

This record shows that the young were fed 49 times in 287 minutes, an average of every 5.85 minutes (with four young in the nest).

The female continued to hover the young until they were six days of age and possibly at times after that. The young left the nest between July 8 and 10. One of the young was seen being fed by the female after they left the nest. I noticed that many caterpillars and moths were amongst the food given the young. These were garnered largely from bushes and lower leaves of trees although sometimes food was sought from higher elevations in the trees. My observations indicate that the male ceased singing entirely when the young hatched and his feeding duties began.

For reading and giving helpful suggestions concerning this manuscript I wish to thank Dr. R. A. Johnson, State Teachers College, Oneonta, N. Y.—DOROTHY SAWYER, *Unadilla, New York*.

Double-crested Cormorant nesting in New York.—On June 20, 1945, we found a colony of Double-crested Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax auritus auritus*) nesting on Gull Island, a small island in eastern Lake Ontario about four miles distant from Henderson Harbor, Jefferson County. There were fourteen nests in elm and willow trees, all of which were at least fifteen feet from the ground. Some were complete, others in various stages of construction. The completed nests contained from one to four eggs. Sixteen birds gathered in a loose flock off the island while we examined the nests. An old resident of Henderson Harbor, Mr. William Stevens, who has known the species since early boyhood, states that this is the first time in 75 years of his memory that cormorants have nested in the region.

As far as can be determined this constitutes the first authentic record of the Double-crested Cormorant nesting in New York. Eaton (Birds of New York, 1: 171, 1910) classes the species as an uncommon migrant on the Great Lakes, but competent observers do not regard this cormorant as an uncommon non-breeding bird on eastern Lake Ontario today.—H. L. KURTZ, *Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Project 20-R, New York Conservation Department, Chaumont* AND DAVID G. ALLEN, *208 Kline Road, Ithaca, New York*.

The Ruff in Connecticut.—On May 25, 1946, Gilbert Waldbauer, Robert Braun and I were looking over the numerous shore birds in an area known as Great Marsh in Westport, Connecticut. In the midst of a flock of Turnstones, Black-bellied Plovers and Semipalmated Sandpipers there suddenly appeared a rather large black-colored bird that we knew immediately was something new. It proved to be an adult male Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*) and, judging by descriptions, about the blackest that an individual of this variable species can be. We watched it for a considerable time, in excellent light conditions and from a distance of about seventy-five feet, using prism glasses to observe all the details.

The head, neck and ruff, breast and upper back were entirely black with a beautiful purple sheen. The wings were brownish with white edgings to the feathers. The lower under parts were white, and there were white markings on the lower back. The bill and bare space on the face were pinkish, and the legs salmon color, or pale orange. When the bird finally flew, the white spots on either side of the upper tail-coverts, with a narrow dark line between them, were clearly visible.

On May 30, 1946, I again visited this area, in the company of Elting Arnold and Paul Baker. As I was showing them the place where the Ruff had been, we were astonished to find it there again in practically the same spot. It was again in the company of other shore birds, including this time several Red-backed Sandpipers. As this species is not only variable in its plumage, but also in the bill and leg colors

(Buturlin, Auk, 45: 415, 1928), there is little doubt that this was the same bird as before. In detailed observation it tallied in every particular with the previous observation.

I believe that this is the first report of this species in Connecticut.—ARETAS A. SAUNDERS, 361 Crestwood Road, Fairfield, Connecticut.

Bobolink on the Gulf of Mexico.—On May 4, 1946, the writer and Aquatic Biologist, Joseph E. King of the New Orleans office of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, were on a shrimp trawler in the Gulf of Mexico. We were 30 miles from the nearest point of land and 20 miles west of Trinity Shoals when our attention was attracted by the strange behavior of several small song birds, particularly that of a Bobolink.

The Bobolink first appeared at the stern of the vessel, its wings beating rather feebly as it approached. It rested on the rigging of the ship for a moment but soon took off again to flutter weakly around the vessel. It suddenly landed in the water alongside and lay with wings outstretched for a moment. Then, much to my surprise, at least, it lifted itself from the water and flew another circle or two around the ship. Again it landed in the water and again it took off after a moment or two. This time, however, its flight was noticeably weaker and it soon dropped on the water. While we watched, it leaped clear of the waves a few more times, but soon reached the stage of exhaustion and wetness where it gave up and allowed itself to become thoroughly soaked. There was no question but that the bird eventually drowned.

Similar behavior was noted in several small warblers, a Redstart, and a Wood Thrush. Even though the weather was fair with only a mild breeze, the birds appeared to be confused and nearly exhausted. Several Barn Swallows that were seen appeared to be faring much better, and a large butterfly of the monarch type was still flying strongly when last seen.

The observation indicated that, even in good spring weather, the Gulf of Mexico claims many migratory song birds.—FRANK DUFRESNE, Chief, Division of Information, United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

Occurrence of the White-eyed Vireo in Canada.—In 1938 I took a White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*), at Toronto, Ontario, and resultant research into the occurrence of the species in Canada brought to light some interesting data, including two apparently unpublished records for Ontario. As far as I have been able to discover, there are only six Canadian records for this vireo and, since only three of these have previously been published, it seems worth while to recapitulate the Canadian occurrences.

The first Canadian specimen was taken in "mid October," 1890, by W. L. Kells, at Listowel, Ontario. This record was published in the 'Transactions of the Royal Canadian Institute' for 1891-1892. The sex of the specimen, its disposal and present whereabouts, are unknown to me.

The next record is of a bird of unreported sex which was collected by W. D. Hobson at Woodstock, Ontario, on April 25, 1902. This specimen is mentioned in the 'Vertebrates of Ontario' by C. W. Nash, published in 1908. The skin apparently is still in the Hobson collection at Woodstock.

The third specimen was taken by Howard Skales at Mount Forest, Ontario, on September 28, 1902. This skin is now in the collection of the Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology at Toronto. The data with the specimen are rather incomplete and the sex of the bird is, again, not given. A report on this record was made by A. B. Klugh in the 'Ontario Natural Science Bulletin' for 1905.