

feet away. I withdrew and it went back into the hollow. No eggs had yet been laid.

Five out of the six eggs hatched and the young were successfully reared; they left the nest on the morning of May 5.—E. VON S. DINGLE, *Summer-ton, S. C.*

**Bird Interference on High Tension Electric Transmission Lines.**

—While changing a live, 3-phase, 13,000 volt line it was observed that the insulators and metal cross-arms were favorite resting places for the Turkey Vultures (*Cathartes aura septentrionalis*), The Florida Crow (*Corvus b. pascuus*), and the Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*). The Vultures and Crows will perch upon the insulators, metal cross-arms, or the static ground bayonets and the expanse of their wings is sufficient to produce a short-circuit between the conductors or a ground connection between the conductors and the static ground system. In the case of 13,000 volts, the current will arc 7/10 of an inch through the air to connect with the bird's wing and the arc will follow several inches, often burning up the bird and melting the line fuses. In a slightly different way the Shrikes meet their death and suspend industries which depend on the high tension line for power. The Shrike flies with its grasshopper or lizard to the pole and decides that the sharp end of the tie wire is an excellent place to impale its victim. When the Shrike comes within striking distance of the voltage on the live conductor a flash-over occurs and a bird and a fuse are gone. It is doubtful whether the birds will ever appreciate the danger of this silent, unseen power. These observations were made in South Jacksonville during the summer of 1921.—THOMAS HALLINAN, *Jacksonville, Florida.*

**Scarcity of Breeding Birds in Duval County, Florida.**—While making a survey of the cold-blooded vertebrates in Duval County during December, 1920; February, March, May, June, September, October, 1921; and January, February, March, April, May, June, July, 1922, our parties of from two to nine observers covered in the aggregate about 925 miles through the different types of woods—pines, palmettoes, cypress, oaks, bays, magnolias, and regions of thick undergrowths as well as fresh and brackish water swamps. After covering all this territory and making a special effort to note the existance of nesting birds, only two observations were made. One was the abandoned nest of a Fish Hawk (*Pandion haliaëtus carolinensis*) on a high tree near New Berlin, noted June 4, 1922, and the other was a Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*) with a nest containing four eggs in a thick shrub about three feet from the ground near Orange Park, noted April 23, 1922. In this region, at certain seasons, the migrants were numerous but the resident birds, during this period of observation were relatively few in numbers and in species. This negative evidence concerning the existance of occupied or abandoned bird's nests may be due to this region's position in the zone of abrupt transition from the