

were made by an insect rubbing its feet across its back! Apparently the elusiveness of the bird has entirely deceived them also.

The specimens are now in the collection of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.—ARTHUR B. FULLER, *Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Cleveland, Ohio.*

**American Woodcock in Thunder Bay district, Ontario.**—The first indication that the American Woodcock (*Philohela minor*) might be breeding in this locality was in June 1937, when one was heard by T. M. Shortt of the Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology, who was here on a collecting trip at that time. The spot was about ten miles west of Port Arthur. On May 8, 1938, therefore, I visited the same place, and heard and observed a male on this and subsequent occasions. Suitable territory in the neighbourhood was later visited and two more 'fighting' males were discovered, and on May 28, information was received that a nest had been found by a man clearing land, some distance from where the other birds had been observed. This nest was visited on May 29, when the bird was incubating four eggs. These, on examination, proved to be infertile, probably due to the cold, snowy weather of the early part of the month.

This is the first time that this species has been definitely known to occur in this district.—L. S. DEAR, *Port Arthur, Ontario.*

**Baird's Sandpiper in Texas.**—Apparently Baird's Sandpiper (*Pisobia bairdi*) is a rare migrant in Texas. Streker (Bull. Baylor Univ., 15: 20, 1912) lists only three Texas localities whence this species has been recorded: Boerne, Kendall County; San Angelo, Tom Green County; Alpine, Brewster County. Griscom and Crosby (Auk, 42: 528, 1925) record two specimens from near Brownsville. All these localities are west of the meridian passing through San Antonio. Williams (Auk, 55: 62, 1938) did not record it in the vicinity of Houston during his five years of observation. For this reason it seems advisable to report the taking of three birds twelve miles southwest of Eagle Lake, Colorado County, Texas, on April 15, 1938. Two others were observed on the same day in open short-grass prairie about six miles northeast of Eagle Lake. These two localities seemingly are near the eastern edge of the migration route followed by this species in passing northward through Texas. The westernmost record is from Alpine in trans-Pecos Texas.—WILLIAM B. DAVIS, *Texas Co-operative Wildlife Service, College Station, Texas.*

**Scandinavian Lesser Black-backed Gull at Key West, Florida.**—On the morning of March 10, 1938, Messrs. James J. Murray, of Lexington, Virginia, Edward M. Moore, of Key West, and the writer were on the head of one of the piers in the Key West Yacht Basin awaiting a Coast Guard plane for an aerial survey of the Lower Keys. Many gulls were flying about and Mr. Moore suddenly pointed out one which he described as "very dark." Catching sight of it at once, we saw that it was clearly a black-backed gull, indeed, the veriest tyro could not have mistaken it. Other than the striking coloration, the size of the bird was arresting. It was constantly in company with Herring Gulls, and was studied for an hour or more. Every opportunity was given for comparison both in the air, and at rest on a nearby breakwater. Messrs. Moore and Murray were sure that it was just the size of the Herring Gulls, the writer thought it a shade larger. Range of observation varied from about fifty to two hundred yards. The bird exhibited the following characters: under parts pure white; bill distinctly yellow as were the feet; small white spots appeared at tips of primaries and there was a white edging on the front of the wings as well as on the hinder rim; under side of wings rather dusky, this area extending toward the body on