

FIGURE 1.

two chicks fledged successfully, leaving the nest between 20 and 22 June, but nest C disappeared between 10 and 14 June. At about the time that the chicks left nest B some new building occurred at the south end of the bridge, and again some material was placed on each of two adjacent girders. Phoebes in this population often start building a new nest, and occasionally even start a new clutch, before the chicks of the previous brood have fledged, but in the present case building was soon discontinued and the final clutch of four eggs was laid in nest B, starting on 24 June.

The events at this bridge provide a dramatic example of the problems sometimes faced by birds nesting in repetitive man-made structures, which have previously been discussed by a number of ornithologists (see, for instance, F. H. Herrick, 1935. "Wild Birds at Home," and J. C. Welty, 1962. "The Life of Birds"). The confusion in the present case apparently resulted from the availability of two separate approach routes (from the two ends of the bridge), each leading to arrival at a different nest from which the other was invisible. One may deduce that during the building period the bird occasionally approached from the south, reached the nest remnant left from the previous year (C), mistook it for the new nest (B) and added material to it. During the laying and incubation periods the nest reached evidently depended on the direction of approach, but towards the end this was probably always from the north when the bird was undisturbed.—N. PHILIP ASIMOLE, *Department of Biology and Peabody Museum of Natural History, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut 06520, 6 July 1967.*

**A leucistic Pine Grosbeak.**—On 8 November 1965 a large pale finch, alive but weak, was found by a roadside in Ipswich, Essex County, Massachusetts and taken to Mr. and Mrs. Francis Wade of that town. They brought it to me for identification, and this *Pinicola enucleator eschatosus* is now No. 8913 in the Peabody Museum collection. It

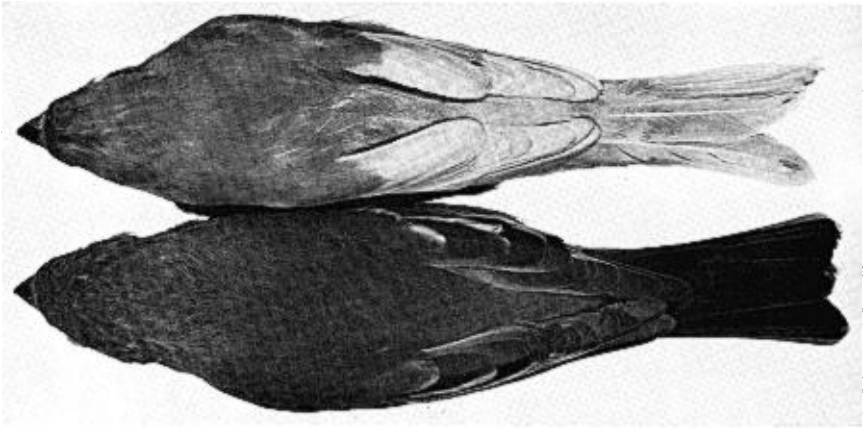


FIG. 1. Leucistic Pine Grosbeak (top) with normal immature male (Peabody Museum No. 8428).

was kept alive under observation for two weeks before being taken for a specimen, and the worn rectrices are the result of its being caged.

In Ridgway's terminology (1912. *Color Standards and Color Nomenclature*), the bird may be described as follows:

Forehead, auriculars, tinge on hindneck: pale Raw Sienna.

Mantle: pale Wood Brown (near warm Smoke Gray of Villalobos) shading to Yellow Ocher of rump and upper tail coverts.

Wings: in folded wing, general color of primaries and secondaries Pale Olive-Buff (the palest color on the bird). Open wing shows outer edges of vanes this color, inner vanes more nearly pale and grayish Avellaneous.

Tail: folded, the upper side is the general tone of remiges with slight tinge of yellowish. The two central rectrices are nearest a warm Olive-Buff, the others are pale Buffy Brown on the inner and *pale* Olive-Buff (tinged pale Raw Sienna) on the outer vanes. The under sides are pale Fawn, tips palest.

Underparts: throat and breast nearest very pale Avellaneous, sides Avellaneous to pale Cinnamon-Drab, abdomen pale Tilleul Buff.

Bill: culmen Buffy Brown, as are edges of mandible, which is otherwise Pale Pinkish Buff. Legs: Dull Rose color in life.

This appears to be an example of leucism as defined by J. M. Harrison (1964. *In* Thompson, Ed. *A new dictionary of birds*). Leucism is described as a paleness or varying degrees of dilution of normal pigmentations, and is considered "closely allied" to albinism.

Mr. C. Chandler Ross (in litt.) says that in his research on albinism in birds he did not find a single case of abnormal plumage in the Pine Grosbeak.—DOROTHY E. SNYDER, *Peabody Museum of Salem, Salem, Massachusetts, 10 July 1967.*

**The double-scratch in the genus *Passerculus*.**—Harrison (1967. *Wilson Bull.*, 79:22-27) recently reviewed the double-scratch in the Holarctic buntings of the subfamily Emberizinae. He recorded the double-scratch in the following nine genera: *Spizella*,