

17 x 19 inches high; inside dimensions 8 x 7 x 5 inches deep. The eggs averaged 1.46 by 1.95, and varied greatly in pattern, from a light wash with lilac to heavy blotches of chocolate. When the nest was discovered both parents, one with a garter snake in its talons, were perched near the nesting tree and showed no concern over my presence; however, as I approached the nest, one of the birds made a few passes in *Accipiter* style. It is interesting to note that in 1915, a pair of Cooper's Hawks raised four young on the identical nesting site, and this year a pair is nesting but 500 feet from this spot.—A. W. SCHORGER, *Madison, Wis.*

Two Nesting Notes for the Madison Wisconsin Region.

Vireo belli belli. BELL'S VIREO.—On June 9, 1922, I collected a male Bell's Vireo and took a nest containing one egg. The female left the nest as I approached and was not seen again. The male was very tame and vigorously protested my intrusion. This is probably the first nesting record for Wisconsin. On July 3, 1914, Mr. William Schorger secured the first state record by collecting a singing male in almost the exact locality, the Winga Lake district, in which I took the nest of June 9. (See 'Auk,' 1915). My bird has been compared with that of Mr. Schorger.

Thryomanes bewicki bewicki. BEWICK'S WREN.—Bewick's Wren was placed on the hypothetical list in the Kumlien-Hollister State List (1903). But as I reported in 'The Auk' (April, 1922), I have seen the birds on two occasions. Yesterday, June 15, I saw a nest with one egg in the bee-yard of Mr. Ed. Ochsneir of Prairie du Sac, thirty-five miles north of Madison. It was the second venture of the wrens, the first nest having contained eight eggs from which seven birds emerged. Five of them were about the yard every day. The first nest was placed in a hollow among the sawdust and shavings of a large covered tin tub; the second in the top of an active bee-hive among sawdust and rags. Access to both was obtained through small openings in covering joints. Although these nests are probably the first on authentic record for the state, I am confident that a few pairs have nested along the Wisconsin River valleys for years.—WARNER TAYLOR, 219 Clifford Court, *Madison, Wis.*

Nesting Notes from Ladysmith, Wisconsin.—The following nesting notes were secured by me in 1911. Never before had I so keenly realized how small the chances really are for a bird to ever leave the nest, not to mention becoming an adult. Circumstances did not permit very extensive investigation or much time to be devoted to keeping discovered nests under observation but the notes such as they are follow.

SUCCESSFUL NESTS.

1. HAIRY WOODPECKER.—Located May 31, 18 ft. up in a birch tree. Young in nest, left about June 4.
2. PHOEBE.—Located May 29, under eaves of house. June 2, 1 egg; June 4, 2 eggs; June 5, 3 eggs.

3. BALTIMORE ORIOLE.—Located June 1, 35 ft. up in an elm. June 1, four young. Left nest about June 30.
4. BRONZED GRACKLE.—Located June 4, 40 ft. up in an elm. At least one young bird left in safety, probably more.
5. WARBLING VIREO.—Located June 6, 30 ft. up in a basswood, between two small branches. June 10, as I watched the bird on the nest I thought that it sang. June 28, the young (three) left.
6. HOUSE WREN.—Located May 28. Nest was first placed in a tin can in a rubbish heap, but was finally located in a bird-house which I placed nearby. June 23 the house was opened and 8 young found. June 28 the young left the nest, flying with no practice.
7. HOUSE WREN.—Located June 14. Placed in the cavity of a hollow stump. The opening above was roofed over. June 22, 6 young were found.
8. ROBIN.—Located May 28, 30 ft. up in a maple. June 17 young were in nest.
9. LONG-BILLED MARSH WREN.—Located June 12. Several "dummy nests" were found previous to this time but the real nest was much more carefully concealed in a clump of coarse grass, well down and over standing water. Contained 5 eggs June 12; June 19, young were found; June 23, young had left.
10. DOWNY WOODPECKER.—Located June 19, 9 ft. up in a "stub." Entrance was on the under side of a limb. Contained young.
11. RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD.—Located June 23, 18 ft. up and 10 ft. out from the trunk of a maple. Bird seen several times later brooding.
12. WHITE-THROATED SPARROW.—Located July 3. Nest was flush with the moss in a spruce-swamp, and was well concealed by a blueberry plant. Contained 3 young and 1 egg.
13. VESPER SPARROW.—Located June 27, under low plants; contained 3 eggs.
14. RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD.—Located June 7. Nest was over standing water. Contained 4 eggs. June 12, the nest was visited and the young were found to be growing rapidly; June 19, the young were ready to fly.

UNSUCCESSFUL NESTS.

1. KINGBIRD.—Located June 4, 20 ft. up in a maple tree; June 13, 1 egg; June 17, 4 eggs; eggs destroyed. Cause(?)
2. RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD.—Located May 22; May 22, 3 eggs; June 7, nest visited; four dead young found under three inches of water. Young destroyed. Cause, flood.
3. CHEWINK.—Located May 28. Nest well concealed under tuft of dead grass, contained 3 eggs. Eggs destroyed. Cause (?)
4. RED-EYED VIREO.—Located June 4, 22 ft. up in a maple tree. Eggs destroyed. Cause (?) This tree later blew over.

5. CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER.—Located June 2, 30 inches from ground in hazel bush; June 2, 1 egg; June 3, egg gone; June 4, Cowbird egg was found in nest. (The Cowbird egg remained in the nest all summer).

6. OVEN-BIRD.—Located May 29. Nest was well roofed and concealed and the old bird pretended to have a broken wing almost fooling me into thinking her a young grouse, contained 3 eggs. Eggs destroyed. (?)

7. OVEN-BIRD.—Located May 29. Nest sunken flush with ground and well concealed, contained 2 Ovenbird and 2 Cowbird eggs; June 12, the Ovenbird eggs were hatched. Eggs smashed, young gone. Cause (?)

8. MARSH HAWK.—Located June 19. Nest was in a small clump of "stag alder," and was well built up. June 23, visited nest and found the old bird circling and calling excitedly above a Canada Porcupine which was within 4 ft. of the nest, and was evidently after the eggs.

I forced the porcupine to leave but we two intruders at the same time must have discouraged the bird as the two eggs remained for several weeks. The porcupine must have observed the old bird carefully and "spotted" the nest at a distance as the nearest tree was several hundred feet away.

9. WHITE-THROATED SPARROW.—Located June 26. Nest was flush with the moss in a spruce swamp. I stepped within a foot of the sitting bird before she revealed the nest to me by flying. Eggs destroyed. Cause (?)

10. INDIGO BUNTING.—Located June 28. Nest 18 inches from the ground in a hazle bush; contained 3 eggs. Eggs destroyed and the nest tipped partly over. Cause (?)

Out of the above 24 nests 10 were unsuccessful. Although several cases were noticed during the nesting season in which young birds were seen flying about when the nest itself was not actually found, we have no means of telling what proportion of undiscovered nests failed to produce young.

Some nesting notes were secured even when the nests were undiscovered.

On May 2, full-fledged young Crows were seen.

On May 22, a Purple Finch was seen feeding young.

All through June coveys of Ruffed Grouse were to be found, but I believe that if the truth were known it would be found that an even greater percentage of casualties is common among these birds. In 1920, I found three Ruffed Grouse nests. One nest containing 11 eggs produced 9 young whereas the other two were destroyed by skunks. Several nests were found later deserted, and some of the eggs still remaining.

Four nests were discovered but not visited again owing to various reasons. These were: Black-billed Cuckoo, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Least Flycatcher, Warbler (possibly a Mourning Warbler), which held 4 young on June 24.

Two American Bitterns nesting in a marsh nearby were forced to carry food a distance of two miles as a result of drought. They made the trip from sunrise to sunset for more than two weeks, the round trip requiring

something over an hour on the average, although they frequently made it in less time.

A pair of White-breasted Nuthatches appeared during the summer with their nine offspring. A nest of Migrant Shrikes was successful, but unfortunately data were not secured. On May 31 young Maryland Yellow-throats were seen in three separate localities.

While the nests and notes given above seem to overbalance on the "successful" side, I believe this is because young birds are so much more conspicuous than deserted nests. Certainly the difficulties met by some of the above birds show that it is not an easy matter to raise a family in the wilds. The loss of life between the time of leaving the nest and fall must be appalling. Evidences of Ruffed Grouse, Thrushes, Woodpeckers, and other birds killed by Hawks were common all summer. These notes give only a meager idea of the mortality occurring at nesting time, but to me the following of the histories of nests is a very fascinating pursuit. WALLACE B. GRANGE, *Ladysmith, Wisconsin.*

Scarcity of Arctic Birds in Europe.—Dr. Graham Renshaw, editor of 'Natureland', (published in Manchester, England,) has very recently returned from his trip to the coast of Norway; and in a letter to me, dated the 22d of July last, he says: "My Norway trip was zoologically *most* disappointing! At Hammerfest certainly there were plenty of Ravens; also I saw a few Hooded Crows. On the way to North Cape I saw five seals, but at a great distance; another of the party saw a whale. These however, with a few Skuas, Gulls, and Guillemots (=Loons) made up the lot; it was a regular wash out for me who had hoped to see one or two porpoises, dozens of seals and *hundreds of thousands* of Eider Ducks! What a pity the boat turned back at North Cape instead of continuing to Spitzbergen, where I might have seen the thousands of Little Auk that Professor Newton used to write about!"—R. W. SHUFELDT, *Washington, D. C.*

RECENT LITERATURE.

Stuart Baker's 'Game Birds of India.'¹—There are many ornithologists who combine with their love of birds a love for beautiful books and to these particularly Mr. Stuart Baker's volumes on Indian game birds will make a strong appeal. Beautifully printed on heavy paper, bound most attractively and illustrated by numerous excellent colored plates by Grönvold, Lodge and Keulemans, they seem to combine all that could be asked for in the makeup of a book.

¹ The Game Birds of India, Burma and Ceylon, Vol. I. The Ducks and their Allies, Vol. II. The Snipe, Bustards and Sandgrouse. By E. C. Stuart Baker. Published by the Bombay Natural History Society.