

to him. At times he takes one or two sips, but sometimes as many as nineteen. He likes cocoa, too, sitting on my arm, from which point he can easily reach my cup. Feeding is still done in the same fashion as when he was a tiny baby; the food must be pushed down into his throat, he making absolutely no attempt to help himself. When fully satisfied he flies to the shoulder of the person feeding him, thence out through the window, or around by way of the breakfast room, and on to the porch, clinging to the screen until the door is opened for him, and away he soars into the trees. This performance is varied at times, when he deliberately allows himself to be carried out of doors, making no attempt to fly until on the outside. Not always does he fly away promptly, but he will sometimes perch on the hand before leaving, and administer a few vigorous whacks on the fingers with his powerful beak. Apparently it is a form of play. Oftimes he comes home with his long beak coated with dry mud, evidently having been digging ants in wet ground. And even his feet may be caked with mud. But a wet cloth soon restores them to perfect cleanliness. This cleaning process has never been resented in the least.

One day while sipping water he acted as if he wanted to bathe, so Grandma carried him to one of the bird baths, and gently put him down into the water. On releasing him, he had a most wonderful bath. Finally, he flew into a tree to preen his feathers, and then flew down into the lawn, where he lay with outstretched wings until dry. Some weeks ago he made more than his usual noise on coming home, and there he was, in the top of an enormous tree, with three rollicking companions. Grandma called him, and two of his companions flew away, but Chee-Chee and one other flew into our own garden, and then he individually flew down onto his beloved shoulder, whence he was taken indoors, fed, and flew back into the tree where his chum was still waiting for him. The thrill of this wild creature coming back repeatedly to be fed, taken indoors, fussed over, talked to, and to fly out again at his pleasure, is indescribable. We have never experienced anything quite like it. We dread the onset of autumn, fearing he may respond to the great spirit of migration, and leave us for the sunny and genial South. And yet, he may do like a Robin we had years ago, that returned to us for three successive springs.—DR. G. A. HINNEN, *Mt. Lookout, Cincinnati, O.*

The Incubation Period of the Sora Rail.—In searching through the literature of ornithology I find no definite incubation period given for the Sora Rail (*Porzana carolina*). Having made many observations of this species during the nesting season, I have had the good fortune of following three nests from the beginning of incubation on through hatching, and wish to publish these records.

The first of these nests was found May 10, 1920, at Bellevue, Eaton County, Michigan, when it contained four eggs. The set was completed on May 15, when it contained nine eggs. The period from then to May 31, when the last egg hatched, would be the incubation period for that certain egg, which would be sixteen days. The eggs hatched from May 29 to May 31, indicating that incubation began at least two days before the last egg was laid.

The second nest was found on May 11, 1930, in Convis Township, Calhoun County, Michigan. It contained four eggs and the female was flushed from the nest, even though it was during the middle of the afternoon. This set was complete on May 17, when it contained ten eggs, and these hatched from June 1 to June 3. The period of incubation for the last egg in this case was seventeen days.

The third nest of this group was found May 10, 1934, when it contained seven eggs, in Convis Township, Calhoun County, Michigan. The nest contained a complete set of nine eggs on May 12. When visited on May 27 it contained five downy young, two of which were still wet, and four eggs. Since this was early in the morning probably one or two of these had hatched on the previous day. The other four eggs probably hatched that day and the day following, May 28. This would make a period of sixteen days between the laying and hatching of the last egg.

In the case of the second nest, if the bird had commenced incubation when she was flushed from the four eggs the incubation period for these eggs would be about twenty-one days. In the case of the fifth egg in the third nest, assuming the bird to lay one egg each day, it would have been deposited on May 8 and hatched on May 27, a period of nineteen days. Since the bird was sitting when the nest was found, when it contained only seven eggs it is hard to state just when incubation began, but the incubation period for that certain egg would be from seventeen to nineteen days.

In the three nests the eggs hatched in each case over a period of three days and there was a similarity in the number of days incubated for the last egg laid, either sixteen or seventeen days. The incubation period for the Sora Rail with the birds incubating could be stated as being sixteen or seventeen days, with the possibility that some of the eggs required two or three days longer.—LAWRENCE H. WALKINSHAW, *Battle Creek, Mich.*

The Golden-winged Warbler in South Dakota.—The following are the four known records of the Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) in South Dakota: (1). A mounted specimen of an adult male is in the Henderson Natural History Museum at Redfield, South Dakota. The label bears no date, but this specimen was taken in South Dakota a number of years ago. (2). On September 7, 1931, Dr. Brenkle placed band No. F18828 on a female or immature at Northville, South Dakota. This individual returned to the water trap on September 9, 1931. (3). On May 10, 1933, the late Mr. E. C. Anderson collected a male at Dell Rapids, South Dakota. The specimen was identified by Dr. T. C. Stephens of Sioux City, Iowa. The skin is now in the South Dakota State University Museum at Vermillion, South Dakota (WILSON BULLETIN, XLV, December, 1933, pp. 197-198). (4). On September 11, 1933, the writer banded with band No. L21404 an adult male at Northville, South Dakota. Further records of this species in South Dakota will be appreciated by the writer.—PAUL R. THOMPSON, *Northville, S. Dak.*