

specimens were from the Sierra de Carabobo, Colonia Tovar, and Petare. They were collected on April 8, 1929 (two); April 30, 1929 (two); July 2, 1914 (one); July 22, 1929 (one); July 26, 1929 (two); and July 28, 1929 (one)—dates which certainly suggest breeding.

I wish to thank both Mr. Phelps and Mr. Todd for the information on which the above note is based.—GEORGE MIKSCH SUTTON, *University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, Ann Arbor.*

Wheatear at Peekskill, New York.—On November 15, 1947, I had the good fortune to observe a Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe*) on a railroad embankment at Peekskill, New York, and carefully studied it at close range. Since I was familiar with Wheatears in life, this bird's diagnostic color and shape, perky, bobbing mannerisms, conspicuous white rump, and jerky black-bordered tail made me immediately certain of what I had found.

This species is only of accidental occurrence in the United States, and I know of but five other records for the New York City region: Griscom (1923. "Birds of the New York City Region") listed three specimens collected on Long Island, the last near Jamaica, in 1885; one Wheatear was seen with a flock of Snow Buntings at Montauk, Long Island, on December 27, 1936, by L. Breslau (*Proc. Linn. Soc. N.Y.* No. 50-51, 1940:48); another was carefully studied at Moriches Inlet, Long Island, on June 3, 1941, by LeRoy Wilcox.—ALLAN D. CRUICKSHANK, *Rye, New York.*

Cardinals bathing.—Here in Bluefield, West Virginia, the Cardinal (*Richmondia cardinalis*) lives very close to us, and I was much interested by Mrs. Laskey's article (1944. *Wils. Bull.*, 56:27-44), especially by the statement that Cardinals are not bathers. Since then I have kept a record of our bathing Cardinals, which is continuous (April 1944-May 1948) except for six months in 1946.

The Cardinals bathe mostly from January through June. I also have single records of males for July through October, but none at all for November. Judging from my records, twice as many males bathe as females. In 1947-48, I recorded males bathing five times in February and May, six times in April; females bathing six times in February, three times in April.

The Cardinals bathe when there is deep snow on the ground, as well as during hot dry weather. The favorite time of day is between noon and three o'clock, though they also bathe around 8:00 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m., especially in May and June. They do not bathe together but in succession. Male usually follows female, and often each returns for a second splash. They bathe with English Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*), though perhaps from necessity rather than from choice.

The largest number of bathers was recorded on December 23, 1945, when five males and two females followed one after the other. Two more approached but were frightened away. There was five feet of snow on the ground, temperature 34° F. (time not noted). On February 1, 1948, four males and one female bathed with a host of sparrows in and out. This was at 12:30 p.m., with two feet of snow, temperature 32° F.

One episode of the bath is worth mentioning. On April 26, two male Cardinals attempted to join a female Cardinal in the bath. She rose protesting and called repeatedly. The males continued to splash until the female's mate arrived and drove at them, when they left hurriedly without protest. Then the attacking male took a bath, after which the female resumed her ablutions and he, having dried his feathers, flew to the rose bush and sang his full-throated *purty-purty*. —MIRIAM G. DICKINSON, 2006 Reid Avenue, Bluefield, West Virginia.