

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*).—An adult was taken in one of the traps on October 19, 1924.

Nashville Warbler (*Vermivora ruficapilla ruficapilla*).—This species was first found here in summer on June 29, 1924, when one was found feeding a young Cowbird. A male sang from a spruce tree several times. On the following July 11, seven adults and three young were seen. The swamp was visited July 5, 1926, when an adult male and two immature birds were collected. The specimens have been deposited in the Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan. The birds are found only in the spruces of this one swamp. Barrows in his *Michigan Bird Life* states that it is not known in the southern four tiers of counties. Undoubtedly it is attracted by the spruces.

Yellow-throated Vireo (*Lanivireo flavifrons*).—A specimen of this vireo was taken on June 27, 1926. This bird, an adult male, was found in a large piece of lowland timber composed mainly of oak, ash and hard maple. Although no nest was found it was apparently breeding. Barrows in his *Michigan Bird Life* says that it has been found nesting in the state occasionally. The feet and tarsi were of a very light blue color. This skin has been deposited in the Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan. It is the only summer specimen in the collection.—LEONARD W., GEORGE S., HAROLD and MAURICE WING, *Jackson, Mich.*

Notes on the Varying Abundance of the Evening Grosbeak in Michigan.—The December, 1925, number of the WILSON BULLETIN, p. 223, contained some notes of mine on the Evening Grosbeak (*Hesperiphona v. vespertina*) in Michigan, concerning which I desire to make it clear that the Evening Grosbeaks there mentioned were not observed at the feeding station. On a preceding page (213) of the same issue, Mr. Bayard H. Christy states that a pair was observed by him at Huron Mountain, Michigan, on May 31, 1925, in the woods on the shore of an inland lake, and he holds the opinion that they were probably belated winter visitants. Since much has been written of this species, and the taking of them for winter residents, I am giving below, some notes which I think will be of interest to those who have not found them in summer.

I often heard and saw these birds as they passed overhead in small bands during the first summer that I was in Luce County, Michigan (1913), but at the time I did not know what kind of birds they were. However, as they are one of the most common birds, and were seen nearly every month of each year, they were not forgotten. On May 22, 1920, I identified these birds as the Evening Grosbeak. Since that time I have kept records of them, which are as follows:

In the year 1921, the first one was seen on January 3, and others were seen until about the last of November or the first of December. However, it appeared as if none of these birds remained in that locality through the winter of 1921-22, for the first ones were not seen in 1922 until on May 9. It also appears that none were there through the mid-winter following (1922-23), as the first record for 1923 was February 1. The winter next following (1923-24) appeared to be about the same, the first ones seen in 1924 being on February 11.

On August 13, 1924, I began keeping records of the number of birds seen each day, which, by the way, is the only way to get the real benefit of the migration and abundance of our birds. On going over by "Bird Roll Book" I find that the Evening Grosbeaks were present in numbers of from one to one hundred during the remainder of August, and were seen on every one of those days except one (August 15), a total of eighteen days. In September (1924) they

were observed on twenty-two days, and sixty was the greatest number seen in any one day during the month. During October (1924) they were less in numbers and seen on fewer days, the greatest number seen being seventeen and the bird having been seen on only thirteen days. November was about the same, they having been seen on thirteen different dates; but they were somewhat more abundant, thirty-eight being seen on November 30. During December they were seen on more days, but rather decreased in numbers, being seen on seventeen different days while the greatest number seen in any one day was twenty-seven. During January, 1925, they were seen in much smaller numbers, and on only a few days, for they were seen on only eight different days and four was the greatest number seen. In February (1925) their numbers were still less, they being seen on only four days and one being the greatest number seen. March (1925) was the same as February, only the species was seen on but three days. April (1925) brought them back to about normal numbers, they being seen on thirteen days and thirteen being seen in a single day (April 11). In May, up to the time I left that locality (on May 19), they were seen on fourteen different days and ten was the greatest number seen on any one day (May 18).

After leaving McMillan, Luce County, I did not see any Evening Grosbeaks until December 30, 1925, when I saw one at Vicksburg. One individual was also seen on each of the following dates: December 31, 1925, and January 2, 3, 5, 7, 12 and 30, 1926. It came to feed on the seeds of the Boxelder. In Luce County, where I saw them they fed to a great extent on the wild cherries, and I saw some in winter feeding on such seeds of these cherries as were yet on the tree, but their favorite food in winter in that locality appears to be the seeds of Ironwood.—O. M. BRYENS, *Three Rivers, Mich.*

An Unusual Nest of the White-breasted Nuthatch.—Last year my father and I made and put up a variety of nesting boxes for the birds, as well as a few for the squirrels, which were on the sixteen acres near Atlanta that we were making into a bird sanctuary.

One box we had fixed for squirrels was a large soap box and we placed it high up in the large white oak tree, on the crest of a hill. During the spring we kept checking up on the boxes occupied and were pleased to find three pairs of Tufted Titmice, two pairs of Chickadees, a pair of Great-crested Flycatchers and a pair of Bluebirds.

One day, standing near the crest of the hill, I saw a pair of White-breasted Nuthatches carrying strips of bark into the soap box. Often they would carry strips larger than themselves. They were very industrious and paid no attention to us. The birds used the bark to cover the entire floor of the box and the layer was about half an inch in thickness. They then proceeded to collect little pellets of dried earth and lumps of mud which was scattered thinly over the bark.

After this preliminary they started on the nest proper, which they placed in a back corner of the box. The nest was saucer-shaped and constructed of small twigs, grasses and rootlets.

Then, as if not quite satisfied, this unique pair discovered a dead rabbit—one that had been dead for some time—and proceeded to line the nest proper, as well as the rest of the box, with rabbit fur, so that when completed the box smelled more like a buzzard's domicile than a nuthatch's home. Brer' Rabbit's fluffy tail held a conspicuous place in the middle of the box.