

pieces had to be pushed down the esophagus with forceps, but thereafter the grebe ate eagerly. It snatched food dangled or placed before it, but never went after food at the bottom of the tub. When I prepared to feed the grebe it became excited and frequently called. Strips of squid wider than 25 millimeters were swallowed only with considerable difficulty. On March 26, my supply of squid was gone so I bought some frozen sand launces (*Ammodytes americanus*), used locally for fishing bait. The first half dozen were taken by the grebe with the usual avidity, but it soon refused to eat them. No other food was obtainable and the bird was found dead on March 28. The stomach contained numerous feathers, none of which I had seen being swallowed.

When the bird defecated while on the platform it always backed up a few steps. The grebe was seen scratching its head twice. It did not place its foot over the wing to do this. The bird was a male (testes 6×3 mm.). It had little fat and weighed 387 grams when it died.

F. I. Dewald and John Verdier of the New Jersey parks commission kindly granted me access to Island Beach.—GLEN E. WOOLFENDEN, *Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, September 1, 1955.*

Connecticut Warbler in Kansas.—Among 230 birds killed by striking a television transmitting tower one mile west of Topeka, Shawnee County, Kansas, on the night of September 22–23, 1955, was an immature male Connecticut Warbler (*Oporornis agilis*). The birds were collected by members of the Topeka Audubon Society and given to the University of Kansas. The Connecticut Warbler (KU 32622) is the first record of the species in Kansas authenticated by a specimen. Wetmore reported this species from the state in 1909 (*Condor*, 11:162), but in 1920 (*Condor*, 22:158–159) stated that the specimen reported earlier was actually an immature Mourning Warbler (*Oporornis philadelphia*), a species of regular occurrence in Kansas. T. W. Nelson and L. B. Carson (*Topeka Audubon News*, 3(4), July, 1949) reported seeing a male Connecticut Warbler in Topeka on May 1, 1949. I know of no other records of the species in Kansas.

Occurrence of the Connecticut Warbler in Kansas in autumn is of special interest because the species normally migrates east of the Alleghany Mountains in fall, returning north in spring through the Mississippi Valley. The specimen from Kansas weighed 14.9 grams, was moderately fat, and had an incompletely ossified skull. Measurements were: wing (chord), 71 mm.; tail, 48 mm.—HARRISON B. TORDOFF, *Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, September 29, 1955.*

Tree Swallows playing with a feather.—On October 23, 1955, while watching ducks on the Boonton Reservoir, Boonton, New Jersey, I saw a white object drop from the sky and float on the surface of the water. Puzzled as to what it could be, I continued to watch it and then saw a Tree Swallow (*Iridoprocne bicolor*) scoop it up and fly off with it. This bird was pursued by four or five other Tree Swallows and, in his effort to evade them, he twisted and turned violently, finally dropping what I could see was a feather about four inches long.

Another Tree Swallow picked the feather up from the surface and the action was resumed. This same sequence of events occurred three or four times. Finally, one swallow dropped it but as the feather floated and twisted toward the water one and then another swallow tried unsuccessfully to pick it out of the air. Their failure was quite interesting to watch for they had always succeeded in taking it off the surface of the water. It occurred to me that pursuit of a slowly dropping object might have been more difficult and strange than catching insects.

After several birds had missed the feather, one caught it in mid-air and the chase continued. Apparently, picking it out of the air was more fun than taking it off the surface of the water, for thereafter the swallows generally tried to get it in mid-air. This observation lasted several minutes. At this time there were hundreds of Tree Swallows over the reservoir but only about a half-dozen were playing with the feather.—CHARLES W. LINCOLN, 392 Highland Avenue, Upper Montclair, New Jersey, October 24, 1955.

Nesting heights of some woodland warblers in Maine.—During 17 summers at the Audubon Camp on Hog Island (and adjacent mainland) in Lincoln County, Maine, we found a great many nests. I kept a record of the height from the ground of many of the nests of woodland warblers (Parulidae) and tabulate herewith the accumulated data. The heights reported for the lower nests represent actual measurements. The remainder, although estimates, were obtained mostly with the aid of a camera range finder and may be considered reasonably accurate.

Species	Total nests	Height of the nests from the ground (in feet)								lowest	highest
		0-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-30	30-40	40+			
Parula Warbler	71	0	7	16	22	9	11	6	5 $\frac{1}{12}$	54	
Magnolia Warbler	33	18	13	2	0	0	0	0	1 $\frac{1}{12}$	14	
Myrtle Warbler	44	0	4	12	17	6	2	3	6 $\frac{1}{12}$	43	
Black-throated Green Warbler	58	1	5	15	19	10	6	2	3	51	
Blackburnian Warbler	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	43	76	
Bay-breasted Warbler	4	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	7 $\frac{1}{12}$	16	
American Redstart	50	2	6	18	11	5	6	2	1 $\frac{1}{12}$	52	

The study area is located in red spruce (*Picea rubens*) and white spruce (*P. glauca*) woodlands or in mixed spruce and hardwood forests. All the nests of the Parula Warbler (*Parula americana*) were located in *Usnea* lichen. All nests of the Magnolia (*Dendroica magnolia*), Myrtle (*D. coronata*), Blackburnian (*D. fusca*), and Bay-breasted (*D. castanea*) warblers were located in red or white spruce or in balsam-fir (*Abies balsamea*). Nearly all the Black-throated Green Warblers (*D. virens*) nested in conifers, whereas all but two of the American Redstarts' (*Setophaga ruticilla*) nests were found in deciduous growth.—ALLAN D. CRUCKSHANK, R.R. 1, Box 1590, Rockledge, Florida, October 18, 1955.

Nest-building movements performed by a juvenile Olive-backed Thrush.—A captive juvenile Olive-backed Thrush (*Hylocichla ustulata*), when approximately 17 days old and while snuggling down into my wife's cupped hands, performed perfectly typical nest-shaping movements characteristic of adult females. The bird simultaneously kicked backward with both feet and forcibly thrust its breast against the side of the cup. The wings were held rather high on the back but not unfolded and the tail was rather depressed. The bird would perform a few rapid thrusts and kicks and then turn slightly in the cup and repeat these acts. It fell asleep after a few such attempts.

Several hours later I held this bird in my cupped hands in order to see if I could observe this behavior pattern again. The performance was repeated and by increasing