

GENERAL NOTES

Conducted by M. H. Swenk

An European Goldfinch at Ann Arbor, Michigan.—On February 9, 1926, I took an European Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*) at Ann Arbor. My attention was called to it by its peculiar call. Mr. Norman A. Wood of the Museum of Zoology, states that its feet indicate that it was not an escaped cage bird. The specimen is now in the Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.—LEONARD W. WING, *Jackson, Mich.*

The Western Meadowlark at Ann Arbor, Michigan.—I took an adult male of the Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*) two and a half miles southeast of Ann Arbor, April 13, 1926. The primaries of the right wing were broken off a short distance from the wing. Mr. A. D. Tinker states it had been there for some time before I took it. The Van Tyne brothers inform me that they had heard it during the summer of 1925. The specimen is now in the Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.—LEONARD W. WING, *Jackson, Mich.*

A Late Occurrence of the Chimney Swift in Ohio.—On October 31, 1925, I saw a Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) at Dayton, Ohio, flying above the snow-covered banks of the Miami River.*—ROBERT CUSHMAN MURPHY, *American Museum of Natural History, New York City.*

The Blue Grosbeak in Lake County, Ohio, in Summer.—On July 15, 1925, I found a male Blue Grosbeak in a small maple within the Painesville city limits, and watched it for a considerable period as it flew from one shade tree to another, singing at short intervals. The song was a low warble and could easily have been mistaken for that of a Purple Finch had the bird not been in sight. At times, though, there was a suggestion of the song of the Rose-breasted Grosbeak. The bird was still in the dapple-breasted plumage of a young male. The date is interesting since most northern records are made in the spring, at migration time, of birds presumably caught in the onrush of the migrating hosts and as a result passing beyond their usual limits.—E. A. DOOLITTLE, *Painesville, Ohio.*

Some Winter Birds of Iowa.—The following notes on birds seen here in the winter might be of interest. Five species were seen within three miles of my home, in Giard, Clayton County, Iowa, as follows:

Marsh Hawk (*Circus hudsonius*).—A straggler, a female, was seen on my place on January 12, 1924.

Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*).—A straggler male was seen in a neighbor's corn-crib, feeding on mill feeds stored there, during a snow storm, on December 31, 1923.

*This date is later than any last date of departure of this species recorded from the United States in Dr. Oberholser's recent treatment of the migration of the swifts (in *Bird-Lore*, XXVIII, pp. 11-12) except in the case of four records, viz., Pensacola, Florida, November 2, 1919; New Orleans, Louisiana, November 4, 1896; Charleston, South Carolina, November 5, 1913, and Fort Wayne, Indiana, November 13, 1906.—Ed.

Purple Finch (*Carpodacus purpureus*).—A male was observed on January 25 and 26, 1924, feeding on weed seeds, on the banks of Bloody Run near Giard Station, Iowa.

Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*).—On January 19, 22 and 27, and on February 10 and 11, these birds came to my yard in flocks of seven to twenty-six birds and were seen to feed upon the frozen apples that still hung in the trees. I was at times able to approach within ten feet of the birds and they were all of the above species.

Winter Wren (*Nannus hiemalis hiemalis*).—On January 21, 1926, I observed a single bird of this species, in brush piles in a hollow that is being cleared. As I am familiar with the Winter Wren as a fall migrant, when they are common in this same place, collecting was unnecessary.—OSCAR P. ALLERT, *McGregor, Iowa*.

The Harris's Sparrow in Lake County, Indiana.—The Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*) is a very rare bird in Indiana, with only one or two records of its having been heretofore observed in this state. On May 17, 1926, I caught a male in a Lyon pull drop trap, along with four White-throated Sparrows (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*). I took it into the house, where we made positive identification, placed band No. 189152 on it, and released it to go on its way, destination unknown.

Butler's Birds of Indiana (1897) has no record of the Harris's Sparrow having been observed in Indiana, but in his hypothetical list, on page 1162, he states it might possibly be found, on account of having been reported in neighboring states. At page 1178 he states that John O. Dunn shot one in some bushes along the road east of Riverdale, Ill., on October 6, 1894. In the general notes in the *Auk*, XXV, p. 82, (1908) it is stated that one was taken by Mr. Wyman on October 13, 1907, at Beach, Lake County, Ill., and that one was observed by Mr. Ruthven Deane in Lincoln Park, Chicago, Ill., on May 11, 1904. Mr. H. L. Stoddard observed two at Miller; three were observed by Mr. Lyon at Waukegan, Ill., and six by Mr. J. P. Lewis at Chicago, Ill. See the *Auk*, XL, p. 412.—CLARENCE BRETSCH, 690 *Broadway, Gary, Ind.*

Peculiar Behavior of a Kingbird at an Orchard Oriole's Nest.—Mrs. H. W. Glossbrenner, Mrs. A. P. Thomas and myself were making observations at the nest of an Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*) in Brown County, Indiana, on June 20, 1926, when we noticed a Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) in an adjoining tree. Both the male and female Oriole having fed the young in the nest, which was placed in the topmost branches of a tall oak tree, had gone in search of food. In their absence the Kingbird flew directly to a dead branch two feet from the nest, then perched on the side of the nest, and, with wings extended and spread and tail spread to its fullest, made several dips with its head into the nest. It was so well surrounded with leaves that it was not possible to see what the Kingbird did. The Kingbird then flew to a perch three feet away as the female Orchard Oriole came back. She made a dart at the Kingbird, which did not leave, then went to the nest, continuing to scold a little. The male Orchard Oriole then came, struck at the Kingbird, sat on a perch six inches from the Kingbird and between it and the nest for several seconds, then went to the nest. Both Orioles left in a few seconds and the Kingbird repeated its per-