

A mature male was taken in July 1883 in Green Lake Co., Wis., by F. H. King (Nat. Hist. of Wis.).

Mr. A. J. Franzen furnishes records from Walworth Co., Wis., as follows: May 29, 1926, a male collected by E. G. Wright; June 3, 1928, a nest containing four eggs collected by himself; (he observed only one pair that year) May 19, 1929, two females collected by himself; May 30, 1929, three young about a week old. This year (1930) six pairs have been seen by Mr. Franzen in this locality.

Mr. W. I. Lyon of Waukegan, Ill., writes as follows: "On June 17, 1929 a nest was found by a nurseryman who pointed it out to C. E. Holcombe of Zion, Ill. Holcombe stated that there were two eggs and three hatched young. He watched the nest and on June 26 called me to assist in identification. On arriving at Winthrop Harbor about half way from the railroad to the station on the main road to the beach, and about three hundred feet south of the road, we found that there were four adult birds; so we waited until we found the females feeding and in this way located a second nest. The original nest contained three fully grown young and one dead bird. The second nest had four slightly smaller birds. All seven were banded. This, I believe, is the first record of Brewer's Blackbird nesting and being banded in Illinois."

A postscript to Mr. Lyon's letter which bears date, June 28, 1930, says: "I have just heard that C. E. Holcombe and Wm. Farrar of Zion have banded a nest of five and a nest of three young Brewer's Blackbirds today, on the "Flats" near Twenty-second St., Zion, Ill."

The writer's contribution to the record consists in the finding in Northfield township, Cook County, Ill., a small colony of about six pairs. On June 4, 1930 the birds showed strong attachment to an area of low ground which had been plowed and allowed to grow up into weeds, chiefly water dock and wild parsnip. Much of the ground was quite bare, the rank growth occurring in clumps or patches, and Killdeers and Spotted Sandpipers were nesting near. On June 7 the place was revisited and a search disclosed a nest sunk in the ground at the base of a weed. It contained five nearly fresh eggs. Meantime work with a disk harrow had begun and in a few days any other nests which might have been there were inevitably destroyed. On June 15 Mr. Jas. White collected a male and a female and found the remains of a nest. On this date (June 30) the birds appear to have established themselves in an old field not far off from the original site. Here they are less likely to be disturbed.—EDWARD R. FORD, 1224 *Isabella St., Wilmette, Ill.*

**The European Goldfinch at Buffalo, N. Y.**—On the campus of the University of Buffalo, at 3:30 on the sunny afternoon of October 17, 1929, my attention was attracted by an unusual bird song. The bird was immediately located in a small group of sunflowers in the Botanic Garden, and even at a distance of about 200 feet, a marked vertical light colored area was noticed on the side of the head. The general nature of the song,

the size of the bird, and its feeding action suggested the American Goldfinch, but the appearance of the head was so unusual that an attempt was made to get as close to it as possible, for I did not have my binoculars with me at the time.

Although in plain view of the bird it was easy to approach and stand within twenty-five feet of it, to make note of its markings and watch it feeding on the sunflower seeds. During the ten or twelve minutes it was under observation, it remained perched on a sunflower head from which it was trying to extract seed, and continued to sing and feed without being in the least disturbed by my presence. The feeding reactions were typical of those of our American Goldfinch (*Astragalinus tristis tristis*) and its flight was also quite similar.

The bright red fore-face, bordered by the whitish vertical band (which had attracted my attention) across the side of the head and upper throat and the prominent yellow patch on the wing betrayed the bird as the European Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*).

Having finished its feeding, it flew leisurely toward me, passing within ten feet and continued in a northwesterly direction, and was not seen again.

Upon consulting the literature, the identification was verified and no reference has been found of its previous occurrence in this part of the state. Several of the leading bird students of this region have been consulted, but no one has yet been found who knows of a previous record here.

It is to be hoped that this is not a case of a single straggler but that those which succeeded in establishing themselves near New York City, where they were introduced in 1878, have begun to spread, throughout the state.—  
ALBERT R. SHADLE, *Buffalo, N. Y.*

**Unusual Markings on Rose-Breasted Grosbeak.**—While on a collecting trip, near Momence, Illinois, and along the Kankakee River, I took a specimen of a Rose-Breasted Grosbeak (*Hedymeles ludoviciana*), the under wing-coverts of which were marked differently from those of the other specimens taken.

This bird, a female, taken on May 16, 1930, about seventy-five feet from the river's edge, had the under wing-coverts and axillars rose-pink instead of the customary yellow.

After returning to the Museum, I compared this specimen with others in the study collection and found only one other bird, after examining thirty-two females in the collection, that compared with the specimen I had taken: the under wing-coverts in this bird being rose-pink, also. This bird was taken September 5, 1895, near Addison, Illinois.

I have looked up several authorities for information on the above, but they all give the under wing-coverts and axillars in the adult female, in summer and winter plumage, as yellow (maize-yellow, chrome-yellow, or light orange-yellow) instead of rose-pink.

There could have been no doubt as to the sex of this bird, as the ovaries were very large and prominent, and with one egg ready to be laid and