

species has long been extirpated in the Englewood region. Two Barred Owls were also seen on this trip. Like the Great Horned Owl, they too were being pestered by Crows. We found the pellets of these Owls, which we brought to Mr. Miller, of the American Museum of Natural History.—VICTOR ROSÉN, *New York City*.

Nesting Habits of the Long-eared Owl.—The subdued but persistent cawing of Crows with which were intermingled occasionally the most remarkable sounds brought me to the foot of a pine, which contained an old Crow's nest. While climbing up I heard cries and groans below, and looking down perceived a Long-eared Owl flopping around on the ground and uttering indescribable noises as it looked distressedly up at me. Continuing up in eager anticipation I found the nest contained four roundish, white eggs, the size of a bantam's, and two newly hatched young owls, delicately beautiful in their fine white down. A large mouse lay on the edge of the nest ready to be fed to the young in small bits as their first taste of food.

The old bird remained on the ground until I had nearly descended, bemoaning and carrying on to the best of her ability. On my subsequent visits to the nest this demonstration was frequently repeated. Sometimes one of the birds would strike a limb and flop down to the ground as if injured, uttering at the same time its wild and curious cries. At other times they cried and hooted from branches in the trees. One—the cries given when the birds were greatly stirred—was a high pitched "quick" repeated several times, the notes drawn out and running together, and turning into a scream, when the birds became very excited. Another call, low pitched, suggested "whock". A single low hoot was also uttered. Early in the spring I had heard Owls hooting in the vicinity—a single low hoot several times repeated—when I passed in the evenings, but for a month or so I had not heard them, and the Owls had evidently quieted down after laying.

One of the birds was always on hand to guard the nest. The malicious persistency with which the Crows tormented them drew one's sympathy. Occasionally both adults were present and took part in the demonstration above mentioned. They often swooped by my head, never striking me, however, for I was always ready for them. Usually only one bird was observed, the other probably being away hunting, as this species often hunts during the daytime, and they would find it necessary to supply the demands of the family. No doubt both Owls hunted at night.

From my notes:

May 14. Found nest of Long-eared Owls, twenty-five feet up in pine. Four eggs, two newly hatched young. Large mouse on hand.

May 15. Third egg hatched, fourth hatching. Young make a low peeping. Two deer mice.

May 17. Fourth egg hatched, fifth hatching. Oldest young—age about six days—with eyes open. No food.

May 19. Fifth egg hatched, sixth rolled to one side and spoiled. Oldest young snapped beak aggressively. No food.

May 22. Oldest about eleven days old, primary quills not yet started to open, but some of body feathers with small tassels. Two mice. No traces were found of any food having been brought to the nest except mice, good proof of the value of this species. No food was found at the nest after this day, and as the young grew older their parents probably had a difficult task to supply enough for the family.

From the above it seems that the eggs are laid on alternate days, and that incubation begins with the laying of the first egg, which is what would be expected because of the cold weather likely to prevail early in April. The difference between the ages of the oldest and youngest of the young owls was thus nine days, a difference fully evident in their development. The oldest left the nest when about four weeks old, but the younger ones prompted by the example set them began crawling around in the branches long before they could fly, and they also imitated the oldest in the defensive spreading of the wings, a habit which the latter acquired when two weeks old.—F. N. WHITMAN, *Ithaca, N. Y.*

Northern Pileated Woodpecker in Dutchess County, N. Y.—One day in January, 1924, a farmer informed me of seeing a large Woodpecker, the size of a Crow, and with a red crest. About two weeks later when in the woods I saw the bird, which proved to be a Pileated Woodpecker. He was about 60 feet above the ground on a dead tree. About a week later I again saw the bird in the same place. The date of his first appearance was January 12, 1924. I believe this bird strayed over from the Berkshires of Massachusetts, which are not far away.—EDWARD D. W. SPINGARN, *Amenia, N. Y.*

Red-headed Woodpecker in Lincoln, Mass.—In January of this year a friend reported to me that there was a strange bird with a red head staying around Farrar Road. I went over and saw the bird, a Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*), on a very large dead oak tree. It has spent a good deal of its time on that tree ever since, and has been seen by various ornithologists and also members of the Brookline Bird Club. One day I saw it being closely chased by a Crow, but it finally found refuge in the oak tree. It was still in that vicinity April 28, 1924.—MRS. ALICE B. HARRINGTON, *Boston, Mass.*

Nest and Young of Yellow-bellied Flycatcher.—On July 15, 1923, we started from an overturned spruce on the "Long Trail" near Kirby Mountain, Addison County, Vermont, a small bird which gave a flash of yellow as it flew and which on closer inspection proved to be a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher. The tree in question had been blown over by a heavy wind and the base had ripped up a mass of roots, turf, stones and leaves which formed a virtual wall about six feet high by eight feet long. A short search along this structure disclosed the nest in the mass of roots and earth torn up by the stump, about three feet from the ground and an arm's length from the trail. It was so located as to be well protected on every side and