

THE CLEVELAND BIRD CALENDAR

FOUNDED BY FRANCIS H. HERRICK 1905



PUBLISHED BY THE KIRTLAND BIRD CLUB

AND

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

2717 EUCLID AVE., CLEVELAND 15, OHIO

THE CLEVELAND BIRD CALENDAR

Devoted to the study of ornithology in the Cleveland region

Subscription price \$1 per annum

Nesting Number

Editors

Rudolph J. Kula, Harold E. Wallin, Lida H. Whittier

Issued October 22, 1951

With the passing of Dr. Arthur B. Williams on August 18, 1951 goes the guiding force of the BIRD CALENDAR. Due to his tireless efforts in stimulating bird observation in this region and to his own enthusiastic interest in the study of bird life, the CALENDAR during his ten years of editorship made a real contribution to the knowledge of the birds of the Cleveland region. The CALENDAR'S worth was highlighted by the publication in 1950 of BIRDS OF THE CLEVELAND REGION, edited by Dr. Williams, since most of the data collected for that book came from the pages of the CALENDAR.

During the last few months of Dr. Williams' life, even though his health was failing, his ardor for the study of birds was high. He was especially interested in promoting the study of the ecology of birds. His most recent projects were the compilation of data on nesting habits and breeding areas of birds in the Cleveland region.

We need to carry on this work, we need to know more about specific nesting habits of birds, we need to know more of how and where birds live in our region - so that more than ever before, the CALENDAR will need observers and support. Your ideas for better presentation of data will be welcomed, and your observations will, as in the past, be the backbone of the publication.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Fred J. Ackermann	Perry Frank Johnson
James F. Akers	Alice Kingman
Ralph Andrews	Mrs. Ralph M. Kneale
L. P. Barbour	Charles H. Knight
Carl Baier	Rudolph J. Kula
Karl Bednarik	John E. Lieftinck
Mrs. R.V.D. Booth	Donald L. Newman
Vera Carrothers	Margaret E. Perner
M. Owen Davis	Thomas Sandera
Mrs. Jessie Davies Richard	William E. Scheele
H. Flower	Frank N. Shankland
Adele Gaede	Mrs. Margaret Sherwin
Florence Gray	Paul Smith
Carl F. Hamann	Harold E. Wallin
Raymond W. Hill	Lida H. Whittier
Mrs. L. Merle Hostetler	Mrs. George Wiley

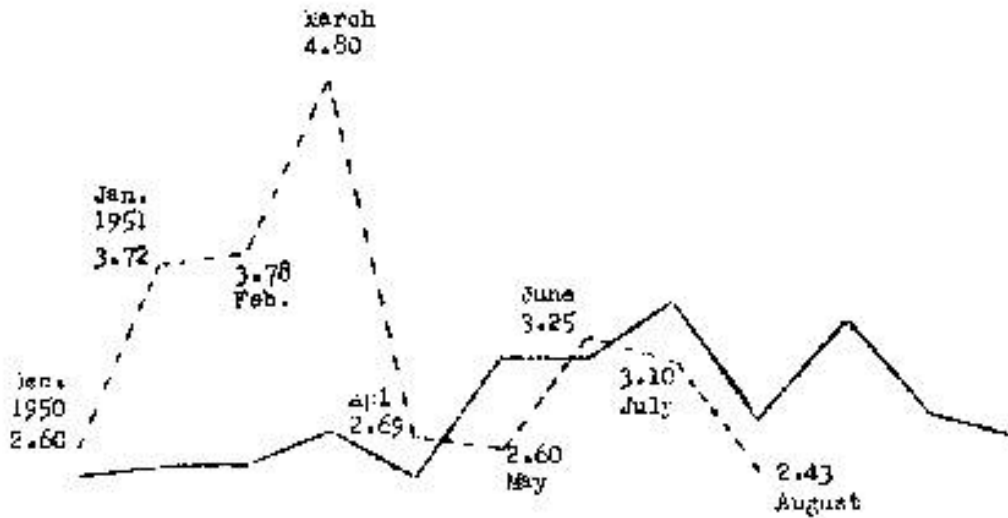
NOTES ON THE WEATHER

June - Temperatures averaged at or above normal on 19 days. For the 6th consecutive month the temperature departure was above the normal figures. Considerable damage was caused by the thundersquall in limited areas of southwest Cleveland on the afternoon of the 22nd.

July - A minimum temperature of 53° on the 6th was an all time record for that date. The first week in the month temperatures were mostly below normal, but this was compensated by warm weather later in the month for an above normal monthly average. There were 8 days with highest temperatures of 90° or over.

August - Dry with alternating cool and warm periods. Lows were 47° on the 24th and 45° on the 25th, and highs were 92° on the 29th and 95° on the 30th. A heavy rainfall during thundershowers on the 31st almost made up the month's deficiency.

In the chart below normal or average precipitation is represented by the solid line, and actual precipitation by the dotted line. Figures are from the U. S. Weather Bureau at the Cleveland Airport.



COMMENT ON THE RECORD

Species not specifically mentioned were apparently present in usual numbers

American Egret - First seen this year on June 20, one on Sherwin Pond. Also, one remained at Sherwin Pond from August 12-15. Four were reported July 15 and nine August 11 at Wingfoot Lake (Liefertinck).

Little Blue Heron - Two immature birds in white plumage at Sherwin Pond July 21-23.

Black-crowned Night Heron - No June records for this region. J. Liefertinck reports 50 at Wingfoot Lake August 11.

Green-winged Teal - Fred Ackermann saw one sitting on a boulder at the bend of Rocky River south of the Hilliard Road Bridge on August 7. He thought the bird might possibly have been sick as it allowed him to approach within 100 feet before it flew. Vincent McLaughlin of Poland, Ohio, reported in FLYING FEATHERS (2:3-30), published by the Grant Cook Bird Club of Youngstown, that every August he sees "groups of green-winged teal in the bunches of bluewings".

Mrs. George Wiley reports "many families" of Blue-winged Teal in a swamp on Green Road north of Cuyahoga Falls on July 14.

From the number of Wood Ducks reported for this period, it is apparent that they are still on the increase.

Lesser Scaup - July 8(1), August 5(6) at White City (Davies). These appear to be the only July and August records that we have for this species in this region.

Generally speaking, hawk records were meager, but among the few were two broadwing seen June 10 at Hinckley (Knight), and one June 16 at Stebbins Gulch (Newman).

On August 31 an adult Bald Eagle was seen over Baldwin Lake, Berea, from an airplane flying at 3000 feet by Jim Akers, who says a collision was narrowly averted.

An Osprey was reported by Mrs. Margaret Sherwin at Sherwin Pond August 12, and on July 25 Tom Sandera saw a Duck Hawk flying over the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

Shorebird migration

- June 26 - Solitary Sandpiper 1
- July 14 - Solitary Sandpiper 1, Lesser Yellowlegs 1
- 21 - Semipalmated Sandpiper 1
- 22 - Sanderling 20, Wilson's Snipe 1, Least Sandpiper 4
- 29 - Solitary Sandpiper 1
- August 5 - Semipalmated Plover 2, Killdeer 43, Pectoral Sandpiper 1, Least Sandpiper 32, Semipalmated Sandpiper 4, Wilson's Snipe 1
- 7 - Semipalmated Plover 2, Semipalmated Sandpiper 5, Sanderling 1
- 11 - Semipalmated Plover 6, Killdeer 60, Solitary Sandpiper 4, Pectoral Sandpiper 12, Semipalmated Sandpiper 10, Wilson's Snipe 3
- 12 - Semipalmated Plover 5, Killdeer 35, Least Sandpiper 3, Sanderling 1
- 17 - Killdeer 40

On August 1 at the mouth of the Grand River, Mrs. Kay Booth flushed a flock of 100 Common Terns from the breakwall, about one half of which were short-tailed partially black-capped young.

A Caspian Tern was reported at Aurora Lake August 12 (Hamann).
 In a barn on Sperry Road near the Holden Arboretum a Barn Owl was discovered August 5, together with a half-eaten pigeon. (Scheele).
 Caught in a trap at Brecksville June 12 was a Great Horned Owl that had captured a full grown duck. This bird was taken to the Brecksville Trailside Museum,
Whip-poor-wills were recorded only twice, both in early June - one at Aurora June 3 (Ackermann), and two at Brecksville June 5 (Knight).
 First flocks of migrating Nighthawks were reported August 26 - 9 flying northeast on Route 306 near Chesterland (Sandera); 12 in the early evening at 176th Street, Cleveland (Gaede); and on August 27, 140 at N. Akron (Lieftinck). Just outside our region at Huntsburg 8 were seen heading northeast on August 25, and 25 August 26 (Kula).
 A flock of 200 Chimney Swifts were seen August 26 at Willoughby by L. P. Barbour.
 Three Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were in Owen Davies' backyard in Lakewood June 1, two on the 2nd, one on the 3rd, and one on the 9th.
Least Flycatchers nested again this year at Aurora (see p. 10) and were present in June at Bedford (Knight) and Chardon (Whittier), and until mid-July at Fowlers Mill (Kula)
 An Olive-sided Flycatcher was reported by Mrs. George Wiley of the Cuyahoga Falls Bird Club July 2 at Shaw's Woods, West Akron (Latest spring date in this region - July 5).
 Only 3 colonies of Cliff Swallows were reported for this and neighboring areas (See p. 10).
 Four Red-breasted Nuthatches were seen in North Akron August 25 (Lieftinck), three days after the recorded earliest fall date of August 22; while a Ruby-crowned Kinglet seen August 28 in Rocky River Metropolitan Park by Fred Ackermann equaled its recorded earliest fall date.
 The only Migrant Shrike reported for the period was one seen at Abram's Lake on July 1 by Owen Davies.
 Last year Blue-headed Vireos nested in Stebbin's Gulch, but none were reported this year.
 A new early fall date for the Philadelphia Vireo is August 25, when two were seen at North Akron by J. E. Lieftinck.
 The Magnolia Warbler was present in Stebbin's Gulch through July 8 (2 each on June 16 and 17) but no nests or young were observed (Newman, Davies).
 A Yellow-breasted Chat was reported at Bedford Metropolitan Park June 17, 24 and July 1 (Knight).
 The Canada Warbler was reported in Stebbin's Gulch June 10,16,17 (Newman).

New latest spring dates for warblers are

Blackburnian - June 10 (Willoughby, Barbour)
 Canada June 17 (Stebbin's Gulch, Newman)

New earliest fall dates for warblers are:

Tennessee August 18 (Elyria, Johnson)
 Blackburnian August 5 (Bedford, Knight)
 Chestnut-sided August 15 (Lakewood, Davies)
 Palm August 26 (Willoughby, Barbour)

Warbler Migration - The chart below will give an indication of the trend of the beginning of warbler migration. We would like to work up interpretive charts of this sort with some real significance, but many more reports are needed to make them of value.

	July	August											Total days reported	Average date
	29	5	15	17	18	19	24	25	26	28	29	30		
Bay-breasted	x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		9	9/4
Blackburnian		x	x	x			x	x	x	x			7	9/5
Pine		x				x							2	8/26
Magnolia			x			x	x	x	x	x	x		7	9/2
Chestnut-sided			x					x	x				3	9/7
Canada			x				x	x				x	4	8/17
Black and White				x	x					x			3	8/11
Tennessee					x				x	x			3	9/2
Palm									x				1	9/16
Nashville								x	x				2	8/21
Cape May									x			x	2	8/29
Black-throated Blue									x				1	9/6
Blackpoll									x	x			2	9/1
Parula											x		1	8/28

A flock of about 50 Bobolinks was seen daily in an open field at Huntsburg, just outside our region in August (Kula).

The Orchard Oriole nested at Holden Arboretum this year (See p. 10).

The Purple Finch nested at Bedford again this year, and also nested at Willoughby (See p. 10). Carl Hamann heard a male singing from the dead top of a tree at the corner of Shaker Boulevard and Fontenay Road on July 23, and also heard a male singing continuously near the intersection of Routes 306 and 82 in Aurora, but found no nest.

New earliest fall date for the White-throated Sparrow is August 19 (Willoughby, Barbour).

RECORDS FROM NEIGHBORING LOCALITIES

Pymatuning - August 12 - American Egret 4, Canada Goose 60 (not migrants), Wilson's Snipe 1, Pectoral Sandpiper 5 - R. W. Hill

Brownhelm Twp, Lorain County - July 26 - American Bittern 2, Least Bittern 4, Wood Duck 13, Black Tern 12, Prairie Marsh Wren 4.
August 1 - Florida Gallinule 9, Black Tern 5, Prairie Marsh Wren 2 - P. F. Johnson.

Austinburg - Upland Plover - June 7(5), 15(3) - Mrs. Margaret Sherwin.

Sandusky Region (Including Kelley's Island, Rye Beach and Winous Point, Port Clinton)

	June				July			August		
	15	17	23	27	12	15	22	6	7	8
Great Blue Heron						4	9	1	19	26
American Egret		4	3		*		4			
Black-crowned Night Heron						4		18	13	68
Mallard							27	4	3	7
Black Duck	12	3					2		1	
Blue-winged Teal							2	6	4	1
Lesser Scaup							1			
Bald Eagle				2						
King Rail								1		
Florida Gallinule							2		11	
Coot							15			
Killdeer						3	3			
Spotted Sandpiper						3	1		5	7
Herring Gull						7	1	47	8	263
Ring-billed Gull						5		12		12
Bonaparte's Gull						4				
Common Tern						6	30	54	88	21
Black tern				12		15	79	2	4	
Caspian Tern										15
OBSERVERS: Ackermann, Davies, Johnson, Sherwin, Andrews										
* 6 nests at edge of Black-crowned Night Heron colony, 18 young raised, 3 dead. Nesting for second year (1 pair 1950) reported by Ralph Andrews, Research Fellow, Ohio State University										

Mosquito Creek

	July			August				
	15	24	25	4	10	16	19	26
Great Blue Heron		7	15		8	9	10	
American Egret			2		1	1		
American Bittern		1						
Mallard						8	27	
Black Duck		2					40	
Blue-winged Teal					13		7	
Wood Duck					3		16	
Bald Eagle	1			1				3
King Rail					1			
Florida Gallinule					1		7	
Piping Plover								1
Semipalmated Plover				24	8	6	7	
Killdeer		50	100		25	40	55	
Golden Plover								4
Black-bellied Plover						4	1	
Spotted Sandpiper		6	3		3	1	3	
Solitary Sandpiper	1	1	6		4	1	1	
Greater Yellowlegs		1	2	2	2	1	2	
Lesser Yellowlegs	4	3	4		3		4	
Pectoral Sandpiper		4	15		10	5	11	
Baird's Sandpiper					3			
Least Sandpiper	8	4	1		2	2	18	
Dowitcher	10	1			5			
Semipalmated Sandpiper	10	12	20	100	25	8	2	
Sanderling					6	2	2	
OBSERVERS: Davies, Gaede, Hamann, Hill, Lieftinck								

BREEDING BIRD POPULATION STUDIES

-1-

Upland Swamp Forest and Marsh - Total area 20 acresLocation - Aurora Township, Portage CountyCensus - by Carl F. Hamann Total Hours - 58Breeding Bird Population Territorial Males

<u>Species</u>		
Song Sparrow	6	
Catbird	5	
Grinnell's Waterthrush	4	
Black-capped Chickadee	2	
Yellow Warbler	2	
Cardinal	2	
Cowbird	2	
Black Duck	1	
Mourning Dove	1	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	1	
Crested Flycatcher	1	
White-breasted Nuthatch	1	
Tufted Titmouse	1	
Wood Pewee	1	
House Wren	1	
Wood Thrush	1	
Downy Woodpecker	1	
Veery	1	
Red-eyed Vireo	1	
Blue-winged Warbler	½	
Scarlet Tanager	1	
Yellow-throated Vireo	½	
Swamp Sparrow	1	
Total Males	38	
No of Species	23	
Density	190	territorial males per 100 acres

Visitors - Great Blue Heron, Green Heron, Mallard, Wood Duck, Turkey Vulture (overhead), Red-shouldered Hawk, Ruffed Grouse, Woodcock, Pileated Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Purple Martin (overhead), Blue Jay, Crow, Robin, Cerulean Warbler, Northern Yellowthroat, Redwing, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Goldfinch.

Remarks - The number of territorial males again shows a slight decrease (405 in 1940, 305 in 1947, 272 in 1949, 220 in 1950, not censused 1948). Ground nesting species such as the Northern Yellowthroat and Red-eyed Towhee were missing, due possibly to the high water. No Cedar Waxwings were noted in the area during the entire period. Where there was evidence of nesting or actual nests were found along the edge, such in most cases were estimated as ½.

-2-

Oak-Hickory Forest - Total area approximately 50 acres

Location - Brecksville Metropolitan Park. This is the same area censused by Harold E. Wallin from 1941-1943 and 1946-1949

Census - by Mrs. L. Merle Hostetler Total Hours - 25

Breeding Bird Population

Species	Territorial Males
Redstart	21
Red-eyed Vireo	17
Cerulean Warbler	17
Ovenbird	17
Wood Thrush	13
Scarlet Tanager	9
White-breasted Nuthatch	7
Hooded Warbler	7
Cardinal	6
Acadian Flycatcher	4
Tufted Titmouse	4
Wood Pewee	4
Robin	3
Chickadee	3
Downy Woodpecker	2
Yellow-throated Vireo	2
Louisiana Waterthrush	2
Blue-winged Warbler	2
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	2
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	2
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	2
Blue Jay	1
Indigo Bunting	1
Flicker	1
Mourning Dove	1
Total Males	150
Number of Species	25
Density	330 territorial males per 100 acres

Visitors - Ruffed Grouse, Red-tailed Hawk, Catbird, Black-throated Green Warbler, Crested Flycatcher, Goldfinch, Black-billed Cuckoo, Cowbird.

Assistants in coverage of area - Merle and Diane Hostetler, Alice Lister, Mrs. Russell Lewis, Mildred Luedy, Helen Fitting

-3-

Climax Beech-Maple Forest with some Hemlock - Total area 65 acres

Location - North Chagrin Metropolitan Park. This is the same area ccensused by Dr. Arthur B. Williams for 18 years.

Census - by Margaret E. Perner Total Hours - 37 hours, 35 minutes

Breeding Bird Population

<u>Species</u>	<u>Territorial Males</u>
Red-eyed Vireo	28
Ovenbird	19
Hooded Warbler	18
Wood Thrush	13
Redstart	12
Wood Pewee	8
Scarlet Tanager	6
Cardinal	5
Cerulean Warbler	4
Acadian Flycatcher	4
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	3
Blue Jay	2
Black-throated Green Warbler	2
Louisiana Waterthrush	2
Hairy Woodpecker	2
Tufted Titmouse	2
Downy Woodpecker	2
Crested Flycatcher	2
Black-capped Chickadee	2
Blue-winged Warbler	2
White-breasted Nuthatch	1
Red-eyed Towhee	1
Robin	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	<u>1</u>
Total ;!ales	142
Number of Species	24
Density	211 territorial males per 100 acres

Remarks - The Barred Owl was heard at the edge of the area. No cowbirds were seen or heard. This is the first year the Red-shouldered Hawk has nested in this area. The nest was found.

NESTING RECORDS

Sixty nesting records were received for this period. All nesting records are put in a permanent species file at the Museum. The following are published because of their unusual interest.

Least Flycatcher - Aurora - Male first heard singing April 30, 1951, and continued to sing until May 30 when it ceased. Male heard once in June (about the 20th). On July 2 both adults seen feeding two young apparently just out of the nest in a small orchard. A nest was discovered close by in a plum tree about 15' up and was collected. It looked so much like a chipping sparrow nest that it is not certain that it belonged to these birds. Nest measurements were; Diameter outside $2\frac{1}{2}$ -3"; Inside 1.8-2". Depth outside 2-2.3"; Inside 1.6" - Carl F. Hamann.

Cliff Swallows - Only three colonies were reported, two within our region and one just outside at Huntsburg. Adele Gaede reports that three nests in which young were raised were located on Fullerton Road near Cedar Road. At the home of Mrs. Ralph Kneale on Caves Road, Chesterland, 3 pairs were building on the south side of an old barn on June 27. By July 2 there were 8 pairs building nests. On July 13 Mrs. Kneale reported the nests destroyed by English Sparrows and that the swallows had left the area. In July at Huntsburg 16 nests were built on a barn under the eaves. Several nests containing young dropped off after a heavy rain, and the parents immediately began building new nests. Young were successfully raised. According to Forbush, the decline of Cliff Swallows in New England was due to the painting of barns, thus making it difficult for the swallows to anchor their nests on the smooth surfaces, and the destruction of nests by English Sparrows. The barn at Huntsburg was painted, which might account for the nests dropping off after a rain, but the success of the colony as a whole was probably due to the fact that the owner of the barn keeps the English Sparrows out - by shooting them (Kula).

Orchard Oriole - May 21, 1951, a pair suspected of nesting was reported at Holden Arboretum by Paul Smith. On June 18 a nest was observed containing young in a small apple tree (part of an old orchard) on the west side of Sperry Road just south of Lotus Pond (Paul Smith). On June 21 the young in the nest were quite noisy and were being fed by the male. The nest was about 6 feet up near the end of a long branch and was composed of grasses then yellow (Whittier). On June 22 the young left the nest in late afternoon (Scheele). Allowing 14 days for incubation and 14 for the young to be in the nest, it appears that the nest was finished and the first egg laid about May 20 or 21, with incubation beginning about May 25 and the young hatching probably June 8. On July 31 the nest was collected (Scheele). It was made entirely of grasses probably green when first gathered. It was a beautifully woven, deep basket, not hanging, like the Baltimore's nest, but suspended between 3 twigs, leaving the bottom free. It was wider inside below the rim than at the rim.

Purple Finch - Frank Shankland reports a nest of this species built in a Colorado Blue Spruce beside the entrance driveway at Andrews Institute, Willoughby. The nest was located about 20 feet up near the end of a branch 10 feet from the trunk of the tree. The nest blew down June 8. It contained 4 eggs.

Mrs. A. E. Luedy reports fully on the purple finches nesting at her home at Bedford again this year as follows:

In late afternoon of a bright cold March 10, the first male purple finch flew into the front yard barberry. Two days later he was joined by another male, much redder in coloring. Some desultory singing was heard but not until March 15 did our prize singer of last season join them - the length, the phrasing, and above all the glorious exuberance of his song being always unmistakable. Through the following week of heavy wet snow, the males fed on the buds of Jap quince, ornamental plum, and barberry, and often scratched under the latter, perhaps finding old berries.

On April 23, the first nice day, one female was seen. The males, sometimes two, sometimes three, followed her closely from shrub to shrub as all fed. Morning of the next day was bright and the males sang lustily while flying high in the air. By afternoon it was cloudy, another female had joined the group, and all contented themselves by feeding on buds of ornamental crabtrees.

By April 27, one pair had chosen to nest in an ornamental juniper (*Juniperus virginiana schotti*) where nesting was done last year. At that time the nest was low enough so that by standing on top of a ladder the nest was just at eye level, but this year it was placed higher, about 12' from the ground and about 1½' from the top of the tree, so that it was necessary to use a mirror to see in. The other finches nested in a clump of moss cypress about 18' high, again where nesting was done last year. Nests were high, the trees too dense to see into, and not strong enough to support a ladder, so it was impossible to watch there. We tried to be philosophical about the fact that it was not the nest of the prize singer that we could observe, but his song was always soul-stirring. He could sing without a break for minutes, and often while singing high in the air seemed almost to stop and hover.

Of two females eating elm buds on April 30, one appeared to be a juvenile. Somewhat smaller, her underparts were lighter in color and the breast stripes, chin spots and eyestripe were all paler than those of the larger bird. The latter occasionally gave the short warble that the female gives while feeding young. The smaller bird ate and flew just as well as the other, but "tagged after" it all the while. Twice the larger bird flew at it as if to chase it away but then desisted and they continued to feed together.

Although both male and female entered the juniper at first, the male was not observed helping with nest building. By May 4 the nest appeared finished. In his courting the male often perched on a branch a little below the female and while looking up at her, wings widespread and fluttering, he sang a wonderfully sweet song. Occasionally he perched beside her, his bill almost touching hers. On one occasion, on May 12, the female alighted in a lilac and gave out an odd whinnying sound. The male came at once and then she did the courting - flying about him, fluttering her wings, and once clasped bills with him. After mating, the female went directly to the nest.

By May 20, we counted only 4 eggs with the mirror, but there must have been 5, as we shall see. Purple finches do not seem to be at all afraid of humans. When flushed from the nest the female would fly to a nearby hemlock and wait quietly, and often both birds came to the bird bath when we were within 4 or 5 feet of it.

The male always sang a short song when he approached the nest. During incubation he sang and waited nearby until the female left the tree, then he entered and apparently sat on the eggs until she returned. Occasionally he sang his little song while sitting there.

Late in the day on May 25 one bird had hatched. On May 26 the wind was very high and the tree swayed so wildly that we did not add to the confusion by approaching the nest. Nor did we do so on May 27 and 28 when there were heavy rains. On May 29, four young birds were in the nest.

Both parents fed the young. The female had a short warbling song that she gave while feeding rather close to the nesting tree; and also a very soft two-note call that she gave whenever we climbed up to the nest.

The parents fed often in the cherry tree and often on the maturing seed of annual bluegrass. It was impossible to see into the nest during feeding of the young. There never was anything showing in the bills of the parents when they entered the nesting tree. The male always - without exception - announced his coming by song.

Typical feeding on June 2:

- 3:35 P.M. - started watching
- 4:00 P.M. - male entered, stayed 1 minute
- 4:20 P.M. - female entered, stayed 18 minutes
- 5:15 P.M. - male approached, sang his 8-note song
29 times in two minutes before he entered
the nest at 5:18 (he usually sang only 1
to 6 or so times, but this time 3 persons
and a small dog were not far off). Male
stayed in nest 1½ minutes.
- 6:00 P.M. - stopped watching. No further feeding had been
done.

More often than not, the parents after feeding the young flew directly to the bird bath and took a long drink.

Early on June 7, the four young left the nest and throughout the first day called constantly, a two-note phrase "to eat", the same tempo as the short call of the goldfinch but of a deeper tone, rather like the short call of the bluebird. The young stayed well hidden in the shrubbery and their call was heard with decreasing frequency for the next three days.

One egg remained in the nest when it was deserted. Last year there were 6 eggs, 5 young hatched, with one egg left. This year apparently there were 5 eggs, four young, and one egg left. The young are large by the time they are ready for flight and not much remains by then of the rather flimsy, untidy nest when they leave it.