in the Itasca region is not necessarily dependent on man, but man could be responsible for an expanded population.

My observations have been largely possible through the Dayton Natural History Fund, James Ford Bell Museum of Natural History, University of Minnesota.—MICHAEL J. HAMAS, *Department of Zoology, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455.* Accepted 27 Sept. 73.

Red-bellied Woodpecker predation on nestling Carolina Chickadees.—Beal (1895, U.S. Dept. Agr. Bull. 7) found no evidence of Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Centurus carolinus*) predation on birds. Norris (1958, Univ. California Publ. Zool. 56: 255), suspected that the Red-bellied Woodpecker preyed on nestling Brown-headed Nuthatches (*Sitta pusilla*). He also had circumstantial evidence that the Hairy Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos villosus*) had preyed on nestling Pygmy Nuthatches (*Sitta pygmaea*). Bent (1939, U.S. Natl. Mus. Bull. 1974) stated that Bendire observed Red-headed Woodpeckers (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) kill and eat nestling Eastern Bluebirds (*Sialia sialis*) and Tufted Titmice (*Parus bicolor*). As the genera *Centurus* and *Melanerpes* are closely related (Mayr and Short 1970, Publ. Nuttall Ornithol. Club 9: 56), similar predatory habits might be expected.

In early May 1973 near Ironto, Virginia, a pair of Carolina Chickadees (*Parus carolinensis*) bred in a nest box 1.5 m above the ground attached to a tree. The clutch of seven eggs hatched by 7 May. On 10 May a male Red-bellied Woodpecker found the nest and hammered at the entrance in an apparent attempt to enlarge the hole. The woodpecker subsequently extracted and ate one of the seven nestling chickadees. Between 10 and 12 May the woodpecker removed and carried off in its bill three more of the remaining six immatures. While pulling the nestlings from the box, the woodpecker also pulled out nest material that it promptly dropped. I fortified the entrance against further predation on 12 May and did not see the woodpecker again. The three remaining Carolina Chickadees fledged successfully.—RICHARD N. CONNER, *Department of Forestry and Wildlife, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia 24061. Present address: Department of Biology, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia 24061.* Accepted 23 Oct. 73.

Joint "leap-frog" feeding by ardeids.—Meyerriecks (1960, Nat. Hist. 59: 46) reported a peculiar mode of feeding by Cattle Egrets, *Bubulcus ibis*, which he called "leap-frogging." This behavior apparently enables flock members to flush prey for themselves and each other in the absence of large herbivores. We watched and filmed leap-frogging Cattle Egrets on several occasions 9–14 August 1973, and noticed three other species of ardeids participating, including two Great Egrets, *Casmerodius albus*, four Little Blue Herons, *Florida caerulea*, and one Snowy Egret, *Egretta thula*. The egrets were feeding on a 20-ha tract of tall (0.5–1.0 m), annually burnt *Bahia* grass containing extensive patches of *Solidago altissima*, *Ambrosia artemisiifolia*, *Solanum carolinense*, and *Rubus* sp., 3 km north of the Florida State line along S1591 in Grady County, Georgia.

Leap-frog feeding by 69 Cattle Egrets and a single Great Egret was first seen at 10:00 9 August. Feeding 5–14 individuals abreast, the rather compact flock rapidly advanced through the tall vegetation by alternately walking and feeding, then flying. Egrets in the rear arose, flew 6–12 m, landed 2–3 m in front of the flock, and resumed feeding. As these birds settled, the rearmost birds arose and repeated this process.

The Great Egret participated fully in this behavior, flying and feeding repeatedly. The entire flock took flight after about 15 minutes and 14 Cattle Egrets and the Great Egret flew out of sight. The remaining 55 Cattle Egrets landed about 100 m from the previous feeding spot and were joined by a second Great Egret. After about 5 minutes of preliminary activities, these birds resumed leap-frog feeding, the Great Egret again participating fully. Another Great Egret, possibly the first one, landed during the final 15 minutes of observation and fed solitarily about 60 m from the flock. All egrets dispersed at 10:40.

During the succeeding week in the same field we saw no Great Egrets with the Cattle Egrets, but four immature Little Blue Herons and one Snowy Egret fed in association with them on 10, 13, and 14 August. The Cattle Egrets initiated leap-frog feeding on the 10th and 14th, and the other two species participated.

Terrestrial feeding by *Casmerodius*, *Florida*, and *Egretta*, either with or without *Bubulcus*, has been noted before (e.g. Caldwell 1956, Wilson Bull. 68: 74; Jenni 1969, Ecol. Monogr. 39: 245), but their participation in leap-frog feeding apparently has not. Leap-frog feeding seems best adapted for flock foraging in deep grass. Cattle Egrets would thus be expected to initiate and perform this behavior, but other species evidently participate on an opportunistic basis.

We thank R. F. Doren for aiding in the plant identifications, and H. M. Stevenson for reviewing this note.—JOCHEN H. WIESE and ROBERT L. CRAWFORD, *Tall Timbers Research Station, Route 1, Box 160, Tallahassee, Florida 32303.* Accepted 1 Oct. 73.

White-throated Sparrow nesting again in downtown Buffalo, New York.— In a previous Auk (1971, 88: 172) Frances M. Rew and I reported on White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) breeding in front of a library in downtown Buffalo in 1969. On 28 July 1973 Robert M. Wagner saw an adult White-throat and three fully grown young birds about 380 m southwest of the library in Cathedral Park on Erie Street. On the morning of 31 July I found there two adults, three fledged young, and a nest with a second brood of four young about 2 days old.

Cathedral Park (Figure 1) consists of a paved esplanade about 95 m long and 23 m wide on the south side of St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral. It contains 60 sycamores and poplars about 6 m high. A low concrete wall separates the esplanade from the 4-m wide church foundation plantings of forsythia, euonymus, cotoneaster, a few other small shrubs, and several clumps of flowers. The bottoms of five large window wells are bare earth or partly covered with sparse grass and small herbaceous plants. Seven large floodlights are spaced near the ground along the concrete wall and two are in the grass plots at each end. These and a third grass plot around the church each have several crabapple trees. Next to the west side doors are two more crabapples in a fourth plot with euonymus and yew plants in a bark chip ground cover. Across Erie Street are 12 concrete boxes containing crabapple trees, euonymus, and a bark chip ground cover.

Adults and fledged young were quite tame and one could sometimes approach to within a meter and occasionally to within a half meter of them. All foraged chiefly on the ground in shrubbery, on grass and in ground cover about the church, in the wells and on the esplanade, particularly about the wall, and in the openings at tree bases. They also hunted food on Erie Street about parked cars and on sidewalks. Occasionally they foraged in the larger shrubs and trees in the esplanade and the concrete boxes. The adult male occasionally sallied for insects to the ivy on the church and all fed at times to various heights in this vegetation. I believe that the