

The Peculiar Suspiciousness of Nesting Southern Meadowlarks.—The suspiciousness of the Southern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna argutula*) about the nest is remarkable. On June 21, 1927, I found a nest of this bird that was all ready but the lining. This nest was built on the ground, among short grass which was bent over to conceal it. The bird was seen to alight on the ground, and after waiting a few minutes to give the bird time to reach the nest, I started for the spot where she had alighted. She did not flush there, but was finally flushed directly from her nest about fifty yards away from the place where she had alighted. I did not disturb the nest but returned on June 20, only to find the nest in the same condition as when I first had found it. Believing that she had built another nest I began to search, and was rewarded by finding another nest forty or fifty feet away, fully built, and apparently ready for eggs. This was in a similar situation. I did not come within five feet of this nest, in order to keep her from leaving it, but on returning on July 7, I found this one also was deserted, and no birds were to be seen or heard. Not to be hoodwinked I began another search, and soon found a third nest, not more than sixty feet away, in a very open spot, that could be seen some distance away. This nest was about ready, and was not touched. On July 16, 1927, I came back to see what had happened, and going back of the nest within a few feet had seen nothing of the birds; but moving to the entrance a bird hopped out, arose and flew a few feet, and then sneaked off through the grass, and was not again seen nor heard while I was there. The male was not in evidence. The nest contained four eggs, incubated about five days. In two other cases where I have found their nests with partial sets, I have returned only to find them broken or destroyed by these suspicious birds.—DONALD J. NICHOLSON, *Orlando, Fla.*

The Starling Nesting in Luce County, Michigan.—On April 22, 1928, I was in a woods about two miles south of McMillan, Luce County, Michigan, and saw two Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) pass over towards the east. This is about one-half mile west of the place where I later found the species nesting. On the following dates, within one-fourth of a mile of the nesting site, I saw Starlings as follows: May 9, one; May 21, a flock of five were seen in the top of a beech tree at the edge of the woods at evening, of which, upon departing, two flew north and three flew east; May 22, a flock of three; May 23, one; May 24, two; May 25, one was seen in a roadside maple at 5:40 A. M., which sang a few notes, then flew westward over a barn and was joined by two others on its flight to the woods; May 26, two were seen to go to a tree where some had been noticed a few days before; and May 28, two were seen at the same place on a tree at the edge of the woods. On this latter date, at 5:27 A. M., I saw a Starling in the entrance to an old Flicker nesting cavity, that was deserted, I believe, by the Flickers. The top of this tree had broken off years ago, and while the ten or more feet of the trunk below the place where it had been broken off was dead and decayed, much of its lower part was living. The old Flicker nest was about forty-five feet up in the dead top of the tree.

As I had seen Starlings at that place on previous days, it may be that nesting began before May 28. I first noticed them feeding young on June 15, and on July 1 I noticed the young out of the nest for the first time. The Starling's nesting site is forty rods west of the lane where I have a number of bird houses, and about sixty rods west of my Purple Martin houses. Starlings were noticed only a few times feeding in the field near the houses. They usually took a course