

**The Calls of the Barred Owl.**—I have seen the Barred Owl (*Strix varia varia*) occasionally but never have heard it "sing" or in a debate, until last spring when in southern Indiana at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Cleo Wesner of Campbellsburg. In that part of the state there are many interesting species of birds, including the Barred and the Great Horned Owls. The Bald Eagle is occasional, (they caught one in a trap), and there are present several members of the heron family; the Whip-poor-will; rare warblers, including the Swainson Warbler (which nests there) and the Kentucky Warbler; the Summer Tanager, which is very common; the Black Vulture; and many other species of birds, including seven species of the woodpecker family, the rarest being the Pileated Woodpecker. But the doings of the Barred Owl were something new to me. They had told us of its "oratory", and when supper was over after dark, I was called to the yard to listen to two Barred Owls having a debate. First one would talk, then the other, arguing and explaining all the while, but in a muffled voice not quite understood by the visiting audience. Then they would say something, perhaps a joke or something very clever and to the point, and this would be followed by the loudest maniacal laughter one could imagine. When this was over, they would resume their argument and again discuss various things which we could not understand. To one listening to such conversation for the first time, it was most interesting and impressive. The birds were a short distance back of the house it seemed, in a ravine at the foot of a wooded hill. Finally the discourse died down and the debate was possibly settled to the satisfaction of at least one of the contestants. That entertainment alone paid us for the trip; but during the night someone tapped on our door calling softly, "Are you awake? Listen to the Whip-poor-wills." But I was already listening with both ears. The hills of southern Indiana are most beautiful and a natural paradise for birds.—MRS. HORACE P. COOK, *Anderson, Ind.*

**Late Nestings.**—Four instances of late nesting, three of them in Knox County, Illinois, came to the writer's attention this year (1932). A pair of Eastern Field Sparrows (*Spizella pusilla pusilla*) had three half-grown young in a nest August 26, while on September 4 two fledgling Eastern Mourning Doves (*Zenaidura macroura carolinensis*) were on the point of leaving their natal home. The thirty-day period for shooting the latter species in Illinois opens September 1, although nests with eggs or young in mid-August are not of extremely rare occurrence. Whether or not toll is taken to such extent as to be a serious factor is undetermined, but it is quite evident that hereabouts Mourning Doves have not held their own, numerically, for at least a decade. A female Eastern Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus virginianus*) was incubating ten eggs September 16. On September 11, two fairly grown Yellow-billed Cuckoos (*Coccyzus americanus americanus*) were observed in a nest in Des Moines County, Iowa.—HAROLD M. HOLLAND, *Galesburg, Ill.*

**The Western Gnatcatcher Also Moves Its Nest.**—In the first three numbers of Volume XLIV (1932) of the WILSON BULLETIN, contributions were made on the nesting habits of the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Poliopitila caerulea caerulea*). A summary of these contributions may be given as follows: (1) that all nests observed were on top of a limb, near a fork, possibly for protection of some sort; (2) that all nests had been moved or were being moved; and (3) that various factors are responsible for a change in the nesting sites. From evidence submitted it seems fairly safe to say that nest building material is sometimes re-used in