

Unusual Nesting Sites of the Prothonotary Warbler.—The Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) is a rare species at any season near Toledo, so when a newly found friend and a beginner in bird study, Kenneth Byers, told me of a nesting pair, I determined to investigate. What made his report doubly interesting was the statement that the birds were nesting in a paper sack!

Mr. Byers' father is a fisherman, and has his home in Lucas County, near the Ottawa County line at the point where Crane Creek enters Lake Erie. Among other buildings are two large sheds for the storage and repair of nets. In one of these a small paper sack, partly filled with staples, had been left carelessly on a beam near an open window, and this the warblers had chosen as a home. When I visited the place on June 16 the sack contained five fledglings.

My friend then took me to the other shed and showed me the nest of last year—a coffee can also partly filled with staples. In the two preceding years a cheese box and a lard pail had been utilized. It was reasonable to suppose that the same individuals returned each year.

Then I led a search along the adjoining marsh for more Prothonotary Warblers. Arriving at a place where many tall stubs of water-killed willows stood in the marsh, we heard the bird's loud song and in a short time had located three more pairs. Only one nest was found, in a hole drilled by a woodpecker in one of the stumps.

I wonder what opinion these warblers held of the pair which turned up their noses (figuratively, of course) at the usual nesting sites, and insisted on living in man-made homes.—LOUIS W. CAMPBELL, *Toledo, Ohio.*

Abundance of the Golden Plover in Ohio in 1930.—I learned of more Golden Plovers in the spring of 1930 than in any previous year. In Wood County, which is south of Toledo, there were more than in the counties to the east, due no doubt to the richer soil and the fact that much more of it was being plowed for corn at the time of the plover migration. At Sandusky in Erie County, where many of my former pupils are still living, I was unable to learn of a single Golden Plover, either by correspondence or by inserting a request for information in a local paper. South of Cleveland two Golden Plovers were seen on May 17 by one of my former pupils, who would have seen others if they had been numerous and widely distributed in that region.

The number of Golden Plovers actually seen by myself and by those who made reports to me in a restricted area, none of which lies more than thirty miles from Bowling Green, is about 3,000, if we omit what are likely to be duplications and accept the lower estimates made by those reporting. In Hancock County, to the south, much of it lying within thirty miles of Bowling Green, P. H. Ballard, Civil Engineer at Findlay, the County seat, believes that there were several thousand Golden Plovers this spring. One of my pupils saw about 400 at one time in that county, seven miles north of Findlay. It is quite possible that many of these plovers that were observed in Hancock County were reported to me by those who saw them later farther north, but it is unlikely that the 3,000 reported from the eastern half of Wood and Lucas Counties, and the adjacent part of Ottawa County, were half of all that stopped to feed in this small region. The largest number reported by one observer was about 1,200, these constituting over half of a flock estimated at about 2,000 shore birds, seen April 23, about 5:30 P. M., about a mile and a half or two miles east of Bono, which is only a

few miles south of Lake Erie. The remainder of the flock was composed of Pectoral Sandpipers, Yellowlegs, and a few Upland Plovers. The observer was Roger Conant, Curator of Reptiles, Toledo Zoological Society. Several others reported seeing flocks of 200 or more. A number of the flocks were seen repeatedly at or near the same place for a week or more.

In 1930 the first Golden Plovers were seen unusually early, March 16, south of the Little Cedar Point marsh, Lucas County, by Louis Campbell, who saw fifty on April 6, and again on April 12 and 19, several miles to the southeast, near Bono. These places are only a few miles from Lake Erie. On April 26, near Genoa, about twelve miles from the Lake, Prof. William P. Holt, saw a flock in which he estimated there were two or three hundred plovers. Large numbers of Golden Plovers were seen in Hancock County, April 19 and 20 and later, and in Wood County from about April 22 until May 8. Flocks of about fifteen were seen May 10 and 11; after that none in Wood County and only three birds reported from other counties.—E. L. MOSELEY, *Bowling Green, Ohio*.

The Cardinal's Love for Home.—A little girl neighbor of mine, who is a great lover of birds, confided to me a few weeks ago that she had a "Redbird" nest and wanted me to see how "cute" it was. Warning her of the danger of visiting her neighbors too often, I accompanied her to the orchard, where the nest was cunningly placed in the fork of a low limb of an apple tree. Taking up an unobtrusive position where we could watch, we soon saw the mother bird go to the nest. She proved to be a Cardinal (*Richmondia cardinalis*).

A few days later the child, forgetting my warning, took her chum and proudly exhibited her bird treasures to her. The chum, being a very ordinary sort, later slipped away from the house, and, taking a long pole, proceeded to punch the nest so that she could see the little birds. She was caught in the act by the birds' guardian, and a bit of scratching and hair pulling ensued. The distressed child procured some strips of cloth, and, punching holes in the sides of the nest, tied it as nearly in its former position as she could, replacing the little birds in their home. One of the young birds was killed when the nest fell. The parent birds, who had been wildly proclaiming their distress, inspected the nest and decided that it would do, and returned to their routine of living.

A pair of Cardinals very early the past spring set up housekeeping in a haw tree in the back yard of Mr. and Mrs. N., which was on the bank of the Cumberland River. Mr. N. was very much interested in the affairs of the tenants of his tree, and daily watched the family life of the Cardinals. When the little Cardinals arrived he watched the comings and goings with renewed interest, especially in the early evening hours upon his return from business. When the young were several days old, on a very chilly evening, he heard a commotion in the vicinity of the haw tree, and, hurriedly investigating, discovered an owl in pursuit of the mother bird, who betook herself to other and safer ground. Mr. N. watched for the return of the mother, but as dark settled and the chill increased the little Cardinals set up a plaintive chatter, and after dark he decided that the owl had made its supper on the mother bird and that her babies would die of exposure. Removing the nest from the tree he carried it into the living room, and warming a woolen sweater deposited the family in their nest on it. He then secured some cotton, and after warming it placed it in the nest, so that the desolated family were once more happy in the warmth.