raised ear coverts under the same conditions. The reaction is not easy to see and, in fact, I have only seen it clearly twice, once in a towhee, *Pipilo erythrophthalmus*, and recently in a hen pheasant, *Phasianus colchicus*. In each case the bird's head faced directly away from me, and the coverts projected from the outline of the head like two little, lateral crests. The function of the action is clear. Even the specialized anterior auricular feathers must exert a considerable attenuating effect on sound waves which would be diminished by raising and separating the feathers.—CHARLES H. BLAKE, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts.*

Insect food of the Nevada Savannah Sparrow.—Studies of insect food of Utah birds, with particular regard to their feeding on the beet leafhopper, *Eutettix tenellus* (Baker), and on the pea aphid, *Macrosiphum pisi* (Kalt.), resulted in accumulation of 14 stomachs of the Nevada Savannah Sparrow, *Passerculus sandwichensis nevadensis* Grinnell. Recognizable insect food contained in the 14 stomachs consisted of: Orthoptera, one grasshopper nymph; 50 Homoptera, nine of which were leafhoppers, five being clover leafhoppers, *Aceratagallia sanguinolenta* Prov., besides four beet leafhoppers, 31 aphids, 29 being pea aphids and two European grain aphids; 39 Hemiptera, of which nine were mirids, three being lygus bugs, seven damsel bugs—nearly all *Nabis alternatus* Parsh., and 16 lygaeids, all of which were false chinch bugs, *Nysius ericae* (Schill.); 28 Coleoptera, of which four were larvae, three chrysomelid leaf beetles, five weevils of which one was an adult, three larval alfalfa weevils and one a pea weevil; eight larval Lepidoptera and 17 eggs; 15 Diptera, of which 13 were chironomid midges; four Hymenoptera, two being ants. In addition, numerous insect fragments and 136 weed seeds were recognized.—GEORGE F. KNOWLTON, *Utah State Agricultural College, Logan, Utah.*

Some breeding records from eastern Kentucky.—The only mountain in Kentucky which is high enough to have an avifauna of northern birds (Transitional Zone) is Big Black Mountain, altitude 4150 feet, in Harlan County. First collections were made there by Howell (Auk, 27: 295–304, 1910). Wetmore's party from the U. S. National Museum also visited there in 1938 and verified the subspecific status of such birds as the Carolina Junco, Cairn's Warbler, and the Mountain Vireo (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 88: 529–574, 1940). Notes on the birds of this area have also been published by Barbour (Kentucky Warbler, 17: 46–47, 1941) and Breiding (Kentucky Warbler, 23: 37–40, 1947). With one exception no mention is made of nests, and the breeding status is based either upon their presence in June or July or upon birds collected in juvenal plumage. In view of the fact that part of Black Mountain is in Virginia, the presence of juvenile birds (unless exceedingly young and helpless) is doubtful proof of breeding in Kentucky. It, therefore, seems desirable to record the discovery of nests of three of these northern species.

John Reynolds, a student at the University of Louisville, and I camped near the top of Black Mountain from June 16 to 18, 1947. The summit of the mountain, which is fairly flat, has been largely cleared and parts of it are in grassy fields. The peak lacks entirely the growth of such conifers as spruce and fir which are so characteristic of the higher summits in adjacent states.

Chestnut-sided Warbler, *Dendroica pensylvanica*.—On the evening of June 16, we observed a pair of these warblers at about 4000 feet carrying food to a spot near the center of a blackberry patch. The nest with four well-fledged young was soon located in a dead brier, two feet above the ground. When we returned the next morning, all four young leaped from the nest when the parents gave alarm notes. We succeeded in capturing three for examination. The adults were fearless and came