

Gallinula galeata. FLORIDA GALLINULE.—We collected a set of seven eggs June 3, 1917, and one of eight May 30, 1919. Both sets were started in incubation about five days. The first nest was placed on the top of a large bunch of marsh grass, poorly constructed of lily stems and reeds. This set is very handsomely marked, and all the eggs are evenly spotted with pale buff and deep reddish-brown and chestnut.

The second set had a lighter back ground. Birds were not seen but were heard.

Botaurus lentiginosus. AMERICAN BITTERN.—On June 3, 1917 we found three nests of this species. The first had three young ready to fly, the second three young ten days old, while the third contained four hard set eggs which I took. This nest was a rather large platform of reeds about a foot above the water. The female flushed when I was within three feet of her.

Eggs shining brownish-drab.

Bubo virginianus virginianus. GREAT HORNED OWL.—A set of three eggs was taken by my friends Robert Bains and Rowland J. Booth. This is the first set ever taken in the District of Columbia. The bird had nested in a large sycamore tree on the edge of Rock Creek from which the female was flushed. Eggs three, incubation far advanced in early March, 1920. This set is in the collection of Mr. Rowland T. Booth, Silver Springs, Maryland.

Antrostomus carolinensis. CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW.—While collecting in St. Marys County, Maryland, May 10, I was fortunate to find a set of this species. This is the first set taken in this county. The two eggs were somewhat incubated and I have them in my collection. Just across the river in Northampton County, Virginia, they are rather plentiful and I have heard several calling at once and many times flushed birds going through the wilder country toward Smith Point light house.—EDW. J. COURT, *Washington, D. C.*

Sturnus vulgaris. EUROPEAN STARLING.—This species has made its way down here and in 1920 I found them nesting on April 20 on Bladgens Hills. Six pairs nested in a grove of maples and I secured a nest and five eggs. I also found them nesting in deserted nests of the Red-headed Woodpecker, *Melanerpes erythrocephalus*, at Brookland, D. C., and a small colony at College Park, Prince George County, Maryland.

Rare Records for Ann Arbor and the State of Michigan.

Tyto pratincola. BARN OWL.—This species is becoming more common each year. The first set of eggs taken in the state was given to the Museum of Zoology by the collector, Mr. Walter E. Hastings of South Lyon, Oakland County. The nest was found April 8, 1916, in an enlarged nest of the Flicker. It was built in an old maple tree about four miles northeast of South Lyon, and about forty feet from the ground.

Archibuteo lagopus sancti-johannis. ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK.—This migrant is rarely seen here, but one was taken at Portage Lake, about

sixteen miles northwest of Ann Arbor, on November 27, 1920, by Earl Haynes.

Picoides arcticus. ARCTIC THREE-TOED WOODPECKER.—This is a very rare straggler from the north of Michigan and we have only one previous authentic record for this vicinity, October 18, 1884 by M. L. Eaton. A fine male was taken November 7, 1920, near South Lyon, Oakland County, by Fred L. Giddings and given to the museum collection. On December 6 three others were seen by Walter Hastings, also of South Lyon.

Cryptoglaux acadica. SAW-WHET OWL.—On January 1, 1921 a fine immature male was taken in a small tamarack swamp near Pleasant Lake, Freedom Township. This species is a rare visitant here in winter, and we have but one breeding record. The above specimen was donated to the museum by the collector, Mr. E. J. Lohr.

Picoides americanus americanus. AMERICAN THREE-TOED WOODPECKER.—On January 12, 1921 the Museum received a skin of the female of this species, taken by B. R. Twombly in Gogebic County in December, 1920. This constitutes the second record for the state. The first was taken at Sault Ste. Marie on October 1, 1901; and was mounted for the high school collection of the city by Professor C. E. Richmond. It may prove to be a rare resident of the Upper Peninsula.

Astur atricapillus atricapillus. AMERICAN GOSHAWK.—A fine specimen of this rare winter visitant was noted at South Lyon on January 17, 1921 by Mr. Walter E. Hastings.—NORMAN A. WOOD, *Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.*

The Song Periods of Individual Birds.—During spring and summer of 1920, I started a study of the songs of individual birds, believing that the great difference that exists between the songs of individuals of the same species could be used as a means of tracing the movements of the individuals. This study brought many interesting results, most of which are too incomplete to publish at present. But one result was so unexpected, and has so important a bearing on certain ornithological work being done today, that I believe it should be brought to the attention of others as soon as possible.

The Biological Survey for some time has been collecting data on the numbers of breeding birds in the country, basing counts on the numbers of singing males during the height of the breeding season. In this work it is assumed that during the early morning hours every male bird is in song. No one, so far as I know has ever questioned that this assumption is correct, and I believe that I was one of the first to make it and to use it. ('Auk' XXXI, pp. 200-210). My work this summer has shown me, however, that with a number of species, and perhaps with the great majority, it is not true.

A species such as the Field Sparrow, for example, sings continuously from its arrival in April till the early days of August. This summer, with