

either spring or fall. For that reason I wish to put on record a bird observed by myself at Great Marsh, Westport, Conn., on May 28, 1921. The tide was low at the time, and the bird was found standing in the tall sedges that grow between low and high water. It allowed me to approach very closely and to make out all of its markings and characteristics save the long legs which were hidden in the grass, and did not show to advantage when the bird finally flew. While I have never before seen this species, the markings tallied in every way with those of the Stilt Sandpiper in spring plumage, and I have no doubt of its correct identification.—ARETAS A. SAUNDERS, *Fairfield, Conn.*

The European Gray Partridge in Saskatchewan.—During the first week in November, a bird was sent in from Rutland, Sask., to the University of Saskatchewan for identification. It was the Gray Partridge of Europe, here called the Hungarian Partridge. It has been mounted for the University Museum.

I have gathered the following information about the bird:

Mr. Russell Martin, who sent the specimen in states:

"I saw a flock of from 15 to 20 of these birds at the edge of a wheat field, about the first of September and about the first of November picked this one up from beside the road three miles from where I saw the flock. It had apparently been killed by flying against a telephone wire. This is a hilly, rough country with considerable brush and sloughs or pot holes. About half the land is farmed."

Mr. Benj. Lawton, Chief Game Guardian of Alberta, notes under date of November 30, 1921: "There is no doubt in my mind but that these birds are the natural increase of a number of pairs which were turned loose by the sportsmen of Calgary about the year 1910. They have spread all over the southern half of the Province of Alberta and have got as far as Edmonton. They are very prolific"

"There were two importations, one I believe in the spring of 1910, and the other in the spring of 1911. There have been no importations since the outbreak of the war"

"The open season in this Province is for the whole month of October, with a bag limit of 10 birds for the day and 50 for the season."

Mr. F. Bradshaw, Chief Game Guardian of Saskatchewan, wrote from Regina, Sask., Dec. 1, 1921: "I have no previous authentic information on file regarding this bird being observed in Saskatchewan, but under date of November 23rd, I received a letter from Mr. G. H. Coulter, Box 5, Piapot, in which he states that he had, 'seen some small birds around here this fall, thought they were quail. Have been told that they are Hungarian partridge from Alberta. They flush all together, and run on the ground.'"

"It would appear that these birds are extending their range, and have now crossed the Alberta boundary, and I have asked Mr. Coulter to keep the birds in his district under observation, and advise us from time to time how they are getting along."

Piapot, Sask., is 68 miles north of the U. S. boundary, and 40 miles east of the Alberta boundary. It is less than five miles south of Crane Lake. Rutland, Sask., is 174 miles farther north, and is twenty miles from the Alberta boundary.

It would be interesting, if the information is available, to know whether they have yet appeared in Montana.—JOHN SMITH DEXTER, *Saskatoon, Sask.*

Early Nesting of the Mourning Dove.—In the spring of 1921, Mourning Doves (*Zenaidura macroura carolinensis*) returned from the south unusually early. I saw one bird at Fairfield, Conn., on February 5. This may have been a wintering bird, but by March 12 several birds were seen or heard cooing, and the species seemed to be fully as abundant as in summer. On the first day of April, while crossing a dense grove of tall red cedars I saw a bird fly from a stick nest about ten feet up in a cedar. On climbing to the nest I found the usual two eggs, apparently quite fresh.

I visited this nest a number of times, and up to April 10 everything was all right, but on April 20, my next visit after that date, the nest was empty. The earliest previous date for nesting of this species in Connecticut is April 29, 1894 ('Birds of Connecticut,' p. 73) and dates of earliest nesting from other localities indicate that this nest was earlier than is normal with the species.—ARETAS A. SAUNDERS, *Fairfield, Conn.*

On the Nesting of *Ectopistes migratorius*—The following letter from Mr. Charles Douglas, the veteran ornithologist of Waukegan, Illinois, is interesting from the fact that his observations can be absolutely relied on: "I was glad to learn today that you had taken up the nesting of the Passenger Pigeon, the number of eggs they laid, etc. From articles I have read from time to time, that Wild Pigeons laid two eggs or one egg is a question that puzzled me. In my time I have found and examined twelve to fifteen Wild Pigeons' nests on most of which the old bird was sitting, but never found in any of them more than one egg, and it always seemed strange to me that so many nests could be found without more than one, if they ever lay more.

"You know the nests in this locality were few and only one pair of birds to each nest. It may be possible that in big pigeon roosts, more than one bird laid in the same nest, where they were crowded, as was the case in northern Michigan. All the nests I found were in the same place each year, and in groups of three or four, not many rods apart, in the big pines near the Lake at Beach (a mile North of Waukegan), and in a small hard-wood grove about a mile west.

"In the spring the birds fed on the wild raspberries, and in the summer came into the garden and ate the cherries. At this time of the year we did not disturb them. All is changed now; a week ago, when I sat by a fire on one of the old decaying pine logs, one of the few left of the old