

supply will cause the Vultures to withdraw remains to be seen. The fact that Turkey Vultures do not occur as permanent residents in the Pymatuning Swamp section suggests the probability that the birds which nest in the more northern counties of the Commonwealth spend the winter in the southern counties.—GEORGE MIKSCH SUTTON, *Board of Game Commissioners, Harrisburg, Pa.*

Turkey Vulture in New Hampshire.—A note appeared in a recent issue of the Keene, New Hampshire 'Sentinel' describing the shooting of a Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura septentrionalis*) on April 30, 1928, by William Royce, Jr., on the estate of Dr. William F. Wesselhoeft, at Jaffrey, N. H. The bird is stated to have weighed seven pounds and had a wing spread of six feet from tip to tip. The bird was mounted by George P. Wellington, a taxidermist and I examined it in his studio on May 31. It is a beautiful full plumaged specimen.—LEWIS O. SHELLY, *East Westmoreland, N. H.*

Sparrow Hawk Killing young Chickens.—Between June 27 and July 2, 1928, while traveling along the Redmon Road, in Edgar County, Illinois, I frequently saw, at the same spot in the road, a small chick in the talons of a Sparrow Hawk. The age of the chicks, which were Barred Rocks, was estimated by two chicken breeders at two weeks. The fact that this occurrence was seen always at the same point seems presumptive evidence that it was the same bird or one of the same pair (the sex was male in all cases where one could be certain of it). The fact that all chicks were Barred Rocks might lend some support to the same conclusion.

The diet of birds is known to vary within certain limits with the availability of certain food articles. However, when an insectivorous Hawk whose normal diet consists of only a small proportion of small birds turns "chicken hawk" with such earnestness and persistence, one is taken a little by surprise. In this case the factors causing the change are not far to seek.

For about two weeks preceding the period during which the observations were made there had been a record-breaking period of rainy, cool and cloudy weather. The insect population was considerably reduced by the weather. In fact, the hordes of insects that often detract materially from the pleasure of night driving at this period were conspicuously absent. It is not difficult to imagine, therefore, that the Sparrow Hawk was forced to turn to other sources of food.

Incidentally, peculiar conditions of the poultry and egg market have encouraged the raising of late chicks, which would account for the exposure of such young chicks at such a late date in the breeding season.—JOHN STEIDL, *Vanderbilt Hall, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass.*

Flicker Trapped by Resin.—On April 19, 1927, I saw a female Flicker (*Colaptes auratus luteus*) vainly attempting to fly along the lake shore at Evanston, Illinois. I was able to capture the bird without much trouble,

and upon examining it, found the tips of both wings, as well as the left half of the tail, thickly covered with the resin of a species of poplar, young shoots of which were growing abundantly in the vicinity. A considerable quantity of sand adhered to the resin.

It seems probable that the bird would not have been able to clean the substance from its feathers, as its most violent efforts did not serve to separate the quills.—PIERCE BRODKORB, *Evanston, Illinois*.

The Type Locality for the Porto Rican Whippoorwill.—In the original description of the Porto Rican Whippoorwill published in 1919.¹ I recorded the type locality as "Porto Rico" this being the only information other than the date on the label of the specimen, which is in the collections of the Field Museum. In recent conversation with Mr. Clark P. Streater who secured this bird I made inquiry regarding it to learn that it was secured near Bayamón, a small town across the bay from the city of San Juan. Mr. Streater has since kindly looked through his papers and writes me that he arrived in San Juan, Porto Rico, September 28, 1888, and that after some difficulty in obtaining collecting permits he established quarters in Bayamón about October 8, working there continuously until about November 20. His collections of about three hundred birds and a few bats were made entirely at this point. The Whippoorwill, the only one seen, was secured there October 29.

On November 23, 1888, Mr. Streater took passage for Fajardo in a small sailing vessel but on arrival there fell ill with an attack of dysentery from which he recovered with difficulty and which terminated his field work in Porto Rico.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.*

Habits of the Ruby-throated Hummingbird.—At Berne, N. Y., on May 29, 1928, on a small branch of a horse-chestnut tree, nine feet and eight inches from the ground, and on a level with my dining room window, a female Hummingbird was building the foundation of a nest. The nest was plainly visible at all times from the window, and at intervals, standing on a step-ladder, I peered into it. There were no eggs in it on June 5 and on the morning of June 7 the mother bird was putting the finishing touches on the inside of the nest. I did not look into it on June 6 or 7 as she was not sitting. In the afternoon of June 8 the mother bird for the first time seemed to be sitting, and as soon as she left, I found two small elliptical shaped eggs in the nest. Authors vary as to the length of time it takes for the incubation of the eggs, some claiming a period of ten days, while one author has written, "It is about thirteen days between the full number of eggs and the appearance of the young." June 20 the eggs were not hatched. During the next three days the female bird was apparently not feeding the young but on June 24 she appeared to be doing so, and on examination I found that the nest then contained

¹ Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, vol. 32, Dec. 31, 1919, pp. 235-238.