

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.

At dawn the next morning the distressed cries of the parents of the little birds awoke Mr. N. He at once carried the family to their former location. Flying to the nest the old birds inspected it and seeing the cotton which Mr. N. forgot to remove, they proceeded to pull it out by the mouthful, carry it to the outside of the branches, and drop it on the ground. After the nest was cleared the female took up her place of house-mother and went about her family duties the rest of the day as if nothing had happened.

Now comes the strange part of this story. The next evening the owl again attacked the mother bird, who again left her family to the mercies of her landlord and took herself to safer quarters. The little birds were again cared for through the night and replaced in the tree at the call of the mother bird at dawn. This performance was repeated for five nights, when Mr. N. became tired of acting nurse to his Cardinal tenants and decided to place a piece of poultry netting over the tree to protect the birds. The family accepted the protection and the mother continued to rear her family, seeming to know they were safe from the "winged wildcat".

Certainly fixedness of purpose seems characteristic of the mother Cardinal when it comes to sticking to the home, despite all interference in family affairs from outside sources.—MARGARET STACKER, *Cumberland City, Tenn.*

Behavior of Bob-whites Upon the Approach of a Marsh Hawk.—On March 25, 1930, from 1:30 to 3:00 P. M., at Madison, Wisconsin, west of University Bay, twelve Bob-whites were watched while feeding in and about a number of corn shocks still left in the field from the winter. While the birds were thus occupied, an adult male Marsh Hawk approached, scouting low over the stubble. The Bob-whites apparently did not see the hawk until he was within eighty to a hundred feet from them. Two of them then flushed to a strip of roadside brush some thirty-five yards distant; the other ten ran easily into the openings at the base of the corn shocks. The ten birds displayed no great alarm nor any haste whatever. Their behavior was comparable to that of well-trained school children going through a fire drill.

The Marsh Hawk went methodically about his business without showing any especial designs against the Bob-whites, although his line of flight took him directly over the corn shocks and past the roadside brush in which the first two birds had alighted. Thirteen minutes after the raptor's departure, a single Bob-white flew from a shock to the roadside brush. A minute later, three more ventured out, one of which joined the last bird in the brush. The remaining two in sight, subsequent to a short period of calling, resumed feeding. Twenty-one minutes after the Marsh Hawk had left, the six issued forth from their shock, pecked disinterestedly at miscellaneous material, until all eight flew as a group eighty yards to the edge of a sweet clover patch. The scattered birds drew together when they became ready, the covey bunching up to roost for the night beside the sweet clover.

Mention might be made that a cock Ring-necked Pheasant was also feeding amid the corn shocks, fully exposed, when the Marsh Hawk appeared. The hawk flew within ten feet or less of the pheasant, but did not deviate from his course in the least, nor did the pheasant exhibit uneasiness nor make any effort to conceal himself. He merely continued eating, evidently confident that he was altogether too big game for Marsh Hawks, with which the Marsh Hawk seemingly agreed.