

accurate identification of the birds handled. If he is to interpret results that may be a different matter; but every bander is not called upon to interpret results.

We believe, therefore, that bird banding is an established method of bird study; and that it will assist tremendously in the solution of those problems where the identification of the individual bird is required. The bird bander is an ornithologist, generically speaking; the ornithologist is a potential bird bander, and should at least be sympathetic with the banding method, and interested in the scientific results obtained by that method. More progress will be made if these groups commingle at our meetings and on our programs. The sequestration of the bird banders on the programs will not mean progress.

The dues for 1927 should be sent to the newly elected Treasurer, Prof. J. W. Stack, Michigan Agricultural College, East Lansing, Michigan.

GENERAL NOTES

Conducted by M. H. Swenk

The Black-bellied Plover in Oklahoma.—On August 18, 1925, an American Black-bellied Plover (*Squatarola squatarola cynosurae*) was identified by me at Gate, in northwestern Oklahoma. This species has not previously been recorded from this State. The plover was on a shallow fresh-water pond and was sufficiently tame to afford a splendid opportunity for observation and identification. The distinguishing white base of the upper tail coverts was plainly visible. It was under observation for about half an hour and permitted the observer to approach within twenty-five or thirty feet. Then it would fly up, and, giving its characteristic whistle, circle above the water and again settle down and resume its business of picking up insects on the pond.—WALTER E. LEWIS, *Gate, Okla.*

Aerial Maneuvers of Migrating White Pelicans.—On September 21, 1926, as I was coming up the street at 4 P. M., I noted several people looking up at the skies, and, on searching for the reason, I discovered a vast concourse of what I took to be White Pelicans (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*). I did not have my binoculars. The sheriff was standing near me and was looking at them. I asked him, "How many are there?" After scanning the milling mass for a few seconds, he said, "A thousand." They were too numerous to get anywhere near to one mass, but by gathering in layers there would be, say, three hundred swirling about in one crowd; a hundred feet below them another such crowd, and another hundred feet further down, another huge mass. They would be milling around in different directions. Maybe the upper mass would all wheel to the east; just as the middle mass would swing to the north, and the lower be moving to the west, marching and countermarching, for fifteen minutes. Then they seemed to break into separate flocks, heading off to the south in a V-shaped army.—LEROY TITUS WEEKS, *Tabor, Iowa.*

The Pileated Woodpecker in Tuscarawas County, Ohio.—Another rare nesting bird in Ohio, the Pileated Woodpecker (*Phloeotomus pileatus abieticola*), seems to be gaining in numbers in this county. A pair nested near our home in 1920. This nest was about fifty feet up in a green ash tree that stood about

200 feet from the bank of Stillwater Creek. A pair of Fox Squirrels preempted the tree for a home the following winter, and the woodpeckers have not occupied it since.

We have seen them on numerous occasions every year since 1920, but were not able to locate a nest until 1923. On May 30, about a mile down the valley, we found a pair nesting in a large dead beech stub, about forty feet up, which seemed to have been in use for several years. We visited the nest again on June 15th to try for some photographs, but on close inspection the tree seemed too dangerous to climb. We saw a pair at the tree the evening of January 4, 1924, but did not visit the tree in 1924 and do not know whether they nested there again that year or not.—CHARLES R. WALLACE., *Delaware, Ohio.*

An Unusual Nesting Site of the Prothonotary Warbler.—On July 13, 1926, while I was at the Boy Scout Reservation near Indianapolis, Marion County, I was informed that a Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) was nesting in a building used as a crafts workshop. Investigation revealed that three of the four fledglings had matured and flown, and the fourth was out of the nest on a ledge, calling loudly. Though well feathered it showed little yellow, resembling closely a phoebe fledgling. This baby had been reared in a nest of mosses, placed on the inside of the building on a two by four horizontal brace, four feet above the floor, in such a manner that the two by four itself made the bottom for an inch. Access to the building had been obtained through an open window eight feet west of the nest. This building was used by more than fifteen boys during the daytime in the study of blacksmithing, motor building, painting, and leather working, most of the time during the incubation and feeding period of the birds. The building was about fifty feet from water. The remaining fledgling was banded and tied under an improvised trap made of a window screen. With the help of the scouts the male adult bird was trapped and banded. Dr. Amos W. Butler considers this an unusual nesting bird record.—SAMUEL ELLIOTT PERKINS, III, *Indianapolis, Ind.*

Two Comments on the Nidification of the Acadian Flycatcher.—May 9, 1926. In the article "Acadians I Have Found" in the March, 1926, WILSON BULLETIN, the author has either made an error in identification or else the nidification of the Alder Flycatcher has been adopted, in this instance, by the Acadian Flycatcher. The Alder Flycatcher builds a fairly compact, high-walled nest, three to seven feet up in willow or alder crotches, along marshy pond margins or in sloughs of the old lake-bed type. The Acadian Flycatcher builds a loose, shallow, semi-pensile nest in beeches, witch-hazel, maples, horn-beam, etc., ten to twenty-five feet up in woods. They are birds of the forest shade. The number of eggs is two or three.—EDW. R. FORD, *Grand Rapids, Mich.*

October 2, 1926. I have just been reading the article by S. E. Perkins III, on pages 43-44 of the WILSON BULLETIN for March, 1926, and am moved to say that the description of the nest attributed to an Acadian Flycatcher seems to indicate that the birds were Alder Flycatchers, and not Acadians. The latter species, so far as I know, always nests in moist woodland, building a shallow nest *without lining* in the forks of a horizontal limb. The nest found by Mr. Perkins apparently answers the description of the ordinary nest of the Alder Flycatcher. It is to be hoped that the birds may return next year and thus afford an opportunity for further study. The wing formula given agrees with