

BLACK RAIL, *Creciscus jamaicensis stoddardi*.—On May 27, 1939, Charles O. Handley, Jr., flushed a Black Rail from a small swamp on the college farm. The same morning, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Bailey and C. O. Handley, we flushed it again near the same place and collected it. It proved to be a male, and by all indications was not nesting. The specimen constitutes the first record for the county, and is, in fact, a good record for any inland area.

LONG-EARED OWL, *Asio wilsonianus*.—On May 9, 1939, when banding young Crows with Thomas Watkins on Price's Mountain a few miles south of Blacksburg, we came upon an adult Long-eared Owl sitting on an abandoned crow's nest about twenty feet off the ground, in a patch of scrub pine. It left the nest and immediately flew to the ground, performing the usual feigning of a wounded bird, uttering weird cries. Investigation of the nest disclosed four young, downy owls, the oldest of which had just started feathering of the wings. The other adult was not seen. On May 15, the young were twice their former size. Both adults were seen; they did not feign as before but flew about the neighboring trees uttering various calls and cries and at times, when the nest was approached closely, would fly within fifteen to twenty feet of it. The young were banded and pictures taken. By May 20, three had left the nest and were out in the neighboring trees. Many pellets and feathers were collected. Dr. Smyth's only record for the Long-eared Owl is of a pair seen in evergreens on Brush Mountain near the college, on November 26, 1915; one of the birds was collected.

PINE WARBLER, *Dendroica pinus*.—Dr. Ellison Smyth in his publication, 'Birds observed in Montgomery County, Virginia' (Auk, 29: 508-530, 1912) recorded the Pine Warbler as very rare here. He obtained only two specimens and those in September and October. On March 24, 1939, while collecting on Pearis Mountain, about four miles east of Blacksburg, I investigated what I thought was a Junco singing. It proved to be a male Pine Warbler which I collected. There were at least three birds present at the time. Later, during April and May, Charles O. Handley, Jr., and myself found the Pine Warbler very common about Blacksburg on Brush and Price's Mountains and probably nesting. These areas are between 2,000 and 3,000 feet elevation.—EDWARD ADDY, *Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, Virginia*.

North Carolina bird colonies.—Covering the time of June 7-22, 1939, the writer traversed the coast of North Carolina from South Carolina to the Virginia line. The object was to learn the condition of waterbird colonies in this region and to note the changes that have taken place since he first traversed this region in the summer of 1898. He was at all times accompanied by one or more of the following North Carolina bird students: H. H. Brimley, C. S. Brimley, Harry Davis, John H. Grey, Jr., Ben F. Royal and Samuel A. Walker.

Forty-one colonies of breeding birds were listed, consisting chiefly of terns, Black Skimmers (*Rynchops nigra*) and Laughing Gulls (*Larus atricilla*). One breeding group of egrets and herons and one of Florida Cormorants were examined. The most abundant species found was the Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum*) which has enormously increased since 1903 when legal protection was first secured for it, and at a time when only six pairs were known to breed on the coast. We located twenty-three colonies. Two nests with eggs of the Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) were found on islands in Beaufort Harbor. This bird had not before been known to breed this far south on the Atlantic Coast.

On Royal Shoal Island, about ten miles from Ocracoke, some six thousand pairs of

Royal Terns (*Thalasseus maximus*) were nesting. The numbers were computed by counting the nests (73) in an area ten feet square and then by measuring the size of the entire egg field. Some Cabot's Terns (*Thalasseus sandvicensis acuflavidus*) were breeding with the Royal Terns. This visit was made in company with H. H. Brimley, on June 17, 1939. Four other small groups of Royal Terns were found breeding during the next few days, the most northern one, with 23 nests (usually one egg each) being shown to us by Samuel Walker on Pea Island on June 21.—T. GILBERT PEARSON, 1006 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

Notes from eastern Kentucky.—While spending the period of July 2-7, 1939, on the Cumberland Plateau close to the Rockcastle River in Laurel County, Kentucky, several interesting discoveries were made.

RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER (*Dryobates borealis*).—On the afternoon of July 2, a loose flock of six or seven was found in a small pine grove. Two birds were seen in another grove on July 5, and on the 7th, four were encountered in the same place. A specimen, dated July 7, is in the collection of Burt L. Monroe of Louisville, and is apparently a year-old male bird. On each occasion the woodpeckers announced their presence by continual chattering as they foraged among the pines. Both places where the birds were recorded are close to the Sublimity Road approximately nineteen miles southwest of London, Kentucky. This constitutes one of the very few records of the species in Kentucky, and the specimen is, to my knowledge, the first from the State.

DUCK HAWK (*Falco peregrinus anatum*).—On July 5, one of these hawks was observed soaring high above some cliffs on the Rockcastle River in Pulaski County, and on the next day an eyrie was discovered in a 130-foot sheer bluff overlooking the river at Rockcastle Narrows in Laurel County. According to older residents, this has been in use for many years. I believe this is the first definitely known nesting site of the Duck Hawk in the State, although much of the Cumberland area is ideally suited for it.

RUFFED GROUSE (*Bonasa umbellus* subsp.) were flushed on March 29 and July 2, adding to the few recent records of this now rare (in Kentucky) gamebird. As recent studies in neighboring States have shown that the northern form also occurs, the subspecies of the Kentucky grouse must remain indefinite until specimens are taken.—ROBERT M. MENGEL, Louisville, Kentucky.

Notes from Wisconsin.—The following notes seem worth recording.

ALBERTA DOWITCHER, *Limnodromus griseus hendersoni*.—On July 16, 1939, I collected, near Madison, an adult male which was identified by Dr. H. C. Oberholser as of this species. This is the first specimen yet to be recorded from Wisconsin.

CINNAMON TEAL, *Querquedula cyanoptera*.—On May 6, 1939, while my son, Jackson, and myself were examining the ducks on a large pond near Madison, I discovered an individual of this species in the company of some Blue-winged Teals. The following day I went back with Mr. A. W. Schorger, who kindly collected it for me. It proved to be a year-old male, in good plumage, though lacking the brilliant luster of the mature bird. It has been placed in the Milwaukee Public Museum and, so far as known, is the only Wisconsin specimen extant.

WILSON'S PHALAROPE, *Steganopus tricolor*.—On July 4, 1939, near one of the lagoons in the University of Wisconsin Arboretum, I saw an adult male of this species that gave unmistakable evidence of having either a nest or young ones near at hand. I stayed there an hour, during which it spent much of the time