

mental work, as a foster-parent of the Cowbird. The nest in question was found in the southern part of Ross Co., Ohio, was photographed and the entire set collected.—W. F. HENNINGER, *Waverly, Ohio*.

The White-throated Warbler at Ann Arbor, Michigan.—I took a specimen of the rare White-throated or Brewster's Warbler (*Helminthophila leucobronchialis*) near Ann Arbor, Mich., May 18, 1902. It is an adult male, rather larger than either *H. pinus* or *H. chrysoptera*, and much different from either in coloration. We have no other record for this county, and only two for *H. pinus*, but *H. chrysoptera* nests here quite commonly.—NORMAN A. WOOD, *Ann Arbor, Mich.*

The Coloration and Relationships of Brewster's Warbler.—Brewster's Warbler (*Helminthophila leucobronchialis*) is invariably described as having a white breast more or less strongly washed with yellow; this tinge being reduced to the minimum, but still always present, in so-called typical examples.

I hope to prove that in pure plumage this bird has the under parts *absolutely* white, and that the slightest trace of yellow in the breast-feathers brands a specimen as intermediate between *leucobronchialis* and *pinus*. It is well known that these extremes are connected by a perfect chain of intermediates, and that the frequency of occurrence of these intermediates is, if we count them all as *leucobronchialis*, in inverse ratio to the purity of their coloring. (A fact, by the way, which points strongly to the belief that *leucobronchialis* is a mere variation of *pinus*.)

Whitish-breasted and more or less golden-winged examples of *pinus* are, comparatively speaking, not rare, but the *leucobronchialis* end of the gradation is meagerly represented by specimens—so meagerly, in fact, that ornithologists have apparently failed to get a clear idea of what it really is. Now since this gradation is from a bright-yellow-breasted, green-backed, *toward a pure-white-breasted, gray-backed bird*, the assumption that it certainly stops *just* short of attainment of the latter extreme would be absurd, even if there were no specimens to contradict it. There is, however, at least one such specimen. A Brewster's Warbler which I shot at Beltsville, Maryland, in May several years ago, and which is now in the Smithsonian collection, has all the white of the under surface exactly as pure and ashy, and the gray of the back as clear and as sharply defined against the yellow crown, as the best examples of *H. chrysoptera*. Of course a discrimination between pure white and very slightly tinged white can only be made by experts, and it was as experts that my father and I, both of us artists, examined this specimen with a view to testing this very point. When the bird was fresh, there was no slightest trace of yellow in its breast, on or below the surface of the feathers; but this purity of coloring has been marred by a most unfortunate accident. The breast was torn in skinning, and grease has exuded on to the feathers,