

Englewood, Bergen County. All fall in this section the Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers have been unusually common, and there was obviously a southward migration of these ordinarily sedentary species. While among the numerous ornamental conifers in the Estate, a particularly loud tapping was investigated by LaDow, who forthwith called my attention to a peculiar-looking Woodpecker, which I immediately recognized as an Arctic Three-toed, the first record for the State. The bird, which was a male, was busily feeding in the top of a dead conifer, and was observed at leisure. As I was already committed in print to the belief that accidental visitants should not be added to a State avifauna on sight records alone, every effort had to be made to collect the specimen. I had no gun and collecting permit for New Jersey, but fortunately remembered that my good friend Mr. J. A. Weber, a fellow Linnaean member, living nearby at Leonia, had both. Leaving Mr. LaDow on guard, I rushed to the nearest phone, called Mr. Weber up on long distance and entreated him to drive over and "take a chance" on our keeping the Woodpecker in sight. He most kindly consented to come immediately, and I then rushed back to find that all was well, the Woodpecker was apparently rooted to his tree, and LaDow was reclining at the base of a nearby tree with his neck cocked at the proper angle. I then repaired to the main road to flag Mr. Weber, anxiously pondering the question "Would the Woodpecker fly, or not?", occasionally glancing in LaDow's direction. Twenty-five minutes later I was horrified to see LaDow disappearing over the brow of a hill, his coat-tails flying behind him. Five minutes later Weber arrived and we both rushed over the hill in pursuit. The faithful and efficient LaDow still had the Woodpecker in sight, and while it was restless and on the move, Mr. Weber was able to catch up and collect it. I am greatly obliged to both gentlemen for their kind cooperation, and Mr. Weber has generously presented the specimen to the American Museum of Natural History, so that the record is positively authenticated for all time. A word of recognition should also be given, however, to our extraordinary good fortune. My attempts to show a rare bird to others have almost always been failures.—LUDLOW GRISCOM, *American Museum of Natural History*.

The Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*) at Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island.—During the summer of 1922, from the middle of June until the end of July, a pair of Acadian Flycatchers was resident at Cold Spring Harbor, L. I., a few hundred yards west of the Carnegie Institution Experiment Station. The male was readily identified by the characteristic song, and although all effort was made to locate the nest, the search was unavailing, and no young birds were found.

On June 17, 1923, a singing male was observed, but no mate appeared, this constituting the only positive record for the summer. However, on August 18 an adult *Empidonax* was found feeding a fully fledged bird of the year, about a mile from the above mentioned locality. These two

birds were moving rather rapidly about an old apple orchard and although they were kept under observation for almost an hour, no characteristic notes were heard. Considering the fact that, to my knowledge, no Alder or Least Flycatchers were breeding in the region, it seems probable that these were Acadians. Perhaps the nest of the bird recorded on June 17 met with some mishap and the birds moved over to the orchard and made a second attempt. The condition of the young bird at such an abnormally late date supports this contention.

The Acadian Flycatcher was formerly found breeding in this region, but no recent records have been published. (L. Griscom: Birds of the New York City Region.) Unfortunately the nest was not found, but the evidence points, I believe, to the species occurring as a very local and perhaps irregular summer resident.—RUDYERD BOULTON, *University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pa.*

Owls and Starlings.—Members of the A. O. U. who attended the Cambridge meeting last October may recall the short account given of the Sparrow and Starling Roost in Scranton. This roost no longer continues. The birds began to occupy the trees about the court house last autumn as usual. In early November a friend told me of seeing quite a commotion among the birds one evening and investigating the matter he found there was a small Owl after the birds. In the darkness he could not be certain whether it was a Screech Owl or a Saw-whet Owl. Being in the central part of the city a few evenings later I was surprised to see no birds on the trees where there had formerly been thousands at that time of night. My first thought was that they had simply moved to another part of the square but when I walked around the block not a bird was to be seen anywhere in the trees. The characteristic notes of the Starlings could be heard from the roofs and towers of the higher buildings but the trees were absolutely deserted. There is not the least doubt in my mind that the Owls caused the birds to seek other quarters. Comparatively few of the Starlings now roost on the neighboring buildings and so it is probable that the birds have found other roosting places.—R. N. DAVIS, *Scranton, Pa.*

Evening Grosbeak at Rochester, N. Y.—On November 11, 1923, two pairs of Evening Grosbeaks were seen in front of our house. They arrived about 12 o'clock, and remained for three hours feeding on the seeds of a Box Elder, when they flew off, apparently for good as they have not been reported any where around here since. They were quite unafraid, as is customary with them, allowing one to come within two feet. It was also interesting to note that they were not frightened at the automobiles which whizzed by continuously within eight feet of them.—HAROLD G. DYE, *Rochester, N. Y.*