

Further Notes on Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) Breeding in Northeastern Illinois.—Ford in 'The Auk,' Vol. XLVII, pp. 565-566, recorded a small breeding colony in Northfield Township, Cook County, also mentioning a pair which the writer collected from that colony.

Inasmuch as the specimens mentioned would not leave a small weed patch, in which I found the remains of a fresh nest, while in skinning the female I found a fully formed egg in the oviduct, I assume that they were a mated pair.

The following year (1931) the colony, comprising about eight pairs, established themselves on the west side of Skokie Marsh, located about one mile west of the field used in 1930.

In 1932 the colony had increased to about fourteen pairs and on May 30, I located two nests, one with four and one with five young which were only a few days old. A week later Mr. James Mooney, of Highland Park, Illinois, banded these young.

In 1933 there were about twenty pairs.

When the birds arrived this year (1934) they found their site had been torn up by one of our C. W. A. projects and were again forced to move, but for a short distance only. There were about twelve pairs this year.

On June 26, 1932, near Beach Station on the Waukegan flats, I collected, from a mixed flock of about twelve, an adult male. This locality is about three miles south of Zion, Lake County, where other breeding records were quoted by Ford in the above mentioned article. This specimen is in the collection of the Chicago Academy of Sciences (No. 2288).

Although few in numbers, and of local distribution, it now appears that this species may be considered as a regular summer resident in northeastern Illinois.—JAMES S. WHITE, 6036 Kenmore Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

The Effect of Emotion on the Iris of The Boat-tailed Grackle.—In a recent issue of 'The Auk,' Mr. E. A. McIlhenny stated that it was his belief that emotion had a great deal to do with the iris color of the Boat-tailed Grackle (*Cassidix mexicanus major*). He gave as his reasons, instances of certain birds caught in banding traps, and stated that under the stress of fear caused by handling, the iris changed from yellow to brown during the time the birds were in the hand.

In the next number of 'The Auk,' Dr. Harold Wood stated that he believed the iris color to be the result of age, and that the yellow-eyed birds were simply adult, the brown color being characteristic of immaturity. This the writer believes thoroughly, and it seems to be entirely logical and well proven.

Two instances connected with emotion follow. During the last few weeks, a friend of the writer's had occasion to collect a specimen of this species and wing-tipped a bird. It was chased for nearly three hundred yards, and was finally cornered in a clump of grass, and grasped firmly. Naturally, it was in a high state of excitement, and as thoroughly alarmed as it could well be. The observer looked immediately at the iris, and found that it was the usual clear yellow. The bird was slightly sub-adult, and the narrow, cloudy ring of brown was visible about the outer rim of the eye. During last June, Mr. E. Milby Burton, Director of the Charleston Museum, wounded a Grackle under almost identical circumstances. This bird fell into salt water and marsh, and was chased for several minutes before being caught. It was at the pitch of terror when seized. Mr. Burton made an immediate examination of the iris and found it to be bright yellow. The bird was fully adult.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., R. F. D. 1, Charleston, S. C.

The Rediscovery of *Chlorospingus flavovirens* (Lawrence).—For many