

surface from which it rose with the greatest ease and flew in a wide curve to the shore.—J. E. H. KELSO, M.D., *Edgewood, Arrow Lakes, B. C.*

American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*) on the Arrow Lakes, British Columbia.—On May 5, 1925, on the shore of the Lower Arrow Lake I came upon a flock of from ten to fifteen Avocets, and succeeded in getting two specimens for identification out of the flock. I believe this to be the third record of this species for B. C.—J. E. H. KELSO, M.D., *Edgewood, Arrow Lakes, B. C.*

Oystercatcher in Cape May Co., N. J.—On June 22, 1924, Mr. T. E. McMullen and the writer saw three Oystercatchers (*Haematopus palliatus*) on a sand spit at the lower end of Seven Mile Beach in company with a belated Hudsonian Curlew (*Numenius hudsonicus*). Two Oystercatchers were seen at the same spot on July 3, 1921, associated with a couple of Willets (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*). Whether the latter were the eastern or western race could not be determined.—RICHARD F. MILLER, *Philadelphia, Pa.*

Status of Upland Plover in Lancaster Co., Pa.—Northern Lancaster County is unquestionably one of the most favorable breeding and feeding ranges of *Bartramia longicauda* in Pennsylvania.

The topographical and agricultural conditions—level to rolling fields of large size—are exactly fitted for the bird's wary habits. The Plover's wild chromatic of May, its mellow triple-tongue of the July moon, and its graceful figure standing on a fence post or driving high above the stubble, were formerly features, as prominent as they were picturesque, in the central and northern townships. It was not uncommon as late as 1900 to find three or four hundred of these birds within a favored square mile. For some years before and a few years after this date the Plover was one of the features of my sporting calendar. My field records show that there was a marked decrease in 1909, and in 1911 the birds were scarce. Fortunately in 1914 they were removed from the list of game birds. In 1921—after the bird had had six years of protection—I made the first of a series of four studies of its numerical status. In company with Frank Thurlow, my former "smooth-bore" companion on many a summer afternoon, and in 1925, with Clifford Marburger, I counted the Plover in early August on four tracts—the best Plover ranges of the region. Tract "A," embodying parts of Warwick, Penn and Manheim townships, is approximately three square miles in area; "B," covering part of the boundary between Warwick and Manheim, is one and a half; "C," in Warwick township is about a square mile; and "D," on the border line between Elizabeth and Clay, is one and a half square miles. On any one of these tracts twenty-five years ago there would have been a hundred or more Plovers in early August. The records of the recent counts are these:—

	A	B	C	D	Totals
Aug. 4, 1921	12	3	3	3	21
Aug. 3, 1922	8	9	1	4	22
Aug. 9, 1923	22-24	35-38	1	15-20	73-82
Aug. 8, 1925	1	3	0	1	5

The tracts are the same, in buildings and residents, as twenty-five years ago. There have been practically no Plover shot over them for ten years. Yet the species has dwindled lamentably and this year is at its vanishing point.—HERBERT H. BECK, *Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa.*

Late Nesting of Bob-white.—What constitutes an exceptionally late nesting record came to my attention on September 11, 1924, when a female Bob-white (*Colinus virginianus virginianus*) was flushed from her nest and nine eggs in the tall grass just off the fair green of a local golf course. The location was a rather open one and frequent passing within a few feet must have been an almost daily occurrence.—HAROLD M. HOLLAND, *Galesburg, Ill.*

Nesting of Mourning Doves during September, 1925, in Norman, Oklahoma.—Western Mourning Doves (*Zenaidura macroura marginella*) were found to be nesting on the campus of the University of Oklahoma in greater numbers this fall than during any previous autumn in our experience; no less than 41 occupied nests were located during September, besides three broods of young that had left the nest during the month. (In 1919, our record for September was 31 nests, in 1920, 14, in 1921, 8, in 1922, 12, and in 1923, 8. Sixteen of the nests this year were in hackberries, 13 in elms, 4 in locusts, 4 in mulberries, one in osage orange, one in a black walnut, one in a willow and one in a silver maple—the first case we have found. Cottonwoods and young tulip trees are consistently avoided. The height of these nests varied from 7 to 30 feet, their average being 14.8 feet. Twenty-five nests were placed on branches and 14 in crotches, *i. e.* 64 per cent in the former position and 36 in the latter. Six nests—14.6 per cent—were built on top of other nests.

Despite two cold hard rains the Doves this fall had a remarkably successful season, for of the 39 broods whose outcome we knew, 32 raised young to maturity *i. e.* 82 per cent. We had no clue as to the cause of two of the seven failures; as to the others, in one case the eggs were deserted, in another the nine-day-old squab was found dead on the ground as if knocked out by accident by its parents, while in the remaining three instances scattered pin feathers and cat tracks in the mud revealed the culprit. Of the 32 successful broods, in 9 only one young bird grew to maturity, while the rest raised their full quota of two; this gives an average of 1.7 young for each successful nest. This is the same result we found in our study¹ of Mourning Doves from 1919 to 1922. In fact, the average

¹ 'The Auk,' XXXIX, 1922. 457-474, XL, 1923. 37-58.