

of the pines in which they were roosting were thickly crowded with them. The ground beneath the trees was white with droppings, indicating that this site had been in use for some time. Probably about ten per cent of these birds were Bronzed Grackles.

Nesting pairs were first noted in the vicinity of State College in the spring of 1935. In May, many of them nested in buildings on the campus, and one pair nested in a hole in a telephone pole previously used by woodpeckers. This nest contained four young on May 15. The birds have bred on the campus in increasing numbers since that time. For some reason many Starlings are found dead, and since the species is new to this locality, people bring many of them to the college for identification.—ROSS E. HUTCHINS, *State College, Miss.*

**Piping Plover Taken in Central Ohio.**—On September 16, 1937, the writer collected an adult female Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) on a mud flat at the east end of Cranberry Island, Buckeye Lake, Licking County, Ohio. It was first observed at the same place on September 15 by Gene Rea and Dale Jenkins, of Columbus. The specimen was donated to the Ohio State Museum (No. 7503).

The Piping Plover breeds locally on many sandy beaches of the Great Lakes, including those of six Ohio counties bordering Lake Erie (Hicks, *Breeding Birds of Ohio*, 1935). The Ohio breeding population from 1925 to 1935 ranged from eight to twenty-six pairs each year. A careful check of all former nesting areas indicated that only six pairs nested in 1937: three in Lucas County, two in Lake County, and one in Ashtabula County. The decrease is explained in part by man's increased recreational use of Lake Erie beaches in summer. Other dune areas have been destroyed by wave erosion or have been made unattractive by vegetation successions.

The rarity of this plover in inland Ohio indicates that few birds nesting on the Great Lakes cross the State, or, that most of those that cross do not stop. This may be due to the prevalence in the interior of the State of shore-bird feeding areas of the "mud-flat" rather than of the "sand-flat" type. A check indicates that the above record is the second collection for inland Ohio (the first since 1879) and that only about five sight records have been made. The gradual decrease in the number of plovers breeding on the shores of Lake Erie decreases the probability of inland occurrence.

No Ohio records (other than for the Lake Erie Counties) were cited in the State lists of Kirtland, Wheaton, Jones, and Dawson. Wheaton, however, listed the plover as a "not common migrant in the interior of the State", and Dawson considered it "rare or casual in the interior". The only other known inland specimen is a female taken by Charles Dury in Hamilton County, Ohio, on May 4, 1879 (Cincinnati Museum of Natural History Collection No. 114). I find the following five sight records: Englewood Dam, Montgomery County, Ohio, one on August 16, 1924, by Ben J. Blincoe (*WILSON BULLETIN*, XLI, 31, 1929); Cranberry Island, Buckeye Lake, Licking County, Ohio, one on September 20, 1929, by Robert B. Geist and Charles F. Walker; O'Shaughnessy Reservoir, Delaware County, Ohio, one on August 17, 1930, by Lawrence E. Hicks, one on September 7, 1932, by Milton B. Trautman, and one on August 24, 1936, by Gene Rea.—LAWRENCE E. HICKS, *Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.*