

timber. This species was much less shy than the former and when disturbed uttered a very characteristic *dre-e-e*, having the quality of the song of the Yellow-throated Vireo. Diligent search failed to reveal a nest though the object of their solicitude in one case proved to be a half-grown Cowbird.

Planesticus migratorius migratorius. ROBIN.—Common. Young were flying the middle of June; July 7, nest with three fresh eggs.

Sialia sialis sialis. BLUEBIRD.—Common.

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NOTES ON THE BREEDING BIRDS OF NORTHEASTERN GEORGIA.

BY THOS. D. BURLEIGH.

THESE notes were, with one exception, taken during the summer of 1922, while in camp at the foot of Brasstown Bald four miles from Young Harris, Georgia. Our camp lay on the line between Towns and Union Counties, so in some cases, where the Bald is concerned, it is an open question as to which county certain nests were found in. The one exception mentioned above concerns the Southern Robin, the breeding data on which is included, although referring to Rabun County, Georgia, because actual breeding records for this species in the state are very scarce.

The region about Young Harris has been described so well by Arthur H. Howell (Notes On The Summer Birds of Northern Georgia, 'The Auk,' Vol. XXVI, No. 2, April, 1909) that no attempt will be made to touch on the topography of this region at this time. Nor will any but the more interesting records be cited, for a complete list would be unnecessary duplication unless concerning actual breeding records. Of the following nine species recorded during the summer, four of them, *Melospiza melodia melodia*, *Bombycilla cedrorum*, *Wilsonia canadensis* and *Nannus hiemalis hiemalis*, are here noted for the first time as occurring in the state during the summer months, while the others concern possibly the first actual breeding records for the State.

Antrostomus vociferus vociferus. WHIP-POOR-WILL.—On July 7, a female was flushed from two well incubated eggs lying in a slight hollow

in the dead leaves at the edge of a short stretch of woods in the open valley. While not an uncommon summer resident in the northern part of the State there are, I believe, no previous records of its eggs having been found.

Junco hyemalis carolinensis. CAROLINA JUNCO.—The top of Brass-town Bald is one of the few spots in the State where this species breeds, and here none were seen during the summer below an elevation of 4000 feet. The birds find a congenial summer home among the rhododendron thickets that dot the northern slope of this rugged mountainside and are fairly plentiful over this limited area. The first nest was found June 27, and held on that date three slightly incubated eggs. It was sunken flush with the ground in thick green moss and was protected and concealed from above by a protruding root, and was on a steep slope practically at the top of the mountain. It was compactly built of rootlets, grasses and green moss, thickly lined with rabbit fur. Another nest found the same day held two half-grown young and was sunken in the moss and ferns covering a ledge of a large boulder. These were without doubt second sets for on June 20, a young bird, out of the nest several days, was seen being fed by both adult birds. A third nest found July 16, that held three well incubated eggs, was to me remarkably interesting for it differed radically from any of this species (*hyemalis*) or any of its subspecies, that I had ever seen. It was fully eight feet from the ground in a red maple sapling and partially concealed by a grape vine, and was a large rather loose ball of green moss intermixed with a few dead leaves and rootlets, well cupped and lined with black rootlets and, at the bottom, fine grasses and a few horse hairs. I later realized that this method of nesting was seemingly by no means uncommon here for two other nests were found during the summer in situations very similar to this. These are to the best of my knowledge the first authentic breeding records for the State, although this species has been known to occur here during the summer months.

Melospiza melodia melodia. SONG SPARROW.—This species is beyond question gradually extending its range southward, for while until the past few years it had not been known to occur anywhere in the State during the breeding season, it is now fairly plentiful in suitable localities during the summer months in the extreme northeastern part of Georgia. I have found it in Rabun, Union, Towns and Fannin Counties, the last being as far as I could determine the limit of its present distribution. A nest found July 10 near Young Harris, in Towns County, held three slightly incubated eggs and was three feet from the ground in a blackberry bush in an overgrown ditch in the middle of an open field. It was large and compactly built of weed stems and grasses, lined with fine grasses and horse hair. This is the first actual breeding record for the State.

Bombycilla cedrorum. CEDAR WAXWING.—The little field work done in the northern part of Georgia had never included this species as a summer resident, so my limited experience causes me to question whether it had merely been overlooked or whether it also is gradually shifting its

breeding range south through the mountains. Even now it is by no means plentiful, but scattered pairs can be found in the open valleys, and it will be interesting to see in the years to come whether it increases perceptibly in numbers. My first nest was found July 20, within two miles of Young Harris, and held on that date five well incubated eggs. It was forty-five feet from the ground at the outer end of a limb of a large white oak at the side of a road bordering an open field and was built of weed stems, grasses, rootlets and light green moss-like lichens, lined somewhat with dry pine needles. The following day, while passing an open grove of scrub pines (*Pinus virginiana*) that bordered the road five miles northeast of Young Harris, the actions of a pair of these birds aroused my suspicions and a short search revealed two apparently new nests. The first was fifty feet from the ground in the top of one of the larger trees and an investigation revealed that it was without doubt the first attempt of this pair to breed here, broken egg shells in the bottom showing that it had come to a disastrous end. The second nest was thirty feet from the ground at the extreme outer end of a limb of one of the pines and reaching it necessitated the use of a rope. It held one fresh egg and later was found to be deserted, due I suppose to the treatment it received in my effort to examine it. It was rather shabbily built of dry pine needles and the same light green moss-like lichens, with a very few rootlets and grasses. Other birds were observed during the summer but lack of time prevented my devoting more time to them.

Lanivireo solitarius alticola. MOUNTAIN VIREO.—This species has long been known to be a common summer resident through the mountains in the northern part of the State, but as there seem to be no actual breeding records the following notes may be of interest and value. One fact that seems to me to be well worth recording is that two broods are raised each year, the first during the latter part of April and early May, and the second in June. Nests from which the young had already flown were found early in June, and my experience would certainly prove the later nesting. The first nest with eggs was found June 14, holding on that date four well incubated eggs. It was twenty-five feet from the ground suspended from a fork at the outer end of a limb of a large hemlock close to a stream in a ravine, and at the foot of Brasstown Bald. A second nest, found June 19, also held four well incubated eggs and was eighteen feet from the ground suspended from a fork at the outer end of a limb of a beech sapling well up the mountain side. The female was incubating and was remarkably tame, remaining on the nest until the limb was cut off and the nest brought within reach, flying only when stroked on the back. A third nest found June 25 held one fresh egg and was later deserted. It was twelve feet from the ground at the outer end of a limb of an uprooted ash sapling in a ravine probably half way up the mountain. These nests were all alike in construction, being compactly built of grasses, fragments of weed stems and shreds of bark, lined with fine grasses, vine tendrils and fine hemlock

twigs, and well covered on the outside with, in two cases, fragments of an old hornet's nest, and invariably numerous green lichens. This habit of ornamenting the nest with green lichens, in the same manner as a Wood Pewee or a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher conceals its nest, is characteristic of this bird alone of all the eastern and possibly the western Vireos, and is the more interesting in that this is only a subspecies occurring over a limited area. As confirming my opinion that two broods are raised each year, I might add here the fact that a fourth nest was found July 15, in Fannin County, that held newly hatched young.

***Dendroica caerulescens cairnsi*.** CAIRNS' WARBLER.—This species is limited and decidedly local in its distribution in the State for it is entirely wanting in Fannin County and, in my experience, breeds only on Brasstown Bald, which lies in both Union and Towns Counties. Here, however, it is quite plentiful and nests indiscriminately in the valleys, on the mountain sides and on the higher ridges to an elevation of approximately 4900 feet. Two nests were found on May 12, in each three slightly incubated eggs. One was two feet from the ground in the top of a small red maple sapling close to a stream in a ravine, the other a foot from the ground in a small laurel bush part way up the mountain side. Both were compactly built of shreds of bark and grasses, well lined with fine black rootlets, one being covered slightly on the outside with spiders' down. These are, I believe, the first nests to be taken in Georgia.

***Wilsonia canadensis*.** CANADA WARBLER.—This species has never been recorded before as breeding in the State but I found it this past summer fairly plentiful on the north slope of Brasstown Bald above an elevation of 4000 feet. This is rather a limited area but I feel that at least ten pair must have nested there among the moss-covered boulders and tangled rhododendron thickets. No nests were actually found, but on June 20, a male was seen carrying food and displaying decided uneasiness over my presence, indicating beyond any question that young were nearby.

***Thryomanes bewicki bewicki*.** BEWICK'S WREN.—This is a rather common summer resident throughout the northern part of the State, there being few farm houses in these mountain valleys without a pair of these birds. A nest was found June 18 near Blairsville, in Union County, that held six well incubated eggs and was on the sill above the door of an unoccupied house at the edge of a short stretch of woods. It was large and bulky, and was built of coarse twigs, dead leaves, grasses, weed stems and green moss, well hollowed in the top and lined with chicken feathers, a little horse hair and fragments of an old snake skin.

***Nannus hiemalis hiemalis*.** WINTER WREN.—One of the real surprises the summer held in store for me was finding a pair of these birds breeding on the cool damp north slope of Brasstown Bald. It had never even occurred to me that this species might linger this far south to nest and actually finding it in Georgia during the summer months was a totally unexpected pleasure. The birds were restricted to a narrow area at an

elevation of approximately 4100 feet but here the male could be found singing at all hours of the day, although he was so restless and elusive, as he fed about old logs and uprooted trees, that he was more often heard than seen. The nest was found June 15 after a long hard search but it was empty, and judging from its appearance the young had already flown. It was well concealed in the top of the upturned roots of a large hemlock close to a small stream, and differed in no way from those I had found farther north, being a ball of fine hemlock twigs and green moss, with the entrance at one side and at the top.

Planesticus migratorius achrusterus. SOUTHERN ROBIN.—As I knew of but one breeding record for this species in the State, a set of eggs having been taken near Atlanta several years ago by Dr. Wm. H. LaPrade, I was interested during a week-end spent in Rabun County, in the extreme northeastern part of the State, to find it nesting fairly plentifully in and about several of the small towns there. I was at Clayton April 13, and with the short time I had at my disposal I succeeded in finding four nests, three practically built but as yet empty and the last with three slightly incubated eggs. This nest was twelve feet from the ground in a crotch at the outer end of a limb of a large post oak at the side of a road and was built of twigs, weed stems, grasses and mud, well lined with fine grasses. The following day was spent at Dillard, ten miles north of Clayton, and here three nests were found, one of which held four fresh eggs. It was twenty feet from the ground in a crotch near the top of a small white oak in a small grove at the edge of the town, and was compactly built of rootlets, weed stems, grasses and mud, well lined with fine grasses. The partiality this species shows for civilization, or at least for the proximity of man, was clearly evident here for none were seen anywhere, at any time, except in the close vicinity of the towns.

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NOTES ON BIRDS OF THE LABRADOR PENINSULA IN 1923.

BY HARRISON F. LEWIS.

Plate VII.

THE notes upon which this paper is based were made on or near the Gulf of St. Lawrence coast of the Labrador Peninsula, between Long Point of Mingan and Blanc Sablon, during the spring, summer, and early autumn of 1923. Leaving Quebec on May 1, 1923, I debarked at Esquimaux Point, on the southern shore of the