

Song Sparrows, and a Cowbird; these activities belong to Stages 4 and 5 in the development of passerines. The Redwing hopped at 10 days and walked at 12; at 4 weeks she walked exclusively. Exploratory pecking appeared at 13 days; 5 days later she was catching insects. A social bond existed between her and a young Nighthawk, and between her and human beings, but her reactions to a year old Meadowlark were largely hostile.

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A LARGE SANDPIPER CLUTCH

In his "Comments on Recent Literature" relating to clutch size in birds, Amadon remarks that sandpipers "lay 4 large eggs; apparently this is the maximum number that can be covered by the parent" (*Wilson Bull.*, **61**(2): 117. 1949.) In view of this statement it may be of interest to record a nest with 5 eggs of the spotted sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*) that I found in early July, 1948, on the border of Mamagekel River, north of Nictau, New Brunswick. By July 7 the eggs had hatched, but the 5 young were still in the nest. Of the many nests of this species that I have examined from Maine to Maryland none has contained more than 4 eggs. Virginia Orr reports finding 5 newly hatched young "in a marshy bit of tundra" in Newfoundland Labrador on July 8, 1946 (*Auk*, **65**(2): 222. 1948.)

Possibly clutches of 5 eggs of the spotted sandpiper are more frequent in eastern Canada than in the eastern United States. It is worth noting that among plovers the average clutch in North America is 4, in the Antilles 3, and in northern South America (e.g., Trinidad) apparently only 2.—JAMES BOND, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Penna.

SWAINSON'S WARBLER ON COASTAL PLAIN OF MARYLAND

Investigations of remote areas in the eastern United States are continually extending the known breeding range of Swainson's Warbler (*Limnithlypis swainsonii*) northward (e.g., southern Illinois, central West Virginia, and recently into southern Delaware and the portion of Maryland east of Chesapeake Bay).

The "Eastern Shore" records, dating back to Cadbury's sight record in 1942 near Willards, and Stewart's specimen in 1946 at Pocomoke City (Stewart and Robbins, *Auk*, **64**: 272, 1947), do not indicate recent invasion of the more northern part of the Atlantic Coastal Plain. Conditions in the Pocomoke Swamp, where this warbler occurs, seem to have been ideal since time immemorial, and there are many records of its occurrence in nearby Dismal Swamp, Virginia, dating back to the latter part of the last century. The occurrence of this species can be correlated with the southern element prevailing in the swamp.

Pocomoke Swamp, which appears to be the northernmost of the true southern swamps on the Atlantic Coastal Plain, extends along the Pocomoke River from lower Sussex County, Delaware, to within a mile or so of Virginia. The plant geographer may think of the Pocomoke as a disjunct (area of discontinuous distribution), since this swamp is separated from similar areas. The long sandy peninsula of the "Eastern Shore" of Virginia and the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay separate the Pocomoke from the Dismal Swamp, while the bay lies between the Pocomoke Swamp and the bottomlands of "Tidewater" Virginia.