above road to the south and was so located as to be protected from the rays of an electric street light by the shade of a tree near the lamp, and a hundred feet from the nest.

The Canada Goose laid five eggs during the last week in April. None

of them hatched, and the third week in June this pair of Blue Geese took possession of the nest, after a battle extending over several days. Some of the Canada Goose' eggs were still in the nest, addled of course.

The Blue Goose laid four eggs and I removed the old Canada Goose eggs one at a time. Soon the Blue Goose was sitting, with her mate ever on guard close beside her. She pulled old grass up to the nest and mixed it with her down from her breast until there was a large roll about the rim. Into this she would sink up to the level of her back when sitting. The old bird was a very close sitter and permitted as near an approach as her mate would allow, which was as close as ten feet at times. Whenever she left the nest for feed or drink, which was seldom, she carefully covered them over so as to entirely conceal them, and the gander always accompanied her on these trips. One by one the eggs disappeared until but one was left. Whether they were taken or destroyed by man or beast I never knew. The last egg I took from the nest on July 20, 1919. It was much addled and cracked open when I attempted to blow it. I mended the broken cracked part, and now have it among my collection, the only authentic egg of the Blue Goose known to science. It is now after being sat upon for a month, of a creamy white color. Originally it was shinny white, and is very closed grained, and of a finer shell texture than any eggs of the Geese of America so far as known. It measures 3.09 x 2.00 inches.

Other notes and illustrations of our Blue Geese can be seen by referring to *The Oologist* Vol. XXVIII, pages 18-20-24-82-171, Vol. XXIX page 269-382, Vol. XXX page 61, Vol. XXXI pages 15-20-24.

R. M Barnes.

#### My First Find of Blue Grosbeaks

On May 21, 1919 I was walking along a fence about one hundred feet north of my camps, I saw a bird fly out of a small oak and said to myself what kind of a bird was that. Examining the tree I found a well concealed nest about five feet up. Looking in the nest I saw two white eggs and a Cowbird, I waited until the bird returned and found it to be a Blue Grosbeak. On May the 26th there were still two eggs and a cow bird. The nest was made of rags, paper, leaves, spider webs, lined with horse hair and fine rootlets.

Late in the evening of June the 8th, I was sitting out in front of my boat repair shop at Lake Worth, talking to W. P. Mackdermitt, a taxidermist. I heard a bird up in the top of a tall oak. I said to Bill, "that sounds like a new bird to me." She had a piece of paper in her mouth so I kept a close watch on her. She fooled around for about fifteen minutes and made a dart for some low weeds not far from me. I made an examination and found a nest nearly complete. Looking up in a tree close by I observed the male which was a beautiful bird, dark blue with chestnut shoulders. On June the 10th there was the egg in the nest. June 15th there were four eggs and June the 17th there were still four eggs. The nest was three feet up, composed of the same material as the other nest. I took several good pictures with my Graflex.

Ramon Graham,  
Ft. Worth, Texas.

#### BAGS TRUMPETER SWAN

Pittsburg, Kan., Jan. 24.—The Pittsburg State Normal Training Museum of Natural History has a rare bird in the shape of a trumpeter swan, rare in this northern latitude. It was killed by a young man while hunting

on the Spring river, near here. He took it to several local naturalists before it was identified.

The above clipping I received from an acquaintance in Los Angeles, Calif., recently. No doubt they as well as the author of the article thought it of great scientific value. The "Swan" article, if true, is to be regretted that so rare a bird had to be destroyed, but it is only one instance of what is being done the country over. I can well remember when the Pileated Woodpecker was a common bird on the Kaskaska River and especially in the heavy timber north of Huey, Ill. Now they are almost extinct. The hunters and fishermen are responsible to a very great extent. Of course the cutting out of the timber had its effect but the fisherman killed them and other birds for bait, and the hunters shot them whenever opportunity offered, merely for the sake of having what they considered an honor to tell they succeeded in killing one of the old Bull's eyes they called him. In response to Delos Hatch's article, "Someone ought to shoot the boy," I have no doubt he as well as hundreds of his kind have done enough damage to the birds to warrant the assertion, but I have some experience with the Sparrow Hawk, which convinces me they do a vast amount of harm to small birds. I live about one hundred yards from the M. E. Church building and it is one of the old style buildings with a tall bell house. Several years ago the Flicker picked holes in the gable, and a Sparrow Hawks had nested there for probably fifteen years. There are a lot of shade trees in the vicinity which afford nesting places for Flickers, Red Headed Woodpeckers, Robins, Baltimore Orioles, Blue Jays, House Wrens, European House Sparrows, and it is a common thing to hear a commotion among the birds.

Invariably the Sparrow may be seen flying away with some of their young in its talons. In fact I am of the opinion they succeeded in getting nearly all the young Robins as they are the most helpless of the lot. I have succeeded in inducing the Great Crested Flycatcher to nest on my home place in boxes put up in the gable end of outbuildings. They are a little scary but I do not intrude and they are getting tamer. I passed within eight feet of them while they were feeding their young and they merely looked at me a second and went right on as much as to say "You are harmless." We have only a few early arrivals so far. I saw Jan. 12 Mourning Doves; Jan. 27, Meadow Larks; Jan. 29, Robins 3; Bluebirds, 2. The Robins and Bluebirds have been seen every few days since.

C. B. Vandercook,  
Adin, Ill.

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#### Okanagan Landing, B. C.

Dear Sir: In answer to Mr. P. B. Peabody's letter in the May Oologist I should like to point out that Okanagan Landing is not in the coast region of British Columbia but some two hundred and fifty miles east in the semi-arid interior. If Mr. Peabody could compare winter skins of Pallidus from this district with the type form and with specimens of Salieamaus from the coast I think he would be satisfied as to the validity of the former race.

J. A. Monro,  
Okanagan Landing, B. C.

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#### Mrs. Delos Hatch.

Mrs. Ellen Hatch, the wife of one of the best known oologists in the West, Delos Hatch, passed away very suddenly at her home in Oakfield, Wisconsin, June 1st and we extend our sympathy to her bereaved husband,





Nest of Blue Goose on Editor's home place, Lacon, Ill. Female on the nest. Male on guard. Distance, 6 feet, July 7, 1919  
—Photo by Virginia Lane

### Doves Using Old Nests of Robins

In reading the last issue of *The Oologist* I was interested in the article "Doves Mimicking Cowbirds." The following evidence may be of interest.

No. 1. In the spring of 1918 a pair of Doves built a nest on a particular limb of a box elder tree near my residence. Eggs were deposited but later the nest was destroyed by Jaybirds. Early in the spring of 1919 a pair of Robins built a nest on the identical spot. Whether they reared their young or not I do not know. Some weeks later I noticed a Dove sitting on the same nest and know that she reared her young. The cavity of the nest had been filled in with a few roots and sticks by the Doves.

No. 2. During the spring of 1918 a pair of Robins built a nest on the branch of an elm tree, under which I pass four times daily. The spring of 1919 a pair of Doves used the old nest apparently without any repairing and the young left the nest the 24th of June.

This is the first instance that I observed Doves adopting other birds' nests.

The nests above referred to are now in the University Museum.

W. H. Over,

June 27, 1919. Vermillion, S. Dak.

### My Chickadee Guests

By Stewart H. Burnham

"When piped a tiny voice hard by,  
Gay and polite, a cheerful cry.  
Chic-chickadee-dee! saucy note  
Out of sound and merry throat,  
As if it said, "Good day, good sir!  
Fine afternoon, old passenger!  
Happy to meet you in these places,  
Where January brings few faces."

At Glenwood, Hudson Falls, N. Y., an old medium sized grape basket, to which cords were attached, holding it when the window sash was let down,

was placed on the window sill. The basket was lined with newspapers which were changed every few days. Two or three times on opening the window, the basket fell to the ground; so afterwards the cords were looped about a yardstick in the room. If the wind blew very hard a small piece of marble was placed in the basket, to keep the paper from blowing out.

The first Chickadee found the basket, December 17th, two or three days after it had been put out. Then they continued to come every day; from before sunrise until after sunset. A Chickadee seemed to be always about and were a great deal of company. Unroasted peanuts, chopped fine in a chopping bowl were put out. Usually the bird would take its bit of peanut and hop to the edge of the basket, hold the meat with its foot, and take tiny bites. The birds usually ate with their backs to the window; but if the wind was blowing hard, they would often times face the window. Often a bird would remain in the bottom of the basket picking up the peanut crumbs, from time to time hopping to the edge of the basket, to make sure another bird was not coming; or again it would remain quietly feeding for two or three minutes. Suddenly through the air would come another Chickadee to the basket, and frighten the other one, which would hop to the edge of the basket, but seldom would leave it. Sometimes when one came and found another there, one of the birds would come against the window pane, "thump," like a flash.

The Chickadee, eating, would eye the others which came, and should one alight on the blinds above the basket, it would look up and eye it sharply but continue eating. Sometimes the one eating would try to drive the others away with open beak; often starting towards the other bird, but

no sound was made. There was one Chickadee that drove the others about, probably a male bird; at least when eating his peanut on the edge of the basket, he would not budge for another bird, and might go down in the basket for another and then another meal.

The Chickadee on the edge of the basket would sometimes wipe its beak on the basket. Oftentimes they would taste with their bills before they ate. They were very tame and allowed one to move about and make considerable noise in the room as they ate, but if the window was open, they seemed aware of it at once, and would not remain near the basket. Gentle tapping on the window when the Chickadee was eating with its back towards you, caused the bird to totter on the edge of the basket; it looked around, as if to say, "Please don't," but continued eating. Oftentimes the bird would almost lose its balance while eating, on the edge of the basket, but it usually would right itself.

When all the meats were gone, the Chickadee would brace itself on the edge of the basket, with its tail feathers spread a bit and sort of cling to the wood of the basket, hammer loudly with its beak a minute or two, for more meats. Opening the window to put out more peanuts, the birds had often to be frightened away because they tipped the basket in their eagerness.

December 21st. Two of the Chickadees got into a fight in the bottom of the basket, one had the other down on its back talking to it, but soon afterwards one cleared out. The Hairy Woodpecker found the basket two days later, and several times came, always announcing his coming; but he only would alight on the edge of the basket to look in and never remained long. The Downy Woodpecker was not so shy and after a few

days would remain several minutes feeding with its tail braced against the inside of the basket. The White-breasted Nuthatch soon found out where the basket was and rather persistently came to eat, although I did not allow him to eat when around, as he had his suet and box of nut meats on the back porch. The Nuthatch is so intelligent. He knew that I did not wish to eat, but he was sly, sometimes taking two or three minutes trying to reach the basket, coming from the blinds. Oftentimes he spoke and gave himself away.

When it rained from the west or snowed, the grape basket was slipped inside a covered peach crate; which was also fastened to hold under the window sash. The first time the crate was used, it was three or four minutes before the Chickadees could fathom where the basket had gone. The Chickadees often sat in the little shelter, eating in the basket or on its edge, but often would carry away the meats to branches and bushes to eat them in the storm. With the basket within the crate, often the Chickadees would alight on the covered crate and gradually work over to the edge and look inside, which frightened the bird in the basket not a little bit. The Nuthatch also worked its way over the crate in a similar way.

A most persistent impudent House Sparrow discovered the basket January 14th, and for days afterwards, very persistently got the start of me, every time my back was turned. She did not look half as wise as the Nuthatch, and the first few days gave a delighted chirp each time she got near the basket. She finally seemed to realize that the chirp gave her away, and finally approached the basket silently. The House Sparrow was finally gotten rid of, by taking the basket

from the window-sill, when out of the room for a few minutes.

Coming in from Glenwood woods the morning of January 15th, a dead but warm Chickadee was found on the snow by the back porch; probably in coming to the suet and box on the porch, it accidentally struck against the slate roof or tin eave-trough. On bright, mild winter days the Chickadees are never as much in evidence as on cold or stormy ones, and on very cold days their feathers seem very much brighter. On very windy days they are not about so much, as they do not seem to be able to fly so well against a strong wind. When trying to drive others away, the Chickadee seems capable of erecting the black feathers of its head a bit. The question arose where they slept cold winter nights? I had supposed in hemlock and evergreen trees, but there is a probability more often in deserted woodpecker holes and hollow trees.

It was some time before it was discovered the reason why the Chickadee picked at the edges of the newspaper in the basket, was to find the meats they had hidden. Sometimes the bird would lose its meat in the rim of the basket, then it would start pounding the basket with its bill. One was seen extracting a meat from the rim by going to the outside and pecking in. Oftentimes they would cling to the lower corner of the basket and pick the meats out which had tumbled between the paper and the basket.

The Chickadee fed from my hand January 28th; afterwards they would come one after another and take meats from my hands when standing on the back porch. Only once or twice could I prevail on them to eat from the hand at the window. Once they came to my hands for meats forty times in five minutes, the same bird often coming two or three times,

carrying away the meat, hiding it and immediately returning for another. The Chickadees would often pick your fingers before selecting a peanut; trying to make out what such a warm food-tray could be. At one time there was a dozen or more Chickadees about to eat. I finally had to stop allowing them to eat from the hand, regularly, because they were becoming so tame and fearless, and a large barn tramp cat would occasionally come to sit on the porch when I was not on guard. Once the feet of one of the birds was touched and almost its feathers, when it was looking for meat.

The 12th of February, 24 degrees below zero; the Chickadee outside, singing its spring sleepy song. The 23d, the Chickadees placing its nut meat between the papers in the basket and hiding it so prettily. The 26th, a storm of sleet from the southwest. "Hear, Hear, Hear, Hear" loudly and plainly calls the Nuthatch from the shelter side of the little leaning pear tree. The following day it thawed; loud sleepy song whistles of the Chickadee answered by a "chick-a-dee-dee-dee-dee." Watched the Chickadee in the basket picking upmeats and "firing" them over its back until the right one was found, which it took to the edge of the basket and ate.

The 3d of March the Chickadees all alarm over something which had happened in the garden, and every one was making a great ado in the grapevines, which lasted for a minute or two before it was over. Over what? Did the House Sparrow discover a hidden nut meat? The 8th, a Chickadee picked up a meat, dropped it, picked up another, dropped that as it was too small, and finally selecting a large meat, carried it away and hid it. Today, the bird at the basket kept fluttering its wings and scolding at another to drive it away, which came to the edge





The First Nest and Eggs of Blue Goose known, on Editor's home place, Lacon, Ill., July 7, 1919  
—Photo by Virginia Lane

of the basket. The 11th, flocks of Chickadees again making a great ado over something. Perhaps they were selecting mates? Today, the Chickadee came to my hand, while on the porch, after a meat, selecting one, dropped it on the floor, selecting another, dropped that also, but finally selected a large one which it carried away to eat or hide. Today, a house fly in the room about the window, attracted the attention of the Chickadee, and it attempted to fly to catch it.

The 14th of March, after a brilliant sunrise a very snowy afternoon." Chip-chip-chip-chip" said the Chickadee at the basket in answer to another among the snowy trees singing, Phe-be, Phe-be, Phe-be." Chip-chip-chip-chip" said the one at the basket, and one brightly answered "dee-dee-chick-a-dee-dee-dee-dee. The 21st of March, "See-see-see-see" said the Chickadee when an abundance of fresh meats was put out. Then comes the birds, and if by morning, they seem very hungry and will load their beaks with as many bits of meats, as they will hold, to carry off to eat or to hide, and soon return for more. If they did not carry the food away, a few birds would usurp the places of the others.

The morning of March 21st, the first Bluebird, and at noon he came into the garden crab-tree and sang and preened his feathers, the Chickadees getting as close as possible to look him all over. The last week of March was milder and the birds practically deserted the basket on the window-sill. During April and into May evidently a pair of Chickadees continued to come, they were probably mates, as often both would eat at the basket together. The feathers looked rather faded, but that was due probably to the milder weather. The Nuthatch was allowed to eat every time he

wished during the spring days, and he was very happy and loudly thanked you. The 18th of April a pair of beautiful Song Sparrows began to come to the basket for the peanut meats, although shyer than the winter birds, they were not much afraid. When eating, the Song Sparrow was large enough so that when it straightened up it could watch out for danger without hopping to the edge of the basket. When through eating it usually made considerable noise when it wiped its beak off on the edge of the basket. A beautiful speckled bodice doth the Song Sparrow wear!

What wise little birds are the Chickadees! Some of them enjoyed being talked to; they quirked their pretty black caps, twinkled their black pearls of eyes, and seemed to eat faster, as if to show you how to do it. Once in a while they broke forth in "dee-dee-chick-a-dee-dee-dee" very prettily while they ate, as if giving thanks. Then there was one Chickadee when it looked at you showed a bit of white the outside corner of its eye. Daintily marked are they, the white of their wings and tail beautifully blended with the gray feathers of the back. Their feathers are little gems under a hand lens and are very wonderful! Innocent, friendly and social little birds; who cannot help liking the Black-capped Chickadee!

Mr. Stewart H. Burnham,  
Hudson Falls, N. Y.

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#### The Oological and Ornithological Camp Fire

What is the general opinion as to the most beautiful bird's egg? The Osprey, the Kingbird, the Sharpshinned Hawk, the White-tailed and Swallow-tailed Kites, the Black Skimmer and even the Turkey Vulture have their preferenciers and are strong candidates for the honor. It seems

that the beauty of a bird egg should have some weight in the regulating of its value.

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There were days in the Oological world when Major Charles Emil Bendire and Dr. William Rolph summured together at Holland Point, N. Y. Both were shining exemplar of perfect bird egg preparation and the best in oology.

Each in time filled the office of Honorary Curator of Bird Eggs in the U. S. National Museum. Bendire's great work will live down the ages as a monument to its author. Dr. Ralph's preparation of specimens were by far the best in the country. Even in large eggs the holes in his specimens were scarcely larger than a pin point, and the nests were always treated to the tenderest care. Mr. B. H. Swales is accredited as the present head of the department of Oology, U. S. National Museum. Questions on birds' eggs used to receive prompt answers from the late Curator, and it is presumed that the same is still the same.

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What is the most beautiful bird? Some there are, who would at once place their choice with the lovely "Bird of Paradise," others prefer the Trogons and Quetzels; some think the Sun Birds and others place the palm with the lovely Trochilidae or Hummingbirds. What is the general opinion?

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In a recent Smithsonian publication there is a notice that Mr. A. C. Bent of Taunton, Mass., of fame as a close observer of the Anatidae, is preparing a series of publications on the life history of birds, the manuscript for the first volume being in the hands of the printer. The Smithsonian will thus augment its contributions to Oology. It was much to be regretted that Dr. W. I. Ralph died before he could com-

plete Major Bendire's Life Histories of North American Birds, at which he was at work, compiling material from all over the country.

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The Museum of comparative Oology at Santa Barbara, Calif., seem to be an admirable institution. The Golden Gate is seemingly ahead of all others anyway in ornithological study, and bids fair to become one of the leaders in the oological branch. The principal of the Museum is to study larger series and its Journal, the first number of which has appeared, and which is issued annually, exemplifies what an advantage "A draw to a species" rule has and the good and bad way to arrange nests. A handsome series of the Duck Hawk and Prairie Falcon are shown. The Santa Cruz Jay comes in as a favorite in the show of a fine series of nests and sets. The Willard collection of well prepared sets from Arizona has been embodied in the collection which also includes that of Museum's head who has a new work on California's Birds well under preparation; the most sumptuous work of its kind. Leo. W. Dawson, with such a head the museum could not do otherwise than fare well. The long list of the best workers in Oology including Mr. E. J. Court, Jr. Joseph Grinnell, and others on its staff, bids well for the welfare of the enterprise and in the co-operative way much good work should result.

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Some time ago we had the pleasure of examining the great British Museum collection of Birds Eggs in London and it has perhaps no superior. Although we think the collection in our own National Museum containing as it does the Ralph and Bendire Collections surpasses it in point of preparation. The collection contains a set of the Everglade Kite from

the personal collection of the late Dr. William L. Ralph of Utica, N. Y., the late Honorary Curator of Dept. Oology, U. S. N. We do not know of many sets of this rare species in collections. The set mentioned came from Florida, and was received as present from Dr. Ralph to Mr. John W. Daniel, Jr. who accompanied the Doctor on an expedition to the Great Dismal Swamp after Swanison Warbler set. The expedition secured a nice set of this shy warbler and many skins and also re-observed a specimen of Bachman's Warbler and one of Ward's Heron.

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The first egg of the California Vulture we ever heard of, was in the U. S. N. M. collection. Then A. M. Shield of Los Angeles got one, and this was acquired at a high price by C. F. Morcom of Los Angeles. Then H. R. Taylor reported several.

The writer once had the pleasure of seeing a Condor in full flight in one of the Canons near Los Angeles with G. F. Morcan. This was many years ago. We have not heard of any been taken in very recent years. We believe W. L. Finley of the Cooper Club got one some years ago, at least he got a good photograph of the egg in situ and of the young. The Zoological Park at Washington contained two adult live Condors which nested and the U. S. N. M. got an egg thereby.

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Among Ornithologists whose field work in tropical countries has resulted in much valuable material, there are few who work indefatigably than Dr. F. M. Chapman. We have had the pleasure of seeing his work on "Distribution of Bird Life in Columbia," containing several very beautiful colored plates by L. A. Furtes. The work is published by the American Museum of Natural History, New York.

Among other photographs there is an excellent photograph showing the nesting cavities of a species of Parrotin a group of wax palms. W. W. Brown ranks in the lead of tropical collectors of birds. His skins are prepared with a beauty of individuality that characterizes few present day results of the tropical field work where there are many disadvantages. C. W. Richmond, the Honorary Curator of Birds, National Museum, who once collected in Nicaragua, likewise makes what might be termed a perfect bird skin, and so does Mr. W. Palmer, but the general run of bird skins falls far short of this ideal. Dr. Brown, Dr. Nelson E. W. Goldman, Q. E. Colburn and others who collected in Mexico, probably find their field closed for the present owing to the political situation but we believe that ornithologists can cope with any danger because they possess the needful tact and discretion and are suave and taciturn in their dealings with cambrous conditions or ireful natives.

In Augusta County, Virginia, season 1919, the writer has observed a practically White Robin (*Planesticus Imgratorius*). The under parts are white and there are several white retrices and wing feathers. Even in his climate which is cold, the writer noticed a nearly full fledged Robin on the 15th of May. How do Robins get their young to the ground from great heights? A Robin has a nest in an opening on the face of a hospital building at least 60 or 70 feet up. The young leave their nest or are taken out before they are able to fly. The distance from the nest to the ground is such that the drop would prove fatal. It is a well authenticated fact that the Wood Duck takes her fledgings down from the cavity by their backs, but I have never witnessed it. Mr. H. H. White of this locality, West-



ern State Hospital, Augusta Co., Va., states he has witnessed it. Does the Robin also do this?

Gilbert Pearson who used to write so charmingly for *The Oologist* has a recent article in the "Review of Reviews" on "The Case of the Brown Pelican."

J. W. Daniels, Jr.

### An Outing

On June 24, I took my lunch beside a little stream spring surrounded by a very small piece of woods but a favorite place for birds to come and bathe. Had been there only a few minutes when a Wood Thrush came with a worm in its bill and fed a young bird several times as it sat on a small bush. She then flew down to the stream and took a bath within twenty feet of me. Soon a female Redstart did the same. Just over the wall a Field Sparrow was singing. Back on the hillside in the shrubbery, I could hear the Catbird performing. Over in the orchard was a Baltimore Oriole singing. I heard a noise in the stream and on looking saw a Phoebe and Red-eyed Vireo having a bath. Out in the sun the Phoebe did his best to sing, while the distant call of the Blue Jay and Crow sounded musical. A Hummingbird flew by to her nest a little way from where I sat. The Towhee and Indigo were keeping up their part in the pasture yonder, and as I was listening to all these sounds I heard a faint rustle and in looking around I spied an Oven Bird, walking quietly along. A Chipmunk chased another around a tree and a Red Squirrel sat on a limb and scolded me. Too bad we could not have lingered there a while longer, but we had work to do that would not wait.

Adelbert Temple,  
Hopkington, Mass.

### Nesting of Canada Spruce Grouse Near Wolfville, Nova Scotia.

On June 9th (1918) arriving at my home about 11:30 p. m. I found a note which stated that "central" wanted me to call up at once. On doing so I learned that Edward Long had been trying to get me for two hours and was still waiting.

Instantly a thrill of expectation came over me,—for does not Edward Long live at Sunken Lake, which is three lonely miles through the woods from the nearest 'phone, and did he not tell me last April that he was keeping watch over a pair of "Spruce Partridges!"

He had told me then, how they had nested near his place for years and never a season but he had seen the young birds with the old hen; and some six or eight years ago he even found the nest with eggs. These he saw frequently, till they were hatched.

I had offered, at this time, what seemed to him a generous reward for a nest with eggs, (a little money goes far in the back-woods) and all through May I waited anxiously for some word from him. When June came in I lost hope, for, in Nova Scotia these birds lay their first setting about the middle of May.

But to come back to the point,—here was Edward Long, three miles from home and it was nearing midnight—an ungodly hour in that remote region. His business **must** be urgent, so it's no wonder that I was a bit excited.

Well, just as I had hoped, he had at last found the nest of the Spruce Grouse. To my frenzied inquiry as to what it contained he leisurely drawled out "four eggs." Now this bird normally lays six eggs. At least I have three authentic records for Nova Scotia and all contained six eggs and all were partially incubated,

so I figured that either this was a complete 2nd nest or else an incomplete delayed 1st setting.

I instructed him, emphatically, not to go near it till the eleventh, on which date I would be on hand, rain or shine. With that I hung up the receiver and shortly "turned in" to be tortured for the remainder of the night by dreams which told of broken eggs and torn up nests.

On the morning of June 11th I was off shortly after sunrise and on reaching my destination I found my man ready to accompany me. The nest was a mile away, he said, but I think I never traveled a more elastic mile. The details of his find, as he related them to me, were about as follows:

He had been seeing the female bird repeatedly all winter as he traveled to and from his wood-lot. She was most frequently seen unattended and appeared very tame. About the middle of May he began to search for the nest and spent hours following up old brush fences and beating through acres of spruce woods. It was rarely that he saw the bird now and all attempts to follow here were useless, for she seemed to have an uncanny way of vanishing, at what seemed, the critical moment.

In the immediate vicinity of the place where she was supposed to have her nest, was a small back pasture, sparsely covered with tiny spruce and fir seedlings, six inches to three or four feet high. It was in the heavier spruce woods which surrounded this pasture on three sides that Mr. Long had done most of his searching. On the fourth side the clearing was separated from a dense growth of large beech trees, by a brush fence, the same being sorely in need of repair. On June 9th he went back to patch up the weak spots and stepping out about 20 feet into the clearing to pick

up a pole, he walked over two small spruces growing very close together. As his foot touched the bushes there was a thunderous roar and Mrs. Spruce Hen, the elusive, jumped about three feet in the air, and landing five or six feet to one side, squatted down with spread and quivering wings and never budged an inch, but kept up a constant squealing whining.

Peering under the bushes he saw the nest and four eggs. He immediately left without so much as touching them, and when, on looking back he last saw the bird, she had pulled herself together a bit and stopped her noise, but she was watching him dejectedly.

Now we are approaching the spot, highly expectant, and I had my camera ready for all kinds of imaginary pictures of Mrs. Grouse and her treasures. As I parted the bushes, all nerved for the expected roar of wings, I was disappointed at not finding the bird at home, but the eggs, still four in number, were safe. On examination it was found that these were cold and wet, it having rained a little the previous night. It was now about 9:30 a. m. and we hung about till near eleven o'clock, hoping she would put in an appearance. In this we were again disappointed and after securing some photos of the eggs and nest, I reluctantly withdrew with the four precious beauties safely packed.

The nest was a slight depression at the base of a small and well rotted birch stump, and was admirably concealed by the low-growing thick boughs of the twin spruces. The depression was lined with dry beech leaves and a few feathers from the birds' breast. About the center of the nest and scarcely covered by the meagre and loose lining of leaves, I was amazed to discover the rough and rounded surface of a large embedded

rock slightly protruding. Two of the eggs bear peculiar marks, as though the surface had at one or more points been scratched with a coarse file. I believe these marks were caused by the bird scraping the eggs against the rock.

The name "Sunken Lake" is, physically speaking, somewhat of a misnomer, as the whole region concerned is really upland, and the clearing above mentioned was fully 300 yards from anything suggesting a wet bog or swamp, which is the sort of habitat, I have always observed, this species seems to favor.

I have no theory to advance as to what may have occurred to induce the bird to desert her nest. The eggs were slightly incubated, which suggests that the set was complete.

From what Mr. Long told me, I cannot believe his single brief intrusion on her privacy would account for her abandoning the eggs, especially since the period of incubation had begun.

R. W. Tufts,

Wolfville, Nova Scotia.

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### Some Nesting Birds of the Palisades Interstate Park.

Paper No. 2

By P. M. Silloway.

8. Chipping Sparrow. The Chipping Sparrow inhabits the general Park domain, frequenting situations that partake of human and domestic influences, the camp zones fringing the lakes and ponds, the old farms, gardens, and bushy areas near dwellings and buildings. In all these situations it nests in harmony with its well known characteristics of confidence and disregard of human activities. On June 6 a nest was found in a small pine, about four feet from the ground, on horizontal branches against the main stem, in a park-like portion of the Bear Mountain Inn grounds. This

nest contained young recently hatched. Another nest on June 6 was in a small cedar tree, in the margin of a hardwood sapling thicket; the nest was made against the central stem of the cedar, or horizontal twigs, about four feet from the ground. This nest contained young beginning to feather out.

9. Brown Thrasher. On June 6 a nest of Brown Thrasher was examined in a sapling cluster beside the road through the boat-landing grounds, near the Inn. The site was a stout fork of sapling, with oblique fallen branches as additional foundation, about six feet from the ground, and within easy view from the road. This nest contained four eggs on June 6. Further observations showed that the site was a dead chestnut sapling surrounded by chestnut sprouts, on a foundation of bent and fallen branches mated together, and with a cluster of living chestnut leaves about the nest as a partial shelter. The nest location was closely backed up by thick scrub growth under tall trees. The plan of structure was of the regulation pattern, a bulky mass of coarse twigs, with fibrous ends of hemlock and rootlets, lined with coarse dark rootlets. The nest mass measured more than a foot in diameter, owing to the length of twigs used in the outer part of the walls.

10. Catbird. The Catbird was everywhere noticeable during the song season, frequenting the bushy margins of the lakes and ponds, the shrubbery of the hillside bases, old gardens, and berry-bearing patches of bushy openings. On June 7 I examined a nest of Catbird, in a tangle beside the road through the boat-landing grounds. It was made on bent stems of large blackberry, about three feet from the ground. The materials were coarse twigs, weed-stems and grass-stems, with coarse black rootlets for lining.

The nest held four eggs, upon which the parent bird was sitting. When the nest was disturbed, both birds flitted nearby uttering their guttural "quut" in energetic scolding. Farther on, about a hundred feet from this nest, another nest of Catbird was found, in a tangle of bent ash, sumach and grape, the location being in the margin of the sapling growth below the parapet enclosing the roadway. The site was on interlacing forks and stems, about three and a half feet from the ground, chiefly in wild grape and sumach. There were four fuzzy young in the nest.

11. Robin. On June 7 a nest of Robin was examined. It was in the tangle selected by the Catbirds above mentioned, and this Robin was a very near neighbor to one of the Catbird pairs. The site was the lowest branches of a small hemlock along the path through the station grounds. It was built against the main stem, not more than three feet from the ground, in plain view from the nearby pathway. This nest contained young well feathered.

12. Chestnut-sided Warbler. On June 7 a nest of Chestnut-sided Warbler was examined. It was also in the tangle mentioned on the station or boat-landing grounds, near the Inn, in the sloping zone of shrubbery between the motor highway and the lower road through the grounds. This nest was in blackberry sprouts, made among upright stems and forking twigs, about two feet from the ground, and the site was as quite characteristic, for it utilized upright forks made by this year's growth and last season's dead branches. The plant containing the nest was among brambles resembling it so that the site was in no way obvious. The structure was rather shabby in appearance, made outwardly of dingy dried grasses and

bark sheds, with several fragments of wasp paper. It was lined with fine dried grasses and horse-hair, the latter being placed rather loosely in position. There were fuzzy young in the nest, and the female chirped nervously around the place during my presence, while the male flitted in the nearby bushes with quivering wings but making no sound.

13. Red-eyed Vireo. On June 8 a nest of Red-eyed Vireo was examined, in the scrubbing along the base of Bear Mountain bordering the Inn grounds. The site was in the lowest branches of a chestnut sapling, the nest being suspended as usual from the brim in a fork, under a leaf canopy about six feet from the ground. While the female was sitting on her four eggs, the male was singing not far away.

14. Yellow-breasted Chat. This Chat was not observed in the Park except in the vicinity of Bear Mountain, and there it inhabited the laurel bush at the base of the mountain fringing the Inn grounds. The calls and cries of the male serve as a guide to the location of the nest, and almost at the very center of the song, activities of a Chat songster I found the nest which inspired his odd expressions of joyousness. On June 8 I examined the nest, which was in a low, thick-set, densely-flowering laurel shrub. The site was in upright forks under the umbrella-like canopy of leaves and flowers, about two feet from the ground. The female was on the nest when I uncovered it, and after leaving it she scolded vigorously around the place, calling "scamp" in protest, in which she was soon joined by the male. The location was in a little sunlit area crowded with laurel in rich bloom, while all around was the hillside scrub in wild tangle. There were helpless young in this nest. As a part



of the surroundings there were larger witch hazel, viburnum, maple, chestnut and hickory sprouts.

15. Chestnut-sided Warbler. In the bushy clusters at the base of Bear Mountain, near the trail leading up the slope, the Chestnut-sided Warbler is one of the common frequenters of the shrubbery. Near the place where the Yellow-breasted Chat was nesting, I found a nest of Chestnut-sided Warbler on June 8. It was located in the margin of a shown bank of purple flowering raspberry. The site was against an upright fork of this shrub, completely covered by the leaf canopy, and the structure was held in place by adjoining stems, about two feet from the ground. This nest was made outwardly nearly altogether of narrow dried grasses and shreds of weed-stems, rather loosely woven and coiled together, having the appearance of careless workmanship. The lining was made of very fine brown grasses and some horsehair. The parent birds were actively engaged in feeding the recently hatched young in this nest, and they chirped quietly near the place while I examined their household arrangements.

16. Golden-winged Warbler. For the first time I was able to study this interesting Warbler at close range, while staying at the Guest House in the interior of the Park, on the Kanah-wauke lakes. I observed a pair of Golden-winged Warbler active in flying with food into a patch of swamp fern, in a little grassy area bordering the public highway. Several small saplings in the margin of the fernery gave the Warblers a protected approach to the nest, from which station they would drop into the swamp-grasses. When I was within sight, the female would keep in the saplings, chirping anxiously, while the male seemed to make efforts to en-

courage and assure his timid spouse, for he would make frequent sallies nearer to me and return to her apparently to induce her to follow him down to the nest with her bit of food. At length she followed her mate into the ferns at the foot of the sprouts, and thereafter they both made regular trips away and back into the ferns regardless of me. The male was not heard to sing at any time near the place. After sufficient observation to satisfy myself regarding the location of the nest, I crawled down among the ferns and swamp-weeds, and parting the soaked vegetation carefully, I found the nest set beside the base of a fern-clump, low on the ground beside the exposed roots of the grasses. There were three half-grown young in the nest. A month later I collected the discarded nest, when it was found to have no firmness of structure so that it could be removed and retain its original shape. It was made of fragments of dead leaves and bark, with a very little bedding of fine grasses, all the materials being dark brown in color and almost moist in situ.

17. Least Flycatcher. On June 12 I observed a Least Flycatcher at work on a nest in a clump of young trees back of the Guest Home garage. The site was an upright fork on a slender oblique branch about fifteen feet from the ground. The foundation was nearly finished, and the builder was beginning to fashion and walls. Her method of building was to stick the material low on the outside and then pull it up around in place, thus constructing from the base upward on the outside. Only one of the owners was seen at any time during this construction work. On June 13 I noted that the Flycatcher built up the walls of her nest by sitting or standing in it, and reaching down on the outside, she

would pull up the material into the desired place, thus weaving it together. Frequently in reaching down on the outside she would stand almost head down, with tail elevated nearly perpendicular, shaping the nest to her form and adjusting the materials on the outside to proper curve and height. Often in her work the builder would snuggle down low to see how the nest fit her form, then rise and reach over the brim to pull it into shape or to tuck in a fragment more satisfactorily, thus shaping and altering and fitting. As described, the general method seemed to be to catch the material low on the outside, pull it up and over the brim and tuck it in tightly on the inside. Strange to say, while the nest was constructed with care and energy, it was never used. Later in the season I collected the nest. The tree was a flowering dogwood under the shelter of a larger hickory. The nest was made of soft grayish bark fibers, downy particles of plant material, small feather fragments, brownish bark shreds and horsehair, with a lining of fine brown grasses.

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A letter from R. B. Overington who is well known to the readers of *The Oologist*, dated at Alexandria, Egypt, June 15th has this bird information.

"The Black Heron breeds in Cairo and the villages in the vicinity, picking out most any tall tree to place its ungainly looking litter of sticks which much resemble that of the Osprey only on a smaller scale. They are very plentiful. Several weeks ago while walking along the Nile I was much interested to notice a seemingly organized body of Egrets systematically carrying small twigs to build their nests with from several trees. After watching them awhile craving surely

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Bill Griffee.

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   Vols. 1 to 7 inc. .... 25.00  
 Auks, Vol. 6 to 33 inclusive, 28  
   Vols., paper covers uncut.... 50.00  
 Forest and Stream, Vols. 1 to 12  
   inc. .... 35.00  
 Ibis, 1874 to 1883, Bound ..... 90.00  
 And many vols. of Wilson Bull; Oologist, Bird Lore, O. and O. and other Ornithological magazines and Government publications.

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## BRIEF SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wanted, Exchange, For Sale, Etc., inserted in this department at 25 cents for each 25 words for one issue; each additional word 1 cent. No notice inserted for less than 25 cents.

We will advertise the skins, nests, eggs, or mounted specimens of North American Birds for sale for persons having a lawful authority under the law to deal in the same. These columns are for the use of those desiring to make bona fide exchanges of such specimens for scientific collecting purposes only.—EDITOR.

In answering advertisements in these columns mention "The Oologist," and thereby help us, as well as the advertiser and yourself.

## BIRDS

Send me the list of A 1 Bird Skins that you have to dispose of by exchange or otherwise. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

FOR EXCHANGE—A large list of All North American species of skins for specimens needed in my collection. C. W. CHAMBERLAIN, 36 Lincoln St., Boston, Mass.

ALL PERSONS having A-1 skins in pairs of any of the North American Jays send list. I will pay the highest price for those that I need. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

BIRDS—Have a good list of skins and mounted specimens for sale; also mammal skins, game heads, mounted animals and rugs, all well mounted and prices moderate. M. J. Hofman, Taxidermist, 1818 Bleecker St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

WANTED—A pair of living Sand Hill Cranes A. O. U. No. 306, taken north of the center of the U. S. If the birds are only slightly wingtipped this will not matter. For them I will pay a good price. R. M. Barnes, Lacon, Ill.

EXCHANGE—Fine sets of eggs and nests for birds skins from south and east. STANLEY G. JEWETT, Pendleton, Oregon.

FOR EXCHANGE:—Large well-mounted Golden Eagle and American Bittern. I am interested in all Natural History specimens. Write. WALTER STUCK, Jonesboro, Ark.

DATA BLANKS—Send for sample of my data blanks, with your name printed on it. 500 for \$1.00 postpaid. EDWARD S. COOMBS, 243 Franklin St., Boston, Mass.

WANTED to Exchange sets with reliable collectors. Or will purchase. Send lists and prices. G. B. REGAR, 1000 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

WANTED—One or more sets of A. O. W. 636. Can offer good sets of 325, 343 or 364 in exchange or cash. R. P. SHARPLES, West Chester, Pa.

SWANSON'S WARBLERS Sets with nests. Who wants them in exchange for other species? Send list in full. DR. M. T. CLECKLEY, Augusta, Ga.

The following first class skins offered: 132, 139, 146, 147, 148, 149, 151, 153, 221, 223, 230, 239, 241, 242, 254, 255, 256a, 379a, 393a, 394b, 401a, 402a, 413, 433, 463, 478c, 478d, 488b, 498f, 508, 510, 518, 524a, 529a, 540a, 554a, 567f, 581f, 588a, 607, 618, 652b, and other western species. J. A. MUNRO, Okanagan Landing, B. C.

## EGGS.

In sending in your exchange notices for nests, skins and eggs, we would appreciate it if you would arrange the numerals in your exchange notice in their numerical order, and not tumble them together hit and miss, as some of our readers are complaining, and we think justly so.

WANTED—Entire collection of Eggs of North American Birds for spot cash. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

EXCHANGE NOTICE—I desire to get in touch with all active field collectors with a view to exchanging A 1 sets. H. W. CARRIGER, 5185 Trask Street, Oakland, Calif.

Will be glad to hear from reliable collectors and to receive their lists. Have good list to offer including some rare species. RICHARD C. HARLOW, State College, Pa.

TO EXCHANGE—A limited number of the Famous JACOBS BIRDHOUSES for first class sets, personally collected, and with full data, nests needed with some. J. WARREN JACOBS, Waynesburg, Pa.

FOR EXCHANGE—15 1-1; 31a 1-1; 105.2 1-1, 107 1-1, 108.1 1-1; 116 1-1; 197 1-4; 464 1-4; 474i N-2; 475 1-3; 486 1-5; 533 1-3; 538 1-4; 543 1-3; 560a N-4; 574.1 N-2; 604 1-4; 615 N-5; 622a 1-5; 629a N-4; 646a N-4; 726c N-6, N-5; 741 N-6; 743 N-7; 748a N-7, N-5. J. H. BOWLES, The Woodstock, Tacoma, Wash.

PERSONALLY COLLECTED SETS of 7-132, 261, 273, 305, 331, 367. If interested send list. DR. ELMER LANGEVIN, Crookston, Minn.

FOR DISPOSAL—A large and extensive collection of Birds' Eggs from Europe and America. Send 3c stamp for complete list. DR. CLECKLEY'S MUSEUM, Augusta, Ga.

WANTED—An entire collection of North American Birds Eggs in sets with full data. Send full list to W. A. STRONG, 41 Grand Ave., San Jose, Cal.

FOR EXCHANGE—A1 personally collected sets of Mississippi Kite, Swainson's Hawk, White-necked Raven, 5-6, 3-7, Black-crested Titmouse 1-6, and many others. Want your complete lists of duplicates. E. F. POPE, Box 301, Albuquerque, N. Mex.

# THE OÖLOGIST.

VOL. XXXVI. No. 6 ALBION, N. Y., SEP. 1, 1919. . WHOLE NO. 386

*Owned and Published Monthly, by R. M. Barnes, Albion, N. Y., and Lacon, Ill.*

## TAKE NOTICE.

SUBSCRIPTION. 50 CENTS PER YEAR

Examine the number on the wrapper of your Oologist. It denotes the time your subscription expires. Remember we must be notified if you wish it discontinued and all arrearages must be paid. 378 your subscription expires with this issue. 377 your subscription expired with December issue 1918. Other expirations can be computed by intermediate numbers at the rate of one number per month.

Entered as second-class matter December 21, 1903, at the post office at Albion, N. Y., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.



Lesser Snow Goose at My Home, with Blue Gander, Her Mate  
Guarding the Nest. June 9, 1919.—Photo by V. Lane.



### Fifty Miles by Canoe

Crookston, Minnesota, is approximately fifty miles by water down the river from Red Lake Falls, at least that is what the farmers say, although overland by auto the speedometer registers but twenty-two. A look at a detailed map will convince one that it is crooked and a trip by canoe that it is swift. The Red Lake River is the outlet of Red Lake and is the largest stream in Northwestern Minnesota which drains its water into the Red River of the North at Grand Forks.

We left Red Lake Falls on the afternoon of June 7, 1917 at 4:35 in a small but well built, sea worthy canoe, our only equipment being a paddle each, a kodak and a receptical for any eggs we should chance to find. The river was one continuous rapids during that afternoon's and evening's travel. We would glide smoothly but swiftly through more quiet waters less strewn with rocks, but every curve necessitated the quick action of our paddles and use of our wits. From one crest to another we shot through on the tops of the highest waves just missing this rock dodging that and possibly scraping a third, and on and on. It was one continuous round of joy. Not until our stomachs gave the never failing warning, did we realize it was supper time. We spent a half hour at our hurried repast anxious to get back again to the joy of running the rapids. During our short stop we made a sally into the neighboring woods in search of birds. The banks of the river all along were steep and occasionally perpendicular. Yellow cliffs arose with the ever present overhanging trees giving ideal nights for hawks or a perch for the belted kingfisher. Timber of oak, basswood, ash and poplar lined the shores ex-

cept where some farm home and pasture came down to the waters edge. We saw catbirds, kingbirds, the universal, untiring song sparrow, as we made the short circuit in the woods close by.

Further down, the scream of a soaring Broad-wing Hawk gave the evidence of our proximity to its nest and as we rounded the next bend we sighted it in the top of the tallest among a grove of mammoth trees. It proved to be a basswood and so large around at the base that the combined reach of our outstretched arms could not encircle it. The lowest branch was some twenty-five feet up and although we tried to reach this by leaning a dead fallen tree against the other we had to give it up. Towards evening as we were nearing a small store and inland post office where we intended to stop for the night, we sighted a second hawk's nest high up in a leaning elm. It looked like an inhabited nest but the heads of the family seemed to be away. For that reason we hesitated on climbing it, thinking perhaps if it were inhabited the ambitious parents were away after food. However, being disappointed in the other nest we ran the risk and were repaid by the discovery of two Broadwink's eggs.

We spent the night at Huot. P. O. where the first road bridge spans the river. At six o'clock we were up, and at 6:30 on our way. Four miles by road up the river from Crookston there is a large concrete dam whose power is converted into electrical energy and transmitted over land to the cities of Crookston and Grand Forks. This dam backs the water up for miles and close to the dam has formed a very irregular and at the present time, a badly choked lake, for the back waters have drowned the near by timber of the lower lands and this



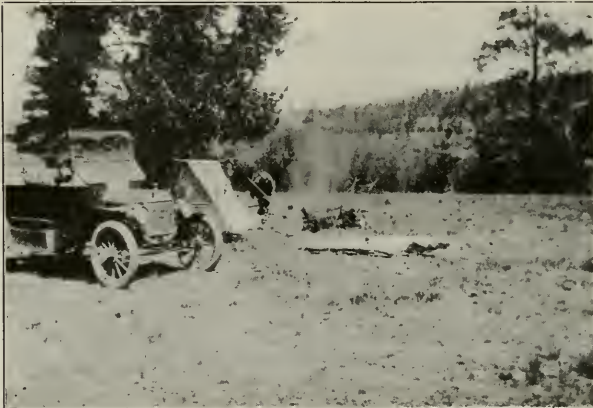
stands like a fire stripped forest in the widening waters. Our trip from now on required more muscle at the upper end of the paddle until we reached the dam and when in the largest open body of water, we had a head on wind to buck which is almost disastrous to canoeing. In these more quiet waters we startled a pair of Great Blue Heron at almost every other bend until at last they circled about and flew back of us up stream. We kept our eye peeled for their nest among the larger trees but were not fortunate in finding it. We discovered other inaccessible hawks' nests. Without the use of climbers at least which we did not have. We took dinner at exactly noon at the big dam.

After portaging about the dam and using our last film in a snap shot, of its falling waters, we began the last stretch of our trip. Shortly we came upon the discovery and event of the day. We saw a kingfisher with a small fish in his bill dart hurriedly into his hole in a low bank not more than ten feet up and but a foot and a half from the top. We have tried many times to find an inhabited kingfisher hole but this was our first experience and it was an interesting one. We crawled cautiously up and thrust a cap over the hole in hopes to catch Mr. Kingfisher for we figured he was taking Mrs. Kingfisher her dinner. He made no attempt to come out. Bud ran to the near by farm house for a shovel while I stood guard at the hole. Upon second thought I thought it best not to try to catch the bird for fear the eggs would be broken in his fright. So I removed the cap but Mr. Kingfisher did not come out. We began digging and still no appearance of the bird. When in about a foot or so, Bud ran his arm in but he drew it out faster than he put it in with a cry of pain. The bird drew blood.

This brought Mr. Kingfisher to light and away he flew across the stream. We kept on digging carefully lest we should break the eggs. When in about two and a half feet Bud thrust his arm in again to see if he could reach the eggs and a second surprise brought forth another yell. Suffice it to say, he didn't try again. This told us that Mrs. Kingfisher in real Belgium style was still withstanding the onslaught of the approaching Huns. We kept on digging and when in three and a half feet the mother bird could get a full view of us and made a hasty flight across the river. There in full view was the nest the pair were so nobly defending, a nest of which we had oftentimes read but had never seen. The end of the hole was enlarged to about seven inches across while the hole was four inches in diameter. The sandy clay floor was strewn with fish bones, most of them old ones proving the hole to have been inhabited before. On this rather harsh bed wobbled back and forth with heads up and mouth open, five young Kingfishers perfectly nude without the sign of down to protect their tender skin which was as white as a baby's. Their big eyes were still shut for what use had they for eyes in such a home. There too, lay the dinner which their father had carried to them as we had seen him enter the hole, a small minnow about two and one-half inches long. Our last film had been exposed in taking a snap shot of the dam so we were unable to photograph the nest. The sky was rapidly becoming over-cast with storm clouds and we had to hurry. We laid boards over the trench which we had dug, a perfectly straight one, covered the boards with earth and hurried on to complete our journey which took the remaining time until 2:40 p. m. The actual



We Skinned the Bear in a Cloud of Mosquitoes.—Photo by J. A. Munro.



We Camped Beside a Small Creek that Lost Itself in the Swamp

—Photo by J. A. Munro.



Rock Slide in B. C.—Photo by J. A. Munro.

running time on the trip had been nine hours and a quarter. At Crookston we went to the garage where a crippled auto had been left by the writer the week before for repairs. We loaded our canoe and that same afternoon saw the "Stutz" back at its old mooring and we took supper at home, Red Lake Falls, Minn.

L. E. Healy,  
Red Lake Falls, Minn.

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**The New Catalog**

I herewith submit the names of those voted for and the number of votes received by each one follows his name.

**Pacific**

\*J. H. Bowles, 15; \*H. W. Carriger, 13; \*W. L. Dawson, 10; A. M. Ingersoll, 7; N. K. Carpenter, 2; W. L. Chambers, 2. The following received one vote each: F. L. Granville, S. G. Jewwett, J. Grinnell, H. S. Swarth, H. A. Edwards, J. Van Denbrough, M. S. Ray, J. Mailliard, J. H. Evans.

**Intra-Mountain**

\*A. O. Treganza, 16; \*F. C. Willard, 12; \*E. F. Pope, 8; P. M. Silloway, 5; W. C. Bradbury, 4; F. M. Dille, 3. The following, one vote each: J. W. Sugden, J. B. Carter, A. D. DuBois, J. Henderson, D. M. Lindsey, R. B. Rockwell.

**Western**

\*P. B. Peabody, 10; H. E. Wheeler, 8; \*Guy Love, 4; R. Graham, 2; G. F. Simmons, 2. Following, one vote each: R. Holleman, E. Perry, R. W. Quillan, F. B. Eastman, F. M. Dille, T. S. Roberts, Strecker, Fitzpatrick.

**Central West**

B. R. Bales, 15; \*A. E. Price, 12; G. A. Abbott, 6. Following, one vote each. O. C. Shelley, R. M. Barnes, D. Hatch, B. F. Gault, I. E. Hess.

**Central East**

\*R. C. Harlow, 14; \*E. H. Short,

8; T. H. Jackson, 7; J. P. Norris, Jr., 6; J. W. Jacobs, 5; E. J. Court, 5; R. F. Miller, 3; S. S. Dickey, 3; Verdi Burtch, 2; J. L. Childs, 2; F. H. Lattin, 2. Following, one vote each: G. B. Benners, T. E. McMullen, T. S. Gillin, C. W. Crandall, J. D. Kuser, D. D. Stone, R. P. Sharples, Sikken.

**New England**

\*R. I. Kiles, 8; A. C. Bent, 7; \*J. E. Thayer, 6; P. G. Howes, 3; J. H. Flannagan, 2. Following, one vote each: E. S. Coombs, C. W. Chamberlain, H. H. Johnson, C. W. Chase, L. B. Bishop, F. S. Hersey, Kennard, Wilmot.

**Southern**

\*H. H. Bailey, 15; \*O. E. Baynard, 9; \*T. D. Perry, 7; A. F. Ganier, 4; G. R. Rossignol, 3; A. T. Wayne, 2; M. T. Cleckley, 2; A. M. Bailey, 2; E. A. McIlhenny, 1.

**Canada**

\*W. Raine, 9; \*R. W. Tufts, 7; \*E. Arnold, 5; J. A. Munro, 3. Following one vote each: W. H. Mousley, A. D. Henderson, E. S. Norman, P. W. Tavernor, F. Kermode, W. E. Saunders, W. J. Brown, G. F. Dippie.

R. B. Bales,  
Circleville, Ohio.

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The foregoing names marked with a star (\*) are duly elected members of the committee on values. A more representative committee could not have been chosen. We are certain that this committee will produce a "Price List of North American Birds Eggs," that will command the confidence and respect of all active oologists.

It is now up to the committee to proceed to organize and take up the work at once. They owe it to the Fraternity who have thus evidenced its confidence in them to push the good work along as rapidly as possible. When this committee has



done its valuation work, then this committee must elect the final court of last resort of three members to pass on disputed values on which the committee of twenty-five cannot harmonize its judgment. Then when all this is done and the work turned over to the Editor of the Oologist it is up to us to shoulder the expense and detail of putting it in type and book form. Let us all do our full duty to our fellow Oologists in this matter, promptly, thoroughly and cheerfully.

R. M. Barnes.

#### Pennsylvania and New Jersey Nesting Data for 1918

Least Bittern, Bridesburg, Pa., June 13, 5, two-thirds incubated eggs.

Green Heron, Cape May, N. J., June 16, 4 pipped eggs.

Blacked Crowned Night Heron, Cape May, N. J., June 16, 4 slightly incubated eggs.

Clapper Rail, Cape May, N. J., June 16, broken egg shells.

Virginia Rail, Bridesburg, Pa., June 13, 10 half incubated eggs.

Sora, Bridesburg, Pa., June 14, 5 pipped eggs.

Florida Gallinule, Bridesburg, Pa., June 14, new nest.

Woodcock, Charter Oak, Pa., April 27, two fresh eggs.

Killdeer, Gwynedd Valley, Pa., June 23, one nesting.

Ruffed Grouse, Charter Oak, Pa., May 16, one egg.

Mourning Dove, Lemont, Pa., May 10, one fresh egg.

Sharp Shinned Hawk, LaAnna, Pa., June 3, a robbed nest.

Coppers Hawk, Pine Grove Mills, Pa., May 4, 4 fresh eggs.

Red Shouldered Hawk, South Sterling, Pa., June 5, nest in which young was raised.

Broad Winged Hawk, Charter Oak,

Pa., May 14, 2 fresh eggs.

Osprey, Cape May, N. J., June 16, 3 highly incubated eggs.

Screech Owl, State College, Pa., May 3, 3 nestlings and 1 rotten egg.

Yellow Billed Cuckoo, Frankford, Pa., July 6, 4 fresh eggs.

Black Billed Cuckoo, La Anna, June 6, 3 fresh eggs.

Belted Kingfisher, La Anna, Pa., May 16, 4 highly incubated eggs.

Hairy Woodpecker, Charter Oak, Pa., May 16, 4 highly incubated eggs.

Downy Woodpecker, Charter Oak, Pa., May 23, 1 fresh (yokeless) egg.

Northern Pileated Woodpecker, Harry's Valley, Pa., May 17, 4 slightly incubated eggs.

Northern Flicker, Gwynedd Valley, Pa., July 9, 4 piped eggs.

Chimney Swift, Gwynedd Valley, Pa., June 20, 5 slightly incubated eggs.

Ruby Throated Hummingbird, South Sterling, June 11, 2 eggs.

Kingbird, La Anna, Pa., June 11, 2 eggs, one infertile and one half incubated.

Crested Flycatcher, Gwynedd Valley, Pa., June 26, 4 one third grown young.

Phoebe, Charter Oak, Pa., May 9, 4 fresh eggs.

Acadian Flycatcher, Gladwyne, Pa., June 24, 3 two-thirds grown young.

Prairie Horned Lark, Masseyburg, Pa., May 4, 4 slightly incubated eggs.

Blue Jay, Charter Oak, Pa., May 14, 4 fresh eggs.

Northern Raven, State College, Pa., April 28, unoccupied nest.

Crow, Gwynedd Valley, Pa., May 5, 5 fresh eggs.

Fish Crow, Seven Mile Beach, N. J., June 16, young birds.

Starling, Gwynedd Valley, Pa., June 20, 4 young birds.

Cowbird, Lemont, Pa., May 10, one fresh egg in Phoebe's nest of 3 eggs.

Red Winged Blackbird, Lemont, Pa., 4 fresh eggs.

Meadow Lark, Gwynedd Valley, Pa., Aug. 21, one rotten egg.

Orchard Oriole, Gwynedd Valley, Pa., June 20, 3 half grown young.

Baltimore Oriole, La Anna, Pa., June 9, 3 slightly incubated eggs.

Purple Grackle, Frankford, Pa., June 24, 4 one-third grown young.

Bronzed Grackle, State College, Pa., May 29, 4 slightly incubated eggs.

House Sparrow, Gwynedd Valley, Pa., July 19, 5 fresh eggs.

Vesper Sparrow, Gwynedd Valley, Pa., July 9, 3 two-thirds incubated eggs.

Grasshopper Sparrow, State College, Pa., May 11, half built nest.

Seaside Sparrow, Seven Mile Beach, N. J., June 16, fledged young.

Chipping Sparrow, South Sterling, Pa., June 1, 4 fresh eggs.

Field Sparrow, Charter Oak, Pa., May 22, 4 fresh eggs.

Slate-colored Junco, La Anna, Pa., June 9, new nest.

Song Sparrow, Pine Grove Mills, Pa., May 9, 5 fresh eggs.

Song Sparrow, Richmond, Pa., June 13, 4 half incubated eggs.

Swamp Sparrow, Richmond, Pa., June 13., 4 half incubated eggs.

Chewink, La Anna, Pa., June 4, 4 one-third incubated eggs.

Cardinal, Jordantown, N. J., June 22, new nest.

Rose Breasted Grosbeak, Audalusia, Pa., June 30, new nest.

Indigo Bunting, Charter Oak, Pa., May 27, half built nest.

Scarlet Tanager, Charter Oak, Pa., May 28, 2 fresh eggs.

Cliff Swallow, La Anna, Pa., May 31, 4 half incubated eggs.

Barn Swallow, La Anna, N. J., June 4, 5 highly incubated eggs.

Tree Swallow, Peermont, N. J., June 16, 5 well grown nestlings.

Rough Winged Swallow, Lemont, Pa., May 29, 6 fresh eggs.

Cedar Waxwing, La Anna, Pa., June 10, 1 fresh egg.

Red Eyed Vireo, Germantown, Pa., June 23, 3 fresh eggs.

Warbling Vireo, State College, Pa., May 30, 4 fresh eggs.

Black and White Warbler, South Sterling, Pa., 5 fledged young.

Blue-winged Warbler, Bustleton, Pa., June 15, 1 fledging.

Golden Winged Warbler, Charter Oak, Pa., May 25, 5 fresh eggs.

Black Throated Blue Warbler, Shingleton, Pa., May 30, 4 fresh eggs.

Magnolia Warbler, South Sterling, Pa., June 5, 4 slightly incubated eggs.

Yellow Warbler, Charter Oak, Pa., May 25, 4 fresh eggs.

Blackburnian Warbler, Le Anna, Pa., June 6, 3 slightly incubated eggs.

Black-throated Green Warbler, Charter Oak, Pa., May 26, 4 fresh eggs.

Oven Bird, Charter Oak, Pa., May 25, 5 fresh eggs.

Northern Water Thrush, South Sterling, Pa., June 1, 4 young, several days old.

Louisiana Water Thrush, Charter Oak, Pa., May 22, 6 slightly incubated eggs.

Kentucky Warbler, Bustleton, Pa., June 15, 5 fledged young.

Mourning Warbler, South Sterling Pa., June 11, 1 infertile egg and 2 nestlings.

Northern Yellow Throat, Le Anna, Pa., June 8, 4 half incubated eggs.

Yellow Breasted Chat, Charter Oak, Pa., May 25, 4 fresh eggs.

Hooded Warbler, Charter Oak, Pa., My 26, 4 fresh eggs.

Canadian Warbler, Shingleton, Pa., May 30, 5 fresh eggs.

Catbird, State College, Pa., May 28, 4 fresh eggs.

Brown Thrasher, Jordantown, Pa., June 22, 2 dead young.

Caroline Wren, Germantown, Pa., June 23, one infertile egg.

House Wren, South Sterling, Pa., June 1, 6 half incubated eggs.

Long-billed Marsh Wren, Bridesburg, Pa., June 13, 6 half incubated eggs.

White-breasted Nuthatch, State College, Pa., April 29, 7 fresh eggs.

Black-caped Chickadee, Charter Oak, Pa., May 22, new nest.

Wood Thrush, Charter Oak, Pa., May 24, 4 fresh eggs.

Robin, State College, Pa., May 10, 4 fresh eggs.

Bluebird, State College, Pa., April 28, 3 fresh eggs.

In addition to these I also found nests of Sparrow Hawk, Red-headed Woodpecker and Purple Martin and post-nuptial nests of Goldfinches.

Richard F. Miller.

Ninety-five species is a truly wonderful record for one season and shows high class field ability.—Editor.

#### The Song of the Mockingbird

I trust the following short notes will be of some interest to readers of this magazine, at least to those who are not familiar with the song of the Mockingbird.

As there was no celebration this 4th of July, very near my home town, I decided to spend the day along the Mississippi River, so donning my hiking clothes, and loading my camera with plates I started out with my camera and binoculars, to shoot game.

When about one mile from the river, I struck a long stretch of barren wastes of sand bottom, and in spite of a three speed bicycle, and my determination, I was forced to push my cycle through the most of it, thus making slow time.

A short distance ahead of me I heard the familiar notes of the nuthatch, coming from a nearby thicket. My curiosity was instantly aroused, for I thought it unusual for a nuthatch

to be so far from the deep woods. Then issuing from the same thicket, was the clear, savage "kee lee, kee lee" of the sparrow hawk. Something must be wrong! My curiosity was doubly roused now, and upon investigation an innocent looking mockingbird flew out.

He now proceeded to hold me spell-bound for an hour by his varied songs. In exceptionally clear tones, the cardinal song was given, followed by the harsh notes of the shrike, both notes characteristic of the migrant shrike being given. Then a soft, mellow whistle of the bob-white was heard, followed shortly by the familiar "yank, yank" of the nuthatch. Both notes of the nuthatch were given, always following each other.

This bird evidently had frequented some farmyard while wintering down south, for it gave the exact, noisy notes of the guinea fowl, invariably followed by the call of a chicken, when lost from the mother hen. This characteristic of its uttering the various notes of common use by any bird, in succession was very noticeable in the case of the blue jays' song. First it gave the "jay, jay" call, then the "de lillet, de lillet," followed by the scream of the red tailed hawk, so often used by the jay.

In almost every case the mockingbird's rendering of the different songs, was clearer, and more distinct than when uttered by the bird of which the notes are characteristic. My notes show the following songs, as given in five minutes: both notes of the catbird, the twitter of the wren, the wild notes of the kingbird, the rolling song of the martin, and the call of the red-headed woodpecker. This was followed by the beautiful warble of the warbling vireo, only to be spoiled by the "wit whit, wit whit" of the crested flycatcher, given in strong language.

The chickadee's songs of "pew" and "chickadeee," after which the blue-bird's "purity" was heard. Had this bird lived near some body of water? I was startled by the "peet weet, peet weet" of the sandpiper. This was followed by the peculiar notes of the cuckoo. The meadow lark's "spring o' the year" was repeated in rapid succession, as well as the resonant notes of the red-bellied woodpecker. Only once did he give the "wicki" of the flicker. These songs were filled in by the mockingbird's own song, which is so varied it cannot be described readily.

This bird captured a good many insects, always after them with wild guinea fowl accompaniment. He always flew to a small brush pile, after capturing the insect, so I proceeded to investigate. He gave some harsh "beat it, beat it," in titmouse language and flew to a nearby telephone wire. A careful search failed to reveal anything of interest so I hid in some weed and waited. He flew down to the same spot and strutted around like a setting hen, uttering the most wild notes imaginable. I went back to the brush pile, and tore it to pieces, but found nothing.

His mate was evidently brooding nearby but any amount of my concealing myself, would not fool him to betray the nest. I searched carefully in the nearby stunted locust trees, but found no indications of the nest. In nesting, this bird shows a decided preference to locust trees here in this locality. What an hear I had had! I had heard twenty-two distinct bird songs from the same throat, rendered in beautiful tones. How I envy those nature lovers living in the Southern states. Well does this bird deserve it's name of "Mimus Polyglottos!"

Perhaps it will not be improper to mention here that while walking

through the thick woods of the islands in the river, I saw a beautiful specimen of partially albino crow. It had a pure white tail, wings, and most of its head, with a black body, showing peppering of white. It was having a sorry time of it, for the rest of the "gang" seemed to think it was there for its special pleasure. A blue jay, white, excepting its wings, was also observed, and was a most beautiful specimen.

Theodore R. Greer,  
Aledo, Illinois.

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Reveille

Old Time

3:00	A. M.	.....	American Bittern
3:10	"	.....	Purple Marten
3:15	"	.....	Catbird
3:22	"	.....	American Robin
3:30	"	.....	Baltimore Oriole
3:36	"	.....	English Sparrow
4:08	"	.....	House Wren
4:40	"	.....	Mourning Dove
			Taps
6:34	P. M.	.....	Song Sparrow
6:41	"	.....	Red Eyed Vireo
6:45	"	.....	Grackle
6:49	"	.....	Mourning Dove
6:50	"	...Redheaded	Woodpecker
6:54	"	.....	Baltimore Oriole
7:03	"	.....	House Wren
7:26	"	.....	Catbird
7:30	"	.....	Purple Marten
7:55	"	..	American Robin
			Geo. W. Vos Burgh, Columbus. Wis.

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WANTED

A capable young man full of pep and energy who knows a bit about cooking and is used to roughing it and willing to take the bitter with the sweet in the wilds to start early next Spring for a canoe trip to the head waters of the Peace River and down through the Great Slave Lake. He must be able to furnish his personal equipment.

R. M. Barnes.



### After Twenty-five Years

By H. H. Johnson, Pittsfield, Maine

Today, June 10, 1919, I made a visit to one of my old haunting grounds. This marsh once a mowing field, was caused by the backing up of water from a dam. The place where, in my youth, I did most of my fall haunting, finding there many ducks. Black Ducks, Pintail, Mallard, Scoters, Blue and Green-winged Teal. Also if the water be low, many Wilson Snipe and the various shore birds. Pectoral, Least, Semipalmated, Solitary and Spotted Sandpipers, Greater and Lesser Yellow-legs, some of them in flocks of hundreds. The Marsh Hawks, American Bittern, Blue Herons were common, Pied-billed Grebe were there, also the Red-winged Blackbird and what we then called and I still believe to be the Purple Grackles in flocks. How vividly I recall how my nerves would jump with excitement when Jack Snipe would suddenly rise from under my feet with a cry of "scape, scape" and many did; zigzagging first to the right, then to the left and so away safely, when, had he held to the right and like the Irishman's bird, been where I shot, he would have been a dead Snipe. Sometimes I have watched their flight after a miss and after flying nearly out of sight the Snipe would return to alight near where I had flushed the bird, before alighting. The Wilson Snipe does not hold this zigzag course only a few rods but soon straightens out in direct flight. Again five or six would start up one after the other and from all sides with that saucy "scape" keeping my nerves leaping until I nearly had the St. Vitus dance. In alighting the Snipe does not skim down gradually to the earth but drops almost directly down. There were not many ducks on the marsh in the middle of the day, most of them except the Teal spend-

ing the day in the out away portions of the pond, the sloughs and flooded swamps around about. The duck shooting consisted mainly of one taking a position or stand and awaiting for them to fly in at sundown. A place among the standing trees of the flooded swamps being the best, the ducks coming in one or twos, no flocks, and was all wing shooting. Thus with the help of the snipe and ducks I became in time a fair wing shot. In the breeding season this marsh and the sloughs around about became the nesting sites, of scattered Black Ducks, numerous Pied-billed Grebes, American Bittern, many Red-winged Blackbirds, Purple Grackles, Tree Swallows, Kingbirds and a few Rails.

Today I found the marsh much changed, where once it was marsh grass with solid footing, the cattails and other water grasses fill the space forming a mat on top of the water, but which allows one to sink down at each step, making it hard walking. The birds were conspicuous by their absence. Where in former years I would have found a hundred pair of Red-winged Blackbirds nesting, today I found six nests, three with four eggs, one with two eggs, one which contained four eggs, but had been destroyed by something making holes in two, the other unharmed nest deserted and one completed nest but without eggs.

All of these nests were made of fine marsh grass and situated in the cattails. Of the Grackles I noted none. Kingbirds, one pair, no nest found. The stubs where the Tree Swallows nested are all gone in that locality, thus no nests were found though a few of the birds were noted. A Tree Swallow which has a nest near my home, using a hollow top rail of a pasture fence, has built a nest of fine grasses lined with feathers, some of

which must have been brought from a distance of half a mile at least, since they are white hen feathers and we have no white hens here on the place. The nest contained two eggs this morning. This hollow rail has been used yearly as a nesting site for a pair of Tree Swallows, if not the same pair for a number of years. The pair using it this year are very tame as I have noticed when driving my cattle to and from the pasture each day. But to return to the marsh. I flushed a Black Duck and a pair of Bitterns, but found no nest though I made a thorough search in that vicinity. A pair of each would be all I should expect to find in a marsh of the size of this, as these birds are exclusive during the breeding season. Also a pair of Great Blue Herons were noted. I flushed one rail, but am unable to tell of what species as I had only a glimpse of the bird and am not familiar enough with the rails. I at once instituted a search for the nest. After some time I found a nest of the rail of an earlier date, which had met with an accident. Supposedly this nest had been built when the water was higher on the marsh, afterward the water dropping somewhat and the nest being then over a foot out of the water became top-heavy causing it to cant enough to allow the eggs to roll out into the grass and water below. This nest as I found it was somewhat over a foot in height and six inches across the top, built of coarse and fine marsh grass mixed together for a foundation. The nest proper composed of the finer grasses. It was situated in the center of an open clump of six willow bushes, which were about three feet in height.

Although the bushes held the nest from falling flat, yet were not of sufficient strength to prevent it tipping enough to allow the eggs to fall

out. I found eight eggs somewhat bleached by the water, but not broken, in the grass at the foot of the nest. A nest of the Carolina Rail found on this same marsh July 22, 1894 contained five eggs which average 1.26 x .85. Nest composed of dried meadow grass, in saucer form (similar to the one mentioned above) placed in a tussock of grass. Of the Grebes I neither saw or heard any, while on the marsh. The Pied-bill Grebes in former times were plentiful on the pond during the breeding season. In the year 1894 I found two nests on the marsh, each containing seven eggs, one of which I will give the description of, from my notes made at the time. This nest was found May 31st, situated at the edge of the marsh in the water about up to my knees; a floating nest about as large as a half bushel basket and nearly all I could lift and carry. It consisted of grass, roots, reeds and cat-tails, most of which were decaying. The cavity was  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide by 1 inch deep, holding the eggs barely out of the water. The eggs were covered up by decaying vegetation very nicely and could hardly be noted and were warm from the fermentation and heat of the sun. June 9, 1895 I found a nest of the Grebe which contained two uncovered eggs, and around in the water one young Grebe just hatched, the description of, taken at the time I will give. Pied-bill Grebe, young; back black with six white stripes down the same, the black broadest; bill tipped with white (the horn like substance on newly hatched fowls and birds) with a dark stripe around the bill back of the white, (Samuels in Birds of New England, in his description of the young says, "bill without transverse black band"). White sup-ciliary line with a narrow stripe of black underneath; top of head black

with a center patch of chestnut; nape black; belly white. Bird in the downy plumage. These little fellows dive by putting their heads under the water and swimming along with all the rest of the body on top. Later I again made a visit to this nest and found the mother Grebe on the nest, she allowing me to approach within four feet before she left it; one more egg was hatched. This is the only time I ever succeeded in finding a Grebe incubating.

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#### Oology Under Difficulties

When one goes to war, hobbies are forgotten and put aside with all the other comforts and accustomed ways of the days that were. So when I enlisted in the fall of 1917, my egg tools were laid away with my civilian clothes and I wondered if I ever were destined to take another set again. Fate proved kind to me, however.

Originally in the 20th Engineers I was transferred while going across on the transport to the 10th Engineers, and after a week in a casual camp at Bloise, I finally ended my long journey in a logging camp in southern France, near the little town of Pontunx. All this occurred in the winter months, and by the time spring arrived I had become familiar with the country in which I found myself and realized that situated as I was in the Pine Woods of France I could well take up collecting again, and so pass away the little leisure I had. Pleasantly and profitably a book on the ornithology of France, written in French, and a good dictionary had assisted me in learning the names of the birds that I saw but I could find little information on the breeding habits of the various species. So at first I made many mistakes and wasn't as successful as I might have been. The Long Tailed Tit was plentiful and owing

to its name and its characteristic actions I thought it nested in cavities of trees with the result that not until the 28th of April did I find my first nest, with young. This somewhat to my surprise and to my great interest was a large ball of moss, lined with feathers and covered externally with lichen and with the entrance at the side. It was twenty feet from the ground saddled in a crotch of a Cork Oak at the side of the road and was found by seeing the bird go to it. On the 12th of May, however, I found my first set of fresh eggs, four of the Chaffinch. The nest was fifteen feet from the ground, in a crotch against the branch of a large Cork Oak at the side of the road. It was made of green moss, lined with soft grass, feathers and horse hair and covered well externally with lichens.

The Chaffinch is one of the most abundant birds of southern France and in the next month and a half I came across three other nests similar in situation and construction to the first. The last found, July 7, held four incubated eggs.

The Green Woodpecker similar in almost every respect to our Flicker was the next to succumb to my efforts and on May 26, I took a nice set of six fresh eggs. I had found his nest the week before and when I returned to it I noticed at once that some one else had been ahead of me and enlarged the hole considerably. Not being able to get my hand in it, however, I decided to enlarge it a little on my own account with satisfactory results as far as I was concerned. Seemingly a Frenchman had attempted to secure some eggs for breakfast but had lacked the necessary perseverance. Knowing the peasants as I do now, I felt that that was probably the case for in France nothing is done without due deliberation and de-

lay. In this case the result of delay should have been realized and avoided in the future but I doubt it.

Owing to working six days a week and drilling the seventh, ornithology was temporarily neglected and it was not until the 12th of June that I was able again to ramble about. On that day, however, I secured a nice set of four Chimney Swallows from under the eaves of a railroad station. These birds are so similar in appearance, actions and notes to our Barn Swallows that I doubt if several were turned loose in this country that anyone would recognize them for what they were. Their nests were the same bowl shaped structures of pellets of mud and grass with the lining of grasses and feathers, but I found them almost entirely on the outside of buildings, under the eaves and not inside. Two broods are reared each year and it was the second brood that suffered at my hands, young being on the wing by the first of June. Altogether four nests were found, the second on the 27th of June with five fresh eggs, the third on the 10th of July with three slightly incubated and the last on the 12th of July with four practically fresh eggs.

House Martins proved to be abundant during the summer months, each town having its quota and I found them very interesting birds. In appearance they resemble the Tree Swallows, but had a white rump. In nesting habits, however, they are startling and different, for they build a nest resembling in every respect that of our Cliff Swallows. These are plastered under the eaves of buildings, usually three or four together, and being in towns were a hard proposition to get at. My vocabulary wasn't extensive enough to explain to the occupants of a house why I desired to get to their roof and rob a bird's nest,

and I wasn't particularly anxious anyhow to attract the attention. I knew I would if I attempted this in daylight. Anything an American soldier did was of absorbing interest to the people, and an action such as I contemplated would, I know, cause a gathering of all the inhabitants within a considerable distance. Fortunately there were several nests under the eaves of the railroad station and it was possible by clinging to the ornate structure of this building to get them. So at daylight on the 14th of June, before anyone was out of bed, I made an attempt and the one nest I was able to reach held to my great satisfaction four fresh eggs.

On the 18th of June, while crossing a slashing in the woods, I flushed a Nightjar, the goatsucker of Europe, from two fresh eggs this ended my collecting for the year of 1918. These eggs laid on a bed of pine bark at the foot of a briar, and were typical of this family, being white, handsomely marked with lilac and brown.

Collecting seemed to me, at first, to be the least of my difficulties for there still remained the necessity of blowing them and making good specimens of them. I pondered long over this matter and in the end succeeded beyond my modest expectations. Using a hat pin as a drill, concerning which no personal questions will be answered, and my pipe stem as a blow pipe, I was able to clean the eggs thoroughly, and through a hole small enough to satisfy the most exacting oologist. There still remained the task of packing them securely and getting them safely home but this was an easy matter and now I have a small number personally taken sets of European birds to remind me of my fourteen months with the A. E. F.

Thos. D. Burleigh,  
Pittsburgh, Pa.



## NOTES ON THE BOB-WHITE

*Colinus virginianus virginianus*

For illustrations accompanying this article see 'The Oologist,' Vol XXXII, No. 12, December 1915.

Ten years ago, before that mad rush of "Suburban Homers" had spread themselves and their dwellings over the fields, surrounding what was then the little town of Stamford, quail were abundant.

One heard their familiar whistle echoing back and forth across the fields from dawn until sunset throughout the spring, summer and fall. In winter little groups of them would gather about the barn yards, occasionally becoming confident enough to feed along with the chickens. Others would make their winter quarters in the fields where stacks of corn, left standing, provided ample food and shelter. Indeed, one knew Bob-white almost as well as the Robin or Bluebird, during these years before the fields and thickets were transformed into suburban towns, with electric lights, cement sidewalks and near-artistic homes.

The Quail diminished as rapidly as the improvement idea gained headway. Their haunts became infested with a thicket against which they could not fight successfully. The fields in which they had always nested were turned into lawns, their winter shelters disappeared, more hunting licenses were issued as the population increased and the Quail vanished.

For several years I no longer heard those familiar call notes, they were gone I supposed, for good.

Not only did they disappear from their old haunts close to the town, but even back in the country, where conditions are as primitive as they

were fifty years ago, they were also scarce.

A few years later, in 1911, I was surprised and delighted to find some of the birds breeding close to Stamford, in some of the fields that were left, and since that season they have increased almost as rapidly as they disappeared.

There seems to have been a general readjustment to the new conditions and wherever there were fields of standing grass during 1913, there were also Quail. This I attribute to the fact that almost everywhere, people are at last learning the value of conservation.

The spring and summer of 1913 in this part of the country, were ideal for all species of birds. There were no cold continued rains in the breeding season nor was there a decided drouth as there often is in August. The entire season was even and perfect and probably more nestlings were successfully reared to maturity during 1913 than in any previous season for many years.

What is even more important, up to the present writing, (Feb. 1, 1914) we have had an extremely open winter with very little snow, none of the sleet storms, so disastrous to winter bird life, and with a few exceptions comparatively high temperatures.

Another month will see the first spring thaws, and if we have good weather until that time, the Quail will have experienced the most ideal twelve months in a long span of years.

I am hoping for a great increase in breeding pairs, during the coming season, and feel sure that no disappointment awaits me.

In passing from the above rough outline of the Quails past and possible future, it may be of interest to some of the Oologist readers to know the proper manner of feeding Quail

in winter. A great many birds may be saved in severe weather by the following simple method and I therefore describe it at length.

Several poles are first cut, about five feet long and of convenient diameter. These should be pushed into the ground, a foot or so apart, and in a circle, three or four feet in diameter. The tops of the poles are now brought together and firmly bound, so that the whole resembles the frame of a small tepee. Corn stalks are now bound to the framework so that it makes a warm hollow shelter, resembling a corn stack. Grain may be placed upon the ground inside, but a better plan is to build four-sided hollow shutes of bark slabs, with a tray to contain the grain, at one end. The shute may then be pushed through the tepee from the outside. The advantage of this idea is that the grain may be put into the tepee through the shute at any time, without disturbing the birds, who might be snowed in.

Such shelters may be placed about the borders of fields that are surrounded by woods and in other places likely to be visited by the birds in winter.

The situation usually chosen by the birds for the nest, is in a hay field, often close to a wall or fence. In my experience it has never been composed of material, other than dead grasses, beautifully cupped to the contour of the females body.

The pure white eggs vary in number from ten to seventeen and owing to their conical shape fit closely together, thus allowing the parent to cover so large a number.

A nest found on July 29th, 1913, at Long Ridge, Conn. containing seventeen eggs, was placed in a slight hollow at the foot of a juniper bush in a field of worn out hay. The mower,

hay-rake and a team of horses in turn passed over the sitting bird without so much as damaging one of her feathers!

The slight hollow in which the nest had been built, undoubtedly was the only thing that saved the fearless little bird and her nest.

Only three of the eggs in this nest hatched. The chicks came forth on the 8th and 9th of August and left the nest on the following day.

Upon examination in my laboratory, of the remaining eggs, one was found to be addled and the rest either contained decomposing, well formed embryos, or chicks too weak to break through the shell.

It is my opinion that the eggs became so thoroughly chilled before the bird finally returned to the nest, after being flushed, that the chicks could not survive the shock.

During my visits to the nest to obtain photographs, the male was only observed once, and then at some distance. It is of course possible that this bird had nothing to do with the nest in question at all, but I presume that it was the male. It remained at a distance, occasionally calling.

The young are beautiful little buff and brown creatures and are very active, even before the down is entirely dry. Their call note is a weak little "Peep" characteristic of the young of the Gallinaceous birds, and I occasionally discovered their whereabouts in a field, after flushing the parent, by listening intently with one ear close to the ground. It is almost impossible to locate them in any other way, except by chance, once they have left the nest. Their coloring is a protection in itself to say nothing of their hiding abilities and minute size.

It is fascinating to go back day after day to the Quail field and tramp

about until the old bird is flushed, then to listen for that scarcely audible "Peep," "Peep" of the little fellow! They do not move far during the first few days of existence and one is pretty safe in supposing that they are in the nesting field. They are such wonderful little creations, one is drawn back many times for that last sight of them. I remember how I found myself going back to the field day after day in the early morning—dawn—you know the time, and the sensation; when the Robins are just beginning to call?

I am not prepared to tell more here, as my data are as yet meagre, but I am looking forward to the coming season and the nesting of the Quail with eagerness, when perhaps fortune will favor my notebook.

Paul G. Howes.

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#### Books Received

"Spencer Fullerton Baird, a biography including selections from his correspondence with Audubon and others, by William Healey Dall, Am. DCS with 19 illustrations, Philadelphia and London, J. P. Lippincott & Company."

This contribution to the biography of one of America's most eminent scientists is a well gotten up 460 page review of the life of this splendid man. Chapters are devoted—1 to Geneological Family notes; 2 Childhood & Youth; 3 Life at Carlisle; 4 The Young Professor; 5 Smithsonian Institution; 6 Life in Washington; 7, 1850 to 1865; 8, 1865 to 1878; 9 The Secretary 1878 to 1887; 10 The United States National Museum; 11 United States Commission of Fish and Fisheries; 12 Appreciations. And in these various chapters the history of Spencer Fullerton Baird is followed through his entire life; much new and interesting matter is produced

and much other matter relating to this scientific is presented in a new light.

Professor Dall is to be congratulated upon the thoroughness with which he has covered this subject. To all bird men and students of American Ornithology Baird is a sort of Godfather and we are certain, they will be pleased with this addition relating to his useful life.

CASSINIA—"Proceedings of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club of Philadelphia 1918 issued April 1919." No publication that comes to the desk of the Editor is received with more pleasure than Cassinia; first, because it deserves it, second, because without being able to explain why, we have formed a feeling for this publication, a sort of personal attachment. This present issue No. XXII contains further notes on the Biography of John Cassin—Observations of Dandæris Hesselius on the National History of Delaware during the years 1711-24—Activities of the D. V. O. C.—Report on the Spring Migration of 1918. This latter is compiled by Whitmore Stone and is a very careful resume of the subject—Abstract of the proceedings of the D. V. O. C. for 1918—Club notes—a Bibliography 1918 and a list of the officers and members of this Club. While not as large as former issues, the standard of excellence both mechanically and scientifically heretofore attained by this publication is well sustained in this issue.

CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME Vol 5 Number 2, Sacramento, California, April 1919. This is one of the really useful publications received by the Editor and is filled from cover to cover with suggestions for the conservation of wild life, game, birds and fish and contains many desirable

short notes. It is always a welcome visitor.

"The birds of the Tambelan Islands, South China," by Harry C. Oberholser among proceedings of the United States National Museum, Vol. 55, pages 129-143.

"Notes on the Wrens of the Genius Nannus Billberg" same, pages 223, 236.

"Notes on birds collected by Dr. W. L. Abbott on Pulo Taya Berhala Strait, South Eastern Sumatra," same, pages 267-274.

The above are three technical papers dealing with the birds of the locations therein named and are of interest to those studying birds in those far away localities.

### MAGAZINES WANTED

I will pay the highest prices for any one of the following back numbers of these publications. If you have any of them write me at once.

R. M. Barnes, Lacon, Ill.

**Agassez Bulletin**, Buffalo, N. Y., 1885. All except Vol. I, No. 5.

**The A. A. Bulletin**, Gilman, Ill., 1890, Vol. I, No. 3.

**The Agassi Record**, Oskaloosa, Ia., 1888, Vol. I, Nos. 3 and 4.

**American Magazine of Natural Science**, 1892-3, Vol. I, Nos. 4 and 6; Vol. II, No. 1.

**The Agassiz Companion**, Wyondotte Ks., 1886, Vol. I, all but No. 2; Vol. II, all but 3-5-6-10; Vol. III, all but 1-5-10-11-12.

**Amateur Naturalist**, Ashland, Maine, 1903-6, Vol. I, all; Vol. II, all; Vol. III, all except Nos. 1 and 4.

**Bear Hill Advertiser**, Stoneham, Mass., 1903, Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 3, and all after No. 4.

**American Osprey**, Ashland, Ky., 1890, Vol. I, No. 6.

**The Buckeye State Collector**, Portsmouth, O., 1888, Vol. I, Nos. 4 and 6.

**Bulletin of the Oologists Assn.**, Omaha, Nebr., 1897. All except No. I, Vol. 1.

**California Traveller and Scientists**, 1891-2, Vol. I, all except No. 5; Vol. II, all except No. 3 and all later issues.

**The Collector**, West Chester, Pa., 1891, Vol. I, all; Vol. II, all except Nos. 1-2-3.

**The Collector**, Des Moines, 1882, Vol. II, all except Nos. 6-7-8.

**Collectors Journal**, Fayetteville, Ia., 1901, Vol. I, all except No. 2.

**The Collectors Monthly**, Newburg, N. Y., 1893, Vol. I, Nos. 2-3-4.

**Collectors Notebook**, Camden, N. Y., 1903-4, Vol. I, all; Vol. II, all except Nos. 2 and 6.

**The Curio**, Benson, Maine, Vols. I, II, III, IV, VI.

**Collectors Monthly**, Philadelphia, Pa., 1888. All except Vol. I, No. 1.

**The Collectors Monthly**, Oakland, Calif., 1911. All published except Nos. 2, 3 and 4 of Vol. I.

**The Curio Exchange**, New Kamilche, Wash., 1901-2, Vol. I, No. 4 and Vol. II, 3 and all after.

**Empire State Exchange**, Water Valley, N. Y., 1889, Vol. I, all except Nos. 1-5-10; Vol. II, all except Nos. 1 and 2; Vol. III, all except Nos. 2-3-4; Vol. IV, all except 1-2-3-4.

**The Exchange**, Quendota, Ill., 1889, Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 4.

**The Exchange**, Adrian, Mich., 1885, Vol. I, Nos. 1-2-4-5.

**The Exchangers Monthly**, Vol. IV, complete, 1888.

**Exchanger and Collector and Exchangers Aid**, 1885, Canaijohorie, N. Y., all except Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 2.

**Forest and Field**, Gillertville, N. Y., 1892, all except Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 5.

**Golden State Scientist**, Riverside, Calif., 1886, Vol. I, No. 1. The Suppressed copy.

**The Guide to Nature Study and Nature Literature**, Stanford, Conn., Vol. I, No. 12; Vol. II, all after No. 7; Vol. III, IV, V; Vol. IV, Nos. 1 to 8 and No. 10. Also issues of March, Nov. and Dec. 1909 and from Jan. 1910 to Dec. 1913, inclusive and March 1914 and July 1915 to Jan. 1916 inclusive.

**The Hummer**, Nebraska City, Neb., 1899-1900, Vol. I, Nos. 3 and 4.

**Iowa Ornithologist**, Salem, Ia., 1895-7, Vol. IV, No. 3.

**Kansas City Naturalist**, Kansas City, Mo., 1886-91, Vol. 5, No. 10.

**The Kansas Naturalist**, Topeka, Ks., 1902, Vol. I, all except No. 2.

**The Maine O. and O.**, Garland, Me., 1890-1, Vol. I, Nos. 5-6-7-12; Vol. II, No. 1.

**The Naturalist**, Kansas City, Mo.,



1890, Vols. I, II, III and Vol. IV except Nos. 6-8 and 10.

The **Natural History Collectors Monthly**, 1893, Vol. I, except Nos. 1-2-3-4.

The **Naturalists Companion**, Branchport, N. Y., 1885, Vol. I, No. 1.

The **Naturalists Journal**, Frankfort, and Phila., Pa., 1884, Vol. I, Nos. 4 and 7; Vol. II, Nos. 1-2-3-4.

**Nature Study Review**, Chicago, Ill., All issues prior to No. 45; also Nos. 46, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 72, 74, 93, 94 and 117.

The **Observer**, 1889-1917, Vol. I, all except Nos. 1-2-3-6; Vol. II, all except No. 3; Vol. III, all except Nos. 2-45-6-7; Vol. IV, all except Nos. 2-3; Vol. V, Nos. 6-8-9-10-12; Vol. VI, Nos. 2-7-10-12; Vol. VII, Nos. 10-12; Vol. VIII, all except No. 4.

**Ohio Naturalist**, Ohio State University, 1889-1895, Vols. I-III-III and Vol. IV, No. 5 and all later issues.

The **Old Curiosity Shop**, Vol. IX, No. 6.

The **Oologist and Botanist**, Des Moines, Ia., Vol. II, Nos. 3-4-5.

The **Oologist Advertiser**, Danilsville, Conn., 1889-90, Vol. I, No. 1.

The **Ornithologist**, Twin Bluffs, Wis., 1885, Vol. 1, No. 1.

The **Oregon Naturalist**, Eugene, Ore., 1891, Vol. II, No. 7.

The **Owl**, Glenn Falls, N. Y., 1885-6, Vol. I, all; Vol. II, all except Nos. 1 and 2; Vol. III, all except No. 2.

The **Stormy Petrel**, Quendota, Ill., 1890, Vol. I, Nos. 2 and 6

The **Taxidermist**, Hyde Park, Mass., 1907-14, all after Vol. II, No. 7.

The **Valley Naturalist**, St. Louis, Mo. 1878, all except Vol. I, No. 1.

The **Weekly Oologist and Philatelist**, all published except Vol. I, No. 2 and Vol. II, No. 2.

The **Western Naturalist**, Topeka, Ks., 1903, all issues except Vol. I, No. 1

The **Western Naturalist**, Quadison, Wis., 1887-8, Vol. I, Nos. 7-9-10; Vol. II, Nos. 1-5-6.

The **West American Scientist**, San Diego, Calif., 1885 to 1902, Vol. I, all except Nos. 5-9-11; Vol. II, all except Nos. 15-21; Vol. III, all except Nos. 27-31; Vol. IV, all except Nos. 43-47-53; Vol. VI, Nos. 61. Vol. VIII, 66-68-69-70-71-72-73 and all after No. 139 except No. 158.

The **Wisconsin Naturalist**, Milwau-

kee, Wis., Vol. I., all except Nos. 5-6; All of Vols. II-III-IV and V; all of Vol. VI except No. 1; all of Vol. VII except Nos. 77 and 78; all of Vol. VIII except Nos. 79-81-82; all of Vol. IX except Nos. 87-88-89-90.

The **Young Collector**, Des Moines, Ia., 1881-2, all issues except Vol. I, No. 41; and Vol. II, Nos. 1-2-3.

The **Young Naturalist**, Galesburgh, Ill., 1884, Vol. I, all except Nos. 1-4-5.

The **Young Ornithologist**, Boston, Mass., 1885, Vol. I, No. 10.

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FOR SALE—Stevens Taxidermist's gun, 18 inch barrel. Price \$6.00 CHAS. F. CARR, New London, Wis.

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WANTED—Reed's—"The Bird Book"; Beebe's "Two Bird Lovers in Mexico"; Ornithological books of Tropics. CLYDE D. MILLER, E. Claridon, Ohio

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WILL TRADE "Birds of the Northwest" for "Game Birds of U. S." Can supply most birds of Northwest. STANTON WARLENTEN, Jr.

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TO EXCHANGE FOR EGGS IN SETS—22nd Annual Report Indian Dept. of Geology and Natl. Resources, 1897; 1197 pages.

Birds of Illinois and Wisconsin, Chas. B. Cory, 1909, Field Museum of Natl. History; 764 pages.

Michigan Bird Life, Barrows, 1912, Mich. Agricultural College; 822 pages. Bird Life; Frank M. Chapman, Edition in colors, 1898.

Hand Book, Birds of Eastern North America, Frank M. Chapman; 431 pages.

The Warblers of North America, Chapman, 1907.

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FOR SALE—A High-class collection of Squirrels which I desire to dispose of before entering the American Army. E. H. HAMILTON, 614 Walnut St., Versailles Boro., McKeesport, Pa.

WANTED—Volumes 1 and 2 of Thorburn's British Birds. Very handsome price will be paid for these two volumes. ANSEL B. MILLER, Springs, Pennsylvania.

EXCHANGE—Will exchange mounted birds or skins for same; also desire foreign specimens. Have some Fox Squirrel skins to offer. O. M. GREENWOOD, Manchester, Ia.

WANTED—Bird skins—must be perfect; also small mammal skins. Good photographs of birds, birds eggs and nests and mammals in their nature situ, and haunts to be used in publication and with privilege to publish those you send. Can offer cash or good exchange. J. W. DANIEL Jr., Western State Hospital, Staunton, Va.

SALE or TRADE—Pair of field glasses. I want copy of Holland "Moth Book" or some other good book on moths. HUBERT R. WISWELL, Westbrook, Minn.

FOR SALE—Loggerhead Sea turtle, Embryos and hatched turtles, mixed stages \$3.00 dozen, small Octopus \$1.00 each. Other Maine specimens collected from Florida this past summer. H. AITKEN, Gen. Del., Philadelphia, Pa.

EXCHANGE—Funston Perfect (animal) Smoker, 20 Onedia Jump Traps (new), eggs in sets. Want eggs in sets and singles. LYLE D. MILLER, E. Claridon, Ohio.

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PERSONAL—Would like to become acquainted with active Oologist in New York City, Westchester Co., or nearby, with view to expeditions next spring. L. C. S. please write. RAYMOND FULLER, White Plains, N. Y., R. F. D. No. 1.

FOR EXCHANGE—Large showy India moths, Atacus Atlas, Antheraea Pernyi, Actias selene, Caligula cachara, (Selene lyna Hybrid) Also many natives. Want A No. 1 set of 288, 364. A. J. POTTER, East Killingly, Conn.

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FOR EXCHANGE—One fine CONLEY 4x5 Plate Camera, 17 inch Bellows. Adopted for close up Nature Study. Want good 25-20 or 32-20 RIFLE, or Books on OLOGY. EARL MOFFET, Marshall, Texas.

BOOKS WANTED—Orchids of New England, by Baldwin; Our Native Orchids, by Gibson; Ferns of North America by Eaton. Please state price. H. MOUSLEY, Hatley, Quebec. 1-1t

WANTED—One B. & L. Model C. double Dissolving Lens. New or second hand stereopticon Machine in exchange for personally collected specimens of Western Birds Eggs. Mrs. A. O. TRIGANZA, No. 624 E. Sixth St. South, Salt Lake City, Utah. 1-2t

WANTED—Cash or exchange, vols. 1, 2, 3 of Ridgeway's BIRDS OF NORTH AND MIDDLE AMERICA—vols. 5, 7 of same series to offer. Also want first class compound microscope. H. S. LADD, 4354 McPherson, St. Louis, Mo.

FOR SALE

Quadropedes of North America, Audubon, Vol. 1, 1846 ..... 2.00  
 Ridgway's Manuel North Am. Birds, 1896 ..... 4.00  
 Birds of Kansas, Goss, 1886 ..... 1.50  
 English Sparrow in N. Am., Barrows 1889 ..... 1.50  
 Ridgway's Birds of N. and M. Am. Vols. 1 to 7 inc. .... 25.00  
 Auks, Vol. 6 to 33 inclusive, 28 Vols., paper covers uncut. .... 50.00  
 Forest and Stream, Vols. 1 to 12 inc. .... 35.00  
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"The Condor" is strictly scientific but edited in such a way that a beginner of "Bird Study" can easily understand it.

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Greenwich, Connecticut

Paul G. Howes - - - Assistant Curator



# THE OÖLOGIST.

BIRDS--NĒSTS--EGGS  
TAXIDERMŶ

VOL. XXXVI. No. 10.

ALBION, N. Y., OCT. 1, 1919.

WHOLE NO. 390-

387



## BRIEF SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wanted, Exchange, For Sale, Etc., inserted in this department at 25 cents for each 25 words for one issue; each additional word 1 cent. No notice inserted for less than 25 cents.

We will advertise the skins, nests, eggs, or mounted specimens of North American Birds for sale for persons having a lawful authority under the law to deal in the same. These columns are for the use of those desiring to make bona fide exchanges of such specimens for scientific collecting purposes only.—EDITOR.

In answering advertisements in these columns mention "The Oologist," and thereby help us, as well as the advertiser and yourself.

## BIRDS

Send me the list of A 1 Bird Skins that you have to dispose of by exchange or otherwise. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

FOR EXCHANGE—A large list of A1 North American species of skins for specimens needed in my collection. C. W. CHAMBERLAIN, 36 Lincoln St., Boston, Mass.

ALL PERSONS having A-1 skins in pairs of any of the North American Jays send list. I will pay the highest price for those that I need. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

BIRDS—Have a good list of skins and mounted specimens for sale; also mammal skins, game heads, mounted animals and rugs, all well mounted and prices moderate. M. J. Hofman, Taxidermist, 1818 Bleecker St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

WANTED—A pair of living Sand Hill Cranes A. O. U. No. 306, taken north of the center of the U. S. If the birds are only slightly wingtipped this will not matter. For them I will pay a good price. R. M. Barnes, Lacon, Ill.

EXCHANGE—Fine sets of eggs and nests for birds skins from south and east. STANLEY G. JEWETT, Pendleton, Oregon.

FOR EXCHANGE:—Large well-mounted Golden Eagle and American Bittern. I am interested in all Natural History specimens. Write. WALTER STUCK, Jonesboro, Ark.

DATA BLANKS—Send for sample of my data blanks, with your name printed on it. 500 for \$1.00 postpaid. EDWARD S. COOMBS, 243 Franklin St., Boston, Mass.

WANTED to Exchange sets with reliable collectors. Or will purchase. Send lists and prices. G. B. REGAR, 1000 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

WANTED—One or more sets of A. O. W. 636. Can offer good sets of 325, 343 or 364 in exchange or cash. R. P. SHARPLES, West Chester, Pa.

SWANSON'S WARBLERS Sets with nests. Who wants them in exchange for other species? Send list in full. DR. M. T. CLECKLEY, Augusta, Ga.

The following first class skins offered: 132, 139, 146, 147, 148, 149, 151, 153, 221, 223, 230, 239, 241, 242, 254, 255, 256a, 379a, 393a, 394b, 401a, 402a, 413, 433, 468, 478c, 478d, 488b, 498f, 508, 510, 518, 524a, 529a, 540a, 554a, 567f, 581f, 588a, 607, 618, 652b, and other western species. J. A. MUNRO, Okanagan Landing, B. C.

## EGGS.

In sending in your exchange notices for nests, skins and eggs, we would appreciate it if you would arrange the numerals in your exchange notice in their numerical order, and not tumble them together hit and miss, as some of our readers are complaining, and we think justly so.

WANTED—Entire collection of Eggs of North American Birds for spot cash. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

EXCHANGE NOTICE—I desire to get in touch with all active field collectors with a view to exchanging A 1 sets. H. W. CARRIGER, 5185 Trask Street, Oakland, Calif.

Will be glad to hear from reliable collectors and to receive their lists. Have good list to offer including some rare species. RICHARD C. HARLOW, State College, Pa.

FOR SALE—Trumpeter Swan's egg, from Minnesota: Perfect specimen, very abnormal. Will consider cash offer only. ALBERT LANO, Fayetteville, Ark.

FOR EXCHANGE—15 1-1; 31a 1-1; 105.2 1-1, 107 1-1, 108.1 1-1; 116 1-1; 197 1-4; 464 1-4; 474i N-2; 475 1-5; 486 1-5; 533 1-3; 538 1-4; 543 1-3; 560a N-4; 574.1 N-2; 604 1-4; 615 N-5; 622a 1-5; 629a N-4; 646a N-4; 726c N-6, N-5; 741 N-6; 743 N-7; 748a N-7, N-5. J. H. BOWLES, The Woodstock, Tacoma, Wash.

PERSONALLY COLLECTED SETS of 7-132, 261, 273, 305, 331, 367. If interested send list. DR. ELMER LANGEVIN, Crookston, Minn.

FOR DISPOSAL—A large and extensive collection of Birds' Eggs from Europe and America. Send 3c stamp for complete list. DR. CLECKLEY'S MUSEUM, Augusta, Ga.

WANTED—An entire collection of North American Birds Eggs in sets with full data. Send full list to W. A. STRONG, 41 Grand Ave., San Jose, Cal.

FOR EXCHANGE—A1 personally collected sets of Mississippi Kite, Swainson's Hawk, White-necked Raven, 5-6, 3-7, Black-crested Titmouse 1-6, and many others. Want your complete lists of duplicates. E. F. POPE, Box 301, Albuquerque, N. Mex.

# THE OÖLOGIST.

VOL. XXXVI. No. 10

ALBION, N. Y., OCT. 1, 1919.

WHOLE NO. 890

*Owned and Published Monthly, by R. M. Barnes, Albion, N. Y., and Lacon, Ill.*

## TAKE NOTICE.

### SUBSCRIPTION, 50 CENTS PER YEAR

Examine the number on the wrapper of your Oologist. It denotes the time your subscription expires. Remember we must be notified if you wish it discontinued and all arrearages must be paid. 378 your subscription expires with this issue. 377 your subscription expired with December issue 1918. Other expirations can be computed by intermediate numbers at the rate of one number per month.

Entered as second-class matter December 21, 1903, at the post office at Albion, N. Y., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

## ANOTHER RECORD

With this issue we present our readers the first photo ever published of the Cackling Goose. *Branta canadensis minuta*, nesting in confinement. This bird nests naturally in the Yukon Delta in Alaska and on north to well within the Arctic Circle. It is with a pardonable feeling of pride that we do this.—R. M. Barnes.

With this issue we publish two of the half tones that accompany the splendid article on "Collecting in British Columbia," by J. A. Munro, in the June and July issue of *The Oologist*. These were crowded out of the issues for those months, as were also two others, which will appear later.

—Editor.

### The New Egg Price List

At last we have all of the votes in the election of members of the Committee of twenty-five to revise the pieces of eggs for an entirely new Price List of North American Birds' Eggs. The class of men elected insure a fair division of responsibility and certainly represent the front rank of Oology in North America. Now let the committee elect a chairman by correspondence and proceed at once with this work, so badly needed, and already too long delayed. A spirit of give and take, concession and compromise will ensure a catalog that will be standard for years. It is to be hoped that this representative committee can reconcile all their differences within the committee and avoid the necessity of electing the further Supreme Committee of Three. Let us hope that the catalog will be in our hands ready for the printer by February 1st, 1920.

R. M. Barnes.

Hon. R. M. Barnes, Dear Sir:

As tabulator of the votes for the "Committee of Twenty-five" American oologists to perform the much needed revision of the prices of American birds' eggs, I herewith submit the result of the election.

#### Pacific Area:—

J. Hopper Bowles, The Woodstock, Tacoma, Wash.

H. W. Carriger, 5185 Trask St., Oakland, Calif.

W. L. Dawson, Museum of Comparative Oology, Santa Barbara, Calif.

#### Intra-Mountain Area:—

O. A. Treganza, 610 Utah Savings and Trust Bldg., Salt Lake City, Utah.

E. F. Page, 601 North 3rd St., Albuquerque, New Mexico.

F. C. Willard, 110 E. 23rd St., Farmingdale, L. I., N. Y.

#### Western Area:—

Rev. P. B. Peabody, Blue Rapids, Kansas.

Rev. H. E. Wheeler, Conway, Arkansas.

Guy Love, Oberlin, Kansas.

#### Central Western Area:—

A. E. Price, Grant Park, Ill.

G. A. Abbott, Otsego, Mich.

B. R. Bales, M. D., Circleville, Ohio.

#### Central Eastern Area:—

J. Parker Norris, Jr., Room 694, City Hall, Philadelphia, Pa.

R. C. Harlow, State College, Pa.

Thos. H. Jackson, West Chester, Pa.

#### New England Area:—

John E. Thayer, Lancaster, Mass.

A. C. Bent, Taunton, Mass.

Roscoe I. Giles, 82 Newton St., Marlboro, Mass.

#### Southern Area:—

Harold H. Bailey, Box 112, Newport News, Va.

Troup D. Perry, 22 E. 33rd St., Savannah, Ga.

Oscar E. Baynard, Plant City, Fla.

#### Canada:—

R. W. Tufts, Wolfville, Nova Scotia.

E. Arnold, Grand Trunk Ry., Montreal, Quebec.

Walter Raine, Waverly Villa, Kew Beach, Toronto.

The addresses of the members of the committee are purposely given, as I believe it to be a privilege as well as the duty of every oologist in North America to communicate with his nearest committeeman or any member of the committee with whom he has corresponding relations, stating his views in regards prices. Only in this way will a truly successful and satisfactory catalog be realized, and I am sure that every member of the committee will be only too glad to consider any sensible suggestion.

Respectfully submitted,

R. B. Bales.

Aug. 16, 1919.

#### Albino Eggs of the Long-tailed Chat.

J. H. Bowles, Tacoma, Wash.

A friend in California collected this season a nest and four eggs of the Long-tailed Chat, which he recently sent me. They are so unusual as to seem well worth recording. The size is normal, but three of them are pure white and unmarked, the fourth being also pure white, but with a very few dots of red brown. This nest and set was collected by Mr. Adrian J. Van Rossem, of Visalia, Calif.



### An Island Idyll.

By J. W. Daniels, Jr.

Ornithologists and oologists will hold a certain soft spot in their hearts for old Cobb's Island for whom it used to be a favorite resort. These visits to this famous bird Metropolis have always struck in my memory as among the most enjoyable days of my life.

I recall sitting in my study one evening, reading articles in the *Oologist*, by Gilbert Raison, on a visit to Cobb's Island, Chester Barlow on a visit to the Farralone Islands, California, both of which pleasures I was destined to realize. I thought of an "island in the sea" with myriads of nesting gulls, terns, and skimmers where one might bird nest without failing to find the object of the quest. The only terns I had ever seen were those which Mr. Robert Ridgway had shown me in the Smithsonian cabinets, explaining the difference of the species of common tern (*Sterna hirundo*) and Fosters Tern (*stenna forsteru*) from specimens he had taken on Bone and Cobb's Island. He also told me of the nesting habits of the two species, the habits of Forsters Tern—of its eggs in little hollows in the "winrows" of drifted sea weed and of their occasional rather substantial nests of sea weed out in the salt marshes in strong contrast to the nests of the Common Tern (*stena herundo*) which always nests along beaches laying its eggs in little hollows of the sand above the tide water mark, and in the sand dunes.

My first visit to Cobb's Island, back in the early nineties, I reached the Island in early May, accompanied by my mother and we found a hospitable reception at the little old hotel at the southern end of the Island. This little hotel, kept by Mr. Cobb, was together with several frame houses, at the end of the island entirely swept away by

a flood in later years, which entirely submerged the greater part of the island, playing havoc with the nesting birds and cutting a channel entirely across the island at the northern end.

We arrived duly at Cape Charles and early one bright morning in May we secured a train from the hotel at Cape Charles and drove to the "landing" six or eight miles south of Cape Charles, where without baggage we de-camped at a wooden pier, to await the arrival of a boat from Cobb's to carry us and baggage the ten miles out in the Atlantic to our island destination.

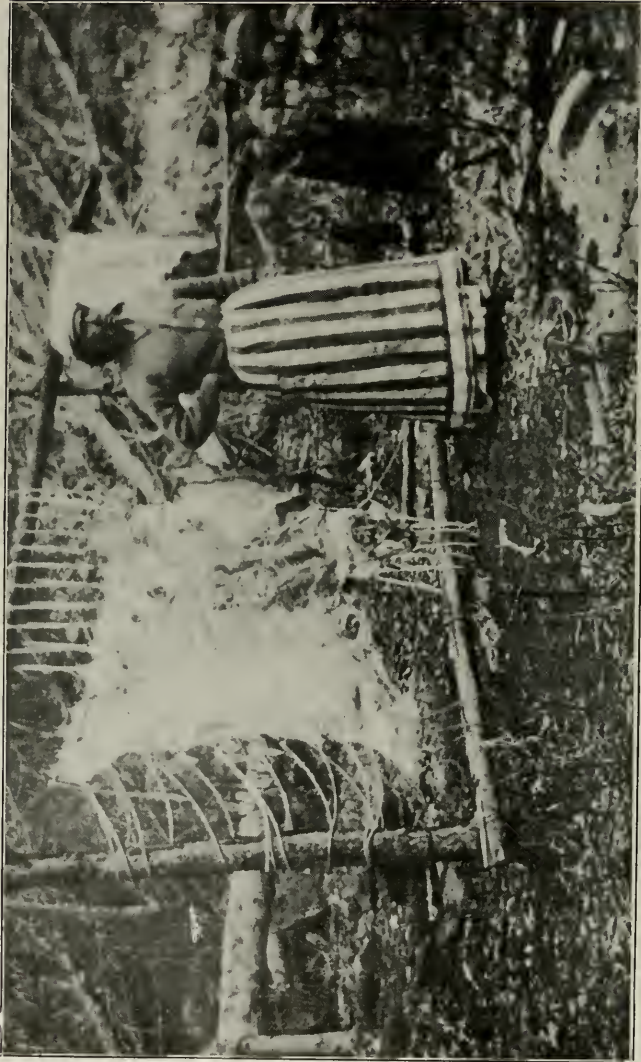
Our trunks were placed on the pier and during the interval of time till the boat arrived we spent in bird watching. The day was very bright and sunny and spring migration of the shore birds was at its zenith. In all directions there were flocks of the Linicolar Pipers, small and large, wheeling and circling in all directions. There were birds, Least Sandpipers by the thousands, also Sanderlings, Wilson Plovers, Laughing Gulls, Fish Crows and Spreys. No terns had yet been seen.

Under the pier, Barn Swallows were nesting in hundreds, and I amused myself by looking up their nests.

Toward twelve o'clock we saw a boat approaching the lea, and soon met Captain Roberts who had come to take us over.

Shortly after twelve, we were comfortably seated in the sailboat and the captain unfurled sail and we were away to our island in the sea.

At about five miles out, we met our first Terns—a few approaching quite near the boat and the captain informed us that those were "strikers" and we soon saw the reason, for several of the birds commenced their downward plunges from the considerable height, striking the water with



"Klutchman" Making Buckskin, in B. S.—Photo by J. A. Munro.

forceful alacrity and sending up little volumes of white sprays. Gulls also were becoming numerous now about two miles from the island, they were in hundreds of pairs, flying close to the surface of the water, the wings of the paired birds nearly touching the wings of each other and the wing tips with their tipped primaries presenting a striking appearance. The presence of so many birds at one time was a novelty to us but the captain informed us that this was nothing to what we were later to experience, that these birds were only a few, and so it eventuated.

When a mile or so from the island, the home of the sea bird, hove into our line of vision, narrow rim of green on the lea, and soon we were anchored at a small pier again and we were greeted by Mr. Cobb and the hotel lady at that dear little weather beaten hotel, so dear to the hearts of hundreds of sportsman and Ornithologists and now only a memory.

Cobb's Island is a narrow strip of land ten miles out in the Atlantic. On the eastern side it is almost entirely sandy and towards the northeastern end there is a series of sand dunes. For the most part the eastern side is a continuous stretch of beach, almost bare save for a spare growth of beach grass in straggly patches. The beach is firm and beautiful, one of the finest on the Atlantic seaboard.

On the western side there are broad acres of salt marshes and several sloughs while at the northern end there is a channel that divided a part of the island. The flood which occurred subsequently to my first visit caused this channel, it also narrowed the island on the southeast.

The little hotel seemed very inviting to us as we were rather fatigued. We were shown neat apartments and the meals were excellent. I shall not

soon forget our first supper on Cobb's, consisting as it did of clam fritters, soft shelled crabs, fresh sea trout and black drum steak varied later with clam chowder and oysters. I noticed a photograph on the hotel showing A. Jones of Rochmond with his "catch" of red drum. And I noticed some fine drum fishing during my stay—the first day's fishing yielding two monster drums; and there was also excellent sea trout fishing. I almost filled the boat on one occasion and sometimes took three on a line at one time. As we landed we saw at once that this was a bird paradise for now there were thousands upon thousands of gulls hovering over the marshes and in all directions Common and Gull Billed Terns wheeled and screeched.

With the first light of day on the morning following our arrival I was up and attired in canvas hunting clothes and with collecting basket was away to the salt marshes at the middle of the island on the western side. The experience was a novel delight and I was enthusiastic in my endeavors to collect full fresh sets of all species represented in the island's avifaune. The Laughing Gull was found nesting, thousands of pairs and fresh eggs were found in most all the nests, in sets of threes and fours. Many of these sets were merely laid in depressions in the "windrows" of dry sea weed in the marshes and incubation had already commenced in several of the sets. This was early in May. In the nesting colonies, the gulls arose in clouds, wheeling in screaming egions overhead and among them were hundreds of Forster's and Gull-billed Terns. These Gulls were in easy range and it was an easy matter to bring down on the wing a few specimens of each species I desired. The first caused consternation among the birds and the birds that were sitting upon nests left



Nesting Cliff of the Peregrine's, B. C.—Photo by J. A. Munro.



them for the air, thus augmenting the clouds of wheeling birds overhead until the sky was nearly obscured.

I collected a nice series of sets of the Laughing Gull. The eggs were usually three to the set, though several sets of four were found. The ground sometimes brown, mottled, blotched and speckled with varying shades of brown and subdued marking of lavender. The average size is 2.25 by 1.60. The nests were composed of trash ocean debris of all varieties—the drift from the Equinoctial storms—which is piled up in the marshes marshes by the invading waters. Some of the nests were rather substantially constructed of marsh grass, sea weed and trash hollowed out. Many of the birds remained on their nests until I approached to within a short distance, their snowy plumage contrasting beautifully with the green of the marshes, and their heads oddly offsetting the white breasts. It was painful to me to see their lovely snowy breasts all blood stained and blackened with the black marsh mire, and I refrained from shooting many. After collecting many sets of the Gulls' eggs desired, I collected a few sets and skins of Forster's Terns. The sets were usually of three eggs of a light gray or brown as regards the ground color, blotched and marbled with darker shades of brown and light shades of lilac. The average of the eggs is 1.80 by 1.30. The eggs were placed on the drift wood or on pieces of boards or lumber out in the marshes. Some of the nests were placed closely together, being composed of marsh grass and debris.

On the wing, the Terns are the most graceful of all birds and are truly the swallows of the sea. It is pleasant to see the wild wings of the ocean's breast as they gather and flit out upon the briny white capped wild waves or

gather on the sand bars with their heads tucked beneath their primaries, their white plumage as snowy as the ocean foam. On the wing the tail feathers are twitched as they project in scissor like fashion, and the screeching notes are sounded in unison with the wild cries of those lovely birds, the Laughing Gulls. Verily these birds here in their island home reflect the spirit of the sea and offers a refreshing sight to the city voyager as alluring as the soft sea breeze and salt air.

In the same stretches of marsh on the western side I found the seaside sparrows plentiful and paired and nesting. Their nests were placed in the marsh grass bordering the marsh and inlets. In these salt marshes there were also a few pair of Willet, and hundreds of pairs of Clapper Rail. I believe I could have collected a thousand sets of the Clapper Rail had I desired, but contented myself with a few fresh sets. The birds remain on the nest until almost touched. The nests were built of marsh grass placed up in the patches of the higher grass stems and lined with finer grass stops. Looking over the sweep of marsh the nests could be detected by noting the uneven places in the smooth areas of the grassy aista. When startled from their nests the birds took wing and flew over the grass tops, but often times only skulked away in the high marsh grass cackling and clucking. There were a few pairs of Gull-billed Terns, probably twenty to fifty readily distinguished by the heavier darker inandibles. The flight of the nilotica is more Gull-like and less airy than that of the other Terns. They nest on the beaches employing a camouflage with the broken shell bits, rocks and sand that make their eggs very difficult to find. Two or three eggs constitute the set. The texture of the



Pair Cackling Geese at Nest on Home Place. July 14, 1919.

—Photo by Virginia Lane.

shell of the eggs of this—the Marsh Tern as it is called—is quite different from that of the other species of Terns. The nest is a slight hollow scooped up in the sand well above the high tidal mark and among the trash, shells and rocks. The birds arrive from the south about April 25 and depart early in September. The eggs are easily distinguished from the eggs of other Terns by the individuality in the texture of the shell and the yellowish buff and grayish ground color. They are marked profusely over their entire surface with blotches and spottings of reddish brown and more subdued markings of faint lilac. Size of eggs 1.80 by 1.30. A single brood is raised in a season. Having spent the day among the sea birds a return was made to the hotel and the next day spent in preparing specimens. A few Caspian Terns, three or four pair were noted as they flew over the marshes to the beaches. Those birds are called the Giannet Striker. They do not nest until late in the season, towards the first part of July. They arrive about the 15th of May and migrate southward about August 15. The nest is a depression in the sandy beach, above the high tide mark. The texture of the egg shell of this big sea swallow is smoother, the ground color being a light olive or grayish buff. The ends of the eggs are more rounded than in the case of the Royal Tern which are more oval in contour. Over the entire surface the egg is marked with a suffusion of chestnut and blackish brown with fainter markings of lilac. Size of eggs 2.70 by 1.75. A single brood is raised in a season. The birds are becoming scarcer due to the changed conditions in their breeding grounds and the decrease is probably due more to these changes in their breeding environment than to egging by the local sea-faring men and being shot by

spring gunners, causes so disastrous to many of the species of sea birds. The Caspian is one of the fairest of the large Terns and is a good example of these fairy-like creatures of the surf-brimming beaches.

Two eggs are of the usual complement, sometimes three. The Royal Tern or Giannet Striker was also seen flying toward the beaches, 25 birds perhaps. These birds are not numerous. They are not distinguished by the local fisherman from the Caspian species, both species being known as Giannet Strikers. The eggs are laid on the beaches in hollows scooped out in the sand above the tidal reach. The eggs are 2.50 and 1.70 in size. Their ground is grayish white and spotted with flecks of pin sized or larger dottings of blackish brown and fainter lilac. Fresh eggs are seldom found before the first of July. This species of Tern are a favorite egg bird of the fisherman. Two or three eggs are usually found in a set. These birds are fortunate in being somewhat too large to be a desiderata with the milliner bird hunters being too great in size to be well suited to the ladies' hats. They arrive about the last of May, departing about the middle of September.

Wishing to investigate the bird life along the beaches at the extreme northern end of the island, a cart, a weather beaten affair, and a mule were engaged together with the service of Captain Roberts, and at dawn of the morning of the third day on the island, we started in the cart for the north end. The Captain and I looked for nests, camouflaged among the shelly stretches, among broken bits of rocks along the beautiful stretch of beach above tide water mark. Overhead hundreds of pairs of Common Terns screeched and about midway of the island we found a large colony nesting, the eggs



Nest and Eggs Cackling Gocse on Home Place, Lacon, Ills, July 14, 1919

—Photo by Virginia Lane.



in sets of twos and threes, being laid in mere depressions among bits of shells and broken rocks in the sandy beach. The eggs so nicely match the surroundings that the camouflage is very striking. Many of the Terns were fishing off the lea, and it was interesting to see them come down against the water like a gun shot, sending up the spray as they struck the water with an alacrity, and silently they arose again with beating wings. On seeing a fish they fold their wings and come down in a straight line head foremost and grasp the fish, usually a small one, holding it between the mandibles.

Wilson's Plovers were abundant on the beaches, and a few oyster catchers were noted. A set of four eggs of the Willet were found in the marsh grass near the beach. The ground is greenish or grayish buff, well marked with shades of brown with subdued markings of lavender, chiefly towards the end. Fresh eggs of the Willet are usually found from May 17th to 25th. The Willet has managed to hold its own but its numbers have decreased greatly. A single brood is reared in a season. The food of the Willet consists mainly of marine insects, rootlets and seeds cast up by the tides. The nest is usually a mere hollow, scantily lined with a few dry grasses. The Willet is a favorite with the sportsman and is known as "Pilly Willet" from its cry. The Oyster Catcher is rare on the island. It is nearly extinct on our coastal islands.

On a later visit to the island in the early nineteen hundred, in company with H. C. Davis, Cobb's Island was found greatly changed from the conditions prevailing during my first visit. There was a noticeable decrease in the bird life, and the island itself had lessened in area. We stopped at the small "club" house and secured

some interesting photographs of the Terns. I found two newly hatched young of the *Sterna hirundo* in a shelly depression in the shelly gravel. The birds were flattened out against the sand, their necks extended and so nearly matched their surroundings that it was scarcely possible to detect them. A young Oyster Catcher was also noted on the beach at the northern end and skiddaddled away from us towards the surf. He was easily caught, however, but released.

Ever a delight to the lover of nature our sea birds are an asset that cannot be released when they are gone. Cobb's island has suffered severely from fashion, sway; thousands, ten thousands, having been sent to New York to satisfy the whims of Lady Vanity. Verily the time has come when we should exert our best energies to accord perfect protection to all bird life of our Coastal Islands.

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**BOOKS RECEIVED**  
**LIFE HISTORY**  
**Of**  
**NORTH AMERICAN DIVING BIRDS**  
**UNITED STATES NATIONAL**  
**MUSEUM BULLETIN 107**  
**By**  
**Arthur Cleveland Bent**  
**Government Printing Office, 1909**

This splendid publication is in a measure a continuance of the work on North American birds, begun by the late Capt. Bendire, though it is entirely a different arrangement and size mechanically. It covers the Grebes, Loons, Puffins, Auklets, Gilleots, Murre's, and the Dovkie, covering the A. O. U. list from pages one to thirty-four inclusive.

The arrangement delineates in order of the following: Habits, nesting, eggs, young, plumage, food, behavior, distribution, breeding, range, winter

range, spring and fall migration and eggs dates. This information is given for each of the species so far as it is known, and each separate species is illustrated by nests, eggs, adult birds and young wherever possible; though under many of the species nothing appears by way of illustration except the nesting site with the eggs, and a general view of the nesting grounds.

There are two hundred and thirty-nine pages with fifty-five half tone plates, and eleven plates in color of the eggs of the various species. Delineating the eggs of thirty-six different birds. The whole arrangement is ideal and is accompanied by a comprehensive index and a list of bibliographic references.

Our friend Bent has gathered within these pages an almost unbelievable amount of information and presents the same in a readily accessible manner and in an attractive arrangement at the disposition of the world; and he is to be congratulated upon the result of his years of work in the preparation of this bulletin and by its publication he has placed all students of ornithology, professional as well as amateur over lasting obligation to him.

Like all publications relating to a growing science of course, all information on the subject treated is not, and in the nature of things could not be included up to the very day of publication, but Bent, has come as near doing this as we believe it would be possible for anybody to do.

The vast amount of work entailed essential for such a publication can only be comprehended by those who have engaged in such an undertaking, or by those who have been permitted to get a slight insight during the work of such preparation.

We predict that it would be a long time before anybody will equal if

ever surpass this bulletin for actual practical use and service.

R. M. B.

THE BIRDS OF NORTH AND MIDDLE AMERICA, by Robert Ridgway. Vol. VIII of this splendid publication is at hand and covers the species from the shore birds to the Auks inclusive, also to the Jacanas, Skimmers, Terns, Gulls and Skuas. It is up to the usual standard of publication bearing Mr. Ridgway's name and is not only a credit to the author, but likewise to the Natural Museum which puts it out.

R. M. B.

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#### American Bittern

By H. H. Johnson, Pittsfield, Maine.

Every one who tills the land has an interest in the economic value of the birds, many of whom catch and eat, worms, bugs and insects, the devouring of which, directly affect the production of the crop. The protection thus afforded may be the saving of some particular plant or crop. As illustrated by Edward Howe Forbush, who by placing food accessible to the winter birds, he attracted them to the orchard where they not only ate the food provided, but also fed on the eggs of the tent caterpillar, cankerworms and pupae of the codling moth. Also, when spring came efforts were made to attract the summer birds to the orchard, which met with success, and the remaining injurious insects were completely destroyed. Thus the trees and crop were saved to the extent that this orchard and one adjoining were the only ones which produced any fruit that season. Adversely, the destruction of the birds may mean the complete loss of a crop. Kalm states, in his Travels in America, that in 1749, after a great destruction of crows and blackbirds for a reward of three pence per dozen, the

northern states suffered a complete loss of their grass and grain crops. The colonists were obliged to import hay from England to feed their cattle. In the year of 1900 I experienced a plague of grasshoppers and they destroyed much of my hay crop and I only saved corn and grain by placing pens of chickens (of which I had a number at that time) several rods apart along the sides of the cultivated fields. These chickens ate immense amounts of the grasshoppers and required very little other food and thus protected the crop from destruction.

Similar the Mormons of Utah when that state was first settled, had their crops almost utterly destroyed by myriads of crickets which came down from the mountains. The first year's crops having been destroyed, the Mormons sowed seed the second year, again the crickets appeared and were destroying the wheat. At this juncture hundreds of thousands of Frankling Gulls came and ate the crickets and thus saved the fields of grain.

We have here a traveler from the West, one who has never been a welcome guest. I speak of the Colorado Potato Beetle. It is very destructive to the potato plant and appears to have few foes to destroy it. Bob-white and the Rose-breasted Grossbeak are the only birds which I can remember as reported as eating the potato bug and neither are pitiful enough in this state to have any appreciable affect on the beetle, and we must needs resort to poison to save our crop. Hence it is with pleasure that I am able to add a new bird to the list of those who eat the potato bug. Last summer in passing through a swale or wet place on my farm I came upon a roosting platform of the American Bittern. This platform is made by the birds bending down from all sides the swale grass thus forming a raised and dry

perch where they spend the night. This roosting place which I found appeared to have been used the night before and thereupon it were some of the droppings of the birds. This consisted in part of the hard indigestible parts of bugs, grasshoppers, legs, beetles and also the outer shell or back of a Colorado Beetle. The American Bittern has long been the tempting mark for the man with the gun. Its slow even flight has made it an easy shot, hence many have fallen victims to the would be wing shot. It arrives here about the first of May and seldom one sees more than one at a time except in the breeding season, when a pair are sometimes flushed near together.

It is fairly common on the marsh in September. One should look for it along the shores of the slough or marsh and not along the banks of the flowing river. The note of the Bittern once heard will always be remembered. It has been likened to the (chunk) of an old fashioned pump or the driving of a wooden post or stake and indeed has some of the resemblance of both according to the distance the auditor is away from the bird. When run upon and flushed it often rises with a loud squawk. The Bittern nests here the last of May or the first of June, among the reeds and low bushes of some slough. The nest is made of grass and rushes. It is flat and built upon the ground, in fact a mere platform some 3 to 4 inches deep, 8 inches long, by 6 inches wide. A nest found May 28th, 1893, situated some 200 yards from a house and 100 yards from the river contained four fresh eggs of a pale olive-drab and average about 1.84 x 1.44, in form oval. They are close sitters, trusting to their indistinguishable coloration, which blends so nicely with the surrounding rushes. When on the nest you will find them

facing the intruder with the bill pointing upward at an angle of 45 degrees. I once nearly run on to one with the mowing machine as it stood in the grass trusting that it would not be seen, in fact I had to chase it out of the grass to save its life, as it would run and hide rather than fly away.

#### Curious Eggs.

70 1-1 Common Tern. June 14, 1903. Walter C. Reed. Lake Erie, Mich. Runt egg. On this island were 1163 sets and 2462 eggs. This was the only runt. Size 1.10 x .85. Ground color, clay-color, thinly spotted with light golden-brown. There were some once again as large as usual, some soft shelled and eggs without markings.

77 1-1 Black Tern. June 8, 1902. Walter C. Wood. St. Clair Flats, Mich. Dark greenish ground color with a few large blackish-brown spots. Size 1.41 x .89.

77 1-3 Black Tern. June 3, 1894. Walter C. Wood. Grassy Island, Detroit River, Mich. One egg greenish, thickly spotted and blotched with blackish-brown, thickest around the larger end, 1.38 x .96. One egg greenish-clay color thinly spotted with brownish-lilac, 1.41 x 1.01 and one clay-color, thickly blotched with blackish-brown, forming a wreath around the larger end, remaining surface thinly spotted with small dots of the same color. 1.37 x .98.

339 1-4. Red-shouldered Hawk. May 5, 1901. Walter C. Wood. Wayne Co., Mich. Nest, 35 feet up beach tree. Flushed old bird. Saved this set because the eggs were the largest I ever found. Size 2.34 x 1.82, 2.37 x 1.84, 2.37 x 1.85, 2.29 x 1.77.

420 1-2 Nighthawk. June 27, 1891. C. B. Johnson.

420b 1-2 Florida Nighthawk. May 17, 1911. R. D. Hoyt. Pomella Co., Florida. Eggs dark grayish-white, one

thickly mottled with light-brown and pinkish-purple and one mottled with light brown and pinkish purple and large light brown to blackish spots covering about one-half of the ground color. Size 1.21 x .83, 1.20 x .85.

501b 1-4 Western Meadowlark. May 5, 1892. W. A. Strong, Tulare, Cal. Nets on the ground lined with fine grass. This set was on exhibition at the World's Fair. Size of egg, 1.10 x .80, 1.05 x .80, 1.03 x .78, .98 x .75.

474b 1-4. Prairie Horned Lark. May 12, 1916. Stuart Lyle Chapin. Verona, N. Y. Nest situated on the ground, in furrow in plowed field, composed of grass. Size of eggs 1.00 x .66, 1.03 x .66, 1.09 x .69, 1.04 x .67.

494 1-5. Bobolink. June 22, 1898. Walter C. Wood. Wayne Co., Mich. One was pure white, a gradual blending from this white egg to the 5th egg which was highly marked, making it one of the queerest sets I ever found. There was not much of a nest, only a few straws drawn together in a slight depression of the ground constituted it.

501b 1-4. Western Meadowlark. May 5, 1892. W. A. Strong. Tulare, Cal. Nest on the ground, lined with fine grass. This set was on exhibition at the World's Fair. Size of eggs, 1.10 x .80, 1.05 x .80, 1.03 x .78, .98 x .75.

501h 1-4 Western Meadowlark. May 30, 1897. W. A. Strong. Pleasanton, Cal. These eggs were pure white.

501b 1-4 Western Meadowlark. June 4, 1898. W. A. Strong. Pleasanton, Cal. This set contained one California Quail egg.

519 1-5 House Finch. April 15, 1895. W. A. Strong. Tulare, Cal. This set contained one runt. Size of eggs .79 x .58, .75 x .60, .74 x .59, .73 x .60, .52 x .45.

1-3 English Sparrow. May 11, 1915. J. Claire Wood. Detroit, Mich. This set contained one extra long egg. Size



of eggs, .90 x .60, .90 x .59, 1.00 x .58.

725 1-4 Long-billed Marsh Wren. June 4, 1899. Walter C. Wood. Detroit River, Mich. These eggs are pure white.

474b 1-3 Prairie Horned Lark. May 20, 1900. V. L. Smith. Imes, Franklin Co., Kan. This set contains one Cowbird egg.

581 1-5 Song Sparrow. June 1, 1904. John Ritenberg. Orleans Co., N. Y. One Cowbird egg in this set.

581 1-4 Song Sparrow. June 10, 1902. Walter C. Wood. Wayne Co., Mich. This set contains two Cowbird eggs.

581 1-4. Song Sparrow. May 2, 1915. Walter C. Wood. Detroit, Mich. Two Cowbird eggs in this set.

587 1-4 Towhee. May 30, 1909. J. Claire Wood. Wayne Co., Mich. This set contains two Cowbird eggs.

593 1-4 Cardinal. April 27, 1915. Ramon Graham. Ft. Worth, Texas. This set contains one Cowbird egg.

620 1-3 Phainopepla. May 20, 1897. Frederick Dunham. Tuscon, Arizona. This set contains one Dwarf Cowbird egg.

652 1-3 Yellow Warbler. June 1, 1902. A. Blaine. Wayne Co., Mich. This set contains one Cowbird egg.

659 1-3 Chestnut-sided Warbler. June 5, 1897. Almon E. Kibbe. Chautauqua Co., N. Y. This set contains one Cowbird egg.

661 1-3 Golden-cheeked Warbler. June 6, 1894. C. L. Venill for A. H. V. Ft. Small, Arizona. The nest contains one Cowbird egg.

670 1-2 Kirtland's Warbler. May 31, 1908. R. B. Westwedge. Crawford Co., Mich. This set contains two Cowbird eggs.

672a 1-2 Yellow Palm Warbler. June 6, 1885. Manly Hardy for F. T. Palmer, Penobscot, Maine. This set contains two Cowbird eggs.

681d 1-3 Northern Yellow-throat.

June 10, 1906. C. F. Stone. Yates Co., N. Y. One Cowbird egg in this set.

756 1-4 Wilson's Thrush. May 18, 1902. Walter C. Wood. Wayne Co., Mich. One Cowbird egg in this set.

756 1-3 Wilson's Thrush. May 22, 1906-6. C. F. Stone. Yates Co., N. Y. One Cowbird egg in this set.

W. A. Strong,  
San Jose, Cal.

#### A Census of the Birds of the United States.

During the summer of 1914, the Biological Survey took initial steps toward a census of the birds of the United States for the purpose of ascertaining approximately the number and relative abundance of the different species. In view of the recognized value of birds to agriculture, such information cannot fail to be of great value. The census will need to be repeated for several years before a satisfactory basis can be obtained for safe generalization.

It is estimated that there are 100,000,000 robins east of the Mississippi or fifty pairs to the square mile.

There are one thousand pairs of birds to the square mile east of the great plains, and in the Montana forests there is one bird pair to each three acres.

One of the principal values of the census will be its use for various societies which undertake to protect bird life.

Twenty-seven states lack hunters' license laws, and there is but a minority with efficient game commissions. In some Southern states the killing of the bobolinks is still permitted.—The Classmate.—W. A. Strong, San Jose, Cal.

#### The Ruffed Grouse.

*Bonasa umbellus.*

This fine game bird is still fairly

plentiful in Northeastern Ohio where it is about holding its own. There are only nine days of hunting them allowed but this is plenty long enough for this bird is shot very extensively during closed seasons. What unscrupulous hunter could resist a shot at this, the finest Grouse, when accidentally flushed during rabbit, squirrel, or at any other period of the hunting season. A great many hunters would forget their scruples rather suddenly when they hear the "whir" of the fast retreating partridge. This especially applies to the lawless city hunter who is out for a good time and shoots at everything he sees from chipmunks to turkey vultures.

But this is getting somewhat off the subject and I wish to speak of the habits of this bird. You will not find them plentiful in an open wood but in one where there is plenty of undergrowth you may be fairly certain of their presence. Their drumming is one of the characteristic sounds of the woodland during the spring and early summer.

They begin nesting during the first two weeks of May in this section and if disturbed will usually nest again the last of the month. The nest is roughly made of leaves and twigs sunk in the ground at the foot of a tree, under brush piles, beside old logs, etc. They nearly always nest well within the outskirts of the woods, but I found one nest located in a lane, which contained but a few trees and nearly one-fourth of a mile from the woods. The nest was placed in a stump, one side of which was partly torn away. It was scantily lined with a few leaves, so that one of the eggs were lying upon the rotten wood.

Another nest was elevated slightly above the ground and composed of alternate layers of leaves and twigs

making a compact nest. I have never found a nest on the north or west side of a tree; the favorite position being is a south easterly direction. The choice of a tree seems to be the beech or maple of one and one half feet or less in diameter. The female usually nests in the wood that the pair has frequented before nesting season. The eggs number six to fifteen, first sets containing ten or more, the average being twelve.

L. Miller,  
E. Clariden, Ohio.

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#### Audubon's Travels.

In 1837, the great naturalist Audubon came to Texas on a search for new birds. He writes of Houston in his diary as follows:

"We landed at Houston, the capital of Texas, drenched to the skin, and were kindly received on board the steamer Yellow Stone. Captain West gave us his stateroom to change our clothes and furnished us refreshments and dinner. The Buffalo Bayou had risen about six feet, and the neighboring prairies were partly covered with water; there was a wild and desolate look cast on the surrounding scenery. Shanties, cargoes of hogsheads, barrels, etc., were spread about the landing, and Indians drunk and hallooing were stumbling about in the mud in every direction.

"We walked toward the President's house, accompanied by the secretary of the navy. Houses, half finished, and most of them without roofs, tents, and a liberty pole, with the capitol, were all exhibited to our view at once. We approached the president's mansion, however, wading in water above our ankles. This abode of President Houston is a small log house, consisting of two rooms and a passage through, after the Southern fashion. The moment we stepped over the

threshold, on the right hand of the passage, we found ourselves ushered into what in other countries would be called the antechamber, the ground floor, however, was muddy and filthy, a large fire was burning, and a small table, covered with paper and writing materials, was in the center; camp beds, trunks, and different materials were strewn around the room.

"We first caught sight of President Houston as he walked from one of the grog shops, where he had been to stop the sale of ardent spirits. We reached his abode before him, but he soon came, and we were presented to his Excellency. He was dressed in a fancy velvet coat and trousers trimmed with broad gold lace, and around his neck was tied a cravat somewhat in the style of '76. He received us kindly, and was desirous of retaining us for a while, and offered us every facility in his power. He at once removed us from the anteroom to his private chamber. Our talk was short, but the impression which was made on our mind at the time by himself, his officers, and the place of his abode can never be forgotten."—The Classmate. —W. A. Strong, San Jose, Cal.

**Bird Species Observed Near Lexington, Missouri, Since January 1, 1918.**

1. Ring-billed Gull.
2. Least Tern.
3. Black Tern.
4. American White Pelican.
5. American Merganser.
6. Blue-winged Teal.
7. Brant.
8. American Bittern.
9. Great Blue Heron.
10. Green Heron.
11. Either Little Brown or Sandhill Crane, uncertain as to which.
12. Coot.
13. Wilson's Snipe.
14. Pectoral Sandpiper.
15. Least Sandpiper.
16. Semipalmated Sandpiper.
17. Yellow-legs.
18. Solitary Sandpiper.
19. Spotted Sandpiper.
20. Semipalmated Plover.
21. Bob-white.
22. Mourning Dove.
23. Turkey Vulture.
24. Marsh Hawk.
25. Cooper's Hawk.
26. Red-tailed Hawk.
27. Sparrow Hawk.
28. Long-eared Owl.
29. Barred Owl.
30. Screech Owl.
31. Yellow-billed Cuckoo.
32. Black-billed Cuckoo.
33. Belted Kingfisher.
34. Hairy Woodpecker.
35. Downy Woodpecker.
36. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.
37. Red-headed Woodpecker.
38. Red-bellied Woodpecker.
39. Northern Flicker.
40. Whip-poor-will.
41. Nighthawk.
42. Chimney Swift.
43. Ruby-throated Hummingbird.
44. Kingbird.
45. Crested Flycatcher.
46. Phoebe.
47. Wood Pewee.
48. Acadian Flycatcher.
49. Least Flycatcher.
50. Prairie Horned Lark.
51. Blue Jay.
52. American Crow.
53. Cowbird.
54. Red-winged Blackbird.
55. Meadowlark.
56. Orchard Oriole.
57. Baltimore Oriole.
58. Brewer's Blackbird.
59. Bronzed Grackle.
60. Purple Finch.
61. Goldfinch.
62. Chestnut-collared Longspur. (?)
63. Vesper Sparrow.

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|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 64. Western Savannah Sparrow. | 113. Wilson's Warbler.                |
| 65. Grasshopper Sparrow.      | 114. Canadian Warbler. (?)            |
| 66. Lark Sparrow.             | 115. American Redstart.               |
| 67. Harris's Sparrow.         | 116. Mockingbird.                     |
| 68. White-crowned Sparrow.    | 117. Catbird.                         |
| 69. White-throated Sparrow.   | 118. Brown Thrasher.                  |
| 70. Tree Sparrow.             | 119. Carolina Wren.                   |
| 71. Chipping Sparrow.         | 120. Western House Wren.              |
| 72. Clay-colored Sparrow.     | 121. Winter Wren.                     |
| 73. Field Sparrow.            | 122. Long-billed Marsh Wren.          |
| 74. Slate-colored Junco.      | 123. Brown Creeper.                   |
| 75. Song Sparrow.             | 124. White-breasted Nuthatch.         |
| 76. Lincoln's Sparrow.        | 125. Red-breasted Nuthatch.           |
| 77. Fox Sparrow.              | 126. Tufted Titmouse.                 |
| 78. Towhee.                   | 127. Chickadee.                       |
| 79. Cardinal.                 | 128. Long-tailed Chickadee.           |
| 80. Rose-breasted Grosbeak.   | 128. Long-tailed Chickadee.           |
| 81. Indigo Bunting.           | 129. Ruby-crowned Kinglet.            |
| 82. Dickcissel.               | 130. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.           |
| 83. Scarlet Tanager.          | 131. Wood Thrush.                     |
| 84. Summer Tanager.           | 132. Gray-cheeked Thrush.             |
| 85. Purple Martin.            | 133. Olive-backed Thrush.             |
| 86. Cliff Swallow.            | 134. Hermit Thrush.                   |
| 87. Barn Swallow.             | 135. American Robin.                  |
| 88. Tree Swallow.             | 136. Bluebird.                        |
| 89. Rough-winged Swallow.     | 137. The omnipresent English Sparrow. |
| 90. CedarWaxwing.             |                                       |
| 91. Northern Shrike.          |                                       |
| 92. Migrant Shrike.           |                                       |
| 93. Red-eyed Vireo.           |                                       |
| 94. Warbling Vireo.           |                                       |
| 95. Yellow-throated Vireo.    |                                       |
| 96. Blue-headed Vireo.        |                                       |
| 97. White-eyed Vireo.         |                                       |
| 98. Bell's Vireo.             |                                       |
| 99. Black and White Warbler.  |                                       |
| 100. Prothonotary Warbler.    |                                       |
| 101. Lawrence Warbler.        |                                       |
| 102. Tennessee Warbler.       |                                       |
| 103. Yellow Warbler.          |                                       |
| 104. Myrtle Warbler.          |                                       |
| 105. Black-poll Warbler.      |                                       |
| 106. Oven-bird.               |                                       |
| 107. Water-thrush.            |                                       |
| 108. Louisiana Water-thrush.  |                                       |
| 109. Kentucky Warbler.        |                                       |
| 110. Mourning Warbler.        |                                       |
| 111. Maryland Yellow-throat.  |                                       |
| 112. Yellow-breasted Chat.    |                                       |

E. Gordon Alexander.

#### In the Great Dismal Swamp of Virginia After Birds' Nests.

Some time ago I was in the egg room of the United States National Museum and talking with its late Honary Curator Dr. William E. Ralph on the subject of oology in general and listening to him tell about Swallow-tailed Kites nesting in Florida, and how they nested in tall pine trees and how he had secured the beautifully marked and beautifully prepared sets of this species which grace and add beauty and charm to the great national collection. When the subject of the great Dismal Swamp Virginia came up. I told about the two trips that I had made there and the nests and eggs I had found. Then I told him of my intention of answering the call of



the wild and the lure of the swamp land, and of going again to the deep dark fens and reedy haunts of the great Dismal, when he expressed a desire to go also. I invited him to join me on my next trip which invitation he accepted. While I was at Lynchburg, the next spring there came a letter from the esteemed doctor to the effect he through the first week in May a good time to start. Most of the nesting Warblers would have fresh sets at that time or would be seen carrying nesting material and it would be cooler then than later on, when the black fly and mosquito season would be in evidence and prove worrisome or make life a burden. So we decided to start the first week in May.

We busied ourselves with what necessary equipment we should take and the matter of a guide, boat and stopping place. I wrote my friend, Alphonse Roysten, an excellent gentleman and the best swamp guide extant, whose services I had been fortunate in securing on the two previous trips. He said he would be on the lookout for us and would see to a boat and cooking equipment and the cabin and have everything in readiness for a start on our arrival. I would heartily recommend Roysten to any party going to the Lake Drummond region of the great Dismal as one thoroughly familiar with the country, conditions, birds and animals found thereabouts; but in a letter received from him this week he states that he has given up swamping and gone to some other kind of work. He inquired about Dr. Ralph and said that he feared the doctor had gone to the great unknowable and unthinkable, which fact strangely enough proved to be true, although we had not learned of his sad death.

On my first trip to the Great Dismal, I was accompanied by two Smithson-

ian ornithologists, Mr. Paul Bartsch and that oracle of Virginia Ornithology, Mr. William Palmer. Mr. Palmer introduced me to Roysten, whose house we stopped at. We had a party of six and the novelty of such a trip has stuck in my memory with great evidence. The birds which I observed on this trip I reported on in an article in the "Auk" in the article of "Summer Birds of the Great Dismal Swamp." Bartsch also write an account which appeared in the Osprey. I have recently prepared a paper, the result of the three trips as regards Mammals for the American Society of Mammalogists (Washington, D. C.) Bulletin in which it will shortly appear I trust, and named several new mammals including a new species of Marsh Hare, Mole and Permyscus, one Royster in honor of Royster and the rabbit.

In all aspects the Great Dismal Swamp is of peculiar and particular interest to the naturalist and holds an infatuation and lure that no locality with which I am familiar parallels. The great gaunt, gnarled giants of cypress; the deep, dark, damp, shaded forest of black gum, so densely hung with heavy foliage that no light penetrated through the leafy verdure above, solitary and silent, secluded and wild grown with banks of beautiful ferns (Royal and others of great size), and with fern covered logs, stretches of can and sphagnum covered ditches of chocolate or coffee colored water in which there are a few fish and in which the overhanging trees are mirrored like a looking glass. The beautiful Lake Drummond, a great great sheet of water, "set like an opal, with margins green, born to shine unseen," the beautiful balsam trees in the tops of which as in others, sings the Golden swamps or Prothonotary Warbler, all day long. It's lovely golden and white plumage glowing like

a beautiful yellow blossom in the reedy, ferny reaches, in the tender green canebreak and from the leafy green of the balsams and cypresses—a jewel of a bird like its lovely Congener, the Hooded Warbler of lemon yellow plumage, and jet black throat, is also seen. And nesting in hollows of stubs and trees growing along the ditches and lake, finds an ideal home. Both the Prothonotary and Hooded Warblers are everywhere abundant in the great swamp and adds a peculiar charm to the great silent places of the deep dark swamp land. I shall not soon forget the beauty of the Prothonotary, especially and the Hooded, here in the big Dismal for there could not be a more charming or enchanted place for them to haunt and they seem as exactly suited to the great swamp land as the balsams, the gnarled, dead cypress roots and stumps and the great living cypress and junipers and pines. Singing from all sorts of places, the full round notes of the Golden Swamp Warblers vies in sweetness with those of the abundant Water Thrushes, and resounds upon the stillness ringing by in golden melody in keeping with its golden plumage amid the green woodland haunts.

Oh happy Prothonotary singing as if their hearts would break. Little did we think that that time was the last time that good Dr. Ralph was to ever hear them in this life and that they were indeed singing a last farewell. He has gone to a fairer land where there are fairer birds and fairer flowers. A lover of nature and a big heart. May his dreams of beautiful nature be fully realized and may we meet on the golden Elysium sands where sing golden birds more beautiful than the Golden Prothonotaries of the Great Dismal. He has gone on a great and glorious voyage to the great

unknown. Though his friends may miss his genial countenance and manner, he is safe in the great and beautiful Paradise where there is no pain and sorrow—and a fairer and more enchanting place than ever in that wonder land of nature, (right at the doorstep of national progress and industry) the Great Dismal Swamp. How a nature lover's heart does long for that good day when a better and fairer field of all nature is safely reached.

I joined the genial doctor and one afternoon found us abroad a passenger boat and on the broad waters of the Potomac, bound for the Great Dismal Swamps and for Suffolk as our destination. A good night's rest on board the boat and we awoke early the next morning and reached Suffolk before lunch hour. We met Royster at Suffolk, and although he was not feeling well, having been ill with malaria for some time he was ready to leave with us immediately. So after a chat with his charming mother, we loaded our paraphernalia into a cart and were off for the edge of the swamp, starting in at a point near Suffolk about two or three miles distant near a college and several negro cabins on the Jericho Ditch. We packed our outfit into the boat and were soon on our way down the Jericho towards the lake.

At this point and for several miles the vegetation is largely scrubby and there are very few trees of large size—the growth consists largely of poplars, pines, sycamores, small balsam and reedy growth.

The bird life here is not that of the deeper swamp but consists of such species as are found in the outside region—Towhees, Cardinals, Catbirds, Vireos, Thrasher's Buntings, Grosbeaks, Yellow Warblers and others. An hour and we were well on our way down the Jericho, and had seen several Hooded and Prothonotaries and Paru-

las and Green-crested Flycatchers and Green Herons. Dr. Ralph took a shot at a Wood Duck (*Aix Sponsa*) which alighted in a ditch ahead of the boat. He had his trusty 10 gauge double barrel but though the range was not excessive he did not make a kill. Later on he got a shot at the bird, knocked it down but did not kill it. The wounded bird dived and succeeded in evading us and avoiding capture by getting away in the dense reeds. We saw several other Wood Ducks later and I got seven downy young which I made into nice skins. They were very pretty, being in the yellow, downy stage. I think I got them at one shot. It seemed a pity to shoot them but I wanted them for the museum and they would make a nice group. I found Woodcock later but they seemed like ghosts in the wonderful way they got away without being secured. In the evenings they would soar, rising high in the air on fluttering wings and would descend gradually. They were numerous about the cabin. We proceeded the rest of the distance and reached Lake Drummond about three o'clock p. m., having covered the ten or twelve miles safely. We found a negro picnic party at the lake and they were in temporary charge of everything, and very noisy but interesting.

We were soon unloaded and comfortably settled in the little cabin or hut on the bank of the Jericho canal and within a stone's throw of Lake Drummond, at a point where the Jericho Canal interseats with Washington Ditch. These waterways are very narrow outlets from the lake and reach all the way out to the swamp's edge. Their water is coffee colored and choked in some places with sphagnum, mosses and logs, but mainly open and one can see ahead of them as far as the eye can reach. There are several beautiful bends, one called the horse-

shoe bend, for the most part their course is straight ahead and is uncurved. There are several ponds of water far back in the swamps and there are one or two springs of clear water, one on the southern end and another at Jack's Camp—Old Jack, a famous old swamper holds forth there.

J. W. Daniel, Jr.

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#### Tarrant County, Texas Breeders

Birds that I have found breeding in Tarrant County, Texas, are as follows:

- Road Runner not common.
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo common.
- Belted Kingfisher not plentiful.
- Downy Woodpecker, not plentiful.
- Pileated Woodpecker nearly all gone
- Red-headed Woodpecker common
- Flicker, rare.
- Nighthawks, common.
- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, common.
- Kingbird, rare.
- Crested Flycatcher, common.
- Phoebe, rare.
- Blue Jays, rare.
- Crows, common.
- Cowbirds, common.
- Red-winged Blackbird, common.
- Meadowlark, common.
- Orchard Oriole, common.
- Purple Grackle, rare.
- Boat-tailed Sparrow, common.
- English Sparrow, common.
- Grasshopper Sparrow, common.
- Lark Sparrow, common.
- Field Sparrow, rare.
- Cassins Sparrow, rare.
- Cardinal, common.
- Blue Grosbeak, rare.
- Painted Bunting, common.
- Dickcissel, common.
- Summer Tanager, rare.
- Bell's Vireo, common.
- White-eyed Vireo, rare.
- Blue-winged Warbler, rare.
- Yellow-breasted Chat, rare.
- Mockingbird, common.
- Carolina Wren, common.

Texas Bewicks Wren, common.  
 Tufted Titmouse, common.  
 Plumbeous Chickadee, common.  
 Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher, rare.  
 Bluebird, common.  
 Wood Duck, rare.  
 Green Heron, rare.  
 American Coot, rare.  
 Killdeer, common.  
 Bob white, scarce.  
 Mourning Dove, common.  
 Turkey Vulture, common.  
 Black Vulture, common.  
 Harris Hawk, rare.  
 Red-tailed Hawk, rare.  
 Red-shouldered Hawk, rare.  
 Krider Hawk, rare.  
 Sparrow Hawk, rare.  
 Barn Owl, common.  
 Horned Owl, rare.  
 Barred Owl, rare.  
 Long-eared Owl, rare.  
 Screech Owl, common.  
 Burrowing Owl, rare.

Ramon Graham,  
 Ft. Worth, Texas.

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#### Two Notes on Vireos

In June, 1918, I collected a set of three slightly incubated White-eyed Vireo eggs, taking the nest with the eggs, near Nevada, Mo. The nest was in a small crotch on the end of a low-hanging branch of an Osage Orange, and was about one foot above the ground. The following day I located the pair building a new nest about fifty feet away in some tall weeds. This time the nest was about three feet from the ground. I don't know whether this is unusual or not, but it seems to me that the pair wasted very little time in beginning their new nest.

Our most abundant breeding Vireo at Lexington is the Bell's Vireo. Nests may be found with complete sets the last week in May. I think four eggs is about the medium number of eggs unless a Cowbird lays in the nest,

which in four out of five nests is the case. On May 29, 1918, I collected a set of five eggs. This is the largest set I have collected, but as the eggs were fresh, there might have been more had I left it. The most common sets consist of two Vireo's and three Cowbird's and vice-versa. The nests are to be found in the dense willow growths along the Missouri River. A horizontal crotch about four feet from the ground is the usual choice. The nests are tightly woven, deep baskets, and are so strongly built that they often last through one or two winters. The nests are best located by tracing the "sewing machine song" of the male.

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#### Bird Notes

Boat-tailed Grackle and Mourning Dove keeping house in the same nest.

I read in the June number where a Dove and a Robin laid their eggs in the same nest. Several seasons ago a local collector and myself took a trip around the Everman loop south of Ft. Worth. We came to a Boisduc thicket about 150 feet long and 50 feet wide. It was near the road so we give it an examination. And a colony of Grackles were found here. You could see nests every where you looked. The Grackles were tame, many staying on the nests while others flew around cackling at us. We took several nice sets and observed many more. A Dove was seen sitting on a Grackle's nest, so we took a look and to our surprise she was sitting on two eggs of her own and three Grackle's eggs. I estimated that about fifty pairs were nesting in this thicket. The Grackles' haunts are being slowly cut down. So they seem to be using some other part of the country as I only observed several pairs on my last trip around the loop.

Ramon Graham.



**Nesting of the Black-billed Cuckoo.**

So far as my experience goes with the Black-billed Cuckoo they usually nest in the thick marsh willows, and not very high up from the ground, and nearly always place the nest on horizontal or practical horizontal branches, seldom in upright forks and as a rule construct a substantial nest and lay from two to five eggs, as Wilson states in *American Ornithology*.

Nest number one was found among thick willows, two and a half feet from the ground, and contained two eggs. The bird remained on the nest until I almost touched her. This nest was like all the other nests I have found, with but one single exception. It was built in a very large thick patch of willows. I did not find any more nests for twenty-seven years, when one day, a very hot day, I lay in a very shady place under a willow already for a plunge in the river, when on looking into a willow branch above my head, I saw a nest. Getting quickly to my feet I looked into it, when to my surprise I saw it was filled with eggs. I took them out and there were five of them and they were very cold and seemed to be settled into the nest. As the nest had a deserted look I decided to take them home. I prepared them to carry and placed them with my belongings. On preparing them I had to use acid, as they were badly incubated. The nest was in a leaning, bushy branch up about three feet.

While taking a stroll along Cedar River, near Vinton, Iowa, I found a nest of this species in a small crab apple tree, up about three feet, containing one infertile egg, the nest giving evidence that young had occupied it.

The next nest I found was in the usual piece of willow near here, placed in a slight crotch of an almost horizontal branch, scantily hidden, up about

three feet and contained two slightly incubated eggs. I visited the nest three times and had a chance to watch the bird before she left. A bad storm that destroyed other nests in the willows seemed to have not affected this nest.

The next nest that I found was a new looking nest and empty, though I think it was deserted. The next nest I found was a new nest placed in the forks of an incline branch up about forty inches, contained two broken eggs and one whole one. It had been partly upset by the recent hard wind and rain storm and was deserted. I took the eggs home and am trying to prepare them with the use of acid, but I am afraid it won't plan out. I later found three other nests, the last one was possibly an old one. The following is the data for each set.

Nest number one, dated July 31, 1891, locality Columbus, Wis., placed in a willow scrub, two and one half feet from the ground, loosely built of small sticks, skeletons of leaves, leaves of willows, moss and grass, lined with moss, small twigs and a few feathers from the bird, and a little vegetable down, measures outside 8.25 x 14 x 2.5 inches deep. The eggs are a deep bluish green, measure 1.16 x .81 and 1.17 x .82 inches, incubation advanced.

Nest number two, date August 6th, 1918. Was placed in a leaning bushy branch, up about three feet, composed of small twigs, willow leaves, moss and leaf skeleton buds and lined with finer material of the same kind, measured some eight inches across, and 2.5 inches deep. The eggs are a greenish blue, growing paler when dried. When fresh had a slightly clouded effect, measure 1.10 x .88; 1.14 x .82; 1.00 x .80; 1.09 x .80; 1.13 x .78 form elliptical.

Nest number three, I found late in August 1918, along Cedar River, near

Vinton, Iowa. I did not collect this, it was placed in a small wild crab apple tree, up about three feet and contained one infertile egg of the usual type and color. The nest was of the usual material and well made and well placed close in on a shelving of small branches, nicely hidden.

Nest number four, date Aug. 4th, 1919, was in the usual patch of thick willows near here, placed in a slight crotch of an almost horizontal branch of a willow, about three feet up, scantily hidden, but well made of small sticks and willow leaves, moss and catkins and lined with the softer material. It measures outside 10 by 10, 2.5 in. deep. Eggs two in number, deep rich greenish blue, beautifully clouded, but fading after blowing and drying, form, one elliptical, one oval, measures 1.13 x .78; 1.10 x .78.

Nest number five, evidently a new one, was empty and probably deserted, in upright fork.

Nest number six was in the same patch of willows, date Aug. 2nd, 1919, was placed in a leaning fork branch, well made of the usual material, deep cuped. It had been partly upset, though well protected, had two broken eggs and one whole one, which proved to be badly incubated and dried, so that the acid had little effect, measures 1.15 x .80 in., greenish blue, slight cloud effect, form elliptical.

The other nests I found were in the same patch of willows, placed in the usual way and were empty, all were well made, of the usual material.

Geo. W. Vos Burgh,  
Columbus, Ohio.

A list of birds Observed on May 19, 1919, On a Hike In the Vicinity of Telford, Bucks Co., Pa.

Green Heron.

Black Crowned Night Heron.

Least Sandpiper.

Semipalmated Sandpiper.

Solitary Sandpiper.

Upland Plover.

Spotted Sandpiper.

Killdeer Plover.

Bob White.

Mourning Dove

Turkey Vulture.

Sparrow Hawk.

Yellow Billed Cuckoo.

Kingfisher.

Hairy Woodpecker.

Downy Woodpecker.

Red Headed Woodpecker.

Flicker.

Night Hawk.

Chimney Swift.

Kingbird.

Crested Flycatcher.

Wood Pewee.

Least Flycatcher.

Blue Jay.

Crow.

Starling.

Bobolink.

Cowbird.

Red Winged Blackbird.

Meadowlark.

Orchard Oriole.

Baltimore Oriole.

Purple Grackle.

Goldfinch.

Vesper Sparrow.

Grasshopper Sparrow.

White Throated Sparrow.

Chipping Sparrow.

Field Sparrow.

Song Sparrow.

Swamp Sparrow.

Towhee.

Scarlet Tanager.

Purple Martin.

Barn Swallow.

Rough Winged Swallow.

Warbling Vireo.

Yellow Throated Vireo.

Blue-headed Vireo.

Worm Eating Warbler.

Tennessee Warbler.

Northern Parula Warbler.  
 Yellow Warbler.  
 Black Throated Blue Warbler.  
 Myrtle Warbler.  
 Magnolia Warbler.  
 Chestnut Sided Warbler.  
 Bay Crested Warbler.  
 Black Poll Warbler.  
 Blackburnian Warbler.  
 Black Throated Green Warbler.  
 Oven Bird.  
 Northern Water Thrush.  
 Maryland Yellow Throat.  
 Wilson's Warbler.  
 Canadian Warbler.  
 Redstart.  
 Catbird.  
 Brown Thrush.  
 House Wren.  
 White Breasted Nuthatch.  
 Wood Thrush.  
 Robin.  
 Blue Bird.

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**Observation Taken at Madera Canyon,  
 in the Santa Rita Mountain, Between  
 June 1st and June 14th, 1919.**

Mourning Dove—A few seen in the upper Sonorian and Transition Zones, common in the Lower Sonorian.

White Winged Dove—Fairly common in the Oak belt. Most common Dove in Lower Sonorian.

Ant Eating Woodpecker—A few pair seen in Oak region.

Western Night Hawk—A few individuals seen at night.

Cassin Kingbird—Two pairs seen on June 11th, near the mouth of cannon.

Black Phoebe—A few individuals would be seen near creek every day. Two nests of four eggs each taken on June 11th. Both nests were on the side of rocks near creek. One was within two feet of the water, other was about 14.

Western Flycatcher—Three sets of 4 eggs each were found on June 9th. Two of the nests were in deserted

mine tunnels each on a small ledge about two and one half feet from floor, other nest was on rafter of mill. The mine had been abandoned. Two of these sets were taken.

Long Crested Jay—One seen near summit of "Old Balde" on June 2nd.

Arizona Jay—Fairly common in oak region. A nest of four fresh eggs was taken on June 6th. Two nests were found on June 9th. One nest had 3 heavily incubated eggs and other had five, one half grown young. These nests were within 12 feet of each other. All sets taken are in collection of J. H. Bowles, Tacoma, Wash.

Donald A. Still,  
 Tuscon, Ariz.

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**Books Received**

WEST CHESTER BIRD CLUB  
 —Historical Sketch Summary of Year's work 1918-1919—Compiled by Committee on Publication—This publication of 20 pages gives a Resume of the activities of this well known Club during the period of time noted on the title page. In it we note chronical activities of some well known Oologist contributors—Thomas H. Jackson, Robert Sharples and B. H. Warren, etc., and it is illuminated by numerous well executed half tones. Those of the nests and eggs of course, being that prince of photographers, Thomas H. Jackson, including illustrations of the nests and eggs in situ of the Worm Eating Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Chestnut Sided Warbler and Phoebe—There is also a list of birds recorded by the West Chester Club since its organization and a list of the members. Mechanically the publication is perfect and its contents very interesting to those studying the birds of that vicinity. An Experience with Howard Grebes—Separate PP 170-180. The Auk, April 1919 with six half tones by Alexander D. Dubois. This very

Interesting paper gives the writer's experience with this species in Teton Co., Mont., in the Spring of 1917. In it he readably describes the observations made of the birds, their nests and eggs. The illustrations are especially good. The paper is supposed to be a first record of the nesting of this species in Montana.

#### Passed Away.

Earl Cassidy of Chicago, one of our valued subscribers, died at his home May 14, 1919. Thus the birdman's world is deprived of another young man. To his bereaved family we extend our sincere sympathy.

Editor.

#### MAGAZINES WANTED

I will pay the highest prices for any one of the following back numbers of these publications. If you have any of them write me at once.

R. M. Barnes, Lacon, Ill.

**Agassez Bulletin.** Buffalo, N. Y., 1885. All except Vol. I, No. 5.

**The A. A. Bulletin,** Gilman, Ill., 1890, Vol. I, No. 3.

**The Agassi Record,** Oskaloosa, Ia., 1888, Vol. I, Nos. 3 and 4.

**American Magazine of Natural Science,** 1892-3, Vol. I, Nos. 4 and 6; Vol. II, No. 1.

**The Agassiz Companion,** Wyondotte Ks., 1886, Vol. I, all but No. 2; Vol. II, all but 3-5-6-10; Vol. III, all but 1-5-10-11-12.

**Amateur Naturalist,** Ashland, Maine, 1903-6, Vol. I, all; Vol. II, all; Vol. III, all except Nos. 1 and 4.

**Bear Hill Advertiser,** Stoneham, Mass., 1903, Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 3, and all after No. 4.

**American Osprey,** Ashland, Ky., 1890, Vol. I, No. 6.

**The Buckeye State Collector,** Portsmouth, O., 1888, Vol. I, Nos. 4 and 6.

**Bulletin of the Oologists Assn.,** Omaha, Nebr., 1897. All except No. I, Vol. 1.

**California Traveller and Scientists,** 1891-2, Vol. I, all except No. 5; Vol. II, all except No. 3 and all later issues.

**The Collector,** West Chester, Pa., 1891, Vol. I, all; Vol. II, all except Nos. 1-2-3.

**The Collector,** Des Moines, 1882, Vol. II, all except Nos. 6-7-8.

**Collectors Journal,** Fayetteville, Ia., 1901, Vol. I, all except No. 2.

**The Collectors Monthly,** Newburg, N. Y., 1893, Vol. I, Nos. 2-3-4.

**Collectors Notebook,** Camden, N. Y., 1903-4, Vol. I, all; Vol. II, all except Nos. 2 and 6.

**The Curio,** Benson, Maine, Vols. I, II, III, IV, VI.

**Collectors Monthly,** Philadelphia, Pa., 1888. All except Vol. I, No. 1.

**The Collectors Monthly,** Oakland, Calif., 1911. All published except Nos. 2, 3 and 4 of Vol. I.

**The Curio Exchange,** New Kamilche, Wash., 1901-2, Vol. I, No. 4 and Vol. II, 3 and all after.

**Empire State Exchange,** Water Valley, N. Y., 1889, Vol. I, all except Nos. 1-5-10; Vol. II, all except Nos. 1 and 2; Vol. III, all except Nos. 2-3-4; Vol. IV, all except 1-2-3-4.

**The Exchange,** Quendota, Ill., 1889, Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 4.

**The Exchange,** Adrian, Mich., 1885, Vol. I, Nos. 1-2-4-5.

**The Exchangers Monthly,** Vol. IV, complete, 1888.

**Exchanger and Collector and Exchangers Aid,** 1885, Canaijohorie, N. Y., all except Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 2.

**Forest and Field,** Gillertville, N. Y., 1892, all except Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 5.

**Golden State Scientist,** Riverside, Calif., 1886, Vol. I, No. 1. The Suppressed copy.

**The Guide to Nature Study and Nature Literature,** Stanford, Conn., Vol. I, No. 12; Vol. II, all after No. 7; Vol. III, IV, V; Vol. IV, Nos. 1 to 8 and No. 10. Also issues of March, Nov. and Dec. 1909 and from Jan. 1910 to Dec. 1913, inclusive and March 1914 and July 1915 to Jan. 1916 inclusive.

**The Hummer,** Nebraska City, Neb., 1899-1900, Vol. I, Nos. 3 and 4.

**Iowa Ornithologist,** Salem, Ia., 1895-7, Vol. IV, No. 3.

**Kansas City Naturalist,** Kansas City, Mo., 1886-91, Vol. 5, No. 10.

**The Kansas Naturalist,** Topeka, Ks., 1902, Vol. I, all except No. 2.

**The Maine O. and O.,** Garland, Me., 1890-1, Vol. I, Nos. 5-6-7-12; Vol. II, No. 1.

**The Naturalist,** Kansas City, Mo.,



1890, Vols. I, II, III and Vol. IV except Nos. 6-8 and 10.

**The Natural History Collectors Monthly**, 1893, Vol. I, except Nos. 1-2-3-4.

**The Naturalists Companion**, Branchport, N. Y., 1885, Vol. I, No. 1.

**The Naturalists Journal**, Frankfort, and Phila., Pa., 1884, Vol. I, Nos. 4 and 7; Vol. II, Nos. 1-2-3-4.

**Nature Study Review**, Chicago, Ill., All issues prior to No. 45; also Nos. 46, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 72, 74, 93, 94 and 117.

**The Observer**, 1889-1917, Vol. I, all except Nos. 1-2-3-6; Vol. II, all except No. 3; Vol. III, all except Nos. 2-45-6-7; Vol. IV, all except Nos. 2-3; Vol. V, Nos. 6-8-9-10-12; Vol. VI, Nos. 2-7-10-12; Vol. VII, Nos. 10-12; Vol. VIII, all except No. 4.

**Ohio Naturalist**, Ohio State University, 1889-1895, Vols. I-II-III and Vol. IV, No. 5 and all later issues.

**The Old Curiosity Shop**, Vol. IX, No. 6.

**The Oologist and Botanist**, Des Moines, Ia., Vol. II, Nos. 3-4-5.

**The Oologist Advertiser**, Danilsville, Conn., 1889-90, Vol. I, No. 1.

**The Ornithologist**, Twin Bluffs, Wis., 1885, Vol. 1, No. 1.

**The Oregon Naturalist**, Eugene, Ore., 1891, Vol. II, No. 7.

**The Owl**, Glenn Falls, N. Y., 1885-6, Vol. I, all; Vol. II, all except Nos. 1 and 2; Vol. III, all except No. 2.

**The Stormy Petrel**, Quendota, Ill., 1890, Vol. I, Nos. 2 and 6

**The Taxidermist**, Hyde Park, Mass., 1907-14, all after Vol. II, No. 7.

**The Valley Naturalist**, St. Louis, No. 1878, all except Vol. I, No. 1.

**The Weekly Oologist and Philatelist**, all published except Vol. I, No. 2 and Vol. II, No. 2.

**The Western Naturalist**, Topeka, Kas., 1903, all issues except Vol. I, No. 1.

**The Western Naturalist**, Quadison, Wis., 1887-8, Vol. I, Nos. 7-9-10; Vol. II, Nos. 1-5-6.

**The West American Scientist**, San Diego, Calif., 1885 to 1902, Vol. I, all except Nos. 5-9-11; Vol. II, all except Nos. 15-21; Vol. III, all except Nos. 27-31; Vol. IV, all except Nos. 43-47-53; Vol. VI, Nos. 61. Vol. VIII, 66-68-69-70-71-72-73 and all after No. 139 except No. 158.

**The Wisconsin Naturalist**, Milwau-

kee, Wis., Vol. I., all except Nos. 5-6; All of Vols. II-III-IV and V; all of Vol. VI except No. 1; all of Vol. VII except Nos. 77 and 78; all of Vol. VIII except Nos. 79-81-82; all of Vol. IX except Nos. 87-88-89-90.

**The Young Collector**, Des Moines, Ia., 1881-2, all issues except Vol. I, No. 41; and Vol. II, Nos. 1-2-3.

**The Young Naturalist**, Galesburgh, Ill., 1884, Vol. I, all except Nos. 1-4-5.

**The Young Ornithologist**, Boston, Mass., 1885, Vol. I, No. 10.

**SPOT CASH**—I will buy entire collections of birds' eggs and send lists. B. R. BALES, 149 W. Main St., Circleville, Ohio.

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**FOR SALE**—30 sets of Red Shoulder Hawks. Sets of 2, 3, 4, at 12c per egg. 30 sets Crow sets, 4 to 7 each, at 4c per egg. Good datas. Remit 10c for postage with each order. RANDALL M. SNOW, Arlington Heights, Mass.

**FOR SALE**—Stevens Taxidermist's gun, 18 inch barrel. Price \$6.00 CHAS. F. CARR, New London, Wis.

**WANTED**—Reed's—"The Bird Book"; Beebe's "Two Bird Lovers in Mexico," Ornithological books of Tropics. CLYDE D. MILLER, E. Claridon, Ohio

**WILL TRADE** "Birds of the Northwest" for "Game Birds of U. S." Can supply most birds of Northwest. STANTON WARLENTEN, Jr.

**TO EXCHANGE FOR EGGS IN SETS**—22nd Annual Report Indian Dept. of Geology and Natl. Resources, 1897; 1197 pages.

Birds of Illinois and Wisconsin, Chas. B. Cory, 1909, Field Museum of Natl. History; 764 pages.

Michigan Bird Life, Barrows, 1912, Mich. Agricultural College; 822 pages. Bird Life; Frank M. Chapman, Edition in colors, 1898.

Hand Book, Birds of Eastern North America, Frank M. Chapman; 431 pages. The Warblers of North America, Chapman, 1907.

GERARD ALAM ABBOTT,  
City Manager,  
Osego, Michigan.

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## MISCELLANEOUS.

FOR SALE—A High-class collection of Squirrels which I desire to dispose of before entering the American Army. E. H. HAMILTON, 614 Walnut St., Versailles Boro, McKeesport, Pa.

WANTED—Volumes 1 and 2 of Thorburn's British Birds. Very handsome price will be paid for these two volumes. ANSEL B. MILLER, Springs, Pennsylvania.

EXCHANGE—Will exchange mounted birds or skins for same; also desire foreign specimens. Have some Fox Squirrel skins to offer. O. M. GREENWOOD, Manchester, Ia.

WANTED—Bird skins—must be perfect; also small mammal skins. Good photographs of birds, birds eggs and nests and mammals in their nature situ. and haunts to be used in publication and with privilege to publish those you send. Can offer cash or good exchange. J. W. DANIEL Jr., Western State Hospital, Staunton, Va.

SALE or TRADE—Pair of field glasses. I want copy of Holland "Moth Book" or some other good book on moths. HUBERT R. WISWELL, Westbrook, Minn.

FOR SALE—Loggerhead Sea turtle, Embryos and hatched turtles, mixed stages \$3.00 dozen, small Octopus \$1.00 each. Other Maine specimens collected from Florida this past summer. H. AITKEN, Gen. Del., Philadelphia, Pa.

EXCHANGE—Funston Perfect (animal) Smoker, 20 Onedia Jump Traps (new), eggs in sets. Want eggs in sets and singles. LYLE D. MILLER, E. Claridon, Ohio.

FOR SALE—Live pupae of moths and butterflies. Price-list on application, for delivery November 1, 1918. Also entomological supplies of all kinds, LOUIS S. KOHLER, 47 Wagner Place, Hawthorne, N. J.

FOR SALE—Two handsome Virginia Red Cedar cabinets suitable for eggs or skins. Also one smaller Walnut Cabinet, cheap. WHARTON HUBER, Gwynedd Valley, Pa.

PERSONAL—Would like to become acquainted with active Oologist in New York City, Westchester Co., or nearby, with view to expeditions next spring. L. C. S. please write. RAYMOND FULLER, White Plains, N. Y., R. F. D. No. 1.

FOR EXCHANGE—Large showy India moths. Atacus Atlas. Antheraea Pernyi. Actias selene. Caligula cachara. (Selene Iyna Hybrid) Also many natives. Want A No. 1 set of 288, 364. A. J. POTTER, East Killingly, Conn.

The Oologist is the best medium of exchange for Oologists Ornithologists etc., in the entire U. S.

Who has skins or mounted fox squirrels, colors, Black, White, Gray, Black Yellow, Black; Cinnamon mixed with black or pure white squirrels. EARL HAMILTON, Versailles, Boro., McKeesport, Pa.

WANTED—20 gauge aux. chambered for 32 Ex. Long. J. A. MUNRO, Okanagan Landing, B. C.

FOR EXCHANGE—One fine CONLEY 4x5 Plate Camera, 17 inch Bellows. Adopted for close up Nature Study. Want good 25-20 or 32-20 RIFLE, or Books on OLOGY. EARL MOFFET, Marshall, Texas.

BOOKS WANTED—Orchids of New England, by Baldwin; Our Native Orchids, by Gibson; Ferns of North America by Eaton. Please state price. H. MOUSLEY, Hatley, Quebec. 1-1t

WANTED—One B. & L. Model C. double Dissolving Lens. New or second hand stereopticon Machine in exchange for personally collected specimens of Western Birds Eggs. Mrs. A. O. TRIGANZA, No. 624 E. Sixth St. South, Salt Lake City, Utah. 1-2t

WANTED—Cash or exchange, vols. 1, 2, 3 of Ridgeway's BIRDS OF NORTH AND MIDDLE AMERICA—vols. 5, 7 of same series to offer. Also want first class compound microscope. H. S. LADD, 4354 McPherson, St. Louis, Mo.

WANTED—12 Gauge Double Barrel or repeating shot gun at moderate price. C. G. HART, East Berlin, Conn. Box 47.

WANTED TO BUY—Auk, vols. 1-32, odd numbers; Bird Lore, vols. 1-14; Oologist, Utica, vols. 1-5; Ornithologist and Oologist, all of vols. 6-12, vol. 13 title and index only, and vol. 15, no. 7; Young Oologist, vols. 1 and 2; Nidologist, vols. 1-4; Osprey, vols. 1-5, and vol. 1, new series; and all other amateur bird and natural history periodicals. ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY, State Capitol, Montgomery, Ala.

FOR SALE—Two Butterfly Books. Instructions for collecting and preserving Lepidoptera. Price \$1.75. The Entomological and Ornithological collection hand book. Price \$ .75. Both books by James Sinclair. Los Angeles, Cal. A. M. NELSON, JR., Lake Providence,

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# THE OÖLOGIST.

BIRDS--NESTS--EGGS  
TAXIDERM Y

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VOL. XXXVI. No. 11. ALBION, N. Y., Nov. 1, 1919. WHOLE No. 391

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## BRIEF SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wanted, Exchange, For Sale, Etc., inserted in this department at 25 cents for each 25 words for one issue; each additional word 1 cent. No notice inserted for less than 25 cents

We will advertise the skins, nests, eggs, or mounted specimens of North American Birds for sale for persons having a lawful authority under the law to deal in the same. These columns are for the use of those desiring to make bona fide exchanges of such specimens for scientific collecting purposes only.—EDITOR.

In answering advertisements in these columns mention "The Oologist," and thereby help us, as well as the advertiser and yourself.

## BIRDS

Send me the list of A 1 Bird Skins that you have to dispose of by exchange or otherwise. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

FOR EXCHANGE—A large list of A1 North American species of skins for specimens needed in my collection. C. W. CHAMBERLAIN, 36 Lincoln St., Boston, Mass.

ALL PERSONS having A-1 skins in pairs of any of the North American Jays send list. I will pay the highest price for those that I need. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

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DATA BLANKS—Send for sample of my data blanks, with your name printed on it. 500 for \$1.00 postpaid. EDWARD S. COOMBS, 243 Franklin St., Boston, Mass.

WANTED to Exchange sets with reliable collectors. Or will purchase. Send lists and prices. G. B. REGAR, 1000 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

WANTED—One or more sets of A. O. W. 636. Can offer good sets of 325, 343 or 364 in exchange or cash. R. P. SHARPLES, West Chester, Pa.

SWANSON'S WARBLERS Sets with nests. Who wants them in exchange for other species? Send list in full. DR. M. T. CLECKLEY, Augusta, Ga.

The following first class skins offered: 132, 139, 146, 147, 148, 149, 151, 153, 221, 223, 230, 239, 241, 242, 254, 255, 256a, 379a, 393a, 394b, 401a, 402a, 413, 433, 468, 478c, 478d, 488b, 498f, 508, 510, 518, 524a, 529a, 540a, 554a, 567f, 581f, 588a, 607, 618, 652b, and other western species. J. A. MUNRO, Okanagan Landing, B. C.

## EGGS.

In sending in your exchange notices for nests, skins and eggs, we would appreciate it if you would arrange the numerals in your exchange notice in their numerical order, and not tumble them together hit and miss, as some of our readers are complaining, and we think justly so.

WANTED—Entire collection of Eggs of North American Birds for spot cash. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

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FOR DISPOSAL—A large and extensive collection of Birds' Eggs from Europe and America. Send 3c stamp for complete list. DR. CLECKLEY'S MUSEUM, Augusta, Ga.

WANTED—An entire collection of North American Birds Eggs in sets with full data. Send full list to W. A. STRONG, 41 Grand Ave., San Jose, Cal.

FOR EXCHANGE—A1 personally collected sets of Mississippi Kite, Swainson's Hawk, White-necked Raven, 5-6, 3-7, Black-crested Titmouse 1-6, and many others. Want your complete lists of duplicates. E. F. POPE, Box 301, Albuquerque, N. Mex.

# THE OÖLOGIST.

VOL. XXXVI. NO. 11

ALBION, N. Y., NOV. 1, 1919.

WHOLE NO. 391

*Owned and Published Monthly, by R. M. Barnes, Albion, N. Y., and Lacon, Ill.*

## TAKE NOTICE.

SUBSCRIPTION, 50 CENTS PER YEAR

Examine the number on the wrapper of your Oologist. It denotes the time your subscription expires. Remember we must be notified if you wish it discontinued and all arrearages must be paid. 378 your subscription expires with this issue. 377 your subscription expired with December issue 1918. Other expirations can be computed by intermediate numbers at the rate of one number per month.

Entered as second-class matter December 21, 1903, at the post office at Albion, N. Y., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

With this issue we publish the last of the series of photos taken of the North American Wild Geese, nesting on our home place. The Lesser Snow Goose, *Chen hyperborea*. No other publication in America has had the privilege of displaying to its readers the home life of so many varieties of wild geese as *The Oologist*.

R. M. Barnes.

With this issue the *Oologist* exhausts the supply of copy on hand which is unaccompanied with photographs. We specially ask our readers to send us copy of this kind at once and in large quantity. Copy accompanied by photographs which require the making of half tones is very expensive and hence we need at least five unillustrated articles to each one which is accompanied by photographs. Please help support the *Oologist*.

—Editor.

### RUFFED GROUSE

By H. H. Johnson, Pittsfield, Maine

Mother said 'sit tight;' if not these words it was something in Grouse language that was so understood by a number of very young *Bonasa umbellus*, or it may have been *Bonasa umbellus togata*, or worse yet, it may have been new subspecies; for as near as I can make it out, if you find the bird on top of a hill it is one species, where as if you flush the same bird at the foot of the hill, it is another; half way down it is a hybrid I suppose. Bendire in his *Life Histories of North American Birds* writing of the Ruffed Grouse says, "In the New England States north of Massachusetts it intergrades with *B. umbellus togata*, the majority of the specimens found throughout southern Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and northern New York being scarcely referable to either form, birds found in the high lands approaching the Canadian Ruffed Grouse, while those in the valleys are nearer typical *Bonasa umbellus*."

I have shot Ruffed Grouse here in both the light gray and dark brown plumage; hence we will use the local name and just call it 'Partridge.' The young Partridges were about the size of a Song Sparrow minus the tail. They were still in the yellow down excepting the flight feathers which were not quite the length of the body, but grown enough to allow the birds to make a flight of a rod at a time.

When I came upon them Mother Partridge came fluttering toward me, to detract my attention, at the same time giving a warning to the young which is best described as a whine. After the young Partridges had scattered in all directions except toward me, I commenced to hunt for them, looking in the small trees and bushes at about the height of my head; know-

ing that like well brought up children they would mind Mother and sit tight wherever they chanced to alight.

I soon found one in a clump of gray-birch bushes and about six feet up. It chanced that this particular young Partridge had not secured a good perch, having to stand with one foot very much higher than the other. There it stood with its head up looking straight ahead; I thought to move in a circle around the bushes just to see if it would turn its head to watch me, but no, Mother said 'sit tight;' even when I reached up and drew down some branches in order to get a clear view, it never moved in the least.

Mother Partridge still continued to whine, but only once again it appeared in sight, though she did not fly away as she would had the young been somewhat older and larger.

Father Partridge, when I flushed him soon afterward flew at once. I left this young Partridge and searched for another which I soon found in another clump of birches; this one set well, but when I reached up after pulling away the branches, to take it in my hand, it was more than it could stand and at once flew to a place of safety. I then left them and the distressed mother. I once flushed a flock not so old as these; the young could run but not fly. This time I searched for them on the ground. Mother Partridge was making a great commotion among the leaves, thrashing around and whining. These young were harder to find; after some search I found one completely hidden as the young bird supposed, as it had its head tucked well under a leaf, but all the rest of the body exposed; yet it was hard to find as it set tight, besides being so near the color of the leaves which covered the ground and which the mother had well stored up.



I picked this one up in my hand, it making no move to get away, but snuggled down quite content. After holding and examining it as long as I wished I again placed it on the ground and my, did it not scamper when it found itself free from all cover of any kind. It remembered that Mother had said hide and there it was without cover.

The Ruffed Grouse often nest in the woods on my farm, sometimes I find the nest in the older and larger growth at the foot of some large tree, or under some upturned root again in the young but denser growth; a brush pile is a favorite nesting place, the nest being placed under the edge; once I found a nest in the midst of a blackberry bramble, and once, and the most exposed nest I ever found was on the top of a knoll in the open pasture.

Samuels, in *Birds of New England*, reports receiving eggs from his collectors in Northern Maine which they declared to have been found in a crow's nest in a high pine. He also reports another occurrence of such matter from Pennsylvania. The nest is usually made of leaves, sometimes a little grass enters into its composition and a few feathers from the mother may be found in it. The cup of the nest is not large nor deep; a mere hollow. The eggs vary in number, twelve might be called an average set. A nest found May 8, 1892 contained six eggs, others I have found contained twelve, fourteen and fifteen. A nest reported in the *Ornithologist and Oologist*, July 1891 issue contained twenty-one eggs, another found at Franklin, N. Y. May 14, 1902 contained a set of twenty of which seventeen hatched. (*American Ornithology* Vol. II). The color of a set of eggs of the Partridge now before me is a light buff, one of which is noticeably

lighter in color than others; over this ground work there is sprinkled minute spots or dots of light brown, at no point thick and most obscure. They measure 1.50 x 1.25 inches. The Ruffed Grouse in spite of the increase of latin names, which are added to it every little while by the discovery of a new subspecies by the Bird Doctors has shown a very marked decrease in numbers in this locality and in Maine. The decrease has been most noticeable the last three years. This decrease, in my opinion, has been caused largely by cold, wet weather at hatching time; the eggs becoming chilled and from that reason failed to hatch, or if they did hatch the young became wet and chilled, this causing them to die. There has also been a gradual decrease each year as the state became more thickly settled; more land being cleared, therefore less cover and more hunters. This has been overcome to some extent by shorting of the open season by law. The flesh of the Partridge is most excellent to eat and is especially prescribed by physicians for invalids; of all wild game there is none better. All hunters of the Partridge are familiar with the 'whir' with which it rises from the ground on being flushed, often causing the startled novice to shoot wild; yet this bird can and does fly swiftly and silently as I have noted; wending its way through the forest and thickets without mishap. It has always been a mystery to me how a bird which flying with the speed it does between the trees of the forest without accident should so many times lose its life by flying against the side of a house or barn. I once saw such a mishap occur to a Partridge. A number of the boys who were attending a preparatory school situated in this town, were playing ball on the campus in

the fall of the year; this bird came around the corner of the school building and flying over our heads struck the wall of a house near and was killed. My brother once caught alive a Partridge which flew into his woodshed. These accidents nearly always occur in the fall of the year during the open season and are perhaps caused by being frightened by hunters. The food of the Partridge consists of both animal and vegetable matter; they are fond of grasshoppers and I have often shot them along the sides of our country roads where they had come both to feed and to dust in the roadway. They also use the tops of ant hills and bare, dry knolls as dusting places; one finding these dusting places it is well to look there again on another day when in quest of game as they are much frequented. There is a small bush which bears light red berries growing wild here; this berry is often eaten and I have shot Partridges with the crop cramed full of them; later in the fall one will find them in the trees, budding yellow birches being the favorite; they also eat apple tree and rose buds.

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#### Birds Observed From Train, From Austin, Texas to Burnet, Texas

By Ramon Graham

Mr. G. E. Maxon and myself was going from Austin to Burnet on the H. & T. C. R. R. We observed many birds along the way. Mourning Doves were the most plentiful. I counted them up until I got to four hundred and still saw more along the route. Only one bunch of Texas Bob Whites were observed; there were ten of them. Six Ducks which looked to be Wedgions or Baldpates were seen as the train was speeding by a small shallow lake. Scissor Tailed Flycatchers was plentiful. I saw as many as thirty in one bunch. I kept count of them until I counted fifty.

Twenty-two Lark Sparrows were observed near the railroad. Sparrow Hawks were plentifully scattered through the country. Ten was counted and I saw more after I quit counting. Mocking Birds were not as plentiful as you would think. I only saw two along the route. Crows were noticed two and three at a time. Fifteen were counted. Two Sharp Shinned Hawks were noticed darting after Sparrows. White-rumped Shrieks was seen in singles. I saw four. Only one Meadow Lark was observed sitting on the fence wire beside the track. Through a thick brushy country I saw four Painted Bunting. Only one Dickcissel was observed. One Downey Wood Pecker. One Grasshopper Sparrow, two large Hawks were sighted in the distance, but I was unable to identify them. No Vultures was seen, to my surprise. But taking it altogether I think I got a pretty good list of birds along such a short route of three hour's travel.

After reaching Burnet we got in the tin lizzie and hit it for Ft. Worth, Texas, some three hundred miles overland. Between Burnet and Lampassas we saw twenty Sparrow Hawks in one bunch. Sitting on telephone wires, fence posts, etc. Between Adamsville and Hamilton we passed through the best Vulture country that I ever witnessed. Vultures of both kinds were plentiful. The hills were high with plenty rock bluffs and cliffs for their nesting grounds. Near Walnut Springs, Texas, we came upon a six foot rattlesnake in the road. We got out and had a battle with him. He never attempted to get away, but give fight at once, as he was making a coil ready to spring at Mr. Maxon, a heavy rock hit him in the head and it was good-bye snake. We skinned him and will make it into a wall mount.

Ramon Graham, Taxidermist,  
Ft. Worth, Texas.



Terrace Mountain, B. C.—Photo by J. A. Munro.



Sunset, of Lake Okanagan, B. C.



## BIRD LIFE IN PORTO RICO.

Needed Protection Suggested by Study  
of Department of Agriculture Special-  
ists—Value of Birds as Des-  
troyers of Injurious Insects Not  
Fully Appreciated.

Washington, D. C.—Because of the damage done to the crops of Porto Rico by insect pests, a study of the birds of that Island has been completed by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, in co-operation with the Porto Rican Government. This study, the results of which are now published as Department Bulletin 326, "Birds of Porto Rico," was undertaken for the purpose of determining the relations of the birds to the insect fauna of the island, in order that suitable measures might be suggested for the protection and increase of insectivorous species.

The investigators recorded 162 species and subspecies in Porto Rico and its dependent islands, while 16 others are included as hypothetical. Of the bona-fide forms, 94 breed on the island, 63 are visitants during migration, and 5 species, perhaps resident at one time, may be called accidental. On the average, about 30 species are found in reasonable numbers during summer in almost any inland locality on Porto Rico, and a few more North American migrants are added in winter. Near the coast these numbers are augmented somewhat by water birds. Certain areas are seemingly destitute of bird life, say the investigators, but to show that birds are more numerous in Porto Rico than is commonly supposed, two censuses were taken during the breeding season, in which accurate count was made of the numbers of species and individuals seen. At Yauco 391 birds belonging to 35 species were listed in four hours in traversing a distance of 5 miles. Near Lares 335 individuals of 27 species were seen on

an area approximately the same size.

As a result of examining the stomachs of more than 2,200 birds, the investigators found many varieties which feed upon the "changa," the sugar-cane root borer, the May beetle, and other destructive insect pests. The "changa," or mole cricket, without doubt one of the most injurious insects in Porto Rico, was found to be eaten by 21 species of birds. The sugar-cane root borer, known also as the orange leaf-weevil, was included in the dietary of 17 species.

Among the common birds found in Porto Rico, the investigators found none which may be called wholly pernicious. The small bird-eating Accipiter is certainly injurious, and its larger relative, the red-tailed hawk, is troublesome when it acquires a taste for poultry. Certain other species, while to some extent destructive, make up for their damage in other ways. It is asserted that birds do some damage to ripening coffee berries by eating the sweet pulp surrounding the inner berry, but as yet this charge is unsubstantiated. The damage, says bulletin, is apparently done by rats which, being unseen, are not suspected, the birds getting the blame for the misdeeds of the rodents. Many species of birds, such as woodpeckers, flycatchers, cuckoos, and others, are of great benefit in the coffee plantations. A few birds, the oriole and spindalis, for instance, were seen eating oranges, but in every case they attacked only wild fruit that was dead ripe and beginning to soften. The honey creeper came to sip the juice when the oranges were once broken open. Quail-doves pecked open the rotting sweet oranges for the seeds as they lay on the ground, but no birds were found attacking sound cultivated fruit in the citrus groves. Insectivorous species in feeding about the trees destroy in-

numerable pests and assist in keeping the trees clean.

#### How To Increase the Birds.

One of the first steps in an attempt to increase bird life in Porto Rico, say the investigators, is to provide adequate legal protection both for the birds and for their nests and to make sure that the laws are properly enforced. As an aid in the enforcement of protective laws no method is more available, they say, than the education of school children. If they are taught to look on birds as friends and not to disturb them, many a brood of young that otherwise would be destroyed will reach maturity. Courses in nature study have been found interesting and profitable wherever undertaken in elementary schools, and will prove especially so in Porto Rico.

That birds need shelter as well as protection will not be questioned and owners of plantations should look carefully to providing this if it is not already present. A long level stretch of cane or tobacco, with not a tree or other obstruction to break its continuity, offers little encouragement to the bird in search of shelter and food. A similar stretch of cultivated land, with lines of symmetrical royal palms or cocoanuts along the roadways and dense clumps of bamboos adorning the borders of streams, while not losing any of its productiveness, will provide an attracting feeding ground for birds which will more than repay the owner in the great numbers of injurious insects they consume.

The martin, which nests in natural cavities in trees or in crevices about buildings in towns, might be attracted to the country if nesting boxes were provided. A hollowed-out calabash on a pole would be as readily accepted as a more pretentious mansion capable of housing several pairs, but the shelter should in all cases be

placed in an open location with a free sweep on all sides and well elevated.

---

#### Just Some Notes From Kansas.

Taxidermists attention. Some weeks ago I had occasion to mount a mother bat and three young. Two of the young were to be hung up asleep and the third was to be in the act of obtaining nourishment from its mother. So far so good. But, how is the female to be hung up while its young is feeding? Upside down in conventional bat sleeping position, or hanging by the thumbs on her wings?

Whether this last is right or wrong, I have hung her that way but I would like to know for sure.

---

I do not remember who it was who told me or where I got the idea that the common domestic pigeon never alights in trees. It was proven beyond a doubt that this was not always so, at least. The pigeons on a farm in Johnson County spend a good deal of their time in several oak trees near the barn where the pigeons nested. And the farmer told me that these birds have done this for years.

---

On the afternoon of June 15 (1919) while I was painting a large barn, I noticed several Bank Swallows flying about the lot with an occasional Barn Swallow in their midst. One of the former alighted on the ground an instant but was up again before it had closed its wings, and when this was repeated a couple of times, I became curious and investigated. A small, downy feather had caught in the mud and was stuck pretty fast.

I went back to work but watched the bird until it finally pulled the feather loose and flew riverward—a good half mile away—to where I knew a colony of these birds to be nested.

What I thought was remarkable in this was that after each try at the feather, the swallow would sail about for nearly five minutes before attempting again. Its actions reminded me of a plane whose pilot was endeavoring to locate some camouflaged object.

Oct. 5, 1919. A flock of about a hundred Night Hawks were observed on the evening of October 4, 1919, flying in a north-easterly direction. During the night the temperature dropped fifteen degrees.

Ralph J. Donahue,  
Bonner Springs, Kansas.

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#### An Autumn Jaunt.

Recently I went for a short hike over the wooded hills that flank the Kaw Valley in these parts, to get an inside on the workings of nature as fall comes on.

Colors of red, orange, yellow, russet and brown had begun to show among the trees and shrubs, beautifully displaying the handiwork of Jack Frost. The hickory and walnut trees had a more abundant yield this fall than usual, and when I was quiet awhile the red squirrels with an occasional gray, came slipping out to begin the gathering of their winter's supply where they had been interrupted by my approach in their domain.

Blue Jays were plentiful and kept just ahead of me with their screechings so that any of the wild folk that might be in the neighborhood, would know that I was about. While the Crows were not over plentiful, I was, at no time out of hearing of their call, and I feel that though no other creature is in sight or hearing, the woods are not deserted if I but can hear the familiar call of the Crow.

Oftimes I pause in my work during these October days, when the voice

of the Crow comes to me from these hills, and I forget for a time, my paint brush and the smell of turpentine and lead, and seem to find myself removed to a wood where life and the world is new. Something stirs within me as though in response to a primeval calling.

But to get back to my hike.

Ever and anon I found evidences where I had failed to use my eyes properly during the spring and summer. Here, for instance, in a bush is unmistakably the nest of the Chewink, and there out on the limb of a scrub Black Jack is a nest once belonging to a Vireo, while the empty cradle of the Baltimore Oriole hangs near the top of a stunted cottonwood, and under the ledge or rock along the bank of a now dry stream, is a nest built by a Phoebe.

(I might here add that while examining this last nest, I came near striking my face against a large and well populated nest of the paper wasps hanging from the rocky ledge, and then and there decided that my presence was required farther up the creek).

O, the woods hold much of interest to the lover of nature at this time of the year, and it does one good to get away even for a hike as short as this one occasionally.

Ralph J. Donahue,  
Bonner Springs, Kansas.

Oct. 22, 1919.

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#### Concerning Chimney Swifts.

I never saw so many Chimney Swifts at one time as gathered about the grade school here in town, in the early evenings of the latter part of August and during the month of September. Before the sun was down, from all directions, could be seen the Swifts coming to this one location. Some would be flying low while others

were but mere specks in the evening's blue. And when the flock was the largest—just about twilight-fall—their exhibitions of flight was a marvel to the eye.

Thousands of birds there were, flying about with no apparent leader. Up and back, round and round they would go, and to keep from "side-slipping" on these fast turns, instead of "banking steeply" as a plane must do, they would commence a rapid fluttering of the wings. Now they would sweep over the building in one grand rush, the flock breaking in two to the left and right; a short distance beyond, after they had swung back, they meet again in a mass of whirling and twisting birds, resembling nothing so much as autumn leaves whirled about by a lively breeze.

All the time these flights are going on, birds could be seen flying head-long into the mouth of one of the big furnace chimneys. Some, failing to get a foothold, would come back out for a swing around again and another try. The last bird would generally be inside by the time darkness fell and one wonders how all those active little creatures could find a place to cling on the sooty interior of the great chimney. And would not there be a great confusion if a net should be placed over the top before they came out on the morrow—quite a kiddish thought, that, is it not?

The first week in October found the Swift flock greatly diminished and by the 15th they were all gone.

Ralph Donahue,  
Bonner Springs, Kansas.

Oct. 20, 1919.

#### The Curiosity of the Wood Ducks.

On October the fourth I was up the lake about five miles, hunting Fox Squirrels, I came to a nice grove of squirrel timber near the lake shore, I

saw where the squirrels had been cutting acorns and pecans, so I sat down here and kept a sharp lookout for a squirrel to show up. While I was here a pair of Wood Ducks lit out in the water about three hundred feet from shore. There was lots of dead timber all through the water where they lit. But they could be easily seen from time to time. so I thought to myself that I would make a noise with my mouth and scare them. I made all kinds of racket and different sounds; the more racket I made the closer they would come to the bank. The female was in the lead, with the drake following. I sung them a song and closer they came. I whistled them a tune. I hollered at them, quacked like ducks and everything that you could think of. They would not fly away, but came right up to the bank and took a look at me. I was sitting down and they could not figure out what I was. So I said, "Well, I am going to scare them somehow." I popped my hands together and the female said "Let's go, mate," and away they flew, squaking for five minutes after they flew up. This proves, no matter how wild any duck is, it can be decoyed by a curious note, and they will come up to investigate at the risk of their life.

Ramon Graham,  
Lake Worth,  
Tarrant Co., Tex.

#### A Snake Story.

Some doubting Thomases may not be inclined to believe the story, but C. M. Wells, Belen, N. M., says that the gratitude of New Mexico rattlesnakes is quite well known, and to substantiate Mr. Smith's story he relates the following:

While doing certain topographical work along the line of the Eastern Railway of New Mexico, Jerry Mosko-



vitz, an instrument man, noticed the rattle population was being rapidly depleted by the paisanos, (Road-runner), and he frequently witnessed battles royal between the bird and the reptile. Crossing a sandy waste one day, Moskovitz came upon a particularly fine specimen of snake fighting for its life, and without any ado went to the rescue, driving off the bird.

The snake, evidently, thinking that it had found a friend for life, followed him into camp and made a home in one of Jerry's old boots. Now Jerry is a particularly sound sleeper, alarm clocks notwithstanding, and this the snake soon noticed, so, festooning himself on the head of Jerry's bed, he thrust his head into the sleeper's watch pocket, so as to get the correct time, hung his tail by Jerry's ear and promptly began to rattle at 5 a. m.

Jerry has now become famous for his early rising.—Clipping from A. F. Ganer, Nashville, Tenn.

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#### Texas Bird Notes.

Oct. 10. Three large bunches of geese came in from the north and flew over my camps. I said to a friend of mine that it would be cool weather soon. And it was cool weather before dark. When a bunch of geese shows up at Lake Worth this time of the year you can always bet on cool weather.

One morning the Barn Swallows came over camps by the thousands; they were flying north, and it surprised me to see them going north instead of south, but it was not very long until a big rain storm came up from the south. Then after the rain got the wind changed to the north and it got cool, then the Swallows came back by camps flying south. The birds seem to know when the weather is going to be bad. Swallows are spending most of their time at pres-

ent flying back and forth over the lake, they can be seen by the thousands dipping down to the water all around the lake.

Six big American White Pelicans were observed the other day, down in the big waters. Several single Pelicans have been noticed at times.

Ten Blue Jays were seen in one bunch headed south.

All kinds of Terns and Gulls are coming in and departing every day.

Blue Herons are plentifully scattered over the lake.

Pied-billed Grebes showed up a week ago but all are gone now.

Two American Osprey were observed flying over the lake. They have been here several days.

To date, Oct. 15th, the Ducks are not showing up yet to amount to anything, although not a day passes that several bunches of Ducks can be seen over the lake.

Ramon Graham,  
Lake Worth,  
Tarrant Co., Tex.

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#### Screech Owls.

At the country home of Dr. T. B. Hill of this city, about four miles from town and what is known as the Vaughn road, is a small grove of trees, mostly elms, which have been there since the settlement of that locality sometime prior to 1860. In this little grove, covering about three and one-half acres, was situated the home of the father of the present owner to which he moved shortly after his marriage in February, 1861. Mrs. Hill, recently deceased, states that shortly after she went there, or about the 1st of May, 1861, she remembers a Screech Owl's nest in a certain tree in the grove. The Owls have continued to nest in the grove, from that time down to the present. The present owner recalls that there have been

a few nests in a tree in the extreme southern end of the grove, but the nest has been in this one particular tree, near to and immediately in front of the residence, nearly every year of his lifetime.

During the spring of 1918, Dr. Hill had all the trees scraped and the cavities filled, except the one in this particular tree, in which was found a nest and three eggs, with the Owl setting. The workman who filled the cavities lifted the bird from the nest, partly closed the cavity, both above and below her nesting place, cut a new entrance for her and returned her to the nest without the least disturbance of her incubating operations. The little ones remained in the vicinity for several weeks, and in fact were noted there as late as September 5th. During the late spring of 1919 the same cavity housed a nest.

I thought this fact interesting inasmuch as several members of the family are positive that this same cavity has been used nearly every year, as an Owl's nest since the home situated in 1861, and in those years in which the nest was not in this tree, it was the one not over 100 feet away.

Peter A. Brannon,  
Montgomery, Ala.

#### Getting Even With Mrs. Killdeer

Although I had arrived at somewhere near that rather mystical period of life termed middle age, I have broken from all my past traditions. I have become a feudist. I, who have shone refulgent as a member of Mr. Ford's late pacificatory mission, had I been better known to fame, have sworn a deadly, yet undying vendetta. And this is how it all came about.

One day last spring I started out for a walk up the railroad track leading out of our little village. I was at peace with myself, with the world, and

with most of all creatures contained therein, so far as I knew, and life never had seemed more pleasant or more promising.

But before I had gotten fairly out of the yards the rude awakening came, in the shape of a fluttering specimen of, (I almost said humanity), *Aegialitis Vociferous*—in common parlance except Mrs. Killdeer who was laboriously dragging herself over the ties a few feet ahead of me. I noted sympathetically her seemingly helpless condition and stooped to pick her up, with no intention but to see if something could be done to alleviate her crippled condition.

Now, to me, it was a very strange thing that happened. For when I placed my hand on her she was elsewhere. She was about six feet away, and evidently was suffering from a broken wing. It seemed a pity to leave her to the tender mercies of the first prowling feline that chanced along, so I speeded up a little and again essayed to come to her rescue. But Mrs. Killdeer seemed a trifle coy about being rescued, and once managed to slip through the dragnet of my fingers. She stopped, exhausted, a few feet farther on, and I now noted that it was the other wing that was broken, and that she also showed marked symptoms of rheumatism, with a slight trace of infantile paralysis.

In her thus decrepit condition it seemed clear that this was a case for the immediate application of the principles of Oslerism. With this benevolent purpose in view I trotted along the ties, and soon came up with the afflicted one, this time sure of making my capture. But here again my sensibilities received a jolt. For, as Mrs. Killdeer crept on ahead of me, I perceived that all of my former diagnoses had been erroneous, and that the real trouble with her was that she had

been in bad company, or else had been keeping late hours. For her condition clearly indicated that she had reached that advanced stage of intoxication which is described as "sociably inebriated."

She staggered, she fell, she recovered herself and reeled about, but always out of reach. She uttered unintelligible sounds and seemed rather inclined to hilarity. And finally, to my utter confusion, after having led me for six or eight rods down the track, conducting myself all the time in such a way that I must have appeared ridiculous to the chance observer, she suddenly came to a complete recovery of her full powers and winged her way into the distance, hurling behind her anathema and disdain.

I pocketed my chagrin as best I could, shook my fist at the the now jubilant deceiver, and retracing my steps to a point about five rods back of the spot where the pseudo-invalid had first appeared. I crouched behind some convenient tile and awaited developments. Nor had I long to wait. Very soon the erstwhile paralytic descended to the track and ran nimbly along the ties, uttering her mournful "D-E-A-R, dear, dear," which no doubt indicated her complete sympathy for gullible state of mankind in general.

She ran about ten or twelve feet, then paused for an instant to note whether she was observed, I suppose. But I remained under cover, for I was incensed at the treatment I had received. Soon she made another dash forward, with waning sympathy for the untutored state of man, and finally the sounds died out altogether and Mrs. Killdeer came to rest just ten inches outside one of the iron rails and disappeared.

Realizing that my stalking was at an end, I arose and walked leisurely

up the track, keeping my eye fixed on the spot where my victim had apparently vanished. Suddenly a brownish white streak shot a few feet up the track, close to the ground, and again I beheld that same little imposter, throwing epileptic fits and three different kinds of convulsions, and apparently afflicted with all the ailments that every kind of flesh is heir to. But I have never been a rolling stone, and I was not to be beguiled again by the same realistic mendacity or wendacium realism. I soon reached the spot she was so anxious for me to pass by and there, close to the rail, and lying in a slight depression in the gravel, were four speckled eggs, surrounded by half a dozen blotched pebbles, their equal in size, and almost indistinguishable from them.

As the incubation was certain to be interrupted in such surroundings, I added the set to my rather meagre collection without a qualm, and I felt that, all things considered, matters between Mrs. Killdeer and myself now stood about fifty-fifty for points.

But it would seem that Mrs. Killdeer was not altogether satisfied with my division of the honors. I presume that from her view point I had snuffed out the careers of four other little promising prevaricators, which doubtless seemed ample justification to her for the annoyance I was subjected to throughout the summer. For so surely as I would come anywhere within range of the Killdeer habitat, some member of the family would instantly take wing, screaming at the top of his voice, "Here comes the long-legged six foot egg-stealer! Let's make it warm for him." And then the insults would begin to come from all sides, and if I ventured down to the shore there would appear several members of the family, in various stages of decrepitude, each with some acrimonious aspersion on his tongue's end, twitting

me not alone of crime but also of stupidity. For, search as I would, I could not find another nest, although I was absolutely certain there were others in the neighborhood.

They made it so uncomfortably for me that for a time I avoided them altogether, so far as I could. But one day, when I was strolling along a country road, fully one-half a mile from where any self-respecting Killdeer would take up his abode, I was startled by the old familiar cry coming over the meadows. Soon one of my unrelenting enemies was over my head, screaming at the top of his voice, "Egg-stealer! Egg-stealer, Egg-stealer!" (Some would say it was "Killdeer, Killdeer, Killdeer, but I know better), I knew he had come from the slough a long distance off, and then it was I swore out my vendetta, and planned to circumvent my relentless enemies.

You remember I spoke of some speckled pebbles that surrounded the eggs I had so unceremoniously trephined. Thence came the inspiration. I then and there swore deeply that when the next nesting season should come around I would hunt up all the stones I could find, and would plant them in groups in promising spots in the Killdeer habitat, carefully marking each location. And so surely as I find one of my traditional enemies nesting in such location, I shall take steps to protect her from chance marauders, so that I may have my revenge. And for that revenge I have planned to go up there and throw angle-worms at Mrs. Killdeer whenever I happen to feel like it, even though she be right on the nest at the time.

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#### Humming Bird Joke

In April Jake Zeitlin and myself were scouting along the banks of Lake

Worth in search of Humming Birds' nests. When we would see a bird we would watch it because that was the only satisfactory way to find their nests. A Hummer came buzzing by and lit in a dead tree. They usually build in dead trees or dead branches around here, so we watched it. In a few minutes another Hummer appeared and went to pumping food into the one that we were watching. Then the mother bird flew to another part of the tree and lit by another young bird. We laughed, because it was a joke on us, watching a young bird expecting it to go to a nest. These young were as big as any Hummer I ever saw and was still depending on the old birds for food.

Ramon Graham.

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#### Kill 4397 Cats.

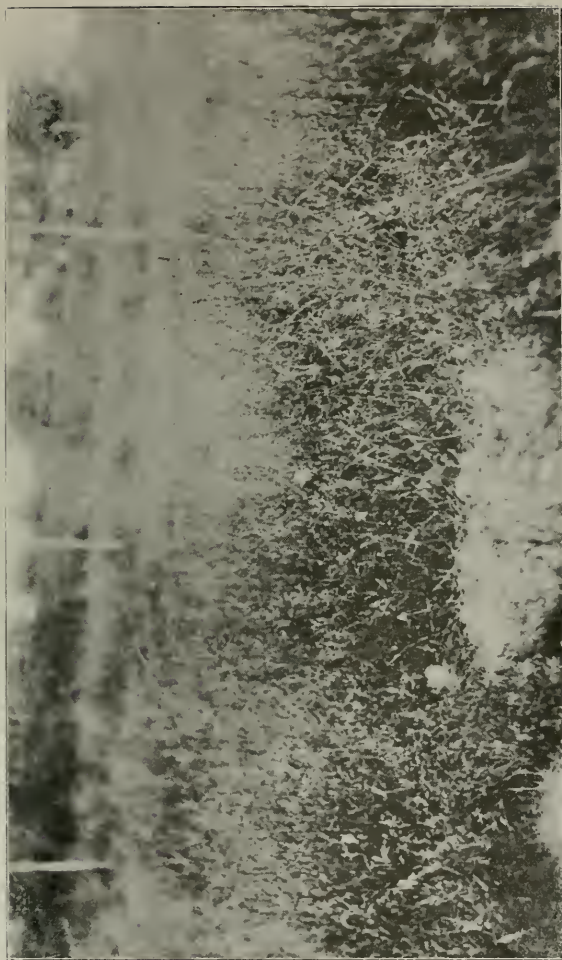
Los Angeles, July 20.—Conservation may be the reason for destruction of 4397 cats in Los Angeles during the past year. Obversely 15,603 dogs were licensed in the same period. The figures are taken from the annual statistical report of the Humane Animal commission, which reveals a useful record of productive work accomplished. Nearly 5,000 "large animals" have been examined, and 79 convictions for cruelty to animals obtained out of 84 arrests made. The financial statement shows a net balance of \$166,664.36.—San Jose Mercury.—W. A. Strong, San Jose, Cal.

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#### Bird Day.

May 4 is official bird day, and it is the one hundred and thirty-sixth anniversary of the birth of John J. Audubon, who is best known as a student and lover of birds. He said the song of the Wood Thrush moved him to prayer.—W. A. Strong, San Jose, Cal.





Nest and Eggs Covered When Left by Lesser Snow Goose at Home. June 9, 1919.  
—Photo by V. Lane.



Lesser Snow Gander at Nest on Home Place. June 9, 1919.  
—Photo by V. Lane.

### The Crested Flycatcher.

This spring my two small brothers constructed several bird houses out of box lumber and placed them about the yard in trees and on poles. One house had an opening plenty large enough for the entrance of the English Sparrow, yet this species of birds did not even try to build therein, to my knowledge. I wondered at this, for it is uncommon for *Passer domesticus*.

On the 28th of May I saw a Crested Flycatcher go inside the box and remain quite a while before it flew away. I had not then known of the fact that these birds sometimes build in prepared houses, and so thought the bird only curious to see what was inside. June 2, I saw some straws protruding through the doorway and asked one of my small brothers to climb up and tell me what he saw. "No," he said, "there are no eggs, but look what was in the nest." He held out a piece of snake skin. Right then I knew the Crested Flycatcher had begun to build, yet when she did that building I never knew, for up to this time I had seen the bird only once; and the box was in such a place as to be under my observation while I was home.

June 10. The bird flew out as I climbed up and I found five eggs in a nest in the right hand corner of the box. In the left hand corner was another nest containing several pieces of snake skin, while the whole of the box floor was covered to the depth of half an inch. I thought this queer proceedings.

On June 14th, I again climbed up to see how things were getting along. I found the box had not been fastened solidly and had shifted to one side. No bird was about or in the box. One egg was in the nest and another was against the front wall; both in a bad

state, I later found, and no trace of the other three in evidence.

The nest containing the eggs was lined with feathers and horse hair, but the other nest was unlined; neither being much the worse for being deserted.

I can only guess what happened to nest and bird and my guess is simply "*Felis domestica*."

Ralph J. Donahue,  
Bonner Springs, Kansas.

Oct. 5, 1919.

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### NOTICE.

We are out of copy.

—Editor.

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STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, management, circulation, etc., required by the act of Congress of August 24, 1912, The Oologist, published monthly at Albion, N. Y., for October, 1919. State of Illinois, County of Marshall. Before me, a Notary Public in and for the state and county aforesaid, personally appeared R. M. Barnes, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the owner, editor and publisher of The Oologist and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443. Postal Laws and Regulations.

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business manager are: Publisher, R. M. Barnes, Lacon, Ill.; Editor, R. M. Barnes, Lacon, Ill.; Managing Editor, R. M. Barnes, Lacon, Ill.; Business Manager, R. M. Barnes, Lacon, Ill.

2. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the six months preceding the date shown above is 650.

R. M. BARNES.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this first day of November, 1919.

[Seal] VIVA LESTER.

(My commission expires Jan. 18, 1920.)

**Bird Houses.**

Minneapolis, Minnesota, stimulated interest in the building of bird houses by a bird-house show. The price of admission was one bird house. Prizes were given for the seven bird houses declared to be the best. They were

divided into the following classes: The most attractive, the best bird shelter, the best observation house, the best combination house, the best arranged house, the best feeding box, and the best drinking fountain.—Classmate.—W. A. Strong, San Jose, Cal.

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R. M. Barnes, Lacon, Ill.

**Agassez Bulletin.** Buffalo, N. Y., 1885. All except Vol. I, No. 5.

**The A. A. Bulletin,** Gilman, Ill., 1890, Vol. I, No. 3.

**The Agassi Record,** Oskaloosa, Ia., 1888, Vol. I, Nos. 3 and 4.

**American Magazine of Natural Science,** 1892-3, Vol. I, Nos. 4 and 6; Vol. II, No. 1.

**The Agassiz Companion,** Wyondotte Ks., 1886, Vol. I, all but No. 2; Vol. II, all but 3-5-6-10; Vol. III, all but 1-5-10-11-12.

**Amateur Naturalist,** Ashland, Maine, 1903-6, Vol. I, all; Vol. II, all; Vol. III, all except Nos. 1 and 4.

**Bear Hill Advertiser,** Stoneham, Mass., 1903, Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 3, and all after No. 4.

**American Osprey,** Ashland, Ky., 1890, Vol. I, No. 6.

**The Buckeye State Collector,** Portsmouth, O., 1888, Vol. I, Nos. 4 and 6.

**Bulletin of the Oologists Assn.,** Omaha, Nebr., 1897. All except No. I, Vol. 1.

**California Traveller and Scientists,** 1891-2, Vol. I, all except No. 5; Vol. II, all except No. 3 and all later issues.

**The Collector,** West Chester, Pa., 1891, Vol. I, all; Vol. II, all except Nos. 1-2-3.

**The Collector,** Des Moines, 1882, Vol. II, all except Nos. 6-7-8.

**Collectors Journal,** Fayetteville, Ia., 1901, Vol. I, all except No. 2.

**The Collectors Monthly,** Newburg, N. Y., 1893, Vol. I, Nos. 2-3-4.

**Collectors Notebook,** Camden, N. Y., 1903-4, Vol. I, all; Vol. II, all except Nos. 2 and 6.

**The Curio,** Benson, Maine, Vols. I, II, III, IV, VI.

**Collectors Monthly,** Philadelphia, Pa., 1888. All except Vol. I, No. 1,

**The Collectors Monthly,** Oakland, Calif., 1911. All published except Nos. 2, 3 and 4 of Vol. I.

**The Curio Exchange,** New Kamilche, Wash., 1901-2, Vol. I, No. 4 and Vol. II, 3 and all after.

**Empire State Exchange,** Water Valley, N. Y., 1889, Vol. I, all except Nos. 1-5-10; Vol. II, all except Nos. 1 and 2; Vol. III, all except Nos. 2-3-4; Vol. IV, all except 1-2-3-4.

**The Exchange,** Quendota, Ill., 1889, Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 4.

**The Exchange,** Adrian, Mich., 1885, Vol. I, Nos. 1-2-4-5.

**The Exchangers Monthly,** Vol. IV, complete, 1888.

**Exchanger and Collector and Exchangers Aid,** 1885, Canaljohorie, N. Y., all except Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 2.

**Forest and Field,** Gillertville, N. Y., 1892, all except Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 5.

**Golden State Scientist,** Riverside, Calif., 1886, Vol. I, No. 1. The Suppressed copy.

**The Guide to Nature Study and Nature Literature,** Stanford, Conn., Vol. I, No. 12; Vol. II, all after No. 7; Vol. III, IV, V; Vol. IV, Nos. 1 to 8 and No. 10. Also issues of March, Nov. and Dec. 1909 and from Jan. 1910 to Dec. 1913, inclusive and March 1914 and July 1915 to Jan. 1916 inclusive.

**The Hummer,** Nebraska City, Neb., 1899-1900, Vol. I, Nos. 3 and 4.

**Iowa Ornithologist,** Salem, Ia., 1895-7, Vol. IV, No. 3.

**Kansas City Naturalist,** Kansas City, Mo., 1886-91, Vol. 5, No. 10.

**The Kansas Naturalist,** Topeka, Ks., 1902, Vol. I, all except No. 2.

**The Maine O. and O.,** Garland, Me., 1890-1, Vol. I, Nos. 5-6-7-12; Vol. II, No. 1.

**The Naturalist,** Kansas City, Mo.,



1890, Vols. I, II, III and Vol. IV except Nos. 6-8 and 10.

The Natural History Collectors Monthly, 1893, Vol. I, except Nos. 1-2-3-4.

The Naturalists Companion, Branchport, N. Y., 1885, Vol. I, No. 1.

The Naturalists Journal, Frankfort, and Phila., Pa., 1884, Vol. I, Nos. 4 and 7; Vol. II, Nos. 1-2-3-4.

Nature Study Review, Chicago, Ill., All issues prior to No. 45; also Nos. 46, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 72, 74, 93, 94 and 117.

The Observer, 1889-1917, Vol. I, all except Nos. 1-2-3-6; Vol. II, all except No. 3; Vol. III, all except Nos. 2-45-6-7; Vol. IV, all except Nos. 2-3; Vol. V, Nos. 6-8-9-10-12; Vol. VI, Nos. 2-7-10-12; Vol. VII, Nos. 10-12; Vol. VIII, all except No. 4.

Ohio Naturalist, Ohio State University, 1889-1895, Vols. I-II-III and Vol. IV, No. 5 and all later issues.

The Old Curiosity Shop, Vol. IX, No. 6.

The Oologist and Botanist, Des Moines, Ia., Vol. II, Nos. 3-4-5.

The Oologist Advertiser, Danilsville, Conn., 1889-90, Vol. I, No. 1.

The Ornithologist, Twin Bluffs, Wis., 1885, Vol. I, No. 1.

The Oregon Naturalist, Eugene, Ore., 1891, Vol. II, No. 7.

The Owl, Glenn Falls, N. Y., 1885-6, Vol. I, all; Vol. II, all except Nos. 1 and 2; Vol. III, all except No. 2.

The Stormy Petrel, Quendota, Ill., 1890, Vol. I, Nos. 2 and 6

The Taxidermist, Hyde Park, Mass., 1907-14, all after Vol. II, No. 7.

The Valley Naturalist, St. Louis, Mo. 1878, all except Vol. I, No. 1.

The Weekly Oologist and Philatelist, all published except Vol. I, No. 2 and Vol. II, No. 2.

The Western Naturalist, Topeka, Ks., 1903, all issues except Vol. I, No. 1.

The Western Naturalist, Quadison, Wis., 1887-8, Vol. I, Nos. 7-9-10; Vol. II, Nos. 1-5-6.

The West American Scientist, San Diego, Calif., 1885 to 1902, Vol. I, all except Nos. 5-9-11; Vol. II, all except Nos. 15-21; Vol. III, all except Nos. 27-31; Vol. IV, all except Nos. 43-47-53; Vol. VI, Nos. 61. Vol. VIII, 66-68-69-70-71-72-73 and all after No. 139 except No. 158.

The Wisconsin Naturalist, Milwau-

kee, Wis., Vol. I., all except Nos. 5-6; All of Vols. II-III-IV and V; all of Vol. VI except No. 1; all of Vol. VII except Nos. 77 and 78; all of Vol. VIII except Nos. 79-81-82; all of Vol. IX except Nos. 87-88-89-90.

The Young Collector, Des Moines, Ia., 1881-2, all issues except Vol. I, No. 41; and Vol. II, Nos. 1-2-3.

The Young Naturalist, Galesburgh, Ill., 1884, Vol. I, all except Nos. 1-4-5.

The Young Ornithologist, Boston, Mass., 1885, Vol. I, No. 10.

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## MISCELLANEOUS.

FOR SALE—A High-class collection of Squirrels which I desire to dispose of before entering the American Army. E. H. HAMILTON, 614 Walnut St., Versailles Boro, McKeesport, Pa.

WANTED—Volumes 1 and 2 of Thorburn's British Birds. Very handsome price will be paid for these two volumes. ANSEL B. MILLER, Springs, Pennsylvania.

EXCHANGE—Will exchange mounted birds or skins for same; also desire foreign specimens. Have some Fox Squirrel skins to offer. O. M. GREENWOOD, Manchester, Ia.

WANTED—Bird skins—must be perfect; also small mammal skins. Good photographs of birds, birds eggs and nests and mammals in their nature situ. and haunts to be used in publication and with privilege to publish those you send. Can offer cash or good exchange. J. W. DANIEL Jr., Western State Hospital, Staunton, Va.

SALE or TRADE—Pair of field glasses. I want copy of Holland "Moth Book" or some other good book on moths. HUBERT R. WISWELL, Westbrook, Minn.

FOR SALE—Loggerhead Sea turtle, Embryos and hatched turtles, mixed stages \$3.00 dozen, small Octopus \$1.00 each. Other Maine specimens collected from Florida this past summer. H. AITKEN, Gen. Del., Philadelphia, Pa.

EXCHANGE—Funston Perfect (animal) Smoker, 20 Onedia Jump Traps (new), eggs in sets. Want eggs in sets and singles. LYLE D. MILLER, E. Claridon, Ohio.

FOR SALE—Live pupae of moths and butterflies. Price-list on application, for delivery November 1, 1918. Also entomological supplies of all kinds, LOUIS S. KOHLER, 47 Wagner Place, Hawthorne, N. J.

FOR SALE—Two handsome Virginia Red Cedar cabinets suitable for eggs or skins. Also one smaller Walnut Cabinet, cheap. WHARTON HUBER, Gwynedd Valley, Pa.

PERSONAL—Would like to become acquainted with active Oologist in New York City. Westchester Co., or nearby, with view to expeditions next spring. L. C. S. please write. RAYMOND FULLER, White Plains, N. Y., R. F. D. No. 1.

FOR EXCHANGE—Large showy India moths. Atacus Atlas. Antheraea Pernyi. Actias selene. Caligula cachara. (Selene lynx Hybrid) Also many natives. Want A No. 1 set of 288, 364. A. J. POTTER, East Killingly, Conn.

The Oologist is the best medium of exchange for Oologists Ornithologists etc., in the entire U. S.

WANTED—20 gauge aux. chambered for 32 Ex. Long. J. A. MUNRO, Okanagan Landing, B. C.

BOOKS WANTED—Orchids of New England, by Baldwin; Our Native Orchids, by Gibson; Ferns of North America by Eaton. Please state price. H. MOUSLEY, Hatley, Quebec. 1-1t

WANTED—One B. & L. Model C. double Dissolving Lens. New or second hand stereopticon Machine in exchange for personally collected specimens of Western Birds Eggs. Mrs. A. O. TREGANZA, No. 624 E. Sixth St. South, Salt Lake City, Utah. 1-2t

WANTED—Cash or exchange, vols. 1, 2, 3 of Ridgeway's BIRDS OF NORTH AND MIDDLE AMERICA—vols. 5, 7 of same series to offer. Also want first class compound microscope. H. S. LADD, 4354 McPherson, St. Louis, Mo.

WANTED—12 Gauge Double Barrel or repeating shot gun at moderate price. C. G. HART, East Berlin, Conn. Box 47.

WANTED TO BUY—Auk, vols. 1-32, odd numbers; Bird Lore, vols. 1-14; Oologist, Utica, vols. 1-5; Ornithologist and Oologist, all of vols. 6-12, vol. 13 title and index only, and vol. 15, no. 7; Young Oologist, vols. 1 and 2; Nidologist, vols. 1-4; Osprey, vols. 1-5, and vol. 1, new series; and all other amateur bird and natural history periodicals. ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY, State Capitol, Montgomery, Ala.

EXTRAORDINARY SALE—Bird Negatives, duplicate accumulations of fifteen years; crowded cabinets. Must be sold. Many very rare; all of interest. Four grades: \$ .50, \$1, \$1.50 per dozen; and Fifteen cents each, net. List for five cents, in stamps. After one month, to insure sale, prices will be reduced ten per cent per month, till all are sold. Better order NOW. P. B. PEABODY, Blue Rapids, Kansas.

SALE OR EXCHANGE—Condor Vols. I, 1-2; II, 3; XII, 1-6; XIX, 1. Nidologist, Vols. I, 4; III, 3. Osprey, Vol. III, 1-3-6. Jour. Me. Orn. Soc. Vol. 1, 1-2-4; III, 3; XI, 4. Wanted Condor, Vols. IV, 2-3-5; V, 5-6; VII, 1-2-3-5-6; XI, 4; XII, 3; XIV, 5; XX, 2-4-5-6. Auk, Vols. VI; IX, 4; X, 2-4. American Ornithology Vol. VI. Ornithologist and Oologist, Vols. VII; XI, all but 1 and 9. Bull. Mich. Orch. Club. Vols. 1, 1-2; II, 4; V, 1-3-4. H. M. JOHNSON, Pittsfield, Maine.

WANTED—One perfect skin with skull, for mounting purposes and with data of the following mammals: Brown Lemming, Banded Lemming, Kangaroo Rat, Little Chief Harear Cone, Black Footed Ferret, Fox Squirrel, Douglas Squirrel, Golden Chipmunk, Marten or Pine Marten Woodrat. Also others. Will pay cash. K. B. MATHES, Batavia, N. Y.

**THE CONDOR**

**A Magazine of Western  
Ornithology**

Published Bi-monthly by the

**Cooper Ornithological Club of California**

Edited by J. Grinnell and Harry S. Swarth

"The Condor" is strictly scientific but edited in such a way that a beginner of "Bird Study" can easily understand it.

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# THE OÖLOGIST.

BIRDS--NESTS--EGGS

TAXIDERM Y

VOL. XXXVI. No. 12.

ALBION, N. Y., DEC. 1, 1919.

WHOLE No. 892



## BRIEF SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wanted, Exchange, For Sale, Etc., inserted in this department at 25 cents for each 25 words for one issue; each additional word 1 cent. No notice inserted for less than 25 cents.

We will advertise the skins, nests, eggs, or mounted specimens of North American Birds for sale for persons having a lawful authority under the law to deal in the same. These columns are for the use of those desiring to make bona fide exchanges of such specimens for scientific collecting purposes only.—EDITOR.

In answering advertisements in these columns mention "The Oologist," and thereby help us, as well as the advertiser and yourself.

## BIRDS

Send me the list of A 1 Bird Skins that you have to dispose of by exchange or otherwise. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

FOR EXCHANGE—A large list of A1 North American species of skins for specimens needed in my collection. C. W. CHAMBERLAIN, 36 Lincoln St., Boston, Mass.

ALL PERSONS having A-1 skins in pairs of any of the North American Jays send list. I will pay the highest price for those that I need. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

EXCHANGE—Collection of North American Birds. Containing four hundred and twenty-three species and subspecies. Represented by thirteen hundred and sixty specimens. PHILIP LAURENT, 31 East Mt. Airy Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.

WANTED—A pair of living Sand Hill Cranes A. O. U. No. 306, taken north of the center of the U. S. If the birds are only slightly wingtipped this will not matter. For them I will pay a good price. R. M. Barnes, Lacon, Ill.

EXCHANGE—Fine sets of eggs and nests for birds skins from south and east. STANLEY G. JEWETT, Pendleton, Oregon.

FOR EXCHANGE:—Large well-mounted Golden Eagle and American Bittern. I am interested in all Natural History specimens. Write. WALTER STUCK, Jonesboro, Ark.

DATA BLANKS—Send for sample of my data blanks, with your name printed on it. 500 for \$1.00 postpaid. EDWARD S. COOMBS, 243 Franklin St., Boston, Mass.

WANTED to Exchange sets with reliable collectors. Or will purchase. Send lists and prices. G. B. REGAR, 1000 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

WANTED—One or more sets of A. O. W. 636. Can offer good sets of 325, 343 or 364 in exchange or cash. R. P. SHARPLES, West Chester, Pa.

SWANSON'S WARBLERS Sets with nests. Who wants them in exchange for other species? Send list in full. DR. M. T. CLECKLEY, Augusta, Ga.

The following first class skins offered: 132, 139, 146, 147, 148, 149, 151, 153, 221, 223, 230, 239, 241, 242, 254, 255, 256a, 379a, 393a, 394b, 401a, 402a, 413, 433, 468, 478c, 478d, 488b, 498f, 508, 510, 518, 524a, 529a, 540a, 554a, 567f, 581f, 588a, 607, 618, 652b, and other western species. J. A. MUNRO, Okanagan Landing, B. C.

## EGGS.

In sending in your exchange notices for nests, skins and eggs, we would appreciate it if you would arrange the numerals in your exchange notice in their numerical order, and not tumble them together hit and miss, as some of our readers are complaining, and we think justly so.

WANTED—Entire collection of Eggs of North American Birds for spot cash. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

EXCHANGE for sets with data. Personally taken while an Officer "Over There." Helmites, (plain spiked), Genuine Iron Crosses, German wound Mitols, etc. GEO. MASON, 1301 So. Lake St., Ft. Worth, Texas.

Will be glad to hear from reliable collectors and to receive their lists. Have good list to offer including some rare species. RICHARD C. HARLOW, State College, Pa.

FOR SALE—Trumpeter Swan's egg, from Minnesota: Perfect specimen, very abnormal. Will consider cash offer only. ALBERT LANO, Fayetteville, Ark.

FOR EXCHANGE—15 1-1; 31a 1-1; 105.2 1-1, 107 1-1, 108.1 1-1; 116 1-1; 197 1-4; 464 1-4; 474i N-2; 475 1-5; 486 1-5; 533 1-3; 538 1-4; 543 1-3; 560a N-4; 574.1 N-2; 604 1-4; 615 N-5; 622a 1-5; 629a N-4; 646a N-4; 726c N-6, N-5; 741 N-6; 743 N-7; 748a N-7, N-5. J. H. BOWLES, The Woodstock, Tacoma, Wash.

FOR SALE—A few personally taken sets of Nova Scotia birds eggs. I hold a collecting and shipping permit issued in accordance with the Bird Treaty. R. W. TUFTS, Wolfville, Nova Scotia.

FOR DISPOSAL—A large and extensive collection of Birds' Eggs from Europe and America. Send 3c stamp for complete list. DR. CLECKLEY'S MUSEUM, Augusta, Ga.

WANTED—An entire collection of North American Birds Eggs in sets with full data. Send full list to W. A. STRONG, 41 Grand Ave., San Jose, Cal.

FOR EXCHANGE—A1 personally collected sets of Mississippi Kite, Swainson's Hawk, White-necked Raven, 5-6, 3-7, Black-crested Titmouse 1-6, and many others. Want your complete lists of duplicates. E. F. POPE, Box 301, Albuquerque, N. Mex.

Stereopticon and 200 slides for exchange for sets or skins. R. SELL, 2117 Common St., Houston, Texas.

# THE OÖLOGIST.

VOL. XXXVI. No. 12

ALBION, N. Y., DEC. 1, 1919.

WHOLE NO. 392

*Owned and Published Monthly, by R. M. Barnes, Albion, N. Y., and Lacon, Ill.*

## TAKE NOTICE.

SUBSCRIPTION, 50 CENTS PER YEAR

Examine the number on the wrapper of your Oologist. It denotes the time your subscription expires. Remember we must be notified if you wish it discontinued and all arrearages must be paid. 378 your subscription expires with this issue. 377 your subscription expired with December issue 1918. Other expirations can be computed by intermediate numbers at the rate of one number per month.

Entered as second-class matter December 21, 1903, at the post office at Albion, N. Y., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

1919—Volume XXXVI

This issue of THE OOLOGIST is the last for the year 1919, and likewise closes volume XXXVI. We want to thank our friends for their encouragement and support during the past year. The Editor has labored under unusual difficulty this year in all matters relating to this magazine, the reason for which was not misfortune, but circumstances which will ultimately rebound for the benefit of all interested in our little publication. We have said nothing about it in our columns and shall not do so until one of these times in the not too far distant future, we will issue a special edition of THE OOLOGIST, giving in detail this cause. Until then you must wait the coming surprise, for surprise it surely will be.

As this issue goes to the press Ye

Editor with his wife boards the Santa Fe train for far away California, there December 13th to help celebrate at a family reunion the 86th birthday of the best mother on earth. One who has always from an early childhood, encouraged our bird study in every way. To our mother our readers owe much.

We will be back at Lacon and on the job January 1st, so do not worry if the first issue of 1920 should be a little late.

In the meantime get busy and renew your own subscription and also send THE OOLOGIST to some young friend of yours for a Christmas present.—The Editor.

## Note From the Printer

It is to be regretted that THE OOLOGIST is so late in appearing this month. This is no fault of the editor and publisher. Labor shortage in the printing department is the sole cause of delay.—The Printer.

Some Nesting Birds of the Palisades  
Interstate Park

Paper No. 3

By P. M. Silloway.

18. Redstart.—On June 12 a nest of the Redstart was found in the top of an apple tree alongside a stone wall bordering the public road in front of the Guest House. The nest was made in an upright crotch, about twelve feet from the ground, and on this date it contained two eggs, though the female had not yet begun incubation. The apple tree was a lure for Boy Scouts passing along the road, and we are sorry to state that the nest was deserted before the full complement of eggs were deposited. On June 18 I noted that no female was in evidence near this nest, though a male sang persistently within a hundred feet radius of the spot, his principal utterance being "Weet eweet eweet eweet." Later in the season I collected this nest, with two eggs addled.

19. Whip-poor-will.—On the morning of June 14, while exploring the ridge of scrub growth across from the Guest House, I chanced to disturb a female Whip-poor-will in the low laurel shrubs. She fluttered up weakly, half-scrambling over the low vegetation, stopping to face me with half-spread, drooping wings, acting much like a small owl. She kept uttering a mournful, guttural call like "Qui qui qui." Frequently she fluttered up from the shrubs and hovered momentarily near me, with flapping wings and guttural calls, never getting more than ten or twelve feet from me. I began careful search around the place she had first fluttered from, but could find neither eggs nor young.

Going some little distance back in the direction from which I had approached the spot, I sat down in plain view of the fancied location of the

nest. After a few minutes of patient endurance of insect pests, I was encouraged by seeing the bird flutter over the place I had in view, and she dropped into the laurels with an expression of contentment, the characteristic "Qui." I hurried to the spot, and again the same performance occurred, still I could find nothing that I was expecting. Again I withdrew, and again the female fluttered over and settled down with contented call. For the third time I hurried to the place, and after diligent scanning of the dead leaves of the scrub floor, I spied a brownish-yellow chick blinking sleepily on the leafy carpet, clad in fuzzy down, and giving evidence of its consciousness of my presence by a faint chick-like, plaintive "qui-eh." It was lying helplessly on the dead leaves between stems of low laurel, with no suggestion of a nest. Upon further search I found another downy chick about a yard away from the first. Both younglings lay with closed eye-lids, but opened them when their attention was momentarily aroused. Without disturbing the chicks, I hastened away for my camera, and returned to the place in about half an hour, finding the youngsters as I had left them, mothered by the female.

On the next afternoon I went over to the place where I had found the little Whip-poor-will family. She was in the same little area, but had moved about twenty feet from the exact spot where she was hovering her young on the preceding day. Since I had found the two young somewhat separated at my first discovery of them, I concluded that the change of location was due to the traveling of the young, for it appeared that they were just at the stage when they were disposed to crawl or flutter on the ground in preference to remaining in one particular place, and at no time did I find the two



chicks exactly together or side by side, they being usually at least a yard apart. A photo of one of the young Whip-poor-wills is given herewith.

20. Maryland Yellow-throat — On June 14, a nest of Maryland Yellow-throat was examined. It was in a large tussock of swamp-grass in water along the margin of Little Long Pond, near the Guest House. The nest was made in the middle of the base of the thick growth of grass stems, open above but completely surrounded by the grass. There were young in the nest, about ready to fly, and the female was hovering them when I approached. At leaving the nest the female crawled mouse-like between the grass stems and flitted to neighboring vegetation in the water before taking wing; then she chirped quietly in the stems of a nearby clump of saplings. This nest was made outwardly of dead leaf-fragments, coarse grass stems, and dried grass leaves, with small fine dried grasses for the lining. It was made with thick, loosely woven walls, with much loosely attached material.

21. Black-throated Blue Warbler. It is my pleasure to record in the columns of THE OOLOGIST the finding of a nest of the Black-throated Blue Warbler in the Hghlands. On June 16, while I was working on Hemlock Hill, near the Guest House, watching the actions of a family of Worm-eating Warblers just leaving the nest, a Black-throated Blue Warbler came into the scene of activity, probably attracted by the anxious chirping of the adult Worm-eating Warbler. The Black-throated Blue, a male in unmistakable plumage, uttered its characteristic song, "Zee zee zee zee, dee-e-e," the last syllable noticeably drawled and lengthened. After uttering a song or two quite near me, the songster flitted away along the little glen-like ravine whence he had come so unexpectedly.

The appearance of the Black-throated Blue Warbler at that place set me to thinking, and the next morning I wended my way up the hill to search for a warbler nest. I reached the ravine, which was a dry fairly well lighted glen, with a ground cover of laurel, swamp fern, weeds and hardwood sprouts. The ravine was set with yellow poplar, hemlock, beech, oaks, chestnut, and maple, with moosewood saplings, viburnum, and associated undergrowth. Soon I heard the male singing in the glen ahead of me. He sang only once or twice in each tree he visited and then flew to another tree farther along, thus keeping ahead of me. Finally I thought he had left the locality, but soon he came back singing along the glen as before, making a return trip, using stations in the tall trees for his utterances. Thus he made several trips up and down the ravine, and in time I was able to determine about the center of his singing activities, and I began to search the low shrubbery for a nest. In almost no time my eye caught sight of the prize I was seeking.

The nest of this Black-throated Blue Warbler was in chestnut sprouts, at the bases of two tall oak poles. The structure was fairly exposed, in a very slender forking sprout, the supporting sprout being strengthened by a stronger dead sprout. The nest was a strong structure, with compact walls made outwardly of coarse bark strip-pings and plant fibres, with some loosely hanging coarse bark and skeleton leaf fragments. Two eggs were in the nest, but no female was to be seen then, though the male was singing nearer at hand than before, paying little attention to my presence. I waited near the nest for about half an hour, during which period the male traveled up and down the ravine a half dozen times singing as before.

At length I heard a very faint "chip," and the female was peering at me from nearby saplings. She moved anxiously about, but the "chip" she uttered was so low and lifeless that I could scarcely hear it. Later four eggs constituted the nest complement, and the female began to incubate, but one morning when I visited the nest I found it empty and the birds nowhere to be seen. I never decided what happened to the eggs, but thus the nesting of this warbler that season ended disastrously, and I regretted that I had followed the advice of some well-meaning wiseacres in leaving the eggs for a later series of valuable observations upon the home life of these birds, which never materialized,—my birds had flown.

22. Red-winged Blackbird.—The Red-winged Blackbird is very common throughout the Park, in the marshy ends of the lakes and ponds. On June 19 I examined three nests of the Red-winged Blackbird, in the swampy end of Little Long Pond, near the Guest House, all in shallow water among low sprouts and tufts of water-grass. One nest was in a small shrub of button-bush about two feet high. The nest was set in the upright stems, about a foot above the water, exposed above so that the observer could look down into it. It was made of coarse grass stems, lined with finer grasses, with good depth in the cavity; there were three eggs in this nest. Another nest was in the same kind of shrub growing against a tussock of swamp grass. The third nest was in a tuft swamp-grass. All the nests were made after the same plan of structure, and each nest on that day contained three eggs. The birds that day made no unusual commotion when the nests were visited, the females merely flying away with harsh cackling, and continuing to scold at a respectful distance,

while the males contained their regular calls, songs, whistles, and flight movements.

23. Red-eyed Vireo.—On June 20 a nest of Red-eyed Vireo was found suspended from a fork of a chestnut sprout, the site being only about three feet from the ground, in the woods margin. The female was sitting on three incubated eggs.

24. Indigo Bunting.—The Indigo Bunting is common in all parts of the Park, frequently the bushy areas of road margins, pond-shores, and open patches of shrubbery. On June 20 I examined a nest of Indigo Bunting, found by the anxious chirping of the parent birds when I was near the site of the nest. It was in sprouts, on the sloping side of a little ravine near the main Tuxedo drive. It was made on oblique or bending stems, about three feet from the ground. When first examined it contained young birds, and later I collected the nest after it had served its purpose in harboring the brood. The side was in a blackberry shrub, and the nest was really saddled on drooping stems. It was a bulky structure, made of coarse material, such as soft dead leaves, weed-stems and grasses, woven into thick compact walls, with a lining of soft dried grasses of brownish hue.

25. Maryland Yellow-throat.—On June 24 a nest of Maryland Yellow-throat was examined in a small birch-fern swamp near the Guest House. The site was in a clump of mixed sprouts of fern, dead birch, etc., about two feet from the ground. The nest was made of long dried grass-stems, large dead grass blades and fragments of dead leaves, with thick walls, deep cavity, and lined with fine dried grasses. One fresh egg was in the nest, and the female was sitting when disturbed.

(To be continued.)



Young Whip-poor-will in Palisades, N. Y.  
—Photo by P. M. Silloway

### The 2% of Failures.

As I read the various articles that came out in THE OOLOGIST, ninety-eight per cent of which are stories of success, I often think of the fine sets I didn't get. Many an hour of close hard searching of the ground bordering meadows and boggy pastures, have I put in searching for a Jack Snipe, nest and eggs. But after more than thirty-five years in the field all I have to show is a part of one egg shell, while a playmate and a boyhood friend of mine has found several nests and eggs of the Whip-poor-will and showed me exactly where and how they nested, I have never been able to find a set. A brother of mine has often found the eggs of the Night Hawk, but I have never been able to find a set.

Then again I have found five or six sets of Killdeer and four of American Woodcock, while I know of persons who have never found of either for themselves. I have found several nests of the Prairie Hen but never could find one of the Ruffed Grouse or Bob-white. Yet many a farmer has told me of Grouse and Quail nests they have found. Another elusive nest to me is the Least Bittern. Screech Owls and White breasted Nuthatch are among my common finds, while many a collector would give a lot for just one set of each of their own find. Just recently I read an article of a party who has found but one Belted Kingfisher's nest, and then not eggs. Well that is the kind I found once at least but many is the set of eggs I have dug out too. Every now and then I used to find a tiny nest in the clover or June grass with four or five very small white eggs covered thickly with fine pink specks, but now for years I have been unable to find any. Another bird that has always

eluded me with the nest is the Oven bird.

On page 49 last col. lines 29-30-31-32 for face read phase.

Geo. W. H. Vos Burgh.

Columbus, Wis.

### Among the Birds of the Virginia Coast

By B. F. Bales, M.D., Circleville, Ohio

To one who lives inland, far from the sea, a trip to the coast with its thousands of breeding sea birds is a never-to-be-forgotten experience. The writer spent the month of June, 1919, upon an island off the coast of Virginia, and this article is a chronicle of the nests observed.

The first day among the birds was spent upon a small crescent shaped island of sand, which for convenience we will call "Sandy Island." It is so slightly elevated above the sea level, that extra high tides sweep over it, and some years the whole population of young birds is destroyed.

There was a large colony of Common Terns breeding here, the nests being scattered over an area of several miles. Very little work in nest building is done by this species,—there is simply a hollow in the sand with a few bits of beach grass for a lining; some nests lacked even the few blades of grass. But very few complete sets of three eggs were seen on this date, (June 3rd), most of the nests containing but one or two eggs, although about twenty-five nests contained their full complement. A nest of the Oystercatcher containing three eggs with incubation far advanced was found on this date. The nest was simply a depression in the sand, sparingly lined with bits of sea shell.

Upon our return to the island that was to be my base of operations, a nest of the Osprey containing two badly incubated eggs was discovered,



fifty feet from the ground in a tall pine tree.

The next day, our trim little motor boat "The Comet" took us to an adjoining county, to a large marsh in quest of Laughing Gull nests. It took a large amount of marsh wading in soft sticky mud, to find a few nests of this species containing full complements, as local sea faring men and fishermen systematically rob the gull nests, using the eggs for food. They visit the colony on alternate days, destroying the eggs in all nests containing more than one egg, so that on their regular visits they will be sure of fresh eggs. I was told that parties from the mainland often took whole boat loads of eggs and sold them for ten cents a dozen. At any rate they earned their money, for marsh wading is exceedingly hard work. Most of the Gull nests are built along the edges of the hundreds of winding creeks that traverse the marsh in all directions, until they form such a labyrinth that a novice is soon bewildered. If a crazy blind man were given a pencil and a piece of paper he could not draw a more complicated and meaningless map than a true chart of this marsh would be.

The Gull nests are composed mainly of marsh grass and drift and are roughly conical in shape with a depression at the apex to contain the eggs. Of the large number of nests examined this day (June 4th), I doubt if there were more than twenty-five with full sets of three eggs each. A number of nests of Clapper Rail were examined with from eight to twelve eggs each, but most of them were on the point of hatching.

A few scattered groups of Forster's Tern nests were found containing full sets. This Tern builds a much better nest than does its cousin, the Common Tern. The nests are almost a com-

plete miniature of Laughing Gull nests, though built of finer materials. All nests found were built upon convenient piles of drift. There was a large number of these birds about and at a latter date, I found the main colony of perhaps three hundred pairs, with the nests containing hatching eggs.

The next day was lost as far as bird work was concerned, for I had worn so many blisters on my feet that it was impossible to do much walking. The following day saw me again at "Sandy Island". Most of the Common Terns had full sets of three eggs. Black Skimmers were beginning to nest and I saw numbers of nests containing one or two eggs and one with a full set of four. These birds suffer worse from the depredations of eggers than do the Laughing Gulls, as it is much easier to pick up a basketfull of eggs from the sand, than it is to wade the marsh for them. While it is true that the eggs are smaller, the egger just takes more eggs. As is well known, the eggs are deposited in a shallow depression, wallowed out in the sand by the birds.

On the following day (June 7th) we went to a marsh that in 1917 contained about (as I estimated) one thousand nests of Laughing Gull and a large colony of Foster's Tern. It had been egged to such an extent that I saw less than a half dozen full sets of Gull eggs and but one of the Tern.

Landing at another island on the way back, I found a nest of Oystercatcher containing two eggs. This nest was much the prettiest one of this species I have ever seen. It was plentifully lined with bits of sea shell and had about its rim, long slender pieces of the same. It reminded me of the border of shells often seen about the edges of old fashioned flower beds.

I arrived back "home" in time to find a nest of Maryland Yellowthroat containing four eggs and a nest of Prairie Warbler, built about ten feet from the ground in a four pronged fork of a pine sapling. The four eggs that it contained were transformed into as many lusty youngsters on the following morning. It may seem strange to many collectors to find a nest of this species in such a location, but both parent birds were seen a number of times and the song of the male could be heard in the woods at almost any time during the day.

Bird nesting on the next day was limited to a stroll in the woods of the "home" island. On a sandy ridge with a sparse growth of sassafras and wild cherry trees, I found three nests of Crested Flycatcher, each containing five eggs.

On June 9th, we again visited the marsh where we were on the 4th. I was determined to have a good look into the Laughing Gull nests. My guide landed me upon the shore of the marsh, and gave me directions how to go to a part of the marsh that was so hard to reach that the eggers seldom molested the birds there. I started upon one of the hardest, grueling jobs of marsh wading I had ever undertaken. I would sink into the mud, almost to my knees with every step taken and in one place while crossing one of the hundreds of creeks, I sank into the mud up to my hips, and the worst feature of the job was there was no place to sit down and rest for a single instant. I had six hours of this and saw hundreds of nests containing three eggs and a number with two which evidently were full sets in such instances, as incubation had begun. The tide, which covers the marsh, when full, was beginning to come in, making the wading harder and the creeks fuller of water and

harder to ford, before I came to the shore and the waiting boat. To say that I was "all in," would express it mildly.

On June 12th, while coming away from the Black Skimmer colony, where several full sets of four were seen, Wilson's Plover was flushed from its nest which contained three eggs. No nest—simply a slight depression in the sand.

Two days later, my son and I were returning to the boat from a walk on another island, when I almost stepped upon a Willet as she flew from her nest containing four eggs. The nest was composed of dried beach grass, and was concealed under a growing bunch of grass.

On July 16th, we found two more sets of Crested Flycatchers, both of four eggs and two sets of Flicker of five and six eggs respectively, as well as a nest full of young Flickers just ready to leave the nest. One nest of Crested Flycatcher was composed largely of wing tips (bone included) and pieces of skin, with the feathers attached of the Knot, that had no doubt been illegally killed, for as late as June 9th, there were still small flocks of Knot and Turnstones upon the beaches, and I was told that they were being shot daily.

Other visits to "Sandy Island" on June 17th and 19th showed the effects of the eggers. Only at the farthest end, where the eggers would have to walk about five miles, were the Black Skimmers unmolested. Most of the nests at other places were empty or contained but one or two eggs. Another nest of Oystercatcher was seen; it contained two eggs and had no lining whatever, the eggs being laid in a depression in the sand. On the 19th, we found two more nests of Crested Flycatcher containing four and five eggs respectively. The Fly-



Nest and Eggs of the Piping Plover

—Photo by Dr. R. B. Bales

catcher, at least in this locality, seems to have a decided preference for sassafras trees, although I found nests in wild cherry and one in a cedar tree on the "home" island.

A couple of days later, we again visited the island where the Willet nest was found. A herd of half wild cattle, led by a belligerent bull and a large flock of sheep roam over it. We visited a medium sized colony of Black Skimmers, but the eggers had robbed it so often that the birds had given up in disgust, evidently finding it too hard work to fight both "man and beast." However we did find a nest of Gull billed Tern containing three eggs. The nest was well lined with bits of shell and short lengths of marsh grass stalks, and was well con-

cealed upon a shell strewn beach, well back from the water. This variety of Tern is the most pugnacious of the four varieties observed and will charge and dart at one repeatedly while near the nest and will follow the intruder for quite a distance, "cussing" him all the while; our guide said it was the "evilest" bird he ever saw.

Another trip was made to this same island on June 23d. After walking about four miles down the beach, our attention was attracted to a pair of Piping Plovers, who acted suspiciously. A careful search was rewarded by finding a nest containing three eggs. These did not look like Plover eggs, so we sat down upon the sand by the side of the nest, and were soon

made aware of the rightful owners of the nest, by being darted at by a pair of Least Terns. We again began our search for the Plover nest, but without avail.

After walking down the beach for another mile or two, and seeing nothing of interest, we returned and again began a search for the Plover nest, beating backward and forward across the beach until I finally remarked to my son that I guessed the Plovers had us "buffaloed". I had not walked ten steps forward until I saw the nest with its four beauties lying directly in front of us! The birds then put on an exhibition of being wounded and the like, such as a Killdeer does. We were fortunate in finding another nest of this species, containing three eggs, on July 6th.

On my visit to this same locality in 1917, when Mr. Harold H. Bailey was Federal Game Warden and Mr. William Doughty was local Warden, there was no eggng being done, and no shooting of beach birds during the spring migration, as both officers were doing their duty. At present, there is no warden worthy of the name in the whole district. The Black Skimmer colony on "Sandy Island" which in 1917, I estimated to contain between three and four thousand pairs, has dropped to such an extent that I doubt if it contains more than a thousand pairs.

Do birds ever lay more than one egg a day during the nesting season? In answer to the above, I wish to "report a case." On May 26th, 1918, I found the nest of a Red headed Woodpecker near the top of a solitary dead apple tree standing in a pasture field. Examination of this nest at about noon of the above date, showed the nest to be a new one, but contained no eggs. When examined on the afternoon of May 29th, it contained five

eggs. There was but little chance and no probability of any other female laying in the nest, as there were no others of the species about, and the tree, the only one in the pasture, was at least a quarter of a mile from any other tree.

It is very likely that the bird laid one egg on the 27th, two on the 28th and two on the 29th, or five eggs in three days. No matter how it is figured, there is at least one day in which two eggs were laid. Three of the eggs are slightly deformed by being somewhat crinkled at the smaller end, where the shell appears thinner.

I would like to hear through the columns of THE OOLOGIST from others in regard to the above query.

B. R. Bales, M.D.

Circleville, Ohio.

#### Bachman's Sparrow in Arkansas

H. E. Wheeler

Bachman's Sparrow is reported by Professor A. H. Howell\* as a rather rare and local Summer resident in Arkansas, and he records having secured a specimen of this species at Conway on June 7, 1910, and another at Camden on July 7th, of the same year. On June 22 he observed four or five birds at Hoxie, and states that on September 1st (1910?) Mr. Savage noted two birds at Delight. These are about all the records known.

The writer has found this bird rather common in suitable localities about Conway. Mr. A. F. Ganier, the Secretary of the Wilson Ornithological Club, has in preparation a paper on the habits of this species, and I offer here only a few notes which will serve as a corollary and explain the pictures herewith published.

Bachman's Sparrow is, like the Grasshopper Sparrow, rarely seen. It is to be located rather by its song which is quite entrancing and distinct.





Trumpeter Swans at the Editor's Home, Lacon, Ill., Dec., 1914  
—Photo by V. Lane

It prefers pastures and fields bordering cultivated land, and I have found it always near a wooded ridge on the southern slopes. The nests are extremely difficult to find. They are located very rarely by accident or the most diligent searching, but rather by patiently watching the female when she is building the nest or the parents when feeding the young. So very wary are the birds that sometimes it requires hours of watchfulness in concealment to ascertain even the direction in which a nest is located. The nest is made of the finest grasses, always domed, generally festooned in front with grass heads, and set either in tufts of grasses or under clumps of weeds completely camouflaged from view.

Once or twice I have located a nest in a cultivated field, but I have reason to suspect that the discovery of a nest, even though it is not disturbed, is a sufficient cause for the bird to desert it. The female does all the work of nestbuilding, and the male keeps an unknown distance from the nest. He rarely sings during the period of incubation near the nest, and then, apparently, only in the early morning. The female leaves the nest, if surprised reluctantly, and after the fashion of a Bob White. I have not yet succeeded however in securing a picture of the bird on the nest.

During the present season I have collected the nests and eggs of this species as follows:

May 31 Nest and three fresh eggs.

June 1 Nest and four eggs.

June 27 One egg from a deserted nest.

June 30 Nest and four eggs, fresh.

July 1 One egg found in a field. No nest in immediate vicinity.

July 11 Nest and four eggs in typical situation. Eggs were broken by

carelessness of person in whose care they were left.

July 21 Nest and four eggs, fresh.  
\*“Birds of Arkansas,” pp. 65, 66.

#### Eastern Vonnecicut Notes

On December 16th, 1918, I had the good fortune of observing at close range a Pleated woodpecker, the first I had ever seen here in the East. I watched with much interest this magnificent bird, as it worked very busily on a dead Oak, not more than fifty feet away. I believe this bird to be very rare in Eastern Connecticut.

The Red Headed Woodpecker is another very scarce bird in this part of the state, having seen only two birds in the past ten years, one spring and one fall migrant.

On May 26th, 1918, I had brought into me a typical nest of Kingbird, containing four eggs, the same size and shape of the ordinary Kingbird's eggs, only these eggs were entirely without markings. All four eggs being pure white. This is the first Albino eggs of this species I have ever seen. Who has whole sets of Albino Kingbird eggs or other species that have as heavily marked eggs as the Kingbird often does? Are they not very uncommon?

G. Raymond Barlow.

Danielson, Conn.

#### An Additional List.

On page 49, present volume, I have a list of Iowa birds, I saw while at Vinton, Iowa, to which I wish to add the following:

Barn Swallow—Several.

English Sparrow—Abundant.

Catbird—Common.

Killdeer—Common.

Northern Water Thrush—One seen.

Night Hawk—plentiful one evening.

Black Capped Chickadee—Common.

Phoebe—Common.



Bachman's Warbler Nest and Eggs  
—Photo by Rev. H. E. Wheeler



Brown Thrashers—Several  
Marsh Hawk—One

Wood Pewee—Not common.

Whippoorwill—One asleep on a high limb.

Oven bird—One or two.

Bronze Grackle—One

Northern Hairy Woodpecker—One.

Rose Breasted Grosbeak—Two or three seen.

Black Throated Blue Warblers—One.

Song Sparrow—Common.

Eastern Meadow Lark—Common.

Western Meadow Lark—Thought I heard one.

Dated September, 1919.

Geo. H. Vosburgh.

Columbus, Ohio.

#### Where Birds are Actually Used as Lamps.

The price of coal-oil is a matter of no interest to the inhabitants of the island of St. Kilda, a favorite of the animated oilcan, the fulmar. So rich in oil in this sea bird that the natives simply pass a wick through its body and use it as a lamp.

The oil is also one of the principal articles exported from the island.

It is found in the birds' stomachs, is amber-colored, and has a peculiarly nauseous odor. The old birds are said to feed the young with it, and when they are caught or attached they lighten themselves by disgorging it.

In St. Kilda it is legal to kill the fulmars only during one week of the year; but during that week from eighteen to twenty thousand birds are destroyed.

The mutton-bird of the Antarctic also carries its oil in the stomach and can eject this oil through the nostrils as a means of defence against enemies.

Quantities of mutton-birds are slaughtered every year for their oil on

the coasts of Tasmania and New Zealand. In its composition and properties this oil closely resembles sperm oil.—San Francisco Chronicle.

W. A. Strong,

San Jose, Cal.

#### Habits of Red-Tailed Hawk.

The red-tailed hawk, or "hen-hawk," as it is commonly called, is one of the best known of all birds of prey, and is a widely distributed species of great economic importance. Its habit of sitting on some prominent limb or pole in the open, or flying with measured wing beat over prairies and sparsely wooded areas on the lookout for its favorite prey, causes it to be noticed by the most indifferent observer. Although not as omnivorous as the red-shouldered hawk, it feeds on a variety of food, as small mammals, snakes, frogs, insects, birds, crawfish, centipedes, and even carrion. In regions where rattlesnakes abound it destroys considerable numbers of the reptiles. Although it feeds to a certain extent on poultry and birds, it is nevertheless entitled to general protection on account of the insistent warfare it wages against mice and other small rodents and insects that are so destructive to young orchards, nursery stock, and farm produce. Out of 530 stomachs examined, 457, or 85 per cent contained the remains of mammal pests such as field mice, pine mice, rabbits, several species of ground squirrels, pocket gophers, and cotton rats, and only 62 contained the remains of poultry or game birds.—The Suburban Citizen.

W. A. Strong,

San Jose, Cal.



### The Rare Sport of Catching Birds With Airplanes

The accidental catching recently of an Eagle in the wire bracing of a military airplane suggests the many possibilities of the new sport of hunting for birds of prey and wild fowl in the air with flying machines.

The success of this new sport depends upon the airman's knowledge of the speed of various birds.

Prof. H. H. Clayton of Blue Hill Observatory saw ducks flying at a height of 958 feet. He was at the time engaged in measuring the height and velocity of clouds and was able to estimate the speed of the birds as nearly 48 miles an hour. Profs. J. Stebbins and E. A. Fath made careful observations with the telescope and found that birds pass at rates varying from 80 to 130 miles per hour, and these were minimums. Heavy bomb-drooping airplanes travel at the rate of 90 miles an hour and fast fighters at nearly 140 miles. Prof Clayton's ducks were poor airplanes, as flying speeds go. Is it strange then, that even a fast bird should be overtaken in its flight by a still faster machine and killed in an aerial rear-end collision?

Aviators say that it is a wonder that the birds are not more often overtaken as well as the eagle which was caught in a military flying machine. With its wide expanse of superposed wings, criss-crossed with stay-wires, a biplane is not unlike a very wide-meshed net.

"That being the case," writes Carl Dienstbach in *Poplar Science Monthly*, "why should it not be possible to trail fine piano-wire nets, spread by small kite-buoys between the airplanes connected by a long wire, and enmesh the condors and eagles that soar over inaccessible mountain peaks? That ought to be a fascinating sport. Great birds of prey are

flying creatures. Vedrines found that out some years ago when he flew across the Pyrenees. He was actually attacked by eagles and had to shoot them with a pistol.

"The sport is all the more possible when it is considered how dependable is the modern fast-flying machine Chavez, the first man who ever flew across the Alps, was killed in some unknown manner as he descended into Italy. But the modern flying machine is more powerfully controlled and has a more dependable motor than the airplanes in which Chavez made his fatal flight. Witness the many performances of Austrian and Italian aviators in flying over the dizzy peaks of the Austrian battle-grounds. Vedrine's experience shows that an eagle regards an airplane much as a dog an automobile—something not to be frightened at but to be challenged.

Think, too, of the possibilities of capturing with a net whole flocks of game ducks and geese as well as wild pigeons. Even the use of hook, line and bait, as well as the net, appears feasible in the air."—*San Francisco Chronicle*.—W. A. Strong, San Jose, Cal.

### Audubon's Loss

The famous naturalist, Audubon, pursued many of his fascinating studies in the Ohio Valley. For several years he made his home in Henderson, Kentucky, whence he went forth to study the birds in their native haunts. With rare skill he sketched them in colors, filling large portfolios with the finest pictures of these.

After some time he found it necessary to make a visit to Philadelphia.

He left his cherished drawings behind, but he took the precaution of packing them in a stout wooden box and left this with a relative, to whom

he explained their value and urged their protection against injury.

He was gone several months. On his return he inquired eagerly for his treasure and was informed that it was all right. The box was brought forth and opened. But alas! A pair of Norway rats had gnawed their way into it and reared a young family in the paper which they had torn to pieces.

All the time and labor spent in the drawing of nearly a thousand inhabitants of the air had gone for naught.

Said Audubon: "The burning heat which instantly rushed through my brain was too great to be endured without affecting my whole nervous system. I slept for several nights and the days passed like days of oblivion, until the animal powers being recalled into action through the strength of my constitution I took up my gun, my notebook and my pencils, and went forth to the woods as gayly as if nothing had happened. I felt pleased that I might now make better drawings than before; and ere a period not exceeding three years had elapsed my portfolio was again filled."

This was the devotion of a lover of nature to nature's lovely handwork. It shows us how we may bear our troubles. Most of them we may rise above, and when we do this we are larger and richer than we were before.—Classmate.—W. A. Strong, San Jose, Cal.

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#### Rare Crows' Eggs

I have two sets of Pink Crows' eggs which I know are genuine. They were taken two different years from the same section and are comparable in color to Brown Thrasher and Mocking Bird.

I also took a set of nine crows' eggs from one nest but am inclined to think that two different birds deposited them. Also have one set with

runt egg. Sets of six are quite common as I have several of them.

J. R. Mann,

Arlington Heights, Mass.

We have two of this very rare type of Crows' eggs in our collection and know of another full set in another collection.

R. M. Barnes.

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#### Nesting Sites

"Birds Nesting Near the Habitations of Man, Vs. Nesting in the Wild."

My experience exceeding over some forty years active field work proves to me that more young birds come to maturity in the strictly wild state of nesting than when they nest near to the home of man.

The prime causes against nesting near the habitations of man are cats, dogs, guns, small boys; various accidents to a resident near Man. Causes in the wild are reptiles, animals, birds of prey, storms, stock in pastures.

Robins, Blue Birds, Blue Jays, Phobes, Barn and Eve Swallows and such that nest near our homes, seldom get to maturity, more than one or two of there hatched.

The King Bird, Wood Pewee, Owls, Woodpeckers, Rails, Hawks, more often succeed in getting to maturity, the whole, or nearly the whole brood. It would be interesting and valuable if an extensive report of this kind could be made, as was done in the migration of birds. Many a time I have seen Robins and Blue Jays bring off four or five young and about the time the young could make short flights, some child would tease it to death trying to catch and tame it, as a cat would kill it. The others became so widely scattered that the old birds would have their "hands full," and finally some day I would find them giving their individual attention to one young bird only, the rest probably

having made a meal for tabby (especially is the case about town). In the wild it is different. To be sure there are plenty of snares, but the worst ones, fire arms. Man and cats are seldom present and the brood is more often brought through with little or no loss.

Supposing a Rail should hatch her sixteen or twenty young near a farm house or in a city or town, where a legion of cats and children were at large, but few of that precious brood would come through to grown ups though in the case of Rails, I suppose the cat would be the worst enemy. Many a brood of Barn Swallows have been hatched in the cow stable only to feed some lazy cat, not worth its feed.

Geo. W. Vos Burgh,  
Columbus, Wis.

It is estimated that three-fourths of the birds hatched inside the cities, towns and villages of the U. S. are destroyed by cats. Moral, destroy the cats.—Editor.

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#### Books Received

University of California publications Vol. 19 RR, 191-200 Feb. 1919 is a very interesting paper by O. E. Platla, entitled "A muscid Larva of the San Francisco region which sucks the blood of nesting birds." The author gives the result of a seasons investigations and draws deductions based on the observation of sixty three birds' nests and 1844 larvae, to the effect that from 5 to 10 per cent of the nestlings attacked die from loss of blood, while others become so weakened that they fall an easy prey to animal enemies.

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#### NOTICE.

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—Editor,

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## John D. Sherman, Jr.

24 Claremont Ave.,

Mount Vernon, N. Y.

**Heron Blinds Boy's Eye**

Lad finds bird standing on one leg asleep—battle follows.

Fred Hoffman, fifteen, of Ronkonkoma, N. Y., lost an eye recently in a battle with a heron. He found the bird standing on one leg asleep and

attempted to carry it off by this convenient handle.

The heron put out the boy's eye with its beak, but was finally caught and caged.—The Suburban Citizen.—W. A. Strong. San Jose, Cal.

**MAGAZINES WANTED**

I will pay the highest prices for any one of the following back numbers of these publications. If you have any of them write me at once.

R. M. Barnes, Lacon, Ill.

**Agassez Bulletin**, Buffalo, N. Y., 1885. All except Vol. I, No. 5.

**The A. A. Bulletin**, Gilman, Ill., 1890, Vol. I, No. 3.

**The Agassi Record**, Oskaloosa, Ia., 1888, Vol. I, Nos. 3 and 4.

**American Magazine of Natural Science**, 1892-3, Vol. I, Nos. 4 and 6; Vol. II, No. 1.

**The Agassiz Companion**, Wyondotte Ks., 1886, Vol. I, all but No. 2; Vol. II, all but 3-5-6-10; Vol. III, all but 1-5-10-11-12.

**Amateur Naturalist**, Ashland, Maine, 1903-6, Vol. I, all; Vol. II, all; Vol. III, all except Nos. 1 and 4.

**Bear Hill Advertiser**, Stoneham, Mass., 1903, Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 3, and all after No. 4.

**American Osprey**, Ashland, Ky., 1890, Vol. I, No. 6.

**The Buckeye State Collector**, Portsmouth, O., 1888, Vol. I, Nos. 4 and 6.

**Bulletin of the Oologists Assn.**, Omaha, Nebr., 1897. All except No. I, Vol. 1.

**California Traveller and Scientists**, 1891-2, Vol. I, all except No. 5; Vol. II, all except No. 3 and all later issues.

**The Collector**, West Chester, Pa., 1891, Vol. I, all; Vol. II, all except Nos. 1-2-3.

**The Collector**, Des Moines, 1882, Vol. II, all except Nos. 6-7-8.

**Collectors Journal**, Fayetteville, Ia., 1901, Vol. I, all except No. 2.

**The Collectors Monthly**, Newburg, N. Y., 1893, Vol. I, Nos. 2-3-4.

**Collectors Notebook**, Camden, N. Y., 1903-4, Vol. I, all; Vol. II, all except Nos. 2 and 6.

**The Curio**, Benson, Maine, Vols. I, II, III, IV, VI.

**Collectors Monthly**, Philadelphia, Pa., 1888. All except Vol. I, No. 1.

**The Collectors Monthly**, Oakland, Calif., 1911. All published except Nos. 2, 3 and 4 of Vol. I.

**The Curio Exchange**, New Kamilche, Wash., 1901-2, Vol. I, No. 4 and Vol. II, 3 and all after.

**Empire State Exchange**, Water Valley, N. Y., 1889, Vol. I, all except Nos. 1-5-10; Vol. II, all except Nos. 1 and 2; Vol. III, all except Nos. 2-3-4; Vol. IV, all except 1-2-3-4.

**The Exchange**, Quendota, Ill., 1889, Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 4.

**The Exchange**, Adrian, Mich., 1885, Vol. I, Nos. 1-2-4-5.

**The Exchangers Monthly**, Vol. IV, complete, 1888.

**Exchanger and Collector and Exchangers Aid**, 1885, Canajohorie, N. Y., all except Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 2.

**Forest and Field**, Gillertville, N. Y., 1892, all except Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 5.

**Golden State Scientist**, Riverside, Calif., 1886, Vol. I, No. 1. The Suppressed copy.

**The Guide to Nature Study and Nature Literature**, Stanford, Conn., Vol. I, No. 12; Vol. II, all after No. 7; Vol. III, IV, V; Vol. IV, Nos. 1 to 8 and No. 10. Also issues of March, Nov. and Dec. 1909 and from Jan. 1910 to Dec. 1913, inclusive and March 1914 and July 1915 to Jan. 1916 inclusive.

**The Hummer**, Nebraska City, Neb., 1899-1900, Vol. I, Nos. 3 and 4.

**Iowa Ornithologist**, Salem, Ia., 1895-7, Vol. IV, No. 3.

**Kansas City Naturalist**, Kansas City, Mo., 1886-91, Vol. 5, No. 10.

**The Kansas Naturalist**, Topeka, Ks., 1902, Vol. I, all except No. 2.

**The Maine O. and O.**, Garland, Me., 1890-1, Vol. I, Nos. 5-6-7-12; Vol. II, No. 1.

**The Naturalist**, Kansas City, Mo.,



1890, Vols. I, II, III and Vol. IV except Nos. 6-8 and 10.

**The Natural History Collectors Monthly**, 1893, Vol. I, except Nos. 1-2-3-4.

**The Naturalists Companion**, Branchport, N. Y., 1885, Vol. I, No. 1.

**The Naturalists Journal**, Frankfort, and Phila., Pa., 1884, Vol. I, Nos. 4 and 7; Vol. II, Nos. 1-2-3-4.

**Nature Study Review**, Chicago, Ill., 46 issues prior to No. 45; also Nos. 46, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 72, 74, 93, 94 and 117.

**The Observer**, 1889-1917, Vol. I, all except Nos. 1-2-3-6; Vol. II, all except No. 3; Vol. III, all except Nos. 2-45-6-7; Vol. IV, all except Nos. 2-3; Vol. V, Nos. 6-8-9-10-12; Vol. VI, Nos. 2-7-10-12; Vol. VII, Nos. 10-12; Vol. VIII, all except No. 4.

**Ohio Naturalist**, Ohio State University, 1889-1895, Vols. I-II-III and Vol. IV, No. 5 and all later issues.

**The Old Curiosity Shop**, Vol. IX, No. 6.

**The Oologist and Botanist**, Des Moines, Ia., Vol. II, Nos. 3-4-5.

**The Oologist Advertiser**, Danilsville, Conn., 1889-90, Vol. I, No. 1.

**The Ornithologist**, Twin Bluffs, Wis., 1885, Vol. 1, No. 1.

**The Oregon Naturalist**, Eugene, Ore., 1891, Vol. II, No. 7.

**The Owl**, Glenn Falls, N. Y., 1885-6, Vol. I, all; Vol. II, all except Nos. 1 and 2; Vol. III, all except No. 2.

**The Stormy Petrel**, Quendota, Ill., 1890, Vol. I, Nos. 2 and 6

**The Taxidermist**, Hyde Park, Mass., 1907-14, all after Vol. II, No. 7.

**The Valley Naturalist**, St. Louis, No. 1878, all except Vol. I, No. 1.

**The Weekly Oologist and Philatelist**, all published except Vol. I, No. 2 and Vol. II, No. 2.

**The Western Naturalist**, Topeka, Ks., 1903, all issues except Vol. I, No. 1

**The Western Naturalist**, Quadison, Wis., 1887-8, Vol. I, Nos. 7-9-10; Vol. II, Nos. 1-5-6.

**The West American Scientist**, San Diego, Calif., 1885 to 1902, Vol. I, all except Nos. 5-9-11; Vol. II, all except Nos. 15-21; Vol. III, all except Nos. 27-31; Vol. IV, all except Nos. 43-47-53; Vol. VI, Nos. 61. Vol. VIII, 66-68-69-70-71-72-73 and all after No. 139 except No. 158.

**The Wisconsin Naturalist**, Milwau-

kee, Wis., Vol. I, all except Nos. 5-6; All of Vols. II-III-IV and V; all of Vol. VI except No. 1; all of Vol. VII except Nos. 77 and 78; all of Vol. VIII except Nos. 79-81-82; all of Vol. IX except Nos. 87-88-89-90.

**The Young Collector**, Des Moines, Ia., 1881-2, all issues except Vol. I, No. 41; and Vol. II, Nos. 1-2-3.

**The Young Naturalist**, Galesburgh, Ill., 1884, Vol. I, all except Nos. 1-4-5.

**The Young Ornithologist**, Boston, Mass., 1885, Vol. I, No. 10.

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The name of E. F. Page in the October issue of this committee should be E. E. Pope, well known to all American Oologists.

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