

a lagoon in a slanting direction, with only a portion of the top out of water, was made much use of by one bird to preen and rest. While on the piling, however, the bird was always more or less alert, seeming to realize that it was not altogether in its proper element, and although it would squat down after a while it was never seen to go to sleep, at least it never put its head under its wing, as it did so often in other situations, although the head was often drawn down snugly between the shoulders.

MORTALITY.

My observations on this point agree very closely with those of Mackay, the deaths happening to females and immature males. Along the south shore of Lake Michigan, the Indiana side, I have seen a few dead adult males, but in every instance the bodies were so torn by gulls that the cause of death could not be determined. March 31, 1914, I found an adult male on the beach at Jackson Park, in good condition, but with very little fat. There were no wounds apparent except a bad one on the back, which was probably made by a gull, which bird may have been the cause of the Old-squaw's death, although it does not appear likely. Dead birds have been found in all winters except that of 1912-1913, the mildest of all. But not even in the severest winters have I found a bird that was starved to skin and bones, although besides the adult male just referred to, none of them possessed any fat.

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER IN COLUMBIANA COUNTY.

BY H. W. WEISGERBER, Salem, Ohio.

I am fully convinced that the Kentucky Warbler is firmly establishing itself along the northern boundry of Columbiana County, for a bird could scarcely appear for three successive years in a given locality and not continue to do so, provided, of course, that conditions remained the same.



SITE OF KENTUCKY WARBLER'S NEST

The nest is on the ground beneath the stick, as indicated by circle.

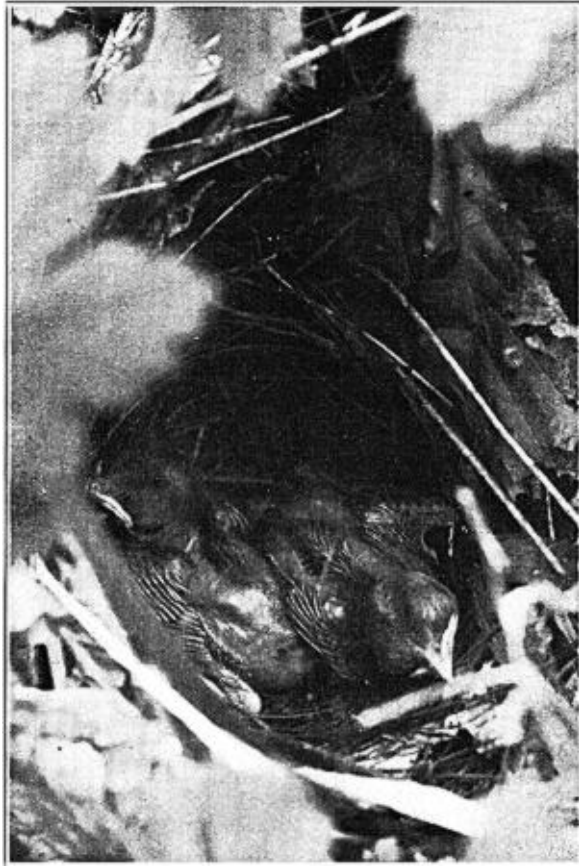
My first experience with the species was on May 5, 1907, which was during the early years of my bird study career. But before going on I wish to relate a rather funny incident with that first observation. It was on a lovely Sunday afternoon and I had gone to the woods—just for a walk and without my opera glasses—not expecting to find anything rare. I found the bird under the thick cover of brush in a low, wet spot in the woods. Across my path lay a large, partly decayed hickory log with a few short stubs of limbs still upon it. The bird was feeding about the earth-bank that still hid the buried roots, and in order to get a better view of it I stepped upon the log and then leaned rather heavily with my left hand upon one of the decayed limbs. Well, suddenly, and without warning, the limb gave way and I found myself astride the log, looking in the opposite direction from where the bird was feeding. As might be expected, the bird flew away and I failed to find him again.

It was in the height of the migration season of 1912 that I again saw him; this time in woodland nearer the city. I listed him several times during the "season," after which I did not visit the woods until fall. I had the same experience with him during the "season" of 1913, and while I suspected a breeding pair, I never found more than one bird—the male for he was in song.

During the 1914 "season" I had a collaborator, Mr. J. F. Machwart, of the high school faculty, whose great desire was to "list" a Kentucky Warbler, and very fortunately he found it on a rainy morning when I was not with him. I listed the bird the next morning and about every other morning during the "season." It was some time after the migration season that Mr. Machwart reported that he had seen a Kentucky Warbler with nesting material in her beak and that she was very much concerned about his presence.

On the afternoon of June 13th I was "hunting" with a camera, and while waiting for a Red-eyed Vireo to return to her nest a pair of Kentucky Warblers were greatly excited. This was the first time that I had ever seen a pair.

After she had disappeared in a brush pile she went to the



TWO YOUNG KENTUCKY WARBLERS IN NEST
Photo by H. W. Weisgerber, Salem, Ohio

nest with food. Then it was found out that I had been sitting within 10 feet of her nest and once during that time she had perched upon the stick above the nest. I did not see it during my first hunt for it. At this time the young birds were only a few days old and squirmed so much that they spoiled the negative of the nest.

I notified Mr. George L. Fordyce, of Youngstown, Ohio, of my find, and on the 18th he and Mr. John L. Young came to Salem and got to see the old and young birds. At this time, too, I obtained the negative of the young in the nest, for they were old enough to remain perfectly quiet.

On the next visit to the place the nest was empty and I trust that the young made a safe getaway. Later I got the nest and brought it home. It is a rather bulky affair composed of dead leaves, the most of which no doubt were on the ground and were simply pushed aside, while the nest proper is composed of wild grapevine bark, grass and rootlets with a lining of very fine rootlets and many horse hairs.

Prof. Wells W. Cooke, of the biological survey, in acknowledging my report says: "You are to be congratulated on finding the nest of the Kentucky warbler. It is a very rare bird in northeastern Ohio. We have probably six or ten records of it at different times and places, but no actual finding of the nest."

And here's a wish that they may continue to come and multiply and spread over adjacent districts so that other observers may list them. And in concluding may I suggest that the casual observer look closely at what he thinks are Maryland yellowthroats that he finds in the thick underbrush of the woodlands, and follow up all "oven-bird" songs that sound the least bit off tune? I verily believe that many observers have missed the Kentucky warbler on the two above suggestions.