

dusk for several evenings. Since then as many as a dozen have been seen early in the morning about the cedars in the yard where they probably spend the night. The recorded dates are February 9, 14, 20, and 22, 1934, at the farm. The birds have also been observed in the park and in the cemetery in town. There were about one hundred birds in the flock in the cemetery. There are a great many conifers in the cemetery which likely provide shelter and perhaps some food for them.—FRANK M. ALEXANDER, *Wellington, Kansas.*

Wilson's Warbler in Georgia.—On April 25, 1931, while out in a swamp on Brier Creek I was very much elated and surprised to see a Wilson's Warbler (*Wilsonia pusilla pusilla*). The bird was on the ground in plain view and though I approached within ten feet of him he was not frightened and continued to sit there. At last he flew to a nearby shrub and again I approached very near. This time I wrote a description of him as I did not have a gun to secure this rare visitor.—BERNARD H. STEVENSON, *Waynesboro, Ga.*

Iris Color in the Boat-tailed Grackle (*Cassidix mexicanus subspecies*).—These birds were not numerous on the Chenier au Tigre, Louisiana, this spring but several flocks composed of males, mostly, were observed daily. At the request of Dr. Francis Harper, I collected a few specimens and found that the eyes were greyish brown in males in first year and in full adult plumage. Females were not collected, but those observed with glasses seemed to have eyes of brown.—A. M. BAILEY, *Chicago Acad. of Sciences.*

Color of Iris in the Boat-tailed Grackle (*Cassidix mexicanus major*).—The comments in 'The Auk' caused me to make special investigations on the color of the iris of the Boat-tailed Grackle. I annually band quite a lot of these birds, and there are great numbers of them nesting in various localities about my place and as they are quite tame, the iris can easily be examined without killing them. When handling Boat-tails for banding in late March, 1934, I noticed that all of the males around the trap, although in full breeding plumage, had yellow eyes, but when in the trap and badly frightened, their eyes were brown. In late April I made a more careful investigation.

With my glasses I watched the birds around the nests, go through the courting antics, and at such times, when excited and making plumage display to attract the females, the iris is contracted to only a very small black point, and the balance of the eye is a brilliant golden yellow. When these same birds relax, the pupil expands and the iris is then partly brown or a dull golden brown, except the outside rim, which remains bright gold. These same birds when taken in the trap or observed through the glasses at a distance of fifty feet, have the iris brown, with the exception of the golden ring, but when taken in the hand, or when they are being caught, all of the yellow disappears and the iris is then brown. I made this test on

more than 20 birds on three different days, using fresh birds each day, and in every case, the iris change was noted as above.

This fact may cause those who are dividing the Boat-tail Grackles into sub-species on account of the color of the eyes to make some further investigation. Personally, I have come to the conclusion that there is nothing in the color of the iris to warrant a sub-specific division.—E. A. McILHENNY, *Avery Island, La.*

Nesting of Boat-tailed Grackle and Blue-winged Teal in Delaware.

—I saw a single Boat-tail Grackle (*Cassidix mexicanus major*) near here in 1930 and last year (1933) found a pair near Cedar Beach on April 29, while on May 5 I found four pairs and a nest containing three eggs. It was built of coarse marsh grasses lined with finer grass, nine inches by seven with the cavity four by five and a half inches. It was situated in a cedar tree about twelve feet up. On June 18, 1933, I saw three groups of young, one of four and the others three. In the spring of 1934 these Grackles again nested.

I found a nest of the Blue-winged Teal (*Querquedula discors*) on May 11, 1933, in a fairly dry marsh near the Bay, with eight eggs. The male kept flying around and whistling but the female did not flush until I was within ten feet of the nest. In May, 1934, another nest with eggs was found by a visiting ornithologist.—HERBERT BUCKALEW, *Milford, Del.*

Purple Grackle Wintering at Newport, R. I.—On January 4, 1934, I watched an apparently uninjured Purple Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula quiscula*) in my small garden in Newport, R. I., where it had remained through the early winter. The below zero weather seems to have had a very weakening effect on the bird and since then he has had great difficulty in flying. While Bronzed Grackles remain late in the autumn I have never before found a Purple Grackle in winter.—A. O'D. TAYLOR, *Powel Ave., Newport, R. I.*

Further Occurrence of the Bronzed Grackle in Northwestern Montana.—In 'The Auk' for April, 1932, the writer recorded the first known occurrences of the Bronzed Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula aeneus*) west of the continental divide in Montana: two birds having been seen on June 22, 1927, and one on April 22 and 23, 1929, at Fortine.

Since that time these additional records have been obtained by the writer in the same locality: one bird was observed May 8 and 10, 1933; and two were noted October 2, 1933.—WINTON WEYDEMEYER, *Fortine, Montana.*

Cowbird Notes from Tennessee.—At Radnor Lake, near Nashville, Tennessee, on July 9, 1933, Harry C. Monk and the writer located a unique nest of the Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus l. ludovicianus*). The brooding bird was flushed disclosing four eggs, three of the owner and one of the Eastern Cowbird (*Molothrus a. ater*). It is noted that Dr. Fried-