

interest. In August, 1932, he found a colony of forty nests about twelve miles inland from Barahona at a locality known as Batey 1, on the holdings of the Barahona Company, Inc. In May, 1933, another colony of twenty-five nests was found in the same vicinity. In June three small groups were found in the Palo Alto section about five miles inland from the Bay of Neiba. This is the farthest east from which the bird has been recorded. It may be observed that this area is directly connected through a great valley with the Cul-de-Sac region of Haiti where this weaver is common.

This species has been reported previously from the Dominican Republic only near Comendador on the Haitian frontier where I found a colony in 1927.

Mr. Hamor writes also that on December 24, 1922, with a friend he shot ten Shovellers (*Spatula clypeata*) at Laguna de Caballero about three miles from Barahona. This bird has been reported previously, but somewhat uncertainly, in Haiti. It should be of fairly regular occurrence in migration.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.*

Birds Eating Sawfly Larvae.—A close watch was kept on an ash tree growing in the yard of my home in Washington, D. C., from May 16 through May 21, just past. The tree was observed from second-floor windows at distances varying from five to ten feet. A Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivacea*) a rare visitor to the garden, had been seen in the tree on the morning of May 15, but when a pair was noted at work before 6.30 a. m. on May 16, the tree was inspected, and found to be heavily infested with the less than inch-long slender, white and pale green larvae of the ash sawfly (*Tomostethus multicinctus* Roh.). The birds were observed in the tree daily from sunrise until sunset through May 20. The vireos picked up the sawfly larvae near the centre, and after perching parallel to a branch or twig, with bill toward the tip, they would swing their heads back and forth battering the worm upon the twig. The larvae were beaten against the twig as many as eighteen times, then swallowed in three or four gulps and the bill wiped against the branch from four to eight times. One vireo took eight worms in three minutes and knocked two others to the ground. No sound accompanied these actions.

On May 16, about 7.15 a. m., a Magnolia Warbler (*Dendroica magnolia*) flew against two window panes in which the infested ash tree was reflected. After clinging momentarily to the brick wall beside the window, it flew into the tree, where it was seen to be eating the larvae until it disappeared about 9.00 a. m.

On May 17 a female Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Hedymeles ludovicianus*) was noted feeding on the larvae several times, and was observed once on May 18.

A female English Sparrow (*Passer d. domesticus*) ate a few larvae on May 18.

Before sunrise on May 18, a pair of Catbirds (*Dumetella carolinensis*), nesting in the yard, discovered the sawfly infestation, and from then until

May 21 were noisily in evidence about the ash tree. Unlike the other species mentioned, the Catbirds "miaoued" over each capture. They picked up and swallowed the larvae in one motion.

A severe wind storm accompanied by rain at 6.30 p. m., May 20, removed the few remaining larvae from the ash tree much to the disgruntlement of the Catbirds.

In the course of examinations made by the Bureau of Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture no less than forty-seven species of birds have been found to have fed upon sawfly larvae and seven additional species are recorded in the literature. The larvae were found in the stomachs of 20 Chickadees, 12 English Sparrows, 8 Robins, 7 Yellow-billed Cuckoos, 8 Mockingbirds and less frequently in the other species.—*PHOEBE KNAPPEN, Washington, D. C.*

Some Bird Enemies of Odonata.—On May 23 and 24, myriads of dragon-flies were to be seen everywhere along the road and beach connecting Lynnhaven Inlet with Virginia Beach, Virginia. The largest and most numerous species was *Epiaschna heros*, which was being caught in the air as well as being picked up from the surface of the road by the Kingbird, Mockingbird, and Brown Thrasher, which also were present in unusual abundance. Two Fish Crows, a Long-billed Marsh Wren, and several Red-winged Blackbirds were observed to catch and eat this same large dragon-fly. Bluebirds and Cardinals were probably feeding on the Odonata.

On the ocean beach many of the dragon-flies were found dead and dying. Here Turnstones, Sanderlings, and Bonaparte's Gulls, observed through field glasses from a distance of thirty feet, appeared to be eating these insects. An examination of the dry sand where they had been feeding showed their footprints, no probing holes, and numerous remains of dismembered Odonata.—*PHOEBE KNAPPEN, Washington, D. C.*

Flight Speed of Some Birds.—The following speeds, in miles per hour, of various flying birds were determined by an automobile speedometer. The records are believed to be fairly accurate and have not been reported previously. The flight speeds were as follows, in miles per hour: Common Tern 13, Black Duck 26, Great Blue Heron 23, American Egret 17, Eastern Green Heron 22, American Woodcock 13, Mourning Dove 26, Turkey Vulture 15, Yellow-billed Cuckoo 22, Belted Kingfisher 17, Red-headed Woodpecker 22, Northern Flicker 23, Eastern Nighthawk 12, 17, 22, Eastern Kingbird 11, Starling 28, 35, Red-wing Blackbird 22, 23, 23, Eastern Meadowlark 15, 20, 20, Rusty Blackbird 19, 19, 20, 23, Purple Grackle 20, 20, 23, 24, 25, 25, 26, 28, English Sparrow 28, 35, Slate-colored Junco 18, Purple Martin 20, Barn Swallow 20, 20, Tree Swallow 25, Catbird 12, Brown Thrasher 19, 22, Eastern Robin 17, 20, 23, and Eastern Bluebird 13, 15, 26. Opportunity for measuring the flight speed does not come frequently. The bird must be close to the automobile and flying parallel with it. Factors which have an influence include the direction and