

(Dr. Murray's name was inadvertently omitted in the signature of the previous note.) An incident of this observation seems to merit additional comment. We noted that a Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilocus colubris*) followed the Sapsuckers closely from one new drilling to another, apparently for the sweet sap of the sugar maple and sweet birch. We watched this for about fifteen minutes. The relationship of these birds in this instance impressed us as a novel one. We would be glad to know of similar observations, if any.—RUSKIN S. FREER, *Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, Va.*, and Dr. J. J. MURRAY, *Lexington, Va.*

Breeding of the Wood Pewee in Volusia County, Florida.—A. H. Howell in his 'Florida Bird Life' made no mention of the Wood Pewee (*Myiochanes virens*) breeding in east-central Florida. In a heavy stand of pines, near Samsula in Volusia County, I examined a Wood Pewee's nest. The nest held one egg on May 20, 1933, and three on May 25.

There were two or three other pairs of this species in the vicinity.

On May 16, 1931, I heard a Wood Pewee calling from an open cypress swamp in the pine timber three miles west of Fort Christmas, Orange County, Florida.

A Wood Pewee spent the 1933 breeding season fifteen miles north of Keenansville, Osceola County, Florida. Usually it sang from an open swamp of cypress, instead of dwelling in the pine land as is the custom in the northern part of the state.—J. C. HOWELL, *Rollins College Museum, Winter Park, Florida.*

Barn Swallows Breeding on the Gulf Coast.—Several days prior to the 4th of July, 1933, I was cruising with a party of friends along the Mississippi and Louisiana coasts. On Ship Island just off the coast, opposite Biloxi, Miss., while visiting an old fort built by the Confederates in 1862, for the protection of Ship Island Channel, I found a considerable colony of Barn Swallows (*Hirundo erythrogaster*) nesting. This massive fort structure is half in the water and half on land and is in a perfect state of preservation. The Swallow nests were built on the inside of the masonry under the arches. I counted sixty-eight nests, all of which appeared to have young birds pretty well grown. The nests were too high to look into, but I could easily see the young as the old birds fed them.

This is, I believe, the most southern record of the nesting of Barn Swallows.—E. A. McILHENNY, *Avery Island, La.*

Death of Juvenile Tree Swallow Due to Over-feeding.—Over-feeding on the part of birds is said to be prevented by a "nervous adjustment" of the throat muscles, which prevents swallowing when the bird has had sufficient food. It seems likely, however, that over-feeding may occasionally cause death, especially in the case of young birds. Thus F. C. Lincoln has recorded (Auk, 1926, p. 546) a case in which young Phoebes died in the nest after being "kept literally stuffed with moths" until late at night for several days. I can describe a case in which a juvenile Tree Swallow (*Iridoprocne bicolor*) died suddenly after helping itself to an astonishingly large meal of flies under somewhat unnatural conditions.

One summer morning a few years ago I picked up from a highway on our ranch a young Tree Swallow, not long out of the nest, that had sustained a broken wing. Taking it to the house, I left it to the care of the younger members of the household. Returning from the hay field at noon, I found the Swallow's keepers in despair. They had killed and fed to the bird every fly they could find about the house and nearby buildings, but the Swallow was as hungry as ever. So I carried it to the horse barn, where on the inside of the windows large numbers of flies, of several species, were gathered. Perched solidly upon my finger, the Swallow picked flies

from the glass until satisfied. Several times during that day and the next I let the hungry bird feed in this manner. Always it took the largest flies first, cleaning the window completely of one kind before taking any of a smaller size. (I continually moved the bird about to within reach of the prey it indicated as "next" by stretching toward it.) The number of insects eaten at a meal was surprisingly large.

On the third day there was an unusually large number of flies on the window, and I supposed that the horse-flies alone would make a full meal for the bird. But after picking off the ten or twelve large horse-flies, the Swallow cleaned the glass of a much greater number of blow-flies and house-flies, then continued to feed on the smaller kinds. Suddenly it began to fidget, then snuggled down into my hand; within three minutes it was dead.—WINTON WEYDEMEYER, *Fortune, Montana*.

Late Migration of Tree Swallows and Mourning Doves.—While the Tree Swallow (*Iridoprocne bicolor*) is a comparatively late migrant and straggling individuals or pairs occur as far north as New England in winter, the birds are usually gone before the latter part of October. On November 11, 1934, while investigating water-fowl conditions near the mouth of the Connecticut River, Connecticut, I was much surprised to find a flock of more than a hundred of these birds busily feeding over the marsh. On the same day a single individual was seen flying low over the town of Saybrook.

As another late migration date, it may be of interest to report that on November 12, 1933, near Savoy Pond, not far from Plymouth, Massachusetts, I observed at very close range a flock of sixteen Mourning Doves (*Zenaidura m. carolinensis*). These were feeding at a snow clearing near a spring in a heavy though fairly young growth of timber.—CLARENCE COTTAM, *U. S. Biol. Survey, Washington, D. C.*

The Raven in the Virginia Blue Ridge.—In eight or nine years of study of the birds of the Virginia Blue Ridge I have found but one Northern Raven (*Corvus corax principalis*) (cf. The Raven, IV, p. 11, July, 1933). Five additional records have been made this past year. On May 13, 1934, two Ravens were seen at close range directly overhead, far back in outlying ranges of the Blue Ridge, along the St. Mary's River in Augusta County. On September 22 one was recorded at the Peaks of Otter in Bedford County; on September 26 four birds were seen in two places in the Blue Ridge in Amherst County, at the Hog Camp and on Mt. Pleasant and on September 30, another bird was seen on Rocky Row Mountain in Amherst County. A mountaineer who lives at the foot of Rocky Row said that a pair of Ravens had been nesting on the mountain for years.

In addition, Mr. Maurice Sullivan, naturalist assistant in the Shenandoah National Park since July, 1934, told me in a recent conversation that he has frequently seen Ravens in the area since he began his work.—RUSKIN S. FREER, *Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, Va.*

Red Type of Crow Eggs.—After more than fifty years observing and collecting we have, at last, encountered this rare type of egg of the Eastern Crow (*Corvus b. brachyrhynchos*), the reddish tinge being far deeper than that shown in Bendire's work, or in any other illustrations that I have seen of this abnormal coloration.

On May first, 1934, my son-in-law, Minor Cole, shot a Crow as she left her nest. He decided to climb the easy fifteen feet to the nest in a willow and collect the eggs for me.

Incubation had evenly progressed in all the five eggs to about the fourth day. The eggs are rather sharply pointed ovate, of a type approaching elongate, rather than the usual true ovate or rounded ovate as found in the average Crow eggs.